

# SANDERS *Siftings*

an exchange of Sanders/Saunders family research

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## *Special Request For Material For Last Sanders Siftings*

I'm sure that many of you have some good experiences to share about one of more of your top experiences while hunting for information about your dead relatives.

You may have some that were not connected to the internet? Maybe you have some spectacular finds on the internet you'd like to share.

Or, better yet, do you have some bad experiences about things that you found on the internet. Maybe some warnings for fellow researchers on what kind of information might be questionable or erroneous. Could we come up with a list of things to watch for that might ensure all of us of getting valid genealogy information when we have found it somewhere—on or off the internet.

My first contact with most of you was on the internet, so I'm not knocking it! However, people have become so paranoid about giving out their name or anything personal about themselves over the internet that you can find yourself trying to communicate and share some of your good stuff with someone when you don't even know their name or their e-mail address!

Quite a contrast to the days when we sent letters through the mail and talked with people on the telephone concerning genealogy information.

So, let me hear your stories and your warnings. And don't forget to send me your good experiences. What was the one thing that really got you hooked on researching your family history? Oh yes, send it to me by e-mail. ■

Don Schaefer, *editor*

## **Silas Sanders, Thought to be Nephew of Moses Sanders, Has Interesting History**

The following is from Jim Sanders, 2235 Los Encinos Road, Ojai, CA 93023, <sandersj@roadrunner.com>. The Theophilus Sanders in this article, son of Silas Sanders, is Jim's g-g-grandfather.

**Documentation of Silas Sanders**, written January 15, 2006. [This has been edited for space and contains the earlier part of Jim's research of Silas.]

Moses Sanders was an itinerant preacher of the Baptist faith. His brother, Francis, was the father of Silas Sanders. (Substantiated in 1878, by the ordinance work of Moses Martin Sanders, grandson of Moses Sanders. In his ordinance submissions he names Francis Sanders as a granduncle and Silas and Peter Sanders as 2nd cousins.) We believe this is the Silas Sanders who died on Moore's Prairie, Jefferson County, Illinois, in 1835, if it is he, he is my g-g-g-grandfather.

The Reverend Moses Sanders, who was instrumental in setting up more than one Georgia, backwoods church in the late 1790s and early 1800s, had a faithful following of not only family members but many others as well, among them were the Iveys, Meeks, Thrashers, Hoopers, Mauldins and Dodds.

The Reverend Groves Cartledge, of Georgia, wrote in 1880... "faithful preachers, did all they could to stem the tide of evil sweeping over the land and they did much good in their day and generation, and have long since gone to their everlasting last. But, in spite of all the efforts made by them and others equally as faithful, nevertheless, vice and immorality prevailed to a fearful extent."

How true the Reverend Cartledge's thoughts were, for the information contained in the Groves Level Church minutes has given us an interesting window into the everyday life of our pioneer forebearers. Their issues, decisions and actions were not so different

from ours today.

Silas Sanders was undoubtedly a character, as you will see from the documentation herein. Silas Sanders, the son of Francis, was born in Wilkes County, North Carolina in 1785. We have traced him to and from the entries into the record of the Groves Level Baptist Church of Franklin County (now Banks County), Georgia. During the course of our search, we have found that, quite possibly, there was more than one Silas Sanders that falls within the scope of our work. As we reviewed the 1810-1820 records of Bedford, Maury and Smith County, Tennessee, then the 1820-1830 records of the same plus the records of Lauderdale, Alabama and Marion County, Illinois, we found there were may have been two Silas Sanders. The proof is elusive and we continue to hold open the possibility that the Maury County Silas and the Smith County Silas were in fact, different persons. The preponderance of documentation seems to point to our direct line Silas as being in the Marion County 1830 Census, the 1820 Smith County, Tennessee Census and the records of the Groves Level Church, Georgia. We will list all documentation we have found to date, chronologically, for others to view and comment.

1802 Franklin County Georgia, "... May 1802 Members of Nails Creek Church met at Groves Level Meeting House & constituted a church, including the following: Moses Sanders, Silas Sanders, David Sanders, Francis Sanders, Sally Sanders, Polly Sanders, Polly Sanders Sr....".

We have a concern that Silas, mentioned as a charter member of the Groves Level Church in 1802, is possibly "only" 18. Would he be listed as a charter member if he were not of "legal age"? (What about Isaac and Peter, two of the Sanders men shown on the Tax

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## Here Are Some Suggestions For Getting Over Or Through That Brick Wall That's Bugging You

The following is from Ralph Sanders, 114 Mickler Blvd., St. Augustine, FL 32080, <rmsanders@gmail.com>.

Genealogical researchers are all too familiar with the dreaded brick wall, that impenetrable barrier where the search for ancestors ends unsuccessfully with no further clues in hand. The only recourse seems to be to place inquiries in journals such as *Sanders Siftings* to see if other Sanders researchers can help. But there is also another research strategy to pursue once the usual records sources have dried up.

This strategy involves more fully *imagining* the life of the sought-after ancestor. This process of imagining sets out useful expectations, focusing the research on most probable outcomes.

To imagine this person you are seeking, you accept that the person is reasonably typical of all people, and in some statistical sense you often will be correct. To get started, you assume this unknown immediate ancestor was born 30 years before a known son or daughter. This 30-year interval between birth-dates represents a midpoint in childbearing years. Further imagine that the unknown ancestor was married by age 25 (a wife somewhat younger), and migrated from elsewhere to the family's new location during his early married years. Usually, the migrant did not act alone or at random, meaning that the choice of destination was shared by family and close friends, many or all of whom may be unknown to the researcher. This assumed timing for birth, marriage, and migration allows the researcher to fix useful approximate dates for the unknown ancestor's life facts. For example, assume that you know that an Arthur Sanders was born about 1870, and lived in Adams County, Georgia. From the ideas above, Arthur's (unknown) father would have been born about 1840, married perhaps about 1863 and migrated to Adams County about 1865. This process begins to scope out the unknown ancestor's life pattern.

