

*Hull-Stevenson Lines*  
and  
*Allied Families*



by  
*Thirza Eleanor Bunce*



1952

DEDICATED  
TO  
MY SISTER, GEORGIA BUNCE,

Who drove thousands of miles over  
mountains, across rivers, down  
turnpikes, country roads, and skylines,  
over bridges and ferries, through  
tunnels and city traffic, helping to collect  
the material for these ancestral lines.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Our thanks are due to many relatives and friends, as well as strangers, too numerous to mention, who have given valuable help in this research. We have been amazed at the kindness and courtesy of the officials in all the places we have visited and their generosity in giving of their time to help us. Their documents were put at our disposal and they were seemingly glad to share with us any information which they had.

In the course of this research we have visited Public and State Libraries, the Library of Congress, Historical and Genealogical Societies, National and State Archives, Universities and Court Houses in more than a dozen states. In all of these institutions, we were given access to deeds, wills, original letters, old newspapers, microfilms, and much printed material. We deeply appreciate and are grateful to all who so willingly gave of their time to assist us.

“A people who have not the pride to record their history will not long have the virtues to make history worth recording and no people who are indifferent to the past need hope to make their future great.”

*“Like leaves of trees, the race of man is found,  
Now green in youth, now withering on the ground;  
Another race the following spring supplies.  
They rise successive and successive fall:  
So generations in their course decay;  
So flourish these, when those have passed away.”*

POPE'S TRANSLATION FROM THE ILIAD.

For years there sat, in our grandmother's attic, a little green leather trunk. It had belonged to an old slave of her mother who had refused to stay in Tennessee when his master and mistress freed their slaves and came to Indiana. The history of Cocke County, Tennessee, has this statement, “Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Harrison hated slavery so much that they freed their slaves and went North, presumably to Indiana.”

The little trunk was probably the beginning of our interest in “Family Trees.” However, that interest, as is so often the case, was latent until practically everyone who could have given first-hand information had passed into the Great Beyond. In later years that interest revived and we began a serious attempt to find out something about our lines of ancestry which reached back, we knew not how far.

A good deal of fun, mixed with satire, has been made of those folk who are interested in looking up their ancestry, but to those who have the temerity to undertake it, there opens up whole areas of solid enjoyment. One starts climbing the family tree with only a very few actual facts but to flit about among the branches is fascinating business. Sometimes, one can “fly” between branches and find a lot of informational food, other times one can only hop and get a nibble or two, and in less fortunate times one can only sit on the end of a limb and swing, but gets nowhere. However, when the fire once begins to burn, there seems no way of quenching it. A surprising amount of material has been collected and arranged in the various Genealogical Libraries of the country. Birth records, war

services, marriage returns, death notices, records of wills, deeds, and land grants, old letters which have been bought up, State and County histories and books without number, are at one's disposal.

Whether we have gained enough information to have paid us for the time and expense put into it is a question, but certain it is that the thrill of going into a county court house miles away from home, and finding the names of one's forbears on land-grants and deeds dated 200 years ago is not to be computed in dollars and cents. During the course of our travels we have discovered some new kinfolk, made some charming new friends, and now come to the writing of the history with a certain sense of satisfaction although there are yet many lines which have not been investigated.

We shall try to put into permanent form some of the gleanings of the last ten years with the hope that in the various branches of the family there may be some budding genealogist who will keep the history up to date.

This is the way it happened. A "Thompson" married a "Crockett"; a "Crockett" married a "Carter"; a "Carter" married a "Harrison" and a "Hull"; a "Hull" married a "Stevenson"; the "Stevensons" married the "Simmons", "Smith", "Graham", "Ray", "Bunce", "Boyll", "Wear", "Keith", "Sinclair", etc. Connecting lines between all these branches will make interesting opportunity for each family to finish its own record up to date.

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## THE HULL LINE (1575-1952.)

Great thanks are due to Mr. Frederick Harmer, of Columbus, Ohio, who gave us a great deal of help on this Hull line. Mr. Harmer's mother furnished a considerable amount of material for the "genealogy", "The Hull Family in America". He gave us access to this material and the book which we found in many libraries was invaluable to us in our research. He went with us to the Licking County Court House, where we found many land records to validate our evidence.

To John A. Hull II, we owe a great debt of gratitude. He gave us access to much material which his father had collected and much which he had gathered from Andrew Jackson Hull on his visits to Boone, Iowa. John A. Hull II was born in Iowa, where his father, John A. Hull I, had gone in 1854. The father was Editor of the Newspaper and carried on a law practice at the same time. John Hull II entered his father's office after graduating in law at the University. He ran for Congress in 1932. His friends said of him "He has earned the confidence and respect of all classes of the local community. He is forceful, seasoned, and experienced. He has the courage of his convictions, and the ability and personality to carry them into effect." I was very happy to have the advice of this trained legal mind, and regret, more than I can say, that he did not live to see the completion of this work in which he was so interested.

## THE HULL LINE

The original name of this Hull line, De La Hulle, in Shropshire County, England, in the reign of Edward II, about 1311, indicates that the family went from the Continent probably from Normandy, to England. The family is found as early as the 14th Century in Somerset County, England, as well as in Shropshire.<sup>1</sup>

Shortly after the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth, five Hull brothers, John, George, Richard, Joseph, and Robert, came to the shores of America. Joseph was the founder of our line in America. He was the son of Thomas and Joanne Peson Hull, of Crewskerne, Somerset, England. He was born in 1595; matriculated at St. Mary's Magdalen Hall, Oxford University, May 12, 1612, at the age of seventeen, and received his B. A. Degree, November 14, 1614.<sup>2</sup> During the following five years he studied Theology, served as a teacher, was Curate under his elder brother, William, and was a Vicar in Devonshire. In 1618 he married Agnes—who later came to America with him. On April 14, 1621, having been ordained a clergyman of the Church of England, he was made Rector of Northleigh, Exeter, where he served for eleven years. At the end of that time he evidently found himself out of accord with those in ecclesiastical authority and voluntarily resigned.

Leaving Northleigh he moved with his family to the vicinity of his ancestral home, Crewskerne, and there "gathered a company of 106 souls, including relatives, who on March 20, 1635, set sail with him from the harbor of Weymouth, bound for New England".<sup>3</sup> They settled at Weymouth, Massachusetts Bay Colony. The records of that colony contain many references to him as minister, landowner, cattle-trader, soldier, and "fighter over religion". He was twice Deputy of the General Court.<sup>4</sup> In 1639 he moved from Weymouth and together with Mr. Thomas Dinsmore founded the town of Barnstaple "on land granted to them by the Colony for the erection of a plantation or town." They were Deputies in 1639.<sup>5</sup>

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1. *Ancestral Records and Portraits*, page 292.

2. *The Old Northwest Genealogical Quarterly*, Vol. 12, page 134.

3. *Hull Family in America*, page 254.

4. *Blish Genealogy*, page 308.

5. *New England Register*, Vol. 10, page 39.



The Reverend Joseph was evidently still a very irascible gentleman. It is recorded that, while he was a minister, a quakeress, Mary Thompkins, came into one of his meetings and "declared the truth to the people". When the brethren attempted to put her out, she resisted and it is said that in the resulting excitement "the priest pinched her". Though high-tempered, he must have also been rather broad-minded. He and "sister" Hull went to Yarmouth where they preached in the Church of another denomination, there being no Church of England in the town. In May 1641, Mr. and Mrs. Hull were excommunicated from the Church of England for "the willful breaking of communion and joining with another companie contrary to ye advise and counsell of the Church."

In 1642, Sister Hull "renewed her covenant with the Church of England, renouncing her joining with the other companie at Yarmouth, confessing her evil in so doing with sorrow and was taken back into the fold March 11, 1642". The Rev. Joseph was not re-instated until a year later when "he acknowledged his sin, renewed his covenant and was received again into the fellowship, August 10, 1643." During this time Governor Winthrop spoke of him as "an excommunicated and very contentious "one Hull' ". Cotton Mather called him "The Reverend Minister Hull".

In 1645 he was No. 116 in the Naragansett War. In 1652 he went back to England and took the Living of St. Burian in Cornwall where he stayed about ten years, returning to America in 1662. He settled at Oyster River but got such a small salary that he engaged in farming and the raising of cattle and horses for market. In 1665 he went to the Isle of Shoals, Maine, and passed the few remaining years of his life there, dying November 19, 1665 in his 71st year.<sup>7</sup>

#### LINE OF DESCENT; Hull.

I. Thomas and Joanne Peson Hull.

II. Reverend Joseph and Agnes Hull.

III. Benjamin Hull; 6th son of Rev. Joseph and Agnes;

was baptised, March 22, 1639, at Weymouth, Mass. In

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6. *New England Register*, Vol. II, page 148.

7. *American Historical Society Magazine*, Vol. V, page 83.

1668, he married Rachel Yorke of Dover, New Hampshire. He died in 1713. He was a Captain in King Phillip's War and was always known as "Captain Benjamin." They lived in New Hampshire and New Jersey. In the D. A. R. Hall in Constitution Hall in Washington, D. C., in the California room is the old Hull Grandfather Clock, said to have belonged to Captain Benjamin.

IV. Joseph Hull, son of Capt. Benjamin and Rachel Yorke Hull. Joseph was born in Dover, New Hampshire, in 1674 and died in Hartford County, Maryland in 1743. He was married three times, his second wife being Hannah Shopley.

V. Daniel Hull, son of Joseph and Hannah Shopley Hull. Daniel was born about 1699. He married Mary Quincey, daughter of Sutton Quincey. Mary died about 1800.

VI. Samuel Hull, son of Daniel and Mary Quincey Hull. Samuel was born in 1735 in Harrison Co., Virginia. He died at Gratiot, Ohio, in 1814. He married Martha Glover in 1764. This was probably his second marriage.<sup>8</sup> During the Revolutionary War, he was a private in Capt. Hugh Stephenson's company which was among those paid off in the war at Romney, now West Virginia.<sup>9</sup> There were fourteen children in this family, three of whom we shall mention in this history, John, William, and Uriah.<sup>10</sup>

#### Children of Samuel Hull.

VII. John Hull, born in Virginia in 1760. He married (1) Christine Essex. (2) Polly Hummel.

#### Children of John Hull.

A. Samuel Benton Hull, born September 24, 1791, in Harrison County, Virginia; died in 1886 at Columbus, Ohio. He married in 1811, Elizabeth Sain of Fairfield County, Ohio. She was born in Maryland, June 28, 1795 and died in Licking County, Ohio, January 5, 1856.

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8. *Revolutionary Soldiers of Virginia who died in Ohio*, Vol. 8, page 32.

9. *D.A.R. Records in Washington, D. C.*

10. *Hull Family in America*, page 287.

Children of Samuel Benton and Elizabeth Sain Hull.

1. Thomas Kinsey, born July 22, 1812. Married Angeline.
2. Sarah Hull, born February 10, 1817, married George Lake. They had one son, Samuel Lake.
3. Dr. Abram Hull, born 1815, died March 15, 1907; married (1) Julia Crandall, (2) Caroline Heyslip. There were two children, Dr. Henry and James Hull.
4. Susannah, born December 12, 1819; married John Dodd and had two children, Mary and Webster.
5. Nancy, born March 3, 1822; married John M. Park, and had six children.
6. Eli Hull, born December 30, 1830; died December 1922; married 1849, Jemima Neal, and had two children, Joshua and Fanny, adopted.
7. Joshua Mathias, born April 3, 1836; died February 3, 1901; married Elizabeth Robertson, born September 10, 1837; died December 16, 1920.

Children of Joshua and Elizabeth Hull.

- a. Florence, born August 11, 1860; married December 15, 1881, Otto Riehle, born April 17, 1860; died October 27, 1923.

Children; Riehle

- (1) Grace, born April 28, 1883; married September 11, 1912, Carl Wischmeyer.

Children; Wischmeyer

- (a) Carl Riehle, born October 12, 1916; married March 5, 1945, Mary DeFord Sumner, in Houston, Texas; have two children, Mary Grace and Carl Edward.
- (b) Margaret, born August 5, 1920; married John Edward Taylor, born August 7, 1915; have one daughter, Deborah Ann, born November 30, 1950.

VIIa. William Hull, son of Samuel Hull and Martha Glover, born January 1, 1777; died 1858; married (1) Sarah Townsend (1779-1859); had one daughter, Elizabeth who married Samuel Sigler in 1839. Elizabeth was born in 1812 and died 1852.

### Children; Sigler

A. Martha, born November 19, 1847; died March 30, 1940; married Joseph Taylor Harmer of Bedford, Pennsylvania, June 1878.

### Children; Harmer

1. Herbert C., died at birth.
2. Frederick S., born May 13, 1880.
3. Lillian Mabel, born June 9, 1882; married 1932, William Hamilton. Frederick and his sister live in Columbus, Ohio.

VIIb. Uriah Hull, son of Samuel and Martha Glover Hull, born in Virginia about 1765; moved to Licking County, Ohio about 1808 and died there in 1830.<sup>11</sup>

Most of the Licking County Records were burned so it was not possible to find much about Uriah. He was in the Revolution. We saw the original of his application for pension which was refused because he was not wounded in the war. (See *Rev. Soldiers buried in Ohio*, Vol. 8, P. 32.) He was also in the Militia of Pennsylvania (now West Virginia.) He was an Ensign in the 5th Regiment of Cumberland County. This record is dated, February 4, 1793.

A letter from John A. Hull, grandson of Uriah Hull, dated May 3, 1887 to a cousin states, "The State of Virginia gave Uriah Hull a land warrant for his services situated on a high plateau, called the "Bull Pasture," which is now in West Virginia. About 1808, he sold his farm for a song and went west where he located on the present site of Newark, Ohio. Uriah's sons, Samuel and George, were drafted into the War of 1812. These boys had only flax and buckskin clothing. Their mother got some sheep into the house on Christmas Day, sheared them, wove cloth and sent the boys some woolen clothing." Samuel was Ensign in Captain Joseph Sutton's Company.<sup>12</sup> Uriah's wife was named Isabella, surname unknown. They had six sons and two daughters.

Luckily the part of the Court House which contained the Deeds was not burned, so we were able to find, in

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11. *Recorder's Office, Licking County, Newark, Ohio.*

12. *Muster Rolls of Ohio Soldiers, Pa. Archives, page 73.*

the Recorder's office at Newark, deeds for lands bought and sold by Uriah Hull and his wife, Isabella, from July 15, 1816 to 1830 when he is spoken of as "deceased." There are records which showed that Samuel and Mary Hull (our great-grandparents) sold land which they inherited from Uriah after his death in 1830. We visited Claylick, Licking County, which was the site of the old Hull Homestead and so travelled in a car over the same ground which our forefathers had so laboriously travelled on horseback 140 years before. The vital records were destroyed but we have found from other sources some sketchy records of some of the children. We shall mention the names of only two of Uriah's children, Elizabeth and Samuel who is always called "The Reverend Samuel" by his descendants. His license as a local preacher is in the family Bible which is owned by Don Hull of Sullivan Co., who is the great-grandson of the Rev. Samuel.

#### Children of Uriah and Isabella Hull.

##### A. Elizabeth, born 1787, married — Ships.

1. Mary Hull, daughter of Elizabeth and Ships was born July 4, 1807. She married Elijah Irwin, born in Maryland February 25, 1801.

a. Henry was born June 19, 1820.

b. Nathan, born May 8, 1829; married Rachel Keeran, born 1837.

#### Children—Irwin

(1) William S., born March 18, 1860. Lives in Hudsonville, Illinois.

