

George Varner of Missouri:

GEORGE VARNER (c1789-c1861)
OF OGLETHORPE CO., GEORGIA,
BOONE, PETTIS, AND MILLER COUNTIES, MISSOURI,
HIS ANCESTORS AND DESCENDANTS

by
Bruce Thomas Varner

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The National Genealogical Society provides a codified “modified” Register format to describe lineage. It is often called NGSQ format. While sometimes seemingly hard to follow, it does provide an established, uniform method to describe a person’s lineage and is used in the work. As an example, George Varner is listed as: **GEORGE⁴ VARNER**, (Fredrick³, John², Hans¹). This indicates that this George⁴ is the fourth generation down from the oldest known ancestor. It also indicates that Fredrick³ is George’s father, John² is George’s grandfather, and Hans¹ is George’s great grandfather.

Presentations that to this author meet “beyond a reasonable doubt” is found ALL in normal black text.

Presentations that to this author meet “a preponderance of the evidence” is prefaced by **(Probable) in red text**, while the remainder of the statement is in black text.

Unsubstantiated claims not supported by substantial proof, or is a question being asked for possible future answer, or is in some other way to be considered temporary, is ALL in red text. Statements that are provided as suggestions, for future study, or requiring additional validation and where this supplemental information might be placed into the original document, is ALL in blue text.

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INTRODUCTION

This work is about the first George Varner known to have come to Missouri. Records for George Varner of Missouri show that he was born in Oglethorpe County, Georgia. George served in The War of 1812 with the US Army Infantry in Tennessee, the Mississippi Territory, Mobile Bay, and Orleans, Louisiana. George was drafted in Georgia in 1818 to support the 1st Seminole War. Then his path continues to Missouri and the counties of Howard, Boone, Pettis, and finally Miller from 1819 through his death about 1861. The above facts are referenced further along in this work.

As with all genealogies, many errors of fact have been handed down within the family and appear on the internet about the George Varner of Missouri family. These discrepancies and unproven beliefs have been widely accepted by some. Many have even been directly disproven. Whether others are true or not remains to be solved. There remain many questions in this family history due to non-existent, missing/un-located, and unclear records.

I am making a concerted effort to obtain DNA samples from the Missouri Varner's descended from George Varner in hopes of closing some of the current gaps in family history. I have provided my DNA as a John Lawrence Varner male to male descendant from Nancy Varner and have joined the Varner surname project dedicated towards understanding this family name and its different branches. Warren Varner, a descendant of William Owen Varner and brother to John Lawrence Varner has also provided DNA which confirms the Riggs male DNA link for these two children of Nancy Ann Varner. The other two siblings were female and therefore cannot be confirmed through Y-DNA.

I am further trying to obtain DNA samples from a proven male to male Varner descendant from one of Nancy Ann Varner's male siblings. Many Varner's from Georgia have submitted DNA for genealogy purposes and it is very likely that a comparison from a George Varner of Missouri direct descendant would provide DNA proof of the link to the Varner's of Oglethorpe Co. Georgia.

This work is not intended to be inclusive of all known George Varner of Missouri descendants. Those more recent descendants can be located from any one of a number of genealogical files from those family lines. This work attempts to focus on who the original George Varner of Missouri ancestors were, and on the known direct lineage to myself and my siblings.

George Varner of Missouri leads us back to Oglethorpe County, Georgia. It should be noted that records to prove exact relationships between the different early Varner's in Oglethorpe County, GA. Have yet to be confirmed. In this Varner family, brothers, fathers, and uncles all had repeated given names. Hans Werner's male children assumed the surname of Varner and were given first names such as John "Adam", George, Jacob, Christopher, and John. Many of these brothers had their own sons with the same and repeated given names. These sons and their sons moved into Georgia around the same time period and lived near each other.

Differences in distance between land owned by these Varner's in Oglethorpe County have been used in considering relationship. It should be understood however that proximity differences were small. The differences are between next door and only a very few miles away.

In the end no proof is currently available. Future DNA sampling from different Missouri Varner's when compared to national Varner surname project results should provide beneficial. One can currently only conduct an examination of existing evidence and decide if that evidence is sufficient to draw conclusions.

At this point there is no clean positive answer that proves who was the father of George Varner of Missouri. Evidence found in this document does allow us to draw conclusions. Oglethorpe County, Georgia was the place of birth for our George Varner of Missouri. The Varner's of Oglethorpe County are fairly well documented in several genealogies. I have reached conclusions based upon the overall documentation available. The conclusion concerning George was based upon a process of elimination. When comparing all the George Varner's of Oglethorpe County Georgia, all possibilities have been positively eliminated except for two.

Of those two possibilities, one known George Varner of Oglethorpe County, Georgia from that time period seems likely. George Varner, son of Fredrick Varner (of North Carolina & Georgia), grandson of John Varner is that person. Next to no information about Fredrick's son George Varner is found. This lack of documentation is what allows this George to survive as the most likely possibility.

The only known George Varner documentation occurs on 22 January, 1808 when father Fredrick Varner deeded property in Morgan County, GA. In that documentation Fredrick states: "...for the will and affection he owed to his son, George."¹ More research is required in Morgan County, GA. to possibly find George's sale of said land and any additional leads that may produce.

We know from the above, that Fredrick Varner had a son named George who we know almost nothing about from the Georgia records. We know that there are no other George's around this location, during this timeframe that seem to not be accounted for in later life. I believe that the evidence is sufficient to conclude that George Varner of Missouri is this George Varner, son of Fredrick. Hopefully further research and possibly some DNA testing will more solidly substantiate this theory. I am providing below the known genealogy documentation for these ancestors because of my theory that these are in fact our ancestors. Each person should reach their own conclusion based upon known evidence, or choose to reserve judgment hoping for additional facts to surface.

¹ Varner Families of the South, Gerald H. Varner, Vol 1, pages 71-72 (Book references an unpublished manuscript - Varner's of Oglethorpe Co. GA., compiled by Margaret Wallis Haile)

GENERATION 1

JOHANNES "HANS" ADAM¹ WERNER/WARNER, born about 1707 in Palatinate, Germany, died 1775 in York Co. PA.

Hans first appears in US documents along with his wife and two children when they arrived in Philadelphia, PA. on the ship Galley Johnson in 1732. The ships roster includes the following Werner's: Adults Johannes and Katharina. A girl under 14 named Katharina, a boy under 14 named Adam.²

Hans and family lived in York County, PA. Hans will was written in 1770 and probated in 1775. In that will Hans discusses Catherana as his wife and lists the following children: John Adam², Catherana², Fronaney², George², Jacob², Christopher², and John². The will was probated in 1775 in York County, Pennsylvania.³

GENERATION 2

JOHN² VARNER/WERNER/WARNER/VERNOR, VERNER, (HANS¹) was born unknown year in Pennsylvania, died after 1800 in Rowan Co. NC.

John Varner and his brother Adam Varner along with their families are believed to have moved south into North Carolina after the French and Indian War (1754-1763). John with his family had lived apparently for some time in Maryland prior to leaving Pennsylvania and arriving in North Carolina. It is unclear if Adam also was in Maryland prior to North Carolina. The end of the French and Indian War opened land to the south in what is now North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia and many people took advantage of this new area. Adams first claimed NC land in 1763.⁴

John first land claim in NC was in 1788⁵ John Varner's land claim in NC is located on the banks of the Yadkin River and was approximately 400 acres in size. It is likely that John had squatted on this land much earlier.⁶ John's son Matthew's Revolutionary War pension documents show that Matthew was born in Maryland "four miles from Baltimore" where the family lived at the time and that the family lived on the Yadkin River in NC when the Revolutionary War broke out in 1775.⁷

John Varner died in Rowan County after 1800. He left no will. Researchers disagree on whether there is sufficient proof John Varner is the son of Johannes "Hans" Adam. We know that Adam is the son of Hans from the ships manifest which lists Adam by name. Adam and

² Varner Families of the South, Vol 1. Gerald H. Varner, Page 20. (Reference is from researcher Lowell Varner Hammer of Potomac, MD.) [Needs independent validation.](#)

³ Varner Families of the South, Vol 1. Gerald H. Varner, Page 21. (Reference is from researcher Lowell Varner Hammer of Potomac, MD.) [Needs independent validation.](#)

⁴ [Need to note reference!!](#)

⁵ Rowan County NC. Deed Book 28, page 251

⁶ NC passed a law in 1778 requiring squatters to file for their land or risk losing it.

⁷ From affidavits filed of Matthew Varner when applying for a Revolutionary War pension.

John lived and died very near each other in North Carolina. This circumstantial evidence does however strongly suggest the sibling linkage.⁸

Records prove that John Varner had children named: John Jr., Jacob, and Matthew. George, Fredrick and possibly Henry appear to also be John Varner's children. There is some conflict suggesting that these last three might have been Adam Varner's children.⁹

GENERATION 3¹⁰

FREDRICK³ VARNER, (JOHN², HANS¹) born about 1755 in Pennsylvania or Maryland, died about 1826 in Oglethorpe County, Georgia. Fredrick would likely have moved to North Carolina from Pennsylvania and/or Maryland after the French and Indian War (1754-1763) as a child with his father and his father's family. The end of the French and Indian War opened land to the south in what is now North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. As an adult Fredrick moved to Georgia in about 1790.¹¹ Fredrick moved to Oglethorpe County, GA. and settled next to John Varner's known sons George and Matthew Varner.

GENERATION 4

GEORGE⁴ VARNER, (FREDRICK³, JOHN², HANS¹) (*George Varner of Missouri*) born about 1789.¹² In the 1810 enlistment papers of George are documents stating he is a farmer born in Oglethorpe County, Georgia. George is believed to have died circa 1861 in Miller Co., Missouri.¹³ Married **HARRIET OWEN, (Probably)** daughter of Thomas Owen¹⁴, born about 1817¹⁵ in Georgia, died circa 1861 in Miller Co. Missouri.

George Varner entered into in a five year enlistment in Capt. Sevier's Company, 2nd Regiment of the Regular United States Infantry in February 1810 at Highwassee (Hiwassee Garrison) Tennessee. The Hiwassee River is located NE of Chattanooga, Tennessee. The river begins in North Georgia, runs downstream through the SW corner of North Carolina, and west

⁸ [Need to note reference!!](#)

⁹ Varner Families of the South, Gerald H. Varner, Vol 1, pages 62. Probable because as mentioned elsewhere we have no definitive records that the Fredrick is John's son. Fredrick could have been John "Adam's" son. Both brothers (John & John "Adam" moved to Georgia about the same time and lived within miles of each other. We are drawing the conclusion that Fredrick is John's son because Fredrick lived very close to other sons of John's.

¹⁰ Fredrick Varner, son of John Varner had a brother named George Varner, son of George Varner of Oglethorpe Co. GA., grandson of John Varner of Rowan Co. NC., great grandson of Johannes Adam Werner of York Co. PA. is of the correct age and his later life documentation is contradictory.

¹¹ Varner Families of the South, Gerald H. Varner, Vol 1, pages 62

¹² Used the date of birth provided by George when he enlisted in the US Infantry in 1810 as the most likely correct age. Conflicting ages indicated in later records would seem to have a higher likelihood of being incorrect.

¹³ No death records exist. George and Harriet appear in the 1860 Federal census in Miller County but nowhere else again after that record. Oral family history relates that both George & Harriet were killed as the result of a bushwhacking attack at their home around the start of the Civil War but evidence related later in this document casts doubt on this story. No graves have been located.

¹⁴ Based upon nearby Owen records discussed under Thomas Owen of Missouri.

¹⁵ Based upon later census records indicating Harriet's age at that time.

into Tennessee where it flows into the Tennessee River. George enlisted as the rank of Private, 5'10", Blue eyes, Fair hair and complexion, age 20-21 years. Occupation of farmer. Born Oglethorpe County, Georgia.¹⁶

George served with the 2nd Regiment of the US Army throughout the War of 1812 under General Andrew Jackson. George Varner was discharged at N.O. (New Orleans) on April 2 1815, term expired.¹⁷ George later received a land warrant for this service in Missouri.¹⁸ Study of this unit during the War of 1812 and records for where the immediate commanding officer of George served, result in the following George Varner during his 5 year enlistment in the US Army, 1810-1815.

02/26/1810 – Enlist in 2nd US Infantry at Hiwassee Camp, Tennessee

02/26/1810 to 02/02/1812 – Under Capt. Sevier's US Rifles Co. (Locations Unknown)

02/02/1812 to 03/??/1813 – Under Capt. Wm. R. Boote's Infantry Co. (Locations Unknown)

03/??/1813 to 02/16/1815 – Under Capt. William Lawrence's Co. (Assumed at Ft. Bowyer under Co. John Bowyer [Construction Apr. 1813 to Jun. 1813 & until abandoned in Jun. 1814. Assumed reoccupied in Aug. 1814 under now Major William Lawrence. Lawrence commanded for both the 1st battle of Ft. Bowyer on 9/12/1814 & 2nd Battle on 2/12/1815.)

