

## CHAPTER XI

THE FAMILY OF ROBERT BLAND: EIGHTH GENERATIONThe Founder

The fourth son of James Bland (seventh generation) was Robert Bland (eighth generation). Robert was the youngest male child mentioned in his father's will of 1708. In determining the chronological parameters of Robert's life, it is important to recall that James Bland's will specified that his second son James (eighth generation) would be assigned "the tuition and bringing up ... of my youngest son Robert."<sup>1</sup> In contemporary legal parlance, "tuition" indicated that the concerned child was less than fifteen, if male, and thirteen, if female. Robert and all of James' daughters who were living at the time of his will were placed under the "tuition" of their two eldest brothers or, as the case may be, their half-brothers. The language of James Bland's will suggests that Robert was born sometime between 1693-1708.

In his will, James Bland further stipulated that his wife Margaret should have "my now dwelling plantation, and ... land ... during her natural life and after her decease, to fall to my loving son Robert Bland, and his heirs lawfully begot."<sup>2</sup> In 1723, the Overwharton Parish Rent Rolls showed the "widow Bland" (Margaret) still in possession of

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<sup>1</sup> The Will of James Bland, December 22, 1708; cf. pp. 260-261.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid. The amount of land in question was 200 acres, Margaret's widow's third of the 600 acres James bought in 1701.

the widow's third of James' estate.<sup>1</sup> Robert's name was not listed. What all of this adds up to is uncertain. To my best understanding, Robert was entitled to the 200 acres when he turned twenty-one, and that he did not, would indicate that by 1723, Robert was still legally a minor. On the other hand, Virginia law would not have compelled Margaret to turn over the land to Robert, and she had every right to hold it until she died. I lean to the notion that Robert's absence from the 1723 rent rolls, which included Margaret and the other three brothers, indicates that he had not yet attained his majority in 1723, thus my reasoning for establishing his birthdate at about 1703.<sup>2</sup>

The balance of Robert Bland's life is problematical. Although I have concluded that he died in 1760, was married and had at least three sons (my reasons will be discussed presently), there is one powerful piece of evidence that Robert died without issue. There is recorded in Prince William Deed Book U (1774) the following deed involving David Bland (ninth generation), grandson of James Bland (eighth generation) and grandnephew of Robert Bland (eighth generation) substantially quoted. In it, David Bland conveys to William Savage:

... his moiety and division of one certain tract of land now in his fee under the will of his great grandfather, James Bland, purchased by him from Harrington, (sic)\* including the plantation that the said James Bland lived on, and the land from the mouth of the creek to the first branch above the plantation bequeathed to his son, Robert Bland, who died without issue:\*\* Also, a certain parcel of land bequeathed by the said James Bland to his son William Bland, and now in the possession of Josey Waldon, containing 150 acres, more or

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<sup>1</sup> King, Registers of Overwharton Parish, p. 146.

<sup>2</sup> The estimated birth year of 1703 is about a mean between the parameters of 1693-1708.

less; also, a certain parcel of land bequeathed by the said James Bland to his son John Bland, being the undivided moiety of a parcel of land bequeathed aforesaid by the said James Bland to his sons John and James by will bearing date the 22nd day of December, 1708, and recorded in the County Court of Stafford...adjoining to one-half of the parcel bequeathed as above the parcel of land sold by me in presence of witness in the nature of an (illegible) issued by the Secretary's office of the colony to the said William Savage, and now in his possession, all of which said parcels of land are bequeathed in the will above mentioned and purchased by the above named James Bland out of Harrington's (sic) patent...<sup>1</sup>

The following additional deed appeared in Prince William Records in 1796:

... David Bland, grandson and heir-at-law of James Bland, deceased, conveyed to Willoughby Tebbs, all those lands and tenements within the said county of Prince William, on which the said David now lives, lying and being in Quantico Neck, formerly called Cock Pitt Point Neck, containing now by estimation about 210 acres, the same being formerly granted by Patent dated the 13th day of August, 1711, to Francis Stone, William and James Bland, grandfather to the said David, which said land was devised by the said James Bland, by will dated the 16th day of February, 1755, and recorded in the said county, the 22nd day of March, 1756, to the said David Bland and Benjamin Bland, or the survivor, together with all the rest of his estate (the said land being first purchased by the said James Bland and the said Stone and William Bland ... excepting 30 acres out of the aforementioned land conveyed by the said Bland unto John Curry and now in possession of the widow of said Curry, as reference to the said deed will more fully appear. Also, one other tract or parcel of land lying and being on Occoquan Run, granted to said James Bland, at or near what is now called Davis' Ford, also one other tract of land in Terrapin Forest, formerly called Pate's Oars or otherwise (illegible) old field...<sup>2</sup>

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\* David is talking about his great grandfather's purchase of 600 acres from Burr Harrison in 1701.

\*\* In his 1708 Will, James Bland stipulated that "in case any of my sons should die without issue, (the property) then to fall to the survivors..."

<sup>1</sup> Prince William Deed Book U, September 13, 1774, pp. 70-71.

<sup>2</sup> Prince William County Deed Book Y, March 25, 1796, p. 664.

The above two deeds show that certainly by 1796, David Bland (tenth generation) was firmly in control of a great deal of land that was deeded to all of the eighth generation brothers by James Bland (seventh generation), as well as land acquired by William and James Bland (eighth generation). The operative document, however, is the 1774 deed in which David Bland states affirmatively that Robert Bland died without issue, language very specific to directions in his great grandfather's will.

This language has been sufficient to cool the genealogical ardor of many a researcher. Kate Duncan Smith, for example, in 1899 put out an inquiry in The William and Mary Quarterly, in which she thought that Robert Bland (eighth generation) had been father of Robert Bland (ninth generation, to be discussed presently).<sup>1</sup> By 1920, however, she had backed away from that supposition and declared in two letters that Robert (ninth generation) was most likely the son of either William, James or John Bland.<sup>2</sup> Not everyone agreed with Mrs. Smith. Mrs. C. F. Henley, of Mint, Tennessee, in 1907, wrote to Robert Linn Bland that she knew of a deed recorded in Loudon County, which proved that Robert Bland, son of James who died in 1708, actually died intestate in Loudon County in 1760, had a widow Jane and sons, Robert, Edward and William.<sup>3</sup>

Indeed, a Robert Bland died intestate in Loudon County between August and November 1760. His estate, with moveable goods valued at

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<sup>1</sup> WMG (1), Vol. IV, p. 134.

<sup>2</sup> Kate Duncan Smith to Mrs. Earley, March 6 and 19, 1920.

<sup>3</sup> Cited in UMB-1, p. 51. This parent-son supposition was followed by Homer Jones in his correspondence with Nel Ford, of Columbus, Missouri.

17 pounds sterling, was inventoried on November 11, 1760.<sup>1</sup> When this Robert died, he was married to a woman named Jane and had three sons, as alleged by Mrs. Henley.<sup>2</sup>

I believe that if Mrs. Smith had thoroughly combed the Virginia Records, she might have pieced together some clues that would have pleased her. For in spite of the assertive claim of David Bland that Robert Bland (eighth generation) died without issue, I believe other evidence positively contradicts him, and demonstrates that Robert Bland, who was the minor mentioned in the 1708 will of James Bland, was the same man who died intestate in Loudon County in 1760.

Robert Bland first appears in surviving records as an adult in Prince William County (formerly Stafford) when he is listed on June 18, 1735 as a debtor to Richard Melton, for seventy pounds of tobacco.<sup>3</sup> Interestingly, another debtor, one John Diskin, owed Melton forty pounds of tobacco. Diskin's significance as a man living in close proximity to Robert Bland will become clear momentarily. That the Robert Bland who was a debtor to Melton was also the Robert Bland named in the 1708 will of James Bland is attested by a 1738 entry in the Prince William County Deed Books, which showed Robert Bland living on Cock-Pitt Point Neck, adjacent to land owned by William, James and

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<sup>1</sup> Loudon County Will Book A, August 1760, p. 30. Inventory dated November 11, 1760. Cf. Clayton Torrence, Virginia Wills and Administrations, p. 38.

<sup>2</sup> Loudon County Deed Book D, February 15, 1764, p. 109. Dawson Notes citing the National Genealogical Society Quarterly, Vol. 39, p. 117, which lists persons on the Rent Rolls of Loudon County, including "Bland, Robert, heirs of, 527 acres."

<sup>3</sup> John Frederick Dorman, Prince William County Will Book: 1734-1744, p. 12.

John Bland (eighth generation).<sup>1</sup> Similarly, in 1741, Robert appeared in polls for the election of Burgesses for Prince William County, as a voter for Valentine Peyton, while Richard Melton voted for William Fairfax. William, James and John Bland voted for both Peyton and Fairfax.<sup>2</sup>

It is unclear whether in succeeding years Robert Bland physically moved, or simply came under new parish and county jurisdiction. I suspect the former. In 1749, an entry in Dettingen Parish Vestry Book showed John Bland collecting a rebate for overtaxation of Robert Bland (presumably an adjustment for an overcharge the previous year).<sup>3</sup> By 1753, Robert was in Fairfax County/Truro Parish, which would later be split, the western portion becoming Loudon County.<sup>4</sup>

More importantly, Robert Bland in 1753 witnessed a lease of land to Isaac Davis, son of William Davis and Elinor Bland. In the same year, Robert leased a tract of 538 acres "on the east side of Licking Run," in Fairfax (later Loudon County) from his old associate, John Diskin.<sup>5</sup> The particular land in question had been deeded to Diskin in

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<sup>1</sup> Prince William Deed Book D, August 17, 1738, recorded February 26, 1738/1739, p. 42. This transaction involved a transfer of land from John Melton to William Davis, husband of Elinor Bland, son-in-law of James Bland (seventh generation) and brother-in-law and business associate of William Bland (eighth generation). Cf. discussion of the William Bland-William Davis connection in Chapter VIII, p. 267, note 1.

<sup>2</sup> Boogher, Gleanings of Virginia History, pp. 116-120. Robert Bland's relation to Peyton is unclear. Robert Bland (ninth generation) named a son Peyton. Valentine Peyton, along with Thomas Bland, was a creditor in the estate of Francis Stone in 1740. Cf. Dorman, Prince William County Deed Book: 1734-1744, pp. 91-92.

<sup>3</sup> Vestry Book of Dettingen Parish, Prince William County, November 4, 1749.

<sup>4</sup> Fairfax County Order Book, 1749-1774, p. 459. In 1753, Robert took custody of an Orphan Girl.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid. p. 207.

1741 by the Proprietor, while Fairfax was still Prince William County. It is vital to any discussion of the identification of Robert Bland, that two later references to this transaction referred to Robert Bland as deceased, to distinguish that his son Robert was the principal in the later documents. Inasmuch as those documents are primal to our knowledge about the life and descendants of Robert Bland (eighth generation), they are quoted in substance:

...This indenture made the 11th day of August in the Year of Our Lord, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy-Five, between Robert Johnson, of Loudon County, and Cameron Parish, in the Colony of Virginia...and Robert Bland, of Cameron Parish in Loudon County... the said Robert Johnson...to him in hand paid by Robert Bland...doth grant, bargain and sell, one certain piece or parcel of land...lying and being in the County of Loudon...lying on the Elk Licking Run, being a part of a tract of land that was taken up by John Diskin, of Prince William County, and sold to Robert Bland, and after his decease, fell to Jane Bland, his wife, and Edward Bland, his son, and the said Jane and Edward Bland made a conveyance of the said land to Robert Johnson by deeds...containing eighty-five acres, more or less, hereby grants unto the said Robert Bland and unto the possession of the said Robert Bland.<sup>1</sup>

So in 1775, Robert Bland purchased from Robert Johnson some 85 acres of land that was originally held by John Diskin, neighbor of Robert Bland, who was living near William, James, John and Robert Bland at Cock-Pitt Point Neck, in Prince William County. The Robert Bland who was principal in this deed was ninth generation. Again, in 1778, Robert Bland (ninth generation) was involved in a transaction pertaining to the Diskin property:

...This indenture made the eighteenth day of May in the Year of Our Lord, one thousand seventeen hundred and seventy-eight, between Robert Bland, of Cameron Parish, Loudon County...and Joseph Mershon, of the same county

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<sup>1</sup> Loudon County Deed Book L, August 11, 1775, pp. 1-5.

and parish...Robert Bland for consideration of one hundred and fifty pounds of current money to him in hand paid by the said Joseph Mershon, confirms one certain parcel of land situated in Loudon County, on the east side of the Elk Licking Run containing five hundred and thirty-eight acres, granted by deed from the proprietor's office, bearing date the tenth day of June, one thousand seven hundred and forty-one, to John Diskin, and by the same John Diskin transferred to Robert Bland, late of Loudon County, deceased, by deeds, duly proved in the County of Fairfax, the said Robert Bland...hereby conveys unto ...Joseph Mershon...<sup>1</sup>

This transaction, in which Robert Bland divested himself of 538 acres was probably done in 1778, preparatory to his move to South Carolina, in which he appears to have followed his older brother Edward, and was thus in 1778 the sole remaining heir in Loudon County of Robert Bland (eighth generation) who could liquidate ownership of what must have been family property.

The foregoing information convinces me that, contrary to the assertion of David Bland in 1774, Robert Bland, son of James Bland (seventh generation), did have heirs, specifically, a wife Jane, and sons Edward and Robert, as well as a son William.<sup>2</sup> The evidentiary linkage found in transactions and geographic proximity between Robert Bland, Richard Melton, and John Diskin, with well documented evidence of a continued

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<sup>1</sup> Loudon County Deed Book P, May 18, 1778, pp. 503-506. The sale excepted 120 acres of the property which was being used by a church.

<sup>2</sup> One alternative possibility for the parentage of Robert Bland, who died in 1760, is that he was the ninth generation son of one of the three eighth generation brothers, William, James and John, by a woman antecedent to their wives at birth. If so, Robert would have had to be twenty-one by 1729. The most likely choice would be William or James, however, if naming practices provide a clue. It should be noted that Robert's son, who moved to South Carolina, had an eldest son John and a youngest son James. This is an alternative offered for others to pursue. My conviction remains that the Robert Bland mentioned in the will of James Bland (seventh generation) is the same man who was creditor to Melton in 1735, purchased land from Diskin in Fairfax County in 1753, and died intestate in Loudon County in 1760.



relationship between Robert Bland and Diskin in Loudon County, is to me persuasive that Robert Bland, son of James (seventh generation), born about 1703, died in Loudon County in 1760.

The reason or motive for David Bland's assertion that Robert died without issue remains a mystery. One must note that the language in the 1774 deed is quite specific to the terms of James Bland's will of 1708. Further, it seems clear that David Bland was in control of land that had once been owned not only by Robert, but by his grandfather James, as well as his great uncles William and John.<sup>1</sup> How David Bland came into possession of the land James Bland deeded to his son Robert remains uncertain. Robert leased or bought 538 acres from John Diskin in Fairfax County (later Loudon) in 1753, which was two years before the death of his brother, James Bland. In order to raise money for the Fairfax property, he might have sold to James the 200 acres he was entitled to after his mother's death. Other information shows that Robert may have moved as early as 1748.<sup>2</sup> In either case, David Bland would have been a small child when these hypothetical transactions occurred. If, in occupying, leasing or purchasing the Diskin property in Fairfax County, Robert moved away from the Cock-Pitt Point land, there may have been some logically perceived confusion on the part of David Bland, leading him to state that Robert died without issue. By the above hypothesis, the 200 acres awarded by James to Robert would have been owned by James Bland (eighth generation) prior to his death, and

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<sup>1</sup> This 1774 deed from David Bland to William Savage should reinforce the assertion I made earlier that the mere fact that John Bland (ninth generation) deeded to his son Osborne Bland (tenth generation) 100 acres of a 312-acre plot that was originally deeded to William Bland (eighth generation) does not prove or necessarily even suggest a parent-son relationship between William and John. It is evident, as stated earlier that the most vital documents are the missing wills of William, James, and John.

<sup>2</sup> Cf. p. 489, note 3.

duly distributed to his grandson David. At that point, the heirs of Robert Bland (eighth generation) would have had no further claim to the land. David's assertion that Robert Bland died without issue, made in 1774 when Robert had indeed been dead for fourteen years, being no longer of interest to Robert's heirs, may have simply gone unnoticed.

These are my reasons for asserting that Robert Bland, who died in Loudon County in 1760, was the youngest of the eighth generation sons of James Bland (seventh generation). Little is known of his wife, Jane \_\_\_\_\_, except that she died about 1764.<sup>1</sup> Robert Bland and Jane were probably married in the late 1720's, but the precise date of their marriage is unknown. Information available in records indicates that their children included at least three sons (ninth generation), Edward, Robert and William, listed in the order of their birth.

#### William and Edward Bland (Ninth Generation)

The youngest of the three known sons of Robert and Jane Bland was William Bland. Evidently, he was incompetent, or still a minor as late as 1764, when Edward and Robert divided 40 acres of the home tract, without including William in the division.<sup>2</sup> Also, on December 24, 1771, Robert Bland (ninth generation) sold "the lot and late dwelling place"<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Loudon County Deed Book D, p. 109, February 15, 1764. This deed concerns transfer of 40 acres between Edward and Robert Bland (ninth generation). UMB-I, p. 51, citing a letter from Mrs. C. F. Henley to Robert Linn Bland, dated 1907, indicates that title to this land previously had been shared by Jane, Edward and Robert Bland.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> In a letter to Betty Bland Lovvorn, December 1, 1969, Berry Jewell Bland (fifteenth generation in this line) indicated that in his researches in South Carolina, he had been unable to turn up anything about William.

of William Bland, suggesting that he died, or moved away, probably the former. Thus, William appears to have been born sometime after 1743, and he died about 1771.

More information is available about Edward Bland, the eldest of the sons of Robert and Jane Bland.<sup>1</sup> His name is interesting, for in a ninth generation of men bearing monotonously names like William, James, John, Thomas and Robert, the name Edward stands out. Edward is usually said to have been born in 1730, or thereabouts.

Edward moved to South Carolina, probably before 1775,<sup>2</sup> and was listed among the first members of the Revolutionary Council of Safety.

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<sup>1</sup> Loudon Deed Book L, August 11, 1775, pp. 1-5, makes reference to Jane and Edward Bland as heirs of Robert Bland (eighth generation).

<sup>2</sup> Ibid. The fact that Robert, and not Edward, the eldest son, handled this transaction, indicates that Edward had left Virginia by 1775. It generally is thought that Edward and Robert Bland were the first Bland settlers in South Carolina, but that may not be so. John A. Chapman, History of Edgefield County: From the Earliest Settlements to 1897 (1897) hereafter referred to as Chapman, on p. 119 notes a deed signed by one George Bland June 17, 1772. Further, there was evidently a distinct Bland family in South Carolina, founded there during the 18th century, but related to neither the James River Blands, or the Stafford County Blands. See the Lebey-Bland-Courtney Genealogy #2542, filed at the University of North Carolina Library, Chapel Hill, N.C. The date of this genealogical document is not clear. The author, who also is not identified, indicates that the founder of this family was Lord Richard Percival Bland, with the improbable dates of 1627-1737, a resident of London. The birthdate is way off, for Richard Percival Bland and his wife, Elizabeth, had four children during a time span of 1728-1733, suggesting that Richard's birthdate was c.1700. Three of the four children, George (born 1728), Lancelot (born probably in 1731 or 1739, per LDS records), and Elizabeth, had no male children. The fourth child Richard, dates unknown, married Elizabeth Fendin, probably about 1770, and had a male child Richard (1771-1836), who married: (1) Claudia Harriet Capers (1776-1795), of which marriage there were no surviving children; (2) in 1797, Susan Cook (1780-1830), and issue from this marriage included Harriet Elizabeth (1798-1831), Harriet Philis (1799-?), Susan (1801-1824); Carolina (1806-1898); Beulah Isable (1809-1812), Isabelle Seraphina Augusta (1814-1837), Richard Mortimer (1816-1837), Charles Theodore (1819-1907), Demetrius Augustus (1821-1902). Descendants of these children remained in South Carolina and also migrated to Tryon, North Carolina, and parts of Georgia. No doubt there are living descendants of this line in South Carolina and Georgia areas today.

