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Editor’s Message

Randy W. Whited

I recently read a news article regarding the study of some of Thomas Jefferson's writings. Specifically it addressed the results of multi-spectrum analysis of an early draft of the Declaration of Independence. As he edited the text, many words were scratched out and replaced but only one word was smudged and marked to the point of obliteration; it was replaced with the word 'citizens.' Scholars and historians had long wondered if the original word had been ‘patriots’ or perhaps ‘residents.’ Imaging technology allowed researchers to tease out the original text, revealing that Jefferson originally wrote 'subjects,' allowing for a subtle, yet important, insight into the Framer's thought processes at the time.

One line of the article caught my attention such that it overshadowed the remainder:

"[Library of Congress preservation director] Van der Reyden said the research and discoveries illustrate why it's so important to keep and protect original documents. The erased "subjects," she said, could have been detected only from Jefferson's original draft."

In our current age of convenience and pajama genealogy, it is encouraging to hear of archivists stress the importance of preserving our heritage, not just making copies of it. It is distressing to see institutions and facilities focusing more on the beauty of their buildings or the 'visitor experience' rather than the content or quality of their collections. In that mindset we run the risk of losing just not the documents themselves but the context behind them.

I wish to personally thank each of this issue's contributors. Your efforts and attention to detail serve as an example to others and were a pleasure to read. I would also like to note that this is the first issue that I have had the honor of editing that consists of 100% member contributions. Thanks again and please continue writing and submitting.

Sincerely,

Randy Whited

Austin Genealogical Society Quarterly, 51 (2)
Immigrant’s Surname Changed?
A Different Twist - Plus a Few Musings about My Surname

Robert E. Tieman

Prefacing Note: In the German language, the combination of letters, “ie”, is pronounced as a long “e”; and the combination, “ei”, is pronounced as a long “i”.

Adding to the confusion and frustration of genealogists researching their families, many of their immigrant ancestors underwent a surname change when they entered this country. Sometimes it was inadvertent – such as the foreign name being misunderstood or mis-translated by English speakers; other times purposely – such as Anglicizing the name to fit more comfortably into the newly adopted country.

While these reasons and many others were so common, none was the case of my ancestor’s. Circumstances more unique, and definitely more interesting, would influence my surname – a name dramatically different than that of my 19th century ancestors.

In 1802, my 3rd great-grandfather purchased a small farm from the aged widow Anna Timans in the village of Kohlstadt, located in the Lippe-Detmold region in the western part of present day Germany. Having no male heirs of her own, she had to pass this property on to someone outside of her family. But, as a condition of the sale, she was allowed to live on the property until her death. With her welfare thus provided for, there was another matter – one more significant to future generations - that needed attention.

Did I fail to mention my 3rd great-grandfather’s name? It was KLAAS – Johann Christoph Heinrich KLAAS. Truly, it was a proud name for a proud hard working man.

Even though KLASS had been the family name for many generations, now there was a unique problem with it. At this time in history, the name of a house or a farm was considered to be much more important than a man’s name. Thus, it was imperative for Johann to adopt the name of the farm. Rather than take the name of Timans, however, Johann legally changed his name and all of his family to TIEMANN, an accepted variation of Timans. Henceforth, the property was known as the TIEMANN farm, and future owners would be obligated to assume the TIEMANN name.

Johann’s eldest son, Johann Christoph Conrad TIEMANN - my 2nd great-grandfather – later assumed ownership of the farm several years prior to his father’s death in 1831. He, his wife, and five children lived on the farm until 1845. By this time, crowded living conditions, the constant threat of military conscription, and the lack of personal freedom in central Europe were becoming intolerable. With the knowledge that America would provide abundant free land, and more importantly, freedom from these oppressions, he and his family immigrated to Texas in 1846. They settled in rural Fayette County, where he chose to be known simply as Conrad TIEMANN.

One would think the family name would now become as common as Smith or Jones here in the US. But not so fast, a few interesting twists continued to follow the name. For instance:

The 1850 US Census lists the Head of Household to be “C. TEAMANN.” The 1860 US Census lists him as “K. TEAMOND.”
the initials for the first name? Many records of the time alternately refer to “CONRAD” and “KONRAD”. The “K” was generally associated with the elder Conrad).

Adding to this confusion, the elder Conrad named his eldest son Conrad. As fate would have it, each of them would marry a woman named Henrietta. So now, there were two Conrad’s and two Henrietta’s. It might not have been a problem for those living at the time; but, later generations tried to distinguish between them by naming the elder, “Conrad I”, and the younger as “Conrad II.” This distinction was blurred somewhat later on when subsequent generations had a “Conrad, Jr”, a “Conradina”, and another “Henrietta”

One of Conrad II’s sons was named Otto Charles August TIEMANN, the last of my direct ancestors to have three given names. He was my great grandfather. Although he was consistently known as Otto, his World War I Draft Registration card shows him as “Otto Charley TIEMAN”. “Charley? I never heard him called by that name. As rough and tough on his family as I heard he was, I doubt he ever used that more personable name.

Otto’s first son, my father, was christened Aloysius Stephen TIEMANN. His family called him Alois, a short form of the name. After about age 16, he went by the name, Louis Stephen TIEMANN. As a young adult during World War I, he “Americanized” his surname to TIEMAN by dropping the last N. At least, that is my speculation because of the “anti-German” sentiment at the time. Sometime after his first son, Louis Stephen TIEMAN, JR, was born in 1926, my father reversed his given names and went by Stephen Louis TIEMAN. Why? I have no idea why. Maybe it was necessary because of a failed business venture. Court records may give me a clue to the reason.

My full name is Robert Edward TIEMAN. One of my first cousins is named Robert Eugene TIEMANN. Both of us lived in Austin and were known as Robert E. TIEMAN, with one or two “N’s”. This caused some confusion until he moved to San Antonio. Now it’s no problem.

A presenter at a recent genealogical seminar suggested that if we “Googled” our name, we would be surprised at the results. Accepting the challenge, I entered Robert Tieman, Yikes, was I surprised! There were pages and pages of entries alright, but they were mostly of my cousin or my oldest son, Robert S. TIEMAN. I only showed up near the end! What’s a person to do?
Interesting Cousins

Richard Robertson

In the genealogy world we tend to call everyone “cousin”. And if we go back far enough we probably are all cousins. In the Austin Genealogy Society a little over a year ago I discovered a new member, Martha Haltom Barnhardt, was my cousin.

Probably we all have cousins we wish our kids and grandkids knew or knew about. But that is not easy if they live far away or if they are no longer with us.

So I want to introduce the next generations of my family to some of my interesting cousins.

First, you need to know Buster Robertson of Durand, Wisconsin. Buster’s real name is Sidney, but no one ever called him that. Buster is my age, one of Uncle Sigvart’s seven children, born and reared on the family farm in Meridean, Wisconsin, which is near Eau Claire. My father was Uncle Sigvart’s younger brother. In a way, Buster is my connection to my father’s past. Our grandparents came over from Norway in the late 1800’s and settled in this farming community with other Norwegian immigrants. Buster is the unofficial historian of his family and the source of information about all of the relatives. He has been in the area all his life except when he served in the army at the end of WWII. As an adult he had his own farm for many years until his knees forced him to retire and move to nearby Durand. As a post retirement activity he became a hired driver for the Amish farmers who had settled in the area.

When I am there, Buster takes me around the area to see the relatives and their farms and has taken me places where he says my father taught school or where there is some family connection. He has never lost his Scandinavian accent and we have a great time remembering visits when we were kids. He always reminds me of their taking me riding in the goat-pulled wagon in 1935.

At our mutual cousin Pee Wee’s farm, we uncovered all manner of photos and correspondence my dad had with Pee Wee’s mother. Once or twice a year I get a long telephone call from Buster with all the news or mail with funeral notices when we lose a relative or friend. But when we are there, I can really step back in time and imagine my father in this little farming community.

Next, I want you to know a cousin on my mother’s side of the family. My kids briefly knew her when she was a student at the University of Texas in the sixties. She spent the day with us and entertained the kids singing and playing the piano. Little did we know then that Mandy would become a famous entertainer on stage and TV and the composer of the famous song, “The Rose.” Amanda McBroom is my first cousin once removed, the daughter of Cousin Cynthia who
grew up in Jacksonville, Texas and ended up in Hollywood. When Cynthia died of cancer, Mandy came back to Texas to be with Cynthia’s sister, Mary Frances, who was a high school teacher in the Rio Grande Valley. Mandy was a regular on Hawaii Five O and in a number of Mash episodes on TV and has had a performing circuit singing many of her own songs. She was in Austin a few years ago and we were able to visit with her briefly after her concert.

Ted Scarlet was really a cousin-in-law in that he was married to my first cousin, Charlotte Benson. I first met Ted in 1947 in a Philadelphia suburb when Pete Hendrick and I hitchiked to Canada and back. We spent the night with Ted and Charlotte and their new baby, Laura. They later moved to Minneapolis where Ted had an engineering career. In 1995 when I visited with him I learned of his retirement project. He had been working with a group of volunteers to restore a 70 foot streetcar boat called the Minnehaha that had been built in 1906 to provide transportation on the 20 mile Lake Minnetonka and had been sunk in the lake in 1926. It was raised in 1980 but sat rotting on the lakeshore for 10 years. Restoration began in 1990 and Ted worked on it many of those six years. In 1996 the restoration was complete and the first cruise took place in May. We were back in Minneapolis in 2000 and went to the lake and saw the beautifully restored boat. We were impressed! It was great to know our cousin had such a part in this. Both Ted and Charlotte have died since we were there.

Maybe you will get to meet this next cousin in Austin one of these days. This is my long-lost cousin, Kellene Sory Jarrett. You may remember that I wrote about finding her in Houston when I was on a genealogy trip to the Clayton Library. It had been 70 years since I had seen her. Her parents, Uncle Julian and Aunt Anna, divorced in 1933 and that was the last time we were together. Uncle Julian remarried Aunt Bernice and we were very close to them the rest of their lives. He tried to see Kellene during the years in Jacksonville but Anna blocked most of his efforts. Since Kellene and I have “found each other” we have had her come to Dallas to be with Tom, June, and Dee Dee and we all met in Jacksonville where she showed us around the town. I have sent her many pictures of Uncle Julian and was able to tell her what a wonderful person he was. She was a medical technician in Houston during her working years and has many hobbies that keep her active and traveling all over the country in her van. She was widowed at a young age and reared a son and a daughter. I hope to get her to Austin to meet our part of the family here and get our Houston grandkids together with her there.

So here are four of your cousins. Doesn’t that make your life more interesting?
Families from the Highlands of Scotland began arriving in North Carolina in the 1730’s. The first colony of Scottish Highlanders was the Argyll Colony in the Cape Fear valley who settled in 1739 near the current city of Fayetteville. By the start of the American Revolution, the estimated number of Scot Highlanders in North Carolina was 15,000.

The inscription on Angus McDonald’s tombstone states:

_In memory of Angus McDonald  
A native of the Isle of Skye  
Scotland, who died Dec. 8, 1861  
Aged 92 years¹_

The Isle of Skye is the most northerly island in the Inner Hebrides of Scotland and covers 639 square miles. It is the second largest island of Scotland. More research is needed to get accurate information on Angus’ ancestors, the town of Angus’ birth and the date of his emigration.

Angus was not in the first group of immigrants, since he was born in 1769, 30 years after the Argyll Colony was established. Possible information about his father is from a pamphlet written by Ernest and Furman McDonald. They state that Angus was the son of Hugh McDonald who settled in southern Moore County in 1787 and that Hugh was the son of James McDonald who came to America with his family from the Isle of Skye in 1770 or 1771 (Angus would have been about a year old).² This pamphlet did not include documentation. There is a Scottish tradition which makes their information possible: first born sons were usually given their grandfather’s first name. Angus’ first born son was named Hugh.

An interesting document listed an Angus McDonald Jr. and Angus McDonald Sr. “On 13 December 1799 in Richmond County, North Carolina, in the presence of Murdock McDuffee, Justice of the Peace, the following persons took an oath that they were prevented from voting for Duncan McFarland in an election in said county where allegations of impropriety were raised. A petition was sent to the North Carolina General Assembly by those concerned: ‘That from a feeling a fondness for possessing the enjoyment of the Rights & Privileges of the Citizens of America, your Memorialists …Forsook their native soil of Great Britain … from the year 1782 until 1790 Emigrated into this State & ever since that Period have truly Endeavoured to conduct themselves as peaceably & orderly Citizens … and likewise became purchasers of & Free Holders of the County of Richmond … duly paid Public tax, attended Musters, worked on Roads.” There are 86 men on the list, including Angus Jr. and Angus Sr.³ Duncan McFarland, the man these men were supporting, was a large landowner who named his plantation Laurel Hill. McFarland was the chief activist against the Federalist Party in the Cape Fear region.⁴ The Federalist (later Republican) party was the largest political party in the upper Richmond County area and supported by the prominent families who viewed the Antifederalist (later Democrat) party as “an upstart party less qualified than themselves and generally of a lower class.”⁵ Angus’ support of McFarland might show what his political leanings were.
Tax records, land records, annotations in the minutes of sessions at the Laurel Hill Presbyterian Church, census reports, and court records show that Angus resided in Richmond/Scotland County. Scotland County was formed in 1899. Before then, it was a part of Richmond County which was formed from Anson County in October 1779. When General Sherman marched through Richmond County in 1865 during the Civil War, his troops ransacked the courthouse, throwing records into the streets. To research Angus and his descendants, it is necessary to check any remaining records in Scotland, Richmond and Anson counties.

