

Among

THE BLAND FAMILY NEWSLETTER



VOLUME ~ 2
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Dear Cousins,

Welcome to the second year of "Among Cousins." New subscriptions, for A Vision of Unity and Newsletter have plateaued during the past six months, but I am not discouraged. A review of A Vision of Unity in the September-October 1983 issue of "The Genealogical Helper," has showed cause both to the book and newsletter to attract interest for some time to come.

NEWS ABOUT OUR COUSINS

Since the last issue, I have had the genuine pleasure of meeting a number of you personally, and bring news of some honors, pleasant times, some unhappy events and some deep and sorrowful tragedy.

First, I regret to inform you that one of our family was killed in the Beirut massacre of October 23, 1983. He is PFC Stephen Bland of Midway Park, North Carolina. This information appeared in a Newspaper list of casualties on October 31, 1983. I have spoken to Stephen's 14 year old step-daughter and have written to his wife, Ruth Ann, expressing my own and our sympathy. The timing of Stephen's death makes it inappropriate to ask for more at this time, but after the New Year, I plan to write to Mrs. Bland again, asking for more information about Stephen. I do not know where Stephen was born or how

AMONG COUSINS - THE BLAND FAMILY
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AMONG COUSINS - THE BLAND FAMILY NEWSLETTER is an organic extension of the research that was brought together in Charles Bland's A Vision of Unity: The Bland Family in England and America (1982). Although I am the Author of A Vision of Unity, I am far from being its sole creator. Rather, the information in the book is the product of shared research by many interested persons who have continued to conduct research and to share their findings, through the Newsletter, with an ever expanding audience of readers and other researchers. It is my hope that "Among Cousins" will continue to be the vehicle that enables expansion of our collective knowledge about the Bland family, and that all subscribers will join the enterprise in this spirit.

As editor, I assume all responsibility for printing, sale and timely distribution of the Newsletter. I will publish all material received without consciously altering the contributor's intent, but I reserve the right to comment upon any information received.

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Charles L. Bland

he might be related to the rest of us. Midway Park may be a military address, near Camp Lejeune, North Carolina in which case Stephen could have been born anywhere. If any of you know about Stephen or are related to him, I'd like to know more.

On a more pleasant note, it was the pleasure of Mary Jane and I to host Max and Dee Kessinger of Witchita, Kansas on June 23, for several hours. It was a pleasant social visit, not entirely devoted to genealogy. During a business trip to St. Louis, Missouri, on October 22-26 I met with Charles C. Bland, a subscriber and ardent supporter of our work, his wife Ginny, his daughter Betty and her husband Tom Limmer. They treated me to a long and very pleasant lunch and showed me around St. Louis, and we did talk lots about genealogy. On October 25, following a lead provided by Charles C. Bland, I had lunch with Charles H. Bland, who is the grand nephew of Richard Parks "Silver Dick" Bland (1835-1899) and the grandson of Charles C. Bland*, whose picture appears in VU, p. 468A. So many Charles Blands: Charles is the President of Bland Insurance Company of St. Louis, which he inherited from his father, Clark C. Bland (1889-1966), nicknamed "Pitts" from his football days. Pitts Bland was an only son and child by the second marriage of Charles C. Bland, but he had eight half-brothers and a half-sister. Charles H. Bland did not know of the whereabouts of any descendants of these siblings, but thinks his daughter may be able to identify some. Certainly, our luncheon ignited my own dormant interest in Silver Dick. A while back I received a letter from Jane Midtby (pronounced Midbee) of Denver, Colorado, who has located some descendants of George Vest bland, Silver Dick's son. I have asked for further information. Also, I have ordered a book by Harold Alanson Haswell, The Public Life of Congressman Richard Parks Bland (1951). Hopefully by next issue there will be a lot more new information about that line. There is some dramatic new information about this family in this issue (see page). At any rate, my lunch with Charles H. Bland was most enjoyable and the two Charles made my trip to St. Louis a lot of fun. Closer to home, soon after my return from St. Louis, I spent an evening of genealogical discussion with my neighbor and our cousin Bruce F. Bland, who descends from a Canadian line that originated in 18th century Yorkshire, England and the fruits of that discussion were some superb photos and family group information which is part of this issue (see pages 13-15 and the photo pages).

Mary Jane, Christina, Tommy and I spent August 16-17 with Al and Mildred Hunter in State College, Pennsylvania, enroute to Washington, D.C. Al has been one of our most tireless correspondents and a prolific contributor to our project. He has, in fact, had a major responsibility for developing new information about the Greene County, Indiana family that was first delineated in VU, pp. 320-342, and has since been discussed in the newsletter, with fairly specific information that links it to James Bland (C1749/1754-1799) of Duplin County, N.C., son of William Bland (C1726-1775) and grandson of James Bland (C1707-1774), the New Hanover/Duplin County, N.C. settler. Al's discussion of Thomas A. Bland (1830-), son of Thomas and grandson of the above younger James is included in this issue (pages 7-8). Those of you who have the opportunity of meeting Al and Mildred will find them an endlessly fascinating couple of boundless energy and insight, whom it seems God made for each other. I was troubled, then, to receive a letter from Mildred indicating that on October 17, Al had a below-the-knee amputation of his right leg, which was followed by a deficient blood supply that retarded the wound's healing. Al may be hospitalized for some time yet but his recovery is progressing. Mildred did not feel that Al would object to a forthright description of the surgery, since he felt it was part of reality. For those of you who would like to write, Al Hunter's address is The Hershey Medical Center, Hershey, Pennsylvania 17033. I'm sure that all of us wish him the speediest possible recovery.

*Not the man I met in St. Louis. This Charles C. Bland was the brother of Richard Parks Bland.

#Just before going to press, I received from Lenore Bland Brown the News Clipping from the Fort Worth Star Telegram, October 27, 1983, which is included as attachment 14.

Jessamine James Bland has recovered from her fall last February to the point where she can use a walker, but is not yet strong enough for a cane, or to live alone. She resides with friends in Tucson. In September, I received word from Urilla Bland of Weston, West Virginia that her younger brother Theodorick (1901-) had suffered a slight stroke and was disabled, compounding the difficulty she has experienced by her own failing eyesight.

More pleasant news: on October 11, 1983, Leota Bland Ruder took the oath of office as a Kansas "Silver Haired Legislator." Kansas is one of 17 states that followed the pioneering effort of Missouri in creating such political programs. Silver Haired Legislators run for office and are elected by citizens who are 60 and over. They act as a lobbying body for the interests of the elderly. According to a news article provided by Mrs. Ruder, the Silver Haired Legislature at its first meeting, October 11-13, 1983, considered 23 bills that affect the elderly in Kansas, including such items as health care and utility costs. Let us all congratulate Leota Bland Ruder for this honor which her fellow Kansans have bestowed upon her. Incidentally, I should say that "Silver Haired" does not accurately describe Leota's youthful appearance in a recent photograph she sent me.

A NEW MASTHEAD

Right off the bat you will notice a new masthead that is a monumental improvement over my doodling. My thanks to Timothy Tutt, the 15 year old nephew of Marybelle Tutt of Longview, Texas for this welcome contribution. My thanks also to Diana Gunther, daughter of Lenore Bland Brown of Fort Worth, Texas who also submitted an excellent masthead proposal. Both efforts were spontaneous, inspired no doubt by the feeling that our newsletter deserves better than my inept art work. Many thanks.

Beatrice Bayley "Book"

I, and you too if your name is Bland, received on October 5, 1983 a card from Beatrice Bayley, asking \$27.85 for THE BLAND FAMILY HERITAGE BOOK, which is described as a "guide to the discovery and documentation of your personal and family heritage." My advice is standard, Caveat Emptor. Those of you who are interested in the question may write me.

Next Printing of A Vision of Unity

I have received several orders for the next printing already, which will be in March 1984. Orders must reach me by March 1, 1984 and the book will be mailed out by March 31, 1984. My thanks to all who now have outstanding orders for your patience in the face of a labor strike in the book bindery. Price is \$64.95; \$54.95 to libraries.

Also, I want to thank those of you who pledged financial support to my now aborted project to finance 100 copies of the book. About \$1100. was pledged, reassuring but far short of the \$4,500 needed. I received several letters from individuals who indicated their inability to pledge support, in spite of their interest, and I fully understand such circumstances. I have about decided that such a big project, in addition to a computer tape index, should await the rewriting of the book several years from now. Again, however, my deepest thanks for the interest and support implied by the pledges that were made.

Library Placements

Since a review of A Vision of Unity appeared in the September-October 1983 issue

of The Genealogical Helper, I have received a number of inquiries requesting free placement of copies, some worthy, some perhaps not so worthy. Several of the cousins have written to me about disposition of their copy. Library placements are a way to increase awareness of the book, and for the donor is an allowable tax deduction. If you are interested in the question, I would be glad to discuss it with you further. Among the requests for placement I have had are The Allen County, Indiana Public Library; The Heart of America Genealogical Society and Library, Inc., Kansas City, Missouri; The Tennessee Genealogical Society, Memphis, Tennessee; and the Museum and Library of Maryland History. Of course, any library would graciously accept your gift. For my part, I will provide regular copies of "Among Cousins" to those libraries which either purchase a copy or have a copy donated.

The Reunion Idea

In response to my August letter, a lot of interest in a nationwide Bland reunion was shown but there was considerable disagreement about where it should be. Northern Virginia, "where it all started" was the most popular spot noted. I sense, however, that there are many cousins on retirement incomes living from Texas westward who could never come to Virginia, so feasibility remains a quandary. I shall have to think further about the matter. Perhaps I can have some more specific information in the next Newsletter.

Enough Business!

