

CHAPTER 6

JOHN GARDNER

SON OF

JAMES GARDNER II

John Gardner was the son of James Gardner II. I do not have the date of his birth. John's wife's name was Ann. I do not know her maiden name. He died Feb. 14, 1782, which was ten years before his father, James II, died.

James Gardner II named three of John Gardner's children in his Will. They were: David Gardner, John Gardner, and Jesse Gardner. There was one other child named Caty Gardner, who was a girl. If there were any other children, I do not have their names (see chart 4B1 on the following page).

1. DAVID GARDNER was the son of John and Ann Gardner. I do not have the date of his birth but he was dead by 1804. I have no other information for him.

2. JOHN GARDNER was also a son of John and Ann Gardner. He too was dead by 1804. No other information has been found on him.

3. CATY GARDNER was the daughter of John and Ann Gardner. I do not have any dates for her. She married Richard Jones and there were three children born to this union. They were: Adam Jones, John Jones, and Nancy Jones.

A. ADAM JONES no information.

B. JOHN JONES no information.

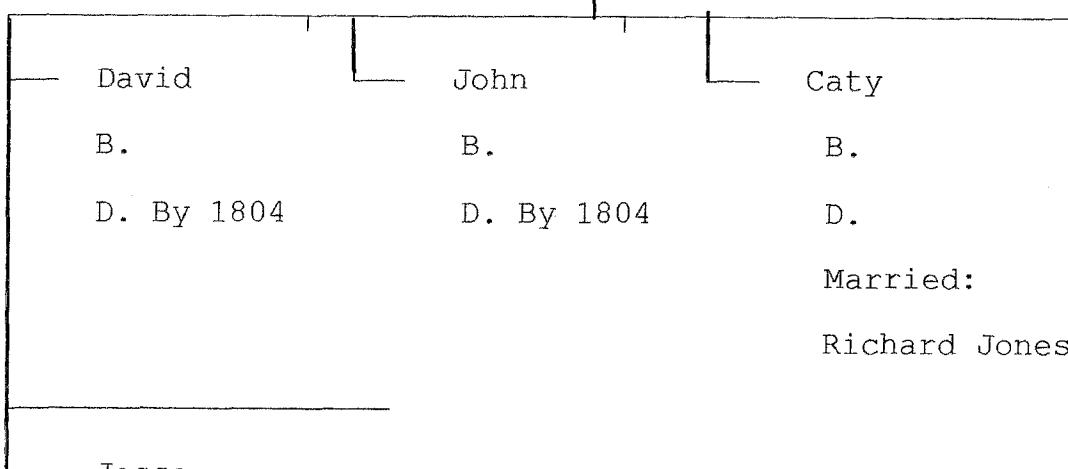
C. NANCY JONES was the daughter of Richard and Caty G. Jones.

CHART 4B1

JOHN GARDNER - DIED 1782

WIFE: ANN

MARRIED:



Married:

Richard Jones

Jesse

B.

D. 1845

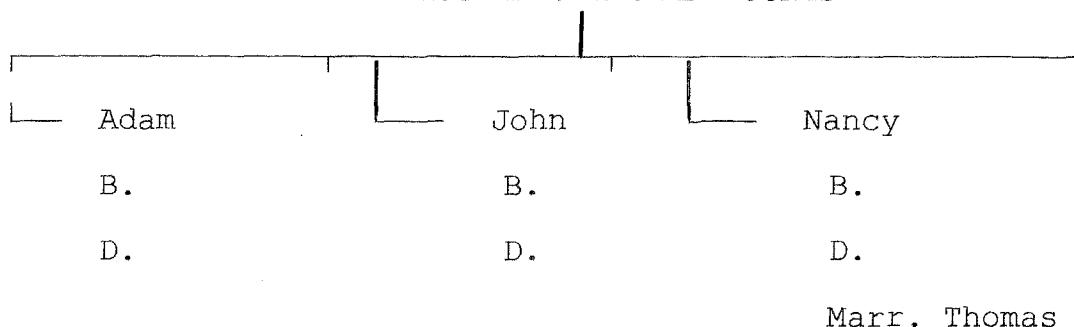
Married:

Elizabeth

CHART 5B10

CATY GARDNER

HUSBAND: RICHARD JONES



Marr. Thomas Allison

She married Thomas Allison. I have no other information on her or her family.

4. JESSE GARDNER was also the son of John and Ann Gardner. I do not have the date of his birth. He married Elizabeth Vaughan. Her mother and father were Amy Cobb Vaughan and Seymore Vaughan. Since this family line will be followed to the present, I will devote the following section to Jesse and his descendants.

JESSE GARDNER

SON OF

JOHN AND ANN GARDNER

Jesse Gardner married Elizabeth Vaughan (see chart 5B1 on the following page). There were five children born to this union. They were: John W. Gardner, Randolph R. Gardner, Obediah Gardner, Dempsey Gardner, and Sarah Gardner. Jesse died in 1845.

1. DEMPSEY GARDNER was the son of Jesse and Elizabeth V. Gardner. I do not have the date of his birth. I am not sure but I think Dempsey Gardner went to the state of Louisiana and made his home there. The reason I believe this is because in 1860 his niece, Ann Elizabeth Cobb, received an inheritance of \$12,000.00 from a Dempsey Gardner estate in Louisiana.

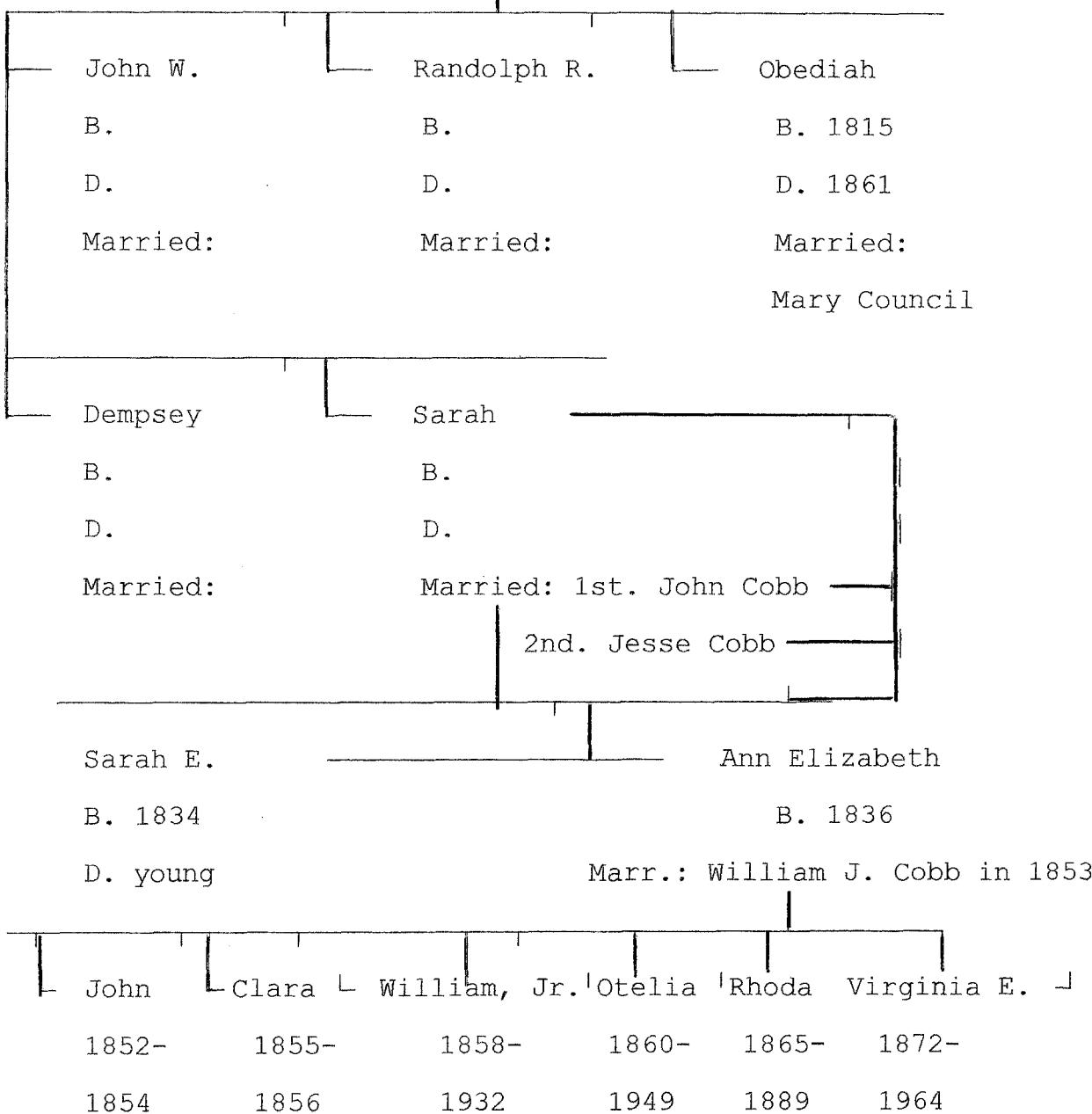
2. JOHN W. GARDNER son of Jesse and Elizabeth V. Gardner. No information.

