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THE  
WATKINS FAMILY  
*of*  
North Carolina

Particularly Enumerating Those Descendants  
—of—

LEVIN WATKINS  
of Duplin County, N. C.

Who Emigrated to Alabama and Mississippi Early in  
The Nineteenth Century.

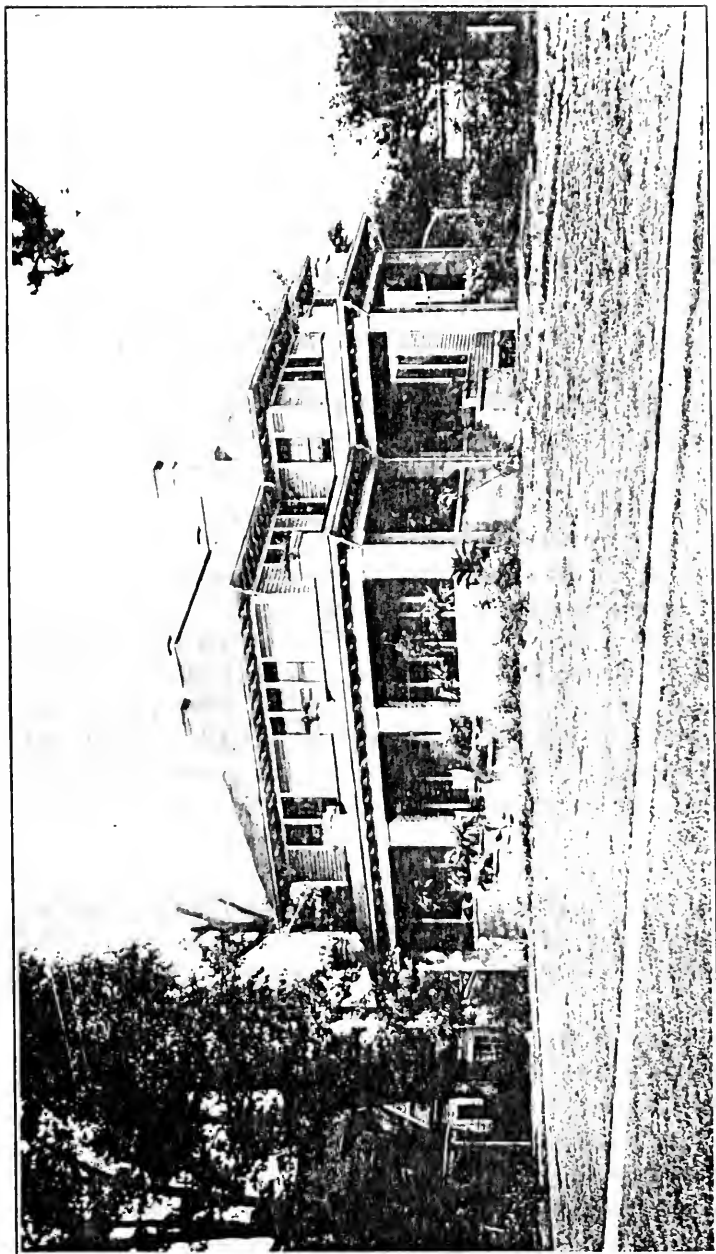
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—BY—  
WILLIAM B. WATKINS  
Aberdeen, Mississippi

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Residence of W. B. Watkins, Aberdeen, Mississippi.



# THE WATKINS FAMILY OF NORTH CAROLINA

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## CHAPTER I.

Since the days of my early youth, I have taken a keen interest in any narrative that purported to be anything of a "family history" or that had to do with the exploits of those of the name who have lived and died in the years gone by. Unfortunately I did not during the lifetime of my father, or of others from whom I could have learned much, attempt to record any of the memorials of their virtues or even to trace out the genealogy of our family. The matter has pressed itself on my attention until in recent years, in a limited way, and as occasional opportunity would permit, I have endeavored to learn at least the names and as much of the history of my paternal kindred as a busy life would permit.

It having been my purpose to publish the results of my inquiries only for the benefit of my family and for circulation among my friends, I can with propriety say that my family pride has not suffered from the information I have been able to gather. It must, indeed, be a laudable purpose for any father to cherish the hope that he might, by pointing out family virtues to his children and other younger members of the family, direct them to the accomplishment of only the worthy and noble things in life.

The Watkins name is commonly met with throughout the South and, to a large extent, throughout the North. Many distinguished men of the name have crowded the avenues of both public and private life, both before and since the War of the Revolution. In early Colonial times many of the name were conspicuous for acts of patriotic devotion to their country, especially in Virginia and the



Carolinas. The records show that many were active in resisting the oppressions of the Colonies by the King of England and in the gaining of our National Independence. It is beyond the purpose of this paper to even attempt to enumerate the many Watkins and kindred families who contributed worthy sons to our cause during the Revolution, or who were true to the best interests of the country in the years of its early history. So, also, it is beyond the scope of this effort to attempt anything like a complete genealogical record of that branch of the Watkins family to which my family belongs. I shall be compelled to leave the further pursuit of that undertaking to some other member who may, perchance, have the time and inclination to follow it with greater zeal than I have been able to put into it.

I have been much interested in a short history of the descendants of one Thomas Watkins, of Chickahomony, Virginia, written and first published by Mr. Francis N. Watkins, of Prince Edward County, Virginia, in 1852. I have also read with interest the genealogical records and historical facts of certain of the Watkins families in Colonel James Edmonds Saunders' "Early Settlers of (North) Alabama," published by Col. Saunders' daughter, Elizabeth Saunders Blair Stubbs, which for the most part has to do with those families who emigrated from Virginia to Georgia and North Alabama in the latter part of the eighteenth century, and whose connections with Thomas Watkins of Chickahomony, Virginia, were established. My investigations lead me to believe that the names recorded in the two above mentioned genealogies represent only a small part of the many members of the family who had their descent from the two or more early settlers of the Watkins family in Virginia.

So far as I have been able to ascertain there has been written no history of the many Watkins families of North Carolina. There can be little doubt but that the early Colonial families of the name both of Virginia and



North Carolina were not descended from one original emigrant, but were the descendants of several brothers or brothers and cousins who emigrated to Virginia from Wales.

One of the earliest names to be found in recorded history is that of James Watkins, an emigrant who came over in the *Phoenix* in 1607, and mentioned as having accompanied "Captain John Smith' in his explorations in the New World, especially of the Chesapeake Bay. Likewise there are records of others of the name among the "Early Virginia Immigrants," conspicuous among whom are the names of Thomas Watkins, 1635; William Watkins, 1643; Edward Watkins, 1654; John Watkins, 1653, and others.

We find these and other names very common in early Colonial days, and in increasing numbers until when the first census of the United States was taken in 1790 there were about 100 Watkins heads of families and about 600 members in Virginia and 55 heads of families and 375 members in North Carolina. Since that time they are numbered by the thousands and are "scattered all over America."

One of the earliest names I have met with in the North Carolina records is that of John Watkins, whose name appears as a witness to the will of John Harrison of Albemarle County in February, 1693 (Grimes Abstract N. C. Wills, p. 151). John Watkins was a juror at a court held in Chowan County, November, 1716 (Col. Records N. C., Vol. 2, p. 266). So, also, a John Watkins was a member of the company commanded by Capt. Samuel Corbin at the Spanish Alarm at Wilmington in 1748 (Col. Records N. C. Vol. 22, p. 281). Shedrick Watkins is mentioned as a private in the army, April 4, 1777. (Book 16, p. 1180 Col. Records). John Watkins was appointed Lieutenant for Defense of Western Country, January 4, 1787 (Book 18, p. 450). Leavell Watkins was in militia (Book 22, p. 282, N. C. Records). John Wat-





kins was also in the Revolutionary War (N. C. Records, Vol. 16, p. 1188). John Watkins was appointed by Committee of Safety, June, 1775, to patrol from Beatly's Swamp to Perry's Creek (N. C. Records, Vol. 10, pp 25 and 63).

We notice in the old County Court records of Beaufort County at a court held at Bath Town, March, 1756, John Watkins was appointed Constable "from Chuckawinity to Hardee's Run." The territory over which John Watkins reigned as a constable is now in Pitt County. Lieut. Watkins (Col. Records, Vol. 15, p. 754), Lieut John Watkins of Edgecombe County (N. C. Records, Vol. 18, p. 450), are also mentioned.

There are numerous evidences of the early migration of members of the family from Virginia to the near-by counties of North Carolina. There were several settlements made along the banks of the Tarr and Pamlico rivers in the counties of Pitt, Craven, Edgecombe, Nash and Beaufort. I have been unable to establish just what, if any, the connection is between the immediate families about whom I am to write and those families enumerated as descended from Thomas Watkins of Chickahomony, Virginia. In many ways I notice we find many points of similarity as well as many of the same family names in both groups of families which would lead one to think that both are at least sprung from the same parent stock.

Mr. Francis N. Watkins, in his genealogy above referred to, mentions the fact that it has been often claimed that there was a marked resemblance, personal and intellectual, between the various members of the Watkins family. However much that may be true, it has been my observation that they are in some respects a strongly marked race, and possess certain striking characteristics in whatever stations in life we find them. One trait, I am proud to claim, I have generally found to exist is a rugged honesty combined with a proper amount of com-



mon sense, which with individual industry and enterprise, has quite generally made them of sterling worth in the communities wheresoever found. As a family they are usually quiet and unassuming, but of independent and self-reliant spirits. They have been known as brave men always. As soldiers in the late Civil War many of them were conspicuous for acts of the very greatest bravery, of whom my father's grandfather, John Watkins, I have heard it said, alone contributed twenty-one sons and grandsons.

The absence of complete records prior to 1770 in many of the counties of North Carolina make success in genealogical research very difficult previous to that time. It is impossible to say who was the first of the name to settle in the Province of North Carolina, unless it be the John Watkins before alluded to, who was living in Albemarle County in 1693. The great number of land deeds, however, to many of which I have had access, show that from the very earliest days members of the family in North Carolina had assumed positions of importance and had become well established as landed proprietors.

One of the earliest of the names I have met with is that of Thomas Watkins, who died (apparently) without male issue, and whose will was proven at the January court, 1754, Perquimans County (Grimes Abst. N. C. Wills, p. 394). William Watkins, planter, of Beaufort County, received a grant of land from the Earl of Granville, Sept. 18, 1744. Previous to that time Edward Salter of Bath County (same as Beaufort County), in the Province of North Carolina, Sept. 10, 1730, conveyed 295 acres of land on the south side of Pamlico River to William Watkins, planter. William Watkins, in 1755, conveyed land to his oldest son, John Watkins. The will of William Watkins, probated Oct. 14, 1773, at the Pitt County court, mentions sons, John and William; sons-in-law, Francis Buck, James Cason, William Ormond, James Jones; daughters, Sarah Buck, Elizabeth,



Ann and Rachel, wife and executrix, Christian (Grimes Abst. N. C. Wills, p. 394). Pitt County was cut off from Beaufort County in 1761.

Edward Watkins of Hanover County, Virginia, conveyed land to one Elias Fort of Edgecombe County, N. C., Oct. 29, 1764, in exchange for land in Edgecombe County on the Tarr River. A more complete search of the records of the counties of Pitt and Edgecombe might disclose which, if any, of the sons of this Edward removed to North Carolina from Virginia.

There are numerous deeds of record to and from Henry Watkins, planter, in Edgecombe County during the years between 1760 and 1770. So, also, we find about this time numbers of land deeds to and from John Watkins and Thomas Watkins of Edgecombe County, conveying lands along the banks of the Tarr River. It may be that an extended examination of the records will disclose to us whether one of these was not the father or grandfather of Levin Watkins, referred to in the following pages.

The names most frequently met with in the years immediately subsequent, from 1770 to 1790, in Edgecombe and Pitt counties, are John, William, Thomas and Sarah of Pitt County; and Stephen, Levin (sometimes written Leaven), James, Mitchell, Peter, John, John (son of John), Daniel and Benjamin of Edgecombe County. These are some of the principal names I find in the Eastern counties of North Carolina previous to the close of the Revolution. There were other families in the counties further back in the interior of the State. I have made no effort to learn anything about them or to study their movements. I have noted the fact that of the names above mentioned many of them are contemporaneous with, and are the same family names as those given as the brothers and sons of Thomas Watkins of Chickahomony, Virginia. I have noted also that Thomas





William Whitfield Watkins



Anna Knowles Watkins





Watkins of Chickahomony, Virginia, had a brother, Stephen Watkins, who was born in 1720 and died in 1755. He had children, Stephen and Elizabeth, who lived in Amelia, Virginia. It is a coincidence worth mentioning that a number of Levin Watkins' descendants referred to later bear the names of Stephen and Elizabeth. My father had an uncle and several great-uncles named Stephen. His only sister was named Elizabeth Amelia. Doubtless a more exhaustive search of the records may disclose what the connection may be, if any at all, with the Stephen Watkins of Amelia, Virginia, mentioned by Mr. Francis N. Watkins in his book.

The published list of the 55 heads of households of the family in North Carolina at the time of the first United States census, taken in 1790, will disclose who they were and where they lived at that time. It is principally my purpose to register, as far as possible, the names of the descendants of Levin Watkins (my father's great-grandfather), who was probably born in Pitt or Edgecombe County, and who lived and died in Duplin County, N. C., to which county he moved his family at an early age soon after marriage.

I am keenly aware of the fact that there are many imperfections in this paper and that it lacks much of being as thorough and as complete as I would have it. Possibly these deficiencies may be supplied in a future edition. The Watkins Gleanings, as well as the few copies of some of the records which I have collected, will be found in the subsequent pages of this book. They should be interesting as well as helpful to any of the family who might desire to follow the investigation further. I have been dependent entirely upon correspondence for most of the information obtained and no one who has not tried it knows what a difficult undertaking it is to write a history of any family as numerous as the Watkins family seems to be.



## CHAPTER II.

The ancestor from whom those whose names are given in the subsequent pages of this record sprung was Levin Watkins. He lived and died in Duplin County, N. C. He was probably born about the year 1740. What I know of him I have gathered from public records and from family traditions. Up to the present time I have been unable to learn for certain what his father's name was. I have thought it most probable that he was a son of John Watkins and a grandson of William Watkins, referred to in Chapter I, whose will was recorded in Pitt County, N. C., Oct. 17, 1773. A lady interested in the family writes: "It is certain that the name Levin (Watkins) can always be traced to the eastern shores of Virginia." This is but additional evidence that Levin Watkins' family moved from Virginia to North Carolina at an early time.

It is certain that Levin Watkins and his wife lived in Edgecombe County from the date of their marriage until the year 1774. We have the record of the conveyance of 495 acres of land on the south side of the Tarr River in Edgecombe County, made to him March 7, 1770. A number of deeds of record after that time disclose the fact that his wife joined him in disposing of this land, the last conveyance being made in December, 1773. About that time he moved to Duplin County, where he lived and died in the year 1812. My information is that he was a man of kind and generous nature and much respected and beloved, especially by his own relatives. He was a man of the highest character and large influence in the county in which he lived. It has been claimed that he was a zealous supporter of the rights of the Colonies against the usurpation of the King of England. The records I have had access to do not disclose whether or not he saw service as a soldier in the



Revolutionary War. Undoubtedly he took an active part as a militiaman or as a member of the Committee of Safety in the Cause of American Independence.

