

Carson Family

OCCGS REFERENCE ONLY

JOHN AND LEAH CARSON: FROM FAYETTE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA TO BUTLER COUNTY, OHIO

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Ten years ago, through a query in the Ohio Genealogical Society newsletter, Glenis Sherwood and I discovered that our ancestors, Nancy and Margaret Potts, were sisters who married brothers, John and James Carson, in Butler County, Ohio. The Carson parents, John and Leah, moved in 1793 from Fayette County, Pennsylvania to Ohio according to land, tax, jury and census records. Through Ohio research we compiled information about nine of the eleven Carson children: Samuel (Leah Lowry) Carson, John (Nancy Potts) Carson, Sarah Carson (Samuel McCafferty), Elizabeth Carson (John Coapstick/Copestick), Alexander (Mary Wallace) Carson, Nancy Carson (William Potts), Leah Carson (Jonathan Tullis), and James (Margaret Potts) Carson.

Fayette County and Ohio records provided clues about people who were neighbors, and possibly relatives, of the Carsons. These surnames include Chambers, Jackson, Larew, Lowrey, Matson, McCafferty, McClure, McClean, Patterson, Potts, Reed, Robison and Wilson. Despite much effort, we have been unable to prove the names of John Carson's parents or to learn the maiden name of Leah Carson. The purpose of this article is to provide information about John and Leah Carson in Fayette and Butler Counties, and to summarize our research about the two unidentified Carson children. It is our hope that readers of this article will recognize ancestors and connections and will join the discussion to help delineate the relationships of this family.

Pennsylvania Records

The Carsons in Pennsylvania. According to census records, John and Leah Carson were born between 1750 and 1760. Although his approximate birth date suggests that John was the right age to have served in the Revolutionary War, no records document his participation. We have found no records for him dated earlier than a 1783 listing of all taxable inhabitants living in Franklin Township, Westmoreland County, which noted four Carsons: Alexander (single), John, William, and William (single).¹ No Carsons were on a similar listing of 1773 Westmoreland inhabitants, nor on a 1776 listing for Bedford County. Thus it appears that the Carsons lived in the part of Westmoreland that became Fayette in 1783, but that they did not live there in 1773 when Westmoreland County was formed from Bedford. A record for John Carson in Fayette County indicates that he served on a jury and heard several cases in March 1785.²

John Carson was not recorded as single in 1783, so he was apparently married and possibly living on land that he had bought five years later. His warrant was dated 7 May 1788 and his survey, 6 October 1788, for 133 acres called "Hillsborough....situated on the Road leading from Colonel Cooks to Thomas Gists on the Waters of Youghiogeni River in



Road leading from Colonel Cooks to Thomas Gists on the Waters of Youghiogeni River in Franklin Township, Fayette County." ³ A patent was granted to John Carson, 14 September 1791, for the sum of £10, 2 shillings, for 133 acres and an allowance of six percent for roads. Adjoining landowners were Widow Wilson, Thomas Patterson, Elinor Hunter, and John Reed.⁴ *The Horn Papers* plat shows all of John Carson's neighbors, including Elenor Hunter, whose husband was probably James Hunter.⁵ For some reason *The Horn Papers* show the land in Perry rather than Franklin Township, although Perry Township was created in 1839 from Franklin, Tyrone and Washington townships.

The 133 acres had appreciated considerably by 18 March 1793, when John and Leah Carson sold "Hillsborough," located in Franklin Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, to Lawrence Feickler for a consideration of £200. The same adjoiners were named. The deed was signed by John Carson and Leah (x) Carson (her mark) and witnessed by Samuel Jackson and Alexander McClean.⁶

John Carson and his neighbor John Reed are listed as original landholders in Franklin Township. John Reed's land "Ogeechee," was surveyed 29 August 1788 on a warrant dated 7 May 1788, with the patent issued to John Reed 16 June 1789.⁷ John Reed may have moved with the Carsons to Butler County, where in 1810 John and Samuel Carson were appointed with Henry Weaver and John Bryson to divide land for a partition suit of John Reed, deceased. The heirs of John Reed were David Reed, Jane Reed of Olive, Martha Fish (Thomas), Margaret Reed, William Reed and Christena. The division was made by Peter Sheaffer, John Carson and John Brison and the deed was witnessed by Samuel Carson, Henry Weaver, John Bryson, and John Carson.⁸

In Fayette County records, several names associated with the Carson family are found in the Franklin Township taxpayers of 1785 including John Carson, 100 acres, 4 horses, 3 cattle; William Carson, 200 acres, 3 horses and 2 cattle; Jas. Hunter, 300 acres, (horses and cattle numbers obscured in photocopy of the page); John McClellan, 300 acres, 5 horses, 5 cattle and 1 slave; Thos. Patterson, 90 acres, 3 horses, 4 cattle; and William Willson, 100 acres, 2 horses, 2 cattle. The single freemen in the township in 1785 included Alex. Carson, 1 horse, 2 cattle, and William Carson, no land or animals.⁹

