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COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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Travis Co. Records Coordinator & Travis Co. Query Contact ........ Kay Dunlap Boyd
Webmaster .......................................................... Lisa Smith-Curtean
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AGS meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of every month, from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm (except December). Meetings typically include time to get acquainted with other researchers, announcements and notification of upcoming activities. Meetings also feature a speaker on a genealogical topic.

**January 28 Rescheduled**

**February 25 General Land Office Tour** - What is Available at the GLO  
James Harkins

**March 25 Using Evernote to Organize Your Genealogical Research**  
Caroline Pointer

**April 22 Copyright & Intellectual Property Law for Genealogists**  
Matthew J. Booth, Atty.

**May 27 Effectively Using Family Search for Research**  
Speaker: Dave Anderton

**June 24 Maps & Online Resources** at the Perry-Castaneda Library  
Katherine Strickland

**July 22 How to Write Short Stories About Your Family History**  
Mary Scrudder

**August 26 Heritage Makers - Scrapbooking & Sharing Photos**  
Luci Anderson

**September 23 GATA GACC! DNA and Genetic Genealogy Today**  
Debbie Parker Wayne

**October 28 TBD**  
TBD

**November 25 Fall Festival**
Dear Members,

We are half way through 2014 and it has been an extremely busy time for me. With the daily hustle and bustle in each of our lives, time can easily get away from us. Lately, I have been asking myself, what would our ancestors think about the high-tech, fast-paced lives we live? When I stop to think about it, I can almost hear my grandmother “Mama Spillman” say “I do declare Lisa, why do you devote so much of your time to others?” If she were still with us, I would respond “Mama, I learned it from you.” You see, my grandmother was always giving of herself and time to help others and help a good cause. I enjoy contributing to the genealogy community and helping others. I am continuously looking for ways to improve our publication and realize I can’t do it all on my own.

Peter Flagg Maxson, has submitted a great article for this issue of the Q. Mr. Maxson graciously shared with us his experience on writing for the AGS Quarterly. I would like to challenge each of you to spend some time during the second half of 2014 to document and submit your stories to be included in two remaining issues of the AGS Quarterly.

The deadline for the September issue is August 16, 2014. As of today, I have one submission for that issue, so feel free to start submitting now.

Regards,
Lisa Smith-Curtean
State Library and Archives
Open for Researchers on Second Saturdays

Beginning January 11, 2014, the Texas State Library and Archives Commission will expand its hours of operation to accommodate researchers. The Commission’s three public service areas – the Texas State Archives, Texas Family Heritage Research Center and the Reference and Information Center – will be open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. the second Saturday of each month. The facility is located at 1201 Brazos Street in Austin.

Resources and services available include:

- Archival government records dating back to the 18th century
- Newspapers
- Books
- Journals
- Legal resources
- Manuscripts
- Photographs
- Historical maps
- Free access to online databases, including TexShare, Ancestry and Fold3
- Genealogical collections
- County histories
- City directories
- U.S. and Texas government publications
- Interlibrary loan service
- Public access computers
- Digital microform reader/printers
- Walk-up book scanner
- Knowledgeable and dedicated staff

Please note: Researchers using original documents in the State Archives for the first time will be required to register and must present valid photo identification and proof of current address.

On Second Saturdays, no materials will be pulled from closed stack areas after 3:30 p.m. In addition, all archival materials will be removed from the reading room at 3:45 p.m.

Our regular public service hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. The library is closed on most federal holidays.

To learn more about the Commission’s collections and agency operations, please visit www.tsl.state.tx.us.

Questions concerning Second Saturdays may be sent to reference.desk@tsl.state.tx.us.

★ Texas State Library and Archives Commission ★
Preserving yesterday, informing today, inspiring tomorrow.

2014
January 11
February 8
March 8
April 12
May 10
June 14
July 12
August 9
September 13
October 11
November 8
December 13
I joined the Austin Genealogical Society in 1989, some 25 years ago, with no particular expectations. I’d attended a few meetings, and, having had an interest in family history since I was a teenager, and it seemed like a good opportunity to exchange sources and ideas. The Quarterly was an unexpected benefit, but I was uncertain about the idea of contributing anything myself.

Many people have a fear of public speaking, and that can extend to public writing. They are unsure of their writing skills, concerned about whether a family history bears repeating, have negative memories of school papers or are just lethargic. Even those who write, say, fine Christmas letters may still hesitate to write and share family history.

But the AGS is a family of sorts, and our articles are for friends, not severe critics. Over the past 60 years, many hundreds of people of submitted family histories, and to my knowledge everyone has survived the ordeal. While our stories are different, sharing these histories demonstrates the success of the organization. Writing stuff down and sharing it is a way of keeping score in our evolution as genealogists.

As an avocational genealogist, I look at collecting birth, marriage and death dates as the skeleton for the much broader story of family history. We are story tellers, raconteurs, historians, sages, sometimes wise men and women of the village. The venerable New England Historic & Genealogical Society has a saying, “Your ancestors have chosen you to tell their stories.” I also look at it as a way to introduce your great-grandparents to your great-grandchildren.

Don’t you wish other, remote family members had relayed their own stories in a way that they could be found a hundred years hence? And think of your Great Aunt Beatrice who spent years researching, told wonderful stories and wrote nothing down. But your AGSQ article will be archived for future generations.

My own first article was a timid one-pager. In those days, the Quarterly had a four-page allotment each June as the Members’ Issue. Four pages was a good size. It was long enough to collect one’s thoughts on some aspect of family history, but wasn’t not intimidatingly large. And in the 25 years since then, I’ve written probably twenty articles. It’s a great relief to know these stories are down for posterity, and I like to think my writing and choice of subjects has improved over the decades. I pass on my personal thoughts on writing for the Quarterly.

There are many reasons to write for the Quarterly. In no particular order:
The four pagers gave me confidence in my writing, and prompted me to do more serious research and writing. I’ve since written 1 ¾ of the four books planned on the families of each of my grandparents. Like the AGSQ articles, these are not necessarily for commercial distribution, but rather to get information down on paper for future generations. Stringing together AGSQ stories has been an important part of it.

I’ve sent dozens of copies of the AGSQ articles to others interested. Even relatives with a lukewarm interest in genealogy may become hooked, or at least provide useful feedback.
Autobiographical writing about one’s childhood and immediate antecedents can be fun, and there is history there. My Grandfather Maxson moved to Indian Territory from Kansas in the 1890s part way by covered wagon, and Grandfather DeGolyer was born in a sod house in Greensburg, Kansas, the town largely destroyed by a tornado in 2007. Grandmother DeGolyer’s grandfather was shot by Bushwhackers in the Civil War, and Grandmother Maxson’s father was friends with Mark Twain. As little girls, my Maxson aunts gave hay to the horses at the now historic No. 9 Hook & Ladder Co. in Dallas’ Oak Lawn neighborhood, and my infant mother was hurriedly brought back to the US at the outbreak of World War I on the Virginian, a ship that two years earlier had failed to reach the sinking Titanic. Actress and Texas native, Sissy Spacek recently wrote an autobiography called My Extraordinary Ordinary Life, and that could be said of many of us. Clearly not everything bears repeating. But if you stop and ponder the highlights, or how things changed most dramatically in the lives of your parents or grandparents, there’s a yarn there.

Other readers can find our own scribbling’s informative, inspirational or entertaining.

**Personal Hints, in no particular order:**

My usual approach is to sit down with pad and paper and make a list of genealogical topics that interest me, either the subjects that I know the best or those that would be most enjoyable to research and write about. Then with the finalists I will make random notes: anecdotes, stories, research needed, bibliography, followed by an outline, stringing these together. Only at that point will I go to a computer. The first draft is almost a stream of consciousness, and then I will add, subtract, edit, wordsmith, trying always to keep in mind what may interest a reader.

Beware of “firsts.” Family traditions vary widely in their accuracy, and many events are difficult to prove. That an ancestor may have been first Tax Collector of Panola County can be verified. That he/she built the first brick house in Panola County or was a pal of Sam Houston may be more difficult to document. When I worked for the Texas Historical Commission, we used “waffle words” when appropriate: “according to family tradition,” “some say” and “it is believed” for traditions that cannot be footnoted. These are permissible and may pave the way for future researchers who can connect the dots. But traditions may also be wishful thinking or fiction.

