

Among Cousins

The Bland Family Newsletter



Bland

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Dear Cousins,

Welcome to the tenth issue of "Among Cousins: The Bland Family Newsletter. It hardly seems possible that this project has survived for a decade, with an addition of approximately 900 additional pages of information about the Bland family. This issue will have three major points of genealogical focus: (1) A Review of the parentage of James Bland (1661-1709) who died in Stafford County Virginia; (2) a review of some major points in the Edgefield County South Carolina Family, with emphasis on the parentage of Robert Bland (1708-1760), founder of the line, and one of his grandsons, Peyton Bland (1780-1815); (3) a review of the line founded by Moses

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Among Cousins: The Bland Family Newsletter, is conceived as an organic extension of A Vision of Unity: The Bland Family In England and America. These works do not represent one person's research or viewpoint but a collective effort by many people, shared with many others, through the Newsletter.

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Bland (1718-1800), highlighting some new research turned in by Jane Midtby of Denver Colorado. Information about the Randolph County North Carolina is so voluminous that even with much economy of space, it will be necessary to cover it in two issues of "Among Cousins". In addition I will feature some queries I received last fall as a result of an offer I made to subscribers.

Project to Rewrite A Vision of Unity

I enclose a separate letter that describes the dimensions of a project that I propose to undertake: rewriting A Vision of Unity. After completion of ten years of Newsletters seems an appropriate place to stop and consolidate what we have learned, adding new material as well. I discussed this project with about a dozen cousins, chosen from the different family groups, combinations of those who have been enthusiastic supporters over the years and those who have attended all or most of the National Reunions, sometimes both rolled up in one person. All agree it is a worthwhile undertaking that will benefit future generations as well as ourselves.

This project will have five major elements:

1. The new book will frankly reflect in its title, two themes: (A) How we as a research group have matured over the past ten years and the great diversity we have found within the origins of the eight major and thirty one lesser branches of the family. The Vision of Unity that I confidently saw in 1982, when the book was published, does not reflect the reality I see today. (B) As the cover pages of "Among Cousins" have always noted, this work is in every sense a joint venture between me and those of you who have labored in musty old court houses and put up with cranky librarians overbearing and protective public servants and over-priced copy machines, to gather and supply the information for the work that has accumulated over the last decade under the covers of A Vision of Unity and Among Cousins. I regard myself as a chronicler only, who would have had very little to tell if not for all of you. To put it bluntly, the work of the past ten years has been a work of many fingers. Thus, in recognition of these themes the projected new title will be Like the Fingers of the Hand: The Bland Family in England and America.

2. It will be a five volume work. The works will be discreetly indexed and divided according to major groups: The James River Family; the Northern Virginia Family (2 Volumes); Lines like the King and Queen County Virginia family and the Pendleton County Virginia/West Virginia family; and a composite index. One could purchase the individual volume or volumes of greatest interest or the entire set. The total work will be 2,000-2,500 pages in length.

A complete set would sell at retail at about \$300. with a 25% mark-up. Each volume would cost \$55.-\$65. based on current methods of production. Before publication of the new book, I will thoroughly explore ways to reduce costs without compromising quality.

3. It will take approximately three years to complete, July 1992 - June 1995. The first year will be writing and integrating the draft primarily by integrating the information in Volumes 1-11 of **Among Cousins** into the narrative of the book, adding information from my now enormous files and adding any new information that comes to me. This task is made possible by availability of computer technology which allows for accelerated adjustments, shifts etc., that previously would have been unthinkable in such a brief time. The second year and a half, refining the draft into a finished narrative, checking facts and hypotheses with contributors, adding new material received and found. The final six months in sending notices and gaining subscriptions, printing binding and mailing. Target date, June 30, 1995.

4. I want to undertake this work, but during the first year I will need financial support to offset the loss from part-time teaching income that I will forfeit in order to have time to rewrite the draft of the book. For that, I appeal to all of you for contributions, according to what you can give. I have attempted to work out a plan whereby those who give will get something in return, when the book is published. Details are found in the enclosed letter.

5. In anticipation of the ever present possibility that I may not live to see the project through, I will designate one of our "Cousins" as a monthly recipient (on computer disk) of all that I have done thus far in the project. Should I die, that designated person would send copies to three other designated Cousins who have agreed they would see the project through. I hasten to assure you that I am presently in good physical health, and at age 51, barring presently unforeseen developments, think I can see this through. These are only precautions to ascertain that a work of love does not perish.

Thus far I have been greatly assisted in this work by Richard and Jeanette B. Bland of Richardson Texas who have scanned my entire book onto a Word Perfect 5.1 disk and have indexed Volumes 6-9 (with 10 to be completed) of "Among Cousins". This has been of enormous help, and as noted above, without computer technology I could not so confidently set out on this undertaking.

We are limited by the facts of time, the demands of everyday life and that genealogy is not a vocation but a labor of love that we do when we have a chance and in what way we can. I think this effort will give us a chance to pool our resources in a gigantic effort to leave an invaluable guide to future researchers.

The 1991 Reunion

The Seventh National Bland Reunion was held at North Vernon Indiana, August 9-11, 1991. The Seventh Reunion was jointly sponsored by David and Lois Taylor of Shelbyville Indiana and Glen and Mary Ella Bland Day of North Vernon. The Reunion was attended by 82 cousins from fifteen states. I am especially grateful to the co-sponsors for their efforts in making this reunion a truly warm and memorable one. One of the residual benefits of the Reunion was that I had a chance to meet for an extended time with Jane Midtby of Denver Colorado, who could be called the synthesist for research on the Bland family that began with Moses Bland and Jane Wiggonton of Randolph County North Carolina. Jane introduced me to some of her research that has been so prodigious that I decided to give major space to it in Volume 10 of "Among Cousins". Another was an opportunity to visit at length with David and Lois Taylor, which included a unique chance for a day long visit to the Allen County Indiana Public Library at Fort Wayne, an event that was exciting for me as well as my companion for the day, Lois Taylor. One of the most interesting aspects of the Reunion was the appearance of new faces that had not attended a Reunion before, not just the local Blands of Jennings County Indiana, but several at least who traveled long distances to attend and were keenly interested in Genealogy.

After the Reunion, a number of interested persons joined a task force committee that was formed in Summer of 1990 to discuss the idea of forming a Bland Family Organization. The consensus was that we should keep the Bland reunion informal, but should thank John Bland of Burke Virginia for his efforts to bring about a Bland organization.

The 1992 National Bland Reunion

The Eighth National Bland Family Reunion will be held in Denver Colorado August 14-16, 1992. This is something of a departure from previous years in that it is located in a major city and is much further west than at any prior time. The Reunion will be sponsored by Richard Parks Bland and his family. Dick is a descendant of the Washington County Kentucky family and a grandson and name sake of the famous Missouri Congressman and presidential candidate, Richard Parks "Silver Dick" Bland. The Reunion will be dedicated to this family group.

Denver is a wonderful vacation site. Richard Bland's daughter Roxanne sent at least a partial list of what Denver has to offer:

We have ten major shopping malls, two amusement parks and a water world. There is a host of museums including the Denver Art Museum and the Museum of Natural History which houses Gates Planetarium and the I-Max Theater and is next to the Denver Zoo. Not far away is the beautiful Botanic Gardens. Downtown, we have the Denver Mint and the Capital Building. We have two dinner theaters and of course, there are restaurants, bars and movie theaters galore. I might add that it will be pro-football's pre-season and if you're lucky, you might even catch the mighty Denver Broncos, winners of the AFC West division (defeated in the AFC championship by, ahem, the Buffalo Bills. Neither Denver or Buffalo talks much about their Super Bowl performances over the years).

In other words, when you grow weary of genealogy, there's much else to do in Denver. Roxanne is working up a comprehensive list which we will distribute when invitations are sent out for the Reunion. I am heartened that at least several Cousins living in the west who couldn't make it to previous reunions because of distance, have indicated they will make it to this one. Notices will go out by about May 15. I hope you will all plan to attend the Eighth National Bland Reunion.

The 1993 Reunion

I would truly like to move the 1993 Reunion back to a site in the east. To me, Virginia is our home, but West Virginia, Maryland, North and South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Tennessee etc. would also be excellent sites. I hope those of you who live in the east will think about this and help me find a site for 1993.

Library Placements

The past nine months has been a good period for new library placements of A Vision of Unity: The Bland Family in England and America, which include:

From an anonymous donor:

The Alabama Archives and History Department, Montgomery
Alabama 36104.

The Arkansas Genealogical Society, Hot Springs
Arkansas, 71902-0908

The Arizona Public Library, Phoenix Arizona, 85007

The Georgia Department of Archives and History, Atlanta
Georgia, 30334.

Earl Brown and Lenore Bland Brown of Paris Texas donated a copy of A Vision of Unity to The Daughters of the American Revolution Library, Aikin Regional Archives, Paris Texas 75460.

The Seventh National Bland Family Reunion donated a copy of the A Vision of Unity to the Jennings County Indiana Public Library, North Vernon Indiana, 47265.

Carroll Kim Shackelford of Woodberry Forest Virginia donated a copy of the book to the Virginia State Library in Richmond Virginia, 23219, the second copy for that library.

Edith Lanning and Pearl Harbor

As the news report said, young Edith Conant could not believe her eyes when she looked out her bedroom window on December 7, 1941 and saw fighter planes with big red suns on their sides flying over Pearl Harbor. Edith lived with her father and mother in the Phillipines and Hawaii between 1936-1942, including her father's tour of duty at Pearl Harbor. Edith's father, Mr. Arnold Conant celebrated his 90th birthday in February, 1992. On that day, Edith watched a Japanese plane drop a bomb into the waters of the bay, she saw oil tanks destroyed and debris from exploding airplanes ripping up from the ground at Hickam Field. The day was filled with fear that Japanese troops had landed and would surround Oahu.¹ Thus did the young woman we have come to know as Edith Conant Lanning, one of the principal historians of the Bland family, come to witness a true watershed day in history.

Where were you that same day? My memory is not clear because I was an 18 month old toddler. Fifty years later, Tommy and I watched "Tora, Tora, Tora," an educational attempt on my part that Tommy took to heart. Later in the day I watched "From Here to Eternity" with a friend. A Japanese acquaintance spoke to me and I didn't realize until after the conversation that neither of us had thought of the significance of the date. That week, I drove in my 1988 Mazda to a class on Ethnicity and Race, I showed a recent movie "Come See The Paradise" which is a Japanese-American love story that takes place against the back-drop of World War II and the internment of Japanese-Americans. I impressed on my students that while we should rightly recognize the grave injustice we did to Japanese-Americans, we should also remember the natural fear and anger we felt when Japan, seeming so mighty and invincible, struck at us without warning at Pearl Harbor. It is easy for us now to recognize that it was a desperate strike by a nation that surely knew it could not sustain a long war against the United States and its allies, but on December 7, 1941, there was no such assurance. There was only the fear and confusion Edith Conant Lanning remembered of bombs falling, and panicked human beings fleeing for shelter. I am grateful to Edith for sharing this experience.

¹ Frances DeVore, "Excitement Turned to Fear as Japan Attacked" Ocala Star Banner, December 7, 1991.

Transitions

In a column that is usually given over to obituaries, I am happy to note that Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Bland celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary December 9, 1991 with a family dinner. Those of you who attended the 1987 and 1991 Reunions met Ralph and his wife, the former Elizabeth May Trowbridge, and their children Kenny Bland of Solsberry Indiana, who co-hosted the 1987 Reunion and Linda Bland Bippen of Indianapolis. Congratulations to Ralph and May.

Jane Midtby wrote to tell me of the birth of Patrick Wilson Bland in North Vernon Indiana on February 20, 1992. Congratulations and welcome to the Bland clan Patrick. The new boy is the son of Scott Wilson Bland, a nephew of Mary Ella Bland Day, and his wife Candy Watermeir Bland of Jennings county Indiana. Scott descends from Captain James Bland and his wife Jane Johnston, who were pioneers in Indiana and whose line is discussed below (pp. 24ff).

I am happy to announce that my long time correspondent and subscriber Cousin Ruth Bland Webb, of Ferndale Michigan married John W. French, May 8, 1991. Betty Lovvorn of Ooltewah Tennessee told me that her cousin David Parker Bland married the daughter of Malta's Prime Minister, now teaching at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Eunice Hubert, Sidney Illinois, sent me a photo and wedding announcement of Steven James Bland and Stacie Jo Smith, Champaign Illinois, August 25, 1991. Eunice notes "not related to us". I do not know Steven Bland, but he is still our cousin and we congratulate him.

I am very sorry to note the passing of one of the true heroines of the Bland family, Olympic Gold Medalist Harriet Clayborne Bland Green, (1915-1991) who died November 6, 1991. Subscribers will recall from a former issue (AC 7-2, pp. 4-8) that Harriet Bland in 1936 was on the United States 100 meter and 400 meter relay team that included Annette Kelly, Helen Stephens and Betty Robinson. Helen Stephens at the time was known as the fastest woman in the world. In her life after the 1936 Olympics, Harriet Bland married William Green. She earned her bachelor's degree in interior design from Washington University in Missouri and worked between 1940-1976 as an Interior Designer in St. Louis. She also was a volunteer director of the St. Louis public playgrounds.

Thomas H. Bland of Burke Virginia has informed me of the death on December 17, 1991 of his uncle John T. Bland III of Arlington Virginia. Tommy and I always will remember the graciousness of John and his wife, Elaine Spencer Bland, who welcomed me and my then infant son Tommy into their home back in October 1984 after a long and tiring drive from North Carolina enroute to Buffalo. John is the brother of William A. Bland of Holly Ridge North Carolina and the uncle of Thomas H. and William G. Bland, the twin brothers who sponsored the 1990 Reunion. This entire family has always been very supportive of the work done for the Bland family history and we note with sadness John T. Bland's passing from this world.

