

12  
FOWLER-SHEARER

HISTORY

COMPILED BY ANNE BURNSIDE BROWN,  
GENEALOGIST- FELLOW INSTITUTE OF  
AMERICAN GENEALOGY.

## P R E F A C E

Our pioneer settlers had a taste for adventure and thrill. They were a restless people. It is said that this is a restless and discontented age, but no more so than it has always been. There are faster ways to get about now and more different things to keep us on the move.

The pioneers would treck from one state to another and from one county to another in the same state. They were like the cow which looks over the fence and sees greener pastures. It was not just a fence the settlers encountered, but mountains; a wilderness and Indians with unbeaten trails to travel. These people gave up all their comforts and security and risked everything to open up and develop new territory. The women were as courageous as the men. You will read about a man down in North Carolina who has just returned from Philadelphia, or one in Kentucky who has gone to Virginia on business. It will never cease to be a miracle how those people did get about in the early days.

I hear all these folk had mamas and papas but sometime I doubt it because they were so migratory, it has made them very difficult to trace. I think surely they must be like Topsy, "Just growed". They lived busy and colorful lives and in tracing our ancestors, we find that they make as interesting reading material as the pages of a book. They were making history in this new country and it is not bad for us to get acquainted with them. It makes us appreciative of the things we enjoy today and what we are now fighting for.

## FWLER FAMILY.

Data taken from "House of Fowler",  
chapter 4, page 68.

The name Fowler comes from the ancient Anglo-Norman origin, and from the Anglo-Saxon word "Fugal", meaning fowl. However, most of the Fowlers in America are of English descent. It seems the early bearers of the name not only pursued and captured wild fowl but also sold them, for in its early form the French suffix "ere" following "fowl" meant an agent or dealer.

It was during the third crusade (1191) in which Richard the Lion Hearted of England, Philip 2nd. of France and Emperor Frederick Barbarosa took part, that Richard Fowler came into prominence. He took with him and maintained during his crusade to Palestine a body of British Bowmen, all of whom were his tenants. Richard Fowler's services were so brilliant that King Richard bestowed upon him the crest which is the families present coat-of-arms. He was granted land in the Abbey- Cwy- Her.

From Sir Richard, the hero of the third crusade, we are descended. He was the progenitor of the House of Fowler that flourished for many generations in Buckinghamshire and other parts of England.

Here we have to skip three generations for lack of data and begin next with Sir William of Ricot, Oxford: 4th descendant of Richard 1st.

Fifth generation- Sir. William's son, Sir Richard was knighted by King Edward and was Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. His wife, Joan, was living when he died in 1477. Their children were - Thomas, William, Rev. Christopher, John and Godfrey. No record of the daughters. Rev. Christopher married Elizabeth Burgess. John died before 1683.

p. 2- Fowler.

William, second son of Thomas, see above, was one of the poets at the court of James VI. in 1560. Thomas' brother who married Elizabeth Burgess was a distinguished Presbyterian minister.

John Fowler, seventh generation, who was son of Christopher the minister, came to Virginia and settled on the Appamattox river. John died in 1683, leaving three sons, John, Mark and Godfrey. John Fowler came from England 1652-1662. Land granted him in Henrico co., Va. Va. grants-Vol. 6-p. 485.

1691 -Henrico co. deed p. 379 -487. Godfrey Fowler took inheritance of father as brothers, John and Mark had died without heirs.

1743-Godfrey Fowler's will, Chesterfield Co., Va., mentions sons John, Mark, Godfrey: Thomas deceased and Joseph who went to Wake Co., N.C. Daus. Ann Hill and Martha Vadin. Probated 1747.

1772-Henrico Co., Va. will of Matthew Hobson. Son-in-law, John Fowler, and grandchildren -John, William, Bernard, Pollina and Judith, Fowler. John, son of Godfrey, m. Judith Hobson. Their son John, student at William & Mary College, 1780-member of Williamsburg Lodge Free Mason. Was the Capt. John Fowler, settled in Lexington, Ky., m. Millicent Wills, from whom Judge Fowler of that city is a descendant. From the records on these indicate that Capt. John and Matthew Fowler were first cousins. Failed to say that Godfrey Fowler's wife is named in his will as Susannah.