Family historic photographs are nice to use in moderation. In instances in which these are scarce, related photos – say, a college an ancestor attended or workplace – can be useful visuals. Maps and timelines can be informative too.

Keep economy of words in mind. William Zinsser, author of On Writing Well, suggests telling your story, going back and eliminating 50%. That seems painful, but it does encourage you to be concise. And we should be mindful that the AGS still publishes a certain number of hard copies.

Respect copyright laws. Material written before 1922 is in the public domain. Later material is to be used with caution, especially limited excerpts.

Consider the wider historical context. If, for instance, ancestors moved, why? Did world, national, state or local events influence that decision? Wars, depressions, health crises, the hope of success? Perhaps a 12th child of a hardscrabble farmer in Alabama after the Civil War might have had good reason to come to Texas.
You may or may not footnote all articles, but including your major reference works is doing a major favor for your readers and adds credibility to your work.

If you have a friend or relation good with words or history, ask them to read your manuscript and comment. I’m not a good copy editor and am grateful for those that are. Another set of eyes can help: you may reference “Aunt Tot” thinking there’s no need for an explanation, but another will say, “Who’s Aunt Tot?” Something obvious to you may not be to others.

There can be many approaches to your AGSQ contribution. You may decide to do family lineage charts or biographies or play it safe. That’s fine. But think outside the box. Your contribution does not have to be a strict genealogical compilation or biography. There may be a strand of family history you’ve followed, a brick wall you’ve vanquished. My own articles have veered in many directions, and include:

Articles on male line ancestors and direct descendants of my Maxson, Flagg, DeGolyer and Goodrich great-grandfathers. And rather than including only dates and places, I included biographical basics: where ancestors lived, their life’s work, military service, elective office, the names of father and mother-in-laws.

“Taylor Obituaries” documenting my great-grandfather-in-law and his seven siblings in Virginia.

“The Distaff Side,” tracing the mother’s mother’s mother etc. of my grandparents.

“Genealogy in the 21st century” discussing adopting, divorce, step relations, continued use of maiden names, in-vitro fertilization, same gender marriage and other complexities.

“The Old Family Home,” based on an AGS/FGS lecture I gave on documenting ancestral homes.

“Obituaries,” again based on an AGS lecture on locating, writing and interpreting obits.

“Grandmother’s Royal Forbears” on a line that would have pleased my grande dame maternal grandmother

“Virginia to Missouri, 1830,” in which a four-times great uncle wrote a narrative in the 1890s of the adventures of his family’s move from the Blue Ridge Mountains of Va. to Paris Co., Missouri when he was age 15 in 1830. How I wish other ancestors had done this!

“Society of the Cincinnati” tracing the memberships of a dozen Flagg ancestors and me in the nation’s oldest hereditary patriotic society.

“Ancestors I Wish I’d Known.” The Greatest Hits.

“The Eilers and the Ligons,” on noted forbears of Bastrop & Llano Co. ancestors of a cousin.

“The Missing Maxsons,” the fifty-year, ultimately successful quest to break through an impenetrable brick wall.
“The New York Connection,” from 17th century Manhattan farmers through the Gilded Age to my entrepreneurial nephew.

“Ancestors in the Military” with paragraphs on a dozen of us who served from the 17th to 20th century.

“Pemberton Castle,” the history of a West Austin landmark and its occupants.

“Ancestral Potpourri,” largely a compilation of one-paragraph excerpts from published genealogies on interesting and curious ancestors.

Book reviews for Randolph, Cary, Vanderbilt and Wheat genealogies that interested me.

Next year’s Christmas presents to my siblings, nieces and nephew will include a compilation of these in notebook form, allowing for further future additions.

+ + +

I’ve had fun with these articles and other AGSQ readers have been kind enough to compliment them. A certain number were written not necessarily because the information would be of universal interest, but, rather, to demonstrate the wide variety of avenues for showcasing genealogical research.

To us family historians, ancestors may have distinct personalities, while they’re just names to others. The saints and sinners, the colorful and the bland, rich and poor are all part of the story. And while you don’t want a genealogy that reads like a tabloid, propriety should not trump honesty. Racist remarks made by an ancestor are part of our painful history, and I was amazed to learn how many the 17th and 18th century New England ancestors were slaveholders. An ancestress who earned her Scarlet Letter twice, a forbear who took the Native Americans’ side in King Philip’s War and was drawn & quartered for it, a murderous great-great uncle, a wonderful alcoholic flapper great-aunt – these are all pieces of the family puzzle, in addition to the great and righteous. And, in truth, sometimes the rascals make more interesting reading than the worthy citizens.

So, pick up your pencil, pen or quill. Go to your computer, your typewriter, your parchment or slate. But think of family history or lore or genealogy that you would like to share, and put it down to share with other AGSQ readers. The first article’s the hardest, and in truth it’s usually a joy to write, and for others to read. You’ll be glad you did.

Peter Flagg Maxson
Architectural Historian
4212 Avenue F
Austin TX 78751
William Henry Thompson son of Colonel Thomas “Tom” Thompson and Elizabeth Ann O’Daniel, was born May 11, 1846, in Marion County, Arkansas. In 1852, at the age of 6, his father died. Within the following year, Elizabeth Ann O’Daniel remarried Thomas Jefferson Nelson. William joined the Confederacy during the Civil War at the age of 17, joining 8th Regiment, Arkansas Cavalry, Confederate Arkansas Troops. After the war, William studied to be a teacher by profession, graduating from Chapple Hill of North Carolina.

In 1870, in Prairie, Newton County, Arkansas, the census shows William Henry “Will” Thompson living with his grandparents, Green C. O’Daniel and Nancy O’Daniel. Between 1874 and 1884, Will is shown living in Hillsboro, Orange County, North Carolina. Will married Martha Ann Smith on May 24, 1876. The first four of their eleven children are born in Hillsboro: Mary Elizabeth Thompson, Nancy Minnie Thompson, Wade Hampton Thompson, and Annie May Thompson.

Between 1885 to 1891, William lives in Greer County, Oklahoma, USA. They have three children born in Oklahoma: Martha Frances Thompson, John Finis Thompson Sr. and Geneva Knox Thompson.

In 1891, William and his family arrived in Texas meeting up with his mother, Elizabeth Ann O’Daniel and step father Thomas Jefferson Nelson, who had arrived in Texas 20 years prior in 1871.

He bought land that he farmed and he raised pigs. William was a school trustee for Jollyville School District for many years.

The Thompson farm is out of the Henry Rhodes Survey patented in 1841. W. H. Thompson purchased the property from Henry Rhodes’ granddaughter, Margaret Rhodes Crump, in the early 1890’s. The last two children were born in that house - Jessie Irene Thompson and Smith H. Thompson.

The original one story home place on the Austin - Lampasas Road, was a stagecoach stop. Around the turn of the century, the one story house was moved to a location just south of the original, and W. H. Thompson incorporated it into a two story structure that still stands today. The north fireplace of the Thompson house has a two story dressed limestone chimney. Inside post and beam supports are roughhewn juniper. Old barns and outbuildings include a double crib log barn of saddle-notched juniper logs. (Thompson home now owned by Red Barn Nursery on Pond Springs Road)

William Henry Thompson and Martha Ann Smith Thompson standing in front of their home, in the early 1920’s in Jollyville, Texas. Photo from the collection of Alyssa Behr.
William Henry Thompson & Martha Ann Smith children:
Mary Elizabeth Thompson 1877 – 1956
married to Benjamin Gray Jenkins. Children 9: Meda Gertrude Jenkins, Marion E. Jenkins, Alma Lillian Jenkins, Lois Vivian Jenkins, Mary Thelma Jenkins, Nina Nola Jenkins, Wilburn Henry Jenkins, Herma Frances Ann Jenkins, Thomas Gray Jenkins
Nancy Minnie Thompson 1878 – 1962
married to Clarence “Babe” Hicks; no children
Wade Hampton Thompson 1879 – 1915
married to Annie Lee Roach. Children 2: Winfred Hazel Thompson, Margaret L. Thompson
Annie May Thompson 1881 – 1935
married to Greenberry Hamilton “Hamp” Hammack. Children 3: Granville Alvin Hammack, Jessie Mae Hammack, William Gordon Hammack
Thomas Charles Thompson 1882 – 1882
William Thompson 1886 – 1886
Martha Frances Thompson 1888 – 1956
John Finis Thompson Sr. 1889 – 1966
married to Emma Mae Pierce. Children 6: John Finis “Swede” Thompson, Mildred Thompson, William Scott Thompson, Martha Ruth Thompson, James Thompson, Nancy Jo Thompson
Geneva Knox Thompson 1891 – 1973
Jessie Irene Thompson 1894 – 1972
married to Lucius Augustus Scott Sr. Children 3: Forrest Burns Scott, Lucius Augustus Scott Jr., William R Scott
Henry Smith Thompson 1895 – 1967
married to Louisa Winnie Minnie Moore; Children 1: Imogene Thompson

William Henry “Will” Thompson and his wife, Martha, with their children and grandchildren gathered around a picnic sheet on the ground in the early 1920’s. Photo from the collection of Alyssa Behr.

