

## CHAPTER VIII

THE FAMILY OF WILLIAM BLAND: EIGHTH GENERATIONThe Founder

William Bland (eighth generation), eldest son of James Bland of Stafford County,<sup>1</sup> first appeared on the records in Maryland, where on February 8, 1709/1710, he affirmed the accuracy of a statement made by his father, as administrator of the account of Robert Woodward in St. Mary's County, Maryland.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The following four chapters are devoted to the descendants of James Bland's sons, William, James, John and Robert, in that order. Very little is known of James Bland's four daughters. One of them, Ellen, married William Davis, a business associate of William and James Bland (eighth generation). In a fragmentary draft provided me by Mr. Leslie Dawson, he notes that: "In 1756, William Davis died in Prince William County, leaving a will which has been lost, naming his wife, Ellen Bland Davis, and their son, Isaac Davis, as executors. In addition to their son Isaac, William and Ellen Bland Davis had sons, William and Joshua. It is not known if they also had daughters." Mr. Dawson cites as his authority, Prince William County Order Book, 1755, p. 220. Mr. Dawson descends from the Bland family by this marriage of Ellen Bland and William Davis. Information supplied by Mrs. Graham (Castelloe Bland) Denton, of Charlotte, N.C., indicates that there was a Patience Bland, who about 1753 married John Smith, of Somerset County, Maryland, and that they later lived in Prince William County, Virginia, where a child Joshua Smith was born about 1760. The sheet supplied by Mrs. Denton does not cite the source of the information except to say that it came from Maryland archives. If true, this Patience might very likely be a daughter of one of the four sons of James Bland who died in 1708.

<sup>2</sup> UMB-I, p. 41, citing William Asquith, Dep, "Com Y" Inventorys and Accounts, Lib 31, Folio 37-38.

William Bland was born about 1686,<sup>1</sup> and probably died in 1744.<sup>2</sup> The reader will recall that in his 1708 will, James Bland left 150 acres of land to William, calling him "my eldest son," and leaving 200 acres to his wife Margaret, and 125 acres each to James and John. William and his brother James appear to have been very close in age and in business, as well as personally. They also had a close relative, Francis Stone, who figures in this story. There are many extant transactions that document the lives of William and James, and also document the growth of their personal estates. It is probable, I believe, that as elder brothers, William, and to some extent, James, controlled the family's assets, a fact that may have influenced the migration of many of their own children as well as the children of their younger brothers to North Carolina, South Carolina and Kentucky.

By 1722, William Bland was well established as a landowner on the Occoquan in old Stafford County, and much of the land he had accumulated was in Hamilton Parish, which included what later would become Dettingen Parish.<sup>3</sup> William was a middle-class farmer of comfortable estate. He

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<sup>1</sup> William's birthdate is cited in UMB-1, p. 57, and elsewhere. Miss Bland cites a response to Query 9758 in The Genealogical Helper, October 1969. The respondent was Mrs. Lee R. Herrington, of Westfield, New Jersey who estimated William's age at 1686. Since he was the eldest of two adult brothers named in his father's will of 1708, he could not have been born later than 1686. Most likely he was born before that date.

<sup>2</sup> Dettingen Parish Vestry Book, October 14, 1745, assigns 33 pounds of tobacco to a son of William Bland for "2 leaves overcharged last year," suggesting that William Bland must have died in 1744.

<sup>3</sup> Federal Writer's Project, Prince William County, Virginia. The Story of Its Places and Its People (1941), p. 26. Cf. UMB I, p. 60, citing George H.S. King, Marriages of Richmond County, Virginia (1964).

and his brother James also became part-owners in a mining business. He was prosperous and well off, but lacked the investment capital<sup>1</sup> that stood behind the James River Bland family during its settlement period.

In 1710 and 1712 William, along with his brother James and their neighbor and in-law, Francis Stone, acquired 354 and 257 acres of land at Cock Pit Point Neck, near Powells Creek, on both sides of the Occoquan River.<sup>2</sup> In 1735, William and James made a legal adjustment of boundaries concerning the 1712 purchase, which evidently resulted in no loss for either William or James.<sup>3</sup> Assuming equal division of the property, William and James would have gained one-third or some 204 acres each in the transaction. William added 295 acres on June 6, 1717, also on both sides of the Occoquan, and probably close to the 1710-1712 purchases.<sup>4</sup> In 1718, William and James Bland and Francis Stone acquired an additional 360 acres, at an unspecified location. In a subsequent deed to John Linton, dated 1727, James Bland stated that the property had been divided three ways, suggesting 120 acres each between the three parties. Subsequently, James Bland removed himself from ownership in this transaction, apparently transferring his share

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<sup>1</sup> This would be especially true if, as assumed by Urilla Bland and this writer, Thomas Bland of Maryland was William Bland's grandfather. As discussed in Chapter VI, Thomas appears to have been alienated from James Bland, and besides, his extremely hard fortunes during his latter years in Maryland probably left him with little to pass on to children and grandchildren.

<sup>2</sup> Northern Neck Virginia, Deed Book 4, pp. 48, 50; and Prince William County Deed Book B, p. 493.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Northern Neck Virginia Deed Book A, p. 203.

of the land to Stone.<sup>1</sup> Also, between 1722 and 1726, James and William gained an additional 72 acres between them in the area of Stafford County that became Prince William, probably in Hamilton Parish.

During 1725-1726, William Bland and William Davis, a brother-in-law,<sup>2</sup> gained an additional 571 acres, 376 located on the main run of the Occoquan, on a site called Cooper's Cabin Branch,<sup>3</sup> and 195 on the north side of the Occoquan adjoining lands held by the Bland brothers and Francis Stone.<sup>4</sup> Logically, William would have received about 285 acres of this land, but it was not added to his total land possession because he later gave the land to his brother-in-law, James Key, and Key's wife Mary, "for love."<sup>5</sup>

In a transaction dated July 11, 1727, William Bland acquired 300 acres on both sides of the Occoquan near his previous acquisitions.<sup>6</sup> With the precaution that the land records available do not reflect the

<sup>1</sup> Information taken from a list of deed summaries supplied the author by Albert Hunter, State College, Pennsylvania. The 1718, 1727 transactions may relate to a division of land between the two Blands and Stone in 1724, near land owned by the two Bland brothers' father James, seventh generation. Stafford County Deed Book, 1722-1728, pp. 144 and 146.

<sup>2</sup> See p. 267, note 1.

<sup>3</sup> Stafford County Deed Book A, p. 203.

<sup>4</sup> Stafford County Deed Book B, p. 7.

<sup>5</sup> UMB-1, pp. 60-61, citing King, Marriages of Richmond County, Virginia no page number cited. William Bland was a brother-in-law of James Key, through his marriage to Catherine Key.

<sup>6</sup> UMB-1, pp. 59-60, citing Northern Neck Deed Book B, pp. 88, 89. Cf information sent the author by Albert Hunter, which indicates that William received only 166 acres in 1727, due to a clerical error that was not corrected until 1739.

true extent of transactions in the Northern Neck area, and assuming equal division of the joint transactions between the Bland brothers and Francis Stone, it would appear that William Bland, between 1708 and 1727, had accumulated approximately 1,246 acres.

On September 16, 1730, William and James Bland acquired 570 acres on the Occoquan. In 1739, James Bland made a declaration at the Prince William Court, clarifying an erroneous recording and requesting that the entire 570 acres, which were located near Champs Mill Branch, be renewed in the name of William Bland.<sup>1</sup> The final known land transaction involving William Bland was a deed to him of 312 acres at an unspecified place in Prince William County in 1742.<sup>2</sup> This would bring William's lifetime land acquisition to about 2,128 acres, about one-third the size of the estate of Richard Bland, of Prince George County (1665-1720) when he died.<sup>3</sup>

Various other traces show that William was interested in county politics and also that he was a businessman of sorts. In 1736, William Bland and Burr Harrison supported Thomas Osborne (a relation by Osborne's daughter's marriage to John Bland (ninth generation)) in a contested county election.<sup>4</sup> In 1741, all four of the Bland brothers, William,

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<sup>1</sup> UMB-1, p. 60, citing Virginia Land Grants, Book C, p. 72, and Book E, p. 54.

<sup>2</sup> "Blands in Virginia," entry for November 30, 1742, and Virginia Calendar of State Papers, Vol. 1, p. 137. A later document, Prince William County Deed Book T, March 27, 1776, pp. 48, 235, shows John Bland (ninth generation, son of John Bland, C.1688-1762), deeding 100 acres of the 312 total in the 1742 transaction, to his son Osborne. This is often cited, along with a John, Junior's absence in the will of John Bland (eighth generation) as presumptive evidence that John Bland (ninth generation) was a son of William Bland (C.1686-1744). Contrary evidence indicates that John Bland may have been the father of John Bland (ninth generation) who married Margaret Osborne, and the grandfather of Osborne Bland (tenth generation). These matters will be discussed in Chapter X, pp. 420-425.

<sup>3</sup> See Chapter V, pp. 141-143.

James, John and Robert, were voters for the Prince William seats on the House of Burgesses.<sup>1</sup> On the business side, in 1732 William and James Bland, along with Lewis and Thomas Reno and James French, combined with John Creel to form an enterprise for mining copper, tin, lead, iron and metals. The first five parties paid Creel to survey land in Prince William County. When William died, his place was taken by his sons James and Moses Bland. By 1752, the business had gone sour and the Renos sued the Blands. In 1754, the suit was dismissed and the Renos were forced to pay court costs.<sup>2</sup>

Other records show that in 1740, William Bland served as surety in the inventory of the estate of his old friend and relative, Francis Stone, and as surety for the will of David Dodson.<sup>3</sup>

William Bland married Catherine Key on February 6, 1716/1717. Urilla Bland estimates that Catherine was born in 1694, but the date of her death is unknown.<sup>4</sup> Catherine was the daughter of James and Mary Pannill Key, of Richmond County, Virginia. James Key died in 1698, and Mary Pannill Key remarried to one Francis Stone in 1700, who had two

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<sup>1</sup> Dawson notes, citing Boogher. William G. and Mary Newton Stanard, The Colonial Virginia Register (1965), p. 115.

<sup>2</sup> "Blands in Virginia," entries for 1732, 1752-1753, and 1754.

<sup>3</sup> Dorman, Prince William Wills, 1734-1744, pp. 57-58, 91-92.

<sup>4</sup> UMB-I, p. 58, and UMB-II, p. 1. Urilla Bland refers to her as Catherine Kay, rather than Key. Inasmuch as Catherine's parents were Keys, I will, for the sake of narrative simplicity, refer to her that way. Cf. Urilla Bland to Charles Bland, letter undated, but about August 15, 1981.

sons. One son was Francis Stone, who was born in 1681 and died in 1740. As indicated above, this younger Francis Stone was deeply involved in land transactions with William and James Bland. Thus, Francis Stone, the younger, was a half-brother of William Bland's wife, Catherine Key, and they were technically brothers-in-law. Francis Stone married Esther \_\_\_\_\_ who, after his death, married George Colvert.<sup>1</sup>

One of the chief researchers for William Bland and his descendants was Mr. Milton Wilson (1886-1956), of Bartow, Florida, who traced his descent through William's eldest son, James.<sup>2</sup> Mr. Wilson believed that William Bland had three verified sons: James, Moses and Thomas, and possibly a fourth named William.<sup>3</sup> The respondent to the 1969 query about William's family identified four sons: James, Moses, Thomas, and John.<sup>4</sup> Thus, three sons are generally agreed upon, and a fourth and fifth, William and John, are surmised.<sup>5</sup> No daughters are mentioned. Since Catherine was supposedly born in 1694, however, it seems unlikely that she would have stopped childbirth after three or four sons, so

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<sup>1</sup> One should note that several of William Bland's descendants in the late 18th, early 19th century, were named Francis, possibly in tribute to Francis Stone, who was very close to the Bland family.

<sup>2</sup> For a brief essay on Milton Wilson, see William Alderman Parker, The Aldermans in America (1957), pp. 328-329. Hereafter, this source will be referred to as Parker.

<sup>3</sup> Wilson, p. 283.

<sup>4</sup> UMB-1, pp. 57-58. Cf. Query 9758, Genealogical Helper, October 17, 1969, and response.

<sup>5</sup> See discussion about John Bland, p. 271, note 2.

there must have been other children, daughters whose identity was obscured by marriage, or children of both sexes who died young.<sup>1</sup>

In estimating the ages of the identified sons, it is important to note that Moses was identified as an executor in his father's estate.<sup>2</sup> Wilson and others believed, correctly I think, that William's eldest son James was the co-executor of his father's estate, with Moses.<sup>3</sup>

This leads to a further observation that James Bland and Moses Bland (ninth generation) must have been the eldest of William Bland's sons. These facts in turn would indicate that Moses Bland was the first child in William Bland's marriage to Catherine Key, but that James Bland was born to William in an antecedent marriage, to a woman whose identity is unknown.

Although Bland researchers owe Milton Wilson a great debt of gratitude for the thoroughness of his work, I believe his work is incorrect at this point. Wilson knew that William Bland married into the "Key" family. Had he known that William married Catherine in 1716/1717, however, he could have quickly ascertained that James Bland (ninth generation) who moved to New Hanover County, North Carolina, could not have been Catherine's son. He would have known this from the fact that at least two of the eleventh generation grandchildren of James Bland (ninth generation) had to be aged at least twenty-one in 1775, when James'

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<sup>1</sup> The lack of knowledge about William's family illustrates a key point in reading the next several chapters. The names James, William, John, Robert and Thomas were favorite names for the Stafford County family. They were passed on from generation to generation, and became prolific. In many cases, the writer about this family must assign actions and events to names according to what logic dictates, remaining uncertain whether he is in fact accurate. It is truly a humbling experience to attempt to weave a whole out of such fragmentary evidence.

<sup>2</sup> Moses' status as William's executor is borne out by several documents summarized in a paper entitled "Blands in Virginia," provided the author by Albert S. Hunter.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid. Citing Cf. Prince William Deed Book I, July 24, 1761, p. 86,



TABLE XVII

THE FAMILY OF WILLIAM BLAND OF STAFFORD-PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY,  
VIRGINIA: FOUR GENERATIONS

(6) Thomas Bland (C. 1634-1700)	=	(1) _____ about 1654 (2) <u>Damaris</u> Wyatt, in 1674
(7) James Bland (C. 1655-1708)	=	(1) _____ (2) <u>Margaret</u> _____
(8) William Bland (C. 1686-1744)	=	(1) _____ (2) <u>Catherine</u> Key, February 6, 1716/1717

By William's First Marriage:

(9-1)

James Bland (C. 1707-1774),  
married Mary Buchanan

By William's Marriage to Catherine Key:\*

(9-2)

Moses Bland (C. 1718-1799),  
married Jane Wiggonton

(9-3)

Thomas Bland (C. 1719-1788),  
married Jane \_\_\_\_\_ Smith

----- Assumed.

\* James, Moses and Thomas are the proven sons of William Bland (eighth generation). There is an unresolved dispute among genealogists of the family about whether John Bland (ninth generation), born about 1725 in Stafford County, Virginia, and who died in Nelson County, Kentucky in 1795, was the son of William Bland, or of his brother John Bland (C. 1688-1762). The family of John Bland (C. 1725-1795) and the issues about the dispute over his parentage are discussed in Chapter X. It has also been suggested by some genealogists that William Bland (eighth generation) and Catherine Key had a son named William. He might also have had a son Richard.