02/16/1815 to 02/28/1815 – Under Capt. Bradley (Discharged at New Orleans)

For additional detail about the War of 1812 and what part the 2nd UD Infantry played, please see Appendix A.¹⁹

After expiration of regular Army enlistment in 1815, George Varner of Missouri was drafted in 1818 as a private in Capt. Reynolds Company of the Georgia Militia in support of the 1st Seminole War. George later received two land warrants in Missouri for this additional war service.²⁰

The first records of George Varner in Missouri appears in the November 12th, 1819 issue of the Missouri Intelligencer. The paper references a letter waiting at the Howard County town of Franklin, Missouri Post Office for George Varner.²¹

The 7/7/1832 copy of the Missouri Intelligencer & Boones Lick Advertiser of Fayette, Howard County, MO. referenced in an appraisal in Rocky Fork Township of a lost horse in Boone County. Appraisal was conducted by George Varner and Thomas Owen.²²

On November 14th, 1835 Land Patent #6997 for 40 acres was issued to George Varner for "SW 1/4 of the NW 1/4, Section 12, Twp 49 North, Range 14 West" in Boone County, Missouri. This property is located a few hundred feet north of the original Boone's Lick trail as

¹⁶ National Archives "U.S. Army, Register of Enlistments, 1798-1914" Page 205-206, Varner, George.

¹⁷ National Archives " U.S. Army, Register of Enlistments, 1798-1914" Page 205-206, Varner, George.

¹⁸ Land Warrant #111,786 in Pettis County, MO. to George Varner signed 1st day of September, 1852 for 160 acres.

¹⁹ George Varner US Army duty deduced using Army records form the National Archive on George & general historical documents/books about the time (See Appendix A)

²⁰ Land Warrant #65,960 in Pettis County, MO. to George Varner signed 2nd day of October, 1854 for 40 acres. (Immediately signed over to George M. Pemberton) Land Warrant #80,714 in Bates County, MO. to George Varner signed 10 May, 1859 for 40 acres (Immediately signed over to Harvey Fellows.

²¹ Missouri Intelligencer (Franklin) dated 11 November, 1819 (All copies of this paper are located in the Missouri State Historical library located in Columbia, MO.)

²² Missouri Intelligencer & Boon's Lick Advertiser (Fayette) dated 7 July, 1832

it leads into Franklin, Missouri.²³ No record of sale for this property has yet been located that might substantiate when this piece of land was sold by George. Later 1800's transfer of this piece of property involving other buyers and sellers of the property are found in the Boone County recorder's office. Even the original abstract, now in the possession of the current property owners does not provide any additional helpful details.²⁴

The 1840 federal census lists George Varner in Pettis County, Missouri with George named as head, 1 male 40-50, 1 female 20-30, 1 male 5-10, 2 males under 5.²⁵ Thomas Owen and family are also found in Pettis County.²⁶

Name of Heads of Families	Males Under 5	Males 5-10	Males 40-50	Females 20-30	Slaves
George Varner	2	1	1	1	0

The 1850 federal census lists George Varner again in Pettis County, Missouri.²⁷ A Glenn Owen, possibly a son of Thomas, is located in the household enumerated just before George.²⁸ Thomas Owen is also still in Pettis County.²⁹

Names	Age	Sex	Occupation	Value Real Estate Owned	Place of Birth	Married within the Last Year	# Attending School within Last Year
George Varner	64	M	Farmer		VA	Check Mark	
Hariet Varner	33	F			GA	Check Mark	
Thomas J	14	M					
Geo W	12	M					
Edward	10	M					
Nancy	8	F					
Elizabeth	6	F					
Samuel	4	M					

²³ US Land Patent Certificate #6997. Dated 11/14/1835. Signed President Andrew Jackson.

²⁴ Copy of portions of original Boone County patent land abstract obtained from the owners in 2001.

²⁵ 1840 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Pettis> No Twp> Page 5.

²⁶ 1840 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Pettis> No Twp> Page 7

²⁷ 1850 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Pettis> District 68> Page 80

²⁸ 1850 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Pettis> District 68> Page 80. Glen Owen 32, Elizabeth Owen 24, Child Nancy E. Owen 1 living in the household of a John Simpson.

²⁹ 1850 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Pettis> District 68> Page 159. Next on the list to Thomas was Wm. Owen 22, b. MO., Prudence Owen 27, b. KY., & Davis under 1, b. MO.

Francis M	2	M					
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A Philip Varner family appears in the 1850 census in Pettis County, Missouri approximately 20 households away.³⁰ This could indicate some family connection between George and Philip but has not been thoroughly researched to date:

Names	Age	Sex	Occupation	Value Real Estate Owned	Place of Birth	Married within the Last Year	# Attending School within Last Year
Philip Varner	35	M	Farmer	700	VA	Check Mark	
Mary A Varner	26	F			KY	Check Mark	
John E	10	M			MO		1
Mary M	9	F			MO		
Ambrose B	5	F					

On 18 December, 1850 George Varner signed an affidavit requesting federal warrant land based upon service in the War of 1812. The affidavit states that George Varner was at that time a resident of Pettis Co., Missouri, and aged sixty-three years. National Archives Bounty Land Files indicated US Army service during this time period.³¹

On November 14, 1851 the approved Warrant #10,786 was approved and sent to the "Claimant" in Georgetown, Missouri.³² Georgetown is the old name for what is now Sedalia, Missouri.

George Varner signed another affidavit dated 8 April, 1852 requesting federal warrant land based upon service in the Seminole War. This affidavit states that George Varner was at that time still a resident of Pettis Co., Missouri, and aged sixty-five years. National Archives Bounty Land Files indicated Georgia Militia service between 18 January, 1818 and 4 May, 1818.³³

On September 1st, 1852, land warrant #10,786 is awarded to George Varner for service in the War of 1812. It included the "East half and the NW quarter of the SW quarter, and the NW quarter of the SE quarter of section 9, township 45, range 23" In Pettis County, Missouri.³⁴ On December 31st, 1852 George and Harriet Varner sells this same property in Pettis County, Missouri.³⁵

On October 2nd, 1854, land warrant #65,960 of 40 acres is awarded to George Varner for service in the Seminole War. This award of land included the "NE quarter of the SE quarter of

³⁰ 1850 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Pettis> District 68> Page 75

³¹ National Archives "Bounty Land Files", Can 344, Bundle 83.

³² National Archives "Warrant Application Files", Can 344, Bundle 83.

³³ National Archives "Bounty Land Files", Can 766, Bundle 121.

³⁴ Land Warrant #10,786 in Pettis County, MO. to George Varner signed 1st day of September, 1852 for 160 acres.

³⁵ Land Records of Pettis County. George signed the sale documents, Harriet signed with an X.

section 22, township 45, range 23" In Pettis County, Missouri. The land warrant also indicates that George immediately transfers ownership of this piece of land to George M. Pemberton and apparently never has possession of said land.³⁶

George Varner signed an another affidavit dated 5 May, 1855 requesting additional federal warrant land based upon service in the Seminole War. The total due for such service was 160 acres. The first warrant that George claimed for this service had contained 40 acres. This affidavit was to claim a remaining 120 acres. This affidavit signed by George Varner in Cole Co., Missouri does not state where George resided. It did state he was aged sixty-six years. It is witnessed by William Newman and George W. Russell residents of Cole Co., Missouri who provide statement that they are both acquainted with George Varner and that he is the person claimed.³⁷

An second affidavit dated 24 June, 1856 is located in the file. It is signed by Thomas Meadows and George J. White, making their marks, both residents of Cole Co., Missouri and who vouch for George Varner being the person he claims, also in support of the warrant request. At the bottom of this document is a reference that states "Forwarded by" and George J. White Jefferson City, Missouri³⁸

On 10 May, 1859 Bounty Land certificate #80,714 of 120 acres issued to George Varner for Seminole War service. Land was signed over on same document to a Harvey Fellows. Land description: "the east half of the northwest quarter, and the northwest quarter of the north east quarter, of section twenty nine, in township Forty one, of Range thirty, in the district of lands subject to sale at Warsaw Missouri, containing one hundred and twenty acres."³⁹

The 1860 federal census finds George Varner family in Jim Henry Township, Miller County, Missouri⁴⁰:

Names in Household 1st Day of June 1860	Age	Sex	Occupation	Value Real Estate Owned	Value Personal Estate Owned	Place of Birth	Married within the Last Year	# Attending School within Last Year	Persons over 20 who can Read & Write
George Varner	78	M	Farm Laborer			GA	Check Mark		
Harriet Varner	49	F				GA	Check Mark		
Geo W	23	M	Farm Laborer			MO	Check Mark		1
Samuel	15	M				MO	Check Mark	1	
Francis M	12	M				MO	Check Mark		

³⁶ Land Warrant #65,960 in Pettis County, MO. to George Varner signed 2nd day of October, 1854 for 40 acres. (Immediately signed over to George M. Pemberton)

³⁷ National Archives "Bounty Land Files", Can 766, Bundle 121.

³⁸ National Archives "Bounty Land Files", Can 766, Bundle 121.

³⁹ BLM records, Land Warrant #80,714 in Bates County, MO. to George Varner signed 10th day of May, 1859 for 120 acres

⁴⁰ 1860 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Miller> Jim Henry TWP> Page 160

Glenn	8	M				MO	Check Mark	1	
John	5	M				MO	Check Mark		
Cynthia	3	F				MO	Check Mark		

This is the last known records where George Varner and/or Harriet every appear. Records validate that the George Varner in all the above listed records is the same George Varner and that this George Varner of Missouri is the paternal ancestor for our Varner family. All known Missouri records up to 1860 indicate only one adult George Varner is found in Missouri.⁴¹

It is difficult to place George exactly in specific property locations during his adult life. Some properties he obtained either through patent or warrant appear to have been sold immediately or at least shortly after the purchases. Attempts to locate George and Harriet on a specific property during the 1860 census has proven difficult. Census taker appears to have moved back and forth over time to collect data, rather than a one after another household method. The result is that comparisons of known property households appearing around George and family have only resulted in general areas where George and Harriet were located rather than a specific exact spot. This results in only being able to predict their location to within a probable one or two mile radius in Miller County. George and Harriet never owned property in Miller Co.

To further confuse matters the disappearance of George and Harriet are only answered by family oral history. This tradition states that around the early portions of the Civil War, both were killed on the farm where they lived in Miller County by bushwhackers. They were said to have been found on the property where they lived and buried where they fell. As they did not own property at this time, the "property where they lived" is not precisely known. At the same time Cynthia was taken by the bushwhackers or ran off into the woods to be found later unharmed. The exact spot where this was to have occurred has not been located and no trace of those graves have every been found. Tradition of some family members have the Varner's of this time living on the "Riggs" farm, and/or "behind the Wells place".⁴² Both Riggs and Wells had several properties so this does not do much in narrowing down possibilities.

Another bizarre occurrence however involves the family of cousins by marriage, the Newton's. It is addressed in a book named Judge Jenkins' History of Miller County, Missouri, Volume 2, by Clyde Lee Jenkins, 1971., that on February 21, 1866 shortly after the war was over, Union vigilantes attacked the Berry/Newton farm in Miller County. The Newton's had been Confederates during the war, and the women and children at home had sustained themselves by sometimes rustling pigs or sheep for food. On that night the armed riders entered the cabin, shot a woman, and a boy to death and set fire to the building. Two smaller children who had been outside ran into the woods and were found later unharmed. The distance between the George Varner and Newton/Berry residences was only a few census

⁴¹ Results of all record searches for Missouri during this timeframe. There appear a couple of other child George Varner's but none who could be confused with the adult George.

⁴² Oral history from several sides of the family descending from George Varner

families away from each other.⁴³ One glaring issue with this and other occurrence is that Clyde Jenkins did not provide a single documented reference for any of the entries in either volumes of his books. It therefore leads to skepticism as to the incidents proven validity. Newton's and Varner's are related by marriages. Could this be another comingling or a corruption of incidents?

Unreferenced stories cannot be relied upon as fact until or unless some additional evidence surfaces. The Newton's and Varner's intermarry, and that would likely be the reason for an intermingling of stories between the families.

⁴³ Judge Jenkins' History of Miller County, Vol 2, published by Clyde Lee Jenkins, page 20 (Nothing in this book has references. It is believed that the author collected family stories that had not, or could not be corroborated.)

GENERATION 5

THOMAS J.⁵ VARNER, (GEORGE⁴, FREDRICK³, JOHN², HANS¹) born 1836 in Missouri, died unknown. The first child of George and Harriet. No known oral family history is associated with Thomas. Further research is required.

The 1840 federal census of George Varner in Pettis County, Missouri appears to show Thomas listed as the oldest child between 5 and 10 years old.⁴⁴

Name of Heads of Families	Males Under 5	Males 5-10	Males 40-50	Females 20-30	Slaves
George Varner	2	1	1	1	0

GEORGE WASHINGTON⁵ VARNER, (GEORGE⁴, FREDRICK³, JOHN², HANS¹) born 1838 in Missouri, died unknown.

The 1840 federal census of George Varner in Pettis County, Missouri appears to show George W. listed as one of two children under 5 years old.⁴⁵

Name of Heads of Families	Males Under 5	Males 5-10	Males 40-50	Females 20-30	Slaves
George Varner	2	1	1	1	0

The 1850 federal census lists George W. Varner still with the family in Pettis County, Missouri.⁴⁶

Names	Age	Sex	Occupation	Value Real Estate Owned	Place of Birth	Married within the Last Year	# Attending School within Last Year
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⁴⁴ 1840 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Pettis> No Twp> Page 5.

⁴⁵ 1840 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Pettis> No Twp> Page 5.

