**The Bundy Family:**

**From Pasquotank County, North Carolina to Southern Illinois[[1]](#footnote-1)**

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23 September 2022

Benjamin Bundy and his wife, Ruth Jennings, were ancestors of families that settled in three different counties in southern Illinois. Their son Jonathan and his wife Dorcas settled in the Walnut Hill area of what became Marion County, Illinois prior around 1817. Their grandson John through David Bundy was in Williamson County by the time of the 1850 census and their great grandson Samuel through David’s son Thomas was in Williamson County by 1860. Their grandson Nathan Bundy through David Bundy, came to Saline County by 1873, joining children who had settled in that area in different times as far back about 1840 when it was still Gallatin County. Some descendants have subsequently moved in other Southern Illinois Counties.

**Benjamin Bundy, son of John and Elizabeth Bundy and husband of Ruth Jennings**, was born in Pasquotank Co., North Carolina on 12 December 1729 according to Pasquotank (Symons Creek) Monthly Meeting Records of the Society of Friends.[[2]](#footnote-2) The family played an important role in the establishment and growth of the Society of Friends in North Carolina. Benjamin, however, placed marriage above continuing the religious life of his father and grandfather. Minutes of the Symons Creek Men’s monthly meeting succinctly tell the story. On 6 September 1754 the minutes report, “…it appears by Reference to this Meeting that Benjamin Bundy having Joyned in Marriage with a young woman not of Pure Sosiety -[illeg]- Friends appoint Joseph Pritchard and Joseph Scott to prepare a paper of Denial against the sd Benjamin and bring to next month meeting to be approved off [sic.]---” (pp. 352-353). On 3 October Pritchard and Scott read their paper and it was approved. Benjamin was excluded from the Society of Friends (p. 353). Benjamin attempted a reconciliation on 7 August 1766when he condemned his outgoings in marriage, but the attempt was not accepted (Hinshaw, p. 132). Benjamin Bundy was living in Pasquotank Co. on 8 Aug. 1767 when he sold land to Joseph Morris (Bk. E, p. 421). The Pasquotank Court in October 1767 appointed Isaac Jennings to oversee a road in place of Benjamin Bundy, decd.[[3]](#footnote-3) Benjamin resided in Pasquotank County at the time of his death and that county is his presumptive place of death. There are no probate records for the estate. Subsequent records name Benjamin’s wife, Ruth, as head of the household.

**Ruth Jennings, wife of Benjamin Bundy,** neither Quaker records nor the estate papers of Ruth’s father state Ruth’s name. Her name can be deduced from a combination of Pasquotank County records, however. The will of John Jenins [Jennings], signed and proved in 1751, referred to six children. Only Isaac was named.[[4]](#footnote-4) All six were left cattle, the oldest four “…all the cattle called theirs” and the two youngest a cow and calf each. Pasquotank Co. ***Births, Deaths, Marriages, Brands, and Fleshmarks*** record that on 4 December 1753 Isaac, Ruth, Ann, David, Demsy, and Lemuel Jennings registered earmarks (p. 20, folio 3). The registrations were sequential, indicating that they appeared together in court. The estate papers show that shares went to Isaac Jennings, David Jennings, Benjamin Bundy, Demcey Jennings, Lamuell Jennings, and Ann Jennings. Ruth is the only one of the six who registered earmarks but who was not named as receiving a share of the John Jennings estate. Benjamin Bundy married a daughter who was unnamed. Ruth Bundy is on the tax list of Frederick Blount in 1769 (p. 1), the year of the first extant lists after Benjamin’s death in 1767. Ruth is on subsequent tax lists in proximity to the Jennings brothers.[[5]](#footnote-5)

**The sons of Benjamin and Ruth** are inferred from their appearance on Pasquotank tax lists and the 1786 state census. All but the youngest son appear in proximity with Ruth when they started heading households on tax lists in what became District 1. The youngest first appears in District 1 after Ruth’s apparent death. The timing of their appearance is consistent with young men coming of age. Bundy families clearly related to other branches do not appear in District 1. Jonathan is listed in Ruth’s household on Edward Everigin’s 1774 list (p. 1) and on Jonathan Banks’ 1776 list (p. 1). In 1777 Jonathan was head of household (Banks’ list, p. 4) and in 1782 on the General Assembly list posted by the North Carolina State Archives. Jonathan (image 16), Ruth (image 17), and John (image 17) are heads of a household. On that list Quakers were reported separately and subject to a treble tax.[[6]](#footnote-6) Four Bundy’s were among them. Ruth and her children are not on the Quaker list. (A Caleb Bundy was also listed as a non-Quaker (image 15).) David Bundy is listed in District 1 along with Jonathan, Ruth, and John in 1784 (pp. 1, 3). (There are no extant Pasquotank lists for 1783.) The 1786 state census lists John, Ruth, Jonathan, and David in District 1, all on the first page and the last three adjacent to one another. Ruth last appears in 1791. Jonathan appears in District 4 in 1793, perhaps after his marriage to Dorcas Brothers. There were nine Brothers men in the District 4 that year. Demsey Bundy first appears on the 1788 District 1 tax list (p. 3). Ruth, David, and John are also on that tax list. On the 1790 census of Pasquotank County Demsey Bundy is listed on the same page with Ruth, John, and David (p. 235). Demsey was adjacent to Ruth on the 1791 District 1 tax list, with David and John on the same page. In 1794 William Bundy appears for the first time, taxed in District 1 for 17 ½ acres of land, the amount of land Ruth owned before she died. Jonathan, William, David, and John, each aged 26 to 45, are found in Pasquotank on the 1800 census with teenage children in the household (pp. 634, 635, 638, 640). This is consistent with ages one would expect for children of a man who married in 1754 and died in 1767. Only Jonathan is found in Pasquotank for the 1810 census (p. 383). No daughters have been identified.