Eunice Hubert of Sidney Illinois provided me with several obituary notices from the past few years. Grace Alda Hubert,

daughter of Ashby Bland and Florence Belle Dever (AC 4-2, p. 12) died on December 14, 1988. She was the mother of Russell Hubert, who married my correspondent Eunice Hubert. Mrs. Hubert was survived by two brothers, James S. Bland (1910-1989), of Mahomet Illinois, who died December 3, 1989, and Miles Perry Bland (1915-1991) of Danville Illinois, who died July 9, 1991. A cousin in this family, Mae Vernice Bland Glenn, (1907-1990), daughter of Walter and Mae Wilson Bland, died February 14, 1990.

In her obituaries, Mrs. Hubert also included a notice of the death of James R. Bland of Chicago, Illinois, on April 19, 1989. The Chicago Tribune notice indicated James was the son of Med and Evelyn Bland

I wish to note the passing of two close relatives from my maternal family. My aunt Rachel Jean Faries Finch (1940-1991) passed away after a long illness on November 9, 1991. Rachel was my same age and my childhood companion and trained herself in classical music. About 1960, she went off to college and I went off to military service and during the years that followed, we never got together again except for brief visits that were more incidental than anything. My aunt Nelda Faries Rushing died suddenly on January 20, 1992. In her last years she was a close and constant companion to my mother. Those of us who survive Rachel and Nelda will surely miss them.

JAMES BLAND OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY ENGLAND, EAST JERSEY, ST. MARY'S COUNTY MARYLAND AND STAFFORD COUNTY VIRGINIA

Several times during the past year, I have seen instances of family histories in county records where the parentage of James Bland, whose will was made on December 22, 1708 and probated in Stafford County Virginia on March 9, 1708,² has been shown as Thomas Bland of Maryland, as outlined by me in VU, pp. 191-240. I think this is unfortunate because it is wrong. Those of you who have attended the family reunions in which I discuss the origins of the major branches of the family, have heard me lament the hypothesis that I set forth. Those who read the chapter referenced may or should note how tenuously the hypothesis was put when A Vision of Unity was published in 1982. The theory that James Bland descends from the James River Bland's London origins derives from a letter written to Robert Linn Bland by a researcher Christopher Johnston, on December 14, 1905. Johnston was attempting to validate hypotheses made by Mr. Bland that his descent through James Bland, linked him to Thomas Bland, a notorious and fraudulent

² Up until 1752, the New Year began March 25, thus a will proved on January 9, 1708 in our reckoning would have followed the filing of the will by about three weeks and would have occurred in 1709. Thus, James Bland died late in 1708 or early in 1709 according to our calendar.

lawyer who lived in Maryland for a time during the late 17th Century. Mr. Johnston said "There would be a certain semblance of a connection between Thomas and James Bland," but hedged his assertion by adding, "on the other hand, we must bear in mind that the evidence is by no means clear, and that after all these may be no more than an accidental coincidence." What Johnston referred to was that Thomas and James Bland lived in the same proximity at one point and that there were common signatories by men who evidently knew the two men, on documents that appeared at the same time (VU, pp 221-223). There is not any evidence that concretely links Thomas Bland of Maryland to the London stem family of the James River Blands or that links Thomas Bland to James Bland. In other words, Thomas Bland of Maryland had no significant and known family linkages in the New World. Thomas Bland went back to London about 1700 because in Maryland he was only one step ahead of the law. One notes that when he filed his will in November 1700, he called himself a merchant, feeling perhaps that his lawyer's masquerade would not stand up among his relatives. In his will, he betrayed no trace of a relationship with any of the London family that descended from Adam Bland and he was completely silent about James Bland. Although in my book, I subscribed to Robert Linn Bland's hypothesis about James Bland (VU p. 254), which certainly has encouraged others to accept it, one should note that earlier (page 240), I wrote that I thought further research would confirm that Thomas Bland-James Bland linkage, but "one should not accept these conclusions at the expense of what appear to be other alternatives to the parentage of James Bland."

One of these alternatives was reviewed in the same chapter (VU, 249-254), when I identified a potential source of James' stem family in St. Andrews Parish, Penrith township, Cumberland County England, now part of Cumbria (VU, p. 14A). In all documents I saw about James, his birth year was given as C1655, but no substantiation of the date was given. James did not appear in the Virginia records until 1687, but when I began writing the book, Mr. Leslie Dawson of Plainfield New Jersey showed that a "James Blann" witnessed a will's probation in St. Mary's County Maryland on February 14, 1683/1684. So James would logically have had to be born no later than 1662 (VU, pp. 198-202). In tracking down as many James Bland's in England as I could, one possibility that seemed to fit was James Bland of Cumberland County, who was the son of George Bland (C1636-after 1675) who married Grace _____ (C1640-1691) about 1658 (their first child was born in 1659). George in turn was the eighth child of James Bland (C1600-1652) and Susan Cooke (C1602-1653), who were married December 16, 1620. James was in turn the son of a James Bland, who was born probably in the last quarter

of the 16th Century and Alice or Ellis Pattison or Patterson, whom he married June 4, 1599.³

George and Grace Bland had six children registered in St. Andrews Parish Registers, including James Bland, born October 31, 1661.

This development would appear to have located the birth place of James Bland, especially when linked to a further find of my own in a secondary source that showed a James Bland of St. Andrews Parish, Penrith, Cumberland County, age 22, shipping out from London to East Jersey on March 17, 1685.

Much of the evidence seemed to fit smoothly. James, born in Cumberland County in 1661, as a young man migrated to London and from there at age 22, shipped out to East Jersey in 1685. By 1687, he was in Virginia and he shuttled back and forth between Virginia and Maryland between 1687-1701 when he purchased 600 acres of land in Stafford County Virginia, where he settled down and died early in 1709. Thus James Bland, (1661-1709).⁴

There were two obstacles to this theory:

1. The Cumberland County Records showed a James Bland marrying an Isabel Lowther on October 18, 1691, in Cumberland County. Our James Bland, when he died was married to a woman named Margaret, whom he must have married about 1681, for his eldest son was born no later than 1682. How could James have managed this and at the same time married Isabel Lowther back in England. Nelle and Conrad Mang answered this question with their research when they showed that both James Bland and Isabel Lowther came to Penrith from Westmoreland County to be married, so they were not of Penrith. Thus, one obstacle was eliminated.

³ Subsequent research in England by Conrad and Nell Mang, Robert and Ethel Bland and the late Lois Cramer clarified some points. The Mang's in particular found parish records for the deaths of many of these Blands which helped to clarify the span of their lives. These later findings are reviewed in AC 3-1, pp. 8-9 and AC 6-1, pp. 5-8.

⁴ In this scenario, James almost certainly would have found a better life for himself. Cumberland, lying north of Yorkshire and Westmoreland counties, near the Scottish border, was surely an outpost of the realm, and neglected by the British government. Like most of the far northern English territories, Cumberland was subject to droughts and plagues, and populated by sheep farmers and a struggling wool industry. The terrible toll of these conditions is suggested by the fact that among eight children of James Bland and Susan Cooke, only three lived to adulthood. Any young man or woman with gumption would want to leave and find a better life.

2. There is the problem of James Blann, witness to a will in St. Mary's County Maryland February 14, 1683/1684, probated in Old Rappahanock County Virginia May 28, 1684. James Bland of Cumberland England was certainly old enough to sign as a witness, but how could he have been in Maryland in 1684 if he didn't ship out from London until 1685? This is an obstacle that has not been satisfactorily answered. Several possibilities come to mind. One is that the 1685 voyage to East Jersey from England was not James Bland's first trip to the new world. It is the only one we have record of. Second, Loretta Heyen of Ellettsville Indiana has suggested, based on her research into the records of Colonial New Jersey, that transactions made by John and Margaret Carrington, bound like James Bland, to William Dockwra did not appear until as many as four years later. The implication is that the date of March 17, 1685 was only the date of entry into the Lord Mayor's Waiting Book, when actually the departure for East Jersey occurred much earlier. Finally, perhaps James Blann who witnessed the 1684 will and James Bland who left for East Jersey in 1685 were not the same man. One should note, however, that "our" James Bland, who died in 1709, was found repeatedly in records of St. Mary's County Maryland between 1692-1698. Thus, logic compels me to think that the person who signed these later documents was the same man who witnessed the will in 1684.

Absent this contradiction, the English line would go like this:

1st (earliest known) generation - James Bland, (C1575-) who married Alice Patterson or Pettison in 1599.

2nd generation - James Bland (1600-1652) who married Susan Cook (1602-1653) in 1620.

3rd generation - George Bland (1636-after 1675) who married Grace _____ (C1640-1691) about 1658.

4th generation - James Bland (1661-1709) who married Margaret _____ and possibly an unknown woman before her. James migrated to East Jersey sometime in 1683-1684 and ended his life in Stafford County Virginia.

I believe this contradiction could be resolved by a careful search in the records of old East Jersey, if they still exist. I would be grateful if anyone in proximity to the New Jersey State Library in Trenton or any other reliable New Jersey archival source which is likely to have this information, would do this work. Failing this, if funding permits under my proposal to rewrite the book, I would like to plan a trip to New Jersey to search further into this matter.

THE BLAND FAMILY OF EDGEFIELD COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA

In this section, I hope to accomplish two objectives. First is to attempt to address a disparity I have seen in several recent instances of local family histories of this family, which repeat my error in my book, VU, pp. 484-486 of claiming that Robert Bland, (1708-1760) the founder of this family group, was the son of James Bland (1661-1709) of Stafford County Virginia. This was another unfortunate assertion made in 1982 by me, when I published A Vision of Unity. It flies in the face of a clear statement of indenture by David Bland in 1774, which states without any ambiguity that Robert Bland, son of James, "died without issue." As I have noted previously (AC 6-1, p. 9), my confusion came from failing to recognize that there were two Robert Bland's in Prince William Virginia, both minors in 1723. One of them was the son of James Bland, listed as a minor child in his will of December 22, 1708. The other was the father of Robert Bland (1732-1787), founder of the Bland family in Edgefield County South Carolina. The elder Robert could have been born no later than about 1708, and he was certainly a member of the large Prince William Virginia family, as shown in official transactions. The only one of James' sons who was old enough to have been Robert's father was William Bland (1686-1744). For these reasons, I now feel certain that Robert was the son of William Bland and the grandson of James Bland. Robert Bland married Jane _____ about 1729 and had by her, Edward Bland (C1730-1797/1800), Robert Bland (1732-1787) and William Bland, born after 1743. Thus the line goes like this:

4th generation - James Bland (1661-1709)

5th generation - William Bland (C1682-1744) and an unknown woman about 1703.

6th generation - Robert Bland (C1708-1760) who married Jane _____ about 1729.

7th generation - Edward Bland (C1730-1800)
Robert Bland (1732-1787)
William Bland (C1744-)

The seventh generation son of most interest in this issue is Robert Bland, (1732-1787) who married Anne _____ on April 10, 1757. In what follows, we shall concentrate on Robert and Anne's son Peyton Bland (1780-1815).⁵

⁵ Most of what follows was furnished by Conrad Mang in a long letter dated August 19, 1991 and his attached "The Bland Clan Revisited." Mr. Mang's letter responded to my query in the last issue of "Among Cousins". Conrad was also good enough to respond to a draft of this article, Conrad Mang to Charles L. Bland, March 27,

Peyton Bland was born January 1, 1780 in Loudon County Virginia and died shortly after his discharge from service March 13, 1815 at St. Martins, Vermillion Parish Louisiana. ⁶ Peyton married Elizabeth Smith, daughter of Jesse Smith and Susan Wordein, probably of Darlington County South Carolina, in 1809. ⁷ Elizabeth was born about 1794 and died about 1856. ⁸ Peyton and Elizabeth were married in Louisiana and were part of a party of migrants to St. Martin Louisiana. Peyton was in Louisiana by February 4, 1808, when he bought land there. ⁹ On January 3, 1815, Peyton was mustered into service at Attakapas Louisiana and served in Bakers Regiment. The unit was stationed at St. Mary's parish to guard a river entrance and they never went to the Battle of New Orleans. Peace with England had already been declared on December 1814, but the treaty was ratified by Congress only on February 15, 1815 and word of it reached New Orleans February 17, 1815.

1992. A Bible Record of this family deposited at the Tennessee State Library by Dero Darwin, provides the dates of Robert's birth, his marriage to Anne _____ and the dates of birth of their children. In the bible record, Peyton Bland's (undoubtedly named after the Payton family in Virginia) given name is spelled by his parents Payton. As an adult, however, Payton spelled the name Peyton, and applied the spelling to his son's name. Other Bland men in this family who were given the name, spell it with an e. In my work, (AC 6-1, p. 24) I followed the spelling he apparently preferred and shall do so here. The French officials in Louisiana converted his name to Jean Peton Blanc (John Peyton Bland), leading some early historians of the family to name him John, but the census of Attakapas Parish, or St. Martin, in 1810 called him Peyton.

⁶ In response to a "tall tale" that Peyton disappeared and went to Chicago, Conrad Mang reminds us that in 1815 there was no Chicago.

⁷ Conrad Mang, "The Bland Clan Revisited" p. 1, citing St. Martin Parish Court House, #106, Folio 35.

⁸ The Jefferson County Texas census of 1850 shows Elizabeth Johnson, age 56, living with Robert Johnson, age 63. In 1857 in Orange County Texas, John Bland, her son, is noted as administrator of Elizabeth Johnson's property.

⁹ The St. Martin Parish records that record the birth and baptism of their children indicates that Peyton and Elizabeth were Catholics.

