

# Among Cousins

## The Bland Family Newsletter



Bland

Volume 9, Number 1

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Dear Cousins,

"Genealogy is the search for someone better than yourself."

Caption in a card from Joyce Bland McCool

Charles L. Bland, A Vision of Unity: The Bland Family in England and American 1555-1900, (1982), 610PP., indexed, is published twice annually, June 1 and October 1. Payment of \$74.95, (\$59.95 for libraries), must reach the publisher by May 1 and October 1.

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**Direct Inquiries to:**  
Charles L. Bland  
Editor and Publisher  
**Among Cousins: The Bland Family Newsletter**  
Box 523  
Williamsville New York, 14231-0523  
(716-636-2450 Office)  
(716-83BLAND home)

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

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### The Sixth National Reunion

The Bland family's Sixth National Reunion was held on August 10-12 1990 at the Northern Virginia Community College at Prince William County Virginia. The Reunion was sponsored by twin brothers, Thomas H. Bland of Burke Virginia and William G. Bland of Woodbridge Virginia, and their wives Diana and Diane. There was a fine turn out, some 140 cousins from twenty states and the District of Columbia, and it was a wonderful event, in which the Bland family was launched onto a new direction. The Reunion group discussed the idea of a National Bland Organization, which is discussed below.

The Reunion ceremony included several special events, among them a declaration by Prince William County supervisor Hilda Barg that August 11, 1990 would be **BLAND DAY** in Prince William County and a similar gesture by Mayor Sam Bauckman of Dumfries Virginia, declaring August 10-12 "Bland Days" in Dumfries and presenting the group with the key to the town of Dumfries. In addition to my own talk, there were excellent talks about genealogy, by Don Curtis, an historian of the Lee family, who is also descended from Blands, and Larry Blann of Alexandria Virginia. My most memorable moment during the reunion, however, was a trip with Tommy to the banks of the Potomac river, which spread out like an ocean, between Cock Pit Points and Powell's Creek, an area that more or less approximates the place where our ancestor James Bland (1661-1708) purchased land in 1701. Tommy and I walked out onto a fishing pier and looked back at the beautiful, shimmering hot green landscape, and took several good photographs. It was truly beautiful.

The 1991 Reunion, our seventh, will be held at North Vernon Indiana August 9-11, 1991, and will be sponsored by David and Lois Taylor of Shelbyville Indiana and Glen and Mary Ella Day and Earl Bland of North Vernon. North Vernon is about 60 miles north of Louisville Kentucky. I am pleased to see that Tom Bland has advertised the 1991 Reunion through the Bland Family Organization and that Bob Bland of Deland Florida has announced the reunion in advance to the members of the James River Bland group. Lois says she is expecting a super turnout and I look forward to seeing you there.

### Other Reunions:

During the past reporting period, I also received word of National Bland Reunions held in Jacksonville Georgia, June 10, 1990 and in Merkel Texas, June 24, 1990. Hope they were a success.

### Proposed Bland Family Organization

As noted above, a major new issue discussed the National Reunion in August 1990 was a proposal for a Bland Family Organization. I support the idea because it would provide several advantages, not least of them tax benefits for our national reunions and other undertakings, potential special research support opportunities in the future, and generational continuity. A special committee consisting of John W. Bland of Elizabethtown Kentucky, Richard P. Bland of Denver Colorado, Robert O. Bland of Deland Florida, Larry Blann of Alexandria Virginia, Mildred Hunter of State College Pennsylvania, and myself, was appointed to further develop the proposal for discussion at the Seventh Reunion, August 1991. We agreed on an initial membership of \$10. annual per family group. If you would like to join and support the new organization, send your membership fee (for individual or family) to Thomas H. Bland 10586 Reeds Circle Landing, Burke Virginia 22015.

### Progress on Revision of Book and Indexing of Newsletter

I am happy to report that I received a volunteer to help with this monumental task, which will unfold during the next few years. Jeanette Bickley Bland of Richardson Texas has volunteered to begin Indexing Volumes 6-9 of "Among Cousins". By use of a scanner, she will be able to transfer the text of A Vision of Unity to computer disks, which will make the book malleable to revision. If this works out, it will be great stride for the family. The shape of the Bland family history will be interesting to see. In terms of volume, it is bound to evolve into a multi-volume work. An example is that family of Thomas Bland of Pendleton County Virginia, which appeared in the book as a two page essay (VU, pp. 398-399) but has consumed 35 pages of single spaced newsletter since then. My hunch is that by 1995, projected publication date, the present body of work contained in the book and the by then 12-13 volumes of the Newsletter will comprise two or three volumes the size of the present book. Of course, these will be the product of many contributions by many individuals over the years, and much hard work by many, a legacy to future generations that will be a source of pride for this generation.

### Every Highway Out of Nashville

I am pleased to announce the publication of Howard O. White Jr., with Ruth Bland White, Every Highway Out of Nashville (Picker's Rest Books, 2731 New Halls Road, Greenbrier Tennessee, 37073:1990). Cost of the book is \$10. plus \$2. shipping and handling. I have had the pleasure of meeting Howard and Ruth at the past two national reunions and so had what I thought was a personal feeling for the book and some empathy because of experiences portrayed by Howard which happened in my family. This is the story

of Howard's struggle to overcome adversities in his life, which include exposure to chemical warfare in the Navy during World War II, followed by a nervous breakdown and recovery to realize his dream of playing a steel guitar at the Grand Ole Opry. The book is about significant personalities in the country music field. As a former country lad who spent a lot of his childhood listening to singers like Hank Williams, I found myself thumbing to the index to find references to Williams, Chet Atkins, Cowboy Copas, Ernie Tubb, Roy Acuff etc. Chet Atkins wrote of the book, "A lot of so-called stars have written their biographies but I don't remember any significant books written by accompanying musicians. I think it will be welcomed by interested people because of this different perspective." Finally, the book is about Ruth and Howard's life together. I hope you will wish to know more about this fine and touching book.

#### TRANSITION

#### Albert Sinclair Hunter (1908-1991)

I am saddened to report the passing of Albert Sinclair Hunter of State College Pennsylvania on January 22, 1991. Albert and his wife Mildred Pixton Bowers Hunter were among my earliest correspondents and supporters when A Vision of Unity was taking shape and contributed significantly to my work by providing substantial contribution on their own line and others. Al was born in Greene County Indiana, October 21, 1908, the son of Sinclair Hunter and Effie Alice Carpenter. Al's grandmother Mary Elizabeth Bland, who married Columbus Jefferson Hunter, was descended from one of the two Bland families in Greene County, the one that migrated to the county from Chatham County North Carolina. Al married Mildred on September 5, 1947 and they had a daughter Alice, who married Jeffrey Walker and lives now in Avon, Ohio.

Al entered Utah State Agricultural College in 1934 and earned his bachelors degree in Chemistry in 1938. He earned a master's degree in Chemistry in 1940, from Washington State College and his doctoral degree in soil chemistry from Rutgers University in 1943. Following fifteen years of varied teaching and professional experiences, Al and Mildred moved to State College Pennsylvania in 1957 where Al joined the faculty of Pennsylvania State University as a professor of Agronomy, until he retired in 1974. Al taught between 1974-1977 at the Universidade Federal de Santa Maria, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil. In 1979, Al was named Man of the Year by the Pennsylvania Plant Food and Protectant Education Society for contributions in his field.

Al and Mildred were avid genealogists. Both were possessed of enormous energy and intelligence. As his obituary notice indicated, Al was known for his "zest, inquisitiveness and good humor, which he maintained despite many years of serious maladies." Al and Mildred, during the decade I knew them, provided a current stream of updates and refinements to information already known about his family, including the linkage of his Indiana family with James Bland of Duplin County North Carolina, a discovery which linked his line with the furthest back Bland's we know. Al was a big, barrel chested man, with a strong, clear voice, who loved to talk genealogy. His energy is evident in his indexing of the Centre County Pennsylvania Census of 1860. I remember well the day my family and I spent with Al and Mildred in the Summer of 1983, and how Al took me up to the campus of Penn State where we found an old book by Thomas Bland of Greene County Indiana that talked about his father and mother, Thomas Bland and Sarah Thornton and their migration into Indiana. Al and Mildred demonstrated their devotion to the Bland family by their constant attendance at every Bland Reunion, dating to 1985.

I considered Al a good friend and source of spiritual and intellectual strength to our family. He will surely be missed. A photo of Albert Sinclair Hunter appears on the following page.

#### Gordon N. Owens (1912-1991)

Another stalwart veteran at the first six Bland reunions was Commander Gordon N. Owens, who died on January 27, 1991. Gordon was accompanied to these reunions by his wife of forty eight years, Frances Pollard Owens. He is also survived by a son Douglas Owens of Seattle, Washington and two daughters, Kate Kavack of Media Pennsylvania and Nancy Owens of Claymont Pennsylvania.

Gordon Owens was born in Altus Oklahoma. After attaining an Associates degree at Cameron College in Oklahoma, Gordon earned his Bachelor's degree in military science from the University of Maryland and a Master's Degree in Education from Villanova University. Gordon joined the Navy and earned his Navy Wings in 1939. During World War II, Gordon served aboard the aircraft carrier Bunker Hill in the Pacific Theater. Gordon was a decorated Navy man, whose honors included the Navy Cross. Gordon retired from the Navy in 1962 and worked as a guidance counselor in Newtown Square schools until he retired in 1976.

I first met Gordon Owens and his wife Frances at the first National Reunion in 1985. He was then seeking the identity of the parents of his grandfather Joseph Bland (C1849-1934). During the time I was in communication with him, Gordon, aided by some research done by a consortium in 1986 and by his own work and that of a niece in Texas, ascertained that his great grandfather was William E. Bland (1812-1870) from Alabama. Knowing him was a great pleasure and the national reunions will not be the same without him.

### Other Transitions

I was saddened to learn of the death of Dorothea E. Gilbreath on October 29, 1990. I received the information from her daughter Susan Stanley, after having met both of them for the first time at the 1990 National Reunion. Dorothea descended from Elizabeth Bland Tetley, a sister of Richard Parks Bland, the Presidential Candidate in 1896. Dorothea had corresponded frequently with me since 1988 and had been instrumental in arranging my contact with several individuals who knew Harriet C. Bland Greene, the 1936 Olympics Gold Medalist, whose story was told in a previous issue (AC 7-2, pp. 4-8). Dorothea was a much valued new Cousin, who was interested in knowing more about our family. I am encouraged that her daughter Susan Stanley plans to carry on her work.

Last July, I learned belatedly of the death of Inez Turner of Hope Arkansas on November 18, 1989. Inez was a Bland descendant, whose line was previously reported (AC 5-2, pp. 32-33). She provided me with a great deal of additional material that made our knowledge of the Bland family more complete.

Anne Armistead of Roanoke Virginia informed me of the passing away of her brother George C. Armistead Jr. on June 9, 1990. George was 74 when he died. He and Ann are descended from the Bland family through the James River line.

Neil Bland of Lumberport West Virginia informed me that his brother Martin died suddenly on January 8, 1991. Martin would have been 75 on July 11.

It is always especially saddening to hear of the death of the very young. Laverne Bland of Edgerton Missouri told me of the death of his nephew, David A. Sellars, son of Vernon L. and Delores Bland Sellars, who died January 27, 1991 at age 18. David's grandparents were Cleatis and Esther Bland of Centralia Illinois.

As always I am grateful for clippings of obituary and other notices concerning Blands, whom I have never met. These include: from the Cabot Arkansas Star Herald, the death of Alice Nancy Reeves Bland, age 96, on May 22, 1981. She was the widow of James Monroe Bland; Catherine Bland Matz, who died at Pompano Beach Florida, March 26, 1987 at age 83. Thomas Franklin Bland, age 78, on July 13, 1988 at Southern Pines North Carolina. Thomas was born in Los Angeles California and lived in Washington before moving to Southern Pines in 1970.

In the midst of such sad events, it is heartening to find one note of happiness. Vera Moore of Hopewell Virginia sent me a notice of the marriage between William Robert Bland, son of Mr. and Mrs. James F. Bland of Williamsburg Virginia, with Sarah Bridges Ford on December 30, 1989.

