

Volume 5-1 January-June 1987, 51pp. and Volume 5-2, July-December 1987, 35pp. With this issue, my formatting took a step back, esp 5-1 which was set in a small, difficult font, but 5-1 marked the first time I developed extended studies for single lines, in this case, James River Blands (Group 1) and Dallas County Alabama Blands (Group 15). I continue to identify lines parenthetically numbered by the new Henry System developed by TereseBueker, (Henry System Grouping of Bland family Lines, see hyperlink Genealogy Bland Groups and Family Lines *updated June 2014*). Reader beware: these were early years when we were still learning what lines belonged where, mixing up lines, names etc. Many of these lines have been updated, (check this website Family Lines Link esp. for later source references) Remember this was almost twenty years before DNA and the larger, single volume newsletters published beginning in 1995 had all this trial and error to build on.

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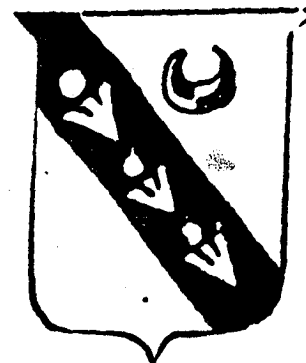
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# AMONG COUSINS

The Bland

Family

Newsletter



Volume 5, Number 1

January - June 1987

Dear Cousins,

Our Second Nationwide Bland Reunion was held August 16-17, 1986 at Petersburg, Virginia, attended by 102 persons and was a success. At the outset, I as well as all of us who are interested in the Bland family and its heritage, express deep thanks to William C. Haynes and his wife, Jane Carter Haynes, for their good work as on-scene coordinators.

Charles L. Bland, A VISION OF UNITY: THE BLAND FAMILY IN ENGLAND AND AMERICA 1500 TO 1900 (1982) 610 pp. Indexed, published twice annually, May 31 and October 31. Payment must be made by May 1 and October 1. Cost \$69.95; \$59.95 for library purchases and donations.

AMONG COUSINS - THE BLAND FAMILY NEWSLETTER is published twice annually January 15 and June 30. Subscription rate is \$15.00 per year. Back issues available at \$16. per volume: 1982-1983, 1983-1984, 1984-1985.

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AMONG COUSINS - THE BLAND FAMILY NEWSLETTER Mailing Address:

Charles L. Bland  
Publisher and Editor  
154 Delamere Road  
Williamsville, New York 14221

AMONG COUSINS - THE BLAND FAMILY NEWSLETTER is conceived as an organic extension of A VISION OF UNITY: The Bland Family in England and America 1555-1900. The book and "Among Cousins" are the result of research shared with me by many interested descendants of the historical Bland family. It is my hope that "Among Cousins" will continue as the vehicle for the ever evolving research about the Bland family, and that all new readers and subscribers will join the effort in the spirit of sharing enjoyed by current subscribers.

As editor, I assume all responsibility for printing, sale and distribution of "Among Cousins". I will publish all material received without knowingly altering the contributor's intent or objective information, but I reserve editorial rights.

Thanks also are due to President Clarence Maze, Jr., of Richard Bland College, and his staff, who hosted the reunion. A special thanks is due to Marge Solenberger, retired Public Relations Director at Richard Bland College who came out of retirement to offer help and advice to the Haynes, and who has done much other valuable work for the Bland family. I especially relish these reunions for the joy of meeting correspondents face to face and for the camaraderie and discussion. But these Reunions are more. They are not simply gatherings of a local clan, but include from all over the country and from a diverse range of family branches, those Blands and Bland descendants who are active in research. Here, interested researchers may meet and exchange ideas. Large volumes of new information seem to emerge from these reunions. Examples are the long section on Kentucky that appeared in the last number of the Newsletter (AC 4-2, pp. 23-42), and the discussion about the James River family that occupies a major portion of this issue. In this sense, the reunions are somewhat like a conference. I consider them valuable events and hope that 1985 and 1986 have established enough momentum to perpetuate them.

Before the subject is exhausted, I would like to say a few words more about the concept of reunions. Two prominent suggestions made to me about the conduct of our reunions were (1) they should be established perpetually in Virginia, which is after all the home of our family and, (2) reunions should be scaled down to every second year in order to enhance attendance. I tend to think that reunions should be held annually and in diverse locations. It must be understood that limited budgets, physical infirmity and other demands on one's time may preclude regular attendance. I know of a few hardy souls who will make every single reunion as long as their physical strength holds out. For another, a trip from say Texas or Illinois to Virginia would be physically and financially daunting. An elder person who lives in Illinois may be able to manage a reunion trip to Indiana, whereas Virginia or some other further distance would be out of the question.

The experience of the last two years has been that a solid minority of persons attending the reunion were from the immediate geographic vicinity. I would like to build upon that idea. One possibility would be to combine the national reunion with regularly established local reunions, if we could persuade the local groups to reschedule for August, which seems to be the best time. Those of you who read this may have ideas about how to make future reunions better. If you do, I would be glad to hear from you.

I have considered three locations for the 1987 Reunion. At this time, I have not secured agreement of a local coordinator for either North Carolina or Indiana. I have reluctantly concluded

that Houston, Texas or any location in Texas must be excluded, at least for 1987. My primary focus was on Houston or the Orange County area, where a large clan of Blands, descended from Peyton Bland and Elizabeth Smith, had existed since the early 19th Century. I wrote an appeal to correspondents in the Houston area asking for their willingness to help with a Reunion Committee for 1987. Although I received an enthusiastic response from Vera Bland of Pasadena, Texas\* and pledges of help from Marjorie Bland Bade, David C. Bland, Cheryl Kipp and Susan Sheffer, it was apparent that there was no major nucleus for a reunion in Houston. David C. Bland wrote me a very friendly and informative letter, setting forth the drawbacks: (1) Houston is too big and sprawling (a criticism raised by others) and costs would be "horrendous"; (2) very few relatives named Bland or descended from Bland remain in the Orange County area; (3) both Orange and Houston are "beastly hot" until October, and according to David Bland, while she was cleaning out the varmints from Orange County, Elizabeth overlooked "the largest mosquitoes in the world...as well as the stingiest deer and horse flies known to man".

Presently, I am discussing the possibility of a site near Green County, Indiana as well as two locations in North Carolina. Discretion demands that I not say more at this time. When a site has been chosen, I will inform subscribers.

#### Archeological and Historical Reclamation at Jordan's Point, Virginia

During the Reunion, I spoke with Marge Solenberger, now retired Public Relations Director at Richard Bland College, about her ongoing efforts to bring about the effective preservation of an appropriate commemorative site for the memory of Richard Bland (1710-1776) at Jordan's Point, Virginia. Although she is not a member of the Bland family, Marge has worked hard, if not alone, toward this goal. One of the most pressing needs was for additional funds for maintenance of the grounds at Jordan's Point until an established arrangement could be worked out. Toward this end, the Reunion Group made a small gesture when it voted to contribute a surplus of \$600 to Richard Bland College, which hosted the reunion, one half of the total going to the Cemetery Fund. Further, during the brunch on August 17, I spoke with several of the Virginia Blands and gained their willingness to join Marge in her efforts, as their time permits. Those who volunteered were Richard and Rachel Alfriend of Norfolk, Virginia; Anne and Mary

\*Vera Bland is a marvel of will and drive. She travelled an extraordinarily long distance to the 1985 Reunion in Elizabethtown, Kentucky. She was hell bent and determined to make the reunion in Virginia in 1986 but her physician forced her to desist.

Armistead of Roanoke; Tom and Nan Norris of Hardy, Virginia, but especially Bill and Vera Moore, whom I have learned goes by the name of "Curly". Bill and Curly live in Hopewell, near Richard Bland College and Jordan's Point and have been especially interested in cooperating with Marge Solenberger in this work. Ironically, Bill and Vera, like Marge Solenberger, are not directly descended from Richard Bland. Bill descends through the Chatham County North Carolina family, from John Bland (1758-1827), son of William (C1726-1775).

More will be written in the next newsletter about efforts to establish an appropriate commemorative gravesite for Richard Bland as well as important archeological work under way in anticipation of the commercial development of the Jordan's Point area.

#### Richard Bland College Scholarship Fund

As noted above, the 1986 Reunion group voted to donate a surplus of \$600 to Richard Bland College, hosts for the Reunion. One half was designated for a scholarship fund. On September 17, 1986, President Clarence Maze Jr. wrote to me suggesting that if the scholarship fund reached a level of \$10,000, minimum level for a named scholarship, the fund could begin awarding annual scholarships of \$500 to \$1,000 from annual earnings (thus keeping the capital fund intact, the typical way of managing endowments). Obviously, it is a long way from \$300 to \$10,000 and the amount will eventually go into the college's general fund if it does not show promise of growth. Many of us contribute a certain amount of money to charities and causes each year. A donation to the college fund would be appreciated. If you wish to make a tax deductible contribution, no matter how small or large, send your check to Clarence Maze Jr., President, Richard Bland College, Petersburg, Virginia 23805 with a note requesting the money be applied to the 1986 Reunion Group Scholarship.

#### The Reunion and Ramada Inn

A number of families who attended the 1986 Reunion expressed disappointment (something of a euphemism for what was really said) about the condition of the facilities and the service at the Ramada Inn-Petersburg which was lodging headquarters for the reunion. On October 20, I wrote a letter to President Richard Snell of Ramada Inns Inc. enumerating the complaints I had received. On October 29, I received a tentative reply from the Guest Relations Office of Ramada, and on December 10 a variant of the classic "bug letter" from the Front Office Manager at the Ramada-Petersburg. I will enclose copies of these letters to those subscribers who made the complaints.

### Library Donations

During this period, Helen Bourque of Houston, Texas donated a copy of A Vision of Unity to the Orange County Texas Historical Society. Helen Bourque descends from the family of Peyton Bland and Elizabeth Smith, who settled in Orange County, moving there from Louisiana but ultimately from Edgefield County, South Carolina and further back from Prince William County Virginia. Helen's generosity is much appreciated. A copy of the book was purchased for a library that is unidentified, through a jobber. Library Placements and donors are noted at the end of each Newsletter. If you would like to make a tax deductible gift to a favorite library or one where interested researchers are likely to use it, let me know. I would be very interested in having copies of the book placed at State Libraries in Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Arkansas, Missouri, South Carolina, as well as Pennsylvania.

### Curtis Bland

Anne Hall of Roswell, New Mexico sent me a packet of information and letters she received consisting primarily of letters exchanged between 1930-1948 by Marie Menaugh of Harrodsburg, Kentucky and Curtis Bland, the historian of the Washington-Marion Kentucky Bland family until his death. There is in this exchange of letters some fresh information that will be covered in the next issue. Primarily, however, the letters were charming and interesting for their humanity. So often I have heard that Curtis Bland travelled everywhere and knew everyone, it was a surprise to see him come through the letters as basically a lonely man who was content to write beautiful letters. More about this in the next issue. One of the letters in the file was written to Miss Menaugh from the mother of Mrs. Roland (Jessamine Bland) James. I sent her a copy and in return she sent me a small photograph of Curtis Bland, which I have enlarged and am pleased to display here.

### News From Cousins

William Graham Bland of Jacksonville, Florida wrote to me that he planned to give a biographical sketch of "Richard Bland, Virginia Patriot, Planter and Statesman" at the February meeting of the Jacksonville Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, based upon my narrative of Richard Bland's life in (VU, pp. 151-166). I am grateful for this, but must point out that my contributions to the preservation of Richard Bland's memory are small as compared to those family members, living and dead, who have preserved a magnificent record of Richard and his descendants (see below, pp. 8-25).

### Anne Louise Baker

I received a card in the mail inviting me to purchase The Bland Family Genealogy by Anne Louise Baker. The cost was \$39.85 and purported to be the result of computer research going back to 1538, done at the LDS Library. Checks were to be mailed to Computer Genealogies Inc., Lansdale, Pennsylvania. With Betrice Bailey fresh in my mind, I was skeptical, but would be glad to hear from anyone who purchased a copy.

### Tragedy in Oklahoma City

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma was the scene last summer of what Newsweek described as the "third largest mass murder in U.S. History". Fourteen Postal workers were fatally shot by their co-worker, Patrick Sherrill, before he killed himself. Newsweek discovered that the day before the murders took place, Sherrill



Curtis Bland  
Courtesy Mrs. Roland James

has been dressed down for poor performance on the job by his supervisor Bill Bland. It is safe to assume that Bland was Sherrill's prime target. On the day of the killings, Bill Bland slept late, and was thus spared. (Newsweek, September 1, 1986, p. 18)

#### Passages

It is with considerable sadness that I note the passing of six members of our family during the period August through November 1986. Jacqueline May Andersen of Juneau, Alaska, a descendant of the Chatham County, North Carolina family died August 1, 1986. Charles C. Bland of St. Louis, Missouri, formerly of Orange, Texas died on August 5. Suzanne Mang McKibbin of Windfield, Kansas, daughter of correspondents Conrad and Nelle Mang, died on August 17. Both Charles C. Bland and Suzanne Mang McKibbin descended through the Orange County, Texas Bland family. Theodore Cyrus Bland, known affectionately as "Teddy" to Jane and I, died at his home in Harrels, North Carolina on August 22, 1986. Teddy descended through the New Hanover-Duplin County, North Carolina branch of the family. I was informed that Anderson Bland Jr. of Urbana, Illinois, a descendant through the King and Queen Virginia Family, died September 30, 1986. Finally, Jack Sayles of Abilene, Texas, husband of Marjorie Bland Sayles, died in November 1986. The memorial service bulletin did not state the exact date of his death, but funeral services were held on November 10, 1986. Marjorie Bland Sayles descends from the Mecklenburg County, Virginia family.

I know that I speak for us all in extending heartfelt sympathy to the families and friends of all these late Bland descendants.

#### Scope of this Newsletter

Because of the extensiveness of material to be covered, and the length of the index to Volume 4, which is appended, this issue will be given over exclusively to an extended discussion of:

1. The James River Bland Family.
2. Information discovered by Marie McLaughlin of Selma, Alabama in her research of Alabama Records. Marie was employed by a consortium of interested researchers, and her work was both voluminous, effective and done at bargain basement rates. Marie expanded information about several lines and made heretofore unknown connections with others.

In addition, I am revising the key to Bland families previously done (AC 2-2, pp. 10-12) and linking them by code to a complete address list of subscribers (the past few issues have noted only new subscribers and address changes). The family key represents



what we know as of January 1987 and will surely require revision again.

#### THE JAMES RIVER BLANDS

This is the Bland family we all come across first because it is historically prominent in Virginia history. Many old records of the family were passed on in time, and several major genealogies have been published. What follows constitutes a major revision of my book, A Vision of Unity, (Chapter V. pp. 127-190, esp. pp. 161-165). This chapter of my book presents two anomalies. First, it slights the period from about 1750-1900. I was enthralled with the Blands of the 16th and 17th Centuries, but at the time my book was published, had little information about these Blands after the sixth generation. Second, the original design of my book was to encompass the period only to 1800, rather than 1900, as eventually happened with the other families. What follows is an attempt to rectify these anomalies. What follows may also clarify some misconceptions. First, it is obvious that the nostalgic elegy spoken by John Randolph for his old family in 1814 was vastly premature and invoked inappropriately in this book. The James River family thrived by name clean up to the dawn of the 20th Century as the research below will show. Second, although the James River family did not disperse in as great numbers as the Northern Virginia family, it is apparent that they did not remain locked into Virginia, as I once innocently assumed. Third, although the following presentation is focused primarily upon the family of Richard Bland (1710-1776) and Anne Poythress (I am guilty of misspelling Anne's name throughout VU pp. 161-165), I think it will clear up many old and recent misconceptions about linkages to the James River Family, particularly the notion that I have seen here and there and been exposed to somewhat forcefully, that Richard and Anne's son John married Margaret Osborne and moved with her to Kentucky. While I am on the subject, let me say that as a result of the rededication ceremony at Jordan's Point October 26, 1985 and the Reunion at Petersburg, August 16-17, 1986, I have had the opportunity of meeting many of the James River descendants face to face. I know them to be good and gracious people who deeply revere their Bland ancestry. I also should say that not one of them has advanced the notion that the James River family was God's chosen people. By now, it should be obvious that we are not all descended from Adam Bland and his descendants. I personally believe that James Bland of the Northern Virginia Bland family is descended from the Cumberland County, England family as noted before (VU, pp. 249-254 and AC 3-1, p. 7).<sup>\*</sup> If so, James has a heritage that goes as far back in time (for practical purposes) as Adam Bland. These are only two among many major families. Although all of us should admire the historical record of the James River Family, we may lead quite happy lives without being descended from it.

