

## Just How Much Longer?

This is issue #50—a milestone of sorts. *Sanders Siftings* started a little over 12 years ago.

The other day my wife said, “How much longer are you going to do that (meaning *Sanders Siftings*)?” This was asked in the same tone of “Aren’t you about done?” when I’m at a library or the National Archives and she is reading a book and waiting on me.

I can’t really say how much longer I will be doing this, but I don’t think it will be another 50 issues!

Things are changing. Queries are not coming in like they did a few years ago. And readers are not sending in material as much anymore. This issue was particularly difficult because of the size of the articles. I really need more medium to small size stories—and that usually makes a better mix of material. Some have said there is not enough about the Saunders from up north or northeast and too much about the Saunders in the South. It just depends on who sends in copy. This issue is heavy on the Saunders.

So, how much longer will I be doing *Sanders Siftings*? A few more years. As long as my health holds out and the copy keeps coming in. That means it depends on YOU. If you want to see this publication continue, send me queries, wills, obits, biographies, and stories about YOUR family and ancestors.

This should be about helping others with their search for their dead relatives and finding a few live ones who will answer mail and/or listen to ancestor stuff and pretend to enjoy it. ■

Don Schaefer, *editor*

## Wills From Downton Parish, England May Contain Answers to Saunders There

The following is from an e-mail sent by Robert H. Saunders, 703 Croton Lake Road, Bedford Corners, NY 10549, <rhsaunders@msn.com> to others who were interested in the research involving several John Sa(u)nders and whether they should be joined in some way or separated. See the last issue of *Sanders Siftings* and several others on this subject.

“I thought you might want to read the transcriptions of the will of Barnaby Saunders and the 1627 will of a Richard Saunders.

“I had high hopes for the Richard Saunders will. John (1) Saunders had named his first son Richard, so I thought this Richard might be John (1)’s father. No such luck, however. If this Richard had a wife or children, they appear to have predeceased him. The script was quite hard to read, but I could read enough to get the gist of it.

“Barnaby Saunders did have a son John, however. John was a minor at Barnaby’s death (but presumably over 14, the age at which, if I recall correctly, a child could select his own guardian in England). A lot of the will is taken up by a list of all the things that Barnaby bequeathes to John—all to be taken away if John appoints someone other than his older brother William as his guardian. I do not know of anything specifically tying this John to John (1), however, and there is no history of children named Barnaby in the family line (although I would think twice before inflicting that name on a child, even if it was my father’s name).

“Re the will of John (1) Sanders distributed last week, I thought it might be worth stating the obvious--what this will means:

“1. John (1) died in 1649. No improbable series of wives and families.

“2. Alice, his wife, was alive in 1649. No marriage by John (1) to Hester Rolfe

in the 1630’s (so we can conclude that she married John (2).

“3. John (2) was alive in 1649. Therefore, he was not John Sanders of Salem who died in 1643.”

(See the following transcriptions of wills of Richard Saunders, Barnaby Saunders, and John (1) Sanders)

[Editor’s note: Where there are underlined spaces, Robert Saunders, the transcriber, was unable to decipher the word. A reproduction of a portion of a will like these (one of Richard Saunders of Hampworth, 1552) is shown on page three so that you can appreciate the difficulty in translating or transcribing this old handwriting. In printing these wills I have separated the “Items” into paragraphs for easier reading. Neither these paragraphs nor punctuation appeared in the original wills.]

### Will of Richard Saunders (1627)

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN on the one and twentieth of September Anno Dom 1626 A \_\_\_\_\_ I Richard Saunders of Hampworth in the parish of Downton in the countie of Wilts yeoman beinge sicke in body but in sound and perfect memory \_\_\_\_\_ed be God do make and ordaine this my laws will and testament in manner and form following ffirst I bequesth my soule to God that gave it And my bodie to be buried in the churche of Downton As for my temporal goods I give and bequeath them as follows Imprimis I give and bequesth onto our Lady churche of \_\_\_\_\_ Sarum \_\_\_\_\_schillings fower pense

Item I give and bequeath to my parish church of Downton fower schillings

Item I give and bequeath unto the chorche of Landford toward the maintenance of a \_\_\_\_\_ thirty five schillings eight pense

Item I give and bequeath unto the poore of Downton four pounds

Item I give and bequeath unto the

(Continued on page two)

## Last Will and Testament of William Sanders of Westmoreland County, Virginia, 1726

The Last Will and Testament of William Sanders, Westmoreland County, Va., 1726 from *Westmoreland Co., Va. Wills*, pg 74, A.Fothergill c. 1925, Appeals Press.

In the name of God, amen, I William Sanders being of very sick & weak mind of body but in perfect health of mind & memory, thanks be to Almighty God for the same, do make and constitute & ordain this my Last Will & Testament in manner & form following; And first I give and bequeath my Soul to Almighty God my Creator and my body to the earth to be decently buried at the discretion of my Exrs. hereafter mentioned; and for what worldly goods it hath pleased God to bless me with my will is that they be disposed of in manner & form following.

Imprs. I give and bequeath unto my Son, John Sanders, the land and plantacon on which I now live to him & his heirs lawfully begotten of his body and for default of such heirs to my next rightfully heirs for ever; I likewise give him what goods or household stuff of any kind what ever that he hath already received from me.

Item. I give & bequeath unto my Son, Phillip Sanders, the Eighty acres of land I last purchased of James Taylor to him & his heirs lawfully begotten of his body & for default of such heirs to my next rightfully heirs for ever.

Item. I give & bequeath to my two Sons, William and James, all the rest of my land not before bequested to be equally divided between them only my Son, James, to have the place now called the New Plantacon into his part to them & their heirs lawfully begotten of their bodies for ever; and for default of such heirs to my next rightfully heirs for ever.

Item. I give & bequeath unto my beloved wife Elizabeth Sanders, the choice of my feather beds with the furniture thereunto belonging;

Item. I give my daughter, Mary Sanders, the next choice of my feather beds & furniture thereunto belonging. I give my daughter Ursula Sanders, a feather bed & the furniture thereunto belonging.

