

DONNELLY - HAMRIN

For our children, and their families

1980

James Logan Donnelly (Jr)

Carol Ester Hamrin Donnelly

PREFACE

Please accept this for what it is; a collection of facts, family stories, and memories - combined into biographical sketches. Because our memories are imperfect, and the memories of those who told these stories in the past may also be imperfect, there are errors. However, we've tried to keep the stories as close to the factual as we can, trying to avoid the impulse to embellish.

And in reading this collection, please remember that these people were products of their times and environments just as surely as we are of ours. We feel that these families reflected the changes and growth of our country, and in so doing are truly parts of our American heritage.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We particularly want to thank the following:

Mr. Olof Hammarén
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Mr. Hammarén is a distant cousin of Carol Ester Hamrin Donnelly (their common ancestor is Caterina Persdottor, b.1681), an amateur genealogist with knowledge of the Swedish "church book" records, and an excellent story teller. His help opened up the records of the Hamrin family in Sweden.

We also want to expressly thank my uncle, W. Kenneth Smith (brother of Cora Althea Smith), and his daughter, Mary E. Richman, both of Boise, Idaho, for their generous help with information. And we thank the several second cousins and third cousins who so generously shared their research on the families.

DONNELLY

The name Donnelly is a contraction of the Irish surname, O'Donnelly. The dropping of the "O" and the "Mac" in Irish names was very common after the English dominance of Ireland.

O'Donnelly, from the Gaelic; O'Donnghaile (Donn=brown, haile=valour), "A Cenal Edghain sept of Ballydonnelly, akin to the O'Neills". (1)

O'Donnelly, Gaelic: O'Donnghaile, commonly: Donnelly "originally in County Donegal, the O'Donnellys later moved into County Tyrone around Ballydonnelly. The O'Donnellys were noted soldiers and their chief served as hereditary marshall of the O'Neill military forces". (2)

From these and other readings, the Donnelllys are a sept of the O'Neill clan (O'Donnghaile O'Neill was the first Donnelly of record), served as chieftans in both Donegal and Tyrone Counties, Ireland, in the O'Neill forces. The largest concentration of Donnelllys now is around Ballydonnelly, County Tyrone.

The study of Irish genealogy is difficult because of several reasons:

First, so many of the family records were destroyed by the English (including Cromwell) during their wars with the Irish,
Secondly, the English tended to discourage further Irish family record keeping, and,
Third, the very large influx of Irish into the United States during the mid-1800's makes it difficult to separate individuals, ie, how many Thomas Donnelllys were there?

I'm advised that to research Irish family background, the first thing is to establish the point of origin, and at this point church records, or other records, may yet be available.

- (1) The Surnames of Ireland, Edward MacLysaght, 1969, Irish University Press, Dublin, Ireland
- (2) Your Irish Ancestors, J. Anderson Black, 1974, Paddington Press, London, England

jld

JAMES LOGAN DONNELLY
1896-1963

James Logan Donnelly and his twin brother, George Stanford Donnelly, were born in West Hoboken, New Jersey. (In about 1926, the towns of West Hoboken and Union Hill combined into what is now known as Union City, located directly across the river from New York City.)

His place of birth, West Hoboken, seemed to have become a sensitive issue with him. During World War 1, Hoboken was a port of embarkation for thousands of American troops going overseas. The name "Hoboken" became a jest used by the entertainers of the day as a term of derision. My birth certificate for example gives his place of birth as Amsterdam, Alabama - which is a compound of two errors; the first was his desire to name another birthplace, and the second was the misspelling of Anniston, Alabama, a town which he may have visited and liked.

He grew up in the towns of West Hoboken and Union Hill, New Jersey. I understand that these were residential areas in those days, with most of the people working in the larger adjacent cities. He attended schools in these communities, and graduated from Union Hill High School. Following High School, he attended a business school in the area and, perhaps from this background, throughout his life he had an uncommon ability to compose and write, and to communicate effectively.

Before the United States entered World War 1 he enlisted in the U.S. Army, and was assigned to the Signal Corps which was the precursor to the U.S. Army Air Corps, and which in turn became the U.S. Air Force. In the Signal Corps he was attached to flight training schools, and it is my understanding reached the rank of Sergeant. He did not go overseas and fought what was then called the "Battle of Texas" by assignment to Texas military facilities. He spent some of his service period at Kelly Field, near San Antonio, Texas.

Following the end of World War 1, in late 1918, he was honorably discharged from the Army and joined the American Red Cross as a field representative. The Red Cross at that time was active in the fields of veteran's relocation and aid. In the course of his employment he was sent to Ogden, Utah, as an office supervisor, and met Cora Althea Smith whom he married in the late summer of 1919. In the following months they were sent to military bases near El Paso, Texas, Deming, New Mexico, and Denver, Colorado. Their first child, James Logan Jr., was born in the summer of 1920 at the home of her parents in Ogden, Utah.

As the Red Cross activity decreased, James Logan was employed by his father-in-law, Charles H. Smith, as a sales representative for a coal company in which he was a principal. In late 1921 their second child, Ruthanne (Overlock), was born in Muncie, Indiana, where they resided for a short period of time. Following this was a series of moves back to Ogden, then to San Francisco where in 1923 their third child, Kenneth Stanford, was born, and then a return to Ogden where in 1924 their fourth child, Charles Edward, was born. They then returned to San Francisco for several years.

In about 1927 James Logan and his family moved to Los Angeles and he remained a resident of the Los Angeles area the balance of his life. Eventually he became West Coast sales representative for a large engineering-construction company, and represented several other companies.

I remember my father as a man of great enthusiasm in his undertakings, and very competitive in his life's activities. I do not believe his was a peaceful soul but rather one that constantly searched for expression. He was a restless man.

Physically, he was of medium height for his generation, perhaps 5'9" in height, and retained a slim, trim, physical appearance throughout his life. He was a handsome man, particularly in his youthful pictures, with straight, regular features. A city-raised man, he did not enjoy, and did not feel comfortable in outdoor activities, but was much more at home in the midst of the large cities. He was an avid reader of business books and periodicals, seldom read other, and moved with comfort through the mainstream of the big city - business environment.

In 1937, he and Cora Althea were divorced, and shortly after he married Dorothy Sands of Glendale, Calif. There were two children of this union, Dorothy (Beeson), and Dennis.

James Logan Donnelly died in September 1963, during a nap on a Saturday afternoon in his home in the Los Feliz district of Los Angeles, and is buried in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Glendale, Calif.

