

STARNES HISTORY

ISAAC STEARNS
DANIEL STEARNS
SHUBAEL STEARNS

Brothers of Suffolk Co., England

Isaac Stearns and wife, Mary Barker Stearns, with their children, John, Abigail, Elizabeth, Hannah, and Mary, emigrated to Watertown, Massachusetts from Suffolk County, England in the year 1630 on the ship "Arabula". It has become generally accepted that two of his brothers, Daniel and Shubael, accompanied them to America. Shubael I died shortly after their arrival; and, Isaac raised the two orphaned sons, Charles and Nathaniel Stearns.

Charles Stearns, born ca. 1625, lived in Lynn, Massachusetts; and married Rebecca Gibson from Cambridge, his second wife, in June, 1654. Their first child, Shubael II, was born September 20, 1655.

Shubael II married Mary Upton of Reading, Massachusetts in 1681. They had three sons, Shubael III, Samuel, and John.

Shubael III was born in 1683; and, in 1704 married Rebecca Larriford(Larriby). Their firstborn was Shubael IV, born in Boston, Massachusetts on January 28, 1706. Their other children were Peter, Isaac, Ebenezer, Rebecca, Elizabeth, Sarah, Hannah, Mary, and Martha. Shubael III became town clerk in Tolland, Connecticut.

About 1745 Shubael IV joined the "New Lights" religious movement, which originated with the ministry of George Whitfield. He was immersed in the spring of 1751 by the Rev. Whit Palmer of Tolland; and, on May 20, 1751, was ordained a Baptist minister.

In 1754 Shubael IV led a party of his relatives south to do missionary work. They included his wife, Sarah; his brother, Peter, with his first wife (and cousin), Hannah Stinson; his brother, Ebenezer, with wife, Anna Fields; his sister, Martha, with husband, Daniel Marshall; his sister, Rebecca, with husband, Johnathan Polk; his sister, Elizabeth, with husband (and cousin), Enos Stinson; and all these couples children. Family tradition has it recorded that Shubael IV had no children. Other sources declare he had one son, Shubael V, married a Sarah Johnson, and had no children.

After a brief stay near Winchester, Virginia, they moved further south to Sandy Creek, North Carolina where in 1755, they constituted a sixteen-member congregation as the first Baptist church in Western North Carolina. This settlement was made in present-day Guilford County, then a part of Orange County.

Some of the family members of the original church moved on further south on the Deep River in Chatham County. After establishing a church there, it appears that Peter and Ebenezer moved on to settle in South Carolina, first in Craven County,

then along the Broad River in the Laurens district of Fairfield County. They took part in founding the "Little River Baptist Church," organized as "Gibson's Meetinghouse" in the year 1768, a few miles north of what is now Monticello, South Carolina in Fairfield County; and, the Fairforest Church on Fairforest Creek, Spartanburg, Union district, founded at about the same time.

At this point in time some sources add another "brother", John, to the party. Family tradition does not name a John; however, he will be included as a relation of some sort.

Ebenezer, Anna, and children settled in the Boonesborough area on Long Cane Creek in 1771. John, Temperiah, and children settled on Brescha Creek, a short distance from Gibson's Meetinghouse in what is now Chester County, just over the Fairfield/Chester County line. Between 1768-'69 Peter, Hannah, and children settled in Fairfield County on lands between and bordering on both Mill and Morris Creeks; and, received a land grant in 1771, not far from "brother"(?) John's home.

Brother-in-law Daniel Marshall, Martha, and children settled within 10 miles of Augusta, Georgia at about the same time. The Shubael IV family, the Johnathan Polk family, and the Enos Stinson family remained at Sandy Creek, North Carolina. Shubael Stearns IV died there on November 20, 1771.

On September 6, 1835, Peter's grandson, Dr. Samuel Scott Starnes, of Williamson County, Tennessee prepared a Memorial of this family's lineage, stating he enclosed a copy of it in a letter to "my brother, Moses Starnes, of Mississippi." This lineage was further traced out by their younger brother, John Starnes, in 1855, in a letter to his nephew, Judge Ebenezer Starnes, of Augusta, Georgia. This is the source previously defined as "Family Tradition".

I. Shubael Stearns IV, born January 28, 1706 in Boston, Mass.; died November 20, 1771 at Sandy Creek, N.C. Married Sarah _____ in Tolland, Connecticut.

1. Shubael Stearns V, m Sarah Johnson

No children

NOTE: Family tradition states that Shubael IV had no children.