EARLY BEGINNINGS

The First Blands

Those of you who have wondered where the name Bland originated may be interested in noting the following. Someone, I confess I don't know who, sent me page 937 of the Oxford Classical Dictionary (second edition), which included references to two Romans, Rubellius Blandus and his son Rubellius Plautus. Since the source referred the reader to Tacitus' Annals, I decided to read a little about them. The following derives from the Oxford Dictionary and The Annals. About 18 AD, Rubellius Blandus, a Roman Consul, married Julia, granddaughter of Tiberius, daughter of one Drusus and ex-wife of the emperor Nero. Inasmuch as Julia had been married to Nero, Rome was saddened to see her lower herself to marry "into the humbler family of Rubellius Blandus." Their son Plautus was an adherent of stoicism and was perceived by Nero as a threat. Nero took it as an omen when lightning struck his dinner table, singeing the roast pig and popping the apple right out of his mouth, that something had to be done about Plautus. Nero had already murdered Julia and made it clear to the young man that he ought to repair to Asia, there to "enjoy his youth safely and quietly," in other words get out of Rome. Plautus did so, resisting entreaties to return to Rome whereby he might bravely, and briefly as it were, practice his stoic beliefs. Rather he chose to "lead a precarious and anxious life," rather like us all, whereby Nero sent an assassin who surprised our hero one day whilst he was stripped down for exercise, and "slew him." Thus ended the adventures of Rubellius Plautus, who for all we know might have been our ancestral grandfather. My wife, Mary Jane Migliore, always told me that if I dug deep enough I'd find an Italian among my ancestors.

Early Northern Virginia

Attachments 1 and 2 of this newsletter represent a very intuitive cartographic recreation of the early purchases in Stafford/Prince William County by James Bland (C1655-1708) and his sons. These purchases are noted in VU, pp. 203, 267-275 and 401-403, inter alia, but without geographic focus. This fine cartographic reconstruction was done by Bob Bland of Boston, Massachusetts who, with his father, visited the Northern Virginia area during April 1983. Bob found that the original 600 acres purchased near Powells Creek in 1701 rose about 150 feet above the Potomac River and was

deeply cut by streams as noted in the original sale. Bob compares the land favorably with Mount Vernon, which, however, has had a better press, being owned by a somewhat better known person. The original 600 acres, Bob notes, had the singular liability that it was unsuitable for farming. This may speak to certain characteristics of James Bland, including my theory that he lived with his suitcases packed and wasn't what you'd call the settling down kind. The purchase by William Bland and James Bland (oldest son of the elder James) of 257 acres at Cock Pitt point in 1711, Bob opines, "I am guessing" was adjacent to the 1701 land and located on top of a ridge where better farming was possible. The other tracts are less definite, and Bob enters the caveat that these are educated guesses, based on information provided in the book and his own survey of the area. These factors seem to point to a geographically consistent pattern of land purchases within the family. Bob indicates he would appreciate receiving copies of the indicated deeds from anyone who has them, to help him confirm his theories. My discussion of the land transactions upon which Bob based his work, was derived from works by Urilla Bland and source information provided by Leslie Dawson. Anyone who could be of assistance to Bob in providing these deeds should write to Bob Bland, 43 Upton Street, Boston Massachusetts 02118.

THE NEW HANOVER-DUPLIN COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA BLANDS

James Thomas Bland (1810-1886)

In Among Cousins, Volume 1, No. 2, page 4, new subscriber Bob Bland of Boston supplied photos and lineage information for his ancestor, James Thomas Bland, (1810-1886) seventh child of James Bland and Esther Newton (twelfth generation). More particularly, Bob enlarged upon the life and subsequent family of John Thomas Bland (1853-1928), only son of James Thomas', by his second wife, Margaret Hendry. John Thomas was barely mentioned in the book (VU, pp. 316-317). Recently, I was pleased to welcome Wedigan Powell Bland of Goldsboro, N.C. to the circle of cousins. His father, David Hendry Bland (1883-1953), who married Lizzinia Moore, was the son of John Thomas Bland and Lorena Davis Williams.

The Family of James Bland and Esther Newton

The above noted James Thomas Bland (1810-1886) was the son of James Bland (C1770-1818) and Esther Newton (1779-1854). James and Esther had another son, Amariah Bland (1809-1869), who married Mary Page and had a family of eleven children including William Rufus King Bland (1852-1903), who was cited in VU, pp. 315-316, as having married once to Mary Catherine Young (1848-1893), by whom he had a family of twelve children, including six who were born between 1895-1904, an impossibly heroic feat for any woman that escaped my notice while I was writing the book. Among those twelve children was Shuler Divine Bland (1901-) one of those rare souls who is a subject in the book yet still living. Shuler, who lives in Honolulu, called this gaffe to my attention and noted that his mother was William Rufus King Bland's second wife. This makes sense, of course, since William Rufus married his first wife in 1873 and had by her a string of six children between 1874-1886, whereupon a break in birthdates occurs until 1895. William Graham Bland, who is part of this extended family, interested himself in the matter after Shuler wrote indicating that he didn't know who his mother was. This circumstance came about because at age 2, Shuler was adopted by his uncle Gaston Amariah Wilder Bland (1857-1932) and his wife Annie Mason (VU, p. 316), as a result of William Rufus King Bland's death in 1903. Graham wrote to me on October 8, indicating that though he had no firm marriage date, about 1894, William Rufus King Bland married his second wife, Lizzie Savage (C1872-) of Pender County, N.C. Thus, the children of William Rufus King Bland noted in VU, p. 316 as born between 1895-1904 are by Lizzie Savage. I am glad to make note of these corrections, and especially happy that Graham Bland was able to identify Shuler Bland's mother.

The Sons of William Bland (Tenth Generation, C1726-1775)

William (VU, pp. 282-284) had six sons, William (VU, pp. 293-320); James (AC, 1-1, pp. 4-6 and 1-2, pp. 5-6); Thomas, no information; Charles, no information; John, (VU, pp. 284-293) and Joseph, no information. (But for Charles & Joseph, see below.)

John's birth was estimated by his principal researcher, Castelloe Bland Denton at 1760, because he was assumed to have been a minor when his father died in 1775. Bob Bland of Massachusetts wrote me on October 21, reporting discoveries he made while researching the Pender-New Hanover, North Carolina county records "concentrating on the apparently underutilized areas of court minutes and land transactions." One small note apparently pushes John's birth date further back in time. His complaint in 1779 about a neighbor's mistreatment of an orphan apparently sets his birthdate as at least 1758, probably earlier. Bob further opens up a line of inquiry about Charles Bland. Milton Wilson, without any evidence offered, indicated that Charles married Rachel Alderman. In his researches, Bob found a proceeding of April 19, 1791 showing Mary Bland, widow of Charles Bland, deceased, named as administratrix, and on the same date, William Bland (probably Charles' brother William 1748-1816) named with two other men to divy up Charles' estate between his widow and orphans. There is no way to reconcile the conflicting information between Wilson and Bob Bland about the two women Charles "married" but it seems unlikely that a man who was married with several children in that area about 1791 would be anyone other than the son of William Bland (C1726-1775). Bob Bland found that a Mary Bland was living in Sampson County in 1800, a widow, with a daughter aged 16-26.

A further question is whether the Mary Bland listed as a head of household in a 1786 census for New Hanover County, with 4 males under 21 and four females of various ages, (AC, 1-2, p. 4), is the same person who was married to Charles Bland. I tend to doubt it since even the imprecise census information noted for the 1786 entry indicates children that could not have been the progeny of someone born after 1754, (Charles was a minor in 1775). It still seems more probable to me that the 1786 Mary was the widow of James Bland (1707-1774), the New Hanover-Duplin County Founder.

In AC, 1-1, p. 3, I responded to Al Hunter's correction of William Bland's 1775 will to include a son Joseph. Heretofore, there has been nothing to place Joseph except two service vouchers in 1783, filed for the Wilmington, N.C. district. Information discovered by Bob Bland finds Joseph witnessing a suit on July 8, 1775, indicating that he was born at least by 1754 so had attained his majority by the time his father died in 1775, creating the question why his brothers William and James were named as executors but he was not. He almost certainly was the third son of William Bland (1726-1775). According to Bob, Joseph served frequently as grand juror for the county between 1784-1793. He also engaged in land transactions, purchasing several lots in downtown Wilmington, which, Bob surmises, creates the image of a respected and successful citizen. The most germane transaction, however, is an April 10, 1788 deed of property to children Mary and Joseph Henry Bland. On March 20, 1800, William Nutt is named guardian for "Henry and Polly Bland" indicating that the two children were still minors in 1800. Some association with Fayetteville, N.C., Cumberland county, is established by two land purchases from citizens of Cumberland County. In 1790, Joseph (or a Joseph), is found in Fayetteville as head of a household consisting of one adult male, one young male, two females. This information portrays a rough sketch of Joseph as a man who married in his late twenties, probably after 1780, had two children by his unknown wife, who died soon after 1790 and may have been physically or mentally incapacitated by 1788. Joseph's dates would be C1754-1799/1800. Bob's information in opening up this new rudimentary line of inquiry is quite helpful.

A brief note of clarification. In VU, p. 294, I note that William Bland (1748-1816) eldest son of William Bland (1726-1775) had a daughter Elizabeth Bland who married Isaac Newton, according to Milton Wilson, but no date was available. Among the items sent to

The Randolph County N.C. BlandsPennsylvania Connection Again

In VU, pp. 361-367, I discussed literary notes that showed several Blands located in Pennsylvania during the 18th century, and suggested that Moses Bland, 1819-1873, who married Martha Needham of Randolph County, N.C. in 1837-1838, might have been from Pennsylvania, perhaps being cousins who were reunited in Indiana. Robert Wheeler made a convincing argument that was elaborated on in AC 1-1, pp. 7-8 that the Pennsylvania notation for Moses' place of birth was a typo and that in all likelihood he came from Indiana. Lo, Helen Daniels of Moulton, Iowa last spring submitted information to me concerning Joseph Bland of Appanoose County, Iowa (1824-1906) who was specifically born in Pennsylvania, which may reopen the issue of whether some of our early Virginia ancestors filtered west via the Keystone state.

As reported in The Biographical and Genealogical History of Appanoose and Monroe Counties, Iowa (1903), and other materials submitted by Helen Daniels, Joseph Bland was the son of a carpenter, Thomas Bland (C1790-1874) and Elizabeth Bland (-1854). Thomas and Elizabeth must have been married about 1812-1814. both were born in Virginia and soon after their marriage moved to Pennsylvania where they lived their lives. They had 13 children, including Mary, Susan, Delilah, Amelia, Martha, -Joseph (see below), John, Kate, Elizabeth (she was born in Pennsylvania, September 22, 1827 and married John Hixenbaugh, of West Virginia, October 5, 1851, and had eight children), Thomas, Sarah, Cynthia and Ellen. After Elizabeth's death in 1854, Thomas married Sarah Sharpneck and had three children by her, Frank and William and an infant who died young.

