

The wife, Ann, after payment of legacies, was to have all the rest of the property, including sixteen slaves, and to hold a lot on Crane Island and in Norfolk, until John and Trimmingham come of age. He bequeathed all of his vessels: his ship "Caesar, and half of the Brigantine, 'Charming'", his flat boats, and sailing boats, and 200 pounds current Virginia money to his four children: Nathaniel, John, Trimmingham, and Love. He names his wife, Ann, as Executrix, and his friend, John Hutchings, Executor.

As an afterthought, he left twelve pounds Virginia currency to Mary Snellings, daughter of William Snellings, relationship not given.



#### FIFTH GENERATION

#### JOHN TATOM, SR., REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIER

John Tatom, Sr., son of Captain Nathaniel Tatom, of Norfolk County, Virginia, and his wife, Ann, was born in Norfolk County, Virginia, circa 1720, and died in Wilkes County, Georgia, in 1793.<sup>8</sup> He married 1) in Norfolk County, Virginia, November 7, 1743, Ann Wright,<sup>9</sup> b. circa 1725, daughter of Captain Stephen Wright and his wife, Pembroke. Captain Stephen Wright was born 1680-1690, probably in England, as he mentions land in England in his will. He died in Norfolk County, Virginia, in 1748, where his will was probated, March 16, 1748.

John Tatom, Sr., may have married 2) to Alsey Smith, in Norfolk County, Virginia, March 30, 1774, as this marriage is recorded there, and we know of no other John Tatom there at that date, but when he died in Wilkes County, Georgia, in 1793, he names SARAH as his wife in his will. Hence, we have three marriages for John Tatom, Sr., without knowing definitely which wife was the mother of the various children.

Captain Stephen Wright, father of Ann, in his will, names his wife, Pembroke, and his children, Ann Tatom, Katherine Wright, and son, Stephen Wright. His wife, Pembroke, his friend, James Nimmo, and "my son-in-law, John Tatom" were named Executors. He also mentions his grandson, Stephen Tatom, to whom he bequeaths one hundred

8. File S. and T., Wilkes County, Georgia, signed March 21, 1793, and proved October 8, 1794.

9. McIntosh Abstract of Norfolk County Wills, p. 219.

pounds, to be placed at interest until he became of age. The legacies were as follows:

To Ann Tatom: Three slaves; Margaret, Mary and Luke; the household stuff she had when first married, and fifty pounds currency. If she is not satisfied with these legacies she was to receive only one shilling.

To Katherine Wright: Two hundred and twenty five pounds currency; a Negro girl, named Amy, one roan mare and saddle.

To Stephen Wright: All of the lands and Negroes, not willed away; all of the lands that were given to his "mother in law", after her death; all stock not willed away, and all money in Virginia and England after legacies are paid; all oak plank sawed after Capt. Powell has been satisfied, and no more sawed until Stephen becomes eighteen.

To wife Pembroke: The use of the following slaves during her lifetime: Sambo, Phyllis, Diana, Isbell, Luke, Betty, Roger, Sammy, James, Rose, Sarah, Daisy, Jack, Peg and Jenny; one hundred pounds current money; the plantation he lives on, with two thirds of all cattle, sheep, and hogs that belong to the plantation; a gray mare and side saddle; all lands, etc., to be equally divided between his wife and son Stephen. If Pembroke should die before her mother, the mother to have the use of the following slaves: Sarah, Sambo, Phyllis, Diana, Isbell, Luke and Betty; all crops of corn, peas, and tobacco "of this present year" to be divided equally between wife Pembroke and son Stephen.

John Tatom qualified as Executor, but the other two, Pembroke, wife of Stephen, and James Nimmo, "refused the burden thereof".<sup>10</sup>

While living in Virginia, near Portsmouth, in Norfolk County, John Tatom, Sr., served as a member of the House of Burgesses from Norfolk County, September 14, 1758-November 9, 1758, and from February 22, 1759-November 1, 1759. On June 5, 1761, he had been elected to the Vestry of the Portsmouth, Virginia, Parish Church, receiving the highest number of votes of the twelve men elected, and on June 18, 1761, at a Court held in Norfolk County, he took the oath of office and subscribed to the Doctrine and Discipline

10. Norfolk County Virginia Wills, Book H, p. 239.

of the Church of England.<sup>11</sup> The Portsmouth Parish was established in 1761, when the Elizabeth River Parish was divided into three Districts: Elizabeth River, Saint Brides, and Portsmouth. John Tatom, Sr., was also listed as a Justice of the Peace for Norfolk County from April 11, 1764-April 20, 1775.<sup>12</sup>

We do not know the exact date of the removal of John Tatom, Sr., to North Carolina, but we do know that he was there during the Revolution, in Hillsborough District, where his sons served in the Army from that state.