KEY TO BLAND LAND PURCHASES: STAFFORD/PRINCE  
WILLIAM COUNTY VIRGINIA: 1710-1742

Courtesy Robert Bland, Boston Massachusetts  
BUYERS

SITE#	YEAR OF SALE	SIZE	LOCATION	BUYERS
1	1701	600	MOUTH POWELLS CR, SOUTH (SOLD 1774* BY DAVID 10 TO WILLIAM SAVAGE)	JAMES (7)
2	1710	354	BOTH SIDES OCCOQUAN	Wm 8, JAS 8, FRANCIS S
3	8/13/1711	257	COCK PIT POINT NECK (SOLD 1788 AS EST. 240 ACRES, BY DAVID 10)	Wm 8 JAS 8 FRANCIS
4	1717	295	BOTH SIDES OCCOQUAN	WILLIAM 8
5	1718	360	UNSPEC. (MAY BE THE 357 IN FAUQUIER SOLD BY WM 9 IN 1761)	Wm 8, JAS 8, FRANCIS
6	1722	72	UNSPEC., P. W.	Wm 8, JAS 8
7	1725	376	COOPER'S CABIN BR @ OCCOQ. (LATER GIVEN TO JAMES KEY)	Wm 8, WILLIAM DAVIS
8	1726	195	N. SIDE OCCQ, ADJ. PREVIOUS PCHS. (LATER GIVEN TO JAMES KEY)	Wm 8, WILLIAM DAVIS
9	1727	300	BOTH SIDES OCCOQ., PRESMD NEAR	WILLIAM 8
10	1730	570	CHAMPS MILL BR. @ OCCQ. (SOLD 1761 BY JAMES 9 TO JAMES INGO)	Wm 8, (JAS 8)
11	1742	312	CROOKED BRANCH, ADJ. PREVIOUS (PERHAPS THE LAND NEAR DAVIS FORD SOLD BY DAVID 10 1796)	Wm 8
12	?	448	BOTH SIDES, MIDDLE FK PWILLS (SOLD 1792 TO SAMUEL BYNE)	LEFT BY THOS (9) TO THOS
	?	357	FAUQUIER CO. THIS MAY BE EQUIVALENT TO #5, FAQ. HAVING BEEN FORMED IN INTER	1761 SOLD BY JAS 9 TO RBT SCO
	?	201	P. W., possibly part of above #2, 4, 9	
	?	300	"HEAD OF POWELLS BR."	WILLIAM (10) TO WILLIAM 1775
	?	?	JAS 9's 1766 WILL IMPLIES SOME MINOR VA. HOLDINGS OUTSIDE P.	
13	?	130	ON POWELLS RUN, ADJ. TO #12? (SOLD TO JANE KEMPE 1788)	LEFT BY THOS 9 TO JAS

son William (tenth generation) made his will.<sup>1</sup> If James (ninth generation) had been the natural son of Catherine Key, he could have been born no earlier than late in 1717. Thus, three generations (nine through eleven) would have had to be compressed into a chronological span of some 37 years, which is impossible. My hunch, and I stress that at this writing it remains that, is that William Bland (eighth generation) was married at a fairly early age, probably by 1706. His first wife's identity remains unknown. By this theory, James Bland (ninth generation) would have been born about 1707. The other two proven children of William Bland were by his marriage to Catherine Key. They were Moses and Thomas, born, as will be shown about 1718 and 1719 respectively.<sup>2</sup>

James Bland of New Hanover County, North Carolina  
(Ninth Generation)

If the calculations of the past few pages are correct, then James Bland (ninth generation) was the eldest child of William Bland by a marriage that was antecedent to William's marriage to Catherine Key. James was born about 1707 in Stafford County, Virginia, and died in

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<sup>1</sup> Two eleventh generation children of William Bland (tenth generation) who died in 1775, served as his executors. Thus, they had to have been born by 1754. Cf. subsequent discussion.

<sup>2</sup> This concern has been discussed with Urilla Bland, and Albert and Mildred Hunter, who come to basically the same conclusion as my own about Wilson's work. It should also be noted that it would have been a very logical extension of applicable British custom regarding primogeniture and entails for William, the older son of James Bland (seventh generation) to have married young rather than waiting until he was past thirty.

New Hanover County, North Carolina, probably about 1774.<sup>1</sup> In his study of the Bland family in New Hanover and Duplin Counties, Milton Wilson asserted that James Bland came to New Hanover County sometime between 1757-1760.<sup>2</sup> How Mr. Wilson decided upon these dates for James' migration does not appear. Possibly, the dates followed from the assumption made by Wilson that in acting as executor for his father's estate, where James' name was involved in litigation up to at least 1754, James was necessarily in Prince William County, Virginia. First, however, it is by no means certain that James had to be physically present. A 1754 entry in the matter of the Renos vs. the Blands, for example, shows the court of Prince William ordering a dedimus to examine James Bland, the elder, and his wife, about the character of "James Jr." and Moses Bland, joint executors of William Bland.<sup>3</sup> This would suggest to me that James was absent from Prince William County at the time. I believe that Mr. Wilson's estimate should be pushed backward in time to at least October 7, 1747, when Maguess Cowan, of New Hanover County, North Carolina, sold 200 acres on the Black River to James Bland.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> James may have lived in New Hanover or Duplin, whose boundaries were delineated in a series of boundary moves along the Black River, Rock Fish Creek area, where James Bland had property. His will was probated in 1774 in New Hanover County. He is clearly identified in various legal transactions as late as 1771, suggesting that his death shortly preceded probate of his will.

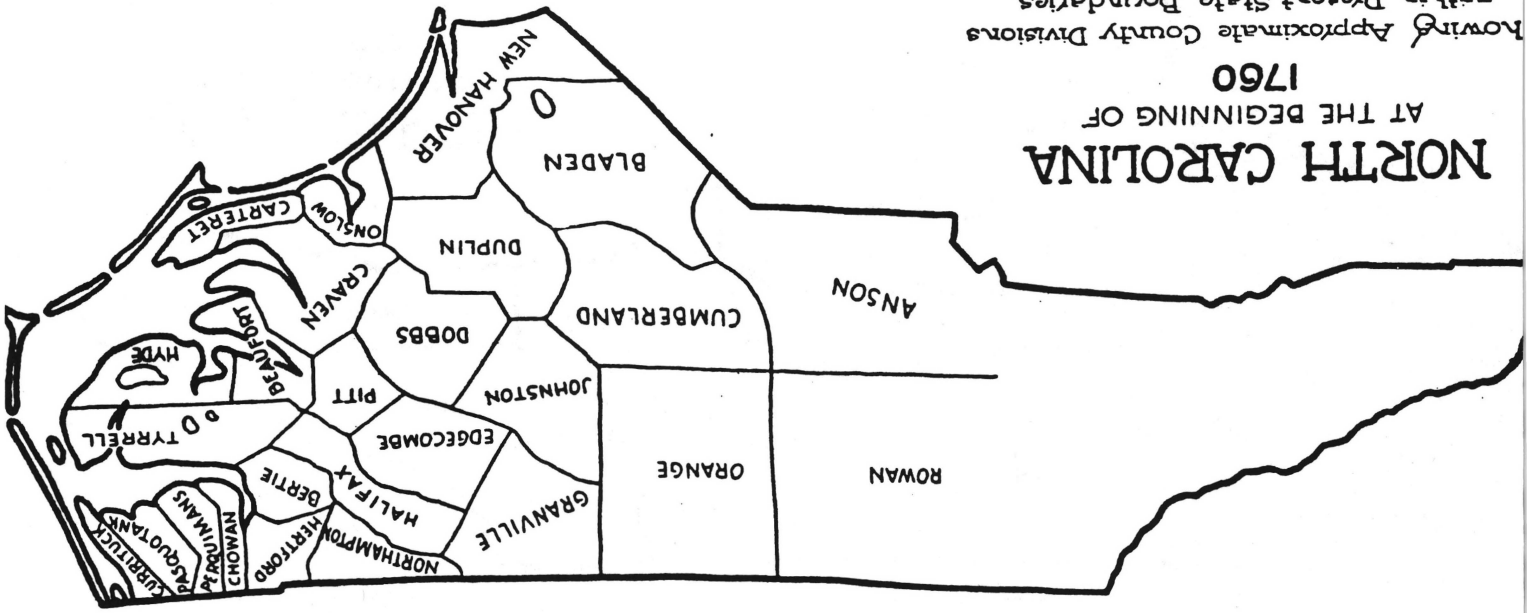
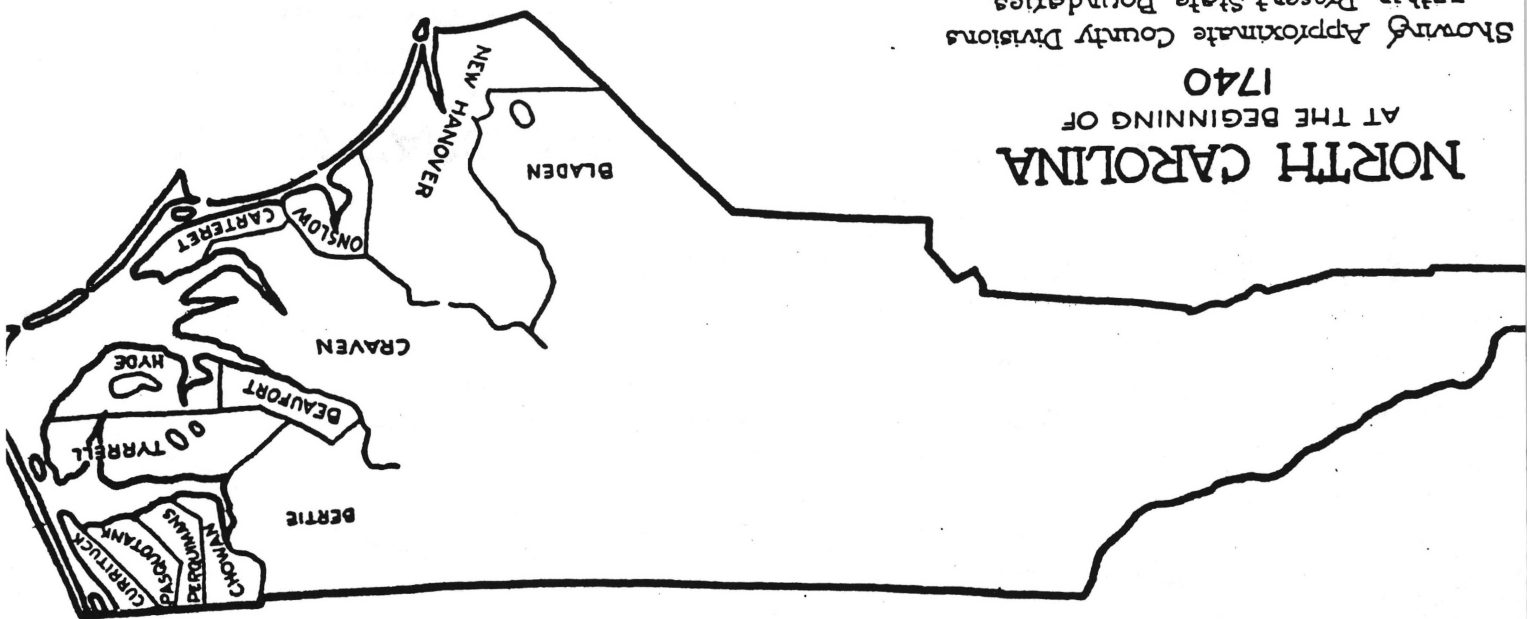
<sup>2</sup> Wilson, p. 284.

<sup>3</sup> "The Blands in Virginia," p. 2.

<sup>4</sup> New Hanover County Deed Book E, October 7, 1747, p. 33. Cf. New Hanover County Deed Book F, p. 325, December 21, 1770, cited by Jessamine James in a letter to Charles Bland, November 28, 1980, p. 21. This incredibly long letter encapsulated most of the information Mrs. James provided in her "Bland Family Court and Bible Records" (undated) filed at the LDS Library, Salt Lake City, Utah.

MAPS VIII AND IX

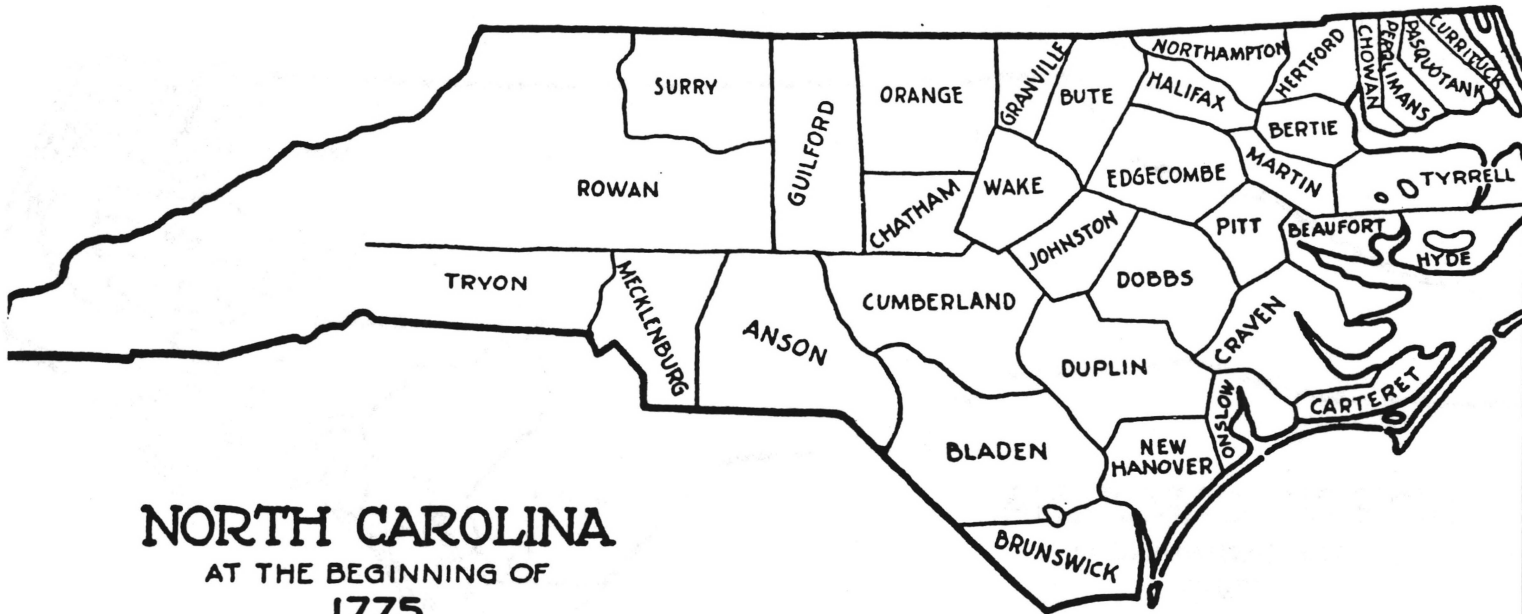
NORTH CAROLINA AT THE BEGINNING OF 1740-1760



Source: David Leroy Corbett, The Formation of North Carolina Counties, 1663-1943 (Raleigh: N.C., Third Printing 1975).  
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MAPS X AND XI

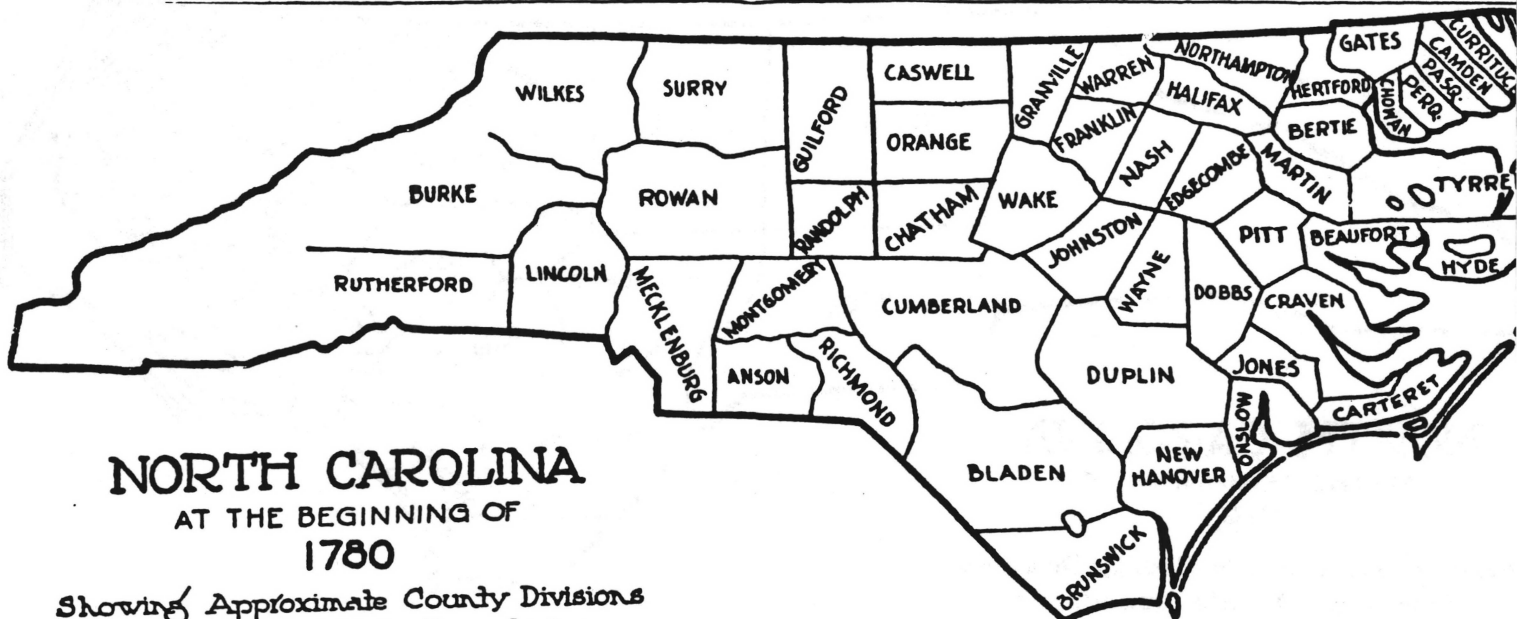
NORTH CAROLINA AT THE BEGINNING OF 1775-1780



**NORTH CAROLINA**  
 AT THE BEGINNING OF  
 1775

Showing Approximate County Divisions  
 within Present State Boundaries

Map by  
 L. Polk Denmark



**NORTH CAROLINA**  
 AT THE BEGINNING OF  
 1780

Showing Approximate County Divisions  
 within Present State Boundaries.