In preparing this revision of the James River Family, I have made use of a genealogical table prepared in 1897 by William Miles Corey and filed at the Pennsylvania Historical Society. This document focuses on the families of Richard's sons, Peter (1736/37-1781) and William (1742-1803). Reference to it was found in a file of correspondence mailed to me by Mollie Grant. It proved invaluable. The bulk of the material used, however, is the result of new contacts made with descendants of the James River family during the Petersburg Reunion, and as a result of a solicitation for material about the family. In this, I owe special thanks to Richard J. Alfriend III, Norfolk, Virginia; Anne Armistead, Roanoke, Virginia; Betty L. Clarke, Lovington, New Mexico; Linneous Preston Bland, Wakefield, Virginia; Robert O. Bland, Deland, Florida; Mrs. Harry Brandt Humphreys, Richmond, Virginia; Richard Knight, Virginia Beach, Virginia; Sally Cox Lee of Orlando, Florida; Jean G. Neidich, Oil City, Pennsylvania; Thomas F. Norris Jr., Hardy, Virginia; Holmes Rolston III, Fort Collins, Colorado; Mary McCain Smart, Bremond, Texas; Robert Wilkinson, El Toro, California and Helen Wright, Amelia, Virginia. My debt to these individuals is great. I will attempt to weave the information supplied by them into a comprehensive whole. Conceptual and factual errors that may result from this narrative should be reckoned as my own rather than those of the individuals who shared their research with me.

The story begins with Richard Bland (1665-1720) and his wife, Elizabeth Randolph, whose dates are given by Corey as (1686-1720). Richard and Elizabeth were married February 11, 1701/02 and lived out their lives on the South side of the James River, at Jordan's Point.

In 1678, when he sent his wife to Virginia to settle up affairs with his miscreant relatives, old John Bland (1612-1680) boasted of owning the following property:

The several plantations of Bartletts, Kimecheys, Herring Creek, Jordanes, Westover, Upper Chippoakes, Sunken Marsh Plantation, Basses Choice, Jamestowne Lott, Lawnes Creeke and all other lands etc. (VU, P. 87).

\*Since Cumberland and Westmoreland Counties (specifically, St. Andrews and Orton parishes) were so close together, and both families were evidently from poor stock in the 16th Century, it is possible that a link between the two families could be found, but it would be earlier. It is entirely possible that genealogists must be reconciled to dealing with two families, each of whom had members who came to the new world.

Jordan's acquired its name as a result of purchase of the land (450 acres) in 1619 by Samuel Jordan. Jordan died in 1623 but his property thrived as a small settlement known as Jordan's Journey. One source says the property was intermittently owned by Francis Poythress, and that Nathaniel Bacon announced his leadership of the Rebellion of 1676 to his forces who were encamped on the property. The Surrey County Order Book indicates that Jordan's was purchased by old John Bland September 3, 1657. This is interesting because all of the property indicated above was bought with the Bland family's money, but variously by John's brothers, Edward (1613-1652) and Theodorick (1629-1671). It is clear then that in the aftermath of the dispute between the two widows, Sarah Greene Bland (1624-1712) and Anna Bennett Bland (1639-1687), Anna held on to Jordan's as well as Westover. When the elder sons of Theodorick Bland and Anna Bennett sold a major portion of Westover to the Byrd family in 1688, it is evident that they made Jordans their home seat. Jordan's became part of Prince George County, which was formed from Charles City County in 1702. Richard, in 1691, received 593 acres of land in Charles City County north of Jordan's called Causes Creek (VU p. 142).

After Richard's death, Jordan's Point reverted to his eldest son, Richard (1710-1776) and what by then was called Cawsons reverted to his youngest son Theodorick (1719-1784).

In addition to these two sons, Richard Bland and Elizabeth Randolph had three daughters: Mary (1704-1764) who married Henry Lee (VU, pp. 145-146); Elizabeth (1706-living in 1781) (VU pp. 147-148) who married William Beverly; and Anna (1711-1770) who married Robert Munford and after his death in 1744, George Currie (VU pp. 148-151). In my book (VU, p. 150) I erroneously indicated that Elizabeth Munford, the daughter of Anna Bland Munford Curry by her first husband, married John Bannister. In fact, she married Archibald M. Roberts, while Bannister married Elizabeth Bland, daughter of Theodorick Bland.

The younger son of Richard Bland and Elizabeth Randolph was Theodorick (1719-1784) who married Frances Bolling (C1724-1774). Theodorick and Frances had six children including Elizabeth (1739- ), Theodorick (1740-1790), Mary (1745-1765) Anna (1747- ), Jane (1747- ) and Frances (1752-1788), mother of that incorrigible, half mad rascal John Randolph of Roanoke (VU, pp. 166-190). For pursuit of male lines of descent, this line is essentially fruitless. The only son, Theodorick (1740-1790) appears to have died without issue (VU, pp. 180-181). Theodorick has excited interest among researchers outside the James River family because he owned large tracts of land in what became Nelson

County, Kentucky, causing researchers to search for a connection between Theodorick and John Bland, who married Margaret Osborne. It is instructive perhaps that John and Margaret moved their family into Nelson County about 1781, while Theodorick sold at least some of his Kentucky land by October 1779 (Virginia Land Office Warrant 12, Survey Grant 8987, 5650 acres). There is no known connection between Theodorick and John Bland (1725-1795) other than a shared surname. The eldest son of Richard Bland and Elizabeth Randolph was Richard Bland (1710-1776) who married three times: (1) to Anne Poythress (1712-1758) whom Richard married in 1729; (2) Martha Macon Massie. Information supplied to L.P. Bland from Richard Alfriend III, elaborates on Martha's dates. While somewhat vague, it shows that Richard and Martha married January 1, 1759 and that Martha died on August 8, "in the 37th year of her age". Based on this information, and the fact that she married her first husband in 1740, I would suggest that Martha's approximate dates are (1722-1759), meaning that Richard's marriage to her was short lived; (3) Richard married for the third time to Elizabeth Blair Bolling, who died in 1775.

All of Richard Bland's twelve children (seventh generation, six sons and six daughters) were born to him by Anne Poythress, a daughter of Peter Poythress of Flowerdew Hundred, a plantation that is just a short boat ride down the James from Jordan's Point. In pursuing lines of descent through children of Richard and Anne, it is important to note that some of them ended up, by moving or by dent of the surveyor's line, in Dinwiddie County, formed from Prince George in 1752, from Amelia County formed from Prince George and Brunswick Counties in 1734 and from Nottoway County, formed from Amelia in 1788.

#### Daughters of Richard Bland and Anne Poythress

The eldest daughter of Richard Bland and Anne Poythress was Elizabeth (1732-1790) who married Peter Poythress (VU, p. 162)

Elizabeth Bland and Peter Poythress had eight or nine children (accounts vary). For the sake of the record, I will list them here with the proviso that some may be erroneous.

1. Sally Bland Poythress married (1) Richard Lee and (2) Willoughby Newton.
2. Elizabeth Poythress (1759-1806) married William Mayo.
3. Jane Poythress married Joseph Mayo.
4. Anne Poythress married John Randolph.
5. Agnes Poythress married Roger P. Atkinson.
6. Mary Poythress married John Batte.
7. Lucy Poythress married John Eppes.

8. Susannah Poythress (October 15, 1769- ) married a first cousin Richard Bland (1762-1806) son of Elizabeth Bland Poythress' brother Richard (1730-1786).
9. A ninth child, a son, was said to be William Poythress who married (1) \_\_\_\_\_ Bolling and (2) Mrs. Marable.

I am grateful for this information to Sally Lee, who descends from Elizabeth Bland Poythress through her daughter Sally Bland Poythress Lee Newton.

The second daughter and third child of Richard Bland and Anne Poythress was Anne Bland (1735- ) who married John Pryor. I received no new information about Anne Bland and John Pryor (VU p. 163).

The third daughter and sixth child of Richard Bland and Anne Poythress was Mary Bland (1740/1741- ). Nothing further is known of Mary.

The fourth daughter and tenth child of Richard Bland and Anne Poythress was Sarah Bland (VU, p. 165) (September 19 or 30, 1750 - May 13, 1807). Sarah married Robert B. Goode (1743-1809) on June 18, 1868. Sarah Bland and Robert Goode died in Whitby, Virginia. They had a family of nine children including:

1. Robert Goode (1769-1788)
2. Richard B. Goode (1770-1812) who married Sally Woodson in 1796.
3. Sarah Goode (1771- ) who married Obediah Cornwall.
4. Francis Goode (1773-1814).
5. Theodorick Goode (1774-1800).
6. Mary Goode (1776-1847) married John Spotswood.
7. Sally Bland Goode (1779-1816) who married (1) James Lyle (2) Colin Douglas and (3) Tarlton Saunders.
8. Martha C. Goode (1787-1814) married James Scott.
9. Thomas Goode (1789-1810).

Robert must have been too distracted by the Revolution and the travails of the young nation to pay much attention to Sarah between 1779-1787. Prior to 1779, he seems to have been as regular as the sun. Sorry baby boomers, Sarah Bland and Robert Goode didn't have a son named Johnny B. Goode for Chuck Berry to sing about. I am grateful to Mary McCain Smart, descended from Sarah Goode (1771- ) to Betty L. Clarke, descended from Sally Goode (1779-1816) for this information.

The fifth daughter and eleventh child of Richard Bland and Anne Poythress was Susan Bland (1752- ). Miles Corey says she married a man named Peter Wood. The sixth daughter and twelfth child of

Richard Bland and Anne Poythress was Lucy Bland (1754- ) who married Jacob Rubasmen about 1780. (VU, p. 165).

Richard Bland (1730/1731-1786)

The first son and eldest child of Richard Bland and Anne Poythress was Richard Bland, born at Jordan's March 3, 1730/1731. In the inadequate coverage of Richard and his family provided in the book (VU, pp. 161-162), I set his date of death at 1766, which was wrong. Richard Alfriend indicates that Richard's estate was divided October 10, 1786 and Thomas Norris indicates an old but unsubstantiated family record that shows Richard died January 25, 1786. Given these two evidences which seem to match, it is safe to set Richard's dates as (1731-1786).

Richard married Mary Bolling, a descendant of Pocahontas, (July 16, 1744 - August 9, 1812) on October 8, 1761. Mary was the daughter of Colonel John Bolling of Cobbs, in Chesterfield County, Virginia. Her mother was Elizabeth Blair. Richard and Mary had a family of five children including:

1. Richard Bland (July 23, 1762 - March 26, 1806) who lived at Jordan's at Nottoway Parish, Amelia County and married a cousin, Susannah Poythress (October 15, 1769 - ) on December 24, 1787. Richard Bland and Susannah Poythress had a family of nine children including:

- A. Mary Burton Bolling Bland (1788-1789)
- B. Elizabeth Bland (1790-1790). Elizabeth lived just over a month.
- C. Ann Poythress Bland (1791-1806).
- D. Richard Bland (December 21, 1793 - June 29, 1864).

Richard married first, Adeline Manton ( -1828) and had by her: (1) Anne who married Edward Turner and (2) an unnamed child. Adeline died during the second child's birth. Second, Richard Bland married Martha Elizabeth Ledbetter ( - June 25, 1886) on August 13, 1829, by whom he had (1) John Bolling Bland styled "of Richmond and Baltimore". John Bolling Bland married a Miss Boyd and had by her (a) Boyd Bland, (b) Fanny Bland, and (c-d) two unnamed children.

E. Sallie Tazewell Bland (March 2, 1796- ) married Thomas Bott or Batte.

F. John Bolling Bland (July 17, 1798-1863). John married three times. To his first wife, Mary Eppes, were born two children: (1) John Bolling Bland, who himself married three times, first to Bettie Marks, second to Miss Ruffin and third to Miss Watkins. By his last wife, John Bolling Bland had: (a) John Bolling Bland; and (b) Charles Watkins Bland. (2) William Eppes Bland (January 8, 1828 - July 16, 1877) who was married at Petersburg, Virginia on June 10, 1863 to Sarah Russell Bland

(January 8, 1844 - June 7, 1905) a cousin, daughter of Theodorick Bland (1804-1859), brother of John Bolling Bland (1798-1863). Their family included seven children: (a) William Epes Bland (1864-1866); (b) John Theodorick Bland (1866-1868); (c) Mary Brooke Bland (September 13, 1868 - May 19, 1895); (d) Sarah Russell Bland (October 18, 1870 - August 1904); (e) Robert Epes Bland (July 29, 1872 - ); (f) Magdalen Pickett Bland (June 19, 1875 - May 3, 1865) married William Temple and (g) William Epes Bland (May 26, 1877 - August 6, 1877). John Bolling Bland (1798-1863) married a second time to Rachel Reed (1816-1841) and by Rachel had (1) Robert Bland (1836-1892) who married Miss Rivers and (2) Rachel (1841-1864) who married James D. Proctor. Thirdly, John Bolling Bland (1798-1863) married Elizabeth Cargill and had by her (1) Magdalen Bland and (2) Mary Harrison Bland who married two men, Bryant and Johnson.

G. Peter Poythress Bland (1800-1820).

H. Mary Bolling Bland (October 16, 1802 - December 25, 1824). Mary married Elgin Russell.

I. Theodorick Bland (September 24, 1804 - February 28, 1859). Theodorick was styled "Dr. Theodorick". He married at her home in Brunswick County, Virginia, on December 18, 1834, Mary Brook Harrison (June 6, 1809 - August 3, 1860). Both Theodorick and Mary died at Jordan's Point. They had a family of ten children: (1) John Harrison Bland (October 6, 1834 - ); (2) Susannah Poythress Bland (1837 - died young); (3) Mary Cocke Bland (December 7, 1839 - ); Pocahontas Harrison Bland (November 14, 1842 - ); (5) Sarah Russell Bland (1844-1905) who married her cousin, William Epes Bland (1828-1877) (cf p. 14 above); (6) Theodorick or Theodore Bland (June 21, 1846 - May 30, 1899), never married. He was a family historian once interviewed by Anna Donigan (VU, p. 196-196A). According to Thomas Norris, Theodorick served in an unofficial unit of younger CSA soldiers, the 44th Battalion, Company C and later during 1864-1865, in Company E 56th Regiment. He was captured at Farmville after the battle of Petersburg and was imprisoned by the yankees at Lookout Point, until released July 1, 1865. Military records describe Theodorick (1846-1899) as dark complected, dark hair, gray eyes, about 5' 5"; (7) an unnamed infant daughter was born in 1848 and lived ten days; (8) Mary Susannah Bland (August 30, 1849 - October 8, 1909). Mary Susannah married George Ajax Armistead (1848-1934) in Petersburg on January 17, 1871. This is the line through which correspondents Anne and Mary Bland Armistead and Thomas P. Norris Jr. descend.; (9) Anna Bland (November 28, 1851 - April 18, 1900) married Charles Gee; (10) Susannah Poythress (March 25, 1854 - ). I am pleased to display photos of Mary Susannah Bland Armistead (1849-1909) and George Ajax Armistead.