It is my will that the rest of my Estate of any kind what ever be equally divided between my wife Elizabeth Sanders and her children, and it is my will that my

children do remain & stay with the mother during the time that she shall remain a widow. And whereas I have hereby given the remaining part of my estate to be equally divided between my wife & her children. It is provided that they pay over & above to my youngest daughters, Elizabeth & Sarah Sanders five hundred pounds of tobacco apiece at the age of eighteen years or the day of marriage. I do appoint my widowed wife Elizabeth Saunders and my son John Sanders, my Exrs, and my friend, Mr. Thomas Asbury. Executor in Trust to see this my last Will & Testament well & truly performed.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & affixed my seal this 31st day of March Anno Dmi; one thousand seven hundred twenty six.

Signed sealed & published in presence of John Sturman, Thomas Cockeril, Wm Sanders, John Cockeril Westmoreland ss. At a court held for the said county the 29th day of June, 1726. The Last Will & Testament of William Sanders, decd, was presented into court by Elizabeth, his Relict & Exrx, (John Sanders his Exr having in court refused to undertake the burden of the Exon. of the sd. Will), and she having made Oath thereto and being proved by the oaths of John Sturman & John Cockerill, two of the witnesses thereto is admitted to record. And unto the motion of the said Elizabeth, and her performing what is usual in such cases, Certificate is granted for her obtaining a Probate thereof in due for.

Test Tho. Sorrel, Cl Recordat Septimo die July 1726. ■

My name is Donna Howell Steely (2248 Carol Street, Modesto, CA 95354, <LauraeAnne@aol.com> and I have Sanders on my mother's side and my husband has Sanders on his father's side. My oldest known ancestor is Elijah, b. c. 1773, in S.C. He is listed in the 1850 Hot Spring Co., Ark. census as being 77 years old, occupation: farmer. He died between 1850/1860 in Hot Spring Co., Ark. My husband's oldest known ancestor is Benjamin Sr., d. abt. Oct. 1744, Perquimans Co., N.C.; marr. Ann Elliott, b. Orange Co., Ind., d. c. 1752, Perquimans Co., N.C. ■

## Downton Wills

(Continued from page one)

poore of Landford \_\_\_\_ schillings bot w<sup>ch</sup> my will is should remaine a \_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_ for and towards the mainetenance of the said poore

Item I give and bequeath unto my \_\_\_\_ fifteen \_\_\_\_ defen\_ some \_\_\_\_

Item I give and bequeath unto \_\_\_\_ daughter \_\_\_\_

Item I give and bequeath unto Thomas [Sofend] the \_\_\_\_ of my sister \_\_\_\_ five pounds And to the \_\_\_\_ Thomas Sofend thirteen shillings

Item I give and bequeath unto \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ pounds, And for the \_\_\_\_ children a marke a peece

Item I give and bequeath unto William woody my sister's sonne ffortie shillings

Item I give to his sonne Richard Woody six pounds

Item I give and bequeath unto his other ffy\_ children fortie shillings a peece

Item I give and Bequeath unto \_\_\_\_ Lawford and to his sister my sisters chilcren ffoore pounts a peece

Item I give and bequeath unto M \_\_\_\_ Mary \_\_\_\_ fyve pounds six shillings \_\_\_\_

Item I give And bequeath unto MaryAddams the daughter of Robert Addams ffyve pounds six shillings\_ - \_\_\_\_

Item I give and bequeath unto Alls \_\_\_\_ the daughter of Edward Piffll twentie shillings

Item I give and bequeath unto Edmond Whyte my sisters sonn ffortie shillings And to his sonne twenty shillings

Item I give and bequeath unto Alice \_\_\_\_ twentye pounds ffirs \_\_\_\_ to be \_\_\_\_ out for her first g\_\_\_\_ by my ex\_\_\_\_ until the same to the age of sixteen years

Item I give and bequeath unto Richard Lig\_ the sonne of \_\_\_\_ Li\_ four pounds

Item I give and bequeath unto John L\_\_\_\_ Elizabeth & Alice Lig\_ children of the abovesaid \_\_\_\_ L\_\_\_\_ one \_\_ for bullock \_\_\_\_

Item I give and bequeath unto Edward Lig\_ s children one ewe and lambe a peece

Item I give and bequeath unto Richard Addams and Robert Addams my sisters sonnes five pounds a peece It I give and bequeath unto William F\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_ fortie shillings And to his mother Ffyve pounds

Item I give and bequeath unto william rings pastor of Landford fortie Shillings

Item I give and bequeath unto William

(Continued on page three)

(Continued from page two)

\_\_\_ my kinsman forty shillings

Item I give and bequeath unto John G \_\_\_ my godson five shillings eight pence And unto all the other of my godchildren 12<sup>s</sup> a peece

Item I give and bequeath unto John L \_\_\_ man of white \_\_\_ and \_\_\_ for bullocke of ff \_\_\_ eares old

Item I give and bequeath unto the widowe Mary Evans one heifer \_\_\_

Item I give and bequeath unto Edward Ad \_\_\_ fower \_\_\_ of \_\_\_

Item I give and bequeath unto the children of Thomas Adams my sisters sonne fortie shillings to be paid out of the four pounds \_\_\_ remains indebted unto me

Item I give and bequeath unto Thomas \_\_\_ children fortie shillings between them

Item I give and bequeath unto the two children of Robert Younger each by the first wife twenty shillings a peece

Item I give and bequeath unto Richard Whitehouse children foure pounds and \_\_\_ with the arrow \_\_\_ and \_\_\_ of wooll and for \_\_\_ beinge in two \_\_\_ \_\_\_ in the lower \_\_\_ my will is it should be equallie divided be twixt my sister Phillis \_\_\_ and my servant \_\_\_