Mark Fowler must have moved from Chesterfield Co., Va. to Dinwiddie Co., Va. We find a record of his children in Dinwiddie: they were Simon, Godfrey, John, Henry and Sarah as being witnesses to a wedding in a public meeting house near Whipamaock Creek. They signed the bond with their cousins, John and Francis Fowler. I also have a note that Godfrey's will was probated in Henrico, Co., Va., which I think is correct.

Register of births, Bristol Parish, Henrico, Co., Va., p. 338 -Matthew Fowler, son of Mark & Mary Fowler, born Jan. 4th, 1730, bapt. August 29th, 1731. Godfrey was in this parish 1731, Thomas Fowler in 1729.

Our line in America.

1. Gen. John Fowler England to Va.
2. Gen. Godfrey Fowler & wife Susannah.
3. Gen. Mark Fowler & wife Mary.
4. Gen. Matthew Fowler & wife Nancy.
5. Gen. Nancy Fowler & husband William Shearer.
6. Gen. William Shearer and & wife Elveree Chenault.

In House of Fowler p.696 is will of James Fowler the noted scout, recorded in Washington Co., Va. Matthew Fowler was made his executor. Matthew must have lived there for a while and could have been brother of James.

Madison Co., Ky. will book A. p.247 is will of Matthew Fowler, dated Feb.6th, 1802 and probated Oct. 4th, 1802. Witnessed by Wm. Martin, Edward Logeden and James Jones. Names wife, Nancy: sons- Richard, Matthew and John first. Then - "I give my Military Claim of land on the little Kanawway of two hundred and fifty acres to be equally divided between my three sons, Edward, Richard and John. Appoints wife, Nancy, John Sappington and Thomas Clay executors.

(Must mean Kanawha river.)

Richard Fowler, son of Matthew, will probated in Madison Co., Ky. in will book B., p.380 on July 7th, 1817. Date when written, May 4th, 1817. Names wife, Nancy, children, Rebecca, Lucy, Polly Runeyon, Jemima Harris, Nancy Shearer, and son, Richard Fowler.

The above Richard must have married before coming to Madison. Find no early marriage of a Richard there. Marriages of his children named in will recorded in Madison co.

Polly Fowler m. Absalom Runyon Feb.6, 1806.

Richard Fowler m. Frances Brooks, Feb.16, 1807, Jemima Fowler m. Jesse Harris, Aug. 10, 1813. Nancy Fowler m. William Shearer, Jan.23, 1817, Rebecca Fowler m. James Shearer Dec. 9, 1821.

Unaccounted for - some probably Richard's ch. not mentioned in will- Joseph Fowler m. Elizabeth Hamm Feb.10, 1801. Sarah Fowler m. Martin Crews, June 21, 1801, Anney Fowler m. Robert Brooks May 27, 1791, Thomas Fowler m. Aletha Conn, July 17, 1794, Drusilla Fowler m. James Crews, Dec. 30, 1806.

p. 4.- Fowler.

In Matthew Fowler's will he mentions that his sons, Matthew and John were not of age.

In the Virginia State Archives, E. is listed in the index the Revolutionary record of Matthew Fowler.

These Bible dates were furnished by Mrs. M. E. Boyd, Greenville, Illinois, a descendant of Hannah Fowler and Rodney Million. She has their divorce papers, dated Feb. 25th, 1846 and he married again Feb. 27th, 1846 to Mrs. Lucy Moore. Rodney Million had a son James, who was bound out to Curtis Parks, and she has that paper.

Hannah Fowler, dau. of Matthew Fowler, b. July 9th, 1779.

Polly Fowler, b. 1806, died as Polly Jefferies, 1853.

Homor Fowler, b. 1811, died as Homor Grubbs, 1891.

Thomas Fowler m. Mary Soudder, May 12th, 1852. Thomas, b. Nov. 12th, 1828.

James Fowler, b. Feb. 17th, 1855.

