

## Richard M. Jolly's Aunts

Betsey—Polly—Arraner—Silvia

### ANDY BLANTON AND BETSEY JOLLY BLANTON

(Aunt)

**B**etsey, the daughter of James and Kisiah Jolly, married Andy Blanton of Cleveland County, North Carolina, and a son of Buck Blanton. He engaged in Farming and reared a large family of children. Rosie married a Hart Blanton, a son of Grandison Blanton. They had a large family of children who are scattered over the state of North Carolina. Crowell Blanton was either killed at Gettysburg or fatally wounded from which he later died. Ead married Bud Lee and by him had one child who married Noah Jolly. Burton Blanton married in Knoxville, Tennessee, where he is a machinist and where his several children live. Missy Blanton married Jess Pearson, a grandson of Louis Pearson, one of the first settlers in North Carolina. Carolina Blanton was not married. Jane Blanton married Eli Turner and lived with him on Little Broad River in North Carolina.



### JOSIAH MCCRAW AND POLLY JOLLY MCCRAW

(Aunt)

**J**osiah McCraw married Polly, a daughter of James and Kisiah Jolly. He was a son of Baird McCraw. He was born, reared and lived in upper Cleveland County, North Carolina. When his brother, Jesse, moved to the mountains, Joseph bought his place. He was honest, law abiding, helpful to his neighbors and a Christian Baptist gentleman. I cannot say enough for him. His wife nobly bore her share of the task and duties. She was industrious and made the greater part of the clothing from the plant to the finished article. Her children always looked as though they had just emerged from a band box. She taught them everything she knew, and afforded them much experience with cards, at the wheel, and the loom and the needle. She was one of God's chosen, a member of the Baptist Church.

Their children are as follows: Kisiah married James Ruppe, a son of Daniel Ruppe. Sis had one son, Brivette, before she married.

Kisiah and James had no children. James previously married Jane, a daughter of Elisha Byers and they had three children. Almarine McCraw did not return from the Civil War. He was killed in battle. He told me once that he expected to get a furlough in order to marry Lena, a daughter of John Spakes. However, he did not get his furlough. He made a splendid soldier. Babe McCraw remained with her mother, helping her with the tasks until she was about thirty years old when she married Thomas Wood, a widower, fifty years old. To them were given no children. He left her a home where she lived alone until she married Ran Scruggs. They still live there, but have no children. Yet, they

have been and are still happy. A. J. McCraw married Elizabeth, daughter of James Huskey, who married Peggy, a daughter of Thomas Harris. Barney Huskey was the father of James. A. J. lives on Surratt Creek, a farmer. He was for a long time Justice of the Peace in Cherokee County. He filled the office with honor. He has been a deacon in the Baptist church. His children are: Virgil, who married a Swarford; Ellen, who married Elisha Ellis; Mincey, who married a Hall; Joe, who married a Beason; John, who married a Paris; Dottie, who has a derangement in her sense of hearing, but is a quiet, industrious and lovely young lady; and Coster, who lives at home unmarried. Misalaney, the daughter of Josiah McCraw, married Jeff Queen. They were living near Thicketty Mountain when I last heard from them. James McCraw, son of Josiah and Polly McCraw, married Harriet, a daughter of Albin McCraw, a son of Cabard McCraw. James enlisted at the age of sixteen. He was a good soldier and came home without any serious injury. He has made a success of farming. Harriet was a good and helpful wife. Both were Baptist in faith. He has been alone since his blessed wife left him. Jane, daughter of Josiah McCraw, married Kenyon, a son of Grandison Blanton. He is whole souled, affable and considerate. To them several children were born. She is a splendid neighbor, saving and industrious. Ellen, daughter of Josiah, married a son of William Clary, whose wife was a daughter of Thompson Robbs whose first wife was sister of Rev. Bryant Bonner. He died early and left Ellen the responsibility of the family. She measured up to them and had succeeded in rearing her children. Blessed are they that are faithful to the end. Robin, son of Josiah, married Hisentine Taylor. He is a farmer, a Democrat, and a Baptist. Both are faithful to the end. For them all things are well. Andrew, son of Josiah, married Sis Jolly, a daughter of Dock Lewis Jolly whose wife was Polly, a sister of Josiah McCraw, who wedded Polly Jolly. Consequently Andy's wife was his double cousin, He did much work and achieved ouch good. One of his boys was killed in the Great War. When both passed away, the children showed that they were chips off the old block. To them I say: Be faithful to the end; love one another unto the last.

