

The Arkansas Family Historian

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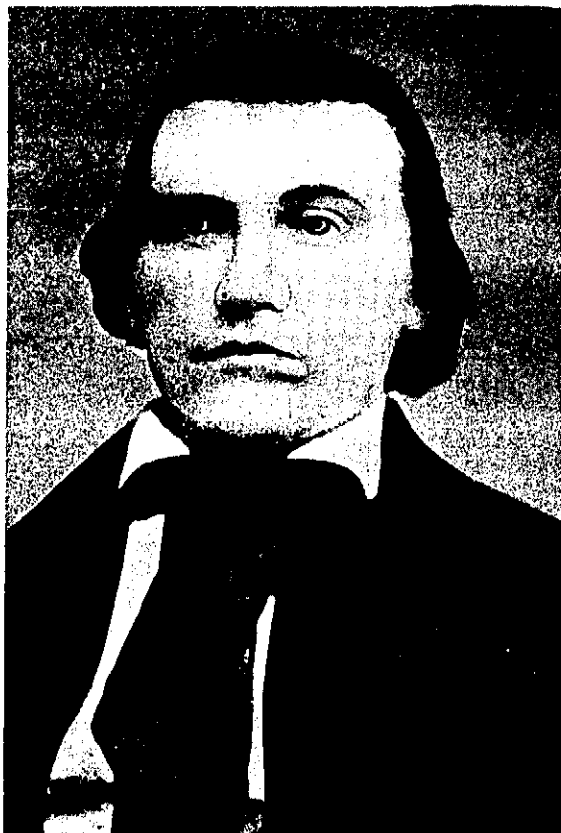
THE ARKANSAS FAMILY HISTORIAN

published by the
ARKANSAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
Box 237, Fayetteville, Arkansas

Vol. II, No. 4

W. J. Lemke, editor

April 1964



THOMAS JEFFERSON LINTON

born 4 Sept. 1826 in Tennessee. Married Elizabeth Gibson Dyer in Pope County, Arkansas, 24 June 1847. Murdered by bushwhackers near Clarksville, 9 April 1864.

See, in this issue, "The Linton Family from Northumberland County, Virginia, to Pope County, Arkansas," written by T. J. Linton's great-grandson, Porter Rose.



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THE LINTON FAMILY
Northumberland County, Virginia
to
Pope County, Arkansas

by Porter Rose
260 East Rowland St., Covina, California

The compilation of the family history of the Lintons was a project started some three years ago. I was a rank amateur in genealogical research. For many years I had wondered about my grandparents and their lives. In my musings I would then wonder about their grandparents and their grandparents' grandparents. It was April of 1960 before I could begin active research.

As is necessary in all family research, unless the family history has previously been published, I began with the living relatives. I talked to my father; I interviewed aunts, uncles, cousins and any other person that I suspected of having any knowledge pertaining to the Linton family. Books containing local history and biographies were consulted. Censuses of several different states from 1790 through 1880 were carefully checked. Military records of soldiers in the Revolutionary War, War of 1812 and the War Between the States were reviewed. One of the more interesting pieces of information was the correspondence of Thomas J. Linton and his family. It is, of course, unnecessary to say that hundreds of letters were written.

In late 1962 my father and I climaxed this research with an automobile trip from Covina, California to Pope County, Arkansas. While on this trip I searched old cemeteries in the vicinity of Dover, Scottsville and Hector, sometimes until late at night, using a flashlight to read the inscriptions on the tombstones. On one occasion, in the very old Lake Cemetery near Dover, I was literally drenched in a driving rain. This entire project has been one of the most enjoyable and satisfying experiences of my life.

When Moses Linton (1) stepped aboard that ship bound from England to the wilderness that was Virginia in 1650 he established once and for all the adventuresome and courageous spirit that would characterize his descendants.

It is an interesting and amazing fact that the Lintons and their descendants can be traced from the Revolutionary War through the War of 1812, the Civil War and World Wars I and II by their service records. When their country was threatened they sought to protect it with their very lives.

The Lintons are found to be the ordinary, hard-working and patriotic citizens, the kind that form the backbone of America. There are no generals, governors and, as far as can be determined, no claim to royalty. They are the ones who came to the aid of their neighbors in time of trouble, before they were asked. When a "widow woman" was having difficulty feeding her family it was the Lintons and others of their kind who saw to their needs until the trouble was over. It is rather a sad commentary on our modern civilization that we are losing sight of those old-fashioned virtues.

It is indisputable that Alson Linton is the progenitor of the Lintons of Pope County, Arkansas and that he is a descendant of one of the four Revolutionary Soldiers of Camden County, North Carolina. It is not inconceivable that the line of descent from Moses Linton (1) to Alson Linton could be questioned. Let me say, in this connection, that it is a most reasonable one, considering the proximity of Moses Linton's home in Lower Norfolk County, Virginia to that of the home of the Revolutionary Soldiers in Camden County, North Carolina, plus the records that are available. I am deeply indebted to Captain Robert F. Luce of Washington, D.C., a most dedicated and highly competent genealogist, for his considerable guidance and research.

Alson E. Linton, whose probable forebears came to America about 1650, arrived in Pope County, Arkansas after 1840 and before 1844. His family consisting of his wife Frances and their five sons settled in Liberty Township. 120 years later many of their descendants still reside in the same vicinity.

Land records in Northumberland County, Virginia show the names of Mary, Bartholomew, Anthony and Moses Linton (1). "Tennessee Cousins", by Worth S. Ray, states that Moses Linton (1) was the head of the tribe and that he settled in Lower Norfolk County, Virginia.

Moses Linton (1) left a will in Lower Norfolk County, Virginia dated November 1676. The will names a son, Moses (2), mentions an unborn child and a wife but doesn't name her. The will was proven June 15, 1677.

The same will book contains another will for Moses Linton, assumed to be Moses Linton, Jr. (2). This will is dated 6 December 1692 and is proven 17 July 1693. The will refers to his son, William (3); Williams son, Moses; and daughter, Elizabeth Ball, wife of Richard Ball. It names his wife, Elizabeth.

In his book, "Abstracts of Wills of Currituck and Dare Counties, N.C.", by Gordon C. Jones, a list of jurymen prior to 1725 is given. This mentions Mary Linton, William Linton (3), William Linton Jr. (4) and Moses Linton.

William Linton, Jr. (4), through whom I believe our line descends, was issued a land patent in 1722 for a tract of land in what is now known as the Pearceville Community. He had four sons, Hezekiah (5),

Silas, Samuel and one whose name is unknown. The line continues through Hezekiah (5), who married a widow, Lucy Upton.

From the book, "Three Hundred Years Along the Pasquotank", by Jesse F. Pugh, we now quote extensively. The title refers to the Pasquotank River, which penetrates Camden County, North Carolina.

The particular section of interest begins on page 87 and is entitled "A Patriotic Family". It starts by naming four brothers, Hezekiah, born about 1750, died before 1797, Silas (6), born about 1752, died after 1797, Jesse, born about 1754, died before 1797, and Jehu, born about 1756, died 1777.

Deed book K of Camden County, N C., refers, briefly, to four young men, the story of whose lives if known, might constitute a stirring chapter in Revolutionary War history. These deeds are dated February 1797 and one is a sale from Silas Linton (6) to William Lurry of, "all lands due me as a soldier of the United States." In another, "Silas Linton (6) conveys to William Lurry "the lands due me as heir of my brothers as soldiers in the United States service." He names his brothers as Geahue, Hezekiah and Jesse Linton.

The four brothers apparently enlisted in a company commanded by a local officer, Captain Dempsey Gregory, and were later transferred to the 2nd North Carolina Regiment for active service. Hezekiah was enrolled in Allen's Company; Jehu in Fenner's; and Silas (6) and Jesse in Martin's.

The service of the four brothers was about as follows: they followed Washington in New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey during 1777-78-79, and then took part in the battles in the south when British strategy shifted there. After the capitulation of the American forces at Charleston in 1780 the Lintons may have remained prisoners until the cessation of hostilities.

The remained buck privates for most of their careers, although Jesse was finally promoted to sergeant and for a few months in 1778 Hezekiah had the envied duty of being one of "His Excellency's Guards."

Jehu died 3 December 1777 near Valley Forge, just as the pitifully equipped Continentals went into winter quarters there. Since Hezekiah and Jesse left no issue, seemingly, when Silas (6) sold his claim on their lands in 1797, presumably they never married and probably died while being held as prisoners of war.

One cannot say, definitely, whether the father of these boys was Silas or Hezekiah Linton (5) but the probabilities favor the latter. Hezekiah (5) was one of the four sons of William Linton, Jr. (4) who was issued a patent in 1722 for a tract of land not far from the Pearceville Community.

These Lintons, sons of William Jr. (4) had a knack of remaining inconspicuous. The only public record of Hezekiah (5) in local records is membership on a committee to lay out a road; and his brother Silas was once called for jury duty. From a map it appears they lived in the extreme northern part of Camden County, on the upper reaches of the stream flowing into the upper end of Pasquotank River, at the lower end of Dismal Swamp.

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The foregoing material does indicate some pertinent facts concerning the Linton brothers' service records and also gives us a clue as to the direct line of descent. Further records taken from the Sons of the Revolution Library in the city of Los Angeles, California, show that Jesse, Silas and Hezekiah served 84 months. Jehu, of course, died 1777.

A dispute in the line of descent arises from a biography of Alson Linton's brother, Ailas Linton, in Woodford Clayton's "History of Davidson County, Tennessee." It states, "Silas Linton, son of Hezekiah and Joanna Linton and grandson of Hezekiah Linton, Sr. was born in North Carolina, 8 August 1799." "His father was a Lieutenant in the Revolution and received a grant of land but the family did not take it up." I must interject the dissenting thought here that the service record of Hezekiah and his brothers indicates no Lieutenant's rank. Further, it is important to note that in "Three Hundred Years Along the Pasquotank" it is stated that Silas is the only surviving as late as 1797. Deed book K of Camden County, in which Silas is shown as heir of his brothers in 1797, gives still more evidence that the Revolutionary Soldier, Hezekiah, was dead before 1797 and, in fact, states that he was not married. This 1797 deed was executed two years before Silas of Davidson County was born and is, therefore, an impossibility.

What is possible is that Silas the soldier had a son named Hezekiah (7) who married Joanna. "History of Davidson County" continues, "About 1806 Hezekiah (7) started with his family from North Carolina to Davidson County, Tennessee, but he died on the way." "His widow and family came on and settled in the 14th District of Davidson County." "Here she married again, her second husband, Benjamin Pritchard."

This family that continued on to Davidson County, Tennessee, with their widowed mother, consisted of:

- 1) Polly Linton, born about 1788, married Frederick Ivy 8 April 1805.
- 2) Kizziah Linton, born about 1791, married Bartholomew Stevens, 18 July 1808.
- 3) Alson E. Linton (8), born 1793, married Frances Forehand, 29 July 1812.
- 4) Silas Linton, born 8 August 1799, married Margaret Pritchett.

All of these marriages took place in Davidson County, Tennessee.

We have learned much of Alson E. Linton's early life from a brief of his widow's claim for a widow's pension by reason of his having served in the War of 1812.

Alson E. Linton (8) served in Captain Thomas Williamson's Company, Tennessee Militia. He enlisted 10 December 1812 and was discharged 9 February 1813. Served afterwards from 24 September to 10 December 1813. His total service proved for 140 days. Soldier died 30 March 1861. Claim was supported by affidavits of W.L. Price and James Lenley.

He served under the command of General Andrew Jackson in the Creek Indian War and was in the battles of Tallahatchie and Talladega.

The widow stated that she was married under the name of Frances Forehand and that she married Alson E. Linton on 29 July 1812 in Davidson County, Tennessee. They were married by the Reverend William Roach. Frances Linton filed her declaration on 6 February 1875. At that time her residence was Dover, Arkansas.

On 10 March 1875, Frances Linton swore that her husband applied for and obtained a land grant warrant, she thinks in the year 1853, 54 or 55, and at that time resided in Liberty Township. The Chief, Bounty Land Division, states on 26 February 1875 that there is no evidence that an application for land warrant was filed. She was awarded a pension of \$8 per month commencing 14 February 1874.

Alson Linton's whereabouts are not known, definitely, in 1830. He is listed in the 1820 census of Davidson County and the 1840 census of Henry County, Tennessee. It is assumed that he was in the State of Tennessee in 1830.

