

INCIDENTAL
HISTORY
OF
FAMILIES
FROM WHICH
PAXSON LINK
AND
LOUISE COLE LINK
ARE DESCENDED

PAXSON LINK

1964

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This writing narrates traditions of various branches of our family told me through the years by older family members and other individuals, as well as anecdotes and some genealogical facts. Reference will be made from time to time to various sources where facts are related. These sources will be shown in the text as the story unfolds and not in the footnotes. THE LINK FAMILY, published in 1951, and DESCENDANTS OF JAMES COLE OF PLYMOUTH, By E. B. Cole, present full information about those of these names; but it was thought by several that it would be of interest to document facts about other families which were connected with the Link and Cole families, particularly here in Edgar County, Illinois.

THE FORSTER FAMILY

Leona Forster married Christopher Link in Elbridge Township, Edgar County, Illinois, December 1, 1842. This marriage and other information about her are found in THE LINK FAMILY. Leona was the daughter of Arthur Forster, who was one of the first settlers in Edgar County, Illinois, arriving in 1819 from Kentucky by way of Clark County where he stayed for three years with other members of his family and where he married, arriving there in 1816 with brothers, sisters and members of the Esarey family (Esrey, Essrey, Essray) one of whom, Nancy, he later married in Clark County. This information is contained in the Edgar County, Illinois history of 1879 and the Crawford-Clark County history of 1883.

According to his tombstone in Wilson Cemetery, Elbridge Township, Edgar County, Illinois, he was born January 30, 1801, probably in Kentucky. He died at his home on the Elbridge or lower Terre Haute road between Paris and Terre Haute in Elbridge Township on April 25, 1875. He was the son of Thomas and Catharine Harbaugh Forster, both of whom were probably born and reared in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. More about Thomas and Catharine will follow later.

Arthur married Nancy Esarey April 9, 1825, in Clark County as was indicated before. She was the daughter of John Esarey, a Revolutionary soldier who came to Clark County from Kentucky and Southern Indiana in 1816 according to the Clark County history. See Joanna Christie Link C.A.R. papers, National Number 51484, for John Esarey's proven Revolutionary service and same papers for proven Revolutionary service of his father-in-law, Captain John Clark.

Nancy was born March 29, 1794, probably near the Ohio River in Perry County, Indiana. Nancy died in Elbridge Township, Edgar County,

Illinois, on February 21, 1852 and is buried in Wilson Cemetery on the Forster plot. She was almost seven years older than Arthur, but from all that was known, she was a devoted wife and a good mother, a typical pioneer woman who had an abnormal amount of work to do in her log cabin household. Arthur and Nancy had three children. The oldest was James Forster who was born April 15, 1822 in Edgar County, Illinois, and died April 7, 1901.* He married Nancy Parrish December 10, 1845. Nancy, daughter of James Waters Parrish, was born in 1824 and died in 1855. On April 15, 1857, James married Nancy Ann Stump. My grandfather, James Link, was named for his uncle. James Link often went to James' home as a boy. The boy and his uncle became very close and my grandfather told me he learned much from his uncle, whom he admired a great deal.

The second child was Leona who married Christopher Link. Dates and history about her are in THE LINK FAMILY, written by me and published in 1951 and available in many state historical libraries. The third child, also a daughter, was Hannah who married Benjamin Thomas Parrish, son of James Waters Parrish. All dates and history about Hannah and her family are in the Esarey Family History, Page 153, written by Logan Esarey, Professor of History, University of Indiana.

* James' birth date three years before his parent's marriage can be easily explained. These people lived in a sparsely settled, entirely new region where there were no churches and no clergymen. In addition, his home was ten miles from what later became the Paris settlement and further than that from the first county seat of Clark County on the Wabash River. The first clergyman who could have been available to them came to Paris in 1825 and then he was not permanently located here but served the recently organized Paris Presbyterian Church upon occasion. James' birth date is from his monument erected by his sons immediately after his death in the Wilson Cemetery. This date was taken from his family Bible. The date of Arthur's and Nancy's marriage came from the Clark County court records.

Arthur was a pioneer in every sense of the word. Coming to Clark County he helped his family and the Esarey family raise log houses and put in crops. They probably had a horse or two in their little entourage and, of course, each was equipped with a Kentucky rifle. Upon coming to what was later to become Edgar County, in 1819, Arthur erected a cabin where he and Nancy lived by themselves or with his parents. He cultivated a small tract and hunted. His land entrees as found in Edgar County are as follows: September 4, 1826, E. - NE, Section 33, Township 13N, Range 11W, forty acres; April 22, 1828, E - NW, Section 36, Township 13N, Range 11W, eighty acres; March 7, 1832, W - SE, Section 33, Township 13N, Range 11W, eighty acres; September 2, 1833, SW - SE, Section 3, Township 12N, Range 11W, forty acres; December 19, 1835, NW - SW, Section 34, Township 13N, Range 11W, forty acres.

Between 1819 and 1826 he was living on the same tract which he first secured title to, having pre-empted a certain area which later became the seat of his home and his first land of proven ownership. This was four years before the County was organized, and it required three years longer for surveys to be completed and title issued. My grandfather, James Link, grandson of Arthur, told me that he was a very kindly slow moving individual who carefully selected his choice of words and who was quite even tempered. If action was needed, physical or otherwise, he took it decisively. He was quite tall, over six feet, two inches, large framed, but spare of flesh, exceptionally strong physically. His generosity was widely known throughout his neighborhood, which was often taken advantage of by less provident individuals who came begging, generally in late winter, for corn, meal and meat which Arthur invariably supplied from his own well provided stores. It is known that he did not seek pay in money or

kind (there was scarcely any money available) for these provisions.

Arthur cut the first timber used in the construction of the first court house in Edgar County - a log building. After the Republican Party was organized he became a staunch supporter of it. His complexion was fair, his eyes were blue and his features were well weathered. My grandfather further told me that Arthur used alcohol and tobacco, which on occasions he offered my grandfather and his younger brother, Arthur Link, named for Arthur Forster, until such time as Christopher, the Link boys' father, learned of this; then Christopher in considerable rage, because he had a quick temper, stormed out to the Forster cabin and told his father-in-law the boys or other members of his family would never return if Arthur did not solemnly promise never to offer or give any of his children tobacco or liquor again. Christopher was a rabid prohibitionist. Arthur, laughing, promised and good relationships were restored.

Ater the marriage of Arthur's daughter Leona and Chrisopher Link, Arthur gave substantial assistance to Christopher in making his economic beginning. Christopher was without funds, but was strong, intelligent, aggressive and a very hard worker. Arthur permitted him to cut wood from his land which Christopher split and hauled to Paris and sold at fifty cents a cord. Arthur also assisted Christopher in securing his first tract of land and sold Christopher other parcels on liberal and extended terms, all of which Christopher disposed of from time to time after some improvements at very good profits.

Arthur served as a private soldier in the Blackhawk War in Colonel William Maxwell Blackburn's Regiment. After Nancy's death, Arthur was living alone, his children having married and moved to their own households. He was past middle age and because of the need for companionship and domestic assistance, he married a woman

whose first name was Phebe. She was from Terre Haute and primarily was interested in what she would inherit from him. After Arthur's death she left the County and returned to Terre Haute but upon her death she was buried in the Forster Plot in Wilson Cemetery, Edgar County, Illinois. Most of the above information came from my grandfather, James Link, and the Edgar County records and Crawford-Clark County records as well as the Counties' histories mentioned above.

Arthur's parents were Thomas Forster and Catharine Harbaugh Forster. No dates are available about Thomas but Catharine is buried in Wilson Cemetery on the Forster plot. She was born December 24, 1775, and died June 24, 1857. She and Thomas and their children came from Southern Indiana to Clark County with sons Arthur Forster and his brother William Forster and their other children in 1816. Thomas Forster and his son-in-law Thomas Rhodes were rovers. They personified the restlessness of early pioneers which kept them moving from place to place, particularly in search of new hunting and sparcer settlements. Tradition has it that Thomas Forster and his son-in-law Thomas Rhodes stayed in Illinois only a short time and almost immediately decided to move on to Missouri, following Thomas' son Jack, about whom more follows. Catharine did not follow them from Illinois to Missouri. She probably had had enough moving about. She came from a solid Pennsylvania-German family and obviously she was not ill because she lived approximately forty years after arriving in Illinois. She chose to stay with her son, Arthur, for the remainder of her life.

We know that Thomas and Catharine had several children, one son named William, one son named Jack, who was probably the youngest child, and two or three daughters. The brother next to Arthur, William Forster, married Hester Esarey, a sister of Nancy. Jesse Esarey married Hannah Forster, so we know of four children of Thomas and

Catharine, that is, Arthur, William, Jack and Hannah. William and Hannah remained in Clark County. Jack is described in the Edgar County history as being a recreant, meaning he was no good. There was an old Indian who lived by himself in a small hut close beside the road that runs South and West from the Elbridge road to what is now the station of Marley. The old fellow was quite harmless and liked by everybody in the neighborhood and kept alive by gifts from generous pioneers. Jack Forster while drunk and without cause killed the old man, which craven act caused the neighborhood to become so angered that they removed all his clothes, dabbed him completely with tar, threw feathers all over him and left him to his own disgrace in that condition. As soon as possible he and his wife fled to Missouri.

After his arrival in what was to become Edgar County, Thomas Forster acquired eighty acres of land on September 14, 1818. He acquired other tracts in 1831, 1832, and 1836 for a total of five hundred and twenty acres. After he had received a deed for his last requisition on October 10, 1836, Catharine received title to forty acres next to it. There is no knowledge of his death date or his burial place; in fact, he may have gone to Missouri after 1836.

Considerable research by an expert genealogist was done by me in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. It is indicated from this research, although not proven, that Thomas Forster descended from either William Forster or Thomas Forster, both brothers of an Arthur Forster. Arthur Forster was a bachelor whose will was proven on December 30, 1757. He had considerable property and money. He left it to William Forster who was living in Hexam, Northumberland, England, or at Northam near Brunswick on Tweed. Arthur's will provided that William move to Pennsylvania and claim his inheritance. William was an apothecary. If William failed to come after eighteen months and claim the inheri-

tance, then all the legacies were to go to his brother, Thomas Forster who lived at Northam, near Brunswick on Tweed. Within six months after the end of eighteen months allowed to William, if neither brother came, the estate was to be sold and the money given first to William and then to Thomas.

Both brothers obviously came to Cumberland County because they are shown in the County Records from then on and both of them purchased from time to time considerable land in the town of Carlisle and around it. Apparently both men over extended themselves, with the result that sales had to be held to satisfy debts.

There was another nephew of the first Arthur Forster, the bachelor, also named Arthur, who lived in Carlisle. Several transactions of his are found in the records.

In 1797 Thomas Forster, brother of Arthur, the bachelor, was shown as an innkeeper in Carlisle.

The Thomas Forster above acquired land from the Penns and others in several transactions and then sold these tracts. His wife was Rebecca and joined him in deeds. There was Thomas Forster, Arthur Forster, William Forster and George Forster in subsequent transactions, which leads me to believe that these men were nephews of the first Arthur Forster.

Please note that the names Arthur, Thomas and William were those of the three men who came to Illinois. Thomas with his sons Arthur and William were probably descendents from either William or Thomas, brothers of the bachelor Arthur in Pennsylvania. As I have said before, both the first William and the first Thomas, heirs of Arthur, lost all of their property, although Thomas had become very prominent in Carlisle and there are many allusions to him in the Carlisle early records. My researcher states this: "This Thomas Forster, having

been an innkeeper and a very prominent man in the town at that time (his name having frequently come to me as a history in various ways, yet never before have I sought for him), had a very large estate."

All the evidence I can gather points to the fact that our Thomas Forster who came to Illinois, was the son of either William or Thomas who were from England to inherit the estate of their bachelor brother, Arthur.

After the complete loss of property of William or Thomas, our Thomas, the son of one of them, apparently left and moved westward.

There was a Thomas Rhodes who acquired land in our area from 1823, when Edgar County was organized, down through 1834. His wife was Elizabeth Forster, daughter of Thomas Forster and sister of Arthur. He was the son of Daniel Rhodes (Rhoads), a Revolutionary soldier who is buried in Ogden Cemetery five miles south of Paris, Illinois west of Illinois State Route One and on the Terminal Moraine.

THE ESAREY FAMILY

Logan Esarey, formerly a professor of history at the University of Indiana, now deceased, published a writing of ancestral history of the Esarey family in 1949. A copy of this is in my library.

There is no necessity here for me to repeat any of the genealogy or history that is to be found in this work. In addition, he had written a book entitled THE INDIANA HOME which was published by Mrs. Esarey after his death and which describes an incident of great human interest about John and his wife Hester. A copy of this is in my library.

John Esarey was a Revolutionary soldier, having followed the movement westward from Pennsylvania and Virginia and down the Ohio River to the Falls of the Ohio in Kentucky, where he enlisted with Thomas Paxton's company of rangers on September 16, 1776. Later he was a lieutenant in the Delaware militia and afterwards was a landowner of considerable extent in Jefferson County, Kentucky. This and much more about him is in the Logan Esarey History.

From Kentucky he went to Perry County, Indiana, in 1810. In 1814 he and his younger children moved to what became Clark County, Illinois. The Crawford-Clark History of 1883 credits John Esarey with having surveyed and laid out the town of Darwin on the Wabash River which was to become the county seat of Clark County. John must have been a rather remarkable man physically, because he was seventy-five years old at the time he performed this community service. The ability to survey and map shows he had an above average education for this time. He lived to be eighty-four.

There is another anecdote related in the Crawford-Clark

County History that after John and his family had become settled in their new log home on Big Creek, which later became known as the Cork farm and is northeast of Marshall, Illinois, and almost north of an old settlement on the old National Trails Road called Livingston, that the first thing they prepared after the construction of their house was a large cellar dug into the side of a hill for the winter storage of foods of various kinds. The story is related that late one evening just before dark an old Indian came to the Esarey cabin and asked permission to bring his sick squaw and papoose and spend the night in the cellar. Upon being given consent by John, the Indian moved away into the woods and in a short while returned with about forty Indians, all of whom crowded in the cellar and spent the night yelling and howling and making a great deal of noise. Needless to say, John and Hester loaded every firearm on the place and sat up all night expecting trouble, which fortunately did not come. The Indians left a little after dawn without doing much more than causing the Esarey family to lose a night's sleep and to anticipate a great deal of danger.

John Esarey did not become a large landholder in Illinois, but his son Jesse in the 1830's before he moved to Missouri acquired six hundred acres.

Hester, the wife of John, was the daughter of Captain John Clark of Pennsylvania. A part of Captain John Clark's services in the Revolution was as commander of Fort Henry, on the Ohio River where Wheeling is now located. Fort Henry was named for Patrick Henry and was built as an outpost against Indian attacks. He was placed in command October 13, 1780, according to the Pennsylvania Archive, page 277. Genealogical details about Captain John Clark

are to be found in the papers of Christie Link for the Children of the American Revolution prepared by me and in my possession.

Hester's full name was Sarah Hester (Easter) Clark. Her father, the captain, was born in 1736 and died in 1809 and lived in Union County, Pennsylvania. Her mother's maiden name was Florence Watson.

John and Hester's graves have not been found, but it is my belief that they are buried some place on the farm which adjoins Big Creek and that their graves have been lost in land pasturage or cultivation.

Jesse Esarey became quite a successful businessman. Besides acquiring the land mentioned above, he also purchased a mill by Blizzards Ford on Big Creek where Illinois State One crosses Big Creek from the estate of John P. Vance, about whom there is considerable history in the Vance section of this writing. This was a combination mill, powered by both water and oxen, and not only ground grain but sawed timber into boards. He later disposed of this and moved to Ray County, Missouri. He married Hannah Forster, younger sister of Arthur Forster. In 1832 he served a term in the Illinois State Legislature and in 1852 he served a term in the Missouri State Legislature. According to the COLES COUNTY HISTORY, Le Baron 1879 Jesse was appointed by the Illinois Legislature in 1831 to establish the Seat of Justice for Coles County when it was organized.

THE MIDDLETON FAMILY

At the moment there is no information about the Middleton family beyond Samuel Middleton who first is known to have been in Vincennes, Indiana, prior to 1810, and his brother Benoni who later moved from Vincennes to what became Crawford County, Illinois, and from there in 1838 to Texas where he first built Fort Boggy and later started a small community which is now Centerville, Texas, one-half way between Houston and Dallas.

The Middletons were closely associated with the Blacks, a family which became prominent in Lincoln and Logan County, Kentucky, at an early time and later moved to Vincennes, Indiana, and then to an area southwest of Terre Haute, Indiana on the Illinois-Indiana state line. There is much history about the Black's later in this writing.

Samuel Middleton was an intrepid individual. With his brother he served in much of the early Indian fighting in the Indiana territory, and according to Bradsby History of Vigo County^{on} page 126 he came north of Vincennes to an area which is four miles south of the present Terre Haute and is known now as the old Colonel R. W. Thompson farm and planted the virgin soil with the first crop in what is now Vigo County. The crop matured satisfactorily but before he could harvest this crop in the fall of 1810, he was driven out by the Indians. In 1811 he was a member of Harrison's army and was one of the men who built Fort Harrison on the Wabash River north of Terre Haute. In addition to this he served in Captain Andrew Wilkin's company in the Indiana Territorial Militia for one foray from September 18 to November 18, 1811.

After the war of 1812, when the Indians were no longer a threat, Samuel and his wife, Cloa Black, moved to a tract of land west of what is now Terre Haute, Indiana, on the old Terre Haute to Paris road on a creek which became known as Middleton Creek. This location is approximately one mile west of the Pennsylvania Railroad crossing at Liggett Station and on the south side of the road where the land begins to slope down on to a high level toward Middleton Creek. Samuel later acquired title to this land and other tracts adjacent to it. His son, Josiah, also purchased land from the government adjacent to Samuel's. Samuel and Cloa were married in Vincennes by Thomas Black, Cloa's oldest brother, who was a Justice of the Peace at the time on February 22, 1813. Cloa was the daughter of Josiah and Rebecca Oglethorpe Black who died in Logan County, Kentucky where there are still living descendants. Josiah was a Revolutionary soldier.

The name Oglethorpe comes down as middle names through practically every generation until recently in both the Middleton and Black families. They all seem to be very proud of the Oglethorpe name. My grandmother, Rebecca Oglethorpe Middleton Link, told me that her great grandmother was Rebecca Oglethorpe, a niece of General James Edward Oglethorpe, who settled Georgia. More about this presently.

Samuel and Cloa established themselves near the Indiana state border. They became charter members of the New Providence Presbyterian Church which is located in the southeast part of Elbridge Township, Edgar County, Illinois, near the state line. They are both buried in the New Providence Cemetery and pictures of their stones are in my possession. Cloa died March 13, 1851, at

the age of sixty-three years and this indicates that she was born in 1788. Samuel died September 7, 1858, at the age of seventy-one, one month and nineteen days, which would give his birthday as July 19, 1787.

I do not have a complete list of the children of Samuel and Cloa. Josiah was the oldest, a son, and genealogical details about him are to be found among the papers of Christie Link, Children of the American Revolution in my possession. They had a daughter named Nancy who was the wife of J. C. Calvin and who died November 1, 1845 thirty-eight years of age (the stone cutter probably made an error - she should have been 28 years old) and who is buried in the New Providence Cemetery on the Middleton plot. Another daughter named Mary married T. D. Calvin September 14, 1840. One of her children was T. D. Calvin, Jr. who was prominent throughout his life in Nashville, Indiana, where his descendents live at this writing. Another daughter's name was Jeanette who married Cyrus Newlon and who lived and died in Atlantic, Iowa. Jeanette gave her birth date as February 22, 1829. Josiah, the oldest son, was born September 12, 1813. Nancy Calvin was probably the second child. Her tombstone in the New Providence Cemetery is obviously incorrect as to dates. Probably there is an error of ten years in her age as shown on her tombstone and it should be twenty-eight years instead of thirty-eight years when she died, because otherwise her birth date would have been in 1807 which was six years before the marriage of Samuel and Cloa. My belief is that she was born in 1817, because I am positive in the information I have received from several descendents that Josiah was the oldest child.

There was another daughter whose first name I do not know and

who married a Mering who lived and died in Edgar County near Vermilion, Illinois. There may have been other children^{about} whom I am not informed.

Josiah married Sarah Pemberton with whom he fell in love while his mother and he were visiting his uncle, for whom he was named in the Oakland, Illinois, vicinity. This uncle was Josiah Oglethorpe Black. Sarah was the daughter of Stanton Pemberton and Sarah King who are each in turn children of Revolutionary soldiers, Colonel John Pemberton and William King, both of whom fought in the battle of Kings Mountain. Full genealogies are to be found in the papers of Christie Link in the Children of American Revolution in my possession.

Sometime after the marriage, Josiah and Sarah established themselves in a home which still stands on the ~~west~~^{with} side of the road that runs directly east from Nevins, Illinois, coming off of the South Terre Haute road. Josiah and Sarah's birth dates and death dates are among the Children of the American Revolution papers of Christie Link mentioned above. They are buried in Edgar County Cemetery in Paris, Illinois. Josiah was a farmer of only moderate success. He was mild-mannered and quite determined. After his death Sarah lived mostly in the home of her daughter Rebecca Link. They had one son whose name was Samuel who is buried in the New Providence Cemetery. He died in 1847, at the age of five years. In addition, there were five daughters. The oldest was Julia born March 20, 1840, and who married Dr. John D. Brown. Dr. Brown was born July 11, 1838, and died December 16, 1862. He is buried in the National Cemetery in Nashville, Tennessee, having died during service with the Union army. Julia and Dr. Brown were married February,

7, 1861. Julia had one child by this marriage named Grant Brown. Later, after Dr. Brown's death, Julia married Samuel Pearman, to which marriage a son, Otto Pearman, was born. Samuel Pearman had an older son named Frank by a former marriage.

Julia died either at the birth of Otto or quite soon afterwards, and Grant and Otto were taken by my grandmother, Rebecca, and reared by her and James Link, her husband. Grant married Mary Paxton and they had three children, Howard, Jean, and Julia Fern. Otto Pearman married Alice Dresbach and they had eight children, Carrol, Julia, Brown, Clifford, Elizabeth, Helen, Ruth, and Allen.

The next child was Angeline who married George Athey. Angeline was born April 18, 1843, and died April 13, 1880. She and George were married in 1860. They had two sons, Bruce and Charles, and two daughters, Flora and Lyda. Flora married Ed Miller and Lyda married Nate Link.

The next daughter was Sarah who married James Stewart. James was a Civil War Veteran. They lived on a farm northwest of Paris near what is now the Stewart Community Center - formerly known as the Stewart Church. Their children were Arthur, Fred, Claude and Ulysses Grant. Arthur and Fred died in infancy.

The next child was Rebecca Oglethorpe who married James A. Link. Histories of both and all dates are to be found in THE LINK FAMILY. Their children were Horace, Joanna Christie and Tatt(Sarah).

The last child was Susanna who married George Marley. They had one daughter named Julia, who married Charles Sellar. Full genealogical data about Julia and George and their descendents are in DAR papers, copies of which are in my possession.

Benoni Middleton, a brother of Samuel, had such a colorful life

and he and his sons had such an important part in the settlement of central Texas and in fighting the Indians and Mexicans, that some of these details should be told here.

Whether Benoni was older or younger than Samuel I do not know, but he is shown in Vincennes at the same time Samuel was and then soon afterwards moved to what is now Crawford County, Illinois, where most of his children were married. From Crawford County he took his sons and daughters and their families to Texas.

While in Vincennes he served in General Harrison's army in the War of 1812. He was first sergeant of a company of the First Indiana Regiment of Militia under Colonel Robert M. Evans. Captain of this company was Daniel Comer, and fought in the Battle of Tippecanoe. He remained in Knox County where he has been shown in court records until sometime between 1816 and 1818. January of 1816 he secured his first land, registering it in the Indiana Territory Records on January 21, being one hundred and sixty acres. The Crawford County Records shows the marriage of the following children: Polly Middleton to James Riley, November 21, 1824; Nancy Middleton to Bazzel Brashear on October 16, 1826; John Middleton to Elvina Hart on November 21, 1833. The oldest child was apparently William B. Middleton who with the other children whose marriages are listed, and another daughter named Isabella who married Martin D. Taylor, and a daughter whose first name I cannot secure who married John Kinney and still another daughter named Elizabeth who married L. G. Wingfield, and three other children, Whitton, Thomas and Kenneth, went to Texas with Benoni. The daughter who became Mrs. Kinney and Elizabeth were married in Texas. Still another son named Benoni, Jr. was not married.

From an affidavit made by an attorney in Centerville in 1909 to help settle a land title law suit, it is indicated that some of the daughters of Benoni had returned to Illinois but that their children had then come back to Texas to live with William B. While Elvina (Livina) was in Illinois, she married Franklin Sampson, March 6, 1847. In this same affidavit it is stated that Benoni, Sr. and his wife died while William B. and Benoni, Jr. were in prison in Mexico, having been captured as members of the Texas army known at that time as being on the Meir Expedition in a battle between the Texans and the Mexicans. The affidavit is reproduced here, as well as a copy of a historical sketch of William B. from the Texas Album, a "Who is Who" of the Eighth Texas Legislature in 1860.

I have in my possession a letter written by Benoni Middleton, Sr. to his brother Samuel from Texas on January 21, 1839. At that time it was written from Burnet's Colony in what was then Robertson County, Texas. I assume that this county has since been divided and that Leon County, where the Middletons settled, was taken from Robertson.

In his letter Benoni, Sr. states that he wrote a letter from Nashville on January 2, as well as another from Houston, Texas, which have not passed down through the families.

The letter further states many interesting things about his life and property and about Indian fighting in which he engaged. He mentions the following members of his family and the amount of land each was to receive: Whitton, 1280 acres; John, 1280 acres; Thomas, 640 acres; Benoni, Jr., 640 acres; William B., 640 acres; Kenneth, 640 acres. Benoni, Sr. received 1280 acres. His wife's first name was apparently Elizabeth. Her family name is not known to me.