Peyton Bland and Elizabeth Smith had three children:

1. John Bland, (March 6, 1811 - November 2, 1886). John was born at St. Martin's Parish, Louisiana and died in Orange County Texas. On January 18, 1823, at age 11, John was indentured to Asa Foreman in St. Landry Parish Louisiana. John married Mary Foreman, a daughter of Joseph Ephrem Foreman and Marie Charolette or Charlotte Stouts, (February 4, 1816 - January 13, 1904) on or about February 21, 1831.¹⁰ John served in the Texas revolution, from September 2, 1836 to March 2, 1837. In 1835, John received a league (4,428 acres) of land from the Mexican government and he received 640 acres as a bounty grant in 1841, for his service in the Texas revolution. As an adult in Orange County, John prospered as a farmer. He was said to have enjoyed liquor and gambling for medicinal purposes and horses in moderation, and he was also a soldier who fought in the Texas war for independence. John and Mary's children have been previously identified. (AC 6-1, pp. 25-27).

2. Caroline Bland (September 7, 1813 - June 2, 1888). Born in St. Martin's Parish, Louisiana and died in Orange County Texas. Caroline married William Clark at St. Martin's Parish, Louisiana about 1830 and had by him a family of six children. Children of this marriage were previously noted (AC 1-1, p. 11).

3. Peyton Bland, (September 25, 1815 - September 17, 1872 or 1873).¹¹ Peyton was born at St. Martin's Parish, Louisiana and died in Orange County. On January 18, 1823, at the same time as his brother John, Peyton Bland was indentured to Benjamin Fork at St. Landry Parish, Louisiana. Peyton moved to Texas about 1834 and served in the Texas revolution September-December 1835. He served in Captain David Gardner's company and was engaged in the "Grass Fight" near San Antonio. He also served in March and April 1836, but missed going to San Jacinto because he was assigned guard duty. Peyton married Susannah Harmon (November 2, 1822 - August 15, 1892), on May 8, 1838 at Waller Texas. Peyton was a huge, colorful man, whose story has been previously told (AC 1-1, p. 12). Peyton was prone to

¹⁰ The date of February 21, 1831 is derived from a certificate of marriage of that date in which "this day joined together in the holy bonds of matrimony John Bland, native of this parish, and Mary Foreman." Helen Borque of Houston Texas, who descends from this family indicates they were married February 2, 1831.

¹¹ The Certificate of Baptism for Peyton, St. Martin's Parish Louisiana, indicates he was born on September 25, 1815. Family members list his birthday as October 25, 1815.

illness and he died of pneumonia in 1872 or 1873 during a cattle drive. His children went out to search for his grave but never found it. Peyton and Susannah had a family of thirteen children (AC 6-1, pp. 28-30).

Conrad Mang of Houston Texas has clarified much of the previous confusion about the life of Elizabeth Smith Bland after Peyton Bland died in 1815. Mr. Mang's information makes a more interesting character of Elizabeth, who married Robert Johnson (1787-ante1856) on January 18, 1817.¹² They had a son named Warren Johnson.¹³ Contrary to past evidence, there was no known marriage with John Dickerson. Rather, at some time before 1822, Elizabeth entered into an affair with John Dickerson that overlapped her marriage with Johnson. and by Dickerson had a child, Joseph Dickerson born in 1822, some five years after Elizabeth married Robert Johnson, and baptized in 1825.¹⁴ Mr. Mang believes that John Dickerson's liaison with Elizabeth Smith Bland Johnson, culminating in the birth of Joseph Dickerson, was the reason Elizabeth indentured her sons John and Peyton in 1823. This changes previous assumptions that Robert Johnson refused to allow the two boys to live with him and forced her to indenture them. Nor do we know when Elizabeth began her affair with Dickerson.

In 1820, Robert Johnson and Elizabeth Smith Bland Johnson lived in Louisiana but no children are recorded living with them. About 1824, Elizabeth moved to Texas, the territory that became Jefferson County in 1836 and Orange County in 1852, but without Robert Johnson, indicating the liaison with Joseph Dickerson forced a separation between Elizabeth and Johnson. She left two sons of Peyton Bland and Elizabeth behind, John, who was indentured in 1823 to Asa Foreman and Peyton, who was indentured to Benjamin Fork. By 1830, Elizabeth was back in Louisiana, occupying property previously owned by her mother, and shown in the census as having custody of a male under 5, (Joseph Dickerson or Warren Johnson) and a female, aged 5-10. Robert Johnson was not with her.

¹² Marriage Certificate, St. Martin De Tours Church, Folio F, Page 48. In the distribution of Elizabeth Johnson's property in 1857, Robert is not mentioned.

¹³ Warren Johnson (C1827/1828-) was found in the 1860 Census for CalCasieu Parish Louisiana, married to Melinda Moss and with eight children.

¹⁴ There is no extant record of a divorce from Robert Johnson or a marriage to Joseph Dickerson. The juxtaposition of dates forces the conclusion that Elizabeth carried on an affair with Dickerson while married to Johnson. Joseph Dickerson, son of Elizabeth Smith Bland Johnson and Joseph Dickerson, (C1822-) appeared on the 1850 Census of Layette Parish in Louisiana, married to Edelia Foreman, age 22. He must have died about 1855, for his wife is named administratrix of his estate January 16, 1856.

About 1834, John and Peyton Bland Jr. came to the territory that became Jefferson and Orange Texas.¹⁵ Elizabeth received a Spanish land grant for one league on February 28, 1835, saying that she came to Texas with her family of three children. This would indicate that she must have returned at about the same time as her sons. In her character statement, she is listed as a woman with five children, including three by Peyton Bland, one by Dickerson and one by Johnson. In 1840, Elizabeth Johnson appears in Jefferson County Texas as guardian for Warren Johnson. It may be that between 1840 and 1850 John Dickerson died or left, because by 1850, Robert and Elizabeth Johnson are living together.

THE BLAND FAMILY OF RANDOLPH COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA

The above noted Robert Bland (C1708-1860) had a half-brother Moses Bland, (C1718-1800). Moses' family is one of the best and most extensively researched of the Bland family lines. The family group was discussed in my book (VU, pp. 342-365) and was refined and revised several times during the past decade, (AC 1-1, pp. 7-8 and attachment 13; AC 2-1, pp. 10-11; Ac 2-2, pp. 34-35; AC 3-1, pp. 21-26; AC 3-2, pp. 39-40; AC 4-1, pp. 6-11; Ac 5-2, pp. 23-25; AC 7-1, pp. 21-23; AC 8-1, pp. 15-25; AC 9-2, pp. 29-30). What follows consolidates the most important points of this material and adds new information provided by Jane Midtby of Denver Colorado, perhaps the historian of the family with the best "feeling" for the entire line. Jane's keen insights have been invaluable not only to me, but to many others, and she has dedicated herself untiringly to an accurate representation of this line and has displayed an avid interest in the Bland family generally. Jane's information about the family of Benjamin Bland, son of Moses, and her connections between Moses' grandson John Bland (C1790-1830) and Osborne, Meredith and Noah Bland substantially revises what has gone before. Others who have contributed significantly over the years are: Terese Beuker, Woodland Texas; Luella Bland, Brownstown Indiana; Vera Bland, Pasadena Texas; Mary Ella Bland Day, North Vernon Indiana; Berenice Mumford, Carsbad New Mexico; Elva Reitz, Sun City Arizona; the late Max Kessinger, Witchita Kansas; Hazel Kirtley, Sarasota Florida; Esther Jenkins, Myrtle Point Oregon; Kay Monroe, Sullivan Indiana; Mary Jane Sine, Louisville Kentucky and Robert Wheeler, Lebanon Oregon.

¹⁵ Conrad Mang to Charles Bland, August 19, 1991. Mr. Mang indicates that it is hard to determine exactly when Caroline, Peyton and John Bland came to Texas. According to Mr. Mang, Mexico stopped giving Spanish grants in 1830 but resumed in 1835, and many people who had been living in the area for some time, applied. The area that became Orange county was a "no man's land" and people were not supposed to settle there. In fact, one source indicates that Elizabeth left Texas a first time because conditions were so bad.

Moses Bland,¹⁶ the oldest son and first child of William Bland (1682-1744) by his second wife, Catherine Key was born about 1718. Moses joined his half-brother James Bland (C1704-1774) as co-executor of William Bland's estate. William Bland married Catherine Key on February 6, 1716/1717. If Catherine conceived soon after their marriage, the first child would have been born in 1718. There is evidence on record to suggest that Thomas Bland, another son of William Bland and Catherine Key, was born no later than 1719. Yet Moses, and not Thomas, was his father's co-executor. Thus, the estimate for Moses' birth in 1718. Moses' will was made December 10, 1799. It was probated in May 1800, but the language of the will's preamble indicates that Moses "very sick and weak of body" died soon after making his will. Thus, Moses lived to a remarkably old age of eighty-two (1718-1800).

Following his father's death, Moses and his half brother James Bland became active in a mining enterprise begun in 1732 by William Bland. The business went bad in 1752 (VU p. 272) and it is probable that James went to North Carolina soon after. Traces of Moses are found in Prince William and Fairfax County Virginia as late as 1771. Moses and his son William appear in land transactions of Anson County North Carolina as early as 1772. Moses and his wife then appeared on the tax lists of Randolph County, North Carolina, in 1779, when the county was formed from Guilford.¹⁷ Moses appeared on the record in Randolph County several times in the twenty years preceding his death. In 1790 Moses was enumerated in the Hillsborough District of the county with his wife. Why Moses moved to North Carolina is uncertain. Moses married Jane Wiggonton, of Overwharton Parish, Stafford County Virginia on January 14, 1750/1751. Jane Wiggonton's date of birth is not certain, but should be sometime between 1730-1735.¹⁸ During their marriage,

¹⁶ The source of the name Moses in the Bland family is uncertain. I do not recall its usage in England and Moses, son of William Bland and Catherine Key is the first use I know of. Possibly it came from the Davis or Stone families in Prince William County Virginia, with whom the early Blands were associates, neighbors and friends (VU, p. 370). In 1758, a Moses Bland was living in Cumberland County Pennsylvania.

¹⁷ Guilford was formed from Rowan County and Rowan in turn was formed from Anson County in 1753. Maps of North Carolina appearing in VU, pp. 276A-B are helpful in understanding the evolution of these counties.

¹⁸ Jane's father, Henry Wiggonton Sr., made his will June 5, 1735. Stafford County Virginia Will Book M, p. 220. The will states "to my wife Sarah and daughters ... Jeanne (probably Jane) . . . all my personal estate divided equally, to daughters at age 18 or when they marry." Thus, Jane was under age 18 in 1735. She married Moses in January 1750/1750, and girls were usually 15-20 at their

Moses and Jane had eight known children, including six daughters and two sons. Moses' will is the best blueprint for the structure of his family and for that reason is worth quoting in full:

In the name of God, Amen, I Moses Bland of Randolph County and state of North Carolina, being very sick and weak of body but of perfect mind and sound memory and calling to mind the mortality of my body and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die, do make and ordain this my last will and testament that is to say principally and first of all, I give and commend my soul unto Almighty God and my body I commit to the earth to be buried in decent Christian burial and forsaking such worldly estate, wherewith it has pleased God to help me with in this life I do give and dispose of the same in the following manner and form. First, I do give and bequeath to my loving wife **Jane Bland**,¹⁹ who now I appoint, constitute and ordain the sole executor of this my last will and testament, all and every part of my moveable estate, with one hundred acres of land including the plantation where I now live during her natural life - Then I do give after the death of my wife **Jane Bland** all and every part of my estate to my **six daughters, Sally, Fanny, Winny, Peggy, Caty and Nancy**, to be equally divided. (Then) I do give and bequeath to **my son William Bland** one hundred and forty acres of land adjoining the land Mrs. _____ now lives on (illegible) to him and his heirs forever. Then I do give **my son Benjamin Bland** two hundred acres of land adjoining his house he now lives in. Also I do give and bequeath to **my son Benjamin** the one hundred acres of land whereupon I now live after the death of my wife Jane and to his heirs forever. And I do hereby utterly disallow, forsake and disown all and every other wills, testaments _____ do will and bequeath, certifying and confirming this to be my last will and testament in witness thereof I hereunto set my hand and seal this tenth day of December, one thousand, seven hundred and ninety nine.

Signed, sealed and published
in the presence of John (his
mark) Smitherman
Thomas Bland²⁰

Signed
Moses Bland

May Term 1800²¹

first marriage.

¹⁹ Jane Wiggonton Bland's name appears on the 1800 census of Randolph county, but not thereafter, suggesting that she died before 1810, (AC 3-1, p. 21)

²⁰ The identity of this Thomas Bland is something of a mystery. The Clark County Indiana Estray Book, 1801-1817, shows Thomas living in the county with John, Abel, James and William Blan, (spelling similar to other Blands in the area. The other men were sons of William Bland (C1751-1801). In 1820, Abel, Benjamin,

With Moses Bland's will as a key to his children, I will discuss each line four generations past Moses Bland, and Jane Wiggonton. In the case of daughters, I will carry the line one generation past Moses. The following is known of the children of Moses Bland and Jane Wiggonton in the estimated order of their birth.: ²²

1. William Bland (C1751-1801) The eldest son of Moses Bland and Jane Wiggonton was William Bland, (tenth generation). William was almost certainly born in 1751. In the 1800 census he was enumerated as over 45. ²³ William appeared in Anson County North Carolina July 15, 1772, when he received a parcel of land from Thomas Ward and his wife. (AC 3-1, p. 22) He was still living in 1800-1801 when he made land transactions in the Fork Creek area with William and John Needham, and his brother Benjamin. ²⁴

James, John, Moses and Thomas, but not William Bland were found living in Jackson County, created in part from Clark County in 1816. (AC 2-2, p. 35). Below, (P. 27) I suggest that Thomas was the son of William Bland (C1751-1801).

²¹ I attempted to reconcile the actual will (AC 1-1, attachment 13), with a typed will supplied by Jane Midtby. Some parts of Moses' will are simply illegible but I think the will is very close to accurate as typed.