There is a marriage record in Henry County, Tennessee for one of his sons, Silas S. Linton, to Sarah Burmum on 15 September 1840. Silas did not come with the rest of the family when they moved to Pope County, Arkansas. He arrived there about 1849. We know Alson moved his family to Pope County, Arkansas before 1844 because that is the year another son, William D. Linton, married Susan McCune in Pope County.

The five sons of Alson Linton: James Lewis (9), Silas S. (9), William D. (9), Jesse L. (9) and Thomas Jefferson Linton (9) must be accorded qualities of great energy and resourcefulness. As an example, the youngest, Thomas Jefferson, bought some of their cattle and he undertook a trip to the gold country, with some friends and acquaintances from Pope County, Arkansas, apparently to make a greater profit on the sale of his livestock and perhaps engage in other lines of work.

It has been my very good fortune to discover some letters written by my great-grandfather, Thomas Jefferson Linton. Through this series of letters we get a most penetrating insight into this man's character, his loneliness in being away from his family, his intelligence and the physical strength that he must have been endowed with. Here is the first letter, written while traveling to the mecca of California:

Walnut Creek (probably Kansas Territory)
June 19th, A.D. 1857

Elizabeth dear wife,

I take this opportunity of dropping you a few lines thinking that I can get them conveyed or handed to the mail running from Independence, Mo. to Santifee, which will pass this place next month.

I hope that you may get these lines, though I have nothing new to write. We are all well and are getting along tolerable, for we have lost but few cattle; we have six hundred and twenty five head; yet we are about five hundred miles from home and are a few days behind the other droves. I think we will get through with six hundred head and, but little behind the rest.

We are now in the Buffalow regions. I think I would not enlarge to say that I saw one hundred thousand on yesterday in sight of the road. Bill, Mack and me had to go ahead of the wagons and drive them from the road to keep the cattle from running off with them. John Hale and Ance Verdon killed the first one that was killed in our company. They run up to it on their mules and fired on him eight times before he fell. You may suppose that we made the bull of beef wake after supper and breakfast. The balance was left behind.

I killed a fine buffalow calf and might have caught it alive. It is the finest sport in the world if it were not for running a horse too hard. The antelope and wolves are thick. The wolves wait for us to leave the camps, but it is mite a tight squeeze.

The plains here are, in places, thick with villages of prairie dogs. I have seen the owl, the dogs and the rattlesnake in the same village and seemed to be at home or dwelling together. I can say to you that Kansas Territory is a great place for such animals as I have spoken of and will be for many a day to come.

We have seen millions of acres of as good land as heart could ask for but I don't think that I have seen timber enough in Kansas to fence ten thousand acres of land and the land is nearly all good.

We traveled seventy five miles and hauled wood to cook with all the time and it is with difficulty that we get wood for cooking with yet. We travel from 15 to 20 miles a day.

Our cattle stampeded the other night and run off and Dunn and me standing in as hard a storm or rain as you ever saw. We could not see a cow only when it would lightnen. It was early in the night and some of the boys followed the bell til day, and next morning we come up short one hundred and fifty head. We hunted that day out and got all but two and I hope they are dead.

I will add no more at present and if I write to you again before I get to California it will be a chance like this.

Yours affectionately,
Thomas J. Linton

The first letter written to his wife shows no particular anxiety nor loneliness. It does show his love the land and his powers of observation concerning animals. On the back of this first letter is a letter written to T.D.Linton, who has evidently been hired by T.J.Linton to look after some of his property while he is gone. That there is a relationship between the two cannot be argued; the question is: are they brothers or cousins? It also reveals to us another side of Thomas J. Linton -- his business ability. It is also interesting to note that T.D.Linton was not shown in the 1850 census of Pope County, Arkansas, but in the 1860 census he is living with his family in the house next door to Alsen E. Linton, the father of Thomas J. Linton. The letter to T.D.Linton follows:

T.D.Linton,

I hopw you have a fine crop and are getting along, finally. I want you to have the necessary repairing done about the gin and haul off all the manure and straw about the gin lot. Do what thrashing you can, conveniently. Hire all the help that is necessary. Be sure to run the gin and do the best you can. I will pay you well for all you do, out of the crop. I expect that I will want you to continue another year. I will write to you concerning the matter after I get through.

I want you to sow wheat where the oats land is now, this fall, very early of the golden chaff. If the present crop hits and the balance of the field in oats, next Spring. If you continue for another year sow the wheat, anyhow.

OLD BAPTIST CEMETERY
near Hector, Arkansas



Reuben Jefferson Rose and John Llewellyn in Old Baptist Cemetery.
The Linton graves are just to the left of center. R. J. Rose is a grandson.



Broken gravestone of Elizabeth Dyer Linton.
Story of the finding of the Linton graves is told by Elizabeth's great-grandson in accompanying article.

If you lack for a team about the gin buy some good young steers or bulls. There is one good steer at Hi Chaynes and one up about home, one on Piney (creek) at Allens or Browns. I make out three cows and one white heifer that was left in the cane and some two or three at Bill and Macks.

You may show this letter to the sheriff and I want him not to sell anything before next March court unless it makes him responsible for the whole debt. If he is only responsible for the value of what property or the value of that property under execution. I think I can make some turn around in that time.

Thos. J. Linton

This letter tells us, in addition to those things already mentioned, that Thomas J. Linton was an educated man for his time and his environment. We can probably assume that he was about sixteen years of age when he came to Arkansas, therefore, he must have gone to school in either Davidson or Henry County, Tennessee.

The next letter written to his wife some nine months later, after he had arrived in California, shows that the mail in those days from California to Arkansas must have been conveyed by ship. He discusses some of the people who made the trip with him and their luck in business. It also mentions his brief career as a gold miner and has a very personal reference to his wife and her dental problem. A hint of homesickness is beginning to creep in.

State of California
San Joaquin County
Castory Township
Stockton
March the 1st day A.D. 1858

Elizabeth,

I wish you much pleasure. Received your kind note bearing date, Dec. the 27th, which I will, or have taken, my seat to answer. I was glad to hear that you were all well and that father had gotten on the rising ground and that things were as well as what they are.

At the same time received a letter from Col. Wm. D. Poe and T. D. Linton and a notice from the postmaster at New Orleans that one was detained there for non payment of postage, so I will send a dime after it. None of you stated how Jane was getting. That is the way I want them to come, by the half dozen.

I also received a letter from Mr. Dunn recanting his trade with me, so I will not get his cattle. He states that he has made \$300 and lost \$400; that his girl would not wait until fall and he should go home in May. I got a letter from the McLeod boys the other day. They stated that they had not paid for their grub this winter forthe want of water; no water yet. Nor I don't think will be, only from melting of the snow.

They stated that James Bales died the last day of January from cold caught in crossing the Si River; which I was truly sorry to hear. Ance Verdon was in that neighborhood. Alexander had started out to hunt better business. I have not heard from Male Bewly since I have been here. I left George Marrior and Jack Crawford near Hant Town, have written to them but got no answer so I suppose they have left there.

William Allen, I expect, will be down here soon and will drive a wagon for me all summer; or milk and herd cattle as I expect to bring mine over as soon as I can.

Meart and me are still chopping wood; weather quite hot and dry. Timber is putting out; this is a beautiful looking country, grass from half leg to knee high. Meart and me have taken up a claim, each of us. Some land is quite level and very rich and you can see a rabbit anywhere or at least a rabbit cannot hide himself unless he goes into the ground.

It seems as though I have got out of anything to write. Hard times in California, wages coming down. I can hire good hands for \$30 a month. In fact, the tenth man cannot get \$30 here. Wheat is \$4.50 per bushel, barley 1/2 cents, corn meal 5 to 6 cents, pork packed worth 22 cents, fresh 14 to 16 cents, beef 16 to 18 cents and is worth 20 to 25 cents on foot, Irish potatoes 11/2 cents and onions 5 cents per pound.

I will say to you that you caused me to shave my mustach, by your wish for my best looks. Last Saturday I thought I would comply with your request to shave my upper lip and went into town, but as I had a toothache for seven days I thought I would have my tooth drawn before I would have my daguerreotype. I saw a dentist for \$3 and the balance of the day my jaw ached worse than my tooth had, so I did not think that my looks that day were worthy of so long a trip. I probably may send you my likeness some time. My jaw is swollen yet.

You may tell cousin Mary and t. that there is no such person as Renels or Regenles known in Syocktown, for I have inquired closely for them. If she should be there I will find it out. There has been some trading going on there, but I don't know at what barthers.

I will make one request of you for your own comfort and happiness. The first dentist that comes to Dover, I want you to go down and have those rotten teeth drawn out; and the others plugged. You don't know the advantage it is, in fact, should I never return, it might enable you to marry well.

I can say to you that I have taken a few days in hunting gold and silver, and as two of us, in one day's panning, paid out about one cent, I have no idea that I will spend any more time that way.

I shall expect a letter every mail and am well pleased with your running the gin. Should my advice be necessary, I would say to you to have your wheat taken good care of and not sell any at all. Your plan of farming suits me very well, which I hope you have in operation by the time you receive this. As to suiting me, that is not the thing. Suit yourself and all is right with me.

Meart didn't take it very hard about Rinse and his boys. He says the widow has done well. He tells the people here that it is not age that has brought out the gray hairs on his chin but that it is the climate.

I guess I had as well dry up my stuff by assigning myself, as usual,

Thos . Linton

P.S. Save our fruit and shade trees.

His next letter reveals his loneliness, now full blown, and his bitterness at not receiving letters from his wife as often as he would like. It also tells us that he has quite a sense of humor. This is evident in his reference to her Saturday night visit.

Information is contained in the letter that he is now chopping and hauling wood. We also learn that some of the men who made the trip with him have found that life in the gold country is no bed of roses. He himself has had to revise his estimates of his own profit, downward.

Same Place, April 18th, A.D. 1858

Elizabeth my dear,

I again take my pen in hand to bother you with another letter, though I confess it is an ungrateful act, for I have not often been bothered with a letter from you (though I think I might have gotten later news than the 30th of January). However, if you should not write any more I will avenge myself by writing every two weeks and if you are too busy to read them just lay them to one side.

I heard from Sublett a few days back. He said that the cattle had quit dying so there are some hopes yet. I guess I will have to haul down my calculations considerably below five thousand.

I have not heard of any one of the boys that came with us that have cleared \$25 yet. Old man Allen, I suppose, worked out two hundred dollars and never got a cent. Bill Rowland and Tom Stout, I suppose, have barely made grub since they left here last fall.

Meart and me have not done much better. We only got 150 cords of wood cut. We have not chopped any in some time. We have hauled some in and are getting \$6 per cord as fast as we can haul. Meart is fitting out a horse team and will start them next week.

I stayed with Walter Scott night before last, alls well. He sold 12 cows and calves the other day for \$70 round. Some of them were two year old heifers. Cattle are rising here. They are all rising in the south, that is Spanish Cattle. Consequently, there will not be very many driven here.

Pork is worth 25 to 30 cents per lb.; other grub not so high. There were a lot of hogs sold the other day for \$7 per head and the most of them were suckling pigs.

There have been some late showers here and, consequently, crops very fine. There are about ten thousand acres near me, in one field, and it is now heading out. Looks fine. Two men can cultivate and take care of 600 acres and not work more than one third of the year.

If you should conclude to come over some Saturday evening, please bring your knitting and the children with you. When you get to Stockton take up Main Street until you come to the blacksmith shop. There take the right which leads out about ten miles to Hitchcock Ranch, where I am located. Wind up your business, though, before you start, for I am certain if I had you and the children here I would never travel the road again. I may fail anyhow as hundreds of better men have done before.

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You, of course, see that I have not anything to write, but I shall endeavor to draw your attention every two weeks. I would be glad of an answer to every letter, but I guess you have something else to study about, consequently January is the latest news from home, as you cannot take time to write oftener than once every three months. I must, of course, excuse you.

In the following lines I will endeavor to explain to you the reason why I so often bother you with my letters. I hope you will excuse me for so doing and answer as many of them as you can, conveniently.

I am bound to think of the bosom
that have rendered these temples repose.
Though life may toss me as the sea
does the moss on the rock where it grows.
Yet never the rush of its battle,
its surf or its ceaseless storm
shall sever the link that connects me,
Like life to thy guardian for me.
Until death have caused us to sever
and time upon earth is no more,
and we've left the green forest forever
and at rest on a glorious bright shore.