Map by  
 L. Polk Denmark

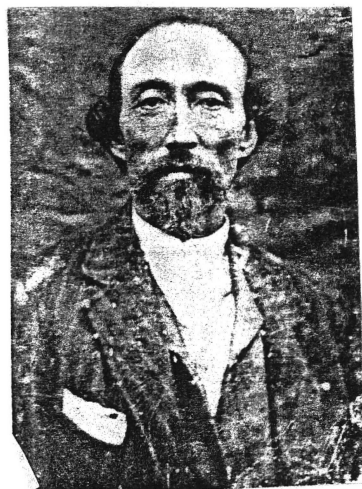
Source: David Leroy Corbett, The Formation of North Carolina Counties, 1663-1943 (Raleigh: N.C., Third Printing 1975).  
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276C

Descendants of Joseph Bland (C1754-1800)

Joseph Bland was identified as a son of William Bland (C1726-1775) in "Among Cousins: The Bland Family Newsletter, Volume 1-1, p. 3. This line was developed in greater depth in two subsequent issues of the Newsletter, Volume 3-1, pp. 16-20 and 8-1, pp. 11-15). Photos below are of some of Joseph's grandchildren:



Top LR: Joseph Henry Bland (1847-1941) and William Thomas Bland (1853-1893), courtesy of Angelia Bland Alford.

Lower LR: James Reuben Bland (1849-1904) and Adeline Rebecca Mackey Bland (1852-1937), Courtesy Clara Faye Johnson West.



Actually, the 1747 date fits more closely with events. It is clear that James' father, William Bland, died in 1744, and certainly no later than 1745. Since William's will has been lost to researchers, it is impossible to tell with precision what happened to the property William held, or how he devised it, but it is clear that some of it ended up in the hands of his brothers James and John. Though it is also evident from later legal transactions that James received a goodly portion of the estate, it may be that there wasn't enough to hold him in Virginia. Also, it is obvious that William Bland was very close to his brother James, as witnessed in many land transactions in the years from about 1710-1742, and James (William's brother) seems to have come into a position of family prominence after William's death. James (ninth generation), on the other hand, would have been a man in his late thirties when his father died. He was married and had children, some of whom were reaching adulthood. This might have been a positive incentive for James to leave Virginia. In the 1740's, a family man coming to North Carolina, where New Hanover was one of the few organized counties, could count on a headright of fifty to one hundred acres for himself, and fifty acres for each member of his family. Typical grants were between 100-300 acres,<sup>1</sup> and this is about what James would have qualified for, assuming that some of the children mentioned in his will were not yet born when he moved there sometime between 1744-1747. To be able to make a start with 300 acres, in addition to holding the investment capital that accrued to him upon his father's death, would have left James fairly well off in his new location.

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<sup>1</sup> Harry Merrens, Colonial North Carolina in the Eighteenth Century: A Study in Historical Geography (1964), p. 25.

There is another, somewhat more negative possibility, however, that might have induced James to leave Virginia. A man named James Bland was a principle in a local insurrection in Prince William County in 1731. It is not clear whether the participant was James Bland (eighth generation) or James Bland (ninth generation). However, a 24-year-old man would be more likely to participate in such an event than would a man who was no younger than 44 at the time. The so-called "Prince William Insurrection" consisted of a group of some fifty men, who were inspired by planters, angry about the tobacco laws. James Bland was specifically mentioned as a participant in the insurrection, which was described in the minutes of the Virginia Council on March 26, 1732:

A number of the meaner sort of people of that county (Prince William) got together in arms, designing, as they gave out, to destroy the public warehouses in that and the adjacent counties, expecting to be joined by other malcontents, from the neighboring counties in the Northern Neck.<sup>1</sup>

The Council's minutes for May 2, 1732, show that the additional allies necessary to carry out the insurrection did not materialize and that the participants acknowledged their offense and prayed for pardon, which was granted.<sup>2</sup>

Such an event, however, even if pardoned in the eyes of the law, might have left James in a certain bad odor in Prince William, among his neighbors. Certainly, a long time elapsed between 1731-1732, and James' departure for North Carolina, but in an era of close-knit communities and long historical memories, his participation in the insurrection could have been a tangible factor in his decision to leave Prince William County.

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<sup>1</sup> H. C. Groome, Fauquier During the Proprietorship (1927:1967), pp. 97-99. Cf. H. C. Copeland, The Five George Masons, p. 64.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

In his will, James Bland mentioned a wife Mary and seven children, including two sons, William and James "Buchanan," and five daughters: Elizabeth, Catherine, Sarah, Ann and Lettice. James made his will on September 11, 1766, and it was proved in New Hanover County in October 1774.<sup>1</sup> In his will, James devised in excess of 1,830 acres of land in North Carolina, in addition to more than 300 acres in Virginia, to his children, and an additional unspecified amount of land to his wife Mary. How James accumulated his land is uncertain. There are three deeds, however, in Prince William County records that show James returning to Prince William County in 1761 to divest himself of about 1,128 acres of land, including 570 acres in Dettingen Parish to James Ingo Dozier, 357 acres in Fauquier County to Robert Scott, and 201 acres of land that James presumably possessed to William Asbury.<sup>2</sup> Capital from this land must have been reinvested in a series of land transactions for James Bland that are on record in New Hanover County between 1762-1771.<sup>3</sup> Most important of these perhaps, in terms of historical evidence, is a record of James Bland conveying 200 acres to one William Rein on March 1, 1767, with Rein returning the property in 1771.<sup>4</sup> James Bland

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<sup>1</sup> Last Will and Testament of James Bland, September 11, 1766, New Hanover County, N.C. True copy supplied by William Graham Bland. Original filed in North Carolina Archives, Raleigh, North Carolina.

<sup>2</sup> Prince William County Deed Book I, July 24, 1761, p. 86; Deed Book I, August 28, 1761, p. 29, and Deed Book I (no date available), p. 386.

<sup>3</sup> New Hanover Deed Books E, September 7, 1763 (purchase of 200 acres on Bull Tail Creek), p. 61; Book E, November 2, 1764 (500 acres at Bull Tail near Rock Fish River), pp. 333-334.

<sup>4</sup> Jessamine James to Charles Bland, November 28, 1980, citing New Hanover County Deed Book E, p. 380, and Deed Book F, p. 333.

was the principle recipient in this transaction, with his son, James Buchanan Bland, a witness, which suggests that, whatever the reasons for James formulating his will in 1766, he did not actually die until several years later, perhaps very close to 1774 when the will was probated.

James Bland's property holdings in 1766, when he made his will, as well as his family constitution, is evident from his will, of which pertinent sections are quoted:

I, James Bland, of North Carolina, but late of Virginia, Planter...do make, ordain and appoint this my last will and testament in manner and form following:...

Item. I give and bequeath to my son William Bland, all my rights of all my land that I have in Virginia\* and Prince William County, which the most of them is in the said county; also, I give and bequeath one hundred and fifty acres of land taken out of a patent bearing date 1704, also two hundred acres of land on the Doctors Creek.

Item. I give and bequeath to my son James Buchanan Bland\*\* the remainder of that tract concluding the plantation that I had of Daniel Highsmith and Hardy Powell; also, the land I bought of Thomas Parker; and also, a negro boy named Charles, to him and his heirs forever; also, all creatures...\*\*\*

Item. I give and bequeath to my daughter, Elizabeth Lober, and her disposal, two hundred acres of land that I bought of Maquess Cowan.\*\*\*\*

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\* Prince William Deed Book I (1761), p. 386, indicated that James had deeded 201 acres of a 598 acre tract to William Asbury, leaving 397 acres. William (tenth generation) specifically passed on 300 acres to his son William (eleventh generation). This transaction affirms that the William Bland who died in 1775 was the son of James Bland (ninth generation).

\*\* James Buchanan Bland was thought by Wilson and others to have been named for his mother; hence, the assumed name of James Bland's wife, Mary Buchanan.

\*\*\* The Parker to James Bland transaction occurred in 1763 and amounted to 200 acres. New Hanover Deed Book E, September 7, 1763, pp. 61-62. The other transaction consists of an unspecified amount of land.

\*\*\*\* Cf. p. 276, note 4.

Item. I give and bequeath to my daughter, Catherine Sanders, all the land that I have on the Red Bank Branch, which is four hundred and twenty acres to her, and her heirs forever.

Item. I give and bequeath to my granddaughter, Elizabeth Wells, two hundred acres of land above me, the head that I have on Bulltail, forever.\*

Item. I give and bequeath to my daughter Sarah Annesey,\*\* one hundred and sixty acres of land lying upon Moores Creek, to her and her heirs forever.

Item. I give and bequeath to my daughter Anna Bland, three hundred acres of land, which is called the Great Meadows and White Oak Branch, noted by a patent bearing date of November 1704, to her and her heirs forever.

Item. I give and bequeath to my daughter Lettice Bland, all the remainder of my land to her and her heirs forever.

Item. I lend to my loving wife Mary Bland, all my lands and personable estate, during her widowhoodship; then after that my whole estate of moveables to be equally divided amongst all my children; and I also appoint my son, William Bland, and my son, James Buchanan Bland, also my loving wife, Mary Bland, to be my whole and sole executors during her widowhood; I also by humble request, do appoint Mr. Samuel Ash and Mr. John Ash for to see justice done to this my last will and testament ...in witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and fixed my seal this eleventh day of September, one thousand seven hundred and sixty-six.

James Bland (Seal)

Witnessed by Hardy (X) Powell; Rachel (R) Powell: Isaac Carter and William Lee.<sup>1</sup>

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\* From the placing of Elizabeth Wells, following Catherine Bland Sanders, one would suppose Elizabeth was Catherine's daughter.

\*\* I believe the proper spelling of Sarah Bland's married name is Hennessey. In New Hanover County Deed Book E, October 6, 1764, p. 376, James Hennessey and wife Sarah sold 300 acres, sold to Hennessey in 1753.

<sup>1</sup> Will of James Bland, September 11, 1766.

James married Mary Buchanan about 1725, and they had a family of seven living children (tenth generation), and at least one grandchild (but probably more) when James made his will. Of the children, five were adults, while two daughters, Anna and Lettice Bland, were still minors or had not married. Elizabeth married a man named Lober, and Catherine married a man named Sanders. Presumably, Catherine was old enough to have an adult daughter, Elizabeth, who was married to a man named Wells. Sarah Bland had married a man named James Hennessey.

Of the two sons, very little is known of James Buchanan Bland. He was an adult in 1766 when his father's will was formulated, and was living in 1771.<sup>1</sup> Like most of James' children, he was probably born in the late 1720's or 1730's. The absence of any extended mention of him may suggest that he moved away from the New Hanover-Duplin County area after his father's death.

Of all these tenth generation children, the chief focus of Mr. Wilson and later researchers was upon William Bland.

William Bland of Duplin County, North Carolina  
(Tenth Generation)

After accounting for the variables of his grandfather, William Bland's (eighth generation) age and his father's probable age at marriage, and assuming further that William (tenth generation), as the first mentioned child and co-executor in his father's will, was the eldest child. I estimate that he was born about 1726. His will was made March 19, 1775, and probated July 1775, so the working dates for William (tenth generation) are C.1726-1775.

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<sup>1</sup> Cf. p. 279, note 4.



TABLE XVIII

THE FAMILY OF JAMES BLAND OF NEW HANOVER COUNTY,

NORTH CAROLINA: FOUR GENERATIONS

(7) James Bland (C. 1655-1708) = (1) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (2) Margaret \_\_\_\_\_

(8) William Bland (C. 1686-1744) = (1) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (2) Catherine Key, February 6, 1716/1717

(9) James Bland (C. 1707-1774) = Mary Buchanan, about 1725

(10-1)

William Bland  
 (C. 1726-1775),  
 married \_\_\_\_\_.

(10-2)

James Buchanan  
 Bland.

(10-3)

Elizabeth Bland,  
 married \_\_\_\_\_  
 Lober.

(10-4)

Sarah Bland, married  
 James Hennessey.

(10-5)

Catherine Bland,  
 married \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sanders.

(10-6)

Anna Bland (a  
 minor in 1766).

(10-7)

Lettice Bland (a  
 minor in 1766).

TABLE XVIX

THE FAMILY OF WILLIAM BLAND OF DUPLIN COUNTY,

NORTH CAROLINA: FOUR GENERATIONS

(8) William Bland (C. 1686-1744) = (1) Catherine Key, February 6, 1716/1717  
 (2) Mary Buchanan  
 (9) James Bland (C. 1707-1774)  
 (10) William Bland (C. 1726-1775)

(11-1)\*

William Bland (C. 1748-1816), married Rachel Powell.

(11-2)\*

James Bland (C. 1749/1754- ), married \_\_\_\_\_.

(11-3)

Mary Bland, married \_\_\_\_\_ Parker.

(11-4)\*

Thomas Bland.

(11-5)\*

Charles Bland, married Rachel Alderman.

(11-6)\*

John Bland (C. 1760-1827), married \_\_\_\_\_.

\*

The eleventh generation sons are listed in the order they appear in William Bland's will of 1775. Thomas, Charles and John were minors in 1775.

William must have married in the mid-1740's. The name of his wife is not mentioned in his will and remains unknown. William did, however, have two sons, William and James Bland (eleventh generation), who were executors of his will and had to be at least twenty-one in 1775. In fact, one of these sons, William, probably the older of the two, had to be born no later than 1748, as information about his children and grandchildren attests.

William lived in Duplin County, North Carolina. Most likely, he had settled near his father and hadn't moved, but simply came under Duplin County jurisdiction when it was organized from New Hanover County. His will was formulated and filed in Duplin County, and because of its critical informational role in the genealogy of this branch, it is substantially quoted:

In the name of God, Amen. I, William Bland of Duplin County and Province of North Carolina, Planter...I will and bequeath to my son, William Bland, three hundred acres of land lying in Virginia on the head of Powells Branch, also a mare and a colt...

Item. I give and bequeath to my grandson, James Bland, the son of William Bland and Rachel, his wife, two cows and one calf and three yearlings; also, two feather beds and furniture; also, 20 pounds of proclamation money; also, I give my riding horse, saddle and bridle.

Item. I give and bequeath to my son, Thomas Bland, five shillings.

Item. I give and bequeath to my son, Charles Bland, five shillings.

Item. I give and bequeath to my daughter, Mary Parker, one side saddle and my hogs.

Item. I give and bequeath to my son, James Bland, all the goods of mine he has on hand or in his possession.

Item. I give and bequeath to my son, John Bland, five shillings.

William Bland and James Bland constitute the sole executors of this my last will and testament. In witness, I have in the presence of these witnesses hereunto set my hand and pressed my seal this the 19th day of March in the year of Our Lord, 1775.

William Bland

Witnesses Thomas (X) Lee; Hardy (X) Powell; Rachel (X) Powell.<sup>1</sup>

This will indicates a daughter, Mary Bland, married to a man named Parker by 1775. William's will indicated he had five sons: William, James,<sup>2</sup> Thomas, Charles and John. Milton Wilson indicated that Charles Bland married Rachel Alderman, but both Wilson and Parker are silent about this marriage and its descendants, and I have seen no other evidence about Charles and Rachel. Likewise, nothing is known about William Bland's son Thomas. Fortunately, some information has been gathered and preserved by descendants of John Bland.<sup>3</sup>

#### John Bland (Eleventh Generation)

Because of the small bequest left John (similar bequests were left to his brothers Thomas and Charles), it is assumed that he was a minor when his father died. The 1790 census of Chatham County, North Carolina,

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<sup>1</sup> Last Will and Testament of William Bland, Duplin County, North Carolina, March 19, 1775, recorded in Duplin County Will Book A, p. 25. Cf. Wilson, p. 285. A true copy of the will was provided this writer by William Graham Bland.

<sup>2</sup> There is a possibility that James, who was an adult when his father died in 1775, though born in Duplin County, may as an adult have moved to Chatham County, as apparently his brother John did. See discussion on pp. 321 ff.

<sup>3</sup> Information on the descendants of John Bland (eleventh generation) was supplied the author by Mrs. Graham (Castelloe Bland) Denton, based on her exchanges of information with Lina Burnett Moore, of Pittsboro, N.C. and Alice Phillips Garrison, of Sanford, N.C. I also received information from Mrs. John (Grace Lawrence) Awerdick, of Apex, N.C.

enumerates a John Bland, head of household, with two females. This enumeration, in addition to information in the will of John Bland of Chatham County, who died in April 1827, and further information about specific children of John Bland, persuades some researchers that John Bland of Chatham County is the son of William Bland, who died in Duplin County in 1775. Thus, John would be eleventh generation. By the estimates of his descendants, he was born about 1760, so his dates then were c.1760-1827. John Bland served in the North Carolina Militia at least through 1781.<sup>1</sup> In his will, it is clear that he had at least six children (twelfth generation), including, not necessarily in order, daughters Winny, Elizabeth, and Nancy, and sons John, William and James.

Nothing further is known to this author about the daughters of John Bland. The eldest son, as is probable, was James Bland (twelfth generation), who was born in 1784 and died about November 1850.<sup>2</sup> James lived his life in Chatham County. He married Mary \_\_\_\_\_ who was born in 1794, probably about 1810-1812. When he made his will in 1850, James Bland named eight children (thirteenth generation), including daughters Sarah, Mary, Nancy and Charity, and sons Oliver, John, William and Henry.