Item I give and bequeath unto Joanne Moodye my servant twelve shillings

Item I give and bequeath unto Alice Moody fortie shillings

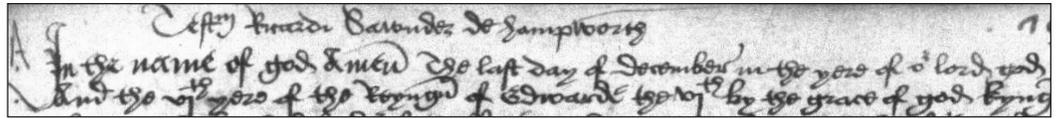
Item I give and bequeath unto William S \_\_\_ my servant twenty shillings

Item I give and bequeath unto \_\_\_ Moody ffve pounds to paid unto him at the age of one and twenty yeares and until that time to remaine in my executors hands

Item I give and bequeath unto John Bower myservant fortie shillings

Item I give and bequeath unto Joanne Mafyne five children of Thomas son B \_\_\_ fortie shillings

Item I give all the rest of my goods and chattels unto \_\_\_ Li \_\_\_ whome I ordaine my executor of this my last will and testament and I doe request of my further and welbeloved friends William saunders of the burrough of Downton and Thomas Eiche of Roseford in the parish of Ellingame in the countie of \_\_\_ to be overseers of this my last will and testament to \_\_\_ the said ox- \_\_\_ in \_\_\_, and for their paines I give to either of them six shillings eight pence a peece And I \_\_\_ by this \_\_\_ all former wills whatever by and heretofore made in \_\_\_ which I \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ my \_\_\_ and \_\_\_ the day and year above written



This is an example of the handwriting in the old wills in Downton Parish.

Richard Saunders his marke, witnesses \_\_\_ \_\_\_, William S\_anfor, William Moody his marke /

### Will of Barnaby Saunders

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN the nyneteenthe daye of August 1592 I Barnabie Saunders of Weeke in the parish of Downton in the county of Wilts being sicke of bodie but thankes be given unto Almightye god of perfect memory do ordeyne and make my last will and testament in manner and form followinge. ffirst I give and bequeath my soule into the hands of the almightie god mymaker and also his sonne Jesus [christe] my savyoure and Redemer and my bodye to the earth to be buried semely and decentlye according to the desires of my overseers Item I give to the cathedrall church of Sarum foure pence.

Item I give to the parish church of Downton three shillings foure pence. Item I give and bequeathe to Agnes Saunders my daughter thirtie five poundes and my \_\_\_ best brasse panne sixe platters five porringers and sixe saucers, one of these being a \_\_\_ worthe thirtie shillings or thirtie shillings in money for her and all the wearing apparel of my late wife \_\_\_ except one in \_\_\_: All whych things before by me given and bequested to my said daughter I will and appoint to be delivered unto her when she shalbe maryed or be of the age of one and twentie yeres.

Item I give and bequeathe unto John Saunders my youngest sonne upon the conditions hereafter expressed these goods and chattels followinge that is to saye twentie poundes in money and by best featherbed with the bedstead and furniture thereunto belonging: and my worste featherbed from \_\_\_ and my best chest and my best \_\_\_ and my table court cupboard for \_\_\_ and forme and frame and one \_\_\_ table and all my ioned stooles standing in my house and my best chaire and all the glass standing aboute my house and all doores \_\_\_ and \_\_\_ belonging to my house and my ff \_\_\_ and all the iron barres in the chimneys of my house and my best brasse pottt and my best brasse panne and my thyrd best brass pott and my thyrd best brasse panne sixe platters fyve porringers and fyve saucers one part \_\_\_ and maungers bothe for horse and oxen. And \_\_\_ horses and three oxen \_\_\_ sixe pounts or \_\_\_ in

money for the \_\_\_ oxen and horses and all the [pales] and \_\_\_ landing aboute my house all which goodes and chattels here-in given and bequeathed unto my said sonne John I will and appoynte to be delivered unto him when he shalbe of the full age of one and twenty yeres so as he do elect and choose his brother William Saunders my eldest sonne to be his gardin and \_\_\_ of these \_\_\_ landes which he shall have in \_\_\_ aforesaid after my decease duringe his minoritie and tyme of his being within the age of one and twentie yeares and so as my said sonne John do quietlye permit and suffer my saied sonne William to house and enjoye the same \_\_\_ landes duringe the tyme of my said sonne John being within the age of one and twentie yeres may said sonne William allowinge and paying therefore \_\_\_ unto the saied John my sonne thirteene shillings and foure pence by \_\_\_ \_\_\_ quarterlye And also further providinge and allowinge unto my said sonne John sufficient meate \_\_\_ handsome lodging \_\_\_ and \_\_\_ or else to paye four poundes by the yere in lieue thereof at the direction and charge of my ouerseers and my sayed sonne William shall also in consideration that his brother John shall permitte and suffer hym quietlye To house and enjoy the same \_\_\_ landed as before saied give and paye unto my sayed Sonne John seaven poundes when he shall come to the full age of one and twentie yeres. Any yf my saied sonne John do or shall not elect and choose his brother William to be his Gardin And \_\_\_ of the same \_\_\_ landed during his minoritie and do or shall not permit And suffer my saied sonne William quietly to house and enjoye the same \_\_\_ lande According to my first Intent and meaning Then my will and mynde ys that my gifte Bequeathe made unto my said sonne John shalbe utterlie voyde and that the goodes and Chattessl herein and hereby given and bequeathed unto hym shall remayne unto my saied sonne William to home I mynde hereby to maky myne executor of this my last will and testament

Item I give and bequeathe unto Mary [Senter] one blacke \_\_\_ and one white faced Heifer of this yeres breading to be delivered at Michaelmas next.

Item I give to Barnaby [Senter] one ewe to be delivered at Michaelmas next. Item I give to William ffursby my godsonne one

(Continued on page four)

## We Have An Answer About Saunderstown, Rhode Island, Name Source

This query appeared in the last issue of *Sanders Siftings*:

"Paul F Sanders, 2680 169th Ave., SE, Bellevue, WA 98008, <PaulFSanders@aol.com> has a question: Does anyone know after whom Saunderstown, R.I. was named? Not only I am asking the question, but also their web site does."

