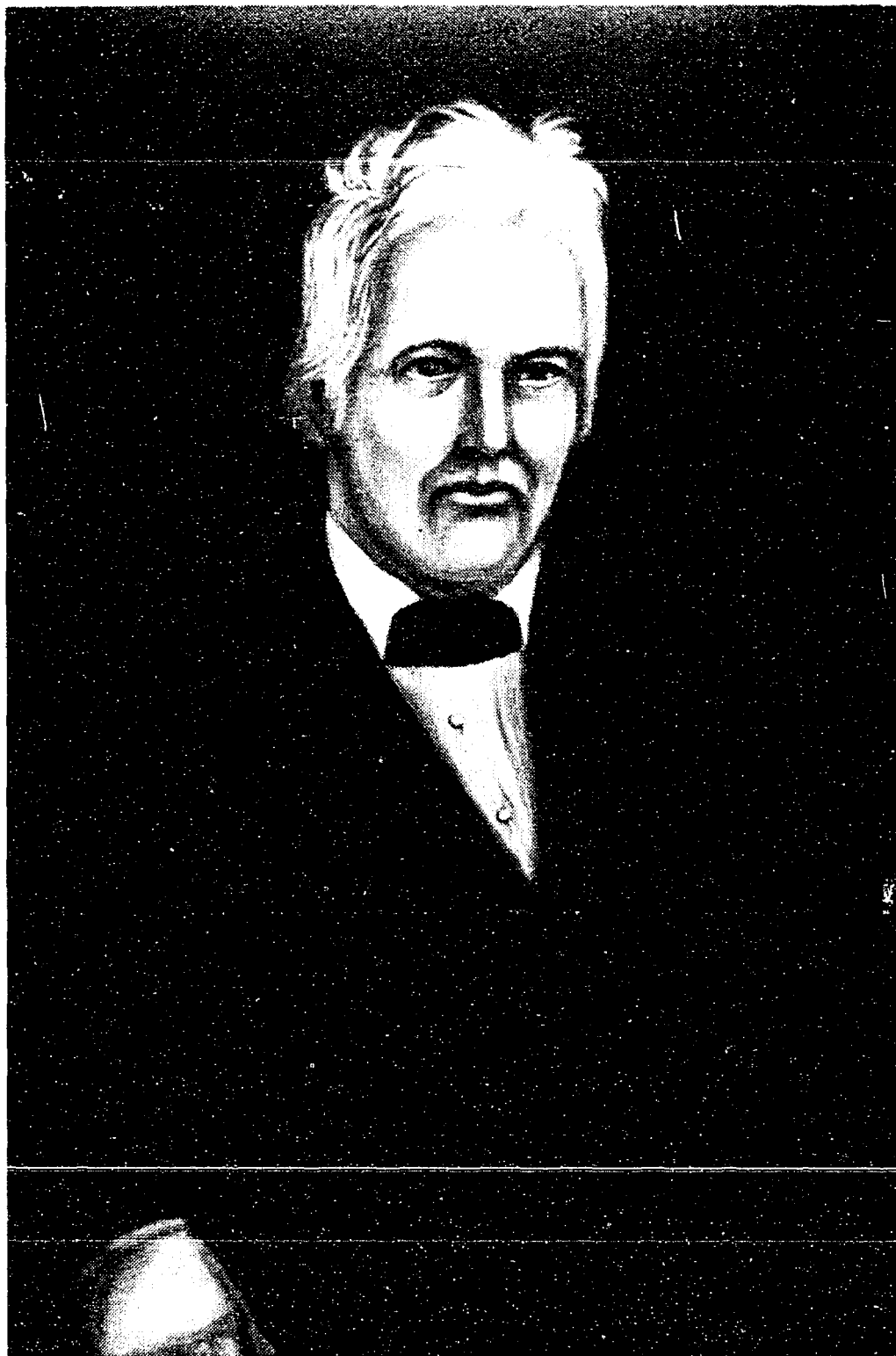


Thornton Family

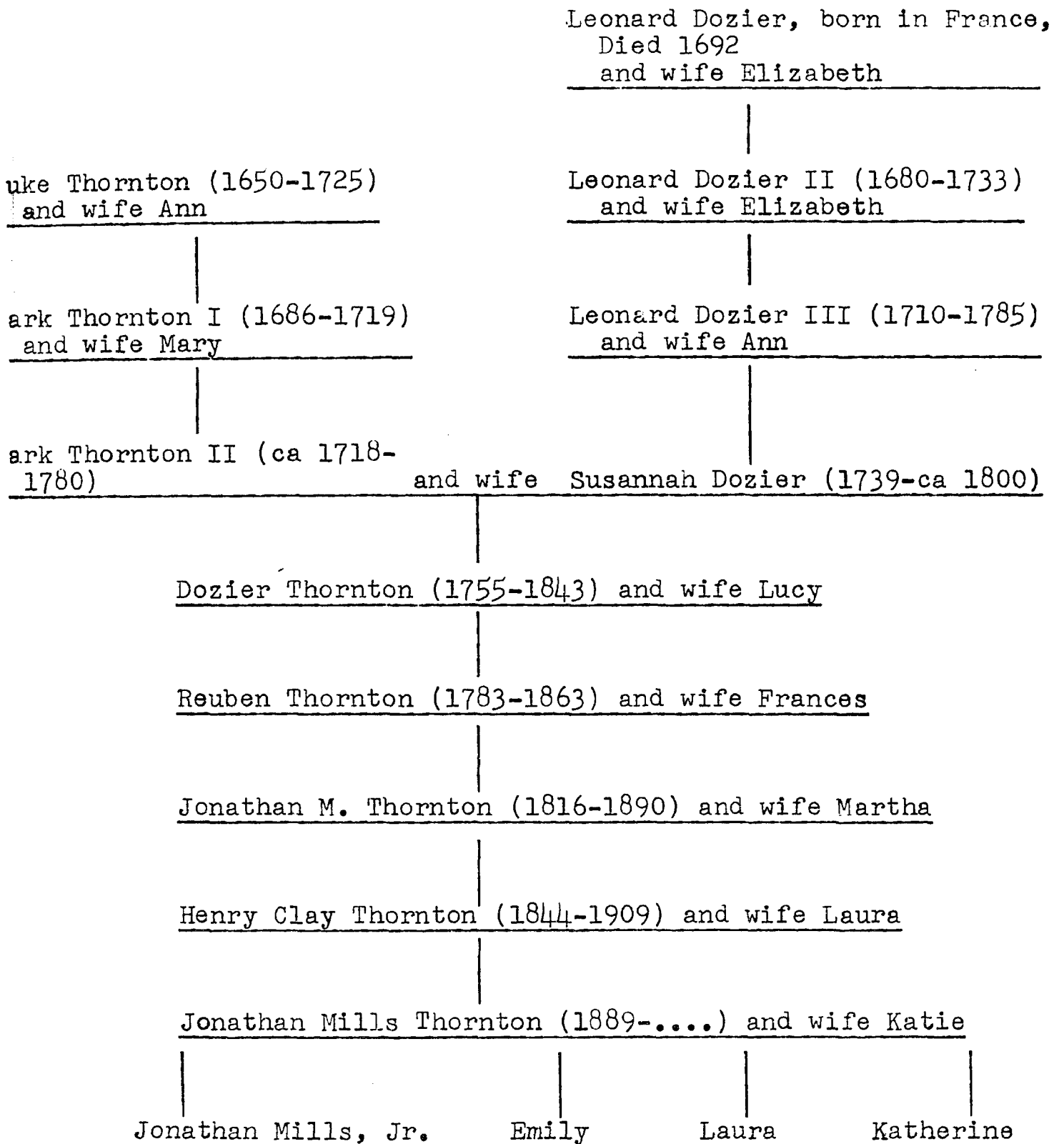
Jonathan Mills Thornton

Montgomery, AL
1958



DOZIER THORNTON (1755-1843)

REPRODUCED FROM AN OLD PAINTING IN THE HOME
OF MR. AND MRS. JAMES THORNTON NUCKOLLS.



F O R E W O R D

In compiling this book it will be noted that quotations from various sources are used. As far as possible, permission for such use has been sought, and graciously granted.

Most used perhaps (with his full permission and personal co-operation, and for whose capable and willing assistance I am indeed grateful) was the little book, "A Glimpse of Thorntons Through The Centuries", compiled in 1949 by Walter W. Thornton of Texarkana, Texas. For the convenience of those who do not have access to his book, I have quoted in part that portion relating to the first Thorntons that came to this country, and in full that data he accumulated on most of the descendants of Dozier Thornton and his wife Lucy.

Quotations from the History of Elbert County, Georgia, by McIntosh, are authorized by the publishers, The Stephen Heard Chapter, D.A.R., Elberton, Georgia, through the kindness of Mrs. Edna Arnold Copeland, a member, and a descendant of Dozier Thornton.

Permission to use the story about the Kiels Murder, printed in full in the book "Backtracking in Barbour County", by Ann Kendrick Walker, was secured from the author. This story was included because of its historic interest, as an incident of the dark days of the Reconstruction Era that attracted national attention at the time, and is of interest here, perhaps, because the wife of the owner of the store, where the affair occurred, was a descendant of Revolutionary Soldier Dozier Thornton.

Many individuals also have contributed helpful information, by way of family Bible and other family records. I refrain from trying to list all of these, lest I might overlook some. I am grateful to them for their kindly co-operation.

Jonathan Mills Thornton

782 Felder Avenue
Montgomery, Alabama

To any of the descendants of Dozier Thornton interested in an excellent history of his family, I recommend the little book "A Glimpse of Thorntons Through the Centuries", by Mr. Walter Thornton, a book which is on file in the Department of Archives and History, State Capitol, Montgomery, Alabama, and with similar departments in several other Southern States.

Near the beginning of his book Mr. Thornton says:

"Records here submitted are by no means intended as a Thornton family history. At this late date such a history would be quite impossible.

"As a result of research in connection with establishing my own line of descent, information was accumulated which, it seemed to some of my correspondents, should be preserved and made available to others. This point of view was suggested by Mrs. Howard H. McCall, Sr., of Atlanta, Georgia, prominent in national and southern D.A.R. affairs, and it is my pleasure to submit these papers accordingly.

"It is not practical to include here all data in hand, under each generation or family, but interested descendants should find enough information on which to base further research, or to support application for membership in various patriotic societies. The writer will be happy to supply further information in his possession, on request.

"My membership in the Sons of the American Revolution,

National 69313, Texas 775, is based on descent from Dozier Thornton. Membership in the Huguenot Society is through the Dozier family. Dozier Thornton's mother was Susannah Dozier, daughter of Leonard Dozier, III, member of a well recorded family of French Huguenots.

"It is well established that Dozier Thornton was a son of Mark Thornton, with full agreement on one point, namely, that his father was the Mark Thornton who married Susannah Dozier, daughter of Leonard Dozier. This is attested by such contemporary witnesses as the Rev. Jesse H. Campbell, co-laborer and friend of Dozier Thornton, in his book, "Georgia Baptists, Historical & Biographical", and the "History of Elbert County" (Georgia), by McIntosh.

"It is generally believed that Mark Thornton was a descendant of William Thornton, known to genealogy as "The Immigrant", but the exact point of his connection is not definitely known.

"The Thorntons of Colonial Days, like many other pioneer families, were very prolific. Family records in those days were of secondary importance. The average life-span was comparatively short, especially in the case of women, and second and third marriages were common. All of this contributes to the difficulty of straightening with certainty many of the badly tangled family lines of our early ancestors. Federal census records prior to 1850 are of little help, as they gave no name except that of the head of

a family, very little other information.

"It may be well to state here that William Thornton, the Immigrant, was in no known manner related to either of two other well known Thorntons of early American history. Reference is to one William Thornton, prominent Virginia architect, who hailed from the West Indies, and Matthew Thornton who, by virtue of his position as a member of the Legislature from New Hampshire, was a signer of the Declaration of Independence. The latter's family came to East Derry, N.H. about 1718, and remained, for the most part, in the north and east. I have found record of only a few families of this line south of the Mason and Dixon Line.