William Wilson owned land adjoining John Carson and could have been the husband or son of Widow Wilson, named in John Carson's patent and deed. Another neighbor, Joseph Esington, was granted 124 acres called "Flat" located on the waters of Washingtons Mill Run in Franklin Township, Fayette County, adjoining lands of William Wilson, John Carson, Thomas Patterson and William Robison. The survey of 14 April 1785 was pursuant to a warrant dated 4 March 1785.¹⁰

A deed dated 23 October 1784 shows that Robert Dugan (Dougan) of Franklin Township, Fayette County, sold this 124 acres to Joseph Esington of Carnarvin Township, Lancaster County for £77 10 shilling. Witnesses were Robert Dougan and Alexander McClean.¹¹

Perhaps some members of the Wilson and Lowery families also moved with the Carsons from Fayette County to Butler County, Ohio. There was a John Lowery in the 1790 Fayette County census.¹² Could he have been the one named in the orphan and testamentary records of Butler County 1803-1810, when Catharine Lowry, widow, relict

of John, gave bond of \$400 with Thomas Davis and John Carson, 15 May 1804?¹³ In 1820, Catherine Lowery, age 45+, was a Butler County neighbor of John Carson.¹⁴

Perhaps John Lowry (wife Catherine) was the father of John Lowry (wife Elizabeth). Elizabeth's will was abstracted as follows: dated 24 October 1807 and recorded 13 January 1808, for Elizabeth Lowery, wife of John Lowery, deceased, of Butler County, Ohio. The will named sons Abraham and Fleming and daughters Sarah, Eliza and Martha. It also mentioned Martha Wilson, Mary Hyndman, Isabel Gowdy, and Margaret Robison and specified that Abraham was to choose where he would live, Fleming and Martha were to live with Samuel Wilson, while Sarah and Eliza were to remain with Samuel Hyndman. The executors were William Gowdy and John Bigger, Jr. Witnesses were Samuel Wilson, Samuel Hyndman, and John Wilson.¹⁵

Thomas Davis who gave bond with John Carson for the widow of John Lowery was probably their neighbor, shown as age 45+ in the 1820 census.¹⁶ Of the many Davis families in Butler County, Ohio, at least one moved from Fayette County. Zachariah and Hannah Davis married in the fall of 1813, and moved from Fayette County in the spring of 1814. Several years later, they moved across the state line to Franklin County, Indiana.¹⁷ Perhaps this was the son of Zachariah who owned 110 acres near John Carson in Fayette County. Zachariah's land, "Affection," was surveyed 24 May 1793 on a warrant of 5 November 1791 with the patent issued to Eleanor Davis which leads one to believe that Zachariah had died and his son was not of age.¹⁸

Robison is a surname found in Fayette County and Butler County where Elizabeth Matson married William Robinson (*sic*), 28 December 1830.¹⁹ The will of Thomas Matson identifies his daughter, Elizabeth Robison, as the wife of William Robison.²⁰ William Robison, a farmer in Darke County, Ohio, was born in Pennsylvania in 1808. Elizabeth (Matson) Robison was born in Ohio in 1811.²¹

Thomas Matson was the son of Captain John Matson, whose will was probated 11 October 1804 in Hamilton County, Ohio.²² It named his wife, Jane, and eight children whose names and approximate birth dates are James (1766), John (1769), Ann (1772), Isaac (1775), Thomas (1776), Enoch (after 1774), Mary (1779) and Elizabeth (after 1779). In tracing the genealogy of Captain Matson, his descendants were led to search in Fayette County, Pennsylvania by a 1796 letter from Judge John Cleves Symmes to Captain John Matson requesting that Matson purchase for him "in the Redstone country two pair of mill-stones and everything needed to make them work."²³

John and Jane Matson owned land in Fayette County but were probably married earlier in York County, Pennsylvania, where John Matson served on the Pennsylvania line.²⁴ John Matson acquired 210 acres in Redstone Township²⁵ and received a patent on 11 December 1787 for the land, called "Hawkins Slavery."²⁶ Adjoining landowners were Zacheriah Brashear, Samuel Jackson, Edward Elliott, Selah Rude and Samuel Crable.²⁷ Could this have been the same Samuel Jackson who witnessed the deed when Leah and John Carson sold their Fayette County land?

Carson Census Records. The only two Carson families in the 1790 U.S. census in Franklin Township, Fayette County, were John Carson with 1 male over 16, 3 males under 16, and 3 females, and William Carson with 3 males over 16, 1 male under 16, and 3 females.²⁸ This tally agrees with the facts known about the family of John and Leah:

John Sr. (30-40 years old), possibly an unknown son younger than 16, Samuel (5), John (3), an unknown daughter, Elizabeth (1) and Leah (30-40).