2. Anne Poythress Bland (May 27, 1765 - ). Anne married John Morrison and Peter Woodlief.

3. John Bolling Bland (1767-1777).

4. Elizabeth Blair Bland (May 29, 1770 - ) married William Poythress February 10, 1787.

5. An unnamed infant who was born in August 1771, and died the same day.

This concludes the family of William Bland (1731-1786) and Mary Bolling (1744-1812).

#### Peter Bland (1736/1737-1781)

Peter was the second son and fourth child of Richard Bland and Anne Poythress (VU, p. 163). Peter's dates were given in Campbell's The Bland Papers, as (February 2, 1736/1737 - February 16, 1781). Although I have contacted no direct descendant of Peter Bland, Miles Corey showed him more attention than other children of Richard Bland and Anne Poythress, and residual information has made it possible for me to fit other pieces together.

In my book, I indicated that Peter Bland had two wives, Judith Booker and Rebecca Spiceley. Robert Bland of Deland, Florida sent me a copy of Peter's will, made in Amelia County, Virginia, September 14, 1779. The 1779 will adds validity to the date of death. Also, it shows that Peter styled himself "Peter Randolph Bland". His wife in 1779, though not identified in the will by name, was Judith Booker, who survived him. This indicates that Rebecca Spiceley was a first wife and that there were no children or that there was no Rebecca in Peter's life (see discussion about 1. Richard Bland below). A property division in December 1786, as well







as the will shows Peter Randolph Bland (1736-1781) had four children, sons Richard (co-executor of Peter's will with Judith Booker), probably the eldest son, and Peter Bland, both legal adults, as well as minor children Edward (1767-1831) and Anne. Peter was a man of means, dispensing of 1,026 acres in Amelia County to his three sons, and 75 slaves divided between all his children (see below, p. 18).

Peter Randolph Bland (1736-1781) married Judith Booker in Amelia County, October 22, 1761. As noted above, he had four children (named in his will):

1. Richard Bland - Although Richard was executor of his father's will, there is very little further information about him. He would have logically been at least 21 years old in 1779, thus was probably born no later than 1758, lending credence to the possibility that Peter married a woman (Rebecca Spiceley) prior to Judith Booker. Richard's will is found in Tyler's Quarterly, (7, p. 66). It leaves his plantation called "Enfield" to a son, Peter Randolph and mentions daughters Anne Bland, Sally Dickens Bland, Elizabeth Ridley Bland and brothers, Peter and Edward.

2. Peter Randolph Bland - Peter Randolph Bland, as he styled himself, was an adult in 1786 so would have been born no later than 1765. Possibly he is the eldest son of Peter Randolph Bland by his wife, Judith Booker. Peter died about March 31, 1822 or 1824 and left Virginia for Tennessee and Missouri. According to Corey, he died at St. Louis, Missouri. He was educated at Hampton-Sidney College and was a lawyer. Peter married twice, first to Elizabeth Morrison, by whom he had four daughters:

- A. Judith Booker Bland
- B. Anne Morrison Bland
- C. Elizabeth Morrison Bland
- D. Sally Morrison Bland

There is a story in Notes on Southside Virginia (p. 156) that Elizabeth Morrison's grave was violated when she died. Peter

Randolph Bland delegated some friends to reshroud her grave, but her daughters became overwrought so Elizabeth was not dug up. Later it was determined, so they say, that one of Peter Randolph Bland's negroes robbed his wife's grave in order to get the clothes.

On September 30, 1809 in Nottoway County, Peter married Martha Nash Wallace whose dates are given by Corey as (1789-May 6, 1833). Children by this second marriage were:

A. Peter Francis Bland (February 17, 1811- ).  
B. Richard Edward Bland (March 3, 1813-November 5, 1867). Richard Edward was educated at St. Louis, Missouri and practiced medicine there until his death in 1867. Richard Edward married Henrietta Wallace Williams, (March 5, 1815-August 1855) on August 1, 1836. Their children were: (1) Martha Bland, (2) Mary E. Bland, (3) Hilda W. Bland, (4) Edward W. Bland, (5) Virginia B. Bland, (6) Anna Bland, (7) John Randolph Bland (March 14, 1851-living in 1897). John Randolph lived in Baltimore, Maryland as an adult and married Maria Harden (December 20, 1856-living in 1897) by whom he had three children: (a) Randolph Bland (C1877-died in infancy), (b) Emma Harden Bland (July 5, 1878- ) who married William Wallace Symington on November 12, 1901 in St. Louis, (c) Richard Howard Bland (March 31, 1880- ) who married Mary L. Paul October 25, 1905 and had by her three children (c1-3) Randolph (1907- ), Richard Howard (1910- ) and Frank Paul (1912- ). It would be interesting to trace this line more thoroughly, particularly if further information would trace back to Peter Randolph Bland (1736-1781).

C. John Nash Bland (June 5, 1815- )

D. Eliza B. Bland (June 30, 1817- )

E. Martha W. N. Bland (June 7, 1820- )

3. Edward Bland (VU, p. 163) - Edward was born February 2, 1767, and according to his obituary, died in Nottoway County, Abbeville on November 10, 1831. According to Turner's Old Homes in Nottoway and other references, Edward applied for a license to practice law, but it is unclear whether he actually attained a practice. His obituary describes him as a generous man, ready to help the needy, and his home "an abode of universal hospitality". At his death, his estate was valued at \$34,000 making him well off for his time. Edward married Rebecca Jones (1791-1841) on June 29, 1808 in Nottoway County. Although the exact composition of Edward's family is not clear, he and Rebecca appear to have had ten children:

A. Judith Maria Bland (1810-1856) who married Henry C. Worsham or Warsham and had a daughter by him. Henry was a co-executor of Edward's will.

B. Emma Bland (1811-1867) who married George W. Harrison in 1828. George was a co-executor of Edward Bland's will.

C. William Richard Bland (1818-1878). William was described as a strong Whig and a practicing lawyer. William settled and died at a place called Springfield. He married twice, first to Betty Irby, by whom he had Rebecca (1844- ) and Sarah A. (1846- ), probably about 1843 and second about 1850 to Matilda Epes (1831- ). They had a son (1) Edward Bland (1851-1901) who married Nannie Cooke.

William Richard Bland (1818-1878) was a minor in his father's will as were the following daughters (D-J) Ann A., who married Rev. S. F. Cocke November 5, 1833; Martha B.; Rebecca; Sarah, who married \_\_\_\_\_ Robinson; Frances and Virginia.

4. Anne Bland - Anne was a minor in 1787 and may have never married. Her will, made out in Nottoway County, September 4, 1806, mentions her mother, and leaves a "Legacy of Negroes" to brothers Edward, Richard and Peter.

The division of Peter Bland's (1736-1781) Estate (Amelia Will Book 4, p. 37) left 75 slaves to his children:

1. To Richard Bland: Tom, Robin, Frank, John, Betty, Mo, Dilce, Eva, Mary A., Sarah, Joe, Isham, Critty, Cipio, Sam, Hannah, Pleasant, Gull, Roger, Tom, Will.

2. To Peter Randolph Bland: David, Samuel (or Saul), Harrod, David L., Phillis, Phoebe, Isabel, Judah, Nanny P., Rachel, Nanny, Jacob, Eliza, Wonder, Harry, Christian, Dick, Harriet.

3. To Edward Bland: Adam, Billy, Phill, Well, Betty, Judah, Cato, Lucy, Lidda, Anney, Maria, Old George, Murrier, Mingo, Isaac, Stephen, Emmelia.

4. To Anne Bland: Daniel, Jimmy, Charles, Fanny, Lucy, Ritter, Sukey, Clarissa, Afsey, Patty, Ben, George, Amy, Lin, Rhoda, James, Tom and Grace.

There is, of course, no way of telling relationships between these slaves or where their children and descendants ended up.

#### John Bland (1739-1777)

John Bland was the third son and fifth child of Richard Bland and Anne Poythress (VU, p. 163). He is something of a mystery, and has been confused by some researchers with John Bland (1725-1795) who married Margaret Osborne and left his will in Nelson County, Kentucky in 1795. In spite of the fact that a solid link between this John Bland (1725-1795) and the Prince William County, Virginia family is well established, some researchers persist in this belief, borne I believe by an uncoordinated innocence about just how many Johns there were running around in Virginia in the last half of the 18th Century. One who believes in a John Bland (1739-1795) should pause to consider that John and his wife Margaret would have been children ages 9 and maybe 5 or 6 when

their first son, Osborne, was born. Perhaps some of what follows will further clarify the question of John Bland's identity.

John was born, according to Campbell, October 19, 1739. In my book (VU, p. 163), I erroneously stated that he died in his infancy. Actually, John attended William and Mary College 1756-1758, and was deeded 100 acres in Prince George County by his father at age 21.

John did not marry Rachel Reed, as some claim, or Margaret Osborne. Corey claims that he married a woman named Clara Yates, an assertion that is borne out by other evidence. An ad appears in the Virginia Gazette, April 18, 1777, announcing a property sale for the estate of John Bland, deceased. An inventory of John's estate, May 15, 1777, (Amelia Will Book 2, p. 309) the day before the estate sale was set, shows that John's administratrix was "Clary Bland". This would tend to make solid John's dates of (1739-1777) revising earlier speculation (AC 3-1, p. 8). A secondary Amelia County record shows Clara Bland marrying Robert Bellamy December 10, 1779. I believe it should correctly read that Clara Yates Bland remarried to Robert Bolling, as shown by a previously noted deed to a younger John Bland of 414 acres in Prince George County by Robert and Clara Bolling (AC 3-1, p.8 and 3-2, pp. 9-10). This would seem to establish clearly that John Bland and Clara Yates had a son, born no later than 1767 named John, who had other property transactions and as earlier noted, freed five of his slaves, Sally, with four minor children, John, Polly, Nancy and Ailsey on March 3, 1789, although he reserved guardianship for the children until they reached their majority. (Prince George Deeds, 1787-1792, p. 226).

There are other property records and one death notice showing that one John died December 11, 1794. Here one must use caution. There is a notice in the Virginia Gazette recalling John Bland and others back to military duty, Amelia County September 8, 1777. Either news of John's death the previous Spring had not reached the authorities, which seems unlikely, or there were two adult John Blands in the Amelia area in 1777. Hunters Familie Minorum Gentium (p. 427) shows a John Bland (December 8, 1741- ) who was the son of John Bland (1712-1787) and Anne Buck (1718-1770). This John was a contemporary of John (1739-1777). This John Bland was said to have been born at Scarborough but moved to London in 1758, moved to America, settled around Petersburg and Blandsford. Hunter said that John married a widow in America but had no issue (cf VU, p. 135). Amelia County marriage records show that one John Bland married a Mary Lang in Prince George County, April 23, 1791. Hamlin's They Went Nottoway records a grave marker at a Mary Bland graveyard, six miles from Disputana, Virginia, for Mary Bland, age 71, who died in 1826, a widow of John Bland, "formerly of London". Finally, one may recall that following the death of Theodorick

Bland (1740-1790) his widow, Martha Dangerfield, remarried to one Nathan Blodgett (VU, p. 181). Richard Knight was good enough to send me a copy of a marriage contract between Blodgett and Martha Dangerfield, October 4, 1791, witnessed by John and Mary Bland, who must surely be John Bland and his new wife Mary Lang. Having married in 1791, John at age 49 and Mary at about age 36, would have been kind of long in the tooth to start making a family, which more or less confirms Hunter's assertion that there was no issue. I think this is the John Bland who died December 11, 1794 in Prince George.

Thus, I believe we are dealing with two John Blands who lived more or less contemporaneously in Prince George-Amelia-Nottoway County:

1. John (1739-1777), son of Richard Bland and Anne Poythress, who married Clara Yates, who subsequently married Robert Bolling. They had at least one son John, born no later than 1767, and possibly another son, Richard Yates Bland (1771-1852) of whom more (see William Bland, 1742-1803) is stated below.

2. John Bland (1741-1794) son of John Bland and Anne Buck, who married Mary Lang (1755-1826).

#### William Bland (1742-1803)

William Bland was the fourth son and seventh child of Richard Bland and Anne Poythress (VU, pp. 163-164 and AC 4-1, pp. 17-18 and 4-2 pp. 6-7). He was born December 26, 1742 and died, according to Corey, in 1803. William led a colorful and (in his later years) somewhat unhappy and professionally failed life. He was well educated at William and Mary College and a minister. (Goodwin's List of Colonial Clergy in Virginia)

William Bland married three times, first about 1769 to Elizabeth Yates, whom I identified in my book as descended from "Pocahontas, that wily old squaw" (VU, p. 164). Richard Alfriend has reminded me that Pocahontas was only just out of her teens when she died in 1617, which I knew. The "wily old squaw" comment was hyperbole. Sorry Virginians.

Corey, who highlights William Bland in his genealogy, indicates that William Bland and Elizabeth Yates had two children:

1. Anne (or Nancy) Bland (C1770-1826) - Anne married Richard Pryor and lived with him in Dinwiddie County. They were parents of Theodorick Bland Pryor (1804-1890) who married Lucy, daughter of a Bland cousin, Roger Atkinson.

2. William Bland (C1771-\_\_\_\_\_) of whom Corey says he died at sea. This information would seem to refute an earlier hypothesis that two of the children of William Bland and Elizabeth Yates included Richard Yates Bland (1771-1852) and a William Bland who married Mary Ann Corr in 1792 (AC 4-1, pp. 17-18).

A Richard Yates Bland, shown as age 80, was found in the 1850 census at the home of his son, Richard Yates Bland Jr. in Dinwiddie

County. He appears to be the same man whose obituary appeared in the Richmond Enquirer indicating dates of (1771-February 12, 1852). Richard settled in Nottoway County and married Anna Booth, who survived him. Richard was appointed Sheriff of Nottoway County in 1827. He was said to be a deeply religious man. I believe that this Richard Yates Bland is a son of John Bland (1739-1777) and Clara Yates, though I cannot prove it. Richard Bland who married Mary Bowden in 1789 and William Bland who married Mary Ann Corr in 1792, would be relegated to the King and Queen Virginia family by this line of thought (AC 4-1, p. 17).

According to Corey, William Bland married (2) Catherine Wills in June 1773, by whom he had no children.

Third, William married about 1784, Ann Harwood (C1750-1818) by whom he had:

1. Edward Bland (1786-1822) - Not much is known of Edward, who married Delilah Walker and may have moved to Washington D.C. He had four children:

A. Ira Bland (C1811- ) who married Ann P. (C1816- ) and by 1850 was living with her in Warwick County. Ira is not acknowledged by Corey and may be misplaced here (AC 3-2, p. 18 and 4-2, p. 7).

B. Sarah Ann Bland (March 6, 1813-May 13, 1888) who married the Reverend Bignall Appleby January 23, 1839.

C. Anne Harwood Bland (September 26, 1809- ).

D. John Davis Bland (February 24, 1815- ).

2. Theodorick Bland (1790-1818) - Who Theodorick married is uncertain but he was the father of two sons: (A) Theodorick James Boyd Bland who married Georgina Lamb in North Carolina October 8, 1829 (AC 4-1, p. 17) and (B) William Henry Bland.

#### Theodorick Bland (1744-1754)

Was the fifth son and eighth child of Richard Bland and Anne Poythress.