"On the other hand, the Immigrant's line moved southward, and today the family name, with its collateral kin, has grown until it is numbered by multiplied thousands, throughout the southern states especially. After the Revolutionary War, many of this family received grants of land in Georgia, Dozier Thornton among them. Alabama was settled rapidly after its admission into the Union in 1819, and early census records reveal that six of Dozier's eight sons were then in the new state, or came soon thereafter. After the War between the States, many Thorntons moved westward, into Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas and Texas, and in my limited research I have found members of the family in almost every state in the Union, though still concentrated in the deep south.

"Omitting a lengthy "Royal Lineage Chart", and old charts tracing descent of the Thornton family from the time when surnames were first originated in England, I begin with

the Immigrant, and brief reference to his more immediate English forebears.

"The Immigrant left scant record of himself, or family. The name of his wife is not known. Some have claimed she was a Miss Rowland; others that she was Elise, daughter of Luke Billington, for whom Luke Thornton was named.

"William had three known sons, William, Jr., Francis and Rowland, and it is thought there were others, probably a Luke.

"Various old Virginia records reveal that the elder William and his sons were active in matters pertaining to the purchase and sale of lands, involving some extensive tracts; they were active in their Church of England, "the High Church", though at one time were by their own request removed as Vestrymen, publicly avowing their disbelief in the doctrine of Transsubstantiation. They were Justices, members of the Burgess, and honored with various offices of public trust.

"It appears that William Thornton, Sr. made several trips back to his native England, and there are recorded the granting to him of tickets from the Barbadoes, to various places in America, in the ship "Friends Adventure". Incidentally, as consolation of a sort to any who may experience a feeling of disappointment because of the uncertainty of their descent from the Immigrant, it is also of record that old William, on possibly two occasions, got himself mixed up with the Crown's officers for "the illegal misuse of the Ship Jane", referring probably to a turn at the then common pastime of

smuggling, or even piracy. As to how to reconcile this conduct with a conscience so exacting as to dictate voluntary retirement from high church honors, rather than sacrifice his principles in the matter of a controversial religious doctrine, no suggestion is offered."

Although his book was published showing Francis Thornton (1651-1726) to be Dozier's ancestor, Mr. Thornton was skeptical even then, and stated frankly there were hurdles he could not undertake. Continuing to check for a number of years he visited both in Georgia and Alabama - searching information and talked to many of Dozier's descendants, the Rogers sisters of Elberton, Georgia, among others, but found no direct provable connection with the old "Immigrant" William's line.

However, it is worthy of note that in 1952 one of the Rogers sisters, Miss Edna, compiled all their records in permanent form in a little book, "The Thornton Line", using records accumulated after many years of research by her sister, Alpha, a most competent genealogist.

Miss Alpha had intended publishing her findings, but died in 1949 before completing her research. The sum and substance of her version, so far as it concerns us here, is that William I (The Immigrant) was twice married; that his first wife was Elisia Billington, daughter of Luke Billington and wife Elisia Russell; that they had several children, among them Luke Thornton born in 1642, - known grandfather of Mark Thornton, father of Dozier, as shown in this book.

This version, of course, makes Luke Thornton an older half-brother of the known and well recorded sons of

William I, namely: William II, Francis and Rowland.
reference quoted by Miss Edna for this version is a book,
"Cavaliers and Pioneers of Gloucester County, Virginia",
by Polly Mason.

While discussing the Rogers book with Mr. Thornton
in April, 1958, he stated that he thought it only fair to
say that true and reasonable though it may appear, cor-
respondence had by him with some of the best known geneal-
ogists in Virginia, and with Historical Society of Virginia,
in Richmond, had developed no known authentic record of
such connection.

LUKE THORNTON

From all reliable sources available, it now seems be-
yond question that Luke Thornton was the earliest known ances-
tor of our Thornton family. Of him much has been written,
but records essential to the purpose of this book may be stated
more or less briefly.

Date or exact place of Luke Thornton's birth has not
been found with certainty. Genealogists believe that he was
born about 1650 to 1660, probably in Richmond County, Vir-
ginia, where he is known to have lived at the time of his
death, soon after January 29, 1725, date of his will, duly
recorded in Richmond County, of which we have a copy.

His will names two living sons, Thomas and Matthew;
no living daughters, evidently both widows, Ann Mountjoy
(or Montjoy), and Elizabeth Nash; one granddaughter Sarah

Jones, daughter of Ann, and three grandsons, William, Mark and Rowland Thornton. Names of parents of these grandsons are not shown in Luke's will, but by old Farnham Church of England records, and certain legal records of land transactions, we know that a son, Luke Thornton, Jr., was father of William, and that a son, Mark Thornton, was father of grandson Mark and possibly of Rowland.

There is a mass of old Church and land records concerning Luke Thornton and his sons and grandsons, in several Virginia Counties, Richmond and others, but as we are concerned mainly with the Mark Thorntons, it will simplify matters for readers of this book perhaps to direct attention especially to them, whom we will for the present refer to as Mark I and Mark II, father and son.

Church records show that Mark Thornton I was born to Luke Thornton and wife, Ann ----, on September 23, 1686, and died before 1721, some years before the death of Luke, his father. This we know from records of an inventory of his estate filed by his wife, in 1721. Of interest in this connection is the fact that LEONARD DOZIER signed this document as a witness. This is evidence that Dozier was a friend of the Thorntons long before the marriage of Susannah Dozier to Mark Thornton II in 1754.

Richmond County, Virginia, Book 5, Page 6:

In the name of God, Amen. I, Luke Thornton, of North Farnham Parish, in the County of Richmond, being weak in body but of sound and perfect memory, - thanks be to God for the same, do make this my last Will and testament, in manner and form, following:

First, I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, who gave it, hoping through the merits of my Savior Jesus Christ to obtain everlasting life; and as for my body I commit to the earth, to be decently buried at the discretion of my executors hereafter named.

Secondly: I will my just debts and funeral expenses to be paid out of my estate.

Item: I give to my son Thomas Thornton the land belonging to me in Westmoreland County, from a branch beyond Pantico, as goes to Mr. Sorrell's land where Joe Holliday now lives, to his heirs forever . . . I give to my grandson William Thornton a piece of land bound as follows, - from the fence where his mother now lives down to Pottage Pot and a water course to their spring, thence to a line which now divides his and my land, to him and to his heirs forever.

Item: I give to my grandson Mark Thornton the land where Richard Jones now lives, to go up a branch beyond Pantico, joining to the land given to my son Thomas Thornton.

Item: I give to my son Matthew Thornton, four head of cattle, the youngest to be three years old and the oldest not over ten years; also twenty shillings to buy him a ring.

Item: I give to my daughter Elizabeth Nash twenty shillings to buy her a ring.

Item: I give to my daughter Ann Mountjoy and my granddaughter Sarah Jones my negro man named Tony, during their natural lives, and at their decease give to my grandson Rowland Thornton and his heirs forever.

For ye rest, residue and remainder of my estate, I give to my daughter Ann Mountjoy and my granddaughter Sarah Jones and their heirs forever, whom I also make, constitute and appoint my whole and sole executors of this my last will and testament, in witness whereof I have set my seal and hand, ye 29th day of January, 1725.

Witnessed, sealed and published and declared to be his last will and his testament in the presence of us:

Wm. Duke Beckwith
William Sisson
Michael M. Winder

Signed: Luke T. Thornton

SEAL

As records state that Mark Thornton I died in 1719, we know that Mark II was born not later than 1719. His age has been erroneously given as "about 1725" in some publications. We know that Mark II was married to Susannah Dozier, daughter of Leonard Dozier III in 1754. This date, not recorded, is accepted because we know that their first born son, Dozier Thornton, was born April 14, 1755, in Lunenburg County, Virginia, according to Cumberland Parish Church records.

In mathematics, unknown equations are often developed from the known. So it is that from certain known facts we are able to present with reasonable certainty some things concerning Mark Thornton II of which we have no definite record. From records of land transactions before his marriage to Susannah Dozier we find evidence that Mark Thornton II, (to whom we will hereafter refer only as MARK, his father being dead) was married before he married Susannah. We know that he was about forty years of age when he married Susannah, she being only about age 15 at the time. We must assume that Leonard Dozier approved, only perhaps, because of long friendship existing between the families.

We can be reasonably certain that Mark had at least two sons by this first marriage, by names Mark, Jr. and Thomas, because of this; two known brothers, Mark and Thomas Thornton went from Virginia over into North Carolina about 1767 or before; that they were joined there by Dozier Thornton later, and that the three were associated in various land transactions in that state; in at least one of these, Mark and Thomas are definitely identified as brothers. It is of

record that these three men served in the Revolutionary War, in North Carolina, evidently together because all three are mentioned in the History of Elbert County as having come to Wilkes County, Georgia (from which Elbert County was later organized) with a large group along with General George Matthews, their Commanding Officer, and both men were associated with Dozier in the Old Van's Creek Baptist Church in Elbert County hereafter referred to. All three are shown as having land grants for war service.

The History of Elbert County nowhere makes clear the relationship, but from facts now known it seems certain beyond reasonable doubt that Mark and Thomas were the older half-brothers of Dozier Thornton. We know that this Mark was not Dozier's father, as some have erroneously claimed in application for D.A.R. membership in Georgia. Why? Because we know that Mark Thornton, father of Dozier, was never in the Revolutionary War; that he was too old for service, and that he died long before these three men, Mark, Thomas and Dozier appeared together in Georgia, and that his widow Susannah remarried, as evidenced in the will of her father, Leonard Dozier.

With these known facts and reasonably certain conclusions, the reader may proceed to consider the life and history of our known ancestor, Dozier Thornton and certain of his descendants.

uke Thornton, born ca. 1650, died 1725 between Jan. 29, date of writing will and March 2, probated date, of Farnham Parish, Richmond County, Va., and his wife Ann _____.

Mark Thornton, born Sept. 23, 1686, died 1719, North Farnham Parish, and his wife Mary _____.

Mark Thornton, born before 1719 (date usually erroneously given as ca. 1725) in Richmond County, Farnham Parish, married Susannah Dozier ca 1754. This 1754 can be accepted as their son was born spring of 1755. Susannah, daughter of Leonard Dozier, was only 15 years old, but young wives were not uncommon.

Issue of Mark Thornton and Susannah (Dozier) Thornton:

- A) Dozier Thornton - see later.
- B) Reuben Thornton, born February 6, 1768; married Elizabeth Allen; died September 15, 1810, Ruckersville, Ga. This family is well recorded in an old Bible in possession of Mrs. O. C. Roddey, Monroe, Louisiana. Names of other descendants, known of the writer, are, Roy Thornton, and his sister, Mrs. Annie Davis, Three Notch, Alabama.
- C) Elizabeth Thornton; family tradition says that Elizabeth, after her brother Dozier and other relatives had settled in Georgia, rode horseback, from Virginia, to join them. She married a Virginian, by name of Hulme, and that name is still represented in the Elbert County, Georgia, area.
- D) William Thornton; no authentic record.
- E) Thomas Thornton; no authentic record.

D O Z I E R T H O R N T O N .

"Biographical: Before his appearance in Georgia, about 1783 with a grant of land for service in the Revolutionary war, little is known of Dozier Thornton, and that is obtained from various widely separated sources.

"He was born in Lunenburg County, Virginia, April 14,

1755, married Lucy Elizabeth Hill, February 6, 1776, in
Roanoke County, Virginia. She was born January 13, 1760.
Very soon after their marriage, this young couple went into
North Carolina. Between years 1750 and 1780, many Virginia
families migrated to North Carolina, among them numerous
Thorntons. The Tar River area, especially Granville County,
seems to have been favored by the clan.

"One explanation of this migration may be found in the
fact that North Carolina seems to have been making a strong
bid for settlers. One transfer of a body of land, granted
by the Crown, recites a price of "50 shilling for each 100
acres of land", - about 12¢ per acre.

"Dozier Thornton "entered" one tract of 400 acres, on
the middle prong of Beaverdam Creek, in Granville County,
May, 1778, and there were several other grants to him in
the same county. Title to above grant finally issued in
March, 1780. Latest of his land transactions found in North
Carolina records, is the sale of land in Granville County,
August 27, 1781. In this he is referred to as "Dozier Thorn-
ton of Wake County", which joins Granville, on the south.

