



Tracing past of Goss family

By SYBIL McRAY
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From the History of Elbert County, Ga., 1790-1935: "Isham H. Goss, William R. Goss, Benjamin Goss and Horatio J. Goss Jr. were all Baptist ministers and sons of Horatio J. Goss Sr.

"Little is known of the father save that he was a deacon and clerk of Sardis Church for more than 20 years and died in the year 1851.

"Benjamin, the eldest son, was born in Elbert County, 1810. He was ordained in 1856; however, his ministerial career was of short duration for he died in 1865."

The History of the Baptist Denomination in Georgia, 1881, states that Rev. William Rabun Goss was born in Elbert County, April 19, 1819. He moved to Franklin County, Ga., 1848. In 1859 he settled in Fayette County, Ala.

Hall County records list at least two marriages executed by William R. Goss M.G. Dec. 13, 1855, W.P. McWhorter and R.E. Cox, marriage executed in Franklin County, but recorded in Hall County, June 25, 1865, a W.R. Goss executed the marriage of George R. Lyles and Martha C. Martin. The date of the removal to Fayette County, Ala. may be incorrect, or else William R. Goss was visiting back in this section of Georgia at this time.

The 1820 census of Hall

County enumerates a Matthew Goss. He is possibly a brother to the Horatio Goss Sr. of Elbert County. Horatio and Matthew Goss more than likely are the sons of a Thomas Goss enumerated in the 1800 census of Pendleton District, S.C., who had one son under age 10, one son between the ages of 10 and 16, two sons between the ages of 16 and 26. Thomas was over the age of 45 years. Two daughters and the wife are listed.

Another son of Thomas Goss could have been the Benjamin Goss and wife Patsy recorded in the membership roll of Yellow Creek Baptist Church. Benjamin and Patsy Goss joined the church by letter Nov. 18, 1826, and were dismissed from the church membership Oct. 19, 1833.

While Benjamin Goss was attending church services, it is believed that his son became acquainted with the daughter of the Rev. James Whitten, the pastor of the church at that time.

1819-1839 Marriages Hall County, Ga.: Cert. no. 389: Nath'l H. Goss — Millicent Whitten, Wm. Christopher M.G.

From original Bible record in possession of George Sampson Goss, route 2, Box 561, Conroe, Tex., published in Georgia Genealogical Magazine, 1969:

Nathaniel Harbin Goss, born Sept. 3, 1805, Pendleton District, S.C., died Sept. 5, 1888, Phelps, Lawrence County, Mo. (There is possibly connection between the Goss and Harbin family. Nathaniel Harbin is enumerated in 1800 census of Pendleton District, S.C. Some of his descendants are later found in Hall County, Ga.)

Millicent Whitten, born Jan. 1, 1814, Spartanburg, S.C.

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Millicent Whitten, born Jan. 1, 1814, Spartanburg, S.C., daughter of Rev. James Whitten and Elizabeth Ann Thompson. Millicent Goss died April 27, 1900, Phelps, Mo.

Nathaniel Harbin and Millicent Goss were parents of 16 children.

1. Benjamin Franklin Goss, born March 30, 1829, Hall County, Ga. Married Louisa Perry, Jan. 23, 1851. Killed by a falling tree Dec. 7, 1894, Ark.

2. Mary Elizabeth Goss, born Feb. 3, 1831, in Hall or Lumpkin County. Married Jackson Ayres, Feb. 2, 1847; died Sept. 3, 1864.

3. Malinda E. Goss, married Evan P. Perry, died in Phelps, Mo.

4. James Whitten Goss, married Eunice West, died Sept. 1914, Dallas, Tex.

5. Louisa Caroline Goss, married Rev. James M. West.

6. Calvin Benson Goss, married Mary Anne Densmore. Died Feb. 28, 1863, Vicksburg, Miss. Buried in the Confederate Cemetery in Vicksburg.

7. Millicent Elvira Goss, married Samuel Mercer Densmore. Died in 1912, Bluff Dale, Tex.

8. Nathaniel Jackson Goss, married Mary Elizabeth Roe. Died in 1918 and buried in Goss Cemetery, Phelps Mo.

9. Alfred Webb Goss.

10. Robert Lewis Goss, married Mancennella Roe. Died in Arkansas in 1923.

11. Silas Washington Goss, married Catherine Ellen Shelton. Buried in Springfield, Mo.

12. Wilson Lumpkin Goss, Married Huldah Jne Wilkins. Died in Humble, Tex.

13. Mary Irene Goss. Never Married. Died in Phelps, Mo.

14. Baby Girl Goss, died when a few days old.

15. Opha Louisa Goss. Never married. Died in Phelps, Mo.

16. Julian Melissa Goss.