Of James' daughters, not much is known. In his will, James mentioned Sarah Bland, who must have been the youngest daughter, for she was unmarried at the time. Daughter Mary, who was born in 1828, according to the 1850 census, married James Greene. Daughter Nancy married

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<sup>1</sup> Treasurer's Report for North Carolina Troops During the American Revolution, Vol. 9, p. 82, Folio 3.

<sup>2</sup> James' birth year is established by the Chatham County Census for 1850, in which he is shown to be 66 years old. His will was made April 4, 1850, and probated November term 1850. A copy of the will was supplied the author by Grace Awerdick, and is filed in Chatham County Record Book C, Part 2 (1817-1857), pp. 280-281, now held by the North Carolina Historical Commission.

William Gunter, and daughter Charity married Richard Gunter. The youngest son was Henry Bland, who was born in 1834. Henry was mentioned as a minor in his father's will of 1850.<sup>1</sup> William Bland, also mentioned as a minor in his father's will, was born in 1832. Nothing more is known by this author about William.

The eldest son of James and Margaret Bland was Oliver Bland (thirteenth generation) who was born in 1813 and died in 1868.

Bare information about Oliver is found in the 1850 Census of Chatham County, when he is enumerated as aged 37, married to Catherine \_\_\_\_\_, aged 26. There are children in his household obviously too old to be born to Catherine, suggesting that Oliver married twice. The children listed in the 1850 Census were (fourteenth generation): Alexander, aged 16; John, aged 13; Rebecca, aged 12; and Hiram, aged 10. In his will,<sup>2</sup> Oliver left bequests to his wife, and to Hiram and Rebecca.

John Bland (thirteenth generation), the second known son of James Bland, was born in 1814 in Chatham County and died there on January 23, 1890.

Two obituaries of John Bland, authored by C. A. Boone and W. S. Long, speak warmly of John.<sup>3</sup> Long recalled his own personal relationship with John, and their times on the circuit:

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<sup>1</sup> Information supplied by Alice Phillips Garrison, of Sanford, North Carolina, indicates that Henry married Mary McIntosh.

<sup>2</sup> Oliver Bland's will is in Chatham County Records Book D, p. 176. The will was filed November 19, 1867, and probated February term 1868.

<sup>3</sup> Obituaries supplied the author by Albert Hunter.

I was his pastor for a few years...Brother Bland would always meet me and go with me from house to house and when I would leave he would either get me to name the place where we could meet and spend the night at my next appointment, or he would do so, and thus for five years, he and I met monthly and would walk or ride together and at night would room together and in most instances occupied the same bed. He was an old man, his dear wife had gone before, I was young and oh, how often his loving hand was put on my shoulder, or about my neck...<sup>1</sup>

Long indicated that John Bland (thirteenth generation) was the first monetary contributor to Elon College, or at least, the first man to contribute through Long. Boone guessed John Bland's age to be between 75-80, thus reinforcing earlier census records that listed John's age. Boone said that for some months, John Bland had been afflicted with a carbuncle on his left shoulder blade that eventually killed him. What Boone actually described, however, was a tumor that probably only became clearly visible within the last few months of John's life, but by then had done its work. Boone even describes a brief period of remission when "he seemed to revive and gain strength," so it seems clear that John died of a cancer.<sup>2</sup>

John married on May 20, 1841, Mary Elizabeth Hatch, who was born in 1822 and died January 10, 1877. Numbered among their children was Thomas Jefferson Bland (fourteenth generation) who was born in Chatham County on August 6, 1849, and died in Sanford, North Carolina, on October 2, 1926.<sup>3</sup> He married on June 12, 1873, Jeruba Dob Johnson, and

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1 Ibid.

2 Ibid.

3 Mrs. Graham Denton submitted her DAR documents pertaining to this family as follows. The death certificate of Thomas Jefferson Bland, Chatham County Deed Book CM, p. 28; the Will of James Bland, November 19, 1850; the 1850 Census of Chatham County; the Will of John Bland, April 1827, and documents demonstrating John Bland's Revolutionary War Service.

by her had a son, Charles Andrew Bland (fifteenth generation) who was born November 10, 1874, and died in Durham, North Carolina, February 6, 1962. Charles married Edna May Marks on March 29, 1908, and had children who included (sixteenth generation): Castelloe Bland, who married Graham Denton; May Bland Winstead; and Charles Andrew Bland, Jr.<sup>1</sup>

The second son of John Bland (eleventh generation) was William "Buck"<sup>2</sup> Bland, who was born in Chatham County March 31, 1787, died there, and was buried May 4, 1860 at the Hanks Chapel Cemetery. William "Buck" Bland married Elizabeth Lewis, who was born January 25, 1797, and died on April 1, 1860.<sup>3</sup> William "Buck" Bland was a very well-to-do farmer, for his worth is listed as \$3,500.<sup>4</sup> In the 1850 census, and in the 1840 census, he is shown to hold 14 slaves. Historians note

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<sup>1</sup> In addition, John Bland and Mary Elizabeth Hatch had (fourteenth generation) Lavinia Bland (1846- ), who married one Eubanks; and Martha (1854- ).

<sup>2</sup> The source of the name "Buck" is of interest. Possibly, it is some corruption of Buchanan, for William's great-grandmother Mary Buchanan (ninth generation).

<sup>3</sup> The dates for William "Buck" Bland and his wife, Elizabeth Lewis, were noted by tombstone markings in the Hanks Chapel Cemetery and in his family Bible, preserved by his descendants.

<sup>4</sup> This information was obtained from secondary sources and may have been a transposition. William "Buck" Bland was in the lumber business and was known in Chatham County as a very wealthy man. It may be that the \$3,500 figure should be \$35,000.



that most slaveholders owned fewer slaves, but obviously his worth was not in league with large plantation owners such as Avory Bland (eleventh generation), to be discussed in Chapter XI.<sup>1</sup>

It is a stroke of good fortune that William "Buck" Bland's descendants have preserved his family Bible, one of the most accurate sources of information for genealogists. The Bible records for William "Buck" Bland and Elizabeth, who were evidently married about 1817, a family of nine children (thirteenth generation):

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<sup>1</sup> The family Bible of William "Buck" Bland shows, however, that he increased if not prospered in the slaveholding business, for there were 23 children born to five of his slave women during the period 1831-1859. I would like to enumerate these births here, in hopes that some black person one day may discover his ancestor among them. I will do the same in Chapter XI respecting the slaves of Avory Bland. Although many of these slaves, following Emancipation, may have adopted their master's names, and some may have had their master's blood in their veins, they were legally master and slave, and bore no family relationship. One also should not harshly judge either "Buck" or Avory Bland, who were simply men of their times, caught up in this nation's most awful economic, moral and political curse. A slave woman, Sina, had four children: Margaret, born May 16, 1831; George, December 4, 1832; Sarah, born September 24, 1834; Delana, born July 20, 1836. A slave woman Cherry, had six children: Jane, born May 12, 1833; Rody (a daughter) born February 1835; Lotty, born May 6, 1837; Mary, born November 12, 1839; Winny, February 15, 1842; and Anzalet, born June 12, 1844. The slave woman Phebe, had seven children: Louisa, born April 30, 1843; Harmon, born October 8, 1845; Dennis, born October 25, 1847; Anna, born November 17, 1850; Lydia, born December 3, 1852; Doctor, born December 10, 1855; and Mariah, born November 15, 1858. The slave woman Sarah (possibly the daughter of Sina, born September 24, 1834, see above) had five children: Celia, born November 20, 1850; Andrew, born July 5, 1852; Peggy, born February 4, 1854; Joseph, born July 6, 1856; Nancy, born November 15, 1858. The slave woman Lany had one daughter Mary, born June 12, 1859. Source: The William "Buck" Bland Family Bible.

The first child was Mary Ann Bland, who was born October 4, 1818. Mary Ann married Wesley Griffin, but nothing more is known about her. Elizabeth Bland, the second child, was born July 20, 1820. Nothing more is known about her.

The third child of William "Buck" Bland and Elizabeth Lewis was William Bland, who was born January 21, 1823, and died in 1895. He married Frances Hatch about 1844, and had by her, three known children (fourteenth generation). These children were Mary Wesley Bland, born about 1845; Betty (Elizabeth), born 1846 or 1847; and Robert Ward Bland, who was born in 1848 and died in 1906. He married Lina Burnett and by her had three children (fifteenth generation), who were William, Margaret and Cara. The last child, Cara, was born in 1886 and died in 1976. She married Robert Joseph Moore (1877-1956) and by him had a family of four children (sixteenth generation) which included a correspondent of the author, Lina Burnett Moore.<sup>1</sup>

The fourth child of William "Buck" Bland (twelfth generation) and Elizabeth Lewis, was Naomy, who was born January 22, 1825. Celia Bland, the fifth child, was born February 15, 1827, and died June 3, 1889.

Joseph Bland was the sixth child of William "Buck" Bland and Elizabeth Lewis. He was born December 18, 1829. Joseph married Mary Jane Neal about 1851, and had by her a family of four children (fourteenth generation). These children included Daisy and William Bland, about whom nothing more is known by the author. A daughter, Annie Bland interestingly, married Abraham Columbus Moore, and by him had eight

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<sup>1</sup> See discussion about Lina Burnett's double descent from William "Buck" Bland, p. 291, note 1.

children (fifteenth generation) including Robert Joseph Moore, who married Cara Bland, and who as indicated before, was descended from William "Buck" Bland and Elizabeth Lewis, through William Bland, Jr. (1823-1895), who was the father of Robert Ward Bland (1848-1906), father of Cara Bland (1886-1976), mother of Lina Burnette Moore.<sup>1</sup>

The oldest child of Joseph Bland (thirteenth generation) and Mary Jane Neal was Thomas Montreville Bland, who was born January 26, 1852 and died June 2, 1925. Thomas married Sophia Poe (1857-November 3, 1921) and had by her nine children (fifteenth generation), including William Fowle Bland, born November 25, 1888 and died October 31, 1958, who married Julia Virginia Moore. William Fowle Bland lived and died in Pittsboro, North Carolina. He and Julia Virginia Moore had a family of four children (sixteenth generation), including Virginia Antoinette Bland, who married W. T. Phillips, and by him had a daughter (seventeenth generation), Alice Phillips Garrison, of Sanford, North Carolina.

The remaining children (fifteenth generation) of Thomas Montreville Bland and his wife, Sophia Poe, were: Joseph Bland, who married Ella Cooke; Namoi Bland, who married William Cooke; Alice Bland, who married Murray Guinn; Clyde Bland, who married Margaret Burns; Laura Bland, who married D. D. Guinn; Auburn Bland, who married Ruth Ellen Eubanks; Mary Bland, who married William Griffin; and Stella Bland, who married Wrenn Gillmore.

The remaining three children of William "Buck" Bland and Elizabeth Lewis (twelfth generation) were Nancy Bland, born March 27, 1832, who married \_\_\_\_\_ Sturdivant; James Bland (March 3, 1835-June 21, 1838); and Matilda "Puss" Bland, who was born January 23, 1840, and died March 22, 1907.

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<sup>1</sup> Cf. p. 290, note 1.

The remaining son of John Bland (eleventh generation) was John. He was probably born after 1790 and was living in 1827, when his father left a bequest to "John or his heirs," but he had died by 1850. Nothing more is known to this author about John Bland (twelfth generation), except that he had one son, James Bland, who was born January 19 1824, and died June 30, 1895, living his life in Chatham County. His relationship to John Bland (twelfth generation) is proved by his uncle James Bland's will of April 1850, which left a bequest to "my nephew James Bland, son of my deceased brother, Johnny."<sup>1</sup> James was made sole executor of his uncle James' estate.<sup>2</sup> James married, on May 9, 1850, Rebecca Catherine "Kate" Lasater, who was born March 23, 1827, and died October 5, 1905. In 1850, James and Kate were enumerated in the household of James' uncle, William "Buck" Bland.

On August 7, 1851, Kate Lasater Bland gave birth to a son, James Sextus "Seck" Bland (fourteenth generation) who died in Wake County, North Carolina, September 7, 1928. James Sextus Bland married Isabella Cameron (January 30, 1852-January 17, 1897) in Harnett County, North Carolina, on January 2, 1873. James and Isabella were parents of a daughter, Mary Katherine Bland (fifteenth generation) who was born April 24, 1875, and died May 11, 1944. Mary Katherine married Henry Thomas Lawrence (1863-1941) in Wake County on June 18, 1899. They were parents of Grace Evelyn Lawrence (sixteenth generation), who married John H. Awerdick of Tarrytown, New York.<sup>3</sup>

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1 Will of James Bland, April 4, 1850.

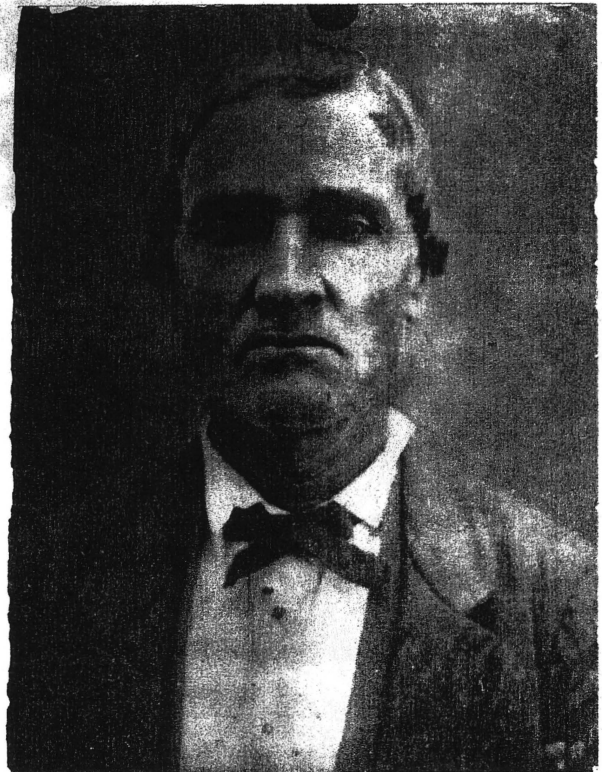
2 Ibid.

3 Grace Awerdick to Charles Bland, November 30, 1981 and December 11, 1981. John Awerdick and Grace Lawrence were married November 9, 1946, and are parents of John Holmes Awerdick III, who was born in 1947 and is himself the father of two children: a son, Jason Alexander, and daughter, Megan Elizabeth. Mrs. Awerdick claims descent through her great-grandmother, Kate Lasater, from the Winslow family of Massachusetts.

292A.



Mary Elizabeth Hatch  
Bland (1822-1877)



John Bland (1814-1890)

Courtesy: Castelloe Bland Denton.



Thomas Jefferson Bland (1849-1926)

Courtesy: Castelloe Bland Denton.

2920.

The family of Thomas Montreville Bland (pp. 291-192)



LR: Clyde Bland; William Bland; "Grandmother Poe", mother in law of Thomas Montreville Bland; Auburn Bland (Boy standing); Stella Bland (small child standing between Grandmother Poe; Antoniette Sophia Poe (Mrs. Thomas Montreville Bland); Mary Bland (Small child on Sophia Bland Poe's knee); and Naomi "Omie" Bland (standing behind Mrs. Poe).

Courtesy: Alice Phillips Garrison

TABLE XX

THE FAMILY OF JOHN BLAND OF DUPLIN AND CHATHAM COUNTIES,

NORTH CAROLINA: FOUR GENERATIONS

(10) William Bland (C. 1726-1775) \_\_\_\_\_

(11) John Bland (C. 1760-1827) \_\_\_\_\_

Daughters

(12- ) Minny Bland  
Elizabeth Bland  
Nancy Bland

Sons

(12-1) James Bland (1784-1850), married  
Mary \_\_\_\_\_ (1794- )  
about 1812.

(12-2) William "Buck" Bland  
(1787-1860), married  
Elizabeth Lewis about  
1817.

(12-3) John Bland  
( - ) mar-  
ried \_\_\_\_\_

(13-1) Mary Bland (1828- ),  
married James Greene.

(13-1) Mary Ann Bland (1818-  
) , married Wesley  
Griffin.

(13-1) James Bland (1824-1895)  
married  
Rebecca  
Catherine  
Lasater in  
1850.

(13-2) Nancy Bland, married  
William Gunter.

(13-2) Elizabeth Bland  
(1820- ) .

(13-3) William Bland (1823-  
1895), married Frances  
Hatch C. 1844.

(13-3) Charity Bland, mar-  
ried Richard Gunter.

(13-4) Sarah Bland

(13-4) Naomi Bland (1825- ) .

(13-5) Oliver Bland (1813-  
1868), married  
Catherine \_\_\_\_\_  
about 1833.

(13-5) Celia Bland (1827-1889).

(13-6) John Bland (1814-1890),  
married Mary Elizabeth  
Hatch in 1841.

(13-6) Joseph Bland (1829- ) ,  
married Mary Jane Neal  
C. 1851.

(13-7) William Bland (1832- )

(13-7) Nancy Bland (1832- ) ,  
married \_\_\_\_\_ Sturdivant.

(13-8) Henry Bland (1834- )

(13-8) James Bland (1835-1838).

(13-9) Matilda "Puss" Bland  
(1840-1901).



These families of James, William "Buck", and John Bland (twelfth generation), sons of John Bland (eleventh generation), according to census records, lived in close proximity, and formed a distinct family group.