Paul received an answer right away from another Paul:

Dear Paul,

I saw your query in the latest issue of *Sanders Siftings* and thought I would answer. I have visited Saunderstown a couple of times over the years and own two books about it - *Saunderstown*, by Irving C. Sheldon, Narragansett Graphics, 1985; and *These Plantations*, by

J. Earl Clauson, Roger Williams Press, 1937, 2nd edition. The latter has a chapter entitled "The Saunderses, Boat Builders" which describes the operation which gave the town its name. It was started by John Aldrich Saunders, son of Stephen Saunders and Tacy Stillman, my ancestors. John was credited with inventing a centerboard which could be raised to permit navigation up the shallow rivers along the Narragansett coast. The boatworks were located at what was then Willettsville. I can make copies of any of this for you.

Paul A. Saunders  
Knoxville, TN"

[Editor's note: A search of the internet turned up the following at

<<http://www.northkingstown.org/fadeimages/historysaund.asp>>. There are photos on the web site.]

"Images of Saunderstown"

"Originally named Willettsville after the region's first settler in 1680, Andrew Willett, the son of the first mayor of New York City, this area has a long history as a farming community, then later a fishing and shipbuilding center, and finally as a summer resort area. It received its present name in honor of the ship building family of John Aldrich Saunders, who settled there in 1856, at the invitation of the Carpenter family, the direct descendants of the original Willett settlers, and Lafayette businessman Robert Rodman, and constructed a marine railway and shipyard. The Saunders family constructed ships there as well as maintained a summer hotel and a ferry service to Jamestown, Newport, Wickford, and Providence. It was during this remarkable timeframe that Saunderstown became renowned as a literary summer community attracting the likes of the Whartons, LaFarges, Lockwoods, Wisters, and Roosevelts. Over the last 50 years or so, the areas homes have largely been slowly converted to year round residences."

And from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia:

"Saunderstown, Rhode Island is a small village in North Kingstown, Rhode Island, USA. It is located in Washington County. Saunderstown is known as the birth place of the artist Gilbert Stuart, who is best known for painting the portrait of George Washington that is portrayed on the one-dollar bill. The Gilbert Stuart birthplace, which consists of the house in which Stuart was born, a nature trail, and a functional gristmill, is now open to the public as a museum. Saunderstown is also the location of Casey Farm, an 18th-century plantation that is now a family farm. The farm grows organic vegetables, herbs, and flowers in a community agriculture program. It is operated by Historic New England." ■

From Helen Hanley, 920 Mallory Road, Knoxville, TN 37919, <Hfhanley@aol.com>. Does anyone have information on Edward (Eddie) A. Sanders, b. 1899 or 1900 in Tennessee? Last known home was in Cookville, Tenn. ■

(Continued from page three)

ewe and one lambe to be delivered at Michaelmas next.

Item I tive to Richard Kempe one ewe and one lambe worthe seeaven shillings or vii<sup>s</sup> in money for them To be delivered at Michaelmas next.

Item I give to Barnaby Saunders my godsonne One lambe to be delyvred at Sainte Mar\_\_ day next.

Item I give unto all those of my Godchildren being unmarried twelve pence a pecie to be delivered unto them when they shall Require the same.

Item I give unto the poore people inhabiting in Downton [four] bushells of Wheate to be baked into breade and six shillings eighte pence in money to be distributed amongst them according to the direction of my executor. All of the residue of my goodes and chattels Ymplementes of houseould and \_\_\_\_ household stuffe herein not fiven and bequeathed my debts being paied and my funeralle performed I give and bequeathe unto William Saunders my sonne whome I make executor of this my last well and testamente. And I ordeyne and appoint my welbeloued friendes Martin Saunders and [Raphe] Coales my overseers of this my last will and testament hoping that they will \_\_\_\_ them lyeth for the same to be performed according to the true intent and meaning. In witsesse whereof I the saied Barnaby Saunders have hereunto set my hand in \_\_\_\_ the daye and year first abovewritten.

### Will of John (1) Saunders of Downton

I, JOHN SAUNDERS OF DOWNTON in the County of Wilts yeoman being of

good and perfect memory do make and \_\_\_\_ this my last will and testament and manner and form following ffirst and principally I remit my soule into the hands of god my Redeemer and my body to the earth from which it came and for that portion of wordly goods that god hath sent me I give and bequeath in manner and forme following Imprimis I give and bequeath to the poore people of Downton four Shillings

Item I give and bequeath unto my wife Alis Saunders one featherbed and all things appertaining to him

Item I give unto my sonne John Saunders twenty pounds

Item I give unto my daughter Sara Pike ten pounds

Item I I give unto my daughter Elinor Whitter five pounds Item I dive unto my daughter Dorothy Waydon tenn pounds

Item I give unto my daughter Alis Eastman five pounds

Item I do give unto all my grandchildren five pounds apeece All the rest of my goods unbequeathed I doe give and bequeath to my sonne Moses Saunders whom I doe make my full and whole Executor of this my last will and testament and all of my goods and chattels undisposed in witness whereof I have hereunto sett my hand and seal the day and year first above written.

Item my will is that those portions which I have given be paid within one whole year after my death except what I have given to my grandchildren which is to be paid which is to be paid when they are of age [Marke?] mr John Saunders Witness to this William Wilfrede marke

[Probate language in Latin referring to a date in September 1649] ■

## Do You Know If Your Sanders Ancestors Owned Slaves? Were Slaves?

The following article on "Sanders and Slaves" was written by Gary Sanders, Box 309236 UNT Station, Denton, TX 76203, <gary\_bsanders@hotmail.com>.

