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Journal

Unintended Consequences?

This Land Became Their Land: How Spotswood's Land Scheme Benefitted the 1717 Germanna Colony

By John Blankenbaker

Many Virginia colonial researchers have overlooked an unusual feature of colonial Virginia law. This was the creation of Spotsylvania and Brunswick Counties which contained a clause making land in these counties free. This was a very unusual event since it would appear to reduce the monies collected by the royal colony of Virginia. It is not often that the crown gives away something.

How did this come about? In the expedition across the Blue Ridge Mountains in 1716, Lt. Gov. Spotswood had outlined a large tract of land which he with several partners wanted to take up. This was the true purpose of the expedition; it was not an exploration of possible fortress sites. (The trip

was described as having value for the defense of Virginia from the French who were said to be just over the horizon. As official business the expenses might be reimbursed, though the true purpose was private.)

Spotswood had not yet included the manufacture of iron in his private plans. He saw land as the way to wealth in Virginia, as had many earlier people. The tract which was roughly defined by the expedition was large enough to make Spotswood, as a major partner, a large land holder in Virginia. Eventually the tract was described as being 40,000 acres, though the plot of it shows that it was closer to 64,000 acres.

From Spotswood's viewpoint, there

were two problems – settlers and the purchase price. He lucked out on the settlers when the ship captain Andrew Tarbett found approximately eighty Germans in London who wanted to go Pennsylvania. Tarbett, while agreeing to take the Germans to Pennsylvania, took them instead to Virginia where they probably arrived late in the year 1717 by the old style calendar. They became indentured servants of members of the partnership for seven years. The Germans were important because the

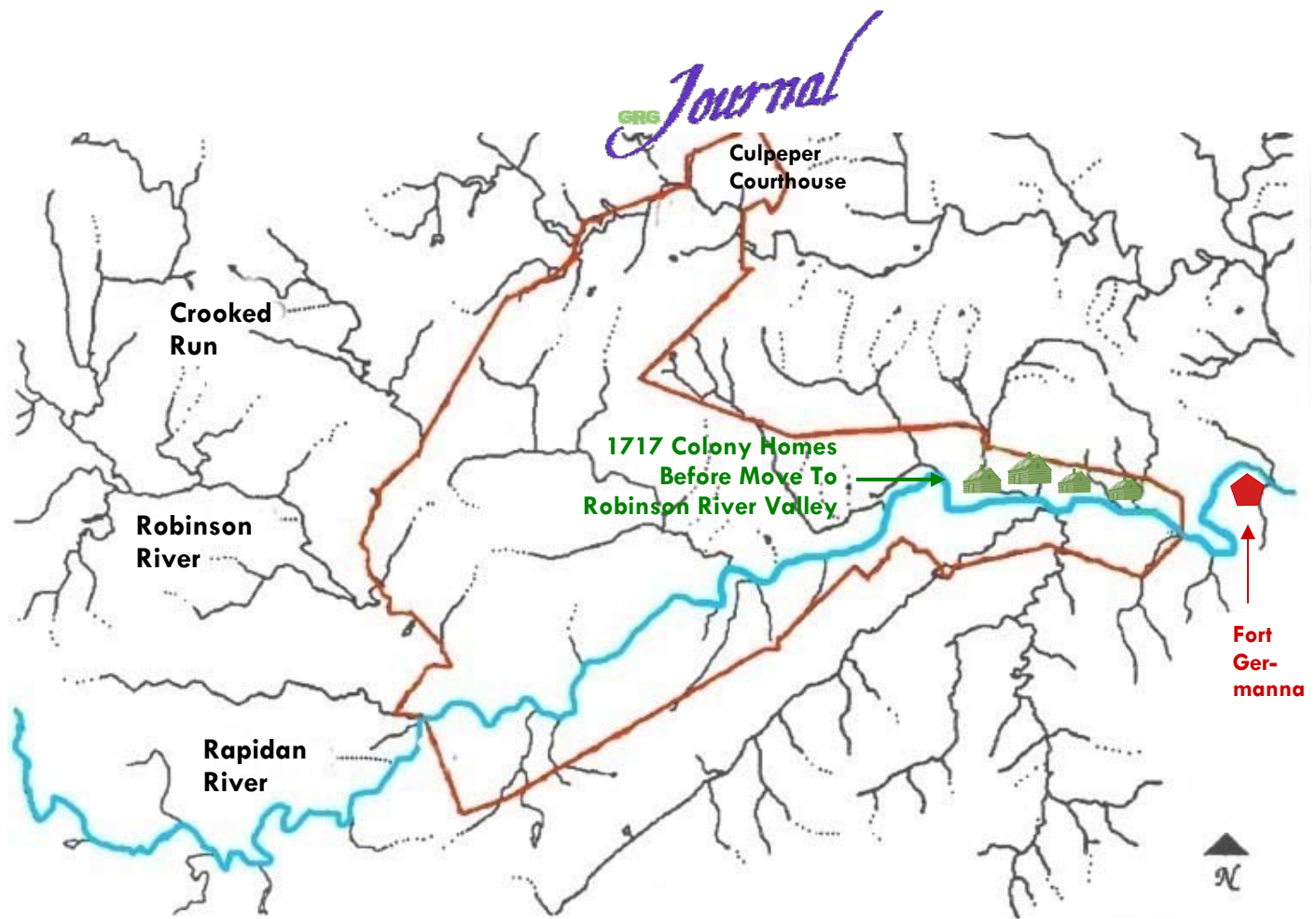
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Spotswood's Virginia tract is outlined in red above, showing present-day Orange, Culpeper and Madison Counties. The 1717 German colonists were housed on the north bank of the Rapidan River about two miles from Spotswood's Fort Germanna; after 1719 the fort was deserted and Spotswood build his home on the site. In 1726, the 1717 German colonists took up free land to the west along the Robinson River, just outside the boundaries of Spotswood's tract.

land was isolated, without transportation by either road or river. Indians still were present, but Spotswood felt that with the simultaneous settlement of a large number of people they could provide their own security.

The payment question went unanswered for a few years and no application was made for a land patent. During this period, Spotswood bought out his partners so that he was the sole owner of the Spotswood Tract, as it was now called. In 1720, legislation was approved in Virginia to create two new counties, Spotsylvania and Brunswick. There was a new feature in this act never seen before in Virginia:¹

“Inhabitants of the said counties are made free of public levies for ten years from the first of May, 1721.”

Another clause, intended to encourage Germans to settle in Spotsylvania County, was the language:

“Because foreign Protestants may not understand English readily, if any such shall entertain minister of their own, they and their tithables shall be free [of the tithe] for ten years from the first of May, 1721.”

¹ Blankenbaker, J., Hodge, J.D., Hodge, L.F., “Free Land,” *Beyond Germanna*, vol. 15, n.3, p. 872, (2003)

Who would potentially benefit from this legislation? The major beneficiary would be Spotswood because of the amount of land he already had or proposed to acquire in the new county of Spotsylvania. Of course, anyone else who settled there would benefit also. Germans would especially be attracted by the exemption from tithes.

Legislation, especially unusual measures, which was passed in Virginia, was not official until approved in England. In this case, approval did not come immediately from England. First, the language was vague and the terms, e.g., “public levies,” were not defined. Though applications for land were accepted in Virginia as soon as Virginia passed the legislation, no patents were issued because approval from London had not been obtained. By 1722, Spotswood could see that his term in office was probably ending and he did not know what the next Lt. Gov. might do with respect to the pending patents. So he approved the patents, including his own which was in the names of others.

Spotswood’s problems were not resolved for many years. However, the smaller patents were approved. The term “public levies” was interpreted to mean both the initial payment and the ongoing quit rents. Thus, when one reads the 1726 patents of the Second Colony members, who had been Spotswood’s indentured servants, taking up land in the Robinson River Valley, there is no mention of fees.

Not being aware of the free land clause in the creation of Spotsylvania County, Willis Kemper, writing in the late 19th century, was led to an erroneous conclusion. He seemed to be bothered by the fact that the second group of colonists did not join the first group of colonists at Germantown. He wrote,²

“None [historical writers] of them knew anything about the difference of religious faith, which undoubtedly was the cause of their separation.”

But three members of the First Colony took advantage of the free land clause for Spotsylvania County, one of them right in the midst of the Second Colony. Jacob Holtzclaw (1729) and

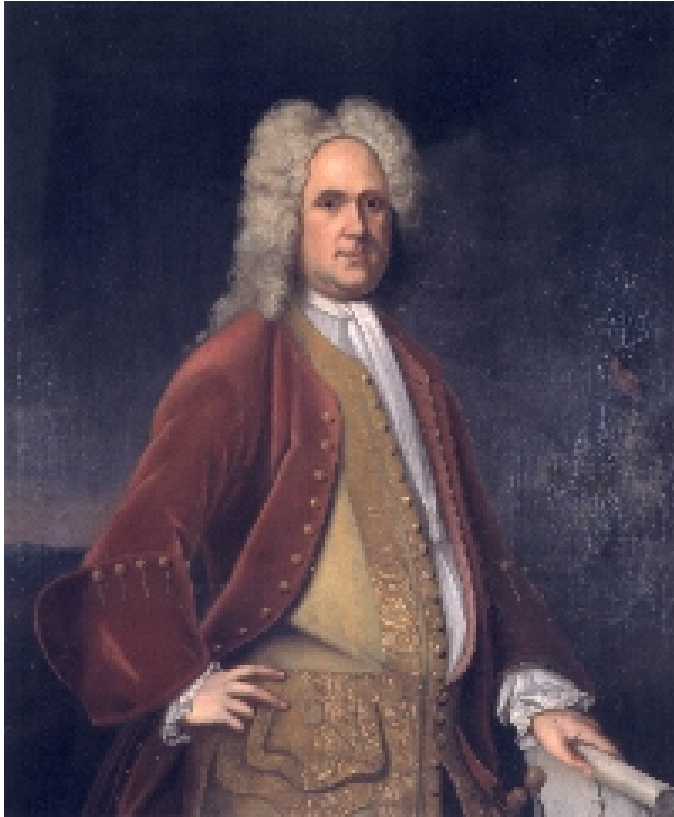
John Fishback (1730) had patents in the Little Fork, which was in Spotsylvania County at the time, for which no fees were paid. John Huffman had a Robinson River patent in 1729 for which he paid nothing. (All of these people had to pay the surveyor which was a private endeavor.)

Given the evidence of the free land and the participation of some First Colony members in taking up that land, it would appear that economic reasons are more likely chief factors leading the 1717 Second Germanna Colony to settle in Spotsylvania County and not in Stafford County, where Germantown was located.

I have always regretted that Kemper made this statement since it tended to suggest there were serious differences between the first two colonies.

² Kemper, W. M., Wright, H. L., *Genealogy of the Kemper Family*, Chicago, 1899.

John Blankenbaker of Chadds Ford, PA, has been a Germanna researcher and writer for 25 years. His transcriptions and analyses of the baptismal and confirmation records of the Hebron Lutheran Church are available from his website, www.germanna.com, as well as his publication regarding the Culpeper Classes. His historical and genealogy notes, published on-line for many years, are available on www.germannacolony.org and <http://homepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~george/searchthesenotes.html>.



Alexander Spotswood, above. If you want to know more about this important colonial figure, see the GRG website, www.AlexanderSpotswood.com.

German Reformed or Lutheran? It Did Really Matter

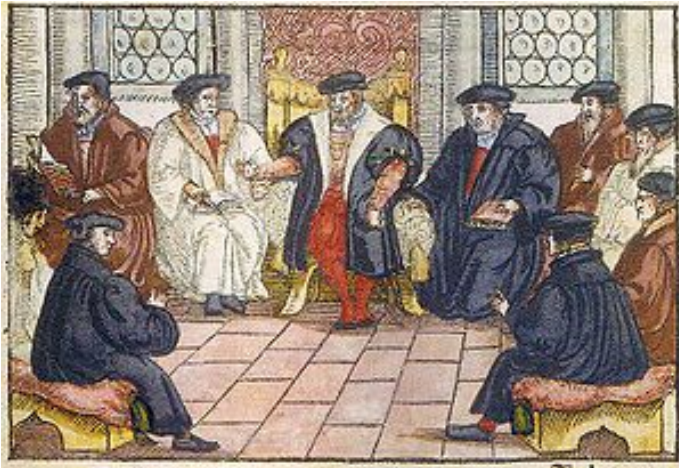
By Suzanne Collins Matson

Today we often make assumptions regarding the religious affiliation of our ancestors and more often than not these assumptions are projections of our own beliefs rather than historically accurate facts about our ancestors. The ease with which many people today change religious affiliation suggests to many that their ancestors also made such changes easily. Evidence suggests that such assumptions would be mistaken.

The Lutheran church began first as a movement to reform the Roman Catholic Church after Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses to the door of the Wittenberg cathedral in 1519 and later marked a distinct separation from the Catholic Church. Luther's original intent was to reform the existing Roman Catholic Church, not to establish a new church. The name Lutheran came from Martin Luther's critics; he preferred the word Evangelical. Luther brought a reformer's zeal to challenge the Catholic Church practice of selling indulgences to purchase release from purgatory (a temporary way-station for souls not quite worthy of heaven) or to secure forgiveness for sinful acts. As Luther's religious views evolved he came to challenge the authority of the Pope of the Roman Catholic

Church, even going so far as to call the pope the anti-Christ. Luther translated the Bible from Latin into German, making it accessible to those who could read German. As a result of these and other actions, Martin Luther was excommunicated by the pope and condemned as an outlaw by the Holy Roman Emperor in 1521.

Likewise the German Reformed Church, influenced by Huldrych (Ulrich) Zwingli and John Calvin, began as a reform movement within the Roman Catholic Church in a manner similar to Martin Luther and the Lutheran Church. Zwingli confronted the Catholic church concerning fasting during Lent for which he claimed there was no Scriptural basis. Zwingli also challenged the requirement of celibacy for priests, demanding that such practice be abolished. These challenges, among others, placed Zwingli, like Luther, in direct conflict with the ecclesiastical hierarchy and the secular authorities who were ordered by the pope and bishops to maintain the



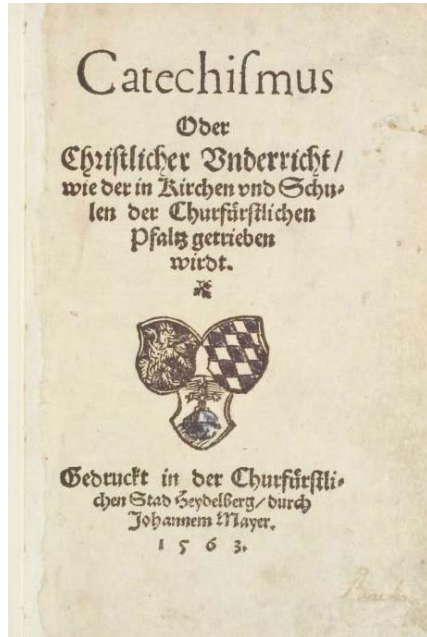
Colored woodcut of the Marburg Colloquy, 1557.

ecclesiastical order within the Catholic Church.

As so often happens, political issues became part of a dispute between Luther and Zwingli. An attempt by Philip of Hesse to form a political coalition of all Protestant forces brought Luther and Zwingli along with other reformers together at Marburg to discuss and resolve their differences in September 1529. As a result of this meeting, fifteen *Marburg Articles* were published. The Zwinglian and the Lutheran groups agreed on fourteen of the articles, but agreement on the fifteenth article proved impossible. What was this one point of disagreement that led to two distinct and sometimes warring protestant churches? Transubstantiation – the belief that during communion the bread and water is physically converted to the actual body and blood of Christ, is the answer and it might seem odd to us today that such a dispute was so significant to the respective followers back then.

The disagreement about the fifteenth article illustrated the dramatic differences in their views on the presence of Christ's body in the Eucharist. Luther believed that the consecrated bread and wine in the Lord's Supper united to the true body and blood of Christ; whereas, Zwingli believed that the bread and wine were symbols of the body and blood of Christ. Luther was intractable in his insistence that the Biblical reference to Christ's words "This is my body . . ." did not allow any interpretation other than the literal meaning of it being Christ's actual body. Zwingli viewed the wording as more symbolic, and neither man would budge from his respective interpretations. From this dis-

pute, the Lutheran Church and the Reformed Churches, the German Reformed church being one of the Reformed group looking to Zwingli as their leader, became two separate Protestant churches with different confessions and catechisms.



The Heidelberg Catechism was commissioned by Elector Frederick III of the Palatinate, and is sometimes called the Palatinate Catechism.

These two churches continue today to embrace different views that keep them separate. The Lutheran church, then and now, adheres to the tenets of the Augsburg Confession, while the German Reformed church follows the beliefs stated in the Heidelberg Catechism. The Augsburg Confession consists of twenty-one theses stating the beliefs of the Lutheran church and seven antitheses listing abuses to be corrected. Consisting of one hundred and twenty-nine questions and answers, the Heidelberg Catechism states the beliefs of the Reformed church, then and now.

At the time of Luther and Zwingli, the different beliefs were taken quite seriously and members of one church did not easily accept the beliefs of the other church notwithstanding the overwhelming agreement of their general beliefs. The differences might be viewed as small by us, but believers in the respective churches took the differences to heart. The different emphases found in Augsburg Confession (Lutheran) and the Heidelberg Catechism (Reformed) combined with the conflict over the meaning of communion (the transubstantiation issue) resulted in Lutherans and the German Reformed groups worshiping separately. Communion would have been reserved for the members of each respective group, thus not allowing nonmembers to participate in communion, usually called “closed” communion. Since communion was an important element of any worship service, being excluded from communion meant a serious lack of spiritual exercise by the party being excluded. This did not promote the casual exercise of joint worship, quite the opposite, it meant that joint worship did not usually happen.