#### Edward Bland (1746-1795)

Edward was the sixth son and ninth child of Richard Bland and Anne Poythress. Corey is silent about Edward. I am grateful to Richard Knight, Edward's descendant who has done a superb job of researching him and to Robert O. Bland, another descendant for the information that follows. Edward's dates were (December 16, 1746-February 5, 1795). Very little else is known of him. He married twice: (1) to Elizabeth Cocke, who was probably about Edward's age, and may have been the widow Elizabeth Archer who married James P. Cocke in Amelia County November 24, 1767. Edward and Elizabeth must have married about 1777. Edward married (2) Lettie Jones March 7, 1786. By these two women, Edward had three children. By Elizabeth Archer Cocke, Edward had:

1. John Bland (1779-1850) - John's obituary shows that he died February 24, 1850 "in the seventy first year of his age". He was called "John Bland of Centerville" in Nottoway County. John Bland married twice in his life (1) to Martha Jones and (2) on September 18, 1814 to Mary Bass Perkinson (1794- ). John wrote what is undoubtedly the most interesting, abstruse and detailed will I have ever read in which he noted his wife, Mary, six children and two slaves, Abby and Claiborne, although his will makes it obvious that he was a man of means and had many more slaves. Richard Knight lists nine children for John Bland and divides them this way:

By Martha Jones:

A. Martha Maria Bland (March 18, 1808- ) who married Thomas Jefferson Perkinson Jr. on January 9, 1823 and lived with him at West Creek, Amelia County, Virginia.

B. John Archer Bland (C1805-1840) - An inventory of John Archer's estate was filed in Amelia County September 22, 1942, but the inventory appears to have begun in November 1840. John Archer Bland married Mary Ann Dickinson (November 12, 1808-February 22, 1882) on March 21, 1827 in Chesterfield County, Virginia. John Archer Bland and Mary Ann Dickinson had a family of four children. Information from the 1850 census as well as from Richard Knight and Robert O. Bland, helps to flesh out these children somewhat: (1) Mary A. or Elizabeth Bland (1829- ) who never married; (2) Martha Rebecca Bland (1831- ) who married Charles W. Fitzgerald, but had no children by him; (3) Cornelia Alice Bland (December 6, 1831-January 27, 1899) married John Hughes Knight Jr. (1829-1914) and had by him a family of ten children, including John Thornton Knight, who was the grandfather of Richard Knight; (4) Robert Emmet Bland (July 18, 1833-November 1896). Robert Emmet Bland was the head bookkeeper for the Norfolk and Western Railroads, the Virginia, Tennessee and Georgia Air Line plus six steamer lines on the Eastern coastline, (when you think of airlines in this context, remember the infamous "Seaboard Airline Railway, My Clementine". Edgar Allen Poe was the only airborne Virginian in those days). He served in the confederacy beginning May 1861, serving with Company G, First Virginia Cavalry. He was active in combat with McLellan's forces around Washington and into Pennsylvania. Robert Emmet was born in Amelia County. He married (1) the widow Martha Webster about 1855, by whom he had (a) Molly, (b) Patty and (c) Willie. Nothing more is known of these children, but that Willie worked with his Pa. Robert Emmet Bland married (2) Emma Bates Walton on July 18, 1894. Emma was a maiden (1853- ) from Jacksonville, Illinois that Robert Emmet had met in 1893 when she visited Norfolk, Virginia. A correspondence ensued and led to Robert Emmet's marriage to Emma. Robert died two years later, but not before becoming a father to Robert Walton Bland, who was born January 14, 1896 and was the senior guest of honor at the

Petersburg Reunion, August 16-17, 1986. Robert Walton Bland was the father of my correspondent, Robert Oliver Bland.

I am happy to display below photographs of Mary Ann Dickinson (1808-1882), wife of John Archer Bland (1805-1840), and of their son, Robert Emmet Bland (1833-1896) as a young man, and at the time he married Emma Bates Walton, whose photo is displayed beside Robert Emmet.



Mary Ann Dickinson  
(1808-1882)  
Courtesy, Richard Knight



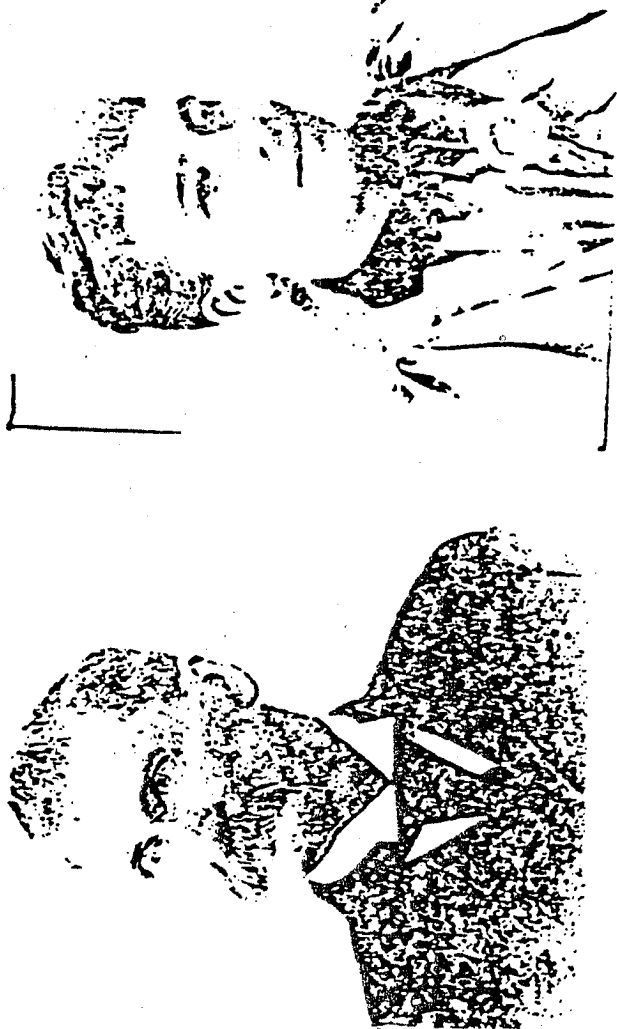
Robert Emmet Bland  
(1833-1896)  
Courtesy, Richard Knight



Robert Emmet Bland  
(1833-1896)

and  
Emma Bates Walton  
(1853- )

Courtesy  
Robert O. Bland



Robert Walton Bland  
Virginia, August 16, 1986,  
with Christina Louise Bland,  
Karen Bland, Mary Lynn  
Bland, Kristy Bland and  
Thomas Elliot Bland.



By Mary Bass Perkinson:

A. Thomas Perkinson Bland (1815- ) who was the executor of his father's will. Turner's Old Homes in Nottoway indicates that Thomas lived at a place called "The Grove". He married Mary E. Worsham and had daughters (1) Mollie, who married William E. Hinton and (2) Ella, who married Dr. Orlando Hinton.

B. George Cocke Bland (1820- ) who married Rebecca Straghan (1825- ). George was called "of Greenhill" in Nottoway County. George Cocke Bland and Rebecca Straghan had six children: (1) John Blackwood Bland - John married Martha Perkins; (2) George Randolph Bland ( -1938); (3) Theodora Bland (1843-1919) who married (1) Henry Miller and (2) George Miller. Theodora was the grandmother of William F. Wright, husband of my correspondent, Helen Wright; (4) Eva Janet Bland (1850- ) who married Daniel J. Townsend; (5) Melville Bolling Bland who married Charles Stengala. (6) Matthew Richard Bland.

C. Theodorick Bland (March 17, 1825- ) this is hypothetical. John Bland did not list Theodorick in his will and Richard Knight concluded that Theodorick died unmarried. A Dupuy genealogy lists Theodorick with the above date of birth, as married on March 24, 1862 to Sallie Garnett Wilson (1830-1884).

D. Louise Christina Bland - Previously I listed her erroneously as the daughter of Edward Bland (VD, p. 165). She married Thomas Robert Wiley Harrison on December 17, 1845.

E. Eliza Ford Bland who married \_\_\_\_\_ Anderson.

F. Emogene Ford Bland (1835- ) who married Erasmus Hinton.

G. Matthew Richard Bland who married Mary Bufort.

By Lettice Jones, Edward Bland (1746-1795) had two children:

1. Collin (or Collin) Bland about whom nothing more is known.
2. Peter Rodney or Randolph Bland who may have removed to Tennessee. Peter married Susannah Bacon, November 20, 1807, and lived with her in Nottoway County in a four room house where, it was said, young people gathered frequently to dance.

This concludes the revision of the history of the James River Family. It is a first attempt and will obviously contain errors. Corrections and updates are welcome.

## ALABAMA FAMILIES

Alabama is one of those southeastern states that was a receptacle for settlers who poured in from Virginia and the Carolinas before 1812 but in a more massive way immediately after the War of 1812, with the general westward push that accompanied the young nation's legitimate claim to the Louisiana Territory. Blands had settled in Georgia, and a prior study of that state would have been informative before pressing on to Alabama. As it happened, however, an opportunity to study Alabama presented itself first. In Spring 1985, I wrote to Selma, Alabama for some information about Elza Bland (1798-1879). Soon after I received the material and a letter from Marie W. McLaughlin, who informed me she was a consultant for the Dallas County courthouse and would be glad to do research for me. About a year later, I wrote to a number of correspondents who have family ties in Alabama, suggesting the formation of a consortium to contribute to a fund so that we could employ Marie McLaughlin to perform her genealogical research. Eventually, seven persons, in addition to myself, contributed to the consortium, including Marjorie Booth Bade, Houston, Texas; Roy M. Bland, Midland, Texas; William Bland, Florence, Alabama; Carrie Scales Evans, Shuqulak, Mississippi; Reba Jo Curry Jones, Lubbock, Texas; Mary Murphy, East Palatka, Florida; Gordon N. Ownes, Newton Square, Pennsylvania; Marybelle Tutt, Longview, Texas; and Carole Bland Yust, Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Earlier, I had received a genealogy of the family of Silas Blann of Dallas County, Alabama from Mollie Grant of Hampton Arkansas, which was quite helpful. I have also benefitted from the advice of Myron Banks, Raleigh, North Carolina and Linda Noe Bland, Church Hill, Tennessee, regarding the possibility of a North Carolina connection to some of these families. What follows is based principally upon the research of Marie W. McLaughlin, supplemented by Mollie Grant's study as well as by material previously submitted regarding these families, which will be cited in context. Overall, I believe it is a step forward, with previously unresolved questions being answered in some cases, while others remain stubbornly resistant to definition.

Dallas County Alabama

There were by 1850, two distinctive Bland families in Dallas County. One was headed by Elza (a bastardization of Elsey, maiden name of his maternal grandmother) Bland, the son of Wormeley Bland (1771-1800) of Edgefield County, South Carolina (VU, pp. 520-522, AC 3-1, pp. 33-36). Elza moved to Alabama with his first wife, Sophia Pow about 1835. Sophia must have died about 1841, for Elza remarried in 1842 to Damaris Barnes (1806- ). When Damaris died is uncertain, but Elza remarried for a third time about 1863 to Sarah L. Neyland, who was probably still in her teens at the time. It appears that Sarah died suddenly on May 16, 1916, leaving such

estate as she had in disarray, to be settled finally by a cousin, who was her nearest relative. Sarah's approximate dates then are (1845-1916). (It is one of those vintge developments that Elza was fifteen years older than his mother-in-law.) Previously, we have noted six children of Elza (AC 3-1, p. 34), five by Sophia Pow and one by Damaris Barnes. Elza Bland (1798-1879) is best known posthumously because of several long, interesting and spicy petitions filed by his kinsmen to challenge the right of Sarah L. Neyland to be his executrix. There seemed to be charges that Sarah had "unduly influenced" old Elza "by harsh and cruel words" into naming her as his sole heir (by that time all of his children had moved away from Dallas county or were dead). In his last years, Elza, according to his mother-in-law, "fell off a right smart", meaning he had become a little soft in the head, especially after a trip to New York in 1877 with a young niece. Poor old Elza.

I should note here that in 1850, the census taker spelled Elza's surname Blann, although more formal documents referred to him as Bland. The name Blann was also used by other families in Alabama. In most cases they were used interchangeably. One Dallas County family used Blann consistently. It was headed by four siblings who appear to have come to Dallas County, Alabama about 1820 from Jasper County, Georgia (AC 2-1, pp. 16-19):

1. Stephen Blann, born in North Carolina (C1782-1857)
2. Tabitha Blann, wife of Henry Everett (C1784-1857). Tabitha was born in Georgia.
3. Silas Blann (C1792-1858) born in Georgia
4. Thomas Blann (C1801- ) born in Georgia.

Thus far, no one has been able to determine the parents of these siblings. I have previously noted that the family is in the geographic path of the Edgefield County, South Carolina family migrations, and in fact in close proximity with Elza Bland (1798-1879), a verified member of the Edgefield family. Also, the name Silas is prominent in the Edgefield County family. A more promising approach, however, seems to be North Carolina.

One North Carolina possibility is the Duplin County Family, which had many migrations around 1810-1815 into Georgia and Alabama (VU, pp. 293-320 passim, and AC 3-1, pp. 16-20). The family of William Bland (1797-1873) and Susannah Alderman (1795-1880) moved into Bulloch County, Georgia about 1815 (VU p. 301ff). More significantly, the family of Joseph Henry Bland (1785-1862), born in Duplin County, North Carolina, came to Perry County, Alabama just adjacent to Dallas County about 1830 (all his children were born in North Carolina) (AC 3-1, pp. 16-20). It is worth remembering, though all this is hypothetical, that there are a number of loose ends in the Dupliln County, North Carolina family. The original settler, James Bland (C1704-1774) had a son, James "Buck" Bland, born C. 1727 - last noted in Duplin County in 1771.

No one knows whether he moved away and if so where, or how many children he had. James "Buck" Bland would be approximately the age to be a grandfather to Stephen, Tabitha, Silas and Thomas. James "Buck" Bland's brother, William (1726-1775) left a will that mentioned no fewer than six sons (VU, pp. 282-284, AC 1-1, p.3). William, James, Joseph and John have been accounted for. Two sons, Charles and Thomas, who were probably minors when their father's will was written, have not been accounted for, no line of descent written. They would be of an appropriate age to be the father of Silas, Tabitha, Stephen and Thomas.

A second possibility in North Carolina was Thomas Bland, who witnessed the will of Moses Bland (1718-1800) of Randolph County.

A third North Carolina possibility is a somewhat undefined family from Martin County, North Carolina. Linda Noe Bland and Myron Banks have been helpful in assisting me to reconstruct the early history of the Blands in Martin County. Properly speaking, the family existed in Craven, Beaufort and Martin County. Craven and Beaufort counties were carved from Bath, while Pitt County, which figures in this narrative, was formed from Beaufort in 1760. Martin County was formed from Halifax and Tyrell Counties in 1774. A modern map (see below p. 31) defines the area. On October 1, 1778, John Bland claimed 200 acres located near the property of one Luke Robertson in Martin County. John claimed an additional 150 acres near Luke Robertson and a man named Hardy Keel. This appears to be part of "three grants" surveyed for John, May 19, 1787, totalling 609 acres. One of the chain bearers was a man named Stephen Blan (note spelling, in the same transaction John's surname was spelled Bland). On December 9, 1778, a man named Thomas Bland claimed 100 acres in Martin County. Myron Banks wrote: "Thomas Bland Senior married (2) Hannah Keel, widow of Hardy Keel and they lived in Beaufort County, apparently on Durham Creek (see map p. 31). See also Beaufort Deed Book 22, p. 388. The first Bland found in Beaufort was Stephen Bland who bought land on Durham's Creek in 1796 (Beaufort Deed Book 7, 332) and received a grant on Durham's Creek in 1798 (Beaufort Deed Book 1, 35) Stephen conveyed both tracts in 1808 (Deed Book 8, 304) to Luke Robeson (sp). Obviously, Stephen Bland and Luke Robeson were in both Martin County and Beaufort County and they, plus Thomas Bland and Hardy Keel (whose widow married Thomas), were all on Durham's Creek at one time or another".