Unless it be that the name Leavell Watkins, referred to in Vol. 22, p. 282 N. C. Records as being in the militia, was intended for Levin Watkins, which I am inclined to think was the case (since nowhere else have I met with the name Leavell Watkins), we have no authentic record of the part he played in the history of his country before the year 1789.

It is certain that he deserved and received consideration at the hands of his countrymen at that time; for that year, as shown by the published records, together with James Kenan and James Gillespie, he represented Duplin County in the Convention at Fayetteville. For many years afterwards he represented the people of his county as State Senator from Duplin County in the North Carolina Legislature; his terms of service being as follows, viz: 1794-5, 1798-9, 1800-1-2-3.

In this connection it is interesting to note that he was the predecessor in this office of Rufus King of Duplin County, who afterward moved to Alabama and became United States Senator from that State and was elected Vice-President of the United States when Mr. Filmore was elected President. (Rufus King's home was in Dallas County, Alabama.) I have heard my father say that he was told by his mother that there was a close relationship between the families of Levin Watkins and Rufus King, whether by blood or marriage I am not able to state.

Of the times and character of people of North Carolina at that time, among whom Levin Watkins lived and made his influence felt, the following extract is taken from Wheeler's History of North Carolina, Vol. 1, p. 30:

"No freer county was ever organized by man. Freedom of conscience, freedom from taxation except by their



own consent were first objects. No one could collect a debt the cause of action of which arose out of the colony within five years; the emigrant received a bounty of land. These simple laws suited a simple people, who when oppressed were as rough as the billows of the ocean. They submitted to no unjust laws, they bowed their necks to no earthly monarch."

A very interesting bit of information about Levin Watkins and his family is that furnished me a number of years ago by a prominent North Carolina minister, Rev. J. D. Hufham, aged then 82 years:

"Watkins: Levin lived and died in Duplin County. The dwelling which he built for himself, in that day a fine one, was still standing a few years ago. The plantation lies along Whiteoak branch, a tributary of Goshen Swamp. The house stands on a hill which, sloping to the north and the south, affords a beautiful view each way. After the death of Mr. Watkins the property passed into the hands of the late Stephan Graham of Kenansville, and I think it is now held by the Kenans who are his heirs.

Mr. Watkins was a Senator in the Legislature of North Carolina, 1794 and 1795; also 1799 to 1803. He was a member and also a deacon of the Baptist Church on Bear Marsh, which was organized in 1763, and was a man of large influence throughout the country.

John Watkins, son of Levin, was a member of what was then called the House of Commons in the Legislature of North Carolina, 1820 and 1821. The records in the courthouse at Kenansville will show what county offices he held. Sallie Watkins, daughter of Levin, married Needham Whitfield, being his third wife—there were four—and had among other children, Dr. Bryan Watkins Whitfield of Demopolis, Alabama. There was another Watkins who moved from Duplin into Sampson County and died during my boyhood. The people called him





"Siah"—I think his name was Josiah—and he left one child, Jesse, who may be alive now. The widow of 'Siah Watkins married a man named Carroll and they moved to Dyer County, Tennessee.

Of the ancestors of Levin Watkins I cannot give you any information. My opinion—and it is only an opinion—is, that the Watkins family of Duplin County in a branch of the great Virginia family of that name; that they came over into Bertie as did the Whitfields, the Bryans and many others, and moved over into Duplin. I think there is a grand-daughter of Levin Watkins, an old lady, now living in Mount Olive."

(I regret to state that the grand-daughter of Levin Watkins referred to died before I was able to get any information from her.) We know that Levin Watkins had two brothers, one Mitchell Watkins, who emigrated to Georgia, and Peter Watkins, who moved to Kentucky, about the year 1801. I know nothing of their descendants.

Levin Watkins was married twice, first to Edith Hilliard, a daughter of a prominent planter of Edgecombe or Northampton County, North Carolina, and second to Sarah Fonville, originally Sarah Becton, daughter of John Becton, of Craven County, whose will was proven in 1753 (See Grimes Abstract of N. C. Wills). John Becton appears to have been a man of great wealth, as indicated by the terms of his will.

This record could be extended beyond the limits I have proposed with interesting observations and information gathered about the above mentioned families and allied families of Bryan, Whitfield, Hatches, and others.

I have been unable to include in the record of the names of the descendants of Levin Watkins any except those whose families emigrated to Alabama and Mississippi in the early part of the last century. So far as I have been able to learn them these are enumerated in



subsequent pages. Levin Watkins by his first wife had eight sons, possibly nine, and one daughter, and by his second wife two sons and one daughter. The following interesting record of the descendants of Levin Watkins comes from one of his grandsons, Dr. R. E. Watkins, who lived and died in Eutaw, Alabama:

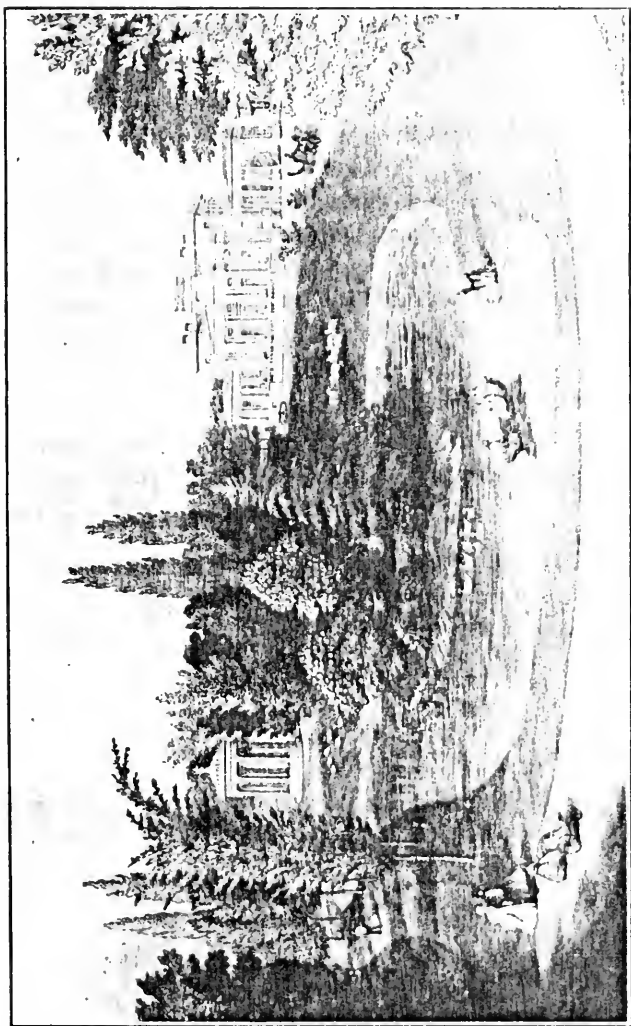
"The first of the Watkins family in the United States were three brothers who came over from Wales, Levin, Mitchell and Peter Watkins, brothers. Descended from the above stock: Mitchell moved to Georgia and Peter to Kentucky in about the year 1801 or 1802. These lived originally in Duplin County, N. C. Levin Watkins, our grandfather, married Edith Hilliard and had by her Thomas, Jesse, John, Sally, William, Mitchell, Levin, Peter and Bryan. Levin Watkins' wife, Edith, died and he married Sarah Fonville, originally Sarah Becton. By her he had Brice, Becton and Sarah. James Watkins married a Miss Fanny Hooks and had five children, Needham, Thomas, James Becton, and ..... Needham lived in Scott County, Mississippi, when last heard from. James went to Arkansas. Jesse never married, but died in Greene County, Alabama. John married Polly Gilmore in North Carolina and had about fourteen children, Stephen, Sophy, William, John, Bryan, Cicero, Levin, Peter, Elizabeth, Lucy, James, Edith, Sallie. He lived in Mississippi and he and his wife are both dead. Their children live near where he lived, what few of them are living.

Sallie married Needham Whitfield and had two children, Edith and Betsy, both dead.

William married Miss Peterson; died in Bibb County.

Mitchell married Miss Penny Coleman; had Levin, Kindred, Sally and Rebecca. Levin lives in Kemper County, Miss. Kindred died in Texas and Sally married Mr. Jos. Smith. Rebecca married Sam Robinson, have seven children and live in Anderson County, Texas.





Gaineswood, near Demopolis. Residence of Gen N. B. Whitfield.



Levin married a Miss Sallie Coleman, had two children, Narcissa and Eliza. Married Sam Taylor, who died, and she lives near Warsaw, in Sumter County, Alabama. Eliza married John Newton Hutton and lives in Greene County, Alabama.

Peter married a Miss Catherine McDuffie and had three children, Caroline, ..... and ....., and died in Mississippi near Brandon.

Bryan married Miss Susan Anderson and had three children, Thomas, Elizabeth and Susan Jane. His wife, Susan, died, then he married Lucy Johnson, daughter of Edward Brown, and by her had Robert Emmett, Edward, Martha, Sarah, Agnes, John B. and Isaiah Becton.

Becton married in North Carolina and had one child, Elizabeth Becton. He died in North Carolina. Brice and Sarah, both dead.

This statement was given to me I think, in the year 1862, by my father, Bryan Watkins.

R. E. WATKINS."





## CHAPTER III.

Thomas Watkins is mentioned as one of the sons of Levin Watkins. He was doubtless the oldest. I know nothing of him or his descendants, if he had any. Jesse Watkins, another son, never married. He died in Green County, Alabama. James Watkins, another son, married Miss Fannie Hooks, of Duplin County. I know nothing of him except what is said of him in the record of Dr. R. E. Watkins given in the preceding chapter.

Charles Hooks, of Duplin County, a relative of James Watkins' wife (Fannie Hooks), was elected to Congress in 1817 and again in 1821 and 1823. He also moved to South Alabama where doubtless some of his descendants are now living. One of the most graphic descriptions I have seen of the "Battle of Moore's Creek," was that recorded in Wheeler's North Carolina Sketches and given (in her own words) by Mary Hooks, a sister of Hon. Charles Hooks. She was the wife of Ezekiel Slocomb, a member of the North Carolina Commons in 1812 to 1818.

John Watkins, who was born Nov. 20, 1780, was the third son of Levin Watkins. He was my father's grandfather, which is the only explanation necessary to be made of the fact that I have learned more of him and his descendants than of the other descendants of Levin Watkins. Though he died many years before I was born, I have heard much of his life and character from other members of the family who remembered him.

John Watkins was married at an early age in Duplin County, N. C., to Miss Polly Gilmore, daughter of John Gilmore. He raised a large family of children, most of whom were born in Duplin County, North Carolina. He was a plain, unassuming man of the highest character, particularly distinguished for his industry and benevolence. It is stated that "he was held in the very highest



esteem by the people of his county in North Carolina," and that it was with much regret that they consented to give him up when, led by that spirit of adventure which prompted so many at the time, he decided to seek his fortune in the "wilds of Alabama and Mississippi." As previously noticed, it is a matter of record that he was a member of what was then known as the House of Commons in the North Carolina Legislature in 1820 and 1821. It is also certain that he held other county offices, the identity of which may be ascertained by consulting the county records at Kenansville.

John Watkins and his family (many of whom had then grown to maturity) removed about the year 1830 to Green County, Alabama, where he lived for a number of years, until about 1837, when as one of the early settlers in a new country, he located at Palo Alto, a few miles west of what is now the city of West Point, Miss. He bought a farm there, where he died in 1866. His wife died in 1861. It is stated that he was a well-to-do planter and was greatly respected and beloved, especially by his own kinsmen. He possessed in a remarkable degree two of the predominant traits of his family—honesty and courage. It was doubtless because of these traits and because of his fine sense of right and justice that he was often called upon to act as "arbiter of disputes" in controversies arising between his neighbors.

Among some of his old papers now in existence I have noted several manuscripts showing certain settlements he made with the probate court as guardian for his minor brothers and sisters in North Carolina, under date July 6, 1815; also several old letters which he received from his nephew, Gen. Nathan B. Whitfield, of Demopolis, Ala. These letters written, the first in 1853, are characteristic of the times in which they are written, and especially indicative of the very affectionate regard in which John Watkins was held by his kinsmen.



It was never my pleasure to know any of his sons and daughters whose names are given in this record. They all died before I reached maturity. My own grandfather, Bryan Watkins, died when my father was a child, in 1854. As has been stated, John Watkins contributed many sons and grandsons to the cause of the Confederacy. The late Dr. W. B. Gunn of West Point, Miss., who was a grandson, writes interestingly of their valor on many fields of battle. I have heard my father say that his brother, John Hatch Watkins, was one of the bravest men he ever knew. It is stated that Stephen G. Watkins (oldest son of John Watkins) contributed to the cause five brave Confederate soldiers, of whom one, Stephen, was killed in the war; two, Thaddeus H. and Dr. Wm. Bryan Watkins, were fearfully wounded, and one, John L. Watkins, became captain of his company. Stephen G. Watkins, the oldest son, married Polly Kornegay of Duplin County, N. C., and had four sons and daughters. Their sons, Capt. John L. Watkins and Thaddeus H. Watkins, died some years ago in Clay County, Miss., each having passed their seventieth birthday. They were greatly respected and beloved by all who knew them. I am much indebted to the untiring efforts of Mrs. John R. Egger of West Point, Miss., (daughter of Thaddeus H. Watkins), for valuable assistance in securing the many names for this record.

Of the sons and daughters of John Watkins, Edith, the oldest, married Robert McGowen of York, Ala. They had eight sons and daughters whose names, together with their descendants, are enumerated in a subsequent chapter. I know but few of this family. Many prominent descendants are now living in the states of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas and Tennessee. Mr. T. P. McGowen and his brother, W. E. McGowen, are prosperous merchants of Cuba, Alabama. I am much indebted to Mr. T. P. McGowen and Mrs. M. B. High-



tower of Hattiesburg, Miss., for the names of the descendants of Edith Watkins and Robert McGowen.

William A. Watkins, another son, died in 1858 near West Point, Miss. He was married to Elizabeth Wooten and had one son, who was killed in the war in 1863, and four daughters, whose descendants, representatives of many families, are widely scattered. Among the families represented are Kennedy, Ellis and others. One of the daughters of William A. Watkins married Robert Ellis. They had eleven children. He is dead, but his widow, Bettie Watkins Ellis, is now living at Lake Charles, La. One of her sons, Dale Ellis, is a prominent business man and planter of Tallulah, La. The descendants are enumerated below :

Captain John R. Watkins was another son of John Watkins, who was a captain in the Confederate army, and did valiant service for his State throughout the four years of fratricidal strife. He died at the age of 78 in Clay County, Miss. Mr. John T. Watkins, a son, is now living in West Point. John R. Gates, a grandson, lives in Memphis, Tenn. There are many other descendants whose names are given in this record.

Sophriann, a daughter, married Glisson Swinson, in North Carolina. They lived in Mississippi. Two sons, John and William, died in the war. One son, James Swinson, married Lucinda Youngblood; another son, Alphions, married Callie Calloway. The entire family moved to Texas in 1869.