**Support for the American Revolution.** Ruth, Jonathan, John, and David all provided material support for the Revolution. An examination of the extant 18th Century Pasquotank tax lists, the grantor index, and the grantee index shows no evidence of more than one Ruth, Jonathan, or David Bundy in Pasquotank. A search of Hinshaw’s six volumes of the ***Encyclopedia of Quaker Genealogy*** yields only one other Ruth Bundy who was born prior to the end of the Revolution. She was reported under her maiden name during the Revolution: Ruth Bundy of Pasquotank County was “liberated to marry” John Davis in 1747.[[7]](#footnote-7) (Ruth, wife of Benjamin was not a Quaker and is not mentioned by name in Quaker records.) Moreover, only one Ruth, Jonathan, John, or David Bundy appears in the North Carolina state censuses of 1784-1787 and a search of the 1790 federal census[[8]](#footnote-8) returns only one Ruth, Jonathan, or David Bundy in the United States, all in Pasquotank County. There is evidence of more than one John Bundy in Pasquotank. The 1790 census shows two men of this name in North Carolina, both in Pasquotank County. Special care must be taken to determine that evidence of service of John Bundy is service by the correct man.

Ruth provided clothing valued at £0.6.0 specie (£120 currency) in the Edenton District, of which Pasquotank County was a part, July 1781.[[9]](#footnote-9) The Edenton District Board of Auditors on 29 December 1783 authorized vouchers to David Bundy for £8.12.0 and to Jonathan Bundy for £8.12.0.[[10]](#footnote-10) What they provided was not specified. A John Bundy was authorized a voucher by the Edenton Board for £9 specie on 16 April 1782, but there is no clear evidence which John Bundy of Pasquotank was issued the voucher.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacted a law on 13 April 1782 for determining what property was taxable, assessing that property, and collecting public taxes for 1782 and 1783 and on the same day a tax law “…for defraying contingencies and supporting the armies which are, or may be, employed in defending the United States.”[[11]](#footnote-11) The papers of the General Assembly in the North Carolina State Archives include a 1782 assessment list for Pasquotank County.[[12]](#footnote-12) The list was not alphabetical. Quakers were listed separately.[[13]](#footnote-13) Jonathan, Ruth, and John Bundy are all named on this list in the main portion of the list reserved for those who were not Quakers and Ruth and John on the same page and Jonathan is on the previous page. All but one other Bundy appear in the Quakers portion of the list.

**Two sons of Benjamin and Ruth Jennings Bundy with known Southern Illinois connections** will now be discussed. These are Jonathan and David Bundy. Those interested in the other sons, John, Demsey, and William should see “Revolutionary Services of the Benjamin Bundy Family of Pasquotank Co., North Carolina: Ruth (Jennings) Bundy, Jonathan Bundy, John Bundy, and David Bundy” in the Revolutionary biography section of the SAR Patriot Research System at [www.sar.org](http://www.sar.org) .

**Jonathan Bundy, son of Benjamin and Ruth,** was the first son of Benjamin and Ruth to appear on a Pasquotank tax list, 1774 in Ruth’s household. The 1779 General Assembly tax lists identifies him as a single man subject to the poll tax (p. 25). The 1790 census of Pasquotank County shows him with two males over 16 in the household, two under 16, and two females (p. 236). On 6 March 1799 Jonathan Bundy and wife Dorcas, Richard Brothers and wife Rebekah, Caleb Casper and wife Lucea, Joshua Brothers in his own right and as guardian of Enoch, Peggy, Robert, Micajah, Mary, and Joseph Brothers, minor children of Joseph Brothers, Sen., decd., sold 60 acres of land to Edmond White (Bk. O, pp. 345-346). In 1800 Jonathan is listed on the census aged 26 to 44, with 5 male children and one female child in the household (p. 624). The eldest female was 16 to 26. He owned five slaves. Jonathan departed for Sumner Co., Tennessee where he resided with other kin before moving to Illinois, according to accounts posted on the internet. He settled in the Walnut Hill area of what is now Marion Co. and died there in 1819. The 1820 census of Jefferson Co. lists the household headed by his widow, Dorcas (p. 109). They were buried in the Little Grove Cemetery with their graves marked by field stones bearing their initials. Jonathan was the first of the family to settle in Southern Illinois.[[14]](#footnote-14)

