

Solomon and Minerva had eight children. Mary married Anderson Coxey; Jim was killed in a storm in Texas; Sarah married Boss Kendrick; Elizabeth married J. Houston O'Neal; Emma married James Hale; Benjamin married Mary Ann Arthur; Richard was Richard Kendrick's grandfather; Minerva married Loranzo Poteet.

*Prepared by Jessie Brewer and the late Icy Plemons*

### The John S. Fox Family

John S. Fox and his son, William A. Fox, came to Murray County in the 1850's from Cocke County, TN. They were preceded by another son, James M. Fox, who married Louisa McNabb in Murray County in 1850.

John S. Fox was born about 1800 in South Carolina. He did some farming but he was also a shoemaker for early settlers around Spring Place. His wife's first name was Margaret but her maiden name has not been learned. She was born in Tennessee about 1799. John and Margaret died after 1870. These were the children of John and Margaret Fox:

(1) James M. (Jimmy) Fox, born about 1825. He and Louisa raised a family of six children, five of them boys. They included: John b. ca. 1851; Barney Allen b. ca. 1855; Samuel b. ca. 1857; James b. ca. 1860; Louisa b. ca. 1864; Tillman b. ca. 1866; and Thomas b. ca. 1870. Louisa (McNabb) Fox died sometime after 1880, and James M. took as his second wife Mildred B. Tucker. There were no children of the second marriage. James M. died sometime after 1900.

(2) William A. (Bill) Fox, born 27 July 1828 in Cocke County was the father of 14 children by two wives. William A. married 1st Catherine \_\_\_\_\_ and 2nd Charity Hall, daughter of Lemuel and Nancy Hall of Cocke County. Charity b. Sept. 1835, d. 18 Jan. 1912, and is buried in West Hill Cemetery, Dalton. William A. died a few years later and is believed to be buried beside her, but his grave is not marked. Children of William A. Fox were:

By Catherine: (a) Lewis E. Fox b. March 1851, m. 1st Caroline Henry and 2nd Susanna McLain. (b) Aurelius Robert Fox b. 5 July 1853, m. Martha J. Speers in 1873. Martha died in 1896 and is buried at West Hill Cemetery in Dalton. Aurelius later moved to Polk County.

By Charity Hall: (c) Alfred Lafayette Fox b. 28 Oct. 1858, m. Josephine McLain in 1878. He is said to have died from the bite of a rabid dog sometime before 1900.

(d) Rhoda Fox b. 15 Mar. 1860, m. Gideon Turner. The Turners were living in Lindale in Floyd County in 1900.

(e) William Lawrence Fox b. 28 Nov. 1861, m. Alice Lee Lowrey in 1886, moved to Texas where he died in 1919 and is buried at Oakwood Cemetery, Honey Grove, TX.

(f) Alice Fox b. 15 Jan. 1864, m. George C. Hardin in 1882. She is buried in West Hill Cemetery, Dalton.

(g) Julia Fox b. 16 Feb. 1865, m. J. Henry Smith in 1886. She died July 1945 at Greenville (Hunt Co.), TX, and is bur. in Forest Park Cem., Greenville.

(h) Nancy Fox b. 24 May 1868, m. William H. Smith. She died in 1951 and is buried beside her husband in Center Valley Cemetery in Murray County.

(i) Avie Fox b. 15 Oct. 1870, m. Isaac Heartsill in 1888. She and Ike moved to Texas. Ike was shot and killed in 1925. Avie lived until 1950's. She is buried at Bomarton near Seymour, TX.

(j) Samuel Franklin Fox b. 2 Mar. 1873, m. Laura Pope and lived in Floyd Co.

(k) Mary Fox b. 1 Apr. 1875, m. Jasper McBryant. She and her husband are buried at Jackson (Butts County), GA.

(l) Sarah Ann (Sally) Fox b. 28 Aug. 1877, m. James Daniel Loner. The Loners lived in Alabama City near Gadsden, AL. She died in March 1931 and is buried at Forrest Cemetery, Gadsden.

(m) Fannie Fox b. 28 (or 18) Dec. 1879, m. 1st \_\_\_\_\_ Huckleby and 2nd Charlie McCarrson and lived in Polk County. She died in 1939.

(n) Amos Fox b. 2 Nov. 1882, lived at Chelsea, AL, north of Birmingham.

(3) Susan Fox, born about 1831, married Lawson Green.

(4) Mary Fox, born about 1834, married Robert Saunders.

(5) Allen Fox, born about 1838.

(6) Robert Aurelius Fox, born about 1840. He served in Company A, 37th Regiment of Georgia Infantry with his brother William A. Robert was captured at the Battle of Chickamauga but was later repatriated. We have no further records of him.

*Submitted by Johnella Boynton  
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### The Michael Fraker Family

A researcher of many years on Fraker history says the first known Fraker in the United States came from Germany and that the name is German.

