



# Marion Robert Eller

## Record of Ancestors and Descendants

Compiled by: Faye Joyce Eller  
And Evelyn Swanson 2005



# INTRODUCTION

This publication was unknown to me until I visited Brenda Galloway Franklin. A friend of Brenda's, Gazette Morgan gave me her phone number and I called her to set up the visit. Upon arrival at Brenda's we quickly realized that we were distant cousins and she produced this Eller Family Book that she had purchased around 2006 for \$10. We also discovered that Marion Robert Eller's wife (Mary Ellen Garrett) was a sister to Martha Jane Garrett (my great grandmother) who married Hardy Washington Eller in 1865. We had to do some investigating to figure out who compiled the information since the information wasn't bound and had no cover sheet. Brenda called some of her folks in Gastonia, North Carolina and got the names of the two ladies that compiled the information. Faye Joyce Eller and Evelyn Swanson were identified as the culprits. Faye Eller was the daughter of George Delmar and Nellie Lineberger Eller. George Delmar Eller had roots to Hayesville, Clay County, North Carolina and was a descendant of Susannah "Sukey" Eller through her daughter Cynthia. Evelyn had married Faye's first husband (James Arthur Swanson). Faye divorced James in 1992 and Evelyn married him in 1999.

This 2021 reprint is provided by The Eller Family Association and is printed exactly as Faye and Evelyn compiled it around 2005 with a couple of exceptions. This reprint includes a new cover sheet, this introduction and a correction and additions update that was not part of the original document. This reprint is dedicated to Faye and Evelyn for their dedication and hard work in gathering and compiling this information.

William Steve Eller





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THE ELLER COAT OF ARMS HEREBY ILLUSTRATED IS OFFICIALLY DOCUMENTED IN RIETSTAP ARMORIAL GENERAL. THE ORIGINAL DESCRIPTION OF THE ARMS (SHIELD) IS AS FOLLOWS:

"GIRONNE D'AZUR ET D'OR DE DOUZE PIECES; A UN ECUSSON DE GU. EN ABIME."

WHEN TRANSLATED THE BLAZON ALSO DESCRIBES THE ORIGINAL COLORS OF THE ELLER ARMS AS:

"COMPRISED OF TWELVE TRIANGULAR BEARINGS, OF ALTERNATING BLUE AND GOLD TINCTURES, POINTING TO THE CENTER OF THE SHIELD, ON WHICH IS SUPERPOSED A RED ESCUTCHEON."

ABOVE THE SHIELD AND HELMET IS THE CREST WHICH IS DESCRIBED AS:  
 "A SET OF WINGS COLORED RED AND GOLD RESPECTIVELY."



## JOURNEY TO PENNSYLVANIA

The journey to Pennsylvania fell naturally into three parts. The first part, and by no means the easiest, was the journey down the Rhine to Rotterdam or some other port. Gottlieb Mittelberger in his Journey to Pennsylvania in the year 1750, writes:

"This journey lasts from the beginning of May to the end of October, fully half a year, amid such hardships as no one is able to describe adequately with their misery. The cause is because the Rhine boats from Heilbronn to Holland have to pass by 26 custom houses, at all of which the ships are examined, which is done when it suits the convenience of the custom-house officials. In the meantime, the ships with the people are detained long, so that the passengers have to spend much money. The trip down the Rhine lasts therefore four, five, even six weeks. When the ships come to Holland, they are detained there likewise five to six weeks. Because things are very dear there, the poor people have to spend nearly all they have during that time."

The second stage of the journey was from Rotterdam to one of the English ports. Most of the ships called at Cowes, on the Isle of Wight. This was a favorite stopping place, as 142 ships are recorded as having sailed from Rotterdam to Cowes. Other ships touched at other channel ports including: Deal, Dover, Portsmouth, Gosport near Portsmouth, Falmouth in Cornwall, London, Berwick upon Tweed - on the east coast of England near the Scotch border, Leith in Scotland, the Orkney Islands, and to St. Christopher, one of the West India Islands.

Another harbor, in Holland, which was frequently used as a starting point for the ocean journey was Amsterdam. From there ships went to: Dover, Portsmouth, Gosport, Cowes, Tintmouth (now Teignmouth) in Devonshire, Shields on the east coast of England and to Aberdeen.

Beginning with the year 1752, nine ships started in various years from Hamburg, Germany, and from there went either to Cowes or Plymouth. No less than thirty-one ships came from London directly to Philadelphia. From 1766 to 1775, ten ships started from Lisbon, Portugal, two from Boston, and one from South Carolina, all arriving in Philadelphia.

In England there was another delay of one to two weeks, when the ships were waiting either to be passed through the custom house or waiting for favorable winds. When the ships had for the last time weighed their anchors at Cowes or some other port in England, then, "the real misery begins with the long voyage. For from there the ships, unless they have a good wind, must often sail eight, nine, ten to twelve weeks

before they reach Philadelphia. But even with the best wind, the voyage lasts seven weeks."

The third stage of the journey, or the ocean voyage proper, was marked by much suffering and hardship. The passengers being packed densely, like herrings, without proper food and water, were soon subject to all sorts of diseases, such as dysentery, scurvy, typhoid and small pox. Children were the first to be attacked and died in large numbers. Mittelberger reports the deaths of thirty-two children on his ship. Of the heartless cruelty practised, he gives the following example: "One day, just as we had a heavy gale, a woman in our ship, who was to give birth and could not under the circumstances of the storm, was pushed through the porthole and dropped into the sea, because she was far in the rear of the ship and could not be brought forward."

The terrors of disease, brought about to a large extent by poor food and lack of good drinking water, were much aggravated by frequent storms through which ships and passengers had to pass. "The misery reaches the climax when a gale rages for two or three nights and days, so that every one believes that the ship will go to the bottom with all human beings on board. In such a visitation the people cry and pray most pitifully. When in such a gale the sea rages and surges, so that the waves rise often like mountains one above the other, and often tumble over the ship, so that one fears to go down with the ship; when the ship is constantly tossed from side to side by the storm and waves, so that no one can either walk, or sit, or lie, and the closely packed people in the berths are thereby tumbled over each other, both the sick and well - it will be readily understood that many of these people, none of whom had been prepared for hardships, suffer so terribly from them that they do not survive."

When at last the Delaware River was reached and the City of Brotherly Love hove in sight, where all their miseries were to end, another delay occurred. A health officer visited the ship and, if any persons with infectious diseases were discovered on the ship, it was ordered to remove one mile from the city. As early as 1718, Dr. Thomas Graeme was appointed to visit and report on all incoming vessels. But no reports from him are on record until 1738. On September 14, 1738, Governor George Thomas laid before the Board the reports of Dr. Graeme, "setting forth the condition of four ships lately arrived here from Rotterdam and Amsterdam; And it being observed from one of said reports that were the Passengers on

Board the ships Nancy and Friendship allowed to be immediately landed, it might prove dangerous to the health of the Inhabitants of the Province and City, It is Ordered that the Masters of said ships be taken into Custody for their Contempt of the Governour's Order, signified to them by Thos. Glenworth, pursuant to a Law of this Province, to remove to the Distance of one mile from this City, and that they shall remain in Custody till they shall give security in the sum of Five Hundred Pounds each, to obey the said Order, and not to land any of their passengers Baggage or Goods, till the Passengers shall have been viewed and Examined, and until they shall receive a Licence from the Governor for so doing."

The Governor urged at this time that a hospital be erected for sick passengers, but the Assembly refused to act until an epidemic broke out in the city of Philadelphia. They then voted to buy Fisher Island, at the junction of the Schuylkill with the Delaware. The island was bought in 1743 - three hundred forty-two acres, with buildings on it. Erection of an adequate hospital was, however, delay until 1750. The name of the island was changed to Province Island and remains so today.

How serious conditions were and how many of the sick passengers died, after being brought to Province Island, appears from a statement of Jacob Shoemaker, an undertaker, which he gave to the Council on November 14, 1754: 253 Burials since 14 Sept. last is exact except those from M. Hilligass which he thinks may be 6 or 8 more.

"After much delay one ship after another arrives in the harbor of Philadelphia, when the rough and severe winter is before the door. One or more merchants receive the lists of the freights and the agreement which the emigrants have signed with their own hand in Holland, together with the bills for their travel down the Rhine and the advances of the 'new-landers' for provisions, which they received on the ships on account. Formerly the freight for a single person was six to ten louis d'ors, but now it amounts to fourteen to seventeen louis d'ors. Before the ship is allowed to cast anchor at the harbor front, the passengers are all examined, according to the law in force, by a physician, as to whether any contagious disease exists among them. Then the new arrivals are led in procession to the City Hall and there they must render the oath of allegiance to the king of Great Britain. After that they are brought back to the ship. Then announcements are printed in the newspapers, stating how many of the new arrivals are to be sold. Those who have money are released. Whoever has well-to-do friends seeks a loan from them to pay the passage, but there are only a few who succeed. The ship becomes the market-place. The buyers make their choice among the arrivals



and bargain with them for a certain number of years and days. They then take them to the merchant, pay their passage and their other debts and receive from the government authorities a written document, which makes the newcomers their property for a definite period."

When you examine the dates of arrival of the ships, it is found that the large majority of them arrived in the fall in Philadelphia when the hardships of winter were staring the newcomers in the face.

But, in spite of all difficulties and hardships, new settlers continued to come. The wonder is not that so many succumbed, but that so many faced all hardships uncomplainingly, and after a few years of service, emerged from all difficulties as successful farmers, who made the country blossom as a rose. It only shows of what sturdy stuff these pioneers were made.

Many documents were required before families were allowed to leave for America. Among them are:

A Passport, with which all the emigrants coming from Germany and Switzerland were supposed to be provided.

Page 5

A Letter of Recommendation, issued by the pastor of the church to the members of his flock when they left their homes. Page 6

A Letter of Manumission. Page 7

A Permit to Emigrate. Page 8

Upon arrival in America, passengers were taken from the ships and led in procession to the City Hall where they must render Oaths of Allegiance to the King of Great Britain. Then they were led back to the ships.

The First Oath. Page 9

The Second Oath. Page 10

List 117C - includes name of Johann Jacob Eyler, our ancestor. Page 11

List of signatures of persons taking Oath of Allegiance to the King of Great Britain. Includes Johann Jacob Eyler. Page 11

This information taken from the book: Pennsylvania German Pioneers

PASSPORT

"The bearer of this, Peter Reist, born at Rhein Dürckheim, intending to travel to Rhein Dürckheim, within the episcopate of Worms, is departing from here, a place at which no pestilential plague, but, thank God, pure air prevails. Therefore, all places can allow him to pass and repass. Given the 15th day of October, 1723.

(SEAL OF THE ) Attested by the chancellery at  
(CANTON OF BERN ) Summiswald."

Viséed at Montbelliard, November 29th, 1723

## Pastoral Letter of Recommendation

"The bearer of this, Joseph Eberhard, born at Jaegersdorf, in Switzerland, has been a member of our church, Reformed according to the Word of God, as he proved by the observance of the external duties of our religion, by which we judge in the spirit of love, such as the diligent attendance upon the preaching of the Word, the reverent use of the Holy Communion and the Christian conduct of his life, as far as it is known to us;

"Therefore, the pastors and elders of the churches, to whom this letter is shown, are requested graciously to receive him as such and admit him, under their supervision, to their Christian fellowship. In testimony of which the present attestation is submitted. Eych, in the Electoral Palatinate, May 1, 1727.

N. Dieterici, Pastor."

A Letter of Manumission  
and a Permit to Emigrate

"We, by the Grace of God, Francis Lewis, Archbishop of Mayence, Chancellor and Elector of the Holy Roman Empire, Administrator of the Grand Master's Office in Prussia, Master of the German Order in Germany and France, Bishop of Worms and Breslau, Dean and Lord of Ellwangen, Count Palatine of the Rhine in Bavaria, Duke of Gulich, Cleve and Berg, Prince of Moers, Count of Veldentz, Sponheim, Marck and Ravenspurg, Lord of Ravenstein, Freudenthal, Cullenbert, etc. etc.

Herewith we let it be known that, Whereas our subject at Lampertheim, John Valentine Griesheimer, for himself, his wife and four children, namely Caspar, John, Anna Margaret and Jacob, has asked that we might be pleased, in view of the good fortune that awaits them elsewhere, graciously to release all of them from the serfdom, to which they are subject, graciously to grant their submissive petition and manumit and dismiss them,

"Therefore, they are herewith and by virtue of this letter, from now on and forever afterwards, released and freed from their serfdom, yet with this explicit reservation, that, if the above-mentioned John Valentine Griesheimer, his wife and children, shall sooner or later return and settle again in our lands or under our jurisdiction, in which we have inherited the right of serfdom, that they shall ipso facto be subject to their former serfdom and without further process shall be subservient unto us.

"In testimony of this our certificate of manumission our seal has been affixed, Given at Worms, April 28, 1730.

The Electoral Government of Worms

(SEAL)      John Adam Schrenck, J. G. Gigant."

### Permit to Emigrate

"We, by the grace of God, Wolffgang Ernest, Prince of Isenburg and Buedingen, etc., etc.,

"Herewith and by these presents make it known that, whereas Henry Gerhard Diener, born at Birstein, has submissively petitioned and requested, that we release him and his family from the claims to which they are subject to us and the County of Isenburg, and graciously permit him to leave our land, we graciously grant this sibmissive request;

"Therefore, by virtue of these presents we grant that the above-mentioned Henry Gerhard Diener, together with his family, may leave our land, move to another place and settle there.

"In testimony of which our secret printed Princely Seal has been affixed. Given at Birstein, May 13, 1751"

(SEAL)

## Oaths of Allegiance to King George the Second

### FIRST:

"I, A/B do solemnly and sincerely promise and declare that I will be true and faithful to King George the Second and do sincerely and truly Profess, Testifie and Declare that I do from my heart abhor, detest and renounce as impious and heretical that wicked Doctrine and Position that Princes Excommunicated or deprived by the Pope or any Authority of the See of Rome may be deposed or murdered by their Subjects or any other whatsoever. And I do declare that no Foreign Prince, Person, Prelate, State or Potentate hath or ought to have, any Power, Jurisdiction, Superiority, Preeminence or Authority Ecclesiastical or Spiritual within the Realm of Great Britain or Dominions thereunto belonging.

## Oaths of Allegiance to King George the Second

### SECOND:

I, A/B do solemnly, sincerely and truly acknowledge, profess, testify and declare that King George the Second is lawful and rightful King of the Realm of Great Britain and all others his Dominions and countries thereunto belonging, and I do solemnly and sincerely declare that I believe the Person pretending to be Prince of Wales during the Life of the late King James and since his Decease, pretending to be and Taking upon himself the Style and title of King of England by the Name of James the Third...had any Right and Title whatsoever to the Crown of the Realm of Great Britain. And I do renounce and refuse any allegiance and obedience to him. I do solemnly promise that I will be true and faithful, bear true allegiance to King George the Second and to him will be faithful against all traiterous Conspiracies and attempts whatsoever which shall be made against his Person, Crown and Dignity; I will do my best Endeavours to disclose and make known to King George the Second and his Successors all Treasons and Traiterous Conspiracies which I shall know to be made against him or any of them. And I will be true and faithful to the Succession of the Crown against him, the said James, and all other Person whatsoever as the same is and stands settled by An Act Entitled An Act declaring the Rights and Liberties of the Subject and settling the Succession of the Crown to the late Queen Anne and the Heirs of her Body being Protestants, and as the same by one other Act Entituled An Act for the further Limitation of the Crown and better securing the Rights and Liberties of the subject is and stands settled and entailed after the Decease of the said late Queen and for Default of the said late Queen, to the late Princess Sophia, Electoress and Dutchess Dowager of Hanover and the Heirs of her Body being Protestants; and all these things I do plainly and sincerely acknowledge, promise and declare according to these express Words by me spoken, and according to the plain and common Sense and understanding, without Equivocation, Evasion or Reservation whatsoever. And I do make this Recognition, Acknowledgement, Renunciation and Promise heartily, willingly and truly.



[List 117 C] At the Court House at Philad<sup>a</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 1748.  
Present: William Attwood, Esq<sup>r</sup>, Mayor, William Allen, Esq<sup>r</sup>, Recorder, Robert Strettell & Benjamin Shoemaker, Esq<sup>rs</sup>.

The Foreigners whose Names are underwritten, imported in the Edinburgh, James Russel, Master, from Rotterdam, but last from Portsmouth, did this Day take the foregoing Oaths to the Government.

Johann Valentin Opp	Johann Jacob Schlosser
Jacob Schumacher	Johan Herman Clauss
Andreas Stoudt	Conrath Clauss
Johann Filib Schmitt	Sebastian Barthelmy
Christoph (X) Kunn	Peter Weingart
Johann Adam Schuster	Henry (X) Neizart
Johann Stephan Franck	Peter Wilhelm Caffroth
Johann Peter Heyer	Philip Haller
Lenert Reyder	Peter (X) Pfiffer
Dietrich Strubell	Justus Otto
Johann Valentin Klages	Johann Wilhelm Fuchs
Adam (O) Rauch	Friedrich Hubertus Fuchs
Jacob Hilsheimer *	Gerhart Peter Döst
Joh. Lorentz	Johann Nicolas Döst
Johann Philip Lorentz	Lorentz Werthes
Johan Jacob Gilberth	Simon Pilanus
Johan Velten Lorentz	Michael (X) Gugst
Thomas Koch	Vallentin Husch.
Adam (X) Kirchner	Vallentin (V) Hush, Jun <sup>r</sup> .
Johann Leonhard May	Vallentin (V) Sherer
Franzt Peter May	Caspar ( ) Franckfurth, sick
Johann Wilhelm Gärtner	John George (H) Kirshner
Johann Peter Von Kanne	Philip Reinhart Gossler
Johann Jacob Bronner	Gerg Lenhart Krumrein
Johann Jacob Eyer	Valtin Müller
Johann Nickel Busch	Johannes Weydenhauer
Johann Nickel Mayer	Felix Sautter
Johannes Schur [ ? ]	Baltazar (X) Spitznagel

\* Jacob Hiltzheimer was a prominent elder of the Reformed Church in Philadelphia. Extracts from the *Diary of Jacob Hiltzheimer* were published at Philadelphia in 1893, by his great-grandson Jacob Cox Parsons.

*At the Court House at Philad<sup>a</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 1748.*  
*Breunb.*

*William Attwood Esq<sup>r</sup> Mayor*  
*William Allen Esq<sup>r</sup> Recorder*  
*Robert Strettell & Benjamin Shoemaker Esq<sup>rs</sup>*

*The Foreigners whose Names are underwritten imported in the*  
*Edinburgh James Russel Master from Rotterdam but last*  
*from Portsmouth did this Day take the foregoing Oaths to the*

*Government*

*Adam Esq<sup>r</sup> Recorder*

*Johann Adam Schuster*

*Johann Stephan Franck*

*Johann Peter Heyer*

*Lenert Reyder*

*Dietrich Strubell*

*Johann Valentin Klages*

*Adam (O) Rauch*

*Jacob Hilsheimer \**

*Joh. Lorentz*

*Johann Philip Lorentz*

*Johan Jacob Gilberth*

*Johan Velten Lorentz*

*Thomas Koch*

*Adam (X) Kirchner*

*Johann Leonhard May*

*Franzt Peter May*

*Johann Wilhelm Gärtner*

*Johann Peter Von Kanne*

*Johann Jacob Bronner*

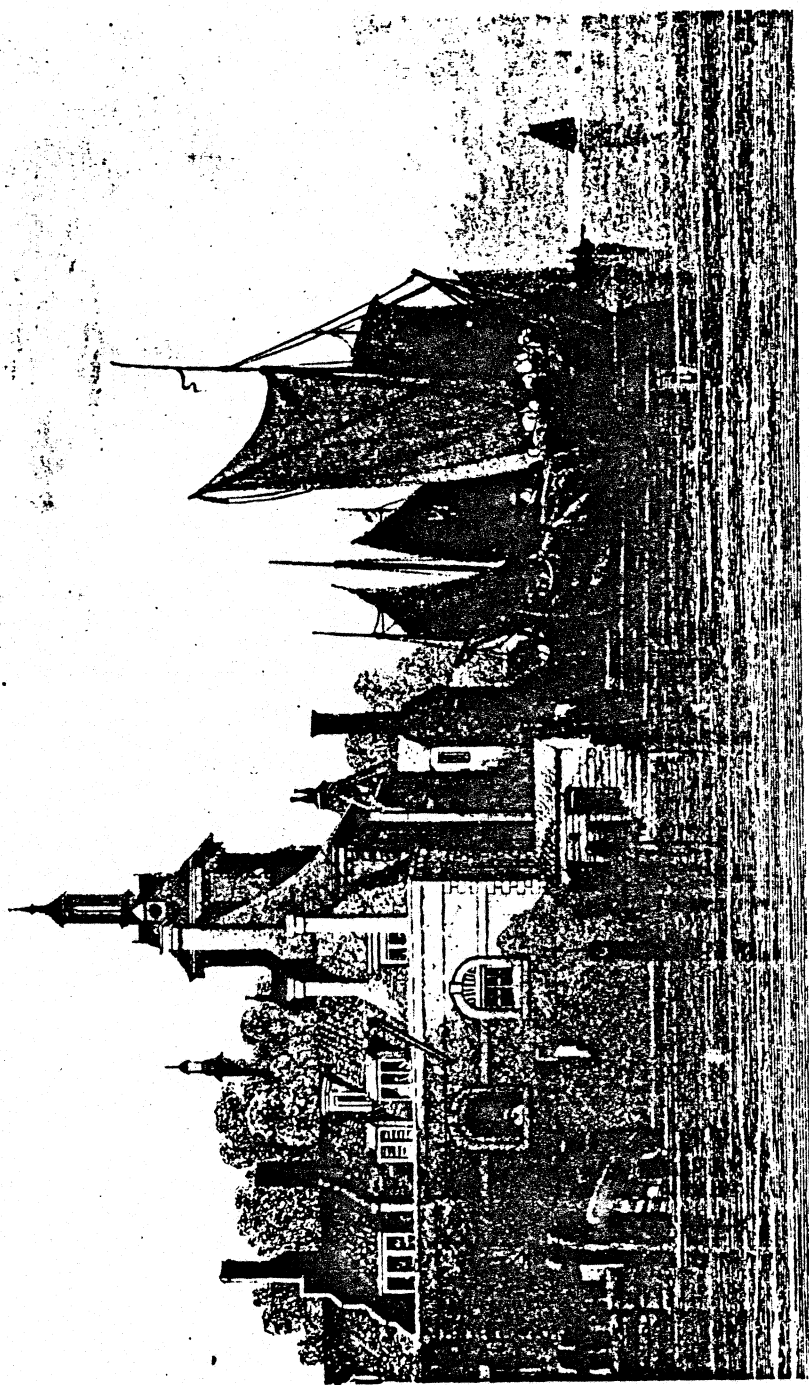
*Johann Jacob Eyer*

*Johann Nickel Busch*

*Johann Nickel Mayer*

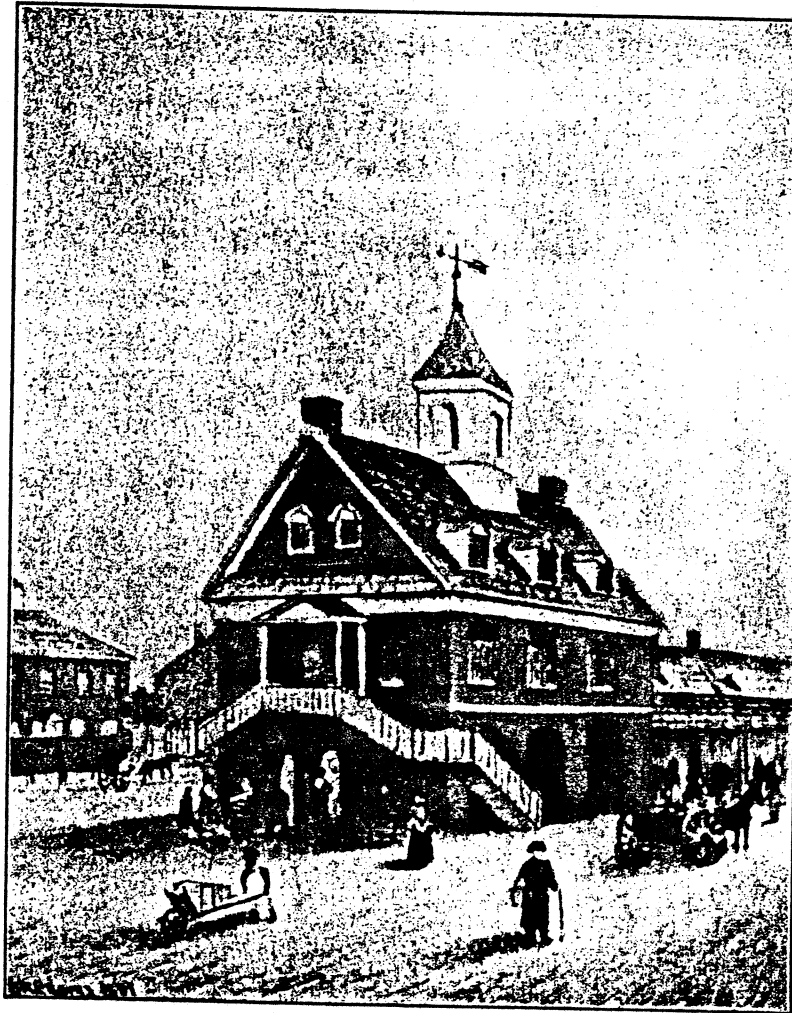
*Johannes Schur [ ? ]*

Ship Edinburgh, September 5, 1748,  
List 117 C.