TABLE XXXI

THE FAMILY OF ROBERT BLAND OF FAIRFAX-LOUDON COUNTY, VIRGINIA: FOUR GENERATIONS

(6) Thomas Bland (C. 1634-1700)	= ..... =	(1) _____, about 1654. (2) Damaris Wyatt, in 1674.
(7) James Bland (C. 1655-1708)	= ..... =	(1) _____ (2) Margaret _____
(8) Robert Bland (C. 1703-1760)	= ..... =	Jane _____, about 1729.

(9-1)

Edward Bland (C. 1730-1800),  
 married "Frankie," or Frances  
 \_\_\_\_\_.

(9-2)

Robert Bland (1733-1787),  
 married Ann \_\_\_\_\_ in  
 1757.

(9-3)

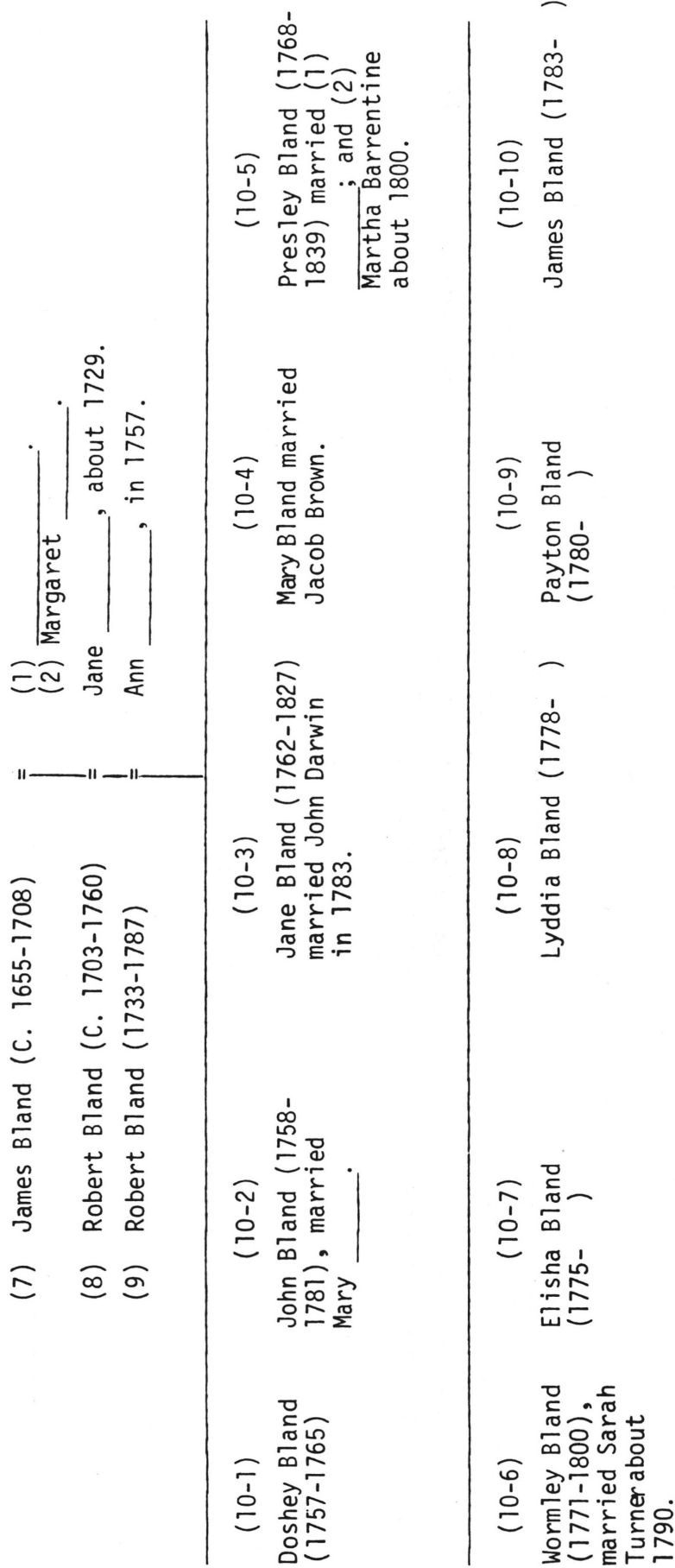
William Bland ( -C. 1771)

----- Assumed.

TABLE XX XII

THE FAMILY OF ROBERT BLAND OF LOUDON COUNTY, VIRGINIA AND EDGEFIELD COUNTY,

SOUTH CAROLINA: FOUR GENERATIONS



He lived in York County, just outside what was the 96th district (see Map XXV). Edward was a witness to Robert Bland's will in Edgefield County, South Carolina, made in December 1786, and proved March 1787. The 1790 census showed that Edward was living in the 96th district of South Carolina, and was head of a household that included himself, two males over 16, two males under 16, three females, and five slaves.<sup>1</sup> My uncle, Berry Bland, indicated that he had found a copy of Edward Bland's will, probated June 9, 1800, and that in his will, Edward mentioned "Franky, my dearly beloved wife," and his son William, as well as two daughters, Doshia Bland and Elizabeth Deser. A son-in-law, James Plaxco, was named co-executor of Edward's will.<sup>2</sup> Nothing more is known by this author about Edward Bland.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Margaret Bland Magliocco, The Blands of Rutherford County, North Carolina (1978), p. 18. Citing South Carolina Historical and Genealogical Magazine, Vol. I-III, p. 196, and Heads of Families from the 1790 Census, Edgefield County, S.C. Margaret B. Magliocco is the daughter of Berry Jewell Bland, and is my first cousin. Hereafter in notes, her work will be referred to as Magliocco. Mary Wallace Day to Charles Bland, July 22, 1981, indicates Edward lived in York County, on the North Carolina border. Frances Bland is listed in the 1800 census, living in York County. Two Williams are listed in Edgefield County and Abbeville. One is undoubtedly the William Bland mentioned in Edward Bland's will. Identification of the other is uncertain, but he could be the William Bland assumed to have died in Loudon County in 1771; cf. pp. 493-494.

<sup>2</sup> Berry Bland to Betty Lovvorn, et al., December 1, 1969.

<sup>3</sup> Some insight into Edward Bland might be supplied by access to a book by Bryce White, Jr., of Rock Hill, South Carolina, who was co-author of a book on the Plaxco-Robinson Family (1958). According to Olivia McCluney, Edward Bland is briefly discussed in the book. Olivia McCluney to Mary Wallace Day, May 24, 1978.

Robert Bland (Ninth Generation)

The second son of Robert and Jane Bland (eighth generation) was Robert Bland, who was born March 9, 1733/1734,<sup>1</sup> in Prince William County, Virginia. His will was made December 21, 1786, and was proved March 27, 1787. His dates then appear to be 1733-1787, and since his birthdate was old style, he lived to be about 53. Robert's name began to appear in the Loudon County, Virginia records after his father's death in 1760. Most of these have been discussed previously but there is no harm in repeating the information. In 1764, he was on the tax rolls and was a recipient of 40 acres with his brother Edward, who deeded the land to him "for love and affection."<sup>2</sup> In 1771, Robert sued a man named McCollister in Fairfax County.<sup>3</sup> In 1775, Robert bought from Robert Johnson a tract of 85 acres in Loudon County that had formerly belonged to his father and was adjacent to some 538 acres then in Robert's possession. From this latter deed, it appears that Robert's brother Edward had already gone to South Carolina. Then in 1778, Robert sold the 538 acres that his father had purchased from John Diskin in 1741, and moved away to South Carolina with his wife and their first eight children.

Once in South Carolina, Robert may have settled near his brother in York County, but moved to the Saluda River area soon after and joined the revolutionary forces as a private. Family tradition has it that

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<sup>1</sup> Darwin-Bland Bible, contributed to the Tennessee State Library and Archives, MS.AC. 67-85, by Dero A. Darwin, of Cookeville, Tennessee. Hereafter, this document will be referred to as Darwin. Cf. Dero Darwin to Nel Ford, November 24, 1958.

<sup>2</sup> Loudon County Deed Book D, February 15, 1764, p. 109.

<sup>3</sup> Fairfax County Order Book, 1749-1772, p. 308.





MAP XVII

## EDGEFIELD DISTRICT, SOUTH CAROLINA, C. 1825

Edgefield District, as shown, included all of present day Edgefield and Saluda Counties and parts of McCormick, Greenwood and Aiken Counties.

Key to Notes Supplied by Mary Wallace Day:

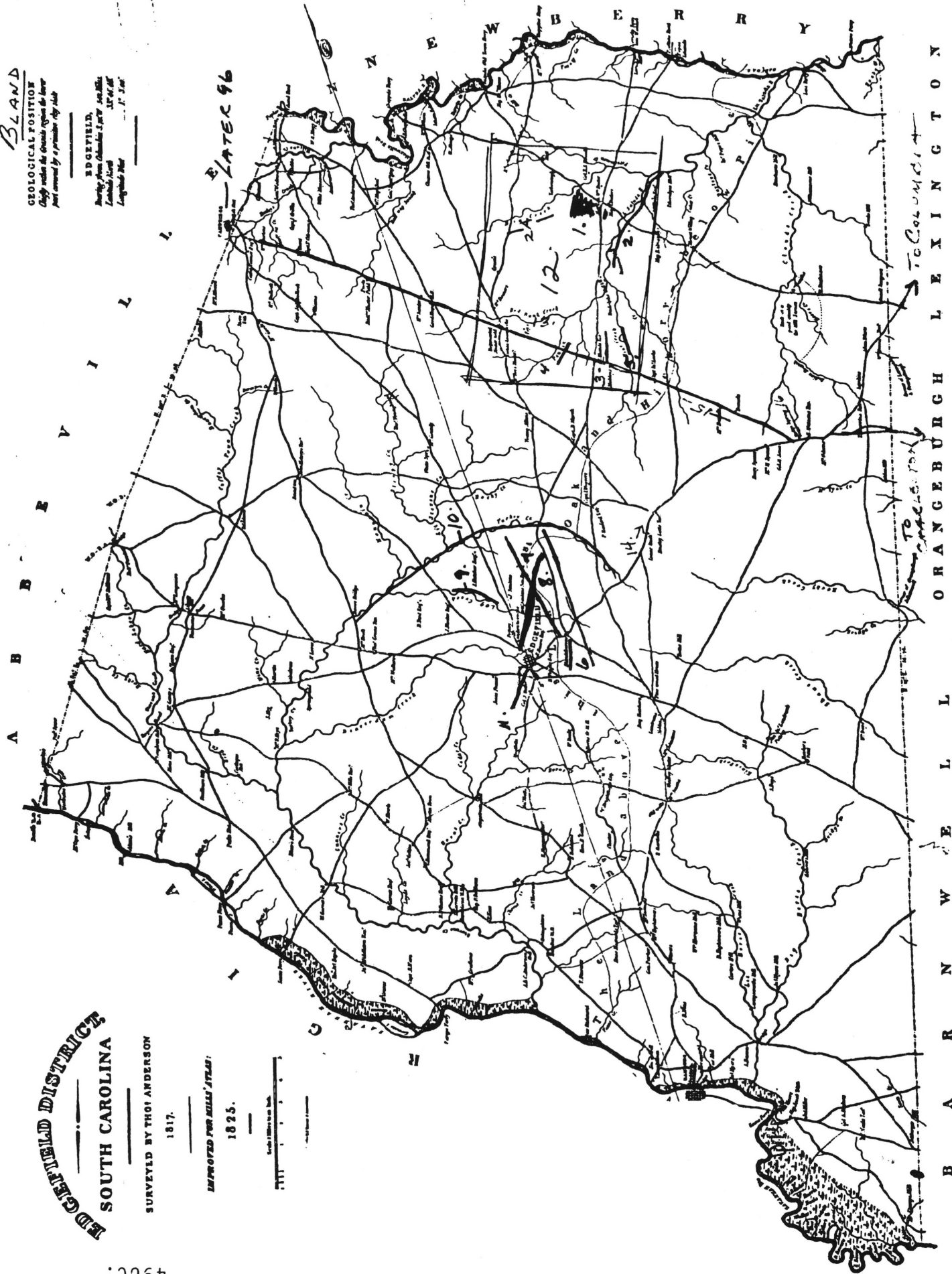
1. Ann Bland, wife of Robert Bland (ninth generation), 1790.
2. The little Saluda River.
3. Presley Bland's Tavern.
4. and 5. Location of land owned by Presley Bland.
6. Blandsborough, no longer in existence.
7. and 8. Presley and Avory Bland owned land on both sides of Center Spring Road.
9. Log Creek.
10. Turkey Creek.
11. Town of Edgefield.
12. Robert Bland and his wife Ann moved to this area of Edgefield County. Presley, Wormley and James Bland (tenth generation) also held land in this area and Presley had land in the town of Edgefield. In 1891, this area became Saluda County. (See Map .)
13. Red Bank Creek.
14. Present day Johnston, South Carolina.
15. The road to Charleston via "The Ridge."
16. Ridge Spring on "The Ridge."

*Bland*

GEOLOGICAL POSITION  
Cliff walls in certain regions to be  
seen covered by a primary clay shale

EDGEFIELD  
Barry, John, Charles, J. & W. 1877  
Lambert, John 1878  
Langford, John 1879

LATEC 96



EDGEFIELD DISTRICT  
SOUTH CAROLINA

SURVEYED BY THOS. ANDERSON  
1817.

IMPROVED FOR MILLS' ATLAS  
1823.



TO COLUMBIA  
TO ORANGEBURGH  
TO LEXINGTON



he and his son John were captured by the Tories. John was killed at a place called Cloud Creek by one Cunningham, on November 17, 1781. Robert, himself badly treated by the Tories, was concerned for his family's safety and moved them away from the 96th District temporarily.<sup>1</sup> For his service during the Revolution, Robert received a bounty grant of 300 acres on October 4, 1784.<sup>2</sup> By that time, he must have moved his family back to Edgefield County, where he died early in 1787.

Because a number of children, grandchildren, Robert's wife and other relations are listed in his will, it is quoted substantially as a preliminary to discussion of his family.

In the name of God, Amen. I, Robert Bland, of Edgefield County in South Carolina, and Ninety-six District, yeoman...do make and constitute this my last will and testament in manner following...

All of my whole estate, real and personal (several words illegible) hundred acres of land or the value thereof, I give to my grandson Mycaja Bland, son of John Bland and Mary his wife...the plantation where I live, and one hundred and fifty acres of the most (liiegible) of the land, joining this plantation, and all of the moveable estate (illegible) to my wife as long as she doth remain a widow, then after her death or marriage, to be equally divided among the children, all but 150 acres of land that I give to my youngest son James Bland. Fifty acres of land I give to Liddey, and the rest of the land to be equally divided amongst the boys as follows: Presley, Woromley, Elishea, and Payton, but all the moveable estate to be equally divided amongst all the children, girls and boys, and I do here...appoint my wife, Ann Bland, one of my executors, and Joseph Nun and Solomon Pope executors of this my last will and testament. In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 21st day of December, Anno Dom. 1786...<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Kate Duncan Smith to Mrs. Earley, March 6 and 19, 1920. Mrs. Smith's information about the killing of John Bland and the mistreatment of his father Robert was derived from a letter to her from J. E. Edwards, February 11, 1899.

<sup>2</sup> DAR application of Kate Duncan Smith, National Number 6438, approved November 4, 1932.

<sup>3</sup> Will of Robert Bland, December 21, 1786, proved March 27, 1787, filed Box 11, Pack 208, Edgefield County, S.C. Witnesses were Edward Bland, Robert's brother, and Samuel Bland, possibly a son of Edward.

According to the Darwin Bible record of Robert Bland's family, he married on April 10, 1757, probably in what was then Fairfax County, Virginia. His wife was Ann \_\_\_\_\_. There is no record of her maiden name, although some writers have assumed it was Wormley.<sup>1</sup> The same sources also establish an approximate birthdate of 1735 for Ann, but inasmuch as her youngest child was born in 1783, it is probable that the date should be adjusted to about 1740. Traces of her are found in the Edgefield County records for 1787, 1788, 1792, 1796, 1799 and 1800.<sup>2</sup> The distribution of ages in the census for the household of Presley Bland suggests she might have been living with him in 1810.

The Darwin Bible record included the following dates of birth and death for the children (tenth generation) of Robert Bland and Ann \_\_\_\_\_:

1. Doshey Bland, born October 26, 1757, and died December 13, 1765.\*
2. John Bland, born March 4, 1758, and killed November 17, 1781.
3. Jane Bland was born January 2, 1762.
4. Mary Bland was born December 16, 1763.
5. Presley Bland was born February 16, 1768.
6. Wormley Bland was born February 17, 1771.

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<sup>1</sup> The assumption was made by UMB-I, p. 53, and in various communications by Homer Jones to Nel Ford. I have never seen any document that proves Ann's maiden name, and as Kate Duncan Smith pointed out years ago, it might as well have been Payton or Presley. Cf. Kate Duncan Smith to Mrs. Earley, March 6, 1920.

<sup>2</sup> Cf. Edgefield County, South Carolina Deed Book 13, pp. 54, 60, and Deed Book 2, pp. 129-133. Sent to the author in original form by Mary Wallace Day, of Dunmovin, Georgia, in letter dated July 7, 1981.

\* Doshey is listed second behind John Bland in the original Bible record, although her recorded birth is 1757, and John's is 1758. The character of the handwriting of her birth year, 1757, however, is identical to the writing of Robert and Ann's marriage date, also in 1757.

7. Elisha Bland was born April 9, 1775.
8. Lyddia Bland was born May 2, 1778.
9. Payton Bland was born January 1, 1780.
10. James Bland was born November 29, 1783.

I will discuss the daughters of Robert and Ann Bland first, then the sons, excluding Presley and Wormley. Finally, distinct sections will address the lives and families of Presley and Wormley Bland.