JULY 23, 1971

CORA ALTHEA SMITH (DONNELLY) (WALKER)
1896-1971

CORA ALTHEA SMITH WALKER WAS BORN IN THE SMALL COMMUNITY OF PROSPECT, IDAHO, SINCE ERASED FROM THE MAP IN THE EROSION OF TIME. THE DAUGHTER OF MARY VAUGHN AND CHARLES H. SMITH, SHE WAS THE ELDEST OF SIX SURVIVING CHILDREN AND GREW TO ADULTHOOD IN OGDEN, UTAH.

HER'S WAS A CLOSELY KNIT FAMILY, RAISED IN THE ENVIRONMENT OF A COMFORTABLE HOME WITH INTERESTED PARENTS. HER AGE OF CHILDHOOD WAS THE AGE OF DISCIPLINE AND STRUCTURE IN THE FAMILY, TEMPERED WITH THE LOVE AND CONCERN OF EACH OF ITS MEMBERS. SHE REMEMBERED THESE DAYS OF HER YOUTH FONDLY AND THROUGHOUT HER LIFE, RETAINED A NOSTALGIA FOR THE FAMILY HOME IN OGDEN.

AS A YOUNG LADY, SHE ATTENDED AND GRADUATED FROM LINDENWOOD COLLEGE IN ST. CHARLES, MISSOURI IN THE CLASS OF 1916. WORLD WAR I BROUGHT HER INTO WORK WITH THE RED CROSS IN OGDEN, AND SHE WAS MARRIED IN THE FAMILY HOME THERE AMIDST HER FAMILY IN 1919.

THE EARLIER YEARS OF HER MARRIAGE BROUGHT MANY MOVES THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES AND CHILDREN WERE BORN TO HER IN OGDEN, UTAH; MUNCIE, INDIANA; SAN FRANCISCO, AND AGAIN IN OGDEN.

IN 1925, SHE, WITH HER HUSBAND AND FAMILY, SETTLED IN CALIFORNIA, FIRST IN SAN FRANCISCO, THEN IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA IN 1927. THEN FOLLOWED THE YEARS OF TENDING AND CARE FOR HER GROWING CHILDREN.

IN THE FOLLOWING YEARS, SHE SAW HER OWN FAMILY GROW TO ADULTHOOD. WORLD WAR II DREW HER CHILDREN AWAY FROM HOME, AND SHE WAS LEFT ALONE DURING MANY OF THOSE TROUBLED YEARS. DURING THIS TIME, SHE BECAME INCREASINGLY ACTIVE IN THE "ORDER OF EASTERN STAR", SOUTH PASADENA CHAPTER #272, AND WAS "WORTHY MATRON" OF THAT ORGANIZATION IN 1944. SHE WAS A FIFTY YEAR MEMBER OF THE "ORDER OF EASTERN STAR".

ALSO DURING THESE YEARS, SHE BECAME INCREASINGLY ACTIVE IN THE "LINDENWOOD COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA", AND PARTICIPATED IN THE PROGRAMS OF THAT ORGANIZATION. SHE WAS WIDOWED IN 1948.

FOLLOWING THE WAR YEARS, HER ATTENTION WAS AGAIN CONCENTRATED IN THE HOME, AND AS HER OWN CHILDREN MARRIED AND ESTABLISHED FAMILIES, SHE TOOK AN INCREASING INTEREST IN HER GRANDCHILDREN. IN 1954 SHE MOVED TO THE COVINA AREA WITH THE MOVING OF HER CHILDRENS' FAMILIES. ALWAYS A GENEROUS, LOVING GRANDMOTHER, SHE SHARED HER TIME AND ENERGIES IN THE RAISING OF THE CHILDREN.

SHE BECAME A MEMBER AND TOOK AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN HER CHURCH, THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD IN COVINA, AND WAS A MEMBER OF SEVERAL CHURCH GROUPS. SHE SAW HER CHILDRENS' CHILDREN GROW TO ADULTHOOD AND BEGIN TO ESTABLISH THEIR OWN FAMILIES.

TWO YEARS AGO, SERIOUS ILLNESS BROUGHT AN END TO MANY OF HER MOST ENJOYED ACTIVITIES. RESOLUTE AND FIRM, SHE FACED HER INFIRMITIES AND PHYSICAL PROBLEMS WITH GREAT DIGNITY AND COURAGE. FINALLY, ON JUNE 20, 1971, SHE PASSED AWAY.

THE CONTINUOUS THREAD OF CHARACTER AND PHYSICAL COURAGE THAT RAN THROUGH HER LIFE, WAS DRAWN FROM THE FIBERS OF A STRONG BELIEF IN THE QUALITIES OF MAN, AND A REVERENCE FOR OUR LORD'S GENTLE PRESENCE.

SHE WAS A LOVING MOTHER, AN INDULGENT AND DEVOTED GRANDMOTHER, A WARM FRIEND, AND A COURAGEOUS HUMAN BEING. SHE WILL BE MISSED BY US ALL.

jld

JAMES EDWARD DONNELLY
1871-1899

I know little about this man. He was born in either West Hoboken or Union Hill, New Jersey, and spent his life in that area. He was the son of Thomas Donnelly and Jane Logan, and there were two other children, both daughters, of this union.

He died at an early age(28), leaving his widow and young twin boys, James Logan and George Stanford. Reportedly he was a politician in local Democratic circles (Alderman, Ward Officer ?), and because of his youth and abilities was considered a candidate for higher office.

His photograph shows a young man of medium height, black hair and mustache, visually with charm and ease. Cause of death was given, I'm told, as consumption - which covered a wide range of illnesses in those days.

THOMAS DONNELLY
ca 1847
JANE LOGAN
ca 1850

It is regretful that more is not known of these families. Curiously, I do not remember my father talking of his family in detail, and in later years I found that my uncle, George Stanford Donnelly, was vague and hazy on the family background.

I do remember that in about 1944 with my uncle I visited the family plot in the Grove Church Cemetery on Hudson Blvd. in Union City, New Jersey. I remember seeing the grave markers of Thomas Donnelly and his wife and family. Not having a defined interest at that time, I did not make notes or take pictures.

For some reason, perhaps a remembered comment, I have the impression that Thomas Donnelly came to this country as an infant or child with his parents from Ireland.

jld

ANNA STANFORD (DONNELLY) (GLEN)
1875-1963

Anna Stanford was described by all that knew her as a young woman as a beautiful girl. Photographs of her in her youth confirm that. I've been told by my mother, and the widow of George Stanford Donnelly, that she was considered a belle, and that the marriage of James Edward Donnelly and Anna Stanford in Union Hill was an important event in the area.

