

Letter From the Editors

We at first thought this newsletter would be an abbreviated one due to the move of one of it's editors. With the greatly appreciated contributions of our readers, it wasn't! Thank you. When asked, you respond.

There is not have much new to report on the subject of our last newsletter, the Hamilton Connection. Gay Carroll reader and researcher found papers that stated that Thomas Hambleton was a witness to the will of John Cooper in 1759. Here is yet a connection of the Hamilton name with some families that might also have a connection to the Armfield family. If any of our subscribers make any headway on this branch of our tree, we hope you will share with us.

We have had one thought about trying to raise funds to hire a professional researcher in Pennsylvania and possibly Virginia to break through our early "brick walls". If you would be interested in donating to this cause, please let Joyce or I know. We would also be interested in hearing if you have any recommendations for us of professional researchers in these two geographic areas. Joyce & Connie

COOPER CONNECTIONS

Some Cooper families have ties to our Armfield family and may hold clues for us. In our June 2013 newsletter on pages 4 and 5, we introduced the Thomas and John Cooper lines Gay Carroll has been working on for many years. Why the interest? John's son Thomas Cooper began the tradition of naming one of his children using the Armfield name and this tradition has followed down through the generations. We see this as significant and may indicate an early connection between the two families.

Ron and Marilyn Jennings have also been researching various Armfield lines for several years. In 2010 they made a trip to Effingham, IL to dig for documents and information on William Brewster Cooper who married Jane Iddings, daughter of Joseph and Diana (Armfield) Iddings. Whether there is any connection between the two Cooper lines, we don't know at this point, but Cooper and Armfield families have intertwined through the years. One of the Cooper families seem to originate out of MA while the other out of PA so it is doubtful that they are connected.

John Cooper (1689) Research Synopsis by Gay Carroll & A Timeline

The information we have compiled on John Cooper comes primarily from Gay Carroll and her years of research along with various other Cooper family histories including: "The Life And Times of John Cooper of York Co. PA 1690-1759 With Related Families" by Bill & Marlene Shaffer, published in 1994 in Finksburg, MD, from the notes of and dedicated to Margaret B. Megenhardt 1912-1993 and contains sources; "The History of York County, Pennsylvania", 1907, Volume II, p 236; various land records; the research of the late Doris Reiner, another dedicated Cooper family researcher; and his Last Will & Testament. Many of these records can be found on-line.

John Cooper was born in 1689 in Kendal, Westmorland, England and christened on 26 Dec 1689 at Kendall to Thomas Cowper (Cooper, Couper) a linen draper and unknown mother. He married Alice Gill on 23 Oct 1722 in Maryland. They had nine children in 23 years and he died on 18 Nov 1759 in Baltimore County, MD at the age of 70 and was buried in the Cooper Cemetery in York County, PA. John's known siblings were: Mary born 15 Sep 1695; Agnes born 02 Sep 1698; Nathan died 02 Apr 1699; and an unknown Cooper. John arrived in New Castle, DE in c 1720 and over the next several years and began acquiring land.

Elisha Perkins of Maryland received property by patent from Lord Baltimore on 19 Dec 1719 in Baltimore County, MD. On 29 Jan 1721 John purchased a tract of land from Elisha Perkins called "Elisha's Lot" that ran along the Susquehanna River. On 20 May 1724 John obtained another tract of land called "Deserts of Arabia". This land was thought to be in Maryland, but when the border was settled most of it was on the west bank of the Susquehanna River in PA. He purchased another 230 acres in "Cooper's Addition" later called "Cullins Park" in Sep 1724. In 1729 John began leasing some of his land. Researching the Pennsylvania, Land Warrants and Applications, 1733-1952 at Ancestry.com we find other records:

Name: John Cooper
Warrant Date: 04 Jul 1746
Warrant Place: Lancaster County

Name: John Cooper
Warrant Date: 23 May 1751
Warrant Place: Fawn, York

For more on John Cooper's land purchases, warrants and leases refer to the Pennsylvania, Land Warrants and Applications, 1733-1952 records at Ancestry.com and Settlers of Maryland, 1701-1730 an online publication at Ancestry.com.

John's occupation was recorded as a weaver. John wrote his last will and testament on 01 Oct 1759 in Baltimore County, MD and it was probated on 18 Nov 1759 in that county. John was buried in Coopers Cemetery in York County, PA. In his will he names the following children: "my eldest and well beloved son John Cooper; my second and well beloved son Thomas Cooper; my third and well beloved son Stephen Cooper; my well beloved and fourth son, Nicholas Cooper; my fifth and well beloved son, Alexander Cooper; my dearly and well beloved daughter Elizabeth Cooper; "Maryland, Wills and Probate Records, 1604-1878", Wills, vol 30, 1757-1760, Ancestry.com.