Joseph Bland was born in Greene County, Pennsylvania, the sixth child of Thomas and Elizabeth, October 19, 1824 and died October 7, 1906 in Plano, a small town west of Centerville, Iowa in Appanoose County. He lived in Pennsylvania until 1844, when he moved to Ohio, thence to Missouri and back to Pennsylvania, where he married Elsie Church, probably about 1848. Elsie may be the "Allcey" Bland (August 29, 1825 to June 26, 1909), who is buried at Concord Cemetery in Appanoose County. After their marriage, Joseph and Elsie moved to Appanoose County and remained there for the rest of their lives. Joseph retired from work about 1883. He was a farmer, and also possibly owned a hardware store, which was sold in 1891. The children of Joseph and Elsie were Nancy, born December 15, 1851, who married Martin Davison September 1, 1866; Mary, who died young; Henry Bland (February 1856-living in 1900) married to Maria (June 1861-with a family that included Clyde, (1884-), John (1886-), Nancy (1891-), and Clara (1899-); Benton (1867-1880); Sarah, Minerva, (1860-), who married Robert Morlan, October 1, 1882; Amelia, who died young; John, born January 1866, married to Lucy A. (1861-) and living in Appanoose County in 1900 with Eda (1891-), Betina (1892-), Paul (1896-) and John (1899-), Ada, and Charles, who died in infancy. This information opens up a new line of inquiry not only about a possible relation of Moses Bland (1819-1873) and through his wife a connection to the Randolph County, N.C. family, but the other descendants of Thomas and Elizabeth Bland, which numbered 16, including 4 sons besides Joseph (1824-1906).

Benjamin Bland

Cousin Jane Midtby sent me a death certificate for Ruth E. Waggoner, (March 27, 1817 to April 5, 1912), who was born in Indiana and died in Moultrie County, Illinois, where she had lived for about forty years. Ruth, born in Indiana, was identified as the daughter of Benjamin Bland and Ruth Bland, born in Maryland. Jane Midtby believes this Benjamin is the same person identified in VU, p. 345 as a son of the original Moses Bland, (C1718-1799) of Prince William, Virginia and Randolph, North Carolina.

Jane believes that the information on the death certificate reconciles with the 1820 Census of Jackson County, Indiana, reasoning that the elder Ruth died before then, and that an elder sister was caring for "Baby Ruth" so she was not counted in the census. Jane indicates also that Robert Wheeler's ancestor Moses Bland "the younger" (C1775-) had a brother-in-law Bailey Needham who married a Nancy Bland, daughter of Benjamin and Ruth Bland.

Margaret and Catherine Bland

Louella Bland of Brownstown, Indiana forwarded a letter to Bob Wheeler citing information filed in the Archives of Randolph County, N.C. and Raleigh, N.C. that indicates a Margaret Bland, probably a daughter of Moses Bland and Jane Wiggonton, married William Needham on October 25, 1786. further, in another letter, Bob cites Roscoe O'Byrne, Roster of Soldiers and Patriots of the American Revolution Buried in Indiana (DAR: 1938), as showing that William Lawrence, born in North Carolina, 1766, who died near New Washington, Clark County, Indiana, July 12, 1822, married Catherine Bland, who is believed to be the daughter of the elder Moses Bland.

Samantha Bland Powell

Cousin Bob Wheeler asked me to display the group photograph (Attachment 6) in hopes that someone will recognize the people. One clue: the elderly woman seated in the front row is Samantha Bland Powell, (1843-1904), daughter of Moses Bland (1819-1873) and Martha Needham (1808-1895), and wife of Ambrose Powell, presumably the gentleman seated by her, (VU, p. 363). Any help to Cousin Bob Wheeler would be appreciated.

Minor Bland

In AC 1-2, p. 19, and in VU, p. 349, I cited Minor Bland's year of birth variously as 1828 and 1818. Jane Midtby reminds me that Minor's fourth child, Mariah, was born in 1841. Thus, Minor had to be born in 1818, else he would have been 13 when his fourth child was born, and "Even a Bland couldn't be that precocious," (sez Jane).

William A. Bland and Moses J. Bland

Max Kessinger sent to me certification of military service for Moses Bland (1848-1925) and William A. Bland (1845-1883) both sons of William Bland and Mary Pennock, (VU, pp. 349-50). Moses enlisted in Company F, 57th Indiana Volunteers and served from November 1, 1864 to October 10, 1865, and was discharged at Victoria, Texas. He served as a substitute. He was described as 18 (a slight variant on his recorded age), 5'6½", blue eyes and dark hair. Brother William A. Bland, who was described as 5'10" with blonde hair, fair complexion and grey eyes, enlisted in Company D, 31st Indiana Volunteers on April 20, 1863 and deserted on June 16, 1865. For this, according to his brother Moses to a nephew, he was imprisoned, a development his brother spoke of with considerable bitterness. In a letter to Levi Edward Bland, October 19, 1902, Moses described an heroic action during the battle of Atlanta, when William A. Bland was suddenly confronted with three rebel soldiers. All three raised their guns to fire but one man's gun jammed and William hit the ground just as bullets from the other two whizzed over his head. William recovered and in the confusion took one of the men prisoner, but according to Moses, the action "shortened his days." It appears also that there was a woman centered between the brothers, because as Moses puts it, he had courted Leannah Burnett (1850-1870) before he went off to war in 1864. While he was gone, from Texas to Kansas, William reappeared on the scene, about the fall or winter of 1865 we may judge, a war hero, also fresh from a brief prison stint, a very mature 20, and took Leannah away from Moses. According to Moses, "your father came home and

was much better looking (Bill was tall, fair, grey eyes, mystique of a war hero and prisoner. CB) and...he too was struck by her beauty and made suit and gained her in my absence." The bitterness in Moses' loss is evidenced by his recounting his nephew's genealogy, "William Bland of Indiana married a woman by the name of Burnett." A woman! Well, lest we feel too sorry for Moses, let it be noted that he lived twice as long as William and married three times.

Much more useful than these anecdotes is genealogical information that enlarges upon information listed in VU, pp. 347-352. Moses, as I did, traced his lineage back to North Carolina, pegging it as follows: He and William B. Bland were the sons of William Bland (1813-1852) and Mary Pennock, whom he said was of French ancestry. Their grandfather was Moses Bland (C1775-) who was born in North Carolina, and was the son of William Bland of North Carolina, who was married to a woman named Ward (new information). Here we diverge, for this William Bland of North Carolina matches my William Bland (VU, p. 345), the son of Moses Bland of Virginia (1718-1799). This is conventional wisdom, since William Bland had many business interactions with the Needham family, similar to many others in this family. Yet, in his letter, Moses Bland (1848-1925) says that this elder William Bland was from Scotland! He makes no reference to a Virginia connection, except tellingly, that William married a Virginia woman. One must remember that out in Indiana in 1902, Moses Bland was reconstructing over 150 years of history without the kind of documentary research we in later generations have done and he might have been overwhelmed by the proliferation of Williams. One thought: my grandfather, Thomas Bunyan Bland, used to tell the story that we were descended from four Scottish horse thieves. Colorful and imaginative perpaps, but Moses might have latched onto some such legend that actually goes back to William Bland (eighth generation, C1686-1744), in which case he would have only omitted one Moses and he might have been forgiven for being muddled with all of the Williams' and Moses'.

Nancy Bland and Leonard Coles

Attachment 14 of AC 1-1, was a family group photo of Leonard coles and Nancy Bland, (1843-1907), daughter of Meredith Bland and Priscilla Burge, (VU, p. 358). I am pleased to feature a picture of Nancy and Leonard at about the time of their wedding in 1865, (Attachment 7) showing you all what could happen if we could turn the clock back. As Jane Midtby tells the story, Mary Bland, Nancy's sister, had worked on the wedding dress for months; but then she died December 26, 1864. Her grieving sisters were slow to finish the gown, so that when Leonard Coles came home in March 1865, looking like a dashing rake in his Ben Butler beard and military dress uniform, there was a rush job to finish the gown. Nancy was pinned into the dress because the buttonholes weren't finished. Neither picture of Leonard Coles shows any sign that all this phased him at all.

The Nelson County, Kentucky Blands

Will John Bland's Daddy Please Come Forward?

In AC 1-2, p. 7, I cited an entry from Prince William County, Virginia Bond Book, 1753-1782 page 3, which named John Bland as administrator with William Carr of the estate of John Bland. Since then I have ordered the original document from Virginia, Readers interested in this argument may recur to VU, pp. 420-25. I also ordered from Virginia a deed from John Bland to Osborne, August 5, 1776, of 100 acres in an original 312 acre tract, the only known tract similar to one purchased on November 30, 1742 by William Bland (C1686-1744), which has convinced many that William and John Bland (C1725-1795) are father and son (see VU, p. 271, N.2 and 422, N.1). Neither document that I have examined contains a "smoking gun" statement about John Bland's parentage. What

we now know is that the June 7, 1762 estate of John Bland (C1688-1762), lists his wife Patience as executor and nephews Edward Gwatkins and Benjamin Bland as bondsmen. We also know that by July 10, 1762, and in other entries, there were references to John Bland Sr. and John Bland Junior, (VU, p. 420). Finally, on November 7, 1763, John Bland with William Carr, is named administrator of John Bland's estate. Further, the 1763 will administration bonds John Bland to Cuthbert Harrison, a Justice of the Prince William Court, making it apparent because of the previous Bland-Harrison-Osborne, that the younger John Bland in the November 7, 1763 document, was the man who married Margaret Osborne, (see VU, p. 426, n.3). This should all be viewed with an eye toward new and powerful evidence that Rachel Bland of Washington County, Kentucky had a heretofore unknown husband named John. My own conclusion, based upon all of this, remains that John Bland of Nelson County, Kentucky (C1725-1795) was the son of John Bland and Patience, his wife, or the son of a wife who was antecedent to Patience. The above does not prove the facts conclusively, but the juxtaposition of Patience as executrix and John as administrator of John Bland's will, in addition to naming practices by the descendants of John Bland (1725-1795) and Margaret Osborne, convince me of the intuitive rightness of the position I have held all along.