Matthew Fowler, died Nov. 11th, 1802.

Ann (Nancy) Fowler died March 23rd, 1820 (must be wife of Matthew).

Janica Fowler, died Aug. 9th, 1860.

Demise.

Hannah (Fowler) Million died Oct. 28th, 1868, aged 89 yrs., 3 mo. and 20 days. Rodney Million died Apr. 30th, 1863.

Nancy Fowler, dau. of Richard Fowler who was son of Matthew Fowler, married William Shearer in Madison Co., Ky., Jan. 22, 1817. William Shearer b. Sept. 10th, 1793, died 1875. Nancy (Fowler) Shearer, b. Apr. 14th, 1793, died July 13th, 1854.

William Shearer, son of Matthew Shearer who married Hannah Massie (believed to be dau. of Sylvanus Massie).

Matthew Shearer, the pioneer, born May 19th, 1767, died March 19th, 1844. His wife, Hannah, died April 24th, 1862. Do not have her birth.

p. 4- Fowler.

Madison Co., Ky., deed book D., p. 774.

Know all men by these presents that I Matthew Fowler of Madison county and Commonwealth of Kentucky being entitled to a tract of land containing five hundred acres lying and being in Woodford county and State of Virginia for Military services done as a Corpral in Gen. Washington's first Regt. and under Capt. Nathaniel Massie, being part of 2840 acres, Survey Granted 1773. Now I the said Matthew Fowler do by these presents nominate and appoint Capt. James Irvine of Cumberland County and State of Pennsylvania my true and lawful attorney for me in my name to secure the aforesaid lands and to take possession thereon without Authority from me also to Demand papers respecting the aforesaid lands in the hands of any person or persons whatever and I further Authorize my said Attorney when said land or any part thereof is recovered to enter the same with commissioners of the tax and to pay and discharge such tax or taxes as maybe come due thereon ratifying and holding fine and Effectual whatever my said attorney may lawfully do of and concering the properties. In witness thereof I have set my hand and affixed my seal this 12th day of July 1800. ✓

his  
Matthew W. Fowler  
Mark

Test,

John Hockaday,

State of Kentucky, Madison County.

I William Irvine as Clerk of the County Court of Madison co certify that this power of Attorney was Acknowledged before me by the within named Matthew Fowler a party thereto which is truly recorded in my office.

This entitles anyone to membership in

D.A.R.

p. 5- Shearer.

William Shearer's will is recorded in the county clerk's office of Madison Co., Ky. and bears date of 1842. Probated, June court 1844. Those names - Wife, Nancy, children - Absolom, Miriam, Samuel, James, William, Raymond and Simeon.

The following list of Matthew and Hannah Shearer's children were furnished by the courtesy of Miss Minnie Shearer, Red House, Madison Co., Ky. to C.F. Daugherty, Champaign, Ill.

- I. Samuel Shearer married Polly Arnold 4-8-1824.
2. Raymond Shearer married Julia Gordon Sept. 1, 1846.
3. Absolom Shearer m. 1st, (?) 2nd. Rachel Hugely, 3rd. Maggie F. Hugely who was b. Nov. 16th, 1851, died Jan. 2, 1921. Absolom died Mar. 18th, 1900.
4. Burr Shearer
5. Simeon Shearer
6. William Shearer married Nancy Fowler.
- ✓ 7. Sylvester, or Sylvanus Shearer.
8. Thomas Shearer.
9. Hiram Shearer
10. Cabel Shearer
11. Miriam Shearer
12. James Shearer

These names might not be in the order in which they were born as do not have many birth dates. See p. 7-Matthew & Thomas Shearer, attorneys for Wm. & Cabel.

Children of Absolom Shearer and Rachel (Hugely).

1. Cabel - now living in Phoenix, Ariz.
2. Matthew " " " Lexington, Ky.
3. Mrs. John B. Parish, Fayette, Mo.
4. Mrs. D. F. Stafford, Coonia, Calif.
5. Mrs. M. O. Sappington, Columbia, Mo.
6. Mrs. G. Wilson Prewitt, Anchorage, Ky.
7. Jake Shearer, Richmond, Ky.