The other census record fits the family of William Carson, who left a will in Fayette County, dated 19 February 1791 and probated 30 January 1792.²⁹ William appointed his sons John (named as the eldest son) and Alexander as executors. Others mentioned were his wife Sarah, son William, daughters Elizabeth Jane (we assume this is two daughters although there is no comma between the two names) and Sarah, in addition to Mary Cassady, who might possibly be William or Sarah's sister. Son Alexander received fifty acres of land that adjoined Joseph Roab and John McLala. William Carson signed by his mark as witnessed by John McClelland and Henry Robinson. Researchers hired in Westmoreland and Fayette counties were unable to find any land records for William.³⁰

However, William Carson's name is mentioned in the records of William Rankin and William Gillespy. Their land, surveyed in 1786, was on a branch of Redstone Creek in Union Township, Fayette County, adjoining each other's and that of Eleanor Dawson, James Finley Esq., Henry Dawson, and "vacant land (or owned by John McClelland and William Carson)."³¹

This William Carson Senior, according to the Ancestral File of Earl Neilson, was born about 1720 in Ireland, died 1791 in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, and was married to Sarah, who was born about 1725 in Ireland. No documentation was provided.³²

Some researchers have linked William Carson (will 1791) with one who served in the Revolutionary War, but have not proved the link. The roll of Captain Casper Weitzel's company included Samuel Carson, William Carson Jr. and William Carson, Sr. in the Pennsylvania Rifle Regiment, First Battalion, commanded by Colonel Samuel Miles.³³ It is interesting that in 1811 Jos. Wetzel patented 50 acres next to the land John Carson sold in Fayette County.³⁴

It is probable that the Carsons were connected to Henry Robinson who witnessed William Carson's will. The fact that William's sons, William and Alexander Carson, posted bond for Elizabeth Robinson, widow of Joshua Robinson of Georges Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania³⁵ suggests that Elizabeth might be their sister.

Joshua was the son of Henry Robinson. The 1790 census lists Henry Robison, Joshua Robison, and William Robenson in Georges Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania.³⁶ Henry died after his son Joshua was killed by Indians.³⁷ Other details are available about Joshua Robinson but will not be presented here.

Henry's wife Jenny renounced her right to administer his will 24 May 1803.³⁸

According to the D.A.R. application of F. Eleanor Chaney Henry Robinson was born about 1740 and died after 1802. The application states that Henry Ribinson [*sic*] and three of his sons (William, John and James) were privates in the First Pennsylvania Regiment. [Reference given is Fifth Series Pennsylvania Archives, Volume 11: 736.] Henry served 18 months under Colonel Craig in Captain Jackson's Company as a private. He deserted from the First Regiment. He transferred in 1782 to Captain Bickers Company, Second Regiment. [Fifth Series Pennsylvania Archives, volume 2:736, 755.] The application notes that he was Scotch-Irish, Presbyterian and settled in Georges Township, Fayette County, in 1780, on a farm which was owned by the Robison family for more than 99 years.³⁹

Ohio Records

Pioneers. John and Leah Carson were probably in their 30s⁴⁰ in 1793 when they traveled from Fayette County to Hamilton County, Ohio.⁴¹ They may have boated down the Ohio River to Cincinnati, possibly with seven of their eleven children.⁴² At least two of their children, James and Jane, were born in Ohio, according to census, cemetery and land records. Two others who died before 1850, Nancy Carson Potts and Leah Carson Tullis, may have been born in Ohio. Census records for the two of Nancy's seven children, Margaret and John C., indicate that Nancy was born in Ohio.

In an attempt to identify the eleven children of John and Leah, we searched land, marriage, cemetery, census, and commissioners' records, as well as other sources, such as county histories. Nine children are easily identified through land records, while the other two remain illusive.

Carson Land and Tax Records. In 1798, five years before Ohio became a state, John Carson purchased 400 acres in Section 17, Township 3, Range 3, from John Cleves Symmes, for a consideration of \$400 French crowns of silver.⁴³ The Butler County land was located in what was called by several names—the Symmes Purchase, the Miami Purchase and the Military Range.⁴⁴ John Carson also acquired, by right of preemption dated 10 November 1801, 106 acres in S25 T2 R4, northwest of section 17. In 1802, John and Leah Carson sold 100 acres, in S17 T3 R3, to Joseph Patterson for 100 French crowns of silver.⁴⁵ Perhaps Joseph was related to Thomas Patterson, whose land adjoined John Carson's in Fayette County.

In 1804, when Butler County was created from Hamilton County, the neighbors of John Carson were Mr. Doty, Mr. Brady, John Reed and Joseph Henry, according to the account in James McBride's *Pioneer Biography*.⁴⁶ John Carson was an assessor of houses in Lemon Township in August 1804 and a viewer of the road from Enoch's Mill to the county line in June 1806, according to *The Butler County Commissioner's Journal*.⁴⁷

Tax records, which began in 1806, show that John Carson, Lemon Township, paid taxes for 300 acres (S17 T3 R3) from 1806 to 1833, for 106 acres (S25 T2 R4) from 1806 to 1816 and for 118 acres (S25 T2 R4) from 1820-1831.⁴⁸ Some of the Carson children lived on and farmed part of this land. The children eventually bought the acreage when John and Leah reached their 70s.