It really always seemed to me that notes of hand fall due very quick. If I thought sending you my note would shorten the time of our coming together I would certainly send it to you for a few hundred. Since I cannot imagine that it would shorten the time I will omit that part at present.

I hope to hear something of the disposition of the negroes and how you and the children are getting along.

I guess by the time you answer this that you can give me the names of several candidates. If so you will confer a favor by so doing.

Ere you get this 12 months will have rolled around since I left you, six more, I think, will bring us together again. That is if you don't conclude you can do better than to wait so long.

Without idleness and nonsense my letter would have been short. In this you'll see I remember thee, though many miles apart we be.

Thos. J. Linton

In this past letter we can draw other conclusions. He was enchanted with California, he had some qualms about the return trip and if he wasn't a poet he most certainly read poetry, and, in his despair, he identified with sad poems.

The next letter, written on Sunday, June 13, 1858 is a very enlightening one. We learn that he, evidently, had planned from the first to keep his cattle until the fall of 1858. To do this, profitably, it was necessary for him to leave his cattle in Carson Valley where they would, presumably, have free grazing.

He mentions Joel Dyer, his wife's young brother, whom he had adopted. The Susan Linton mentioned is his daughter, who in turn, was the mother of Sam Porter Mathis, from whom these letters were obtained.

One of the more interesting things in the letter is the vivid description of the Giant Sequoia. Only one thing about it needs any explanation at a;:: he mentions that it is of cedar or red wood growth. This was the only way he could describe the color of the wood. In Arkansas the cedar tree grows profusely and the wood is red. He knew they would understand that comparison. If they would have any difficulty understanding anything it would have to be the size of the tree. One can only imagine, 105 years later, how high they must have thought the corn would grow in California if trees could attain that size.

The letter also provides us with an eyewitness account of the beginning of the end of the gold rush in California. The Treasure River referred to in the letter is, in all probability, the Powder River in Oregon.

In his revision of "Old Folks at Home", it helps to know that at this time of his life he had four daughters. Later his fifth daughter and his only son would be born. Both died young.

State of California
San Joaquin County
June 13th, 1858

Elizabeth my dear,

I can say to you that I am well and have not been otherwise since I last saw you.

Another one of those lonely and lonesome sabbaths has arrived and I have nothing else but home and its contents to study about. I, therefore, endeavor to drop you a few lines thinking, probably, you have (or take) time to read them. Judging you by myself I have the four letters that you have written me lying on the table to my right.

On my arrival from Carson Valley I found yours of the 19th of March at hand, which I anxiously read and which was productive of a greatness of comfort as I had not heard from you or the children since the 30th of January. I cannot well account for the length of time between messages, though, I guess you can. I would insist on your writing oftener, but you might forget it, as you could not think to send for paper for so long. However, I will look every mail for a letter from you and will expect one every two weeks. I fear I am doomed to disappointment, however.

I am glad that matters and things have gone as well as what they have with you and your property. Do the best you can. All will be right in eternity if not in time.

I hope that Susan Linton's health has long been restored to her and that I will see her with the rest of my friends in good health and prospering on my arrival home. As to the children, there is no use talking, though I hope and trust that I will find them and Joel well in November next. About the 11th at that as I do not expect to reach home sooner than that time.

I will go on to state to you the sales of some of my cattle and my luck in Carson. I only found 68 head of my cattle in Carson, though I think I will get more of them, yet. I gave to my friend (Brittern) the description of those and he said that he would find them for me if they were in the valley. I shall have to go back to Carson in August or September. It is taking off the profits of my stay here.

My Jo Reed oxen sold at \$135.00. I then sold to Jamieson 7 heifers at \$50 each. To Peter Davis and Orell Miley, I sold a red headed heifer and a little black mittly faced heifer that I raised. I have sold one heifer and calf for \$75. I fear I will not sell the balance so well, though, I have time a plenty. I lost a brindle cow (that I bought off of J.W.Linton) in crossing the mountain. She died with the bloody meron. She left a fine heifer calf worth \$20, though, when she died I counted a \$50 slug lost. The 34 head that I have sold amount to \$1810. I have 34 head left and 7 calves besides those I left in Carson. They ought to sell for a good deal more than the others, and would in the same market, I think.

I guess that I shall work a month or two at the thrashing business at \$75 per month. People here are in a big way reaping and thrashing while the grain 70 miles off near the big tree and in Carson Valley are just coming up.

I can say to you that I saw the big tree, the mother of the forest. I found it to be 33 steps around, 327 feet high and the bark was peeled off 116 feet high. I then went on the stump of the big tree that was converted into a ballroom, very neat at that. On this stump they have a telegraph and printing office, also. Also on the log they have built a double line ten pin alley and barroom. This tree is said to be 32 feet through at the base. The bark is 18 inches thick. It is cedar or red wood growth. I climbed on top the base of this tree by a ladder of about 25 steps. It nearly made my head swim to look down from the top of the log.

I told Jamieson that I would freely give the remaining of my possessions in Arkansas to have you and the children to take a walk with me in the ballroom on the stump of the big tree, as ten years would be as much time as I would want to make an independent fortune off of 30 cows, for all the children we have or ever will have.

From all of this you may correctly imagine that I think a good deal of California, though, I shall leave it for you to decide whether we ever move to this country or not.

In this letter I send you Carter Willises note. There may be some chance for you to get something for it.

I want you to answer this and write me as many other letters as you can against the first of September.

Meart speaks of going to Treasure River about 6 or 8 hundred miles from here, I suppose. They have found another California there. The people are leaving here by the hundreds for that place. I guess it is no humbug. Walter Scott speaks of going also.

I will express my feelings slightly in verse towards you and the children and will expect you to do the same if you don't forget.

Way back where I've left my treasure far far away
that's where my heart is thinking ever.
There is where my thoughts all stray.
All up and down the Carson River sadly I've roamed
still thinking of the old plantation and of
the dear ones at home.
All the world am sad and dreary
everywhere I roam.
Daughter, how my heart grows weary
far from the dear ones at home.
All around our little farm we've wandered when we were young.
Many am the lonely days I squandered,
Sorrowful the songs I sung.
When I was playing with my children happy was I.
O, take me where my minds done wandering
there let me live and die.
All the world am sad and dreary.
Four little daughters without a brother, dearly I love.
Still fondly to my memory rushes, no matter where I rove.
When I am near you all acoming, I will cease to roam.
Then I will hear the girls a humming. Where? At my good old home.

Tune, "Old Folks at Home." This verse I have recomposed as near as possible to suit my own feelings as near as I can express.

Thos. J. Linton

The next letter, the last written while he was in California, is my favorite letter for many reasons. It gives us such an intimate picture of his warmth of personality and his depth of feeling.

Historically speaking, it tells us of the exact date he left on his trip from Pope County, Arkansas to California. It tells us the date of his brother's little daughter's death. Both are eloquently described and are most moving.

The letter is written on their eleventh wedding anniversary and obviously this date meant a great deal to him. In his references to card players and infidelity he gives us a good idea of moral integrity, so far as he is concerned.

The date of the end of the gold rush in California also would seem to be about the date of the letter, since he describes the exodus of the many miners to Oregon. He is not to be trusted as a prophet, however. In his statement that California is about to die a natural death we find him to be a bit premature. He would be greatly surprised if he were permitted to view Stockton today.

Stockton, California
June the 24th, A.D. 1858

Elizabeth my dear wife, and children,

I again, with a considerable degree of comfort, take my pen in hand to drop you a few lines, which leaves me well.

It is unnecessary for me to say I hope this will find you, the children, Joel and all others in the enjoyment of good health, contentment, peace and plenty.

It seems that you have not forgotten the 11th day of May 1857, nor do I expect you will soon. At least, I have not forgotten that day of trouble when I last, through a gush of tears, looked upon your person and for inability or lack of speech silently left you standing in the door; though days of trouble are so common and so frequent that there is no use of comment. Therefore, I will pass them all the best I can and if my wishes would do any good your days of trouble would be thinly scattered.

Now if I should bear in mind or celebrate any day, it would be this, as tis the day that brought about so much comfort or happiness between us, and the commencement of which was just eleven years ago today. Oh, that we could be once more permitted to sit together with our children around us and verbally rehearse the peace and comfort that was brought about on that great and glorious day for many other reasons than the one I have spoken of. Well as I have written this merely for a celebration of the day and to give you my feelings in relation thereto, I must hold off until I get another letter to answer.

(The balance of the letter was not dated, but is evidently continued at a later date.)

Dear wife another letter from under your own hand has reached me and has brought Sunday, the 4th day of July with it, which is another great day with the American people.

The letter bears the dates of May 11th and 18th. It also bears the most sad tidings what has ever reached my ears in California, the death of little Ellen, which causes the tears now to be rolling down my cheeks. No it is not hard, How did Lewis (James Lewis Linton) and Nancy bear it? How can they bear it? To stand by the bedside of a child in the agonies of death at her age and see her with the presence of mind that she seemed to have had when she taken Edney (Wm. E. Linton) by the hand and told him not to cry for her. Oh, my dear wife, it is too hard, but we may have such a scene to witness with one of our own. Oh, my God, forbid that it should be your lot during my absence. The first day of May was Saturday; the day that I started across the mountain after my cattle, which was a tolerable hot day. Little thought had I that it was productive of so much sorrow and sadness, or of the shedding of so many tears, as was doubtless shed over little Ellen by her father and mother. It seems that Edney must have taken it very hard. Well, agreeable to the indispensable decree of Almighty God, such things have to take place and we have one consoling thought, heaven. Heaven is the eternal home and resting place of all the righteous and little children. Another consoling thought is that they of her age die in peace and never know the troubles of a long life in this troublesome world.

I have written you a letter in Carson that contained a considerable amount of nonsense and I have since regretted it. I hope you will forgive me as I frequently write from an impulse of the moment.

I hope you are passing off this day in a more comfortable manner and place than I am able to do. I am about one mile from any person near a grove of scrubby oaks, thickly swung with long moss, some of which are dangling near my head. You may correctly imagine this to be a lonely and dreary place, but I must pass the sabbath in this kind of style or associate with card players or infidelity, which does not afford me any pleasure or comfort, whatever. I came here soon after breakfast and will remain here until late this evening for I feel less than common like spending the day in profaneness and blackguard.

I think I would have shouted a little myself to hear of the revival of religion around Dover and to hear of Mrs. McFadden's reformation. In this neighborhood a man professing even to be moral is not looked upon as being possessed with rational sense; consequently, my associates are not numerous.

I imagine Lee, your circuit rider, from what you say about him could preach a sermon that would suit to a fraction, and I wish it were possible for me to be at home in time to accompany you and the children to some of those glorious camp meetings that come off in old Pope County, or Arkansas generally. I imagine that we would have a fine time.

You speak of _____ being like the little potatoes of Ireland. I am not much acquainted with them, but if they were like the Irish Potatoes in California they would be tolerable big things.

Give cousin Mat my respects and tell him I would be happy to see him on my return.

You speak as though you had been in the notion of California. If you had come out here you would have taken me on surprise, though, I have often wished you and the children were here. I do not want you here now for I am getting down on the county. It is about to die a natural death. I suppose there has the rise of 30,000 persons left the shores of California for Treasure River in the last two months. Treasure River is about one thousand miles north of this, and, I suppose, is a much better mining country than this ever was. If the excitement keeps up two months longer the mountains in California will nearly be evacuated and the price of beef will go to nothing. It seems to affect the cattle market considerable at this time. Every stage and wagon coming down from the mines are full and covered for Treasure. As many as five hundred left Stockton at one time. The people are generally getting satisfied that there is no humbug about. It won't damage much unless I take a notion to go there. I have sold out all to some 20 odd head.

I have got a wagon and team hauling lumber about 125 miles from here. Meart is also there with his wagon and team. I have not got any letter from them yet. I guess they make grub and sell their cattle well or much better than I could here at present. Meart says he is going to Treasure in September or October if it does not prove to be humbug by that time.

I got a letter from Sublett yesterday. He said that three head of my lost cattle had come up and he thought he would get the other four soon. I shall have to go to Carson Valley before I leave for home.

Affectionately,
Thos. J. Linton

That the trip to California was profitable to Thomas Jefferson Linton cannot be doubted. In the 1850 census of Pope County, Arkansas, he is shown to have no Real Property, but in 1860 he is shown to have \$9350. This would have been a tidy nest egg for a young man in that time, but as will be seen later the impending Civil War and his untimely death at age 37 prevented him from substantially improving upon that.