(2) Clara M., born April 11, 1861; died March 3, 1946; married October 21, 1879, John Bishop, born September 23, 1855, died November 27, 1930.

#### Children—Bishop

(a) Everett, born September 24, 1880; married Blanche Ware and have two children, Katherine and Jean.

(b) Archer, born January 19, 1883; married Edna Wortman, have two children, Archer and Robert.

Archer has Mary Ellen and Archer, Jr. Robert has Pamela, Patricia and Penelope.

(c) Raymond, born September 27, 1889.

(d) Maud, born April 14, 1892; died November 1, 1942.

(e) Eva, born April 19, 1894; married April 11, 1917, Anthony Valentine, born November 16, 1889.

#### Children—Valentine.

(1) Robert, born May 27, 1918, married August 30, 1943, Mabel Selby; have two sons, Robert and George.

(2) Helen, born December 13, 1919; married August 1, 1942, Philip Yunker; have three children—Philip, David and Sharon.

#### B. SAMUEL; SON OF URIAH AND ISABELLA HULL.

Samuel was born June 23, 1789; died September 14, 1857; married Mary Bower, born July 15, 1795, of Licking County, Ohio, on November 29, 1814. She died June 5, 1821.<sup>13</sup> Two children were born of this marriage, Nancy (1815-1874) of whom more later, and Susannah (1817-1837) who married Francis Hall. The Rev. Samuel Hull married (2) Mary Carter Harrison; daughter of Francis Jackson Carter, of Virginia and Cocke County, Tenn. They were married August 10, 1824 at Carlisle, Indiana. A newspaper account of that date calls her "a vivacious and attractive widow from the blue-grass country, the widow of the Rev. Wesley Harrison." Both of her preacher husbands had been pastor of the little Methodist Church in Carlisle, Indiana.

Samuel and his wife and her children, of whom there were five, moved from Sullivan Co., to Honey Creek, Vigo Co. in 1830. They both lived here until their deaths, hers in 1845 and his in 1857.

They bought their home south of Terre Haute at a Sheriff's sale. "Samuel Hull being the highest bidder became the purchaser." \$2800.00 was the purchase price.<sup>14</sup> Mary Carter Hull had fallen heir to \$2500.00 on the death

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13. *Family Bible of Samuel Hull.*

14. *Deed Book 3, page 340. Vigo Co. Court House.*

of her father, Francis Jackson Carter, of Tennessee, in 1830. This was the money that purchased the home. An account of the bringing of this money to Terre Haute has been very interestingly written by Mrs. Nina Hull Burnett. She says, "Samuel Hull traveled horseback to Tennessee and back in twelve days. He stayed one night with his mother-in-law and then started back home. During the trip he forded streams; he wore out two horses and finished the journey with a yoke of oxen. He got home at night and bought the property the next morning.

The house which was built in 1818 from brick made on the place was demolished a few years ago. It had seven rooms and two large halls. The walls were 17 inches thick. All the woodwork was planed by hand and the studding was made of walnut slabs 3 inches thick and 2 feet wide. Church services were held in the large room upstairs, with guns resting on their racks over the doors. It is said that during one of the meetings the floor gave way. One of the women was so frightened that she threw her baby out of the window, but it was caught by someone outside and was unhurt. Another time, a band of hostile Indians came to the Hull house to loot. They found a group of people on their knees in prayer. They were so impressed with what they saw as they peered through the small glass windowpanes that they slipped away leaving the people unharmed."

The Hulls owned the first cookstove in the county and people came from far and near to see the "contraption." They were very community-minded. In the Terre Haute Court House are the records of the deeds of land which they gave for the Cemetery, and for the parsonage for the Methodist Church of Prairieton Circuit. This cemetery is still called Hull Cemetery. Both he and his wife lie buried here. Mary died August 18, 1845 in her 45th year and Samuel died September 14, 1857, in his 69th year. An article in the Indiana Magazine of History of date October 3, 1846 says, "Samuel Hull was a local preacher living near Honey Creek below Terre Haute. Hull was employed by the Presiding Elder and afterwards joined the traveling connection. He traveled a few years and then located." His circuit extended from Vincennes to Lafayette. He would travel up one side of the Wabash and back on the other side, holding services every

day. A hand-lined note book was presented to him by Father A. Epher in June 1822. Samuel named the book "A Book of Skeletons." It contains outlines of his sermons, record of weddings performed and his own family record. This book is still in a good state of preservation and is now owned by Mrs. Sylvia Senn of Los Angeles, his great-granddaughter.

His must have been a lively household after his second marriage, with his own two daughters and the two daughters and three sons of the bride. The daughters were Nancy and Susannah Hull and Euceba and Edith Miranda Harrison; the sons were Wesley, Fenelon, and Madison Erastus Harrison. Romance blossomed, for Fenelon fell in love with his step-sister Nancy and they were married.

#### Children of Fenelon and Nancy Hull Harrison.

1. Erastus Harrison, born August 21, 1837; married Anna Pritchard 1870.

#### Children; Harrison

- a. Chauncey, Clark, Finny, Fred, Charles and James.
2. Samuel Carter Harrison, born July 4, 1841; died March 1911; married September 21, 1865 Celinda Dickerson who was born January 2, 1847 and died November 21, 1933. Samuel was a drummer boy in the Civil War.

#### Children; Harrison

- a. Della Ann Harrison, born December, 1866; died August 9, 1949; married September 18, 1890, Chauncey Pointer, born February 3, 1867; died July 2, 1935.

#### Children; Pointer

- (1) Harry James, born August 3, 1891; married (1) Mary Allen, February 11, 1913. (2) Pauline Prentice, June 19, 1943.

- (2) Walter Wesley Pointer, born July 19, 1893; married Mabel Trapanier of Monteno, Illinois, June 10, 1920. He served in World War I from July 22, 1918 to March 6, 1919. They have one daughter, Eloise, married to Benjamin Kruger. They have one son, Bryan.



(3) Ruth, born September 17, 1896; married Harland E. McDonald, August 1, 1930.

(4) Helen, born September 1, 1899; married Roy E. Moyer, May 9, 1947.

(5) Frances, born March 6, 1903; married Joseph L. Crews December 19, 1931; have one child, Richard.

(6) Paul Ernest, born October 8, 1904; was drowned in the Wabash River, August 3, 1922.

(7) Richard H., born October 28, 1911; married, August 3, 1940, Madeline O'Connell.

b. Mary Alice; born December 30, 1874; married Orville Collins. They live in Indianapolis.

c. Nettie Rea; born October 29, 1878; died June 14, 1946; married in 1902, Burchard Hays who died in November 1922. They have one daughter, Dorothy Elizabeth, born March 8, 1905.

d. Grace Eleanor; born July 3, 1882; died 1898.

3. Francis Asbury Harrison, (son of Fenelon and Nancy) born December 16, 1850; died August 7, 1916; married January 26, 1871, Ruth Jane Budd, who was born August 30, 1851; died February 20, 1916.

#### Children—Harrison

a. William Carter, born August 3, 1873; died February 18, 1922.

b. Gertrude Emily, born March 12, 1875; died November 27, 1896; married December 14, 1895, Emil Teitje; have one child, William.

c. George Fenelon, born November 22, 1876; died July 1929; married Bertha M. Fagg in 1897.

#### Children of George Fenelon and Bertha Harrison.

(1) Harold Fenelon, born August 29, 1898; married December 25, 1920, Mildred A. Thomas, born March 26, 1902; have one son Rudolph Fenelon, born October 25, 1929; married November 2, 1949, Joyce Maxwell.

(2) Leo Francis, born September 8, 1903; married 1928, Clarice Stevens; have 2 children, Kay, born 1932 and Diane, born 1937.

(3) James Maxwell, married March 1932, Leatha Best; have one daughter, Sandra, born May 22, 1938.

d. Mary Belle, born November 13, 1881; married February 11, 1933, Charles Rotroff.

e. Earl, born August 23, 1894; died October 16, 1945; married September 24, 1912, Lena M. Siner. They had two children, Marion, born August 22, 1914, and Franklin Asbury, born October 23, 1917.

4. Albert Clark, born December 16, 1856; died April 2, 1891.

Children of SAMUEL HULL and his second wife,  
MARY CARTER

1. Wesley Harrison Hull, born June 27, 1825; died April 17, 1889; married January 29, 1845, Emily Boyll.

2. Caroline Cooper Hull, born February 3, 1827; died December 26, 1898; married February 27, 1847, George Stevenson (For descendants see Stevenson and Bunce lines).

4. John Alexander Hull I.

5. Samuel Asbury Hull.

6. Juliet Hull, born December 24, 1835; married Harvey Keith.

7. Andrew Jackson Hull, born May 15, 1840; died July 1924.

8. Thirza Fletcher Hull, born 1845; died 1866; married Lewis Johnson.

Children of Wesley and Emily Hull.

a. Sarah Frances, (1846-1915), married Frederick Cornell, born May 2, 1836; died 1895.

Children—Cornell.

(1) Robert, born March 2, 1878; married December 28, 1898, Alice O'Donnell. They now live in Houston, Texas.

(2) Horace, born July 31, 1881; died 1945; married

Pearl Billman of Terre Haute, Indiana and had one daughter and one son.

b. Nancy, born April 29, 1849; died January 13, 1918; married February 28, 1878, John Canady; had one daughter, Clara who married Burr Hancock.

c. James Harvey, born May 20, 1853; died July 17, 1938; married November 1, 1882, Leonora Kendall, born December 19, 1860. Their first child was born September 25, 1883 and died at the age of two years.

#### Children—Hull

(1) Don Carlos, born November 3, 1885; married November 25, 1908, Barbara Scott.

#### Children—Hull

(a) Walter Scott, born December 6, 1909; died April 8, 1910.

(b) George Harvey, born July 21, 1911; married April 9, 1932, Mae Frances McCammon. They have one daughter, Ruth Ann, born October 24, 1933; married June 7, 1952, Montie Carl Riggs.

(c) Robert W. E., born May 12, 1916; married June 11, 1938, Eileen Myers. They have one son, Robert Allen.

(d) Raymond Lloyd, born November 30, 1920; married March 6, 1943, Mary Lee Street, from Rossville, Georgia. They have two daughters, Sandra Raeline and Beverly Ann.

(2) Nina May, born April 16, 1887; married November 29, 1906, Jesse Burnett.

#### Children—Burnett.

(a) Hazel Ruth, born July 29, 1907, married Eugene Hartley, June 30, 1928; have one daughter, Shirley Ann, born October 19, 1933.

(b) James Edward, born July 30, 1911, married Helen Cox, March 30, 1945; have a son, James E., born April 22, 1946.

(c) Edna May, born October 27, 1914, married George Steppe, June 20, 1936; have a daughter, Nancy Jean, born May 31, 1940.

(d) Harold L., born May 18, 1916, married Elsie Helton, February 25, 1939; have 2 children, Larry L., born May 30, 1941; Deanne J., born February 8, 1944.

(e) Dorothy Marie, born August 26, 1917; died 1925.

(3) Robert William, born February 1, 1889; died November 25, 1937; married December 23, 1910, Lillie Hall, who died December 25, 1911; married (2) Bessie Cronk.

#### Children—Hull.

(a) Clara Juanita, born December 9, 1911.

(b) Zelda C.

d. Thirza Bell, born January 28, 1851; died January 24, 1918.

e. Clara Ruth, born July 8, 1861; died June 8, 1935; married December 1, 1889, Edward Blocksom.

f. Newton Asbury, born April 2, 1857; died September 15, 1904; married April 8, 1880, Samantha Hess, born August 29, 1858; died December 21, 1931.

#### Children of Newton and Samantha Hull.

(1) Cora Grace, born January 26, 1881; married September 18, 1901, Melrose McCoskey.

#### Children—McCoskey.

(a) Infant daughter, born March 31, 1903. Died in infancy.

(b) Thirza Samantha, born March 25, 1908; married August 5, 1935, Howard Reed, born November 10, 1910.

(c) Asbury Milton, born October 21, 1912; married April 6, 1946, Helen Jones, born March 6, 1912.

(d) Infant daughter, born December 17, 1915, died in infancy.

(2) Mary Bell, born May 4, 1882; married August 24, 1904, Daniel B. Hayworth, born April 1, 1883.

Children—Hayworth.

(a) Clarence A., born April 11, 1906; married December 11, 1948, Mary Nikish, born September 16, 1902.

(b) Ruth A., born April 23, 1907; died February 1914.

(c) Edith Ann, born March 21, 1909; married June 1933, Lee A. Miller, who died February 1942.

(d) Perley M., born December 4, 1911; died February 1914.

(e) Jennie S., born July 2, 1913; married May 1933, George H. Miller.

(f) Grester F., born April 23, 1915; married February 1940, Elva Heramb.

(3) Elizabeth Ann, born December 13, 1883; married May 20, 1903, Frank E. Boyll, born October 22, 1883.

Children—Boyll.

(a) Florence, born December 12, 1903; married Walter L. Joslin.

(b) Maud Matilda, born June 29, 1905; married Raymond Wellman.

(c) Mabel, born August 11, 1907; married Aaron Hoggett.

(d) Georgia Ernestine, born August 5, 1910; married February 27, 1937, Richard Hull, born February 7, 1914.

(4) Alice Ethel, born June 7, 1885; married October 14, 1908, Daniel Grimes Crandall, born November 17, 1883.

Children—Crandall.

(a) Terence Wesley, born February 11, 1911; mar-

ried May 3, 1936, Alice Ruth Cox, born January 1913, and had Walden, Gary, Sarah Jane, and Dwight S.

(b) Samuel Asbury, born August 4, 1913; married Josephine Bauer, born January 9, 1916; had Sharon Sue and Jane Ann.

(c) Edith Samantha, born February 13, 1916; married August 8, 1937, Henry O. Bright, born June 13, 1917; had Alice Jeanette, Samuel Henry, and Daniel Ellis.

(d) Elizabeth, born November 15, 1917; died November 17, 1917.

(e) Alice Jeanette, born March 2, 1922; died December 29, 1929.

(5) Georgia Ruth, born March 14, 1887; married October 14, 1908, Elvin Arthur Fields, born September 25, 1880.

#### Children—Fields.

(a) Elsie Marie, born June 15, 1911; married January, 1931, William Homer Gray and had Ruth, Ellen, Mary Joan, William Arthur, Roberta Lee and John Dudley.

(b) Edward Newton, born October 12, 1913; married March 23, 1939, Roberta Harrison and had Sandra Jane and Robert Edward.

(c) Harry Canada, born March 12, 1916; married January 20, 1946, Virginia Loudermilk, and had Connie Joan, Janice Marie, and Velora Ruth.

(d) Bertha Ruth, born July 24, 1922; married August 23, 1950, James M. Hill.

(6) Ollie Deborah, born October 17, 1888; married September 29, 1910, William Harlan, born July 29, 1888.

#### Children—Harlan.

(a) Charles, born October 3, 1917.

(7) Wesley Washington, born March 19, 1891; married March 31, 1912, Bertha M. Johnson, born February 12, 1892; died April 16, 1950.

Children—Hull.

(a) Richard Wesley, born February 7, 1914; married Georgia Boyll, February 27, 1937.

(b) Edna, born August 22, 1917; married Ira Math-erly.

(c) Iris Virginia, born August 23, 1921; married Carl R. Gilbert.

(d) Merle Eugene, born April 19, 1933; died Au-gust 28, 1947.

(8) Charles A., born July 21, 1897; died October 4, 1898.

(9) John Lawrence, born July 31, 1902; died Febru-ary 3, 1931; married Lena Joslin, August, 1926.

Children of Lawrence and Lena Hull.