William Bland (Eleventh Generation)

The eldest son of William Bland of Duplin County (tenth generation, C.1726-1775), was William Bland (eleventh generation). My estimate is that William was born about 1748 and died during 1816. The date of his death is demonstrated by a deed of land to his grandson, which was made on April 2, 1816, and proved during the October term of 1816. Wilson suggested that William's death likely preceded the probate date. The same deed speaks of "a patent granted to me on December 16, 1769."<sup>1</sup> This patent may have been bought by William, or given to him by his father or grandfather, but in any case would suggest a coincidence with his twenty-first birthday, a date that might also have corresponded to the date of his marriage to Rachel Powell.<sup>2</sup> William's dates then are C.1748-1816, and it is probable that he married Rachel Powell about 1769. William served as a soldier in the American Revolution, but had

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<sup>1</sup> William Bland, Senior to Daniel Bland - 315 acres, Duplin County Deed Book DFTU (or J), April 2, 1816, p. 290. Daniel's grandfather gave the land to him on his wedding day.

<sup>2</sup> Wilson, p. 286, suggests that William married Rachel Powell, whom he represents as a daughter of one Jacob Powell. William Graham Bland did not enter Rachel's maiden name when filing his membership application to the National SAR (National Number 115869). Wilson's reasons for surmising Rachel's maiden name is not clear, nor is it apparent from Wilson's work how all these Powells are related.

his known family prior to that time. William's known children included a daughter and two sons (twelfth generation). The daughter was Elizabeth Bland, dates uncertain, who married Isaac Newton.<sup>1</sup>

The son of William Bland (eleventh generation) and Rachel Powell of most interest to Mr. Wilson was William Bland, who was born February 23, 1771, and died about 1854. William married Mary Parker about 1793. He lived in Duplin County, North Carolina, in the vicinity of Rockfish Creek.<sup>2</sup> William had a daughter, Elizabeth (1802-1842) whose son Robert Highsmith, in 1905, described William Bland (twelfth generation) to young Milton Wilson as follows:

...William Bland was a small man with very curly red hair and blue eyes. He had a good plantation of 1,000 acres in Duplin County, North Carolina, about six miles northwest of Wallace, N.C., on which he lived in a very substantial two-story residence, one of the best in Duplin County. He had a large apple orchard and made a large amount of cider and vinegar. He was very prosperous and had about 25 slaves, among whom I remember an old aunt Becky, who had children Gabriel, Balaam, Isaac, Irving, Ebb, Edd, Jack, Ann and Daniel, and others. William Bland had a good stock of cattle and hogs. One horse in particular I remember was Tallifax, with white sides. William Bland was very industrious and died suddenly while out in the fields directing some work. He had started back to his residence when he dropped dead. He was very popular and was a good neighbor.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Nothing more is known about this marriage, but there were numerous other relationships between the Blands and Newtons in Duplin County. William's grandson, James Bland (thirteenth generation) married secondly, Esther Newton and had a son Isaac Newton Bland. Four Newton brothers, Samuel, George, Jacob and Isaac, came to New Hanover, Duplin County, about 1755. Samuel Newton was the founder of the Bull Tail, now Wells Chapel Baptist Church, The Wallace Enterprise, Wallace, N.C. July 20, 1981. A copy of this article was supplied the author by William Graham Bland.

<sup>2</sup> Rockfish Creek is present-day Harrells, N.C.

<sup>3</sup> Information about William Bland is found in Wilson, pp. 287-288.

According to Mr. Wilson, William Bland (twelfth generation) and Mary Parker had a family of six children (thirteenth generation), including one son and five daughters. The son, identified as the third child by Mr. Wilson, was James Bland, who was born April 27, 1798 and died December 15, 1862. He married Mary C. Powell. Among the daughters, Rachel Bland, whose dates are unknown, married two men: (1) Joshua Lee, and (2) William Powell. Lucretia Bland, whose dates also are unknown, married William Newton on March 1, 1817, and they went to Tennessee. Nancy Bland was born in 1799 and died in 1845. She married Bryan Lee and they had a daughter who married a man named John Baucom. The youngest daughter was Elizabeth Bland, mentioned above, who was born June 8, 1802, and died in 1842, and who married Jacob Highsmith. They had a son Robert Highsmith. Susannah Bland, the fifth child and fourth daughter of William Bland and Mary Parker was born in 1800 and died in August 1887. She married Ephraim Johnson (1796-1835) in 1824,<sup>1</sup> and second, Naaman Stephens. By her marriage to Johnson, Susan had two sons, Enoch Johnson (1825-1886) who married Lucinda Miley, and Milton Washington Johnson (1828-1867), who married Maria Ann Knight on September 2, 1858. Milton Johnson (fourteenth generation) and Maria Knight had a son and three daughters, among them Helen Mar Johnson (fifteenth generation) who was born in 1860 and died in 1947. Helen married Charles Cooper Wilson (1858-1907) on January 31, 1883, and their third child was Milton Wilson (sixteenth generation), who was born July 23, 1886 and died March 17, 1956. Milton Wilson was a lawyer and

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<sup>1</sup> Wilson, pp. 289-290.

lived in Bartow, Florida. He was one of the most able and prolific historians of the Bland family.<sup>1</sup>

The second son of William Bland (eleventh generation) and his wife, Rachel Powell, was James Bland (twelfth generation), who by my estimation was born about 1770 and died September 12, 1818. James Bland married Jemima Alderman (1773-1800) probably about 1795. Jemima was a daughter of Daniel Alderman and Sarah Newton. They had a daughter Edith and two sons, Daniel White Bland and William Bland (thirteenth generation). This branch of Blands intermarried extensively with the Newton and Alderman family and because of this, they were a subject of William Alderman Parker's interest in his book about the Alderman family. Parker's work, as well as information supplied by William Graham Bland, of Jacksonville, Florida, and other members of this family, enable a rather extended sketch of the family's growth and direction.<sup>2</sup>

Edith Bland, the daughter of James Bland and Jemima Alderman, was born about 1800. She married a John Fryar. The eldest son of James Bland and Jemima Alderman was Daniel White Bland, who was born February 15 1796, and died March 30, 1871.<sup>3</sup> He married Dorcas Page, who was born in 1798, on April 2, 1816.<sup>4</sup> She was a sister of the wife of Daniel's

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<sup>1</sup> Ibid. Cf. William Alderman Parker, Aldermans in America (1957), pp. 47-52, 94-96, 328-329.

<sup>2</sup> William Graham Bland, "James Bland of New Hanover County, North Carolina," (no date), paper supplied by the author to Charles Bland, August 10, 1981. I am grateful to William Graham Bland for helping me sort out many thorny issues about this branch of the family. Cf. Parker, pp. 51-52, 94-99, 163-167, 207-208, 400-403. I am grateful to Albert Hunter, of State College, Pennsylvania, for supplying these pages of Alderman's work to me.

<sup>3</sup> Will of Daniel White Bland, dated November 20, 1865. Xerox of the original will was graciously supplied the author by William Graham Bland. Stephen McLeod, of Tallahassee, Florida, indicates that Daniel White Bland's tombstone reflects the 1796-1871 dates. Cf. McLeod to Charles Bland, November 30, 1981.

<sup>4</sup> Cf. p. 293, note 1.

half-brother, Amariah Bland (1809-1869), whose maiden name was Mary Page. Daniel's will of 1865 was filed in Duplin County.

Daniel White Bland (thirteenth generation) and Dorcas Page had a family of nine children (fourteenth generation), who were:<sup>1</sup>

(1) Jemima Bland, born May 4, 1818, who married Allen Johnson. Although records are somewhat confused on the point, it appears that Johnson found the Bland women entirely to his liking, for following the death of Jemima, he married (2) Mary Bland, who was born in 1821. (3) James Thomas Bland, who will be discussed below. (4) John Bland, born about 1823, died single. He was killed in the Civil War. (5) Elizabeth Bland, who was born in 1824, married Joshua Blanton, and moved with him to Florida. (6) Joseph William Bland was an invalid who never married. (7) Daniel White Bland Jr. was born January 10, 1836, and died January 11, 1897. He married Ivey Rogers (1859-1906) and by her had two daughters (fifteenth **generation**), **Ruth** and Naomi. (8) Harmon Bland was born July 22, 1839 and died August 12, 1924. He married first Alvania Peterson (1842-1896) and second, Sarah Bland (1854-1937). Harmon had three daughters (fifteenth generation), Dollie, Nettie and Minnie, but it is not clear to this author whether their mother was Alvania Peterson or Sarah Bland. (9) Tabitha Caroline Bland, known as "Aunt Lina," was born October 21, 1842, and died January 1, 1901. She married Allan Bryant Peterson and by him had a family of six children (fifteenth generation).

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<sup>1</sup> For information about the family of Daniel White Bland and Dorcas Page, I am especially grateful to Stephen McLeod, of Tallahassee, Florida, for his review and critical comments. Cf. McLeod to Charles Bland, June 9, November 30, and December 15, 1981. Stephen descends from this line, as do Lillian Newham McCree, of Valdosta, Georgia; Earl Bland, of Jacksonville, Florida; Beth Bland Engle, of Brunswick, Georgia; Mrs. Frank (Josephine Bland) Hatton, of Jacksonville, Florida. Cf. Parker, p. 94.

The child of Daniel White Bland (thirteenth generation) and Dorcas Page that figures most prominently in this branch of Blands who migrated from North Carolina to Georgia was James Thomas Bland (fourteenth generation), of Duplin County, North Carolina. He was born February 22, 1822, and died February 26, 1879. James Thomas married, probably about 1854, Mary Ann Simmons, and they had a family of eight children (fifteenth generation):

(1) Emma Bland was born January 2, 1855, and died February 26, 1932. Emma married a cousin, Lewis Bland, who was born August 13, 1848, and died January 17, 1919. Lewis' relationship to Emma is uncertain, but they had a family of six children (sixteenth generation), whose lives extended into the 20th century. They were:

(A) Claudius Bland (January 17, 1879 to July 16, 1879); (B) Edgar Lee Bland (April 13, 1881 to March 6, 1948), who never married; (C) Mary Fannie Bland (October 16, 1885 to August 13, 1923), died of cancer and never married; (D) Mattie Tate Bland (April 13, 1888 to January 10, 1964), married Walter W. Peterson; (E) Luther Eugene Bland (May 29, 1890 to April 21, 1959), married Addie Gavin. Their children would be seventeenth generation. (F) Mazie Bland (May 19, 1896 to May 4, 1951), married Allen Johnson.

(2) Ira Bland, second child of James Thomas Bland and Mary Ann Simmons, was born March 7, 1857 and died August 4, 1943.<sup>1</sup> Ira married twice. His first wife was Ivey Harris Alderman (1869-1902). By this marriage, there were three children (sixteenth generation) whose lives extended into the 20th century:

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<sup>1</sup> In many cases I have been able to add precision to dates for the Duplin County, North Carolina family, by reference to a list of tombstone inscriptions from the Bull Tail-Wells Chapel Baptist Church cemetery, which were supplied to me by Albert Hunter.

(A) Charlie Love Bland (June 3, 1893 to June 9, 1933), who married Ethel Jones; (B) Ernest Julian Bland (October 3, 1895 to June 7, 1969), who married Thelma Carolina Newton; (C) Nellie Jane Bland (August 15, 1899- ), married Robert Real Johnson.

Following the death of Ivey Harris Alderman, Ira Bland married Margaret Dixon Boyette (1883-1975) and by her had two children (sixteenth generation), including (A) Theodore Cyrus Bland (December 20, 1910- ), now of Harrells, North Carolina, who married Mary Jane Waters; and (B) Emma Oleta Bland.

(3) Lafayette Bland (fifteenth generation), third child of James Thomas Bland and Mary Ann Simmons, was born June 18, 1859 and died September 23, 1943, in Atlanta, Georgia. As a young man, Lafayette Bland moved to Georgia, where on February 23, 1888, he married at Wooten's Mill, Georgia, Huldah Jane Wooten (1872-1927). They had a family of seven children (sixteenth generation), including:

(A) Claude Bland, who was born December 6, 1888 in Wooten's Mill, Georgia, and married three times; (B) Edwin D. Bland, who was born March 21, 1891 and died September 11, 1894; (C) Lee Roy Bland, who was born May 25, 1893 and married twice; (D) Henrietta Elizabeth Bland, who was born June 18, 1895 and died February 23, 1980. Henrietta married Eugene Gibson Newham (1897-1933) on July 27, 1913.<sup>1</sup> (E) Rosa Lee Bland, born May 25, 1897 and died February 19, 1933, who married Otto Floyd Helm. (F) Merrie Woodberry Bland, born June 28, 1899, who never married. (G) Alma Edda Bland, who was born November 6, 1902 and died January 13, 1959. She married Harry J. Craig.

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<sup>1</sup> Eugene Newham and Henrietta Bland are the parents of my correspondent, Lillian Newham McRee.

(4) Daniel Tate Bland (fifteenth generation) was born November 2, 1860 and married Martha Elizabeth Wooten. Their children included four sons and one daughter (sixteenth generation) whose lives extended into the 20th century:

(A) Ralph Edwin Bland (August 16, 1888 to February 6, 1952) who married Addie Grubb; (B) James Richard Bland (September 16, 1891 to August 15, 1960) married Ina Middleton; (C) John Wooten Bland (April 26, 1894 to January 26, 1969) married Ethel McDougald; (D) Mattie Bessie Bland ( -June 5, 1977) married Bruce Smith; (E) Stanley Bland (August 21, 1899 to March 20, 1951), never married.

(5) Edwin Dawson Bland was born on February 5, 1865<sup>1</sup> and died April 5, 1919. He married Velma Frazier and had by her four children (sixteenth generation), whose lives extended into the 20th century. They were: (A) John Frank Bland (August 31, 1904 to October 20, 1964) who married Clara Boone; (B) Dan Ed Bland (August 17, 1912 to January 16, 1978) who married Ruby Croxton; (C) Jim Andrew Bland (December 26, 1914 to October 12, 1919); (D) David Paul Bland (November 10, 1918 to November 10, 1945).

(6) Cornelia Ann Bland was born December 28, 1867, and married Willis Hall Wooten, by whom she had six children (sixteenth generation) whose lives extended into the 20th century.

(7) The seventh child of James Thomas Bland and Mary Ann Simmons was Ida Dorcas Bland, who was born July 31, 1874.

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<sup>1</sup> The age gap between Daniel White Bland and his brother, Edwin Dawson Bland (1860 to 1865) suggests that their father, James Thomas Bland (1822-1879) may have done military service in the Civil War.



(8) James Oscar Bland, the final child of James Thomas Bland (fourteenth generation) and Mary Ann Simmons, was born March 7, 1876.<sup>1</sup> He married Lula Clements and by her had a family of seven children (sixteenth generation):

(A) Iris Mae Bland was born June 24, 1901, and married Edgar Burch; (B) Earl E. Bland was born October 21, 1902 and married first, Louise Malloy, and second, Mildred Newton; (C) Guy Rupert Bland was born July 31, 1905 and died November 10, 1977; he married Martha Barney; (D) Addie Bland (October 15, 1907- ) married Floyd Williams; (E) Daniel Ed Bland (June 10, 1910- ) married Mary Alice Thomas; (F) Mary Josephine Bland (July 21, 1919- ) married J. F. Hatton; (G) James Julian Bland (February 10, 1922- ) married Dorothy Anderson.

This concludes the known descendants of James Bland (1770-1818, twelfth generation) and Jemima Alderman (1773-1800) through their first-born son, Daniel White Bland (1796-1871, thirteenth generation).

The second known son of James Bland (twelfth generation) and Jemima Alderman, was William Bland (thirteenth generation) who was born about 1797 and died in February 1873. William Bland married Susannah Alderman, daughter of David and Jemima Alderman, who was born March 14, 1795 and died about 1880. William and Susan were married in North Carolina about 1814, but the following year or thereabouts, moved to Bulloch County, Georgia.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> James Oscar Bland was the great-grandfather of Stephen McLeod, of Talahassee, Florida.

<sup>2</sup> The family of William Bland and Susannah Alderman (thirteenth generation) is discussed by Parker, pp. 166, 400-403. Cf. Stephen McLeod to Charles Bland, November 30, 1981 and December 15, 1981. Cf. Dan E. Bland and Willie Lee Bland Moseley, "The Bland Family of Bulloch County, Georgia" (1982).

They were members of, and were buried at the Primitive Baptist Church which was burned down, later rebuilt and established as the Upper Lott's Creek Baptist Church. William Bland and Susannah Alderman were parents of a large family of eleven children (fourteenth generation) who were:

1. Jemima Bland, who was born in North Carolina September 17, 1815 and died January 13, 1890. Parker indicates that she was an invalid and never married.