When the Civil War broke out, the hereditary and environmental influences again brought out the patriotism of the Linton clan in Pope County, Arkansas. Following in the footsteps of their great-grandfathers in the Revolution, two of the five brothers joined up, the eldest, James Lewis (9) and the youngest, Thomas Jefferson Linton (9). Other Lintons that enlisted were William Edney Linton (10), son of James L. Linton, William L. Linton (10), the son of Silas (9). Turner D. Linton, whose relationship, as previously mentioned, is unknown, was a Second Lieutenant in Company I of the 35th Arkansas Infantry.

Thomas Jefferson Linton (9), probably so named because he was born a few months after our third President died, enlisted as a private in Company D of the 4th Arkansas Infantry and was later promoted to 1st Sergeant in the same unit. Still later he was transferred to Stirman's Company B of the 1st Battalion, Arkansas Cavalry, where he served as Captain. He, like his brother and nephews, served under General Sterling Price. Nothing more than the name of the soldier, rank and the unit to which he was attached can be learned from the service records of Confederate Soldiers in the National Archives. We are more fortunate in the case of Thomas J. Linton, however, because we have letters written to his wife while he was in the service. The first one, though not dated, was probably written in the summer of 1861 when he reported for duty.

State of Arkansas
Circy (Searcy) County
Camp Hardee
Squadron Pope County Cavalry

Elizabeth,

I have reached camps and found all right. I have resumed my old trail writing to you. There is good health in the camps. I could have stayed at home several days more if I had known as much as I do now.

Hindman has not yet reached our camps and, consequently, we are at the same place with is quite an unpleasant one since so much rain. We will, no doubt, move a few miles in a short time, if not further. We are informed by General Hardy that our next move will be westward, but our whereabouts are for Hindman to say when he comes. We expect to be under command of General McCulloch.

I have not been out to Aunt Molly's yet, but Jack went out last night and taken our dirty clothes. I found those heavy drawers that were lost when you were here so I am not much loser in the way of clothes, yet. I hurt my horse's back very bad the first day I left home. He will not be fit for use for some two weeks yet. Edney (son of James L) and me reached camps at half past one o'clock on Friday.



GEORGE ELDRIDGE LINTON
and wife. He is son of James
Lewis Linton and father of
A. C. Linton, M.D.

A. C. LINTON, M.D.
of Hector, Arkansas
and three unidenti-
fied sisters.



I did not see Brisco the morning I left, but from what I could find out he was talking about not doing any more work. Then I learned that Bushart wanted to lease a parcel of land on the bottoms. If he does, any amount he will clear, then he can have the use of the same for three years as the land is already fenced. I think that a fair rate. If he should clear any I want him to clear it all in one body commencing at the upper end clear down to the lower.

If Brisco does not come back to the bottom and go to work before gathering time I want Bill to haul three hundred bushels of his part home for what he owes me, otherwise, give a note bearing ten per cent from the 1st day of March last with good security. If he does this I don't want his corn. I must be made hold with him. If he should give a note with security whatever land he clears I will give him five or six dollars.

I want you to send for Charley and bring him home and keep him there. Have shoes put on him all the time, with a strip of band leather or wool put under the shoes. Have eight nails put in each shoe. Tell Dr. Heuggons that he can have the rise of him as soon as he gets able to pay for his feed. Tell Bill to grease his fore feet frequently with hot tallow.

If Lewis Mathis or anyone else wishes to sow 10 or 15 acres of wheat in the field next to Poe's let them do so and you sow the balance. Have George, and seal with someone else, that you my hire to break the stubble as soon as possible with turning plows if the half shovels won't do. Jess says you can get one of his broke and leave the old stubble next to the house for oats. Bill need not sow any wheat in the bottom. Let him sow some 10 or 15 acres in the upper end if the fields next to Poe's are quit. If any person wishes to sow wheat in the bottom they can do so, in the upper end by paying two dollars per acre for the sum.

Have all the winter fire wood cut out where John Nelson and William Baly cut off the bushes. Cut all the undergrowth such as can be hauled on the wagon in short lengths. I would be glad how much could be cut before frost. Anytime it is too wet to plow they may cut fire wood for winter.

You will, doubtless, think I am presuming to give a great deal of instructions, and probably more than I would have done if I were there in which you may be very correct, though I had much rather William Nail would do the work.

With the exception of what papers are at my house those papers show for themselves and I would be glad he would take them and collect or take notes as soon as possible. He might save a great deal riding by being at court, though it would not take a great while to go to every man's house. I am sending a blank copy of a note that you will find enclosed. If Andy Rhea has not done right for what he is owing I would be glad he would do so, soon.

Please write to me soon and all you know. I am anxious to know what Mr. Campbell did at the trial with what he was owing me. If he has not sworn any of it off he has saved a good deal of interest by putting it off from time to time, by false pretexts. However, I guess he never gets another opportunity to swear off loaned money with me.

I presume you all to be well as you can see by my letter. Write to me and tell Bill and George to write. Tell cousin Bett that I am awaiting that letter she promised to write some time ago.

I would like to hear how the horses and hogs are getting along and how much new grown corn they are eating.

Tell Brother E _____ that I do not care anything about a camp meeting at Boiling Springs unless I could be there to enjoy my portion, but if he thinks best to hold a meeting or camp meeting, to do so for I might be more greatly disappointed than I would be missed.

I am so badly situated to write that I must quit and if you can't read it bring it or send it over and I will read it for you. Also, send one of your own make. I will read it at the same time.

Thos. J. Linton

The second and last letter, unlike the first one, indicates that R.J Linton has made the complete transition from business man and farmer to that of soldier. It was written November the 1st, 1861 and shows that he was in command of many men with the rank of Captain.

Headquarters Vol. Squadron
Arkansas Cavalry, Camp Crilloden
November the 1st, 1861

E. G. Linton my dear,

I again resume my seat to drop you a few lines. I am well and, the boys say, still fattening. I hope you all are well and doing well and will continue until we meet again.

We have no sickness in camps, though Henry Hickman and William T. Hale are sick, but they are out in the country. I have not heard from them, as I have just returned from a rout through a portion of Missouri. I have nothing of importance to write so I will proceed to give you a small sketch of our last night in Missouri.

I can say to you that on last Saturday morning at one o'clock that a dispatch came to me that 800 home guards in Missouri were on their way to Carrollton and were killing and driving every thing before them. I roused up the squadron, cooked and ate our breakfast before day and rolled out to Carrollton to save the town, if possible. When we reached there I saw many missourians fleeing from their homes taking with them what they could.

The enemy had not yet reached Carrolltown so I raised about 50 more men and rolled out to meet them. We did not meet them on that day, which was Sunday. We met numbers of men during the day and all of them told us that the enemy was camped at the mouth of the creek.

The women and children were leaving their homes so we moved on cautiously and camped. Monday morning we started in different directions. I had about 500 men rallied and gathered for our assistance.

I taken about 170 men and moved in a head march all day, say 20 miles, and camped north, within four miles of where the enemy had camped the night previous. We kept out string picket guards and sent out scouts through the country around.

The next morning I moved on to the supposed camp of the enemy. Our spies said they saw persons run that they supposed were spies from the other side. We then moved up to the place. I picked a beautiful battle ground. Can never be better for a small fight. Tied our horses on the bank of the White River and moved out a short distance in alignment for battle. I sent some 30 men in different directions to take them in or learn their whereabouts. We held ourselves in readiness from 12 until near night, then prepared for camping.

Our parties came in now and reported that they had made but little discoveries. We kept 16 prisoners that night; 13 children, 2 women and one man. We turned them loose the next morning and rode for home by way of Forsythe, but found no fight. Forsythe was evacuated. I saw only two families there and saw two or three cannon ball holes through the courthouse. The glass windows were all shot to pieces in the other battle. The southern women and children are suffering greatly in Missouri. Their women have to bury the dead.

I saw Captain Burks of Missouri. He came to us when he saw our flag. He had been lying near home for several days, during which time one of his children died. He heard his wife's lamentations and was afraid to go in. She and her three small children had to bury the child in a goods box.

When he came to me I gave him 15 men and told him to go to his home, a distance of about eight miles. He thought he could find some four or five persons who had been waylaying his house. He did not find them, however, nor did he speak to his wife. He came back with the boys and stayed with us all night. I wanted him to come out with us and move his family. He said, no, he would lay in the mountains a while longer. He thought he could do more good than in the army.

John Brewster also came to us at the same place with several others. When they saw us they came in out of the ruffs with their guns and blankets. They seemed to rejoice as though they had been at a camp meeting. There is no use in talking. It is too bad for the American people to think of, other than being an eyewitness.

I wish I had something to write that would amuse or be consoling to you in a greater or less degree.

James Lenley had this moment received a letter from his wife with two little ones in it. I expect the next one I get from you will have a little one in it, as like as not.

I hear the boys hollerin, "home guard." Bill Linton, John Ridge and others I suppose are just arriving and, of course, some of them must have a letter for me, so I will go and see.

Hello, yes here is a letter. What? Yes, here is a verbal letter. What? Captain Tom, how do you do, sir? I would be glad to see you. Come over as soon as you can, or in a few days and I will give you an officer in the army. We are needing all the brave and good men in the

service that can be found and I think if he is not the right sort it is not my fault, or there is no use in trying for I know that I tried my best and probably as often as anyone else not to meet with sickness.

I don't know, but I think, probably, I will be at home by the time you see, say two weeks, that is if we are not called too far off.

I have received a dispatch from General McCulloch stating that another company of cavalry was ordered to report to us for duty. He said we should have more assistance if we need it. He also ordered us to keep a sharp lookout and guard well the borders of Fulton and Marion counties. Should we receive no other orders I think that we will take up winter quarters some 16 or 20 miles northeast of Yellville on White River, a very plentiful portion of the country.

I want to come home as soon as I can raise some money or as soon as we are paid off for the state service, which I think will be done in a few weeks. If I should not get home I want you to take good care of yourself and boy, I would be glad to see you up there when I should reach him.

I must have another horse, if not two. My horse is not fit to ride if I could come home.

Captain Thos. J. Linton

The final letter is not written by Thomas Jefferson Linton, but is to him from his nephew. The letter is dated January 12, 1862, just 12 days after the death of his small girl, Elizabeth. Reference is made in the letter to Elizabeth Linton. Because his wife Elizabeth died in April 1862 it is difficult to know whether the reference is to his wife or his daughter. It probably refers to the wife because the little girl was called Betty.

Burrow Hill, Arkansas
Headquarters Searcy County
Jan. 12th, 1862

Captain Thomas J. Linton,

Sir, I can inform you that we are getting along the same old sort, not doing anything. We are going to drill today on Sunday the first time.

I have received half of the clothing from Captain Scott and have sold all of the comforts but two. I think I can sell them. The rest of the goods will go very fast when I say so.

All of the recruits want to be mustered into service very bad. If you can come over and stay long enough to do that I would be glad.

E. Howard is at Buffalo City and has been ever since we stopped here. He will stay there some time yet, because I cannot relieve him until I sell the goods.

A.K.Rankin got a fall from his horse and dislocated his right shoulder and it has not been put back in yet. He was drunk when it was done. Eight men pulled at it last night, but failed to do any good.

James A. Brewton has left here. He thinks he has a discharge. James Lemley has gone home on his own hook. He had the measles. C.L. Brewton had the measles at the same time but won't go home the same way. Mags Brooks reserves the right of giving furlough to himself. Captain Scott cannot give furloughs. If Mags Brooks comes down here I shall have to report several of our boys.

You must get some paper if you can as I am almost out. If you cannot come you must authorize someone to muster in those boys.

I have not paid for the feathers. I am waiting for some bed ticks to put the feathers in. I have rented a bed for myself and W.E. Linton to sleep on at \$1.50 per month. I have taken W.E. Linton in our mess as he has all to do in his own mess.

Sam Ford has gone home. I have not heard how Elizabeth Linton is for some time. I would be glad to hear from her. If you have any chance to write I would be glad you would do so as soon as you can.

John Jones is very poorly, yet. I don't think he will be able to do any good this winter. I would be glad if he could get home, but you cannot give him a furlough. You can tell my family that I am as well as common, but I don't think I will get to come home any more.

J. M. Looper has not got in camp yet from Little Rock. He lives in Piney Creek. If you can send him word to come to camp you ought to do so. Nothing more at present.

