JOURNEY

TO

THE

SOUTHLAND
JOURNEY TO THE SOUTHLAND

A history of one line of the Merrill family in America from its arrival in 1670 to the present.

By

David L. Merrill

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followed by Part Two
"Journey To The Southland" appears to be an appropriate title for the history of a family whose movements over a period of three hundred years have been toward the South. The spirit of adventure is evident, as is the willingness to improve and then defend their chosen home.

The motive which prompted the collection and assimilation of the various data which are combined into the following history of my family, was the recognition that few facts were known that could be passed on to others as being authoritative. Family tradition varied depending upon the source, and perhaps the fancy, of those being in possession of such. In order that I might intelligently inform myself and my children, a search was started without knowing exactly where it would lead or at what point it would conclude, due to a lack of sufficient documentation to support specific claims or statements.

All of the details will never be known. The vast majority are sealed in graves, many of which are unmarked and half-forgotten. Those facts which could be found and substantiated are reported, along with certain sketches of the period and place of their occurrence.
This work is divided into two parts. Part One reports on the Merrill family in a direct line descending to my children. Part Two is a miscellany of data tangential to the main theme and is best presented separately.

It would have been an insurmountable task to include a record of each union of separate lineage, or even to carry a record of the descendants of these numerous unions. This then is a report of the direct lineage as described and is by no means a slight of, or indifference toward, the many fine families which have become associated with those which are the principals of this family history. Copies of this final summation have been requested by many of these descendants, and they will be so supplied. To these, if they choose, they may add whatever histories are in their possession to have a more personal account of the particular lineage desired.

As can best be determined by exhaustive check and recheck, the facts reported herein are accurate. It was entered into, pursued and completed with only one purpose which was, to provide historical material to my children and to those others who wish to remember and take interest in this family and its accomplishments.

Fort Worth, Texas
1965

David L. Merrill
It is a manifestation of respect to become knowledgeable of, and pay grateful tribute to, our many predecessors whose struggles played a very important role in making our lives possible as well as securing those institutions of our existence.

In recounting these many men and women of generations now past, by attempting to understand them and the sacrifices they made in developing history, the present as well as future generations might possess themselves of finer and more noble aspirations.

In order that we might not forget the aims, ideals and distinguishing features of these past men and women, it is to their memory that this history is respectfully dedicated.
We should never take our lives for granted,  
A lot of people spent theirs giving it to us;  
They built our world, we are just living here.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

All of the information on the earlier generations was found in various public records and other geneological sources, such was also the case for specifics in the later generations. The need for other information was obtained from family Bibles and records in the possession of many. Those in the state of Mississippi who made these available for inspection include Mrs. John B. Jenkins, Mrs. S.G. Beaman, Mrs Allen Woods, Mrs. John Scruggs, Mrs Edgar Kealhofer and Mrs. William B. Sewell. In the state of Texas, Mrs Paul J. Merrill, Mrs. John Cloyd, Mr. C.H. Jones and Mrs. Charles Brauchle were most helpful.

To each of these as well as to others whose assistance is unknown to me, I gratefully acknowledge their help and extend my most sincere appreciation.

Without the assistance of Mrs. Patricia Smith, who typed and proofed this manuscript, this publication in its present form would not be possible.
MERRILL
Foreword to Part One

The following history of one continuing line of the Merrill family covers a period exceeding three centuries and accounts for eleven generations.

Without exception it is an accounting of the lives of common men who neither sought nor gained national fame or prominence. At the same instant, however, it is an accounting of men who were not afraid to defend those principles of life and government in which they believed to be just.

While it is true that none of them rose to any prominent position of public life which in itself would insure a continuing fame in recorded history, not one single piece of evidence could be uncovered that would in any way discredit a family history.

During the research period in which the facts of this history were located, certain original documents extending back prior to the War of the Revolution were examined. Signatures of various ones included in the history were on these documents and from these, exact reproductions appear at the appropriate parts. Absence of such in specific cases indicates that no signature appeared and in most cases was a typed or printed reproduction of the original. It should be noted also that in those instances where a particular item is concluded as being unknown, it is unknown only to the extent that more information could not be given without a more exhaustive search. As it was not the original intent to completely survey and report each single line, a further search was not felt justified.

The period of search could be extended almost indefinitely in order to gain more specifics on a certain generation. While this would have been especially helpful in at least two cases, it was concluded that the necessary facts had been located and the time and effort to collect additional background could not be justified due to the remoteness of some county and state records.

To the extent that was necessary to collect these data as are presented, the search was carried out in various state libraries as well as in the National Archives and Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. It was also necessary to seek information from private sources, and the acknowledgment of this has been made.

The objective has been satisfied, and it is now presented as a record of one line of one family and is for the enjoyment of anyone who has an interest in this line.
1. In The Beginning

The Huguenots were a group of Protestants who were the center of political and religious quarrels in France in the 1500's and 1600's (1 - 5). The Huguenots believed the teachings of John Calvin and were members of the Reformed Church. The name was given them by the French Roman Catholics and is said to have come from Bezanson Hugues, a Swiss religious leader.

During the reign of Henry II (1547-1559), the Huguenots became strong in number and influence in France. Such figures as Anthony, King of Navarre; Prince Louis of Conde; Admiral Coligny; and others were Huguenots. The Guise family was very strong in France and represented the head of the Catholics in that country. The Duke of Guise influenced Francis II (1559-1560) against the Huguenots but was not successful in attempts to drive them from France.

After Francis II died and Charles IX (1560-1574) became King, the queen mother Catherine de' Medici, controlled France. For

a time she encouraged the Huguenots as a balance against the Guises, but feelings in both parties became so bitter that civil war broke out. Catherine allied herself with the Duke of Guise and they carried out the Massacre of Saint Bartholomew's Day on August 24, 1572, in which over 10,000 Huguenots were murdered, among them Admiral Coligny. Later, the political pendulum swung the other way and the Huguenots enjoyed the favor of the crown and in 1598, Henry IV (1589-1610) issued the Edict of Nantes which gave the Huguenots freedom of worship in most parts of France. It was in 1685 that Louis XIV (1643-1715) repealed the Edict of Nantes, and the Huguenots lost not only their political freedom but their religious freedom as well. Thousands of the Huguenots fled France at this time, but many had left after the Saint Bartholomew's Day massacre in 1572.

It was during this period in 1572 that certain members of the Merrill family, who bore the patriarchal title de Merle, fled their Estate near Puy-de-Dome in the Province of Auvergne, France (6). Some of this family still remain in France and reside on the original Estate, the most distinguished member in recent years being Merle D'Aubigne, the French historian.

It has been reported (6, 7) that nine brothers de Merle

fled in 1572 and went first to Holland and then later they or their
descendants went to England. The family crest, as shown on the
first page of Part One, was the coat of arms of the de Merle's who
came to England and changed their name to Merrill. The crest con-
tains a beautiful peacock head and neck over a twisted blue and silver
rope, which denotes ownership of hunting lands. The fleurs-de-lis
are known as the royal insignia of France. The engrailed lines along
the voided part of the escutcheon, being red, denote that a special or
courageous service was performed for the King at some time by a
member of the family.

The origin of the word Merle has not been definitely
established. Surnames were not common before the 11th century.
When they came into use some were derived from baptismal names,
some from places, from trades, from offices held, or from some-
thing associated with the individual. Merle is a French word meaning
blackbird; and it is also used in a figurative sense to denote a crafty,
swaggering fellow. Larchey (8) intimates that Merle as a surname
was presumably first applied to some quarrelsome person who was
perhaps also boastful.

Whatever the source, the name was changed by those
de Merle's in England to a spelling more in keeping with the sound

of the word when pronounced by English speaking people. In early
days few people could read or write, and many names were changed
or corrupted with the passage of time. In many cases certain individ-
duals who could neither read nor write had their name spelled a dif-
erent way from what had been the original due to some other person
writing the name as he thought perhaps it should appear. From the
original Merle, several variations have come to be used as estab-
lished surnames such as Merrill, Merrell, Murrill, Morrill,
Meriel, Morell, Murrell, and others.

Most of the Huguenots were craftsmen, and many were
in the textile trades. Exactly what the Merles (now Merrills) of
England did is not certain. It is also uncertain as to how many of the
descendants of the original Merles came to England and later on to
America. It has been established that certain ones of these
descendants did leave England, and in the remaining chapters there
is an accounting for one of these and his descendants who took the
second step of a journey that started in France and continued to the
new world.
For purposes of identification and association, the first Merrill that can be actually identified by name and dates is referred to as "The First Generation".

Richard Merrill, a descendant of the de Merle's of France, lived in the little country town of Warwickshire, England. The town is located on a rocky hill on the right bank of the Avon in the county of Warwick. He was born in 1642 (9) during the reign of Charles I of the House of Stuart. Exactly what his trade was is not known. About 1669 he married Sarah Wells; and he and his young bride, who was twenty years of age at the time, left their home in England and sailed for the new world.

It is believed that they sailed on the ship Fox (7) with other descendants of the Huguenots; but it has been established (9) that they located themselves in the village of Northfield, Staten Island, New York in the year 1670.

Richard bought land (10) on Staten Island and apparently took up the life of farming and providing for the needs of his family through agriculture.


Very little else is known of Richard except that his name appears on the tax records of Northfield for the years mentioned until 1727, at which time it is recorded that he died at 85 years of age. His wife Sarah died five years previous in 1722 at the age of 73.

Richard and Sarah Merrill had five children (10) who were: William, born 1675 and married Grace, last name is unknown; Richard Jr. who was born in 1682 and married Elsie Dorlandt. The date of his death is not known. There were three other sons, Thomas, Philip and John; however, nothing pertaining to them other than the record of their birth has been found.

It is known that Richard Sr. took one Ananias Turner to court to recover a sum of money due him, for the records (11) show the result of the court case. The following is reported exactly as it is written in these records:

At A Court held on Staton Island By the Constabll and ouer sear on this present Munday Being the 5 day of february 1681.

Richard Merrill Plf in A Action

Ananias Turner deft

The Causes Depending Betwist the Plf and Deft hath Bine heard the Deft eckoulegeth A Bill past due to the Plf from under his

11. Records of the County, Staten Island, 1670 to 1725.
hand for the sum of four pouds sxten shilings
upon Balanc of ACounts

Wharupon the Court ordreth the Deft to pay
the debtt ACording to the Bill with also
Cost of seute.

Several other recordings are found in these same
records (11) where it is shown that Richard Sr. took part in public
affairs. The following is reported:

Whereas at ye generall Town Meeting being
held the first day of Aprill in ye year 1699
for the choifing of Such Officers as are
nefesary for the enfuing year the free
holders being met made choife of thofe
perfons here under named.

heind Van dynk     Constab.
William Tiljeu     Supervifor
Richard Merrill    afesfsor
Jacob Corfson      Collector

Another report on the first of April 1703 shows that
in the same type election, Richard Merrill was elected Supervisor,
a post to which he was reelected each year until 1710.

One final recording concerning Richard is in the records
that on August 17, 1695, Richard registered his brand for his cattle in
the following manner:

Recorded for Mr Richard Merrill his Eare
Mark for his hossis Cattle and Sheep is a
Crop on the left Eare and a hole In the fame
eare.

There are later reports of Richard Jr. becoming a
member of the Colonial Assembly and Judge of the County Court.
Although firmly established by 1700, the colonies exhibited few portents of the phenomenal growth that lay ahead. Fewer than 300,000 colonists occupied the scattered settlements along the Atlantic coast. At the outbreak of the Revolution some seventy-six years later there were 2-1/2 million people along the eastern seaboard and, here and there, had pushed even beyond the mountain barrier.

New England made its living from the sea, while the southern colonies depended upon tobacco, fur and rice among their major products.

The middle colonies were aptly styled the "food" colonies as they exported to the other colonies large amounts of grain, livestock and other foodstuffs. Their agricultural units were highly productive and based on surplus production for the purpose of export.

It was into this area in New Jersey that William Merrill (born 1675) the eldest son of Richard and Sarah, made his westward journey (12). His course can be traced down through Monmouth, and he owned land in Middleton for in December of 1693 it is recorded (13) that his land consisting of 240 acres was surveyed.


13. New Jersey Archives, First Series Vol. XXIII
Also, it is known that he owned cattle by the recording of his brand (13).

William Merrill on Decm 24, 1694 brand Regestred were WM on the neare butock.

How long William remained in Middleton is not known. It has been determined however (13) that on December 2, 1715, a James Hubbard recorded the cattle brand formerly registered by William Merrill.

The tax lists for Hopewell, New Jersey for the year 1722, show that William Merrill formerly of Middleton was assessed for taxes on 300 acres of land, 24 cattle and horses, and other items.

William lived only a few years after his arrival in Hopewell for his Will was proved on February 23, 1724 (14).

In his Will he mentions his three sons, William Jr. (born 1700), Benjamin (born 1701 or 1702), and Joseph (birth date unknown). In addition he refers to his "loving wife Grace". It is stated in the Will that William Jr has earlier received his endowment and that the two other sons, Benjamin and Joseph, were to equally divide the estate.

No other notation has been found on Benjamin or Joseph, what happened to them or the year of their death. Also unknown is the date of the death of his wife, Grace. Cemetery records of Hopewell show, however, that William and Grace Merrill were buried in Hopewell.

4. The Third Generation - William Merrill, Jr.

William Jr. (born 1700), the son of William and Grace Merrill, was married in Hopewell, New Jersey in 1729 (month not known) to Mrs. Penelope Stout Jewell, widow of Thomas Jewell (14). Penelope was a granddaughter of Richart and Penelope Van Princess Stout who were "among the first and most distinguished settlers of the Hopewell district".

It is not known what trade William Jr. followed, but various references show that agriculture was the major occupation in the Hopewell district during this period.

The records (15) show that William Jr. and Penelope had three sons and one daughter. The eldest son was again named William (III) and was born in 1730. The second son Benjamin was born in 1731 or 1732. The youngest son Thomas was born in 1734. The only daughter, Ann, was born in 1735.

Practically nothing could be found on Thomas and Ann except (16) that Thomas married a Dorothy Morgan and Ann married her cousin David Stout. No mention is made of children of Thomas, but


15. New Jersey Archives, First Series, Vol. XXIV.

Ann and David Stout had three, Nehemiah, Nathaniel, and Rebecca. No mention of dates concerning the birth or death of these children, or the date of death of Thomas and Dorothy Merrill, or David and Ann Stout.

Considerable detail will be given in the "Fourth Generation" on the 1st and 2nd sons of William Jr., William III and Benjamin.

William Merrill Jr. died and was buried in Hopewell in 1740 (15) being forty years of age. His widow Penelope refused to trouble herself with the estate of her husband because "it will be profitless trouble for me which I am unable to undergo" (17). Soon after the death of William Jr., Penelope married Isaac Herria, her third husband, and lived until July 11, 1776, when "she died in good old age". (17)

The years covered thus far in this family history, were shaky ones for the colonies, but for the most part they had passed through their infancy. At the time of the death of William Merrill, Jr. (1740), the third generation of the family in this new world, the colonies were still young and one had not yet been established. Long before 1776 the colonials had drifted away from any dependence upon the Mother country. Along with independent thought came independent action, which in time produced political maturity. The colonials became American patriots, and a new nation began to emerge not as an event but through a process.

5. Historical Footnotes

There have been many events and periods during the history of our country over which controversy arose concerning both the importance of, as well as the cause for, the event or period.

One event occurred in North Carolina and is known as the War of the Regulation. For many years the verdict of this event was unfavorable, but such opinion has now changed on that much misunderstood and much misrepresented trouble.

George Bancroft, the noted American historian of the 19th century, after much research on the subject came to be the able defender of these many men of North Carolina. He has written them down as the earliest and most devoted of American Revolutionary patriots, rather than lawless men opposed to all government and the payment of taxes as had earlier been credited to them.

The causes that led to the War of the Regulation were these:

1. Unlawful extraction of fees by clerks and county registrars.
2. Unlawful extraction of taxes under supposed legislative authority.
3. The unduly and unequal distribution of the benefits and burdens of the provincial government.

To the payment of taxes lawfully collected and honestly applied, or to the payment of lawful fees, it cannot be shown that they
ever objected. On the contrary, they asserted from the outset that it was the duty of every honest man to give part of his substance to support rulers and laws (18).