An excellent example of “closed” communion is illustrated when one examines the books written by John V. Blankenbaker on the early “Hebron” baptisms and communion lists. (They are available for sale at John Blankenbaker’s website,

www.germanna.com.)

It is instructive to note that while a number of German Reformed individuals served as sponsors for baptism, none of them were listed as receiving communion. Usually, the baptism record noted that they were German Reformed or *reformiert*, the German word indicating a member of the German Reformed church.

Thus, with a little historical background we can better understand why German immigrants found themselves in the new land of Virginia with a common language and yet could not bring themselves to worship together in what to us, might seem a trivial difference of opinion but to them was a very serious matter of spiritual practice.



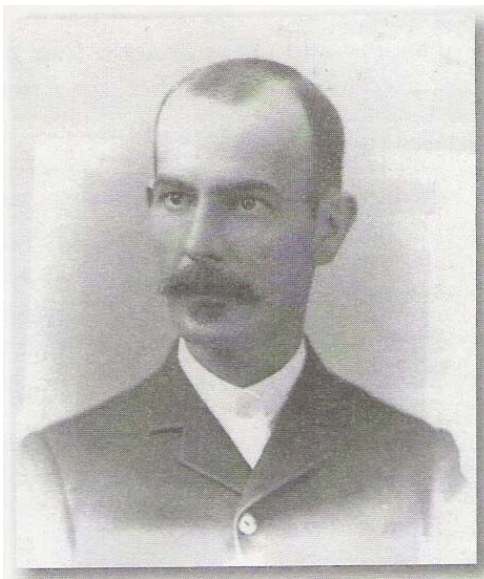
Diet of Augsburg, woodcuts from the 16th century in Nuremberg: Chancellor Dr. Christian Beyer reads before Charles V the "Augsburg Confession" by Philipp Melancthon.

Suzanne C. Matson is a Germanna descendant and a noted Germanna researcher. Specializing in genealogical and historical research with a particular expertise on the upstate area of South Carolina, she works with clients who are researching their roots in the upstate of South Carolina or other areas of colonial America. She continues to serve as a Genealogy Consultant for the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution and as such helps with solutions to some of the thornier problems relating to “proving the line” for prospective members. She attends several genealogical conferences every year to stay current with the latest information presented. She is a founding member of the Germanna Research Group and a frequent contributor of articles on history and genealogy.

Robert McClure Snyder: Grocer, Realtor, Banker, Oil Man, Entrepreneur

By Suzee SoldanEls Oberg

Between 1895 and 1906 the name of my great uncle, Robert McClure Snyder, would have been recognized in almost every household in Kansas City and in many other towns in the mid-west. His name often appeared in the Kansas City World, The Kansas City Star, Kansas City Business Journal, New York Times and numerous other newspapers. In a biography compiled by Press Syndicate Of America when he died, his contemporaries are quoted as stating, "This man has done more for the citizens of Kansas City in dollars and cents than anyone who has ever lived here."



Robert McClure Snyder

He arrived in Kansas City seeking to build a good life for himself and his family in the rapidly growing area, much as his German and Swiss ancestors before him had done as immigrants to Virginia and Pennsylvania and later by migrating to Kentucky, Tennessee, and Indiana.

Robert's maternal grandfather, Jacob Pence, a Virginian by birth, was a manufacturer of fine cutlery and firearms and a great student of world affairs who was fluent in several languages. Robert's paternal grandfather John Snyder, also born in Virginia, was a distiller of fine whiskey in Kentucky and was killed there in an accident at his mill at a young age. Robert's father, John, Jr., continued in the distilling business in Trimble County while still in his widowed mother Malevia Yager Snyder's household.

Robert's father descended from the Second Germanna Colony in Madison County. His paternal grandmother Malevia Yager Snyder was descended from several families who came on the ship *Scott* in 1717 and who were indentured to Lieutenant Governor Alexander Spotswood: the Yagers, Kaifers, Weavers, Blankenbakers, Clores, Broyles, and Utz families. His Wilheit and Snyder ancestors joined the other families at a later time and settled in the Robinson River Valley of present-day Madison County, Virginia. Robert's paternal great-great-grandfather, the immigrant John Sneider (Snyder), did not come on the *Scott* with Henry Snyder, and a link has not yet been found between the two. But John Sneider (Snyder) did settle in the Robinson River

Valley of Madison County, Virginia, with the Second Colony.

When John, Jr., married, he moved to Louisville and went into the grocery business. While Robert was growing up, the family was affluent enough to have servants and enjoy life in this city that was numbered the 12th largest in the nation. There was a frightening time during the Civil War when Sarah Pence Snyder found it necessary to take the children to her brother's home in Indiana for a short stay. Robert's father, however, kept his Louisville business going through those perilous years and in 1866, at the urging of his brother, George Wilhoit Snyder, the family relocated to Missouri to join him in a milling business. The move involved going by train to St. Louis, by boat on the Missouri River to Waverly, Missouri, and by covered wagon to Columbus, Johnson County. It must have been a grueling experience. It was certainly remembered so by Robert's sister, Ella, who was ten years old at the time. Two years later the family moved to Freedom Township, Lafayette County, near Concordia where John bought another mill. A neighboring farm was one owned by James Hord with a daughter, Frances, who attended school with 16 year-old Robert.

In 1873 the family returned to Louisville where the eighth and last of Robert's siblings was born. But Robert had evidently left his heart back in Missouri with Frances "Fannie" Hord, and they were married there in February of 1875. A son, Robert, Jr., was born in the fall but, sadly, that same fall Robert's father died at age 47 and then Robert's young wife Fannie died the next year. Both were buried in Cave Hill Cemetery in Louisville.

Pedigree Chart for John Snyder, Jr., father of Robert McClure Snyder

In 1879, Robert's mother and younger siblings left Kentucky for DeSoto, Dallas County, Iowa, where his aunt, Amanda Katherine Pence Van Meter, lived on a large farm. That same year, Robert who had been working in St. Louis, Missouri, as a merchandise broker, took his savings of several thousand dollars and went west to invest in a business of his own. That same year he married another

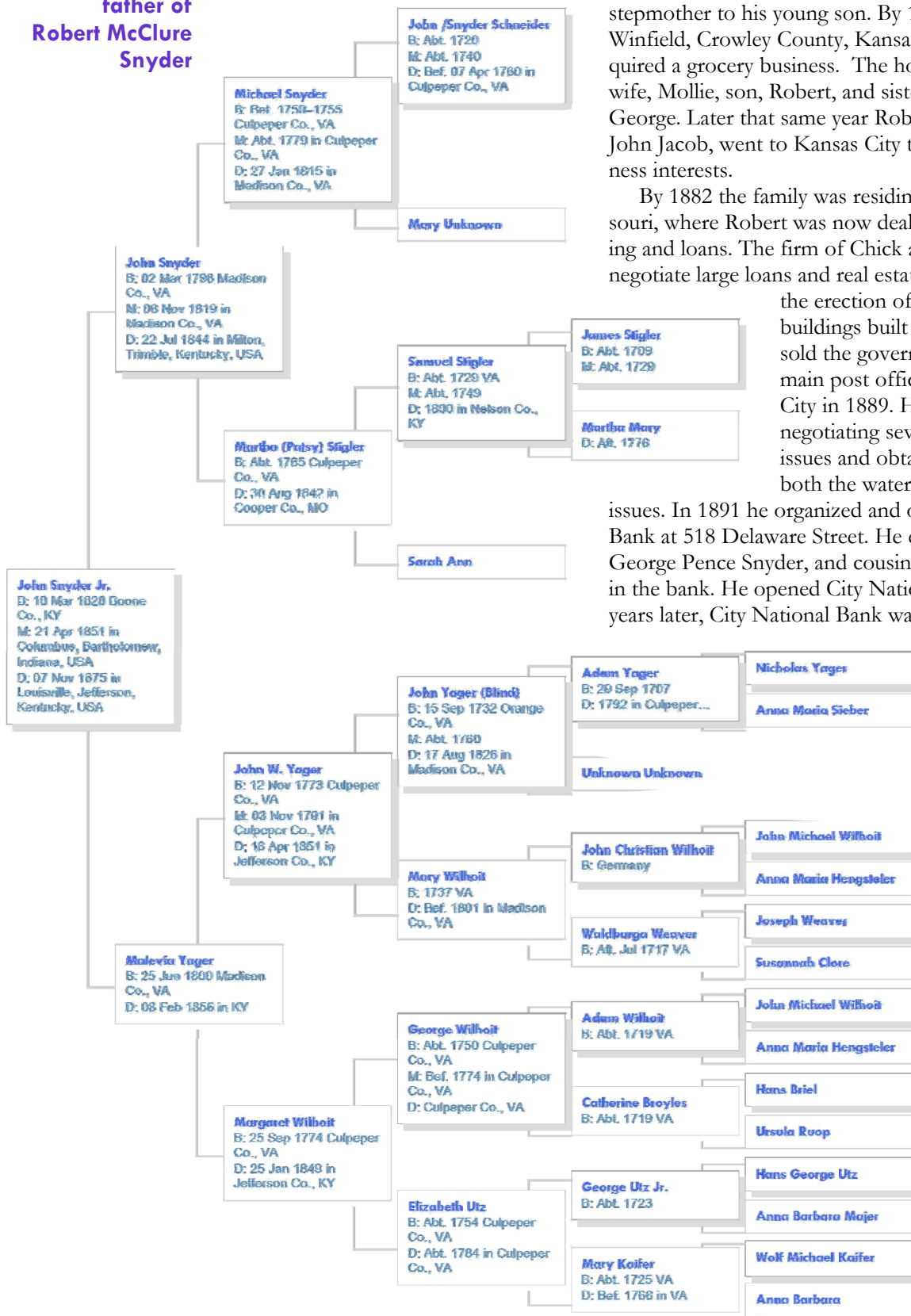
Missouri girl, Mary Lee “Mollie” Dawson, who became a stepmother to his young son. By 1880 the family was in Winfield, Crowley County, Kansas, where Robert had acquired a grocery business. The household included his wife, Mollie, son, Robert, and sister and brother, Ella and George. Later that same year Robert and another brother, John Jacob, went to Kansas City to establish other business interests.

By 1882 the family was residing in Kansas City, Missouri, where Robert was now dealing in real estate, banking and loans. The firm of Chick and Snyder managed to negotiate large loans and real estate sales that resulted in the erection of many of the large office buildings built during that time. He sold the government the land for the main post office in downtown Kansas City in 1889. He was responsible for negotiating several favorable city bond issues and obtained the highest bids for both the waterworks and public library issues. In 1891 he organized and opened his Mechanics Bank at 518 Delaware Street. He employed his brother, George Pence Snyder, and cousin, James Wharton Jones, in the bank. He opened City National Bank in 1900. Many years later, City National Bank was purchased by the

Kemper family and evolved into their present-day United Missouri Bank.

Robert was an organizer and first treasurer of Bankers Life Insurance of Kansas City that became the Kansas City Life Insurance Co. During those years, he enjoyed the arrival of three more sons, but suffered the loss of an infant daughter. He saw to the care of his mother and the mentoring of his brothers, sisters and cousins while enlarging his business interests.

Robert's largest contribution to the



SUNDAY MORNING, JANUARY 5, 1896.



Site of Missouri Gas Company's Works, July 2, 1895.

GOODBYE TO COAL OIL

Few Kansas Cityans but Can Afford to Burn Gas Now.

RESULT OF COMPETITION.

The Old Gas Light Monopoly Has Been Broken at Last.

DOWN TUMBLED THE PRICE.

What the Missouri Gas Company Did for the People.

HOW AND WHY IT WAS DONE.

Comparatively few people perhaps have yet realized that the year 1895 has developed an enterprise which, in its present importance and permanent benefit, is second to none in the history of Kansas City.

Gas last year sold at \$1.50 (150¢) per 100 feet. It is now at a permanent price of 75¢. Last year the city was at the mercy of a monopoly, the threatening gas crisis was feared to consider a low price than \$1.50, and who came to last year's meeting (last) upon

terms now become so accommodated that they are not only furnishing gas at one-half the price which they are allowed to charge, but offering to give away services, pipes and connections? The answer is plain to every eye. To the Missouri Gas company alone is all the credit due. This company, composed of representatives of the city of Kansas City, who had the courage of their convictions, came forward in the most critical time in the controversy; and offered, if support was guaranteed it, to leave \$100,000 in a new plant and sell gas at the price of 75¢. Every citizen of Kansas City was thus directly benefited, whether he be a gas consumer or not. Cheap gas for light, fuel and heat, our city gives equal advantages with any other city of her size and importance. To the consumers, a direct saving of every household.

This is one of the achievements of which the year 1895 may well be proud. The history of municipal legislation in Kansas City furnishes no more interesting episodes than are contained in these chapters devoted to the battle against monopoly for cheap light. No other passage in her book of life shows her legislators in a brighter light, or better feeling, than the determination and indomitable courage of her citizens who, fighting against overwhelming odds, yet had faith enough in her and in themselves to persist in their endeavor to give this city good light at a reasonable price.

The warfare over the gas question began here in 1894. The franchise of the Kansas City Gas Light and Coke company, granted by the state legislature, expired in February, 1895. About one year previous to this the company filed a petition with the Common Council of the city, asking that their franchise and charter be renewed at the old rate, \$1.50 per 100 feet. This was bitterly opposed by the citizens, and the company finally withdrew its petition; however, until the Council had increased that it would be renewed.

Then the city took a hand in the matter, and the Council passed its new famous "gas ordinance," which provided that no company should charge more than 75¢ per 100 feet. This was fought bitterly by the old gas company, which now contended its charter was perpetual, and that the three-year clause only related to its exclusive rights. It further asked that it be granted a franchise to deliver and sell gas at \$1.50 and while not requesting exclusive privilege, its contract was an absolute worded as to amount to this in the end. It contended that gas could not be made, stored and sold at a living profit for less than the amount specified, and loudly proclaimed its intention of standing upon its rights as a state corporation. Its position, however, was ridiculed and ridiculed when the Supreme court handed its charter completely out and decided that it had no corporate existence.

Just at this point the Missouri Gas company, composed of representatives of Kansas City, backed by ample capital, stepped into the breach and offered to erect a new and improved plant, speed \$100,000 in equipment it and furnish a better quality of gas than ever seen here at 75¢ per thousand. This was the part of the franchise that no one would put money into such a faulty scheme. Nevertheless, the old company's vigorous efforts, the Missouri Gas company finally got the desired franchise; not, however, until it was no longer about with confidence that any less determined men would have thrown it up in disgust. If the Missouri company was in the field to stay, and despite its restrictions

it accepted the franchise as granted. This acceptance was made binding by the filing of the largest bond ever required by the city—\$100,000—the only one previously demanded before from any company, and then only in the sum of \$100,000. It was also required by the franchise that the company expend \$100,000 in the first six months after its acceptance, and \$200,000 within three years after that date.

This traces the path, for cheap gas to the planting of the city's interest in the hands of the Missouri Gas company. Let us see whether it has proved a "good and faithful servant."

In its first act, as stated, was to file its bond in the sum of \$100,000, guaranteeing the execution of the franchise.



The Trench at Twelfth and Walnut Streets.

tion of the works by it in the specified time and manner. It was required to spend \$100,000 in the first six months of its execution. The ground upon which its works were purchased at \$100,000, and more than that, and in the first four months of its execution it spent \$100,000. It was required to be invested during its first three years. And now, just as months since work began, it has expended nearly \$100,000 in its total required investment, a record in unreplicated, and should ally all suspicion as to the company's honesty and purposes. It is here to stay and used only refer to the work it has accomplished to the past six months to convince the most skeptical of its facts.

Where the Story Has Gone.

What has been done with all this money? Few people know, beyond the fact that nearly every street in town has been more or less left up or mended of late. But let them go out in the company's plant at Third and Gillis streets and they will get their eyes opened in a most astonishing manner. Here they will see where the work has been done, for there where the old plant stood and groups of brick, stone and wooden buildings, all destroyed, immense tracks. They will find machinery as efficient as a Swiss watch, beautiful residences of mechanics. They will see before them

the nearly completed plant of the Missouri Gas company.

Probably the first thing to attract the attention of the wondering public in the group of buildings which make up this miniature city would be its immense tanks, or gas-holders, with their balloon-like shapes and spider web supporting frames. There are two of these in the recovery, the main one being 125 feet in diameter and 12 feet high, with a capacity of 1,000,000 cubic feet. Near this is the smaller tank, or relief tank, 75 feet in diameter and 12 feet high, with a capacity of 1,000,000 cubic feet. These two holders were erected at a cost of \$100,000, and are made of their kind.



Thousands of Dollars for Labor.

Great as are the benefits that this company will confer upon the gas consumers of Kansas City in the way of power, service and cheap light, they are more than equaled by the fact that it has already done the laborer's work. Thousands of dollars have been paid out for the labor of men, women and children in the construction of this plant. The laborer's work is to be done in the most efficient manner, and the laborer's work is to be done in the most efficient manner, and the laborer's work is to be done in the most efficient manner.