Yours truly,

W. L. Linton, 2nd Lt.

To: Captain Thomas J. Linton, at home

One is impressed with young Linton's devotion to duty, but highly skeptical of his medical ability. His diagnosis of the dislocated shoulder may bring smiles to our faces now, but if Rankin had a broken shoulder, it would not have the same effect on him while eight men pulled with all their strength.

Alson E. Linton (8) was born in North Carolina in 1793. He died on 30 March 1861, in Pope County, Arkansas. He married Frances Forehand in Davidson County, Tennessee on 29 July 1812. She was born in North Carolina in 1793 and died between 1875 and 1880 in Pope County, Arkansas. Their children:

- 1) James Lewis Linton (9), born Davidson County, Tennessee 1816; died in 1861 in Pope County, Arkansas
- 2) Silas S. Linton (9), born Davidson County, Tennessee 1817; died after 1880 in Pope County, Arkansas
- 3) William D. Linton (9), born Tennessee 1823; died between 1862 and 1870 in Pope County, Arkansas
- 4) Jesse W. Linton (9), born Tennessee 1825; died after 1880 in Pope County, Arkansas
- 5) Thomas Jefferson Linton (9), born 4 September 1826 in Tennessee; died 9 April 1864 near Clarksville, Arkansas

James Lewis Linton (9) married Nancy A. Rowland, born 1823 in Tennessee. They were married in Pope County, Arkansas in 1845. He served as Sheriff at Dover, Arkansas in 1860. During the Civil War he served in Company G of the 33rd Arkansas Infantry as a private. He died in October 1861 either as a casualty of war or illness. His widow Nancy appears as late as the 1880 census of Pope County, Arkansas; therefore we know she died after that date. Their children (all born in Pope County, Arkansas):

1A) William Edney Linton (10) was born in Pope County; married Arkansas Langford in Pope County in 1868. She was born in Arkansas in 1856. W.E. Linton served in the Civil War in the same Cavalry unit with his uncle, Thomas Jefferson Linton. William Edney Linton and Arkansas Langford Linton had the following children, all born in Pope County:

L. Franklin Linton (11), born 1870; married Della Bewley 1887
John E. Linton (11), born 1872
George M. Linton (11), born 1874
Anna M. Linton (11), born 1877
Georgia H. Linton (11), born 1880

2A) Mary Ellen Linton (10), born 1847, died 1858

3A) Susan W. Linton (10), born 1849

4A) Martha H. Linton (10), Susan's twin, born 1849; married Matthew Hale. They had at least two children, both born in Pope County:

James L. Hale (11), born 1868

William J. Hale (11), born 16 July 1875; died 22 November 1962. He is buried at Langford Cemetery near Scottsville, Arkansas.

5A) George Eldridge Linton (10) was born 1852. He married Tennessee Deshogn in Pope County in 1881. G.E. Linton died in Nocona, Texas, about 1942.

Their son, Arthur G. Linton (11) is still a practicing physician at age of 81. He has practiced medicine for 57 years. Dr. Linton contributed much information used in this article. During his 57 years of medical practice he has delivered almost 6,000 babies, and, in some cases, has delivered four generations. Dr. Linton has been awarded a Certificate of Merit from the Fifty-Year Club of American Medicine. This club was organized to honor physicians who have had hard knocks, done much with little, and shown the way.

Dr. and Mrs. Linton have one son, two daughters, and nine grandchildren. One of the granddaughters, Diana Whitlock, is majoring in Chemical Engineering at the University of Rochester in New York. Another, Betty Whitlock, is majoring in music in Amarillo, Texas, and still another, Donna Olson, is a beautician in California.

Silas S. Linton (9), born in Davidson County, Tennessee in 1817; died in Pope County, Arkansas after 1880. He married (1) Sarah Burmum, born 1810 in Tennessee. They were married in Henry County, Tennessee on 15 September 1840. They lived in Tennessee for a while and came to Pope County about 1849. Sarah died about 1864 in Pope County. Their children are:

- 1B) Mary Frances Linton (10), born 1842 in Tennessee
- 2B) Nancy T. Linton (10), born 1843 in Tennessee
- 3B) Susan A. Linton (10), born 1844 in Tennessee
- 4B) William L. Linton (10), born 1846 in Tennessee. This son served in Company I of the 21st Arkansas Cavalry as a Private and was later, as seen in his letter to Captain Linton, promoted to 2nd Lieutenant. He is not found in the 1870 or 1880 census so there is the possibility of his being a casualty in the War Between the States.
- 5B) Thomas W. Linton (10), born 1849 in Tennessee, married Louisa _____, born Arkansas 1856. They had the following children, all born Pope County, Arkansas:
 - William W Linton (11), born 1871
 - Charles C. Linton (11), born 1873
 - James Linton (11), born 1879

Silas S. Linton (9) married (2) Elizabeth Webb, born about 1841 in Alabama. They were married in Pope County in 1865. She died after 1880. Their children were all born in Pope County, Arkansas. They are:

- 6B) Silas E. Linton (10), born 1866; married Lucinda Russell 1888
- 7B) Julia T. Linton (10), born 1868
- 8B) George W. Linton (10), born 1871)
- 9B) Andrew J. Linton (10), born 1871) twins
- 10B) Betty Ann Linton (10), born 1875

William D. Linton (9) was born in Tennessee in 1823. He died in Pope County, Arkansas, between 1862 and 1870. He married Susan McCune, born in Kentucky in 1828. They were married in Pope County in 1844. Their children, all born in Pope County:

- 1C) James T. Linton (10), born 1844
- 2C) Samuel Martin Linton (10), born 1849

Jesse W. Linton (9) was born in Tennessee in 1825. He died after 1880 in Pope County, Arkansas. He married (1) Emily D. _____, born 1825 in Tennessee. Emily died in Pope County, Arkansas about 1875. Their children, all born in Pope County:

- 1D) Elizabeth Frances Linton (10), born 1846
- 2D) George T. Linton (10), born 1848, married Margaret A. Langford in 1880 in Pope County, Arkansas
- 3D) William A. Linton (10), born August 1850, died about 1859
- 4D) Alson E. Linton (10), born 1852, married Annie Miller in 1886 in Pope County, Arkansas
- 5D) James M. Linton (10), born 1854, married Eliza _____ in Pope County in 1887. She was born 1855 in Arkansas.
- 6D) Julia Ann Linton (10), born 1856
- 7D) Lucinda M. Linton (10), born 1858
- 8D) Alabama Linton (10), born 1863, married V. H. Langford in Pope County in 1881
- 9D) Louisiana Linton (10), born 1863, twin sister of Alabama.

Jesse W. Linton (9) married (2) Mrs. Sarah J. Hughs, born 1836 in Ga. She died after 1880. They were married 1876 in Pope County. They had one child, a little girl, born in Pope County:

- 10D) Jessie T. Linton (10), born 1877

The fifth son of Alson E. Linton is my great-grandfather, Thomas Jefferson Linton (9) He was born 4 September 1826 in Tennessee. A student of United States History could tell you that it was the 4th of July 1826 when our third president, Thomas Jefferson, died in Virginia. It doesn't take a great deal of imagination to reason that Alson Linton held Thomas Jefferson in great esteem and that, in all probability, he named his youngest son in his honor.

He married Elizabeth Gibson Dyer in Pope County, Arkansas, 24 June 1847. Elizabeth was born 10 August 1828 in Tennessee and died 25 April 1862.

The particulars of Thomas Jefferson Linton's death have been handed down through the family but I believe needs to be recorded in writing.

As has been previously noted, T.J. Linton was a fine stockman. He had taken the herd of cattle to California and sold them, profitably. It would take a man of experience to make such a trip. When he returned home from the war he owned some prize horses. It seems that he was probably trying to pick up the threads of his life and to, once again, earn a living for his family.

One morning in April of 1864 he awoke to find that his horses had been stolen. He knew that bushwhackers and lawless renegades were roaming the area, but, apparently, he knew, specifically, who had stolen his horses and that they were taking them to Clarksville, some 40 miles away. He was determined to follow the thieves and to recover his stock. Against the pleadings of his family he set out to Clarksville. He arrived there, recovered his horses, and decided to spend the night. The next morning, 9 April 1864, a group of fellow Masons from Clarksville escorted him on the homeward journey to a point that was thought to be safe for him to proceed alone. He had not gone very far before the bushwhackers struck. He was badly outnumbered and during the struggle was fatally wounded.

His 15-year-old daughter, Rebecca, received the news from a slave who had accompanied her father on the trip. She and some slaves made the trip and recovered the body. Susan Margaret Linton, another daughter, told her children, many years later, that she remembered her father's body laid out on the porch before burial. She was eight years old at the time.

The story of Thomas Jefferson Linton's death has an interesting post script. My father, who had told me the story many times and who lived in the Dover and Hector area while a young man, had never known where he was buried. In late 1962 we made a trip to Pope County from Covina, California, for the express purpose of interviewing descendants of the Lintons and to visit old cemeteries in the hope of finding an informative tombstone inscription. We were eminently successful.

We talked to all of the old-timers around Hector, Scottsville, Dover and Russellville. We searched every old cemetery that anyone would know about. We did find many Lintons buried in various cemeteries, but for some time, not the one we were looking for. Finally, on the last day of the trip, in a discussion with Mr. J.H. Hurley we were told that we should go to the Old Baptist Cemetery near Hector. He was certain that there were Lintons buried there and he said that it was a very old cemetery. We decided to go to this very last cemetery.

The Old Baptist Cemetery is located on the property of Mr. John Llewellyn far down in a wooded section of his pasture. It is neatly fenced and Mr. Llewellyn acts as the caretaker because he has ancestors buried there. He took us to the cemetery and pointed to a large flat stone, half of which was standing and the other half propped up against it. We placed the broken half on top of the other portion and read the inscription. "In memory of Elizabeth G., wife of Thomas J. Linton, born 10 August 1828, joined the Methodist Church at an early age, lived a lively and beloved member of the same. Lived affectionate and loving wife and mother. Departed this life 25 April 1862." Immediately adjacent to her is another grave with a smaller stone that reads, "Also by her side lies her 5th daughter, little Betty, born 11 November 1859, died 1 January 1862."

My Dad and I were completely satisfied. He had never known where his grandmother had been buried and I was proud to have been able to take him there. The biggest surprise was yet to come. Mr. Llewellyn pointed to the unmarked grave at the other side of Elizabeth and said, "That's her husband's grave." That was more than we could hope for, but we wanted to be certain, so we queried him further. "Do you know his name?" He wasn't certain but he knew that he was murdered by bushwhackers near Clarksville. So it was that nearly a hundred years after his death we had found the unmarked grave of Thomas Jefferson Linton. Suddenly, the trip from California was well worth the effort and would be much more pleasant returning.

Thomas Jefferson (9) and Elizabeth Linton had the following children, all born in Pope County, Arkansas:

- 1E) Rebecca Frances Linton (10), born 23 June 1849, married William Stokes. They had Sally Stokes (11) who married James C. Rose, brother of my father.
- 2E) Martha Ann Linton (10), born 15 September 1851, married Thomas Richardson. They had, among others: Mack Richardson (11).
- 3E) Mary Malenia Linton (10), my grandmother, born 20 March 1854, and died in Dover, Arkansas in 1912. She married William Franklin Rose on 7 October 1879 in Pope County, Arkansas.
- 4E) Susan Margaret Linton (10), born 6 September 1856, and died 27 September 1930. She married William Elisha Mathis on 18 December 1873 in Pope County, Arkansas.
- 5E) Elizabeth Martin Linton (10), born 11 November 1859, died 1 January 1862.
- 6E) George Thomas Edney Linton (10), born 31 October 1861, died 22 June 1862.

Mary Malenia Linton (10) was the second wife of William Franklin Rose. Harriet Albright, the first wife, died 1877 or 1878. Children by the first marriage:

James Chester Rose, born 3 January 1876 in Texas, was married to Sally Stokes in Pope County, Arkansas on 16 August 1899. Sally was the daughter of William Stokes and Rebecca Linton. This means that the descendants of J.C. Rose have the same Linton ancestors as do the children of W.F. Rose by Mary Linton.

Dora Frances Rose, born 25 December 1877 in Texas. She married Mack Sullivan on 8 December 1901 in Pope County, Arkansas. She died 22 July 1962.