### Library Placements

This was a banner period for placement of A Vision of Unity in libraries around the country. As noted above, a copy of the book was given to Ms. Hilda Barg, Supervisor of Prince William County, who donated the book to the Prince William Public Library. Robert O. Bland of Deland Florida placed a copy of the book at The Deland Public Library, Deland Florida. Francis Bland of Paragould Arkansas donated a copy of the book to the Tennessee Genealogical Society, Memphis Tennessee. An order for the book was placed by the Schleicher County Public Library, Eldorado Texas. The sixth and seventh copies of ten projected placements by an anonymous donor, were donated to the Birmingham Public Library, Birmingham Alabama, and to The Ohio Public Library, Columbus Ohio.

### **BLAND FAMILY LINES INDEXED**

It is useful upon occasion to review the specific pages upon which discussions of the various Bland family groups have appeared in the pages of A Vision of Unity and "Among Cousins". By now, writing on the family has grown prolific and diverse, the material covered in the previous sixteen numbers of "Among Cousins" wholly equalling or exceeding that of A Vision of Unity. In the course of writing "Among Cousins" over the last decade, complete lines have come to my attention that were not even addressed in the book. By the following count there are eight major families of Bland's (who sometimes style themselves Blann or Blan), and no less than thirty lines that have been identified but not well developed by genealogists. The idea of the theme in A Vision of Unity that we all descend from one line, seems to have gone a glimmering, and now seems a rather naive and innocent notion. What follows is a kind of outline of the family groups, marked by pages in which they have been discussed, with special notations where major revisions in thinking have taken place, or special hypotheses have been developed.

#### The Blands of England and the James River in Virginia

1-1. Robert or Roger Bland (C1500- ), Westmoreland County England, wife unknown.

1-2. Adam Bland (1528-1594), Westmoreland County and London, married Joan Atkyns, (C1530-1596). Adam and Joan had thirteen children including:

1-3. John Bland (1572-1632), "The Grosser" of London, who married Susan Deblere (1590-1665). John and Susan had a family of 17, of whom 12 lived to adulthood. Of these, the following were responsible for settlements in Virginia.

- 1-4A. Susan Bland (1609 - ) who married Thomas Pearson.  
1-4B. Edward Bland (1614-1652), who married Jane Bland, daughter of Edward's uncle Gregory Bland.  
1-4C. Theodorick Bland (1629-1671), who married Anna Bennett.

Sources: This family is discussed in Vision of Unity (VU), pp. 1-75. The Virginia experience of this family is found in VU, pp. 76-249.

Information about this family in the Seventeenth Century was enlarged in Among Cousins (AC), Volume 8-2, pp. 5-40; The Eighteenth Century line was updated by AC: 3-1, p. 6; 3-2, pp. 7-8; 5-1, pp. 7-25; 7-1, pp. 7-11; 8-1, pp. 6-8; and 8-2, p. 41.

The Blands of England and Northern Virginia, Stafford and Prince William Counties

- 2-1. James Bland (C1575- ) of Penrith, St. Andrews Parish, Cumberland County England, married Alice Pettison or Patterson.  
2-2. James Bland (C1600-1651/1652), of his father's town and parish, married Susan Cooke.  
2-3. George Bland (1636-died after 1675), of his father's town and parish, married Grace \_\_\_\_\_.  
2-4. James Bland (1661 - 1709), of his father's town and parish, moved to London and to East Jersey in 1684, was in Virginia by 1687, and died in Stafford County in 1709. He may have married twice, but at the time of his death was married to Margaret \_\_\_\_\_.

Sources: Re the Blands of Penrith, St. Andrews Parish, Cumberland County England, see VU, pp. 249-254 and AC: 3-1, pp. 8-9; 6-1, pp. 5-8. On some theories about the parentage of James Bland (1661-1709) see VU, pp. 191-248, inter alia, and pp. 255-266.

- 2-5A. William Bland (C1682-1744), eldest son of James (1661-1709). William resided in Stafford/Prince William County Virginia. He married twice, to an unknown woman and Catherine Key.

By his first wife, William had the following sons:

- 2-5A-6A. James Bland (1704-1774), Prince William County Virginia and New Hanover/Duplin County North Carolina. James married Mary (Buchanan?).  
2-5A-6B. Robert Bland (C1708-1760), Prince William and Loudon Counties Virginia. Robert Married Jane \_\_\_\_\_. This line remains hypothetical.



William Bland (C1682-1744) is discussed in VU, pp. 267-275.

William's son James (2-5A-6A above) and his descendants are discussed in VU, pp. 275-342 and AC: 1-1, pp. 3-6; 1-2, pp. 4-6; 2-1, pp. 5-8; 2-2, pp. 32-34; 3-1, pp. 15-20; 3-2, pp. 30-39; 4-1, pp. 4-6; 4-2, pp. 18, 22; 5-2, p. 25; 6-2, pp. 5-7; 7-1, pp. 20-21; 7-2, pp. 18-20; 8-1, pp. 11-15, 27; 8-2, p. 42.

William's hypothetical son Robert (2-5A-6B above) and his descendants are discussed in VU, pp. 484-544 and AC: 1-1, pp. 10-13; 1-2, pp. 20-21; 2-1, p. 15; 2-2, pp. 13-14; 3-1, pp. 33-40; 3-2, pp. 44-51; 4-1, pp. 15-16; 4-2, p. 23; 6-1, pp. 8-35; 6-2, pp. 26-33; 7-1, pp. 28-30; 7-2, p. 26; 8-1, pp. 31-32; 8-2, p. 45.

**NB:** Re the hypothesis that Robert was the son of William Bland, (C1682-1744), see AC: 2-2, pp. 13-14.

By his second wife, Catherine Key, William Bland (C1682-1744) had three sons:

2-5A-6C. Moses Bland (C1718-1800) of Prince William County Virginia and Randolph County North Carolina, married Jane Wiggonton.

2-5A-6D. Thomas Bland (C1719-1788) of Fauquier County Virginia, married Jane (English?) Smith.

2-5A-6E. John Bland (C1725-1795) of Prince William County Virginia and Nelson County Kentucky, married Margaret Osborne.

William's son Moses Bland (2-5A-6C above) is discussed in VU pp. 342-363 and in AC: 1-1, pp. 7-8; 1-2, pp. 13-18; 2-1, pp. 9-11, 2-2, pp. 34-35; 3-1, pp. 21-26; 3-2, pp. 39-40; 4-1, pp. 6-11; 5-2, pp. 23-25; 7-1, pp. 21-23 and 8-1, pp. 15-25.

William's son Thomas Bland (2-5A-6D above) is discussed in VU, pp. 367-390 and 396-398 and 478-479 and in AC: 1-2, pp. 8-9; 2-2, pp. 37-38; 3-1, pp. 11-13 and 30-32; 3-2, pp. 27-30; 4-1, pp. 13-15 and 21-23; 4-2, pp. 8-9 and 31-32; 5-2, pp. 10-13; 6-2, pp. 23-25; 7-1, pp. 14-17; 7-2, pp. 15-17; 8-1, pp. 8-9.

**NB:** Re the hypothesis that Thomas Bland (1719-1788) was the father of Joseph Bland (C1752-1820) of Frederick County Virginia, see AC: 4-2, pp. 8-9.

William's son John Bland (2-5A-6E above) is discussed in VU, pp. 417-462, and AC: 1-1, pp. 8-9; 1-2, pp. 7-13, 24-25; 2-1, pp. 11-13; 2-2, pp. 25-26 and 29-32; 3-1, pp. 8-9 and 26-30; 3-2, pp. 9-15, 43-44 and 51; 4-1, pp. 11-13, 20-21 and 30-32; 4-2, pp. 26-31 and 38-39; 5-2, pp. 25-27; 6-1, pp. 35-37; 6-2, pp. 10-23; 7-1, pp. 24-27; 7-2, pp. 21-22; 8-1, p. 30.

Discussions about whether John Bland (C1725-1795) is a son of William Bland (C1682-1744) or William's brother John (C1688-1762) appear in VU, pp. 419ff and AC: 2-1, pp. 11-12 and 4-1, pp. 13-15.

For critical information about a hypothetical parent-child relationship between John Bland's son Osborne (C1748-1828) and John Bland (C1770-1842), Daniel Bland, (C1780-1848) and Moses Bland (C1781-1849), see AC, 6-2, pp. 13-14 and 20-22.

2-5B. James Bland, (C1687-1756) of Prince William County Virginia, married Mary Gwatkins. James is discussed in VU, pp. 401-416, esp. 401-403. James and Mary had two known sons.

2-5B-6A. Benjamin Bland (C1724-1771) of Prince William County Virginia, married Mary \_\_\_\_\_. Benjamin's line is discussed in VU, pp. 403-415, and AC: 1-2, p. 22; 4-2, pp. 23-26; 5-2, p. 35; 6-2, p. 33; 7-1, pp. 27-28; 7-2, pp. 23-24; 8-1, p. 8.

2-5B-6B. Arthur Bland (C1725-1763), of Prince William County Virginia, married Mary \_\_\_\_\_. Benjamin's line is discussed in VU, pp. 415-416.

2-5C. John Bland (C1688-1762), of Prince William County Virginia, married Prudence \_\_\_\_\_. It would seem plausible that Prudence was not John's first wife. John is discussed in VU, pp. 417ff and 463-477, and AC: 4-2, pp. 7-8. John and Prudence appear to have had two sons:

2-5C-6A. John Bland, (C1742-1807), of Prince William County Virginia and Washington County Kentucky, married Rachel. John's line is discussed in VU, pp. 463-477 and AC: 1-1, pp. 6-7; 1-2, pp. 13-18; 2-1, pp. 13-15; 2-2, pp. 27-29; 4-2, pp. 33-37; 5-2, pp. 27-32; 6-2, pp. 33-34; 7-2, pp. 4-8; 8-1, pp. 27-30.

2-5C-6B. Jesse Bland (1756-1835), of Prince William and Greenbrier Counties Virginia, did not marry. Jesse is discussed in VU, p. 419 and AC: 4-2, pp. 7-8.

5D. Robert Bland, dates unknown, was a minor child noted in the will of James Bland, (1661-1708). A later document attests that he died without issue. Robert is discussed in VU, pp. 484-488. It is my belief that this child died young, and that the Robert Bland

who lived to adulthood and whose children migrated to Edgefield County South Carolina was a son of William Bland (C1682-1744, cf AC: 2-2, pp. 13-14).

2-5E-H Alice, Ellen, Patience and Hannah Bland. Dates unknown, all were minors in 1709. Ellen Bland married Isaac Davis. Nothing more is known of these daughters of James Bland (C1661-1709). They are discussed in VU, pp. 260-261 and 267.

**NB:** The division of the children noted by James Bland in his will of 1709, between older brothers William, James and John, and minor children Robert, Alice, Hannah, Ellen and Patience, leads to my speculation that James was married twice and that his wife Margaret was the mother of the minor children only.

#### Other Extensively Developed Bland Family Lines

3. George Bland, (C1734-1797) of Pitt County North Carolina. Sources: AC: 1-1, p. 15; 2-1, pp. 22-24; 2-2, pp. 38-39; 3-2, pp. 40-42; 5-1, pp. 28ff; 6-2, pp. 7-9; 7-1, pp. 23-24; 8-1, pp. 25-26.
4. Reuben Bland, (1790- ) of Wayne-Greene-Pulaski Counties, Kentucky. Sources: VU, pp. 479-483; AC: 1-1, p. 9; 1-2, p. 26; 2-1, p. 24; 4-2, pp. 39-40; 6-2, p. 34; 7-2, pp. 24-26; 8-1, p. 28. The last citation explores the possibility that Reuben is a son of Samuel Bland and Jenny Shecklesworth of the Washington County family, above P. par 6A.
5. Samuel Bland, (C1700- ) of Mecklenburg County Virginia. Source: VU, pp. 586-590 (First Ed.) and 548-552 (second Ed.) and AC: 2-1, p. 24; 2-2, pp. 36A-37.
6. Stephen Bland (1782-1850) and Silas Bland (1792-1858) of Dallas County Alabama. Source: AC: 2-1, pp. 16-19; 5-1, pp. 27-41 and 6-2, p. 34.
7. Thomas Bland, (C1740-1826) of Pendleton County Virginia/West Virginia. Source: VU, pp. 398-399 and AC: 2-2, pp. 14-23; 3-2, pp. 23-27; 4-2, pp. 9-20 and 41; 5-2, pp. 15-18; 7-1, pp. 19-20 and 8-1, p. 10.
8. William Bland (C1717-1803), of King and Queen County Virginia. Source: VU, pp. 392-396 and AC: 1-2, pp. 26-27; 2-1, pp. 19-22; 2-2, pp. 24-26; 3-1, pp. 8-9 and 39; 3-2, pp. 9-10 and 15-22; 4-1, pp. 17-20; 4-2, pp. 5-7; 5-2, pp. 13-15; 6-2, pp. 3-5; 7-1, pp. 12-14; 7-2, pp. 13-15; and 8-1, pp. 9-10 and below pp. 14-36.

