

Other Families

Allison—Daniels—Gettys—Goforth—Harris
Palmer—Surratt—Watkins—Wright

JAMES ALLISON

James Allison was another of the old pioneers. James was always a neighbor of the finest sort. He married twice. His first wife was a Miss Green. Three children from his first marriage: one boy and two girls—all dead. He married a Miss Porter the second time, who was a sister of R. E. Porter, and they have been blessed with several children, among when are Johnny, Bedo, and Minnie. That is all I can recall. John married Sarah McCraw, daughter of James Allison. He was a strict Baptist, and came of a splendid family.

Correction: Sarah McCraw married Johnny Allison, son of James Allison, therefore, she could not have been the daughter of James Allison as stated above.



JACKSON DANIELS

Jack Daniels to the best of my recollection married a Miss Humphries, a daughter of Clayburn Humphries. They had several children. Jack was a good citizen, a good farmer, and was true to the Baptist faith. Some of his and Mrs. Daniels' children are J. T. or Little Jack as I call him. He is a farmer and saw-mill man, and a Baptist. Jack is an all-round good man.

Thomas is in the banking business in the American State bank, and he knows his business and is a true believer in the Baptist persuasion. He is a splendid mixer.



MILES AND WILLIAM GETTYS

Miles Gettys came from Cleveland County, a poor boy with pan and shovel in search of monozite sands. He spent the first night in my section with me. He tested the sands on my place, but did not find it profitable to mine. At Lang Lemmon's place he found a good sand.

However, he stayed long enough to take a lease and continued down to Jones Blanton's and Mr. Welchel's places. He returned to North Carolina, and brought back a crew of experienced men and his brother William. The two brothers leased all of the lands that bore promise of profitable working.

Together with a brother in Shelby, they built a splendid business, shipped thousands of tons of monozite from Gaffney to Shelby, where they had a plant to separate the mineral from the black sand. Later, they built a separator at Gaffney and thereby saved the transportation charges. In this way much work was given to people, and much money was put into circulation in Piedmont, South Carolina and

North Carolina. However, the work was finally abandoned. But I wish to pay a tribute here to the Gettys brothers because they were clean business men, they paid the people the full worth of their sand, and treated everybody alike. Milos married and moved down in the Grassy Pond section and began farming on land bought from Mr. Mechem, and prospered. William married Antoinette Blanton, moved to Lattimore and established a lumber concern. Later he and Miles built a gin for public patronage, then they began saw-milling near Macon, Georgia. That has been a success. They now own thousands of acres of land in Georgia and South Carolina. Miles has a lumber yard at Gaffney, where he sells all sorts of building materials. He has also a dairy of 30 cows, some of which give five and six gallons of milk a day.

In twenty-seven years these men have built up fine estates through work and business acumen. They deserve much praise for their industry and tireless efforts. They are now both rich simply because they were persistent and honest.



P. P. GOFORTH

P P. Goforth married first a Linde. They had two children: John, who married a daughter of John Linde; Mary Ann, who married Billy Fulton and moved to Texas. His second wife Emmaline Surratt bore seven children; William, Lafayette, Preston, Jr., Misalaney, Leeker, Margaret and Lottie. William was a member of Company M, Palmetto Sharpshooters. He was killed at Danridge, Va. I brought his body back to his native soil and buried him in it. He was not married. Lafayette first married — Higgins. They had one daughter. He then married the sister of his former wife and now lives in Atlanta. Misalaney married Pink Hollis, a son of Jesse and Hester Hollis. The latter was before marriage a Bobo. Leeker married J. T. Wood, a son of Henry and Susan Wood. His mother was Susan Watkins, a daughter of Billy and Tempy Watkins. Maggie married Thomas Alexander. They have five children. The two boys went to World War and returned without a scratch. One of them, Charlie, married a Miss Elmore. One of the girls married an Elmore who, with his partner, Charles Stacy Dovings, has a flourishing mercantile business at Gaffney. Lottie married J. I. Surratt, a son of Green Surratt. They live in Gaffney. They have no Children. Lottie is his second wife. His first wife was a daughter of J. Q. Carpenter.



