

Bush; Thenie, wife of Mr. Prior; Stanfield; Posey; James A.; Walter; John; and Henry.

Mr. James A. Maddox spent his childhood in the county of his birth and left when he was 17 to settle near Canton. He acquired considerable property and attained political prominence—serving the county as sheriff and as justice of the inferior court. In 1855 he moved to Cass, now Bartow County, and settled in Cartersville. He owned a large plantation and was an agent for the W&A Railroad. He refuged to Fort Valley, Ga., during the Civil War where he remained until 1872 when he removed to Cedar Ridge in Whitfield County and settled on a large plantation where he remained until his death in 1886. His widow died in Spring Place, Ga., in 1892.

Judge Maddox was married Dec. 31, 1849 to Miss Martha Tate, daughter of Col. Samuel Tate of Cherokee County. Their nine children were: Mary; Eliza, wife of W.A. Simmons; Stephen; Samuel, of Dalton who has been mayor of that city; Joseph; John, dec.; Sally, wife of W.J. Wrinkle; Martha, wife of R.A. Pierce; and Charles.

Excerpt from "Memoirs of Georgia" pub. 1895

James Wesley Mathis

James and Elizabeth "Betsy Ann" Mathis were the parents of eight children, Catherine "Kate," Elizabeth, Margaret, John C., James Wesley, William P., Vincent, and Nancy Alice Mathis. James was a farmer who lived and died in Murray County, Georgia. He migrated to this area before 1830, having come here from South Carolina.

James Wesley Mathis (b. 1831 in Georgia—CSA veteran) was the fifth child of James and Betsy Ann Mathis. He married Virginia Ann "Jennie" Long, 2 September 1877, Murray County, Georgia. They were blessed with six children:

Nancy Victoria "Vick" Mathis (b. 1875) m. David King. They were the parents of two sons, Earl and Reed King. They lived around Kingston, Georgia.

James Samuel Oliver "Oll" Mathis (b. 1878) m. 1st Lula Willie Smith. The children were Egburt, Lester, Ethel Francis, Clara, John, Morgan, Jennie, and James "Jake" Mathis. Lula passed away and "Oll" married Ada Cochran. To this union three children were born, Floyd Elwin, Glenn Wesley and Faynell Mathis. This family always made their home in Whitfield and Murray County, Georgia. Descendants still live in this area.

William Claud Mathis (b. 1880) m. 1st Janie Missouri Keith. Their children were Carl Lee, Minnie Aline, Reynolds Lafayette "R.L.," Odell, and Daymon Mathis. Janie passed away and Claud married Ollie Hurlean Gray. They were blessed with three children, Charles William, Joyce Nadine, and Jimmie Elwin Mathis. This family have always made their home in Whitfield and Murray County, Georgia. The descendants are still living in this area.

Cora Lee Mathis (b. 1883) married John Levin Briscoe 1897 Whitfield County. Nine children were born to this union, Wm. Bogue, Lucille, James "Jim," Velma Inez, Charlie Robert, Zola, Loraine, and Johnnye Briscoe. This family

migrated to Moody, McLennan County, Texas, raised their family and lived out their lives in that area.

Julia Ann "Doll" Mathis (b. 1885) married _____ in Georgia and had a large family. One daughter, Maggie, married a Turner. Little is known about this couple other than they lived and died in this area.

Sidney James Mathis (b. 1891—WWI veteran) m. Willie Alice Fowler in Whitfield County. They always made their home in this area. Sid passed away in 1954. Willie married James Frank Bartenfield, 12 October 1973.

James and Jennie lived out their lives in this area. James died 1894 and Jennie passed away 1913.

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Robert P. Messer Family

Robert Patterson Messer, born Oct. 10, 1848, Waynesville, N.C., moved to Carters, Ga., in 1870's and was principal of Carters School. Married Alice Margurete Gaines, born Calhoun, Ga., July 30, 1861, and was teacher at Carters School.

The son of Frank and Jennie Nolan Messer, Robert Patterson Messer was store owner and postmaster at Carters and Sunday school superintendent, Hopewell church, over 50 years. She d. July 10, 1906, bur. Hopewell Cem.; all the children were born at Carters:

(1) Laura Lavone Messer, 10-10-1881 to 5-29-1903.