⁴⁶ 1850 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Pettis> District 68> Page 80

George Varner	64	M	Farmer		VA	Check Mark	
Hariet Varner	33	F			GA	Check Mark	
Thomas J	14	M					
Geo W	12	M					
Edward	10	M					
Nancy	8	F					
Elizabeth	6	F					
Samuel	4	M					
Francis M	2	M					

George W. has not been found in the 1860 federal census or any other records. Union service records indicate that George W. joined the 10th Missouri Cavalry in Jefferson City on 8/4/1862. George W. was listed as a deserter from the unit on 1/27/1863 at Columbus, KY. George W. is listed as 5'9", Light hair, Blue eyes, Fair complexion, Single, a teamster, Native of Pettis Co., father born in Georgia.⁴⁷ The following are excerpts from the Regimental History for the 10th Regimental Cavalry: Moved to Memphis, Tenn., December 1862. Duty in the District of Memphis, Tenn. Until February 1863. Regiment went on to participate in many actions through the remainder of the war after George W. is reported a deserter.⁴⁸

Needs to be studied to see if there were any actions for this unit on or around 27 January, 1863 when George W. disappears. No further records for George W. have been located. Unknown whether George W. deserted or was killed. Further research is required.

EDWARD D.⁵ VARNER, (GEORGE⁴, FREDRICK³, JOHN², HANS¹) born Feb. 20, 1839 in Missouri, dies Jan. 8, 1917 in Pottsboro, Grayson Co., Texas. Military records list Edward as 5'7" tall, Blue eyes, Fair complexion, and Red hair.⁴⁹ Apparently married (1) **NANCY JAN KINWORTHY**, born about. 1846, died Dec. 27, 1898.⁵⁰ No records have been located for this marriage that reportedly occurred in August 1862 in Miller County, Missouri. Other Kinworthy's lived in Miller County in 1860. The 1860 census shows Nancy J. Kinworthy (b. abt. 1842 in Indiana) in Miller County, Osage Township, living as a domestic with an Abraham Brasier family.⁵¹ This is close to the farm where Edward worked at this same time. Three children who used the last name of Varner were associated with this relationship.⁵² Married (2) **EMELINE FARR** on 4 October, 1898 in Miller County, Missouri.⁵³ License states that both Emeline and Edward were from Brumley, MO. at the time. Emeline is said to have earlier married at least two other men which produced children. Some of these children also have the Varner last name however it is not known if they assumed that surname after the marriage

⁴⁷ Company E, 10th Missouri Cavalry Muster cards for George W. Varner dated from Sept-Dec. 1862 at Jefferson Barracks. Listed as deserter on cards through 1865. Nothing further located.

⁴⁸ Compendium of the War of the Rebellion, Pages 1309

⁴⁹ National Archives Soldier's Certificate #96968 for Pvt. Edward Varner, Co. E, 33rd Missouri Volunteers

⁵⁰ Buried Hawkins Cemetery, Brumley, Miller County, Missouri. Tombstone says: Nancy J, Varner wife of Ed. Varner, Died Dec. 27, 1898, aged 52 yrs.

⁵¹ 1860 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Miller> Osage TWP> Page 28

⁵² Myrtle Varner, b. 2/14/1885. Robert Alexander Varner, b. 3/4/1888. Ernest Varner, b. 1897.

⁵³ Missouri Marriage Records, 1805-2002, State of Missouri Marriage License, page 479

between Edward and Emeline or if they were in fact biologically Edwards. Records need to be further researched.

The 1840 federal census of George Varner in Pettis County, Missouri appears to show Edward listed as one of two children under 5 years old.⁵⁴

Name of Heads of Families	Males Under 5	Males 5-10	Males 40-50	Females 20-30	Slaves
George Varner	2	1	1	1	0

The 1850 federal census lists Edward Varner still with the family in Pettis County, Missouri.⁵⁵

Names	Age	Sex	Occupation	Value Real Estate Owned	Place of Birth	Married within the Last Year	# Attending School within Last Year
George Varner	64	M	Farmer		VA	Check Mark	
Harriet Varner	33	F			GA	Check Mark	
Thomas J	14	M					
Geo W	12	M					
Edward	10	M					
Nancy	8	F					
Elizabeth	6	F					
Samuel	4	M					
Francis M	2	M					

In the 1860 Federal census Edward is in Miller County as a farm hand with the Flaughter family. Edward's younger sister Elizabeth also resides with that family.⁵⁶ Elizabeth would later marry a James Monroe Flaughter who was born in 1840.

⁵⁴ 1840 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Pettis> No Twp> Page 5.

⁵⁵ 1850 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Pettis> District 68> Page 80

⁵⁶ 1860 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Miller> Osage TWP> Page 27

Names in Household 1st Day of June 1860	Age	Sex	Occupation	Value Real Estate Owned	Value Personal Estate Owned	Place of Birth	Married within the Last Year	# Attending School within Last Year	Persons over 20 who can Read & Write
Francis G. Flaughter	44	M	Farmer		500	KY	Check Mark		
Matilda	38	F				IL	Check Mark		
Thomas	15	M				MO	Check Mark		
Patterson	10	M				MO	Check Mark		
Madison	8	M				MO	Check Mark		
Francis	6	M				MO	Check Mark		
Richard	2	M				MO	Check Mark		
Joseph Shepard	19	M				MO	Check Mark		
Jesse Shepard	15	M				MO	Check Mark		
Jacob Shepard	14	M				MO	Check Mark		
Jane Shepard	7	F				MO	Check Mark		
Isabella Shepard	3	F				MO	Check Mark		
Edward Varner	21	M	Farm Laborer			MO	Check Mark		1
Elizabeth Varner	16	F				Mo	Check Mark		

Edward was known throughout his life as "Ned".⁵⁷ Edward had two known relationships. There are several children who have the Varner surname from those relationships, but it seems unclear how many if any of those children were fathered by Edward.⁵⁸

On 8/8/1862 Edward enrolled in the 33rd Missouri Infantry at Tuscumbia. He went on to participate in the Battle of Helena, Arkansas and the Battle of Old River Lake. He was wounded several times. The complete medical records for Edward indicate very difficult war time experiences:

- 20-22 June, 1863 – Colic
- 5-7 July, 1863 – Gunshot wound to left face
- 8-17 July, 1863 – Gunshot wound to right arm & back
- 28-29 July, 1863 – Intestinal fever
- 6-12 October, 1863 – Incised wound
- 14-26 October, 1863 – Intestinal fever
- 8-10 January, 1864 – Constipation
- 30 March-1 June, 1864 – Diarrhea
- 30 May-2 April, 1864 – Intestinal fever

⁵⁷ Oral history from several sides of the family descending from George Varner

⁵⁸ Conclusions of family researcher Dee Bremer based upon research into these children's history

4 or 6 June, 1864 – Gunshot wound to face, entered mouth, exited left of 3rd vertebra⁵⁹

Lest we ever forget how much many suffer in war here is a more detailed accounting of the 4 June, 1864 wound that Edward suffered at the Battle of Old River Lake, Arkansas as described in the medical records. Gunshot wound of mouth, jaw, and neck. Minnie ball entered mouth, wounded lower lip, tongue, fractured lower jaw both sides, and emerged a little to the left of 3rd cervical vertebra.⁶⁰

Edward was treated at the hospital in Memphis Tennessee from 7 June through 27 October, 1864. Operation on 29 June, 1864 anterior half of right side of body of jaw and all of left side of body of jaw, excepting a piece 1 ½ inches in length to the left of Symphysis (Place where two bones are closely joined) removed through mouth. Transferred to the medical facility at Camp Douglas, Chicago, Illinois. Wound was so severe that on 7 February, 1865 he received permanent discharge and ¾ disability from the government. Edward experienced seizures throughout the remainder of his life as a result of his injuries.⁶¹

Nothing is ever easy and there are conflicts in the documentation as to when Edward received his war ending wound. One medical document states that the wound occurred on 4 June, 1864 during the Battle of Old River Lake in Arkansas. A second medical document states that Edward was absent from the regiment on June 7, 1864 and thereafter due to the gunshot wound. Further documents state that Edward was treated in the hospital in Memphis beginning on June 7, 1864. Battle reports for the 33rd Missouri Infantry show the Battle of Old River Lake occurred between the evening of June 5 and through the day of June 6. Old River Lake in Arkansas is approximately 170 miles down the Mississippi from Memphis. It appears unlikely that Edward was wounded on the 4th. Instead he was likely wounded on the evening of the 5th or on the 6th of June, 1864. The seriousness of the wound might have meant he would have been ferried as soon as possible to Memphis arriving sometime on the 7th.

The following are excerpts from the Regimental History for the 33rd Regiment Infantry. Ordered into the field in Missouri in September 1862 (Phelps, Dent, Texas, & Wright counties) till December 19. Moved to St. Louis thence to Columbus, KY. December 19-25, thence to Helena, Ark. January 5, 1863. Expedition to Duvall's Bluff, Ark. January 16-20. Expedition to Yazoo Pass, and operations against Fort Pemberton and Greenwood February 24-April 8. Repulse of Holmes' attack on Helena July 4, 1863. Garrison duty at Helena, Ark., till January 28, 1864. Ordered to Vicksburg, Miss. January 28, 1864. Meridian Campaign February 3-March 2. Red River Campaign March 10-May 22. Fort DeRussy March 14. Occupation of Alexandria March 16. Henderson's Hill March 21. Battle of Pleasant Hill April 9. About Cloutiersville and Cane River Crossing April 22-24. At Alexandria, La. April 30-May 13. Bayou LaMouri May 7. Retreat to Morganza May 13-20. Mansura May 16. Yellow Bayou May 18. Moved to Vicksburg, Miss. Thence to Memphis, Tenn. May 22. Old River Lake June 6. The regiment went on through the remainder of the war involved in several engagements, however Edward had received the war ending wound by this time.⁶²

⁵⁹ National Archives Soldier's Certificate #96968 for Pvt. Edward Varner, Co. E, 33rd Missouri Volunteers

⁶⁰ National Archives Soldier's Certificate #96968 for Pvt. Edward Varner, Co. E, 33rd Missouri Volunteers

⁶¹ National Archives Soldier's Certificate #96968 for Pvt. Edward Varner, Co. E, 33rd Missouri Volunteers

⁶² Compendium of the War of the Rebellion, Pages 1335 & 1336

The Union command report on the Battle of Old River Lake indicates that on the evening of 5 June, 1864 the Second and Third Brigade commanded by Brigadier General Jos. A. Mower bivouacked on the Bank of the river. It was not until the morning of 6 June, 1864 at 6 O'clock when the 5th Minnesota Infantry and the 33rd Missouri Infantry commanded by George W. Van Beek began a line of march towards Lake Village. After about 4 miles a skirmish began. Pushed the enemy about 2 miles where the main force was concealed in woods on the opposite end of a bayou. The 33rd was positioned on the left which began advancing towards the enemy however the covering artillery stopped prematurely and the advancing infantry faced withering fire in the open as they advanced on the concealed enemy. Battle lasted about one hour until the enemy retreated.⁶³

In the 1870 Federal census Edward D. and Nancy Kinworthy are together in Miller County. Beside them in the census is a Elisha Kinworthy household.⁶⁴

Names in Household 1st Day of June 1870	Age	Sex	Occupation	Value Real Estate Owned	Value Personal Estate Owned	Place of Birth	Cannot Read	Cannot Write
Edward Varner	32	M	Farmer		200	MO		
Nancy J Varner	23	F	Housekeeper			MO	1	1

The 1880 censuses did not capture Edward.⁶⁵

An 1886 affidavit provided to the government to support Edward's continued disability claims provide some additional insight into Edward's Civil War injuries. In support of the disability the affiant states that "Edward Varner is not able to performing any kind of manual labor whatever on account of gunshot wound of mouth and right-rist(wrist)." An 1887 affidavit refers to the fact that Edward has epilepsy which produce convulsions as many as twice a day or as rare as once every two weeks. The affiant describes Edward as "crazy" when the "fits" occur.

An affidavit given by Edward himself on 11 February, 1889 in support of an increase in Pension benefits, Edward states he first suffered from the epilepsy in March of 1865 while "clearing land for to plow". That he continues to have many "spells" a day. Edward states that he sometimes can tell when a spell is coming on, but on others it is sudden and he cannot remember anything. When he comes to he feels stupid, sleepy, and that "even the ground

⁶³ Engagement on Old River Lake battle report of Brigadier General Jos. A. Mower

⁶⁴ 1870 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Miller> Osage TWP> Page 2

⁶⁵ There is a Nancy J. Kinworthy in Maries County listed as widowed and age 40, however with five children ages 7-21 it seems unlikely to be the same person. It is also curious that Edward's sister Nancy Varner also is not captured for the 1880 census.

looks greener for 3 or 4 days after one is over". This document along with all others is signed by Edward with an X.⁶⁶

A Department of the Interior document dated 5 August, 1898 and signed (X) by Edward for the quarterly disability payment asks some questions that are important in the answers that Edward provided and could help understand the Nancy J. Kinworthy relationship. Those questions and answers were: Q. Are you married? A. No. Wife dead. Q. Where & by whom were you married? A. Line through, no answer. Q. What record of marriage exists? A. Line through, no answer. Q. Were you previously married? A. No. Q. Have you any children living? A. No.⁶⁷

On 27 December, 1898 Nancy J. Kinworthy died in Miller County. This was two months after Edward married Emeline Farr. With no records to support a formal marriage to or divorce from Nancy Kinworthy it seems plausible that Edward and Nancy were never actually married. In later documents to the government Edward lists Nancy as a now deceased wife.⁶⁸ Edward again is not captured in the census for 1900. In a 1904 affidavit Emeline Varner vouches for the seizures that Edward has. Indicates that she has known Edward for 24 years, and that the "attacks" are of a much greater severity then 10 years ago. It should be noted that Emeline also signed the document with an X.