The letter which follows was written apparently with quill and the letters are so beautifully formed that the script looks as though it was engraved. Since the letter below was written January 21, 1839, it is obvious that Benoni and his family went to Texas in 1838. The letter further indicates by Benoni's diction that he was an educated man and surely his brother, Samuel, and other brothers and sisters whom we do not know about, were also. It can be assumed that they came from parents of culture and education. I am continuing research in Pennsylvania and Kentucky to try to determine more about Samuel and Benoni Middleton, and the findings will be added to this piece later.

In addition to the letter from Benoni, I am reproducing here a letter from C. G. Haley of Centerville, Texas, who was the nephew of William B. Middleton's second wife. This letter has much history and indicates that William B. Middleton was married after his Mexican experience twice, although he had no children.

Whether the Middleton brothers and possibly other members of their family came to Vincennes with the Blacks or met the Black family there, I do not know, but at any rate, in Vincennes and afterwards, they were closely allied. When Samuel Middleton and Cloa moved to Indiana they were followed soon afterwards by Cloa's brothers and their families, who settled an area about four miles south of the Middleton cabin and both families belonged to the New Providence Presbyterian Church.

January 21.. 1839 Burnetts Dear Brother, sister. Children & friends.
Colony. Robinson County Texas } It is now a long time since I have wrote,

And the reason was, because I have had no paper for many months, &.
This is now the 8th or 9th letter that I have wrote since last march, & has
Reciev^d 2 from you, I write a packet by John Anglin. Mail^d 2 at Nashville,
an 2 at the City of Houston, directed to Elbridge, so I shall now in this inform you
that we are yet all alive, but if ever a set of people has had their measure of sickness
it is the Burnetts. ~~William & myself~~ ^{William & myself}, Tom, Ben, & John Kenny are
tolerable well again, but William, & myself, & myself in particular, is not yet well,
tho we all look sick last June. Johns family had but a light fever, & the others fa-
mily come clear except Anns first spell, — However I hope these few lines may
find you all in better health, ^{are} we at Riley yet, John has mov^d 50 miles down Trin-
ity to a town call^d Huntsville belonging to Old Bechy Gray & her sons, they have
give him a lot & find him lumber & a team to improve it, & Whittson is yet at Nash-
ville, Riley still lives at home, tho him & us, are amazingly exposed, & has been all the
time, the Indians has been within all the time, stole the 2 best of our ^{last August} horses, & shot
Riley cattle, & were shot with two arrows & guns, one of which is as kill^d not
more than a mile from the house, the other 2 had in them 3 arrows, & always sign
& sighs plenty, Out of 9 horses we have not a horse to our name, I have only
one yoke of cattle, one waggon, 2 cows & calves, & a smart start of hogs, but bread
& Bacon plenty, Johns mare got drowned last winter, tho he has one horse & 4 or 5
head of cattle, & Whittson has 6 head of cattle, there is 12 & a half dollars of the
price of my big waggon lost, as well as our horses, Basil Brashears family was well
in Hempstead, & they had a nothing son, the mail route has become very difficult altho
at this time, the mails make a stand at our house, money in this country is very plenty
& almost every thing has pass^d untill lately almost every thing is disrupted, silver,
gold & U. S. paper will go twice as far, as any other money, except Texas money on
the new plan, that is just as good as gold for land & tax, The donation law
Texas is again extended 640.000 acres of a family & 320 to young men & is to con-
tinue untill the first of October 1840, But the best way to do, for men of families
who comes to this country, is to buy a piece second handedly & go right to work
untill peace is permanently made, for there is plenty of 320 acre rights now
at from 50 to 100 Dollars good money, & for silver, deeded land at from 75 cents
to 2 dollars pr Acre, I can at this time only give you a sketch of the times, &
then judge for yours self, for I have been so divid^d one way & another, that I am
scarcely two days in the same notion, & consequently not calculated to advise,

Also, so far from counselling, that I am not altogether sure, that I either can, or has I a
you the truth in all things, yet I will not tell you a wilful lie about any thing, —
having told you of our sickness & losses, I shall now give you the sick report of our
hospital in the City of Houston, the report of the last season is one death, & from 12 to 20
sick — Next is our Indian depredations. On first, over & above a great of private murders
a company of 23 Surveyors between Parker fort & three forks, ^{of Trinity} about 3 months or more
ago, was attacked by 170 Kickapoo about 12 in the day, & fought untill 12 at night.
our men were cut off & 17 of the 23 killed. "Challman Jones Brother in Law"
Jones hall, was killed, some time after, 300 attacked, & pushed in the night, pushed de-
feated & killed & wounded between 20 & 30 of them. Pursued them & came across a large
Party of Caddos loaded with powder & lead, going to the Indians with it, he took
about 300 of Powder, & about 1,000 lb. of lead, disarmed them, took their horses &
let them go, & here last Tuesday, 90 Caddos attacked 50 of our men above the falls of
Brasses a few miles. Killed 13, & wounded many of our men & ran them 3 or 4 miles.
an other company of about 125 white men has gone, the first defeated has not all
yet in, & we have not yet heard the truth of the matter, & it is thought another battle
has been fought by this time, a little before this, pushed common 150 or 200 of the
Indian Army all Kickapoo, they give up & would not fight, he forgave them
on their word, such charges his troops, & greatly to the dissatisfaction of the repub-
-lick. & Report says Felix Houston is appointed Commander & Chief of the Repub-
-lick of Texas. — As to our land, Whilton is to get 1280, John 1280, myself 1280.
Tom. Ben, William, & Henry each 640. We have all got their Certificates & order of
survey, but myself & Tom, & William only, has his land selected & surveyed, his land
is in Burnet County, Robinson County, about 10. or 12 miles North of Riley on a creek
called Beaver creek, between the waters of Brazos & Trinity or Trinity, & about 10 or 12
miles from the Trinity, the rest of us has not yet got our selections made, & it is hard to get
made. On account of the preference rights, long & change of horses & much expense
calculate on selling on Waller place. On account of an extraordinary Spring, & stock is at
low & low on that place, that is, as soon as prices made, if not all killed. Before that
time, There is Millions of Acres of fraudulent claim in Texas, Clothing, Iron, castings, cloth,
saddles, socks & leather scarce indeed, A chain of horse thieves lately found out in Texas, one
Pindon, brother to Wash Brashear's wife hung, 2 of which was killed. Several whiff
& a number run away. The seat of government to be fixed in three months, it is supposed it will
be at the falls of Brasses, & soon as fixed a great military Road is to be cut from the
place south of Red River to it. & a line of Stations every 10 miles with trading
houses for the Indians, & further, there is to be 2 leagues around each station to be give

as donations to the Soldiers, & Army other Citizens who will settle on 5th leagues & if we could
only have peace, what a country Texas is going to be, School Keeping in Texas from 2 to 3
Dollars a month for Scho^lrs. & prices. Live calves from 20 to 30 ¹⁰⁰¢, flour from 20 to 40 ¹⁰⁰¢
a barrel, Pork from 10 to 15 ¹⁰⁰¢, Beef from 4 to 6 a hun^d ¢. Corn from 1.75 cents to 2 ¹⁰⁰¢ about,
Salt from 5 to 6 ¹⁰⁰¢ dollars a bushel, Chickens from 50 cents to a dollar a piece Butter from 1 to 1 1/2 ¹⁰⁰¢
a pound. Labour from \$1.50 to 5 dollars a day Plank from 4 to 10 ¹⁰⁰¢ a hundred & horses, a
good price say from 60 to 300 ¹⁰⁰¢ a horse. I have yet 25 to 30 dollars due me but only \$25
due & at the 2nd of the year, the most of them ^{little} ~~upper~~ ^{country} I have never got yet last
nor heard anything of Batey, sheep, geese, & cotton gins scarce in our section, Rail roads
& Steam Mill Company, starting in our country, Cotton wheels 6 dollars, as I said before,
there is nothing but Peace, population & the company & conversation of friends & wanting
to constitute our happiness. I have this moment heard the truth of our last Indian
battle. The troops has returned the Indians was gone, we had 10 men kill^d & 5 wounded,
our Mexican news says that old Santa Anna in a combat with the french lost
one of his legs. It is yet uncertain whether we don't have to run. we have been at
the point of running twice. & has at this time a heap of plunder hid out, however,
I shall continue to write as long as I live, & let you know where we have gone to
that is, as long as I have paper, money, & Mail route, there has been but few in the
in Texas this last season, & we have had abundance hard frosts & weather cold
enough to freeze water in the pail, tho the Elms is putting out, & volunteer corn,
wild Onions & Grapes as long as my hand, & about one fourth of stock fat beef,
Between Indians & whites, there has not been less than 500 head of horses stole in my
hearing, since I came to Texas. If we do run, it will be to Lindley, or Lake creek
settlements within 30 or 40 miles the City of Houston. as my sheet is out I shall
have to wind up, yet I could ^{tell you} a thousand things that might greatly surprise you,
My compliments to all friends & acquaintances, Our women says, that if they had
peace & company they would be perfectly satisfied. Pileys all well, & 2 letters

from Baz states that they are all well, & I expect they to see us this fall, if not
prevented by Indian news, the boys has kill^d 5 painters but no bear, no many deer
tho there are thousands, but very wild, 200 wild horses in Pileys Prary, Most plenty & bear,
tho scattered, we have over 200 bushels of Corn, 1500 of Pork & bacon, with Coffee,
Milk, Butter & honey plenty untill lately, No more at this time but subscribe myself
your over loving Brother untill Death.
Little Abby's compliments to all her little Cousins,
& Old Abby to Mela, Linda, & Chas, & all the rest
of her old friends.

Ben Middleton

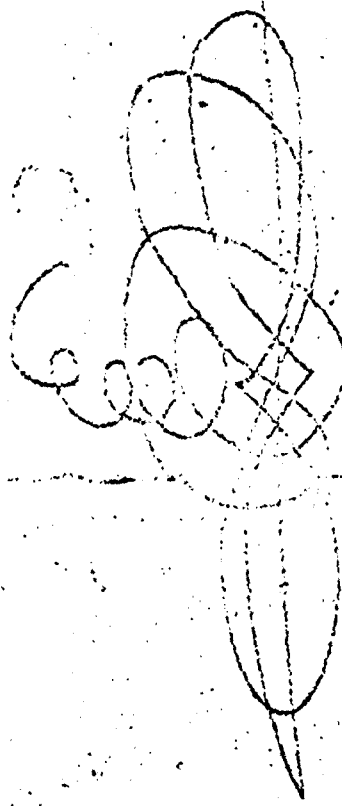
If you write direct your letters to Huntsville: Montgomery County
Texas & I will get them. we have upwards of 70 head of hogs
& if ever you come to Texas, this fall will be the time. & if I hear you
would be satisfied I should be glad you were here as soon as we
have peace.

& if ever you do come, be sure to fetch at least 2 boxes a
piece of that ever Blessed Medicine call ^d Sappington's pills,
that I have never known to fail to do their work in a few days
They are 2 dollars a box in this country. Tho they are rare to be
got at all. My compliments to poor old Bill & of his & my Crab-
orchard friends.

Ben Middleton

My dear Ben
I hope you are well
I hope you are well
I hope you are well
I hope you are well

Ben Middleton



Huntsville, Ala. County
Ben Middleton
some friends

Ben Middleton
some friends

TRANSCRIPT OF LETTER WRITTEN BY BENONI MIDDLETON

TO HIS BROTHER SAMUEL MIDDLETON ON JANUARY 21, 1839

FROM BURNET'S COLONY, ROBINSON COUNTY, TEXAS.

January 21st 1839 Burnet's) Dear Brother, Sister, Children & friends.
Colony, Robinson County, Texas) It is now a long time since I have wrote, and the
reason was because I have had no paper for many months, & this is now the 8th or 9th
letter that I have wrote since last March, & has received 2 from you. I wrote a
packet by John Anglin, mailed 2 at Nashville, and 2 at the City of Houston, directed
to Elbridge, so I shall now in this inform you that we are yet all alive. But if
ever a set of people has had their measure of sickness filled to the brim, it has
been with the old & young Ibbys, Tom, Ben & John Kimmy. Are tolerable well again,
but William & myself, & myself in particular, is not yet well. Though we all took
sick last June, John's family had but a light lowes (sic), & Whitton's family came
clear except Ann's first spell. However, I hope these few lines may find you all
in better health. We are at Riley's yet. John has moved 50 miles down Trinity to
a town called Huntsville belonging to old Becky Gray & her sons. They have give
him a lot & finds him timber & a team to improve it, & Whitton is yet at Nashville.
Riley still lives at home, though him & us are mazingly exposed, & has been all
the time. The Indians has been with us all the time. Stole the 2 best of our
horses last August and shooting Riley's cattle. 3 were shot with bow & arrows &
guns, one of which was killed not more than a mile from the house. The other 2
had in them 3 arrows & always sign & signits plenty. Out of 9 horses we have not
a horse to our name. I have only one yoke of cattle, one waggon, 2 cows and
calves, & a smart start of hogs, but bread & baccon plenty. John's mare got drowned
last winter, though he has one horse & 4 or 5 head of cattle, & Whitton has 6 head
of cattle. There is 126 & a half dollars of the price of my big waggon lost, as
well as our horses. Basil Brashear's family was well in homestead & they had
another son. The mail route has become very difficult although at this time the
mail make a stand at our house. Money in this country is very plenty & almost
everything has passed until lately almost everything is disputed. Silver, gold, &
U. S. paper will go twice as far as any other money except Texas money on the new
plate. That is just as good as gold for land & tax. The donation law in Texas is
again extended 640 a. to a man of a family & 320 to young men & is to continue until
the first of October 1840. But the best way to do, for men of families who comes to
this country, is to buy a piece second handedly & go right to work until peace is
permanently made for there is plenty of 320 acre rights now at from 50 to 100 Dollars
good money, & for silver, deeded land at from 75 cents to 2 Dollars per acre. I can
at this time only give you a sketch of the times & then judge for yourself for I have
been so deviled one way & another that I am scarcely two days in the same notion &
consequently not calculated to advise. No, so far from counselling that I am not
altogether sure that I either can or have told you the truth in all things. Yet I
will not tell you a willful lie about anything.----Having told you of our sickness
& losses, I shall now give you the sick report of our hospital in the City of Houston.
The report of the last season is one death & from 12 to 20 sick.----Next is our
Indian depredations, & first, over and above a great many of private murders, a
company of 23 surveyors between Parker Fort & three forks at Trinity about 3 months
or more ago was attacked by 170 Kickapoos about 12 in the day & fought until 12 at
night. Our men was cut off and 11 of the 23 killed. Pullman Jones' brother-in-law
Fitzsims Hall was killed. Some time after, 300 attacked J. Rusk in the night. Rusk
defeated them & killed & wounded between 20 or 30 of them. Pursued them & came across
a large party of Caddows loaded with powder & lead going to the Indians with it. He
took about 300 of powder & about 400 weight of lead, disarmed them, took their horses

& let them go & here last Tuesday 90 Caddows attacked 50 of our men above the Falls of Brasses a few miles, killed 13 & wounded many of our men & ran them 3 or 4 miles. Another company of about 125 white men have gone. The first defeated have not all got in & we have not yet heard the truth of the matter & it is thought another battle has been fought by this time. A little before this, Rusk came on 150 or 200 of the Indian army, all Kickapoos. They gave up and would not fight. He forgave them on their word, discharged his troops & greatly to the dissatisfaction of the republic & report says Felix Houston is appointed Commander in Chief of the Republic of Texas in Rusk's place.----As to our land, Whittson is to get 1280, John 1280, myself 1280. Tom, Ben, William & Kinny each 640. They have all got their Certificates & Order of Survey but myself & Tom, & Whilliam, only, has his land selected and surveyed. His land is in Burnet's Colony, Robinson County, about 10 or 12 miles north of Riley on a creek called Beaver Creek between the waters of Boggy & Trinidad or Trinity & about 10 or 12 miles from the Trinity. The rest of us have not yet got our selections made & it is hard to get them made on account of the preference rights, long sickness, loss of horses & weakness. We calculate on setting on William's place on account of an extraordinary spring & stock water & timber on that place. That is, as soon as peace is made, if not all killed before that time. There is millions of acres of fraudulent claims in Texas. Clothing, iron, castings, blacksmiths, socks & leather scarce indeed. A chain of horse thieves lately found out in Texas. One Pinston, brother to Wash Brashear's wife, hung, 2 shot, one of which was killed, several whipped and a number run away. The seat of government to be fixed in three months. It is supposed it will be at the Falls of Brasses, & soon as fixed a great military road is to be cut from the Sulphur Fork of Red River to it & a tier of 4 1/3 (sic) station at every 40 miles with trading houses for the Indians, & further, there is to be 2 leagues around each station to be given as donations to the soldiers & any other citizens who will settle on said leagues. Oh, if we could only have peace, what a country Texas is going to be. School keeping in Texas from 2 to 3 dollars a month for scholars, & prices cows & calves from 20 to 30 Dollars, flour from 20 to 40 Dollars a barrel, Pork from 10 to 15 Dollars per 100 weight, Beef from 4 to 6 a hundred, Corn from \$1.75 cents to 2 Dollars a bushel, Salt from 5 to 6 1/2 Dollars a bushel, Chickens from 50 cents to a Dollar apiece, Butter from 1 to 1 1/2 Dollars a pound, labour from \$1.50 to 5 Dollars a day, Plank from 4 to 10 Dollars a hundred & horses a good price, say, from 60 to 300 Dollars a horse. I have yet 256 1/2 Dollars due me but only 125 sure & Oh, the Buffalo, yea the most of them in the upper country. I have never got your last letter nor heard anything of Betsy. Sheep, geese & Cotton jins scarce in our section. Railroads & Steam Mill Companies starting in our country. Cotton wheels 6 Dollars. As I said before, there is nothing but peace, population & the company & conversation of friends a wanting to constitute our happiness. I have this moment heard the truth of our last Indian Battle. The troops has returned, the Indians was gone. We had 10 men killed & 5 wounded. Our Mexican news says that old Santa Anna in a combat with the French lost one of his legs. It is yet uncertain whether we don't have to run. We have been at the point of running twice & have at this time a heap of plunder hid out; however, I shall continue to write as long as I live & let you know where we have gone to; that is, as long as I have paper, money & mail routes. There has been but few deaths in Texas this last season & we have had abundance hard frosts & weather cold enough to freeze water in the pail. Though the Elms is putting out & volunteer corn, wild onions & grass as long as my hand & about one fourth of stock fat beef. Between Indians & whites there has not been less than 500 head of horse stole in my hearing since I came to Texas. If we do run, it will be to Linleys or Lake Creek Settlements within 30 or 40 miles of the City of Houston. As my sheet is out, I shall have to wind up. Yet I could tell you a thousand things that might greatly surprise you. My compliments to all friends & acquaintances. Our woman says that if they had peace & company they would be perfectly satisfied. Rileys all well & 2 letters from Baz states that they are all well & I expect Baz to see us this fall if not prevented by Indian news. The boys has killed 5 painters but no bears,

not many deer, though there are thousands but very wild. 200 wild horses in Riley's Prairie, most plenty & bear, though scattered. We have over 200 bushels of corn 1500 of Park & bacon, with coffee, milk, butter & honey plenty until lately. No more at this time but subscribe myself your ever loving Brother until death. Little Ibbys compliments to all her little cousins,) Ben Middleton
& Old Ibbys to Mela, Linda, & Chloe & all the rest)
of her old friends.)

If you write, direct your letters to Huntsville, Montgomery County, Texas & I will get them. We have upwards of 70 head of hogs & if ever you come to Texas this fall will be the time & if I knew you would be satisfied, I should be glad you were here as soon as we have peace.

If ever you do come, be sure to fetch at least 2 boxes apiece of that ever Blessed Medicine called Sappington's pills that I have never known to fail to do their work in a few days. They are 2 Dollars a box in this country, though they are rare to be got at all. My compliments to poor old Bill & of his & my Crab Orchard friends.

Ben Middleton

THE STATE OF TEXAS }

COUNTY OF LEON }

Before me the undersigned authority on this day personally appeared Wm. Watson, to me well known to be a credible person, who upon being by me duly sworn on oath deposes and says: That he has resided in Leon County, Texas, more than thirty-eight years, that he worked for and lived in the house with W. B. Middleton, deceased, from 1871 to 1873 and was intimately acquainted with him up to the time of his death, that he was well acquainted with William Middleton, son of John Middleton, deceased, who was a brother of said W. B. Middleton, and also with John Brashear, nephew of said W. B. Middleton, and brother of Elias Brashear and Mary Ann Evans, and that he was also well acquainted with said Mary Ann Evans, wife of W. P. Evans, and with B. M. Whitton, William Whitton and Isabel Anthony, who were nephews and nieces of said W. B. Middleton and with R. B. King, one of the survivors of the Meir Expedition.

That from conversation with, and statements made by said W. B. Middleton, who died in 1877, and R. B. King affiant states that Benoni Middleton Sr. moved with his family from the state of Illinois and settled at what was then known as Fort Boggy, about 5 miles south of the present town of Centerville, Leon County, Texas, about 1839 or 1840, that W. B. and Benoni Middleton Jr. were both unmarried at said time; and a short time thereafter R. B. King joined them at Fort Boggy, that in 1842 W. B. and Benoni Middleton Jr. and R. B. King joined the Texas Army, or Texas Rangers and were members of what is known in Texas History as the "Meir Expedition" all three of them were captured in Mexico and taken prisoners to the City of Mexico, they and several other prisoners attempted to escape, or did escape and were recaptured and as a punishment they were compelled to draw lots for their lives from a bean bag in this way - as many beans were placed in the bag as there were re-captured prisoners, but there was one black bean in every ten beans in the bag, that is, there were nine white beans and one black bean for each ten of the men to draw from, those who drew white beans were permitted to live, and those who drew black beans were taken out into the prison yard and shot to death, W. B. Middleton and R. B. King drew white beans, Benoni Middleton Jr. drew a black bean and was shot to death, at the time of his death he was unmarried and interstate and left surviving him so far as he and W. B. Middleton knew, his father Benoni Middleton Sr., his mother, his brothers John Middleton, Thomas Middleton, and W. B. Middleton, and his sisters Polly Ann Riley, wife of Jas. Riley, Isabella Taylor, Wife of Martin D. Taylor, Mrs. Kinney, mother of John Kinney, Elizabeth Wingfield, wife of L. G. Wingfield, all of whom resided in Texas, at the time of the death of Benoni Middleton; and also Mrs. Brashear, mother of Elias, William and John Brashear and Mary Ann Evans, wife of W. P. Evans; Isabella Whitney and Louisa Brashear who died in Illinois, and whose children came to Texas after their mothers death, to live with their

uncle, W. B. Middleton, and Mrs. Isabel Whitton, wife of Elias Whitton, and mother of B. M. Whitton and William Whitton, and Isabel Anthony who died at Fort Boggy. That John Middleton died about 1850 and left surviving him two children, to-wit: William Middleton and Rosa Middleton who died in infancy, that during the time W. B. Middleton and R. B. King were held prisoners in Mexico, Benoni Middleton Sr. and his wife, Mrs. John Kinney and Mrs. Elias Whitton died at Fort Boggy, that affiant was well acquainted and very intimate with the descendants of all the brothers and sisters of Benoni Middleton, Jr. except Thomas Middleton, who died without issue, and Mrs. Elizabeth Wingfield. That from conversations with and statements made by W. B. Middleton, James Taylor son of Isabella Taylor, John Brashear, (who died about 2 years ago) Mary Ann Evans, B. M. Whitton, William Whitton, Ben Whitley, son of Isabel Whitley, and William Middleton to affiant or in his presence, W. B. Middleton purchased, settled and paid for the interest of all his brothers and sisters or their descendants in the estate of Benoni Middleton, Sr. and Benoni Middleton Jr. W. B. Middleton was a man of considerable means, owned a great number of slaves before and during the war (he was elected sheriff of Leon County twice and a member of the Legislature of Texas twice before the Civil War, was a Brigadier General in the Confederate Army during the Civil War, that said W. B. Middleton was elected Sheriff of Leon County twice after the war), while his brothers and sisters and their descendants except Mrs. Isabella Taylor and Mrs. Polly Ann Riley, were people in very straightened circumstances, and W. B. Middleton paid them much more than their interest in their Grand-fathers and uncles estate was worth, he was above all things else an honest, liberal hearted man. Affiant further states that his wife was a grand-niece of Mary Jane Middleton, wife of said W. B. Middleton who died in 1874.

Wm. Watson

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this the 1st day of October A. D. 1909.

L. S.

H. H. Brown
Clerk Dist. Court Leon Co. Texas

THE STATE OF TEXAS)

COUNTY OF LEON) Before me the undersigned authority on this day

personally appeared Wm. Watson, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing affidavit, and acknowledged to me that he had signed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND and seal of office, this 1st day of Oct. 1909.

L. S.

H. H. Brown, Clerk
Dist. Court, Leon Co. Texas

Recorded in Vol. 28, page 174 Deed Records, Leon County, Texas.

WILLIAM B. MIDDLETON
LEON COUNTY

Was born in the county of Crawford, State of Illinois, on the 4th day of August, 1819. In 1837 his father and family removed to Texas and settled in what is now Leon County. In 1840 his father and two brothers, Thomas and Benoni, and eleven other families, collected together and built "Fort Boggy", where they remained for two years, and, by order of President Houston, formed themselves into a ranging company—one-half being detailed to protect the women and children and those who were making crops, while the other half were in pursuit of the savage foe.