"There is some evidence that Mark Thornton, father of
Dozier, died about 1780, and that his widow, Susannah (Dozier)
Thornton, married a man by name Barry. She is referred to
in her father's will, in 1785. Records say that she died
about 1800.

"Dozier Thornton's enlistment for service in the
Revolutionary War was in Surrey County, North Carolina, and
his entire service was in that state. He was a private, in

the North Carolina Line, in Major David Dobb's Battalion; Captain, Dunston Blackwell. He received a grant of land in Wilkes County, Georgia, and went into that state in 1783.

"Although records indicate that Dozier Thornton's father Mark, was, like most of the earliest Thorntons, a member of the Church of England, known in America as "the High Church", his wife Susannah, true daughter of the strictly protestant Doziers, was an Anabaptist. Evidently Dozier was early, and thoroughly, indoctrinated by his mother in her faith.

"At an early age in North Carolina, he began preaching the Baptist doctrines, even before he had been formally baptized into the membership of that church. He was baptized by one Rev. Lunsford, who had been responsible for his conversion. He preached wherever he could find an audience, throughout the War, went into Georgia a minister, and self-appointed missionary to the Cherokee Indians, and remained an active and aggressive preacher until his death at age eighty-eight.

"Interesting and authentic details of the religious activities of Dozier Thornton are found in "The History of Wilkes County" (McIntosh), "Georgia Baptists, Historical and Geographical" (Rev. Jesse H. Campbell), "The Memoirs of Ebenezer Sherwood", and other contemporaries. It is certain that he was an intensely religious man, an active and vigorous preacher, and so remained to the end of his days.

"His "tracks" are to be found in old church records Wilkes-Elbert-Franklin County area, in nearby South

Carolina, and over in Kentucky, where he worked for one period of twenty months, and where his son, Greene Thornton, was born in 1796. Retiring from active pastorates in Georgia, after eighty years of age, he went back, for a while, into Kentucky and organized some small churches that are still in existence there.

"After the death of his first wife, Lucy Elizabeth Hill, (definite date not of record), he married Mrs. Jane (Gilbert) Pulliam, daughter of Rev. Thomas Gilbert, in Franklin County, Georgia, who survived him. He died in Franklin County in September 1843; his will, probated November 6, 1843, is of record, and his grave is marked with a monument, erected by National D.A.R. Van's Creek Church members and the Stephen Heard Chapter D.A.R. erected a monument to his memory in his old church yard.

In May, 1958, the writer made a trip to Elbert County, Georgia, and, accompanied by Col. Z. B. Rogers, Miss Carrie Rogers, Mrs. Edna Arnold Copeland and Mrs. M. W. Kantala, all of Elberton, Georgia, and all descendents of Dozier Thornton, visited Van's Creek Church at old Ruckersville. The little church has been faced with brick and the members have kept it in wonderful condition both inside and out. Hanging on one of the walls of the church is a large picture of Dozier Thornton, together with copy of his will. The picture is similar to the one in front of this book. The old minutes of the church written during his life time are in possession of the D.A.R. in Elberton, Georgia.

WILL OF DOZIER THORNTON

State of Georgia, Franklin County

I, Dozier Thornton, of the County and State aforesaid, being in sound mind and due to the shortness of life and the uncertainty of death, and knowing the hour of my departure is at hand, that I must leave this world and appear before my God, I wish to leave my concerns of life in such a way so will cause little trouble to my heirs, God has loaned it to me and I wish to do right in the disposal of the same. I thank God I am not in debt. My funeral charge is first to be paid. I then give and bequeath to my beloved wife Jane Thornton, as she has been a help mate indeed, the following property viz: My right, title and interest to the boundary of land on which I live, it being the place she owned when I married her, also a negro man by the name of Jack, also a promissory note on Benjamin L. Pulliam for two hundred dollars, lent money --- I also give her one half of my sheep and the third part of my hogs, half of my wheat and one third of the cotton I own at my death ---.

The balance of my property I give and bequeath unto my own children.

I further desire that my negro man Arthur shall not be sold to any man who will take him more than eight miles from his life --- My account for property which I have given to my children will be found in a little book called my Alphanook, in the hands of my executors, which will show what each one has received.

I do constitute and appoint Joseph Chandler and Reuben Thornton executors of this my last will and testament.

In witness whereof I have this day set my hand and affixed my seal, July 27, 1837.

Dozier Thornton (SEAL)

Signed in presence of us:

G. Hyner, David Carr, Job Bowers, J.P.

April 17, 1840. Codicil. I Dozier Thornton make some alterations in this my last will and testament and a small addition which I think is right as my son Reuben Thornton has moved to the State of Alabama and it will not be convenient for him to act as my executor. I revoke his appointment and Henry F. Chandler is my executor in his place.

Dozier Thornton (SEAL)

Hyner, James Attaway, Francis Pulliam.

"Dozier Thornton. Chapter 5, Page 51, History of Elbert County, Georgia, by McIntosh."

"Dozier Thornton. Van's Creek Baptist Church."

"While Petersburg and a Savannah River section were fast developing the remainder of the territory comprising the new county of Elbert also began to flourish. Settlements sprang up almost over night, and with this mercurial activity, horse racing, cock fighting, turkey shoots, gaming and fox hunting became the order of the day. Briefly, and briefly indeed, did such a state of affairs continue unchallenged, for 1784 when General George Mathews came to Georgia he was accompanied by the Reverend Dozier Thornton.

"Perhaps in all the annals of Georgia Baptist history there has never been a more interesting character than Dozier Thornton. In a degree he was, perhaps, fanatical, but his sincerity cannot be questioned. He was born in Virginia in the year 1755, the son of Mark Thornton and Susannah Dozier (daughter of Leonard Dozier, born 1710, will probated in Amherst Co. Va. 1787). His father was a staunch member of the Church of England, or as it became known in America the High Church. His mother was an early convert to the Baptist Society.

"While still a young man he left his home in Virginia to seek his fortune in the newer Colony of North Carolina. Shortly after his arrival there he was converted to the Baptist faith by a preacher named Lunsford.

"For a time, wavering between his conscience and the teachings of a stern father, he declined baptism, but

Immediately began preaching, a minister without a pulpit to anyone who would listen.

"In a few weeks, however, his conscience proved victorious over the training of his father and he was immersed by Mansford to enter the ministry of the Baptist Church in which he spent the remainder of a long life. He established several churches in North Carolina and they grew with startling rapidity. Shortly after the close of the Revolution, in which he fought with bravery, he migrated to Georgia. He married Miss Lucy (Elizabeth) Hill who accompanied him on his perilous journey. Throughout the entire trip he preached in every settlement through which he passed and made many converts.

"Before the Act of the Georgia Legislature was passed creating the County of Elbert, Dozier Thornton was busily engaged in preaching throughout the entire area of Wilkes Co.

"For a time he and Middleton Meeks served as missionaries to the Cherokee Indians. Neither Thornton nor Meeks evidenced the least fear upon entering the most hostile Indian town and never once were they molested. It was during this period that David Van, the famous Chief of the Cherokees, was converted by the preaching of Thornton and they became fast friends.

"The first important act of Dozier Thornton, in Georgia, was the establishment of Vans Creek Baptist Church, named in honor of his Indian friend. This event took place early in 1783, and Van's Creek became the sixth church of the

Baptist faith to be established in all Georgia. It was antedated by Keokee in Columbia County, established by David Marshall in 1772; Fishing Creek, in Wilkes Co., established 1783; and Uptons Creek, established 1784. In point of continuous service Van's Creek is the oldest church of Baptist denomination in Georgia."

Issue of Dozier Thornton and wife, Lucy Elizabeth Hill.

It has been stated by genealogists, and repeated by contemporary writers, that nineteen (19) children were born of this union, eight sons and eleven daughters. We have found record of eight sons, but authentic record of only four daughters.

- (A) Jeremiah Thornton; born October 2, 1777, in North Carolina; died January 28, 1848, Muscogee County, Georgia; married Elizabeth Allen, 1797; she was born August 18, 1779, in Elbert County, Georgia; died July 9, 1845, Muscogee County, Georgia. He was a prosperous planter and slave owner. (See Memoirs of his granddaughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Ware). Born to this union were three sons and one daughter.
- (1) Dr. Hudson Allen Thornton, born July 14, 1800; died April 16, 1859; wife, Elizabeth Ragan, died 1837.
 - (2) Major Dozier Thornton, born October 24, 1801; died June 10, 1860; wife, Ann Caroline Early, born 1801; died January 26, 1861.
 - (3) Major Nathaniel M. Thornton, born October 6, 1806; died March 28, 1882.
 - (4) Louisiana Hawkins Thornton, born December 2, 1809; died January 11, 1868; married November 13, 1826 to Nathaniel Nuckolls, born November 26, 1800; died September 24, 1868.

These are all buried in the Columbus, Georgia cemetery. Well known descendants (1949) include:

James Thornton Nuckolls; wife, Elizabeth (Day) Nuckolls, Columbus, Georgia.

Horatio Hackett Newman, Ph.D., Clearwater, Florida,
author of numerous books on zoology and
biology.

Henry Ware Newman, M.D., practicing physician-
surgeon, Austin, Texas.

Albert Broadus Newman, Ph.D., Professor of Chem-
istry, College of the City of New York.

Mrs. Elizabeth Eby, Austin, Texas, wife of Dr.
Frederick Eby, Professor of the History and
Philosophy of Education, Texas State Univer-
sity for a number of years; noted Texas
author and educator.

Father of the Newmans, and Mrs. Eby, Dr. Henry
Newman, was an outstanding American authority in the
field of Church History in his day. Author and lec-
turer, highly respected also in Europe, where his
books and lectures were in demand.

- 3) Benjamin Thornton, born October 12, 1779, in North Caro-
lina, married (1) Sara Upshaw 1796, (2) Rebecca Cook
Upshaw, January 21, 1836. No issue second wife. (Note:
In the original record in Elbert County Court House,
Elberton, Georgia, Rebecca Upshaw is recorded as Mrs.
Rebecca Upshaw. She first married John Upshaw, Jr.)

This is a well recorded family, with many descend-
ants, men and women of prominence, not only in the Elbert
County area, but throughout Georgia and the South.

Issue of first wife Sara:

- (1) Reuben Thornton, born 1797, died August 30, 1855.
Married June 18, 1837 Elizabeth Lane Jackson, born
January 12, 1813, died April 17, 1893.
- (2) Thomas Thornton, born 1798 - migrated to Mississippi.
No date.
- (3) Priscilla Thornton, born 1800. Married July 31,
1823 Sion Hunt - he was born February 1, 1798,
died February 11, 1875.
- (4) Rev. Benjamin Thornton, Jr., born August 15, 1801,
Baptist Minister, Member Georgia House of Represent-
atives 1851-1852. Married September 16, 1819 Nancy
Payne, born 1804, died 1850. The History of Elbert
County says that Rev. Benjamin Thornton, at death,
left 456 direct descendants.
- (5) John, married Frances Adams October 23, 1823.

- (6) Daniel, born October 11, 1811, married Lucy Bradley October 3, 1826. Died December 1848.
- (7) Mary - Married William Almond January 6, 1831.
- (8) Dozier - Married September 25, 1834 Jane Fortson.
- (9) Elizabeth - born 1802. Married John Dickerson December 29, 1821.
- (10) Polly - married August 1, 1807 Neal McMullan.
- (11) Sarah - born 1814, died March 7, 1862. Married August 25, 1828 Dr. John Higgenbotham. He was born March 1807 and died 1893.
- 2) Reuben Thornton - (See page 34)
- 3) Dozier Thornton, Jr.; born 1785, Elbert County, Georgia, wife's name, Nancy. Found in 1830 census, Harris County, Georgia, Chambers County, Alabama, in 1840, and in Macon County, Georgia, in 1850. Prosperous farmer; few children. None in the home in 1850 census, so names unknown.
- 4) Martha Ann (Patsy) Thornton; born 1789; died ca 1862; married in 1803 to Samuel Adams, son of Rev. soldier James Adams, and brother of Rev. soldier Thomas Adams, whose daughter, Mourning Adams, married Martha's brother Evans Thornton.

