

David Vawter³, (John², Bartholomew¹)

David Vawter was the son of John Vawter and Margaret Noel of Essex Co., VA. It is believed that John and Margaret were married by the time of John's father's, Bartholomew, death in 1717.

In the will of John Vawter dated 1748 and proved 1752 Culpeper Co., VA : *that one third part be my loving wife's, Margaret Vawter and the rest to be equally divided amongst my children, namely: Winfred, Bartholomew, Richard, Margaret Rucker, Angus and David Vawter.*

6thly. To my son David Vawter three hundred and eighty acres of land adjoining the old Ct. House tract in Orange County to him and his heirs forever.

(Note: this is the 380A willed to son David, which he sold 300 A in 1763) Book- *English Duplicates of Lost Virginia Records* by Louis des Cognets, Jr. Pub. 1981 Virginia Book Co., is found a list of patents granted in the forks of Rappahannock River and Westwood of Sherrando River. John Vawter & Philip Stogdale, 580 Acres, on the Mountain Road dated 8 Nov 1734.

David is thought the oldest son by some Vawter researchers, but the deed of John to his oldest son "Bartholomew" clears this account. David was the only child to not have his land deeded to him prior to John's death and would lead to the possibility that David was the youngest child of John's. He is listed last in the will list of children. David's birth is unknown but if he was age 25 to 30 when his first son, Jesse, was born in 1753 he would be born ca 1725-1733 and this matches with the will and military records as most men were in their 40's and 50's when they served as guards. David probably d. ca 1779 as the military records might indicate but was deceased bef Nov 1782 when a marriage record of daughter Margaret shows permission to marry by Mary Vawter, which generally indicates the father is deceased. Mary Vawter again gave permission in 1784 for son William to marry so she had still had not remarried at that time.

Marriages Records of Virginia 1722-1850 by Terese A. Fisher, marriage of Stapp, Achilles & Margaret Vawter, d/o Mary Vawter; 27 Nov 1782.

There is much controversy surrounding the wife of David. In *The Vawter Family in America*, by Grace Vawter Bicknell, Hollenbeck Press, Indianapolis, 1905, it was thought that David married his niece Mary Rucker, although no proof was given. Many Rucker and Vawter researchers have tried to confirm his wife's maiden name, knowing only her name is Mary. It is commonly believed at this time that she may have been Mary Offitt (Offeld/Offott/Offill/Aufil), daughter of William Offill and Mary Rucker. This Mary Offott would have been David's first cousin. Mary Rucker, dau. of Peter Rucker, was already married to William Offill/Offott by the time of the writing of Peter's will in Jan 1742/43, as she is referred to therein as Mary Offott. It has been proved that the Mary Rucker of the Bicknell Book, married David's son, William Vawter.

Found in *Virginia Magazine of History* Vol. 23, pub. 1968, year ending 1920 p. 79. Will Book 1, p. 248, Orange Co., VA is will of John Rucker, date "XI"Jan'y 1742, proven, 28 Jan'y 1742; names his wife Susannah and his 12 children and among them Peter. Appts. Wife Susannah, son Peter Rucker and friend George Taylor exors.

In the same Will Book p. 299, is will of Peter Rucker dated 18th Jan'y. 1742/43, proven 23 Feb 1743, Orange Co., VA; *lends to wife Elizabeth Rucker, all estate, real and person during life, and after her death gives certain personal property to daughter Margaret Tinsley and son in law Isaac Tinsley; son*

Ephraim Rucker and to daughter Ann Cook and son in law Shem Cook, and balance to be sold and divided among his children by name as follows: Thomas Rucker, Elizabeth Pearce, Wm. Rucker, Mary Offott, James Rucker, Ephraim Rucker and Ann Cook. Appts. James Rucker and Ephraim Rucker Exors.

Book “*The Underwood Family from Madison Co., Va.*” by Ben H. Coke pub 1986 argues that David Vawter did not marry Mary Rucker, his niece, but married Mary Offill/Offott, the daughter of William Offill and Mary Rucker. Mary Rucker was the daughter of the immigrant Peter Rucker and his wife Elizabeth Fielding and the sister of Ephraim Rucker who married Margaret Vawter. The Vawter/Offill marriage argument is based on the fact that Jesse Vawter, son of David and Mary Vawter, apparently mentions his Uncles Offill and Coper in an autobiography. Mary Offill/Offott did have a brother William and one of her sisters married a Mr. Cofer.

In the book, *History of the Rucker Family*, no author or date, chapter eight. Item 7. Mary Rucker (Peter) m. William Offill. Her brother John deeded 100 A of land to her. William Offill patented 2000 A of land in Orange, Rockingham and Page Co., VA. In 1752 after the death of Elizabeth, William Offill received a negro out of Peter Rucker’s deceased estate, DB 1 p400, 21 Feb 1752 Culpeper Co., VA

4 Nov 1755 William Offill & wife Mary of Bloomfield Parish, Culpeper Co., VA sold to John Offill for 10 pounds sterling, 100A part of the patent made by John Rucker and bounded by the lines of Ephraim Rucker, Isaac Findley, Richard Vawter, Jeremiah Early and Peter Rucker. Signed William Offill and Mary Offill Wit: James Archer, Thomas Lampton, Mary Holt. Adm. Ephraim Rucker, Issac Tinsley, Richard Vawter, Jermina Early & Peter Rucker. Deed Book B p 301, Culpeper.

Cl.Cur., Library of Virginia, Will Book A, 1749-1770 Culpeper Co, VA Reel 31, pages 215-217 Will: William Henderson, Brumfield Parish, Culpeper Co, VA (1760)I leave to be equally divided among and between my son John Henderson and my three grandsons Joseph Henderson, John Henderson and William Henderson to them and their heirs forever when they come of age. Signed, sealed and delivered this 2nd day of November 1759. William Henderson (L.S.)(witnesses)William McDonough, James Rucker, David Vawter, William Bates

Orange Co. Deed Book 2 p251 1736 100 acres William Pierce to Wm. Rucker
Orange Co. Deed Book 4 p181 1739 100 acres William Rucker to John Powell Sr of Caroline
Culpeper Co Deed Book B p253 1755 100 acres John Powell to Bartholomew Vawter
Culpeper Co Deed Book C p112 1755 100 acres Bartholomew Vawter to David Vawter
Culpeper Co Deed Book E p118 1765 100 acres David Vawter to Wm Twyman
This land became part of 505 acres sold by Wm Twyman sold to Ephraim Rucker in Book G p107 in 1773, Culpeper Co., VA

In the early 1900’s, Henry Strother, a Vawter researcher went to VA and copied from some old Order Books of Orange Co. This material was sent to William Snyder Vawter who was doing research during the 1920’s and 1930’s for an update on the Grace Vawter Bicknell book. His research was never published but contains more than 2000 pages of information.

Old Order Book of Orange Co., VA (no book number)
page 375, May 1752 Richard Vawter
page 251 Aug 1756 Bartholomew Vawter
page 9 May 1763, David Vawter by his deed in 14, p. 16 conveys to McFarland 300 acres
in Orange Co. in full for patent granted John Vawter and Philip Slagdale.
page 447, July 1767 David Vawter was granted a road from Benj. Head and Richard
Durrett to the river at Crawford's Ford
page 48, Nov 1779 David Vawter
page 140, Sept 1774 Richard Vawter.

Notes of Henry Strother from original records, copied between 1910-1918, Orange
County DB 13 p 60 deed dated 1759 to Angus Vawter of 179 ½ acres in Orange Co., in
same book p 272 Angus Vawter & wife, Ann convey to one Rucker and witnessed by
David Vawter.

Orange County Virginia, Tithables 1734 - 1782 Part One. by Barbara Vines Little. 1988,
(publisher not clearly stated)
p. 32 - 33 " County court Judgements February 1754, box 25 Elliot Vuorter 4 [tithes] "
p. 84 - 85 " A list of the number of Tithes in my Precincts August 1st 1766....
David Vauter 2 [tithes] Richard Bruce "
p. 90 - 91 " [1767] A List in my bounds and Number of Tiths pr. me Jeremh. Bryan
David Vaughter 2 [tithes] Thos. Dohoney 3 [tithes] "
p. 98 - 99 " 1768 Jeremiah Bryan his List of Sucker hunting tiths
Thos. Doughonney 4 [tithes] David Vautor 3 [tithes] "
p. 100-101 " County Court Judgements November 1769 , Box 37 ...
William Prics list for the yr 1769Phillip vawters 1 [tithe] "
p. 104 [John Whites list for 1769] " David Vawter 2 tiths "
p. 108 " A list of the Tithables in the Precincts Wherein I John Griffen am Constable for
the year 1769Thomas Ballord 1 [tithe] William Vawters 1 [tithe] "
on page 114 is a list for 1782 that has William Vawter and Mary Rucker.

The Tinsley and Ruckers were an important family intermarriage connection with the Vawters. The Margaret shown in these deeds is
Margaret Rucker, another daughter of Peter.

14 Nov 1759. Issac Tindsley and Margaret his wife of Amelia County to Issac Tindsley
Junr. of Brumfield Parish, Culpepper County. For natural love and paternal effecton for
their son and 5 shillings sterling 100 acres in Brunfield Parish on the Rapidan
River...William Crawfords line.. William Rucker's line... Issac (T) Tindsley
Margaret(X) Tindsley
wit. Ephraim Rucker, Rich. Vawter, David Vawter
17 april 1760 proved by Ephraim Rucker and David Vawter
15 may 1760 proved by Richard Vawter

10 Nov 1759 Issac Tindsley and Margaret his wife of Amelia County to Ephraim Rucker
of Brumfield Parish, Culpepper county...for £25 current money..100 acres in Brumfield
Parish and on the branches of Elk Run in the fork of the Rappidn and Robinson
rivers...corner to John Offill and Richard Vawters line...Jerrard Banks line...Ephraim
Ruckers line.....

wit. Richard Vawter , David Vawter, Issac Tindsley
17 april 1760 proved by David Vawter
15 may 1760 proved by Issac Tindsley Junr and Richard Vawter

Abstracts of the Co. Court Minute Book of Culpeper Co., VA 1763-64 shows that David spent some of his free time in Court. (Note: this is only a 1 year period)
March 1763. P 297. David Vawter v. Samuel Young. Cont'd.
p 298. David Vawter v. Richard Stanton. Cont'd.
April 1763. P 313. James Walker, Assignee of William Walker v. David Vawter, James Rucker & Ephriam Rucker. Judgt for Plf.
David Vawter v. Samuel Young. Cont'd.
July 1763. P 371 David Vawter v. Job Breeding. Dft. surrendered & so discharged sureties: David Jackson & Mary his wife & John Collins.
P 384 Davie Vawter v. James Yancey. Dismissed agreed.
David Vawter v. Richard Stanton. Dismissed agreed.
David Vawter v. Job Breeding. Judt for Plf.
P 401 David Vawter v. Thomas Pierson. Cont'd.
David Vawter v. Thomas Jollet. Cont'd with William Batte surety.
Aug 1763. P 410. David Vawter v. Thomas Jollet. Judgt for Plf.
P 412 David Vawter v. Thomas Maxwell. Judt. For Plf.
P 422 David Vawter v. Thomas Pierson. Judgt against Dft. & William Robinson, Security.
Aug 1763. P 432 David Vawter v. Ursulla Knight. Process awarded.

Culpeper Co., VA Deeds Vol III, pages 274-75.

5 Mar 1763. Thomas Stanton junr. Of Culpeper county to David Vawter, merchant, of Orange County. For 25.16.5 pounds current money, all my part of the crop of tobacco in my father's stands, Vawter having received one hogshead already in Royston's warehouse, two mares, one being a sorrill branded M on the near buttock, the other a black colt paces naturally, seven head of cattle, one bed with all the bedding, furniture, one shed cart, one rifle gun, one smooth bored gun, and two pistols, one sword, two iron potts, four pewter dishes, and one dozen plates, one chest, one box and two trunks. Signed Thos. Stanton, junr. Wit: W. Vawter, Mary Offille. 15 Sep 1763 proved by William Vawter.

Note: this is Mark Finks, father of Andrew Finks who married Lucy Vawter. Lucy the dau. of Richard Vawter (witness).

The will of Mark Finks Culpeper Co., Will Book A p. 361-62 dated 17 Oct 1763, proved 15 Mar 1764.

Mark Finks of Culpeper Co., in the Colony of VA. To my loving wife Elizabeth Finks, my bay mare and my horse Buck that I bought at David Vawter's sale.

Wit: Richd. Vawter, William Eastham, Michall Wilhoit.

Listed on the Culpeper Co., 1764, Rent rolls David Vauters, Richard Vauters and Elizabeth Vauters. (This is likely Elizabeth Finks, as Mark Finks d. 1764 and she is shown on the tax rolls likely as a widow. No Elizabeth Vawter is known at this time. The only other Vawter in Essex is Augustine whose wife was likely Mary. No final information has been found)

Book - *Orange Co. VA Families Vol. III* by William Everett Brockman Minneapolis , MN copyright 1959. Pg. 12. Chancery Suits of Orange Co., VA, an index Sept 1772 David Vawter vs. Wm Kendall.

Larry Wilcox, 913 Franklin Ave., Harahan, LA 70123 has extensive information on Vawter military history. He adds the following:

David Vawter (SAR/DAR) 17 June 1775, enlisted for 90 days.

Private: Guard duty for Torrie & British prisoners of war.

1st Virginia Foot Infantry Militia--serving under Captain Ambrose Madison, under Colonel Francis Taylor. 1st Virginia Foot Infantry Militia at Battle of "Great Bridge" - David Vawter Private; William Tinsley Drummer; Richard Quinn Corporal; James Goodall Sergeant; John Wayt Sergeant; John Goodall Ensign; James Burton 1st Lt; Ambrose Madison Captain. By orders given by Colonel Woodford, Colonial Army the 1st Virginia Foot Infantry Militia, as guards escorted British prisoners of war under command of Captain Fordyce's company, British army troops to prisoner of war camp.

Virginia Historical Magazine Page 458, 459: Revolutionary War Battle of Great Bridge: 9 December 1775, British Commander Captain Fordyce Royal Army AGAINST: Colonel Woodford Colonial Army; Captain Fordyce RA Killed in Battle.

Muster Roll Captain Ambrose Madison Company, 1st Virginia Foot Regiment Infantry Captain Ambrose Madison, Lieutenant James Burton, Ensign John Goodall, Sergeant John Snow, Sergeant John Wayt, Sergeant John Goodall.

Lists Corporals & Privates: David Vawter Private: Enlisted 17 January 1775 Discharged 15 June 1775-Served in Albermarle, Culpepper County, Virginia under Colonel Francis Taylor.

(Note: Ambrose Madison was the brother of President James Madison)

Virginia Magazine of History pub. 1893-94. Muster roll of Captain Ambrose, Madison Co., of Foot in the Regiment of Vol. Guards at the barracks in Albemarle Co., Col.

Francis Taylor, Commander 1 June 1779. "Private David Vawter enlisted 17 Jan 1779, discharged 1 June 1779.

The Virginia Genealogist Vol. 27 # 3 July-Sep 1983 p. 206, British Mercantile Claims 1775-1803:

T79/91 Reports of William W. Hening p. 205-206 [Pp. 55-58] David Vawter, Orange. Died at the Albemarle Barracks during the war, worth nothing at all. He lived near to William Lucas of Orange and his widow lived near him for several years after the death of her husband in great distress.

(GJNote: the following deed indicates that William Lucas was dead by 1763, as his heirs sold some of his land in Orange Co.)

Culpeper Co., VA Vol III, pages 301-04. 20 Oct 1763.

Francis Lucas and Elizabeth his wife of Culpeper Co., to John Amburge of same. For 12 pounds current money. 82 acres, being part of 400 acres granted to William Lucas by the Right Honorable Thomas Lord Fairfax, proprietor of the Northern Neck of Virginia, by deed 28 Sep 1748 and by the death of William Lucas the land fell to Francis Lucas as heir at law...in Bromfield parish on the branches of Devil's run....corner now to James

Sims...near the fork of a path a former corner to Thomas Houison...in Fairfax's line.
Signed Francis and Elisabeth Lucas.

The Virginia Genealogist V 30, No. 2, April-June 1986. British Mercantile Claims 1775-1803.

T79/93 Reports of William W. Hening

p. 137 Claim of Heslop & Blair p.30: David Vauter, Orange. Lb 7.16.10(1/2). He died in Albermarle Barracks during the War totally insolvent

p. 140 Claims of Robert Jardine p. 47 David Vauter, Orange. See previous reports. He died in Albermarle Barracks during the war worth nothing at all. On a judgement of Heslop and Blair against him in Orange County in 1773, the Sheriff returned " no effects "

Mary, widow of David, and her son William are shown still in Orange in 1782: List of Taxable property taken by Thos. Barbour, Gent., 1782, Orange. As shown on back of the original return paper itself, in the Clerk's office of Orange.

William Vawter	Tythes 1	Negroes Cary 1	Horses 3	Cattle 0
Mary Vawter	Tythes 0	Negroes John 1	Horses 4	Cattle 5

From Virginia Soldiers Listings:

Major Lawrence Washington, Captain Ambrose Madison, Captain John Camp, Captain Angus

Rucker & other American officers were authorized to enlist men over 50 years of age for guard duty of Torrie & British prisoners. This term of enlistment was for 60 to 90 days only. Several regular Virginia commands had men of age 45 & older, these soldiers were transferred for this type of duty. These Revolutionary War soldiers saw little if no action against the British. Many of these men were used for time elements of 30 to 45 days & sent home. From June 6, 1776 until September 15, 1776 was when most of this type guard duty was accomplished. At various times torrie prisoners were moved from place to place. The Old Home Guard was called for this duty until mid 1778. A Regimental Captain would order a Sergeant, 2 Corporals, 4 Privates to accompany the Home Guard as escorts for transport of prisoners. After the Revolutionary War was in full swing, many of these men over 50 became teamsters for the Continental Army, delivering supplies & beef to Washington's army. Many women were patriots at this time being teamsters.

After David's death, according to family tradition, Mary married James Renfro (Rentfrow), probably in KY and she d. in KY ca 1797. From Richard & Theresa Renfro, 9107 Wendy Dr. SE, Olympia WA, email renfro@home.com comes some information on James Renfro.

James Renfro b. 1727 Jamestown, James City Co., VA d. 11 Jul 1801 Lincoln Co., KY. His father was William Renfro b. 1702 d. 1789 VA and mother Elizabeth Cheney b. 1704 d. 1789.

James m (1) Lydia (nee?) Her maiden name is given from Dale Gerboth as Harris, but no proof known. Their first son Joseph b. Jul 1766 VA so this would indicate their marriage date.

From Dr. Donald Ott Manshardt, Renfro family papers: James Renfro bought 300 A of land 17 Apr 1781 Lincoln Co., KY on the Rockcastle River. This later became Rockcastle Co., where Renfro Valley is now located. In 1801, James Renfro granted land to Lewis Renfro for 100 pounds, both of Lincoln Co., KY. It is located where Boone's Trace crossed Renfro's Creek, crossing of Roundstone below the mouth of Renfro's Creek. Wit: Reuben and James Menefee, and Absalom Renfro. Bk D p231.

James lived in Woodford Co., KY from 1788 to 92 and Lincoln Co., KY from 1797 to 1800. Abstracts of deed show James transferred property in Henry Co., VA Deed Bk, page 189, 181. 5 Nov 1778 to John Rentfro for the sum of 300 pounds, 300 A more or less. Land on both sides of the Pigg River. Signed, James Renfro, Wit: Peter Vardman, Isaac Barton, Darby Ryan.

Pages 181-182. Nov. 1778: We John Rentfro, Moses Rentfro, Isaac Rentfro and Joshua Rentfro are held firmly bound unto James Rentfro in the sum of 300 pounds for a tract of land lying on the Pigg River that he had formerly conveyed to John Huski, but now sold to John Rentfro. Wit: William Rentfro, Isaac Rentfro, Moses Rentfro, John Rentfro, James Rentfro, Joshua Rentfro and George Ritture.

(These above are all brothers of James, it appears this is the time he was preparing to leave VA)

James acquired some 4000 acres of land from Woodford Co., KY to Rockcastle Co., KY. The last will and testament of James Renfro b. 1727 d. 1801, copied from James Renfro's Estate papers which are in the Clerk's office of Lincoln Co., KY.

Calling to mind that it is appointed to man once to die, I do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament, and after the payment of all my just and lawful debts and funeral charges, I give to my son, Joseph, 1700 pound 10 shillings that he is in debt to me and to my son, Absalom \$100 and to my daughter Susannah, one dollar. The rest of my estate that is not otherwise (illegible) will be sold to the best advantage and equally divided among my three sons, James Jr., Isaac and Lewis and my daughter Hannah Jones. And I give my niece, Jemima Menefee one ewe and lamb and the bedstead she use to lye on when living with me, and I do make and ordain my sons, James and Absalom whole and sole executors of this my last will and testament as witness my hand and seal this 22 day of April in 1801. James Rentfro (seal) Test: Jesse Scott, Turpin Rentfro, Jacob (X) Troup.

The will is believe to have been probated in 1807. Turpin Rentfro was the son of Moses Rentfro and Elizabeth Turpin. Turpin married Sarah Troup.

James, Reubin, Joshua and Achilles Stapp came from Orange Co., VA to Woodford Co., KY Achilles bought land on North Elkhorn from James Rentfro of Woodford Co., KY. In 1790, Stapp sold this land on the Elkhorn to Joshua Stapp and wife Hannah and in 1792 sold the land to Joseph Anderson.

From notes of William Snyder Vawter ca 1928, a letter; "There was no will left by David Vawter: At a Court held for Orange county on Thursday 27th Day Mar 1785. William Vawter granted Admr. of estate of David Vawter dec'd where upon he with Bartlett Bennett his security entered into Bond for the same in the sum of £400." Copy: Test: Josephone H. Neal, Deputy Clerk, Orange Co., VA

Much of the material on David's female children comes from Carol Tikka, 14690 SW 106th Av, Tigard, OR 97224 with material also contributed by Jean Hough. In 1986, E.B. Vaughters, 12015 1st Ave. NW, Seattle, WA 98177 sent the genealogy of this line to be published by the VVV Association. The combination of all these researchers, along with the Vawter Book, The Vawter Family in America by Bicknell gives a thorough history of this line.

E. B. listed an additional child for David and Mary named David who died single, possibly from an illness during the Rev. War. It seems "if" there really was a seventh child, David, a lot of questions are answered about service and dates and places (see David4 file)

Attached here is some of the newer research of the Ruckers and Vawter to determine the right Mary, wife of David Vawter.

Book- *History of the Rucker Family* (no date or author given). Mary Rucker was the dau. of Elliot Legrande Rucker b. ca 1730 d. 19 Mar 1832. Married (1) Nancy Smith (thought to be dau. of Isaac Smith of VA). Elliott was Rev. War soldier and received land in KY in 1794. He married (2) Mary Burton of Orange Co. (KY or VA?) in 1809. Children of Elliott were Merial Rucker m. John E. DeNeal of KY, LeGrande Rucker b. 1790 m. Harriet Davis of KY, John Ephraim Rucker b. abt 1795 m. --- Wright and Mary Rucker who married her cousin, Wm. Vawter. (GJ Note: this information is incorrect on Mary and William)

Another scenario: Peter Rucker in his will had many children but two of his sons, James Rucker who married Elizabeth Elzaphan and Ephraim Rucker who married Margaret Vawter had a son and dau. who married each other (they would be first cousins). Augustine Rucker, son of James Rucker and Tomagen Rucker, dau. of Ephraim Rucker. Augustine and Tomagen Rucker then had nine children, their oldest dau. was named Mary Rucker. It is this Mary who married William Vawter in 1784. Augustine and Tomagen Rucker moved to KY as did many of the Rucker family. So the Mary Rucker who married William Vawter was the granddaughter of Margaret Vawter, wife of Ephraim Rucker.