In the fall of 1842 Gen. Woll invaded Texas with a large army and took San Antonio, carrying many persons into captivity; but he was defeated on the Salado by Col. Caldwell ("Old Paint") and forced to retire. About this time President Houston made a call for troops--R. B. King, W. B. Middleton, and his brother, Benoni Middleton, from the Boggy settlement, joined the army at Seguin, on the Guadalupe River, and were assigned to Capt. Wilson's company. From thence they marched to San Antonio, where the volunteers belonging to Capt. Wilson's company becoming dissatisfied left the army and broke up the company. A portion of the company, however, joined Capt. Barrett's company, and re-organized the army to some extent. From there the line of march was taken up for the Rio Grande under Gen. Somerville as Commander-in-Chief. Their route lay over a rough and boggy road to Laredo, on the Rio Grande, which point had been evacuated by the Mexican troops. Here they spent one day laying some necessary contributions on the town, and they were well treated by the citizens, whose hospitality was ill-rewarded by a very disgraceful robbery of the town by some of the men. The parties were, however, detected, and the greater part of the goods returned to the owners. From Laredo they proceeded down the river to Guerrero, at which place they crossed over into Mexico, where Gen. Canales made his appearance with about 200 men, but had the prudence to keep out of rifle range. Here the army re-crossed the Rio Grande, and General S. issued orders to take up the line of march for the San Antonio River. W. S. Fisher made a call for volunteers, and from the disorganized body of General Somerville 300 joined him--among the number King and the two Middletons--as members of Capt. Eastland's company.

Of this ill-fated expedition several accounts have been made public; but they have been only partial histories. While in the main correct, prejudice has in some respects distorted the facts. The greater part of the troubles, misfortunes and vicissitudes of this expedition were, in the opinion of Mr. Middleton owing to their own folly and disobedience of orders. The capturing and killing of the guard at Salado, and the breaking of every prison in which they were incarcerated, were some of the causes of their troubles, and NOT the neglect of Gen. Houston, as has been falsely charged. What was his authority in the territory of a hostile foe? It is ignorance to think it, and malice to say, that he could have prevented it. Of these troubles very much has been said by those who know but little of them,

and participated in these border difficulties, perhaps, none at all. Some men have been applauded for bravery who were not entitled to the least praise. The fight of the Salado has been descanted upon by some men who did not participate in it, nor would not. Some have applauded the very man who traitorously betrayed them to the Mexicans, and but for the betrayal they might have taken the entire guard without the firing of a single gun. About fifty of the prisoners, absolutely refused to take part or assist in the fight. Their guns, which had been previously empty, were loaded and put in order that day in which some of the dastards refused to participate, and they said they would prevent it. There were only 150 or 160 who participated in the fight, while the Mexicans numbered about 500, and all were armed. The only hope of our men was to take their arms from them. This was determined, and "liberty or death" was the watchword of every man who embarked in the desperate struggle. It was short but glorious. Our men made their escape; but alas, forced from hunger, and despair, to surrender again, and they were, when brought back, made pass the trying ordeal of drawing a bean for life. White--the tyrants lost; black--they won. Those who had not participated in the escape or fight were exempt from this ordeal. Middleton and his brother drew clear. His brother afterwards died in prison in the city of Mexico, absolutely from privation and suffering. After being released from confinement in the dungeons of Mexico, and enduring many scenes of peril, suffering and hardships, pen can not describe, he returned poor and penniless to Texas. In December, 1845, he took to himself a wife to share his sorrows and his poverty, and at the next election ensuing, the kind and generous people of Leon County elected him their sheriff.

In 1847, he raised a company for the war with Mexico, hoping thereby to take some satisfaction from that people. After his return he was again elected sheriff, and in 1852 he was once more elected to that office. In 1855 he was elected to the legislature, and again in 1859 was chosen by the people as their representative. Mr. Middleton is a quiet, reserved gentleman, who does not often occupy the time of the House, but is regarded emphatically a working member. From his advent into Texas, till the present time, he has served the country. He has lived through her darkest days and entertained the strongest prejudice against her President, while incarcerated in the dungeon of Perote; and now, in the dawn of her glory, with Sam Houston again at the helm of government, impartially reviewing the past and his whole course, he entertains neither animosity or unkind feeling toward the old hero of San Jacinto.

C. G. HALEY

Box 37

Centerville, Texas

Middleton, Texas

3/19/47

Mr. Paxson Link
Paris,
Ill.,

Dear Sir;

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of February 18, 1948 with reference to the Middleton family and its history. Please pardon the delay in my reply, yet I have no valid excuse to offer as to why I have neglected writing.

The second wife of Wm. B. Middleton, son of Benomi Middleton, was my Aunt. However, both died leaving no issue.

Your letter was very interesting and I am anxious to meet you. I have a home here in Centerville which is on Highway #75, half way between Dallas and Houston. I am sure you have passed thro our little town on your way to Houston. I would like to have you stop by when passing through. I would be glad to show you the family record so far as I have it and would like to talk with you.

If you will study your Texas map more closely you will find a Robertson County. In the days of the Texas Republic that section of the Republic where the Middletons settled was known as the Robertson District. Perhaps Benomi spelled it Robinson which was incorrect. After the United States was annexed to Texas these large districts were divided into counties. Leon County was formally a part of the Robertson District. Your letter to your great-great grandfather together with our knowledge of Texas History might be enough to allow us to follow the family from Burnet's Colony to the Boggy Settlement in Leon Co.

There are few known facts about the Middleton family except two members, Wm. B. and Benomi, Jr. Both of these were members of the Meir Expedition in 1842. Both of them were captured by the Mexicans and both escaped from prison at Salado; both were re-captured and forced to participate in the "lottery of death"; both drew white beans. Benomi, Jr., died of disease and neglect while in prison but Wm. B. lived to return home. He was the first Sheriff of Leon County and served several times in the Texas Legislature before the Civil War and served as Sheriff of the county several times after the war.

But let us let the records which we have speak for themselves. As stated before the elder Benomi left no record. Nor does he have any known living descendents here at this time. For any information on him we must rely upon statements made by his

C. G. HALEY

Box 37

Centerville, Texas

2 con't.

Wm. B. Middleton.

From the Texas Album of the 8th Texas Legislature, 1860, of which Wm. B. Middleton was a member, we take a short history of his life. The next two paragraphs are from this volume.

Wm. B. Middleton, of Leon Co., was born in the county of Crawford State of Illinois, on the 4th day of August 1819. In 1837 his father and family removed to Texas and settled in what is now Leon County. In 1840, his father and two brothers, Thomas and Benomi, and eleven other families, collected together and built "Fort Boggy", where they remained two years, and by order of President Houston, formed themselves into a ranging company--one half being detailed to protect the women and children and those who were making crops, while the other half were in pursuit of the savage foe.

In the fall of 1842 Gen. Woll invaded Texas with a large army and took San Antonio, carrying away many persons in captivity; but he was defeated on the Salado by Col. Caldwell ("Old Paint") and forced to retire. About this time President Houston made a call for troops. R. B. King, W. B. Middleton, and his brother Benomi Middleton, from the Boggy Settlement, joined the army at Sequin on the Guadalupe River and were assigned to Capt. Wilson's Co.,

The story continues, giving details of hardships, sufferings the death of his brother, Benomi and his final return to Texas and a review of his political life up to and including 1860.

This is a very interesting bit of reading and is the only existing authentic record of Middleton's part in the Meir Expedition.

October 1, 1909, Wm. Watson, an attorney here in Centerville made an affidavit which is part of a land title suit. Col. Watson is now deceased but in this affidavit he states that he lived with Wm. B. Middleton from 1871 to 1873 and was intimately acquainted with him. In his affidavit he states that Wm. B. Middleton had told him that his father, Benomi had moved with his family from Illinois and settled at Ft. Boggy, about 5 miles from the present town of Centerville in 1830 or 1840. He states that at the time of the death of Benomi Jr., he was unmarried and intestate; and that he left surviving him so far as W. B. Middleton knew, his father Benomi, his mother, his brothers John, Thomas, and W. B., and his sisters Folly Ann Riley, wife of Jas. Riley, Isabella Taylor, wife of Martin D. Taylor, Mrs. Kinney, mother of John Kinney, Elizabeth Wingfield, wife of L. G. Wingfield and that they all resided in Texas at the time of the death of Benomi, Jr.

From further reading of the affidavit it would appear that some of the daughters of Benomi Middleton, the elder, had returned to Illinois, and that upon the death of these daughters their children had come to Texas to live with their uncle, W. B. Middleton.

C. G. HALEY

Box 37

Centerville, Texas

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Continuing, Col. Watson states that Benomi, Sr., and his wife, father and mother of W. B. Middleton died at Ft. Boggy at or rather during the time he was in prison in Mexico. The exact location of Ft. Boggy is not known at this time. If there was ever a cemetery there it has long since disappeared. For this reason we are unable to verify these statements as to the time of death of many pioneer Texans.

The statement further sets out that all the descendants of Benomi Sr., were very poor people except two daughters, Mrs. Taylor and Mrs. Riley and the son W. B. Middleton. According to this document W. B. Middleton bought and paid for all the interest the other children claimed in the estate of their father.

This is about all the history I have of this family. I have given you only the vital parts of the two documents I have since to give the whole would be a rather bulky package to mail. But I will be only too glad to allow you to look over them at any time you stop by here. Or if you would like to have them complete, at some future time I can have copies made and mail you.

At any time you pass through the town of Huntsville, Texas, stop at the Sam Houston Museum on the campus of the Sam Houston State Teachers College and you will see an old picture of W. B. Middleton.

We are proud of Texas and the part it has played in this Nation's history. We take pride in pointing out the deeds of patriotism performed by our early pioneers. They came from all states of the Union but they were all Texans upon arrival on Texas soil. Here they became free men and built an empire. That is they laid the foundation of an empire.

Hoping this information although it had to be given by telling the story of the second generation will be of some help to you
I am

Very truly yours,

Jeff McCoy

THE BLACK FAMILY

Cloa Black Middleton, wife of Samuel Middleton, was the daughter of Josiah and Rebecca Oglethorpe Black and was born in Lincoln County, Kentucky. All dates for her and for Samuel are given in the section of this writing under the Middleton Family. As indicated in the above section, Josiah Black was a Revolutionary soldier. He married Rebecca Oglethorpe. My Grandmother Link was named Rebecca Oglethorpe Middleton and she told me not once but several times that she had been named for her great grandmother, who was Rebecca Oglethorpe, the niece of General James Edward Oglethorpe. This I have already stated in the Middleton section. The Middletons and the Blacks, descendants of Josiah and Rebecca Oglethorpe Black seemed quite proud of the Oglethorpe name and used it as a middle name down through four generations of the descendants from Josiah and Rebecca, giving many children, grandchildren and great grandchildren Oglethorpe as a middle name. Rebecca was also a favorite name and there are many Rebecca Oglethorpe Blacks, particularly in these four generations.

Being intrigued by this tradition, when in England in 1955 I had all of the records in Somerset House searched for every bit of available data about the Oglethorpe family. In addition, I secured the services of a highly recommended genealogist and researcher who explored the records in Somerset House again and those of Saint Martins-in-the-Fields and all published data about General Oglethorpe. It was impossible for him to have had a niece because from his three brothers, Lewis, Theophilus and Sutton, Lewis died at twenty-four and no reference is made to a marriage for him; Sutton died young as

a child and Theophilus died without any legitimate heirs. (It is possible, of course, that Rebecca was a natural daughter of Lewis' or Theophilus'.) General Oglethorpe had four sisters, Anne, Eleanor, Frances Charlotte and Mary. Mary died unmarried, Eleanor had three daughters, but, of course, they would not have taken the Oglethorpe name; Eleanor and Frances Charlotte each married a French marquis and, of course, their children would not have taken the Oglethorpe name. General Oglethorpe married September 15, 1743 and left no issue.

My researcher and I as well have come to the conclusion that our Rebecca Oglethorpe was the illegitimate daughter of General Oglethorpe and probably was born in Georgia. It was colonial custom which came down through England to refer to the natural children of a parent as nephews and nieces and, likewise, it was customary for natural children to refer to their parent as uncle; so, she could have been the illegitimate daughter of General Oglethorpe. This probably accounts for the use of the Oglethorpe name for Rebecca and the custom of giving children, grandchildren and great grandchildren of Rebecca the Oglethorpe name.

Much authentic data about the Black family comes from the Militia records of the Indiana Territory, the court records of Knox County, Indiana, Vigo County, Indiana, Clark County, Illinois, and Edgar County, Illinois, and one of the most interesting of all is found in the Presbyterian Church records of Paris, Illinois, (copies of which I had transcribed some years ago and placed in the Illinois State Historical Library, Paris Public Library and Paris High School Library) in which a church trial was held in New Providence. This relates an amazing incident and should be read.

In 1811 Thomas Black is shown as sergeant of Captain Andrew Wilken's company of the Indiana Militia, before this as a corporal in Captain Jacob Warrick's company. Thomas Black was shown as a Justice of the Peace in 1813 in Knox County. William Black was shown as a soldier in Captain Jacob Warrick's company and James Black was shown as a soldier in Captain Robb's company. These records are in Vincennes. Before this, in the first census of Kentucky in 1790, Josiah Black, Thomas Black and James Black were shown in Lincoln County and with them a Patrick and Hugh. My belief is that Hugh and Patrick were brothers or nephews of Josiah and not sons. That Josiah and Rebecca died in Lincoln County, Kentucky, Prior to 1810, is evidenced by the finding of a considerable number of their children in Knox County, Indiana, at that time. James, Thomas, John, Cloa, who married Samuel Middleton, Josiah Oglethorpe, Louisiana, William and Malinda, who married Micajah Goodman, all appear in marriage and court records from 1810 until 1818. Then this group and their families moved almost en masse to Vigo County, Indiana, southwest of Terre Haute practically on the state line, where they established a settlement and a church. Near the Black church is Black Cemetery in which burials of Black descendants are still being made to this day.

The marriage records of William Black and Thomas Black are shown in 1812 in Knox County, Cloa Black and Malinda Black in 1813 and Louisiana in 1814. They settled on both sides of the state line and Blacks were the first settlers on the Indiana side in 1816, according to the Crawford-Clark County History. Reference in Knox County records are made to Black men for such things as supervising roads, paying license fees for various purposes, etc.

The Vigo County records are also replete with marriages, recording of deeds of the Blacks from the earliest time on down to the present. There are twenty-four marriage licenses issued in Vigo County between 1800 and 1850 to Black men and the names James, Thomas, William, John, Josiah Oglethorpe, Samuel, named for Samuel Middleton, and Cloa are prevalent. I have in my notes the tombstone inscriptions on all of the stones in the Black Cemetery which I found in 1945. They are very detailed as to dates and the name of spouses.

To anyone who reads this, may I suggest again that the Presbyterian Church records of Paris be read for some interesting information about the Blacks. Thomas Black seems to have been the leader of the family and he is quite prominent in Vigo County, Knox County, Indiana, records, as well as in the Presbyterian Church records.

I am continuing research on this interesting family, and any data which is pertinent will be added.

PEMBERTON-KING, SHARP FAMILIES

We are descendents from these families through my grandmother, Rebecca Oglethorpe Middleton, whose mother was Sarah Pemberton. Sarah Pemberton was the daughter of Stanton Pemberton and Sarah King. Stanton Pemberton was the son of Colonel John Pemberton of Kings Mountain fame, and Sarah was the daughter of William King, who also fought at the battle of Kings Mountain. William King's wife was named Elizabeth Sharp before marriage and her brother was John Sharp, a famous pioneer in the Holston region of Southwest Virginia and Northwest North Carolina.

There is a detailed King-Sharp history which follows and it is interesting to note the number of marriages between the Pemberton, King and Sharp families, as well as the McCords, McConchies and Laughlins, all of which had descendents of these names who moved to Edgar and Coles County, Illinois, except the Sharps. The Sharps were an intrepid lot and had many adventures. Full genealogical data about all these lines are in Christie Link's papers as a member of the Children of the American Revolution in my possession.

The Pemberton family is found in Pennsylvania as well as Southwest Virginia. I have made no attempt to connect Colonel John Pemberton with the Pennsylvania branch of this family, but I feel sure that they are close if for no other reason that my Grandmother Link told me that General John C. Pemberton, who made the fruitless defense of Vicksburg against Grant in the Civil War, was a distant cousin. General Pemberton was born and reared in Pennsylvania. The usual pioneer trek for the Southwest was from Pennsylvania to Maryland to the Valley of Virginia and beyond. Probably Colonel

John came into Southwest Virginia about the 1740's. He settled considerable land which is still in the Pemberton family. He built a large Georgian type home which is still occupied by his descendents. In front of this home was until recently an enormous white oak tree which was adjudged by the Forestry Bureau of the Department of the Interior to be the largest white oak tree in the country. I have seen this tree and the trunk near the base was approximately nine feet in diameter. It was known throughout the area as the Pemberton Oak and it was also known that under it John Pemberton, who was first a captain, mustered the company of militia that he lead to the Battle of Kings Mountain (he was made a colonel of the militia later after this battle). There was a plaque on this tree which reads as follows:

Under This Tree
Col. John Pemberton
Mustered His Troops
For The Battle of
Kings Mountain
1781
Erected By Sycamore
Shoals Chapter
D A R

In my files are two pictures of the Pemberton Oak, one which shows the plaque plainly and the other which shows a large part of the oak tree and the Pemberton house and Mr. Thomas Pemberton, who was the occupant at the time this picture was taken in 1941, standing near the tree and in front of the house. The tree in 1941 was adjudged to be in excess of five hundred years old.

Stanton and Sarah had several children, all of whom I do not have knowledge. There were three sons, named Harvey, Henry, and John (Jack) J. Besides the daughter, Sarah our ancestor, there were two or three others, one of whom I know married a Reel.

Jack was prominent in Eastern Illinois all his life. He served in the company organized in Paris in the Mexican War. He later operated a large mercantile establishment in Oakland and became wealthy.

Stanton II, a grandson of Stanton and Sarah, and the son of Henry, became a member of the Illinois Legislature in which he served for many years. Pemberton Hall on the campus of Eastern Illinois University at Charleston was named for him upon its dedication.

THE LANDES FAMILY

Our descent from the Landes family comes through my grandfather, James Link. His father was Christopher, whose mother was Mary Landes, daughter of Christian Landes of Shenandoah Valley.

Full details about this connection back to Mary Landes Link, pages 100, 101, 102, 135, and 230 are in THE LINK FAMILY.

John Landes, whose father was named Christian Landes, was a Revolutionary soldier who enlisted in Pennsylvania as a young man.* He came to Virginia after the Revolutionary War. He moved first to Rockingham County and then to Augusta County of Virginia. He is buried on what is known as the old Seawright place, which is a farm he originally bought in Augusta County in 1804 and his descendants owned it as of 1946. The first Christian Landes, a soldier in the York County Pennsylvania Militia during the Revolution, was born in 1720 and died in 1782 in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. He left a will and it is evidence that he was an individual of property. Many of his descendants are still living in Lancaster County and many Landeses are in Augusta County, Virginia today.

John Landes' grave is marked in the Cemetery of the Seawright place mentioned above. He left a Will in Augusta County, Virginia, which indicates he had considerable property.

There are many of the Landes' name living in Edgar County, many who are descendants from Christian Landes III, who was the brother of Mary Landes Link and who came to Edgar County about two years after Peter and Mary Link Landes arrived from Augusta, Virginia.

* John was the father of Christian II and grandfather of Mary and Christian III.

RUDE - LOCKWOOD - COLLAMER FAMILIES

My mother, Martha Maude Rude Link, was a descendent of the three families in this sketch. Her father was Francis Marion Rude and her mother was Sarah Collamer Rude. Francis Marion (Frank) was the oldest of five children. The others were William, Mary, who married Robert Leitch, Virginia (Jenny) who married Henry Snyder, and Emma, who married Captain William Turney.

Gershom L. Rude was born November 9, 1808, in Saratoga Springs, New York. He moved with his parents while a small boy to Hamilton County, Ohio. In 1836 he was ordained into the ministry and became an evangelist for the Disciples of Christ Church. One of his first efforts was in Marion County, Indiana. He came to Paris in 1855 and in 1861 was appointed evangelizer for Coles and Douglas County, Illinois. He died at Paris, Illinois, on January 18, 1892. Although he was an earnest, dedicated individual and exceedingly strong in his convictions upon any subject, he made not an altogether imposing appearance. He was of medium height, cross-eyed and given to chewing tobacco. He invariably wore a black Prince Albert coat and a high silk hat and carried a gold headed cane, but his means of transportation in this rather formal attire was to ride a small horse only a little larger than a good sized pony. One of his favorite pastimes was to have a religious argument with Christopher Link, my great grandfather. He married Margaret Gould in Dearborn County, Indiana, in September, 1832. She was born August 27, 1814, and died June 9, 1897 at Paris, Illinois. I have no more data about her than this. Both Gershom and Mary are buried in the Rude lot in Paris, Illinois.

Francis Marion, or Frank, after his education and after jobs clerking in retail establishments in Paris, secured a position in retail clothing store in Terre Haute, Indiana, prior to the beginning of the Civil War. He had been seeing a lot in Terre Haute of Sarah Collamer who was on a prolonged visit with her first cousin, Catherine Collamer Gilbert. When Frank enlisted in the Union Army, they were married May 31, 1862. Frank was born July 9, 1838, at Harrison, Hamilton County, Ohio. Sarah was born August 8, 1840, at Ballston Spa, New York.

Frank was made supply sergeant of Company F of the Eighty-Fifth Indiana, with Colonel Baird commanding and which was organized in Terre Haute. After some little drilling, the company with other troops was sent to Perrysville, Kentucky, where they were stationed sometime before the battle that resulted in the Union victory. August 15 of 1862 he was promoted to Orderly Sergeant and then again in 1863 he was promoted to Second Lieutenant. On August 31, 1864, he was commissioned First Lieutenant and on October 1, 1864, he was commissioned Captain of his company and he continued in this rank until he was discharged at Washington after the famous parade at the end of the Civil War on June 12, 1865. After the Battle of Perrysville his company with other troops were moved to Louisville where they were taken down the Ohio and up the Cumberland Rivers to Nashville, Tennessee. From Nashville they were sent to Brentwood which is a community about five miles south of Nashville where they made camp. It was at Brentwood that he had an interesting experience which has been relived in retrospect by Louise and me in recent years.

While at Brentwood Frank had become ill and his colonel sent

him to a large home of Mrs. Robert Irwin Moore, located on the Franklin Pike, to live for a period of time until he recovered fully and until the troops were moved farther south. Mrs. Moore's home was located on a Revolutionary Grant which was owned by the Moore family until about 1940. The house contained twenty-six rooms. It was surrounded by beautiful forest trees and was and is one of the great houses of central Tennessee. Mrs. Moore was very aged and Mrs. Harris, her daughter, who was also quite ill, lived in the house practically alone because the slaves had been freed with the coming of the Union forces and had run away. While Frank was there, Mrs. Harris died and he with the help of some men in his company, prepared her coffin, dug her grave and buried her for Mrs. Moore. After the small funeral party returned to the Moore home and those soldiers who had assisted left, Frank went to his room and Mrs. Moore with the grace of a Southern lady came up to his room and thanked him with some formality for assisting her in the burial of her daughter. This touching incident and many others are revealed in a diary for that period of time in 1863 that he was stationed in Brentwood, in which entries are discontinued on November 27, 1863, after which his forces were joined with others for Sherman's Army and the march from Chattanooga to Atlanta to Savannah and then north through the Carolinas and Virginia to Washington. This diary is in my possession among other relics and should be read. In passing, there was an entry in November, 1862 where he was offered the Warrant of Regimental Sergeant Major, but declined it to stay with his company as Orderly Sergeant. Soon after this, he was made First Lieutenant.

While at Brentwood in the Moore home, Mrs. Moore's son, Robert

Irwin Moore, Jr., was discharged from the Confederate army because of deafness caused by an explosion of a cannon. He and Frank became close personal friends and spent much time together while Frank was off duty after Frank recovered from his illness and moved out of the Moore home. Frank carried a violin all through the war (this violin was in my mother's household until about 1935 when she disposed of it). Frank and Bob, as he was known, every evening when Frank could get away from duty, would go to Franklin, Tennessee, which was behind the Confederate lines, where Bob had many friends, where they played cards and where Frank entertained on his violin. In 1944, when Louise and I were in Nashville for a prolonged time in the Summer, I sought and found the Moore home which my grandfather had told me much about. We also became acquainted with Allen and Robert Irwin Moore, III, which has become a lasting friendship. These two men were nephews of Bob Moore, the discharged Confederate soldier and their father was in the Confederate services at the time Frank was stationed in Tennessee.

My grandfather was blind the last seven years of his life and it was my responsibility to take him on walks and to read to him. He told me many interesting stories about the Civil War and his experiences in it. He told me that the most severe battle he was in was the Battle of Peachtree in Atlanta. He left a sword which he carried from the time he was promoted to First Lieutenant on through the war and which is in my library. The brass end of the leather scabbard of this sword is worn because on long marches at times he would release it to an extended position from his belt so that it would drag. It seemed easier to drag it than to carry it part of the time.

To him the Civil War was a vivid experience right up until his death. I remember taking him downtown to the barber shop one day when we met Berry Hanks, who was aged and badly crippled, walking on two crutches. Although a boy, I know Mr. Hanks because he was the father of John Hanks who was employed by my father at the time and he was also the father of Forrest Hanks who had married my father's first cousin and from whom my father had purchased his furniture business. I spoke to Mr. Hanks and immediately my grandfather jerked my arm and said in a loud voice, "To whom are you speaking?" I answered, "Mr. Berry Hanks." My grandfather was greatly angered and said in a loud voice, "Don't you ever speak to that Goddamned copperhead again." I was quite shocked being only about twelve years of age and not accustomed to profanity in our family (I never heard my grandfather swear before or after this) and I hadn't learned at that time that Mr. Hanks was one of the leaders in the Copperhead uprising in Coles County, that resulted in the death of Major York and others during the Charleston Fight. My grandfather's Civil War cronies came to visit him every Sunday afternoon when weather permitted. They were Colonel Henry Van Sellar, Captain Henry Wiley, Captain Howard Mc Cord and Captain Jack Fisher. It was a rare experience to sit by and hear their exchange of episodes, their reminiscences and their views about politics. George Taylor, who was in my grandfather's company and lived a few blocks away, often joined the group. The Muster Roll of Company F with names, enlistment dates, clothing issues and remarks that include notes of those killed, those who deserted and those who were discharged is in my possession, with the warrants and commissions of my grandfather and returns for the quartermaster and ordnance

department for food, clothing and ammunition, as well as his discharge upon the completion of his service.