The power for all the company's machinery is secured in the fact that it is really the heart of the plant. This tank, situated at the corner of Twelfth and Walnut streets, has a full battery of the latest machinery, and is equipped with the most modern of machinery, and is a model of its kind in every part of the city. The power for all the company's machinery is secured in the fact that it is really the heart of the plant. This tank, situated at the corner of Twelfth and Walnut streets, has a full battery of the latest machinery, and is equipped with the most modern of machinery, and is a model of its kind in every part of the city.

dition, and is absolutely safe to stay up at least as long as steel arches. This model tank cost over \$250,000.

The company's office and meter-room are both in the same building, a two-story structure, designed in all respects. The office is to be fitted up with every convenience for the people and secure transmission of the gas, and the meter-room will be of the most improved pattern, and contains only the latest apparatus. This building cost \$100,000.

The above are the principal structures of this company's plant, but are by no means the only ones. There are, in fact, a number of very extensive brick, stone, and iron structures, including a tank, 125 feet in diameter, and 12 feet high, with a capacity of 1,000,000 cubic feet, and a tank, 75 feet in diameter, and 12 feet high, with a capacity of 1,000,000 cubic feet.

From this laboratory one can readily comprehend the magnitude of the enterprise. Three men have in hand. And that they are rapidly pushing it to completion is evidenced by the fact that already over thirty-five men are at work upon the plant. The work is to be done in the most efficient manner, and the laborer's work is to be done in the most efficient manner.

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ing money before February 15. Five hundred families, it is estimated, have been the recipients of this company's payment, and have been maintained thereby during the past half year. Five hundred families will probably mean 2,000 people who are the means of livelihood in this organization—only a good thing it has for Kansas City, and a vast help in the struggling character, who have felt the effect very much more than would be generally supposed.

And it must be remembered that if this work were stopped it had not been carried out by this company had been er—unfortunate people would be employed in other things. On the contrary, they would be without work, and other things for gas or doing without it being.

Another thing in the favor of this company is that it is the only one that is the preference at the work, and no men have been imported. The whole enterprise is a Kansas City institution, controlled by a Kansas City man, and carried out by a Kansas City company. Hence the laboring men of Kansas City were selected to do the work. How well they have done it the work itself shows.

Public Convenience Considered.

Of course, this vast enterprise has not been carried out without some inconvenience to the public. It is no child's play to lay nearly forty miles of gas pipe through well-paved streets, tearing up the sidewalks, crowded with cable cars and thronged with pedestrians. It is hard enough in pleasant weather to tear up an

At present he is president of the "National Bank of Kansas City," and is also agent for some of the wealthiest money lenders of the East.

No one has more faith in the future of Kansas City than Mr. Snyder, nor has anyone done more to show his faith. Ever since he first came here he has been involved with his brilliant prospects for the future, and he has never failed to back his judgment with his money. His old-fashioned business sense, and his keenness of vision, have made him a member of the Commercial club, and has been prominent in all public spirited movements, etc.

Gas company has done everything conceivable to both expedite and facilitate the laying of its mains, as well as to avoid inconveniencing the public in every possible way. Whenever payments are taken up they are made as quickly as possible consistent with good and permanent work being done. No streets are left disfigured by untidy piles of earth or paving materials; no streets are opened until absolutely necessary; in all cases where the laying of mains would interfere with wedding, funerals, etc., the work has been postponed until the event was over, for the sake of the convenience or pleasure of the parties concerned. Few enterprises in Kansas City have been so considerate of the public as this one.

When streets have been left well-nigh impassable, even by the city itself.

President Robert M. Snyder.

If the Missouri Gas company is a success, and no one doubts that fact, the credit for it rests chiefly with its president, Robert M. Snyder. Mr. Snyder is still a comparatively young man, being but 47 years of age, but he is looked upon by all who know him as a shrewd and careful business man. He has been a resident of Kansas City for about seventeen years, and was for a long time a member of the wholesale grocery firm of Perin & Snyder, who did business at the corner of Union street and Santa Fe street. He left this firm about twelve years ago, and has since been engaged in the banking and loan business.

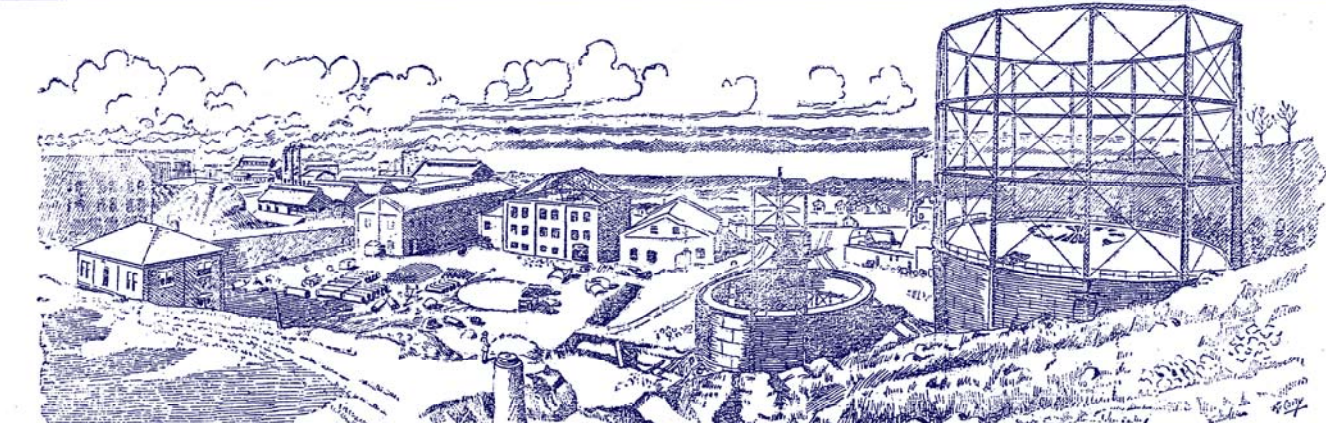


Laying 24-Inch Pipe at Third and Gillis Streets.

At present he is president of the "National Bank of Kansas City," and is also agent for some of the wealthiest money lenders of the East.

No one has more faith in the future of Kansas City than Mr. Snyder, nor has anyone done more to show his faith. Ever since he first came here he has been involved with his brilliant prospects for the future, and he has never failed to back his judgment with his money. His old-fashioned business sense, and his keenness of vision, have made him a member of the Commercial club, and has been prominent in all public spirited movements, etc.

Mr. Snyder is the man who secured the location of the new plant upon its present site.



Missouri Gas Company's Works, January 1, 1896.

welfare of the general public occurred when he took big financial gambles in utilities. He dreamed of piping affordable natural gas to Kansas City and while many believed that it couldn't be done, Robert, a man always willing to take big risks, believed it was possible. He and his friend, R. A. Long, and his son, Robert Jr., formed the New York Oil and Gas Company and drilled in southeastern Kansas. He is credited as being responsible for the Kansas oil boom when, while drilling for gas, his company hit an oil well, the Schoenberg, so-named for the farmland upon which it was located near Independence, Kansas. It gushed out 500 to 600 barrels a day. His company also hit big wells in Indian Territory.

After they were successful and cheap natural gas became available, a fight for the gas franchise in Kansas City ensued. The gas utility war was very nasty and cutthroat. In his fight for one of his gas companies, Missouri Gas Co, which later became the Kansas City Missouri Gas Company, the households of Kansas City were given free hook-ups and free gas stoves to encourage the use of gas for cooking. Towns in Kansas and Missouri were able to take advantage of this cheap natural gas through the companies he and his cousin's husband, Michael M. Sweetman, organized. It is difficult to relate to this now, but just imagine the many thousands of people who benefited from this. Housewives

"If the Missouri Gas company is a success, and no one gainsays that fact, the credit for it rests chiefly with its president, Robert M. Snyder. Mr. Snyder is still a comparatively young man, being but 43 years of age, but he is looked upon by all who (have) known him as a shrewd and careful business man. He has been a resident of Kansas City for about seventeen years, and was for a long time a member of the wholesale grocery firm of Perrin & Snyder, who did business at the corner of Union Avenue and Santa Fe Street. He left this firm about twelve years ago, and has since been engaged in the banking and loan business. At present he is president of the Mechanics' Bank of Kansas City, and is also the agent for some of the wealthiest money loaners of the East.

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—*The Kansas City Times, January 5, 1896.*

could cook using gas instead of wood. Reading could be done at night by gas-light instead of by kerosene lamp or candles. Homes could be warmed using gas that was much cleaner than coal. Towns could light their streets. Gas pipelines probably would have been built eventually, but Robert made it happen faster and in such a manner that an ordinary person could afford it. While so doing, he made himself and R. A. Long each a profit of one million dollars in just one year.

Robert was, for several years, vice-president of the Detroit and Lima Northern Railroad, which became the Ohio Southern. He bought and sold land all over the USA and owned oil and gas wells, cattle herds and ranches in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and Oklahoma. He traveled extensively for business and pleasure in his own private well-appointed railroad car.

In 1896, Mollie Dawson Snyder suddenly died, leaving Robert with three sons in the home ranging from 5 to 15 years of age. The 15 year old, Cary, was to cause Robert and his family a good deal more grief after his mother's death. On New

Year's Day in 1900 Robert married socialite Sibyl MacKenzie of Boston, Massachusetts. The intimate wedding was held in the home of the bride's aunt, Mrs. H. Staples Potter. Robert was well known in Eastern financial circles and maintained a home in New York. Accounts of the wedding tell of congratulatory telegrams from many influential and famous people, including President William McKinley. He took his bride to Kansas City to live in the gracious family home on Independence Ave.

By the early 1900's Robert had become an extremely wealthy man and was beginning to take it a little easier. Eldest son, Robert M. Jr., was participating in the businesses. Son, Leroy, was attending Harvard while the youngest, Kenneth, was still in prep school. Robert founded or belonged to some of the following diverse organizations: Kansas City Country Club, Elm Ridge Club of Kansas City, Baltusrol Golf Club of New Jersey, New York Athletic Club and the Independence Boulevard Church. He was a Thirty-second Degree Mason of the Scottish Rite. While enjoying his wealth and some leisure, he and some of his friends spent summer vacations fishing in Minnesota and formed a

club near Alexandria, Minnesota, for that purpose. They named it the Minnesota Angling Club. An avid sportsman, he caught the largest Tarpon on record in Texas where he belonged to another fishing club, the Tarpon Club of Texas.

In 1903, Robert found the place of his hunting, fishing and retirement dreams, Ha Ha Tonka, in the Missouri Ozark Mountains in Camden County. Ha Ha Tonka was a glorious place that had been discovered and noted by several early explorers. Daniel Boone and his brother, Nathan, are known to have explored it and trapped beaver there in 1801 when the Osage Indians still lived nearby. Ha Ha Tonka is said to mean "Laughing Waters." Robert used part of his fortune to buy 5400 acres of this



pristine wilderness with massive caves, streams, a lake, and waterfalls included. He began construction there on a great estate intended to be a private retreat with a splendid European-style castle of three and a half stories.

Robert wanted it to resemble the great castles he had seen in his European travels so twenty stonemasons were brought over from Scotland to work on the mag-

20 stonemasons were brought from Scotland to work on the "Castle" at Ha Ha Tonka, Camden County, Missouri.

nificent edifice that Adrian Van Brunt, a Kansas City master architect, designed. An eighty-foot water tower, servant's cottages and stables to house 100 horses were to be among the outbuildings. Nine greenhouses were to encompass two acres and were to be used to grow peaches, oranges, grapes and other delicacies the year around. Most of the building materials used were acquired from the estate property. A miniature railroad was built to haul quarried stone to the site. He gave thousands of dollars to local governments to pay for road improvements leading from nearby towns so that motorized vehicles could be used to get to the site. No expense was to be spared in making his dream a reality. Railroad cars filled with glass for the greenhouses, furnishings and other interior building materials were already on sidings by 1906 waiting to be used. Two thousand pheasant eggs hatched the year before were to stock the estate with colorful birds.

In December of 1905 Robert received news of the disappearance of his son, Cary, which occurred shortly after a bank robbery in Oregon. The authorities suspected Cary of being involved, but his wife gave him an alibi for the time of the robbery. A distraught Robert went to Oregon to help in the search. On October 1, 1906, Cary's skeletal remains were found.

Less than a month later on October 27, 1906, after playing a game of golf at the Country Club on a beautiful autumn day, Robert was being driven to his home at 2806 Independence Ave in his open motorcar by his chauffeur when he was killed. The big green seven-passenger Royal Tourist Automobile being used, was one of two that Robert had purchased from his brother-in-law, Charles Kirchmaier, Kansas City agent for the company. Motorized vehicles were still very much a novelty on the streets of Kansas City in 1906 and there were only two automobiles on the street that day, Robert's and one occupied by Harry Loose and H. C. Edwards, both of whom witnessed the accident.

Robert's accident, one of only two in Kansas City that entire year, occurred when the auto

swerved to avoid a boy pulling a wagon across the street. Kansas City had only begun oiling the streets in 1906 and from the eyewitness accounts the big vehicle skidded sideways on the freshly oiled street when the chauffeur slammed on the brakes. Robert was thrown to the side and almost out of the open car and his head hit a metal trolley pole, crushing his skull. The Kansas City Star Newspaper devoted most of the front and second pages the next day as well as several later issues to the news of his death and his life. The boy was also killed and the chauffeur was later found guilty of exceeding the speed limit of twelve miles per hour and was charged and found guilty of manslaughter.

All work stopped that day when news of Robert's death reached the Ozark work-site and the estimated 200 workers there stood around in shock at the sudden death of the employer that they had



Robert McClure Snyder, center; from left to right are his sons Cary, Leroy, Robert, Jr., and Kenneth.

grown to admire and depend upon financially. The Ozark Mountains were a wonderful place for hunting and fishing but poor farm lands. The many workers needed for an endeavor of the size being built there allowed many of the local farmers to earn real money for the first time in their hard lives. Newspaper accounts state that most of these local workers had never held money in their hands before, the barter system being all they had ever known. Robert had

insisted that they be paid well over the customary wage for their work and they were able to buy little luxuries for their families for the first time in their lives. The building of the castle and its environs were quite a financial boon to the area.

Robert's funeral was held in the home on October 31, 1906. Three ministers presided, the Reverends W. F. Richardson, T.P. Haley, and George H. Combs. His pallbearers were a virtual "who's who" of men who were at that time or who were to become the business and philanthropic leaders of Kansas City. Among them was R.A. Long, E. F. Swinney, J. P. Cudahy, and Professor E. C. White. Robert's widow and Robert, Jr., as trustee for the minor sons, had to deal with several lawsuits and, although the costs of lawsuits and business reverses rapidly diminished the estate, the family continued with the building of the castle although in a much less elaborate fashion. It was finally completed enough for use in 1922. There were 16 bedrooms and 6 bathrooms on the second and third floors all grouped around a three and one half story skylight that soared from the ground floor and it was furnished in a modest style. Family members and guests visited for summer holidays for several years.

More legal problem loomed when it was learned that Union Electric of St. Louis wanted part of Ha Ha Tonka's land and intended to flood it with a dam. Eminent domain was being used and the small sum of \$28,000 offered. A group of commissioners tried to settle the matter. They suggested that \$141,000 would be a fair price. Union Electric said "too much" and the Snyders said, "too little." The family sued and was awarded \$350,000 in the next trial. Union Electric appealed and it was reversed. In the trial that followed the jury awarded the family \$200,000. The Snyders appealed and the appeal was denied in spite of the fact that one of the jurors perjured himself and a second juror was not who he claimed to be and was actually the brother of the juror called to duty.

Union Electric had threatened at the beginning of the controversy to keep the case going for seven years and the threat was carried out. During the years spent in court, hundreds of thousands of dollars

THE KANSAS CITY STAR.

VOL. 27. NO. 41.

KANSAS CITY, OCTOBER 28, 1906—SUNDAY.—FORTY-FOUR PAGES IN THREE SECTIONS.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

VOTE FOR COUNTY DECEY

THE SHAME AND SUFFERING THAT A

charity in your heart for those who have been less fortunate than you? Your vote upon the bond proposition on election day will show the people.

HELP FROM THE PRESIDENT

MR. ROOSEVELT WRITES A LETTER

GRASSY LAND FAMILY PRATERS

TODAY, OCT. 27—In an address to the

R. M. SNYDER KILLED

FATAL ACCIDENT ON INDEPENDENCE BOULEVARD

While He Was Riding Home in His Motor Car

THIS HEAD STRUCK A POLE

The Chauffeur Had Swealed the Swiftly Moving Car Suddenly to Avoid Running Over a Boy

The Motor Car Was Traveling at High Speed, Witnesses Said, When the Chauffeur Was Hit

BOY DIED IN THE HOSPITAL

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The Kansas City Star featured the death of Robert McClure Snyder. The second page of the article recounted his biography and is available upon request.

were spent in legal fees. In the end the money received for the condemned land, although greater than that first offered, could not cover all the expenses. The fight is said to have completely exhausted Robert M. Snyder, Jr. and he died in 1937 of a heart attack. The Snyder's main trial attorney was James A. Reed, former Mayor of Kansas City and U.S. Senator. During the trial, Reed's girlfriend and future wife, Nell Donnelly, a well-known Kansas City businesswoman, was kidnapped, which may have impacted Reed's concentration on the case. Certainly some of the fees Senator Reed was paid in the seven years of proceedings enabled him to make a nearly successful run for the presidency of the United States against Franklin Delano Roosevelt at the 1932 Democratic Convention.