John Tatom, Sr., removed from North Carolina to Wilkes County, Georgia, soon after the Revolutionary War, because of the attractive offers made by the State of Georgia to Settlers. On March 17, 1785, Thomas Owen, of Wilkes County, Georgia, sold 200 acres on Pistol Creek to John Tatom, Sr., and the Tax Digests of Wilkes County for that year list him with 200 acres.<sup>13</sup> He was listed with only one poll, so his children were evidently all married and of age.

On October 26, 1792, John Tatom, Sr., of Lincoln County, Georgia, which was formed from Wilkes, bought 200 acres in Wilkes from John Dooley,<sup>14</sup> and on June 20, 1796, Abner Tatom, son of John Tatom, Sr., and one of the Executors of his father's estate, sold 200 acres on Newford Creek to William Jones.<sup>15</sup>

We know from Captain Stephen Wright's will that John Tatom, Sr., was married to his daughter, Ann Wright, by 1748, but since we do not know the date of his marriage to Sarah, we do not know which of the children were Sarah's and which were the children of Ann. However, it is safe to assume that the children who remained in North Carolina were the children of the first marriage, and it is possible that all of the children were of the first marriage.

John Tatom, Sr., died in Wilkes County, Georgia, where he left a will, naming his wife, Sarah, and the following children: William, Henrietta Fullilove, deceased daughter, Elizabeth Ann Hicks, Keziah Goodwin, deceased, Abel, Ab-

11. Lower Norfolk County Antiquary, Vol. 1, pp. 18, 19.

12. Justices of the Peace, Colonial Virginia, Bulletin of Virginia State Library, Vol. XIV, Nos. 2 and 3, April and July, 1921.

13. Davidson's Early Records of Wilkes County, Georgia, Vol. 1, p. 66.

14. Lincoln County, Georgia, Deed Book A, p. 24.

15. Ibidem, Deed Book B, pp. 54, 55.

ner and John. He directs that his children in Georgia notify those still in North Carolina, and among those whom we located were: Barnard or Barnett Tatom, and Absolem Tatom, not named specifically in the will. He directs that his property be divided into nine equal parts, which would take care of the nine children. We know that Bernard, Absolem and Keziah did not come to Georgia to live, and it is also possible that Elizabeth Ann remained in North Carolina, as we have found no records of her in Georgia.

LAST WILL and TESTAMENT of JOHN TATOM, Deceased

I, JOHN TATOM, Senior, of Wilkes County and State of Georgia, tho weak in Body, yet thro the great mercy and goodness of God, of perfect memory and sound understanding; do constitute this, my last will & Testament and desire that it may be received as such.

FIRST: I do most humbly bequeath my Soul to God its maker, hoping a gracious reception through the blessed Redeemer, who atoned for my Sins; My Body I give to the Earth from whence it was taken, until the general Resurrection; expecting at that time, a happy union with the Soul.

SECONDLY, I desire that all my just Debts be paid.

THIRDLY. I give my dear wife SARAH (second wife) a discretionary power to use my Estate as she may think proper for her own subsistence during life.

4thly. I give unto my son WILLIAM, two cows & calves, a featherbed, and an equal portion of house-hold goods with those of my children who have been already furnished from my house.

5thly. After the foregoing articles are Satisfied, I order the rest of my estate to be divided unto Nine equal parts, and distributed as follows Viz: One Ninth part to be paid or delivered to the Children of my deceased Daughter HENRIETTA FULLILOVE, to be divided equally amongst them—One Ninth part to be paid or delivered to the Children of my Daughter ELIZABETH ANN HICKS, to be equally divided amongst them—One Ninth part to the children of my Daughter (deceased) KESSIA, as follows, Viz: Five pounds out of said Share I give unto Samuel Goodwin, her eldest Son, the remainder of said Ninth part to be divided into three equal parts, and the other Sons of my said Daughter is to have one of those parts divided equally between them, and their Sisters, the other two parts divided equally be-

tween them. The other two Ninth parts is to be divided equally between the rest of my Children, that is to say, each of them to have one Ninth part of my whole Estate, after the first four Articles of this Will is complied with, as therein mentioned. My SONS in this state is to give notice to those in North Carolina, before they divide the Estate, and none of it is to be sold, only among each other of the Heirs.