3. RANDOLPH R. GARDNER no information.

CHART 5B1

JESSE GARDNER - DIED 1845

WIFE: ELIZABETH VAUGHAN



4. SARAH GARDNER was the daughter of Jesse and Elizabeth V. Gardner. She married John M. Cobb. He was the son of Josiah and Martha Cobb. Sarah was the second wife of John M. Cobb. His first wife was D. Lucy Cobb. Lucy died a young woman. She had been married only a couple years before she died. John M. Cobb then married Sarah Gardner. Their children were Sarah E. Cobb and Ann Elizabeth Cobb. Sarah was born in 1834 but must have died young. Ann Elizabeth was born in 1836. She got married in 1853 when she was just 17. She married William J. Cobb, son of Leonard Cobb. He was a cousin of Ann Elizabeth (see chart 5B1 on page 126).

John M. Cobb died in 1837. His will was probated Oct. 16, 1837. His widow, Sarah, then married Jesse Cobb on May 24, 1838. Jesse was the son of Frederick Cobb. Frederick Cobb was the brother of Josiah Cobb. Therefore Jesse Cobb was her deceased husband's first cousin.

(1). SARAH E. COBB was the daughter of John and Sarah G. Cobb. She was born in 1834 and died young. I do not have the date of her death.

(2). ANN ELIZABETH COBB, daughter of Sarah and John Cobb, married William J. Cobb. They had six children. Their names were: John Cobb, Clara Cobb, William J. Cobb, Jr., Otelia Cobb, Rhoda Cobb, and Virginia Cobb. Ann Elizabeth was born in 1836 and she was married in 1853.

(A). JOHN COBB was born in 1852 and died in 1854.

(B). CLARA COBB was born in 1855 and died in 1856.

(C). WILLIAM J. COBB, JR. was born in 1858 and died in 1932.

(D). OTELIA COBB was born in 1860 and died in 1949.

(E). RHODA COBB was born in 1865 and died in 1889.

(F). VIRGINIA E. COBB was born in 1872 and died in 1964.

I will not trace this family any further as this has already been done in the book "COBBS OF THE TIDEWATER". This book is available at the library in Franklin and Courtland, Virginia.

5. OBEDIAH GARDNER was born in 1815. He was the son of Jesse Gardner and Elizabeth Vaughan Gardner (see chart 5B1). Obediah Gardner married Mary Arlisa Council, daughter of Benjamin and Caroline Council (see chart 6B1). They had two children who were: Elizabeth (Betsy) Gardner and Jesse Dempsey Gardner.

(1). ELIZABETH GARDNER was born in 1852. I do not know who she married.

(2). JESSE DEMPSEY GARDNER was born Feb. 12, 1858. His first wife was Margaret Cotton (see chart 7B1). She was the daughter of Allen Henry Cotton and Elmina Buxton Cotton and was born Feb. 23, 1855. They were married Feb. 26, 1880. Jesse and Margaret had four children: Abie L. Gardner, Mary J. Gardner, Ada Gardner, and Walter D. Gardner. Margaret C. Gardner died Dec. 24, 1923. After her death Jesse Dempsey married Annie L. Turner. They were married Aug. 20, 1927. There was one son born to this union, Jesse Dempsey Gardner, Jr. I will refer to each of these children and their families in the following pages.

CHART 6B1

Obediah Gardner - 1815-1861

Wife: Mary Arlisa Council



B.: 1852

B.: Feb. 12, 1858

D.:

D.: Apr. 20, 1934

Married: 1st. Wife Margaret Cotton

Feb. 26, 1880 B.: Feb. 23, 1855

D.: Dec. 24, 1923

2nd. Wife: Annie L. Turner

Married: Aug. 20, 1927

(see chart 7B1)

CHART 7B1

Jesse Dempsey Gardner - Feb. 12, 1858 - Apr. 20, 1934

Wife: Margaret Cotton - Feb. 23, 1855 - Dec. 24, 1923

Married: Feb. 26, 1880

Abie L. | Mary J. | Ada | Walter D.

B. Mar. 3, 1881 B. Apr. 29, 1884 B. Mar. 15, 1887 B. Nov. 17, 1888

D. Jan. 12, 1904 D. June 24, 1957 D. Aug. 18, 1969 D. Feb. 25, 1908

Married: Married: Married: never married

Maude Edwards Hilarey Lee William E. Cobb

 Vaughan May 6, 1916

 May 4, 1904

Second Wife: Annie L. Turner Married: Aug. 20, 1927
 |
 Jesse Dempsey, Jr.

The Cotton family was also early settlers in Isle of Wight and Nansemond Counties. As early as 1700 a John Cotton ran a trading post on the Blackwater River at South Quay. Allen Cotton's father was Henry P. Cotton. He was probably a descendent of John Cotton although I have no proof of this.

Elmina Cephus Buxton Cotton was the daughter of Joseph Buxton and Nancy Moore Buxton. If you remember from previous pages, Joseph Buxton was the son of Elijah Buxton and Martha Gardner Buxton.

Nancy Moore Buxton was the daughter of Capt. Peter Moore and Mary Ellis Moore. Peter Moore was a Captain in the Revolutionary Army and he was from Pennsylvania.

Allen Henry Cotton was a Confederate veteran of the Civil War. He and his wife are buried at Sycamore Baptist Church in Southampton County, Virginia.