#### The Daughters of Robert Bland (Tenth Generation)

Setting aside Doshey Bland (1757-1765), the eldest daughter who died as a child, the first daughter who survived to adulthood was Jane Bland. Born in 1762, Jane Bland, according to Dero Darwin, "departed this life March 10, 1827, about 9 o'clock at night." Jane married John Darwin (1753-1837) on March 11, 1783. This marriage produced at least two lines of descent from Robert and Ann Bland, Nel Ford and Kate Duncan Smith.<sup>1</sup>

Mary Bland (tenth generation) was born December 16, 1763. She married Jacob Brown of Edgefield County, who participated in the

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<sup>1</sup> The eldest child of John Darwin and Jane Bland was (eleventh generation) Nancy Darwin (1784-1847). Nancy married Jephtha Harrington (1775-1865), and among their offspring was (twelfth generation) McCager Harrington (1800-1884), who married Mary Robertson (1802-1885) in 1821. McCager Harrington and Mary Robertson had a son, Abel Lancaster Harrington (1832-1898, thirteenth generation) who married Elizabeth Guyton (1841-1912). This couple had a daughter, Minnie Harrington, who married Braxton Chester Westbrook, and their daughter (fifteenth generation) was Nel Westbrook, who married George Ford and now lives in Columbus, Mississippi. Nancy Darwin and Jephtha Harrington (eleventh generation) also had a daughter Rachel (twelfth generation, 1818-1890) who married Daniel Duncan (1803-1891). They were the parents of Kate Duncan, who married J. Morgan Smith. Cf. UMB-1, p. 55. Urilla Bland states: "Parenthetically, it may be said that the DAR School of Grant, Alabama was named for Kate Duncan Smith."

inventory of the property of Robert Bland (ninth generation). Lyddia Bland, undoubtedly the "Liddy" Bland mentioned in her father's will, is a mystery. Nothing more about her is known to this author.

John, Elisha, Payton and James Bland (Tenth Generation)

John Bland, the eldest son of Robert and Ann Bland, was born March 4, 1758 and was, according to family legend, killed by the Tories on November 17, 1781. John married Mary \_\_\_\_\_, when is uncertain.

Because of his early death, John and Mary had only one child, a son Micajah Bland (eleventh generation) who was born probably about 1780, and appears to have been a favorite of his grandfather Robert. Micajah appears to have moved to Mason County, Kentucky, where on September 24, 1804, he married Milly Martin, a daughter of Edmund Martin.<sup>1</sup> Micajah was in Mayville, Kentucky on May 22, 1826,<sup>2</sup> but must have died later that year, for when his daughter Mary married, Milly Bland signed as bond. Thus, Micajah's approximate dates are C.1780-1826. Micajah Bland and Milly Martin, according to Mrs. James, had a family of four children, including a son John, about whom nothing more is known. Mary Bland, on November 21, 1826, married Samuel Cochran in Mason County, with her mother consenting. Pamela Bland married John Cochrell February 27, 1828, in Mason County. Celesta Ann Bland married Demsey Carrell on April 8, 1847.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Jessamine Bland James, Bland Family Court and Bible Records (undated), p. 12.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

Beyond the recorded information about their birth dates, very little is known about Elisha, Payton or James Bland. Elisha was living when his father formed his will in 1786. Payton, whose name may have been taken from the neighbor of Robert Bland (eighth generation) who was a candidate for Prince William Burgess in 1741, signed as co-administrator for the estate of his brother Wormley in 1800, and also was identified in the 1800 census. He again appears in the census of 1810 for Edgefield, as head of a household that included a wife and two small children. He appears in the 1840 census, residing in the Barnwell District. The name James appears again in Edgefield in 1840, but whether this is the same James, a son or some other relative, is unknown.

Primarily, little information is available about these three sons, as well as John, because, to this author's knowledge, they have no historians. That is not true in the case of Presley and Wormley Bland, to whose stories I now turn.<sup>1</sup>

#### Presley Bland (Tenth Generation)

Presley Bland was born February 16, 1768, according to the family Bible. He died November 11, 1839, aged seventy-one.<sup>2</sup> Presley made a minor reputation for himself in Edgefield County, and some literary evidences of him are found in county histories. John Chapman, for example, identifies him as a strong nullifier, with little tolerance for "submissionists" (a partisan appellation). Presley would have

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<sup>1</sup> Both names lend themselves to the wildest kinds of variations of spelling. I follow the spelling as it appeared in the Darwin Bible record.

<sup>2</sup> Carlos T. McClendon, Ed. Edgefield Death Notices and County Records (1977), p. 25; Edgefield Advertiser, November 28, 1839.



revered John C. Calhoun and would have despised Andrew Jackson. Nullifiers believed that the individual states were sovereign and that right to sovereignty took precedence over national unity.) Presley never held a political office, but he did qualify as constable in 1795.<sup>1</sup> Presley owned a tavern also, and no doubt did some of his best nullification thinking while there. Chapman relates a rumor that Presley would from time to time tie one on in neighboring Aiken. When ready to leave, "inspired by the influence of John Barley Corn," (drunk, in other words), Presley would mount his horse and gallop away, "singing at the top of his voice."

Barnwell District; Aiken Town.  
 O Lord have mercy, do look down.  
 The land is poor, the people too.  
 If they don't steal, what will they do?<sup>2</sup>

We might expect that Chapman, in the tradition of county historians gussied things up just a tiny bit for the sake of posterity, if not for the reading sensibilities of little children. One has a very happy image of Presley, red nosed and hanging half off his horse as he quits the Aiken tavern. What the folk in Aiken thought about all these insults is not a matter of record, but since he was in effect calling them poor white trash, and thieves to boot, one wonders how long he got by with the same jingle. Presley was what in the south they call a good ole boy. Although he was only a child when the American Revolution unfolded, he is said to have had many a story about that great struggle and was a true raconteur in the telling of them.

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<sup>1</sup> Chapman, p. 77, and Magliocco, p. 20.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

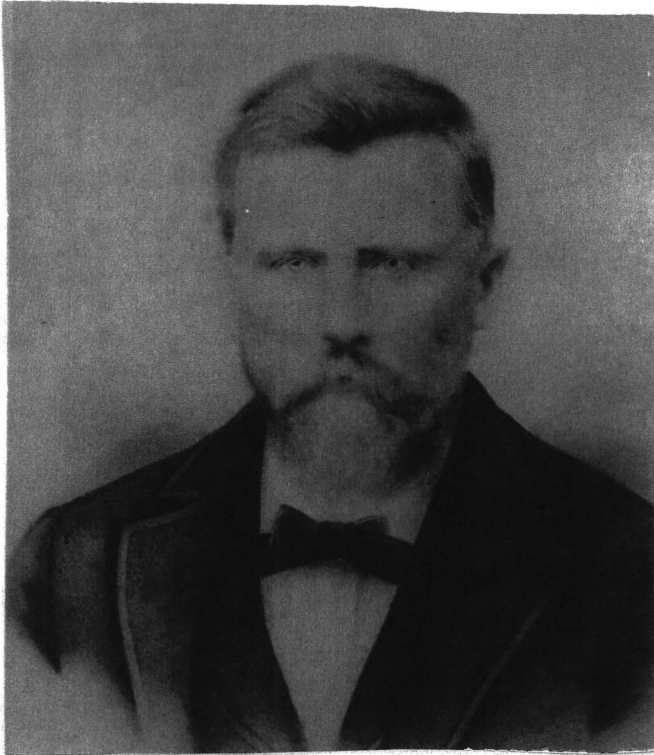
502A

Descendants of Petyon Bland (1780-1815) and Elizabeth Smith, (p. 501 and Among Cousins, Volume 1-1, pp. 10-13). Clockwise from Left: David Bland (1843-1927); daughters Fannie Lourenia Bland Newport (1874-1895); Allie Bland (1875-1964); Martha Ann Bland Chapman (1882-1965), with her daughter Fanita. Courtesy Helen Bourque.



502B

Descendants of Peyton Bland and Elizabeth Smith (continued) -  
Clockwise: John Clebrun Bland (1848-1895) and his wife Martha Jane  
Johnston (1856-1938); their daughter Fara Elizabeth Bland Kibbe.  
Courtesy Robert and Elizabeth Kibbe.



502C

Descendants of Peyton Bland and Elizabeth Smith, continued: Daughters of Peyton Bland (1815-1872) and Susannah Harmon (1822-1892) (P. 501 and AC 1-1, p. 12) Clockwise: Sarah Elizabeth Bland Peveto (1839-1921); Standing, Susan Bland Lewis (1860-1925); Sitting, Nancy Jane Bland Peveto (1845-1933); and Altha Ann Bland Dobbs (1854-1932). Courtesy Juanita Alexander.





His obituary notice said "he died as he had lived, a Whig, true to the principles of '76."<sup>1</sup> Good for him! I'd love to hear old Pres' tell about how the Tories murdered his brother John. I'll bet if you travel a ways east of Edgefield toward the Saluda River and stand still and quiet long enough, you can still hear him laughing.

Presley Bland married Martha Barrentine sometime before 1800,<sup>2</sup> and perhaps before Martha, married a woman whose identity is unknown.<sup>3</sup> Two researchers, Margaret Bland Magliocco, of New Jersey, and Mary Wallace Day, of Dunmovin, Georgia, both of whom descend from Robert Bland (ninth generation), have done research on the family of Presley Bland. The conclusions reached by Mrs. Day and Mrs. Magliocco are essentially alike, but different in some important respects. Margaret Magliocco indicates that Presley Bland married Martha Barrentine, with no reference to a first wife, and that they had the following children:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birthdate</u>
Avory	1792
Luke	1794
John	1797 *
Sampson	1801
Randall	1804
Emily	1807
Mary	1809
Martha	1811
Caroline	1813 4

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<sup>1</sup> Edgefield Advertiser, November 28, 1839.

<sup>2</sup> Mary Wallace Day, "Presley Bland and Avory Bland," May 2 and 8, 1979. Mrs. Day has sent me information showing that Martha and Presley conveyed land in 1800. John Milton Quarles to Mrs. William N. Gressette, June 14, 1971, index of Bland names in deeds. Hereafter referred to as Quarles.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid. Mrs. Day feels strongly, without absolute proof, that Presley's son Avory, from whom Mrs. Day descends, was the child of a marriage by Presley that was antecedent to Martha Barrentine.

\* John's descendant, Bland Goodwin, of Augusta, Georgia, thinks John was born C.1815.

<sup>4</sup> Magliocco, p. 20. Margaret provides no source for this information. The order of birth for the children is approximately true, but the birth-dates are problematical.

Mrs. Day feels that Avory Bland was a half-brother to the other children, and assumes that Avory was Presley's first child, and that the next eldest child was Randall, demonstrably born in 1804. In view of the twelve-year gap between Avory and Randall, Mrs. Day believes Avory may have been the child of a first wife of Presley, who died soon after Avory's birth. Presley would have remained unmarried for several years before marrying Martha about 1799-1800.

Information used by Mrs. Magliocco as well as Mrs. Day, who relies upon the 1850 census as well as empirical sources, conflicts at key points with both the 1810 and 1820 censuses, which should have reflected the evolving composition of Presley's family. Presley's family in the 1810 census is recorded thus:

One male 26-45 (Presley, who was 42).  
 One female 26-45 (Martha).  
 One female over 45 (Ann, widow of Robert Bland, Presley's mother; or Martha's mother).  
 One male 16-26 (Avory, who was 18).  
 One male under 10 (Sampson, who was recorded in the 1850 census as being born in 1805. But this leaves no room for Randall, born in 1804).  
 Two females under 10 (Mary, born in 1809, according to Mrs. Magliocco, and Emily, born in 1808, according to the 1850 census).<sup>1</sup>

Discrepancies abound. If Margaret Magliocco's figures are right, there is no room for Luke or John Bland, although one might assume that Avory, then 18, was living away from home and that the male aged 16-26 was Luke. John may be explained by the assumption of one of his descendants that he was born in 1815, but that also causes problems. His descendant, Bland Goodwin Jr., indicates that his full name was John Prestley Bland, and a name like that would certainly indicate that

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<sup>1</sup> 1810 Census for Presley Bland's household, provided the author by Mary Wallace Day.

he was a son of Presley. But then in 1823, John Prestley Bland was engaged in a land transaction with Andrew Bates,<sup>1</sup> hardly possible for an eight year old child. Then too, the 1820 enumeration of Presley's family is confusing as that of 1810:

One male over 45 (Presley was 52).  
 One male 18-26 (Luke; Avory was already married.)  
 One male 10-16 (Sampson, born in 1805; but what about Randall?)  
 Two males under 10 (possibly John, but see discussion above. The other male child is uncertain.)  
 Two females 10-16 (Emily and Mary).  
 Three females under 10 (Martha, born 1819; Carolina, born 1820; third daughter may have died young.)<sup>2</sup>

Several points are worth mentioning. Caroline told the 1850 census taker that she was born in 1822, but Martha is not present in the 1820 census, indicating that she was dead by then. This could be reconciled if other information could show that Caroline simply lied about her age to the 1850 census taker (surely she was not the first woman to dread turning 30). Also, the older woman living in Presley's household in 1810, assumed to be his mother Ann, or Martha's mother, was gone in 1820.

Fortunately, there is other information about Presley's children to indicate the errors in these two census readings. My own theory, which is about as accurate as others I've seen, is that the census taker was a "submissionist" from Aiken, who wrote down the census information in Presley's tavern. At any rate, in his will of 1839, Presley mentioned all of his living children except Avory:

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<sup>1</sup> Quarles.

<sup>2</sup> 1820 Census for Presley Bland, supplied the author by Mary Wallace Day.



State of South Carolina  
Edgefield District

In the Name of God, Amen.

I, Presley Bland, of State and District aforesaid...  
do hereby make and ordain this my last will and  
testament...

Item 1 - I give ... unto my son John, my present  
residence, consisting of the plantation I now  
cultivate and composed of several adjacent tracts  
of oaky lands, and I also ... devise unto my son  
John, a moiety of my pine lands, all in the fee  
simple forever.

Item 2 - I give ... to my son Sampson, the other  
moiety of my pine land, in fee simple forever.

Item 3 - I give ... to my son Luke, one hundred  
dollars, and am sorry that his conduct for a  
length of time past prevents me from doing more  
for him.

Item 4 - After payment of all my just debts, I  
give ... to my other children, vis, Sampson Bland,  
John Bland, Emily Christie, Mary Bryant, Martha  
Bland and Caroline Bland, all the rest and  
remainder of my estate, including the property put  
into the possession of my married children as  
certified by the parties, to be equally divided,  
share and share alike ... and in case of the  
decease of either of my children without living  
issue, the property to be returned to my executors  
or executor, and equally divided between the  
legatees named in the fourth item, or their heirs.<sup>1</sup>

Seven children are mentioned in this will. Excluded were Randall  
Bland, who died in 1829, and Avory Bland. Randall Bland left a will  
dated May 8, 1829, in which he left his entire estate to and made  
executor Avory Bland, whom he called "my brother."<sup>2</sup> Randall was buried  
in Avory Bland's family cemetery, with an inscription which read, "In  
memory of R. W. Bland, who departed this life May 9, 1829, aged 25  
years."<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The will of Presley Bland was provided by John Bland Mobley, of  
Columbia, South Carolina.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid. The source of Randall's will is Edgefield Will Book C, p. 29

<sup>3</sup> Mary Wallace Day, "Presley Bland and Avory Bland."

It is certain that Presley was married to Martha Barrentine, presumed mother of Randall Bland, by 1800, and Randall called Avory his brother. Of course, he could simply mean that he was a half-brother, for as noted inter alia in the foregoing pages, such sharp distinctions were seldom made. But Avory was not mentioned in Presley Bland's will. Why? One explanation might be that Avory, who as will be shown presently, was one of the most wealthy men in Edgefield County, did not especially need a bequest from his father, or perhaps, as Mrs. Day suggests, since Avory had left home about 1820 or before, his father may have given him his share of land at that time. Alternately, Presley and Avory may have been alienated.

Similarly, Luke Bland, Presley's unfavored son, died intestate in 1851. When Luke died, he left behind a widow but no children, five full siblings who were alive, and nieces and nephews who were children of one sister who was dead by 1851. Thus, in accordance with South Carolina law at the time, Luke's estate, valued at \$2,152, was divided, one-half to his widow, Rebecca, and the other half divided equally (\$179 each) between his full brothers John and Sampson, his full sisters, Emily Christie, Martha Dean and Caroline Prater, and the children of his by then deceased sister Mary Bryan. Avory Bland was not included, and South Carolina law specified there would be no assignment to a half-brother unless there were no full siblings. Avory Bland was, however, a recipient of \$179 as a trustee for Caroline Prater when the estate was settled in January 1853.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> I am grateful to Mary Wallace Day for Edgefield Equity Case 793, Sampson Bland and Others vs. Simeon Christie and Wife, November 6, 1851; Edgefield Box 63, Package 2591, Estate of Luke Bland, November 10, 1851, settled on January 1, 1853. Mrs. Day also obtained a copy of applicable contemporary law for a case such as Luke Bland's; exchange between Mary Wallace Day and Joseph Russell Cross Jr., Coleman Karesh Law Library, University of South Carolina.

This legal document makes a formidable case for Mrs. Day's belief that Avory was a half-brother of all Presley's other children. That Avory was a son of Presley Bland may be attested from a letter written in 1899 to Kate Duncan Smith by J. E. Edwards, who was an acquaintance of Avory and said that he was Presley's son.<sup>1</sup> Similarly, Avory's obituary, which appeared in the Edgefield Advertiser soon after his death, identified Avory as a son of Presley Bland.<sup>2</sup>

All of the foregoing has been written to demonstrate the probability that Presley Bland married twice, first to an unknown woman about 1791, by whom he had a son, Avory Bland, and second, about 1799-1800 to Martha Barrentine, by whom he had eight additional children who survived to adulthood. These children were eleventh generation. I would like to discuss first the daughters of Presley Bland, then his sons.

#### The Daughters of Presley Bland

Among the four daughters for whom information is available, the eldest was Emily Bland, who was born about 1808. Emily married Simeon Christie, probably about 1835. By 1850, Simeon Christie and Emily Bland had a family of six children, including John, aged 14; Mark, aged 12; Mary, aged 9; Sarah, aged 7; Emma, aged 5; and Pierce, aged 2. Simeon Christie held real estate valued at \$13,000 in 1850, and was enumerated as the district sheriff. The second daughter of Presley Bland and Martha Barrentine was Mary Bland, who according to Mrs. Magliocco was born in 1809. Census records confirming this information were not

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<sup>1</sup> Quoted in Mrs. Smith's letter to Mrs. Earley, March 19, 1920.

<sup>2</sup> Mary Wallace Day, "Presley Bland and Avory Bland," citing the Edgefield Advertiser, for April 8, 1857.



TABLE XXXIV

THE FAMILY OF AVORY BLAND OF EDGEFIELD COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA: FOUR GENERATIONS

(9) Robert Bland (1733-1787) — Ann \_\_\_\_\_ in 1757.  
 (10) Presley Bland (1768-1839) — (1) \_\_\_\_\_ about 1791.  
 (11) Avory Bland (1792-1857) — (2) Martha Barrentine, about 1800.  
 Mary Johnson (1804-1839) about 1819.

(12-1)

Johnson Avory Bland (1821-1884),  
 married Sarah Watson (1833-1882)  
 about 1851.

(12-2)

Elbert R. Bland (1823-1863),  
 married Emaline Rebecca  
 Griffin (1835-1891) in 1854.

(12-3)

Mary Ann Bland (1825-1865),  
 married John Smyley in 1840.

(12-4)

Randa11 Bland (1829-1849), did  
 not marry.