✓ II. Peter Stearns, born in 1710 in Reading, Massachuetts; died in Fairfield County, S.C. ca. 1798. Married his first wife and cousin, Hannah Stinson, in Tolland, Connecticut on January 12, 1736. Hannah died in Tablas Fort in S.C., near Augusta, Georgia, before the Revolutionary War. Second wife was Mrs. Margaret Parr.

1. Charles Starnes, born in 1737; died in Warren County, Georgia, without children, at the age of 74--ca. 1811.

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Other sources state he settled in Charleston, S.C., was twice married; names of wives unknown. Children by first wife:

- (1) William Starnes, 1758-1804
- (2) Son, name unknown
- (3) Sarah Starnes,

By second wife:

- (4) Joseph McCormick Starnes, d Kentucky
- (5) John Starnes
- (6) Mary Starnes,

2. Ebenezer Starnes, b 1738; m 1st Elizabeth Calahan, daughter of David & Elizabeth Calahan of Lunenburg Co., Va. After bearing two children, she died of Cholera morbus. After his 2nd marriage to Elizabeth Young, he moved to Columbia Co., Ga; and, died in Wilkes Co., Ga in April 1793, below the Sweet Water Ironworks. His children:

1743
 1777
 16
 +7
 23

- (1) Elizabeth Starnes, m ? Pharis
 - A. John E. Pharis
 - B. Jefferson Pharis
 - C. Moses Pharis
 - D. David Pharis
 - E. (deceased Daughter)

(2) Moses Starnes, b Edgefield Dist., S.C. 25 Feb 1777; d Copiah Co., Miss. Oct 16, 1845. Married Nancy Graves (b ca 1784) of Georgia.

1800-10
 1825-11

- A. (Unknown)
- B. Elizabeth Starnes, b ca 1801; m William E. Tomlinson, son of Authur Tomlinson, Oct 8, 1816 in Marion Co., Miss. By 1830 census they had moved to Copiah Co., Miss. and had 2 sons between the ages 10-15; 2 sons between the ages 5-10; & 1 son & 2 daughters under 5 years.
- C. Daughter, b ca 1803
- D. Daughter, b ca 1805
- E. Nancy N. Starnes, b Feb 11, 1807; d April 4, 1891 in Copiah Co., Miss. Married William G. Newton (b Dec 10, 1801-d Dec 7, 1881) in Marion Co., Miss. Feb 15, 1825. Both buried

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in the Shelton Family Cemetery, Copiah Co., Miss.

F. Mary A.C. Starnes, b ca 1809; m James William Smith in Marion Co., Miss. Dec 8, 1829. By 1850 census, she was a widow living in Copiah Co., Miss. with two sons.

- a. Son (d before 1840)
- b. William J. Smith, b ca 1845
- c. Augustus M. Smith, b ca 1848

G. Gabriella Starnes, b ca 1811-14; m ? Ainsworth.

H. Moses D. Starnes, b Oct 16, 1816 in Marion Co., Miss.; d Oct 17, 1850 in Copiah Co., Miss. (Buried next to his father in the Mt. Hope Cemetery[Ainsworth]). Married Emaline Pierce(b ca 1826) on April 13, 1847 in Claiborne Co., Miss. He served as a Justice of the Peace for Copiah Co., Miss.

a. Samuel Shuble Starnes, b April 29, 1848; d August 16, 1905. Married Mary Harriet Hall, daughter of Jerome B. & Sarah Ann Weeks Hall, on January 15, 1867 in Copiah Co., Miss. Veteran of Civil War--served as Sgt., Co. D, 3rd Batl., Miss. Cav. Reserve, under Gen. Forrest.

(a) William D. Starnes, b May 20, 1868; d July 29, 1894 of TB.

(b) Nancy Ann Starnes, b Feb 7, 1872; d Nov 16, 1940. Was a teacher all her life. Never had any children of her own. Married widower, William F. Millsaps, & reared his children.

(c) Moses Bartlett Starnes, b July 23, 1874; d Oct 6, 1936. Married Lillian Davis.

[1] Harry Hall Starnes, b April 17, 1902; d Feb 1, 1972. Married Helen Margaret Kidder 4 Jun 1936.

(1) Mary Helen Starnes, b 17 Mar 1938. Married Arthur Alexander DeFraitess, Jr. 29 Aug 1964.

a) Arthur Alexander DeFraitess III
b 16 April 1966