Children of William Franklin Rose, born in Arkansas 7 May 1847, died 17 July 1927, and Mary Malenia (Mollie) Linton (10):

- 1) Willie May Rose (11), born 28 November 1880 in Texas, married Robert Lee Hatley 10 July 1901 in Pope County. She died in Dover, Arkansas 24 January 1937 and is buried in the Dover Cemetery.
- 2) Ellen Rose (11), born 6 April 1882 in Texas. She died at Dover, Arkansas in September 1898.
- 3) Porter Granville Rose (11), born 3 February 1884 in Milam County, Texas, married Ulishie Galloway in Pope County, Arkansas, 6 October 1906. He resides in Portland, Oregon. She died about 1955 and is buried at Dover, Arkansas, in the Dover Cemetery.
- 4) Mattie Florence Rose (11), born 13 December 1887 at Dover, Arkansas. She married Mr. White in Pope County. She died about 1940.
- 5) Dorcus Rose (11), born 2 April 1890 at Dover, Arkansas. She married Mr. Curtis. She died about 1950.
- 6) Mary Etta Rose (11), born 11 January 1893 at Dover, Arkansas. She married Mr. Willocks. She is now a widow and resides in Rio Linda, California.
- 7) Samuel Rose (11), born 7 May 1896 in Dover, Arkansas. He died at Dover, 6 January 1915.
- 8) Reuben Jefferson Rose (11), born Dover, Arkansas 4 March 1898.

Reuben Jefferson Rose (11) married Eva Lee Freeman on 2 February 1924 in Pope County, Arkansas. She was born 22 July 1907 in Jefferson County Alabama. Their children:

- 1) Reuben Porter Rose (12), born 25 October 1925 at Russellville, Arkansas.
- 2) Charles Lindbergh Rose (12), born 29 September 1927 at Russellville, Arkansas. He married Victoria Celeste Wilhelm on 6 June 1954 at Pasadena, California.
- 3) Frances Lee Rose (12), born 3 June 1930 at Harrison, Arkansas. She married David Lloyd Cronk on 14 January 1956 at Covina, California.

Reuben Porter Rose (12) married Josephine M. Delmonego at Russellville, Arkansas on 25 February 1944. She was born 31 December 1924. Their children:

- 1) Michael Porter Rose (13), born 5 August 1945 at Clarksville, Arkansas. At present a student at Occidental College in Los Angeles, California.
- 2) Donald Gary Rose (13), born 19 March 1947 at Covina, California. He is a student at Covina High School.

(Editor's note: A list of Mr. Rose's reference sources appears on the next page -- an object lesson in genealogical research. -- WJL)

REFERENCE SOURCES CONSULTED
by Porter Rose
for his history of the Linton Family

1. Tennessee Cousins, by Worth S. Ray
2. Early Will Books of Lower Norfolk County, Virginia
3. Abstracts of Wills of Currituck and Dare Counties, N.C., by
Gordon C. Jones
4. Three Hundred Years Along the Pasquotank, by Jesse F. Pugh
5. Revolutionary War Records of North Carolina Soldiers
6. History of Davidson County, Tennessee, by Woodford Clayton
7. Marriage Records of Davidson County, Tennessee
8. Marriage Records of Henry County, Tennessee
9. Marriage Records of Pope County, Arkansas
10. Pension Files for the War of 1812 (National Archives)
11. Service Records of Confederate Soldiers (National Archives)
12. Letters of Thomas Jefferson Linton
13. Census of North Carolina - 1790, 1800 and 1810
14. Census of Davidson County, Tennessee - 1820, 1830, 1840
15. Census of Pope County, Arkansas - 1840, 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880
16. Interviews with my father, Reuben Jefferson Rose; his brother,
Porter Granville Rose; and his sister, Mary Etta.
17. Interview with Arthur C. Linton M.D. of Hector, Arkansas
18. Tombstone Inscriptions in Old Baptist Cemetery near Hector, Arkansas
19. Records of births of children of Thomas J. Linton and his wife
Elizabeth. Owned by Minnie Talkington, daughter of
Willie May (Rose) Hatley.
20. Miscellaneous court records of Pope County, Arkansas

BETHEL METHODIST CHURCH CEMETERY

near
Mount Holly, Arkansas

(This is a partial list of marked graves in the cemetery adjacent to Bethel Methodist Church, near Mount Holly, Arkansas. It was copied from the tombstones by Margaret Smith Ross on August 18, 1954.)

N. B. McDonald, Apr. 7, 1822 - Feb. 21, 1894
L. Vina Hughes, Aug. 25, 1828 - Dec. 20, 1888
Eliza Jane Smith, Dec. 4, 1837 - Mar. 30, 1887
A. L. Smith, Jan. 13, 1831 - Feb. 1, 1885 (Masonic emblem)
John T. Smith, Oct. 31, 1855 - Feb. 3, 1876
Annie Elizabeth Smith, Jan. 1, 1871 - July 13, 1888
Sophronia Ann, wife of G. H. Smith, Dec. 16, 1859 - Feb. 27, 1896
Rev. George W. Lagrone, Aug. 24, 1842 - Mar. 15, 1892
Rev. Benjamin F. Moody, Sept. 12, 1860 - Dec. 13, 1901
Benjamin F. Moody, Aug. 24, 1805 - Sept. 18, 1890
Minerva Ann, wife of B. F. Moody, Feb. 27, 1823 - Feb. 2, 1904
Mary L. Moody, born Little Rock, Ark., Apr. 6, 1840 - Aug. 8, 1872

CARTER COMPILES INDEX TO FLASHBACK

Readers of the Family Historian may be interested to know that the Washington County Historical Society has just published an Index to the first 13 volumes of its Flashback, 1951-1963. The Index was compiled by Deane G. Carter.

Of genealogical interest are the Washington County cemetery lists, marriage lists, etc. Family histories that have appeared in Flashback and are listed in the Index include the following:

Alexander	Holcomb	Rudolph
Arnett	Holland	Rutherford
Atwood	Holmsley	Searcy
Barnett	Holt	Shreve
Bates	Karnes	Shumate
Beaty	Latta	Simpson
Billingsley	Lea	Skelton
Bloyed	Lewis	Slaughter
Boone	Logan	Smith
Buchanan	Mankins	Sneed
Carnahan	Mayes	Stevenson
Cates	McClellan	Stirman
Cole	McClure	Stockburger
Cox	McCollom	Strain
Crawford	Miller	Thomas
Dickson	Moore	Trent
Douglas	Morrow	Van Hoose
Drake	Nixon	Walker
Fincher	Peerson	Washburn
Hansard	Phillips	Williams
Hash	Reed	Wilson A M
Head	Ridge	Yates
Hilton	Robinson	Yoes

Family histories which the Society published in its Booklet Series and that are listed in the Index include the following:

Cunningham, Edmiston, Garvin, Greathouse, Greer, Kimbrough, Pyeatt, Rhea, Tuttle, Walden, Wm. Wilson.

The Index sells for \$3 and only 100 copies are available. Write to the Secretary, Deane G. Carter, Box 237, Fayetteville, Ark.

EDITORIAL NOTE

Several family histories sent us for publication have been crowded out of this issue but should appear in our next number. They include Patty, Perrin, Mayes, Simmons, Pirtle, Vawter, and others.

We were also unable to include several groups of family pictures (Dearing-Barr, Peerson²Mayes, etc.)

However, we did get all the Queries into print and there is a large number of those. We do not abbreviate our Queries as much as some genealogical periodicals do, because we feel there is a lot of general reader interest in them, besides the interest in a particular family name. Send Queries and membership dues to Miss Bernice Karnes, secretary, and other material (family histories, cemetery lists, marriage and war records, etc.) to W. J. Lemke, editor. Address: c/o Arkansas Genealogical Society, Box 237, Fayetteville, Ark.

QUERIES

QUERIES

QUERIES

BUNCH - BOWERS \$3 enclosed for the Ark Fam Historian. Start with the Dec. 1963 issue which has the Bunch records and the Bunch Cemetery. If you have any records on the Bowers, I will gladly pay for them. This is my wife's line. Also the Harris family.
Coy O. Bunch, Lamar, Mo.

CONLEY - GILL I enjoyed so much reading your publication and especially the old family pictures you publish from time to time. It would really thrill me to find some of my ancestors listed in your Family Historian. Please enter my subscription and if you have any former listings on Conley, Gill, Hess, Keith, Pointer, Montgomery, Shadden or Walker, also Lacefield, I surely would appreciate knowing this.

Deloris K. Smith,
447 W. Beverly Dr., Clovis, Calif.

NELSON Enclosed check for 1964 membership. The cemetery lists of Carroll Co., as copied by Mr. & Mrs. Jesse F. Harrington, have been helpful in supplying names and dates of deceased relatives, but I still need more information about Isaac N. Nelson (1830-1876) who came to Carrollton, Ark. from Ky. Will someone who lives in or near Carrollton, Ark. send me names and dates on Nelsons & Wrights who are buried in that cemetery.

Mrs. M. D. Nelson,
705 S. Davis Dr., Arlington, Texas

SLAUGHTER - WILSON Enclosed check for membership in Ark Gen Soc. I have borrowed some of your publications and really enjoy them. I am searching for information on David McDonald Slaughter who d. in Washington Co., Ark in 1884. I am also searching in Benton Co., Ark for info on Hardy Wilson who probably lived near Avoca around 1850-1860. Also Cash, Blevins, Crabtree and Ford in Benton Co. I am searching for Mary Jane Cash & parents near Mena, Ark in 1870.

Robert T. Tucker,
1216 N. Sandusky, Tulsa 15, Okla.

ASBURY (ASBERRY) Can anyone give me information on Thomas Asbury (Asberry) and son Charles who lived close to Berryville, Ark? They are both buried in Rush Cemetery. Thos. d. 1896; Chas d. 1897. Chas married Martha Ellen Stroud. Would like information on Robt Stanton Stroud who lived in Berryville also, and is supposed to have d. in Boone Co., Ark in 1897.

Mrs. Ruby Wiedeman,
7250 S.E. Sherman, Portland 15, Oregon

PILLOW I am writing to see if perhaps you can help me. I am trying to run down my husband's family name (Pillow). Could you please tell me how and where to begin searching? Also, do you put out a magazine or quarterly? Do you have anything on Greene Co., Ark.?

Mrs. Joe A. Pillow,
6034 Bonfair Ave., Lakewood, Calif.

SCOTT - SIMMS

I am looking for information concerning James Julius Scott who lived in Crawford Co., Ark and was married to Evangeline (or Angelina) Simms. It is believed he was a circuit rider during the Civil War and lived there about 1862. He was killed about 1863 or 1864. I believe he lived around Paris or Mulberry, Ark. If you have any information concerning this family, I would greatly appreciate it, as I am looking for the history of my husband's family. My husband's father, James Eden Scott, was raised by a family named Linscombe after his parents' death when he was quite small. He did not remember his parents except their names. Also the Simms family. I believe Angelina Simms had a relative by the name of Josiah Simms who also lived in this same vicinity in Ark. I do not have any other information on the Simms family.

Mrs. W. O. Scott,
222 W Oak St., Skiatook, Okla.

MITCHELL

Membership dues enclosed. I have the 1840 census of Ark. In it there are three Mitchells in Benton Co. My gr-father, Jesse Hardy Mitchell, was born in Benton Co., Ark in 1839. There was a D., a T. and a W. Mitchell. I feel that one of them was my gr-grandfather. If any of your readers know anything of these Mitchells in Benton Co. at that time, I would be grateful to hear from them. It is so frustrating to try to unravel this seeming mystery. My gr-father later lived in the area of Mansfield & Ft Smith. He joined the Union Army at Greenwood, Ark (Co. E, First Ark).

Mrs. Dee A. Sikes,
2947 S. Quaker Ave., Tulsa 14, Okla.

RANDLEMAN

According to a statement of the Pension agent at Carri, Ill. the veterans' payments were transferred from the Illinois to the Arkansas agency Mar. 4, 1836. The pension payment voucher indicates that the veteran received from the agent at Little Rock, Ark. the sum of \$13.33 which was the pension due him from Mar. 4 to Sept. 4, 1841. The veteran was living in Washington Co., Ark. at that time. There is no mention of his death date or the name of his widow. From McPherson's "Holcombs of the World" p.493, Martin Randleman was a pioneer in St. Clair Co., Ill., entering land Aug. 9, 1814. The marriage records of St. Clair Co. show: Sarah Randleman to Wm. Elwell Dec. 1, 1842; Elizabeth Randleman to William Gore, Jan. 27, 1830; and Mary A. Randleman to Wm. Cochran, no date. Are any of these names familiar to you? How about these who were early settlers (1801-02) with Martin Randleman in St. Clair Co., Ill.: John Teler, Abraham Eyman, Wm. Muell(er), John Primm, Daniel Stookey? Michael Randleman b 1803, married and had son Henry, b. 1824 in Ark. Thanks for your time & interest.