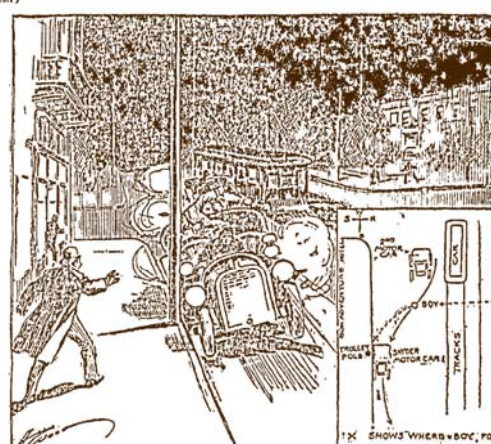
Bagnell Dam was built by Union Electric Co. and the resulting Lake of the Ozarks now occupies a large amount of Ha Ha Tonka land and is enjoyed by hundreds of thousands of tourists. Any person who has ever enjoyed this part of the Missouri Ozarks would have to agree that, although no longer a pristine wilderness, Robert was certainly right in believing this place to be as close to heaven as one can get for relaxing and is especially ideal for a hunter or fisherman. In 1942 the castle burned and the ruins and grounds have been, since 1978, a state park and is among the top tourist attractions in Missouri.

Robert's life was not untouched by scandal. Following the common practice of the times of paying local politicians so as to obtain a franchise got him in trouble when a new political party came to power in St. Louis. He was brought to trial for boodling (bribery). He was found guilty but the case was overturned and dismissed. Ironically, this man who was an acknowledged builder of Kansas City and did so much to contribute to the lives of many of the citizens of both Kansas and Missouri, is mainly remembered in Camdenton, Missouri, in association with a burned out shell of a castle.

Suzee SoldanEls Oberg is retired from operating a family women's clothing store for 53 years and now writes articles regularly for the Best Times Newspaper of Johnson County, KS and The Overland Park Historical Society for whom she is currently co-authoring a book on the history of Overland Park, KS. Other of her articles have appeared in the Jackson County Missouri Historical Society's Journal and other Kansas newspapers. She may be contacted at:suzeeoberg@gmail.com.

THE FATAL ACCIDENT TO R. M. SNYDER ON INDEPENDENCE BOULEVARD.

(The boy lying in a heap on the floor of the motor car, the chauffeur standing by the open door, and the car on the right side of the face in front of the car.)



AT 2106 INDEPENDENCE BOULEVARD. He had been hurt. Dr. G. E. Smith, Dr. Louis Decker and Dr. J. C. Reed attended him while waiting for the ambulance.

An effort was made to learn his name. Prof. Charles D. Reynolds, principal of the Garfield school, in that neighborhood, was sent for. He arrived at about the same time as the police ambulance with the D. F. Williams. Prof. Reynolds did not recognize the boy. A number of boys and girls were admitted to the drug store in the hope that some of them would recognize him.

Know him. His name is Arthur's said a little girl. "He takes German lessons of Mrs. Andrews."

The little girl did not know the surname.

THE MAJOR ON THE WAGON.

Someone picked up the cooling wagon in the street outside where it had been moved by the motor car. On the bottom of the wagon was painted the name "Arthur Rodell."

It was not until the unconscious boy had been taken to Agnew hospital that it was learned that he lived at 2106 Mission street and his parents were sent for.

Both Mr. Snyder and the boy were

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Follow the Money, Honey - Part 2

— Or —

Who are the Children of John Yager, Son of Michael (1728-1794), Son of 1717 Germanna Colonist Adam (1708-1794)?

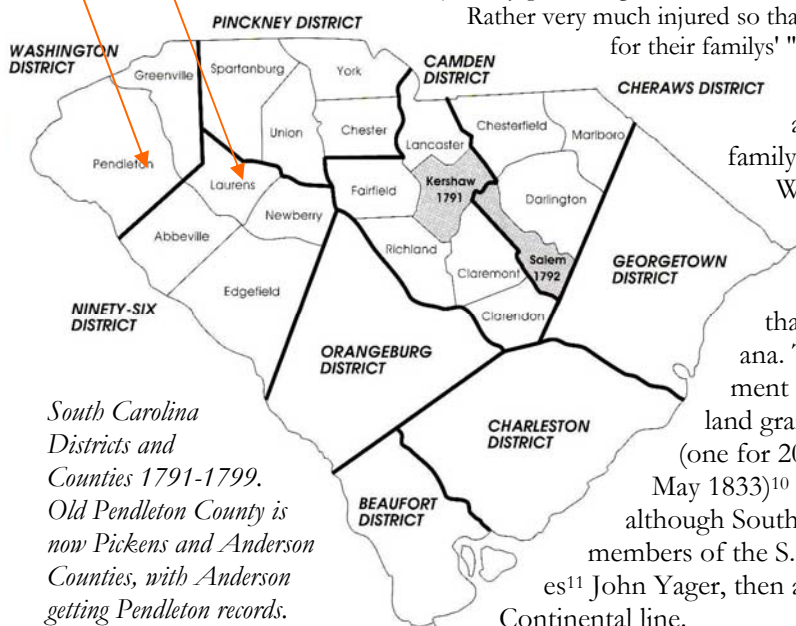
By Elizabeth Yates Johnson

The children that "John Yager, Senr. of the piney woods" named in his 1816 will have been widely accepted as the grandchildren of Michael Yager³ (Adam², Nicholas¹), because in 1929 Arthur L. Keith, Ph. D., misidentified them in his "Nicholas Yager and Descendants" chart in the William and Mary College Quarterly Magazine of History and Biography.¹ The misidentification is proven by research in early Virginia tax records, published in the November 2011 issue of this Journal, which demonstrated that Germanna descendant John Yager⁴ (Michael³, Adam², Nicholas¹) was not the same person as the man who repeatedly identified himself as "of the piney woods" and lived in the Culpeper-Madison area from 1772 until his death in 1923.²

Michael Yager's estate sale in late 1806 clearly shows his son John as a resident of South Carolina.³ Bearing this out, the last year that John Yager (son of Michael) appears on Culpeper land or personal property tax lists is 1790, while in South Carolina John Yager is listed on the 1790, 1800 and 1810 Federal censuses of Laurens County.⁴ Note that only one John Yager is listed in South Carolina those years, and none appear in the 1820. His name is also found in numerous other S.C. records between 1790 and November 1812. (See South Carolina records, below.)

Why Leave Virginia For South Carolina in 1790?

"When the powers that-be asked Sheriff James Pendleton where the 1789 taxes were that he was to have collected, Pendleton blamed the weather. By November, 1790, he still hadn't come up with the balance of £1,606.12.11, and pleaded with the Virginia General Assembly for a stay until January 10, 1791: 'That in consequence of the hard frost in the fall 1789 (when the tax was about to be collected) a very great Proportion of the Tobacco was totally destroyed by the Indian Corn & Rather very much injured so that many of the Citizens cou'd Scarcely find subsistence for their families' "⁵



In 1790 John Yager (son of Michael) owned only 22 acres of record in Culpeper County⁶ and had a large family.⁷ He most likely had taken part in the Revolutionary War, as one great-grandson said.⁸ However, locating him in the Continental Army or the militia is a challenge.

For service in the Continental Army, the state of Virginia granted bounty lands in its western domains, that is, the Military Districts of Kentucky, Ohio and Indiana. The Indiana lands were exclusively for the Illinois regiment under Col. George Rogers Clark⁹ Thus, although two land grant entries are listed for John Yager, Private, of Virginia (one for 200 acres on 26 Feb 1785, the other for 200 acres on 9 May 1833)¹⁰ the land would have been in Kentucky or Ohio. And although South Carolina granted vacant land within its borders to members of the S.C. Continental Line and a few independent companies¹¹ John Yager, then a Virginia resident, could not have been in the S.C. Continental line.

But could he not have been a member of an independent company? Was a record kept of every man who fought in the southern campaign? For example, James K. Swisher writes of "... a phenomenon that occurred in the southern backwoods. In the borderlands of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia, as well as in over-the-mountain and unorganized areas of Kentucky and Tennessee, a shadow army was forming. Stung by the challenges of Ferguson, Tarleton, and Cornwallis and convinced of the complicity of the British and hostile Indian tribes, frontiersmen were at last ready to apply their unfelt but considerable power to the rebel cause."¹²

So far, only one source has been found which lists his children's names, and that source is considered derivative, as opposed to original. In 1889 a short biographical sketch of Texas businessman Hugh B. Yeager, great-grandson of John Yeager of Virginia, appeared in print.¹³ Hugh Burk Yeager⁷ (Ducalion⁶, Abijah⁵, John⁴, Michael³, Adam², Nicholas¹) was born on 21 April 1860 in Fannin County, Texas, and died 20 November 1914 in Brady, McCulloch, Texas.¹⁴ His biographical sketch reads in part (bolding inserted):

"The great-grandfather of Hugh B. Yeager was **John Yeager**, who had **one brother named Samuel**, who was an old bachelor. John's family was large – nine boys and three girls. The boys' names were – **William, Samuel, John, Reuban, Ira, Abijah, Abner, Lewis and Ezekiel; Elizabeth and Mary** were the names of two of the girls, but the name of the other one could not be learned. Elizabeth married John Parker and Mary married Lewis Lee. **Abijah Yeager**, grandfather of Hugh B. Yeager, was born in Virginia, married Lucy Williams, in 1810, in Georgia, moved to Bibb county, Alabama, in 1818, settled four miles south of Centreville, remained on the same place forty-four years, and died in 1862, aged seventy-five years. Lucy Y., his widow, still remained on the homestead till her death, at the age of ninety-five years. There were seven children born to this couple, five boys and two girls, named - **James M., Lewis W., Berry B., Gabriel P., Ducalion W., Theodocia C. and Martha E.** Gabriel P. died in Smith county, Texas, in 1860; James M., died in Fannin county, Texas, in 1862; Berry B. died at Vicksburg, Mississippi, during the siege in 1862 or 1863; Theodocia C. married M. Dobbins, and Martha E. married M. Woolley. **John Yeager**, the great-grandfather served in the Revolutionary War for eight years and was at the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown. **Reuben, Abner and Lewis Yeager** were in the battle of New Orleans in 1814.¹⁵

OF TEXAS

dent to the opening up and development of a comparatively new country, by extending such aid to the farmers, in the way of furnishing supplies, etc., as his ability would permit, always making it a rule of his business to give his customers a fair equivalent for prices charged, so that he enjoys a reputation, second to no house in the country, for fair and upright dealing, and is highly esteemed throughout Fannin county and wherever known.

GEORGE YARBROUGH was born in Saint Clair county, Alabama, June 2, 1826, a son of Littleton and Nancy (Ashcraft) Yarbrough, the former of whom was born in Davidson county, North Carolina, July 27, 1802, and died in 1879. Littleton was a son of Manah, born in North Carolina in 1770, who was a son of Zachary, born in Amelia county Virginia. Mrs. Nancy Yarbrough was born in South Carolina, Chester district, in 1807, and died June 14, 1883.

George Yarbrough was reared and educated in Saint Clair county, Alabama. He first clerked in a store, then went to California, where he remained four years, returned to Alabama and stayed a short time and then came to Texas in 1854. He located in Tyler and engaged in business until the war began, when he retired until peace was restored. In 1874 Mr. Yarbrough retired permanently from business, and is now enjoying the fruits of a well-spent life. He was married in July, 1855, to Miss Margaret A. Horrin, of Macon county, Alabama. To their union are born two children—Annie and Mary (twins). Mr. Yarbrough is a member of the I. O. O. F.

HUGH B. YEAGER. Not many of the men in middle life now found in Texas are natives. Most of them came from other States, but when one is found who was born and reared in Texas soil, he can generally be counted on as a hustler. There is something in the air, the water, the soil and the general surroundings that, as the old timer observed, puts sand in the craw and electricity in the heels of those born and bred in this latitude. The subject of this sketch is a native Texan and a typical one of the "git-up-and-git" variety. He is a son of Ducalion W. Yeager, a native of Bibb county, Alabama, and who settled in Fannin county in 1855, married to Hunt county in 1859, and of the latter has been an honored citizen over nine, and has been a successful farmer and stock grower from the date of his

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

1883

settlement there. He has served his county in several useful capacities, having been one of its commissioners for years. He was a volunteer soldier in the Confederacy from that county in the late war and served the "lost cause" for more than three years. Strong yet in mind and body he continues in the enjoyment of his life-long calling as a farmer and stock grower. The mother of Hugh B. Yeager is also a native of Alabama. Her maiden name was Sarah A. Gilliam, and she is yet living on the old homestead in Hunt county. The subject of this brief biography is the fifth of a family of seven children, the others being—Henry V., Maggie J., Louis W., Persimmon C., Azariah O. and Mary A.

Hugh B. Yeager was born in Hunt county, Texas, April 21, 1860, was reared on his father's farm in that county and educated in the common schools of the neighborhood. He left home before he was of age and began clerking in a store at White Rock, in his native county, going afterward to Kingston, in his native county, to Collinsville, Grayson county, in January, 1885, and at that date opened a general store and has since been one of Collinsville's most active, progressive business men.

December 3, 1885, Mr. Yeager married Miss Ellen L., daughter of John H. Younger and sister of F. S. Younger, whose sketch appears in this work, and where the facts concerning her ancestral history will be found. Mr. Yeager is yet a young man, but has accomplished a good deal as a business man. He has an abundance of energy, and for good, common, practical sense, a knowledge of men and their ways, is without a superior in the community.

The great-grandfather of Hugh B. Yeager was John Yeager, who had one brother named Samuel, who was an old bachelor. John's family was large—nine boys and three girls. The boys' names were—William, Samuel, John, Reuban, Ira, Abijah, Abner, Lewis and Ezekiel; Elizabeth and Mary were the names of two of the girls, but the name of the other one could not be learned. Elizabeth married John Parker and Mary married Lewis Lee. Abijah Yeager, grandfather of Hugh B. Yeager, was born in Virginia, married Lucy Williams, in 1810, in Georgia, moved to Bibb county, Alabama, in 1818, settled four miles south of Centreville, remained on the same place forty-four years, and died in 1862, aged seventy-five years. Lucy Y., his widow, still remained on the homestead till her death, at the age of ninety-five years. There were seven children born to this couple, five boys and two girls, named—James M., Lewis W., Berry B., Gabriel P., Duca-

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DR. JOSEPH R. YERION, of Ravenna, was born in Wythe county, Virginia, in 1827, and is a son of William and Eliza (Campbell) Yerion, natives of Virginia and respectively of German and Scotch descent. The father moved from his native State to Peoria county, Illinois, and thence to Woodford county, where he became mayor of El Paso, and died at the age of ninety-two years. The grandfather of William came to America with William Penn and fought through the Revolutionary War. William's father was a native of Pennsylvania, but an early settler of Virginia. Mrs. Eliza (Campbell) Yerion was a daughter of John H. Campbell, who was married in Virginia, and died in Illinois, the mother of the following children—Joseph R., William, George A., Clarissa (married to Arthur Annett), Mary (married to Alonzo Albro), Susan (married to John Bridges).

Dr. Joseph R. Yerion, when young, was taken by his parents to Illinois, and in that State received his literary education, first attending the public schools and then the institute of Brunswick, and then the institute at Galesburg; finally he graduated from the Cincinnati (Ohio) Medical College in 1853, after quite a long residence in Texas. In 1853 the doctor first came to Texas, and for several years followed school teaching for a livelihood. In 1857 he married Miss Isabelle, daughter of

"Hugh B. Yeager," *Biographical Souvenir of Texas*, (Chicago: F. A. Battey Co., 1889), 932-33.

How Did the Names of People Born in Virginia in the 1700s Come To Be Published in a Book About Texas in 1889?

Political and economic conditions in the United States in the 1850s made the future in a slave-holding state uncertain at best. Attracted by rich cotton and ranch lands in the new state of Texas (admitted to the union in 1845), four of Abijah Yeager's five sons migrated to the fertile area bordering the south rim of the Red River in northeast Texas in the 1850s.¹⁶ Ducalion W. Yager prospered,

as did his son Hugh Burk Yeager. In those days, prominent men were asked by certain publishing companies to submit biographies which would be published in a book, rather like the *Who's Who* books of recent times. The F. A. Battey Company of Chicago printed such books called *Biographical Souvenirs*, one for each state. Hugh's information in *A Biographical Souvenir of Texas* was printed in a two-page spread in 1889. His father Ducalion, still healthy at the time, had quite possibly carried a family bible with him when he left Alabama.

Because the printed biography is considered derivative, in order to give it credence, its information must be verified by original sources such as family Bibles, land patents, grants and deeds, probate, tax, military and church records, and firsthand accounts from the relevant time period or close to it. Note that the Garr Genealogy and the work of A. L. Keith, Ph.D., are also considered derivative sources and that their method of information-gathering closely patterned that of the *Biographical Souvenir* publications. Also note that the publication date of the *Biographical Souvenir of Texas* precedes that of the venerable Garr Genealogy by five years.¹⁷

Comparing Hugh B. Yeager's List with Yager names in South Carolina Records 1790-1820

Six Yager names in Hugh B. Yeager's account are also found in public records of South Carolina: **John, Samuel, William, Ezekiel, Reuben** and eventually **Ira**. However, the John Yager in South Carolina records is not a son but John himself. Samuel, William, Ezekiel, Reuben and Ira are John's children. And another name crops up among these Yager sons in South Carolina -- **Augustine**, who is not in the Hugh Yeager account, but appears to be closely associated with the others.