(12-5)

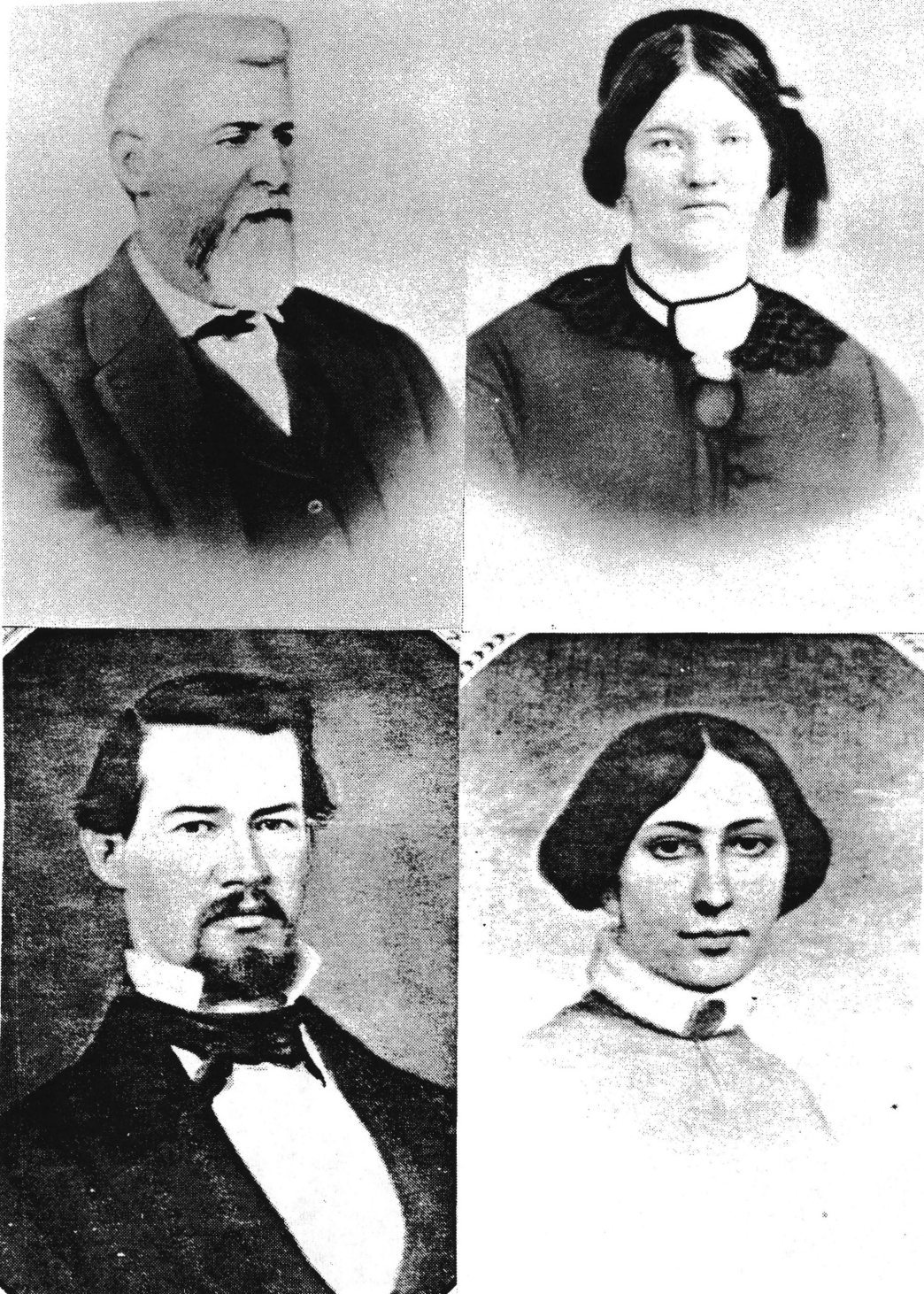
George Bland (1830- ).

(12-6)

Harriet Bland (1831- ),  
 married (1) Stanmore Holstein;  
 (2) William Logue; (3) Lawrence  
 Johnson.

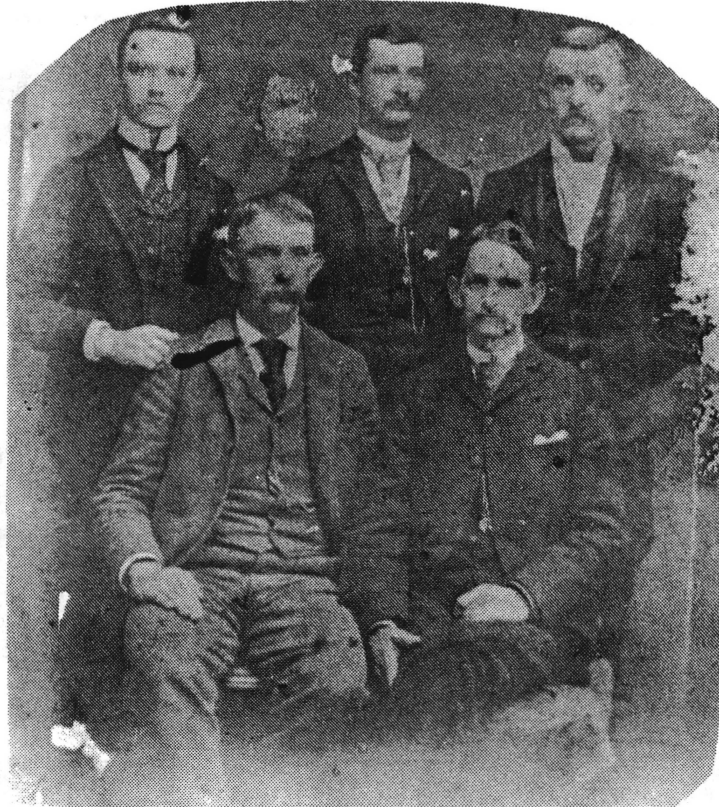
508C

Grand sons of Presley Bland (1767-1839) by his son Avory Bland (1792-1857) and Avory's wife Mary Johnson (1804-1839). Top, Johnson Avory Bland Sr. (1821-1884) and his wife Sarah A. Watson (1833-1882); Lower, Elbert R. Bland (1823-1863) and Emaline Rebecca Griffin (1835-1891). See pp. 501-520, esp. 513-520, Among Cousins, 6-1, pp. 13-18 and 6-2 pp. pp. 26-32. Courtesy John Bland Mobley.



508D

Children of Johnson Avory Bland and Sarah A. Watson. Seven children shown: Above, sons, standing L-R Frank Stanford Bland (1862-1903); Johnson Avory Bland Jr. (1864-1951); Elbert W. Bland (1858-1894); Seated, L-R, Arthur Simkins Bland (1854-1888); Avory Bland II, (1857-1901). Below, left, daughter Sophir Alice Bland Mobley (1852-1897); Catherine Smyley Bland Schumpert (1860-1903). Courtesy John Bland Mobley.



available to this author. Little is known about her, but she married R. D. Bryan, as is reflected in the settlement of her brother Luke's estate in 1851, by which time Mary was dead. R. D. Bryan and Mary were parents of six children, including: James, Luke, William, Robert, Martha and Ellen. Their ages are not known. The third eldest daughter was Martha Bland who, according to the 1850 census, was born in 1818 or 1819. She married Aaron C. Deene, probably about 1844. In the 1850 census for Edgefield County, Deene was enumerated as a farmer with property valued at \$1,750. Aaron Deene and Martha Bland had a known family of two children in 1850, including Arthur, aged 5, and Emma, aged 1. The youngest daughter of Presley Bland and Martha Barrentine was Caroline, or Carolina, who was probably born about 1819 or 1820. As noted earlier,<sup>1</sup> Caroline may have shaved off a few years from her stated age in the 1850 census, where she is shown to be 28, or born in 1822, an impossibility, assuming that Martha Barrentine was dead by the time of the 1820 census.

#### John, Sampson and Luke Bland (Eleventh Generation)

Among the sons of Presley Bland, Randall Bland (1804-1829) has been previously discussed.<sup>2</sup> The ages of the subsequent sons who were the natural children of Martha Barrentine, are somewhat problematical. Sampson's birth year is fixed by the 1850 census as 1805. Mrs. Magliocco fixes the birth years of Luke and John Bland as 1794 and 1797 respectively, which makes no sense if Presley did not marry Martha Barrentine

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<sup>1</sup> Cf. p. 505.

<sup>2</sup> Cf. p. 506.



until 1799-1800. The guide to their approximate ages that I will follow is that their order of birth follows the order of mention in Presley Bland's will. In this assumption, John would probably have been born about 1801, Sampson was born in 1805, and Luke would have been born in 1806/1807.

Thus, the eldest son of Presley Bland and Martha Barrentine probably was John Bland, born about 1801.<sup>1</sup> A correspondent, Bland Goodwin, indicates that John Prestley Bland was born July 31, 1815 and died in 1889.<sup>2</sup> Yet such an assertion does not square with the fact that a John Prestley Bland also was involved in a legal transaction in 1823. John Bland was known as Colonel, and it appears that by 1840 he had moved his family away from Edgefield County. He was reported by Mr. Goodwin to have died in Charleston, South Carolina. John married Martha Adaway Cogburn (September 18, 1814 to June 28, 1868) in Edgefield County. They were parents of ten children (twelfth generation):

1) John Prestley Bland Jr. Mr. Goodwin cites no further information about him. 2) Susan Bland, who died at age seven of scarlet fever. 3) Harriet Bland, who was burned to death at age 4. 4) Juliann<sup>\*</sup> Carolina Bland, who married Martin Hook, survived him, and remarried to \_\_\_\_\_ Gossett, of Birmingham, Alabama. 5) Mattie, or Martha Bland, was born in 1845, and died in 1864 of typhoid fever. 6) Lawrence Nathan Bland was born July 10, 1845, and died June 30, 1902. On April 1, 1865, Larry's father, Colonel John Bland, received a letter from Lieutenant E. H. Covar, a subordinate officer in Company A, 7th South Carolina

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<sup>1</sup> Bland Goodwin Jr. to Charles Bland, October 14, 1981. Mr. Goodwin wrote his belief that his ancestor, John Prestley Bland, was one of the sons of Presley Bland's brothers. I must acknowledge here that I may be juxtaposing persons incorrectly. Naming patterns, however, suggest a pattern of relationships in which children are named for aunts and uncles.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

\* Spelling uncertain.

Regiment, ultimately commanded by General Longstreet, which reported that Lawrence had been killed in action on March 13, 1865. As it turned out, some six months later the family of Colonel John Bland discovered that Lawrence had not been killed at all, but had been imprisoned at Camp Lookout. Prior to his imprisonment, Lawrence had married Frances Ann McDaniel (1846-1937) on December 15, 1864.<sup>1</sup>

7) Elizabeth Ellen Bland married a Scotsman, William McArthur. 8) Mary Emma Bland married Dr. Bernard Scott Bennett, who was born in Spencer County, Kentucky. 9) Laura Cornelia Bland married Monroe Hariston of Atlanta, Georgia. 10) Pierce Butler Bland married a girl from Charleston, South Carolina, name unknown.

Sampson Bland (eleventh generation) was the third known son of Presley Bland and Martha Barrentine (Randall was second). He was, according to the 1850 census, born in 1805. When he died is uncertain to this author, but he was still living in 1853 when his brother Luke's estate was settled. In the 1850 census Sampson was enumerated as a teamster with real estate valued at \$300. Compared to his half-brother Avory Bland, or his brother-in-law Simeon Christie, Sampson was a pauper, one of the paradoxes of the children of Presley Bland. Sampson Bland married Adaline \_\_\_\_\_ probably about 1834. The children of Sampson and Adaline Bland were (twelfth generation): Martha, born in 1835; Francis P. Bland, 1837; Mary Bland, 1840; Eliza Bland, born 1843; James Bland, born 1845; Emily Bland, born in 1847; and Luke Bland, born in 1849 or 1850.

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<sup>1</sup> Lawrence Bland (twelfth generation) and Frances McDaniel had a daughter, Mary Alice Bland, born February 24, 1873, who in 1890 married Joseph Ferdinand Goodwin. They were the parents of two children, including Jarrel Bland Goodwin, born 1891, who married Annie Leuvenia Parker in Augusta, Georgia, in 1918. They were the parents of Jarrell Bland Goodwin Jr., born in 1920, my correspondent.

The fourth son of Presley Bland and Martha Barrentine was Luke Bland. According to my calculations, he was born about 1806 or 1807, and he died in 1851. He married Rebecca \_\_\_\_\_<sup>1</sup> who was his widow in settlement of his estate. As the estate settlement indicated, Luke and Rebecca Bland had no children.

#### Avory Bland (Eleventh Generation)

The eldest son of Presley Bland, probably by a wife who was antecedent to Martha Barrentine, was Avory Bland.<sup>2</sup> Avory was buried at his burial plot in Edgefield County and his tombstone states, "Avory Bland was born October 27, 1792 and died February 7, 1857." Avory Bland was by any account, a very substantial plantation owner. In the 1850 census his worth in real estate was valued at \$40,000. A rough calculation is that in his will he dispensed some 4800 acres of land and 110 slaves among his surviving children. The circumstances that brought Avory to such wealth are somewhat obscure. Presley Bland was a fairly well off man, but in no way could have left Avory the kind of wealth he possessed at his death. And as I have already noted, there was no precedent among Avory's uncles or grandfather for such wealth, and in some cases, his siblings (e.g., Sampson), had no wealth at all. The most plausible reason for Avory's wealth is that he married Mary Johnson, probably about 1819 or 1820. Mary, born 1804 and died September 24, 1839, was the daughter of Moore Johnson, who died in 1835, leaving behind a

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<sup>1</sup> Names associated with the settlement of the estate were Cogburn, and Smyley and Barrington (spelled Barronton, perhaps Barrentine). All names are associated with Presley's family.

<sup>2</sup> For the record, I am convinced that Presley and Avory were father and son.

substantial estate, and Mary also was a sister to Sophia Johnson, who married first a man named Pow, and secondly Ellzey Bland, son of Wormley Bland (to be discussed presently).<sup>1</sup> The children (twelfth generation) of Avory Bland and Mary Johnson were as follows:

The eldest child of Avory Bland and Mary Johnson was Johnson Avory Bland, who was born July 14, 1821, and died January 13, 1884. Upon the death of Avory Bland in 1857, Johnson Avory inherited 1,415 acres and twenty-two slaves.<sup>2</sup> He married Sarah A. Watson, a Catholic, who was born August 9, 1833 and died July 31, 1882. Johnson Avory Bland and Sarah Watson had a family of twelve children (thirteenth generation), including:

1) Sophia Alice Bland (June 23, 1852-October 1, 1897) who married on December 19, 1872, James Furman Mobley.<sup>3</sup> 2) Arthur Simkins Bland, who was born April 12, 1854 and died in January 1888. He married Mamie Bolton on April 18, 1877. Mamie and their only child were killed while riding on horseback. 3) Avory Bland, who was born January 25, 1857 and died July 17, 1900. Avory married Ella Wright on November 6, 1888, and by her had a family of three children: Avory, Julia and Burt. 4) Elbert W. Bland was born September 16, 1858, and died November 25, 1894. Elbert never married. 5) Catherine Smyly Bland was born April 26, 1860, and died June 29, 1903. She married John Edner Schumper on December 20, 1882 and had children by him. 6) Emma Rosa Bland, born March 9, 1861, and the date of her death is uncertain. She married first, H.H.B. Wilson, and second, \_\_\_\_\_ Parker on December 27, 1887. 7) Frank Stanford Bland

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<sup>1</sup> Mary Wallace Day, The Estate of Moore Johnson (May 1979).

<sup>2</sup> The will of Avory Bland, January 13, 1857.

<sup>3</sup> This couple were grandparents of John Bland Mobley, a correspondent from Columbia, South Carolina.

was born September 6, 1862 and died at an uncertain date. He married Laura Wright on April 26, 1888. Their children were Louise, Sally and Frank Bland. 8) Rebecca Elberta Bland was born September 26, 1863 and died in the 1880's. There is no record that she married. 9) Johnson Avory Bland Jr., nicknamed Johnny, was born March 27, 1864. The date of his death was unknown. He married Lillian Sawyer and they had John A., Frances, K., Earl S., Thelma, Madge and Olin. 10-12) Martha Lucretia Bland was born November 20, 1865 and died July 9, 1866; Walter Hill Bland was born July 21, 1870 and died in the 1880's (he never married); William Bland was born May 3, 1872, and nothing more is known to this author about him.<sup>1</sup>

The second child of Avory Bland (eleventh generation) and Mary Johnson, was Elbert R. Bland, who was born April 29, 1823, near Edgefield. Chapman celebrates him in his history of Edgefield because Elbert was a genuine war hero. Chapman says of him:

Nature gifted him with a clear and vigorous intellect, together with an almost unparalleled native energy, and vigorous application capable of lasting and rapid acquirements. He was a strong, manly and forcible character, well calculated to carve its way through the deadliest opposition.<sup>2</sup>

Elbert graduated from the University of New York School of Medicine in 1844, with honors. In 1845 and 1846, he "returned to New York" for a training program that we moderns would call postgraduate research and he educated himself to be a surgeon. According to Chapman, he would have become a great surgeon if he had lived longer than he did. When war broke out between the United States and Mexico in the late 1840's,

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<sup>1</sup> Information about the descendants of Johnson Avory Bland and Sarah Watson were derived from the Family Group Sheets of John Bland Mobley, Columbia, South Carolina.

<sup>2</sup> Chapman, op. cit pp. 345-347.

Elbert volunteered and went to Mexico. On March 15, 1854, he married Emaline Rebecca Griffin (Emaline was born at Edgefield January 8, 1835 and died March 29, 1891). On January 6, 1861, as war clouds gathered over the now disunited states (Presley's revenge), in the wake of Lincoln's election, Elbert Bland was commissioned a surgeon. He was content with this duty for no more than two months when, fired up with the patriotism of the early part of the Civil War, he returned home and in March 1861 was made Captain of the Ninety-Sixth Rifles. During 1861 he was in the thick of the action in Northern Virginia (home of his ancestors).

In April 1862, Elbert Bland was elected Lieutenant Colonel. Chapman indicates that Elbert Bland served at virtually every critical battle during 1862 and 1863, including Richmond, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville and Gettysburg. He was wounded repeatedly in these battles, including a severe wound in the arm at Richmond from which a painful tumor grew, causing him great suffering. After the shattering defeat of the Southern forces at Gettysburg, Elbert Bland agreed to lead his men home, and planned thereafter to return to his medical practice. Enroute at the battle of Chickamagua, Georgia, Elbert Bland was shot clean through the lung, and died less than an hour later on September 20, 1863.<sup>1</sup>

In the will of his father, Avory Bland, Elbert Bland inherited 1,700 acres and twenty slaves.<sup>2</sup> Elbert Bland (twelfth generation) and his wife Emaline (Rebecca) Griffin had three children (all thirteenth generation). Their first child, and only daughter, was Lela Elbert

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<sup>1</sup> Chapman, op. cit., p. 347.

<sup>2</sup> Will of Avory Bland, 1857.

Bland, who was born at Edgefield December 17, 1854, and died October 13, 1911. She married James Brooks Tompkins, on May 18, 1880.<sup>1</sup> James Brooks Tompkins was born November 15, 1848. James Brooks Tompkins and Lela Elbert Bland had one child, Wallace Elbert Bland Tompkins, born August 31, 1881.<sup>2</sup> Wallace Elbert Bland Tompkins was fourteenth generation. He married Sarah Warren on December 22, 1904, and they had (fifteenth generation) William Warren Tompkins, who was born November 1913, and married Henrietta Smith on July 8, 1936. Their daughter (sixteenth generation) was Mary Wallace Tompkins, my correspondent, who married Pierce Butler Day on June 14, 1958.<sup>3</sup>

The second child of Elbert Bland (twelfth generation) and Emaline Griffin was Wallace Bland, who was born September 19, 1856, and was killed in a public argument July 5, 1880, apparently unmarried and without issue. The third child of Elbert Bland (twelfth generation) and Emaline Griffin was St. Julian Bland, who was born February 8, 1858, and died June 12, 1891. He married Mary Parker on April 29, 1885. Mary was born November 23, 1864. When she died is uncertain. Mrs. Day indicates there was only one daughter from this marriage (fourteenth generation), Elberta Bland, who was born October 31, 1886.