In the 1910 Federal census Edward D. and Emeline Farr are in Equality Twp, District 0080, Miller County. Edward is listed as a Civil War Veteran.⁶⁹

Names in Household 1st Day of June 1910	Relationship	Sex	Age	Married, Single, Widowed	Years Married	Number of Children	Number of children Living	Born	Fathers Birth Place	Mothers Birth Place	Occupation	Can Read	Can Write	Own or Rent
Edward Varner	Head	M	72	M	13			MO	VA	VA		No	No	R
Emeline	Wife	F	52	M	13	9	6	MO	TN	KY		Yes	No	
Ernest E	Son	M	13	S				MO	MO	MO		Yes	Yes	

By 1915 Edward Varner is in Pottsboro, Texas where his sister Cynthia is located. In a 6 April, 1915 Department of the Interior document Edward again answers several questions: Q. Date and place of birth? A. Pettis County, MO. Q. Name of Organization in which you served? A. 33rd Mo Infantry. Q. Post Office at enlistment? A. Tuscumbia, MO. Q. Wife's Full Name? A. Nancy Jan Kinweather. Q. When, where, and by whom were you married? A. Aug. 1862, Tuscumbia, Mo. Justice of the Peace. Q. Record of Marriage? A. Don't know. Q. Was present

⁶⁶ National Archives Soldier's Certificate #96968 for Pvt. Edward Varner, Co. E, 33rd Missouri Volunteers

⁶⁷ National Archives Soldier's Certificate #96968 for Pvt. Edward Varner, Co. E, 33rd Missouri Volunteers

⁶⁸ National Archives Soldier's Certificate #96968 for Pvt. Edward Varner, Co. E, 33rd Missouri Volunteers

⁶⁹ 1910 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Miller> Equality TWP> Page 4

wife married before you? A. Have no wife at this time. Q. Are you living with your wife? A. No. Wife number two is at Tuscumbia, Mo. Q. Names and dates of birth of all your children? A. Two by my first wife. Both dead.⁷⁰

On 27 January, 1916 the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Pensions, Pensioner Dropped form indicates that Edward died on 8 January, 1916 in Pottsboro, TX. His last pension payment of \$30 having been dispersed on 4 November, 1915.⁷¹

On 7 February, 1916 Sintha Quassa (Cynthia Varner Quassa), Edward's sister applied for reimbursement of burial costs for Edward. Cynthia is listed in the document as living in Grayson (Pottsboro), Texas. In the application Cynthia was asked several questions: Q. Was he ever married? A. Yes. Q. How many times and to whom? A. Twice. Nancy J. Kinworthy and Emeline Fair. Q. Did his wife survive him? A. 1st wife is dead. 2 wife is living. Q. If not living, names and dates of death? A. 1st wife has been dead for 20 years. Was separated from second wife. Q. Was he ever divorced? A. No. Did pensioner leave a child under the age of 16 years? A. No. A. Is any children still living? A. No. Q. Did the deceased leave any money, real estate, or personal property? A. No. Had nothing. Q. What is your relationship to the deceased? A. Sister. Q. Are you married? A. No. (Widow) Q. What was cause of pensioner's death? A. Grip (Influenza like symptoms). Q. Give the names of person by whom the pensioner was nursed during the last sickness? A. Paul Gabbert and wife. Sintha Quassa. John Varner. Q. Where did the pensioner live/die during the last sickness? A. At Paul Gabberts – Dennison, TX. Amount of expenses: Nursing Care-\$44, Undertaker \$45. It should be noted that in every place where the affiant's name is listed, it is spelled Sintha instead of Cynthia. Including the signature which appears to have been signed by the affiant.⁷²

In a 13 June, 1917 Declaration for Widow's Pension, Emeline Varner declared that she was the widow of Edward Varner. That she married Edward under the name of Emeline Farr on 4 September, 1898 by Rev. AJ. Henderson at Brumley, Miller County, MO. That Emeline & Edward had each been married once before. Later supporting affidavits to Emeline's claim state that Edward & Emeline lived together as husband and wife up until Edward went to Texas because his health had deteriorate and in hopes of improving his health. Further that Emeline remained in Tuscumbia after Edward left. In 1919 Emeline moved to Kansas City, Kansas and has never remarried. This was substantiated by the Widow Division and the obtaining of letters from Miller County in Missouri and Grayson County in Texas that no divorce had been granted to Edward or Emeline.⁷³ On 5/2/1928 Emeline Farr Varner died in Wyandotte County, KS.⁷⁴

NANCY ANN⁵ VARNER, (GEORGE⁴, FREDRICK³, JOHN², HANS¹) born Mar. 27, 1841 in Pettis Co., Missouri, died Jul. 22, 1934 in Mack's Creek, Camden Co., Missouri.⁷⁵ Buried Pleasant Grove Cemetery in Camden Co.⁷⁶ There are no records of Nancy

⁷⁰ National Archives Soldier's Certificate #96968 for Pvt. Edward Varner, Co. E, 33rd Missouri Volunteers

⁷¹ National Archives Soldier's Certificate #96968 for Pvt. Edward Varner, Co. E, 33rd Missouri Volunteers

⁷² National Archives Soldier's Certificate #96968 for Pvt. Edward Varner, Co. E, 33rd Missouri Volunteers

⁷³ National Archives Soldier's Certificate #96968 for Pvt. Edward Varner, Co. E, 33rd Missouri Volunteers

⁷⁴ Maple Hill Cemetery Records, Kansas City, Kansas. (Emeline Farr Varner, 1856-1928, Rest in Peace)

⁷⁵ Death certificate, Mo. State Board of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, file no. 23542, reg. dist. 120, primary reg. dist 5172, Nancy Ann Varner, resident of Ira, Mo. Died 22 July, 1934, Russel Twp., Camden Co., Mo. Aged 93 yrs, 3 mos., 25 days, single, white, female, born 27 Mar. 1841, Mo.

Ann ever marrying. At least one of Nancy’s children and possibly all four were fathered by **EDMUND RIGGS**, born about 1819, Virginia, died 1877 in Miller Co. Mo. His resting place is unknown.⁷⁷

Some additional details are in order. Nancy Ann’s death certificate appears to cast doubt on who Nancy’s father was. In the document Thomas Varner is listed as father. Within the Varner family it is known that George Varner/Harriet Owen are Nancy’s parents.⁷⁸

The 1850 federal census lists Nancy Varner with the family in Pettis County, Missouri.⁷⁹

Names	Age	Sex	Occupation	Value Real Estate Owned	Place of Birth	Married within the Last Year	# Attending School within Last Year
George Varner	64	M	Farmer		VA	Check Mark	
Harriet Varner	33	F			GA	Check Mark	
Thomas J	14	M					
Geo W	12	M					
Edward	10	M					
Nancy	8	F					
Elizabeth	6	F					
Samuel	4	M					
Francis M	2	M					

For the 1860 census Nancy Ann is living with a John J. Denton family in Miller County,⁸⁰ likely serving as a domestic. John Denton went on to join the Union Army early in the Civil War and died as a result. He is buried in the military cemetery in Springfield, MO.⁸¹

The certificate lists incorrect information! On death certificate gives father as Thomas Varner & mother’s maiden name – Owens. The informant is Otto Varner (Otto is William Owen Varner’s son & Nancy Ann’s grandson) and the “acting” undertaker is M. R. Meads (Melvin Roscoe is husband of Cora Lee Varner> Cora is daughter of John Lawrence Varner, granddaughter of Nancy Ann). It appears that at the time this information was provided, Thomas was listed as Nancy Ann’s father. Apparently this was confused. Thomas Varner was Nancy’s brother. Nancy’s mother’s father Thomas Owen.

⁷⁶ Find a Grave, no. 49370949, gravestone photograph by Vivian Kessler, Pleasant Grove Cemetery near Mack's Creek, Camden Co. MO. Nancy Varner, Mar. 27,1841 – July 22, 1934

⁷⁷ See Supplement to JamesRiggs9_v4.18 by Bruce Varner for Riggs full family details

⁷⁸ Placeholder for details: Statements from different sides of the family. Sibling statements saying Nancy is their sister. Sibling death certificates indicating George/Harriet is those siblings parents. Place all here.....

⁷⁹ 1850 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Pettis> District 68> Page 80

⁸⁰ 1860 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Miller> Jim Henry TWP> Page 159

⁸¹ National Archives, Register of Deaths of Volunteers, 1861-1865, Page 121 (Denton, John J. Pri. Co. A., 6th MO. Infantry, d. 11/25/1864 at Regimental Hospital, Chr. Diarrhea, C. A. Weler ARS)

Names in Household 1st Day of June 1860	Age	Sex	Occupation	Value Real Estate Owned	Value Personal Estate Owned	Place of Birth	Married within the Last Year	# Attending School within Last Year	Persons over 20 who can Read & Write
John J Denton	39	M	Farmer	800	875	TN	Check Mark		
James J	12	M				MO	Check Mark	1	
Permelia A	10	F				MO	Check Mark	1	
Mary J	7	F				MO	Check Mark		
Sarah I	4	F				MO	Check Mark		
Eliza E.	3	F				MO	Check Mark		
Nancy R. Allen	60	F			40	VA	Check Mark		1
Nancy Varner	18	F				MO	Check Mark		

The 1870 federal census lists an Edmund Riggs is living with family in Osage Township, Miller Co. Missouri.⁸² Nancy Varner is not located anywhere in this 1870 census.

Names in Household 1st Day of June 1870	Age	Sex	Occupation	Value Real Estate Owned	Value Personal Estate Owned	Place of Birth	Cannot Read	Cannot Write
Edmund Riggs	50	M	Farmer	2000	800	VA		
Mary A	45	F	Housekeeper			IL		
Owen J	23	M	Farmhand			MO		
Okey	20	F	At Home			MO		
Carroll	17	M	Farmhand			MO		
William	11	M	Farmhand			MO		

On 1 July, 1875 a notice that a letter is at the Tuscumbia Post Office for "Miss Nancy Varner", as published in the Miller County Vidette Newspaper on 1 July, 1875.⁸³

On Mar. 3, 1877 probate of Edmund Riggs was filed with Mary A. Riggs and James C. Piles as principal administrators. Affidavit states said Edmund Riggs died at Miller County, Missouri in 1877 leaving as his heirs: Mary A. Riggs his widow, Owen Riggs, Okey Riggs, James Riggs, William Riggs, Phirby Jones, Edmund Jones, children of Elizabeth Jones, formerly

⁸² 1870 Federal Census, Osage Township, Miller County, Missouri, Page 4

⁸³ Miller Co. Vidette Abstract. (Published 1872-1879 in Tuscumbia)

Elizabeth Riggs, now deceased.⁸⁴ Initial appraisal of personal property totaled \$907.45. \$35.75 in cash. Real Estate totaled at least 509 acres. Included were 4 notes of loan due the estate.⁸⁵

Claim #15 against the estate of Edmund Riggs submitted on Apr. 2, 1877 was for \$13.15. The claim is from Nancy Varner who swore she had been employed by Edmund Riggs and was due 3 ½ months' pay @ \$7.00 per month, totaling \$24.50. \$11.35 had been received but Nancy Varner was still due \$13.15. Payment was allowed in open court on Feb. 13, 1878.⁸⁶

On Jul. 30, 2012 Bruce Thomas Varner received final Y67 DNA results. Those results revealed that Bruce Varner's direct male to male zero and one marker difference MRCA (Most Recent Common Ancestor) ancestor was to James Riggs (1742-1815). James Riggs descendants lived in Miller Co., Missouri during the timeframe when Nancy Ann/s children were fathered.⁸⁷

Known details on both Edmund Riggs' ancestors and descendants can be found in two locations. First the "Supplement to JamesRiggs9.doc" written by Bruce Varner contains details about the Riggs members in Miller Co., Missouri during this timeframe.⁸⁸ Second is Volume 9 of Alvy Ray Smith's "JamesRiggs9" of Alvy Ray's Edwardian Riggsses of America.⁸⁹

In the 1880 Federal census Nancy Ann is living as the head of household in Miller County. Note that as a response to the children's father's state of birth, for each child it indicates "don't know who fathered the children"⁹⁰

Names in Household 1st Day of June 1880	Color	Sex	Sge	Relationship	Single	Occupation	Attend School in Last Year	Born	Father Born	Mother Born
Nancy Varner	W	F	40		1	Day Labor		MO	TN	TN
John L	W	M	13	Son	1			MO	Don't know who fathered children	MO
William	W	M	8	Son	1			MO		MO
Mary	W	F	6	Daughter	1			MO		MO
Urilda	W	F	4	Daughter				MO		MO

⁸⁴ Miller County Missouri Probate Records for Edmund Riggs, Mary A. Riggs & James C. Piles bonded as administrators on 3 Mar. 1877. Recorded in Book B, page 373. File now located at the Miller County Historical Society Museum, next door to the Miller Co. Courthouse.