Available tax records in Richmond County show Angus as a taxpayer in 1806 and 1812. In 1838, land records show he had 692 acres in Gum Swamp. His neighbor was James McDonald. Records of land purchases by Angus are dated between April 2, 1800 through November 27th, 1817.

Session minutes of the Laurel Hill Presbyterian Church dated July 19, 1857 stated: “The session met at the call of the moderator (?). Elders present: John Buchanan, C. McKinnon, D.C. Stewart, & John McNeill (?). Opened with prayer. Charles & Betty, slaves of Wm. B. McMillian (?), Jaihs, a slave of Mrs. (?) Lytch, & Aggy, a slave of Angus McDonald, presented themselves before the session, in order to join the Church. After examining them for sometime & finding that they were quite ignorant, it was suggested by the Moderator that their names be enrolled & such others as wished & that there be formed a class of catechism & that he would instruct them & as such we unanimously agreed to.” Session minutes dated September 19, 1857 state that Aggy was examined and received by the church elders. These minutes indicate that Angus was a Presbyterian. Old Laurel Hill Presbyterian Church was organized in 1797 by Scots, and the first building erected in the early 1800’s. The present church was built in 1865.

The first census in 1790 recorded 60 McDonald families in North Carolina. Of these, 11 were in Richmond County. If McDaniel is included, because this name was interchangeable with McDonald, the total in Richmond County was 16. Only one Angus McDonald is listed. There were no McDonalds listed on the 1800 census for Richmond County; however, there were 9 McDaniel’s, including 3 August McDaniels. Angus was listed in the 1810 census in Richmond County with 9 total in the household. In the 1820 census, there are no Angus Mc丹alds; however, there are two Angus McDanalds. One has 8 in the household and 2 slaves, and the other has 10 in the household and 7 slaves. The 1830 census has Angus in Laurel Hill District with 8 in the household. In 1840, there were only 5 in the household. The 1850 federal census was the first one that included the name, age, sex, color, occupation, place of birth, marital status, school status, literacy, and disability of every person in the family at that specific household and included the value of real estate owned. For this census, Angus was listed as 75 years old (took a few years off?) with 800 acres. The only other person listed in his household was Alex McDonald, age 25, listed as a farm hand. In 1860, one year before his death, Angus, at age 90, was still in his home. The value of his real estate was listed as $2,000, and the value of his personal estate was listed as $9,000. Again, there was only one other person in his household, Neill McDonald, age 52, listed as a farm hand.

Minutes of the Superior Court of Law and Equity, Richmond County, (SRCD File: 23-A/52[60A.2]), dated September 20, 1813,
states: “The following aliens, subjects of other countries, having emigrated to the United States since the 20th of January 1795, came into court and signified their intentions and desire for residing within the United States, which was ordered to be recorded.” Two notes stated that “1) Unless otherwise noted, date citizenship granted was September 20, 1813. 2) In each instance, the place of nativity is Scotland.” Listed are 36 men, including Angus McDonald, no age listed and showing “Years in US” as “Prior to 1802.” To be a citizen of the United States in 1813, a person must have been a free white alien of good moral character, be in the USA for five years with one year as a resident of the state, must have filed their declaration to be a citizen after two years of residency and filed a petition three years after the declaration.

A couple of sources show that Catherine Buchanan was Angus McDonald’s wife. Her tombstone, next to Angus, reads:

In memory of Catherine
Consort of Angus McDonald
Died Sept. 25, 1836
Aged 60 years

The second source was William Buchanan’s will, dated September 9, 1817, showing he left $20 to “Angus McDonald and my daughter, Catherine McDonald.” A record of the marriage or wedding has not been located so far. Family reports show that William Buchanan emigrated in 1775, so Catherine’s birthplace was probably someplace in North Carolina. She married Angus in approximately 1797 or 1798 when she was about 21. Angus was seven years her senior. They were married for about 38 years before she died in 1836. During those years, she gave birth to at least 8 children.

Richmond County Court records (C.R.082.508.35) show that Angus was a resident of this county when he died. In January 1862, three of his children petitioned the court against three other children about their father’s estate. According to this record, Angus died intestate (without a will) and left 690 acres of land, eight slaves valued at $6,500, and personal property which was sold by his administrator to 48 individuals. The slaves were Eliza, Robert, Isaac, Sarah, Alfred, Dave, Aggy, and Harriet. The results of this court case will be reviewed in a later section of this report on Angus and Catherine’s children.

Angus and Catherine’s tombstones are in an abandoned cemetery near Laurinburg, Scotland County, North Carolina. Two children who preceded them in death are also buried here.

On January 13, 1862, the Fayetteville Observer reported: Died in Richmond County NC December 9, 1861 Mr. Angus McDonald, native of Skye, aged 92. Departed this life in the same neighborhood, Jan. 3, Mrs. Mary Stalker, native of Argyleshire Scotland ... aged 91. Both were members of Laurel Hill Presbyterian Church and sustained unblemished characters. (signed) A Friend. (Abstracted from the Fayetteville Observer.)

In summary, the information about Angus McDonald shows that he was from the Isle of Skye, Scotland, was born in approximately 1769, lived in Richmond County, North Carolina from at least 1794 to 1861, married Catherine Buchanan, was a farmer with 690 acres of land, had at least eight children, died on December 8, 1861, at age 92, and was buried near Laurinburg, North Carolina. Angus and Catherine are my maternal great-great-great-grandparents.
Sources

5. Gibson, p.32.
7. Laurel Hill Presbyterian Church Minutes of Sessions, July 19 and Sept. 19, 1857
8. 1790 federal census, www.heritagequest.com
10. 1810 federal census, www.heritagequest.com
11. 1820 federal census, www.heritagequest.com
15. 1860 federal census, www.heritagequest.com
17. “Scotland Piper,” Scotland County Genealogical Newsletter, July and May 1991
20. Gibson, Joyce. E-mail dated 7/12/2008
Life of James Pettigrew as Stated in His Pension Application

Kay Dunlap Boyd, submitter

Transcribed by Nan Overton West. James “Long Jim” Pettigrew was the eldest son of John Pettigrew and grandson of James Pettigrew, all living in Abbeville SC during the Revolution. “Long Jim” married Jane Harkness in Abbeville SC on 3 Nov 1785. Pettigrew is the third great grandfather of Kay Dunlap Boyd. Line breaks were added by the editor for readability.

File No. W5522

STATE OF ALABAMA

COUNTY OF GREENE: On this 22nd day of September 1832 personally before the Judge of the Circuit Court of the County and State aforesaid, Anderson Grisham now sitting, James Pettigrew of the age of about 71 years a resident of the County of Greene and State of Alabama who being first duly sworn and according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefits of the Act of Congress passed 7th June 1832.

That he entered the services of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated He states that he has no record of his age and the only circumstances by which he recollects it is this: his grandfather told him on his, this applicants, return from the engagement at Stono or Stone Ferry that he, this applicant, would be seventeen years old in the November following this engagement. This applicant entered the service as a substitute for his father, John Pettigrew, on the Indian Line in Abbeville District, South Carolina against the Cherokees under Captain William Baskins in 1776 in the summer or fall.

Sometime after this he was drafted and served a tour in Georgia but the date or officers he cannot recollect as the Enemy, the Seminole Indians, could not be found. He thinks that Joseph Calhoun as Lieutenant commanded the company. He was in this war but a short tour.

The first engagement he was in was the Battle of Stono or Stone Ferry on Ashley River under General Pickens and Lincoln or Johnson. Lieutenant Arthur Gray commanded his company. This was the second tour in which he was drafted. At this engagement Colonel Roberts who commanded the Artillery was killed by having one of his thighs shot off by a cannon ball.

The next battle he was in of any note was at the Cowpens under General Morgan. General Pickens, Col. Anderson, Colonel McCall, Major Noble, Lieut. Carlile were in that engagement and most of them, if not all, were under the command of General Pickens and from Abbeville District. He recollects that Colonel Washington with his cavalry was there and saved the militia from inevitable destruction. James Caldwell commanded this applicant's company and was cut almost to death by Tarlton's [sic, Tarleton's] horsemen so much so that he had to be borne from the field.

He was also at the Battle at the haw-fields where Col. Piles [sic, John Pyle] was defeated.
and the Tories were defeated. There were nearly 300 of them killed and wounded mostly. General Pickens and Col. Lee commanded here.

The next engagement of much notoriety was at Ninety-Six. We besieged this place under General Greene for three weeks but were compelled to raise the siege on account of the besieged obtaining a strong reinforcement under Lord Rawdon.

From this he was marched to the block house in Abbeville at the residence of General Pickens where he was stationed a month or thereabouts Guarding the areas & [indecipherable word] the residents. During his service an expedition to Camden under General Pickens his company was commanded by Lieutenant Adams he was also out two tours under Captain Joseph Calhoun, one of those was under Col. Anderson down the Edisto river after one Cunningham [William Cunningham], a Celebrated Tory Col. who led the Blood Scouts &c we were in this expedition unsuccessful & on our return the Tories Intercepted our Baggage wagons [sic] & took the Guard, this was called the Bull Swamp expedition.

He was under General Pickens in two expeditions against the Indians & Tories in one of those we took killed thirty Indians & took one Tory at this time they did not go for taking Tories but killing but a Captain Maxwell with service of the United States on this expedition took Dave Pickens with whom he happened to be intimately acquainted. This same Dave Pickens was a cousin to our General Pickens but the General would not allow him to come near to him and never spoke to him for he was a blood thirsty Tory.

In the last expedition we killed but one or two Indians and took one a prisoner who afterwards escaped. He was out on one expedition against the Tories and Indians under Col. Anderson. We marched in this expedition across part of Georgia and went over the Oconee river at Scull Shoal where we had an engagement in which we killed a few Indians and one Tory and took two deserters from a regiment of American regulars in which Major Bowie commanded. There we formed a Court Martial and hung them one of these deserters was by the name of Murphey, the other Luna [?]. We had one man killed by the name of Holloway. He was sent to be a regular captain who had come from the north on furlough to see his connections with whom he went on this expedition and it was his last for he fell with his pistol grasped in his hand and his finger on the trigger and this applicant had some difficulty in getting the pistol out of his hand without firing it off, his finger was so set around the trigger.

Suffice it to say that besides what expedition and battles have been named he was in the service in some way or other against the Indians, Tories or British constantly from the overthrow of Charleston by the British until the close of the war. His father was also with many others of his connections and as a mode of distinguishing this applicant was called "Big Pettigrew".

Sometime before the close of the war John Pettigrew (this applicant's father) was taken prisoner by the Tories and conveyed to Ninety-Six and thence to Charleston where he was kept on board a British Prison ship till after the war or about the close of it. He was in actual service between 3 or 4 years, nearly four.

After the war the applicant resided in Abbeville District, South Carolina until 1816 or 1817 when he moved to Talapoosa in Alabama Territory where he resided two years and then removed to Greene County, Alabama where he now resides. He states that he was born in Prince Edward County in the State of Virginia
in 1761 and the month of November and was removed with his family to North Carolina while a child and from thence immediately to Abbeville, South Carolina where he was raised. Previous to the fall of Charleston he was a substitute and twice drafted. After that time he was a refugee and of necessity as well as choice a volunteer the balance of the war.

He thinks John C. Calhoun would give satisfactory traditionary evidence of this applicant's service as this applicant was an overseer for Patrick Calhoun, the father of said John Calhoun, for the space of three years after the war. John C. was then a small boy but after he was grown and in Congress he procured for this applicant as the heir of William Pettigrew, his deceased brother, his bounty land lying in Missouri. This William Pettigrew was a regular soldier and died in the service in the late war with Great Britain. Applicant does not recollect whatever became of his discharge if he ever had one.

Colonel Patrick Norris knew this applicant during the war and served with him part of the time and they lived close together for some years after the war in Abbeville when P. Norris moved to Pendleton District and settled near Moore's Mills. Said Norris is now residing ten miles of this applicant and can testify as to his character for veracity, good behavior and his actual service. He does not think he has any neighbors who would not testify favorably of his character for veracity and give it as their opinion from the general report in the neighborhood that he was in the service in the Revolutionary War. He will name James Dunlap and Hamilton Brown who have known applicant for thirty or forty years.

The Reverend Edward Pace and James Hillhouse he thinks would testify favorably not only to his reputation for veracity but of their belief as to his service in the Revolutionary War. I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state (or territory in the Union).

