

Letter From the Editors

Thank-you for your positive correspondence and comments regarding our last newsletter. It was a bit longer than we had intended it to be, but we needed to find a logical place to make a break in the study of William Armfield, Sr. We do not have any new entries to add to the time line for William, Sr. We will provide additional information as it is obtained.

In this issue we are going to continue our study of "The Armfield Sketch" and William Armfield, Sr. Eventually we plan to take a look at all of the lines of the original Armfield. In order for this to be informative and successful, we are asking for contributions of any studies, history, data, comments, etc. on any of the lines that you may have or are descended from. Joyce and I have some information, but really need reader input on this. We also wonder if any of our readers have done any research on the wives of the Armfield men, ie. Jane/Jean Hamilton or Elizabeth Green? We would be interested in hearing from you.

This newsletter could have been twice as long as it is now. If you want further information on anything we have put in this newsletter, please let us know. Some of the following families will be explored further at a later date. We will follow the same format as in past newsletters with Stockard's History cited first and then our response.
Connie & Joyce

The Children and Grandchildren of William Armfield, Sr.

The Stockard History states that William had seven sons and three daughters. The sons listed were William (Little Billy), Robert, Nathan, Solomon, Jonathan, David, and John. The daughters; "one daughter married a Fields, another a Macy, and a third a Barnet."

On page 98 of the republished edition of *The History of Guilford County, North Carolina* it talks of William's second marriage to Mrs. Lydia Fields, a widow. She had 10 Fields children and William was said to have eleven by his first wife. They had two children of their own which brought the grand total of children to 23. "One of the last two died early; the other was Joseph B., from whom much of this history was obtained". Why Joseph didn't recall his sibling when dictating the family history remains unknown. No records have been found to document the sons Robert and John or an eleventh child from William's first marriage or a deceased child from his second. If you have any information on this, please share.

[1] *"William Jr. (Little Billy), oldest son of William, the first, married Bettie Green, of Jamestown. They had four sons, Jacob, Robert, William and Isaac; and three daughters. One married John Macy, another Christopher Hiatt, and the other John Unthank. "Little Billy" lived to be ninety-nine years old."* (P. 152)

[1] William Jr. (Little Billy) born abt. 1748/50 and died after 1833 and before 1840 in Guilford County, NC. He wrote a will dated 04 May 1832. A codicil was added on 22 January 1833. No probate date is shown. William Jr. married Elizabeth Green 03 April 1772 (marriage bond) in Guilford County. According to her obituary, Elizabeth was born abt. 1752 and died 27 June 1840. Their children were: Jane, Jacob, Rachel, Isaac, Mary, Sarah, Elizabeth, Robert, William, Jonathan.

A. Jane born abt. 1773 married Isaac Armfield, s/o Isaac Jr., her first cousin, November 17, 1798 (marriage bond) in Guilford County. Isaac was born abt. 1772 and died 22 Jan 1845. Isaac's will was written 12 Jan 1841 and probated in Guilford Co., February term, 1845. Their children were: Martin B. married Jane McClintock, Harmon married Delitha Wilson, Mark D. married Elizabeth Belt, Isaac Jr. married Mary (Polly) Hendrix, Jacob B. married Elvira Shelly, Mary (Polly) married Lemmonds McClintock, Jane married Wilson Hendrix.

B. Jacob born abt. 1775 and died abt. 1850 in Madison County, IN. He married Ann Stephenson d/o John and Jane McClelland 11 Sept 1801 (marriage bond) in Guilford County. Ann was born abt. 1776 and died in Madison Co., IN abt. 1850. Very few records have been located in Madison Co. to document their lives, however, we have a copy of a document transferring real estate dated 14 Dec 1850 that refers to Jacob as the "deceased late of Madison County, November 1850". This document included a list of his children. Their children were: Alfred married Mary Iddings, Hiram married Jane Carmichael, Diana married (1st) Joseph Iddings and (2nd) Stephen Osborn, Tillman married Mary A. Pickering, Isaac (Ike) married (1st) Margaret (Peggy) Riley and (2nd) Elizabeth Hannah Piatt, Paris John married (1st) Rebecca Dollarhide and (2nd) Sara Ann Townsend, Elam married (1st) Paulina Nelson and (2nd) Sarah Anne Brown, Jane, Susan married James W. Crawley.

C. Rachel born 29 Nov 1778 married John Macy. No primary source marriage record has been located to support this. An online "Ancestry Family Data Collection" database has a Henry Macy (1776-1843) s/o Enoch and Anna Macy married to Rachel in Guilford County. Does anyone have any information on Rachel?