⁸⁵ Initial inventory of the Estate of Edmund Riggs. File now located in Edmund's probate records at the Miller County Historical Society Museum, next door to the Miller Co. Courthouse.

⁸⁶ Note of demand from estate of Edmund Riggs by Nancy Varner. File now located in Edmund's probate records at the Miller County Historical Society Museum, next door to the Miller Co. Courthouse.

⁸⁷ FamilyTree DNA Kit 244007 for Bruce Thomas Varner

⁸⁸ Supplement to JamesRiggs9 by Bruce Thomas Varner

⁸⁹ Edwardian Riggsses of America, Volume 9, James Riggs (c1662-c1744) of Prince George's County, Maryland, and his Descendants, by Alvy Ray Smith

⁹⁰ 1880 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Osage TWP> Page 186

No census for 1890 data is available. In the 1900 Federal census Nancy Ann has moved to Camden County.⁹¹ Alta Williams the future wife of William O. is located a few households away living with her family.⁹²

Names in Household 1st Day of June 1900	Relationship	Sex	Month	Year	Age at Last Birthday	Married, Single Widowed	Number of Children	Number of children Living	Born	Fathers Birth Place	Mothers Birth Place	Occupation	Can Read	Can Write	Own or Rent	Free of Mortgage
Nancy Varner	Head	F	Mar	1841	59	Wd	4	4	MO	MO	MO		Yes	Yes	O	F
William O Varner	Son	M	Feb	1869	31	S			MO	MO	MO		Yes	Yes		

In the 1910 Federal census Nancy Ann is in Camden County listed as mother-in-law living with the Newton's.⁹³

Names in Household 1st Day of June 1910	Relationship	Sex	Age	Married, Single, Widowed	Years Married	Number of Children	Number of children Living	Born	Fathers Birth Place	Mothers Birth Place	Occupation	Can Read	Can Write	Own or Rent	Free of Mortgage
William A. Newton	Head	M	43	M	17			MO	MO	VA	Farmer	Yes	Yes	O	F
Eurelda	Wife	F	37	M	17	3	3	MO	MO	MO		Yes	Yes		
Arlie L	Son	M	13	S				MO	MO	MO					
Mary E	Daughter	F	10	S				MO	MO	MO		Yes	Yes		
Nancy A. Varner	Mother-in-Law	F	69	W		4	4	MO	NC	GA		Yes	Yes		

⁹¹ 1900 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Camden> Russell TWP> Page 6

⁹² 1900 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Camden> Russell TWP> Page 7 (George & Margaret Williams & 7 children)

⁹³ 1910 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Camden> Russell TWP> Page 4

In the 1920 Federal census Nancy Ann is in Camden County again listed as mother-in-law living with the Newton's.⁹⁴

Names in Household 1st Day of June 1910	Relationship	Own or Rent	Free of Mortgage	Sex	Age	Married, Single,	Can Read	Can Write	Born	Fathers Birth Place	Mothers Birth Place	Occupation
William A. Newton	Head	O	O	M	51	M	Yes	Yes	MO	MO	VA	Farmer
Eurelda	Wife			F	48	M	Yes	Yes	MO	MO	MO	
Pearl Bruce	Daughter			M	26	M	Yes	Yes	MO	MO	MO	
Robert Bruce	GrandSon			M	3	S			MO	MO	MO	
Vivian Bruce	Grand Daughter			F	1	S			MO	MO	MO	
Nancy Varner	Mother-in-Law			F	78	W	Yes	Yes	MO	NC	GA	
Arlie Newton	Son			M	22	M	Yes	Yes	MO	MO	MO	Labor on Farm
Mary Newton	Daughter-in-Law			F	21	M	Yes	Yes	MO	MO	MO	
Chester Newton	Grandson			M	2	S			MO	MO	MO	
Ross Newton	Grandson			M	½	S			MO	MO	MO	

Nancy has not been located in the 1930 Federal Census. Nancy Ann died on 22 July, 1934 in Mack's Creek, Camden County, Missouri.⁹⁵

No record of marriage or name for the children's father has been located for Nancy Ann. She raised four children with the Varner surname. This conundrum was taboo over the years and not openly spoken of within the family.

ELIZABETH⁵ VARNER, (GEORGE⁴, FREDRICK³, JOHN², HANS¹) born November 1842 in Pettis Co., Missouri., died 25 December, 1929 in Edith, Camden County, MO. She is buried in the Pleasant Grove Cemetery in Camden Co., Missouri. Married 1, **JAMES MONROE FLAUGHER**, born 1840, died 1875. They were married on 24 February, 1861 in Miller Co., Missouri. This union produced eight children. Married 2, **JAMES BUSICK**, born in Missouri, died Unknown date in Tuscumbia, Miller Co., Missouri. This second marriage produced one child.⁹⁶

⁹⁴ 1920 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Camden> Russell TWP> Sheet #7

⁹⁵ Buried in Pleasant Grove Cemetery near Mack's Creek, Camden Co. MO. Nancy Varner, Mar. 27,1841 – July 22, 1934

⁹⁶ Need references

SAMUEL PHILIP⁵ VARNER, (GEORGE⁴, FREDRICK³, JOHN², HANS¹) born 1846 in Pettis Co., Missouri, died "at the Riggs place" near Tuscumbia in 1896. Apparently died of Typhoid fever. Married 1, **LUCRETIA IRWIN**, born 1854 IN Pulaski Co., Missouri, died 1875 in Tuscumbia, miller Co., Missouri. They were married about 1870 in Tuscumbia. This union produced two children. Married 2, **CHARLOTTE F. BARNHART**, born in Missouri on 7 July, 1855, died about 1933 in Tuscumbia, Miller Co., Missouri. This second marriage produced seven children.⁹⁷

FRANCIS MARION⁵ VARNER, (GEORGE⁴, FREDRICK³, JOHN², HANS¹) born January 1847 in Pettis Co., Missouri, died 11 September, 1904 in Miller Co., Missouri. Married **MARGARET LOUISE SCRIMAGER**, born 15 January, 1855 in Hickory Co., Missouri, died 25 October, 1933 in Miller Co., Missouri. This union produced two children.⁹⁸

The Miller County Vidette Newspaper from 1/8/1876 indicated that Marion Varner had a letter at the Tuscumbia Post Office.⁹⁹

The Miller County Autogram dated 1/30/1902 states that "Marion Varner working on the new railroad bridge, near the river bridge, accidentally got this leg broken." The same paper on 9/13/1904 contained the death notice for Marion Varner who it says died of consumption.¹⁰⁰

GLEN⁵ VARNER, (GEORGE⁴, FREDRICK³, JOHN², HANS¹) born 1852 in Pettis Co., Missouri, died at an unknown locate or date.¹⁰¹

JOHN⁵ VARNER, (GEORGE⁴, FREDRICK³, JOHN², HANS¹) born 1854 in Pettis or Miller Co., Missouri, died 10 March, 1929 in Dennison, Grayson Co., Texas. Married **REGINA MARTIN**, born 1861, died unknown. This union produced four children.¹⁰²

CYNTHIA⁵ VARNER, (GEORGE⁴, FREDRICK³, JOHN², HANS¹) born 10 February, 1856 in Miller Co., Missouri, died 17 March, 1929 in Dennison, Grayson Co., Texas. Married **WILLIAM QUASSA**, born unknown, died in 1931. This union produced several children.¹⁰³

⁹⁷ Need references

⁹⁸ Need references

⁹⁹ Miller County Vidette Newspaper Abstract from 8 January, 1876

¹⁰⁰ Willis/Varner Family Tree

¹⁰¹ Need references

¹⁰² Need references

¹⁰³ Need references

GENERATION 6

JOHN LAWRENCE⁶ VARNER, (EDMUND RIGGS⁵, EDMOND RIGGS⁴, JAMES RIGGS³, EDMOND RIGGS², JAMES RIGGS¹) born Oct. 17, 1866 in Miller Co., Missouri, died Dec. 11, 1951 in Kansas City, Missouri. Married **MILLIE JANE HORTON**, born Dec. 30, 1878 in Ulman, Miller Co., Missouri. Died Nov. 22, 1977 in Kansas City, Missouri. Both buried at Floral Hills Cemetery KCMO.¹⁰⁴

In 1880 John L., 13, is listed with his mother and siblings in Miller County.¹⁰⁵ John is not found in the 1890 census.

Names in Household 1st Day of June 1880	Color	Sex	Sge	Relationship	Single	Occupation	Attend School in Last Year	Born	Father Born	Mother Born
Nancy Varner	W	F	40		1	Day Labor		MO	TN	TN
John L	W	M	13	Son	1			MO	Don't know who Fathered children	MO
William	W	M	8	Son	1			MO		MO
Mary	W	F	6	Daughter	1			MO		MO
Urilda	W	F	4	Daughter				MO		MO

In the 1900 Federal census John L. with his family in Camden Co., Missouri.¹⁰⁶

Names in Household 1st Day of June 1900	Relationship	Sex	Month	Year	Age at Last Birthday	Married, Single Widowed	Number of Children	Number of children Living	Born	Fathers Birth Place	Mothers Birth Place	Occupation	Can Read	Can Write	Own or Rent	Free of Mortgage
John L.	Head	M	Oct	1866	33	M-6			MO	MO	MO	Farmer	Yes	Yes	O	F

¹⁰⁴ Floral Hills Cemetery Records, Kansas City, MO. (Millie J. Varner, Wife and Mother, Dec. 30, 1878 – Nov. 22, 1977). A deed transaction was also located with the Jackson Co. Recorder of Deeds recorded 1/15/1952 for the 2 lots in which John L. & Millie are buried (Book 959, p. 304, Floral Hills, Garden of Meditation, lots 28 & 29)

¹⁰⁵ 1880 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Osage TWP> Page 186

¹⁰⁶ 1900 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Camden> Russell TWP> District 10> Page 5

Varner																
Millie J.	Wife	F	Dec	1879	20	M-6	3	3	MO	MO	MO		Yes	Yes		
Clarence S.	Son	M	Sep	1895	4	S			MO	MO	MO					
Cloe B.	Daughter	F	Nov	1897	2	S			MO	MO	MO					
Cora L.	Daughter	F	Oct	1899	7/12	S			MO	MO	MO					

On Aug. 12, 1901 Land Patent #6864 for 160 acres was issued to John L. Varner for "North East quarter of the south east quarter of Section twenty-two, the lot numbered four of Section twenty-six, and the west half of the south west quarter of Section twenty-three in Township thirty-seven north, of Range eighteen west of the fifth principal meridian in Missouri containing one hundred and sixty acres" in Camden County, Missouri.¹⁰⁷

In the 1910 Federal census John L. still in Camden Co.¹⁰⁸

Names in Household 1st Day of June 1910	Relationship	Sex	Age at Last Birthday	Married, Single Widowed	Number of Children	Number of children Living	Born	Fathers Birth Place	Mothers Birth Place	Occupation	Can Read	Can Write	Own or Rent	Free of Mortgage
John L. Varner	Head	M	43	M-17			MO	VA	VA	Farmer	Yes	Yes	O	F
Millie J.	Wife	F	31	M-17	5	5	MO	MO	MO		Yes	Yes		
Clarence S.	Son	M	14	S			MO	MO	MO		Yes	Yes		
Cloe B.	Daughter	F	12	S			MO	MO	MO		Yes	Yes		
Cora L.	Daughter	F	10	S			MO	MO	MO		Yes	Yes		
Bert L.	Son	M	8	S			MO	MO	MO					
Ethel	Daughter	F	5	S			MO	MO	MO					

In the 1920 Federal census John L. and family again in Camden County.¹⁰⁹ John nor family are found in the 1930 census.

¹⁰⁷ US Land Patent Certificate #6864. Dated 8/12/1901. Signed President William McKinley.

¹⁰⁸ 1910 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Camden> Russell TWP> Dist. 0035> Sheet #3

¹⁰⁹ 1920 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Camden> Russell TWP> Dist. 39> Sheet #8

Names in Household 1st Day of June 1920	Relationship	Sex	Age at Last Birthday	Married, Single Widowed	Born	Fathers Birth Place	Mothers Birth Place	Occupation	Can Read	Can Write	Own or Rent	Free of Mortgage
John L. Varner	Head	M	53	M	MO	MO	MO	Farmer	Yes	Yes	O	F
Millie J.	Wife	F	41	M	MO	MO	MO		Yes	Yes		
Bert L.	Son	M	17	S	MO	MO	MO		Yes	Yes		
Ethel	Daughter	F	15	S	MO	MO	MO		Yes	Yes		
Pebbel	Daughter	F	9	S	MO	MO	MO					
Lonnie R.	Son	M	5	S	MO	MO	MO					
Clarence S.	Son	M	24	M	MO	MO	MO		Yes	Yes		
Mary Varner	Daughter-in-Law	F	20	M	MO	MO	MO		Yes	Yes		

In the 1940 Federal census John L., 73, farmer, with Millie J., 61, wife, again in Camden County.¹¹⁰

Name	Relationship	Sex	Age at Last Birthday	Married, Single Widowed	Own or Rent	Home Value	Farm	Born	Grade of School Completed	Hours Worked a Week	Occupation
John L. Varner	Head	M	73	M	O	200	Yes	MO	8	28	Farmer
Milla J.	Wife	F	61	M				MO	3		

Sometime after 1940 John Lawrence and Millie moved to a farm outside of Cleveland, MO. in Cass County. No record can be located of any property owned in that area by John so he apparently rented. John was always primarily a cattle farmer.¹¹¹

By 1946 John & Millie had moved off the Cleveland farm to a house in Independence, MO. John apparently lost heart after leaving the farm as farming was the only life he had ever know. Those who remember him say John Lawrence was a kind man always with a twinkle in

¹¹⁰ 1940 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Camden> Russell TWP> Dist. 39> Sheet #8

¹¹¹ Recollections of Ruth L. Varner who personally visited this farm property outside of Cleveland during that timeframe. No other records can be located on this subject.

his eye who never seemed to have a cross word about anyone. After moving off the farm John never seemed to be the same and appeared to lose heart. He died in Independence in 1951.¹¹²

After the death of John Lawrence, Millie remained in Independence but moved into a small house in back of the Bennett's (cousins) where she remained for many years thereafter until entering the hospital with cancer the last couple of years of her life.