Migrations are patterned also. Consult local (city or county) histories to discover when the greatest periods of local population growth occurred, and where most migrants came from. Chances are good that your own ancestor was part of that pattern, if the local

population growth pattern generally coincides with the life facts you have imagined for your unknown ancestor. This local information may also suggest something about your ancestor's occupation, if detailed economic explanations are offered to account for local in-migration history.

With this typical ancestor life pattern in mind, scour all available records for other surnames, such as witnesses for legal documents, neighboring land records, wills, and so on, to develop a list of known acquaintances of the family in question. It is a reasonable guess that some of these names will be relatives, some bearing different surnames from marriages. It is altogether likely that some of these acquaintances will have experienced a similar life history as the sought-after ancestor, including the story of their migration. Genealogical search using these additional names creates new pathways for research into the previous generation, potentially providing clues about your own ancestor's background.

Finally, if some sense of the ancestor's original location is determined but the ancestor is still missing, look for yet earlier generations in that place, with an eye toward developing a genealogy that progresses forward, rather than backward, in time. None of this, of course, is fool-proof as a way to develop the genealogical tree, but your chances of scaling the brick wall are at least improved.

Ralph Sanders is author of the 2006 book, *Generations: A Thousand-Year Family History*, Xlibris Corp., Philadelphia, PA, 432 pp., available from Xlibris and other bookstores. ■

### Who Was Custer's Scout, "Rain in the Face"?

Joyce Hill Hester, P. O. Box 741, Reform, AL 35481-0741, <jhvester@bootheel.net> recently came across a report of the Battle of Little Big Horn in a book giving the obituary notices in early Tennessee. This report said he (Custer) had a scout by the name of "Rain in the Face" with him. This intrigued me because Gary Sanders got the information that possibly my g-g-grandmother was "Little Rain in the Face." This would have been the mother of Lucretia Sanders. ■

### Silas Sanders

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digests in 1803 and 1806, who are not listed as members of the church).

ADD: Dec. 2006: We must explore the possibility of two Silas Sanders:

Since the advent of DNA technology and subsequent testing on Sanders males in 2006, we are now leaning away from linking Silas, of Franklin County, Georgia, as being our direct line.

We find two Silas Sanders in the 1830 federal Census, one in Marion, Illinois and another in Lauderdale, Alabama. The Lauderdale family composition is much younger than the Smith County 1820 family. In Lauderdale, the oldest male indexed can be no older than 15 years and the oldest female is 30-40 years, this leads us to believe that the head of the family, Silas, is "missing." Where is he? Perhaps the Silas Sanders involved in the Bastardy case of 1817 Smith County is the 1830 Lauderdale County, "missing" head of family? If so what became of this family? Also, if this is so, from where did 1817 Smith County, Silas come? He evidently fathered a child out of wedlock and he was old enough to represent himself in court as no other Sanders were mentioned. He paid his fine. (FHL film # 0024831)

ADD: July 2007: Thomas G. Sanders, whom we believe to be a son of Silas of Jefferson County, born in 1813, stated in the 1880 Census of Marion County Illinois, that his father and mother were born in Georgia. With this information, if it is correct, the possibility that there was more than one Silas Sanders is apparent and Francis may not be the father of our Silas.

His character, judging from the entries in Georgia, was of sufficient nature to add credibility to the possibility that the Silas of Georgia, 1806, Smith County, 1817 and 1820 are one and the same. If we had two Silas Sanders in 1817 and 1820, which one of them was in Maury County and received the land Grants? We believe that the 1817 Silas, who had fathered a child, previously, should have been old enough to be enumerated in the 1820 Census. Yet, in 1820 in all censuses, only two Southern, Silas Sanders are listed? Smith County and Rowan county N.C. (The Silas Sanders of Coffee County, Tenn. was born in 1819).

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In the 1920 Census of Fremont, Colorado, Isaac is not to be found. There is information posted on the web that he died in Eagleville, Modoc, California, on January 19th, 1930. This is the same date as shown on his headstone in the New Hope Cemetery in Fremont, Colo. Although we have seen no documentary evidence that Isaac died in Eagleville, Calif., it is possible that he did leave his family and go it alone to California. The following is from a post by Marlene Massey, a descendant of Isaac: <mmassey@plix.com>.

"... He did leave Colorado after the death of Mandy and baby. My grandmother refused to raise his other children and married James C Banks at age 14. I have information that says he died in Cedarville, Modoc, California in 1930..."

(Amanda and the baby, as noted above, died in 1880.)

ADD: December 2007: In viewing the 1920 census of Fremont, Colorado and the information which given the census enumerator by Sarah Elizabeth (Sanders) Higbie, whose father was Theophilus Sanders, we find she stated that her father was born in Georgia. She was 65 at the time and may have confused her father's birth place with her grandfather's. This would put Silas's birth place as Georgia.

Work to be done!!

"It wasn't long after the founding of the church that Silas, who would have been 18 at the time and feeling the need to assert himself, came afoul of the church doctrine of "love thy neighbor," as this entry in March of 1803 illustrates.

Groves Level Church Records—

1803 "3rd Sunday in March, 1803, the church met on Friday and Censured Br Silas Sanders for fighting. Chose Br Anderson Ivy and Francis Sanders (his father) to cite him to next meeting."