Children of Absolom and Maggie F. Shearer.

1. Harris Shearer.
2. Huguely Shearer.
3. Susan Shearer.
4. Mary Shearer m. Floyd Anderson; lives Colorado Springs, Colo.
5. Minnie Shearer.

Court records of Madison co. shows that James Shearer, brother of William, married Rebecca Fowler, sister of Nancy Fowler. James Shearer and Rebecca Fowler married Dec. 7th, 1812.

Thomas Shearer married Nancy Cobb, Madison co., Dec. 8th, 1829. Thomas Shearer had son, Tilman, he married Eliza Histle in Madison co., Nov. 19th, 1849.

Sylvester Shearer went to Rockcastle co. He first married Lucinda Wilkerson in Madison co. Aug. 6th, 1832. He married second, Susie Croucher. There were twenty children born in these two families. Note.... do not know if meant Thomas and Sylvester, or ? Sylvester's family. Sylvester died in Dec. 1886 and is buried in Disputanta, Ky. His wife, Lucinda, buried same place.

In a note I have - Susan Shearer, wife of Absolom, died Sept. 12th, 1851. This must be the first wife of the one who married the two Huguely women.

Samuel Shearer, son of Matthew, b. April-1800, m. 1st, Polly Arnold, 2nd. Mary Watts.

William Shearer I., son of Matthew and wife Hannah believed to be daughter of Sylvanus Massie who married Hannah Raglan, St. James Parish, Virginia, 1757. Sylvanus Massie, was son of Peter Massie. Peter II baptised, New Kent Co., Va., Apr. 14th, 1700, married Ann (?). This Peter was son of Peter Massie who was in New Kent Co., Va. 1698.

William Shearer II., son of William I., was born July 24th, 1824, died July 12th, 1888: married Elveree Cheanult, Madison Co., Ky., 1851. Elveree born Nov. 6th, 1832, died July 14th, 1866.

Thomas Shearer - Cabinet Maker  
Encyclopaedia Britannica  
Eleventh Edition, Vol. 24-Sai to Shu.

English 18th century furniture designer and cabinet-maker. The solitary fact we possess relating to this distinguished craftsman is that he was the author of most of the plates in "The Cabinet-Maker's London Book of Prices and Designs". The majority of these plates were republished separately as "Designs for Household Furniture". They exhibited their author as a man with an eye at once for simplicity of design and delicacy of proportions. And some of his pieces possessed a dainty and slender elegance which has never been surpassed in the history of English furniture. There can be little doubt that Shearer exercised considerable influence over Hepplewhite, with whom there is reason to suppose that he associated, -While Sheraton has recorded his admiration for work which has often been attributed to others.

Shearer, in his turn, owes something to the brothers Adam, and something no doubt to the stock designs of his predecessors. There is every reason to suppose that he worked at his craft with his hands and that he was literally a cabinet-maker; so far as we know, he never made chairs. Much of the elegance of Shearer's work is due to his graceful and reticent employment of inlays of satinwood and other foreign woods. But he was as successful in form as in decoration, and no man ever pursued the cure to a better purpose.

In Shearer's time, the sideboard was in progress of evolution: previously it had been a table with drawers, the pedestals and knife boxes being separately made. He would seem to have been first to combine them into the familiar and often beautiful form they took at the end of the 18th century. The combination may have been made before, but his plate is in point of time, the first published document to show it.

p. 7- Shearer.

In Will Book L., p. 184 is recorded the will of Matthew Shearer, dated June 5th, 1854. He names wife, Hannah, son, Absolom Shearer. "After my death the balance of my estate to be equally divided amongst the balance of my children, except my daughter, Merian to whom I bequeath \$5.00." He appointed Samuel Shearer his executor. Witnessed by Abner Oldham, John Owens and David McCord.

Also in Madison Co., Ky. is recorded the will of Sylvanus, or Sylvania Massie in will book A. -Nov. 7th, 1808. Leaves property to his wife, Maisey, or Mary, sons, Sylvania and Thomas and the same to "all my married children!" Appoints wife and O. Wm. McCord executors.

