

John Grant family

John Grant was born circa 1765 in Virginia and married Anne Irby circa 1784. She was born 1768 in Halifax County to Peter and Elizabeth (Cook?) Irby. John was listed on the 1787 Census in Pittsylvania County and bought 330 acres on the branches of Georges Creek and Stinking River from John Logan 28 February 1791. Peter Irby named his daughter, Anne Grant, in his will proven 16 Feb 1795. John's will was written 7 Feb 1767 and probated 20 Feb. His inventory and appraisement were done 22 Feb. Anne and her daughters were legatees in the 1818 will of her sister, Rebecca Marlow. Children: James, Sarah, William married (1819) Patsy Barksdale, Elizabeth and Mary.

James Grant was born circa 1786 and served in Capt. Tunstall Shelton's Company of the Virginia Militia in the War of 1812. His wife received a pension for his service. He married 19 February 1817 in Pittsylvania County to Mary Ann Swepston, daughter of John and Dolly (Ashford) Swepston. She was born circa 1794 and died between 1880 and 1883. James died 20 January 1870 in Callands. Children: Peter (ca.1817-ca.1875) married (1839) Martha Palmer, John H. (ca.1820-ca.1865) married (1846) Pocahontas Cheeley, James Robert, William T. (born ca.1822) married (1847/48) Sarah Jackson, Isaac S. (1831-1864) married (1853) Helen Hankins and Mary Frances (born ca. 1831).

James Robert was born January 1824 in Henry County. In 1850, he was working on the Captain John W. Gravely farm. On 2 Nov 1850, he married Mary M. Martin, daughter of Orson and Elizabeth (Sadler) Martin. She was born 1825 and died between August 1854 and April 1858. Robert's Civil War Record states: "10th Virginia Cavalry, PVT, Co.K,Enlisted Richmond 6-1-1861. Present through 6-30-1861. Discharge for over age 12-31-1861. Age 36, 6', dark complexion, dark hair, Farmer, Receiving pension Sago. Franklin Co. 7-24-1902 age 78." Their only child was Elizabeth Ann. He lived with Permelia/Amelia Horsley until his death in June 1907.

Elizabeth "Bettie" Ann was born 20 August 1854 in Franklin County. Her maternal uncle, Robert Martin, was appointed her guardian. She was living with his family in 1850 in Henry County and with her father in Franklin County in 1860. Her maternal grandfather, Orson Martin, left her 3 slaves upon his death in 1859. A number of cases can be found in the Henry County Chancery Records of the 1870s concerning this legacy. She married 25 January 1872 in Franklin County to Edward W. Palmer (28 March 1849-16 January 1904), son of William Robert and Lydia (Hundley) Palmer. Her father left her \$1.00 in his will. Children: Mary Elizabeth (1872-1952) married (1) George Merricks (2) Sunny King Kendrick, Nannie Belle, William Robert (1876-1965) married Hillie A. Kendrick and Roberta Lee (1878-1912) married Billy Mitchell.

Nannie Belle Palmer was born 23 November 1874 in Pittsylvania County. She married Peter Thomas Wells, son of Matthew Clay and Mary Jane (Shorter) Wells, on 11 February 1892 in Pittsylvania County. For more information on their family see the article entitled Wells Family (Part Two).

Written by Cindy (Hubbard) Headen

Submitted by Melody (Hubbard) Reynolds, Collinsville, VA

Sources: census, deeds, wills, military records, marriage and death records, chancery records

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