"May 1803 Silas Sanders was called upon to cite Sister Franky Rucker, for dancing"!

(This may be Silas' future wife. If so, she would have been 13 or 14 and a free spirit herself.)

"March 1805 Censured Br Silas Sanders for fighting. Chose Bro Anderson Ivy & Francis Sanders to cite him to next mtg.

1805 "June 1805 the church met on Friday before the 3rd Sunday and cen-

### Siftings Back Issues Available

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

sured and excluded, Thany Isom and Mary Miller for dancing and not hearing the church. Censured sister Franky Rucker for dancing and chose Anderson Ivy and Silas Sanders to cite her to next meeting."

(Silas, now 20, has been given some responsibility; ironically, it is to reprimand his "possible" future wife.)

"July 1805. The church met on Saturday before the 3rd Sunday and laid over Sister Rucker's trial till next meeting. Censured and excluded Isaac Thrasher for fighting and getting drunk."

"August 1805. The church met on Saturday before the 3rd Sunday & restored Franky Rucker to fellowship by her confessing her faults. Excluded Br John Peck for drunkenness and other bad conduct.

"September 1805. The church met on Friday before the 3rd Sunday & censured Br Silas Sanders for encouraging gaming & chose Broth Geo Humble & Richard Maulden to cite him to next meeting.

(Richard Maulden was the husband of Nancy Sanders, daughter of the Reverend Moses.)

"October 1805. The church met on Saturday before the 3rd Sunday & excluded Br Silas Sanders for encouraging gaming and not hearing the church. Censured Br Anderson Ivy for making use of aggravating discourse & appointed Br David Sanders (His Uncle) & Geo Rucker to cite him to next meeting."

(Evidently Silas did not repent his wicked ways. He was asked to leave the church.)

1806 The next mention of Silas is on the tax rolls of Franklin County when in 1806 he is listed as a taxable. (A taxable was called a "white poll.") Since we know that he was in Franklin County from at least 1797 (when his father bought land there) and was not listed as

"white poll" until 1806, we can assume, with a degree of certainty, that he had just turned 21 and was now eligible to be taxed. This provides the basis of our conclusion that Silas was born in 1785. Peter Sanders is also listed on the 1806 tax rolls (for the first time) and may be the brother of Silas listed in the 1787 Wilkes County, N.C. Census.

Note: In 1878, Moses Martin Sanders identifies Peter and Silas Sanders as second cousins. (Probably sons of Francis Sanders)

We believe that it is possible that Silas left Franklin County, Georgia with his father and mother in 1807. It is also possible that he remained in Franklin County, married there and moved to Smith County, Tenn. some time prior to 1817. Since his departure from Franklin County was not memorialized in letter-form, by the church, as was customary, (he was no longer a member), we cannot substantiate either of these possibilities as fact. Further research may provide the necessary documentation.

We also believe that Silas married Frances (?) in 1807 or 1808. This belief arises from viewing census information in 1820 Smith Co., Tenn., 1830 Marion County and 1840 Jefferson County, Illinois, we have estimated Franky's birth year as 1790. Her first two children, one boy and one girl, were listed in the 1820 census of Smith Co., Tenn., as born between 1804 and 1810. Since we believe she was married in 1807 or 1808 (in 1804 she would have been 14), she probably had her first child between 1808 and 1810. We find no mention of Silas in the Franklin County records again. However, a notation in the church records of 1807 has significance. (We do find a "Julius Silus Sanders", born 1803 Oglethorpe Co., Georgia.) The 1807 note below:

"Sep 1807. Received by letter Sister Polly Sanders. Dismissed by letter Br Francis Sanders and Sis Polly Sanders, Bro David Sanders and Sis Polly Sanders."

Polly is a colonial nickname for Mary and this entry provides the basis for our conclusion that Sister "Polly" Sanders is Francis Sanders wife, Mary. David and Polly Sanders (Mary Allred) are the parents of Moses Martin Sanders.

It was customary for a church to write a letter of dismissal for parishioners. They would, in turn, deliver

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these letters to their new church. When Francis and his wife moved to Tennessee we assume Silas either went with or joined them at some point in time. We believe him to be the Silas who appears in the 1820 Smith Co., Tenn. Census. Once again it is possible there are two Silas Sanders and the Maury County Sanders line may be a different family of Sanders than the Smith County (1820 Census) Sanders.

1809 Peter Sanders is a defendant in a Maury County suit, on March 18th, 1813, brought by William White. (County Court Minutes)

1810 David Sanders and Mary Allred had a daughter born near Columbia, Maury Co., Tenn. (Silas Sanders had two land grants in 1824 and 1829 southeast of Santa Fe, Tenn., which is about 15-20 miles northwest of Columbia, Tenn.)

1813 Silas son Thomas G. Sanders' obituary states that he was born in 1813 in Bedford County, Tenn. This is the only clue we have to place Silas and his family in Tennessee in 1813

1814 David and Mary Sanders had a son, David James born near Columbia, Tenn.

These two citations were gathered on the Internet from one of the many researchers who have followed Moses Martin's family. We have selected them to recall the possibility that Francis and Silas, who removed from Georgia in 1807 with David and Mary Sanders, may not have moved directly to Maury County. A Francis received a land patent on the Barren River, Smith County, in 1814, and was listed with Silas, in the 1820 Smith County census, however we feel this may be the Frances from Wayne County, Ky. 1800-1840.

We find no mention of the Silas Sanders family in any of the Franklin County, Georgia records after 1806. As stated, a Francis Sanders received 20 acres, in 1814, in Smith County, which was granted to him in 1818 by the State of Tennessee. It is possible that this Francis is the father of Silas.