When I was in the second grade beginning to learn arithmetic and from then on through about the fifth grade, I would often telephone my grandfather in the evening and go over problems with him. He seemed to take considerable delight with the solutions. Sarah became seriously ill and just before her death they moved in with my parents. She died there and Frank continued to live there until his death. I do not have definite genealogy of the Rude family although I spent much time with the court records at Saratoga Springs and in counties adjacent to Saratoga County. I could not make a definite connection between Gershom and Rudes found there because I do not know Gershom's father's name. Likewise, I have spent much time with the records in Hamilton County, Ohio, without any further success. From what I uncovered at Saratoga, I believe that Gershom's father was probably Jeremiah (Old Testament Biblical names were prevalent in the Rude family) and that his father was John Rude. John Rude's will was filed December 16, 1809, and he mentions a son Jeremiah. He had other sons named Smith, Issac, Ephriam, and William. All of these Rudes lived in what was known as Galway Community near Saratoga Springs. Jeremiah sold out his property on February 20, 1823, and if he was the father of Gershom, it was then that they probably moved to Hamilton County, Ohio. William Rude, probably a brother of Jeremiah, sold his property in August of 1825 to the same man who bought Jeremiah's and the property undoubtedly adjoins. It is possible that William was a brother of Jeremiah's and that he moved subsequently to Ohio also. Robert Rood Buell of Prairie du Sac, Wisconsin, has done considerable research on the Rood - Rude

lines and history and he believes that John Rude was the descendent of John Rude I and John Rude II, John Rude I being the immigrant.

The Rude movement seemed to be from Massachusetts to Connecticut to Vermont and from Vermont to the Saratoga Springs area before they began the movement further west. The name is spelled both Rude and Rood, Rood being the older spelling and found before the American colonies in England, Holland and Germany.

Descent from the Lockwood family comes through my grandmother, Sarah Jane Collamer Rude. Full genealogy about the Lockwood family is found in SAR papers in my files, because I joined the SAR on the service of Captain Gilbert Lockwood who served in the Revolution.

I only know a little about the Lockwoods, beyond that which is to be found in a Lockwood family history called COLONIAL AND REVOLUTIONARY HISTORY OF THE LOCKWOOD FAMILY IN AMERICA and was published by Frederic Augustus Holden and E. Dunbar Lockwood. A copy of this is in the Newberry Library in Chicago and in other historical libraries. Through the generations which followed the immigration of Robert Lockwood who came from England in 1630 and settled in Watertown, Massachusetts, the Lockwoods distinguished themselves in many fields. Our branch of the Lockwood family moved from Watertown, Massachusetts, to Fairfield, Connecticut, then to Greenwich, Connecticut, where they lived during the Revolution. From there they moved to Ballston Spa, Saratoga County, New York, where there are connections beginning when Mary Lockwood, who was born January 29, 1809, married Alfred Warren Collamer on January 7, 1833. Alfred W. Collamer was born September 6, 1811. Further dates are available from my SAR papers.

My mother was always quite proud of the Lockwood ancestry because

of their culture and successes in the various fields in which they distinguished themselves. Sarah Jane's uncle became well known in the Middle West in the early utility business, having organized and headed the first gas company in Cincinnati, Ohio, and a little later another similar enterprise in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. My grandmother spent much time in his home as a young girl before her marriage.

Another branch of the Lockwood family of which my mother was quite proud was the Groshons (Grosjean). Among my old tintypes is one of Catherine Groshon who married Stephen Lockwood. Although she was born in New Brunswick, New Jersey, her parents had come from New Orleans, where they were an old French family. She died at the home of her son in Cincinnati, who was my grandmother's uncle, the utility magnet. The daughter of Stephen and Catherine Groshon was Mary Lockwood Collamer, who lived with my grandmother during most of her widowhood and is buried in Edgar County Cemetery on the lot of Frank Rude, her son-in-law. Captain Gilbert Lockwood was made the subject of a historical novel by Robert W. Chambers. The book is out of print, and I have sought copies of it everywhere I know without success. I was given this information by the curator of Johnson Hall Museum at Amsterdam, New York, who knew all about the book and quite a little history about Captain Gilbert Lockwood.

The Collamers are ancestors of my mother through her mother, Sarah Collamer. They came from England before 1665 and settled in Scituate, Massachusetts. Peter Collamore (sic) was the first who came. Having no children, he was joined in 1665 by a nephew, Anthony Collamore, who inherited all of Peter's property and became the head of the family. Anthony married Sarah Chittenden on June 14, 1666. He died December 16, 1693, and she died October 25, 1703. The

Chittendens were prominent at that time in Massachusetts. Sarah was the daughter of Isaac Chittenden, Sr. and his father was Thomas Chittenden. Thomas and his son Issac were partners in an enterprise in Conihasset, Massachusetts. According to general court records of Plymouth, Peter signed his name to a petition as Collimer. The name has since become Collamer. Conihasset in the old records is what appears now as Cohasset. Also tradition is the Collamer family has it that their name was originally spelled Coulommier and came from a town of that name in the north of France, from Normandy to England about the time of the invasion in 1066. About one hundred years after this some branches of the family seemed to have gone to Ireland with Strongbow. Later branches of the family were found in England in Devonshire, Warwickshire and Kent. Sir John Collamore of Luscott, England, who died in 1605 without a heir, left his property to his brother and to his children. In his Will he mentioned John, Phillip, Thomas and Mary, the children of his deceased brother Peter. One of Sir John's nephews was probably the father of the Peter Collamer who was first to come to Massachusetts and the grandfather of Anthony Collamer, his nephew who inherited Peter's property.

The first Anthony Collamore after he came to Scituate in 1665, was made a freeman in the jurisdiction of Plymouth Colony in 1670. In 1686 he was made a lieutenant by General Anders and in 1692 he was commissioned a captain of a foot company by William Phips. It was customary for the militia in the area of Scituate to meet at Collamer's homestead to be ready for expeditions against the Indians. A bell would be rung to warn the inhabitants and to call the militia upon the approach of savages. Because of this, Anthony's home when the

bell was located became known as Bell House Neck.

Anthony and Sarah had twelve children as follows:

Mary, b. Nov. 10, 1667; m. Robert Stetson of Scituate, Jan. 11, 1692.

Sarah, b. Mar. 26, 1670; died young.

Peter, b. May 6, 1671; m. Abigail Davis of Roxborough, Nov. 8, 1694. Peter died in 1747.

Sarah, b. July 12, 1673; m. James Terrey of Scituate, Apr. 20, 1710.

John, b. Dec. 14, 1675; died young.

Martha, b. May 12, 1677; d. Aug. 1699, unmarried.

Elizabeth, b. Dec. 11, 1679; m. 1st. Jermiah Rose of Scituate, 1698; m. 2nd. Timothy Symmes of Scituate.

John, b. June 11, 1681; died young.

Deborah, b. Mar. 14, 1682; died young.

Thomas, b. Mar. 12, ; died young.

Anthony, b. July 20, ; died young.

A girl, b. ; died young (the Bible record was worn away).

In the next generation Peter Collamore, oldest son of Anthony, was our ancestor. He married Abigail Davis of Roxborough, New York, in 1695. There are no further dates available for them. Their children and dates are as follows: Abigail, 1695; Sarah, 1697; Anthony, 1699; Peter, 1701; Mary, 1703; John, 1704; Isaac, 1707; Thomas, 1709; Samuel, 1712.

In the third generation we are descended from Anthony, oldest son of Peter and Abigail, who was born in 1699 in Scituate. He married Susanna Oakman and had six children, the names of whom I do not know. He resided in the old home in Bell House Neck in

Scituate, which was deeded by his father Peter to him.

The fourth generation is from Anthony, Jr., son of the Anthony above. He lived at Bell House Neck until 1799 when he moved to Malta, Saratoga County, New York. Before the Revolution he was a ship builder. At the time of the discontent with British rule, in Massachusetts he became a Minuteman and marched on the Lexington alarm April 19, 1775, as a private in Captain William Turner's company, Third Scituate Company, Colonel Anthony Thomas' Regiment. Anthony Jr.'s company later joined Colonel John Bailey's Regiment on December 10, 1775, and later he was transferred to Captain Sam Nelson's company of that regiment. He fought the Revolution from the Battle of Lexington until 1779, when he moved to Saratoga County, New York. There he may have served in the local militia, but there is no positive record of this.

Anthony had a son, Anthony, probably his oldest child, who enlisted from Scituate at the age of twenty-one for three years service in Captain Nathaniel Winslow's company. He was promoted to corporal November 21, 1777, and he was in command of a large contingent of colonials at Terrytown in 1779. For more than forty years he carried a bullet in his leg from a wound. After the Revolution he apparently moved to Addison County, Vermont, where he died. He was as older brother of Warren Collamer from whom we are descended. Anthony Jr., the Minuteman, married Mary (Merry) Barker December 13, 1757. He died December 15, 1819, in Saratoga County and she died there December 21, 1817. All genealogical data from Anthony, Jr. and Mary Barker down to Maud Rude Link are to be found in her DAR papers in my possession. Much data about the Collamers is from a book written by Charles Hatch of Quincy, Massachusetts, called Genealogy

of the Descendants of Anthony Collamer who settled in Scituate, Massachusetts, in 1665. This may be found in most of the historical libraries.

THE VANCE FAMILY

This is truly an amazing family and history goes back to medieval times and can be followed quite clearly down to the present. Much of this will be included here.

Louise Cole Link is a descendant from the Vance family through her father, Warren Cole, whose mother was Mary Vance Cole, daughter of John P. Vance, who was the son of Samuel Vance II. Samuel Vance II came to Illinois in 1822. After arriving in Illinois, he entered land, details of which will follow, and gave twenty-six acres for the establishment of the Town of Paris.

To go back far into history to secure information about the Vance family, I made inquiry to the Reverend Gavin Lawson, pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Wigtown, Scotland, whom I wrote on November 14, 1957, for information about Barnbarroch, the seat of the Vances located at Wigtown. He wrote me that all details about the Vances from the earliest time that knowledge has had of them could be found in the book in two volumes, HISTORY OF THE LANDS AND THEIR OWNERS IN GALLOWAY, published in 1870 by William Patterson of Edinburgh and written by Peter Handyside McKerlie.

This book was out of print but is of such great historical significance that a copy was found in the Illinois State Historical Library from which I had the excerpts made that are a part of this Vance history. The excerpts pertain to those Baronies which were Vance holdings from soon after the Norman conquest down to the present. These excerpts follow and after them (and they should be read, particularly the Barnbarroch section) follows a cursory history of the Vances from Scotland to Ireland to Pennsylvania

to Virginia and Illinois, beginning with a genealogy.

This genealogy is divided into two sections. The first section is a reconstruction of the descent given by McKerlie from the first Patrick Vans to the time that a part of the Vance family left Scotland and went to North Ireland because of religious dissension. From what I could learn from various sources besides McKerlie, this dissension was in two different sects of the Presbyterian Church and not a conflict between Protestant and Catholics.

The second part of the genealogy deals with three of the immigrants who came to Pennsylvania from North Ireland and their descendants, of whom Samuel I is one. This part of the Vance family after coming to Pennsylvania (although some remained there) had a general movement from there to the west part of the Shenandoah Valley, now Frederick County, where they settled with many other Scotch-Irish organizing the Opequon Settlement. From there some of them moved south through the Valley until Samuel Vance I and possibly his brother, John, settled at what is now Washington County, Virginia, (for purposes of clarity I am designating the pioneer Samuel Vance who came to Washington County as Samuel Vance I and his grandson who came from there to Illinois as Samuel Vance II, although there were many other Samuel Vances, cousins of Samuel Vance I and nephews of Samuel Vance I and one son of Samuel Vance I who is prominent in the annals of Southwest Virginia and should be known as Samuel, Jr. I am only referring to the Samuel Vances in which we are interested and who were ancestors of our family).

Before going into these genealogies, a short sketch of the movement of the Vance family in medieval times from the Dark Ages down through the years will be of interest. In 1937 on a trip to

the Library of Congress in Washington I contacted Mr. John Vance who was the Law Librarian of the Library of Congress at that time. He told me that the tradition of the family indicated that they had originated along the southern reaches of the Rhine River and were originally German robber barons in that region by the name of de Vallibus. Later they moved into Normandy and ancient Latin charts indicate the name there at the time of the conquest. Some of them came over in William the Conqueror's army and were given land grants in England for their services to him.

In 1955 I did considerable research in the National Library in Edinburgh. There I found many references to William de Vallibus, Robert de Vallibus, and many by the name of Vaus and Vans (all names being the same family). I had these excerpted by Hilda M. Woodford, an accredited genealogist. They are taken from "THE SURNAMES OF SCOTLAND" by George F. Black, Ph. D.

The name was corrupted from the Latin deVallibus to Vauxes some place along the line between the time they settled in North England. It was further corrupted to Vaus when some of them moved into East Lothian, Scotland. In Scotland the name had a further translation from Vaus to Vans. It must be remembered that very few people could read and write and that names were often mispronounced and then took on a new pronunciation.

All through this movement there were some of them who were obviously of the aggressive leadership type because they occupied considerable land most, of which they took with the sword, through service to the king or by personal capture and appropriation. Robert de Vallibus is referred to as "a wickytt man" in the Chartularies of Muchelney and Attielny. The characteristic of aggressive

leadership is evidenced through the family right down to the present. The Vance's movement into Scotland from England came during the reign of King David I and of his successor, Malcolm, who was crowned in 1143. At that time Philip de Vallibus owned land on the border between England and Scotland. Soon after this, in 1394 William de Vallibus, of his family, became proprietor of a barony in Dirleton, East Lothian, Scotland, during the reign of David II. William had married the heiress of Barnbarroch and so the Vances became the owner of Barnbarroch as well. The male heirs ran out in time, but there was the descendant of a younger son named Alexander Vaux who owned the Bishopric of Galloway which includes Barnbarroch. There was some question that he was a cleric. He took the title to all of the property of Barnbarroch and other baronies they had acquired in Galloway. This was in 1426. The history goes on from there down to the time that a branch of the family moved to North Ireland.

The known genealogy of these Vance's is as follows:

Alexander Vans, Bishop of Galloway in 1426. Younger son of the last Vans (Vaus) of Dirleton in East Lothian. Influenced the first grant in Galloway to Robert Vans, his son, from William, Earl of Douglas, and Avondale, Lord of Galloway, in January 28, 1426.

Robert Vans married Lady Euphenia Graham, daughter of the Earl of Monteitt. They had ten children.

Elaise, born , died February 26,
1482.

Thomas, became Dean of Glasgow and ambassador to England in 1457.

George, became Bishop of Galloway in 1489.

Patrick

Alexander

John

Also four daughters.

Blaise Vans, married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Shaw of Haillie. They had three children.

Patrick

Margaret, married Thomas Hannay of Cassenoch.

Ninian, became Prior of Quch. He had a son John, who was his executor, September 28, 1528. (Priors were permitted to have sons).

Patrick Vans, succeeded to title in 1482, married Margaret, daughter of Gilbert, served Lord Kennedy. Had one son, John. Patrick died in 1528.

John Vans, married Janet, daughter of Sir Simon McCulloch of Wigtown. Killed at Pinkiecleugh in 1547. Had two sons, Alexander and Patrick.

Alexander Vans, married first Janet Kennedy and second Euphemia, daughter of Sir John Dunbar of Mochrum December 3, 1566. Received confirmation of titles from Mary, Queen of Scotland after her coronation. Had a daughter, Helen, who married Alexander McKie. Alexander had no sons.

Patrick Vans, inherited titles November 10, 1567, from his brother Alexander. Married first Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Hugh Kennedy of Girvanmains. They had no issue. His second wife was Lady Catherine, daughter of Gilbert III, Earl of Cassilis and widow of Sir William Wallace of Craigil. Marriage license dated at Maybole March 19, 1573, marriage to be consummated between April 6 and 12. Patrick was knighted in 1580 and became close personal friend of King James VI, later James I of England. Received appointment of James VI to his Lords of Council and Sessions. Made ambassador by James VI to Denmark and after seeing Princess Anne, sister of Christian IV, King of Denmark, approved her fit for marriage to James VI, which was later consummated. His children were:

John of Longcastle

Patrick of Lybrach

Robert of Camford

Alexander

Isabel, married first David Murray of Broughton in 1562 and second Hugh Maxwell.

Florence, Married Homer Maxwell of Camsalloch.

Jean, married John Gordon of Craichlan.

Euphenia, married Alexander Baillie of Dungarrit in 1591.

Grizell, married first John Kennedy of Barwhannie in 1578 and second John McDowall of Logan.

Janet, married Adair.

Elizabeth, married John Shaw of Sornlieg in 1592.

Catherine, married William Honstown of Cutreoch in 1594.

Margaret, married first John Dunbar of Orchardtown in 1568 and second John Creighton in 1570.

Mary, married John McDawall of Freigh.

A daughter

John Vans, son of Patrick, known as John of Longcastle, married Margaret, daughter of Uchtred McDawall of Garthland. Knighted after 1595. He was a gentleman of the Chamber of James VI. Died 1642. Received charter to abbey of Crossaguel for life from James VI in 1587. His children were:

Patrick, had a son John who became heir of John of Longcastle.

Andrew, probably the father of Dr. Lancelot Vance, a clergyman who moved to Ceagh, Ireland between 1630 and 1640.

Janet, married Archibald Maxwell.

Margaret, married James Gordon of Buittle.

Grizell, married John Glendiunen of Drumrash.

Patrick, married D. Grizell Johnstone, Lady of Orchardtown, daughter of John Johnstone in 1615. Resided at Mochrum in 1629 and later moved to Holland. His children were:

John, who inherited Barnbarroch from John of Longcastle, his grandfather.

Alexander, who inherited Barqubannie.

Florence, married Roger Gordon November 26, 1641.

Margaret, married James Maxwell of Breckenside.

Euphemia, married Andrew Dunbar of Kilconquber
February 12, 1659.

John Vans, married Grizell, daughter of John McCulloch
of Wigtown in 1649. Title passed to Alexander of
Barquhannie, his brother. Had one son John who died
early.

Alexander Vans of Barquhannie inherited title from his
brother John. Had one son Patrick.

Patrick Vans, married first Jean Campbell with no living
heirs and second married Barbara, daughter of Patrick
McDawall of Freugh February 28, 1715, by whom they had
six sons and six daughters. He became the first M. P.
from Wigtownshire after union of Scotland and England
with parliament.

John, b. 1724

Barbara, married Clugston

Anne, married Hugh Hawthorn of Castlewig.

Elizabeth, died unmarried.

The names of the other children are unknown.

John Vans, succeeded his father in 1733. Married
Margaret, daughter of Robert Agnew of Sheuchan in
1747. She died in 1762. He assumed the name of
Agnew and descendants have used that name since as
Vans-Agnew. He died in 1780. His children were:

Robert, born 1755

Patrick, married his cousin, Grace, daughter
of Hawthorn of Castlewig.

John, married Elizabeth, daughter of Colonel
Stephens. Left one son and three daughters.

Robina, married Kennedy of Pinnore.

Barbara, died unmarried.

Margaret, died unmarried.

Robert Vans-Agnew, married Frances, daughter of
John Dunlop. His children were:

Robert, died before his father. Robert Van-
Agnew died in 1809 and succeeded by his son
John.

John

James

Patrick

Henry Stuart

Frances

Georgina

Anna Maria

John Vans-Agnew, succeeded to the title of his father, Robert, on January 31, 1809. He died in 1835 and was succeeded by his brother Patrick.

Patrick Vans-Agnew was a Lieutenant Colonel in the East India Company. He married Catherine, daughter of de Frazier in Vernonshire. He died in 1842.

Robert, who served in the rifle brigade and succeeded to the title.

Patrick Alexander, East India Company's Civil Service. Killed at Moulton in 1849.

William, died in 1833.

John, married Frances, daughter of Colonel Jenkins and has descendants who were James, Civil Service East India Company; George, Civil Service East India Company, married Rosa, daughter of G. Wilson.

Mary, married Col. E. Jeffreys, C. B.

Elizabeth

Catherine

Robert Vans-Agnew, married Mary Elizabeth, daughter of Sir David Hunter Blair, Baronet of Blairquhan in 1852.

Patrick Alexander

James David

John

Elizabeth

Catherine

Mary

This brings the genealogy of the Vances of Barnbarroch down to practically the present. It is thought that Dr. Lancelot Vans, probably the son of Andrew, second son of John of Longcastle, and others among whom was his son John Vance, known as John of Coagh, moved from Wigtown to North Ireland about 1630 or 1640 during the religious dissension mentioned above. We know of four of his sons; John, James, David and William who moved with him. John was a clergyman and we know of five of his sons who came to America, one of whom was Andrew Vans, born between 1666 and 1668, in North Ireland, who immigrated to Pennsylvania about 1733 or 1734. In America we begin with this Andrew Vance for the genealogy down to Samuel Vance II and his descendants, who settled in Paris.

First Generation

Andrew Vance, son of John of Coagh, born about 1666 in North Ireland and came from there to Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, in 1733 or 1734 with four brothers, John, James, David and William. From there he moved to Chester County, Pennsylvania, and again in 1736 to Virginia to become one of the founders of the Opequon Settlement in what became Frederick County. His first wife was probably Susan Thorn. His second wife, from his Will, was named Jane Hoge. He died in Frederick County, Virginia, and his Will was filed December 19, 1750. His children were Samuel Vance I, Andrew Vance, Alexander and John Vance.

The brothers of Andrew, who came with him from North Ireland to Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, appear in some records in Penn-

sylvania and in Virginia. John apparently died in 1754 in Virginia. His wife's name was Elizabeth. He had four children of record named John, Elizabeth, Hannah and Alexander. Elizabeth married a Mathew and Hannah married a Crawford.

James, brother of Andrew who came with him from North Ireland, married Mary Gamble Glass in Ireland in 1734. He married again and his second wife's name was Elizabeth. He died in Frederick County, Virginia, having moved there from Pennsylvania in 1741, and his Will is found among the Frederick County unpublished papers in the Virginia State Library. The Will was dated February 26, 1750. He had been given a grant in Beverly Manor, a large tract in what is now Augusta and Rockingham Counties. His brother William Vance and his brother-in-law Robert Glass were executors of his Will. His brother David and William Stevenson were appointed guardians of his children who were apparently all under age at the time of James death. His children were Mary, Samuel, Sarah and William all of whom moved to Ohio. This data is also from the unpublished records of Frederick County in the Virginia State Library.

David Vance, another brother of Andrew, married Elizabeth Colville probably in North Ireland. He died in Frederick County, Virginia, in 1767. A Samuel Vance, Jr. who may have been a nephew whose father did not immigrate from Ireland, was executor. David's children were David; Joseph Colville, born March 24, 1759, who moved to Kentucky and later to Ohio; John who is shown as under twenty-one in 1761; Mary Ann who married a Joseph Vance, probably her cousin; Martha who married Solomon Vail and Janet who married Miles Wilson.

In the second generation besides Samuel I, whose sketch appears

below, there were four Vances mentioned in early records. An Alexander Vance (whose father I do not know), Andrew Vance who settled in Frederick County, Virginia, and was allowed pay by the Assembly for service to the French and Indian War; John Vance who moved from Pennsylvania to Frederick County with his parents. He is probably the son of John Vance who married Elizabeth and died in Frederick County in 1754. This second generation John was allowed pay by the Assembly for the French and Indian War. He appears in 1749 appointed in Augusta County to lay off a road from Esekial Calhoun to Woods River. In the fall of 1748 he acquired 192 acres on Reed Creek. He sold the above land to Robert Miller. Later in 1745 he is shown as having made a trip to the New River with John Buchanan. This was an unsettled area at that time. On February 26, 1760, he proposed to buy 300 acres from Hugh Carruthias on a branch of Loonne's Creek which adjoined William Harbison in Augusta County. His Will was proven May 12, 1782. He served in the militia under Captain Patrick Martin August 4 to September 9, 1756. This was sworn to December 16, 1756. In his Will, which was dated October 3, 1780, his heirs are as follows: a wife, Martha; oldest son Samuel and sons Benjamin, James and William. In the second generation a William Vance appears. He was probably the son of John Vance above who had married Mary Gamble Glass. He was born in 1718 before the immigration from Ireland and he died in 1788. He fought in the French and Indian War and moved to Washington County, Pennsylvania, in 1778 with a son Joseph and nephew John, probably a son of his brother John mentioned above. From there with son Joseph he moved to Ohio where Joseph became prominent in early politics, holding I believe the office of Governor of Ohio at one time.

An Alexander Vance and an Andrew Vance are also mentioned and Andrew was given pay for service in the French and Indian War, and settled in Frederick County, Virginia. All of the above data is from the following sources: (1) p. 371, Tennessee Historical Magazine, 1920, Knox County Tennessee Marriage License Register, (2) p. 257, Kegley's Virginia Frontier 1740-1783, by F. B. Kegley, (3) Ibid, p. 117, (4) Ibid, p. 124, (5) Ibid, p. 127, (6) Ibid, p. 166. (7) Ibid, p. 348, (8) p. 225 Chalkley's #1 Chronicles of Scotch Irish Settlement in Virginia, (9) Ibid, p. 518, (10) Chalkley's #3 Chronicles of Scotch Irish Settlement in Virginia.

From here on we will interest ourselves only with Samuel Vance I and his descendants because Samuel Vance I was a direct ancestor of Samuel Vance II who came to Illinois.