The first record of unrest is recorded as being in 1765, and several peaceful efforts were made by groups of men to correct what they felt to be gross miscarriages of justice. In March of 1768, hopeless of results from mild measures, an organization was formed and known as the Regulators; and they took it upon themselves to use force if necessary to correct the situation. Numerous skirmishes were held between the group and the Crown troops, but the situation was not ended until the Battle of Alamance Creek. The battle occurred between Governor Tryon and his troops and a force of the Regulators. The result was as might be expected for no unarmed (or ill-armed), untrained group will stand long before artillery fire at short range. The Regulators were defeated, dispersed and vanquished. Several prisoners were taken and during the next several weeks following the battle on May 16, 1771, Tryon and his men sought other prisoners. Twelve were tried and convicted at Hillsboro of treason at a Special Court of Oyer and Terminer (18), and six of them were executed. All of the arrangements for their execution were made under Governor Tryon's personal supervision.

After the battle, the army subsisted itself upon the stores

of the Regulators, as Tryon boasted that whatever to be had was his. He destroyed and laid waste the houses and plantations of the "outlaws". Plantations and other properties were confiscated, and generally everything possible was done to make the rebellion look like a lawless uprising.

Assuming that in theory at least, governments are the servants not the masters of the people, it is the duty of the government by redress of grievances to prevent a rebellion rather than to allow it to occur and then crush it with an iron hand. The government had countless opportunities for redress of grievances, but the situation was allowed to continue for seven years and then the oppressed, and not the oppressors, were crushed. It is evident that Tryon did not want peace as he had ample opportunity for it. His eye was on a promotion, and as a soldier he looked to the battlefield for it. He received his reward because on the 30th of June, 1771, he left North Carolina to take upon himself the government of New York, the long cherished object of his ambition.
William Merrill III, the eldest son of William and Penelope Merrill of New Jersey and brother of Benjamin Merrill, remained in New Jersey longer than did Benjamin, who left for North Carolina. He and his family came to Rowan County, North Carolina about 1760 and bought land near that owned by his brother. His three boys were born in New Jersey and were named Benjamin, John and Daniel.

There was very little recorded concerning William III, however, in 1886, Mr. Orson Merrill of Portage, Utah published the following account of his great, grand-father William Merrill III (19).

They lived in Rowan County, North Carolina on the banks of the Yadkin River with a number of others from New Jersey. The father (William III) was carried away by the British soldiers. Two of the boys were out hunting and saw the soldiers with a light and heard their father's voice but they were afraid to shoot for fear they would hit their father. He was never heard of again, and it is supposed he was hanged. The soldiers were raiding through the country and they came to their house while the boys were away. Their mother told them what she thought of them and they split her tongue. The boys forever afterwards hated the sight or even the name of a Tory.

William III had married a Mary Cornell of Hopewell,

New Jersey. Several years ago her gravestone was found near Tomasville, North Carolina and is in the old Merrill Graveyard near the site of the Merrill homestead. The slab was inscribed "Mary Merrill, in her 89th yr., died Aug 1813".

William was carried off by the soldiers in 1782. In 1779 he had taxes assessed on 345 acres of which 100 were improved, four black slaves, nine horses, twenty-two cattle and 230 pounds in bonds.

The eldest son of William III was Benjamin Merrill (20) who was born on December 2, 1752 in New Jersey. At the age of twenty-four he enlisted in the army and served in the American Revolution. The following was taken from his service record:

He enlisted March 1, 1776, and served about six weeks as a private in Capt. Collier's No. Carolina Company. He moved to York District, South Carolina, enlisted there in August 1776, served as a private in Capt. Anderson's company where on Sept. 19, 1776 he was engaged in a battle at the head of the Tennessee River. He was discharged in October 1776. He enlisted in February 1779, served as a private in Capt. McCulloch's company and was in the battle of Brier Creek. He served in other

20. Revolutionary War Record, S. 8891, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
commands and was discharged in 1780.

Contained also in his service record is a handwritten certificate of service dated November 7, 1780, which states:

This is to certify that Benjamin Merrill,
Belonging to the second class of My Company,
had performed his duty as a friend to his country ought
given under my hand
Jacob Barnett, Capt.

After leaving the service, Benjamin moved to Buncombe County, North Carolina with his wife. He had married in 1778 (21) to his first cousin Penelope Merrill, the daughter of his father's brother, Benjamin. Their union was blessed with fifteen children.

Daniel Merrill, the second son of William III, also served in the army during the War of the Revolution (22). He was born in New Jersey in 1753. His service record states:

Enlisted July 22, 1776 as a private in Captain Flacks Company against the Indians and was discharged the latter part of October same year. Re-enlisted in September 1780 as a private in Captain Johnson's company, North Carolina Regiment. After the Battle of Guilford he was called out to fight the Tories and

21. Rowan County Marriage Bonds, 1753-1835.

22. Revolutionary War Record, S. 7222, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
on one tour his horse was shot from under him. He was taken prisoner and treated with cruelty. He also received a wound in the head inflicted by a broad sword.

Daniel Merrill died March 11, 1844 and was survived by a widow whose first name was listed as Hannah. They had four children.

The third and youngest son of William III, was John who was born on July 24, 1754 in New Jersey and was brought to Rowan County by his parents when he was a baby. Like his brothers, he served in the War of the Revolution, and his service record (23) states:

Enlisted in Guilford Co. North Carolina in 1778 and served in Capt. Davis' Company in Col. Locke's North Carolina Regiment (was in battle of Brier Creek Georgia). Was in Capt. Dougan's Company of Col. Collier's Regiment and was wounded on his head by a sword in Guilford County on April 15, 1781. He was discharged July 30, 1781. He served on several tours with his older brother Benjamin.

John married a Catherine-----(last name unknown), and they had eleven children (24). He died in 1833 in Buncombe County, North Carolina, and his Will was probated in January of 1834 (24).

23. Revolutionary War Record, S.7220, National Archives, Washington, D.C.

Benjamin Merrill was born in New Jersey about 1731, the second son of William Merrill Jr. and brother of William Merrill III whose journey to North Carolina has previously been described. It is known that he married Jemima Smith of Hopewell, New Jersey, for this fact is stated in the Will of Andrew Smith of Hopewell and filed on October 17, 1794 (25).

Benjamin and Jemima Merrill, with several of their children, left their home to go to North Carolina. They settled in Rowan County (now Davidson county) in what was called the Jersey Settlement, an area populated by a group of New Jersey Baptists (26). It is not known for certain when they made the trip, however, it is a fact that he purchased 1,042 acres of land in the Parish of St. Luke on the north side of the Yadkin River on September 9, 1760 (27). He was a gunsmith and built a store on a small creek near his residence. Machinery used for boring out rifle barrels was powered by a water mill he erected. It is also known that he was in Rowan County in

25. Smith, Andrew, Will proved 1794, Liber 35, Folio 114, Dept. of State, Hopewell, N.J.


27. Deed Book 4, Pages 363-5.
1756 because on January 24 of that year, he and several others were summoned to appear in Court to "show reasons for not going out against the Owens", who had apparently committed some crime (28). His plantation was located some two miles east of the Jersey Church, at the edge of the Jersey Settlement. It is a distance of about five miles south of the present town of Lexington.

After ten years of harsh, unjust rule, the people of this area of North Carolina met at Maddocks Mill, near the town of Hillsborough, and on April 4, 1767, formed the Regulators. The cause of this group was popular, but through several years they failed to cause any change in the situation. Governor Tryon decided to teach the Regulators a lesson. With a force of eleven hundred men, he met the Regulators at Alamance Creek and defeated them.

Benjamin Merrill was a Captain of the Rowan County Militia prior to the movement of the Regulators. He joined with them in their cause. Captain Merrill was one of twelve Regulators who were taken prisoner following the defeat at Alamance. He apparently had returned to his home for the following account of his capture appears in the "Journal of the Expedition Against the Insurgents in the Western Frontier of North Carolina" (29).

28. Rowan County Court Minutes, 1756.

Saturday, June 1, 1771.

General Waddell returned to his troops this morning. Colonel Funning brought into camp this morning Captain Benjamin Merrill, Prisoner. The Colonel marched with a detachment with the advanced corps, in the dead of the night to the prisoners house, surrounded it and made the Captain prisoner. Captain Merrill had headed four hundred Regulators at the Action of Alamance and afterwards endeavoured to rally and raise forces.

The Army marched and crossed Abbot's Creek, and encamped on Captain Merrill's plantation; a valuable tract of land and well cultivated. The Corps consisting of the Orange, Wake and Rangers advanced in the road to Salisbury and joined General Waddell's forces at the forks of the Roads, two miles from the Yadkin River. This night a false alarm was given by an uncommon incident. The horses of the Army, upwards of one hundred, were at pasture with Bells round their necks in a field near to the line of encampment, and in an adjoining garden were several beehives; some soldiers taking a fancy for the honey overturned the hives about midnight, the bees being thus disturbed and enraged dispersed themselves among the horses in the pasture stinging them to such a degree that they broke in one confused squadron over the fence, and came in full gallop and in full chorus of bells up to the camp.

The out centinals uninformed of the real cause joined in the signal of Alarm and the cry thru' the Camp was, "Stand to your Arms, Stand to your Arms" this consternation (which cast more horror on the waking imagination than anything that happened during the whole service) was of short duration; the cause being discovered by a Soldier running into Camp who was concerned in the above Robbery.
Following the capture, Captain Merrill was put in chains and dragged to the town of Hillsborough. It is reported (30) that:

The Supreme Court of Oyer and Terminer, for the Tryal of the Regulators in the Back Country, Began at Hillsborough on the 30th of May and continued to the 20th of June, during which time, twelve were tryed and condemned for High Treason. The Governor was pleased to suspend the Execution of Six, till His Majesty's Pleasure be known, the other six were executed on the 19th of June at Hillsborough. Among these, the most distinguished was Captain Benjamin Merrill. The Chief Justice passed Sentence in the following manner - 'I must now close my officing Duty, by pronouncing upon you the awful Sentence of the Law, which is, that you, Benjamin Merrill, be carried to the place from whence you came, that you be drawn from thence to the Place of Execution, where you are to be hanged by the Neck, that you be cut down while yet alive, that your Bowels be taken out and burnt before your Face, that your head be cut off, your Body divided into Four Quarters, and this be at His Majesty's Disposal. May the Lord have Mercy on your Soul.

When placed on the gallows, Captain Merrill told his friends he was prepared to die. He professed his faith in Christ, his hope of Heaven, and he sang a Psalm. It is further reported (30) that one of Tryon's soldiers was heard to declare that, "If all men went to the gallows with a character such as Captain Merrill, hanging would be an honorable death".

The Regulators did not lose entirely for of the forty-seven sections of the State Constitution for North Carolina, adopted in 1776, thirteen of them are embodiment of the reforms sought by the Regulators.

Four years later, the widow of Captain Merrill, Jemima, married Harmon Butner of Rowan County (31) on February 28, 1775.

On May 7, 1777, Jacob Wiseman (32) and Robert Moore were asked to arbitrate a matter concerning the estate of the late Captain Merrill between Harmon Butner (husband of Jemima) and the Merrill children: Samuel, John, Andrew, William, Penelope and Anna and her husband Boyd McCreary who had the interests of the other children, Charles, Elijah and Jonathan.

This, plus several other records, give the names of the nine children of Benjamin and Jemima Merrill.

Just a few minutes before his execution, Captain Merrill is quoted as saying (30):

In a few moments I shall leave a widow and nine children. I entreat that no reflection be cast on them on my account and if possible I shall deem it a bounty should you gentlemen petition the Governor and Council that some part of my estate be spared to the widow and fatherless.

It is further shown (30) that the reply from Tryon stated:

31. Marriage Records, Rowan County, North Carolina.

32. Rowan County Court Minutes, May 1777.
Benjamin Merrill, a Captain of the militia, left it in charge of the officers to solicit me to grant his plantation to his wife and children.

I Wm. Tryon, Governor and Captain General for the province of North Carolina:

To Jemima Merrill and children

You are commanded to hold and possess the land and tenements, goods and chattels, of the late Benjamin Merrill, hung for high treason, till His Majesty's pleasure shall be known: and all his tax collectors and receivers shall take due notice thereof.

Hillsboro - June 1771
Wm. Tryon

The following correspondence between Governor Martin and the Earl of Hillsborough clearly shows that the estate was given back to the family.

Dec. 4, 1771 - The Earl of Hillsborough to Governor Martin:

In the last letter I received from Mr. Tryon relative to the affairs of North Carolina and which is dated from New York, he expresses a wish that the plantation and estate of Benjamin Merrill, a Captain of the Militia and who was one of the six rebels executed on the 19th of June may be granted to a wife and eight children he left behind him, and I have a command from the King to signify to you His Majesty's pleasure, that you do accordingly take proper measures that whatever property belonging to that unhappy person became forfeited to the
Crown by his conviction should be regranted to his Widow and Children (33).

Dec. 12, 1771 - Gov. Martin to Earl of Marlborough: Benjamin Merrill one of the six criminals executed soon after the action with the insurgents has left and innocent and miserable family consisting of his widow and seven young children who must starve unless his Majesty will be graciously pleased to continue to them the possession of the lands of the delinquent.

I am therefore my Lord engaged by the feelings of humanity to implore his Majesty's favor to this wretched and fatherless family (33).

Oct. 25, 1772 - Gov. Martin to Earl of Hillsborough: I am to acquaint your Lordship, that I have displayed His Majesty's most gracious Acts of beneficence to the family of Benjamin Merrill, - and I had the satisfaction to see them received with most dutiful and lively gratitude (33).

It is noted that in the letter of December 4, 1771, the children are numbered at eight while in the letter of December 12, they are numbered as seven. This might well be due to ages and also one was married at the time which could have excluded her from consideration.

In a book recounting the history of the Liberty Baptist Association, of which the Jersey Settlement was a part (34), it is


stated that following the execution of Captain Merrill, his widow
Jemima remained at the old homestead. One report referred to her
as being blind and never fully recovering from the shock of her hus-
band's death. She remained faithful to her church. It was also
reported in another account that "she cannot forget the fate of her
husband" (35).

After Harmon Butner married Jemima in 1775, he
came to live with her and the Merrill children on the Merrill planta-
tion. On May 9, 1777, the court ordered Butner to bring Charles,
Elijah and Jonathan, the three youngest Merrill children, into court
to be dealt with as the law required (36). At the next court, Charles
was bound to his brother John who was to teach him the art of being
a blacksmith, and when he was of age to receive a set of tools. Charles
was fifteen at the time. Elijah, who was fourteen, was bound to his
brother Samuel to learn the weavers trade. When Elijah became of
age, his brother Samuel was to give him a loom. Jonathan was bound
to his brother-in-law, but no specifics other than this were reported.

Jemima Merrill Butner lived about thirty years after
the death of Captain Merrill and died in 1801 or 1802.

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35. Fries, A.: Publications of North Carolina Historical Commission,
Volume 2.

36. Rowan County Court Minutes, May 1777.
Samuel Merrill, eldest son of Captain Benjamin was born in New Jersey about 1748 and died in Rowan County in 1803 according to the records. His Will (37) mentions his wife Susannah; his sons Benjamin Smith and Azariah; daughters Jemima, Sarah and Betty. In the Revolutionary Army Accounts of North Carolina, Samuel Merrill is listed as one who supplied provisions to the army.

John Merrill, the second son of Captain Benjamin Merrill, was born in New Jersey in 1750. In 1773 he married Mary Wiseman and in 1776 he went to war. The following is an account of his service (38):

Enlisted in 1776 as a Drummer under Capt. James Smith. He later served as a Lieutenant under Capt. Lopp; as an Artificer under Capt. James Guess; as a Captain under Captain John Cleveland. He engaged in battles at Marks Ferry, Pedee, Race Pots, and Camden.

John and Mary Merrill had four sons and several daughters. In 1832 he applied for a pension for his war service, and at the time stated that he lived in Monroe County, Mississippi. His pension was granted (39) on January 2, 1834. John Merrill died at eighty-eight years of age and was buried in Monroe County, Mississippi on October 26, 1838.

37. Will Book G, Rowan County.

38. Revolutionary War Service Record S.7223, National Archives, Washington, D.C.

An account of Andrew, the third son of Benjamin, will be given in the next chapter, The Fifth Generation.