Polly Watkins, a daughter, married Lewis Stephens. They raised a large family and have many descendants. One son, Hubert Stephens, a member of a company (Chickasaw Guards) under Capt. W. F. Tucker, 11th Mississippi, was in many battles in the Civil War. He was killed in 1864 at Petersburg, Va. Another son, Cicero Stephens, was wounded five times in the war in as many battles. I know few of the representatives of





this family. Frank B. Stephens, at this time (1917) is a member of the Mississippi Legislature from Clay County. John G. Thompson and his brother, William L. Thompson, prominent business men of West Point, Miss., are grandsons.

Bryan Watkins (my grandfather) married Susan Whitfield, daughter of Hatch Whitfield, and lived and died (at the age of 30) near Aberdeen, Miss. They had three sons and one daughter. I have heard it said that Bryan Watkins (like many others of the family) was a man of gentle bearing and commanding appearance and that he enjoyed great personal popularity. I have often heard my father lament the untimely death of his father. Though he could not remember him, he was taught to revere his memory. The daughter (Aunt Amelia) became the wife of Mason Cummings, a gallant Confederate soldier and an attorney of Aberdeen. The children of this union are splendid men and women. All but one live in Texas. Hon. Bryan Yancy Cummings is an attorney at Hillsboro, Texas. Dr. John Hatch Cummings is a prominent business man of Hearne, Texas. The oldest daughter, Lelia, married a Mr. Hardy in Texas. Emma married Sam Montgomery. They live in New Orleans. The name of Sam Montgomery is well known throughout Louisiana. Besides being a well-known practicing attorney he has held many offices of trust and honor in the city of New Orleans. The youngest daughter, Sue, married Geo. A. Duren, state engineer for the State of Texas.

Uncle John Hatch Watkins' children live in Louisiana and New Mexico. My own brothers live here in Aberdeen. One sister, Mrs. John Gibson, lives in Memphis, Tenn. The other sister, Mrs. Wiley P. Harris, lives in Jackson, Miss.

To the memory of my own dear father I would dedicate this humble effort to record some of the memorials





William B. Watkins, Jr.  
Aberdeen, Mississippi.



William W. and Amelia Watkins  
Ages 10 and 15 years.



of the virtues of our family, among whom his virtues were not the least. To his great spirit, manifesting itself to me in a thousand ways as only the wise and affectionate father could, I owe most that I am and hope to be in this world.

His life-long friend, Major S. A. Jonas, editor of the Aberdeen Examiner, paid the following tribute to his memory:

"The death of Dr. W. W. Watkins, president of the Bank of Aberdeen, at an early hour Tuesday morning, after a long illness, cast a gloom over our city. He was a remarkable man in many respects, big of brain and indomitable in spirit; self-reliant and ardent in his attachments; independent in thought and action; progressive and prophetic in all of his undertakings, he would have been a man of mark in any community.

In early life he was fatherless; to a large extent raised by a step-father who little understood or appreciated the yearnings and possibilities of the 'bare-foot boy.' As little more than a child he ran away from home to join the Confederate army, and served with honor to the end.

The surrender found him without education or resources, but with the indomitable will that characterized him, by hard study while at his bread-getting and the reading of the very best literature attainable—a practice never abandoned—he became one of the best-informed men in a community noted for its erudition, and achieved the profession of physician, which he practiced for years as the foundation of a fortune that became colossal.

Early appreciating the advantages of land investment and agriculture he put all his earnings and savings into real estate, and at his death was an extensive prairie planter with over five thousand acres of the choicest land, besides many smaller tracts in the county, three plantations in the Delta, valuable holdings in Memphis



and Birmingham and in his home town. He also owned a majority of the stock in the Bank of Aberdeen.

To scores of people, white and colored, he was a benefactor, and we know of numerous instances of his aid and patience where other resources would have failed.

He was considerable of a traveler, having visited all sections of this country and toured Europe and the East.

He will be greatly missed by all of us. We were personally favored by his confidence and friendship, and will long miss the many pleasant conversations at buggy side and desk when he detailed results of financial investments or agricultural experiments.

Our deepest sympathy goes to the devoted wife and sons and daughters who mourn a loving and indulgent husband and father."

Of the many sons and daughters of John Watkins, not the least splendid were the daughters. Lucy Eliza married John White of Clay County. It is said that she was the favorite of the family. I have thought that this must have been true, for every member that I have talked with about the family has had some "glowing accounts" to give of the splendid virtues of this good woman. She died without issue in 1880.

Another daughter, Elizabeth Amelia, was married three times, first to a Mr. Lowe of Alabama, second to Rev. William Gunn, and third to Geo. W. Grimes. She had only one child, the late Dr. W. B. Gunn, to whose kindly interest I am much indebted for inspiration and encouragement in this effort. Ivy Gunn, Robert Gunn, J. B. Gunn, of West Point, are the only living representatives of this family.

James Becton Watkins, the youngest son of John Watkins, was married in 1859 to Nancy Gosa. They had one son, John Becton, and two daughters, Mary B. and Sallie. Mary became the wife of Dr. William V. Saul of Montpelier, Miss. This splendid woman died a few years ago





at her home at Montpelier. The following tribute to her memory was taken from a newspaper published in West Point:

"Miss Mary Watkins was born at Griffith, Clay County, Miss, Oct. 17, 1859. Here she grew up to womanhood among her relatives and friends, a universal favorite.

She was married to Dr. W. V. Saul, of Montpelier, May 25, 1884. So suited did she and Dr. Saul seem, it is scarcely possible to imagine a happier wedded life than theirs, while she shared all the anxieties and all the joys of their union.

She was a most devoted mother, leaving four loving and broken-hearted children to mourn her going. Dr. Willie Saul was only a step-son but he knew no difference in treatment or love.

No neighbor was better loved, or kinder to those in distress. She accepted Christ as her Savior some twenty years ago. She enjoyed her religion because she lived it. She verily 'walked with God.' As one who shared the hospitality of her home, I can never forget it. She was so universally cheerful and hopeful in folks and God that she made those who came in contact with her more devout.

She died on March 31.

'Asleep in Jesus, blessed sleep,  
From which none ever wake to weep,  
A calm and undisturbed repose  
Unbroken by the last of foes.'

Is surely her lot, so richly deserved.

C. E. MOORE.



## CHAPTER IV.

Sally Watkins, daughter of Levin Watkins and Edith Hilliard Watkins, was born in Duplin County, North Carolina, February 28, 1777. She married Needham Whitfield. Her only descendants are the descendants of her daughter, Betsy, who married her cousin, Gen. Nathan Bryan Whitfield, of Demopolis, Alabama. Their numerous descendants are widely scattered.

The name of Gen. Nathan B. Whitfield holds a very high place among the many prominent members of this talented and well known family whose lives and characters have become integral parts of the history of Alabama and Mississippi. He was a man of undoubted genius, of great energy and industry. It is said that he was the possessor of great wealth (how much inherited and how much acquired I have not been informed). I have had very interesting accounts from my father and other members of the family of the "gay and happy life of ante-bellum days" down in South Alabama. My father's maternal grandfather, Hatch Whitfield, moved from North Carolina to Demopolis before finally settling in Monroe County, Mississippi, in 1837.

Of the sons and daughters of Gen. Nathan B. Whitfield and his wife, Betsy, Mary Elizabeth married Wm. Whitfield of Columbus, Miss.; Dr. Bryan Watkins of Demopolis married Mary Alice Fortescue and raised a large family; Nathan Bryan married Medora Shackelford of Sumner County, Ala.; Edith James married Gen. C. W. Dustan of New York; Betsy Winifred married Col. F. E. Whitfield, a brilliant and successful attorney of Corinth, Miss. Their only son, Edwin Nott Whitfield, is a successful attorney in New York City.

This narration could be extended much beyond what I have intended in detailing incidents of interest in the life of Gen. Nathan Whitfield. It is said that he was



the possessor of a "decidedly musical talent" and that he found ample time to cultivate the aesthetic side of life.

The late W. W. Finley, President of the Southern Railroad, in a letter to the *Tupelo Journal* Sept. 17, 1913, in giving some early history of South Alabama, has the following to say about Demopolis:

"I have been much interested in looking up the followers of Napoleon who settled in Alabama early in the last century, and it has occurred to me that the readers of our Southern newspapers might be interested in a brief account of one of the most romantic attempts at colonization made in the Southeastern States.

"The location of this colony was in what is now the fertile and prosperous region in Southwest Alabama, of which the thriving city of Demopolis is the center.

"For pioneer romance, hardship and misfortune, which later gave place to a cultured and wealthy and antebellum civilization and present-day prosperity and development, that region enjoys a historic interest unique in American annals.

"In the early history of this great agricultural country—then dense forest and wild canebrake—are woven the names of men and women who had played conspicuous parts in the greatest drama of war and nations the world has ever seen. Men who had led armies in conflicts the result of which had changed the map of Europe, and women who had adorned the Imperial Courts of France, took up the life of pioneers in the endeavor to found in the then primeval forest, a colony to cultivate the vine and the olive. The story of their misfortunes and trials in the rude life of the frontier and the utter failure of the venture is one full of interest.

\* \* \* \* \*

"A single olive tree in Demopolis and a grapevine or two near Greensboro mark the places they left. De-



mopolis—city of the people—the name given the settlement by the exiles from Bourbon rule, and Marengo, the name given the county in which it lies in honor of one of Napoleon's great victories, together with a few French names, borne by the descendants of those who remained, serve to show today that the country was one peopled by sons and daughters of France. Though the French established no characteristic civilization in Marengo County, built no monuments, and left no houses to mark their impress upon the land, it is still upon the people in refinement, in gentleness and in princely hospitality.

"As the colony began to disintegrate American settlers moved in, many honorably buying the colonists' grants for fair consideration. Among them were cultured and talented young men who not only cleared the land and put vast areas under cultivation, but established a civilization of the highest class. The land on which the French had labored so vainly to grow the vine and olive responded bountifully to the Southern planter and by 1850 had become one vast area of plantations, penetrated by numerous broad roads, and inhabited by thousands of happy and industrious people, living on estates maintained in highest cultivation. In the midst of this civilization there arose many stately homes, among them being some of the handsomest mansions of the South. 'Gaineswood' is a Demopolis show place which has been visited by architects from all parts of the country and was declared by an eminent authority the 'purest type of Grecian architecture in America.' It was built by Gen. Nathan B. Whitfield on the site of the home of George Strother Gaines, who was the government agent dealing with the Choctaws at the time the French settled Demopolis. In 1863 'Gaineswood' was the headquarters of General Polk. 'Bluff Hall,' another handsome home, is second only to 'Gaineswood,' and many other homes







John Watkins  
Duplin County, North Carolina.



erected prior to the war between the states are still found in Demopolis and the surrounding country."

The descendants of Gen. Nathan Bryan Whitfield and his wife, Betsy, are given in the annexed catalogue, for which I am indebted to the kindly interest of Mr. Jesse G. Whitfield, a grandson, of Demopolis.

William Watkins is mentioned as another son of Levin Watkins. I know nothing of him or his descendants except what is stated by Dr. R. E. Watkins, viz., that he married a Miss Peterson and died in Bibb County, Ala.

Another son, Mitchell Watkins, married Penny Coleman. Their descendants are widely scattered. Many of them live in Kemper County, Miss. Mr. C. H. Watkins, of DeKalb, Miss., a grandson, has furnished the names of the descendants, which are included in the catalogue of names annexed. Those living in Kemper County are among the representative citizens of that county.

Levin Watkins, another son, was born in Duplin County, N. C., in 1791, and died in Warsaw, Sumpter County, Ala. He was married twice: first to Sallie Coleman (she was a sister to Mitchell's wife); second, to Mary Thompson. A long list of splendid men and women are descendants of Levin Watkins. Two of Levin Watkins' (the second) grand daughters are now living: Mrs. Sallie Hatter and Mrs. Robert Hibbler, of Gainesville, Sumpter County, Ala.

Of the sons and daughters of Levin Watkins (the second), Elizabeth Jane married John N. Hutton and had sons and daughters as follows: Mrs. Sallie Hatter, Augustus C. Hutton, John A. Hutton and Josephine Hutton. Another daughter of Levin Watkins (the second), Narcissa, married Samuel Taylor in Green County, Ala. Representing this family are Mrs. Robert Hibbler; Julian J. Gill of Starkville, Miss.; Samuel Taylor Barnes, Wm. W. Barnes, J. R. Barnes, and Mrs. C. W. Brumley of



Chattanooga, Tenn.; Dr. S. W. Taylor of Warsaw, Ala.; Earl Taylor of Marietta, Ala.; and many others.

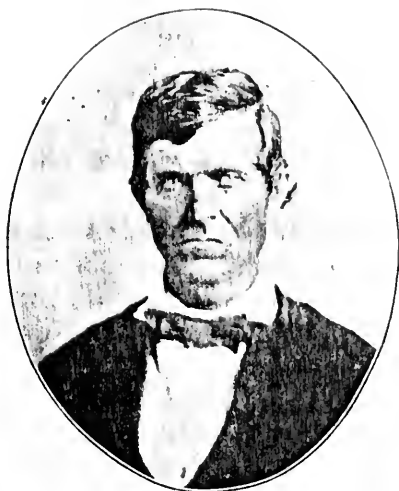
Of the lives of Levin and Bryan Watkins, sons of Levin Watkins, I know little. I have never met any of their descendants. I infer from the very affectionate regard in which their memories are held by their descendants that they were men of splendid character from every point of view. I have had very interesting accounts about them in correspondence with Mrs. Hibbler, who, in common with many others, exhibits much interest in the history of her kindred for whom "the attachment reaches to the remotest relative."

Bryan Watkins, another son of Levin Watkins, was born in Duplin County, N. C., and died in Green County Ala. He was married twice: first to Susan Anderson, and second to Lucy Johnson, originally Lucy Brown. I am much indebted to the kindly interest of Judge T. W. Coleman of Eutaw, Ala., a relative of Levin Watkins' wife and nephew of Bryan Watkins' wife, Susan Anderson, for information about this family as well as about the family of Levin Watkins (the second). Of the sons and daughters of Bryan Watkins, Robert Emmett was the oldest. He married a Miss Oliver and lived and died in Eutaw, Ala., leaving two daughters, Lucy Watkins and Anna Watkins. Lucy Watkins married Edwin Wilson of Eutaw, and Anna married John Pool. Of Robert Emmett Watkins it is said that he was a man of the highest character and held in the highest esteem by all, both young and old. He was captain in the Confederate army and did valiant service for his country throughout the war.

Another son of Bryan Watkins was William E. Watkins. The following account of his death was taken from a Green County, Ala., newspaper a few years ago:

"Capt. Wm. Edward Watkins of Huntsville, Texas, died in Houston, Texas, June 28, 1915, aged 84. He was





Stephen G. Watkins  
Clay County, Mississippi.



J. B. Watkins  
Clay County, Mississippi.





born in Green County, Ala., April 18, 1831. He is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Lucy Watkins Jardines, of Texas. His wife was Miss Irene Wynne, daughter of Col. Erasmus and Mrs. Sophronia Wynne."

Martha Ann, daughter of Bryan Watkins, married Jack Baker and had three daughters: Mrs. Leighton Winn, of Stewart's Station, Hale County, Ala.; Mrs. Stewart living near Mobile, and Mrs. Cooper of Green County.

John B. Watkins, another son of Bryan Watkins, married a Miss Brown, daughter of George Brown of Sumpter County. One son, George, lived in Louisiana.

Brice Watkins and Bector Watkins, sons of Levin Watkins, lived and died in North Carolina. I know nothing of their descendants.