LASTLY, I do hereby appoint my Sons, Abel Tatom, Abner Tatom, JOHN TATOM, and William Tatom to be my Executors to this my will in Testimony to this I set my hand and affix my Seal—the 21st Day of March in the year of our Lord—1793.

Signed: JOHN TATOM (seal).

Witness present, Signed:

Thomas Owens

James Hester

his

Thomas x Shannon Ser.  
mark

STATE OF GEORGIA, WILKES COUNTY:—

Personally appeared before me James Hester, and Thomas Owens, two of the subscribing Witnesses to the Within Will and being by me duly Sworn saith that they Saw, JOHN TATOM Sign Seal publish and declare the within Instrument of Writing to be his last Will & Testament, and that at the time of his so doing he was Sound Mind disposition and Memory to the best of their knowledge & belief & that Thos. Shannon Ser. made his mark as a Witness thereto. Proved approved & Established this 8th day of Oct. 1794.  
Signed: Da Terrell RC.W.C.

This original will is still on file in Wilkes County, Georgia. It was originally recorded in Will Book D.D., which was destroyed by fire, but the will itself is still intact in the Ordinary's Office in Washington, Georgia, in File of S. and T., just inside the Vault door, according to the affidavit of the Ordinary, Edgar L. Smith, November 14, 1953. The name on the original is spelled TATOM.

Issue of John Tatom, Sr., and his three wives, Ann Wright, Alsey Smith, and Sarah \_\_\_\_\_:

Approximate date of birth:

1-1. Bernard or Barnett Tatom, b. circa 1744.

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- 1-2. Absolem Tatom, b. circa 1745.
- 1-3. Abel Tatom, b. circa 1747.
- \* 1-4. Henrietta Tatom Fullilove, b. circa 1749.
- 1-5. Abner Tatom, b. circa 1751.
- 1-6. Elizabeth Ann Tatom Hicks, b. circa 1753.
- 1-7. John Tatom, Jr., b. circa 1755.
- 1-8. Keziah Tatom Goodwin Newby, b. circa 1757.
- 1-9. William Tatom, b. circa 1759.

BERNARD OR BARNETT TATOM:

- d-1. We know very little about Bernard or Barnett Tatom, as he did not move to Georgia with the other members of his family. He may have lived for a short time in South Carolina, for on December 18, 1797, he gave Power-of-Attorney to Robert Cook of York County, South Carolina, to "demand, recover, and receive from my brothers, Abel and Abner Tatom, Executors of my father's estate in the state of Georgia, all my legacies left me by my Father", witnessed by Joseph and Jane Davie. (Deed Book A, p. 50, Lincoln County, Georgia.) In 1800 Barnett Tatom and John N. Newby sign receipts for their part of the legacies.

Bernard Tatom, on November 16, 1773, bought one hundred acres of land in Granville County, North Carolina, for one Hundred and forty six pounds, thirteen shillings, and four pence, Proclamation money, from Burgess White, whose wife, Martha White, relinquished her dower. Witnessed by Samuel Goodwin and Hugh Currin. (Granville County Deed Book K, p. 137). On August 20, 1778, Bernard Tatom married Mary Thompson in Granville County, North Carolina. (Marriage Records 1761-1868). On October 29, 1783, Bernard Tatom and Mary, his wife, sold this same land for 100 pounds Virginia currency, to Richard Wilkins. The deed was proved at the May Court, 1784, by the oath of Thomas Pomfret Davis. (Deed Book O, p. 296.)

We know that Barnard Tatom was a Revolutionary soldier from the State Records of North Carolina by Clark, for he is listed in the Abstracts of the Army Accounts, Vol. XVII, 1781-1785, as being paid for his services. He was listed in the Hillsborough District of North Carolina in the 1790 Census, in the Tabb's Creek District, which is where his land was located as described in the deed recited above. Some records say that he removed to Tennessee and we know that he purchased land in Sumner County, Tennessee.