Starting with census data, **John** is found in Laurens Co., S.C., in 1790, 1800 and 1810, as stated above. **Samuel** joins him in the 1800 Laurens County census.¹⁸ **John, Samuel, William, Ezekiel** and **Augustine** are listed in the 1810.¹⁹ But in 1820 only **William** remains; he is also listed there in 1830.²⁰

Beginning in 1792, the names of **Samuel, William, Ezekiel, Augustine, Reuben and Ira** are found in S.C. land and probate records, though **Ira** does not appear until the later years, 1808, when he bought a sow at an estate sale in 1808 at the age of 17.^{21,22}

Samuel, William, Ezekiel, Augustine, and Reuben are John's oldest sons, that is, the older five of seven boys believed to have been born in Virginia by 1790).²³

Determining Places and Years of Birth

The 1850 United States Census is the first to give years and places of birth, but of John's five older children from the South Carolina records, only two were still living in 1850: William and Ezekiel. William is listed in Coweta Co., Ga., age 71, born in Virginia.²⁴ Ezekiel is listed in Bibb County, Al., also as age 71, born Virginia,²⁵ which means that both men were born in the 1778-1779 time frame. It is possible they misstated their ages. It is equally possible they were twins. Neither is listed in a census after 1850.

John's older children who appeared in South Carolina records but did not live to 1850 are Reuben, the first to die, then Augustine, and then Samuel. Reuben died on 11 January 1815.²⁶ Reuben's birth in Virginia must be surmised by his land transactions in 1807, where he must have been at least age 21.²⁷

Augustine died in Morgan County, Ala., shortly before or after 22 Oct. 1826.²⁸ Augustine, though he did not live to be on the 1850 census, was said to have been born in Virginia by his daughter Ann Livingston on the 1880 Itawamba Co., Miss., census.²⁹

Samuel died in Lincoln County, Tenn., about 07 May 1831.³⁰ Samuel's birth in Virginia is supported by Hebron Church records, to be discussed.

Anomaly: The inclusion of the name Augustine Yager (variously spelled) in S. C. records makes Hugh Yeager's list somewhat problematical because Hugh lists no son named Augustine; while no John Yager of an appropriate age to be John's son (born between 1777 and approximately 1800) has been located along the routes taken by John's children as they migrated south and westward. One explanation could be that John was Augustine's first name and Augustine his middle, or calling, name. If the names in Hugh's list came from a family Bible or a sheet of paper tucked into a Bible taken across country in a wagon to Texas in the 1850s, they might well be in less than perfect condition by 1889. If so, that would also explain why one daughter's name could not be learned.

John's Sons Not found In South Carolina Records

Those not found in South Carolina records are the younger ones: Abijah, Abner, Ira, and Lewis, all of whom lived past 1850 and had migrated south and westward. But the 1850 census records, and in Abijah's case, his tombstone,³¹ place their births in the places where John lived. In 1850 Abijah is listed in Bibb County, Ala., age 67, born in Virginia;³² Abner in Ouachita County, Ark., age 60 born in Virginia;³³ Ira in Morgan County, Ala., age 59, born South Carolina;³⁴ and Lewis in Bibb County, Ala., age 54, born South Carolina.³⁵ Thus, census records confirm that the years and places of birth of all nine sons match the places where John lived in corresponding years.

The Migrations of John's Sons Show Further Connections

Tennessee. All nine of John's sons can be tracked as they moved across the country out of South

Carolina, eight of them into Lincoln County in south central Tennessee. **Ezekiel** is the only one who has not been found in Lincoln County records at some point.

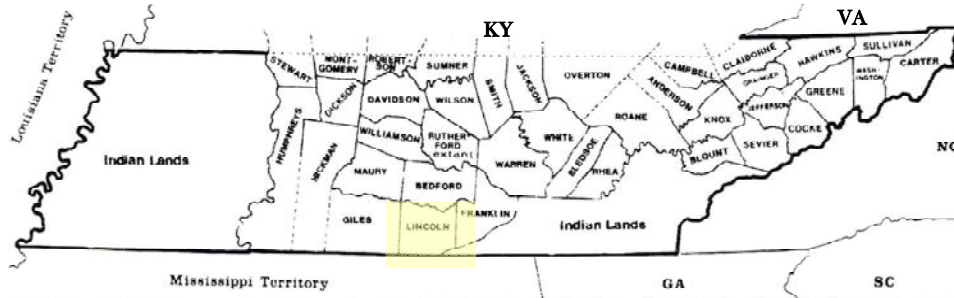
Although **Reuben** was in Franklin County, Georgia by no later than 1804, (evidenced by his participation in the 1805 Georgia land lottery);³⁶ and **Abner** was with him by 1807 (evidenced by a deed),³⁷ they are later found in Lincoln Co., Tenn. **Samuel** arrived first, as evidenced by his inclusion in a list of taxpayers

in Franklin County, Tenn., on 01 January 1812.³⁸

Reuben, Abner, Ira and Lewis enlisted for military service in Fayetteville, Lincoln County, in 1814.³⁹ Reuben, Abner and Lewis served in the same company, as seen at left. **Samuel, Augustine, Reuben and Abijah** received land grants in Lincoln County near each other in 1815.⁴⁰ **William** served on a jury in Lincoln County in 1815 but is not named in any other records there.⁴¹ **Augustine** was appointed administrator of his brother **Reuben's** estate there in 1816, and sold the 36 acres from Reuben's Tennessee land grant no. 5988 to Sarah Swan in 1817.⁴² **John** was overseer of a Lincoln County road in 1815⁴³ and entered into bond with **Augustine** when **Reuben's** estate

entered probate in 1816.⁴⁴ **Samuel, Augustine and Lewis** are on the 1820 Lincoln County census.⁴⁵ **Samuel** died there in 1831.⁴⁶ These Tennessee connections establish convincing evidence of relationships among the eight siblings, particularly in light of Augustine's shared bond with father John and administration over Reuben's estate, and Reuben's military service with other siblings.

Georgia. Four of John's sons branched off into Georgia, at least for a time, and one stayed permanently. **Abner**, after his military service, moved to Hall, Gwinnett and Fayette counties in Georgia, where he appears on censuses from 1820 through 1840, but relocated to Ouachita County, Arkansas, before 1850,⁴⁷ where he died in 1863.⁴⁸ **William** left South Carolina after 1830, was living in Coweta Co., Ga., by 1840, and died there after 1850,⁴⁹ leaving a very large family.⁵⁰ **Reuben** is on the 1802 Franklin Co., Ga., tax list;⁵¹ took part in the 1805 land lottery as a resident of Franklin County;⁵² sold land in Georgia in 1807,⁵³ His eldest daughter Charlotte Yager Shults, age 43 on the 1850 census, said she was born in Georgia.⁵⁴ As stated earlier, Reuben later relocated to Lincoln County, Tenn., by 1814.⁵⁵ He died in New Orleans, Louisiana, on 11 January 1815,⁵⁶ and his estate entered probate in Lincoln Co., Tenn., on 6 May 1816, as stated above. **Abijah** is said by his great-grandson Hugh B. Yeager to have married in Georgia in 1810 but moved to Bibb County Ala., in 1818.⁵⁷



Tennessee in 1810

Eight of John's nine sons at some point resided near John in Franklin Co., TN, shown in yellow above.

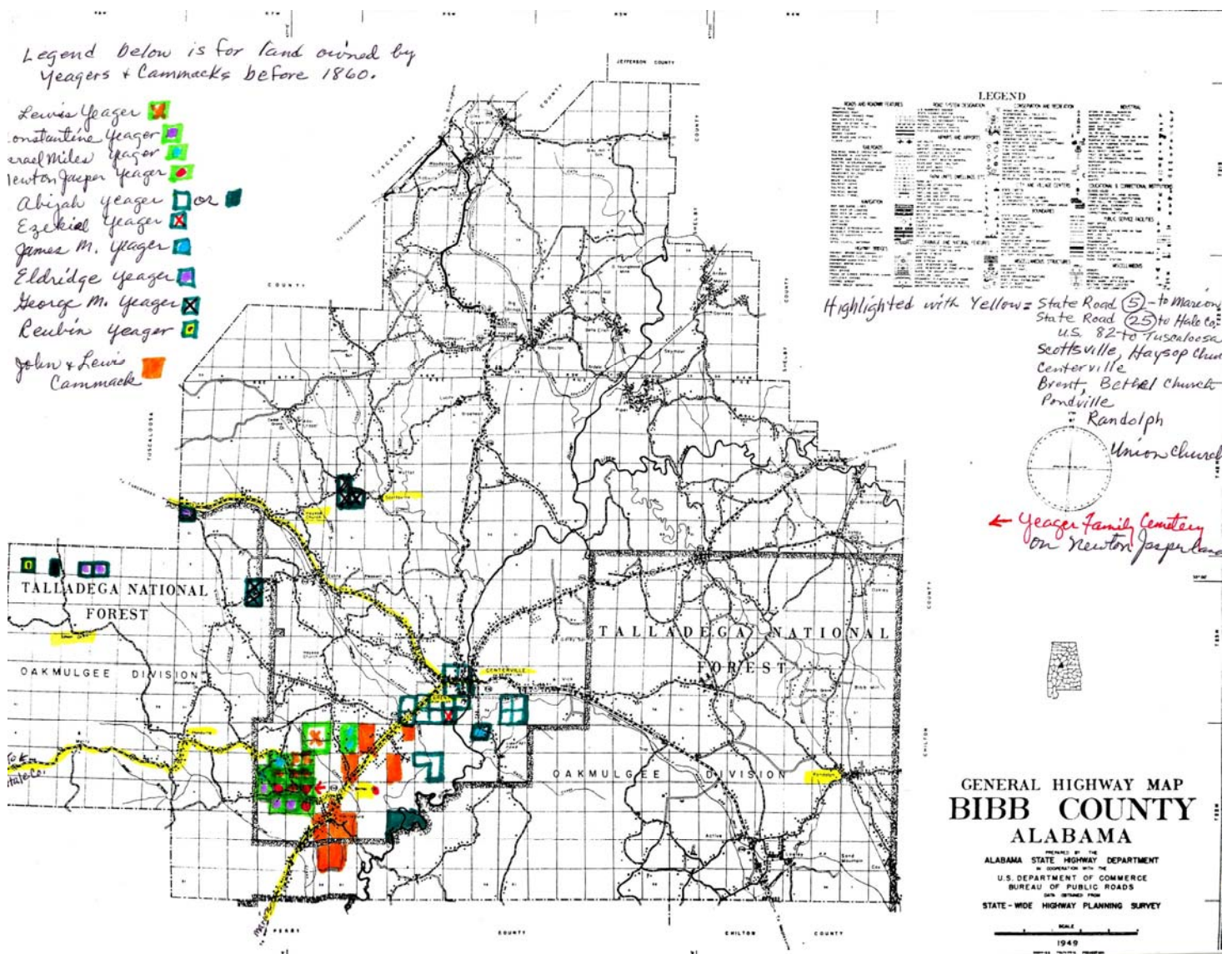
TENNESSEANS - WAR OF 1812		
NAME		REMARKS
YAGER, REUBEN		
RANK	Private	Died Jan 11, 1815
ENLISTED	Nov 13, 1814	
REGIMENT	Col Wm. Metcalf	
COMPANY	Capt Wm. Sitton	
BRANCH OF SERVICE	Military Infantry	
DATE OF DISCHARGE		
PLACE OF RESIDENCE		

TENNESSEANS - WAR OF 1812		
NAME		REMARKS
YAGER, LEWIS		
RANK	4th Corporal	
ENLISTED	Nov 13, 1814	
REGIMENT	Col Wm. Metcalf	
COMPANY	Capt Wm. Sitton	
BRANCH OF SERVICE	Military Infantry	
DATE OF DISCHARGE		
PLACE OF RESIDENCE		

TENNESSEANS - WAR OF 1812		
NAME		REMARKS
YAGER, ABNER		
RANK	Private	
ENLISTED	Nov 13, 1814	
REGIMENT	Col Wm. Metcalf	
COMPANY	Capt Wm. Sitton	
BRANCH OF SERVICE	Military Infantry	
DATE OF DISCHARGE		
PLACE OF RESIDENCE		

Abijah's eldest child was born in Tennessee in 1814,⁵⁸ where Abijah received a land grant in 1815.⁵⁹

Alabama. Bibb County. Three of John's sons settled permanently in west central Alabama -- **Ezekiel, Abijah and Lewis.** **Ezekiel** has not been located in public records between his appearance in the 1810 Laurens Co. S.C. census and his appearance in Bibb County, Alabama records less than 10 years later. So he may have moved to Alabama directly from South Carolina, rather than following a route through Tennessee or Georgia like the others. One historian lists him among the earliest settlers of the county.⁶⁰ Ezekiel remarried in Bibb County in 1822.⁶¹ and died there after 1850.⁶² In 1818, John's son **Abijah** settled permanently in Bibb County, where he farmed, owned a considerable amount of land, a number of slaves⁶³, and was a source for loans to members of the community.⁶⁴ **Lewis** [my great-great grandfather. eyj] reached Bibb County between 1820, when he last appeared in the Tennessee census, and 27 November 1822, when he married Anna Cammack [daughter of John Cammack, II] in Bibb County.⁶⁵ Lewis bought 40 acres of public land in Bibb County in 1835, applied for bounty land in 1850 on the basis of his service in the First Tennessee Regiment of Militia and received 80 1/2 acres, which his widow says he "disposed of" in his lifetime.⁶⁶ Lewis died on 26 Apr 1853 and is buried in the Yeager family graveyard beside his wife, who died 14 July 1861.⁶⁷



This map was prepared by Mary Frazier Norris Martinez, a great great-granddaughter of Lewis Yeager. It shows the property owned by Lewis (red X in bright green square), his brother Abijah Yeager (solid or empty-outlined square), and their brother Ezekiel Yeager (red X in dark green square).

Morgan County. Two of John's sons moved from Lincoln Co., Tenn., a few miles south over the state line into northern Alabama -- **Augustine and Ira** -- at some point after 1820 and before April 1826. Records on **Augustine** are scanty after the 1820 Tennessee census (see above) that lists a very large family: three males under 10 (born 1810-1820), one male 10-16 (born 1804-1810), one male 26-45 (born 1775-1794), three females under 10 (born 1810-1820), one female 10-16 (born 1804-1810)

and one female 26-45 (born 1775-1794) -- apparently Augustine, his wife and eight children under the age of 16. **Augustine and Ira Yager** married sisters, **Margaret and Jane "Jenny" McGlathery**,⁶⁸ whose father David McGlathery / McGladery / McGlodrie, Sr. was closely associated with the family of Augustine's and Ira's brother Samuel Yager in the formation of the Poplar Spring Baptist Church in Laurens Co., S.C.⁶⁹ **Ira Yager** was a Baptist minister.⁷⁰ Augustine died in in Morgan County in October 1826.⁷¹ Ira died there between 1860-1870.⁷² The marriage to sisters supports the relationship of Ira and Augustine.

Two of John's Sons Left Specific Evidence Through Their Descendants of Their Line Back To John Yager

Abijah, through his grandson **Hugh B. Yeager**, identified Abijah's father as **John from Virginia** who fought in the Revolutionary War and had a bachelor brother named Samuel.⁷³

Lewis, through his granddaughter **Effie Lula Yeager Stewart** (1877-1963), who passed it on to her niece Troy Lou Caddell, identified Lewis's father as **John Yeager** and his mother as **Nancy Render**, information not supplied and possibly not remembered by anyone else. Troy typed up her aunt's information into chart form, listing on the first page the names of John and Nancy Render Yeager, followed by a chart of the family of their son Lewis, his wife and children, and on the second page the wife and children of Lewis's son Newton Jasper, father of Effie Lula and grandfather of Troy. Troy Caddell also carried on a correspondence with Yeager researchers until her death in Bibb County, Alabama in 1988. Supplementing the information in the chart, Troy wrote letters to two people to identify the source of her data and to say that **Abijah and Lewis Yeager were brothers**.⁷⁴

Through Lewis's daughter **Casseline Yeager Frazier** (1841-1926) information from Lewis's family bible was preserved. Cass Yeager was the second wife of John Frazier. They married in 1889 -- she, a single lady of 48, he a 78-year-old widower. They lived in Perry County, Ala., adjacent to Bibb County, and had no children, though he had son by his first wife. After John Frazier's death, Cass Yeager went to live with her nephew Chapley Harvey Yeager, Jr., and his wife Emma Lucinda Frazier Yeager in neighboring Hale

County. Emma was John Frazier's granddaughter. Cass's Bible, in which she had recorded the dates of birth and death of her parents, brothers and sisters, was her prized possession. After her death it was Casseline's Bible that supplied the information for Lewis Yeager's military tombstone in the Yeager Family Graveyard, which replaced the simple rock that had been incised by hand to mark his grave in 1853. The military stone reads: "Lewis Yeager, Corporal 1 W. Tenn Militia, War of 1812, March 18, 1794 - April 26 1853."⁷⁵

John Yager's Wife

Coming full circle, Pearl O. Smith (1908-2007), 5g-granddaughter of Ann Render Yager's grandfather Joshua Render the elder, located the 1812 will of Lewis Render in Madison County, Va., and published its information in 1985. **Lewis Render's original will lists a daughter named Ann Yager**.⁷⁶ (Nancy was a widely-used nickname for Ann.) Thus, Lewis Render's will, executed in 1812 in Madison County, Virginia, confirms that his daughter Ann was married to a Yager; and **Nancy Ren-**



Because he died wealthy, Abijah Yeager was given a fine tombstone in Bibb County, Alabama, with a lengthy inscription. It reads that he was born in Culpeper County, Virginia, on 20 January, 1788, and died in Bibb Co., Alabama, on 02 September, 1862. The gravestone of Abijah Yager is located in the cemetery behind Bethel Baptist Church, a few miles south of Centreville, Bibb Co., Alabama.