**David Bundy, son of Benjamin and Ruth,** first appears on a public record when he was issued a Revolutionary pay voucher in 1783 in the Edenton District. He appears on Pasquotank tax lists in District 1 from 1784 through 1798 in District 1. In 1784 he was on John Blackstock’s list with John, Jonathan, and Ruth Bundy (pp. 1, 3). The 1790 census of Pasquotank show one white male over 16, one under 16, and 2 white females in the household (p. 235). David purchased 50 acres of land “exclusive of the swamp therein” on the Albemarle Sound in March 1792 (Bk. M, pp, 100-102). He sold this land on 1 January 1799 to Jesse Trueblood (Bk. O, pp. 362-363). Although he is not found on Pasquotank tax lists after selling this land, David was listed on the 1800 census of Pasquotank, aged 26 to 45 (p. 638). The eldest female was also that age. Five male children and four female children also in the household. This David is the only man of the name found in Pasquotank County until long after he departed to Tennessee. The next census on which a David Bundy is found in Pasquotank is 1850 (p. 313 right).

David Bundy appears on the 1809 Sumner Co. Tax List. Anna was David’s wife, according to the Wilson Co. will of one of the sons, Henry Bundy, signed on 6 December 1834 (Bk. 1834-1837, pp. 84-85). (The balance of Henry’s estate was to be divided among his brothers and sisters.) On 9 March 1812 David Bundy purchased 130 acres of land in Sumner Co. on Goose Creek (Deed Bk. 6, p. 160). Three of his sons, Henry, Thomas, and Nathan served in Sumner County companies in the War of 1812. David Sr. as well as sons David Jr. and John are on the 1823 and 1824 Sumner Co. Tax Lists. David died in 1825 in Sumner County. Heirs filed suit in the Smith County Chancery Court over David’s sale of this land. Those heirs were Henry, Thomas, Nathan, John, James, David, Anna, and Pembro (a minor). The Smith Co. Chancery Enrollment Book provides some details about David’s life in Tennessee (pp. 375-382). The bill of complaint states that David became “addicted to intoxication.” In January 1820 when he was 60 to 70 years old two men got him drunk and purchased his land with notes they knew to be worthless, leading to the accusation of fraud. David’s estate was settled by the Wilson County Circuit Court on 13 July 1837 (Minute Bk. 1837-1839, p. 122). The heirs were Primbro, David, Nathan, Thomas, James, John, and Evertt Bradley and wife Anna.[[15]](#footnote-15) Henry Bundy was deceased by this time.

**Children and Grandchildren of David Bundy who moved to Southern Illinois** will now be discussed**.** Although David Bundy did not move to Southern Illinois, he had children and grandchildren who did. Grandchildren who moved with parents will not be discussed.

**John Bundy, son of David,** appears on the 1820 Sumner County Tax List. The bond for his marriage to Elizabeth Martin in Sumner County, Tennessee was posted on 23 December 1823. He later married Nancy Willford in Wilson County, Tennessee on 23 January 1834. John is listed on the Williamson County, Illinois censuses for 1840, aged 30-40, and in 1850 aged 53 and born in North Carolina with presumptive wife Nancy aged was 36 (pp. 125, 233). Birthplaces of the children indicate the family moved to Illinois about 1841. The household is also listed in 1860 with John aged 63 (p. 859 right). In 1870 John was not listed and the household was headed by Nancy (p. 134 right). The children of John included Elizabeth, Martha (m. William Edwards), Louisa (m. William McDonald), Henry (died in service, 81st Illinois Infantry), Nancy (m. Felix J. Motsinger), Mary Susan (m. William L. Motsinger), Sarah F[rances], (m. John H. Davis), Pembroke (m. Howell J. Motsinger), Thomas, and Manerva (m. Elijah W. Motsinger).[[16]](#footnote-16)

**Thomas Bundy, son of David,** enlisted for three tours of duty from Sumner County in the War of 1812, serving as a private under Capt. William L. Alexander’s Co., Edward Bradley’s Regt. Tennessee Militia in 1812-1813 in a tour to Natchez, Mississippi; Capt. William Lauderdale in the 1st Regt. Tennessee Volunteer Infantry in 1813 against the Creek Indians; and, Capt. James McMurray, Col. R.C. Napier’s Regt. West Tennessee Militia Infantry in 1814 against the Creek Indians. (Henry and Nathan Bundy, also sons of David, served with Thomas in the first two tours of duty.) Based on his applications for bounty land and a pension, he was born about 1792 or 1793. He is on the 1815 Sumner County Tax List. Thomas married his wife Rebecca near Hartsville on 10 November 1815. The marriage record has not been found. In 1830 and 1840 a male child born between 1820 and 1825 was in the household. In 1872, when Thomas’ pension was approved, he resided in Trousdale County. That county was formed from Smith and Sumner in 1870. Thomas did not move to Southern Illinois, but one of his sons did.