A third scenario is found in the *Rucker Family Genealogy* by Sudie Rucker Woods pub. 1932 in possession of Carla Orcutt of WA. This seems to have some documentation. Page 289:
Mary Rucker, dau. of Lt. Col. Ephraim Rucker m. 4 Jun 1784 to William Vawter son of David Vawter. Marriage bond in Orange Co., VA Security James Staples, William Vawter b. 1758 d. 27 Nov 1823.
They moved to Woodford Co., KY in 1788 then to Burlington, Boone Co., KY. In 1803, William and Mary sold land in Fayette Co., KY bet. the years of 1805 and 1809 they also had land in Jessemine and Gallatine counties. William Vawter was appointed by Angus Rucker (brother of Mary) of Madison Co., trustee for his dau., Jane Minor, wife of Elliott Minor, of Boone Co., KY. William Vawter refused to act. William Vawter served in the Revolution. Enlisted 17 Jan 1779, under Capt. John Champ, of the 1st VA Reg., under Colonel George Gibson. Later became a lieutenant. At a court of appeals held at the Capitol of Richmond, VA Sept 1791, in a suit, the Commonwealth against William Vawter, late Lieutenant of the 1st VA Reg. Case was dismissed. So now we know Lt. Col. Ephraim Rucker and Margaret Vawter's dau. Mary Rucker married William Vawter not David Vawter who was Margaret's brother. Mary Rucker and William Vawter were cousins.

To further complicate the above matter, we have Jean B. Robinson from a letter 30 Apr 1991, granddaughter of Sudie Rucker Wood who has been compiling primary and secondary information to clear this problem. In a letter to Doris Edwards, 2017 43rd SE U-2, Grand Rapids, MI dated 1992 much of the above is disputed and dispelled. While long it is important to add as much information as possible to stop errors from continuing to occur.

- A. The Vawter Family in America, by Grace Vawter Bicknell, 1905 offers no primary evidence for any of the information on David Vawter, son of John and his connection of Mary Rucker. Unfortunately this information was used for the following: 1. Maxwell Genealogy and History 2. Stepp/Stapp Families of America by Henry P. Scalf and 3. Forks of the Elkhorn Church by Ermina Darnell, 1980. So none of these secondary records can be used for primary proof at this time.
- B. Edythe Whitley, History of the Rucker Family 1927 stated David Vawter m. Mary Rucker, da. of Ephraim Rucker and Margaret Vawter with no primary proof again offered. Sudie Rucker Wood showed primary proof that Mary Rucker m. William Vawter her cousin, not David, her uncle. Additionally the dates do not match. If you examine the dates for David (1720-1785) and William (1758-1823) you will see that David would have been 64 years old in 1784 and too old to have married in 1784. And there is no way he could have had five children by the time he died the following year. (GJNote: we now have proof he died before 1782 so he could not have married in 1784-see marriage record of daughter Margaret) William, born in 1758, would have been 26 in 1784 and the right age to marry. Most important is a found marriage record for William Vawter and Mary Rucker in Orange Co., VA
- C. Mary Snyder, in Rucker Ruckus, Vol. 3 Issue I, p 87 states: Ephraim, father of Elliot Rucker and wife Nancy Smith had a dau. Mary who married Wm. Vawter. This could not be possible as Elliott and Nancy Smith married 6 Mary 1789 (Marriage Bond, Orange Co., VA) and it would have been difficult for a dau. to have been married five years before her parents. Plus, no other primary record states Elliott Rucker even had a daughter named Mary.
- D. The Underwood Family by Ben Coke 1986 p 88 suggests that David Vawter married Mary Offill (Offitt/Offield, Aufil, etc). He wrote Wm. Offill m. Mary Rucker dau. of Peter Rucker 1743/4. Wm and Mary Rucker Offill had several children inc: 1. Mary Offill m. 1st David Vawter b 1720 and m. 2nd James Rentfrow. Their son William Vawter m. 1784 Orange Co., VA to Mary Rucker (Prob. dau. of Ephraim Rucker & Margaret Vawter, sister to David Vawter b. 1720) The problem with this is: 1. Ben Coke only guessed that Wm. Offill and Mary Rucker had a dau. Mary, no proof is found. 2. His reasoning came from the Vawter Book and autobiography by Jesse Vawter who mentioned Uncle Oppill (ie Offill), Uncle I Coper (ie J. Coper) and Aunt Underwood. Ben Coke's first sentence is prob. true and Jesse Vawter's statements about aunts and uncles make sense only if Jesse's mother was Mary Offill, So Jesse's mother was Mary Offill and it was her mother who was Mary Rucker. However, he could have been referring to them as such because his aunt Margaret Vawter was married to Ephraim Rucker, sister of Mary Offill, so no solid proof is yet found. Ben Coke in a letter 6 Dec 1985 said everyone always assumed that John Vawter (1782-1862) would know his grandmother's maiden name. No primary proof exists on this material and historically only 10% of the population can name the maiden name of grandmothers.
- E. Sudie Rucker Wood, The Rucker Family Genealogy 1932 p 289 states Mary Rucker m. 4 Jun 1784 William Vawter (Marriage Bond of Orange Co., Security James Staples). Wm. b. 1758 d. 27 Nov 1823. The children of William Vawter and Mary Rucker were: William Jr., George M., Herman, Edmond, Thomas and Virginia. Wood on page 512, gives the following dates for David Vawter b. 1720 d. 1785 m. ca 1755 Mary of Culpeper Co., (no maiden name). The following evidence is used for Primary Proof of William Vawter and Mary Rucker. (GJ Note: again the death date has since been proven to be prior to 1782)
 1. Proof of parentage of Ephraim Rucker, Peter Rucker immigrant lists son, Ephraim Rucker in will (WB1, p 299 Orange CO, VA dated 18 Jun 1743, rec. 23 Feb 1743/4)

2. Proof of parentage and marriage of Ephraim Rucker and Margaret Vawter. Will of John Vawter 23 May 1748, Culpeper Co., VA leaves his dau. Margaret Rucker 150 acres at the Great Mountains. This 150 acres was deed by John Vawter to Ephraim Rucker 7 Feb 1750 Culpeper Co.
3. Proof that Ephraim Rucker and Margaret Vawter had a dau. Mary. She was mentioned in the will of her father, Ephraim Rucker, WB1, p 348 Madison Co., VA dated 24 Sep 1796 prob. 28 Dec 1797. 1/7 of my estate to dau. Mary Vawter.
4. Proof that Mary Rucker m. William Vawter. Marriage Bond 4 Jun 1784 Orange Co., VA

The children of David Vawter and Mary (Offitt/Offil):

- + 1. Jesse Vawter b. 1 Dec 1753 Culpeper Co., VA d. 20 Mar 1838 Jefferson Co., IN m. 29 Mar 1781 Elizabeth Watts
- + 2. Winifred Vawter b. ca 1755 VA d. 2 Mar 1818 KY m. 23 Feb 1775 Orange Co., VA James Dehoney (Dabony)
- + 3. David Vawter d. single (possibly illness) during Rev. War. (This child is not listed by Bicknell)
- + 4. William Vawter b. ca 1760 m. 19 Jun 1784 VA to Mary Rucker
- + 5. Philemon Vawter b. 16 Oct 1762 Culpeper Co., VA d. 15 Apr 1814 Madison, IN m. ca. 1779 Anne Vawter, his cousin, dau of Richard and Frances Vawter
- + 6. Margaret Vawter b. 11 Oct 1763 VA d. 29 Apr 1813 KY m. 27 Nov 1782 Orange Co., VA Achilles Stapp
- + 7. Mary (Polly) Vawter b. ca 1769 Fayette, KY m. 1790 Fayette Co., KY John Gatewood

Jesse Vawter⁴ (David³, John², Bartholomew¹)

Jesse Vawter, son of David Vawter and Mary (Offill/Offott) was b. 1 Dec 1755 Culpeper Co., VA and d. 20 Mar 1838 in Jefferson Co., IN. A very thorough history is found in the book *The Vawter Family in America*, by Grace Vawter Bicknell, pub. 1905, Hollenbeck Press, Indianapolis. The early history of this book contains errors but the family history of Jesse is very complete. Jesse m. 29 Mar 1781 Culpeper Co., VA to Elizabeth Watts b. 30 Dec 1762 d. 10 Sep 1830, dau. of John Watts and Sarah Barnett. Book, *Dr. Slaughter's St. Mark's Parish* by Raleigh Travers Green, pub. 1900. Notes on Culpeper Co., VA, p. 73 Marriage Records from 1781 to 1825. Jesse Vaughter m. Eliza Watts, 1791.

Starting on page 14 of the Bicknell book, "Vawter Family In America", pub. Indianapolis, IN, Jesse's life history is printed. He wrote this at age 80, starting 5 May 1835. It details the movement of his family from early childhood until that date. It is a fascinating account of life just after the Revolutionary War and the first decades of the 1800s. It tells the story of the migration westward, made by thousands of people and the development of the middle part of America. It is fortunate that this piece of history has survived and Grace Vawter Bicknell's insight into publishing and preserving this history can not be overlooked. Two separate writings are enclosed written over a period of 3 years.

Excerpted here for space: *Jesse stated he was sent to school at age 8, (the Vawters seemed to place a great deal on education and all of the lines seem to be very literate and knowledgeable about mathematics and literature going back to Bartholomew). He stated he did some coopering, made a lathe and did some turning. He also made wheels with a millwright. In 1774, he was hired out as a house carpenter and joiner. In 1775, his father set him at liberty to act for himself. And in Nov 1777, he drove a team and moved his family to Holston where he tended a farm for Joseph Early. In 1778, he went back to VA until late 1779 when he drove a team with his three uncles and a brother to Holston. In Dec 1780 he went back to VA and in 1781 he married 29 Mar 1781. He was drafted for a two month's tour of service in VA. By Jan 1782, after the birth of son John, he headed the 300 miles back to Holston. In 1783, he again went back to VA and moved another aunt to Holston. In 1785, his wife and children when back to VA for a visit which lasted from 13 Sep to 24 Nov. In Dec 1787, he went to KY to see friends and taken with the area moved there in 1790. Before heading for KY he, his wife and baby daughter Sally went by horseback the 300 miles back to VA to say their final farewells. In 1791, he aided a brother in the move to KY and in 1793 aided his father in law Watts to KY. In 1795, he moved again to the Elkhorn river until 6 Sep 1806 when he moved over the Ohio river to IN. While in KY he made looms, mended wagons, reels and other mechanical work and farmed. On 10 Sep 1830, his wife died and he moved to the home of Polly Branham, his daughter. He states Julia Wise, his dau, d. 10 May 1835. In 1835 - 36 and 37 he attended the church Association meetings but was very feeble.*

Jesse's Vawters military record has not been located but in the book *Roster of Soldiers and Patriots of the American Revolution Buried in Indiana* by Mrs. Roscoe O'Byrne, Indiana DAR, 1938, page 367, we find Jesse listed. Further research of the Vawters now shows this enlistment to be David Vawter, his brother. Jesse by his own words states he was drafted for 2 months in 1781, probably for militia or guard duty.

Vawter, Jesse, Jefferson County. Born 2 Dec 1755, Virginia.

Service - Enlisted in 1777 in Capt. John Camp's co, 1st Virg. Regt., under Col. George Gibson.

Proof- *Virg. Mag. Of History and Biography 1893-1894*, DAR No. 113765,512813,528103.

Died March 20, 1838. Buried Wirt Cemetery. Gov. marker placed by John Paul Chapter DAR.

Jesse and the other Vawter family members developed the area around Vernon and Madison, IN. In the Fall & Summer issues 1987 VVV newsletter some information is found.

In 1790 Jesse moved to KY and settled Woodford Co., where he leased a farm from Mr. Hugh Shannon for five years and joined the Great Crossings Baptist Church at what is now Georgetown, KY. In 1795 he moved to his own farm on the Elkhorn River and joined the Stamping Ground Baptist Church at McConnell's Run. Jesse then moved his 'letter' to the newly formed North Fork Elkhorn Baptist Church on Cooper's Run, now known as Switzer, KY, where he began to preach ca 1800 and was ordained in 1803. In July 1805 Jesse Vawter with others of KY visited land on Hogan and Laughery Creeks near Aurora, IN but on sending money to the Cincinnati Land Office, learned the tract they wanted had already been sold.

In August 1805, William H. Harrison purchased a large body of Indiana land taking in the counties of Ripley, Jefferson, Scott, Washington, nearly all of Jennings and Jackson and parts of Clark and Floyd.

In December of 1805 Jesse Vawter with six or eight others visited the "New Purchase". Part of the group traveled by land and part by water. Jesse came from KY on the OH River in pirogue (large Indian type canoe) to the present site of Madison, IN.

The group made their headquarters at the eastern edge of Madison. During the day, the group divided into two parties, exploring the adjacent highland and the neighboring lands of Clifty. At night they reported their discoveries.

Jesse Vawter selected the site for his residence on top of the Michigan Hill. He returned home and made arrangements for taking possession. The family moved in Sep 1806 and he called his home "Mt. Glad".

Will Book 1, 1795-1823 Franklin Co., KY p. 28

Charles Holloway will dated Nov 1802 probate 17 Jan 1803. To wife Hannah, dau. Amy Holloway (minor). If dau Amy dies without heirs, her part to my brother George Holloway. Exec. Jesse Vawter and Richard Shipp. Wit: John D. Graves, Hannah Musick and John Bell.

In the KY Register, Jan 1915, page 84. Court Records of Franklin Co., KY. In Feb 1804 the County Court of Franklin Co., granted Jesse Vawter permission to solemnize the "holy rites of matrimony"

Election Held Madison Twp. 1809

(Transcriber's note. This record has been printed by a number of different sources. This is drawn from a copy in the Madison Public Library., Robert W. Scott, March 2000)

Christopher Harrison	John Riker
Daniel Robbins	Paul Froman
Gershom Lee	John Hall
William James	Joshua Jackson
James Vawter	Halsey Tibbals
Ralph Griffin	John Chambers
James Edwards	Jos. Lane [Lame, transcriber query?]
Samuel Ledgerwood	Lewes Blankenship
Joseph Underwood	Henry Ristine
Wm. Vawter	Wm. Hall
Jonathan Lyon	Nath. Wilson
Jesse Vawter	John Vawter

Jesse Vawter's Will written in Indiana

In the name of God, Amen. I, Jesse Vawter, of Jefferson county and the state of Indiana, do make and ordain this my last will and testament.

Item: My will and desire is that whatever may remain of mine at my death shall be equally divided among my children, to wit: John, William, James, Fanny, Polly, Sally, Julia, Achilles and Ann.

Item: I appoint and ordain my two sons, John and William, to be the executors of this my last will and testament.

Written with my own hand this 13th day of April 1832, Jesse Vawter

Acknowledged in presence of Thos. T. Stribling, M. M. Burns, Elias Stapp.

Codicil to what I have already written.

1. My will is there shall be no court to prove my will.

2. That M. Wise shall receive the same as if his wife were still living.

3. My will is that those indebted to me shall not be pressed for money under one year, and that without interest.

4. My wish is that my executors shall make ample satisfaction to those of my friends who shall wait on me in my last hour.

Written under an impression that I shall die soon, this 27th day of December, 1837. Jesse Vawter. Wit: Thomas T. Stribling, M. M. Burns, Elias Stapp. Codicil attested before assigned.

On 4 Apr 1862 the Vernon (IN) *Banner* published an article written by John Vawter who was then living at Morgantown, IN. This is found on page 21 of *The Vawter Family in America* by Bicknell.

On Wednesday, April 2, 1862, all the living children of Jesse Vawter, deceased (it being the birthday of William and James Vawter, each being that day seventy-nine years old), by invitation of these two brothers, met at the house of Williamson D. Vawter, the son of William Vawter, in the town of Vernon, and partook of an excellent dinner prepared by W. D. Vawter and wife. On this occasion the children were John Vawter, in the eighty-first year of his age; Wm. Vawter and Francis, his wife; James Vawter and Sally, his wife; the widow, Sally V. Stribling; Abner Moncreif and Ann V., his wife; the widow, Patsy Vawter, wife of Achilles Vawter, who died after the meeting was agreed to be holden in his own town. The only one of the living adopted children absent was Matthew Wise, who was unable by disease and age to attend. All of these people were among the first white inhabitants in and near where the city of Madison now is, while it was yet a heavy forest. The entire number present now are, and nearly all were at that early day, members of the Baptist denomination.

On coming together, John Vawter after an exchange of salutations and inquiries about absent friends, and recounting old times and hard times, old age and its infirmities, proposed, as a sentiment and as a rule of action for each, this language of the poet: "come, let us anew our journey pursue", etc. All seemed to harmonize in the sentiment and, after singing the hymn twice, we were invited to the dinner-table, and after dinner were invited by Smith Vawter to take tea with him. All parties agreeing to do so, we repaired to his residence and partook of an excellent supper. After this social interview the company separated, perhaps never all to meet in time again. A list of the age of each was made out by W. D. Vawter and the number of children and grandchildren of each. Wm. Vawter and wife have of children, grandchildren and great grandchildren, sixty or seventy.

The Vernon Banner newspaper, Vernon, IN 16 Apr 1863 concerns the meeting again of the Vawter descendants of Jesse.

"The remaining members of the family of Elder Jesse Vawter, who died Mar 20, 1838, in the 83rd year of his age, met many of their relatives and friends, seventy four in number, at the residence of James Vawter, Sen., near North Madison, the 2nd day of April in honor of the 80th birthday of Elder William and James Vawter, twin brothers. The united ages of the only survivors, two brothers and two sisters, amounted to 299 years. Seldom have we ever witnessed a gathering of so many very aged person, among who we will mention the names of our esteemed christian friends, Elder Wm. T. Stott, age 75, Elias Stapp 77, Mathew Wise 74, and A. Moncrief 66 years. There were also present many friends and relatives from Vernon, among who was the widows of Achillas Vawter and Elder John Vawter.

It was indeed good to be there and look upon the faces of those aged ones, who, like the sturdy forest oaks, have weathered the storms of many winters. Truly the scenes witnessed upon that occasion will not soon be erased from memory. We were forcibly impressed with the words of the prophet, "Behold! This day I am going the way of all the earth."

One remarkable circumstance was the meeting of all the children (nine in number) of James Vawter and their wives (one excepted) and children, numbering in all twenty-six, another thing which gave us great pleasure to witness, was the union and good will existing among the family and friends, and we were led to exclaim, "Behold, how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

One thing along cast a shadow o'er the flitting mind, was one who counsels we often had, and whose voice mingled with ours, since last we met one year ago in Vernon, was not with us. His voice (Elder John Vawter) was hushed in death, and another had shortly previous (Achillas Vawter) gone to the spirit land. Two brothers and two sisters of that once large family stood alone, like aged forest trees, reminding us that even the age of an octogenarian is but short, and their words seemed almost like those from the dead. Oh how our hearts beat in love as we remember that perhaps in a few months they too would be slumbering with the silent dead.

And again as we thought of the future our hearts beat with joy when lifes toils are over, we all may meet and have a glorious reunion "where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest."

Watts family History:

Larry Wilcox, 913 Franklin Ave., Harahan, LA 70123 has extensive information on Vawter military history: He notes: many mistakes are printed in regards to John Watts Revolutionary War Records. This John Watts is NOT Captain John Watts who died in Bedford Co., VA. Our John Watts however is listed as a patriot. Virginia State

Archives, John Watts furnished Beef and supplies for the Continental Army of Virginia. Also, listed DAR Patriot Index Centennial Edition Part III, Washington, 1990. Page 3122. John Watts b. 1722 d. 4 Feb 1796 Will probated 4 Feb 1796 Will Book A page 120 Madison Co., KY. Listed in Henning Statues Vol. 7 pages 207 & 210 in Colonial Wars, John Watts Madison Co., KY.

Watts Lineage taken from: "*Descendants from Early Immigrants Who settled in the Tidewater Counties of Virginia*" By: Charles B. Heinemann 1940 Pages 75 to 77. Thomas Watts, father of John. Thomas died: 15 March 1749 Culpepper County, Virginia. Will Probated: Culpeper County Will Book A Page 10 Married: Ester Stone b. 1690 d. 25 Jun 1772.

Son, of Thomas Watts - John Watts: Born: 1722 Culpepper County, Virginia Died: 4 February 1796 Madison County, Kentucky
Will Probated: Madison County Court 1796 Married: Sarah Barnett, Daughter John Barnett & Marran Gibbs Middlesex County, Virginia. Sarah Born: 13 Feb 1708 Orange/Middlesex County, Virginia Died: Madison County, Kentucky. Children: 1. Thomas Watts m. (1) Frances Gaines and (2) Drucilla Ham 2. Julius Watts 3. Barnett Watts 4. John Watts 5. Esther Watts m. Richard Sebree 6. Mildred Watts m. (1) Mr. Tomlinson and (2) Mr. Leatherer 7. Elizabeth Watts m. Jesse Vawter 8. Anna Watts m. Merry Milton 9. Agatha Watts m. (1) Benjamin Turner and (2) Levi Brashier 10. Molly/Polly Watts m. Hiram Biggerstaff

Book A digest of Orange County Will Books 1734-1838.

Barnett, John. Will made 1 Apr 1750, no recording date. Exrx. Wife Marran. Exrs. Sons James and Ambrose when of age, Son in law John Watts. Ch: Anne, James, John, Ambrose, Sarah (wife of John Watts). Estate Inv. Articles delivered Julius Christy who married Agatha Barnett, rec. 25 Aug 1757; articles for Henry White and Frances his wife from estate appraised rec. 27 Nov 1766; articles delived James Barnett rec 27 Nov 1766. Estate being given Ambrose Barnett he being married 23 Mar 1769.

In the *Louisville Herald Post* in the mid 1930's a genealogy column lists many families. Found is the Watts line, no information as to who submitted the genealogy. Watts - John Watts, who served in the seventh Virginia regiment, Revolutionary War, was born in Orange County, Virginia, about 1730, died in madison County, Kentucky, 1796; married in Orange County, Virginia, prior to 1759, Sarah, daughter of John Barnett, John Watts, in his will, names wife, Sarah, and the following children: Esther, who married Richard Sebree; Francis who married Josiah Quinn; Sarah, who married Mr. Richardson; Mildred, who married (1) Mr. Tomlinson and (2) Mr. Leathers; Betty, who married Joseph Vawter; Anne, who married (1) Mr. Mervey and (2) Mr. Milton; Agatha, who married (1) Benjamin Turner and (2) Levi Brashear; Mary, who married Hiram Biggerstaff; and Thomas m. (1) Francis Gaines (2) Drucilla Hamm, Julius, and Barnett Watts. Esther Watts and her husband, Richard Sebree, removed to Kentucky, where Richard died (Scott County) in 1835. He was born in Orange County, Virginia, March 29, 1752.

1741 John Watts Appointed to Survey 6000 Acres Land on Stanton River in Orange County,
Virginia {Virginia Magazine of History Volume 15, Page 120: Volume 16, Page 156.}

1749 John Watts Executor of Fathers Will {Culpeper County Will Book A Page 10}
1755 John Watts As a Solider in French Indian Wars {Henings Statutes Volume 7, pg. 207 & 210.

21 April 1763 John Watts Deeded Lands in Culpeper County, Virginia. Witness: Benjamine Cave in Culpeper County Order Book 1763 to 1764.

19 November 1763 John Watts Received Lands in Culpeper County, Virginia from his Brother Benjamine Watts {Culpeper County Order Book 1763 to 1764}

19 November 1781 John Watts paid for Beef that he furnished to the Colonial Army.

John Watts Culpeper Tax List:

1782.....200 Acres Land.....2 Slaves

1783.....200 Acres Land....12 Slaves....4 Horses...26 Cattle

1784.....200 Acres Land.....4 Slaves....3 Horses...15 Cattle

1785.....200 Acres Land.....3 Slaves....3 Horses...10 Cattle

1787.....200 Acres Land.....4 Slaves....3 Horses...10 Cattle Same Address Julius Watts

1789.....200 Acres Land.....4 Slaves....3 Horses...10 Cattle Same Address Barnett Watts

14 October 1787 John Watts & Wife Sarah Barnett Deeded 200 Acres of Land in Culpeper County, Virginia to son: Thomas Watts {Culpeper County Deed Book 10 Page 190}.

20 December 1790 John Watts Named in Brother Benjamine Watts Will: Proven December 20, 1790 {Culpeper County Will Book C Pages 394 & 395}.

14 January 1791 John Watts & Wife Sarah Barnett Deeded 200 Acres Land To William Watts & Thomas Watts Witnesses: James Watts, Hoard Watts, Merriam Turner. {Culpeper County Deed Book 7 Page 443}.

4 February 1796 Will of John Watts Probated: Madison County, Kentucky Will Book A Page 120.

I John Watts of Madison County, being in perfect sense of mind & Memory and as touching such worldly Estate as it hath pleased God to bless me with. I give & dispose of the same in manner & form Following:

I lend to my wife Sarah for & during the time of her continuing my widow and no longer: The track of land whereon I now live, containing 75 acres with all my other estate both real & personal but in case of wife Sarah should marry than I will desire she may have no more of my estate than what the law allows her.