Martha Frances Thompson and John Finis Thompson with all of their grandchildren in the early 1920’s. Photo from the collection of Alyssa Behr.

William & Martha Thompson sitting with Children in the early 1920’s: (l-r) Jessie Irene Thompson Scott, Martha Frances Thompson Petri, John Finis THOMPSON Sr., Mary Elizabeth Thompson Jenkins, Smith H. Thompson, Geneva Knox Thompson Petri, Nancy Minnie Thompson Hicks. Photo from the collection of Alyssa Behr.

The picture on the left is Annie May Thompson Hammack; the picture on the right is Wade Hampton Thompson.

William & Martha Thompson sitting with Children in the early 1920’s: (l-r) Jessie Irene Thompson Scott, Martha Frances Thompson Petri, John Finis THOMPSON Sr., Mary Elizabeth Thompson Jenkins, Smith H. Thompson, Geneva Knox Thompson Petri, Nancy Minnie Thompson Hicks. Photo from the collection of Alyssa Behr.
WILLIAM HENRY THOMPSON & FAMILY: Year 1899 or 1900 the family traveled to San Antonio by wagon from Jollyville to have the photo taken. Back Row (l-r): Annie May "Aunt Dick" Thompson Hammack, Mary Elizabeth "Aunt Lizzie" Thompson Jenkins, Wade Hampton Thompson, Nancy "Aunt Nannie" Minnie Thompson Hicks. Middle Row (l-r): Geneva Knox "Aunt Neva" Thompson Petri, William Henry Thompson, Martha Ann Smith Thompson, Martha Frances "Aunt Botsie" Thompson Petri in school she was called "Frankie". Front Row (l-r): John Finis Thompson, Henry Smith Thompson, Jessie Irene "Aunt Jessie" Thompson Scott. Photo from the collection of Britt Thompson.

WILLIAM HENRY THOMPSON age 21 around 1867 he was at the University of Chapel Hill in North Carolina. Original photo was taken on metal. Photo from the collection of Britt Thompson.

MARTHA FRANCES THOMPSON PETRI daughter of William Henry Thompson. She married Charles Hubert Petri Jr. 1908 age 28. From the collection of Alyssa Helen Behr.
Elizabeth Ann O’Daniel is the daughter of Green C. O’Daniel Sr. (1795–1871) and Nancy O’Daniel (1799–1881). Elizabeth’s parents’ marriage bond names her mother as O’Daniel. She may have been the daughter of Samuel and Mary Trousdale O’Daniel. If so, she and Green would be cousins. At the age of 6, in 1833, Elizabeth’s family moved from Orange County North, Carolina to Carroll County, Arkansas.

In 1844, at the age of 17, Elizabeth married Colonel Thomas “Tom” Thompson in Newton County, Arkansas. In 1853, she married her 2nd husband, Thomas Jefferson Nelson. She married twice and had a total of 12 children. In 1871, after the birth of Susan, the whole family moved to Williamson County, Texas. The exception was William Henry Thompson who stayed in Arkansas. It was twenty years before he moved to Texas with his family, joining his mother and stepfather in Williamson County. In all, William had two sisters and nine half brothers and sisters. Both Elizabeth Ann O’Daniel and Thomas Jefferson Nelson are buried in the Walden section of Pond Springs Cemetery in Jollyville, Williamson County, Texas.

Children with 1st husband Colonel Thomas “Tom” Thompson:
Nancy Jane Thompson (1848 – 1903) marriage to James Madison ENNIS, 10 children
Mary Frances Thompson (1850 – 1914) marriage to James Alexander WALDEN, 9 children

Children with 2nd husband Thomas Jefferson Nelson:
Louisa Nelson (1854 – ?)
John Nelson (1855 – 1932) marriage to Martha Louise Cromeans, 8 children
DeKalb Nelson (1857 – 1932) marriage to Francis Olive WALDEN, 5 children
Margaret Savannah Nelson (1861 – 1896) marriage to William David WALDEN, 8 children
Alfred Nelson (1864 – 1935) marriage to Hannah Generva McDonald, 9 children
Infant Nelson (1867 – 1867)
Pleasant Nelson (1869 – 1880)
Susan Elizabeth Nelson (1870 – 1944) marriage to Andrew Jackson Cromeans Jr., 5 children

Colonel Thomas “Tom” Thompson
(William Henry Thompson’s father)

Colonel Thomas Thompson is the son of Jonithan Thompson (1770 – 1850) and Nancy Gordon (1779 – 1850). Tom is one of eleven brothers and sisters. Thomas and Elizabeth moved to Marion County, Arkansas, most likely from Orange County, North Carolina. In early days he was a blacksmith and later a colonel of state troops in Northwest Arkansas. It is possible that Elizabeth was, perhaps, a second wife but there is no information which would confirm this. 1850 Marion County, Arkansas Census: P329 #292-293 Thomas Thompson 44 blacksmith b. N.C., Elisabeth 23 b. N.C., William 5 b. AR, Nancy 3 b. AR, Mary 4/12 b. AR.

A drawing of Colonel Thomas “Tom” Thompson in the early 1840’s. Photo from the collections of Alyssa Behr and Brit Thompson.

Note: Chuck had this old photo in a box of other old Thompson photos that came from his Grandmother Martha Francis Thompson Petri. He e-mailed me this photo wanting to know who they were and how they were related to the Thompsons. -Alyssa
In 1862 Henry Gale Dunnel published *The True Genealogy of the Dunnel and Dwinell Family of New England*. The title of the book refers to Dunnel’s decision to “…confine my genealogical observations to strict matters of fact, which could be proved by perfect and legal documents…” Although the genealogy is research based, the sources of most facts are not cited. The purpose of this article is to complete and document the entry for the Bartholomew Dwinell and Rebecca Towne family.

Dunnel initially became interested in the family history when he learned that different branches of the family had adopted different spellings of the surname. He explained the reason for his choice of spelling for the original immigrant ancestor but did not indicate how he made this decision for later generations. The name Dwinell, used in this article for the Bartholomew Dwinell and Rebecca Towne family, is the spelling found in the birth record for Bartholomew Dwinell and is the most common spelling found in records for the family. Dunnel used the name Dwinel for this family.

The birth order of the children presented below also differs from Dunnel. Most importantly, in a separate entry Dunnel specifically pointed out that Charlotte, born in 1808, was the eleventh child. Births of the first seven children were recorded. The birth dates for the younger six children presented below are from secondary information and may need to be revised if better evidence is located. However, the 1810 U.S. census entry for the Bartholomew Dwinell family includes two males and two females under the age of ten, supporting the conclusion that all the children were born before 1 August 1810. If both Luther and Charles were born after Charlotte, as presented by Dunnel, the births of the three youngest children were spaced very close together. It seems more plausible that only one child was born after Charlotte.

Overall Dunnel provided a fairly accurate picture of the family as of the 1850s. The book contains information that does not appear in any records located to date and may have been provided by Charlotte Dwinell, who Dunnel acknowledged for her assistance with his research. She also may have been the source of the few facts that conflict with the records. This article takes a next step in documenting the entry for the Bartholomew Dwinell and Rebecca Towne family. Much more research is needed to fill in missing data and identify parents of spouses, examine original records where copies have been used, and strengthen evidence for facts that are based on secondary information.