In an earlier paragraph (AC 1-2, p. 27) I made use of material sent by Al Hunter which showed a William Bland in the Martin County records from 1787-1804, with evidence that he was the son of an older William Bland (who was perhaps the man identified in the will of Thomas 1772). Details of the family were provided earlier (AC 1-2, p. 27). It should be noted, to clarify the earlier discussion, that Myron Bland's ancestor, Elizabeth H. Bland, married Solomon Ives in Craven County July 14, 1853 (AC 3-1, p. 14).

The 1790 Census shows the following Bland families in Martin County:

<u>Head of Household</u>	<u>Males +16</u>	<u>Males -16</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Slaves</u>	<u>Total</u>
William	1	3	5	0	9
Thomas	1	1	3	0	5
John	1	0	3	0	4

These names match up well with those in the deeds noted above. A will was left by Thomas Bland in (probably) Halifax County, June 27, 1772, names a wife Judith, a son William and daughters Priscilla and Elizabeth Bryant. The will was witnessed by William Everett and William Bland. A second will, dated 1795, in Martin County for Thomas Bland, names a wife Sarah, sons John and Thomas and daughters Mary and Fanny with other children, possibly grandchildren, Catey, Ann, Elizabeth, Chearty and Thomas.

From this, it would appear that there were three elder Bland's in Halifax-Martin County C. 1772-1787. They were Thomas, John and Stephen Bland. There is a will on record for Thomas (1772) but none for Stephen and John.

The first of the Blands to appear in Dallas County, Alabama were (1) Stephen Blann (1782-living in 1850) born in North Carolina; (2) Tabitha (1790-living in 1857) born in Georgia who married Henry Averytt (note witness William Everett to will of Thomas Bland in Martin County, N.C.); (3) Silas Blann (1792-1858) born in Georgia; (4) Thomas Blann (1801- ) born in Georgia.

What have we here? I have a possible scenario, purely hypothetical you understand. It may be what old Christopher Johnston called "a semblance of a connection.../but/ on the other hand...and after all...no more than an accidental coincidence". (VUp. 223) Let us see:

Of these three older Bland men from Martin County, by 1790 when the census taker came calling, there were missing what would appear to be older men like Stephen and John were. Perhaps singly or in tandem, they left the county heading south. Where they went is unknown (obviously they might have stayed behind and showing the ultimate in lack of consideration, failed to leave a will. What happened to John's 609 acres?). It appears that between 1782 and 1790, the family of Stephen, Tabitha, Silas and Thomas arrived in Georgia. They appear to have remained in Georgia about 30 years since records of them are found as late as 1819 in Jasper County. By about 1820, the older men were dead. Their children were in Dallas County, Alabama.

I would add a further dimension to this. Consider George Gideon Bland (C1790- ) born in North Carolina, who moved to South Carolina where a son, Gideon (1822-1876) was born (a typed

copy of the 1860 Census for Butler County, Alabama shows that Gideon was born in Georgia). George Gideon Bland (C1790- ) and his wife Mary Ann Johnson had two daughters born in Taylor County, Georgia. The family of Gideon Bland (1822-1876) and his wife, Amanda Parker, moved out to Texas like many of those in the Silas Blann (1792-1858) family. Gideon and his family apparently stayed in Georgia (Taylor County) until sometime between 1850-1854, when they moved to Butler County, Alabama (AC 3-1, p. 39 and 4-1, pp. 32-33).

These movements, though not precisely the same, are strikingly similar to those made by Stephen, Tabitha, Silas and Thomas. If George Gideon were the sibling or cousin of the latter four, it would mark the out migration from North Carolina at just about 1790-1791. All else seems to fit, though like the zealous paleontologist, we might simply have outfitted a Brontosaurus with the wrong head.

Myron Banks feels that this family is closely linked to the family in Pitt County, North Carolina\*. Back in 1983, Myron wrote me, "I think but cannot prove, that my Thomas was a son of William of Pitt, who may have been a son of, or at least related to, George". How this connection might occur is uncertain, since the old history of the Pitt County family by Gottschalk does not identify a William Bland that far back, and I have no record of him (which certainly does not exhaust the possibilities). One semblance of a connection between the Pitt and Martin County families, aside from geographic proximity, is the presence of Pitt County Blands in Halifax County as late as August 19, 1845, when Theophilus Bland married Mary Joyner (AC 3-1, p. 14. For the Pitt County family (AC 2-1, pp. 22-23; 2-2, pp. 38-9; 4-1 pp. 27-28).

The hypothesis then is for a Pitt County-Martin County, North Carolina connection and for a migration from thence to Dallas and Butler Counties in Alabama. Interested subscribers with ancestors in those counties should offer corrections for further development of the hypothesis.

\*Linda Noe Bland, or her husband, descends from William Bland (C1805- ) of Martin County, who married (1) unknown and had by her (A) James Theodorick Bland (C842- ) and (B) Penelope Bland (1857- ) who married John H. Grimes, July 31, 1881 in Martin County. William married (2) Abigail Evans (1840-1902) about 1862 and had by her (A) James Bland (1862- ) who married Susan \_\_\_\_\_, (B) William Thomas Bland (1864-1936) who married Addie Bland; (C) Nancy A. Bland (1865- ) who married Max Chrisenberry, September 2, 1883; (D) Henry Bland; and (E) Simon Turner Bland (April 28, 1869-January 4, 1910) who married Hulda Virginia Everett, August 12, 1891.





Stephen Blann (1782-living in 1850)

The oldest of the Blann migrants in Dallas County, Alabama was Stephen Blann, shown by the 1850 census to have been born in 1782. Stephen was in Jasper County, Georgia in 1818 and by 1820 was in Dallas County. Who he married is uncertain (a tradition has him married to one Martha Raynor or Rayner). His children seem more certain. On May 5, 1837, Stephen deeded land to "my daughter Julia S. Blann". On September 28, 1832, John P. Blann deeded land to Stephen Blann and James M. Blann. A petition to the estate of Sanford Blann, June 12, 1848, states that Sanford had no children at his death, but was survived by the following siblings: John P. Blann, James M. Blann, Julia S. Blann, Isaac N. Blann and Mary Ann Bland Fancher. These transactions would seem to bond Stephen as the father of the named children. Stephen's wife was dead by 1850, when the census taker found him at Rascoe Beat, living alone, an overseer by trade, but illiterate. Stephen's children were:

1. John Patrick Blann: John's dates are unknown, but he must have been born no later than about 1803, for he married Elizabeth McElroy April 7, 1824 and Lucinda Lovejoy on March 30, 1847. John's children by his respective wives have been noted previously (A 2-1, p. 17). Louisiana Blann, a daughter by Elizabeth McElroy, married Joseph L. Bassett September 28, 1842.

2. James N. Blann: James was born (1812- ) and was living in Wilcox County December 7, 1835. He was still living in June 1848, as a party to the division of his brother Sanford's estate.

3. Sanford Blann: Sanford's date of birth is unknown. He was county clerk in Dallas County. Sanford married Louisa C. High on September 14, 1843, but they had no children. Louisa subsequently married Joseph L. Bassett on September 1, 1847 (AC 3-2, p. 44). Sanford Blann died about May 1846.

4. Isaac N. Blann: Nothing further is known of Isaac. I have recently had contact with a soldier, H. Wayne McCallum, who descends from Isaac N. Bland (C1813-1853) who was born in North Carolina and died in Louisiana. The date of birth and perhaps the place of birth fit the description of Isaac. It is a question to pursue in the next issue.

5. Julia S. Blann: (1830- ) was shown living with W. F. Harrell in 1850 and according to a deed in 1850 was still unmarried. She is said to have married another Joseph Bassett.

6. Mary Ann Blann: Mary Ann married William Fancher (1817- ) in Dallas County January 28, 1847, but moved to Wilcox County by 1848.

Tabitha Blann (1790-1857).

Tabitha was born in Georgia and was in Jasper County in 1818. She married Henry Averytt about 1807 and lived with him in Dallas County. Henry died about 1856. On November 21, 1857, poor Tabitha was declared "non compos mentis" (mentally incompetent).

Thomas Blann (1801- )

Thomas was living alone in 1850, an overseer. He was born in Georgia and married Polly Hardin in Jasper County February 16, 1819. Nothin more is known of Thomas.

A likely cousin or perhaps sibling of Stephen, Tabitha, Silas and Thomas Blann would be James Blann, found in neighboring Wilcox County in 1830, himself aged 40-50 with a wife 30-40 and three daughters, two aged 10-15 and one aged 15-20. No sons are noted in the 1830 Census for James, but by 1850 there are two adult males living in Wilcox, including Monroe Blann (1822- ) born in Alabama, a grocer living in the same household with folks named Hort and Armstrong. The 1850 Census for Wilcox, also shows William Blann (1822-1856) born in Georgia, a farmer living with Jane (1825- ) and children Mary (1842- ), Thomas (1844- ), John (1845- ) and Cornelia (1847- ). By February 16, 1853, this same William Blann remarried to Louisiana Bell in Dallas County and, in claims against his estate in May 23, 1856, William showed children Mary, Thomas, Alfred, Cornelia and an unknown child.

Finally, in the 1850 Census for Dallas County, there is a James M. Blann (1822- ) a "dancing master" born in Georgia, living with the Trailer family. How these Blanns figure with the older generation that moved in from Georgia to Dallas County is unknown, but they do not fit into the family of Silas Blann, the best researched of the early Dallas County Blanns.

Silas Blann (1792-1858)

The best researched of the earlier Blann settlers in Dallas County is Silas Blann (1792-April 2, 1858) who moved to Dallas County about 1820. The settlement of Silas' estate showed that he was worth nearly \$22,000 a considerable sum at the time, so he was successful as a farmer.\* About 1816, Silas married a woman named Elizabeth \_\_\_\_\_ (1800-1853). Reba Ewers, a descendant of Silas claimed that Elizabeth's maiden name was DeCase but there was no further proof. Silas was a meticulous man who kept many records. For example, Marie McLaughlin sent to me a day book dated March 27, 1858, a week before Silas died, in which he had entered sums to be paid for his first six children (why the first six only is not clear). Silas and Elizabeth had the following children: (cf AC 2-1, pp. 16-19)

1. Lorany Blann (1817-December 10, 1855): Lorany married Benjamin Franklin Graves in Dallas County on November 30, 1838. By 1850, the family had moved to Morengo County, Alabama and later moved to Deleon, Texas where Lorany's children lived in close proximity to those of her sister Susan. Marjorie Booth Bade, relates a story of how Susan's son, Alex often as a boy would

\*Compare Silas' worth to that of Avery Bland (1792-1857) of Edgeville County, South Carolina who was worth \$40,000 in 1850.

snatch away the crutches of Lorany's youngest son Benjamin Franklin Jr., and "he would have to hop to get it back". Lorany Bland and Benjamin Franklin Graves had a family of ten children.

2. William Young Henry Bland (1819-September 30, 1854): William married Lucinda Smith Roark (C1820-May 14, 1912) in Dallas County January 12, 1839. About 1841-1843, William and Lucinda moved to Franklin Township in Ouachita County, Arkansas, what later became Calhoun County. William and Lucinda are buried in the Friendship Cemetery in Calhoun County. They had a family of eight children:

A. William Henry Bland Jr. (February 14, 1840-July 31, 1912). William was born in Dallas County. He was a soldier in the Civil War. William married Miriam Gosa (June 6, 1846-February 28, 1928) in Texas on November 15, 1861, but they died in Calhoun County, Arkansas and are buried in the Friendship Cemetery. William and Miriam were the parents of eight children:

(1.) William Cartright Blann (December 3, 1862-June 3, 1948) who married Mary Ophelia Williams (August 12, 1869-December 8, 1944) and lived with her in Calhoun County, where they are buried at the Pickett Cemetery. They were the parents of nine children: (a) Nora Bell Blann (1886-1912) who married Silas Claude Reynolds November 22, 1903; (b) Zoie Lena Blann (1891-1978) who married George Otis Green September 10, 1906; (c) Frank Earl Blann (1895-1968) who married Ollie E. Stratton August 26, 1917; (d) Pink Howard Blann (1898-1929) who married Eunice Elsie Parker February 2, 1919; (e) Mattie Mae Blann (1900-1970) who married Quine Eugene Ethridge, December 30, 1917; (f) Carrie Zeffie Blann (1901-living in 1986) who married Autry Earl Strangfellow February 1, 1920; (g) Violet Mildred Blann (1903-living in 1986) who married James Clifton Wright April 30, 1921; (h) Burley Lee Bland (1905-1922); (i) Grady Lee Blann (1907-1978) who married Juanita Lenora Bass.

(2.) James Blann (C1864-1882) who died in a saw mill accident.

(3.) John Thomas Blann (June 17, 1869-November 4, 1919) who married Mary Emma Porter (July 9, 1871-February 25, 1913) on December 18, 1890. They are buried at the Hampton Cemetery, Calhoun County. Their children were (a) Lorena Blann (1891-1978) who married Alvin Sloan December 28, 1911; (b) John Henry Blann (1893-1974) who married Mollie Alma Porter December 5, 1914; (c) Miriam Lucinda Blann (1898-living 1986) who married Charles Roscoe Sloan April 12, 1917; (d) Jettie Vann Blann (1901-1939) who married Ida Strickland December 21, 1922; (e) Hazel Blann (1905-died before 1986) who married first, Zelph Castleberry December 24, 1922 and second, Pleasant Decateur Groves; (f) Buna Earl Blann (1907-died before 1986) who married Noah Arthur Hines June 23, 1929; (g) Larkin Blann (1909-living in 1986) who married Maggie Edna Lockridge; (h) Enoch Blann (1911-1918).

(4.) Gideon John Blann (September 13, 1873-April 7, 1948) who married Sallie Ann Porter (November 10, 1878-May 20, 1934) on

November 27, 1895. They were parents of: (a) Julian Blann (C1897-1972) who married Laura Elizabeth Robinson December 20, 1914; (b) Ethel Irene Blann (1898-1973) who married Charles Iben Hines July 25, 1917; (c) Earl Blann (1901-1954) who married Gwin Avant; (d) Edna Jewel Blann (1904-1978) who married Doyle Bunyon Duncan in 1925; (e) Eveline Blann (1905-1982) who married William Holmes October 8, 1927; (f) Floyd Wesley Blann (1909- ) who married Emma Lee Jeffrey; (g) Tommy Blann (1911-1966) who married Magie Henderson; (h) Sam Blann (1913-living in 1986) who married Olga Holmes September 26, 1932 but divorced her; (i) Gracie Lee Blann who married Leroy Hanna.

(5.) Nettie Lena Blann (February 1, 1875-June 27, 1933). Nettie married John D. Hanna December 21, 1898. They are buried at the Hanna Cemetery near Harrell, Arkansas.

(6.) Stephen Blann (C1877- ) said to have died about age 10-12.

(7.) Charles Elbert Blann (June 20, 1881-December 11, 1953) married Eva Lena Williams (March 17, 1888-November 30, 1940) on May 22, 1910. Their children were: (a) Boyce Charles Blann (1911-1978) who did not marry; (b) Adam Elbert Blann (1912-living 1986) married Ira Oree Burchell December 23, 1947 in Bastrop, Louisiana; (c) Mallo Blann (1914- ) who married James Doyle Strickland February 15, 1930; (d) Lois Blann who married Herschell Anderson Sanders.

(8.) Garland Henry Blann (June 18, 1888-1940) who married Charlotte Adeline Sloan ( -1973) on May 4, 1909. Their children were (a) Birdie Alverne Blann (1910- ) who married Nelson David Cottrell June 17, 1933; (b) Girdie Laverne Blann (1910- ) who married Hury Sawyer December 25, 1936; (c) Marjorie Marie Blann (1916- ) who married Homer Lee Cooper on July 14, 1935; (d) George Garland Blann (1920- ) who married Irma Hopkins.