²² This economy is necessary for space considerations for such a large family. When the book is rewritten, I will cover the line more fully, with complete reference to dates of birth and death, when available, and will treat matrilineal lines more fully. AC 10-2 will include the generations that bridge the 19th-20th centuries.

²³ Moses and Jane were married in January 1751 and Jane could have delivered William by the end of 1751. Additionally, William was involved in land transactions by 1772, signifying that he was indeed born in 1751.

²⁴ Francis Bland, for a 1900 Bland Reunion, wrote that James Bland (1773-1832) "and his family, his mother and her family" moved to Indiana in 1799. Since Moses Bland's will was made out in December 1799 and named William as a recipient of land, he must have been too sick to move with his family.

William married _____ Ward, (AC 2-1, p. 11). William's wife was probably born between 1755-1757. As noted above, William received land from Thomas Ward and his wife in 1772, and an old family tradition has William marrying a woman named Ward.²⁵ In 1790, he was enumerated in the Hillsborough District of Randolph County, North Carolina, with a family that included himself, his wife, two males over 16, (as configured below, probably Moses and James), two males under 16, (Thomas and William, Abel unaccounted for) and three daughters (Ann, Jane and an unknown daughter). By 1800, the family included William, then over 45, one, female, Julia, aged 26-45 (William's wife), one male and one female, aged 10-16, (William and Jane) one female and two males under 10 (Margrette, Abel and John). Children of William Bland and _____ Ward were:

A. Moses Bland (1772- after 1850)²⁶ Moses is the eldest son of William Bland and _____ Ward. He was known as a "root doctor". Moses was born in Anson County North Carolina and died in Sullivan County Indiana after 1850. In the late 1790's, Moses left home, possibly with his older brother James, and by 1800 had reached Nelson County, Kentucky. There he met and married Peggy Bland, a daughter of Samuel Bland, (VU, pp. 348 and 455-456) on November 24, 1800. Moses' was married to Peggy about six years, and during that time they had one daughter, Elizabeth Bland (1803-1846) who later married Ambrose Knott (1802-1882) in Nelson County, Kentucky, December 1, 1828 and moved with him to Sullivan County Indiana. Both are buried in the Burnett Cemetery, Sullivan Indiana.²⁷

Peggy Bland died about 1805-1806 and Moses Bland married Nancy Boaz, in Woodford County, Kentucky, on March 21, 1807.²⁸ By 1810, Moses Bland and Nancy Boaz were in Jefferson County, Kentucky. The census of that year showed Moses, aged 26-45, (acrually aged 38) with a female (Nancy Boaz) aged 26-45, a daughter, aged 10-16, and two females under 10 (Elizabeth and Ann Maria). In 1820, Moses Bland and Nancy Boaz were in Jackson County, Indiana, where they

²⁵ Moses Bland to Levi Edward Bland, October 19, 1902, cited in AC 2-2, p. 10. At one time, I formed the opinion that William's wife was named Julia, but in reviewing this material, I realize that I cannot substantiate this name.

²⁶ The line of Moses Bland (1772-1850) is discussed in VU, p. 349-352 and AC 4-1, pp. 6-10.

²⁷ In the 1810 Census for Jefferson County Kentucky, there is recorded an unnamed daughter age 10-16, which prompts Jane Midtby to wonder whether Moses had a wife before he married Peggy Bland. No record of such a marriage has turned up.

²⁸ In 1763, Thomas Ward, presumably a later grandfather to Moses Bland, was listed among taxable with one John Boaz.

were enumerated with a family including one male over 45 (Moses would have been about 48 in 1820). No adult female is enumerated, There are enumerated with Moses, three males, all under age 10, as well as two females aged 10-16, and two females under 10. By 1830, Moses Bland was in Jennings County, Indiana (he moved there about 1823), and was enumerated as one male under ten; two males 15-20; one female 10-15; and one female 15-20. Additionally, there was a female 20-30, and a male 40-50 (Moses would have been 58 in 1830). Jane Midtby feels that Nancy Boaz died between 1820-1830, so the adult female would have been Ann Maria, who did not marry until 1831. Moses married Sarah Whitaker on October 14, 1830 in Jennings County (AC 1-1, p. 7, AC 3-1, p. 6). There were no known children by Sarah Whitaker. Moses moved to Sullivan County, Indiana about 1834 and died there after 1850.

Moses Bland and Nancy Boaz had six children between 1809-1818:

(1) Ann Maria Bland (1809-1869) who was born in Kentucky. She married Abraham Bland (C1805-1871) in Jennings County Indiana May 21, 1831 (AC 4-1, p. 7 and AC 6-2, pp. 6-7).²⁹ Abraham and Ann Maria Bland are both buried in Hendricks County Indiana. They had a family of nine children including: (a) Elizabeth Jane Bland (C1832-); (b) Isabell C. Bland, (C1834-) who married John H. Roach in Hendricks County Indiana, September 10, 1857; (c) Ruth Ellen Bland (C1836-) who married (1) John Smith and (2) George French, June 20, 1870 in Hendricks County Indiana; (d) Americus Bland (C1838-) married Rebecca Hunt in Hendericks County, December 15, 1866; (e) Lucinda A. Bland, (C1840-) who married Henry Wilson in Hendricks County, March 28, 1869; (f) Marcus A. Bland (1842-1861); (g) Lucretia A. Bland, (C1844-) who married John Doan, December 21, 1861 in Hendricks County; (h) Mary Emily Bland (C1846-) who married William E. Duncan in Hendricks County, September 20, 1868; (i) Mary Lucy Bland (1848-1852).

(2) Lucinda Bland° (C1811-1853) who married James C. Whitaker, (C1810-) in Jennings County Indiana, August 18, 1831 and moved with him to Sullivan County.

(3) William Bland, (1812-1852). (VU, 349-350, AC 2-1 pp. 10-11, AC 2-2, pp. 34-35; AC 4-1, p. 8; AC 5-2, p. 23). William married in Jennings County, Indiana, on April 9, 1831, Mary "Polly" Pennock (C.1810-1877), from New York.³⁰ William and Mary had a family of eight children, including: (a) Sarah Jane (C.1832-1900), who left home in 1846 to marry 1. _____ Brown. She had a daughter

²⁹ See the queries section for the question, Who Was Abraham Bland?

³⁰ After the death of William Bland, Polly Pennock Bland married Henry Wood on May 10, 1854.

by him but on April 11, 1850, Sarah Jane remarried (2) Silas Scott in Sullivan County. Scott was a sadistic brute and an alcoholic, who beat and abused her and their children. Sarah Jane filed for a divorce on July 24, 1876. Silas quickly remarried to yet another Bland woman, Mariah Cynthia Bland, daughter of Minor Bland (see below, P. 23) As we shall see, Mariah Bland, who showed no special discrimination from one husband to another, settled old Silas Scott's hash rather quickly. But On May 17, 1778, at age 45, Sarah Jane Bland married Joseph Briggs and lived happily ever after. (b) Almira (C.1834-), reversed gender roles neatly when she married a mere boy, Thomas Carrithers (1856-) in Sullivan County October 24, 1884; (c) Nancy E. Bland (C1837-) No record of a marriage exists but on October 23, 1862, Nancy gave birth to Alice Bland (1862-1931); (d) Mary Ann (C.1839-), may have married John F. Heath; (e) Elizabeth (C.1841-) in 1860, was working as a servant in the household of her step-father Henry Wood; (f) Mariah (1843-1893) who married Elisha Hadden in Sullivan County January 18 1861, and moved with him to Littleton Town, Sumner County, Kansas; (g) William A. Bland, (1845-1883), served during the Civil War with Company D, 31st Indiana Volunteers between April 20, 1863 and June 16, 1865, when he deserted. For this, William was imprisoned. (AC 2-1, p. 10) William married on May 3. 1866, Leannah Burnett (1850-1870). Leannah was the source of bitterness and jealousy between William and his younger brother Moses, who had courted Leannah before he went to war. After William's desertion and brief imprisonment, he went home and stole Leannah away from Moses. Later in his life, Moses wrote to Levi Edward Bland, William Bland's son by Leannah Burnett "your father came home and was much better looking and . . . he too was struck by her beauty and made suit and gained her in my absence." (AC 2-1, pp. 10-11).³¹ By Leannah Burnett, William was father of two children.³² After the death of Leannah Burnett, William married Sarah Hildebrand in Polk County Missouri on July 28, 1876, and by her had a family of three children (AC 4-1, p. 8). (h) Moses Bland (1848-1920) died in Los Angeles, California and is buried at Linton, Indiana. During the Civil War, Moses enlisted as a substitute in Company F, 57th Indiana Volunteers and served from November 1, 1864 to October 10, 1865, just long enough for his older brother to snatch his girl friend. He was discharged at Victoria Texas (AC 2-1, p. 10). In his military papers, Moses was described as 5' 6", blue eyes, dark hair. Moses married four women, including Ann Robinson, whom Moses married on May 27, 1862 (AC 3-2, p. 39), Namoi B,. Merrill,

³¹ How a 15 or 16 year old boy, already married, could get so twisted up over a woman is a question answerable only by the very young.

³² One of their children, Levi Edward Bland (1869-1955) was the grandfather of the late Max Kessinger.

(-1881), by whom he had three children, and Sarah E.A. Merrill, (-1900), Naomi's sister, whom Moses married January 2, 1882. By Sarah, Moses had one daughter. After Sarah Merrill's death, Moses married Ella Empson of Sullivan County but they had no children.

(4) Richard Anderson Bland (1815-1904) (VU p. 349, AC 4-1, pp. 8-9). Richard was born in Nelson County, Kentucky and died in Sullivan County, Indiana. Richard was a cabinet maker and farmer. Richard married first, in January 1835, Eusebia Mason, by whom he had nine children: (a) Nancy A. Bland (1835-1917), who married Levi Hunt on October 3, 1854. They lived and died in Sullivan County Indiana³³; (b) James M. Bland (1838-1839); (c) William H. Bland (1840-1920). William served in the Civil War with the 141st Regiment, 2nd Indiana. He married 1. Clara A. Wilson, (1849-1870) by whom he had one daughter, and 2. Mary Elizabeth Hughes (1852-1937) on March 25, 1873, by whom he had four children; (d) Thomas F. Bland (1842-1915) who married Cecelia M. Merry (1845-) on August 29, 1866. Thomas was a Civil War veteran. He and Cecelia Merry had six children; (e) Marion Bland (1846-1847); (f) Sarah M. Bland (1848-1855); (g) Richard A. Bland (1851-1852); (h) Justice D. Bland (1855-1856); (i) Samantha Bland (1857-1919) who married 1. James E. Gibbs, March 14, 1894 and 2. John L. Hanchett, February 4, 1900. Richard married Millie A. Allen (1825-1891) on December 19, 1877, but had no children by her.

(5) Lucretia Bland (1817-1908). Lucretia married Justice Davis (1803-1856) about 1830. Both are buried at Gill Cemetery, Sullivan County.

(6). Minor Bland (1818-1879). Minor was born in Jackson County Indiana and died in Sullivan County. He served as a private in the Civil War, with Company I, 97th Indiana Regiment from 1861-1863. Minor lived for sixteen more years but remained in bad health because of diabetes and a kidney disease. Minor married first, Elizabeth Knotts (1822-1854) about 1840. Both are buried at the Burnett Cemetery, Gill Township, Sullivan County. By Elizabeth, Minor Bland had a family of six children, including: (a) Mariah Cynthia Bland (1841-), who married Alfred Williams in Sullivan County about 1860 and she lived with him until 1873, when she left him and married a man named Polk. No record exists of what happened to Williams or Polk, when on December 22, 1876, Mariah married Silas Scott, himself fresh from a divorce with Sarah Jane Bland (above p. 22). Silas Scott, a brute of some reputation, met his match with Mariah and died by 1878. On October 30, 1878, Silas' body still warm, Mariah married George William Gaines. On April 22, 1882, Mariah, lean and mean at 41, married 22 year old Ransom Dale, who in the manner of the young, must have not bothered to investigate the past. Mariah kept him in her chicken coop and

³³ Nancy and Levi had a son named Thomas Bunyan Hunt (1855-1871). Worlds apart, my grandfather was named Thomas Bunyan Bland, (1876-1955).

Ransom caused her no trouble; (b) Sarah J. Bland (1845-), who married (1) John Wilkey in Sullivan County, March 16, 1864 and (2) Allen S. Bland, (1802-1886), April 6, 1869. Allen was the son of Rolly Bland and Delsey Shecklesworth, of the Washington County Virginia Bland family (VU, pp. 470-472 and AC 1-2, pp. 16-17). Allen S. Bland at age 67 still had fire in the furnace and he and his child-bride produced five children. (AC 4-1, pp. 9-10); (c) William M. Bland (1846-died before 1880); (d) James M. Bland (1848-before 1880); (e) Jonathan E. Bland (1851-); (f) Nancy E. Bland (1854-before 1880). After the death of Elizabeth Knotts, Minor Bland married Lucinda Morin (1828-1906) on July 12, 1855.³⁴ By Lucinda Morin, Minor had five children: (g) Eliza J. Bland (1856-after 1880) Eliza was noted "afflicted" in the 1880 Census. She married Christopher Dale on June 5 or 24, 1887; (h) Emisor Bland (1856-died young), probably Eliza's twin; (i) Lucretia Bland (1858-); (j) Martha Bland (1860-); (k) Elizabeth (1862-before 1880).