Capt. Sylvania Massie of Madison co. who married Peggy Collins is the one named in will. It is believed that wife of Matthew Shearer was his sister. There is a connection all thru the Madison co. and Virginia records with the Massie and Shearer families. Matthew Shearer had son, Sylvester, or Sylvania. There is a Matthew Massie. Sylvania Massie Sr's first wife could have been Hannah Ragland.

Madison Co., Ky., deed book C., p. 538- Sylvanus and Thomas Massie (above brothers) appoint Thomas Shearer their attorney to recover their property for them in Campbell Co., Va. Aug. 1795.

Rustburg, Campbell County, Va. records were searched, am afraid not very thoroughly, for Massie and Shearer. Deeds there show that Thos. Massie owned 186 acres there in 1792. Same deed recorded there of Sylvanus and Thomas Massie, power of attorney.

Thomas Shearer and his wife, Molly, conveyed land on Molly's creek, 1791. James Shearer, Jr., was one of the witnesses. The only place Matthew's name appeared was his and Thomas Shearer attorneys in fact to William and Cabel Shearer Thos. Rosser Power of attorney. One Thomas Shearer m. Sarah Massie, Dec. 27th, 1795.

In Bedford Co., Va. Sylvanus Massie makes deed, 1778. John Shearer married 1789, Mary Martin. 1783 a James Shearer deed. In Lunenburg Co., Va. will of Mary Lawson, probated in 1751, will book I., p. 36. David and Ann Shearer listed as heirs. William Shearer I. had son who was lawyer and named Lawson. 7/

Shearer data furnished by F.G. Daugherty,  
1610 Church Street, Champaign, Ill.

It is believed that this Shearer family came from 12 miles S.W. of Richmond, Virginia, to Kentucky. John Willis Shearer, now deceased of Richmond, Ky., said that our ancestor, Matthew Shearer, was born in Ireland and brought to Virginia when a child.

Inquiries into the name Shearer tells me that it is Scotch or English, deriving its name from the occupation, shearer, one who clipped the sheep. The German name, generally spelt with a c, Scherer, means "Barber"; however, I believe that our branch of the Shearer family never spelt their names Scherer, or came from Germany.

The following taken from "Shearer-Akers Family" by Rev. Jas. Wm. Shearer D.D. U. of I. Library 929- 2 sh 35.

When Cromwell disbanded his famous "Ironsides", he settled them on confiscated estates in North Ireland. Among them were Shearers whom we are unable to trace by name for the first two generations. They were English Puritans and Presbyterians. They preserve their identity and traditions to this day with but little admixture of Scotch-Irish blood on the one hand, or Celtic blood on the other. All were at first Presbyterians and Wigs in this country, and none seemed to need, or care for a stimulant. This completes generations I and 2.

Generations 3 and 4. Sometime before the Revolutionary war, probably about 1740, four brothers of this Puritanical stock came to America, presumably with their families from the county of Armagh and Province of Ulster, Ireland. Their names were, George, John, William and James Shearer. One settled in New York, two in Pennsylvania and one in South Carolina. The Pennsylvania branch of the family is traceable into Va., Ohio, Ky., Ind. and Mo. The South Carolina branch is traceable as far west as southwest as Miss. Even to New Orleans.

Wherever found they preserve their traditions; gait and features are easily recognized. Their personal, social, religious and physical characteristics are much the same.

This Shearer family is not to be confused with the German Lutherans of substantially the same name "Schearer", "Scherer" and "Sherer", of whom there are a great number in this country.

James Shearer (2) was one of the sons of these four brothers. He married Lenna .....Va. We are unable to trace definitely by name the many descendants of these four brothers.

James Shearer (3) born 1776 on Apr. 11th and died Dec. 22nd, 1871 is buried in the graveyard of the old Concord Presbyterian Church. He first married Elizabeth Akers Jan. 16th, 1801. Second wife, Elizabeth Davis, third not known.

There was Anna Lena Shearer who married a Caldwell and died Apr. 6th, 1822. Their children unknown. Must have been dau. of James (2).