**Samuel H. Bundy, son of Thomas,** moved to Williamson County, Illinois before the Civil War. Information enabling one to identify his father is found in John A. Marshall’s ***American Bastille*** (1876) (pp. 385-399). Samuel was born in Smith County on 8 April 1822 to a veteran of the War of 1812 who emigrated from North Carolina to Tennessee. The father is not named but only five Bundy’s served in the War of 1812 from Tennessee—William Bundy, John Bundy of the 1st Regiment of East Tennessee Volunteers, and three sons of David. Thomas, son of David, was a veteran of the War of 1812, resided in Smith County after the War of 1812 and was a native of North Carolina. He was the only Bundy listed on the 1830 as well as the 1840 Smith County census and had a male child the right age to be Samuel in his household both years (pp. 88, 56). Samuel Bundy was a voice of moderation in 1862 when Williamson County was so divided that one group passed articles of secession, another repealed them, and the first denied the authority of the second group to repeal them. Bundy argued with men who planned to seize the Illinois Central Bridge over the Big Muddy River in Franklin County. Marshall provides additional information. Samuel Bundy was among those arrested on false testimony when right of the writ of habeas corpus was suspended in 1862. He was taken from Williamson County and incarcerated in squalid conditions in Old Capital Prison in Washington, D.C. He was released only after signing an oath of allegiance to the union. Another condition of his release was that he enlist in the Union army and he did enlist as private in Company D, 128th Illinois Infantry.[[17]](#footnote-17) Samuel also served as acting surgeon of the 128th Illinois Infantry. Writing in support of a pension increase for John W. Dorris of the 128th (Cert. #163784), Samuel wrote:

I was Acting Surg. Of the 128th Ill. Inf. from organization, in the late Fall or early Winter of 62, till the Spring of 63. (Dr Geo W. French was 1st Asst. Surg. and officially the med officer of the Reg.)

Clement Bundy and John R. Woolard, son and grandson of Nathan Bundy, also served in 128th. The regiment was disbanded and most of the remaining men consolidated into the 9th Illinois Infantry. Samuel Bundy continued to serve in a medical capacity, although without a medical rank.[[18]](#footnote-18) He applied for a pension for his services, but withdrew his applications saying only that he had changed his mind (App. #1,167,506). Samuel’s first wife is known to have been Mary Ann Smith from the 1883 Williamson County marriage record of their son Samuel (Bk. 1, p. 70). He subsequently married Hope (Chamberlin) Davis, according to the record of the death of her daughter Lena Fowler by her first husband in the Illinois Deaths and Stillbirths Data Base. The marriage took place before 1870 Williamson County census (p. 16 left). Hope applied for a widow’s pension, which was rejected on two grounds. The first was that he was on a list of deserters from the 128th, arrested and held in confinement from 6 to 15 April 1864, and there was no record of his discharge. The second was that his service to the 9th Illinois Infantry as a surgeon was as a contractor rather than a soldier and as such was not in the scope for a pension. Samuel Bundy died on 20 November 1899 and is buried in the Hurricane Cemetery in Williamson County, Illinois. Samuel Bundy’s children include William H., Charles, Flora, Samuel H., Lela (m. John G. Vaughn), and Emma Lena (m. Richmond R. Fowler).

**Nathan Bundy, son of David,** was also soldier in War of 1812. He served in Capt. William Lauderdale’s Co., 1st Regt (Edward Bradley) Tennessee Volunteer Infantry in 1813 along with his brothers Henry and Thomas. His second tour of duty was in Capt. James Blakemore’s Co., 1st Regt. (Pipkin’s) West Tennessee Militia. Nathan was not consistent about his age in his applications for bounty land and a pension. Considering the overall evidence he was born about 1796. The 1850 and 1860 Wilson County censuses give his place of birth as North Carolina (pp. 361 right, 295 left). He married Absilla Johnson in Wilson County on 18 June 1818 (loose marriage license). Absilla Johnson “widow of Clem Johnson deceased” was issued letters of administration for his estate in Wilson County in the September term of 1817 (Minute Bk. June 1816-Nov. 1819, p. 459). John Jones was named guardian for James and Sally Johnson, minor heirs of Clement Johnson, and Absilla Bunday, administer, settled the estate in the May term of 1819 (ibid., p. 476). John Jones named Absilla as a daughter in his 1838 Wilson County will, but her surname is not given (Will Bk. 1834-1836, p. 402). Nathan and wife were named among the heirs at law and distributees of John Jones in a petition dated 17 March 1838 to sell slaves from his estate (Circuit Court Minutes 1837-1839, p. 241).[[19]](#footnote-19) Absilla was living when the heirs of John Jones petitioned in Wilson County on 17 March 1838 to sell a slave (Court Min. p. 241). On 24 September 1839 Nathan married Martha G. Mullin in Wilson County.