Item: i will & desire the whole of my estate land, Negros stock & household furniture with all my movable estate be equally divided between my seven daughters, to Wit: Sebree, Frank Quinn, Mildred Tomlinson, Betty Vawter, Anna Merry, Agatha Turner & Molly Watts & their heirs forever, but if in any case my youngest daughter die before she have an heir, lawfully begotten of her body, her part to be equally divided between my other daughters & their heirs that survie.

I nominate and appoint Jessey Vawter & Richard Sebree & my Wife Sarah as Executors of this my last will & testament. John Watts Witnesses: John Geas with his Mark X, Stephen Eastin.

Children of Jesse and Elizabeth (Watts) Vawter, many of Jesse's descendants are found in *The Vawter Family in America* by Grace Vawter Bicknell, pub. 1905. The children and grandchildren of this line are very thoroughly researched in that book and are not listed herein:

1. John Vawter b. 8 Jan 1782 Orange (Culpeper) Co., VA d. 17 Aug 1862

m. (1) 17 Dec 1805 Polly Smith b. 30 Dec 1781 d. 19 Jul 1825

m. (2) Jane Smith (sister of Polly) d. 4 Oct 1826

m. (3) Ruth Minton b. Jan 1817 d. 2 Sep 1850 Jennings Co., IN

m. (4) 17 Oct 1850 Mrs. Martha (nee McGannon) Pearce b. 8 Mar 1822 d. 21 Jan 1892

National Archives, Seattle Branch, War 1812 Folder Index

John Vawter, Major in Col. McFarland's Det., Indiana militia.

John's tombstone in Morgantown, IN, the inscription written by himself:

With all his Titles.
Here lies the remains of
ELDER JOHN VAWTER
Born in old Virginia
Jan. 8 1782
Died Aug 17 1862

The effort of his long life as a Christain was to nourish and build up
The true Christian Church of the Original Apostolic foundation.
As a statesman he was a progressive Conservative, believing The state
Legislature held the great material Interest of the body politic in its
Hands; that the prosperity of the State In education, agriculture, internal
Improvements, mechanical arts, finance And commerce could be advanced by
Judicious, or retarded and cryped By unwise Legislation.

Colonel John Vawter John Vawter was born to Jesse and Elizabeth Watts Vawter in Orange County, Virginia in 1782. He lived in Virginia, North Carolina and Kentucky before moving to Madison, Indiana with his wife and child in 1807 where he built a house in the woods. He helped his father plant the first corn crop in Jefferson County, Indiana in 1806.

In 1808 he was the first Justice of the Peace in Madison. In 1810 he was the first Sheriff of Jefferson County. In 1813 he was commissioned U.S. Marshall for the Indiana Territory.

In 1815 he began to build the town of Vernon.

From 1817 - 1821 he was a Colonel of militia.

1817 he was solicited and licensed to preach in the Baptist church, as had been his father Jesse, his uncle Philemon Vawter and later his brother William Vawter.

In 1831 he was in the State Legislature lower house, and in 1836 the State Senate.

In 1848 he was Vice-president of the convention that nominated Zachary Taylor for President.

1849, he moved to Morgantown, Indiana. At that time he became the founder and first pastor of the Baptist Church. He gave the lot and bore the expense of construction of the brick church, costing about \$2000.

He died August 17, 1862 and was buried at Old Baptist Cemetery in Morgantown.

(Compiled by T.L. Bowen from Col. Vawter's "Account of John Vawter", April 13, 1850 and from secondary sources.) Morgan County, Indiana History & Genealogy Index

In the "Vawter Family in America" book John Vawter told the story of his coming to Kentucky. It has been included here to better understand the tremendous difficulties of our ancestors.

Quote: I have a recollection of the family moving to Kentucky in 1790 (GJNote: he would have been about 8 years old). My father was thrown from his horse with his rifle into Beaver creek on the first day's travel. We waited at Bean's Station for additional immigrants to meet and increase the safety of the company in their march through the wilderness. They did not come. While at the station we were greatly alarmed one night by some dow-drivers throwing a bundle of cane on the fire. It made a great noise while burning. We decided to move on through few in number. I remember that a raven for several days advanced ahead of us, alighting on the trees and keeping up a continual squawking; of crossing the Clinch River; the turning out of the horses to graze; the men

going across the river to fish, that I was swamped in attempting to go to them and came near being drowned; of father's horse, with a leather sack of shop tools on his back, trying a near way to get up a steep bank and falling back with the sack of tools into the valley below.

I remember well seeing many bones of individuals who had been killed by the Indians and their bodies buried so close to the surface that the wolves had dragged them out; of the Indian blinds, behind which they concealed themselves. These were made of bushes stuck in the ground. At the time we saw them the bushes were dry. I remember riding on one of the pack horses and carrying a large basket of provisions for many days to accommodate those who were hungry between meals; also of sister Fanny falling off of the animal on which mother rode; of the horse treading on her leg and bending it so much that, at first, it was thought to be broken, but it proved otherwise.

On the day's travel before reaching Crab Orchard, Uncle Achilles Stapp was so exhausted that he sat down at the root of a tree, determined to remain there alone, saying that if the Indians come, come they must, he could not and would not go any farther. Presently along came Molly Jackson, a cousin to my father, and gave the tired man a bottle of whiskey. He drank, and it so revived him that he traveled on with the rest. That night the most of the company reached Crab Orchard. All except mother lay down as if all danger was over. She armed herself with a small ax and kept watch, but in the morning all was safe. The next day we passed the old Miford Court House. At night we reached Joseph Delaney's where Richmond now is, in Madison County, Kentucky. The next day was rainy. We crossed the Kentucky river. One of the pack horses lay down in the river with Mother's feather beds. We passed through Lexington that same day and arrived, all tired out, at Achilles Stapp's about sundown on the 22nd of September 1790.

Children:

1a. Smith Vawter

Eliza Jane Terrell was born on 15 Jan 1810 in Louisville, KY. She died on 29 Sep 1834.

She was married to Smith VAWTER on 21 Apr 1829. Smith VAWTER died in 1881.

Col. Smith Vawter represented Jennings County in the State Legislature (Dicken, p.206).

Eliza Jane TERRELL and Smith VAWTER had the following children:

John Terrell VAWTER was born on 15 Jun 1830.

Hickman New VAWTER was born on 9 Jul 1832. He died on 9 May 1857.

2a. Emily Vawter

3a. Emma Vawter

Children of John and Ruth Minton Vawter

4a. Marion Vawter b. 30 Nov 1830 Vernon, Jennings Co., IN

5a. John Allan Vawter b. 9 May 1833 Vernon, Jennings Co., IN

6a. Mary Ann Vawter b. 6 Mar 1836 Vernon, Jennings Co., IN

2. William Vawter b. 2 Apr 1783 in Holston Country, near where NC, East TN and VA now join. He was the twin of James, d. 17 Jul 1868, aged 85 y 3m and 15d. at North

Vernon, Jennings Co., IN m. Frances Vawter b. 11 Aug 1787 and d. 26 Oct 1869. Both are buried at the Vawter cemetery, 3.5 m from North Vernon, IN. Frances parents were Philemon and Anna, brother of Jesse, who also are buried in the Vawter cemetery.

Children:

1b. Maria Vawter m. 16 Dec 1826 to Maxa Moncrief Burns. Maxa Moncrief Burns remarried after the death of Maria, probably sometime in 1849. His wife gave birth to a son in May/June 1850. William Vawter, father of Maria Vawter Burns, made this note on 1 July 1850: "Maxa Burns wife has a son about a month old this July the 1st, 1850." Maxa Burns died 17 March 1890 in Indianapolis.

Children: Jessee V Burns, James Burns, William V. Burns, Harrison Burns, Livingston Burns, David V. Burns, Mary F. Burns, Elizabeth Burns, and Sarah Burns.

M. M. Burns was a witness to the will of Jesse Vawter in Indiana

Item: My will and desire is that whatever may remain of mine at my death shall be equally divided among my children, to wit: John, William, James, Fanny, Polly, Sally, Julia, Achilles and Ann.

Item: I appoint and ordain my two sons, John and William, to be the executors of this my last will and testament.

Written with my own hand this 13th day of April 1832, Jesse Vawter

Acknowledged in presence of Thos. T. Stribling, M. M. Burns, Elias Stapp.

2b. Elizabeth Vawter

3b. John Taylor Vawter

4b. Williamson D. Vawter

5b. Jesse Vawter

6b. James Vawer

7b. Frances Vawter

8b. Achilles Vawter

9b. Mary L. Vawter

10b. Philemon Vawter

P.C. VAWTER Posted by Adina Dyer on Sun, 02 Apr 2000

Biographical Record and Portrait Album of Tippecanoe County, Indiana, pp. 416-417.

Lewis Publishing Company, Chicago, Illinois, 1888.

P. C. VAWTER, city civil engineer, of Lafayette, is a native of Indiana, born in Jennings County, November 7, 1830. His parents, WILLIAM and FRANCES VAWTER, were natives of Virginia, and when children were taken to Kentucky, where they were reared. In 1806 they emigrated to Jefferson County, Indiana, where in 1809 they were married, and in 1829 they removed to Jennings County. Settling in the Territory as they did ten years before the organization of the State government, they passed through many of the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life. The surrounding country was at that time but a wilderness, and Indians were numerous. The father was a farmer by occupation, and also a Baptist preacher. He was a captain of militia in his earlier days. He died in 1868, at an advanced age, his widow surviving until 1870.

P. C. VAWTER, whose name heads this sketch, was reared in Jennings County, remaining there until twenty-five years of age. He received good educational advantages in his youth, attending Franklin College four or five years, from which institution he graduated with honors in 1855. He came to Lafayette the same year and began teaching in the public schools, remaining here until 1858, when he returned to Jennings County. In 1863 he again left Jennings County and returned to Lafayette where he has since resided. He was united in marriage to MISS SYLVIA HUNTER in 1858, and they are the parents of two sons, named EVERETT B. and WILLIAM H.

MR. VAWTER has spent most of his years in surveying and civil engineering, and for seventeen years held the office of county surveyor. He was appointed city civil engineer in 1884, which office he has since filled to the entire satisfaction of all concerned.

3. James Vawter (twin of William) b. 2 Apr 1783 near Holston river in NC now East TN d. 25 Oct 1873 North Madison, IN m. Boone Co., KY marriage record shows James Vawter m. Sally Watts 21 Oct 1816. Her name was Sarah "Sally" Barnett Watts (first

cousin) daughter of Judge John and Sarah (Sebree) Watts. Sarah b. 26 Oct 1796 d. 1879, in the 83rd year of her age at the residence of her son Milton. Source: *Sebree Studies, Lineage of Charles Jenkins Sebree and Collateral Lines Traced to Colonial Virginia* by Willa I. Guss, 1984. (Note: a sister of Sarah Watts, Frances Ann Watts married Jesse Vawter, son of Philemon Vawter)

The Vernon Banner newspaper, Vernon, IN 29 Oct 1873. *Another Pioneer Gone*
Despatches to friends in Vernon, convey the mournful tidings of the death of Mr. James Vawter, of Pressburg, Jefferson County, last Saturday afternoon at 3 ½ o'clock. Deceased was the twin brother of Elder William Vawter who died in this county in July 1868. He was born near Holston river, North Carolina, on the 2nd day of April, 1783, and was consequently in the 91st year of his age. He removed with his father, from North Carolina to Kentucky, and thence, in the Spring of 1806, to Indiana - the father, Jesse Vawter, settling what is now known as the Weyer farm, at the top of the hill on Michigan road, to which he gave the euphonic title of "Mount Glad". James settled Mount Pleasant (now North Madison) and subsequently, his present farm at Pressburg, upon which he continued to reside up to the time of his final departure from earth; and as he was a consistent professor of religion - an exemplary member of the Baptist Church - doubtless is now an inhabitant of brighter realms above, "Where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest".

Children:

- 1c. John Watts Vawter
- 2c. Jesse Holman Vawter
- 3c. Frances Vawter
- 4c. Johnson Vawter
- 5c. Willaim C. Vawter
- 6c. Milton S. Vawter
- 7c. James S. Vawter
- 8c. Newton W. Vawter
- 9c. Fanny S. Vawter
- 10c. Susan E. Vawter
- 11c. Thomas S. Vawter

4. Frances Vawter b. 26 Feb 1785 VA or NC d. 8 Sep 1853 Elizabethtown, IN m. John Branham b. 27 Feb 1777 d. 20 Mar 1834. John Branham was the brother of Linsfield Branham who married Frances Vawter's sister Mary.

KY Reg. Edition May 1914 p 71 Marriage Bonds of Franklin Co., KY

1801 Jun 20. John Branham and Fanny Vawter, surety John Vawter, consent of Jesse and Elizabeth Vawter parents of Fanny Vawter.

4a. Uriah Branham b. 1 Feb 1805 d. 7 Sep 1865 m. 28 Dec 1826 to Alcey Davis b. 22 Sept 1807. Their daughter Elizabeth Branham b. 25 Aug 1829 d. 5 Dec 1891 m. Florence O'Conner b. 24 Feb 185 d. 2 Sep 1899, buried Ripley, Jennings, Co., IN

5. Mary Vawter b. 17 May 1787 VA or NC d. 12 May 1846 m. 11 Jun 1807 to Linsfield Branham b. 21 Mar 1784 d. 10 Sep 1825. Mary and her sister Frances married brothers John and Linsfield.

KY Reg. Jan 1915 p.85. Marriage Bonds of Franklin Co., KY

1807 June 4, Lindefield Branham & Polly Vawter surety Thos Stribbling

5a. Julia Ann Branham b. 2 Jul 1809 d. 11 Sep 1882 IN m. 21 Mar 1830 Jefferson Co., IN to Henry Webb b. 1792 d. 2 Nov 1868 Elizabethtown, IN. Source: Scott Webb email swebb@ti.com. Children: 1) Jesse (1/9/1831 - 11/2/1862) 2) Ruth 3) Mary 4) Howard 5) Benjamin 6) William 7) Mary??

6. Sarah Vawter b. 1 Jun 1789 d. 29 Jul 1871 m. 1 Dec 1806 to Thomas T. Stribling, the son of Benjamin and Ann (Tibbetts) Stribling. Thomas b. 4 Dec 1784 d. 21 Mar 1857 at his home at Honey Point, 5 m. from the mouth of Duck river, TN.

KY Reg. Jan 1915 p. 84 Marriage Bonds of Franklin Co., KY

1806 Nov 28 Thos. Stribling & Sally Vawter, surety John Vawter, consent of Jesse Vawter, father of Sally Vawter.

Claudia Tillman, PO Box 1151 Silverdale, WA 9838 states the wife of Benjamin was Ann Vawters not Ann Tibbetts, no proof is shown either way.

In the book "*Some Virginia Families*" by McAlhany (year unknown) p35. There was a Benjamin Stribling, who with his wife Ann Vawters had several children (Thomas T., George, Wilis and others) moved from Fauquier Co., VA to Scott Co., KY about 1775 and who has left numerous descendants in TN, IN and other states. This Benjamin and the last mentioned William were evidently brothers and perhaps sons of Francis or Benjamin Stribling, sons of the original Thomas Stribling.

Zeralda Emerine Dehoney m. 27 Nov 1834 to Pleasant Stribling b. 5 May 1811. Pleasant Stribling the son of Thomas Stribling and Sarah Vawter. Zeralda Dehoney the dau. of Willis Dehoney and Lydia Gatewood. Zeralda's dau. Emerine married Allen T. Corbett of Davison Co., TN.

6. Julia Vawter b. 20 Nov 1791 KY d. 10 May 1834 m. 16 Feb 1815 Jefferson Co., IN to Matthew Wise b. 28 May 1788 d. 1874. Mark Danielson email medaniel135 @ msn.com has added additional information on this family, only Elizabeth is mentioned in the book VVV Family in America.

7a. Copeland A. Wise b. 28 Mar 1816 (likely Jefferson Co., IN) d. 8 Aug 1892 Jefferson Co., IN bur. At Fairmount Cemetery, Madison, IN. m. Hulda Jane Hall. Ran a stock trading business in Louisville, KY. One known child Jennie Wise m. 17 Mar 1860 in Cleveland, OH to Charles E. Hunter. Jennie d. 29 Jan 1939, Cleveland, OH

7b. Elizabeth V. Wise, b. Sept. 15, 1818 in Madison, IN d. 6 Apr 1888 Jefferson Co., IN m. 5 Feb 1839 to Charles M. Rodgers b. 22 Dec 1814 PA d. 5 Jan 1852 Jefferson Co., IN. Six children were born. Elizabeth is buried beside daughter Alice and husband Charles at the family plot outside Wirt, IN (The Rodgers-Fox Farm Cemetery transcribed on Jefferson County INGenWeb site)

7c. Prudence Wise b. 7 Feb 1826 d. 17 July 1892, buried at Fairmount Cemetery, Madison, IN

7d. Mary/Patsy Wise b. ca 1825 m. 13 Oct 1850 to William Kessick Jefferson Co., IN

8. Achilles Vawter b. 21 Feb 1794 KY d. 18 Mar 1862 Vernon, IN m. 14 Aug 1814 to Martha Smith b. 13 Apr 1798.

National Archives, Seattle Branch, War 1812 Folder Index

Achilles Vawter, 8th reg. (April -June 1812) Indiana militia, Private.

From State Library of In, executive proceedings under the government of the State of Indiana.

28 Jan 1817 Achilles Vawter commd to sheriff of Jennings Co

24 Feb 1817 John Vawter commd clerk and recorder for Jennings Co
10 Sep 1817 a writ of election issue directed to the sheriff of Jennings for clerk and recorder. John Vawter had resigned these offices. Since 1813 had held the Federal office of Marshall of Indiana, his reappointment was recommended by the President 4 Mar 1817 and approved the next day
9 Sep 1817 Morris Baker connd sheriff for Jennings succeeding Achilles vawter who resigned 5 Jun 1817
3 Nov 1817 Vic John Vawter resigned
1 Aug 1818 John Vawter commd Colonel 21 Regiment
27 Nov 1818 John Vawter commd Trustee of public seminary for Jennings Co
25 Dec 1818 Achilles Vawter commd JP for Jenning Co
30 July 1823 John Burns commd to JP Jennings Co succeeded Achilles Vawter resigned
11 Oct 1824 Bolar Vawter commd JP County of Jackson
22 July 1824 Achilles Vawter appointed sheriff of Jennings
10 Oct 1824 Achilles Vater JP Jennings Co.
12 Aug 1834 Smith Vawter commd Sheriff of 2 years from 4th inst.
18 Dec 1831 Patrick Hudson commd JP Hudson was eletcted vice Achilles Vawter resigned
8 Aug 1835 Achilles Vawter Jennings Co. probate Judge

8a. Julia Vawter b. 4 Feb 1817 d. Vernon, IN m. Mr. Bramwell, had several children all of whom died in Vernon, IN. Mr. Bramwell left for Oregon.

8b. Polly Ann Vawter b. 22 Jan 1819 m. Mr. Thrallkill. Both d. soon after marriage left no children.

8c. William Jennings Vawter b. 3 Nov 1820 d. 9 May 1846 unmarried

8d. David G. Vawter b. 1824 d. 24 May 1884 IN m. 1854 to Eliza M. Todd. One daughter Carrie Vawter b. 1856

Johnson County Courthouse, IN. Box 18. 3 Mar 1870, David G. Vawter, guardian of Edgar A. Vawter and Lillian Vawter, heirs of James H. Vawter and signed and witnessed by David G. Vawter and John S. Vawter.

Edgar age 12 in May of 1869, born 1857

Lillian age 9 in 2 Jun 1870, born 1861.

Amount of legacy situated in Minnesota Co., Missouri, valued at \$1500.

8e. Henry Vawter b. 22 Aug 1826 d. 3 Feb 1892 m. (1) 17 Apr 1848 to Jane Leach and m. (2) 12 Sep 1876 to Mrs. Mary Nodler d. Jan 1898.

8f. James Vawter m. (1) Eliza Goodhue m. (2) Nancy Johnson
Ripley Co., Indiana Original Land Purchases
James Vawter page 23 Book 1- 22 Aug 1818

James Vawter is noted as a taxpayer in Clark Co., IN later became Jefferson Co., IN (no date). Also in the same place and time is Jesse Vawter and John Vawter.

8g. Catherine Vawter b. 17 Nov 1828 Vernon, IN d. 11 Nov 1878 m. 22 Mar 1843 to Hiram Read b. 14 Feb 1824 Jennings Co., IN d. 20 Apr 1900 IN

8h. Jane Vawter d. single

9. Ann Vawter b. 27 Sep 1797 in Franklin Co., KY d. 8 Apr 1887 at the home of her dau. Mrs. Amsden, in Jefferson Co., IN m. 27 Jan 1820 to Abner Moncrief b. 23 Aug 1797 Nicholas Co., KY. d. 28 Jun 1873 Pressburg, IN.

Philemon Vawter⁴, (David³, John², Bartholomew¹)

Philemon Vawter, son of David Vawter and Mary Offill/Offott was b. 16 Oct 1762 Culpeper Co., VA d. 15 Apr 1814 buried Madison, IN. Later his body was removed to the Vawter-Summerfield cemetery, Jennings Co., IN. This cemetery is located near the home of William Vawter, about three miles from Vernon, IN. The inscription reads *15 Apr 1814 aged 52 y 6m 15d. In early life he made a profession of the religion of Jesus Christ and adorned that profession during life. He left a widow 5 sons and 4 daughters with many other relations and acquaintances to mourn his loss.*

He was m. ca 1779 to (first cousin) Anne (Anna) Vawter dau/of Richard & Frances (Towles) Vawter. Richard was the brother of David Vawter. Anne was b. 14 Nov 1758 d. 21 Jul 1845 and is bur. Vawter-Summerfield Cem. near North Vernon, IN.

Soon after their marriage they migrated to KY near Woodford Co. In 1795, they located to the banks of the Ohio river in Boone Co., KY, then to Trimble Co. opposite Madison, IN. They moved to IN in 1808. Philemon was a farmer, chair maker, maker of spinning wheels and a Baptist minister.

After the death of Philemon, Anne moved to her daughter Frances home. On a visit on 2 Jun 1839 to a friends home she fell down a cellar and was badly injured. During the recovery of this fall, she fell again and broke her hip. She was bedridden for the next six years until her death. In order to return to her daughter Nancy Lewis's house, the family devised a wagon with springs in the back bed with a bed on top to transport her to the train. After leaving the train another wagon with switches piled high with a bed on top was sent to take her home. A granddaughter, Frances (Vawter) King cared for her during her final years.

A thorough history of Philemon and Anne are found in *The Vawter Family in America* by Grace Vawter Bicknell, pub. 1905, Hollenbeck Press, Indianapolis. The early Vawters have many errors but the history of Philemon is very complete. The majority of information is taken from the book on this family line.

Children of Philemon and Anne (Vawter) Vawter:

1. Richard Vawter b. 19 Sep 1780 prob. Culpeper Co., VA m. 25 Jul 1802 to Sarah Snelling of Fredericksburg, VA b. 22 Jun 1781 d. ca 1851. Richard Vawter was thrown from his buggy by a frightened horse and fell over a ledge of rocks on Main street, Lexington, KY, in 1847 and died a few days later. In the records of Fayette Co., KY it appears that Richard Vawter of Scott Co., KY bought a lot in Lexington, KY on Water street in 1814, another in 1820 and another in 1821. In 1858 John B. Payne, commissioner of Fayette Co., sold a tract of land on Water street in Lexington to settle the estate of Richard Vawter.

Scott Co., KY Census 1810 Microfilm # M252-8 Enumerator John T. Johnson
185a # 7 VAWTER Richard

Book- *KY Obituaries 1786-1854 From the Lexington Report of Nov. 28.*

Richard Vawter d. Nov 26, 1841 at an advanced age.

This could be 1847 and printed wrong in the book, the Vawter book by Bicknell indicates public records are found until 1846. Most likely this is the same Richard and 1847 is correct, but original records would need to be checked.