2. James Bland was the second child of William Bland and Susannah Alderman. He was born July 24, 1817 in Georgia, and died April 28, 1893. He married on November 30, 1842, Malberry Smith, who was born July 7, 1824 and died May 13, 1904. James Bland and Malberry Smith moved to Florida and had a family of twelve children (fifteenth generation):

(A) Daniel Bland, born November 30, 1842;<sup>1</sup> (B) Susannah Bland (April 1843 to April 3, 1850); (C) Elbert Bland (March 18, 1847 to 1933) married Elizabeth Ratcliff; (D) Celestia Bland, born April 5, 1849, married R. W. McCall; (E) Missouri Bland, born June 30, 1851, married C. R. Harrington;<sup>2</sup> (F) Josephine Bland, October 14, 1853; (G) Theodore Bland, born October 2, 1856, married Cornelia Prather; (H) Orpha Bland, born May 14, 1859, married E. H. Sewell; (I) Sarah Bland, born September 3, 1861, married Thomas Culbreth; (J) William Jobe Bland, born March 8, 1864, married Eleanor Brannen; (K) James David Bland, born March 23, 1866, married Lillian Haring; (L) Ezekiel Bland, born September 26, 1868, married Eveor Prather.

3. Daniel Bland was born in 1818 and died January 10, 1880. Daniel married Jency Parrish,<sup>3</sup> who was born September 11, 1821 and died

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<sup>1</sup> Daniel Bland died March 17, 1845.

<sup>2</sup> Missouri Bland may have married Lot Townsend before C. R. Harrington

<sup>3</sup> Daniel Bland married Jency Parrish September 19, 1839.

February 13, 1905. Their children (fifteenth generation) had lives which extended into the 20th century:

(A) William Bland (1842-1918) who married Nicie Riggs; (B) James Bland (1844-1925), who married, first Rebecca Bowen, and second, Ella Butler; (C) Elizabeth Bland (1846-1924) who married John Groover; (D) Michael Bland (1848-1924) who married Anne Rigdon in 1876; (E) Malachi Bland (1851-1912) married Mattie Mercer; (F) Mitchell Bland (1853-1933) who married Malisie Johnson; and (G) Benjamin Bland (1855-1891) who married Elizabeth Beasley.<sup>1</sup>

4. David Bland, whose dates are unknown, married a Nancy Lanier and moved away with her to Thomas County, Georgia. Their children (fifteenth generation): (A) William Bland; (B) George Bland, who married Katherine Lanier; and (C) Frank Bland, who married \_\_\_\_\_ Warren.

5. Timothy Bland was born September 7, 1823 and died on August 12, 1893. On September 4, 1845 he married Jane Parrish, a cousin of the Jency Parrish who married Timothy's brother, Daniel. Their children were (fifteenth generation): (A) Mary Bland, who never married; (B) Sarah Bland, who married Isaiah Parrish; (C) Milton Bland, who married Missouri Holloway; (D) Safronia Bland, who married Cooper Freeman; (E) Hillary Bland, who married Marietta Byrd; (F) Frankie Bland, who married James Lanier; (G) Hiram Bland, who married Ida Parrish and Carrie Lord; (H) Laura Bland, who married John Hendricks; and (I) Leonard Bland, who married Mary Buie.

6. Hiram Bland, born probably in 1824. Hiram was a Confederate soldier who was killed during the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain near Atlanta in 1864. He married his cousin, Jency Crumpton. Their

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<sup>1</sup> Three children of Daniel Bland and Jency Parrish, Newton, Richard and an unnamed infant, died young.

children (fifteenth generation) were: (A) Ivy Bland, who married Louisa Woodrum; (B) Timothy Bland, who married Vicie Woodrum; (C) Susan Bland, who married John Franklin; (D) Mary Bland, who married Frank Deal; and (E) Asbury Bland, who married Katherine Byrd.

7. Edith Bland, born about 1827, married Batte Gay.

8. Rebecca Bland, born about 1828, died August 13, 1895. She married William Pridgeon (born in 1819, killed in the Civil War) and by him had issue (fifteenth generation), including: (A) a son, James Pridgeon, who also was killed during the Civil War; (B) Madison, who wed Lavinia Dixon; (C) Adeline, never wed; (D) Mozell, wed John Waters.

9. Safronia Bland, born January 1, 1831 and died September 28, 1900, who married first Barry Gay and had issue by him. After his death, Safronia married Aleck Clark. She also had children by him.

10. William Bland, Jr., who was born July 5, 1835 and died December 7, 1866. William Bland served in Company D, 61st Georgia Regiment, C.S.A., and was captured by the Yankees. He was not released until after the Confederate forces surrendered in 1865. Excepting his service in the Civil War, William appears to have lived near Stateboro, Georgia. He married September 5, 1856 Sarah Gray, who was born in 1836 and died June 8, 1911. Their children (fifteenth generation) whose lives reached into the 20th century, included: (A) Mary Bland (May 19, 1858- ) who married James Beasley on April 4, 1878; (B) Fulton Bland (1859-1935) who married Fluvanna Green on March 30, 1884; (C) Arian Bland (1861-1911) who married Mills Brinson; (D) Ada Bland (1861<sup>1</sup>- , a twin of Arian) who married D. E. Byrd; (E) Hanson Bland (1866-1896) who married Ella Franklin; (F) Susan Bland (1868- ) who married James Calhoun;

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<sup>1</sup> Ada and Arian were twins, born April 10, 1861.

(G) Absola Bland (1870- ), who married Robert Graham; (H) Winnifred Bland (1871- ) who married J. H. Johnson; (I) William W. Bland (1873-1931) who married Elizabeth Parrish in 1898; and (J) Walter Bland (1875-1934) who married first, Kittie Parish, and second, about 1904, Annie Robinson.

11. Sarah Bland, who is listed as the youngest child of William Bland and Susannah Alderman, was born about 1834. She married Clem Mercer but they had no children.

This is the extent of information known by the author about descendants of James Bland (twelfth generation, C.1770-1818) by his first wife, Jemima Alderman.

Following the death of Jemima Alderman about 1800, James Bland (twelfth generation) remarried, probably about 1801, to Esther Newton, who was born October 11, 1779, and died September 17, 1854. Esther was the daughter of Isaac Newton and Jemima Chambers, and the aunt of James Bland's first wife, Jemima Alderman. James Bland and Esther Newton had a family of ten known children (thirteenth generation), including: (1) Anna Bland; (2) James Newton Bland (1803-1875); (3) Dorcas Bland; (4) Jemima Bland; (5) Mary Bland; (6) Amariah Bland (1809-1869); (7) James Thomas Bland (1810-1886); (8) David Bland; (9) Enoch Bland (1815-1871); (10) Timothy Bland (1818-1883). Of these ten children, the following is known.

Daughter Anna Bland was born May 2, 1802 and died May 16, 1847.<sup>1</sup> She married Enoch Alderman (1801-1878). Daughter Dorcas, the third child, married John Blanton. The second child, and first son of James

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<sup>1</sup> Parker, pp. 80-83. Cf. Stephen McLeod to Charles Bland, December 15, 1981.

Bland and Esther Newton was Isaac Newton Bland, who was born December 17 1803 and died in August 1875. Isaac married Mary Elizabeth Alderman on July 1, 1824. Mary was born May 30, 1808 and died December 30, 1847. Mary was the daughter of John Alderman and was Isaac Newton Bland's second cousin. Isaac Newton Bland was a church deacon at the Bull Tail-Wells Chapel Baptist Church near present-day Wallace, in Duplin County. He filed his will in Sampson County, North Carolina, adjacent to and formed from Duplin. Isaac and Mary, his wife, were parents of ten children (fourteenth generation) who included:<sup>1</sup>

Milton Bland, who was born April 27, 1826 and died June 26, 1897. Milton was a native of Duplin County, but spent his adult life as a farmer in Sampson County. Milton married, on March 20, 1851, Elizabeth J. Turner, whose dates were April 5, 1828 to July 20, 1873.

Milton Bland and Elizabeth Turner had a family of six children, including five daughters and a son (fifteenth generation). They were: Mary Ann, who married Isaac Francis Newton; Esther Susan, who married James Boney Jones; Sarah Caroline, who married John Calvin Newton; Melissa Jane (December 21, 1857-January 4, 1940), who married on April 4 1877, David Poindexter Averitt, and with him had a family of nine children. Esther, Susan and Melissa married in North Carolina, and then moved away with their husbands to Georgia. Esther lived in Pooler, Georgia, and Melissa in Stateboro. Sidonia Pettaway Bland married Isaac R. Newton.

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<sup>1</sup> Information about the family of Isaac Newton Bland and Mary Alderman is derived from Parker, pp. 94-97, 99 and passim, as well as William Graham Bland's, "James Bland of New Hanover County, North Carolina." Cf Stephen McLeod to Charles L. Bland, November 30, 1981. In the Wells Chapel cemetery, there is a tombstone which reads, "Isaac Newton Bland, died 1874, aged about 74 years, and his wife, Mary Alderman, died 1843, age about 40."

The only son of Milton Bland and Elizabeth Turner, Solomon Newton Bland was born January 13, 1867 and died September 30, 1950. He was a merchant and lived near Willard, in Pender County, North Carolina. Solomon married Varina Davis Newton on January 13, 1886. Varina's dates were March 14, 1863 to June 22, 1900. Solomon and Varina had four children (sixteenth generation), including: Rossie Bell Bland (1886- ) who married Nova Register; Sarah Elizabeth Bland (1888-1918) who married Herbert S. Bland (a cousin) in 1911;<sup>1</sup> Liston Elionidas Bland (1892-1909); and Mary Beulah Bland (1896- ) who married Thomas J. Carr in 1914. Following the death of Varina Davis Newton in 1900, Solomon Newton Bland married October 30, 1904, Flossie Newton, a cousin of his first wife. Flossie was born March 3, 1880 and died July 15, 1959. Solomon Bland and Flossie Newton had two children (sixteenth generation): Bernie Lee (1910- ) who married Jessie Howard in 1935; and Newton Curtis (1912- ), who married Christine Wells in 1937.

The second child of Isaac Newton Bland (thirteenth generation) and Mary Alderman, was Martha Ann Bland who was born November 15, 1829 and died November 29, 1912. Martha married twice. Her first husband, whom she married on May 6, 1854, was David J. Newton (1828-1855), and by him had one daughter. David Newton died shortly after Martha gave birth to their only child, and on May 30, 1858, Martha married James Rooks (1813-1870) and by him had six children. Many of Martha Bland Newton Rooks' children survived into the 20th century.

The third child of Isaac Newton Bland and Mary Alderman was Esther Bland, whose dates were April 5, 1832 to February 2, 1882. Esther never married.

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<sup>1</sup> See p. 310, note 1.

The fourth child of Isaac Newton Bland and Mary Alderman was James Finley Bland (fourteenth generation) who was born September 23, 1834 and died September 24, 1908. James Finley was a soldier in Company E, 18th North Carolina Regiment, C.S.A. He was born in Sampson County, North Carolina, but after the Civil War, moved to Mayesville, South Carolina. Parker described him as a man of boundless energy, who engaged in lumbering, turpentine farming, and merchandising. He married on October 1, 1872, Mary M. Johnson, whose birthdate was September 10, 1844. James Finley Bland and Mary Johnson had three sons (fifteenth generation) whom Parker indicates were successful businessmen in Mayesville and Sumter, South Carolina, and whose lives bridged the 20th century. They were: Robert Johnson Bland (1873-1935) who married Jane Poole in 1898;<sup>1</sup> James Finley Bland, Jr. (1876- ) who married Martha Barriner in 1904; and Hamilton C. Bland (1882- ) who married Corilla Hawley in 1905.

The fifth child of Isaac Newton Bland and Mary Alderman was William Bland (fourteenth generation), who was born January 13, 1837 and died March 8, 1917. William Bland was an ambitious young man, a bright star of sorts. He joined the Confederate Army and served throughout the War Between the States. After the war, he returned to North Carolina and obtained his Bachelor of Arts degree from Wake Forest College. During his life he was a Baptist preacher and also was the first principal of

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<sup>1</sup> Robert Johnston Bland and Jane Poole had a son (sixteenth generation Robert Purdy Bland, who married Mary Allene Carroll. They were the parents of Robert Purdy Bland, Jr., of Sumter, South Carolina (seventeenth generation) whose children Robert Purdy Bland III, Myles Curtis Perrin Bland, and Kingsland Wadick Bland, all minor children in 1981, are (eighteenth generation). Letter, Dr. Robert P. Bland, Jr. to C. L. Bland, November 27, 1981.



the Mingo High School, organized about 1880 in Sampson County, North Carolina. He devoted much of his life to the enhancement of the Mingo school.

William married on January 27, 1882, Ellen Newton, whose dates were March 3, 1858 to April 8, 1939. They had a family of nine children (fifteenth generation) whose lives extended into the 20th century: Manly Bland (1883-1921) married Ella Rivers; Clio Bland (1885- ) married Ella Jackson; Farris Bland (1887-1888); Rena Bland (1889- ) married George Ferrell; Donnie Bland (1891-1891); Cyrus Bland (1892-1922), never married; Florence Bland (1894-1921), never married; Allie Bland (1896- ), never married; and Rosa Bland (1898-1929), never married.

The sixth child of Isaac Newton Bland and Mary Alderman was Mary Elizabeth Bland (fourteenth generation), born October 7, 1839 and died January 10, 1908. Mary Elizabeth married J. R. Register (1848-1899). The seventh child of Isaac Newton Bland and Mary Alderman was Lavinia, who was born January 18, 1842 and died April 30, 1915. She married Thomas Vann on February 1, 1866.

The eighth child of Isaac Newton Bland and Mary Alderman, was John Thomas Bland, who was born October 26, 1843 and died May 3, 1913. Of John Thomas Bland's life, Parker learned only that he served in the C.S.A., Company A, 41st North Carolina Regiment. After the war, he returned home to marry Susan Rebecca Highsmith on May 6, 1869. Susan's dates were January 18, 1850 to February 6, 1916. John Thomas Bland and Susan Highsmith were parents of nine children (fifteenth generation) born between 1870-1892, whose lives bridged the 19th and 20th centuries:

Lillie A. Bland (1870-1916) married Ralph Highsmith in 1899; Mary Irene Bland (1873- ) married H. G. Gromartie in 1907; Susan A. Bland (1876- ) married Lewis B. Highsmith in 1900; Ellen Ivey Bland (1878-1914) married J. Pett Newton in 1913; Ethel O. Bland, November 27, 1881, married W. B. Register in 1904; Herbert S. Bland (1884- ) married first Elizabeth Bland (1888-1918), a cousin in 1911,<sup>1</sup> and second, Estelle Brice in 1919; Norma Pauline Bland (1889- ) married Luther Register in 1912; and Iola F. Bland (1892-1908), did not marry.

The ninth child of Isaac Newton Bland and Mary Alderman was Sarah E. Bland. She was born September 12, 1845 and died September 2, 1914. She married R. F. Pigford on May 9, 1867. The tenth and final child of Isaac Newton Bland and Mary Alderman was Jemima Bland, who was born June 4, 1847 and died September 23, 1872, unmarried.

This concludes information about the children of Isaac Newton Bland (thirteenth generation) and Mary Alderman. Isaac was the first son and third child of James Bland (twelfth generation) and Esther Newton. Their fourth child was Jemima Bland (born in 1811), who married about 1830 Benjamin Rogers (1810-1908).<sup>2</sup> Mary Bland, the fifth child of James Bland and Esther Newton, married Reuben Rogers, Jr.<sup>3</sup> Benjamin and Reuben Rogers, according to Parker, were brothers, and their mother was named Christian Alderman. This means that the children of these two marriages were double first cousins. By now, the reader is aware that the cousin relationships between the Blands, Rogers, Aldermans, Newtons, Powells, Parkers and Pages in the Duplin County area were dense and prolific.

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<sup>1</sup> See p. 307, note 1.

<sup>2</sup> Stephen McLeod to Charles Bland, December 15, 1981.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid. Mary died soon after her marriage to Reuben Rogers, Jr. Their daughter, Elizabeth, died in her infancy.

The sixth child of James Bland and Esther Newton was Amariah Bland, who was born January 21, 1809 and died November 1, 1869. Amariah Bland is the ancestral grandfather of a key correspondent to the author, William Graham Bland of Jacksonville, Florida. Graham indicates, through recollections of elder persons who knew Amariah, that he was a man of great dignity, fine bearing, and reserved manner. About 1854, Amariah purchased a tract of land near Rose Hill, North Carolina, and built a house upon it that was occupied by Blands until about 1889, and is still standing near Rose Hill, North Carolina. Graham Bland tells a story of two Union soldiers who were killed and buried near the Amariah Bland house during the Civil War. According to legend, Anne Eliza Young, wife of Amariah's son, George Washington Bland, was spooked by the sight of an apparition of a horse and phantom rider galloping past her house, a short distance from the Amariah Bland house, which might have been one of these Union soldiers who went South to die, far, far from home. So says Graham Bland!<sup>1</sup>

About 1830, Amariah Bland married Mary Page, who was, as noted previously,<sup>2</sup> a sister of Dorcas Page, who married Amariah's half-brother, Daniel White Bland (thirteenth generation, C.1796-1871). Amariah and Mary Page Bland had a large family of eleven children (fourteenth generation) including: (1) Sarah Ann Bland (1832-1861); (2) John James Bland (1834-1864); (3) George Washington Bland (1836-1906); (4) Mary Elizabeth Bland (1838-1912); (5) David Bland (1840-1862); (6) Joseph Marion Bland (1842-1843); (7) Esther Caroline Bland (1844-1844);

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<sup>1</sup> William Graham Bland, "Amariah Bland's Island Creek Plantation House, Near Rose Hill, Duplin County, North Carolina," The Exchange, Southern Genealogist Exchange Society (July 1981).