Nathan Bundy rejoined the army shortly before this period of time, serving in the 2nd Seminole War. On 27 June 1836 he enlisted in Capt. Jesse Finley’s Co., 2nd Regiment (Col. William Trousdale) Tennessee Mounted Gunmen for 6 months service. On 1 November 1837 he enlisted in Capt. Dearing’s Co., Major William Lauderdale’s Mounted Tennessee Volunteers and was discharged on 10 May 1838. On this second tour of duty Nathan Bundy and others in the company were afflicted with inflammation of the eyes. The eyes did not heal and continued to deteriorate after his discharge. The 1850 for Wilson County census lists Nathan as blind (p. 361 right). He applied for and received a pension (Cert. #7,987). His pension was discontinued during the Civil War because he resided in the South. He swore allegiance to the United States on 3 July 1866 in Wilson County, as required of pensioners in order for a pension to be resumed. Nathan moved from Wilson County, Tennessee to Saline County, Illinois by 1873 when he applied for an increase in his pension. In 1876 Nathan’s son Thomas Bundy wrote to the U.S. Pension Agent that Nathan’s blindness was not from his military service. He asked that the agent reveal to nobody who wrote the letter. Nathan learned of the letter and responded. He said that he believed that his son Clem Bundy and possibly Thomas Bundy had written to stop the pension. He said that the two sons had done nothing to help him and he was giving the daughter with whom he lived the benefit of his pension. The letter was endorsed by 68 neighbors and Nathan retained his pension.

Saline County probate records establish that Nathan died on 21 October 1877 (Box 3, File 3). Nathan signed his will before the pension incident.[[20]](#footnote-20) Nathan made bequests to children Ama Wollard, Ann Slain, Martha Ann Horn, Thomas Bundy, Clem Bundy, Mary Elizabeth Johnson [wife of James N. Johnson and a daughter of Nathan’s second marriage], and two grandchildren, Sophia Ann Weir and –illeg. on my copy--[[21]](#footnote-21). Sophia Ann appears in the household of Joseph Weir in Franklin County, Illinois in 1870 (p. 280 left). Joseph married Lurana Bundy in Wilson County Tennessee on 12 October 1851. Nathan named grandson John Wollard [son of Lawson Brock and Ama (Bundy) Woolard], as executor. The will was never recorded, but the original will is preserved in the probate file. Four of these children moved to Southern Illinois.

**Ama (Bundy) Woolard, daughter of Nathan Bundy** and his first wife, Absilla, was born on 23 May 1819 and died on 5 December 1891, according to her tombstone at the Ebenezer Cumberland Presbyterian Church Cemetery in Saline County, Illinois. She married Lawson Brock Woolard on 24 January 1835 in Wilson County, Tennessee. The household is listed on the 1840 Gallatin County, Illinois census (p. 46). Lawson’s tombstone, adjacent to Ama’s, gives his dates of birth and death as 15 September 1811 and 9 May 1878. The affidavit of decease in the Saline County probate file for Lawson’s estate (Box 26, File 15) identifies his children: John R. Woolard, Absey Ann Thomas [Joseph Thomas], Mary E. Wise[[22]](#footnote-22), Lourena Thomas [J.J. Thomson on marriage record], Darthula Massey [Parker Massey], James H. Woolard, [Martha] Ellen Shaw [David Shaw], Josephine Thomas [Willis G. Thomas], Tabitha J Durham [Isaac F. Durham], Margaret Riley [Larkin Riley], and Robert Woolard.

**Ann “Anna” (Bundy) Woolard, daughter of Nathan Bundy** and his first wife, Absilla,was born about 1822 in Tennessee, according to the 1850 Butler County, Kentucky Census (p. 239 right). She married George W. Woolard in Wilson County, Tennessee on 31 December 1838. George had previously married Amanda M. Allen in Wilson County on 1 August 1833, but census records indicate that no children survived from the first marriage. George died intestate in Saline County in 1857.[[23]](#footnote-23) After his death Ann married John Slain on 12 December 1858 in Saline County, Illinois (Bk. A, p. 64). Anna is buried at Wolf Creek Cemetery in Saline County. She was born on 9 April 1820 and died on 22 March 1896. The children of Ann and George were Lawson, Allison, James, Delia Ann (m. 1st George W. Massey, 2nd Thomas Little), Elizabeth, Lavina M., and Andrew J.