Children of Richard and Sarah (Snelling) Vawter:

- a. Jesse Vawter b. 1 May 1803 died young
- b. Anne/Anna Vawter b. 1 May 1804 m. 13 May 1833 Fayette Co., KY to James Smith, a widower with 2 sons. She had 2 daughters by James. (mar. rec. Fayette Co., KY)
- c. Nancy Vawter b. 10 Mar 1806 Woodford or Fayette Co., KY d. 10 Oct 1838. m. 18 May 1826 John W. Smith. Marriage record of Fayette Co., KY.
- d. John S. Vawter b. 24 May 1808 Lexington, KY d. 20 Jan 1843 Bartholomew Co., IN m. Emily Coopriider. He was a Christian minister. He lived at Thornton and Indianapolis, IN and died of consumption. One known daughter Esther Ann Vawter.
- e. Elizabeth Vawter b. 10 Sep 1810 Lexington, KY d. 6 Apr 1867 Lexington, KY m. 1 May 1828 Lexington to Edward Harris b. 25 Mar 1807 NY d. 4 Apr 1883 Danville, KY.
- f. Frances Alpha Vawter b. 13 Feb 1813 d. 16 Aug 1835 KY m. 30 Oct 1831 Fayette Co., KY (mar. rec. of Fayette Co.) to Joseph Mosley of Manchester England. After her death the daughter Annie b. Apr 1833 lived with Grandparents. Joseph Mosley, who was much older than Frances, went to South America and d. in 1845.
- g. Melita Vawter b. 16 Apr 1815 Lexington, KY d. 25 Apr 1844 (in childbirth) Lexington, KY m. 2 Aug 1832 to Sanford McDaniels. One child, James McDaniels. Sanford left and went to IL. Melita's niece Annie Moseley writes in 1928 "I have often heard grandmother speak of her and what a beautiful woman she was. Her father named her for the island on which the Apostle Paul was cast. She lived next to grandfather's home."
- h. Jannette Vawter b. 13 Jun 1818 Lexington, KY d. ca 1833
- i. Amanda Vawter b. 8 Aug 1820 Lexington, KY d. 25 Oct 1842 m. George W. Vaughn on 15 July 1837. Marriage record Fayette Co., KY states: father Richard. Children Amanda Frances Vaughn who lived with grandparents and Richard Vawter Vaughn m. 8 Aug 1893 to Hanna Kipfer.
- j. Milton Vawter b. 20 Apr 1822 Lexington, KY.

2. Elliot Vawter b. 5 Jul 1782 Culpeper Co., VA d. 28 Mar 1863 Graves Co., KY m. 11 Oct 1804 Todd Co., VA to Anna Gray b. 3 Apr 1783 Nelson Co., KY d. 26 Jul 1856 Todd Co., KY. He was a farmer on Spring Creek, Todd Co., KY.

Smaxwell@doitnow.com sends the parents of Anna, Drakeford Gray and Jemima Gladden

1840 Todd Co., KY, tax poll

Vawter, Elliott, 107 ½ Todd, Spring Creek, 1070

1850 Census Todd Co., KY, pg 218a, family # 219

Elliot Vawter age 68 b. VA M. Farmer land Value \$1100

Ann Vawter age 67 b. KY

Lucinda Vawter age 33 b. KY
John Holms age 33 b. KY Farmer
Harry Holms age 4 b. KY
Charles Holms age 3 b. KY
Nancy Holms age 4/12 b. KY
James Carver age 13 b. KY

- a. Frances Vawter b. 26 Jul 1805 Gallatin Co., KY, died young,
- b. Presley G. Vawter b. 21 Jun 1807 Gallatin Co., KY d. 28 Jan 1889 McCune,

KS

m. (1) 4 Oct 1831 Todd Co., KY to Elenor Floyd b. 11 Nov 1812 d. 4 Jun 1844. Resided in Bond Co., IL from ca 1840 -ca 1860. Children: Elizabeth A. Vawter (Bond Co., IL mar. record Book A p.1817 20 Dec 1853 to Jefferson Fruit), Nancy E. Vawter, John E. Vawter.

m. (2) 11 Apr 1849 to Margaret Y. McAdams b. 8 Mar 1818 d. 4 Jun 1863. Children: Ophelia G. Vawter, Charles A. Vawter and Margaret Luella Vawter.

m. (3) 2 Mar 1864 to Sarah E. Hamilton b. 14 Oct 1831 TN Children: Philip S. Vawter, Sarah Belle Vawter, Presley G. Vawter and William W. Vawter.

History of Bond & Montgomery Counties IL 1882, transcribed by Norman Hass p. 14 Greeneville precinct. Charles W. Floyd, farmer native of Todd Co., KY b. 1822 res. of KY until 1833 then moved to Bond Co., IL, wife Betsy Johnson, native of IL. Ten children, inc. Ella who married P. G. Vowter. Charles Floyd d. 1846, wife Betsy d. 1877. He served War of 1812.

- c. Jephtha Dudley Vawter b. 18 Jul 1809 Todd Co., KY d. 13 Oct 1894 Topeka, KS

m. (1) 14 Jun 1832 to Sarah Modised Foster b. 9 Jun 1815 d. 18 Dec 1883 Shawnee, KS. Children: John Washington Vawter, Benjamin Franklin Vawter b. 10 Feb, 1835 married 29 September 1856 Mary E. Bright. (dau. Bethena b. 16 Dec 1857 m. Joseph Robinson, Auburn, KS. Child: Arthur, Earl, and Leonard), Mary Ann Vawter, Henry Clar Vawter, Lucinda Caroline Vawter, Louise Ellen Vawter, Nancy Tandy Vawter, Martha Celestia Vawter, James Elliott Vawter, Sarah Jane Vawter, Harriet Elizabeth Vawter, Sabrina Katherine Vawter and William Jephtha Vawter.

1840 Todd Co., KY, tax poll

Vawter, J. D. 118, Todd, Spring Creek, 1180

m. (2) 25 Jul 1884 to Louisa K. Miller b. 13 Dec 1850 Absecon, NY. One child: Clarence Dudley Vawter. Louisa m. (2) to Mr. Mills in Topeka, KS

- d. Dudley Vawter b. 18 May 1812 Todd Co., KY. young

e. Sabrina Vawter b. 9 Jan 1815 Todd Co., KY d. 18 Aug 1881 m. Jun 1830 to Lewis Tutt b. 1804 Halifax, VA d. 4 Mar 1874. Son of James Lewis F. Tutt and Lucy Finks.

Children: Charles L. Tutt, George Washinton Tutt, John Presley Tutt, David Vawter Tutt, James Elliott Tutt, Sarah Catherine Tutt, Henry Day Tutt, Lucy Annie Virginia Tutt, Mary Ellen Tutt, Benjamin F. Tutt, Meredith D. Tutt, Wyatt Tutt, Thomas Tutt, Jephtha Tutt and Jephtha and Jesse (twins) Tutt.

f. Lucinda Vawter b. 28 Jul 1817 Todd Co., KY d. 28 Nov 1884 Grave Co., KY m. after 1850 KY to John W. Holmes b. 27 Dec 1818 Maysville, KY d. 7 May 1894 Grave Co., KY. John m. (1) 1 Jan 1843 Todd Co., KY to unknown female. Children of John Holmes and first wife: John Elliott Holmes, Henry Clay Holmes, Charles Holmes and Nancy Katherine Holmes b. 10 Nov 1849. (birth date sent by Becky Dunn Byars email famhnr@stc.net) Children of John and Lucinda are Jephtha Burnley Holmes, Presley Dudley Holmes, Lucinda Caroline Holmes and George W. Holmes.

1850 Census Todd Co., KY, pg 218a, family # 219
Elliot Vawter age 68 b. VA M. Farmer land Value \$1100
Ann Vawter age 67 b. KY
Lucinda Vawter age 33 b. KY
John Holms age 33 b. KY Farmer
Harry Holms age 4 b. KY
Charles Holms age 3 b. KY
Nancy Holms age 4/12 b. KY
James Carver age 13 b. KY (unknown family connection)

g. John Gray Vawter b. 1819 Todd Co., KY d. 9 May 1877 m. 6 Feb 1851 to Elizabeth Stewart b. 31 May 1825 Edinburg, Scotland. Children: Cornelius Lansing Vawter, Jane Vawter, Alexander Stewart Vawter and Elliott Gray (twins) Vawter, John Gray Vawter, Jr., Anna Elizabeth Vawter and Benjamin Stewart Vawter.

h. Catherine Vawter b. 31 May 1822 Todd Co., KY d. 27 Oct 1900 Guthrie, KY m. 3 Nov 1841 Bond Co., IL to Spottswood K. Smith b. 14 Dec 1800 d. 9 Oct 1894. Children: Eliza B. Smith, Martha A. Smith, John V. Smith, Burnley Duke Smith, Spottswood G. Smith, L. E. Smith, and Mollie W. Smith. (Bond Co. IL BK A p. 141 mar. record)

i. Nancy Vawter b. 10 Aug 1825 Todd Co., KY d. 28 Jun 1899 Pleasant Plain, IA m. 21 Sep 1847 to James Gatlin b. 5 Aug 1817 d. 22 Jul 1897. James Gatlin m. (1) to Virginia Smith and had children: Eliza J. Gatlin, Francis Marion Gatlin. Nancy Vawter and James Gatlin had children: Virginia A. Gatlin, Sarah S. Gatlin, Kate L. Gatlin, Nancy Elliott Gatlin, Sina E. Gatlin, Jephtha D. Gatlin, Margaret M. Gatlin, Mary C. Gatlin and Emma J. Gatlin.

Marriage records of Tazewell Co., IL

James Gatlin and Virginia Ann Smith, 11 Oct 1842, Tazewell County, Illinois

James Gatlin and Nancy Vawter, 21 Sep 1847, Tazewell County, Illinois

The biographical sketch of James Gatlin in Portrait and Biographical Album of Jefferson and Van Buren Counties, Iowa says that James and Nancy were married in Kentucky but that is incorrect.

3. Frances Vawter b. 11 Aug 1787 d. 26 Oct 1869 Bur. Vawter-Summerfield Cem., Jennings Co., IN m. 7 Jan 1809 Gallatin Co., KY, first cousin, William Vawter b. 2 Apr 1783 Holston River area, NC d. 17 Jul 1868 Jennings Co., IN. Marriage Record of Gallatin Co., KY shows Willaim Vawter and Franky Wavter 7 Jan 1809. William was the son of Jesse Vawter. *The Vernon Banner*, Vernon IN 28 Oct 1869, Thursday. "Died - On the 25 inst., Mrs. Frances Vawter, generally known as 'Aunt Frankey', at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Frances King - age 82 years. Funeral services were conducted by the Rev. Thomas Hill, on Tuesday the 26th inst." In the *Hoosier Journal of Ancestry*, Jefferson Co., IN Deed Records: Kendall, Yelly & Amy of Gallatin C. KY to William Vawter of Jefferson Co. (20) 29 Aug 1813. 55 acres on Crooked Creek part of 34-4-10. Children: Maria, Elizabeth, John T., Williamson, Jesse, James, Frances, Mary and Philemon Vawter. (see William4 file)

4. Nancy Ann Vawter b. ca 1793 d. 2 Apr 1855 m. 22 Jun 1815 Jefferson Co., IN to Alexander Lewis. Children David Vawter Lewis b. 9 Nov 1816 Jennings Co., IN d. 1898 Barnard, KS., Anna Lewis, Charles Lewis, and Martha Lewis.

5. Jesse Vawter b. 16 Aug 1784 Holston river near where three states, VA, NC and TN now join. d. ca 1832 Oldham Co., KY m. 29 Jan 1807 Franklin Co., KY to Frances Ann Watts. They lived in Oldham Co., KY. Marriage Record: found in the *KY Registor State Historical Society* publication Jan 1915 p. 85. 1807 Jesse Vawter & Fanny Watts consent John Watts father, Bondsman D. T. Elliston, Franklin Co., KY.

KY Historical Registor Vol. 18 (pub. 1920) p. 59, 1810 census Versailles, Woodford Co., KY, Jesse Vawter 4 in family.
1830 Census Index, Oldham Co Ky, Jesse Vawter pg. 289

There is also a marriage license found Franklin Co., KY for Jesse Vawter and (unknown) 1 Feb 1804. Jesse may have had a first wife who died.

Children:

a. David Jamieson Vawter b. 29 Jun 1809 KY d. 9 Jun 1893 Arkansas City, KS Genealogical Abstracts Revolutionary War Scrip Act 1852, by Margie G. Brown, pr. Anundsen Publishing Co., Decorah, IA. p. 213

" Application: 841,902 WILLIAM WHITE Captain, Continental Line Louisa Co, VA Court 12 Oct. 1824, 18 Sep 1824, 4 Sep 1824 Trimble Co, KY Court 10 Mar 1849 Green Co, Ky Court 1855.

[sister and heir of veteran] 8. Nancy(2) White d. bef 1849 m Thomas Higgason, Trimble Co, KY.

Issue:

2. Malinda Ann(3) Higgason b 1811 d bef 1849 m David J. Vawter b 1811 d bef 1850

Issue:

1. William(4) Vawter

2. Mary(4) R. Vawter "

(GJNote: some of these dates are in error from additional research now found)

Louella McDonald Bernhardt E-Mail hermlou@worldnet.att.net sent this: Nancy Ann White born in abt 1765 in Va. married Thomas Higgason in Louisa Co., Va on September 11, 1786 died in Shelby Co Ky. Their children were
Pally Higgason m Ebenezer Depuy
Melissa Ann Higgason m DJ Vawter
Suprey Higgason m Lucy Sandidge
Thomas C Higgason
William B Higgason m Sarah Ann

1830 CENSUS RECORD - Oldham Co, KY (Note: the transcriber does not show the ages on this census)
40 263 Matthews William 221 11 1
40 263 Vaulers David 1 1 1

1830 Census Index
Vawter, Jesse, Oldham Co., KY West port page 289
1840 Census Index
Vawter, D. J., Henry Co., KY W. Division page 295
1850 Trimble Co., KY Census family #181
David J. Vaughters age 39 woolcarder b. KY
Alphins (Alpheus) age 10 male b. KY
Thomas Townsend age 18 woolcarder b. KY

1860 Census Index
Vawter, D. J. Trimble Co., KY, Milton page 319
Vawter, John T., Trimble Co., KY, Bedford page 246

m. (1) 27 Mar 1828 Shelby Co., KY to Malinda Ann Higgason (this name is also seen as Ann Hickinson) There is a marriage record of Shelby Co., KY for D. J. Vawter m. M. A. Higgason 27 Mar 1828.

- 1a. Mary R. Vawter b. ca 1829-30
- 2a. William Vawter b. 11 Jun 1831 Oldham Co., KY

m. (2) 3 Jun 1836 to Elizabeth Ann Waters b. Henry Co., KY d. 1848 (mar. record Henry Co. KY)

3a. Julia A. Vawter b. 2 Dec 1838 Campbellsberg, KY m. 1857 Carroll Co., KY to Thomas H. Riggs b. 1 Aug 1836 Wilmington, Dearborn Co., IN. Marriage records book 2 page 45, Carroll Co., KY records of 1838-1920. 1900 Jefferson Co., (Louisville) Census shows Thomas (a cooper) & Julia RIGGS living at 2308 Fourth St, with three of their children, George(worked in distillery), Arline (stenographer) & Emmet (railroad worker) RIGGS and two of their grandchildren, Charles Edmond & his sister, Viola Riggs.

- 4a. Alpheus Vawter a soldier in Confederate under Gen. Jno. H. Morgan killed at Mt. Sterling, KY.
- 5a. Jesse Vawter died young,
- 6a. John Wesley Vawter b. 10 Mar 1844

7a. Jamieson Waters Vawter d. infancy

m. (3) 30 Oct 1850 KY to Susan Berilla Conner b. 19 Mar 1834 Trimble Co., KY d. 16 Jan 1922 Alhembia, CA . Parents of Susan Berilla Conner are Terrence Conner and Susan King.

8a. Virginia Vawter b. 17 Mar 1853

9a. Jamieson Vawter b. 18 Sep 1856

10a. Milton Beauregard Vawter b. 8 Sep 1858

11a. Jefferson Davis Vawter b. 10 May 1861 (had son Richard Vawter).

b. John F. Vawter m. 25 May 1840 Mary E. Nichols . John lived in Milton, KY. Marriage record of Henry Co., KY shows Mary E. Nicholas. Children John Vawter, Wallace Vawter, Mary Vawter, Fanny Vawter, Harriet Vawter, Milly Vawter and Drucilla Vawter.

Henry County, KY - Newspapers: Carrollton Democrat, Miscellaneous, November 14, 1885 Page 5 Column 2 John Vawter Killed Lucian Evans.

On Tuesday, at Turners Station Lucian Evans was shot and killed by John Vawter. Of course, Evans was a bad man, in a certain sense, but he has a large number of influential friends, embracing some of the best citizens of the county. It will be remembered that when they had a difficulty over a year ago these same friends were severe against Vawter, asserting that he was the worst man of the two. Evans was harmless when sober. Vawter has many friends. The only particulars we have of the killing is the following dispatch to the Courier-Journal of Friday:

"News reached this place by telephone this morning that a shooting affair had taken place at Turner's Station, in Henry County, in which Lucian Evans was shot and instantly killed by John Vawter. A little over a year ago Evans and Vawter had a difficulty at a hotel at Turner's Station, in which Vawter was cut and shot by Evans, who was afterward tried in Circuit Court and sentenced to the penitentiary for one year. Evans at that time made a threat that he would kill John Vawter as soon as his term expired. He was released only a short time since, and when he met Vawter, who was accompanied by his little child, he (Evans) drew his revolver and fired two shots at Vawter without effect. Whereupon Vawter drew his revolver and fired, and the ball taking effect in the region of Evans' heart, killing him instantly. No examining trial has been held as yet. November 24, 1885, Page 1 Column 2 After the shooting of Lucien Evans last week J. W. Vawter surrendered at once to the officers. His examining trial was held Saturday, and as the killing was clearly in self-defense he was acquitted.

c. William H. Vawter m. Mary Ravenell of Bedford, KY. Children Alexander Vawter, Prospey Vawter, Absalom Vawter, Mary Vawter, Annie Vawter, Carrie Vawter and Jessie Vawter.

1850 Timble Co., KY Census

W. Vaughter age 27 woolcarder b. KY

Mary age 23 b. KY

Alex age 3 b. KY

Henry age 9 months b. KY

The three oldest brothers operated during the Civil War as found in The Papers of Court Judge 1862 Trimble County, Kentucky by William Chacellor Morgan

William H. Vawter, owner of a Carding machine Business in Bedford, KY

D. J. Vawter, owner of a Carding Machine Business in Milton, KY

John F. Varoter, owner of a Carding Marchine Business in Palmyra, KY

d. Absalom G. Vawter b. ca 1813 d. bet. 1850-1860 KY lived in Bardstown, KY
m. 12 Sep 1833 to Ann Caroline McGill.

Nelson Co., KY marriage records - 12 Sep 1833
Vawter, Absalom to McGill, Ann Caroline (mother Elizabeth McGill gives consent)

1850 Census Hancock Co., KY family #267/279
Vanter Absolom G. 37 M Merchant 400 Ind
Vanter Ann C. 26 F Ky (GJNote: likely she is 35/36)
White, Mary age 13 b. Ireland
McGill, George age 11 m. b. KY

1860 Hancock Co., KY Federal Census #79
Ann C. Vawter 45 b. Ky Value \$1300 \$5000
George Mc Gill age 21 Merchant b. KY
Elizabeth McGill age 64 b. Maryland

e. Adaline Vawter m. 14 Dec 183(?) to William G. Nichols. No issue. Marriage record Henry Co., KY

f. Nancy Vawter m. (1) Mr. Hayden, Children Mary and Isaiah Hayden. m. (2) William Swiney, they went to the Indian Territory before the Civil War. Her mother joined her there.

g. Mary Vawter. Family info states possibly unmarried, but the following is found: Oldham Co., KY Mary Ann Vawter to William Sage m. 5 Apr 1832.

h. Elizabeth Vawter m. a Mr. Glover had one child, went to MO in 1848

Additional Children of this line unproven but location and names are association. The Nichols/Nicholas family of William G., Mary E. and William E. all married into this line. Frances Vawter m. 16 May 1839 to William K. Nicholls

Located also in Henry Co., Lucy is not proven yet but no other family fits with this line. Lucy may be a widow of a Vaughter, or a daughter, the name of Crinse is unknown as a maiden name or married name in this material. The Waldens are connected to the Vawter lines.

Henry Co., KY

Vaughter, Lucy Crinse Bush, Squire 18 Dec 1832

1840 Census Record - Oldham Co., KY
121 152 Walden, Richards 2211 1 1

1850 Oldham Co., KY Census (Note: Oldham was formed in 1823 from Henry, Shelby and Jefferson Counties of KY)

216 227 127 Bush Squire 39 Kentucky
216 227 127 Bush Lucy 39 Kentucky
216 227 127 Bush Hester G 16 Kentucky
216 227 127 Bush Nancy 15 Kentucky
216 227 127 Bush Emily 12 Kentucky
216 227 127 Bush Winton ? 9 Kentucky

216 227 127 Bush Wesley 8 Kentucky
 216 227 127 Bush David 5 Kentucky
 216 227 127 Walden Richard 60 Kentucky
 (skip four houses)
 216 228 132 Lut William 26 Kentucky
 216 228 132 Lut Nancy A 26 Kentucky
 216 228 132 Lut Phoebe A 6 Kentucky
 216 228 132 Lut Elvin 3 Kentucky
 216 228 132 Lut Adaline 1 Kentucky
 216 228 132 Waldun Joel G 19 Kentucky
 216 228 132 Waldun Bland B 14 Kentucky
 (skip 2 houses)
 216 228 134 Pemberton Thomas 58 Virginia (GJNote: involved with the Vawters in VA)
 216 228 134 Pemberton Catherine 36 Maryland
 216 228 134 Pemberton Lucinda 22 Kentucky
 216 228 134 Pemberton Lucy A 19 Kentucky
 216 228 134 Pemberton Sarah 16 Kentucky
 216 228 134 Pemberton Catherine 14 Kentucky
 216 228 134 Pemberton Alexander R 13 Kentucky
 216 228 134 Pemberton S C 9 Kentucky
 216 228 134 Pemberton Arreta (f) 7 Kentucky

REVOLUTIONARY WAR BOUNTY RECIPIENTS - PART 3 For KY, IN, OH,
 CAPTAINS: Captain normally received 4,666 acres. CAPTAINS - CONTINUED Carter
 Page, Thomas Parker, William Parsons, Thomas Patterson, Tarlton Payne, Thomas
 Payne, Thomas Pemberton.....

6. Beverly Vawter b. 28 Sep 1789 d. 1 Jan/Apr 1872 m. 5 Mar 1812 Jefferson Co., IN to
 Elizabeth Crawford b. 29 Mar 1792 Jared Co., KY d. 29 Jan 1866. His history can be
 found in *Biographical Sketches of the Pioneer Preachers of Indiana*, by Madison Evans,
 A. M. pub. Philadelphia by J. Challen & Sons.

Elizabeth Crawford's parents were Rebecca Anderson b. ca 1763 m. (1) Ruste John
 Maxwell and m. (2) James Crawford. Elizabeth was the sister of James Crawford who
 married Beverly's sister Lucy Vawter. Rebecca Anderson's parents were John Anderson
 b. NY d. ca 1796 Madison Co., KY and wife Anne Irvine b. VA
 National Archives, Seattle Branch, War 1812 Folder Index.

Beverly Vawter, 8th Reg (April - Jun 1812) Indiana militia, Private.

Children:

a. Pascal Vawter b. 6 Jan 1813 Madison, IN d. 26 Jan 1899 m. 1 Apr 1834
 Montgomery Co., KY to Eliza Mavity b. 7 May 1813 Montgomery Co., KY d. 11 Aug
 1904 Medaryville, IN. Dau. of John Mavity and Dorothea Reel/Rhaale. Children: Mary
 Ann, John Beverly, Samantha Jane, Aureanna Lee, Ailsee Eliza "Alecy", Dothan,
 Charles Publius (or Publius Charles) and James Mavity Vawter.

John Beverly Vawter a son of Pascal as noted in William Snyder Vawter's research of the
 1920's. "He was a member of the 4th KY Vol. Mtd. Inf and was captured in an early
 attempt to destroy railroads between Atlanta and the sea, and was held in the
 Andersonville prison for nine months, or until the close of the war. He was a graduate of

KY Univ. Bible School, was a Christian minister, and was 18 years general secretary of the IA Christian Assn. He wrote a number of books, one being 'Prison Life in Dixie'." In the Shelby Cem. Ripley Co., IN near Versailles is located the graves of James Mavity and wife, and is the brother of Eliza.