To return to the children of Avory Bland (eleventh generation) and his wife, Mary Johnson, their third child was Mary Ann Bland (twelfth generation) who was born February 24, 1825 and died November 27, 1865 in Edgefield County. She married John Smyley (1819-1867) on December 3 1840. Smyley was one of Avory Bland's executors and received from him

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<sup>1</sup> Information about Elbert Bland is supplied by Mary Wallace Day, citing as evidence Elbert Bland's Bible (1855) and the inscriptions at the Willowbrook Cemetery. Also, information about the Bland and Griffi families submitted to the Carolina Genealogy, Vol. 30, Spring 1977, pp. 61-63.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

some real property and land within the town of Edgefield, and twenty slaves.<sup>1</sup>

The fourth child of Avory Bland (twelfth generation) and Mary Johnson was Randall Bland. He was born about two months after the death of his Uncle Randall (1804-1829) on July 20, 1829, and he died, apparently unmarried and without issue, on January 4, 1849. The fifth child of Avory Bland and Mary Johnson, George Bland, was born about 1830. Not much is known about George. In his father's will of 1857, George received a decidedly smaller share of Avory's estate than the other children. He got 525 acres near a spot called "Able's Platt," and thirteen slaves.<sup>2</sup> Whether he married and had children does not appear in Mrs. Day's information.

The sixth child of Avory Bland and Mary Johnson was named Harriet Bland (thirteenth generation). She was born June 21, 1831, and must have been a favorite of her father, for in his will of 1857, he provides for her handsomely, leaving her 1,135 acres of land, his

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<sup>1</sup> Will of Avory Bland, and Family Group Sheet for Avory Bland supplied by Mary Wallace Day.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.



present dwelling place, and thirty-three slaves,<sup>1</sup> in addition to a large amount of grain, food and livestock, as well as farm implements.

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<sup>1</sup> I would like to make note of a feature in Avory Bland's will respecting his disposition of his slaves. Avory appeared to take care to distribute his slaves to his children in family groups, taking care to maintain families when possible, and to keep slave children with their mothers. In his will, Avory left the following slaves by name to his various children, who might after emancipation have adopted their master's name:

To Johnson A. Bland: Mary; Henson, the carpenter; Anderson, the carpenter; Reddick, Sylvia (Reddick's wife) and their nine children, Matt, Abram, Sussex, Thomas, Ephraim, Lawrence, Octavia, Zackariah and Fielding; Wade; old Ellen; Fanny; Ann, and her four children, Archy, Lewis, Harriet and Mims.

To John Smyley: Leis, and his wife, Tenah, and their children, Caroline and Chany (Chany was allowed to have a child's piano); Gabe and his wife, Delia, and their four children, Hillard, Lewis, Spencer and Jack; Turner and his wife, Eliza Ann, and their children, Americus, Silas and Morange.

To Elbert Bland: Isaac, his wife, Salley, and their four children, Victoria, Adavine, Charles and Pliny; Bill; Henry; Betsey; Sabra; Perry; Prince; Emily and Melissa; Grace and her children, Dick, Eliza and Edmund; Dave, a carpenter; and Tom, a ditcher.

To Stanmore Holstein (a minor child): Ann and America, "two young slaves."

To Harriet Logue: Nancy and her child, Shadrack; Crepy; Milledge; Tony; Ned and his wife, Jenny, and their child, Pender; George; Addison; Orange; Jane; Tompkins; Caroline and her children, Dorcas and Peace; Wilas, his wife Jane, and their children, Talulla, Orsamus, John, Henry and Amy; Evaline and her child, Sarah; Young Ellen and her three children, Britton, Mary Jane and Lafayette; Ben and his wife, Martha, and their child, Aaron.

To George Bland: Peter and his four children, Britton, Joe, Roase and Charlotte; young Isaac; Ervin and his wife, Frances, and their children, Amy, Pink, Jerry and Mary; and Old Peter.

Harriet married first, Stanmore Holstein about 1851, and by him had a son, Stanmore Holstein Junior, born about 1852, who was provided by Avory Bland with \$2,000 and two slaves upon his majority. Harriet Bland Holstein married second, William Logue, an Irish immigrant born in 1826, who graduated from the South Carolina School of Law. Logue married Harriet Bland Holstein on May 16, 1854. It is apparent that Avory Bland did not fully approve of William Logue, for in his will he stipulated that his bequest to Harriet was to be for her use, and to be passed on intact to her children. It was not to be used to satisfy any debts against William Logue, and one notes that in contradistinction to Avory's bequest to John Smyley, husband of Avory's daughter Mary, Avory's bequest went directly to Harriet, and William Logue was not mentioned by name in the will. Logue died in 1857 or 1858, and Harriet remarried to Lawrence Johnson. Harriet Bland Holstein Logue Johnson had no children by her third husband.

By William Logue, Harriet had a son (fourteenth generation) named William, who was born in 1858. She also had a daughter named Mary Ann Logue, who was born March 11, 1855, and died in 1934. Mary Ann, also known as Mamie, married on February 21, 1878, William Derryl Warren, and they had a child (fifteenth generation) named Sarah Warren, who was born February 8, 1881. It will be remembered that Mary Wallace Day's grandfather, Wallace Elbert Bland Tompkins (fourteenth generation) married Sarah Warren, who was his cousin. Thus, Mary Wallace Day descends from Avory Bland through his son, Elbert Bland (1823-1863) and through his daughter, Harriet (1831- ),<sup>1</sup> making Mary Wallace Day, by her own reckoning, her own fourth cousin.

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<sup>1</sup> Family Group Sheet of William Logue and Ancestor Chart of Mary Wallace Tompkins Day.

This concludes information known to this author about the family and descendants of Presley Bland (tenth generation), fifth child of Robert Bland and Ann, his wife. This chapter will be concluded by discussion about Robert's sixth named child, Wormley Bland.

### Wormley Bland (Tenth Generation)

Wormley Bland, who was born February 17, 1771, in Loudon County, Virginia, is discussed last among the children of Robert and Ann Bland because he is my great-great-great-great grandfather. Wormley died about July 1800; thus, his life was truncated and information about him is not as plentiful as in the case of his brother Presley. On the basis of fragmentary records available, the extent of Wormley's land ownership cannot be determined with precision, but the first evidence of land passing to him was in 1792, when his mother deeded him 120 acres, no doubt soon after his twenty-first birthday.<sup>1</sup> Before then, Wormley was listed in the 1790 census as a head of household, with one female adult living with him.

Wormley married Sarah Turner, who was born in 1770 and died in 1847. Sarah was the daughter of William Turner and Sarah Ellzey. Sarah's birthplace is unknown, as is the place of her death, but Ellzey as well as Wormley, are well established Virginia names.<sup>2</sup> The maiden

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<sup>1</sup> Edgefield County, South Carolina Deed Book 13, pp. 54-57, lease and release between Wormley and Ann Bland, February 26, 1796. For information about Wormley Bland and his descendants, particularly those who descended through his son William, I am chiefly beholden to my first cousin, Margaret Bland Magliocco's The Blands of Rutherford Count North Carolina, cf. p. 24 ff. Margaret's work was compiled from the unassimilated research of her father, Berry Jewell Bland. Margaret improved and refined her father's work, and I must say that the publication of this book was inspired in no small part because of her efforts

<sup>2</sup> Earl Swem, Comp. Virginia Historical Index, Vol. III, is loaded with Wormley's. J. E. Edwards, in his February 1899 letter to Kate Duncan Smith, vouches for the Virginia antecedents of Ellzey.

TABLE XXXV

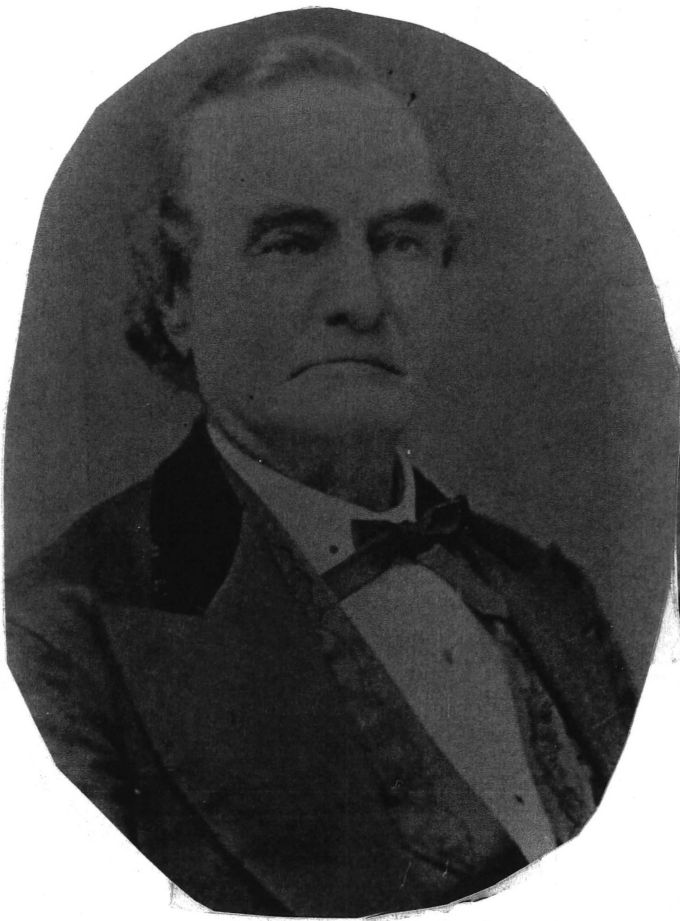
THE FAMILY OF WORMLEY BLAND OF EDGEFIELD COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA: FOUR GENERATIONS

<p>(8) Robert Bland (C.1703-1760)</p> <p>(9) Robert Bland (1733-1787)</p> <p>(10) Wormley Bland (1771-1800)</p>	<p>┌ Jane _____ about 1729.</p> <p>├ Ann _____ in 1757.</p> <p>└ Sarah Turner (1770-1847) about 1790.</p>	<p>(11-1)</p> <p>William Bland (1792-1868), married Caroline about 1812, and Vianah Padgett in 1847.</p> <p>(11-2)</p> <p>Ellzey Bland married Sophia Johnson Pow.</p> <p>(11-3)</p> <p>Margaret Bland (1800-1868), married Darling Hazel in 1820.</p> <p>(11-4)*</p> <p>Turner Bland</p>
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\* Turner Bland received a grant from his grandmother, Ann \_\_\_\_\_ Bland in 1801. Ann also granted land to Ellzey Bland at the same time. Inasmuch as Wormley Bland married Sarah Turner, I assume, without further proof, that Turner Bland was a son of Wormley Bland.

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Children of Wormeley Bland (1771-1800) and Sarah Turner (1773-1848). See p. 520-522 and AC 3-1, pp. 33-36. Elza Bland (1798-1879) and his third wife Sarah L. Neyland (C1845- ). Courtesy Mary Elizabeth Murphy-Hoffman.



name of Sarah's mother takes on especial importance in developing later lines of descent. Wormley apparently met with a sudden death at a young age, for on July 7, 1800, his wife filed a letter of administration in his estate, indicating that he died intestate.<sup>1</sup>

Information about Wormley Bland and Sarah Turner's children indicates that they had three children at least, and possibly a fourth. The oldest child was William Bland (eleventh generation), born in 1792, whose family and descendants will be discussed presently. There was one daughter, the youngest child, named Margaret Bland, who was born April 20, 1800 and died September 20, 1868. She married Darling Hazel (1789-1835) in 1820.<sup>2</sup> Two middle sons have had no family researchers that I know of, and information about them is correspondingly slim. There is the briefest mention in the records of Turner Bland, who received a grant, along with his brother, Ellzey, from Ann Bland, their grandmother, in 1801.<sup>3</sup> It is probable that Turner was born sometime in the late 1790's, but I haven't a clue as to whether he died young, married, and where he lived if he did marry.<sup>4</sup> Ellzey Bland, his grandmother's namesake, must have been born in the mid-1790's. He is first

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<sup>1</sup> Magliocco, pp. 22-23, citing Box A-033, Package 1206, Wormley Bland, Deceased, Edgefield County, South Carolina.

<sup>2</sup> One child of Margaret Bland and Darling Hazel was Ann Hazel (1835-1923) who married Walter Satcher, and who were the parents of Willis Wesley Satcher, who married Mary Amelia Crouch. This couple were parents of Mrs. Lawson (Eula Satcher) Moyers, a DAR member.

<sup>3</sup> Quarles to Gressett, January 14, 1971.

<sup>4</sup> In the 1850 census, there is a 40-year old widow, Elizabeth Bland, living in Edgefield County, with seven children, including: Jack, aged 18; Shelyey (?), age 14; Margaret, 11; Adaline, 9; Bury, 7; Martha, 6; Edmund, 4. This would indicate she married about 1831, and had children through 1846, when she would have been 36. Since that is not the end of child-bearing years, the indication may be that her husband died about that time. If Turner Bland, born in the late 1790's, were her husband, he would have been in his early thirties when they were married. There is nothing concrete to verify such a marriage. I would note, however, that this is the first time the male name Bury, or Berry, was used in the family, although it was a significant name.

mentioned in 1801 in the Edgefield records, by which time his father was dead. Subsequently, he is mentioned in the records as participant in land transactions in 1821, 1823, 1824, 1827 and 1830. Ellzey Bland married Sophia Johnson Pow, sister of Mary Johnson who married Avory Bland, both daughters of Moore Johnson. When Ellzey and Sophia married is uncertain. Sophia is thought to have been born before 1800, so she and Ellzey would be approximately the same age. By her marriage to Phillip Pow, Sophia Johnson had a son, Phillip Pow. By 1825, when Moore Johnson made out his will, Sophia was married to Ellzey Bland. Johnson's will was not proved until 1835, and Ellzey and Sophia may both have been dead by then, for the son, Phillip Pow, was named as heir in their place, and money (a handsome sum of five shillings, indicating that Moore Johnson wasn't altogether pleased with Sophia) was paid to "the estate of Bland."<sup>1</sup>

#### William Bland (Eleventh Generation)

William Bland was born on February 2, 1792, and died November 25, 1868 in Rutherford County, North Carolina. He is reckoned as the oldest son of Wormley Bland and Sarah Turner. The assumption that William was a son of Wormley was taken up by Mrs. Magliocco, apparently after Berry Bland juxtaposed dates between William and Wormley, and came to the conclusion, correctly, I believe, that they were father and son. Berry, in his ponderous way, made the following observation:

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<sup>1</sup> Mary Wallace Day, The Estate of Moore Johnson. J. E. Edwards, in his letter to Kate Duncan Smith, claimed to have corresponded with Sophia; stated that Ellzey Bland (married a widow Pugh (Pow) and remove to Alabama."

Conversations among present family groups lead us to believe that we are interested only in the family of which Wormeley (sic) Bland was a member. Rutherford County Blands constantly refer to "a Bland named Wormly (sic) from South Carolina" as the father of William Bland, of Rutherford County.<sup>1</sup>

Elizabeth Bland Lovvorn, of Oak Ridge, Tennessee, a descendant of William through his son, Jacob Calhoun Bland, reinforced this oral tradition in a history written before she began a correspondence with Berry Bland:

I have often heard the name of Wormsley Bland and that he was William Bland's father...I know only that it is said by older Blands that their great grandfather was Wormsley Bland.<sup>2</sup>

One should add that to the extent naming practices provide clues to family linkages, the children and grandchildren of William Bland bore names such as Ivory and Elsey (Ellzey), and as we have seen, Ellzey and Ivory Bland, first cousins, married daughters of the same man.<sup>3</sup>

Such naming linkages compel one to believe in a family relationship between William Bland and the extended Edgefield County family. Having gone so far, one would have to say that a process of elimination excludes a parent-son relationship with anyone but Wormley Bland. The other possibilities would have to be Edward Bland, who in 1792 would have been about 62. His wife Frances, even if fifteen years younger than Edward, would be 47, and pushing hard at the limits of her child-

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<sup>1</sup> Magliocco, p. 25.

<sup>2</sup> Betty Bland Lovvorn, "The North Carolina Blands" (C.1962), pp. 10, 13. Margaret Magliocco relied on Mrs. Lovvorn's work to a considerable degree.

<sup>3</sup> William could well have been named for his maternal grandfather, William Turner, or for his great uncle, William Bland, younger brother of Wormley Bland's father.



bearing years. Further, the ages given for their children in the 1790 census argues against the appearance of another child in 1792.<sup>1</sup> Of the sons of Robert Bland, there is no possibility that Presley Bland, born in 1768, could be the father of William, and the four younger sons born between 1775-1783 were too young in 1792 to be William's father. That leaves Wormley as William's father. Neither Betty Lovvorn nor Berry Bland were frivolous in their research, and since Wormley is not exactly an everyday name, my assumption is that if they independently discovered family traditions speaking of an ancestral grandfather Wormley, the oral tradition is sufficiently strong to warrant an assumed father-son relationship.

William Bland, as an adult, moved to York County, South Carolina, and subsequently to Union County, before moving to Rutherford County, North Carolina, in the 1830's.

William married twice, first to a woman named Caroline or Carolina probably Miller. One tradition in the Rutherford County, North Carolina family is that she was Caroline Aiken. There is no way of proving or disproving this notion, but I suspect she might have been Caroline Miller from Aiken. Perhaps William's Uncle Presley took him along on one of his trips to Aiken, and William met his wife there. They were married about 1812.

William and Caroline may have lived their early years in Edgefield County, but by 1820 they were in Union County, where they remained

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<sup>1</sup> Edward did have a son William, and the 1790 census showed that he had two sons over 16, who could have been father to William in 1792.

until after 1830, when the family moved to Rutherford County, North Carolina,<sup>1</sup> by which time all their children had been born. Using census records, Margaret has reconciled the estimates of her father and Betty Lovvorn about the number and names of children born to William Bland and his wife, coming up with eleven (twelfth generation), including three unnamed children; three named sons, William W. Bland (born 1818), Jacob Calvin Bland (born 1827), and Thomas R. Bland (born 1829); and five named daughters, Sarah Bland (born C.1815), Martha (born C.1813-1814), Elizabeth, Nancy and Rachel (birthdates uncertain, listed as aged 10-15 in 1830 census, thus all born between 1815-1820).

What happened to the first wife of William Bland is not known. She had borne William at least eleven children by 1829, when the youngest, Thomas R. Bland, was born. She was living when the 1830 census was taken, and in all probability lived until the 1840's. William remarried in 1847, but he was not counted in the 1840 census for Rutherford County, North Carolina. It is fair to assume, however, that not too many years elapsed between the death of his first wife and his second marriage.