Second Generation

Samuel Vance I, born in 1691, married Sarah Colville in Ireland. They came first to Pennsylvania, then to Opequon Settlement, Frederick County, and then to Washington County, Virginia. Records indicate that Samuel I and Sarah and their children moved from Frederick County to Washington County between 1769 and 1772. Samuel I and Sarah became founders of the Sinking Springs Presbyterian Church at Black's Fort, later Abingdon, and are buried in the church cemetery. Their tombstone indicates that they were "both from Ireland early in life." The Will of Samuel I was dated March 31, 1778, and recorded at Abingdon, August 18, 1778. His children are as follows:

John Vance, February 12, 1736, Frederick County, Virginia,
m. Jane Black

Elizabeth Vance, m. George Blackburn

Margaret Vance, m. John Lusk

Joseph Vance, m. Mary

David Vance, 1745, m. Priscilla Brank, 1775

Samuel Vance, Jr., 1749, d. 1838, m. Margaret Laughlin

Andrew Vance

James Vance

Robert Vance

The above order of births may not be correct.

Before we continue with John Vance in whom we are most interested, a few things should be said about the children of Samuel Vance I. David Vance, born 1745, married Priscilla Brank in North Carolina, where he moved in 1775. He served in the Revolution at Kings Mountain. He had a son named David who married Margaret Baird, daughter of Zebulon Baird, and to this union was born Zebulon Baird Vance who became Governor of North Carolina and later U. S. Senator. Zebulon Vance was born at the Vance homestead on May 13, 1830. Zebulon had a brother, son of David and Margaret, named Robert Baird Vance born in 1828, who was a general in the Confederate army. Another son of Priscilla and David, and uncle of Zebulon, was Dr. Robert Baird Vance, who in 1824 was a member of Congress from North Carolina and in 1826 was killed in a duel.

Samuel, Jr. son of Samuel I was born in 1749, married Margaret Laughlin, who was born in 1756 in Chester County, Pennsylvania. In general Joseph Vance's notes which follow this sketch Samuel, Jr. is referred to as Samuel II. In this sketch Samuel II is the son of John Vance who was an older brother of Samuel, Jr. Samuel, Jr. served in the Battle of Point Pleasant in Lord Dunmore's War and was in Captain Colville's company at the Battle of Kings Mountain. He and Margaret had twelve children. During his lifetime in Washington County, Virginia, he made many large land transactions and obviously became very well to do. He and Margaret are buried in the Sinking Springs Cemetery at Abingdon. Their children were: (1) Samuel, b. 1784 at Washington County, Virginia d. Clarksville, Tennessee, m. Elizabeth Brown on April 2, 1823, in Tennessee, (2) Robert, m. Steele, (3) Harriet, m. Sharpe, (4) David, m. Katie Davis, (5) James, b. July, 1792, m. Mildred Balfour, d. August 16, 1846,

(6) Margaret, m. Abram Fulkerson (grandparents of Katie L. Hurst, who did much research sometime ago on the Vance family), (7) John, m. King, (8) Elizabeth, m. Bradley, (9) Jane, m. Keller, (10) Andrew, m. Sherman, (11) Sally, m. Brunson, and (12) Infant.

Samuel died in 1838 and Margaret died November 6, 1814. Elizabeth Vance, the fourth child of Samuel Vance I, married George Blackburn. Margaret Vance, the fifth child, married John Lusk.

Third Generation

This section deals with John Vance, oldest son of Samuel Vance I, and his wife Jane Black and their children.

John Vance was born February 12, 1736, in the Opequon Settlement, now Frederick County, Virginia. He died August 20, 1823, and is buried at the family cemetery on his farm in Washington County, Virginia. I have a picture of his tombstone and that of Jane, his wife. He married Jane Black, daughter of John Black, November 15, 1759, at the Opequon Presbyterian Church in Frederick County. Their marriage is found in the Frederick County unpublished records in the Virginia State Library along with other data pertaining to John and Jane. Jane was born in Frederick County, Virginia, on February 4, 1741. She died in Washington County, Virginia, February 2, 1824, and is buried beside John in the family cemetery on their farm.

John and Jane moved with her brother Joseph Black and other members of his family, from Frederick County, Virginia, to what is

now Washington County, probably a year ahead of the immigration of Samuel Vance I and others in his family. Joseph Black built a fort known as Black's Fort which later became Abingdon and it was near this fort that John Vance, the Blacks, the Blackburns, the other Vances, the Colvilles and quite a number from the Opequon Settlement settled land.

Many references are made to John Vance in Summer's Annals of Southwest Virginia, Chalkley's Chronicles of Scotch Irish Settlement in Virginia. Here are some of the entries from Summer's: Page 615, John Vance ordered by the court in Fincastle County (Washington County was then a part of Fincastle) to clear a road. William Blackburn was also in the party. (John's son Samuel II later married William Blackburn's daughter, Mary Jane) and pp. 957, 974, 983, 999, 1003, 1034, 1052, 1072, 1099, and 1137 refer to John's jury services and his services as appraiser of various estates.

Pp. 153-155 tell the story of John being a lieutenant in the Battle of Point Pleasant and wounded in action in the battle (this is in the History of the Southwest Virginia by Summer, another volume than the Annals of Southwest Virginia). Now back to the Annals of Southwest Virginia. Page 1087 proved to the court on August 27, 1781, John was entitled to 200 acres of land under the King of Great Britain Proclamation of 1763 and hadn't yet received it. John later brought suit against Francis Walker, son of Dr. William Walker who first received a grant for several thousand acres of which later Washington County became a part, and John won the suit and received title to the land on which he had settled. This land was known as the Wolf Hill Tract and this tract included the farm where John Vance settled as well as the land where Black's Fort was

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located.

Further reference to John Vance at the Battle of Point Pleasant is in Kegley's Virginia Frontier which I found in the Virginia State Library. Pp. 623-624 relate details of the Battle of Point Pleasant on October 10, 1774 at the point of the Kanhawa and Ohio River with Colonel Charles Lewis in command and that Lieutenant John Vance was wounded. Kegley took this from Colonel William Preston's report to Patrick Henry of Dunmore's War on page 295 and 297 of this report. Page 1354 of Summer's Annals of South-West Virginia indicated that John Vance was a member of the Ebbing Springs and Sinking Springs Congregations in 1772. William, George and Arthur Blackburn were also members of these same congregations.

John Vance was a militiaman in the Battle of Kings Mountain. In Summer's History of Southwest Virginia, Pages 841 and 846, relating to Washington County for the years 1777 to 1780, his service is related. Of this same volume on page 841, John Vance appears as a list of constables for Washington County in 1777 to 1784. On page 864, Ibid, John Vance appears in a list of Revolutionary soldiers from Washington County at the Battle of Kings Mountain.

John and Jane had the following children:

James Vance, b. 9/5/1760 Frederick County, Virginia, d. Abingdon, 5/10/1836, m. Bethiah Kinkaid 8/15/1782.

John Black Vance, b. 11/20/1762 Frederick County, d. in infancy.

Elizabeth Vance, b. 2/6/1765 Frederick County.

Andrew, b. 7/12/1767 Frederick County, d. 10/1818, unmarried, Abingdon.

Samuel Vance II, b. 12/27/1769 Frederick County, d. 5/6/1856 Paris, Illinois, m. Mary Blackburn 2/4/1793.

Joseph, b. 11/21/1772 Washington County, Virginia, m.
Patty Apperson on 8/25/1813.

Esther, b. 1/21/1776 Washington County, Virginia, m. Rev.
Stephen Bovell on 3/8/1798.

Christian, b. 4/23/1778, Washington County, Virginia.

John, b. 9/7/1783, Washington County, Va., d. 10/15/1830,
m. Sarah Boyd, b. 3/27/1784, d. 4/19/1850, Paris, Illinois.

Jane, b. 1790, Washington County, Virginia, d. 1831
Washington County, Va. unmarried.

Samuel Vance II, the fifth child of John and Jane, is the one in whom we are primarily interested, he being the one who settled Paris, Illinois. Some history about the other Vance children is worth relating. James Vance, the oldest child, was a Revolutionary soldier. He enlisted when only sixteen years of age on August, 1776, as a private in Captain Robert Craig's company under Colonel William Christian against the Cherokee Indians. In 1777 he served one month under Captain Samuel Newell at a place called Long Island on the Virginia frontier in an Indian battle. Also in 1780 he volunteered and served under Captain Andrew Colville, Colonel Evan Shelby's Regiment at the Battle of King's Mountain. McALLISTER'S VIRGINIA MILITIA IN THE REVOLUTION, p. 258, shows James living as a pensioner of the Revolution in Washington County in 1835. James married Bethiah Kinkaid August 15, 1782; Rev. Stephen Bovellz, his brother-in-law, performed the ceremony. Bethiah was born June 10, 1759 and died May 11, 1833. Her grave and headstone were found in the family cemetery in the John Vance farm. James is also probably buried there but no stone has been found for his grave. A headstone for Jane Vance, born May 26, 1790, died March 14, 1831 was found next to Bethiah's. The cemetery has been uncared for in recent years and James' headstone may have disintegrated.

Andrew Vance, fourth child of John and Jane who died in 1818, had a Will which is found in the Washington County Court Records. He was obviously unmarried and without children, because he leaves his property except for small bequests, to three nephews, Andrew Vance, son of James Vance; Andrew Milton Vance, son of Samuel Vance II; and Andrew Vance, son of John Vance. James was the oldest son of John and Jane Vance. Samuel was the fifth child and John was the youngest child.

Joseph Vance, sixth child of John and Jane born November 21, 1772 in Washington County, married Patty Apperson.

Esther Vance, seventh child born January 21, 1776, married Stephen Bovell, the clergyman. John Vance, the youngest son, came with his older brother Samuel to Illinois and brought his family with him. He married Sarah Boyd and reference is made to them in this manner in Edgar County, Illinois, Court Records. His daughter Elizabeth in the Edgar County Illinois Court Records of September 30, 1831, in an action of Vance vs. Vance testified that Samuel Vance was her uncle and that Andrew was her uncle, Andrew being the bachelor who stayed in Abingdon County, Virginia. On page 36 of the same court records Samuel Vance says that John was his brother. There is evidence in this record that John died indigent at Paris, Illinois. Jane was the last child born to John and Jane and died unmarried. She is buried in the family cemetery on John Vance's farm near Abingdon.

Fourth Generation

We are dealing only with Samuel Vance II, son and fifth child of John and Jane Black Vance. His middle name was Colville for his grandmother Sarah Colville Vance, although he seldom used it but

reference is made to him in some records as Samuel G.

As has been stated, he was born December 27, 1769, in Frederick County, Virginia, to John and Jane before they moved from Frederick County to what was to become Washington County, Virginia. He married Mary Jane Blackburn, daughter of William Blackburn, in Washington County, Virginia, on February 4, 1793. They were probably married by Rev. Stephen Bovell, who was to become his brother-in-law. Samuel died in Paris, Illinois, on May 6, 1856, and Mary died there on May 1, 1852. Both of them were buried in the old Presbyterian Cemetery which was on the tract where the Vance School in Paris, Illinois, now stands. Their bodies with others in this cemetery, most of whom were descendants of those who immigrated with Samuel and Mary from Washington County, Virginia, were moved to Edgar Cemetery when the school was erected.

Their children were:

Jane, b. 1/1/1794 Abingdon, Va., d. 2/26/1840, Paris Illinois.

Elizabeth, b. 3/19/1795 and d. 12/12/1795

William Blackburn Vance, b. 8/3/1796 Abingdon, Virginia d. 9/17/1875 Paris, Illinois.

John P. Vance, b. 2/13/1798 Abingdon, Va. d. 10/1829.

James, b. 2/16/1800 Abingdon, Virginia and d. 5/10/1824 Paris, Illinois, unmarried.

Stephen Bovell Vance, b. 12/1/1801 Abingdon, Va. and d. 11/12/1815 Maryville, Tennessee.

Andrew Wilton Vance, b. 1/3/1804 Abingdon, Virginia and d. 9/10/1868 at Cassville, Missouri.

Young Vance, b. 11/5/1805 Abingdon, Virginia and d. 11/13/1815 Maryville, Tennessee.

Joseph Black Vance, b. 2/15/1808 Abingdon, Virginia and d. 5/29/1883 Paris, Illinois

Eliza B. Vance, b. 7/15/1810 Abingdon, Va. and d. 7/17/1847 Paris, Illinois.

Samuel Colville Vance, b. 2/2/1813 Maryville, Tenn. and d. 3/27/1864 Paris, Illinois.

Mary Vance, b. 5/25/1817 Maryville, Tenn. and d. 12/24/1883 Paris, Illinois, unmarried.

Samuel Vance secured two islands in the Tennessee River in Blout County near Maryville, Tennessee by grant from the State of Tennessee. These grants were probably transfers of state property to him for a small consideration because they were unoccupied from the time of the state's organization and before had not been entered or granted to any other persons. The grants refer to an Act of the Assembly prepared at Murphreesborough (Murfreesboro) on November 16, 1821, that an act was passed for the relief of Samuel Vance II and there is granted to him in the State of Tennessee, and to his heirs, a certain tract containing thirty-one acres in consideration of so many dollars paid (amount not stated) the Treasurer of the State of Tennessee. This was a part of Timothy Island No. One in the Tennessee River. Then again, by the same act, another grant containing twenty acres under the same conditions on the same island. The grants are dated May 7, 1822 after a survey was made on April 23 of the same year pursuant to the act of the legislature awarding him these tracts. A third grant was made for thirty-four acres which was the whole Tuckegu Island in the Tennessee River and the papers, likewise, were drawn and signed by the governor for this at the same time as the others: May 7, 1822.

Between July 15, 1810 when Eliza Blackburn, a daughter of Samuel II and Mary was born in Abingdon, Virginia, and May 2, 1813 when Samuel Colville, the next child of Samuel II and Mary was born in Maryville, Tennessee, they had moved from Abingdon to Maryville.

Their last two children were born at Maryville. Samuel II did not own the island land long because on September 1, 1822 he sold all three tracts to John McGhee for \$850.00 and almost immediately set out with several of his children and their families, the McConkeys and some other families, for Illinois.

There is some difference of opinion as to the exact route followed by this colony as it moved from Abingdon, Virginia, where it was organized by Samuel Vance II, to Illinois. There is no question that they moved over the Wilderness Trail, through Cumberland Gap, which had then become quite a thoroughfare for settlers moving west. When they got to that part of Kentucky where the Trail is south of Paris, Kentucky, they apparently went north through that community and then on north, crossing the Ohio River where Madison, Indiana is now. They were looking for a good land cheap for a great number of people and they must have stopped in Jennings County, Indiana. One branch of the Vance family of whom a Robert Vance was the oldest stayed there. He was probably a nephew of Samuel's. He reared his family there and descendants are living in that county now. Some of Robert's descendants later came to Paris, Illinois, and then on to Chrisman, Illinois. While in Paris they became members of the Presbyterian Church.

It can be supposed that the trek then took the group from Jennings County (apparently they were not all of them satisfied with this location) on northwest, probably through Terre Haute, Indiana, to what is now Edgar County, Illinois.

At that time this area was very sparsely settled. Henry Clay had entered sixteen hundred acres in the east part of what was later Edgar County in 1817 from government lands. Clark County had been

organized and included all the area north to the Wisconsin Territory. The place where Samuel Vance II and his colony stopped was then a part of Clark County. It had been surveyed and soon after the decision to stop here, Samuel and others of the men went to Palestine, Illinois to enter tracts which they had decided to buy from the government. They had arrived here before October 11, 1822, which means they had moved almost directly to this area from Virginia because you will recall that Samuel II sold out his Tennessee River Islands on September 1, 1822. Samuel III's first tract was eighty acres entered on October 11, 1822. Subsequently, two eighty acre tracts and one 164.96 acre tract were entered on January 4, 1823. On April 15, 1823 he entered another eighty acres and on October 14, 1830, after the town was organized and some land sales had been made by Samuel II, including lots in the new town, he secured three more eighty acre tracts.

His sons John P. Vance and William Blackburn Vance entered eighty acres together August 27, 1829, but previous to this, John P. Vance, his son, had entered two eighty acre tracts--one December 31, 1824, and another December 27, 1825. These two tracts and the partnership tract above lay adjacent to one another. Andrew Milton Vance, Samuel II's son, entered an eighty acre tract on November 9, 1829 and another of the same size on March 17, 1830.

Edgar County was organized on April 3, 1823 with John B. Alexander, Charles Ives and Elijah Austin as commissioners. On April 15, 1823, Samuel Vance gave his bond for \$10,000.00 to the commissioners of the new county to guarantee that he would convey twenty-six acres which had its center at a certain jack oak tree which had been blazed and agreed upon by Samuel Vance II and the commissioners. The plot

of the town was recorded May 31, 1823 and surveys for the town were all made from this jack oak tree and the lots for the original town were surveyed and the streets layed out with the jack oak as the center.

When the surveys were completed it was found that a narrow strip along the east line of the town would be on land belonging to Jonathon Mayo and Mayo required Vance to pay him \$100.00 for the deed to this narrow strip of land which contained only about one acre. Similarly, it was found that the town's south border encroached on Smith Shaw's holdings a similar amount, but Shaw only charged Vance \$5.00 for this; he appreciated Samuel's generosity in giving the 26 acres. There was a good deal of feeling in the new community about Mayo's avarice, particularly since he was making this abnormal and unreasonable requirement of Vance who had been so generous in giving all of the land to start the new town. Samuel bought the land from both and the town was layed out and lots sold and with funds from these lots the first court house was built which was made of logs and stood on the southwest side of the public square on the north side of the street that runs east and west across the square and directly across from what is now Pearman's Drug Store.

Samuel II moved to the edge of the prairie and built his log house where now stands a very large two story brick house which was used at one time by Palmer Academy which is one block north of the intersection of Prairie Street, Maple Avenue and the Cherry Point Road. William Blackburn Vance built his house on the southwest corner of North Central and Andrew Street where the present A & P store stands. Soon the Vances sold land all around William Blackburn's place and it became necessary for him to pasture his cows

and other stock out at his father's place where there was more room. His sons drove the cows through the woods to his father's place and this cow track later became Prairie Avenue. I believe that Samuel II and Mary both died at their home on Cherry Point Road. I do not have knowledge of them living in any other location.

Samuel II and, particularly, his son John P Vance were aggressive business men. Samuel II bought more land further north and west of the new town and subsequently sold it at a good profit. Of course because of his having started the town, he was one of its leading citizens. He was a man of considerable aggressiveness, determination and some temper as is evidenced by the church trial where he was brought before the Presbyterian congregation by John McConkey and also in the manner in which he handled the estate of his son, John P. Vance.

Samuel II, Mary and others of the family founded the Presbyterian Church on November 6, 1824. On February 21, 1832, John McConkey, who claimed to be a member of that church, but was not, asked for a church trial that Samuel Vance II might be tried because he refused to give a deed to McConkey from the estate of his son, John P. Vance, for a small piece of ground which McConkey claimed he had paid John P. Vance for but for which he had never received the deed. John P. Vance had deeded McConkey eighty acres of land for which McConkey paid him \$400.00 on August 4, 1829. This was the tract on which the present American Legion Home stands on the old Chicago-Vincennes Trail, Illinois State Route 1, at the north edge of Paris. McConkey claimed he was to receive a deed for another small tract. The church Session appointed Milton Alexander, E. Y. Russell, and T. M. Brooks as a committee to hear the evidence and adjudicate the matter for the church. The trial was held in the old brick house built by Alexander,

which we now own and which is directly south of our Store on South Central Avenue. This was Alexander's home at the time. When the meeting was held, Alexander, who wanted no quarrel with Vance and must have felt that Vance was correct in his stand, left the room and closed the door so that he would not be a part of the trial. McConkey stated his case, Vance stated his side of the case and the two committee members directed Vance to give a deed to McConkey from the estate of John P. Vance for the tract of land in controversy. This Vance flatly refused to do and the church board excluded him from church privileges "until he gives satisfactory evidence of his repentance." Samuel II never entered the church after this date but Mary continued to attend.

Since John McConkey's name has been brought into this sketch, an incident can be parenthetically told here which affects our family. The land on which our Store stands, as well as the building north of it, was all open yard as a part of the home of Milton Alexander who, incidentally, was the town's first postmaster, operating a store and post office where Pearman's Drug Store is now located. During the Indian wars in the south, Alexander had received a lieutenant's commission in Andrew Jackson's army and he felt himself to be quite a military man. In fact, he probably knew more about military drill than any other individual in the little Paris community. During the Blackhawk War he was given a Brigadier General's commission by the State of Illinois and from then on was known as General Alexander. At the beginning of the Mexican War he helped organize a company of troops to go into Mexico which later became a part of Zachary Taylor's army, and of this company John McConkey was the Captain. David Link, younger brother of Christopher Link, my great grandfather, was a private in the

company and he lost his life in Mexico. There is a sweet, nostalgic letter from David, who was a mere boy and very homesick, to his brother Christopher while in Mexico which is in my possession.

Samuel II participated in another church trial, but as a judge and not as defendant. The New Providence Presbyterian Church (then known as New Hope) requested the Paris church to send them three commissioners to adjudicate a controversy in that congregation. It seems that Thomas Black (the older brother of Cloa Black Middleton, my great great grandmother) contended that a Asenath McKnown had sold him a skein of thread which he had hung on a nail in his cabin where it remained for about a year before he use it. When he decided to use it, he took it down and he contended that it was not of the quality that Asenath McKown had represented it to be. Samuel Vance II headed the commissioners from Paris to hear this trial. This was before Samuel had been expelled from the Paris congregation. The commissioners found for the defendant and against Black.

All of this and much genealogical data about early Paris settlers as well as the Vances, is in the church record of the Paris Presbyterian Church. Some years ago I had this transcribed into three copies for its historical value. One copy is in the Paris Public Library, one copy is in the library of the Paris High School and one copy is in the State Historical Library in Springfield.

As I have said before, Samuel Vance II must have been an intelligent, aggressive and determined individual. These characteristics are not only evidenced by his movement bringing with him a considerable number of people from Abingdon to the Edgar County area long before there were settlements in that part of Illinois, but they are further revealed in the manner in which he settled the estate of his son John P

Vance. More about this will be indicated in the sketch of John P. Vance that follows.

Jane Vance, the oldest child of Samuel II, married Samuel Utter September 5, 1815 at Abingdon. They had children and although these children were small when the immigration was made to Illinois, Jane and Samuel joined it and established themselves southeast of what was then Paris. Jane died February 26, 1840 in Paris, Illinois. There is a large two story brick house on the south side of East Crawford Street, in Paris, Illinois, a little west of where Crawford street ends which was built by Utter and which is still standing and in use.

William Blackburn Vance, the oldest son of Samuel II, married, first Nancy Shellady on February 5, ~~1824~~¹⁸²² in Blount County, Tennessee. Nancy died in Paris, Illinois August 15, 1826. Children born to William and Nancy were Andrew Young, b. December 23, 1824, Paris, Illinois, d. August 1, 1859, Paris, Illinois; Nancy b. August 15, 1826, Paris, Illinois, d. August 15, 1826. Secondly, William Blackburn Vance married Ardilla Earley July 22, 1829 in Paris, Illinois. She was born February 28, 1808 in Coles County and died September 18, 1833. To William Blackburn Vance and Ardilla Earley were born two sons, John P. b. April 15, 1830, Paris, Illinois, d. June 21, 1864, Corsicana, Texas and James Lemeuel, b. August 22, 1832, Paris, Illinois, d. April 22, 1917, Paris, Illinois.

John P. married Sarah Chestnut of Paris, Illinois and had one daughter named Ardilla Olive. She married John Hardman. Sarah Chestnut was the daughter of Oliver Chestnut and Mary Alexander, who in turn was the daughter of General Milton K. Alexander.

James married Sarah Ann Brown, Daughter of Charles R. and Hannah Brown b. November 6, 1836, Culpepper Court House, Virginia, d. Paris,

Illinois. They had eight children—Charles W., Estella Ardilla, Henry Emmett, James Edwin, John Warren, Albert, Archie Samuel, Robert Burns. Dates of the birth of these are in the notes on General Vance which follows.

William Blackburn Vance married, third, Sarah Wampler, daughter of Joseph Wampler and Sarah Stevens, at Grandview, Edgar County, Illinois March 16, 1840. Sarah Stevens Wampler was born in Steubenville, Ohio, March 6, 1811. To this marriage were born four children—Joseph Wampler, b. Paris, Illinois March 21, 1841; William Kavanaugh, b. Paris, Illinois, December 8, 1843, d. October 31, 1886 Corsicana, Texas; Samuel Blackburn, b. Paris, Illinois December 18, 1847, d. February 18, 1849, Paris, Illinois; Wesley Black, b. August 18, 1850, Paris, Illinois, d. November 29, 1906, Chrisman, Illinois, unmarried. Joseph W. Vance, whose notes of the Vance family are a part of this Vance history, did a great deal of research on the Vance family with much correspondence from years ago. He graduated from West Point and at the beginning of the Civil War, joined the 21st Illinois Infantry organized at Mattoon, Illinois, as a 1st Lieutenant. Ulysses S. Grant was the Colonel of this regiment and he saw his first service in the Civil War with this command. Joseph fought through the war and after returning to Paris became prominent in politics in eastern Illinois. I believe he served one or two terms in the State Legislature and when Joe Pifer became governor, he appointed Joseph Adjutant General of the State of Illinois. Later, after this service, Joseph moved to southern California where he died.

James Edwin Vance, known to our family as Uncle Ed, married Joanna Christie Link, sister of Horace Link, who was my aunt.

William Blackburn, as has been said before, lived a little out

of the original town of Paris at what is now the southwest corner of North Central Avenue and Andrew Streets. He sold his property to Jacob Sholem and purchased and moved to a one story brick house which is still standing at the southwest corner of North Central Avenue and Edgar Streets. He purchased this from Isaac Sheppard.