Children of James Shearer (3).

1. William born Feb. 10th, 1802, died Jan. 21st, 1860, m. Harriet Brown.
2. John Akers born Sept. 9th, 1809, died Feb. 10th, 1897.

Children of William Shearer and Harriet Brown.

1. Eliza Baker born 1823, died 1911.
2. Jas. Edmond born 1825, died 1896.
3. Wm. Newton born 1827, died 1899.
4. Henry born 1830, died 1908.
5. Jonathan Cable born 1831, died 1864.
6. Peter Akers born 1833, died 1885.
7. Mary Eliz. born 1835, died 1859.
8. Ann Maria born 1839, died 1904.

p. 10- Shearer.

It is definite that our Matthew Shearer came from Va. and his place there was known as the Matthew Shearer farm. The author of this manuscript has tried to obtain certain proof in Va. of Matthew's parents and had Bedford, Campbell and Lunenburg counties searched without finding desired information. Am afraid some clues in the court records were overlooked. James Shearer bought land in Lunenburg co, 1764, Matthew was born 1767. It is believed that he must come from the James line.

Matthew Shearer was a Revolutionary soldier and fought under Anthony Wayne in the Battle of Fallen Timbers.

Obituary of Samuel Shearer, Sr., a pioneer resident of Madison County, Kentucky.

DIED AT FOUR SCORE AND TEN AND THREE YEARS.

Samuel Shearer, Sr., died at his home in Madison county, two miles above Boonesborough, overlooking the Kentucky river, on Sunday night, January 29th, 1893. He was born on the 20th of April, 1800, and soon would have been 93 years old. His health had been failing for some months, and his death was not unexpected. He was buried at his home on Tuesday. Funeral by Rev. J.I. Willis, of the Baptist church.

Samuel Shearer was a native of Madison county, born two miles of where he died and during all his life, never lived more than five miles away, and that during his short residence at Red House, within the past few years.

HE WAS A SON OF MATTHEW SHEARER who came from Virginia in the 1700's and settled in the wilderness a little more than two miles east of the descendant's home, and constructed his cabin with a special view to defense against the Indians, and was with Anthony Wayne at the decisive battle of Fallen Timbers, which determined the twenty years struggle between the Whites and Indians for possession of the country west of the Alleghanies.

Matthew Shearer's wife was a Massie, and if we mistake not, was a sister of Sylvanus Massie, Captain of a Madison county company in the war of 1812. To Massie's company belonged Hiram, a brother to Samuel Shearer, and in another company was Cabel, another brother. In recent conversation with the writer, the deceased recalled the time during the War of 1812 when he came with his two brothers to Richmond for the purpose of taking home their horses. He brought along some shelled oats which he sold to Miller's livery stable, where Wager's stable now stands, on Main below First, at 16 and two thirds cents per bushel, and bought a keg of whiskey from Robert Rodes, where Mrs. Gibson now lives, at 20 cents per gallon.

He also recalled the year of having attended the the races in what is now suburbs of Richmond, the track extending from a point near where the ice factory now stands, down the valley now occupied by a long, straight and beautiful street. On that day, his father's little grey mare won a three-mile race. There were no brick pavements or macadamized streets, infact there was not much of Richmond anyway.

Googet's log tavern was then building, where Garnett House now stands, and Robert Miller had a hotel on the corner of First and Main, where a hotel continued until burned in 1874.

He recollected the open condition of the country at that day, roads running in every direction without fences and abounding in wild turkeys to such an extent that no one thought of raising tame ones.

A brisk boy was necessary on every farm to drive the wild turkeys away from the growing crops. He was a neighbor and friend, although of course much younger, of Sam South, one of the boys sent out into the wilderness from Fort Estill to find Captain Estill and party. Sam and his boy friend, Peter Hackett, were a day and a night in the woods alone. South was subsequently 13 years in the legislature from Madison, and was State Treasurer. Mr. Shearer was perhaps the last survivor of those who saw the fort at Boonesborough, before it finally decayed and tumbled down.

The Shearers are a people tenacious of life.