<sup>2</sup> Cf. pp. 296-297.

(8) Abram Francis Bland (1845-1918); (9) Benjamin Franklin Bland (1848-1916); (1) William Rufus King Bland (1852-1903); and (11) Gaston Amariah Wilder Bland (1857-1932).

The first child of Amariah Bland and Mary Page was Sarah Ann Bland, who was born April 21, 1832 and died December 19, 1861. On December 16, 1856, Sarah married Charles Wright Savage (1831-1916), and by him had three children: a son and two daughters, all of whom lived into the 20th century.<sup>1</sup>

The second child of Amariah Bland and Mary Page was John James Bland, who was born May 19, 1834 and died in 1864. He married Mary C. Johnson on February 26, 1863. Nothing more is known about this couple. It may be that in their brief marriage, no children resulted.

The third child of Amariah Bland and Mary Page was George Washington Bland, who was born March 4, 1836 and died April 2, 1906. He married Anne Eliza Young on February 14, 1875. Anne was born August 25, 1850 and died June 19, 1927. There were six children (fifteenth generation), by this marriage, including:

Franklin Thomas Bland, who was born November 29, 1875 and died October 29, 1893; Amariah Bland, who styled himself "Amy R. Bland," born May 15, 1877 and died November 9, 1954.<sup>2</sup> Amy R. Bland married Adell Scott (1890-1957) and they had two children (sixteenth generation): Anne Katharine Scott Bland (August 26, 1914-still living), and Amy R. Bland, Jr. (1921-1977). The third child of George Washington

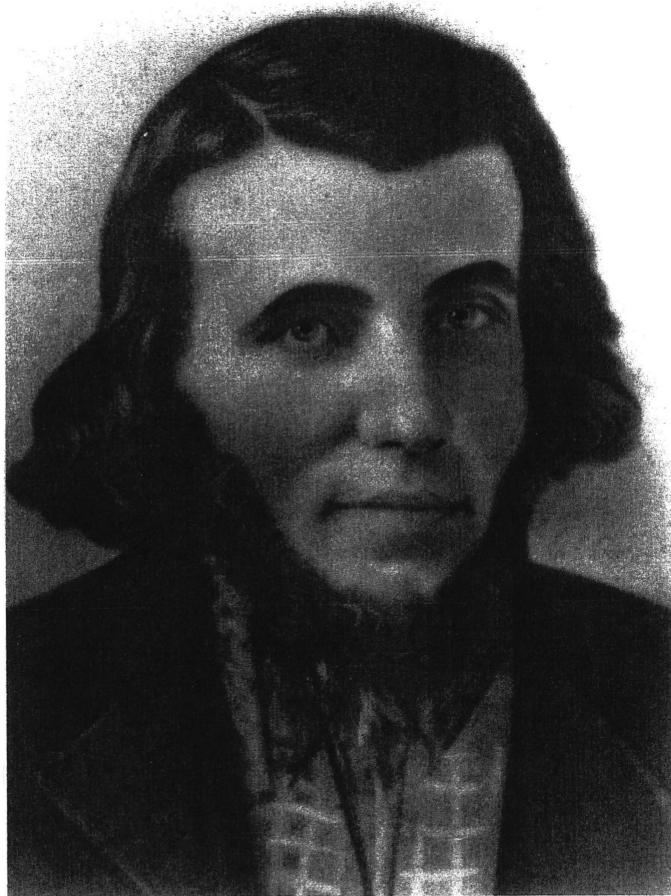
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<sup>1</sup> William Graham Bland supplied to the author a brief genealogical statement that extends the descendants of Sarah Ann Bland and Charles Wright Savage up to the present day. The statement was prepared by Mrs. Robert H. Walker, of Wilmington, N.C.

<sup>2</sup> Per William Graham Bland (September 3, 1920-still living) letter 1/8/82: "Anne Katharine Scott Bland's father, Amy R. Bland, was the first member of our branch of the family to express a genuine interest in the Bland family history and...he was the first to conduct any resear

312A.

George Washington Bland (1836-1906) and Anne Eliza Young Bland (1850-1927).



Courtesy of William Graham Bland

TABLE XXI

THE FAMILY OF WILLIAM BLAND OF DUPLIN COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA: FOUR GENERATIONS

- (10) William Bland (C. 1726-1775)  
 (11) William Bland (C. 1748-1816)

Rachel Powell, about 1769.\*

(12-1)

James Bland (C. 1770-1818)

(A) Jemima Alderman (1773-1800), about 1795.

(B) Esther Newton (1779-1854) about 1801.

(12-2)

William Bland (1771-1854), married Mary Parker about 1793.

(13-1) Daniel White Bland (1796-1871), married Dorcas Page.

(13-2) William Bland (C. 1797-1873), married Susannah Alderman.

(13-3) Edith Bland (C. 1800- ), married John Fryar.

(13-1) Anna Bland (1802-1847), married Enoch Alderman.

(13-2) Isaac Newton Bland (1803-1875), married Mary Elizabeth Alderman.

(13-3) Dorcas Bland, married John Blanton.

(13-4) Jemima Bland (1811- ), married Benjamin Rogers.

(13-5) Mary Bland, married Reuben Rogers.

(13-6) Amariah Bland (1809-1869), married Mary Page.

(13-7) James Thomas Bland (1810-1886), married (1) Dinah Alderman; (2) Margaret Hendry

(13-8) David Bland

(13-9) Enoch Bland (1815-1871).

(13-10) Timothy Bland (1818-1883), married (1) Adeline Ward; (2) Alice Bradshaw.

(13-1) Rachel Bland, married (1) Joshua Lee; (2) William Powell.

(13-2) Lucretia Bland, married William Newton.

(13-3) James Bland (1798-1862), married Mary Powell.

(13-4) Nancy Bland (1799-1845), married Bryan Lee.

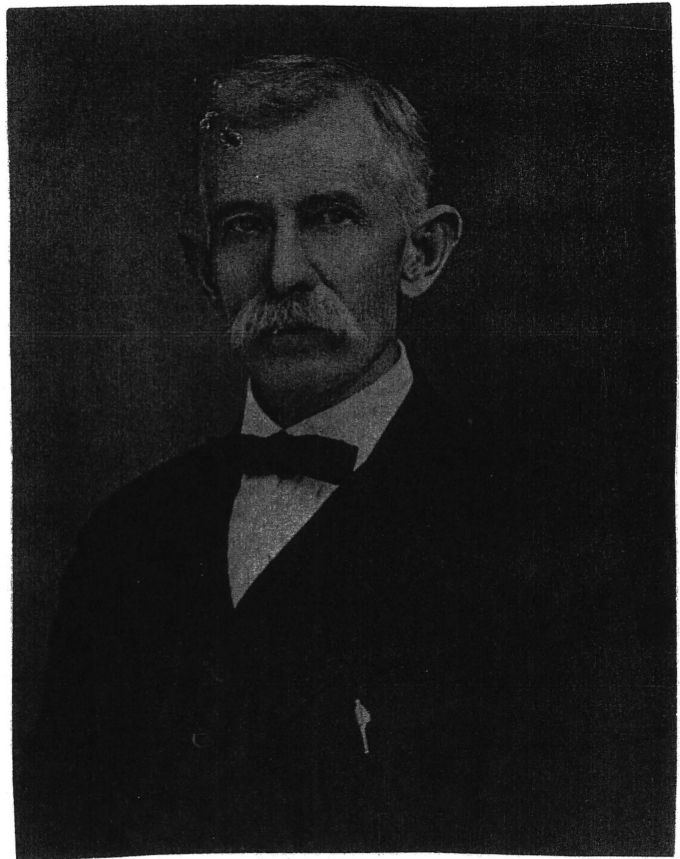
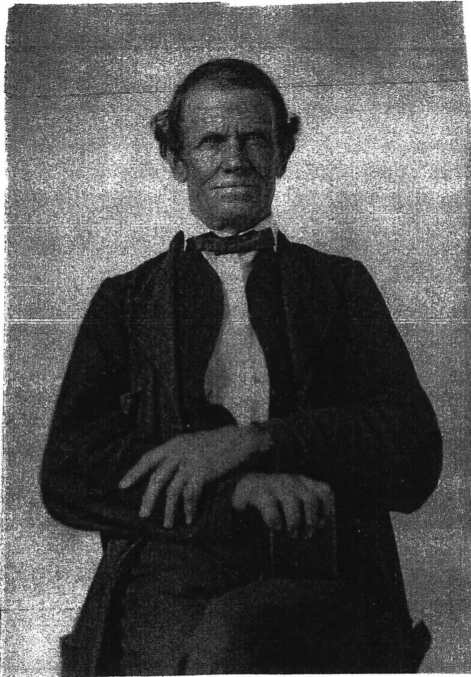
(13-5) Susannah Bland (1800-1887), married (1) Ephraim Johnson; and (2) Naaman Stephens.

(13-6) Elizabeth Bland (1802-1842), married Jacob Highsmith.

\* William Bland (eleventh generation) and Rachel Powell had a daughter Elizabeth, who married Isaac Newton.

312C

James Thomas Bland (1810-1886) and his son John Thomas Bland Sr. (1853-1928), courtesy of John Thomas Bland. James Thomas Bland was the son of James Bland and Esther Newton, see page 316.







Bland and Anne Eliza Young was John David Bland, who was born June 24, 1879 and died July 31, 1958. John David Bland married Elizabeth Irene Ezzell (1890-1934) and they had two children, a son, William Graham Bland who was born September 3, 1920, and a daughter, Mary Belle Bland (February 28, 1923- ), who married Marvin Lorenzo Pound. Following the death of his first wife, Elizabeth Irene Ezzell in 1934, John David Bland remarried on January 10, 1935, to Josephine Johnson (1894-1962).

The fourth and fifth children of George Washington Bland and Anne Eliza Young were Mary Jane Bland (February 14, 1881-December 10, 1893), and Anne Julia Bland (October 11, 1883-August 31, 1885). The sixth and final child of George Washington Bland and Anne Eliza Young was Willie Washington Bland who was born July 18, 1886 and died September 9, 1939. Willie married Berta Knowles Heath.

The fourth child of Amariah Bland and Mary Page was Mary Eliza Bland, who was born April 11, 1838 and died April 29, 1912. She married William W. Mallard ( -1913) on March 20, 1856. David Bland, born February 22, 1840 and died March 8, 1862, was the fifth child of Amariah Bland and Mary Page. David was the first of Amariah and Mary's children to be buried in the family center and his grave originated what is now the Rose Hill North Carolina Cemetery. Amariah Bland inscribed upon David's tombstone (David is buried beside his parents) a passage that is simple, eloquent, and a perfect inspiration for genealogists: "...to live in the hearts we leave behind, is not to die."<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> William Graham Bland, "Rose Hill Cemetery Approaches Hundredth Year, Was Begun by Bland Family in 1862," The Wallace Enterprise, July 24, 1961.

The sixth child of Amariah Bland and Mary Page was Joseph Marion Bland (September 12, 1842-December 1843). The death of baby Joseph was followed quickly by a daughter's infant death. She was Ester Caroline Bland (August 5, 1844-November 1844).

The eighth child of Amariah Bland and Mary Page was Abram Francis Bland, born December 18, 1845 and died August 31, 1918. Abram married Harriet Dobson (1853-1906) on April 24, 1873. According to an historian of this family, Grover Dobson Bland, Jr., of Raleigh, North Carolina, Abram Francis Bland and Harriet Dobson had a family of seven children (fifteenth generation), including: (1) Margaret Juanita Bland (March 11, 1874 to June 20, 1946), who married John C. McMillan (1863-1932); (2) Mary Bland (February 29, 1876 to December 12, 1927) who married Henry Franklin Boney (1875-1950); (3) Coy Bland (March 10, 1877 to March 30, 1938) who married Gabrielle Robinson; (4) Louise Bland (May 24, 1883 to May 29, 1950) who married H. D. McMillan (1871-1954); (5) Daniel Graham Bland (January 18, 1888 to 1943) married Willie Wall; (6) Grover Dobson Bland (September 22, 1892 to August 4, 1930) married Ruth Teachey (1892-1927). Grover Dobson and Ruth Teachey had three children, including a son, Grover Dobson Bland, Jr. (sixteenth generation) (April 5, 1922- ), the genealogist of this branch, identified above. (7) John Hanby Bland (born January 12, 1896- ).<sup>1</sup>

The ninth child of Amariah Bland and Mary Page was Benjamin Franklin Bland, who was born May 23, 1848 and died August 4, 1916.

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<sup>1</sup> Grover Dobson Bland, Jr., "Abram Francis Bland and Harriet Dobson Bland, Teachey, Duplin County, North Carolina, and Their Descendants." This genealogy was supplied to the author by William Graham Bland.

Benjamin married Ada Caroline Cook (1860-1913) on February 2, 1879. The historian of this branch of the Bland family, Mrs. James H. Booth, of Kenansville, North Carolina, indicates that Benjamin Franklin Bland and Ada Cook had a family of eleven children (fifteenth generation), including:

(1) Charles Adrian Bland (January 28, 1880-August 18, 1937); (2) Repiton Amariah Bland (September 13, 1881-December 18, 1948), who married Annie Iola Rooks (1895- ) on February 13, 1916; (3) Ora Catherine Bland (October 2, 1882-October 8, 1960); (4) Benjamin Franklin Bland, Jr. (January 12, 1884-February 9, 1964); (5) Henry Pryson Bland (May 14, 1886- ); (6) Philip Dodrige Bland (September 25, 1887-February 15, 1964); (7) Arthur Pritchard Bland (May 1, 1889-April 21, 1890); (8) Leroy Bland (August 18, 1890-November 17, 1940); (9) Mary Virginia (Jennie) Bland (September 22-1892- ) married James Henry Booth on November 12, 1919; (10) Bertha Caroline Bland (August 21, 1894-July 26, 1902); (11) Ada Cook Bland (September 17, 1897- ) who married David L. Pigford on December 23, 1928.<sup>1</sup>

The tenth child of Amariah Bland and Mary Page was William Rufus King Bland, who was born April 29, 1852 and died on June 30, 1903. On May 25, 1873, William married Mary Catherine Young (1848-1893), a sister of Anne Eliza Young, who married George Washington Bland, a brother of William Rufus King Bland. This couple had a family of twelve children (fifteenth generation) including: (1) Jacob Junius Bland (April 14, 1874-June 28, 1901); (2) Mary Susan Bland (February 10, 1877-October 19, 1903); (3) William Francis Bland (February 1, 1879-

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<sup>1</sup> Mrs. James H. Booth. Untitled genealogy of the family of Benjamin Franklin Bland and Ada Caroline Cook. A copy of this work was supplied to the author by William Graham Bland.

August 4, 1903); (4) David Calvin Bland (April 19, 1881- ) who married Matilda Hanchey on March 8, 1903; (5) Laura Catherine Bland (September 3, 1882- ); (6) Jesse King Bland (April 14, 1885- November 6, 1886); (7) Julia Norma Bland (July 16, 1895- ); (8) Mabel Ruth Bland (July 1897- ); (9) Annie Elizabeth Graham Bland (June 30, 1899- ); (10) Arthur Bland (born and died August 27, 1900); (11) Shuler Divine Bland (August 29, 1901- ); (12) William Rufus Bland, Jr. (February 14, 1904- ).

The eleventh child of Amariah Bland and Mary Page was Gaston Amariah Wilder Bland, who was born May 18, 1857 and died in 1932. "Willie," as he was called, married Annie Mason. When they were married or whether they had children does not appear.

This concludes the family of Amariah Bland (thirteenth generation) and his wife, Mary Page. Amariah was the sixth child of James Bland and Esther Newton.

Their seventh child was James Thomas Bland (thirteenth generation) who was born December 30, 1810 and died August 23, 1886. He lived most of his life on Long Creek or Moore's Creek, in Sampson County, North Carolina and had a reputation as a good citizen. James Thomas Bland married two women. His first wife was Dinah Alderman, whom he married sometime in the 1830's. Her dates were October 20, 1813, and she died in 1850. James Thomas Bland and Dinah Alderman had a family of six children (fourteenth generation): Daniel P. Bland ( -1903) married Eliza Corbett; Hanson Alderman Bland (1841-1912) married Sarah Ann Moore, a cousin, on January 1, 1878. Hanson served as a soldier in Company A, North Carolina 41st Regiment, C.S.A. Hanson Bland and Sarah Moore had a son (fifteenth generation), Franklin P. Bland (1878-1927) who married Verra Garvis. Franklin and Verra had two daughters.

Parker says of him, "he was faithful in all things and left a rich moral legacy for his children."<sup>1</sup> Hanson Alderman Bland and Sarah Moore had two other sons: Aaron Thomas Bland (1880- ) who married Irene Corbett in 1903; and Henry Alderman Bland (1883- ) who married Ruby Williams in 1907.

The remaining children of James Thomas Bland and Dinah Alderman (thirteenth generation) were four daughters: Nancy, who married Robert Henry; Margaret (1844-1912) who married Dixon Bowden; Sarah, who married James Corbett; and Dinah, who married William G. Moore.