John P. Vance, the second son of Samuel II and Mary, was like his father in characteristics. Although he was born in Abingdon, Virginia, he died August 10, 1829 on the wilderness trail between Clark County, Illinois, where he had a considerable commercial enterprise, and Abingdon where he still retained two farms. More about this later. On September 27, 1821 he married Anna C. Hagy (Hagey) at Abingdon. Anna was born December 18, 1802. To this marriage were born two children--John Hagy Vance and Mary Vance who later married David Cole. John Hagy acquired property in Paris, having built the house which still stands on the east side of North Main Street, the fourth house north of the corner of Main and Edgar Streets. He dealt in horses and livestock and became well to do. Mary Vance was born September 19, 1822 at Abingdon and died May 25, 1898 at Paris. One of the children of Mary Vance and David Cole was Warren Cole, mentioned at the beginning of this sketch. Full genealogical details about the Hagy family are to be found in THE HAGY FAMILY IN AMERICA by King Albert Hagy and William Anderson Hagy. As a matter of passing interest, Anna Hagy's grandfather was Thomas McCullough who was a militiaman from Washington County, Virginia and was killed at the Battle of King's Mountain. Details about him are to be found in DAR papers of Joanna Christie Link in my files.

John P. Vance, with his wife Anna and their two small children came with his father to Edgar County, Illinois in 1822. He did not

sell his interests, which consisted of two farms, loans to individuals, and other holdings, in Washington County. After having arrived in Edgar County he entered land which is now the Edgar County Fair Grounds and the tract on which the American Legion Home stands immediately north of Paris. In addition to this he purchased a mill from Reason Bell located on Big Creek in the north edge of Clark County where Illinois State Route 1, which was then the old Vincennes to Chicago Trail, crosses the creek and he and Anna moved to that neighborhood where he operated this mill. This mill was a combination grain mill and saw mill and was operated both by water and by oxen. John made several trips back to Washington County, Virginia to look after his property there by horseback and it was on one of these trips that he suddenly became ill and died enroute someplace on the Wilderness Trail where he is buried along side the trail. It is not known where this is, as information was brought about his death and burial by other settlers coming west over the wilderness trail.

It seems that Reason Bell had not delivered a deed for 420 acres which was adjacent to the mill to John P. before his death which John P. had purchased and paid for. Samuel Vance II in the settlement of John P.'s estate secured this deed and had it made to John P.'s children.

After John's death, Anna married Ashur V. Burwell in Clark County. Burwell was apparently a fortune hunter and because Anna was a well-to-do widow, persuaded to make the marriage which occurred in April 1834.

Burwell died within a few years and then Anna married James Gillespy. To this union were born several children in Edgar County, Illinois where Gillespy had land east of Paris. Anna died December 26, 1887 and is buried in the Blackburn Cemetery east of Paris, Illinois.

At the death of John P. Vance, Samuel Vance II, his father, became his administrator. Obviously, Samuel II did not have much confidence in Anna's ability to manage the estate and he immediately had John P.'s children put under the guardianship of Jesse Esarey in Clark County. Samuel II later sold the mill to Esarey. After Esarey purchased the mill, Samuel II had Samuel Prevo made the guardian of John Hagy and Mary Vance until they became of legal age. Both Esarey and Prevo were prominent and highly respected men in the community.

Samuel II kept the estate open until John P.'s children became of age so that the estate would pass directly to these children except for the widow's dower. In the interim, Samuel II found it necessary to sue Ashur Burwell for certain personal property which he had appropriated. After the property was recovered, Samuel II left it with Anna. The settlement of the estate is not only detailed in the Edgar County Court records but also in the court records of Clark County, Illinois and Washington County, Virginia because John P. had property in all three counties. Samuel II, although 62 and 63 at the time, made two trips on horseback from Paris to Abingdon to collect debts of John P.'s estate in 1831 and 1832 and he was allowed \$50.00 from the estate for the expenses of these trips. These must have been arduous trips for a man of Samuel's age because many nights it would be necessary for him to camp along the side of the trail at that time. An inventory of John P.'s estate besides the mill, the farms in Virginia, and the land near Paris, indicates that he had notes on several people in Virginia and one slave here in Illinois which was quite unusual for the time. Although the children of John P. were of age before this date, Samuel II kept the estate open until 1834 and then turned the proceeds over to the children. He seemed determined that Anna should not get her hands on

their share of the estate.

It is interesting to note that after Mary inherited her share and after her marriage to David Cole, that David apparently did not manage her property well. They moved to Livingston, a small town on the National Old Trails Road, and he bought 40 acres of ground and started a tavern. Later he and Mary moved to Marshall where he opened a tavern on the southeast corner of Archer Avenue and 6th Street, which was the first one in Marshall. Apparently these did not succeed very well because later in life they moved to Paris, Illinois where both of them died. In Paris they lived in the small white frame house, third south of Edgar and Main, on the west side of North Main Street, directly across from the Catholic Parish Hall. Full data about them, their descendants and David's antecedents can be found in DESCENDANTS OF JAMES COLE OF PLYMOUTH 1633 by E. B. Cole.

Andrew Milton Vance, seventh child of Samuel II and Mary, moved from Paris to Cassville, Missouri and his descendants are living there now.

Joseph Black Vance, the ninth child of Samuel II and Mary, was married twice, first to Eliza Bovell, second to Eliza Vance Russell. He became a widower, lived with his sister, Mary Vance, who was unmarried, in a house which he built on the southwest corner of North Central Avenue and East Chestnut Street. At the present time this is a Standard Service Station. There is an amusing incident that occurred when Joseph was a very old man. It seems that he was using the outside toilet and while there a rather quick storm came up with a great deal of wind. The building which he occupied at the moment was old and the wind blew it off its foundation, leaving Joseph sitting in a very embarrassing position for passers-by to see.

Eliza B. Vance, tenth child of Samuel II and Mary, married James Jones May 14, 1829 at Paris. Their children were James H. b. 1830, of which no more is known; Harvey, who married Eva Sheppard; Harriet, born May 1834, who died without heirs; Carolyn, born March 1835, who died without heirs; Jarusha, who married a Webster; Elizabeth (Lizzie), who married Ora Neal and John C., who married Mary (Molly) Sheppard.

James came from Whitehall, New York, the same town from which David Cole and his brothers came when they moved to Clark County, Illinois. James first moved to Vigo County and opened a store in a community southwest of Terre Haute called Honey Creek but when Paris was established, he moved to Paris and started the first store here on the north side of the square. At Honey Creek he had been a member of the Presbyterian Church and upon coming to Paris he transferred his membership by letter to the Paris Church. After his death, his son John C. Jones took over the business and took one of the Sheppards, John's brother-in-law, into partnership and the firm became Sheppard and Jones. This partnership later ceased business and John took over the business, which became the Jones Dry Goods Company, and moved the business to the northeast corner of the square where the Root's store is at present. John took his son Harry into partnership with him and the firm prospered after this partnership began because of Harry's aggressiveness so that they made \$20,000.00 the first year according to a statement made by John to his cousin James Lemeuel, who was circuit clerk at the time. John asked James what he would suggest as an investment and James suggested that John purchase the prairie farm northwest of Paris which is now known as the Fisher farm which had first been owned by Samuel Vance II and which he had transferred to James Jones and Eliza and which had been sold at the settlement of James Jones' estate. This farm was

owned by John until his estate was settled at which time it passed to his daughter while Harry, the son, inherited the store. Harry Jones married Anna Augustus and they had one child who is Henry Jones.

John C. settled the estate of his uncle Joseph Black Vance and a list of heirs are to be found in my notes on a letter head of Sheppard and Jones. James and Eliza are buried on the Jones lot west of the mausoleum in Edgar Cemetery.

Samuel Colville Vance, named for his father (notice how the Colville name has come down through the Vance family) lived in the first house west of Tanner School on West Chestnut Street. His first wife was named Amanda and he had children named Stephen Y. Vance and Jennie, who married Dr. Z. T. Stanley. Stephen had one child named Edgar Vance. Jennie had two children named Catherine Stanley and Horace Stanley. By his second marriage, Samuel C. had children named Garland Vance, Mary Vance and Emma Vance. Mary and Emma were teachers in the Oak Park Schools and died unmarried.

Mary Vance, the youngest child of Samuel II and Mary, named for her mother, died at Paris unmarried. Her estate was settled by John C. Jones and she left only personal property to nieces and nephews, one of whom was Mary Vance Cole, and the other was John Hagy Vance, brother and sister.

Following are General Joseph Vance's notes which are incorrect as to a few dates I have checked against court and church records, and from tombstones. Also following is a transcript of Mrs. Sims' notes on research done in 1921. Likewise there follows a history of the Blackburn Family. All have adequate references. They were transcribed by Nancy Jones Stickley of Memphis, Tennessee, in 1921

and 1923, from Mrs. Sims' notebook. Of great importance are the excerpts, which follow, of McKerlee's book. They are well worth reading.

ADDENDUM TO VANCE RESEARCH

COUNTY TYRONE

From Coagh Churchyard, near Donaghendry Parish, Stewartstown:

"In memory of the late John Vance Esq^{re} of Coagh,
Born 1712 Deceased 1799. - Eldest son of Jas. Vance
Esq^{re} who was 2nd - son of John Vance Esq^{re} whose
Father was John Vance the Elder who first obtained
- a Lease of the Lands of Coagh. He was the - Eldest
son of Dr Lancelot Vance surgeon - and afterwards
Colonel of the Coleraine Regiment - Who died from
excessive fatigue within the walls - of Derry during the
memorable siege thereof in - 1689. And whose Father
was the Reverend 7 Vans who fled from the south of
Scotland to Ireland, during the religious - persecution
there about the middle of the 17th century and was a
cadet of the ancient and - Distinguished Family of
Vans or Van of Brambarragh^h - in Wigtonshire a younger
branch of the Lord - Dirleton of East Loashean who
were descended of the - Van who accompanied to Eng-
land from France - William the Conqueror of Normandy
- where they were Lords of province and Normandy
and - sovereign Counts of Orange and Dukes of Andre
holding - a distinguished part in European history
before the advent of Charlemagne - Erected by
Robert Anthrusher Balbirnie Vans Esq^{re} - grandson
of the first named John Vance.

From - Ulster-Scot Historical Society, Belfast, Ireland

GENERAL JOSEPH W. VANCE'S NOTES

Samuel Vance and Sarah Colvill his wife. Their tombs in Sinking Spring Cemetary, Abingdon, Virginia.

Inscribed as follows:--

"In Memory of Samuel and Sarah Colvill Vance, his wife, both from Ireland early in life."

The will of (above) Samuel Vance, date March 31, 1778.

Recorded August 18, 1778. Washington County Records Abington, Virginia.

"In the name of God Amen, I, Samuel Vance of Washington County in the Commonwealth of Virginia, being in perfect health both of body and memory, blessed being thankful to God for his mercies; but calling to mind the Mortality of my body and that I was born to die; do make and ordain this to be my last will and testament. That is to say, principally and first of all, I do recommend my soul to Almighty God who gave it, and my body to the Earth, to be buried in a Christian and decent manner at the discretion of my Executors, nothing doubting but at the last day I shall receive the same again by the mighty power of God. And as touching my worldly affairs wherewith it has pleased God to bless me with in this life, I shall dispose of the same in the following manner and form: Item I give and bequeathe unto my well beloved wife, Sarah Vance, Two Hundred pounds cash, and all the valuables in the house money excepted; I also give and bequeath unto my well beloved son, David Vance, the sum of Fifty pounds cash; I also give and bequeath to my well beloved daughter Margaret Lusk, the sum of Fifty pounds in cash; I also give and bequeath to my well beloved daughter, Elizabeth Blackburn, the sum of Fifteen pounds in cash. And the remainder of my estate after my debts to be equally

divided between my nine children; and also the land I now live on, I leave and bequeath to my well beloved son, Samuel Vance, with all the conveniences belonging thereto--I do also appoint my sons Samuel Vance and George Blackburn whole and sole executors of this my last Will and Testament. And I do hereby utterly disallow, revoke and disannul all and every other Testaments, Wills, Legacies, Bequests, and Executors by me any way before named willed and bequeathed ratifying and confirming this and no other to be my last Will and Testament. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this Thirty-first day of March in the year of our Lord One Thousand seven hundred seventy eight (1778).

Arthur Blackburn, John Blackburn
John Cusick

Samuel Vance (seal)
(Witnesses Proved & Ordered Recorded
Aug. 18, 1778)

To his great grand daughter, Katie Laughlin Hurt of Abingdon, Virginia, I am indebted for copies of inscriptions on toombs and the copy of Will; also for the names of their children (1) John Vance, b. 1736, d. 1823, m. Jane Black, Fredrick Co. Va., b. 1741, d. 1824, Abingdon, Va. (3) Samuel Vance, B. 1749, d. 1838. m. Margaret Laughlin, b. March 1756 in Chester Co. Pa., d. Nov. 6, 1814 (2) David Vance, b. 1745 Fredrick Co. Va., d. 1813, m. Priscilla Brank Rowan County, N. C. 1775; (4) Elizabeth Vance, m. George Blackburn, d. 1778. See his will, brother of Lt. William Blackburn. (6) Joseph Vance (see George Blackburn's will) (5) Margaret Vance, m. John Lusk -- See Samuel Vance's will. (7) Andrew Vance, (8) James Vance. (9) Robert Vance.

(Note by Joseph W. Vance) (2) David and Priscilla Vance --Above had son Dr. Robert Brank Vance who was in 1824 member of Congress from N. Carolina and in 1826 defeated and killed in a duel. They also had a son 1792, David who married Mira Margret Baird, North Carolina, who had Gen. Robert Brank, Vance, Confederate state's army and also Gov. & Senator 3 times, Zebulon Baird Vance, 1830, North Carolina.

Samuel Vance, son of Samuel Vance and Sarah Colvill was born in Fredrick Co. Va., 1749, d. Dec. 8, 1838, near Abingdon, Virginia. Married Margret Laughlin, b. Chester Co. Pa., d. Nov. 14, 1834, near Abingdon, Virginia. He was in Capt. Evan Shelby's Co. Point Pleasant and in Andrew Colvill's Co. at King Mt., North Carolina.

Issue

- (1) Samuel b. 1784 near Abington, Virginia, d. Clarksville, Tennessee, April 2, 1823, Married Brown, Tenn.
- (2) Robert, Married Steele.
- (3) Harriet, Married Sharpe.
- (4) David, Married Katie Davis.
- (5) James b. July 1792, Married Millie Balfour, d. Aug. 16, 1846.
- (6) Margret Laughlin, married Abram Fulkerson, Katie L. Hurts, Grandparent
- (7) John, married King
- (8) Elizabeth, married Bradley.
- (9) Jane, married Keller.
- (10) Andrew, married Mary Sherman, Tenn. daughter, Mrs. Newmeyer now at Long Beach, Calif.
- (11) Sallie.
- (12) Infant

Samuel Vance, son of John Vance and Jane Black Vance, was born in the Opecquon Settlement near Winchester, Va., Dec. 27, 1769. Died at Paris, Illinois, May 6th, 1856. Married Mary Jane Blackburn, b. Dec. 28, 1769 in Fredrick Co., Va., d. Paris, Illinois, May 1, 1852. She was the daughter of Lt. William Blackburn, killed at King's Mts. N. C., Oct. 7, 1780. Married Rev. Charles Cummings, 1st Pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Abingdon, February 4, 1793. Marriage bond dated Jan. 31, 1793.

Issue I - - - Jane b. Jan. 1, 1794, Abingdon Va, Va., d. Feb. 26, 1840, Married Samuel Utter Sept. 5, 1815. II - - - William Blackburn, b. Aug. 3, 1796, Abingdon, Va., d. Sept. 17, 1875 at Paris, Illinois. III - - - John P., b.

Feb. 13, 1798, Abingdon, Va., d. Sept. 10, 1829. Married Anna C. Hagy, b. 1803, d. Dec. 26, 1887, Sept. 27, 1821. IV. James, b. Feb. 16, 1800, d. May 10, 1824. (b. Abingdon, Va., d. Paris, Ill.) unmarried. V. Stephen Bovell, b. Dec. 1, 1801, Abingdon, Va., d. Maryville, Tenn. Nov. 12, 1815, Blout Co.--Youth. VI. Andrew⁷ Milton, b. Jan. 3, 1804, Abingdon, Va., d. Cassville, Mo. Sept. 12, 1868. Married (4 times) 1st Esther Shelledy. VII. Young, b. Nov. 5, 1805, Abingdon, Va., d. Nov. 13, 1815, Blount Co., Tenn., Elizabeth, b. March 19, 1795, d. Dec. 12, 1795 Abingdon, Va. VIII. Joseph Black, b. Feb. 15, 1808, abingdon, Va., d. May 29, 1883, at Paris, Illinois, Married 1st Eliza Bovell, 2nd Eliza Vance Russell. IX. Eliza B., b. July 15, 1810, Abingdon, Va., d. June 17, 1847, at Paris, Illinois. Married James Jones, May 14, 1829. X. Samuel Colvill, b. Feb. 2, 1813, Maryville Blount Co. Tenn., d. March 27, 1864, Paris, Illinois, Married 1st (unknown 2nd, Louisa Apperson. XI. Mary, b. May 25, 1817, Maryville, Blount Co. Tenn., d. Dec. 24, 1883, Paris, Illinois, Maiden.

John Vance, b. Feb. 12. 1736, on the Opeckon near the present site of Winchester, Virginia, d. Aug. 20, 1823. On his farm near Abindgon, Washington County, Va. He married Jane Black, daughter of John Black of Opeckon Nov. 15, 1759, at the Opeckon Presbyterian Church, said to be the first church in the first settlement west of the Blue Ridge in the Shennandoah Valley. Jane Black was born Feb. 4, 1741, d. near Abingdon, Virginia, Feb. 2, 1824. Issue I. James Vance, b. Sept. 5, 1760, d. May 10, 1836, near Abingdon, Va. II. John Black Vance, b. Nov. 20, 1762, Fredrick Co. Va., d. infancy. III. Elizabeth Vance, b. Feb. 6, 1765, Fredrick Co. Va., d. infancy. III. Elizabeth Vance, b. Feb. 6, 1765, Fredrick Co. Va. IV. Andrew Vance, b. July 12, 1767, in Fredrick Co. Va. V. Samuel Vance, b. Dec. 27, 1769 in Fredrick Co. Va., d. May 6, 1856 at Paris, Illinois. Married Mary Blackburn, b. Dec. 28, 1769, d. May 1, 1852, at Paris, Ill. VI. Joseph Vance, b. Nov. 21, 1772 in Washington Co. Va., VII. Esther Vance, b. January 21, 1776, in Washington Co. Va. Abingdon, Stephen Bovell, married Rev. 2nd Pastor, Sinking Spring, Abingdon. VIII. Christian Vance, b. Apr. 23, 1778, Washington Co. Va., Abingdon. IX John Vance, b. Sept. 7, 1783.

William Blackburn Vance, oldest son of Samuel Vance and Mary Blackburn was born near Abingdon, Virginia, Aug. 3rd, 1796, d. Paris, Ill., Sept. 17, 1875. He married Sarah Wampler, daughter of Joseph Wampler and his wife Sarah Stephens at Grandview, Edgar County, Illinois, March 16, 1840. Sarah Wampler was born Stubenville, Ohio, March 6, 1811.

Issue (1) Joseph Wampler Vance, born Paris, Illinois, May 21, 1841

(2) William Kavanaugh, b. Paris, Illinois, Dec. 8, 1843, d. Oct. 31, 1886 Corsicana, Texas. (3) Samuel Blackburn, b. Paris, Illinois, Dec. 18, 1847, d. Feb. 8, 1849, Paris, Illinois. (4) Wesley Black, b. Aug. 18, 1850 at Paris, Ill. d. Nov. 29, 1906, Chrisman, Edgar Co. Ill. Was a bachelor.

Joseph W. Vance, son William Blackburn Vance and his wife Sarah Wampler married Linnie Nickell, daughter Captain Andrew Nickell and his wife Mary Hoke of Monroe and Greenbrier Counties, West Virginia, Oct. 26, 1865, at the home of her guardian Mathew Mann, Fort Spring, Greenbrier Co. West Virginia. He was born Monroe Co. Virginia Oct. 11, 1841, d. Paris, Ill. Oct. 25, 1875.

Issue (1) Boyle Vance, b. Paris, Ill., Oct. 21, 1866, d. Feb. 5, 1928.

Buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield, Ill. (2) Linnie b. March 8, 1869, Paris, Illinois. (3) Minnie, twin of Linnie, d. Jan. 16, 1900, buried at Paris, Ill. beside her mother in Edgar Cemetery. (4) Florence, b. Sept. 19, 1870, Paris, Ill., d. Paris, Ill.; buried beside her mother.

Joseph Vance, son of William Blackburn Vance and his wife Sarah Wampler married Jennie Houston, b. May 17, 1854, at the home of her sister Ella Houston. Elkin, Tuscola, Ill., Douglas County, Ill., March 17th, 1877.

She is the daughter of William Kelly Houston, b. d.

and his wife Jane Miles, daughter of Samuel Miles and his wife Hannah Gormly

Issue (1) Josephine Orlena Ella, b. May 11, 1879. Married William Jenkins Bennett, b. Aug. 7, 1869, at Springfield, Illinois, March 11, 1902.

(2) Emma Eugenie, b. Sept. 11, 1883, Paris, Ill., married George B. Colby.

(3) Joseph Wampler, Jr. b. Sept. 18, 1886, Springfield, Illinois

William Kavanaugh Vance, son of William Blackburn Vance and his wife Sarah Wampler Vance. Learned the printers trade on the Paris Beacon and Wabash Valley Blade published by William More during the years 1862 to 1865. In 1865 and 1866 was a clerk in the store of Jones and Vance. From 1867 to 1873 was a partner in the Vance Woolen Mill at Paris. Was a clerk in the Edgar County Treasurer's office until 1879, when on account of bad health he moved to Corsicana, Texas, where he died Oct. 31, 1886. He married at Paris, Illinois, Alice Gibbons, Nov., 1865. She was born Mar. 1849, d. Effingham, Illinois, April 16, 1871

Issue

Harry Jones Vance, b. Feb. 8, 1867, for past 15 years the purchasing agent of supplies for "Illinois Traction System" Peoria, Illinois, Married Mary Connor or O'Connor of Washington D.C., and they have three children, Margret, Lewis, and Helen.

James Lemuel Vance, b. Aug. 22, 1832, at Paris, Illinois, d. Apr. 22, 1917 at Paris, Illinois, was the second son of William Blackburn Vance and his wife Ardilla Early. He married Sarah Ann Brown, daughter of Charles R Brown and Hannah his wife, b. Nov. 6, 1836 at Cuppepper Court House, Va. d. at Paris, Illinois. They were married at Paris, Ill. by Rev. G. W. Riley March 27, 1855.

Issue (1) Charles W. b. Paris, Ill. July 4, 1857

(2) Estela Ardilla, b. April 15, 1859, Paris, Ill., d. Ottowa, Ill. Dec. 2 1902, Married Dr. J. N. Downs, (Issue) Janet Downs

(3) James Edwin, b. Dec. 8, 1864, Paris, Ill.

(4) John Warren, b. Dec. 23, 1868, Paris, Ill.

(5) Albert, b. Sept. 3, 1871, Paris, Illinois Died Infancy

(6) Archie Samuel, b. Nov. 4, 1872, Paris, Ill. Died Youth

(7) Robert Burns, b. Dec. 27, 1875

(8) Henry Emmet (second son omitted in order) b. Oct. 22, 1862, Paris, Ill

(4) Helen Houston, b. April 13, 1889, Springfield, Illinois

(5) William Blackburn, b. Nov. 2, 1890, d. Aug. 4, 1902, his birth
abd deatg at Springfield, Illinois. Buried Oak Ridge Cemetery,
Springfield, Illinois.

William Blackburn Vance and Nancy Shelledy, 1st. wife, second
wife, Ardilla Earley, and third wife, Sara Wampler. William Black-
burn Vance, b. Aug. 3, 1796, Frederick Co. Va. Married 1st Nancy
Shelledy, b. Feb. 5, 1805, Blount Co. Tenn., d. Aug. 15, 1826, Paris,
Illinois.

Issue (1) Andrew Young, b. Dec. 23, 18, 1824, Paris, Illinois, d.
Aug. 1. 1859, Paris, Illinois. (2) Nancy, b. Aug. 15, 1826, Paris,
Illinois, d. Aug. 15, 1826, Paris, Illinois. Second wife of William
B. Vance--Ardilla Earley, b. Feb. 20, 1808, Coles , Co, Illinois, d.
Sept. 13, 1833, Paris, Illinois.

Issue (1) John P. b. April 15, 1830, Paris, Illinois, d. June 21, 1894,
Corsicana, Texas. (2) James Lemuel, b. Aug. 22, 1832, Paris, Ill., d.
April 22, 1917, Paris, Illinois. Andrew Young Vance and his wife Jane
Shaw had Nora Vance, b. . John P. Vance, and his wife, Sarah
Chestnut had Ardilla Olive, b. . She married John Hardman.
Oliver died. Sarah Chestnut, daughter of Oliver Chestnut and his wife,
Mary Alexander, was born April 5, 1832, died Feb. 16, 1855.

Vance Champ. Shepherd

The Vice President and General Manager of that great public utility, the Los Angeles Gas and Electric Corp., which furnishes light and warmth to a community of one million inhabitants, true to the principle of evolution, he has added to the executive ability, business acumen and energy, inherited from a long line of ancestors, pioneers, in development of the early industries, as well as in the march of civilization in the United States.