(a) Doyn Lloyd, born July 30, 1925. Married Rose-mary Rhoads, Aug. 23, 1950.

(b) Doyl Thoyn, born Jan. 21, 1927; married Sept. 1947, Joyce Neese; have two children, Dianne and Char-lotte.

(c) Juanita, born July 12, 1929; died August 1938.

4. *John Alexander Hull I.*, fourth child of Rev. Sam-uel and Mary Carter Hull, was born June 16, 1831; died June 13, 1888; married Margaret E. Wear of Tennessee.

Children of John A. and Margaret Wear Hull.

(a) Frank.

(b) Samuel.

(c) Alice; married H. Lieb.

(d) Mary, married R. M. Hughes.

(e) Lillie, married C. W. Barnes.

(f) Nancy, married J. J. Hostetter.

(g) Thirza, born January 5, 1870; died October 15, 1899; married June 1, 1898, C. H. Bowen.

(h) John A. Hull II, born March 26, 1871; died 1950; married Gladys Sigworth, born April 20, 1876.

Children of John A. and Gladys Hull.

(1) Thirza, born October 9, 1905; married Don Hibner, born February 3, 1905.

Children—Hibner.

- (a) John Charles, born December 8, 1930.
- (b) Don, Jr., born April 5, 1934.

(2) John A. Hull III, born April 18, 1907; married Adella Shedd, born July 19, 1913; living in Cleveland, Ohio. John III was a Lieutenant in the Navy in World War II.

Children—Hull.

- (a) John A. Hull IV, born March 23, 1941.
- (b) Mary L., born July 10, 1947.

(3) Dwight Sigworth Hull, born August 6, 1912; married Betty Carlson, born November 4, 1912. Dwight was Lieutenant-Colonel, 9th Armored Division in World War II.

Children—Hull.

- (a) Thirza Hull, born February 4, 1939.
- (b) Dwight S., Jr., born December 18, 1943.
- (c) Stephen Alexander, born December 22, 1950.

An interesting incident in the lives of these John A. Hulls is worth recording. In the year 1859, John Alexander I made the dedicatory speech of the ground which is now the campus of Ames College in Iowa. John A. II in 1909, at the 50th anniversary of the dedication gave the address and dedicated a new building on the campus. John A. II, in the course of his remarks said, "I want to introduce the speaker for the one hundredth anniversary in 1959" and called to the platform his little son, John A. III who was just two years old. Applause was loud and long, signifying that the audience hoped the plan would work out.



5. Samuel Asbury, son of Samuel and Mary Carter Hull, born November 16, 1833; married (1) Rachel Johnson, (2) Flora—

Children—Hull.

- (a) Addie
- (b) Jesse.
- (c) Emma.

6. Juliet Hull, born December 24, 1835; married Harvey Keith. Children were:—Laura Keith Wilcox. Charles, Harriet Keith Staub, Alice, Clark, Clyde, and John Alexander Hull Keith, who was one of the leading educators of the country.

7. Andrew Jackson, born May 6, 1840; died June 20, 1924; married (1) February 14, 1860, Martha E. Sinclair (1842-1899). (2) Margaret Coddington, born December 18, 1839.

Children of Andrew J. and Martha Sinclair Hull.

a. Mary Edith, born May 8, 1862, married Decker Owen who died May 1, 1928.

Children—Owen.

(1) Walter, born August 8, 1878; married (1) Dora Sence, who died June 12, 1917. There were two children, Zitha and Arthur; married (2) Ethel Weeks. They are living in Wichita, Kansas.

b. Deborah Fletcher, born August 22, 1866, died March 18, 1911; married George Washington Jones, born February 20, 1860; died May 30, 1940.

Children—Jones.

(1) Willard Edward, born February 13, 1891; married (1) Nina Hunt who died February 23, 1938; married (2) Ethel Hunt.

c. Delores Evelyn Hull, born November 13, 1877; died September 7, 1921; married Wiley McCoskey.

Children—McCoskey.

(1) Theron, born December 30, 1897; married Grace Pratt.

Children—McCoskey.

(a) Sadie Pratt, born November 24, 1923.

(b) Delores Hull, born March 26, 1931.

(2) Luther, born November 24, 1898; married Mildred La Source.

(3) Sylvia, born October 20, 1899; married Carl Senn, who died April 14, 1950. They had Joseph Wiley, born Feb. 24, 1935.

(4) Rector, born January 6, 1903. Unmarried.

(5) Wayne, born November 16, 1911. Unmarried.

(6) Aaron, born May 8, 1913. Unmarried.

Local Preacher's License of the Rev. Samuel Hull copied from the original:

"To all whom it may concern this may certify that Samuel Hull, the bearer, has been an acceptable local preacher in the Methodist Episcopal Church, Ohio Conference, Lancaster District, Fairfield Circuit. December 23, 1821."

Signed: Wm. Stevens, Preacher in charge.

We pass: the path that each man trod  
Is dim, or will be dim, with weeds,  
What fame is left for human deeds  
In endless age? It rests with God.

Alfred Tennyson

## THE STEVENSON LINE (1665-1952)

From a book on "Stevenson and Allied Families" by Roy Stevenson comes the following statement, "Genealogists in London, England furnish strong evidence that the Stevensons were descended from the officer of that name in the army of William the Conqueror who for the services rendered in the Battle of Hastings was rewarded with a grant of land in Scotland, south of Glasgow, the parish and town of which still bear the name of Stevenson.

"S'richal me Dhream" is the Gaelic motto of the Stevensons and means "My Race is Royal." It is the motto of the Clan Alpine used mainly by the McGregor Clan to which the Stevenson's claim allegiance.<sup>1</sup>

James, the first of our Stevensons of whom we have any record, was born in Scotland in 1665. He had a son James born in 1690. They moved to Donegal Co., Ireland, where James had a son, William, born in 1730. This William was the first of a line of Williams which has carried on to the year 1939, with the birth of William Robert Stevenson VII in Pasadena, California. William I married in Ireland, Mary Leslie. They had three sons, William, Alexander, and Andrew and two daughters, Mary and Jane.

William II, was born in Donegal Co., Ireland, November 18, 1786. Andrew was born in Ireland, June 24, 1800. William II married in Donegal Co., Ireland, Mary Hanna, daughter of James and Isabella Hanna in the year 1804. Mary was born in 1786 and was married to William Stevenson when she was 18 years old. Their son John was born in Donegal, September 15, 1809. In 1810 William and his wife set sail for America leaving their baby son with his grandparents in Ireland. They traveled in a sail boat and were eleven weeks on the way. When William's brother, Andrew, came to America in the year of 1828, he brought this son, John, who was then a lad of nineteen years. The family lived in Bridesburg, Harrigate Gardens, a suburb of Philadelphia, from 1810 to 1836 when they came to Vigo Co., Indiana. (This material was obtained from records kept by the Rev. William Stevenson

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1. *Biography of William Stevenson by Mrs. Elizabeth Stevenson.*

III, of California and handed down to his daughter, Helen.)

Mary Hanna had been baptized by John Wesley on one of his visits to Ireland, so it seemed the natural thing, upon their arrival in Philadelphia for them to identify themselves with the Methodist Church in the town. They became members of Old St. George's, the oldest Methodist church in America, founded in 1767. The first building was erected in 1769. It was in this church that Francis Asbury preached his first sermon in America in the year of 1771. The first three Conferences of America Methodism met here; the Methodist Book Concern was founded here and the first Book Room opened. The old Church is still standing and is a very interesting place to visit. There is a museum containing many articles of interest and importance. Old Church Records are kept in the Archives and in these we found the names of William Stevenson and his family with baptismal records of the children. The names were crossed off in 1836, showing that the family had moved elsewhere.

It happened that in the year 1834 a land commissioner from Indiana visited Philadelphia and painted such a picture of the wonders of Vigo Co., Indiana that William II and his brother Andrew, who had come to the States in 1828, decided to see for themselves what Vigo Co. was like. Andrew came by stage coach and William came by boat on the Ohio River. They liked what they saw and decided to make this their home. In 1835, William bought a farm of 160 acres, near Spring Hill, from a William Latta for 1200 dollars<sup>2</sup> and in 1836 he went back to Philadelphia and brought his wife, his sons, George and William III, and his daughters Mary, Erabella, and Elinor with him. His son John had married in Philadelphia, Susan Catherine Myers. Susan would have no part in this trek to Vigo County and so she and John stayed another twenty years in Philadelphia, coming west in 1856.

William built a log house at a beautiful hilly spot on his farm overlooking the Wabash Valley, and near a spring from which cool water trickled all day long. At one end of the verandah was the "Parlor bedroom" (al-

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2. *Vigo County Court House, Deed Book 6, page 80.*

ways called "The Preacher's Room") with no door opening into it from any other part of the house. On the coldest nights visiting guests must go out on the verandah to enter the room where they were to sleep. When the log house was replaced by a frame one, they held to the same plan of this detached guest room. The sons and one daughter married and set up their own homes. The parents died. Finally there were left only the two maiden sisters, Belle and Ellen, and the bachelor, Uncle Andrew. Miss Ellen was the housekeeper and Miss Belle, the school teacher. Miss Belle was one of the most respected teachers in the county and was, we judge, very clever. A Teacher's License issued to her in January 1881 shows her highest grades to be 100 in History, Arithmetic, Physiology, and Spelling; her lowest were 90 in Reading and Writing.

When William and his family first arrived in Vigo County, he found the English of the Hoosiers very different and difficult to understand. One morning he met one of his neighbors whose wife was ill. He inquired about her and the neighbor replied, "Well, she's mighty weak." William looked somewhat bewildered because he couldn't understand how one could be "mighty" and "weak" at the same moment.

The community where they had settled began to grow but there was no church building. Meetings were held in private homes, schools, or groves. William decided that a church building was needed so he gave an acre of ground and \$100 in cash with the privilege of taking the timber for the building from his land. The timbers were hewn near the church, the weatherboarding was sawed at the little sawmill on Honey Creek, and the shingles were hand made. The building was finished and dedicated in May 1837. It was named Mount Pleasant, which name it still bears. Rev. Ray, a Circuit Rider, preached the Dedication sermon from the text in Psalm 48, 12-14. This church celebrated its one-hundredth anniversary in May 1937. The Stevensons worked in the church all their lives. Most of them lie in the cemetery, the land for which was deeded to the trustees of the church by William Stevenson in September 1853.<sup>8</sup> The expense of the transfer was \$8.33.

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3. *Vigo County Court House, Deed Book, page 518.*

There is in the church, at the present time, a beautiful Memorial Window, sacred to the memory of the Stevenson family. Mary Hanna Stevenson, wife of William Stevenson, died September 17, 1846 and William died November 3, 1857. Both are buried in the Cemetery for which he gave the land so many years ago. Among their descendants are preachers and missionaries in the Methodist Church and other denominations, loyal workers in the Presbyterian Church, and faithful members of the Episcopal Church.

William's brother, Andrew, born in Ireland in 1800 was trained as an Engineer, which profession he followed after coming to the States in 1828. He became a member of the Episcopal Church of Terre Haute in 1861. After the death of his brother, William, he continued to live with his two nieces until his death which occurred June 3, 1884, as the result of an accident.

All of the children of William and Mary were born in Philadelphia with the exception of John who was born in Ireland.

#### Children of William and Mary Hanna Stevenson.

1. *John*, born in Ireland, Donegal Co., September 15, 1809; died May 8, 1857; married Susan Catherine Myers (1810-1904) in Philadelphia. They came to Paris, Illinois, in 1856 where he went into the Hardware business. He lived only a year after his arrival in Paris.

2. *George*, born in Philadelphia, January 30, 1811; died August 22, 1875; married in Vigo County, Caroline Cooper Hull (1827-1898) February 7, 1847. He was a book-binder when in Philadelphia, but took up farming when he came to Vigo County.

3. *Mary Jane*, born in Philadelphia, November 20, 1814; died April 22, 1882; married Hemsley Simmons, October 25, 1838. Hemsley was born November 20, 1814 and was buried April 29, 1890 in Vigo County.

4. *Elinor*, born August 3, 1819; died unmarried October 16, 1909; buried at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery.

5. *William III*, born July 20, 1822; died November

10, 1900; born in Philadelphia; died in California; married (1) Harriet Marie, who died March 5, 1846; (2) Cornelia Louise Shryer, July 13, 1848. Cornelia was born January 3, 1829.

6. *Erebella*, born June 4, 1824; died May 26, 1894; unmarried. She changed her name from Erebella to Isabella, evidently for her sister Isabella who, according to the family Bible, was born April 5, 1817 and died April 19, 1817. The name Isabella appears on her tombstone.

7. *Thomas*, born November 20, 1831 and died August 31, 1832.

### JOHN STEVENSON

Oldest son of William and Mary Hanna Stevenson married Susan Catherine Myers.

#### Children

a. *Emma Matilda*, born in Philadelphia December 1832; married Jefferson Boyd (1836-1914) in 1859; died 1901.

#### Children—Boyd.

(1) *Mary*, born June 1, 1860; died March 1936; married in 1891, W. J. Hunter. They had one daughter Helen, born July 11, 1893; died March 18, 1939.

(2) *Emma*, a Librarian, who died in 1926.

(3) *John*, married but had no children. He graduated from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy; spent 3 years in Capetown, South Africa, with Parke-Davis Co. He died in 1936.

(4) *Elizabeth*, now living in Paris, Illinois.

b. *Mary*, married Rev. Henry Fiske, a Presbyterian Minister. They had one daughter who lived and two other children who died young. The daughter Susan married Henry Carlton.

#### Children—Carlton.

(1) *Florence*, born in Fairbanks, Iowa, November

11, 1888; died at Strawberry Point, Iowa, in 1892.

(2) Mabel Emma, born September 14, 1890, in Strawberry Point, Iowa; married Clifford Likin, lives in New York, has one son, Robert Carlton Likin, born April 7, 1922.

(3) Henry Fiske Carlton, born September 9, 1892; lives in New York; married Mabel Mason, November 17, 1917. She died in 1939. They had two children, Catherine Sue and William W.

(4) Alice Winnifred Carlton; born in Mt. Vernon, Iowa May 17, 1899; married a Methodist Minister, Rev. Carl J Allen., June 28, 1922; have one daughter, Virginia Ruth, born December 8, 1925. They now live in Fortuna, California.

c. *Maria*, married Rev. W. C. Wagner. They have two sons living, one a banker in Chicago and the other, Morris, lives in Hinsdale, Illinois.

d. *Susan*, a much revered teacher in Paris, Illinois, born 1838; died in 1925.

e. *John*, born in 1845; died 1925. Married Mrs. Van Horn but had no children. He was a veteran of the Civil War, was wounded and always walked with a slight limp. One of his favorite sayings was "Now remember that molasses always catches more flies than vinegar."

f. *William*, lived and died in Danville, Illinois. He had one daughter, Hannah, and a son John, who was drowned.

## 2. GEORGE STEVENSON

Second son of William and Mary Hanna Stevenson, married Caroline Cooper Hull.

### Children.

a. *William Andrew*, died in infancy.

b. *Samuel Hull*, died in infancy.

c. *Mary Ellen*, born April 23, 1850; died May 3, 1910; married George Bunce April 9, 1874. (For descendants, see Bunce Line.)



d. *Juliet Isabella*; born September 24, 1851; died November 18, 1944; married December 10, 1874, John K. Graham who was born December 4, 1842 and died May 20, 1918.

Children—Graham.