B. James Bland (1773-1832) The eldest son of William Bland of Randolph County, North Carolina, James Bland, James died in Lancaster Township, Jefferson County, Indiana. Circumstantial evidence of his parentage indicates a father-son relationship between William and James. James is not noted in the 1799 will of Moses Bland, which would seem to rule him out as a son of Moses. The only other male Bland in Randolph County that could be his father is William Bland, and he fits in the 1790 Census configuration for William Bland. James married on September 8, 1796, Jane Johnston, (1780-1866) of Randolph County, North Carolina and by 1798, James and Jane, with their children, James' mother and at least some of his siblings had moved to Christian or Livingston County in Western Kentucky. In 1799, they moved to Clark Grant, Indiana Territory. James was commissioned a Captain in the Clark Grant Militia on May 25, 1805, hence he came to be known as Captain Bland (AC 3-1, P. 26). James and Jane lived in Clark Grant from 1799-1812, but following an Indian massacre of whites at Pigeon Roost in September 1812, James removed his family, along with others, to Kentucky, where Jane and the children remained until February 1814, when James moved them to Big Creek, in now Lancaster Township in what would become Clark County Indiana.

Jane Johnston was a vibrant and strong woman (her photo appears in AC 4-1, p. 10A), one of the strongest and most notable of the Bland women. According to Jane Johnston's obituary, she was part of a move to organize a Methodist Episcopal Church in the Kentucky wilderness. The home of James Bland and Jane Johnston became a regular house of worship, a "preaching place" for their

³⁴ This marriage was strictly a family affair. Lucinda Morin was the daughter of Walter Moring and Margaret Bland (1795-) a daughter of William Bland, (C1751-1801, see below p. 33).

neighbors, and Jane was instrumental in helping form the Methodist Episcopal Church in Jefferson County, as she had been in Kentucky. She was eulogized following her death:

Mother Bland...was a woman of superior mind and unwavering purpose, of active energy, untiring zeal, of patient endurance; a kind friend, a safe counselor, in short a true and enlightened Christian woman. Many persons were relieved of their suffering by her medical skill...

The children of James Bland and Jane Johnston were:

(1) Polly Bland, (1797-), married William Needham in Henry County Kentucky October 22, 1812. The Bondsman in this marriage was John Bland (AC 3-1, p. 23). William Needham and Polly Bland were both buried in Ripley, Indiana. William was the son of John Needham and Ann Bland (see below, p. 38).

(2) Jane Bland, (1799-1885) born at Clark's Grant, Indiana, and died October 2, 1885 at Fall Creek, Hamilton County, Indiana. She married Samuel Whelchel (-1882) in 1813. Jane and Samuel are buried in Hamilton County, Indiana. Their complete line of descendants is unknown to this writer, but one of their children was Thomas Whelchel, whose daughter Alta Whelchel married _____ Wynn and they were parents of Berniece Wynn Mumford.

(3) Rachel Bland (1802-after 1870) born at Clark Grant Indiana and died in Jefferson County, Indiana. She married Robert Chapman.

(4) Thomas Bland (1804-1892) born in Clark Grant Indiana and died in Bigger Township, Jennings County, Indiana. Thomas was a circuit rider and Methodist minister. He married Martha (Patsy) Bland (1803-1891), his cousin and daughter of his great uncle, Benjamin Bland. (See below, p. 35). Thomas and Martha were married December 15, 1825. They had a family of eight children including: (a) Francis Asberry Bland, (1826-1907). Francis was born and died in Jennings County Indiana. He married Frances Anna Hall (1829-1860) in Jennings County on April 4, 1847. They had a family of five children. Second, Francis Asberry Bland married Jane Ann Hansell (1833-1896), by whom he had one child, (VU, p. 355-356, AC 8-1, p. 16); (b). Benjamin Franklin Bland, (1829-1862), married a widow, Permelia Violet Kail, (1831-1880) about 1855 and they had two children (VU p. 356, AC 8-1, p. 16); (c) James Calvin Bland, (1831-1896), of Jennings County Indiana, who married on March 29, 1855, Sarah M. Burge (1835-1895 or 1905). James and Sarah had a family of 12 children. (VU pp. 356-357, AC 3-1, p. 23 AC 8-1, p. 16-19); (d) William U. or V. Cooper Bland (1832-); (e) Thomas Johnston Bland (1833-1864) born in Jennings County, and died in Hendricks, Shelby County, Indiana, while enlisted in the Union Army. (f) Elizabeth Jane Bland (1835-1870) married Caleb G. Alexander on April 1, 1869. She died during child birth;

(g) Doctor John Osburn Bland, (1838-after 1890), Married (1) Lucy Mooney (1843-1891) on June 28, 1862 and (2) Josephine Warren Park, who was the mother of one daughter (VU, P. 357); (h) Marion Elhanan Bland (1842-1884), married in 1873 the widow Aurilla L. Baker.

(5) James Bland, (1808-1872) (AC 7-1, p. 23) was born in Clark's grant, Indiana and died in Keokuk County, Iowa. He married on December 22, 1831, Sarah Nichols, (1814-). James Bland and Sarah Nichols had a family of six children including: (a) Nancy Bland, (1833-1876, married an unknown man in 1857; (b) Mary Jane Bland (1835-1910), married Thomas L. McCammon (1829-1907) on September 25, 1853. She died at Logan County Oklahoma. Mary Jane was the grandmother of Elva Reitz; (c) Calvin Bland, (1840-1862) died at the Battle of Shiloh; (d) John S. Bland, born 1842-living in Nebraska in 1885) ; (e) Sarah E. Bland, (1844-1871), was married in 1870; (f) Theresa E. Bland, (1846-1874), was married in 1870; (g) Francis M. Bland (1860-1873).

(6) Nancy Bland, (1811-). Nancy married her cousin William Bland in 1829, a son of her uncle Benjamin Bland and his wife Ruth _____ in Jefferson or Washington County and is buried with him in Vermillion County, Indiana. (see below, p. 34)

(7) William Bland, (1813-) who died in his infancy and is buried in Jefferson County, Indiana.

(8) Phoebe Bland, (1816-1858) married Dr. Daniel Chitwood in 1843. Chitwood was the physician who attended Phoebe's father James in his last illness in 1832. Phoebe is buried at the Slippery Point cemetery in Lexington Indiana.³⁵

(9) Elizabeth Bland, (1816-) Phoebe and Elizabeth are said by Luella Bland of Brownstown Indiana to have been twins. Elizabeth Bland never married.

(10) Minerva Bland, (C1820-) married James Thomas.

(11) Francis Marion Bland. (1824-1909) was born and died in Jefferson County, Indiana. Francis married Rachel Hannah Hall (1832-1908) on February 6, 1851. Rachel was born in Ohio. Francis and Rachel had eight children including: (a) James Chitwood Bland, (1851-) who married (1) Frances Perry in 1871, and (2) Luella Craft. Their daughter was Luella Bland of Brownstown, Indiana; (b) Mary Rebecca Bland (1854-1927) who married on September 27, 1873, Robert Clouston, (1844-1885); (c) Thomas William Bland ((1856-1931) who married Ella S. Prather, (1863-1901) on July 20, 1881;

³⁵ AC 3-1, p. 23, information supplied to Jane Midtby by Jack Allen Chitwood of Lexington Indiana.

(d) John Martin Bland, (1858-1916) married Luella Shaw (1863-1943) on September 24, 1884; (e) Francis Marion Bland Jr. (1860-1883); (f) Eva Della Bland, (1863-1927) was born in Indiana and married Alexander McNutt on January 12, 1888; (g) Jennie Jane Phoebe Bland, (1865-1883) was born in Indian; (h) Kenneth Orville Bland, (1869-1917) who married Mary Emma Wasser (1865-1943) on August 26, 1891.

C. Thomas Bland (C1775/1778-died after 1820) (see page 18, Note 20). A Thomas Bland witnessed the will of the elder Moses Bland in 1799, meaning he was born no later than 1778.³⁶ Elva Reitz once noted a Thomas Bland in Randolph County, listed as insolvent in 1801 (AC 3-1, p. 22), meaning he would have to be at least twenty one. A Thomas Bland was appointed an ensign in the first regiment of Clark Indiana territory May 25, 1805, along with James Bland, (1773-1832), who was appointed Captain, (AC 3-1, p. 26), as somewhat natural distribution of power between younger and older brother. Thomas is identified in Clark County Indiana in 1810-1812. In February 1813, one John Wilkey did service in the War of 1812 as a substitute for Thomas Bland, and in Jackson County Indiana in 1820, a Thomas Bland was enumerated in the census as a family head, aged 26-45. If this Thomas had been born say, in 1775-1779, he could have been under 16 in 1790, have witnessed his grandfather's will in 1799, and appeared in Jackson County, Indiana in 1820, aged 42-45. In the 1820 Census of Jackson County Indiana, Thomas's household consists of himself and one male 10-16 and two males under 10. There are also two females aged 10-16 and one under 10, living with him. No wife is mentioned.

D. An unnamed daughter. This daughter would have been born about 1776, and is accounted for by a third daughter enumerated in the 1790 census.

E. Ann Bland (C1778-1808), who married William Wilkey (-1818) about 1798. Four children were born of this marriage:

- (1) Bateman Wilkey (C1799).
- (2) Samuel Wilkey (C1801).
- (3) John W. Wilkey (C1803).
- (4) Joshua or Josiah Wilkey (C1805).

William Wilkey was one of those sturdy old pioneers who really had a taste for Bland women. After the death of Ann Bland, in 1808, Wilkey married her younger sister Jane Bland (C1787-1870, See below, Page 28).

³⁶ One might argue that in 1799, Thomas Bland, whom I argue is the son of William Bland, was the only adult Bland male left in Randolph County to witness Moses' will, his father and uncle Benjamin being named in the will, therefore deriving benefit from it. The older sons of William, Moses and James Bland, were gone from Randolph County by 1799.

F. William Bland, (C1786-1828) William was born in Randolph County North Carolina and died in Clark Grant and Clark County Indiana. His dates are approximated by a series of legal traces between 1807-1828, including service as witness to the will of his brother in law William Wilkey in 1818. (See above, p. 27 and AC 3-1, pp. 24-25) William married Mary Wilkey.

G. Jane Bland (C1787-1861/1870) married (1) about 1808, William Wilkey whose first wife was Jane's sister Ann (See above, p. 27, AC 2-2, p. 35) and (2), about 1819, William Kelly (-1852). Jane Bland and her brother Abel were witness to Wilkey's will (Made October 10, 1818 and probated November 14, 1818). The will was also witnessed by William Bland (AC 3-1, p. 24). By Wilkey, Jane had six children:

(1&2) Frances "Fanny" Wilkey (C1809-) and James Wilkey (C1811-), both of whom drowned as children;

(3) Francis Wilkey (C1813-) married Lucy McKinley or Mckinney on March 24, 1837.

(4) Dennis Wilkey (1815-1873) married Rebecca Lucas on May 13, 1841.

(5) Aaron Wilkey (1816-1899) who married on December 17, 1833, Julia Ann Kennedy. Aaron and Julia Ann were the great, great grandparents of Kay Monroe of Sullivan County Indiana and I am happy to display their photo on the following page.

(6) Frederick Wilkey (1818-1880) married Susan Whitman. Dennis;

H. Abel Bland (1788-1865). (VU, p. 347, AC 2-2, p. 35; AC 3-1, p. 25; AC 7-1, pp. 21-22; AC 8-1, pp. 20-21) Abel Bland was born in Randolph County North Carolina. He first appeared as an adult in 1810-1812 in Clark County Indiana and again in the 1820 census for Jackson County, Indiana. Abel married Ann James (C1793-1859) in Henry County Kentucky on October 27, 1808. In 1820, the Jackson County Indiana census shows Abel as aged 26-45 (actually 32), with a son, aged 10- 16, and two sons under ten. Also in his household was a female, aged 26- 45, (Ann James, age 27) and three females under age 10. Abel Bland, then, moved from North Carolina early in the nineteenth century, traveled to Kentucky where he married Ann James, lived until the 1820s in southern Indiana. By December 29, 1834, Abel had moved to the area that became Red River County Texas in 1836, just across the border from Arkansas, where they remained until about 1842, when Abel and Ann moved to Ouichita County Arkansas by 1850 and acted as power of attorney in Lafayette County Arkansas in 1853. Late in his life on September 23, 1860, Abel married Eliza Ann Glover, (1819-). Abel made his will on January 29, 1863 and it was probated January 17, 1865.

Aaron Wilkey (1816-1899) and Julia Ann Kennedy
Courtesy Kay Monroe



The children of Abel Bland and Ann James included:

(1) Benjamin Bland (1809/1810-1859), born in Henry County Kentucky, moved the Texas territory at what would be Red River County, September 15, 1835. He was at Stamps Township, Lafayette County Arkansas about 1842 and died there. Benjamin was a circuit rider for the ministry. About 1838 in Hubbard Texas, Benjamin married Martha Reid, (1818-1883) who was born in Indiana and died in Hubbard. Benjamin was reported to have been murdered by bushwhackers who took his horse as well as his life. The children of Benjamin Bland and Martha Reid were: (a) John Wesley Bland (1839-1862) born at the Red River in Texas and died in the Civil War; (b) George James Bland (1841-1905) born in Texas. George married Mary C. Norwood, (1851-1916), on November 29, 1871 George died at Jonesboro, Coryell County Texas They had a family of eight children (AC 7-1, pp. 21-22); (c) Margaret Bland (1843-1928) born in Arkansas. Margaret married William Kinkard, September 16, 1866; (d) Joseph Abel Bland (1845-1917), born in Arkansas and married Eugenia Fort, October 15, 1866; (e) Mary Jane Bland (1847-1939) born in Arkansas, married Peter F. Jarnigan (1850-1919) about 1870; (f) Henry Robert Bland (1851-1867); (g) Lucinda Adeline Bland (1853-1866).

(2) Elizabeth Bland, (C1811-) was born in Henry County Kentucky who married _____ Talkington.