Quite legible in 1993, it has since deteriorated greatly. 1993 photo shown here.

der Yeager's grandson **Newton Jasper Yeager** had preserved a record of his grandmother's strikingly similar name. Further **Abijah Yeager's** gravestone shows his mother was in Culpeper County, Va. in 1788. Additional evidence is that the name "Render" appears again with a child of Reuben and grandchild of Samuel Yeager.⁷⁷

The baptismal record of Samuel Yeager in Culpeper Co., Va., shows he was born 14 May 1777, baptized 22 June 1777, son of **Johannes Jäger Jun. and wife Anna Yeager**, and is on an unnumbered page headed "1777 records" in the original handwritten Hebron Church Baptismal Register.⁷⁸ However, John Blankenbaker's 2003 transcription "*Hebron*" *Baptismal Records*⁷⁹ is much easier to read and states his conclusions about the identities of the participants. Blankenbaker identifies the first sponsor of baby Samuel (Johannes Jäger, Sen.) as Johannes Jäger Jun.'s uncle. That relationship would appear to narrow down their identities to Johannes Jäger Jr. as John the son of Michael, and Johannes Jäger Sen. as John Yeager born 1732, Michael's brother, usually referred to as "Blind John."

John and Anna Yeager, parents of baby Samuel, would have been married no later than 1776 because their first child was born in May 1777. However, no marriage record exists because Culpeper County marriage records before 1781 are missing. The earliest Yeager marriage recorded in Culpeper Co., Va., took place in 1785. The only marriage recorded there between a John Yeager with wife Anna did not take place until 01 January 1790 and is that of John Yeager [i.e., John Adam Yeager, son of Adam Yeager, Jr.] and Anna Carpenter.⁸⁰ Thus, baby Samuel's parents could easily be Michael's son John and Lewis Render's daughter Ann.

Did John Yeager live near the Renders in Culpeper County, thus accounting for his knowing Ann Render (granddaughter of an English Quaker) well enough to marry her? The January 1781 Culpeper Classes lists show John and Samuel Yeager in Class No. 68, and Robert and Joshua Render in Class 69. But does that mean they were neighbors? John Blankenbaker in his introduction to his 1999 transcription of the January 1781 Culpeper Class list essentially says, maybe they were. He writes: "The men in lists 33 through 38 are from the Little Fork area of the county. Lists 25, 26, and 27 are from the Stevensburg and south area . . . but while the area of one list often leads to the adjoining area, there are abrupt jumps."⁸¹ So quite possibly Class 68 and Class 69 adjoined geographically, making the German Lutheran Yagers and the English Quaker Renders reasonably close neighbors.

FAMILY RECORD

John and Nancy Render (*parents of Lewis*)

Lewis Yeager was born March 18, 1794. Married Anna Carmack. 26 Nov. 1822, B. R. R. Co. A. A. Died April 26, 1853. Anna was born November 19, 1807. Died July 14, 1861. JOHN H.

Lewis and Anna Carmack

Constantine was born January 25, 1824. Married Ophelia Dene. Had three boys - Rob, John and Joe. John married Jane Avery. They had two daughters - Dora and Ollie. Dora Yeager married Robert Lee Caddell. Joe had a son by the name of John who married Emily Caddell. DEAN

Israel Miles was born September 16, 1825. Married Mary Tedders. Had six boys and two girls. Among these children were Jim and Lizzie Yeager.

Martha Ann married Steve Caudle. *They lived in Texas. She was born April 2, 1827. (Baptized in Texas - They died in Marion Co. ALABAMA)*

Araminta was born October 29, 1828. Married John Smith. Had four children.

Virgil Peck was born November 12, 1830. Married Callie Farrer. Had four children. He was killed in the Civil War.

Newton Jasper Yeager was born March 22, 1833. Married Lucinda Tedders. Died October 15, 1917. Had nine children. (He was my grandfather.) (His daughter Sara Ann Elizabeth Yeager Caddell was my mother.)

Daniel Wayne was born March 7, 1835. Married Lou Dodd. She died and he married Lizzie Sawyer after going to Mississippi.

Narsisse was born November 23, 1836. Married Will Wooten. They lived in north Alabama.

Chapley Harvey was born January 21, 1839. Married Jane Simmonson. Had three children - Mary Jane, Margaret and Harvey. Harvey married Emma Frazier. They are the parents of Watson and Karl Yeager. Chapley was killed in the Civil War. Mary Jane married William Thompson. Margaret married Henry Ragland.

Cassaline was born March 18, 1841. Married Johnnie Frazier.

Dixon H. L. was born December 30, 1843. Was never married. Was killed in the Civil War.

Mary was born February 27, 1847. Was never married. Lived with an old couple in Mississippi as a member of the family.

Compiled by Miss TROY CADDILL, BRENT,
6.8 Dec 1903

Troy Lou Caddell's Memorandum of information passed to her by her aunt Effie Lula Yeager Stewart, daughter of Newton Jasper Yeager and granddaughter of Lewis Yeager, names Nancy Render as wife of John Yeager, son of Michael.

Summing Up

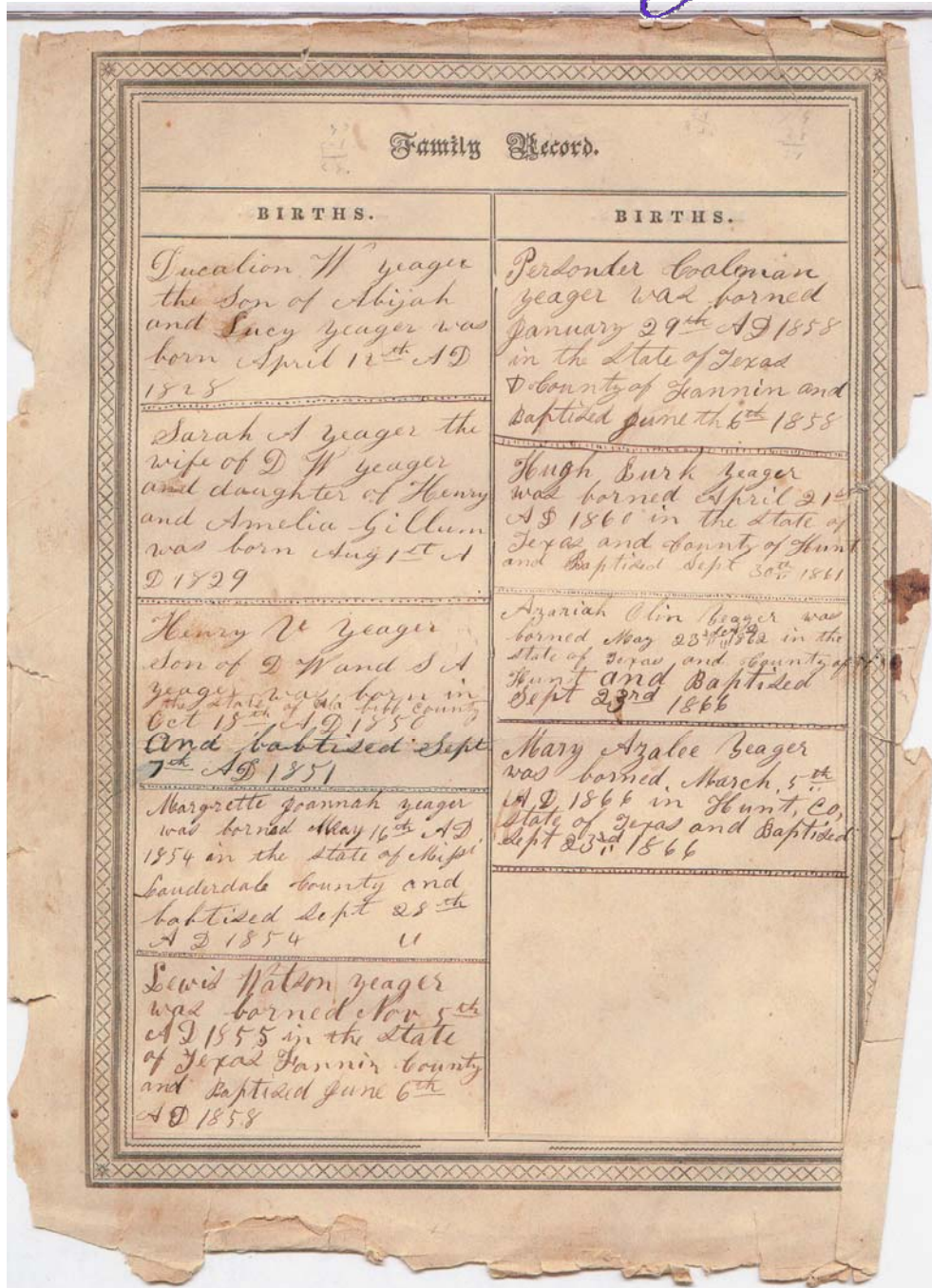
This research shows probate records affirming a relationship between certain Yeager men with John Yeager and multiple relationships among those brothers and other Yeager men, including land transactions and military service. Additional records also show that those Yeager men were of appropriate age and present in the appropriate localities to be considered the sons of John Yeager, and that they fit into family memoranda left by descendants.

Given this evidence, coupled with that contained in Part 1 of this article in the November 2011 issue of the Journal showing that Piney Woods John Yeager and the Germanna John Yeager son of Michael are not the same person, it seems reasonable to conclude that Michael's son John Yeager (born

25 November 1750 in Culpeper Co., Va.) married Lewis Render's daughter Ann (nicknamed Nancy) in 1776 and had their first child, Samuel, baptized the following year at the nearby German Church (Hebron). Between 1777-1790, they had seven more children in Virginia: William, Ezekiel, Augustine, Reuben, Abner, Abijah and a daughter whose name has not been learned, some of whom may have been twins. John probably fought in the Revolutionary War in the militia, possibly in the southern campaign. Because of difficulties in supporting a large family on a small piece of land where the money crop was tobacco, and drawn by the promise of a better life as Indian lands opened for settlement, about 1790 John moved his family to the mountainous northwest corner of South Carolina, where he and his wife had four more children before 1800: Ira, Lewis, Elizabeth and Mary.⁸² John and his older sons engaged in real estate and probate transactions in Pendleton and Laurens County, S.C., through 1812. Following his eldest son Samuel, John and almost all of his children relocated to Lincoln Co., Tenn., between 1813 and 1815, again when new lands became available. Reuben died three days after the final Battle of New Orleans in New Orleans. John died in Lincoln Co., Tenn., after 06 May 1816. Samuel remained in Tennessee for the rest of his life. William and Abner settled in Georgia, though Abner relocated to Arkansas in his later years. Ezekiel, Abijah, and Lewis migrated into Bibb County, Alabama between 1818-1822 and never left. Elizabeth who married John Parker and Mary who married Lewis Lee probably also settled in Bibb County. Augustine and Ira moved into Morgan County, Alabama in the early 1820s and never left. Those of John's grandchildren who survived the Civil War scattered into Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, and Arkansas, and their progeny are now scattered all over the country.

NOTES

1. Arthur L. Keith, "Nicholas Yager and his Descendants," *The William and Mary College Quarterly Magazine of History and Biography*, 2:9-3, 186-200, July 1929; and "Yager Family", 2:9-4, 275-90, October 1929.
2. Elizabeth Yates Johnson, "Using Early Virginia Tax Lists to Sort Out Same-Named Persons Living in the Same County at the Same Time: Follow the Money, Honey," *GRG Journal*, Vol.1:4, November 2011, 12-27.
3. The Estate Sale of Michael Yager, deceased, held on 25 Nov 1806, lists "John Yager of S. Carolina" as a buyer, and "John Yager, S.C." as a recipient of one-eighth of the sale proceeds. The other seven recipients are his two brothers Samuel and Michael (Jr.), his unmarried sister Rachel, and the husbands of his four married sisters Eve, Elizabeth, Jemima, and Hannah. (Madison County, Va., Will Book 2:134-36). Also, for marriage of Eve Yager to Robert Brown: Madison Co. Marriages, 1:252; for marriage of Elizabeth Yager to Elisha Yager: Culpeper Co. General Index to Marriage Records A-Z Males 1781-1850, 1:308; for marriage of Jemima Yager to James Walker: Culpeper Co. Register of Virginia Marriages compiled by Virginia State Library, 1:94; for marriage of Hannah Yager to John Yager: Culpeper Co. Register of Virginia Marriages, 1:97.
4. He is listed as "John Yager" in the 1790 Laurens Co., S.C., U.S. census, microfilm publication M637, roll 11, record group 29, image 260, National Archives and Records Administration; as "John Yager" in the 1800 Laurens Co. census, microfilm publication M32, roll 50, page 41, image 87; and as "Jno. Yager" in the 1810 Laurens Co. census, M252, roll 61, page 288.
5. Eugene M. Scheel, *Culpeper, A Virginia County's History Through 1920* (Orange, Va.: Green Publishers, Inc., 1982), 375, citing Culpeper Co. Legislative Petitions to the General Assembly of Virginia, 20 November 1790.
6. John Yager purchased 22 acres from Michael Smith (Culpeper Co. Deed Book N:147).
7. In the 1790 Laurens Co., S.C., census John heads a family which probably includes 8 children: 1 male over age 16, 7 males under 16, and 2 females, one of whom was probably a daughter. See 1790 U.S. Census, Laurens County, S.C., M637, roll 11, record group 29, image 260.
8. "Hugh B. Yeager," *Biographical Souvenir of Texas*, (Chicago: F. A. Battey Co., 1889), 932-33. In this short biographical sketch Hugh states that his father was Ducalion W. Yeager, his grandfather Abijah Yeager, and his great-grandfather John Yeager, who served in the Revolutionary War and had a bachelor brother named Samuel. (A reasonable case can be made that John Yager and Samuel Yager listed in the January 1781 Culpeper County Class No. 68 (Blankenbaker: *The Culpeper Classes*, 21) are sons of Michael Yager, born 1728.eyj)
9. Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck, *The Revolutionary War Bounty Land Grants Awarded by State Governments*, xii (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1996), xxii.
10. Ibid., 592.
11. Ibid., xxii.
12. James K. Swisher, *The Revolutionary War in the Southern Back Country* (Gretna: Pelican Publishing Company, 2008), 211.
13. "Hugh B. Yeager," *Biographical Souvenir*, 932-33.
14. Hugh Burk Yeager's birth, marriage, and death are recorded in the Family Bible of his sister Mrs.



This is a page from the Family Bible of Ducalion Yeager, recording the name of his father as Abijah Yeager and the birth of his son Hugh Burk Yeager.

Margrette Joannah Yeager Group, presented to her by their father Ducalion, given in the 1970s to Paul Ray Yeager of Yorktown, Va., by Margrette's daughter Veda Group with the provision that it go to Paul's son. It is now in the possession of Paul's grandson Shane Leighton Yeager. In 2003 before Paul R. Yeager passed the Bible down, he sent me scanned images of its family data section, which I share on these pages with his permission given by phone on 06 March 2012. eyj.

15. "Hugh B. Yeager," *Biographical Souvenir*, 932-33.

16. Lewis Winston Yeager is on the 1850 Red River County, Texas, census (M432, roll 914, page 222A). James Madison Yeager is in the 1860 Fannin County, Texas census (M653, roll 1305, page 61), and is said to have moved to Fannin County in 1856 (Floy Crandall Hodge: *History of Fannin County, Texas*). Gabriel Perry Yeager is in the 1860 Smith County, Texas, census (M653, roll 1305, page 61). Ducalion W. Yeager appears in the 1860 Hunt County Census (M653, roll 1298, page 340). The only one of Abijah's sons who did not relocate to Texas is Berry B. Yeager, who settled in Newton County, Mississippi, where he appears on the 1860 Census as "Berry Eager." Though his name is not in the census index, as either Yeager or Eager, it appears on page 36 of 157 pages in the 1860 Newton County, Ms. Census in Ancestry.com online, lines 19-22. Berry died in the Siege of Vicksburg, Ms. in December 1862 ("Hugh B. Yeager Bio," above).

17. John Wesley Garr, M.D., and John Calhoun Garr: *Genealogy of the Descendants of John Gar, or More Particularly of his son, Andreas Gaar, who emigrated from Bavaria to America in 1732*, (Cincinnati, Oh., 1894). Garr meticulously identifies his sources as particular descendants of specific persons,

with the sources' names and addresses. No mention is made of how these descendants acquired their information. Some years later A. L. Keith began his Yager research, basing it on the Garr material. (Introducing the First installment of his "Nicholas Yeager and Descendants," *W&M*, July 1929, 186, Keith says the account "will include material taken from the Garr Genealogy and also give much unpublished material.") With extremely few exceptions, Keith shows no other sources for his material or his conclusions.

