

BACKGROUND

The STEWART family in Texas was headed by Araminta COLEMAN and Daniel STEWART of Hopkins County. They had twelve children – seven of these married and had children of their own.

These seven were: Sarah Jane Stewart **MARTIN CLIFTON DRENNAN**, Mary Catharine Stewart **WADSWORTH FLORENCE**, Effa Matilda Stewart **POSEY**, Louisiana Caroline "Lucy" Stewart **RABE**, Daniel Morrison **STEWART**, Joseph Coleman **STEWART**, Araminta Emma Stewart **STOCKTON**, and Louvenia Domer Stewart **FLORENCE**.

Welcome to the November-December edition of our newsletter. First, thank you everyone, for your calls and notes of concern about the fires in Southern California. They were a good 25 miles away, so we ourselves were safe, though the smoke, ash, and soot fouled the air terribly.

This is our last newsletter of the year 2007. As you gather with family over the holidays, be sure to remember to **relate to me** family stories, histories, news, recipes, copies of keepsakes, and letters, etc. It's been wonderful sharing and spending time with all of you, and I'm happy and honored to belong to such a vast and loving family. Have a happy and safe holiday season.

JOHN POWERS MARTIN | FOUND!

Sarah Jane STEWART was the eldest child of Araminta Domer COLEMAN and Daniel STEWART. Sarah was born in Georgia, 4 AUG 1837. When Sarah was 20 she married John S. MARTIN, whose family lived next door in Shelby County, Alabama. Sarah had two children with John S. MARTIN: Mary Gertrude MARTIN, born 9 APR 1856, and John Powers MARTIN, born 15 JAN 1863. Their father, John S. MARTIN, served in Company I, 18th Regiment Alabama Infantry, and died of unknown causes sometime in 1863.

Sarah later married Nathaniel CLIFTON in Hopkins County, Texas, and they had one daughter, Lula D. CLIFTON.

We had been able to trace Mary Gertrude MARTIN and Lula D. CLIFTON, but John

JOHN POWERS MARTIN | FOUND!, continued

Powers MARTIN dropped off the censuses after 1880, and other than vague rumors that he died in his twenties, we didn't know much about him. Only last summer, when Opal Nell HENRY SMITH provided us with Mary Catharine STEWART's family record, were we able to determine that his middle name was Powers, his birth date, 15 JAN 1863, and death date, 8 APR 1888, and place of burial, New Hope Cemetery, in Hopkins County, Texas, next to his brother-in-law, Franklin P. KNIGHT.

In October I was contacted by Jim NORRIS of Midlothian, Texas, who told me he was the great-grandson of John Powers MARTIN, and that John had married Aletha Ellen ROBERTSON (right) and they had three children: John William MARTIN, Bertie Lea MARTIN LAWSON, and Artie Gertrude MARTIN PHILLIPS. Aletha Ellen ROBERTSON later married Charles Andrew JONES. The family remained in Hopkins County until Jim NORRIS's grandmother, Artie Gertrude MARTIN, married Samuel Wesley PHILLIPS and the family relocated to Dickens County TX.



It is very exciting to find a new branch of the family, and previously unknown second cousins for Modene NABORS HUGGINS, Brody KOON, and Garth LOONEY.

PHOTOS OF OPAL AND LOUISE MCCLESKEY

Patricia (Pat) Joan STEWART FAIRCHILD, my Aunt, contributed the photographs (next page) of her dear Aunt Opal with Opal's little sister, Louise, and cousin Homer Nathaniel HATFIELD. Opal and Louise were the daughters of Ollie Dola STEWART and Daniel Edward MCCLESKEY. Ollie Dola was the daughter of Nancy Louise Elizabeth COMPTON and Joseph Coleman STEWART.

Thank you, Aunt Pat, for sharing these photos with the family. We look forward to seeing you, and your son, Glen, at our next reunion.

PHOTOS OF OPAL AND LOUISE MCCLESKEY



The first photo is of Louise and Opal MCCLESKEY; the second of Opal MCCLESKEY, cousin Homer HATFIELD, and Louise MCCLESKEY.

WILLIAM HENRY COLEMAN'S CONFEDERATE PENSION RECORD

Araminta Domer COLEMAN, who married Daniel STEWART, had a nephew named William Henry COLEMAN, the son of Jesse H. COLEMAN. William Henry COLEMAN served in Company "E" of the First Texas Regiment, Infantry, Hood's Division. He surrendered at the Appomattox Court House in 1865, receiving his parole papers to return home. Two confederate pension records remain - one Confederate Pension Application filed by W.H. COLEMAN, and one Widow's Application for a Pension, filed by Mrs. Ellen [THRAILKILL] COLEMAN, both in the county of Wilbarger, TX.