- (1) Harriet Day, died in infancy.
- (2) George Stevenson, born May 15, 1877; died August 15, 1950.
- (3) Nannie, born June 13, 1880; died January 18, 1947.
- (4) Ferdinand, born June 29, 1883; now living in New Albany, Indiana.

e. *Nancy Deborah*, born November 21, 1853; died April 14, 1927; married September 21, 1875, George Ray, who was born September 14, 1847; died September 20, 1917. Nancy was the one child of George and Caroline Stevenson who was venturesome enough to go far afield. A half brother of her husband went to Texas and wrote back in glowing terms about the mild climate, the cheap land, and the productive soil; and George and Nancy with their daughter, Sarah Ann set out for Texas. They traveled by train and by freight-wagon. They forded streams, ran into blizzards, snow, and sleet, found people who used words they did not understand, like "ridin' a line", "two bits", "adobe" and others. Their first house was made of oak and cedar logs. George wanted to find out which would last the longest. Their little girl wondered what would happen to the house if one kind lasted longer than the other! For more than a year there was no rain; they couldn't farm; the farmers gathered buffalo bones of the animals which had been slaughtered for the skins and left lying on the plains. These bones brought \$30.00 a ton and in this way the farmers managed to meet their obligations. George and Nancy, in spite of the difficulties, stayed on and helped build up a thriving community at Seymour, Texas.

Their daughter Sarah Ann was born August 1, 1878. She married December 2, 1896, William Thomas Britton,

born March 14, 1872; died of a hunting accident September 2, 1927.

Children—Britton.

(1) John Woodson, born November 15, 1897; died as the result of a motor accident in California, on July 6, 1950. He served in the first World War in the Navy, and was overseas 14 months with the Army in World War II. He married on December 31, 1943, Countess Markham, who died a few months before her husband.

(2) Doris, born July 20, 1899; married September 21, 1921, D. B. Daugherty of Seymour, Texas.

Children—Daugherty.

(a) Glen, born September 29, 1922. Married Mildred Norwood, September 27, 1950; have one daughter, Doris Dee.

(b) Sarah Ann, born August 12, 1930; married Leonard E. Brock, March 12, 1948, and have two sons, Glen Eric, and Stephen Daniel.

(3) Lucy, born November 4, 1901; married W. Burwell Smith, March 24, 1927; have one daughter, Betty Claire, born September 24, 1928; married Tommy Lark, July 18, 1947.

(4) Florence, born February 21, 1903; married H. B. Colwell, December 25, 1922; have one daughter, Harriet Jane, born August 31, 1926; married Edwin Malone, May 12, 1945 and have one son, Michael Edwin.

(5) Georgia, born September 13, 1906; married R. L. Caldwell, December 1926. He died November 12, 1947. They have one daughter Nancy, born April 29, 1928; married W. C. Thornhill, April 27, 1947; they have two sons, William Anthony and Chris Wayne.

(6) William Thomas, born September 4, 1908; married December 31, 1933, Martha Lee Clark; have one daughter Shirley Ann, born April 7, 1940.

(7) Kate Riley, born August 24, 1911; married L. E. Bates, October 18, 1928.

Children—Bates.

(a) Caroline, born December 8, 1929; married R. W. Wilson, July 3, 1948; have one son, Stanley Wayne.

(b) Virginia, born July 14, 1932.

(c) Edwin Riley, born August 3, 1934.

(8) Josephine, born March 10, 1915; married M. C. Brannon, August 22, 1936.

f. *Florence Kate*, fourth daughter of George and Caroline Stevenson, born May 22, 1856; died December 15, 1940; married Robert L. Smith, December 3, 1875; Robert Smith was born January 11, 1845; died May 3, 1923.

Children—Smith.

(1) Elizabeth, born July 20, 1877; died September 14, 1898.

(2) Ralph Stevenson, born February 10, 1879; married Elizabeth Pope, (born March 15, 1881), November 6, 1910. They live in Prairieton, Indiana.

(3) George Watts, born March 24, 1881; died August 16, 1947; married Ida Robertson, June 18, 1913.

Children—George Watts and Ida Smith.

(a) Virginia Elizabeth; born April 30, 1915; married John Phelps, October 14, 1936; have three children, Michael, Beth, and George Smith.

(b) George Watts, Jr.; born June 4, 1917; died December 21, 1943; was a Lieutenant in the Air Force in World War II and lost his life in the South Pacific.

(4) Robert Hull, born June 20, 1883; died January 8, 1940; married Orpha McCarty, 1920; have one daughter, Betty, born August 18, 1927; married John Baranah.

(5) Helen Mills, born July 27, 1894; married, October 15, 1914, Frank Francis; died February 2, 1932.

Children—Francis.

(a) Robert Lorenzo, born July 4, 1915; married July 3, 1936, Edith Brazell; have five children, Robert, Richard, Janet, Charles, and Hal Edward.

(b) Joseph Smith, born July 20, 1917; married June 1946, Harriet Chapman; have two children, Rolanda Jane and Frank Arthur. Was in the Navy in World War II.

(c) William Ralph, born October 1919; died May 4, 1921.

(d) Charles, born January 1, 1922; married February 18, 1948, Della Abernathy; have three children, Charles Ray, Marcella Ann, and Mary Jane. Was in the Army in World War II.

(e) Betty Jane, born May 24, 1924; married January 10, 1948, Lawrence Dickerson. They have no children.

(f) Lois Ann, born September, 1926; married June 19, 1948, Earl Morgan. They have no children.

(g) Mary Lou, born March 15, 1928; married September 7, 1946, Orla Hays, Jr.; have one daughter, Susan.

(6) Hazel Marie, born June 8, 1896; married (1) David E. Francis, September 20, 1916; died September 20, 1926. (2) Otto P. Veach, December 9, 1944.

Children—Francis.

(a) John Richard, died in infancy.

(b) David Theodore, born December 26, 1919; married Rosemary Little; was in the Navy in World War II.

(c) Florence, born October 6, 1928; married Richard Fields; have two children, Deborah and Rebecca.

(7) Martha Henderson, born September 14, 1899; married March 12, 1919, Harold Johnston, born August 29, 1898.

Children—Johnston.

(a) Helen Irene, born May 20, 1920; married November 28, 1942, Don Cramer; have two daughters, Caroline Irene and Susan Jean.

(b) James Letcher, born October 29, 1922; mar-

ried October 3, 1943, Ann Brentlinger; have three daughters, Claudia, Pamela, and Rebecca. Was a chemist in World War II.

(c) Harold Ralph, born January 23, 1926; married July 18, 1948, Joyce E. Thomas; have one daughter, Christina Marie.

(d) William Ray, born July 27, 1929; married February 25, 1951, Lois Riggan.

(8) Hugh McKee, born December 2, 1902; married Elsie Carter, August 18, 1929.

Children—Smith.

(a) Carter, born January 28, 1934.

(b) Ralph Stevenson and twin brother, Robert Letcher, born August 15, 1935.

Robert and Florence Stevenson Smith had three other daughters who died with spinal meningitis within a few days, Laura Ethel, born Oct. 15, 1886; died March 15, 1892; Mary Etta, born February 19, 1888; died March 12, 1892; Jessie Harriet, born December 1, 1891; died March 15, 1892.

g. *Harriet Jane* Stevenson, daughter of George and Caroline Hull Stevenson, born April 24, 1858, died January 22, 1939; died unmarried.

h. *Thirza Fletcher* Stevenson, born March 28, 1863. Lives in Terre Haute, Ind.

i. *Ralph Ross*, born July 29, 1865; died February 26, 1866.

3. MARY JANE STEVENSON, daughter of William and Mary Hanna Stevenson, married HEMSLEY SIMMONS.

Mary Jane came with her parents from Philadelphia in 1836. She wasn't very happy at leaving because Hemsley Simmons was occupying a pretty large place in her thinking. However, she had not been in Vigo County many months before Hemsley followed and they were married in October 1838. They set up their home on the Cruft farm near the Stevenson homestead.

Children—Simmons.

a. William J., born September 25, 1839; died April 24, 1875; married December 24, 1864, Sallie Sparks, born November 10, 1845; died June 24, 1935.

(1) Mary B. Simmons, born April 9, 1866, was for many years a teacher in the city schools of Terre Haute, Indiana, where she still lives.

b. John H., born July 30, 1841; died 1878.

c. Hemsley Emmet; died in infancy.

d. Hemsley, born March 10, 1846; died December 28, 1910, married in 1872, Helen Rogers; born August 27, 1849; died May 16, 1926.

Children—Simmons.

(1) Jessie Ellen, born June 5, 1874; married October 9, 1895, Herbert H. Creal, born July 30, 1871; died July 9, 1952.

Children—Creal.

(a) Leslie Seymour, born November 24, 1896, married November 24, 1921, Bennie Florence Brent; had two children, Marjorie Ellen and Jimmie Brent.

(b) Florence Helen, born July 23, 1899; married December 24, 1925, John W. Pinkston, had one son, Robert Lee, born May 20, 1933.

(c) Mabel Marie, born January 30, 1901; married May 2, 1923, Reed P. Notter, died Dec. 2, 1945; have one son, Thomas Allan, born September 3, 1926.

(2) William, died in infancy.

(3) Hubert, born December 17, 1876; married April 23, 1905, Electa Williams, born June 15, 1884.

Children—Simmons

(a) Clifford Wayne, born May 4, 1906; died May 11, 1917.

(b) Helen Frances, born June 16, 1908; died December 5, 1909.

(4) Mary Helen, born October 4, 1879; married February 28, 1900, Frank Kelley, born October 4, 1870; died December 18, 1932.

Children—Kelley.

(a) Mildred May, born January 25, 1902.

(b) Edward Frank, born March 4, 1904; married April 28, 1931, Ruth Patton; have two children—Barbara Ruth and Edward Patton.

(c) William Robert, born May 31, 1913.

(d) Dorothy Jane, born November 11, 1918.

(5) Ethel, born June 6, 1885; married Howard Brewer; have 3 children, Harold, Helen, and Clarence and 4 grandchildren.

e. Gillette Simmons, born April 3, 1849; died October 4, 1926; married June 28, 1877, Fannie Hewitt, born March 9, 1857; died March 20, 1913.

Children—Simmons

(1) William, born March 12, 1883; died July 13, 1943; married October 17, 1911, Emma Morehead.

(2) Elizabeth Stevenson, born February 15, 1885; married May 1, 1907; Horace Pugh, born November 28, 1877.

Children—Pugh

(a) Mary Katherine, born June 22, 1908; married Pedrick Hayman, and have two children.

(b) Frances Louise, born September 28, 1911; married Earl Sands.

(3) Rachel, born December 8, 1891; married December 17, 1913, William E. Fowle, born October 6, 1890; died September 5, 1947.

#### Children—Fowle.

(a) William D., born October 4, 1915; married May 15, 1942, Esther Rankin, born October 1, 1915.

(b) Mary Frances, born February 25, 1924; married, June 24, 1944, Glenn Barnhart.

(4) Mary Stevenson, born May 4, 1897; died February 17, 1908.

f. Theodore Leslie, born November 26, 1852; died August 17, 1907; married October 15, 1879, Louise Steing, born December 5, 1853; died February 5, 1942.

#### Children—Simmons

(1) Clifford, born July 25, 1880; died September 25, 1919.

(2) Irene, born January 8, 1893; married (1) June 1, 1911, Fred Oliphant; died September 1, 1911. (2) November 21, 1934, Fred Collins, born October 14, 1874; died June 27, 1952.

4. William Stevenson III.

4th child of William and Mary Hanna Stevenson; married (2) Cornelia Louise Shryer.

#### Children—Stevenson.

(a) Harriet Belle, born Carlinsville, Illinois; January 26, 1854; died Danville, Illinois, November 10, 1913; married Charles William Seiwel, in Rushville, Indiana, January 7, 1880; died in Danville, Illinois.

#### Children—Seiwel.

(1) Lewis, born March 22, 1881; died May 1881.

(1) Edward (twin) born March 22, 1881; married April 2, 1902, Helen Yeomans, born February 14, 1884 at Gibson City, Illinois.



### Children—Seiwell.

(a) Helen Virginia, born Otterbein, Indiana, January 29, 1904; married (1) in 1924, Anthony Wayne Brown, born in Licking, Mo.; had two children, Edward Wayne and George William; married (2) Dillon Jackson, born 1896; died 1945; (3) Horace Thompson, born August 23, 1905.

(b) Charles Yeomans, born, Danville, Illinois February 26, 1909; married in 1930, Ruby Hendrix, born Plainview, Texas, 1910.

(c) Mary Belle, born Colorado Springs, November 9, 1911, married in 1946, Charles Stanleu Gifford, born Vermont, 1899.

(2) Sara Belle, born August 9, 1883. Is Public Librarian, Danville, Illinois.

(3) Harry Stevenson, born September 10, 1885; died December 30, 1926; married February 16, 1916, Katherine Sparks of Alton, Illinois. He was in the Medical Service in World War I, coming out as Major in the Reserves. At the time of his death he was Superintendent of the State Hospital in Retreat, Pa. They have one daughter, Mary Harriet, born August 21, 1918.

b. William Shryer (Wm. IV), born Jacksonville, Illinois, February 28, 1856; died in Philadelphia, Pa. July 1884, near his father's old home, where he had gone in search of family records.

c. Frank Lewis, born Springfield, Illinois, May 10, 1859; died in Decatur, Illinois; married Susan Pickney Walker.

### Children—Stevenson.

(1) William (V), born June 24, 1883; married Mary Kincaid of Walton, Illinois in 1910.

(a) William Kincaid (VI), born June 21, 1914 at Minot, North Dakota; married July 30, 1938, Doris Caro-

line Miller; have a son, William Robert (VII) born in Pasadena, August 19, 1939.

(2) Albert Seeley, born December 2, 1884; has a son Albert Walker, born July 3, 1930.

(3) Louise Cornelia, born May 18, 1887. Lives at Riverside, California.

(4) Frank Lewis, born July 3, 1889. Lives at Riverside, California.

(5) Harrietta, born Decatur, Illionis, March 3, 1893; died November 15, 1893.

(6) Helen Susan, born November 15, 1894. Lives in Pasadena, California.

d. Mary Helen, born September 24, 1864; died in Los Angeles, November 4, 1942; married October 23, 1909, Henry Fischer, of Farmington, Mo.

William III came from Philadelphia with his father in 1836. He was then a lad of fourteen years. He decided to enter the Methodist Ministry and preached for more than fifty years. He joined the Conference in 1846. In a sermon at his 50th Anniversary service, he gave a striking picture of the growth of the country and the changes which had taken place in the training of the ministry and the modes of worship. His closing statement in this sermon was: "I still have a happy home, I am still serving a loving and loyal people, and am surrounded by as happy a band of Epworth Leaguers as can be found anywhere."

While the Stevensons were still living in Philadelphia, the George Washingtons had a sale of their household effects. The Stevensons bought one of the large wall mirrors and a crockery cream pitcher. The mirror is now owned by Miss Sara Belle Seiwell of Danville, Ill., and the cream pitcher, by Mrs. W. T. Britton, of Seymour, Texas.

## THE THOMSON LINE (1690-1952)

In the journal of the Department of History of the Presbyterian Church of December 1942 and March 1943 there appears a rather exhaustive study of the life and work of the Reverend John Thomson, who was one of the first Presbyterian Church Moderators in the United States. He fits into the picture of this genealogy because he is the ancestor of Esther Crockett who married Francis Jackson Carter, our great-great grandfather. In later records a "P" has been added to the name "Thomson" although John always spelled it without the "P".