## Bland Families Noted but Without Extensive Developmental Lines

9. Abraham Bland, (C1801 - ). AC: 5-2, p. 33.
10. Allen Bland, Champaign Illinois. AC: 1-2, p. 25.
11. Arthur Bland, (1794- ), McNairy County Tennessee. AC: 5-2, pp. 32-33.
12. Charles Bland, Guilford County North Carolina. AC, 3-2, p. 53.
13. Charles B. Bland (C1819- ) of Mississippi. AC 8-2, pp.42-43.
14. Elizabeth Bland Ballard, Spotsylvania County Virginia. AC, 3-2, p. 51; 4-2, pp. 41-42.
15. Frank Bland, South Carolina and Georgia, AC, Volume 3-1, pp. 37-38.
16. George Gideon Bland, (1790- ), of North Carolina, Georgia and Alabama. AC 3-1, p. 39; 4-1, pp. 32-33; 4-2, p. 4; 5-1, pp. 29-30.
17. Gladwin Bland (1876-1932) of Ireland and Mexico (AC 2-2, p. 40).
18. Isaac Bland, (C1813-1853) of Louisiana. AC 5-2, p. 35.
19. James Bland (C1793-1871) of Henry County Tennessee. AC 6-2, pp. 36-37; 7-1, pp. 30-31.
20. Jane Bland Forrester of Stokes County N.C. AC, 3-1, p. 41.
21. Jesse Bland (C1775 - ) of Amherst County Virginia. AC 4-1, pp. 26-27; 5-2, pp. 18-22; 7-1, pp. 17-19; 7-2, p. 17.
22. John Bland ( 1791-1878) of Toronto Gore Canada. AC 1-2, p. 26 and 2-1, pp. 24-25.
23. John Bland (1812-1864) of Peoria Illinois, AC 3-2, pp. 5-6.
24. John, Thomas and William Bland of Martin County North Carolina. AC 1-2, p. 27; 5-1, pp. 28ff; 8-1, pp. 26-27.
25. John Bland, (C1832 - ) of England and Greenwood Counties Kansas. VU p. viii and AC 3-2, pp. 52-53.
26. John Bland Smith (1590-1668) of Martha's Vineyard Massachusetts. AC 4-1, p. 34; 8-1, p. 34; 8-2, pp. 40-41.

27. Morris Brewer Bland (C1829- ), of England. AC 5-2, p. 34.
28. Richard Percival Bland (C1700-1737) of St. Helena South Carolina, VU, p. 494.
29. Robert Bland ( -1795) of Monroe County Virginia/ West Virginia. AC 2-2, p. 14; 3-1, p. 10; 4-2, pp. 7-8.
30. Robert Bland (1783-1836) of Berks County Pennsylvania. AC 6-2, pp. 35-36.
31. Samuel Bland, (C1793-living in 1850), Blount County Alabama, AC 4-1, pp. 29-30; 5-1, pp. 49-50.
32. Samuel Bland, (1806-1863) of Sheridan Wyoming, AC 3-2, pp. 53-54.
33. Talton Bland, (C1795-1870) of Edgefield County South Carolina and Chattahoochie County Georgia, AC 1-1, p. 13; 2-2, pp. 36-36A; 5-1, p. 42 and 6-1, pp. 31-32.
34. Thomas Bland of England (C1789- ), AC 3-2, p. 52.
35. William Bland of Pike-Barbour County Alabama, AC 1-2, pp. 21-22; 3-1, pp. 37-38, 42; 4-1, pp. 28-29; 5-1, pp. 42-49 and 8-1, pp. 33-34.
36. William Bland of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, VU, pp. 365-366; AC 1-1, p. 8; 1-2, pp. 25-26.
37. William Bland (1813-1898) of North Carolina and Mississippi, AC 8-2, pp. 43-45.
38. William Bland (1817-1875) of Wheeling West Virginia, AC 3-2, p. 54.
39. William Bland of England, AC 2-2, p. 41; 3-1, p. 39.

#### 1850 Census

AC 4-1, pp. 24-27, Tennessee.

AC 7-1, pp. 32-39, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York.

AC 7-2, pp. 32-49, District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania and Indiana.

AC 8-1, pp. 35-51, Virginia/West Virginia.

Roster of Soldiers of the War of 1812: AC 7-2, pp. 27-30.

**THE BLAND FAMILY OF KING AND QUEEN COUNTY VIRGINIA**

This family line needs to be summarized for several reasons: (1) Originally in my work it was given only a cursory treatment (VU, pp. 392-396), based on information I had at hand. Since then, as indicated above, the line has been substantially revised. (2) There are a number of very good and active historians of this line who have altered my own thinking about the family line, which constantly seems to hold surprises, and hidden clues, even for those historians who are seeking a place to lodge their disconnected family lines. It is almost a certainty, for example, that by the time this publication reaches you, this essay will be dated. (3) A major summary of the family's history occurred in 1989 when Bland Williamson of Tulsa Oklahoma, brought out his book.<sup>1</sup> Since then, Williamson's work has been revised twice. (4) At intervals I have speculated about family connections or have reported the conclusions of others which later proved to be wrong. Those need to be corrected in this summary. I hasten to say that the first major error occurred in my book (VU, p. 392) when I suggested a relationship between this family and the Stafford-Prince William County Family, citing transactions between Thomas

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<sup>1</sup> Bland Williamson, Notes on the Descendants of William Bland (C1725-1783) of King and Queen County Virginia (3rd Ed: 1991). In addition to this work and the pages of past issues of "Among Cousins" cited above, p.11, the following documents have been of considerable use: Alfred Bagby, King and Queen County Virginia (1908), hereafter referred to in notes as Bagby; Malcolm Hart Harris, Old New Kent County (1977), hereafter referred to as Harris; Elizabeth Dutton Lewis, The Lineage of Joseph Chapman, (University of Virginia Microfilm M 1245: 1954), hereafter referred to as Lewis-Chapman; Elizabeth Dutton Lewis, "Notes on the Genealogy of the Bland Family", (University of Virginia Microfilm M 1245: 1927), hereafter referred to as Lewis-Notes; Louise Bland Morgan, "A Lineage of William Bland", (ND) hereafter referred to as Morgan; Virginia Benge Stokes Genealogy of the Benge and Bland Families, (Springfield Missouri: ND), hereafter referred to as Stokes; I have also benefitted from correspondence, research notes and incisive and positive contributed over the years by Carol Adams, the late Linneous Preston Bland, Rosa Beatrice Bland, William C. Haynes, Thomas and Jerry Jordan, Margaret Kelly, Edna Bland Hall MacGillivray, Claire C. Strauch, Ruth Bland White and Mr. Williamson.

Bland of Fauquier County Virginia with the King and Queen County family. This observation was the genealogical equivalent of a Scud Missile.<sup>2</sup>

The geographic area in which this family's history unfolds is in the Stratton Major Parish of King and Queen County, the Petsworth District of Gloucester County, and Middlesex county. These counties lie in the Tidewater area of Virginia, near the coast and between the York and Rappahannock rivers which flow into Chesapeake Bay. While preparing this essay I came across the map that appears on the following page, which depicts the area as it was in 1781.

What needs to be kept upper-most in mind is the uncertainty that surrounds the founding of this family and the lack of solid information in many cases to substantiate relationships. Bland Williamson, the family's synthesizer, points out that "the structure of the King and Queen family is still subject to a considerable amount of speculation." Speculation is necessary at points in order to create a logical framework from which to proceed with the available evidence. Speculation, of course, must be subject to final proof, but genealogists know that there is very little final proof in this work.

#### Early Settlers: 1653-1705

The first known reference to a Bland in this group occurs in 1653 with a reference to Mary Bland in a Gloucester County deed. In 1667, there is a reference to John Blan, who is transported to "Gloster Co." Virginia by Duncan Bohono and John Mechen. John may be the founder of the family, for in 1691, a John Bland (name spelled differently), received 108 acres for transporting 3 headrights to Virginia. In 1699, John's name is mentioned in a land patent. The transaction suggests that John's land was near the Mattapony River as Captain Lane's Mill Path mentioned in the patent was later part of Lanesville Plantation, owned by the Blands. (see discussion of property of Robert Bland, 1800-1871, below, p. 25.<sup>3</sup>)

During this early period, in 1704 and 1705, Henry and Thomas Bland appear in the county records. The 1705 transaction indicates

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<sup>2</sup> Also mentioned in AC 1-2, pp. 26-27 and 2-1, p. 20. For the benefit of those who may read this in some far off future time, in 1991, the United States went to war briefly with Iraq, which employed a wildly inaccurate missile of Russian vintage, called the Scud. A new expression was conceived: when one treated a subject with total incompetence, it was said that the subject had been "scudded."

<sup>3</sup> Williamson, pp. 2-3, and re Robert Bland 1800-1871, p. 29ff.

OF THE ENTRANCE OF CHESAPEAKE BAY,

with JAMES and YORK RIVERS;

wherein are shown the Respective Positions, at the beginning of October

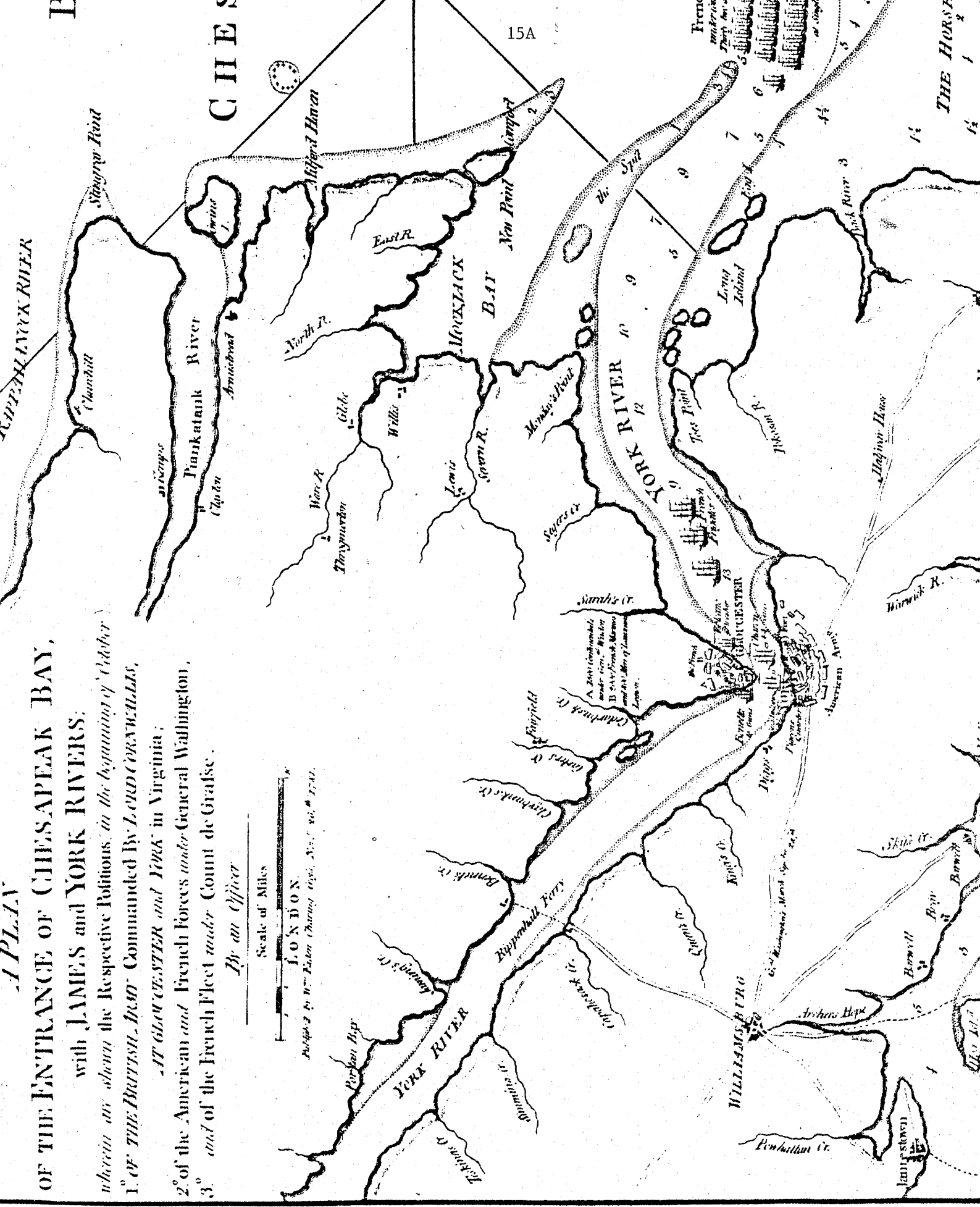
1<sup>o</sup> of THE BRITISH Fleet Commanded By LORD CORNWALLIS,

2<sup>o</sup> of the American and French Forces under General Washington,

3<sup>o</sup> and of the French Fleet under Count de Grasse.