Another point of interest is that Eldon Hurst states that Francis' daughter, Sarah, married David Dodds in Franklin Co., Tennessee "I have not researched the Francis Sanders family except his daughter Sarah who married David Dodd. It states in the Arkansas records that they were married in Franklin Co., Tenn.?" From

Eldon Hurst

Francis' grant is described as follows:

Grant #10483 recorded 8/7/1817. (FHL film #1012953.) 20 Acres, by survey being the 30th of June 1814 lying in Smith County, Tennessee in the first district on Salt Lick Fork of Barren River and bounded as follows to wit:

"Beginning at a sugar tree about fifty or sixty yards below where the path crosses said fork the first time that leads from Bartholomew Whites to James Morrows and on the east side of said fork, running west sixty-six poles to a chestnut, thence south fifty-eight poles and a half poles to a buckeye, crossing the creek at thirty-six poles, thence east sixty-six poles to a beech, thence north forty eight and a half poles to the beginning crossing the creek at twelve poles."

(If this is our Frances, one would wonder why he hadn't acquired property prior to 1817 when he left Georgia in 1807? Francis would have been about 55-60 years old at the time.)

Frances property was located in present day Macon Co., Tenn. The Salt Lick Fork of the Barren River, now called the Salt Lick Creek, is near the present day border of Kentucky and Tennessee. In 1819 Kentucky and Tennessee re-aligned their border. Francis' grant is very near the border, perhaps on the state line. In 1819 a state line boundary dispute was settled and Tennessee acquired about 15 miles of land that Kentucky had been claiming for years. (Francis' land grant was in Tennessee, so the border alignment should not have affected his legal description as being in Tennessee.)

The residents of this disputed territory were about evenly divided between wanting to be in Tennessee or Kentucky. The main reason some folks wanted to be from Tennessee is that making moonshine was legal in Tennessee. (With the background information we have discovered on Silas, we can assume he probably wanted to be from Tennessee.)

We have in our family a story passed down that James Henry Sanders, a son of Theophilus, was born near Louisville, Kentucky. Try as we may, we have not been able to document any of our line from Kentucky. The land grant to Francis is about as close as we've come but even then the "Louisville legend" is many miles and 45 years from Francis property in 1814.

ADD: November 2007: We now

believe that this Francis is probably not Silas father and is related to the John and Zachariah Sanders line of first Jefferson County, Ky., then Wayne County, Ky.

1817 Silas Sanders by 1817 would have been married and his family would have grown to include three sons and a daughter. After ten years of being unmentioned in the records of our fledgling country, we find Silas, in trouble again. He is noted in the court records of Smith County, Tennessee. Evidently, Silas couldn't help himself and once again, his primitive actions, caused him more difficulty. As we have observed, his behavior between his 18th and 21st years, in Georgia, would lend us to believe that Silas was a hell raiser. His church had cited him for drinking, gambling, fighting and just plain ornery behavior. So, it should come as no surprise that he would be in trouble again. This time he fathered an illegitimate child by a woman named Jeancy Piper. Also very interesting is the date of this charge against Silas is very near the time in which Francis received his grant. Did they just recently move into the area? (It seems that he now had interpreted the doctrine of "love thy neighbor," literally). Silas Sanders is taken to court by the state of Tennessee, County of Smith, for the crime of Bastardy. The following is an abstract of the court proceeding indexed in FHL film #0024831.

State of Tennessee vs Silas Sanders

"This day came the attorney for the state and John Piper. Here in open court paid the fine of \$6.25 required by law from the defendant and in behalf of the mother of the bastard child, Jeancy Piper. Entered into bond for keeping said child from being chargeable to the county for 5 years and agree to acquit the defendant and pay the cost. He is therefore discharged."

(No further record of the child has been discovered). It is possible that this is another "Silas Sanders." Further research into the records of Smith County reveal no other mention of Silas Sanders until the land grant of 1824 in Maury County.

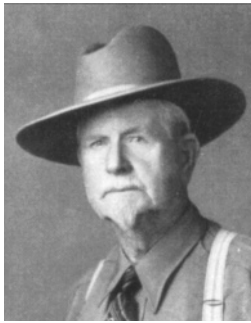
1820 Smith County, Tennessee, by 1820, we have found two records of Silas in Smith County, the Bastardy case of 1817 and the census of 1820. We believe that he may have been living near his father, Francis, on the Salt Lick Creek.

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## Saunders Museum in Berryville, Ark., Has Excellent Collection of Guns

For those of you with an interest in the Sanders or Saunders—if you are in the vicinity of Branson, Mo. or Eureka Springs, Ark., you should visit the Saunders Museum in Berryville, Ark.

In 1867, a young boy named C. Burton Saunders moved with his family from Texas to Berryville, Ark. As the young Saunders grew, he earned the



C. Burton Saunders

nickname “Buck,” for his deer hunting prowess. As a young man, “Buck” was instrumental in the founding of the resort town of Eureka Springs, 12 miles to the west of Berryville.

Eventually, he moved to California to seek his fortune. Accomplishing this allowed him to follow two of his passions . . . traveling and collecting unique artifacts and antiques from

around the world.

Mr. Saunders especially loved to collect firearms. Over the years, he acquired a fine collection, only to see it destroyed in a fire on April 18, 1906 . . . the day of the great San Francisco earthquake.