Dr. John P. Herndon, his biographer, says "It is probable that he was born about 1690 since he entered the University of Glasgow, March 1, 1706. He was awarded the Master of Arts degree in 1710 or 1711. In the General Synod of Ulster at Belfast, Ireland in June 1711, he was entered on his first "Tryalls" in the Synod. He was licensed to preach on June 23, 1713. He came to the United States in the year 1715, was ordained in 1717 and was the pastor at Lewes, Delaware, until September 1729. He was elected Moderator of the Synod September 16, 1719 and again in 1722, and so became the first person to be elected twice to the highest office in the Presbyterian Synods.

He rendered valuable service in the examination and assignments of ministerial candidates, in the handling of finances, "for Pious uses" such as Christian Education and Ministerial relief, two objectives which were very dear to his heart. The original record of this fund has been discovered and among the signatures is that of John Thomson in clear bold penmanship. He was the author of "Overture on the Westminster Confession of Faith" and the "Directory for Worship, Discipline, and Government." Dr. Herndon says, "In these two laws of the church all the essence of Presbyterianism is contained. Today, two hundred and twenty-two years after their original acceptance, they are still part and parcel of the constitution of the Church, with some modifications." He was also the author of "Poor Orphans' Legacy" which Benjamin Franklin published in 1734, an "Explication of the Shorter Catechism" and many documents called "Overtures". In

April 1739, he introduced an "Overture" to provide for "The Erecting of a Public School or Seminary of Learning". The Various Presbyteries unanimously agreed and the school was opened in 1743 with John Thomson on the original Board of Trustees. The School was moved to Newark, Delaware and was called "The Newark Academy". It is now the University of Delaware.

In September 1743, at his own request, he was appointed to supply "the back parts of Virginia until sometime in November." In 1744 a group of people from North Carolina laid before the Synod the "desolate Condition" of their people and John Thomson was ordered to correspond with them. He later went there himself and seems to have been the first minister of any denomination to preach in that region. In the latter years of his life he established a school for young men from which Hamden Sydney College later sprang.

He was present at the Synod of May 27, 1752, but a year later it was recorded that he had died since the last meeting of the Synod. He had built a cabin a short distance from the house of his son-in-law, Samuel Baker, where he spent much of his time. He died there and was buried under the floor of his cabin. Rev. E. F. Rockwell says of him, "Born by the side of the River Foyle in Ireland, where he first opened his eyes on the world, he closed them on the banks of the Catawba, in the wilderness; an ocean rose between his cradle and his grave, an emblem of his stormy life. Ireland gave him birth; Oredell County, a grave; The Heavenly Jerusalem, a final Rest."

Little is known of John Thomson's wife. Records of the Presbyterian Church show that he arrived in New York in 1715 with his wife and children. Dr. Herndon states that the wife who came with him was the mother of all his children but one. His second wife was a "Widow Reid", a McKean, a Highland woman of dark complexion. She was the mother of Hannah.

The one child of John Thomson's in which we are interested is Esther, born about 1710 and died in 1770. Tradition has it that coming on the boat from Ireland with the Thomson family was a young man named Samuel Crocket who spent much of his time playing with little five-year-old Esther. One day he laughingly remarked

to the father that he was going to marry Esther when she was old enough.<sup>1</sup> This is what happened for it is a known fact that the husband was about twenty years older than she when they were married in 1732. Other children of John Thomson were: Mary, John, Abraham, Sarah, Roger, Jane, Ann, Margaret Elizabeth and Hannah.<sup>2</sup>

On September 2 and 3, 1940, Wythe County, Virginia, celebrated its sesqui-centennial anniversary reviewing in pageantry the story of the early pioneers. One of the episodes was the wedding of Esther Thomson and Samuel Crockett. The wedding party of twelve couples was composed entirely of Esther's descendants. The speaker of the occasion told how these two young people, harrassed by Indians, at times had to seek refuge in the nearest fort. The log house where they lived is one of the very few still standing in southwest Virginia. It was our good fortune to see this house and take some photographs. It is still in a remarkable state of preservation.

#### Children of Samuel and Esther Crockett:—

1. Samuel, Jr. (1735-1795)
2. Ann Agnes (1736- ? )
3. John (1737-1799)
4. Jane (1739- ? )
5. Catherine (1741- ? )
6. Robert (1743- ? )
7. Andrew (1745-1821)
8. James (1749-1826) married Mary Drake. See descendants in the Crockett Line.

#### HISTORY OF HOPEWELL CHURCH

John Thomson is the name worthy to stand first on Hopewell's long scroll, "the name of one who was diligent

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1. *Some Notable Southern Families, Vol. V., page 10.*

2. *Journal of History of the Presbyterian Church, March 1943, page 55.*

and active from 1715 to 1753 but who disappeared from public view and sank into the grave almost unknown and unnoticed."

"Rev. John Thomson, was born in Ireland, County Down, by the River Foyle in 1690, baptized in 1691 and married sometime before 1713. He was educated at the University of Edinburgh receiving the M. A. Degree."

"Having come to New York in the summer of 1715 he presented through Rev. George McNish a letter to the Presbytery held at New Castle in September desiring the advice and assistance of the Presbytery who refer to him as "Mr. John Thomson", probationer, lately come into this country."

"He held on for twelve years at Lewes, saw a brick church built and in spite of want of support did not resign until September 1729. He was a charter member of the first Synod of America.

"In 1738 he was on a committee to wait on the Gov. of Virginia."

His wide range of service is seen in a curious instance—A member had hastily promised marriage to a certain lady. She was willing to release him but wasn't sure it was lawful for her to do so. The Synod decided it was lawful, called the young man before the Synod and directed John Thomson to "rebuke him in the presence of the Synod—it being necessary to show our detestation of such rash proceedings in young people."

"The Rev. John Thomson, 1690-1753 A.M., V.D.M.

Serving in Virginia and North Carolina

1738-1753

The man who more than others

LED

The Presbyterian Church in America

TO ADOPT

The Westminster standards

As its Constitution

1729"

History of Hopewell Church

THE MEETING OF THE CROCKETTS  
(1622-1952)

AND

CARTERS (1774-1952)

The Crockett and Carter families came together with the wedding, at Wytheville, Virginia, of Francis Jackson Carter, son of George and Mary Carter, to Esther Crockett, daughter of James and Mary Drake Crockett.

The history of the Crocketts and of Francis Jackson Carter and his descendents will be dealt with in this chapter, but, in-as-much as both the Virginia and the Tennessee branches of the family claim descent from Robert (King) Carter through different brothers, though without documentary proof, this seems to justify the giving of a separate chapter to the Carters, including George the father of William, Robert and Francis Jackson.

The history of the Crockett line, so far as we know it, begins with Gabriel Gustave de Crocketagni (Pronounced Crockashawny) who was a French Huguenot living in the south of France. His son, Antione Desasure, was born July 10, 1643. When Antione was twenty years of age he was granted a commission in the household troops of Louis XIV King of France. While serving in this position, Antione, who was said to be a very handsome man, met and fell in love with a beautiful maiden, Louise De Saix, whom he married in 1669. Their first child, named for its grandfather, Gabriel, was born at Bordeaux, France, October 12, 1672.<sup>1</sup>

It was at this time that Louis revoked the Edict of Nantes, which up to this time had granted religious freedom to protestants. But with this revocation this freedom was lost and

*"It drove our great-great grand papa  
Away from his home and his pa and ma  
To make his abode in the Emerald Isle  
From thence came his children many a mile  
To live in America awhile  
And start the famous Crockett line  
Which, history shows, is very fine."*<sup>2</sup>

It is said that Antione with his wife and baby son fled across the English channel to England where they stayed for a short time, but as the hatred of the Huguenots grew, they fled to Ireland and changed their name to "Crockett". They resided at Bantry Bay, Ireland. The third son of Antione and Louise was Joseph Louis born January 9, 1676 in Ireland. He married Sarah Stewart of Donegal, Ireland and was the ancestor of Davy Crockett of Alamo fame.

The second son of Antione and Louise was James, born November 20, 1674 at Bantry Bay. He married Martha Montgomery, daughter of Thomas Montgomery of the British Naval service. James and Martha are the pro-

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1. *Some Notable Southern Families, Vol. V., page 31.*

2. *From an original jingle composed by Georgia Bunce.*



genitors of our particular line of Crocketts. Southwest Virginia is full of Crocketts of this line. We met several of them when we were there. All whom we met seemed to be people exhibiting the famous "Southern hospitality."

Samuel Crockett, son of James and Martha Montgomery Crockett, was born about 1690-4 and died in December of 1749. He came to America about 1715. On the same boat were Rev. John Thomson with his family, among whom was the little five-year-old daughter, Esther, who later became the wife of Samuel Crockett, though she was very much younger. (See Thomson line). Samuel and Esther were married about 1732 and spent most of their lives in Wythe County, Virginia. They had eight children, James, their youngest son, named for his grandfather, is our ancestor. He married in 1771, Mary Drake, a daughter of Samuel Drake and Mary Cox who were married in 1743.<sup>3</sup>

The fifth child of James and Mary Drake Crockett was Esther, born January 1780, died July 9, 1870. She married Francis Jackson Carter in Wythe County, Virginia, February 16, 1797. Rev. Daniel Lockett was the minister. She is buried in the cemetery situated by the little Baptist Church near Madisonville, Tennessee. We have a photograph of this church, which is still standing.

Esther and Francis Jackson Carter lived in Wythe County until the early years of the eighteen hundreds when they went to Cocke County, Tennessee and settled in the Dutch Bottoms, a section of very fertile land. When we visited the County Courthouse in Wytheville, we found deeds which stated that George Carter was the father of Francis Jackson Carter; tax lists; the marriage record of Francis and Esther, and the will of James Crockett which stated that his daughter, Esther Carter, had already had her share of his property. We found the names of the other sons of George Carter. We travelled, one Sunday afternoon, over the worst possible country roads out to an original grant of land which George Carter had obtained from the Government and which he gave to his son,

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3. *The foregoing history was obtained from "Some Notable Southern Families, Vol. V., page 4, 12, & 100. Also from Abridged Compendium of Genealogy by Virkus.*

Robert, in 1791 "as a gift of love and affection", which deed we saw, signed by George and his two sons, William and Francis Jackson. Once more we stood on land which had belonged to our forefathers more than 160 years ago. The Misses Margaret and Nelle Carter, descendants of Robert still live on this place. Their brother, Edward, of Wytheville piloted us to the farm.

These Carters of Virginia were slave-holders and after Francis and Esther came to Tennessee they continued to hold slaves. A quotation from a book entitled "Holston Methodism" has this interesting paragraph:—"We are indebted to the Hon. William Garrett for the mention of some Negro preachers whom he knew. Joseph, a slave of Francis J. Carter, Esq. of the Dutch Bottoms, Cocke Co. Tenn. was a man of deep piety and not only had the confidence of his owner but of the people of the country generally. He was licensed to preach about the year 1818. His master was kind and indulgent toward him and he was permitted to attend school at Anderson Academy for a session or two, boarding or staying at the home of James Gilliland. His tuition was free; he made reasonable proficiency and preached in the country in private homes as well as in churches. He was modest and diffident and preferred to preach in the out-of-the-way communities and there he had many souls to his ministry. His congregations were often large and the more intelligent and refined among the people attended his ministry with profit. Although thus flattered, he did not lose his modesty and diffidence. His gifts in prayer were extraordinary. He was faithful to the end of his life".<sup>4</sup>

"The "wanderlust" seems to have been fairly strong in Francis Jackson Carter. In the Knoxville Register, Vol. III, No. 152 dated June 22, 1819 appears the following advertisement: "Valuable Land for Sale:— The subscriber being desirous to remove himself farther west offers for sale the land whereon he now resides containing about 500 acres, situated in the Dutch Bottoms on the French Broad River in the county of Cocke and state of Tennessee. Upwards of 200 acres of this land is excellent river bot-

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4. We are indebted to Mrs. Mims, widow of Judge Mims, of Newport, Tenn. for this extract from "Holston Methodism", Vol. II, page 397.

tom, including an island in the French Broad River which contains about 80 acres and is equal to any land in Tennessee. All this is in cultivation, being separated from the other land by a very narrow sluice, dry, except in time of high water. The upland contains a considerable quantity of good farming land, having a large branch running through it on which there is a considerable quantity of good meadow land. The improvements are upwards of 200 acres of cleared land, about 14 acres of timothy meadow and the same quantity of red clover. The buildings are indifferent log houses. There is on the premises one hundred thousand excellent bricks made last season by a good workman and an elegant and commanding site to build on. Those inclining to purchase are invited to call and view the premises.”<sup>5</sup>

June 22, 1819.

Signed, Francis J. Carter.

Evidently no one was interested in this purchase and Francis Jackson decided to use the 100,000 excellent bricks to build a home for himself on this “commanding site”. The brick house is still standing on a lovely hill overlooking a lake which covers all this “excellent river bottom land and the 80 acre island. This lake has been made by the overflow from the Douglas Dam a part of the T.V.A. operations. The house is in a bad state of repair and will soon have to be torn down unless some rich relative appears, filled with family pride, who would recondition it and use it for his country home.

In 1823, Francis Jackson came to Vigo County for a visit with his daughter, Mary, who had lost her husband, Wesley Harrison, about the year 1822. In a letter written in December 1823, to her father shortly after he returned home from his visit, she speaks, in a veiled way of the Rev. Samuel Hull who had called on her. This was the beginning of a romance and they were married in 1824. (For their descendents, see the Hull line). In the year 1830 Francis Jackson went to Mississippi on a business trip but became ill while there and died. A trusted slave who

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5. *We are indebted to Miss Pollyanna Creekmore for this and other items from the Knoxville Register on file in the Lawson McGhee Library, Knoxville, Tenn.*

had gone with him brought his personal effects back to Esther, in his saddle bags.

The exact date is not known but items from the Knoxville Register of September 1, 1830 show that he had passed away before that date. At this time there appeared the following:— "Administration Sale. The Sale of the personal estate of Francis J. Carter, deceased, at his late residence in Cocke County, Tennessee will take place on the first Monday of October next and the days immediately succeeding. Besides considerable quantity of other property there will be sold on a credit of 12 months (upon the purchaser giving bond and approved security) about 20 likely negroes.

Signed: Esther Carter, G. W. Carter,  
Administrators of said deceased."

Knoxville Register, Wednesday, September 1, 1830.

"To George W. Carter, one of the administrators of Francis J. Carter, deceased, as well as one of his heirs at law; to Samuel Hull and Mary Hull, his wife, Job M. Baker and Sarah Baker, his wife, John Scruggs and Thirza Scruggs, his wife, William Carter, E. C. Carter, Juliet Carter, Miranda Carter and Elizabeth Carter, heirs at law of said deceased;— The undersigned will petition the County Court of Cocke County at the next February sessions thereof, agreeable to the acts of the Assembly in such cases made and provided, to have her dower assigned and laid off to her, of the lands of which said deceased died siezed and possessed in said court, at which term of said Court the above named heirs can appear and oppose the petition if they choose.

Signed, Esther Carter,  
Widow of Francis J. Carter, deceased."

The foregoing prove beyond the shadow of a doubt that Francis Jackson had passed away very near to this date of September 1830, and did not die, as had been reported, in the year of 1857. This Francis, whose stone bears the date of 1857, must have been his grandson who was also named Francis Jackson.

Since this record is a private document, intended for family consumption only, it might be interesting to show a chain of events which lead up to some of the data which we have accumulated.