## ADDENDA

### WHITFIELD-BRYAN FAMILIES

The following is an extract from "The North Carolina Historical and Genealogical Register," Vol. 1, No. 4, pp. 567, 568, 569 and 577:

"The WHITFIELDS came from Lancashire, England. This record begins with the first Whitfield who came to North Carolina. WILLIAM WHITFIELD came from England the early part of the eighteenth century and settled in Nansemond County, Va. He married ELIZABETH GOODMAN of Gates County, N. C., in 1713, then settled in Bertie County, but eventually moved to Rockford, Lenoir County, N. C. They had four sons and six daughters. WILLIAM, Matthew, Luke and Constantine; Mary, Margaret, Sarah, Patience, Elizabeth and Charity.

The second WILLIAM WHITFIELD (son of WILLIAM WHITFIELD and ELIZABETH GOODMAN), born May 20, 1715, died March 31, 1795. Married Nov. 6, 1741, RACHEL BRYAN (daughter of NEEDHAM BRYAN and his first wife ANNE ROMBEAU). RACHEL BYRAN was born June 10, 1723, died November, 1780.

Issue, four sons and five daughters, viz.:

- (1) WILLIAM WHITFIELD III, born June 1, 1743, died March, 1817.
- (2) Elizabeth Whitfield, born March 16, 1746.
- (3) Sarah Whitfield, born April 16, 1749; died Jan. 22, 1780.
- (4) Charity Whitfield, born April 6, 1756; died August 21, 1818.
- (5) Needham Whitfield, born Feb. 20, 1758; died April 6, 1812.
- (6) Bryan Whitfield, born Feb. 9, 1754.



(7) Rachel Whitfield, born Sept. 16, 1760.

(8) Mary Whitfield, born May 18, 1763.

(9) Lewis Whitfield, born 1766.

WILLIAM WHITFIELD, III. (son of WILLIAM WHITFIELD and wife RACHEL BRYAN) married first Hester Williams, daughter of Joseph Williams of Duplin County, and had issue:

- (1) William Whitfield IV, married Mary Beck
- (2) Mary married Buckner Killebrew.
- (3) Bryan married first Miss Miller, 2nd Miss Grady.
- (4) Joseph married Miss Grady.
- (5) Needham married Miss Nevill.
- (6) Lewis married Miss Winberly.
- (7) Betsy married John Keatly.
- (8) Rachel married 1st John Hurst, 2nd Joseph Miller.
- (9) Sallie married 1st Thomas Collier (brother of Probst Collier), 2nd Mr. St. George.
- (10, 11, 12, 13) Died in infancy.

WILLIAM WHITFIELD, III. married 2nd Mrs. Sallie Hurst (daughter of Sallie Oliver) and had issue:

- (14, 15, 16) Died in infancy.



WILLIAM WHITFIELD, III. married 3rd HEPSIBAH HATCH. Issue:

- (17) HATCH WHITFIELD, married his cousin, HEP-SIBAH (daughter of NEEDHAM and BETSY HATCH WHITFIELD.

NEEDHAM WHITFIELD, I., died April 6, 1812, and was buried at White Hall, Wayne County, N. C."

"WILLIAM BRYAN came to America, settled in Isle of Wight County, Va.; afterwards he and two sons, NEEDHAM and John Bryan, came to North Carolina about 1722. His son WILLIAM re-married in Virginia and is thought to be the ancestor of William Jennings Bryan.

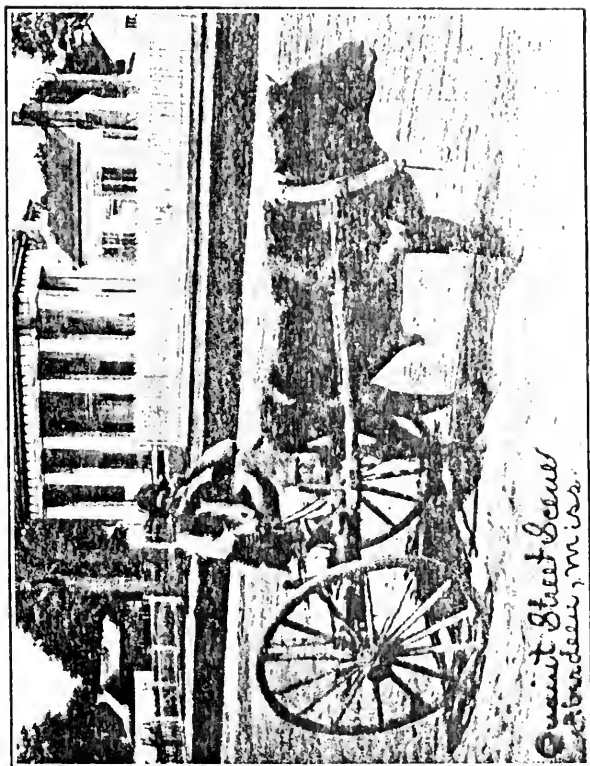
WILLIAM BRYAN I. was said to have come originally from Ireland. He is buried in Pasquotank County, N. C. He married in England, about 1689, ALICE NEEDHAM, said to be the daughter of LORD NEEDHAM. They had one son, NEEDHAM BRYAN, born Feb. 23, 1690, who came from Virginia and settled at Snowfield, Bertie County, N. C. He married ANNIE ROMBEAU, Nov. 11, 1711. She died Jan. 16, 1730. August 24, 1732, he married his second wife, Susanna Harrell. She died in 1752. Then he married third Sarah Woodward. They are all buried at Snowfields.

NEEDHAM BRYAN and ANNIE ROMBEAU, his first wife, had one daughter and two sons, viz.:

- (1) RACHEL BRYAN, married WILLIAM WHITFIELD Nov. 6, 1741.
- (2) William Bryan married Elizabeth Smith (daughter of John Smith).
- (3) Needham Bryan married Nancy Smith (daughter of John Smith)."







Stephen Whitfield, an old slave owned by Hatch Whitfield.  
Picture taken 1890.



THE FOLLOWING FEW GLEANINGS FROM  
THE RECORDS MAY PROVE  
INTERESTING TO MEMBERS OF  
THE FAMILY.



HEADS OF HOUSEHOLDS IN NORTH CAROLINA,  
FIRST CENSUS, 1790.

Names.	County.	No.		
		Males.	Females.	Slaves.
Christo. Watkins, Anson.....		4	2	1
Christopher Watkins, Anson.....		4	2	1
Isaac Watkins, Sampson.....		2	1	0
James Watkins, Nash.....		2	1	0
Else Watkins, Burke.....		2	1	0
David Watkins, Rutherford.....		3	3	0
Peter Watkins, Rutherford.....		4	3	0
James Watkins, Johnston.....		3	2	0
Kinchen Watkins, Johnston.....		1	3	0
Henry Watkins, Stokes.....		5	8	0
James Watkins, Stokes.....		3	6	1
Mathew Watkins, Bladen.....		1	7	1
Thomas Watkins, Richmond.....		4	5	1
Keziah Watkins, Richmond.....		3	4	3
John Watkins, Richmond.....		5	6	1
David Watkins, Richmond.....		1	0	0
Lewis Watkins, Sampson.....		1	0	0
David Watkins, Sampson.....		3	0	0
John Watkins, Edgecombe.....		2	3	2
Henry Watkins, Edgecombe.....		1	0	0
Daniel Watkins, Edgecombe.....		3	2	0
Josiah Watkins, Edgecombe.....		3	2	0
John Watkins, Franklin.....		3	1	11
John Watkins, Franklin.....		3	1	11
William Watkins, Richmond.....		5	2	1
David Watkins, Rowan.....		2	3	0
Ambrose Watkins, Rowan.....		3	2	0
Thomas Watkins, Pitt.....		3	3	0
Janet Watkins, Pitt.....		1	4	1
Ann Watkins, Pitt.....		2	4	9
David Watkins, Rowan.....		6	3	2
Deborah Watkins, Edentown Town, Chowan... 1		1	1	0
George Watkins, Surry.....		3	6	0
Henry Watkins, Nash.....		3	5	0
Richard Watkins, Warren.....		6	3	0
Henry Watkins, Warren.....		1	0	0
John Watkins, Warren.....		1	2	1
James Watkins, Nash.....		2	2	0
James Watkins, Mecklenburg.....		3	2	0
Jesse Watkins, Johnston.....		5	5	1
John Watkins, Northampton.....		3	3	7
William Watkins, Wayne.....		5	3	3
John Watkins, Wayne.....		4	5	1
John Watkins, Rowan.....		2	2	0
Joseph Watkins, Wake.....		1	3	2
George Watkins, Surry.....		3	6	0
Joseph Watkins, Surry.....		3	5	0
Levan Watkins, Duplin.....		8	2	9
Peter Watkins, Duplin.....		2	2	1



Phillips Watkins, Caswell.....	0	0	0
Robert Watkins, Wake.....	2	2	1
Michael Watkins, Edgecombe.....	4	3	0
Thomas Watkins, Stokes.....	1	3	0
Zewel Watkins, Stokes.....	2	4	0
William Watkins, Caswell.....	0	0	0

Following from "OLD CHURCHES, MINISTERS AND FAMILIES OF VIRGINIA," by Bishop Meade, 1872. Vol. 1.

Among some of the prominent names in early times in Charles River Parish, York County, Va., were WATKINS, BALLARDS, and LEWELLINS. p. 240. pp. 450-1.

Rev. William Leigh was ordained by the Bishop of London in 1772. \* \* \* He married the daughter of BENJAMIN WATKINS, Clerk of Chesterfield County.

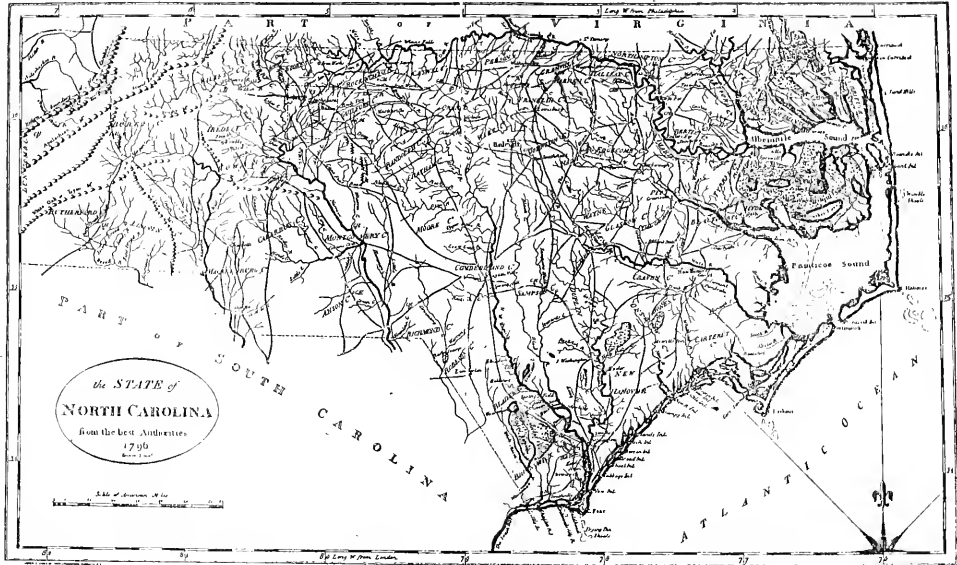
The name of WATKINS is often to be found on our vestry books as members of the vestries in different parishes. Many of the name for a century past has been found in different connections. In the year 1745 a Mr. THOMAS WATKINS, of Henrico, son of EDWARD WATKINS, is presented for reflecting upon the Established Church, and saying, "Your churches and chapels are no better than synagogues of satan." He was, however, dismissed without fine or injury. This was probably the commencement of defection in that family from the Established Church. I have before me a pamphlet by Mr. FRANCIS WATKINS, of Prince Edward, in which is contained a full genealogy of all the branches of this wide-spread and respectable family, so far as it can be ascertained, to the present time. It is supposed to be of Welch descent. The name of James Watkins appears among the early emigrants to Virginia in 1607 or 1608. He was a companion of Smith in his perilous voyages of discovery in Virginia, and may, it is supposed, have been the first ancestor of the family;











Printed by John Bird in New York



but nothing was certainly known except of the descendants of THOMAS WATKINS, of Swift Creek, Cumberland County—now Powhatan—whose will bears date 1760. He had eight children. His eldest son, THOMAS, of Chickahominy, is spoken of thus by the late BENJAMIN WATKINS LEIGH, his great-nephew: "Of Thomas Watkins, of Chickahominy, I have heard very full accounts from my mother (wife of the Rev. William Leigh, of Chesterfield), and from my uncle, Thomas, both of whom knew him well. He was a man of the highest respectability in every point of view, and in particular a man of indefatigable industry." He reared a large family of children, four sons and seven daughters, from whom have proceeded numerous families of numerous names, in and out of Virginia. Of his sons, Joel Watkins, of Charlotte, Mr. John Randolph of Roanoke, in a manuscript left behind him, says: "On Sunday, the second of January, departed this life Colonel Joel Watkins, beloved, honoured, and lamented by all who knew him. Without shining abilities or the advantages of an education, by plain, straightforward industry, under the guidance of *old-fashioned* honesty and practical good sense, he accumulated an ample fortune, in which it is firmly believed there was *not one dirty shilling!*" Much is said of the worth and piety of the other children of Thomas Watkins, in the pamphlet referred to, and of the descendants of the same, which is worthy of perusal. In the appendix of the same there is a special notice of his brother, Benjamin Watkins, youngest son of the first Thomas, of Powhatan, who married Miss Cary of Warwick. He was the first clerk of Chesterfield County, which office he held until his death. He was a man of genius, a scholar and patriot, took an active part in the affairs of the Revolution, and was a member of the Convention of 1776. The Rev. Mr. Leigh, of Chesterfield, married his daughter, and was the father of the late



Benjamin Watkins Leigh, of Richmond, and the present Judge William Leigh, of Halifax; also of Mrs. Finnie of Powhatan, and Mrs. Harris, of Petersburg. One of the sons (Thomas) of Benjamin Watkins, the clerk of Chesterfield, married Rebecca Selden, daughter of Miles Selden, of Henrico parish. Their daughter Mary was the first wife of Benjamin Watkins Leigh of Halifax, and their daughter Hannah, Dr. John Barksdale of Halifax. Their eldest daughter (Hannah) of Benjamin Watkins married a Mr. William Finnie, of Amelia, from whom descended numerous families of Finnies, Royalls, Wore-shams, Sydnors, and others in Virginia, South Carolina and the West. It will be remembered that we have spoken of a Rev. Alexander Finnie, as a minister in Prince George in the year 1774, and probably before that. On inquiry we find that he was connected with this family, but how nearly cannot be ascertained. He may have been closely allied to the first named William Finnie, of Amelia.

JANE WATKINS is mentioned in the will of ANN LEIGH of Beaufort County, made August 9, 1732, as her daughter.—Grimes' Abstract, p. 213.

J. WATKINS, witness to the will of John Tarkington of "Scoppernun," made Nov. 14, 1715.—Grimes' Abstract, p. 370.

JOHN WATKINS, witness to the will of John Harrison of Albemarle County, N. C., made Feb. 18, 1693.—Grimes' Abstract, p. 151.