1. WALTER DEMPSEY GARDNER was born Nov. 17, 1888. He never married and he died Feb. 25, 1908.

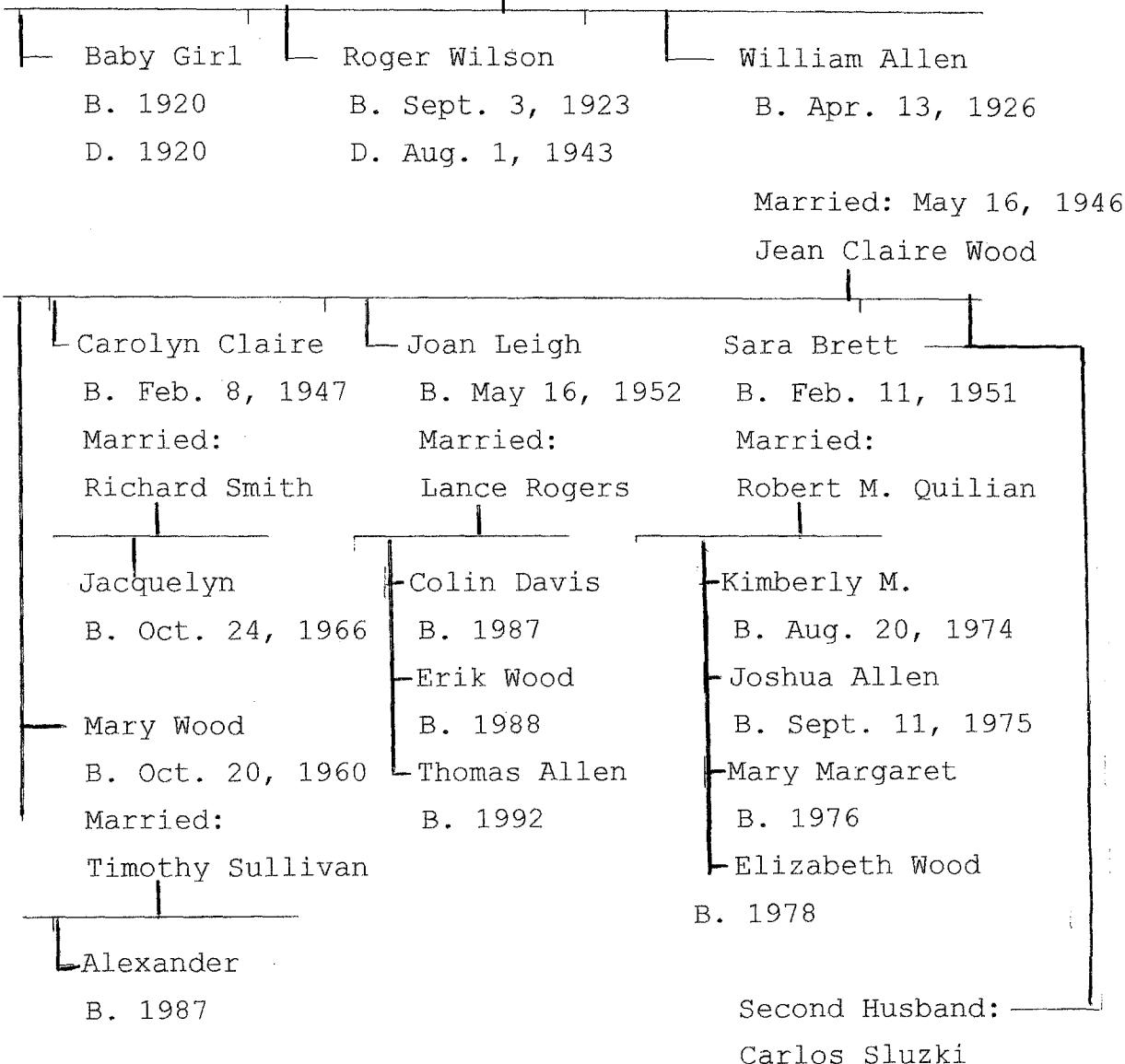
2. ABIE LEROY GARDNER was born Mar. 13, 1881. His wife was Maude Edwards. I do not have a marriage date for them or their children names, if there were any. He died Jan. 12, 1904.

3. ADA GARDNER was born Mar. 15, 1887. She married William Emmett Cobb May 6, 1916. There were three children born from this union. They were: a Baby Girl (born and died in 1920), Roger Wilson Cobb, and William Allen Cobb. Roger Wilson Cobb was born Sept. 3, 1923 and William Allen Cobb was born April 13, 1926 (see chart 8B2 on the following page).

CHART 8B2

Ada Gardner - Mar. 15, 1887 - Aug. 18, 1969

Husband: William Emmett Cobb - Married: May 6, 1916



(A). ROGER WILSON COBB died in a tragic accident August 1, 1943. He was at Camp Waters, a Boy Scout camp on the James River, and drowned while swimming there.

(B). WILLIAM ALLEN COBB married Jean Claire Wood May 16, 1946. William Allen served in the armed forces of the United States in World War Two. At the end of the war he returned To V. P. I. and resumed his education. He received his B.S. Degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1949. Jean is the daughter of Oval and Bertha Wood. She was born and raised in Pueblo, Colo.. She graduated with an Arts Degree in English from Lynchburg College. Allen is now retired and he and Jean make their home in Lynchburg, Virginia.

They have four children and they are: Carolyn Claire Cobb, Sara Brett Cobb, Joan Leigh Cobb, and Mary Wood Cobb.

(1). CAROLYN CLAIRE COBB married Richard Smith. They have one daughter, Jacquelyn. She was born Oct. 24, 1966. They make their home in Silver Spring, Maryland.

(2). SARA BRETT COBB married Robert M. Quillian. She and Robert are divorced. Her second husband is Carlos Sluzki. Sara has four children: Kimberly Mason (born Aug. 20, 1974), Joshua Allen (born Sept. 11, 1975), Mary Margaret (born 1976), and Elizabeth Wood (born 1978). She and her family live in Pittsfield, Ma..

(3). JOAN LEIGH COBB married Lance Rogers. They have three children: Colin Davis (born in 1987), Erik Wood (born in 1988), and Thomas Allen (born in 1992). She and her family live in Silver Spring, Maryland.

(4). MARY WOOD COBB married Timothy D. Sullivan. They have one child: Alexander Hamilton (born in 1987).

I want to thank Jean Cobb, wife of William Allen Cobb, for all the help she has given me in tracing the descendants of James Gardner II. Without her help I would not have as much information on this line as I do. Jean, Allen, my wife, and I have become close friends and even though I have started writing this book we still exchange new information on the family as we find it.

4. MARY JANE GARDNER was the daughter of Jesse Dempsey Gardner and Margaret Cotton Gardner (see chart 7B1). She married Hilarey Lee Vaughan (see chart 8B1 on the following page). She was born Apr. 29, 1884 and died June 24, 1957.

Hilarey Lee Vaughan was the son of James Henry Vaughan and his wife, Missoura Jane Vaughan. There were six children born to this union. They were: Hudson Leroy Vaughan, Henry Cecil Vaughan, Jessie Pearl Vaughan, Ashley Matthew Vaughan, Mary Frances Vaughan, and Emily Ann Vaughan. Emily Ann Vaughan is the only one of these children I have tried to trace.

- (A). HUDSON LEROY VAUGHAN.
- (B). HENRY CECIL VAUGHAN.
- (C). JESSIE PEARL VAUGHAN.
- (D). ASHLEY MATTHEW VAUGHAN.
- (E). MARY FRANCES VAUGHAN.

(F). EMILY ANN VAUGHAN was born July 22, 1905. She married James Edward Howell Feb. 28, 1923. James was born Jan. 14, 1895 and died Jan. 18, 1945.