Josiah, Jr., son of A. J. McCraw, married Jeanie, a daughter of Joe Beason. He has engaged in farming, saw milling and merchandising. His wife died leaving him two children. He soon married a second time. They have lived happily together, being blessed with two children. He is interested in all worthy enterprises and especially his church. He is a deacon in the Baptist church at Camp Creek.



## ARRANER JOLLY

*(Aunt)*

**A**rraner, a daughter of James and Kisiah Jolly, married Ben McCraw, whose parents were Sammie McCraw and Suckey Tate McCraw, and with him moved by stages through Alabama to Mississippi, and there reared a large family and accumulated some property. I know only James, a son, who once visited his daughter Nancy, who was the wife of Columbus Miles Jolly, a brother of the writer. From that union are three boys and four girls living in Mississippi. The other children were: Sam, Lawson, Suckey, Eveline Mary and Jane. Three boys went to the Civil War and two did not come back. The three who went were James, Sam and Lawson. Lawson came back.

Clarification: There were two Arraners, the one described here (we will refer to her as No. 1) was born around 1805, making her the oldest of James Jolly's daughters. She married Ben McCraw, son of Samuel McCraw. They left the Rutherford-Cleveland County area in the 1830's and moved to Alabama.

The other Arraner, was No. 1's much younger sister. Although she too went by the name Arraner, her real name was Silvia Raney. Born about 1823 or 1824, she was the youngest child of James and Kisiah Jolly.



## ARRANER JOLLY AND TIMEY BRIDGES (Aunt)

**T**imey Bridges married Arraner, daughter of James and Kisiah Jolly. He was a farmer and merchant. He had several slaves, a good home and much land. He passed away, leaving Arraner the children to rear and the estate to administer. Later she married George McSwain. Her children by Bridges were: Kisiah, James, and Ellen. Kisiah married John, son of Frank Moore. He served as a sixteen-year-old reserve in the Civil War. He was a hard worker and provided well for his children. In his old age he was left to mourn the loss of his wife. James married a daughter of Rob Beason and lives at his father's old home place. He has been fond of hunting opossums and coon. Of late years I have seen little of him, but in former years I saw him often. I understand that a son lives with him. God bless him. Ellen married Joe, son of Robert Beason. After his marriage Joe bought land near Henrietta, North Carolina. He later sold that and purchased the old Timey Bridges place, which he improved and later sold. Joe could not live without trading. I believe that he would trade Ellen if she would promise to run away and return to him. I am able to learn but very little about his children. However, Robert Beason married — Smith and lives well at Gaffney; Joe McCraw married one of the girls who lived but a short while and left one child.

Arraner and George McSwain had two children: William and Kisey. William married a daughter of Robert Beason. He was a landowner when he was called to his home above. My blessings upon his wife and children.

Clarification: There were two Arraners. This is Arraner No. 2, the younger sister of No. 1. Although this one called herself Arraner, she was actually Silvia Raney. Born about 1823 or 1824, she was the youngest child of James Jolly. After her first husband Tim Bridge's death, Silvia married George McSwain. They had two children, William and Kisey. Silvia also raised from infancy, George "Toad" Bridges, a grandson of George's from his first marriage.

Silvia died in 1908 [in Cliffside] and is buried in the old Aaron Bridges cemetery, located approximately one mile directly behind the present Boiling Springs Baptist Church.

Silvia was the great-great grandmother of Ben Humphries, and the great grandmother of Ginny Ann Greene Reid. Joe and Ellen Bridges Beason are Ginny's grandparents. They are buried at Mt. Pleasant.