Children of Osborne Bland, Jr. and Patsy Donahoo

After some intricate comparison of handwriting, Cousin Virginia Cowden has decided to accept her ancestral grandmother, wife of James Bland, (1813-still living in 1880) as Lydia Burch (see arguments in VU, p. 448, and AC, 1-1, p. 8).

Children of John Bland and Elizabeth Shewmate

There was a breakthrough in this line in the last issue, (AC 1-2, p. 12; VU, pp. 457-458) in which John Bland's will of December 12, 1836 was provided by Anne Hall of Roswell, New Mexico, and further information about John and Elizabeth's sons Bryant and Isaac were provided by Helen Bland Daniels. Recently, a new subscriber, Mary Virginia Manby of Louisville, Kentucky wrote to me that she descends through John and Elizabeth through their daughter Martha Ann Bland, who married Samuel P. Overstreet in Oldham County, Kentucky in 1838. Elizabeth Shewmate Bland, following the death of John Bland in 1836, also moved to Oldham County. We welcome Virginia Manby to this society of cousins.

Children of Samuel Bland

Also in AC 1-2, p. 13, while discussing the family of John Bland and Elizabeth Shewmate, I speculated that Anne Hall's James Bland (1793-1849) who married Mary Watt, was not the son of John and Elizabeth but probably the son of Samuel Bland (VU, pp. 455-456). Mrs. Hall then wrote to me that in going through some family papers, she had located information that Samuel Bland, Sr. (1753-1835) was the father of her James Bland (1793-1849), thus linking this line (cf VU, 262-263) to John Bland (1725-1795) and Margaret Osborne.

Descendants of Prudence Bland and Fleming Smith

I am pleased to welcome Jeanna Zahm of Hallowell, Kansas to our society of cousins. She enclosed me a family group sheet that traced her ancestry back to Fleming Smith (1745-1847) and Prudence Bland (1750-1815). Jeanna Zahm descends from Fleming and Prudence through their son James Smith (1777-1864) and Nancy Hughes (1786-1852).

Mrs. Zahm acknowledged that much of her information came from Merritt Page, the acknowledged authority on this line, who, in response to my section on the descendants of Fleming Smith and Prudence Bland (AC 1-2, pp. 11-12) expressed appreciation and asked

Infantry, Between May 18, 1862 and May 20, 1863, dying at Richmond that day, of wounds suffered in battle.

Elijah Bland of Dallas County, Alabama

Carrie Scales Evans of Shuqualak, Mississippi sent me information about the following family that could be a stem of the Edgefield County family:

The 1850 Census, Dallas County, Alabama, includes a family headed by Elijah Bland born in South Carolina in 1798, who was married to Damaris Barnes, born 1806 in South Carolina on June 5, 1842 in Dallas County, Alabama. Living with them was a son Francis M. Bland, age 8, born in South Carolina, and Elizabeth W. Bland, age 20, born in South Carolina. No further information is known about Elijah and his family. The children must have been from a prior marriage.

Leonard C. Bland and Alice Scoggins Photos

I am especially pleased to include as attachment 10, courtesy of my cousin, Lamar Robert Bland of Elon College, North Carolina, photographs of his grandparents, Leonard C. Bland (1858-1902) and Alice Scoggins (1865-) whose family is described in VU, pp. 541-542. Leonard was the brother of my great-grandfather Berry Elsey Bland (1856-1917) and son of Thomas R. Bland (1829-1904) and Patsy Rollins (1828-1913). (VU, Table XXXII, p. 538B).

THE BLANNS* OF DALLAS COUNTY, ALABAMA

I first assumed this family originated in Edgefield County, South Carolina but now I am not so sure.

Rather, this family appears to have its roots in North Carolina about 1780. The Dallas County, Alabama Census for 1820 and 1850 reflects two distinct families who probably were closely related: In 1820 there is a record of Silas Blann,** and Stephen Blann, both married, Silas with one male and one female less than 21, and Stephen with three males and two females under 21. The 1850 census shows the following probable cluster of siblings:

Stephen Blann, B. 1782 in North Carolina
Telitha Blann Averytt, B. 1790 in Georgia (wife of Henry Averytt)
Silas Blann, B. 1792 in Georgia (died in 1858)
Thomas Blann, B. 1801 in Georgia

It appears that their parents left North Carolina in the 1780's and settled in Georgia, and that the children moved on to Dallas County, Alabama after reaching their majority.

* Spelling is consistent throughout in this group.

** I was originally drawn to the idea that this family came from Edgefield, South Carolina because that group frequently used the name Silas. Oren Morton, A History of Pendleton County, Virginia (1916) indicated that there was a Silas Bland in Muskingum, Ohio Territory, in the 1790's. I have written for that book but have not yet received it. Contributors of information about the Dallas County, Alabama family include Mollie Grant of Hampton, Arkansas and Carrie Scales Evans of Shuqualak, Mississippi.

One group of these Blann's, probably children of Stephen Blann, is defined briefly by the 1850 census, which lists James M. Blann, B. 1812 in Georgia. James was a brother of Sanford Blann who married Louisa High, September 14, 1843 and died without issue about May 1846. Probate court records indicate that Sanford had siblings: James M. Blann; John Patrick Blann, who married (1) Elizabeth McElroy on April 7, 1824 and (2) Lucinda Lovejoy, March 30, 1847; Isaac N. Blann; and Julia O. Blann, who married Joseph Bassett, all of whom were residing in Dallas County. A sister, Mary Ann Blann, who married William Fancher, was living in Wilcox County, Alabama.

It should be noted that John P. Bland had issue by his two wives as follows:

By Elizabeth McElroy: Henry, Louisiana, John Randolph, Asenath, Sarah, Francis, Stephen and Catherine.

By Lucinda Lovejoy: Antonette, Beatrice.

Thomas Blann married Polly Hardin in Jasper County, Georgia, February 16, 1819, and survived Silas Blann, his brother, who is the best known of the Blann's and ancestor of both Mrs. Evans and Mrs. Grant. Silas died April 2, 1858 and was buried with his wife Elizabeth (1800-1853) in the Bill Cemetery in Dallas County. Mrs. Evans indicates that a genealogist once surmised that Elizabeth was a DeCose from South Carolina, but no one has ever been able to prove her maiden name. Mrs. Grant furnished me a family group sheet for Silas and Elizabeth, which included 11 children:

(1) Laura Bland (-December 1855) married Benjamin Graves, November 30, 1838 and had children,

(2) William Young Henry Bland, (C.1819-September 30, 1854), married Lucinda Roark (C.1820-May 14, 1912). Both William and Lucinda were born in Dallas County and are buried in Calhoun County, Arkansas at Moore's Chapel Cemetery. They had eight children including:

A. William Henry Blann (February 14, 1840-July 31, 1912) who married Miriam Cosa (1846-1928). Children:

1. William Cartwright Blann (1862-1948), married Mary Ophelia Williams (1869-1944).
2. James Blann, died young.
3. Steven Blann, died young.
4. John Thomas Blann (1869-1919) married Emma Porter, (1871-1913).
5. Gideon J. Blann (1873-1948) married Sallie Porter, (1880-1934).
6. Nettie Blann, (1875-1968) married John Hanna.
7. Charles Elbert Blann, (1881-1953) married Eva Lena Williams, (1888-1940).
8. Garland H. Blann (1888-1940) married Addie Charlotte Sloan (1890-1973).

B. Mary Elizabeth Blann (1842-1854)

C. Sena Arrissa Blann, (February 4, 1844-March 18, 1905) married Thomas Franklin Weisinger (1837-1906). They had five children including Onslow Morris Weisinger (1875-1952) who married Maggie Williams (1876-1921) parents of Mollie Weisinger Grant.

D. Richard Thomas Blann, (May 31, 1846-March 14, 1912) who married Amanda Stanford (1848-1923). They had thirteen children including two sets of twins:

1. Allie Blann (1868-1960) married LeGrand Parker.
2. William Clesby Blann (1869-1931) married Mary Ella James (-1942).
3. Emily Aileen Blann, twin of Tolliver, (1872-1933) married W.H. Murph.
4. Tolliver Blann, twin of Emily, (1872-C1877).
5. Wiley Thomas Blann (1875-1937) married (1) Maggie Bennett and (2) Ella Stringfellow Inzer (1874-1963).
6. Alonzo L. Blann (1876-1942) married Sallie Talbot.
7. James Keller Blann (1878-1927) married Minnie James (1886-1948).
8. Fluta Blann (1881-1937) married William J. Parker.
9. Luther Leonard Blann, twin to Bertha, (1883-1963) married Mary Elizabeth Talbott, (1887-1967).
10. Bertha Blann, twin to Luther, (1883-) married Robert Bird.
11. Bob Blann, died at six months.
12. Unnamed daughter died in infancy.
13. Emma Blann, (1886-1951) married Frank Ivy.

E. Louisa Bernice Blann, (September 16, 1848-May 13, 1912) married John Riley Stringfellow (1847-1924) on October 11, 1865. They had eight children.

F. Camara Smith Blann, (1850-1927) married Robert N. Hunt, (1841-) on January 23, 1868.

G. James Silas Blann (1853-1867).

H. Emma Saphronia Bland (March 16, 1855-December 13, 1929) married on December 20, 1877, George Elbert Fisher, (1855-1906).

This concludes the family of William Young Henry Bland of Dallas County, Alabama and Calhoun County, Arkansas and his wife Lucinda Roark.

(children of Silas and Elizabeth Blann, continued)

(3) Telitha Blann, who married Thomas H. Booth in 1841. Marriage license issued by Sanford Blann, noted above.

(4) Frances Blann, married William F. Jones, December 10, 1844.

(5) Asenath Blann, twin of Alfred Blann, born March 20, 1828, died February 16, 1871. she married T.J. Parnell.