Nine generations back, Michael Fraker (1747-1821) came to Tennessee from Frederick County, Virginia. Michael's son John was born in 1770 and from that day to this, John has been a familiar name in each generation. John Jr. (1797-1870) married Mary Squibb in 1824. They had a son, George Payne (Oct. 19, 1826-Feb. 23, 1889). On 4-8-1847 George married Evaline Melissa Milburn (Aug. 11, 1828-Sept. 26, 1909). George and Evaline moved from Green County, Tennessee, in 1860 to a portion of land in Whitfield County, Georgia, which only a few years previous had been Murray County. They are listed as pioneer citizens of that county and also among the founding members of Mt. Zion Episcopal Church, now known as Dawnville United Methodist Church. George Payne served in the Civil War in the 4th Ga. Cavalry, Reg. Co. G-C.S.A. George and Evaline are buried in Dawnville Cemetery.

Five children came to bless their home. (1) John Wesley (Mar. 22, 1849-Feb. 5, 1929) born in Greene County, Tenn., died in Murray Co., Ga. (2) Martha Melissa Caroline m. Daniel L. Cline. (3) Mary Emily Elizabeth m. William Columbus Broadrick. Their son, Dr. George Lorenza Broadrick, was honored in 1951 as "The Man of the Half-Century." (4) William Caleb Milburn m. Dora Louvena Davis. (5) Ida Elizabeth Jane m. Thomas Martin Berry.



The name John Wesley has long been synonymous with Methodism. Many Frakers and Milburns have served faithfully in the Methodist ministry. Also, many have given of themselves in the service of their country. John Wesley's grandfather, William Milburn, was a chaplain in the Civil War—U.S.A. His great-grandfather, Lt. Jonathan Milburn served in the Indian Wars and his great-great-grandfather, John Milburn, Sr., was a Patriot in the Revolutionary War. John Wesley served in the same company as his father George in the War Between the States.

March 29, 1866 John Wesley married Mary Pink Bond (Nov. 1, 1850-Sept. 20, 1920), daughter of Elisha Wright Bond (Dec. 12, 1824-Feb. 11, 1908) and Mary Ann East (Sept. 8, 1826-July 8, 1859). John and Pink built a house in Murray County on land given them by her father. Elisha Wright Bond served in the Civil War and the Mexican War. His father Charles Wright Bond (1795-1874) served in the Civil War, C.S.A., the Indian Removal and the War of 1812. Pink's two great-grandfathers, Elisha Wilkinson (1762-1833) and Isham East (1758-1835) served in the Revolutionary War.

John and Pink were life-long faithful members of Center Valley Church and are buried in Center Valley Cemetery. The Frakers were a close-knit family "claiming kin" to the Nth degree. A stranger never darkened their home. Anyone who came in the "big gate" (on the road which is now 225N) to their hospitable home was invariably invited in for a meal and/or to spend the night.

John Wesley was blessed with the inestimable gift of humor. He was known far and wide for his friendly disposition and ready wit, for which he needed no paid script writers. In direct contrast to John, his beloved wife Pink possessed not the slightest trace of humor. She was firm of manner, straightlaced and conservative to the point of extremism. John and Pink were the parents of four children: (1) Sallie Evaline (Dec. 10, 1869-Feb. 5, 1929). (2) Emma Cassie Louana (Nov. 15, 1874-Dec. 9, 1880). "Little Lou" was killed when a tornado destroyed their house. (3) George Elisha Nat (Dec. 6, 1878-Mar. 4, 1879). "Little Nattie," named for his two grandfather, died in infancy. (4) Moses Wilkerson (May 19, 1882-July 23, 1945). With the arrival of Moses, joy was restored. Sallie had grown into young womanhood. From her father came charm and from her mother, independence and pride, altogether a very elegant lady. Through choice, for a certainty, she never married. A paper, yellowed with age, reports the organizational meeting of The Epworth League of Center Valley Methodist Church on March 7, 1895 with Sallie Fraker, President. She believed in "standing tall," serving God and her fellow man. Her last days were spent in constant prayer. As she sat in a wheel chair, her father very ill in the adjoining room, her last words were, "Is Pa dead yet?" Father and daughter died at the same moment.

On January 19, 1902 Moses married Maude Eugene Temple Ellis (Aug. 11, 1884-Apr. 2, 1937), daughter of James Churchhill Ellis and Nancy Johanna Jane Stroud. They lived on the Fraker farm several years, moved to Dalton for a few years, then came back to the old homeplace, and built a 10-room house to accommodate their family. Maude Ellis was one who could truthfully be described as "one in a million." She willingly and lovingly lived her life for others. Moses and Maude are buried in the Ellis lot in Spring Place Cemetery. They were the

parents of eight children. (1) George Wesley Milton (May 3, 1903-May 7, 1906). (2) James Wilkerson Temple (June 20, 1905-Oct. 13, 1984). (3) Mabel Blaine (Aug. 16, 1907). (4) Mary Maude (July 14, 1910). (5) Fred Elisha (June 10, 1913-June 20, 1973). (6) Ralph Elijah (June 10, 1913). (7) Kathryn Vivian (Feb. 12, 1919). (8) Moses Wright (May 3, 1924-Feb. 6, 1975).