A picture of John's headstone can be viewed at Find A Grave; Created by: joseph coulson Record added: Apr 28, 2013 Memorial# 109660382; Photo added by: joseph coulson. The inscription reads: "JOHN COOPER Born in Kendal, England Came to America about 1720 Married to Alice Gill of Baltimore, Maryland October 23rd, 1722 DIED October 1759. John was buried in Coopers Cemetery in York County, PA. This was the family graveyard which was near the house. His wife Alice was also buried there and her headstone can also be viewed at Find A Grave. Her date of birth is given as 1692 in

Baltimore County, MD; death 1760 in York County, PA. The inscription reads; "ALICE GILL
Wife of JOHN COOPER Born in Baltimore, Maryland."

CHAPTER XII

COOPER

Duckett Cooper, wife of William Stump and mother of Mary Cooper Stump who married Peter Hoopman, was the daughter of Thomas Cooper, son of John Cooper, who was the progenitor of the Cooper Family in York County, Pennsylvania.

"John Cooper was born in Kendal in Westmoreland County, England in 1689. He was the son of a linen draper. He came to America in 1720 landing at New Castle, Delaware and settled in Peach Bottom Township on a tract of land called "Elisha's Lot" which he purchased of Elisha Perkins who resided at what is now known as Lapidum, Maryland.

It was granted by Patent from Lord Baltimore to him 3 December 1719 and letter thereto was granted by Maryland, it being in the territory which occasioned the dispute between William Penn and Lord Baltimore. The deed from Elisha Perkins to John Cooper is dated 29 January 1721 -- they were both then residents of Baltimore County, Maryland. The consideration named is 18 pounds silver money and a gun. The occupation of John Cooper is given as that of 'a weaver'. On the 20th May 1724 he obtained a patent from Lord Baltimore for a tract of land lying contiguous to 'The Deserts of Arabia'. Another tract containing 250 acres was laid off for him on 7 September 1724 called 'Cooper's Addition'.

He was at this early date in the midst of the primeval forest and his stock roamed at will therefore it was necessary to mark and brand the animals. On 30 July 1723 he recorded his two earmarks and brand as follows: 'John Cooper his mark for cattle and hogs viz. a poplar leaf and a slit in the left ear and a swallow _____ in the right' John Cooper his mark for cattle and hogs viz. a crop and under keel in each year' John Cooper his brand viz. two round O's and a flower dulce'.

In order to aid in clearing the land in December 1729 he leased for 20 years 50 acres to _____ and Abraham East on condition that they shall plant and set out 100 apple trees on the plain and to clear the land good. The first year the making a pair of horse traces and the second the making of a plow and then a barrell of Indian corn for each year"

"John Cooper was married 23 October 1722 to Alice Gill who was born in England and who was believed to have been the daughter of Stephen and Elizabeth Gill who resided where Baltimore City now stands. Tradition states that John Cooper's third son was the first male white child born in York County. John Cooper died in 1759. His will is dated 1 October 1759 and probated in Baltimore County 8 November 1759. It is witnessed by Thomas Hambleton, James Brice and John Forwood.

John Cooper and Alice Gill Cooper, his wife, had 5 sons and 4 daughters. The sons were John, Thomas, Stephen, Nicholas, Alex. The daughters were Priscilla, Alice, Elizabeth and Agnes.

Thomas Cooper, father of Duckett Cooper, was born 23 March 1731 at the old homestead in Peach Bottom Township where he became a successful farmer. Here in 1774 he built a large stone dwelling. He married Mary Abercrombie who came from Scotland. Thomas Cooper died on 18 September 1798 leaving 4 children, 2 others died in infancy. They included 4 boys and 2 girls, viz. James, Isaac, Armfield, Stephen and Duckett, who married William Stump, and Alice. Duckett was born 15 August 1775. Subsequent to her marriage to William Stump, they lived near Darlington, Maryland. William Stump died 26 July 1831. His wife, Duckett, survived him nearly forty years, dying 4 January 1869 in the 94th year of her age. Both were buried in the Stump Family Burying Ground, near Deer Creek Harmony Church, Harford County, Maryland."