We were very anxious to visit the Court House in Coker County, believing that here there would be a rich mine of information. We arrived in Newport one evening, got our rooms at the Eisenour Motel, just outside the town and the next morning went to the Court House. We asked if we might look at their records dating back to 1789. The reply was "Lady, our Court House was burned in 1872 and we haven't a single record back of that date." Georgia and I looked at each other in dismay, completely baffled. What next? Our forbears in this county seemed to have been Methodists, so we hunted up the Methodist Church and asked if they had any old records. The minister was new and said that there were no records of which he knew, but that a Mrs. Mims, living up on a near-by hill was writing a history of the Methodist Church and she might be able to give us some data. So we climbed the hill, completely exhausted when we reached the top. We caught our breath and knocked at the door of the home of this complete stranger. We explained our errand and she invited us in, in characteristic southern fashion. We told her that our great-grandmother had married a man named Harrison in Coker County. "Wesley Harrison?" said she, "Yes, I have an item about him," and she then read to us the following:— "In the year 1812 a series of revival services were held in the old log Court House, Old Town, which resulted in the conversion of some of the most prominent men and women living there. Among these were William Garrett and wife, Thomas Grey, Wesley Harrison and others. The first Methodist Society was organized after this 1812 revival and Wesley Harrison and his wife were members. The Wesley Harrisons hated slavery so much that they left Tennessee and moved north, presumably to Indiana." The Harrisons freed their slaves after they came to Indiana. These slaves settled in various places in the state and often went to visit their former owners.

Mrs. Mims also gave us an item about Francis Jackson Carter, our great-great-grandfather, the father of Mrs.

Wesley Harrison. "It was the custom of the early settlers of Tennessee as soon as was practical, to arrange for the education of the youth. This honored custom was adhered to by the citizens of Cocke County. In 1806 they established what was then known and afterwards known as "Anderson Academy", named in honor of Judge Joseph Anderson, one of the first Tennessee judges.<sup>6</sup> On the 28th of October, 1813, the legislature passed an act authorizing the "drawing of a lottery" for the erection of a building." The historian states that "these pioneer patriots, flushed with pride over the victory at King's Mountain, could not tolerate the idea of raising revenue by taxation." Money was scarce, hence the Legislature approved the raising, by a lottery, of a sum not to exceed \$5,000.00.<sup>7</sup> One of the trustees for raising this money was Francis Jackson Carter. By 1817 the required amount had been raised and the Academy was built one mile west of Newport, Tennessee, on the top of a hill. Francis Jackson Carter was one of three additional trustees who were appointed at that time to serve on the Board of the Academy.

Mrs. Mims told us of two other persons who might be able to give us further information. These ladies lived in the same town on the next street, so we hied us to the next street and found that they had no other data for us, but told us of another Carter descendent who lived at Dandridge ten miles below Newport. Our next move, then was to go to Dandridge which we did the next morning. It was raining, but nothing daunted we arrived and knocked at the door of Mrs. Susong. When we told her what we were after she said "Yes, I have some records, but we have just moved and I'm not sure where they are, but I'll have a look." Finally she put me on the phone to talk with a cousin who had the same records. While I was talking she whispered in my ear that she had found them. She had put them in the radio! These records were the Bible Records of Francis Jackson Carter, and Mrs. Susong was his great-granddaughter. We were his great-great granddaughters. Were we delighted! She

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6. *Tennessee Historical Materials*, page 23.

7. *Tennessee Historical Materials*, W. J. McSween.

got into the car with us and took us to the old homestead—and once again we stood on ground which had belonged to our forefathers in past generations. It was indeed on an “elegant and commanding site.”

The foregoing is just an interesting sample of the intricate and devious paths one follows in the collecting of genealogical data.

Francis Jackson Carter and Esther Crockett, according to this Bible record were married February 16, 1797 in Wytheville, Virginia by Rev. Daniel Lockett. Esther was the 6th Generation from the original Gabriel.

#### Children—Carter—7th Generation.

- a. James, born June 1, 1798; died March 11, 1806.
- b. Mary, born August 23, 1800; married (1) Wesley Harrison, May 22, 1815.

#### Children—Harrison.

- (1) Wesley; died young.
- (2) Madison Eratus, born December 10, 1816; died December 6, 1842.
- (3) Fenelon, born September 6, 1818; died February 6, 1875. (For decendants see the Hull line.)
- (4) Edith Miranda.

(5) Eusebia, born August 10, 1819 in Cocke County, Tenn.; died May 13, 1858; married November 26, 1834, William McMurrin, born March 6, 1806 in Franklin County, Pennsylvania. His parents were Francis and Martha McMurrin. They came to Terre Haute about 1831.

#### Children—McMurrin.

- (a) James Madison, born November 16, 1835.

(b) Adelaide Irish, born December 1, 1836, Terre Haute; died April 13, 1912 at Canton, Indiana; married Jacob Reyman who went as a surveyor to Minnesota Territory.

(c) William Francis, born July 27, 1838, Terre Haute, Indiana; died June 26, 1905 at Salem, Indiana; married August 6, 1883, Sarah J. Hanger, born March 10, 1846; died September 11, 1921.

(d) Henry Poland, born June 2, 1843; St. Louis, Mo., died, Whittier, California, 1917.

(e) Fenelon H. born July 15, 1845 near Salem; died November 11, 1859.

(f) John Thompson, born February 7, 1849; died Nov. 24, 1859.

(g) Edith Miranda, born June 17, 1852; died April 12, 1864.

(h) Martha Eusebia, born January 21, 1856; died Nov. 13, 1926; married December 9, 1875 Volney Thornton Reid; born August 10, 1850; died December 9, 1945. His father was a noted country doctor.

#### Children—Reid.

(1) William Francis, born September 1876; died Aug. 12, 1882.

(2) Harriet, born October 1, 1878; lives in Salem, Indiana.

(3) Helen, born May 2, 1881; lives in Salem, Ind.

(4) Zella Ann, born November 26, 1885.

(5) Howard Thornton, born March 20, 1890.

Volney Reid entered the hardware business and was actively associated with it to the time of his death at 95 years of age.



b. MARY CARTER married (2) SAMUEL HULL, August 10, 1824. (For descendants of the Cater-Hull marriage, see the Hull line.)

c. SARAH, born August 6, 1802; married Job Baker, a Methodist minister. They lived for a time in Carlisle, Sullivan County where he was the minister of the Carlisle Methodist Church. A letter from Sarah Baker written to her sister Mary in 1822-3 has been kept in the family all these years.

d. Theresa Newell (the *first* Thirza) born October 6, 1806; died November 9, 1888; married September 7, 1824, the Rev. John Scruggs. He was always called "Uncle Scruggs" by the nephews and nieces. The war between the states evidently hit the Scruggs family very hard. A letter from John A. Hull I, to his sister Caroline, our grandmother, tells of the sad plight of his "Aunt Thirza and Uncle Scruggs" as a result of the Civil War. His letter is dated October 5, 1865, and says "Poor Uncle Scruggs is now about 70 years old. When I left him he had thirty field hands and fifteen little boys in their long shirts, and women slaves without count. He had a good farm of rather poor land and lived happy and contented. Now his slaves are all gone and all that he has is what he this year raised himself with one horse. His barns were burned, his rails destroyed, and all his property taken away. Aunt Thirza, himself, and a little orphan of Sallie's is all that is left of them at home. He bought "Rebel Bonds" is all the act he did for the rebellion. Grandmother (Esther Crockett Carter) still lives. Uncle Will sold his farm during the rebellion and invested it in tobacco which Sherman met on his way to Knoxville and of course, it was captured and he was left a ruined man. He and grandmother now live with Uncle Harrison someplace about Strawberry Plains. I suspect they are all upon the charity of Mr. Harrison. I cannot tell what relation Mr. Harrison is but I think we can help her and relieve him. I shall send some money as soon as mail matters get a little regulated. Uncle George died about a year after the war began. His barn and his house were destroyed by fire about a month before he died. I expect his family is also in a suffering condition. I think I can support grandmother as long as she lives and will send her the money to take care of herself."

I have quoted this letter at length because it will preserve its contents and because it shows the devastating effect of war and how it touched the lives of our southern ancestors.

e. George Washington Carter, born February 22, 1809; died in 1861; married (1) January 26, 1832, Mary Clark. They had 6 children. George W. married (2) Nancy Coleman. They had five children.

Children—Carter.

- (1) David, married in Texas.
- (2) Robert, married Ellen Killion and had 8 children.
- (3) Mary, married Alfred Hill of Cocke Co. and had ten children.
- (4) Frank, never married. Died in Texas.
- (5) Elizabeth, born June 13, 1856; married James Thomas McNabb and had four children.

Children—McNabb.

(a) Frankie Estella (Essie), married Walter T. Susong, January 7, 1914 and had two children both deceased. Mr. Susong died March 11, 1931. Essie was the cousin who gave us the Bible Records of Francis Jackson, and took us to his old homestead.

(b) Mayme, married James Cruze of Pilsbury, Texas and have three children, James, John Ellis, and Anna Katherine.

(c) James McNabb, lives in Dandridge, Tennessee.

(d) Paul, killed by lightning in Athens, Tenn. in 1944. Married Grace Umbarger, and had five children—Charles, Ralph who was killed in the Army Air Corps, Lorene, John Thomas, and Dick Patrick.

Other children of Francis Jackson Carter and Esther were—William, Ephraim, Juliet, Edith Miranda and Elizabeth.

The background of this Carter family will be given in a chapter devoted exclusively to it, as was stated in the foreword.

*“Life to come will be important  
On the life that’s now  
Yet a mainly onward movement  
Never wholly retrograde;  
We know more though we know little,  
We grow stronger, though still weak.”*  
Robert Browning.

## THE CARTER LINE (1520-1952)

It was mentioned in the chapter on the Crocketts that a separate section would be given to the Carter Line because of the amount of material available if Family Tradition has any basis in fact. The proof of one Carter ancestor remains to be found but, since the state of Tennessee is working on that line, I have hopes that the evidence will be produced which will make the line complete. Then all that will be necessary for this chapter will be the insertion of the authority which makes our name authentic.

Our known ancestors of this line are:— George Carter in Pittsylvania County, Virginia, with Mary his wife, in 1768; in Montgomery County in 1782 where he moved with his wife and sons William, Robert, and Francis Jackson; finding themselves in Wythe Co. when that county was sliced off from Montgomery. Later George and his son Francis Jackson moved to Tennessee leaving the other sons in Virginia. They established their home in Cocke Co. Tenn. about 1807 in what was called the "Dutch Bottoms".

One summer Georgia and I visited these sections in both Virginia and Tennessee. We spent some hours with the Carters in Virginia, descendants of George's son Robert, who still live on the original grant of land which George, the father, had obtained from the state of Virginia in 1782. This land was called Barren Springs. They assured us that the story had come down through their line that their ancestor, Robert, was a descendant of the Robert (King) Carter line of Virginia. Then when he went to Cocke Co. Tenn. where we visited descendants of our great-great grandfather, Francis Jackson Carter, they too assured us that their ancestor, Francis Jackson, was a descendant of Robert (King) Carter of Virginia.

If, as I believe, George, the father of these two boys, one in Va. and the other in Tenn., is the great-great grandson of Robert (King) Carter, it was natural that this tradition should have come down to the present day. With this in mind, I am giving the Carter background, culled from unlimited sources of printed material and original docu-

ments. The Civil War was responsible for the destruction of many Court Houses with their records, and much material in private homes, and this is doubtless the reason there is so much difficulty in establishing many ancestral lines.

Since every line mentioned in this present volume, with two or three exceptions, is related in some way to these Carters it will, I hope, be of interest to present a few further facts concerning the family. As before stated, George Carter, the father of William, Robert and Francis Carter, was born about 1746. He appeared with Mary, his wife, in Halifax County, Va. (soon to become Pittsylvania Co.) and on July 20, 1768, bought land on the Dan River from the Commonwealth of Virginia. It consisted of 354 acres and was granted to him "especially and in consideration of the sum of 35 shillings of good and lawful money".<sup>1</sup> In 1779, he sold this land and 100 acres more to Samuel Atkinson for "1000 pounds, good and lawful money". Mary, his wife, being privily examined, relinquished her right of dower except  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. This one-half acre must have been a burying ground which she was not willing to relinquish. There were many other entries of land bought by George Carter, signed by Governors of Virginia, Benjamin Harrison and Patrick Henry.

George Carter seems to have been a man of some standing in the community. He was Justice of the Peace and Vestryman, both of which offices carried important responsibilities. He was appointed on the Commission of Peace, Jan. 23, 1777, assigned to Richard Gwynn's Company" to have them renounce their allegiance to King George III, by signing the following oath:— "I do swear and renounce all allegiance to George III, King of Great Britain, and I will be faithful and bear allegiance to the Commonwealth of Virginia as a free and independent state, George Carter to take the oath of all Richard Gwynn's company."

George lived in Pittsylvania Co. until 1782 when he, with some other families, moved west to Montgomery Co.

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1. *Chatham Court House, Pittsylvania Co., Deed Book 37, page 270.*

2. *History of Pittsylvania County, Clements (Maud Carter).*

where he took up land on the waters of the New river.<sup>3</sup> There were deeds in which father and sons were named and tax lists, both land and personal taxes, safely stowed away in the archives. We saw the stages at which sons became twenty-one-years old and had the right to have their names appear. Appended will be a copy of a deed as a matter of interest. They seemed to mark boundaries of their properties by trees, seeming not to realize that trees do not always remain as landmarks! A deed for the sale of some slaves by Francis Jackson Carter to his father-in-law, James Crockett, was an interesting document.

George gave one of his Virginia farms to his son, Robert, "as a deed of gift, of love and affection." It was signed by William and Francis Jackson Carter, in relinquishment of their claims to any portion of it. It was this particular piece of land to which Edward Carter took us when we met his sisters, Margaret and Nell, who now own the property and still live there. Following is the line of this son, Robert;—<sup>4</sup>

1. George Carter born (1746-47)

A. Robert, born Jan. 1, 1769; died March, 1801; married May 8, 1792, Jane Crockett, descendant of Joseph Louis Crockett.

1. Margaret Carter, born June 2, 1794; died June 8, 1864; married her cousin, John Carter, son of William Carter and Unity Bates. John was born Jan. 12, 1785; died Sept. 5, 1821.

2. George Carter, born Aug. 18, 1796; married Nov. 13, 1817, Elizabeth Calfee, daughter of Charles Calfee of England. Elizabeth was born Oct. 10, 1794.

a. Robert Crockett Carter, born Aug. 27, 1820; married Victoreen Doriot of France.

(1) Margaret, married Francis Carter, son of

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3. *Patent Books*, 32 and 40. *Book N. and Book O.*

4. *This line is found in Vol. V. of Some Notable Southern Families; Armstrong & French.*

Craig Carter, who was the son of Mitchell and Idris Craig Carter.

Children of Margaret and Frank Carter.

(a) Edward.

(b) Nelle.

(c) Margaret.

Nelle and Margaret are the two sisters who still live on the farm, called Barren Springs which was the "gift of love and affection," from the first George to his son, Robert.

b. Walter Crockett Carter, son of George and Elizabeth Calfee Carter, was born Nov. 4, 1832; died Sept. 6, 1878; married April 3, 1856, Lucy Ann Jennings.

Children of Walter and Ann Jennings Carter.

(1) George Lafayette, lived in Hillsville, Va. A beautiful highway in Wytheville has been built as a memorial and bears his name.

(2) Laura, married 1880, Robert G. Wilkinson who was president of the Citizens' Bank of Hillsville, Va. They had 4 children. We visited Mrs. Wilkinson, who is now a widow, and lives in the country near Hillsville with her daughter.

(3) Berta, born 1864; married Rev. W. M. Doggett, who was for 17 years a pioneer Home Missionary along the Rio Grande. His territory extended all the way from Brownsville, Texas, up to Fort Davis.