## ABSOLEM TATOM

1-2. Absolem Tatom, the second child of John Tatom, Sr., was a lawyer and was probably the best known of the children, as he was not only a soldier in the Revolution, but was very active in the public affairs of North Carolina, and we have many records of him from official documents. He lived all of his life in Hillsborough, North Carolina, but died and is buried in Raleigh, North Carolina, the inscription on his tomb reading: "In memory of Absolem Tatom Esquire, who departed this life December 20th, 1802, a member of the House of Commons from the town of Hillsborough, age 60 years". Members of the family say that he was only fifty-seven years of age. He was not married and in his will he left his property to his brothers and sisters, nieces and nephews, and various kinsmen and friends.

Absolem Tatom's will was signed December 17, 1802, and was proved in the Orange County, North Carolina Court in the February Term, 1803. Besides bequests to various friends, and slaves, he leaves the following to members of his family:

First: "To my eldest brother, Barnet Tatom", \$2000.00.

Second: "To brothers Abner, John and William Tatom", \$1000.00 each.

Third: "To the children of my deceased brother Abel Tatom", \$1000.00.

Fourth: "To the children of my deceased sister, Henrietta Fullilove", \$1000.00.

Fifth: "To the children of my deceased sister, Keziah Goodwin, Alias Newby, except Samuel Goodwin, who is otherwise provided for", \$1000.00.

Sixth: "To my nephew, Samuel Goodwin", of the town of Fayetteville, house and lot etc., in Hillsborough.

Seventh: Various legacies of land and money to faithful slaves and friends. After legacies are paid, the remainder of the estate to be divided equally among his brothers and sisters, named above.

On January 7, 1809, Stovall Pool, guardian of his daughter, Bonetta Pool, gave receipt to Samuel Goodwin, Executor of Absolem Tatom, deceased, for \$160.00. In 1807, in Franklin County, Georgia, Benjamin Pulliam appointed Abner

Tatom to collect his wife's inheritance from Absolem Tatom. His wife was Jemima Fullilove, daughter of Henrietta Tatom Fullilove. On March 15, 1804, Stovall Pool, in Wilkes County, Georgia, had been appointed guardian of his daughter, Bonetta Pool.

The following record is copied from:

Biographical Directory of the American Congress: 1774-1949: p. 1806:

*"Absolem Tatom:*

Representative from North Carolina; born in that state in 1742; sergeant in Greenville, North Carolina Militia in 1763; during the Revolutionary War was commissioned First Lieutenant in the First North Carolina Continental Regiment, September 1, 1775; promoted to the rank of Captain, June 29, 1776; resigned from the Continental Army on September 19, 1776; enlisted as Assistant Quartermaster and keeper of the arsenal in the State Service at Hillsborough, N. C., August 15, 1778; was contractor for Hillsborough in 1778; Major of detachment of the North Carolina Light Horse February 12, 1779; was Clerk of Randolph County Court in 1779; elected to the State House of Commons, but was unseated because he already held the office of County Clerk; was district auditor for Hillsborough in 1781; one of three Commissioners appointed by Congress to survey lands granted to Continental soldiers in the Western Territory (later Tennessee), in 1782; private secretary to Governor Thomas Burke in 1782; State Tobacco Agent in 1782; elected surveyor of North Carolina by the Continental Congress in May 1785; delegate to the Constitutional Convention in 1788; elected as a Republican to the Fourth Congress, and served from March 4, 1795, -June 1, 1796, when he resigned; again served in the State House of Commons 1797-1802; died in Raleigh, N. C., December 20, 1802; interment in Old City Cemetery." He was the first Secretary of the Society of the Cincinnati in North Carolina.

#### ABEL TATOM

Mr. J. A. Crawford of Nashville, Tennessee, descendant of Abel Tatom, spent a great many years, as well as a great deal of money, collecting data about the Tatom family. He visited the counties where the Tatoms lived and gathered many interesting stories from the living descendants. His data is supported by authentic Court Records and documents, and is a marvelous heritage for his son, a successful Dentist in Nashville, and his other kinsmen. The data he



collected is embodied in a loose leaf note book, written in the most beautiful longhand that I have ever seen, and the easiest to read. He most generously loaned this storehouse of information to me, with permission to copy anything that I needed, and much of the data I have concerning Abel Tatom and his descendants is from Mr. Crawford's manuscript.