18. Samuel is listed as "Saml Yager" in 1800 Laurens Co., S.C. U.S. Census (M32, roll 50, page 41); as "Saml Yager" in 1810 Laurens Co. Census (M252, roll 61; page 288).

19. Ezekiel is listed as "Ezekil Yarger" in 1810 Laurens Co., S.C. U.S. Census (M252, roll 61; page 244). Augustine (possibly John Augustine?), is listed as "Augustin Auger," 5 lines below Ezekil Yarger, in 1810 Laurens Co., S.C., census (M252, roll 61, page 244).

20. William is listed as "Wm Yager" in 1810 Laurens Co., S.C., U.S. Census (M252, roll 61, page 286); as

"Wm Yager" in 1820 Laurens Co. census (M33, roll 61, page 32); and as "Wm. Yeager" in 1830 Laurens Co. census (M19, roll 169, page 267).

21. "Iray Yage" bought one young sow at the estate Sale of Joseph Williams, according to the court record (Laurens Co. Will Book C1:377-39). However, "Iray" was misread by transcriber Sara Nash who listed him as "Gray Yager" in her index to *Abstracts of Early Records of Laurens County, South Carolina, ___ [?] to 1820* (Sara M. Nash, Route 1, Box 330, Fountain Inn, S.C. 29644, publication date not clear). Further complicating the reading of his name, the court recorder had not copied the name on the original sales list accurately. The original list shows the name as "Iry Yager." (Laurens Co. Library, Box No. 74, Pkg. No. 9, Estate of Joseph Williams, 1808, accessed 24 September 2002).

22. Ira Yeager, 1860 Morgan Co., Ala., census (M653, roll 19, page 313).

23. Citations of Pendleton County, S.C. records, with the exception of John Yager's 1793 land grant, are from abstracts indexed by Betty Willie: *Pendleton District, S.C. Deeds 1790-1806* (Easley, S.C., Southern Historical Press, 1982) and from Virginia Alexander, Colleen Morse Elliott, Betty Willie: *Pendleton District and Anderson County, S.C. Wills, Estates, Inventories, Tax Returns and Census Records* (Greenville, S.C., Southern Historical Press, 1980, 1994). Laurens Co., S.C., record citations are from original handwritten records on microfilm, housed in the Laurens County Public Library, Laurens, S.C., accessed 24 September 2002. These records are abstracted and indexed by Sara M. Nash, *Abstracts of Early Records of Laurens County, South Carolina*.

Pendleton County Records:

- About July 1792 (undated): John Yager is a debtor in the Estate of Asa Tourtelot (Alexander, et al.: *Pendleton District Wills*, 3).
- 20 September 1792: John Yager had 380 acres surveyed in Washington District, Pendleton County. See State Land Grant dated 01 July 1793, S.C. Dept. of Archives and History, Columbia.
- 13 Oct 1792: John Yager and Samuel Yager witnessed a deed in Pendleton County. (Pendleton Conveyance Book C-D 1795-1799:375-76, abstract in Willie: *Pendleton County, S.C. Deeds*, 159).
- 15 Jan 1794: John Yager and Samuel Yager witnessed a deed in Pendleton County (Pendleton Conveyance Book C-D 1795-1799:376, in Willie: *Pendleton Deeds*, 159).
- 22 Sep 1795: John Yager witnessed a deed in Pendleton County (Pendleton Conveyance Book C-D 1795-1799:95-96, in Willie: *Pendleton Deeds*, 111).
- 06 Oct 1795: John Yager and Samuel Yager witnessed a deed in Pendleton County (Pendleton Conveyance Book C-D 1795-1799:194-95, in Willie: *Pendleton Deeds*, 111).
- 30 Nov 1795: John Yager, William Eddins and John Burdine witnessed a deed from James Duff to Samuel Burdine, both of Pendleton Co., Washington Dist. (Pendleton County, S.C. Conveyance Book C-D:182-83, in Willie: *Pendleton Deeds*, 109).
- 07 Oct 1795: John Yager bought from James Gillispie unspecified number of acres on Wolf Creek, £30 (Pendleton Deed Book E 1799-1800:101-02, in Willie: *Pendleton Deeds*, 214).
- 07 Oct 1795: John Yager bought from James Gillispie an unspecified number of acres on Camp and Shoal Creek of Saluda River for £50 (Pendleton Deed Book E 1799-1800:102-03, in Willie: *Pendleton Deeds*, 214-15).
- 30 Sep. 1795: John Yager witnessed a deed in Washington District (Pendleton Conveyance Book G 1801-1804: 277-79, in Willie: *Pendleton Deeds*, 301: "John Yager made oath to William Reed, J.P., 30 Sep 1795 but was signed George Yager."
- 12 Apr 1797: Samuel Yager witnessed a deed in Pendleton County (Pendleton Conveyance Book C-D 1795-1799:326, in Willie: *Pendleton Deeds*, 139).
- 27 Dec 1800: "John Yager of Laurens Co., S.C." sold 50 acres on Wolf Creek of 12 Mile River, \$60 (Pendleton Conveyance Book G 1801-1804:356-57, in Willie: *Pendleton Deeds*, 311).

Laurens County Records:

- 12 Aug 1799: Reuben Yager witnessed a deed in Laurens Co., S.C., from Thomas Savage and wife Jinney of Franklin Co., Ga. to William Washington of Laurens Co., S.C. (Laurens Deed Book G:31-32).
- 05 Nov 1800: John Yager appraised estate of Isum Elliott, in Laurens Co. (Laurens Co. Will Book A1:260)
- 01 Dec 1801: Augustine Yager witnessed a deed in Laurens Co., S.C. (Laurens Co. Deed Book G:387).
- 12 Feb 1802: William Yager and Ezekiel Yager witnessed a deed in Laurens Co. (Laurens Co. Deed Book K:235).
- 03 March 1802: Augustin Yeager purchased 150 acres more or less on waters of Reedy River from Thomas Hood, \$128. Samuel Yager witnessed (Laurens Co. Deed Book H:47).
- Between 01 March 1802-26 April 1803 (undated): Ezekiel Yager witnessed deed in Laurens Co. (Laurens Co. Deed Book G:624).
- About 1805-1806 (undated): John Yeager appraised estate of Joseph Johnston (Laurens Co. Will Book

C1:258).

- About 1805-06 (undated): Agustin Yager and John Yager bought items at Estate Sale of Joseph Johnston (Laurens Co. Will Book C1:269).
- 1808 (month and day not shown): "John Yage" and "Iray Yage" bought items at Estate Sale of Joseph Williams (Laurens Co. Will Book C1:377-39). The original sales list shows names as "John Yager" and "Iry Yager (Laurens Co. Library, Box No. 74, Pkg. No. 9, Estate of Joseph Williams, 1808).
- 19 Dec 1808: John Yager and James Yager *[sic]* purchased at estate sale of Arun Clure (Laurens Co. Will Book C1:355-57).
- 22 Oct 1812: John Yeager sold 138 acres on Reedy River to James Blackley. Ira Yeager witnessed (Laurens Co. Deed Book K-11).
- 11 November 1812: John Yeager sold 100 acres on Walnut Creek of Reedy River in Laurens District to John Lindley, signed "John Yeagor" (Laurens Co. Deed Book J:279).
- 10 March 1819: William Yeagor borrowed \$70 from Josiah Box with household goods and livestock as security, Laurens Co. (Laurens Co Deed Book K:261-62).

24. Wm. Yeager, 1850 Coweta, Co., Ga. census (M432, roll 66, page 366B).

25. Ezekiel Yeager, 1850 Bibb Co., Ala., census, W C River, M432, roll 2, page 12B. (W. C. River is abbreviation for West of Cahaba River.eyj.)

26. Reuben died before 06 May 1816, when a legal guardian was appointed for three of his minor children and Augustine Yager was made Administrator of Reuben's estate, entering into bond with John Yager and Isaac Barker [or Parker?] (Helen C. and Timothy R. Marsh: *First County Court Minutes of Lincoln County, Tennessee, Abstract of the early Court Minutes of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions of Lincoln County, Tennessee*, 1988, page 213).

27. Reubin Yager of Franklin County was eligible to draw twice in the first Georgia Land Lottery, 1805, and both draws came up blank. Eligibility for two draws required that one be a free white male, resident of Georgia for at least one year, married and the father of at least one legitimate child under the age of 21. See Virginia S. and Ralph Wood, *1805 Georgia Land Lottery* (Cambridge: The Greenwood Press, 1964), 390.

28. On 22 October 1826, Ira Yager appeared in court in Morgan County, Ala., evidently to have it on the record, that he would return soon to introduce the verbal will of [blank space] Yager into probate. (Morgan Co. Probate Record Book 1:222). But he never did so, and the blank space was never filled in. A process of elimination indicates that his brother Augustine is most likely the deceased or dying Yager in Morgan County. The last public records of Augustine Yager are two Morgan County deeds dated 01 April 1826, one selling land in Lincoln County, Tenn., the other buying land in Madison County, Ala. Augustine does not appear on the 1830 census, but "Marg't Yager" is listed in the 1830 Morgan Co. Census, age 40-50, heading a large household. Family historians show Margaret McGlathery as wife of Augustin.

29. Ann L. Yager's marriage to William Livingston on 07 October 1830 is recorded in Morgan County, AL Marriages, 303. The 1880 Itawamba Co., Miss. U.S. Census includes Ann Livingston, age 67, born Tennessee, father born Virginia, mother born South Carolina (Roll 650, page 428C).

30. In a court case recorded in Lincoln County, Tenn. Minute Book, 214-219, date unknown, "William B. Robinson & others" filed a suit which involved land granted to Samuel Yager on 16 March 1835, stating
". . .that the sd Samuel Yeager died several years before sd grant issued viz about the 7th of May 1831."

31. The gravestone of Abijah Yager is located in the cemetery behind Bethel Baptist Church, a few miles south of Centreville, Bibb Co., Alabama. Quite legible in 1993, it has since deteriorated greatly. 1993 photo shown here.

32. Abijah Yeager (1850 Bibb Col, Ala. Census, W C River, M432, roll 2, page 3A).

33. Abner Yeager (1850 Ouachita Co., Ark. Census, Freeo, M432, roll 28, page 38A).

34. Ira Yeager (1850 Morgan Co., Ala. Census, Summerville, M432, roll 12, page 239A).

35. Lewis Yeager (1850 Bibb Co., Ala. Census, W C River, M432, roll 2, page 9B).

36. Virginia S. and Ralph Wood, *1805 Georgia Land Lottery* (Cambridge: The Greenwood Press, 1964), 390.

37. On 30 October 1807 Reuben sold "202 1/2 acres, lot #191, in 9th dist. of Baldwin to Thomas Lenoir, both men of Franklin Co GA." Abner Yager witnessed the deed. (Jones Co., GA Deed Book A, abstracted by Mrs. William A. Watson III and Mrs. John Terry III in *The Georgia Genealogical Magazine*, No. 41, Summer, 1971).

38. "Samuel Yeager" is included in a list of "Free taxable inhabitants entitled to a vote for members of the General Assembly that did reside on the first day of January 1812." Wanda Gant, "Franklin County, TN-Census - 1812 Tax List" (<http://files.usgwarchives.org/tn/franklin/taxlists/1812tax.txt> : accessed 23 August 1998).

39. On 28 January 1814, Abner and Ira Yager enlisted as Privates under Col. Copeland and Capt. Holshouser, infantry branch. (Needs verification. From the research of Jane Warren Waller, born 1924, died 1992, cited only as in *Index to the War of 1812* in the Tennessee State Library). Also, Reuben, Abner, and Lewis Yager enlisted on 13 November 1814, in 1 Reg't, West Tennessee Militia, Col. Wm. Metcalf, Capt. Wm. Sitton (See Mf.1460 - War of 1812 Muster Rolls - Index. Adjunct General's Records. State of Tennessee. TSLA. A description of this microfilm can be found at <<http://www.tn.gov/tsla/history/manuscripts/mguide15.htm#mf1460>> but the documents themselves cannot be viewed on line. However, Allison DeFries

of the Tennessee State Library and Archives e-mailed me copies of the individual soldier's records, which are included in this article.eyj. Also see NARA Index to the Compiled Military Service Records for the Volunteer Soldiers Who Served During the War of 1812. M602, Roll Box 233, Roll Exct. 602. Also, Lewis Yeager stated in a certified affidavit dated 12 Nov 1850 that he had been a Private in the company commanded by Captain William Sitton in the First Tennessee Militia commanded by Colonel Metcalf in the war with Great Britain, declared by the United States on the 18th day of June 1812, that he was drafted at Fayetteville, Tennessee on or about the first day of October AD 1814 for the term of six months and . . . was honorably discharged in the Chickasaw Nation on or about the fifth day of April AD 1815." (Kathleen Paul Jones & Pauline Jones Gandrud, *Alabama Records*, 232:1-4, under heading "Bibb County, 1812 Pensions & Bounty Land Applications.")

40. Samuel Yager: Tenn. Land Grant 5863, 37 acres on Freemans fork of Flint River, Lincoln County, Second District, 27 July 1814; Reuben Yager: Tenn. Land Grant 5988, 36 acres on Freemans fork of Flint River, Lincoln County, Second District, 31 Aug 1814; Augustine Yager: Tenn. Land Grant 5989, 10 acres on Barren fork of Flint river, Lincoln County, Second District, 31 Aug 1814; Augustine Yager: Tenn. Land Grant 7258, 50 acres on Freemans fork of Flint River, Lincoln County, 27 June 1815; Abijah Yager: Tenn. Land Grant 8112, 15 acres on Stewarts Creek, a south branch of Elk river, Lincoln County, Second District (original grants on microfilm, Tennessee State Library and Archives, Nashville. Also Indexed in Byron Sistler, et al. *Tennessee Land Grants*, 2:509-10, 1998). Additionally, concerning Reuben's Land Grant 5988 for 36 acres, on 04 Oct 1817 Augustin Yager sold "36 acres in the second district on the waters of Freemans Fork of Flint river," specifying that the tract was conveyed to him by Reuben (See Lincoln County, Tenn. Deed Book E-1:145-146.) I have been unable to find a record of Reuben's conveying this 36 acres to Augustine.eyj.

41. William Yager is listed on the jury in Syaye [*sic*] v. Porter, Lincoln County, Tenn., 08 February 1815 (Marsh: *First County Court Minutes of Lincoln County, Tennessee*, 1988).

42. On 06 May 1816, Augustine Yager was made Administrator of Reuben's estate, entering into bond with John Yager and Isaac Barker [Parker?] (Marsh: *First County Court Minutes of Lincoln County, Tennessee*, 213). On 4 October 1817 Augustin Yager sold 36 acres "tract wst Flint" to Sarah Swan (Lincoln Co. Deed Book E1:145).

43. "7th Aug 1815: Ordered by the Court that William Pugh be appointed overseer of the road from Joseph Deans to the Madison County line in the room of [i.e., in place of] John Yager resigned and call on the usual hands to work and repair the same." (Marsh: *First County Court Minutes of Lincoln County, Tennessee*). [An overseer was typically a local man of good standing whom the court appointed over a group of men to work on the road in their neighborhood. If the overseer resigned because of illness, age, or other, a court order was issued for someone to replace him.eyj.]

44. Marsh: *First County Court Minutes*, 213.

45. 1820 Lincoln Co., Tenn., census, 43, 44:

- Augustine Yagur is listed on bottom half of page 43, unnumbered lines, 3rd line from bottom with 3 males under 10, 1 male 10-16, 1 male 26-45, 3 females under 10, and 1 female 10-16.

- Lewis Yagur is also listed on page 43, on the line below Augustine's family, that is, the 2nd line from the bottom of the bottom half of the page, with only 1 male age 26 to 45 in his household.

- Samuel Yagur is listed on the top half of page 44, on the 16th (unnumbered) line with household of 2 males under 10, 1 male 10-16, 1 male 16-18, 3 males 16-26, 1 male 26-45, 2 females under 10, 1 female 18-26, and 1 female over 45.

[Note to those looking for the 1820 Lincoln Co., Tenn., census on line: On March 17, 2012, I accessed Ancestry.com to check my notes and found that the website now mistakenly identifies the 1820 **Lincoln** County, Tennessee Census as that of **Jones** County, Tennessee. In fact, Ancestry.com does not today (3-17-12) list Lincoln County, Tennessee, as a searchable database. Numerous other researchers had posted comments remarking on the error. In past years I have accessed the Ancestry.com census records for Lincoln County and found them correctly identified. In addition, I have also viewed the 1820 Lincoln County, Tenn. Census on microfilm in the Clayton Genealogical Library, Houston, Tex., which shows the above entries to be in Lincoln, not Jones, County, Tenn.eyj.]

46. " . . . Samuel Yeager died . . . about the 7th of May 1831." (Lincoln County Minute Book, "William B. Robinson & others vs. Elenor Neives & Others," 16 March 1835), 214-219.

47. Abner Yeager (1820 Hall Co., Ga., census, M33, roll 6, page 149). Abner Yager (1830 Gwinnett Co., Ga., census, M19, roll 17, page 311). Abner Yeager (1840 Fayette Co., Ga., Census, Capt Nicklas District, M19, roll 41, page 223). Abner Yeager (1850 Ouachita Co., Ark. Census, Freeo, M432, roll 28, page 38A). Abner Yager (1860 Ouachita Co., Ark. Census, Carroll, Union, and Freeo, M653, roll 47, page 188).