Children—Doggett.

(a) Arthur.

(b) Eleanor.

(c) Elizabeth St. Clare.

(d) Marshall Wellington. He has been a Chaplain in the Navy since 1942.

I had a delightful correspondence with Mrs. Doggett. She was keen-minded, interested in her church and community affairs, was able to travel about, even though she was then eighty-four years old.

#### B. Francis Jackson Carter.

The descendants of Francis Jackson Carter have appeared in other lines hence will not be repeated here. So much for the authentic history. Now for the rich contribution made by the Carters of the traditional kinship.

About the year 1770, there came to Tennessee from Virginia, a man named John Carter, his wife, Elizabeth, and one son, Landon. Some historians of that time write that he was "a kinsman of Robert (King) Carter". Others say that he was a "grandson of Robert (King) Carter", but fail to give any evidence to substantiate their claims. At least two writers say that he was the *father* of William, Robert and Francis Jackson Carter. This was, of course, proved to be wrong when *George*, was unmistakably established as the father, but doubtless this John was their grandfather, since families would hardly dare, in the light of today's Genealogical research, claim relationship unless there was some foundation at least in family tradition. It is altogether possible that John who was born between 1726 and 1728 was the father of George born about 1747, and the grandfather of William, Robert and Francis Jackson.

This John is always designated as "John of Watauga" because of his work in connection with that Association. The attempts of historians to fit John of Watauga into the Robert Carter Line seem pathetic. The only son through whom he could have descended was Robert's oldest son, John, born in 1696, but because no grandson of proper age appeared on the "Carter Family Tree" which was compiled and published at the late date of 1897, biographers have assumed that there was no grandson or, if there were, that he had died in infancy, although the compilers of the "Tree" state that many Carter names do not appear on it.

I am also working on the assumption that *George*, our ancestor, was one of the "several sons" of this John of Watauga mentioned in the material in libraries and Archives of Tennessee. I am submitting this explanation

as a possible solution to the claims of kinship made by the descendants of two widely separated families, hoping that proofs will be forthcoming as the investigation proceeds.

The first of this line to come to America was John Carter, born in 1620, who arrived in Virginia in 1643. It seems probable that he was one of the "Distressed Cavaliers" who sought refuge here. He settled first in Lower Norfolk county, Va. and immediately made his influence felt as a man of character and ability, representing his county in the House of Burgesses soon after his arrival. In October, 1665, he, as "Col. John Carter, Esq. Councillor of State" was granted 4000 acres of land for transporting 80 persons to the Colony. He was Vestryman, Commandant of the forces from Lancaster Co. against the Indians, was Presiding Justice and a member of the Governor's Council. He built the first Church, standing where Christ Church now stands in Lancaster Co. It was given to the Vestry by his son, John, six months after Col. Carter's death which occurred June 10, 1669.<sup>4</sup> He was married five times; four of his wives lie in the same church-yard and are mentioned in his epitah.

"Colonial and Revolutionary Lineages of America" give his immediate ancestry as follows;—

1. Richard Carter, Lord of the Manor, Cornstown, in Hertfordshire.
2. Richard's son, William, married Miss Podmore.
3. William's son, Robert, married Petronel Curie.
4. Robert's son, William, married Mary Renwood.
5. William's son, William, married Elizabeth Battey.
6. John, son of William and Elizabeth Carter, married as his fourth wife, Sarah Ludlow. (If any one is interested, David Starr Jordon of Leland Stanford University, who went to England and did his own investigating, has written a book called "Your Family Tree" which is in most libraries. In it, amongst other lineages, he traces this Ludlow family back to Alfred the Great and Charlemagne!)

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4. *Some Colonial Mansions—Glenn.*



Sarah was the daughter of Gabriel and Phyllis Ludlow; he was baptized Feb. 10, 1587; died 1639. She was granddaughter of Thomas and Jane Pyle Ludlow; and was the great-granddaughter of George and Elizabeth Windsore Ludlow. Sarah died in or before 1668. John and Sarah Ludlow Carter had a son, John, of whom very little is known. He made his will in 1690 leaving his brother, Robert, all his law and Latin books, with his sword, cane, and periwig.

The second son of John and Sarah Ludlow Carter was Robert, popularly known as "King" Carter. He was born in 1663 and died Aug. 4th, 1732. His epitaph reads:—<sup>5</sup>

"Robert Carter, Esq., an honorable man, who exalted his high birth by noble endowments and pure morals. He sustained the College of William and Mary in most trying times. He was Governor of Virginia, Speaker of the House, and Treasurer under the most serene Princes, William, Anne, George I and George II. Elected Speaker by the Public Assembly for six years and Governor for more than a year, he equally upheld the regal dignity and the public freedom."

He was not always held in such high esteem as the epitaph suggests. Some wag later wrote;—

*"Here lies Robin but not Robin Hood,  
Here lies Robin that never was good,  
Here lies Robin the God has forsaken  
Here lies Robin the devil has taken."*

Robert married (1) Judith Armistead, daughter of the Hon. John and Judith Armistead. She died Feb. 23, 1699 in the 11th year of her marriage, having borne to her husband "five children and a son". John Armistead, Judith's father, who was son of William and grandson of John Armistead, settled in Gloucester Co., where his father had patented a considerable quantity of land. In 1697, he made a deed in which he called himself "son and heire" of William Armistead, of Elizabeth City, County Gent. In 1680, he was Lieutenant-Colonel of Horse in Gloucester

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<sup>5</sup> *Ancestry of Benjamin Harrison by Keith; and Colonial and Revolutionary Lineages.*

Co. He was a member of the House in 1685; he was one of the King's Council and one of the Justices.

Robert (King) Carter and Judith Armistead were married in 1688. At the age of twenty-eight he took his seat in the House of Burgesses at Jamestown as a member for Lancaster Co. a position which had been held by his father and by his brother. In 1696 he became the Speaker of the House and the next year, Chairman of the Committee of Propositions and Grievances. In 1699 he was made treasurer of the Colony and held that position until 1704. In 1715, he was appointed Lieutenant-Commander of Lancaster and Northumberland Counties. In 1726, on the death of Gov. Hugh Drysdale, he was made Acting Governor until the arrival of William Gooch in 1727, when he went back to being President of the Council, which post he held until his death in 1832.<sup>8</sup>

Mrs. Judith Carter, wife of Robert, died in 1701. She directed that when she "came to die, she should be buried under the aisle on the side where the poor were buried, that they might walk over her, in her death, who had carried herself so loftily in her life".<sup>9</sup>

Robert Carter added to the large estate which he had inherited from his father and his brother, John. He restored Christ Church at his own expense. His will may be found in Vol. VI of *The Virginia Magazine*. There is also in the files of the Virginia Historical Society, Lee House, Richmond, Va., a handwritten copy of this will made in 1850. Huge tracts of land and a great number of slaves were left to the various children and grandchildren.

The oldest child of Robert and Judith Armistead Carter was called John of Corotomon, the name of the family estate. The second child was Elizabeth. She married a man named Burwell. To her was left the land near Williamsburg which is called "Carter's Grove" and is today one of the "Show Places" of Southern Virginia. Other daughters were Judith Page and Anne. These daughters are the ancestors of the Lees, the Harrisons and other

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8. *Robert Carter of Nomini Hall*; pages 11, 12, 13.

9. *The Old Dominion*, page 368.

families who helped to build America. By his second wife, Elizabeth Landon, Robert had five sons and three daughters.

This eldest son, John, is the one through whom our Carter Line claims lineage. He was born in 1696, was sent, by his father, in 1714 to Trinity College, Cambridge, England, where we find the following entry:—

Carter, John, son of Robert Carter, Va. America  
School: Mile End London.

Age 18. Fellow Commoner, Jan. 12, 1714.

Matriculated 1714.

He did not graduate but went to study Law at Middle Temple and his father saw to it that he was called to the Bar in 1720 before he returned to Virginia. He evidently was not too exemplary in conduct while he was in London. A letter written by his father to his London Agent, in 1720, says "My son, John, I find is upon the stool of repentance. It will be well he will come to his senses at last. He makes me large promises to retrench himself and that he will, for the future, call upon you for no more, by the quarter, than 37 pounds, ten shillings, and will make the best use of his time that he has to stay in England by close application to his studies. He expects it will cost him some money to be called to the Bar, which I must not grudge at. He begs me to forget his past extravagances and desires I may not insist upon a particular account from him and that he will give me no more occasion for future complaints. Upon these terms I am willing to shut up with him. Thus you see I am no stranger to the story of the Gospel."

Signed, Robert Carter.<sup>10</sup>

John's repentance seems to have been genuine. He came home from England, took over the Secretaryship of the Colony, which his father had bought for him for \$1,500 and from all accounts he was a worthy official of the state. One account says: "Secretary Carter seems to have been a man of integrity and ability, managing large domestic affairs with prudence, patience and skill and

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10. *Carter Papers, Huntington Library, California.* page 34.

filling, ably, high political offices". His portrait, painted by Sir Goeffry Kneller, hangs on the walls at Shirley, the estate which came to him on his marriage to Elizabeth Hill, heiress to Shirley. The picture shows him as dressed in a velvet coat, ornamented with silver lace and buttons, truly a handsome, courtly figure.

John's term of office as Secretary of State began in 1722 and lasted until his death, July 31, 1742. He inherited, so one reference says, "the major part of his father's estate, including all the property and slaves in Lancaster Co. with additional plantations in Essex and King George Counties including 10,000 acres on Licking Run". He made his headquarters at the Capital, Williamsburg. He married Elizabeth Hill in 1723. They travelled up to Corotomon and Shirley periodically during his secretaryship as "Many people were desirous to give their evidence before the secretary, but it is so far to Williamsburg and two great rivers to cross and the people are so poor and the money so scarce".<sup>11</sup>

Most authorities claim that the oldest child of John and Elizabeth Hill Carter is their daughter, Elizabeth, born in 1731, completely overlooking the fact that a son was born sometime between April 1726 and Sept. 1728. This is proved by the will of Robert (King) Carter. He wrote his original will in April, 1726. In that will no mention is made of any children of his son, John. On Sept. 12, 1728, he wrote a codicil to the will in which he names "My grandson, John, son of my said son John".<sup>12</sup> Hence "grandson John" must have been born between these two dates. It is true that his name does not appear on the 1897 Tree and I presume that this is the reason his mention in the will is not taken into account.

Since the historians have claimed that John, of Watauga, Tenn., is the grandson of Robert. I make bold to assert that he is the "grandson John" spoken of in this will, though I grant that it will be hard to prove since the records of Williamsburg were destroyed during the Civil War. A few records have been preserved in the Archives

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11. *Some Colonial Mansions*, page 242.

12. *Virginia Magazine*. Vol. VI. page 8-13.

of William and Mary College. For instance, there is an old bond, drawn up in 1751, at Williamsburg signed by John Carter. In the Archives of Wisconsin State University is a letter written and signed by John Carter at Watauga, Tenn., in May, 1776. I obtained photostatic copies of these two documents with their signatures. I had them examined by two bankers both of whom are of the decided opinion that the same person had signed the two documents, even though they were written twenty-years apart. No other known grandson of Robert has fitted into the picture so I am daring to assume that "grandson John" lived, was reared in Williamsburg, and went in the year 1770 to Tennessee where he rendered outstanding service to his country.

As you have seen by my former deductions, I believe that *George* was the son of this John and that he left the paternal roof and started out on his own in Pittsylvania Co., Virginia with his wife, Mary, trekking through various Virginia Counties, finding themselves eventually in the Dutch Bottoms, Cocke Co., Tenn.

The wife of John of Watauga, whom he married in Virginia, was Elizabeth Taylor. On their arrival in Tennessee, 1770, John set up a trading post at the junction of the two forks of the river Holston. He traded with both Indians and Whites. When the Indians became a menace he gave up his trading post and moved to Watauga. This group of about 80 families bargained to lease land for 10 years from the Cherokees. The Watauga Association was first of all a business organization. It took on self-government in 1772 and came to be called the first independent governmental body organized by native Americans. They were much disappointed to find that they were not a part of Virginia but belonged to North Carolina. Late in 1775, they set up Washington District as the title of their territory and sought union with the older sections of North Carolina Province. John Carter represented Washington District in the Assembly of North Carolina for several years. The germ of Tennessee was the Watauga Association which was absolutely free of religious tests, class distinctions, kingly dictations or proprietary interference. It served its purpose and has passed into its place of honor in

the temple of History.<sup>13</sup> John was the first Entry-Taker of Tennessee, and held that position until his death. Someday, in the not too distant future, I believe this man's origin will be established.

WYTHE COUNTY—DEED BOOK IV. p. 316

Know all men by these presents that I, Francis Jackson Carter, of Wythe Co., state of Virginia, for and in consideration of the sum of \$1000. to me in hand paid, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, hath bargained and sold and doth by these presents bargain, sell, and confirm unto James Crockett of the County aforesaid, the following negroes, to wit:—

Dinah, a Negro woman, about 50 years of age.

Barbara, about 17, and her infant child named Jennie.

Humphry, about 14 years of age.

Fanny, about 10 years of age.

Mary, about 7 years of age.

all which Negroes I warrant to be slaves during life, and I do also warrant and forever defend the title of the aforesaid Negroes unto the aforesaid, James Crockett, his heirs and assignees, free from the claim or demand of all and every person whatsoever. 4th. Day of May, 1805.

Signed:— Francis J. Carter.

It might be of interest to recall that it was Mary, daughter of Francis Jackson Carter, who with her husband, Wesley Harrison, freed their slaves and came to Carlisle, Indiana, where Wesley was the pastor of the little Methodist Church.

WYTHE COUNTY DEED BOOK

Grantee—Francis J. Carter

Jan. 10, 1795.

This indenture made the tenth day of January, one thousand seven hundred and ninety five between George

Carter of the County of Wythe and state of Virginia, on the one part, and of Francis Jackson Carter, son of George, of said county, on the other part, witnesseth that the aforesaid George Carter in consideration of 110 pounds current money of the state of Virginia, to him, the said George, in hand paid by the aforesaid Francis Jackson Carter, the receipt of which the said George doth hereby acknowledge, that the said George hath given, granted, bargained and sold unto the aforesaid Francis Jackson Carter one certain tract of land containing 170 acres lying in the aforesaid county of Wythe on the head branches of the north fork of the Holston River, being bounded in manner and form beginning: At a double white Oak at the foot of a gravelly ridge and running north 50 degrees, west 80 poles, crossing a branch to a double Maple in Hugh Fulton's line, thence with the same north 60 degrees, 30 poles crossing a branch to two white Oaks near the road. North 40 degrees, east 82 poles to a black Oak on a ridge. North 33 degrees, west, 98 poles crossing a branch to a red Oak; thence leaving said Fulton's lines east 68 poles to two white Oaks in said Fulton's other survey, etc. to the beginning, with all and singular privileges and appurtenances thereto belonging or in anywith appertaining unto the aforesaid Francis Jackson Carter, his heirs and assigns forever to have and to hold the same to their own and proper uses and behoofs free from the claim or demand etc. .... the said George Carter hath hereunto set his name and affixed his seal this day and year above written.

This was acknowledged in Court by the said George Carter and Francis Jackson Carter and ordered recorded.

Robert Crockett, Clerk.





## THE BUNCE LINE (1612-1952)

“The Bunce Line ’tis true  
is somewhat vague,  
Beyond a certain heritage.”