AN E-MAIL MESSAGE from another researcher prompted me to take another look at the 1850 slave schedules for the counties in North Carolina, Alabama, Georgia, and Mississippi where my ancestors lived. Although I have spent quite a lot of time researching my Sanders family, I haven't really given much thought to the opinions of my ancestors regarding this central question in American history. My grandfather and great grandfather, neither of whom owned slaves, first served in the Confederate forces in Arkansas during the Civil War, and then, when the Federals invaded the state, switched sides and joined the Union cavalry. I have almost no information or tradition about their reasons for this change of loyalty.

Others in the Sanders family were less ambivalent about the outcome. My great uncle Aaron fought for the Confederacy throughout the war. Back in Jackson County, Alabama, where many of my relatives lived, there was strong opposition to secession and my great granduncle John fled the state and fought for the Union in an Ohio Regiment throughout the war. His uncle, Joseph Sanders, was murdered in 1863 while he was working on his farm, apparently as revenge because Joseph's sons were in the Union Army.

The 1850 slave schedules reveal a lot about the economic status of the Sanders family, if not about their convictions regarding slavery. In Randolph County, North Carolina, where my great grandfather was born, not a single Sanders owned slaves. Randolph County had a sizable contingent of Quakers who may have contributed to a less favorable attitude toward slavery. In neighboring Montgomery County, North Carolina, Aaron H. Sanders (second cousin of my great grandfather), owned sixteen slaves and Pleasant C. Sanders (Aaron's brother) owned three.

In Franklin County, Georgia, Aaron Sanders, the son of the Reverend Moses Sanders and first cousin to my g-g grandfather, owned 18 slaves, and Minyard Sanders, a grandson of the Reverend Moses, owned 14 slaves in

1850. The Reverend Moses himself owned slaves; this is known because they are mentioned in his will in 1817.

In Jackson County, Alabama, in 1850, only one Sanders owned slaves: George Sanders, the brother of my g-g grandmother, Mary. His three slaves were a forty-year-old man, a thirty-year-old woman, and a four-year-old child. Even though only one of the numerous Sanders in the county owned slaves, there were still over 2200 slaves living in Jackson County in 1850 out of a total population of around 11,000.

In Tishomingo County, Mississippi, where my great grandfather Isaac Sanders and his first cousin once removed, John Sanders, lived in 1850, no Sanders owned slaves. Nor did they own any in 1860. John Sanders himself owned only real estate worth \$600, which would rank him as a prosperous farmer, but certainly not a man of great wealth. He probably thought of himself, however, as of somewhat higher social status than his neighbors because his father (the Reverend Moses Sanders) had been a wealthy planter and a slave owner and a minister.

To get some idea of what it meant to own slaves in those days, a slave would bring one to two thousand dollars in the marketplace. Although strong young male field hands were the first choice when slaves were sold for their labor, good looking young women often fetched the highest price, especially in cities like New Orleans-- sometimes up to several thousand dollars. Slaves were not a cheap investment. A dollar a day was considered good wages for a free worker, and a middle-class, modest frame house could be constructed for around \$500.

Of all the Sanders in my line, Aaron Sanders of Georgia, is the one who

comes close to being a major planter, but he had fewer than 20 slaves, which would be the minimum needed to be considered among the elite of society. If the Sanders in my line didn't own many slaves, however, it was probably because they were not, on the whole, a wealthy bunch. Certain individuals within the family might acquire lands and wealth and even keep it for several generations, but they always had plenty of "poor relations." I'm not sure any moral objection to the institution had much to do with the situation.

Undoubtedly, however, there were white Southerners named Sanders who were major planters. It's interesting to note that among the around three hundred and fifty thousand slave owners in the American South in 1850, there were about 7,000 whose surname was Sanders. It's been estimated that a quarter of all the white families in the South owned at least one slave, though ownership varied greatly from area to area and state to state.

The recent movie "Amazing Grace" makes the point that moral choices are difficult to establish in the presence of countervailing economic and cultural influences. Although I find slavery abhorrent, I understand how my ancestors may have viewed matters through the constraints of their own culture and time. Fortunately, we live in a society that recognizes that slavery was wrong, but, sadly, the institution itself has a history far older than America and still persists in some cultures today. It is well to remember that if we go far enough back in time with our genealogy, we all have both slaves and masters among our ancestors. ■

Moray Pallett, <moray-pallett@ptplace.co.uk>. I am interesting in finding contact/connections to my Saunders mostly from Norfolk, UK as follows: Parents - Samuel Saunders, b. 1806 Burgh, Norfolk married Mary Ann Harvey, b. 1809. They had 11 children: Valentine, b. 1831; Samuel, b. 1833; Elijah, b. 1835; Martha, b. 1837; Emily, b. 1840; Thomas, b. 1841; Enoch, b. 1842; Solomon, b. 1844; Leah, b. 1846; David, b. 1850; and Eliza, b. 1852. They were born around the Burgh, Norfolk, UK. My line is from Eliza Saunders, b. 1852 who married George Webb. ■

### Siftings Back Issues Available

Back issues of *SANDERS Siftings* are available at \$3.00 each. They are: No. 2, July 1995 through No. 49, April 2007. If you order eight issues or more, the price will be \$2.00 per issue.

A copy of issue No. 1, April, 1995, will be included free with any order for back issues. ■

## ASSORTED QUERIES . . .

Alice Sanders, 922 Crestline Drive, Longview, WA 98632, <sanders922@comcast.net> is looking for any information or descendants of William B. Sanders, b. 15 Feb 1798 in or near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Parents unknown. He was in Illinois by 1832 - Franklin County, later Williamson County (formed from Franklin). He married Eliza Arnold (b. 26 Aug 1811 on Roanoke Island, Tyrrell County, S.C.) in Williamson County, Illinois on 5 Jun 1828. William died in Williamson Co. 9 Mar 1845. Eliza married a second time to James Childers 16 May 1847 Williamson Co., Ill. Parents of Eliza are thought to have been Hezekiah Arnold and Sabra Ann [Ethridge] Arnold. No proof. DNA has proven William is not related to the other Sanders families living in Williamson County.