Samuel Shearer's father and mother lived to great age, and he leaves four brothers, Absolom and Raymond of Madison county, Burr of Clark and Si. of Powell, the youngest of whom is in the seventies.

The Deceased had eight children... Hiram, Thompson, Samuel, Simeon, John, James. Mrs. Buttner and Mrs. Eades, and there were one or two who died in infancy.

Samuel Shearer was a remarkable man. When young, his opportunities were better than those of most boys of his locality, and he advanced in education sofar as to study surveying with Major John Crooke, but he dropped into neglect. And when his life was half gone, he found himself with a family, no property and a great fondness for drink. He suddenly changed, joined the Baptist church and announc-



p. 13- Shearer.

ed his intentions of living a different life. The people recognized in him more than the average ability, a sound integrity and entrusted him with their business. He began to drive stock to South Carolina for his neighbors and prospered until he was soon driving his own stock. He was constantly on the road with hogs, horses, mules and even slaves, until the war and railroads changed the course of markets. From first to last, he bought and sold about six or seven thousand mules and about 300 slaves.

Like traders, he sometimes paid too much for stock. Once he bought hogs at \$1.25 a hundred and lost money on them. After the war he bought, grazed and sold cattle extensively, having accumulated a rich bluegrass farm of twenty-two hundred acres.

He sometime grazed his cattle through a snowy winter without feeding, owing to growing grass unmolested on one half of his farm during the entire year for winter's use. In deal in cattle he made \$12,000,

and on one lot of fillies, which he bought at \$35.00 and sold at \$70.00, he made \$4,000. In all his financial transactions, when he

poor and when he was rich, he found an unswerving financial friend in the late Owen Walker, who he always said was the best judge of a man and his inclinations to pay the country ever produced.

Mr. Shearer's ante-bellum partner was his step-son, William Arnold, who was equally successful.

Samuel Shearer was a man of progressive ideas. When the K.C. railroad wished to extend its line through Madison county, he said to the engineers, "Run your line anywhere through my farm, and it shall not cost you a cent". And, so it was run through Madison county and through his farm, from the crossing of Otter creek, a distance of two miles or more, embracing two stations, Boone and Shearer, two gigantic limestone tunnels, a bridge and water tank. In return for his liberality, the railroad named a station for him and gave him a life pass over its line.

p.-I4-Shearer.

Perhaps his last public act was the laying of the corner-stone of the Baptist church at Red House, to which building he was the largest donor. He and Gen. C.M. Clay organised the first held in Madison county. He was a Democrat, and always turned his shekels loose for his friends in a close contest. He leaves a second wife.

This data was given through Miss. Minnie Shearer of Red House. Samuel Shearer was born April- 1800. His second wife was Mary Watts who survived him. She was born Sept. 16th, 1806. His first wife was Polly Arnold.

#### Children of Samuel Shearer.

Amanda Shearer who married Thomas Eades- 4-4-1842. Arzealey, Hiram, Samuel, Simeon, John and James. Arzealey married James Butner 8-29-1848. James Shearer married Lottie Davis.

Shearer like many of his contemporaries, was much given to designing "harlequin" furniture. He was a designer of high merit and real originality and occupies a distinguished place among the little band of men, often like himself, ill-educated and obscure of origin, who raised the English cabinet-making of the second half of the 13th century to an illustrious place in artistic history.

Note.... we do not know just how Thomas Shearer the cabinet-maker was related to the Madison Co., Ky., Shearers. It is a family trait for Shearers to be handy with tools; Thomas of Madison was a coffin maker along with his farming. The old Searcy home in Madison county was built by Tilman Shearer in Anti-Bellum days and is still standing. Thomas was also an excellent carpenter. They have all had artistic taste and could make and design things with their hands. Anne Chenault Wallace, granddaughter of Wm. Shearer and Elveree, is an artist of note. Anne Shearer, dau. of Wm. could design and make anything about a house. They were also talented in music.

I hereby certify that the within data is true and correct, to the best of my knowledge, as it has been gathered from many sources. *Anne Burrande Brown, Lancaster, Ky.*  
*August 25th 1944*