Bartholomew Dwinell and Rebecca Towne Family

Bartholomew DWINELL, son of Bartholomew DWINELL and Sarah, was born on 25 March 1762 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts and died on 16 November 1813 in Keene, Cheshire County, New Hampshire. Bartholomew married Rebecca TOWNE on 23 June 1785 in Rindge, Cheshire County, New Hampshire. Rebecca, daughter of Francis TOWNE and Phebe TOWNE, was born on 4 June 1765 in Topsfield and died on 21 May 1830 in Keene.

Dunnel identified Bartholomew Dwinell's mother as Sarah Moulton, but Moulton was her surname from a previous marriage rather than her maiden name.

Children from this marriage were:

i. John DWINELL was born on 29 August 1784 in Keene, Cheshire County, New Hampshire, died on 19 May 1855, and was buried in Lower York Cemetery in York Township, Carroll County, Illinois. John married Prudence ATWOOD on 12 March 1812 in Brandon, Rutland County, Vermont. Prudence was born on 23 December 1790 in New Hampshire, died on 23 March 1853, and was buried in Lower York Cemetery.

A separate entry in the Dunnel book for John Dwinell states that he married and “moved to Brandon, Vt., and from thence removed again.” He did move to Brandon, and then to Canton, Saint Lawrence County, New York, before moving to Illinois.
ii. Gardner DWINEILL was born on 23 July 1786 in Keene, Cheshire County, New Hampshire.\(^8\) Gardner married Polly JEWETT on 10 May 1812 in Huntsburgh, Franklin County, Vermont.\(^{13}\) Polly was born between 1781 and 1790.\(^{14}\)

A separate entry in the Dunnel book for Gardner Dwinell states that he married and “went to Franklin, Vt., and thence west.”\(^{n1}\) Gardner moved to Huntsburgh (renamed to Franklin in 1817) in 1810 or 1811\(^{2,15}\) and to Olmstead, Cuyahoga County, Ohio, between 1835 and 1840.\(^{16,17}\) No death record has been located to date.

iii. Phoebe DWINEILL was born on 15 June 1788 in Keene, Cheshire County, New Hampshire,\(^8\) died in 1824 in Franklin, Franklin County, Vermont, and was buried in Maple Grove Cemetery in Franklin.\(^{18}\) Phoebe married Abel COBURN on 14 March 1808 in Huntsburgh (renamed to Franklin in 1817).\(^{13}\) Abel, son of Amasa COBURN and Lucy SANDERSON, was born in 1780 in Chesterfield, Cheshire County, New Hampshire,\(^{19,20,21}\) died on 15 January 1861 in Franklin,\(^{19}\) and was buried in Maple Grove Cemetery in Franklin.\(^{18}\)

The Franklin death register gives the year of death for Phoebe as 1844. That entry is not an original death record but part of a transcription of old gravestones added to the death register in 1919.\(^{22}\) An enhanced image of the gravestone reveals the year to be 1824,\(^{18}\) which is consistent with other records for Phoebe and Abel.

iv. Rebekah DWINEILL was born on 26 February 1790 in Keene, Cheshire County, New Hampshire,\(^8\) Rebekah married Solomon SAWTELL on 12 November 1812 in Rindge, Cheshire County, New Hampshire,\(^5\) and probably died on 12 August 1818 in Rindge.\(^{23}\)

Dunnel’s information for Rebekah was that she married “Lawtle of Rindge.”\(^{n1}\) The surname Lawtle does not appear in the early town records or vital records for Rindge, New Hampshire. Dunnel may have misread the handwriting in a record or a letter from Charlotte Dwinell. It is also possible that Charlotte provided the incorrect information from memory – Rebekah probably left home before Charlotte was born\(^2\) and died when Charotte was a child.\(^{23}\)

v. Nancy DWINEILL was born on 29 February 1792 in Keene, Cheshire County, New Hampshire.\(^8\) Nancy married Joel POWERS on 30 April 1820 in Franklin, Franklin County, Vermont.\(^{25}\) Joel was born about 1792. In 1861 Nancy and Joel were living with one of their children in Quebec.\(^{26}\)

vi. Sally DWINEILL was born on 4 September 1793 in Keene, Cheshire County, New Hampshire,\(^8\) died on 16 June 1863 in Springfield, Windsor County, Vermont,\(^{27}\) and was buried in Rockingham Meeting House Cemetery, Windham County, Vermont.\(^{28}\) Sally married Calvin BROWN on 11 September 1814 in Keene.\(^{24}\) Calvin, son of Ammi BROWN and Mary, was born on 1 May 1792 in Keene\(^8\) and died on 26 August 1826 in Keene.\(^{4,6}\)

vii. Relief DWINEILL was born on 13 March 1796 in Keene, Cheshire County, New Hampshire\(^8\) and probably died between 1870 and 1875 in Hannibal, Oswego County, New York.\(^{29,30}\) Relief married David B. METCALF on 2 October 1814 in Swanzey, Cheshire County, New Hampshire.\(^{31}\) David was born about 1790, died on 20 August 1848, and was buried in Fairdale Cemetery in Hannibal.\(^{32}\)

According to a published history of Hannibal, New York, David Metcalf moved to Hannibal in 1813, went back to New Hampshire the following year, and returned to Hannibal in 1815 with a family.\(^{33}\) Dunnel’s entry for Relief states that she and David “went to Ontario, N.Y.,”\(^{n4}\) which is a town about forty miles west of Hannibal, but no record has been located that shows them living anywhere but Hannibal. Relief was still living in Hannibal with a son in 1870 but was no longer in his household in 1875.\(^{29,30}\) According to the cemetery transcription for Fairdale Cemetery, there is an unreadable stone next to the gravestone for D. B. Metcalf,\(^{32}\) which could be Relief’s gravestone.

viii. Deborah DWINEILL was born in June 1798 in Keene, Cheshire County, New Hampshire\(^1,10,34\) and died in January 1844 in Nauvoo, Hancock County, Illinois.\(^{34}\) Deborah married Eli HOUGHTON on 5...
November 1820 in Brandon, Rutland County, Vermont. Eli was born about 1797 in Vermont and died in 1865 in Sherburne County, Minnesota.

Deborah is the only one of the thirteen children for whom no record has been located that identifies her as a child of Rebecca Towne and Bartholomew Dwinell.

ix. Charles DWINELL was born about 1800 in Keene, Cheshire County, New Hampshire, and died on 28 May 1807 in Keene. The only record for this child located to date is his death record, in which he is identified as a seven-year-old male child of Bartholomew Dwinell. His name and cause of death, “from kick of a horse,” may have been information provided to Dunnel by Charlotte Dwinell.

x. Luther DWINELL was born about 1804 in Keene, Cheshire County, New Hampshire, and died on 22 May 1864 in Keene. Luther’s will provides the evidence linking him and several of his siblings to this family. In his will Luther identified Sally, Charles, Eliza, and Charlotte as his siblings. There is a birth record for Sally that identifies her as the child of Rebecca and Bartholomew Dwinell, providing indirect evidence that Luther, Charles, Eliza, and Charlotte are children of Rebecca and Bartholomew.

xi. Eliza DWINELL was born about 1805 in Keene, Cheshire County, New Hampshire, and died on 4 April 1847 in Keene. Eliza married Edwin Gray METCALF on 21 November 1839 in Keene. Edwin, son of Frederick METCALF and Esther DWINELL, was born on 21 December 1804 in Keene and died on 18 May 1885 in Keene.

xii. Charlotte DWINELL was born on 1 April 1808 in Keene, Cheshire County, New Hampshire, died on 1 October 1890 in Surry, Cheshire County, New Hampshire, and was buried in Surry Village Cemetery. Charlotte married Nathan Dagget REED on 16 November 1829 in Keene. Nathan, son of David REED and Abigail, was born on 7 October 1800 in Surry, died on 5 August 1892 in Surry, and was buried in Surry Village Cemetery.

xiii. Charles DWINELL was born about 1810 in Keene, Cheshire County, New Hampshire, died on 28 May 1879 in Alstead, Cheshire County, New Hampshire, and was buried in Woodland Cemetery in Keene. Charles married Ann D. WOOD. Ann, daughter of James WOOD, was born about 1800 in Alstead, died on 24 January 1876 in Alstead, and was buried in Woodland Cemetery in Keene. Charles next married Nancy HALE on 12 October 1876 in Alstead. Nancy, daughter of John HALE and Susan, was born in 1818 in Winchester, Cheshire, New Hampshire and died after 1879.
FIFTH GENERATION.