CHART 8B1

Mary Jane Gardner - Apr. 29, 1884 - June 24, 1957

Husband: Hilarey Lee Vaughan - Married: May 4, 1904

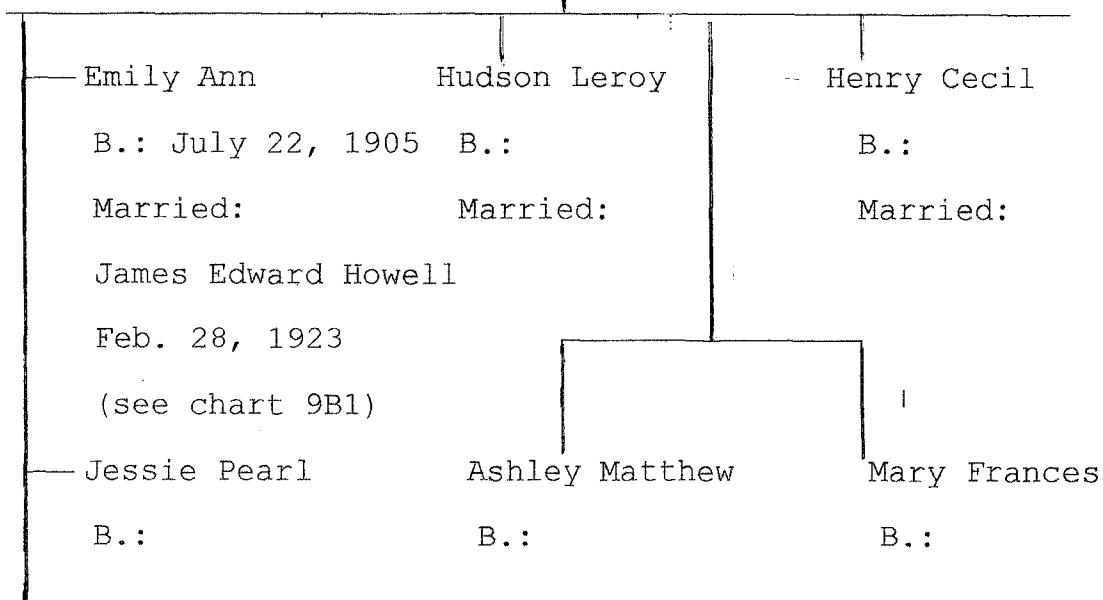
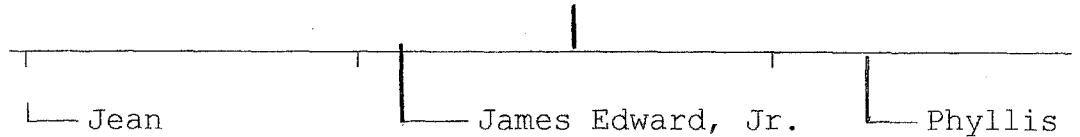


CHART 9B1

Emily Ann Vaughan - July 22, 1905

Husband: James Edward Howell, Sr. - Jan. 14, 1895 - Jan. 18, 1945

Married: Feb. 28, 1923



B.: Apr. 12, 1928

B.: June 4, 1934

B.: May 8, 1942

Married:

Married:

Married:

Hunter Darden, Jr.

Martha Hardy

1st. Hugh Taylor

Sharon

Jamie

Cindy

B.

B.

B.

Richard

Jeffrey

Michall

B.:

B.:

B.:

Hunter III

Barry

Lisa

B.:

B.:

B.:

Kimberly

B.:

They had three children, who are Jean Howell, James Edward Howell, Jr., and Phylis Howell.

(1). JEAN HOWELL was born Apr. 12, 1928 and she married Hunter Darden, Jr. They live in Franklin, Virginia and they have three children. Their children are: Sharon Darden, Richard Darden, and Hunter Darden III.

(2). JAMES EDWARD HOWELL, JR. married Martha Hardy and they have four children, Jamie, Jeffrey, Barry, and Kimberly. James (Jimmy) and Martha live in Franklin, Virginia. James (Jimmy) was born June 4, 1934.

(3). PHYLIS HOWELL married Hugh Taylor, Jr. and there were three children born from this union. They are: Cindy, Michall, and Lisa. Phyllis and Hugh are divorced. She then married Woody Marks. They were divorced and she then married Harry Mewborn. She makes her home in Franklin, Virginia. Phyllis was born May 8, 1942.

Mrs. Howell (Emily Ann) lives at the home place in Franklin, Virginia.

Jesse Dempsey Gardner's second wife was Annie L. Turner. They were married Aug. 20, 1927. There was one child born from this union, Jesse Dempsey Gardner, Jr.

(1). JESSE DEMPSEY GARDNER, JR. was born Sept. 14, 1928 (see chart 8B8 on the following page). He married Anne Bulls Jan. 17, 1954. They have three children and five grand children. Their children are: Pamela Anne (born Dec. 6, 1954), Jesse D.III (born Dec. 27, 1957), and Mark Watkins (born Nov. 11, 1962).

(A). PAMELA ANNE GARDNER married Mark K. Grumbles Jan. 10,

1981. They have three children, Kevin Owen (born Dec. 18, 1985), Drew Neville (born July 26, 1988), and Annie Victoria (born Mar. 22, 1991). Pamela and her husband Mark live in Costa Rica.

(B). JESSE D. GARDNER III married Carol Barnickel Nov. 29, 1986. They have two children. They are: Natalie Virginia (born June 18, 1990) and Jesse D. Gardner IV (born April 6, 1992). He and his wife live in Baltimore, Maryland.

(C). MARK WATKINS GARDNER married Gail Muzzy June 28, 1992. They live in Highland Springs, Virginia.

Jesse D. Gardner, Jr. retired from Union Camp Corp. this past year (1991). He and his wife Anne live in Franklin, Virginia.

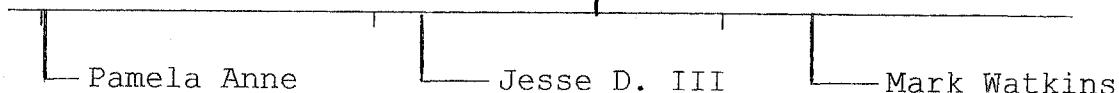
This completes the information which I have on the James Gardner II family. I know there is much more information on this family but I will leave the work of tracing it to some one else.

I will conclude this chapter with a short sketch on South Quay, Virginia, a short story about Benjamin Evans Cobb, and a sketch of rural life on a farm or plantation.