The above page is from the collection of research papers of the late Doris Reiner; the book it was taken from was not provided us. She had written to us in 2011 that she was from Pittsburgh, PA and was researching the name Armfield (as a first name). Her 4X great grandmother was Armfield Cooper who married Robert Morgan. They named a daughter Armfield Cooper Morgan and the name Armfield has stayed down the family lines. She descends from Benjamin and Armfield (Cooper Morgan) Ward's daughter, Armfield Morgan Ward who married Mathias Shaffer. She wrote that the name "Armfield" has been in the family a long time and still is. The name Armfield was later changed to Amfield, reason unknown. Doris passed on 27 Nov 2015 in PA. We will miss her work.

On 23 Oct 1722 in Baltimore, Maryland **John Cooper** married **Alice Gill** said to be the daughter of **Stephen Gill** and **Elizabeth (McComas)**. (Maryland, Marriages, 1634-1777, Ancestry.com data base) Their children were:

Priscilla born 07 Oct 1724; died 29 Dec 1724; burial in the original Cooper Family Cemetery.

Alice born 08 Jul 1726; died young.

John born 29 Nov 1728; will proved on 30 Sep 1774; married Hannah Wheeler born 16 Feb 1740; daughter of Thomas Wheeler and Sarah Scott of Harford, Maryland.

Thomas born 23 Mar 1731; died 18 Sep 1798; married Mary Abercrombie (1736-1822) daughter of James and Rebecca Abercrombie Feb 1764. Thomas' will was written 13 Aug 1798 in York County, PA and proved 08 Oct 1798. Thomas was buried in the Cooper Cemetery. He is a recognized American Patriot, NSDAR Ancestor #: A025812.

Stephen born 13 May 1733; died 1768 at the age of 35 while crossing the Susquehanna River; married Susanna Morgan (c1745-c1810), daughter of Robert Morgan and Anne Hayes. After Stephen's death, she married John Hamilton.

Nicholas born c1734; wrote his will 09 Feb 1799 in York County, PA. "Nicholas Cooper, Executor: Stephen Cooper. York County. Wife: Elizabeth Cooper. Children: Mary wife of William Chapman, Nicholas, Alice wife of Ezekiel Jones, Sarah wife of William Barclay, Stephen, Joshua, Nelly, Priscilla & Hannah." Will proved 05 Mar 1799, York County. He married #1 Sarah Gill (1747-c1796) his cousin and #2 Elizabeth Gill, sister of his first wife. There is some confusion about these marriages. He had a pre-nuptial with Elizabeth Amos, who may have been a third wife or Elizabeth Gill was married before she married Nicholas.

Agnes born 22 Oct 1736; died 08 Nov 1805; married John Boyd (1731-1799), son of Samuel Boyd and Margaret Campbell. Agnes is buried in Chestnut Level Cemetery, Lancaster County, PA.

Alexander born 04 Feb 1746; died about 29 Dec 1815; married Mary Whiteford (1755-1811), daughter of Hugh and Anna Whiteford. Alexander is buried in the Cooper Cemetery.

Elizabeth born 1747; died 1800 at Bardstown, KY; married William Rowen and moved to Washington County, PA before 1782 and then on to KY in 1783.

There are so many similarities between John Cooper and our Isaac Armfield that we hope that more of you will take a closer look at the John Cooper line and the possible connection to our family.

Regarding the **Gill** family, there were several men named Stephen Gill in Maryland around the same time making it extremely difficult to determine with certainty which Stephen was being referenced in various records. To give you some examples of the various Stephens, here are some of the things found. There are Stephen Gill Sr. & Jr in Baltimore with estates in 1717 and in 1735. There is a marriage record of a Stephen Gill to Elizabeth with children: Stephen b. 1711; John (no dates); Prudence (no dates). There is a Stephen Gill who married Urath (no surname) with children: Stephen (no dates); John; Thomas; Benjamin; Mary; Ruth.

Then there was a Stephen Gill transported to Virginia around 1636, origination unknown. A record of a Stephen Gill arriving in MD bet 1659-1664. This may or may not have been the father of Stephen Gill, Sen who died about 1735 in MD. In Maryland, Wills and Probate Records, 1604-1878, Wills, vol 21-22, 1734-1742 (ancestry.com) is the Last Will and Testament written by Stephen Gill, Sen of Baltimore County, Province of Maryland on 16 Feb 1734. In it he names his "eldest son John Gill, his son Edward gill, son Stephen Gill". His wife is referenced as "my wife". Is this son Stephen the father of Alice Gill who married John Cooper? The Stephen Jr. with an estate in 1717 couldn't be the Stephen son of Stephen & Elizabeth as he was still a small child.

As the complexity of the Gill family is as convoluted as our Armfields, we will leave off with them here. At this point we do not know if they hold any clues to our progenitors.