131.

Bartholomew Dwinel, b. in Topsfield, 1762; m. Rebecca Towne of Rindge, N. H.; emigrated with his father B. to Keene, N. H., about 1783, where he d. November, 1813 or 14, from a loaded wagon passing over him; she d. May, 1830, a. 64.

Children:

305. 3. Phebe, b. June 15, 1788; m. —— Colburn; lived in Franklin, Vt.
306. 4. Rebecca, b. Feb. 26, 1790; m. —— Lawtree of Rindge.
308. 6. Sally, b. Sept. 4, 1793; m. Calvin Brown; went to Springfield, Vt.
309. 7. Relief, b. March 13, 1796; m. David Metcalf, and went to Ontario, N. Y.
310. 8. Eliza, b. ——; m. Edwin G. Metcalf, and d. in 1847.
311. 9. Charles, b. ——; d. young, from kick of a horse.
312. 10. Deborah, b. ——; m. Eli Houghton.
313. 11. Charlotte, b. 1808; m. Nathan Dagget Reed.
314. 12. Luther, b. ——; resides in Keene.
315. 13. Charles, b. ——; resides in Keene.
Sources:


6. Frank H. Whitcomb, editor, *Vital Statistics of the Town of Keene, New Hampshire, Compiled from the Town Records, First Church and Family Records, the Original Fisher Record and the Newspapers* (1905), 45, Edwin G. Metcalf and Eliza Dwinnell family; 105, Frederick Metcalf and Esther Dwinnell marriage (1791); 155-6, Calvin Brown Death (1826); 172, Bart. Dwinnell son death (1807), Rebekah Dwinnell death (1830); digital images, Google Books (books.google.com : downloaded 3 April 2014).


15. Franklin County, Vermont, Huntsburgh Deeds, 2: 27, Abel Coburn to Gardner Dwinnell, 27 February 1812 (executed 5 March 1811); FHL microfilm 28,219.


18. Find A Grave, database and digital images (www.findagrave.com : accessed 24 January 2009), photographs, gravestones for Phebe Coburn (1824) and Abel Coburn, Maple Grove Cemetery in Franklin, Franklin County, Vermont; Find A Grave Memorials # 31501564 and 31502714.


20. Franklin County, Vermont, Huntsburgh Deeds, 2: 181-182, Amasa Coburn Will, 1815; FHL microfilm 28,219; will is recorded in the deed book.

21. Petersham, Massachusetts, *Vital Records of Petersham, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1849*


28. Find A Grave, photograph, gravestone for Sally Brown, 1863, Rockingham Meeting House Cemetery, Windham County, Vermont; Find A Grave Memorial # 112975355.


37. Keene, New Hampshire, City Clerk., "Vital Records, 1738-1901," Births and Deaths 1829-1869, Volume 2: 1864, Luther Dwinnell death; FHL microfilm 1,005,549, item 2; pages inserted into front of bound register.


40. Find A Grave, photograph, gravestone for Nathan D. Reed (1800-1892) and Charlotte Dwinell (1808-1890), Surry Village Cemetery, Cheshire County, New Hampshire; Find A Grave Memorial # 63426004.


42. Find A Grave, photograph, gravestone for Charles Dwinell (1879) and Ann Dwinell (1876), Woodland Cemetery in Keene, Cheshire County, New Hampshire; Sec. 9, Lot 1; Find A Grave Memorial # 99332350.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FAMILY GROUP SHEET OF JESSE GUNTER</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>By: Sheila Sargent</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Husband's Full Name</th>
<th>JESSE GUNTER</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tombstones:</strong> Marshall &amp; Marshall Funeral Records</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birth: 8 Jan 1860</td>
<td>Cannon County, Tenn.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Hillsboro, Tex. Marriage</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 19 Mar 1882</td>
<td>Cannon County, Tex.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Records of Counties</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Death: 15 Nov 1916</td>
<td>Brandon, Hill County, Tex.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lines; relatives statements</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Marshall, Branch; Bynum Cemetery</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Census Records:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Places of Residence:</strong> Cannon Co., Tex. &amp; Hill County, Texas</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Occupation &amp; Farm:</strong> Church Affiliation Church of Christ</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Father:</strong> Jesse Gunter</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mother:</strong> Mable Gunter</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wife:</strong> Melissa Elizabeth Elkins</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wife's Full Maiden Name</th>
<th>Melissa Elizabeth Elkins</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>City, State:</strong> Waco, Texas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date:</strong> Oct. 21, 1986</td>
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<tr>
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<th>Birth Date</th>
<th>City, State, or Town</th>
<th>Mother's Maiden Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Robert E. Lee Gunter</td>
<td>25 Dec 1882</td>
<td>Cannon County, Tenn.</td>
<td>Hallie</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hallie May Corry</td>
<td>23 Aug 1895</td>
<td>Hillsboro, Hill Co., Tex.</td>
<td>Mary Corry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ernest Alvino Gunter</td>
<td>26 Feb 1906</td>
<td>Cannon County, Tenn.</td>
<td>Mary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Anderson</td>
<td>3 Jan 1916</td>
<td>Corsicana, Navarro County, Tex.</td>
<td>Black Hills Cemetery, Navarro</td>
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<td>Lillard Gunter</td>
<td>27 Mar 1915</td>
<td>Galveston County, Tex.</td>
<td>Galveston Memorial Cemetery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catherine Crow</td>
<td>27 Oct 1888</td>
<td>Cannon County, Tenn.</td>
<td>Ruby Crow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Estie Gunter</td>
<td>6 Oct 1907</td>
<td>Brandon, Hill Co., Tex.</td>
<td>Ruby Crow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wm S. Maharg</td>
<td>10 July 1908</td>
<td>Hillsboro, Hill Co., Tex.</td>
<td>Ruby Crow</td>
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<td>Charles Billard Gunter</td>
<td>26 Apr 1891</td>
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<td>Beatrice Billard</td>
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<td>Frenchie Gunter</td>
<td>6 Dec 1908</td>
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<td>Cala Y. Hamer</td>
<td>2 Mar 1969</td>
<td>Hillsboro, Hill Co., Tex.</td>
<td>Ruby Crow</td>
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<td>M Clarence Benton Gunter</td>
<td>25 June 1894</td>
<td>Cannon County, Tenn.</td>
<td>Belle Covington</td>
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<td>Belle Shirley</td>
<td>25 Jan 1922</td>
<td>Breckenridge, Stephens Co., Tex.</td>
<td>Ruby Crow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charles B Gunter</td>
<td>14 Oct 1922</td>
<td>Cannon County, Tenn.</td>
<td>Ruby Crow</td>
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<td>Mar.</td>
<td>Death</td>
<td>Burial</td>
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<td>Mar.</td>
<td>Death</td>
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<tr>
<td>Birth</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birth</td>
<td>Mar.</td>
<td>Death</td>
<td>Burial</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Benjamin Edwards Green was born in Elkton, Todd County, Kentucky, on 5 February 1822, to Duff and Lucretia Maria (Edwards) Green. Benjamin's father, Duff, was an influential newspaper editor, diplomat, industrialist, and friend of Abraham Lincoln. Benjamin grew up in Washington D.C., surrounded by men with political influence and diplomatic connections. He attended Georgetown College and graduated in 1838, then turning his attentions to obtaining a law degree from the University of Virginia. Green finally settled in New Orleans to practice law.  

In 1843, politician John C. Calhoun was influential in securing a post for Benjamin as Secretary of the Legation to Mexico, where he served as the charge d'affaires at the Mexican capitol from 1843-1845, during the period leading up to the Mexican-American War. He had the authority to negotiate for the United States on border disputes between Mexico and Pre-Republic Texas, and after the War, was hired by Mexico to organize indemnity payments to U.S. citizens.