Sworn to and Subscribed

JAMES PETTIGREW

the day and date above
and in open court
Attest: James Yeates, Clk

JANE PETTIGREW'S APPLICATION FOR WIDOW'S PENSION

The State of Alabama
Greene County

On this 10th day of Sept in the year of our Lord 1845, personally appeared before the Hon. the judge of the County Court of Greene County & State aforesaid -- Jane Pettigrew a resident of the County and State above mentioned, aged seventy nine years and nine months who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on her oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed July 7th, 1838, entitled an act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows: That she is the widow of James Pettigrew, who was a volunteer in the revolutionary war, served upwards of four years, entered the services at sixteen, was in the Battle of Stono under Gen Lincoln in 1779, was engaged also in the Battle of the Cowpens Gen Morgan commander in chief; but in the divisions of Gen. Pickens -Siege of 96 -- General Green Commander in chief, . was lying sick near Eutaw Springs when that engagement took place.

She further declares that she was married to the said James Pettigrew on the 5th day of
November 1785, that her husband the aforesaid James Pettigrew died on the 2th day of April 1841, that she was not married to him prior to his having the services, but the marriage took place previous to the first of January seventeen hundred and ninety four viz: at the time above stated.

She also declares that James Pettigrew was a pensioner at his death, and drew his pension regularly up to that time, that he moved from the State of South Carolina and settled in Green County Alabama where he died at the time stated -- and that if further proof of service is necessary she thinks it is within the reach of the department.

Jane Pettigrew X

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written before me Sydenham Moore
Judge of
The Cty Clk of G. County

Deposition of William Pettigrew
Son of Jane and James Pettigrew

The State of Alabama — Greene County —

Before me James R Evans a Justice of the Peace in and for said county personally came William Pettigrew who being first duly sworn deposeth and saith that he is the William Pettigrew mentioned above as having been "born the 14th of January 1809" —that he is now in the thirty-eighth year of his age - that he is the youngest child of James and Jane Pettigrew, that he lived from his birth under the same roof with his father James Pettigrew until the death of his said father in April 1841- -that he still lives under the same roof with Jane Pettigrew his mother - that from his earliest recollection he has seen this Book mentioned and described above, and Commonly called "Confession of Faith of the Church of Scotland" —in the possession of his' said father and mother with the ages of his brothers and sisters and his own age registered as above, that the above is a true extract from the Registry of ages kept in said Book by his said father and mother —

Sworn to & subscribed
Wm Pettigrew
before me
August 11th 1846
Jas R. Evans, JP

Deposition of William Harkness:
James Pettigrew's brother-in-law

The State of Alabama — Greene County

Be it known that on this the 21st day of April 1848, William Harkness, a citizen of the county aforesaid, appeared personally before me Nathaniel F. Birchett, a justice of the Peace for the said county, who being first duly sworn on his oath deposed as follows - viz:-

"I was raised in the District of Abbeville in the state of South Carolina — I continued a citizen of that District until I reached my fifty-seventh year, when I moved to the county of Greene in the state of Alabama.-

I am now in my seventy-eighth year - My sister, Jane Pettigrew (widow of James Pettigrew late of Greene County deceased, and at the time of his death a Revolutionary pensioner) is about four years older than myself, being now eighty-one or two - She was married to the said James Pettigrew to the best of my recollection between 1782 and 1785. I was
present at the marriage of my said sister, Jane, to the said James, the marriage took place in the house of our father (Robert Harkness) then living in the said District of Abbeville, not quite a mile from a church then known by the name of Hopewell Church - a Presbyterian minister by the name of Robert Macklen, who was then the pastor of said church, solemnized the rites of marriage between the said Jane and James Pettigrew, and either John Tilly or Patrick Norris both of whom were present (and both long since deceased) acted as waiters or attendants on James Pettigrew at the said marriage.- I was married to Anne Baskin in Abbeville District, South Carolina on the 20th of September 1792, and my oldest child by the said Anne (named Rosannah) was born September 17th 1793. My said sister, Jane, I distinctly remember, and know with as much certainty as I can know any fact, had then been some years married, and had John, and Robert, and one or two or perhaps three other children - and my said sister Jane, was living in the married state with the said James Pettigrew previously to the first day of January 1794.

From the time of the marriage of my said sister Jane, to the said James Pettigrew, in Abbeville District, South Carolina, I continued to live in the same neighborhood with them. I visited them frequently and was on terms of the greatest intimacy with them, until they moved from that District to Greene County in the state of Alabama, sometime about the year 1827.— The said James Pettigrew, and the said Jane continued to live uninterruptedly in the married state from the time of their marriage as hereinbefore mentioned, up to the time of the death of the said James in the county of Greene, in the year (as well as I recollect) 1841."

Wm Harkness
Austin Street Names

Plotted in 1839 by Judge Edwin Waller, the original street plan of Austin was a fourteen by fourteen block grid bordered by Water Street and North, West and East Avenues. East Avenue was later chosen as the route for interstate highway IH 35.

The central north to south thoroughfare connecting Capitol Square to the river was dubbed Congress Avenue. With the out of order exception of Sabine, the remaining streets that run north and south parallel the order that Texas rivers flow through the state: Sabine, Red River, Neches, Trinity, San Jacinto, Brazos, Colorado, Lavaca, Guadalupe, San Antonio, Nueces and Rio Grande.

The east to west streets were named primarily for trees native to the area. According to the Austin History Center, the names of these streets were changed in around 1897 to their current numbered names.

Below are the present day street names alongside their original labels.

1st Street — Water Street
2nd Street — Live Oak
3rd Street — Cypress
4th Street — Cedar
5th Street — Pine
6th Street — Pecan
7th Street — Bois de Arc
8th Street — Hickory
9th Street — Ash
10th Street — Mulberry
11th Street — Mesquite
12th Street — Rose
13th Street — Peach
14th Street — Walnut
15th Street — North Avenue
16th Street — Cherry
17th Street — Linden
18th Street — Chestnut
19th Street
(Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard) — Magnolia

References
Austin History Center, “Austin Streets”
http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/library/ahc/streets/

1885-86 Austin City Directory map by Rueben W. Ford,
http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/arc/maps/images/map2283.jpg

1872 Austin Street Map by P. De Cordova,
http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/arc/maps/images/map0929b.jpg
John Hermy Robinson Sr. (1815-1897)

Ann Johnston Dolce

John Hermy Robinson Sr. was not a typical emigrant to the United States. He did not come fleeing religious persecution, famine, or war. He was not part of a land grant movement. He came because of business; he stayed because of love, a love he met in New Orleans, Louisiana. He moved his family from New Orleans to find financial success and safety, settling first in Little Rock, Arkansas and then in Austin, Texas. Both cities were state capitals situated in beautiful surroundings and experiencing periods of growth and vitality. Robinson’s is a story of a merchant who became an integral part of the Austin community, setting down deep roots and friendships that spanned generations.

John Hermy Robinson was born on 25 Aug 1815 in London, England. Robinson was a “younger son” and had a sister. His grandson, William Herme Robinson, wrote the following in a letter to a cousin, Nettie Bissell Swancoat Young on 8 Jul 1953:

John Hermy Robinson...baptized in a London church, middle name ‘Hermy’ being for his godfather. Of a bright analytical mind and strong personality, his father wanted him to be a barrister (as lawyers are called in England) but he had a love for the sea – and finally with the consent of his family, but not with their approval, he obtained a commission as a ship’s captain – in command of a merchant ship – I don’t know how he obtained such an important post with such responsibility so very young.

Elizabeth Sheridan, born in County Cavan, Ireland, 17 May 1817 – Her father moved to New Orleans, Louisiana and opened a small wholesale dry goods and implement house there – Grandfather Robinson’s ship brought merchandise from England to the Sheridan Wholesale House, and so became friends and met the daughter Elizabeth – Yellow Fever took all the family for victims, leaving only Elizabeth. She entered a New Orleans convent, which in those early days didn’t carry students as high as now of course – But did teach them to be refined ladies with social graces. On his final ocean trip to New Orleans, John H. Robinson and Elizabeth Sheridan were married in New Orleans on 10 Jul 1836 – he being 21 and she being...
19. He proposed they return to England but she voted to remain in America.\(^9\)

William says his grandfather’s middle name is “Hermy.” In all of the documents found, including John H. Robinson’s own Cash Ledger, his name is always written John H. or J. H. Robinson. The Austin History Center often uses “Henry” as a middle name, but Hermy is most likely the correct middle name, particularly given the middle name of William Herme Robinson.

Family members have recorded various versions of the immigration and marriage of the couple but the stories are basically consistent with only a few embellishments. According to a descendent, Charles Aubrey Smith, John H. was a sea captain commanding a merchant vessel that pld between Liverpool and New Orleans.\(^{10}\) Robinson ended up in New Orleans and it was here that he met Elizabeth, the daughter of a merchant with whom Robinson did business. Elizabeth came to the United States in 1822.\(^{11}\)

After the marriage, Captain Robinson proposed that they return to England but his young wife preferred to remain in the USA.\(^{12}\) Oscar Robinson, a grandson, in an interview in 1959 related his version of Robinson’s arrival in the United States. “The boat in which he was coming to America was wrecked on the Virginia coast. Mr. Robinson Sr. drifted down the coast to New Orleans.”\(^{13}\)

The obituary of John H. Sr.’s son, Alonzo, provides yet another slightly different version of the courtship and marriage of John H. Robinson and Elizabeth Sheridan. The obituary repeats the idea of John H. as a sea captain, but it also gives additional information. “One of the merchants with whom Capt. Robinson did business in New Orleans was an Irishman by the name of Sheridan, who had a young daughter, Elizabeth.\(^{14}\) She was born in County Cavan, Ireland in 1817. Capt. Robinson was attracted to Elizabeth Sheridan and on one of his voyages to New Orleans; he learned that she had been left an orphan during a yellow fever epidemic. The sea captain found Miss Sheridan in a convent, took her out, and married her.”\(^{15}\) All of these accounts are very similar but William Herme’s is probably the most accurate. He was the eldest grandson and was careful to accurately pass down the family story.

Elizabeth and John H. began their married life in New Orleans and John H. began looking for a career since he had given up the sea. He became a partner in a small New Orleans baking enterprise.\(^{16}\) His partner in the business was Thomas William House,\(^{17}\) father of Col. E.M. House, a Texan of some importance during President Wilson’s administration.\(^{18}\) Grandson, Oscar Robinson,
recalled that neither Robinson nor House had much money, but Mr. House was a baker by profession and together the two young men started a small business. Mr. House would bake the cakes and pies and Mr. Robinson would take them around. In later days Mrs. Laura Sheeks and Mrs. E.M. House were teased about the humble beginnings of their father and father-in-law.  

Background information about Thomas William House backs up Oscar Robinson. House immigrated to New York in 1835 at the age of twenty-one and worked as a pastry cook. The owner of the famous St. Charles Hotel in New Orleans liked his work so well that he offered House a job. House moved to Texas in 1836 to fight in the revolution against Mexico. House settled in Houston and by 1838 had set up the firm of House and Loveridge, bakers and confectioners. The two must have crossed paths in New Orleans in the late 1835 or early 1836. It is interesting that years later, Mr. House was in business in Houston in 1875 with Paul Bremond, two capitalists who chartered the Houston East & West Texas Narrow Gauge Railroad. Three of Paul Bremond’s nieces and nephews married three of Robinson’s offspring in Austin, Texas.

In addition to the bakery business, Elizabeth and John H. began a family and the couple’s first child, William Thomas Robinson (perhaps named for Thomas William House), was born in New Orleans on 16 Jun 1837. The family did not stay in New Orleans long and their second child, John H. Robinson Jr., was born on 16 Jul 1839 was born in Little Rock, Arkansas. Why the family moved to Arkansas is a question not answered, but history provides insights. John H. had not made a great success in New Orleans. His bakery business was small and his partner, House, had moved to Texas. New Orleans continued to have periodic Yellow Fever epidemics and the death of Elizabeth’s father probably played heavily on her heart. She and John H. were certainly concerned for the welfare of their young family. Arkansas became a state in 1836 and Little Rock was designated the state’s capital. Little Rock was an ideal place for a town, located in the center of the territory, its river (the Arkansas) was navigable by steamships traveling from New Orleans. The bluffs along the banks offered protection from flooding and Little Rock was a stop on the Southwest Trail from Louisiana and Texas. Cotton was the major crop and southbound steamboats loaded with cotton bales passed northbound boats carrying clothing, tools, and molasses from New Orleans. The town offered economic potential to the Robinsons and a haven from the Yellow Fever so rampant in New Orleans.

The move was made and the 1840 census in Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas lists the Robinsons as a family of five: two adult males, one adult female and two male children. The two male children were William Thomas Robinson and John H. Robinson Jr. Two of the adults were John H. and Elizabeth. The additional male adult, between 30 and 40, is not identified since the census form only recorded the name of the head of the household.