CHART 8B8

Jesse Dempsey Gardner, Jr. - Sept. 14, 1928

Wife: Anne Bulls - April 14, 1934 Married: Jan. 17, 1954



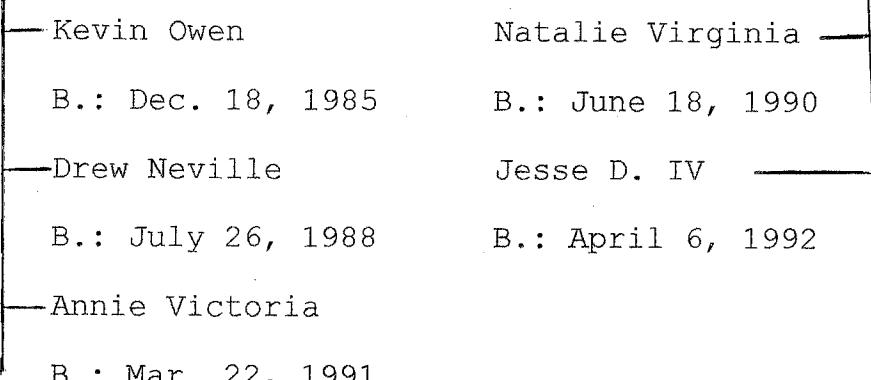
B.: Dec. 6, 1954 B.: Dec. 27, 1957 B.: Nov. 11, 1962

Married: Married: Married:

Mark K. Grumbles Carol Barnickel Gail Muzzy

Jan. 10, 1981 Nov. 29, 1986 June 6, 1992

B.: Apr. 11, 1953 B.: Jan. 15, 1959 B.:



B.: Mar. 22, 1991

South Quay
Southampton County, Virginia

Today South Quay (pronounced South Key) is little more than a name for an area of Southampton County and Suffolk, Virginia and a foot note in history books. The memory of it's importance has long since faded and is no more. But it has not always been so. During the 1700's and even into the 1800's it was an important center of trade and commerce for the southern section if Virginia.

South Quay first appeared on colonial maps as early as 1657. By 1701 it had become a landing and trading post operated and owned by John Cotton. Then in a period of ten years, in 1711, it was a center for trade and commerce. North Carolina received supplies there, from Virginia, for the war against the Tuscaroras, an indian tribe. In 1711 Thomas Pollock, the Governor of North Carolina, asked Governor Spotswood of Virginia to deliver spades, pans, and hand grenades to Mr. John Cotton's on the Black Water where a boat will meet them.

North Carolina and Virginia officials met at South Quay in Feb. 1712. Governor Spotswood went to South Quay to meet with Governor Hyde of North Carolina, but Governor Hyde did not show up. He sent two representatives instead. As it turned out these two men did not have the authority to consummate an agreement. A very irritated Governor Spotswood returned to Williamsburg and was heard to say that North Carolina should be sold to pay for the war with the Indians. The Indian war ended in 1714 and by that time the land

west of the Black Water was occupied by hundreds of pioneer families. One of these families was James Gardner I, our ancestor.

During the years which followed South Quay grew and prospered. By 1757 there were several warehouses, a store, an inn, and a wharf. There was also a ship-yard located there. During 1776 and 1777 two war ships were built at South Quay. They were the Caswell and the George Washington. They were Galleys and were built to help protect Ocracoke Bay, which was located at Ocracoke Island on the North Carolina coast, from British war ships.

In 1757 the warehouse was operated by a Mr. Fisher and the store by Dr. Henning Tembte. By 1777 the warehouse was operated by Benjamin Baker and Richard Blow. I have found that the schooners Westover, Friend Will, Good Intent, and Conclusion along with others made South Quay one of their port of calls.

The British Army placed so much importance on South Quay that it sent Tarleton's Cavalry (700 strong) to destroy the place. On July 16, 1781 this unit rode into South Quay and proceeded to carry out this destruction. When they rode out there was nothing left but smoldering ashes.

This was not the end of South Quay as a trade center for the people rebuilt the town and continued as before. The decline of South Quay started in the late 1700's. This came about due to shifts in trade. Then when the railroad came through in the early 1800's the final blow to its existence was struck. South Quay never recovered from this because the trade centers had moved a little north along the railroad.

BENJAMIN EVANS

COBB

Benjamin Evans Cobb was the great grandfather of the author of this book. I have included this story to show the contrast between the families of the area and their beliefs before and during the Civil War.

As you know, slaves were bought and sold in Virginia from the 1600's through 1865. Our ancestors were no different than most. They owned slaves from the earliest times. This continued until the end of the Civil War at which time the Federal Government set all the slaves free.

The great tragedy of slavery was suffered upon this country and a race of people by short sighted people in the early 1600's and was continued for over two hundred years. Some people in Virginia came to realize that slavery was wrong and others had never thought it should exist. The Quakers did not own slaves and helped run-away slaves escape their owners. David C. Barrow, the minister of South Quay Baptist Church, freed his slaves and began to preach sermons against slavery. His sermons had little or no impact on the members of this church or the other churches of which he was the minister. He gave up trying to change the practice of slavery in this area and moved to Kentucky in 1798. Just before he resigned and went to Kentucky he preached the strongest sermon against slavery of his ministry. This sermon was preached at Blackcreek Baptist Church. It is not clear if he left on his own or

was told his services were no longer needed or wanted. Which ever was the case, he departed for Kentucky and never returned to the area again.

There were others who held the same belief as Rev. Barrow and the Quakers. One of whom was Benjamin Evans Cobb. He was my great grand father on my mother's side of the family. The following is a story related to me by his daughter, Effie Cobb Joyner. Grand Ma Effie was my mother's mother.

Evans was a young man when the Civil War broke out and he lived with his parents on a farm near Sedley, Virginia. He never used his first name in referring to himself, he and others always used his middle name, Evans, instead. His family did not own slaves and Evans did not want to fight and die for a cause which he neither practiced nor supported. Therefore he would not volunteer for service with the Confederate Army.

It is not clear if he and his family were Quakers at this time or not. My grand mother said they were but she was not sure of this.

The Confederate Government began to press men into military service as the war dragged on and the ranks of the army became thinner. Small detachments were sent out to find and press into service men who were not in the army.

Evans saw one of these detachments approaching his home and knew they were looking for him. They were too close for him to make an escape. So he put one of his mother's dresses on and a bonnet and sat at the spinning wheel spinning as they searched for him.

They searched all the out buildings and the house, passing close to him several times in the process. Not being able to find him they left.

Evans knew the army would not give up and that other soldiers would return in search of him. He went to the forest at the back side of the farm when he was sure they were gone. As night fell, his mother carried him some provisions and spare cloths, which she had placed in a burlap bag. Evans decided that he must leave the area if he wished to stay out of the army.

Evans decided to try to go to Fort Monroe, which is in Hampton, Virginia. This fort remained in the Union hands the entire war. He traveled at night and during the day he hid in the forest. Evans made his way from Sedley, by foot, to the James River and then searched for a boat. He found and took a row boat, which was unattended, and crossed the river. When he reached the east bank of the James, he felt safe at last. He then went on to the area of Fort Monroe and was hired to cook for a unit of the Union Army.

He met Nancy Jane Buck while in Hampton and married her while there. Nancy was from North Carolina and was in Hampton with a troupe of dancers. This troupe was there to help entertain the soldiers.

When the war ended, Evans with his bride came back to Sedley to make their home. Nancy never heard from anyone in her family except her mother. Nancy would write to her mother and received letters from her. She never heard anything from any other member of the family. After Nancy's mother died she lost all contact with her

family.

I know this story has nothing to do with the Gardner family and was included to show how the Civil War divided families. Nancy Buck must have longed to see her mother and father as well as the rest of her family. Her father disowned her when she joined the troupe of dancers and went to Hampton. Her mother did write to her but her father would not let her return to his home. He would have nothing to with her and would not even acknowledge she was alive.

Life On A Homestead, Farm,

Or Plantation

One must remember, the people who settled this land had to be resourceful in order to survive.

There were no supermarkets, hardware stores, drug stores, clothing stores, or medical facilities for them to depend upon. For the most part they had to spin their own wool and cotton, make the cloth, and then make their own cloths. They also had to raise their own food and preserve enough to last through the winter and spring until a new crop was ready for harvest. There were no houses for them to rent. They had to build their own homes. Most of these homes started out as log cabins with dirt floors and were usually one big room. The loft or attic, as we call it, was where the children slept and their parents slept in the main room.