For more information on Gay Carroll's research the Gill family or the John Cooper family, you can write her at gcaerbhaill@gmail.com

Jane Iddings (1833-1865) & William Brewster Cooper (1835-1882)

Research Synopsis by Maryiln and Ron Jennings

Jane Iddings was born 21 Nov 1833 in Indiana to Diana Armfield (1808-1885) and Joseph Iddings (1803-1850). Jane married William Brewster Cooper, Jr. on 06 Dec 1855 at the home of Stephen Osborne in Mt. Pleasant, Henry, IA. Jane died 28 Nov 1865 in Effingham, Effingham, IL at the age of 32. She was buried along with her husband and children in the Oakridge Cemetery, Plot: Section 4, Row 11. Sources include a picture taken of her headstone by the Jennings with their notation that the big stone has three children, the center stone is Jennie I (Jane) and the stone on the left is Wm B Cooper with Civil War information. They noted that the stones are in bad shape and getting worse each day. The 1850 US Federal Census of Greensboro, Henry, IN has Jane Iddings living with her mother Diana and her stepfather Stephen Osborn. Her birthplace was recorded as IN.

Jane and William had the following children: William Brewster Cooper, 1858-1919; Charles Joseph Cooper, 1859-1859; Charles Joseph Cooper, b1861; Edward Hayward Cooper, 1864-1864; Infant Son Cooper, 1865-1865. Diana was the daughter of Jacob Armfield (c1775-c1850) and Ann Stephenson (c1776- c1850). Her first husband Joseph Iddings born

about 1803 in NC; died after 1840 in Indiana. They had three children: Mariah born 08 Oct 1832 in NC; died 10 Jul 1867; Jane; Jannett born about Feb 1838 in Indiana. Diana's second marriage was to Stephen Osborn in 1849 and in the 1870 US Federal Census they were living in Salem, Henry, IA.

The Jennings visited the Effingham Public Library on 25 Oct 2010 and made copies of several articles about William Brewster Cooper. One was his obituary dated December 14, 1882, Effingham, Democrat, Effington, Illinois, p 1. William was born 08 Mar 1835 at Plymouth, MA to William Brewster Cooper, Sr. and Emeline De Pallies. His mother died 09 Aug 1835 (U.S. Newspaper Extractions from the Northeast, 1704-1930, Ancestry.com). William was raised by two aunts Lucy and Mary Cooper. You can find a short biography at Find A Grave with his picture. There are also pieces on him in several publications including the "History of Effingham County, Illinois" edited by William Henry Perrin and published in Chicago by O. L. Baskin & Co., Historical Publishers, Lakeside Building, 1883.

To follow this Cooper line back according to biographies and Find A Grave entries:

William's father was William Brewster Cooper born 27 Dec 1807; died 17 Jan 1879; son of Joseph Cooper and Lucy Taylor.

Joseph Cooper born 01 Jul 1769; died 25 Nov 1851 was the son of Capt. Richard Cooper and Hannah Sampson.

Capt. Richard Cooper born 29 Jul 1740; died 10 Sep 1819; was the son of John Cooper and Hannah Rider.

John Cooper born 12 Dec 1697; died 06 Dec 1760; was the son of Richard Cooper and Hannah Wood.

Richard Cooper born 1639 in England; died 29 Mar 1724 in MA; immigrated to America in 1661 (family Bible).

For more information on the research of Ron and Marilyn, you can write them at Rrmjennin@aol.com

Oscar Ura Cooper

Diana Armfield (1872-1932) daughter of Paris John Armfield (1820-1878) and Sarah Ann Townsend (1842-1928) married into another Cooper line when she married Oscar Ura Cooper born 1869 in Brown County, IL and died Feb 1924 probably in NE. He was the son of James H Cooper born c1815 in Delaware and Lucretia Stroud born c 1836. Oscar was buried in the Edgar Cemetery in Edgar, Clay, Nebraska (FAG).

BROWN CONNECTIONS

Allen Brown wrote us regarding his Brown family ancestry. His line comes down through Thomas Brown (1691-c1750) and Ruth Large (1703-1763) > Thomas Brown (1728-1796) and Margaret Moon (1731-). Their son Jacob Brown (1755-1831) married Mary Armfield

(1759-1827) daughter of William Armfield, Sr. and Jean/Jane Hamilton. Allen's line comes down through Jacob's brother William Brown (1751-1794) and his wife Mary Gray (c1754-).

Allen lives in Colorado and only recently started researching his Brown family line. He imagined it would be nearly impossible as Brown is such a common surname. At the beginning of his research all he knew was that Hance Brown his 2X grandfather was the father of James Martin Brown, his grandfather. James Martin and his wife Willomine Newbry were the first in the family to settle in Colorado. They arrived there in 1887. He sent the following history for us to share with our readers.