Ohio Census Records. In 1820 John and Leah, both ages 45+, lived with a male 18-26 (probably son James Carson, married 20 April 1820), a female not yet 10 (daughter Jane) and 3 females ages 16-26 (daughter Sarah, James' wife Margaret Potts Carson, and an unknown female).⁴⁹

In 1830, John and Leah were 70-80, and lived with a male 5-10 (unknown), a female 15-20 (daughter Jane) and a female 20-30 (unknown).⁵⁰

Leah Carson died after 1830 and before 1835, when her husband, John Carson Senior, died in Butler County, Ohio. He and his daughter Jane are named in a bill dated 18 April 1834, submitted to the estate by Dr. Jacob Kemp who charged " \$13.75 for medical attendance on the aforesaid Carson and his daughter Jane."⁵¹ John Carson died before 12

August 1835, when his estate was inventoried. Two days later it was auctioned. The balance of John Carson's estate, \$448.06, was divided among the unnamed heirs at law.

Land Deeded to Carson Children. In the early 1830s, John and Leah sold their land, mostly to their children, although no relationships are stated in the deeds.

March 1832, Jonathan (Leah Carson) Tullis bought 75 acres S17 T3 R3
May, 1833 John (Elizabeth Carson) Copestick bought 50 acres S17 T3 R3
Oct, 1833, Andrew (unknown Carson?) Chambers bought 25 acres S17 T3
May 1835 James (Margaret Potts) Carson bought 25 acres S17 T3 R3
June 1835 Samuel (Leah Lowry) Carson bought 25 acres S17 T3 R3
July 1835 Sam (Sarah Carson) McCafferty bought 26 3/4 acres S17 T3 R3

After Leah died, as shown by deeds that lack her signature, John sold the remainder of his land to three Carsons—Jane (30 acres), Scott (21 acres), and Elizabeth (12 acres). Jane was his daughter, but no records have been located to identify Scott and Elizabeth. They were probably the unidentified male and female in the 1830 household of John Carson.

Deed records show that Scott became of age on 19 December 1842 but was only 20 in 1840 when he attempted to sell his 21 acres to James Carson, Junior.⁵² In a deed, dated 19 December 1842 and recorded 13 January 1842, Scott Carson of Butler County, Ohio sold to Thomas B. Tullis of Hamilton County, Ohio, 21 acres, for a consideration of \$1050, described exactly as it was when he attempted to sell it to James Carson, Jr. It was signed Scott Carson. Witnesses were Joseph Borgoyer and Alex Lemmar.⁵³

The key deed, because it was the basis of the quitclaim deed in 1840, was dated 13 April 1832 and recorded 3 August 1835, when John Carson sold to Jane Carson 30 acres in Butler County, Ohio, S17 T3 R3, for a consideration of \$500.⁵⁴ The deed does not name her as his daughter, so it is fortunate that she is identified by the doctor's bill in John's estate. On his death bed, John Carson probably counseled his daughter Jane: "Get over to the court house and record that deed." Little did he imagine that less than two years later Jane too would die.

Carson Neighbors. Jane Carson died before 12 July 1837, when her estate was inventoried by neighbors Benjamin Cox, John P. Williamson and George Roby.⁵⁵ The value of the inventory was \$207.25. Another neighbor, Andrew Boyd, was the administrator for both John and Jane Carson's estates.

Our research has not shown any of these neighbors to be related to the Carsons. Benjamin Cox was the son of Joseph Cox, a surveyor for Judge John Cleves Symmes.⁵⁶ Joseph and his wife Ann Matson Cox (daughter of Captain John Matson) moved 1 January 1796 to the area that became Butler County where they owned 106 acres in Section 21, Union Township. Benjamin Cox was married to Margaret Larew, 26 December 1839, by John McLean, J.P.⁵⁷ Perhaps this was a second marriage because there is a Benjamin Cox in the 1830 census age 20-30 with a female 20-30.⁵⁸ Cemetery records show that Benjamin was born 26 February 1797 and died 25 July 1852.⁵⁹ No connection has been made between Margaret Larew and Abraham Larew who lived in Franklin

Township, Fayette County, in 1790.⁶⁰ It is possible that Margaret had been married previously, too.

Benjamin Cox's brother John's daughter Sarah Elizabeth was married to Sylvester McLean who was born in Fayette County, Pennsylvania to parents Samuel and Elizabeth (Whitlock) McLean. The McLeans came to Butler County in 1804.⁶¹ Benjamin's sister Elizabeth⁶² was married to David Williamson 29 May 1816.⁶³ There are many Williamson families in Butler County as well as many Roby families, although neither have been found to connect to Fayette County. In the 1807 Butler County, Ohio Census, George Roby had 3 males 21 or older in his household in Liberty Township.⁶⁴ An 1844 Butler County estate (#0189) for George Roby has yet to be examined.