Mille lived to be 99 years old. She had a couple of life long ticks. Her head constantly shook somewhat and she pursed her lips and eyebrows regularly as one might do when sucking on a lemon.¹¹³

WILLIAM OWEN⁶ VARNER, (LINEAGE UNPROVEN) born Feb. 8, 1869 in Tuscumbia, Miller Co., Missouri, died Nov. 7, 1937 in Mack's Creek, Camden Co., Missouri. Married on Jun. 21, 1903, **ALTA WILLIAMS**, born Aug. 4, 1886 near Bolivar, Polk Co., Missouri. Died Feb. 8, 1967 in Mack's Creek, Camden Co., Missouri. Both buried at Pleasant Grove Cemetery.¹¹⁴ Nine children born of this union.

EURELDA⁶ VARNER, (LINEAGE UNPROVEN) born Nov. 15, 1871, died Jan. 11, 1959. Married in 1893, **WILLIAM ANDREW NEWTON**, born Feb. 17, 1867, died Feb. 22, 1944. Both buried at Pleasant Grove Cemetery.¹¹⁵ Five children born of this union.

MARY F.⁶ VARNER, (LINEAGE UNPROVEN) born May 29, 1877 in Miller Co., Missouri. Died Jun. 7, 1956. Married in 1901, **GEORGE CLEMONS**, born Jan. 17, 1877 in Kentucky, died May 27, 1952. Both buried at Hopewell Grove Cemetery in Dallas Co., Missouri.¹¹⁶ Ten children born of this union. Relationship with **BLUFORD COVINGTON GRAHAM**, born Aug. 31, 1873, died Aug. 17, 1920. Unclear if married or not. Believed to have had one child of this relationship.

¹¹² Recollections of Ruth L. Varner who know John the last 5 years of his life after marrying Ed Varner

¹¹³ Observed by all throughout her later life.

¹¹⁴ Need references

¹¹⁵ Need references

¹¹⁶ Need references

GENERATION 7

CLARENCE SHERIDAN⁷ VARNER, (JOHN L. VARNER⁶, EDMUND RIGGS⁵, EDMOND RIGGS⁴, JAMES RIGGS³, EDMOND RIGGS², JAMES RIGGS¹) born Sep. 18, 1895 in Camden Co. Missouri. Died Mar. 13, 1988 in Camden Co. Missouri. Buried in Pleasant Grove Cemetery. Married **MARY OLIVENE (SISTER) ROGERS**, born Jan 10, 1900, died Apr. 6, 1994, on Dec. 25, 1919. Seven children from this union.¹¹⁷

CHLOE BELL⁷ VARNER, (JOHN L. VARNER⁶, EDMUND RIGGS⁵, EDMOND RIGGS⁴, JAMES RIGGS³, EDMOND RIGGS², JAMES RIGGS¹) born Nov. 1, 1897 in Camden Co., Missouri. Died Apr. 8, 1927 in Camden Co., Missouri. Buried in Pleasant Grove Cemetery. Married **ALBERT HUNT**, born Nov 8, 1897, died Jan. 8, 1978, on Nov. 15, 1917. Four children from this union.¹¹⁸

CORA LEE⁷ VARNER, (JOHN L. VARNER⁶, EDMUND RIGGS⁵, EDMOND RIGGS⁴, JAMES RIGGS³, EDMOND RIGGS², JAMES RIGGS¹) born Oct. 28, 1899, died Jan. 2, 1983. Married **MELVIN ROSCOE MEADS**, born May 22, 1895, died Jan. 16, 1980, on Jul. 4, 1916.¹¹⁹

BERT LONZO⁷ VARNER, (JOHN L. VARNER⁶, EDMUND RIGGS⁵, EDMOND RIGGS⁴, JAMES RIGGS³, EDMOND RIGGS², JAMES RIGGS¹) born May. 10, 1902 at Edith, in Camden Co. MO., died Mar. 14, 1991 in Raytown, Jackson Co. Mo. Buried Floral Hills Cemetery.¹²⁰ Married (1) **ELLA FLORAL (FLO) VANCE**, born Mar. 25, 1904, died Mar. 5, 1983, on Dec. 14, 1922.¹²¹ Married (2) **VERNA I. BOYLE**, born Aug. 7, 1917, died 2006.¹²²

Flo and Bert were married in Lynn Creek, Camden County, Missouri on 14 December, 1922. Sometime shortly after his marriage, family members recall stories that Bert and possibly another friend or relative travelled to Oklahoma for work, possibly in the oil fields. Apparently something happened during that absence which affected Bert. It is unknown what this occurrence was but it apparently changed him.¹²³

In December 1923 the first child Irene was born to the couple in Mack's Creek, Camden County, Missouri. Shortly thereafter the family moved for the first of several times to Kansas City, Missouri. Throughout the 1920's records indicate that Bert and family would move between Kansas City and Mack's Creek more than once. Times were hard and money was short and it is likely that when Bert was not working it was less expensive to return to Mack's Creek.

¹¹⁷ Need references

¹¹⁸ Need references

¹¹⁹ Need references

¹²⁰ Floral Hills Cemetery Records, Kansas City, MO. (Bert Lonzo Varner, 1902-1991)

¹²¹ Floral Hills Cemetery Records, Kansas City, MO. (Ella Floral Varner, 1904-1983)

¹²² Need to capture childhood and young adult details for insertion here.

¹²³ Recollections of Ruth L. Varner as told to her by Flo.

In the 1925 Kansas City, Missouri City Directory, Bert L Varner is listed at 4326 E. 10th, with an occupation of “contr” (Contractor?).¹²⁴

In 1926 Edwin was born in Mack’s Creek indicating the family had returned sometime before. Shortly after the birth the family returned to Kansas City. Flo was very sick during this time but still had to take care both Irene (Just over 2) and Edwin (Newly born). Bert had to work. Winter conditions made matters worse in their small drafty apartment. Irene caught what developed into the croup. Irene died at Children’s Mercy Hospital in Kansas City on 3 April, 1926. The family returned to Mack’s Creek with Irene for burial.¹²⁵

After the families return again to Kansas City, arguments between Bert and Flo ensued and for a short time in late 1926 or early 1927 Flo took Edwin and left. Bert was known to have a temper although he never expressed it around grandchildren. The separation was short lived and the couple got back together.

By 26 August, 1927 the family was back in Mack’s Creek when Harold, the third child was born.

During one of the periods when Bert and family lived back in Mack’s Creek, Bert worked with his older Brother Sheridan in the sole auto repair shop in Mack’s Creek, called “Varner’s Garage”.

By 1928 the Kansas City, Missouri City Directory, listed Bert L Varner at 1613 Kensington Ave, with an occupation of bgemn (Baggage man) for Term Ry (Terminal Railway).¹²⁶

In the 1930 Kansas City, Missouri City Directory, B L Varner is listed at 8310 Flora Ave, with an occupation of usher for Union Station.¹²⁷

In the 1930 Federal census Bert, 27, is in Jackson County with his family. Ella F., 26, Edwin, 4 ½, Harold, 2 ½.¹²⁸

Bert was still working at the Kansas City Union Station on 17 June, 1933 when the Union Station Massacre occurred. It is likely but not verified if Bert was at work during the hour the massacre took place.

In 1936 Bert started work at the Leeds GM Assembly plant in southeast Kansas City metro area. This was before the automobile industry was unionized and during the same time when worker unrest was surfacing in the industry. After being employed only a short while the Atlanta GM plant began a sit down strike on 16 December, 1936. Leeds followed suit. By 17 February, 1937 General Motors recognized the United Auto Workers and changed company/worker relations forever thereafter. At its peak, Leeds employed 4,500 workers and produced 60 vehicles per hour for two shifts a day.¹²⁹ After the two boys were raised and gone, Bert and Flo would have a new GM car every three or four years thanks to the generous employee discount on new vehicles. Bert would continue to work at that plant for 30 years, retiring in 1966. He always was proud of his participation in the union organization and was a staunch Democrat and union supporter until his death.

¹²⁴ Kansas City, Missouri City Directory of 1925, page 1620

¹²⁵ Recollections of Ruth L. Varner as told to her by Flo

¹²⁶ Kansas City, Missouri City Directory of 1928, page 1825

¹²⁷ Kansas City, Missouri City Directory of 1930, page 1790

¹²⁸ 1930 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Jackson> Washington TWP> District 281> Sheet #12

¹²⁹ History of the Leeds GM Plant, several sources

On 5 April, 1939 Bert & Flo purchased a piece of land in what would later become part of Raytown. This was the first of two side by side lots in which Bert would build three homes and remain until their deaths. The initial property was Lot 76 (333' x 130'), in Loveland's Addition, subdivision of lots 3 & 4 of Green Homestead, a subdivision in Section 9, Township 48, Range 32, Jackson County, Missouri. Bert and Flo paid \$544.00 for the lot. Property taxes for that year were \$4.18. A Deed of Trust was obtained on the property at 6% interest, and to be repaid at the rate of \$8.00 per month.¹³⁰

The first house on this property built by Bert was located towards the front (North) of lot 76 facing Curtis Road. Quickly a hole was dug for a basement. Concrete poured for the footings and cinder blocks laid as basement walls. Floor joists were placed over the cinder blocks. This was covered with basic roofing material and the family moved into the basement before the above ground house structure was even started.¹³¹ The basement was occupied as a living facility by the time of the 1940 federal census.

These accommodations served as the family's home for a couple of years while money and material for the formal structure was obtained. The floor of the basement was dirt which Flo kept constantly swept clean. The children and Flo were embarrassed by this condition and did not want visitors in the living quarters for this reason. Neighbors would later comment how clean that Flo kept the living area even with a dirt floor. Flo would always have fresh flowers on the table.¹³²

In the 1940 Federal census Bert, 37, is located on his own property in Jackson County along with Flora, 36, Edwin, 14, Harold, 12.¹³³

Sometime before 1944 the small story and one half house was finished.¹³⁴ Bert was very resourceful in obtaining free materials to complete the house. Old wooden pallets from the Leeds GM plant was used for building boards and discarded cardboard was used to help as insulation. Additional insulation and some other items were added in later years. The house still stands, although abandoned at this point, as a testament to its overall structural integrity.¹³⁵ The original mailing address for this first house was Curtis Road, RR #2, Hickman Mills, MO. It would later change to 10409 E. 71st Terr. Raytown, MO. This is where both Edwin and Harold lived until moving out on their own.

Bert owned a motorcycle along with the car in those years. Flo on the other hand never even learned to drive. During the last year of World War II, when Edwin was in the Army Air Corps, Bert and Flo travelled on this Harley Davidson motorcycle to Denver, Colorado and back to visit Edwin who was in training there. The motorcycle was used as primary transportation throughout the war because of gas rationing. A gallon of gas would take you a lot further on a motorcycle then in an automobile.

In 1966 Bert retired from the GM plant after 30 years. For several years thereafter Bert and Flo spent the winters in Sarasota, Florida. A trailer court lot had been purchased before his retirement. At first they pulled a travel trailer already owned to this lot for the winter. Soon a

¹³⁰ Book 645, page 29, Jackson Co. Recorder of Deeds Office

¹³¹ Edwin Varner as told to and observed by Bruce Varner

¹³² Edwin Varner & other 1st Baptist of Raytown Church members as told to Ruth Varner

¹³³ 1940 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Jackson> Brooking TWP> 48-67> Sheet #1

¹³⁴ Based upon an existing photo which shows Edwin in the front yard of the completed house while in high school

¹³⁵ Edwin Varner as told to and observed by Bruce Varner

somewhat larger travel trailer was owned and stayed in the trailer court waiting for them every winter.