By an Officer

Scale of Miles  
LONDON.  
Printed by W. Fisher, Chancery Lane, Nov. 20. 1781.



UPPER PLANTATION RIVER

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Churchill

Piankatank River

Amnicrook

North R.

East R.

MOCKLACK BAY

New Point

London

War R.

Thompson

Globe

Willis

Lewis

Spartan R.

Monsie's Point

Somers Cr.

Samuel's Cr.

Finfield

Coates Cr.

Cippenham Cr.

Brent's Cr.

Lewis Cr.

York RIVER

Purben Bay

Dominey Cr.

Belmont Cr.

Bygonhall Ferry

Wentworth Cr.

Knott's Cr.

Stevens Cr.

Woods Cr.

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that Thomas' land in King and Queen County adjoins land of John Lankford on "the South Side of Dragon Creek", a clue that these individuals were probably antecedents of the later family.

William Bland (C1717-1803)

The relationship of Mary, John, Henry and Thomas Bland to any known earlier Bland family is uncertain. Also, there is no evidence that links them directly to the later known settlers in the county. No Blands appear in the county records again until 1759, when a William Bland was appointed to survey land. This fellow will be known as William Senior. How old he was at that time does not appear, but we are beginning to discover that he lived to a very old age indeed. Heretofore, his dates have been set at (C1725-1783). Bland Williamson has uncovered information that places William's date of death at about 1803. In recognition of evidence about the ages of other Bland's, and the minimum age of this man's probable son William, I am for the present time anyway, accepting the construction of the late L.P. Bland, who believed William Sr. was born about 1717 and William Jr. was born about 1742. <sup>4</sup>

Since publication of my book, I have assumed William Sr., the oldest man in the county whose life can be discussed with any depth at all, was the father of all those in the next generation. William could have been the father of ten sons and three daughters. But this is a construction that is followed in order to present the line with some sense of clarity. As Mr. Williamson notes, "considerable confusion still surrounds William and his possible descendants." Thus, even when my voice appears declarative in the statements that follows, the reader should retain a sense of skepticism. But of course you already know that.

William Bland Sr. first appears in the King and Queen County records in 1759, when he is named a processioner to survey lands along the Arracaco Creek (present day Burnt Mill Creek). In 1761, William Sr. was appointed to care for an indigent woman. In 1767, <sup>5</sup> William and his wife as well as William Bland Jr., were assigned a pew in Stratton Major Parish Church. A 1782 Land Tax survey shows that "William Bland Sr. held 120 acres and also shows Henry Bland, John Bland, Richard Bland, Thomas Bland and William Bland Jr. in possession of various amounts of land. An assessment of freeholders for personal property tax assessments in 1783 showed William Bland Sr. living with a woman named Suckey, who may have been his wife. Also enumerated with William were Jesse, Ralph, another Suckey, Warner, Nan, Jack and Charles. By 1787 William appears on a tax list, living near William and Thomas Bland, and living with one male, aged 16-21. Mr. Williamson indicates this would be either Ralph or Warner Bland. Names on the 1782 Land

<sup>4</sup> Williamson, note 93.

<sup>5</sup> The Virginia Genealogist, Vol 20, p. 188.

Survey and the 1783 and 1787 tax lists form a crude parameter for delineation of relationships in this early family, though the confusion (at least to the modern eye) in their recording makes them fraught with problems of interpretation.<sup>6</sup>

The 1782 and 1783 lists as well as other documents pertaining to Christopher and James Bland, suggest the possibility that William Bland Senior and his wife had ten sons, Christopher, Henry, James, Ralph, Richard, John, Jesse, Thomas, Warner and William Jr. as well as three daughters. The probable daughters of William Bland Senior were Elizabeth and Ann Bland, indicated by one source to be sisters of Christopher Bland, a son of William Senior.<sup>7</sup> Ann Bland is probably the "Nan", who appears on the 1783 Tax List with William Bland Senior. A possible third sister might be the second Suckey who appears on the 1783 tax list. Given the higher possibility for women's legal identity to be lost in records after they marry, it would not be surprizing to learn about other daughters in the future. The probable sons of William Bland Senior, in order of their estimated ages, follow:

1. Thomas Bland (C1740-1807)

In 1813, the children of Thomas Bland filed an affidavit that their father, Thomas Bland, was the eldest brother of Christopher Bland (see below, p. 29).<sup>8</sup> This would entitle Thomas' children to the bounty warrant for Christopher's service in the Revolution. If Thomas were not in fact Christopher's eldest brother, certainly aggrieved parties would have stepped forward to challenge the claim. Since none did one must assume that Thomas Bland was in fact the eldest son of William Bland Senior. If true, some significant guidance for future research may be suggested in the presence of a Thomas Bland in the county, who was of legal age in 1705 (p. 15, above).

Thomas lived in Statton Major Parish, between the branches of Arracaco Creek and near his assumed father and brother William Sr. and William Jr. In 1771 Thomas was named to survey land in King and Queen County and continued to do so until the Vestry Book was completed in 1783. He served in the Revolution as a supply provisioner. Thomas was engaged in various land transactions, holding 412 acres by the time of his death. In 1782, (AC 2-1, p. 19), Thomas held 200 acres of land. He acquired an additional 100

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<sup>6</sup> Williamson, p. 5 indicates that the Tax list of 1787 yields three William Blands, identified on these pages as Senior, Junior and the Third.

<sup>7</sup> Gaius Marcus Brumbaugh, Revolutionary War Records, 1, (1936), p. 405.

<sup>8</sup> King and Queen County, August 14, 1813.

acres in 1784. <sup>9</sup> The 1783 census shows Thomas with a wife Amy, whom he must have married about 1768, and children Thomas, Ann, Elizabeth, Sally, John Graves or John and Graves all minors for purposes of taxation, age 16. Thomas Bland's will of 1807 lists a wife, Sarah. He died in 1807 (Ac 2-1, p. 21). The following information is known about the children of Thomas Bland:

A. Thomas Bland Jr. (C1769-1808). Thomas' estimated dates derive from a Thomas Bland on the tax list of Gloucester County in 1790. Thomas appears on the Gloucester County land tax records in 1807 with 96 acres of land. In 1809, he is referred to as "Thomas Bland dec'd". Thomas married Sarah Waller in Christ Church Parish on February 19, 1791. Thomas died without issue. <sup>10</sup>

B. Ann Bland (C1771-1825), married Henry Van Buren Chapman (1767-1840). They appear to have had six children including three daughters, two of whom married other Blands. Their daughter, Mary Chapman, married a cousin William "Archer" Bland, about 1830 (AC 3-2, p. 17 and below, p. 22) and Mildred Chapman (C1810- ), married Thomas Jefferson Bland (Ac 3-2, p. 20 and below p. 19).

C. Elizabeth Bland (C1774- ) married George Bowden about 1796 and after 1810, Roger Palmer. Palmer died before 1814. The date of Elizabeth's death is not clear but she appears to have survived both her husbands.

D. Sarah "Sally" Bland (C1776- ), is said to have married John or Royston Didlake, as she is called Sarah Didlake in her father's will. <sup>11</sup>

F. John Bland, (C1778-1827), was a teacher. John is often referred to in tax records as "ygr" in order to avoid confusion with John (C1759-1818) and John (C1766-1846), but the distinguishing name "Gentleman John" seems fine to me. He was known by a cousin to be "slim and tall and wore good clothes all the time." <sup>12</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> Williamson, p. 7.

<sup>10</sup> Virginia Genealogical Society, Some Marriages in the Burned Records Counties of Virginia, (1972), p. 11.

<sup>11</sup> See another Bland-Didlake Connection in the discussion below, re Zachariah Bland and Delilah Didlake, p. 34.

<sup>12</sup> Stokes, Op Cit. Bagby called John the brother of Captain Robert Bland, a son of William Jr. Current wisdom is that he was the son of Thomas Bland (1740-1807) thus a cousin of Captain Robert Bland.

Upon his father's death, John inherited the 412 acres owned by Thomas. He purchased an additional 163 acres from the estate of R. Didlake in 1823, and when he died, owned 574 acres. About 1800, John married Elizabeth Collins (C1780-1840) about 1800.<sup>13</sup> John Bland and Elizabeth Collins had the following family:

(1). Thomas Jefferson Bland (C1805- ). This placement was suggested by the reverend L.P. Bland, following a clue left by Bagby (AC 5-2, p. 14). About 1832, Thomas married Mildred Chapman, (C1810- ), daughter of Henry Van Burne Chapman and Ann Bland, (above, p. 18). Mildred Chapman probably died before 1860. Their known children were (a) Julia Ann E. Bland (C1832-February 28, 1860) who married Hugh A. South on August 5, 1850; (b) John Edward "Ned" Bland (1839- ), who married Margaret Bun Roane (1845- ). Census records show Ned working as a sailor and a farmer. The 1850 census for Gloucester County shows "Ned" Bland living with William Chapman, Mildred Chapman's brother (AC 8-1, p. 38); (c) James Harry C. Bland (1846-1924), who married Sarah Hester Rowe, (1853-1920) on January 18, 1872. James was a merchant of Gloucester County. He and Sarah are buried at the Olive Branch Methodist Church, Gloucester. They had no children.

(2) John B. Bland, (C1807-1856). John was listed by Bagby as a child of "Gentleman John". During his life, John accumulated about 325 acres of land.<sup>14</sup> He married twice. By his first wife, was Elizabeth Brooking ( -C1846), John B. Bland had: (a) John Thomas Bland (C1834- ) and (b) Robert Bland (C1838-1856). By his second wife Mary (C1827- ), John had (c) Armentia Bland (October 15, 1849 - June 20, 1898) who married James J. Norman (1840-1926).

(3) Julia Ann Bland (1810- December 10, 1885) who married William Corr on December 27, 1832.

(4) Cary Todd Bland (October 11, 1817 - September 11, 1853), married Maria Henry Mouring, (November 27, 1828 - August 31, 1872) on August 8, 1846. Their children were: (a) John H. Bland (1847-1881); (b) William Cary Bland (1849-1891), who married Sarah Ann Thomas (1853-1911) on March 18, 1872. Their children were previously enumerated, and include Maria Maude Bland (1874-1948), mother of my correspondent Edna Bland Hall MacGillivray, (AC 2-1, pp. 19-22).

(5) Claiborne (C1818- ) a merchant, was living in 1850 with his sister Harriet A. Bland. Who Claiborne married is not certain. He had one son, James Polk Bland (C1843- ).

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<sup>13</sup> Williamson, p. 13.

<sup>14</sup> Williamson, p. 15.

(6) Harriet A. Bland (C1825- ). Bagby identifies Harriet and her sister Eliza Ann (7 below) as daughters of Gentleman John Bland. Harriet married John B. Morris C. 1851.

(7) Eliza Ann Bland (C1826- ) married \_\_\_\_\_ Hemingway.

(8) William S. Bland (C1822- ), shown by Bagby as "Rev. William S. of Chesterfield." William married a Miss Winston.

(9) Demarius Bland, shown by Bagby to be a son of Gentleman John Bland, married a Miss Bowden.

G. Graves Bland. Nothing more is known of him and his existence may be nothing more than an entry on the 1783 tax record by an official who deliberately set out to confuse later generations of genealogical researchers. Bland MacGillivray writes that "the commissioner simply failed to put a comma between John and Graves." I favor this argument, since Thomas definitely had a son named John (F above), and it is unlikely that he would have also had a son John Graves. It should be noted that Graves Bland was not listed in his father's will so must have been dead by 1807. Perhaps his name supplies a clue to the maiden name of his mother.