MAVITY, Keziah ~ 23JAN1863 w/o James Mavity age 59y 5m 8d

MAVITY, James 18SEP1808 7OCT1872

b. Lucinda Vawter b. 30 Sep 1814 Jefferson Co., IN d. 30 Aug 1845 m. Thomas Blair d. Jul 1881 Versailles, IN. One child, Elizabeth V. Blair who lived with grandparents

c. Rebecca Vawter died young

d. Melinda Vawter b. 1817 d. as child

e. Philemon Vawter b. 22 Jun 1819 d. 2 Oct 1894 m. Martha A. Humphreys of Woodford Co., KY Children Humphreys Vawter, Hettie Hawes Vawter, Sarah Beverly Vawter and Robert Crawford Vawter.

f. James Crawford Vawter b. 22 Jun, 1825, in Madison, Indiana died in Jasper Co., IL 27 Feb. 1894 m. 26 Oct 1848 to Mary Crawford Elder, alive 1905 Jasper Co., IL. He was assistant Postmaster of Bogota, IL and was one of the honored pioneers of Jasper County.

Children: Sarah b. 1850, Anna b. 1852, William died young, Cyrus Beverly b. 1853, James Marshall b. 1858, Xlema b. 1861, Albert Grant b. 1864, Rouie died young, and Henry Oliver Vawter b. 1869. Sent by Melba Ashburn email mashburn@lewiston.com granddaughter of Cyrus Beverly Vawter.

Noted in Bicknell's book *The Vawter Family in America*:page 391

"James, son of Beverly and Elizabeth (Crawford) Vawter, married Mary Elder; died Feb 27, 1894 at Bogota, IL. They had no children. His wife lives at Wakefield, Jasper County, IL."

Book - *Settlers of Jasper Co., IL and dates of settlement as reported by the Newton Press on 26 Oct 1887.* Lists of settlers and the date of settlement between 1850 and 1860.

J. C. Vauters, arrived 1852 (now) age 62

1860 census of Jasper Co., IL M653, roll 1875 p. 615 Smallwood Twp. Family #359/338 James Vawter 35 M. Farmer \$1800 / \$630 Ind.

Mary age 33 f KY

Lara age 10 f. IN (GJNote: this is Sarah)

Ann E. age 9 f IN

Wm. E. age 7 m. IL

Lieras age 5 m. IL (GJNote: this is Cyrus)

Indiana State Library Genealogy Division IN marriages through 1850 U-Z

Bride or Groom	Spouse	County	Date	Remarks
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James VAWTER	Mary C. Elder	Decatur	26 Oct 1848	
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g. Richard B. Vawter b. 22 Sep 1828 Madison, IN m. 13 Jan 1848 to Maria Lane b. 25 Aug 1827 Jefferson, IN d. 23 Sep 1881. Children: Jennie Vawter, Cyrus Philemon Vawter, Joseph Vawter, and Anna Vawter.

h. Cyrus Vawter b. 28 S 1830 d. 11 Feb 1865 Crawfordsville, Linn Co., OR m. 10 Dec 1857 to Sarah A. Finley b. 18 May 1840 Platt Co., MO. Children: Samantha Vawter and William Ira Vawter.

i. Samuel Vawter b. 25 Dec 1832 Madison, IN d. 15 Mar 1884 Franklin, IN m. 16 Oct 1853 Madison Co., IN to Frances Ames b. 7 Aug 1834. Children Nannie Vawter, James L. Vawter and Mollie Vawter.

j. John M. Vawter b. 29 Feb 1836 Jefferson Co., IN m. 15 Apr 1869 to Sarah J. Pardun b. 18 Apr 1847 Manchester, IN. Children: Minne Bell Vawter and Walter Wright Vawter.

7. Lucy Vawter b. ca 1792 Shelby Co., KY d. ca 1832 Bartholomew Co., IN m. ca 1812 to James Maxwell Crawford, son of James Crawford and Rebecca Anderson. He was b. 3 Mar 1790 Jared Co., KY d. 13 Oct 1858 Hartsville, IN. James married second to Mrs. Susan Lanning and third to Mrs. Frances Wooden. Children:

a. Anne Crawford d. young

b. Philemon Vawter Crawford b. 25 Sep 1814 d. 1 Feb 1901 Eugene, OR m. Dec 1833 to Letitia S. Smith b. 28 Aug 1817 d. 13 Jun 1896 Crawfordsville, OR. dau. of Henry and Margaret Smith of Jefferson Co., IN

In the book *The Vawter Family in America* by Grace Vawter Bicknell, pub. 1905, Indianapolis is found much of the history of this family line. Philemon Vawter Crawford wrote a life sketch in 1882 and is published in the book. It is as follows:

"James Crawford, my grandfather on my father's side, was born in 1759 and reared on or near James River, Virginia, and at the age of sixteen years volunteered in what was known as the Virginia line and served three years in the Revolutionary War. He afterward - date unknown to me - married Rebecca Anderson and they reared eight children, three sons and five daughters. My father, James Maxwell Crawford, was the third son, and was born March 3, 1790 in Jared County, Kentucky, where my grandfather had removed a month the first settlers of that region, and where they had many bloody encounters with the savages, my grandfather having a full share in the troubles.

But to hasten the story: My grandfather again moved, from Jared county, Kentucky to Jefferson county, Indiana in March 1881, when my father was twenty-one years of age and settled within three miles of where the city of Madison now stands.

My grandfather, Philemon Vawter, was also born in Virginia, and served in the Revolutionary War. He was an orphan boy, and married his cousin Anna Vawter, and emigrated to Kentucky in early times and born a full share of the Indian troubles. They reared ten children (Note: according to Philemon Vawter he had nine children) five boys and five girls - my mother being the second daughter. They moved from Kentucky to Jefferson county, Indiana in the year 1810 and settled where a portion of the city of Madison now stands. My father and mother were married early in the year of 1812, and reared ten children - eight girls and two boys - the oldest a girl, myself the next. I was born September 24, 1814.

This genealogy is given from memory, but I believe correct so far as given.

My grandfather Crawford and family belonged to the Presbyterian Church, but renounced their creed under the reformation of Barton W. Stone, my father being the only one who did not unite with the Christian Church. Being of an excitable temperance, he finally drifted into the Methodist Church.

My grandfather Vawter was a Baptist preacher and his family were all members of that order except my mother and two of her brothers, who adopted the early reformation under B. W. Stone. The two brothers, Richard and Beverly became Christian preachers. When I advanced far enough in my early education to read, the Bible was our common school book and in the New Testament I got my first lessons in Christianity and those early lessons and impressions have shaped my course through life. At the age of fourteen years, already being a firm believer, I concluded that if I ever expected to appear in the likeness of Christ's resurrection I must first appear in the likeness of his death; accordingly I was buried with Christ in baptism and arose to walk in newness of life, which I have aimed to do ever since; but like all other men I have had my share of trials and temptations. I was a member of three congregations at different times in Jefferson county, Indiana, the most of the time officiating as elder or deacon and have acted in capacity of elder for a time in Oregon.

Having a desire to see more of the world than I had seen and becoming favorably impressed with the descriptions of Oregon, I sold out my little estate in Indiana in the winter of 1850-51 and left Madison on the 28th day of March 1851 for Oregon. My self and family and several other families with whom we traveled, came by water from Madison to St. Joseph, Missouri where we fitted up teams and started overland for the far west on the first day of May 1851.

My family at that time consisted of myself, wife and five children - the oldest fourteen, the youngest four years of age. We made the long and tedious journey of twenty two hundred miles with an ox team in just one hundred and fifty-two days. When we arrived in Oregon we found the Willamette valley more than we had looked for and all we could desire, and we are yet, after twenty nine years residence here, satisfied that there is no more favored spot on the earth.

The generation in which I have lived in one that will form an important chapter in the world's history. The application of steam was in its infancy when I was in mine. Electricity was known to exist but only as a useless principle in nature. Our harvests were then cut with the simplest hand tools only. Manpower then supplied what steam, water and horse power now performs. Monopolies were then

almost unknown, now they threaten to rule the nation. Human slavery then shaped and controlled Southern politics. For its final overthrow and the humiliation of its votaries a gigantic rebellion has been inaugurated and conquered at an enormous expense to the nation in blood and treasure. And yet we are a great, free and prosperous nation, notwithstanding the curse of a four years' war and the tyranny of capital. I have witnessed all this during my short space of time here. I enjoyed the morning of life. I witnessed the gathering storm of rebellion; I have seen it pass over, with all of its terrors, and now in the evening of life all is smooth and calm again. I have realized all I desired with regard to African slavery, and if I could realize as much as the temperance question I would feel ready to depart and go to where my treasure is laid up, with full assurance of my reward."

1b. Beverly V. Crawford b. 1835 d. 1838

2b. Henry Paschal Crawford b. 7 May 1837 m. 1859 to Elizabeth Finley (sister to the wife of Cyrus Vawter). Moved to ID.

3b. Jasper Vincent Crawford b. 7 Aug 1839 Jefferson Co., IN m. 11 Jun 1867 Linn Co., OR to Elizabeth N. Dunlap b. 28 Jan 1849

4b. Elvin J. Crawford b. 15 Nov 1841 Madison Co., IN m. (1) 15 Nov 1865 to Mary J. Waymire b. Haydenhall, OR d. 11 Jun 1866 m. (2) 16 Nov 1866 to Alice Amanda Adams b. 1 Apr 1848 d. 20 May 1899. He m. (3) to Mrs. Anna (nee Adams) Mills b. 15 Nov 1853 New Orleans, LA.

c. Robert Crawford

d. Rebecca Crawford

e. Rachel Crawford m. Peter Smith. A letter written ca. 1852, found in the papers of William Vawter after his death and, printed in the book of Grace Vawter Bicknell, *The Vawter Family In America*, pub. 1905, Hollenbeck Press, Indianapolis, IN.

"Dear Uncle and Aunt:

I take this opportunity to write you a few lines to acknowledge the reception of your letter, which came last Monday. We had heard of the death of Cousin Mary and Anna, but not of the death of Polly's babe. Cordelia died before we left. I was struck with surprise to hear of father's marriage. He must be in his dotage. He has got a fine woman. What changeable creatures we all are! I was sorry to hear of the house getting burned, but was glad to hear that Ormand's prejudice against Oregon had frozen to death and he had also an idea of trying to come to this country. I do think that if he and David were here they could live much easier than where they are. I think that I have as great a desire for the welfare and prosperity of my relatives than anybody, but I would advise them unless they can have a good supply of good, strong clothing, a well built, light two horse wagon and at the least calculation, four hundred dollars when landed at St. Joe, not to undertake the journey, unless they come as one family, or unless the prices of provisions and cattle are lower than when we left. But Oregon is ever worth coming to, and if they can not make up an outfit next year, let them not get discouraged.

An old acquaintance of Mr. Smith's who could not live at all below Madison, moved to Missouri, raised his own team and provisions and came through in '47. He is now quite wealthy so I would advise, if they ever expect to get able to come, to get out of that place and get to good cattle country, where they may soon raise their own outfit and may be able to come independently.

What have you done with Achilles and Philemon? You spoke of all the rest in your letter. Where is Sarah Jane and Aunt Nancy? I have not forgotten one of them. Mr. Smith says, consider the interest of your sons and let them come to Oregon, where they can be of a great deal more benefit to themselves and to the community than where they are.

I have not heard preaching since I left Madison. They have preaching at T. Stott's and T. Denny's and at Portland, but for want of a road I would be too late, as I would have to go so far around. I know of no Baptist Church nearer than Oregon City. There, I have understood, they have a band of musicians (wicked men) hired to sing for the church. If this be the case, I would like to know who expects to stand accountable for the lay members not doing their duty, the choir or their employers?

We are all well at present. Philemon and the two of the children have had the ague, but they are all well now. They live about ten miles from us.

We learn that is has been somewhat sickly on the road this year, grass being very scare, though vegetables are good.

I must draw to a close. I hope you will all remember the vow you made me when we took the parting hand. Give my love to all that wish to hear from us. Write soon. Rachel and Peter Smith."

8. Elizabeth Vawter b. 1 Mar 1798 Woodford Co., KY d. 6 Aug 1886 Vernon, IN m. 24 Jun 1813 Jefferson Co., IN to James Glover, a Baptist minister b. 14 Aug 1792 VA (now WV). d. 3 Jul 1856 Marble Hill, IN. Parents of James and Lucinda Glover are Thomas J. Glover and Nancy West. Children:

a. Nancy Glover b. 12 Mar 1814 m. (1) James Coleman m. (2) Thomas Baxter.

They lived and died at Marble Hill, IN. Children: James A. Coleman, Lucinda Coleman and Thomas Coleman. Also son David Baxter all d. by 1905. One granddaughter in TN.

b. Ann Glover b. 27 May 1816 Jefferson Co., IN d. 26 Dec 1888 m. 2 Dec 1831 Marble Hill, IN to Thomas West b. 14 Nov 1809 d. 2 Dec 1888. Children: Samuel, Stephen, John, Sarah, Elizabeth and Mollia A. West.

c. Sarah Glover b. 29 Oct 1818 d. 25 Jan 1891 m. 7 Jun 1838 Jefferson Co., IN to Achilles West b. 29 Feb 1816 d. 10 Sep 1892 Jennings Co., IN. Children: Catherine, James, Milton S., J. Silas, Lizzie A., William M., J. Judson, Emma E., and Charles J. West.

d. Elliott V. Glover b. 17 Jul 1820 m. Melia Barnett. Both d. Madison, IN. Children Maggie, James, Indiana, William, Philemon and Samuel Glover.

e. David J. Glover b. 14 Feb 1838 d. 6 Feb 1863 m. 12 Sep 1861 to Mary E. Hunter at North Vernon, IN. Daughter married a Mr. Newell located to Seattle, WA in 1900. Mary went west where her location was unknown.

9. David Vawter b. 21 Jan 1800 in KY d. 13 Jul 1845 m. 23 Apr 1823 to Lucinda Glover (sister of James Glover). Lucinda b. 8 Jul 1805 d. 20 Dec 1857. David traded down the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, running to Natchez and New Orleans. In 1832, he built his first steamboat, the Bravo. He later owned a number of steamboats running on the Mississippi and as high up the Red river as they could go. He sold out and moved to Texas in 1844 where he bought a large tract of land. David died one week before his mother's death.

From the book *Romatic Recipes of the Old South*, copy right 1950 by Imperial Sugar Co., Sugar Land, TX comes the following:

The Vawter Plantation in Louisiana was a center of hospitality, as were many of the plantations of the south. Governors, senators, writers and artists were among its guests. All were enthralled by the unusual foods prepared by the wrinkled colored cook. They especially complimented the Sorghum Molasses Cookies and ofter asked for them on subsequent visits.

Cookies

1 cup molasses	1 cup boiling water	2 teaspoons salt
1 cup sugar	1 tablespoon ginger	6 cups flour (enough for stiff dough)
1 cup butter	4 teaspoons soda	

Combine molasses, butter and sugar in sauce pan; place over low heat until mixture begins to boil. Add 1 cup boiling water and ginger. Pour into large mixing bowl and stir in 2 teaspoons of soda. (This makes a foamy mixture) Add flour sifted with salt and remaining 2 teaspoons of soda. Mix well. Chill dough and then roll thin and cut into desired shape. Place 1 inch apart on greased cookie sheet. Bake in moderately hot oven (375) for 10-12 min. Makes 7 dozen, 3 inch cookies.

In the book *Ferry Across The Sabine* by Bobby Sterrett, Jefferson, TX an exerpt mentioning the Vawter family. "Mrs. Lucinda Vawter, a widow with a large family, sold her Louisiana plantation adjoining John Craig in 1845 and purchased the ferry operation on the Sabine River at Grand Bluff, TX."

Louisiana Census

1840 David Vauters

Claiborne Parish

page 112

1846 State Census, Panola Co., TX Panola Co., Lucinda Vaughter

#431 Vauter Lucenda 45 F W widow KY REMARKS: Lucenda Glover Vawter w/o David Vawter
Vauter John 21 M W Clerk KY - REMARKS: m Mary Durkee
Vauter David 15 M W IN - REMARKS: M.D. m. Nancy Weir
Vauter Martha 12 F W IN - REMARKS: m J. C. White
Vauter Eugene F. 4 M W TX

From the newspaper *Panola Watchman*, Carthage, Texas, April 27 & May 4, 1975
Perhaps the Grand Bluff Ferry across Sabine River provided a gateway for more settlers to Panola County, and to East Texas in general, than did any other crossing on the river. A busy village grew up in the vicinity of the bridge on the old road to Marshall. Only a few reminders are present now to acquaint the visitor with what once transpired there. It is truly a "ghost town". The original settlement was situated on a high bluff on the west bank of the river and a cemetery was located about one-half mile down river. There are many unidentified graves, at least a hundred. A large mound of crumbling brick vaults near the center of the cemetery is especially interesting. One mound covers six or more graves. In addition, there are two single vaults at the end of the main family mound. Shells cover the tops of a good many graves. Cedar trees still living mark the head and foot of two graves. The cemetery boundaries are not difficult to locate, as the fallen fence is still to be found in sections entirely around the plot. Though the last gravestone date of death is 1898, some mulberry posts are still standing.

Near the river, at the townsite, stands an aged oak with scarred rings where once the ferry's cables were tied. The earliest ferryman at Grand bluff, before Panola County was established was named Brewster and the place was called Brewster's Bluff. No further identification of the man is found. In January 1847, the court granted a ferry license to Lucinda Vawter. Fees were set at the time for all county ferries as follows:

<i>4 or 6 horse wagon</i>	<i>50 cents</i>
<i>2 horse wagen or one yoke steers as waon</i>	<i>37 ½ cents</i>
<i>1 horse carriage</i>	<i>25 cents</i>
<i>Footmen</i>	<i>5 cents each</i>
<i>Loose cattle and horses</i>	<i>5 cents each</i>
<i>Hogs</i>	<i>3 cents each</i>

When the river was out of banks, double the price was to be paid.

Grand Bluff was named a voting box in 1848 and the court cut Mrs. Vawter's fees to only half the usual price. Later that year a citizens petition from Grand Bluff asked the court to rescind the August orders as unfair. The Court studied and revoked the order as unjust and unfair. By 1848 John Vawter was named as election judge.

In 1852, Lucinda Vawter was charged \$20 for a ferry license, several times the amount charged any of the ferryman in the county. From this time until bridges were built, Grand Bluff license cost a greater fee than any other in the county, evidently because it was most in demand.

Children:

a. Alexander Lewis Vawter b. 24 Jan 1824 in NY d. 31 Jan 1856 Grand Bluff, TX
m. 1848 to Martha Weir b. 14 Feb 1827 MO d. 5 Sep 1860 in Rusk Co., TX. Children Sarah Julia Vawter and A. Lewis Vawter, Jr.

1846 State Census Panola Co., TX Lewis Vaughter

1850 Census Panola Co, TX Microfilm # 432-913 Family #430 and #431

Vauter A. L. 27 M W Merchant IN X REMARKS: Alexander Lewis Vawter

Vauter Martha 20 F W TN X REMARKS: Martha Weir Vawter

Vauter Julia 11/12 F W TX (writer of the story below)

b. Amanda Vawter b. 24 Feb 1826 m. 14 Aug 1845 Grand Bluff, TX to Francisco Lewis b. 5 May 1822 Franklin City, AL. Children: Henry F. Lewis, Emma Lewis, Sarah E. Lewis, Mary Ida Lewis and Annie L. Lewis.

c. John Milton Vawter b. 25 Mar 1828 m. 23 Nov 1850 to Mary Grigsby Durkee b. 10 Aug 1836, dau of William L. and Marian (Weir) Durkee. Lived in Grand Bluff, Panola Co., TX.

John and Mary had 12 children: Edwin, Thomas M., Mary Luna, George Lewis, Katie King Vawter and others unnamed.

George Lewis Vawter writes to Grace Vawter Bicknell for her book of 1905. *"An account of the family would not be complete without the mention of "uncle Allen" the old negro slave, who ran the Grand Bluff ferry boat for fifteen years as a slave and many more years as a free man. On account of debt, his father and mother and himself were afraid of being sold apart, and so his mother sent him to Lewis Vawter to see if he would buy them for the David Vawter estate. This he did and thus "Uncle Allen" "Aunt Lydie" and "Uncle Dick" came into the family. "They helped in the care of my mother's family", said G. L. Vawter, "but it was the contract of sale that 'Aunt Lydie' was never to have to 'wash clothes'."*

d. Louisa Vawter b. 9 Feb 1830 m. 1845 to Edward Fink. One child d. ca 1863. No other children.

e. David M. Vawter b. 17 Jan 1833 m. 25 Jul 1858 to Nancy Raycroft b. 12 Jan 1837 in TN. David was a physician. One child, Martha Lucinda "Chic" Vawter

f. Martha Vawter b. 16 Sep 1836 m. Dec 1852 to J. C. White. Lived in TX, 4 children.

AUSTIN AS I SAW- IT IN 1855

By Julia Vawter Sterrett

Dallas Morning News, Dallas , Texas, May 22, 1932

At 6 years old I first journeyed from Panola County to The Capital City, arriving by a clattering stage with Sounding bugle - the trip required a week and I thought Austin a grand place full of grand people.

Austin is at present scarcely more than a days travel by automobile from the once prosperous, but now decadent village of Grand Bluff, Panola County. In 1855, however, by horse-drawn vehicle a full week was required to make the trip between the two points.

It is exactly seventy-six years since I journeyed for the first time from the bustling steamboat landing and ferry town of Grand Bluff, on the Sabine River, to the infant capital of the State of Texas.

Many of the incidents connected with the trip, as well as numerous names and faces, have faded with the passing of the years: others are distinctly etched upon the pages of my memory. It is true that I was scarcely 6 years old at the time of this eventful visit, but both my mother and grandfather, believing that a child's education could scarcely begin too early, patiently answered all my questions and explained everything of interest along the road. Then long, long after our return home, people and incidents were still further impressed upon my memory through hearing them described by my relatives and the servants who accompanied us.

The long trip to Austin was made primarily to see my new grandmother. She had been the beautiful Mrs. Elidia Calhoun, widow of a prominent Texas pioneer, before her marriage to my grandfather during one of his senatorial terms in the State Legislature. It was during one of grandfather's semiannual visits back to East Texas to see about his store and plantation that he persuaded my mother to take me and go back with him for the summer.

A Long Trip

How well do I recall the busy day in which preparations were made for the journey and visit. It seems but yesterday that we started, so quickly does one think down years and hours to minutes and seconds. Long before dawn I was awakened by the bustling about the yard and household servants getting everything in readiness for our departure. By sunup we were on our way, after saying tearful good-byes to the employees, all of whom, from the overseer down to the smallest pickaninnies, dressed in their Sunday best, had lined up in front of the long piazza to see us off.

At the head of the short procession rode grandfather and one of his sons in a buggy. Behind him were my mother, another one of her brothers, my nurse Maria and I in a two-seated hack, driven by old Uncle Tom, who had been "Marse Andy's" (my grandfather's) valet and bodyguard. Still farther in the rear was a four-horse wagon driven by a stout colored man, carrying our carpetbags, feed for the horses, and food and camping equipment for the entire party. I do not recall sleeping more than one night in a house during the 350 mile trip. The other nights we made camp and slept on cots with only the starry heavens for a canopy. One night we camped on the Brazos River near Waco Village (as it was then called) where I gathered a lapful of the last crop of pecans. Our all-night stay in Bastrop I recall

vividly. Shortly before we reached Bastrop, then a day's travel though but some thirty miles distant from Austin, grandfather said for mother, Maria and me to take the stage there for Austin.

The hotel in which we spent the night in Bastrop was operated by a German family of some culture, for in the parlor were a grand piano, upholstered sofa and chairs, and oil paintings. In the bedrooms were huge canopied four-poster beds on which were mountainous feather beds covered with snowy linen. In the dining room the long table was loaded down that night with meats of every description, steaming urns of coffee, gallons of buttermilk, hot biscuits, preserves and a variety of cakes and pies.

Entering Austin

For the first time since we had left East Texas we were delighted by the sight of pine trees around Bastrop. Sheep ranches, farms and homes built of whipsawed lumber gave occasional hints of civilization between Bastrop and Austin. For the most part, however, our last few miles lay over a rough road, bordered by open prairie or laurel and cedar-covered hills. Along about sundown we came to a high hill from the top of which we could see Austin city.