ADAMS

Born to this union were:

Charlotte Adams, who married Abraham Evans; Sanford Adams, married Lou -----; Thompson Thornton Adams, born December 17, 1809; died February 1, 1881, married Frances Ann Porch, September 28, 1837; Elizabeth Jane Adams, married (1) William W. Colson in 1835, married (2) Williamson Rogers 1844 and died September 16, 1845.

Jeremiah Adams, born May 15, 1823, died May 15, 1860; married Lou Porch; James Adams married Susan Porch (Note that Thompson, Jeremiah and James Adams married three sisters). Eldridge Adams married Amanda Alldredge; Joseph Adams, married Mary -----; Marian Adams, record not available; Martha Ann Adams married (1) Charles Smith and (2) married John Logan; Merial Caroline Adams, born July 14, 1826; died October 8, 1893, married Williamson Rogers, December 31, 1845; Alfred Newton Adams, born July 17, 1831, died December 13, 1901, married Mary J. Lamb.

ROGERS

To Williamson Rogers and

Merial Caroline Adams, daughter of Martha Ann (Thornton) and Samuel Adams, (see above), was born in Muscogee County, Georgia, November 18, 1846, William Samuel Rogers, who became a prominent Baptist minister, pastor of important churches in Alabama, Georgia and Florida. He was a Confederate veteran, entering the Army at age 15.

On July 5, 1870, he married Mary Edna Gary, born Hancock, Georgia, June 24, 1848, who died August 4, 1931, buried in Elmhurst Cemetery, Elberton, Georgia. He died in Phenix City, Alabama, July 19, 1901, and is buried in the church yard of Ramah Baptist Church, in Barbour County, the church that licensed and ordained him to the ministry.

Issue of this union:

Alpha Rogers, born Barbour County, Alabama, May 8, 1871; teacher of wide experience, member DAR, has done extensive genealogical and special interest research work; died October 18, 1949.

Zachary Broadus Rogers, born Barbour County, Alabama, September 4, 1872; married (1) Lula Zachry, September 6, 1903; married (2) Sarah Jenkins Lee, October 1912; he is a prominent attorney, member Georgia Legislature; author of important Georgia legislation.

William Skelley Rogers, born Glenville, Alabama, July 20, 1874; died May 13, 1944; attorney, 33^o Mason, member Oklahoma State Legislature; married (1) Ruth Eagan Young, June 20, 1906, who died July 27, 1927; no issue. Married (2) Maude Hudson August 18, 1942; no issue.

Daisy Rogers, born Seale, Alabama, September 22, 1876; first female graduate of the University of Florida; married September 1900, Marshall Pierson, who died April 1948, Beaumont, Texas. Died 1949.

Gary Rogers, born Seale, Alabama, October 14, 1878; died Savannah, Georgia, January 26, 1910; Railroad Company official; married Lela Ellen Fretwell, November 5, 1902.

Caroline Elizabeth Rogers, born Midway, Alabama, August 14, 1880; school teacher, Elberton, Georgia; clerk Veteran's Administration, Washington, D. C.; member Colonial Dames, Daughters of Colonial Wars, and U.D.C.

Edna Gary Rogers, born Midway, Alabama, August 13, 1862, school principal, Elberton, Georgia; member D.A.R. Died September 16, 1953.

Ida Rogers, born February 27, 1884, Midway, Alabama, died August 2, 1885.

Marshall Wellborn Rogers, born April 4, 1886, Cuthbert, Georgia; died September 9, 1896.

Marion Davis Rogers, born March 16, 1894, Lake City, Florida; died March 25, 1894.

Jonathan Thornton; born 1793, Elbert County, Georgia. Married Martha B. McMaster, daughter of William McMaster, Abbeville, S. C.

Married at Abbeville, S. C., where his first son William was born, but very soon thereafter moved into the new state, Alabama, where several of his brothers had preceded him.

He was a Baptist minister and planter; lived in Russell County, Alabama, in 1850, with wife, Martha, sons Jeremiah, age 27; Sanford 18, George 15, and daughter Mary age 14. In 1860, Russell County census, Jonathan and wife Martha were living with their first born, William Monroe Thornton.

William Monroe Thornton, born in South Carolina, in 1818, became a prominent citizen, planter and slave owner in the Union Springs, Alabama area, where he was widely known in later life as "Uncle Billy". He died June 1, 1902, buried at Union Springs. Until recent years, his picturesque old farm house was still standing nearby.

He was married three times; no children except by first wife, Sarah Jane Quarles, daughter of William Quarles and wife Sarah Ann (Day) Quarles. They had three children, as follows:

Martha Elizabeth Thornton, born ca 1847; died 1866, never married.

Sarah Rebeccah Thornton, born March 23, 1850; died August 22, 1908. She married John Madison Miller, lived near Three Notch, Alabama, had no children.

Mary Will Thornton, born November 27, 1854; died January 11, 1931. She married George Allen Moye, of Cuthbert, Georgia, December 11, 1878. They had seven daughters and two sons. One of the seven daughters was Clyde Elizabeth Moye, who married James Bennett Day, son of William Samuel

Day, who was a son of James Day, veteran and victim of the war between the States (Battle of Atlanta). Daughter of Clyde Elizabeth (Moye) and James Bennett Day is Mrs. Elizabeth (Day) Martinson, D.A.R. National #381549, David Farragut Chapter, Knoxville, Tennessee. Her address (1949) 5509 Radio Road, Fountain City, Tennessee.

James Thornton, Flomaton, Alabama, and Joel Thornton of South Carolina, are descendants of Sanford Thornton, son of Jonathan and Martha. There are many other descendants of this couple.

Greene H. Thornton; born 1796, in Kentucky; prominent planter and slave owner, in Harris County, Georgia, in 1830; Muscogee County, Georgia, in 1850, with a large family; wife, Rhoda S.; sons Euphemia, Blackstone R., Greene G., Nathaniel, and daughter Rhoda.

One son of this union was Leander A. Thornton, married prior to 1850; a prominent planter-merchant-slave owner, of Salem, Russell County in 1860, who had sons Yancey, Elijah, J. Nathaniel and St. Clair; daughters, Ella, Rosalee, Dalee, Lula May and Catherine. Lula May married a Dudley, and their sons are J. A. Dudley, Clarksdale, Mississippi; Felix O. Dudley, Tuskegee, Alabama and Martin Dudley, Greenville, South Carolina. St. Clair, retired attorney, Fort Worth, Texas (1949); and J. Nathaniel Thornton, bachelor, peripatetic writer, printer, publisher, philosopher and nobleman, special feature writer for Henderson (Texas) Times in 1948. (He may be contacted through the Dudleys).

Evans Thornton; born Elbert County, Georgia, date not certain; married Mourning Adams, sister of Samuel Adams who married his sister, Martha Ann Thornton, ("E" above); Evans died young, soon after his marriage; no issue. His widow's remarriage in Elbert County is of record, soon thereafter.

Priscilla Thornton; listed by genealogists; no authentic record.

Lucy Thornton; married October 14, 1823, Jeremiah S. Warren, Justice of the Inferior Court of Elbert County.

Elizabeth Thornton; born November 4, 1795. Married Reuben Maxwell. Children: F. M. Maxwell, Allen Maxwell, William W. Maxwell, Eugenia, Elizabeth, Susan, Jennie and Mary.

Sanford Thornton - (See below).

ORD THORNTON; born Elbert County, Georgia, 1798; died ca 1819, Susannah T. McMaster, daughter of Revolutionary War veteran William McMaster and wife, Rebecca (nee) McMaster, Abbeville Distr., S.C., Sister of John B. McMaster who married Sanford's brother, Jonathan Thornton.

ord Thornton was in Harris County, Georgia, 1830 Census; , three sons, two daughters, six slaves. He had been married at least ten years, as his first born son, William Dozier Thornton was born in Harris County in 1820.

He had moved across the Chattahoochee River into Chambers County, Alabama, by 1836, is evidenced by the fact he enlisted for service in the Florida Indian Wars, August 2, 1836, at White Plains, Chambers County, Alabama, and was mustered out at Alexandria, same county, September 23, 1836. He was enrolled as a private in Capt. Seal's Company, Webb's Battalion, Alabama Mounted Militia Infantry; attained the rank of a Sergeant. Land grant for this service is of record. The 1840 census of Chambers County shows no additional children, only four slaves. By 1850, he was in Macon County, Alabama.

The 1850 census first began the listing of all members in households, by names, with age of each, and name of birth.

In the home of Sanford Thornton in Macon County, in 1850, besides himself and wife Susannah, were:

Albert Thornton	Age 22
Memory W. Thornton	Age 19
Reuben John Thornton	Age 14
Columbus Thornton	Age 11
Sarah Virginia Thornton	Age 9
Henry Thornton	Age 7

William Dozier and Sanford Thornton, Jr. married prior to 1850, not shown in the census. One daughter shown in the 1840 census, not in 1850, no further record; one daughter shown in 1830 census, not in 1840 record; evidently died in youth. Issue of this union therefore, evidently, no children.

During his early years, Sanford Thornton was a fairly prosperous farmer. In 1834 there was a grant of land, evidently a grant of Indian lands, to him, referred to as "The Huntsville Transaction", amount involved \$2,284.00; a later grant (or known as "The Montgomery Transaction", amount \$11,516.- His brother Dozier also bought large acreages of this

On June 5, 1851, Sanford Thornton joined Auburn Lodge No. 100, Auburn, Alabama, a masonic lodge still in active operation. On March 4, 1853, he died, and on March 6, 1853, he was buried with appropriate honors by his lodge. Notice of

is death, and a copy of his lodge's "Tribute of Respect and Resolutions", appeared on March 25, 1853, in the South-eastern Baptist, published then in Montgomery, Alabama. This seems to identify him as a baptist, as all of old Dozier's sons were, so far as known.

Susannah (McMaster) Thornton, widow of Sanford, died about 1856, in the Union Springs, Alabama area. Their first born William Dozier Thornton, is recorded below; second son, Sanford, Jr., after marriage, went to Texas, ca 1857. There is no further record of him available.

Henry went to Mississippi, had a family, was a farmer there; no further record available now; Albert, Memory and Columbus are remembered by older descendants, but are lost to records.

Reuben John Thornton, born 1836, in Chambers County, Alabama, married Elizabeth Eben Thornton, ca 1860, Tallahassee, Florida; died November 1, 1896, Montgomery, Alabama; she died Jacksonville, Florida, May 19, 1911.

Of the issue of this union, Reuben John, Jr., died in infancy, and Ruby died at age two. Seven others, recorded below, chronologically, with their issue so far as known:

- 1) Mary Tatum Thornton, (Mamie), born April 18, 1861, Lake City, Florida; died Jacksonville, December 10, 1948. She married Walter Dense, Montgomery, Alabama, ca 1880; they had two children, Margaret Dense, born 1881; died 1943; Frank Dense married Leatie Stewart, of Live Oak, Florida; they had three children, Elsie, Franklyn and Margaret Anne Dense. Elsie married ----- Eason, and they had three children, Delores born 1929; Peggy Faye born 1939 and Darline Jane born 1946, living (1949) 536 Goodwin St., Jacksonville, Fla.
- 2) Charles Sanford Thornton; born 1866; died March 5, 1936. Wife was Clara -----; no issue.
- 3) Ellen Virginia Thornton, born November 22, 1867, Fernandina, Florida, died September 16, 1921 at Jacksonville, Florida; she married November 27, 1889, Henry Gilford Adams, born Salem, Alabama, May 10, 1861; died Jacksonville, November 1, 1929. They had eight children, Ruth Adams; Olive Adams; Henry Kingsley Adams; Valentine Adams; William Reuben Adams; Bonner Thornton Adams; Henry Gilford Adams, Jr.; and Albert Thornton Adams; These had issue as follows:

Ruth Adams, born November 7, 1892, Salem, Alabama, married John David Fleming, February 11, 1914. He was born June 19, 1886, in Georgia; died May 11, 1931, Jacksonville, Florida; they had four children: Paul Gifford Fleming, born December 30, 1914; married Nelle McNeil,

December 20, 1947, born September 22, 1915; they had daughter, Susan Fleming, born December 22, 1948. Home of all (1949) Jacksonville, Florida.