From Georgia Cooper, 250 E. Alameda #406, Santa Fe, NM 87501-2175, <gcooper30@yahoo.com>. I read that Reverend Moses Sanders of Georgia is really not the father of John S. Sanders, soldier in the Indian War of 1812. Everything I have points to Moses being his father and Mary (Sally) Hambleton? Hamilton is his mother. They were married 1789 in Wilkes Co., N.C. Can anyone help me with this line? I am trying to establish also that Reverend Moses Sanders' father was Aaron.

Hal McCawley 4178 Pindar Way, Oceanside, CA 92056, <HalMac@cox.net>. I am researching my dead end, ggf James Albert Saunders, b. Pa. or Va. and d. 1864 in Jasper Co., Mo. He is first seen 21 Oct 1845 when he married my ggm, Leah Virginia Wilson (1823 Va. - 1890 Texas) in Charleston area, Kanawha Co., W.V. There are other lines of Saunders near Charleston area in early 1800s.

Linda Sheill 2760 Lake Angelus Rd., Waterford, MI 48329 e-mail <lindasheill@comcast.net>lindasheill@comcast.net I have just begun my research on my great grandfather so I don't have much yet. His daughter was my grandmother and died at the young age of 27. As a consequence the family lost contact with the Sanders side. The information I have is this: Gustave Sanders came to

Detroit, Michigan in 1888 from Belgium. He moved to Pontiac, Michigan and lived there until he died. Gustave Sanders, b. Sep 1860, d. 2 Sep 1925; wife Bertha Lindke, b. Apr 1871, d. Apr 1931. They married on 15 Jul 1891. Bertha was from Germany or Prussia depending on which document you refer to. Children: Marie, b. 11 Jan 1895, d. 23 Feb 1922; Rosy, b. Apr 1897, d. 31 Dec 1964; Victor A., b. 22 Dec 1899, d. abt. 1973.

Gustave's parents were Thadiazus D. Sanders and Amelia Gunst. Gustave's siblings were Edmund (stayed in Belgium); the others came to the USA. They were Victor, Camille (not sure of this name it is supposed to be a brother), and Lucy (married name Montmorency). On marriage and death records Gustave's name is spelled Agustave Saunders, all other documents list him as Gustave Sanders. Gustave's death notice states his brother Victor and sister Lucy live in Detroit, Michigan and Camille is in San Francisco, Calif. So far I cannot find the brothers or the sister in the census. I may have his brother Victor, but this man did not have any children so that is a dead end.

Irene Pegues, 212 CR 1973, Yantis, Tx. 75497, <cat0@peoplescom.net>. I am trying to find out information on a John Henry Saunders of Kings County, N.B., Canada. John Henry was born approximately 1851-1853. His wife was Mary Jane Sutton. They were married in 1880. John Henry died in Houlton, Maine in 1894. I am interested in finding his parents' and siblings' names and any other information on them.

Mary Lu Sanders, 5203 Fieldbrook Drive, Greensboro, NC 27455-1119, <marylus@earthlink.net> is looking for descendants of Arden Sanders. Arden Sanders was the eldest son of Nahum (1740-1795) and Susanna Sanders of Granville and Stokes Co., N.C. Arden was b. 5 Mar 1777, probably Granville Co., N.C. and d. 2 Jul 1860 Knoxville, Knox Co., Tenn. He married Elizabeth (maiden not known). While I have information on several of Arden Sanders' children, I do not have any information on the following and would like to exchange information with anyone who has information on them or any of

Arden's other children: Clemmons, Nancy (m. John Janeway); Nahum (m. unknown and then Mary Rollins); Mary/Merry Arthur (m. Louisa Loudeback) - my husband's line; Jessie L. "Jess" (m. Margaret "Peggy" Grethier and then Sarah Reagan); and Benjamin Richard (m. Eliza Jane Frazier and then Nancy Jane McFarland). I do have this information found in a Sanders family Bible:

Lewis Sanders, b. 4 Nov 1801  
 Louisa Sanders, b. 29 May 1807  
 Davis Sanders, b. 29 Apr 1808  
 John I. Sanders, b. 27 Jun 1813  
 Ellener Sanders, b. 8 Dec 1815  
 Reuben Sanders, b. 26 Nov 1820, m. Mary "Polly" Bean

These children were born either in Hawkins Co., Tenn. or Stokes Co., N.C.

Roy Sanders, 20050 Northside Dr., Winona, TX, 75792, <rsand44@aol.com>. My brickwall is ancestors of my Henry Sanders, born abt 1756 Loudoun Co., Virginia and died 1812, Green Co., Kentucky. I have found his father listed as Thomas James Sanders. I recieved this from the internet a while back. If it is correct then Thomas had a brother named James. I am seeking information on Philip Sanders who appeared on the Loudoun Co. Tax List in 1779 with James Brooks - Volume 3, p 1443. I did find a Philip Sanders who had land in Essex Co., Va. in 1751. Additionally, one list had a Philip Sanders, b. about 1740 in Loudoun, Va. It said his father was unknown but had been born about 1700 in Fairfax, Va. He had siblings named Thomas, b. 1736 in Loudoun who died about 1802 in Green, Ky. and James, b. about 1742 in Loudoun who died there 10 Aug 1778. It has also been said that the Thomas Sanders that filed for a tavern license with Henry Sanders, 1797, Green Co., Kentucky was a brother or Henry's father. I am very interested in filling all these blanks.

Mary Spewachek, 2833 Attaberry Dr., Charlotte, NC 28205. <meposi@earthlink.net>. My maternal grandmother's maiden name was Sanders, (sometimes spelled Saunders). Tradition says her name was Clista Antonio Rudolphas Eugenias Sanders. (Any of these spellings may be off) She was born 15 Oct 1879 in Spartanburg County, S.C. to William and Elizabeth Sanders. (William Sanders was rumored to be "Indian.")