After serving as a diplomat to Mexico, Green returned to Washington D.C. in 1845 and began writing for newspapers on political issues and practicing law. He also became heavily involved with his father in many business endeavors. In 1849, Green was sent by President Zachary Taylor to the West Indies to negotiate for a naval station with the Dominican Republic. He also was to secretly attempt to ascertain the depth of support and influence of Spain and France in the region and look into the purchase of Cuba by the U.S. government.

Green returned to the United States in the 1850s, and joined his father in numerous developments that would promote industrial growth and the addition of railroads in the South. He became solicitor and general manager of the American Industrial Agency, an organization that was established to attract northern and European investments, and continually worked to promote the financial and economic growth of the South. It is unclear whether Green served in the Civil War, but with his father taking neither side in the slavery/secessionist conflict, it is highly likely that Green, too, was of the same mind. He saw slavery as a capitalism-labor issue and the conflict between the two was “the greatest and most difficult problem of modern civilization leading to four years of fratricide between the states.”

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1 Benjamin Edwards Green, “Reminiscences,” Benjamin Edwards Green Papers, 1840-1865, Accession # 3830, Box 2, Folder 15; “Genealogy: Family Tree and Obituary, undated,” The Texas Collection, Baylor University, Waco, Texas. The Benjamin Edwards Green Papers consisted of original loose leaf postcard, pamphlets, written notes, an unpublished manuscript and other chapter fragments, and a typed genealogy of the Green family. The overall physical characteristics and condition of the handwritten in ink, unpublished, unbound, loose leafed, manuscript is that the entire collection is housed in sheet-protectors due to its poor condition. It was written on what appeared to be a size smaller than 8-1/2 x 11 paper possibly 6x9. The paper was brittle and foxing.
Benjamin Edwards Green married Lizzie Waters and had two daughters: Caroline W. Green and Lizzie F. Green and one son Duff Cyrus Green from this union. Benjamin Edwards Green died at the age of 85 after a brief illness at his home in Dalton, Whitfield County, Georgia on 12 May 1907. Benjamin is buried in the West Hill Cemetery in Dalton, Whitfield County, Georgia.  

He was survived by his wife, Lizzie, two daughters and one son.

Duff Green, son of William and Lucy Ann (Marshall) Green, was born 15 August 1791, in Woodford County, Kentucky. Duff married Lucretia Maria Edwards on 25 November 1813, near Bardstown, Nelson County, Kentucky. To this union I was able to confirm a daughter: Lizzy Green and son Benjamin Edwards Green were born. Addition research will be needed to identify other children of this union. He died 10 June 1875, in Dalton, Georgia, and is buried in West Hill Cemetery in Dalton, Whitfield County, Georgia.


Lucretia Maria (Edwards) Green Lineage as it Connects to Abraham Lincoln.

Lucretia Maria Edwards, daughter and seventh child of Benjamin and Margaret (Beall) Edwards, was born 14 January 1792, in Montgomery County, Maryland⁶, and died 20 July 1853 in and is buried in the West Hill Cemetery in Dalton, Whitfield County, Georgia.⁷

The children of Benjamin and Margaret (Beall) Edwards were:⁸


2. Mary Edwards-Born Montgomery County, Maryland, 1777; died at Elizabethtown, Kentucky. Married (1) Henry Whitaker, brother of William White Whitaker, (2) Major Benjamin Helm of Elizabethtown, Kentucky. She was the grandmother of B. H. Bristow, Secretary of Treasury under Grant.


4. Elisha Beall Edwards-Born, 11 May 1781, Montgomery County, Maryland. Died, Elkton, Kentucky, 13 October 1823. Married (1) Lucy Richardson, of Mercer County, Kentucky, 1 February 1811; (2) Martha Feliciana Upshow, of Virginia, in Christian County, Kentucky.


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Lucretia (Edwards) Green’s brother, Ninian Edwards, Governor of Illinois, married Elvira Lane. To this union three sons and a daughter were born:

1. Ninian Wirt Edwards (15 April 15 1809 – 2 September 1899)
2. Albert Gallatin Edwards (15 October 1812 – 19 April 1892)
3. Benjamin S. Edwards (3 June 1818 – 4 February 1886)
4. and daughter Julia Catherine Edwards (Unknown – 1830)

Lucretia’s nephew, Ninian Wirt Edwards married Elizabeth Porter Todd on 18 February 1832. Elizabeth Todd is the sister of Mary Ann (Todd) Lincoln.

Elizabeth Porter Todd, daughter of Robert Smith Todd Sr., and Elizabeth "Eliza" Ann (Parker), was born 18 Nov 1816 in Lexington, Fayette County, Kentucky and died 22 Feb 1888 in Springfield Sangamon County Illinois.9

Elizabeth Porter (Todd) Edwards’ sister, Mary Ann Todd (13 December 1818 – 16 July 1882) married Abraham Lincoln. Mary Todd married Abraham Lincoln on 4 November 1842, at her sister Elizabeth's home in Springfield, Illinois. She was 23 years and he was 33 years of age.

Abraham and Mary Lincoln had four sons, all born in Springfield:

1. Robert Todd Lincoln (1843–1926) — lawyer, diplomat (U.S. Secretary of War), businessman.
2. Edward Baker Lincoln, known as "Eddie" (1846–1850) died of tuberculosis.
3. William Wallace Lincoln, known as "Willie" (1850–1862) died of typhoid fever while Lincoln was President.
4. Thomas Lincoln, known as "Tad" (1853–1871) died at age 18.

RESEARCH NOTES:

- In a letter “A Family Divided” edited by James T. Hickey, Curator of the Lincoln Collection. Lizzy Green Maynard, daughter of Duff and Lucretia (Edwards) Green writes to a cousin, Helen (Dodge) Edwards regarding difficulties between the families.10

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Duff Green served under General William Harrison and the Kentucky militia in the War of 1812 and led the Missouri Brigade in the Indian Campaign, earning the rank brigadier general. Thereafter he was known by many as General Duff Green. He then settled in Missouri, where he worked as a schoolmaster and practiced law. He was a member of the Missouri Constitutional Convention of 1820, and was elected to the Missouri House of Representatives in 1820 and to the state Senate in 1822, serving one term in each house. Becoming interested in journalism, he purchased and for two years edited the *St Louis Enquirer*.

In 1826, in Washington, D.C., he bought and later edited, *The United States Telegraph*, which became the principal organ of Andrew Jackson's backers, helping him defeat John Quincy Adams in the presidential election of 1828. Upon Jackson's election to the presidency, the *Telegraph* became the principal mouthpiece of the administration, receiving printing patronage estimated at $50,000 a year. Green became one of the *côté de* unofficial advisers of Jackson known as the Kitchen Cabinet on which Jackson depended heavily following the Petticoat affair. In the quarrel between Jackson and his vice president John C. Calhoun, who had also been Adams' vice president, Green supported Calhoun, and through the *Telegraph*, violently attacked the Jackson administration.

In a private meeting between General Duff Green and Abraham Lincoln aboard the USS *Malvern*, Admiral Porter's fleet as it was docked in the James River in Richmond, Virginia. On 4 April 1865, Lincoln had arrived to inspect the surrendered city. On 5 April 1865, General Duff Green arrived at the vessel and demanded to see Abraham Lincoln, Admiral Porter was hesitant but went down into the cabin and delivered the message to Abraham Lincoln. Lincoln said “Let him come on board. Duff is an old friend of mine, and I would like to talk to him.” Admiral Porter went on deck and had a boat sent for General Green, and to see what type of a man this was, who sent off such an arrogant message to the President of the United States. General Duff's appearance was described as decayed, unshaved, and unkempt. A tense discussion occurred between Admiral Porter and General Green, and Admiral Porter again went down into the cabin to report this “queer customer to the President and told him he thought the man was a crazy lunatic.” President Lincoln said “Let him come down; he always was a little queer.”

General Green was allowed aboard the vessel to meet with President Lincoln. President Lincoln arose from his chair to receive General Green and approached him offering his hand for a handshake. General Green declined the hand shake and said “No, it is red with blood; I can’t touch it. When I knew it, it was an honest hand. It has cut the throats of thousands of my people, and their blood, which now lies soaking in the ground, cries out in vengeance. I came to see you, not for old remembrance sake, but to give you a piece of my opinion.” The meeting ended with President Lincoln demanding General Green off of the vessel.