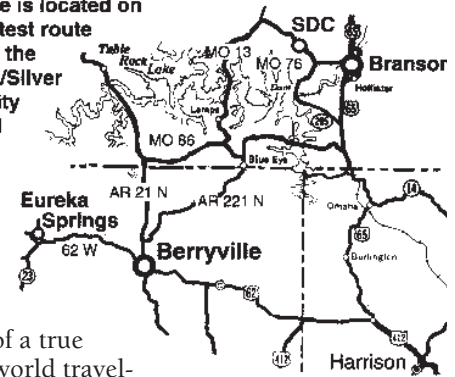
Saunders began rebuilding his collection and soon he had assembled an outstanding collection of some of the most unique and rare firearms to be found.

In 1919, at the age of 52, Mr. Saunders returned to the town he loved and considered his home, Berryville.

The Saunders Museum is the result of a gift to the city of Berryville. It contains all the treasures he collected over a lifetime of travel and adventure, gathered from across America and around the world. He also gave the city his home, which is now used as the Berryville City Hall, and the money to construct the present museum building.

Through the generosity of Mr. Saunders, visitors to the museum may take a look at history through the eyes

Berryville is located on the shortest route between the Branson/Silver Dollar City area and Eureka Springs.



of a true world traveler and turn-of-the-century adventurer.

Mr. Saunders not only loved collecting exotic firearms, but he was also an expert marksman. His ability to peg coins thrown in the air, with clean holes through the middle, is the stuff of local legends.

Young Saunders would often astound visitors to Berryville with his shooting prowess. Many a traveling merchant lost a few coins, betting that the young boy before them couldn't make a seemingly impossible shot.

In Paris, in 1910, Mr. Saunders won the prestigious Renette prize, the world championship for pistol shooting. At the age of 75, he won the Southwestern Missouri pistol shooting championship. At 80, using his favorite .22 pistol, he could still hit pennies and other objects thrown into the air.

Some of what can be seen at Saunder's Museum:

- Guns used by the famous and infamous . . . like Jesse and Frank James, Belle Starr, Cole Younger, Cherokee Bill and Billy the Kid, Wild Bill Hickok and Buffalo Bill Cody.
- Sitting Bull's war bonnet and an Arab sheik's tent.
- Persian rugs and teakwood furniture. ■

*(Continued from page four)*

In the 1820 census the Silas Sanders family is enumerated as follows: the oldest male listed (Silas), is listed as born between 1775 and 1794. The oldest female (Franky) was born during the same years. (Further analysis of the 1830 and 1840 Census' has proven that Silas wife, Franky, was born in 1790. Silas would have been 35 in 1820. Franky would have been 30.)

A male (son) is listed on the census that is born between 1804-10 (probably born in 1808-1810). (This may be their eldest son and his name is probably William.) There are two other males listed born between 1810-20. One is Theophilus (1814/1817). The other is probably Thomas (born 1814 to 1817).

A girl listed, born between 1804-1810, has not been identified and probably married in Tennessee. She is not in the family in the 1830 census.

It appears that Silas and Franky had four children in the house in 1820. We notice his illegitimate daughter, by Jeancy Piper, is not listed in this census.

1823 In November of 1823, the state of Tennessee passed an “Act of

Assembly” which allowed for settlers to acquire legal title to the land they were “occupying and had improved.”

Silas Sanders has apparently moved from Smith County, where he was enumerated in 1820, to Maury County on the Waters of Snow Creek, sometime prior to 1824. As the records of Maury recorded the following:

1824 January 19, 1824, Maury County, Tennessee, Road Minutes Book, Monday,

“...Ordered that Jackson Fitzgerald be appointed overseer of the road in place of Humphrey W. Sparkman from the fork of the creek (Snow Creek) opposite Thomas Lockhart's plantation to the southwest corner of John Blackman's field, and that William Legrest, Andrew Jack, John Lockhart, Arthur Lockhart, James Randal, Reuben Owens, the Widow Adkins' hands, David Strain, Flemon B. Thurmon, John Morrow, Silas Sanders, Lemuel Rustin, Seth Godding, Noah Randal, John Church, James Fitzgerald, work thereon under his direction...”

Shortly thereafter, while living on the Snow Creek property, Silas Sanders applied for and got his first grant of land. ■

Lavonne Sanders Walker, 19603 13th St., Shawnee, OK 74801, <lavonnew@flash.net>. Happy to exchange information on Drakeford Sanders, born about 1801 in Kershaw County, S.C. Went to Pickens Co., Ala., then to Itawamba and Lee Counties in Mississippi. Wife was Mary Boone Soules; children: William Nathaniel Sanders (m. Martha A. Elizabeth Christian) and Margaret E. Sanders (m. James D. Minga). ■

## ASSORTED QUERIES . . .

From William Chesley Sanders, 104 New Jersey Road, Browns Mills, NJ 08015, <WSand0345@aol.com>. Looking for info on Stephen C. Sanders. He was b. 1813 in N.C. He later moved to Madison Co., Tenn. He mar (1) Huxy Heisey (Hexie) Simmons 8 Jan 1838 in Hardeman Co., Tenn. Their children were Levi Thomas, b. 10 Mar 1839; Isham H., b. 11 Oct 1841; Elizabeth Ann, b. 5 Apr 1844; and Mickey Jane, b. 1847. He later mar Anna May Moore 25 Oct 1853 in Hardeman Co. Their children were William Harrison, b. Aug 1855; Alexander, b. July 1856; Mary C., b. 1861; James R., b. May 1864; and Martha Ellen, b. 13 Mar 1894 and is buried in Prairie Grove, Ark. I have descendants from Isham H. and William Harrison. I am looking for other family members and info on his parents and siblings.