**Clem Bundy, son of Nathan Bundy** and his first wife, Absilla, died on 16 December 1892, aged 53 years 10 months and 1 day, and is buried at the Liberty Methodist Church Cemetery in Franklin County, Illinois. According to the censuses of 1850 for Wilson County census and 1860 for Saline County he was born in Tennessee (p. 361 left, p. 821 left & right). He married Abigail Woolard on 22 September 1856 in Wilson County, Tennessee (Bk. 1855-1867, p. 31). She was born on 12 March 1836, according to her tombstone in the Webber-Campground Cemetery in Saline County. She is in the John Woolard household in Wilson County in 1850 (p. 339 right).[[24]](#footnote-24) The 1860 Saline County, Illinois census shows the Clem Bundy family had left Tennessee in time for their 3-year-old daughter, Martha, to be born in Illinois. Clem enlisted in Co. D, 128th Illinois Infantry, a Williamson County company in which his first cousin, Samuel Bundy, enlisted. He transferred to Co. K, a Saline County company in which his nephew, John R. Woolard, and 1st cousin, James T. Jones, were sergeants. He Abigail died on 12 March 1880 according to her tombstone. Clem then married Nannie Burton on 23 May 1880 in Saline County, Illinois (Bk. E, p. 10). Nancy was born in 1852 and died in 1924, according to the tombstone she shares with Clem in the Liberty Methodist Church Cemetery, Franklin County. The children of Clem included Alice H. (m. James E. Marvel), John C., William M., James J., Olive M. (m. J.R. Rathbone), Edward S., Thomas, Laura A. (m. Lemuel L. Kimmel), Bessie E. (m. W.A. Carter), Clara Estelle (m. Ray Simpson), Everett, and Charley A.

Clem’s military service was short, according to his pension file. Although records list him as a private, he as well as his captain, Joshua Pemberton, identified him as a 2nd lieutenant. According to his pension application, he enrolled in Co. K of the 128th Illinois Infantry on 9 September 1862. The Report of the Adjutant General of Illinois lists him with nine others as a recruit with no date of enlistment and a note to see the original roll of Co. D, which gives his date of enlistment as 15 August 1862 and 8 December 1862 as his date of muster. Clem Bundy testified that on 26 September 1862 he was thrown from his horse while drilling his company at Shawneetown, broke a rib, and developed inflammatory rheumatism from exposure in the line of duty. Bundy said he was treated by Dr. Charles A. Smith, regimental surgeon or acting as such. Another witness said that Smith was an acting surgeon at the hospital at Cairo. No official record of his service has been found. Clem Bundy testified that he understood that by Smith’s order he for disability. No record of the discharge was found. Capt. Pemberton testified that he knew nothing of an injury to Bundy, but Bundy developed rheumatism in his left side from drilling and exposure at Shawneetown and Dr. Smith, acting surgeon of the regiment, sent Bundy home. When Bundy applied for a pension, a letter signed “One who Knows” wrote to the Commissioner of Pension that Bundy “…Never go into the Army he only went 30 miles and then come home and said he was sick and got a copperhead Drs. Sirtificate that he was sick….” The writer said to write his P.M. [postmaster] and named others to summon. Galatia Postmaster S.M. Upchurch wrote the Commissioner of Pensions advising careful investigation. Upchurch was the 1st lieutenant of Co. K. He recommended that two of the men to be summoned, Joshua Thomas and Joseph J. Thomas, did testify, one saying that Acting Surgeon Charles A. Smith sent Bundy home and the other saying the Smith discharged him in late September 1862, before the muster date in December found in the Adjutant General’s report. Capt. Pemberton strongly defended Bundy, writing that

…sd Affiant would State that a great many men belonging to the 128 Illinois was disloyal and deserted being encouraged by disloyal officers but aff[i]ant declares that said Bundy was always loyal and a true soldier during the time of his service and was simply refused muster on account of a severe and painful attack of inflammatory of Rheumatism and should not be [illeg] a deserter….

Pemberton’s testimony that Bundy did not muster is contrary to official records. Bundy’s application, although supported by multiple witnesses including his captain, was rejected on grounds of desertion.

**Thomas Bundy, son of Nathan** and his first wife, Absilla**,** died on 22 April 1892 at age 60, according to his tombstone at Lebanon Cumberland Presbyterian Church Cemetery in Saline County, Illinois. Thomas married Octava Philips on 6 May 1855 in Wilson County, Tennessee. Octava was born 16 April 1839 and died on 10 March 1932, according to her inscription on the same tombstone. The 1880 census reports that Thomas was born in Tennessee (p. 34A). Birthplaces of children in the household indicates the family was in Tennessee in 1860 and Illinois in 1862. The children were John, Sarah Ann (m. David W. Tate), Louisa (m. W.S. Preble), Joseph, Robert, Lockie (m. William B, Heard), Laura (m. W.S. Cardwell), and Ezra Arno, and Bertha E. (m. James Sweat).