During 1831, William bought land in Rutherford County, North Carolina, just across the South and North Carolina border near the present city of Cliffside. William's motive for moving is a mystery. Berry Bland, in fact, assumed that some trauma was responsible for William's departure. Just after he bought the land, a series of events

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<sup>1</sup> As Margaret Magliocco tells it, Berry Bland discovered William Bland's original Rutherford County Land Grant which was issued in 1831, just before he (Berry) died in 1973. This land grant was made out to "William Bland, of the District of Union, and the State of South Carolina." Before he could do anything with the information, Berry died. Margaret then searched the census records for 1820 and 1830 and found William and his family in Union County. Magliocco, pp. 28, 31.

occurred that could have driven him out of South Carolina. Shortly after William bought his land, Nat Turner's Slave Rebellion caused a paranoic wave of fear to sweep across the lower, slave-holding South, resulting in vigilante murders of blacks and poor whites, and uprooting many people from their homes. The longer term effect was that Virginia slaveholders also began to sell off their slaves to men of property in the lower South, which resulted in a glut of slave labor in South Carolina by the mid-1830's that affected the balance of labor between slaves and poor whites in, among many places, Edgefield County and certainly in South Carolina generally. Andrew Jackson's veto of the National Bank Franchise in 1832 set off a series of financial tremors that led to a full-blown economic depression by 1837. Finally in late spring and summer of 1832, a devastating cholera epidemic swept across the American continent, encompassing everything from Boston to New Orleans.<sup>2</sup>

Whatever his reasons, William bought land in Rutherford County, North Carolina, gathered up his brood, and moved across the border, becoming a North Carolinian.

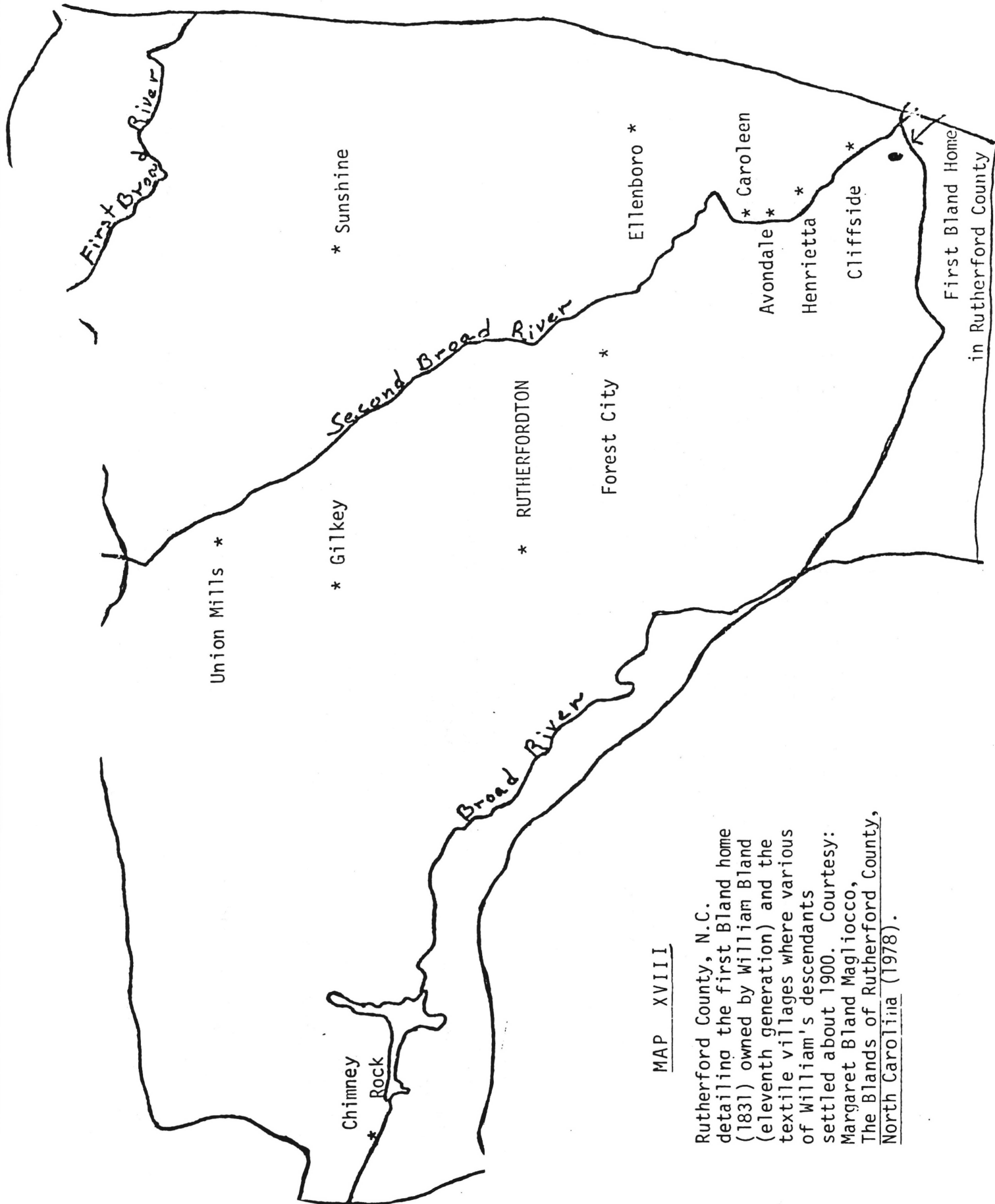
On April 5, 1847, William, who was aged 55, married his second wife, Vianah Padgett, a mere child by comparison, aged only 32. William and Vianah had four children. These children, like those of William's first marriage, were (twelfth generation):<sup>3</sup>

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1 William H. Freehling, Prelude to Civil War: 1816-1840 (1966), p.

2 Charles E. Rosenberg, The Cholera Years (1962), passim. The cholera epidemic could be what wiped out the three young and unidentified children of William Bland who did not, at any rate, survive until the 1850 census.

3 For information about the descendants of William Bland through his second marriage, see Magliocco, pp. 33-37, 45-46, 58, 75-78, 97-100



MAP XVIII

Rutherford County, N.C. detailing the first Bland home (1831) owned by William Bland (eleventh generation) and the textile villages where various of William's descendants settled about 1900. Courtesy: Margaret Bland Magliocco, The Blands of Rutherford County, North Carolina (1978).



526C

William Bland (1792-1868)

It should be noted that doubt has been cast on the assertion made on page 521ff, (Among Cousins, 6-1, pp. 32-33). There remains strong evidence that William belonged to the Edgefield County South Carolina family. Photo courtesy of Betty Bland Lovvorn.



WILLIAM BLAND



1) Naomi Jane, the eldest child of William Bland and Vianah Padgett, was born on January 21, 1848,<sup>1</sup> and died February 28, 1928. Naomi never married and lived her life near her birthplace. 2) Matilda Jane Bland was born July 8, 1849, and died May 14, 1912, near Cliffside, North Carolina. Matilda married A. Dixon Scruggs (1845-1888) sometime before 1868. Matilda and Dixon had a family of eight children. 3) Vianah Catherine Bland, the third daughter, and fourth child, of William Bland and Vianah Padgett, was born on November 13, 1855, and died December 21, 1924. She married M. B. Lemmons on October 21, 1894, but there were no children by the marriage.

4) The only son born of the marriage of William Bland and Vianah Padgett was Silas Avery Bland, who was born on his father's farm on December 6, 1851, where he died on August 1, 1928. In the interim, Silas Avery married twice and had a family. His first wife was Mary Ellen Harris, whom he married on March 9, 1876. They had three sons (thirteenth generation), including:

(1) Ernest Clarence Bland, who was born November 22, 1876. Ernest died September 10, 1905 at a young age of 29. He married Bertha Florence Hamrick (1870-1898) who died shortly after the birth of their last child. Ernest and Bertha had at least four children (fourteenth generation), including two daughters, Lula Bland and Lily Bland. A third daughter, Florence Bland, died September 14, 1898, at childbirth, and her mother died nine days later. The only son of Ernest Bland and Florence Hamrick was William Avery, about whom nothing further is known to this writer.

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<sup>1</sup> Naomi was born just over eight months after William Bland, aged 55, married Vianah Padgett, confirming for us all that it is possible to be born again!



(2) The second son of Silas Avery Bland and Mary Ellen Harris was William Burwell Bland, who was born August 27, 1880. He was known, evidently, as "Berle" or "Burl" Bland, and lived his life as a farmer near Sulphur Springs, North Carolina. He died April 7, 1958. William Burwell Bland married Mary Smart and they had eight children (fourteenth generation), including Estelle Bland, Ellen Bland, John Bland born July 9, 1908, Joyce Bland, James N. Bland, Ernest W. Bland, Louise Bland, and Joseph B. Bland.

The third child of Silas Avery Bland and his wife, Mary Ellen Harris, was Summey Bland (thirteenth generation) who was born in Rutherford County on May 27, 1884. The date of his death is uncertain. Summey married Maude Horton, August 8, 1905, in Cherokee County, South Carolina. They shuttled back and forth between South Carolina and Rutherford County, North Carolina. Summey and Maude had seven children (fourteenth generation): Dewitt Haynes Bland, born June 11, 1907 and died August 3, 1966; Ernest Dorch Bland, born August 26, 1909, and died in Gaffney, South Carolina, June 14, 1962; Horace Horton Bland, born April 9, 1912, date of death unknown; Lois Virginia Bland, born April 14, 1914, and died as a child June 11, 1917; Summey Milton Bland, born July 15, 1918 in Cherokee County, South Carolina; Lois Mae Bland, born October 3, 1920; Hal Edwin Bland, born on November 15, 1926.

These were the children of Silas Avery Bland and Mary Ellen Harris, his first wife, who died August 23, 1905. Following Mary Ellen's death, Silas Avery Bland married Willie Suttle Haynes (1862-1940), but there were no children by this second marriage.

These are the children of William Bland (eleventh generation) by his second wife, Vianah Padgett. William's children by his first marriage are less well defined because of the relative inaccuracy of records at the time of their birth, and also, probably because of William's moving about until he settled in Rutherford County, North Carolina. Margaret Bland Magliocco's reconciliation of estimated children of William and his first wife as per those calculated by Berry Bland and Betty Lovvorn, turned up eleven, including three who were unidentified by name, five named daughters, and three named sons. All these children would be twelfth generation.

The eldest child and daughter was Martha Bland. She was listed in the 1830 census as aged 15-20. Since she married Tolliver Goode in 1831 in Rutherford County, she would have been about 18 at least when married, so it is reasonable to conclude that she was born about 1813. There is nothing more in Margaret Magliocco's book about Tolliver Goode and Martha Bland.

Sarah Bland was born in 1815, and is the second child of William Bland and his first wife. She married Tolliver Davis (1810-1866) on September 4, 1835, in Rutherford County, and by him had eight children. Sarah survived Tolliver Davis. She was counted in the 1870 census.

William Bland and his first wife had three daughters who were simply identified in the 1830 census as being 10-15 years of age, although matching them up with the 1820 census indicates that they were all born between 1816-1819. The eldest of these appears to have been Rachel Bland, who was probably born in 1816, for she married Samuel Martin, of Rutherford County, in 1833. Rachel also was known as "Panity."

Elizabeth C. Bland married W. D. Cooper in 1839 in Rutherford County. Nancy Bland married Jonathan Gillispie in 1840.<sup>1</sup>

The first known son of William Bland and his first wife was William W. Bland.<sup>2</sup> The 1870 census shows that he was 52 years old that year, suggesting he was born in 1818. When his birthdate is added to those of his five identified sisters, it becomes clear that William and his first wife had a child virtually every year from 1812-1820. The date or place of William Bland's death is uncertain, but probably was 1884.

William married Caroline Suttles in Rutherford County about 1838. As a married couple they lived in Rutherford County except it appears for several years during the 1850's and 1860's, when they lived in South Carolina. William W. Bland and Caroline Suttles had three known children, although they were born at disparate times and there must have been others who died young. Their three children (thirteenth generation) are:

1) Martha was born about 1839. When she died and whether she married is unknown.

2) Pantha Jane Bland was born August 24, 1844, and died June 26, 1928 near Forest City, North Carolina. Pantha Jane married William Martin, and together they became successful farmers and apparently owner operators of a business named "Martin's Mill." In their marriage they had three children.

3) Joseph Frank Bland was born in 1855. The date of his death is uncertain. Frank was known as "The Music Man" by those who remember him. He sold musical instruments and also, so they say, could play

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<sup>1</sup> Information about William Bland's daughters by his first wife is included in Magliocco, pp. 38-39.

<sup>2</sup> It would be exceedingly interesting to know what the initial W. represents. William Wormeley?

them all. People who knew him liked to listen to him play the musical instruments, buy them from him occasionally, and then hire him to teach them how to play. He married Betty Burris, but they moved away from Rutherford County, the first family to do so. They settled in Surrey County, North Carolina. Joseph Frank Bland and Betty Burris had six known children, all fourteenth generation: Adam Bland; Laler Bland, a daughter; Joseph Frank Bland Jr.; Robert Bland; Eugene Bland; and Dalmer Bland.<sup>1</sup>

Six children then were born to William Bland (eleventh generation) and his first wife, during the years 1812-1820. Through the year 1829, another five children were born, including two unknown children born between 1820-1825, another unknown child between 1825-1829, and two known sons, Jacob Calhoun Bland and Thomas R. Bland, who were very close apparently, emotionally, socially and geographically, as well as chronologically. Aside from the two years that separate them at birth, their lives were remarkably similar.

The eldest of these two sons was Jacob Calvin Bland, who was born February 10, 1827 in South Carolina, and died February 7, 1898 in Rutherford County, North Carolina. Jacob Calvin was a farmer, and on June 24, 1848, married Melissa Rollins, a daughter of James Rollins. Melissa was born in 1831, and died September 27, 1922.<sup>2</sup> Jacob Calvin Bland and Melissa Rollins had nine children, all thirteenth generation:

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<sup>1</sup> Information about the family of William W. Bland (twelfth generation) and Caroline Suttles is found in Magliocco, pp. 39-40, 49, 62, 82.

<sup>2</sup> The Bland and Rollins families were always close, perhaps as a result of the double first cousin relationship that resulted from Jacob Calvin and Thomas R. Bland marrying sisters, Melissa and Patsy or Martha Rollins. My grandfather, Bunyan Bland, had a lifelong friendship with one Hardy Rollins, of Rutherford County. I have a photo of them together in a group picture taken July 4, 1899 when Bunyan was 23, and again in 1955, the year Bunyan died, at the last church reunion he ever attended. Information regarding Jacob Calvin Bland's family is found in Magliocco, pp. 40-44, 51-54, 63-65, 83-84, and 102-104.

Their first child was George Washington Bland, who was born in 1851 and died in 1882. He never married. George Washington Bland is buried next to his parents in the Piney Knob Baptist Church cemetery in Rutherford County.

The second child of Jacob Calvin Bland and Melissa Rollins was Noah Jonas Bland, who was born July 14, 1853, and died near Forest City North Carolina, on June 15, 1936. Noah Jonas married Matilda Catherine Scoggins (1863-1933) on May 9, 1882. There were seven children (fourteenth generation) by this marriage: J. Edgar Bland, born on April 22, 1883, and died August 18, 1889. Jonas Osborne Bland, born March 5, 1885, it is uncertain when he died. He married Lily Ervin Watson (1890- ) on March 17, 1907. Jonas Osborne Bland and Lily Watson had nine children (fifteenth generation) whose lives extended into the 20th century.<sup>1</sup>

Matilda Emma Bland was born May 26, 1887, and died August 20, 1889. Margaret Magliocco indicates that both James Edgar Bland and Matilda Emma Bland died during a diphtheria epidemic in the summer of 1889.

Richard Furman Bland was born January 1, 1890. Richard did service in World War I, and following his return from the war, went off to New York City and no one ever heard from him again.

William Bland was born on December 14, 1899 and died on July 12, 1900.

Worth Livingston Johnson Bland was born April 5, 1905.

The final child of Noah Jonas Bland and Matilda Scoggins was Jessie Lee Bland. Jessie was all set to get married to Sarah Harrell on March 4, 1931, but on the day before, he started to fix his car in a

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<sup>1</sup> One of them, Elizabeth Aileen Bland, was born March 18, 1925. She married James Lovvorn in 1946. Both now live in Oak Ridge, Tennessee and have two daughters. She is the Betty Bland Lovvorn who collaborated with Berry Bland and his daughter, Margaret Magliocco, in preparation of Margaret Magliocco's story of the Rutherford County, North Carolina Blands.

closed garage, and died from carbon monoxide fumes.

The third child of Jacob Calvin Bland and Melissa Rollins (twelfth generation) was William Lindsey Bland, who was born July 11, 1855 and died January 21, 1931. William Lindsey Bland was a truck farmer and also a gossip columnist for the Rutherford County newspaper, who went by the pen name of "Copper Bill." He married Louraine Haynes (1852-1929) on November 8, 1877. "Copper Bill" and his wife Louraine Haynes had the following children (fourteenth generation):

Orah C. Bland was born January 13, 1879, and died July 7, 1952. Minnie L. Bland was born September 11, 1880, and died July 15, 1929. Mattie Bland was born August 18, 1882, and died July 29, 1963. Lily J. E. Bland was born February 8, 1889. The date of her death (or whether she is still living at age 92 in 1981) is unknown. The only son born to William Lindsey Bland and Louraine Haynes (thirteenth generation) was Richard Volney Bland, who was born May 29, 1885 and died October 9, 1893.

The fourth child of Jacob Calvin Bland and Melissa Rollins (twelfth generation) was Sarah Bland, who was born July 2, 1858 and died April 25, 1947. She married Richard Ledbetter (1862-1940) on March 30, 1882, and by him had eleven children, the tenth of whom, Mary Kate Ledbetter, wrote a very touching essay about her mother. Sarah was described by her daughter as having wavy auburn hair, similar to several of her (Sarah's) siblings. She had blue eyes and fair complexion, and was of medium height and weight. She was described also as frugal, thrifty and a down home doctor for the family.

The fifth child of Jacob Calvin Bland (twelfth generation) and his wife, Melissa Rollins, was Mary Bland, who was born in 1860. The date of her death is uncertain, but she married Furman Phillips, by whom she had four children.

The sixth child of Jacob Calvin Bland (twelfth generation) and Melissa Rollins was John Tolliver Bland, who was born on February 6, 1867, and died August 27, 1952. John Bland was a school teacher, superintendent of the Red Top School located on the Old Fort-Lake Lure North Carolina road. He married Josephine Webb on July 22, 1897, and with her had eight children (fourteenth generation) including: Annie Mae Bland, born February 12, 1907, date of death uncertain; Fannie Lou Alma Bland, born November 28, 1912; Willie Bessie Marie Bland, born February 21, 1920.

There were five sons born to John Tolliver Bland and Josephine Webb, including four who died in infancy, apparently between 1898 and 1906. The only son who survived was Adam Columbus Bland, who was born September 19, 1910.

Melissa Jane Bland (thirteenth generation), the seventh child of Jacob Calvin Bland and Melissa Rollins, was born in 1869 and died in 1939. She married Crayton Justice, of Belmont, North Carolina, and by him had five children. Rebecca Marie Bland, eighth child of Jacob Calvin Bland and Melissa Rollins was born December 2, 1874, and died January 4, 1915. She married George Allen (1876-1920) and by him had one child.

The ninth child of Jacob Calvin Bland (twelfth generation) and Melissa Rollins was Jacob Druey Bland, who was born in 1877 and died in 1955. He was willed his father's estate when Jacob Calvin died in 1898, and he remained at Jacob Calvin's farm to care for his mother until she died in 1922. Jacob married Mary C. Koone on February 7, 1909, in what was a double wedding ceremony shared by one Richard Blar and Mossey Weeks.<sup>1</sup> In their marriage, Jacob Druey Bland and Mary Koor

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<sup>1</sup> Who this Richard Bland was does not appear in Margaret Magliocco's work.

had the following seven children (fourteenth generation): William Daniel Bland; Mamie Lee Bland; Onnee Ree Bland; Julia Mae Bland; Worth Bland; James Frank Bland, born July 1, 1924; and Annie Laura Bland.