Historians tell us that the name of Bunce has been used by only one family in England and appeared first in County Kent about the beginning of the 16th Century and that it retained the original spelling of the name without variation “a most unusual occurrence in these days of confused and frequently phonetic spelling, and that in the early records of America this name was distinguished by the regularity of its spelling.”

The first of the name in America was Thomas Bunce who is said to be the ancestor of most of the American Bunces of the early days. THOMAS was born in England in 1612 and died in America, August 1682. An inventory, at his death, showed that he left 767 pounds in Hartford and 257 pounds in Wethersfield, which was considered a large estate at that time.<sup>1</sup> He came from Saybrooke, England, settling in Massachusetts in 1632. In 1635, special permission was given by the Court for sixty men, women, and children to take their cows, horses, and swine from Massachusetts to Connecticut where they settled in an Indian village, called Pyquag. These newcomers soon changed the name to Watertown, and a few months later, to Wethersfield, which name it still bears.

Thomas Bunce and his wife, Sarah, were among these early settlers. He later went to Hartford where, in 1639, he was made a “proprietor, by courtisie of the Town.” His home was near the site of the present Capital building at Hartford. He served in the Pequot War, and in 1671

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1. *From an original jingle by Georgia Bunce.*
  2. *Congressional Library.*
  3. *Colonial and Revolutionary Families in Pennsylvania. Also Early Families in Hartford, Connecticut.*

was granted 60 acres of land for good services. In 1672, he was granted another 50 acres. Both he and his wife were original members of South Church, Hartford, which was organized February 12, 1670.<sup>4</sup> Thomas was "Chimney Viewer" in 1646 and 1670. He held at various times the positions of Constable, Juror, Selectman, Rate and List-maker. He died in 1682 leaving a will which was probated August 2, 1683. In the will he mentions his wife, Sarah, and his children, Thomas Jr., John and Elizabeth. Sarah died in 1693. Her will, which was made in 1689, names her grandchildren, Sarah, Thomas, and Mehitable Meakin and the two oldest children of her son, John Bunce.

New England genealogies are difficult to trace because the records were, and still are, kept in the towns instead of in County Court Houses. We set out on the trail of our Bunce Line with stout hearts but with very meager information. We started in Indiana and soon found ourselves in New England and New York. The following facts were given to us by our father's sister, Mary Lester.

1. Our great-grandfather, John Bunce, was a "Yankee Schoolmaster". His wife was a Scotch lady, named Roxanna, surname unknown.

2. His son, our grandfather, was Richard Sperry Bunce, who was in the war of 1812. He was granted a Land Patent in Arkansas for his service in the war. He died on this land in 1846.

We judged that our great-grandfather was a man of fair education at least since he was a school teacher. A new England report has this to say about early school teachers. "No reproach should be given to those early school teachers who, in crude one-room school buildings, with pebbles for counting, ink made from maple bark, and a handful of books taught the fundamentals to such children as could pay the "subscription" and be spared from work to learn them."

We found in the Archives in Washington, D. C., confirmation of the Land Grant issued to our grandfather,

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4. Stiles, *"Ancient Wethersfield, Vol. II.*

Richard Sperry Bunce. We have a photostatic copy of it which reads:—

“War Department

Section of Bounty Lands

To Richard Sperry Bunce.

Sir, Pursuant to the Law of the United States, of the 6th of May, 1812, appropriating certain Tracts of Land, to satisfy the claims of the Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates of the late Army, and in conformity with the preceding Regulations, you are hereby notified that the Land Warrant No. 27,000 has been issued in your name, under date 11-April, 1838, and will be deposited in the General Land Office, at the Seat of Government, where the Patent must be issued there to await your order for its location.”

Signed: Wm. Gordon.

Patent No. 27,000—160—1812.

S.W. ¼ 26. 13. N. 4 West. Located Arkansas, Vol. II,  
page 477. May 14, 1838.

Records in Washington show that Richard enlisted as a private in the company of J. B. Spencer of the 29th. Regiment of the Infantry, April 26, 1814 and was discharged June 30, 1815, at Plattsburg, N. Y. on the declaration of peace.<sup>5</sup>

John Bunce was born in Wethersfield, Connecticut April 20, 1774. Evidence points to the fact that, as a young man, he was among those who helped to settle Vermont. “New England settlers from Connecticut and Massachusetts ascended the Connecticut River and settled Vermont. The preponderance of Connecticut influence stands out clearly as one of the most striking characteristics of early Vermont history.<sup>6</sup> John’s name appears in the Rupert, Vermont Census of 1800 with one son and two daughters under 10 years of age. This son “under 10”

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5. Letter written by Richard Bunce is on file in the National Archives which gives this information.

6. *Glimpses of early History of Rupert, Vermont.*

was doubtless Richard Sperry Bunce. In the letter, on file in Washington, he states that he was very young when he enlisted in 1814. Easton, N. Y., where he enlisted is only a few miles from Rupert, Vermont, where he was probably born about 1796.

Since these Bunce names do not again appear in later Vermont Census reports, and they do appear in Wethersfield, Conn. records, all signs point to the truth of the statement of Stephen A. Douglas that "Vermont is a good state to be born in and a good state to get away from." On June 18, 1816, several inches of snow fell and the crops failed that year, hence many Connecticut families returned home. Presumably the Bunces were with this group, and went to Wethersfield.

The names of John, Roxanna, and Richard appear in land records from 1817 to 1822. John evidently died sometime in this period as Roxanna's name appears alone on land transactions. She died March 30, 1855. These records state that Richard Bunce, on January 3, 1822, was appointed Attorney for George Deming who had gone to New Hagerstown, Ohio. He was to sell some land for George, which he did on March 25, 1822, for \$225.<sup>7</sup> The Bunces and Demings were neighbors in the Great Meadows of Wethersfield and in two cases, at least, they intermarried. We visited Wethersfield on one of our trips East, and were charmed with the quaint old town, the ancient Town Hall, its old records, and the courtesy of the officials.

Richard left the East and migrated to southwest Ohio, evidently following in the footsteps of his friend, George Deming. The probable date of his arrival was 1823 or thereabouts. He settled, first, at North Bend, Ohio and later moved to New Trenton, Franklin Co., Indiana, where his name appears in the 1830 Census. He was twice married, but we have not been able to find the name of the first wife. Wives' names, in those days, didn't seem to carry much weight. His oldest son, John, was born about 1816. Riley, William and our father George Peterson, born Feb. 15, 1834 were also children by this first wife. She died shortly after George was born and the brother

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7. *Wethersfield Town Hall Records*, Vol. 27, 30, 31, 33, 34.

John took the baby boy, George, and cared for him. John died at the Battle of Gettysburg during the Civil War.

In the Recorder's Office in Brookville, Indiana, we found the record of a deed for land which Richard had bought in -1834, which reads:—

“To all whom these presents shall come greeting; whereas Richard Bunce of Franklin Co., Indiana has deposited in the General Land Office of the United States a certificate of the register of the Land Office at Cincinnati, whereby it appears that full payment has been made by the said Richard Bunce, according to provision of the Act of Congress, 24th, April 1820, N. E. quarter of N. W. quarter of section 31, in township 8, Range 1, west lying in the District of Indiana, containing 38.04 of an acre.

Now know ye the United States of America in consideration of the premises and in conformity with the several acts of Congress have given and granted and by these presents do give and grant unto the said Richard Bunce and to his heirs the said tract above described; To Have and to Hold together with all rights, privileges, immunities and appurtenances, thereunto belonging unto the said Richard Bunce and to his heirs and assigns forever. In testimony whereof, I, Andrew Jackson, President of the United States of America, have caused these letters to be made patent and the Seal of the General Land Office to be hereunto affixed.

Given under my hand, at the City of Washington, the Sixteenth day of October, in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-five and of the Independence of the United States, the sixtieth.

Signed: Andrew Jackson.

Record: Vol. 9, p. 304. By A. F. Donelson.

Sometime between 1838 and 1846, Richard went to Arkansas to live on his land grant, leaving the family behind. He died there in 1846. No one knows what happened to the land. The family evidently went to live with the son, Riley, as in the 1850 Census all the names and ages except John and William appear as in Riley's household.<sup>8</sup>

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8. *Microfilm of Rush County Census for 1850.*

## LINES OF DESCENT FROM THE ORIGINAL

### THOMAS BUNCE

#### I. Thomas (1612-1682)

A. Thomas, Jr., born about 1645; married in 1669, Susannah Bull, daughter of Capt. Thomas and Susan Bull of Hartford, Conn.; died in 1712. He and his wife were admitted to South Church, Hartford, Conn. in 1677. He was a Deacon and Townsman from 1679 to 1703. He owned a great deal of land at Rocky Hill, Wethersfield, and Hartford. His will dated April 25, 1709 and probated May 5, 1712 names his wife, sons, and daughters.

#### Children of Thomas Jr. and Susannah Bunce.

1. Sarah, baptised August 14, 1670.
2. Thomas, born February 28, 1671; baptised Feb. 25, 1672; married June 2, 1709, Elizabeth Easton.
3. Jonathan, baptized October 1, 1674; died 1717; married Sarah Sanford. Powers of Administration were granted December 11, 1717 to Sarah Bunce and her brother, Robert Sanford.

#### Children of Jonathan and Sarah Sanford Bunce.

1. Zechariah, born 1702.
2. Susannah, born 1704.
3. Abigail, born 1706.
4. Jonathan Jr., born 1709; baptized October 30, 1709, married about 1730, Sarah (surname unknown).

#### Children of Jonathan Jr., and Sarah Bunce

1. Jonathan, married November 21, 1765, Elizabeth Ramsey. The records stated that he was the youngest son but did not name any other children.

### Children of Jonathan and Elizabeth Ramsey

a. Jonathan, born 1766.

b. Elizabeth, born 1768.

c. Dinah, born 1770.

d. John, born April 20, 1774; married Roxanna and had at least one son and two daughters. The son was *Richard Sperry Bunce*.

### Children of Richard Sperry Bunce and his first wife.

1. John, died at Gettysburg.

2. Riley, born about 1817.

3. William, born 1831.

4. George Peterson, born February 15, 1834; died June 2, 1896; married April 9, 1874, Mary Ellen Stevenson, daughter of George and Caroline Stevenson. Mary was born April 23, 1850; died May 3, 1910. George was in the Civil War, first entering in 1861 as a private in the 38th Indiana Infantry. He was wounded at the battle of Perrysville, and after recovering, went back as a Lieutenant and later as Captain of the 13th. Ind. Cavalry. He was mustered out at Vicksburg, Miss., November 18, 1865.

### Children of George and Mary Bunce.

a. Carrie Bell, born February 11, 1875; married July 31, 1911, Tyndal A. Peters, born 1849; died February 14, 1929. Carrie was a graduate of the Indiana State Normal School, Terre Haute, and taught eighteen years before her marriage. Tyndal was born in Terre Haute, Ind. He left when he was 21 years old, going first to Bismark, S. Dakota, where he taught music in the public schools. Later, he went to Chicago where he taught Mathematics in the Northwest Division High School. He was a beautiful singer and it was one of our great joys to hear him sing "The Sword of Bunker Hill." He taught Knute Rockne to play tennis, when Knute was a boy in High School. He retired from teaching in 1920 and they moved to Pasa-

dena, California where he passed away in 1929. His wife Carrie Bunce Peters, still resides in Pasadena.

b. Thirza Eleanor, born September 26, 1877; graduated from Indiana State Teachers's College with Bachelor and Master Degrees; taught in the Terre Haute City Schools before going to British Malaya as a Missionary of the Women's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Church, where she served 5 terms, returning to her home in Terre Haute, Ind., after the outbreak of the war with Japan. She arrived, after 63 days of travel, in April, 1942.

c. Georgia Olive, born January 16, 1881; graduated at Indiana State Teacher's College and at Northwestern University with the degree of Bachelor of Science. She taught in the Grade schools and in Wiley High School in Terre Haute, until her retirement in June, 1950.

d. Carl Andrew, born October 12, 1883; worked on the Terre Haute Star and the Cleveland Plain Dealer until his retirement in 1951. He married August 27, 1934, Marie Rucker, daughter of Flora Glass Rucker. Marie was born April 26, 1891. She graduated at Indiana State Teacher's College, taught in the grade schools of Terre Haute and in the Commerce Department of the State Teacher's College and in one of the High Schools of Cleveland before her marriage. After their retirement they moved to Clearwater, Florida, where they now reside.

e. Harold Ross Bunce, born October 13, 1892; married December 24, 1917, Ruth Landrum, born December 16, 1891. He graduated from the Y.M.C.A. College in Chicago, attended Northwestern University and was in his senior year when the First World War called him. He was a Second Lieutenant in the Army. After the close of the war he entered Y.M.C.A. work. He was State Physical Director of Ohio and during World War II was Director of the Northeastern Division of the U.S.O. He is now Associate Director of the Metropolitan Y.M.C.A. in Philadelphia. Ruth is a graduate of DePauw University, where she won a Phi Beta Kappa Key. She taught in the High Schools of Terre Haute until her marriage. She is the daughter of J. W. and Kate Tolbert Landrum. She is a lineal descendant of Col. John Dandridge, whose older



daughter, Martha, became the wife of President George Washington. Ruth's sister, Margaret has been a missionary at Isabella Thoburn College, Lucknow, India for many years. She is now on furlough previous to retirement.

Children of Harold Ross and Ruth Bunce.

(1) Harold Ross, Jr., born Oct. 19, 1920 at Oak Park, Illinois.

(2) Margaret Eleanor (Peggy), born May 23, 1923, at Oak Park, Ill.

(3) James Landrum, born February 22, 1927, at Carbondale, Ill.

(4) Robert Carl, born March 31, 1930 at Columbus, Ohio.

(1) Harold Ross, Jr., married June 6, 1944, at Detroit, Michigan, Arra Margaret Morgan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Knox Morgan of Florida. Both are graduates of Albion College. Ross did Post-graduate work in Yale University, holding a pastorate in Hatfield, Mass., while there. In July 1948, they went to Budaun, India as missionaries under the auspices of the Methodist Church.

Children of Harold Ross, Jr. and Arra Bunce.

(a) David Ross, born in Budaun, India, Nov. 19, 1948.

(b) Sara Margaret, born in Budaun, India May 25, 1950.

(2) Margaret Eleanor, daughter of Ross and Ruth Bunce married July 14, 1951, Dr. Pete Kenmore, of Larchmont, New York. She received her B. A. degree at Barnard College in New York and her M. A. at Columbia University. She specialized in Occupational Therapy and was a registered O. T. at the time of her marriage. Dr. Kenmore graduated with high honors from the Medical College, was inducted into the Army Medical Corps and they are now in Stuttgart, Germany, with the Army of Occupation.

(3) James Landrum, upon graduation from the White Plains High School in New York State, was inducted into the Army and within a few months was in Germany. After serving for 22 months he came back to the U.S.A. and entered the American University in Washington, D. C. where he received his B.A. degree in June 1950. He married, December 24, 1949, Junetta McKalip, who was a student at the University. He became a Boy's Work Secretary at the Baltimore Y. M. C. A. and later transferred to Red Bank, New Jersey. They have one son, James Ross, born December 18, 1950.

(4) Robert Carl, after leaving High School, entered Drexel Institute in Philadelphia, later transferring to Springfield College at Springfield, Mass., where he will graduate in June 1953. He married August 18, 1951, Eva Hilda Meisner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Meisner of North Hills, Pa. They have one son, Kurt Richard, born May 23, 1952, at Springfield, Mass.

*"The heart hath its own memories, like the mind  
and in it are enshrined  
The precious keepsakes into which is wrought  
The giver's loving thought."*

H. W. LONGFELLOW.

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