Harbor of Rotterdam, from which most of the Emigrant Ships left  
(Engraved by S. Lacey)

Port from which John Jacob Eller, Sr. left in 1748, aboard the  
ship Edinburg



Court House at Philadelphia, in which Oath of Allegiance was signed  
(From Drawing in The Historical Society of Pennsylvania)

## ELLER IMMIGRANTS

When our Ellers arrived in Pennsylvania, they found all the productive land occupied or available only at very high prices. Under these conditions the newly arrived German immigrants began to move southward, some stopping in Maryland, some in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. When word came of cheap and abundant land in North Carolina, particularly in Rowan County, that became a choice destination for a growing stream of German migrants who traveled south on the Great Wagon Road. By the time they reached Crane Creek in Rowan Co. sometime before 1759, their migratory route extended a long way from their homes in Germany.

ROUTE: German Palatinate --- Rhine River --- Rotterdam --- England --- Philadelphia --- Montgomery County, Pennsylvania --- Great Wagon Road --- Crane Creek on the Yadkin River in Rowan County, North Carolina.

Their arrival there began about 1745, the number increased markedly prior to 1760, and except for a decline during the French and Indian War, continued until the Revolutionary War. A large number of Scotch-Irish settlers had come to Rowan Co. and taken up the most fertile land prior to the arrival of the Germans, leaving only the less fertile soil to the east and southeast of Salisbury for the Germans.

In colonial times two major travel routes entered North Carolina from the north. The Great Wagon Road began in Philadelphia, passed through the Shenandoah Valley, entered the northern border of North Carolina. After crossing the Yadkin River at the "Shallow Ford" west of Winston Salem, the road continued south to Rowan Co. and beyond. This route was taken by most of the Pennsylvania Germans who came to North Carolina.

Another route known as the Trading Path began in tide-water Virginia at Petersburg and joined the Great Wagon Road at the Trading Ford on the Yadkin River, only a few miles east of present Salisbury, N. C. The Trading Path was used by Indians, traders and settlers. Until after the French and Indian War, which ended in 1761, the Indians, principally the Catawba and Cherokee tribes, were not far to the west of Salisbury.

From the Trading Ford, the road continued southward into Cabarrus and Mecklenburg Counties and on into South Carolina. Situated strategically at the confluence of major travel and trading routes, Salisbury, founded in 1755, remained for decades the most western frontier town in N. C. Rowan Co. extended westward beyond the Appalachian mountains to include the present state of Tennessee. This gave Rowan Co. the distinction of being the largest ever in the United States. The trans-mountain region became the state of Tennessee in 1796, but first it was a part of the Cherokee Indian Nation, as was most of the mountain area of present western North Carolina.

Ramsey (1964) cites the successful Moravian settlement at Wachovia in Forsyth Co., N. C., beginning in 1752, as giving impetus to the German migration from the north. Gov. Dobbs reported that settlers were coming from the north in hundreds of wagons, and in 1755 it was said that 5,000 had crossed the James River in Va. bound for Rowan Co.

The French and Indian War disrupted this migration. "Beginning in 1759 the colonial frontier was aflame from sporadic attacks by small groups of Indians. After outlying settlers were murdered, conferences were held in Salisbury between English and Indian chiefs to gain time, if not peace. Prior to 1759 most Indian outrages occurred in isolated attacks on small groups of settlers, but in that year these attacks concentrated on towns and forts. During the worst years of 1759-1760, immigration was halted and many families fled elsewhere for protection."

In N. C. with the frontier only a few miles west of Salisbury, settlers were not spared from Indian attacks, and such concern developed among the people that many families sought safer sanctuary. Among those who left the area were John Justus (Yost) Henkel, whose granddaughter, Mary Biffle, married John Jacob Eller, Jr. The Henkels had arrived in the county in 1750 from Lehigh Co., Pa., but after the war began in 1759, "Yost" organized a huge caravan of his extended family and moved northward in 1760 to settle in Germany Vally in what is now Pendleton Co., West Virginia. Before peace was restored, hundreds had fled from Rowan Co.

Immigrants Christian Eller and John Paul Buffel (Biffle) were listed in a militia company in 1759 that was called up after an Indian attack near Salisbury. Since then, descendants of the early Eller and Biffle families of Rowan Co. have fought in every war involving the United States, sometimes fighting against close friends and relatives.

North Carolina is unique among coastal states in that settlement did not spread from the coast, but from the north and south. When peace returned after the French and Indian War, migration into Rowan Co. from the north resumed. Also, from South Carolina came new settlers who settled in the western part of the state. Salisbury and Rowan Co. continued to play significant roles in the colonial history of western North Carolina.

"The endless procession of new settlers, Indian traders, soldiers, and missionaries swelled in number as the Revolution approached. 'In the last sixteen years of the Colonial Era,' wrote Carl Bridenbaugh, 'south bound traffic along the Great Wagon Road was numbered in the tens of thousands. It was the most heavily traveled road in all America and must have had more vehicles jolting along its rough and torturous way than all the main roads put together.'" Some of the wagons heading south prior to 1760 carried the families of John Paul (Buffel), John Justus "Yost" Henkle, John (Gottge), John Jacob Eller, and his brother John Melker (Melchior) Eller. Spelling of surnames varied in N. C. records

By the time of the Revolutionary War, German settlers had moved further south into Cabarrus and Mecklenburg Counties in N. C. Their cabins were scattered to the west beyond the Catawba River and into the Blue Ridge Mountains. A significant number of German settlers, along with the Scotch-Irish, moved to the headwaters of the Yadkin River, then crossed the Appalachians on the Boone Trail, to settle along the Watauga, Nolichucky, and upper Holston Rivers in an area that was destined to become the northeastern corner of the state of Tennessee, but was then a part of North Carolina and the most dangerous frontier in America.

Some descendants of immigrant Eller families of Rowan Co. were drawn toward the western frontier. Peter Eller, eldest son of George Michael Eller, moved to the headwaters of the Yadkin in time to acquire choice land in Wilkes (now Ashe) Co., N. C. George Eller, eldest son of Christian Eller, moved to the southeastern corner of Virginia, and John Jacob Eller, Jr., eldest son of John Jacob Eller, crossed the mountains, perhaps as early as 1779, into the Holston Valley in the future state of Tennessee. Descendants of these early frontiersmen are now scattered across the United States, but in 1987 some of their descendants formed the Eller Family Association and began beating a path back to Rowan County in search of their roots.

The first Eller families in Rowan Co., insofar as is known, were all planters. They probably fit Bernheim's description, "these German settlers were all industrious, economical, and thrifty farmers, not afraid or ashamed of hard labor, and they were soon blessed with an abundance of everything which the fertile soil and temperate climate could furnish them...as they were agriculturists, they generally avoided settling...in town."

"The Germans," says Brawley, "usually left Pennsylvania just after fall harvest and made the journey down the Valley of Virginia in time to arrive in the fall, build their homes, and plant crops in the spring." He goes on to say, "Their outstanding characteristics were loyalty to their native language and customs, skill in industrial arts and agriculture, and a disinclination to participate in politics. Their religious heritage was German Reformed and Lutheran. They organized and built churches, but ministers were few, the only pastor in Rowan Co., N.C. prior to 1773 belonged to the German Reformed Church, but often the members of the two congregations worshipped together."

The early Eller families in Rowan Co. were Lutheran and records suggest they worshiped at the Peint (Pine) Church, the predecessor of today's Union Lutheran Church on Bringle Ferry Road near Salisbury.

While most of the early Germans who settled in Rowan Co. were planters, some were craftsmen, carpenters, miller, millwrights, wheelwrights, cobblers, coopers, etc. John Ketchey, father-in-law of immigrants John Jacob Eller and John Melchior Eller, was a "cordwainer" - a German term for a skilled shoe-maker. Available records suggest the early Eller's and their descendants were mainly farmers who remained close to the soil for several generations.

The first known Eller record in Rowan Co. was a 1758 court record for a Jas Eller. This was followed in 1759 by a record for Christian Eller and a Michael Eller. Then came the first records for our ancestor, John Jacob Eller, and his brother John Melchior Eller, another record for Christian Eller (1762) and another one for John Melker (Melchior) Eller (1764).

Land records and plat maps at the Public Library in Salisbury show that Jacob, Melker (Melchior) and Christian Eller settled near one another on sizable farms on Crane Creek, a few miles south of the Trading Ford on the Yadkin River. This stream arises southwest of Salisbury, and enters the Yadkin River some seven miles to the southeast of the town. Jacob Eller lived at the mouth of Crane Creek, only a few miles down stream on the Yadkin River from the home of his famous contemporary, Daniel Boone.

As mentioned, the land settled by the Eller families and their German neighbors was not highly fertile; despite this, their high acumen for agriculture soon saw them with the most productive farms in the area. However, the inferior soil may have been the major reason why second generation Ellers left Rowan Co. in the last quarter of the 18th Century. Their departure had a profound impact on the current state of Eller family history and genealogy.

No doubt, these early Eller families of Rowan Co. often saw the hordes of settlers and traders who paused at the Trading Ford on the west side of the Yadkin. Here travelers rested and replenished their food supplies for both men and beasts before moving on through Salisbury to points west and south. At the Trading Ford, German farmers bartered farm produce for necessities such as housewares and farm implements.

Rowan court records suggest that John Jacob Eller was known to be an educated man, apparently serving his community in some business capacity, perhaps as a sort of village banker. An "educated German" in those days was one who could read and write the English language to any extent. Jacob's own signature on his will proves he could write, and the listing of books on the inventory of his estate suggests he could also read.



On 23 March 1765, John Jacob Eller and five others, all with German names, came into Court and were naturalized according to Law by taking the Oath of Government for North Carolina. This action was required of all foreigners in the state, although they had already taken similiar oaths in Pennsylvania. Under the English law at that time in N. C., seven years of residency were required before taking the Oath, but authorities on N. C. history state that few naturalization records appear in the Colonial Records, and these make no reference to the residency requirement, so the seven year requirement may not have been enforced. However, Germans were known to be law-abiding citizens, and if the law specified they wait seven years before taking the oath, they very likely observed the requirement. If Jacob Eller waited seven years, it meant that he arrived in Rowan Co. about 1758, which is said to be about the time of arrival of his father-in-law, John Gottge (Ketchey). It seems logical that since he and his brother, John Melchior, married daughters of this family, they would have traveled with them from Pennsylvania to North Carolina.

## CASPER ELLER

"Anno 1756 on April 17, the following young people were confirmed in the Evangelical Doctrine of the New Hanover Congregation, and on the 18th of April were admitted to Holy Communion"...Among the several communicants was..."Eller, Melchior, the late Casper Eller's son, in his 20th year".

A comparison of the above record with the marriage record for John Jacob Eller, below, shows that the two were brothers. From these it is evident that their father, Casper Eller of the German Palatinate, died between 1753 and 1756. Information from another source shows Casper Eller being born in 1708 in Palatinate, Germany.

A church record from "St. Paul's Lutheran (Red Hill) Church, KB, Montgomery County, Pa., reads: Jacob Eller, son of Casper Eller, born in the Palatinate, married 11 Dec. 1753, Maria Eva Goettge, daughter of Hannes Goettge (Ketchy), born in Zweybrucken, Germany."

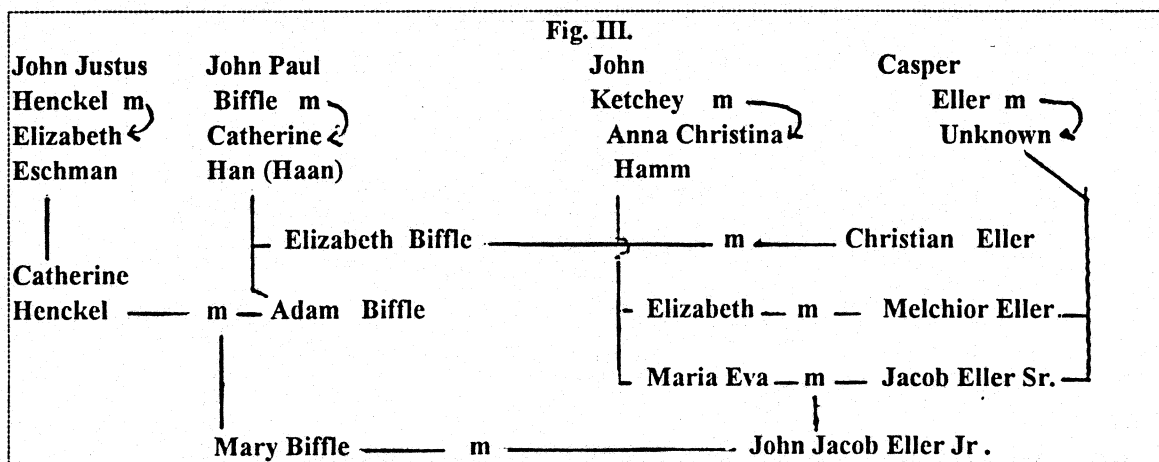
Evidence from research printed in the book, John Jacob Eller and His Descendants, supports the view that the first name for both Jacob and Melchior Eller was "John". Also pointed out was the fact that for brothers to share the same first name was not uncommon among Germans of that period. Extending the same concept, their father's full name was probably John Casper Eller.

## JOHN JACOB ELLER, IMMIGRANT

A passenger named John Jacob Eyler (Eller) arrived in Philadelphia aboard the ship Edinburg from Rotterdam, but last from Portsmouth, on September 5, 1748.

The next verified American record for him shows his joint purchase in 1761 with Jerg Lambgen of 320 acres in Rowan Co., N. C. An abstract deed states, "A McCullah grant of 320 acres in Tract #9 on the Yadkin River for L20 sterling, recorded on December 31, 1761, in joint tenancy to Jerg Lambgen and Jacob Eller."

According to a plat map, the 320 acre tract lay at the mouth of Crane Creek which flows into the Yadkin southeast of Salisbury, N.C. Other tracts in the same community are shown for Christian Eller, purchased January 28, 1762, and John Melchior Eller, purchased April 10, 1764. Also living in this German community since about 1750-51 were the allied families of Paul Buffel (Biffle) and John Justus Henckel (Henkel), whose children became linked through marriages with the Eller and Gottge (Ketchey) families. See chart below.



The joint tenancy of the 320 acres by Jacob Eller and Jerg Lambgen ended on June 2, 1767, when several deeds were executed. First, the two transferred the 320 acres to Michael Morr (Moor), who then deeded 160 acres back to each of them, thus effecting an equal division between the original owners. Jacob lived there until his death in 1782 when the land was sold by Christian Eller, executor of his estate, to Adam Treece, a grandson, who was the son of Johann Peter Treece and Maria Elizabeth Eller.



John Jacob Eller was born between 1700 and 1720 in the German Palatinate. He died in 1782 in Rowan Co., N. C. He was the son of Casper and ?? Eller.

He was married to Maria Eva Gottge (Ketchey) on 11 Dec 1753 in St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Red Hill, Montgomery Co., Pa. She was born on 17 Aug 1732 in Palatinate, Germany, died about 1770 in Rowan Co., N. C. She was christened in Ruschberg, Germany. She arrived in Philadelphia, Pa. in 1751 with her parents, Johannes and Anna Christina (Hamm) Gottge. John Jacob and Maria Eva had the following children:

- i John Jacob Eller, Jr.
- ii John Melchior Eller, born about 1756, probably in Pennsylvania, died 1841 in Rowan Co., N.C., married Susanna Eller on 9 Oct 1782. They had one son.
- iii John Eller, listed as "Jacob's son" in the 1800 Federal Census of Rowan Co., N. C. as between 36-45 years of age. He entered service in the Revolutionary War with Joseph Eller, his brother.
- iv Joseph Eller, a soldier in the Revolutionary War.
- v Christian Eller, died after 1800, listed as son of Jacob Eller in the will of Christina Getchen (Ketchey), his maternal grandmother (Will Bk. G:48, Rowan Co., N.C.) He married Maria Elis Dormeyer in Sept., 1792 in Rowan Co., N. C. They later appear in Church and public records in Iredell Co., N. C. They had four sons.
- vi Christina Eller, mentioned only in the will of her grandmother, Christina Getchen (Ketchey), as "among the children of Jacob Eller, deceased."
- vii Frederick Eller was born about 1767 in Rowan Co., N. C., died there about 1832. His earliest record "On Feb. 9, 1785, Frederick Eller, aged 18 and Elizabeth aged 12 years, both orphans of Jacob Eller, deceased, were bound to Abram Eary until they reached 21 and 18 respectively." He married ?? and they had 6 children.
- viii Maria Elizabeth Eller was born in 1773 in Rowan Co., N.C. She died 1813-1820. She married Johann Peter Treece on 20 Jul 1791 in Peint Church, Rowan Co., N.C. Peint (or Pine) Church was the forerunner of the Union Lutheran Church on Bringle Ferry Road, Salisbury, N.C. They had seven children.

Jacob Eller married second Barbara Arey, daughter of Peter and Mary Cathren Arey, in Rowan Co., N. C. They had a daughter.

- i Eve Eller, born 1780-1781, died ??, was married to

David Crotzer on 2 Jun 1795 in Rowan Co., N. C. They had six children.

Will of John Jacob Eller, Sr. - see pages 24 & 25

Will of John Jacob Eller

Made 12 April 1782, probated 7 May 1782

"IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN! I, Jacob Eller of the County of Rowan and State of North Carolina being very sick and weak in body, though of perfect mind and memory, thanks be given unto God for the same, calling to mind the mortality of my Body and knowing that is appointed for all men once to die, I do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following: FIRST of all I recommend my soul unto the hands of the Almighty God that gave it and my body to be buried in a decent manner and at the discretion of my Executors hereafter named. Firstly my will is that all my just debts and funeral expenses be paid out of my personal Estate, further it is my will that my eldest son, Jacob Eller shall have six pounds in silver and Gold paid unto him out of my Estate over and above the equal share with my other children and also a Chest and the wearing apparrel that apertained to my last Wife Barbary. It is my Will that the same shall be kept and reserved for my two Youngest Children that the said Barbary bore unto me over and above their equal share of my Estate, further it is my Will that my daughter Elizabeth Eller shall have one Cow and one pewter dish, also one pewter porringer and three pewter plates and one spinning wheel over and above an equal share I will the other of my children --- further it my will that all my Estate both real and personal shall be exposed to sale by way of Public Vendue, and an equal Division made between all my children except my son Jacob Eller who hath received fourteen pounds that worth that he has already Received of me and also Twenty and Two pounds hard money in silver and gold to be paid to the other of my children if the said Jacob Eller my Son agreeth to give the said sum for a certain improvement that was formerly his property and sold it to his father Jacob Eller Senr. and if he will not agree to give the said price the said place must be sold as the other part of my Estate - my will is further that the Widow Eury shall have the care of my daughter Eve as she hath had the care of it ever since the death of its Mother and further I do constitute make and ordain my well beloved friends, Christian Eller and John Gitchey sole Executors of this my last Will and Testament satisfying and confirming this and no other to be my last Will and Testament in Witness Whereunto I do set my hand and seal this twelfth day of April in the Year of our Lord One Thousand seven Hundred and Eighty Two. Signed, sealed, published and declared by the said Jacob Eller as his last Will and Testament in the presence of us Who in his presence and in the presence of each other have hereunto Subscribed our names

Mattias Scudder  
Melcher (x) Eller

Signed JACOB ELLER

Thomas McCartney



The phrase "my well beloved friends" in Jacob Eller's will is a subject of some debate. This phrase is cited by some as evidence that Jacob and Christian Eller were not brothers. However, it is of interest to note that John Gitchey, the other executor, was a brother-in-law, to whom the same phrase was applied. This common legal phrase was not intended to convey degrees of kinship. "Widow Eary" was Mary Cathern Arey, widow of Peter Arey.

A court document, entitled "Inventory of the Sale of the Estate of Jacob Eller, Deceased, Pursuant to his Will, May 23, 1782," has survived. Listed are over 200 separate items including both real and personal property, whose total value was put at 528 pounds, 6 shillings and 8 pence. The inventory reveals beyond doubt, that John Jacob Eller was a planter. The number, types of items, and their value, plus the money mentioned in his will, show that he had accumulated a considerable amount of material wealth for his day. Listed in the inventory were dozens of farm implements (scythes, harrows, etc.); household articles (dishes, pewterware, furniture, bolts of cloth); live stock (horses, cows, sheep, hogs); produce (barrels, hogsheads, beehives); wagons; saddles; and books (a prayer book, a testament, and four untitled books). Aside from his 160 acres of land, valued at 145 pounds, the item of next greatest value was his still, valued at 80 pounds. Then, and for the next 100 years, a whisky still was found on almost every farm in North Carolina.

John Jacob Eller failed to list all of his nine children in his will, but using his will, the will of Christina Gretchen, mother of Jacob's first wife Eve, a court record showing two of the children bound to Abram Eary, and research by others, it has been proven that he did have nine children.

Information taken from book: John Jacob Eller & His Descendants

JOHN JACOB ELLER, JR.

More descendants of John Jacob Eller, Jr., eldest son of John Jacob Eller, are known than for the combined descendants of all his other children. This is because he and his wife, Mary Biffle Eller left Rowan Co., N. C. before their children became entangled in the genealogical puzzles that developed among those Eller families who remained in that area and which still present a daunting challenge for genealogists. Their children were born in Sullivan Co. N. C. (now Tennessee), but by 1800 the family was living in Buncombe Co., N. C., where many of their descendants still reside. Some of their children and grandchildren migrated westward and now are found in many states west of the Mississippi River.

It is thought that John Jacob, Jr., and his wife Mary, accompanied her parents, Adam and Catherine Henkel Biffle, across the mountains to Sullivan Co., N. C. in late 1778 or early 1779. Records show that Adam Biffle entered land on the south bank of the Holston River in Sullivan Co. on 29 July 1779 that was assigned Entry No. 1493 by the state of N. C. The state of N. C. granted Jacob Eller, Jr. 100 acres of land on the south side of the Holston River in Sullivan Co., Tn. 26 Nov. 1789.

The process of acquiring open land from N.C. during the Colonial period involved four steps or stages: 1) filing an entry application with the appropriate Land Office which gave the general location of a desired tract of land; 2) then a land warrant was issued by the Land Officer to the official surveyor of the county ordering him to conduct a survey and prepare a plat; 3) the surveyor's report was forwarded to the Governor by the Land Office; 4) A final decision was made by the Governor or his authorized agent, and when approved, a grant was awarded.

The process did not adhere to any set schedule, and years often elapsed between the initial entry and receipt of the final grant or deed. A delay of several years might intervene at any point in the process. In the meantime, while waiting for approval, individuals lived on the land as squatters and began improvements. They built cabins, cleared land and planted crops.

From a surveyor's report: "Surveyed for Adam Biffell (Biffle), Nov. 28th 1781, a tract of land lying on the South Side of Holston River in Sullivan Co., N. C.,...containing 154 acres more or less." The report contains a plat and description. The final grant to Adam Biffle, No. 53, was dated Oct. 23, 1782. Between 1779 and 1782 the family of Adam Biffle no doubt lived on the land, apparently also with John Jacob Eller, Jr. and his family.

On 22 Oct., 1787 a land warrant was issued to "lay off ...100 acres of land for Jacob Eller, Jr. on the Holston River... by order of A. Biffle." The deed was approved Nov. 26, 1787 by the Governor of N. C. After this transfer, the remainder of Adam Biffle's tract, 42 acres or so, was sold by his grandson, Valentine Biffle, who had inherited it upon Adam's death, to Thomas Smalling of Sullivan Co., Tn. on 6 Sept., 1816.

Adam Biffle had moved his family in late 1787 to the Morgan District of Burke (later Buncombe) Co., N. C. Jacob Eller, Jr. and his family moved there in time to be listed in the 1800 Census.

Tennessee became a state in 1796 and two years later sued Jacob, Jr. in the court of Sullivan Co., Tn. The basis for the suit is unknown, but the results were - Jacob lost the 100 acres obtained from Adam Biffle and 150 acres he had purchased on 14 Feb., 1798. These tracts were sold at public auction, one to John Sevier, then Gov. of Tn., the other to John Sevier, Jr., his son.

The court action did not involve non-payment of taxes, since records show him paying in 1796 and 1797. After years of strained relationship with N.C., Tn., after becoming a state, contested many N. C. land grants. The region had been over-run by land speculators for more than four decades and land records were in a chaotic state. Many land surveys were found to be overlapping and defective. Many settlers lost their land during this period, and perhaps, Jacob, Jr. was such a victim. Another likely result of this misfortune was the beginning of the break-up of his marriage.

Marital discord, destined to destroy their marriage, probably began when they lost their land. No doubt, this brought great stress and the difficulties of reaching a decision about their next step. By his later actions, it is apparent Jacob, Jr. wanted to remain in Tn., but Mary wanted to join her relatives in Buncombe Co., N. C., which they and their nine children, did in late 1799 or early 1800.

The 1800 Census for Buncombe Co., N.C. shows the Jacob Eller, Jr. family living near the homes of Biffles and Weavers (another related family). Mary was pleased to be back with her family, but Jacob was never comfortable in Buncombe Co. Tradition says he made frequent trips back to Tn. The trips became longer and longer until one day he failed to return and his fate remains unknown to this day.

After arriving in Buncombe Co., Jacob purchased 100 acres on a branch of Rimes (Reems) Creek...in the name of his young son Joseph Eller - some say in order to protect himself from further law suits, others that he did so as part of his plan to bring his family to Buncombe Co. and leave them.

On Jan. 20, 1802 Jacob, Jr. bought 50 acres from Jacob Wagoner on Reems Creek. Shortly after this, he left again. Some say he returned to Tn., remarried and raised a family there. A Jacob Eller married Elizabeth Winterbowers in Jefferson Co., Tn. in 1809. The 1830 census for that county lists a Jacob Eller, age 70-80 yrs, which fits that of our Jacob, Jr. (b ca 1754) but confirmation that the two were the same is still being sought.

Family tradition has not been kind to Jacob, Jr.. However, after more than 250 years, one should avoid harsh judgemental statements without more facts. It should be remembered that his side of the story has never been heard, while his wife, Mary had several years in which her relatives in Buncombe Co. heard only her side of the matter. It seems significant that some of his grandchildren and great-grandchildren were named Jacob, apparently in his honor. No doubt, his children knew there were two sides to the conflict that separated their parents.