Ellen Virginia Fleming, daughter of Ruth and John David Fleming, born October 26, 1916; married Walter Witty Prather, February 11, 1947, who was born DeLand, Florida, 1922; they had son, John Fleming Prather, born December 12, 1947. Home (1949) Jacksonville, Florida.

Ruth Adams Fleming, daughter of Ruth and John David Fleming, born May 27, 1920; married (1) June 9, 1940, Earl Franklyn Ryker; he died September 9, 1943, a war casualty; they had one daughter, Ellen Ryker born March 31, 1943; Ruth married (2) Charles Floyd Hancock, Jr., October 18, 1945, had son, John Hancock, born September 26, 1947; home (1949) Monterey Park, California.

Olive Jordan Fleming, daughter of Ruth and John David Fleming; born September 27, 1926; home, with mother, Jacksonville, Florida (1949) M. 1952.

Olive Adams; born November 5, 1894, Salem, Alabama; married July 11, 1917 to John Hunt Jordan, born Marion, South Carolina, June 21, 1885; no issue; home (1949) Jacksonville, Florida.

Henry Kingsley Adams; born November 11, 1896, Salem, Alabama; died January 15, 1936; never married.

Valentine Adams; born February 14, 1899, Salem, Alabama; married June 20, 1920 to Robert John Lewis, who died in 1932; had one son, James Froman Lewis, born March 18, 1922, graduated in 1949 Oxford University (England) on Rhodes Scholarship. Her home (1949) 1537 Scharpe St., Houston, Texas.

William Reuben Adams; born January 18, 1901, Salem, Alabama; married Christine Buehler, had son, William Reuben Adams, Jr., born June 1932. Home (1949) 2607 Norfolk St., Houston, Texas.

Bonner Thornton Adams; born December 22, 1904, Salem, Alabama; married Eugenia Wheat, in New York, 1932. They had children, Mariella Adams, born May 22, 1935; Thornton Adams, born November 8, 1938; Caroline Adams, born May 13, 1945 and Charles Kingsley Adams, born May 13, 1947; home (1949) 179 Crooked Hill Road, Pearl River, New York.

Henry Gilford Adams, Jr.; born March 26, 1926, Opelika, Alabama; married Alice Rogers, March, 1949. Home Jacksonville, Florida.

Albert Thornton Adams; born June 18, 1911, Opelika, Alabama; married Katherine Gough, New Orleans, Louisiana; had two sons, Frank Gilford Adams, born December 15, 1946; Albert Thornton Adams, Jr., born July 1948; Home (1949) Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

- t) Annie Louise Thornton; born 1872; married Kingsley McCallum, ca 1898, in Jacksonville, Florida; he died 1904; they had three children; Elizabeth McCallum, born 1899; married Carl Russell Buck, 1921, had two sons, Carl Buck, Jr., born 1923, married Janie Walker, April 1948; Thomas Kingsley Buck, born 1925; married Junie -----, March 1948. Kingsley Archibald McCallum, born 1902; died December 26, 1948; married Clyde Evans; had two children, Anne McCallum, born 1938; Kingsley Archibald McCallum, Jr., born 1942. Thornton McCallum, born 1905; married Doris Field, had a son Daniel McCallum; Homes of all (1949) Jacksonville, Florida, and the nearby beaches.
- i) Theodore H. Thornton; born 1876; died July 7, 1939, Jacksonville, Florida. He married Kathleen Robertson, Jacksonville; they had one child, Sarah Stewart Thornton, who married H. D. Lester, had three children, and supposed to be (1949) in Chicago, Illinois.
-) Matthew Blake Thornton; born Macon, Georgia, June 30, 1878; died Jacksonville, Florida, July 22, 1946; married Kathryn Lines, Madison, Florida, who was born 1880; died November 10, 1921, Jacksonville, Florida; had five children: Gladys Stewart Thornton; born 1899; Madison, Florida; unmarried (1949). Home 38 W. 53rd St., New York City, New York.

Frank Lines Thornton; born 1901, Madison, Fla., married December 25, 1922 to Merte Albritton, born 1902, Jacksonville, Florida; they had children, Betty Jean Thornton, born February 14, 1924, who married John Lawrence Kramer; Frank Lines Thornton, Jr., born April 8, 1925; died in infancy; Tom Albritton Thornton, born November 22, 1927; married Nancy Patterson, October 8, 1948; Margaret Thornton, born November 17, 1930 and Daniel Lines Thornton, born September 22, 1939; homes in Jacksonville, Florida (1949).

Matthew Blake Thornton, Jr.; married Merle Henry, Jacksonville, Florida; they had one child, Carolyn Thornton, born ca 1936; home (1949) Nashville, Tennessee.

Kathryn Thornton; married Norman Tolliver Dill; July 27, 1937; they have four children: Kathryn born 1937; James, birthdate not available; Nancy Elizabeth Dill, born January 27; home (1949) 64 Hillwood Circle, Spring Hill, Alabama.

John Robert Thornton, born 1914; married Bettie Piper, born 1914; they had three sons, John age 6, Douglas Stewart age 3 and Matthew Blake age 1; Home (1949) 52 Reed Street, Lexington, Mass., Boston suburb.

Albert Sharp Thornton; born ca 1860; died 1941, Tampa, Florida; married Lillian Dawson, ca 1909; date of her death not available; they had three children, Albert Sharp Thornton, Jr.; Lillian and Susan; married, living in Tampa, Florida, (1949).

Sarah Virginia Thornton, daughter of Sanford and Susannah (Townes) Thornton; b. July 12, 1841, Chambers County, Alabama; m. John Wesley Branscombe, March 20, 1855, Union Springs, Ala., who was born May 1, 1829, d. Dec. 7, 1886. She d. Nov. 19, 1903. Both buried in Union Springs. Children of this union:

- (1) James H. Branscombe, b. March 9, 1857; d. and buried in Belton, Texas; date not available.
- (2) John Sanford Branscombe; b. Oct. 15, 1862; d. June 5, 1916, Union Springs, Ala.
- (3) William Albert Branscombe; b. Dec. 17, 1865; d. March 18, 1941, Union Springs, Ala.
- (4) Elijah Lamar Branscombe; b. Sept. 17, 1868; d. 1913, Union Springs, Ala.
- (5) Mattie Eugenie Branscombe; b. May 6, 1874; d. June 26, 1905; Union Springs, Ala.
- (6) Samuel Hogan Branscombe; b. Jan. 9, 1875, d. Dec. 18, 1901, Union Springs, Ala.
- (7) Richard Clayton Branscombe; b. March 22, 1878; living in Union Springs, Ala. in 1949.
- (8) Carrie Belle Branscombe; b. Apr. 29, 1880, d. in California, Aug. 28, 1938.

Of the above children:

James H. Branscombe m. Roxie Hunt, who was b. in Texas, Apr. 1, 1870; d. in Belton, Texas, Jan. 23, 1934.

John Sanford Branscombe m. (1) Lillian Henritz, Oct. 12, 1888, in Lebanon, Va. She b. Dec. 31, 1864, in Lebanon; d. July 7, 1896, Mt. Holly, Va., buried in Union Springs, Ala. Children of this union: (1) Jessye Forrest Branscombe, b. Nov. 25, 1889, living in Nice, France in 1949.

(2) Mary Hunter Branscombe, b. Sept. 15, 1893; living in Cocanut Grove, Fla. in 1949. (3) Marvin Bennett Branscombe, b. June 1, 1895; res. West Green, Ga., 1949.

John Sanford Branscombe m. (2) Ida Dismukes, October 25, 1899, China Grove, Ga. She b. Dec. 14, 1875; d. Dec. 18, 1914, Union Springs, Ala. Children born to this union: (1) Albert L., res. Anniston, Ala. 1949; (2) Clayton Sanford, b. 1902; d. Sept. 1, 1934, Union Springs, (3) John Warren, b. May 11, 1904, res. Orlando, Fla. 1949. (4) Lucille, b. April 4, 1907; res. Jacksonville, Ala. 1949. (5) Ernest Jackson, b. Aug. 24, 1910; res. Atlanta, Ga. 1949. (6) Lewis Lightfoot, b. Dec. 28, 1912; res. Dothan, Ala. 1949.

John Sanford Branscombe, m. (3) Eugenia Norwood Alston, November 1915, res. Sheffield, Ala. 1949 (Errata) Midway, Ala. not Sheffield). Born to this union (1) Alston Branscombe, b. Feb. 4, 1917, res. Sheffield, Ala. in 1949.

LIAM DOZIER THORNTON: born Harris County, Georgia, 1820; listed for Florida Indian Wars Service at Columbus, Mus-see County, Georgia, June 1836, mustered out, same point, July 1836; married Harriett (Day) Cooper, Russell County, Alabama, February 27, 1849; Sanford Thornton, father, signed surety bond; (court records, Phenix City, Alabama).

At the time of her marriage to William Dozier Thornton, Harriett (Day) Cooper, a widow, had two daughters, both born in South Carolina; Lucretia Cooper, born 1843, and Martha, born 1844. They also went to Texas with the Day grandparents; see Freestone County, Texas, census 1860. Both became school teachers; Lucretia married a man named [redacted], had one son who died in early childhood; she died soon thereafter; Martha married W. H. Cockrell, had a large family, numerous descendants in Texas.

Harriett Thornton died April 24, 1856 and for twenty six years following her death, William Dozier Thornton is a "displaced person", so far as records now available are concerned, --- doubtless a broken, unhappy and probably a failed man. There are only fleeting glimpses of him; an old photograph made in Montgomery, Alabama; a marriage gift of a sewing machine to his daughter in Opelika, Alabama, 1875. Too old for Civil War service, the War Department has no record other than that of 1836.

Cuthbert (Georgia) Appeal, date of Friday, January 17, 1949, had this news item:

"Mr. William D. Thornton of Union Springs, Alabama,

was married on last Wednesday evening (April 15) to Mrs. Emma L. Jenkins, at the residence of the bride's father, Judge C. R. Knowles, near Cuthbert, by Rev. E. H. McGehee."

marriage was verified by court records of Randolph County. Of this union there was no issue. Mrs. Jenkins had two children by a former marriage.

Application of his widow, for pension, through the War Department, gave record of his enlistment, as above stated; and on memory, this information was incomplete, application was denied. Randolph County census 1880, gave his name as William D., an aged resident of Cuthbert gave the information that his middle name was Dozier.

Cuthbert Appeal, February 23, 1888, carried the following notice: "Mr. W. D. Thornton is quite ill this week. We pray for his early recovery."

The following appeared, March 8, 1888: "Mr. William D. Thornton died at his home in this city, on March 1, of pleuro-pneumonia, after long and painful illness. The latter part of his life was spent in Alabama. He had resided in Cuthbert about ten years.

"He leaves two children, by his first wife, Mrs. Sarah Moncrief, who lives in Texas and Mrs. R. L. Kennerly of Salem, Alabama. His second wife who survives him, is the daughter of Judge C. R. Knowles. Mr. Thornton was a member of the Methodist church. He was a good man, and a true citizen.

"Burial was in Western Cemetery on Friday last. Rev. J. Mathews and Rev. W. S. Rogers performed the ceremonies."

Western Cemetery is now known as Greenwood Cemetery. His grave is beside that of his wife, on the well-marked Dozier-Thornton lot, in the City of Cuthbert, Georgia.

The death of William Dozier Thornton and wife, Harriett (Day) is recorded as follows:

It is sad to reflect that, by some now unknown vicissitude of time or circumstance, William Dozier Thornton, after the death of their mother, was never again to provide a home for any of his children, nor so far as known, was he again to see those who went to Texas with the Days. He would have had some communication with them, as is evidenced by the letters in Cuthbert papers, at the time of his death.)

His children were born near Seale, Alabama and Harriett, who is buried in the old Vilula cemetery, nearby. After the mother's death, the children, with one exception which note hereafter, lived with their maternal grandparents, Wiley and Lucretia Day, near Opelika, Alabama, and went with them to Freestone County, Texas, in 1860,

were reared by them. (See 1860 census Freestone County, (as.)