Needless to say, many of these people died young. Disease was rampant and there were precious few drugs to combat them. A lot of women died in child birth and many of the children died young, never reaching maturity.

The spring and summer of every year was spent cutting wood to be used for fuel the following winter. They also had to plant, raise, and harvest a crop. What did they grow for crops? Corn was one. It was essential to sustain the family and farm through another year. They used nearly all the corn plant. The leaf (fodder) was pulled and bundled to be used as feed for the animals. The ears of corn were pulled, after they were dry, and stored in a

corn crib. The corn crib was a log barn. The opening between the logs was not chinked. They were left like this so air could circulate through the corn. The shuck from the ear of corn served as food for the animals too. The kernels of corn were shelled from the cob as needed and used for chicken and other foul feed. It was also used for feed for the cattle, sheep, hogs, and horses. Part of the corn was used to make corn meal for the family.

Two other crops were tobacco and cotton. These were grown primarily as money crops, although some of the cotton was used by the family. A small portion of the tobacco was also retained and used by the family.

They raised sheep in order to produce wool. The wool provided income as well as being used on the farm. There were cows to provide dairy products and meat, hogs to provide meat, ducks, geese, and chickens as well as the oxen and horses. All of these animals had to be cared for year round as well as the family. The settler had very little time for relaxation. He and the entire family worked all spring, summer, and fall preparing for the next winter. Winter did not bring any relief from the constant work. The animals had to be cared for every day. They also slaughtered hogs during cold weather and then preserved the meat by smoking it. Every family had a large smoke house and each winter it was filled with meat for another year. They also slaughtered cows for food. I will write more about the "Hog Killing" later. In addition to every day chores, killing hogs, and providing for the family, they cleared more land. This was an on going task every winter. They cut

the trees, pulled stumps, and burned the brush in order to have additional land to cultivate. Imagine, if you can, having to clear an acre of forest with nothing but a cross cut saw, grubbing hoe, an ax, some rope, and a horse or oxen. I have been told that these people would clear an acre every two weeks using these tools.

The tree trunks were saved for lumber and also for fire wood. The branches were burned. Stumps which they could not pull up were left to rot in place. You would also be surprised at how much a herd of hogs can help in clearing land. They root up the small under brush and tear the soil up by rooting. The only thing left are the mature trees. My father told me that when he was a child there was no thick underbrush in the forest because of this. Most planters kept their hogs in the forest except during the winter months. They also kept the cattle in the forest for the most part. The sheep were kept on land which could not be cultivated. They were also used along the lanes in order to keep the grass down. Sheep make wonderful lawn mowers.

As their land holdings grew and as they increased the acres which could be cultivated these people began to prosper. They built better homes and their farms became plantations.

There were no refrigeration units for these people to use. Therefore they used natural refrigeration. During the summer they placed the milk and butter in buckets and lowered it to the water level in the well. Milk and butter would stay fresh several days in this manner. During the winter these products were placed in what was called a dairy. The dairy was nothing more than a cabinet built

outside the house and located near the kitchen. Most of these dairies had tin on the front, sides, and back. Small holes were punched in the tin to provide air circulation. My wife's aunt still has one of the dairies in her back yard. It was built many years ago and has not been used for a long time now. I remember the one which my Great Aunt Cora Joyner had just outside her kitchen. She and Uncle Hurley lived near Sedley, Virginia and for many years would not put electric current in their home. They lived for the most part as their parents had, without the modern conveniences of their time. Uncle Hurley died when I was in my teens and he farmed all his life with horse drawn equipment. A farm tractor was not used on his farm as long as he lived. I well remember him breaking land with a horse drawn plow. His wife used a farm bell to call him to the house at dinner time (mid day meal) and this bell was not rung at any other time except in the case of an emergency.

The farm bell was a way of communication on the farms and plantations. The bell signaled meal time, the end of the work day, and called neighbors in emergencies. It was only rung at designated times during the day. Any other time it began to ring everyone in the area knew an emergency existed and would drop what they were doing to respond.

Nearly every farm had an apple orchard and most had pecan trees either in the yard or along the lane. A lot of the farms had stills for making apple brandy and sour mash whiskey.

Water powered grist mills also dotted the landscape. I can count at least ten of these grist mills even today. One or two are

still in operation but are powered with electric motors now. Most plantation owners did not have to travel but a mile or two in order to reach one of these mills. The miller charged a toll for grinding corn or wheat and this toll was taken from the raw product before it was milled. The miller made most of his money by then grinding the toll corn or wheat and selling the corn meal or flour to people who lived in the small towns and to stores. My wife's sister and her husband have a toll barrel which came out of her grandfather's grist mill. This barrel was a piece of hollow log. There were boards nailed across one end to form a bottom and other boards nailed together formed a top.

During the 1600's and well into the 1700's people settled on or near rivers because water was the easiest form of transportation. John Gardner and his son, James I, first land grants were on the heads of the branches of the western branch of the Nansemond River in Isle of Wight County, Virginia. When James I sold this land, in 1692, he moved to land on the west side of the Black Water River in Nansemond and Isle of Wight Counties. At the time which he went to that area it was still Indian land and was not supposed to be open for settlement. His first land grant in that area was not granted until 1717. This was after the Indian war ended.

Lets get back to the life of a farmer and plantation owner. During the winter months one family at a time in an area would slaughter a cow. All the neighbors would come and help slaughter and dress the cow. Then the meat would be divided between all the

families who were there to help. Sometime later another family would do the same. In this manner the entire neighborhood had fresh beef all winter. Everyone shared and helped each other. Wouldn't it be great if this same spirit existed throughout our society today. It is still alive in our rural communities but does not exist in our cities and towns.

The "hog killing" was and still is the slaughtering of hogs on the farm. This was a busy time on the farm and every week in January and February one farm or another had a hog killing. This was an important event because it provided the meat for an entire year for the family. Neighbors, both husband and wife, assisted and in turn were helped with their killing time. It took a couple days preparation to get ready for the hog killing. A gallows had to be erected. This consisted of a pole about six inches in diameter and about thirty feet long. Post were erected in a straight line. The post stood about six and one half feet tall. The long pole was put across the top of the post and fastened in place. If a large number of hogs were to be killed, two gallows would be erected or as many as would be needed.

Next the scalding barrel had to be put in place. The scalding barrel was a large hardwood cask, open on one end. A large iron pipe was fitted tightly in the side about six inches from the head. The cask was then blocked at about a forty five degree angle. When ready to be used, the barrel was filled with water and a fire made along the pipe. In just a few minutes the water would be scalding hot.

A table of thick boards was constructed, level with the mouth of the barrel.

The work of the hog killing began early in the morning. One of the men would stun a hog, with a blow from the blunt side of an ax, on the front of the head. Two other men immediately flipped the animal on it's back and another man stuck a sharp butcher knife deep into the throat and moved it around until the jugular vein was severed. A gush of blood covered the man's hand and knife when the vein was severed. This was repeated until four or five hogs were killed. They let the animals bleed thoroughly until they were quite dead.

The first one killed was carried to the scalding barrel and inserted head first. The animal was rotated in the steaming water for several minutes and then reversed. When the hair was loose, the body was placed on the table and as many men as could get around, began to scrape the hair off. They used curry combs, stiff brushes, and even corn cobs around the eyes, ears, and snout. After being scraped and washed clean, the body was a clean pinkish white. It was then left on the table to cool out while the others were scalded and scraped.