Charlotte Eller Marshall, a descendant, asks these questions: "Was John Jacob Eller, Jr. a real frontiersman, traveling further west as the Eastern states became settled and to early pioneers were over-crowded? Did he feel hemmed in when he could smell the smoke of his neighbor's fire as did Daniel Boone and others of that day? Or did he live the reclusive life of a bachelor, not responding to census takers and other government agents? Since his grandson knew of his death, did he return to Tn. and settle there? If he lived among members of his family, why doesn't his name appear on census records?"

In characterizing these frontiersmen, Theodore Roosevelt in his "Winning of the West" says, "the frontiersmen wed out of the everlasting forest; a grim, stern people, strong and simple, powerful for good and evil, swayed by gusts of stormy passion, the love of freedom rooted in their very hearts' core. Their lives were harsh and narrow, they gained their bread by their blood and sweat, with the unending struggle with the wild ruggedness of nature. They suffered terrible injuries at the hands of the red men, and on their foes they waged a terrible warfare in return. They were relentless, suspicious, knowing neither truth nor pity; they were also upright, resolute, and fearless, loyal to their friends, and devoted to their country. In spite of their many failings, they were of all men best fitted to conquer the wilderness and hold it against all comers." How the Biffle and Eller families coped with the harsh realities of frontier existence, or measured up to Roosevelt's description, we have no record apart from the general history of the life experienced by all settlers in that remote part of America.

What was the effect of his Holston Valley experience on the character and personality of John Jacob Eller, Jr? Did this rugged frontier mold him into a compassionate and caring man, or did it coarsen him and render him insensitive to others? Did he disappear from Buncombe Co. as suddenly and completely as legend has it, or did he communicate with his children after his departure? Did he really settle in Tn. or did he move on westward like Daniel Boone who died in Boonville, Missouri? Perhaps Jacob, Jr. also ended up in the same area as Boone since his eldest son, Jacob Eller, III, settled in 1819 near Boonville, When and where was he when death came, and what of his second family? How was he really regarded by his family? The search continues by The Eller Family Association.

From book: John Jacob Eller & His Descendants

## MARY BIFFLE ELLER

The marriage of John Jacob Eller, Jr. and Mary Biffle did not terminate officially until 1806 when she successfully petitioned the General Assembly of N. C. to regain her property rights and freedom from her husband. This came after he had been absent from Buncombe for most of six years. Courts in those days could not grant legal separations or divorces.

### Petition of Mary Biffle Eller

"On behalf of Mary Eller of Buncombe Co., N. C., 1806.

To the Honorable General Assembly of the State of N. C. Now Setting in Raleigh. The petition of Mary Eller wife of Jacob Eller of the County of Buncombe most humbly shews that about five years ago the Husband of your petitioner absconded and left your petitioner in a distressed Situation with a number of Small Children, petitioner has been back as often as twice and bereft your petitioner of what little she had acquired for support of her Self & Children, and she hears he is about to return the third, your petitioner prays that your Honorable Body would take her case under your consideration and grant to relieve her by securing to her what property she has or may hereafter acquire, and to Enable your petitioner to dispose of it in future as she may think proper, and whereas your petitioner not being acquainted with the Law has Warranted for Debts due her and obtained Judgements in her own Name and by appeal is now pending before the Court of Buncombe your petitioner further prays that nothing she may have pending in Law may be abated in Consequence of her bringing Suit in her own Name and your petitioner as in duly bound will ever pray."

From: Legislative Papers, North Carolina Archives, 1806.

NOTE: The petition was not for divorce or a legal separation, but for the restoration of property rights, possibly the result of her inheritance from her father who died in 1804

### The Bill Approved by the General Assembly of N. C. in 1806 in Response to the Petition of Mary Biffle Eller

A Bill to Secure to Mary Eller of Buncombe Co., wife of Jacob Eller, Such Property as She Now or Hereafter May Acquire Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of N. C. and is hereafter enacted by the authority of the same, that Mary Eller of the County of Buncombe, shall from and after the passing of this act be entitled to and possess in her sole right all such property, either real or personal as she now has or hereafter may acquire by purchase, device and .....? or otherwise in as

full and ample manner as if she had never been married to the said Jacob Eller and shall have full power to sue for and recover in any court of Record, having cognizance thereof all debts which is or may be due, and law to the contrary notwithstanding and be it further enacted that this act be in force from and after the passing thereof." Approved on Dec. 20, 1806. Legislative Papers, N. C. Archives.

NOTE: This restoration of property rights to Mary Eller "as if she had never been married" was the same as granting her a divorce although the term was not used.

Mary Eller and her children managed to survive under less than ideal conditions. She and her younger sister, Elizabeth Biffle (Mrs. John) Weaver, remained close, and the Weavers and other Biffle relatives probably gave considerable support to them. However, by 1820, Mary lost much of this support system. Her parents were dead and her two brothers had sold the last Biffle property and left N. C. Her eldest son, Jacob, had married and departed for Missouri with his father-in-law. However, by this time several of Mary's other children were adults, and her older daughters were married and living nearby. Support always came from her sister, Elizabeth Weaver. During the last years of her life, Mary, it was said, lived with her son, Adam, on Flat Creek near the present town of Weaverville, N. C.

After a remarkable life, much of which was spent on a dangerous frontier, Mary died in 1837 and was buried in the old Weaverville Cemetery adjacent to the graves of her brother-in-law and sister John and Elizabeth Weaver. Her grave is marked by a field stone with the following crude inscription: Mary E dc June 12 1837 age 79. Her burial at this site rather than in the near by Biffle Family Cemetery has been attributed to the strong bond that existed between her and her sister.

Her grave was restored by the Eller Family Assoc. in 1994-1995. A dedication was held at grave-side at the Old Weaverville Cemetery, Weaverville, N. C. in 1995. The original marker and other field stones which covered the entire surface of the grave were set in concrete, as was a bronze plaque bearing the inscription:

#### PIONEER

Mary Biffle Eller (1757-1837)  
Holston Valley (1779-1800)  
Buncombe County (1800-1837)  
d/o Adam Biffle and Catherine Henkel  
w/o John Jacob Eller, Jr.  
Eller Family Association, 1995

### Will of Mary Biffle Eller

I, Mary Eller, of the County of Buncombe and State of N. C., being weak in body but of perfect mind and memory (blessed be to God) do this twenty fifth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty six make and publish this my last will and testament in manner following that is to say First, my will is that my just debts be paid out of my estate. Second I give and bequeath to my son Adam one mare now in my possession and one chest. Third, I give and bequeath unto my granddaughter Eliza Eller, daughter of Adam Eller, one choice of her cow out of my stock. Fourth I give and bequeath unto grandson Joseph Eller, son of Adam Eller, one cow. Fifth, I give and bequeath unto my granddaughter Christina Eller one bed and furniture. Sixth, I give and bequeath unto my daughter-in-law Betsy Eller one flax wheel and one coverlet. Seventh, I bequeath unto my granddaughter Patsy Fore one bed and furniture. Eighth, my will is that all my household furniture and what live stock may be on hand shall be sold and monies arising from the sale shall be equally divided among my children. Ninth, that what grain of any kind that will be my own with every kind of vegetable shall go to the use of Adam Eller. I hereby make and ordain my son, Adam Eller, and my nephew, Christley G. Weaver, executors of my last will and testament. In Witness thereof I the said Mary Eller have to this my last will and testament set my hand and seal this day and year above written. Signed, sealed, published and declared by the said Mary Eller by Joseph F. Brittain who was present at the time and sealing thereof as her last will and testament.

J. F. Brittain

her  
Mary + Eller  
mark

Jurus Ball

Adam Eller sworn in as Executor July 5, 1837.

One may wonder why there is no mention made by Mary in her will of her son Joseph or his children, many of whom still lived near-by. Was it because Joseph married a Cherokee? Up to this point her family were all of pure German descent. Ethnic diversification then struck. Her children married American Indian (Stephens); French (Fore); Scotch-Irish and English (McCarty, Fields and Edmonds). However, her failure to mention others in her will is probably due to the fact that she had few possessions to distribute.

From book: John Jacob Eller & His Descendants



John Jacob, 111, Joseph & Adam Eller

The departure of John Jacob Eller 111 from Buncombe Co., N.C. about 1817-1818 left his younger brothers, Joseph and Adam, to continue the Eller name in Western N. C. Their sister, Susannah "Sukey" Eller, who apparently was un-married, was our (the children of Weldon, Delmar, Milford and Virgil Eller) great, great, great grandmother. Both Adam and Joseph had large families, Joseph having fifteen children by two wives. Today most people bearing the Eller name in Buncombe, Madison and Graham Counties, N. C. are their descendants. Most sons of Joseph and Sarah Stephens, his first wife, moved to Tn., Texas, Arkansas, Missouri and Idaho.

By the time of the Civil War, both Joseph and Adam were large land owners with a few slaves. A great grandson of Adam said both Adam and Joseph were "land poor", meaning they owned much land, but their cash flow was meager. Land records show that both bought and sold much land, but Joseph was by far the most active trader and owned the most land.

On 25 Sept. 1846, Joseph's 1st wife, Sarah Stephens Eller, died. Within the next two years, Joseph and his first cousin, Montraville Weaver, were involved in a huge land swap. Land owned by Joseph on which the town of Weaverville now stands was exchanged for hundreds of acres of Weaver property located in a large cove on Reems Creek, which came to be known as Eller Cove, a name still used today.

Oral tradition suggests that Adam and Joseph were very different, and at some point, have become somewhat estranged. Three things may have contributed to this possibility: land disputes, the Civil War, and Joseph's marriage to a Cherokee. Their sons fought on opposite sides during the Civil War - Adam and his family favoring the North, the Joseph Eller and John Weaver families the South.

Adam had a stable marriage and his children all remained nearby. Religion played a great role in their life, his family involved closely with the Baptist Church. His son Joseph P. Eller became a well-known Methodist minister. He chose the faith of his mother's family over his Eller heritage. Rev. Joseph P. Eller is remembered as a founder of churches in northern Buncombe and Madison Counties, N. C. He also bought and sold much land and built a beautiful home in Weaverville which still stands. Rev. J. Ben Eller, a grandson of Joseph P., was the first Eller in Buncombe Co. to finish college (Mars Hill and Wake Forest Colleges). He also graduated from Baptist Seminary in Louisville, Ky., and pastored Baptist churches in both Va. and N. C. He was widely known and respected as a minister and church leader.

Joseph, some say, followed a life-style quite different from his brother Adam. He was less conservative and serious-minded. Many stories about him are repeated by his descendants still living in the area. He and his family were not known to be close to the church and both of his marriages were beset with marital discord. One story tells of a time his first wife, Sarah, wanted to visit a son in Tn., but Joseph objected. Sarah was not deterred and made the trip against her husband's wishes. For some time afterwards they lived in separate households. The 1830 census for Buncombe Co. show each as head of separate households. They reconciled before Sarah's death which is recorded only in a Bible of their son, Jacob, listing her death as Sept. 25, 1846. Joseph, as age 56, took Elizabeth Clorinda Hamilton, age 22, as a second wife in about 1848. Clorinda was not well received by the children of his first marriage. Although Clorinda bore him six children, the couple lived apart a good deal of the time.

Joseph's death on 25 Sept. 1863, generated many stories. He was said to have died under somewhat mysterious circumstances while he and Clorinda were living apart. One story says he was poisoned by one of his slaves after returning home with his saddle-bags full of gold which he buried just prior to his death. The gold was never found. Because Joseph died intestate, it took more than fifteen years for the courts to settle his huge estate. During this time discord between Clorinda and Joseph's children from his first marriage intensified.

Joseph had accumulated much real and personal property, including thousands of acres of land and several farms and homesteads. As with most farmers of that time, he owned his own whiskey still. During the Civil War, a neighbor acquired a Government contract to supply whiskey for medicinal purposes. Not knowing how to make whiskey, he turned to Joseph to learn the technique. However, Joseph, despite his marital difficulties, was well-liked in his community which he served as a Magistrate for several years.

Many problems slowed the process of settling his huge estate. The Civil War was raging, his children by his first wife were scattered. Dozens of court records were generated. The first executor, Jesse R. Weaver, a first cousin, died long before the estate was settled and a replacement was appointed. Three of Joseph's children had died and left many heirs to identify and locate. His oldest son, John W., was in Missouri, and his youngest son, Joseph Michael Franklin, by his first wife, was in Arkansas. John W. was located in Missouri, but died before the estate was settled. Joseph Michael Franklin was serving the South in the war, as was his brother Abram before he was captured and paroled. Frank told his descendants that he returned home after the Civil War, but was turned away by his father's second wife, and never received his portion of his father's estate. He never returned to Buncombe Co., N. C.

An 1869 court document lists a total of 53 individuals as heirs at law. By this time, the widow, lawyers, and executors probably had taken most of the money. But this court record was not the final settlement because in the same year the administrators of his estate sought and received another 12 months to work on the settlement. Other court records show court actions continued well into the 1870's.

Joseph lies buried in the Joseph Eller Family Cemetery in Eller Cove in the Reems Creek Valley. Despite his wealth at the time of his death, his grave is marked only by a large slab of field stone. Some forty or fifty of his descendants are buried in this cemetery. A project is underway by the Eller Family Association and his relatives to renovate his grave site and provide a permanent marker.

From book: John Jacob Eller & His Descendants

## KETCHYS / KETCHIES

The Johannes Gottgen (Ketchey) family left Ruschberg, Germany in the spring of 1751, made their way to Rotterdam, Holland, where they boarded the ship Edinburg, stopped in Cowes, England, and finally landed in Philadelphia, Pa. on 16 Sep. 1751.

German records: Baumholder Lutheran Churchbook:  
"Johannes Gottge of the late Johannes Gottgen, former miller at the Lockers Muhl, married 12 Oct 1728, Anna Christina, daughter of Michael Hamm and Anna Catherine???  
Anna Christina (Hamm) was born about 1707; Johannes (Hannes) Gottgen born in 1708, both in Zweybrucken, Germany. Their children are:

Anna Christina	christened 9 Dec 1729
Maria Elizabetha	christened 16 Aug 1732
married John Jacob Eller, Sr.	
Maria Cretha	christened 2 Nov 1737
*Johannes	was born 17 Sep 1739
Anna Elizabetha	christened 20 Oct 1742
married John Melchoir Eller, Sr.	
Joh. Friedrick	was born 24 Mar 1746
at Ruschberg	christened 28 Mar 1746

\*Johannes was confirmed in the New Hanover Lutheran Church, Montgomery Co., Pa. in 1756, proving that his family were still in Pa. at that time.

The Goettge (Ketchey) family, their kinsmen, the Brown family and some Eller families were in Rowan Co., N. C. in 1758, listed on the 1758-59 County Tax List.

John Ketchey bought 134 acres of land on 22 Jan., 1762 from his nephew, Jacob Brown and his wife, Elizabeth, for 5 shillings. It was located on Crane Creek, a part of a grant made to Jacob Brown in 1761 by Earl Granville for 479 acres on the south branch of the middle fork of Crane Creek. In 1764, Jacob and Elizabeth Brown let Melkor (John Melchoir, Sr.) Eller have 157 acres from a tract obtained from Earl Granville on 11 Apr 1764. Thus, Melkor Eller, son-in-law of John Ketchey, lived near him.

From early Rowan Co. church records, it is believed the early Ketchey's were members of Union Lutheran Church, located in the Crane Creek section. Later families were members of Organ Lutheran, Lutheran Chapel, St. Matthews, St. John's Lutheran and Christ Lutheran in East Spencer.

ESTATE RECORD: Rowan Co., N. C.

"John Gitchey(Ketchey) 3 Sep 1772, prb. May 1774. Cordwinder. Mentions wife, Christina, son Jacob, 16 years, 10 months; oldest son John, second son, Frederick. Daus.: Mary Eller (wife of John Jacob Eller, Sr.), Catherine Legal (Segal?), Elizabeth Eller, wife of John Melchoir Eller, Sr.. Exrs.: son John, friend Daniel Little. Wit: Daniel Little, Peter Little & John Dunn. NOTE: cordwinder is the German word for a skilled shoe maker.

Will of Christina Hamm Gitcheen (Ketchey)

Mentioned are: daughter Elizabeth (wife of immigrant John Melchior Eller), grandchildren: Christian, Christina and Elizabeth Eller (children of Jacob Eller), Elizabeth (dau of Jacob Gretchen), and Christina (Dau of John Gretchem). Two sons: John and Frederick. Executor: John Gretcham; Witness: Michael Brown, Jr. NOTE: this is the only known record for Christina Eller, daughter of John Jacob Eller.

From book: John Jacob Eller & His Descendants

# Family Register

## PARENTS' NAMES.

Husband, Marion R. Eller  
 Born, was borned Nov. 19th, 1840  
 Wife, Mary Eller  
 Born, was borned July 7, 1853  
 Married, above married Nov. 8th, 1868

## FAMILY REGISTER

### Parents' Names

Husband, M. R. Eller  
 Born, was borned Nov. 19th, 1840  
 Wife, Mary Eller  
 Born, was borned July 7, 1853  
 Married, above married Nov. 8th, 1868

Pages from family bible of  
 Marion R. and Mary Garrett Eller

## MARRIAGES.



G. L. Eller & Ilah Burch

Was married April 24/1910.

## MARRIAGES

G. L. Eller & Ilah Burch was  
married April 24th, 1910

Birth G. H. Eller was born

July 22/1912.

Edward Glen Eller was

born May 11/1915.

## BIRTHS

J. H. Eller was born  
July 22, 1912

Edward Glen Eller was  
born May 11th, 1915

# CHILDREN'S NAMES.

1

J. W. Eller was borned Nov. 5th, 1869

E. M. Eller was borned April 9th, 1871

J. F. Eller was borned March 28th, 1873

M. B. Eller was borned Jan. 20th, 1875

U. F. Eller was borned Jan. 19th, 1877

A. D. Eller was borned Mar. 3rd, 1879

C. S. Eller was borned Nov. 15th, 1881

L. C. Eller was borned June 4th, 1886

L. H. Eller was borned April 12th, 1888

G. L. Eller was borned Dec. 11th, 1892

7th/1892

## CHILDREN'S NAMES

J. W. Eller was borned Nov. 5th, 1869  
 E. M. Eller was borned April 9th, 1871  
 J. F. Eller was borned March 28th, 1873  
 M. B. Eller was borned Jan. 20th, 1875  
 U. F. Eller was borned Jan. 19th, 1877  
 A. D. Eller was borned Mar. 3rd, 1879  
 C. S. Eller was borned Nov. 15th, 1881  
 L. C. Eller was borned June 4th, 1886  
 L. H. Eller was borned April 12th, 1888  
 G. L. Eller was borned Dec. 11th, 1892



# DEATHS.

## DEATHS

J.M. Eller departed from this life  
Dec. 11th, 1888

Edward Glen Eller departed this life  
June 4th, 1915

Mary Eller departed from this life  
Dec. 12, 1922

Marion Eller departed April 2, 1924

J.M. Eller departed from  
this life Dec. 11th, 1888

Edward Glen Eller

Departed this life June 4th 1915

June 4th 1915

Mary Eller departed from

this life Dec 12, 1922

Marion Eller departed

April 2th 1924

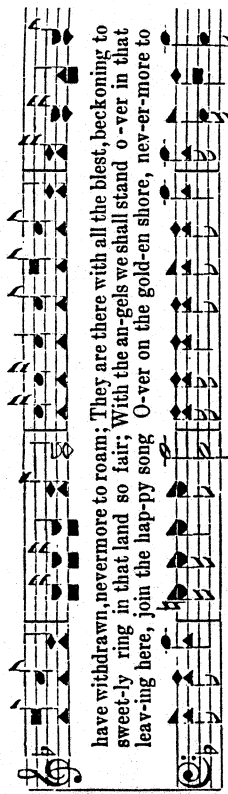
# No. 131

## I Am Going There

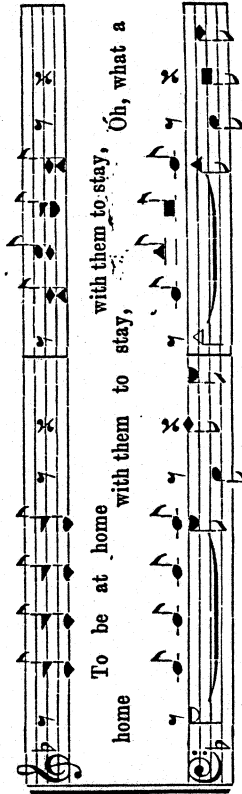
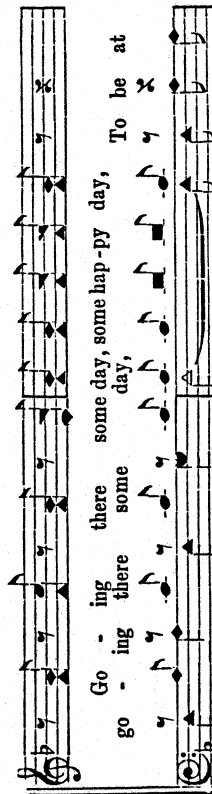
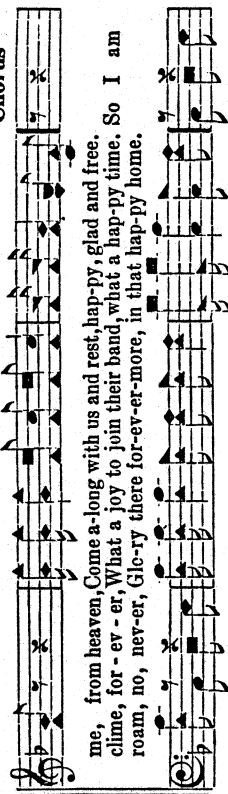
Copyright, 1939, by The A. J. Showalter Co., Owner  
G. L. E. The A. J. Showalter Co., Owner

GEO. L. ELLER

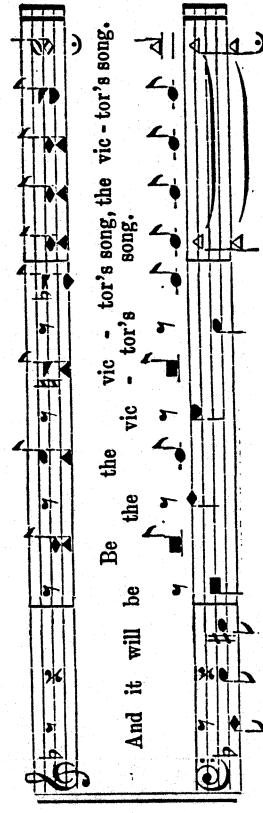
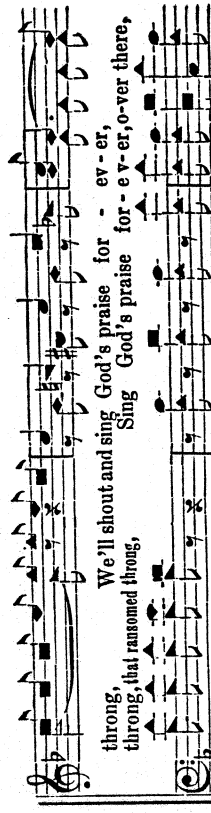
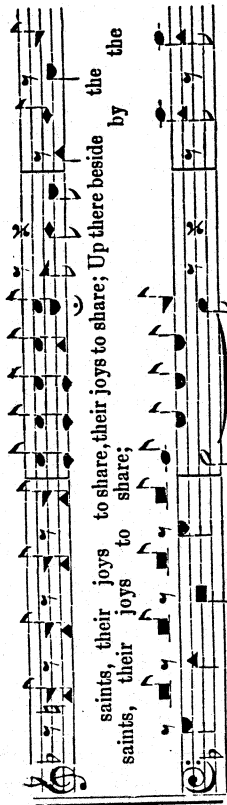
1. Man-y loved ones have gone on to the happy home up yonder, From the world they
2. What a joyous song we'll sing when we all get there, to heaven, Glo-ry bells will
3. La-bor on oh, broth-er dear, it will not be long, 'tis com-ing, We will soon be



### Chorus



## I Am Going There



Handwriting of Elisha Monroe Eller  
Pop Corn, Ga.

- a. Elisha Monroe E.
- b. Louisa Catherine D.
- a. April 7 1871 birth date of E.M. Eller
- b. " 2 1870 birth date of L.C.Denton
- a. Raborn Co Ga birth place of E.M.Eller
- b. Towns Co Ga birth place of L.C.Denton
- D M F R PS me and your mama was married  
Sept the 16 day of 1906

Pop Corn Ga  
Elisha Monroe E  
Louisa Catherine D  
April 7 1871  
2 1870  
Raborn Co Ga  
Towns Co Ga  
D M F R PS me and your  
mama was married Sept  
the 16 day of 1906

## ELLER'S

Casper Eller, born 1708 in Palatinate, Germany, died there between 1753 and 1756. One of his sons:

John Jacob Eller, Sr., born 1728 in Palatinate, Germany, died in 1782 in Rowan Co., N.C. He married Maria Elizabeth "Eva" Goettge (Ketchy), born 17 Aug 1732 in Palatinate, Germany, died about 1770 in Rowan Co., N. C. Maria was a daughter of Hannes Gottge and Anna Christina Hamm. She was christened at the Baumholder Lutheran Church, Ruschberg, Germany. Jacob, Sr. and Maria were married 11 Dec 1753 at St. Pauls Lutheran Church, Red Hill, Montgomery Co., Pa. One of their sons:

John Jacob Eller, Jr., born about 1754 in Montgomery Co., Pa., place and date of his death unknown. He married Mary Marlena Biffle 7 May 1776 in Rowan Co., N. C. She was born in 1757 in Rowan Co., N. C., died 12 Jun 1837 in Buncombe Co., N. C., daughter of Adam Biffle, born 18 Apr 1728 in Rowan Co., N. C., and Catharine Henckle, born 18 Jan 1735 in Upper Milford Township, Bucks Co., Pa., died before 1814 in Buncombe Co., N.C. One of their daughters:

Susannah (Sukey) Eller, twin, was born about 1787 in Sullivan Co., N. C. (now Tn), died in Feb 1864 in Dillard, Rabun Co., Ga. She was buried in Head of Tennessee Baptist Church Cemetery, Dillard, Ga. Not known if she married. NOTE: (EKE) Research shows she was the first ELLER in Georgia. She and one of her daughters served as midwives for many years in Rabun Co., Ga. One of her daughters:

Avaline (Eveline) Eller was born about 1817 in Buncombe Co., N. C. Not known if she married; date and place of death unknown. One of her sons:

Marion R. Eller, born 19 Nov 1840 in Union or Rabun Co., Ga., died 2 Apr 1924 in Clay Co., N. C. He married Mary Ellen Garrett, born 7 Jul 1853 in Towns Co., Ga., died 12 Dec. 1922 in Clay Co., N. C. She was a daughter of William K. Garrett, Jr. and Nancy Chastain. Marion and Mary Ellen were married on 8 Nov 1868 in Towns Co., Ga. They are both buried in Bell Scene Baptist Church Cemetery, Towns Co., Ga.