I remember her, in her later years, as a slight woman with fine and regular features, liquid blue eyes, and a mass of grey hair. Her complexion, even then, would be the envy of younger women.

She was the daughter of George Stanford and Julia Brandt, born, I believe, in Union Hill, New Jersey, one of several girls of this union. I know little about her parents other than I was told that her father was a cousin of Leland Stanford Jr. This could mean that his origins were about 100 miles north on the Hudson River near Albany, New York.

Anna Stanford was widowed in 1899, with twin boys at the age of 3. After several years she remarried and the boys were raised by herself and Burton Glen, their step-father. (I met Burton Glen twice and found him an affable, agreeable, man with an interesting story: A Master Mechanic, he had been sent by the US Government to Russia during World War 1 to advise our then Ally. He was trapped in the Bolshevik uprisings and escaped Russia through Siberia and Japan.) Throughout my life Anna Stanford was known to me as Grandmother Glen.

Reportedly, in the years of her marriage to James Edward Donnelly, the young couple were very active socially and the future prospects for them both were very bright. This ended with his death. In a way, I feel she never completely recovered from this change in fortunes, and I feel that she was a grieving woman until her death.

CHARLES H. SMITH
(Francis Marion Funk)
1870-1938

This man is a strong personality in these family stories.

Born Francis Marion Funk, he changed his name in early manhood for reasons which I can understand. It was as Charles H. Smith that I knew him, and it was not until my adulthood did I learn of his birth name.

He was born in Bureau County, Illinois, near the county seat of Lexington, the first child of Theodore Funk and Nancy Ann Miller. Theodore Funk was a Danish farm worker on the farm of David Samuel Miller, her father, and their marriage and union was not agreeably accepted by him. Francis Marion was the eldest of four children born of this union.

The family story is that when Francis Marion was about eleven years old his father, apparently despairing of harmony with the Miller family, took him and his younger brother to Chicago, leaving Nancy Ann at the Miller farm. In Chicago Theodore Funk had difficulty finding work and eventually wrote Nancy Ann at the farm that he was leaving and asked her to arrange for the boys. With that letter he abandoned the boys and, reportedly, returned to Denmark.

The family story continues: Francis Marion was left to fend for himself and his brother, which he did by selling newspapers on street corners. Eventually the letter reached Nancy Ann at the farm, and the boys were recovered and returned to the Miller farm. Relations between Francis Marion and his grandfather Miller were not good, and in his late teens he left home for good.

In the following years he apparently worked as a farm hand and itinerant merchant, traveling westward. Possessed of a quick mind, and unusual mathematical skills for his generation, he became an accomplished poker player and increased his income by gambling. He arrived in Soda Springs, Idaho in 1894, and met Mary Caroline Vaughn whom he married in 1895 in Prospect, Idaho.

Soon after the birth of their second child, Winona Beatrice, he left his family in Soda Springs to seek his fortune in Mexico.

He must have been successful, because in less than two years he returned to Soda Springs, collected his family, moved to Ogden, Utah, and set up in business.

His selection of Ogden as a place of business was based upon his belief that business would follow the railroads, and Ogden was a major junction point for transcontinental railroads.

He was an early day entrepreneur. From a base in the jewelry and loan business he eventually had interests in the following to my knowledge: ownership of a dairy farm near Nampa, Idaho which his son W. Kenneth Smith operated, ownership of a sheep ranch near MacKay, Idaho, a principal interest in a coal mining and sales company based in Ogden, a principal interest in a cattle ranch in Montana, interest in oil ventures near Evanston, Wyoming, and ownership of one full block of commercial buildings in Ogden. He owned property near Vista, Calif., now the center of the avocado ranch area, and visited San Francisco and Los Angeles with his wife in the early 1900's with the intention of buying downtown property - which he never did, because it was overpriced.

At one point his holdings were considerable, and his family, and their families, were the beneficiaries of his largesse.

With the Great Depression in the United States, starting in 1929, he suffered business reversals that had a telling effect on him. Like many, he was unable to adjust quickly to his changing fortunes and lost many of his holdings. He did hold enough to allow himself and his wife to live out their years in comfortable financial conditions.

I remember Charles H. Smith, my grandfather, as an imperturbable figure, remote but accessible. I remember seeing him annoyed but never angry; apparently always in complete control of himself. He was idolized by his children, and to their last days they spoke of him with near reverence.

Physically he was a little taller than most of his generation, 5'11" perhaps, somewhat stooped, with a ring of hair around a bald head. He had a fine white mustache, somewhat discolored by his habit of chewing tobacco. He neither drank nor smoked. He would spend many hours at his business, and was known as a successful, high stakes, gambler at the Ogden Club - much to the chagrin of his wife, who was a pillar of her Baptist Church.

He was generally present, and an imposing presence, at family functions, and seldom missed dinner with his family.

It was a great loss to us all when he died in 1938.

jld

MARY CAROLINE VAUGHN (SMITH)
1873-1968

Mary Caroline Vaughn was born in Eureka, Utah, the eldest of thirteen children of James Harvey Vaughn and Mary Ann Robbins. Why Eureka, I can only speculate - a rich vein of silver had been discovered in the area in 1870, and her father may have been lured there by this discovery.

In any event, a number of moves to locations in Utah followed, and when Mary Caroline was about thirteen the family settled in the Soda Springs area of Idaho where she lived until after her marriage some nine years later. Again, I can only speculate as to the reason for selecting Soda Springs - this country was, and is, used for cattle and sheep ranching. (Soda Springs is near the junction of the principal California and Oregon trails used by the early west-bound pioneers.)

The family endured many hardships. Consider, if you will, only one - transportation. All these moves were made by horse and wagon with small children, through fierce extremes of weather, over difficult terrain.

Somewhere along the way, she must have received good schooling. She was a well read person, and wrote in a beautiful calligraphic style. She was articulate, and well spoken, albeit somewhat reserved. (With an old fashioned aphorism about most everything. My favorite, having to do with a boys' help on the farm: One boy - half a man, two boys - half a man, three boys - no man at all. Or Carols' favorite, having to do with children: When they are little they step on your feet, when older they step on your heart.)

Following her marriage to Charles H. Smith in 1895, she mothered six children (and had one stillborn), and raised them to adulthood in the family home in Ogden, Utah.

A deeply religious woman, she was an active member of her Baptist Church, which she attended on Sunday, usually alone, occupying the same space in the same pew for over forty years. She had read the Bible innumerable times, could recite chapter and verse, and faithfully read passages from it each night before retiring.

Physically, she was a small woman in height, somewhat stout in the middle years, but more slender in later years. She had a fine face with clear-cut features and inquiring eyes. Her manner was reserved, and she seldom ventured an opinion unless pressed, but when ventured it was generally her opinion that was adopted.