This concludes the children of William Henry Blann (1840-1912) and Miriam Cosa (1869-1944). Their photos are displayed on page 41.

B. Mary Elizabeth Blann (C. 1841-1854).

C. Senah Arissa Blann (February 4, 1844-March 18, 1905) married Thomas Franklin Weisinger (1837-1906). They are buried at the Friendship Cemetery in Calhoun County. Mollie Weisinger Grant descends through this line.

D. Richard Thomas Blann (May 31, 1846-March 16, 1912) was born in Arkansas and married Amanda Stafford (C1850-December 31, 1923) on January 23, 1867. They were the parents of 13 children, including two sets of twins:

(1) Alemneta Blann (February 2, 1866-July 25, 1960). She married Lerand Parker November 30, 1887. They are buried at the Friendship Cemetery.

(2) William Clesby Blann (September 27, 1869-January 10, 1931). He married Mary Ella James (November 26, 1877-February 10, 1942) on August 26, 1896. They are buried in the Friendship Cemetery. Their children were: (a) Ruth Adeline Blann (1897-1976) who married John Madison Hennegan December 29, 1913; (b) Pearl Blann (1899-1899); (c) Nelson Amos Blann (1903-1972) who married Mary Izora Parker, December 24, 1922; (d) Bessie Irene Blann (1908- ) who married Maynor Elvin Roark on December 27, 1928.

(3. & 4.) Tolliver Blann (February 15, 1872-1877). His twin Emily Ailene Blann (February 15, 1872-September 9, 1933) married William Hendrick Murph January 11, 1893.

(5.) Wiley Thomas Blann (February 14, 1874-July 29, 1930). Wiley married twice, first on October 25, 1892 to Maggie Bennet (1876-1909) and second, to Ella Stringfellow Inzer (1876-1963) about 1911. By Maggie Bennet, Wiley was the father of (a) Virgil Blann (1894-1900); (b) Ora Leona Blann (1896-1974) who married Hugh Washington McCollum November 2, 1916; (c) Riley Blann (1898-1900). Both Virgil and Riley Blann died on April 5, 1900; (d) Bennett Blann (1900-1966) who married Lavonie Harriet Burns July 20, 1920; (e) Jewel Blann (1902-1903); (f) Ned Alexander Blann (1904- ) who married first, Wilma J. Adams, whom he divorced, second Bessie Frasier, who died and third, Madge Lyon Elliott; (g) Buena "Bunn" Bland (1907-1978) who married Jesse Almon Holmes August 13, 1921 but divorced him. By Ella Stringfellow Inzer, Wiley Thomas Blann (1874-1930) had the following children: (a) Alford Blann (1912-1913); (b) Zula Mae Blann (1911- ) who married Clarence Johnston in July 1932; (c) Herbert Lee Blann (1915- ) who married Ruth Reddin December 31, 1935; (d) W. T. Blann (1921- ) married Myrtle Benson February 14, 1942.

(6.) Alonza L. Blann (March 25, 1876-April 27, 1942) married Sarah Elizabeth Talbot ( -1962) on January 2, 1896. Their children were: (a) Lessie Blann who married Oscar Kitchens; (b) Tillman Brawner Blann (1899-1946) who married Katy Hazel Adams; (c) Pearl Blann ( -1980) who married first Cecil James and second Bob Sharp; (d) Eva Blann who married first, Troy Wright and second, Paul Beatty; (e) Elsie Joyce Blann (1908-1980) who married John A. McKoin; (f) Heromine Dee Blann (1912-1980) who married Terrell Everett Moore April 10, 1931; (g) William Thomas Blann (1914-1978); (h) Troy Blann (1916-1974); and (i) Robert Flenory Blann who married first, Louise Crew and Robena Phillips.

(7.) James Keller Blann (March 29, 1878-December 30, 1926) who married Minnie Idealla James ( -1948) on February 3, 1907. They were the parents of: (a) Duval Kenneth Blann (1908-1962) who married Willa Mae Priddy April 22, 1944; (b) Frances Canaree Blann (1910-1931) who married W. Jack Boen February 1931; (c) Helen Cornelia Blann (1914-1931); (d) James Marcus Blann (1919- ) who married Mary Sue Waldrop June 21, 1943.

(8.) Bob Blann (1880-died young).

(9.) Fleeta Arzelia Blann (1881-1937) married William J. Parker April 8, 1928.

(10-11) Bertha Bennie Blann (April 1, 1883-December 9, 1979). She was a twin of Luther Leonard Blann and she married Robert Flemmond Bird March 3, 1904. Luther Leonard Blann (April 1, 1883-January 29, 1963) married Mary Elizabeth Talbot (1887-1967) on December 5, 1915. They had the following children: (a) Claris Dee Blann (1916- ) who married Reid Chester White June 4, 1948. Claris Dee was a twin of (b) Dorris Bee Blann (1916- ) who married Leroy Sidney Foster May 15, 1936.

(12.) Emma Lou Blann (October 2, 1886-December 8, 1951) married Frank Ivy (1886-1965) on March 16, 1907.

(13.) An unknown daughter who died on the day she was born.

This completes the children of Richard Thomas Blann (1846-1912), fourth child of William Young Henry Blann (1819-1854) and Lucinda Roark (1820-1912).

E. Louisa Bernice Blann (September 16, 1848-May 13, 1912). Louisa was the fifth child of William Young Henry Bland and Lucinda Roark. She married John Riley Stringfellow (1847-1924) on October 11, 1865 and by him had a family of ten children.

F. Canary Smith Blann (December 12, 1850-May 31, 1927). Canary married Robert Nathaniel Hunt (1841-1919) on January 23, 1868. Both died at Prescott, Arkansas and were buried at the Pleasant Hill Cemetery in Nevada County, Arkansas.

G. James Silas Blann (1853-1867).

H. Emma Sophronia Blann (March 16, 1855-December 13, 1929). She was married at Friendship, Arkansas on December 20, 1877 to George Elbert Fisher (1855-1906) an intenerant Methodist minister. Emma and George ended their days and are buried at Klondike, Texas.

This concludes discussion of the family of William Young Henry Blann (1819-1854) second child of Silas Blann (1792-1858).

3. Tabitha Blann (1822- ): Tabitha married Thomas H. Booth in Dallas County, Alabama on January 25, 1841 and moved with him to Mississippi. She was the third child of Silas Blann.

4. Frances Blann (1824- ): married William Frances Jones December 10, 1844. Frances is reported to have married twice more after Jones kicked the bucket but her subsequent husbands are not known. She ended up in Sardis, Mississippi.

5. Asenath Blann (March 20, 1828-February 16, 1871): Asenath was the twin of Alfred Blann (1828-1910) listed below. She married Thomas Jefferson Parnell (1814-1859) on November 20, 1850 and by him had a family of five children.

6. Alfred Blann (March 20, 1828-November 14, 1910): Alfred was the twin of Asenath (1828-1871). Alfred was a school teacher. The family moved to Mississippi, but Alfred and his wife, Jane Elizabeth Kelly (November 7, 1840-March 8, 1920), returned to Dallas County, Alabama. They were the parents of eight children:

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).

Silas was born in Dallas County and died in York, Alabama. He married Irma Abney (March 21, 1878-February 6, 1966) on April 2, 1903. Silas and Irma had four children: (1) Martha Virginia Blann (1906- ) who married Oscar M. Gordon May 28, 1939; (2) Estella Jane Blann (1908-1979) who married John Curtis Scales January 1, 1930. They were the parents of my correspondent Carrie Scales Evans of Shuqulak, Mississippi; (3) Irma Swift Blann (1912- ) who married John A. Haigler; (4) Margaret Nell Blann (1923- ).

F. Clarence Davidson Blann (1875-1875).

G. Maggie Day Blann (August 23, 1876- ) who married Joe E. Fort September 10, 1902.

H. Bessie Hill Blann (December 5, 1879- ) married Ralley Emmitt Reeves July 27, 1915.

7. Thomas W. Blann (October 11, 1830-November 15, 1875). Thomas married Alabama Kelly and had by her two known children, Maggie and Florida. Nothing more is known of Thomas.

8. Mary Blann (1833- ) Mary married Charles H. Johnson in 1858 in Panola County, Mississippi in a double wedding with her brother Silas. Secondly, Mary married a Mr. Davidson and moved to Covington, Tennessee.

9. Susan Blann (1835-1878) Susan married Lindsey Booth December 28, 1852 in Dallas County and moved with him to Morengo County and ultimately to DeLeon, Texas. Story has it from Marjorie Booth Bade that both Susan and Lindsey were killed in a wagon accident about 1878. It is from this couple that my correspondent Marjorie Booth Bade descends.

10. Silas L. Blann (1838- ) Silas was born in Dallas County, Alabama and moved to Panola County Mississippi, where in 1858 he married Elizabeth D. Jones in a double wedding with his sister Mary (see 8 above). Silas and Elizabeth lived out their lives in Mississippi and were the parents of the following children:

A. Ada Blann (1861- ) who married William Roundtree Wilbourn.

- B. Burford Bland (C1866- ) never married.\*  
C. Emmitt Blann (C1867-died young).  
D. Bulah Blann (C1871- ) never married.  
E. Walter Blann (C1872- ) never married.  
F. Pearl Blann (C 1873- ) married W. B. Powell.  
G. Lenah Blann (C1875- ) never married.  
H. Ramsey Bland married Rose Dickey and lived with her in Scott, Arkansas.

11. Stephen Rayner Blann (September 8, 1841-January 11, 1889)  
Stephen was the youngest child of Silas Blann and his wife Elizabeth, and was born in Dallas County, Alabama. As a young man, Stephen went to Panola County, Mississippi and served in the CSA, Ballentine's Regiment under Captain J. R. Dickens. After the war, Stephen married Susan Almira Caldwell (October 27, 1843-August 6, 1927) on December 13, 1866 in Panola County. He served four terms as the Clerk of the Court for the County. Stephen died in Sardis and Susan in Bates, Mississippi. They were parents of the following children:

- A. Lula Lee Blann (October 24, 1867- ) married John Morgan Cox December 13, 1888.  
B. William Silas Blann (May 16, 1869- ) married Annie B. Alston December 6, 1893.  
C. Ida Tennie Blann (February 19, 1872-November 21, 1958) married Will T. Dye.  
D. Freeman Harrison Blann (1876-1880)  
E. Clara Lenora Blann (January 13, 1879-September 16, 1964) married Samuel Irvin Pinch.  
F. Stephen Hiram Blann (may 7, 1883- ) married India St. John.

This concludes the family of Silas Blann (1792-1858) and his wife, Elizabeth as it is now known. I wish to underline again that speculation about the origins of the siblings Stephen, Tabitha, Silas and Thomas remains only speculation. There is no concrete knowledge to confirm any lineage further back. Like most major lines, the family is complete where individual researchers such as Marjorie Booth Bade, Carrie Scales Evans and Mollie Weisinger Grant have developed them, and very sketchy in others. This is a family that branched out into Arkansas, Texas and Mississippi and should hold considerable interest to future researchers. I am pleased to display photographs of older descendants of the Silas Blann (1792-1858) family on page 41. An inventory of Silas Blann's estate, July 5, 1858, identifies the following slaves in his possession at the time of his death: "negro boy slave" Reuben, Sam, Alabama, Bill. An unidentified woman slave with children

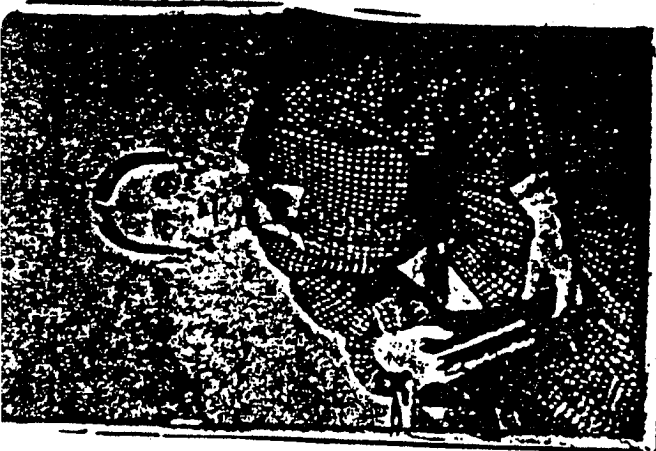
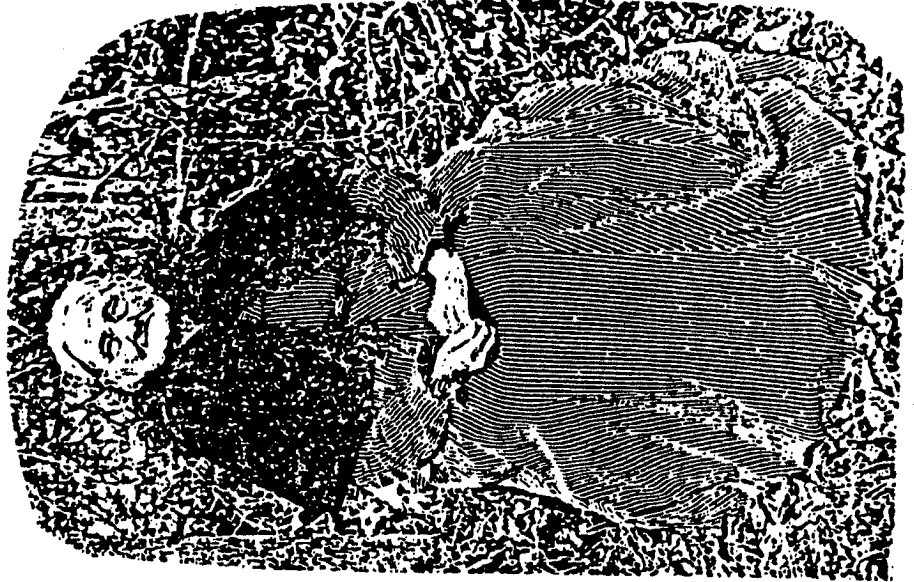
\*A gap in the birth dates of his children between 1861-1866, suggests Silas was in the Civil War.



Ametia and Matt, a girl slave Lydia, Rachael, Leanna, Juda, boys Henry, Simon, Doctor, an old man slave Ben and old woman Dorcas, Nancy and Dolly. It is historically worth noting that the young men Reuben, Alabama, Sam and Bill commanded \$1,200-\$1,250 while old Ben was marked down to \$100.

One family was found in Dallas County, who spell their names Bland. They have no logical connection to Elza Bland (1798-1879) or to Silas Blann, but may be descended through one of Silas' brothers. Benjamin F. Bland was born in 1849 and died March 21, 1911 in Selma, Dallas County, Alabama. Benjamin married Kate Medley (1853-1910) on February 16, 1882 and they are buried in Selma at the Live Oak Cemetery. They had one son, Clarence M. Bland, who filed a petition for administration of his father's estate on April 17, 1911. Nothing more is known of Benjamin and Kate and their family.

Clockwise from Left:  
Susan Blann Booth (1835-1880)  
Courtesy Marjorie Booth Bade  
Lucinda Smith Roark  
(1820-1912) and William  
Henry Blann Jr. (1840-1912)  
with Miriam Gosa (1846-1928)  
Courtesy Mollie Weisinger Grant



Pike-Barbour Counties Alabama  
Quitman County Georgia

Marie McLaughlin's research uncovered a family of Bland's migrated from South Carolina to Georgia, thence to Pike and Barbour Counties, Alabama, that definitely made connections for Marybelle Tutt of Longview, Texas, Reba Jo Curry Jones of Lubbock, Texas, Gordon Noel Owens of Newton Square, Pennsylvania and Nora Skaggs of Tonganoxie, Kansas. Perhaps as well it gives some sense of direction to Terese Bland Bueker of Houston, Texas, Mxie Martin of San Augustine, Texas and Timothy Bland of Mesa, Arizona.