(6) Alfred Blann, twin of Asenath Blann, born March 20, 1828, died November 14, 1910. He married Jane Elizabeth Kelly (1840-1920) on January 27, 1861. Their children were:

A. Mary Bonner Blann (1862-1866)

B. Annie Frances Blann (1863-1886)

C. Tommie allie Blann (1866-1898)

D. James Alexander Blann (1870-)

E. Silas McEachern Blann, (January 14, 1873-October 24, 1949) married Irma Abney (1878-1966) at Mapleville Alabama, April 22, 1903. They had five daughters, including Estelle Jane Blann, (1908-still living), mother of Mrs. Evans.

F. Clarence Davidson Blann (1875-1875)

G. Maggie Day Blann (1876-)

H. Bessie Hill Blann (1879-)

(7) Thomas Blann, October 11, 1830 to July 24, 1875, married Alabama Kelly. When he died, he had two children, Florida and Maggie, both under 7.

(8) Mary Blann (1833-) married Charles Johnson in 1859.

(9) Susan Blann (1835-) married L.M. Booth.

(10) Silas L. Blann (1838-) married Elizabeth Jones.

(11) Steven Raynor Blann (September 8, 1841 - 1899) married Susan Almira Caldwell.

OTHER BLAND FAMILIES

The Blands of King and Queen County, Virginia

With the exception of two direct lines that were previously noted (VU, pp. 392-396; AC 1-1, p. 14 and AC 1-2, pp. 26-27) I have made little headway in this line. Now, thanks to contributions made by Rosa Beatrice Bland of Farmville, Virginia and Mrs. R.V. MacGillivray of Williamsburg, Virginia, my cup runneth over. First, I think it would be useful to note that the King and Queen County list of Taxable land for 1782, as cited partially in Hart, (553) and Fleet, (Vol. 4) shows the following:

William Bland Sr.	120 acres (not in Hart)
William Bland Jr.	250 acres
Henry Bland	66 acres (Hart says 166 acres)
John Bland	30 acres
Richard Bland	125 acres
Thomas Bland	200 acres

There is a tax list dated 1783 which the same names appear and which was provided by Mrs. MacGillivray, that will be discussed in particulars below. The names appearing on these lists along with William Sr. are the basis for my observations about his children, (VU p. 393). Concerning Henry, I have been able to find no other contemporary Henry Bland but a son of Thomas Bland (C1719-1788) in Prince William County in 1777, (VU, 370, 372), the basis of my suggestion of an unproven but possible connection between William Bland Sr. and William Bland of Stafford/Prince William County (C1686-1744).

Fleet, Vol. 5, p. 11, shows revolutionary service for Henry, John, Thomas and William. In addition, among the materials sent by Beatrice Bland was an excerpt from Landon C. Bell, The Old Free State (1927) indicating that John Bland was on the roll of Lunenburg County, May 1779, as a private.

Who were the children of William Bland, Senior? Among the six names that appeared on the 1782 list, very little is known about Henry, John and Richard.* Christopher Bland (VU, p. 393), a brother of Thomas Bland, one of the sons of William, Sr. was certified in a service claim of 1813, to have died before 1785 (he does not appear on the 1782 or 1783 list). Several certificates in 1813, provided by Mrs. MacGillivray, show that Christopher served as a drummer for three years. Gaus Marcus Brumbaugh, Revolutionary War Records, I, (1936) p. 405, states that Christopher had two sisters, Elizabeth and Ann Bland. This is the source of my assertion (VU, p. 392) that William, Sr. had daughters.

The plot thickens! William, Sr. may have been a randy old bird who kept cranking out kids right up to the time he died. The 1783 tax lists shows a confusing picture of his household, including a garbled markover for the number of white souls, one white titheable and one black soul. Those listed are William, Sr., Luckey, John, Ralph, Luckey (again), Warner, Nan, Jack and Charles. Nine names there, which is the total that appeared on the list, but how to sort them out is another thing. Perhaps the first name was a wife Lucy instead of Luckey. The second "Luckey" must have been the "black soul" or perhaps one of the two horses that were enumerated (I have a hunch the recorder was half-looped when he made his rounds. One thing is for sure, he couldn't count worth a damn.) Noteable in all this, however, are the names Ralph and Warner. Ralph**married Frances Carr in 1787 (VU, 394), and Warner is a witness to Thomas Bland's will of 1807 (see below) making it likely that these two were minor sons of William, Sr. John, Jack and Charles are unidentified. "Nan" may have been the daughter Ann or another daughter or granddaughter. We simply have no way of ascertaining any hunches.

That leaves William Bland, Jr. and Thomas. According to a piece of research done for Beatrice Bland by Mrs. Herbert Elliott in 1979, William's death is placed at 1788, rather than 1794 as I had it (VU, p. 394). In 1788, he is charged with 250 acres of land for taxation, but by 1789, the land is listed as part of his estate, suggesting that he kicked the bucket about that time. Various sources show that the wife I cited (VU, p. 394) was Mary or Mary Ann Drummond. The 1783 list shows William, Mary (his wife), Robert, William, Molly (Mary Ann) and a Mary Aaron, or perhaps the recorder skipped a comma and we have a Mary and an Aaron. Subsequent to 1783, William, Jr. and Mary had another child, Lucy, perhaps the last one before William died. If one follows my theory about William's mother, it may be this Lucy, a name that recurs in the family, was named for her grandmother.

*Virginia Genealogical Society, Some Marriages in the Burned Record Counties of Virginia, (1972), p. 11, shows Richard Bland married to Mary Bowden, March 14, 1789.

**In a letter to Mrs. Herbert Elliott, 1978, Louise Bland Goodwin calls Ralph the son of William Bland, Jr., whom she calls John William.

The best known child of William Bland, Jr. and Mary Drummond was Robert Bland, called Captain because of his service in the War of 1812. He was born C.1770/1773 and died 1844/1845.* As noted in VU, p. 395, he married Mary Catherine Waller. Robert Bland and Mary Waller had a son Robert Bland, born May 3, 1800 and died January 31, 1871, who became quite wealthy, was a justice of the peace and served in the Virginia Militia, hence becoming known as Colonel Bland. Colonel Bland married Mary Ann Boyd (May 16, 1810-February 6, 1863), on November 23, 1826. They had a family of 12 children, including 7 whose names have been preserved. The oldest child, according to his letter to Bagby was William Foster Bland, who was born C.1827 and was living in 1902. He graduated from medical school, where is uncertain, in 1849. William Foster Bland married _____ Roy or Ray. The second known child was John Robert Bland (1829-1854) more of whom later. The third child was James E. Bland, who, according to William Foster Bland's letter to Bagby, died at age 67 and graduated from medical school in 1856, suggesting he was (C1834-1901); 4) Lucy M. Bland lived from February 27, 1837 to April 27, 1914) and never married. A long break in dates of births ensues, representing perhaps the five who died young; 5) Virginia Bland, born about 1850, married a Dr. Grubbs; 6) Benjamin Franklin Bland, born 1852, died about 1936, never married; 7) Mary Catherine Waller Bland, born about 1853, married M.T. Savage.

The second son, John Robert Bland, was born at Shanghai, Virginia, July 11, 1829 and died July 24, 1854. He graduated from William and Mary College in 1849, but was never able to enjoy his law skills because of his poor health. He married Mary Catherine Kerchival on October 4, 1849. She was born September 20, 1830 and died before 1860. John Robert and Mary Catherine had two children, Charles Tazewell Bland (1851-1922) and Mary Orell Bland (1854-1925). Mary Orell Bland married Thomas M. Garrett and Charles Tazewell Bland married Rosa V. Garrett (1852-1920). Charles made his will May 21, 1914 and in it mentioned five sons, J.R., C.M., T.H., J. Carlisle and Virginius Bland, and daughters Mamie R. Spencer and Eva M. Bland. One of the sons, Charles Marvin Bland, (1878-1924) married Matilda Alberta Guthrie (1879-1970) and had by her a child, Rosa Beatrice Bland, my correspondent. Beatrice writes that when she went to work for a small college in Virginia in 1965, she quickly caught on that them who had the right stuff were in the DAR and she quickly set about mustering her qualification. Her contribution is appreciated.

The certification of revolutionary service for Christopher Bland stated that his eldest brother was Thomas Bland! However, Mrs. MacGillivray, and I agree with her, puts Thomas' date of birth at C.1750 and he died between March 20 and June 8, 1807. He served in the Revolution as a provisioner of supplies for use by the Army. A tax list in 1783 shows Thomas, Amy, Thomas, Ann, Elizabeth, Sally (not Polly as I had it in VU, 395), and John Graves, or as suggested by Mrs. MacGillivray, John and Graves. In his will, there is some variance between the identification of a wife Amy in 1783 and Sarah in 1807, which may suggest (A) that Amy (perhaps Amy Graves) died and Thomas remarried to a Sarah; or (B) Amy could have been a nickname. Whatever, by 1807, Thomas identified in his will, sons Thomas and John Bland, a daughter Ann Chapman (C1770-1825, AC 1-1, p. 14) who married Henry Van Buren Chapman, Elizabeth Bowden and Sally Didlake. Also mentioned in the will of Thomas Bland were slaves Molly, Peggy and her

*Capt. Robert Bland's grandson William Foster Bland wrote to Alfred Bagby, July 4, 1902: "Col. Robert Bland B.May 1800 - he was twelve when his father died, Capt. Robert Bland, who served in the war of 1812." Alfred Bagby, King and Queen County, Virginia (1908), pp. 298-299 (courtesy Beatrice Bland). Other evidence invalidates William Foster Bland's assertion.

five children, Frank, Amy, Rachel, Moses and Joe; James and Becky; Lavinia and Peter; Nancy; Sarah and Major. Among these children, perhaps the oldest son was Thomas, (C.1771-dead by 1814), who married Sarah Waller February 19, 1791. The son of most interest to Mrs. MacGillivray was "Gentleman John" Bland (C1778-1827), (a cousin, not a brother of Capt. Robert Bland, C1770-1845, VU, 394). John had a daughter Julia Ann Bland (1810-1885) who married William Carr December 27, 1832. John's son Cary Todd Bland (October 11, 1817-September 11, 1854) was father of William Cary Bland (October 8, 1849-October 17, 1891) who was father of Maria Maude Bland, (1874-1948) mother of my correspondent, E. Bland Hall MacGillivray.