Mrs. Lonnie Webb,
2372 Brussels, North Bend, Oregon

COIL

I am still searching for the parentage of George Worthy Coil and data on his brothers. He was born in Dallas, Tex. in 1854. He had a brother Tim Coil who died in Cotton Plant, Ark in 1907. It is believed he had other brothers, Benjamin and John, and a sister who m. Jobby South.

The 1860 census of Dallas Co., Tex. does not list George Worthy Coil in a family but 3 other Coil families are listed who might prove to be related. Richard Coil 31, b. in Ark & Evaline 24, b. in Ark: 4 children b. in Tex. Michael Coil 30, b. in Ark & M.J. 32, b. in Tenn; 4 children all b. in Tex. J.I. Coil 31, b. S.C. & Catherine 22, b. N.C. Will exchange info on Coil-Coyle-Kile.

Mrs. E. E. Stephenson,
1816 N. Broad St., Galesburg, Ill.

HITCH

I enjoy the Historian but I have no one in Arkansas and Mo. I hoped I might find "Hitch" but "Hitches" are as thin as chicken teeth. I started on genealogy in 1937. Before my father died, he asked me to go back to Ohio and find all I could about his ancestors. Because he wanted me to do it, I did. And because I did it, I never stopped. It was fascinating. I am stymied on the Hitch family and on my Burton family of Ky. I am sure where they came from but cannot prove it.

Miss Grace Grant,
110 So. 49 St., Omaha 32, Nebraska

COFFELT - McKEE

DOOLIN - STOWE

PHILLIPS - HAWK

Check enclosed for dues. Hats off to the good people of Arkansas who are doing so much to save the history of Arkansas, especially the cemeteries. I wish it was contagious and your neighbor Missouri would catch it. There is a Phillips cemetery in Mo. that sits in the center of a pasture, no fence, full of brush. Others are completely gone.

I need history, parents, bros., other relatives of Daniel Coffelt, b Va. about 1825. One son Richard (my grandfather) Coffelt migrated to Mo. Need other history of Richard Coffelt. Who was Daniel Coffelt's wife? Joseph McKee in Mo. about 1835, married Stowe, then Caroline Doolin, whose father was Levi Doolin, thought to be b. Va. Any history on parents and other relatives will be appreciated.

In 1847 or 48 Abraham Phillips and three bros came in wagon train, leaving Ky and Tenn for Calif. Wm. Lacy Adams thought to have been wagon train master. A Widow Adams (relative to Lacy) had married a Phillips before leaving Ky. Other wives of Phillips men rumored to be Mary Hawks, Sarah Ann Hampton. The Phillips descendants of this wagon train are known to have settled in Ark as well as Mo. Need any information above. Another family in the wagon train was named Payne. All these families related or married to other members of the migrants.

Willie Coffelt (Mrs. Don) Paul,
7335 N. Ventura Ave., Ventura, Calif.

KLEPPER (CLEPPER)

John Klepper, b. Oct 20, 1798, Tenn. Who were his parents? He m. Mar 1837 his 1st wife, Rebecca Turney who d. 1855. Where did they marry? 2nd wife was Eilmoth Ann Angel, b. June 16, 1820 in Tenn.; mar. Apr 8, 1856, where? John Klepper had 3 nephews: Peter Klepper, b. Tenn 1833-35; d. 1923, Ewing District, Boone Co., Ark.; Henry S. Klepper, b Tenn; Johnnie Klepper, b. Tenn. Johnnie was in politics in Ark.

Peter Klepper m. Malissa Catherine (Sigmon) Ogle; had 3 sons, Mosey, Arthur, Johnnie. Malissa was my gr-grandmother by 1st marriage to Brantly David Ogle (killed in the Boston Mtns, Ark during Civil War). Who were Malissa's brothers and sisters? Any help greatly appreciated and will be happy to exchange.

Mrs. Flossie Hine,
9585 Garvey, El Monte, Calif.

BLAIR

I would like to know name & address of a "Blair" genealogist in Fayetteville if there be such. For nearly 30 years I have been trying to get information of my gr-grandfather, William P. Blair. Some time after the war he lived with his son for abt 2 years but afterwards 1865-1870 he went to Washington Co., Ark and lived in or near Fayetteville with 2 of his sisters.

C. O. Blair,
Route 2, Fair Grove, Mo.

LEACH

I am making a family history of the Leach family. There were some Leachs that belonged to our family that lived around Stockton and Springfield, Mo. I am trying to find Hiram & Robert Leach and their father, W.A. J. Leach. I would like to get in contact with Mr. & Mrs. Harrington about the Leach line. I saw in the Ark Fam Historian that there were some Leachs in their list of names. Also, I'd love to hear from anyone that is interested in White, Jennings, Williams, Edwards, Whitson, Lane, Drennan, Reed, De-Rossette (or Rossett), Foster and Hurley. Will answer all letters.

Martha B. Jennings,
802 El Tejon Ave., Oildale, Calif.

MORSE - CARPER

My principal Ark problem at present concerns one Thomas John Morse, b. 9 Mar 1813 (poss. Mo.?) who m. Nancy _____, b. 11 Oct. 1816. An elderly gr-aunt of my husband's states that he was killed by raiders in 1865 at Theadville, which she careully spells out, and says is near Pea Ridge, Ark. After a search I suspect that it must be Fayetteville. Accdg to tradition, he and his son John Andrew Morse, b. Sept. 1847 (she says Pike Co., Mo.) were asleep when attacked. The father was killed and the son left for dead, but he recovered. The family apparently moved to Texas (Cooke Co.) shortly after, presumably consisting of the mother Nancy, and the children Mary Jane, J.P. (?), Sarah, Rachel, John Andrew, Elizabeth, B.C. (possibly Bruce), and W.L. They stayed in Tex for about 20 years after which some of them moved to Okla.

I am also working on Polk Co. Carpers, also the Towry family, who came from the Chattanooga, Tenn. area about 1858, and Ashfords, who arrived abt 1840. Although I am now working on my husband's lines, I have always had a deep interest in Ark history, since my grandmother was born in Judsonia, Ark while her parents were on their way out to Calif. Thanks for your assistance.

Mrs. J. E. Carper,
9256 Loma Lane, Orangevale, Calif.

Dear Mr. Carter:

The Session Minutes of the Cane Hill CP church had a "gold mine" of information pertinent to my husband's families in that area. The history of the McClellan Family of Alabama and Arkansas, though not of particular interest in my search for data on his lineage, is valued by my mother who is in process of tying together the various collateral lines to her PARK-FALLS families (her paternal ancestry). Florence Anna Edwards of the General Wm. Blount McClellan line, married Burrell J. Park, Jr., my grandfather Park's youngest brother. She was the daughter of Frank Forest Edwards and "Seppie" Cunningham Edwards, pioneers of San Seba, Texas. The Misses Cooleila Faulkner and Mary Gaither who contributed important data for the McClellan book are friends of mother.

Right now I would like to get more data on the PARKER-COX families. The former, early settlers of Prairie Grove, Ark. I know that Thomas Parker was born 1828 in Alabama. I would like to know whom he married and where her family came from. Their son, Cicero Allen Parker who died several years ago, married Alta Cox, a sister of Isaac Cox. They were children of Robert Cox and wife Jane. Robert Cox was son of Samuel Cox. At the time of the 1860 and 1870 censuses, the Coxes were in the Cane Hill community of Washington Co., Ark. If you have data pertaining to these families, please advise cost of obtaining copies.

Mrs. R. H. Parker,
R.O. Box 2494, Tulsa, Okla.

CAMERON - GOZA Am searching for any and all information concerning the Cameron and Goza families of Union Co. Ark. John Y. Cameron, son of John A. Cameron, was b. in Ga. 1837. Had bros. Daniel, William and Angus. He m. 1st Elizabeth Murphy. They had 4 children, including our Dennis Nathaniel Cameron. After his first wife died, John Y. m. 2nd Lizzie Coleman. They had 8 children. John Y. died in 1915 in Union Co., Ark. and is buried there.

Benjamin Goza was b. 1834 in S.C. His mother's name was thought to have been Elizabeth. He had brother Peter. He m. Sarah L. Brown 1853 in Union Co., Ark. They had abt 11 children, including our line, Willie Theodosia Goza who m. Dennis Nathaniel Cameron.

Any help on these lines will be most gratefully recd. Am also working on Jenkins and Speaks lines from Ark.

Mrs. Dennis Cameron,
1709 10th St., Levelland, Texas

WEBSTER Enclosed check for four memberships in the Arkansas Genealogical Society. All of us are very much interested in the John Webster family of Washington County, Arkansas. Have you published anything on this family?

Mrs. Patricia L. Glass,
609 N. Owen St., Alexandria, Va.

Family information needed on McGAUGH (McGAUGHEY) and related families of MILLER, COMER, COMPTON, DAVIS, TOWNSEND.

I need information concerning the following families as outlined for research on the McGaugh family.

Emigrant _____ McGaugh of Augusta Co. Va. married Ruth HILL of "Old Virginia." They had eight long-lived children, according to family legend, and one of these was Robert McGaugh, born 1777 in Augusta Co., Va. while his father fought in the Rev. Robert married Elizabeth MILLER daughter of William and Rhoda (Lyle) Miller. Rhoda Lyle was born in Wilkes Co., Ga. as was her daughter Elizabeth; however, the Millers were living in Amherst Co., Va. at the time Elizabeth married Robert McGaugh. The families moved to Williamson Co., Tenn. and on to Mo. in 1820.

Robert & Elizabeth McGaugh had ten children; only six lived to adulthood and in 1897 only Thomas was living. THOMAS McGAUGH was born 8 Dec. 1821 in Ray Co., Mo. and married (1) MARY JANE COMER and (2) MARY LOUISE COMPTON. There were 12 children of the two marriages, and Thomas died 6 Nov. 1903. One of these 12, the son of Thomas and Mary Jane Comer McGaugh, was JOHN WESLEY McGAUGH, born 21 Aug. 1844 (died 1917) who married MARTHA ELIZABETH DAVIS (family tradition links her with the Jeff Davis family). She was born 23 Mar. 1840; died 25 May 1914.

Of this marriage, seven children. One son, JOHN VALENTINE McGAUGH, was born 13 Mar. 1884 in Benton Co., Ark. and died Jan. 1963 in Washington Co., Ark. He married SARAH LILLIAN TOWNSEND, daughter of ASHER LAYTON TOWNSEND (b. 24 Jan. 1838 in Ind.; died 25 June 1904 in Onda, Ark.) and AMY JANE BLUE TOWNSEND (both 1844 in Ind. and died 19 Aug. 1912 at Mulberry, Ark.) Sarah Lillian was born 16 June 1881; died 1 July 1950. There were seven children of this marriage.

I am greatly in need of any information on any of these families and would appreciate hearing from anyone who is familiar with the names mentioned in this outline.

Mrs. Rosemary Lovell,
Route 2, Box 222-0, Picayune, Miss.

I am interested in purchasing all back issues of the Arkansas Family Historian and becoming a member. I am interested in Walden, Fowler, Presley, Ingman, Grubbs, Polk, Hindings, James, and Morrison. Would like to hear from anyone who is interested in these or any families around Huntsville or Alabam, Ark. I have some material on the Yingst family that I'd be happy to pass on to anyone interested.

Robert Grubbs,
Arock, Oregon

I wish to learn more of my maternal grandparents' family. All came from Arkansas. Below are the facts I am sure of:

Amanda Luvenia Swafford, b. Searcy or Mation Co., Ark. July 21, 1856. I have an article dictated by her, in which she tells of their experiences during the Civil War.

Amanda married William Miles Bethell, b. Aug. 12, 1851 in Tenn. His mother was supposedly part Indian and might have been named Poindexter. Nancy may have been her first name. Nancy and her Bethell husband came from Tenn. to Ark. with their three children: Amanda, James and William Miles. After their arrival he died and Nancy married a man named Osteen. She had a son Sam. Osteen too died and she married a Johnson. She had four children by him: Lear, Matt, Warren and Allie. I am particularly interested in locating the Johnsons and Osteens, as they may be able to give me some information.