D. Isaac born abt. 1780 and died before 29 November 1813 as shown in the McCubbin Papers which stated Polly Armfield was the widow of Isaac Armfield. Isaac left no will, but an estate settlement was found in the NC Archives dated 09 April 1814 with the final settlement dated 14 November 1814. It showed an estate of nine pounds, six shillings. Their children as listed in the will of William Jr. are: Joab, Robert, Matilda married Gilbert Edwards, Virtuous married Jonathan Edwards, Eleanor married Joseph Daugherty.

E. Mary born 22 Oct 1783 and died in 1861 in Randolph Co., IN. She married Obed Macy 10 April 1803 (marriage bond) in Stokes Co., NC. According to Quaker records Obed was shown as married out of unity (mou) 1803, 11, 5. Then on the 28th Sept 1805 he "condemned his outgoings". Obed was s/o Paul and Bethiah (Coleman) Macy. He was born 26 May 1782 and died 21 Feb 1821.

Their children were: Henry, John, Rachel, William Armfield, Elizabeth, James, Louisa, Matilda, Obed.

F. Sarah born 1786 and died 20 Aug 1859. She married Christopher Hiatt s/o Nathan and Mary Thornburgh and grandson of Joseph and Ann (Armfield) Thornburgh on the 29 April 1809 (marriage bond) in Guilford County. Christopher was born 14 Feb 1786 and died 09 Oct 1849 in Guilford Co. Their children were: Nathan, John Rufus married Leonello Cummins, Joab married Thankful A. Gillaspie, Elizabeth, Mary Ann, Letitia, Christopher, Sarah Jane. New Garden MM, Guilford Co, Sarah Hiatt (formerly Armfield) disowned for mou, 27 May 1809. Christopher Hiatt of Sandy Spring dismissed for mou.

G. Elizabeth born abt. 1788 and married John Unthank 03 Nov 1819 (marriage bond) in Guilford County. John s/o Allen and Jemima (Hunt) Unthank born 13 March 1784. John dismissed by the Quakers for mou.

H. Robert born abt 1790 and died after 1860 in Yadkin Co., NC. According to Hinshaw's *Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy*, Robert was disowned in 1821. He married Margaret (Peggy) Bland 12 May 1824 (marriage bond) in Guilford. Margaret born abt. 1800 and died 01 Oct 1846 in Guilford Co. Their children were: William Nelson married Nancy Moon, Dr. John T. married Mary Campbell, Robert Franklin married Mary A. Denny, Alexander married Ann C. Hutchinson, Elizabeth Ann married Joshua Harper Cummings, Mary Mariah married Thomas F. Hoskins, Morehead.

I. William born 26 April 1791 and died 01 June 1868 in Wayne Co., IN. He married Thankful Cranor 13 May 1823 (marriage bond) in Guilford Co. Thankful born 1806 and died 14 May 1875 and is buried at Williamsburg Cemetery, Wayne Co., IN. Their children were: Martha Jane married Harvey Patty, George M. married Catherine Adkins, John W., Elizabeth.

J. Jonathan born abt. 1792. Mentioned in Quaker records, but apparently died young. Not mentioned in his father's will.

New Garden Monthly Meeting records, 1799, 5,25. William 2nd and children Isaac, Mary, Sarah, Elizabeth, Robert, William, and Jonathan, minors received by request. William Jr. and Elizabeth's three oldest children (Jane, Jacob, and Rachel) were not among the children listed as members at New Garden MM.

[2] Mary born 24 March 1759 and died 1827/28 in New Castle, Henry County, IN. married 01 Nov. 1776 (marriage bond) Guilford Co. to Jacob Brown, s/o Thomas and Margaret (Moon) Brown. Jacob born 14 Jan 1755 in NC and died 09 June 1831 Henry Co., IN. They are buried in Flat Rock Cemetery Henry Co., IN. Their children were: Jane, Moses, Thomas married Mary Hutchens, William, Jacob, Ann, Mary, Rachel married William Adams, Solomon, Isaac, Margaret, Jonathan.