The Blands of Pitt County, North Carolina/Shelby County, Tennessee

Just before publication of the last number I received a 33 page pamphlet prepared in 1940 by Catherine Gottschalk, The Bland Family of Pitt County, North Carolina. Although it is an old document, I'm not certain whether subscribers who have lines tracing back to this family are fully aware of its structure; therefore, I offer the following:

The progenitor of the family, whose origins are unknown, was George Bland, who was an adult in Beaufort County (later Pitt) by 1758 and whose dates are reckoned by me, because of nuances in Gottschalk's information, to be C.1736-1797. George probably married twice, for one of his probable sons is reckoned as George Bland, (C1758-1845) who married a Sarah _____ (C.1769-1848). Their graves are in Sampson County, and nothing further is known about them (Gottschalk, p. 15). The older George married a woman named Prudence, probably 1762-1763 and had by her at least two sons, John (C.1763-1823) and Theophilus, (C.1770-1830/1840). Of these two sons the following is known:

John Bland married twice. By his first wife, he had two sons, George Bland (C.1795-) who was 21 by 1816, and Barnes Bland (C1805-1887). By a second marriage, John had a son Theophilus Bland (1822-). The son George is interesting because of striking similarities in information known about him, and the George Bland who was an ancestor of the husband of Doris E. Bland of Fairfield, Illinois (AC 1-1, p. 15).

Doris Bland's information is that her George Bland was born, either in Kentucky or Virginia or North Carolina about 1795. He married Sarah Givins in 1817 in Hopkins County, Kentucky. It is important to note here (Gottschalk, pp. 13A-14), that on February 16, 1816, John Bland, son of the elder George Bland, deeded 200 acres to his son George, but on December 29, 1817, George sold the land back to John for \$1050. This transaction could well have presaged a move to Kentucky by George Bland. If the connection fits, George's dates would be (C1795-1868) and he remarried February 12, 1822 to Margaret Ramsey (1801-1887) who had been in Hopkins County, Kentucky since about 1813. Their children were Susan and Robert, born in Kentucky. About 1826-1830, they moved to Obion County, Tennessee where a son James (1828-1915) was born. Later, George and Margaret moved near Fairfield, Illinois where George, Elizabeth and William Bland were born. If Margaret's obituary is accurate, the thought of Cousin Thomas Jones that his Joshua Bland (C1826-) born somewhere in Tennessee, was George and Margaret's son, is invalid. (But see below, p. 24).

The second son of John Bland by his first wife was Barnes Bland (1805-1887, AC 1-1, p. 15) who married Rhoda _____ and had two sons, Christopher Columbus Bland and John Joseph Bland, who were Civil War veterans and a daughter Susan who married Benjamin Smith. Graham Bland thoughtfully sent to me a copy of a letter from Colonel William Lamb, CSA to Governor Z.B. Vance, January 7, 1865, which commends Christopher C. Bland, Company K, 36th North Carolina Regiment, who climbed a flagpole not once but twice under heavy fire to raise the Confederate Flag during a Northern Naval assault on Fort Fisher, North Carolina, December 24, 1865. The confederates actually turned back the Christmas

attack on Fort Fisher but the Northern Fleet returned on January 12 and in the ensuing battle Christopher C. Bland was wounded in battle and, after Fort Fisher was captured on January 15, taken prisoner and held until June 3, 1865 at Lookout Point, Maryland.

The third known son of John Bland (1763-1823) was by Sarah _____, his second wife, and was named Theophilus Bland, who was born 1822. The 1850 Census for Pitt County, shows Theophilus married to Mary Smith (1830-), and they have children John C. Bland (1848-) and Theophilus (1849/50-).

The third son of George Bland and his wife Prudence was Theophilus Bland (C.1770-1830/1840), who about 1792-1793 married Sarah Joiner. Theophilus and Sarah probably died in Pitt County.

By 1840, five sons of Theophilus and Sarah had moved to Shelby County, Tennessee and were married to women from Pitt County, North Carolina:

1. Levin Bland, was born C.1794/1796 and died after 1840. He married Betty Ann Moore.
2. John Bland, was born 1796/1798. He married Jane Moore (both Jane and Betty Ann were daughters of Obediah Moore.
3. Hyland Bland, born 1805, living in 1850, with the following family in Shelby County, Tennessee: Wife Sarah, (1812-); son Wyatt (1835-); daughter Sarah (1846-); and son Levin (1848-). The disparity in age between Wyatt and the other two children would indicate Sarah was Hyland's second wife and that perhaps he was first married to a daughter of Wyatt Moye, with whom his family had many land transactions.
4. Theophilus Bland, born 1806, living in 1850 with the following family in Shelby County, Tennessee: Adeline Adams (1818-whom he married in Shelby County, April 27, 1834 and children, Selina, (1835-); Robert, (1838-); Ormond, (1841-); Sarah, (1845-); Catherine, (1847-); and Alice (1850-). The Centennial History of Arkansas, Vol. 2, p. 79, states that William H. Bland, a son of Theophilus and Adeline, was born in Bartlett, Tennessee, March 14, 1861, moved to Biscoe, Prarie County, Arkansas in 1884.
5. William Bland, born about 1807, living in Shelby County, Tennessee in 1850. Nothing more is known about him, but the following Shelby County marriages listed by Gottschalk (p. 33) based on DAR records, may offer some clues to William's families and other siblings of the above five sons of Theophilus Bland and Sarah Joiner:

Thulina Bland to John Kennedy, March 17, 1832.

Isaac Bland to Tibitha Ellis, November 12, 1834. (William H. Bland, security).

John Bland to Nancy Wheeler, July 5, 1836 (William H. Bland, security).

William H. Bland to Sakira Gibson, June 30, 1842.

B.F. Bland to Lucy L. Lurry, 1843.

Elizabeth Bland to J. Jonas, November 18, 1847 (Jane Bland, security).

Mary Jane Bland to Nathan Gregory, 1843.

Elizabeth Bland to William Rogers, 1841 (Isaac Bland, security)

George L. Bland to Margaret Johnston, 1848.

John Bland to Elizabeth Massey, 1848.

The Blands of Pulaski County, Kentucky

Pansy Lea Willburn who helped us make an exciting breakthrough in information about the Washington County, Kentucky family has made progress in her own line (VU, pp. 479-83). Further research has invalidated some of the information Pansy provided for the book. Briefly, that line has been traced back to Reuben Bland and his wife Dicey West. In addition to sons William, Joshua and now, Thomas Walker Bland, Pansy indicates that Reuben had a son named Robert and that Thomas Walker Bland had a son Roderick Walker Bland. Although nothing is proven, the reader will recall that in the last number (AC 1-2, p. 23) a line submitted by Thomas Jones of Edwardville, Illinois began with a Joshua Bland, born in 1826 "somewhere in Tennessee" who married Mary Ann Scott in Caldwell County, Kentucky in 1847. Also, ruling out for the moment that the Pulaski family is related to the Edgefield County, South Carolina or Mecklenburg County, Virginia family, there remains a family from Pendleton County, Virginia which was (A) prone to Old Testament names for its men and included a mixture of Joshuas and Roberts, (VU, p. 399, note 2). I have been recently reading through material on the Pendleton County family sent to me some time ago and have ordered some relevant material, but further discussion here would be premature. Pansy notes also that Joshua Bell Bland (1854-1931, VU, p. 481) was one of the families enumerated in the 1900 Census for Benton County, Arkansas which seemed to include an unusual number of seemingly disparate Bland families.

Pansy has taken a special interest in Jeremiah Bland* who was in Washington County as early as 1787 as an adult, and whom she says, in distinction from other entries I have seen, married a Gussa Tincer in Clark County, January 1794 (versus 1820 as noted in Stancliffe. If anyone has the original marriage papers for Jeremiah and Gussa, I would appreciate them.) In 1799, Jeremiah appears in the Madison County, Kentucky census with one white male 16-21 in his household and in 1803-1807, several tax lists show Jeremiah exempted from taxes, suggesting he is aged or disabled. These entries, particularly if the 1794 marriage date holds up, would make Jeremiah a viable mature adult candidate for fatherhood to her Reuben. Finally, Pansy has been following leads from research that shows children of her Reuben Bland moving from Pulaski and Casey County to Grayson and Breckenridge County, Kentucky.

The Mecklenburg County, Virginia Blands

Jewell Hegwood Dye submitted to me a group portrait of the sons of Samuel Merritt Bland and his wife Amanda Tucker (AC 1-2, p. 23) which I am pleased to include as attachment 11.

Kathy Bland of Rosenberg, Texas wrote me a letter enclosing a photograph of her ancestor Marion Marcus de Lafayette "Fayte" Bland (1829-1910, VU, p. 589), who served in Company F, 7th Regiment, Tennessee, CSA. Kathy has developed a crush on her grandpappy and in her letter she wrote "Did I exaggerate his handsomeness? Reply only if the answer is 'no, you didn't.' Ha!" Well, Kathy, no you didn't. Old Fayte sort of reminds me of the physical description of Osborne Bland Jr.'s boys (VU, pp. 451-452). All you other cousins turn to attachment 12 and get a load of that hunk!