William, the fourth son, married Salley Haden. William served as a Drummer under Captain Smith in the First Regiment of Rowan militia between August 1775 and spring of 1776.

Charles, the fifth son, served in the Salisbury District Militia during the Revolution and received his pay in a land grant on March 24, 1784. He was not in Rowan when the 1790 census was taken, and it is not known where he went.

Elijah, the sixth son, was married when the 1790 census was taken but had no children.

Jonathan, the seventh and youngest son, was married in 1787 to Nancy Elliot and settled in the Potts Creek section of Rowan County. He owned much land and from all evidence, he became a very wealthy man.

Penelope married her first cousin Benjamin, as reported in Chapter 6(a). Her sister Anna married Boyd McCreary. Anna and Boyd settled in Buncombe County, North Carolina with Benjamin and Penelope.
The Constitution of the United States provided that a count of the people was to be made within three years of the first meeting of the Congress, and every ten years thereafter. This count was to furnish a basis for taxing the various states and for deciding the number of representatives each would have in Congress.

The first census of the United States was conducted in 1790 by 17 marshals and 200 assistants. These men carried quill pens and inkhorns in their saddle bags as they rode through the country. In nine months they counted 3,929,214 people, and they wrote down the information on paper of all sizes and shapes. The new Government was too poor to furnish standard forms and in the second census of 1800, one enumerator ran out of paper before he had finished, and he used the back of an old magazine. The magazine contained an essay by Benjamin Franklin on "The Art of Procuring Pleasant Dreams". This document is still in existence.

The first census of 1790 was a count of heads of families only, as that was the only name listed on the schedule. The members of the family were grouped as free white males sixteen years and older, free white males under sixteen, free white females, other free persons of color and slaves.

The schedules for the second census in 1800 were much the same, but for the third census in 1810, the schedules broke the
number of male and females into age groups of sixteen and under, sixteen to twenty-six, twenty-six to forty-five and over forty-five.

The fifth census in 1830, as the earlier ones, listed by name only the head of the family, but for males and females (free white) the age groups were every five years to age thirty and every ten years thereafter.

The seventh census, in 1850, brought about the most significant change since the start of the procedure. On the 1850 schedules the name of each member of the family was listed along with the actual age and state of birth. Also for the head of the family, information was recorded concerning his occupation, amount and value of property owned, value of personal estate and number of slaves owned.

The work of genealogical research is greatly reduced when working in the years of 1850 and later. For earlier years specific information on the names of wives and children, such records as birth or death records, marriage records, deeds, wills, court records and other similar sources must be obtained and studied.
8. The Fifth Generation - Andrew Merrill

The third son of

Captain Benjamin and Jemima Merrill was Andrew, who was

born in New Jersey in 1753 or 1754. The exact date of the move of

Benjamin and his family from New Jersey to North Carolina is not

known. As was cited earlier, however, he was summoned to court

in Rowan County in 1756, so Andrew was a lad less than three years

of age when he and his family made the trip, and possibly only an

infant.

Andrew, like his older brother John, married into the

Wiseman family of Rowan County. In 1773, (40) he married Rachel

Wiseman and from the very few records located Andrew was a farmer

and made various farm implements.

At the outbreak of the War of the Revolution Andrew

joined with his brothers in arms against the Crown. His service record

contains the notation (41):

Served in the line for two years as a
Private in regiment commanded by
Colonel Martin. Was in several battles
and was at the battle of Long Island

40. Rowan County Marriage Bonds, 1770-1790.
41 Revolutionary War Record S. 31253, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
with the group when Lord Sterling was captured and made a prisoner. Served in the battles at Dobbs Ferry and Elizabethtown under Capt. Hezekiah Rickey.

It has been determined from various records (42) that Andrew and Rachel Merrill had eight children. The names of three are not known, however, the others were Nicholas, Andrew Jr., Abner, Benjamin and Nancy.

The 1790 census schedule (43) for North Carolina listed Andrew as the head of the family having one son over sixteen, three sons under sixteen, four daughters and his wife. Andrew was not listed on the North Carolina Census schedule ten years later in 1800.

In 1789 (44) Andrew purchased a large tract of land in Rowan County but for reasons unknown, he left North Carolina and moved to Kentucky and is shown as a resident of Clark County, Kentucky in the 1800 census of that state (45).

In a statement made concerning his service during the Revolution (46) Andrew stated that he had moved to Clark County in 1797 but gave no reason for the move. It was in this same statement, given

42. Register of Births, Rowan County, 1770-1800.
43. First Census of the United States, North Carolina, 1790.
44. Land Record Book, Rowan County, 1775-1800.
45. Second Census of the United States, Kentucky, 1800.
in the year 1833, that Andrew gave his age as seventy-nine. As the month was not stated, it was this fact that placed the date of his birth in either 1753 or 1754.

His other moves in Kentucky are traced through the census schedules of 1810 where he is shown to reside in Estill County, where he and his wife are listed as being over forty-five years of age. The same information is listed for the year 1820, but in the 1830 schedule he is not shown in Estill County. At this time he is again in Clark County, and his age is listed as over seventy; there is no listing of his wife. From this, the date of the death of Rachel Merrill is placed between 1820 and 1830 and either in Estill or Clark County, Kentucky.

The final notation in Andrew Merrill's service record states that he died on May 29, 1835 in Clark County, Kentucky. This would place his age at the time of death at eighty-two years.

As for the children of Andrew and Rachel Merrill; Nicholas will be described in the following chapter, The Sixth Generation.

Andrew Jr., married Permelia Tatum on June 4, 1810, and they lived in the Potts Creek section of Rowan County (47). In 1821 they sold their home and went to Madison County, Alabama. They had seven children, three boys and four girls.

Abner Merrill was married in Rowan County on October

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47. Marriage Bonds, Rowan County, 1800-1825.

-33-
22, 1802 (47) to Rita Jones. Abner owned 135 acres on Potts Creek, and he and Rita had six children, three boys and three girls.

Of the remaining children, all that is known is that Benjamin married Elizabeth Garrett, and Nancy Merrill married a Daniel Garrett; it is assumed that these two were brother and sister.
In 1584 the Kentucky territory was included in the Virginia charter, and for fifty years it was an unexplored part of the royal colony. Other explorations were made in 1750, and in the year 1767 Daniel Boone spent two years in the Kentucky valley. The first settlers followed Boone into the Kentucky country in 1773, and the majority of these settlers came from the Yadkin River area of North Carolina. In 1776 Kentucky was organized into a county of Virginia, and four years later it was divided into three counties. On June 1, 1792, Kentucky was admitted to the Union as the fifteenth state.

Andrew Merrill left North Carolina and resettled in Kentucky in 1797. It is not known why he relocated, but it is not unreasonable to assume that the earlier settlers from the Yadkin influenced his decision in some manner. It is also unknown as to his route of travel; however, the Cumberland Gap in southeastern Kentucky was the most logical point of entry.

It was stated in the previous chapter that Andrew and Rachel Merrill had eight children with the names of five identified. It has not been determined the order of birth, but it is certain that his wife and some of the children were with him when he made the move.
Nicholas Merrill, son of Andrew and Rachel Merrill, was born in either North Carolina or Virginia in 1793. It is believed that Andrew left North Carolina in 1791 and went to Virginia, remaining there until he left for Kentucky. It is not known where in Kentucky they went first, but as was previously stated, they resided in Clark County when the 1800 census was taken and in the adjoining county of Estill when the 1810 census was taken.

Very few actual facts have been uncovered on Nicholas Merrill. His actions were apparently restricted to a rather small area in Kentucky, and as can best be determined his military service was probably his only travel out of the state.

Doctor James Andrew Merrill, President of the State Teachers College in Superior, Wisconsin, published (48) in 1928, stated that his grandfather was Nicholas Merrill of Kentucky, son of Andrew Merrill and grandson of Captain Benjamin Merrill, who was hanged in North Carolina. Doctor Merrill stated that his grandfather, Nicholas, married Ida Cobb but did not identify the date or place of the marriage, and it has not been further determined. In the same reference, three children of Nicholas Merrill were identified, two

sons and one daughter. James W. S. Merrill was the eldest son of eight children; he had an older sister named Margaret and six younger brothers and sisters. The only other identification made was a younger brother who was the father of Doctor Merrill; his name was Andrew Hanson Merrill.

Nicholas Merrill served his country in the War of 1812. In the obituary of the son of Nicholas, J. W. S. Merrill, it is stated that Nicholas was a Captain; however, the facts are recorded in the military records (49) in a slightly different manner. Nicholas enlisted in the army and served in Captain Dudley Faris' Company of Infantry, 13th Kentucky Regiment and was discharged as a Corporal on September 28, 1813. Nicholas received the salary of ten dollars per month for his service and served a total time of some fourteen months. His company (50) consisted of 130 men of which 121 were privates, one 2nd Corporal, one 1st Corporal (Nicholas), four Sergeants, one Ensign, one Lieutenant and Captain Faris.

Apparently, the men of Kentucky did well by themselves, because Rear Admiral George Cochburn of the Royal Navy prepared a report for the English General Beckwith concerning the American forces stationed in Maryland in which he stated:

49. Records of War of 1812, 11775, National Archives, Washington, D.C.

50. Register of Kentucky Men in the War of 1812, Kentucky Historical Society, Frankfort.
Some time ago the enemy were much stronger in this neighbourhood but since the reduction of our Naval Forces in this bay, Major General Hampton, who then commanded here, with several other officers and all the regulars, particularly the Kentucky Regiment (which is a remarkable fine one) have been sent to Canada and the command left to General Taylor, who I believe never saw a shot fired (51).

A newspaper article published in 1905 concerning a grandchild of Nicholas Merrill, (C. E. Merrill) reports on a pair of baby shoes that Andrew Merrill had made for his son Nicholas Dabney Merrill, and they were in the possession of C. E. Merrill at that time. What happened to them is not known. The article reports that Andrew made them in Kentucky for Nicholas in 1783, but this date is in error because Nicholas had not been born at that time and Andrew did not reach Kentucky until 1797.

The eldest son of Nicholas Merrill was James William Simpson and according to his obituary he was born in 1814 in Estill County. In a search of the census for Estill County for 1820, Nicholas was not listed, so it is possible that he lived elsewhere at the time. He is shown on the schedule for Estill County for 1830. He is listed in the age group of 30 to 40, his wife in the group 30 to 40, and seven children are listed. One son 15 to 20; two daughters 10 to 15; one son and one

daughter 5 to 10; and one son and one daughter both under 5. Also included on the same schedule was the fact that he owned land and eight slaves (four male, four female), but the amount of land is not listed (52).

The one remaining fact known on Nicholas is that for an unknown length of time he was a Justice of the Peace in Estill County. Nicholas Merrill signed several papers as Justice of the Peace in the year 1832 (53).

Nicholas did not appear on the census schedule of 1840 for Estill County, and the schedule for each county adjacent to Estill was searched, and his name did not appear in any of these. What happened to Nicholas or Ida, where they went or when they died, is not known.

Nicholas and Ida Merrill had eight children and J. W. S. was the oldest son; the 1830 schedule listed seven with the eldest boy logically being J. W. S. The oldest child Margaret had married and left home at this time.

Of the children of Nicholas, J. W. S. will be reported on in the 10th chapter - The Seventh Generation.

Margaret married a Jeremiah Haden (54) but no further facts are known.

52. Fifth Census of the United States, Kentucky, 1830.
53. Record of Abstracts, Estill County, 1832.
54. Kentucky Vital Statistics of Clark County, 1792 to 1850.
Andrew Hanson married Eliza Eastin but the date of the marriage is not known. He is shown residing in Rockcastle County, Kentucky in 1860 (55), his occupation is listed as a farmer and his age as 35. His wife Eliza was also 35, and they had four children who were: Robert 9, Warrin 7, Aoiline 5, and Mary 3. Reported earlier in this chapter (48), Dr. James Andrew Merrill said that his father was Andrew Hanson Merrill, son of Nicholas Merrill. James was not listed in the 1860 schedule for his bibliography (56) reports that he was born in Rockcastle County, Kentucky on April 6, 1861. Doctor Merrill further reported (48) that his father Andrew Hanson did not agree with the sentiments of the South, and when the Civil War started he sold his land in Kentucky and left. He went to Indiana, then Illinois and subsequently Missouri. Doctor James Andrew Merrill married Nellie Lowen of Trenton, Missouri on December 23, 1895, and they had two children, George Lowen and Helen Elizabeth.

Of the remaining five children of Nicholas and Ida Merrill, no facts concerning their lives could be found.

55. Eighth Census of the United States, Kentucky, 1860.

10. Historical Footnotes

In the frontier land of Kentucky, one of the Merrills (believed to be of the two families in North Carolina) was a participant in an event that found its way into recorded history (57). It is repeated here for its local color. The picture is hanging in the Kentucky Historical Society.

**Story of Susan Merrill**

In a little country graveyard in Nelson County, Kentucky, lies buried the heroine of a story as thrilling as the annals of pioneer life contain. The stone at her head is moss-grown and broken, but push aside the clinging vine that tenderly embraces it and stoop and read the name of "Susan Merrill, died 1799." This woman was known among the Indians as "The Long-Knife Squaw", and the story of how she earned it was related for long years about their campfires with every expression of respect and admiration, accorded always by the redskins to the truly brave, even when that bravery was displayed against them.

One night in the early summer of 1787 Mrs. Merrill and her husband were setting up late with one of their children who was dangerously ill. The hour was close to midnight, when the barking of the yard dog alarmed them.

"I will see what is the matter", said Merrill, stepping toward the door, but his wife, with

a sudden premonition, clung to him, begging him not to venture out and reminding him that the dog might have seen Indians.

He laughed at her, however, and in spite of her entreaties opened the door. He was greeted by the fire of six or seven rifles in the hands of as many Wyandotte Indians, and fell wounded severely, both arms and his thigh broken. He fell across the doorway, and as his wife bent over him, she saw the redskins leap from the cover of outhouses, where they had lain concealed, and run toward the main house. She dragged her insensible husband into the room, and just succeeded in closing the door, and shooting the bolt, when the Indians flung themselves against it. The lady, a magnificent specimen of womanhood, the ideal of a pioneer's wife, now realized that the life of her dear ones and her own depended on her alone. She ran for her husband's gun, and, snatching it from the rack, was about to load it when she discovered that the powder was damp. As she afterward described it, this discovery caused her nearly to faint, until the knowledge that that was not the time for any such giving way acted like a douche of ice cold water.

Casting her eyes about for some weapon she spied the axe, which she seized and hurried back to the door, which was being attacked by the foe with tomahawks. As she reached it the wood work gave way, and the ugly visage of a painted warrior peered in. She raised her axe and brained the wretch with a single blow, actually cleaving the skull from scalp to under jaw. As the body fell back another scarcely realizing what had befallen his companion, thrust himself in, followed closely by a third. With another swing of her blood-
stained weapon, she brought it down on the foremost Indian's head, smashing his skull and killing him outright. The other Indian fired at her as she did so, but the bullet only carried away a lock of her braided hair, and she returned his fire by a blow that struck him on the breast, breaking the bone, and sending him bowling back. A fourth attempted to enter, but she wounded him severely in the cheek, shattering his jaw. The Indian fell to the floor, but clinging to her dress, endeavored to drag her down and tomahawk her. Unable to do this he raised himself and struck at her breast with his knife, when she brought her axe down on his face, breaking it in and sending his warm brains and blood all over her dress and hands.

Abandoning the attempt to enter the house in this way, the enemy now ascended to the roof and endeavored to effect an entrance by way of the chimney, the wide, old-fashioned fireplace of that period, but once more they were foiled by the heroic and clever woman, made strong and cunning by her beloved ones' peril. She seized the only feather bed the cabin home afforded, and ripping it open with all haste poured its contents on the fire. As she did so, the clock on the mantel near her, proclaimed the hour when her sick child's medicine was to be administered and with a firm hand the admirable mother poured out the draught and held it to the little one's lips.