JOHN WATKENES, witness to the will of John Heare-son of Chowan Precinct, made Feb. 18, 1694.—Grimes' Abstract, p. 159.

MARY WATKINS, mentioned in the will of ANN LEIGH, made August 9, 1732, as her granddaughter.—Grimes' Abstract, p. 213.

HENRY WATKINS was a member of the General Assembly of Virginia, 1623-4.—Va. Col. Reg., p. 53.





**BENJAMIN WATKINS**, member of General Assembly of Virginia from Chesterfield, Feb. 10, 1772.—Va. Col. Reg., p. 190.

**BENJAMIN WATKINS**, member of General Assembly of Virginia from Chesterfield, March, 1773.—Va. Col. Reg., p. 193.

**BENJAMIN WATKINS**, member of General Assembly of Virginia from Chesterfield, June 1, 1775.—p. 198.

**BENJAMIN WATKINS**, member of Convention of Virginia from Chesterfield, May 6, 1776.—Col. Reg. Va., p. 208.

In Heitman's Register of the Officers of the Revolutionary War we find from Virginia the following:

**JOHN WATKINS, JR.** (Va.), Capt. 4th Va., March 21, 1776, to .....—p. 575.

**ROBERT WATKINS** (Va.), Ensign 5th Va., Feb. 5, 1776; Lieutenant, November, 1776; resigned March 12, 1778.—p. 575.

**THOMAS WATKINS** (Va.), Captain Va. Dragoons at Guilford in March, 1781.—p. 575.

On the pension list (1840) for services in Revolutionary War is found:

**JOSEPH D. WATKINS**, Goochland County, Va., age 85, living with Jos. D. W.

Wheeler's History, Vol. 2, page 140, gives the name of Levin Watkins as a member of the General Assembly from Duplin County in 1794, 1795, and in 1798, 1799, 1800, 1801, 1802 and 1803.

North Carolina Manual 1913, also gives on pp. 593 and 594 the name of Levin Watkins as a representative from Duplin County the same years.

**JOHN WATKINS** was in the Revolutionary War.—State Records of N. C., Vol. 16, p. 1188.

**JOHN WATKINS** was on the jury at a court held in Chowan County, November, 1716.—Col. Rec. N. C. Vol. 2, p. 266



JOHN WATKINS was a member of the company commanded by Capt Samuel Corbin at the Spanish Alarm at Wilmington, 1748.—Vol. 22, p. 281.

Meade's History, Vol. 1:

William Watkins and John Ballard were members of the vestry of Charlotte County, Va.—p. 487.

A Watkins was one of the Trustees of Hampden-Sydney College in early times.—Vol. 2, p. 27.

Watkins in the list of the Old and Leading Families in Eastern Virginia in Colonial times and immediately succeeding the Revolution.—Vol. 2, p. 429.

Watkins or Gwatkins is a Welsh name.

4. "Ap" or "ab" in Welsh means son, and is often prefixed to other names; and the affix "kins" denotes a collateral relation. \* \* \* Atkins (Arthur's kin), Judkins (Judas-kin), Watkins, etc.—Vol. 2, p. 430.

From "Early Virginia Immigrants, 1623-1666."

PHILIP WATKINS, 1656, by Wm. Millinge, Northampton County.

JNO. WATKINS, 1651, by Wm. Hampton, .....County

JOHN WATKINS, 1653, by Charles Grymes, Lancaster County.

ALICE WATKINS, 1654, by Walter Pritchard, .....County.

EDWARD WATKINS, 1654, by John Wyre, John Gilbert, Andrew Gilson and John Phillips, ..... County.

GEO. WATKINS, 1654, by Robert Hubard, Westmoreland County.

PHILLIP WATKINS, 1647, by Jonathan Gills, Northampton County.

THOMAS WATKINS, 1647, by John Sidney, Lower Norfolk County.

MARY WATKINS, 1654, by John Thomas, Nansemond County.

ELIZ. WATKINS, 1654, by Maj. Wm. Andrews, Northampton County.



- WM. WATKINS, 1643, by Richard Richards, Charles River County.
- ELIZ. WATKINS, 1640, by Edmund Scarborough, Accomac County.
- RICH. WATKINS, 1643, by John Foster, Northampton County.
- GEO. WATKINS, 1638, by John Fludd, James City County
- THOS. WATKINS, 1637, by Thomas Weston, Charles River County.
- ALICE WATKINS, 1638, by William Carter, James City County.
- NICH. WATKINS, 1639, by William Wigg,..... County.
- MORGAN WATKINS, 1637, by John Baker, Henrico County.
- ALICE WATKINS, 1635, by William Carter, Henrico County.
- THOMAS WATKINS, 1635, by Samuel Weaver, ..... County.
- PHILLIP WATTKINS, 1649, by Edmund Scarborough, Jr., Northampton County.
- LAVAN WATKINS, in the Convention at Fayetteville, 1789, representing Duplin County.—Vol. 22, pp. 37, 46, 49.
- LEAVEL WATKINS, in militia in Capt. John Sherrard's company at the Spanish Alarm in 1748. This company was composed of men from Wayne County, adjoining Duplin County.—Col. Rec. N. C., Vol. 22, p. 282.
- JOHN WATKINS was one of the Patrollers appointed by the Committee of Safety for the District of Wilmington, on June 20, 1775. He had to patrol from Perry's Creek to Beatty's Swamp.—Vol. 10, pp. 25, 63.



There was a John Watkins who lived in Henrico County, Va., whose will was probated May 9, 1744. He had sons: Josiah, David, John, and Nathaniel.

"Evan Watkins on the Potomac River, 1743. A ferry across from his land to Canegochego Creek, Md.—(Henning.)"

"THIS INDENTURE Made this Eleventh day of December in the year of our Lord God one thousand seven hundred and seventy three Between LEAVEN WATKINS and EDIE his wife of Edgecombe County and province of North Carolina & Rhody Allen of the County and Province aforesaid.

WITNESSETH that the said LEAVEN & EDIE his wife for and in consideration of the sum of Twenty pounds proc. money to him in hand paid before the Ensealing and delivery of these presents Hath given, granted, Bargained & sold & confirmed and by these presents doth absolutely give, grant, bargain, sell, alien, enfeoff and confirm unto the said Rhody Allen his heirs and assigns forever part of a Tract or parcel of land lying on the South side of Town Creek Beginning at a pine then East 120 poles to a pine then South 127 pole to a Pine then West 120 poles to a pine, North 127 pole to a pine to the first Station, containing 95 1-4 acres of land with all and singular the right Hereditaments appurtainences & appendents whatsoever to the said land or in any wise appertaining.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said Tract of Land & all & singular the premises unto the said Rhody Allen his Heirs and assigns forever and we the said Leaven Watkins & Edie his wife their Heirs and assigns &c will forever warrant and defend by these presents unto him the said Rhody Allen his Heirs & assigns forever the above Tract or parcel of land clear of all incumbrances whatsoever IN WITNESS whereof we the said Leaven





Watkins & Edie his wife have hereunto set our Hands  
& Seals the day and date as first above written.

LEVEN WATKINS (Seal)

Signed sealed and delivered

in presence of us

Peter Cartwright

Richd. Tomlinson.

Edgecombe County &c \* \* \* October 1774 The Execution  
of the within deed of sale was in open Court proved by  
the Oath of Peter Cartwright one of the subscribing  
witnesses thereto ordered to be Registered.

Test. Edward Hall C. C.

Recorded in the Records of the Register of Deed's Office  
in Edgecombe County, N. C. Book 2, page 164.

(Note.—This County was formed out of part of Craven  
County in 1733.)

L No. 1, p. 171, Johnston County, N. C.

JESSE WATKINS to Jesse Haynes for 50 acres,  
Oct. 16, 1780.

1 page 77, Johnston County, N. C.

KINCHEN WATKINS and WILLIS WATKINS wit-  
nesses to the will of Samuel Peacock made Sept.  
13th 1793.

Book 1, page 127, Johnston County, N. C.

Will of JAMES WATKINS made Oct. 29, 1801.

Daughters: BITHA BATEMAN, REBECCA GOD-  
WIN, PATIENCE CERBY.

Sons: WILLIE WATKINS, ALLEN WATKINS,  
AMOS WATKINS;

Daughters: CHARITY WATKINS, PAGA WAT-  
KINS.

Book 1, page 66, Johnston County, N. C.

SELAH WATKINS, mentioned in the will of Edith  
Folsom, made July 29, 1791, as her daughter.



Book 1, page 221, Johnston County, N. C.

DELILAH WATKINS, mentioned in will of Lewis Grice as his sister. This will is dated Feb. 6, 1809.

Book 14, page 316, Beaufort County, N. C.

MARY WATKINS of Beaufort Co., N. C., in consideration of One Dollar to me in hand paid & the natural love & affection which I bear unto Wiley Hinton Williams, Sally Ann Williams, Edward Graham Williams, Mary Amanda Williams & John Julius Williams (children of Dempsey Hinton Williams & Agnes Williams) all of the County & State aforesaid &c. conveys my negro Woman named Patience about thirty three years old, boy named David about three years old and girl Jenny about one year old. Dated Sept. 3, 1825.

Orphan Book D, page 31, Beaufort County, N. C.

Will of BECTON WATKINS, made 1841.

Mentions: JOHN SPENCER WEST, SUSAN WEST, ABNER PEARCE.

Orphan Book D, page 243, Beaufort County, N. C.

Will of MARY S. WATKINS, made 1855.

Mentions: DAVID W. DUDLEY, Trustee; JOHN JACOB DUDLEY, ANN ELIZA DUDLEY.

Old Book 3, page 410, Beaufort County, N. C.

Grant from Earl Granville to WILLIAM WATKINS of Beaufort County, N. C., planter. Sept. 18, 1744.

Old Book 3, page 202, Beaufort County Records.

To All People to whom these presents shall come Greeting

Know Ye that I WILLIAM WATKINS of Bath County in the province of North Carolina planter for & in consideration of the good will I bear to & for sundry Services done for me by my eldest Son JOHN WATKINS of the same place planter for the good uses me thereunto moving have given granted conveyed & confirmed by these presents freely & absolutely give grant convey & confirm unto the said JOHN WATKINS his



heirs & assigns forever for his & their separate use & benefit a parcel of land being on the South Side of Pamptica river in the County afsd bounded as follows Vizt: beginning at the mouth of a great branch making out of Checod at the uper end of my plantation known by the name of plumb branch thence running up the Creek to a sweet gum Lewis Devalls corner tree, thence running W 27 156 poles to a pine in Devall's line my corner, thence an East Course to the plumb branch thence runing down the branch to the first Station; suposing to be one half of 295 Acres of land I now live on.

To have and to hold the said land with all woods waters rivers profits & heritaments to the same belonging or appertaining (excepting one half Gold & Silver mines & the quit rents) unto him the said JOHN WATKINS his heirs & assigns to his & their use benefit & behoof forever, and I the said WILLIAM WATKINS for myself my heirs Exors & admrs. do covenant to & with the said JOHN WATKINS his heirs Exors that by force & virtue of these presents said JOHN WATKINS, his heirs Exors shall & may peacably have hold possess & enjoy the said land & appurtenances free and clearly acquitted & discharged from any right title interest claim & demand which ever was or may hereafter be due to me my heirs Exors & admrs for ever to warrant & defend.

In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal this 3rd day March 1755.

Sealed and delivered

in presence of

William Watkins (Seal)

John Floyd

Thomas Williams.

Beaufort County

At a Court held at Bath Town on the second Thursday in March 1755. This certifies that the within deed was exhibited into Court and acknowledged by the within William Watkins and ordered to be registered.

Test. Walley Chauncey, Clk. Co.



Old Book 2, page 151, Beaufort County, N. C.

To All People to Whom these presents shall come  
Greeting.

Know Ye that EDWARD SALTER of Bath County in the province of North Carolina Merchant for & in consideration of the good will I bear to and for Sundry Services done & performed for me by WILLIAM WADKINS of the same county planter & for other good causes & considerations me thereunto moving, Have given granted aliened enfeoff'd conveyed & confirmed, and by these presents do fully freely & absolutely give grant alien enfeoff convey & confirm unto the aforesaid WILLIAM WADKINS his heirs & assigns forever, A parcel of land being lying & situate on the south side of Pamlico River in Bath County aforesaid containing two hundred ninety five acres surveyed September the 7th 1730 by Seth Pilkinton & bounded as followeth viz beginning at a sweet gum standing by the Chuscod alias Grey's Creek being Lewis Devals corner tree thence running South sixty three deg. East two hundred & fifty poles to a white oak standing in a reedy branch, thence various courses to a white oak standing by the river side at the mouth of the branch, thence running the creek various courses to the first station, the said two hundred & ninety five acres being part of Six hundred & twenty eight acres called Mount Pleasant in the Patent granted Lewis Duval dated April the 11th, 1715 and by Martha Duvall daughter & Executrix to said Lewis Duval conveyed to me the said Edward Salter.

To have and to hold the said Land with all woods underwoods waters rivers & all the profits comodities & hereditaments appertaining (except the one half of all Gold & Silver mines & the lawful quit rents) unto him the said William Wadkins his heirs & assigns to his & their only sole & proper use benefit & behoof forever and I the said Edward Salter for myself, my heirs Exrs.





& admrs. do covenant & promise to and with the said William Wadkins his heirs & assigns that by the force & virtue of these presents the said William Wadkins his heirs & assigns shall & may lawfully peaceably & quietly have hold use occupy possess & enjoy the said Land & its appurtenances free & clear & freely & clearly acquired and discharged from any right title interest claim or demand, whatever was or may hereafter be due to me my heirs Executors or administrators for ever to warrant & defend.

In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & Seal the tenth day of February in the fourth year of his Majesties reign Annque Domini 1730/1.

Edward Salter.

Signed Sealed  
delivered  
in the presence of us  
Roger Kenyon  
Edwd Broughton.

Proved by Oath by Roger Kenyon May the 20th 1733.  
The within deed was registered.

Test. Benj. Peyton, pub. register.

From Grimes' Abstract of Wills, 1690-1760.

WATKINS, THOMAS. Perquimans County.

January 3, 1754. January Court, 1754. Legatees: JOHN and RICHARD WHEDBEE, JOHN MORRIS and SAMUEL NEWBY. Executor: JOHN WHEDBEE. Witnesses: WILLIAM FOSTER, POTSEFUL PIERCE, MARY WHEDBEE. Clerk of the Court: EDMUND HATCH.

Page 394.

WATKINS, WILLIAM . Pitt County.

November 9, 1771. October 14, 1773. Sons: JOHN and WILLIAM. Sons-in-law: FRANCIS BUCK, JAMES CASON, WILLIAM ORMOND, JAMES JONES. Daughters: SARAH BUCK, ELIZABETH, ANN and RACHEL. Wife and Executrix: CHRISTIAN. Wit-



nesses: CATHERINE CROFTON, JOHN SALTER,  
 RANDEL McDANIEL. Proven before JO. MARTIN.

Page 394.

Until 1761 Edgecombe and Beaufort Counties were adjoining counties. In 1761 Pitt County was cut off from Beaufort County.

(Wayne County is south of Duplin County and adjoining.)

C-309.

Edgecombe County, N. C. February 6, 1765.