Son of James Vance II, b. June 19, 1834, d. 1896 and his wife Anna E. Castleman, b. , d. July 8, 1874. James Vance II was born on the old Vance homestead near Abingdon, Va., and was prominent in the milling business. In 1861, he became Captain of a company in the 37th Reg. of Va. Mounted troops operating in the Shennandoah Valley, under that distinguished soldier General Thomas J. (Stonewall) Jackson. So conspicuous was Captain James Vance in efficiency and gallantry that General Jackson wrote a personal letter to Captain Vance complimenting him for his gallantry and efficiency in contributing so largely by his cooperation in victorious campaigns. The subject of this sketch, has in his possession, this autograph letter of General Jackson to his father Captain James Vance II. James Vance II was the son of James Vance I, b. July 1792, d. Aug. 2, 1864. Married Millie Balfour, Nov. 4, 18--; b. April 4, 1793, d. Aug. 16, 1846. She was the daughter of John Balfour, b. about 1766 and Sarah Cummings, Daughter of Rev. Charles Cummings, the first pastor of Presbyterian Church at Abingdon Virginia, 1773. Sarah Cummings, b. March 15, 1770, d. Jan 24, 1860. James Vance I was son of Samuel Vance II, b. 1749, d. Dec. 8, 1838, and Margret Laughlin, b. 1794, d. Marriage date unknown.

David Vance son of Samuel Vance and Sarah Colville, born about 1745 in Frederick County Va. He emigrated from Abingdon Va. where his father first lived about 1773, to Burke Co. N. C., between 1773 and 1775. He first lived near the Cataroba near Morgantown. He married Priscilla Brank in what

miles north of Ashville in Buncomb County, he was an ensign on Continental Army and Captain at Kings Mountain. He was clerk of the County Court until his death at Reems Creek in 1813. He was a member of the Legislature of N. C. 1785 to 1791. He also had been a school teacher and surveyor. He was one of the commissioners to establish the states lines between North Carolina and Tennessee. Their children were Samuel, Robert and David. His daughter Jean, married Hugh Davidson; his daughter Elizabeth married Mitchel Davidson, 1st husband, 2nd husband, Samuel Davidson. Sarah married McClain; Priscilla married Whitson; Celia married Benjamin S. Brittin. Samuel, Jean, Sarah, and Priscilla settled on lands their father provided for them on Duck River, Tennessee. Judge Hugh L. Davidson and his brother Robert B. Davidson were members of bar, Shelbyville, Tennessee. They were sons of Jean David Vance, second son of David 1st and Priscilla was born January 9, 1792, d. January 14, 1844. Married Mire Margret Baird, Jan. 2, 1825. Their child Laura Henrietta, b. 1826. Robert Brank, b. 1828. He was general Confederate Army and commissioner of General Land Office under Grover Cleveland, 1885 to 1889. Zebulon Baird, b. May 13, 1830, d.----. He was member Congress, 1858 to 1866; was a Colonel in Confederate Army--3 times Governor of North Carolina and United States Senator from North Carolina (for 18 or more years) Dr. Robert Vance, 3rd son of David, 1st, and Priscilla Brank was member of Congress 1824-1826, killed in a duel at Saluda Gap, South Carolina, 1827, growing out of words in Canvas bet he and Samuel T. Carson who defeated Vance in 1826 for reelection. Zebulon B. Vance married Harriet Newel Espy. Issue David, Charles, Thomas, and Zebulon. One daughter married a Neff.

Samuel Vance II was a soldier in Capt. Evans Sheby's company from Fincastle (afterwards Washington Co. Va.) in the Point Pleasant Campaign, on the Kanwaha River in 1774 and was in other Indian Campaigns when living in Fredric County prior to 1773. See Brocks "Virginia & Virginians" Vol. II page 716 and Summers SW va. page 155 and 156. He was in Col. Campbell's Reg at the Battle of Kings Mountain, October 7, 1780.

Fulkerson. (2) John M. King, (3) James M. married Milley Balfour, (4) Samuel married Elizabeth Brown, (5) Andrew married Mary Sherman, (6) Jane married Keller, (7) David married Katie Davis, (8) Elizabeth married Bradley, (9) Sallie married Brunson, (10) Harriet married Sharpe, (11) Robert married Steele (see Samuel Vance II will, dated Nov. 19, 1800)

Samuel Vance II was son of Samuel Vance I and Sarah Colville, Exact dates of birth and death and marriage are not known. A tombstone in Sinking Spring Presbyterian Church Cemetery at Abingdon, Virginia, says "In memory of Samuel and Sarah Colville Vance, his wife, both from Ireland early in life.

Samuel Vance I left a will dated March 31, 1778 and filed and probated in Washington County, Virginia, August 18, 1778. Will book I, page 64.

Samuel Vance I was the son of Andrew Vance and his wife Jane. - Maiden name unknown. He was the fourth son of (John Vance, some say) (others say a Samuel) at any rate tracing to Rev. John Vans whose will filed in 1662. The records in Dublin Castle bears the seal of the Arms of Vans of Barnbarrock. Was a grandson of Sir Patrick Vans and Margret Kennedy, his wife, granddaughter of Robert III of Scotland. Three brothers are said to have emigrated to America in 1735 with Andrew Samuel. James, William, and David being contemporaneously considered by some to have been a brother of Andrew. O'Hart, Balbernie, Cartmel and Annie Vance Mahaffey all seem to agree on date, 1735. The latter names a Robert and no David. Andrew Vance will dated Dec. 19, 1750. Probated April 2, 1754. Will Book 2 Page 114. Fredrick County, Virginia. Mentions 4 sons "John to whom he leaves five shillings, (as if provision had been already made for his share) bequeaths to his three sons, Samuel, Andrew, and Alexander Vance, all and singular, my lands tenements situated whereon I live stock and block first paying my debts and excepts my wife Jane her part, to have and to hold for them or their heirs or assigns. Perfectly I likewise leave my loving wife Jane Vance one riding horse, and two cows and her bed

and household goods and I do leave to my wife, Jane, the mansions house wherein I now live and five acres of land during her life and after her decease the same to remain to the use of three sons, Samuel, Andrew, and Alexander Vance. I do leave my loving wife and my son, Samuel Vance, to be sole executors of this my last will and testament.

Andrew Vance (S)

Witnesses: Thomas Butler, John Cook, William Huston

1155 Madison Ave.
Memphis, Tenn.
May 30th, 1923

Dear General Vance,

I am indeed delighted that you have written me regarding the Vance query led me to discover among my papers an unaddressed envelope containing Vance data I had copied for you considerable over a year ago. This I am enclosing in my brief answer today.

In as much as you have a copy of "Notable Southern Families" Vol. II. I do not enclose the Vance and Houston articles as they appeared in the Lookout; these articles I had in the same envelope and I recall filing them to send to you. I have examined to see that the book form is fuller if anything than the articles as they first appeared in the Lookout.

Just who compiled the Vance records I do not know: I am glad to see that positive statements are made as to the relationships contained in the various groups for with the names reproduced as they were in every branch and every generation of a large family, correct deductions can only be hoped for by careful and most painstaking examination of court records along with every Bible record and tradition obtainable.

First in regard to the tradition that your ancestor John Vance (with wife Jane Black) was the eldest son of Samuel Vance and wife Sarah (evidently Colville before her marriage).

I think undoubtedly the examination of the deeds of Washington County, Va. should show absolutely this very point. I only wish I had all your data before venturing to say positively what deductions I would draw.

If you will permit, allow me a few days longer to copy what Vance records I have and to compare these carefully with what Miss Hurt says.

I am enclosing a letter written by me to Dr. R. N. Price, lately deceased he has noted on the back of the pages certain facts. Dr. Price was for many years before his death busy in the compilation of the "History of Holston Methodism" which five valuable volumes he edited only a few years ago. His knowledge of the Vance family arose from the fact that his wife was a descendant of Capt. David Vance of North Carolina as you will see in the Notable Southern Families.

I desire that you keep the original letter to Dr. Price and his answers written thereon in pencil.

I am also enclosing a deed recorded in Washington Co. Va. Deed Bk.1,p.10 (Sept. 19, 1781) which without other corroborating data I should not like to state positively as a deed to Samuel, mentioned in the will of Samuel Vance, 1778. If, however, the land location agrees, then we will have to alter our theory that John was the eldest son of Samuel and Sarah Vance.

You will note that "Notable Southern Families" give David Vance's birth as 1745; Dowd says "about 1745".

I am enclosing also what I think a very valuable bit of evidence in our effort to discover without any question the name of your John Vance's father. I refer to the Pension statement of James Vance, son of your ancestor John Vance, and by your record shown the oldest brother of your grandfather Samuel Vance.

This pension statement was copied in full by Mrs. Sims from the original application in Washington Pension office, and is much fuller than is usually obtainable.

James Vance, Virginia S. 7782

James Vance, Washington County, Va. Col Christian 10 mos.
Pension \$33.33 to commence Mch. 4, 1831.

James Vance, born in Frederick County, Va. Sept. 15, 1760. Enlisted August 1776 as private in Capt. Robt. Craig's Company under Col. William Christian against the Cherokee Indians. 1777 served 1 month under Capt. Saml. Newell at Long Island on the frontier. Also under Capt. Andrew Colville, Robt. Trimble, Col Evan Shelby. 1780 volunteered.

James Vance's Declaration, Washington Co. Va. Sept. 24th, 1833, aged 73 years on the 15th day of this month. He was born in Frederick County, and came to this part of the country with his father when he was 10 or 11 years old. When not quite 16 volunteered (1776) under Capt. Robt. Craig.

At Moravian Town, N. C. said Vance had an uncle wounded owing to an accident, and was left to take care of him. Andrew Creswell says "he and Vance were raised from our boyhood close neighbors".

Now I feel that the last paragraph, immediately above, should help very material to place James Vance's and if so of course your own line. Now, it is possible that the uncle mentioned was Joseph Black, but somehow I feel almost sure that it was a Vance instead. Possibly you recall hearing Rev. John Logan relate something to this effect. I have not been able to examine Draper's Heroes of King's Mountain but it is possible that this incident may be related there. At any rate we do know that Andrew Creswell lived in the same neighborhood as did James Vance (your James Vance) and this may help Miss Hurt in locating the John Vance tract in Washington County.

Now, Mrs. Sims's notebooks contain also the Pension statements of the following Vances:

Samuel Vance, N. C. & Va. (later of Green Co. Tenn.)

Joseph Vance, of Va. Line, (Res. 1824-Scott Co. Ky.)

John Vance, of 8th Va. Regt. under Muhlenberg, Wife Nancy, Res: Pendleton Co. Va. John Vance died 1827.

Now I shall be very glad to copy these, together with such early Virginia Land grants as Mrs. Sims jotted down while in Richmond some years ago. Beside these there are several Vance wills: I was under the impression that I had copies of all the Frederick Co. Va. Vance wills but I am not able to find more than that of James Vance

I am sending what I have already copied just to show you that I am deeply interested and will be so glad if I can in any way help you. As I have company in the house, it will probably be a week before I can finish the remainder.

With best wishes

Sincerely yours,

Nancy Jones Stickley

VANCE FAMILY

Washington Co. Pa.

Notes from Mrs. Sim's note book. 1920

History of Washington Co. Pa. by Boyd Crumrene publ. 1882, p. 953 states:-

"Isaac Vance was a son of John Vance of Somerset Township who died in 1796. Isaac Vance was born Feb. 11, 1754, and came to this county with his father. On the 18th of November 1803 he married Mary, daughter of Henry Colton (or Cotton). His wife died Nov. 9, 1830: he died Nov. 5, 1837, aged 83, he left a large family Lived in South Strabane township.

Ibid, p. 95:-

"Samuel Vance was born in Somerset Township, Washington Co. Pa. Mch, 13, 1797. His father, Isaac Vance, was of Scotch-Irish parentage, and a native of the Valley of Virginia. His mother Mary Cotton of Puritan ancestry was born in Bedford Co. 1 Both families came to this country about 1780.

See p. 458 Haydn's Virginia Genealogies for data concerning the above.

Lancaster and Dauphin Counties Pa.

Vances here.

Vance -- Black

Augusta, probably also Frederick Co. Va.

Miscellaneous notes from Bastismal Record of Rev. John Craig, D. D. of Augusta Co. Va. 1740-1749, containing 1474 names of (Published for first time in this Maxwell History and Genealogy of Houston.)

Name of Father	Names of Child	Date of Baptism	Place
Vance, Wm.	Moses	Oct. 20, 1741	North Mt. Meeting Hou
Vance, George	Margaret	Sept. 2, 1748	
Vance, James	Thomas	Jan. 11, 1747	
Vance, James	Mary	Feb. 25, 1749	North Mt. Meeting Hou

From a copy of the same document in the Presbyterian Library, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania:

Black, John	Child, Jean	Baptized May 10, 1741
Black, Anthony	" Jean	" March 25, 1744

Note by N.E.J.S.:--

I think it likely the first named child Jean above was Jean Black, daughter of John Black of Frederick County Va. who later became the wife of John Vance. Her birth is given in the family records as Feb. 4th, 1741. Of course I realize that there were two John Blacks at a very early date in Augusta County, and this may be the daughter of one of these. Mrs. Sims' sister who copied the last two citations, gives these as from "The Old Stone Church", so this should help to establish the truth or falsity of the surmise that Jean above is Jean, daughter of John Black of Frederick and not of the John Black of Augusta.

Samuel Vance and Sarah Colville from Ireland
John Vance and Jane Black

Samuel Vance - son of John Vance and Jane Black. Was born in the Opequon Settlement near Winchester, Virginia Dec. 27, 1769. Died at Paris, Illinois May 6, 1856. Married Mary Blackburn, born Dec. 28, 1769 in Frederick Co. Va. died in Paris, Illinois May 1, 1852. She was the daughter of Lieut. William Blackburn, killed at "Kings Mountain" North Carolina Oct. 7, 1780. Married by Rev. Charles Cummings first Pastor of Presbyterian Church at Abingdon, Va. Feb. 4, 1793. Marriage Bond dated Jan. 31, 1793. Following are their children.

- 1st. Jane-Born Jan. 1, 1794 Abingdon, Va. died Feb. 26, 1840-Married Samuel Utter Sep. 5, 1815
- 2nd. William Blackburn-Born May 3, 1796 Abingdon, Va. died Sept. 17, 1875 Paris, Illinois
- 3rd. John P.-Born Feb. 13, 1798 Abingdon, Va. died Sept. 10, 1829. Married Anna C. Hagy. Sept. 27, 1821 (Does not state where he died.)
- 4th. James-Born Feb. 16, 1800, died May 10, 1824. Born Abingdon-died Paris, unmarried.
- 5th. Stephen Bovell-Born Dec. 1801 Abingdon, Va. died Maryville, Tenn. Nov. 12, 1815.
- 6th. Andrew Milton-Born Abingdon Jan. 3, 1804, died Cassville, Mo. Sept. 12, 1878. Married four times. 1st wife Shelledy, Esther.
- 7th. Young-Born Nov. 5, 1805 Abingdon, died Nov. 13, 1815.
- 8th. Joseph Black-Born Feb. 15, 1815, died May 29, 1883. Married twice. 1st Eliza Bovell, 2nd Eliza Vance Russell.
- 9th. Eliza B.-Born July 15, 1810, Abingdon, Va. died June 17, 1847. Married M. James Jone May 14, 1829.
- 10th. Samuel Colville-Born Feb. 2, 1813, Marysville Co. Tenn. died March 27, 1864, Paris, Illinois. Married 2nd Louisa Apperson.
- 11th. Mary-Born May 25, 1817, Maryville Blount Co. Tenn. Died Dec. 24, 1883, Paris, Illinois Unmarried.

Vance

Abingdon, Washington Co., Virginia

Mrs. Sims' Note Bk. 1921

Deed Bk, 3 p. 79 (Aug. 17, 1803)

Samuel Vance and Margaret, his wife, of Washington County, Virginia to Abraham Bradley--land on West Bank of Spring Creek near line of Samuel Vance's Patent -- 55 acres--\$3 in gold.

Deed Bk. 3, p. 80 (Next page)

Samuel Vance and Margaret, his wife to Abraham Bradley--\$833.00 in gold--land on Spring Creek touching Robert Preston's 145 Acres, 48 Poles.

Deed Bk. 1, p. 10 (Sept. 10, 1781: Rec. 1782)

Indenture made Sept. 10, 1781 Between Edmund Pendleton Esq. of the County of Caroline to Samuel Vance, eldest son and Heir at Law of Samuel Vance, deceased of Washington County, Va.--115 £, 10 Shillings Current Money of Virginia, --343 Acres, being part of a larger tract granted Edmund Pendleton in Washington County on Spring Creek, a branch of Holston River. Band belong to Pendleton by Right of Inheritance

Edmund Pendleton, by Attorney in fact,

Wm. Preston.

Witn:-David Campbell Jr., John Reed, George Edgar.

The above deed leads me to believe Miss Hurt is mistaken as to John being the eldest son of Samuel whose will was proven 1778. Was this the land on which your ancestor lived? If I had abstracts of the deeds of Washington Co. Va. Vances I could I think state definit regarding the various Samuels.

Order Bk. 1, p. 115 (May 16, 1781)

Ordered that Joseph Black, and John Lowry, Gentlemen, be recommended to His Excellency, the Governor as fit and proper persons for Captains of the Militia of the County of Washington and that John Jameson, Robert Campbell, as Lieutenants, and Samuel McCutchen and James Vance as Ensigns.

Order Bk. 1, p. 121 (Aug. 21, 1781)

John Vance produced sufficient proof to this Court that he is entitled to 200 acres of land under the King of Great Britain's Proclamation of 1763, and that he never received ar satisfaction for the same, which is ordered to be certified. (Did he or his heirs ever receive said land? It likely would have been surveyed in what is now Kentucky or Ohio)

Order Bk. 1, p. 38, 49 (Aug. 18, 1778)

The will of George Blackburn deceased, proven. On motion of William Blackburn and Samuel Vance, Executors, letters of (administration granted to them.)

VANCE

Abingdon, Va.
Washington County Va.

Mrs. Sims' Note Bk. 1927

Order Books:-

George Vance Adv. R.R. Preston	Bk. 4, p. 54, 89
George Vance Recognizance	Bk. 4, p. 111
George Vance Adversus Commonwealth	Bk. 4, p. 162 (1840)
George Vance Adversus Commonwealth	Bk. 5, p. 63, 76
 John Vance----Lank Warrant	 Bk. 1, p. 121
 James Vance versus James Logan Jr.	 Bk. 2, p. 3
James Vance's Estate Settlement	Bk. 3, p. 115, 383
James Vance et al to Elisha Collings	Bk. 2, p. 254, 317, 349
 Samuel Vance, Exec. George Blackburn	 Bk. 1, p. 38, 240
Samuel Vance's Will proven	Bk. 1, p. 38, 49
Samuel Vance versus Henry King	Bk. 1, p. 127
Samuel Vance versus James Piper	Bk. 1, p. 222
Samuel Vance versus Lusk Orphans	Bk. 2, p. 132

Index to Earliest Minute Books of Washington Co:-

David Vance Adversus Thomas Clevenger	Bk. 2, p. 135, 136
David Vance Asst. Assessor	3, p. 158
David Vance Adversus Thomas J. Walker	4, p. 273
David Vance Versus John Gray and Wife	4, p. 303
David Vance Versus Michael Shaver	5, p. 37
David Vance Versus Elias Ogden et al	5, p. 39, 89
David Vance Versus Ogden, Bronough & Co.	5, p. 79
David Vance Versus G. V. Litchfield	5, p. 130, 175
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George Vance Versus Wallis (?) & Gibson	4, p. 53, 86 ?
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Vance

Knox County, Tennessee

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Blount County, Tennessee

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Vance

Blount Co. Tennessee

Mrs. Sims' Note Bk. 1921

Deed Bk. 1, p. 252 (Dec. 28, 1813) shows

Samuel Vance bought at Sheriff's Sale in Blount Co. Tennessee land where Samuel Cargal (?) and John Trimble live ----? acres -- \$159.00

Deed Bk. 1, p. 584 shows:

David Vance bought land in Blount County from William Garner, land on Ellijoy Creek. Oct. 26, 1818.

(Mrs. Sims states it is not clear whether the name is David or Daniel Vance.)

Deed Bk. 1, p. 509 (Nov. 20, 1817)

David Vance sells land on Ellijoy Creek in Blount Co. -- his "by right of Inheritance". He sells land to James Davis for \$500.00--198 acres.

Sullivan County, Tennessee

The Old Wills Books of Sullivan County were burned, but a few of the original wills have been presented by the heirs and thus preserved.

Deed Bk. 2, 504 (1790)

Grant to Margaret Vance --- 400 acres in Sullivan County on North Fork of Holston River, including the plantation where Abraham Bledso formerly lived --- 50 shillings-- (for every 100 acres? N.E.J.S.)

Signed,

Alex. Martin

Deed Book 2, p. 554 (Aug. 3, 1792: Rec. Oct. 9, 1792)

John Vance, Esq. to John Laughlin and Robert Craig, Executors of the Last Will of John Laughlin, Deceased, -- 145 L, 10 shillings--400 acres in Sullivan County. (Mortgage for money due Estate by John Vance)--where John Vance now resides.

Witn:-

signed,

John Sharp

John Vance.

John Williams

Vance

North Carolina

Mrs. Sims' Note Bk. 1921

Biographical History of North Carolina by Samuel A. Ashe, Vol. VI, p. 476
(Publ. 1907 by Chas. L. Van Nacoer Greensboro, N. C. Edition limited to 750 vol. registered and numbered.)

Zebulon Baird Vance:-

Zebulon Baird Vance was the son of David Vance and his wife Margaret Baird, a daughter of Zebulon Baird. His father David Vance died when he was a boy, leaving a widow and eight children. He had small property, a farm and a few slaves.

When Zebulon was twelve years old his father sent him to High School in East Tennessee at Washington College. The birth-place of Zebulon Vance was 10 miles northwest of Asheville, Buncombe Co. N. C. He was born May 13, 1830.

Clement Dowd's "Life of Vance" publ. 1897 at Charlotte by Observer Printing House:-p. 2
"Samuel Vance the father of David Vance resided in Virginia, having married a Miss Colvill. Eight children were born to them, to wit:-five sons and three daughters, the eldest was born about 1745.

David came to North Carolina about 1775 and Samuel Vance moved to the neighborhood of Abingdon, Virginia where his descendants may still be found.

The grandfather of Zebulon Baird Vance married Priscilla Brank in what is now Rowan County, N. C. about 1775.

Said David Vance was an Ensign in the Continental Army and afterwards Captain at Kings Mountain. Capt. David Vance was Clerk of the Court at Buncombe.

Note: The statement above that the parents of Captain David Vance were Samuel Vance and (Colville) Vance and that they had eight children; 5 sons and 3 daughters-and that the eldest was born about 1745.

In your first letter you speak of hearing that your great grandfather "John Vance and his wife Jane (Black) Vance, Joseph C. Vance and David Vance landed either at Baltimore or Philadelphia, went into Burke Co. Va." Do you recall hearing that these three were brothers?

I have long thought the Colvilles intermarried with the Vances, and I am of the opinion that the "C" in your uncle Samuel Vance's name may have been for "Colville" and not Casey.

BLACKBURN-HAGY-McCULLOUGH FAMILIES

The Blackburn family were equally distinguished with the Vances in Washington County, Virginia in the settlement of the area, in the Indian fights which continued down until after the Revolution, and in providing militiamen for the Battle of King's Mountain.

A history of the Blackburn family transcribed by Nancy Jones Stickley and from the notes of Mrs. Sims who did research on this family in 1921, as well as much data that she acquired from original sources, as indicated in the Stickley transcription, follows as a part of the sketch here.

They obviously came into Pennsylvania and then into northern Virginia and helped organize the Opequon settlement having come to Pennsylvania from North Ireland at about the same time the Vances arrived. From the Opequon, one branch of the family moved south along the Potomac and built a house which is now one of the early old residences shown to visitors on the Potomac south of Washington. Another branch of the family came with the Vances to what is now Washington County, Virginia. Obviously, after the Revolution, a branch went from Washington County, Virginia to Bourbon County, Kentucky and some of this group finally came and settled east of Paris, Illinois. Genealogical data as to descent from the Blackburns is to be found in the C.A.R. papers of Christie Link in my files. Much history about them follows in Mrs. Sims' notes.

Descent from the Hagy family comes through Anna Hagy who married John P. Vance and were the grandparents of Warren Cole and the great grandparents of Louise Cole Link. Genealogical data back to Anna Hagy is to be found among the C.A.R. papers of Christie

Link in my files. Further genealogical data from Anna Hagy back to the immigration of the Hagy family from Germany is clearly set out in an exceptionally well done family history called THE HAGEY FAMILY IN AMERICA by King Albert Hagey and William Anderson Hagey a copy of which is in my library. Since this family history is complete and full data about Anna is to be found among the Vance Sketches which I have made, there is need for no further writing on this subject here.

I do not know much about the McCullouchs except that Anna Hagy's maternal grandfather was Lt. Thomas McCullouch who fought in the Battle of Kings Mountain, was severely wounded there and after the battle was transferred on his way home to Abingdon to a place near Rutherfordton, North Carolina where his condition did not permit further travel. He was taken this far in a wagon and died near Rutherfordton and is buried in the little Brittain Cemetery near that city.

In 1959 Willis G. Corbett of Portland, Oregon was doing research on the Vance family and after a visit to Paris, went on to Abingdon. He writes that he found a part of Thomas McCullouch's old house standing north of that city. At the new Brittain Cemetery near Rutherfordton he found Lt. McCullouch's headstone. The grave marker is made of native stone and a D.A.R. marker is there in addition. The D.A.R. marker is as follows:

THOS. McCULLOUCH
LIEUT.
VA
RIFLEMEN
REV. WAR

Mr. Corbett placed the original headstone against the D.A.R. marker and took a fine picture of it, as well as a picture in its

78
original location which, with a picture of the house, are all in my files under the Vance family. The original headstone for Lt. Thomas McCullouch reads as follows:

HERE LIES
THE BODY OF
LIEUT. THOMAS
MC COLLUCH BE-
LONGING TO COL
CAMBELS REGIMENT
VIRGINIA WHO LOST HIS
LIFE IN AND FOR THE HO
NOURABLE JUST AND RI
TEOUS CAUSE OF LIBER
TY AT THE DEFEATING
COL FAGERSONS INFAMO
US COMPANY OR BANDIT
KINGS MOUNTAIN OCT
7 1780

Lineage which will qualify the descendant of Lt. Thomas McCullouch for any of the three Patriotic Societies could be easily obtained by using the data in my files of Christie Link's C.A.R. membership as a descendant of Lt. William Blackburn who was killed in the Battle of King's Mountain October 7, 1780. Data as far back as Anna Hagy could then be obtained to Lt. Thomas McCullouch through the use of THE HAGY FAMILY IN AMERICA.