W.H. COLEMAN filed for his pension 24 DEC 1902. He had resided in Doans, Wilbarger County, Texas, for two weeks. He testified that he was a farmer, his physical condition was old and feeble, and his disability was old age. He was 70 at the time. He enlisted at New Orleans 6 JUN 1861 and was discharged four years later in 1865. He owned no property, but did own "2 mares and 1 mule and 1 cow and calf, 1 plow, one lister, 1 cultivator, 1 wagon of the aggregate value of \$350.00." Citizens testifying on his behalf were T.H. LANGLEY and S.F. PERRY. He died 5 FEB 1923, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Norah COLEMAN MURDOCK, near Vernon, in Wilbarger County, TX. His son, H.L. COLEMAN signed his mortuary warrant. W.H. COLEMAN died of influenza and general debility, at the age of 90.

WILLIAM HENRY COLEMAN'S CONFEDERATE PENSION RECORD, continued

Ellen E. THRAILKILL COLEMAN filed for a widow's pension 8 MAR 1923, shortly after her husband died. They were married 7 FEB 1870, in the county of Marion (formerly Harrison), Texas. She was 69, born in Mississippi. She lived in Texas for 59 years. W.S. LUNDY and J.T. DYER testified that Ellen COLEMAN was the wife of W.H. COLEMAN. Ellen COLEMAN died 7 NOV 1935 at the home of her son, H.L. COLEMAN, in Vernon, Wilbarger County, TX. She died of paralysis and general debility.

THE HENRY FAMILY BIBLE

Opal Nell HENRY SMITH kindly contributed a copy of the records section of the HENRY Family Bible. Loula May STOCKTON, the daughter of Araminta Emma STEWART and Wilse STOCKTON, married James Thomas HENRY. He was the son of Thomas Jefferson Rusk HENRY who married Mary Josephine "Mollie" WYNN. Mollie's sister, Lela Kate, married Reuben Daniel RABE. On a side note, Mollie and Kate had another sister, Desdemona, for whom the little hamlet, previously known as Hog Town, was named.

The Henry Family Bible begins in 1795, with the birth of Judith FRANCIS, and lists her ancestors through her great great grandfather, Hugh FRANCIS. The Bible lists all the children of Judith FRANCIS and Ezekiel HENRY, and the children of their youngest son, Clinton S. HENRY and his wife Martha THOMPSON. Thomas Jefferson Rusk HENRY descends from Clinton S. HENRY's brother Joseph Francis HENRY. At the end is a message,

The above records and statistics are from the HENRY Family Bible which was later lost in flood conditions in Lamosa, Texas.

Lillie Henry Witt

Lillie HENRY WITT was born 11 MAR 1902, and died 25 FEB 1993. She married Roy W. WITT 30 MAR 1930. Lillie HENRY WITT is buried in Moore Cemetery, Arlington, Tarrant County, Texas. I am unable to determine the location of Lamosa, Texas. If anyone knows where this is, please let me know.

Thank you, Opal, for sharing with us this important part of our family history.

THE HENRY FAMILY BIBLE, continued

In addition, with funds donated by the family, I purchased "Eastland County, Texas: A Historical and Biographical Survey," by Pearl Ghormley. It contained an obituary for Mollie WYNN HENRY.

Mrs. T.J. Henry died on July 31, 1930; she was born in 1862 in Alabama. She married Thomas J. Henry at the age of 14, and they had nine children, two of whom died young. Those living at time of funeral were Joe Henry, and Mrs. [Lula Ethel] Charlie Daniel of Odell; Dolph Henry of Littlefield; J.T. Henry of Dublin; Mrs. [Elizabeth J.] Pierce Carruth of Hobbs, N.M., W.T. Henry and Mrs. Eula Jones, of Desdemona. She left 22 grandchildren, 6 great-gr. children.

[Robin] Pierce CARRUTH was the nephew of Lucy Ann CARRUTH who married William Franklin STOCKTON. William Franklin STOCKTON is the uncle of Loula May STOCKTON HENRY, the wife of James Thomas HENRY.

JAMES ALLEN MORTON FAMILY PHOTOGRAPH

Taiji CARMICHAEL, a complete stranger, who contacted me through the website, contributed the photograph (right) of Nealy MORTON as a child, with his family. Nealy Ambrose MORTON married Edna Goldie RABE, the daughter of Lucy STEWART and Robert William RABE.