Clista's obit listed two surviving brothers, William and Marvin and a sister, first name unknown at this time\*, she was listed as Mrs. R. L. Mason of Chesnee, S.C. Clista married Thomas Alfred Michaels of Burke Co., N.C. From my info they met and were married in Spartanburg, S.C. Lived there a couple of years then moved back to his home in Burke Co., N.C. near Morganton. It was said that Thomas had moved with his family to Spartanburg County to work in the Whitney Cotton Mill. I desperately need information on who William and Elizabeth's parents were and more about Clista's siblings.

\*NOTE: I think I found the sister I mentioned, Mrs. R. L. Mason, in the 1900 census for Gastonia, N.C. R. L. Mason was listed with wife, Mary. Gastonia isn't very far north of Spartanburg, S.C. and was/is another mill town.

(If William and Elizabeth were like other couples of the time, I'm sure they probably had more than four children.)

Mary Lu Sanders, 5203 Fieldbrook Drive, Greensboro, NC 27455-1119, <marylus@earthlink.net>. I have an interesting puzzle involving three Merry Arthur Sanders - maybe someone reading *Sanders Siftings* can help me out. There are three Merry Arthur Sanders that I am trying to connect:

(1) Merry Arthur Sanders, whose parents are unknown, was b. abt 1783, Virginia; d. abt 1822 Jasper Co., Ga.; m. Elizabeth Hunter, b. abt 1781, d. 17 Nov 1850 Warren Co., Ga. Their children were Sarah, b. 10 Oct 1806 Lincoln Co., Ga., m. Jacob Moffett 25 Jan 1822, d. Conecuh Co., Ala.; Elizabeth; Samuel; Billington; Susan Lucinda; Henry, b. 16 Oct 1803; James H., b. 18 Jan 1805; Seaborn, b. 10 Jul 1810; and Margaret Ellen.

(2) Mary/Merry Arthur Sanders, who was the son of Nahum and Susannah Sanders, was b. 4 Dec 1799, N.C., m. Nancy \_\_\_ (mnu), d. 25 Sep 1856, Clermont, Ohio. Their children were: Nancy, Susan, Sarah, Malinda, Frances, Catherine, and Elizabeth. Mary/Merry Arthur's brother Arden is my husband's ancestor.

(3) Merry Arthur Sanders, who was the son of John and Charlotte Kingrey, was b. Georgia date of birth unknown. John and Charlotte were married in

Wilkerson Co., Georgia on 30 Oct 1814. Their other children were Arden, b. 9 Mar 1817, d. 8 Jun 1837; Cinthey; Elizabeth, b. abt 1830; William, b. 13 Nov 1846; Seaborn; John Higgs; Miles; Coleson; and Daniel Murray.

It's not just the similarity in names (Mary/Merry Arthur and Arden), but the

fact that my husband has a 34/37 marker DNA match with a young man in Georgia. Consequently, I feel that there must be a kinship between these three families and by finding this connection perhaps I will be able to find more information on our elusive Nahum Sanders. Any suggestions or information would be truly appreciated. ■

## Saunders Die In Great Gale of October 1770

The following was posted by Kristin Carole Hall, <<http://www.media.mit.edu/~kristin>>. Although we must be very careful about the accuracy of genealogy postings on the web, this one has sources listed. This was done in the form of a Register Report.

THE SAUNDERS (OR SANDERS) FAMILY came from "Torbay, England," settled on the Isles of Shoals and took up the familiar, albeit dangerous, lives of commercial fishermen. Then, as now, commercial fishing was one of the most dangerous occupations in America. The list of those who were lost at sea is great in this family.

While "Torbay, England" is not found in the modern atlases of that country, the "Torbay" referred to is possibly now the town of Torquay, England - which is a harbor town south of Exeter. It is between Hope's Nose and Paignton, just south of Babbacombe Bay.<sup>6</sup>

The Great Gale of 20 October 1770 was one of the most destructive and violent ever on the New England coast. It was a vicious Nor'Easter which started late Friday, 19 October 1770 and continued in full force on Saturday, 20 October 1770. Contemporary readers would recognize it as having the strength and ferocity of "The Perfect Storm" of October 1990.

"...In the bay at Portsmouth, New Hampshire, two schooners from Rye were out fishing, and were seen about sunset Friday night, but were never again heard from. On one of the vessels were six men, John Sanders and his son John, John Yeaton, William Thomas and two others, and two boys; and on the other were Samuel Sanders, Joshua Foss, Samuel Sanders, Jr., and two boys. Six of the men left wives and a number of children. How many wives were made widows and children orphans by this storm is not known, but the number must have been large..."<sup>4</sup>

The Saunders family clearly suffered tremendous loss in this one gale.

### First Generation

1. Saunders<sup>1</sup>. Nothing is currently known of him or his wife.

They had the following children:

2. i. John (-1770)
3. ii. Samuel (-1770)
4. iii. George (1732-1786)
5. iv. Robert (- 1807)

### Second Generation

2. John Saunders was born in Torbay, England and was lost in the Great October Gale of 1770<sup>2</sup>. John emigrated from Torbay, England before 7 April 1740 (date of marriage) and settled at the Isles of Shoals<sup>2</sup>. John first married Mary Berry. We've yet to figure out her parentage from the many Berrys along the New Hampshire coast at that time. She died before 1760.

They had the following children:

6. i. Esther
7. ii. Robert (-1839)
8. iii. Mary
9. iv. John
10. v. George

In 1760 John second married Tryphena Philbrick, in Rye, Rockingham Co., N.H.<sup>2</sup>

They had the following children:

11. i. Abigail (1760-)
- ii. William
12. iii. Sarah
13. iv. Olly (1766-)

3. Samuel Saunders was born in Torbay, England<sup>2</sup> and was lost along with his brother in the Great Gale of October 1770<sup>2</sup>. Samuel emigrated from Torbay, England before 1746 (date of marriage) and settled at the Isles of Shoals<sup>2</sup>. In 1746 Samuel married Hannah Foss/Fost<sup>2</sup>. The Joshua Foss who was a hand on Samuel Sanders, Sr.'s fishing schooner when it was lost in the

(Continued on page eight)

## About This Issue

I must apologize again for this issue being much, much later than usual. I normally try to have it in the mail by the first of the month. This time the cause was attending the Kiwanis International Convention in San Antonio till July 6.