ETHEL EUNICE⁷ VARNER, (JOHN L. VARNER⁶, EDMUND RIGGS⁵, EDMOND RIGGS⁴, JAMES RIGGS³, EDMOND RIGGS², JAMES RIGGS¹) born Oct. 5, 1904, died Dec. 30, 1979. Married **WALTER DIMOUSH**, born 1904, died Jan. 2, 1980, on Jul. 18, 1925.
¹³⁶

PEBBLE MAY⁷ VARNER, (JOHN L. VARNER⁶, EDMUND RIGGS⁵, EDMOND RIGGS⁴, JAMES RIGGS³, EDMOND RIGGS², JAMES RIGGS¹) born Sep. 21, 1910 in Camden Co., Missouri. Died Apr. 26, 2003 in Camden Co., Missouri. Buried Floral Hills Cemetery. Married **HOWARD ANDREW BENNETT** born Sep. 12, 1910, died Jun. 1983, on May. 22, 1928.
¹³⁷

LONNIE RAY⁷ VARNER, (JOHN L. VARNER⁶, EDMUND RIGGS⁵, EDMOND RIGGS⁴, JAMES RIGGS³, EDMOND RIGGS², JAMES RIGGS¹) born Mar. 9, 1914, died Mar. 4, 1998, Ft. Scott, Kansas. Married **VIRGINIA JOYCE SULLIVAN**, born Jun. 22, 1921, on Dec. 12, 1938.
¹³⁸

¹³⁶ Need references

¹³⁷ Need references

¹³⁸ Need references

GENERATION 8

VIOLET IRENE⁸ VARNER, (BERT L. VARNER⁷, JOHN L. VARNER⁶, EDMUND RIGGS⁵, EDMOND RIGGS⁴, JAMES RIGGS³, EDMOND RIGGS², JAMES RIGGS¹) born Dec. 21, 1923 in Camden Co. MO., died Apr. 3, 1926 of Pneumonia. Buried in Pleasant Grove Cemetery.¹³⁹

EDWIN DALE⁸ VARNER, (BERT L. VARNER⁷, JOHN L. VARNER⁶, EDMUND RIGGS⁵, EDMOND RIGGS⁴, JAMES RIGGS³, EDMOND RIGGS², JAMES RIGGS¹) born Feb. 16, 1926 in Camden Co. MO., died Feb. 1, 2008 in Kansas City, Mo. Buried Floral Hills Cemetery. Married **RUTH LEON HARRINGTON**, born May. 30, 1926, in Bonner Springs, Kansas., on Sep. 3, 1946.¹⁴⁰

¹⁴¹

HAROLD DON⁸ VARNER, (BERT L. VARNER⁷, JOHN L. VARNER⁶, EDMUND RIGGS⁵, EDMOND RIGGS⁴, JAMES RIGGS³, EDMOND RIGGS², JAMES RIGGS¹) born Aug. 26, 1927 at Mack's Creek, Camden Co. MO., died Mar. 14, 1999. Married **INGRID J. OPAWSKY**, born Dec. 23, 1925, in Czechoslovakia., on Jul. 10, 1956.¹⁴²

¹³⁹ Need references

¹⁴⁰ Need references

¹⁴¹ Need to capture Ed Varner life details and insert here.

¹⁴² Need references

GENERATION 9

BRUCE THOMAS⁹ VARNER, (EDWIN D. VARNER⁸, BERT L. VARNER⁷, JOHN L. VARNER⁶, EDMUND RIGGS⁵, EDMOND RIGGS⁴, JAMES RIGGS³, EDMOND RIGGS², JAMES RIGGS¹) born Mar. 18, 1951 in Kansas City, Kansas. Married (1) **MARY JO IRWIN**, born Mar. 6, 1954, Union City, TN. Married (2) **CHARLENE MARIE WEBB MAKOWSKI**, born Feb. 12, 1947.¹⁴³

DAVID KEITH⁹ VARNER, (EDWIN D. VARNER⁸, BERT L. VARNER⁷, JOHN L. VARNER⁶, EDMUND RIGGS⁵, EDMOND RIGGS⁴, JAMES RIGGS³, EDMOND RIGGS², JAMES RIGGS¹) born Aug. 17, 1958 in Kansas City, Kansas. Married **NANCY LOUISE KHOLMEYER**, born Jan. 19, 1959, on Feb. 16, 1980. Three children were conceived of this marriage.¹⁴⁴

PAMELA KAYE⁹ VARNER, (EDWIN D. VARNER⁸, BERT L. VARNER⁷, JOHN L. VARNER⁶, EDMUND RIGGS⁵, EDMOND RIGGS⁴, JAMES RIGGS³, EDMOND RIGGS², JAMES RIGGS¹) born Nov. 10, 1960 in Kansas City, Missouri. Married **DAVID LEE WALDEN**, born Jan. 12, 1956, on Jun. 13, 1981. Divorced in 2012. Two children were conceived of this marriage.¹⁴⁵

¹⁴³ Need references

¹⁴⁴ Need references

¹⁴⁵ Need references

APPENDIX A - 2nd Infantry in the War of 1812¹⁴⁶

In the War of 1812 units of the 2nd Infantry fought several engagements with the British. The Regiment was made famous by the gallant defense of Ft. Bowyer in Mobile, Alabama.

Mobile had been a Spanish possession before the beginning of the war, but Congress had declared it part of American territory after commencement of the war. After Spanish forces evacuated Mobile in April 1813, the Americans built a redoubt on Mobile Point. In June 1813, Colonel John Bowyer completed the fort, but the Americans abandoned it about a year later. Then in August 1814, they garrisoned it again with 160 men under Maj. William Lawrence.

The fort was made of sand and logs, and fan-shaped, with the curved face facing the ship channel into Mobile Bay. On the landward side there was a bastion, flanked by two demi-bastions. The purpose of the fort was to impede any British invasion at this point on the Gulf Coast.

On the morning of the 12th of September 1814, Percy landed Lieutenant Colonel Edward Nicolls with a force of 60 Royal Marines, 100 Spanish infantrymen, and some 600 Indians, together with a 5½-inch howitzer, about 9 miles to the eastward. The British land force then marched against the fort, which was manned by 120 men from the 2nd U.S. Infantry under the command of Major William Lawrence.

The battle began with the Americans repulsing the British land attack on 14 September. Nicolls, ill at the time, was observing on *Hermes*. On September 15, after contrary winds had died down, Percy crossed the bar with *Hermes*, *Sophie*, *Carron*, and *Childers*. The fort opened fire at 4:16 p.m. and at 4:30 *Hermes* opened fire. The U.S. fort and *Hermes* were at musket-shot range. At 4:40, *Sophie* opened fire also, but the other two vessels were not able to get into a firing position. During the battle, a wooden splinter wounded Nicolls in the eye.

The British naval attack was unsuccessful. After two hours of fruitless bombardment, *Hermes* ran aground and lay helpless under the fire from the fort. *Sophie's* boats took off *Hermes's* crew and Percy set her on fire; she subsequently blew up after the fire reached her magazine. The remaining ships anchored for the night, one and half miles from the fort.

The next morning the British re-crossed the bar and sailed away. HMS *Hermes* had lost 17 killed in action, 5 mortally wounded and 19 wounded, while *Sophie*

¹⁴⁶ Gathered from several sources including the Alabama State Historic Site of Ft. Morgan. (Ft. Morgan was built over the old site of Ft. Bowyer & provides historical documentation on both outposts)

had 6 killed in action, 4 mortally wounded and 12 wounded. In all, including the Marine killed on shore, the British lost 32 killed and 40 wounded in the land and naval attacks, while the Americans lost only 4 killed and 4 wounded. Percy's court-martial for the loss of Hermes concluded that the circumstances had warranted the attack. The defeat at Fort Bowyer led the British to decide to attack New Orleans instead. After their defeat at the Battle of New Orleans, the British would again decide to take Mobile.

After the unsuccessful British attack in September 1814, American General Andrew Jackson, recognizing Fort Bowyer's strategic importance and ordered the fort strengthened. Its garrison comprised 370 officers and men of the 2nd Infantry Regiment. Major William Lawrence, who was in command of the fort, was brevetted for gallantry in this action, together with Captains Chamberlain, Brownlow and Bradley. All are all mentioned by General Jackson in dispatches.

Engagements surrounding The Battle of New Orleans occurred between December 12th 1814 and the final battle on January 8th, 1815. Some of the men of the 2nd Captain John M. Davis of the 2nd Regiment was made a brevet major for gallantry at the siege of New Orleans and some companies of the 2nd Infantry were in New Orleans at the time of the main Battle in January 1815.

The second battle of Ft. Bowyer was the last battle of the War of 1812. The British commander of the naval forces was Captain T.R. Rickets of the 74-gun Third Rate ship of the line, HMS Vengeur. The British troops came from the 4th Foot, the 44th Foot and the 21st (Royal North British Fusiliers) Regiment of Foot, who had just fought at New Orleans.

On Feb. 8, 1815 the British campaign began with an investiture of Fort Bowyer. Lambert landed a force of around 1,400 men east of the fort. Judging they would need a line of artillery to successfully reduce the fort, the troops brought with them four 18-pounder cannons, two 8-inch howitzers, three 5½-inch, and two 4.4-inch mortars. In addition to these eleven conventional artillery pieces, Lieutenant John Lawrence's 25 man detachment of Royal Marine Artillery were landed from HMS Tonnant with several Congreve rocket launchers, and a stock of munitions comprising two 6-pounder rockets and a hundred 12-pounder rockets. The British moved to within 200 yards of the fort and began to build their siege works. While they were constructing their siege works, the British forces endured constant American fire and took light casualties, but continued undeterred. Once their guns were in place, the British were ready to launch a devastating artillery attack on the now vulnerable fort.

On February 12 after another barrage of artillery, Lambert, under a flag of truce, called on the fort to surrender. He demanded that the American commander, Major William Lawrence, accept British terms to prevent the needless slaughter

of his men. Lawrence acquiesced, surrendering Fort Bowyer after having withheld the siege for five days. When British captured Ft. Bowyer they discovered three long 32-pounders, eight 24s, six 12s, five 9s, a mortar and a howitzer. Fort Bowyer's weakness was its vulnerability to an attack from the landward side as its principal artillery could only be focused toward the water.

The British postponed the attack on Mobile itself when HMS Brazen arrived some two days later, carrying news that the Treaty of Ghent, ending the war, had been signed on the previous Christmas Eve. When news of ratification of the Treaty arrived, the British withdrew. Fort Bowyer subsequently reverted to U.S. control. The War Department would later replace it with the more heavily fortified Fort Morgan. The attachment of Mobile to the United States was the only permanent exchange of territory during the War of 1812.

In the Spring of 1815 the 2nd Infantry Regiment was consolidated with several other regiments to form a new 1st Infantry Regiment and a new/different 2nd Infantry Regiment was formed. Thus the chronicles of the original Second Infantry came to an end. Two post war created battalions perpetuate the lineage of elements of the old 2nd Infantry that was present at Fort Bowyer in both 1814 and 1815. The current 1-1 Infantry Regiment and the 2-1 Infantry Regiment.

At the beginning of the War of 1812, regular army establishment was a hodge-podge of units, seemingly similar, but organized, authorized, and structured differently under separate acts of Congress. Congress increased the size of the Army to 25 regiments in June 1812. It standardized the organization of all regiments into ten companies, with 90 privates per company. Authorizations varied slightly throughout the war years, but approximately 1,000 soldiers comprised a regiment. Congress sometimes reduced the authorized strength for individual regiments when it became apparent the full strength could not be reached. Also, companies were combined to be brought back up to strength as needed. Companies were recruited locally by the company commander at the time of creation. It is unlikely that ranks were replenished in the field by new recruits. Possible reasons for combining companies were death, injury, or illness of either the companies commander or too many of the companies men. It is not known how many companies started out or ended up in the 2nd Infantry during the war.¹⁴⁷

General Andrew Jackson in the War of 1812

¹⁴⁷ Notes on Ohio's Regular Army Infantry Regiments, 1812 to 1815, by James T. Bremmer (Contained descriptions of regiment make up and size that apply to all regiments at the time.)

1812 – Start of War as a Tennessee militia commander Jackson marched 2,500 Tennessee volunteers to Natchez. Was disbanded & so marched all troops back to Tennessee.

1813-1814 – Engaged a Tennessee militia command (Mostly same troops) & fought the Red Stick Creeks in Mississippi territory (Now Alabama).

1814 – Signed peace treaty with Creeks in Alabama & awarded the Southern District Army command & General's rank in the regular US Army. Commanded several units including the 2nd Infantry.

09/??/1814 – Headquartered in Mobile

11/07/1814 – Captured Pensacola

11/11/1814 – Arrived back in Mobile

11/21/1814 – Left Mobile for New Orleans

12/02/1814 – Arrived in New Orleans

12/14/1814 – 1st Engagement of Battle of New Orleans

01/08/1815 – Final Engagement of Battle of New Orleans

APPENDIX B - Thomas Owen of Missouri

In tracing lineage back for George Varner of Missouri, one of the most promising links runs through connections between the Owen and Varner families. This comparison produces additional circumstantial evidence to which east coast Varner family that George is in fact connected. Such a comparison needs to begin with Thomas Owen of Missouri, (probably) father of Harriet Owen, George's wife.¹⁴⁸

The Owen family is documented. It therefore makes sense to trace this family in attempts to find parallels between Owen and Varner's.