The most concrete information about John H. Robinson and his days in Arkansas is found in a cash ledger he kept that was donated to the Austin History Center by his granddaughter, Ethel Robinson Brown. The book dates from 1841 and contains not only records of his business transactions but also an annual salute to the old year passed and to the new-year beginning. On 1 Aug 1841, the earliest entry in the cash ledger, John had $286.50 in cash plus $50 in “Sales for Silver.” On 10
Mar 1843 John H. signed a lease with W. Trimble for a store on Lot 1 Block 1 in Little Rock. Robinson then entered the general mercantile business in Little Rock and opened his store on Main Street. He purchased his supplies through New Orleans, bringing goods up the Mississippi River by steamer. Business was good and by the end of 1846 he had a total of $1,720.30 on hand. At the end of 1846 he wrote, “Another year is past and with it much of good and bad, yet thank God I have much to be thankful for, to wit Content, Health, Happyness and Plenty.”

In 1847 he listed his expenses:

- To 1 negro woman 100.00
- To 1 negro child 200.00
- To 1 Dunn pony 12.00
- To weight scales measures 18.00
- To delph ware 105.86
- To amt of rent paid in advance 188.25
- To groceries hardware and sundries 848.44
- To dry goods and sundries 757.38
- To books and shoes 103.00

Total: 1814.08

Robinson then saluted farewell to 1847:

“Farewell to me and mine. Thou has shown many bright & sunny days again. Fare thee well.” To the newly arrived 1848, “I will not say welcome to thee till I know if you are worthy of the welcome. Thou comest among us in an angry mood.”

In 1847 a new name and signature appeared in John H.’s ledger book: William John Stelfox. The signature was unique in that it is the only signature other than John’s and Elizabeth’s that appears in the book. Mr. Stelfox figures prominently in the life and career of John H. Robinson. He was an Englishman from Manchester, England about the same age as Robinson; he was a merchant who also did business on Main Street in Little Rock; and Robinson owned property together in Arkansas; and the two eventually came to Texas together in the mid 1850s.

In Little Rock Robinson worked hard and expanded his interests. On 9 Feb 1849 Robinson purchased Lot 6 in Block 5 in Little Rock from Charles Theiss and his wife and on 27 Nov of 1849 he purchased Lot 5 in Block 5. In addition to real estate, he also owned slaves. In 1847 he owned one female slave and one child and in 1850 he owned one 60 year old female Negro slave. He bought and sold slaves and added their monetary value to his net worth. By the time he left Arkansas he owned 5 adults and 3 children and slavery was definitely part of his business operations as he always added their worth when figuring his assets.

At the end of 1849 John said farewell to the old year:

“We are indebted for a Home, land, means to help our friends and last though not least, for a daughter [Lillie]. Though thou art about to leave us, we will not forget thee for joy thou has given us much, of
sorrow none.” To the new year he wrote: “We do not expect too much of thee as thy predecessor has done, but we feel and know that we are ready to avail ourselves of all the good you offer and hope we will bear all mishaps with patience, humility. To the year 1850 we say welcome.”

The welcome was not long lasting. 1850 brought violence and illness.

Of 1850 Robinson wrote:
At your approach we welcomed you, and extended our hand in greeting, we then told you we would try to bear all mishaps with humility, we trust we have done so, for you had scarcely got over your suckling days when you deprived us of a valuable friend & servant making us feel that death had been in our midst. You had not more than reached your manhood ere you witnessed our loss by robbery. Not content with this, ere your summer was over my son had to then [be] mangled by a furious dog – given pain and trouble to his mother, and then after you had sunk into the red & yellow leaf, you learnt me that in the midst of life we are in death, and while at one moment we may be full of strength gaiety & manly pride, she next may see us a senseless clod upon our Mother Earth. None so helpless as she stand invalid… In this event you have put a mark upon me that your successors will not be able to eradicate. And then on this the last night of thy existence, like a fallen enemy shot down thou are not conquered and in this thy last struggles you throw your darts among us and strike our darling Lilly. Tis you have lived so you die 1850. Go and I trust you will take all ill with you for the good you have done, thanks. As to the evil, let it die with you.

1852 was an excellent year for Robinson and his annual reflection at the end of 1852 noted the birth of his son, Alonzo.

Died last night (much regretted) exactly at midnight old 1852 – aged 365 days – some of them cold and stormy, some cloudy, but many bright and merry. In his onward march to puberty he takes with him some of the bravest and wisest – England mourns her Wellington, France her old generals, Spain her Castanos, her champion in the Peninsular contest and America her Clay and Webster. For ourselves we have much to be thankful for and we bless and praise God for an increase of means credit and happyness and the old year did not leave us without even giving us something more than there. He on the 19th day of his 9th month gave us another son to cherish, our Alonzo whom in future times we hope will be a comfort to his parents and an honor to himself - the portrait of my loved and venerable mother, accompany’d by the likeness of my sister. Old 1852 has added to my stock of valuables. 1852 some of thy predecessors done well but you exceedest them all. Farewell 1852.

1853, on the other hand, was a disaster. On 4 Feb 1853 Little Rock was “visited by a most disastrous conflagration.” The fire destroyed three blocks including the store of John H. Robinson. The store and merchandise were entirely consumed and his loss was estimated to be $12,000 of which $6000 was covered
by insurance. Immediately after the fire, Robinson begged his customers to pay their debts and placed an ad that he was “not broke, but bent a little.” He moved his store temporarily to Markham Street; he also sold a horse and genteel carryall to raise money. During the period following the fire Robinson made no regular daily entries in his cash ledger. He noted that he used considerable private funds and insurance money to replace the capital lost by the fire. Robinson referred to “Mrs. Robinson’s private means” as the source added capital. He listed the following tallies:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funds from Mrs. Robinson</th>
<th>2000.00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Profit</td>
<td>406.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>3000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

He reflected at end of 1853 on the fire:

> On this night just one hour and a half from this present time you leave us but how to part with you we scarcely know whether to address you as friend or foe, we know not. On the fourth day of your second month you caused us to be suddenly wakened by that dreaded cry of “Fire! Fire!! Fire!!!” and we found our store and the labour of many years likely to be swept away in a few minutes. True you gave us time to save a remnant from the wreck. All of your summer months see us afflicted by the dreaded disease of Vertigo – Heaven in kindness you might have laid on the rod – to bring us nearer to our God, as you day by day fetched us nearer to our grave. So then as we extended our hand to you in your infancy we will give you our arm in this your old age.

The fire obviously had a major impact on the Robinson family, both financially and emotionally. Whether it was the fire or Robinson’s sense of adventure and the pursuit of a financial dream, the family soon began planning another move. This time it was to Texas. In 1850 Austin, Texas was officially named the capital of Texas and began a period of accelerated growth. The population reached 3,000 by 1855 and in 1853 Sam Houston complimented Austin on her location, beautiful scenery, progress in population and wealth, and bright prospects for the future. Both Robinson and his friend John Stelfox became interested in life and business in Texas. The two friends made an exploratory trip to Texas and both families eventually moved to Texas.

Dates vary as to the actual move but recollections by grandson Oscar Robinson and writings in Robinson’s Cash Ledger shed light on the date of this preliminary trip:

> Mr. John H. Robinson and Mr. John Stelfox came to Austin together [from Little Rock, Arkansas]. They came first before they moved. Mr. Stelfox rode a mule and carried an umbrella. Mr. Stelfox had a store where Yaring’s is. They probably came in 1851.

On New Years Eve 1853, the following notation was made in the ledger on New Years Eve 1853:

> From 8 o’clock pm 1853
> Till 1 o’clock am 1854
> Was opened by Mrs. Robinson
> In watching the Mrs. Stelfox

The handwriting saluting the old and new years appears to be different though the language style is similar to Robinson’s previous writings. The note seems to indicate that this was written by Mrs. Robinson when Mr. Robinson and Mr. Stelfox were on their initial trip to Texas, not in 1851 as thought by Oscar Robinson but in late 1853 or early
1854. An additional piece of evidence is found in an advertisement that Robinson placed in the Arkansas Whig 15 December 1853 looking for a boy to help in the store and at his home. This is the only time Robinson advertised for an employee; this young man most likely was needed to help in Robinson’s absence.

John and Elizabeth began to plan their travel to Texas with their seven children: William Thomas, John H. Jr., Mary Amelia, Alfred Henry, and Elizabeth, Lillian, and Alonzo. Alonzo was the last of the siblings born in Arkansas and the rest of the children, Austin, Laura Ada, and Eugene were born in Texas. It should be noted here that Arkansas did not keep birth records until 1914. Since the actual birth records of these children have not been located either in church records or in civil records, tombstone dates, census records, newspaper obituaries and family bibles have been used to determine the birth locations and years.

While planning his move to Texas, Robinson continued his mercantile business in Little Rock and continued to invest in Arkansas real estate. He purchased 80 acres of public land in Little Rock and registered it with the General Land Office of the United States. In Feb 1855 he advertised in the Arkansas Whig that his house was for sale. His last advertisement appeared 24 May 1855. His last entry in his cash ledger before leaving for Texas was dated 1855. Robinson still had property in Arkansas after he moved to Texas that he eventually sold. He sold Lot 6 Block 5 in downtown Little Rock to Marcus Dotter in November of 1855 and on 7 Sep 1857 he sold Lot 5 Block 5 to the same Marcus Dotter. An additional piece of property was sold by the Sheriff to John W. Purdow on 18 Aug 1859.

Upon leaving Arkansas, John carefully detailed his net worth and assets:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1855</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Negro woman Kitty 50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negro man Dick 800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negro woman Jincy and her 3 children 1200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negro Sophia 700.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negro Anthony 500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One town lot 400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Acres land 170.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mineral Land 250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Princeton Lots 50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Brick store 1800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is also shown the Amount of $12,952.88 as been made in 11 years.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I have now quit to go Texas ward
May I do as well
Little Rock is done
Nobly

And again an entry dated 1 Oct 1856:

To my total worth upon leaving the state of Arkansas 13584.00
Real Estate in Arkansas 2370.00
Real Estate in Texas 1135.90
Negro property 3400.00
Bills receivable 2742
Personal property 708
2 wagons, buggy, and hasp 327
7 horses 450
Cash 230

Ann Dolce Collection
Robinson and his family traveled to Texas in covered wagons and settled initially in Travis County in Fiskville, north of Austin.49 Fiskville was the last stage stop before Austin coming from Georgetown.50 In Oct 1856 Robinson purchased property from James D. Easton: 177 acres on Gilleland’s Creek about 14 miles north of Austin near what today is Manor, Texas and 120 acres on the headwaters of Walnut Creek, 12 miles north of Austin. After a brief stay in the Fiskville area, the family moved to Austin.51

In Austin, John H. Robinson purchased lot 3 block 55 at 504 Congress Avenue. He bought this lot and 230 acres on Little Walnut Creek from an Austin lawyer, Josiah Fisk on 22 Dec 1855. On 18 Jan 1856, Robinson and his friend John Stelfox purchased lot 3, block 55 at 502 Congress Avenue from James R. Pace52 who was also an Austin lawyer.53 The two Englishmen began a business at this location called “Robinson and Stelfox.” Their “stand” was on lots 2 and 3 in block 55 on the west side of Congress Avenue between Pine and Pecan (5th and 6th streets).54

The firm of Glasscock & Millican built two buildings on the property using 20-inch thick stone load bearing walls. Robinson later added a brick front. The two buildings shared a wall which extended from the Avenue west toward the back alley. On the Avenue the stone fronts of the two buildings were plaster, designed in a simple boxy straightforward fashion. The buildings did not extend as far back as the alley. The Stelfox and Robinson business in Austin closed in June of 1859, with each man operating an independent business after 1859 but they maintained a close friendship.

On 14 Nov 1892 in a letter to Stelfox’s daughter, Harriet Stelfox Browder, Robinson wrote:

You will bear in mind that for one half a century your father and myself have been more than many brothers in all our business pursuits, in all our close connections, in our long time friendship, in our experience as partners. No angry word, no unkind thought was ever spoken or engendered. He is what a writer calls the Noblist Work of God – an Honest Man.55

According to their agreement, the party that “offered and bid most” should have the choice of the two stores. Robinson had the first choice and became entitled to the south store on Lot 2. Robinson changed the name of his store following the closing of Robinson and Stelfox to “Robinson and Son” with his son, John H. Robinson Jr..56 57 In addition to the store, Robinson operated a lumberyard on lot 1 of Block 55, on the northwest corner of Congress and Pine (5th) Street.

Another name that plays a significant role in the life of John H. Robinson Sr. and his succeeding generations is John Bremond. John Bremond, Sr. came to Austin in 1846, almost ten years before Robinson, and he too opened a general store on Congress Avenue.
Robinson and Bremond’s son, Eugene, were business partners for a brief period. Robinson and Bremond became good friends and so did their families. They became such good friends that three of the young Bremonds married three of the young Robinsons. In Austin history, the names Bremond and Robinson are uniquely intertwined.

Financial progress came slowly but surely for the businessmen of Austin in the years leading up to the Civil War. During most of the 1850s Robinson’s son, William Thomas, had been attending school in Cincinnati, Ohio. It was about the time of the dissolution of Robinson and Stelfox store that William returned to Austin. A copy of Robinson’s ledger showed a net worth of about $50,000 prior to the Civil War. Due to post Civil War problems and the necessity of taking care of a large family of seven or eight children, his fortune was soon dissipated.