Little Milton died at the tender age of 3 years. Temple died Oct. 13, 1984 in Knoxville, Tenn., as this history was being written. He was born in Murray County, Georgia, graduated with honors from Eton High School in May 1923, and later that year went to Knoxville to attend business college. He joined the Church Street Methodist Church in 1924 and set an enviable record of serving God and his fellow man for over 60 years. He served 25 years on the board of Holston Methodist Home, was trustee of Hiawasee College and member of Hiawasee College Board.

He wore a 39-year Perfect Attendance Kiwanis pin and was known by fellow Kiwanians as "Mr. Kiwanis." He was past president and life member of his club; past lt. governor and governor of Kentucky-Tennessee district of Kiwanis International; life membership in Kiwanis International is awarded to only a few. He was co-recipient of "Layman of the Year" award at International prayer breakfast in 1982; president of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of Tennessee in 1981 and was presented the General President's Commendation Award. He was past president of Greater Knoxville Development Corporation, Chamber of Commerce, Smokey Mountain Council Boy Scouts of America, chairman of advisory board of Salvation Army, member of Charles McKinney Lodge, Kerbella Temple Shrine, Sons of Confederate Veterans and Stars and Bars. He was president of Fraker Heating and Equipment Co. On July 2, 1927 he married Miss Elsie Lee Vineyard of Knoxville who has been his devoted help-mate through these many years. She, too, contributing much to the ongoing of Church Street Methodist Church and to the advancement of the civic and cultural life of Knoxville. They have one son, Dr. John Richard Fraker, director of the Industrial Engineering Department of the University of Dayton in Dayton, Ohio. He served 8 years in the U.S. Army in the Vietnam Conflict and is now a colonel in the Army Reserve. They have three grandchildren. Temple is buried in Lynnhurst Cemetery in Knoxville.

Blaine married James Burch Ross on Feb. 6, 1933. They moved to Atlanta. They have two daughters—Blaine Fraker Ross Shanks of Malibu, California, and Jane Biggs Ross Jones of Marietta; they have four grandchildren. Jim died in 1957 and is buried in West View Cemetery in Atlanta. In 1967 Blaine married Earle Edwin Tillman. He died in 1973 and is buried in Americus, Georgia.

Maude married Joseph Harrison Rayder, Dec. 25, 1935. Maude had attended University of Georgia. She and Joe earned their master's degrees at Peabody and taught in schools in Tennessee, Georgia and Miami, Florida until retirement. They lived in Atlanta many years, and moved to Miami in 1957. They have a daughter, Mary Temple Rayder Williams, and granddaughter. Joe died in 1978 in Miami and is buried in the Dawnville Cemetery.

Fred married Sarah Nell Strickland, July 16, 1938. They lived in Murray County many years and were valued members of Center Valley Methodist Church; also active in county affairs. Fred was chairman of the building com-



mittee when Center Valley Church was rebuilt in 1956. He was also president of the Lions club. They have three children, Kenneth Marion of Atlanta, Ga., Douglas Wilkerson and Maude Ellen Fraker West. All three have served in Center Valley Church in many capacities. Douglas is a former Jaycee. He is a member of the Optimist Club and Tennessee Society Sons of American Revolution. Fred died in 1973 and is buried in Dawnville Cemetery.

Ralph married Bama Eugene Smith, July 29, 1934. They moved to Atlanta in 1934 and moved back to Murray in 1977. Ralph served in the U.S. Army in 1944. They have three sons, Ralph Frederick who served 4 years in the U.S. Marines in the Vietnam Conflict, Gerald Smith and Larry Charles who served 2 years in the U.S. Army in the Vietnam War. They have nine grandchildren.

Ralph and Bama are valued members of Center Valley United Methodist Church. Ralph is justice of peace and notary public in Shuck Pen District. He is a member of Chatsworth Masonic Lodge, Lakewood Chapter Royal Arch, Lakewood Council No. 10, Atlanta and Tennessee Society Sons of American Revolution.