I have great affection for this grandmother of mine. I can still hear her voice calling, when Carol burnt the dinner with a house full of people waiting to eat, "James, come comfort your wife". If I had to use one word to describe her it would be "indomitable".

NANCY ANN MILLER (FUNK)(SAILER)
1852-1938

The daughter of David Samuel Miller, Nancy Ann grew up on her fathers' farm in Bureau County, Illinois. In about 1869, while yet a young woman, she met and married Theodore Funk, a Danish immigrant working as a farm hand on the Miller farm.

This marriage apparently was not resisted by her father, but was a cause of displeasure to him. Family stories relate that he accepted his daughter and husband on his properties, and they continued to live and work there, but he only tolerated Theodore Funk.

From this union there were four children, the eldest of which was Francis Marion Funk (Charles H. Smith).

(When Theodore Funk left his two older sons in Chicago it is told that he returned to Denmark, and soon after died in Copenhagen.)

After the defection of Theodore Funk, Nancy Ann remarried. Hammond Sailer was a neighboring farmer, more acceptable to her father, and from this union there were several children. Apparently they raised the Funk and Sailer children together, although the Funk children (all boys) left home at early ages.

In later years, Hammond and Nancy Ann Sailer sold or leased their Illinois property and moved to Ogden, Utah, where I remember them. The move to Ogden may have been prompted by her wish to be near her eldest son, and there they lived comfortably the rest of their lives.

I remember my Grandmother Sailer as a large, heavy set woman even in her late years, always neat and clean, with a round, soft, face topped by grey hair. When she was widowed by the death of Hammond Sailer, she had a full time nurse-housekeeper who was her constant companion, and I remember her as a soft-voiced woman who seemed to be constantly in the shadow of Nancy Ann. Perhaps this combination was too intimidating to a young boy, because I never felt close to my Grandmother Sailer. My mother, Cora Althea Smith was very fond of her, and they spent hours together. She died within a few months after the death of her eldest son.

jld

DAVID SAMUEL MILLER
b: ca 1815

To quote his grandson: "I do not know what county David Samuel Miller was born in Ohio. All I know is he came down the Ohio River from Ohio, a Boat Man, and then came back up the Illinois River to Bureau, Illinois, where he homesteaded a farm and went to cutting railroad ties for the Rock Island Railroad and bought land of the Rock Island RR Co. and paid for the land by cutting and selling them to the Railroad Company. At the time of his death he had 7000 acres of land along the railroad, and in Illinois, and also owner of 8000 acres across in Iowa. A big man about 340# as I remember. A very successful man." (1)

From family stories David Samuel Miller was physically a giant of a man, and an imperious figure. I wish I knew more about him.

It is interesting to note that with the death in 1978 of Mabel H. Sailer King (youngest half-sister to Charles H. Smith) in Kiowa, Kansas, and the settlement of her substantial estate left mostly to charity, it represented the final disbursement of David Samuel Millers' holdings through the Funk-Sailer branch of the family. I'm advised that there are other Miller descendants living in the Illinois - Iowa areas who may yet be farming parts of his holdings.

Regretfully, nothing is known of Caroline Wherry, wife of David Samuel Miller.

(1) Letter March 1973 from Charles H Funk (youngest Funk son) to Mary E. Richman (daughter of W. Kenneth Smith, son of Charles H. Smith). Charles H. Funk at the time was 92 years old, and living in Blue Jacket, Oklahoma.

jld

Addendum - David Samuel Miller

Later research identifies the first wife of David Samuel¹ Miller as Ruth Ann _____ who was the mother of Nancy Ann Miller, their second child. Their first child, a girl, was Amanda. Ruth Ann also mothered two boys, Elijah and Hiram. She died sometime in the 1860's. David Samuel Miller was born in 1825, in Ohio.

(1) Census of United States, 1850 and 1860.

JAMES HARVEY VAUGHN
1847-1934

This is a near legendary figure, about whom it is difficult to separate the real from the imagined.

Jimmy Vaughn was born in Hemple (aka Hemphill), Missouri, and spent his childhood in the most violent and turbulent area of our country, during the most violent and turbulent years in the United States. He was the tenth child of the sixteen children of Alexander Vaughn and Phoebe Nickerson.

Missouri had been admitted to the Union as a slave state, as the result of the Missouri Compromise. In 1846 the War with Mexico used large contingents of Missouri Volunteers, and when over these Volunteers returned to find open warfare between Missouri and neighboring Kansas, a free state. Known as the Border Wars, scattered forays between Missouri and Kansas continued from the year of his birth until the beginning of the Civil War. This warfare was concentrated in the area in which he lived, Clinton County, and neighboring counties.

In 1861 the Civil War broke out. Missouri, although admitted as a slave state, voted to remain with the Union. The state was internally divided on the issues; generally the cities voted to remain in the Union, and the rural areas were pro-Confederacy. This resulted in severe internal strife and warfare within the state itself.

So it is fair to say that from his birth in 1847 until the end of the Civil War in 1865, when he was eighteen, James Harvey Vaughn lived in violent times.

I know little about the years of his childhood and young manhood. Reportedly, his father was a substantial landowner in the area, so it is reasonable to assume that he worked the family farm. Certainly, he drifted westward following the Civil War, because in about 1870 he appeared in Utah. The family story is that he met the family of James Robbins in Richfield, Utah, and was attracted to one of the Robbins girls (there were several at the time). When this girl married another, he then fell in love with Mary Ann Robbins, a sister, and they were married in about 1871. He fathered the thirteen children of this union and spent the last years of his life on the farm of one of his daughters, Phoebe Vaughn (Rasmus) near Blackfoot, Idaho.

Several family stories have developed around this man.

The first story, advanced by his daughter, Mary Caroline Vaughn (Smith), was that he was a drummer-boy in the Confederate Army during the Civil War. This is very possible, as his age (14) at the outbreak of the War would substantiate

this, and the rural areas of Missouri were allied to the Confederacy. If a drummer boy at the outset, his age (18) at the conclusion of the War would indicate actual soldiering for the Confederacy. Military records may be available to confirm this. I don't know.

The second and third family stories, I hope are not true.

The second story is that near the conclusion of the Civil War he rode with the infamous William Quantrill. His age again would permit this possibility. Quantrill, a Confederate officer, conducted bloody guerilla warfare in that area of Missouri, continuing for a short period after the conclusion of the war, until he, Quantrill, was killed in 1865. (Incidentally Quantrill had spent time in Utah, and was enthusiastic about it.) I don't know.

