

OBITUARY OF ANNIE McKINIS
from a Lincolnton Newspaper of 1911

This obituary clipping was found in the family Bible belonging to Thomas Peyton and Laura Bess Jenks of Lincoln County, NC. The Bible was in the possession of Mr. Jenks's second wife HESSIE L. DOBSON Jenks of Shelby and at her death came into the possession of Mrs. Estelle Freeman, who was a cousin of HESSIE. Mrs. Freeman recently returned the Jenks Bible to a descendant of the Jenks.

On August 9th, 1889, God, in his wisdom, gave to Bro. and sister, J. F. McKinis a little girl, that their home might be brighter, and that they might be bound closer together as husband and wife.

They named the child Annie; and she grew and became the idol of the home, and a link in the chain that bound a host of friends to the home. Being raised in a Christian home, she was taught the word of God in its simplicity and at about the age of sixteen years, being fully convinced that the womanly thing for her to do was to take a stand for her Heavenly Brother and Savior, accepted Christ as her guide through life and was baptized and received into full fellowship, into the Baptist church of Lincolnton, NC. She at once became a church and Sunday school worker.

A few days ago, our Heavenly Father needed a flower and went to the home where Annie was blooming, and after looking over his flowers there, for some reason known to himself, and not to be known by anyone else not even the fond mother and father, decided that she was the one He needed, and began to clip the fibers that bound her to the home.

Fiber after fiber was clipped, until, on May 3rd at 7:30 p. m., when the church bells were calling the people to the House of God for worship, and as the last peal was made, from the last bell, the last fiber was clipped and the flower returned to God who gave it.

On the evening Annie died, she was asked if she was ready to go, and she smiled and said "Let not your heart be troubled, ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions." She told her father and mother, that she would like to live to take care of them, but if she had to go "She had a home not made with hands, eternal in Heaven." We would say to the home, from which Annie was taken, weep not, for you did all you could to make her happy, while she lived and when the summons came to take her away, you spared nothing, that her life might be prolonged, and after her life and spirit had taken its flight, you were just as faithful. We never saw a picture more beautiful than Annie, when she was made ready to return to her mother earth.

The funeral services were conducted by Rev. W. B. McClure at Mt. Zion church, May 5th, and Annie was laid to rest, beside two little brothers, that have gone before, in Macedonia cemetery.

The flowers that were placed upon her grave, and the sorrowing friends and relatives that lingered around her grave showed to the world in what esteem Annie was held.

J. O. A.

Jenks Family

THE THOMAS PEYTON JENKS BIBLE

A few minutes on the Internet gave me information from the census about Annie Lee McKinis and her family. In the 1900 census of Lincoln county, Ironton Township [Series T623; Roll 1203; page 74] J. Frank Mckinis, his wife Betty and Annie Lee are living with Sam J. Hawkins and Hannah his wife. Sam was born April 1830, Hannah was born Feb 1835; J. Frank was born Aug 1860, Betty, July 1867, Annie Lee, August 1889. J. Frank is listed as nephew to Sam, Betty is niece and Annie Lee is great niece. Frank was a farm laborer.

In the 1910 census [Series T624; roll 1117, page 142] Lincoln county, 3WD Lincolnton township, Frank McKinnis is living in household 233 as Head, occupation Restaurant Keeper. Betty had 4 children, one still living. Annie Lee is 21 and their daughter. Sam Hawkins is living next door, age 80, widowed uncle in the household of Noah and Jennie Williams and Noah's brother-in-law William Gosden/Gorden age 39, single.

1920 census Lincoln county, 2WD Lincolnton [T625, 1308, p. 261] living on Jennings Street we find in HH# 305 John F. McKinis, head, 59 years old, married, butcher in meat market. Elizabeth is his wife age 51. In the HH is a niece Ethel M. Gooden, age 21, Single. Also a brother-in-law, William D. Gooden age 49, single. In addition are Noah P. Williams [brother-in-law] age 45 married and his wife Jennie E. age 46. Noah is a butcher in the meat market. Talk about a hodgepodge of people living in one house!

Now back to the Bible. The Bible belonging to Thomas Peyton Jenks was more than a Bible. When copying information from a Bible you should always copy the title page and publication data. However, this particular Bible was in sad shape and the title page was missing. The title from the spine of the book was PICTORAL FAMILY BIBLE. Also on the spine were these words: Holy Bible; References; Bible Dictionary and Cities of the Bible; 8,000 illustrations. The cover was divided into four sections in a diamond shape and heavily embossed. Each of the four corners contained the name of a disciple. The upper left was Matthew. "He was a Galilean by birth, a Jew by religion and a Publican by trade." The upper right was Mark. "He dwelt as a man among men." The lower left was Luke. "He was a native of Antioch, a friend of Paul who called him the best physician." The lower right was John. "He was born in Bethsada and is spoken of as the disciple Jesus loved." The words in each quadrant were printed in gold lettering and very difficult to read. There were very ornate designs around the embossing and lettering.

