

Some Information concerning JOHN COLLINS of
Broad Creek Hundred, Sussex Co. Del. and
his Descendants.

The father of John Collins of Broad Creek Hundred, Sussex Co. was Joseph Collins who was a planter of Worcester Co. Md. His will is dated Aug. 1, 1766 and was probated March 5, 1767. I have not seen a copy of this will. He patented 8 tracts of land in Maryland. His widow, whose name I do not know was alive in 1781 for she is mentioned in the will of her son George Collins, Book D, No. 4, p. 14, Sussex Co.

They had at least five children:

JOHN COLLINS, later of Broad Creek Hundred
George Collins, who died between 1781 and 1783 in Sussex Co. Del.
Margaret, who married George Bacon and who left no children
Betty who married Samuel Scrogin, brother of the 2nd wife of
JOHN COLLINS

Sally

JOHN COLLINS was a planter in Sussex Co. Various records in the Court house show that he was a large land owner. By his first marriage - name of wife unknown he had three daughters, whose names are mentioned in his will, on file in Sussex Co.

Peggy (Margaret) who married William Berry in Kentucky and left a large descent in St. Louis, Mo.

Polly

Jenny

The autobiography of his only living son, Joseph Scrogin Collins states that there were six children altogether so two must have died in childhood, one probably a son. The fate of Polly and Jenny is unknown. They appear in Court records as late as 1801, but their half brother never mentioned them and nothing further is known of them.

The second wife of JOHN COLLINS was Betty Scrogin. She was the daughter of Joseph Scrogin of Somerset Co. Md. who owned property near Salisbury. He died in 1747 and his will is recorded in Somerset Co. Sarah Caldwell was the daughter of John Caldwell of Somerset Co. He died before 1747. He was married before 1725 to Mary ----. She was living as late as 1747. He had warrants for several tracts of land which seem never to have been patented.

So far as we know Betty Scrogin Collins had but one child, Joseph Scrogin Collins, who was born March 17, 1779 on his father's plantation, three miles north east of the town of Laurel on the south eastern branch of the Nanticoke River. Betty Scrogin Collins died when her son was about four years old. After the death of JOHN COLLINS, whose will was dated April 22, 1787 and probated July 7, 1787, Joseph Scrogin Collins was sent to the home of his uncle Samuel Scrogin whose wife Betty was a sister of JOHN COLLINS. The Scrogin family emigrated to Kentucky in 1794 taking Joseph Scrogin Collins with them. There he learned the trade of a printer and returning to Delaware he married 1st. Mary Brown Feb. 4, 1800. She was born in 1774 and died March 15, 1801 soon after the birth of her only child.

This child was John Anderton Collins, born Feb. 11, 1801, died May 7, 1857. He was noted as being an eloquent preacher of the Methodist Church throughout Delaware, Maryland and Virginia. He was twice married, first to Miranda Tavener of Loudon Co. Va and by her had

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and by her had four sons, Joseph, John, Wells and Bond. So far as is known these sons left no descendants. Miranda Tavenor Collins, born Sept. 16, 1804 died Jan 23, 1843. The second wife of John Anderton Collins was a Mrs. McKean. She had no children by him.

The second wife of Joseph Scrogin Collins was Rebecca Brown, reputed to be the cousin of his first wife. She is supposed to have been of a Delaware family. Her mother was named Rebecca and she had brothers Daniel and Clement Brown. Nothing more is known of her family save that she had sisters Peggy and Polly. She bore her husband nine children; all born in Washington D.C. Georgetown:

Kitty, b. Oct. 14, 1804, died June 15, 1806

Mary Broen, b. March 25, 1807; d. April 5, 1849 in Columbus Ohio at the home of her brother Samuel

Edward Wilmer, b. Nov. 8, 1809; d. Sept. 30, 1869 in Georgetown He married Martha Claxton Aug. 19, 1830 and had five children Ann Rebecca, Mary Susanna, Joseph Stockton who married Julia Halman, Susannah Claxton and one other daughter. It is not known that any of these left descendants.

Martha Brown, b. March 3, 1812; d. Feb 21, 1834 in Georgetown

William C. b. July 4, 1814; d. Oct. 23, 1816

Caroline Collins, b. Jan 31, 1817, d. March 1890, never married

Margaret Ann, b. May 24, 1822, d. May 5, 1893. Married William Ritenour Denny and has a large number of descendants.

Joseph Benson b. Aug. 4, 1824; d. Aug. 11, 1850. Married Agens B.

Jones of Green Bay, Wisconsin. No children. He was in the Army all his life. He served in the Mexican War and lost an eye at the battle of Cerro Gordo. He served throughout the War Between the States with great distinction being brevetted three times for gallant and meritorious services, and being made in succession Major, Lieutenant Col and Col by Brevet.

To return to Peggy Collins Berry, daughter of John Collins by his first wife. She married in Kentucky so she probably went there also with her Aunt and Uncle Samuel and Betty Collins Scrogin. Her husband, William Berry moved to Missouri. Their children were:

Elizabeth who married Samuel Denny

Sarah Jane who married William Ennis. Their children were

Joseph Warren Ennis, Thomas Henry Ennis and

Nancy Jane Ennis who married Francis O'Gray.

Some years ago the O'Grays lived in St. Louis, Mo,

6802 Virginia, Ave. and had a son Lee James

O'Gray, Margaret O'Gray who married Amadee St.