Joseph L. Crossland, my gr-grandfather, was b. Mar. 25, 1852 in Ala. His parents brought him to Faulkner Co., not far from Conway, Ark. His father went to the Civil War while there. He had 10 children by then. He died during the war, possibly of measles, near Fort Smith. His wife then married a Pinson and moved to Romance, Ark. There he, Joseph L., met Ellen Gill and married her. She was born in Romance June 24, 1859. I need information on the Crosslands and Gills. I know that Joseph was part or whole Indian.

Norma J. Leggett,
Rt 1, Box 290, Dallas, Ore. 97338

REID Kindly send the Arkansas Family Historian. I surely want to belong. My strongest Ark. line is John Huggins Reid -- 1850 census Independence Co., m. Sarah Jane, dau. of Sam'l Fillingham of Cross Co., Ark. (He settled Wittsburg, Ark in 1790.) I'm particularly anxious to get the Reids straightened out. Census says John Huggins Reid, b. Pa. 1804, and I've been unable to locate his ancestors. He lived on Reed's Creek and is buried Newburg, Ark.

Mrs. J. Clifford Hill,
418 W. Matthews, Jonesboro, Ark.

I have a book that has the four generations of Strangeman Hutchens in it. He was born in 1809. His grandson, Strangeman Hutchens, may be the one that is mentioned in the "Flashback." Strangeman had 8 children: Polly, Aquilla, Anderson, Caroline, Charity, Elizabeth, William and Alice May. My gr-grandfather, Ellis Hutchens, was half brother to him. My grandfather was John Wellington Hutchens and my father Sterling Price Hutchens.

There was a William Shores mentioned in this "Flashback." William Shores married this Strangeman Hutchens' daughter Elizabeth, and his sister Mary married my gr-grandfather Ellis Hutchens. This William Shores moved to Mulberry on a farm where the Shores Lake is now.

Mrs. Floy (Hutchens) Parrish,
Rudy, Ark.

THE SECRETARY'S MAIL

Just recently I sent for a subscription to your Ark Fam Historian. You sent me the full year of 1963 and the first book I looked in, I found my Johnson line. The next issue had even a great amount of information on the same line. Can you imagine how happy I was! I wrote Mr. Kenney of Modesto, Calif. about it and found that he and I are related. Consequently, I would like to get the 1964 issues as they are published and am sending my check.

Mrs. Ruby Wiedeman,
7250 S.E. Sherman, Portland 15, Oregon

I have just discovered that there are 2 pages missing from my April 1963 issue of the Ark Fam Historian. Could someone around your office just send me typed copy of missing pages from my issue? Will appreciate it. Who knows?- my g-g-g-g-grandpa may have been on those pages. I think your magazine one of the best and the only one that runs the family pix.

Florence Eisele,
609 Washington St., Natchez, Miss.

I have copied the early records of Jack Co., Tex. from 1858 to the early 1880s, and have made up mimeographed books containing 64 pages. The name is "Early Records of Jack Co., Texas" and the records copied were the marriage records, divorce records, wills, probate records, voters from 1867 to 1874, and the scholastic census for 1877. I am offering these books for sale for \$3 plus tax, which amounts to \$3.06.

Mrs. W. T. Garner,
Jacksboro, Texas

Enclosed find \$3 for year's subscription to your Ark Fam Historian. Which copies of your magazine, if any, have information pertaining to Union Co.? Also, do you know of any magazines, books, etc. ever published, on Union Co., Ark.?

Mrs. Dennis Cameron,
1709 10th St., Levelland, Texas

Thanks for sample copy of your Ark Family Historian. Have enjoyed it very much and am enclosing \$3. Our little group here are trying to get a library started and think your magazine would be nice to have. We will exchange work with anyone needing information from this part of Oklahoma.

Mrs. W. O. Scott,
222 West Oak St., Skiatook, Okla.

I was much obliged to you to hear that you had contacted a member (by descent) of the Kinniburgh family, and the letter I subsequently received from Mrs. Isabella Kinniburgh Smith was most interesting and informative. However, I haven't been able to identify the father of James K., born 22/10/1792, and his brother William K, although I have details of the ancestors of 2 James K's born in Scotland 1792 -- one a John and another a William, neither had sons who died in USA in 1833 and 1842.

T. C. Kinniburgh,
The Battery, The Bayle, Folkestone,
Kent, England

I think you people have done a wonderful job with the Arkansas Family Historian and the Flashback and I am very proud of them both. And also proud of our workers there in the office. Enclosed dues for myself and sister and another \$3 for two copies of the last issue of the Family Historian for some friends in Kentucky.

(Miss) Mary Cox,
Box 696, Sanderson, Texas

Enclosed is check for \$6 for both the Arkansas Family Historian and the Flashback. I think your magazine is the best of its type. I wish more of the other state publications would follow its example. I am still interested in these Ark families: Howell, Howry, McDonald, Alexander, Bryson, Cope, Lefors, and LaForce. I am willing to exchange information and will answer all correspondence.

Mrs. Don Cope,
1814 Kent Dr., Arlington, Texas

Enclosed are separate checks for 1964 dues to The Arkansas Family Historian and the Washington Co. Historical Society. Enjoyed the Stockburger article in the last issue. I was in college with Emmet.

Felix A. Kimbrough,
415 S.W. 33rd, Oklahoma City, Okla.

It is a fine work you are doing and I for one appreciate it very much. I am primarily a Madison countian. My g-g-g-grandfather came there in 1829. Johnsons all seem to have had large families, each trying to outdo the rest. One son of my direct line of Johnsons was the winner -- 8 children by 1st wife and 13 children by 2nd wife in Madison Co., Ark. So I am related to many families in Madison Co. I have had 2 queries -- one from So. Calif. and one from Seattle, for whom I was able to add quite a lot of family records. By the way, she is of the family that had 21 children in Madison Co. I would like to subscribe to the Ark Family Historian for Mrs. Elmer Shofner, Wesley, Ark.

Wayne C. Keeney,
R. 6, 2917 Floyd Ave., Modesto Calif.

I have just finished reading the Dec. 1963 issue of the Ark Family Historian and it is excellent. It seems to me that each issue is getting better and better. Thanks very much for past favors and keep up the good work. We all appreciate it a great deal.

Porter Rose,
260 E. Rowland St., Covina, Calif.

In the June 1963 issue of the Ark Family Historian, there was a list of your members who attended the annual meeting at Conway, Ark. Among the persons attending were Mr. and Mrs. W.L. Havens. We are compiling a history of the Havens and Havins, and have published 5 magazines on the descendants of John Havens & wife Mary Henderson who came to America abt 1760. Would you please ask this Mr & Mrs Havens to contact us? We would like to know who they are. We have a family organization of the Havens & Havins and welcome new members. Other names we have information on are: Marrow, Wyatt, Queen, Stanley, Taylor, Henderson, Blackburn, all from Ark.

Does Sevier Co., Ark. have a historical society?

Mrs. Patricia Kelly,
1500 Fredericksburg Rd., San Antonio, Tex.

THE ELMS OF THE SUMMERS COMMUNITY

by Burlene Hilton, Lincoln, Ark.

In the last issue of FLASHBACK, you asked about the Elms family of Washington County. An uncle of mine by marriage to Ada Beaty, Jones Thomas Elms and known to many as "Uncle Tommie" lived to be almost 98 years of age and had an alert mind until death. He gave me lots of interesting Washington County history. Many times I sat in the company of Uncle Tommie and Uncle Bill Beaty and took notes as they talked.

Jones W. Elms and his wife Eveline E. Robertson, parents of Jones Thomas (Uncle Tommie) came to the Summers community in 1852. They had come to Tennessee from Georgia. When they had saved enough to buy an ox team, they started to Arkansas. They had one three-year-old mare which Eveline rode behind the wagon all the distance. Jones W. had a sister Katy who probably came with them. She never married; was born 1824 and died 1906, and always lived near Jones W. Also, the mother of Eveline must have come, for J.T. remembered that she died when he was a small child and can remember going to the grave with his mother at the Beaty cemetery, near the pine trees. No marker was erected at her grave except a sandstone marker.

They first settled on what is now known as the Gibson farm for about four years. Here they made fence rails which they sold for food. During that time the mare bore two colts and these and a cow were traded to Benjamin Yeager for an acreage near the present Gandervill Cemetery, and has been in the Elms family ever since. Alfred Elms lives there at present and is a grandson of Jones W.

Six children were born to Jones W and Eveline Elms: Jones T. (Tommie), John, Henderson, James (Jimmie), Altazaza, and Mary. Several descendants of these still live in the Summers and Lincoln area. Mrs. C.I. Parks of Summers is a child of Jones T., and Alfred Elms is a son of Jones.

Jones W. had a brother, Dock Elms, who with his wife Tildy also lived near Summers and must have come here at the same time. Their children were five: Lizzie, Martha, Tom, Will, and James.

Jonathan Elms came here in the early days but do not know if he was a brother to Jones W. or a cousin. Uncle Tommie called him "Uncle Jonathan", so he must have been a brother.

Nathan Elms was an early school teacher, having taught in the Summers community and on Beaty Mountain about 4 miles north of Lincoln, in the first school on the Alexander Beaty farm. His son, John G. Elms, married the oldest daughter of Alexander Beaty, Sarah Jane, on Oct. 31, 1854. She died the following year. In 1859 John G. Elms married Ruth Carter. John G., with another Elms boy and Frank Collins, were killed during the Civil War by bushwhackers while walking through an orchard in the Gem community.

Other children of Jonathan were Edward Elms who married Lydia Newman 1853. She must have died soon after, for the Washington County marriage records show that he married Rachel L. Newman in 1854. A daughter of

Jonathan, Lydia, married William Power Feb. 12, 1856. Rebecca Elms married Oliver J. Elliot Mar. 10, 1860. Jimmie Elms married a Jane Lawrence. Thomas and Sally Elms, who lived in Summers Valley, are believed to also be the children of Jonathan.

A cousin of Jones W., E.O. Elms, born 1832 and died 1892, also came in the early days. His wife was called Rebecca. Their children were Henry and Sally. Sally married Walter Parker.

Jonathan Elms was also an early lawyer and practiced in the Justice of the Peace court where most criminal cases were settled in those days. He also wrote deeds and mortgages. After the Civil War he was appointed Deputy Clerk of Washington County, to issue marriage licenses in the west end of the County.

Henderson Elms, son of Jones W., was an early postmaster in Summers, in the year 1882. A William Elms had a barber shop in 1904.

Jones W. Elms had a sister Altazara who married James Moore on June 8, 1858 by Rev. Thomas Leach. Their children were: Belle who married Ossie Moore, and Alice who married Henry Roberts and lived in the Sugar Hill community near Lincoln a great many years.

The west area of Summers, along the Ballard Creek, was the early home of all the Elms families and I feel sure the Summers community felt their heritage of many fine families who gave much to the growth of the community.

From the Elms Family Album

The family pictures that appear on the two following pages were loaned to us by Mrs. C. I. Parks of Summers, Ark. These are reproductions of fine old tintypes, all in excellent condition considering their age.

Our copies were made by Henry Green, retired Fayetteville photographer. Mr. Green has been remarkably successful in copying tintypes and old faded Photographs. Two of the Elms tintypes (Jones T. Elms and James R. Elms) presented special difficulties because of the darkness of the originals. We think our reproductions are clearer than the originals. Incidentally, the cover picture in our last Arkansas Family Historian (the three Prince sisters) was made by Mr. Green from a photo that was almost faded out.

We would recommend to our members that they collect family pictures along with information. It takes a lot of effort to find old photos but the effort is worth while.

Our thanks to Mrs. Parks for the use of her Elms pictures, and to Mrs. Hilton of Lincoln for bringing them to our office, and to Henry Green for his superb copying job. All three are members of our Society.

Mrs. Hilton also brought us an 8x10 photo of an Elms family reunion in the old days, that shows 90 persons. She secured the picture from Virgil Cushing of Westville, Okla. We plan to publish this picture in an early issue.

FROM THE ELMS FAMILY ALBUM



JONES W. ELMS
Father



EVALINE ELMS
Mother



JAMES R. ELMS
Son



JONES T. ELMS
Son

(All photos courtesy of Mrs. C. I. Parks, who is a daughter of Jones T. Elms)

FROM THE ELMS FAMILY ALBUM



HENDERSON ELMS
Son



ALTA ZARRAH ELMS
Daughter



MARY E. ELMS
Daughter



JOHN W. ELMS
Son (on left)