1-3. Abel Tatom was the third child of John Tatom, Sr., and his wife, Ann Wright, and came to Georgia with his father, who settled first in Wilkes County, Georgia, and was finally located in Lincoln County, Georgia, on Soap Creek, when that county was formed from Wilkes. He was born either in Norfolk County, Virginia, or in Granville County, North Carolina, circa 1747, and like his brothers, served in the State Militia and as a Revolutionary soldier from North Carolina. From the Minutes of the Court, Granville County, North Carolina:

"A Regiment of Foot was organized in the county of Granville, commanded by Captain Christopher Harris, taken the 17th of August-1770". Among those listed: John Tatom, Sergeant, Bernard Tatom, Sergeant, and Abel Tatom, private. From the North Carolina Revolutionary Army Accounts, Vol. XI, p. 35; Folio 4, Raleigh, N. C.; "Abel Tatom, Nine pounds, and two shillings." Milly Tatom, wife of Abel, drew in the Lottery of 1827, from Monroe County, Georgia, as the widow of a Revolutionary soldier. Abel Tatom was one of the Executors of his father's estate. He died in 1798, and his wife, Milly Harris, b. circa 1755, d. in Monroe County, Georgia, in 1832, leaving a will, administered on his estate. She was granted Letters of Administration, November 3, 1798. In December, 1799, Isaac Tatom, one of the children, gave his mother a receipt for his part of the estate. (Will Book 2, 1796-1805). An Inventory of the estate was ordered by the Court of Lincoln County, Georgia, September 18, 1805. Milly was made guardian of the minor children, Silas, Thomas and Frances Tatom, and made many reports on the guardianship, which are reported in the Minutes of the Lincoln County Court. Abel Tatom's property was sold after his death on November 1, 1801, and some of the purchasers were: Isaac Tatom, Milly Tatom, James Turner, David Murray, William Mays, and Abner Tatom.

After the death of her son, Isaac Tatom, who married Mary Jane Stinson, Milly Tatom cared for his five children as Mary Jane died also soon after her husband's death. Milly removed to Monroe County, Georgia, with her children and

her wards, circa 1820, where she died and left a will. The will was signed October 19, 1826, and probated September 27, 1832. Silas and Thomas Tatom, sons, were named Executors, and it was witnessed by Gabriel Christian, William L. F. Jackson, and Juliann Christian. The will provided:

First: That the two slaves, Jenny and Moses, should not be sold except to members of the family, and that the slaves must be given their choice of masters. All other property to be sold and divided among the heirs.

Second: Silas Tatom was to receive one-fourth of proceeds of all sales.

Third: Daughter, Frances Turner, was to have one-fourth.

Fourth: One fourth part of the estate was to be divided among the following grandchildren: Bometer (or Bonita) Davis, Sarah Wideman, Mary Turner, Abel Tatom and John M. Tatom.

Fifth: One fourth part of all property to the children of Thomas Tatom, as well as the tract of land where Thomas lives, being the 6th District of Monroe County, Georgia. Thomas is given authority to manage all property or to sell it for the benefit of his children, if he so decides.

We only have the names of four children of Abel and Milly Harris Tatom, though there may have been others, as there is such a wide margin between the birth of Isaac Tatom and the minor children for whom Milly was guardian. It is also possible that Abel Tatom was married twice and that Milly was his second wife. We know that Stovall Pool of Lincoln County, Georgia, was one of the heirs of Abel Tatom, for on January 6, 1806, for \$160.00 paid to him by Milly Tatom, he relinquished his claim to his share of 400 acres of land on Soap Creek, "as one of the heirs and distributees of Abel Tatom, deceased". Witnesses were William and Richard Ratliff. This was probably the inheritance from William Hicks of Granville County, North Carolina.

Milly Tatom and her family were Methodists, but were orthodox in their beliefs. Mr. Crawford, in his notes loaned to me, tells of an interesting story about Milly and her experience with the very unorthodox Lorenzo Dow, famous Methodist Evangelist, who spent some time in Georgia. He was expelled from the Methodist Church at one time, but reinstated and in Charleston, South Carolina, was convicted of libel. He was a guest of Milly Tatom while in Lincoln

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County, Georgia, but was invited to leave after spending the night because Milly was so displeased with the doctrine he taught. Lorenzo mentions this incident without giving names in one of the many books and journals he wrote in his declining years.