The third story is that, following the Civil War, James Harvey Vaughn rode with Jesse James, the outlaw. He and James were born the same year less than thirty miles apart, and the same influences that Vaughn had were those experienced by James. (My second cousin, who was a respected, high level, law enforcement officer in Utah, once told me that he was certain that remnants of the James gang visited James Harvey Vaughn in Blackfoot, Idaho.) I don't know.

In any event, James Harvey Vaughn became somewhat of a legend in his family - compounded by lack of information about his background following the Civil War. I prefer to believe that he was one of thousands of drifters from the War who drifted westward, working the farms and cattle ranches along the way and living off the land - saddle tired and weary, ready to call any place a home. In short, the legendary American Cowboy.

My aunt, Adelaide Smith (sister to Cora Althea Smith) once told me, and I'll try to repeat her words as nearly as possible, "Jimmy Vaughn was a crack shot with a rifle, he was an excellent horseman, and he was going to teach me trick riding someday. I was a great favorite of his. He didn't drink at all, because he told me that he had almost killed a man while drinking."

I remember seeing James Harvey Vaughn early in my life. My faint memories are of a slim, small man; grizzled with several days beard; wiry, with seamed face and features.

Who, or what, really was he? I don't know.

jld

MARY ANN ROBBINS (VAUGHN)
1854-1928

Born in England, Mary Ann Robbins was the fourth child, and the last, of James Robbins and Caroline Althea Goldring. Four years after her birth her mother died in England. Soon after, in 1859, her father remarried.

James Robbins became a convert to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Mormon) and in about 1860 he, and his family, emigrated to the United States. As a farmer he sought farm land, and according to family stories, settled in the Richfield, Utah area.

Mary Ann Robbins grew up with two older sisters and one brother, and the children of James Robbins' second wife. Little is known about her childhood and youth, except it must have been spent on the farm and in the home.

In about 1870 she met James Harvey Vaughn, an itinerant ranch hand, and they were married in 1871. There were thirteen children of this union, born in Utah and Idaho, Mary Caroline Vaughn being the eldest. In later years Mary Ann Robbins (Vaughn) settled in Ogden, Utah near her eldest daughter, while her husband remained in Blackfoot, Idaho.

I remember my Great-Grandmother Vaughn as a small woman - perhaps the most striking remembrance is her piercing, blue, bright eyes. She was an energetic, high spirited, person always surrounded by children (I now realize that the children around her must have been grandchildren and great - grandchildren).

(I wonder, now, how this woman with the load she carried through the years could have given a small boy the remembrance of being an energetic, high-spirited person. In some measure, our remembrances are what we choose them to be. But, too, the perception of a small boy may be truer than an adult ?)

I have great admiration for this woman, and cherish her memory.

jld

ALEXANDER VAUGHN
1810-1894

To quote: "Your aunt Martha Ann Vaughn (Ducoing) was the first white child born in Plattsburg (some say in Clinton County also) Missouri.Your grandfather (Alexander Vaughn) preempted the land when he came from Kentucky. He could enter the land for a bit (12½¢) an acre up to 50¢. He traded a yoke of oxen for nearly all the present town of Plattsburg (Missouri)..... he also owned much of the land from the north in Clinton County. He was very wealthy, but not a good manager and sold off land to live on (as most of the old Southern gentlemen did, as you know)..... Alexander Vaughn was Scotch-Irish". (1)

Alexander Vaughn was born in Madison County, Kentucky, and came to Missouri about 1845. (Many of the early settlers of Missouri came from Kentucky.) He was married to Phoebe Nickerson of Madison County in 1833, and this union had sixteen children, James Harvey being the tenth child.

GABRIEL VAUGHN
b: ca 1780

Presently, this is the oldest traceable ancestor in the United States, and as such presents some interesting questions.

To quote:"Alexander Vaughn had 13 brothers and 10 sisters. He was the son of Gabriel and Nancy Vaughn. The only thing I can tell you of them is at the last word from Kentucky they were still housekeeping, he at 115 years old, and she at 105. This word was received, however, during the lifetime of your grandparents (Alexander Vaughn, ca 1893). Your grandmothers' parents were John and Ruth Nickerson. Alexander Vaughn and Phoebe Nickerson were married at the home of John Nickerson in Madison County, Kentucky, Jan. 7, 1833 by the Rev. Thomas Ballou." (2)

Gabriel Vaughn and his wife, Nancy, came to Madison County from elsewhere. Settlers in Kentucky came mainly from Pennsylvania, Virginia (including now West Virginia), Maryland, and North Carolina. Those from Pennsylvania and Virginia came down the Ohio River, those from Eastern Virginia, Maryland, and North Carolina came through the Cumberland Gap.

- (1) Letter to Mrs. C.H. Smith (Mary Caroline Vaughn Smith) from Mrs. Cressie I. Vaughn, Hemple, Missouri, March 1928
(2) Ibid.

It is interesting to note that the first census of the United States, 1790, lists:

Heads of Families, Washington County, Pennsylvania

Alexander Vaughn

1 Free white male of 16 and older

3 Free white males of under 16

2 Free white females

No slaves

The early census of the United States did not list names of family members, other than the "head of family".

I now speculate: Gabriel Vaughn was one of the "3 free white males of under 16", and the son of Alexander Vaughn of Washington County, Pennsylvania in 1790. This speculation is based upon:

1. There is a tendency for families to repeat names. Alexander is the name of Gabriels' son.
2. The rivers provided the easiest means of transportation for the early settlers. Washington County is crossed by the Ohio River, down the Ohio to the Kentucky River, and thence to the heartland of Kentucky and Madison County.

JOHN NICKERSON

b: ca 1780

This forbear, father of Phoebe Nickerson, was a neighbor and contemporary of Gabriel Vaughn in Madison County, Kentucky.

It is interesting to note that the Census of Kentucky in 1800 (1) lists John Nickerson of Madison County, but the similiar listing in 1790 does not. This would indicate that John Nickerson arrived in Madison County sometime between 1790 and 1800.

(1) Second Census of Kentucky, 1800, Genealogical Publishing Co. Baltimore, Md., Page 217.

jld

JAMES ROBBINS AND CAROLINE ALTHEA GOLDRING
1831-1889 1829-1858

This is an interesting family story. James Robbins and Caroline Althea Goldring were married in 1848 in England, and were the parents of Mary Ann Robbins.