Virginia Thornton; born 1850, married Pinckney Bennett, Freestone County, Texas, she was a teacher. Of this union, one child died in infancy; second child, Odelia Bennett (Dee), was two years old when her mother died; Dee married James Hubbard, had two children; daughter Evelyn Hubbard, teacher in Waco, Texas public schools (1947); son F. Bennett Hubbard, in business in Waco, Texas (1947). Dee Hubbard died in Waco in 1945.

Wiley Sanford Thornton; (see below)

Louisiana Mourning Thornton; born April 18, 1854; disliking her name, this daughter renamed herself, Lula Estelle, in her early teens; for some reason now unknown she did not go with the other children to Texas with the Day grandparents, but remained in Alabama; was reared in Opelika, married Robert Lee Kennon, prominent citizen, planter, slave owner, merchant of Salem, Alabama, in 1875, spent most of her married life in Salem, reared a large family; lived a long and useful life, died in 1913; buried in Salem; issue of this union:

Robert Lee Kennon, Jr., had one daughter, Elizabeth, who married L. R. Judy; living in Birmingham, Alabama, (1946).

Warner Perry Kennon; (d) married Hattie Laura Pratt; had son Walter Pratt Kennon, who, after war service, graduated at Auburn College, 1947.

Mary Ellen Kennon; died in youth; never married.

Emma Pauline Kennon; married Roy Lee Burt (d), had daughter Mary Pauline Burt; son Frank M. Burt, (Atlanta, Georgia, 1948); son Roy Lee Burt, Jr., Captain, Second World War, married Rita Russ in London, England, 1946; they had son Richard born 1947; stationed in Germany in 1946-1947; Ft. Bliss, Texas 1947-1948; Sacramento, California in 1948.

Lillie Kennon; (d) married Walter Blackstock, prominent merchant, Atlanta, Georgia; had son, Walter Blackstock, Jr.; married, has small daughter, Lillie. Professor of English, State University Florida, Tallahassee, 1948.

Fannie Kennon; died in infancy.

Louise Kennon; married Captain A. T. Powell, retired veteran First World War; daughter,

Louise Powell; all in Atlanta, Georgia (1948).

Elsie Kennon; married (1) Charles M. Huling, (d); had two sons, Charles Kennon Huling, who married Pauline D'Olive, and they had son Charles Kennon Huling, Jr.; Charles Kennon Huling, Sr., age 35, died in Opelika, Alabama, April 7, 1949; son Warren Albert Huling, died in young manhood, unmarried, 1939; Elsie Kennon married (2) W. Glenn Copeland; home, Opelika, Alabama (1949).

Herbert Kennon, (d); married Elsa Marks; had daughter Elsa; lived in New York in 1948.

John J. Thornton; born 1855; died Freestone County, Texas, ca 1867.

Harriett T. Thornton (Hattie); born 1856, her mother, Harriett, died either at the time, or soon after her birth; married Marshall Moncrief, Freestone County, Texas; had no children; removed ca 1890 to "West Texas", died ca 1900.

WILEY SANFORD THORNTON: born Russell County, Alabama, 1852; married Mary Alice Owens, June 1874; died March 26, 1886; died September 3, 1885; buried in old Rehoboth Cemetery, near Young, (Fairfield P.O.) Freestone County, Texas.

Issue of this union, four sons, all born Freestone County, Texas:

Daniel Luther Thornton; born August 1, 1875; died May 23, 1906, never married; buried in Fairfield, Freestone County, Texas.

Walter Wiley Thornton; born October 9, 1877, near Young, in Freestone County, Texas; orphaned at age eight, reared by maternal uncle, Daniel Webster Owens. Formal education limited to country schools and graduation from a Waco, Texas, Business College at age 20. Married (1) Hortense Cleo Bailey, Texarkana, Texas, January 6, 1904. Engaged in newspaper, publishing and commercial printing business in Texarkana, real estate, building, commercial printing, and manufacture of acetylene gas, with plants and stores in El Paso and Phoenix, Arizona, for distribution of welding gases and supplies. Retired from active business and returned to Texarkana in 1938. Has done considerable writing, published two small books, a Thornton Family History and a History of The First Baptist Church, of Texarkana, Texas. Issue of first marriage:

Charles Louis Thornton; born Texarkana, Texas, October 16, 1904; twice married, no children; one

adopted son, Walter W. Thornton III; died Las Vegas, Nevada, March 30, 1950; buried State Line Cemetery, Texarkana, Arkansas.

Mary Alice Thornton; born Texarkana, Texas, September 24, 1905; married Lloyd Verlyn Stevens, El Paso, Texas, December 24, 1925; they had son: Lloyd Verlyn Stevens, Jr., born El Paso, Texas, May 18, 1927, who married Joyce Hunter, El Paso, Texas, May 7, 1949, and they had son Ronald Hunter Stevens, born November 26, 1949, and son Mark Thornton Stevens, born January 27, 1954. Daughter: Marjorie Louise Stevens, born August 10, 1930, El Paso, Texas, married Lee Roy Lehman, September 24, 1949, they had daughter, Deborah Louise Lehman born December 2, 1950, daughter Pamela Ann Lehman, born December 28, 1952, and son, Scott Lee Lehman, born November 23, 1955. Daughter: Barbara Jean Stevens, born May 15, 1933, El Paso, Texas, married Harold Gwynn Williams, June 2, 1950; they had four sons, Gary Stevens Williams, born March 4, 1951; Dale Walter Williams, born June 16, 1953; Michael Gwynn Williams born April 13, 1955, and Brian Robert Williams, born January 12, 1957. All above living (1958) in El Paso, Texas.

Walter Wiley Thornton, Jr.; born July 8, 1909, Texarkana, Texas; married Adrienne Tobin, El Paso, Texas, 1925; died February 3, 1930, buried in Greenwood Cemetery, El Paso, Texas; they had daughter, Adrienne Corinne Thornton, born December 29, 1926, El Paso, Texas; she married Frank L. Lemmon, Fullerton, California, about 1952, had daughter Sandra Lemmon, born about 1953; living now (1958) in Coalings, California.

Andrew Bailey Thornton; born May 29, 1913, died May 12, 1925; struck by automobile, enroute to school, buried in Evergreen Cemetery, El Paso, Texas.

Hortense Cleo (Bailey) Thornton, died December 20, 1916, buried State Line Cemetery, Texarkana, Texas; Walter W. Thornton, Sr. married (2) Virdie Frances Jones, November 6, 1918. No issue; living (1958) R.F.D. No. 10, Box 569, Texarkana, Texas.

Charles Jared Thornton; born March 28, 1880; died February 5, 1881.

Tillman Francis Thornton; home (1958) Elk City, Oklahoma; born August 26, 1882; married (1) Willie Evans, she died; no issue; he married (2) Mrs. Pearl Winberry, she had son, Rupert Winberry, married and living in Ft. Worth, Texas (1949); daughter, Vada Winberry, married

Roy Mayfield and living in Altus, Oklahoma (1949). They had a son, Tillman Francis Thornton, Jr., born June 25, 1917; he married Bessie Faye Kelley, Elk City, Oklahoma; home (1958) Elk City, Oklahoma.

"It is a significant fact that upon Tillman Francis Thornton, Jr. now depends the only reasonable hope of male issue to continue the name Thornton, in the line of William Dozier Thornton. W.W.T."

R E V. R E U B E N T H O R N T O N

Rev. Reuben Thornton, born Warren County, North Carolina, February 16, 1783, and before he was two years old his father moved the family to Elbert County, Georgia, and about 1837 he moved to Russell County, Alabama, and in 1840 his father Dozier added a codicil to his will reading, "as my son Reuben has moved to Alabama I appoint Henry F. Chandler in his place", meaning as one of the executors of his will. Reuben died in Russell County, Alabama, December 8, 1863, and is buried in the family cemetery near Selam, Lee County, Alabama, on old Thornton place, now owned by R. T. Comer, Jr. of Birmingham. He married three times.

First:

Frances Catherine Richardson, November 11, 1803. She was born in Elbert County, Georgia, February 28, 1786, died in 1828. According to history of Elbert County, Georgia, she was the daughter of Walker Richardson, Veteran of Revolutionary War, Lt. First Virginia Regiment commanded by Charles Harrison (Record Power of Attorney to William Higgenbotham of Elbert County, Georgia, to receive all pay for such service from State of Virginia or United States, February 1, 1792. James McCleskey, J.P. Page 164, Ga. D.A.R.). First Lt. Continental Artillery March 4, 1778. Regiment Quarter Master February 25, 1779, First Lt. August 18, 1779.

Second:

Elizabeth Waters in 1828. She was born September 10,

1790, died November 7, 1853. Buried in same cemetery as Reuben.

Third:

Fannie Forney, no record of dates of birth or death.

Reuben Thornton is another of the sons of War Veteran Dozier who deserves more than brief notice. He was a Baptist Minister, planter and slave owner, as shown by Russell County, Alabama 1850-1860 census. Although reputed to have twenty-one children, the only clear record is as follows:

- (1) Walker born 1803.
- (2) Elizabeth born 1809.
- (3) Martha born 1812.
- (4) Catherine Frances.
- (5) Jeremiah born 1814.
- (6) Jonathan born March 18, 1816 (See Page No. 38)
- (7) Reuben J. Thornton born 1825, died 1911.

Reuben J. Thornton was a prominent physician, planter and slave owner of Russell County, Alabama, census 1860. He married Sara Ann Edwards, they had sons Curtis and Loxla, daughters Ophelia and Annie Lucille. Ophelia married John Dorsey, of Opelika, Alabama. Mr. Isham Dorsey of Opelika, Alabama, Mrs. Henry J. Egger of Washington, D. C., and Mrs. Annie Dorsey Green of Titusville, Florida, are the children of that union. Annie Lucille married Daniel Hudman. They had ten children, only four living today: Mrs. Leta Hudman Cooper, Opelika, Alabama, widow of Dr. George Thayer Cooper; Isham Stanton Hudman, Jacksonville, Florida, married Pauline Story; Mrs. Genevieve Hudman Newman, Titusville, Florida, married Judge L. B. Newman; Mrs. Bertha Hudman Stringer, DeLand, Florida, married Thomas Franklin Stringer.

Mrs. Egger wrote me January 1, 1958, that many years ago she visited the old Thornton place where Rev. Reuben is buried, and described the house as "an old colonial two-story home with two very wide rooms on each side of the hall, with double doors at each end, dining room to the back and a long

passage from the back porch to the kitchen."

- (8) Robert Dozier Thornton, born October 12, 1829, was son of second marriage to Elizabeth Waters. He was third Probate Judge of Bullock County and records of that county show that he served from January 1877 to October 1880. He afterwards moved to Arkansas where he died November 13, 1883. He married Eliza Seay and they had three children, Lizzie, who married Fletcher Comer; Carrie, who married Dan Smith, and a son Ed L. Thornton. Mrs. Comer Guilmartin of Midway, Alabama, is his granddaughter.

LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF REUBEN THORNTON.

THE STATE OF ALABAMA)
RUSSELL COUNTY) IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN:

I, Reuben Thornton of the County and State aforesaid, being of sound disposing mind and memory and knowing that it is appointed unto all men to die, make and ordain this my Last Will and Testament.

ITEM 1st. I commit my body to the dust from which it came and my soul to God who gave it.

ITEM 2nd. It is my will that all my just debts be paid including my burial expenses.

ITEM 3rd. It is my will and desire that my son, Robert D. Thornton only child of my second wife have and retain the half section of land, on which I now reside with all the appurtenances thereunto belonging. The remaining portion of my lands I desire to be sold by my Executors hereinafter named and the proceeds thereof be equally divided amongst my first wifes children to-wit: Jonathan M. Thornton and Reuben J. Thornton and Martha Greene Staples of Texas and Catharine F. Haynes.

ITEM 4th. It is my will and desire that my boy Hiram have the privilege of selecting an owner for himself, his wife Rose and their four youngest children, they being appraised by three disinterested men and whomsoever he may select shall have three years to pay for them by paying interest after the first year on the debt.