## GARRETT'S

William K. Garrett, born 1793 in S. C., died 1837 in Burke Co., N. C. He married 3 Jul 1812 in Burke Co., N.C. Jane Stroud, a daughter of Peter and Margaret Curtis Stroud. Their son:

William K. Garrett, Jr., born 1824-1826 in Haywood Co., N. C., died about 1900 in Rabun Co., Ga. He married on 28 Jan 1847 in Union Co., Ga. Nancy Chastain, born 1826-1828 in Haywood Co., N. C., died in Rabun Co., Ga. She was a daughter of Benjamin Chastain, born about 1793 in Buncombe Co., N. C. and Nancy Hooper, born 1797 in Haywood Co., N. C. and died in Warrior Creek, S. C. One of their daughters:

Mary Ellen Garrett married Marion R. Eller.

## DESCENDANTS OF RICHARD DENTON

Richard Denton, born 1517 in Halifax, Yorkshire, England, died in England. He married Genett Banyster on 10 Sep 1547 in Halifax, Yorkshire, England, where she was born in 1527, died ???. One of their sons:

Sir Richard Denton, christened 17 Sep 1557 in Worley, Yorkshire, England, died 9 Dec 1619 in Hertfordshire, England. He married Susan Sibella in 1581 in Worley. She was born in 1563. One of their sons:

Rev. Richard Denton, born 5 Apr 1603 in Yorkshire, England, died in 1662 in Hempstead, Long Island, New York. He married Susan Bottomley between 1619-1620 in Halifax, Yorkshire, England. Richard was educated at the University of Cambridge, receiving his B A on 8 Jun 1623. The University listing for him states: "Sizar (undergraduate student) of St. Catherine's Easter, 1621-23, 1624; priest 8 Jun 1623; Deacon at Peterborough 9 Mar 1622-3; Curate of Coley Chapel, Halifax, for some years. In 1629 the Puritans obtained a grant from King Charles 1 for settlement in New England and in 1630 one thousand of them, including Rev. Richard Denton and his family, as well as John Winthrop, Gov. of the Colonists, reached America aboard the ship Arabella at Salem, Mass. on 11 Jun 1630. One of their sons:

Samuel Denton, born 29 May 1631 in Halifax, Yorkshire, England, died 20 Mar 1712-13 in Hempstead, Long Island, New York. He married in 1654 in Hempstead, Mary Rock Smith, daughter of John Rock Smith and Martha Strickland. Mary was born 20 Jul 1636 in Dorchester, Ma., died 15 Mar 1712/13 in Hempstead, N.Y. Their son:

Abraham Denton, Sr., born 1675, Hempstead, Long Island, N. Y., died 1729 in Orange Co., N. Y., married in 1699 in Orange Co., N. Y. Martha Thorne, born 1679 in Woodstock, Va., died 1730 in Orange Co., N. Y. She was the daughter of William Thorne and Winnifred Livingston. Their son:

Abraham Denton, II, born 1700 in Hempstead, N. Y., died 1774 in Shenandoah Co., Va., married 1725 in Orange Co., N. Y. Mary O'Dell, born 1702 in Woodstock, Va., died 1779 in Shenandoah Co., Va. She was the daughter of Samuel O'Dell, born 1670, died 1706, and Patience???. Their son:

Samuel Denton, Sr., born 1730 in Orange Co., N.Y., died 1811 in Pendleton District, S. C., married Elizabeth Seaman, daughter of Jacomiah Seaman, born 17 Jun 1718 in Orange (now Rockland) Co., N. Y., and Rachel Secor, born 15 Sep 1726. Their son:

Samuel Denton, Jr., born 1775 in Washington Co., Tn., died there in 1814, married in 1792 in Pendleton District, S. C. to Elizabeth Chastain, born 1775 in Pendleton District, died 1850 in Union Co., Ga. She was daughter of James Chastain and Mary O'Bryan. Their son:

George M. Denton, born 30 May 1813, died 1881 in Towns Co., Ga., married in 1836 in Towns Co., Ga. Catherine Wood, born 22 Nov 1819. She was the daughter of William Wood, born 1793 in N. C. and Nancy Osborn, born 1797 in N. C. Their son:

Elisha H. Denton, born 30 Sep 1841 in Osborn, Towns Co., Ga., died there 28 Apr 1922. He married 18 Jan 1865 in Osborn, Ga., Cinthia Adaline Berrong, born 20 Feb 1847 in Towns Co., Ga., died there 27 Nov 1913. She was the daughter of Andrew Jackson Berrong, born 3 Nov 1827 in Newberry, S. C., died in 1858 in Ga., and L. Osborn, born 1824 in Newberry, S. C., died in 1848, probably in Ga. Their daughter:

Louisa Catherine Denton - was our grandmother.





## A HISTORY OF 18th CENTURY ROWAN CO.

All records indicate that before 1716, the land now encompassing Rowan Co. was inhabited by local Indian tribes and ripe for the taking by new settlers heading south from the Northern states. The climate and the quality of the soil were key benefits to settling in the Piedmont area. The coast of N. C. was settled earlier by Anglicans, Quakers and Puritans, but these settlers rarely ventured far from their homesteads by the sea. A fear of Indians, the difficulty of crossing the barrier islands and the unknown made exploration westward an unsettling proposition.

While those in eastern N. C. had no desire to head west, settlers in Pa. were prepared to venture south. The area around Philadelphia was heavily settled and made relocating a necessity for many. Those who traveled west realized that the land quickly changed to rolling, fertile countryside, the same qualities used to describe the land of Piedmont N. C. and Va. A migration began as more settlers made the trip south in hopes of owning land at a cheap price.

In 1728, John Carteret, Earl of Granville, was the only Proprietor of the Carolinas who retained his land, the other seven having sold their lands to the crown. The Granville district included what is today Salisbury and Rowan Co. That section of the land was fertile and well-watered. Granville offered land grants to settlers and low prices, making migration to the Piedmont even more attractive.

The tie between Rowan Co. and Lancaster Co., Pa., runs deep. The route from Pa. has been referred to by many names, whatever name you choose, the route south came through the Shenandoah Valley into N. C. became an important migration route in history.

Scotch-Irish and German settlers who were unable to find land in Pa., loaded their families on wagon trains for the journey. The wagon trains could not travel more than five miles a day, making the average trip to the Carolinas two months. The first land grants for Rowan Co. were made in 1749. Rowan Co. was officially established on April 12, 1753, when the Colonial Assembly authorized the establishment of a county to be named after Gov. Matthew Rowan. The first session meeting was held on June 15, 1753, when officials determined a courthouse and jail were needed immediately. The justices passed resolutions to build them on the site that is now Salisbury. Advantages of the chosen location were clear: being away from the river and possible floodwaters, and located on the wagon road with routes heading in several directions.

On Feb. 11, 1755, the town of Salisbury was created when Lord Granville made a grant of 637 acres for the township. By then Gov. Dobbs reported 22 German families and 75 Scotch-Irish families there. Early Rowan was settled in an amazingly short period of time, with Salisbury the main trading post and point of departure for later emigrants heading west.

The communities of Rowan Co. were clearly delineated. The German and Scotch-Irish quickly developed communities among their own, but rarely intermingled. The Scotch-Irish were generally Presbyterians, while the Germans held to their Lutheran faith. The Germans established farming communities, the Scotch-Irish became officials and merchants, due in large part to their speaking English.

Early settlers felt fortunate to have few Indians occupying nearby land. The only large nearby tribes were the Cherokee of the Blue Ridge Mountains and the Catawba tribe to the south. The Catawbas were peaceful; the Cherokee more hostile, but more isolated. The Senecas and Shawnees used the area for hunting and posed a greater threat to settlers. Run-ins occurred but the Piedmont never experienced fierce conflicts as other areas did.

By the late 1750's Indians were being used as pawns by European nations in their pursuit of power, lands and trade. These skirmishes were known as the French and Indian Wars. In the southern colonies the war lasted from 1754 to 1763. Area residents were shocked to learn of an Indian attack on settlers in the Broad River area. People were leaving the area and Arthur Dobbs, the new Gov. determined there was a real threat and persuaded the General Assembly to appropriate funds to build a fort. Fort Dobbs was built on land two miles west of present Statesville. By one estimate, half of Rowan Co. residents had fled by 1760, among them Daniel Boone, his father and their families. After bloody losses on both sides of the war by 1761, the Cherokees were ready for a settlement. A peace treaty was signed in December and settlers were forbidden from settling beyond certain points.

A final war with the Cherokees took place in 1776 and 1777, the same time American patriots were waging war with the British. The Cherokee feared they would once again be pawns in a "white man's war," having grown dependent on their weapons and trade. Some believed the Cherokee deliberately started an uprising in the mountains to help the British as they came from the coast. Ultimately 2,000 men from Va., N. C. and S. C. were dispatched to settle the Cherokee situation once and for all, ending the Cherokee War of 1776. The Cherokee were decimated and unable to re-establish their way of life.

The Revolutionary War was in full swing by this time after the colonies had declared their independence on July 4, 1776. This war, Tory against Whig, was pitting neighbor against neighbor.

N.C. had a large number of loyalists supporting the British crown. However, in Rowan Co., the Whig sentiment among the Scotch-Irish was so strong it kept the Tory activity in check. While no battles erupted between the opposing sides in this area, war was being waged throughout the South as Gen. Cornwallis continued his advance into N. C. after already seizing Ga. and S. C.

In 1781, when American patriot spirits were at an all-time low, Gen. Nathaniel Greene stopped in Salisbury at the inn of Elizabeth Maxwell Steele. Legend has it that Steele lifted Greene's spirits when she pressed two bags of tea into his hand and said, "Take these, you will want them and I can do without them." From this point, Greene's troops traveled northeast to Va., staying one step ahead of Cornwallis' advance. Cornwallis' troops occupied Salisbury for two days in Feb., 1781 before the end of the war in Oct., 1781.

Andrew Jackson came to Salisbury in 1784, studying law under Judge Spruce Macay. With the troubled time of the Revolutionary War over, Jackson enjoyed his time in Salisbury. Although he was licensed to practice law by the Rowan Court in 1787, many historians question his skill as a lawyer. Jackson was known for his extra-curricular activities about town. He took part in foot races, gambling on the outcome and his drinking, gambling, pranks and card playing were well known. He and two friends, John McNairy and William Crawford, were known as the "Three Musketeers" and lived at the old Rowan House on S. Main St. One old woman, when she heard of Jackson's Presidential victory, said, "Well, if Andrew Jackson can be President anybody can!"

On his famous Southern Tour, President George Washington stopped in Salisbury on May 30-31, 1791. His trip was to see how the southern states were fairing eight years after the American Revolution. It had been only two years since N. C. had joined the union by accepting the Constitution. As he entered Rowan Co. he was met by a large group of prominent citizens and a group of boys wearing buck-tail caps. He was pleased to see that since the buck-tail was a symbol of independence. He stopped at the site of what is now the Fieldcrest Cannon Swink Plant and asked a girl for a cup of coffee. She explained she was alone since her parents had gone to town to see the President. He promised that if she would prepare him some coffee he would make sure she saw Washington. After she served the coffee, he replied "Gen. Washington is now before you."

Entering town on horseback, he was greeted by cheering crowds and a cannon firing 15 salutes. He breakfasted at the Yarborough House on North Main St. and met with local officials. His diary describes an afternoon tea with 20 ladies in attendance. This was followed by a banquet at the Hughes Hotel and possibly a ball. He left Salisbury at 4:30 a.m. the next morning and was escorted out of town as he was on his way in. While all details are not exact and there is much confusion over events as they happened, the visit of President Washington was a proud time for Rowan Co., and one still remembered today.

The 18th century ended on a high note with the discovery of the first gold in the United States at the Reid Gold Mine in 1799. The 18th century was a growing, exciting time for the settlers of Rowan Co. Through many hardships, they persevered and built the foundations for the next century and its discoveries.

Rowan Co. sacrificed more than any other when she gave over 2,000 soldiers, 1/7 of her population to the Confederate cause. Troops were mustered into service without uniforms, guns or trained leaders. What war material was in existence was quickly put to good use. Regiments, brigades and companies were formed by volunteers and sent to camps throughout the state for training and equipping. By the end of the war, Rowan had a total of 2010 men enlisted in 43 of the States regiments. On April 12, 1865, Gen. George Sherman and his Union Calvary entered Salisbury from Mocksville. He captured 18 guns, 1,364 prisoners, 10,000 pieces of arms, 16,000 pounds of bacon, 7,000 bales of cotton, 100,000 gray uniforms, 250,000 blankets and \$15,000,000.00 in Confederate currency. All Confederate property was burned. He withdrew on April 12, 1865.

In May, 1865, Federal troops arrived in Salisbury and established the Western District of N. C. headquarters under Brigadier Gen. Heath. They stayed until 1868.

The 1860 census showed that Rowan Co. was among the first in farm values and manufactured products. In 1870 Rowan showed some signs of recovery. Of the 90 counties in N. C., Rowan ranked 9th in the number of industrial establishments and 20th in the value of industrial products manufactured. They ranked 15th in the value of its farms and 14th in value of live stock, 14th in the production of tobacco. The population was 16,180, of which 5,000 were black.

From: Spring 2002 Rowan Co. Explorer

## CLAY COUNTY, N. C.

This was wild country in the second and third decade of the nineteenth century, abounding with dangers arising from sheer loneliness, wild animals, rough terrain, to say nothing of the fact that unfriendly Indians roamed across the length and breadth of the land.

The first emigrants moved into this section, at that time a part of Macon County, in the early part of the 1830s, with only the protection they could afford for themselves. The first white settler is believed to have been John Covington Moore.

In 1837 General Winfield Scott was commissioned to "round up" all the Indians throughout this mountain region, detain them in improvised stockades, and take them to the Oklahoma Territory, which had been set apart by the United States Government as an Indian Reservation. One of our ancestors, Henry P. Berrong, helped in moving Indians from the Canton, Georgia area to Cherokee County, N.C. where a stockade had been constructed about a mile south west of the present town of Hayesville.

Counties do not beget counties; the State Legislature just takes a "rib" from one county and creates another. This process has been going on in North Carolina, in rather a haphazard fashion, ever since 1791. For this reason, events recorded as having occurred in a particular county may seem to us to be incorrect, since that county may have been split several times thru the years.

A constant stream of people, hardy people, brave people, people looking not so much for a fortune, but for a place where they could carve out for themselves a livelihood and a home, free from the dictates of circumstances that had followed them from distant shores, flocked to this region.

A formal government for the county of Clay was not organized and a full slate of officials elected until 1868. That same year on May 7, 1868, a Post Office was opened at Hayesville. Prior to this time there had been Post Offices serving county residents at Fort Hembree (1844), Tusquittee (1848) and Shooting Creek (1849).

In order to have not only the conveniences of life, but the bare necessities on which to even exist, a people has to either grow their products, manufacture them or transport them. Until well after "the turn of the century", as the old-timers used to say of the year 1900, everybody grew most of their food stuffs on their own farm. They made their furniture from lumber cut in their own forest and their clothes from cloth woven on their home looms from wool garnered from sheep they had raised.

Every household had a milk cow, fattened hogs for their meat supply, and maintained a flock of hens for eggs and meat. Until about 1920, most of the county had "open range" for their cattle, meaning farmers built fences around the fields on which they expected to raise cultivated crops, then turned their cattle, hogs and sheep loose on whatever other land was available, whether the land belonged to them or someone else. Many large farmers and cattlemen would drive great herds of cattle, hogs and sheep to the mountains during the summer months where they would grow and stay fat on wild vegetation. The mountains were covered with chestnut trees and the hogs would fatten on chestnuts and acorns from the mighty oak trees. Each farmer would have a certain mark they used in order to identify his stock, consisting of certain kinds and numbers of nicks in the right or left ear.

In a frantic effort to increase their acreage for cultivation and because there was no ready market for their timber, it was a common practice to cut down entire forests, pile up the logs and burn them.

During the last quarter of the nineteenth century, the citizenry of the mountain region came to realize that there were many items of necessity that they could neither grow on their farms nor make from their crude products. Among these: farm tools and machinery, tools with which to build homes, clothing and shoes of a finer quality than they were able to make at home, salt, sugar, sewing thread and a few occasional nick-nacks.

Some of the tallest tales to be heard from the "golden age club" of the early 1900s were reminiscence of those long hard wagon journeys "across the mountain" to Clarksville, Toccoa and even as far as Gainesville, Ga. Their load "going down" as the pioneer would say, consisted of: dried apples, dried beans (better known as leather britches), clay peas, dried pumpkin, country cured hams and side meat, and rations enough to last them and their "stock" for three weeks.

On their return trip they would bring back such items as green coffee beans, sugar, salt, enough calico cloth to make each of the family's women folk a new Sunday dress. Except for one nice Sunday dress, the women of the house made their dresses as well as the men's clothes from rough cloth made on their home loom. More often than not among the items purchased on these long, hard treks across the mountains, would be a few small tools, a cross-cut saw or hand saw, a new ax or drawing knife, and, toward the end of the nineteenth century, even a sewing machine or cook stove.

No one was so wise or foolish as to start this journey alone; not so much for the possible dangers anticipated, but due to the rough terrain, steep and muddy roads, there was always a need to help each other over the rough spots. Each wagon was equipped so that four horses could be hooked to it, otherwise the entire load might have to be unloaded before the wagon could be pulled to the top of a hill or through a deep mud hole. By more than one traveling together, they could haul almost twice as much with two horses since they could have the assist of the second team for the rough spots.

Most of the horses owned by Clay County farms prior to 1900 were of the light weight variety; either saddle horses or coach breeds. However, in the early 1900s, several people purchased stallions that were either pure bred or part Percheron and Belgian. In the late 1920s and early 1930s when the horse was replaced by tractors and trucks, the quality of horses had improved considerably. Oxen were employed extensively in the early days of the county, especially for pulling dead weight like logs on the ground or heavy equipment, such as grain thrashing machines and steam engines.

Practically every reputable farmer was his own blacksmith. He could take a pile of scrap iron and make his own plow point or fire shovel. He could repair his wagon out on the road, and when in his shop, could make his own wagon, including the wheels. He could shoe his own horses and sharpen his tools.

#### TOWN OF HAYESVILLE

The Town of Hayesville was incorporated March 12, 1913. Officers named in the bill to incorporate were: S. E. Hogsed, Mayor; P. N. Tiger, John O. Scroggs and Early Anderson, Commissioners. The bill also called for an election to be held on the first Monday of May each year for a vote by the people for their officers.

The first electric power generated in Clay County was by the Public Service Co. The power generating plant was water-powered from a small dam across Shooting Creek, near the Elf community. The property on which the dam was constructed was purchased from E. Witt Penland on July 5, 1919; the equipment was installed and put into operation in January of 1920.

During the first half century of Clay County there was very little effort or even thought given to the improvement of roads. The only vehicles of conveyance were horse drawn wagons, buggies and surreys, for which was provided roadways just wide enough for one-way traffic. When two vehicles met, it was the custom for the one going down hill to pull off the beaten path for the other one to pass. These wagon roads mostly went up and down hills with no regard to "percentage of grade". When it rained gullies were washed out on the steep slopes and mud-holes created at the foot of the hill.

In the early years of the 1900s some of these trouble spots were temporarily corrected by "free labor". Every male citizen between the ages of 18 and 45 were required to work five days each year without pay, in helping to maintain the public roads.

Streams were crossed at shallow places called fords. The Hiawassee River had several fords within Clay County, the most frequented one called the Sanderson Ford, at a point, now, between Hayesville and Tusquittee. A wooden bridge was erected there, but was unsatisfactory and in 1894 a steel bridge was constructed.

Most of the early churches in Clay County were organized by a few families and met at a home until there were enough members to erect a church building, usually built on land donated by one of them. Denominations were: Methodist, Baptist and Presbyterian.

Possibly the greatest export that this little mountain retreat has had, down through the years, has been people, young people with brains superior to their counterpart in the big cities and other rural areas alike. This was by no accident. The rugged individuals who settled the hills and valleys that were later to become Clay County, knew that with their limited financial resources and the limitations placed upon them by the very ruggedness of the terrain that they had to excell in knowledge.

Since there were no native Clay Countians in those early days, people had to "come from somewhere". John Oliver Hicks was born June 3, 1825 in Burke Co., N. C.; attended the small, one room school in his home county, studying "aloud". During the few short sessions in school he tried to master the three "r's", using a goose quill for a pen and pokeberry juice for ink. Financial embarrassment prevented his attending school past the age of 12, but he was a boy of vital stamina and did not give up easily.

At age 12, he left home, in search of work in order that he might buy books which he could study on his own. He worked for a time in the gold mines of Rutherford County. He worked at a variety of jobs in Marion and Swan counties, until in 1850, at the age of 25, he arrived in the Tusquittee valley of, then, Cherokee County, where he organized a "pay school" in a log cabin. Here he taught Webster's "Old Blue Back Speller", Smith's Grammar, Davis and Fowler's arithmetic and penmanship (again using the goose quill and pokeberry ink).

He conducted schools in a number of places through the years, and in 1870 purchased land on which the Hicksville Academy was built, later to become Hayesville High School. John Hicks left the area in 1878, but the schools he started continued, sometimes as a church school, as a college, or high school. Few improvements were made to the physical school plant, but the general morale of the student body was to be a spirit of loyalty to the school, patriotism to country, brotherly love for each other, and something akin to paternal adoration for the school faculty, whoever they were.

For many years now, if there is a breakdown in the water supply and/or toilet facilities, there will be no school. Not true in those days; the water supply was always running as the old gum spring never went dry. It was several steps from the school house, but there were always willing legs to run to the spring for buckets of water. A common dipper was used by everyone. There was a privy, of sorts for the female students; a laurel thicket at one end of the campus served as a cover for the boys.

Most of this information came from the book: A History of Clay County, North Carolina, by Gry Padgett; some from my father, George Delmar Eller, born in 1908 in Clay County, N. C. Our ancestors undoubtedly were very hard workers at whatever they did, most of the Eller's I know today are all "workaholics - never know when to stop.

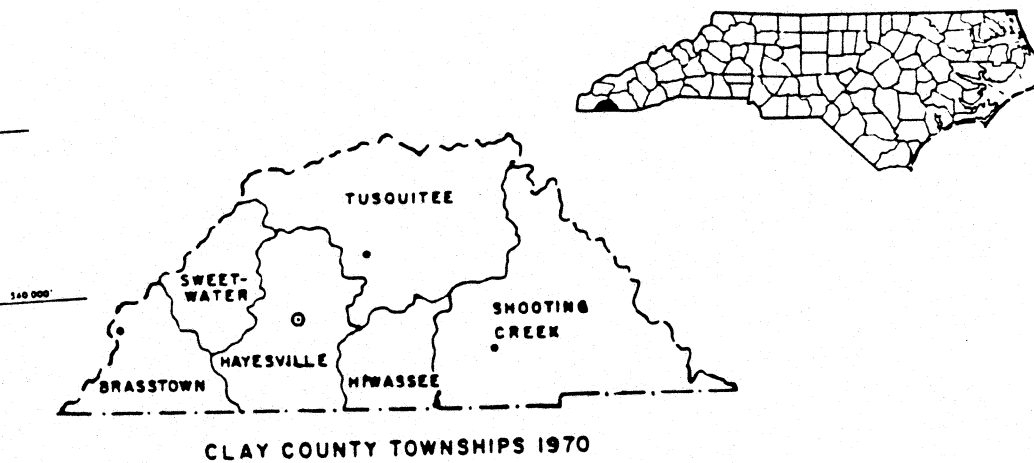


I have included this information about Clay County, N.C. because it is the area where our fathers, Weldon, Delmar, Milford and Virgil Eller, were born and raised. Also, was where our grandfather, Elisha Monroe Eller, and great grandfather, Marion R. Eller, lived most of their lives.

In searching through the old census records in the late 1800's and early 1900's, I have found that at times people living in the edge of North Carolina (Hayesville - Shooting Creek area) bordering Georgia (Hiawassee area) will sometimes be listed in the North Carolina census, sometimes in the Georgia census.

# Clay County, N.C.

Prepared By The  
North Carolina Department Of Transportation







Instructions for Reading  
The Modified Register Format

1. Examine page 1. The first entry, John Jacob Eller, is designated by the Arabic numeral 1. Thereafter, Arabic numbers are automatically assigned in sequence for each individual entered.

2. Children in each generation are designated by two sets of numerals - one Arabic and one Roman. Roman numerals show order of birth within a single family group.

3. No punctuation follows the Arabic numbers for children when they first appear, but they may be preceded by a plus (+) sign. Example: numerals 2 through 10 designate children of John Jacob Eller. Note that the column of numbers is indented and no punctuation (period or decimal) follow these numbers, but a plus (+) sign precedes all except numbers 4, 5, and 7. The absence of the plus (+) sign indicates that no additional data beyond that appearing with these numbers are to be found.

4. The presence of the (+) plus indicates that additional information for the individual appears in the next generation. Example: John Jacob Eller, Jr. - the (+2) before his name indicates more data for him appears in the Second Generation. Go to the Second Generation and find his name under the same number (2) but now that number is not indented as far as in the first generation, and the number 2 is followed by a punctuation mark (period or decimal). Use this same plan for following any individual listed when a number is preceded by a plus (+) sign.