It is rumored that Nealy MORTON's mother, Selina OLIVER MORTON, was one quarter Native American, but her husband and children denied these rumors, allegedly being quite prejudiced. Taiji CARMICHAEL told me that Selina always wore a beaded Indian belt. Selina was probably born in Lamar County, Texas, the daughter of William James and Martha E. OLIVER. James Allen MORTON was the son of Mahala Adeline CHILDERS and Marshall Jim MORTON.

= If you wish to send a note to anyone =
= mentioned under birthdays, congratulations, =
= prayer requests, or passings, either call or =
= email me for their address. If you have news =
= you'd like to include in the newsletter - a =
= birth, a prayer request, or a propitious event =
= - let me know, and I'll be happy to include =
= your news in the newsletter. =
: -----

JAMES ALLEN MORTON FAMILY PHOTOGRAPH



Front Row: "Neelie" and Marshal Morton;
Middle Row: Bill Morton, James Allen Morton,
Selina Justine Oliver Morton, Clie Morton;
Back Row: Pet Morton, Sadie Morton; circa 1895,
Texas

SARAH MADISON STOCKTON HOLMESLY

Michelle REESE sent the following information, at the request of a descendant of Sarah "Sallie" Madison STOCKTON and Marion Franklin HOLMESLY. Sarah Madison STOCKTON was the sister of Wilse STOCKTON, who married Araminta Emma STEWART.



Sarah Madison Stockton Holmesly and son, James Edward Holmesly, about 1928, Idalou, TX

James Edward HOLMESLY, pictured above, was a son of Sarah Madison STOCKTON and Francis Marion HOLMESLY. I have been in

SARAH MADISON STOCKTON HOLMESLY, cont. touch with the children of James Edward HOLMESLY, Stirlin HOLMESLY, Francis HOLMESLY BOOKOUT, and Ouida HOLMESLY WHITE.

Francis HOLMESLY BOOKOUT wrote me a long letter with wonderful tales of the family, and I am waiting on her permission to share it with you. In the meantime I will include this chilling and tragic tale from the Civil War, from a book on the HOLMESLY family.

Marion Franklin [Frank] Holmesly, father of George and son of Stephen was camped close to the farm of Stephen Holmesly. Frank got permission from his commander to visit his father one evening and when he arrived at the farm, he found his father hanged and his sister tied to a tree. The sister told him the men, five in number, were Confederate renegade soldiers and they had demanded that the old man give them his money which they were sure he had. He refused to tell them where it was and they hung him. The daughter tried to protect her father so they tied her to a tree and left.

Frank went directly to his commander and got permission to follow them. The commander told him to capture them and not bring them back. The renegades were captured early the next morning in a grove of trees not far from the farm. Frank took the prisoners to the farm and told his sister to prepare breakfast for them. She said, "If I do I will poison all of them." Frank said, "No, I am going to eat with them as this is their last meal." After their breakfast, he took them to his commander who told Frank that the prisoners were his job. Frank told the commander that it would be better to try them, which they did. The prisoners were shot the same evening.

The members of the James Edward HOLMESLY family are getting together soon, and have promised to send old family photographs, which I will share with you all next year.

BOOKER HAYS MARRIED MARY FRANCES MAXWELL

Sue FARMER JOHNSON and Bedie HAZEL PARAMORE sent me additional information last month on the FARMER family. Bedie's mother was Mattie May FARMER, who married Rayford William HAZEL.



Mattie May Farmer Hazel

Mattie May was sister to Harry Alvin FARMER, who married Lucy Judson RABE. Lucy was the daughter of Lucy STEWART and Robert William RABE. Sue FARMER JOHNSON descends from James Elijah "Proffit" FARMER. Harry, Proffit, and Mattie were the children of Sarah Margaret MAXWELL and James William FARMER.

Because of their MAXWELL connection, Sue and Bedie were able to solve a longstanding mystery for us. In 1886, James Harvey MAXWELL, Sarah Margaret's father, wrote a letter to his brother-in-law, F.M. WILLIAMS, and mentioned his daughter, Mollie, and her husband Booker. Though I assumed that Mary Frances MAXWELL, the third child of Amanda Lavina WILLIAMS and James Harvey MAXWELL, was "Mollie," I could never ascertain the surname of "Booker."

Sue and Bedie documented Charles Booker HAYS marrying Mary Frances MAXWELL, 2 DEC 1885. Booker was the brother of Reuben Arthur HAYS who married Mollie's sister Anna Adaline MAXWELL. The two girls' brother, Joseph Henry MAXWELL, married Della Avery STEWART, the daughter of Joseph Coleman STEWART.

On a side note, Beverly RYAN WOODROOF was kind enough to send us a listing of the WILLIAMS family from Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow, by Pearl GHORMLEY. Though both Amanda Lavina WILLIAMS MAXWELL and Mary Tabitha WILLIAMS GUEST were listed, their brother, F.M. WILLIAMS, unfortunately, was not. F.M. WILLIAMS remains a most persistent mystery. Thank you, Bev.