Upon the death of Dinah Alderman, James Thomas Bland married Margaret Hendry of Pender County. They had a child, the Honorable J. T. Bland of Pender County, who supplied most of the information about the Blands that Parker received.

The eighth child of James Bland (twelfth generation) and Esther Newton was David Bland, who died as a young man and never married. The ninth child of James Bland and Esther Newton was Enoch Bland, who was born in 1815 and died March 21, 1871.<sup>2</sup>

The tenth and final child in the marriage of James Bland (twelfth generation) and Esther Newton, was Timothy Bland, who was born on May 29, 1818 and died September 1, 1883. According to Ann Bland Morris, who has compiled a genealogy of Timothy's family, he lived in a village called Goshen Creek, near Kenansville, North Carolina, in Duplin County.<sup>3</sup> Timothy was described by an old timer who knew him as a tall man. I

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<sup>1</sup> Parker, p. 208.

<sup>2</sup> This date is recorded in a family Bible now owned by Laura Lee Vanns, of Harrells, North Carolina. Stephen McLeod to Charles Bland, December 15, 1981.

<sup>3</sup> Cf. Graham Bland and Ann Bland Morris, The Bland Family of Rocky Mount, North Carolina (1977).

have seen a tintype of Timothy in Ann Morris' genealogy. It shows a man with a somewhat outdated beard for the fashion of his day, a derby hat poised atop his great round head, with a very alert, intelligent expression. Timothy married two women and fathered sixteen children. His first wife was Adline Ward, whom he married May 13, 1841. She was born May 7, 1825 and died December 13, 1861. In the twenty years they were married Timothy and Adline had eleven children (fourteenth generation):

(1) Mary Elizabeth Bland, who was born May 13, 1842. She married Daniel Teachey on January 12, 1860. (2) Samuel James Bland, who was born October 26, 1843 and died March 10, 1910. Samuel served during the Civil War and was known around Duplin County as "Captain." Whether he married and had children does not appear in Mrs. Morris' history. (3) Frasanah Caroline Bland, who was born September 5, 1845, and about whom nothing more is known. (4) William Jefferson Bland, born October 25, 1847 and died in 1918. Known among his friends as "Billy,"<sup>1</sup> William Jefferson Bland moved to the town of Willard in Pender County. He married three times, first to a woman named Lucy \_\_\_\_\_ who died two years after their marriage. There were no children by this marriage. William Jefferson Bland's second wife was Jane Lee Willard, by whom he had two children (fifteenth generation): Callie Jane Bland (January 24, 1878-July 30, 1960), who married James L. Mills, Jr. on February 19, 1896; and Tommie Attie Bland, who was born January 1, 1876 and died July 7, 1967. Those who knew him described Tommie Attie Bland as a tall, stately man with beautiful white hair,

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"Billy" is a nickname stuck to southern Williams, be they saints or scamps, e.g., Billy Graham and Billy Carter.

soft spoken, quiet and very easy going. He was a Baptist minister who tended to be a little long winded in his sermons. He married first Nancy Catherine Rivenbark (1879-1935) on March 10, 1897. On April 9, 1939, he married Ella Ayers (February 16, 1896-June 30, 1954) and traveled with her throughout Mexico and the United States. Of the various children of Tommie Attie Bland, the most significant was Samuel William Bland (sixteenth generation, March 2, 1902-January 7, 1966), who was the father, through his marriage in August 1928 to Pearl Elizabeth Whitfield (1907- ), of Samuel Bland, Jr. (seventeenth generation) who was born April 14, 1929, and had by his wife, Faye Jennie Lawson, a daughter, Faye Annette Bland (eighteenth generation), who married Samuel Webster Morris, and is thus Ann Bland Morris, the author of the Timothy Bland genealogy.

The fifth child of Timothy Bland and Adline Ward was Ann Victoria Bland, born April 3, 1849. The sixth child was Helen Frances Bland (February 23, 1851-August 26, 1862). The seventh child was Sarah Sylvania Bland who was born on November 14, 1852. The eighth child of Timothy Bland and Adline Ward was Edwin Jay Bland, born August 22, 1854 and died August 23, 1896. The ninth child was Cornelia Adeline Bland, born May 20, 1856. The tenth child was John Clifton Calhoun Bland, who was born March 2, 1858 and died September 9, 1962. The eleventh child was Emma Estelle Bland, born August 9, 1860.

Eleven children in twenty years is quite a lot of work for a woman, and Adline Ward gave out and died in 1861 at the early age of thirty-six. It is interesting to note that there is a gap in child-births for Timothy until 1867, suggesting among other things that he might have served a stint in the Civil War, before returning home and

meeting his second wife, Ala Bradshaw (July 12, 1836-June 5, 1924), whom he must have married in 1865 or 1866. Timothy and Ala had a family of five children (fourteenth generation), including: (1) Ester Isabella Bland, born January 1, 1867; (2) Mary Jane Culbreth Bland, born July 24, 1868; (3) Romulous Timothy Bland, born October 17, 1871; (4) Jemima Bathsheba Bland, born June 7, 1874, who married Joe Wood;<sup>1</sup> (5) Bessa Newton Bland (January 20, 1877-September 4, 1949) who married David W. Johnson.

This concludes the family of Blands in New Hanover, Duplin and Sampson Counties, North Carolina, who descended from James Bland (C.1770-1818, twelfth generation) and his two wives, Jemima Alderman and Esther Newton.

Disconnected Connection: From Chatham County, North  
Carolina to Greene County, Indiana

It is easy to see that the descendants of William Bland (eighth generation) through his son James (ninth generation) were both numerous, coherent in composition and antecedent beneficiaries of a quite extensive family interest in genealogy, by which a great many distinct and credibly documented lines have been preserved.

A great deal however remains to be discovered about the descendants of James Bland (ninth generation). James had two sons (tenth generation), James Buchanan Bland and William Bland. All of the information on pages 282-320 is concerned with the descendants of William Bland. Of James Buchanan, it is known that he was still living

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<sup>1</sup> Joe Wood and Jemima Bathsheba Bland were the parents of Naomi Wood, now living in Wilmington, North Carolina.



in 1771,<sup>1</sup> by which time he was probably in his forties, but nothing further is known of him. The absence of records may indicate that he moved away after the death of his father, possibly back to Virginia or to Kentucky. The bottom line, however, is that nobody knows what happened to him.

Similarly, three young sons (eleventh generation) mentioned in the 1775 will of William Bland (tenth generation) of Duplin County, North Carolina, are in terms of present knowledge not conclusively traceable. They are Thomas, Charles and James. James was old enough to be William's co-executor, with his brother William (c.1748-1816), but the other two children, Thomas and Charles, who must have been minors when their father made his will in 1775, have not been traced through adulthood.

Although similar names appear later in North Carolina records, there is nothing to concretely tie the later records to these individuals.

One must be careful in attempting to delineate later Blands in the Eastern County area. Primarily, there were Bland names found in the late 18th century in New Hanover and Duplin Counties. Also, in Randolph County a well-defined family of Blands descending from William Bland (eighth generation) through his son Moses Bland, was established.<sup>2</sup> Early in the 19th century, most of this family began to migrate to Kentucky and Indiana. There remains the possibility that some of the sons of James Buchanan Bland or William Bland (tenth generation), or both, migrated from the New Hanover/Duplin County area and settled in

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<sup>1</sup> Cf. P. 282, note 1.

<sup>2</sup> Cf. pp. 342 ff.

Chatham County, to the North, which was founded in 1770 from Orange County.<sup>1</sup> That these Chatham County Blands apparently belong to the family founded by James Bland (ninth generation) is reinforced by the fact that James' grandson, John Bland (eleventh generation son of William Bland), settled and died in Chatham County.

It is useful to note the identifiable families of Blands who were in Chatham County in 1790. According to the bare information provided in the first census there appeared to be two distinct families:<sup>2</sup>

	<u>James Bland</u>	<u>John Bland</u>
Adult Males (over 16)	1	1
Minor Males (under 16)	5	0
Females	2	2

Even this information is problematical, because if the John Bland listed above is the same man who was presumably eleventh generation (1760-1827) discussed on pages 284-293, one would have to ask, where were two minor sons, James and William "Buck" Bland, whose identities are known, and who would have been minor children in 1790, as would a daughter, Elizabeth. The more promising line of inquiry would appear to be James Bland, who had in his family five minor sons in 1790, all

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<sup>1</sup> David Leroy Corbett, The Formation of North Carolina Counties: 1663-1943 (Raleigh, North Carolina: Third Printing, 1975), p. 61. One should also be alert to the possibility that these unlinked Blands in Chatham County may have been descendants of William through his son Moses, since Randolph and Chatham Counties are adjacent and both were carved from what was originally Orange County.

<sup>2</sup> One should note, however, that there were two families of William Blands: one in Duplin County, enumerating one adult male and two females and one in New Hanover County, enumerating two adult males and three females. (Evidently, James died or moved away from Chatham County betwe 1790-1800, for he was not enumerated in the Chatham County census of 180

of whom would have been born in 1774 or later. This James Bland could have been the (eleventh generation) son of William Bland (tenth generation). He would have been born sometime between 1749-1754. In 1790, he would be in his late thirties, logically married about fifteen years, and the father, by the above record, of six minor children, including five sons and one daughter. I wish to emphasize, however, that this conclusion is very tentative, and is only offered as a possibility. At present, there are no wills or deeds that would indicate when this James Bland died, or the names of his wife and children.<sup>1</sup> It is a question that sorely needs to be answered. At present, there is only indirect proof linking this James Bland chronologically backward to a parent, or forward to a wife and children.

One couple who have worked tirelessly to find the missing link is Mr. and Mrs. Albert Hunter, of State College, Pennsylvania. Mr. Hunter's furthest back ancestor is Jacob Bland, who was born no later than 1779, and by 1800 was an adult head of household in Chatham County, but sometime during the 1820's moved his family to Greene County in southern Indiana, where he died May 13, 1839.

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<sup>1</sup> Most of my information for what follows is derived from letters from Mr. Hunter to Doris Bland Melia, of Dodge City, Kansas, November 3, 1979 and March 23, 1980; Hunter to Alice Phillips Garrison, North Carolina, April 9, 1980; a 1980 fragment of a letter never finished; and numerous letters to the author. Mr. Hunter's assistance was indispensable to completion of this section. Albert Hunter wrote me on December 6, 1981: "There does exist a receipt for military service of a James Bland, in Wilmington District, near the end of the Revolution. If you don't account for him otherwise, and accept Castelloe Denton's ancestry from John of Duplin, who moved to Chatham, then it would be logical to assume that James of Chatham was John's brother, and served as a soldier from Duplin, later moving to Chatham."

In 1800, the Chatham County, North Carolina census enumerates a family headed by Jacob Bland in which there are, in addition to Jacob, a woman aged 26-45 (possibly Jacob's mother), a male aged 10-16, and a female under 10. There is no woman enumerated who would be Jacob's wife (the exceptional possibility being that Jacob was by then close to twenty-six, and his wife, enumerated as 26-45, just a year or so older than twenty-six). Even so, Jacob could hardly be the father of a male, aged 10-16. Rather, it appears that Jacob was head of a household for an extended family, possibly including his mother and two younger siblings. Further, the census lists Jacob Bland living alongside a "Barshaby" Bland, head of a household which enumerates one female over 45, one female 16-26, one male 10-16, and two males under 10. Barshaby appears to be a corruption of Bathsheba, which occurs later in the family, when Timothy Bland (thirteenth generation) named a daughter born in 1874, Jemima Bathsheba Bland.<sup>1</sup> By 1800, Bathsheba, or Barshaby, appears to have been fairly old, possibly having earlier married into the Bland family.<sup>2</sup> A close connection between Jacob and Bathsheba is suggested by their close geographic proximity. Further, however, there is recorded a will of Esther Rowan in New Hanover County, dated January 2, 1788, which suggests a connection between Bathsheba,

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<sup>1</sup> Again, this would reinforce the connection between the Chatham County and Duplin County Blands, as would the name Jacob. There was, as seen on preceding pages, considerable intermarriage between the Bland and Newton families, one of whose founders was Jacob Newton.

<sup>2</sup> So much about Jacob is speculative that perhaps it will do no further harm to add that it is possible Bathsheba was Jacob's mother.

Jacob and that county. In it, Esther Rowan wills her property to Elizabeth Richards, her daughter, but stipulates that if Elizabeth fails to bear children, the whole would descend to "my god-daughter, Bathsheba Bland."<sup>1</sup>

Exactly how this Bland-Rowan relationship works out has not appeared. It is interesting, however, to note that about 1801, Jacob Bland married Nancy Richardson who, as later shown in Greene County, Indiana census records, was born in 1779. She was the daughter of George Richardson and still living in 1860.

Jacob Bland and his wife were enumerated in the 1820 census in Chatham County, but in 1830 were in Greene County, Indiana, one of four Bland families there by 1830.

Jacob sold 50 acres of land on the south side of the Haw River in 1816, and was found on a tax poll in Chatham County in 1815, along with Henry, Thomas, Francis and Joseph. Interestingly, the 1830 census for Greene County, Indiana shows four families headed by Jacob, aged 50-60 (he was probably 51 or over at the time): Francis, aged 30-40; Thomas, aged 40-50; and William, aged 40-50. This would seem to make a fairly strong case that Jacob, Francis and Thomas, and William were brothers.

In summary then, there is the possibility, based upon juxtaposition of dates, location and ages, that Jacob Bland was the son of one of the older sons of William Bland (tenth generation). As stated, the most likely parent for Jacob would be James Bland, enumerated as head of a household including five minor males in 1790. If true, this James

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<sup>1</sup> New Hanover County Will Book C, January 2, 1788, p. 372, cited in personal communication to Charles Bland, December 6, 1981.

would have been the son of William (tenth generation) and would have been born between 1749-1754; thus, would be 36-41 in 1790. The appearance of a father-son relationship between James (eleventh generation) and Jacob, Francis, Thomas and William is strong enough to warrant classification of the latter four males as twelfth generation.

Jacob Bland (twelfth generation) and Nancy Richardson had a family of eight children (thirteenth generation), all of them born at Pittsboro, in Chatham County, North Carolina, and all moved with Jacob and Nancy to Greene County, Indiana.<sup>1</sup> They were: (1) Nancy Richardson Bland; (2) Permelia Bland; (3) Mary Bland; (4) Zina Bland; (5) Rebecca Bland; (6) James Jacob Bland; (7) Robert Henry Bland; (8) Sarah C. Bland.

The first child, Nancy Richardson Bland, was born December 5, 1802, and died June 24, 1876. She married on January 5, 1825, Richard Pope. Richard Pope and Nancy Richardson Bland are buried in the Wall Cemetery, Tulip Township, in Greene County.<sup>2</sup> The second child of Jacob Bland and Nancy Richardson, Permelia, or perhaps Pamela, was born in 1805 and died about 1883. In the Greene County census for 1860 she is shown living alone in the Highland Township, aged 55, a weaver by trade. The third child was Mary Bland, who was born in 1807. The date of her death is unknown. She married Wiatt Miller on June 21, 1826. The fourth child of Jacob Bland and Nancy Richardson was Zina

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<sup>1</sup> In a personal communication, Albert Hunter related to the author a story in which as a young boy, his grandmother took him to the cemetery in Tulip (Wall Cemetery) where her husband, a daughter, and her parents were buried. There she pointed out a tree, which had grown from a branch some of the early Blands had brought from North Carolina. Information about the family of Jacob Bland and Nancy Richardson is derived from the 1860 census for Greene County, Indiana, as well as a family group sheet supplied the author by Albert Hunter.

<sup>2</sup> The Wall Cemetery was about one-quarter mile from the home of Jacob Bland (twelfth generation).

Bland, who was born in 1809 and died at an unknown date after 1860, when she is listed in the Greene County census as a 51-year-old weaver, living with her mother and her sister Permelia.

The fifth child of Jacob Bland and Nancy Richardson was Rebecca Bland, who was born April 11, 1813 and died June 10, 1865. Rebecca married Mark Clark on June 18, 1840.<sup>1</sup> The final daughter, and eighth child of Jacob Bland and Nancy Richardson, was Sarah Bland, who married George Wilkie on January 30, 1840.

There were two sons born to Jacob Bland and Nancy Richardson, and for purposes of continuity in the narrative, the youngest, Robert Henry Bland, should be discussed first. Robert Henry was born March 7, 1817 and died September 28, 1869. He was a soldier in the Civil War, serving with the Indiana Volunteers, 43rd Infantry, Company C. Robert Henry Bland married on March 6, 1837,<sup>2</sup> Chloe Hodges. Chloe was born in Surry County, North Carolina, on August 1, 1816 and died June 17, 1908. Robert Henry and his family are identified in the Greene County census for 1850 and 1860 as farmers, with the older daughters listed as weavers. Robert Henry and Chloe had a family, still intact in 1860, of eight children (fourteenth generation) including:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Year Born</u>
Rebecca	1838
Sarah E.	1840
Nancy	1842
Mary	1845
Joseph	1846
James	1849
William T.	1852
Zina	1855

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<sup>1</sup> Early Marriages of Blands in Greene County, Indiana. Supplied by Albert Hunter.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.