Issue of Abel Tatom and Milly Harris Tatom:

- 1-3-1. Isaac Tatom, b. in North Carolina circa 1773, d. 1805.
- 1-3-2. Silas Tatom, b. circa 1785; m. April 7, 1816, "Patsy" Mays.
- 1-3-3. Thomas Tatom, b. circa 1787.
- 1-3-4. Frances Tatom, b. October 14, 1794, d. November 7, 1858, m. September 28, 1809, Meshack Turner.

There may have been other children.

- 1-3-1. Isaac Tatom, b. circa 1773 in Norfolk County, Virginia, d. in Lincoln County, Georgia, 1805, leaving a will; m.<sup>16</sup> circa 1794, Mary Jane Stinson, b. 1777, d. 1806. Mary Jane Stinson was the daughter of Alexander Stinson, b. circa 1733, d. Lincoln County, Georgia, leaving a will and his wife, Jane Baker, whom he married in 1760.

According to a romantic story in the manuscript of J. A. Crawford, Alexander Stinson's real name was Alexander Stephenson, and the story of his life formed the basis of Robert Louis Stephenson's *Kidnapped*. Members of the family believed so strongly in the tradition that when the English Government advertised for the heirs of the kidnapped boy, the Stinsons of Georgia registered their claim to his inheritance. So many years had gone by and so much evidence destroyed that the claim was denied for lack of proof. The will of Alexander Stinson was signed in Lincoln County, Georgia, August 6, 1806, and proved July 5, 1813. The witnesses were: John Tatom, John Matthews, and David Glaze. Among the legatees were the heirs of Jane Tatom, deceased, who were given eight slaves: Andy, Nancy, Mime, Thomas, Daniel, Betsy, Peter and Nicholas.

Jane Tatom was the executor of the estate of her husband, Isaac Tatom, and there are many records in the Lincoln County, Georgia, Court Minutes concerning the administration. However, Jane Tatom only lived one year after the

16. Will Book C, Lincoln County, Georgia, pp. 102, 103, 107.

death of her husband, dying September 8, 1806, with Archibald and Joseph Stinson acting as administrators of her estate. There was a report of the administration on February 7, 1807, and in the Court Minutes for March 30, 1809, Milly Tatom was paid for the maintenance of the following children of Jane Tatom, deceased: Sally Tatom, Abel Tatom, Mary Tatom, and John Tatom, for the years 1807 and 1808.

Issue of Isaac and Mary Jane Stinson Tatom:

- 1-3-1-1. Bometa or Bonita Tatom, b. circa 1795, m. \_\_\_\_\_ Davis.
- 1-3-1-2. Sarah Frances Tatom, b. circa 1797, d. August 14, 1872, m. January 14, 1819, Joseph Wideman, d. October 28, 1870.
- 1-3-1-3. Mary Tatom, b. circa 1799, m. Lincoln County, Georgia, January 14, 1819, Abednigo Turner.
- 1-3-1-4. Abel Tatom, b. August 27, 1801, d. September 16, 1886, m. May 11, 1823, Eleanor Key Stokes, daughter of Ignatius and Rebecca Benson Stokes, of Jasper County, Georgia, b. June 10, 1806, d. October 10, 1868.
- 1-3-1-5. John M. Tatom.

ABEL TATOM, JR.

1-3-1-4. Abel Tatom, Jr., listed above, was a Methodist Preacher. His parents died when he was about four or five years old, and he was raised by his grandmother, Milly Tatom, and moved with her in 1820 to Monroe County, Georgia. After his marriage to Eleanor Key Stokes in 1823, he continued to live in Monroe County for many years, but in 1845 or 1846, he moved to DeLand County, Florida. In 1848 he moved to Cotton Valley in Macon County, Alabama, and resided on the Union Springs and Tuskegee highway. After the death of his wife and the marriage of his children, he sold his home in Macon County, Alabama, and lived among his children. He died at the home of his daughter, Sarah B. Crawford, and was buried in the Tuskegee City Cemetery.