John Coates of Edgecombe County, N. C., to Henry Watkins of Edgecombe County, N. C. One certain Tract Parcel of Land lying & being in the County of Edgecombe, it being a Deed granted by Thomas Vaughn to the said John Coates & bounded as followeth, Beginning at the Mouth of the Spring branch on the South side of Peach Tree Creek then up various courses of the said Branch to a Popler then by a line of new marked trees to a black oak a corner then East to a black oak a corner tree then West to the Line branch then down the various courses of the said Branch to the Creek to a white oak to the Creek to a white oak a corner tree then up the various courses of the said Creek to the same being one hundred & forty acres more or less.

C-456.

Edgecombe County. April 13, 1767.

John Thomas of Edgecombe County, to John Watkins of the said County. A tract of land containing one hundred acres on this side of Stoney Creek, beginning at a red oak James Olivers line then East 100 poles to a hickory thence S. 160 poles to a pine thence 100 poles to Olivers line then along said line to the beginning, it being part of a tract of land granted to said Oliver the 16th day of March 1761.

Witnesses: Jos. Thomas, Henry Watkins and Wm. Horn.

C-52.



Edgecombe County, N. C.

July 15, 1763.

James Tucker of Edgecombe County, N. C. to Henry Watkins of said County, Planter. All that Tract or Parcel of Land Situated lying & being in the Parish of Saint Mary in the County of Edgecombe in the said Province, Beginning at a Pine in the first beginning line of the above Granted to James Tucker then West to a Pine a Corner Tree thence South 260 poles to a White Oak a Corner Tree thence East to a Pine thence by a line of marked Trees to th first station containing 150 acres more or less it being part of 700 acres of land conveyed unto the said Tucker from the right Honble. John Lord Carteret Earl of Granville bearing the Date the 17th day of September 1763.

Witnesses: John Coates, William Pitman, John Thomas.

5-303

Edgecombe County, N. C.

October 30, 1788.

Joel Horn of Edgecombe County, N. C. & Mandy Harris and Wilson Curl of Nash County to John Watkins son of John of Edgecombe County. A certain Tract or Parcel of Land lying and being in the County of Edgecombe & State aforesaid containing by estimation 540 acres be the same more or less, Beginning at pine William Bridgers Corner then North one hundred & twenty six Poles to a Pine in Philip Thomas's line then along said Line West one hundred & sixty four Poles to the Corner a white oak then along his other line North Forty Poles then West eighty five Poles to James Rick's Line then along said Line South Twenty Poles then West Fifty four Poles to his Corner a red oak on Horns Creek, then along his other Line West 160 Poles to a lightwood Tree in said line then to and along Redman Bunns Line South 272 poles to another of James Ricks' Lines then along said Line East 192 poles to William Bridges Corner a small red oak in said line then along his line North



146 poles to his other Corner a small red oak then along his other Line to the first station.

9-66.

Edgecombe County, N. C. February 19, 1796.

John Watkins of Edgecombe County, N. C. to Nathan Gilbert of the aforesaid County and State. Land in Edgecombe Co., N. C., on both sides of Horns Creek and also on both sides of the old Tarborough road 80 1-2 acres more or less.

Witnesses: Redmun Bunn and Saml. Skinner.

9-312.

Edgecombe County, N. C., September 30, 1799.

Mitchel Watkins of Edgecombe Co., N. C., to Barnes Summerling of the same County and State. Tract of land lying and being in the County and State aforesaid. containing 150 acres more or less.

Witnesses: Wm. Hyman and Robert Pitman.

D-241.

Edgecombe County, N. C. May 22, 1770.

Etheldred Exum and Rachel his wife to John Spell (error.)

D-241.

Edgecombe County, N. C. March 7, 1770.

Benjamin Richardson, Planter of Edgecombe County, N. C. to Leven Watkinson of the County and Province aforesaid. A tract of land containing 495 acres lying and joining on the south side of Toun Creek Beginning at a Red Oak in Ralph Vickers Line then East 220 poles to a pine then S. 360 poles to a Red Oak then West 220 poles across Vickers Branch then North by Vickers line to the first station.

Witnesses: Robt. Gulley, Stephen Cobbe, Thomas Colden.

D-359.





Edgecombe County, N. C. February 25, 1771.

Nicholas Skinner of Edgecombe County, N. C. to Stephen Watkins of the aforesaid County and State. Land in Edgecombe County on both sides of Kurley's Branch and bounded as follows, Beginning at a hickory on Folesomes Roade then along a line or Row of marked Trees to a pine on Thomases Road then up the said Road and Line or Row of marked Trees to the Deeded line along the Deed Line North the Corner then along the Deeded Line East to a pine one Folesomes Road then Down the said Road and Line or Row of Marked Trees to the first station.

Witness: Isaac Horn and John Exum.

6-136

Edgecombe County, N. C. Dec. 28, 1790.

John Watkins of Edgecombe County, N. C., to Gray Jordan. A tract of land in Edgecombe County on Horn's Creek, Containing 127 acres.

Witnesses: Jos. Exum and Joseph Atkinson.

8-239.

Edgecombe County, N. C. Nov. 9, 1793.

John Pitent to Daniel Watkins both of Edgecombe County N. C. A tract of land in Edgecombe County, N. C. on the North side of White Oak Swamp, Beginning at a pine James Williams' corner 103 acres.

Book 3, p. 85.

Edgecombe County. January 25, 1776.

Stephen Watkins of Edgecombe County to Renison Tisdale of said Co. One certain tract of land and Plantation lying on the south side of Beaver Dam Swamp in said Co., beginning at a willow oak on the swamp then south to a Pine then East by said Tisdales line to a black Oak then North to a Willow Oak on the Swamp then West up the Swamp to the first station containing 30 acres.

00-320.



Edgecombe County, N. C.                      April 13th, 1767.

John Thomas of Edgecombe County to John Watkins of said County. A parcel of land containing one hundred acres lying and being in the County aforesaid on the south side of Stoney Creek and bounded as follows, Beginning at a Red Oak in James Oliver line thence East 100 poles to a hickory thence South 160 poles to a pine thence West 100 poles to Olivers line thence along said line to the beginning, it being Part of a tract of Land granted to the said James Oliver by a Deed bearing date the 16th day of March, 1761.

Witnesses: Jos. Thomas, Henry Watkins and William Horn.

3-85.

Edgecombe County, N. C.

Stephen Watkins witnessed a Deed made by John Hammond of Edbecombe County to Renison Tisdale of said County, January 5th, 1776.

3-84.

Edgecombe County, N. C.                      Jan. 25, 1776.

John Hammond to Stephen Watkins of Edgecombe County. Land lying on the North side of the Beaver Dam Swamp in said County, Beginning at a Willow Oak then North to a Pine a corner then along the principal line West to a Pine a Corner in the Original line then South to the Swamp by a line of marked trees then down the various courses of Swamp to the first station, containing 70 acres more or less.

3-59.

Edgecombe County, N. C.                      July 18, 1775.

Nathan Whitehead gives land to his son Benjamin Whitehead.

3-58.

Edgecombe County, N. C.                      July 13th, 1775.

Thomas Williford of Edgecombe County to Stephen Watkins of said County. Tract of land containing by



estimation 175 acres more or less in the County aforesaid on Tyincoe Swamp and bounded as followeth, Beginning at a Pine then West to a Pine in the original line then to a black Jack tree at the Road then along the Road to the Bridge then up the Swamp to a Pine then to a black Jack in Hammonds line a Corner then along said line to the first station.

3-184.

Edgecombe County.

March 16th, 1772

Leaven Watkins and Edie his wife of Edgecombe County N. C. to Richard Tomlinson of the aforesaid County and Province. A certain tract or parcel of land lying on the South side of Town Creek, Beginning at a red Oak in Ralph Vicker's line then East One hundred poles to a Pine then South 127 poles to a post then East one hundred & Twenty Pole to a Pine then South 233 pole to a red oak then West 220 pole across Vickers Branch then North to the first station.



TAKEN FROM THE RECORDS OF PITT COUNTY,  
NORTH CAROLINIA

Book G p., 34. No. 26, to John Watkins, July 1, 1779. 320 acres on South side of Tar River Northeast side Chicod Swamp.

G-288. No. 383 to John Watkins, October 7, 1782, 120 acres, South side of Tar River, beginning on Edward Salter's line.

I-383. John Watkins of Pitt Co., to James Sims of Pitt Co., or 130 Acres, December 2, 1784. South side Tar River and East side Chicod Creek, Beginning at a pine, Nathan Nelson's corner. Grant No. 543. Witnesses, Wm. Arnel, Mary Watkins.

I-411. John Watkins of Pitt Co., to Thomas Arnoll, Sr., of Pitt Co., for 125 acres, Jan. 25, 1785. South Tar River and East of Chicod Swamp, Grant No. 383.

I-55. Edward Salter of Pitt Co., to John Watkins of Pitt Co., 100 Acres, Jan. 10, 1780, Beginning at Watkins upper corner, given to the said Salter by his father by will out of that Survey that John Watkins and Rachel Jones now lives on.

I-128. Nathan Nelson, planter, of Pitt Co., to John Watkins of Pitt Co., for 2 tracts of land. 1 tract 130 acres East side Chicod Swamp. Part of a patent to Thomas Salter, July 22, 1774. 2 tracts of 80 acres.

Witnesses: Catherine Crofton, Mary Watkins.

K-47. No. 726 to Wm. Watkins for 150 Acres, Nov. 6, 1784. South Tar River, North side Chicod Swamp. (Call for Salter's line)

K-70. No. 543 to John Watkins for 130 Acres, Nov. 6, 1784. South Tar River, East Chicod Swamp.

K-371. No. 78 to John Watkins for 125 Acres. March 3, 1781.

K-250. No. 1020 to Thomas Watkins, for 43 acres, Nov. 28, 1792.





K-251. No. 1029 to Thomas Watkins for 150 acres, Nov. 26, 1792. Both of above on South Tar River and East of Chicod Swamp.

O-115. Sarah Watkins of Pitt Co., to Thomas Watkins of Pitt Co., for 103 acres. East of Chicod Swamp. Division of property (400 acres) among the heirs of William Watkins.

O-273. Division of land of Wm. Watkins among the following heirs: Mary Watkins one of the heirs of said deceased and Thomas Watkins being the purchaser of the other two heirs and Heir to the fourth. We think it unnecessary to insist the course of the other share. April Term 1798.

Other heirs were Catherine Condray, Sarah Watkins and Thomas Watkins.

O-464. Thomas Watkins of Pitt Co., to Robert Boyd for 103 acres. May 5, 1800. East side of Chicod Swamp.

O-114. Dennis Condray and wife Catherine of Johnston Co., to Thomas Watkins of Pitt Co., East of Chicod Swamp, 412 acres.  $\frac{1}{4}$  land owned by heirs of Wm. Watkins.

BB-192. Estate of John Watkins.

Joseph Laughinghouse and wife Jackey Ann Penelupy being one of the lawful heirs of (John Watkins) 1820.

No. 2 Allotted James Watkins one of the lawful heirs.

CC-447. James Boyd of Pitt Co., to James Watkins of Pitt, Sept. 8, 1824.

DD-46. James Watkins of Pitt Co., to James Boyd of Pitt Co., July 7, 1824, East of Chicod (calls for Laughinghouse corner).

K-250. No. 1020 to Thomas Watkins, for 43 acres, Nov. 28, 1792.

K-251. No. 1029 to Thomas Watkins for 150 Acres, Nov. 26, 1792. Both of above on South Tar River and Creek Chicod.

O-115. Sarah Watkins of Pitt Co. to Thomas Watkins of Pitt Co. for 103 Acres East Chicod. Line of property (400 acres) among the



DESCENDANTS OF  
LEVIN WATKINS



DESCENDANTS OF LEVIN WATKINS OF EDGE-  
COMBE AND DUPLIN COUNTIES, NORTH  
CAROLINA.

I. THOMAS WATKINS

II. JESSE WATKINS

III. JOHN WATKINS (1780-1865), married Polly Gil-  
more (1789-1861) in Duplin County, N. C.

1. EDITH WATKINS (1807-1844), married Wil-  
liam Robert McGowen of York, Ala.

A. JOHN WATKINS MCGOWEN (1828-  
1864), married Martha Susan McDonald.

a. William Watkins McGowen living at  
Magnolia, Ark.

b. Alice McGowen married Hon. John  
Whit Bird of Arkansas.

1. Abram Guyton Bird

2. Martha Rena Bird

3. Alma Davis Bird

4. Belva Lockwood Bird

5. James Marion Bird

6. Roy Marion Bird

7. John Whit Bird, Jr.

8. Carl Wm. Bird

9. Grace Alice Bird

10. Mary Ruby Bird

11. Mabel Bird

(Belva Lockwood Bird married Wm.  
P. Longino; two children: Martha  
Lidia Longino and Henry Algin Lon-  
gino.

James Marion Bird married Maud Wil-  
son. No children.

John Whit Bird, Jr., married Mary  
Wilson.



Carl Whit Bird married Bessie Owens.  
 Grace Alice Bird married Earl Dodson.  
 Mary Ruby Bird married Joseph Scarborough, Jr.

- c. Mary Roberta McGowen married Wm. Hill Booth of Magnolia, Ark.
1. James Bayed Booth married Effie Graham Lewis; four children: Martha Virgie Booth, Myrtes Louisa Booth, Mary Hazel Booth, William Brodus Booth.
  2. William Charles Booth married Fannie Tybitha Baker; one child: Lurlein Ellen Booth.
  3. Mary Etta Booth married Henry Bradford Newton; five children: Charles Wm. Newton, John Bradford Newton, Thomas Gressom Newton, Martha Newton.
  4. Leila May Booth married John Milton Lockett; two children: Bernice Lockett and Inex Lockett.
  5. Minnie Mabel Booth married William Jasper Dees; two children: Gordon Dees and .....
  6. Myrtle Carl Booth married Peter Miller Crisp; two children: Aubrey Barrett Crisp and Lucile Crisp.
- d. Fannie Edith McGowen (unmarried).
- e. John James McGowen married Mary Virginia Dees.
1. John Bryant McGowen of Magnolia, Ark., married Lillie Mayfield; two children: John Ray McGowen and Nellie May McGowen.
  2. Birdie May McGowen.
  3. Carl Clyde McGowen.





- B. MARY ELIZABETH MCGOWEN (1827-1860) married Rev. Wade Hampton Crawford, a Baptist minister.
- a. Martha Bryan Craford married Thomas A. Hightower, Hattiesburg, Miss.
    1. Edmund Gains Hightower, a Baptist minister.
    2. Minnie Lee Hightower married Arthur Vernon Hayes; one child: Arthur Vernon Hayes, Jr.
    3. Dr. Charles Counce Hightower married Elizabeth Powell.
    4. Katie Hightower.
    5. Lucile Hightower married Dr. C. H. Cleveland, Centerville, Ala.
    6. Mary Edith Hightower.
    7. Grace Hightower.
  - b. William Erasmus Crawford, bachelor.
  - c. Thomas Marion Crawford married Grace Gertrude McCoy, Hattiesburg, Miss.
    1. Mary Alma Crawford.
    2. Ellien McCoy Crawford.
    3. Edith Orgel Crawford.
    4. Marion McDonald Crawford.
- C. WILLIAM RUFUS MCGOWEN married Virginia Easley of Sumpter County, Ala.
- a. William Easley McGowen married Annie Ward, Cuba, Ala.
    1. Virginia McGowen married K. B. Mitchell; one child: K. B. Mitchell, Jr.
    2. Chas. Ward McGowen married Emma Hulbert; one child: Charles Ward McGowen, Jr.
    3. Annie O'Neal McGowen married R.