Next was the hanging on the gallows. A slit in the skin of the back part of the hocks exposed the heel string. This is a very strong and tough sinew by which the carcass was suspended on the gallows. The heel string was separated from the surrounding tissue and a gamble (a round piece of hardwood about one and one half inches in diameter, sharpened on both ends) was inserted in one

leg, the body was then lifted (head down) so the gamble could be inserted in the other heel string on the opposite side of the gallows pole. The carcass then hung head down about one foot from the ground. Half a corn cob was placed between the front teeth to afford good drainage.

Opening of the carcass began with a slit near the inside top and continued down the middle to the throat. Two men held a tub to catch the entrails and organs as they were separated from the carcass. While this task was being completed the other men would kill four or five more hogs. This was repeated over and over again until the desired number of hogs were killed.

The women's work was done in an outbuilding called the wash house. It was tightly built and had a good fire place. The tub was carried to the wash house where the women began their work of separating the fat from the entrails, selecting those needed for casings for sausage and other ground meat. The casings had to be thoroughly cleaned and soaked. The heart, lungs (which was called haslet), kidneys, sweet breads, liver, etc. were referred to as "freshes" and were divided among the family and neighbors who were helping with the work. When they assisted their neighbors, they were given the freshes. This, of course, prolonged the season of fresh meat all through the neighborhood. After opening and removing all contents of the body cavity, the carcass was rinsed thoroughly inside and out and left hanging on the gallows over night. This was done so all the animal heat would leave the carcass.

Early the next morning the carcass was taken down and "cut

"out" (this was the process of dressing). Sharp knives, an ax, and meat cleaver were the tools used in this process. First, the head was completely severed and put aside for later attention. Later the head was split and the brains removed, ears and snout went into souse. The jowls were split apart and smoked along with the other meat.

The first cuts were made on each side of the backbone, unless one wanted pork chops, then the first cut was made a few inches from the backbone. If you were going to have pork chops, the backbone also was split down the middle. After removing the backbone, the hams, sides, and shoulders were separated. Each one of these had to be trimmed and right much good meat was removed from each. The trimmings were carried to the women in the wash house. They cut away the skin and graded the meat for sausage, relish, and dandoodle. The fat was cut away and put into a large iron pot. This pot sat in the fire place with a low fire built under it. The fat was cooked at low heat until it melted into a liquid. There was small pieces which would not dissolve. These pieces were taken out and the grease was squeezed out of them. They were then allowed to cool and were called cracklings. The liquid grease was then poured into stone crocks and allowed to cool. This formed the lard (cooking grease) which they used for cooking from one year to the next.

Before cutting out the hams, shoulders, and sides the tenderloin was pulled (not cut) from along the backbone. This was a special delicacy. Also, there was a layer of fat called leaf

lard. This, also, was pulled away, not cut. As the meat intended for sausage accumulated, grinding was begun. After the meat was ground and spice added, it was placed in a sausage stuffer. This was a substantial frame to which was attached a wooden cylinder of about four inches. There was a metal nipple attached to an opening in the bottom of the cylinder. A wooden plunger with a long handle fitted inside the cylinder. When the operation of stuffing was ready to start, a casing was threaded onto the nipple. Ground sausage meat was placed in the cylinder and the plunger depressed. This forced the meat through the nipple into the casing. About every four inches the casing was tied off. This formed the links of sausage and the procedure was continued until the casing was completely filled. This procedure was repeated until all the sausage meat was in casings and ready to be smoked.

After the meat had been trimmed, it was ready to be salted down. Inside the smoke house was a table used for this purpose. The table usually ran the length of the inside of the smoke house and had sides about six inches high. Before any meat was placed on the table, a layer of salt was spread on the top. Next there was a layer of meat placed on top of the salt. Salt was rubbed into the raw edges of each piece of meat as it was placed on the table. Each layer of meat was covered with salt before another layer was added. After all the meat had been stacked on the table in layers, it was completely covered with salt. Every few days salt was added as it soaked into the meat. After a few weeks the meat was taken out of the salt and washed. A mixture of salt, pepper, and saltpeter was

then rubbed into the meat and the meat was hung from the rafters in the smoke house for smoking. Smoking of the meat lasted several days and most people used hickory or oak with a little apple wood mixed in. The fire was not allowed to blaze. Smoke was what was needed, so the fire was kept smothered down. When the smoking of the meat was complete, the meat was left hanging in the smoke house until it was needed.

Other animals, such as cows, sheep, and goats were slaughtered, but not in large numbers at the time. Usually no more than one or two as the need called for.

There is a saying which I am sure you have heard and which is, "Man's work is from sun to sun, but woman's work is never done". This saying is bound to have originated on a homestead or plantation. The planter was up and ready to start work at sunrise and continued until sunset nearly every day. On the other hand, his wife was up ahead of him in order to have breakfast ready. She stayed busy all day and well into the night most of the time.

It was her responsibility to maintain the home, raise the children, and provide the meals. This was not an easy task.

She made lye soap, which was used to wash cloths and for general cleaning. In the backyard there was a large iron pot, which was called a wash pot. This was where all the family laundry was done. On wash day, the pot was filled with water and then a fire was built around the pot to heat the water. Lye soap was rubbed on the cloths and they were placed in the pot and boiled. The cloths were stirred as they boiled. This was done to help remove the dirt.

After a sufficient time in the wash pot, the cloths were removed and rinsed in a tub of clean water. The excess water was then rung out and the garments were placed on a cloths line to dry. This completed just half the work of wash day. The garments had to be pressed after they were dried. This was accomplished by using flat irons.

The flat irons were heated either at the fire place or on a stove. Most of the time the work of pressing was done after supper.

She also saw to the preparation of all the meals, preserved food for the ensuing winter, made their own butter and cheese, looked after, and raised the children. As I stated before, her's was no easy task.

This way of life changed little during the eighteenth, nineteenth, and early twentieth centuries. The planter and his family's work was made easier by the acquisition of slaves. The number of slaves owned by a planter was determined by how successful he was and how large a plantation he had. The original plantations grew smaller as the land was divided between the children of each new generation.

Some of the descendants were able to build their land holdings back to large plantations, but many could not. Therefore the plantations became farms as they grew smaller.

The Will of Joshua Gardner is on pages 159 and 160.