Maxwell brothers John Marion and Joseph Henry built houses, and this is one sample of their handiwork, photo courtesy of Jack Carrigan.

JOSEPH STEWART FAMILY PHOTO

Joseph Coleman STEWART was the youngest son of Araminta Domer COLEMAN and Daniel STEWART. Joseph's eldest son was Walker Jerome STEWART. Walker's youngest child was his daughter, Vera Elizabeth STEWART MACON. Vera recently graced us with a small cache of family photographs. Photographs relevant to the STEWART family are online at Shutterfly. The password is "lonestar".

Martha TOOLE, also sent us photos of this family. Martha is the daughter of Opal MCCLESKEY WOOLSEY. Opal was the daughter of Ollie Dola STEWART, and the granddaughter of Joseph Coleman STEWART.



Best guess: Maggie Stewart, Ollie Stewart, Della Stewart, Joseph Maxwell, Edith Maxwell, and Lado Stewart(seated)

JOSEPH STEWART FAMILY PHOTO, continued
Two photographs, one from Vera and one from Martha, are most important to our project, and I'm including them in this newsletter.

The first is, what I assume to be, a group of the STEWART daughters, above. I've sent this photograph to some of our elders, hoping that they might confirm my best guess as to who everyone is. I believe this photograph includes the MAXWELL family: Joseph Henry MAXWELL, his wife, Della Avery STEWART MAXWELL, and their daughter, Edith Lura MAXWELL. To date we have not had a photograph of Della, who died in the influenza epidemic of 1919, so this photograph is a special blessing. Another thing that makes this photograph so remarkable is that everyone is smiling, quite rare in photographs from this time. Thank you, Vera.

The second photograph is of Joseph STEWART and Floy POSEY ATTAWAY, right. Floy was the daughter of John Harrison POSEY, who was the son of Effa Matilda STEWART (Joe's sister), and James Henry POSEY.



Joseph STEWART moved to Dallas around 1930 and was the maintenance man at a nearby school. He lived next door to Monroe CARUTHERS, a former slave of James Henry POSEY. Joseph was Floy's great-uncle.

I especially value photographs, such as this one, showing that the different family lines continued to get together, as we do today. Thank you, Martha.



Grandma Lou Stewart between the graves of her daughter Ollie and granddaughter Emma Louise.

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Five generations of Martins



Front right counterclockwise: Aletha Ellen Robertson Martin Jones, her daughter Artie Gertrude Martin Phillips, her son Alvie Wesley Phillips, his daughter Mary Rose Phillips Pogue, and her son Joe Doe Pogue, circa 1965, from the collection of John Norris



Daughters of Joseph Coleman Stewart, L>R: Maggie Stewart, Lado Stewart, Ollie Stewart, from the collection of Vera Stewart Macon, a niece of these three ladies.

BIRTHDAYS.

Happy birthday to Bettye Peterson Stewart (11/2), Clem Jones (11/10), Brody Koon (11/27), Jean Koon Ruth (11/28), Cal Stockton (11/30), Ken Barry Sitz (12/15), Dewey Brawner (12/19), Skeeter Hatfield (12/21), Teresa Stewart Sitz (12/22), Phyllis Russell Stewart (12/26), Carol Watson Corbin (12/27), Beverly Ryan Woodroof (12/28).

CONGRATULATIONS.

to Connie and Dan McPherson on the birth of their granddaughter Anabelle Nicole McPherson, born 23 Sept 2007; and to Athena Hammond and Timothy Allen Mask, who married September 28, 2007, in Longview, Texas. Congratulations to LaDena Parnacher on the birth of her granddaughter, Laney RaeAnn Parnacher, born July 20, and to parents Benjamin and Lyrisha.

PRAYER REQUESTS.

Please remember Cindy McPherson in your prayers as she recuperates from an operation. Both Clem Jones and Dewey Brawner are recovering from surgery and could use your prayers.

PASSINGS.

Our dear cousin, Bev Ryan Woodroof lost her brother, Robert Henry Ryan, 4 NOV 2007. Please remember Beverly in your prayers. Sometime in October of this year, we lost Donald Mack Williams, the son of Dorothy Styles and Carlton Mack Williams.

Happy holidays,

Teresa Stewart Sitz
teresa_stewart_sitz@yahoo.com
www.ouramericanfamilies.com

"History with its flickering lamp stumbles along the trail of the past, trying to reconstruct its scenes, to revive its echoes, and kindle with pale gleams the passion of former days."
Winston Churchill