RICE AND LOUISA HARRIS

Rice, a son of Martin Harris, a brother of Tommie Harris and Silva Bridges, a daughter of John Bridges, Sr., and a sister of Daniel Humphries' wife, married Louisa Byers, who was a daughter of John Byers who married Polly Watkins, a daughter of Billy Watkins and his wife. Of the children of Rice and Louisa, Luella married John E. Mosteller. Their children are as follows: Ruth Esther, who holds a responsible position as head nurse in a hospital in Atlanta; Quay, who is farming at home and is making a place in the world, and is well beloved by his neighbors; Mabel, who is also a trained nurse in a hospital in Atlanta; and Fay, the youngest son, who lives with his mother on

her farm; Panina and Pettuse, who are the two youngest girls, and still have to select their calling and make their way in the world. They have the best wishes of the writer, and he hopes that they will find a niche in which they can work and do their part in the world.



GREEN BERRY PALMER AND FAMILY

Green Berry Palmer married a Miss Wilkins, and lived on Broad River in Cleveland County, N. C. He had four children named as follows: Thomas, Green Berry, Susan and Sarah Anne. Thomas married Malissa Quinn; no children. Malissa had been married before, having married John Mintz, one boy, John Mintz, Jr., from this union. Green married Amanda Quinn, sister of Thomas Palmer's wife. Susan married P. W. Love; no children. Sarah Anne married Alvin McCraw, a son of Cabard McCraw, who was before her marriage a McCowan. Their children: Dobbins, Kinney, Thomas, and Susan. Dobbins married in Georgia. Kinney married near Gaffney. Susan married Dock Ray, a son of Andy Ray. Thomas married twice. His first wife was Reese Young, daughter of John Young, and a grandchild of Thomas and Matilda Harris. She was a Watkins before her marriage, and they have seven children. The second wife [is] a Miss Young, daughter of Will Young. No blood kin whatever, and no children as yet.



JOHN M. SURRATT

John M. Surratt, a son of Lottie Bonner Surratt and Obediah Surratt (a son of Anthony Surratt and his wife, Lofty, who was an Ellis), married Louisa Morgan, a daughter of Elias Morgan and Deliah Morgan. To the union were the following children born: Cora, who married Robert Clarke and lives with him in Gaffney, and have seven children who have been afforded the advantages of the high school there; Luther, who married Mary Roundtree, lives at his father's place, and is interested in scientific farming; Della married Edwin Wright Jolly.

John Surratt volunteered under J. Q. Carpenter of the Fifth South Carolina, a litter bearer in the regiment, and a soldier who never shirked his duty. On the night that I lay wounded on the battlefield, I heard him come up, and ask if he reckoned Dick [the author] and Caut [Cautius Sarratt] were dead. I did not delay letting him know that we were not. He visited us several times while we were in the hospital. Later, on account of his age, he came home where he remained to run his father's mill. He was always close to me until his death. Now the memory of his goodness lingers with me.

Obediah Surratt and his wife had other children: Emmaline married P. P. Goforth; Adeline married Dock Ross; Misalaney and Minerva never married; Alla married Newton Thompson; Camillas married Sonora Ramseur; Columbus left three children by the second wife and three by the first wife. The girl by Nancy married her cousin, Milford Surratt; Gus did not marry. Tenera and the four children: Carl, Esther, Pink, and Maud live at the old homestead. One of the boys was in the Great War. He lost one eye.



WILLIAM (BILLY) WATKINS AND WIFE

The children of Billy Watkins are as follows: Phillip married (I think) Tempi Arnold; Nancy married David Amos; Polly married John Byers; Alfred married Mary Settles; Tilda married Thomas Harris; Susan married Henry Wood; Louisa married Thomas Hobbs; Tempi married Joel Byers.

Phillip's children are: Phillip married — Lipscomb; Jonas died or was killed in battle; Mary married Jimpses Davis; Louisa married John Vassey; Tempi married George Spakes, son of John Spakes.

Tempi and Joel Byers had no children. They lived in Georgia, and died at the ripe old age. She was an aunt of my first wife, Louisa Wood.

Davis and Nancy Amos had the following children: Matthews married — Cooper of Spartanburg. They had several children of whom Thomas Stacy married one of the girls.

John and Polly Byers' children were: Luther, Tempi was the second wife, Alvin McCraw, a son of Cabard McCraw, had four children: Palmer, Dobb, Kinley, Susan and Thomas by his first wife; four by second wife.