ITEM 5th. I hereby will and bequeath to my son Jonathan M. Thornton the following slaves and their increase, viz: Missouriia, Tessie and Fanny. I give and bequeath to my son Reuben J. Thornton, the following slaves and their increase viz: Elbert, Sally, Joe, Adeline, Seaborn and Burrell. The balance of my slaves to-wit, Jessie Greene and Sarah, I wish to be sold and the proceeds equally divided between my first wifes children to-wit: Jonathan M. Thornton, Reuben J. Thornton, Martha G. Staples and Catharine F. Haynes.

ITEM 6th. I give and bequeath to Fannie my wife, five hundred dollars, our bed and bedstead and appurtenances.

ITEM 7th. I hereby wish five hundred dollars appropriated by my Executors, or as much thereof as necessary to cover my wifes Elizabeth and my own grave.

ITEM 8th. I hereby appoint my sons Jonathan M. Thornton, Reuben J. Thornton and Robt. D. Thornton to execute the provisions of this my last will and testament, and ask the Probate Court to grant them letters testamentary without the execution of a bond.

The slaves bequeathed in the 5th Item, I wish valued by three disinterested men and the overplus after being equal, I wish paid back to my estate.

Signed and sealed this 9th day of November, 1863.

WITNESS: REUBEN THORNTON (SEAL)

A. C. Bennett
Joseph Mitchell
John Hodge

J O N A T H A N M . T H O R N T O N

Jonathan M. Thornton, born Elbert County, Georgia, March 18, 1816, died in Barbour County, Alabama, December 30, 1890. Married three times. First, Martha M. Mills on March 22, 1837. She was born September 22, 1816, died January 9, 1856. Second, Rebecca Woodruff in Russell County, August 24, 1856. She died in Barbour County, Alabama, June 23, 1873. Third, Fannie Sylvester of Eufaula on January 27, 1874. She died September 26, 1927. Prominent Barbour County farmer and slave owner, he moved from Russell County to Barbour County in the 1850's and farmed there until his death in 1890. Alabama State Census 1840 showed him as living in Russell County, 23 years of age and married. Barbour County, Alabama, Deed Book "S" page 539 shows Deed dated November 23, 1857 from J. L. Pugh and Deed dated August 1863 from James D. Windham to Jonathan M. Thornton E $\frac{1}{2}$ Section 9, Township 11, Range 28, containing 320 acres, total consideration \$3200.00. Abstract of title dated April 16, 1869, shows purchase of all of Section 7, Township 11, Range 28, from H. C. Hart, Administrator of John Hart, Deceased, consideration \$9720.--00.

Orphans Record Book 26, page 173 Seq., petition of Jonathan M. Thornton, Jr. for probate of Will of Jonathan M. Thornton, shows testator died December 30, 1890, leaving a will giving the lands described as the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 8, Township 11, Range 28 to his wife Fannie Sylvester Thornton for her natural life, and at her death

to six youngest children equally. The homesite is now owned by Mr. Lee Clayton, of Eufaula, Alabama, but Jonathan's grave is there, and a well marked granite headstone has been placed on the grave.

The six children of the first marriage were not left anything for the reason that he had already given them more than he was leaving the youngest ones.

A year or so after his death, the following article appeared in a Eufaula newspaper, written by Rev. W. L. Pinckard, Baptist Minister of Eufaula, Alabama.

TRIBUTE TO MEMORY OF JONATHAN THORNTON

"UNSUNG HEROES"

"When men of extensive acquaintances and influence die, their history is rehearsed and their praises sung ... but there are many of the noblest characters on earth who move quietly among men, ever doing good, who are not so widely known. These men have been largely the sinew of religious and moral power. They have not cast their light so far as taller light houses, but they are quite as brilliant in their respective spheres. For these I write.

"In Eufaula lived a layman, Jonathan Thornton. He was very striking in appearance, weighed about two hundred pounds, and had a head worthy of Webster. A man who looked great, possessed of great natural ability. He was wonderfully well versed, and had worked out for himself many lines of reasonings, very similar to world renowned scholars.

"His own thoughts seemed to be a discovery; he reached all his conclusions after much thought and hence, was fixed in his position. He was a great force in the community in which he lived..... The influence of this quiet layman was more powerful for good in his community, for the space of thirty years, than that of any other man. Jonathan Thornton walked with God.

"Such men are the very salt of the earth. Their influence is purifying, uplifting to all about them."

From the family bible of Jonathan Thornton, which is owned by Leon Thornton of Montgomery, and from information secured from a number of his grandchildren, I am quoting dates of birth, marriage and death of Jonathan Thornton's children:

- (A) Frances Catherine Richardson Thornton, born December 12, 1837, died May 22, 1904. Frances married Michael Cody January 10, 1854. They had two sons James M. and Michael. Michael married two sisters, Dora and Nep Ferrell of Valdosta, Georgia. Four daughters, Sallie, who married Peter E. Florence; Mary, who married Mercer Davie; Mattie, who married Oscar Starke and Ella who married George Cotton.
- (B) Elam Dozier Mills Thornton, born March 4, 1839, Salem, Russell County, died May 6, 1919. Dozier Thornton married Ella McDonald Pope, April 14, 1868. Ella Thornton died January 18, 1925. He was a Civil War Veteran from 1861 to 1865, Col. William Oates Regiment, 15th Alabama, under Gen. Longstreet. They had one son, Leon Thornton and two daughters, Janie and Leila. Leon was born February 16, 1878, Spanish American War Veteran 1898 - 1899, married Felicie Chapel, one daughter Louise, who married John Reynolds. Janie married James E. Dowe of Montgomery - three sons, James, Thornton and Joe; two daughters, Leila and Dorothy; and Leila married Joe Bostwick of Janesville, Wisconsin - one daughter Leila.
- (C) Reuben Jeremiah Thornton, born January 26, 1840. Married Martha M. Miller October 30, 1866, died 1890. Two sons, Jonathan M. and Greene and two daughters, Mollie and Fannie.
- (D) William Alexander Thornton, born October 10, 1841, died May 7, 1856.
- (E) Hester Ann Thornton, born May 12, 1843, died August 3, 1866. Married George Boyer July 14, 1861. They had three daughters, Lena, Annie Rae and Georgia.
- (F) Henry Clay Thornton, born October 7, 1844, died July 3, 1909 (See Page No. 42)
- (G) Robert Dawson Thornton, born June 18, 1846, died 1864 while serving in Confederate Army at Vicksburg, Mississippi.
- (H) Nathaniel Nuckols Thornton, born April 16, 1848, died 1885.

- (I) A daughter born September 24, 1849.
- (J) Jonathan M. Thornton, Jr., born December 3, 1850. Died September 20, 1891 in Eufaula and is buried there. He married Bessie Stratford of Montgomery. No children.
- (K) Martha Jane Elizabeth Thornton, born August 9, 1852, died 1926. Married F. Marion Ansley of Thomasville, Georgia, November 30, 1876. Two daughters, Margaret and Lucille, four sons, Frank, Claud, Bradford and Donald. None of the sons now living. Margaret (1958) lives in Birmingham, and Lucille married Sanford Jewett, who lived in Lakeland, Florida, and is now dead. Bradford had one son, Bradford, Jr., now connected with University of Georgia in Atlanta.

Jonathan M. Thornton married second time, Rebecca Woodruff in Russell County, August 24, 1856. Children of this union, all born in Barbour County, Alabama:

- (A) Rebecca M. Woodruff Thornton, born July 9, 1857, died April 8, 1938. She married Jesse B. Davie January 7, 1879. He died March 31, 1932 and both are buried in Old Spring Hill Cemetery, Barbour County. Children of this union:
1. Marshall Calhoun Davie, born February 22, 1881, died in 1954. His widow, Mary, now (1958) living in West Blocton, Alabama.
 2. Jessie Tate Davie, born August 3, 1883. Married Dr. M. C. Thomas, May 6, 1903.
 3. Kathleen, born October 19, 1885, married Dr. P.E. Godbold.
 4. Nuckols Thornton Davie, born December 8, 1887, married Helen Kemp, December 31, 1915, now living in Anniston, Alabama.
- (B) John Fred Thornton, born November 10, 1858, died 1937. Married a widow, Mrs. Sallie Hart Jackson of Eufaula. She died in 1938. One son J. Fred Thornton, married Katie Greir Ryan, no children. Served in World War I, is living now in Montgomery, and is Associate Editor of The Montgomery Advertiser. Two daughters, Natalie, who married Jeff Bell, now lives in Scarsdale, New York; Claytie, who married Ira Bright, lives in Aberdeen, Mississippi.
- (C) Thomas Thornton born November 14, 1860.

- (D) Sallie Thornton, born January 8, 1863. Married R. I. Fields.
- (E) Mollie Thornton born October 30, 1867, married Dr. Henry Clayton Riley.
- (F) Nat Woodruff Thornton, born June 23, 1873, died December 30, 1947. Married April 25, 1900, Louisa James Edwards, born December 10, 1880, died August 17, 1953. Three sons, James Woodruff Thornton, born February 5, 1901, married Myra Kendall, now C.P.A. in Montgomery, Alabama; John Starr, born February 5, 1905, married Margaret Brown, lives in Birmingham; Edwards Grey Thornton, born March 16, 1910, married Margaret Lewis, lives in Greenville, Alabama. A daughter, Natalie, born November 20, 1902, married Professor Robert D. Brown, now a Professor at University of Alabama.

Jonathan M. Thornton, married third time, Fannie Sylvester, January 27, 1874, died September 26, 1927. No children of this issue.

HENRY CLAY THORNTON, born in Russell County, Alabama, October 7, 1844, died in Montgomery July 3, 1909. Married Laura Sparks, daughter of Samuel and Mary Lawhon Sparks of Barbour County, April 25, 1878. She was born in Barbour County, Alabama, March 22, 1859, and died in Montgomery April 8, 1933. Both are buried in Greenwood Cemetery, Montgomery, Alabama. Civil War record of Henry Clay Thornton as furnished by the Department of History and Archives, of Montgomery, Alabama, under date of October 18, 1957:

"Henry Clay Thornton enlisted as a Private in January 1863 at Eufaula, Alabama, in Hardie's Battery of Heavy Artillery, in which he served until he re-enlisted in July 1863, in G. A. Robert's Company, Jeff Davis' Cavalry Legion, in which he continued to serve until surrendered at Hills-

boro, North Carolina, May 1, 1865."

This Cavalry Legion was under General Wade Hampton of South Carolina. Shortly after he returned to Barbour County from the war, he went through Eastman School of Business, Poughkeepsie, New York. At that time Michael Cody, who had married his oldest sister, Frances Catherine, was operating a general store at Old Spring Hill, Alabama, a few miles from Eufaula, where he went to work for Mr. Cody. This store was the scene of a famous murder in 1874, which murder is described in Ann Kendrick Walker's, "Backtracking in Barbour County", a small portion of which is quoted below:

"The career of Elias M. Kiels belongs in the main stream of Reconstruction, but across the pages of Barbour County's records, the name cuts like a red scar. It was a brief period, comparatively, in which he rose from obscurity to a pinnacle of political power; ten years would encompass his reign. The history of a single day brought it to a close.

"In 1870, when Barbour County was at the height of negro domination, Kiels was swept into political office at the election which made him judge of the City Court at Eufaula."

Conditions went from bad to worse. In Eufaula, Clayton and other towns in Barbour County there was constant trouble between the radicals and negroes on one side and Democrats on the other.

"On that fatal morning of November 3, 1874, everybody voted in a hurry, both white and black. At Eufaula, most of the vote was polled before twelve o'clock. Up to that time, the negroes, who had marched in from the country, in two or three large columns, had completely surrounded the polls and occupied them. By noon, the streets of the town were crimson; before sunset, William Kiels, the son of Elias M. Kiels, lay dying at Spring Hill, at the headquarters of the Federal troops.

"The accounts in the newspapers varied. The Radical papers denounced the "murderers." The Democratic papers

deplored the occurrences. The Spring Hill affair was universally considered an "outrage". The official news was sent to Washington by the United States Marshall at Montgomery."