I still need good stories about Sanders or Saunders people such as articles from family histories, biographies from county histories, or obituaries. And, *send me queries*.

I do not have very many articles left over to be used in succeeding issues. I prefer to have a good back log. Especially needed are shorter stories or longer queries.

I need more stories of various lengths, wills, your genealogy odyssey, old letters, great research ideas, obituaries, etc. Keep sending in products of your research, but I need quite a few short items. Also, more good pictures are needed to support stories. Think about the kind of things you like to read here, and send similar stuff.

It will be very much appreciated if you send me your queries and other material via e-mail. Send it to me at <dschaefer@uark.edu>. If you can't e-mail, send cleanly typed copy. I can scan it with OCR software and a scanner to save time. *Whichever is okay for you—but send me something!*

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(Continued from page seven)

Great Gale of 20 October 1770 was probably her brother. This meant that Hannah lost her husband, son, and brother in this one storm.

4. George Saunders was born 18 April 1732 in Torbay, England and died in Rye, Rockingham Co., N.H. in 1786; he was 53<sup>2</sup>. George emigrated from Torbay, England before 1756 or 1757 (date of marriage). He settled at the Isles of Shoals and was a member of Captain Parsons' company, serving in the Revolutionary War<sup>2</sup>. In 1756-1757, when George was 23, he married Sarah Kive, in Rye, Rockingham Co., N.H.<sup>2</sup>.

5. Robert Saunders died 7 March 1807 in Rye, Rockingham Co., N.H. Robert emigrated from Torbay, England and also settled at the Isles of Shoals<sup>3</sup>. Robert married Elizabeth Berry.

### Third Generation

6. Esther Saunders<sup>8</sup> was baptized on 17 September 1741.

On 24 August 1759 Esther first married John Yeaton<sup>8</sup>, son of \_\_\_ Yeaton, in New Castle, Rockingham Co., N.H.<sup>9</sup>. John was lost in the Great October Gale of 1770 along with Esther's father and uncle<sup>10</sup>. Esther lost her father, John; her brother, John, Jr.; her uncle, Samuel; her nephew, Samuel, Jr. and her husband, John Yeaton in this storm. In addition, I can only imagine that the "two others and two boys..." who rounded out the crew of John Saunders' fishing schooner were also related.

They had the following children:

- i. John<sup>11</sup> (1762-)
- ii. Mary (1764-)
- iii. Elizabeth (1766-)
- iv. Esther (1769-)
- v. Merribah<sup>9</sup>
- vi. Polly<sup>9</sup>

Esther second married Simon Knowles.

7. Robert Saunders lived at Epsom died in 1839 in Rye, Rockingham Co., N.H. and in Effingham. On 7 July 1765

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Robert married Mary Locke, in Rye, Rockingham Co., N.H.<sup>7</sup>.

8. Mary Saunders. In 1763 Mary first married William Thomas of Gosport; second married \_\_\_\_, and third married William Mathes<sup>2</sup>.

9. John Saunders married Dorcas Pitman and was lost at sea<sup>3</sup>.

10. George Saunders lived at Epsom and was killed in a fall from his horse. George married Anna Page<sup>2</sup>.

11. Abigail Saunders was born 7 Oct 1760 on the Isle of Shoals, Rockingham Co., N.H. and married William Locke<sup>2</sup>.

12. Sarah Saunders first married William Saunders, in Rye, Rockingham Co., N.H. on 6 March 1783. She second married Joseph Verrill<sup>2</sup>.

13. Olly Saunders was born in 1766 on the Isle of Shoals, Rockingham Co., N.H. and married William Tucker<sup>2</sup>.

### End Notes

1. *New England Historic and Genealogical Register: Vols. 1 +*, (Boston: New England Historic and Genealogical Register, 1845+), [NEHGR or Reg.], 3:152; 8:161-162; 36:144; 41:382.

2. Parsons, Langdon B., *History of the Town of Rye, N.H. From Its Discovery and Settlement to December 31, 1903*, (1905; repr. Bowie, Md.: Heritage Press 1992), [RyeHist], p. 523.

3. *Ibid.* 523.

4. Perley, Sidney, "Historic Storms of New England: Its Gales, Hurricanes, Tornadoes, Showers with Thunder and Lightning, Great Snow Storms, Rains, Freshets, Floods, Droughts, Cold Winters, Hot Summers, Avalanches, [etc.] with Incidents and Anecdotes, Amusing and Pathetic.," (Salem, Mass.: the Salem Press Publishing and Printing Company; rpt. 2001 Beverley, Mass.: Commonwealth Editions, Memoirs Unlimited, Inc.), [Perley], 71.

5. *Ibid.*

6. *Mini Atlas of Britain*, (Edinburgh, Scotland: Bartholomew), [BritAtl], 4c.

7. Parsons, Langdon B., *History of the Town of Rye, N.H. From Its Discovery and Settlement to December 31, 1903*, (1905; repr. Bowie, Md.: Heritage Press 1992), [RyeHist], p. 524.

8. Meloon, Ian, *New Castle, N.H. Records*, (Portsmouth, NH: Portsmouth Library), Meloon.

9. Parsons, Langdon B., *History of the Town of Rye, NH From Its Discovery and Settlement to December 31, 1903*, (1905; repr. Bowie, Md.: Heritage Press 1992), [RyeHist], p. 571.

10. *Ibid.* pp. 523, 571.

11. Odiorne, James Creighton, *Genealogy of the Odiorne Family in America.*, (Rev. in 1966), [Odiorne (1966)], p. 51. ■

# Sanders *Siftings*

an exchange of Sanders/Saunders family research



For other issues and material about the purpose and history of this journal, please see the home page:

[Sanders Siftings, an exchange of Sanders/Saunders family research](#), edited by Don E. Schaefer.

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