The Canadian Blands

Bruce Francis Bland, who lives near me in Williamsville, New York is interested in genealogy and descends from a line of Blands who migrated from York County, England to Toronto Gore, Ontario, about 1833 (AC 1-2, p. 26). Bruce Bland supplies the following

*Charles Bland (1765-1842) of Garrard County, Kentucky had a grandson Jeremiah, born in 1846 (VU, p. 413).

information:

John Bland (C1791-1878) of Yorkshire, married Ann Walker (C1789-1883) about 1820 (attachment 13). Their children were:

- A. Elizabeth Bland (1823-1907) who married Thomas Cole (1815-1891).
- B. John Bland (April 3, 1826 to September 8, 1884) born in Yorkshire, married Jane Webster (July 25, 1831 to October 14, 1863). John and Jane had four daughters who died young.
- C. George Bland (October 16, 1829 to July 25, 1889) (attachment 13) married Jane Elizabeth Dobson (1837-1920) about 1857. They had nine children:
 - C1. John William Bland (1858-1925)
 - C2. Ann Elizabeth Bland (1860-1881); did not marry.
 - C3. Sarah Bland (1862-1946) married William Ward and had children, Cecil and Norman.
 - C4. Alice J. Bland (1864-1885 or 1895); did not marry.
 - C5. George Bland (1866-1931), married _____ Robinson late in life.
 - C6. Elizabeth Bland (1868-1944); never married.
 - C7. William Bland (1870-1936), married May Kezia Jackson, (1873-1900), January 12, 1898. One child, George Francis Bland (1899-1972) married Lillian Mary Dunn of Oxford, England (1893-still living). They are the parents of Bruce F. Bland of Williamsville. After the death of May Jackson, William Bland married Jane Baldock and had by her, eight children born between 1902 and 1922.
 - C8. Henry Francis Bland, (1871-1967), married and had five children.
 - C9. Mary Isabelle (Auntie Belle) Bland, (1872-1959); did not marry.
- D. Anne Isabelle Bland (November 21, 1831 to June 23, 1920) born in Yorkshire, married William Wiley (1830-1890).
- E. Thomas Walker Bland (1835-1881) married (1) Sarah Fletcher Bland, (1839-1859) and had by her, Sarah "Katie" Catherine Bland, (1858-1962) who married Fred Ford and outlived him.

Thomas Walker Bland married (2) Ellen Davis (1843-1898) and had by her:

- E1. Ann Mary Bland (1862-1862)
- E2. Thomas Walker Bland (1863-1930)
- E3. John M. Bland (1864-1938), married Mary Clarke and had three children.
- E4. Fred William Bland (1866-1867)
- E5. Thomas Walker Bland (1867-1930); did not marry.
- E6. William Frederick Bland (1871-1900)
- E7. George Edward Bland (1874-), married Julia Cotter.
- E8. Franklyn Davis Bland (1875-), married Myra Abel.

Obviously, Bruce F. Bland would welcome correspondence with anyone who has information to offer.

Lettice Bland of Prince William County, Virginia

This item was mentioned briefly in the last number (AC 1-2, p. 8) and I have received a letter from Louise Bill, Route 1, Box 341, Fitzwilliam, New Hampshire, who is seeking the parents of Lettice Bland, who by December 1768 was married to William King (1745-died after 1801). Lettice (C1752/1753-May 19, 1814) had a large family of children whose birthdates ranged from 1769-1801, and the King family was shown on a Baptist Church roll at Cox's Creek, Nelson County, Kentucky in 1782. According to Mrs. Bill, they sold their home at Dumfries, Stafford County, Virginia in 1780. According to Mrs. Bill, one writer hypothesized that Lettice was a daughter of Thomas Bland (C1719-1788, VU, 367-372). Certainly Urilla Bland never mentioned a Lettice as a possible daughter to Thomas, and she had a very thorough understanding of Thomas and his descendants. Mrs. Bill would like to hear from anyone who has further information about Lettice.

A Final Promise and Request

Since the migratory bridge between Virginia and North Carolina to other states between 1780-1825 is so difficult, I will, by next publication, barring unavoidable delays, prepare a mini-index of the known males whose lives bridged the 18th and 19th century with a brief synoptical statement for each. Listed alphabetically, this may offer some relief for those trying to keep up with the proliferation of names we are faced with as each issue progresses.

I am in very bad need of workable maps of any states or territories, with county delineation, from 1780-to about 1850. Also, if anyone has developed micro-maps of particular counties, e.g. VU, pp. 342B, 426B and attachment 1, this issue, I would appreciate receiving copies.

A Final Note

Just before going to press, I received word from Castelloe Bland Denton that her husband Graham W. Denton died October 13, 1983. I know all of you will join me in extending sympathy to Mrs. Denton.

Mary Jane Migliore Bland, Christina Louise Bland, Thomas Eliot Bland, and I wish you the very happiest of holiday seasons and a good New Year.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS

Listed below are subscribers who have contacted me for the first time since April 1983. Their names should be added to the subscriber list for Volume 1, Number 2.

A3A Lela C. Adams, Route 5, Box 49, Bassett, Virginia, 24055
E Louise Barfells, Box 508, Hampton Arkansas, 71744.
ALA David Morton Bland, 4408 Mill Creek Road, Dallas Texas, 75234
ALB Vera Bland, 1244 Bernard, Pasadena Texas 77506
ALA Wedigan Powell Bland, P.O. Box 1120, Goldsboro North Carolina, 27530
ALA Ruth H. Eakins, Route 1, Box 321, Watha N.C. 28472
E Mrs. A.T. Evans, Box 7, Shuqulak Mississippi, 39361
E Mollie Grant, Box 4, Hampton Arkansas, 71744
* Edith C. Lanning, 4721 N.E. 12th Street, Ocala Florida 32671
A3 Mary Virginia Manby, 3810 Leland Road, Apt 5., Louisville Kentucky 4020
ALA Nancy B. Turner, P.O. Box 223, Troy Michigan 48099
A3 Mrs. Clark Zahm, Route 1, Box 258, Hallowell Kansas 66744

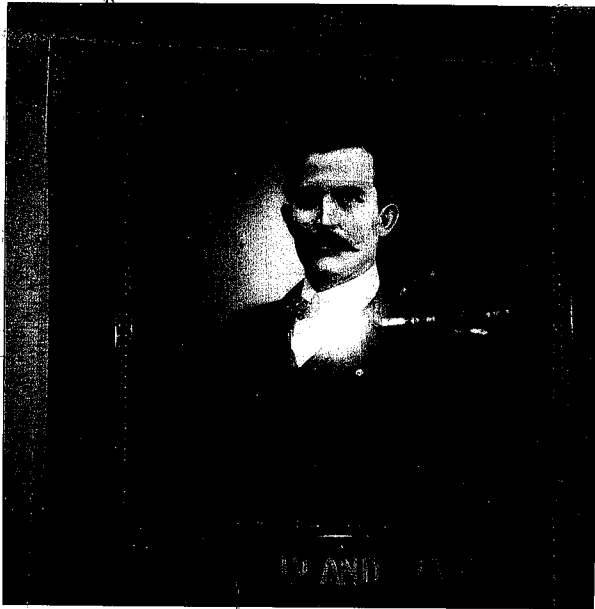
Please note also the following address changes:

Benjamin F. Bland, Box 324, Edinburgh Texas, 78540

Donald Gurley, 2921 Encina Camino, Walnut Creek California.

Juanita Faulkner Max, 7632 NW 5th St., Apt 5, Plantation Florida, 33324.

Myrna Myres, Box 134, Mannus Choice Pennsylvania, 15550.



Attachment 5

Judge William T. Bland
(1847-~~1892~~
1902)

Courtesy: Harvey Cooley



Attachment 6

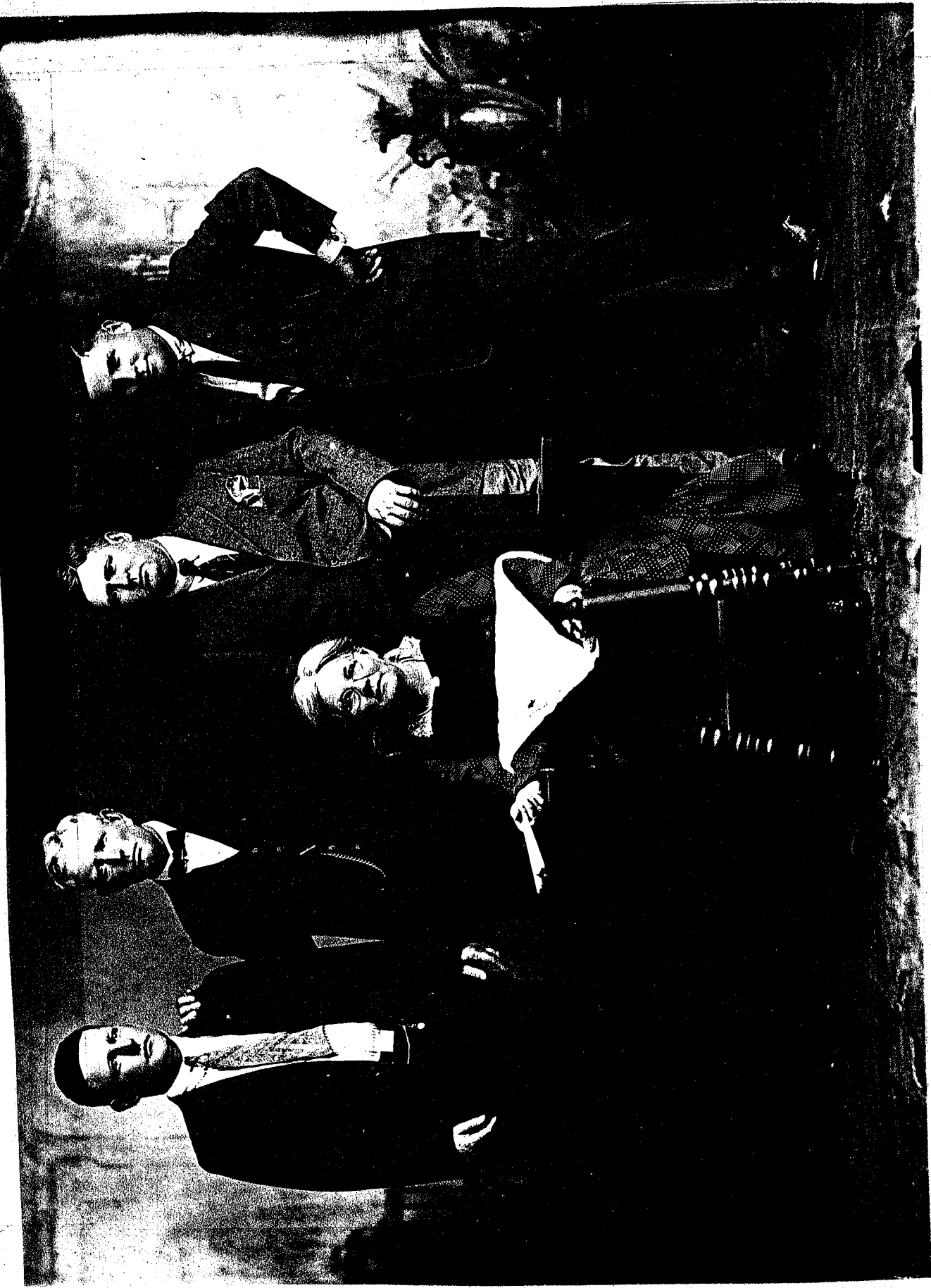
Samantha Bland Powell (1843-1904) Ambrose Powell & Family
Courtesy: Robert Wheeler