In 1860, slavery was an integral part of the life of Austin. Of the town’s 3,500 inhabitants, about 1,000 were slaves. “More than a third of Austin’s Anglo families owned slaves. Among the town’s prosperous lawyers, merchants, doctors, ministers, and high government officials, slave-owing was the rule rather than the exception.” As the crisis dividing the North and the South over the issue of slavery came to a climax following the election of Abraham Lincoln, many Austinites did not join the secessionists. These were not people who had supported Lincoln since not a single Texan voted for Lincoln in the election of 1860. The sentiments of those who hesitated in supporting secession were not with the Northern states but were with the Union. “Their spiritual father was Sam Houston, governor of Texas on the eve of secession and the sturdiest Unionist of them all.” Just as Austin’s secessionists organized parades and speeches, so did Austin’s Unionists. They formed the Austin Association for Maintaining Our Rights in the Union and circulated a petition protesting the state secession convention of January 1861. The protest read:

_Travis County, January 1861_
_Mesers. John A. Green, H. N. Burditt and George M. Flourney:_
_GENTLEMEN: We the undersigned, the citizens and legal voters of Travis, most respectfully protest against your taking any part, as the representatives of said county, in the revolutionary convention, proposed to be held at the city of Austin, on the 26th day of January, 1861, as it must be evident to you that a majority of the voters of the country are opposed to said convention._

John H. Robinson Sr. and his sons William T. and John H. Jr. were among the signers of the petition that included former Governor Elisha M. Pease, Eugene Bremond, Jos Martin, August B. Palm, James H. Raymond, Judge George W. Pashal, George Hancock, Julius Schutze, Jean Schneider, John Stelfox, and John M. Swisher.

Austin and Travis County rejected secession by 704 to 450 votes, but the state favored secession by more than a three-to-one majority. “Hundreds who voted against secession were now ready to help the Confederacy, while other Unionists remained unconvinced and became aliens in a Confederate capital.”

On 27 Apr 1861 the State Gazette published the following letter by John H. Robinson written to the paper’s editor, Major John Marshall:
Austin April 18, 1861

Sir – Knowing a wrong impression is abroad in our State, as regards the feelings of the citizens of Travis county, and believing you would render your aid to remove same, I have troubled you with my own observations, obtained through a business intercourse with many of our people. Many, very many, citizens of our city and county believed Southern rights could be secured by a cooperation with the slave holding States, and, so believing, voted against secession, I among the number. Yet, I hold myself second to none in Southern patriotism. As soon as the people had spoken, we, as good Democrats, believing the people should rule, rendered a willing acquiescence to their verdict, and hold ourselves ready, with might and means, to help the Southern Confederacy.

I hold an office in the city in which there is neither profit or praise. [Robinson was an alderman] Yet, though called a Union man, I promptly repaired to the Mayor’s office to register my oath, the laws of Texas and Constitution of the Southern Confederacy to support. Hundreds are like unto me, who voted as I did, with an earnest conviction that the remedy was inside separate secession. True, there are men among us with northern sentiments, presuming upon our vote. Who dare to class us as aiders and abettors of Abe Lincoln and his Black Republican crowd? Let their most prominent leader come among the citizens of Travis county, and try to enlist from the so-called Union men a corporal’s guard to oppose secession and they would fail, wretchedly fail.

J. H. Robinson, merchant

In September [1861] the Soldiers’ Aid Society was formed in Austin to obtain winter clothing and equipment for the Travis County soldiers in Kentucky and Virginia. By October of 1861, John H. Robinson was chairman of the Soldiers’ Aid Society. It is believed that this chairman was John H. Robinson Sr.

The senior Robinson was an alderman at the time and it would have been natural for him to head such an effort. Also, his reflections about the war in his cash ledger at the end of 1861 indicate a familiarity with the wartime situation far beyond the borders of Austin and the state of Texas.
“Robinson took the contributions at an office on Congress Avenue, and he personally planned to deliver them to the soldiers. In a report to the people at a meeting in the House of Representatives on October 5, Robinson reported that $420 in cash had been received, plus 1 buffalo robe, 75 bandage lints, 26 handkerchiefs, 22 pairs shoes, 9 pairs boots, 103 shirts, 125 bandage lint, 125 drawers, 35 vests, 125 handkerchiefs, 350 socks, 98 comforters, 203 blankets, 194 coats, and 208 pairs pants for a total value of about $4,400 from Travis County and $1,500 from Hays County. Receipts had been issued for only $1,931 value. When Robinson started out with the supplies, their value totaled about $8,000. He started with four large wagons on Monday, Oct 14, heading for Virginia by the “most accessible route. Robinson passed through Crockett on October 24 and Nacogdoches about October 30. On November 25 Robinson reached Bowling Green, Kentucky, and left some of the supplies with Terry’s Rangers. After leaving Bowling Green, Robinson contracted measles but managed to complete the trip to Richmond. He left the supplies with a Texas representative in Richmond, visited the Texas sick in the Richmond hospitals, and then returned to Texas.”

A letter written 5 Dec 1861 by J. W. Rabb, a member of Terry’s Texas Rangers, gives insight into the times:

We Rangers have been going all the time, eager to get into a fight, going through wet and cold, marching day & night. About this time, our Regiment got the Measles & neumonia in camp which thinned the companies down so that each company could not send more than fifty or sixty on a scout. But we kept going what we could go to look for the Yankeys. When we could get back to camps, we could enquire who had died, and they would tell us of this one and this one. Most always some had died, either in the Hospitile or in camps. I have never seen a tear or heard a sigh over a solgers grave, and all the funeral they have is the firing of twenty four guns over there graves. When the mess that I am in was organized, it consisted of twelve men. One of them is dead (Ed Eane). Seven of the balance are sick.”

At the end of 1861 Robinson wrote in his ledger:

“Thy predecessor 1861 introduced bloody civil war in the fair land of these once United States, setting brother against brother, father against son, and son against father and then the descendent of a bloody siege has carried out the work he began in the long days and nights thou has given us. No gleam of peace was there, no bright hope for the future, all dark, gloomy, bloody,. saturating God’s fair earth with the blood of his creatures, witnessing cities sacked, homes destroyed, farms laid waste. The Father, Son, or Brother of the day was food for carrion on the tomorrow in millions stormed abroad armed for the fray, and when they met they met as never men met before, carrying the improved implements of modern warfare. They murdered by thousands and tens of thousands hopes of fathers, tears of mothers and the heart broken sighs of wives, where all in vain the Deamon war was unchained and the angel of mercy hid his face and turned the walks of cruel man bereaved fathers, sadly stricken mothers, widows and orphans with hearts lacerated and torn. In after days we’ll look back with horror and
then think of your cruel face and tremble at the mention of thy name. Although the curses of 1000 and tens of 1000 go forth against thee, yet for ourselves individually we should not deride thee. Our home has not been trodden by foot of the enemy. Our children have not cried in vain for bread and although the circumstances of war has taken from us three of our well beloved sons, they yet are spared in life to us. Fond hope consoles us with ... uncertain they will again be ours. We pray the Almighty.”

After the end of the Civil War, in April of 1865, Robinson reflected on the war:

The year and month that virtually ended civil war and destroyed a reign of terror and despotism the South had endured for four years. Unequal taxation, private property appropriated to public use without compensation, general and illegal suppressments, universal conscription were only a part of the ills we had to endure. A corrupt President and total deprivation of the freedom of speech with ruffians and outlawed bullies for provost marshals and their assistants – advocating and exercising mob law, burning houses, driving women and children out – hanging shooting and drowning husbands and fathers in the presence of their wives and children only for being suspected of entertaining a loyalty to a government they had always loved. These and many, many other acts were only a part of the drama in which we have been forced to take a part. Thank God it is now over and we have the consolation of

knowing that none of the glory dead can say to one of us thou didst it.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Losses by war</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Farm valued</strong></td>
<td>3500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sold for</strong></td>
<td>2500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>13 slaves</strong></td>
<td>5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bills receivable</strong></td>
<td>1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>7000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Northern debts confiscated & paid to the Confederacy afterwards had to be to Northern creditors | 3000 |
| **TOTAL** | 13,000 |

1867 Total Resources 26,169

The years after the war were spent in rebuilding the Robinson and Son grocery business and investing in cattle, ranch lands and urban real estate. His cattle brand was JHR and his horse brand was 3E. The eldest son, William, left Austin and settled in Waco, opening his own dry goods business in 1867. John H. Robinson Jr. went into business with John Bremond Jr., leaving Alfred Henry Sr. to become the “Son” in the firm. The partnership was most successful and by 1874, John H. Robinson’s total worth was back to $51,717.59. Following Alfred’s death in 1885, Alonzo bought the store and ran it, continuing the family business.

John and Elizabeth lived at 700 Rio Grande Street in a house built for Elizabeth and John in 1876. Robinson purchased the land on 1 Feb 1859 from Hugh Hamilton Haynie and his wife Mary Louise Bremond Haynie. The property was the homestead of the Haynie family and contained a brick dwelling. By 1872 Robinson had demolished the brick dwelling in order to construct a new residence, described in the Austin Daily Statesman of 1 July 1876, as a frame house with octagon and bay windows. The cost of the house was
The Robinsons’ choice of the fashionable Second Empire style is of considerable interest. At the time, Austin was a remote city emerging from the Reconstruction era, and the choice of the then-fashionable Second Empire style was an indication of prosperity for both the Robinson family and Austin. Following the deaths of John H. and Elizabeth Robinson, the property was purchased by their son Eugene. The house remains today, and is one of the few intact Second Empire residential examples left in Texas. It is in close proximity to the houses built by the Bremond family, just three blocks east.

The Robinson family was a sizable one; the couple had ten children (William T. Robinson born 1837; John H. Robinson Jr. born 16 Jul 1839; Mary Amelia Robinson born 14 Aug 1842; Alfred Henry Robinson born 23 Aug 1844; Elizabeth “Lizzie” Robinson born Apr 1847; Lillian “Lillie” Robinson, born 1849; Alonzo “Lonnie” Robinson born 19 Sep 1852; Austin M. Robinson born 5 Apr 1856; Laura Ada Robinson born 1859; and Eugene Bremond Robinson born 28 Apr 1862). In 1870, just two years before the new house was completed, the four youngest children were living at home.

Robinson was a many-faceted man. He was deeply involved in the Austin community in addition to being a businessman and family man. He served as an alderman in 1860-1862, 1867, 1871-1872, 1873, 1874-1877. He was known for his honesty and integrity and was a genial companion full of good humor and positive outlook.

Grandson William Herme Robinson wrote, “Grandfather was something of a student & his favorites were Shakespeare and Robert Burns – and he could quote from them easily – his memory was very – very fine. Grandfather told me he had a naturally high temper, and always had to watch it. I don’t think any of his ten children inherited that, but were more of the placid disposition of our lovely grandmother.”

Above all, he was a spiritual man, generous and loving to his family, and in turn loved by them. His writings in his cash ledger and in his letters to family members show a spirituality that deepens over the years; his poetic literary mind, and a life that though battered by the unexpected, looked to the future with great anticipation and faith.

Many times Robinson’s faith was tested. The family was often touched by personal tragedy.

In 1867 daughter Lillie died and John wrote the following letter to his son, Alonzo:

_Austin, April 20, 1867

Dear Son Lonny,

Your last favor duly received and plainly could we see, on its pages the hearts anguish that possessed you when you wrote. The tear drop was plainly visible on many a line and fain should we weep, for a brighter and purer being that has soared to Realms above - few could have excelled her_
that but as yesterday left us, for that Heavenly Sphere where sorrow never comes. My dear son tis our proud privilege to know that now we have one in Heaven who is allowed to approach the throne of grace and offer her supplication and petitions in our behalf. Oh: my son let her death be the birth of our salvation and daily we will ask divine help to keep us in the path that leads to the home where our dear Lillie dwells. ...

In addition to the untimely death of Lillie Robinson, several other members of the family preceded John and Elizabeth in death. Their son Alfred Henry died in 1885 at the age of 41 leaving a wife and seven children; their grandson John Alfred died at the age of 21 in 1891 following a bout of pneumonia; their son-in-law James Sheeks committed suicide in 1894 at the age of 39; and another grandson, Greek Sheeks, died very suddenly and unexpectedly in 1894 at the age of 12. John’s writings give an inside look at his personal tragedies.

In 1889, Robinson wrote in his ledger:

"Oct 1889
Tis now over 43 years since the first entry was made in this book and the writer not in his 75th the year finally realized the truth of the following quotation. "I now realize that I have reached that point in life when nature begins to take away one by one all the things one by one thee had given. Youth, Health, Strength, the Quick Eye to see, the ear to hear, the mind to think, the heart to feel, and last but not least the love of others. For not only do youth, health, and strength go but the eye grows dim, and the ear dulls. While memory fails and the heart hardens in age and even love at last leaves us, unregarded, age comes through. Let any one who doubts this compare the tears a mother sheds for her little child she has known only a few days with the tears of the upgrown son who mourns a mother bound to him by fore score years. Truly life is like Penelope’s Web – all the golden threads woven with it in the day of youth are one by one unraveled in the night of age."