5. A little practice will soon show you how to follow from generation to generation.

NOTE: The modified register format is used by most national genealogical journals.

## DESCENDANTS OF JOHN JACOB ELLER

### FIRST GENERATION

1. John Jacob Eller was born between 1700 and 1720 in the German Palatinate. He died in 1782 in Rowan Co., N. C.

He married Maria Eva Gottge (Gottgen, Gitchey, Ketchey) 11 Dec 1753 in Red Hill, Montgomery Co., Pa. She was born 17 Aug 1732 in Palatinate, Germany, died about 1770 in Rowan Co., N.C. She was christened in Ruschberg, Germany, arrived in Philadelphia, Pa. in 1751 with her parents Johannes and Anna Christina (Hamm) Gottge. Jacob and Maria had the following children:

- +2                    i    John Jacob Eller, Jr.
- +3                    ii   John Melchior Eller
- 4                    iii   John Eller-listed as Jacob's son in the 1800 Federal Census of Rowan Co., N.C. as between 36-45 years of age. He may have been the John Eller who entered service in the Revolutionary War with Joseph Eller, listed below, who was apparently his brother
- 5                    iv   Joseph Eller, a soldier in the Revolutionary War, listed by Hook (1957A) as probable son of John Jacob Eller, arriving at this notion when he found no evidence that any other Eller family in Rowan Co. had sons who fought in this war
- +6                    v    Christian Eller
- 7                    vi   Christina Eller, mentioned only in the will of her grandmother, Christina Getchen (Gottge) (Will Book G:48, Rowan Co., N.C.) as "among the children of Jacob Eller, deceased"
- +8                    vii   Frederick Eller
- +9                    viii   Maria Elizabeth Eller

John Jacob Eller married second Barbara Arey (dau. of Peter and Mary Cathren Arey) in Rowan Co., N.C. They had a daughter:

- +10                    i    Eve Eller

### SECOND GENERATION

2. John Jacob Eller, Jr. was born about 1754 or 1755 in Montgomery Co., Pa., or in Rowan Co., N.C. All names and the order of birth of the children born to him and Mary Biffle Eller are incomplete.

He married Mary Biffle (dau of Adam Biffle and Catherine Henkel) probably 7 May 1776 in Rowan Co., N.C. She was born about 1758 in Rowan Co., N.C., died 12 Jun 1837 in Buncombe Co., N.C., was buried in Old Weaverville Cemetery, Weaverville, Buncombe Co., N.C. John Jacob Eller, Jr. and Mary Biffle had the following children:

- +11            i   Elizabeth Eller
- 12            ii   Female Eller, born about 1782 in Sullivan Co.,  
N. C. (now Tn.)
- +13            iii   Martha ? Eller
- +14            iv   Rosanna Eller (twin)
- +15            v   Susannah (Sukey) Eller (twin)
- +16            vi   John Jacob Eller 111
- +17            vii   Joseph Eller
- +18            viii   Adam Eller

3. John Melchior Eller was born between 1755 and 1758 in Pa. or N.C., died in 1841 in Rowan Co., N.C.

He married Susannah Eller (dau of Christian Eller & ??) on 9 Oct 1782 in Rowan Co., N.C. They had a son:

- 19            i   John Melchior (Melker) Eller, Jr.

6. Christian Eller-listed as son of Jacob in will of Christina Getchen (Ketchey), his maternal grandmother.

He married Maria Elisabeth Dormeyher in Sep 1792 in Rowan Co., N.C., and died after 1800. They had 4 sons:

- 20            i   Christian Eller, Jr.
- 21            ii   Alexander Eller
- 22            iii   Samuel Eller
- 23            iv   Zachariah Eller

8. Frederick Eller was born about 1767 in Rowan Co., N.C. and died there about 1832. He was not mentioned in his father's will. His earliest record: "On Feb 9 1785, Frederick Eller, aged 18 and Elizabeth Eller, aged 12 years, both orphans of Jacob Eller, deceased, were bound to Abram Eary until they reached 21 and 18 respectively." [Bk G:48, Rowan Co., N.C.]

He married ?? in Rowan Co., N. C. and they had the following children:

- 24                    i   Barbara Eller
- 25                    ii   Joseph Eller
- 26                    iii   Henry Eller
- 27                    iv   George Eller
- 28                    v   Margaret Eller
- 29                    vi   Susan Eller

9. Maria Elizabeth Eller was born in 1773 in Rowan Co., N.C., died probably 1813-1820.

She married Johann Peter Treece 20 Jul 1791 in Peint Church, Rowan Co., N.C. They had the following children:

- 30                    i   Adam Treece
- 31                    ii   Paul Treece
- 32                    iii   George Treece
- 33                    iv   Elizabeth Treece
- 34                    v   Ida (Edy) Treece
- 35                    vi   Henry Treece
- 36                    vii   Jonathan (John) Treece

10. Eve Eller was born 1780-1781.

She married David Crotzer 2 Jun 1795 in Rowan Co., N.C. They had the following children:

- 37                    i   George Crotzer
- 38                    ii   Daniel Crotzer
- 39                    iii   John Crotzer
- 40                    iv   Margaret Crotzer
- 41                    v   David Crotzer, Jr.
- 42                    vi   Milly Crotzer

### THIRD GENERATION

11. Elizabeth Eller was born about 1780 in Sullivan Co., N.C., now Tn., died in Feb 1837 in Buncombe Co., N. C. She came from Sullivan Co. to Buncombe Co. before 1810 according to the 1810 census records.



She married William Edmonds in Sullivan Co., N.C. (Tn). They had the following children:

- |    |      |                          |
|----|------|--------------------------|
| 43 | i    | Mal Edmonds              |
| 44 | ii   | Susannah Edmonds         |
| 45 | iii  | Ann Edmonds              |
| 46 | iv   | William Edmonds          |
| 47 | v    | George W. Edmonds        |
| 48 | vi   | Mary "Polly" Edmonds     |
| 49 | vii  | Robert Edmonds           |
| 50 | viii | Sarah Edmonds            |
| 51 | ix   | Catherine "Caty" Edmonds |

13. Martha ? Eller married Lewis Fore in Buncombe Co., N.C. They had the following children:

- |    |     |                |
|----|-----|----------------|
| 52 | i   | Steven Fore    |
| 53 | ii  | Lewis P. Fore  |
| 54 | iii | Archie M. Fore |

14. Rosanna Eller (twin) was born in 1787 in Sullivan Co., N. C. (Tn) and died in Buncombe Co., N.C.

She married Calvin (Culvin) Fore. He was born about 1789 in Union Co., S. C., died about 1865 in Buncombe Co., N.C. They had the following children:

- |    |      |                     |
|----|------|---------------------|
| 55 | i    | Elizabeth Fore      |
| 56 | ii   | Jacob Fore          |
| 57 | iii  | Archibald Fore      |
| 58 | iv   | Calvin Fore, Jr.    |
| 59 | v    | Andrew Jackson Fore |
| 60 | vi   | Peter Fore          |
| 61 | vii  | Joseph Fore         |
| 62 | viii | Mary A. Fore        |
| 63 | ix   | John Riley Fore     |
| 64 | x    | Fidelies Fore       |
| 65 | xi   | George Noah Fore    |

15. Susannah "Sukey" Eller (twin) was born in 1787 in Sullivan Co., N. C. (Tn). She died in Feb 1864 in Dillard, Rabun Co., Ga. and was buried in Head of Tennessee Baptist Church Cemetery, Dillard, Rabun Co., Ga. NOTE: EKE My research shows she was the first Eller in Georgia. She and her daughter served as midwives for many years in Rabun Co., Ga.

She was married to ????. They had the following children:

- 66                    i    George Eller NOTE: EKE No record for him has been found, but word is passed from the older Eller relatives that there was a George who died young
- +67                   ii   Joseph Pinion "Joe" Eller
- +68                   iii   Malinda Eller
- +69                   iv   Jacob "Jake" Eller
- +70                   v    William "Bill" Eller
- +71                   vi   Avaline (Eveline) Eller

16. John Jacob Eller lll was born 25 Dec 1789 in Sullivan Co., N.C. (Tn), died 16 Oct 1847 in Boonville, Cooper Co., Missouri.

He married Susannah McCarty (McCarthy) 26 Sep 1810 in Buncombe Co., N. C. She was born 31 Dec 1791 in N. C. or S. C. and died 28 Aug 1865 in Cooper Co., Missouri, buried in Walnut Grove Cemetery. They had the following children:

- 72                    i    Mary Ann Eller
- 73                   ii   James McCarty Eller
- 74                   iii   Jacob Eller IV, born 1813 in Buncombe Co., N.C. (probably);not listed in his father's will in 1847; no further records found. Family legend says he left home and was never heard from again
- 75                   iv   Martitia Rebecca Eller
- 76                   v    Joseph, born 13 Oct 1819 in Cooper Co., Missouri, died there 13 Aug 1821 and was buried there in Walnut Grove Cemetery, Boonville
- 77                   vi   David S. Eller
- 78                   vii   George M. E. Eller
- 79                   viii   Robert Woodson Eller

- 80 ix Harriett E. Eller
- 81 x Christopher Columbus Eller, born 23 Feb 1832  
in Cooper Co., Missouri, died there 31 May 1851  
buried at Walnut Grove Cemetery, Boonville,  
Cooper Co., Missouri

17. Joseph Eller was born about 1792/93 in Sullivan Co., N.C. (Tn), died 25 Sep 1863 in Buncombe Co., N. C. and was buried in the Joseph Eller Cemetery, Eller Cove, Buncombe Co., N. C.

He married Sarah Stephens (daughter of Joseph Stephens) about 1810/11. She was born about 1793, died 1846/47, buried with Joseph. Her father was part or full Cherokee, killed while riding with a company of Cherokee soldiers at the battle of Horse Shoe Bend. They had the following children:

- 82 i Nancy Eller
- 83 ii John W. Eller
- 84 iii Mary Ann Eller
- 85 iv Jacob Eller
- 86 v Elizabeth M. Eller
- 87 vi Robert V. (Bob) Eller
- 88 vii James H. (Jim) Eller
- 89 viii Abraham "Ab" Eller
- 90 ix Joseph Michael Franklin (Frank) Eller

He married second Elizabeth Clorinda Hamilton about 1848 in Buncombe Co., N. C. She was born there about 1828, died there in 1887, was also buried in Joseph Eller Cemetery. Joseph and Elizabeth had the following children:

- 91 i William Taylor "Bill" Eller
- 92 ii Margaret C. Eller
- 93 iii Joseph Hardy Eller
- 94 iv Rebecca C. Eller
- 95 v Susanna "Susie" Christina Eller
- 96 vi James Eller

18. Adam Eller was born 25 Jan 1795 in Sullivan Co., N. C. (Tn), died 13 Oct 1870 in Buncombe Co., N. C. and was buried in Flat Creek Baptist Church Cemetery, Weaverville, Buncombe Co., N. C.

He married Elizabeth "Betsy" Fields 16 Aug 1816 in Buncombe Co., N. C. She was born 24 Feb 1796 in N.C., died 27 Mar 1867 in Buncombe Co., buried same as Adam. They had the following children:

- 97                    i    Mary Ann Elizabeth "Eliza" Eller
- 98                   ii   Joseph "Joe" Pickins Eller
- 99                   iii   Christina Victoria Eller
- 100                  iv   Susana Eller
- 101                  v    Lewis Marion Eller
- 102                  vi   Martha Matilda Eller
- 103                  vii   Adam Fields Eller
- 104                  viii   William "Bill" C. Eller
- 105                  ix   John Chrisley "Chris" Eller
- 106                  x    Elizabeth Jane Eller
- 107                  xi   Rebecca E. Eller

#### FOURTH GENERATION

67. Joseph Pinion "Joe" Eller was born in 1803 in Buncombe Co., N.C., died after 1880 in Towns Co., Ga.

He married Mariah Hedden 3 Jan 1825 in Rabun Co., Ga. She was born about 1808 in Spartanburg Co., S. C., died in 1864 in Towns Co., Ga., was buried in Upper Hightower Cemetery, Towns Co., Ga. They had the following children:

- 108                   i    Humphrey Posey Eller
- 109                   ii   Malinda Catherine Eller
- 110                   iii   Elizabeth Ann "Betsy" Eller
- 111                   iv   William V. Eller
- 112                   v    Vinetta Eller
- 113                   vi   Elisha "Lish" Hedden Eller (Rev.)
- 114                   vii   Jacob Eller (twin)
- 115                   viii   Jeffrey Eller (twin)
- 116                   ix   Caroline Eller (twin)
- 117                   x    Joseph Milton "Pid" Eller (twin)
- 118                   xi   George Henry Eller
- 119                   xii   Hannah M. Eller
- 120                   xiii   Arminda Jane Eller
- 121                   xiv   Albert "Bert" Martin Eller (twin)
- 122                   xv   Alfred Webb Eller (twin)

- 123           xvi   Mary Ann E. Eller
- 124           xvii   Sarah Ann E. Eller
- 125           xviii   Marinda (Mary) Eller

He married second Elender Catherine (Corn) Heffner on 28 Nov 1868 in Towns Co., Ga. She was born in 1830 in N. C. Their child is:

- 126           i   Buena Vista Eller

68. Malinda Eller was born 15 Jan 1805 in Buncombe Co., N.C., died 14 Aug 1868 in Rabun Co., Ga. She was buried in Head of Tennessee Baptist Church Cemetery, Dillard, Rabun Co., Ga.

She married William Gillespie on 20 Mar 1825 in Rabun Co., Ga. He was born 8 Oct 1797 in Burke Co., N. C., died 20 Oct 1875 in Rabun Co., Ga., buried same as Malinda. NOTE See Page 49&50 for further information on them. They had the following children:

- 127           i   Milton E. Gillespie, born 1827-Rabun Co., Ga.
- 128           ii   Henry D. Gillespie, born 1828-Rabun Co., Ga.
- 129           iii   Judith Ann Elizabeth Gillespie, born 1830-Rabun Co., Ga.
- 130           iv   Mary E. Gillespie, born 1831-Rabun Co., Ga.
- 131           v   Catherine N. Gillespie, born 1832-Rabun Co., Ga.
- 132           vi   James Lawrence Gillespie, born 1833-Rabun Co., Ga.,  
killed in Civil War in 1862 at Petersburg,  
Petersburg Co., Va. and was buried there
- 133           vii   Harriett Amanda Gillespie, born 1834 ?(twin)?
- 134           viii   Caroline Malinda Gillespie, born 1834 ?(twin)?
- 135           ix   Emily P. Gillespie, born 1836
- 136           x   William H. Gillespie, born 1839-Rabun Co., Ga.,  
killed in the early part of the Civil War, about  
1862, in Richmond, Richmond Co., Va. and was  
buried there
- 137           xi   Marshall Lafayette Gillespie, born 1841

69. Jacob "Jake" Eller was born in 1811 near Weaverville, Buncombe Co., N. C., died 22 Jul 1864 in Battle of Atlanta, Fulton Co., Ga., during the Civil War. He entered the war at the age of 53; his family were not notified of his death and when he failed to return at war's end, they assumed he had been killed. Date of his death was found later in the Civil War records.

He married Nancy M. Allen on 11 Oct 1835 in Rabun Co., Ga. She was born in 1816. NOTE: EKE I have copies showing that Nancy signed up for \$100.00 per year widow's pension in 1889, 1890 and 1891. Jacob and Nancy had the following children:

- 138            i    William R. Eller
- 139           ii   Mary Ann Elizabeth "Polly" Eller
- 140          iii   Robert H. Eller
- 141           iv   Hardy Washington (Harden) Eller
- 142           v    John Posey Eller
- 143          vi    Nancy Eller, born about 1847
- 144          vii   Clarissa (Cynthia) Eller, born about 1848

70. William "Bill" Eller was born in 1816 in Rowan Co., N.C., died in 1900 in Towns Co., Ga.

He married Martha A. Denton who was born in 1816 in N. C. Their children are:

- 145           i    George Caler Eller
- 146           ii   Elizabeth Eller
- 147          iii   William W. "Bill" Eller
- 148           iv   Samuel Jefferson Eller
- 149           v    Martha Talitha Cumi Eller
- 150          vi    Mary Eller
- 151          vii   Sara Ann Eller, born about 1850, Union Co., Ga.
- 152          viii   John Corn Eller
- 153          ix    Davis Bogard Eller

71. Avaline (Eveline) Eller was born about 1817 in Buncombe Co., N.C.

She married ???. They had the following children:

- +154           i    Marion R. Eller
- 155           ii   Emily Malisa Eller, born 1842 in Union Co., Ga.
- 156          iii   James Eller born about 1848 in Union Co., Ga.  
                 married ???; they had 2 children
- 157           iv   Franklin Eller, born 1852 in Rabun Co., Ga.

## FIFTH GENERATION

154. Marion R. Eller, born 19 Nov 1840 in either Union or Rabun Co., Ga., died 2 Apr 1924, buried in Bell Scene Baptist Church Cemetery, Towns Co., Ga. He fought in the Civil War, enlisting at Grahamville, S. C. on 22 Jan., 1862, age 22. He resided in Georgia at this time. He was a private in Company "G", Highland Guards, present or accounted for until he was wounded in the chest at Drewry's Bluff, Va., 16 May 1864. He was furloughed for sixty days on 31 May 1864. No further records. (From N.C. Troops, 1861-1865, N.C. Division of Archives and History. 1979 Vol. 7, page 420).

He married Mary Ellen Garrett (dau of William K. Garrett and Nancy Chastain) on 8 Nov 1868 in Towns Co., Ga., ceremony performed by William E. Philjaw, Mg. She was born 7 Jul 1853, died 12 Dec 1922 and was buried in Bell Scene Baptist Church Cemetery, Towns Co., Ga. They had the following children:

- +158            i    James William Eller
- +159           ii   Elisha Monroe Eller
- 160           iii   John F. M. Eller, born 28 Mar 1873, died  
                     11 Dec 1888
- 161           iv    Monterville B. Eller, born 20 Jan 1875
- 162           v     U. Fernando Eller, born 19 Jan 1877 in Ga.,  
                     died in 1954 in Gaston Co., N.C., buried in  
                     Loudon, Tn. He was single
- +163           vi    Alfred D. Eller
- +164           vii   Calvin S. Eller
- 165           viii   Luther C. Eller, born 4 Jun 1886 in N.C.  
                     died 15 Jul 1958 in Clay Co., N.C.
- 166           ix    Lucius H. Eller, born 12 Apr 1888
- +167           x     George Lester Eller

## SIXTH GENERATION

158. James William Eller, born 5 Nov 1869 in Ga., died 19 May 1960 in Loudon Co., Tn. and was buried there.

He married Mary Ellen Rogers (dau of Henry Rogers and Martha Elizabeth "Patsy" Cox) on 23 Sep 1894 in Walhalla, S. C. She was born 12 Nov 1872 in Oconee Co., S.C., died 14 Dec 1945 in Loudon Co., Tn. and was buried there. James, Mary Ellen and their family came to Loudon Co., Tn. from Oconee Co., S.C. They traveled by wagon and arrived 11 Dec 1912. They had the following children:

- 168            i    Melvin Otto Eller, born 20 Sep 1895, Oconee Co. S.C., died 20 May 1961, Loudon Co., Tn.
- 169            ii   Julia May Eller, born 28 Nov 1897, Oconee Co., S.C., died 17 Dec 1962, Loudon Co., Tn.
- 170            iii   Janie Marie Eller, died at birth in S.C.
- 171            iv   James Marion Eller, born 8 Apr 1900, Oconee Co. S.C., died 2 Nov 1961, Loudon Co., Tn.
- 172            v    Albert Eller, born 6 Aug 1905, Oconee Co., S.C., died 6 Apr 1907, Oconee Co., S.C.
- 173            vi   Walter Pickens Eller, born 3 Oct 1908, Oconee Co. S.C., died 3 Jul 1953, Loudon Co., Tn.
- 174            vii   Buford Wyatt Eller, born 29 Oct 1910, Oconee Co S.C., died 26 Nov 1935, Loudon Co., Tn.
- 175            viii   Lillie Effie Lee Eller, born 2 Nov 1912, Oconee Co., S.C. She married Charles Varner and they live in Loudon, Loudon Co., Tn. Charles died Mar 2002

159. Elisha Monroe Eller, born 7 Apr 1871 in Rabun Co., Ga., died 30 Jul 1961 in Gaston Co., N.C., was buried in Bell Scene Baptist Church Cemetery, Towns Co., Ga. He was a farmer, also worked as a logger in the winter time. He was a Deputy Sheriff in Clay Co., N. C. (years unknown). He was very short, we called him "Little Grampa"; he wore overalls and a white shirt all the time. When he went outside he always put his hat on and used a cane. He was a very religious man.

He married Louisa Catherine Denton (dau of Elisha Denton and Cinthia Berrong) on 16 Sep 1906. She was born 2 Apr 1870 in Towns Co., Ga., died 2 Jun 1941 in Clay Co., N.C. and was buried in Bell Scene Baptist Church Cemetery, Towns Co., Ga. They had the following children:



- +176            i    Weldon Eller
- +177           ii   George Delmar Eller
- +178           iii   Milford Dedrick Eller
- +179           iv   William Virgil Eller

163. Alfred Degraffide Eller was born 3 Mar 1879 in Ga. He died 27 Sep 1971 in Hall Co., Ga., was buried in Philadelphia Baptist Church Cemetery, Hayesville, Clay Co., N.C.

He married Effie Jane Ledford 27 Aug 1903 in Towns Co., Ga. She was born 18 Oct 1888 in Upper Hightower, Towns Co., Ga., died 12 Aug 1957, was buried in Philadelphia Baptist Church Cemetery, Hayesville, Clay Co., N. C. They had the following children:

- +180            i    James Clifford Eller
- 181            ii   Narvell Base Eller, born 23 Feb 1906 in Clay Co., N.C., was killed by a train 18 Apr 1923 in Canton, Ohio, buried in Philadelphia Baptist Church Cemetery, Hayesville, Clay Co., N.C.
- +182           III   Odus Eller
- +183           iv   Eula Blanche Eller
- +184           v    Ruby Eller
- +185           vi   Kate Geneva Eller
- +186           vii   Alvin Eller
- +187           viii   Norma Effie Eller
- +188           ix   Cora Eller

164. Calvin S. Eller was born 15 Nov 1881 in N. C., died in Jul 1964 in Ohio

He married Ella Nicholson (dau of James Milton "Dee" Nicholson and Louisa (Eliza) Ledford). They had the following children:

- 189            i    John Eller
- 190            ii   Alwayne Eller, she married and had 1 son

167. George Lester Eller was born 11 Dec 1892.

He married Ilah Burch 24 Apr 1910. She was born 10 Aug 1893, died 26 Sep 1921, was buried in Lower Bell Creek Baptist Church Cemetery, Towns Co., Ga. They had the following children:

- +191            i    Jay Henry Eller
- 192           ii   Edward Glen Eller, born 11 May 1915,  
                 died 4 Jun 1915

He married Frances Coleman, a school teacher from Hayesville, N. C. She died 12 May 1979 in Canton, N. C., at the age of 79. They had the following children, not listed in order of birth:

- 193           i    Clara Sue Eller, married W. T. Sparks, Jr.
- +194          ii   Essie Mae Eller, died 2 Nov 1976 in Hickory  
                 Grove, S. C. at age 53. She was single
- 195          iii   George Lester Eller, Jr.
- 196          iv   Mary Milton Eller, married ?? Medford, died  
                 9 Jan 1968
- 197          v    Nelma Jean Eller, married Phil Sherrill
- 198          vi   Helen Jo Eller, married Richard Trantham
- 199          vii   Bobby Eller, died young
- 200          viii   Carroll D. Eller

see page 43 for article on Frances Coleman Eller

## SEVENTH GENERATION

176. Weldon Eller was born 8 Jul 1907 in Clay Co., N.C., died 25 Jul 1989 in Gaston Co., N.C., was buried in Gaston Memorial Park Cemetery, Gastonia, Gaston Co., N. C.

He married Pruella Bryte Lineberger (dau of Hosea Harkum Lineberger and Dovie Ida Octavia Litten) on 15 Jun 1929 in York, S.C. She was born 17 Mar 1913 in Catawba Co., N.C. They had the following children:

- +201            i    Wilba Marie Eller
- +202            ii   Betty Jo Eller
- +203            iii   Patty Veatrice Eller
- +204            iv   Amaryllis Maxine Eller

177. George Delmar Eller was born 8 Sep 1908 in Clay Co., N.C., died 6 May 1994 in Gaston Co., N. C., was buried in Gaston Memorial Park Cemetery, Gastonia, Gaston Co., N.C.

He married Nellie Lucretia Lineberger (dau of Hosea Harkum Lineberger and Dovie Ida Octavia Litten) on 4 May 1935 in York, S.C. She was born 26 Sep 1908 in Catawba Co., N. C., died 25 Jul 1991 in Gaston Co., N.C., was buried in Gaston Memorial Park Cemetery, Gastonia, Gaston Co., N. C. They had the following children:

- +205            i    Faye Joyce Eller
- +206            ii   William Ray Eller
- +207            iii   Dillard Allen Eller
- 208            iv   Mary Catherine Eller, born 23 Feb 1944 in  
   Gaston Co., N.C.    Single

178. Milford Dedrick Eller was born 19 May 1910 in Clay Co., N.C., died 17 Mar 1980 in Gaston Co., N.C., was buried in Friendship Baptist Church Cemetery, Gaston Co., N.C.

He married Beulah Jeanette Neal (dau of James Neal and Ruby Woody) on 4 Nov 1928 in Hayesville, Clay Co., N.C. She was born 2 Oct 1913, died 24 Sep 1993 in Gaston Co., N.C., was buried in Friendship Baptist Church Cemetery, Gaston Co., N.C. They had the following children:

- + 209            i    Hildred Lucille Eller
- + 210           ii   Denver Johnny Eller
- + 211           iii   David Eugene Eller
- 212           iv   Fred William Eller, born 6 Apr 1936 in Clay  
Co., N.C., died 8 Jun 1938 in Clay Co., N.C.,  
was buried in Bell Scene Baptist Church  
Cemetery, Towns Co., Ga.
- + 213           v    Reba Estelle Eller
- + 214           vi   Mary Frances Eller
- + 215           vii   Lillian Louise Eller
- + 216           viii   Jackie Dean Eller

179. William Virgil Eller was born 23 Jul 1913 in Clay Co., N.C., died 11 Feb 1973 In Gaston Co., N.C., was buried in Gaston Memorial Park Cemetery, Gaston Co., N.C.