Caroline Althea was the daughter of William H. Goldring and Sarah . It has always been family speculation that Goldring was Lord Goldring of Warwick, England; and my grandmother, Mary Caroline Vaughn (Smith) firmly believed this so. Caroline Althea died at an early age (29) and left four children, all born in Leamington, Warwick, England, and she is buried in the Episcopal Cemetery there.

jld

HAMRIN

Hamrin is an Americanized contraction of the Swedish name, HAMMAREN. It was adopted by Peter A. Hamrin, (Per Adolf Hammarén), in about 1890 for convenience in communications in the English speaking United States.

In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries it became recognized in Sweden and elsewhere that the old methods of naming persons were no longer adequate indentifications of individuals. At that time the adoption of surnames identifying occupations or locations began to be used.

Hammarén is a name given to what was originally a small island at the northern end of Lake Vanern, which is south and west of Stockholm. The island is now an isthmus projecting into the lake southward from the town of Carlstad. In this same area of Sweden are the other towns mentioned in our stories on the Hamrin family: Carlskoga, Örebro, Filipstad, and Långbro.

The first Hammarén using that surname was, according to our information, Peter Hammarén (1719-1787), a chamoismaker of Filipstad. His paternal grandfather, Anders Jonsson, a tenant farmer, purchased the island of Hammarén from the Swedish Crown for 120 Daler in 1722, and successive generations have used the name as identification.

It is interesting to note that prior to the adoption of the Hammarén name there are a number of Latin based names in the family story, starting with Olaus Johannis Gestricius (1586-1626). It has been explained to us that these names were adopted by students at the University, and therefore used by scholars. Therefore these names would be part of the general effort to more closely identify the individual.

THOR ELMER HAMRIN
1893-1955

My father, Thor Elmer Hamrin, was born in Chicago, Illinois, April 17, 1893. Shortly after his birth, his family moved to Streator, Illinois. Here he was baptized Thor Hjalmar but it was simplified later to Thor Elmer. In his home he was always called Elmer. He was the third of six children.

During his childhood he had the proper academic schooling, and faithfully, Lutheran Church School on Saturdays in keeping with the tradition of the Swedish community. In the summers he would stay with the Johnson family on their farm outside of Streator, and the Johnson family has always been a close part of the Hamrin family story to this date.

He graduated from Streator High School in 1910, and completed two years of pre-medical studies at the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana.

He left home and the University after two years of study, and arrived in Los Angeles, Calif. in about 1914. He chose Los Angeles because part of the Johnson family of Streator had moved there earlier. Through this family he met my mother, Agnes Otilie Kolstad.

Thor and Agnes were married in Los Angeles, October 3, 1917, in civil ceremonies. Early that year, the United States had entered World War 1, and about the time of his marriage he enlisted in the U.S. Army and was assigned to the Medical Corps. Soon after their marriage he was sent overseas where he saw action in France as an ambulance driver-attendant. On one occasion he was separated from his unit in action, and reassigned to an Aero unit. At the end of the war he was honorably discharged in 1919, and returned to Los Angeles.

Thor and Agnes made their home in Los Angeles, living first in the Kolstad family home where their first child, a boy, Thor Elmer Jr., was born in 1920. A daughter, Carol Ester, was born to them in 1923 in Los Angeles.

Thor Elmer became an industrial salesman, first for a tire manufacturer, then for the rest of his life for a major oil company. They lived in Fullerton and then moved to South Pasadena.

In 1927 his beloved wife, Agnes, passed away and he was left with the young children. In 1931 he remarried and he and his wife and children lived in South Pasadena until her death in 1947. There were no children of this marriage to Iva Leona Watson, but she raised the young children, Thor Jr. and Carol Ester, to adulthood.

He again married in 1948 to a daughter of the Johnson family of Streator, Hulda Johnson, who became known to my children as "Aunt Hud". They lived in San Marino, Calif., until his death in 1954.

My father was about 5'11" tall, of medium build taking on weight in later years. He had the coloring of his mother, sandy hair and blue eyes, with a square jaw. He was a stubborn man once his mind was made up, firm in his likes, and dislikes, and even tempered. He worked hard, but loved most to get into the most "earthy" clothes and go fishing, hiking, and camping. He enjoyed family social gatherings with plenty of food, music, singing, and spirits.

He seemed at times to have a quiet sadness, unspoken thoughts, yet he balanced this with laughter and enthusiasm for living.

I was very close to my father, and we shared many of the experiences of my growing up years. I shall never forget his love and thoughtfulness during those difficult years after my mothers death.

chd

PETER A. HAMRIN
(Per Adolf Hammarén)
1866-1919

My grandfather, Per Adolf Hammarén was born October 12, 1866, in Långbro, near Örebro, Sweden. Örebro was a large manufacturing and textile town, and he served his apprenticeship there as a tailor.

As a young man in about 1886 he left Sweden and emigrated to the United States to work as a tailor in Chicago. When first in Chicago he fitted men's clothing in their homes, and in one of these homes a young housemaid beckoned him to come into the kitchen and have a cup of coffee. This was my grandmother, Oline Simonson.

Oline must have made an excellent cup of coffee, for they were married in about 1888 in Chicago, where they made their home for the early years of their marriage. It was in Chicago that the first three of their six children were born, including my father, Thor Elmer, who was the third child.

Per Adolf must have felt that Chicago was not a place to raise a family, and in about 1895 they moved to Streator, Illinois, where he opened his own tailor shop.

Reportedly, he was an exacting man who gave his children every opportunity to excel, and was proud of their achievements. He spent many long hours at his business and was held in high regard by his customers and his neighbors in the Swedish community.

I never saw my grandfather. His photographs show him to be short, and stout, with heavy dark hair and dark eyes and brows, and impeccable in dress. I have the impression, from family stories, that he was a firm man with his family, the paterfamilias, as befitted his raising in the old country.

Peter Hamrin died in 1919.

chd

OLINE SIMONSON

1864-1944

Oline Simonson was born in Labben, Norway, January 5, 1864. She was the daughter of Simon Olsen, a wood cutter. Simon was killed in an accident of a falling tree and his daughter, Oline, was sent to Chicago, Ill., to live with her cousins.

Leaving Chicago after her marriage to Peter Hamrin, Grandmother Simonson lived the rest of her life in Streator. One exception, Oline visited her son, Thor Elmer in Los Angeles, Ca., 1921, to see her first grandson, Thor Jr.

Oline was fair and blue eyed, a very tall slender woman. Her features were angular with deep set eyes. She was dedicated to her husband and her life was centered around her six children. She was active in the sewing circles of her Lutheran church.

A very quiet retiring woman, but always ready to help a neighbor with a basket of food or just to sit with a friend in need. She could make the best Norwegian marrow-ball soup to nourish the sick, or make very fancy pastries for a gala occasion.