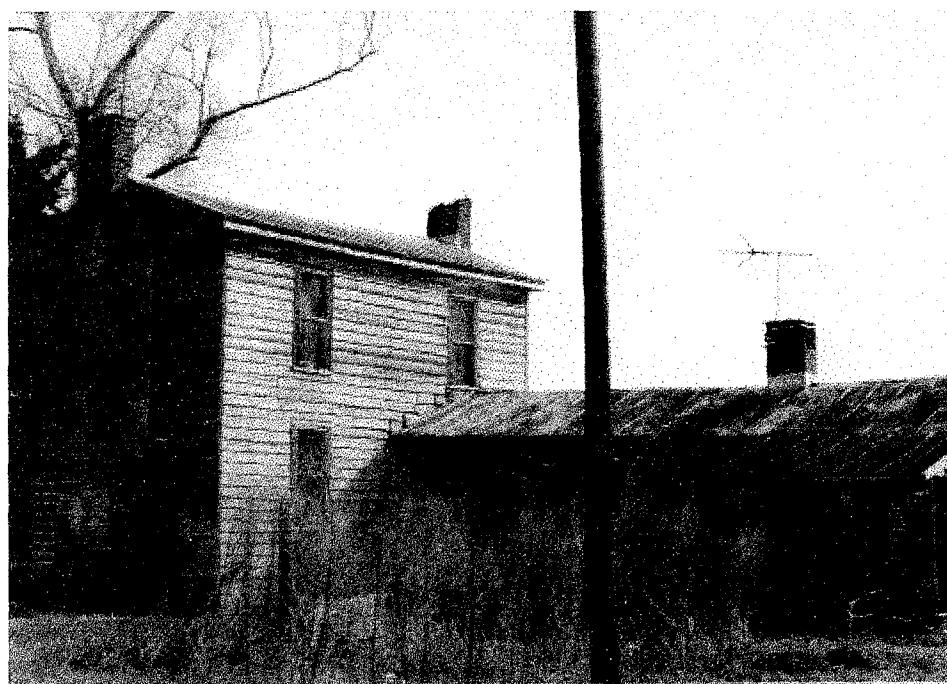
On page 158 there are two pictures. The first is a picture of the house in which Jesse Dempsey Gardner raised his family. As you can see the house is in very poor condition today. The people who

own the property now plan to tear it down but just had not had a chance to do so before I took the picture.

The other picture is of a house which is called the Jimmy Gardner place. It too is in poor disrepair but it is not as bad as the Jesse D. Gardner house. I believe that the Jimmy Gardner place is part of the land which Lemuel R. Gardner owned at one time. Although I have no proof of this. I have not been able to find out who Jimmy Gardner was. This farm was mentioned in a writing which I have. This article states that in 1900 Jimmy Gardner's widow was living there and that he had been dead many years. He could have been James M. Gardner, the son of Lemuel R. Gardner. Again, I have no proof of this.



Jesse Dempsey Gardner home place just off State Route 258 West of Franklin, Virginia.



The Jimmy Gardner place between Franklin, Va. And South Quay, on Pretlow Street.

is the name of God Amen I make good of the body & my
perfect in health and sound in mind & memory testifying to mind the mortality of
my body & knowing it is appointed for all to die Do me also Ordain this my
last will and Testament Principally that of all command my soul into the
hands of Almighty God who gave it very long to the Earth to be entred shortly at the creation
of my body & leaving such worthy goods Estate and hath given God to help me with His in the
following manner.

Item. I give unto my living wife Ann Gardner his daughter by her Name, Peter, Sam, Pet, Hannah King,
during her natural life to raise & School my children in and after her death the above money
to be equally divided amongst all my living children Henry, John, James, Jep, Ann, Bay -
Abigail & Peggy Gardner to them when herefrom.

Item. I give unto my son Henry Gardner the land with the appurtenances that I bought of Mrs. Deacon
lying on back swamp containing two hundred & fifty acres lying on the east side of
the east side of back swamp also one acre by name of Abigail to him this his farm.

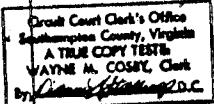
Item. I give unto my son Job Gardner the land I bought of Mrs. Deacon lying on the back swamp
as follows one tract of land containing two hundred & fifty acres and lying on both sides of the
said swamp and one tract by name thereof lying on the swamp containing fifty acres with
the appurtenances also my will and desire is that to have a house built with a brick gable end
Twenty eight feet by sixteen with a partition through it one half plank floor & the other half brick, a brick
chimney at each end, to be built out of the estate left my wife Also one large bed and two
beds of furniture, one black walnut desk & leather chair, one desk, one bureau, four picture
plates & three frames & three another plates, one chair Pot, two large beds & bedding two cows and
calves, three four & five another plates, one chair Pot, two large beds & bedding two cows and
calves, three four & five another plates, one chair Pot, two large beds & bedding to him this his farm.

Item. I give unto my son James Gardner the plantation I have here on allowing my wife the
privilege on the same during her life Also one byder stool planted on the said land
one bed of furniture, one black walnut desk & leather chair, one desk, one bureau, four picture
plates & three frames & three another plates one chair Pot, one large bed & bedding two
cows & calves three four & five another plates to him this his farm

Item. I give unto my son John Gardner one tract of land I bought of Matthew Jones lying on
the south side of Black water Beginning at the mouth of the back swamp thence
tho' various courses of the said swamp to John it takes along thence down the said
line to Black water thence down the same to the beginning containing fifty acres more or
less One large man named Pompey (Slaves at my death) to be housed and until the said
child becomes of lawful age and the money arising therefrom to be appropriated to the use
of the said child to school him & and after he becomes of lawful age to take the said boy man
in Poyson forever Also one acre of ground among the bed of furniture one black walnut
desk & chair two maple little one desk, one bureau, four picture plates three four & five another
plates one chair Pot, two large beds & bedding & two chairs & two tables & one large bed & bedding to him this his farm.
And in case either of the brothers should die under age my desire is that his lands should be
equally divided amongst his other brothers then also -

Item - I give unto my daughter Ann Jones two Negroe girl named Rose & her during her life and after
 her death to all her children then a like to them and their heirs forever.
 Item I give unto my daughter Betty one Negroe girl named Rebecca to her heirs
 forever. I give unto my daughter Anna Gardner two Negroe girls named Lucy & Elizabeth
 sometime one wooden wheel. Two Chests two black walnut boxes two tables. Two chairs
 one chair one box of four plates three from White earthen plates one wooden
 candle, two Cows Valuers there four Pigs five Lambs to her heirs forever.
 Item I give unto my daughter Polly Darden Gardner two Negroe girls named Lucy &
 Elizabeth, pounds weight many of Virginia box tea & furniture one wooden wheel two Chests two
 black walnut chairs two Negroe girls one dish one Basin, four plates three from
 White earthen plates one box of one wooden candle two Cows Valuers there four Pigs
 five Lambs and Lamb to her and her heirs forever. Item I give unto my daughter Polly
 Gardner one Negroe girl named Anna one box of furniture two Chests two black
 Walnut chairs two Negroe girls one wooden wheel one dish one Basin four plates
 three from White earthen plates one box of one wooden candle two Cows
 Valuers there four Pigs five Lambs and Lamb to her heirs forever. And in case
 either of the daughters should die without a lawful issue my will and desire is that her
 legacy should be equally divided among my children then alive. Item giving my
 loving wife Anna Gardner the use of my plantation Island before her death and at the
 residue of my life of what kind a quality whatever during her natural life my said
 desire is that my estate be kept together with my wife until my children finally come of
 age to receive their legacies as above mentioned and my desire is my estate may not be
 appraised but only an inventory estimated. I hereby nominate and appoint my wife
 Anna Gardner Executrix to my son Harry Gardner to do this my last will and Testament
 making all other wills by me before made nullifying this to be my last will and
 Testament. In witness whereof I have set my hand & affixed my seal this 6 day of
 February 1798.

Signed Sealed & pronounced
 In the presence of Jacob Darden Sub. This will was presented in Court by Ann Gardner & Harry Gardner
 Jacob Darden Sub. The last will now made and proved by the oaths of said witnesses
 Jonathan Darden & Jacob Darden Sub witness thereto and to be recorded
 and on this Notion of the said testator who made oath according to law before me
 I witness them to swearing a triple curse in due form giving penalty whereupon it —



Sam'l Kelly Jr.