He married Willie Mae Gibson. She was born 3 Apr 1912, died 13 Nov 1996 in Gaston Co., N.C., was buried in Gaston Memorial Park Cemetery, Gaston Co., N.C. Their daughter is:

- + 217           i    Jeanette Eller

Willie Mae Gibson had a son previously:

- + 218           i    Frank William Kimble

180. James Clifford Eller was born 27 Jan 1904 in Clay Co., N.C., died 1 Aug 1977 in Clay Co., N.C., was buried in Shooting Creek Church of God Cemetery, Clay Co., N.C.

He married Josephine Patterson. She was born 11 Oct 1900, died 12 Nov 1983 in Clay Co., N.C., buried same as Clifford. They had the following children:

- +219            i    Virginia Dare Eller
- 220            ii   Jo Ann Eller born 13 Feb 1932, died 12 Feb 1936
- 221            iii   James Alvin Eller born 12 Nov 1940 in Bradley Co., Tn., died there 13 Nov 1940
- +222            iv   Lochie Byrd Eller

182. Odus Eller was born 28 Oct 1909 in Clay Co., N.C.

He married Irma Dicy Shook 8 Feb 1934 in Towns Co., Ga. She was born 9 Dec 1914 in Towns Co., Ga. Their children are:

- +223            i    David Lyvon Eller
- +224            ii   Anna Jo Eller

183. Eula Blanche Eller was born 30 Jan 1912 in Clay Co., N. C., died 9 Mar 1998 in Clay Co., N.C., was buried in Bethal Cemetery, Clay Co., N.C.

She married Fred Charles Moffitt 30 Jan 1931 in Clay Co., N.C. He was born 26 Apr 1908 in Clay Co., N.C., died 8 Apr 1988 in Clay Co., N.C., buried same as Eula. Their children are:

- 225            i    Melba Jean Moffitt died at birth
- +226            ii   James Crandall Moffitt
- +227            iii   Minnette Lee Moffitt

184. Ruby Eller married Vaughn Gibson. Their children are:

- +228            i    Juina Gibson
- +229            ii   Susan Gibson

185. Kate Geneva Eller was born 20 Jan 1923 in Clay Co., N.C. She married Arvil McNeil Long in Towns Co., Ga. He was born 21 Feb 1921 in Clay Co., N. C. Their son is:

+230            i   Gene Millard Long

186. Alvin Eller was born 8 Aug 1918 in Clay Co., N. C., died 10 Oct 1992 in Clay Co., N. C., was buried in Philadelphia Cemetery, Clay Co., N. C.

He married Irene Nicholson 20 Dec 1941 in Towns Co., Ga. She was born 10 Oct 1925 in Towns Co., Ga. Their children are:

+231            i   Linda Sue Eller  
+232            ii   Carolyn Marie Eller  
+233            iii   Margaret Diane Eller  
+234            iv   James Alvin Eller

187. Norma Effie Eller was born 1 Jul 1930 in Clay Co., N. C.

She married Max Anderson 6 Jul 1946. He was born 17 Jul 1923, died 29 Sep 1974. Their son is:

+235            i   Ronald Anderson

188. Cora Eller was born in Clay Co., N. C.

She married Chastain Galloway. Their children are:

+236            i   Joyce Galloway  
+237            ii   Brenda Galloway

191. Jay Henry Eller was born 22 Jul 1912, died 21 Oct 1982 in Gaston Co., N.C., was buried in Berea Baptist Church Cemetery Gaston Co., N. C.

He married Nellie Bradshaw, born 28 Sep 1911 in Towns Co., Ga., died 29 Sep 1987 in Gaston Co., N.C., was buried same as Jay. Their children are:

- 238            i   Doris Eller, married a Parrish
- 239            ii   Jack Eller
- 240            iii   Jean Eller, married a Korus
- 241            iv   Brenda Eller, married a Shomette

194. Essie Mae Eller - see pages 44-48

## EIGHTH GENERATION

201. Wilba Marie Eller was born 30 Apr 1930 in Gaston Co., N.C.

She married Charles Kenneth Silvers (son of Ervin T. Silvers and Mandy Coleman) on 25 June 1949 in Gaston Co., N.C. He was born 6 Jul 1931, died 30 Aug 1989 in Gaston Co., N.C., was buried in Gaston Memorial Park Cemetery, Gastonia, Gaston Co., N.C. They had the following children:

- +242            i   Charles Randolph Silvers
- +243           ii   Kenneth Barry Silvers
- +244          iii   Marion Reid Silvers
- +245           iv   Keith Weldon Silvers (twin)
- +246           v   Kevin Thomas Silvers (twin)

202. Betty Jo Eller was born 11 Mar 1932 in Gaston Co., N.C.

She married Bobby Gene Starrett on 28 June 1952 in Gaston Co., N.C. He was born 16 Aug 1930. They had the following children:

- +247           i   Charles Edward Starrett
- +248           ii   Udora Ann (Dodie) Starrett
- +249          iii   Donna Renee Starrett
- +250           iv   Robert Weldon Starrett
- +251           v   Tracy Leigh Starrett

203. Patty Veatrice Eller was born 30 Dec 1933 in Gaston Co., N.C.

She married James Douglas Kelly on 29 May 1952. He was born 3 Nov 1932. They had the following children:

- +252           i   Michael Douglas Kelly
- +253           ii   Debra Marie Kelly (twin)
- +254          iii   Leslie Denise Kelly (twin)
- +255           iv   James Mark Kelly



204. Amaryllis Maxine Eller was born 23 Sep 1936 in Gaston Co., N.C.

She married Herbert Leonard Forner. He was born 1 Oct 1932, died 18 May 1981, was buried in Goshen Cemetery, Belmont, Gaston Co., N.C. They had the following children:

- +256            i    Jeffrey Leonard Forner
- +257           ii   Gregory Allen Forner, born 6 Aug 1960    Single
- +258           iii   Julie Ann Forner

She married William Henry Cox on 5 Jul 1986 in York, S.C. He was born 28 Dec 1927

205. Faye Joyce Eller was born 10 Mar 1936 in Gaston Co., N.C.

She had a daughter:

- +259           i    Lori Ann Eller

She married James Arthur Swanson, Sr. on 30 May 1981 in Gaston Co., N.C. He was born 15 Oct 1932. They divorced in Jun 1991

206. William Ray Eller was born 1 Jun 1937 in Gaston Co., N.C.

He married Patricia Gayle Shields (dau of Luther Shields and Margie Ballard) on 1 Dec 1963 in Gaston Co., N.C. She was born 12 Aug 1944. They had the following children:

- +260           i    Robin Gayle Eller
- +261           ii   William Ray Eller, Jr.
- 262           iii   George Anderson Eller, born 27 Dec 1972 in Gaston Co., N.C., died at birth, was buried in Gaston Memorial Park Cemetery, Gastonia, Gaston Co., N.C.
- 263           iv   Robert Joseph Eller, born 4 Mar 1974 in Gaston Co., N.C.    Single

207. Dillard Allen Eller was born 14 Sep 1940 in Gaston Co., N.C.

He married Joyce Robena Helton on 20 Sep 1963. She was born 25 Feb 1945. They had the following children:

- +264                    i   Gregory Allen Eller
- +265                   ii   Deborah Lynn Eller

209. Hildred Lucille Eller was born 16 Jan 1930 in Clay Co., N.C. She married Neal Franklin Warren on 1 Jul 1950. He was born 18 May 1920, died 4 Jul 1995 in Gaston Co., N.C., was buried in Sandy Plains Baptist Church Cemetery, Gaston Co., N.C. They had the following children:

- +266                    i   Vickie Diane Warren
- +267                   ii   Ronnie Neal Warren

210. Denver Johnny Eller was born 11 Jan 1932 in Clay Co., N.C., died 10 Aug 1996 in Gaston Co., N.C., was buried in Hillcrest Gardens Cemetery, Mt. Holly, Gaston Co., N.C.

He married Lorene Thornburg on 6 Jul 1949 in York, S.C. She was born 6 Nov 1931 in Gaston Co., N.C. They had the following children:

- +268                    i   Brenda Elaine Eller
- +269                   ii   Patricia Gail Eller

He married Ruby Bell in 1958

He married Leila Cope 30 June 1979. She was born 12 June 1937

211. David Eugene Eller was born 2 Jan 1934 in Clay Co., N. C., died 15 Feb 1977 in Gaston Co., N.C., was buried in Sharon Free Will Baptist Church Cemetery, Gaston Co., N.C.

He married Betty Greene on 22 Feb 1968. She was born 5 Aug 1935. They had the following children:

- +270                    i   David Wayne Eller
- +271                   ii   Betty Renee Eller

Betty Greene Eller died 15 Feb 2002 in Gaston Co., N.C., was buried in Hillcrest Gardens Cemetery, Mt. Holly, Gaston Co., N.C.

213. Reba Estelle Eller was born 3 Feb 1939 in Clay Co., N.C.

She married Charles Edward Thornburg on 23 Apr 1955 in York, S.C. He was born 10 Feb 1933. They had the following children:

- +272            i    Eddie Eugene Thornburg
- +273            ii   Terry Scott Thornburg
- +274            iii   Roger Dale Thornburg
- +275            iv   Pamela Diane Thornburg
- +276            v   Charles Milford Thornburg

214. Mary Frances Eller was born 6 Mar 1942 in Gaston Co., N.C.

She married William Leonard Winkler on 14 Feb 1964. He was born 9 Apr 1935

215. Lillian Louise Eller was born 27 Dec 1943 in Gaston Co., N.C.

She married Cecil Cleve Shepherd on 14 Oct 1961. He was born 23 Nov 1941. They had the following children:

- +277            i    John William Shepherd
- +278            ii   Tessa Lynn Shepherd
- +279            iii   Kimberly Ann Shepherd
- +280            iv   Cecil James Shepherd

216. Jackie Dean Eller was born 14 Feb 1958 in Gaston Co., N.C.

He married Kimberly Ann Greene on 8 Jul 1978. She was born 16 Feb 1960. They had the following children:

- 281            i    Jason Dale Eller, born 3 Jan 1981
- 282            ii   Ashley Dawn Eller, born 14 Apr 1987

217. Jeanette Eller was born 28 Feb 1938 in Gaston Co., N.C.

She married James Wayne McElveen on 14 Feb 1954. He was born 13 Apr 1938. They had the following children:

- +283            i   Phillip Wayne McElveen
- +284           ii   Sandra Kay McElveen
- +285           iii   Terry Lynette McElveen
- +286           iv   Cindy Diane McElveen

Jeanette Eller McElveen had a son:

- 287            i   Johnny David Batchler

218. Frank William Kimble was born 23 Dec 1933.

He married Carolyn Faye Gordon on 11 Jun 1955. She was born 27 Oct 1938. They had the following children:

- +288            i   Kathy Darlene Kimble
- +289           ii   Kandy Denise Kimble
- +290           iii   Timothy William Kimble
- 291            iv   Todd Granville Kimble, born 21 Jul 1972  
Single

219. Virginia Dare Eller was born 10 Sep 1924 in Hayesville, Clay Co., N. C.

She married John Henry Martin 30 Apr 1942 in Hiawassee, Towns Co., Ga. He was born 13 Oct 1925 in Hayesville, Clay Co., N.C. They had the following children:

- +292            i   John Henry Martin, Jr.
- +293           ii   Janice Carol Martin
- +294           iii   Michael Danny Martin

222. Lochie Byrd Eller was born 10 Aug 1942 in Cherokee Co., N.C.

She married Lewis Basil Owens. He was born 15 Feb 1942 in Etowah Co., Al. They had the following children:

- 295            i   Ceylanda Owens
- 296           ii   Anthony Owens

223. David Lyvon Eller was born 11 Oct 1937 in Clay Co., N. C.

He married Linda Faye Rutermeier 28 Jun 1967 in Fulton Co., Ga. She was born 21 Apr 1945 in Tn. They had the following children:

- +297                    i   Amy Lyvonne Eller
- 298                    ii   Samuel Fredrick Eller, born 25 Oct 1979  
in Fulton Co., Ga.   Single

224. Anna Jo Eller was born 25 Mar 1941 in Clay Co., N.C.

She married Glade Chapman, Jr. 6 May 1992 in Jackson Co., N.C.  
He was born 8 Sep 1939 in Al.   They have no children

226. James Crandall Moffitt was born 10 Jan 1935 in Clay Co., N.C.

He married Jo Ann Cross 20 Feb 1959 in Towns Co., Ga.   She was  
born 24 Jun 1937 in Macon Co., N. C.   They had the following  
children:

- +299                    i   Kent Crandall Moffitt
- +300                    ii   Suzanne Moffitt

227. Minnette Lee Moffitt was born 14 Aug 1936 in Clay Co., N.C.

She married Andrew Eugene Moore 1 Jul 1961 in Clay Co., N. C.  
He was born 5 Aug 1936 in Clay Co., N. C. They have no children.

228. Juina Gibson was born        Jul 1936

She married Edgar Moore in 1953.   He was born in 1932.   Their  
children are:

- +301                    i   Rita Moore
- +302                    ii   Susan Christine Moore

229. Susan Gibson married Don Gaddis

230. Gene Millard Long was born 16 Jun 1941 in Knoxville, Tn.

He married Peggy Annette Bell 30 Dec 1961 in Clay Co., N.C.  
She was born 26 Oct 1940 in Clay Co., N. C.   Their daughter is:

- +303                    i   Gina Annette Long

231. Linda Sue Eller was born 16 Feb 1943 in Towns Co., Ga.

She married Steve Gilberson 17 Jul 1961 in Clay Co., N.C.  
He was born in Wisconsin. Their son is:

304                    i   Jason Andrew Gilberson, born 8 Sep 1971  
                              in Fulton Co., Ga.   Single

She married Robert Edward Magnus 5 Apr 1996. He was born  
6 Mar 1951 in Fulton Co., Ga.

232. Carolyn Marie Eller was born 21 Oct 1944 in Clay Co., N.C.

She married Nicky Gene Moss 8 Oct 1961 in Union Co., Ga. He  
was born 9 Nov 1942 in Clay Co., N.C. Their son is:

+305                    i   Bryan Eugene Moss

233. Margaret Diane Eller was born 28 Jan 1954 in Towns Co., Ga.

She married Anthony Edward Pasley 18 Nov 1974. He was born  
10 Feb 1954 in Fulton Co., Ga. They have the following children:

306                    i   Anthony Shawn Pasley, born 11 Oct 1977 in  
                              Fulton Co., Ga.   Single

+307                    ii   Christopher Leland Pasley

234. James Alvin Eller was born 13 Aug 1959 in Towns Co., Ga.

He married Diane Annette Luckey 18 Nov 1974 in Clayton Co., Ga.  
She was born 28 Jan 1960 in Va. They have no children.

235. Ronald Anderson was born 24 Sep 1957

He married Regina Mashburn 10 Jun 1980. She was born 18 Nov  
1958 in Young Harris, Ga. Their son is:

308                    i   David Ronald Anderson, born 27 Mar 1989  
                              in Cleveland, Tn.

236. Joyce Galloway married Darrell Curtis. Their daughter is:

309                    i   Debbie Curtis

237. Brenda Galloway married Delton Garrett

She married Ike Waldroup. They had the following children:

- 310            i   Jason Waldroup
- 311           ii   Ceylena Waldroup

She married Barry Franklin

## NINETH GENERATION

242. Charles Randolph Silvers was born 5 Jun 1951 in Mecklenburg Co., N. C.

He married Ginger Smith on 26 Jul 1968. They had the following children:

- +312            i   Jeffry Scott Silvers
- +313            ii   Rocksann Amanda Silvers

He married Peggy Williams on 17 Jul 1975. She was born 23 Dec 1953. Her children from a previous marriage are:

- 314            i   Donna Larene Williams, born 15 Nov 1969
- 315            ii   Chris Michelle Williams, born 12 Sep 1972

He married Patsy E. Pressley on 14 Feb 1981. She was born 7 Oct 1948, died 10 Aug 1992 in Gaston Co., N.C., was buried in Gaston Memorial Park Cemetery, Gastonia, Gaston Co., N.C. Her daughter from a previous marriage is:

- +316            i   Donna Michelle Pressley

He married Elizabeth Marie Gwinn Templeton on 26 Mar 1994. She was born 25 Nov 1956. Her son from a previous marriage is:

- 317            i   John ManalCUS Templeton, 111  
                      born 13 Nov 1991

243. Kenneth Barry Silvers was born 31 May 1953 in Gaston Co., N.C.

He married Debbie Smith on 3 Dec 1972. She was born on 13 Nov 1955. Their daughter is:

- +318            i   Heather Joanne Silvers

He married Susan Elizabeth Lankford on 17 Nov 1979. She was born on 23 Feb 1952. Their son is:

- 319            i   Kenneth Matthew Silvers, born 12 Aug 1988



244. Marion Reid Silvers was born 9 Sep 1958 in Mecklenburg Co., N. C.

He married Brenda L. Freeman on 4 Aug 1979. She was born on 2 Sep 1961. Their children are:

- +320                    i    Marian Elizabeth Silvers
- 321                    ii   Christopher Reid Silvers, born 2 Oct 1983

245. Keith Weldon Silvers (twin) was born 12 Dec 1963 in Gaston Co., N.C. He fathered a daughter by Paula Hayes:

- 322                    i    Josie Marie Silvers, born 9 Aug 1987

He married Ann Marie Perry on 4 Aug 1990. Their daughter is:

- 323                    i    Savannah Marie Silvers, born 14 Dec 1991

246. Kevin Thomas Silvers (twin) was born 12 Dec 1963 in Gaston Co., N.C. He married Evelyn Hall on 4 Aug 1984. She was born 28 Jun 1966. Their children are:

- 324                    i    David Keith Silvers, born 4 Feb 1985
- 325                    ii   Kirsten Danielle Silvers, born  
                              25 Sep 1989

247. Charles Edward Starrett was born 8 Jan 1955 in Gaston Co., N.C.

He married Penny Gail Hedrick on 11 Jan 1975. She was born 10 Jan 1954. Their children are:

- +326                    i    Faith Jennifer Starrett
- 327                    ii   Charles Daniel Starrett, born 20 Jan 1980

He married Karen Mims on 23 Oct 1993. She was born 16 Jan 1954 in Gaston Co., N.C. Their daughter is:

- 328                    i    Sarah Elizabeth Starrett, born 13 May 1995

248. Udora Ann (Dodie) Starrett was born 5 Jul 1957 in Gaston Co., N. C.

She married Amos Randolph Benefield on 10 Feb 1979. He was born 9 Apr 1951. Their son is:

329                    i    Matthew James Elijah Benefield  
                              born 5 May 1983

249. Donna Renee Starrett was born 20 Sep 1959 in Gaston Co., N.C.

She married Jeffrey Scott Eller on 30 Oct 1982. He was born  
29 Jul 1958. Their children are:

+330                    i    Alethea Ann Eller  
331                    ii   Anna Marie Eller, born 29 Nov 1990

250. Robert Weldon Starrett was born 1 Feb 1961 in Gaston Co., N.C.

He married Judi Lynn Malloy on 5 Mar 1985. She was born 4 Nov  
1953. Their son is:

332                    i    Robert Malloy Starrett, born 28 May 1987

251. Tracy Leigh Starrett was born 1 Apr 1963 in Gaston Co., N.C.

She married Steve Allen Smith on 16 Jan 1983. He was born  
15 May 1962. Their children are:

333                    i    Justin Allen Smith, born 8 Oct 1984  
334                    ii   Megan Elaine Smith, born 4 Feb 1988  
335                    iii   Andrew Ryan Smith, born 5 Sep 1995

252. Michael Douglas Kelly was born 15 Apr 1953 in Gaston Co., N.C.

He married Gail Garrison on 26 Aug 1972. She was born 20 Jan  
1955.

He married Toni Davis on 1 Jan 1982. She was born 26 Aug 1950,  
died 8 Apr 1995 in Mecklenburg Co., N.C., was buried in Sunset  
Cemetery, Shelby, Cleveland Co., N.C. Her children are:

336                    i    Traci Michelle Hager, born 18 May 1967  
337                    ii   Tony Grier Cooper, born 15 Oct 1970

253. Debra Marie Kelly (twin) was born 26 Oct 1955 in Gaston  
Co., N.C.

She married Daryl Keith Faile on 28 Aug 1981 in Gaston Co., N.C.  
He was born 3 May 1952. Their son is:

338                    i   Cameron Keith Faile, born 8 Aug 1984

Daryl Faile had a daughter from a previous marriage:

+339                    i   Angela Nicole Faile

254. Leslie Denise Kelly (twin) was born 26 Oct 1955 in Gaston Co., N.C.

She married Larry Blair Hodge on 1 Oct 1977 in Gaston Co., N.C. He was born 16 Aug 1950. Their daughter is:

+340                    i   Jamie Patrice Hodge

255. James Mark Kelly was born 26 May 1963 in Gaston Co., N.C.

He married Bess Ann Lowther on 30 Nov 1986. She was born 10 Dec 1960. Their children are:

341                    i   Megan Ashley Kelly, born 14 Jun 1987

342                    ii   Michael Talman Kelly, born 22 Jul 1991

Bess Ann Lowther had a daughter previously:

343                    i   Candice Ann Skinner, born 25 Jul 1980

256. Jeffrey Leonard Forner was born 30 Oct 1957 in Gaston Co., N.C. His daughter is:

+344                    i   Rebecca Lynn Forner

258. Julie Ann Forner was born 17 Feb 1965 in Gaston Co., N.C.

She married Steve Psaroudis, Jr. on 6 Dec 1986 in Gaston Co., N. C. He was born 26 Mar 1961. Their children are:

345                    i   Steven Tyler Psaroudis, born 26 Jan 1990

346                    ii   Alex Michael Psaroudis, born 12 Dec 1992

259. Lori Ann Eller was born 13 Jun 1961 in Gaston Co., N.C.

She married Merle Douglas Marksberry (son of Alonzo Harold Marksberry and Alma Josephine Hall) on 22 Dec 1985 in Gaston Co., N.C. He was born 16 Apr 1948 in Gallatin Co., Ky. Their children are:

- 347            i    Brittney Nicole Marksberry (twin)  
                      born 1 Feb 1992 in Mecklenburg Co., N.C.
- 348            ii    Lauren Elizabeth Marksberry (twin)  
                      born 1 Feb 1992 in Mecklenburg Co., N.C.

Merle Marksberry's children from a previous marriage are:

- +349            i    Kelly Lynn Marksberry
- +350            ii    Kevin Douglas Marksberry
- +351            iii    Kristi Michelle Marksberry

260. Robin Gayle Eller was born 27 Oct 1965 in Gaston Co., N.C.

She married George Washington Boutwell, III on 18 Jun 1988.  
He was born 28 Jan 1964. Their son is:

- 352            i    Nicholas Anderson Boutwell, born 31 Jul 1992

261. William Ray Eller, Jr. was born 26 Feb 1967 in Gaston Co., N.C.

He married Jerrie Danean Henson 27 May 1989. She was born 29 Jul 1966. Her son is:

- 353            i    Matthew Landon Henson, born 14 Apr 1987

264. Gregory Allen Eller was born 15 Sep 1964.

He married Dorothy Jeannene Smyre 8 Oct 1988 in Catawba Co., N. C. She was born 4 Mar 1966.

265. Deborah Lynn Eller was born 15 Aug 1971 in Tn.

She married James Todd Hatfield 25 Apr 1992 in Lincoln Co., N.C. He was born 4 Nov 1963. Their children are:

- 354            i    Sidney Brooke Hatfield (twin)  
                      born 12 Feb 1999, Mecklenburg Co., N.C.
- 355            ii    Madison Claire Hatfield (twin)  
                      born 12 Feb 1999, Mecklenburg Co., N.C.
- 356            iii    Alexis Taylor Hatfield  
                      born 28 Jun 2001, Mecklenburg Co., N.C.

266. Vickie Diane Warren was born 21 Jun 1951 in Gaston Co., N.C.  
She married Charles Grier Kistler 30 Sep 1972 in Gaston Co., N.C.  
He was born 29 Sep 1949. Their sons are:

- 357                    i    Barry Neal Kistler, born 1 Jun 1974    Single
- 358                    ii   Charles Brian Kistler, born 25 Sep 1979    Single

267. Ronnie Neal Warren was born 12 Sep 1955 in Gaston Co., N.C.

He married Karen Jean Nicholson (dau of Hughlon and Shelby Nicholson). She was born 20 Mar 1957. Their children are:

- +359                    i    Paige Michelle Warren
- 360                    ii   Brooke Allison Warren, born 12 Jul 1980

268. Brenda Elaine Eller was born 8 Aug 1950 in Gaston Co., N.C.

She married Ronald Eugene Franklin 1 Dec 1967. He was born 18 May 1948.

She married James Roland Conner 20 May 1971. He was born 10 Apr 1944. Their children are:

- +361                    i    Shannon Elaine Conner
- 362                    ii   Jaime Nicole Conner, born 29 Jul 1976    Single

269, Patricia Gail Eller was born 12 Apr 1952 in Gaston Co., N.C.

She married Kenneth Carl Whitener 12 Jul 1968. He was born 29 Sep 1951. Their daughter is:

- +363                    i    Melanie Lorene Whitener

She married Kenneth Steven Byers on 11 Dec 1982. He was born 12 Jul 1947.