On the page for marriages was this:

This certifies
that Thomas P. Jenks
of North Brook, Lincoln County, NC
and Laura L. Bess
of Orleans, Lincoln County, NC

ORANGE COUNTY CALIFORNIA
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were joined together by me in the BONDS OF HOLY MATRIMONY
at Thomas Bess on the 19th day of July in the year of our Lord 1883.

 ESWAU HUPPEDAY, Vol. XXV, No. 1

The THOMAS PEYTON JENKS FAMILY

There were no witnesses nor any minister's signature on the page. But at the bottom of the page was this printed notation: "Copyright, July 1st 1886." Apparently the Bible was filled in after the fact of the marriage.

On the back of a torn half page were these two notations in different handwritings and inks. "S.J. Jenks died at Shelby Hospital on Dec 14th 1912 at 7-30 PM." "Juanita Virginia Lackey was born May 26 1924."

On the page for DEATHS: "Louisa Peasbury died July 25th 1885 aged 4 months, 4 days." "Infant son died July 31, 1886 aged 8 days." "Infant daughter died June 22-1887 aged 1 hour." "Mother: Laura L. Jenks died Jan 25th 1899." On the back of this deaths page was a memoranda sheet. "Laura Lee Jenks was born Oct 5th 1865 and Died Jan 25th 1899 @ 12-20 PM aged 33 years, 4 months and 20 days."

On the page entitled OUR TEMPERANCE PLEDGE there was a fountain in the center with these words running up one side and down the other side of the fountain: "*Look not upon the wine when it is red. It biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder.*" The pledge goes: We hereby solemnly promise, God helping us to abstain from all distilled, fermented and malt liquors including wine and beer and to employ all proper means to discourage the use of and the traffic in the same. Two signatures appended the pledge: T. Pate Jenks and Josephine Jenks. Wonder who Josephine was? Thomas Peyton's father Oliver B., had a sister named Josephine. Could it be her?

If you have not used the Cleveland County Memorial Library web site on the Internet to access census records through Heritage Quest, may I recommend that you do. All you need is a library card number for outside library users. In just 30 minutes I was able to take the Thomas Peyton Jenks family back three generations through census records.

1900 Lincoln County Census

189	JENKS, Thomas P.	Head	W M	Aug 1860	39	Wd	NC RI NC	Merchant DryGoods
	Mildred	Dau	W F	Feb 1884	16	S	NC NC NC	At School
	Zebulon L.	Son	W M	May 1889	11	S		At School
	Sarah C.	Dau	W F	Jul 1891	8	S		
	Ralph	Son	W M	Aug 1893	6	S		
	Ellen	Dau	W F	Aug 1895	4	S		
	Laura M.	Dau	W F	Jan 1898	2	S		
	HALL, Lee	Cousin	W M	Oct 1842	57	S		Day laborer
	BARNES, Nancy	Servant	W F	Nov 1842	57	S		House Keeper

The THOMAS PEYTON JENKS FAMILY

1880 Lincoln County CensusNorth Brook Township

143	JENKS, Orville B.	W M 49	Machinist	Rhode Island Mass Mass
	Ann M.	W F 47		NC
	T. Peyton	W M 19		NC
	Augustus H.	W M 17		NC
	Lou Ada	W F 15		NC
	Georg Anna	W F 13		NC
18	THOMPSON, William A.	W M 50		NC
	Sarah	W F 48		Mass. Mass Mass
	O. Cicero	W M 24		NC
	Martha S. [wife]	W F 23		NC
	Boanerges [son]	W M 4		NC
	O. Franklin	W M 23		NC
	J. Ferdinand	W M 21		NC
	Samuel V.	W M 16		NC
	Eva E.	W F 12		NC

1870 Lincoln County CensusNorth Brook Township

63	JENKS, Oliver B.	W M 39	Farmer	Born Rhode Island
	Mary Ann	W F 37	Keeping House	NC
	Dora	W F 11	At Home	NC
	Thomas P.	W M 8	At Home	NC
	August	W M 5		NC
	Luba	W F 4		NC
	Georgiann	W F 2		NC
	RUSS, Margaret	W F 21		NC
169	THOMPSON, William	W M 39	Farmer Physician	NC
	Sarah F.	W F 38	Keeping House	Massachusetts
	William	W M 17	At Home	
	Margaret	W F 15	"	
	Orville C.	W M 14	"	
	Oscar F.	W M 12	"	
	Joseph F.	W M 10	"	
	Amelia	W F 8	"	
	Samuel	W M 4		
	Eva	W F 1		
	JENKS, William	W M 71	Machinist	Rhode Island
	Ruth	W F 62		Rhode Island