In September of 1890 John wrote to his grandson, John Alfred Robinson, and reflected on the life of John Alfred’s father, Alfred Henry Robinson:

"Dear Grandson,
Your highly prized letter of the 28th to hand, be assured it will ever be kept by me, to mark that time that with strength of mind and good resolves, you with such commendable resolution pen’d the rule and line, that the future of your life was to be guided by.

No young man ever had a nobler or better father than you had. One whose example, tis well to follow. A son while in life, never caused his parents a regret, a pang or a tear. A true loving and devoted husband and father, without ostentation good and charitable. Yes one whom to know, was to love and respect, none named him but to praise him, in life esteemed by all, in death mourned and regretted.

In the wisdom of God, in the very midst of his prime, manhood and usefulness, was taken from us, leaving behind him a legacy of all that was commendable, but to you his
oldest son, he not only left an example, but duties to perform, first to comfort and be a source of pride and joy to your mother, and now I pray to God to enable you to commit no act, but you would be willing for her to know and see. Second, not only to be a brother to your sisters but also a counselor and a guide, few young men at your age are called on to assume the latter responsibility, but by the tenor of yours I feel assured you will cheerfully and willingly assume the task, a task that to yourself will afford profit and pleasure.

You refer to my long life, yes years beyond the threescore and ten, an age that only six out of thousand reaches, would I could say all those years was without spot or blemish, would that I could. A writer pure and immaculate said there is none perfect no not one if on earth there ever was an exception, that exception was your father. In Writing to my loved ones, I pen what my mind dictates and what I wrote to your sister Bessie, I have forgot. But if in it, there was a word, expression or thought sent, that caused you to determine to quit all foibles, and begin that better path that leadeth to peace, health, content, and happiness, then indeed the letter was not writ in vain.

My dear boy be fully assured that the good and the bad have their results in this world. The first leadeth to honor among men and giveth goodly hopes of a happy future, the last leadeth to dishonor and misery, for truly he that sins suffereth and while we may so hide our misdeeds that men may not condemn us that inward monitor brings us face to face with all faults. I will now conclude (this my 31st letter since leaving home writing to different members of the family) praying that God will keep you from all the snares that beset the path of youth, and give you firmness and strength to pursue the good and better path.

We remain your loving and affectionate grand parents

JH & E Robinson

In May 1894 three years before his own death and following the deaths of James and Greek Sheeks, Robinson wrote in his ledger:

May 1894

In all likely this will be my last writing in this the old book, now near one half century old. Truly I fully recognize the truth of Psalmist word who wrote the “Days of man are three score and ten and though he liveth to four score years yet his days are all vanity and vexation of spirit.”

Yes, Oh! How much sadness and sorrow would have been spared us had we ended our times at three score and 10 years. It now only in the 5th month of the year our hearts have ached and our heads bowed down with sorrow. On April 3rd James Sheeks our loved and respected son-in-law departed hence to that bourne from which no traveler returns leaving a disconsolate widow and fatherless child - bright of intellect, strong physically, and gave bright promise of a brilliant future, his mother’s pride, her hope, her comfort. On the morning of the 22nd of the month got up well, bright and cheerful and commenced his days amusements and before the close and long before sunset he passed away
bringing a mother’s heart and brain to near madness.
Oh!! God why is this? We are mortals and cannot comprehend immortality but is our weakness with our senses to…….. we cry “Oh, God! Why is this?”

The historic legacy and image of Elizabeth Sheridan Robinson is not as detailed as that of John. No letters or writings of Elizabeth have been found other than her note in the Cash Ledger. She did have financial assets that John H. used following the fire of 1853 in Arkansas; shebirthed and raised ten children; and was a loving mother and a lifelong companion and supporter of John H. Robinson. Her obituary reflects that this Irish Texan was “one of Austin’s best beloved citizens.” Elizabeth is remembered in a letter to Alonzo Robinson from his sister-in-law Kate:

It seems indeed strange to think of never seeing the sweet old lady sitting in her pleasant room greeting every one that comes in with that patient peaceful smile. It was like a benediction to be in her presence, and her children have sustained a great loss; but just think how weary and exhausted she would be after one of those shaking spells, and now she has no more of that but is enjoying rest from her long and useful pilgrimage.
Lonnie, we must all try to emulate her example, so that when we die we may be as sure of heaven as she was. I don’t think I ever saw children more devoted to a parent than her children were, and she seemed so happy in their love and enjoyed their frequent visits.

John H. died 5 Mar 1897 of apoplexy84 at his home 700 Rio Grande Street and was buried 6 Mar 1897 in Oakwood Cemetery, Austin, Texas. Elizabeth died in 1902 in Austin and was also buried in 12 Aug 1902 Oakwood Cemetery.85

References

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3. US Census 1860; Austin, Travis County, Texas
4. Texas Department of State Health Services; Vital Statistics Unit: Death Certificate Robinson William T; #11358
5. Robinson, Oscar; Interview 14 Jan 1959; John H. Robinson Biography; Austin History Center
6. Robinson, John H. Papers; Cash Ledger; Archives; Austin History Center
10. Smith, C. Aubrey; A Letter to my Grandchildren; Von Boeckman Jones; 1967
11. US Census, 1900; Austin, Travis County, Texas
12. Smith, C. Aubrey; A Letter to my Grandchildren; Von Boeckman Jones; 1967
13. Robinson, Oscar; Interview 14 Jan 1959; John H. Robinson Biography; Austin History Center
14. NOTE: No evidence of a Mr. Sheridan and his daughter Elizabeth has been discovered in census data, tax rolls, or New Orleans City directories. No evidence of Elizabeth Sheridan
was found in the records of the Ursuline Convent in New Orleans.

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16. Smith, C. Aubrey; A Letter to my Grandchildren; Von Boeckman Jones; 1967

17. Smith, C. Aubrey; A Letter to my Grandchildren; Von Boeckman Jones; 1967


19. Robinson, Oscar; Interview 14 Jan 1959; John H. Robinson Biography; Austin History Center


21. Texas Department of State Health Services; Vital Statistics Unit; Death Certificate; Robinson William T; #11358

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23. Robinson, John H. Papers; Cash Ledger; Archives; Austin History Center

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25. Pulaski County Arkansas Deeds; Book O; Page 25

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27. Aransas Intelligence; 6 Jun 1846: An article referred to the steamers Arkansas No 5 and Arkansas No 4 which were departing for and arriving from New Orleans. John H. Robinson’s cash ledger referred to a boat “H. H. Arkansas #4”

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32. Pulaski County Arkansas Deeds; Book U Page 420

33. Robinson, John H. Papers; Cash Ledger; Archives; Austin History Center

34. US Slave Census 1850; Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas; www.ancestry.com

35. Robinson, John H. Papers; Cash Ledger; Archives; Austin History Center

36. Arkansas Whig 10 Feb 1853

37. Arkansas Whig 10 Feb 1853

38. Arkansas Whig 10 Mar 1853

39. Arkansas Whig 17 Feb 1853.

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42. US Census 1860 Austin, Travis County, Texas

43. Baird, Alex; Central Arkansas Library System

44. Arkansas Whig; 10 May 1855

45. Pulaski County Arkansas Deeds; Book J Page 16;

46. Pulaski County Arkansas Deeds; Book A2 Page 550 NOTE: Family recollections about the move to Texas vary but all give the date as 1854 or 1855. 1855 is probably the most accurate given all the information found.

47. Pulaski County Arkansas Deeds; Book C2 Page 536

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51. Robinson, Oscar; Interview 14 Jan 1959; John H. Robinson Biography; Austin History Center

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54. Brown, Frank; Annals of Travis County and the City of Austin: from the earliest times to the close of 1875; 1900; Volume XVII page 35
55. Robinson, John H. AF Biography; Letter to Harriet Stelfox Browder 14 Nov 1892; Austin History Center

56. Barkley, Mary Starr; History of Travis County and Austin 1839-1899; Austin Printing Company; 1963

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58. Robinson, William Thomas Obituary; TXGenWeb-McLennan County; Duty, Peggy donor

59. Smith, C. Aubrey; A Letter to my Grandchildren; Von Boeckman Jones; 1967

60. Humphrey, David C. and Crawford, William W. Jr.; Austin An Illustrated History; American Historical Press; Sun Valley, California; 2001

61. Humphrey, David C. and Crawford, William W. Jr.; Austin An Illustrated History; American Historical Press; Sun Valley, California; 2001

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63. Humphrey, David C. and Crawford, William W. Jr.; Austin An Illustrated History; American Historical Press; Sun Valley, California; 2001

64. Brown, Frank; Annals of Austin and Travis County; Vol. XXI, 1861, page 9-14

65. Irby, James Arthur; Confederate Austin 1861-1865; 1953 NOTE: Jean Schneider’s grandson, L. J. Schneider married John H. Robinson’s granddaughter, Pauline Robinson.

66. Humphrey, David C. and Crawford, William W. Jr.; Austin An Illustrated History; American Historical Press; Sun Valley, California; 2001

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76. Texas Historical Commission

77. Travis County Deeds; Vol N; Pages 44-45

78. National Register of Historic Places Inventory: Nomination Form; House Building File; Austin History Center

79. Austin Statesman; 1 Jul 1876; Page 3 Col 1

80. National Register of Historic Places; Nomination Form; 702 Rio Grande House File; Austin History Center NOTE: Noel Dolce and Alan Barr of White, Dolce and Barr purchased the house in 1984 and restored the home. Noel Dolce was the brother-in-law of Ann Johnston Dolce, a descendent of John H. and Elizabeth Robinson.

81. US Census 1870; Austin, Travis County, Texas; www.ancestry.com

82. Austin Daily Statesman; 6 Mar 1897


84. Oakwood Cemetery Database

85. Oakwood Cemetery Database
Notes from Calendars of E. W. Raney

Kay Dunlap Boyd

My great uncle Edward Wiley Raney was born in Manor in 1870 and died in 1958 at his home in Caldwell County. He kept his diary on daily calendars for over 50 years. When we cleaned out his house, I took all of the calendars and have been transcribing them and sharing these journals with the family. These notes contain weather, history, life, and most importantly family. He recorded births and deaths. He made note of his fine days, his pains, his illnesses, his travels, his loneliness and more. He must have been a very patient and loving man from the entries we find. He had no children of his own, but he certainly had family and they were obviously very important to him. These notes are mostly from the early years when he still lived in Travis County.

1899

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 30</td>
<td>went to Lockhart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 4</td>
<td>returned from Lockhart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 5</td>
<td>Bret Harte Wheeler buried (in Manor)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 9-12</td>
<td>Blizzard 24°</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun 26</td>
<td>Mrs. Harris died (Jane Gillespie Harris)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun 27</td>
<td>Mrs. Harris buried (in Manor)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 4</td>
<td>went to Austin. _ _ school at the dam. Labor Day picnic. Danced on the Ben Hur (old steam boat on the Colorado River)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 24</td>
<td>Mr. Harris died</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 26</td>
<td>A. S. Bloor buried</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

1900

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 8</td>
<td>just got home from _hunt with Dr. Mc (McClanahan)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1901

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 1</td>
<td>all folks here for dinner, cloudy, cold 30, ground frozen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 7</td>
<td>J. D. very sick (Monday)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 8</td>
<td>J. D. not expected to live (Tuesday)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 12</td>
<td>Dr. Fields sick</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dec 20  cool, killed hog
Dec 21  Will Fields came home for Xmas
Dec 25  all eat dinner over at Dr. Fields, it was clear cool fine day
Dec  Small pox through county

Sep 3  went to Water Park to Labor Day celebration
Sep 9  (Sunday) very high wind and rain from the north, a storm blew limbs off, damaged cotton. Galveston blew and washed away
Dec 20  cool, killed hog
Dec 21  Will Fields came home for Xmas
Dec 25  all eat dinner over at Dr. Fields, it was clear cool fine day
Dec  Small pox through county
Jan 18  J. D. died at 2:00 pm (J.D. McClenahan)
Jan 19  J. D. buried
Feb 17  Will Fields left for home
Mar 13  Della Turner killed herself
Sep 30  Sarah left for home
(Ed’s father died Dec 14, 1901) Rest of year is missing

Jan 20  J. D. buried

Nov 24  about 12 o’clock came home from Lockhart & Mendoza, roads bad
Dec 2   started with my cattle to Lockhart
Dec 5   put my cattle in B_ pasture
Dec 11  started over to Mendoza

December 17  “My wedding day, went to San Antonio” (Wednesday)

1902

Mar 2   Dr. left for the ranch with cattle
Apr 20  went up to Giles for dinner
Apr 21  To Austin
Jun 12  clear, had picnic at Manor, the largest crowd in years.
Jun 30  went up to Marble Falls fishing
Jul 3   Had a eight ___ at Marble Falls
Jul 8   came home from fishing at Marble Falls had some rain there
Jul 10  clear went to Jonah to mill
Jul 22  Encampment commenced at Austin
Aug 29  Gregg barn burned
Sep 1   Shoot at Water Park, lots of people got hurt
Oct 2   went to _ in the afternoon
Oct 29  went to San Antonio
Nov 4   very quite election at Manor 364 (voters?)