The youngest child of William Bland and his first wife (eleventh generation) was Thomas R. Bland, who was born February 27, 1829, and died May 30, 1904. Like his brothers, and most of his kin, Thomas R. lived in Rutherford County all of his life, and for most of that time worked as a farmer. Between 1885 and 1895, he moved his family out of the rural area, however, and into the town of Caroleen, where he remained for the rest of his life. Thomas considered himself a native North Carolinian, but it is clear that he was born in South Carolina in 1829 and moved to Rutherford County, North Carolina in 1831 or 1832.

Thomas R. Bland married Patsy Ann Rollins on February 15, 1849. Two things are interesting about Patsy Ann Rollins, and curious. First, although her tombstone markings identify her as "Patsy," census records consistently refer to her as "Martha." There is no apparent explanation for this, save that Martha was her true name and Patsy, or Patsy Ann, an endearment. Second, she was the sister of Melissa Rollins, who married Jacob Calhoun Bland, the brother of Patsy's husband, Thomas R. Bland. Patsy Rollins Bland was born October 15, 1828, and died November 12, 1913.

An interesting note about the lives of Thomas Bland and his older brother, Jacob Calvin, is what happened during the Civil War. Berry Bland found no record of either having served in the Civil War, but as in the case of the wives of many other men who did serve, there is a hiatus in child-bearing by both Melissa and Patsy Rollins that begins and ends at almost the same time. Mary Ann Bland, child of Jacob Calvin



and Melissa Rollins, was born in 1860, and their next child, John Tolliver, was born February 6, 1867. William W. Bland was born February 6, 1860, and the next child of Thomas R. Bland and Patsy Rollins was born January 14, 1867. Among other things, along with their marriages to two sisters, this would seem to indicate that the habits and interests of Thomas R. Bland and Jacob Calvin Bland were about the same. It has also led to a "family legend" which has the two brothers leaving the county "because of confusion resulting from Klu Klux Klan activity."<sup>1</sup> How this family legend began does not appear and seems to be ambiguous. The Klu Klux Klan did not appear until 1865 when the war was over, and never really took hold until 1867, by which time Thomas and Jacob, wherever they went, had been back in Rutherford County for at least nine months. Nor is it certain from Mrs. Magliocco's information whether Thomas and Jacob were Klansmen themselves, or were driven out of the county by the Klan. If the latter, a certain amount of plausibility and explanation might intrude, for in addition to the fact that the Civil War was not heavily fought in Rutherford County, it is fairly well known that the county and certain localities within it contained pockets of Republican loyalty, which could have meant resistance to the Confederate cause. Finally, one should not discount the possibility that Jacob and Thomas were war resisters, reasoning perhaps that if they fled combat, they might live to tell the story of the Civil War to some of their children and grandchildren. Whether or not that is the case, Jacob lived to have four post-war children and 33 years of life, and Thomas had three post-war children and 39 years of life, which is more than many other young men who went off to fight in 1861 could claim. There is in this not the slightest intent to

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<sup>1</sup> Magliocco, p. 44.

impute lack of patriotism and disloyalty to either of the brothers. They would have been behaving in a manner consistent with the general attitude of their elected local political leaders, particularly in the latter phases of the war.

Thomas Bland and Patsy Rollins had a family of eight children, all thirteenth generation. One of the remarkable things about this family is that all the children that are known lived to adulthood, although several of them did not marry. Patsy Rollins bore her last child in 1873 when she was 45.

The first child of Thomas R. Bland and Patsy Rollins was Nancy Caroline, who was born January 7, 1850, and died January 17, 1874. Nancy Caroline's daughter lived to an ancient age of 106, and relatives, while clearing out her effects, discovered a picture of Nancy Caroline, a copy of which was graciously sent to me by Nancy Caroline's granddaughter, Hilda Smart.<sup>1</sup> Nancy Caroline married B. Franklin Harrell on March 22, 1873, and their first child (fourteenth generation) Nancy was born January 17, 1874. Nancy Caroline died just hours after Nancy's birth. Nancy was born just two weeks after the birth of the last child of Thomas R. Bland and Patsy Rollins, whose name was Martha Catherine Bland (and who will be discussed presently). Family tradition has it that Patsy Rollins, noting that she could just as easily nurse both children, put her own child on one breast, her daughter's child to the other, and raised them both as sisters, though one was the aunt of the

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<sup>1</sup> The backdrop of the photograph shows the same sort of rough texture that appears in the younger photographs of Thomas R. Bland and Patsy Rollins. This leads me to conclude that a photographer came through the area that year and took Thomas', Patsy's and Nancy Caroline's picture. Possibly others were taken and they would be priceless if discovered. See photos on pp. 534A,C,D.

other. Both children, Nancy Caroline and Martha, were very close in age and also emotionally close to my grandfather, Bunyan Bland (fourteenth generation).

Nancy Caroline Harrell lived to an astounding age of 106, finally succumbing to death on August 2, 1980. In her youth, she was known to be somewhat wild, but also beautiful in a petite kind of way, "no bigger than a minute," as one of her cousins put it. She was named Miss Burnt Tree (now Forest City, North Carolina) in 1890, and the earliest photograph I have found of her, taken with her husband in a group portrait in 1899, shows her indeed to be very small, with dark hair, and very beautiful. As she aged, she became known to the family as "Cousin Nanny," and her longevity made her something of a legend. My grandfather, Bunyan Bland, visited her often, and it is said that they spent many hours sitting on her porch, absorbed in conversation. Nanny began to slow down when she reached age 100, her memory and even her faculties began to fade and her conversation was no longer very coherent. Increasingly, her wit and conversational charm became aphoristic and fragmented. One such gem of sharp wit was exchanged between Nanny and one of those parade of local journalists who trekked to her house to celebrate each post-centennial birthday. One told her she was looking good, to which Nanny shot back, her black eyes flashin "cain't do nothin' else."<sup>1</sup>

By the time I was able to get my family around to see her, Nanny was within eight months of death and was virtually insensible. On the day, very early in 1980, my wife and daughter arrived with me to visit

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<sup>1</sup> Forest City This Week, February 23, 1974.

TABLE XXXVII

THE FAMILY OF JACOB CALVIN BLAND OF RUTHERFORD COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA: FOUR GENERATIONS

(10)	Wormley Bland (1771-1800)	Sarah Turner (1770-1847) about 1790.
(11)	William Bland (1792-1868)	(1) Caroline _____ about 1812. (2) Vianah Padgett in 1847.
(12)	Jacob Calvin Bland (1827-1898)	Melissa Rollins (1831-1922) in 1848.

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(13-1)	George Washington Bland (1851-1922), never married.	(13-2)	Noah Jonas Bland (1853-1906), married Matilda C. Scoggins in 1882.	(13-3)	William Lindsey Bland (1855-1931), married Louraine Haynes in 1877.	(13-4)	Sarah Bland (1858-1947), married Richard Ledbetter in 1882.	(13-5)	Mary Bland (1860- ) married Furman Phillips.
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(13-6)	John Tolliver Bland (1867-1952), married Josephine Webb in 1897.	(13-7)	Melissa Jane Bland (1869-1939), married Crayton Justice.	(13-8)	Rebecca Marie Bland (1874-1915), married George Allen.	(13-9)	Jacob Druey Bland (1877-1955), married Mary C. Koone in 1909.
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TABLE XXXVIII

THE FAMILY OF THOMAS R. BLAND OF RUTHERFORD COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA: FOUR GENERATIONS

(10)	Wormley Bland (1771-1800)	Sarah Turner (1770-1847) about 1790.	
(11)	William Bland (1792-1868)	(1) Caroline _____ about 1812. (2) Vianah Padgett, in 1847.	
(12)	Thomas R. Bland (1829-1904)	Patsy Rollins (1828-1913), in 1849.	
(13-1)	Nancy Caroline Bland (1850-1874), married B. Franklin Harrell in 1873.		(13-4) Leonard C. Bland (1858-1912) married Alice Scoggins in 1881.
(13-2)	James Cansler Bland (1854-1912), married Clementine Jolley about 1881.		(13-3) Berry Elsey Bland (1856-1917) married Martha Greene in 1875.
(13-5)	William W. Bland (1860-1939), did not marry.		(13-7) Mary Jane Bland (1869-1925), did not marry.
(13-6)	Sallie A. Bland (1867-1943), never married.		(13-8) Martha Catherine Bland (1873-1952), married Robert Freeman in 1897.

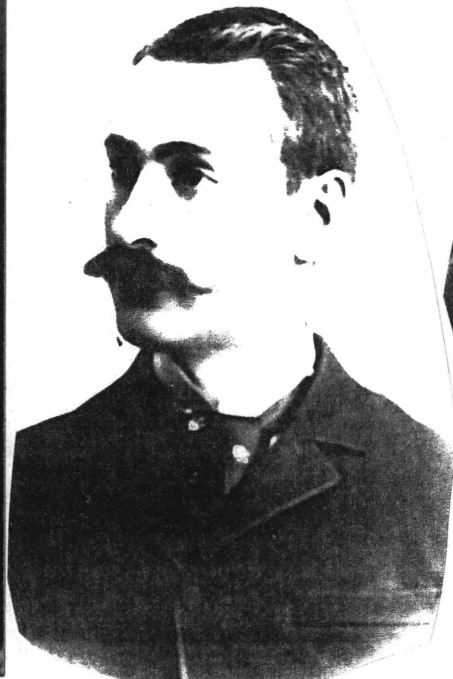
538C

Top Left: Jacob Calvin Bland (1827-1898) and sons - Top Right, George Washington Bland (1851-1882); Below, John Tolliver Bland, (1867-1952). See pp. 531-535. Courtesy Betty Bland Lovvorn.



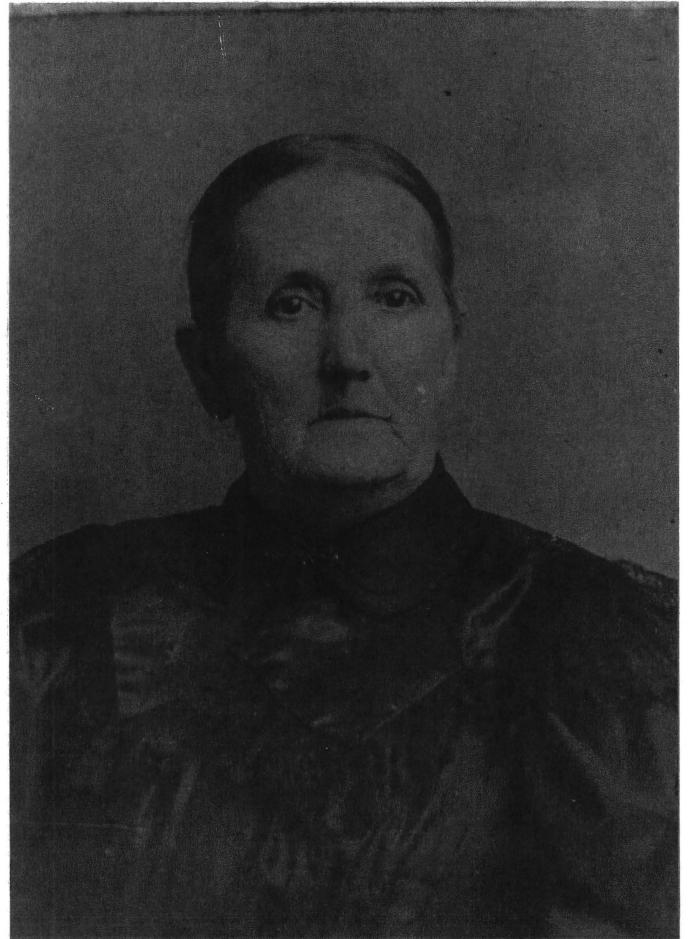
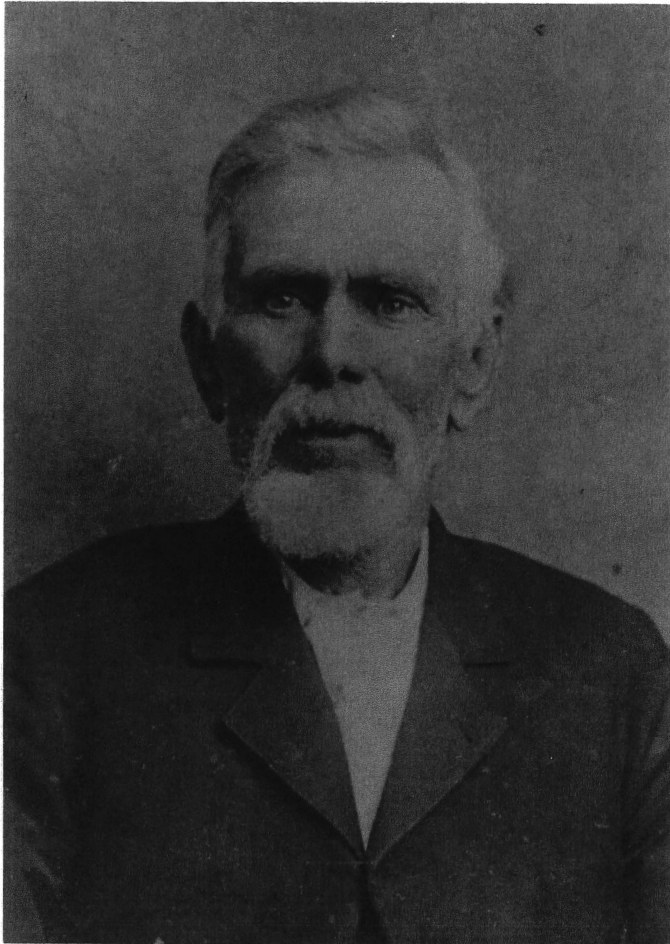
538D

Sons of Jacob C. Bland: Top - Noah Jonas Bland (1853-1936) and Matilda Catherine Scoggins (1863-1933); Lower, left - Jonas Osborne Bland (1885- ) and his wife Lily Ervin Watson (1890- ), with children Thomas Earl Bland and Jonas Paul Bland; Lower, right - William Lindsey "Copper Bill" Bland (1855-1931) and his wife Louraine Haynes (1852-1929). Courtesy Betty Bland Lovvorn.



538E

Thomas R. Bland (1829-1904) and his wife  
Patsy Rollins, (1828-1913). Courtesy Hilda Smart.







Nanny and her daughter Hilda, who hauled Nanny, grumbling and growling, up from the bed. Settled in her chair, Nanny's eyes roamed about the room, settling on my daughter Christina. For just a moment, a twinkle of kindness and mischief came to those devilish eyes, as she tried to tease Christina closer to her. Then she saw my wife, and for reasons that remain unclear, suddenly turned the air blue with a string of curses, waving her bony old finger in Jane's face and lecturing her about God's vengeance.

Sometime in the 1890's, no one seems to remember exactly when, Nanny married William K. Smart who, it is said, being older, more mature and more settled, took care of Nanny, and died a relatively early death in the process, living a mere 65 years (1869-1934).

The second child of Thomas R. Bland and Patsy Rollins was James Cansler Bland (thirteenth generation) who was born August 17, 1854 and died in Huntsville, Alabama on October 25, 1912. James Cansler Bland married Clementine Jolley (1862-1956) about 1881. Near the turn of the 20th century, James Cansler Bland moved his family to Huntsville, Alabama, where he died. Clementine Jolley returned to North Carolina and died at Burlington, North Carolina.

James Cansler Bland and Clementine Jolley had five children, all fourteenth generation.

Grover Belton Bland, first child of James Cansler and Clementine Jolley, was born June 19, 1884 in Rutherford County, North Carolina, and died March 25, 1942 at Lexington, North Carolina. He is buried near Mocksville, where many of his descendants now live. Grover married Sara Pack and they had two children (fifteenth generation): (1) Vivian Bland married P. O. Hargett, and by him had three children. (2) Cecil W. Bland Sr. was born August 12, 1912. The date of his death is uncertain.

but he married Bertha Mae Kepley on August 16, 1934, and had with her two children (sixteenth generation), Sarah Jane Bland and Cecil W. Bland Junior.

The second child of James Cansler Bland and Clementine Jolley was Bessie Bland, who was born May 15, 1887 and died May 18, 1969. Bessie was engaged to be married, but marriage would have meant moving away from her mother, who was seriously ill at the time. Bessie broke the engagement and never married. Bessie attended the Boiling Spring School, now Gardner Webb College. She is buried at the Pine Hill Cemetery in Burlington, North Carolina.

The third child of James Cansler Bland and Clementine Jolley was Vernon Beverly Bland, who was born June 7, 1890 and died June 13, 1963. Vernon was a supervisor for a loom company and traveled widely during his younger years. He married Lela Mae Parker on September 10, 1923. Following Vernon's death, Lela remarried at age 72, to Leath Massey on August 16, 1975. Vernon Bland and Lela Parker had three children (fifteenth generation):

1) Owen Thomas Bland was born May 1, 1926. Owen served during both World War II and the Korean Conflict as a Navy man, and is currently employed by Western Electric near Burlington. He married "Billie" Clifton, by whom there are no children.

2) Betty Lou Bland was born February 4, 1930, and married Lester Tripp, by whom she had three daughters: Linda, Norma and Sandra. Betty Lou operates a rest home.

3) Joe Douglas Bland was born November 19, 1933. He served in the U.S. Air Force and is presently a letter carrier for the Mebane, North Carolina Post Office. He married Patricia Ann Andrews on June 2, 1971, but they have no children.

The fifth and final child of James Cansler Bland and Clementine Jolley was Effie Kate Bland, who was born June 29, 1896 and died November 29, 1978. She is buried at the Pine Hill Cemetery in Burlington, North Carolina. Effie Kate so detested her name that she had it changed to Mayme Kathleen, and she was known to the family as "Mamie." She was remembered by those who knew her, as a unique woman who was a voracious reader and crossword puzzle freak, who had an enormous vocabulary. Some pictures that survive of her in her younger years portray a pert, petite blonde who is always posed in the picture. She had many suitors and once became engaged, but got away from him, and never married.

The third child of Thomas R. Bland and Patsy Rollins was Berry Elsey Bland (thirteenth generation) who was born on June 5, 1856 and died suddenly of a heart attack on May 3, 1917. Berry Elsey Bland was the great grandfather of this writer. On December 26, 1875, Berry Elsey Bland married Martha Greene, of Rutherford County, North Carolina. Martha was born July 26, 1849 and died February 10, 1935. They had a family of seven children (fourteenth generation), including:

Thomas Bunyan Bland, who was born October 20, 1876, and died March 25, 1955. Bunyan, as his children, friends and grandchildren knew him, married Margaret Delena Kirby on May 20, 1899. Margaret Kirby was born December 12, 1883, and died November 12, 1958. Bunyan and Margaret had a family of ten children, including notably their youngest child and son, Bruce Steven Bland, who was born June 27, 1922, and is still living. Bruce Steven Bland (fifteenth generation) married Frances Faries (born December 29, 1922) on June 30, 1939, and

they had one child, a son, Charles Lewis Bland, born July 7, 1940 (sixteenth generation, and author of this book). On August 2, 1975, I married Mary Jane Migliore, daughter of Joseph and Concetta Migliore, in Buffalo, New York, and from this union there have been two seventeenth generation children: Christina Louise Bland, born April 7, 1978; and Thomas Eliot Bland, born March 6, 1981. The other children of Thomas Bunyan Bland and Margaret Delena Kirby were: Hestine Bland (1901- ); Wilma Lorena Bland (1902-1977); Paul Bland (1905-1905); Thomas Bunyan Bland Jr. (1906-1971); Grace Truman Bland (1909- ); Berry Jewel Bland (1912-1973); Virginia Viril Bland (1914- ); John Carroll Bland (1916-1935); and Sarah Evelyn Bland (1919- ).