Thomas also listed slaves Milly, Peggy and her five children, Frank, Amy, Rachel, Moses and Joe; James and Becky; Lavinia and Peter; Nancy, Sarah and Major. <sup>15</sup>

1. William Bland Junior (C1742-1788)

William Bland Junior, as he appears in the records, was probably the second son of William Bland Senior. The first reference to him appears in 1767, and he is noted several times during the 1770's and 1780s. The Vestry Book of Stratton Major Parish for 1779 refers to William as "William Bland, son of William" and along with Thomas Bland, he acted as a proccessioner to survey land around the Arracaco Creek. This information should give rise to a shrewd suspicion if not a certainty that William was a son of William Senior and a brother of Thomas. William served in the Revolution with the third Virginia Regiment and later provided food for the American army. <sup>16</sup> Research performed in 1979 by Mrs.

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<sup>15</sup> Discussion about Thomas Bland (C1740-1807) as noted above, is supplemented by Williamson, pp. 6-17, passim.

<sup>16</sup> Fleet, Vol. 5, p. 11, and Saffel, p. 276.

Herbert Elliott for Rosa Beatrice Bland establishes William's death at 1788, because the 250 acres credited to him on the 1782 tax list, appears in his estate in 1789. <sup>17</sup> William is found in the county records with 250 acres of land in 1782.

William married Mary Ann Drummond (AC 2-1, p. 20) about 1767, <sup>18</sup> and by 1783 had four living children indicated on the county rent roll: Mary Ann, Robert, William and Molly. <sup>19</sup> Between 1783 and 1788, when William Junior died, his wife had at least one additional child, Lucy, for in 1794 William's son Robert, took custody of his minor sisters, Mary Ann and Lucy. <sup>20</sup> Children of William Bland and Mary Ann Drummond were:

A. William Bland (C1768-1833) (AC 3-2, pp. 17ff; AC 4-1, pp. 18ff) <sup>21</sup> William Bland married Susan Corr (1774-1813), in King and Queen County on February 20, 1792. William's son Elliott remembered returning to Virginia in 1838 for his father's funeral. According to Stokes, William fell on hard times shortly after the death of Susan Corr, when he lost two ship loads of tobacco to the

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<sup>17</sup> AC 2-1, pp. 19-20. Discussion of William Bland Jr. is supplemented by Bland Williamson, pp. 28ff, and a letter from Bland Macgillivray to Charles L. Bland, August 1, 1983.

<sup>18</sup> Williamson, p. 28 indicates that William and his wife were allocated pews in the New Stratton Major Parish Church on December 11, 1767.

<sup>19</sup> Harris, p. 310. The tax recorder listed what appears to be Mary Aaron. This is probably Mary Ann, William's wife, but anything being possible, might be Mary and Aaron.

<sup>20</sup> Louise Bland Goodwin, in a letter to a Mrs. Elliott, October 7, 1978, calls William John William Bland, with children Ralph, John William Jr., Thomas and Captain Robert Bland.

<sup>21</sup> A major source of information for this line is Lewis-Chapman; Lewis-Notes; Morgan; and Stokes. Stokes and Morgan seem to validate the approximate date of William's death at 1838. I suggest that C1765, which is the agreed upon date for William's birth, is too early, given the date when his father and mother were allocated church pews. Thus my choice of the 1768 birth year. Williamson, pp. 38, 56 in marginal notes, indicates that Williams estate is mentioned in the 1834 personal property tax list, and in 1835 his second wife Elizabeth Bland is called "the relict of Wm" suggesting he died about 1833. For a synthesis of these views, see Williamson, pp. 37-75 passim.

British. In order to provide for his family, William was forced to sell his best slaves and never recovered from this blow. Mr. Williamson casts some doubt on William's impoverishment, noting that in 1830, William Bland was charged with 443 acres and 19 slave. William and Susan had the following children:

(1) Isaac Bland (1798-1868). Isaac and his brother Elliott moved to Tennessee and were inducted into the Second Tennessee Militia at Gallatin on July 14, 1836 for service in the Second Seminole War. Isaac married Lucy Wright of Davidson County Tennessee on July 20, 1827 and had by her a single son, (a) Silas Bland (C1830- ). Silas married Emily Hall, September 23, 1856. Silas was enumerated in the 1870 census for Sumner County Tennessee. Lucy Wright died about 1834 and on February 16, 1837, Isaac married Paralee Sanders or Saunders (1810- ) in Sumner County Tennessee, where he was enumerated in the 1850 Census with a family that included: (b) Elizabeth Bland (C1837-1914), who married Hiram William Beasley; (c) Martha A. Bland (1838- ), who married Jefferson T. Hanner on June 22, 1857; (d) Alexander (1842-living in 1880), who married Leticia Wallace, May 30, 1865. Their children were Adam, Sarah E. and Isaac; (e) Sophronia (1843- ); (f) Thomas Jefferson Bland (1854-1940), married Sallie Ann Dennis (1849-1913) about 1875. Their family was enumerated previously (AC 7-1, p. 12) and includes my correspondent Ruth Bland White. (g) Gertrude Bland, (C1854- ), who married Willis Bagwell, January 22, 1874.

(2) William Archibald "Archer" Bland, (C1799-1862). William A. Bland was a minister (Bagby calls him "Rev. Archy") and planter in Middlesex and Gloucester Counties. About 1823, William married a cousin, Mary Chapman, (1801-1869) Daughter of Henry Van Buren Chapman and Ann Bland (AC 3-2, p. 17 and above p. 18). William Archer Bland performed the marriage ceremony for the great grandparents of my correspondent Bland Williamson. His will was probated in Middlesex County September 23, 1863. Mary Chapman died April 25, 1869. Their children were: (a) Emily Bland (April 5, 1824- ) who married Michael Scanlon on March 4, 1850 in Middlesex County; (b) Mary Susan Bland (January 15, 1826 -December 14, 1876) who married William Pendleton Roane (1823-1899) on July 3, 1849; (c) Louisa Bland (June 19, 1828 - October 6, 1888), who married John Lewis Johnston, (1824-1913) on November 11, 1850 in Middlesex County; (d) Robert Tyler Bland (1831-1898). Robert served in Company C, 55th Virginia Regiment, CSA. Robert married first, a first cousin Mary Frances Bland (1835- ) daughter of his father's brother Absalom and Juliza (see below P. 23) . There were no children by this marriage. Second, Robert Tyler Bland married Mary's sister Juliza Ann Bland (1848-1912) on May 3, 1867. Children of Robert Tyler Bland's marriage to Juliza Ann Bland have been previously noted. (e) Schuyler Otis Bland (November 30, 1833 - 1877), a farmer and merchant living in Gloucester County.

Schuyler served in the Civil War and afterwards as Treasurer for Gloucester County. He married Olivia James Anderson (1849-1930) of Mecklenburg County Virginia on February 22, 1871. Their children have been previously noted. (f) Laura Bland (1837-1877), who did not marry; (g) Julia Ann Bland ( May 17, 1839 - ) who married first, Richard Leigh on November 24, 1859, and second, in 1871, Emanuel Jones Stubblefield, (1816-1889).

(3) Ira Bland (C1808 - ), Ira married Ann P. (perhaps Puller) (C1816- ) about 1834. He owned 60 acres through his wife, in 1834 and acquired an additional 150 acres in 1835. Ira moved to York County in 1842 and to Warwick County before 1850. Children of Ira Bland and his wife Ann include: (a) Maria E.A. Bland (C1836- ); (b) Edward P. Bland (C1838- ); and (c) Ira R. Bland (C1844- ). <sup>22</sup>

(4) Absalom Bland (1805- ) (AC 3-2, p. 18). He married Mary Clayton who died before 1850. Absalom, by 1840, held 19 slaves. Absalom Bland lived in King and Queen and Gloucester Counties. By 1836, Absalom held 153 acres in King and Queen County, which he sold and moved to Gloucester County. By 1855, Absalom was charged with 386 acres, including a dower of 236 acres through his wife. In 1867, Absalom was charged with 413 acres. The children of Absalom Bland and Mary Clayton were: (a) Margaret, (1832- ) who married Robert Hart; (b) Mary Frances Bland (1835- ) who married Robert Tyler Bland son of William Archer Bland (pp. 22 above). Mary Frances died soon after her marriage and left no children; (c) Joseph F. Bland (1845-1927) who married a cousin Eliza Bland (1853-1919), daughter of William Hickory Bland (C1819-1878) (See Below P. 25). Children of this marriage were noted previously; (d) Juliza Bland, (1848- 1912), who married her cousin Robert Tyler Bland on May 3, 1867, after the death of her sister Mary Frances Bland (above p. 22).

(5) Elliot Bland, (1813-1896) a short and wiry man, who called himself the "runt" of the family, was described by Stokes as having dark brown wavy hair and blue eyes. Owing to his father's financial difficulties, Elliott was bound out in Richmond at age 14 as a shoe maker, and he completed the apprenticeship in 1834, when at age 21, he struck out for Sumner County Tennessee. There, he joined his brother Isaac (C1798-1868) and married Virginia Adeline Clay of Sumner County Tennessee (1818-1862) on December 4, 1835. Elliott was inducted into the Second Tennessee Militia on July 14, 1836, along with Isaac Bland and he did service in the Second Seminole War. In November 1839, Elliott and Adeline moved

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<sup>22</sup> A compilation of Virginia Miscellanea by Dorothy Ford Wulfeck. Also Williamson, p. 49.



to Humansville, Missouri, where all their children save Jonathan Clay Bland, were born. By the time of his marriage, Elliott had moved to Tennessee and he died in Calloway County Missouri. Elliott and Adeline were parents of: (a) Jonathan Clay Bland (1838-1854); (b) Martha Ann "Puss" Bland (1839-1918) who married Hiram Moore Woodward on November 3, 1857 and James Almon Bengé about 1872. She was the mother of Mrs. Stokes, who describes Martha as having wavy brown hair curled into ringlets on her forehead, and hazel eyes; (c) Susan Virginia Bland (1842-1923) who married Henderson Moore on November 2, 1865; (d) Mary Adaline Bland (1845-1934) who married Logan Vann, and moved with him to California. (e) Sarah Lucretia Bland (1848-1935), who married Julius Fay; (f) George Bland, (C1849- ) died in infancy; (g) Florence Eulalia Bland (1853-1860); (h) William Bland (1855-1861); (i) Robert Bland (1857-1860); (j) Finis Bland (1861-1862). It is possible that the birth of Finis Bland led to his mother's death.<sup>23</sup>

Susan Corr died a few days after the birth of Elliott Bland. William Bland (C1768-1838) seems to have married twice after the death of Susan Corr, about 1816, possibly to a woman named Ann or Mary Shaw and later to Elizabeth Carleton. I tend to agree with Mr. Williamson that the most logical assumption is that Ann or Mary Shaw was the mother of Pascal Bland, and the other children were born to Elizabeth Carelton. So, by Ann or Mary Shaw, William was the father of:

(6) Pascal Bland, (C1817- ). Pascal had 131 acres in King and Queen County by 1841. He married Eliza Brooke (C1815- ) in Essex County December 29, 1839. Their children included (a) Joel Jones Bland (1844-1916), who married Maria Frances Roane (1841-1883) on October 17, 1864. Their children, previously enumerated, included Harvey Samuel Bland (1872-1949) who married Mary Louisa Gayle, (1873-1965), parents of Mrs. Louise Bland Morgan.

By Elizabeth Carelton, William Bland had:

(7) William "Hickory" Bland (C1819-1878). William was born and lived in the Petsworth district in Gloucester County and worked as a farmer and carpenter. He was married first, about 1844, to Caroline Vaughn (July 17, 1822 - October 22, 1860). It is probable that William married Mary Jane Smith on November 12, 1862 and remained married to her until 1866-1867. Thirdly, he married Anne E. Spencer (1830- ). The first six children enumerated in the 1860 census, would have been by Caroline Vaughn: (a) John Henry Bland (1845- ); who married Columbia \_\_\_\_\_. Their children have been enumerated previously; (b) Lucy Frances Bland (1848- ).

<sup>23</sup> Considerable information was provided about Elliot Bland by his descendant Margaret Kelley of Sedalia Missouri, through Virginia Bengé Stokes, Comp., Genealogy of the Bland and Bengé Families, Vol. 1, (ND), (AC 6-2, pp. 3-5).