On April 2, 1841, in Russell County, Alabama, Abel Tatom presented to the Court the record of his authority as a duly ordained Minister of the Methodist Church by

1-3-3. Thomas Tatom was born circa 1787, and removed with his mother and her family to Monroe County, Georgia, after the death of his father. He and his children are named in the will of his mother, Milly Tatom, in Monroe County, Georgia, already quoted.

1-3-4. Frances Tatom, daughter of Abel and Milly Harris Tatom, m. Meshack Turner, son of Shadrack and Margaret Hill Turner, in Lincoln County, Georgia, September 28, 1809.



#### HENRIETTA TATOM

1-4. Henrietta Tatom, fourth child of John Tatom, Sr., b. Norfolk County, Virginia, circa 1749, was dead in 1793, when her father signed his will. m. John Fullilove, a Revolutionary soldier. She moved with her father from Norfolk County, Virginia, to Granville County, North Carolina, and thence to Wilkes and Lincoln County, Georgia.

Henrietta Tatom Fullilove was mentioned as deceased in the will of her father, March 21, 1793. In the first Tax Digest of Wilkes County, Georgia, undated, John Fullilove is listed with 600 acres of land, seven polls and twelve slaves.

We know very little about Henrietta and her family and only have the names of three children, though there may have been others.

#### Issue of Henrietta Tatom and John Fullilove:

1-4-1. Susannah Fullilove, married Benjamin Taylor. In the Returns of the estate of John Tatom, Sr., in March of 1802, Benjamin Taylor receipts for part of the legacy of his wife, Susannah Fullilove. (Early Records of Wilkes County, Georgia, by Davidson, Vol. 2, p. 296.)

1-4-2. Temperance (Tempe) Fullilove, married John Taylor, who also receipts for the legacy of his wife, Temperance, from the estate of John Tatom, Sr. Temperance Fullilove married John Taylor in Oglethorpe County, Georgia, January 20, 1801.

1-4-3. Jemima Fullilove married Benjamin Pulliam. In 1807 Benjamin Pulliam appointed Abner Tatom of Lincoln County, Georgia, his attorney to demand of the Executors of the estate of Absolem Tatom, late of the town of Hillsborough, North Carolina, "My part

of the legacy out of said estate in consequence of my marriage with Jemima Fullilove, daughter of Henrietta Fullilove". (Historical Collections of the Georgia D.A.R., Vol. 1, p. 268.

#### ABNER TATOM

1-5. Abner Tatom, fifth child of John Tatom, Sr., and Ann Wright, b. circa 1751, in Norfolk County, Virginia, d. 1819, Madison County, Alabama, Mississippi Territory, leaving a will; m. in either Norfolk County, Virginia, or Granville County, North Carolina, Mary Currin, daughter of James Currin and Elizabeth Wheeler Currin. James Currin left a will in Granville County, North Carolina, signed July 7, 1779, in which he names his daughter, Mary. The will was proved at the February Court in 1782, when his wife, Elizabeth Wheeler Currin, and his son, Hugh Currin, qualified as Executors. It is probable that both Elizabeth and Hugh were dead by 1786, for on that date another son, James Currin, qualified as executor.

Abner Tatom served both in the Militia of Granville County, and as a Revolutionary soldier. He was born in Norfolk County, Virginia, moved with his family to Granville County, North Carolina, and thence to Wilkes County, Georgia, in the part cut off to form Lincoln County.

On April 6, 1784, Abner Tatom applied to the Governor and Council of the State of Georgia, for a headright for himself and three others, saying that he was "a residenter of this state and never had any lands granted him." He asked that 350 acres be laid out for him in Washington County. The land was evidently granted him in Wilkes County, for he is listed on the Tax Rolls of Wilkes County in 1787 with 350 acres.

He was the first Clerk of the Superior Court after the county was formed, and one of the Tax Districts was called "Captain Abner Tatom's District". From the Minutes of Lincoln County, 1796-1805; p. 1: "The Honorable Superior Court for the county of Lincoln, met agreeable to the Act of the Assembly, at the home of Mr. Josiah Stovall, on Monday, 16 day of May, 1796. Present: His honor Benjamin Telfair, Esquire, Abner Tatom, Clerk of said Court entered into Bond, agreeable to law, with John Tatom, William Tatom, Newell Walton, and William Smith, his securities, whereupon he took the oath prescribed by the law of this state, and the oath directed by the Constitution of the United

## Prepared by

Archives Division, Texas State Library.

