

|

Nancy Ann Varner of Missouri:

**NANCY ANN VARNER (1841-1934)  
OF PETTIS, MILLER, AND CAMDEN COUNTIES, MISSOURI**

This is a portion only of the complete text of-

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*

11/23/14

Copyright to this volume ©2013-2015 by Bruce T. Varner

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or any information storage or retrieval system, without permission in writing from the copyright holder, except for the inclusion on brief quotations in a review.

Permission is specifically provide by the copyright holder for descendants of John Lawrence Varner and Edmund Riggs to freely use any or all of this document in any personal genealogy on George Varner of Missouri and his descendants.



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: **GEORGE<sup>4</sup> VARNER**, (Fredrick<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Hans<sup>1</sup>). This indicates that this George<sup>4</sup> is the fourth generation down from the oldest known ancestor. It also indicates that Fredrick<sup>3</sup> is George’s father, John<sup>2</sup> is George’s grandfather, and Hans<sup>1</sup> 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.

# CONTENTS

Generation 5 .....	4
Nancy Ann <sup>5</sup> Varner, (George <sup>4</sup> , Fredrick <sup>3</sup> , John <sup>2</sup> , Hans <sup>1</sup> ) .....	4

## GENERATION 5

**NANCY ANN<sup>5</sup> VARNER, (GEORGE<sup>4</sup>, FREDRICK<sup>3</sup>, JOHN<sup>2</sup>, HANS<sup>1</sup>)** born Mar. 27, 1841 in Pettis Co., Missouri, died Jul. 22, 1934 in Mack's Creek, Camden Co., Missouri.<sup>1</sup> Buried Pleasant Grove Cemetery in Camden Co.<sup>2</sup> There are no records of Nancy 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.<sup>3</sup>

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. This is substantiated by census records, Statements written by assorted family members that were contemporaneous to Nancy, and descendants from various lines of the family.

The 1850 federal census lists Nancy Varner with the family in Pettis County, Missouri.<sup>4</sup>

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					

<sup>1</sup> 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.

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.

<sup>2</sup> 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

<sup>3</sup> See Supplement to JamesRiggs9\_v4.18 by Bruce Varner for Riggs full family details

<sup>4</sup> 1850 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Pettis> District 68> Page 80

Samuel	4	M					
Francis M	2	M					

For the 1860 census Nancy Ann is living with a John J. Denton family in Miller County,<sup>5</sup> 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.<sup>6</sup>

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.<sup>7</sup> 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		

<sup>5</sup> 1860 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Miller> Jim Henry TWP> Page 159

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

<sup>7</sup> 1870 Federal Census, Osage Township, Miller County, Missouri, Page 4

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.<sup>8</sup>

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 Elizabeth Riggs, now deceased.<sup>9</sup> 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.<sup>10</sup>

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.<sup>11</sup>

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.<sup>12</sup>

On Aug. 29, 2013 Warren Ray Varner received final Y67 DNA results. Those results revealed that Warren Ray Varner was also a zero and one marker difference MRCA (Most Recent Common Ancestor) ancestor was to James Riggs (1742-1815). Bruce and Warren Varner are both descendants of Nancy Varner's oldest child John L. Varner.

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.<sup>13</sup> Second is Volume 9 of Alvy Ray Smith's "JamesRiggs9" of Alvy Ray's Edwardian Riggses of America.<sup>14</sup>

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"<sup>15</sup>

<sup>8</sup> Miller Co. Vidette Abstract. (Published 1872-1879 in Tuscumbia)

<sup>9</sup> 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.

<sup>10</sup> 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.

<sup>11</sup> 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.

<sup>12</sup> FamilyTree DNA Kit 244007 for Bruce Thomas Varner

<sup>13</sup> Supplement to JamesRiggs9 by Bruce Thomas Varner

<sup>14</sup> Edwardian Riggses of America, Volume 9, James Riggs (c1662-c1744) of Prince George's County, Maryland, and his Descendants, by Alvy Ray Smith

<sup>15</sup> 1880 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Osage TWP> Page 186

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

No census for 1890 data is available. In the 1900 Federal census Nancy Ann has moved to Camden County.<sup>16</sup> Alta Williams the future wife of William O. is located a few households away living with her family.<sup>17</sup>

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.<sup>18</sup>

<sup>16</sup> 1900 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Camden> Russell TWP> Page 6

<sup>17</sup> 1900 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Camden> Russell TWP> Page 7 (George & Margaret Williams & 7 children)

<sup>18</sup> 1910 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Camden> Russell TWP> Page 4

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		

In the 1920 Federal census Nancy Ann is in Camden County again listed as mother-in-law living with the Newton's.<sup>19</sup>

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	

<sup>19</sup> 1920 United States Federal Census. Missouri> Camden> Russell TWP> Sheet #7



Nancy has not been located in the 1930 Federal Census. Nancy Ann died on 22 July, 1934 in Mack's Creek, Camden County, Missouri.<sup>20</sup>

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.

---

<sup>20</sup> Buried in Pleasant Grove Cemetery near Mack's Creek, Camden Co. MO. Nancy Varner, Mar. 27, 1841 – July 22, 1934