270. David Wayne Eller was born 16 Jun 1968.

He married Sherry Johnson 10 Aug 1990. She was born 25 Nov 1971  
Their daughter is:

- 364                    i    Meagan Dare Eller, born 31 Mar 1991

He married Joann Clontz 8 Jul 2000. She was born 13 Feb 1966.  
Her daughter is:

365                    i    Tosha Marie Clontz, born 16 Jul 1988

271. Betty Renee Eller was born 10 Apr 1970.

She married Tommy Rogers 6 Dec 1991. He was born 4 Dec 1960

272. Eddie Eugene Thornburg was born 17 Nov 1955 in Gaston Co., N.C.

He married Judy Epps. She was born 1 Sep 1949. Judy's sons are:

366                    i    Ronald Bridges, born 27 Sep 1966

367                    ii   James B. Bridges, born 29 Sep 1967

273. Terry Scott Thornburg was born 11 Feb 1957 in Gaston Co., N.C.

He married Cheryl Ann Crawford. Their children are:

+368                    i    Wendy Annette Thornburg, born 9 Mar 1975

+369                    ii   Derek Scott Thornburg

He married Misty Fraley 12 Aug 1991. She was born 31 Jul 1973.  
Their daughter is:

370                    i    Heather Thornburg, born 7 Jun 1991

274. Roger Dale Thornburg was born 14 Apr 1959 in Gaston Co., N.C.

He married Judy Diane McGinnis 21 Jan 1977. She was born 27 Nov 1959. Their children are:

+371                    i    Leslie Diane Thornburg

372                    ii   Zachary Dale Thornburg, born 23 May 1987

275. Pamela Diane Thornburg was born 25 Apr 1965 in Gaston Co., N.C.

She married John Douglas Auten. Their son is:

373                    i    Joshua Shane Auten, born 17 Sep 1984

She married Gardner Theodore Myers 5 May 1985. He was born 3 Dec 1964. Their children are:

- 374            i Christopher Ted Myers, born 30 Oct 1985
- 375            ii Vickie Diane Myers, born 20 Oct 1987
- 376            iii Jeremy Scott Myers, born 28 Aug 1990

276. Charles Milford (Buster) Thornburg was born 27 Jan 1969 in Gaston Co., N.C.

He married Kristin Elaine Williams 13 Jun 1993. They divorced

277. John William Shepherd was born 1 Oct 1962.

He married Debra Darlene Green 19 Feb 1983. She was born 8 Feb 1966. Their children are:

- 377            i Christina Marie Shepherd, born 6 Sep 1983
- 378            ii Amber Lynn Shepherd, born 25 Jul 1988
- 379            iii Joshua Adam Shepherd, born 5 Oct 1990

278. Tessa Lynn Shepherd was born 8 Aug 1964.

She married Richard Allen Wright, Jr. 5 Mar 1983. He was born 16 Oct 1962. Their children are:

- 380            i Richard Allen Wright III, born 22 Sep 1986
- 381            ii Breanna Kristen Wright, born 13 Jun 1989

279. Kimberly Ann Shepherd was born 20 Sep 1967.

She married Rodney Barnes 25 Mar 1989. He was born 19 Jul 1964. Their children are:

- 382            i Nicholas Evan Barnes, born 7 Feb 1996
- 383            ii Landon Drew Barnes, born 1 Aug 1999
- 383 A          iii Conner William Barnes, born 30 Aug 2001

280. Cecil James Shepherd was born 22 Dec 1968.

He married Donna Lee Lambert 14 Mar 1988. She was born 6 Aug 1970. Their son is:

384                    i   Cecil James Shepherd, Jr., born 30 Sep 1993

283. Phillip Wayne McElveen was born 30 Sep 1955.

He married ??? Their son is:

385                    i   Christopher Wayne McElveen, born 30 Sep 1975

He married Cindy Mannings. Their daughter is:

386                    i   Tina McElveen, born 26 Mar 1981

284. Sandra Kay McElveen was born 16 Aug 1957.

She married Johnny Newton. He was born 1 Aug 1955. Their children are:

+387                    i   Crystal Newton, born 23 Jul 1976

388                    ii   Trey Newton, born 5 Aug 1981

285. Terry Lynette McElveen was born 11 Jun 1959.

She married Ralph Paige. Their children are:

389                    i   Jimmy Paige, born 3 Apr 1976

+390                    ii   Wendy Paige, born 22 Oct 1981

She married Charles James.

286. Cindy Diane McElveen was born 14 May 1969.

She married Bradley Hogan. Their children are:

391                    i   Katelyn Hogan, born Aug 1995

392                    ii   Brandon Hogan, born 3 May 1999

288. Kathy Darlene Kimble was born 31 Mar 1960.

She married Mitchell Wayne Layton. He was born 31 Jan 1960.  
Their daughter is:

393                    i   Jessica Michelle Layton, born 13 Jun 1989



289. Kandy Denise Kimble was born 7 Sep 1966.

She married Jeffrey Mark Stanford. He was born 2 Mar 1966.  
Their children are:

- 394            i    Jeremy Marcus Stanford, born 12 Mar 1987
- 395            ii   Amber Noel Stanford, born 19 Dec 1989

290. Timothy William Kimble was born 2 Nov 1967.

He married Kimberly Ann Powell in Apr 1996. Their son is:

- 396            i    Nichelous William Kimble  
                      born 9 Oct 1996

Timothy and Kimberly divorced in 1998.

292. John Henry Martin, Jr. was born 4 Jan 1943 in Murphy,  
Cherokee Co., N.C.

He married Barbara Thomas. Their children are:

- 397            i    Lisa Martin
- 398            ii   Eric Martin

He married Misty Finchene. She was born 14 Feb 1952 in  
San Rafael, Marin Co., Ca. Their children are:

- 399            i    Blue T. Martin, born 17 Mar 1976  
                      in Atlanta, Ga.
- 400            ii   Jewel T. Martin, born 10 Apr 1977  
                      in San Clemente, Ca.
- 401            iii   Keowe T. Martin, born 30 Apr 1980  
                      in Honolulu, Hawaii
- 402            iv   Sequoyah T. Martin, born 29 Jul 1982  
                      in Richmond, Washington
- 403            v    Maronth T. Martin, born 8 Feb 1984  
                      in San Diego, Ca.

293. Janice Carol Martin was born 28 Apr 1948 in Murphy,  
Cherokee Co., N.C.

She married Lee Roy Sexton. He was born 17 Jul 1947 in Atlanta, Ga. Their daughter is:

- 404                    i   Kimberly Ann Sexton, born 7 Sep 1969  
                              in Thomasville, Al.

She married Robert Terry Hicks. He was born 13 Nov 1958 in Griffin, Ga.

294. Michael Danny Martin was born 4 Sep 1950 in Franklin, Macon Co., N.C.

He married Janice Marie Eyeckley. She was born 8 Jun 1951 in Harrisburg, Pa. They married 22 Dec 1973. Their children are:

- 405                    i   Nanton Allen Martin, born 30 Sep 1981  
                              in Richmond, Washington
- 406                    ii  Jeremy Michael Martin, born 28 Dec 1985  
                              in Hiawassee, Towns Co., Ga.

297. Amy Lyvonne Eller was born 16 Aug 1974 in Fulton Co., Ga.

She married Thorsten Ahrens 21 Apr 2001. He was born in Germany.

299. Kent Crandall Moffitt was born 22 Sep 1960 in Cherokee Co., N.C.

He married Jackie Styles 9 Jun 1984 in Cherokee Co., N.C. She was born 25 Mar 1963 in Cherokee Co., N.C. Their son is:

- 407                    i   Justin Moffitt, born 22 Apr 1994  
                              in Sylva, Jackson Co., N.C.

300. Suzanne Moffitt was born 3 Jan 1963 in Cherokee Co., N. C.

She married David Ledford 22 Mar 1995 in Tn. He was born 17 Oct 1968 in Towns Co., Ga.

301. Rita Moore was born in 1955.

She married ??? Thomas about 1980. Their daughter is:

- +408                    i   Michelle Thomas

302. Susan Christine Moore was born 12 Mar 1957.

She married Daniel Walter Gaddy 24 May 1983. He was born 21 Nov 1957. Their children are:

- 409                    i    Jeremiah Daniel Gaddy, born 24 Jul 1984
- 410                    ii   Jessica Christine Gaddy, born 8 Nov 1985

303. Gina Annette Long was born 6 Dec 1968 in Hall Co., Ga.

She married Tommy Evon in Hall Co., Ga. He was born 4 Feb 1968 in Detroit, Michigan. They have no children.

305. Bryan Eugene Moss was born 7 Sep 1966 in DeKalb Co., Ga.

He married Patrice Price. She was born 9 Apr 1964 in Fulton Co., Ga. Their children are:

- 411                    i    Kristan Amalia Moss, born 13 Jun 1994  
                              in Forsyth Co., Ga.
- 412                    ii   Blakie Alexandra Moss, born 30 Dec 1996  
                              in Forsyth Co., Ga.

307. Christopher Leland Pasley was born 19 Jul 1979 in Clark Co., Ga.

He married Tammy Watkins 12 May 2001 in Atlanta, Ga. She was born 19 Sep 1977.

## TENTH GENERATION

312. Jeffry Scott Silvers was born 5 Feb 1969.

He married Elka Ray 9 May 1987. Their children are:

- 413            i   Christian Brook Silvers, born 27 Dec 1987
- 414            ii   Dane Elliott Silvers, born 25 Mar 1989

He married Kathy Cribb. Their children are:

- 415            i   Brandon Scott Silvers, born 25 Mar 1991
- 416            ii   Beverly Breann Silvers, born 13 Oct 1992

He married Dana Moore 6 Apr 1999.

313. Rocksann Amanda Silvers was born 16 Oct 1971.

She married Phillip Keener on 29 Mar 1989. Their children are:

- 417            i   Travis Phillip Keener, born 15 Feb 1990
- 418            ii   Samuel Scott Keener, born 6 May 1997

316. Donna Michelle Pressley was born 12 Dec 1968.

She married Jeffery Lin Clark 6 Aug 1988. He was born 14 Feb 1969. Their son is:

- 419            i   Decoda Michael Clark, born 28 Sep 1990

She married Allen Mitchell Ewing (son of Alfred and Louise Ewing) 28 Jun 1997 in Gaston Co., N.C. He was born 16 Aug 1969.

318. Heather Joanne Silvers was born 6 Jul 1974. She had a daughter:

- 420            i   Kelsey Nicole Silvers, born 14 Aug 1992 in Charlotte, Mecklenburg Co., N.C., died 24 Aug 1992 same as born, was buried in Hillcrest Gardens Cemetery, Mt. Holly, Gaston Co., N.C.

She married Mark Fuller 26 Feb 1996. Their children are:

421	i	Michael Zane Fuller (twin)	born 9 Jan 1995
422	ii	Zachary Dane Fuller (twin)	born 9 Jan 1995
423	iii	Dillon Blane Fuller	born 24 Feb 1996

320. Marian Elizabeth Silvers was born 19 Feb 1980.

She married Richard Keith Lane, Jr. 4 Jun 1999. He was born 24 Feb 1980.

326. Faith Jennifer Starrett was born 29 Jun 1975.

She married Shawn Stephen Glasgow 1 Sep 1999. He was born 1 Aug 1971.

330. Alethea Ann Eller was born 28 Jul 1983. She had a son:

424	i	Dillon Dale Eller	born 19 Jan 2001
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339. Angela Nicole Faile was born 14 Feb 1976.

She married Wesley Allen Monroe 9 Sep 2000 in Gaston Co., N.C. Their son is:

425	i	Justice Allen Monroe	born 13 Jun 2002
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340. Jamie Patrice Hodge was born 17 Jan 1981. Her children are:

426	i	Destiny Alexis Hodge	born 22 Sep 1999
427	ii	Sidney Arianna Galloway	born 17 May 2002

344. Rebecca Lynn Forner was born 30 May 1984.

She married Roy Anthony St. Pierre in 2001. Their children are:

428	i	Breanna Lynn St. Pierre	born 14 Aug 2001
429	ii	Dylan St. Pierre	born 14 Aug 2002

349. Kelly Lynn Marksberry was born 21 Feb 1971.

She married Matthew Lance Preston Hukill 15 Jun 1996. He was born 3 Sep 1973. Their son is:

430                    i   Preston Richard Hukill   born 1 Oct 1999

350. Kevin Douglas Marksberry was born 25 Jan 1973.

He married Amy Gumpier 20 Mar 1999

351. Kristi Michelle Marksberry was born 18 Apr 1974.

She married Paul Hanna, they divorced; their children are:

431                    i   Cassie Avery Hanna, born 2 Aug 1994

432                    ii   Noah William Hanna   born 21 Apr 1998

359. Paige Michelle Warren was born 10 Mar 1977.

She married Charlie Rhinehart 3 Sep 2000 in Gaston Co., N.C. Their son is:

433                    i   William Warren Rhinehart, born 18 Jul 2002

361. Shannon Elaine Conner was born 3 Jan 1972 in Gaston Co., N.C.

She married Christopher Allen Jenkins 18 Oct 1997 in Gaston Co., N. C. He was born 25 Jul 1970.

363. Melanie Lorene Whitener was born 22 Dec 1971 in Gaston Co., N. C.

She married Donald Eugene Kinley, Jr. 16 Jun 1990 in Gaston Co., N. C. He was born 23 Apr 1967. Their sons are:

434                    i   Cameron Chase Kinley   born 1 Nov 1994

435                    ii   Caleb Chance Kinley   born 18 Dec 1996

368. Wendy Annette Thornburg was born 9 Mar 1975.

She married Charles Simmons 20 May 1995. He was born 11 Jan 1971. Their children are:

436                    i   Seth David Simmons   born 1 Mar 1994

437                    ii   Brooke Danielle Simmons   born 3 Aug 1996

369. Derek Scott Thornburg was born 3 Feb 1977 in Gaston Co., N.C. He married Jennifer Day (dau of Roger Day and Lisa Coker) on 5 Jun 1999. She was born 23 Apr 1980. Their children are:

- 438                    i   Taylor Thornburg        born 16 Mar 1997
- 439                    ii   Kaitlyn Thornburg (twin)   born 24 Oct 1999
- 440                    iii   Kyle Thornburg (twin)   born 24 Oct 1999

371. Leslie Diane Thornburg was born 28 Jul 1979 in Gaston Co., N. C.

She married Jody Jamison Cash 10 Jun 2000 in Gaston Co., N.C.

387. Crystal Newton was born 23 Jul 1976.

She married Thomas Crow.

390. Wendy Paige was born 22 Oct 1981.

She married Mike Lunsford. Their daughter is:

- 441                    i   Abigail Lunsford        born 1 Aug 2001

408. Michelle Thomas was born in 1981.

She married ?? in 2000.

# Snakes, Pokeberries And Bloomers

Charlotte Johnson  
September, 1976

## Dot Jackson



sun rise up there. I'd pick five gallons to take to town for my people that bought from us.

"One morning I went up by myself, my husband was working about the farm, and I went up and there was a man up there picking. I wasn't afraid of course but he hollered to me that his wife was up there picking too so I went over and picked alongside of her, and there was a big rock there, and the bushes hung down over it just loaded.

"Well, I looked there and there was the biggest old copperhead snake. I hollered and said there's a snake, we've got to kill it. Well you know what? She was Holiness. They didn't believe in killin' snakes. But finally we took rocks and threwed at it. And we couldn't hit it. The rocks would just bounce right by it, and then it just crawled off, down under the rock. When I went home I told 'em, and we went back and turned that rock over and there it laid, and we killed it. It 'us s' old it was pink.

"Oh, we farmed and worked. I've made 1,400 quilts. Over 1,400. I've sewed till — you see this thumb? I'd pricked it with a needle till it was black. I cured that with pokeberries.

"I had a leg with a bad ulcer on it. It wouldn't get well. The doctor said I was liable to lose it. I had put penicillin salve on it, and bandaged it with I bet 5,000 feet of bandage. Well, I went to a tent meeting and I asked the preacher to pray about my leg, and he put his hand on my shoulder and I never heard more earnest praying.

"I went out then and got me some pokeberries and made me a poultice and put it on there, and next morning when I took it off it was just pure yellor with corruption. And it got well.

"I just had to say to that doctor what cured my leg. He said there was an acid in pokeberries — they have to be ripe, now — that there was not in any medicine he knew of. And that cured it.

"Used to, I'd holler out an onion and fill it full of sulphur, and roast it in the ashes till it got done. Then I'd squeeze out the juice through a clean rag and give it to the baby with a spoon, for the croup. We used syrup and sulphur sometimes for croup...

"Lord, I've had a bad life and a good life too. Folks back then was happy. They didn't have to go around lookin' at girls' legs. You know how many clothes we used to wear? Big old bloomers and gray outing petticoats..."

got almost to her. Grandpaw killed it. Course she could have hit it with her crutch but she's afraid she couldn't have killed it right off, and it would of bit her.

"I used to pick blackberries, many a morning I'd go up on that mountain and pick and see the



Observer Photo by DOT JACKSON

## Frances Eller

... a bad life and a good life.

Wife of George Lester Eller

When we want to tell our grandbabies about hard times, what shall we say? Will we say: "You don't know what it was like, Honey Lamb, to sweat over a computer all night an' then have it lose everything you did?"

That's what I'm going to tell mine, but they probably won't be much entertained.

There is not much some of us can say that will hold a candle to the tales of the current white-hair generation. The things they have told us shame us sometimes into stirring our stumps when we would rather go on the county, and warm our rockers.

If we did that we would not get much sympathy from Frances Eller, who lives in Canton.

Miss Frances is 76, and raised and educated eight children, and was twice widowed, and has had troubles that never stood a chance to prevail.

"You know times has really changed," Miss Frances says. "They had a county home when I was little — but you know how many patients was there? Three.

"Mama would make 'em sweet bread sometimes, poor old things, and we'd walk down there with it. Sometimes we'd take 'em a little snuff. They had nobody.

"I remember my grandmaw raised sheep and they sheared 'em. I've helt a many a one while it was sheared, and she took that wool in two saddlebags and got on a big ol' horse and rode from Hayesville t' Franklin to get it spun into thread. You know what they'd give me for holdin' them sheep? Enough wool thread to make a pair of stockings.

"Grandmaw got the white swelling in her legs. She got so bad she couldn't do a thing then but churn. She sat in a little old rocker and churned and when grandpaw would go out t' the field he'd give her this big ol' horn to blow, it was a big ol' conch shell, and she'd blow on that if anything would happen.

"Well, one day he pulled her out on the porch in her chair and give her her horn and her crutch and we went off t' the field. And we were down there a workin' when we heard her blow. Grandpaw jumped on his old horse and started up there and I run, too.

"Well, there was a big old rattlesnake a-comin' along the porch, right up to her. Hit 'ad



## A TRIBUTE TO ESSIE MAE ELLER



ESSIE MAE ELLER

"To know her was to love her" is a phrase that could be applied to Essie Mae Eller. Miss Eller came down into South Carolina from her beloved mountains of North Carolina in the early 40's. She finished nurses training at Mary Black Hospital in Spartanburg and remained in South Carolina where she worked at various nursing positions until she joined the Army Nurses Corps in 1952. As a Lieutenant in the service, she served many places, 18 months of the four years in Korea. During her stay at Fort Bragg, she came to the town of Hickory Grove many times visiting a friend. She liked the town and its people. To quote Miss Eller, "the people talked me into staying here - - even found me some land to buy."

Coming to Hickory Grove enabled her to further her education at nearby Winthrop College and work at Chester County Hospital.

Miss Eller believed time was precious and should be used to the fullest - - so-o one never found her idle. She belonged to many organizations and clubs and carried on many craft projects all the time. She was a working Christian and church member. She taught Sunday school class and was active in all phases of church work. Her home, and her yard especially, was her pride and joy.

Craft work was Essie Mae's "spare time" activities - - woodcarving, plaster-casting, modeling, leatherwork - - all claimed her attention. Oil painting was a main pastime and many homes in the area have "originals" with her signature. Cutting and polishing stones gave many of her friends "real gems" to wear.

She was a member of the South Carolina Federated Womens Clubs and had just been elected Poet Laurete for the state organization at the time of her death in 1976. She was a poet of some renown having poems published in many magazines such as Ideals, and she has two books of poems to her credit, with one more waiting to be published.

Miss Eller became postmaster of the Hickory Grove post office in November, 1966. Taking this job put her in touch with all the people in this area, and she took them all to her heart. She became counselor, doctor, nurse, friend, and mother confessor to all who entered the Post Office. She wrote for the "Palmetto Postmaster", the postal newspaper. She held offices in the State organization of Post Masters. The work in the post office meant much to her -- hence the history of Hickory Grove. This work grew from the research for background of history of the postal work in our area. She loved this area of the state and its people. May those who read this feel this love as they read these words she so lovingly put together.

"I'M YOUR OL' EVER-DAY SOMEBODY"



**Dot Jackson**

The Charlotte  
Observer

March 31, 1975



Observer Photo by DOT JACKSON

Miss Eller: "Partial To Seagulls"

Hickory Grove, S.C. The source of a reporter's joy a lot of times is the small-town post office. That's where, even on a dried-up day, the fishing can be pretty good.

A town's delightful people, interesting people, creative people and God's oddlings all get mail - if from nobody but Brother Al's Blessing Plan and the IRS. And the kindly postmaster knows 'em all.

And sometimes the search need go no farther than the stamp window. Down at a York County crossroads the other day I said to the nice man weighing packages, "Say, I heard there's a right interesting character around here, a lady..."

He went on stamping and never batted an eye, "That's Miss Eller," he said. "She runs the post office at Hickory Grove..."

Well, Miss Eller had just locked up and was on her way to the beauty parlor when accosted. And after we had hugged each other's necks, as folks do in Carolina, she said she was kind of surprised at anybody wanting to write about her.

"I really ain't no different from nobody else," she said. "I'm just your ordinary ol' ever-day somebody..."

But she said we would go on up to the house and look about and talk and see was there anything worth telling.

So we went up and walked around the yard, with Miss Eller's big old shaggy dog walking along smiling up at us, and we looked at the bluebird boxes, and Miss Eller said the bluebirds would be home soon, that they'd come sit on the light wires awhile and study the boxes before they signed any leases.

She said she was sorry the yard was not greened up yet, or the lilacs out. "People say it's real pretty," she said. "I'm sorry m' fish pond's dry. In the summer that dolphin spits water in the pool."

What a clever thing. Where in the world did she get it?

"Made it."

Inside there were paintings and collages and wood sculpture all over. St. Francis molded from stiffened burlap presided over the sitting room.

Who created all this stuff?

"I did," said Miss Eller, "ever bit."

She brought out two books of poetry. I had meant to ask her the rest of her name, but there it was in the author's slot, Essie Mae Eller. We sat and read awhile, tender, perceptive verses about home, and beauty and the mountains.

"I was brought up in Canton," she said, "I went in the Army Nurse Corps, and went to Korea. What was it like over there? It was a messy bunch of junk--we left a lot of white crosses on them hills..." (one of her medals is sealed in lucite, hanging in a shed with other treasures.)

"One time we went on an R and R leave in Japan, at the hotel there was this beautiful natural pool and I just lollygagged in it and washed off nine months of Korean crud. The hotel looked right out on Mt. Fujiyama. I remembered a teacher making me learn to spell Fujiyama and all the time I was thinkin', What difference does it make? I'm not a-going that way...But there I was..."

"When I got out of the Army I wanted to go back to school, but didn't have anywhere special to go. I came here to see a friend of mine, and stayed awhile."

"I got to know Hickory Grove. and when I was deciding what to do, these people said, why don't you come live with us, here in our town?"

"I'd never had anybody say that to me..."

In 1956 I came here and went a couple of years to Winthrop and nursed at Chester County Hospital, in the operating room, 'til my arthritis got so bad i couldn't stand at the table. Then this job came open at the post office"

"I never wanted to be a housewife, I don't like cooking and I don't like children. I wanted to be a farmer. I like digging in the good earth or doing anything creative."

"I came up during the Depression years, I remember making a car out of a cheese box, Coca-Cola caps and rubber bands. I decided then that one day I would have everything I needed to make anything I wanted too. Now I have three different work shops."

Miss Eller, 52, says she believes God intends women to be housewives and mothers, "but there are those who can't or don't fill those roles...I had to make my decision long ago. An old boyfriend had been after me seven or eight years, but there were other things I wanted to do more ...I haven't regretted it. You get sot in your ways and so cussed nobody could live with you and you don't want anybody messing around with you."

Essie Mae and Lorna Hinson, a school teacher, share a brick home surrounded by flower beds, bird baths, blue-bird houses, fish ponds and an immaculate lawn. "She's the staying force, more sensible and practical-minded than I am. I can be impulsive and childish. Fortunately the house is big enough that when we have to, one of us can get off in one end and one in the other."

#### ESSIE MAE ELLER: HER LIFE SPOKE SO ELOQUENTLY

By: Dot Jackson-The Charlotte Observer Nov. 6, 1976

One of the hardest things in this end of newspapering is to meet and spend a few hours, at best, with the best people living, and never pass their way again. Inevitably it happens. Tomorrows besiege us unmercifully.

These are not glittering celebrities, measuring every word and pose for some hoped-for effect. Rather, these are important people. The quality of their lives speaks for them eloquently.

Essie Mae Eller was one of the great souls. It was my good luck to meet her in the line of duty, and rare good luck to see her many times. We wrote back and forth and talked in the dead of night on the phone, in the common western Carolina tongue. Nobody could talk hill-billy with more class than Essie Mae, a child of Canton and later Rabun Gap.

In the beginning, she was a "source", the postmaster

knows everybody and she had been one many years. But the more one knew about her, the more there was.

She painted, not as Andrew Wyeth, maybe, but in the way she did everything else - the basics were all there.

She carved the most graceful figures of wood and sculpted with paper, rags and glue. She went abroad in the land, took pictures, set them up in travelogues with music, wrote texts and did programs for churches and clubs. Last year she did one for an English teachers seminar in Orlando, Fla., called America, The Beautiful.

"Are you ready to believe them professors give me a standing ovation she said after the fact. Of course.

She dug and cut gemstones, wrote poems about anything that touched her (and most everything did) published a couple volumes of verse. There was no other like her, and she was gone too soon.

The flag at the little post office in Hickory Grove flew at half mast Thursday, because Essie Mae Eller was being buried.

The truth was, I had it in mind to go see Essie Mae on Wednesday. She knew some young homesteaders she thought we should go see, one day on her dinner hour.