 ESWAU HUPPEDAY, Vol. XXV, No. 1

The THOMAS PEYTON JENKS FAMILY

<u>1860 Lincoln County Census</u>		<u>Rock Mill Township</u>			
1018	JENKS, O. B.	29	Machinist		b. Providence, Rhode Island
	Mary A.	26			Lincoln County, NC
	Dora A.	2			"
<u>1860 Cleveland County Census</u>		[M653, Roll 893, page 666]			
199	JENKS, William	61	Machinist	\$700/300	Pennsylvania
	Ruth	55			Mass.
	George	14			NC
	Josephine	7			NC
	LOGAN, John F.	25	Trader	\$1800/1000	NC
<u>1850 Lincoln County Census</u>		[transcription of census]			
410	JENKS, William	44	Mechanic	\$450	Rhode Island
	Ruth	44			R. I.
	Orville B.	20			Mass
	Sarah F.	18			Mass
	Harriett M.	16			Pennsylvania
	Joseph P.	12			SC
	George A.	4			NC
	RAMSAY, Edward	20	Blacksmith		NC

Russell McIntyre was a long time member of BRGS who published the 1860 census of Cleveland County. His personal copy was annotated with dates, places of burial, etc. In his annotated edition, Russell states that William and Ruth Jenks are buried at Kadesh Methodist Church. He adds that William was born in 1799 and died 6 Oct 1872 age 73, Ruth was born 1808 and died 5 Mar 1874 age 66. Their birthplace in the 1860 census is different from the 1870. I am of the opinion that the 1860 information is in error or was given in by someone other than William and Ruth. The Jenks family always said they were from Providence, RI. Although from the birthplaces of the children of William, the family moved around a LOT!

Another question arises about Thomas Peyton's father. 1850 census gives his name as Orville B. The 1860 gives his name as O. B.; the 1870 as Oliver B.; the 1880 as Orville B. Was it Oliver or Orville? Knowing that siblings often named their children after their brothers and sisters, and noting that Sarah Thompson, sister to O.B., named one of her children Orville, one might suppose that his name was Orville rather than Oliver. Another question on which to do further research.

MARTIN ELLIOTT FAMILY REUNION

One of the greatest parts of genealogy is meeting other family members at a well-planned family reunion. It is great if it can be held at the old home place, but it is equally exciting if it is in a location of scenic or historic interest. My Father and I attended the Huntley Family Association Reunion the year it was held in Tullahoma, TN. We were able to visit the military cemetery as well as tour the Jack Daniel Distillery. Every person there was a new acquaintance for we had never met any of them. We were impressed by the talents of many of these new family members on Talent Night. Plan to attend at least one family reunion this year. It is YOUR loss if you do not go. BRGS member Charles L. Elliott submitted the following article about the Martin Elliott Family Reunion.

Descendants and friends of the Martin Elliott/Ellett family were invited to bring a picnic lunch to the Elliott Methodist church on Saturday August 21st for the Annual Elliott Reunion. Those interested in genealogy came at 10:00 AM to exchange and discuss family history data. Lunch was served promptly at 12:00 noon, but many came early to visit awhile before lunch. Pie eating contests and other activities were offered for those who stuck around after lunch.

Martin Ellett changed the spelling of his family name to "Elliott" in 1809, after he had moved to NC from Virginia in 1806 and purchased two large tracts [one 300 acres and the other 360 acres] on the west side of the First Broad River. He built his three story house in a basement on the north side of the old Indian Trail that let from present-day Rutherfordton to Kings Mountain. It was the first frame house in the area, and it stood in what is now the west-bound lane of US-74. Martin Elliott died in 1832 and was buried in his rose garden which is now the cow pasture on the northwest corner of US-74 and Polkville Road (NC-226). After Cleveland County was formed in 1841, they spent \$125 to build the bridge at Elliott's ford, an ancestor of the present-day US-74 bridge.

Marin Ellett purchased 425 acres of land on both sides of Hinton Creek in 1807 and gave it to John Crenshaw Ellett, the fourth of his 12 children. John Crenshaw Elliott died in 1827, and his widow, Mary Donoho Elliott, sold one and 1/4 acres of land with a log meeting house to the Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1854 for one dollar for the construction of an Elliott Church. In 1860 she deeded two acres adjoining the church for construction of what became the Elliott Church School. However, the Civil War delayed construction of the new church until 1871. The school was constructed the following year. The Elliott Church and School land reverted to the Elliott heirs after the new Methodist Church was built in Polkville in 1927. The school building, which was a mirror image of the church, has been torn down, but the church is still standing in the grove of trees behind Hoyle Gold's house at 7140 West Stagecoach Trail, about a mile west of Polkville.

The Elliott Reunion is held on the Saturday preceding the Hoyle Family Reunion, which is held on the fourth Sunday in August, because the Hoyles and the Elliotts are related. Specifically, Mary Donoho Elliott, the daughter of John Crenshaw and Mary Donoho Elliott,

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