Donna Britt, 223 Skytop Dr., Apt 16, Kingston, NY 12401, <kbritt01@sprynet.com> is seeking information on Thurrell Sanders and his wife Martha Hicks. No dates or place of birth known. Their children included Emma, Nan, George, Will, John, and Charles Lee (b. 21 Aug 1864 in Ill., d. 29 May 1937 in Mo.). Charles L. was my great grandfather. He married Lillie Bell Scherer in 1889. Charles L. and Lillie had the following children: Homer (15 Dec 1889-23 Aug 1959), Margaret (18 Aug 1891-17 May 1966), Vesta (5 Aug 1893-23 Aug 1959), Walter Samuel (29 Mar 1895-11 Feb 1994), Jesse (2 Jan 1897-10 Apr 1979), Ruth Illinois (14 Sep 1899-8 Dec 1991), Lillie Ethel (living) and Hazel (22 Nov 1905-2 Dec 1992). Most of the family remained in Missouri but some moved to Kansas, Oklahoma, and California. Thurrell's parentage seems to be at a dead end. I have not been able to find them in Illinois. I have found a Burrell whose life closely resembles my ancestor's but I do not know if they are one and the same. Can anyone offer any help on this family?

From Virginia Horton Wood, 1203 Springdale Dr., Tupelo, MS 3880. Eli Sanders was born ca 1798 in Virginia. He is first found in Lincoln Co., Tenn.

and on 25 July 1827, he married Nancy Jane Campbell in Madison Co., Ala. (adjoining Lincoln Co., Tenn.). She was dau of William B. Campbell and named in his will in 1855. By the time probate papers were filed on this will, Eli and Nancy were living in Itawamba Co., in an area which soon became part of Lee Co., Miss. Eli and Nancy had the following known children: Thomas A., b. 1832 (mar Lucinda Woodard in 1869); Jane, b. 1833 (mar 1st Hampton and 2nd George Thomas Barnett in 1860); William A., b. 1837; John, b. 1839; Mary A. "Molly," b. 1842 Ala.-d. 1935 Lee Co., Miss. (mar 1st Robert Nance Horton and 2nd Eli Hopkins); Sara Margaret, b. 1844 - d. Oran, Texas (mar Frank M. Bailey); and Susan Ann (mar 1st John A. Woolridge and 2nd a Thompson). She died in Okla. In her very old age, great grandmother Mary A. "Molly" above had my father and another of her grandchildren take her to Aberdeen, Miss. to testify before the Indian Commission which was in session there, for the purpose of obtaining free land in Oklahoma for persons of Indian descent. A transcript of her testimony stated she had no concrete proof of her Indian claim but that a sister had obtained land and had taken the required papers with her when she went to Oklahoma. Grandma Molly did say that Eli Sanders' mother was an Indian woman, who died when he was small and that their father knew little of his family. Due partly to her age at that time and the vagueness of her testimony, I do know how much this weighs against the sincerity of her belief that it was true.

From Bill R. Sheffield, 2328 Glade Road, Asheboro, NC 27205, <sheffield-reunion@earthlink.net>. I need help with my family line. My g-grandfather's name was Henry H. Sanders, b. 6 May 1825 in Montgomery Co., N.C., d. 30 May 1891 in Montgomery Co., N.C. Pvt., Co. D, N.C. Infantry, Confederate States Army. He had a son named Henry Issac Saunders, b. 4 Jun 1866, d. 6 Apr 1949 in Montgomery Co., N.C., and he is my grandfather. He was married to a Martha (Tish) Lucas his 1st marriage, and they had 12 children: Polly, Willoughby, George, infant boy (this would be Tom twin brother that died at

birth), Laura, Della, Dossie, Pallie, Ernest, and Lemely. Then he married 2nd Nora Jackson 15 Jul 1931 in Moore County, N.C. They had three children: Nora, Sarah, and Edith Saunders. My mother is Sarah. If you need any more information let me know.

From Florine Sanders, P. O. Box 326, Jewett, TX 75846-0326. My grandparents, Thomas Moses Sanders and Elizabeth Matalida Kendrick, married 16 Dec 1873 and lived in Selmer, Tenn. and moved to Jewett, Texas in 1875 because other kin and friends had moved here. They only had one son at that time and came in a wagon. After coming to Texas, they had eight children—seven boys and two girls. My dad was the second youngest, James R. Sanders. All have passed.

Karen Kitchens Murphy, 211 - 2nd Avenue, Midfield, AL 35228-2632, <kmurphy@msn.com> is trying to trace her g-g-g-grandfather, John Sanders, b. ca. 1803 in Tennessee and married to Lucy Millsaps. They lived in Blount Co., Alabama at the time of their deaths some time after 1860.

Starlyn Thompson, <starthompson@satx.rr.com>. I have been searching forever for information on my husband's mother's Sanders family. His mother was named Blanche Walton Dyer, daughter of Blanche Walton Sanders (Saunders) born 2 Jun 1865 in Va. and Isaac McGuire Dyer of De Kalb, Tennessee. The only Sanders I can find there in a Tennessee 1880 census is a James A. Sanders married to a Martha (unknown last name). His birth is listed at 1840 Virginia, and his father is from N.C. and mother Va. Other children of James A. and Martha Sanders are: Charles W., Edward J., Elisha F., and a Marsha M. Sanders. I thought the Walton would connect to the Robert Walton Sanders of Virginia but the dates do not add up. I am at a brick wall on the Robert A. Sanders part. Please help.

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. ■

## Nathaniel Sanders and His Connection to the Dutch Ship, *Golden Lion*

The following is from Ralph Sanders, 114 Mickler Blvd., St. Augustine, FL 32080, <rnsanders@gmail.com>.