Jan 24  clear & pretty, started from Home to Mendoza with my furniture
Jan 25  very pretty day
Jan 26  moved to Mendoza, got here about 8 or 9 o’clock
Jan 27  Bright & pretty
Feb 1   cloudy, went after a cow to milk
Feb 17  the coldest spell of the season, ground frozen hard
Mar 10  got home from Austin
Mar 17  sick
Mar 21  set the gray hen 15 eggs
Mar 23  started planting corn again
Mar 25  finished planting corn
Mar 27  brought in one cow for the pasture
Apr 6   set the turkey hen 19 eggs
Apr 7   taken a herd of cattle out of B’s pasture
Apr 9   planted some cotton in the afternoon
Apr 10  set the speckled hen on turkey eggs
Apr 12  set the turkey hen 19 eggs
Apr 15  set the turkey hen 8 eggs
Apr 20  set the black hen 18 eggs
Apr 30  came to my farm from Austin Ingie came with
May 3   Austin with Ingie
Jun 16  hauled load of wood
Jun 17  went up Creedmoor
Jun 18  Ace moved his wife here
Jun 24  went to Onion Creek to the picnic
Jun 30  Mother & __ came out to Mendoza (Mother is Ed’s mother)
Jul 6   Ingie and Mama went home (mother-in-law)
Aug 8   Mother went home
Aug 14  lost my gold watch out of jumper pocket
Aug 19  went to Austin late in the evening
Aug 22  was at Manor
Aug 28  went over to Elroy
Aug 29  R.E. Stromberg out here
Aug 31  started to build a tank
Sep 9   finished the tank at dinner
Sep 21  Jno moved to Lockhart (his brother)
Oct 13  Daphene had heifer calf
Oct 16  Sallie found my gold watch out in the __, a place where I was not at work in the pasture
Oct 19  started cutting cane
Oct 26  went to Lockhart on the Jenny
Nov 7   went over to Dickies
Nov 10  came home from Austin
Nov 23  started to paint the house after dinner
Nov 24  Ace set out the peach tree
Dec 3   Ace hauled cotton
Dec 7   Ace went to Lockhart with the cattle
Dec 9   Ace at the fair
Dec 14  Gus helping seal my rooms
Dec 21  Mr. Davis started to papering my house

1904
Jan 9   went to Decker and Manor after furniture
Jan 10  come home from Austin
Jan 14  Jane mule died
Feb 9   Mother here...
Feb 10  cold, killed hog
Feb 19  sow brought 4 pigs, all died but one, everything covered with ice
Feb 22  Ada sick, set out 11 hackberry trees
Feb 25  left for Manor 11:30 pm Mother sick
Feb 28 came home from Manor
Mar 5 went to Manor to see Mother
Mar 7 came home from manor
Mar 12 went after Ada, over to Decker
Mar 15 came home from Decker
Mar 20 went to Elroy after cotton seed
Mar 28 Nele came over to see us, home on a furlow from Navy
Mar 29 went as far as Elroy with Nele
Apr 30 went from Austin to Decker
May 2 went to hanging of Harry Simmons for murder for Lula Sandberg (she was from Manor)
May 3 started home from Austin but had to turn back account of rain
May 4 came home on horse back, left Ada & hack in Austin
May 5 went back after the hack and Ada with the mules
May 7 came home from Austin with piano, Hjalmar came along
May 26 Ingie and Mama left for Sweden, went to Austin in the afternoon, came home at night
Jun 3 wind awful high., never saw it so at this time of year
Jun 24 went to Decker in afternoon, very warm
Jul 24 came home from Austin, Tin & Kate came with us (brother)
Aug 6 went up to Austin, got home at 10pm just as rain came
Aug 22 got home from Dickie
Aug 24 Mother came from Lockhart
Aug 26 clear, hot 104° at 2pm, 100° at 5 pm
Aug 27 Hjalmar and Mrs. Sponberg here
Sep 3 Daphene calved a bull calf
Oct 5 bought a span of mules
Oct 7 Mother came home, carried her up to Nichols,
Oct 8 went to Austin
Nov 5 left for Decker to go to St. Louis and stayed all night
Nov 13 Mama & Ingie came home from Sweden
Nov 15 came home from Decker
Nov 16 went to Lockhart fair
Nov 17 I & Ada went to Lockhart fair the last day
Nov 18 Ingie & Hjalmar & Ester Sponberg came to the fair
Nov 20 Hjalmar went home
Nov 24 Mary & Jno & children were here (brother)
Nov 29 setting out orchard
Dec 1 Hjalmar & Mama & Ingie here, went to Elroy to Burkman sale
Dec 2 went to Decker with cotton for Sarah
1909
Friday Dec 10  cloudy misty all day, hauling cotton. Hjalmar had a girl borned (my mother’s birth announcement).

1952
Aug 21  cloudy, 3 pm we went up to Stromberg for coffee it was Stromberg birthday. 70 years.

1953
Dec 21  cloudy all day. We had our 50th wedding anniversary today instead of the 17 Dec so all the children could be here. Schools were not in holiday then. Weldon & family got in Sat night 6:30 we did not have any after I got sciatic rheumatism but girls got together & put it on

1958
May 1  cloudy, I am not so good, weak

May 18  cloudy we were home all day no one came. Ada heard the Mrs. Erhlich died today

Jun 27  clear & cool had Dr Dubois to see me today.....I hurt

“E W RANEY died July 19, 1958” entered by his wife, Ada.
AGS Remaining 2010 Calendar of Events

27 July, 7pm  
AGS Monthly Meeting, Highland Park Baptist Church, 5206 Balcones Drive  
“Publishing Your Genealogy,” presented by Ron Neilson and Joan Neuberger

31 July, 10:00am-12:30pm  
Laptop Saturday, Austin History Center  
“FamilySearch.org,” presented by Karen Matheson

24 August, 7pm  
AGS Monthly Meeting, Highland Park Baptist Church, 5206 Balcones Drive  
“Genealogy Myths and Pitfalls,” presented by Lynn LeCropane and Nancy Stevens

18 September, 9-12  
AGS Beginner Class, Triumphant Love Lutheran Church

25 September, 9-12  
AGS Beginner Class, Triumphant Love Lutheran Church

28 September, 7pm  
AGS Monthly Meeting, Highland Park Baptist Church, 5206 Balcones Drive  
AGS 50th Anniversary Celebration, presented by Dr. David Gracy

26 October, 7pm  
AGS Monthly Meeting, Highland Park Baptist Church, 5206 Balcones Drive  
“School Records,” presented by Karen Matheson

6 November, 10:00am-12:30pm  
Laptop Saturday, Spicewood Springs Branch, Austin Public Library  
“Blogs and Social Networking,” presented by James Hollas and John Marostica

30 November, 7pm  
AGS Monthly Meeting, Highland Park Baptist Church, 5206 Balcones Drive  
“To Post or Not to Post: The Good, Bad & Ugly,” presented by Cindy Foreman and Sara Gredler
A challenge facing family historians is that often they are preparing material for present and future family members who may have only a lukewarm interest in genealogy.

I am currently compiling a family history, The Maxson Scrapbook: Ancestors and Descendants of Daniel W. Maxson M.D. (1836-1920). Most of Daniel’s ancestors from the 1630s through the 1870s seem to have been good, southern New England yeoman farmers who tended their crops and livestock, fought when needed in militias, occasionally held public office as Selectmen or State Assembly representative and were typically members of the Seventh Day Baptist Church. Chronicling merely their births, marriages and deaths would not make interesting reading.

I was fortunate in finding some primary and numerous secondary sources on these ancestors of my great-great grandfather, I culled accounts of largely of colorful 17th and 18th century ancestors of the sort even relatives not passionate about family history might find interesting for stellar accomplishments or foibles, the same strengths and weaknesses that we their descendants may have today.

Family histories vary in their reliability, but sometimes unverified family folklore can be worth repeating. In addition, rather than rewriting each in my own words, I deemed that there was value in including the verbiage of others and their inclusion is permissible by copyright laws.

We descend directly from ancestors referenced below unless otherwise noted; the bracketed references to uncles and aunts are many generations back.

Babcock

Babcock, Stephen, Babcock Genealogy. (New York, 1903), p. 4. It appears that in May, 1667, James Badcock with a company of men drove the Pequot Indians from Planting Ground claimed by the Indians on the Misquamicut purchase east of the Pawtucket River. [On] May 18, 1667 Harmon Garret (alias Wequasooke, chief of the Pequots) petitioned the General Court of Connecticut, “praying that such men as wear hats and clothes like Englishmen but have dealt with us like wolves and bears may be called to account.” At a Connecticut court held at Wickford (which is now in R.I.) June 21, 1670, James Badcock was charged by Mr. Gookin, of Cambridge, Mass., with driving Harmon Garret and his Indians (tenants of Gookin) from their land.

Ibid., p. 8 Tradition says that John [Babcock] and his wife, Mary, eloped from Newport, settled upon the east bank of the Pawtucket River on Massatuxet Cove (near what is now Avondale, town of Westerly, R.I.) with no neighbors by the friendly Indians and that they were not discovered by their parents for several years. Much poetry and romance has been written upon this tradition, but no history has been found to establish it as a fact

Ibid., p. 21 A tradition often repeated states that soon after the marriage of George and Elizabeth Hall Babcock he threw a long rope over his
dwellingle house; he remained at one end of the rope, while his wife, Elizabeth, went as requested to the other side of the house and tried to pull the rope over, but without success. George called out, “Pull, Betty, pull harder.” Again she struggled, but with no better results than before. George then called for her to come to him; the two, taking hold of the same end of the rope, easily pulled it over the house. That lesson taught was that when husband and wife pull apart, no satisfactory results can be reached, but when they both pull together everything is easy [This seems sexist, but, had the genders been reversed and Betty uttered “Pull, Georgie, pull,” the moral would remain.]

George Babcock by his will dated Nov. 13, 1750... gives away a number of farms, a large amount of personal property, including thousands of pounds in money. To his wife he gave various personal property, including “my negro gall Peg.” To his son David, he gave the homestead farm, a negro man named “Bristo,” a negro woman named, “Geney.”

Barber

George Soule of the Mayflower, Part V (Plymouth, rev. 2006), p. 235 [The husband and father-in-law of Maxsons.] Nathan Barber, his sons Moses and Nathan, and his son-in-law Thomas Dunbar served in the American Revolution. The pension files for all three sons and son-in-law name father or father-in-law, Nathan Barber... Barber served as Capt. in 3rd Hopkinton RI Senior Class Company [in] June 1780... He would appear to be the counterfeiter Nathan Barber who was fined £1,000 in Kings Co. R.I. Superior Court on 15 Apr 1771 along with [brother-in-law] Timothy Peckham, blacksmith, who was fined £1000, and William Carlisle, who was sentenced to be cropped, branded, pilloried and fined.

Crandall

John Courtlandt Crandall, Elder John Crandall (New Woodstock NY, 1949) p. 2 John Crandall was early associated with the Baptists at Newport, subsequently becoming the first Elder of that denomination. [On] 13, July 1651, he was sentenced to pay a fine of £5 or be publicly whipped [for unauthorized preaching].

Gorton

Gorton, Thomas Arthur. Samuel Gorton of Rhode Island and His Descendants (Baltimore, 1988), p. 57. Samuel Gorton [1592/93-1677] was president of the Providence Plantations in 1651 and founder of the town of Warwick. In the forefront of political reforms, he fought valiantly for the separation of church and state, played an important role in the movement to ban slavery, and stood for the rights of Indians, paying them for his lands when many other colonists merely appropriated their real estate. A lay minister, he was the author of numerous historical and religious volumes. On a mission back to England, he was instrumental in obtaining a royal charter for Rhode Island and defending its political independence from the threat of dominance by Massachusetts.

Ibid., p. 58 [Uncle] Samuel Gorton Jr. Like his father was friendly with the Indians... He was adept at Indian tongues and often served as court interpreter between the Indians and English Settlers. On 9 June 1670 he was fined 20s for not serving at the Court of Trials in Newport. He had apparently begged off because some of his Indian friends were involved in legal action. His fines were remitted in view of his previous service as interpreter. He did, however, serve as a member of the court at Newport for the trial of Indians who were charged with offenses in King Philip’s War.... His will... describes him [being
in] his 92nd year... included in his estate were “my negro man and girl.”