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12 Benjamin Edwards Green, “Reminiscences,” Benjamin Edwards Green Papers, 1840-1865, Accession # 3830, Box 2, Folder 6 (unbound manuscript in folders); “President Lincoln, General Green and Admiral Porter on the Malvern. 5 April 1865,” The Texas Collection, Baylor University, Waco, Texas.

13 Benjamin Edwards Green, “Reminiscences,” Benjamin Edwards Green Papers, 1840-1865, Accession # 3830, Box 2, Folder 6 (unbound manuscript in folders); “President Lincoln, General Green and Admiral Porter on the Malvern. 5 April 1865,” The Texas Collection, Baylor University, Waco, Texas.
I first came to Arkansas with Pat Bodine in 1997, shortly after Pat's father and my grandmother had passed away. Pat lives in Texas and I live in California. I had met her in 1993 after spending some time locating her father, Joe Holland, who had visited my grandparents when I was a boy, and had been the primary source of information for my family about our history. I had started to examine this subject around 1991 after many of the trails from a few years before had grown cold. My grandfather had passed away in 1982 and my grandmother had suffered a stroke and was in a rest home. By the time I had located Joe, he had also suffered a stroke and was in a deteriorated condition. With the passing of their generation, the continuity to the lives which had preceded them as well as the sense of humanity which such lives teach us, was in danger of being lost. So Pat and I began to do research together, pooling our resources from her Texas side and my California side. It was only a matter of time that we decided that we had to come to Arkansas if we were to ever figure any of this stuff out.

Among all the other things which we wanted to accomplish on this trip, I really wanted to see the town where my mother had spent her early years growing up. Stories of "Back Home" were a major feature of my childhood imaginative landscape. Since my mother's family had left Arkansas for California around 1940, my only intention for visiting the little town of Kensett, which I thought would be practical, was to find the house where she and the rest of her family lived before they left. It was just a little side trip and break for a Sunday (since all the history libraries and court houses were closed) from "more important" research work which we had started to do in the area, and undoubtedly it would have little genealogical significance for either of us.

My mom could not remember what street the old family house was on (even though she said it was there when she passed through the town in the seventies). I had a street map of the town but she said that Kensett never had any street names that she knew of when she was growing up. There were some old photos of the house. It was near the school house (which had since been blown down and rebuilt she told me), and I figured we could at least find the house if we could find the school.

So Pat and I arrived in town around noon on a fine Sunday day in March, and went out and proceeded to find the only school yard we could in Kensett. I got out to walk around and take pictures. A local sheriff drove up and wondered why I, looking as I do -- obviously being not from around there (Pat's van with out-of-state plates were pretty suspicious too), was wandering around a school yard on a Sunday. After a brief explanation, he directed us to this local gas station/convenience store/restaurant kind of place known as "Fiddler's One Stop" -- a local haunt of the town mayor we were told, who just might be familiar with the old house which I was looking for. Pat was eager to go over there and give it a try, though I was a bit more hesitant, thinking we'd never be able to find anyone who would remember where my grandparent's family were living over 50 years ago. But we go over and soon find this "Fiddler's One Stop" store. Pat gets out and goes in quickly, while I'm still fumbling around trying to find the right map, a note pad and a pencil to bring in. She comes out almost as immediately, and says to me, "Some of your kinfolks are working here!" I'm pretty sure my response then was "What!?!"

Indeed, I was certain at the time, that anyone connected to the Warner family living in the area were more than likely to be very extinct. However, Pat had apparently walked into this place, saw this guy in the back wearing a trucker's cap and eating his breakfast. She walked on up to him and asked something like, "Y'all know where the Wright house is?" in her best Texas twang. The
guy turns out not to be the town mayor. One would suppose, that he must of looked up rather puzzled, wiping his mouth while responding with something like the Arkansas version of, "I beg your pardon, madam?"

Upon hearing this exchange, the owner of the establishment, who was at that moment, standing behind the counter frying up a big pile of chicken, while taking money for gasoline and candy bars, blurts out "Well, I’m a Wright!" That is when Pat came and got me. Or, at least that is how I understand the way this whole sequence of events unfolded as we talked about it later.

So, I walk into this confusion. There are several people coming in and out buying gas and fried chicken with little kids running through the snack aisle picking up bags of candy. The woman is trying to deal with everyone else and field my rapid questions too. I started explaining about my mother’s old house on the school yard grounds, how the school blew away later, but they had left before that in a car which they bought with a hand-shake from a Mr. Angel, and came to California along with their dog to take a job at Mare Island Shipyards, and before that had... when I realize half-way into all of this that Pat had confused Warner with Wright. The woman wanted to know what I was, "Are you a Warner or are you a Wright?" and I responded with something like, "Well, uh... Both! But my name is Wendt, however it’s this Warner bunch that I’m asking about, my great grandmother’s mother was a Wright, and she married a Holland and her daughter married a Warner, and I had come all the way from California where the Warner’s went, and my cousin had come out from Texas where the Holland’s went, and we were just trying to find the place where my Mom had lived back in the early forties and..."

She interrupts with, "There is a connection between Wright and Warner, you know."

Hesitantly I responded, "Yeah... Uh... but... How did you know that?!"

Then she said, as she turns over some more frying chicken and has a puff from her cigarette, "Well, let me take care of some of these customers here, and I'll tell you all about it."

"Great!" I anxiously replied, while I stood there blinking incredulously for a moment wondering what I should say next.

So, both Pat and I go sit down by this poor guy who she first accosted, and that was trying to finish his breakfast, and we start pestering him for the time being. Turns out that he just happened to be the public relations officer for the White County Historical Society over in Searcy, and we start to have an interesting conversation about the local history of this particular area, which was quite close to a famous battle during the Civil War (The Battle of Whitney's Lane, 1862).

Meanwhile, the woman behind the chicken fryer, who we learn is named Charlotte, would have a break from the customers now and then. We would talk in snatches, only to break off when another customer would come in, and so we would return to our conversation about the Civil War in the area.

Charlotte turns to me and says, "Now, you're a Warner?"

"Yep!" I responded.

"Now are you any relation to this Warner who use to live around here in a... in a..."

"Boxcar?" I said.
"Yes!" she replied startled.

"Why that was my Great Uncle Milton!"

"Well, I'll be!" she says, "You know, you sort of look like him too."

Of all people -- Uncle Milton: my family had a bitter falling out with him back in the early fifties. We heard only sporadic rumors of him since. After so many years, he was presumed to have been long dead. But, here this convenience store operator just happened to know him it turns out, and I just happened to meet her after being in town for less than an hour.

Uncle Milton use to frequent "Fiddler's One Stop" quite often when he was in town. He particularly liked hamburgers. I found this somewhat amusing because my grandfather was a big hamburger fan too. I was later to find out that hamburgers were indeed a very big deal all over Arkansas. So anyway, Milton was a "Fiddler's One Stop" regular and use to come in for his periodic hamburger refueling. He would go away for several months. Charlotte heard that he had family up in Oregon, though later she remembers it could have been in Maine instead. Milton was something of a hard-luck case and town character as she described him. There were several stories around town about what it was that he did for a living, though many didn't ring very true except for the one that he was a retired railroad man. This made a certain amount of sense too, since he was also living in an old box car that had been pulled up many years before on an empty lot in down town Kensett. Back home, we had heard that he was living in such a box car and that it had once belonged to one of the Presidents of the United States before the days of Air Force One. Though it later turned out, that this just might be only a California story. The old box car did belong to a president all right -- the President of the train company as it turned out.

As the years rolled by, Milton would appear in town more and more disheveled and confused about things, and wander around aimlessly about. The last time he returned from where ever he went off to, he did not even know who he was most of the time. Charlotte became quite concerned about him. One time he showed up at "Fiddler's One Stop," soaking wet. She and her husband got him into some dry clothes. Charlotte kept an eye out for the old guy. She went over to the boxcar which he was living in one day, to try to find some papers or photos that would say anything about his family or where he was from, so that she could get in touch with them to do something about his situation. However, she could find nothing but piles of old dirty and wet clothes, little jars full of nails and screws, other odd pieces of old assorted broken junk like a typical guy's workshop with nothing to suggest that he even had a family. Eventually she called Human Services over in Searcy. They came out and took a look at him. Somehow they got a hold of his daughter and she flew into Searcy and flew out with him back to where ever they came from. A train museum eventually came and hauled his old box car away to be refurbished and put on display somewhere.