48. His death is recorded in his family Bible, that of Abner and Sarah (Otwell) Yeager, last known to be in the possession of Abner's great-granddaughter Lite Hammond (Mrs. Roy L.) Nesmith of Bethel, Ok., in the 1960s. See Family Group Sheets submitted 14 Sept. 1976 to Genealogical Society [*sic*] by Mrs. Betty B. Hiatt, Fort Smith, Ark. According to Betty Bell Allison Hyatt, "Mrs. Nesmith's family was going to New Mexico in a wagon which turned over on a sand bank while crossing the Red River. Everything got wet. The Bible eventually dried out." (Related by Mrs. Hyatt, age 80 at the time, to me in telephone conversation, 8 Dec 2000).eyj.

49. William probably first appears in Georgia, though unnamed, in the 1840 Coweta Co. census as a male age 60 to 70, in the household of "Jephtha Yager," who is probably a son. (1840 Fayette Co., Ga., census, Capt. Robinson's District, M704, roll 41, page 223, third line from bottom of page). Next door (second line from bottom) is "Wm. Yager," age 20-30, whose household includes a female age 60 to 70, who could be the older William's wife Elizabeth. His last listing on a census is as "Wm. Yeager, age 71, born Va. (1850 Coweta Co. census, Div. 19, M432, Roll 66, page 366B).

50. Emory Murphy: *Kitb and Kin, Early Settlers of Coweta Co., Ga.* (Newnan, Ga., Coweta County Genealogical Society, 1983), 153: "In the 1830's, William Yeager migrated from Laurens County, S. C. to Fayette County, and a few years later came to Coweta County. He and wife, Elizabeth A. _____ had about fifteen children, but only five appear in Coweta County records: Thomas Jacob; Elisha; Abner; Jane, m. William Spratling; and Nancy Yeager, who m. John M. Walker."

51. "Yeager, Reuben" is listed on Franklin Co., Ga., Tax List, page 36. (Unverified. Information provided by Mr. Carroll Yeager Thomas from his CD-ROM of Georgia records on 13 August 1999).

52. Wood, *1805 Georgia Land Lottery*, 390.

53. Jones Co., Ga., Deed Book A, (Watson and Terry: *The Georgia Genealogical Magazine*, No. 41.)

54. 1850 Bibb Co., Ala. census, W C River, M432, roll 2 page 6B: Charlotte Shults, age 43, born Ga.

55. Tennessee Land Grant 5988, Reuben Yager, Lincoln County, Second District, 31 Aug 1814 (Sistler: *Tennessee Land Grants*, 2:509).

56. Reuben's record (Mf.1460 - War of 1812 Muster Rolls - Index. Adjunct General's Records. State of Tennessee. TSLA) reads: Yager, Reuben, Private, Enlisted Nov 13, 1814, Regiment Col. Wm. Metcalf, Company Capt Wm. Sitton, Military Infantry, Died Jan 11, 1815. The date is three days after the final Battle of New Orleans, which took place on 08 January 1815. See also the Hugh B. Yeager biography, which states, "Reuben, Abner and Lewis Yeager were in the battle of New Orleans in 1814" (Hugh B. Yeager, *Biographical Souvenir*, 933.)

57. "Hugh B. Yeager," *Biographical Souvenir*, 932-33.

58. James Madison Yeager, Abijah Yeager's eldest child, was born 02 April 1812, died 9 April 1862 (Family Bible of Lucinda Lewis and James Madison Yeager, in possession of Georganna Yeager Johns of Midlothian, Va., on 22 February 2003. See YEAGER-SOUTH-US Rootswed mailing list, Note #42: Family Bibles.) He is listed on the 1850 Bibb Co., Ala. census, as "James M. Yeager, 38, Male, Farmer, b. Ten. (M432, roll 2, page 12).

59. Tenn. Land Grant 8112, Abijah Yager, Lincoln County, Second District (Sistler: *Tennessee Land Grants*, 2:509).

60. In Ulysses Huey Abrams' *History of Early Bibb County 1820-1870*, 24, "Ezekeal Yeager" is listed among the "earliest settlers" of what is now Bibb County but Abrams does not specify the year or the source. [Abrams' early settlers list also includes my ancestors Michael Pertle and John Camack.eyj]. The Creek Wars (part of the War of 1812) officially ended with the Treaty of Ft. Jackson in 1814, "with [Andrew] Jackson winning the cession of twenty-three million acres of land to the United States- three fifths of modern day Alabama and one fifth of Georgia." (John Meacham, *American Lion, Andrew Jackson in the White House*, New York, Random House, 2008, 31). Ezekiel's brother Abijah supposedly arrived in 1818 (See "Hugh B. Yeager" bio, 932). The area was originally created as Cahawba County on 07 February 1818 by the Alabama Territorial Legislature. Alabama became a state in December 1819, and the county name was changed to Bibb in 1820.

61. Bibb Co., Ala.: Polly Lee married Ezekeil Yeager on 24 June 1822 (*Alabama Marriages to 1825*).

62. The last census in which Ezekiel appears is the 1850 Bibb Co., Ala.: "Ezekiel Yeager, age 71, farmer, born Virginia (M432, roll 2, page 12B).

63. In 1850 A. Yager is listed as owner of 11 slaves ranging in age from 8 months to 70 years (1850 U. S. Federal Census - Slave Schedules, Bibb Co., Ala. (M432). In 1860, Abijah Yeager is listed as owner of 9 slaves ranging in age from 6 years to 32 years (M653). By the calculations of amateur land researcher Mary Frazier Norris Martinez, Abijah Yeager owned more than 3,000 acres before 1860 (Plat and letter dated 25 September 1994).

64. Abijah signed a very short will on 09 June 1862, for the sole purpose of naming an executor, James Clark, and specifying that his estate was to be handled according to Alabama intestacy laws (Bibb Co., Ala. Administrators Book I, 1858-1865, 675). When James Clark submitted his Final Settlement, he listed a number of notes due the estate, the value of land, and various items in the inventory including Confederate money, for a total of \$24,335.50. But in the chaotic aftermath of the Civil War the whole probate process had to be started over. John W. Dobbins, son of Abijah's daughter Theodocia, was appointed Administrator *de bonis non* on 03 Jan 1868 (Administrators Account Book J, 1865-1876). When Dobbins submitted his Final Settlement on 09 January 1871, the total assets of the estate had dropped in value to \$6,591.64 for distribution among the heirs, with each heir to receive \$823.95 (Bibb County Probate Minute Book K, 1869-1872, pages 224-229.)

65. The marriage of Lewis Yeager to Anna Cammack took place on 26 November 1822 in Bibb Co., Ala. (Bibb Co. Marriage Records, Box #8, Folder #34)

66. Lewis bought 40 acres, described as the SW quarter, Section 11, Township 22, Range 8, "according to the provisions of the act of Congress of the 24th of April, 1820, entitled 'An act making further provisions for

the sale of the Public Lands" (Certificate 15408 dated 19 September 1835). On 12 November 1850, Lewis made a declaration of his service in the War of 1812 for the purpose of "obtaining the Bounty Land to which he may be entitled under the 'Act granting Bounty Land to certain officers and soldiers who have been engaged in the military services of the United States' passed September 28th 1850 (Gandrud, Alabama Records, 232:4). On 7 August 1851, he received 80½ acres, described as the East half, SW quarter, Section Certificate 4909, Military Act of 1850. (Ibid., 29)

67. The Yeager Family Graveyard is on private property 6½ miles southwest from Brent, Ala., on Highway 25, land that originally belonged to Lewis Yeager and was passed down through his son Newton Jasper Yeager to the Caddell and Perdue families. Lewis's was the second interment on the property, the first being that of an infant daughter. Of the eleven graves, only five are now marked, but a chart delineating the placement, names and dates of those resting there was made by B. A. Caddell, husband of Newton Jasper's daughter Sarah Elizabeth Ann Yeager, when they all had stones.

68. McGlathery family descendants have said that Margaret McGlathery was married to Augustine Yeager. The following deed of gift dated 24 Nov 1827 seems to bear that out. Robert Lowery, David McGlathery [Jr.], Elizabeth Sims, Martha Daniel and **Margaret Yeager**, the only heirs and legatees of Ann Betty Christian, deceased, [called Ann Henrietta Christian by Martha "Patsy" Daniel, below], through natural love and affection for their "**nephews and nieces** Sutton F. A. Yeager, Elizabeth Lowery Yeager, James Evans Yeager, Meredith Couch Yeager and Ann Ritter Johnson Yeager [was she named for her aunt Ann Henrietta McGlathery Christian?], the **children of Ira and Jenny Yeager**," deeded livestock, furniture, household goods valued at one hundred and fifty four dollars to the aforesaid children in equal shares. The deed is signed by all the donors except Martha "Patsy" Daniel, whose note at the bottom reads: "November the 22 1827 I do hereby certify that I Patsy Daniel will be satisfied with whatever a majority of the heirs will do relative to the estate of Ann Henrietta Christian as witness my hand and seal." (Morgan Co., Ala., Deed Bk. A:404). Note that Margaret Yeager appears as head of household for the first time in the 1830 Morgan Co., Ala. Census, following the death of Augustine Yeager in 1826.

69. Members of Poplar Spring (Baptist) Church, 1794-1804, included Samuel Yager as one of its first members in 1794. (Leah Townsend, Ph.D., "Bethel Assoc. Min., 1794-1803," *South Carolina Baptists 1670-1805* Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1974), 191). The church had been formed after David McGlathery petitioned Turkey Creek Baptist Church in June 1794 "for the privilege of collecting members" to form the Poplar Springs Baptist Church ("Poplar Springs Baptist Church, Ware Shoals, South Carolina," *The Scrapbook - a Compilation of Historical Facts about Places and Events of Laurens Co., S.C.*, (Laurens County Historical Society and Laurens County Arts Council, 1982), 479.

70. The 1850 Census for Somerville in Morgan Co., Ala., shows Ira Yager's occupation as "Minister of the Gospel" (M432, roll 12, page 239A). Also, Ira, Jane, S. F. A Yeager, and Ann Yeager are included in a list of "presbytery and constituent members" of Shoal Creek (Baptist) Church, east of Flint village, which was constituted in 1844 (John Knox: *A History of Morgan County, Alabama*, (Decatur, Ala.: Morgan Co. Bd. of Revenue and Control, printed by Decatur Printing Co., Inc, 1967), 160.) Also, some family historians say the Ira and his brother Abner were Primitive Baptist preachers.

71. Morgan Co. Probate Record Book 1:22.

72. Ira Yeager was age 68 in 1860, born South Carolina the last time he appeared on a census (1860 Morgan, Ala. census, North West Div., M653, roll 19, page 313).

73. "Hugh B. Yeager," *Biographical Souvenir*.

74. Troy Lou Caddell, chart entitled, "Yeager, Family Record of John and Nancy Render," dated 28 January 1960. Also letter dated 19 August 1971 to Mrs. G. F. Waller [Jane Warren Waller], Horseshoe Drive, Batavia, Illinois 60510, stating: "I found out what I know about John and Nancy Render from my mother's youngest sister years after my mother died." Also letter dated 05 April 1972 to Mr. Charles E. Boyd, London Terrace Towers, 470 West 24th Street, New York, New York 10011, stating: "In a letter I had from my aunt while I was in Asheville, North Carolina she told me that Abijah was Lewis Yeager's brother." Though Troy does not state her aunt's name in either letter, her 1960 Yeager Family Record chart shows her mother's siblings, listing the youngest sister as follows: "Effie Lula was born May 11, 1877. Married James Richard Stewart February 10, 1895. She had four children. Died October 22, 1963." Troy identifies herself at the bottom of the page as "Troy Lou Caddell, Great-great granddaughter of John and Nancy Render Yeager." (Note that Troy Lou never married and lived in Newton Jasper's house for most of her life.eyj.) I was fortunate to become friends with Jane Waller (Mrs. G. F. Waller), above, when we were both living in the Houston, Tex., area in the early 1990s. Jane invited to her home, where we spent the day going over her extensive collection of 25 years of Yeager and other family research. After her death in 1997, her son boxed up her Yeager data and mailed it to me. Thus I acquired Troy's letters to Jane, including the 1960 chart. I am also fortunate to be friends with Jacqueline Cox Otts of Tuscaloosa, Ala., who knew that the correspondence of Charles E. Boyd was housed in the Hoole Special Collections Library at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, where I acquired copies of correspondence between Boyd and Caddell, including the 05 April 1972 letter, above. Jane Helen Warren Waller (1924-1997) is a descendant of Samuel Yager, born 14 May 1777, son of John Yager (the same Samuel who was baptized in Heb-

ron Church on 22 June 1777, with parents Johannes Jäger, Jun, and wife Anna. (See Blankenbaker: "Hebron" *Baptismal Register*, 17.) A native of Lincoln County, Tenn., Jane edited and published the newsletter *Lincoln County Pioneers* for twenty-five years. Charles Edward Boyd (1922-1988) was a Bibb County, Ala. native related to Yeagers by marriage. He authored *At Liberty on Bear Creek* and *Haysop, a Church, a Community, a People of Haysop Creek, Bibb County, Alabama*.ejj.

Also see "Lineage Chart 19," compiled by Miss Lois Robertson, 3304 Monarch Dr., SW, Huntsville, AL 35801, Date: 22 November 1976, Central Alabama Genealogy Society, 2, Lineage Charts.

75. Information about Casseline Yeager Frazier and her Bible was sent to me by Mary Frazier Norris Martinez⁹ (Loduski Beatrice⁸, Chapley Harvey, Jr.⁷, Chapley Harvey⁶, Lewis⁵, John⁴, Michael³, Adam², Nicholas¹). Her letter, enclosing charts, land plats and documents, dated 25 September 1994, reads: "On my 'tree' the names of Lewis' and Anna's children, their birth years and spouses are written as Aunt Cass recorded them - Cassaline Yeager Frazier - in her and John Frazier's Bible." In a subsequent telephone conversation and continued correspondence through 1998, Mary told me more about her Aunt Cass and how she had come to live with Mary's family. After Casseline died, the Bible remained with Mary's grandmother Emma Lucinda Frazier Yeager, until it was taken by Emma's daughter Berta Lella Yeager Carlin, born 07 September 1913, died 20 June 1984 (twin to Bertha Lila Yeager Vitale, born 07 September 1913, died 31 Jan 1990.) Its whereabouts now are unknown.

76. Pearl O. Smith in her book *Render and Their Relatives*, (Arlington, Va.: Weeks Publishers, 1985), 7-8, provided a transcription of the will of Lewis Render, as well as its 1985 location in Madison County. In 2000 I followed the trail to the Madison County Courthouse, where I learned the will had never been recorded and that the original was stored in a box in the basement. With the immense help of the courthouse staff, the original was professionally conserved (see Madison Co. Va. Will Book 2: 424).ejj. A copy of the original is also now available at the Library of Virginia, Manuscripts, Call #40766, described on the LVA website under "Quarterly Report of Archival Accessions, July 1 - September 30, 2003," under "Personal Papers," as: "Render, Lewis. 2 leaves. Will, written 13 January 1812 and proved 25 March 1813, of Lewis Render (ca. 1740-1813) of Madison County, Virginia, detailing the disbursement of his real estate and personal property."

77. Reuben Yager had a daughter listed as "Ruth RENDER (or Rander) Yeager," among his 8 "orphan" children in his Lincoln Co., TN probate record 6 May 1816. Samuel's son John, b. 1798 in SC, had a son named Elijah RENDER Yeager, b 1823 in Lincoln Co TN, d. 04 Jan 1887 in Calhoun Co., MS. per his ggd's "Application for Membership in the Children of the Confederacy, Tenn. District."

78. Hebron Lutheran Church (Madison, Va.), baptismal register 1750-1849, Accession 29966 microfilm, Church Records Collection, Reel 346, The Library of Virginia, Richmond.

79. John Blankenbaker, "Hebron" *Baptismal Register*, 17.

80. *General Index to Culpeper County, Va. Marriages* 1:308.

81. Blankenbaker: *The Culpeper Classes*. Classes number 68 and 69 are on page 21, 22. Blankenbaker's comments in the introduction are on 3.

82. The Hugh B. Yeager bio states that Elizabeth married John Parker, and Mary married Lewis Lee. Their husband's names can be tracked into Bibb Co., Ala., with date ranges coinciding with those of John's sons who settled there.

Elizabeth Yates Johnson (known to us as "Betty" Johnson) has spent nearly 20 years amassing the evidence presented above. Even more information can be found in her book, *Following John, Documenting the Identity and Path of John Yager born 1750 in Culpeper County, Virginia*. (Gateway Press, 2004). Betty is a generous genealogist who shares freely her information as well as her techniques to other researchers. A member of the National Genealogical Society since 1993, Betty has been assistant editor of the *CLF Newsletter* (Clayton Co., TX) and has completed the Virginia Track of Samford University's Institute for Genealogical and Historical Research.

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Editorial Goal: Information about our ancestors of the First and Second Germanna Colonies, and Alexander Spotswood. Contact Virginia Nuta at vrnuta@verizon.net with inquiries or proposed articles. We welcome them!

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NOTE: We have had a hard time getting submissions from researchers and for that reason we were unable to issue this publication in January as originally scheduled. We decided to decrease the frequency of this publication from six issues annually to four issues or quarterly. We continue to ask for articles of all kinds relating to your Germanna ancestors.