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Hall County's Mercks date back till 1790

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Inscriptions on tombstones in cemeteries in Hall County reveal that many people coming to live in Northeast Georgia were born in Europe.

In the Hopewell Baptist Cemetery are several stones inscribed with the information that the person interred was born in Ireland. Sometimes the name of the town in Ireland is recorded. In Alta Vista are many people with stones that reveal places of birth: Sweden, Norway, England, Germany, as well as other European countries.

Data preserved by the Hall County Merck family tell that they have both German and Holland ancestry. This information was furnished by a descendant of this family.

JOHN MERCK I with three brothers emigrated to America between the years 1790-1798. They landed in Nova Scotia and settled in various sections of America. One settled in New York, one in Tennessee and another possibly settled in

South Carolina.

JOHN MERCK I came to Georgia and settled on the Cleveland of what is now Hall County. He was 16 years of age at the time. He acquired land from the United States Government and after building a house he went back to Germany for his wife. He married

Waite, daughter of Morrison Waite, in Amsterdam, Holland, and brought the bride back to the new home. John Merck and wife could speak very little English. They were Lutherans.

Children

John Merck and his wife raised eight children:

I. John Merck II, b. 1798, d. Feb. 26, 1884. He married (1) Margaret Merritt (2) Mary Moore

II. George Merck b. 1830. He married Ann Thornton

III. Susannah Merck. She was the second wife of Allen Langford. They had 10 children.

IV. William Merck. He married (1) — Brazelton (2) Maranda Ann Dickerson

V. Henry Merck. He married Harriett Pinson

VI. James L. Merck. He married Mary A. Clark

VII. Mary Merck. She married Henry L. Campbell

VIII. Margaret Merck. She married John A. Williams of Bigfield, S.C.