The six remaining children (fourteenth generation) of Berry Elsey Bland and Martha Greene were: James Coran Bland, who was born July 2, 1879, and died in Rutherford County, North Carolina, May 8, 1908. Coran never married. Eva Bland was born October 4, 1881, and died November 2, 1962. She was married to John Childers on September 3 1899. Silas Pinkney Bland was born April 23, 1883, and died January 6, 1958. Silas married three women, including Lula Belle Callahan (1886-1909) about 1905; Rose Rayburn, about 1917; and following their divorce, Rose Younger, about 1930. Hester Agnes Bland was born September 1, 1884, and is still living. She married John Murray (1891-1977) on October 12, 1919. Furman Alonzo Bland was born April 17, 1886, and died March 18, 1948 in Nashville, Tennessee. Furman married first Dora Hawkins (1884-1971) on March 18, 1904, but they were divorced in the early 1930's, whereupon Furman married

TABLE XXXIX

THE FAMILY OF BERRY ELSEY BLAND OF RUTHERFORD COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA: SEVEN GENERATIONS

(8)	Robert Bland (c.1703-1760)	Jane _____, about 1729.
(9)	Robert Bland (1733-1787)	Ann _____ in 1757.
(10)	Wormley Bland (1771-1800)	Sarah Turner (1770-1847), about 1790.
(11)	William Bland (1792-1868)	(1) Caroline _____, about 1812. (2) Vianah Padgett in 1847.
(12)	Thomas R. Bland (1829-1904)	Patsy Rollins (1828-1913) in 1849.
(13)	Berry Elsey Bland (1856-1917)	Martha Greene (1849-1935) in 1875.
(14-1)	Thomas Bunyan Bland (1876-1955), married Margaret Delena Kirby (1883-1958) in 1899.	(14-2) James Coran Bland (1879-1908), never married.
(14-5)	Hester Agnes Bland, married John Murray in 1919.	(14-3) Eva Bland (1881-1962) married John Childers in 1899.
(14-5)		(14-4) Silas Pinkney Bland (1883-1958) married (1) Lula Callahan about 1905; (2) Rose Rayburn in 1910; and (3) Rose Younger.
(14-5)		(14-6) Furman Alonzo Bland (1886-1948), married Dora Hawkins (1884-1971) in 1904.
(14-5)		(14-7) Printine Lenore Bland (1888-1889).

542B

Top: Berry Elsey Bland (1856-1917), son of Thomas R. Bland and Patsy Rollins, and his wife Martha Greene Bland (1849-1935). Berry is holding Silas Pinkney Bland (1883-1958) and Martha is holding Hester Agnes Bland (1884-1983). Below - left, Berry Elsey Bland with sons, left Furman Alonzo Bland (1886-1948) and Silas Pinkney Bland; Below - right, Martha Greene Bland. Photos that appear on pp. 542B-K, courtesy Billie Clifton Bland, Charles L. Bland, Margaret Bland Magliocco and Virginia Bland Long.



542C

Thomas Bunyan Bland (1876-1955), son of Berry Elsey Bland and Martha Greene, and his wife Margaret Delena Kirby Bland (1883-1958).





542D

Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary of Thomas Bunyan Bland and Margaret Delena Kirby Bland, 1949 with living children. Seated L-R, Hestine Bland Potts (1901-1984); Thomas Bunyan Bland; Margaret Delena Kirby Bland; Wilma Lorena Bland (1902-1977); Standing L-R, Bruse Steven Bland (1922-1984); Grace Bland Shurley (1909- ); Berry Jewel Bland, (1912-1973); Thomas Bunyan Bland Jr. (1906-1971); Virginia Viril Bland Long (1914- ); Sarah Evelyn Bland (1919- ).



542E

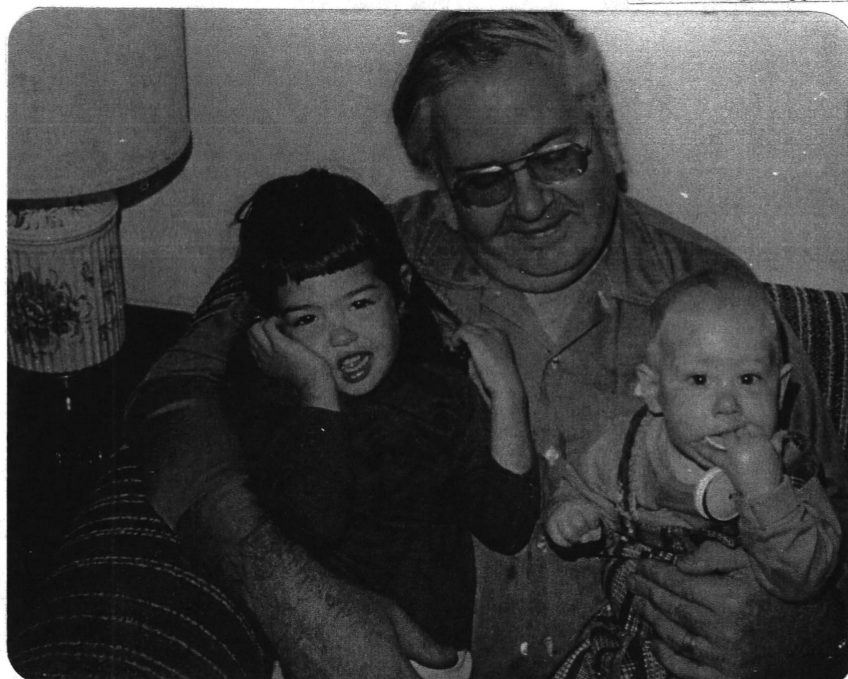
John Carroll Bland (1916-1935) son of Thomas Bunyan Bland and Margaret Delena Kirby Bland.



542F

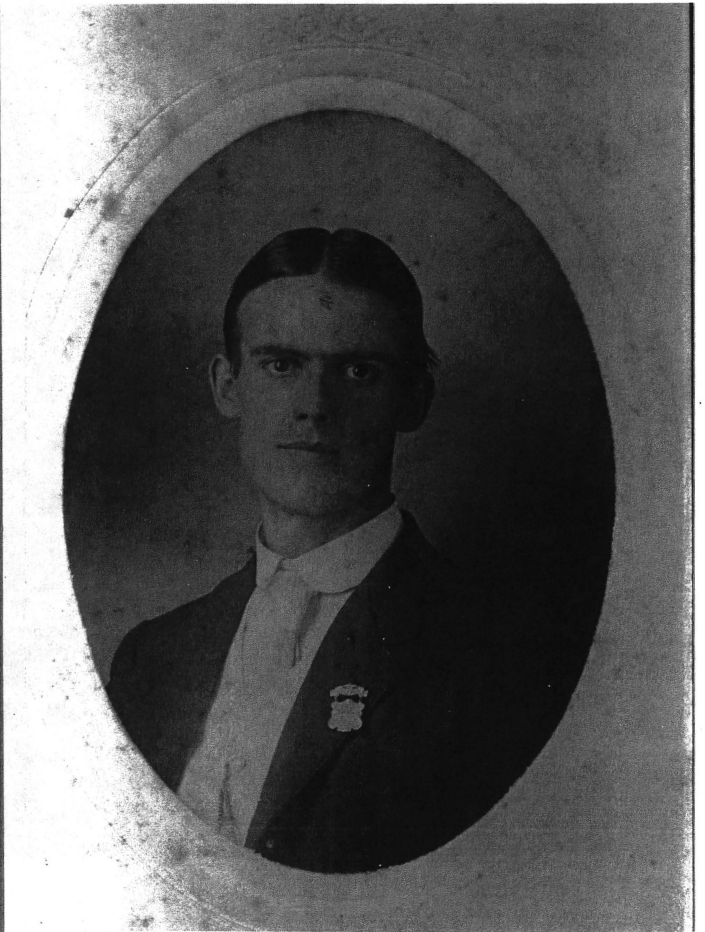
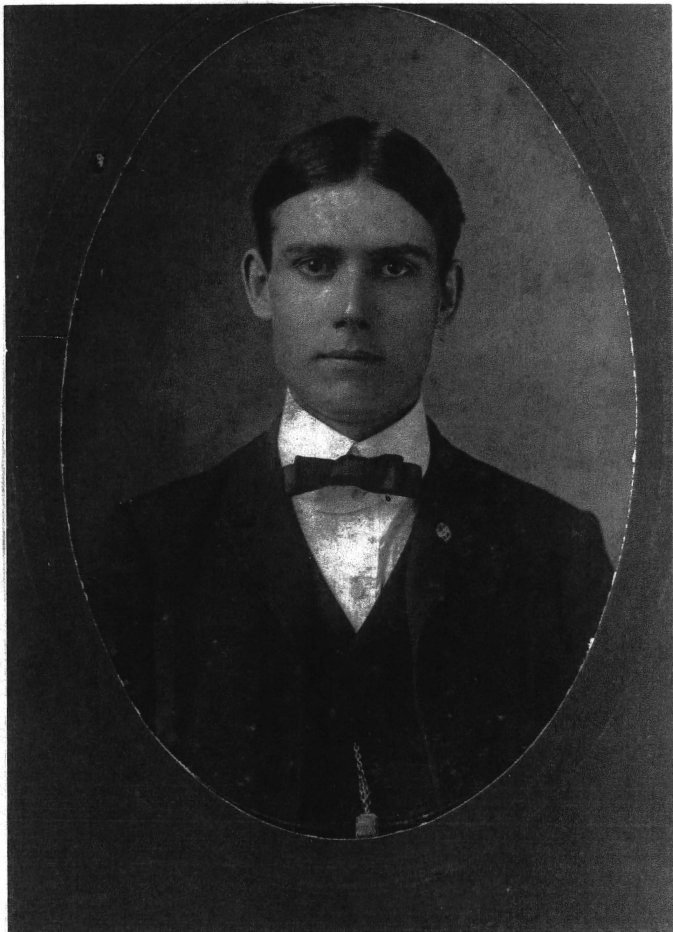
Top: Bruce S. Bland (1922-1984), son of Thomas Bunyan Bland and Margaret Delena Kirby Bland, and his first wife Frances Irene Faries (1922- ), parents of Charles L. Bland. This photo was made C. 1943.

Below: Charles L. Bland, (1940- ) author of A Vision of Unity and Editor of "Among Cousins: The Bland Family Newsletter" with children Christina Louise Bland (1978- ) and Thomas Eliot Bland. Christina and Tommy are children of the marriage between Charles L. Bland and Mary Jane Migliore. This photo was made in 1982.



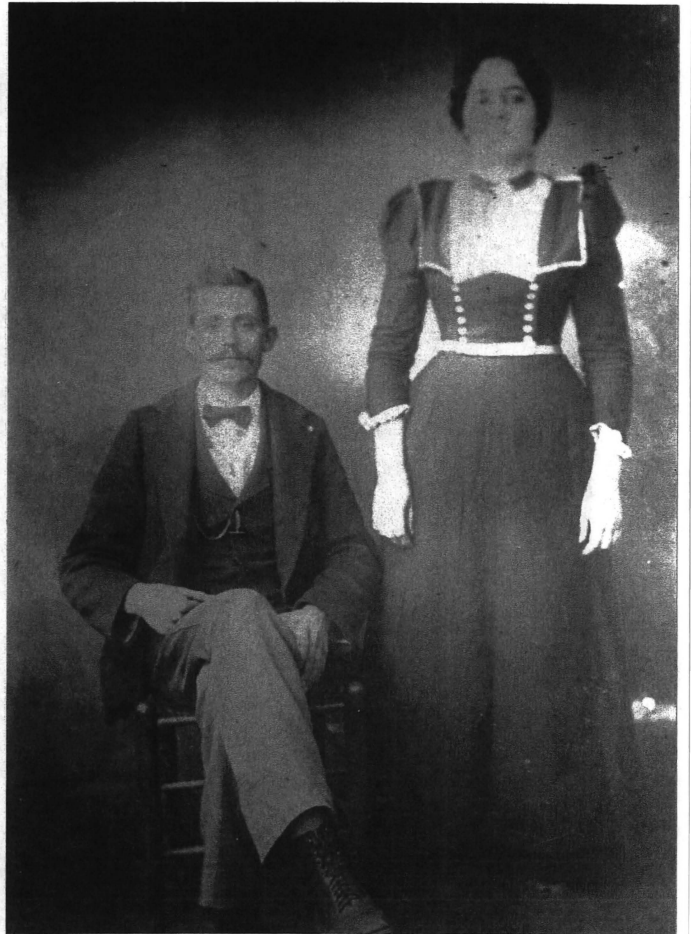
5426

James Coran Bland (1879-1908), son of Berry Elsey Bland and Martha Greene.



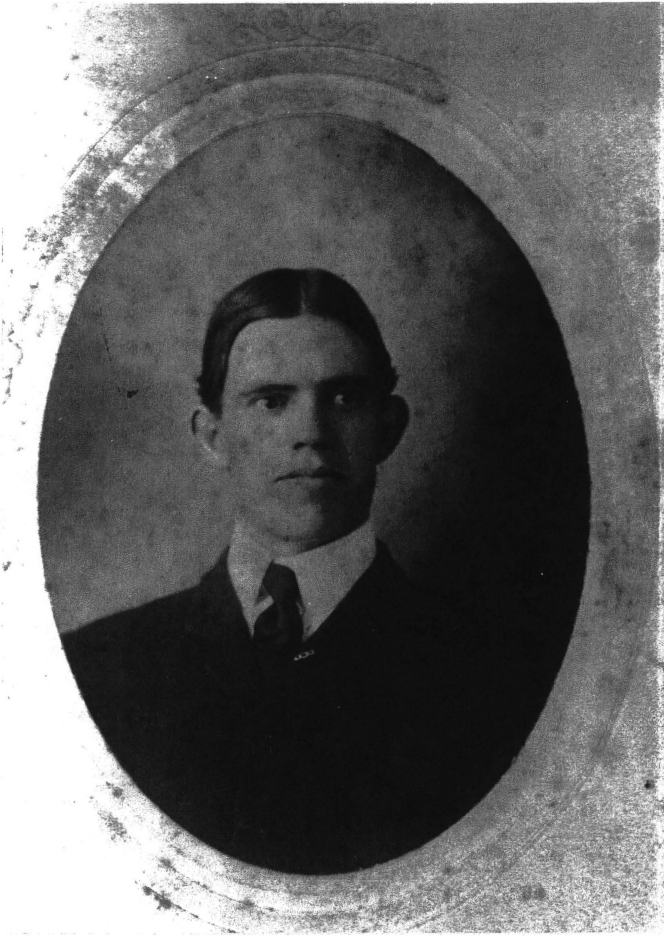
542H

Eva Bland Childers, (1881-1962), daughter of Berry Elsey Bland and Martha Greene Bland: Left, with Dora Hawkins Bland (1883-1971); Right with Berry Elsey Bland.



542I

Silas Pinkney Bland (1883-1958), son of Berry Elsey Bland and Martha Greene.



542J

The three wives of Silas Pinkney Bland: Clockwise: With Lula Belle Callahan (1886-1909) and their son James Bland (1909-1934); With Rose Rayburn and their son Silas Pinkney Bland Jr.; With Rose Younger.



542K

Furman Alonso Bland (1886-1948), son of Berry Elsey Bland and Martha Greene: Left, with Daughter Ruth Bland; son Clarence "Happy" Bland (1909-1981) and his first wife Dora Hawkins (1883-1971), about 1915; Right, with Dora Hawkins, Thomas Bunyan Bland and Margaret Delena Kirby Bland, about 1930.







Julia \_\_\_\_\_, from Nashville, Tennessee, and lived with her for the balance of his years. Printine Lenore Bland was born February 28, 1888, and died May 28, 1889. This concludes discussion of the family of Berry Elsey Bland and Martha Greene Bland (Table XXXVIII, page 542A, and photos, pages 542B-J, which pertain to this family).<sup>1</sup>

The fourth child of Thomas Bland and Patsy Rollins was Leonard C. Bland, who was born July 2, 1858, and died March 7, 1902. Leonard married Alice Scoggins (1865- ) on November 29, 1881. Possibly Alice Scoggins, born in 1865, was a sister of Matilda Scoggins, wife of Noah Jonas Bland, who was born in 1863. Leonard C. Bland and Alice Scoggins had eight children (fourteenth generation). Corrie Bland was born in 1883, and died December 20, 1970. Minnie Bland's birthdate and date of death are unknown. Horace Bland was born July 4, 1890 and died August 1, 1891.

Rucker Bland, for whom there are no dates, is interesting enough to pause with. He married Minerva Cantrell on January 30, 1909, and she bore him nine children. Rucker, in an old photograph, appears as a short, roly poly, somewhat ungainly figure. Wearing a derby with a cigar chomped between his teeth, he looks like an Amos and Andy character done up in whiteface. "Cousin Rucker," as my family knew him, was by reputation somewhat wild, and a lover of the creature comforts. He was possessed of an epicurean nature that guaranteed him an interesting life, and would have comforted him in his dotage, had he lived that long. Rucker was another one of those hardy souls who struck out from Rutherford County, ending up in Canada, leaving

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<sup>1</sup> Information about the Berry Elsey Bland-Martha Greene family is noted in Margaret Bland Magliocco's The Bland Family of Rutherford County, North Carolina (1978).

behind wife and children, whom he loved so much, however, that he returned to Rutherford County during the dead of night, spirited in by his cousins, to visit Minerva and his children. By and by, Cousin Rucker died and was returned to Rutherford County on a train, accompanied by a dear friend who had associated with him in his work and saw to it that his corpse was unloaded at the station. His wife Minerva, who was waiting, took his body off the train, which bore the friend off into the night, never to be seen again.

The fifth child of Leonard C. Bland (thirteenth generation) and Alice Scoggins was Annie Bland. Her dates are uncertain, but probably she was born about 1893 or 1894.

The sixth child of Leonard C. Bland and Alice Scoggins was Robert Chatman Bland, who was born June 1, 1896 and died in 1968.

The eighth and final child of Thomas R. Bland (twelfth generation) and Patsy Rollins was Martha Catherine Bland, known to her nieces and nephews as "Aunt Mattie." Mattie was born December 31, 1873 and died at Hamlet, North Carolina on October 13, 1952. She is the daughter who had just been born when the first child of Thomas R. Bland and Patsy Rollins, Nancy Caroline (1850-1874) died in childbirth. Aunt Mattie married Robert Freeman (1872-1924) on December 22, 1897, and by him had four children.

This concludes the study of the fourth son of James Bland (seventh generation), Robert Bland (C.1703-1760), his family and his descendants as known to this author.

544A

Top: Leonard C. Bland (1858-1902), son of Thomas R. Bland and Patsy Rollins, and his wife Alice Scoggins Bland, (1865- ), courtesy of Lamar Robert Bland; Below: Martha Catherine "Aunt Mattie" Bland (1873-1952), daughter of Thomas R. Bland and Patsy Rollins, Courtesy of Margaret Bland Magliocco.