Marie's most significant find was a bible record in Pike County for William Bland (March 9, 1772-September 15, 1857) and his wife Elizabeth Wood (C1776-March 24, 1835). William is identified as the father of Harris Jones Bland (1818-1893) who was born in South Carolina, suggesting strongly that William also was born there. Further, though Harris Jones Bland's family is the only one identified in the Family Bible, other records make it clear that other Bland's in Pike and Barbour Counties, born at about the same time as Harris, were probably siblings.

Here, I want to move to a hypothesis which I think will work. To follow, one must recur to my book (VU, pp. 493-496) to Edward Bland (C1730-1800) who moved out of Loudon County, Virginia about 1775 and to Edgefield County, South Carolina. Edward subsequently moved into York County where he died in 1800, leaving a will that identified his wife "Franky", a son William and daughters Dosha Bland and Elizabeth Deser. In an early Newsletter, Nora Elder of Tampa, Florida, who descends from Edward's nephew Elijah Bland (1775-1837) called my attention to a William Bland who was in Washington County, Georgia by 1806 and by 1820 was in Wilkinson County, adjacent to Washington.

Although there are some inconsistencies, I believe this William Bland (1772-1857) is a son of Edward Bland (1730-1800). By good fortune, I will be able to personally pursue this hunch when I travel to Columbia, South Carolina for a conference February 21-25, 1987, and further when I travel to my home near Gastonia, N.C. February 25-27. Also, I hope to be able to visit York County, S.C. for a day. Perhaps something definitive will turn up.

One of the things I will certainly be most interested in is whether Talton Bland (C1795-1870)\* is a son or sibling of William Bland (1772-1857). Talton is something of a mystery. He is well traced to Edgefield County, not least by his conveyance of property in 1832 to one William Eddins in that county (the name is too unique for there to be a duplicate, the principle of Occam's

\*Talton married Mary Carter in Edgefield County, January 23, 1823, in what appears to be a double wedding with Peggy Bland, who married Casper Donaldson, January 23, 1823.

Razor commands this). Talton may have sold this property prior to moving out of Edgefield County (all his children up to 1832 were born in Edgefield). At any rate, by the time of his death, he was in Chattahoochee, Georgia and his children lived in the Marion-Muscogee, Georgia area, near Randolph and Quitman County, (AC 1-1, p. 13 and 1-2, pp. 21-22). The known possibilities for Talton's parent would be Edward Bland (1730-1800) or one of his sons. Edward had a known son William. A possible son of Edward, who was at least 21 in 1787, so old enough to be Talton's father, would be Samuel Bland, who witnessed the will of Robert Bland (1732-1787). Among the sons of Robert Bland (1732-1787), the children of Presley (1768-1839) and Elijah (1775-1837) are well documented and could not include Talton. John Bland (1757-1781) obviously could not be Talton's father and Payton (1780-1815)\* and James (1783- ) are too young, (VU, pp. 498-99). I once thought that Talton might have been the child of Wormsley Bland (1771-1800) and Sarah Turner (1770-1848) because of Wormeley and Sarah's propensity to name male children after favorite surnames (Elza, Turner). Alas, Sarah Turner Bland Mobley made out her will on August 26, 1848 and, while she mentioned ten children by her husbands Wormeley Bland and Jeremiah Mobley, she made no mention of Talton, (or alas, of my great, great, great grandfather William Bland (1792-1868, whom I had long believed was the son of Wormeley and Sarah)). One must note that if Talton was a son of William Bland (1772-1857) it must have been by a marriage prior to Elizabeth Wood, whom William appears to have married about 1810 (Marie McLaughlin writes that "there is a hint" that William remarried to Mary Thompson or Mary Nelson ( -1865) after the death of Elizabeth Wood. If the old boy lived to 85, its possible he could have worn down three wives before a fourth one did him in).

In attempting to create a larger framework for a family of William Bland and Elizabeth Wood, I have assumed that Elizabeth gave up child bearing about 1821-1826 and I come up with the following possibilities:

1. Jane D. Bland: Assuming age 18 at marriage for girls, Jane, who married John Hodges in Pike County December 10, 1829, would have born in 1811.

2. William E. Bland (1812-living in 1870): William turns out to be a fairly critical character for several researchers. The 1850 census shows him as William E. Bland born in South Carolina, but by 1870, when he has moved from Pike to Coffee County he has changed the spelling of his name to Blan. Blan is the way most of his brothers spelled their name. On October 27, 1847, William E. Bland witnessed a transaction for John T. Blan and John's wife Elizabeth.

\*Payton Bland (who spelled his name Peyton) has been well researched. He could not be Talton's father if Talton were born in 1800.

William himself was found in other Pike County deeds in 1850, 1853, 1854 and 1855. According to the sequence of births of his children, he moved into Alabama about 1842-1844. The sequence of births of his children, he moved into Alabama about 1842-1844 from South Carolina. The census record show his family as follows: He was married to Margaret M. \_\_\_\_\_, (1822- ) born in South Carolina. By 1870, Margaret was shown as age 50.

A. Catherine (1838- ) Catherine was gone from the household by the 1870 census. She was born in South Carolina.

B. Mary (1840- ) born in South Carolina, she too was gone by 1870.

C. John (1842- ) born in South Carolina.

D. Elija (1849- ) born in Alabama.

E. James (1849- ) born in Alabama, married Molly Ann Matthews (1852-1904) on January 6, 1876 in Taylor County, Georgia. Molly was a sister of Nancy Matthews (1857-1944) who married Joseph Austin Blan (AC 4-1, pp. 28-29) and moved with him to Arkansas, Texas and the Oklahoma Territory. This description also fits closely the movement of James W. Bland and his wife Nancy Matthews, whose researcher Nora Skaggs knows only that they were buried in Deslet, Shannon County, Missouri, and were parents of her grandfather, Grover Cleveland Bland (1882-1952). (AC 3-1, p. 42) James' wife Nancy might have been called Molly amongst her siblings (Ann and Nancy being used interchangeably) and taken up the name Nancy in her later life when far away from her family. Thus I believe we have James W. Bland (1849- )\* and his wife Molly Ann Matthews (1852-1904).

F. Joseph (1852- ) Further information provided by Marie McLaughlin and Gordon Owens makes it fairly certain that this is Joseph Austin Blan (1853-1934) mentioned above, who married Nancy Matthews (AC, 4-1, pp. 28-29). This marriage is noted, with no date or place. Gordon Owens, who was Joseph Austin's grandson, says Joseph told him he "was only twelve during the Civil War" and that in the 1910 Census he was shown to be illiterate, so that his recollection might not be precise. There are two deeds in Pike County, (Book N, March 9, 1869 and Book Y, October 23, 1871) for Joseph Bland. If these are for Joseph Austin it may be that he was accepted as having reached his majority, or the deeds might be for another man whose second name was Joseph. (Joseph Austin had a cousin named Joseph, born in 1849. See p. 46 below). Family information also held that Joseph Austin Bland (1853-1934) had a brother William (see below). One further piece of information is that Gordon Owens has a sister, aged 84, who recalled that Nancy Matthews had two sisters, Permelia and Elizabeth Ann, who travelled

\*Robert Blan (C. 1817-living 1874) Also had a child named James W. Blan (1855- ) See Below.

from Little Rock Arkansas to the Oklahoma Territory. Those two women are named as sisters of Nancy and Molly Ann Matthews in Boot's The Matthews Family, p. 589.

G. William A. (1854- ) born in Alabama. If he were Joseph Austin's brother, he would have moved from Pike or Coffee County to Fort Smith or Little Rock Arkansas.

3. John J. or T. Blan (1815-living in 1883) John was found in Lowndes County in the 1850 Census, a Blacksmith born in South Carolina. He evidently was in Pike County in 1847 where he was noted as John Blan, transacting legal business with his wife Elizabeth (1816-1868) (whom later articles about his grandson Sidney Harris Bland said was Elizabeth Jones). John married Cynthia M. Ramsey in Pike County August 19, 1869. John and Cynthia had a daughter, who married E.A. Enzor, and moved away to Webb or Travis County, Texas. John J., whose name appears interchangeably as John J. and John T. continued to appear in deed records, where he is noted as Blan, until 1883. By his first wife Elizabeth Jones, John had:

A. Wilson A. (1843-1862) Wilson joined the Confederate forces November 1861, serving with the 22nd Alabama Infantry Regiment. He was killed in battle.

B. George W. (1845- ) possibly a twin of William J. Bland. George served in Company G, 1st Alabama Infantry as a CSA regular. He also wrote his name Blan and he married Fannie A. Carson in Pike County, October 3, 1865. George must have moved away for he does not appear in Pike County after 1865.

C. William J. (April 18, 1845-June 24, 1904). William spelled his name variously Blan, Blann, and Bland. William served in the CSA as a member of Clanton's Artillery Battery. He married Julia A. Ballard (1850- ) in Pike County on December 9, 1869. William's tombstone says he was born in Macon County, Alabama. He died at Troy. William purchased the newspaper, the "Troy Messenger" in 1869 and owned it for the rest of his life. Legal documents show that the paper reverted to William's widow but was transferred to Sidney Harris Blan, William's son, who held it until 1922, when he sold it to outside interests. By then Sidney had become Secretary of State for Alabama. Sidney was born March 26, 1877. He married Ethel Barr of Troy, June 21, 1901. Sidney Harris Blan was a Democrat, having served as elector for president in 1917 and 1921 and was elected Secretary of State in 1920.

Others listed in the same cemetery with the families of William J. Blan were Martha N. Blan (March 21, 1803- May 30, 1888) whose identity was unknown, possibly a daughter of William Bland (1772-1857). Others, in the age range to be children of William J. Bland (1845-1904), were:

(1) Katie Lee Blan (April 6, 1871- ); (B) Willey Mary Blan (June 22, 1874- March 17, 1956) who married Lewis A. Hanchey.

Others buried in this cemetery were members of the family of Harris Jones Bland (1818-1893).

D. Julia A. (1849- ) nothing further is known of Julia.

4. Robert Blan (1817-living in 1874): Robert is shown in the 1860 census for Pike County with a family of six children. He appears to have moved into Alabama only after 1853. Robert figures in deed transactions in 1855, 1869 and 1874. In the 1860 census he is shown as a mechanic, born in North Carolina, yet other records, show him transacting business with John T. (or J.) Blan in 1869 and 1874, suggesting a sibling relationship. Robert served in the Civil War, doing duty with the CSA, 60th Alabama Infantry Regiment "formerly part of Hillary's Legion". Robert married a woman named Belinda A. (1821- ) somewhere in Georgia born in Georgia, probably about 1844. The children of Robert and Belinda Blan were:

A. Elizabeth V (1845- ) born in Georgia.

B. Joseph (1846- ) born in Georgia. Possibly the man who participated in deeds in Pike County in 1869 and 1871, in lieu of Joseph Austin Blan.

C. John R.T. (1848- ) born in Georgia. He married Narcis Nelson July 26, 1868.

D. Cecastau D. (1853- ) a daughter, born in Georgia.

E. James W. (1855- ) born in Alabama.

F. Seressta (1858- ) a daughter, born in Alabama.

5. Harrison Jones Bland (July 23, 1818-December 1893) This man is shown as Harris Bland (spelled with a D) in the bible record, but Marybelle Tutt calls him Harrison. Harrison was born in South Carolina. His possession of a surname as a given name, as well as the fact that one of his sons was named James Pressley Bland, makes it fairly certain that he originated with the Edgefield County family. Harrison was in Randolph County by 1840 and was enumerated there in the 1850 census. He married Samantha Thompson at Cuthbert in Randolph County on February 16, 1840. Samantha's dates are (November 12, 1814-December 21, 1890). Harrison Bland and Samantha Thompson had a family of 13 children:

A. Harrison Lafayette Bland (November 25, 1840-living 1906). The bible record shows he died in 1861, obviously an error. He is shown in property transactions as late as 1899 and 1906. Harrison married Lydia Belcher, September 13, 1878 in Barbour County, Alabama but they lived in Quitman County. Harrison and Lydia had a daughter, Orrie, who married Theron Madicin (Madison?) October 11, 1905.

B. Abner Marion Bland (October 7, 1841-1920) Abner Marion claimed to have fought in the Civil War, so his brother wouldn't have to go. No records I have seen confirm this. Abner married Nancy Wilson in Barbour County January 4, 1868, and they had five children:

(1) Mary A. Bland, (February 24, 1869- ) who married a Mr. Bradley September 5, 1889.

(2) Gertrude Bland, (February 12, 1871-February 16, 1950) who married George Perry Thomas. She is buried near the family of William J. Blan, Pike County, (1845-1904)

(3) Ida Nancy Bland (July 11, 1875-1905) who married Emmitt Thompson. Nancy and Emmitt had one child, Olga Mae, who as an adult rejected her father's name and adopted the name Bland. One reason may be that after her mother died in childbirth, Olga was taken and raised by her grandparents Abner Marion Bland and Nancy Wilson. Thus she was Olga Mae Bland. She married Horace Wesley Faircloth.

(4) Edward Marion Bland (April 5, 1879-January 10, 1926). He was born at Sandy Point near Eufala in Barbour County and died there. Edward married Ira Emma Della Jernigan December 12, 1906 and had a family of seven children: (a) Edward Thomas Bland (1909- ); (b) Essie Bell Bland (1911- ) who married Rufus Stokes; (c) Nana Bland (1912- ) who married Henry Winters and moved away to Washington State. (d) Ira Homer Bland (1914- ) who married Grace Mulkey; (e) Bernice Bland (1919- ); (f) William Elvin Bland (1921- ) who married Blanche Walker; (g) Joseph Willard Bland (1926- ) who married three times to women named Mildred, Kate and Louise.

(5) Leura Bland (November 11, 1883-November 24, 1951). Leura married Asa Eugene Smith. Like her sister Gertrude, Leura is buried amongst the family of William J. Blan (1845-1904).

C. William Jasper Bland (July 9, 1844-1887) There is no information concerning who William Jasper married, but he appears to have moved away to Texas. In the division of their grandfather's estate (Harrison Bland) in 1900, the following children received a proportional share in their deceased father's stead: (1) J.B. Bland of Fort Worth, Texas; (2) S.J. Roberts of Diana, Texas; (3) Carrie Spinh of Silmer, Texas; and (4) J.H. Bland of Diana, Texas.

D. Mary Ann Bland (February 5, 1845- ) she is buried east of Georgetown, Georgia. She may have married Abner Wilkerson (1818-1889).

E. Samantha Rosella Bland (July 3, 1846- ) she married John Grubs and was in Texas in 1900.

F. John Franklin Bland (June 5, 1847- ) he was in Mississippi in 1900 and 1929. He married Sinthia J. McNeese, February 19, 1869, and subsequently Eliza Jackson February 6, 1897 in Barbour County.

G. Nancy Carolina Bland (May 10, 1848-May 1881). Nancy married John Whittaker December 19, 1875.

H. Harris Breckenridge Bland (October 7, 1850- living in 1920) Harris was in Phoenix City, Alabama in 1920.



I. James Pressley Bland (February 5, 1851-1929). James Pressley was in Longview, Texas by 1900. He married Mary J. Belcher, January 9, 1871. Maybelle Tutt says that James and Mary came to Longview, Texas during the 1870s. They had eight children including Abner Harrison Bland (April 18, 1872- ) the great grandfather of Mrs. Tutt's husband.