"My great-grandfather, Hance's son, was the fourth child born in Indiana. His mother died in 1851, when he was young. Hance remarried. Their family moved to Leavenworth County, Kansas before 1870. Hance died in 1881 and is buried in Smith County, Kansas, where his son Rufus was among the first homesteaders. My great-grandfather moved to Colorado in 1887. The extended family in Colorado only knew his father, Hance Brown lived in Indiana before moving to Kansas. They knew his first wife was named Abby and thought he had a son named Rufus. Two sisters were thought to have remained in Indiana. I am thankful for the Quaker connections which have allowed me to bridge the past. I am still working on building more sources. Here is part of what I have assembled in my biography of James Brown:

Children of William Brown are mentioned in the New Garden Meeting records just after his death in 1794. They were sons, James and Elias, and daughters Rebecca and Anne. A follow-up mention in the Women's Minutes from New Garden identifies Mary, Rebecca, and Ann as receiving certificates into membership. Mary had been referred to as "Widdow" in the Men's Minutes just after William's death.

James married Rebecca around 1800. (No record of their marriage has been found.) Their first child is a son, William, born in 1802. All children are believed to have been born in Guilford County, North Carolina. More children followed: Isaac-1803, Frederick-1806, Jane-1807, Amiel-1808, Nancy-1810, Hance-1815, Frances-1817, Elizabeth-1820, and Thomas-1822.

In the 1800 Guilford County census, we find a listing for Mary Brown, it includes one free white male 10-15 (Elias), 1 male 16-25 (James), three females 16-25 (Rebecca, Elizabeth, and Nancy), and one female 26-44 (Mary). The next listing in the census is for Lydia Gray (Mary's mother). At her home is one female 16-25, and one female 45 and over. In the same neighborhood live Mary's brothers' families, James, Samuel, Isaac, and William Gray.

In the 1810 Guilford County census, James Brown is listed as the head of household. In 1820, Guilford County, North Carolina he appears just below the entry for Elias Brown, his brother. In 1820, the only name listed was for the head of household. Numbers related to age categories were reported for persons in the home. At Elias' home there was one free white male of 26 < 45 years (Elias), and one free white female 16 < 26 years old. Next door, at James' home all the occupants were free and white. There were two males <10 (Hance and Amiel), one male 10<16 (Frederick), two males 16<18 (Isaac and William), two males of 16<26 including heads of families (Isaac and William), one male 26<45 (James), two

females <10 (Elizabeth and Frances), two females 10<16 (Nancy and Jane), and one female >45 (Rebecca). (Names were correlated to their reported birth dates.)

In 1827, Rebecca applies for a certificate to White Water Meeting in Richmond, Wayne County, Indiana from the Dover Meeting in Guilford, North Carolina. The certificate is written for Rebecca and children, Amiel, Hance, Frances, Elizabeth, and Thomas. It is received in Indiana in 1828.

I have since learned from the History of Hendrick's County that James and Rebecca joined the Quaker movement north to Indiana. First, they settled in Wayne County, Indiana, from thence to Morgan County, Indiana. Subsequently, they settled in Marshall County, Iowa, near their youngest son, Thomas. This information came from the biographical sketch of John Wesley Brown, the son of Amiel Brown.

James died in Marshall County, Iowa, October 1854. His granddaughter, Mary J. Brown, daughter of Thomas Brown and Elizabeth Orr also died in October 1854. Regarding the children of James and Rebecca Brown, I have collected much information. I have the most information regarding James son, Hance. He is my great-great grandfather..."

Allen included sources for his work, but due to lack of space, we could not cite them with this piece. He would be happy to share this information with you. You can contact him at allenbrown805@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENT

It is time again for the Southern California Genealogical Society Jamboree 2016 in Burbank, CA. For more information check out their official jamboree site at <http://genealogyjamboree.com>

QUERIES

In April we heard from Nikki S. regarding her Armfield connection down from Joab Armfield (c1811-1872) and Susannah Murphey (1812-1866). Their daughter Louisa (1843-1871) married George Washington Goldsberry (1838-1913) on 26 Jul 1860 in Shelby County, IN. They had four children: Flora May, Edward W, Mary Ellen, Harold B. Louisa died young and within a few months, George remarried a widow named Mary Matilda Wiley. They had children together and were Kansas by 1900 census. Nikki's line follows through Flora May, nicknamed Matie. Contact Nikki at njstillings@hotmail.com

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