Exclamations of delight burst from the lips of everyone on the stage. Built on hills and almost surrounded by a rampart of higher hills at the base of which flowed the waters of the Colorado, the city of Austin was even then a bit of paradise. In the gloaming, just as the candles were beginning to case their flickering light through open doors and windows, the man sitting beside the stage driver blew a long shrill blast upon the bugle. The driver cracked his whip above the heads of the horses as we started down the wide rough street. Amid the clop, clop, clop of the horses hoofs, rumbling of the heavy stage wheels and continuous notes of the bugle, we arrived in the capital of the State of Texas.

My grandparents lived about three blocks from the Capitol building. When grandmother appeared in the doorway to greet us, dressed in white, I thought she looked like the angel in my picture book at home. My grandfather, the boys and the two colored men didn't reach Austin until the day following.

A few days after our arrival in Austin my mother dressed me up and sent me down to the photographer's studio. Because I cried when the artist attempted to make a photograph, he sent me back home. The next day Maria carried me back, and this time he succeeded in making a daguerreotype, which is in just as excellent condition today as it was seventy-seven years ago. My mother bought the black lace gloves showing in the picture and the white mull hat with ribbon streamers at the Lamar & Moore Store.

The only unpleasant feature about my visit to Grandmother Weir's was the daily trip into town by a white man called Crazy Tom. Although considered harmless, he always succeeded in running the boys off the streets and in causing little children to scamper wildly into the houses whenever he appeared from his hillside shack. Picking up cigar stubs from the streets and begging a "chaw of terbacker" were about the worst things he did. Grandmother often sent him food as did other people who felt sorry for him

Pandora Would Peep

Near grandmother's home was the office of Dr. Snyder, who soon became one of my best friends. Almost daily I could be found playing on the doorsteps or even in the office though I was always cautioned not to open the tall cabinet that stood in one corner. Pandora-like, that was the thing I most wanted to do. Finally at my insistence, he pushed back a sliding door and there beneath a shelf of glittering instruments was a grinning skeleton. I almost froze to the spot. Silently Dr. Snyder closed the door, and never again did I tease him to see into closed cabinets and drawers.

Grandmother had a half-grown Indian boy whom she had cared for since he was a tiny lad. On leaving Austin to take part in warfare against the troublesome Indians, a Mr. Ford, a friend of the family, laughingly had said, "Do you want me to bring you a scalp?" "No," replied grandmother, "I want an Indian boy."

Not long afterward Mr. Ford returned with the small son of the chief whose depredations had been the cause of the warfare. Nopo, as the child called himself, and a younger brother were riding behind their fleeing mother, who had another child in front of her, when Nopo slipped off the horse's back. In her frantic efforts to rejoin her vanquished tribe, the squaw probably did not know for some time that she had lost her oldest son. Mr. Ford also brought with him the braided coat of the chief who was killed in the skirmish, and for a long time afterward the lad would weep bitterly whenever he saw his father's garment.

Old Austin Homes

Although many of the residences were built of hewn logs, as most pioneer homes were at that time, Austin had a number of beautiful and stately Southern mansions. Among those in which my relatives were frequent guests were the huge brick colonial of Gov. and Mrs. E.M. Pease, built on a forest-covered hill some distance from the city, the splendid Raymond and Fisher homes, designed by one of the most famous architects of the day, Col. Abner Cook; the unpretentious but neat and comfortable cottage of two of Ausin's most interesting people, the Scotsman, Robert Barr, accountant in the Comptroller's Department, and his afterward celebrated wife, Amelia E. Barr, the novelist; the dignified Governor's Mansion, on an eminence at the rear of the Capitol, which later burned, and the French Embassy, residence of the French Ambassador when Texas was a Republic; but at that time and since the property of Dr. J.M. Robertson and family.

The principal hotel in those days was the Swisher, which was formerly known as the Bullock House. It stood on the lot now occupied by a drug store. Here it was that the pig incident occurred which caused such strained relations between France and the Republic of Texas.

Austin had a number of "groceries" and general stores in 1855, but the only ones in the latter class whose names can be recalled were Lamar & Moore's and Hancock's. The former was on Seventh and Congress, and the latter where the Scarborough Building is today.

Then and Now

The population of Austin in 1855 was, I am told, between 2,000 and 3,000. The smallness of the town may be attributed to the fear potential settlers had of the Indians on the frontier, as Austin then was, and also to the opposition of many who wished the Capitol to be more centrally located in Houston. Among the people of prominence then, and in after years, were A.W. Terrell, Gov. E.M. Pease, Chief Justice Hemphill, J.W. Throckmorton, Dr. Litten, Judge W.S. Oldham, Col. George Hancock, Thomas E. Sneed and A. J. Hamilton.

Except for the fact that the Colorado channel was not quite so wide, the streets were rougher and steeper, and the hills seemed wilder and more rugged; the terrain was the same in 1855 as it is today. Probably the most noticeable difference is the absence from Main (now Congress Avenue) of a small creek called Rio Bravo. In early days it followed the course of Main as far south as Sixth Street whence it turned eastward and emptied into Waller Creek.

At the time of our visit the temporary Capitol was still in use, as the new Capitol which burned in 1881 was not completed for almost a year after we were there. The old Capitol, built of double logs and facing east, was about where the City Hall now stands on Eighth Street. The new Capitol stood on the now vacant lot in front of the Governor's Mansion. The handsome old land office which is today a museum was also completed the year following our visit.

After spending the summer with my grandparents in Austin and visiting for a few days grandfather's brothers Robert and Adolphus Weir in Manchaca Springs, we began our long journey back to the cypress shaded waters of the Sabine. Soon after our arrival at Grand Bluff, my father, A.L. Vawter, who had returned at the same time from a business trip to New York, died. Three years later my young mother followed him. Bereft then of both parents, I went with my nurse, Maria, to live with Grandfather and Grandmother Weir who had recently moved from Austin to their plantation in Rusk County.

A Modern Revelation

In the spring of 1925, I went for the second time to Austin to visit one of my daughters. Instead of entering the city on a lumbering stage, I entered in the comfortable Pullman of a fast train. In the place of candles, the streets, public buildings and homes were illuminated with brilliant electric lights. A taxi sped me in five minutes to my destination a mile from the station. That night I went to sleep to the sound of music from a radio station in New York City. The following morning I was awakened by the simultaneous ringing of the telephone and the roaring of an airplane. Like Rip VanWinkle, I rubbed my eyes and looked about me. Gone were the heads of families that my childhood had known. In their places stood, not their sons, but their son's sons. Gone too were nearly all the substantial, but old-fashioned homes and buildings. Even the dust and ashes of the Capitol, so new, so splendid and so enduring in 1855, had long since been hidden under grass and flowers. Towering above and eclipsing all else in its magnitude = and beauty was a Capitol, the proportions of which were hardly dreamed of in 1855. Sky scrapers, handsome residences, state institutions (including a magnificent university group) had usurped the sites once occupied by postoak groves, cedar brakes, pioneer homes and business houses.

Outwardly, I too, had changed as much as the landscape before me. Across the stage of life had passed almost four generations, marriages, births and deaths had entered my own experience, molding me as they came. Yet my heart was as happy as it was when I first saw Austin three score and four years before. The dream of a lifetime had come true -- I was again in the city of the violet crown.

William Vawter4, (David3, John2, Bartholomew1)

William Vawter, believed b. ca 1758, son of David Vawter and Mary Offill/Offott. William married 19 Jun 1784 in Orange Co., VA to Mary Rucker. They removed to Versailles, Woodford Co., KY where they are shown in the US Census of 1810 with 9 whites and 14 slaves. Later William moved to Boone Co., KY. (This info. found *The Virginia Magazine* Vol. 23 year end 1920 pub. 1968).

William Served in the Rev. War: Enlisted in the 1st Virginia State Continental Line Regiment.

Private 1776 under Capt. Agnes Rucker, serving under Geo. Gibson;

Sergeant 6 Jun 1777 under Capt. Brown;

Ensign 7 Dec 1777 under Capt. John Camps 1st VA Reg.;

2nd Lt. 1 Jun 1778 under Capt. John Camps 1st VA Reg.;

17 Jan 1779 under Capt. John Champ (Camps) 1st VA Reg. Under Col. George Gibson.

Discharged on 1 Jan 1780 as Captain. William was in the battle of Yorktowne.

William Vawter and his mother, Mary Vawter, wife of David, are shown in Orange in 1782:

List of Taxable property taken by Thos. Barbour, Gent., 1782, Orange. As shown on back of the original return paper itself, in the Clerk's office of Orange.

William Vawter	Tythes 1	Negroes Cary 1	Horses 3	Cattle 0
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Mary Vawter	Tythes 0	Negroes John 1	Horses 4	Cattle 5
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In May 1782, Cary, a slave belonging to William Vawter, sentenced to be hung for rape.

On 21 Jan 1783 the land office at Richmond, VA issued William a bounty Land Warrant #97 for 2666 2/3 acres for his service in the war. William apparently never received it. The Land Office reports "we find no evidence of this land warrant being used to authorize a survey and obtain land". On 30 Aug 1783, there was a legal notice in the *VA Gazette* of unclaimed mail for William Vawter at the Richmond, VA Post Office. Could this have been the land warrant issued 21 Jan 1783 that William never received?

Found in the *Rucker Family Genealogy* by Sudie Rucker Woods pub. 1932 in possession of Carla Orcutt of WA. This seems to have some documentation to support the correct Mary Rucker information. Page 289:

Mary Rucker, dau. of Lt. Col. Ephraim Rucker m. 4 Jun 1784 to William Vawter son of David Vawter. Marriage bond in Orange Co., VA Security James Staples, William Vawter b. 1758 d. 27 Nov 1823.

The original marriage record is published Winter 1990, VVV Family Association newsletter.

Permission of mother:

Sir, Be pleased to grant a license for wedlock between Wm. Vawter and Mary Rucker and this shall oblige me to keep you harmless and indemnify you for so long. Signed Mary Rucker 18 Jun 1784.

To the Clk. Orange Ct.

Test: Achilles Stapp, James Stapp

The following license is with said papers Orange County Court

Whereas there is a marriage suddenly intended to be solemnized between William Vawter and Mary Rucker, spinster, both of the aforesaid County, I do hereby certify that the said Mary Rucker is of lawful age (unreadable) and at the time the said William Vawter with James Stapp his surety entered into bond in my office in the sum of fifty pounds current money payable to the Commonwealth, with condition that there is no lawful cause to obstruct the said marriage. Given under my hand this 19th day of June 1784. Test. James Taylor, clerk
To James Madison Gent. First Justice, Com. of the peace for said County.
(James Madison was the father of James Madison, 4th US President)

In a letter to Miss E. A. Vawter ca 1920 from notes of William Snyder Vawter, a letter;
Copy: Test: Josephone H. Neal, Deputy Clerk, Orange Co., VA "There was no will left by David Vawter: At a Court held for Orange county on Thursday 27th Day Mar 1785. William Vawter granted Admr. of estate of David Vawter dec'd where upon he with Bartlett Bennett his security entered into Bond for the same in the sum of £400."

The 1787 census of Virginia, Netti Schreiner-Yantis and Florene Speakman Love,
Genealogical Books in Print, Springfield VA , 1987, p. 727 Culpeper Co. Personal
Property Tax 1787 - List C

" Vawter William self 0 2 5 2 5

Rennolds Jno. William Vawter [charged with tax] "

William and family moved to Woodford Co., KY in 1788 then to Burlington, Boone Co., KY.

At a court of appeals held at the Capitol of Richmond, VA Sept 1791, in a suit, the Commonwealth against William Vawter, late Lieutenant of the 1st VA Reg. Case was dismissed.

KY FOOT STEPS, Thursday, 17 July 1997 Volume 01 : Number 153

Woodford Co 27 Feb 1797 Provided for sale of land of Thomas Sharpe, late of Woodford Co Mentions: John Walkins, William Steele, Richard Young, William Vawters, Marquis Calmes.

27 Feb 1797 Authorized the following to raise money by lottery for draining a pond contiguous to Versailles: Richard Young, William Vawter, Charles Wilkins, John O'Bannon, Thomas Turpin, Marquis Calmes, John H. Craig.

In 1986 E.B. Vaughters, 12015 1st Ave. NW, Seattle, WA 98177 sent the genealogy of this line to be published by the VVV Association newsletter. He states:
William was a lawyer and member of KY House of Rep 1797, 1799-1800 and state Senator 1806-10. He was named in 40 to 50 land transactions as grantee or grantor, involving thousands of acres of land. He d. 27 Nov 1823 at New Burlington, Boone Co., KY.

In 1803, William and Mary sold land in Fayette Co., KY bet. the years of 1805 and 1809 they also had land in Jessemine and Gallatine counties. William Vawter was appointed by Angus Rucker (brother of Mary) of Madison Co., trustee for his dau., Jane Minor, wife of Elliott Minor, of Boone Co., KY. William Vawter refused to act.

Mason Co., KY Deed 1789-1810, p. 308, 2 Nov 1804 William Vawter of Woodford Co., KY and Daniel Figgins of Clermont Co., OH (Feagan) Tr: Sale of Mason Co., land.
Description: Located by John Kenton's line to a survey laid off for Samuel Thompson and sold by him to Joel Jackson. Thence west to a Survey made for Mayers and John

Adams thence north to Tabbs line. Wit: David Rowland, Edward F. Vawter, John Kercheval, Jameson Vawter, M. Dougherty, Lewis Craig.

In the notes of William Snyder Vawter (handwritten) states: William Vawter was the son of David, and father of William. He owned large tracts of land in Woodford Co., KY at one time which he lost together with all his slaves (70) through being security on a note. Later he resided at New Burlington, Boone Co., KY. A copy of an early record of William Vawter in Boone Co., KY states: John Taylor deeds for himself his slave of Gallatin Co. (also by John Tanner)

John David Woolperts' 2000 acres military survey to William Vawter of Woodford Co. Executed in Boone Co. 23 Sep 1809 and recorded the same day by Cove Johnson CBC

After William died, his son William, Jr. on behalf of the heirs made an affidavit to the Dept. of War, "that William (Sr.) had never received his land warrant". The estate was issued on 20 Dec 1830 warrant #1699 for 200 acres and a claim for ½ pay in the amt. of \$6688.89 was paid. The only children surviving their father in 1829 were: Edmond F., Virginia, William, Jr., Thomas L(ewis), and George M.

Book *Virginia Soldiers of 1776* by Burgess, page 819.

General Land Office, 19 Jan, 1831. "Your request to have a copy of William Vawter's heirs is herewith complied with. Your friend Keene's case is now before the office, he having furnished the additional information required. The power to grant relief does not however rest with this office. The case will be duly submitted to the Sect. of the Treasury, and decision communicated either to yourself, or Mr. Keene." Signed by Elijah Hayward, to the Hon. R. M. Johnson.

Copy No. 1699. Pursuant to an Act of Congress, authorizing the Sect. of War to issue Land warrants, and for other purposed passed the 15 Apl. 1806.

William Vawter, Edmond F., Virginia and George N. Vawter, children and heirs at law of William Vawter, dec'd, who was a Lieutenant in the Va. line, and are entitled to 200 acres of land. Given at the war department 20 Dec 1830, and signed by John H. Eaton, Sect. Of War. Registered, William Gordon. Clerk.

Book, *Officer and Soldiers of the Revolution*, Military Records - Private Claims p. 13
Published by Thomas Allen, Washington 1838 (Cover Title: REVOLUTIONARY CLAIMS)

p. 256 HEIRS OF WILLIAM VAWTERS, late of the state of Kentucky, petition for half pay. William enlisted as a soldier in 1777 in the 1st Virginia Regiment commanded by Col. George Gibson of the State Establishment, and continued in state service until the Battle of Germantown, where the 9th Virginia Regiment on continental service, was captured by the enemy. The Virginia Legislature, then transferred the 1st Va. Regiment to the continental establishment to replace the captured 9th Regiment. While in service Vawters was promoted to Ensign and later to Lieutenant, until discharged from service in 1780. Ruled on favorably by the Committee 12-23-1831.

p. 301 Petition of heirs of WILLIAM VAWTER. William Vawters served as Lt. in the regiment commanded by Col. George Gibson, as officer of the Continental Line. Vawter's regiment served with the Continental Army out of the state of Virginia, and saw service both as a member of State Troops and service in the Continental Line. After much reviewing of the legal precedents, the committee ruled that the Vawter heirs might collect

whatever funds had not yet been paid on the half-pay for life which their father was entitled to. 12-22-1832.

According to the following will of Ephraim Rucker, Mary Rucker, wife of William, was his daughter, shown as Mary Vawter, but no husband is listed so this is not completely finalized.

Will of Ephraim Rucker, Madison County, Virginia, Will Book 1, Dated September 24, 1796, Proved December 28, 1797

The balance of my estate I lend to my beloved wife, Margaret Rucker, to be peaceably enjoyed by her during her natural life and after her decease . . . to be sold . . . and the money arising . . . I give to my son, Angus Rucker, one seventh part . . . also the whole tract of land whereon I live . . . to my son, Elliott Rucker . . . to my son, John Rucker . . . to my daughter, Tabitha Gaines . . . to my daughter, Mary Vawter . . . to my daughter, Tomagen Rucker, John Booten, her son, Ambrose Booten, her son, and Anna Rucker, her daughter, and Elizabeth Minor, Joseph Minor and Mary Early to be apportioned between them as follows, one third part of that seventh to my daughter, Margaret Morgan, on other third part to her son, Elliott Minor, and one other third part equally divided between her son, Joseph Minor and her daughter, Mary Early . . . appoint my sons, Angus Rucker, Elliott Rucker and John Rucker, executors . . . this 24th day of September 1796. Test: James Redish, George Allen, Joseph Bradford.

At a court held 28th December 1797 will exhibited and proved and ordered to be certified, and upon the motion of Angus Rucker and John Rucker a probate thereof granted to them. At a court held 23rd September 1802 will exhibited and fully proved and ordered to be recorded.

Know all men . . . We, Angus Rucker, John Rucker, William Blakey and Joseph Bradford . . . bound in the sum of ten thousand dollars . . . 28th December 1797. Condition of the above that Angus Rucker and John Rucker do make a true and perfect inventory. At a court held 28th December 1797 bond acknowledged and ordered to be recorded.

In July 1913, Jane Neave Keithley wrote to her nephew Frank Vawter at Marshall, MO a history of her family.

Dear Nephew:

I have been quite interested in the history of the Vawter family. I will comply with your request as far as my knowledge extends and give you a short sketch of our family.

My father's name was William and his father's name was William. He is my grandfather and his wife's name was Mary. They raised four sons and one daughter in Woodford County, Kentucky, viz: Heman, George M. Thomas L. , Edmund Fleming and William. Virginia single and lived for many years with my father, who often told me of his fathers family.

My grandfather William lived in Woodford County, Kentucky and owned several large tracks of land and seventy slaves. He went security for a Merchant in Louisville, Ky, and had it to pay, and it broke him up and his children got no good of his property, so my father and his brother Fleming and sister Virginia moved to Burlington, Boone County, Kentucky.

Fleming married a Miss Twomley, studied law and was prosecuting attorney of Boone County for many years. Also an Elder in the Presbyterian Church as long as he lived. He raised one son Alfred, who was drowned in the Ohio River near Cincinnati. The daughter Margaret married a Mr. Riley and they had one son, Fleming Vawter Riley, who received a good education and taught school many years. He visited me in Saline County and taught in this district and elsewhere in the county. He started back to Kentucky, got as far as St. Charles, Mo. Where he was robbed and wrote back for help. Pierce Vawter went to his assistance and could not find him and he was never heard from afterwards. He is reported to have been drowned in the Mississippi River.

My father after living in Burlington some years married Miss Sarah Neave of Cincinnati. They emigrated to Monroe County, Missouri at an early time and were among the first pioneers of the state.

Here they built a cabin and three children were born to them, one daughter Jane and two sons who died very young.

When I was three years old my mother died. Father married a second wife, Miss Amanda Poage, whose father, James Poage, was a pioneer settler in Monroe County, Missouri, where he raised a large family.

In the meantime father built and moved to a new house on the road leading from Paris to Middle Grove, where five children were born four sons and one daughter, the daughter died young. The four sons are living and their names are: Alfred Fleming, James Henry, Thomas Pierce, and William Franklin. Immediately after my marriage to J. C. Kiethley in Oct 1856, my father rented his farm and moved to Fulton, Mo to educate his four sons in Westminster College.

As I remember my father he was a medium sized man about five foot 8 inches tall, weighing about 140 pounds. Had a smooth shaven face. Very light colored hair and prominent forehead. He was well educated, a good historian, could make a good public address and at one time was elected to the State Legislature of Missouri. He moved to Fulton in November 1856 and died the following spring and was buried in Fulton, age 63 years.

I know but little of his brothers Thomas and George. He said the most intellectual one of them was George, who went to New Orleans and died of fever.

From all the circumstances and from what I hear my father say relative to my grandfather in Woodford Co I think I can say without contradiction that William and Mary Vawter mentioned in pages 8 & 9 are my grandfather and

grandmother. The land sold by them in Jessamine, Campbell and Galatin counties as mentioned in the history of the Vawter family, while they lived in Woodford County, correspond with what my father often told me of the circumstance of his father William Vawter of Woodford County, Kentucky. Affectionately your aunt, Jane Neave Keithley.

(Note: This letter written when Aunt Jane was in her 80's and reflects in good manner her excellent character and mind. She died on the 60th anniversary of her wedding day Sept 1st 1922, E. A. V.)

The children of William Vawter shown by E.B. Vaughters are:

1. Edmond Fleming Vawter b. ca. 1785 m. 25 May 1809 Mason Co., KY to Elizabeth Smith. Edmond was a lawyer, prosecuting atty., Boone Co., KY and member of KY house of Rep. 1837 & 1841. Shown in 1810 census of Versailles, Woodford Co., KY 3 whites.

MASON COUNTY KENTUCKY EARLY MARRIAGES THROUGH 1850 - (V-Z)
VAWTER, EDMUND F. SMITH, ELIZABETH 25 MAR 1809

(GJNote: The letter of Jane Neave Keithley states he married a Miss Twomley, however this was Alfred Fleming Vawter the son of William.)

1840 Boone Co., KY Census

E. F. Vawler 12001 (males) 00001 (females)

1a. Alfred Vawter, drowned in Ohio River. No issue.

2a. Margaret Fleming Vawter, A Boone Co., KY, marriage record shows Margaret Vawter m. 23 Aug 1838 to George Riley.

One son Fleming Vawter Riley, d. in MO d. 1867 unmarried. No issue

2. Heman Vawter b. ca 1787, Served War of 1812, Died single 3 Feb 1815

A letter from the Dept. of the Interior, Bureau of Pensions, Washington, Sep 3, 1913. To Frank P. Vawter of Fort Smith, AR. From G. M. Satzgeber, Commissioner.

In response to your letter received the 25th Ultimo, you are advised that the records of the Bureau show that Heman Vawter enlisted "for the War" March 27, 1814, and served as sergeant in Captain Holt's company of the 17th Virginia, it was proven that said Heman Vawter died without having been married and without any child, and that his father William Vawter was his heir by the laws of Virginia: and on February 18, 1817, Warrant No. 8,860 for 160 acres of Bounty Land issued to William Vawter in full satisfaction for the service of his son, Heman Vawter.

3. Thomas Lewis Vawter b. ca 1789 d. single after 1830. Sold land 15 Oct 1822 to brother George. Edmund F & William inherited property of his estate.

4. George M. Vawter b. ca 1791 went to New Orleans and d. of fever aft. 1832

Louisiana. First Judicial District Court (Orleans Parish)

Records, Index to Suit Records, City Archives 1813-1835

New Orleans Public Library.

VAWLER, GEORGE M. PALMER, A. W. L. 7035

VAWTER, G. M. PALMER, A. W. L.; CHRISTY, U. 7610

VAWTER, GEORGE M. MORGAN, GEORGE 7410

5. William H. Vawter, Jr. b. 17 Apr 1795 Woodford Co., KY d. 31 Mar 1858 in Fulton, MO. William m. (1) 1835 KY to Sarah Neave/Nieve of Cincinnati d. ca 1839, m. (2) 27

Dec 1839 Amanda Poage d. 1863 Fulton, MO. Family information states he had a sister Mary G. Tandy and a brother George M. Vawter.

Letter by William F. Vawter, 1928.