(3) Sarah Bland (1813-) born in Henry County Kentucky or Indiana. In 1860, Abel Bland, age 72, was living in the household of Sarah Bland Reid. Sarah married 1. _____ McFarland, about 1832 and 2. John Samuel Reid about 1836 in Texas. ³⁷

(4) Margaret Bland, (C1816/1817-) was born in Jackson County Indiana. She married Mr. _____ Right. What more could a girl do?

(5) Preston Bland,° (1818-1895), born in Henry county Kentucky or Indiana. Preston served in the Mexican-American war and for his service received a bounty grant in Oklahoma. Preston married Mary Reid (1820-1853) at Hempstead Arkansas about 1836. Their children were (a) Sarah Bland (1836-) who married Jim Gurley. She died in Calero Oklahoma. (b) Josiah McGee Bland (1842-) Josiah was born in Jefferson County Arkansas, near Little Rock. Josiah was a Civil War veteran who became a doctor. He married Nancy A. Glover in Hempstead County Arkansas on November 8, 1865; (c) Ann Bland (1845-) born in Saline County Arkansas, married S. Jones Glover and Franklin Gurley. (d) Frances Bland (C1847-after 1889). Frances

³⁷ There is some dispute about whether Sarah was Abel's daughter, but she was noted in Abel's will.

married Daniel J. Grounds about 1869 and they lived in Saratoga Arkansas; (e) Caroline Bland (1850-1928) who was born in Codd's Parish Louisiana. Caroline married John Henderson Grounds in Arkansas on August 23, 1868. She is buried at Durandt Oklahoma. John Grounds and Caroline Bland had nine children; (f) Mary Bland (C1853-); Preston also married a woman named Eliza Grounds on September 4, 1853. Their children were: (g) Jim Bland (C1855-); (h) Jack Bland (C1858-); (i) Ellen Bland (C1862-); (j) Rebecca Bland, (C1866-).

(6) John W. Bland (1820-) was born in Jackson County Indiana. John served in the Mexican war and received a bounty grant in Oklahoma. About 1842 John married Sarah _____ (1827-) and had six children: (a) James (1843-); (b) Elizabeth (1845-); (c) John W. Bland (1847-died before 1860); (d) Benjamin (C1849-); (e) Francis M. Bland (1853-); and (f) Monroe Bland (1855-).

(7) James Bland (1822-1847) was born in Jackson County Indiana. James enlisted in the Arkansas Volunteer Militia for service in the Mexican War on July 1, 1846. He was killed at Sattillo Mexico, February 7, 1847. He died single and intestate.

(8) Mary Bland (C1830-) was born in Arkansas and was unmarried when her father made his will. She married _____ McKown about 1864.

(9) George Washington Bland (1833-after 1856) was born in Arkansas. He married about 1854 Eliza Ann Glover (1832-), daughter of his step-mother Elizabeth Glover. George and Eliza had two children: (a) Martha (C1855-) and (b) Mary Ann (C1857-).

(H) John Bland (1790-1830) is reckoned as the youngest son of William Bland and _____ Ward. John married Mary Bland, (C1793-1857), a daughter of John's uncle Benjamin Bland (See Below p. 34) on October 9, 1811 in Clark County Indiana, (AC 2-2, p. 35). Their children were as follows:

(1) Osborne Bland (1812-1882) born in Clark County Indiana and died in Jennings County, Indiana. He married Mary Ann Clarkson, (C1814-) February 20, 1836, and they were married by the Reverend Thomas Bland (1804-1892, above, p.) Mary Ann Clarkson (1814-1882) was born in Kentucky and died in Jennings County Indiana. The children of Osborne Bland and Mary Ann Clarkson were: (a) Nancy Jane Bland, (1837-1882); (b) Thomas Jefferson Bland, (1840-1918) who married Melissa O. Cole (1840-1916) on July 11, 1861. Thomas served during July and August 1862 in Company B, 9th Indiana, until a series of illnesses led to his discharge. Thomas and Melissa were Methodists, and they had seven children, (VU, p. 358, and AC 3-1, p. 25); (c) Noah Anderson Bland, (C1843-1925). He married Mary Jane King (1855-1929) on October 24,

1872, and they had five children; (d) Malvina, (1845-), married George W. Smith on September 3, 1863; (e) Mary Evelina Bland, (1847-1882) married Jolson S Wilson on July 16, 1863; (f) Martha Ellen Bland (1850-1883) married George Washington Anderson on January 1, 1867; (h) Lucretia Bland (C1854-ante1870); (i) Luther Osborne Bland, (1854-after 1900) married Eva Chapman or Vines about 1881. By 1900, Eva was living in Addison, Shelby County, Indiana. She and Luther Osborne had three children.

(2) Meredith Bland (1813-1881), born in Clark County Indiana. He died in Jennings County, Indiana. Meredith married Priscilla Burge, (C1813-ante 1875) on February 23, 1835. Priscilla was born in Jennings County, and died in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Meredith Bland and Priscilla Burge had a family of ten children, including: (a) Eliza G. Bland, (1836-1912) who married Thomas Eubank March 8, 1860; (b) George Meredith Bland, (1840-1901). George married Harriet Painter on September 13, 1866; (c) Nancy Elizabeth Bland, (1843-1907) who married Leonard W. Cole (1837-1909) on March 9, 1865. The Reverend Thomas Bland (1804-1892) conducted their wedding. Nancy and Leonard were the parents of six children including Harry DeWitt Cole, who married Sarah Ann Williams in September 1907. They were parents of my (our) correspondent Jane Cole Midtby; (d) Mary Jane Bland (1844-1864) did not marry; (e) Margaret "Maggie" Bland, (C1847-1927) married Zebuloh Tanner (1845-1929); (f) Benjamin M. F. Bland (1852-1885); (g) Ruth Bland (1855-C1881) married Andrew Adams July 18, 1878; (h) Lucy "Olive" Bland (1857-) married Frank A. Whitmore (1856-) on February 16, 1876.

(3) Noah Bland (1816-1897) (AC 8-1, pp. 24-25; AC 9-2, pp. 29-30) ³⁸ a farmer, was born in Indiana and died at Sharpsville, Tipton County Indiana. Noah Bland married first, Susannah Hand (1819-1866) on September 7, 1837 in Shelby, Ripley County Indiana. They moved to Sharpsville after 1844. The children of Noah Bland and Susannah Hand were: (a) Calvin L. Bland (1839-1860); (b) Nancy E. Bland (1841-1904). Nancy married Joseph H. Robinson September 6, 1856 in Tipton County Indiana; (c) John E. Bland (1843-1861). John was killed while serving in the Union Army, Company C, 26th Indiana Volunteers; (d) Mary Ann Bland (1849-1857).

Shortly after the death of Susannah Hand, Noah Bland married on April 2, 1868, Elizabeth Marshall Franklin (1830-1919). Elizabeth was born in Greenbrier County Virginia. Children of this marriage were: (e) Frances Eleanor Bland (1869-1961). Eleanor married Lewis Austin Kirtley (1865-1954) on March 6, 1891. They were the grandparents of William Franklin Kirtley who married my correspondent Hazel Moody Kirtley; (f) Olive Bland (1871-1950). Olive married Thomas Broyles (1872-1929) on September 26, 1896.

³⁸ Bob Wheeler indicates his belief that Noah Bland was a brother of Moses Bland (1819-1873, see below p. and AC 3-2, pp. 39-40). I also benefited from a letter from Donna Needy Crowe, August 12, 1991, enclosing materials from Hazel Kirtley.

There were four children in this marriage; (g) Lucy C. Bland (1873-1963). Lucy married Oliver P. Nash on September 22, 1893. There were three children in this marriage.

(4). Ruth Bland, (1816/1817-after 1860) was the fourth child of John and Mary Bland. She married George Waggoner, December 26, 1833. By Waggoner she had two sons and one daughter. Second, she married James G. Russell on September 2, 1841. By Russell, Ruth Bland Waggoner had two sons and one daughter.

(5). Rhuby/Ruby Bland (1822-1895) married Nicholas McCarty Waggoner January 1839. Ruby had two sons by Waggoner. Second she married Sidney King (1804-1866) in 1846. By King, she had four daughters and three sons.

(6). Mary Jane Bland (1825-) married Francis M. Denton, April 23, 1853.

1. Margarette or Margaretta Bland (C1795-after 1860), married Walter Morin (Morein, Mourning, Moring) in Sullivan County Indiana, February 4, 1817. Margarette was a seamstress. Margarette and Walter Morin had eight children including Lucinda Moring, second wife of Minor Bland (1818-1879) (See above, p. 24).

2. Sarah "Sally" Bland (C1756-)

3. Winifred "Winny" Bland (C1760-)

4. Frances "Fanny Bland (C1764-)"

5. Benjamin Bland (C1768-) Benjamin was the younger of the two known sons of Moses Bland. He was enumerated in the 1790 census in Hillsborough District, Randolph County, North Carolina, living alone, but over sixteen. In 1801, his brother William deeded him 40 acres on Fork Creek in Randolph County.

By 1800, Benjamin had started a family. He married, about 1790, Ruth _____ (C1775-ante1820), (Jane Midtby indicates a possible maiden name of Ruth is Blackford). in 1800, Benjamin's household shows an adult male and female, both aged 26-45, with a male and female under 10. In the 1810 Census of Randolph County, Benjamin appears with eight children. Benjamin then appeared in 1820 in Jackson County, Indiana. By then, his wife had died and his household was composed of one male under 10, and two females aged 16-26 and 10-16. This would indicate that the male child in the 1800 census was now gone from the household. Benjamin apparently traveled to Indiana via Nelson County Kentucky. According to Jane Midtby, Benjamin and Ruth Bland had a family of ten children:

A. Mary Bland (1793-1857) was born in Randolph County North Carolina and died in Jennings County Indiana. Mary married John Bland, her cousin and son of William Bland and _____ Ward (See above, p.31).

B. William Bland (C1800-ante1860), Born in Randolph County North Carolina, married in Jefferson County Indiana about 1829, Nancy Bland, a daughter of James Bland and Jane Johnston, (see above, p. 26). They lived in Washington, Perry and Sullivan Counties, Indiana. Their children were:

(1) James Bland (C1830-) Born in Washington County Indiana. James married Rachel (C1833-). Their children were: (a) Moses E. Bland (C1866-); (b) Ivy N. Bland (C1870-); (c) Clara F. Bland (C1872-).

(2) Elizabeth Bland (C1832-) born in Washington County Indiana.

(3) Margaret Bland (C1837-) born in Washington County Indiana.

(4) Louisa Bland (C1840-) probably born in Perry County Indiana.

(5) Francis N. Bland (C1842-) after 1880) probably born in Perry County Indiana and died in Sullivan County. He married a widow, Margaret Lewis on July 19, 1874 and they had a son (a) Frank A. Bland (C1877-) born in Sullivan County Indiana. Frank married and moved his family to Cincinnati Ohio.

(6) John M. Bland (C1846-) probably born in Perry County Indiana.

C. An unknown daughter, accounted in the 1800 census, born before 1800.

D. John Bland (1801-1871) born in Randolph County, North Carolina, John died in Brownstown, Jackson County Indiana. He married Polly (Mary or Martha) _____ (C1803-1870) _____ about 1821. Their children were:

(1) Zulima Bland (1824-) born in Jackson County Indiana. She married Oscar Floyell on December 14, 1841.

(2) Uriah Bland (C1826-ante 1912) born in Jackson County. He married Sarah A. Holton and had by her a son James.

(3) James Bland (C1828-ante 1912) born in Jackson County, he married Ann Maria Green on December 20, 1847 in Jackson County.

(4) Ruth Bland (C1830-ante 1912) born in Jackson County, married James Weather on October 9, 1847.

(5) Henry L. Bland (C1832-ante 1912) born in Jackson County, married (1) Mary _____ about 1850 and (2) Sidney Early, on April 15, 1875. Henry, between his two wives, had nine children.

(6) Mary J. Bland (C1834-ante 1912) born in Jackson County.

(7) Polly Bland (C1836-after 1912). Married William Tucker on August 11, 1856.

(8) Hetty "Hetta" Bland (C1838-after 1912), was born in Jackson County and married Harrison Burrell on March 17, 1854.

(9) Meredith "Merida" E. Bland (1840-1912). Meredith was born in Jackson County. Meredith served with Company K, Indiana Volunteers for the Union during the Civil War. On December 3, 1865, he married Anna Maria George on December 3, 1865. Meredith died on November 7, 1912 and left bequests to his surviving siblings, thus the notations in 1-8 above and 10-12 below.

(10) John Kelly Bland (1843-after 1912), was born in Jackson County. John served with Company H, 24th Indiana Infantry. In 1861, he married Mary _____ .

(11) Nancy "Martesia" (C1845-after 1912) was born in Jackson County. She married Phillip Rinebold on January 15, 1866.

(12) William W. Bland (C1847-after 1912) was born in Jackson County. He married Laura Shortridge on March 25, 1880.

E. Martha Bland (1803-1891) born in Randolph County North Carolina, married her cousin the Reverend Thomas Bland (1804-1892), the son of James Bland and Jane Johnston (See above, p. 25).

F. Elizabeth Bland (C1805-) born in Randolph County North Carolina, married John P. Curry in Jennings County Indiana November 6, 1830.

G. Jane Bland (C1807-) was born in Randolph County North Carolina and married John Spaulding (C1808-) in Jennings County Indiana December 31, 1829. They had five children, James, Meredith, George W., John Franklin, and Elizabeth, born between 1831-1845.

H. Nancy Bland (C1810-) was born in Randolph County North Carolina. She married a cousin Bailey Needham (C1813-) on December 24, 1839 in Jennings County Indiana. As noted below (p. 39), Bailey Needham was the son of Nancy's aunt Ann Bland and John Needham. Bailey and Jane had a family of two known children including:

- (1) Zerilda E. Needham (C1843);
- (2) Silas Needham (C1848-);
- (3) Emerine Needham (C1849-).

George W. Needham, (C1837-), living with Bailey and Nancy in 1850, was Bailey's son by a previous marriage.