A congressional investigation in Washington was held and Kiels was the first witness.

"From his testimony on that Christmas Eve, a country store, at Spring Hill, "eighteen miles from Eufaula, in the same county", stood out in clear outlines. "Michael Cody's Store - where the guns were stacked." The polling place was near it."

The polls closed at five o'clock and the doors were barred but the crowd was boisterous, pushed the doors in and started promiscuous firing. His son received several gun shot wounds and died two days later.

"The county was weary with investigations. Washington was welcome to Kiels. To the County which he left "because of her lawlessness," Kiels never returned. Eufaula citizens had glimpses of him occasionally at Washington. One picture survives ... there could some times be seen a man with gray hair, of slight build, rather good looking, and wearing a gray shawl over shoulders which were just beginning to droop."

Before leaving Barbour County, Henry Clay Thornton entered the timber business, and spent the rest of his business career, from 1875 to 1900, supplying bridge timbers, etc. to the various railroads that were being built in Alabama.

Children of the union of Henry Clay and Laura Thornton as shown by their family Bible were:

1. A daughter born (dead) Barbour County, Alabama, August 27, 1879.
2. Henry Clay Thornton, Jr., born Barbour County, Alabama, September 22, 1881, died February 1883.
3. Samuel Homer Thornton, born Butler County, Alabama, April

17, 1884. Served in World War I in 33rd Division in this country and France. Now (1958) retired and living in New Orleans, Louisiana.

4. Louise Gertrude Thornton, born Chilton County, Alabama, March 19, 1887. Married October 16, 1913 Raphael Semmes, III, grandson of Admiral Raphael Semmes of Civil War fame. One son of this marriage Raphael Semmes, IV., Annapolis graduate, and now Captain U.S. Navy. Saw service in both Atlantic and Pacific areas during World War II. Married Juanita Runyon July 2, 1940. Two sons, Raphael V. and James Oliver. Louise and her husband now (1958) living in Huntsville, Alabama.
5. Jonathan Mills Thornton, born Jefferson County, Alabama, October 1, 1889, married April 14, 1914, Katie Louise Hails, born January 11, 1890, daughter of Robert and Susan Felder Hails (both Hails and Felders pioneer families Montgomery County, Alabama, planters and slave owners.) U. S. Army, First World War, Adjutant General's Department, Gen. Leonard Woods HQ., Charleston, South Carolina, August to October 1917. Gen. Pershing's Headquarters, Chaumont and Bourges, France, October 1917 to March 1919. Discharged April 12, 1919, Camp Dix, New Jersey. Investment Banking, Montgomery, 1919 to 1956, with exception of three years as Vice President in charge of Investment Department of The First National Bank of Montgomery. Member Montgomery County Board of Revenue from 1942 to 1946. Now (1958) retired and living in Montgomery, Alabama.

Children of this union:

- (A) Jonathan Mills Thornton, Jr., born April 10, **1915**, married September 13, 1942, Priscilla Marks, born May 13, 1916, daughter of Dr. Charles and Priscilla Marks of Montgomery. One son, Jonathan Mills, III, and one daughter Priscilla. Auburn graduate. U.S. Navy from October 1940 to 1946. Pacific area on Attack Transport McCawley until it was sunk. Combat Bronze Star medal and Citation for period of service as Supply Officer, U. S. Nashville, with rank of Lt. Commander, when "that ship participated in bombardment operations against enemy held Wake and Marcus Islands, etc.". Now, Investment Banking, Montgomery, Alabama.
- (B) Emily Hails Thornton, born August 30, **1916**, Graduate Holton Arms School, Washington, D. C. Married April 26, 1940 Winston F. Garth, Huntsville, Alabama, Dartmouth graduate. Now (1958) living in Gainesville, Georgia. Six sons, Winston F., Jr., Robert D., Jonathan Thornton, Thomas F., John Felder and Fred D., one daughter Emily.

- (C) Laura T. Thornton, born August 30, 1921, graduate University of Alabama. Married September 6, 1944, Dr. Hamilton H. Hutchinson. University of Alabama and Washington University of St. Louis graduate. Dr. Hutchinson Medical Officer U.S. Navy, World War II. Now (1958) living in Montgomery, Alabama. Two sons, Hamilton H. Jr., and Jonathan Clay, four daughters, Katie Hails, Laura, Ruth and Mary.
- (D) Katherine Hails Thornton, born January 25, 1923. Attended Stratford College, Danville, Virginia and University of Alabama. Served in Red Cross during World War II. Married November 9, 1946, Henry R. Seawell, Jr., born May 23, 1922. Lt. Infantry, this country, France and Germany. Served in Gen. Patton's Army 1942 - 1946. Combat Bronze Star, five major combats. Now (1958) living in Montgomery, Alabama. Three sons, Leonard H., Henry R. Jr., and Robert Hails, one daughter Louise.

THE DOZIER FAMILY

DOZIER is said to be a name-version reached after a number of variations on the original French "DAUGE", which would be pronounced very much like Dozhey, the "y" almost silent. On records, it is found as "Doudge", "Doser", D'Ozier", "Dozer", "Dozar" and "Dozier".

The name appears among the original immigrants who came with Capt. John Smith to Virginia, in 1607. One genealogist reports that in 1885 there was found in the ruins of an old fort near St. Augustine, Florida, the name "Marquis D'Ozier", and suggests that as great numbers of Huguenots fleeing to America settled in that region, this Marquis D'Ozier may have been the original American ancestor of this name.

The Doziers were Huguenots, and were no doubt among many of that faith who fled to America, to escape death at the hands of Henry the Fourth, of France, and a hostile Catholic government.

LEONARD DOZIER - of France and Virginia; born in France; died between May of 1692 and July of 1693; wife's name was Elizabeth. She was appointed Administrator of his estate, July 26, 1693; (Order Book 1690-1698, page 100, Westmoreland County, Virginia); Children of record, Richard Dozier, Will of record in 1739; Frances Dozier; William Dozier; John Dozier, inventory of whose estate was filed in 1748, and Leonard Dozier II, (See copy of naturalization papers of Leonard Dozier I, attached).

LEONARD DOZIER II - born in France about 1680; married in Virginia to Elizabeth Ingo, widow of Thomas Ascough, between December 3, 1701 and November 4, 1703. He died in Lunenburg County, Virginia, in 1733. He left no will, but his wife Elizabeth made a will, and from it we get the names of her Dozier children: Sons, James, John and Leonard (III); daughters Mary Jones, Elizabeth Thornton, Sarah Jeter and Susannah Bragg.

LEONARD DOZIER III - born Lunenburg County, Virginia, 1710; married Ann Gayle, January 30, 1733; died, in the same county, in 1785. Issue, seven sons, three daughters, attested by a descendant of Jefferson County, Alabama, 1947.

- (A) James Dozier; born September 2, 1737; died 1807; will dated September 27, 1804, Warren County, Georgia. James had a son, William, who was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and who died before his father did; also a son John, who married three times, and a son James, Jr., who married Elizabeth Staples, Wilkes County, Georgia, and had thirteen children.
- (B) Susannah Dozier; born November 16, 1739; married Mark Thornton, in Lunenburg County, Virginia. (See Thornton family record for issue of this union).
- (C) John Dozier, born December 2, 1741; died in South Carolina, in 1807; Captain of a Company in the Revolutionary War, Marion's Brigade; had a distinguished record as a soldier and, later, as a prominent citizen of South Carolina.
- (D) William Dozier; born March 16, 1743.
- (E) Jemima Dozier; born May 22, 1746.
- (F) Keziah Dozier; born May 26, 1749.
- (G) Leonard Dozier; born May 7, 1751.
- (H) Thomas Dozier; born June 29, 1753.
- (I) Ann Dozier; born 1755.

(J) Richard Dozier; born August 15, 1760.

NATURALIZATION PAPER OF LEONARD DOZIER I

VIRGINIA

SEAL
of The
Colony

By the Honorable, the President
Of His Majesty's Councillors

In pursuance of the Act of the Assembly, made at James City the 8th day of June, in the 32nd year of our Sovereign Lord, King Charles the Second, and in the Year of Our Lord 1680, and by the authority thereof and the power therein granted, I do by this public instrument, under my hand and the Broad Seal of the Colony of Virginia, pronounce and publish and declare Leonard Dozier, born in France, possessing the Protestant Religion, and having first taken the oath of allegiance and paid the fee therein mentioned according to the tenor of the said ACT; to be fully and completely naturalized, and I do hereby fully and completely naturalize him, the said Leonard Dozier, giving and granting unto him and his heirs forever, all and singular, the privileges, the immunities and rights of the inhabitants of this Colony of Virginia, and that as fully and amply to all intents and purposes whatsoever as if he, the said Leonard Dozier, had been born within His Majesty's domain, and as any other of His Majesty's

subjects whatsoever have, ought or do in any sort enjoy;
any former law, act and usage or custom to the contrary
notwithstanding.

Given under my hand and seal of the Colony, this 28th day
of January, 1683 Anno Domini.

Regin Regin Caroli Scot, Anglin 35

Nicholas Spencer

Westmoreland SS. at a court held for the said county the
28th day of January, 1734, on the petition of Richard
Dozier this instrument of naturalization of his deceased
father, Leonard Dozier, is admitted to record.

Recorded the 3rd day of February, 1734 -----C. T. C. C. N.

Test:

G. Sturbeville, Clerk.

The above and the copy of the instrument of Natural-
ization are recorded in the Inventories #1, 1723-1746, in
the Courthouse of Westmoreland County, Virginia, at Montross.

C O M M E N T A R Y

By Walter W. Thornton.

After publishing A GLIMPSE OF THORNTONS THROUGH THE CENTURIES in 1949 I soon discovered that it contained a number of errors of more or less importance. In any book dealing with so many names, dates and facts gathered from a mass of old records from so many sources, it is inevitable that errors will occur.

By 1952 I had come into possession of a version of the ancestry of Dozier Thornton which nullified the position taken on that subject in my book. In preparing material for that book I had followed the version of another writer as to the parentage of Mark Thornton, the known father of Dozier. This I did tentatively, and dubiously however, as the writer of the book I followed did not make a clear case for her version, which was that Mark Thornton descended from the line of William Thornton, known to genealogy as "The Immigrant", who came from Yorkshire, England, to Virginia about 1640 to become ancestor of a multitude of Thorntons, many of whom were prominent in the early history of Colonial America.

The discovery of the Will of Luke Thornton, together with other information, convinced me beyond reasonable doubt that Mark Thornton, father of Dozier Thornton, was the grandson named in Luke Thornton's will made in Richmond County, Virginia, on January 29, 1725. Consulting with well known genealogists I found also there was no known documentary evidence that Luke was related to the old William I line. In the meantime my book, with information now believed to be erroneous, was in the hands of various libraries and state departments of Archives and History.

In 1957 Mr. Jonathan Mills Thornton, Montgomery, Alabama, wrote me that he was collecting family data with the purpose of compiling a little book for the benefit of his immediate family, and would like to use some portions of my book in order to present a wider background of the Thornton family in general.

It has been my privilege to co-operate with Mr. Thornton in correcting certain errors that appeared in my publication, and in his effort to present a clear statement of the connection between Dozier Thornton and Luke Thornton. This he does in a most creditable manner in his new book, "THE THORNTON FAMILY", presenting in detail the Luke Thornton Will and other evidence that Luke was undoubtedly our ancestor.

In quoting from A GLIMPSE OF THORNTONS, no effort has been made to eliminate entirely its reference to William Thornton I as the possible ancestor of our Dozier, since that would have involved a great deal of re-writing that did not seem practicable or necessary. But his book does make clear the Luke-Mark connection.

I was delighted too with Mr. Thornton's generous suggestion that a copy of the new book would be offered to libraries and departments of archives and history wherever mine have been placed, for the benefit of any who may be hereafter interested in Thornton family research. Very generously too he has made it possible for me to place the new book with its new and corrected information in the hands of my own immediate family. For all of which I am duly appreciative and grateful.

Walter W. Thornton.

R.F.D. 10, Box 569
Texarkana, Texas.

Back of each page left blank so that any descendent of Dozier Thornton might, if he so desires, add information as to his immediate family.