Quitclaim Deed. Jane Carson's 30 acres was sold to William Smith for a total consideration of \$1004, in nine quitclaim deeds, recorded 6 June 1840. For ten heirs at a full share of \$100 each, the total should be \$1000.

Combining marriage records with information from these deeds helps to identify eight of the ten heirs of Jane Carson. Only one of the deeds, that of James and Samuel Carson and their wives Margaret and Leah, indicates the number of heirs: "it being two tenths of said land that the said Samuel and James Carson are entitled as heirs at law of the said Jane Carson, deceased."⁶⁵ All of the deeds say heirs-at-law except for the Ann Carson deed and the William, Jane, Elizabeth and Mary Chambers deed.

Those named and the consideration received in the nine deeds, in the order of the deed book entries, were: Ann Carson (\$15); John and Mary Sutton (\$50); John Carson (\$100); Alexander and Mary Carson (\$100); William and Jane Chambers, Elizabeth and Mary Chambers (\$100); John and Susannah Chambers and Leah Tullis (\$139); William and Nancy Potts and Sarah McAfferty (\$200); James and Margaret Carson and Samuel and Leah Carson (\$200); Elizabeth Coapstick (\$100).

All Recorded 6 June 1840, Butler County, Ohio

| Dated | Seller | County | DB 9: | \$ |
|-----------------------------|--|-----------------|-------|-------|
| 25 September 1839 | Ann Carson | Butler Co Oh | 102-3 | \$15 |
| 27 December 1837 | John/Mary Sutton | Butler Co Oh | 103-4 | \$50 |
| 5 November 1837 | John Carson | Ham Co In | 104-5 | \$100 |
| 19 October 1847 (sic) | Alexander/Mary Carson (Date written correctly in acknowledgment at end.) | Fay Co In | 105-6 | \$100 |
| 19 October 1837 | Wm/Jane Chambers; Eliz/Mary Chambers | Butler Co Oh | 106-7 | \$100 |

To be continued in our July issue

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GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Carson Kendall Corrigendum



BY ALLENE C. HESTER of San Diego, California

TWO family Bibles have been found that tie my family, and doubtless others, with a book on the Kendalls, a well known name. The genealogy titled "History and Genealogy of the Kendalls, Cunninghams, Snodgrasses", by Norman Festus Kendall, was published in Grafton, West Virginia, by the Grafton Sentinel Publishing Company. In it was mention of Joseph Chancellor Kendall, and it also told of Joseph's father and mother, James and Rebecca (Wroe) Kendall. According to the book, Joseph was an only child. My great-grandmother was Catherine Chancellor Kendall, of the same parents, but her name was omitted from the records.

I made a trip to Illinois and located two Bibles in the possession of descendants of Catherine Chancellor (Kendall) Carson. The records were very clear, and I have assembled the information here, feeling that many descendants will want the entire James Kendall family data, and the Carson family, too.

Woffendal Kendall, father of James, speaks of the profession of son James in his will, recorded in King George County, Virginia, 1 October 1775, and records from the life of Catherine Kendall Carson state that James was a physician. He may have been a boat captain as well, but I don't know when, although this is stated in the Kendall book.

The Bibles were in Jacksonville, Illinois, in 1963, and I believe they are still there.

○ Editor's Note: Mrs. Hester has extracted and explained the information contained in the Bibles, and has substantiated her findings with photostatic copies, which, unfortunately, are not of reproduction quality. They will be kept on file in the S. C. G. S. Library.

CATHERINE CHANCELLOR (KENDALL) CARSON



ER childhood family records and those of her married life. The names and birthdates, as well as most of the death dates, are from the two "Family Bibles" located in Jacksonville, Illinois, in 1963, by the writer. The one was carried from Virginia to Illinois with the young family of Thomas and Catherine Carson, and the other was that of their second son, Thomas Miller Carson. Both are now in the possession of descendants still living in Jacksonville, Morgan County, Illinois.

James KENDALL, Physician, born 1781, in what is now King George County, Virginia; died 28 November 1823, in Westmoreland County, Virginia. Parents: Col. Woffendal Kendall and Susanna White. Wife: Rebecca Wroe, whom he married in 1780.

Rebecca WROE, born 1764, in Stafford County, Virginia, on Rosier's Creek, Potomac River; died 3 August 1826. Parents: William Hiram Wroe and Grace Chancellor.

Their Children:

Susanna KENDALL, born 7 May 1784.

+ Catherine Chancellor KENDALL, born 11 September 1785; died 22 November 1869. Married Thomas Carson in 1803.

Francis KENDALL, born 16 August 1787.

Woffendal KENDALL, born 8 April 1789.

William Wroe KENDALL, born 21 October 1791.

James KENDALL, born 9 September 1794.

Peter KENDALL, born 20 December 1796.

Joseph Chancellor KENDALL, born 9 Februar6 1798, died 27 June 1865, married Elizabeth Burgess in 1823.

Juliana KENDALL, born 28 September 1800.

Emily Anne KENDALL, born 24 August 1803.