Oline Simonson died in Streator, Ill., 1944.

chd

AGNUS OTILIE KOLSTAD

1890 - 1927

Agnus Otilie was born in Seattle, Washington, September 18, 1890. At about six years of age, she moved to Los Angeles with her parents and older brother, Roy. In Los Angeles, another brother was born, Arthur. She was confirmed in the Norwegian Luthern Church, September 10, 1905, by Olof Eger, pastor. It is interesting to note, St. Agnus is Norway's patron saint.

The Kolstad family were a musical family. All sang or played a musical instrument. Agnus was quite skilled in playing the piano, and also played the organ in the Christian Science Church on West Adams, Los Angeles.

Agnus graduated from Los Angeles Polytechnic High School where she learned secretarial skills. She worked as a secretary for a bank in Los Angeles.

Agnus enjoyed the out-of-doors. Most of her pictures show her at the ocean, mountains or ranching. She also was an excellent horseback rider.

Because of this great interest, Agnus and her father homesteaded 160 acres of land in Malibu, about 1916. To compete the homestead agreement, a dwelling was to be built and small scale farming planted. Access to this property in these days, was difficult. Either one waited for the tide to go out and make a run around Point Dume with the horse and buggy, or come in by horseback from Calabassas, over the Santa Monica Mountains and down into the Trancus Canyon by the sea. Her father brought in supplies and lumber for building by mule over these mountains. The cabin was built on the knoll over looking the ocean, but destroyed during the great fire of 1933.

While working at the bank, Agnus met Ruth Johnson, making friends with the Johnson family, originally from Streator, Ill. A young man, Thor Elmer was staying with them, also from Streator, and Agnus and Thor were introduced.

They were later married, October 3, 1917, in Los Angeles.

My mother, Agnus, passed away in 1927, So. Pasadena, when I was four years old. It is difficult to give an accurate description at this age, except, I remember a nice warm smell about her and an aura, sunny and golden. I can

remember her shoes, cotton hose and long skirt at the kitchen sink, my eye level at four years.

Her description from photos and friends tell me that Agnus was a tall women, 5 foot 8 inches, of medium build, tending toward the thin side, later. Her long blonde hair was done up on top of her head-but always casual, a loose trendle here or there. Blue eyes and her face had a radiant glow, yet gentle and loving appearance. She always showed great enthusiasm in what ever activity she took part in. Her family and friends always spoke very fondly of Agnus.

chd

JOHN CHRISTIAN ANDERSON KOLSTAD
1859-1941

John Anderson, my Grandfather, I have always held so dear. I can't remember when he was not with me as a child, watching me, or caring for me, always part of my life and my family.

John Anderson was a very tall man, taller than most men of his times, bright blue eyes, and a handsome head of white hair. He was on the thin side, rawboned, an angular face with high cheek bones, large good teeth, and a thick lower lip which constantly held a pipe. He was a very kind man, a sensitive man, very likable. He could build or fix anything it seemed, and he could tell the most wonderful stories, showing us hand and string tricks, and we loved to listen while he played the harmonica or sang.

John Anderson, my John Anderson. With those great, knarled, hands with the long, tapering fingers he could mend a sail or a horses' bridle, or sew a dollies dress; he could carve a teakwood chest or build a home; he could mend the broken toys and mend the family car. He could tell the stories of the gnomes and the trolls of Norway, and play the old songs on his harmonica.

John Anderson, my John Anderson.

He was born in the town of Kolstad, Norway, in 1859. Kolstad is just north of Trondheim on the Trondheim fjord. It was a quarry town of stone cutters, but his father, Anders, was the cobbler of Kolstad.

John became an apprentice to the carpenter in Kolstad. His life's work was carpentry and cabinet making - he could hammer with one hand, while sawing with the other.

During his apprenticeship he met Amalia, who was later to become his wife. After he finished his apprenticeship his thoughts turned to marriage, but he needed money to marry and he was required to serve two years of military service.

He made his decision, and decided to sail to America, the land of opportunity. He built his own sea chest, packing his belongings and dreams, and told Amelia that he would send for her as soon as he earned enough for her passage.

He sailed from Bergen in about 1880, across the Atlantic, up the St. Lawrence River to the Great Lakes, and landed in Duluth, Minnesota. Here in this section of the country were many Norwegians, Swedes, and Danes attracted to the new country. In St. Paul, Minnesota, he worked in the lumber mills. John Anderson was a very common name among the mill workers so the paychecks were constantly confused. The men then took the names of their town of origin,

and he became John Anderson Kolstad.

During this time the St. Paul-Pacific Railroad was being reorganized and it evolved into the Great Northern Railroad. They needed men, and John Kolstad was hired as a builder of stations and cabinet maker. Working across Minnesota, North Dakota, Montana, the tip of Idaho, and finishing in Seattle, Washington, John Kolstad was involved in the carpentry of each station along the route.

When John Kolstad reached Seattle in about 1886, and received his "finishing" pay, he sent for Amalia. She joined him in Seattle in about 1888, and they were married there. They had two children born in Seattle, a son and my mother, Agnes, born in 1892.

John Kolstad was naturalized in Seattle in 1892, and on October 2 of this year he renounced all allegiance to Oscar II, King of Sweden and Norway, and became a citizen of the United States.

In the next few years they lived in Astoria and Portland, Oregon, and then moved to San Francisco, finally settling in Los Angeles, Calif. by 1896.

John Kolstad built the family home on 33rd St. off Figueroa, in Los Angeles. This street became the home of many foreign born families: the Merz of Germany, the DuMonts of France, the Wagners of Scotland, the Roschbachs of Germany, the Schutes of Switzerland. Because their families were left in the old countries, they became a family within themselves, helping in time of need, comforting each other.

In Los Angeles, their third child, Arthur, was born.

After his wife's death in 1922, John Kolstad was disconsolate, and spent time at the home of his daughter, Agnes. When she passed away in 1927, he became watchward of her young children.

In about 1935 he sold the family home in Los Angeles, and lived with the Thor Hamrin family until his death. Always a welcome, and respected member of the family.

John Anderson, my John Anderson. A beautiful man.

He died 1941, in South Pasadena, Ca.

chd

AMALIA (KOLSTAD)

1865 - 1922

Amalia was born in Christiania, Norway. Christiania was later named Oslo in 1925. Oslo was the original viking name on this site. Queen Christine of Denmark once ruled this land giving it the former name. When Norway won its independence, through national pride, it again took the name of Oslo for its capital.