I. Moses Bland (C1819-1873). (VU, pp. 361-365 and AC 1-1, p. 7) ³⁹ When I published my book long ago, Robert Wheeler, of Lebanon, Oregon supplied information about a land claim filed in Linn County Oregon, which showed that Moses Bland was born 1819 in Jackson County Indiana and married Martha Needham (1808-1895) on March 15, 1837 in Bartholomew County Indiana. Martha was a cousin of Moses, the daughter of Ann Bland and John Needham, (See Below, p. 39) ⁴⁰ Moses Bland was born in Jackson County Indiana and died in Linn County, Oregon. The very interesting story of Moses Bland's and Martha Needham's six month journey by wagon train across the plains to Oregon in 1851 has been previously told (VU p. 364). Moses and Martha first settled at Willamette Valley and then moved to Lebanon Oregon, where they received a donation grant of 305 acres. Martha's obituary notice indicated that she had six children, but census records only recorded three: ⁴¹

³⁹ In addition to previously used sources, I received in Fall 1991, from the publishers of Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery (1991), information regarding Moses Bland and Martha Needham and their family. Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery is available for \$15. plus \$2. shipping. Send check to City Hall, 925 Main Street, Lebanon Oregon, 97355.

⁴⁰ The marriage record shows that Martha was born March 28, 1808 which seems a more accurate date, though the 1850 Census shows she was born in 1814. Nobody ever said Martha had to tell the unvarnished truth to a stranger.

⁴¹ A recollection by a grandson, William Anderson Bland, was that when Moses and Martha left Indiana, they left some children behind, (AC 3-2, pp. 39-40) The Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery reprinted an obituary published in the Lebanon Express (July 26, 1895). It indicates Moses and Martha had six children.

(1) George Hester Bland, (1840-1905) was born in Indiana, and died in Lebanon, Linn County, Oregon in 1905. George married first, Barbara A. Leedy (1843-1864) on May 15, 1862. They had one child (a) William A. Bland (1863-) who later moved to Colorado. married Minnie May Rohrer. After Barbara Leedy's death, George Hester Bland married second on January 4, 1866, Clara M. Powell (1848-1897). Clara's obituary indicates she died of blood poisoning George Hester Bland and Clara M. Powell had four children: (b) Matilda Olive Bland, who married John Myler or Miller; (c) Minnie Lida Bland, who married Marion Needham; (d) Samantha Ruby Bland, (1878-) who married Dan W. Lawrence; and (e) Clara Pearl Bland who married Loffie E. Arnold and lived with him in Lebanon Oregon; (f&G) There were two other children, names unknown.

(2) Samantha Bland, (1843-1904), was born in Lebanon, Oregon. She married Ambrose Powell on February 25, 1864.

(3) John Wesley Bland, (1846-1923). John Wesley Bland worked as a farmer and carpenter. He was a Republican in politics and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. A Nephew, William Anderson Bland, recollected that in 1872 or 1873, John's brother Moses bout land just south of Lebanon Oregon and divided it with John Wesley Bland. ⁴² John married, on September 28, 1865, Elizabeth Jane Powell. The children of this marriage were: (a) Lillie Frances Bland, (-ante1903). Lillie married twice, to Dexter Harris and Charles Blodgett; (b) Merida Pete, or Meredith Bland, who married Laura Connett; (c) Saloma Bland, who married Homer Osburne; (d) Carrie Bland, who married William Calkins; (e) Lucy Bland; (f) Charles Bland; and (g) Mae Bland.

J. Ruth Bland (1817-1912) Ruth was born in Jackson County Indiana and died at Bethany, Moultrie County Illinois. She married William Waggoner in Jennings County Indiana April 18, 1834. ⁴³ They had a family of eleven children including many sons. Perhaps they are the source of the old folk ballad "Waggoner's Lad" sang so beautifully by Joan Baez.

6. Margaret "Peggy" Bland (C1770-) Peggy Bland married William Needham on October 25, 1786. (AC 1-1, p. 7)

⁴² Lebanon Cemetery Pioneer, citing Leslie L. Haskin et. al., Pioneer Stories of Linn County Oregon Volume 1, (1984).

⁴³ AC 1-1, p. 7, citing Jennings County Indiana Courthouse, Marriage Book 1, 1829 and Book 1, 1830-1855. Furnished by Jane Midtby.

7. Catherine "Caty" Bland (C1772/1774-1816) Was born in Guilford County North Carolina and died in Clark County Indiana. About 1788 Catherine married William Lawrence, (C1764/1766-July 12, 1822) son of John Lawrence and Anne Needham Lawrence. They moved to New Washington, Clark County Indiana. Phyllis Goff of Redwood City California informed me that this couple were in Washington County Kentucky until about 1815, closely related to the Washington County Kentucky Blands and Lawrences, who also intermarried. Thomas Morton Bland (C1765-) married Ann Lawrence probably in the early 1790's, (VU pp. 474-475, AC 2-2, pp. 26-27 and 4-2, pp. 36-38) Children of William Lawrence and Caty Bland lived in Clark, Jackson and Jennings Counties in Indiana. (AC 1-1, p. 7; 2-2, p. 34):

A. "Winnie", Winnifred Lawrence (1790-1865) was born in Randolph County North Carolina and died in Jackson County Indiana. About 1810, she married Thomas Needham and by marginal note of Jane Midtby had "several sons".

B. Jane "Jenny Lawrence" (1792-1870) born in Randolph County North Carolina and died in Clark County Indiana. Jenny married May 17, 1818, to John Scott and they had nine children.

C. John J. Lawrence (1796-1870) John was born in Randolph County North Carolina and died in Jennings County Indiana. About 1817, John married Ruth Jane Hutchinson (1799-1879). They had eight children

D. Mary "Polly" Lawrence (C1802-) married Andrew Bower Jr. in Clark County Indiana, December 22, 1820.

E. Margaret "Peggy" Lawrence (C1808-) married Quiller Hutchings in Clark County Indiana on September 15, 1824.

8. Ann "Nancy" Bland (C1774-1855) Was born in Guilford County North Carolina and died in Tipton County Indiana. About 1789, Nancy Bland married John Needham (C1769-1850) of Randolph County North Carolina. They were married in Henry County Kentucky. Ann Bland and John Needham had a family of thirteen children, including:

A. William Needham, (1790 -), born in North Carolina and died in Ripley County Indiana. He married at Henry County Kentucky, "Polly" Bland, on October 22, 1812. Polly was the eldest daughter of James Bland and Jane Johnston (See above, p. 25).

B. Moses Needham (C1792-). Was born in North Carolina.

C. Louis or Lewis Needham (1794 -) was born in North Carolina and died in Red River County Texas. He married Frances Smith March 14, 1824 in Bartholomew County Indiana.

D. Katherine "Katy" Needham, (1797 -) was born in Randolph County North Carolina. She married Thomas Duty.

E. Wesley Needham, (C1799) born in North Carolina and died in Iowa. ⁴⁴

F. Enoch Needham, (1801 -) was born in Randolph County North Carolina. He married August 17, 1823 to Lucretia Spaulding

G. Mary Needham (C1803-after 1850), never married.

H. Nathan Needham, (1805-1836) Nathan was born in Randolph County North Carolina in his will was made out August 5, 1836 and probated November 15, 1836 in Jennings County Indiana, where he married Nancy Johnson December 24, 1828.

I. Sally Needham (1807 -) was born in North Carolina. She married Joseph Spaulding in Indiana, February 9, 1826.

J. Martha "Patsy" Needham (1808-1895) Martha was born in Randolph County North Carolina and died in Linn County Oregon. She married Moses Bland (1819-1873) on March 15, 1837 in Bartholomew County Indiana. (See above, p. 36).

K. Jonathan Needham, (1810-1892) married Sally Grashaw in Ripley County Indiana in 1834 and moved to Oregon with his sister Martha and her husband Moses Bland.

L. Bailey Needham (1813 -) Born and died in Indiana. Bailey married 1. Zerilda Holman in 1838. Bailey married 2. Nancy Bland (C1810-) On December 24, 1839, (see above, p. 36).

M. Silas Needham (1816-C1898) born in Jennings County Indiana and is buried in Tipton County Indiana. Silas married (1) Emerine Jane Holman (1818-1877) in 1836, and they had six children. Silas married (2) Nancy A. Kelly in 1887 and there were no children by this marriage.

⁴⁴ Information about Moses and Wesley Needham derive from an interview with their father John Needham when he was 82. Nothing more is known of them.

THE BLANDS OF KENTUCKY

The Blands of Garrard County Kentucky

It seems as if discoveries come in bunches. In May 1991, I made contact with Robert Cauble of Charlotte North Carolina who had discovered after many years that he was Robert Bland, a son of Nelson Duncan Bland (1903-1969) and Evelyn Hope Lashbrook. By August 1991, at the National Bland Reunion, I had the opportunity to meet Bob's sister Patricia Bland Marsh and their mother Evelyn Hope Lashbrook Bland. By these acquaintances, I was able to link together their well developed line beginning with John Davis Bland (1832-1887) and Matilda Rodgers of Shelby County Kentucky, with John's parents, Thomas Bland (C1791-1844) and Elizabeth Duncan (C1799-1845). The line ran from Thomas and Elizabeth to John and Matilda to William Squire Bland (1869-1944) and his wife Georgia Ann Conn (1875-1949) to their son Nelson Duncan Bland. This line was fully documented in the last issue of "Among Cousins" (AC 9-2, pp. 34-35). I am happy to display on page 42, a photograph of Nelson Duncan Bland and William Squire Bland.

I also was able to meet at the National Bland Reunion, Bob Bland and his wife Alta, of Vandalia Missouri, who also descend from Thomas Bland and Elizabeth Duncan. Then, while in attendance at the Reunion, I received a letter from Merrilyn Gail Giles Lewellen, Fort Worth Texas, detailing her husband's descent through Thomas Bland and Elizabeth Duncan through Benjamin Mason Bland. Between all these, we have enough information to update the family of Thomas Bland and Elizabeth Duncan of Garrard County Kentucky as follows (previous see VU, pp. 409-410, AC 4-2, pp. 24-26 and AC 7-1, pp. 27-28):⁴⁵

1. Benjamin Mason Bland (November 13, 1820-1868), who married Sarah Hodges (March 3, 1824 - December 25, 1915) on April 14, 1842 at Bowling Green, Pike County Missouri. Children of Benjamin and Sarah were:⁴⁶

⁴⁵ The original source of information about this family came from the late Jessamine Bland James' invaluable book, Bland Family Court and Bible Records. Mrs. James descended from this line. While at the Filson Club in August 1985, I discovered a letter from Helen Bland of Baghdad Kentucky, February 10, 1982, that was incorporated into a review of the family in AC 4-2, pp. 24-26.

⁴⁶ Merrilyn Gail Lewellen to Charles L. Bland, August 13, 1991. Conclusive linkage of Benjamin Mason Bland to Thomas Bland and Elizabeth Duncan is found in a lengthy obituary of Sarah Hodges, The Vandalia Leader, January 21, 1916.

A. George Thomas Bland (May 6, 1843-October 4, 1862), was killed in the Civil War.

B. William "Monk" Henry Bland (C1846-May 22, 1896) married Martha Ann _____ (1851-1896)

C. Elizabeth "Lizzie" Bland (1849-1916), married James W. Clifton.

D. Walter McQuie Bland (December 24, 1850-October 20, 1922)

E. Stephen Joshua Bland (February 25, 1853-July 2, 1928) married Emma Jane Maiden (September 1863-August 30, 1941) on August 31, 1879. Their children included Mary Etta Bland (March 22, 1889-) who married Ernest Lewellen on February 26, 1908. Ernest and Mary Etta had a family of two, including J.W. Jay Lewellen, father of James Brice Lewellen, husband of my correspondent Merrilyn Gale Giles Lewellen.

F. Jesse Henderson Bland (1855-July 7, 1940) married Julie A. White, (September 1, 1852-March 20, 1926) on March 16, 1876. Jesse Henderson Bland died in Minot North Dakota the day I was born.

G. James Theodore Bland (1857-1940) married Sammie Johnson May 7, 1884.

H. Mary Lucy (Also "Mollie" and "May") Bland (C1860 -) married (1) J.W. Spears on July 22, 1885 and (2) Carl Zantner, June 25, 1910.

I. Leland Dalzell "Daz" Smith Bland (January 7, 1862-March 10, 1920). Daz was killed in a railroad accident in Illinois with his son. He married Rilla A. Godden on November 2, 1892.

J. Sally Bland (C1863-July 1947) married James Miner.

K. Minnie Bland (August 1, 1866-August 2, 1952) married Joseph M. Spears on March 1, 1888.

Photographs of Sarah Hodges with her surviving children, C. 1910, and the family of Jesse Henderson Bland are displayed on pp. 43-44.

2. Mason Bland (-1855). Married James Moseley.

3. Thomas Pope Bland (1831-1914) who married Levicy or Levisa Jane Harris (1845-1925) on January 31, 1861 in Shelby County Kentucky.

4. John Davis Bland (1832-1887) married Matilda Rodgers (1844-1916) on December 29, 1864 (AC 9-2, pp. 34-35).

5. Elizabeth Bland (1833-1856).

6. Mary S. (or Letitia) Bland (C1835-) married Henry Jamison or Jameson of Missouri on March 3, 1853.

7. Sarah Prudence Bland, Married George Warner.

8. Dalzell Leland Smith Bland, (called Dr. William Leland Smithston Bland by Helen Bland) (1838-1904) who became an M.D. and married Sallie Catherine Duncan (C1850-) on March 17, 1868. They lived in Vandalia Missouri.