"William Vawter was born and raised in Woodford Co., KY. He afterward moved to Burlington, Boone Co., KY not far from Cincinnati where he became acquainted with and married to Sarah Neave. They built a log cabin of one room and there the subject Jane Neave Vawter was born on 16 Jan 1837. But her mother lived only until Jane was 3 years old, after which her father took Jane to her Uncle Charles Neave's in Cincinnati. Here she was raised and educated until age 18. She then returned home in 1855 and was married in 1857. At that date her father rented his farm and moved to Fulton, MO to educate his four boys by his second wife, in Westminster College. But after only a few months he died and was buried in Fulton. His age was 67."

A second letter written by William F. Vawter, grandson on April 16, 1928 gives more information.

"Dear Sir

Replying to yours of 29th of March, my grand father Vawter was a resident of Virginia during the war of 1812. Afterward he with two sons Wm. Vawter and Fleming Vawter m. Elizabeth Twombly and one daughter Mrs. Riley, moved to Burlington, Boone Co. Kentucky. While living there my father married Miss Jane Nieve, of Cincinnati Ohio. They had one daughter who afterward married J. E. Keithley of Shackelford Saline Co., MO. In 1830 Wm. Vawter moved to Monroe Co., Missouri and entered 1/2 section of land 14 miles west of Paris, the county seat, on filing two land warrants issued by the President of the US for services rendered while first Lieutenant of a Virginia regiment during the war of 1812. These warrants are on file in county recorder's offices, Paris, MO. His first wife having died about 1835 he married Miss Amanda Poage of Monroe Co., Mo. Four sons were born to this marriage. Alfred F. Vawter born 1837 J. H. Vawter born 1840, J. P. Vawter born 1842 and Wm. F. Vawter born Dec 28th 1844. In 1857 Wm. Vawter moved to Fulton, MO to educate his sons at Westminster College. He died in Spring of 1858. His wife, Mrs. Amanda Vawter died in Summer of 1863 at Fulton, MO Yours truly, Wm. F. Vawter."

A letter by Flora Keithley (daughter mentioned by Wm. F.) is included in the William Snyder Vawter materials.

"In Grace Vawter Bicknell's book she mentions Jesse Vawter father William Vawter and say little is know of him", then says of land sold by him in Kentucky in 1803, 1085, 1809 records show he had sold land in Jessamine Co., Campbell Co. & Gallatin Co. This Wm. Vawter was my great grandfather.

Record from KY shows that Wm. Vawter living in Woodford Co., when the second census was taken in 1800. He had large tracts of land and 7 slaves" (secured by Frank Vawter)

Register of KY State Historical Society for May 1916 p 39 to 43 show him Versailles, Woodford Co., KY and had nine whites in family and 14 slaves. That he was a soldier in Rev. War and received a pension for his services. This also shows that Edmund F. Vawter (Wm.'s son) with three whites and Jesse Vawter with four whites in family living in the same town and co.

Frank Vawter got record from KY following: "William Vawter Lieutenant was in State Line (Virginia) Warrant No 97 was issued to him for 2, 266 2/3 A and was issued in 33 certificates of 80A. each one fractional certificate of 22 2/3A. name of person to who certificate was issued William Buford. It was delivered to Wm. S. Cox as agent. Also this by Frank Vawter: Sep 23, 1809 William Vawter purchased land from John Taylor, John a farmer in Boone Co., KY. Flora Keithley."

PS He went to Mo. Monroe Co., near Paris, where he married his second wife.

Book: *A Chapter of Hopkins Genealogy*, Ella W. Harrison, 1735-1905, The Lakeside Press, Chicago, pub. 1905. This book contains the genealogy of the Hopkins family who settled in Virginia. Page 230

Jane Poage, dau. of Mary Hopkins and Robert Poage, m. 2 Oct 1806 to cousin James Poage b. 15 Sep 1784 d. 1850 Monroe Co., MO. He was called "Major"

Children:

Mary Ann Poage b. 18 Sep 1807 d. 1863 m. 17 Nov 1854 to James E. Crawford. Home Florida and Monroe Co., MO.

Amanda Poage b. 5 Dec 1809 d. 1860 m. W. H. Vawter b. 1807. Children: Alfred F. Vawter b. Sep 1840, James H. Vawter b. Feb 1842, Thomas P. Vawter b. 7 Aug 1843, and William Franklin Vawter b. 28 Dec 1844. Home in Marshall, MO.

- a. Alfred F. Vawter m. Jan 1873 to Emma Major b. 1850. Children W. E. Vawter, Frances Vawter, Alfred Vawter and Major Vawter. Home Marshall, MO. Business Druggist
- b. James H. Vawter m. 1869 to Eva Vaughan. Home Marshall, Saline Co., MO. Business, agriculture.
- c. Thomas P. Vawter m. 1868 to Addie Vaughan b. 1852. Children: William A. Vawter, Emma Vawter, A. T. Vawter, Eva Vawter, T. P. Vawter, Iola Vawter, Edgar Vawter, Frank Vawter, Aureline Vawter and Vaughan Vawter. Home Marshall, Saline Co., MO. Business Merchant.
- d. William Franklin Vawter, m. 1869 to Latitia H. Buck b. 1847 d. 1872. m. (2) to Susie F. Fray b. 1863. Children: William A. Vawter, John F. Vawter, David D. Vawter, Charles E. Vawter and Martha E. Vawter.

Robert Darius Poage b. 13 Feb 1811 d. 21 Jul 1864 m. 3 Sep 1840 to Margaret Poage, dau. of Col William Poage and granddaughter of John Poage.

Eliza Poage b. Sep 1812 d. 9 Feb 1845

Martha Poage b. Feb 1814

William Hopkins Poage b. Aug 1815

Davis Poage

Marcus Poage b. 22 May 1819 d. 20 Jul 1864

Rufus A. Poage b. 22 May 1819 (twin) d. 5 Nov 1844

Andrew Franklin Poage b. Jul 1822 d. 9 May 1849

Thomas Miller Poage b. Dec 1823

James Edward Poage

Samantha Poage b. 14 Sep 1826 d. 25 Oct 1850

Samuel Poage b. 14 Sep 1826 (twin) d. 14 Sep 1826

John Davis Poage b. 22 Jun 1829

Child of William and Jane (Neave) Vawter:

a. William Died in infancy

b. Jane Neave Vawter b. 16 Jan 1837 d. 1 Sep 1922 Mt. Leonard, MO m. 27 Oct 1857 Monroe Co., MO to Jacob Carter Keithley b. 4 Mar 1831 Shackelford, Saline Co., MO. Jacob's parents were Fannie White and Levi Keithley. Levi b. 15 May 1794 Warren, KY d. 28 Oct 1875 Center, Ralls Co., MO. Bur. Keithley Cem. Ralls Co. Jacob and Jane Keithley located to Saline Co., MO in 1857 and located on a farm near Mt. Leonard by 1860 called "Crystal Springs".

1d. Irving Washington Keithley b. 20 Jun 1858 Saline Co., MO

2d. Herbert Rudolph Keithley b. 2 Jun 1862 Saline Co., MO d. 19 Feb

1921

3d. Flora E. Keithley b. 3 Dec 1863 Saline Co., MO

4d. Ella R. Keithley b. 28 Aug 1866 Saline Co., MO

5d. George Eugene Keithley b. 20 Dec 1868 (Presbyterian Minister)

6d. Joseph Clarence Keithley d. young

7d. Stanly Keithley d. young

8d. Roland Hill Keithley b. 1 Jun 1876 Saline Co., MO d. 22 Oct 1919

c. Charles died in infancy

Children of William and Amanda (Poage) Vawter

d. Alfred Fleming Vawter b. 1840 d. Los Angeles 21 May 1925 m. (1) Elizabeth Twombly. He m. (2) Emma Major on 1 Jan 1873 at Booneville, MO. Emma was b. ca 1849/50 and possibly d. 1920. Children (which mother is unknown): Major Vawter, Alfred Vawter, Frances (female) Vawter and W. E. (male) Vawter.

e. James Henry Clay Vawter b. 20 Feb 1842 d. 11 Feb 1915 m. Eva M. Vaughn

f. Thomas Pierce Vawter b. 17 Aug 1843 d. 19 Dec 1932 m. 22 Oct 1868 Saline Co., MO to Ada Arlene Vaughn.

Children: Emma Vawter, Eva May Vawter, William Alvis Vawter, Arthur Tipton Vawter, Thomas Pierce Vawter, Jr., Iola Harwood Vawter, Edgar Southern Vawter, Franklin Poage Vawter, Estelle Vawter, Aureline Vawter and Ernest Vaughan Vawter.

g. Dr. William Franklin Vawter b. 28 Dec 1844 m. Miss T. H. Buck. Had a son William A. Vawter. m. (2) Susie Fray had children: John Franklin Vawter, David Dobyms Vawter, Charles Edward Vawter and Martha Vawter.

h. Mary Vawter died in infancy

i. John Vawter died in infancy.

6. Virginia A. Vawter b. ca 1793 a spinster. Mentions Ann Bascom, niece in her will. Edmund F. Vawter was executor of the will and freed the black girl named Aggy.

These children are not proven by the military records of William but are from family information.

7. John R. Vawter found 1820 Census LeRoy, Genessee, NY with wife, 1 dau. & 1 son under 10.

Witness to marriage of sister Maria (below) in 1810.

8. David Jameson Vawter m. 13 Jun 1812 Harriet E. Rucker d. bef 1829. Marriage bond of Woodford Co., KY David Jameson Vawter m. Harriot Rucker, signed William Vawter and Elliott Rucker, witness John R. Vawter
Another printed record shows this as: Daniel S. Vawter m. Harriett Rucker 14 Jun 1812.

9. Mary G. Vawter m. 31 Oct 1821 to Gabriel Tandy (Boone Co., KY marriage record)

10. Maria Vawter b. 16 Dec 1809 IN d. 7 Dec 1846 m. 4 Oct 1810 to George W. Rucker. Marriage bond located in Woodford Co., KY of Maria Vawter m. George W. Rucker, signed William Vawter and Elliott Rucker, witness John R. Vawter.

11. Margaret Vawter m. Mr. Bascom. One dau. known Ann Bascom who is mentioned in the will of Virginia, sister of Edmond. Margaret is mentioned in the land sale of 20 March 1626 Boone Co., KY page 24 Book B.

Winifred Vawter⁴, (David³, John², Bartholomew¹)

Winifred was the daughter of David Vawter and Mary Offill/Offott She was b. October 1755 VA and d. 2 Mar 1818 KY. She married James Dehoney b. 5 Feb 1751 VA d. 18 Sep 1824 VA. Spellings found Doughonney, Dabony and Dohoney. James parents were Thomas Dehoney and Hannah Rhodes.

(GJNote: a family connection, James' sister, Milly Dehoney m. Elijah Ballard. Elijah was the brother of Ann Ballard who married William³ Vawter, (Edward², Barth¹), Thomas Ballard being the father of both Ann and Elijah also shown here.)

These tax records are for the fathers of both Winifred and James.

Orange County Virginia, Tithables 1734 - 1782 Part One by Barbara Vines Little. 1988, (pub. not clearly stated)

p. 84 - 85 " A list of the number of Tithes in my Percincts august 1st 1766....

David Vauter 2 [tithes] Richard Bruce "

p. 90 - 91 " [1767] A List in my bounds and Number of Tiths pr. me Jeremh. Bryan

David Vaughter 2 [tithes] Thos. Dohoney 3 [tithes] "

p. 98 - 99 " 1768 Jeremiah Bryan his List of Sucker hunting tiths

Thos. Doughonney 4 [tithes] David Vautor 3 [tithes] "

p. 104 [John Whites list for 1769] " David Vawter 2 tiths "

p. 108 " A list of the Tithables in the Precincts Wherein I John Griffen am Constable for the year 1769Thomas Ballord 1 [tithe] William Vawters 1 [tithe] "

Heads of Families - Orange County, 1782

Name of Head of Family	White	Black
Daughoney, Thomas	11	13
Daughoney, James	5	--

Book *Marriages of VA Residents 1607-1800* by Wulfeck, pub. 1986 Vol. II, p130.

Winifred m. James Dabony. Book- *Marriage Records of Virginia 1722-1850* by Terese A. Fisher, marriage shows Dohony, James & Winifred Vawter; 23 Feb 1775.

James Dehoney migrated to Scott Co., KY ca 1798 and most of his family remained there until around the Civil War when many of the children moved either to Jefferson Co., IN or Jackson Co., MO, settling in what is now Raytown, a suburb of Kansas City. Source, family notes of Homer R. Dehoney and Jean Hough.

Mary Ann, her sister, married John Gatewood and two of Winifred's sons married two of Mary Ann's daughters. (See Mary Ann⁴ file)

Children of James and Winifred (Vawter) Dehoney:

1. Mary Elizabeth "Polly" Dehoney

2. William Dehoney b. 3 May 1778 d. 1822 m. 21 Sep 1803 Woodford Co., KY to Ellen Hancock. Noted but not proved, was Veteran of War of 1812. Listed 1807 Scott Co., KY Tax List.

3. Thomas Dehoney b. 1784 VA d. 31 Mar 1853 Jackson Co., MO m. 12 Feb 1819 to Harriet Gatewood, dau. of John Gatewood and Mary Vawter. 1782 Census Orange Co., VA shows Thomas Dehoney. Listed 1812, 1814, 1816 Scott Co., KY tax list. Had 10 children, including Marion, Wileria (Wilberia), Martila, Leander, Simeon B., Marcellus, David, and Martha Dehoney.

4. Margaret "Peggy" Dehoney

5. Hezekiah Rodes Dehoney b. 13 Jul 1786 VA d. bet. 1870-1880 Jefferson Co., IN m. (1) ca 1810 Nancy Matilda Gatewood b. 23 May 1794 VA or KY. Nancy is possibly a sister or cousin of Lydia and Harriet, parents unknown. H. R. (Rodes) m. (2) 14 Oct 1858 to Ellen Hall. Listed 1810, 1816 Scott Co., KY tax list. Moved bet. 1820-1825 to Jefferson Co., IN. He sold his land in Owen Co., KY. Owen was formed from Scott Co., KY and he recorded the first deed in Owen in Book 1, page 1. Records of Jefferson Co., IN indicate that Thomas, James and Rodes were in Captain Thomes' Home Guards in 1817.

Nancy Matilda (Gatewood) Dehoney is bur. In Jefferson Co., IN, Wirt Baptist Cem, 7 mi. north of Madison, IN. Her inscription reads: *In memory of Nancy - consort of H. R. Dehoney Born in VA May 23, 1794 age 62 years 10 months 23 days. "Sleep on Nancy my beloved dear, I will be with you when Christ shall appear, I stood by you while in agony and pain, and shall soon be with you again."*

Hezekiah and Nancy had 10 children: Martha, Minerva, Mary Ann, Eliza Elimine, William S., Julia Frances, James Robinson, Frances Marion, Emily, and John Wycliff Dehoney.

6. Lucy Dehoney b. 13 Dec 1787 d. 5 Sep 1867 Jackson Co., MO m. (1) 1803 to John Stribling d. 29 Jul 1814, children: Cincinatus Sanford Stribling, Winifred Vaughter Stribling and Julia Ann Stribling. Lucy m. (2) 4 Jan 1821 to James West d. 15 Oct 1845 Jackson Co., MO, children: Irene West, Edward West, Shelby Rufus West Thomas T. Stribling, son of Benjamin and Ann (Tibbetts) Stribling m. Sarah Vawter d. of Jesse and Elizabeth (Watts) Vawter. Thomas and John Stribling are brothers. Thomas migrated to IN near Madison and the other Vawter families ca 1809.

6a. Cincinnatis Stribling of KY

6b. Winifred Vaughter Stribling m. Hadley A. Head. In the will of Hadley Head he lists his wife Winnifred. William C. Head and John D. Head were named as sons, and Lucy Ann Wright named as dau. Winniford was appointed exec. 22 June 1872, Jackson Co., MO

6c. Julia Ann Chisham of KS. A granddaughter of Julia's wrote a history of their family, exerpted here for space.

"Grandma Chisham, a fearless pioneer of Kansas was the only grandparent I ever knew. She was born 9 July 1812 in Scott Co., KY when our beloved country was undergoing the 2nd war with Great Britain. Her education was received in a Catholic school, she called a monastery, although her family were staunch Baptists. Her mother Lucy DeHoney married to John Stribling. Julia Anne was 22 when she married Thomas D. Chisham of IN. His maternal grandparent was Thomas Dinwiddie of Scotland, a harness maker. When the "gold fever" raged in CA, Grandfather (Thomas Chisham) wanted to seek his fortune in the west. He let the home they were trying to pay out on, "go back", moved his family to her mother's, leaving her the team and wagon at Great Grandmother West's home 5 miles south of Independence. He became driver of an ox team (10 or 12 yoke), loaded with provisions and with the "bull train" left Westport, MO in spring 1853 for the "wild and wooly west". No railroads, mail or telegraph were available and the only way to hear from your departed was by means of the caravans coming back "light" every now and then. He sent

a letter back from Salt Lake City, Utah and later on, one from Stockton, Calif. Some time later a Mr. Overton returned and Grandma sent James to go see him to learn more of his father's whereabouts. Mr. Overton told him; "When I saw your father last, he was about to start for "Mud Springs" where there was great excitement over gold and he hoped to make his stake there". This was the last we ever heard of him.

Julia was slight in form and small of stature, but was unafraid of work. Despairing of never hearing from his father (Thomas) again, James went "out west" in spring of 1855 and picked a claim in Leavenworth, KS. He was only 20, grandma went out later and "pre-empted" it. She sold this claim and bought in Atchinson KS, now known as Potter. They built a log cabin with a fireplace whose chimney was made of green sticks and thickly plastered mud inside and out. Her house burned down and her cow died, but she built again and provided for the family. She would not tolerate laziness, not even the children. The girls used to knit socks for the stores and ride horseback to market their goods. She would assign so many rounds of stitches and if the girls fell asleep they were awoken with cold water. They raised hemp, flax and wool for cloth and all had "linsey-woolsey" skirts.

She had over 40 grandchildren before she died. When her teeth went bad she removed them with a knife and would only rest on Sunday with Bible study and letter writing. Once when staying at a hotel, she cleaned the room and made the bed so the chamber maid would not have to wait on her. She smoked a clay pipe for her health, but when getting the "grip" one winter stopped smoking after over 50 years. Frugal plains women, she like others used ravelings and basting threads to sew new garments, old almanacs were lamp lighters to save matches. She wore straight skirts that when worn were turned to make top to bottom. She would not indulge in button shoes but wore plain cloth shoes. They must be worn right foot one day and left the next to keep longer. When stockings wore out they were unraveled and reknitted. She wore have red twilled flannel underwear until May 1 and then they were layed away til winter. No matter that May 1 could bring many a cold day or night. She fought tornados, drought and every prairie misery with good spirits and faith in God and weighed only 65 pounds at 75 years of age. Going to church she was thrown from the buggy but was unhurt at over 75 years old. She quilted numerous quilts and used fabric pieces that others would throw away. She died on 9 Jun 1905 just one month before her 93rd birthday. "

6d. Irene West m. Eli House. Eli d. intestate with, Jackson Co., MO. Irene House and John T. House security made bond of adm. 19 May 1862. Heirs were: widow, Irene House and children John T. House, Lucy Jane Wilson, Manfred, Sally Ann, Mary Elizabeth, Alexander, James, William, and Eleanor House, all of Jackson Co., MO. Eli was killed during the Civil War due to his "so called southern sympathies." Those known as Jennison's men burned the house, ran off livestock and left the family destitute. In the fall of 1863, Eli and Irene's son John spent some time riding with Quantrell. John T. House married at age 48 in 1886 to a 17 year old girl named Alice Moberly and had 4 children. He was 82 years old in 1920 when this information was given to Dora Childers Stanley who wrote the story of the family.

Eli House was b. 1804 in KY and reared in Shelby Co., IN. When 18 he left home and worked around Liberty, MO and then to Independence MO where he met and married Irene West in 1836. They "entered" and improved 80 acres and replaced the old log cabin in 1856 with a big fram house. In 1861 the Union soldiers stationed in Independence came and questioned Eli about some "bush whackers" they were trailing. He had not seen them, but being a southern sympathizer they accused him and destroyed his house by burning it. They took him prisoner and shot him and took the cattle. He left 8 children age 2 to 22, John being the oldest. Son John became involved in the "war" problems and in 1856 was uged to go to Kansas and "squat" land with other Missourians to help vote the state as a southern slave state. His father Eli advised him not to accept this offer and he then joined the 1st Calvary in Jackson Co., MO for "home protection" As a confederate he fought at Rock Creek and were defeated. The soldiers headed for Arkansas but he returned to his home for protection of his family. He entered service with Col Shelby in MO., but they were defeated and ran toward Texas. Once more he returned to his home but the Federal "Order No. 11" was issued and gave only 15 days for all settlers to vacate the 4 counties bordering Kanas. This was hoped to stop the "guerillas" from their raids and end the hostility. But the opposite happened and John then joined with Quantrell. Quantrell had slipped into Virginia and received a commission from Jeff Davis and set up a troop to fight the federal troops. John wrote "they could not starve us out, as we knew the whole country by heart". They lived in the bush and rode from hiding places in all directions to strike at an appointed hour. On one raid they jumped from their horses and fought from the ground, but the memory of the loss of his father and family's life was enough to carry him through the worst. Quantrell fought for 2 years and John was one of the men who surrendered with Quantrell at Shreveport, LA.

6e. Edward West of Jackson Co., MO

6f. Shelby R. West of Colorado Territory, m. Willina DeHoney 6 Mar 1851 Jackson Co., MO. Willina dau. of Thomas DeHoney. Shelby was listed as Adm. of Thomas DeHoney's estate, along with Willina's brother Leander.

Shelby worked for the Colorado Gold Mining Co., of Laurette, CO. He formed an Overland Freight Train consisting of 40 wagons each drawn by 5 or 6 yoke of oxen to haul machinery out of the mines at Laurette (125 miles southwest of Denver). They left Leavenworth, KS 1 Sep 1865 expecting to reach CO in 2 months but due to storms and cattle crossing did not arrive until Dec 14. They were paid for board and \$50 per month. The roustabouts who ran the freight trains were paid \$125 per month. John T. House a nephew of Shelby's became a roustabout for several years.

Lucy Dehoney Stribling West d. intestate 5 Sep 1867, Hadley A. Head appointed Adm., Heirs were Cincinnatis Stribling, Winneford Head, Julia Ann Chism, Irene House, Edward West and Shelby R. West.

James West d. intestate 15 Oct 1845, Edward West appointed Adm. Heirs were Lucy West, Irene House, Edward West and Shelby West.

7. Willis Dehoney b. 6 Jun 1788 VA d. aft 1860 m. Lydia Gatewood, dau. of John Gatewood and Mary Vawter. Had 14 children of whom 9 survived: Zerelda, Merit, Malvina W., Hulda Scott, John Cabell B., Merial, Marcus Aurelius, Flavius Josephine, and Mary Dehoney.

Daughter Zerelda Emerine Dehone m. 27 Nov 1834 to Pleasant Stribling b. 5 May 1811. Pleasant Stribling the son of Thomas Stribling and Sarah Vawter. Zerelda's dau. Emerine married Allen T. Corbett of Davison Co., TN.

8. James R. Dehoney

9. Merritt G. Dehoney

10. Younger Dehoney

Margaret Vawter⁴, (David³, John², Bartholomew¹)

Margaret Vawter, daughter of David Vawter and Mary Offill/Offott b. 11 Oct 1763 VA d. 29 Apr 1813 KY. She m. Achilles Stapp and lived near Lexington, KY. Book - *Marriages Records of Virginia 1722-1850* by Terese A. Fisher, marriage Orange Co., VA --Stapp, Achilles & Margaret Vawter, d/o Mary Vawter; 27 Nov 1782. (This would indicate David, her father, is dead by 1782)
Achilles Stapp m. (2) Dec 1813 Scott Co., KY to Anna Delph.

In a letter from Erma Chandler in 1980, in the possession of Carol Tikka 1998, 14690 SW 106th Ave., Tigard, OR 97224, comes this information about Margaret's sister Mary. In 1811, Mary (Vawter) Gatewood left John and the children and in 1813 John placed son Jefferson and two daughters, Harriett and Minerva with Achilles Stapp and wife. Why Mary Ann left John is unknown, but John was a horse trainer and was around the various race tracks, it is also noted she was the prettiest girl in the county.