By this time a furious blaze and suffocating smoke was ascending the chimney, and in another instant, two stifled and half roasted Indians came tumbling down into the fireplace. They lay choking, and nearly insensible for a moment, when, seizing her axe once more, she dispatched them hastily, for the only remaining savage now appeared at the door, and was about to effect an entrance, while Mrs. Merrill was engaged at the chimney.
She met him as he was stepping over the 
dead bodies of his companions, which 
blocked the doorway, and struck at him 
with the axe. The blow fell on his shoulder, 
disabling him in the right arm, but seizing 
his tomahawk in the other hand, he rushed 
upon her. Dropping the axe she caught up 
one of the fire brands from the hearth, and 
holding it by the uncharred end, hurled it 
ablaze at the other full in the advancing 
warrior's face. It struck him, blinding 
him for the moment, when running for-
ward she grasped him about the lower 
limbs, and tripping him up, sent him head 
foremost into the fire. Hastily scrambling 
to his all fours he was again felled to the 
floor by a blow on the head, which stunned 
him. Mrs. Merrill caught up her axe once 
more and was about to brain the Indian, when 
he sprang to his feet and with a howl of terror 
and pain rushed from the house with such pre-
cipitancy as to upset the lady in his rush. It 
was he who carried the story of Mrs. Merrill's 
courage and strength to his tribe, which bestowed 
on her the title of the "Long Knife Squaw".

Her foes once gone, the lady busied herself 
barricading the doorway with logs of wood 
in place of the shattered door, and in caring 
for her wounded husband and her sick child. 
She had gone out the next morning to dig a 
grave for the dead Indians, when, by chance, 
her nearest neighbor called to see them. He 
could scarcely credit her story, but the five 
odies were to be seen as evidence. Promising 
to go after a physician for her husband, the 
neighbor, the only other white person besides 
themselves in eight miles, assisted her in 
interring the corpses, which still cumbered 
the house.

While they were engaged in this work, a 
heavy groan from a little wood close by 
startled them. The man, more frightened 
than the woman, was for retreating to the
house, but Mrs. Merrill insisted that there was someone in pain or trouble near them and that he must investigate the matter. He still refused, and at last the lady, borrowing his gun as a precaution, declared her intention of entering the wood herself. She persisted, though warned that the groaning might only by a stratagem to decoy her into the woods, where she would be slaughtered by the Indians. She had gone but a little way when a trail of blood confirmed her in her resolution, and proceeding she discovered an Indian lying under a bush, where the suffering wretch had endeavored to conceal himself. It was the one whom she had wounded in the breast while he was endeavoring to enter the house at first. He was delirious and blood was issuing from his mouth. So, calling to the neighbor to come and help her, Mrs. Merrill determined to take the Indian to the house and care for him. When her friend came and saw the redskin, he caught up his gun and was about to shoot the wounded savage, but throwing herself before him in such a manner as to shield him by her own body, Mrs. Merrill cried:

"If you harm him, Robert K--, I will reckon with you as if the injury was to one of my own family!"

"But he is likely to murder the whole lot of you if you take him into your house. The hounds understand nothing but treachery. Didn't you ever hear of the man that warmed the snake in his bosom?"

"Yes, I've heard of that, but I've also heard that I must love my neighbor as myself".

-45-
"Yes, but is this butchering, cruel savage your neighbor?"

"Aye, sir, my neighbor and my brother---ignorant and erring, but still my brother".

The man eyed her for a moment in silence, and then saying, "Mrs. Merrill, I haven't another word to utter except praise God, I have this day seen a Christian!" stooped and helped her carry the wounded Indian into the house.

Though busy with her own sick, the lady nursed the red man several days, but he had been mortally wounded from the first and died at the end of that time. By some means the Indians heard of this generous act, and comprehending it as they saw her courage and fierceness in defending her home, coted her in their councils "One Good Squaw", and never again attacked nor molested her or her family, but are even said to have remembered her after each hunting expedition into the game lands further west by the present of a fine buck or brace of wild turkeys, left quietly at her door by night by a hand that neither sought nor desired to be thanked. And this in a time of bitterest feud between the whites and the Indians.
There was a rumble in the West producing a roar that carried over the Appalachians and settled on Washington like an angry thunder storm. It was 1819 and Missouri had applied for admission to the Union, to be admitted as a slave state and the whole question of slavery had broken into debate in the Congress.

Up from the South a bitter wind was blowing, to be fanned and sparked over the next forty years. Years which would see the Missouri Compromise, the great debates of Webster and Calhoun, the Underground Railroad, the Texas Revolution, Uncle Tom's Cabin, the Protective Tariff, Nullification and Civil War.

The War of the Rebellion followed these forty years of dramatic conflict, and tension which had already molded the course for War. John Brown was dead, called by some the first martyr in the conflict in which the tall man from Illinois would be the last. Forty years of bitter words erupting into long-drawn battle lines of sword and cannon; yet, in the end it would be words that would reunite the Union.

Five years before the application of Missouri, James William Simpson Merrill was born in a state with strong Southern heritage, but one which would not leave the Union. Thirty years after Appomattox he died in the heart of the Confederacy he loved so well.
J. W. S. Merrill,
the eldest son of Nicholas and
Ida Merrill was born in Estill
County, Kentucky on May 25, 1814. This fact is recorded in numerous
family records.

From the various items available for inspection it is
obvious that J. W. S. was a man of considerable parts though his actions
from birth until the year 1850 are unknown except for a very few facts
which have been found.

According to the date of his birth, it is certain that he was
the male between 15 and 20 on the census schedule of his father in Estill
County, Kentucky in the year 1830. Various family records show that on
October 3, 1833 he married Miss Sophia H. Hieronymus of Clark County.
This marriage is recorded in the records (58) and occurred in the resi-
dence of the bride's father, Benjamin Hieronymus. The original marriage
license is in the possession of a surviving granddaughter of J. W. S., Mrs.
John Scruggs of Greenwood, Mississippi. Hieronymus was of Dutch
descent. His grave is marked in Clark County (59) and reads:

Benjamin Rector Hieronymus
born 10 - 22 - 1795
died 9 - 20 - 1848
Son of Henry and Elizabeth Hieronymus

Sophia Hieronymus was born near Winchester, Clark County, Kentucky on May 25, 1817. At the time of her wedding she was 16 years old, and J. W. S. was 19 years of age.

J. W. S. and Sophia Merrill are not listed on the census schedules for either Clark or Estill Counties, Kentucky for the year 1840, and it is not known exactly where they were at this time. It is recorded in the 1850 census schedule (60) that he lived in Carroll County, Mississippi; but the schedules for 1840 for Carroll County did not carry his name.

In the 1850 schedule, J. W. S. is listed as a surveyor and planter, and his real estate consisted of 1,500 acres of land. At this time, he and Sophia had seven children who were:

1. Mary A., born Kentucky, October 29, 1836
2. Cassius Exum, born Kentucky, October 7, 1838
3. Peter Hubbard, born Tennessee, November 14, 1840
4. Benjamin Nicholas, born Tennessee, January 15, 1843
5. Lucy Francis, born Mississippi, April 11, 1845
6. Alice Penelope, born Mississippi, March 23, 1847
7. Sophia Holder, born Mississippi, April 6, 1849

Family records (61) show that the second son was one of twins. The other son was Brutus J., who died shortly after birth.

The 1860 census schedule (62) shows that Mary A. was not listed. The second child Cassius Exum who was 21 is also not listed.

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60. Seventh Census of the United States, Mississippi, 1850.
61. J. W. S. Merrill Family Bible.
62. Eighth Census of the United States, Mississippi, 1860.
listed. The other children listed in the 1850 schedules were: Peter, Benjamin, Lucy, Alice and Sophia; and in addition, the following were included:

8. John Dabney, born Mississippi, April 7, 1853
9. Mary Belle, born Mississippi, August 20, 1856

Family records show that another daughter, Kate, who was born on June 23, 1851, died as an infant. Sophia and J. W. S. had one other child, J. W. S., Jr. who was born in Mississippi on November 14, 1858. He died as an infant, so in 1858, after twenty-five years of married life, there had been twelve children born; three of whom (Brutus, Kate and J. W. S., Jr.) had died as infants. The eldest child Mary was also dead by this time having died in 1855.

In the 1860 schedule, J. W. S. is listed as a planter, his real estate consisted of 18,000 acres, his personal estate (exclusive of land) was in excess of $60,000, and he owned over 200 slaves. One humorous fact noted when comparing the schedules of 1850 and 1860; each child as well as J. W. S. had aged ten years between schedules. Sophia, who was 33 in 1850, had aged only six years during the ten year interval for on the 1860 schedule her age was listed as 39.

Certain other information is obtainable when the two schedules are compared. It is known that J. W. S. and Sophia were married in Kentucky in 1833. It is known that their first and second children were born in Kentucky in 1836 and 1838; and it is known that
the next two boys were born in Tennessee in 1840 and 1843, while the next child was born in Mississippi in 1845. It is evident, therefore, that they left Kentucky sometime after October of 1838 and were somewhere in Tennessee on November 14, 1840 when Peter was born. They were also in Tennessee on January 15, 1843 when Benjamin Nicholas was born, but it is not known whether the two locations in Tennessee were the same, and as no facts are known it is not known where in Tennessee they lived. The first child who was born in Mississippi was Lucy, on April 11, 1845; therefore, J. W. S. moved from Tennessee to Mississippi sometime between January 1843 and April 1845.

It is unknown why J. W. S. left Kentucky and went to Tennessee, nor is it known what he did while in Tennessee. Likewise, it is unknown why he left Tennessee and went to Carroll County, Mississippi, and nothing was found in the records to indicate the reason.

J. W. S. bought land in the "hill country" of Carroll County, but the exact date of the purchase is not known. He also owned land in the Mississippi Delta, but the location of this property is not known. He built a home for his family on a hill overlooking his property and a small stream "Merrill Branch", which still carries that name. On another hill some one-half mile from the house he established the Merrill Cemetery under beautiful cedars where, for the next half century, he would lay his loved ones to rest. The house
no longer exists, however, family tradition tells that it was quite splendid and well furnished. In a year that is unknown, according to the story, J. W. S. took his wife on a riverboat to New Orleans where Sophia purchased the fine furniture. It was all shipped by riverboat to Greenville, where J. W. S. had "wagons and hands" to bring the furniture to his home which he had named "Mount Hope" (some family records refer to the name as "Mountain Home"). Some of this furniture is still in existence. One particularly fine specimen, a bookcase, is in the home of a great, granddaughter, in Greenwood, Mrs. S. G. Beaman.

In 1891 (63), J. W. S. wrote a newspaper article reminiscing of the early days and the establishment of the town of Point Leflore, located at the confluence of the Tallahatchie and Yalobusha Rivers, a few miles north of Greenwood.

During those years, as now, the roads in the wet season were almost impassable. Col. Leflore with his practical good sense, saw the advantages that a good road would give him, put hands off two or three plantations to work and built a levee and causewayed it from the town to the prairie, four or five miles. In the winter the roads to Greenwood were in such terrible condition that trade and travel turned to the new town and it began to look like Greenwood would be "swamped" unless something was done to get the trade back. Then the citizens of Greenwood, having a rival worthy of their steel, came together as one man and determined to build a charcoal road. They burnt a sufficient amount of coal along the line of the Carrollton road to macadamize it some

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63. The Greenwood Enterprise, Greenwood Mississippi, 1891
four miles out, 12 to 15 inches deep and 10 to 12 feet wide. This made a splendid road for dry weather, but was not of sufficient strength to sustain the heavily loaded wagons in the wet season, and was soon cut through. Then it was seen that something else must be done, a sharp rivalry still going on between the two towns.

About the year 1851, a chartered company was formed and they built a plank road out to the prairie, and put up a toll gate at the east end of the levee on the first forty acres of land I ever entered.

As the years went by, the Point Leflore crossway road becoming delapidated and Col. Leflore's mercantile enterprises in the new town not proving a success, and the new plank road to the old town bringing both old and new customers, it soon became evident that the new town might succumb.

In 1847, I surveyed and mapped the new town and made it a pretty show on paper.

Nothing is known of the early life of J. W. S., where or in what subjects he obtained his education, or the extent of his training. It is known that he was a surveyor as this fact is recorded in several places. In his obituary, written by his daughter Alice, it is stated that he could recite volumes of history, that he acquired several fortunes, traveled extensively, and that his life was one full of storm and calm as well as one of activity and serenity. As reported earlier, the 1850 schedule listed his occupation as a surveyor and planter, however, the 1860 schedule listed only planter. Also, the first listed his land as
1,500 acres, while the latter listed his holdings as being 18,000 acres, good reason to quit the surveying business. He also had other skills and engaged in carpentry on several occasions as well as in a legal practice. Records on his activity as a lawyer are completely lacking, however, certain family tradition tells of this activity.

A daguerre-o-type belonging to Mrs. John Scruggs of Greenwood, granddaughter of J. W. S., pictures J. W. S. and Sophia Merrill holding a child. This rare item was submitted to an expert who placed the date of its origin at about 1855. According to this, the child could possibly be Sophia or John Dabney. Using this same date (which may be inaccurate), J. W. S. was 41 and Sophia was 38 at the
time the picture was taken. The original was in a rather bad state, and it was necessary to have the picture restored in some detail in order to have a copy that could be reproduced and included in this history. It was reported that the picture was made in Jackson, Mississippi during one of his frequent business trips to the state capitol.

Following the election of Lincoln but before he took office, South Carolina carried out its threat to secede from the Union and following in quick succession went Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana and Texas. In February of 1861 these seven states formed the Confederate States of America and Jefferson Davis of Mississippi was elected President. The other states consisting of Arkansas, Tennessee, North Carolina and Virginia followed, and the men of the South united to defend their way of life.

Among these was James William Simpson Merrill who, at the age of 48, entered the service as a first Lieutenant in Company A, 30th Regiment, Mississippi Infantry. He entered the service at Black Hawk, Mississippi on February 25, 1862 (64).

The service records of the men in the service of the Confederate States of America were not extended and are not complete. It is not known how long J. W. S. served, but family records indicate

64. Civil War Service Records, Confederate Archives, Chapter 1, File No. 82, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
that he remained in until forced to retire due to ill health following
being wounded by grapeshot at Perryville, Kentucky while removing
his injured son from the battlefield. Upon examination of the records,
a pay record was found which showed that he received $90.00 per month
for his service.

It is stated in his obituary that he did not seek public
office, but he served several terms in the state legislature before the
war. A review of the records (65) failed to reveal this as so for the
period stated, however, he did serve three terms in the Mississippi
House of Representatives from Carroll County in the years 1865, 1866
and 1867.

About the year 1875, J.W.S., along with several other
men, built the New Hope Christian Church in Carroll County. All of
the interior including the pews were hand made and obviously well con-
structed for after ninety years the building still stands as do the pews.
The church is still used and is as it was then except for the introduction
of electricity to replace the lanterns which were the original sources of
light.

The result of having lost the War had its bad effect on
the South. Those who had not lost their land as a direct result, found
themselves land poor with no help to work in the fields. Apparently

65. Department of Archives and History, State of Mississippi, Jackson.
Above: New Hope Christian Church in Carroll County, Mississippi

Below: A View in the Merrill Cemetery, Carroll County, Mississippi
this is the position J. W. S. found himself in because the huge plantation he had built was soon gone except for some property he sold to one of his daughters, and the Merrill Cemetery. In the census schedule of 1880 (66), J. W. S. is listed, age 66, as being a farmer. His wife Sophia, age 63, is listed as housewife along with a child listed as a grandson, age 13. The name of the child is blurred, and it is unknown who the child was or which of the Merrill children was his parent.

J. W. S. Merrill, gentleman of the South, died on August 13, 1896 at the age of 82 years, 3 months. He had outlived Sophia by six years; she having died on May 9, 1890 at the age of 73. They are both buried under the cedars in the Merrill Cemetery overlooking the "hill country" that had once been a great plantation.

The obituary of J. W. S. Merrill:

Was born in Estill County, Kentucky, May 25, 1814 and died at Lexington, Mississippi, August 13, 1896. This simple sentence covers briefly the story full of storm and calm; full of shadow and sunshine; of activity and peaceful serenity. Mr. Merrill was descended from the French Family De Merle. His Grandfather was a soldier of the Revolution and his father, Captain Nicholas Merrill was a veteran of the War of 1812.