- D. Vance; three children: Edna Vance, Eula Vance, Richard Vance.
4. Gertrude McGowen married Robert Bartlett.
  5. Lucile McGowen married — — Marks.
  6. Verde McGowen.
  7. W. H. McGowen.
  8. Pauline McGowen.
- b. Kate McGowen married Tule Temple, Bailey, Miss.
1. Earnest A. Temple, Electric Mills, Miss.
  2. Earl M. Temple married Hollie Jones; two children: ....., .....
  3. Maude Lee Temple married C. Darden; three children: Pauline Darden, Virginia Darden, James Darden.
  4. Inez Temple married J. H. Giles; two children: Kathleen Giles, Frances Giles.
  5. William C. Temple.
  6. Virginia Temple married Mr. Lafaso.
  7. Pinkie Temple married Ethridge Bailey.
  8. Roger McGowen Temple.
  9. Lundie Temple.
  10. Decelle Temple.
- c. Tom Pinkey McGowen married Fannie Altman, Cuba, Ala.
1. William Alfred McGowen.
  2. Virginia McGowen
  3. Thomas Davis McGowen.
- d. Fannie McGowen married Flo. C.



- Wise, York, Ala.
1. Virginia Wise.
  2. Fay Wise.
  3. William Wise.
  4. Irma Wise.
  5. Dolly Wise.
  6. Lolita Wise.
- e. Janie McGowen married first George Rouse; second, J. F. Coin.
1. Logfield Rouse, Chattanooga, Tenn.; three children.
  2. Myrtle Coin.
  3. Ruth Coin.
  4. Wallace Coin.
  5. Franklin Coin.
  6. Thomas Coin.
  7. Janie Coin.
  8. Alfred Coin.
- f. Dollie McGowen married William M. Honeycutt, Cuba, Ala.
1. Julian Honeycutt.
  2. Virginia Honeycutt.
  3. Fay Honeycutt.
- g. Martha Lucy McGowen married first, .....; second Lynn Holmes.
1. James Holmes.
  2. Frances Holmes.
  3. William Holmes.
  4. Lynn Holmes, Jr.
- D. MATTIE McGOWEN married Lee Holly.
1. William Holly, Gaston, Ala.
- E. JAMES McGOWEN died in hospital in Civil War, Mobile, Ala.
- F. TOM McGOWEN died at Chickamauga in Civil War.



- G. ERASMUS McGOWEN died in hospital in Civil War in Florida.
- H. BRYAN McGOWEN died in Virginia in Civil War.
2. STEPHEN GILMORE WATKINS (1810- ) married Polly Kornegay in Duplin County, N. C.
- A. DR. WILLIAM BRYAN WATKINS (1831-1903), Clay County, Miss., married Eugenia Thompson.
- a. Mary Elizabeth Watkins.
  - b. Ella Lee Watkins married James Bonds.
    1. Lee Bonds.
    2. Harry Bonds
    3. Earleen Bonds.
    4. Annie Bonds.
  - c. Dr. William A. Watkins married Frances Henrietta Watkins.
  - d. Stephen Bryant Watkins.
- B. THADDEUS HARGETT WATKINS (1832-1908) married Hettie Cooper, Clay County, Miss.
- a. Stephen Gilmore Watkins.
  - b. Allen Williams Watkins married Mary Gates.
    1. Annie Bessie Watkins.
    2. Thaddeus Allen Watkins.
    3. Sarah Helen Watkins.
    4. Hattie Watkins.
    5. Gertrude Watkins.
    6. Rufus Edward Watkins.
    7. Jack Gates Watkins.
  - c. Mary Ruth Watkins married first George Wm. Grimes, who lived only nine months; second, John R. Egger.





1. Hettie Ruth Egger.
2. John Gilmore Egger.
- d. Edward Rufus Watkins.
- C. JOHN LEVIN WATKINS (1841-1912),  
Clay County, Miss., married Jane Posey.
  - a. Mary Alice Watkins.
  - b. Laura Anna Watkins.
- D. STEPHEN GILMORE WATKINS (1843-1862).
- E. ALLEN WATKINS (1847-1914) married  
Mary Cooper, a sister of Thaddeus H.  
Watkins' wife, Hettie Cooper.
  - a. Robert Lee Watkins.
  - b. Hettie Irene Watkins married Alfred  
Ellis, Cedar Bluff, Miss.
  - c. Albert Thaddeus Watkins married  
Virgie McVey.
    1. Claude Bryant Watkins.
    2. Mattie Vivian Watkins.
    3. Cooper Watkins.
3. SOPHIANN WATKINS (1814- ) married  
James Glisson Swinson in Duplin County, N.  
C. Entire family moved to Texas in 1869.
  1. James Henry Swinson.
  2. John Swinson
  3. Alphious Swinson.
  4. William Swinson.
  5. Cicero Swinson.
  6. Robert Swinson.
  7. Quitman Swinson.
  8. Amelia Swinson.
  9. Mary Swinson.James Henry Swinson married Lu-  
cinda Youngblood.  
Alphious Swinson married Callie Cal-  
loway.



## 4. CAPT. JOHN RUFUS WATKINS (1816-1892)

married first Narcissa Fleming.

A. ROBERT WATKINS,

B. ALBERT WATKINS;

Second, Nancy Duke, and had:

C. MARY GILMORE WATKINS married  
Wallace E. Ivy.

a. Tom Gates Ivy.

b. Robert Ivy married Fannie Staples.

1. Mary Ruth Ivy.

2. Sterle Ivy.

c. Frank Ivy married 'Helen Lou Gates.

1. Rena May Ivy.

2. Annie Lou Ivy.

3. Tom Gates Ivy.

d. Annie Bell Ivy married Glisson Swin-  
son.

1. Tom Wallace Swinson.

By third wife, Emma Lofton, John

R. Watkins had:

D. LAURA WATKINS married Willis Mose-  
ley.

a. Emma Jane Moseley married John K.  
Dexter.

b. Ella Moseley married Wash Ford.

c. Ed Moseley married Bell Langham.

1. Howard Moseley.

2. Hugh Moseley.

d. Willis Moseley.

e. Edward Moseley.

f. Howard Moseley.

E. ELLA WATKINS married first Dr. Robt.  
Foster Gates; second Ed Kennedy.

a. John Rush Gates married third cousin,  
Dora Bonds, Memphis, Tenn.



1. Annie Florence Gates.
  2. Haslan Gates.
  - b. Louise Foster Gates married James Calvert, West Point, Miss.
    1. David Calvert.
    2. Douglas Calvert.
    3. Isen Gates Calvert.
    4. Eloise Calvert.
    5. James Calvert.
  - c. Charles Townsend Gates.
  - d. Tine Gates.
  - e. Minnie Hall Gates.
  - f. William Judson Gates.
- F. JOHN T. WATKINS married Kate Fields, West Point, Miss.
- a. John Hadden Watkins married Ella McFadden, Monroe, La.
    1. Mary Evelyn Watkins.
    2. John Hadden Watkins.
    3. Edwin Watkins.
    4. Richard Watkins.
  - b. William Bryan Watkins.
  - c. Katherine Watkins.
  - d. Mary Lou Watkins.
  - e. Laura Ella Watkins.
  - f. Wilbur Rainey Watkins married Irma Valentine.
    1. Virginia Fields Watkins.
  - g. John T. Watkins, Jr.
- G. WILLIAM WATKINS.
5. BRYAN WATKINS (1818-1848) married Susan Whitfield of Aberdeen, Miss.
- A. JOHN HATCH WATKINS married first his cousin, Alice Watkins; second, Dora Frank; third, Sarah McLendon.
- a. John Yancy Watkins married Nana



- Jane Jordan; are living in Louisiana.
1. John Yancy Watkins.
  2. Alice Watkins.
  3. Lem Hatch Watkins.
- b. Susan Matilda Watkins married George W. Stone.
1. Alice Stone married William Griggs and has three children: Guy Griggs, Agnes Griggs and Raymond Griggs.
  2. Katie May Stone married Frank Wood, Newton, Texas; has one child, Mattie Sue Wood.
  3. Susie Stone.
  4. John W. Stone.
  5. George Stone
  6. Louis Stone.
  7. Stella Stone.
  8. Jessie Anna Stone.
  9. Mary Stone.
  10. Elizabeth Stone.
  11. Walton Stone.
- c. Lucile Watkins.
- d. Thomas Russell Watkins, Mesa, Arizona, married Julia Allen.
1. William Olen Watkins.
  2. Galen Hatch Watkins.
  3. Warren Russell Watkins.
  4. James Allen Watkins.
  5. Joseph Heber Watkins.
- e. Henry Cobb Watkins, Mesa, Arizona, married Caroline Rogers.
1. Vera Watkins.
  2. Alice Watkins.
  3. Willis A. Watkins.
  4. Henry C. Watkins.
  5. Alton R. Watkins.





6. Ivan Watkins.
  7. Inez Watkins.
- B. ELIZABETH AMELIA WATKINS married Mason Cummings, Aberdeen, Miss.
- a. Lelia May Cummings married Enoch Hardy.
    1. Elizabeth Hardy.
    2. Baten Hardy.
    3. Enoch Hardy.
    4. Mason Hardy.
    5. Amelia Hardy.
    6. Henry Hardy.
    7. Paul Hardy.
    8. Phillip Hardy.
  - b. Emma Randle Cummings married Hon. Samuel A. Montgomery, New Orleans, La.
    1. Margaret Hamilton Montgomery.
  - c. Amelia Cummings married Edmund Williams, Fort Worth, Texas.
    1. Edmund Williams.
    2. Erskine Williams.
  - d. Dr. Hatch Whitfield Cummings, Hearne, Tex., married Pauline Eckerle.
    1. Frances Cummings.
    2. Helen Cummings.
    3. Hatch Cummings.
    4. Sue Flake Cummings.
    5. Clemmie Cummings.
  - e. Bryan Yancy Cummings, attorney-at-law, Hillsboro, Tex., married Jewel Knox.
    1. Elizabeth Cummings.
    2. Josephine Cummings.
    3. Jewel Cummings.
    4. Yancey Cummings.



- f. Sue Flake Cummings, ....., Tex.,  
married George A. Duren.
  - 1. Pauline Duren.
- C. WILLIAM WHITFIELD WATKINS, Ab-  
erdeem, Miss., married Anna L. Knowles.
  - a. William Bismarck Watkins, Aberdeen,  
Miss., married Allie E. McCluney.
    - 1. Mary Louise Watkins.
    - 2. Grace Fairfield Watkins.
    - 3. Edith LeRoy Watkins.
    - 4. Allie Watkins.
    - 5. Wm. B. Watkins, Jr.
    - 6. Robert McCluney Watkins.
    - 7. Sarah Pope Watkins.
  - b. Susan Congdon Watkins married John  
Gibson, Memphis, Tenn.
    - 1. Gladys Gibson.
    - 2. John William Gibson.
  - c. Wade Leroy Watkins, Aberdeen, Miss.,  
married Josephine Clark.
  - d. Guy Hartwell Watkins, Aberdeen,  
Miss., married Clyde Ater.
    - 1. Guy Hartwell Watkins, Jr.
    - 2. William Whitfield Watkins.
    - 3. Clyde Ater Watkins.
  - e. Minnie Grace Watkins married Wiley  
P. Harris, Jackson, Miss.
    - 1. Grace Knowles Harris.
- D. BRYAN YANCY WATKINS.
- 6. ELIZABETH AMELIA WATKINS (1823-1869)  
married first Mr. Lowe in Alabama; second  
Rev. William Gunn in Alabama; third, George  
W. Grimes.
  - A. Dr. William Boteright Gunn, West Point,  
Miss., married first Mary Grimes; second  
Ada Flaningin.



1. Elizabeth Gunn married William Curry, Memphis, Tenn.; six children: William Curry, Mary Curry, Edward Curry, Ross Curry, Julian Curry, Pauline Curry.
2. Tom Ivy Gunn, West Point, Miss., married Roma Diamond; one adopted child.
3. Robert Lee Gunn married Frances Eddins; one child: Robert Lee Gunn, Jr.
4. J. B. Gunn.
6. WILLIAM A. WATKINS (1812-1858), West Point, Miss., married Elizabeth Wooten.
  - A. JOHN WATKINS, killed in battle in Civil War, 1863.
  - B. MARY GILMORE WATKINS, West Point, Miss., married Ben. F. Kennedy.
    - a. William Watkins Kennedy married Fannie Lou Bonds.
      1. Maude Kennedy.
      2. Lon Kennedy.
    - b. Thomas Kennedy married Effie Stevens; lives in Louisiana.
      1. Rhendel Kennedy.
    - c. Albert Sidney Kennedy, New Orleans, La., married Molly Lockhart.
    - d. Alice Eugenia Kennedy married Robt. Lee Miller.
      1. Mary Virginia Miller.
      2. Mattie M. Miller.
      3. Susie Miller
      4. Wm. Miller.
      5. Lucy Miller.
      6. Ruth Miller.
    - e. Lucy White Kennedy married William



Thomas Hines, West Point, Miss.

1. William Thomas Hines, Jr.
2. Lucile Hines.
3. Edna Hines.

f. Unity Elizabeth Kennedy married Albert Murphy, Moorehead, Miss.

1. Inez Murphy.
2. Odebt Murphy
3. Miss Johnnie Murphy.
4. Miss Eugenia Murphy.

g. Mary Levonia Kennedy married Percy D. Richards, Memphis, Tenn.

C. BETTIE ELIZABETH WATKINS married Robert Madison Ellis, Lake Charles, Louisiana.

a. Dale Harris married Eva Marie Cognolatti.

b. Mary Bessie Ellis married A. G. Ellis, Lake Charles, La.

1. A. G. Ellis, Jr.
2. Eva Dale Ellis.

c. John Bemis Ellis.

d. Oliver Burn Ellis.

e. Oscar Gunn Ellis, U. S. navy.

f. James Madison Ellis, Tallulah, La.

g. Nina D. Aubrey Ellis.

h. Gladys Dashleigh Ellis.

D. ALICE WATKINS married John Hatch Watkins.

(See descendants of Bryan Watkins.)

E. MARTHA JANE WATKINS married Lavonia Cromwell.

a. William Heard Cromwell married Fleet Montgomery, West Point, Miss.

1. Herman Cromwell.
2. Maggie Cromwell.





- 3. Mattie Cromwell.
  - 4. Francis Cromwell.
  - b. Thaddeus Cromwell married Annie May Murphy.
    - 1. Marion Cromwell.
    - 2. ....
  - c. Lavonia Cromwell.
- F. BETTIE WATKINS.
- 8. LUCY ELISA WATKINS (1828-1858) married John White, West Point, Miss.
  - 9. JAMES BECTON WATKINS (1830-1880) married Nancy Gosa.
    - A. MARY BECTON WATKINS married Dr. William Van Buren Saul, Montpelier, Miss.
      - a. Thomas Giles Saul married Ada May Gilmore.
        - 1. William Robert Saul.
      - b. Robert Lee Saul married Pearl Henry.
      - c. Stephen Scott Saul married Florence Gertrude Clark.
        - 1. Frances Lillian Saul.
      - d. Sallie Lou Saul married James Thomas Cliett.
    - B. SALLIE LOU WATKINS married H. C. Oliver, New Albany, Miss.
    - C. JOHN BECTON WATKINS married Beulah Bell Tribble.
      - a. James Levin Watkins.
      - b. George Aubrey Watkins.
      - c. Mary Lou Watkins.
  - 10. POLLY WATKINS (1820-1885) married Lewis Stevens in Duplin County, N. C.
    - A. HUBERT A. STEVENS, killed in Civil War at Petersburg, Va., 1864.
    - B. HELEN MALISSA STEVENS married William H. Lofton.