Glen Owen,¹⁴⁹ father of Thomas Owen, was born unknown. He died on 6/16/1839 in Oglethorpe County, Georgia. Although the birth date and place of Glen is unknown, other facts about Glen are well documented. Glen was married to Dorothy Hardeman. Glen had served as a Revolutionary War soldier.¹⁵⁰ Glen and Dorothy moved from Guilford County, North Carolina to Georgia to Wilkes County, Georgia. Glen Owen received a 70 acre land grant in Wilkes County, Georgia, in 1786.¹⁵¹ Glen and Dorothy would purchase many other pieces of property in Georgia located both in Wilkes and Oglethorpe Counties. Glen Owen and Fredrick Varner were both members of the County Line Baptist Church in Oglethorpe Co. Georgia.¹⁵²

Dorothy Hardeman, mother of Thomas Owen and wife of Glen Owen, was born unknown and died on 12/21/1847 in Oglethorpe County, Georgia.¹⁵³ Records indicate that Dorothy lived in Georgia near her brother John Hardeman.¹⁵⁴ On 11/26/1791 Glen Owen and Dorothy Owen of Wilkes County, Georgia were legatees for the estate of John Hardiman, formerly of the Guilford County, North Carolina. They sold to John Hardiman of Wilkes County, Georgia the property in question.¹⁵⁵

The 1800 Georgia census lists Glen Owen family in Oglethorpe County, Georgia:¹⁵⁶

Name of Heads of Families	Males Under 10	Males 10-16	Males 16-26	Males 26-45	Females 10-16	Females 16-26	Females 26-45	Slaves

¹⁴⁸ Likely for several reasons. George and Thomas live near each other for much of their time in Missouri. George and Thomas are even referenced in the newspaper as associates. George's wife Harriet's maiden name is Owen. This is the only Owen family in this area of Missouri during this timeframe.

¹⁴⁹ There are many sources of detailed information on this Owen family going much further back and expanding on the family. I have only included those references to the Owen family that tend to provide insight between the Owen association with the Varner family.

¹⁵⁰ US Sons of the American Revolution approved application #71433 dated 5/2/1949. In this document a John Davis Owen Jr. had applied to join the organization being the great-grandson of Glen Owen and Dorothy Hardeman.

¹⁵¹ Georgia Land Grant Book III, p. 700.

¹⁵² Varner Families of the South, Gerald H. Varner, Vol 1, pages 77

¹⁵³ US Sons of the American Revolution approved application #71433 dated 5/2/1949. In this document a John Davis Owen Jr. had applied to join the organization being the great-grandson of Glen Owen and Dorothy Hardeman

¹⁵⁴ Hudson, *Wilkes County, Georgia, Tax Records 1785-1805*, p. 58, 93, 124, 292, 382, 473, 576, 705, and 770.

¹⁵⁵ Farmer, Wilkes County, Georgia, Deed Books A – V V, 1784-1806, p. 344-345. Wilkes County, Georgia, Deed Book LL, p. 69. Registered 24 March 1794.

¹⁵⁶ 1800 Georgia Territorial Census. Georgia> Oglethorpe> No TWP>

Glen Owen	3	1	1	1	2	3	1	10
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The 1820 federal census lists Glen Owen family still in Oglethorpe County, Georgia.¹⁵⁷

Name of Heads of Families	Males Under 10	Males 45 Up	Females Under 10	Females 16-25	Females 45 Up	Slaves
Glen Owen	2	1	2	1	1	16

The 1830 federal census lists Glen Owen family again in Oglethorpe County, Georgia.¹⁵⁸

Name of Heads of Families	Males 10-14	Males 70-79	Females 70-79	Slaves
Glen Owen	1	1	1	19

On 2/28/1793 George Varner (John Varner's son) and Elizabeth his wife, along with William Walker and Judith his wife, all of Wilkes County, Georgia sold to Glen Owen for £100, 300 acres on Long Creek waters.¹⁵⁹

Children of Glen Owen and Dorothy Hardeman

William Owen, son of Glen Owen, born 3/9/1778, Guilford County, North Carolina, died before May 1814. William married to Amy Powell on 12/12/1799 in Oglethorpe County, Georgia.¹⁶⁰

John Hardeman Owen, son of Glen Owen, born 1/24/1780, Guilford County, North Carolina, died 24 September 1843, Monroe County. John married to Mary "Polly" Collier on 12/19/1803 in Oglethorpe County, Georgia.¹⁶¹

Elizabeth "Betsy" Owen, daughter of Glen Owen, born circa 1782, Guilford County, North Carolina, died after her father's 1839 will. Elizabeth married to Reuben Echols on 12/19/1803 in Oglethorpe County, Georgia.¹⁶²

Jane "Geney" Owen, daughter of Glen Owen, born circa 1784, Wilkes County, Georgia, died before her father's 1839 will. Jane married to Allen J. Arnold on 12/21/1801 in Oglethorpe County, Georgia.¹⁶³

¹⁵⁷ 1820 Federal Census. Georgia> Oglethorpe> Bi /TWP> P184

¹⁵⁸ 1830 Federal Census. Georgia> Oglethorpe> Capt. Hatchels District> P78

¹⁵⁹ Farmer, *Oglethorpe County, Georgia, Deed Books A – E, 1794-1809*, p. 220. Deed Book D, p. 238. Witness: Geo. Swain, J.P.

¹⁶⁰ Mary Bondurant Warren, *Georgia Genealogist, Marriages before 1800*, p. 32.

¹⁶¹ Smith, *Oglethorpe County Marriages*, p. 191.

¹⁶² Smith, *Oglethorpe County Marriages*, p. 164.

¹⁶³ Mary Bondurant Warren, *Georgia Genealogist, Georgia Marriages 1800-1810*, p. 6.

Glen Owen Jr., son of Glen Owen, born circa 1786, Wilkes County, Georgia, died in 1825, near Presido del Norte on the Rio Grande, estate settled Howard County, Missouri.¹⁶⁴ Glen married to his first cousin Elizabeth "Betsey" Hardeman, daughter of Thomas Hardeman and Mary Harden Perkins. They were married in Williamson County, Tennessee on 2/22/1809.¹⁶⁵

Susannah Owen, daughter of Glen Owen, born 17 May 1788, Wilkes County, Georgia, died 7 January 1864, Oglethorpe County, Georgia.¹⁶⁶ Susannah married to John Wynne on 9/17/1809 in Oglethorpe County, Georgia.¹⁶⁷

Sarah "Sally" Owen, daughter of Glen Owen, born circa 1791,¹⁶⁸ Wilkes County, Georgia. Sarah married to Peterson Smith on 9/18/1810 in Oglethorpe County, Georgia.¹⁶⁹ Will of Sarah recorded in Oglethorpe County, Georgia in October 1857.¹⁷⁰

Thomas Owen, son of Glen Owen, father of Harriet Owen, born circa 1792, Wilkes County, Georgia, will made 9 April 1861, proved 31 May 1864, Pettis County, Missouri.¹⁷¹ Thomas married to Nancy Varner on 11/10/1810 in Oglethorpe County, Georgia.¹⁷² References indicate that Thomas moved to Missouri before 1818.

Nancy Varner, wife of Thomas Owen, born circa 1793 in Wilkes County, Georgia was married to Thomas on 11/10/1810 in Oglethorpe County, Georgia.¹⁷³ Nancy died after 1870 in Pettis County, Missouri.¹⁷⁴

The only known Nancy Varner who was of age to marry Thomas Owen was Nancy Varner of Rowan County, North Carolina. She was the daughter of John Varner Jr. of Rowan County, North Carolina. John Jr's will of 1827 lists Nancy Varner as a daughter.¹⁷⁵ John Jr. is the son of John Varner. John Sr. is the brother of Fredrick Varner who fathered George Varner of Missouri. This would have made the two 1st cousins. This is the only Nancy Varner married in Oglethorpe County, Georgia between 1805 and 1833. It is also very possible that one of the

¹⁶⁴ Missouri Intelligencer, 10 June 1825 issue: Sale of the personal property of Glen Owen will be sold 7 July 1825. Elizabeth Owen, administrator

¹⁶⁵ Whitley, Williamson County, Tennessee, Marriages 1804-1850, p. 141.

¹⁶⁶ Historic Oglethorpe County, Inc., Cemeteries of Oglethorpe County, Georgia (Lexington, Georgia, 1995), p. 227. Wynne-Thaxton Cemetery, County Road 142 and U.S. Highway 78. Wynn, Susanah, born 17 May 1788, died 7 January 1864, age 75 years 7 mos., 20 days.

¹⁶⁷ Smith, Oglethorpe County, Georgia, Marriages, p. 209.

¹⁶⁸ 1850 U.S. Census, Oglethorpe County, Georgia, p. 28, #401/402. Sarah P. Smith, age 59, \$2000, born N.C.; Jabez P. Smith, age 21, born Ga.; Matha Sledge, age 22; John G. Dorrough, age 2; George W. Dorrough, age 9; Charles Connors, age 27, overseer; Lucy Connors, age 24.

¹⁶⁹ Smith, Oglethorpe County, Georgia, Marriages, p. 199.

¹⁷⁰ Oglethorpe County, Georgia, Will Book D, p. 339. Will of Sarah Smith.

¹⁷¹ Pettis County, Missouri, Will Book 2, p. 20-21. Will of Thomas Owen. Exors: John Davis and George J. Owen. Witnesses: John Davis, John Elliott. Will named son, Francis Owen. He was take care of Thomas Owen and Nancy for life. Daughter: Elizabeth E. Miller for life and then land to the heirs of William S. Miller, deceased, her former husband. And, I will the remainder of my real and personal property to the lawful heirs of my body after all my just debts are paid which property is to be sold and the remainder after the debts are paid to be equally divided among my heirs which I have not hereby named. A copy can be found at: <http://cousin-collector.com/index.php/peitis-county-missouri/219-wills/1043-owen-thomas.html>

¹⁷² Warren, Georgia Genealogist, Marriages 1800-1810, p. 147. Thomas Owen to Nancy Varner, 10 Nov. 1810, Oglethorpe County.

¹⁷³ Warren, Georgia Genealogist, Marriages 1800-1810, p. 147. Thomas Owen to Nancy Varner, 10 Nov. 1810, Oglethorpe County.

¹⁷⁴ 1870 U.S. Census, Pettis County, Missouri, p. 615, Washington Twp., #61/61. Nancy Owens, age 78, female, white, born Ga.; Francis Owens, male, white, \$3900, born Mo.

¹⁷⁵ Varner Families of the South, Gerald H. Varner, Vol 1, pages 27

other Varner members may have had a daughter named Nancy. Several died without wills or any other documentation that would have named those female children.

The 1830 federal census lists Thomas Owen family in Boone County, Missouri.¹⁷⁶ This is a short distance from the land patent issued in 1835 to George Varner:

Name of Heads of Families	Males Under 5	Males 5-10	Males 15-20	Males 30-40	Females Under 5	Females 5-10	Females 10-15	Females 30-40	Male Slaves Under 10	Female Slaves 24-36
Thomas Owen	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

The 1840 federal census lists Thomas Owen family in Pettis County, Missouri.¹⁷⁷ Pettis County had just been created in 1833 from parts of Cooper Co., Saline Co. and non-county areas. This census would suppose the one female (Harriet) had left the household between the 1830 and 1840 census. It also indicates two more young males added to the household. George Varner is 21 census households away from Thomas Owen:

Name of Heads of Families	Males 5-10	Males 10-15	Males 15-20	Males 20-30	Males 40-50	Females 10-15	Females 15-20	Females 40-50	Slaves
Thomas Owen	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	0

The 1850 federal census lists Thomas Owen family still in Pettis County, Missouri.¹⁷⁸

Thomas Owen	58 years, Male, GA.
Nancy	57 years, Female, GA.
Mary E.	20 years, Female, MO.
John F.	18 years, Male, MO.
George V/J?	18 years, Male, MO.
Frances	15 years, Male, MO.
Mary H.	8 years, Female, MO.

The 1860 federal census lists Thomas Owen family again in Pettis County, Missouri.¹⁷⁹

Tho Owen	67 years, Male, GA.
Nancy	66 years, Female, GA.
Frances	26 years, Male, MO.

The 1870 federal census lists Thomas Owen family again in Pettis County, Missouri.¹⁸⁰ Family is listed as Owens instead of Owen. A Nancy Owens 15, is listed with the family above in the

¹⁷⁶ 1830 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Boone> Rocky Fork Twp> Page 1

¹⁷⁷ 1840 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Pettis> No Twp> Page 7

¹⁷⁸ 1850 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Pettis> District 68> Page 159. Next on the list to Thomas was Wm. Owen 22, b. MO., Prudence Owen 27, b. KY., & Davis under 1, b. MO.

¹⁷⁹ 1860 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Pettis> Washington Twp> Page 156

census but this appears to be a mistake on the part of the census taker. Thomas Owen is not listed as he died in 1864.

Nancy Owen	78 years, Female, GA.
Frances	35 years, Male, MO.

More research is required to identify which Oglethorpe County Varner is the father of this Nancy Varner

Davis Owen, son of Glen Owen, born 9/17/1794 in Oglethorpe County, Georgia. Davis died 8/15/1866 in Coweta County, Georgia. Davis married to Sarah "Sally" Arnold on 3/9/1814 in Oglethorpe County, Georgia.¹⁸¹ Davis married? a second time to Ann D.¹⁸²

¹⁸⁰ 1870 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Pettis> Washington Twp> Page 8. Family listed as Owens with an s on the end of the name.

¹⁸¹ Smith, *Oglethorpe County, Georgia, Marriages*, p. 191.

¹⁸² Coweta County Genealogical Society, *Coweta County, Georgia Cemeteries* (Newnan, Georgia, 1986), p. 377. Oak Hill Cemetery, Newnan, Georgia. Owen, Davis, born 17 September 1794, died 15 August 1866. Owen, Sarah, consort of Davis Owen, died 2 May 1849, aged 51 years. Owen, Ann D., consort of Davis Owen, died 2 February 1853 in her 46th year.