66. Tenth Census of the United States, Mississippi, 1880.
Mr. Merrill came to Mississippi in 1843, locating in Carroll County of which he continued a citizen until his death. All of his life he kept in close touch with the times. He could relate volumes of unwritten and written history and his life sounded like a thrilling romance. He acquired several fortunes. His varied business affairs carried him on extensive travels and into contact with all sorts of people, but he remained the same plain country gentleman. He had all the courtliness of the Cavalier and all the firmness of the Puritan. Mr. Merrill served in the Confederate Army until forced to retire on account of ill health. He was wounded by grapeshot in the battle of Perryville while removing his wounded son from the field. In politics, Mr. Merrill was a conservative, though a staunch partisan. He was not an office seeker, though he served several terms in the Legislature, being elected as a Whig before the War, overcoming a normal Democratic majority of 300. Up to within a few days of his death he took an active interest in public affairs. He was a man of vast education and was widely read. He was a strong, forceful, and graceful writer and a sound lawyer without being trained as the one or having practiced as the other. He was a surveyor and farmer by occupation. He was married at the age of nineteen and survived his wife about six years. He had twelve children, six of whom survive him: Messrs. C. E. Merrill of Florida, B. N. Merrill of Greenwood, and J. D. Merrill of Carroll County. Mrs. C. R. Moter of Lexington, Mrs. J. L. Quarles of Hemingway and Mrs. R. H. Hicks of Sidon, besides numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.
He was a devoted member of the Christian Church nearly all of his life and for many years a Mason. He had a firm fixed faith that never faltered, a sublime and beautiful hope that was inspirational. There came no shadow to mar the serene and hallowed twilight of his life's long day, for the eyes of faith looked beyond the horizon and saw the glorious sun of a better life that cast its rays ahead and gilded all the cycles. His tired frame was laid to rest by the side of his companion of nearly sixty years, in the old family cemetery where he had buried loved ones for half a century.
Concerning the children of J. W. S. and Sophia Merrill, John Dabney Merrill will be reported on in the Eighth Generation.

Brutus, Kate, Mary Belle and J. W. S., Jr., died as infants. Brutus, twin of Cassius was born in 1838 and was buried in Kentucky. Kate was born on June 23, 1851; Mary Belle in 1856 and J. W. S., Jr. in 1858. All were born in Mississippi and are buried in the Merrill Cemetery.

(1) Mary A., the first child, was born in Kentucky on October 29, 1836. She moved to Tennessee and then to Mississippi with her parents, and on November 23, 1854 she married R. R. Redditt of Carroll County, being 18 years of age at the time. They had no children, and the date of her husband's death is not known; however, Mary died at the age of 19, on July 6, 1855. Her death came a little over seven months after her wedding. She and Mr. Redditt are buried in the Merrill Cemetery.

(2) Cassius

Exum Merrill was born in Clark County, Kentucky on October 7, 1838. On August 22, 1861 he married Anna Minerva Exum of Lexington, Kentucky. They had no children but did have one adopted daughter who was Mrs. A. H. Mizell of Nashville, Tennessee.

Cassius, like his father, received considerable education taking both the A. B. and A. M. degrees from the Kentucky Military
Institute at Lyndon, Kentucky. Cassius was not at home as his name did not appear on the schedules for 1860. He did not marry until 1861, so it is not known where he was. It is possible that he was in Alabama, because it is known (67) that on January 10, 1862, he was commissioned a 1st Lieutenant in Scotts Brigade, Lorings Division (Stewarts Corps) of the 49th Alabama Regiment. The order of commission was signed by the Secretary of War of the Confederate States of America. He accompanied General Breckenridge and the Regiment during the Kentucky campaign, where they fought at Shiloh and Perryville. It was at Perryville where he was wounded, and his father, in the 30th Mississippi, helped him from the battlefield and he himself was wounded.

Cassius later transferred to the 31st Alabama and became adjutant and was promoted to Major. He received a second wound in battle and in January 1864 was promoted to Colonel. In his service record, in addition to the other items, is a requisition he presented in 1864 for forage for the use of his own horse. He was allotted 123 pounds of corn and 154 pounds of fodder.

Following the War, he returned to Carrollton and engaged in the practice of law (68) until 1872. He became Editor of the Courier-Journal until 1882 in Lexington, Kentucky leaving there

67. Civil War Service Records, Confederate Archives, T486 AGO, National Archives, Washington, D.C.

to become Editor of the Nashville World until 1885. He was Editor of the Jacksonville (Florida) News-Herald for several years and was at this location when his father died. He was a voluminous writer; he was a member of Delta Kappa Epsilon and the Masonic Lodge.

A letter dated March 16, 1911 from 200 W. High Street, Lexington, Kentucky, and written in longhand by Cassius was found in the service record of Andrew Merrill, his great, grandfather.

Cassius was born opposite the historic fort at Boonesboro, Kentucky and died in the Confederate Home at Pewee Valley in 1919, being 80 years of age. His wife and died previously, but the date of her death is not known. Cassius was buried at Frankfort, Kentucky.

(3) Peter Hubbard Merrill was born in Tennessee on November 14, 1840. He did not marry and on June 20, 1861 at the age of 20 years and 7 months, he enlisted (69) at Carrollton, Mississippi as a Private in Company C., 20th Mississippi Infantry. Peter and his company were sent to Virginia where he died at Dublin, Virginia on January 2, 1862, having served for less than seven months and being slightly past 21 years of age at the time.

Because of its local color, a letter that Peter wrote on August 5, 1861, to a friend of his, a Buck Smith, in Carrollton, is herein quoted. Smith gave the letter to J.W.S. after Peter died.

Dear Buck,

Notwithstanding I make it a general rule not to write more than once to anyone without receiving something in return, yet I will vary a little at present on the presumption that you didn't get my first letter as I directed it to Carrollton instead of Black Hawk. I have so much of importance to relate that I scarcely have patience enough to begin knowing that I might write pages, and yet leave pages unwritten - So I will only state as much as I can of what I conceive to be the most important news - The Black Hawk Company arrived here on Wednesday last in safety - They made encampment in Russell's Regt. but will not be able to get into it unfortunately as part of our Reft. left this evening for Lynchburg, Virginia. The remainder will leave tomorrow - so you see we are getting right near Yankeedom and there is no telling how soon we may have an engagement.

There is a great deal of sickness in Camp at present. There being about 20 cases in our Comp'y - among whom are James Hughes, John Hunt and Bill Pruitt. Jim has been quite sick with pneumonia but is getting well rapidly - Bill has had a right severe attack of Chills and fevers but is recovering - But poor John is still very low with typhoid pneumonia he was taken about a week ago and has not been clear of fever I don't think since first taken - he is evidently daily sinking and I am
sorry to say that if a change for the better is not shortly made he cannot long survive - A young man by the name of McLeroy from Greenwood and belonging to our Comp'y died yesterday of typhoid pneumonia - making 3 deaths since we left home four weeks ago. I have been sick myself a week or ten days - but am about well now, I believe - with the exception of a boil under my right arm that causes some inconvenience. John Smith is lying by me whistling - he tells me to say to you that he is scared out of his wits on account of a little bad cold he has - he has just been trying to read his testament but says that the boys keep so much noise a dancing that he can't - Cash has gone to Frankfort, Kentucky to spend a few weeks with his relatives before he is harnessed into the war. Write soon giving every item of any importance at all that takes place in the neighborhood - prospects of crops, etc - If you take a notion to go to war come ahead and join our Comp'y - I will post you upon the prospects of getting in at any time you wish - also the place where to find us - If you can't get into this Comp'y, you can get into the Regt at any rate. So don't join any other till you give us a fair trial. Though I wouldn't advise you to join any owing to your circumstances - believe me to be yours forever most truly

P. H. Merrill

(4) Benjamin Nicholas Merrill was born January 15, 1843 in Tennessee, but the location is unknown. Very little is known of him, and no record could be found to show that he was in
the military service. According to the J. W. S. Merrill family Bible, he married Sue C. McMath of Carroll County on September 6, 1866.

According to the census schedules of 1880 (65) he lived in Carroll County, and his occupation was a surveyor. At that time he and Sue had the following children:

a. J. W. S., born June 1867  
b. Ambrose, born March 1869  
c. Benjamine Jr., born April 1872  
d. Eugenia Sue, born October 1875  
e. Mary Belle born July 1877  
f. Cassius born January 1880

Nothing further is known on Benjamin or his family.

The date of his death is not known, however, he and his wife are buried in Greenwood.

(5) Lucy Francis Merrill was the first of the J. W. S. children to be born in Mississippi. She was born in Carroll County on April 11, 1845. On January 18, 1871 she married James Lafayette Quarles. They had seven children, all born in Carroll County.

Their children were:

a. Sophia A., born December 3, 1871  
b. Ben Williams, born April 3, 1873  
c. Annie Merrill, born February 9, 1875  
d. James Lafayette, born December 8, 1876  
e. Merrill, born April 2, 1878  
f. Oliver Preston, born 1880  
g. Birdie Frances, born June 24, 1884

Lucy died in 1899 and is buried in the Merrill Cemetery; her husband died in 1895 and is buried in Oxford, Mississippi.
Of their children:

a. Sophia A. Quarles died as a child and is buried in the Merrill Cemetery.

b. Benjamin William Quarles married Etaile Wallace of Carroll County on January 7, 1900. It is not known where or when they died. They had three children: Lucy Helen, Alma and Frances. No other facts are known.

c. Annie Merrill Quarles married John Walter Scruggs of Carroll County on December 6, 1899. John Scruggs died on March 15, 1920 and is buried in the Merrill Cemetery. "Cousin Annie" at the time this was written, was alive and resides in Carroll County. They had six children, all born in Carroll County:

i. John Merrill Scruggs, born September 18, 1900; no other information is available.

ii. Cecil Scruggs, born January 14, 1902. Married John B. Jenkins of Carroll County on October 8, 1927. They live in Carroll County. They have no children.

iii. Raynor Woods Scruggs, born October 16, 1904. Married Mary Kathryn McPherson of Leflore County on October 20, 1932. They have two children: Jane Merrill Scruggs born November 3, 1933; and John Perry Scruggs, date of birth not known.

iv. Lucy Francis Scruggs, born August 19, 1907. Married Richard Allen Wood of Leflore County on September 29, 1940. Mr. Wood died March 26, 1963 and is buried in Greenwood. They have two children: Richard Allen Wood, Jr., born August 20, 1943; and Don Taylor Wood, born December 19, 1949.


d. James Lafayette Quarles. No facts are known.


f. Oliver Preston Quarles. Did not marry. Died August 10, 1909 at Valley Hill, Mississippi and buried in Merrill Cemetery.

g. Birdie Frances Quarles married John Edgar Kealhofer of Carroll County on January 19, 1904. Edgar Kealhofer died on April 27, 1949 and is buried in the Merrill Cemetery.

Three of the remaining grandchildren of J. W. S. Merrill, left to right: Mrs. John W. Scruggs, Mrs. William B. Sewell and Mrs. John E. Kealhofer.
"Cousin Birdie" at the time this was written, was alive and resides in Carroll County. They had six children, all born in Carroll County:

i. John Edgar Kealhofer, born February 20, 1907. Died at birth and is buried in the Merrill Cemetery.

ii. Annie Merrill Kealhofer, born March 4, 1908. Married B. L. Guest of Coahoma County, Mississippi in 1929. Mr. Guest died and is buried in Memphis, Tennessee. They had two children: Barnie Lee Guest, Jr., born March 15, 1936; and Mary Frances Guest, born January 19, 1937.


(6) Alice Penelope Merrill was born in Mississippi on March 23, 1847. She married a Mr. Motor. They had several children, among whom were Allie, Nell, Paulene and Minnie. No other facts are known.
Sophia Holder Merrill was born in Mississippi on April 6, 1849. On August 21, 1868 she married R. H. Hicks of Carroll County. They had nine children, all except the last one being born in Carroll County. Their children were:

a. Marianne Tidwell, born May 22, 1869  
b. Sophie Merrill, born March 15, 1871  
c. Robert Hill (Jr.), born August 28, 1872  
d. Mary Bell, born September 16, 1875  
e. Bernard Marshall, born November 9, 1877  
f. John Waters, born April 17, 1880  
g. Lucy Frances, born February 4, 1882  
h. Alice Ernestine, born April 28, 1885  
i. Rosilia, born July 5, 1889

Sophia Holder Merrill Hicks died on February 25, 1929 in Greenwood, where she is buried. Her husband died February 13, 1923, also in Greenwood.

Of their children:

a. Marianne Tidwell Hicks, no facts are known.

b. Sophia Merrill Hicks, no facts are known.

c. Robert Hill Hicks, Jr., married Ida Lou Turner of Carrollton on January 18, 1897. No facts are known concerning their deaths. They had six children:

i. Robert Osborne Hicks, born June 26, 1898.

ii. John T. Hicks, born April 15, 1902.

iii. Warters Merrill Hicks, born June 9, 1909.

v. David Hicks, born February 15, 1914.

vi. Paul Hicks, born August 17, 1916.

d. Mary Bell Hicks married James Lay Turner. She died on November 15, 1912, and Mr. Turner died on November 27, 1951. They are both buried in Greenwood. They had six children:

i. Adele Hicks Turner, born January 11, 1897.

ii. Robert Hicks Turner, born April 3, 1899.

iii. Sophia Mignon Turner, born October 21, 1901.


e. Bernard Marshall Hicks married Minnie McLemore on June 21, 1899. He died on September 20, 1942. No other facts are known. They had two children:

i. Josephine Hicks, born February 18, 1900.

ii. Bernard M. Hicks, born January 24, 1902.

f. John Waters Hicks died on May 11, 1933 in Greenwood. No other facts are known.

g. Lucy Frances Hicks married William Britton Sewell on September 28, 1901. Mr. Sewell died on March 26, 1948 and is buried in
Montgomery, Alabama. "Cousin Lute" at the time this was written, was alive and resides in Greenville, Mississippi. They had one adopted son, Leònard Sewell, born September 25, 1905. No other facts are known.

h. Alice Ernestine Hicks died January 1, 1954 in Greenwood. No other facts are known.

i. Rosilia Hicks married Arthur Fowler on December 25, 1911. Mr. Fowler died in the 1950's. No other facts are known. They had four children:

i. Lucy Frances, born September 25, 1912.

ii. Mary Wallace, born September 1914.


iv. A. Gaston (Jr.), born May 1918.

(9) Mary Belle Merrill was born in Mississippi, August 20, 1856. She was listed on the census schedule in 1860 but died shortly after. She is buried in the Merrill Cemetery.
12. Epitaph For A Way Of Life

Cassius Exum Merrill, as has been explained, was an editor and author. Of his writings, only a few are immediately available for study. In a newspaper article published in the Evening Post of Louisville, Kentucky on August 28, 1905, Cassius wrote on "Stories of the Yazoo Delta". The writing style and local color are of such interest to warrant its reproduction here.

Stories of the Yazoo Delta

The Old-Time Planters and Their Desire for All the Land That Joined Theirs.

(For the Evening Post by C. E. Merrill.)

Even in my handsome, malcyon days, I am something of an old fogey, and don't propose to forget the policies and practices of the noble old-timers, so many of whom are not dead (to me at least) and all of whom are living in unforgetting memories - men like Col. Eli Waits, Judge H. H. Southworth, Major Will Morgan, Dr. Henry R. H. Hicks, "Bob" Williamson, Steve Arnold, Jim Vardaman, - but the list would swell beyond the limit. The dear old Delta! There's a story in every breeze - a picture in every wave that cools or dimples the matchless landscape.

I am not exactly a 49'er, nor yet so very much of a quipiner, but would prefer the old system with the nigger and the bitter taste in its mouth to seeing the native population as it was, and still is, rooted out. By which the hint
is intended that in the ever blessed
Nevermore, the rich planters of the
Yazoo Delta (God bless 'em) didn't
go "honing" after foreign immigration
speculators and swamp-land buyers.
The homefolks wanted all the land that
"joined" theirs and more too!

Whether they could "take in and cul-
tivate" more new ground or not, they
knew its priceless value and with
patriotism and wisdom that was far-
seeing, proposed to keep it for their
children! When a small cavalcade
would ride down "hunting swamp lands"
ride down from East Mississippi, Ala-
abama, Georgia or elsewhere, they
were warmly received and hospitably
entertained. They came, as a rule,
prospecting for government lands,
which before and for years after the
war covered millions of acres.

Imagine any of the Delta pioneers stand-
ing on his front porch (which was gen-
erally set high on stilts to keep his feet
from getting wet during an overflow)
shouting "Yes, you can! Certainly,
you can get dinner, supper, breakfast
and stay a week if you will! Light and
hitch your horses! Welcome to all the
malaria we can spare! If the frogs annoy
you, we make cotton enough to fortify
against them."