Hazard


*Boston Gazette*, 12 February 1739. Newport, Feb. 9. “[Our double aunt] MRS. MARY [Brownell] HAZARD, widow of Mr. Robert Hazard, of South Kingston and Grand Mother to the deceased George Hazard, Esq. late Deputy Governor of Rhode Island, departed this life 28th day of January last, in the HUNDREDTH Year of her age, who was decently inter’d the Wednesday following. She had 500 Children, Grand Children and Great Grand Children, and left behind her now living two hundred five of the aforesaid number. She was accounted a very useful Gentlewoman both to the Poor and Rich on many accounts, and particularly amongst Sick Persons for her Skill & Judgement, which she did Gratis.”

*Ibid.* p. 2 Physically they [Hazards] are strongly marked. Generally speaking, they are of good stature and vigorous frames with rather a square head, high forehead, brown hair, blue eyes, straight or aquiline nose with will shown by a firmly set jaw. Their complexion is fair, a little inclined to florid.

*Ibid.* p. 3-4 [After 1687, Uncle Robert Hazard] built his house in Kingstown, which was still standing in the early part of the present [19th] century.... The old house was very large -- possibly the largest in town, not only at that time but for many years after. A well-authenticated story is told of Dr. William Shaw, who, being called in to attend a sick person in the house, drove into the back yard, and entered the house by the kitchen door. When he went out, he asked if the family always walked from the front door to the rear of the house, or did they have some sort of conveyance? The ell was longer than the main body of the house, and in this ell was a capacious chimney. Inside the chimney [which could have been 6’ or 8’ wide] were two stone seats, where, tradition says, little slave children were wont to sit; the heat from the big logs being no bad substitute for the hot sands of Africa.

Howland

_Uncle John Howland fortunately was young and strong, as he nearly drowned during a gale on the voyage of the Mayflower_

Mayflower leader William Bradford relates an account of an accident to him during the voyage saying, "In sundrie of these storms the winds were so feirce. & ye seas so high, as they could not heare a knote of saile, but were forced to hull, for diverse days together. And in one of them, as they thus lay at hull, in a mighty storme, a lusty yonge man (called John Howland) coming upon some occasion above ye grattings, was, with a seele of ye shipe throwne into (ye) sea; but it pleased God yet he caught hold of ye top-saile halliards, which hung over board, & rane out at length; yet he held his hould (though he was sundrie fadomes under water) till he was hald up by ye same rope to ye brime of ye water, and then with a boat hooke & other means got into ye shipe againe. & his life saved; and though he was something ill with it, yet he lived many years after, and became a profitable member both in church and common wealthe." _It is said that the same storm put the Mayflower off course, sending it to Massachusetts instead of Virginia._

Howland, Franklyn, A Brief Genealogical and Biographical History of Arthur, Henry and John Howland. (New Bedford, 1885), pp. 64-65. At the court of 1659, “William Newland and Henry...
Howland appeared being summoned and were convicted by law and sentenced by the court to be disfranchised of their freedom of this corporation... for their being abettors and entertainors of Quakers.”

Wikipedia. [Uncle] John and Elizabeth Howland's direct descendants include notable figures such as U.S. presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt, George H. W. Bush, and George W. Bush; U.S. first ladies Edith Roosevelt and Barbara Bush; poets Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow... Mormon prophet and founder of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Joseph Smith, Jr. and his wife Emma Hale; Mormon leader Brigham Young; Continental Congress president Nathaniel Gorham; Alaska Governor Sarah Palin; former Florida governor Jeb Bush; and actors/actresses Humphrey Bogart, Maude Adams and Lillian Russell.

U.S. presidents Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford, and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill are descendants of John Howland's brothers Arthur (Nixon and Ford) and [our direct ancestor] Henry (Churchill).

Jenks

Wikipedia 1/1/10. Joseph Jenks I (b. England 1602, d. Lynn, MA 1682) Joseph Jenks settled in Lynn, Massachusetts by 1645. On March 6, 1646, the first patent in North America was issued to Joseph Jenks by the General Court of Massachusetts for making scythes. In 1654 he built the first fire engine in North America.

Joseph Jenks II (b. England 1632, d. Pawtucket, RI 1717) He was the earliest known settler of Pawtucket, Rhode Island, in 1671. He was a Deputy to the Rhode Island Assembly for a number of terms in the late 17th century, also Counselor of the Governor in 1681.

[Uncle] Joseph Jenks III (b. Pawtucket, RI 1656, d. Providence, RI 1740) From 1691 through 1732, he continuously held high offices of public trust in Rhode Island, culminating as Governor from 1727 to 1732.

Soule

Our first documented Mayflower ancestor, George Soule came as servant to Edward Winslow, and at least some of his children behaved badly, the rowdies of the Mayflower set.

George Soule of the Mayflower, (Plymouth, 2006) p. 1: The will of George Soule Sr of Duxbury dated 11 Aug, 1677... warned son John that if he disturbed daughter Patience, then Patience was to have the house and lands at Duxburrow [bequeathed to John].

Ibid. p.5 [Uncle] Nathaniel m. ca. 1680 Rose/Rosamond Thorn. In March 1667/8 Nathaniel Soule was charged and again on 3 June 1668 summoned to Plymouth Colony General Court for telling ‘a pisious lie’ for which he was fined ten shillings... On 4 March 1673/4 Nathaniel Soule was charged with adultery with an Indian woman on 1 March 1673/4 he was sentenced to be whipped (as was the Indian woman) and to pay ten bushels of corn towards the keeping of their child.

Ibid. p. 9 On 3 March 1662 [Aunt] Elizabeth Soule and Nathaniel Church were fined for fornication. Elizabeth Soule sued for failure to marry her and won a partial judgment in Oct. 1663. [They had an illegitimate child] On 2 July 1667 Elizabeth Soule was charged again with fornication with no partner named.

Genealogical waffle

Ibid., p. 7 Susannah Soule, b. prob. Duxbury ca. 1642 and perhaps 25 June 1642; d. prob. Kingstown RI after 1684 (b. of twins) and
perhaps Duxbury 12 Nov. 1707. She m. prob. Plymouth Colony ca. 1661 Francis Waste / West, b. prob. Aylesworth (Buckinghamshire) ENG; d. after 6 Sept. 1687 (tax list) and perhaps No. Kingston RI 2 Jan 1696; apparently son of Matthew West, who apparently d. Newport RI 1659.

The Mayflower Society is known for being exacting, and, indeed, the entire Maxson Scrapbook could/should have been written with comparable qualifier next to each name and date. But aren’t you glad it’s not?

Ancestors in King Philip’s War

Richard Maxson, the immigrant, was by family tradition killed by Native Americans at Throggs Neck in present day New York City in 1643, and, as described recently in Nathaniel Philbrick’s Mayflower and other works, coexistence between natives and newcomers was very complicated. Some colonists, like James Badcock listed above, behaved badly toward Native Americans, who in turn were certainly capable of bad behavior as well. In New England, the immigrant-native friction came to a boil with bloody King Philip’s War, fought 1675-65, and it certainly affected our forbears. Some examples:

- Uncle Benjamin Soule, k. R.I. 1676 age. ca. 25
- Uncle Anthony Sprague’s house burned 1676
- Capt. William Holbrook “lived in Weymouth MA until driven out during King Philip’s War”
- Two of Marion Flagg Maxson’s Flagg uncles were killed in the war and their brother, her direct ancestor Gershom Flagg was killed four years later in Indian fighting.

The Babcock history notes, “King Philip’s War broke out, and the treachery and cruelty of the Indians was such that most of the pioneers of Westerly were obliged to flee their homes and take refuge on the island of Rhode Island... [p. 22] [Uncle] Elihu Babcock, son of John and Mary (Lawton) Babcock... Tradition says his birth occurred at the time of the “Swamp fight,” Dec. 19, 1675, King’s Philip’s War. He was of limited mental capacity, which misfortune tradition also r—[illegible] upon the personal alarms his mother, Mary, suffered from an accidental meeting with a hostile Indian the summer preceding his birth. He was original in speech and manner. His remarks were sometimes more emphatic that elegant.... his six surviving brothers, who always treated him with kindness and respect, entered into an agreement providing for his care and support. [He died unmarried.]

Was Uncle Joshua Tefft a traitor or victim in King Philip’s War?

Castle Chronicle, Cucumscussoc Assoc. Winter 2001. In December 1675, over 1,000 troops of the Puritan United Colonies, that is, Massachusetts, Plymouth and Connecticut, converged in southern Rhode Island intending to take the territory by right of conquest. They attacked the Narragansett Indian nation's stronghold on an island in the Great Swamp, less than two miles from [Uncle] Joshua Tefft's farm. Tefft claimed that he had been taken captive by the Narragansett Indians – his life spared only on the condition that he serve as their slave. However, an Indian woman taken captive by the English of the United Colonies reported that Joshua was their "encourager and conductor."

After the Great Swamp Fight of December 19, 1675, Captain Oliver of Massachusetts reported that Joshua Tefft had "shot 20 times at us in the swamp." Records indicate that Tefft wounded Captain Nathaniel Seely of Connecticut, who subsequently died. An Indian spy reported that Tefft, "did them good service & kild & woonded
5 or 6 English in that fight & before they wold trust him hee had kild a miller, an English man at Narragansett, and brought his scalpe to them."

Joshua Tefft claimed that "Himselfe had no Arms at all" during his interrogation recorded by Roger Williams in Providence. He was subsequently extradited to the Plantation of Wickford on January 16, 1676, into the custody of General Josiah Winslow, Governor of New Plymouth, and Connecticut's ambassador Richard Smith. Two days later, Joshua was executed for high treason. Major William Bradford of Plymouth wrote: "The Englishman that was taken had his doom yesterday, to be hanged and quartered; which was done effectually."

A sorrowful record, indeed and reportedly the only time that horrific sentence was carried out in the American colonies. A week later, Joshua's father, John Tefft, was killed in the conflict, aged 51.
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Purpose: The purposes for which this Society is organized are: To investigate, collect, record, publish and deposit in libraries and archives, the genealogical and historical materials of Texas, with particular focus on items pertaining to the City of Austin, and/or Travis County. To educate its members and the general public in the use of these and other reference materials in preparing, and publishing genealogical material and family lineage. To support the Texas State Library and other genealogical library or archival collections in Travis County by securing and donating books, microfilmed records, and other items or equipment not normally provided in the budgets of these collections.

Membership: Membership is open to all upon payment of annual dues. Classes: Individual: $20; Family (two in the same household): $30; Patron of AGS: $100; Lifetime: $500 ($300 if over age 65). All classes entitle one copy of each issue of the Quarterly and the monthly Newsletter, as well as two pages apiece (a total of four pages for Family or higher whether one or two people submit listings) in the Ancestor Listing issue, the June Quarterly. After July 1, dues are $10 for the balance of the year, but you will receive only the publications produced after the date you join. Membership includes a copy the annual Membership Directory, which is published each spring.

Dues for Existing Members are payable on or before January 1 of each year for the ensuing year. If dues are not received by February 1, the name must be dropped from the mailing list. If membership is reinstated later and Quarterlies and Newsletters have to be mailed individually, postage must be charged. (Back Quarterly issues are supplied only if available). Send dues payments to AGS Treasurer, P.O. Box 10010, Austin, Texas 78766-1010.

Meetings: The general membership begin at 7:00 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month except December. Members are encouraged to come at 6:30 p.m. Meeting Place: Highland Park Baptist Church, 5206 Balcones Dr. Take Northland (RR 2222) exit off Loop 1 (Mopac). Go west one block to Balcones Dr., then left 1/2 block. The church and parking lot are on right. Visitors are always welcome. The Board of Directors meets at 6 p.m.

Check Return Policy: Members and other payees must pay AGS the cost of any returned check (currently $5) over and above the charge their bank may impose.

AGS Quarterly: AGS Quarterly is issued about the middle of March, June, September and November. Contributions are always welcome, subject to editing for style and length. Contributor is completely responsible for accuracy and any copyright infringement. AGS assumes no responsibility for content of submitted material. Some Quarterly articles are posted to our Website at www.AustinTxGenSoc.org.

Submissions: for the Quarterly must reach the Editor at P. O. Box 10010, Austin, Texas 78766-1010, or quarterly@AustinTxGenSoc.org by the deadlines below, preferably by electronic means, either in an e-mail or as an attachment to an e-mail. When an electronic version is not possible, typing, handwriting or printing must be black and legible. Months must be spelled or abbreviated, not in figures. Show dates in accepted genealogical style: day, month. Leave 1-inch margins at both sides and at top and bottom, and hand-number pages on the back of each page. Carefully check horizontal pages (reading in the 11-inch direction) so that one-inch margins are on top, bottom and both sides so no information is lost in stapling. No 8 1/2 x14 sheets, please. You may submit lineage or family group charts, ahnentafels, narratives, memoirs, letters, cemetery inscriptions, Bible records, census data, queries or a combination of material, just so it is not under copyright. Proofread your material for accuracy and clarity so we will not publish faulty or incorrect data. Consult a recent AGS Quarterly for suggestions.

AGS Quarterly Deadlines: 20th of February, May, August and October. Send material to AGS Quarterly, P. O. Box 10010, Austin, Texas 78766-1010 or email quarterly@AustinTxGenSoc.org.