**Lurana (Bundy) Weir, daughter of Nathan** and his first wife, Absilla,was born about 1831 in Tennessee. She is aged 20 and born in Tennessee on the 1850 census in the household of Evrett and Ann Bradley (p. 412 left), placing her birth about 1830. Ann and Evrit had been named as heirs of David Bundy (Sr.), making Ann a sister of Nathan Bundy. Why Lurana was residing not residing with her father, Nathan, in 1850 is unknown. She was not in his household in 1840 either, when no female under 10 was in the Nathan Bundy household in 1840 (p. 226). Lurana married Joseph Weir in Wilson County, Tennessee on 12 October 1851. Joseph Weir and Lourania are listed on the 1860 Saline County census with two children, 8-year-old Nancy born in Tennessee and 2-year-old Joseph Y. born in Illinois (p. 821 left). Lourania was 28, placing her birth about 1832. Lurana died before 4 March 1867 when Joseph married Winnie (White) Woodford in Franklin County, Illinois (Marriage Record 1867-1872, p. 77), widow of Robert Woodford. The 1870 census lists Joseph and Winnie in Franklin County, Illinois with children Sophia J. (13), Alice (4), Francis [sic.] L. (3), and Robert (4/12) in the household, clearly placing Sophia’s birth when Joseph was married to Lurana.[[25]](#footnote-25) In 1880 Sophia Weir is in the household of James N. and Mary Johnson in Saline County, aged 20 with her relationship is listed as “cousin” (p. 18D). Nathan was specific about his relationship to Sophia Jane: she was a granddaughter and therefore in the absence of a previous marriage of Sophia her mother was a daughter of Nathan. Lurana (Bundy) Weir and Mary (Bundy) Johnson were half-sisters, making Sophia the niece of Mary.

Nancy, daughter of Lurana, married Joseph Hicks on 12 December 1878 and Sophia Jane married Henry Ledbetter on 8 November 1883, each 24 years old (Saline County Marriage Register A-1, pp. 7, 77). Both ceremonies were performed at the home of James Johnson, a son-in-law of Nathan Bundy, where Sophia had been residing at the time of the 1880 census (p. 35D). Nancy is buried in Lebanon Cemetery in Saline County. The tombstone she shares with Joseph gives her date of death as 12 March 1915 at age 63. Henry and Sophia Ledbetter were living in Wilson County, Tennessee in 1900 (p. 11B) and were still there in 1920 (p. 6B).

**Mary Elizabeth (Bundy) Johnson, daughter of Nathan** and his second wife, Martha, was the youngest child listed on the 1860 Wilson County census in Nathan’s household, aged 14 (p, 295 left). She married James N. Johnson in Wilson County on 6 June 1865. Nathan noted her “…kindness and care for me –illegible-- and during many years of blindness and severe affliction.” James N. Johnson testified in Saline County on 7 December 1877 that Nathan died on 21 October 1877 “…leaving no widow or minor child and without assets to defray the expenses of this last sickness and burial….” James paid those expenses. The 1880 Saline County census lists the children of the household as William H. (11), Martha E. (8), Lydia O. (5), and Mary E. (3). A probate file for the estate of James N. Johnson is among the Saline County records (Box 36, File 7).

**Summary.** When I became interested in genealogy in 1973, I knew nothing of my Bundy ancestry and heritage. I knew that John R. Woolard was my great-great grandfather, but nothing of his parent. Later I learned that his mother was Ama Woolard, but she had dropped her maiden name for that of her husband. No tradition of our Bundy connection remained in our branch of the family. Many in Southern Illinois are undoubtedly in the same position in which I found myself, and even many of those who bear the surname have not had the opportunity to unearth the details from original records, many of which are not readily accessible even today. Hopefully, this paper will enable more descendants to become aware of their Bundy ancestry and heritage and provide useful information to others already aware of the Bundy heritage.