At the dinner table each guest is boun-
tifully helped to a large plate of turnip
greens or cabbage, garnished with
flitches of the juciest bacon! Talk
about Kentucky or Tennessee sugar-cured
hams! I used to think the planters of the
Delta could put more spirituality into pork
than any other people on earth.

After properly cutting up "the greens"
on his own plate the noble host would reach for a hefty bowl near by and scoop as much "quinine" on the wide blade of his dinner knife as he thought wholesome and with the huge fork in his left hand to pepped the drug over his vegetables till they were flecked with white.

"Excuse me, gentlemen. I should have served you first! Let me flake your vegetables with this indispensable swamp condiment."

"What is it, Colonel; salt?"

"Salt; no," replies the Colonel. "Salt has passed up into the domain of the luxuries, but quinine is a necessity. It is like liberty - it's 'quinine or death' and I prefer quinine. Have some" - (reaching for his nearest neighbor.)

"No; no," they shout in concert, drawing as far back as possible from the table and carrying their plates with them. "No, thank you! We'll take ours straight."

"Very well gentlemen," muses the Colonel. "But I won't insure your lives for more than a week if you stay in this country. It isn't really so bad, after the first few meals. My friend Bob, who lives over on the Yazoo river, has a little girl who cries for it before breakfast. I once saw her swig down a large silver mug full of what I took to be milk, and crying for more. "I've given you two cups already; you shall not have another drop until you eat something," said the mother.

On inquiry I discovered it was the strongest possible dilution of quinine.
We're bound to have it. The little tot actually got fat on it. We die of chills and fever without it."

"Does every planter, and everybody else use the stuff as you do?" asked one of the land-hunters.

"Not exactly as I do," replied the Colonel, "for I am the outspokenest, outdoingest man perhaps for miles around, and I think the quinine acts better this way; that is, mixed with your vegetables. Others are somewhat ashamed of letting it be known to strangers - afraid it might injure the price of the lands. But they all slip out and swallow a big dose on the sly before every meal, just as some men take their liquor.

"With me, honesty's always the best policy. I wouldn't risk going without my quinine a single day if it would sell all the lands from Yazoo Pass to General Jackson."

"But did no swamper ever live down here without gorging himself on quinine?" was asked.

"Oh, yes," the Colonel admitted. "About six months or a year ago a hard-headed fellow came down from the hills, bought a half section of land and settled down, vowing he could get along all right without 'the nasty stuff' - and he did."

"Where can we find that fellow?"

"You can find him in the hills, out yonder, somewhere about Carrollton or Black Hawk - that is, if you'll dig for him."

Next morning the three prospectors
called for their horses and turning their noses eastward, were after a hard day's ride, safe in the hills by nightfall. They lived in Alabama, I have no doubt of the absolute truth of this story, as it was told all over the Delta just before and long after the war on Col. Eli Waites, once Sheriff of Sunflower, and a wealthy planter, long gone to his reward. He was a grand old man, as I knew him, over six feet tall, spare of aught but bone and muscle, and as honest as he was long. He was a man of infinite jest, and of the strongest business sense. You could hear him talk and laugh a half mile away. The quinine incident actually happened, but on this occasion, his quinine was nothing but harmless flour. However, it worked better than many doses of the drug could have done since it served its full purpose.

As to the little female "Oliver Twist" who was "crying for more," I can bear personal testimony to the truth of the incident in 187-, going "down from the hills," I spent the night with some very dear friends, when the amusing incident took place. That little tot is today one of the healthiest (and I hope happiest) matrons in the valley, the mother of three or four bright and rosy children. The quinine craze was exceptional with her, as far as I know, but the singular taste gradually wore off before she had grown out of girlhood.

Of Mississippi's population there are in round numbers 680,000 whites and 880,000 negroes. Of the latter, three-fourths live in the Yazoo Delta. The Delta being to cotton what Egypt once was to corn, the cottonfield classes
flocked there after the war, as slaves were carried there before. That great country, with rich, black soil from 40 to 400 feet deep, can produce corn in equal proportion to cotton - but cotton pays better. The Yazoo Delta could feed the world, if necessary.

The question of labor is a grave one; all the graver since the adoption of this country's abomination - the fifteenth amendment. Repeal that amendment and the South would have the most enlightened, most reliable and best agricultural class on the globe. I know the negro and would not give 100 of him for any 1,000 foreigners that were ever born. Of these people, some would in years to come, own "all the lands joining theirs," others would raise more Cain than cotton in the long run. The Southern people never hear of a strike save from the papers, and amnica is better known than anarchy, but little of either. Now and then a shout comes up from the South for "Northern settlers." I like the Yanks better than any other race (barring my own), except the Japs - and I like the Japs to stay at home, except when they run out to flog those robber-liars and hypocrites, the Russians.

Mississippi has over thirty of population to the square mile. Why not hold on to her grandchildren, great-grandchildren - to preserve to future generations that brand of manhood which does honor to mankind. What's the sense of crowding up, as Bob Toombs once expressed it, "like sardines in a box?" Are men any wiser, or better, or more manly, with three in a bed - so to speak? The cities recpeurate both energy and brains from the great agricultural districts. Keep these gardens of God in
the woods and fields, that the seed corn may not grow to be sterile, and the best part of the human race die out.
13. The Eighth Generation - John D. M. Merrill

John Dabney

McLemore Merrill, the fourth son of J. W. S. and Sophia

Merrill was born in Carroll County, Mississippi on April 7, 1853. Until he was eight years old his boyhood must have been one filled with joy and excitement. His father was building his plantation, and young John must have known a few years of splendor before his father and older brothers marched off to war.

There is very little that is known of John Merrill for he died when his children were still young and what family records he had, if any, were lost soon thereafter.

About the year 1875 he married Miss Maggie Bell of Holmes County, Mississippi. They had a son, (1) Julian Bell Merrill who was born on September 8, 1878.

On the census schedule for 1880, John Merrill is listed as being a resident of Carroll County. His age was 27 at the time, and his occupation is listed as being a farmer. Maggie Merrill's age is listed as 24 (born 1856), and her occupation was housekeeper. Their son Julian is listed as being 2 years old. The exact date of Maggie Merrill's death is not known, but it is believed that she died in early 1881. John buried his wife in the Merrill Cemetery.
There was a pretty schoolteacher in the hill country that John fell in love with, and they were married on May 10, 1882. She was Virginia Caroline Jones Oliver, a widow for the previous eight years. A story of Virginia is reserved for the next chapter.

She settled down to the job of being a farmer's wife and took the motherless Julian as her own. John and Virginia had five children of their own who were:

(2) Grace Dabney, born July 29, 1883
(3) Paul Jones, born February 1, 1885
(4) Meary Sharp, born June 19, 1886

The John D. M. Merrill Family, Hemingway, Mississippi, 1892. Standing: left, Paul J.; center rear, Julian B.; right, Grace D.; and center front, Kate C. Seated left, John D. M. Merrill; right, Virginia C.
(5) Jennie Fisher, born June 19, 1886
(6) Kate Claire, born July 26, 1887

Family records (70) show that the twins Meary and Jennie died as infants. Jennie Fisher Merrill died June 11, 1887, lacking 8 days of being one year of age. Meary Sharp Merrill died July 9, 1887, slightly over one year of age. They are both buried in the Merrill Cemetery.

In addition to being a farmer, John was a carpenter. He helped build the New Hope Church, of which he and his wife were devoted members, as well as other buildings throughout the hills of Carroll County. One home that he built and not far from the Merrill Cemetery still stands and is occupied.

He was obviously a good man who provided for his family as best he could. It is reported that in addition to being a true gentleman, he was kind and thoughtful. It is also reported that he was always the life of any party and a joy to have around.

There is a story told of John when he was a young boy of about eight. John's father, J.W.S., would always sign his letters to those he knew quite well with the closing statement, "Your Brother in Christ, J.W.S. Merrill". Little John knew this as did numerous other people. According to the story, a retired Christian preacher, Brother B.F. Manire, was teaching school in Carroll County, and John was one of his reluctant pupils. One day one of the children did something wrong, and

70. Family Bible of Virginia Merrill.
John was given a spanking for it. The next day when little John came to school he handed his teacher a note supposedly from his father. Though the whereabouts of the actual note is unknown, its content has become well known. Brother Manire opened the note and there in the hand of John Merrill was printed the following:

DEAR BRO. MANIRE
WHY IN THE HELL DID YOU
WHIP MY SON JOHN. HE DIDNT DO
NO WRONG
YOUR BROTHER IN CHRIST
J.W.S. Merrill

There is one story that John was a conductor on a railroad for an unknown period of time. Also, the date of this venture is unknown. It is further told that he was an expert with a rifle and a marksman. He won many rifle shoots, and it is said that on one occasion he played a kind of William Tell and shot a cigar out of the mouth of one of his friends.

His son Paul, told stories of his father that included the fact that he could play the violin and that he sang very well. It is not known for sure, but it is most doubtful that he had any extensive education, musical or otherwise.

Nothing else is known of John Merrill except that on August 27, 1895, his wife "Jennie" died, and he laid her to rest in the Merrill Cemetery. Almost to the day three years later, on August 15, 1898, at the age of 45, John Dabney McLemore Merrill died at his home in Carroll County and was buried by the side of his two wives in the [handwritten note: my mother's name, which was bought from her father, G.W. Merrill, after he was old. She was Lizzie McLemore.]
Merrill Cemetery.

Of the children of John Merrill, (3) Paul Jones will be the subject of the ninth generation.

(1) Julian Bell Merrill, son of John and Maggie Merrill, was born in Holmes County, Mississippi on September 8, 1878. His signature, as shown, was copied from a check he wrote to A.S. Crowell on September 2, 1916, drawn on the Yazoo State Bank of Itta Bena, Mississippi. The signature has been studied quite closely, and it appears that he spelled his surname MARRILL, although it is probable that the "e" is written in a slanted manner.

No details are known on Julian except that he never married and in October of 1916, he died in Itta Bena and was buried there. In the only papers located on Julian, in addition to the above mentioned check, were a few receipts for merchandise he purchased with one covering the cost for his funeral. On such it is shown that his cemetery lot cost five dollars, as did the cost for digging his grave. His casket and box cost twenty-five dollars, although it is unknown who paid this last bill.

(2) Grace Dabney Merrill was born in Hinds County, Mississippi on July 29, 1883. On September 15, 1895, at the home of her aunt Mrs. R.H. Hicks of Greenwood, Mississippi, she died after a painful illness of eight days. Her death came when she was thirteen.
years of age and was two weeks and five days following the death of her mother.

(6) Kate Claire Merrill was born in Columbus, Mississippi on July 26, 1887.

After the death of her father, she and her brother Paul went to Memphis, Tennessee to live with her mother's younger brother Paul Lee Jones, for whom her brother had been named. She moved with them to Texas and lived in various locations. On July 29, 1904 at the age of seventeen, she married Tom B. Tarwater of Smithfield, Tarrant County, Texas.

Tom and Kate Tarwater had three children, all born in Smithfield, who are:

(a) Grace Merrill, born July 19, 1906
(b) Roy Lee born October 29, 1910
(c) Tom Paul born September 15, 1913

Tom Tarwater was a farmer for several years, later moving to Fort Worth where he held different positions including being very active in county politics. Much could be written on the wit of Tom Tarwater, and he always enjoyed playing a good honest joke on a friend and was always ready to "bet you a coke" on the outcome of some of the most important issues of the times, local or worldwide, it made no difference. Tom died in Fort Worth on December 31, 1960, and is buried there in Mount Olivet Cemetery.

Kate Tarwater was a kind, sweet, noble and devoutly
religious woman who probably never had an enemy throughout her life. The health and happiness of her family was always her prime concern. Though her life was marked by many an illness, Kate always had a smile for everyone, and until her later years, she was very active in many affairs. While never exposed to a formal education beyond high school, she was widely educated in those areas of life which are the most important. If one could take the concern for humanity of Florence Nightingale; the stamina and braveness of Joan of Arc; the determined spirit of Marie Curie; the adventurousness of Pearl Buck; and combine them adding a touch of southern jasmine with a bit of western sage and mold them into one woman, they would only come near to having another "Nannie Kate".

Kate Claire Merrill Tarwater died on October 17, 1963 at the age of 76. She was laid to rest by the side of her mate in Mount Olivet Cemetery, Fort Worth, Texas.

Of their children:

(a) Grace Merrill Tarwater married John S. Cloyd of Pilot Point, Texas on April 6, 1926. They have three children, all born in Fort Worth:


ii. John Thomas Cloyd, born June 5, 1931, and married Margaret Johnson. They have three children: Susan Marie, born February 2, 1956; Thomas Porter, born


(b) Roy Lee Tarwater married Margie Dalton of Tarrant County, Texas on January 5, 1935. They have three children:


(c) Tom Paul Tarwater married Jessalyn Lynn Tuttle of Midland, Texas on January 10, 1943. They have three children:

Mr. & Mrs. Tom B. Tarwater on the occasion of their 50th Wedding Anniversary, Fort Worth, Texas, July 29, 1954.
i. Lynn Adelle, born March 1948.


iii. Deborah Gay, born October 1956.
14. Virginia Jones

Virginia Caroline

Jones was born in Hinds County, Mississippi in 1847. She was the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. S. R. Jones.

In the few family records that have been located on Jennie Jones, where any reference is made to either her age or birthdate, she had carefully crossed such dates out. For this reason it was impossible to determine her age from family records. From examination of legal records, however, it was discovered that she was born in 1847.

The story of her family and ancestors is a most

Virginia Caroline Jones
Age 26 - 1874
interesting one and will be the subject of another family history to
be written after more research is completed. When one of her great,
grandparents was married in Virginia in the year 1755, the best man
at the wedding was a young Colonel of the Virginia Militia named George
Washington. As for those records that have been searched to this time,
it has been established that her ancestors settled in this country about
the same time as did Richard and Sarah Merrill. Her ancestors partici-
pated in the French and Indian Wars, the War of the Revolution, the War
of 1812, and she had two brothers and her father who fought for the
South during the Civil War.

While this chapter is not a history of her family, it is
noted for interest that one brother of Virginia, William O. Jones was
killed at the Battle of Shiloh, while her other brother who fought, as
well as her father, escaped injury.

Her father, S. R. Jones, was a physician, author, news-
paper publisher and preacher. Many of his writings are available and
will be included in the history of her family.

Virginia's younger brother, Paul Lee Jones who was
born in 1860, became responsible for raising the two children of John
and Virginia Merrill who survived them. Although he had children
of his own, he took Paul Jones (his namesake) and Kate Claire into
his home after the death of their father and provided for them until
they were of age to do so for themselves.
On January 15, 1874, Virginia married a Jesse Carroll Oliver who was a preacher in the Christian Church. At the time of her wedding she was twenty-seven years of age. She had been trained as a schoolteacher, but the location or extent of this training is not known.

She and her husband moved to Bryan, Texas, where he was pastor, and she taught school. Their marriage was a short one for Mr. Oliver died on May 3, 1874 and is buried at Hickory Flats, Mississippi. He was the son of Elijah and Mary Oliver and was born in Hardeman County, Tennessee on April 24, 1850.

Virginia returned to the classroom, and it was the occupation of a schoolteacher that brought her to Carroll County. It
is not known how long she was in Carroll County before meeting John Merrill, however, she and John married on May 10, 1882.

The reason for Virginia's secrecy about her age is not known, however, speculation could well be that it was because in both marriages she was older than her husband. At the time of her marriage to Jesse Oliver she was twenty-seven, and he was twenty-four. At the

Paul Lee Jones
1860 - 1912
Picture taken in 1910

time of her marriage to John Merrill, she was thirty-five, and he was twenty-nine.
Virginia died on August 27, 1895 at the age of forty-eight and was buried in the Merrill Cemetery in Carroll County.

The obituary of Virginia Caroline Merrill:

The following beautiful tribute to the memory of our sainted sister is taken from the Jackson, (Miss.) Messenger:

Hemingway, Miss., Aug. 27, 1895

Editor Messenger:

The many friends of Mrs. John D. Merrill will be shocked to learn of her death, which occurred in this neighborhood this morning.