- a. Emma Lofton married William S. Gordon, Montpelier, Miss.
    1. Lucy Gordon married Joe Hill; seven children: Martha Hill, George Hill, Gordon Hill, Maggie Hill, John Hill, Robert Hill, William Hill.
    2. Alex H. Gordon married Ola Cummings; two children: Carl Gordon, Christine Gordon.
    3. Maggie Lee Gordon married Robert Beasley, Houston, Miss.; one child: Franklin Gordon Beasley.
    4. William Lewis Gordon married Anna McClure; one child: Emma Gladys Gordon.
  - b. Sallie V. Lofton married James L. Belk.
    1. Oscar Belk.
  - c. Hubert Lofton married Olive Cousins.
    1. William Noel Lofton married Ruby Stevens.  
Jesse Andrew Lofton.
    2. Lucy Lofton married Aaron Thompson.
      1. Helen Thompson married Crowley Henley.
      2. William Guy Thompson.
      3. Albert Thompson.
  - d. Effie E. Lofton married Wiley Coleman.
    1. Merle Coleman.
    2. Haywood Coleman.
    3. Ida May Coleman.
    4. Robert Coleman.
- C. ANNA STEVENS married Hilsman Cockrell.
- a. Hubert Cockrell married Edna Douglass.



- b. Laura Cockrell married Dr. James Jenkins, Crenshaw, Miss.
    - 1. James Jenkins.
    - 2. Elizabeth Jenkins.
    - 3. Mary Jenkins.
  - c. Mary Cockrell married John D. Furr.
    - 1. Hilsman Furr.
  - d. Annie Cockrell.
- D. MARY GILMORE STEPHENS married Joseph Lewis Thompson.
- a. John Gilmore Thompson, West Point, Miss., married Ida May Lowe.
    - 1. John Gilmore Thompson, Jr.
    - 2. Henry Lloyd Thompson.
    - 3. Gerald Lowe Thompson.
    - 4. Mary Ida Thompson.
    - 5. Joseph Lewis Thompson.
  - b. William Lewis Thompson married Maude Vivian Howard.
    - 1. Lucile Thompson.
    - 2. Frances Lewis Thompson.
    - 3. Lee Howard Thompson.
    - 4. Joseph Thomas Thompson.
  - c. Alice Thompson married Robert Lamar Calvert, Abbott, Miss.
    - 1. Anita Calvert.
    - 2. Mildred Calvert.
    - 3. Mary Marguerite Calvert.
    - 4. Robert Lamar Calvert.
    - 5. Elizabeth Calvert.
  - d. Anna Lou Thompson.
  - e. Lena Thompson.
- E. JAMES LEWIS STEVENS married Addie Burnett.
- a. William Watkins Stevens married Lillian Hill Thomas.
    - 1. Willie Stevens.



- b. Hubert Alonzo Stevens.
  - c. Frank Beattie Stevens.
  - d. Helen Arey Stevens.
  - e. Eliza Vernon Stevens.
- F. ANNA STEVENS married Jesse Warren Stevens.
- a. Jessie Stevens.
  - b. Ruby Stevens married Wm. Lofton; one child.
  - c. Mary Stevens.
  - d. Sarah Lou Stevens.
- G. LUCY DORA STEVENS married Lon H. Bonds.
- a. James Bonds married first Ella Lee Watkins; second Ola Brown.
    - 1. Lee Bonds.
    - 2. Bryant Bonds.
    - 3. Harvey Bonds.
    - 4. Erleen Bonds
    - 5. Annie Bonds.
  - b. Annie Bonds married Rev. J. M. Talley.
    - 1. Catherine Talley.
  - c. Fannie Lou Bonds married William Watkins Kennedy, Griffith, Miss.
    - 1. Maude Kennedy.
    - 2. Lon Kennedy.
  - d. Dora Bonds married John Rush Gates, Memphis, Tenn.
    - 1. Annie Florence Gates.
    - 2. ....
  - e. Maude Bonds married William Jenkins Willbanks, Columbus, Miss.
    - 1. Elizabeth Willbanks.
    - 2. Loraine Willbanks.
- H. CICERO WATKINS STEVENS married Lona Bonds.





- a. Lewis Hubert B. Stevens married Willie Swinson McVey, Cedar Bluff, Miss.
  1. Eugenia Stevens.
  2. Thelma Stevens.
- b. John Edward Stevens married Lucile Spragins, Abbott, Miss.
  1. John Edward Stevens.
  2. Ruth Ivy Stevens.
- c. William H. Stevens, Cedar Bluff, Miss., married Ruby Miller.
  1. Adrian Stevens.
  2. Mildred Stevens.
  3. Evelyn Stevens.
  4. James Stevens.
- d. Fred Bell Stevens married Dovey Coggins.
  1. John Cicero Stevens.
- e. Mamie Gilmore Stevens married Geo. T. Venable, Los Angeles, California.
- f. Lucy Stevens.



IV. SALLY WATKINS, born Feb. 28, 1777, Duplin County, N. C., married Needham Whitfield (1758-1812).

1. EDITH WHITFIELD, born 1799 (died without issue).

2. ALLEN WHITFIELD.

3. BETSY WHITFIELD (Feb. 9, 1801-Feb. 16, 1846) married Gen. Nathan Bryan Whitfield of Demopolis, Ala. (1799-1868).

A. NATHAN BRYAN WHITFIELD (1824-1832).

B. MARY ELIZABETH WHITFIELD (1826-1859) married William Whitfield, Columbus, Miss.

a. Nathan Bryan Whitfield married Laura Pickett.

1. Nathan Whitfield.

2. William Whitfield.

3. Sarah Whitfield married Needham Holmes.

b. William Wiltshire Whitfield.

C. DR. BRYAN WATKINS WHITFIELD (1828-1908) married Mary Alice Fortescue (1838-1899), daughter of Augustus Fortescue of Marengo County, Ala.

a. Bessie Alice Whitfield married Dr. James B. Whitfield.

1. Marianna Bryan Whitfield.

2. Bessie Eugenia Whitfield.

3. Eleanor Fortescue Whitfield.

4. James Bryan Whitfield.

5. Grace Whitfield.

6. Alice Whitfield.

7. Edith Whitfield.

b. Jesse George Whitfield married Nellie Clinton Holmes.



1. William Holmes Whitfield.
2. Fortescue Bryan Whitfield.
3. Thomas Holmes Whitfield.
- c. Augustus Fortescue Whitfield married Mary Clark; lives in Kentucky.
  1. Mary Alice Whitfield.
  2. Augustus Fortescue Whitfield.
  3. Edward Whitfield.
  4. William Whitfield
  5. Hattie Whitfield.
  6. George Whitfield.
- d. Bryan Watkins Whitfield married Ammie Keyes; lives in Kentucky.
  1. Frances Whitfield.
  2. Bryan Watkins Whitfield.
  3. Mary Alice Whitfield.
- e. Nathan Bryan Whitfield married Libbie Hatch.
  1. Bryan Watkins Whitfield.
  2. Nathan Bryan Whitfield.
  3. Asa Whitfield.
  4. Joseph Whitfield.
- f. Alice Hall Whitfield married L. S. Compton, San Angelo, Texas.
  1. Whitfield Compton.
  2. Mary Compton.
  3. Julia Compton.
- g. Hettie Hatch Whitfield married T. L. Sharpe.
  1. Thomas Sharpe lives at Nauvon, Ala.
  2. Lucy Sharpe.
  3. Mary Sharpe.
  4. Natalie Sharpe.
- h. Mary Elizabeth Whitfield married T. E. McKinley.
  1. John Henry McKinley.



- D. NEEDHAM GEORGE WHITFIELD  
(1830-1884).
- E. EDITH WHITFIELD (1832-1842).
- F. NATHAN BRYAN WHITFIELD (1835-1914) married Medora Shackelford of Sumpter County, Ala.
- a. Richard Dunford Whitfield, Portland, Ore.
  - b. Medora Whitfield, Portland, Ore.
  - c. Mary Whitfield, Portland, Ore.
  - d. ....
- G. EDITH JAMES WHITFIELD (1842-1904) married Gen. C. W. Dustan of New York City.
- a. Edith Louise Dustan, Lakewood, N. J.
  - b. Bessie Whitfield Dustan, Lakewood, N. J.
- H. BETSY WINIFRED WHITFIELD (1843- ) married Col. F. E. Whitfield, Corinth, Miss.
- a. Edwin Nott Whitfield, New York.





## V. WILLIAM WATKINS.

VI. MITCHELL WATKINS married Penny Coleman of Duplin County, N. C.

1. LEVIN WATKINS (1808-1866) married Henrietta White.

A. KINDRED WATKINS married first Miss Harmon; second, Miss Rea.

a. Thomas Watkins married Matilda Germany.

b. Lucy Watkins married D. W. Gillis.

c. Henrietta Watkins married Will Young.

d. Dalton Watkins.

e. John Watkins.

B. SAMUEL WARD WATKINS married in Texas.

a. Annie Watkins married Mr. Simmons.

b. Mollie Watkins married Mr. Scales.

c. Will Watkins.

C. JAMES WATKINS (1838- ) married Belle Moore.

a. Lula Watkins married James Bryant.

b. Maggie Watkins married Charles Hailey.

D. MILDRED WATKINS married John Cox.

a. Wallace Cox married Clara Brown.

b. Willis Cox married Miss Cook.

E. CHARLES H. WATKINS married Josephine Gurley.

a. Minnie Watkins.

b. Fannie Watkins married Dr. W. A. Watkins.

c. Leanna Watkins married M. J. Johnson.



- d. Dr. Chas. Albert Watkins married Dola Ayecock.
- e. Elizabeth Watkins married W. W. McKay.
- f. Dr. L. J. Watkins.
- g. Ethel Watkins.
- F. WILLIS WATKINS married Lou Warwick.
- a. Willis Watkins married F. McAdory.
- G. THADDEUS C. WATKINS (1845- ) married Sallie Scales.
- a. Everett Watkins married Bettie Burt.
- b. Dr. W. L. Watkins married Carrie Burrage.
- c. Dr. H. B. Watkins married Sybil Bowles.
- d. Lennie Watkins married Dr. Darnall.
- e. Dr. Earle Watkins married .....
- f. Alma Watkins married Mr. Hoskins.
- g. Sadie Watkins married Mr. Kirkpatrick.
- H. WEBSTER WATKINS (1853-1880).
- I. MARION WATKINS married Bates Long.
- a. John Long.
- b. Emma Long.
- c. Etta Long.
- J. JOHN WATKINS married Emma Green.
- a. John Watkins.
- b. Bessie Watkins.
- c. Ben Watkins.
- d. Bernice Watkins.
- 2. CHARLES WATKINS married Miss Scarborough.
- 3. KINDRED WATKINS died in Texas.
- 4. REBECCA WATKINS married Sam Roberts; lived and died in Texas.
- 5. SARAH WATKINS married James Smith.



- VII. LEVIN WATKINS (1791-1865) married first Sallie Coleman; second Mary Thompson.
1. MARY WATKINS (died young).
  2. WILLIAM BRYAN WATKINS (died young).
  3. ELIZA JANE WATKINS married John W. Hutton.
    - A. SALLIE A. HUTTON married Richard Hatter, West Green, Ala.
      - a. W. R. Hatter.
    - B. AUGUSTUS C. HUTTON.
    - C. JOHN ANTHONY HUTTON.
    - D. JOSEPH HUTTON.
  4. NARCISSA WATKINS married Samuel W. Taylor.
    - A. ELIZA W. TAYLOR married Robert Hibbler, Gainesville, Ala.
    - B. MARY D. TAYLOR married first Benj. S. Edwards; second, W. H. Gill.
      - a. Amelia Edwards.
      - b. Mary Willis Gill.
      - c. John Gill.
      - d. Martha N. Gill.
      - e. Julian J. Gill, Starkville, Miss., married Lula King.
        1. Jessie May Gill.
        2. Eliza Earleen Gill.
        3. Louise Gill.
    - C. HARRIETT ANN TAYLOR married S. W. Barnes.
      - a. Samuel Taylor Barnes.
        1. Samuel Taylor Barnes, Jr.
        2. John R. Barnes, Chattanooga, Tenn., married Ella Richards.
          - a. Eliza P. Barnes.
          - b. John Lee Barnes.
          - c. Wm. Riley Barnes.
          - d. John R. Barnes, Jr.



- b. William Riley Barnes, Chattanooga, Tenn., married Eva Reed.
  - 1. Marie Louise Barnes.
  - 2. Harriett Ann Barnes.
- c. Hattie U. Barnes married C. W. Brumley, Chattanooga, Tenn.
- D. DR. S. W. TAYLOR, Warsaw, Ala., married Eliza A. White.
  - a. William White Taylor, Lagrange, Tenn., married Ella Mayes.
    - 1. Edwin B. Taylor.
    - 2. Mildred U. Taylor.
    - 3. William White Taylor.
  - b. Laura N. Taylor.
  - c. Earle E. Taylor.
  - d. Eliza A. Taylor.
- E. EARLE TAYLOR married Lillie Petway.
  - a. John Earle Taylor.
  - b. Samuel W. Taylor.
- F. ELIZA A. TAYLOR married John G. Cooke, Marietta, Ala.
  - a. John G. Cooke, Jr.
- G. FLORENCE N. TAYLOR.
- H. JOHN BALUS TAYLOR.
- I. CHARLES COLEMAN TAYLOR.
- J. SALLIE TAYLOR.





VIII. PETER WATKINS married Catherine McDuffie.

1. CAROLINE WATKINS.
2. ....
3. ....

IX. BRYAN WATKINS married first Susan Anderson;  
second, Lucy Johnson (nee Brown).

1. THOMAS WATKINS.
2. ELIZABETH WATKINS.
3. SUSAN JANE WATKINS.
4. CAPT. ROBERT EMMETT WATKINS, Eutaw, Ala., married Miss Oliver.
  - A. LUCY WATKINS married Edwin Wilson, Eutaw, Ala.
    - a. ....
    - b. Anna Wilson.
  - B. ANNA WATKINS married John Pool, Eutaw, Ala.
    - a. John Pool, Jr., Eutaw, Ala.
5. CAPT. WILLIAM EDWARD WATKINS married Irene Wynne.
  - A. LUCY WATKINS married — — Jardines, Huntsville, Texas.
6. MARTHA ANN WATKINS married Jack Baker.
  - A. .... married Leighton Winn.
  - B. MINNIE BAKER married — — Stewart.
  - C. IDA BAKER married — — Cooper.
7. JOHN B. WATKINS married Miss Brown.
  - A. GEORGE WATKINS.
  - B. ....

X. BRICE WATKINS.

XI. BECTON WATKINS.

XII. JAMES WATKINS.