(2) Ben Eugene Messer b. Carters, Ga., Aug. 5, 1884, bap. Hopewell Baptist Church, m. Carters, Aug. 15, 1909 Ollie Belle Moore, b. Carters, July 2, 1886, bpt. First Baptist Church, Chatsworth, Ga., dau. Harriet Anne Bowdon and Charlie Moore. He d. Chatsworth, Dec. 12, 1942; she d. Chatsworth, July 4, 1964; both bur. Carters. Children: Blanche Messer, Willie Eugene Messer, Robert Patterson Messer, Ben Eugene Messer, Jr.

(3) Annie Janet Messer b. Feb. 11, 1886, d. Jan. 28, 1918, m. Jake Avery; no issue.

(4) Ollie Pratt Messer b. Carters, Aug. 10, 1891, m. Sam Kelly b. Calhoun, Ga. She d. July 10, 1926; he d. Calhoun; issue Ruby V. Kelly, Alice Lou Kelly, Tennie Louise Kelly.

(5) Lillian Hortense (Tennie) Messer b. Carters, Ga., Dec. 4, 1895, m. Ranger, Ga., July 28, 1915 Dr. Alfred Madison Puckett b. Cumming, Ga., Aug. 29, 1890. Both d. Atlanta, Ga.; issue Sara Malinda Puckett, Alfred Madison Puckett, Jr.

(6) Frank Stephen Messer b. Nov. 7, 1892, d. Oteen, N.C., 1929, single, bur. Carters.

(7) Jennie Lee Messer b. Carters, Jan. 5, 1899, m. Steve Smith b. Sept. 5, 1891 Carters, d. Conroe, Texas. She d. Atlanta, Ga. Both bur. Atlanta, Ga.

Robert Patterson Messer m. 2nd Josephine Swan; he d. Carters, Mar. 1945, bur. Hopewell Cem., issue b. Carters: (1) Mildred Messer b. Nov. 1910, m. Aug. 1932 Oakman, Ga., Harley H. Bagley b. Chatsworth, Jan. 1905. He d. Marietta, Ga., July 1969, one son N. Steed Bagley b. Oakman, Ga. 1936.

(2) Ralph Madison Messer m. Mary Stone b. Rydal, Ga. He was merchant and postmaster at Carters for many years, d. Jan. 1963, bur. Calhoun, Ga. Two sons, Robert Stanton Messer, David Stone Messer.

(3) Mary Jo Messer b. March 1914, m. 1st B.W. Walraven, one son Kenneth; m. 2nd Eugene Pate, three sons, Billy, Barry, Brett.

(4) Robert Cecil Messer b. March 1914, m. Estelle Coble; he d. Calhoun, 1957; issue Sandra Gayle Messer, Robert P. Messer, Roderick N. Messer.

Family of Ben E. Messer

(1) Blanche Messer, b. Carters, Ga., Oct. 12, 1912, bpt. Baptist, m. Chatsworth, Ga., Dec. 23, 1933, Homer Robinson, b. Spring Place, Ga., July 9, 1909, bpt. Baptist, s. Walter and Beulah Townsen Robinson; he d. Aug. 15, 1979, bur. Carters. One son Jerry Reed Robinson, b. Chatsworth, Ga., Oct. 27, 1941.

(2) Willie Eugene Messer b. Calhoun, Ga., July 18, 1916, bpt. Baptist, m. Cleveland, Tenn., Feb. 9, 1936 Ruth Middleton b. Ramhurst, Ga., Sept. 13, 1918, bpt. Baptist, dau. Harris and Mae Hulsey Middleton; reside Chatsworth; two dau.: Martha Ann Messer b. Chatsworth, Ga., Jan. 30, 1940 and Marsha Elaine Messer b. Dalton, Ga., Feb. 26, 1956, adopted.

(3) Robert Patterson Messer b. Beavertdale, Ga., Oct. 1, 1919; m. Virginia Hampton b. Columbus, Ohio; reside Vero Beach, Fla.

(4) Ben Eugene Messer, Jr. b. Chatsworth, Ga., June 9, 1927, bpt. Baptist, m. Wilma Irene Spivey b. Chatsworth, May 11, 1926, bpt. Baptist, dau. Ben and Annie Ballew Spivey, reside Chatsworth; one son, Michael Ben Messer b. Chatsworth, May 22, 1952, m. Dalton, Ga., May 24, 1975 Sheila Faye Pritchett b. Chatsworth, Feb. 20, 1955, dau. Leon and Birdell Brannon Pritchett; reside Chatsworth. Two children, Benjamin Lee Messer b. Dalton, Ga., Mar. 20, 1979, and Kristy Michelle Messer b. Dalton, Ga., Oct. 3, 1981.