Amalia's full name and dates could possibly be found in the marriage records, Seattle, Washington - grandpa could not seem to remember in later years. Grandpa did tell me, Amalia's father was the station master, a rather prestigious political position in Norway.

John Kolstad sent for her. Leaving her homeland, she arrived in Seattle where John and Amalia were married. In 1892, Amalia automatically became a citizen of the United States by virtue of being married to John Kolstad, citizen. Congress abolished this provision in 1922.

Grandpa told me, she was a pretty women, dark hair and eyes, and small. She had a most beautiful singing voice and played the piano. Her piano, purchased ca. 1890, is still in the family - played by five generations.

Amalia was a very social women among the new families on 33rd Avenue. The families were active in gatherings in their homes and exploring their new Southern California. She and her friends became involved in the Christian Science religion, a very strong movement in Los Angeles about 1910.

Amalia died at their home, Los Angeles, Ca., in 1922.

chd



James Logan Donnelly
ca. 1915



Cora Althea Smith
ca. 1914



Thor Elmer Hamrin
ca. 1911



Agnus Otilie Kolstad
ca. 1908



Mary
Caroline
Vaughn

Charles
H.
Smith

ca. 1895



James
Harvey
Vaughn

ca. 1880



James
Logan
Donnelly, Jr.

Cora
Althea
Smith

Charles
H.
Smith

Nancy Ann
Miller

ca. 1921

eration.

1948



Mary Caroline Vaughn ca. 1935



Mary Ann Robbins (Vaughn) ca. 1928



John Anderson Kolstad ca. 1939



Amalia (Kolstad) ca. 1918



Confirmation, Kolstad, Norway ca. 1872

John Anderson Kolstad
Seated front row-rt.



Anna Stanford
James Edward Donnelly
ca. 1895



Christina Jonsdottir
Per Johan Hammarén
ca. 1888



Peter A. Hamrin and Family
ca. 1901



Charles H. Smith ca. 1935



George Stanford Donnelly
James Logan Donnelly
ca. 1915



Streator High School Football Team
Thor Elmer Hamrin ca. 1908
third row-rt

No 4 I do not know what
 County, David Samuel Miller
 was born in Ohio all I
 know is he came down
 from Ohio on the Ohio
 River a a Boat Man and
 then came back up the
 Illinois River to Bureau
 Illinois where he Home-
 -steaded on a farm, and
 went to cutting Rail-
 Road ties for the Rock
 Island Railroad and
 bought land of the Rock
 Island R.R. Co and paid
 for the land by cutting
 and selling them to
 the Railroad Co. at the
 time of his Death he had
 7000 acres of land along
 the Railroad, and in Ill. ^{and}
 and also owned 8000 ^{acres}
 + Iowa to page 5 please

A Big Man about 340# as
(5)
A very Successful Man.

#45 as I already wrote
I cannot be sure what
my own Grand Mother's
Maiden name I could of
been Perkins (Daly) or
or Possibly Searles

If you get the 1960 or 1970
Census on David Samuel
Milkers family of Bureau
Illinois you may get
the desired information
I sure wish you good
Luck if you do.

Well I have done the best
I know to help you and
if I live to ever get to
see or that cousin of mine
ever gives me any more
Information I'll try to
to page 6 please

for Mary Smith

Caroline Goldring wife
of James Robbins Mother
of Caroline Althea Robbins

Born April 18. 1850

James Robbins " March 14. 1851

Sarah Charlotte " Aug 2. 1852

Mary Ann " Feb. 17. 1854

Caroline Goldring died
September. 1858, after a
lingering illness disease
Consumption

Buried in the Episcopal
Cemetery Witnash road
Royal Tunbridge Wells
England.

This is all that
is in the bible about

Caroline Goldring

first white child born in
Plattsburg, (some say in Clinton
Co. also) Missouri. She was
the second child. There were
16 children in your father's
family.

Your Grandfather pre-empted
pre-empted the land when he
came from Ken. He could enter
the land for a bit (12 1/2 $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$)
an acre up to 50 $\frac{1}{2}$. He
traded a yoke of oxen for
nearly all the present town
of Plattsburg - he also owned
much of the land from there
north in Clinton Co. He was
very wealthy, but not a good

Hempfle, Missouri
March 22, 192

Mrs. C. C. Smith,
Ogden, Utah.

My dear Mary: -

I am your cousin James
Vaughn's wife, Cressie, write
for your Aunt Mary June. 1922
is my husband's sister, to
get you straightened out.

Your Grandfather Vaughn
name was Alexander of
Madison County, Kentucky, &
August, 19, 1810. (Aunt
said they, your Grandfather and
Grandmother were always told
of Shelbyville, Ken., but not

① were John and Ruth Nickerson.
Alexander Vaughan and ~~Ruth~~ Phoebe
Nickerson were married at the
home of John Nickerson in
Madison Co., Ken. Jan. 7, 1833
by the Rev. Thomas Ballou.

Aunt Mollie does not know
when your Great-Grandparents
were born nor died. your Grandfather
Vaughan died March 10, 1894.

Your Grandmother, died Aug. 27, 1892.

Your Grandparents were
Free-Will Baptist. (One
might expect that; they were
Southerners.)

Your own Aunt Martha Anna
Vaughn - Devoing was the

② They were born near there or
she did not know). Your Gra
mother's name was Phoebe
Nickerson of same place - born
April 25, 1815. Alexander V
had 13 brothers and 10 sisters
He was the son of Gabriel and
Nancy Vaughan. The only
thing I can tell you of them
is at the last word from
Ken. they were still keeping to
be 115 years old and she 10
This word was received, however
during the lifetime of your
Grandparents.

Your Grandmother's parents

⑤ manager and sold off land to live on (as most of the old Southern gentlemen did, as you know).

Your Uncle Alex Vaughan, who lives in St. Joseph said he had a few things he wanted to put in, but he hasn't been out and if I see him I'll try to get these facts for you also. If you want the dates of the birth of your Uncle⁺ and Aunt, write and I'll send them.

Your Great-Grandfather must have fought in the Revolutionary war from these dates of the 18th

"the 'Mullin'". I'm Mullin
hand in the bill the other
a long letter that is very
interesting.

With sincere best regards,

(Mrs.) George E. Tangles.

P.S. What other information
you discover about the
family of your Great-Grand-
parents please write to
me about. We would all
love to know about it.

(P) of your grandfather's letter
Alexander Tangles was Scott
Gish.

Your Aunt Marie is 86
next June 4. She is not
feeling well just now, however
she is up and does her own
work and still pieces quilt.
She is a lovely old lady
the best company in the
world. My pen has gone
dry and Aunt Marie has
ink.

She says for you to write
her again and tell her about