Mrs. Merrill was the most universally loved person I have ever known. It was a benediction to have known her, and to have come in touch with her beautiful life. In every relation of life she was steadfast and loyal. Such a noble, loving wife, such a tender mother and such a true friend. She spoke her love to her friends by word of mouth as well as by her actions. Her brave, sweet, cheerful disposition was the remark of all who knew her.

How great the desolation must be in her immediate family when her friends miss her so. How we shall miss her loving words, her kindly visits, her familiar face and sweet, consecrated voice at church. And how she loved to lend her voice to the praise of God in all the beautiful old pieces we sing, and to mean every word she sang! One verse in particular, I remember, she seemed to enjoy:

Tho' He may send some affliction,
'Twill but make me long for home,
15. The Ninth Generation - Paul J. Merrill

One hundred and four years earlier, Washington had won his victory at Yorktown. Twenty years had passed since Lee had lost his army at Appomattox, and Camelot was no more. The year was 1885, and Grover Cleveland was just starting his first term as President, while in New York the first limited commercial use of the electric light was being tested.

Paul Jones Merrill, the second child and eldest son of John Dabney and Virginia Merrill was born on February 1, 1885 at Hemingway, Carroll County, Mississippi. He was the first Merrill to be born in the same state and county of his father's birth since his ancestor Richard had left England two hundred and sixteen years earlier. His half-brother Julian was born in Holmes County and his sister Grace had been born in Hinds County.

Paul was named for his mother's brother Paul Jones, who would later play an important part in the young boy's life. As a lad he explored the hill country and played in the red clay gullies as did all of the young boys of that area. He helped his parents, went fishing and in his own words, "wondered what the rest of the world looked like?"

There were several stories he told about his early
boyhood, but most of them could be summed up with the statements that he had a very deep love for his parents and that he did not know how he would do it, but he intended to see some of the world when he grew up.

Paul studied from his mother during his preschool years and because of this was several years ahead of his age group when he started to regular school. At about the age of ten he joined the New Hope Christian Church, and a few months later his mother died which he later said was one of the greatest sorrows of his life. It was only two weeks later that his older sister Grace died, so he and his younger sister Kate moved into Greenwood where they lived

Paul Merrill Age 14
with their Aunt Sophia as their father was not able to look after them. After a while they returned to the country, but in 1898 their father died, and it was at this time that they moved to Memphis, Tennessee to live with their uncle Paul and his family.

The Paul Jones family consisted of, in addition to Uncle Paul and Aunt Elizabeth, their cousins Latham (born 1886); Paullee (born 1890); and Charles (born 1897).

"Uncle Paul" was a pharmacist, and in 1900 he and his family moved to Wichita Falls, Texas and later in this same year to Gainesville. It was at Gainesville that Paul J. Merrill completed his high school training at the age of 15 and left for Knoxville, Tennessee where he entered Johnsons Bible College to study for the ministry.

Paul J. completed his four years of college in three years and was graduated in October of 1903. Though he had completed his training and was eligible to enter the ministry, there was the unfinished business of "seeing the world", so the young man of 18 went to New York City where he enlisted in the army.

On December 16, 1903, Paul enlisted as a private in the 48th Co., Coast Artillery, at Fort Hancock, Sandy Hook, New Jersey. Shortly after entering he applied for entrance into the band with only a small amount of musical training. He was rejected upon the first application, whereupon he became a bugler in order to better learn to play the cornet. Before his first enlistment was up, however, he was
accepted into the band as a cornet player. He reenlisted for a second
time on December 23, 1906 and was in the 8th Band, Coast Artillery
Corps at Fort Barrancas, Florida, where he served three years. On
December 23, 1909 Paul reenlisted for three years and transferred
into the 9th Band, Coast Artillery Corps, and sailed to serve three
years in the Philippine Islands. His discharge certificate from his
second enlistment shows him to be a corporal and his rank at the time
of his third and last discharge on December 20, 1912 shows him as a
sargeant.

His wish to see the world was largely satisfied during
his third enlistment, for in addition to spending over two years in the

Sgt. P. J. Merrill  U. S. Army  1911

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Philippines, he saw Hawaii plus other island groups in the Pacific; Japan, China, Siam, Java and other islands in the South China Sea.

He returned to the United States for his separation from the army and then to Smithfield, Texas, some 10 miles from Fort Worth, and the home of his sister Kate and her husband Tom Tarwater. His cousin, Paullee Jones was also living in Smithfield and studying music at T.C.U. in Fort Worth.

For the next two years, Paul worked in a law office in Fort Worth and took courses at Brite College of the Bible at T.C.U.

In early 1915, the Christian Church at Wellington, Texas asked Paul to move there and be the pastor of the church. He accepted, and Wellington became his first church. He returned to Fort Worth on September 1, 1915 to marry his sweetheart and cousin Paullee Jones.

On October 13, 1916 their first son, Paul Jones, Jr., was born in Wellington. For Christmas of that year, they returned to Smithfield for the holidays. It was on this trip that Paul Jr., became ill with the flu and on January 12, 1917 he died at the age of 3 months. He was buried at Smithfield in a cemetery next to a small church where his Daddy had preached sermons a few years earlier.

Paul and Paullee left Wellington and moved to Crowell, Texas where they lived for the years 1917-1918 while he was pastor of the church. In October of 1918 he left Crowell and for three months he was active in the war effort serving in the education division of the YMCA.
Paul and Paullee Merrill - 1915

On January 1, 1919 he accepted the church at Pampa, Texas where he stayed until October 1922. Their second son, David, was born in Pampa on August 6, 1922. In October of 1922, Paul accepted the church in Hereford, Texas, where he was pastor until 1925 when he moved to Corsicana as pastor.

Paul was pastor at Corsicana until 1929, at which time he accepted the pastorate at the Riverside Christian Church in Fort Worth where he stayed only one year before moving to Henrietta, Texas where he was pastor for 14 years.

In 1944 Paul made his last change when he left Henrietta to accept the pastor's job at Leesville, Louisiana, a position he held until 1949.

A few brief paragraphs recount the story from his first to last pastorate spanning thirty-four years. It would take more than thirty-four volumes, however, to recount the specifics of this life and certainly not all of them can be recounted here.
His seven years in army bands had left him an accomplished musician. In addition to being an excellent performer on the cornet he had an expert knowledge of the fundamentals of music. This came to be used to good advantage in his church work, and as Paullee was a highly trained musician they formed a good team. While living in Hereford in 1922-1924, he entered a song in the Tri-State Fair and won First Place. The same honors were won on the same song, "Indian Maid", when he entered it in the Texas State Fair in Dallas. He repeated these honors the following year with another song named, "Homeward Bound".

PJM...was a member of the Shrine in Pampa, Texas and played in the Band. He took part in various type plays, minstrels, etc... 1919.
Music played a very large part of his entire life, and he wrote numerous songs for various occasions. In 1935 in Henrietta, Texas he organized the first band in the local public school system. From a beginning of off key squeaks he developed a marching band of over sixty well trained musicians within a period of a very few years. He had learned the fundamentals of every instrument to a sufficient degree to teach beginners and continue them through intermediate studies. During his years at Wellington (1915-1916) he was responsible for the reorganization of the "City Brass Band" and was elected to be the Director and instructor. In his later years in Leesville, Louisiana he served as band director of the high school for a two year period, and other similar positions were held throughout his adult life.

Another strong forte of Paul J. was his ability to lecture and lead group discussions. He was always in demand as a speaker and filled engagements until shortly before his death. While at Pampa, in 1922, he gave a series of lectures to the students at the State Teachers College in Canyon, Texas. The school paper gave a rather lengthy account of the series and concluded with the following:

We are fortunate in obtaining the services of a man like Mr. Merrill Because he was familiar with different schools of thinking he was able to answer questions of doubt and to help students harmonize their religious experience and teaching with newly-acquired scientific knowledge. It is not often that we have the rare privilege of knowing and profiting so abundantly as we have from Rev. Paul J. Merrill.
The total number of speeches, lectures and public addresses he made are countless. He lectured at many universities and before audiences of all types; then of course, his many sermons over the thirty-four year span would fill numerous volumes.

In 1925 Paul was invited to give the memorial address at the First Christian Church in Jackson, Mississippi, on the occasion of the ninetieth anniversary of the Jackson church. One small portion of that address is reproduced here:

It is my country and your country, and we all love it. We love it because of what it is, has been and can yet be. If I were cast out upon some sea, a man without a country, like Nolan in Edward Everett Hale's "The Man Without a Country," and it were given to me the privilege of choosing what flag I could call my own, and, knowing, as I do, the history of present and past nations, with their ambitions and underlying principles, I could choose none other than the Stars and Stripes. I love it passionately. I have followed it into three wars, and will follow it into three more if my country needs me. I have watched it at the setting of the sun, just before the 'retreat' was sounded, and it was lowered tenderly to the earth. I have stood at 'attention' at this hour, beneath its beauty, and felt its protection, as it waved a farewell to the sun, sinking in the blue-green of the China sea. I have seen it wave proudly over the walls of old Manila, where, for three hundred years, the natives had never known the meaning of political and religious freedom until Old Glory had come.

Standing on the deck of an army transport, riding at anchor in Shanghai harbor, I watched
it one morning as it was hoisted - gracefully, splendidly, proudly, - to the top of the mast. I saw it unfold in the early breeze and wave a message of goodwill to the burdened inhabitants of the land of the Boxer and the bubonic plague, as it kissed the fresh, young sunshine and smiled at the fading stars. And as I gazed upon it, I saw more than the red and the white and the blue. I saw a nation being born in a world of sin and prostitute monarchies. It's father's name was Justice and its mother's name was Truth. And they called the child nation Light. I watched it as it grew to young manhood with the Red man for a brother and the wild things of the forest for companions. I saw it grow strong and vigorous breathing deeply the sweet, uncontaminated air of the virgin trees, the open prairies, the far-reaching hills, and the unsoiled waters of a new sea. Its food was Brotherhood, and its school teacher was Love. Tears of pride came to my eyes. What a glorious thing to die for a country like that! How much greater to live for it! Its my country, and its your country. Never yet has it drawn the sword and primed the musket save for the purpose of lifting a burden from the backs of an oppressed people.

And somehow as I watched it, and admired it, and loved it, I fancied I saw something I had never before seen. With this wave of thoughts flooding my soul, bringing with it a great surge of true patriotism and a deep yearning for the homeland, I fancied I saw, in the midst of its folds, and blended with the colors, the smiling face of the Savior of the world. Perhaps you have never seen it in such surroundings and under such circumstances. Perhaps you have never tasted of the bitterness of heart-hunger that comes when you are seven thousand miles from home, and the jumble of strange words, from the lips of still stranger people are all you can hear. Perhaps you have never dreamed of the sweet smell of freedom while sleeping in a land
whose atmosphere was foul with the reek of political treachery, moral corruption, ignorance, superstition and fear. If you haven't, you perhaps have never felt as I felt. I think it takes such experiences as these sometime to make us really appreciate our own country and love it for what it is.

Another facet of Paul J. was that of teacher. During his years he taught various classes in the public schools of the several towns where he lived. While living in Pampa, Texas, he obtained a teaching certificate qualifying him to teach in the public schools of Texas. He taught the seventh grade for a full year after agreeing to "help out" for a few days at the start of the year until a permanent teacher could be located. Again in Henrietta, for a period of several years, he taught in the high school where he had great influence on the lives of many young people.

As a writer, Paul wrote poems, drama, essays, stories and several plays. He wrote a play named, "The Redemption of David Brown" that was presented on numerous occasions at various locations. A review published in the Corsicana, Texas paper following a presentation of the play gave, in part, the following:

Rev. Mr. Merrill, author, taking the leading role, presented an apt portrayal of the struggle from the gutter to self-respect. His characterization showed long study of the part, guided by a deep understanding.

He wrote numerous short stories and had a series published in serial form in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram in 1929.
Paul J. always had a deep desire to be with and work for young people. He organized the first Boy Scout Troop in Wellington, Texas in 1915 and was active in Scout work in every town where he lived. His work with young people in bands, school and church groups seemed to please him more than any other outside activity. It was in this activity that caused him to spend the summer of 1934 in a Red Cross camp where he became qualified to teach Red Cross classes in First Aid, Swimming and Life Saving, Water Safety and Camping. For his many years of unselfish service to these causes, a special banquet of appreciation was held in his honor in 1948 at which time he was presented a certificate of merit and a medal of honor from the national office of the American Red Cross.

During World War II he was commissioned a Major, Chaplain, United States Army Reserve, and he wore his uniforms with all the pride of the young sergeant thirty-five years earlier.

It was, of course, his profession of minister that captured his greatest interest and time. He was always active in his church affairs and was looked upon by members of various congregations as a true spiritual leader. During his many years he held many and varied positions in the state conventions, and his last office was only two years before his death when he was elected president of the Louisiana conference of the Christian Church. The many noble deeds and great work he did as a minister could not be recounted here. His devotion to his work

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and dedication to its purpose could never be equaled. He was loved by most who knew him, and he was held in high esteem by fellow ministers in all faiths.

Paul Jones Merrill; minister, educator, musician, soldier, poet, orator, writer and philanthropist of good will died at 6:00 P.M. on Sunday, July 31, 1949 at the age of 64 years, 6 months. He is buried in the small cemetery at Smithfield, Texas next to his first son, Paul, Jr.

During these many years, his devoted wife Paullee Jones Merrill was his constant companion and help mate. Her devotion to church work and accomplishments as a musician were great assets. Something of her family was recounted in the previous chapter.

Paul and Paullee Merrill 1943
on the mother of Paul J., Virginia Jones. Paullee was always most energetic in her church and music work while at the same time being most devout in her worship. A separate family history is being prepared on her family, and the life of Paullee will be completely covered therein.

At the time of this writing, Paullee Jones Merrill is alive and in good health. She resides in Fort Worth, Texas and is still very active in her church and music work.

It would be difficult indeed to find a pair more properly suited to serve as a minister and wife. Their common devotion to their church was outstanding, the common interest in music was unusual and their desire to unite to be of service to mankind was inspirational.
16. The Present and Future

(a) The Tenth Generation: The author of this history, the second son of Paul and Paullee Merrill, was born at Pampa, Texas on August 6, 1922. The purpose of the research which led to this writing was to become informed on the past and at no time was there any intent to cause a part of it to become an autobiography. It would also not be appropriate to make this last portion an obituary; that will be left to others.

During World War II, while in the service, I met Miss Alma Celia Terry of Kulpmont, Pennsylvania, who was a nurse in New York City. On December 29, 1944, in New York City, we were married.

Our Children (b) The Eleventh Generation:

(1) Roy Richard Merrill  
    born August 9, 1946, Fort Worth, Texas

(2) Paula Marie Merrill  
    born December 29, 1950, Fort Worth, Texas

(3) David William Merrill  
    born November 15, 1957, Fort Worth, Texas
PART TWO

1. Odds and Ends

I. Life Span of Nine Generations

<p>| | | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) Richard</td>
<td>b. 1642</td>
<td>d. 1727</td>
<td>age 85</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) William</td>
<td>b. 1675</td>
<td>d. 1724</td>
<td>age 49</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) William Jr.</td>
<td>b. 1700</td>
<td>d. 1740</td>
<td>age 40</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4) Benjamin</td>
<td>b. 1731</td>
<td>d. 1771</td>
<td>age 40</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(5) Andrew</td>
<td>b. 1753</td>
<td>d. 1835</td>
<td>age 82</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(6) Nicholas</td>
<td>b. 1793</td>
<td>d. unknown</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(7) J. W. S.</td>
<td>b. 1814</td>
<td>d. 1896</td>
<td>age 82</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(8) John</td>
<td>b. 1850</td>
<td>d. 1898</td>
<td>age 48</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(9) Paul</td>
<td>b. 1885</td>
<td>d. 1949</td>
<td>age 64</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

II. Maiden Names of the Merrill Wives

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) Sarah Wells of England</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) Grace of Colony of New York</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) Penelope Stout of Colony of New Jersey</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4) Jemima Smith of Colony of New Jersey</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(5) Rachel Wiseman of Colony of North Carolina</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(6) Ida Cobb of State of Virginia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(7) Sophia Hieronymus of State of Kentucky</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(8) (a) Maggie Bell of State of Mississippi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) Virginia Jones of State of Mississippi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(9) Paullee Jones of State of Tennessee</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(10) Alma Terry of State of Pennsylvania</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

III. Place of Burial of Nine Generations

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) Northfield, Staten Island, New York</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) Hopewell, New Jersey</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) Hopewell, New Jersey</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4) Merrill Cemetery, Salisbury, North Carolina</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(5) Clark County, Kentucky</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(6) Unknown, probably Kentucky</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(7) Merrill Cemetery, Carroll County, Mississippi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(8) Merrill Cemetery, Carroll County, Mississippi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(9) Smithfield, Texas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IV. Reoccurrence of Names of Children

First Name Only, Used Three or More Times

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Benjamin</td>
<td>Mary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William</td>
<td>Nancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John</td>
<td>Elizabeth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David</td>
<td>Rachel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew</td>
<td>Sarah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel</td>
<td>Jemima</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph</td>
<td>Penelope</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>Margaret</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jonathan</td>
<td>Martha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abner</td>
<td>Julia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassius</td>
<td>Susannah</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

V. Number of Children

Reported as total number born (regardless of age of death) to each of ten generations.