Lucy married Elam Marion "Buck" Roane; (c) Mary Elizabeth Bland (1848- ) who married Whitfield Roane; (d) Eliza Jo Bland (1853-1919), who married her cousin Joseph Bland (1845-1927) (Above, p. 23) on February 8, 1872; (e) William J. Bland (C1856- ); (f) Walter S. Bland (1858- ).

After the death of Caroline Vaughn Bland, William "Hickory" Bland married the widow Mary Jane Campbell Smith (C1816- ) on November 12, 1862. Mary Jane appears to have died soon after the marriage. Thirdly, William married Eliza Ann Spencer, (1828- ) on July 31, 1867. By Ann Spencer, William appears to have been father to (g) Margaret L. Bland (1868- ) who married a Mr. Thornton and (h) Sarah E. Bland (C1869- ).

By his third wife, Elizabeth Carelton, William Bland (C1768-1833) appears to have had the following children:

(8 & 9) Twins, Robert and Roberta "Bertie" Bland, (C1822- ). Robert died young and Roberta married Cary Mason.

(10) Amanda Bland (1824-1892) married Philip Fisher Mason (1802-1869).

(11) Catherine Valinda Bland, (C1826- ) who married Henry Brooking (C1821- ) about 1840. They had a family of six children, including William, Miles, Julia, Maria, George and Mildred A. Brooking (1847-1898), ancestral grandmother of Bland Williamson of Tulsa Oklahoma.

B. Robert Bland (C1770-1845). Robert served in the War of 1812, where he evidently attained the rank of Captain, for he was known as Captain Robert Bland. Robert witnessed the will of his uncle Thomas Bland in 1807. He held a total of 523 acres by 1820. About 1799, Robert married Mary Catherine Waller, daughter of Edward Waller of Stratton Major Parish. Robert and Mary Catherine had the following children:

(1) Robert Foster Bland, known later as Colonel Robert Bland, who was born May 3, 1800 and died January 31, 1871. Robert Bland was a justice of the peace and he served in the Virginia militia and came to be known as Colonel Bland. Colonel Robert Bland married Mary Ann Boyd (1810-1863), on November 23, 1826, (AC 2-1, p. 21) <sup>24</sup> Through his marriage, Robert obtained an additional 380 acres called "Soanes". In 1858, Robert purchased a colonial mansion called Laneville, one of the largest built by Virginia Planters. Robert also purchased plantations known as Liberty Hall, containing 450 acres and Roy Neck, containing some

<sup>24</sup> Harris, pp. 310-311 and Bagby, pp. 298, 324 and 328.

486 acres. He acquired a 500 acre tract called Lombardy Grove and moved his family into the plantation house there. Thus, Robert Bland was a very wealthy man. Robert and Mary Ann, who are buried along with most of their children at Old Church, King and Queen County, truly replenished the earth with a family of twelve, including seven whose names have been preserved: (a) William Foster Bland, (1827-1904), He was a physician, and he married Louisa Ann Boyd (1835-1911). William is noted as the man who installed the first bath tub in King and queen County. William and Louisa had the following children: (a1) Lucy Bland (1858- ); (a2) Mary Bland (1860- ); (a3) William Boyd Bland (1862-1897) who married Harriet Muse Spencer, October 15, 1883; (b) John Robert Bland II (1829-1854). John graduated from William and Mary College in 1849 as a lawyer, but his poor health cut his life short. He married Mary Catherine Kerchival (1830-C1860) on October 4, 1849. They had two children: (b1) Charles Tazewell Bland (1851-1922). Charles married Rosa V. Garrett (1852-1920) on December 7, 1875. When Charles made his will in 1914, he listed five sons and two daughters including Charles Marvin Bland (1878-1924) who married Matilda Alberta Guthrie (1879-1970), parents of Rosa Beatrice Bland; (b2) Drusilla Bland (1852-1853); (b3) Mary Orell Bland, (1854-1925), who married Thomas M. Garrett; (c) Mary C. Bland (C1831- ) Mary was still living with her parents in 1850. Nothing more is known of her. (d) James E. Bland, (1834-1900), who also was a physician, married Catherine Gardner Corr (1838-1910), a grand daughter of Thomas Roan Corr and Mary Ann Bland. Catherine's sister Ann Backhouse Corr (1832-1897), married Roderick Bland Jr. (1833-1893, see below, p. ). Their children were (d1) Robert Bland (C1859- ); (d2) Mary Ann Bland, (C1865-1949); (d3) Fannie Waller Bland (1870-1921) who married a man named Courney. (e) Lucy M. Bland (1837-1914) who never married.

A long break in dates ensues, suggesting perhaps the five children whose names are not recorded.

(f) Virginia Bland (C1850-1898) who married a Dr. Grubbs.  
(g). Benjamin Franklin Bland, (1852-1932), who never married. After his father's death, he received the Lombardy Grove property and lived the rest of his life there with his sister Lucy.  
(h) Mary Catherine Waller Bland, (C1853 - ) who married M.T. Savage. Upon her father's death, she received the Liberty Hall plantation.

C. Mary Ann Bland (C1778- ) perhaps the Molly Bland on the tax list of William Jr. in 1783. Nothing further is known of her. Mr. Williamson believes she is the Mary Ann Bland who married Thomas Roane Corr on August 27, 1801. <sup>25</sup>

<sup>25</sup> Williamson, p. 34.

D. John Bland (January 21, 1782. Nothing further is known of him.

E. Lucy Bland All that is known of Lucy is that in 1794 she was in custody of her brother Robert.

3. Henry Bland (C1743-1788)

Henry Bland was the third son of William Bland Senior. Henry served in the Revolutionary War and is shown in the 1782 property tax list for King and Queen County, owning 166 acres. In 1789, Henry's estate is included on the county tax list, so he is presumed to have died in 1788. His son John's birth year is reckoned at about 1765, thus Henry's birth year is projected to C. 1743. Henry may have married Dolly Mouring. His 166 acres passed in 1794 to John and Lucy Bland, who are believed to be his children. He served in the Revolution and was shown in the 1782 tax survey holding 166 acres. A third possible daughter of Henry and Dolly was Mariah H. Bland, (C1772-1812). Mariah died December 8, 1812, at about age 40. <sup>26</sup>

4. James Bland (C1750-1803)

James Bland was born sometime in the late 1740s or early 1750s. In 1843, his widow, Amy Samuels, who was then 83 (born in 1760), applied for a Revolutionary War Pension, based upon James Bland's service. Corroborating testimony by several individuals who knew James and Amy created a fairly clear picture of their lives. It is apparent that James Bland was born and lived in King and Queen County. One witness testified that James served in the Second Virginia Regiment from January 12, 1777 to January 24, 1780. His wife testified that he had served under a Captain Waller (note that Robert Bland later married a Mary Waller, daughter of Edward Waller, of King and Queen County; a Thomas Bland Jr., as will be noted, married Sarah Waller). James married Amy, probably in 1781, because a witness testified they had a daughter Elizabeth, who was 13 in 1795. Elizabeth married James Taylor, but the date of their marriage is unknown. There were other children born to James Bland and Amy Samuels, but their name or number is unknown. Amy was still living in 1848. <sup>27</sup>

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<sup>26</sup> Mr. Williamson included Mariah Bland in his second edition as a possible daughter of Henry Bland.

<sup>27</sup> John F. Dorman, Compiler, Virginia Revolutionary Pension Applications, Vol 7, (1962), pp. 62-63.

5. Richard Bland ( - 1804), Richard Bland may be fifth son of William Bland Senior. He married Mary Bowden of King and Queen County on March 14, 1789. He is shown in ownership of 125 acres in King and Queen County in 1782. Richard's estate appears on the personal property tax list of 1805, suggesting that he died in 1804. A Private Richard Bland appearing in the pay records for Captain Thomas Faulkner's Company in 1812 could be a son of the elder Richard.

6. John Bland (1759-1818)

It is probable, but not certain that this John Bland was the son of William Bland Senior.<sup>28</sup> John Bland was a resident of King and Queen County. He served in the Revolution, with Nathaniel Welsh's company, Second Virginia Regiment, for three years, beginning in 1777 and was said to be twenty at the time of his discharge on January 24, 1780. John served in the American revolution.<sup>29</sup> In 1782, John held 30 acres in King and Queen County, (AC 2-1, p. 19), but in 1785, had increased his acreage to 60.<sup>30</sup> By 1820, John's son John owned 412 acres adjacent to the land of his cousin Robert Bland.<sup>31</sup> John married about 1782, a woman named Susannah. In a letter written in 1854, Henry Guthrie of Martin's Ferry Ohio claimed that John died "about thirty five years ago) and had four children:<sup>32</sup>

A. Elizabeth Bland, (C1783-1824) "who intermarried with one William Muire and died intestate about thirty years ago." They lived in Gloucester County. This Elizabeth was probably the daughter shown living with John and his wife in the 1783 tax list. She also might have been the person referred to by the venerable Bagby as "Muire Bland".

B. James Bland, (C1785- ) perhaps James Redwood Bland "who died some time ago intestate and leaving no children." <sup>33</sup> James was said by Bagby to have married a woman named Albright.

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<sup>28</sup> For a discussion of John's dates, see AC 7-2, pp. 13-15 and 8-1, pp. 9-10.

<sup>29</sup> Landon C. Bell, The Old Free State, (1927), cited in AC 2-1, p. 20.

<sup>30</sup> Fleet, Vol. 4, p. 38.

<sup>31</sup> Harris, pp. 310-311.

<sup>32</sup> Henry Guthrie to Richard Shackelford, January 16, 1854.

<sup>33</sup> Ibid.

C. Joanna Bland, married Charles Roane, (1776-1858) on June 1, 1824.

D. Frances Roane Bland, (November 20, 1797- August 14, 1865) married William Chapman on July 7, 1825.

John may also have had a son Drummond, who died young.

7. Christopher Bland (C1762-1781)

Christopher served in the First Artillery Regiment as a drummer and fifer from 1777-1778. Drummers and Fifers were always ages 12-16. After age 16 they were assigned combat duties. Christopher was assigned as a gunner's mate in 1778, suggesting he turned 16 during that year, (AC 2-1, p. 19). Since Christopher does not appear on the tax lists for 1782 and 1783, it is assumed he died in 1781. He never married. <sup>34</sup>

8. Jesse Bland

There is nothing I have seen about Jesse, except that Jesse was listed in 1783 in the household of William Bland Senior. Thomas Jones of Edwardville Indiana, who has for years been searching for a parent for Joshua Bland (C1826- ) who married Mary Ann Scott in Caldwell County Kentucky on November 20, 1847 (AC 1-2, p. 23; 3-2, p. 55 and 4-2, p. 41). He believes he has found a parent-child connection between Charles Bland (1804- ) and Nancy Cates (1802- ) of Haywood County Tennessee in 1850, who were married in Rutherford County Tennessee on August 4, 1825, (AC 4-1, pp. 26-27; 5-2, p. 20-21; 7-1, pp. 17-19 and 7-2, p. 17) and Joshua Bland. Charles Bland, and his brother John, as well as other siblings, have been shown to be sons of Jesse Bland and Sally Newman who were married May 11, 1801 in Amherst County Virginia. This Jesse Bland was born C1775. His birth year was close to the age Jesse on William Bland Senior's tax list. If they are the same Jesse would have moved away from King and Queen County, heading west to seek his fortune, and while enroute met Sally Newman and married her. It is possible but not proven. Thomas Jones' hunch is reinforced by the fact that his wife's father Jesse Bland had a brother named Warner Bland. <sup>35</sup> This idea is challenged by Francis Bland of Paragould Arkansas, who has done most of the research about the family of Jesse Bland and Sally Newman. Francis indicates he has found records in Amherst County of a John Bland, in possession of

<sup>34</sup> Bland MacGillivray to Charles Bland, August 1, 1983.

<sup>35</sup> Letter, Thomas Jones to Charles Bland, February 17, 1991.

land near Peddler's Creek, where Jesse lived, but in 1766 and 1772 suggesting a father and son relationship.<sup>36</sup> Fran's information, which had not reached me when this issue went to press, appears to be a simpler, thus superior claim than that Jesse who married Sally Newman in Amherst County, 1801, was the same man whose name appeared on the 1783 tax list in King and Queen County Virginia in the household of William Bland Senior. This is, however, a rich lead that should be further investigated.