Submitted by Ben Messer, Chatsworth, GA

Thomas Montgomery Family

Thomas Montgomery was born in September 1794 in South Carolina and died in 1875 in Independence County, Arkansas. He is buried in Bethesda Campground Cemetery in Independence County. On 7 September 1820 he married Mahaley (various spellings) Maulden, daughter of Wesley (various spellings) and Nancy Maulden, in Hall County, GA. Mahalia was born 12 November 1802 in South Carolina, and died 20 May 1879 in Melbourne, Izard County, Arkansas, and is buried in the Old Liberty Cemetery there. Thomas and Mahalia moved to Murray County before 1840 and lived there until 1859.

Many believe that Thomas' mother was the Elsey Montgomery who was enumerated in the 1820 Hall County, GA census, based on the fact that Thomas Montgomery married in Hall County in 1820. Some researchers have tried to link Thomas with the Montgomerys of Jackson County, GA, especially with James McConnell (J.M.C.) Montgomery who was active in politics there and operated a ferry at the site of Ft. Standing Peachtree on the Chattahoochee River at one time.

Census records for Thomas are as follows: 1830: Habersham County, GA, p. 51; 1850: Murray County, GA, p. 9 (825th district); 1850: Murray County, GA, p. 379; 1860: Izard County, Arkansas; and 1870, Izard County, Arkansas, p. 191.

In 1840 Thomas had a female age 90-100 in his household who may have been his mother. In 1850 Mahaley's parents, Westerly and Nancy Maulden, were in Thomas' household. In 1870 Thomas' daughter, July An (Julie Ann) Montgomery Hames, was back in the household after the death of her husband, Ab Hames (another former Murray County resident), in the Civil War.

In an article dated 7 November 1962 in the *Dalton Daily News* (p. 3) entitled "Many Scotch-Irish Descendants Here," reference was made to the records of the "Montgomery Manuscripts." No attempt was made to link the Montgomerys of that record with the Murray County Montgomerys. The article stated "Three members of the Montgomery family were pioneer citizens of Murray and were listed in the 1840 and 1850 census. Hiram (born 1796 in South Carolina), Thomas his brother, and Sarah Montgomery Cox, living near each other. The descendants of these pioneers intermarried into the McEntyre and Wilson families who were also of Scotch-Irish origin. . ." This article implies that Sarah Cox was Thomas' sister, and she was enumerated on the same page with him in the 1840 census, but in 1850 she gives her birth state as Tennessee. Both Hiram and Thomas were born in South Carolina, which means that if Sarah was their sister, then the family moved to Tennessee between 1796 and 1800 or the census information about Sarah's birthstate was incorrect.

James Riley Montgomery, son of Thomas and Mahaley Montgomery, was born 10 July 1821 in GA, possibly in Jackson of Hall County, died 31 July 1877 in Melbourne, Izard County, Ark., and is buried in the Old Liberty Cemetery there. On 24 December 1845 he married Martha R. Hames in Murray County, GA. Their first four children were born in Murray County, but about 1857 they moved to Arkansas. Martha Hames was born 29 August 1829 in GA and died 22 April 1888. She is buried in the Everett Cemetery, Prim, Stone County, Arkansas. Her parents were Thomas Henry Hames and Annis Robinson Hames, also of Murray County.

James Riley Montgomery and some of his brothers moved to Arkansas before their parents decided to make the move. On Sept. 17, 1857, J.R. Montgomery sold Lots 164 and 165 of the 8th District, 3rd Section, Murray County, to his father, Thomas Montgomery. Evidently this was shortly before James moved to Arkansas.

Hugh Porter Montgomery, another son of Thomas and Mahalia, was born Oct. 23, 1830 probably in Habersham County, GA and died Aug. 29, 1892 in Independence Co., Ark. Evidently Hugh left Georgia late in 1857. Hugh wrote his parents from Springfield, Arkansas, on Mar. 31, 1858 that he and his brother Cock were "very much displeased with our old Georgia friends and connection from the way you have all treated us so fare as writing is concerned."

During the Civil War, James Riley Montgomery, his brothers, and Ab Hames (brother-in-law) joined the same unit to "fight the Yanks." Ab Hames died in a hospital in Corinth, Mississippi after being wounded at the Battle of Shiloh.