The Stapp Family (Step-Step-Stepp-Stapp-Steep), the Lucas family of Lucas Creek (Blackburn's Creek) and Simms family (Sims) are all interconnected and important to the land and area of Vawter's Church. The Moss family and Brooke families are also connected to the church and area of Essex that was important to the Vawters. A study of the Stapp family has been well researched and documented in the book *Orange county Virginia Families, Vol. III*, William Everett Brockman, Minneapolis, MN Copyright 1959. A portion is shown here to explain the connections. The William Sims Bible and other important family documents still exist.

The name Step first appears in research in the Will of Robert Moss, Essex 8 Aug 1685, probate 3 Apr 1689. Half of Estate goes to wife Rebecca and legacies to dau. Dorothy, wife of Abraham Step and to Rebecca and Martha Stapp, daughters of Abraham. Elizabeth, widow of Thomas Moss, brother of Robert Moss, married (2) Edmund Crask and her will, 1683, leaves legacies to Martha Stapp.
In *Virginia Tax Rolls Annotated 1704 & 1715* it states Abraham Stapp d. 1714 married Dorothy Moss. (Note William Brown m. (1) Francis Moss and (2) Mary Allen and is connected to the lands of Thomas R. Page and William Hodgson.

VA Colonial Abstracts give the will of Abraham Stapp of Essex Co. dated 20 Oct 1710 prob. 8 Apr 1714. *To son Abraham Stapp all land on n. side of Rd. of "my now dwelling plantation". To son William all land of S. side of road. To son Jacob Stapp upper part of land bought of Edward Moseley and to son Joshua Stapp the lower part bordering on Mr. Robt. Brooke. To young sons Joseph and James 25 acres each of lower land. Jacob and Joshua to buy them 100 acres each elsewhere. To wife Dorothy all property during lifetime. To dau. Ruth Stapp cattle, etc. To two daus. Rebecca and Martha a shilling each. Signed Abraham Stapp. Wit: Robert Moss, Peter Hollon, Will Harte.*

8 Dec 1719, William Step and brother Joshua, appoint John Foster, attorney to acknowledge deed which was witnessed by William Mason.

16 Nov 1753, Henry Gains reports as adm. of John Step at Culpeper and makes allowances for five children who are under the Guardianship of Joshua Step and then

says "paid to me 1/3 of the estate due my wife". So Henry Gains had married the relict of John Step.

Joshua also is guardian to Thomas and Elizabeth Lucas, orphans of Thomas Lucas at Orange.

Will of Joshua Step of Orange mentions only his grandchildren. Prior to Joshua's death on 23 Dec 1775 he gives to granddaughter Elizabeth Sims, a Negro Ben and to son James, four Negroes. Orange Co., Will Book 3, 1778-1801, Will of Joshua Stapp

In the name of God, Amen. I, Joshua Stapp, County of Orange, being in perfect health....

Item: Negro man and Woman to be free.

Item: Grandson, Achilles Stapp, have Negro Woman, Cate.

Item: The residue of estate not mentioned be divided bet. grandson, Achilles Stapp; granddau. Lucy Willhort; granddau. Sarah Creel, and granddau. Martha Hubbard.

Item: My estate by not sold but be appraised and divided according to appraisement.

Lastly: Grandson, Achilles Stapp, Executor dated 19 Dec 1782. Signed Joshua (mark) Stapp, Wit: John Payne, John Wayt, William Wayt.

Presented to Orange Co. Court 27 Mar 1783 by Achillis Stapp, exec. and proved by oaths John and William Wait. Security Robert Miller £250.0.0

Joshua and wife (unknown, see below) had at least six children.

1. Anestar m. William Simms (deceased when father made will)
2. Son, who had a son Achilles. Rev. Soldier m. 1786. (our line)
3. Daughter m. Wilhout, daughter Lucy.
4. Daughter, married Creel, daughter Sarah.
5. Daughter, married Hubbard, daughter Martha.
6. James Step m. Elizabeth Lucas.

Achilles was the son of Joshua Stapp (Jr) and Hannah Durham and was b. 22 Dec 1755 Orange Co., VA d. 4 Sep 1849 Scott Co., KY. This Stapp lineage inf. provided by Eugene R. Fisher email JDDP32B@prodigy.com, whose line is through son, Elijah.

Additional information from Family Tree Maker CD file Vol. 6 #4033 clarifies the children and grandchildren of Joshua. Maria Bobo in GA was able to obtain this information to complete this line as follows:

Joshua Stapp (Sr) will dated 27 Mar 1783, Orange Co., VA m. Martha Coffey dau of Edward and Ann Coffey. Children:

John Stapp b. 1710 d. 1751 Culpeper Co., VA

Thomas Stapp b. ca 1712 d aft 1777 m. Ann Lucas

Eve Salmon Stapp b. ca 1715

Anester Stapp b. ca 1716

Elizabeth Stapp b. ca 1718

Joseph Stapp b. ca 1720

Joshua Stapp (Jr.) b. 1724 d. 1814 Adair Co., KY (father of Achilles)

James Stapp b. ca 1725 d. aft 1776

Joshua Stapp (Jr.) m. Hannah Durham, children:

Benjamin Stapp, Lucy Stapp, Agness Stapp, Sally Stapp, Betsy Stapp, Martita Stapp,

Thomas Stapp b. ca 1753 Orange Co., VA d. 1806 Green Co., KY m. 7 Jan 1779 Orange

Co., KY to Elizabeth Burgridge and Achilles Stapp b. 22 Dec 1755 VA d. 14 Sep 1849 Scott Co., KY m. (1) Margaret Vawter and m. (2) Dec 1813 Scott Co., KY to Anna Delph.

Source: family Bible of Achilles Stapp, which beyond birth dates mainly shows his second family with Ann Delph.

Book - *Virginia Soldiers of 1776* by Burgess Vol. page 1443. Achilles Stapp served in State Line in Rev. War. Achilles married Margaret Vawter 27 Nov 1782, removed to Scott Co., KY. His brother, Thomas, also of Orange Co., VA married Betsy Burgage 1776. Another record shows Thomas Stapp m. Betsy Barbage 4 Jan 1779, removed to Woodford Co., KY

Heads of Families - Orange County, 1782

Name of Head of Family	White	Black
Stapp, Joshua	1	7
Stapp, Joshua, Junr	9	3
Stapp, Thomas	5	—
Stapp, Achilles	1	--

Achilles Stapp purchased land of James Renfro in KY. James Renfro was the second husband of Mary (Offill/Offitt) Vawter, the mother of Margaret. James Renfro had been in KY for some time and acquired land near Elkhorn where the family Vawter and Stapp families settled. The following information comes from the Renfro researchers and is also found in the notes of David Vawter.

From Dr. Donald Ott Manshardt, Renfro family papers: James Renfro bought 300 A of land 17 Apr 1781 Lincoln Co., KY on the Rockcastle River. This later became Rockcastle Co., where Renfro Valley is now located. In 1801, James Renfro granted land to Lewis Renfro for 100 pounds, both of Lincoln Co., KY. It is located where Boone's Trace crossed Renfro's Creek, crossing of Roundstone below the mouth of Renfro's Creek. Wit: Reuben and James Menefee, and Absalom Renfro. Bk D p231. James lived in Woodford Co., KY from 1788 to 92 and Lincoln Co., KY from 1797 to 1800.

James, Reubin, Joshua and Achilles Stapp came from Orange Co., VA to Woodford Co., KY Achilles bought land on North Elkhorn from James Rentfro of Woodford Co., KY. In 1790, Stapp sold this land on the Elkhorn to Joshua Stapp and wife Hannah and in 1792 sold the land to Joseph Anderson.

Children of Achilles and Margaret (Vawter) Stapp as found in Vawter family and dates of birth taken from FTM (family tree maker) CD Vol.1 #1048. Several of Achilles and Jesse's children married into the Branham family. Jesse was the brother of David Vawter. All of the Branhams named are children of John and Letitia Branham. E-mail of Sandy Winkler sew@goldrush.com

1. Elijah "Ely" Stapp b. 16 Oct 1783 Orange Co., VA. d. March 1843 Edna, Jackson Co., TX m. 16 May 1811 Woodford Co., KY. Nancy Shannon b. ca 1790 d. 13 Aug 1845 TX. (Elijah's date of death also shown as 21 Aug 1842)

In 1816 he moved to MO with his wife and two sons. While living there he heard stories of land and life in the Mexican Territory of TX. In 1826, he went to look it over and in 1831 he moved with his wife and six children to Jackson Municipality, in the contract colony of Green C. DeWitt.

On 16 Jul 1831, he was given title to a “league of land”. When the Mexican government closed Texas to further settlement of Americans he saw danger for his future. When the Consultation Convention was called at Old Washington-on-the-Brazos for 1 Mar 1836, Elijah was asked to stand for election as a delegate and was elected. The Texas Declaration of Independence from Mexico was drafted with Elijah signing as a duly elected delegate. He was also selected by the convention as one of the “Committee of 26” to draft the constitution that governed the Republic of Texas from 1836 until Texas was admitted to the Union in 1846.

When peace returned after the battle of San Jacinto, Elijah Stapp returned to his home and was elected a judge in Edna, TX in 1839. He held this position until his death in March 1843. Elijah Stapp was buried in the old Russell Ward farm outside Edna, TX. The actual gravesite is unknown, but the area is marked by a monument by the Texas Centennial Commission in 1936.

Contributed by Edward M. Stapp, 109 S. Indianwood Ave., Broken Arrow, OK 74012, printed in the Vol. 8 (1983) VVV Association newsletter.

STAPP, ELIJAH (1783-1843). *Elijah Stapp, a pioneer settler in DeWitt's colony^{qv} and a signer of the Texas Declaration of Independence,^{qv} was born in Orange County, Virginia, on October 16, 1783, the son of Achilles and Margaret (Vawter) Stapp. He married Nancy Shannon in 1811 and came to Texas from Missouri, where he had encountered the empresario^{qv} Green DeWitt,^{qv} who wrote a letter of introduction to Stephen F. Austin^{qv} on Stapp's behalf dated March 9, 1826. James Kerr,^{qv} DeWitt's surveyor general, who established Gonzales in 1825 as the capital of the DeWitt colony, noted that Stapp was among the few who visited the settlement by July 1826. Having investigated the new land, Stapp brought his wife and six children to settle in the colony about 1830. Three other children were born to the Stapps in Texas. On July 16, 1831, Stapp was issued a Spanish title to a league of land now in Victoria County. Stapp provided leadership in a meeting of settlers of Navidad and Lavaca held on July 17, 1835, to discuss growing dissatisfaction with the Mexican government. He was appointed second judge of the new Jackson Municipality on December 6, 1835, by the General Council^{qv} of the provisional government.^{qv} He was then elected with Kerr to represent Jackson in the Convention of 1836^{qv} at Washington-on-the-Brazos. Kerr did not attend; Stapp took his seat on March 1 and signed the Declaration of Independence. After the convention Stapp and those of his family not serving in the army were forced to flee from their home during the Runaway Scrape.^{qv} Stapp wrote a letter of character dated April 9, 1836, to ad interim president David G. Burnet^{qv} in defense of John J. Linn,^{qv} who had been arrested erroneously as a spy. Stapp was elected justice of the peace of Jackson County, Republic of Texas, in 1839, and in 1840 he was postmaster at La Baca, Jackson County. That year he owned 4,428 acres in Victoria County. Stapp died on March 21, 1843, in Jackson County and was buried in what became known as Russell Ward Cemetery, five miles northeast of Edna. In 1936 the Texas Centennial^{qv} Commission erected a monument in the cemetery in his honor. His son William Preston Stapp^{qv} served in the Mier expedition^{qv} in 1842, survived both the Black Bean Episode^{qv} and captivity in Perote Prison,^{qv} and wrote *The Prisoners of Perote* (1845), an account of his experience that remains valuable for its detail and insight into the tensions between Mexico and Texas.*

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Louis Wiltz Kemp, *The Signers of the Texas Declaration of Independence* (Salado, Texas: Anson Jones, 1944; rpt. 1959). *Texas House of Representatives, Biographical Directory of the Texan Conventions and Congresses, 1832-1845* (Austin: Book Exchange, 1941). L. W. Kemp

Biographies here are DeWitt Colonists (surnames beginning O-Z) who were in the colony by census, land or other records through Dec 1828. Other biographies can be found at [The Battle of Gonzales-Old 18](#), [Gonzales Alamo Relief Force](#), [Land Grantees & Residents](#), [Gonzales Town Residents](#) and [Citizens-Free State of Lavaca](#).

STAPP. Darwin Massey Stapp, shown in the 1828 census, was the first of the Stapps to arrive in the DeWitt Colony. According to land records, he arrived as a single man on 4 Jun 1828 and received title to a quarter sitio of land on the west bank of the Guadalupe River west of Gonzales. His father, **Elijah Stapp**, arrived 20 Mar 1830 with family of 8 and was granted a sitio of land in current Victoria County. His son and brother of D.M. Stapp, **William Preston Stapp**, arrived single on 20 Feb 1830 and received a quarter sitio east of Gonzales near the Gonzales Lavaca County line. A Col. John Emison related to Victor Marion Rose for the Rose History of Victoria County, 1883 *"When I came to Mission Valley I found here Capt. Dick Powers, J. D. Gabler, Quincey Davidson, A. J. Hamilton, D. M. Stapp, Hugh Stapp, Oliver Stapp, Nat Stucks, Major Andrews, E. Parkinson, J. M. Edgar, Santiago de Leon and Patricio de Leon."* Darwin Stapp, referred to with the title Colonel, served in numerous minuteman campaigns against Indian attacks and Mexico in 1835-36 and was member of the Texas legislature in 1850 to 1854, customs agent at Indianola from 1856 to 1864 and a member of the secession convention of 1861. Col. Stapp was an active merchant in Victoria, TX from 1866-1870. In partnership with the Hensley brothers of Lavaca, he had a large grocery business near the Victoria depot. Col. Stapp purchased the building known as the "female academy" which became the Victoria High School in 1883 (the time of Victor Rose's History of Victoria) and opened the Stapp Hotel in 1870 which he owned until his death in 1875.

Elijah Stapp was signer of the Texas Declaration of Independence representing Jackson County. He and **Major James Kerr** drew straws to see who would attend and who would stay to take care of security matters at home. Sam Houston Dixon in *The Men Who Made Texas Free* writes:

When the settlers of Navadad and Lavaca held their meeting July 17, 1835, to express their views regarding the pending questions agitating them and to arouse resistance to Mexican tyranny, Mr. Stapp attended the meeting and took a leading part in its proceedings.....This meeting was held previous to the Consultation Convention and had its influence in shaping the destinies of that Convention.....A few days before the date for the convening of this convention he joined other delegates to the convention and made the trip on horseback, going via San Felipe where he remained over night, joining other delegates there. Among these delegates was Thomas Barnett, who afterwards gained fame as a Senator of the Republic. *"On our trip to Old Washington, "* said Mr. Barnett, *"we rode leisurely, chatting though in a solemn vein. We all realized the seriousness of our mission. We were all agreed on one point, and that was that the time had come when we should declare in emphatic terms against longer tolerating Mexican tyranny. We had been advised that Santa Anna was massing his forces to invade the State and we were eager to organize to meet him. Words were cautiously spoken because none of us desired to impress upon our companions that we were blood thirsty. We had faith in the wisdom of the delegates we knew would assemble."* On reaching Old Washington Mr. Stapp sought to meet the delegates from the different sections of the State that he might be able to learn the general character of the delegation, and to discuss with them the work before them. This is confirmed by Mr. Waller and Mr. Menefee. Regarding Mr. Stapp, Mr. Waller said: *"Elijah Stapp mingled with the delegates as they arrived and asked many questions regarding conditions in the different parts of the State. He had an idea that a programme had been mapped out and he expressed an earnest desire to know what it was."* Mr. Menefee said *"Mr. Stapp was an enthusiast and in mingling with the delegates he impressed all by his earnestness."*

A Darwin M. Stapp is listed among the Texas veterans first class in *A Texas Scrapbook* by Baker as age 58, serving in the campaign of 1835 and with residence VictoriaCo. D.M and Oliver Stapp are listed on the 1840 Taxrolls of JacksonCo. Brother of Elijah Stapp, Brigadier-General D.M. Stapp from Madison, Indiana was commander of the 44th Brigade, Confederate States of America, into which the Lavaca County Militia became a part in 1860. William Preston Stapp was Private in the disastrous Mier Expedition and in 1845 wrote an extensive first hand account of his imprisonment, *The Prisoners of Perote*. His uncle Milton Stapp aided in his release.

From *The Signers of the Texas Declaration of Independence* by L.W. Kemp: **Elijah Stapp** was born in Virginia in about 1783 and came to Texas from Missouri. On March 9, 1826 Green DeWitt, in New London, Ralls County, Missouri, wrote to Stephen F. Austin:

Permit me to introduce to your attention Col. Elijah Stapp and Mr. William Duncan; who came to Texas for the purpose of selecting lands for a number of families; who intend to migrate from this County to that Country, they are particularly bound for the Guadalupe on San Marco, as their intention is Mills Cotton Ginns etc.

It was not until 1830, however, that Stapp with his wife and six children came to Texas to make their home. On July 16, 1831, he received title to one league of land in De Witt's Colony, located in what is now Victoria County. The following officers were elected December 6, 1835 for the newly created Municipality of Jackson by the General Council of the Provisional Government: Patrick Usher, first judge; **Elijah Stapp**, second judge; John Alley, William Millican and **George Sutherland**, commissioners for organizing the militia. When the municipality was created December 2 from Matagorda Municipality it was provided that *"the Capitol shall be the Town of Texana, lately called Santa Anna."* Approximately 85 votes were cast in the election held in Jackson Municipality to elect two delegates to the Constitutional Convention. At the box at the home of **James Kerr**, on the Lavaca, where **Elijah Stapp** and John Alley were the judges and Samuel A. White, the secretary, the vote was: Kerr, 29; Stapp, 27; George Sutherland, 2; and Francis Menefee White, John S. Menefee and Francis M. White were the judges at Texana. There Sutherland received 38 votes; Stapp, 26; White, 24; and Kerr, 20. Of the total number of votes cast, Stapp received 53; Kerr, 49; Sutherland, 40; and White, 40. Kerr and Stapp were declared elected. Stapp was seated at the Convention March 1. Kerr did not attend.

There is no evidence in the General Land Office that Stapp joined the army after the adjournment of the Convention. The fact that he was on the Trinity River in April is an indication, at least, that he was in the *"runaway scrape."* He wrote a letter April 9, 1836, at "Trinity" to President Burnet in behalf of J. J. Linn. He was probably with William Menefee who also on April 9 wrote to Burnet in defense of Linn. That he had not returned to his home before June 1, 1836 is stated in a letter he wrote to Gen. Thomas J. Rusk in June 1836:

June 1836 East of Colorado River Genl Rusk When I was at the Convention with you, my family was driven from their home on the Lavaca, by the Enemy and they, the enemy, have destroyed, & driven off all that I had to Support my family; I am over here destitute of money or provisions for my family which Compels me to ask your assistance by Granting Me an order to draw from any public Stores a Sufficiency to Support on; My family that I ask for is five children, Wife and Myself--two of My Sons has been in the army almost ever Since it first commenced last fall---there is now two; In a few days I send you another which is all that I have able to do Military duty---I am doing all I can to get men to Rally to the Standard and fight the Battles of Texas; any duty that my bodily Strength Would enable me to perform either in public or private that would advance the cause of Texas I feel anxious & ever Ready to perform; as Soon as I get Shelter & Something to Support my family, I intend to pay you a Visit If health permits---Your course of procedure is approved by the people So far as I can Learn they are of opinion when you Whip the enemy that you pursue them closely across Rio grande and not permitting them to take any arms of Munitions of war With them. Respectfully yours &c Elijah Stapp

Stapp was postmaster at La Baca, Jackson County in 1840. He died in March 1843. He was buried in what later became known as the old Russell Ward Cemetery five miles northeast of Edna, Jackson County. In 1936 the Commission of Control for Texas Centennial Celebrations had a monument erected in the cemetery in his honor. Stapp was married to Nancy Shannon. Their children were *Preston; Darwin Massey; William Preston; Oliver; Hugh Shannon; Achilles; Walter; Le Grand; Rebecca;* and *Mary Stapp*, who was married to William King. *Darwin Massey Stapp*, son of Elijah Stapp, was born in 1815. He was thrice married. On November 8, 1837, he was married to Mrs. Maria O. Heard [marriage record in the earliest marriages recorded in 1837 in JacksonCo archives], who was twice a widow. His second wife was Miss Cecelia Thompson [who died along with a daughter in the epidemic of 1867] and his third, Mrs. Lulu Cunningham Robinson, a widow. There were no children by the first marriage. Children of his second marriage were Elijah, Revel and Edward Stapp. Darwin and Lula Stapp were children of his third marriage. Darwin Massey Stapp died February 28, 1875 [and his surviving widow then married a Mr. Du Vinage in 1877 and they moved to San Antonio. Stapp's son, E.M. Stapp married Miss Neelie Robson of Victoria in 1870. *Hugh Shannon Stapp*, son of Elijah Stapp, was born in Frankford, Kentucky, in 1820. On November 9, 1850, he was married to Elizabeth M. Rice, daughter of Dr. Charles Wesley and Margaret Rice. Their children were Cecelia; Callista, who was married to Isaac Newton Mitchell; Charles; Darwin; Walter; Elsie and Dalton Stapp. *William Preston Stapp*, son of Elijah Stapp, was a member of the Mier Expedition in 1842. Some of the surviving, descendants of Mr. and Mrs. Elijah Stapp in 1939 were Mrs. Callista Mitchell, La Ward, Texas; Mrs. Eunice Stokes, 745 Porter Street, San Antonio; C. S. Mitchell, Lolita, Texas; Hugh O. Mitchell, U. S. Coast & Geodetic Engineer, Washington, D. C.; Mrs. Ross R. Bailey, Houston; Mrs. Lena H. Stifford, Miami, Florida; J. J. Halfin, Beaumont; Preston E. Halfin, Victoria; and G. S. Halfin, Port Arthur

- 1a. William Preston Stapp b. 12 Apr 1812 d. 22 Dec 1861
 - 2a. Darwin Massey Stapp b. 1815 Frankfort, KY d. 28 Feb 1875 Victor, Victoria Co., TX
 - 3a. Oliver Hardin Stapp b. b. 1818 d. 1870 Bryan, Brazos Co., TX
 - 4a. Hugh Shannon Stapp b. b. 1820 MO d. 1890 TX m. 9 Dec 1850 TX to Elizabeth M. Rice b. ca 1830.
 - 5a. Achilles Stapp m. Mary Jane Taylor b. ca 1824
 - 6a. Walter Stapp b. ca 1824
 - 7a. Rebecca Margaret Stapp b. 17 Apr 1828 Palmyra, Marion Co., MO d. 12 Nov 1899 Colorado City, Mitchell Co., TX m. 30 May 1849 to Nathaniel M. Stukes b. ca 1826
 - 8a. Legrand Stapp b. ca 1830 d. ca 1830
 - 9a. Mary Jane Stapp b. 3 Jan 1837 TX d. ca 1897 Bryan, Brazos Co., KY
2. Elias Stapp b. 4 Jan 1786 VA d. 1 Feb 1867 Madison Co., IL m. Susan Branham b. ca 1788.
 3. Nancy Stapp b. 10 Nov 1788 Scott Co., KY d. 1 Mar 1848 m. Robert Branham b. ca 1786.
Robert died Jan 1860 and is buried in the Springdale Cemetery, Jefferson County, Indiana. He was married twice: (1) Nancy Stapp (2) Ann Heath
 4. Milton Stapp b. Jun 1791 Scott Co., KY d. Jul 1791 Scott Co., KY
 5. Milton Stapp b. 14 Jul 1793 Scott Co., KY d. 2 Aug 1869 m. 10 Mar 1814 Scott Co., KY to Elizabeth Branham b. 1792 d. 1884.

6. Silas Stapp b. 14 Apr 1795 Scott Co., KY d. 1866 m. (1) Miss Shannon m. (2) 5 Aug 1837 to Mary Carmine.

7. Mary "Polly" Stapp b. 7 Nov 1797 Scott Co., KY m. (1) William Branham, died suddenly at the age of 24 (no issue), m. (2) May 1814 Jacob Jennings Vail. Mary and Jacob Jennings Vail moved to Madison IN, near her brothers and sister.

8. Mariah Stapp b. 12 Mar 1800 Scott Co., KY m. Vivian Brooking.

9. Jameson Stapp b. 5 Mar 1802 Scott Co., KY d. May 1834

10. Jephtha Stapp b. 1805 Scott Co., KY d. 1806

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