Blackburn, John 810, 855
Blackburn, William, 135, 809, 854
Blackburn, Arthur, 230, 231, 620, 156, 809
Blackburn, George, 135, 256, 258, 271, 274, 823
Casey, William, 230, 231, 272, 854
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Vance, Samuel, 156, 864
Vance, James, 864, 875
Vance, J. T., 878
Vance, Alexander, 812
Vance, L., 153, 155

p. 808-815: First Lands Surveyed on the Waters of the Holston and Clinch Rivers of which Any Record is Preserved. (Surveyor's Record of Fincastle County) Surveyed by John Floyd, Robert Doach, Robert Preston & Francis Smith.

Following Blackburns and allied families:

p. 810, Feb. 21, 1774 John Blackburn 78 acres Waters of Beaver Creek
p. 809, Jan. 24, 1774 Arthur Blackburn 130 acres Waters of Middle Fork
p. 813, Dec. 21, 1774 William Blackburn 220 acres Branch of Holston
p. 808, Jan. 22, 1774 Daniel McCormick 330 acres Middle Fork
p. 808, Feb. 19, 1774 Benjamins Logan 250 acres Beaver Creek
p. 808, Jan. 24, 1774 Wm. Lockhart 215 acres Waters of Middle Fork
p. 809, Mch. 10, 1774 Matthew Evans 197 acres W. S. Fork of Holston
p. 810, Feb. 16, 1774 George Steele 95 acres Rick Valley
p. 810, Feb. 10, 1774 Robert Steele 386 acres Kincaid Cr. Br. of Holston
p. 810, Feb. 11, 1774 John Berry 139 acres W. Wolf Hill Cr.
p. 810, Feb. 18, 1774 David Berry 212 acres Beaver Cr.
p. 810, Feb. 10, 1774 James Steels 342 acres Kincaid Cr.
p. 810, Feb. 18, 1774 Samuel Newell 69 acres Waters of Beaver Cr.
p. 811, Mch. 24, 1774 Samuel Ritchie 111 acres Clinch River, South Side
p. 812, May 31, 1774 Alex. Vance 192 acres Beaver Cr.
p. 812, June 7, 1774 Samuel White 45 acres Middle Fork, Dry Run
p. 813, Dec. 24, 1774 William Samples 85 acres North Fork

pp230-231

p.229-- At the farm of Capt. Joseph Black where Abingdon now stands, between four and five hundred people collected together to build a fort. --The erection of Black's Fort was begun on the 20th day of July, 1776, the same day that the Battle of Long Island Flats was fought and the news of the victory of the settlers in that battle was received the next day. The defeat of the Indians at Long Island did not end the trouble of the settlers on the Holston. About the time that the battle was fought a party of Indians came up the Clinch River burning all the property and killing and scalping all the settlers that they could find. Dividing themselves into small parties, they invaded the settlements from the lower end of what is now known as the present county of Sullivan in Tennessee, to the Seven Mile Ford in Virginia. (Eleven Indians killed near Black's Fort about the 24th to 30th of July 1776). "As a result of this slaughter of Indians the settlers of Black's Fort were greatly rejoiced and the eleven Indian scalps attached to the long pole and fixed as a trophy over the fort gates. '(Benj. Sharp letter, published in American Pioneer) He was an occupant of the fort at the time of battle) "Several days thereafter three companies prepared to go out from the fort to visit their plantation and on other missions. The second company to leave the fort was composed of Arthur Blackburn, William Casey and his sister, Nancy, who was about sixteen years of age. Robert Harold and several others, and about the same time a third company left the fort to visit the house of Rev. Charles Cummings to bring his books and some of his property into the fort. Both of those parties were attacked by the Indians at the same time within hearing of the fort where an indescribable scene of disorder took place, the women and children screaming, wives clinging to their husbands, mothers to

Blackburn Family

Notes from Summer's History of Southwest Virginia, Contd. p. 2

their sons, and sisters to their brothers, to prevent them from going out of the fort. However, a number of them left the fort and ran to the rescue of the companies as fast as possible, but before they arrived upon the scene the Indians had done their work and gone. Of the second company to leave the fort, Arthur Blackburn was shot, tomahawked, and scalped, but was found alive, brought in and recovered from his wounds. Along with the same company was William Casey and his sister Nancy, a beautiful little girl about sixteen years of age. As Casey was running for his life to the fort he discovered the Indians in hot pursuit of his sister and seeing Robert Harold, another young man close by, he called to him to come and help him save Nancy. Harold obeyed and although there were from four to seven Indians in pursuit, these young men rushed between them and the girl and by dexterously managing to fire alternately, still keeping one gun loaded when the other was discharged, they kept the Indians at bay till they gave up the pursuit and the girl was brought in safe. The author of this account says "Such acts of generous bravery ought at all times to be held an example to our youth."

p.155: - 156

"The following is a partial list of the men who accompanied Captain Evan Shelby on this Expedition (Point Pleasant) Oct. 1774

William Casey	Samuel Vance
Arthur Blackburn	Abram Bogard

p. 272 - William Casey, Robert Harold and Samuel Staples were appointed commissioners on the, 26th day of November, 1777, to locate a road from the mouth of Harold's creek to the court house.

p. 854. In List of Washington County Militia Officers --1777-1780:
Ensign: William Casey

Note by N.E.J.S.:

You will clearly identify the William Casey and sister^{Nancy} about as the children of Margaret(Blackburn) Casey mentioned in the wills of both her brothers, George and Arthur Blackburn which wills I enclose on separate sheets. You are entirely correct about Arthur Blackburn fighting on the Big Kanawha, or the Battle of Point Pleasant in 1774, From the above skirmish you will see that he bore marks of Indian savagery to his grave. Arthur Blackburn was also at King's Mountain.

If only I could be assured that my Martha Blackburn was Martha, sister of your Mary, (Blackburn) Vance - and the date and place of her birth would certainly be strong circumstantial evidence- then I could give you several generations further back on the Blackburn side. I will write you about this when I get further dates and names now in search of.

Do you recall where these sisters of Lieut. William Blackburn afterwards settled or did they remain in Washington Co. Va. (As a matter of fact I do not know that any but the Caseys really lived in Washington, possibly the other sisters remained in the Valley of Virginia.)

Do you remember anything about the settlements of these estates? If I could find the sale or disposition of the grant of 200 acres to William's heirs, doubtless it would state the names and residences of the sisters Sarah and Martha. I think it possible that the sale was made through some one appointed as attorney for the heirs --possibly your Grandfather Samuel Vance or David Evans or Joseph Cusick. The transfer is not found in the Blackburn name. I searched diligently.

1435 Madison Avenue
Memphis, Tennessee
January 15, 1921

General Joseph W. Vance
1535 Crestwood Way, Los Angeles, Cal.

Dear General Vance,

Your letter enclosed by Mrs. Scholfield in her note of Jan. 6th brought such a wealth of interesting data and promise that I am eager to get this acknowledgement to you that I may the sooner receive a reply. How very much I should enjoy dropping in for a long chat this bleak afternoon: there is really so much I should like to discuss with you that the problem of elimination will need to be pressed far beyond my desire.

First, let me assure you that it will be a very delightful pleasure if I can be of assistance in securing for you any Houston data. Not infrequently Mr. Stickley and I return to our old home in Monroe County, East Tennessee to revel among our world of kith and kin, and several times within the last two years I have visited Marryville and Loudon the county seats of Blount and Loudon counties in my effort to be exact in this work of delight. I am very much interested in the Houston family and have for some time been gathering some data which will be used (but not compiled by me) in the second volume of a series of books, called "Notable Southern Families". I shall be so glad to assist you in every way possible. In the same connection I expect to put many of my notes on the Vance Family at the disposal of the publisher who intends to incorporate the Vance and Houston families in Volume II, which volume will be published some time in the early Spring, it is hoped.

Connected as you are with three of these families:- The Blackburns, Vances, and Houston your ability to clarify many of my court records and notes makes me wish most heartily that I might take advantage of our newly inaugurated aeroplane service and drop down close by your sunny city for frequent chats about these "ancient and honorable ancestors" of ours.

I am delighted if in the following pages I can furnish you with any hitherto unknown facts about your Blackburn ancestry.

The earliest certain mention so far that I have found of Liet. William Blackburn's family is the following grant of land, recorded Book H. P. 594, Land Office Records Richmond, Va.: -

Jan. 2, 1755, Grant to Arthur, George and William Blackburn of Fairfax County, - land in said county on Mulberry Run -- 242 acres.

(In the body of the record it is stated "land in said county": in a footnote occurs the following, "The land is in Frederick County touching land belonging to Margaret Blackburn and William Blackburn, her son ")

Note by N.E.J.S.: - In this neighborhood of Mulberry Run, sometimes in the same record called Cedar Creek, old Frederick County, Va. land grants and deeds show the following other Blackburns to have resided at the same time: - Four brothers, John, Samuel, Benjamin and William Blackburn and their cousin Andrew Blackburn: also the following, exact relationship not as yet known - Margaret Blackburn and son William, James Blackburn, with son John, William Blackburn and William Blackburn Jr. (1743-5), Margaret Blackburn administratrix of Archibald Blackburn (1749), Esther Blackburn (1744) and a Robert and a Richard Blackburn of near same date.

August 1, 1769, "Arthur Blackburn, George Blackburn and Elizabeth, his wife, and William Blackburn and Elizabeth, his wife, all of the county of Frederick, and colony of Virginia" sell above 242 acres on Mulberry Run in Frederick Co. to Augustine Windle. -- Deed Bk. 13, p. 81, Frederick Co., Va.

Shortly thereafter, certainly before July 1773, and most likely the year 1769, these three brothers- Arthur, George and William Blackburn, with other Blackburns from Frederick County, Va. came with the first settlers of the Wolf Hill (now Abingdon, Va.) district in Southwest Virginia. Prior to 1776 we find their names in Fincastle County court records, after that date in those of Washington County. (In 1776 the county of Fincastle was abolished, its territory being divided into the counties, Montgomery and Washington.)

Scores of references in the court records, and in Summer's "History of Southwest Virginia" attest the prominence of these brothers in the political, religious and social life of the new settlement, and in the military protection of that entire section of the southwest.

The wills of George and Arthur Blackburn, and the administration and final settlement of the estate of Lieut. William Blackburn show the following undeniable facts, and that the following were brothers and sisters: - though I can not be sure as to the order of birth.

1. Arthur Blackburn, b. : d. 1782, possibly unmarried, and clearly without heirs. He was a Revolutionary soldier, serving both at Point Pleasant and at the Battle of King's Mt. besides in Indian wars in the southwest.

2. George Blackburn, b. : d. between Apr. and Aug. 1778. He married before Aug. 1, 1769, possibly in Frederick Co. Va. Elizabeth Vance, daughter of Samuel Vance of Frederick Co. and Washington Co. Va. and his wife, Sarah Colville. Elizabeth (Vance) Blackburn must have died in April 1779 as she is mentioned in the will of her father, Samuel Vance, written Mch. 31, 1778 and not in that of her husband, George Blackburn, written the month following. Furthermore he puts their only child, Sarah Blackburn in the care of her grandmother, Sara Vance.

3. Lieut. William Blackburn, b. : killed at the Battle of King's Mountain, Oct. 7, 1780. He married before Aug. 1769, most probably in Frederick Co. Va. Elizabeth (Black), b. 1747, died Dec. 29, 1827 in Edgar County, Illinois. They had the following six daughters:- Mary, who married Jan. 31, 1793 in Knox Co. Tenn., Samuel Vance, Jean, who married before 1796 Joseph Cusick, Elizabeth, who married before 1796 John Lusk, Margaret, who married David Evans in Knox Co. Tenn. June 1794 (Marriage bonds issued June 6, 1794) Martha (Patsy) unmarried in 1796, and thought to be the same Martha, b. 1777 in Washington Co. Va. and who married Oct. 17, 1809 Robert Houston, First Sheriff of Knox Co. Tenn., and Sarah who was unmarried in 1796.

4. Margaret Blackburn, b. : d. after 1782. She married about 1755-9 William Casey likely the same William Casey who fought at the Battle of Point Pleasant under Capt. Evan Shelby. They had at least two children: - William, b. about 1758, and Nancy, b. 1760 (?). See pp 230-1, Summers' "History of Southwest Virginia."

5. Mary Blackburn, b.; : d. after 1782. She married before Apr. 1778 Isaac (?) White.

6. Martha Blackburn, b. : d. after 1782. She married before 1782 Matthew ? Rogers. She had at least one son, William, b. before Aug. 1782.

Query #1:

I am sorry that I did not copy verbatim the wills of George and Arthur Blackburn, but I send on separate sheet the abstracts made of each. You will note in the will of George mention of "John Blackburn and son, George" and in will of Arthur, mention of "Alexander Blackburn, John Blackburn's son", also that John Blackburn of Washington County was appointed one of the executors of his estate by Arthur. Do you recall ever hearing what relationship these bore to Mary (Blackburn) Vance, your grandmother?

Query #2:

The early records of Washington and Fincastle counties show that a Joseph Blackburn was closely associated with George Blackburn in 1774, and p. 855, Sumer's "History of Southwest Virginia" shows the following Blackburns to have participated in the Battle of King's Mountain, from Washington Co. Va.

Revolutionary soldiers from Washington County Va. at the Battle of King's Mountain:

Blackburn, Arthur

" , John

" , Joseph

" , Lieut. William. killed at the Battle of King's Mt.

Do you recall ever hearing anything about a Joseph Blackburn, and how related to your Grandmother Mary Blackburn Vance?

John Blackburn above who fought at the Battle of King's Mt. was I think, John Blackburn Esq. later of Jefferson Co. Tenn. and was one of the seven children of "General" Benjamin Blackburn whose will is recorded at Jonesboro, Washington Co. Tenn. 1791. Gen. Benjamin Blackburn's will mentions his children who were as follows:- 1. Benjamin, Ev. War. soldier who died 1834 in Tuscaloosa Co. Ala., 2. Robert Blackburn of Greene Co. later of Davidson Co. Tenn. and who was the father of Rev. Gideon Blackburn, 3. John Blackburn, Esq. of Jefferson Co. Tenn., 4. Archibald Blackburn of Washington Co. Tenn., 5. General Samuel Blackburn of Bath and Augusta Counties, Va. (the personal friend and a pallbearer at the funeral of President George Washington), 6. Elizabeth Blackburn who married Thomas Boy, 7. Ann (or Nancy) who married John Wear (or Weir), of Augusta Co. Va. and Greene Co. Tenn.

Query #3. Gen. Vance,^{do} you recall ever hearing that the Blackburns came from Pennsylvania before settling in Virginia? or do you remember any traditions about their emigration? or settlement in America?

Query #4. Do you remember to have heard that your Grandmother Mary (Blackburn) Vance was a niece of Joseph Black, on whose land Black's Fort (which is the site of the present town of Abingdon, Va.) was built, and who later removed to Blount Co. Tenn. and helped to frame the First Constitution of that State? It is my belief that Jane Black, wife of your Great Grandfather John Vance may have been a sister of this Joseph Black. If this be true, and it be also true that my Martha Blackburn is Martha daughter of Lieut. William Blackburn, then your Grandmother Mary (Blackburn) Vance and your Grandfather Samuel Vance would have been first cousins. Did you ever hear they they were cousins?

Query #5. I note that you mention Rev. Andrew Vance of Loudon Co. Tenn. Whose son was he? and what relationship did he bear to David Vance of Blount Co. Tenn. whose will, 1852, mentions his sister, Sarah Marney's sons, his sister, Margaret Evans, and the inference is that Nancy and Samuel Cusick, parents of Margaret Cusick, were related: in the settlement Polly Apperson? and a Linda Vance received \$1500. each in trade, but relationship not stated.

Query #6. Was this Rev. Andrew Vance the Andrew who in 1829 married Nancy Ann Wilson in Blount Co. Tenn? Was her father John Wilson of Baker's Creek? and do you recall hearing the Vances speak of old Uncle Billy Willson and his wife Jane, of Baker's Creek, who had no children of their own but who assisted their nephew (?) Alexander Lafayette Wilson, son of Rev. Doak Willson, and his sister until they went to Crawfordville, Indiana to live with some other uncles--supposedly the Caldwells? These Willsons on Baker Creek were in some way related to my Great Grandfather William Wilson of Reedy Creek, Sullivan Co. Tenn. From your letter I infer that this Rev. Andrew Vance must have removed to Illinois when your parents did: is this true? Do you know of any of the descendants of this Rev. Andrew Vance?

Now, General Vance, if you can give me the names of the children of your Great Grandfather Vance, I think I can send you some notes that will be of very great interest found in the early court records of Washington and even further back in Frederick and Augusta County Va. He had a son, Andrew Vance, in 1802 is named as a son of John Vance in the deposition of John Campbell in the suit, John Vance versus Francis Walker (son of Dr. Thomas Walker).

Letter to Gen. Vance, p.4

This suit concerned the settlement of the Wolf Hill tract, the tract having belonged originally to Dr. Thomas Walker. John Vance Sr., your Great Grandfather died when? I would appear that he was living 18 1810 from a deposition in a suit, George Fugate vs. Mahon.

The will of Andrew Vance, recorded in Washington Co. Va. Oct, 1818 and written August 1816, mentions:

Andrew Vance, son of James Vance

Andrew Mileton (?) Vance, son of Samuel Vance

Andrew Vance, son of John Vance.

His estate was to be divided between the above.

Executors: - "Brother" James Vance, and Robt. E. Cummings (or Ewing or Owing)

Witnesses: - Joseph Vance, James Vance, and Stephen Bowell.

Was Andrew Mileton (?) Vance above a son of your grandfather Samuel Vance or of one of the other Samuels? The will above, is it that of Andrew, brother of your Grandfather Samuel?

There is really so much I would like to ask you that I fear already your patience has been exhausted so I will stop right now before another pressing inquiry comes to my mind and I can't resist adding it to this already long list.

If you, will, however send me, as I stated above, the names and all dates you may have of the Vance family, I can copy for you many court records that have never appeared in print and which would serve to untangle very largely the repetition on family names in every branch of a large family. Meanwhile I shall be copying some of the Vance data so that I can send it from time to time, both to you and to Mrs. Scholfield.

I am as you are aware, not an expert on the typewriter; my husband being a lawyer, has to have a machine at home for night work, and I have worked out a hunt and find system which is poor but far more legible, despite my mistakes from hurry, than my own handwriting.

With best wishes and a most grateful acknowledgement for your assistance I await with real pleasurable anticipation your Houston inquiries, and any other questions you may desire to ask.

Gratefully yours

(Mrs. R. H.) Nancy E. Jones Stickley
1435 Madison Ave.
Memphis, Tenn.

Abingdon, Washington Co. Va.

Will Book I.

Will of George Blackburn, dated Apr. 1778, probated Aug. 1778, mentions:

Sister, Margaret Casey

Brother, Arthur Blackburn

Brother, William Blackburn

Sister, Mary White

Brother-in-law, Joseph Vance

To John Blackburn and to his son George

To Andrew Colvill

To Daughter, Sarah, all my plantation when she comes of age. At my decease I leave the care of my child to her "Granny" Sarah Vance, and if her Granny should be removed by death before she comes of age, she shall go to the care of Margaret Casey.

Mention of William Casey

" of Margaret Lusk--for schooling her children

" of Matthew (?) Rogers.

To Catherine Young, besides her freedom----

Remainder of my estate to be divided into three parts: to Arthur, one part, to William two parts respectively.

Executors: - William Blackburn and Samuel Vance.

Minute Bk. I, p. 38 (August Court, 1778)

The last will of George Blackburn was exhibited in court and proven by James Piper and Archibald Thompson. William Blackburn and Samuel Vance qualified as Executors with James Piper and James Douglass, securities.

Minute Bk. I. p. 88, (June Court, 1780)

Return of inventory of Estate of George Blackburn, deceased. (This inventory was very extensive as given in Will Bk.)

Will Book I.

Will of Arthur Blackburn (dated July 1782, proven Aug. 1782)

Bequeaths:

To Sister, Margaret Casey 40L Sterling and my Bible for her son William

To Sister, Martha Rodgers 40L " and three bookssilver spurs, knee buckles etc. for her son William

To Sister, Mary White, 40L and books.

To Alexander Blackburn, John Blackburn's son--20L.

To Brother George Blackburn's daughter, 5L if she comes of age; if not, to William's heirs.

To Brother William's heirs 15L to be divided among them as they come of age.

To James _____, my gun etc.

His landswere directed to be sold and equally divided.

Executors: - John Blackburn of Washington County and John Berry of Lincoln County.

Witnesses: - James Douglass, Elizabeth Black, William McElwee.

Will was proven Aug. 1782 by James Douglass, Elizabeth Black, Wm. McElwee, and Janet Blackburn. (Note by N.E.J.S. This Janet Blackburn was wife of John Blackburn, one of the Executors and the same John Esq. who later settled in Jefferson Co. Tenn.)

Minute Book I (July Court, 1782) pp 147 of copy of original Minute Bk I.

John Blackburn and _____ were granted executorship of estate of Arthur Blackburn

Minute Book I. (Copy) p. 162 (_____ Court 1782 or 1783) Appraisal of same--by James Douglass, James Davis, and Isaac White

Minute Bk. I (Copy) p. 167

Return of the inventory of the estate of Arthur Blackburn.

Note by N.E.J.S. The two wills above are the wills of the two brothers of Lieut. William Blackburn who fell at the Battle of King's Mountain)

THE HENNASY FAMILY

Louise Cole Link is the descendant of Robert B. Hennasy. Probably the B. stands for Burns. Robert had five children as follows: Mary, Harry, Jennie, Ella Sherman, Hugar. Ella Sherman was Louise's mother.

Little is known about Hennasys. Family tradition has it that Robert Hennasy and his parents came from Ireland when he was a small boy and we know that he lived in Cincinnati, Ohio. In 1956 I did research in the county records of Hamilton County, Ohio and followed this up by having all of the Hennasy records transcribed. I found quite a number of Hennasy names with different spellings but they all must have been from the same family. Robert's marriage was found there. He married Adaline Anderson October 5, 1856. This was a few months after he purchased his first tract of land in Edgar County and, obviously, Robert and Adaline moved from Cincinnati to Edgar County immediately after the marriage and set up their home on this tract of land.

There are four death records in the Hamilton County court records and one of these, John Hennasy who died November 1, 1882 but was single, indicates that he was born in Ireland. It is also shown that his parents were Thomas and Mary Treason Hennasy. Since John was a contemporary of Robert B., he could have been his brother, in which case Robert B's father would have been Thomas who immigrated from Ireland.

There are several Ellens and Marys in the list of marriage licenses. One of each of these may have been Robert's sisters because they would have been of the right age. Notice that he named one of his daughters Ella and another Mary.

Robert may have come to Illinois to work before 1850. He was obviously a poor boy born of parents who were laborers but he had a strong determination to make a success and apparently saved his money to buy his first piece of land because this 80 acres which he purchased July 30, 1856, and which cost him \$1200.00, he paid for in cash. This was only \$15.00 an acre and the land was on the prairie which was not well drained but which was tillable. Louise, his granddaughter, painted a picture of the old Hennasy homestead, which was practically in ruins before it was taken down, the house which he built on the original 80 acre tract and where the children all were born. This is in her possession.

After he and Adaline became settled and he had saved up some money, he purchased additional tracts of land adjacent to the home place and when he died he had owned 600 acres of prairie land in Edgar County northwest of Paris, as well as 400 acres near Sweet Springs, Missouri. In addition to that he had other holdings of money and investments.

The story is told in the family that when Robert was a small boy, in the summer time he liked to put his clothes in a straw hat, he was barefoot, and swim to the Kentucky side of the Ohio River where he would spend the day and swim back that night. He was a man of small stature but of simple habits and obviously good health. At the time of his last illness, and some years before, he lived with Ella Sherman and Warren Cole, her husband, and his breakfast was solely made up of oatmeal and milk and his evening meal was only potato soup and milk and this menu day after day.

He and Adaline are buried in Edgar Cemetery.

The children of Robert and Adaline were Mary, who married Orlando Curtis and had two children, Blanche and Will; Harry, who

married Lucy Jones and had two children named Mary and Shirley; Jennie, who married Ed Brown; Ella Sherman, who married Warren Cole and had three children, Adelia, Florence and Louise; Hugar who first married A Miss Barber. This marriage resulted in divorce and secondly he married Mayme Hall at Sweet Springs, Missouri. They had two children named Josephine and Eleanor.

There is an interesting anecdote about Robert. After he moved to Paris from the farm, he started a livery stable on North Main Street and also was a dealer in horses and mules.

In his stable he had a team of small matched horses that were a favorite among people who rented such and there always was a problem, after these were hitched, to get them to start because they had a tendency to balk. Robert's patience finally came to an end on this and he sent one of his sons up to John Link's grocery store and secured two small potatoes and then baked them in a stove until they were very soft. He had one of his sons get on one side of the team and he was on the other and another son in the buggy. He told him, "Now hold on to these reins because these horses are going to go". The plan was that the man on either side should have one small potato on a stick and simultaneously raise the horses' tails and apply the hot, soft potatoes. It is a tendency of a horse when anything is put under its tail, to clamp the tail down firmly so immediately when the potatoes were applied, the tails were clamped down and away the horses went. They never had trouble with these horses balking after this. In fact, after that they were always difficult to hold still until the occupants of the buggy were ready to start.

This shows something of Robert's resourcefulness.