Matilda married Thomas Harris. She was his second wife. They had five children; Alfred; Jones married an Ogglesby; Pinkney is in Georgia; Terissa married John Young; Louisa married Cleveland Hobbs. The last couple had three children: June, James Edward and a girl who married Wade Elliott, a son of Sidney Elliott of Cleveland County, North Carolina.

Thompson and Louisa Watkins Robbs had no issue. She married David Gaston the second time. This couple had no children.



WINSTON W. WRIGHT

Winston W. Wright, son of Abner Wright, married Lucy Hamrick, daughter of George and Phoebe Hamrick who had the following children: Wright, who married Ellen Peeler; Linda, who married Hood Jolly; and Lucy. Winston and Lucy had eleven children.

A. B. Wright married Nicey Durham, a daughter of Edmund Durham. They had seven children and lived in Greenville, South Carolina.

George Wright married Bidy Bridges and had one child, Georgia, who married William Fike. They had five children. George was twice wounded in the Civil War.

William, called Dock Wright, was wounded in his hand near Yorktown, Va. Complications set in from which he died after he came home. He was buried at the Hamrick burying grounds.

John Wright married Sarah Bridges. He had several children. He was a prosperous farmer. His hobby was the Queen sweet potato. Its rind was very thick. Its sale was, consequently, slow in South Carolina. He would peddle them about.

“Here I come, colored brethren, with them queen potatoes,” he would cry.

After a while they did not buy them readily. Then he adopted this spiel:

“Here I have the finest potatoes in the world—the silver skin Tillman tater.” That was at the time that Ben Tillman was in the heyday of his ascendant. The negroes fell over each other to buy, and

he sold out his entire load without moving. Dick Wiggins was along with him. He also told the negroes that he had the same kind. He, too, sold all of his. They spent that night at my house and told me the story.

James Wright married Laura Beattie. He is written up elsewhere in this book.

Thomas Wright married Martha Jenkins. He is a hale fellow well met, who knows his own mind, and holds firm to his conviction. He has often said to me, "Cousin, you can't beat Martha." I have the same opinion.

Talking about opinions, one might try until one is bald to change his opinions, and find in the end that it is the same as it was at the first. I would like to see him read this. It would be as fine a treat as to sit down to one of Martha's fine dinners.

Joe married Mag Jolly, a daughter of James and Salina Humphries Jolly. Salina's mother was Maranna Bridges Humphries. Joe is a good farmer, and is fond of music. He can get music out of any sort of stringed or reed instrument. They have five children who are married and live in their own homes.

Annie Wright married James Hamrick, son of Jimmy Hamrick. He served in the Confederate army under Capt. Plato Durham, who said that a better soldier than James was never made. He had stood and watched James load his gun, shoot it, and cry, "Watch them blue bellies fall." Both James and Annie lived a Christian life and are now gone to their rewards. I went to see Annie before she died.

She said, "God bless you, Cousin Dick. I can't live long, and I am so glad that you have come to see me."

My heart went out to her, and even now I can scarcely see how to write for the tears. She reminded me ever of my own mother. Consequently, she seemed very close to me.

Phoebe Wright married Frank McIntyre and went with him to Mississippi. Their one child, Ida, was born before Frank died. Phoebe returned to North Carolina and married Stevenson Humphries. They had four children, two of whom live in Texas, while the other two are North Carolina citizens. She was a faithful wife and tender mother not only to her own but also to her step children. Stevenson had before married Salina Wilson and had by her four children who live in Cleveland County, North Carolina, and Spartanburg, South Carolina. To the end Phoebe was a loyal Baptist.

Parthenasey Wright married Marion Eskeridge, a son of Green Eskeridge, and they lived together on their own farm. In his middle age his mules ran away with him and crippled him for life. I trust that their good souls rest in heaven.

Mary Wright married Drew Harrell. Mary was quiet, unassuming, industrious and tender. Drew was very proud of her and he had a right to be. He was a slow, easy, likable fellow. He was a member of Sandy Run Baptist church. They both died in the Lord.

Judie Wright married Grandison Ramsey. He was ambitious for self and children. He died as he lived, and was buried in his own county, Cleveland, and Judie lives in Charlotte with her daughter, Mrs. Dillenger, whose husband is an enterprising young business man of that city. May God's richest Blessings rest upon them.