In his early thirties and finally able to pursue trade freely, Nathaniel Saunders slowly worked his way into positions of responsibility. As a Bristol sailor, he no doubt first worked on smaller ships that plied their trade up and down the Severn and to nearby English ports. Judging by historical records, Nathaniel in time probably became a masters mate and may well have experienced more distant voyages, perhaps even to ports of call across the Atlantic. In 1671, at the age of thirty-six and after eight years of free citizenry, he found himself in control of a much-noted Dutch and English merchant ship. Nathaniel Saunders had become master of the *Golden Lion*.

The *Golden Lion* was no ordinary ship and had no ordinary history. We first learn of the *Golden Lion* in 1652 as she lay in Virginia's James River near Pagan Creek. The *Golden Lion* was at the time accounted a Dutch ship with Dutch ownership, and it often carried goods from Amsterdam, though its most recent passage to Virginia had originated in London. Its master John Jasperson served at the pleasure of the ship's owners, Peter de Leeun, Govert Lachard, and others who dwelled in the Spanish dominion of Flanders. In 1647, the ship had been purchased by Richard Ford and James de Ham, whose brother Tobias de Ham kept her books. Others involved in the *Lion's* business were Abraham and Seger de Ham, London and Rotterdam merchants with family ties to Norfolk. By all accounts, the *Golden Lion* had an international pedigree.

In February 1652 the Dutch *Golden Lion* was surrounded in Virginia by three English ships and seized at Pagan Creek. This provocation was part of what came to be called the First Anglo-Dutch War, a set of naval skirmishes between 1652 and 1654 designed to reset the terms of maritime trade between the contesting nations. The *Golden Lion* itself was a considerable merchant prize for its English captors, a ship of two hundred tons carrying up to eighteen cannons and twenty-seven seamen, a formidable opponent to those who would seize her lading at sea.

Confiscation of the *Golden Lion* and its cargo hit close to home. Among

shippers on the *Golden Lion* was Giles Webb, Nathaniel Saunders' uncle, brother-in-law of Nathaniel's father Thomas by his second marriage. Webb had placed his tobacco aboard the vessel for London and planned to take passage aboard her to return to England. But he was forced by the *Lion's* capture to lose his tobacco and to sail to England on a New England ship. Unluckily, the New England ship was captured by the



The *Golden Lion* in battle. (From the cover of Ralph Sanders' book, *Generations: A Thousand-Year Family History*.)

French on the homeward voyage, and Giles Webb was imprisoned at St. Malo on the coast of Brittany. How long Webb endured imprisonment and how he finally effected a release is unknown, but he eventually returned to life in Virginia.

In 1671, Nathaniel Saunders, perhaps for the first time, bore primary responsibility for the *Golden Lion's* passengers and cargo sailing to Barbados, one of his several voyages to that colony. Aboard the *Lion* on this voyage were persons indentured for four years of service in Barbados and the wares of Bristol merchants to be exchanged mainly for hogsheads of Barbados sugar. Nathaniel sailed under a cloud of uncertain ownership, however, because the *Golden Lion* soon after 1671 returned to Dutch control.

By 1672, the *Golden Lion* again carried the Dutch flag. Prior to this decade, a second Anglo-Dutch War had flared up, producing no clear resolution to conflict, and in the 1670s, yet a third trade war between the English and Dutch commenced. The Third Anglo-Dutch War was a more serious affair with large naval battles raging between the nations in the North Sea, culminat-

ing in 1674 with the Treaty of Westminster, which ceded Dutch possessions in New Jersey and New York, including the city of New Amsterdam, to the English. A key engagement in that final war featured the *Golden Lion* and its eighteen guns, flying the Dutch flag and under the command of Dutch Admiral Cornelius Tromp, towering over its tormentors in the 1673 Battle of Texel (Kijkduin), a scene preserved for posterity by Dutch painter Willem van de Velde the younger.

The end of these Dutch-English conflicts saw the return of the slightly damaged *Golden Lion* to mercantile service, probably back under the British flag, though, as before, its ownership and service retained an international flavor. By 1674, Nathaniel Saunders was again master of the *Golden Lion*, and trade for Barbados sugar was his main intent. But sailing the Atlantic was no safer after 1674 than it was before that time. The so-called Anglo-Dutch Wars had been part of a larger and continuing quadrilateral dispute over territories and trade involving the Dutch, English, French, and Spanish militaries. At sea, merchant ships regularly fell prey to these national adversaries, causing disruptions in trade as far away as Virginia, Caribbean, and at times even the Pacific.

Nathaniel made at least one more voyage as master of the *Golden Lion*, sailing in 1677 to Barbados. Several years later, in 1685, Nathaniel sailed to the Caribbean for what seems a final visit, but this time as commander of a different ship, the *Globe*. He landed at St. Christopher's, today called St. Kitts, an epicenter of sugar trade in the seventeenth century lying about 150 sea miles to the north of Barbados. His goal was to acquire a shipload of muscovada sugar, a thick dark brown crude sugar, partly refined in the canefields, suitable for shipment in sealed hogsheads and additional refinement back in England. For this arrangement in St. Christopher's, Nathaniel dealt with John Hutchinson, not his brother-in-law, who had died three years earlier, but a nephew in this same family.

From his visit to St. Christopher's, we learn something of a shipmaster's work. Nathaniel drafted invoices for seven lots of muscovada sugar, aggregating to a

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## About This Issue

As mentioned elsewhere, including the October 2008 issue, the April 2009 issue will be the last. Be sure that you read the material in the box on page one of this issue. It requests some specific items I'd like from you to include in the next issue.

I need more stories of various lengths, wills, your genealogy odyssey, old letters, great research ideas, obituaries, etc. Send in products of your research, but not real long articles. Also, some good pictures can be used to support stories. Think about the kind of things you like to read here, and send similar material.

If I get too much material, I will just use what I consider the best stuff—or if it fits the spaces.