8. Ralph Bland (C1770-1846) Ralph has emerged from the shadows primarily due to the research efforts of Bland Williamson and Claire Christiansen Strauch of Newport Beach California. Ralph appears with William Bland Senior on the 1783 tax list and may be another son. On April 15, 1787, Ralph Bland married Frances Corr.<sup>37</sup> Ralph first appears on the tax list for King and Queen County in 1794, charged with 146 acres, land which had previously been the property of William Bland Senior. Between 1799 and 1828, Ralph amassed a further 390 acres of land. In 1834 and 1835 Ralph is shown holding 535 acres, but by 1836, he had divested himself of some 108 acres. He held the remaining 427 acres at the time of his death. A will for Ralph Bland was filed April 18, 1843, but was not probated until August 12, 1850. Ralph's name last appears on the tax list in 1846, the year he probably died. Ralph named Roderick Bland (1805-1879, see below p. 32ff) co-executor of his estate with another man, Francis Smith, calling them "my friends". In his will, Ralph refers to sons Spencer and Jesse Bland, both deceased. Other children appear in census records, but nothing has been found about them. The gap of nine years between the date of Ralph's marriage and the birth of his first known child, and seventeen years between the first and second known child indicates that there must have been more children and perhaps more than one wife. Bland Williamson indicates the following about the two known sons:<sup>38</sup>

A. Spencer (C1796-1839) There is some confusion about Spencer's dates. He witnessed a deed dated January 1, 1821, indicating a birth date of 1799 or 1800 at the latest. A tax list for Ralph Bland in 1812, includes two "white tithes". If the second tithe was Spencer, he would be at least 16, so born no later than 1796.

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<sup>36</sup> Phone conversation, Francis Bland and Charles L. Bland, March 19, 1991.

<sup>37</sup> Harris, p. 310. See AC 2-1, p. 20, for a correspondent's belief that Ralph was a son of William Bland Jr., whom she called John William Bland.

<sup>38</sup> Williamson, 22-26 provides new information about Ralph Bland.

Mrs. Macgillivray also has shown that Spencer first appears on the tax list in 1830, aged 22. Ralph Bland's will mentions Spencer Bland's widow as Nancy Bland. Spencer's will, probated about 1840, named Ann R. Bland (C1805-1865), as his wife. Since Nancy is a nickname of Ann, this would appear to confirm Spencer's wife. Their children were:

(1) Jane Frances Bland (C1828- ) who, according to Bagby, married Ledford Vaughn.

(2) Robert Bland. This is probably Robert C. Bland, (C1829- ), Vol 6-2, p. 5. Photos on picture page. p. 38. Robert appears in the 1850 Census for Middlesex County, living with the family of William P. Vaughn. Also in the Middlesex census was Thomas Jefferson Bland and his wife Mildred Chapman. It should also be noted that in 1844, William "Hickory" Bland (above, pp. 24-25) married a Caroline Vaughn. This would seem to link Robert C. Bland solidly with the King and queen County family. His occupation is listed as teacher. Robert married Virginia Anne West about 1858. Where is not certain, but Virginia was at Mishawaka Indiana in 1855. Robert and Virginia had four children, all born in East St. Louis Illinois:<sup>39</sup> (a) Annie Bland, (C1859- ); (b) Robert Bland, (C1860- ); (c) Frank West Bland (1861-1936). Frank married Etta Stone (1866-1925) on May 3, 1888 in East St. Louis Illinois. Their children included Frances Edith Bland (1895-1987), who married George N. Christiansen on August 16, 1919. Their daughter was Claire Christiansen Strauch; (d) Edward Bland.

(3) Mary Ann Bland (C1833-living in 1860).

(4) Benjamin Franklin Bland (C1836-1888). Bagby tells us that Benjamin was a member of the Virginia Senate.

B. Jesse Bland, (C1813-1843). Bagby appears to confuse the children of Spencer Bland as Jesse's. Ralph Bland's will refers to Frances Bland as the widow of Jesse. She was Frances Ann H\_\_\_\_\_ and they were married about 1837. The children of Jesse and Frances Bland were:

(1) Joseph Ralph Bland (C1840- )

(2) William Charles Bland (C1840- ) Perhaps a twin of Joseph Ralph Bland.

(3) Alexander Thomas Bland (C1841-1862) he died unmarried.

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<sup>39</sup> Letter, Claire C. Strauch to Charles L. Bland, July 21, 1987. Claire writes that Robert C. Bland left East St. Louis Illinois and returned to Virginia, never to see Illinois again.



9. Warner Bland (C1772-1817) Warner was included on the 1783 tax list and is a probable son of William Bland Senior. In 1816, Warner is charged with 152 acres "taken from Wm Bland Sr. by will". In 1818 the land was charged to Warner's estate, suggesting he died C1817. Warner witnessed the will of Thomas Bland in 1807.

#### Other Blands in King and Queen County

1. Francis Bland (ante1750- ). Francis is the only Bland listed in the 1770 tax list of Gloucester County and does not reappear in 1782. Entries for Petsworth and Stratton Major Parish in 1772 and 1773 suggest "Francis O'Bland" must have been impoverished. Francis married Mary \_\_\_\_\_ and they had a daughter Ann, born on June 28, 1780. Francis appears to have died before 1810 and his wife Mary followed him before 1820. <sup>40</sup>

1. John Bland Junior (C1766-1846). John, according to a court affidavit, was 78 in 1844, thus born in 1766. He died August/September 1846, and had three children. (AC 2-1, p. 20). John's parents are unknown, but if he is Junior, then who is senior? The answer is, I think, that within extended families in the Eighteenth Century, it was not unusual for a younger member with a name held also by an older person, even though they were not father and son, to call himself Junior. John's dates appear solid as does his place within the King and Queen family.

Mrs. MacGillivray provided Mr. Williamson with the Tax List of 1783 that shows John Bland Junior with his mother Betty Bland and suggests that this man is our subject. A Tax List dated 1787, shows John Bland Junior living very near to Betty Bland who pays John's tax. <sup>41</sup> John owned 412 acres of land in King and Queen County which bordered the land of Robert Bland. John Bland Jr. was named in the ranks of the King and Queen 9th Regiment, with the rank of ensign, commissioned June 3, 1799. John married Mary Frances Drummond according to one source, on January 13, 1805, which corresponds to the date of birth of Roderick Bland, their first child. <sup>42</sup>

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<sup>40</sup> Williamson, p. 76.

<sup>41</sup> Bland Williamson to Charles Bland, April 16, 1989 and September 13, 1989. Also, Williamson, pp. 76-77.

<sup>42</sup> In preparing information about John Bland Junior and his children, I have drawn from information contained in two letters to me from Carol Smith Adams, April 10, 1985 and February 23, 1989.

By Mary Frances Drummond, John had two children:

A. Roderick Bland, (1805-1879) distinguished himself by a striking tombstone that stands out in the Shackelford Church cemetery where he is buried. Roderick was a Major in the Virginia militia, serving with the 9th Regiment of Infantry, 14th Brigade. He was called Major Roderick Bland and served as Justice of the County Court. Roderick was heavily invested in land and owned more than 1,600 acres by 1859. He donated property to builders of the Shackelford Chapel Methodist Church, and also gave 10 acres for construction of the Centreville Male Academy. Roderick Bland married twice and had sixteen children. His first wife was Juliza A. Clayton, (1809-1840) whom he married about 1826. By Juliza, Roderick Bland had:

(1) Robert W. Bland (1827-1833)

(2) William Absolum Bland (1829-1832)

(3) Frances Ann Elizabeth "Puss" Bland (1831-1913) who married Warner Pinkerton Roane, a son of Charles Alexander Roane and Joanna Bland (See above p. 29).

(4) Roderick "Buck" Bland (1833-1892), who married Ann Backhouse "Puss" Corr (1832-1917). Their children were previously enumerated.

(5) Emiline Bland (1835-1926), who married \_\_\_\_\_ Sears

(6) Washington Bland (1837-1840)

(7) John William Bland (1839-1915) who married Margaret Goulder on December 18, 1865. <sup>43</sup>

About 1841, Roderick married Frances Goulder (1820-1872), and by her had the following children:

(8) Ellen Jane Bland (1842-1872) who married \_\_\_\_\_ Roane.

(9) James Thomas Bland (1844-1915), who married Ann Winn Irby (1847-1884); Secondly, James married Florence V. Wright on November 26, 1888.

(10) George Carter Bland (1848-1938), who married Cora Lee Anderson, (1862-1941, on April 21, 1884.

(11) Nannie Field Bland (1851-1938) married \_\_\_\_\_ Leigh.

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<sup>43</sup> Carol Adams to Charles Bland, April 18, 1983.

- (12) Ada Burnsey Bland (1855-1939) married Walter M. Marston.
- (13) Richmond Bland (1857-1949), married Clemmie Belle Anderson.
- (14) Etta Bland (1857-1947), a twin of Richmond Bland, married Dr. Garrett Anderson.
- (15) Jefferson Davis Bland (1861-1884).
- (16) Joseph Linwood Bland (1866-1966) married Frances Courtney.

B. Frances Bland, (1810-August 10, 1884), who married John Marshall Taylor in 1831.

By his second wife Martha Collier, John Bland had Nancy Todd Bland (1830-1871), who married Richard Barnes Lawson (1793-1858) on November 2, 1848. Nancy and Richard were the great, great grandparents of Carol Smith Adams of Charleston South Carolina.

3. There is in the 1850 census for K&Q county an Emiline Bland (1771- ) living with Martha Ann Bland (1846- ) and James Theodore Bland (1848- ).

4. Samuel Bland (C1792- ) Samuel was a carpenter who appears in the Gloucester county census between 1820-1850. Samuel was married to a woman who died before 1850 and was born around 1800. The 1840 census shows that Samuel and his wife had four sons.

5. Thomas Bland (C1795- ). Thomas married Nancy Rowe (1798- ). Thomas appears in the Gloucester County census for 1830. Thomas and Nancy had a son Harrison Bland, born April 13, 1824.

4. Zachariah Bland (C1813- ), a farmer in Gloucester County married Delilah Ann Didlake, (C1821-1871) daughter of Royston Didlake, of King and Queen County. \*\* According to the 1860 census, the children of Zachariah and Delilah were:

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\*\* Bland Macgillivray to Charles L. Bland, August 1, 1983. If Mrs. Macgillivray is correct in asserting that Sarah Bland, daughter of Thomas Bland, married Royston Didlake, it would seem likely that Delilah Didlake was thus related to that branch of the Bland family, suggesting a possible connection between Zachariah and the family of Thomas Bland (C1740-1807); however, Mr. Williamson cites a letter from Mrs. Macgillivray July 1989, in which she is uncertain whether Sally married John or Royston Didlake.

A. Priscilla A. Bland (1843- ) who married Lewis Wood.

B. James Royston Bland, (1845-1863) was killed on November 13, 1863, near Charleston South Carolina while serving in the Confederacy.

C. William Claiborne Bland (1847-1933) married Virginia Adelaide Groome (1851-1934), on March 3, 1870. their children were:

(1) William Christopher Bland (1871-1958).

(2) Cora Anna Bland (February 6, 1873 - May 25, 1948) who married Philip A. Didlake on March 22, 1893.

(3) Emma Julia Bland (1875-1911), who married Edward Crawley Haynes.

(4) Joseph Henry Bland (1878-1974) who married Blanche W. Sibley on November 2, 1910.

(4) Mary Blanche Bland, (1879- ) married H. Maxwell Cole.

(5) Ella Lee Bland (1882-1901).

(6) Delphia Farrow Bland (March 14, 1885-1984) who married Melvin Booker Fary.

(7) James Elvin Bland (1887-1888).

(8) Walter Haze Bland (1890-1891).

(9) Leroy Banks Bland (1893- ).

(10) Edgar Franklin Bland (November 26, 1896 - ) married Hilda Wilson on July 20, 1925.

Photographs of William Claiborne Bland and Adelaide Groome appear on the picture pages of AC 5-2.

D. Mary E. Bland (1855- ). Mary married Curtis Milby.

E. Joshua Thomas Bland (April 13, 1857 - December 2, 1936), a farmer who was included in the 1900 census for Cloucester County, married Sarah Fletcher (November 17, 1850 - January 5, 1927). Among their nine children, only the following four were living in 1900:

- (1) Ernest F. Bland (1880- ).
- (2) Nannie B. Bland (1883- ).
- (3) Ollie B. Bland (1884- ).
- (4) Mary A. Bland (1888- ).<sup>45</sup>

F. Linnius Payne Bland (1859-1901), a farmer in Gloucester County, married Mary Ellen Padgett (1861-1927) on December 27, 1883. They were parents of Lineous Preston Bland (1901-1989). A photo of Linneous Payne Bland appears on AC 3-1, p. 9.