1. This paper was written in conjunction with an overlapping paper intended for the Sons of the American Revolution: “Revolutionary Services of the Benjamin Bundy Family of Pasquotank Co., North Carolina: Ruth (Jennings) Bundy, Jonathan Bundy, John Bundy, and David Bundy” and posted under the Patriot Research System at sar.org. That paper provides more information about children of Benjamin and Ruth who did not have a connection to Southern Illinois and virtually no information about the descendants of David Bundy who did migrate to Illinois. For information about Benjamin, Ruth and their sons Jonathan and David is it essentially the same paper. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Hinshaw, William Wade: ***The Encyclopedia of Quaker Genealogy,*** Vol. 1, 1936, pp. 96, 132. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Pasquotank County Court Minutes 1765-1768, p. 37. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. North Carolina Wills, 1663-1789, North Carolina State Archives. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Pasquotank County tax lists used for this paper are found at familysearch.org, with the exception of two posted by the North Carolina State Archives at digital.ncdcr.gov. Those will be identified explicitly as from papers of the General Assembly. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Quakers, Moravians, Menonists, and Dunkards were subject to a treble tax “…as an equivalent for exemption from militia duty….” (Clark, Walter: ***The State Records of North Carolina, Vol. 24 (Laws 1777-1788),*** 1906, pp. 435-436). [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Hinshaw, Vol. 1, p. 132. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. The surname “Bundy” was used at ancestry.com was used for the search. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. ***Revolutionary Army Account Bk. K***, p. 22. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. The service was rendered prior to the claim and the audit of the claim. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. Clark, pp. 429-434 (Ch. 7), 434-437 (Ch. 8). The Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) and the Daughter of the American Revolution (DAR) recognize assessments lists for taxes that supported the American Revolution as evidence of Revolutionary service. The SAR has recognized this particular list as providing such evidence. See the SAR Email to State Points of Contact #36, 24 February 2018 at [www.sar.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Consolidated-Emails-1-41-paginated.pdf](http://www.sar.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Consolidated-Emails-1-41-paginated.pdf) . [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. Posted at <https://digital.ncdcr.gov/digital/collection/p16062coll33/id/1076/rec/65> by the North Carolina State Archives. [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. Quakers as well as others who could not bear arms or take oaths of allegiance for religious reasons were subject to higher taxes during the Revolution in many states, including North Carolina. See John D. Sinks, “Oaths of Allegiance During the American Revolution,” at <https://www.dcssar.org/Publications> . [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. Jonathan and Dorcas arrived in Illinois before good records were kept and I do not have access to family records for this branch of the family. Many lists are posted and plausible. Bundy’s in them are the right age and location to be children of the couple. [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. Anna Bradley was not the wife of David Bundy, but a daughter named with the same name as his wife, but the right age to be a daughter. She was born about 1805 according to the 1850 census of Wilson County, Tennessee (p. 412 left). This was after the birth of her brothers who served in the War of 1812, one of whom, Henry, identified an Anna Bundy as his mother. [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
16. Children of those who came to Southern Illinois are included to assist descendants who may be unaware of their Bundy ancestry. In general, I used census records and county vital records, comparing ages to avoid blunders from simple name matching. I have not included citations and proof arguments for these. [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
17. Gail Gwendolyne Burgess (1910-1995) learned the additional condition for his release from descendants of Dr. Bundy and related the information to me in the 1970’s when I was conducting research on the 128th Illinois Infantry. Gwen was a direct descendant of Lt. Josiah M. Dorris, Co. B, 128th Illinois Infantry. She said that Josiah and Dr. Bundy were personal friends. For further information about the 128th Illinois Infantry, see Sinks, John D. & Karen M. Cain: ***Sinks: A Family History***, pp. 32, 59, 157, 167-168, & 181-184, and Sinks, John D: ***Sinks Update, 1980***, pp. 16-22. Copies of these were donated to a number of Southern Illinois libraries. [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
18. Strait, N.A.: ***Roster of All Regimental Surgeons and Assistant Surgeons in the Late War,*** 1882, pp. 17, 36. Samuel Bundy is identified as having acted as Surgeon in the 128th in December of 1862 and 1863 and in the 9th, with no medical rank given in either case. [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
19. A published abstract of the record erroneously reports Bundy’s name and “Matthew” instead of “Nathan.” The 1820 census lists Nathan as “Banday” instead of “Bundy,” and there were Bandy families in Wilson County. These errors led to lengthy false starts in the research. [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
20. The estate did not have sufficient funds to pay the debts and was never recorded, but the original will is in Saline County Probate Files (Box 3, Folder 3). [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
21. Possibly Nancy Horn. [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
22. The Affidavit of Decease appears to be in error about Mary E. Wise. There is no Mary in the household of Lawson Brock Woolard in 1850, 1860, or 1870. There is a Luvena, aged 9, in the household in 1850. She married Thornsberry C. Anderson in Saline Co. on 23 December 1858 (Bk. A, p. 68) and is in his household in 1860, aged 20, and adjacent to the Lawson Brock Woolard household (p. 831 left). Thornsberry enlisted in Co. K, 128th Illinois Infantry and like his brother-in-law John R. Woolard, was transferred to the 9th Illinois Mtd. Infantry. He was captured at Sandersville, Georgia and imprisoned at Andersonville. He was paroled on 9 March 1865 and promptly sent to a Union hospital where he died on 24 March. Luvena, also known as Lubenia, received a widow’s pension, which ended with her marriage to Abram Wise, a widower, in Saline Co. on 15 June 1873 and resumed after his death in 1882. She was born on 5 October 1840 and died on 21 January 1905, according to her tombstone in Raleigh Masonic Cemetery, Saline Co., Illinois. She is not to be confused with Luvena, daughter of George W. Woolard, who was in the John Slane [Slain] household in Saline Co. 1860, aged 10 (p. 138). [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
23. The probate index for Saline County lists probate files for George Woolard (Box 26, File 34) and George W. Woolard (Box 26, File 41). The former contains only the bond for Lawson B. Woolard to administer the estate. The latter file could not be found in April 2022. [↑](#footnote-ref-23)
24. John Woolard, unlike his brothers Lawson Brock Woolard and George W. Woolard, remained in Wilson County, Tennessee rather than move to Saline County, Illinois. They were sons of Alligood Woolard and his first wife, whose name is not known. [↑](#footnote-ref-24)
25. Francis was not the daughter of Lurana Bundy. Her mother was identified as Winnie (White) Weir when Francis married Riley Sellars on 2 November 1882 in Williamson County (Bk. 1, p. 93). No record of Alice’s marriage or the name of her mother has been found. [↑](#footnote-ref-25)