[3] "*Nathan, third son of William the first, married Polly Dempsey. They lived near Pleasant Garden Church. Nathan represented Guilford in the State Senate for years . . .*" (pg. 153)

[3a] Nathan born 1762 and died 19 February 1839. He is buried in Pleasant Garden United Methodist Church Cemetery. Nathan married Jane Field, d/o Jeremiah and Mary Field. (A source for this marriage is found in the divorce petition of their daughter, Elizabeth Swaim. The petition is located in the NC Archives). Nathan married Jane Field abt. 1791/92. Jane was born in 1772 and died 20 May 1831. She is buried with Nathan in the Pleasant Garden Cemetery. Their children were: John married Martha Franklin 16 Nov 1834 in Orange Co. VA. (This John is probably the most notable of any of our early Armfield ancestors. He was well known as a slave trader being a partner in the Franklin and Armfield slave trading business with slave quarters in Alexandria, VA and New Orleans, LA. Much information can be found on the web on John and his business and we may devote another newsletter to him), an unknown child (Sallie Stockard history states that Nathan and Jane had a son who cut his foot severely and died at the age of 16. Nothing has been found on this child), Elizabeth married Moses Swaim, Mary (Polly) married Col. William Hanna.

[3b] The North Carolina Archives researched the senate reference and no records have been found of Nathan ever serving in the Senate or House of Representatives. A William Armfield served one term in the House Of Representatives in 1810 and this most likely was William (Sheriff Billy) s/o Isaac Armfield s/o our original Armfield.

[4] "Solomon, fourth son of William the first, married Thankful Cummings. Three sons and as many daughters were born to them . . . " (pg.154)

[4] Solomon born abt. 1767 and died 10 Dec. 1832 in Guilford County. He married 28 March 1807 (marriage bond) in Stokes County to Thankful Cummings, born 1788 and died 30 November 1859. She is buried in the "Old" 1st Presbyterian Church Cemetery. Their children: Allen H., Malinda married Allen Short, Elvira, William Addison married Elizabeth Petty, Calvin C. married Penninah Albertson, Ann Eliza Jane married Andrew McGee Kirkman.

[5] Nancy/Ann born abt. 1769 and died after 1820 in Guilford County. She married 05 April 1791 (marriage bond) in Guilford County to William Field. This marriage bond is recorded as "Armfel, Mary An to William Feld 05 April 1791." It is believed this marriage bond has errors as the will of William, Sr. names a daughter Ann Field. In her brother, Jonathan's will she is called Nancy Field. This is the only place in the Armfield family history where the data fits to other known records. William Field left a will dated 24 March 1815 and probated August Term of Court 1815. The executors of the will of William Field were his brother-in-law, William Armfield and Nancy Field. The following children were named: Jane, Jeremiah, Jonathan, Nancy.

[6] "David, sixth son of William the first, married Betsy Trotter . . . " (pg. 154)

[6] David born abt. 1772 and died abt. July 1845. He married Elizabeth Trotter abt. 1797. Elizabeth was born 1763 in MD according to the 1850 Guilford County census. She died between 1850-1860 in Guilford County. Their children: Mary (Polly) married Isaac Widows, Solomon married Dianana Shelly, Jonathan married Sarah Jane Brown, Hamilton married Thankful Short, Needom married Margaret W. Houston, Abner married Hannah Wilson, Emsley married Jane McGibbony, Elizabeth married Col. James N. Millis.

[7] "Jonathan, fifth son of William the first, went to Indiana and died of cholera during the War of 1812." (pg. 154)

[7a] The Jonathan who died of cholera was the grandson of William Sr., not his son Jonathan.

[7b] Jonathan born abt. 1774 and died 24 January 1801. He married Elizabeth Dillon 17 October 1800 (marriage bond) Guilford County. Jonathan wasn't mentioned in his father's will as he predeceased his father and left no legitimate heirs. Jonathan left a will probated February Term in Guilford County. Jonathan and Elizabeth Dillon had no issue. Elizabeth took her dower portion of Jonathan's estate in real estate and her third in personal property. Before Jonathan married Elizabeth Dillon he had a baseborn son with Sarah Stanley born 08 April 1794 who was given the name of Jonathan Stanley. In the February Term of Guilford County the Court Minutes (Vol. 3, pg 98) has the following entry, "The name of Jonathan Stanley, "a natural born child" to be altered to that of Jonathan Armfield" (This is the Jonathan who died of cholera). The estate of Jonathan stayed in the courts for several years before it was finally settled with his brothers and sisters.