It will be very much appreciated if you send me your queries and other material via e-mail. Send it to me at <dschaeffe@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!*

If you are reading this in a library or from another person's copy and you are not a subscriber, but you'd like to subscribe, please don't write to me. There will not be any issues after April 2009. Start your own Sanders newsletter!

Consideration is being given to putting all 57 issues on a CD, in a PDF format, that will be available in the future for libraries and individuals. I will have something to say about this in the next (and last) issue. It will not be indexed.

E-mail addresses of contributors are listed right after their regular mailing address in these signs < >, if the person has an e-mail address.

This newsletter was done in QuarkXPress 5.01 on a PowerMac G4 computer and output is on a Hewlett-Packard LaserJet 2200D. Text type is 10 pt. Berkeley Medium on 11 pt. line spacing. Display type is Berkeley and Opine Heavy. Scanning is done with a Microtek ScanMaker IIHR using ScanWizard, PhotoShop, and OmniPage Pro.

The envelopes are addressed on the HP LaserJet 2200D printer. ■

## Records Indicate That Some Sanders in Virginia Came From Norway By Way of England

This is from "Beryl's Family File" at <<http://homepages.rootsweb.com>>.

Sanders Ancestry Leading to John Sanders (b. 1740) of Goochland, Virginia. These Sanders were from Norway, where they used the name Sønders (spelled with a slash through the "o") They migrated to Wales and then to Wiltshire, England, and from there to America. They settled in Salem, Mass. in 1630. The name was spelled Sanders, but pronounced Saunders because they had no knowledge of how to write the "ah" sound in English. The arms were a chevron between three elephant heads. The family motto was "To be conscious of no guilt, and to turn pale at no charge" (original in Latin).

Henry Sanders, b. abt. 1552 in Downton, Wiltshire, England; m. 1572 at Downton, Wiltshire, England; Wife: Sibyl, b. abt. 1552.

John Sanders, b. abt. 1578 in Weeks, Downton Parish, Wiltshire, England; m. 4 Feb 1610 at Downton, Wiltshire, England; d. 10 Jul 1670 in Salem, Mass.; Wife: Alys Cole, b. 1591 at Downton Parish, d. Salem, Plymouth, Mass.; Other wives: Hester Rolfe and Sara. John had 2 children with Alys, including John, b. 26 May 1613. John also had 5 children with Sara and 9 with Hester. He was allowed to begin a plantation called Merrimack at Salisbury, Mass. on 7 Jun 1638.

John Sanders, b. 26 May 1613 in Weeks, Dainton Parish, Wiltshire, England; m. 1639 at Whiteparish, Wilts, England; d. 28 Sep 1643 in Newbury, Essex, Mass.; Wife: Pricilla Elizabeth Grafton, b. abt. 1613. This John came to America with his father in 1630. He was a Salem proprietor farmer on 25 May 1636, a Marblehead proprietor farmer in 1639, and a deputy in 1642. He had two sons, the first being Capt. John, b. Dec 1640.

Capt. John Sanders, b. Dec 1640 in Salem, Mass.; d. 26 Nov 1694 in Salem, Mass.; Wife: Hannah Pickman, b. abt. 1643.

Capt. John's will was probated on 26 Nov 1694. His third son was Nathaniel, b. abt. 1668.

Nathaniel Sanders, b. abt. 1668; d. 1731 in King & Queen Co., Va.; Wife: Unknown. Nathaniel was a farmer and had 5 sons and several daughters. His first son was Philip, b. 1694. His will is on pages 121-122 in the Saunders book.

Philip Sanders, b. 1694 in Carolina Co., Va.; d. 9 Dec 1722 in Westmorland Co., Va.; Wife: Elizabeth Graves, b. abt. 1691. Philip's will was dated 6 Apr 1723. He had at least one child, William, b. 1717.

William Sanders, b. 1717; Wife: Elizabeth (Unknown). William was the first of 8 children. He had at least one child, John, b. 1740.

John Sanders, b. abt. 1740 in Va.; m. 23 Oct 1758 in Goochland Co., Va.; Wife: Elizabeth Hancock, b. abt. 1737. John had at least one child, John, b. 1764. (Another of John's sons, William, b. 1760, married Sally Crow.) ■

(continued from page seven)

total of 135,765 pounds, nearly sixty-eight tons, to be loaded on the *Globe* for England. John Hutchinson himself shipped ten hogsheads, ranging in weight from 1,124 to 1,533 pounds each and three barrels, each weighing from 216 to 308 pounds. Thus, Hutchinson accounted for 14,201 pounds of sugar, which was liable for a duty of 4.5 percent. Trimming and fitting the hogsheads additionally was assessed at eighty pounds, bringing the total weight to 14,920 pounds. Nathaniel added a 10 percent commission for invoicing and shipping this lot, which added another 1,492 pounds to Hutchinson's final weight. The 10 percent commission for the entire lading of the *Globe* came to more than £13,500, a hefty gain for the entire effort, if it could be successfully delivered.

The above article is condensed from R.Sanders et al., *Generations: A Thousand-Year Family History*, Xlibris Corp., Philadelphia, PA, 2006, 432 pp., available from Xlibris and other bookstores. ■

### April Issue Will Be The Last

If the address on the envelope in which your newsletter was mailed has one of these—Oct 08, Jan 09, or Apr 09, don't worry. You will still receive all the issues through the April 2009 issue, No. 57. Do not renew your subscription. If your subscription goes past April, you will get a refund. ■



# 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.

*Sanders Siftings* was published from April 1995 until April 2009, four issues per year (January, April, July, October) at Fayetteville, Arkansas.



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