J. Lucy Ann Bland (December 9, 1852- ) married John Belcher and was in Quitman County in 1900.

K. Sylvia Savannah Bland (February 4, 1855- ) Sylvia married David Culpepper and second, an unidentified Baptist preacher. She was in Longview, Texas by 1900.

L. Sarah Luvinia Bland (1857-1857) she lived eight days.

M. Haywood LaGrand Bland (October 15, 1858-March 1, 1942) Haywood was nicknamed Woody. He married Mary Virginia Lanier February 9, 1887 in Quitman County, and they had three sons:

(1) Henry Bland (1893-1977) who married Lillian Bland. Henry was said to have had only one arm and to have migrated to Nebraska.

(2) Bryan Bland Sr. (1897-1973) who married Margaret W. \_\_\_\_\_ and had two sons, (a) Hugh Bland (1918- ) and (b) Bryan Bland Jr. (1924- ).

(3) Harry Bland (1904-1968) who married Esther J. \_\_\_\_\_

(6) Henry Bland (C1824- ) married Elizabeth Ann Adams December 11, 1845.

(7) Nancy Bland (C1826- ) married Griffin Raines, February 4, 1844.

This concludes the family of William Bland (1772-1857) and Elizabeth Wood (1776-1835). I suggest the following hypothetical framework:

William Bland and an unknown first wife

1. Talton Bland (C1795-1870/1880)
2. Martha Bland (1803-1888)
3. Peggy Bland (C1805- )

William Bland and Elizabeth Wood

1. Jane D. Bland (C1811- )
2. William E. Blan (1812-living 1870)
3. John J. (or T.) Blan (1815-living in 1883)
4. Robert Blan (1817-living 1874)
5. Harrison Jones Bland (1818-1893)
6. Henry Bland (C1824- )
8. Nancy Bland (C1826- )

Miscellaneous Notes Following are miscellaneous notes about individual that cannot be fitted into a family framework with even the most creative logic:

From Pike County Marriage Record 1867-1872- Thomas Blan married Margaret Nelson July 1, 1869.

From Pike County Marriage Record I, P. 456, - Fannie A. Blan married James H. Pinckhard December 19, 1885.

From "Some Marriages, Pike County" - Mary Bland married Robert J. Sheppard, December 2, 1851. John Bland married Emmeline Daniels March 30, 1830.

From Record of Confederate Soldiers, 1861-1865, Pike County Alabama- Thomas Blan wounded at battle of Chickamauga.

From a private record by Helen S. Foley - Lela Bland, buried Bascome Cemetery 1/2 mile east of Eufaula on Mile Road (December 27, 1885-February 1, 1938). Alvin C. Bland - Clayton Cemetery 1884-1940. (Alvin C. Bland married Eudora Lucinda Ward February 6, 1925).

From a letter, Marie Mclaughlin to Charles Bland, June 25, 1986- Marriages-

Archie Bland married Eula Mitchell, December 30, 1897

Arthur Bland married Minnie Thomas, September 13, 1894

Lucius Bland married Lizzie Jones, August 27, 1897

William Bland married Cora Jones, December 6, 1888

#### Blount-Cullman Counties

Shortly before the Elizabethtown, Kentucky Reunion in 1985, I heard from William Bland of Florence, Alabama and his sister Carole Bland Yust of Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Both were interested in the roots of their furthest back ancestor, whom Carole identified to me as William Bland, dates unknown, who married Susan Edwards (-1888). This bare information was revealed to Carole's parents through a 1939 letter from Curtis Bland. Carole had been able to identify a family of nine or ten children from this basic framework, including her ancestor John Bland (1841-1883) of Cullman County (AC 4-1, pp. 29-30). Cullman County was formed in 1877, in part from Blount County, so for someone as far back as John's parents would be, Blount was the place to look. Marie Mclaughlin's research uncovered not only the right family but siblings and parents as well that carried Carole Yust back to South Carolina. What follows is derived entirely from census records, which need to be fleshed out by deed and marriage searches, cemetery records etc.

The 1850 Census for Blount County, shows the following three families, who appear to be siblings, close together on pages 157 and 161:

Living in the household of James Bland is a man named Samuel Bland, age 57, a farmer, born in South Carolina. He appears to be the father of three sons, all born in Tennessee.

James Bland (1814- ) Evidently Curtis Bland called him William by mistake, because he had a brother William. He was born in Tennessee, and married to Susan Edwards?, born in Tennessee in 1815. Their children, all born in Alabama, who compare with relative precision to those enumerated by Carole Yust, were: (1)

William J. Bland (1835- ); (2) Pheschy (1837- ) a female, possibly a cootered out census taker's way of writing Phoebe. She was not noted by Carole Yust; (3) Frances (1839- ) called Frances Elizabeth by Carole Yust; (4) John (1841- ); (5) Melton, (1843), called Houston by Carole Yust; (6) Nelly (1845- ) who, according to Carole Yust married a Gassoway; (7) Polly (1847- ) who, according to Carole Yust married Marion Matthews. Carole Yust listed four children who did not appear in the above lineup, possibly because they were not born in 1850: Calvin, Martha, who married a Bryant, Susie who marries a Shannon, and James, who married a Martha Whaley.

That makes eleven children. I might add that if the final four came along at two year intervals poor Susan would have been about 43 after the last one, which might explain why no more children.

George Bland (1817- ) was born in Tennessee and was married to Elizabeth (1818- ) also born in Tennessee. All their children were born in Alabama: (1) Martha (1840- ); (2) Mary Jane (1842- ); (3) John (1844- ); (4) Samuel (1846- ); (5) Sarah (1848- ); and (6) James (1850- ) four months at the time of the census.

William Bland (1823- ) born in Tennessee was married to Louisa (1823- ) born in Alabama. Their only child was William J. (1843- ).

By the time of the 1860 census, father Samuel and brothers James and George were no longer found in Blount County. Only William and his wife and son remained. William and Louisa had advanced in age by only three years during the intervening decade, from age 27 to 30, while William J. Bland, their son, had advanced from seven to eighteen.

### Miscellany

In Montgomery County, carved from Monroe in 1816, there appeared in the 1850 census, a carpenter named William Blann (1812- ) married to Nancy (1816- ). William was born in Georgia, Nancy in North Carolina. They had three children, Emma (1842- ), William H. (1846- ) and Joseph (1850- ) three months in 1850. Living with them was a lad of 13 named Augustus Cunningham. The 1860 Census for Montgomery County shows John Blan, (1826- ) from Scotland, living with the Huggins family. William's spelling of his surname, his birth in Georgia, and the close proximity of Montgomery to Dallas and Wilcox Counties would lead one to believe that this William was a son of one of the older Dallas County men, most likely Stephen Blann (C1782- ), but there is nothing to prove that.

In 1860, there appears in Coosa County, Alabama, standing apart from either the Dallas-Wilcox family, the Pike-Barbour Family

or the Blount family, a woman named Winney Bland, aged 55, born in Georgia. Living with her, all born in Alabama, are Mary (1838- ); Jane (1842- ) Nancy (1847- ) and Benjamin (1850- ). Poor little Ben, living with all those girls. Living close by Winney and her younger children are James Bland (1837- ) living with a family named Pate, and Marion Bland (1831- ) living with a family named Finclady.

The 1860 Census for Limestone County, way up on the Tennessee border, shows a family of Samuel J. Bland (1804- ) born in Georgia, living with a wife Mary (1808- ) born in North Carolina. Their children are John W. Bland (1838- ) William A. Bland (1841- ) Samuel Bland (1844- ) and Siaretia (1848- ) which may be a cootered out census takers way of writing Sarah Elizabeth, or maybe Shelby. I have a strong hunch that this is part of the family that appeared in Lincoln County, Tennessee in 1850, including an elder lady Mary Bland (1790- ) born in South Carolina. This family may be related to the Blount County Blands found in the 1850, 1860 Censuses.

In Mobile County, way down by Mississippi, carved out of the Florida Panhandle, there is found in 1860 Thomas J. Bland (1831- ) a waiter, born in Kentucky. Russell County, by Barbour and Pike County, shows Mitchell Bland (1839- ) a farmer born in Georgia, living with M.I. (1841- ).

#### Correspondent Key

The following represents a summary index of major families that have been covered by the book and Newsletter through this issue. The lines are identified by the male founder. This key updates a previous effort (AC 2-2, pp. 10-12). Correspondents will find the corresponding key along side their name in the list of subscribers and correspondents which follows on pages 55-60.

1. Theodorick Bland (1629-1671) of Charles City County, Virginia, (VU, pp. 68-69, 91-190, AC 5-1, pp. 8-25).

A. Richard Bland (1665-1720) of Prince George County, Virginia, (VU, pp. 146-190, AC 5-1, pp. 8-25).

(1) Mary Bland Lee (1704-1764)

(2) Elizabeth Bland Beverly (1706-C1781)

(3) Richard Bland (1710-1776)

(4) Anna Bland Munford (1711-1770)

(5) Theodorick Bland (1719-1784)

B. John Bland (1668-1746) (VU, pp. 141-146)

2. James Bland (c1655-1709) Stafford County, Virginia (VU, 191-266 passim, AC 3-1, p.7)

A. William Bland (C1682-1744) of Prince William County, Virginia, (VU, pp. 267-390, 419-462)

(1) James Bland (1704-1774) New Hanover-Duplin County, N.C. (VU, pp.275-342; AC 1-1, pp. 3-6; 1-2, 4-6; 2-1, 5-8; 2-2, 32-34; 3-1, 15-20; 3-2, 30-39; 4-1, 4-6; 4-2, 18, 22).

(2) Moses Bland (C1718-1800) of Randolph County N.C. (VU, pp. 342-363; AC 1-1 pp. 7-8; 2-2, 18; 2-1, 9-11; 2-2, 34-35; 3-1, 21-26; 3-2, 39-40; 4-1, 6-10ax).

(3) Thomas Bland (1719-1788) of Fauquier County Virginia, (VU, pp. 367-390, 396-398, 478-479; AC 2-2, pp. 37-38; 3-1, 11-13, 30-32; 3-2, 27-30; 4-1, 13-15, 21-23; 4-2, 8-9, 31-32).

(4) John Bland (C1725-1795) of Nelson County Kentucky (VU, pp.419-462; AC 1-1, pp. 8-9; 1-2, pp. 7-13, 24-25; 2-1, 11-13; 2-2, 29-32; 3-1, 26-30; 3-2, 43-44, 51; 4-1, 11-13, 30-32; 4-2, 26-31, 38-39).

B. James Bland (C1687-1756) of Prince William County Virginia (VU, pp. 401-416).

(1) Benjamin Bland (C1724-1771 of Prince William County Virginia, (VU, pp. 403-415; AC 1-2, p. 22; 4-2, pp. 23-26).

(2) Arthur Bland (C1725-1763) of Prince William County Virginia (VU, pp. 415-416).

C. John Bland (C1688-1762) of Prince William County Virginia, (VU, pp. 417-425, AC 4-2; pp. 7-8).

(1) John Bland (C1742-1807) of Washington County Kentucky (VU, pp. 463-477; AC 1-1 pp. 6-7; 1-2, 13-18; 2-1, 13-15; 2-2, 27-29; 4-2, 33-37).

X. Robert Bland (C1708-1760) of Loudon County Virginia, son of William Bland (1682-1744) or James Bland (C1687-1756) or John Bland (1688-1762), (VU, pp. 484-545); AC 1-1, pp.10-13; 1-2, 20-21; pp. 2-1, 15, 2-2, 13-14; 3-1, 33-40; 3-2,44-51; 4-1, 15-16; 4-2, 23).

#### Other Families

3. George Bland (1734-1797) of Pitt County North Carolina, (AC 1-1, p. 15; 2-1, 22-24; 2-2, 38-39; 3-2, 40-42; 5-1, pp. 28-ff).
4. John Bland (1770-1842) Cumberland County Kentucky and Ray County Missouri ( I believe he is a son of Osborne and Letitia Bland but as of now will shy away from a flat declaration). (AC 2-2, pp. 25-26; 3-1, 8-9; 3-2, 9-15; 4-1, 20-21).
5. John Bland (1791-1878) of Toronto Gore, Ontario Canada (AC 1-2,p. 26; 2-1, 24-25)
6. John Bland of Greenwood County Kansas ( and England ) (VU, p. viii; AC 3-2, pp. 52-53).
7. Reuben Bland of Wayne-Greene-Pulaski-Casey County Kentucky, (VU, pp. 479-483; AC 1-1, p. 9; 1-2,26; 2-1, 24; 4-2, 39-40)
8. Richard Percival Bland (C1700-1737) of St Helena South Carolina (VU, p. 494)
9. Samuel Bland (C1700- ) of Mecklenburg County Virginia, VU, pp. 586-590 first issue, 546-552 second issue; AC 1-1, p. 15; 2-1, p. 24; 2-2, 36A-37;
10. Stephen Blann (1782-1850) and Silas Blann (1792-1858) of Dallas County Alabama (AC 2-1, pp. 16-19; 5-1, pp. 27-41)
11. Talton Bland (C1795/1800-1870/1880), of Edgefield South

- Carolina and Chattahoochie Georgia ( AC 1-1, p. 13; 2-2, 36-36A; 5-1, 42).
12. Thomas Bland (1740-1826) of Pendleton County Birginia (VU, pp. 398-399; AC 2-2, pp. 14-23; 3-2, 23-27; 4-2, 9-20,41).
  13. William Bland (C1725-1783) of King and Queen County Birginia (VU, pp. 392-396; AC 1-2 pp. 26-27; 2-1, 19-22; 2-2, 24-26; 3-1, 8-9,39; 3-2, 9-10, 15-22; 4-1, 17-20; 4-2, 5-7).
  14. William Bland (1772-1857) of Pike-Barbour County Alabama (1-2, pp. 21-22; 3-1, 37-38,42; 4-1, 28-29; 5-1, 42-51).
- X. These are families lines that have not been definitively linked to main genealogical families.
- A. Allen Bland, Champaign Illinois (AC 1-2, p. 25)
  - B. Charles Bland, Guilford County N.C. (AC 3-2, p. 53).
  - C. Elizabeth Bland Ballard, Spotsylvania County Virginia (AC 3-2, p. 51; 4-2, pp. 41-42).
  - D. Frank Bland, South Carolina or Georgia (AC 3-1, pp. 37-38).
  - E. George Gideon Bland, (1790- ) or North Carolina, Georgia and Alabama (AC 3-1, p. 39; 4-1, 32-33; 4-2, 4; 5-1,29,30).
  - G. Gladwin Bland (1876-1932) of Ireland and Mexico (AC 2-2, p. 40).
  - H. Jane Bland Foresstor of Stokes County N.C. (AC 3-1, p. 41).
  - I. John Bland (Smith) of Martha's Vineyard Mass. (1590-1667) (Ac 4-1, p. 34).
  - J. John Bland (1812-1864) of Peoria Illinois (AC 3-2, pp. 5-6).
  - K. John, Thomas and William Bland of Martin County N.C. (AC 1-2, p. 27; 5-1,28-ff).
  - L. Samuel Bland (C1793-living in 1850) of Blount County Alabama, (AC 4-1, pp. 29-30; 5-1 ).
  - M. Samuel Bland (1806-1864) of Sheridan Wyoming (AC 3-2, pp. 53-54).
  - N. Tennessee families (1850-1860 census) (AC 4-1, pp. 24-28).
  - O. Thomas Bland of England (C1789- ) (AC 3-2, p. 52).
  - P. William Bland of Philadelphia Pa. ( -1804) (VU, pp. 365-366; AC 1-1, p. 8; 1-2, pp. 25-26).
  - Q. William Bland (1817-1875) of Wheeling West Virginia (AC 3-2, p. 54).
  - R. William Bland of England (AC 2-2, p. 41; 3-1,39).