[8] Joseph B. born 13 Oct 1785 and died 25 December 1880. He was the son of William Sr by his 2nd wife, Lydia (Julian) Fields, widow of Joseph Fields. Joseph B. married Eleanor (Nellie) Stephenson, abt. 1806. No marriage record has been located. Nellie was the d/o John & Jane McClelland Stephenson. She was born 22 October 1788 and died 12 December 1874. Joseph B. & Nellie were buried in Walnut Grove Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery, a.k.a. Bull Run. The obituary of Nellie stated she was the mother of ten children, seven still living. (*Greensboro Patriot*, issue of 16 Dec. 1874) Joseph B. left no will or estate settlement. Their children: Lydia married John Bartley, Julian married Hannah Rich Iddings, Lavinia, Charlotte (Lottie) married John Gardner, Jesse, Ithamer married Martha (Pattie) Yates, Mary Ann (Polly) married Samuel D. Burney, Patience married Jabez Stephens, Joseph S. married (1st) Eleanor Iddings and (2nd) Mattie L. _?_, Eleanor married William D. Reece, John J. married Lydia B. Hill.

Corrections

A couple of corrections for the last newsletter need to be made. Dr. Jesse M. Armfield and his wife Fannie were living in Ozan, Arkansas (not Oman).

Jonathan Armfield S/O Jonathan died of cholera in Indiana on 01 July 1833.

We try hard to catch any errors before we send out the newsletter, but these things do happen. Please let us know if you see an error so that we can make corrections.

Reader Contributions and Thoughts

Mark T. sent the following; In *Ancestoring XIII*, a publication of the Augusta, Georgia Genealogical Society, copyright 1990, there is an article on the Great Philadelphia Wagon Road which he has referred to and used over the years. It has a bibliography at the end which has some useful resources cited. Much of the content is stories of real people from history who traveled or lived near the road and lived the history of it. Contact Mark at troemner@oressenter.com for more information.

JoAnn P. contributed information she read in her *Scioto County Ohio Newsletter* regarding the Carolina Road. A guest speaker at their August meeting was Carrie Eldridge, a historical geographer who spoke about the American migration routes. One route addressed was titled Virginia, Jamestown 1607 and another was Pennsylvania,

Philadelphia 1647. Another handout was titled Federal Highway Routes West. Write JoAnn at virgo919@juno.com for more information
She thought Ms. Eldridge may be willing to share her sources and information with others (eldridge1@zoomnet.net).

Tom F. sends his family line which comes down through Betsy Armfield married Moses Swaim to Charity Swaim and Brittain Johnson to Fountain Pitts Johnson and Mary Ann Davidson to A.L.M. Johnson and Lissie Dillard of Burns, TN. He also wanted to remind us of his first book, *Robert E. Lee's Lighter Side, The Marble Man's Sense of Humor*, published by Pelican Publishing Co. in La. It can be found on Amazon.com. For more from Tom write taftj@juno.com.

Marilyn and Ron J. talked with an eighty-two year old descendant of Solomon Armfield who married Thankful Cummings. They located a family sheet on record at the Friends Historical Society Library at Guilford College in Greensboro, NC. Last fall, Marilyn and Ron made a trip to Indiana to do a little research and made contact with a descendant of Jacob and Ann Armfield's son, Hiram. This busy couple also found a copy of a memorial for Eugene M. Armfield (1869-1908) s/o Wyatt Jackson Armfield in Florida. They can be contacted at rmjenning@aol.com for further information.

Gay C. and Joyce A. continue their quest to find early traces of Armfields. Gay has been looking into the family of John Cooper of PA whose son Thomas and wife Mary Abercrombie named a daughter Armfield. This daughter, born about 1768, married Robert Morgan of Harford Co., MD. (In our last newsletter Joyce A. shared information on them in the Cooper Cemetery, York County, Pa) Gay related that John Cooper was born in the north of England in 1694. He came to America about 1720; he married in 1722, bought land in PA and was a Quaker. He named a track of land he bought "Deserts of Arabia." Some similarities to the description of our John Armfield in the Stockard History. If you would like to work along with them, contact Joyce at gigi@seark.net.

Connie S. recently found a copy of the *Journal of North Carolina Genealogy*, Vol. VIII No. 4, December 1962, Number 32. In it was an Armfield Family Record on Elam Armfield of Quincy, Madison Co., IN. Elam was the s/o Jacob and Ann Armfield. For more information you can write her at cstenhem@comcast.net.

Summary

In the next issue we will continue with a few more generations of the above families. Hopefully, this will be useful to you in the research of your own family. If you have extended family without internet access to this newsletter, we hope that you will copy it and send it along to them. As we do not have a budget to post copies of the newsletter, we are limiting the number we have to send through the mail. We welcome many new people to our mailing list and hope that you enjoy reading this and will contribute your research information to share with others. If you would like back copies, please let us know. If you change your e-mail address, be sure to let us know that also.

We welcome and look forward to your contributions and comments. Thank all of you for sending us interesting finds and we hope you keep looking and sharing with us.