Besides, I had her Foxfire book. This was important. She had given it to me to take to Rabun Gap to be autographed by Eliot Wigginton, and I did, last trip that way. The autograph turned out to be a warm communication to a Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School expatriate, a message I knew she would love. It was too precious, then, to trust to any delivery but hand to hand.

Wednesday morning I read Harold Warren's piece about her death

It had been a bad year for Essie Mae. Arthritis cramped her fingers and knees. Years ago she gave up her job as an operating nurse because her legs were giving out. She was diabetic. Her heart was grand in spirit but awful in circulation. She looked hefty, but she had left a lot of her strength on the battlefields in Korea, where she spent 18 months as an Army nurse.

She had her gallbladder out, and soon had a stroke that left her blind for several weeks. Then I got a letter saying, "The Lord has spared me--I can see..."

Saturday night she had another stroke that paralyzed one side. Tuesday she died, at 53. On a beautiful day in the rust and gold and blue of fall she loved, she was buried, with most of Hickory Grove there to mourn.

"There is part of her in nearly every house in this town," Lorna said, "A picture or something she'd made, what she called 'some li'l ol' junk.'"

The quality that produced all that, and shared it, will live when the "junk" and the giver are dust. It was too real and rare to perish. It was LOVE.

Essie Mae "Mink" Eller  
daughter of George Lester  
and Frances Coleman Eller

## Early Settlers in Little Tennessee Valley

### William Gillespie

Lot number 135 lies near the center of the Valley. The deeds to this lot are among the oldest in the records of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Rabun County. The lot contains 250 acres and was drawn in the state lottery by Thomas J. Stamps of Oglethorpe County, then sold by him to Charles Gates of Rabun Co. for \$500.00 on January 12, 1821. It was then purchased from Gates by William Gillespie of Burke Co., N. C. for \$800.00 on September 11, 1822. The records show that Andrew Miller was the Clerk of the Superior Court, evidently was the first Clerk to fill that office. He remained Clerk for two or three more years.

William Gillespie was at this time quite a young man and unmarried. No doubt he came all the way from Burke County on horseback, over an Indian trail to look over the country and select the lot he decided to buy. The prices he and Charles Gates paid were out of line with prices paid for other lots just as good in the immediate neighborhood. It consisted of bottom land, fertile upland and some woodland, being a fairly smooth and level tract. It probably looked as good as adjoining lots which were bought for \$250.00

There is much to be seen of this man, William Gillespie, and his activities in the next quarter of a century. He married a girl, (Ma)Linda Eller, who was adopted by James Dillard and reared in his family. The old Gillespie home, or what remains of it, is still on this lot. It is where widow, Mrs. Rosetta Darnell lives, her father-in-law having married one of the Gillespie daughters. He must have had somewhat more schooling than the average first settlers. He was one of the Justices of the Inferior Court, and continued to fill that office for many years. He was in other ways one of the most useful men in his community, and there is no record about him other than that of an exemplary citizen

From book: Sketches of Rabun County History

Malinda Eller is daughter of Susannah "Sukey" Eller

## The Churches of Rabun County

### Head of Tennessee Baptist Church

This is the name of the church at Dillard, which it has had from the beginning. It was organized by members of a few families of the first settlers who had come from the western part of North Carolina, and who at first belonged to the mother church at Franklin. The minutes of the Franklin church show that as early as 1821 a group of these members asked for the privilege of organizing a branch of the Franklin Church at the head of the Little Tennessee River. In 1827 this group became an independent body. In 1829 four messengers from this church were sent to the meeting at the Tuckaseegee Association which met in what is now Jackson County. The Carters, Pinsons, Martins and Sittons were charter members of this organization. They at first had a log house in which they worshiped for a number of years. In 1853 land was given by James Dillard for the church and cemetery. There were two frame buildings before the present structure was erected. It was built in 1933 and is of brick and concrete. It is one of the best church buildings in the county. The auditorium and its entire setting is one of great beauty. Among early pastors were Rev. John Corn, Rev. Thomas Carter, who had two grandsons and three great grandsons in the Baptist ministry, and Rev. R. B. Harrison. The late F. C. McConnell was pastor of this church in 1884.

From the book: Sketches of Rabun County History

Susannah "Sukey" Eller was buried here









## ELLER - Corrections and Additions

James William Eller	1-3
Elisha Monroe Eller	4
Alfred Degraffide Eller	5-11
Cemetery Locations	12



JAMES WILLIAM ELLER

#158 in the original booklet. Corrections and  
additional information on his family

1. James William Eller, born 11-5-1869 in Georgia, died 5-19-1960, Loudon Co., Tn. He married first Amanda Rebeca Wimpey, born 7-17-1865, died 4-22-1922, on 11-7-1886, daughter of John Andrew (1829-1899) and L. Maira Jackson (1827-1907) Wimpey. Their children are:

- 2                    i Flora Bell Zada Eller, born 4-19-1890,  
                     died 6-17-1923, married Sherman Richards
- 3                    ii Ellen Eller, born 5-23-1888, died 8-18-  
                     1954, married Steve Duckworth
- 4                    iii Mary Elbie Adline Eller, born 4-12-1892,  
                     died 11-11-1968, married John Lumpkin  
                     Harkins

James married second, Mary Ellen Rogers, born 11-12-1872 in Oconee Co., S.C., died 12-14-1945 in Loudon Co., Tn., daughter of ?? Rogers and Martha E. Cox, on 9-23-1894 in Walhalla, S.C. Their children are:

- 5                    i Melvin Otto Eller, born 9-20-1895, died  
                     5-20-1961
- \*6                   ii Julia May Eller
- 7                    iii Janie Marie Eller, died at birth in  
                     Oconee Co., S.C.
- 8                    iv James Marion Eller, born 4-8-1900,  
                     died 11-2-1961
- 9                    v Albert Eller, born 8-6-1905, died 4-6-  
                     1907, Oconee Co., S.C.
- 10                   vi Walter Pickens Eller, born 10-3-1908,  
                     died 7-3-1953
- 11                   vii Buford Wyatt Eller, born 10-29-1910,  
                     died 11-26-1935
- \*12                   viii Lillie Effie Lee Eller

Unless otherwise noted, all of these children were born in Oconee Co., S.C. and died in Loudon Co., Tn.

SEVENTH GENERATION

6. Julia May Eller, born 11-28-1895 in Walhalla, S.C., died 12-18-1962, Loudon Co., Tn., married Wiley Richard Wright, born 4-10-1887 in Athens, Tn., died 7-24-1963, Loudon Co., Tn. son of Thomas (1832-1903) and Mary Ann (Polly) Bryant (1857-??) Wright, on 7-16-1914 in Loudon Co. Their children are:

- \*13            i William Thomas Richard Wright (Dick)
- \*14            ii Ruby Lorene Wright
- \*15            iii Mary Ellen Wright

12. Lillie Effie Lee Eller, born 11-2-1912, Walhalla, S.C. still living as of 7-24-2004, married Charles Varner, born 11-30-1911, died 3-15-2002, Loudon Co., Tn., on 3-16-1929. Their son:

- \*16            i William Lee Varner (Bill)

#### EIGHTH GENERATION

13. Dick Wright, born 8-30-1917, Loudon Co., Tn., married Gladys Virginia Fritts, born 10-2-1921, Loudon Co., died 12-31-2000 in Roswell, Ga., on 1-7-1941. Their daughter:

- 17            i Virginia Diane Wright, born 9-6-1949,  
              married Steve Conrad Strawderman on 1-1-1970. No children

14. Ruby Lorene Wright, born 1-2-1924 in Sevier Co., Tn., died there 9-6-1994, married Johnny Albert Williams on 5-30-1941 in Loudon Co. Their children are:

- \*18            i William Albert Williams
- 19            ii Glen Charles Williams, born 3-30-1961  
              Single

15. Mary Ellen Wright, born 5-6-1919 in Lenoir City, Tn., married first Edgar Eugene Turpin (6-26-1918 to 7-28-1967), son of Leonard (1893 to 1959) and Carrie Etta Petty (1893 to 1958) Turpin, on 5-21-1938 in Loudon Co. Their children are:

- \*20            i Bobby Gene Turpin
- \*21            ii Julianne (Judy) Turpin

Mary Ellen married second, Erby Gray Byrn (6-29-1919 to 12-24-2002), son of Houston Cannon (1895-1986) and Harriet Clark Taylor (1879-1950) Byrn, on 5-21-1954 in Maryville, Tn.

16. William Lee Varner, born 3-6-1930, died 8-31-1991, married Betty Ernestine Brown (8-20-1932-7-18-1990) on 12-20-1953 in Loudon Co. Their children are:

- \*22            i Ricky Lee Varner
- 23            ii Elizabeth Camille Varner, b 6-23-1958,  
              married Reese Haage. No children

#### NINETH GENERATION

18. William Albert Williams, born 3-26-1943, Loudon Co., married Susan Fann. Their children are:

- 24                    i Susan Hart Williams
- 25                    ii John Howard Williams

20. Bobby Gene Turpin, born 12-12-1939 in Loudon Co., Tn., married Mary Jane Sernicola, born 6-14-1945, on 5-28-1965 in Winchester, Tn. Their children are:

- \*26                    i Frank Bradford Turpin
- 27                    ii Benjamin Gray Turpin, married Robin Delridge on 6-25-1994. No children

21. Julianne Turpin, born 9-6-1941 in Lenoir City, Tn., married Walter Eugene Gunster, III, born 10-9-1942 at Fort Sill, Ok., on 1-24-1970, at Sewart AFB, Smyrna, Tn. He was a son of Walter, Jr. (1916) and Ella Keen Steel (1920) Gunster. Their daughter:

- \*28                    i Mary Alyson Gunster

22. Ricky Lee Varner, born 4-23-1955, died 12-20-2002, married and divorced. His daughter:

- 29                    i Jennifer Varner, born ca 1980

#### TENTH GENERATION

26. Frank Bradford Turpin married Lorainne Marie Colburn on 2-15-1997. Their daughter:

- 30                    i Leanne Marie Turpin, born 2-8-2000

28. Mary Alyson Gunster, born 12-3-1971 in Murfreesboro, Tn. married Warren Lee Cook, born 12-14-1969, son of Harold Thomas and Arlene Hall (1940) Cook, on 6-21-1997 in Murfreesboro. Their son:

- 31                    i August Ashe Cook, born 2-18-2002

Due to there being so much new information on James William, starting with him as # 1 seemed easier to understand.

ELISHA MONROE ELLER

#159 in Original Booklet  
Additional Information

213. Reba Eller Thornburg died 10-8-2004, Gaston Co., N.C.
257. Gregory Allen Forner died 2-23-2004.
263. Robert Joseph Eller married (Zhou), Yi Fan, born 6-27-1980 in China, on 10-18-2002 in China. They renewed their vows 7-17-2004 in Lenoir, N. C. In China a person's last name is listed first.
320. Elizabeth and Keith Lane, Jr. separated. She and Scott Appleby have a daughter:
- 1                    i Jewel Bryte Appleby, born 7-27-2004
322. Josie Marie Silvers has a son:
- 2                    i Dagon Blaine Silvers, born 3-23-2003
326. Faith and Shawn Glasgow have a daughter:
- 3                    i Piper Leah Glasgow, born 8-13-2003
360. Brooke Warren has a son:
- 4                    i Caleb Matthew Payseur, born 4-7-2004
361. Shannon and Christopher Allen Jenkins have a son:
- 5                    i Landon Conner Jenkins, born 7-7-2003



ALFRED DEGRAFFIDE ELLER

#163 in the original booklet, corrections  
and additional information on his family

163. Alfred Degraffide Eller, born 3-3-1879 in Georgia, died 9-27-1971 in Hall Co., Ga., married Effie Jane Ledford, born 6-10-1887 in Clay Co., died there 8-12-1957, on 8-27-1903 in Towns Co., Ga. They are buried at Philadelphia. Their children are:

- \*180            i James Clifford Eller
- 181            ii Narvell Base Eller, born 2-23-1906 in Clay Co., killed by a train 4-18-1923 in Canton, Ohio, buried at Philadelphia
- \*182            iii Odus Marion Eller
- \*183            iv Eula Blanche Eller
- \*184            v Ruby Christine Eller
- \*185            vi Alvin B. Eller
- \*186            vii Cora Robena Eller
- \*187            viii Kate Geneva Eller
- \*188            ix Norma Effie Eller

SEVENTH GENERATION

180. James Clifford Eller, born 1-27-1904, died 8-1-1977, married Josephine Patterson, born 10-11-1900, died 11-12-1983, on 1-28-1924. They are buried at Shooting Creek Church of God Cemetery. They both were born, died and buried in Clay Co. Their children are:

- \*219            i Virginia Dare Eller
- 220            ii Jo Ann Eller, born 2-13-1932, died 2-12-1936
- 221            iii Alvin Joe Eller, born 11-12-1940, died 11-13-1940 in Bradley Co., Tn.
- \*222            iv Lochie Byrd Eller

182. Odus Marion Eller, born 10-28-1909 in Clay Co., died there 6-6-2002, married Irma Dicy Shook, born 12-9-1914 in Towns Co., on 2-8-1934 in Towns Co. Odus is buried at Philadelphia. Their children are:

- \*223            i David Lyvon Eller
- 224            ii Anna Jo Eller, born 3-25-1941, Clay Co., married Glade Chapman, Jr., born 9-8-1939 in Al., on 6-24-1992 in Jackson Co., N.C.

1<sup>st</sup> Charles Reese - Braselton, NC  
2<sup>nd</sup> John - From England  
3<sup>rd</sup> Clay Chapman

183. Eula Blanche Eller, born 1-30-1912, died 3-9-1998, married Fred Charles Moffitt, born 4-26-1908, died 4-8-1988, on 1-30-1931. They are buried at Bethal Cemetery. They both were born, died, married and buried in Clay Co. Their children are:

- 225 i Melba Jean Moffitt, died at birth
- \*226 ii James Crandall Moffitt
- 227 iii Minnette Lee Moffitt, born 8-14-1936 married Andrew Eugene Moore, born 8-5-1936, on 7-1-1961 in Hayesville. Both were born in Clay Co.

184. Ruby Christine Eller, born 11-19-1914, died 1-1-1989, married Vaughn J. Gibson, born 12-14-1914, died 3-29-2001. They are buried at Philadelphia. They both were born and died in Clay Co. Their children are:

- \*228 i Junia Gibson

229 - listed as sister of Junia, actually she is her daughter

- New ii Hayes Gibson, married Rita Wheeler (3 more) *Tressa*
- \*New iii Howard Gibson (*Patsy, Phyllis*) — *Linda*

185. Alvin B. Eller, born 8-8-1918, died 10-10-1992, married Irene Nicholson, born 10-10-1925 in Towns Co., on 12-20-1941 in Towns Co. Alvin is buried at Philadelphia. Their children are:

- \*231 i Linda Sue Eller — <sup>1st</sup> Steve Gilbertson-Braslow
- \*232 ii Carolyn Jane Eller <sup>2nd</sup> ~~Clabe~~ Bob maquis
- \*233 iii Margaret Diane Eller <sup>1st</sup> Anthony Pasley
- 234 iv James Alvin Eller, born 8-13-1959, Towns Co., married Margaret Annette Luckey, born 1-28-1960 in Va., on 11-18-1977 in Morrow, Ga.

186. Cora Robena Eller, born 12-31-1920, died 7-31-2004, both in Clay Co., married Wade Chastain Galloway, born 7-1-1918 in S. C., died 5-17-1960, Clay Co. Cora is buried at Philadelphia, Wade in S. C. Their children are:

- \*236 i Joyce Marie Galloway — *Farnell Morris Curtis*
- \*237 ii Brenda Carol Galloway <sup>1st</sup> Delton Garrett <sup>2nd</sup> George Ree (like) Waldroup Jr

187. Kate Geneva Eller, born 1-20-1923, Clay Co., married <sup>3rd</sup> Arvil McNeil Long, born 2-21-1921, Clay Co., on 7-9-1939 *Barry Bryant Franklin*

- \*230 i Gene Millard Long

188. Norma Effie Eller, born 7-1-1930, Clay Co., married Max Anderson, born 7-17-1923, died 9-29-1974, on 7-6-1946 in Hiawassee, Ga. Max was born, died and buried in Clay Co. buried at Shooting Creek Church of God Cemetery. Their son:

\*235

i Ronald Anderson <sup>1st</sup>

*Jeanie Mashburn  
2nd Sheri Shortt*

EIGHTH GENERATION

219. Virginia Dare Eller, born 9-10-1924, Clay Co., married John Henry Martin, born 10-13-1925, Clay Co., on 4-30-1942 in Hiawassee, Ga. Their children are:

\*292

i John Henry Martin, Jr. <sup>1st</sup>

*Barbara Thomas*

\*293

ii Janice Carol Martin <sup>1st</sup>

*Lee Saxon 2nd*

*2nd  
3rd*

\*294

iii Michael Danny Martin

222. Lochie Byrd Eller, born 8-10-1942, Cherokee Co., married Lewis Basil Owens, born 2-15-1942 in Etowah Co., Al. on 6-23-1963. Their children are:

\*295

i Ceylanda Owens

\*296

ii Anthony Basil Owens

223. David Lyvon Eller, born 10-11-1937, Clay Co., died in July, 1997, married Linda Faye Rutermeier, born 4-21-1945 in Tn., on 6-28-1967 in Fulton Co., Ga. Their children are:

297

i Amy Lyvonne Eller, born 8-16-1974, Fulton Co., married Thorsten Aherns, born in Germany on 4-21-2001

298

ii Samuel Frederick Eller, born 10-25-1979 in Fulton Co., Ga. Single

226. James Crandall Moffitt, born 1-10-1935, Clay Co., married Jo Ann Cross, born 6-24-1937 in Macon Co., on 2-20-1959 in Towns Co. Their children are:

\*299

i Kent Crandall Moffitt

300

ii Suzanne Moffitt, born 1-3-1969, Cherokee Co. married David Ledford, born 10-17-1968 in Towns Co., on 3-22-1995 in Gatlinburg, Tn.

228. Junia Gibson, born July, 1936, married Edgar Moore, born in 1932, in 1953. Their daughters are:

\*301

i Rita Moore

*- 1st Eddie Thomas-murphy*

\*302

ii Susan Christine Moore

New: Howard Gibson, born 8-21-1943, died 5-31-2000, buried at Philadelphia, married Patsy Martin.<sup>19</sup> Their children are:

New i Ray Gibson, married Phyllis ??

New ii Jennifer Gibson, married, had a daughter

Howard married Linda Jean <sup>Martin</sup> ??, born 3-20-1947, died 4-28-1995, also buried at Philadelphia

231. Linda Sue Eller, born 2-16-1943, Towns Co., married Steve Gilbertson, born in Wisconsin, on 7-17-1961 in Clay Co. Their son:

304 i Jason Andrew Gilbertson, born 9-9-1971 in Fulton Co. Single

Linda Sue married second, Robert Edward Magnus, born 3-6-1951 Fulton Co., on 4-5-1996 in Charleston, S. C.

232. Carolyn Jane Eller, born 10-21-1944 in Cherokee Co., married Nicky Gene Moss, born 11-9-1942 on 10-8-1961 in Union Co. Their son:

\*305 i Bryon Eugene Moss

233. Margaret Diane Eller, born 1-28-1954, Towns Co., married Anthony Edward Pasley, born 2-10-1954 in Fulton Co., on 11-18-1974 in Atlanta, Ga. Their sons:

306 i Anthony Shawn Pasley, born 10-31-1977 in Fulton Co. Single

307 ii Christopher Leland Pasley, born 7-19-1979 in Clark Co., married Tammy Watkins, born 9-19-1977, on 5-12-2001 in Atlanta, Ga.

236. Joyce Marie Galloway, born 11-24-1942 in Knoxville, Tn., married Farrell Curtis, born 8-28-1942, Hayesville, N. C. on 6-25-1961 at Shooting Creek Church of God, Hayesville. Their children are:

New i Darrell Lynn Curtis, born 3-22-1962, died 3-14-1966

\*309 ii Deborah Annette Curtis - Richard Terry

\*New iii Pamela Michelle Curtis - Andrew Woodard

237. Brenda Carol Galloway, born 12-6-1945, Columbus, Ga., married Delton Garrett.

Brenda married George "Ike" Waldroup, Jr. Their children are:

310 i Jason Scott Waldroup, born 11-17-1976, single

311 ii Celena Jennifer Waldroup, born 10-22-1978, married James Martin Bailey on 10-23-2004 in Atlanta, Ga.

Brenda married Barry Franklin on 3-18-2000.

Jason - married  
Sonya Nations  
step daughter Alexi Pottengill  
son - Taylor D. Waldroup - 9/8/2010

Celena - married  
James Bailey  
Daughter - Olivia Claire Bailey  
2/26/2011

\*303 i Gena Annette Long

308 i David Ronald Anderson, born 3-27-1986 in  
Cleveland, Tn.

397           i Lisa Martin, married, had a daughter,  
              Melissa who married, had a child

295. Ceylanda Owens, born 8-9-1967, married Terry Utt, born 5-22-1967, on 11-20-1993. Their children are:

- New i Samuel Strader Utt, born 9-14-1997
- New ii Christian Seth Utt, born 1-21-1999
- New iii Jaron Lewis Utt, born 8-16-2000

296. Anthony Basil Owens, born 9-19-1971, married Carla Gwaltney, born 10-10-1970 on 7-31-1993. Their children are:

- New i Aston Basil Owens, born 9-12-1995
- New ii Casson James Owens, born 10-27-1997
- New iii Carolina Josephine Owens, born 10-30-2000
- New iv Isabella Byrd Owens, born 9-30-2003

299. Kent Crandall Moffitt, born 9-22-1960, married Jackie Styles, born 3-25-1963, on 6-9-1984. Both born in Cherokee Co., N.C. and were married there. Their son:

- 407 i Justin Moffitt, born 4-22-1994, Sylva, N.C.

301. Rita Moore, born in 1955, married ?? Thomas. Their daughter:

- 408 i Michelle Thomas, born in 1981

302. Susan Christine Moore, born 3-12-1957, married Daniel Walter Gaddy, born 11-21-1957, on 5-24-1983. Their children:

- 409 i Jeremiah Daniel Gaddy, born 7-24-1984
- 410 ii Jessica Christine Gaddy, born 11-8-1985

305. Bryon Eugene Moss, born 9-8-1966, DeKalb Co., Ga., married Patricia Lynn Price, born 4-9-1964, Fulton Co., on 12-22-1990. Their children are:

- 411 i Kristan Amalia Moss, born 6-13-1994 in Forsyth Co., Ga.
- 412 ii Blakie Alexandra Moss, born 12-30-1996
- New iii Landry Brynn Moss, born 6-11-2003  
Brynn & Blakie also born in Forsyth Co.

309. Deborah Annette Curtis, born 10-29-1964, married Richard Terry, born 1-28-1962, on 5-16-1987 in Marietta, Ga. Their children are:

- New i Macy Kaitlyn Terry, born 8-30-1992
- New ii Wesley Curtis Terry, born 1-28-1998

New - Pamela Michelle Curtis, born 7-8-1971, married Andrew Woodward, born 1-29-1970 on 11-5-1987 in Woodstock, Ga. Their daughter is:

- New i Ashley Marie Woodward, born 10-6-1988

*Andrew Groom*

*Daughter Nora<sup>10</sup> Jane Groom*

## CEMETERY LOCATION'S

Bell Scene Baptist Church, Hiawassee, Towns Co., Ga.  
Bethel Church, Tiger, Rabun Co., Ga.  
Blairsville City, Blairsville, Union Co., Ga.  
Blue Heights Baptist Church, Mountain City, Rabun Co., Ga.  
Boyd's Chapel Cemetery, Hiawassee, Towns Co., Ga.  
Brasstown Baptist Church, Young Harris, Towns Co., Ga.  
Burch Cemetery, Sunnyside, Towns Co., Ga.  
Chastain Memorial Park, Fannin Co., Ga.  
Dills Cemetery, Jackson Co., N. C.  
Double Springs Methodist Church, Oconee Co., S. C.  
Dratinville Cemetery, Cherokee Co., S. C.  
Enotah Cemetery, Hiawassee, Towns Co., Ga.  
Hanover Church Cemetery, Kings George, Va.  
Hillcrest Memorial Gardens, Greer, Spartenburg Co., S.C.  
Lower Bell Creek Baptist Church, Towns Co., Ga.  
Lower Hightower Cemetery, Hiawassee, Towns Co., Ga.  
Macedonia Baptist Church, Hiawassee, Towns Co., Ga.  
North Mt. Zion Church of God, Towns Co., Ga.  
Old Union Cemetery, Towns Co., Ga.  
Osborn Cemetery, Hiawassee, Towns Co., Ga.  
Paris Cemetery, Jackson Co., N. C.  
Philadelphia Baptist Church, Hayesville, Clay Co., N.C.  
Pickett Cemetery, Rabun Co., Ga.  
Roan Cemetery, Rabun Co., Ga.  
Rose Hill Burial Park, Akron, Ohio  
Scataway Cemetery, Towns Co., Ga.  
Shooting Creek Church of God Cemetery, Hayesville,  
Clay Co., N. C.  
Tallulah River Cemetery, Tate City, Towns Co., Ga.  
Upper Bell Creek Baptist Church, Towns Co., Ga.  
Upper Hightower Baptist Church, Hiawassee, Towns Co., Ga.

303. Gena Annette Long, born 12-6-1968 in Marietta, Ga.,  
married Tommy Evon, born 2-4-1968 in Detroit, Michigan,  
in Hall Co., Ga. Their son:

New                    i Christopher Thomas Long Evon, born  
                             10-10-2003

#### TENTH GENERATION

402. Sequoyah T. Martin, born 7-29-1982 in Richmond, Wa.,  
married Leigh McPherson on 9-6-2003 in Cloudland, Ga. Their  
son:

New                    i Aldon Phoenix Aquarius Martin, born  
                             - -2004

Numbers not in sequence at times due to the fact that I  
listed Alfred and Effie's children in birth order on this  
revision.