Kathryn married Eugene Lee Gordon of Roane County, Tennessee, April 26, 1937. They now live in Knoxville. She taught school some but her greatest contribution has been in serving faithfully and well wherever needed in the Methodist church in her community and encouraging others to do likewise. She has the unparalleled record of 35 years perfect attendance at meetings of United Methodist Women (formerly called Woman's Missionary Society) and always serving as an officer. Kathryn and Gene have four children. (1) Vivian Eugene Gordon Stout, McMinnville, Tennessee. (2) Virginia Eloise Gordon Stout, Nashville, Tennessee. (3) Vernon Ellis Gordon, Knoxville, Tennessee. (4) Victor E. Lee Gordon, Knoxville, Tennessee. Vernon earned his A.B. and M.A. degrees at University of Tennessee in Knoxville, graduating with honors. He is manager of Centrifuge Development Department, Martin-Marietta Company, Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Kathryn and Gene have seven grandchildren.

Moses Wright married Alice O'Treva Ritchey of Dalton, 4-12-1942. He served in the U.S. Army in World War II, 3½ years. They lived in Decatur, Georgia, many years and have four children: Linda Kay Fraker Gazaway, Dalton; Sally Frances Fraker Close, Atlanta; James Roberts Fraker, Atlanta, and Kathryn Suzann Fraker Ponce de Leon, Ormand Beach, Florida. James Roberts graduated from Georgia State in Atlanta and is with a C.P.A. firm in Atlanta.

Moses Wright and Treva have four grandchildren. He died in February 1975 and is buried in Dalton Cemetery.

Space limitations prevent my writing the many personal recollections worthy of mention. Many thanks go to Elsie Vineyard Fraker for the ancestral and historical data contained herein.

*Submitted by Blaine Fraker Ross Tillman, Chatsworth, Ga.*

### The Riley A. Giddens Family

Reverend Riley Anderson Giddens, Sr. of Bradley Co., Tennessee, moved to Murray County, Georgia, on Oct. 15, 1862. Rev. Giddens was a member of the Holston Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. He became a licensed minister on 1 July 1843 at the age of 25.

Rev. Giddens was born 10 Feb. 1818 in Blount County, Tennessee. On 12 Jan. 1836 he married Ella Crownover who was born 18 Feb. 1818 in McMinn County, Tenn. Her father, Benjamin Crownover, was a "hatter" by trade and was killed by Indians at Candies Creek in Bradley County, Tenn., in the late 1840's. Her mother, Elizabeth \_\_\_\_\_ Crownover, lived with the Giddens until her death in the late 1850's. Rev. Giddens's mother, Nancy, lived with his sister, Clarendia Giddens Rogers, until her death in the late 1850's.

The Giddens had nine children: (1) Benjamin C. m. Malinda Jane Selvidge. (2) William W. m. Margaret Galt, 16 Jan. 1873. (3) James died from service in Civil War. (4) John R. m. Katie. (5) Elizabeth m. Alford Phillips, 22 Aug. 1866. (6) Nancy m. William D. Swanson, 22 Aug. 1866. (7) Sarah m. Peter M. Brakebill, 22 Aug. 1866. (8) Riley A. Jr. m. Orizaba Fincher, 5 Nov. 1876. (9) Daily m. Julia Charles Schwab.

When Rev. Giddens came to Murray County in 1862, he had three sons who were in the Confederate Army, Pvt. Benj. C., Capt. William, and Capt. James W. Giddens; also his youngest brother, Capt. James Knox Polk Giddens. He preached in and around Murray County and finally moved his family (wife, young children, two daughters-in-law, and grandchildren) to Jackson County, Georgia. Here in his "journal" he states that he took refuge. The family returned to Murray County in 1865.

Rev. Giddens owned a great deal of property in Murray and Whitfield Counties as evidenced by the deeds on record in both counties. He also retained his property in Bradley County, Tenn.

Rev. and Mrs. Giddens raised nine children, all to adulthood, and saw each married with families. Most of the nine children remained in and around Murray and Whitfield Counties and later into Catoosa County, Georgia. Three of the sons were attorneys—Daily, William W., and Riley A. Jr. Benjamin C. and John R. were ministers. Riley A. Jr. also served as a representative to the Georgia Legislature from 1892-93. Benjamin C. served Methodist churches in Murray, Whitfield, Walker and Catoosa Counties. Nancy and Sarah were married in a double wedding in August 1866. Sarah moved to Arkansas and died in 1893. Elizabeth lived on the Sumach Farm in Murray County and raised two children. Nancy Rhodes Giddens Swanson moved with her family to Kaufman County, Texas. She raised a large family and three of her sons became Methodist ministers. Nancy, a writer of sorts, wrote for the Texas Methodist Magazine and a Home and Garden magazine. She died in Texas in 1914 and it is noted on her tombstone that she is the daughter of Rev. Riley A. Giddens.

Rev. Giddens served many churches in the surrounding area. One of these is the "Old Stone Church" in Ringgold which had three Giddens preachers, R.A. Sr., Benjamin C., and R.A. II. Rev. Giddens stayed in Georgia until 1881 when the family moved to old James County, Tennessee, where he purchased