Rebecca KENDALL, born 15 September 1805, died 3 August 1826.

Lucinda KENDALL, born 8 April 1808.

(Andrew) Thomas Carson, born 3 July 1782, in Down (Doon) County, Ireland; died 15 January 1850, in St. Louis, Missouri, while visiting some of his married children (in the home of Jane), buried in Jacksonville, Illinois. Wife: Catherine Chancellor Kendall, whom he married 4 May 1803.

Catherine Chancellor Kendall, born 11 September 1785, in Shenandoah County, Virginia; died 22 November 1869, in Jacksonville, Morgan County, Illinois; buried Jacksonville East Cemetery. Parents: James Kendall and Rebecca Wroe.

Their Children:

William Wroe CARSON, born 28 March 1805, died 18 December 1876. Never married.

Thomas Miller CARSON, born 10 November 1808, died 22 February 1875, married Chloe Ann Linkins 15 April 1836.

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James Kendall CARSON, born 14 May 1811, died 6 February 1856, married Elizabeth B. Walker, 15 March 1838.

Jane Miller CARSON, born 8 November 1813, died 5 October 1866, married Leverett F. Hastings, 8 March 1837.

John Andrew Jackson CARSON, born 14 March 1816, died 10 July 1883, married Nancy Allen 12 July 1838.

Robert Isaac Augustus CARSON, born 5 May 1818, died 21 July 1818.

Henry Smith CARSON, born 20 November 1819, married Martha Ann Roberts.

Rebecca Wroe CARSON, born 2 July 1822, died May 1904, married Marshall Webster Vail.

Alexander Woffendal CARSON, born 21 December 1825, died 10 August 1833.

THE CARSONS

WHEN Jacksonville (Illinois) was laid out in 1825 there was a log house on what is now the east side of the public square, owned by Thomas Carson. It stood about where the "Trade Palace" is now (this article was written in 1917), the center of the south block of the east side.

The proprietor of the original town gave the Carsons a lot on the south side of East Morgan street, for surrendering the lot on the square. The logs were taken down and the house replaced on Morgan street, where it became the first tavern Jacksonville had.

The next Christmas that house was the birthplace of the first male child born in this little town. His parents were Thomas and Catherine Kendall Carson. The Carson Tavern, log cabin, stood until about 1894.

Thomas Carson was a hatter by trade. He was born in Downpatrick in County Down, Ireland. He came to this country, finally getting to Virginia State, where he found and married Catherine Kendall, who proved to be a good helpmate, and a very remarkable woman. As may be inferred, Mr. Carson was a Presbyterian, as was his wife.

The Carsons came west from Virginia to Kentucky in a flatboat, according to the custom of the times, and soon immigrated to Illinois, settling in what is now Jacksonville in 1824. They traveled in a mover's wagon drawn by oxen from Kentucky to this place.

It was a matter of pride to the family that one of Mrs. Carson's ancestors was a prominent Indian. No doubt this blood gave her some of the indomitable spirit and courage for which she was noted.

The Carson house, in spite of the simplicity of its construction, cost some effort to its owners. Mrs. Carson carried the door and window frames on her arm, riding on horseback from Jersey Prairie where the frames were made. Some of the Carson menfolks got the oak flooring, a luxury for those days, from St. Louis, the trip taking three weeks. The tavern was said to have been of two rooms, the whole being eighteen feet square. If this is true, the family and guests had to do much "doubling up".

In the tavern, which was then the general name for hotels, was tried the first murder case in this county. The accused afterwards broke jail and escaped. Presumably Mr. Carson was also the first jailer in this county.

Many years later, when the "magnetic telegraph" had been invented, Mrs. Carson was first to send a message upon it from here to St. Louis. — Excerpt from an article written by Ensley Moore of the Illinois State Historical Society, and published in The Jacksonville Daily Journal of March 15, 1917.

--- --- CATHERINE KENDALL CARSON

A Brief Biography



CATHERINE KENDALL CARSON was born in Virginia on September 11, 1785. She was married to Thomas Carson on May 4, 1803. Seventeen years later the family began a westward trek, stopping in Kentucky for several years, and reached Illinois Prairie, later called Jacksonville, in 1824.

On December 21, 1825, Alexander Woffendal Carson was born, the ninth and last child of the couple, and the first white child to be born in Jacksonville. Because of this a lot was deeded to Mrs. Carson by the town, an event commemorated by a plaque that marks the spot.

In those days physicians were few and far apart, and Mrs. Carson, or Mother Carson, as she was now called, began to help her neighbors during their confinements. Her father was a physician, and she had received some instruction from him. She also learned from experience. Mother Carson continued in this work for forty years, and, according to records, was present at the birth of some 3,000 children. She practiced among all the people, many familiar names appearing in the list of those she served. She never refused her services even to the humblest.