G. Ann Wood Bland, who was born sometime after 1860.

This concludes discussion about the King and Queen County Virginia line. It is an example of what wonderful insights can occur when good researchers turn their mind to a project and are then generous in sharing the information. Yet obviously many questions remain unanswered or have been reframed. I look forward to hearing from anyone who has new information about this family line.

#### OTHER LINES

##### Descendants of Joseph Bland (C1819-1863)

Thomas C. and Donita Hulseley have continued their fine research on this line, adding considerable life and detail to what we know of the family. Joseph Bland (1819-1863) (VU, p. 340; AC 1-1, pp. 4-5; 7-1, p. 21; 7-2, pp. 18-19) was a son of William Bland (C1787- ) of Chatham County North Carolina, and the grandson of James Bland (C1749-1799), whose life was uncovered by the work of Albert and Mildred Hunter. Joseph married Sarah A. Milam (1823-1899). The child of this couple that is of most interest to the Hulseys is William Bland, (1847-1924), who married Amelia A. Killion (C1854- ) on March 6, 1873 at Bloomfield, Davis County Iowa. In Mitchell County Kansas, September 29, 1897, William Bland filed for divorce against Amelia, claiming she had abandoned him on November 10, 1895. The known children of William T. Bland and Ameilia A. Killion, expanded somewhat by the divorce papers, were as follows:

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<sup>45</sup> I am grateful to Tom Jordan, Richmond Virginia, for providing photos of the tombstones for Joshua Thomas Bland and Sarah Fletcher. Also Cf, Williamson, pp. 82-83.

1. Otto C. Bland (January 28, 1875- January 3, 1904). Otto died from injuries received when he fell from a telephone pole near Abilene Kansas. Otto had a wife and son at the time of his death. He married Minnie Cline (C1878- ) at Beloit, Mitchell County Kansas, on December 25, 1900.

2. Orin Perl Bland (1878-1920). Orin was probably born in Rooks County Kansas. He died of suicide at Seattle Washington. By 1900, Orin lived in Rice County Kansas. Later he lived in Mitchell County Kansas where various records describe him as a livery stable proprietor, laborer and teamster. He married Nettie Trumbull (C1875- ), November 16, 1904. Orin and Nettie moved to Seattle Washington about 1909. They were the parents of:

A. Carl Lovell Bland (1905-1982), who married first, Helen Mylott ( -1960) on May 23, 1926, in Seattle Washington. Carl Bland's second wife was Clara McCluskey, (1907- ) whom he married on January 12, 1963.

B. Delila Fern Bland (1907-1985), who married first, Frank William Brewster on December 9, 1926, in Everett, Snohomish County Washington. Secondly Delila married Domenico Vincenzo Bailo and they are the parents of Donita Bailo Hulsey.<sup>46</sup>

C. A third child, name unknown, was born August 15, 1909.

3. Ida M. Bland (C1880- ) married Clyde A. Novis (1879- ) on December 24, 1902 at Beloit, Mitchell County Kansas.

4. Carl I. or L. Bland (C1883- )

5. Frank H. or K. Bland (C1887- October 29, 1923)

On October 19, 1909, William T. Bland married the widow Susan E. Kimsey (1848-1916). A "B.W. Bland" who died July 3, 1921 at age "72" must have been Worthington Bland, a brother of William T. Bland (VU, p. 340).

The Mitchell County Kansas records uncovered by the Hulsey's also shed further light on the family and descendants of William Bland (C1821-1895), a brother of Joseph Bland, and Catherine Brock, (C1828- ), his wife (VU, pp. 336-340 and AC 1-2, photo, Exhibit 3). J. A. Bland, who married Minnie Noah on May 30, 1886, may have been James Bland, third child of William Bland and Catherine Brock,

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<sup>46</sup> This new information was provided by T.C. and Donita Hulsey, from research materials attached to letter, T.C. Hulsey to Charles Bland, October 10, 1990.

though if so she would have been his second wife. Noah Bland, (C1856- ) the fourth child of William Bland and Catherine Brock, married Carrie Bailey on November 15, 1876. John R. Bland (C1858- ), the fifth child of William Bland and Catherine Brock, married Carrie Maulden, October 20, 1879. Eve Ellen Bland (C1860-1929), the sixth child of William Bland and Catherine Brock married Harvey Cooley, on November 3, 1875, (VU. p. 338). Marion Francis Bland, eighth child of William Bland and Catherine Brock, married Mary Knight on June 8, 1889. Their daughter Rheah Bland (C1890- ) married Louis A. Hicks on June 12, 1907. Fern Bland, who died at 18 months on December 14, 1896 was the daughter of Francis Marion Bland and Mary Knight (VU p. 339).

I have been unable to determine the connection of Henry Bland who married Emma J. Owens on May 30, 1878. Two other Bland-Owen marriages, J. S. Bland to Ida E. Owen February 5, 1884 and J. W. Bland to Maggie E. Owen, October 22, 1884, have eluded connection (An Owen-Bland connection within the same broad family appears at VU p. 334). Similarly, I have been unable to make a connection for James L. Bland and Nannie Birdsall, married September 24, 1876.

#### Determining the Long Life of Batt Gay

In response to a recent dilemma about the dates of Edie Bland and her husband Batt Gay, (AC 8-1, p. 27; 8-2, p. 42) Willie Moseley of Statesboro Georgia sent me the following: The Batt Gay library in Jenkins County Georgia is the burial site for Batt Gay (January 8, 1825 -February 25, 1899) and Edie Bland, his wife, (March 5, 1829 - September 25, 1906). The cemetery also yields information about Sallie Bland, (January 15, 1833 - December 18, 1906). Sallie, who was Edie Bland's sister, married Clem Mercer. Both Edie and Sallie were daughters of William Bland and Susannah Alderman, (VU, pp. 302-305). Heretofore, we have not had such precise information about either woman, and we are grateful to Willie Moseley for her help in this. <sup>47</sup>

#### Jane Wiggonton Wife of Moses Bland

I wish to correct a previous error in which I noted that Moses Bland (C1718-1800) married "Rachel" Wiggonton, (AC 8-1, p. 15). Moses Bland married Jane Wiggonton on January 14, 1750. <sup>48</sup>

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<sup>47</sup> Willie Lee Moseley to Charles L. Bland, July 29, 1990.

<sup>48</sup> Elva G. Reitz, Sun City Arizona, to Charles L. Bland, August 5, 1990.

William Bland (1792-1868)

In Union County South Carolina on March 3, 1817, my ancestral grandfather William Bland, joined twelve "good and lawful men" at a coroner's inquest to gaze upon the body of one John Findley "then and there lying dead." They reckoned that Findley got drunk and tried to cross the river at Howell's Ferry, when the river got the best of him. <sup>49</sup> William moved from Union County South Carolina to Rutherford County North Carolina about 1830. He was my great, great grandfather.

My Aunt Virginia Long, perchance, sent me a newspaper clipping May 31, 1904, announcing the death of my great, great grandfather Thomas R. Bland, which confirmed his date of death as May 30, 1904, and also affirmed that he was the son of the above William Bland (1792-1868), (VU p. 535). The obituary thus is worth quoting in full:

Henrietta, May 31, 1904: Mr. Thomas R. Bland, an aged, prominent and highly respected citizen of Caroleen, died at his home at 7 O'clock yesterday morning, at the venerable age of 75 years. He will be buried today at the Concord Baptist Church, near Bostic. Mr. Thomas R. Bland was born near where Cliffside now stands, on February 27, 1829. He was the son of William Bland, whose father came from Ireland to this country about the year 1800 and settled in Rutherford County. He was married to Miss Patsy Rollins in the year of 1849, at the age of 20. A few years after his marriage, he moved to Georgia, where he stayed only a couple of years and returned to the scenes of his birth and early life, where he spent the remainder of his life. In 1862, at the age of 33, he enlisted in Company I, Fiftieth Regiment of North Carolina Volunteers, in the Confederate Army and made a brave soldier, taking part in many bitterly contested engagements, but escaped without a wound. Mr. Thomas R. Bland was the father of eight children, six of which survive him as follows: James C. Bland; Berry E. Bland of Henrietta; William W. Bland; Sallie Bland; Janie Bland and Leonard C. Bland and Nancy Harrill (who was in fact a grand-daughter known as "Cousin Nannie" 1874-1980). He has been a consistent member of the Baptist church for nearly sixty years.

The obituary did not note Thomas' first child Nancy Bland Harrell (1850-1874) and omitted his daughter Martha Catherine (1873-1952), who married Robert Freeman and had moved away.

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<sup>49</sup> Letter from Gordon N. Owens to Charles L. Bland, July 12, 1990, citing Brent Holcomb, ed. The South Carolina Magazine of Ancestral Research, Volume XVIII, No 2., (Spring 1990) p. 99.



William E. Blan (1811-1872)

Knowledge of this man's life, researched by the late Gordon N. Owens of Newton Square Pennsylvania, and his niece, Reba Jo Curry Jones, has grown more substantial. During a trip to South Carolina in Summer 1990, Gordon confirmed that William E. Blan was living in Darlington County South Carolina as late as October 1845.<sup>50</sup> In Marion District, South Carolina, a series of transactions brings further light on the line. On April 23, 1824 and January 17, 1825, Elizabeth Boatright bequeathed cows to "My grandson Ely Bland" and "my grandson, William Bland."<sup>51</sup> Gordon was persuaded that this little William Bland was his ancestor William (1811-1872).

The Family of Joseph Bland and Susan Bailey

I have heard from a new correspondent, Josephine Bland Holden 905 Conway # 28, Las Cruces New Mexico, 88005, who has sent valuable new information about her line of descent from this Frederick County Virginia Family. Josephine Bland Holden's line intersects at a previous discussion, (AC 5-2, p. 13), with Levi Judson Bland (1865-1909) and his wife Laura Cowan, and their son Dovener Hadden Bland (September 9, 1893 - May 19, 1966), who married Velma Ruth Biggs (June 28, 1898 - February 1, 1987). Dovener and Velma were parents of Josephine Bland Holden. Judson Bland was a son of Richard J. Bland (1824-1896), son of Richard Bland (1787-1876) and Mary Jobes. This elder Richard, discussed before was the son of Joseph Bland and Susan Bailey. I have previously hypothesized that Joseph was a son of Thomas Bland of Fauquier County Virginia (AC 4-2, pp. 8-9 and VU, pp. 367-392), a hypothesis I still hold. This is a family whose later development has been scattered all over the various numbers of "Among Cousins" and which should be synthesized.<sup>52</sup>

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<sup>50</sup> Gordon N. Owens to Charles L. Bland, July 12, 1990, citing Darlington County S.C. Deed Book P, pp. 128-129.

<sup>51</sup> Gordon N. Owens to Charles L. Bland, September 21, 1990, citing South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Tape M-10C RMC Grantee Index to Conveyances Book, Supplemental, 1800-1869.

<sup>52</sup> Josephine Bland Holden to Charles L. Bland (October 29, 1990).

Queries

The following query comes from Ellen W. McGuire, Spring Drive, Tompkins Cove New York, 10986. Ms. McGuire is searching for information about Norah May Whippo (1872- ) and Wilbur Bland (1881- ) who were married in 1903. Both were born in Pennsylvania and in 1910 they were living at Potter Township, Centre County Pennsylvania. Ms. McGuire's grandfather, George Elmer Whippo, had been born to Nora May Whippo on March 4, 1896.

Helen G. Pearson, Box 41672, Sacramento California 95841, is seeking information about Emma Josephine Bland (1861-1925), who was born perhaps in Tehema County California and died in Woodland, Yolo County California. Emma married Benjamin Franklin "Frank" Pearson or Pierson (1830-1901) about 1878. Emma's father may have been Floyd Bland and she had a sister Anna (C1867- ), living with her in 1880. Emma also had brothers Charles and Will. In 1880, "Frank" and Emma Bland Pearson were living in Shasta County California. <sup>55</sup>

This concludes the first number of the ninth volume of "Among Cousins". I hope you enjoyed it and will forgive me for my chronic tardiness.

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<sup>55</sup> Helen G. Pearson to Charles L. Bland, January 19, 1991.