That was about four years ago Charlotte said, and she never heard anything more about it -- until I showed up that is. She asked me the standard Milton query that I heard ever since I started this research, if I had heard anything about what had happened to him, but I responded that I knew nothing at that time. She told me that she had once asked him, when he was in one of his more lucid moments, if he had any kinfolk in the area, and he mentioned that he once had an aunt over in McCrory who sold hats, and that he was also related to Charlotte in some way, but he stopped talking suddenly when she tried to question him any more on the subject, as if it were some secret he was attempting to conceal. Somewhere along the line Charlotte finally asked her
mother, Ora, who had been working on a family history for some time, about how the Warner's were related to the Wrights, and it was then she got the whole story she said.

Before Charlotte described what the connection between the Warner's and the Wright's was, I figured at first that Charlotte could be connected to the two unknown (to us at the time) Wrights that had appeared at Grandma Holland's funeral in 1937. Grandma Holland was a Wright. Pat's father, Joe Holland was the one who established for the rest of my family, how Grandma Holland was connected to this particular Wright family that had once lived in North Carolina before coming to Arkansas. According to this old newspaper clipping about her funeral which my grandparent's had kept, two of Sarah Elizabeth Holland's brothers had showed up, a "Taylor" and a "James A." Wright from "Magazine". When I asked, Joe (who had a stroke and was in a rest home by the time I had found him), about them in 1994 and how were they related, he seemed unaware of the contents of Sarah's obituary or who these two might be, and he had never included any reference to them on any of genealogy lists which he had made over the years. Later, we also asked his sister, Helen (whom we had driven across most of the West Texas desert in 1995 to visit in the 1940's oil-boom town of Odessa), but she had not gone to the funeral and was not familiar with any Wright family members at all she said. I had found a big James Wright family in the 1920 Census in the Magazine area and had wondered if they were the same family. I had noticed several other Wright families in McCrory-DeView area at the turn of the century census records as well. Pat had also found a grave site fairly close to that of W. H. H. Holland's with the name of F. P. Wright on it during a quick visit to the Odd Fellows Cemetery outside of McCrory during the previous year. Since the Wright name was pretty common though, there was not much available to us at that time to determine if any of these people were related in any way or not.

I showed Charlotte a copy of Grandma Holland's obituary clipping and my extracted 1920 Census records for Wright families which I had found for "DeView Township, South of Road:" William C. Wright, James A. Wright, Robert L. Wright, and Frank P. Wright. She looked through it while serving chicken and taking money for gas, and finally said something like, "Yeah, this Frank P. -- here is Franklin Pierce Wright."

"Who is he?" I responded.

She replied, "Why, he's the brother to this Sarah Holland that you are talking about, of course."

"Another one we don't have," I muttered to myself. I also did not realize at the time, that this Wright was also her great grandfather. She looked at my extracted 1920 Census list for this Frank P. some more. Where I had listed his children, she said it was missing several names and some of them were also misspelled. However this was Franklin Pierce Wright's family she confirmed.

She pointed to one of the children, a "Henry T.", and said, "Uncle Henry's still living on some of the original family land." She then suggested that we should go out there to where he was living and have a talk with him about all of this.

Then I asked her how she was related, she responded with, "Well, my granddaddy was Gaylon Wright and his daddy was a brother to this Holland woman." It was getting more complicated and confusing for me by the minute, because none of the names matched with what we had from what Joe Holland had figured out years before. Charlotte then said that she had some papers "back at the house" that "could explain it all." She could show them to us after work. She could also go out with us to the cemeteries where they were all buried, and then over to Uncle Henry's house and introduce us to him.
We had been talking for much of the afternoon by then. Two women came in to replace Charlotte and we took off to her house. We followed her car to her home, met her husband, and talked some more about Uncle Milton and the Wright family.

She then gave me this large pile of genealogy lists which her mother had originally researched and another family member (Mike Wright) had continued to work on. I started to go through it, and noticed that the name for the parents of Sarah Elizabeth Holland was listed as Edward Auburn Wright and Rebecca Chappell -- a completely different North Carolina family of Wrights than what Joe had determined.

From there we went over to McCrory and Charlotte showed us the mercantile stores and where Aunt Elizabeth had her hat shop. Like Uncle Milton, everyone who knew her, has a story about Aunt Elizabeth. Then we went out to the Odd Fellow's Cemetery and we found William Holland's grave and Charlotte showed us several of the Wright gravestones there. She then took us to DeView where we met Bobby Wright who takes care of the church there and he gave us a tour. Charlotte also told us of another place called Beards which also had a cemetery but the roads were too bad for us to get out there at that time. She then took us over to Henry's and Jessie's house and we met and talked with them for a short time. Charlotte also made arrangements for us to meet “Ernie,” their daughter. During this later meeting, we discovered that Ernie had the same photograph of Daisy and Bill Neely which my Aunt Clara had (but we didn't know who it was and Ernie did) and therefore provided us with our first physical evidence that yes -- we were indeed related. Ernie also took us out into the ancestral countryside of Possum Creek and the copperhead-infested Beards cemetery, while telling us many stories about her family. She also introduced us to Franklin Wright, another family historian, who had a photograph of Sarah and E. A. Wright, of which I had another, later picture and which had belonged to my great grandmother, Cora, and of which no one in my immediate family could identify any longer.

After we returned from Arkansas, Charlotte got us in touch with Mike Wright, a very active Wright family historian who had done much of the present genealogical work for the family in Woodruff County and subsequently I have made wide usage here. Charlotte also got us in touch with her sister, Gayle, another very active Wright family genealogist, and with whom I stayed with during my second research trip to Arkansas in which we spent many hours in the Woodruff County Courthouse in Augusta, as well as made extensive trips into the countryside and met many other Wright family members in the area. Also, from our encounter with Charlotte, Pat later picked up some information while vacationing in Maine which allowed me to finally locate Uncle Milton's children. From that connection, contact was made with Dana Speck whose mother, Laura Brewer, has been researching the Warner family for some thirty years.

Indeed for both Pat and I, Charlotte was one of those lucky breaks which all genealogists dream about finding someday. Indeed, this document would not exist if we had not walked into "Fiddler's One Stop" when we did. Charlotte sold the store the next year and retired. It was all boarded up and abandoned when I passed by there in 1999. One wonders how far we would be with this work if we had waited to come the following year.
The Austin Genealogical Society will issue a pioneer certificate to those who can prove their ancestors lived in Travis County, Texas, prior to the close of 1880. To qualify for the certificate, you must be a direct descendant of people who lived here on or before Dec. 31, 1880, proved with birth, death and marriage certificates; probate, census and military records; and obituaries and Bible records.

Applications for Pioneer Families of Travis County can be found at http://austintxgensoc.org or from Kay Dunlap Boyd, P.O. Box 10010, Austin, Texas 78766-1010.

Each application is $20 and the certificates make nice gifts. You don’t have to be a Travis County resident or a member of Austin Genealogical Society, although membership in the Society is another fine bargain at $20 a year.
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AUSTIN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY GENERAL INFORMATION

PURPOSE: The purposes for which this Society is organized are: To promote an interest in genealogy. To investigate, collect, record, publish and deposit in libraries, archives, and digital or electronic repositories 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 historical and genealogical reference materials. To support genealogical libraries, archival collections, and access to and preservation of records that will benefit the research efforts of the Society.

MEMBERSHIP is open to all upon payment of annual dues. Classes: Individual: $20; Family (two in the same household): $30; Lifetime: $500 ($300 if over age 65). All classes are entitled to one electronic copy of each issue of the Quarterly and the monthly Newsletter. 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 of 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 Quarterlys and Newsletters have to be mailed individually, postage must be charged.). Send dues payments to AGS Treasurer, P.O. Box 10010, Austin, Texas 78766-1010.

MEETINGS of 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 (RR2222) exit Loop 1 (Mopac). Go west one block to Balcones Dr., then left ½ block. The church and parking lot are on right. Visitors are always welcome. The Board of Directors meet 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 is issued about the middle of March, June, September and December. 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.

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