Visualize Mother Carson, a woman tall, with dark hair and eyes, high strung, quick in her movements, and an ardent Episcopalian, enjoying lovely flower bedecked prairies, but just as cheerfully crossing swollen streams, uddy and all but impassable trails and icy, snowy prairie to carry comfort and health to her patients. (Note: prev. called Presbyterian)

She would enter the crude frontier cabins where there were many children and a sick mother, and shortly bring order out of chaos by her deft housewife's work, bringing aid to the mother by her great skill as a midwife. She always rode horseback to visit her patients, and in winter dressed in heavy woolen garments and a warm bonnet. She was a woman of great natural ability, common sense and powerful initiative. She was extremely neat, perhaps one of the reasons why she rarely lost a mother or a baby.

She gained such a reputation in midwifery that she was called to Springfield, and even to St. Louis. Her pay in the early days was mostly in produce, a pig, corn, flour, chickens, or maybe nothing.

A woman of sentiment, she brought from her father's home in Virginia, a moss rose bush that she cared for during the long trip. It

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blossomed in her yard, and many years later was still blooming on her great-grandson's lawn.

Mother Carson died on November 22, 1869, at the age of eighty-four, and was held in such high esteem in the community that Judge William Thomas adjourned court, which was in session, in order that all might attend her funeral.

— Biography extracted from "Cemetery Records, Genealogies and Family Histories", by Sara John English and Mrs. Henry, W. English; "Brief Biographies of the Figurines on Display in the Illinois State Historical Library", from Georgia L. Osborne; Obituary of Mrs. Carson in the November 26, 1869, issue of "The Sentinel" of Jacksonville, Illinois.

Miscellanea - FROM ORIGINAL SOURCES O O O



WHITE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, Court House Records (Carmi, Illinois), copied by Mrs. Edward Lee of Long Beach, California:

MARRIAGES—

Book I, Page 38 - Peter MILLER and Eunice HALE, solemnized by me 29th Sept. 1825, Benj. A. Brocket, J. P.; date of license, Sept. 23, 1825.

Book I, Page 37 - Henry EDWARDS and Marinda JAMISON, solemnized by James Rutledge, Esq., on the 3rd day of July 1825; date of license, July 2, 1825.

Book II, Page 75 - Berry EDWARDS and Sarah MILLER, solemnized by James B. Thomas, J. P.; dated 30th day of January 1853; license issued January 24th.

ADMINISTRATION OF ESTATES—

Book 28 - Estate of Whitfield JAMERSON, Wesley Jamerson, Administrator, gave bond June 24, 1846. Deceased, 5th of May 1846. Purchasers at sale: D. W. Jamerson, Henry Jamerson, David W. Jamerson, Charles Jekins, John Dunn, William Brockett, I. M. Miller, Wm. Jamerson, Peter Miller, I. H. Gowdy, William Cobern, Thomas Al Shannon, E. Jordan, Wm. Madin, C. Jinkins, Martin Johnson, I. T. Hosick.

Box 33 - Estate of James MILLER, 1836, Peter Miller, Administrator; Nancy Miller, widow; Bondsman, Westley Jamison; Purchasers: Elisha Austin, Peter Miller, Charles Jenkins, Edmond Thomason, Thomas Pool.

Box 15 - Estate of Henry EDWARDS, 1850, John D. Jameson, Administrator. Note says "d. 1841". Purchasers: Berry Edwards, Wesley Jimerson, William Jimerson, Miranda Edwards, Thomas White, George Jimerson, Albert Bolerjack, William Miller, William Smith, Levi Jimerson.

Box 76 - Estate of Peter LEE, Sr., "This is to surtafy that I Margaret Lee doo sign away my right of Administrattion of the asstate of my husbin to my son Peter Lee this February 6 1855."



THE REVEREND REMINISCES...



Family history recollections, written by Rev. Brazilla Caswell Allred in 1922, and submitted by William Franklin Mendenhall of Long Beach, California. The Reverend was his Great Uncle "B. C.", brother of his Grandfather William Franklin Allred of Randolph County, North Carolina.

□□□

MY great-grandfather, William Allred, was born and reared to manhood in Pennsylvania. In early life he came to North Carolina and entered a large tract of land in one and a half miles from the intersection or the confluence with the river. He built his home and settled down (there), where he lived to a good old age and reared his family. The time of his coming to North Carolina was about 1740 or 1750. His house was built within about fifty yards of the creek, near a spring which came from under a large rock, which was about 20 feet high and at least 100 feet long, and 50 feet or 60 feet wide. There was an abundance of fine fish in the creek and river, and lots of game in the woods, such as turkey, deer, wolves, and an occasional bear or panther.

My grandfather, John Allred, was born and reared in this same house. In the same home my father, Claiborne Allred, who was the youngest son of John Allred and Sarah Spencer, his wife, and my mother, Orpha Russell, settled when they first married and most of their family of seven children were born.