9. William Henry Bland, (C1842-).

Photo: Nelson Duncan Bland (center) and William Squire Bland (Right), courtesy Patricia Bland Marsh



Family and descendants of Benjamin Mason Bland (p. 41)
courtesy of Bob Bland and Gail Lewellen

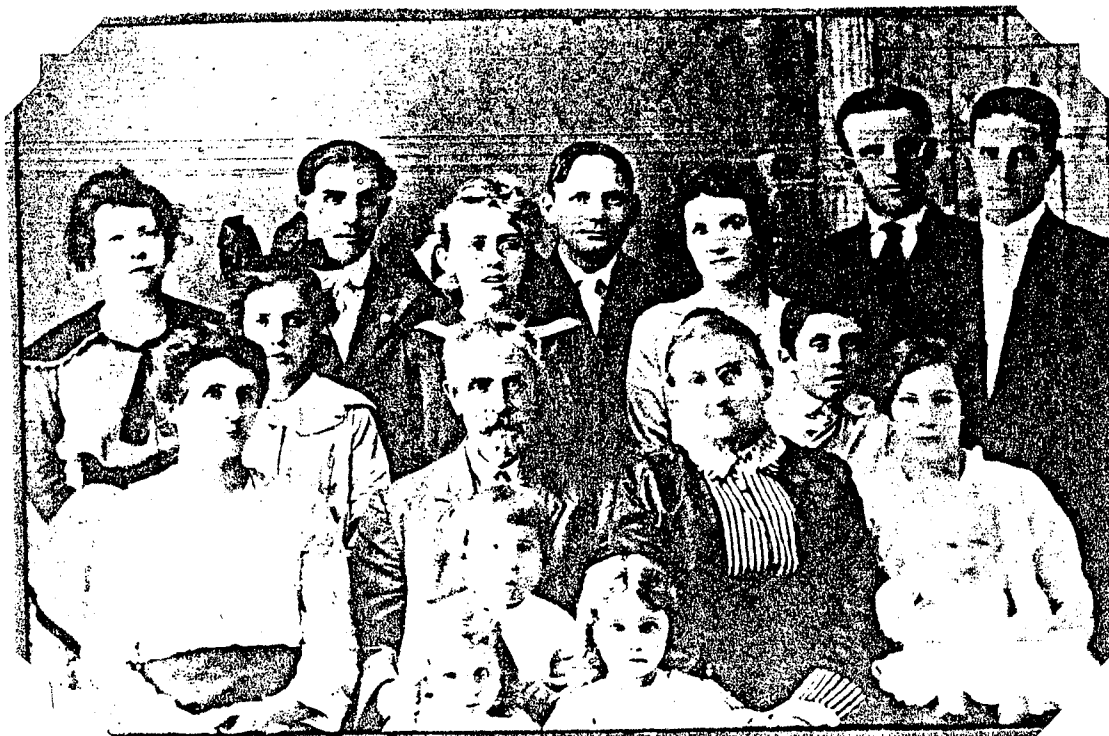
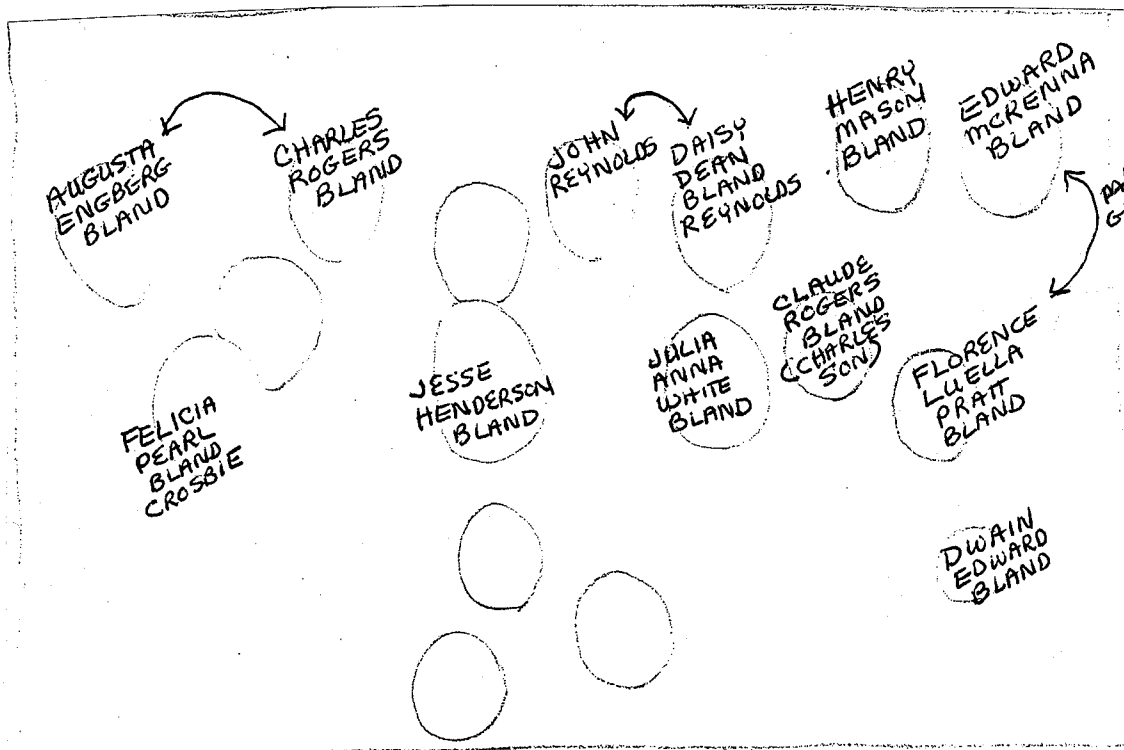
Standing: (L-R) Jesse Henderson Bland; James Theodore Bland; Walter McQuie Bland; Carn Zanter and Mollie Bland Zanter.

Seated: (L-R) Stephen Joshua Bland; Sarah Hodges Bland; William Monk Bland; Jim Clifton and Lizzie Bland Clifton; Minnie Bland Spears; Emma Jane Maiden Bland.

Children in Front: (L-R) Thelma Jean Bland; Jessie Spears, daughter of Joe and Minnie Bland Spears; J.W. "Jay" Lewellen, son of Ernest Lewellen and Mary Etta Bland.



Photo of Jesse Henderson Bland and Family (p. 41)
Courtesy of Gail Lewellen



John H. Bland of Hardin County Kentucky

The man in question is John H. (Hughes?) Bland, (December 23, 1800-October 23, 1870), son of Daniel Bland and Elizabeth Hughes and grandson of John Bland and Margaret Osborne. Although, thanks to research efforts of John W. Bland of Elizabethtown Kentucky, we have learned more about the other children of Daniel and Elizabeth, we have not heretofore advanced far beyond the basic information provided in the book (VU, p. 459). Marshall Van Meter from Tullahoma Tennessee has supplied two Bible Record's, John Bland's bible dated 1858, the other from the bible of Hinton Van Meter's father, Joseph, reveals information about John Bland and his family that substantially enlarges what we know.⁴⁷

John married Mary Ann Creager, (C1799-October 17, 1870) on January 4, 1820. Mary Ann was a daughter of Daniel A. Creager and Anna Barbara Springer. John Bland inscribed of her in his bible record "She was a kind, affectionate wife to me near 50 years. Age about 71 years." John H. Bland and Mary Ann Creager had a family of eight children as follows:

1. Elizabeth Bland, (November 1, 1821-January 28, 1856) died of typhoid fever. Elizabeth married Nathan Van Meter on February 21, 1838. Their children were:

A. William H. Van Meter, (1839-1864) a member of the Confederate Orphan Brigade, was a sharpshooter, who was killed in the battle of Atlanta; B. Nancy Van Meter (1842-); C. John B. (Bland?) Van Meter (1844-); D. Joseph Van Meter (1846-); E. Mary Ann Van Meter (1848-). F. Thomas Van Meter (1851-); G. Evan Sbelby (1854-).

2. Anna Barbara Bland, (April 15, 1824- December 7 or 9, 1874) married William Van Meter (July 19, 1821-September 11, 1882) on May 12, 1847.

3. William T. Bland (September 16, 1827-January 12, 1850), died of consumption.

4. Daniel Bland (October 25, 1825-September 1826) died with the "bold hives".

5. Louisa Bland (May 21, 1830-February 12 1849, Louisa died of bronchitis.

6. Matilda Bland (March 24, 1833-June 21, 1853), Matilda died of consumption.

⁴⁷ Marshall Van Meter to Charles L. Bland, November 4, 1991. It is worth noting that three sons of Joseph Van Meter married three daughters of John H. Bland.

7. Mary Ellen Bland, (November 21, 1835-August 26, 1875) married Hinton Van Metre, (November 19, 1827-February 9, 1923) on August 3, 1852. Their children were:

A. Nancy Louisa Van Metre, (1853-); B. John Henry Van Metre (1856-); C. Daniel Webster Van Metre (1860-); D. William Thomas Van Metre (1863-); E. Mary H. Van Metre (1867-).

8. Jane Bland (May 7, 1838-July 7, 1839).

John Bland and Hannah Lewellen

A new correspondent, Deborah S. Youskevitch, 1167 East Second Street, Coal City Illinois, 60416, wonders if she descends from John Bland, who married Hannah Lewellen, a daughter of Shadrach Lewellen and Deborah Burson, in Nelson County Kentucky, November 13, 1795. Inasmuch as we have never been able to place John, I will briefly review what we have written of him previously.⁴⁸

In the book, (VU, p. 457), it was impossible to identify John's parents. He did have a son named John who stood as bond for marriages of several sisters, after 1812, when their father was dead. By now, we have rejected the idea that John was a son of John Bland (c1766-1836), son of John Bland and Margaret Osborne, who married Elizabeth Shewmate August 9, 1792 (AC 1-2, p. 12 and AC 2-2, p. 30).

COUSINS IN SEARCH

This is a new section of "Among Cousins" offered for subscribers who wish to query readers about a specific relative. The service is free to subscribers on a space-available basis. Non-Subscribers may make a query at a one time rate of \$10.

1. **Charles L. Bland** Box 523, Williamsville New York, 14231-0523. Who were the parents of **Abraham Bland** (1805-1871), m. **Ann Maria Bland** (1809-1869), May 21, 1831, Jennings County Indiana (p. 21 above and AC 4-1, P. 7). **Abraham** and **Ann Maria** moved to Hendricks County Indiana. In the 1850 Census, they were Family #103, living close to **Henry Bland**, a son of **James Bland** of Duplin-Chatham County North Carolina.

2. **Josephine Bland Holden** 905 Conway #28, Las Cruces New Mexico, 88005. My ancestry traces to **Richard J. Bland** (1824-) M. **Mary Jane Starkey** on 6 November 1845 in Tyler Co. WVA. and to **Richard Bland** (1787-1876), of Winchester Va. M. **Mary Jobes** (1795-).

⁴⁸ Letters, Deborah S. Youskevitch to Charles L. Bland, August 17, October 12 and November 18, 1991, with family group sheets attached.

Request any information confirming birth dates and parentage of **Starkey** and **Jobes**. Also request information on **Cowan, Houlton, and VanNort**, esp. **Robert P. Cowan** (1794-); **Patrick Cowan** B. Ireland; **Marma Duke Cowan** (1837-) Monongalia Co. WVA, **M. Mary Ann VanNort** (1836-); **Israel (Isaac) Cowan** (1808-) **M. Nancy Houlton** in 1830.

3. **Jean Hanson** 326 S. 9th Avenue, Pocatello Idaho, 83201.
JAMES RIVER BLANDS I am interested in sharing information re descendants of **Elizabeth Bland** (1732-1790) and **Peter Poythress** (1728/33-1787), esp. **Elizabeth Poythress** (1759-1806) and **William Mayo** (1757-1833/37).

4. **Richard H. Knight** 917 Five Forks Road, Virginia Beach Virginia 23455. Looking for full identity and lineage of **Eliza Cocke**, first wife of **Edward Bland** (1746-1795), who was the 9th child (6th son) of **Richard Bland** (1710-1776). Her only child was **John Bland** (1780-1850), progenitor of a large branch of James River Blands.

5. **Mrs. A. T. Evans**, P.O. Box 7, Shuqualak Mississippi, 39361. Searching for information about **Stephen Bland** (C1782-1850) and **Silas Bland** (1792-1858) of Dallas County Alabama.

6. **Marion F. Graves**, 681 Melrose Street, Memphis Tennessee, 38104. I am interested in tracing the descendants of **Theophilus Bland, Sr.** both male and female lines, particularly those who came through Shelby County Tennessee.

7. **Merritt L. Page**, RFD 2, Box 41, Green City Missouri, 63545. I would like to contact a descendant of **Eli** and **Sarah Bland**. They were in Shelby Co. Ill. in 1850. He was 44 B. Ky. Children: **Warren** 15, **Jane** 12, **Lucinda** 10, and **Sarah** 3, all born in In. Was **Sarah Bland** a daughter of **John** and **Sarah Jones Bennett** of Va. and Monroe Co. Ky.? **Eli** and his wife were engaged in a real estate transaction with **John and Sarah Bennett** Monroe Co. Ky. in the early 1800's.

If any exchange of information occurs as a result of this, please include me, so I can include it in "Among Cousins".

CLOSING

This concludes Volume Ten, Number 1 of "Among Cousins: The Bland Family Newsletter." I hope you enjoyed it.

I apologize to many others who sent information, that I could not include it in this issue. I do, however, wish to display on the following page, photographs of **Floyd Bland** (1859-1911) and his wife **Melinda Belle Rorer** (1855-1912), as well as a photograph of **Blanch Bland Griswold** (1885-1934), daughter of **Floyd Bland's** half-brother **Simon Bland** and his wife **Clara Greathouse**, (AC 9-2, p. 13-14).

Clockwise: Floyd Bland, Melinda Belle Rorer, Blanche Bland
Courtesy of Evelyn Porter, Redding California