Attachment 7

Leonard Coles and Nancy Bland Coles(1843-1907)
about 1865

Courtesy: Jane Cole Midtby

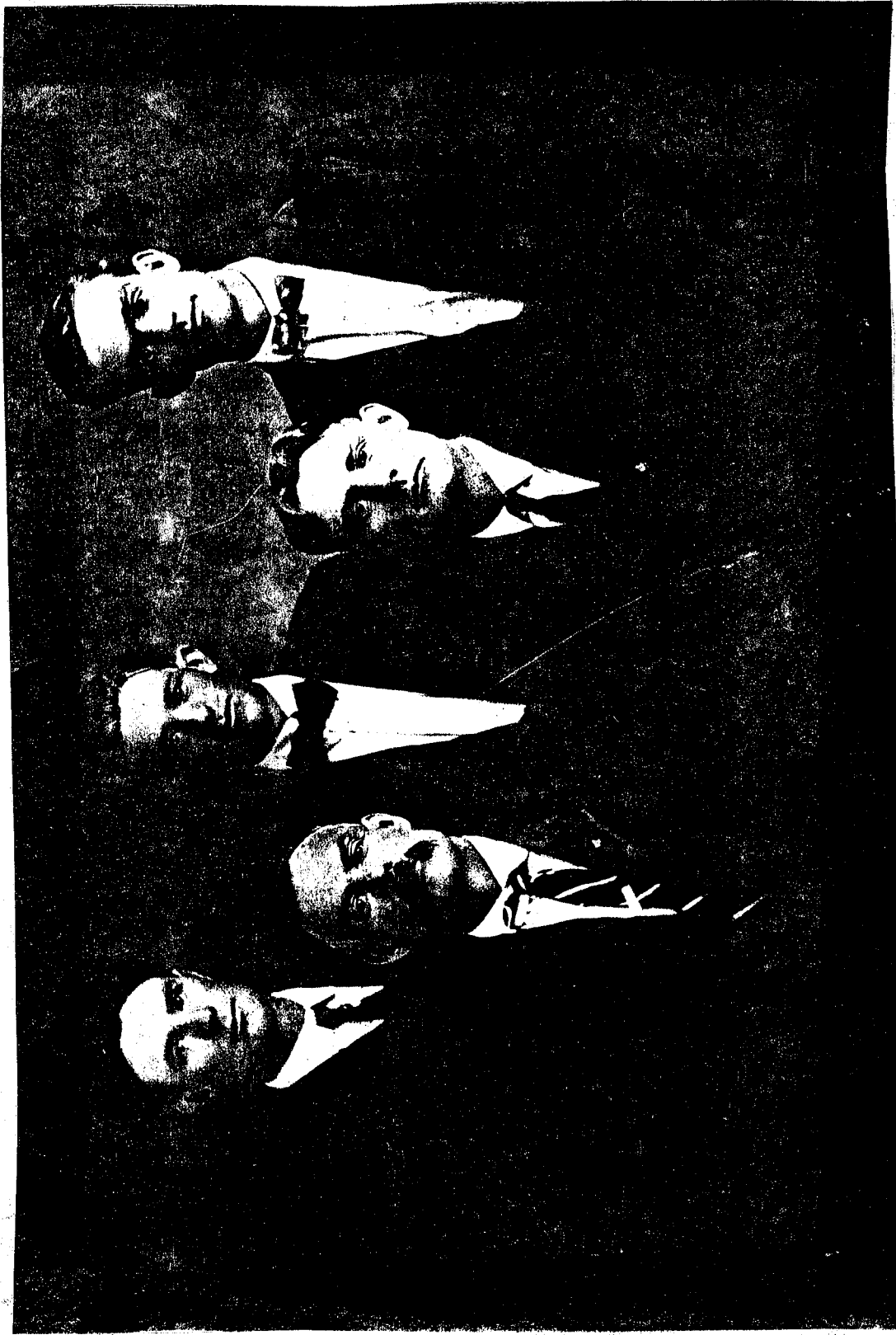


Attachment 8: Peyton Bland (1858-1938) and Alice Gibson Bland (1862-1960), discussed in AC 1-1, Page 12, Younger men (left to right) sons Thurman Bland, Grover Bland, Walter Bland. Courtesy Charles C. Bland.



Attachment 10

Leonard C. Bland (1858-1902) and Alice Scoggins Bland, (1865-), courtesy Lamar Robert Bland.



Attachment II

Sons of Samuel Merritt Bland and Amanda Tucker Bland,

Front: Albert Edgar Lee Bland (1874-1948) and Carroll Bland (1886-1975)

Back: George Clark Bland (1893-1975); James Alonzo Bland (1885-1978) and
Jefferson Lafayette Bland (1890-1968)

Courtesy Jewell Dye



Attachment 12

Marion Marcus de Lafayette "Fayte" Bland, (1829-1910)
CSA, Company F, 7th Regiment, Tennessee

Courtesy: Kathy Bland



Attachment 13

Left: John Bland (1791-1878) and Ann Walker (1789-1883)

Right: George Bland (1829-1889)

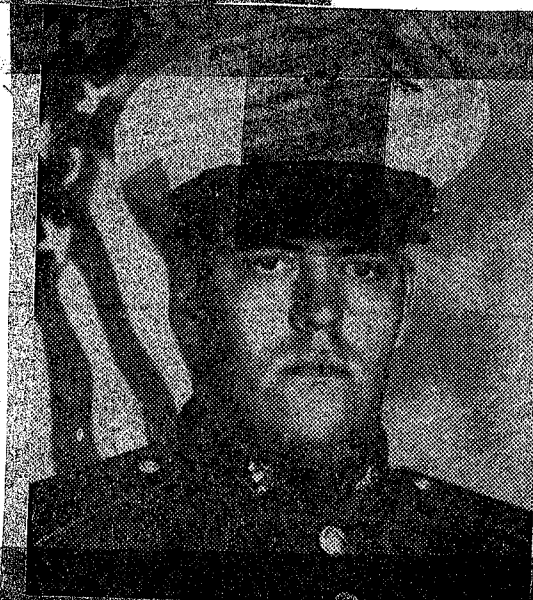
Courtesy: Bruce F. Bland



Attachment 14

Re: Stephen B. Bland,
(1960-1983)

Courtesy: Lenore Bland Brown



STEPHEN B. TEX BLAND

Marine's wife ready for worst

JOHN SPELICH
Star-Telegram Writer

Although Stephen B. Tex Bland and his wife, Ruthann, had been married since January, their life together barely had started.

The Marine lance corporal was shipped to Beirut in May, and he was home only about three of the couple's first five months of marriage.

She'd never met his stepdaughter. His wife, in North Carolina and mother in Arlington still had to meet.

Wednesday morning, two Marine officers arrived at Ruthann Bland's home in Camp Lejeune, N.C., and informed her that her husband was missing, a victim of the terrorist bombing of the Marine headquarters in Beirut. She said that deep down inside, "I know he's dead. But you can't let your mind believe it."

until they tell me. Deep down, I'm ready for it."

Those who knew Bland best describe him as a large and romantically jealous man who joined the Marine Corps because he needed a job and wanted to be the best.

His wife, a former New Jersey travel agent, said in a telephone interview, it was his size that initially attracted her to the former Arlington resident.

The couple met in October 1982 while she was on a date with another man.

Bland, standing more than 6 feet tall and bedecked with cowboy boots and hat, strolled into the bar and strolled away with her heart.

"He reminded me of the Schlitz Malt Liquor bull commercial when the bull comes through the barroom doors," said Ruthann Bland, 36. "He looked

mean. To me, he was a challenge.

Bland was born in Denton in 1960 and educated in Arlington and Mississippi. He joined the Marine Corps because, in addition to being jobless, he found the challenge in wanting to be the best, said his wife and his mother.

He always wanted to be the best, Rosa Bland said of her son. "He wanted to be patriotic. He went into the Marine as a boy and came out of basic training a man. He was a Marine through and through."

Both Bland's mother and his wife, who saw each other for the first time on separate editions of ABC's *Good Morning America* earlier this week, seem to agree the 23-year-old Marine was a special person.

"He was a part of my heart, just a part of it," she said. "Please see Wife on Page 28."

(Continued from Page 27)
"I never heard his sobriety in the Arlington Wednesday."

He was the youngest of four children and hadn't seen his mother since being assigned to Camp Lejeune in July 1982.

Bland apparently carried his wife in a special place in his heart, but he was overprotective regarding her and his unofficially adopted family, his mother said.

Earlier this year, Ruthann Bland's two children by a previous marriage elected to move from New Jersey to live with her and her new husband. Al-

though Bland had not met his stepdaughter, she corresponded with her and looked forward to meeting her upon his anticipated return in mid-December.

He married me and got a ready-made family, Ruthann Bland said. "He took them over like they were his."

But family life is tough in the Marines. The Marine Corps puts a stress on the marriage, but it puts romance into it, too, Ruthann Bland said. "You have a lot of good times and a lot of bad times. You may not have a quantity of time, but you have quality time."

After his discharge from the Marine Corps, Bland wanted to move to a rural southern area, "so far back the mapmaker wouldn't be able to find us," he would say.

He wanted to be away from people so he wouldn't have to share her with anyone, his wife said with a laugh.

He was idolized by the stepdaughter he's never met. He also enjoyed showing off his considerable strength to the amazement of his teenage stepson and his friends, she said.

One of Bland's favorite tricks was to lift the front end of a Plymouth Duster.