When the Revolutionary war came close, my grandfather, John Allred, shouldered his flintlock rifle and fought for the freedom of the American colonies to the end of the war. The fact of my grandfather's fighting against the British aroused the anger of Col. David Fannen, the leader of the Tories or British sympathizers, and he and his band of men went to my great-grandfather's in search of John, my grandfather, who happened to be at home, saw them coming, snatched up his gun and secreted himself in the attic, and it so happened that they did not go up there to search for him. My great-grandfather also saw them approaching, took up his gun and ran out northwest of the house and lay down behind a large rock. I have seen the rock and played around it many times when I was a boy. He could see Fannen and his men from his hiding place when they went out to his crib, later opened the crib door and let many barrels of

Carson
Fam

Early Settler of Montgomery County: Thomas Jefferson Carson Certificate #56

Application of:

Gertrude Pauline Smith Watson

Year First Proven In Montgomery County,
Texas prior to December 31, 1861:

Texas Headright Certificate granted
31 December 1839 & on Montgomery County
Tax Roll in 1838

Generation (1)

Joe Allen Watson [4] born 9 Aug 1924, Pryor, Mayes County, Oklahoma; married [5] 8 Jul 1946, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas.

Gertrude Pauline Smith [6] born 7 Nov 1925, Pearsall, Frio County, Texas is the daughter of **Thomas Washington Smith**.

Generation (2)

Thomas Washington Smith [7] born 9 Nov 1895, Pearsall, Frio County, Texas; married [8] 28 Jun 1924, Pearsall, Frio County, Texas; died [7] 5 Oct 1964, Brownwood, Brown County, Texas, buried in Pearsall Cemetery, Frio County, Texas.

Winnie Margaret Carson [9] born 1 Apr 1898, Carrizo Springs, Dimmit County, Texas; [9] died 22 Aug 1998, Brownwood, Brown County, Texas, buried in Pearsall Cemetery, Frio County, Texas; Winnie Margaret Carson is the daughter of **Stonewall Jackson Carson, Sr.**

Generation (3)

Stonewall Jackson Carson Sr. born [10] 25 Jul 1869, Burleson County, Texas; married [11] 21 Dec 1894, Pleasanton, Atascosa County, Texas; [10] died 14 Feb 1938 Kerrville, Kerr County, Texas; buried Center Point Cemetery, Kerr County, Texas. Stonewall Jackson Carlson Sr. is the son of **Thomas Jefferson Carlson**.

Margaret Elizabeth Hilburn [12] born 23 May 1876, Pleasanton, Atascosa County, Texas; [12] 21 Jul 1898, Carrizo Springs, Dimmit County, Texas, buried Mt. Hope Cemetery, Dimmit County, Texas.

Generation (4)

Thomas Jefferson Carson Sr. born [13] ca 1816, Tennessee; married [15] ca 1861-68, Madison County, Texas; [16] died in spring of 1875 Burleson County, Texas; Location of burial unknown.

Marg Zarr born [14] ca 1843, Germany/Prussia, died [16] 1874 Burleson County, Texas. Location of burial is not known.

ORANGE COUNTY CALIFORNIA
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Documentation For Thomas Jefferson Carson, Sr.

Thomas Jefferson Carson Sr. was in Montgomery County before 1838 as he is recorded on the 1838 Montgomery County Tax Record for 1838. He received a 3rd Class, Headright Certificate #276, dated 31 Dec 1839.

- #1 Montgomery County Tax Record for 1838
- #2 Headright Certificate #276 dated 31 Dec 1839 from The Republic of Texas
- #3 Land Grant Cert #328 for 320 acres of land in Montgomery County, 1 Nov 1845
- #4 Birth Certificate for Joe Allen Walton
- #5 Marriage Certificate of Joe A. Watson and Gertrude P Smith
- #6 Birth Certificate for Gertrude Pauline Smith
- #7 Death Certificate for Thomas Washington Smith
- #8 Marriage Certificate of Thomas W. Smith and Miss Winnie M. Carson
- #9 Death Certificate for Winnie Margaret Carson Smith
- #10 Death Certificate for Stonewall Jackson Carson
- #11 Marriage Certificate for Stonewall J. Carson and Miss Maggie E Hilburn
- #12 Notarized copy of Annie Lee Hilburn Fowler's Bible.
- #13 U. S. Census of Walker County, Texas for 1850
- #14 U. S. Census of Walker County, Texas for 1870
- #15 Deed Record, Burleson County Vol. O page 323
- #16 Burleson County Probate Court Minutes Vol. A page 125
- #17 Marriage Certificate for Thomas Carson and Elizabeth Jones
- #18 Death Certificate of Joseph Franklin Carson brother of Thomas Carson to prove the marriage of Thomas Carson and Mary Zarr whose marriage record was burned.
- #19 Burleson County Deed Record Vol. Q listing the children of Thomas Carson recognizing him as a minor child by his second wife Mary Zarr. *B*



RAYFORD REST CEMETERY

JANE KEPPLER, DARLENE LEE AND CIERRA LASATER TRANSCRIBED THIS CEMETERY LOCATED IN SOUTH MONTGOMERY COUNTY

SEE PAGE 196 FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS CEMETERY AND ITS TRANSCRIPTION.