Cyr and had four children, Francis, Amadee, Sadie Bell

and Walter Ennis St. Cyr; Walter T. O'Gray, Hattie

Stuart O'Gray, Henry W. O'Gray Sadie O'Gray who

married a Mr. Chalphant and Francis E. O'Gray.

Margaret who married 1st William Shields and 2nd Alex Kirk

Mary who married Ephriam Barber

Joseph Allen who married Jane McClung. Their children were

Margaret who married Henry Stone and Henry Berry.

Nothing further is known of this family.

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The third wife of Joseph Scrogin Collins was Sally Adgate. He married her in Washington D.C. Feb 5, 1829. It is not known when she died. She had no children.

The fourth wife of Joseph Scrogin Collins was Mrs. Dorothea Kopp, who had already buried two husbands. This marriage occurred Dec. 29, 1849 in Baltimore, Md. when Joseph Scrogin Collins was over 70 years old but they both lived to celebrate their silver wedding anniversary. She died in 1896, having been born in 1799, so that she was almost a centenarian.

Joseph Scrogin Collins died in Winchester Va. Aug. 1, 1874 and was strong to the end of his almost hundred years. During his early married life he was Assistant Editor of the Scioto Gazette in Chillicothe, Ohio. Later he came to Washington to be a Clerk in the General Land Office. He was a local preacher all his life and preached until almost the day of his death.

His daughter Margaret Ann Collins, married Oct. 9, 1851, William Kitenour Denny of Winchester Va. He was born Feb. 4, 1823 and died Dec. 4, 1904. He was a merchant and manufacturer of Winchester, Va. He was a Col. (Lieut Col) of the 31st Regiment, 16th Brigade, 3rd Division of the Virginia Militia. This Regiment was incorporated into the Confederate Army and went into active service in 1861. Their children are as follows:

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Kate Baker, b. Aug. 12, 1852; d. Jan. 4, 1864

Collins, b. May 28, 1854, still living. An active Bishop of the M.E. Church South, residence 1619 Park Ave, Richmond Va. He was a Professor at Vanderbilt University for almost 20 years and has occupied many positions of distinction. A account of his marriage and descendants below.

Mary Brown, b. June 29, 1856. Still living in Dec. 1930. Married Harvey Jones Campbell, Dec. 28, 1880. He was born Dec. 18, 1854. Address 529 Pipestone St. Benton Harbor, Mich. Four children died in infancy.

William Joseph, b. July 16, 1858, d. Nov. 25, 1860

Margaret Virginia, b. Aug. 31, 1861, living in Dec. 1930. Married D. Melanthon James who died Jan 8, 1920. The marriage occurred June 5, 1888. For descent see below.

John Henry, b. Aug. 12, 1864, killed in the Philippine Islands Jan 11, 1900, a member of the American Army there.

The children of Collins Denny and Lucy Chase Chapman his wife, who was born April 29, 1857 and is still living, and who were married July 5, 1881 in Baltimore Md., are as follows:

Margaret Collins, b. April 10, 1882. Married John Wesley Dixon, a Methodist minister in Virginia. Present address, Rocky Mount Virginia. Married April 5, 1905. Five children, four living, Elizabeth, Mary Barbour, John Wesley Jr, and William Denny Dixon.

Elizabeth Chapman, b. Jan 7, 1884, married May 20, 1908 to Eugene Ellis Vann of Alabama. Present address 186 Harrison St. Leonia, New Jersey. Twin sons, Felix Huffman Vann, who is a student at Columbia University Medical School and Collins Denny who were born Jan 9, 1909. Collins Denny Vann died Feb 14, 1909. The twins were born in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

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William Ritenour, b. Sept. 12, 1888; d. Mar 24, 1890

Edith Allen, b. Dec. 21, 1890, married Roscoe Marvin White a Methodist minister in Va. April 2, 1913. Present address 618 Raleigh Ave, Norfolk, Va. Three children, Collins Denny, Lucy Chapman and Roscoe Marvin, Jr.

Lucy Chase, b. Jan. 21, 1893, married 1st, Thomas Albert Wright a lawyer of Roanoke, Va. Aug. 10, 1921. He died April 17, 1924. Two children Lucy Chase and Mary Elizabeth Wright. Married 2nd Preston William Slosson, June 21, 1927, a Professor of History at the Univ. of Michigan. One child, Flora May Slosson

Collins Denny, Jr. b. June 10, 1899. Unmarried in 1930. Assistant Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Address 1619 Park Ave. Richmond, Va.

The descendants of Margaret Virginia Denny and D.M. James are

William Denny, died in infancy

Mary Marguerite, who married Everett Lothrop. Their address is 1202 Hanman Ave, Evanston, Ill. Three children, Everett Jr. James, and another boy and girl. Married Aug. 13, 1917 in Newton Mass.

Helen Collins who married Richard de Zeng Pierce March 31, 1917 in Newton Mass. Present address Circle Seven Ranch, Parkman Wyoming. Three children. Katherine Tillinghast, Virginia James and Richard de Zeng Jr.

Donald Denny, b. Feb. 5, 1900, a business man in San Antonio Texas, unmarried in Dec. 1930. Address 947, W. Quisache St.

Compiled from family Bibles, Court House Records and other documents in possession of Bishop Collins Denny and his sisters. by Elizabeth C. Denny Vann.

186 Harrison St.
Leonis

(Mrs. Eugene C. Vann)

New Jersey