1. Five - Five males
2. Three - Three males
3. Four - Three males, one female
4. Nine - Seven males, two females
5. Eight - Four males, one female (three unknown)
6. Eight - Four males, four females
7. Twelve - Six males, six females
8. Six - Two males, four females
9. Two - Two males
10. Three - Two males, one female
2. There Were Others

Another family of Merrills in this country has been reported in several publications. S. M. Merrill prepared in 1899 a family history of a Joshua Merrill and another by Samuel Merrill prepared in 1928 reports on the same line.

The only connection between these and the Richard Merrill family reported herein, is the probability of the same original family.

Nathaniel and John Merrill settled in Newburyport, Massachusetts in 1634. They came to this country in that year from England and were children of a Merle who had come to England from Holland, having fled France as a child. It is certainly possible that Nathaniel, John and Richard were brothers, but this is not known for sure. No doubt, however, they were cousins.

Newburyport was changed to Newbury, and descendents of the original families are still living there. Their family history has been kept in good order and was traced from 1634 to 1900, and no connection between the Merrills of Newbury and the Merrills of Staten Island could be found.

John Merrill had only child, a daughter. Nathaniel had five sons who survived, and he became the ancestor of all of the Merrills of his line as has been shown is the case for Richard in the history just concluded.

The five sons of Nathaniel were John, Abraham, Nathaniel, Daniel and Abel. They were all born in Newbury, Massachusetts with Abel being the youngest; he was born in 1646.

The fact that their ancestors and those of Richard of Staten Island were the same is certain, however, other than this one connection no other link between the two families after their arrival in this country has been established.
3. Genealogy

The numbers assigned are for identification. The first number refers to the generation, the second to the order of birth insofar as this is known. This tracing is for the Merrill name only. (*) indicates direct line.

First and Second Generation

*Richard Merrill (1-1) and Sarah Wells
  *2-2 William b. 1675 m. Grace-------
  2-3 Richard b. 1682 m. Elsie Dorlandt
  2-4 Thomas
  2-5 Philip
  2-6 John

Third Generation

William Merrill (2-2) and Grace-------
  *3-7 William Jr., b. 1700 m. Penelope Stout Jewell
  3-8 Benjamin
  3-9 Joseph

Fourth Generation

William Merrill, Jr., (3-7) and Penelope Stout Jewell
  4-10 William III b. 1730 m. Mary Cornell
  *4-11 Benjamin b. 1732 m. Jemima Smith
  4-12 Thomas b. 1734 m. Dorothy Morgan
  4-13 Ann b. 1735 m. David Stout

Fifth Generation

William Merrill III (4-10) and Mary Cornell
  5-14 Benjamin b. 1752 m. Penelope Merrill
  5-15 Daniel b. 1753 m. Hannah-------
  5-16 John b. 1754 m. Catherine-------

Benjamin Merrill (4-11) and Jemima Smith
  5-17 Samuel b. 1748 m. Susannah-------
  5-18 John b. 1750 m. Mary Wiseman
  *5-19 Andrew b. 1753 m. Rachel Wiseman
  5-20 William b. ? m. Salley Haden
  5-21 Charles b. 1761 m. ?
5-22 Elijah b. 1763 m. ?
5-23 Jonathan b. ? m. Nancy Elliot
5-24 Anna b. ? m. Boyd McCreaery
5-25 Penelope b. 1760(?) m. Benjamin Merrill

**Sixth Generation**

Benjamin Merrill (5-14) and Penelope Merrill (5-25)
6-26 Nancy b. 1779 m. -----Grumm
6-27 William b. 1781 m. Elizabeth Ashworth
6-28 Jain b. 1782 m. -----Morrow
6-29 Nimrod b. 1784 m. ?
6-30 Penelope b. 1786 m. Peter Shepperd
6-31 Eli b. 1787 m. (a) Nancy McCreaery (b) Mary McKay
6-32 Mary b. 1789 m. ?
6-33 Jemima b. 1791 m. ?
6-34 Elizabeth b. 1793 m. ?
6-35 Benjamin b. 1795 m. ?
6-36 Charity b. 1797 m. Boyd McCreaery Jr.
6-37 Rachel b. 1798 m. Elic McCall
6-38 Jonathan b. 1801 m. Harriet Murry
6-39 David b. 1801 m. (a) Katherine Garrison (b) E. Garrison
6-40 Levi b. 1803 m. (a) Syntha Cooper (b) Margaret Murry

Daniel Merrill (5-15) and Elizabeth Lytle
6-41 Lytle b. 1784 m. Polly Jones
6-42, 6-43, 6-44 three daughters

John Merrill (5-16) and Catherine-------
6-45 Sarah b. 1784 m. Joseph Garren
6-46 William b. 1785 m. Nancy McCreaery
6-47 Jacob b. 1785 m. Jennie McCarson
6-48 Andrew b. 1788 m. ?
6-49 Susannah b. 1791 m. -----Owens
6-50 John b. 1793 m. Elizabeth Garren
6-51 Mary b. 1796 m. Jim Maxwell
6-52 Elizabeth b. 1798 m. Dick Roberts
6-53 Catherine b. 1800 m. A. Eddney
6-54 Nancy b. 1802 m. Mathew Patton
6-55 Joseph b. 1807 m. -----Byers

Samuel Merrill (5-17) and Susannah-------
6-56 Benjamin b. 1774 m. ?
6-57 Betty b. 1776 m. ?
6-58 Azariah b. 1777 m. Abigail Frost
6-59 Jemima b. 1783 m. Thomas Yarborough
6-60 Sallie b. 1784 m. John Goss

John Merrill (5-18) and Mary Wiseman
6-61 John b. ? m. Jemima Batton
6-62 A daughter b. ? m. John Lyner
6-63 Rachel b. ? m. -----Rogers
6-64 Jemima b. ? m. Enos Mershon
6-65 Benjamin b. 1792 m. Martha Chandler
6-66 James (nothing known)
6-67 George (nothing known)

Andrew Merrill (5-19) and Rachel Wiseman
6-68 Andrew Jr. b. ? m. Permelia Tatum
6-69 Abner b. ? m. Rita Jones
6-70 Nicholas b. 1793 m. Ida Cobb
6-71 Benjamin b. 1794 m. Elizabeth Garrett
6-72 Nancy b. 1796(?) m. Daniel Garrett
6-73, 6-74, 6-75 Names unknown

William Merrill (5-20) and Salley Haden
6-76 Timothy b. ? m. Elizabeth Bradshaw

Jonathan Merrill (5-23) and Nancy Elliot
6-77 a son
6-78 a daughter (both born before 1790 census)

Seventh Generation

William Merrill (6-27) and Elizabeth Ashworth
7-79 Jesse b. 1804 m. Susan Huggins
7-80 Nancy b. 1805 m. Stephen Shipman
7-81 Nellie b. 1806 m. Samuel Allison
7-82 Mary b. 1808 m. David Barnett
7-83 Elizabeth b. 1809 m. Joseph Shipman
7-84 Margaret b. 1811 m. Jessie Ashworth
7-85 Sarah b. 1813 m. Porter Kilpatrick
7-86 Rachel b. 1815 m. Charles Justin
7-87 Martha b. 1815 m. Charles Pearson
7-88 John b. 1818 m. Mary Cantrell
7-89 William b. 1819 m. Sue Hollingsworth
7-90 Joseph b. 1822 m. Sallie Owens
7-91 Benjamin b. 1824 m. Clarissa Shuford
7-92 James b. 1827 m. ?
Eli Merrill (6-31) and Nancy McCreary

7-93 Charles
7-94 William
7-95 Eli Jr.
7-96 Jonathan
7-97 Nancy
7-98 Elizabeth
7-99 Phoebon
7-100 Benjamin
7-100 and 101 Names of two unknown

Nothing known on any of these children.

Eli Merrill (6-31) and Mary McKay (Second Marriage)

7-102 Olivia b. 1838 m. W. D. Webb
7-103 Julia b. 1840 m. W. W. Wright
7-104 Nelsus b. 1842 m. ?
7-105 Margaret b. 1844 m. Martin Dickerson
7-106 John b. 1847 m. Susan Swetman
7-107 Tom b. 1849 m. Sussie Burch

Jonathan Merrill (6-38) and Harriet Murray

7-108 William
7-109 Samuel
7-110 Emaline
7-111 Benjamin No facts known on any
7-112 Thomas
7-113 Henry
7-114 Sallie
7-115 Mary

David Merrill (6-39) and Katherine Garrison

7-116 Robert b. ? m. Mary Horn
7-117 Adolphus b. ? m. ?
7-118 Catherine b. ? m. Hamilton Jones
7-119 Matilda b. ? m. James Allen

David Merrill (6-39) and E. Garrison (Second Marriage)

7-120 Jane
7-121 Perry No facts known
7-122 David Jr.

Levi Merrill (6-40) and Synthia Cooper

7-123 Franklyn b. 1827
7-124 Sophronia b. 1828 m. J. Walkins
7-125 Amanda b. 1830 m. ------Creacy
7-126 Jasper b. 1832 m. ?
7-127 Carolyn b. 1837 m. ?
Levi Merrill (6-40) and Margaret Murry (Second Marriage)
7-128 Martha b. 1838 m. F. Lance
7-129 Julia b. 1839 m. R. Ledbetter
7-130 Nancy b. 1841 m. Samuel Merrill
7-131 Silus b. 1843 m. Jane Underwood
7-132 Mary Jain b. 1844 m. ?
7-133 Mary b. 1847 m. ?
7-134 Elbert b. 1849 m. ?
7-135 Julius b. 1850 m. Allie Gudger

Lytel Merrill (6-41) and Polly Jones
7-136 David b. ? m. ?

William Merrill (6-46) and Nancy McCreary
7-137 Abner b. ? m. ?

Jacob Merrill (6-47) and Jennie McCarson
7-138 John b. 1816 m. Jane Mitchell
7-139 Lytle b. ? m. Mary Williams
7-140 Sam b. 1818 m. Eliza Case
7-141 Abner b. ? m. Martha Young
7-142 David b. 1826 m. Elizabeth Watson
7-143 Polly b. ? m. John Young
7-144 Betsy b. ? m. ?

John Merrill (6-50) and Elizabeth Garren
7-145 Alexander
7-146 Mary No facts known
7-147 Susannah

Azariah Merrill (6-58) and Abigail Frost
7-148 Elizabeth b. 1799 m. Godfrey Winkler
7-149 Sarah b. 1806 m. ?
7-150 Samuel b. 1807 m. ?
7-151 Eliza b. 1809 m. J. Clark
7-152 Frost b. 1811 m. Barbara Huffman
7-153 Amy b. 1813 m. James Palmer
7-154 Ebenezer b. 1816 m. Ann Turner
7-155 Jonathan b. 1818 m. Mary Wiseman
7-156 Benjamin b. 1820 m. Elizabeth Leach
7-157 Wilson b. 1822 m. Elizabeth Snyder
7-158 Iceann b. 1824 m. ?

Benjamin Merrill (6-65) and Martha Chandler
7-159 Mary (No facts known)
7-160 William
7-161 Andrew
7-162 Henry
7-163 Sarah
7-164 Benjamin
7-165 Martha
7-166 Asa
7-167 Nancy
7-168 Joseph

Andrew Merrill Jr. (6-68) and Permelia Tatum
7-169 Haley b.? m.?  
7-170 Benjamin b.? m.?  
7-171 Ransom b. 1812 m. Anne Metcalf  
7-172 Evelyn b.? m. J. Foushee  
7-173 Rachel b.? m.?  
7-174 Elizabeth b.? m.?  
7-175 Parthenia b.? m. K. Evans

Abner Merrill (6-69) and Rita Jones
7-176 Pleasant
7-177 James
7-178 Thomas
7-179 Emily
7-180 Betsy
7-181 Patsy

Nicholas Merrill (6-70) and Ida Cobb
7-182 Margaret b.? m. Jeremiah Haden  
*7-183 J.W.S. b. 1814 m. Sophia Hieronymus  
7-184 Andrew b. 1825 m. Eliza Eastin  
7-185 - 189 Unknown

Eighth Generation

William Merrill (7-89) and Sue Hollingsworth
8-186 William
8-187 Ella  
8-188 J. P.

John Merrill (7-88) and Mary Cantrell
8-189 Mary b. 1839 m. Azariah Orr  
8-190 Julia b. 1841 m. Kimsey Drake  
8-191 Perry b. 1842 m. Emma Kitchens  
8-192 Elizabeth b. 1843 m. Jim Morgan
8-193 Samuel b. 1845 m. Nancy Merrill (7-130)
8-194 William b. 1847 m. Nancy Orr
8-195 Manda b. 1849 m. Charlie Clayton
8-196 Emily b. 1851 m. ?
8-197 John b. 1843 m. Florida Galloway
8-198 Benjamin b. 1855 m. ?
8-199 Joseph b. 1857 m. ?
8-200 Jesse b. 1859 m. ?
8-201 Malena b. 1861 m. Luther Picklesimer

Andrew Merrill (7-184) and Eliza Eastin
8-202 Robert b. 1851 m. ?
8-203 Warrin b. 1853 m. ?
8-204 Aoiline b. 1855 m. ?
8-205 Mary b. 1857 m. ?
8-206 James b. 1861 m. Nellie Lowen

J. W. S. Merrill (7-183) and Sophia Hieronymus
8-207 Mary b. 1836 m. R. Redditt
8-208 Cassius b. 1838 m. Anna Exum
8-209 Brutus b. 1838 died as child
8-210 Peter b. 1840 died 1862
8-211 Benjamin b. 1843 m. Sue McMath
8-212 Lucy b. 1845 m. James Quarles
8-213 Alice b. 1847 m. Motor
8-214 Sophia b. 1849 m. R. H. Hicks
8-215 Kate b. 1851 died as child
*S-216 John b. 1853 m. (a) Maggie Bell (b) Virginia Jones Oliver
8-217 Marybelle b. 1856 died as child
8-218 J. W. S., Jr. b. 1858 died as child

Ninth Generation

James Andrew Merrill (8-206) and Nellie Lowen
9-219 George Lowen
9-220 Helen Elizabeth Nothing known

Benjamin Merrill (8-211) and Sue McMath
9-221 J. W. S. b. 1867
9-222 Ambrose b. 1869
9-223 B. N. Jr., b. 1872
9-224 Eugenia Suce b. 1875
9-225 Mary Bell b. 1877
9-226 Cassius b. 1879
8-226 E? E?

-10-
John D. Merrill (8-216) and Maggie Bell
9-227 Julian Bell b. 1878 d. 1916

John D. Merrill (8-216) and Virginia Jones Oliver (Second Marriage)
9-228 Grace b. 1883 d. 1895
*9-229 Paul b. 1885 m. Paullee Jones
9-230 Meary b. 1886 d. 1887
9-231 Jennie b. 1886 d. 1887
9-232 Kate b. 1887 m. Tom B. Tarwater

Tenth Generation

Paul J. Merrill (9-229) and Paullee Jones
10-233 Paul J. b. 1916 d. 1917
*10-234 David b. 1922 m. Alma Terry

Eleventh Generation

David Merrill (10-234) and Alma Terry
*11-235 Roy Richard b. 1946
*11-236 Paula Marie b. 1950
*11-237 David William b. 1957