Davenport, Notes From an Unfinished Study of Fannin and His Men, 415-416; Texas State Archives.

- 1-6. Elizabeth Ann Tatom, sixth child of John Tatom, Sr., and Ann Wright, b. circa 1753, m. Granville County, North Carolina, March 24, 1778, William Hicks. We have no records of this child and believe that she must have remained in North Carolina when her father moved to Georgia.

JOHN TATOM, JR.

- 1-7. John Tatom, Jr., b. circa 1755, d. November 30, 1830, m. 1) Granville County, North Carolina, August 1, 1782, Martha Hicks, d. 1797; m. 2) Rebecca Stovall, b. circa 1782, d. May 2, 1852, Lincoln County, Georgia.

John Tatom, Jr., was a Revolutionary soldier and served from the Hillsborough District, North Carolina. He enlisted May 24, 1777, was discharged May 10, 1779, and received a Military Warrant for 274 acres of land for his services. He is listed in the State Records of North Carolina by Clark (Vol. 15, pp. 15, 57, 245, 732), in Captain Tilmon Dixon's Company, First Battalion, under Colonel Thomas Clark, and in the Roster of North Carolina Soldiers of the Revolution. (See Stovall Chapter.)

- 1-8. Keziah Tatom, b. circa 1757, d. 1793, at the time of the writing of her father's will; m. 1) in Granville County, North Carolina, Samuel Goodwin; m. 2) Jesse Newby. Keziah Goodwin Newby remained in North Carolina when her father moved to Georgia, and we have very few records of her family. Some of her Newby children came to Georgia, but the Goodwin descendants remained in North Carolina.

Jesse Newby, husband of Keziah, came to Georgia for he left a will in Wilkes County, listed in Will Book DD, 1799-1792, pp. 92, 94, in the Index, but the will itself was destroyed by fire along with most of the other wills listed in the Index. Abner Tatom was named as Administrator and made a Return November 22, 1801, showing cash from John Lowry, Administrator for Bishop Hicks, deceased, and from Robert H. Taylor, and paid a judgment to Thomas

Walton.<sup>21</sup> On January 17, 1791, in Minutes of the Court, Wilkes County, Georgia, Abner Tatom was appointed Administrator of Jesse Newby, deceased, with John Tatom, security, and William Tatom, witness.<sup>22</sup> In the first Tax list of Wilkes County, undated, Jesse Newby is listed with one poll in Captain Pope's District,<sup>23</sup> and in 1800 John N. Newby, evidently a son of Keziah, gave a receipt for his part of the legacy from John Tatom, Sr.<sup>24</sup>

Samuel Goodwin, first husband of Keziah, left a will in Granville County, North Carolina, signed January 4, 1775, and proved at the February Court, 1775. The will follows:

"In the Name of God Amen I Samuel Goodwin of Granville County Being Sick & weak of body but of Sound & perfect mind & memory do make & ordain this my Last will & testament in Manner & form following that is to Say I give & bequeath to my Loveing wife Kezia Goodwin my best feather bed & furniture Her Rideing Saddle one Cow and Stear one Iron Pot & a frying pan one pale & Pigan & Half a dozen puter plates & Half a dozen Spoons one pyne table & two of the Best guilt trunks Also one puter Dish & Bason & my Dutch oven one pyne Cheft & also my Rideing Horse Also four Barrels of Corn & four Hundred weight of Meat and after my Debts are Paid the Remainder I give to my Son Samuel Goodwin Also i give to Him Burkette on the New Testament Also I give to him my wearing Apparrel & Lastly i do Constitute and Appoint My Father in Law John Tatom and my Brother Lemuel Goodwin Executors of this my last will & Testament hereby Revoking all former Wills and Bequeths by me heretofore made & Declaring this to be my last will & testament In Witness whereof I have Hereunto Set My Hand & Seal this forth Day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand Seven Nundred & Seventy five.

Samuel Goodwin (Seal)

\*John Fullilove Jurat

Edwd. Bullock

Leml. Goodwin Exr. qualified.

Granville County. SS February Court, A.D. 1775

21. Davidson's Early Records of Georgia, Vol. 1, p. 50.

22. Ibidem, Vol. 2, p. 267.

23. Ibidem, Vol. 2, p. 39.

24. Ibidem, Vol. 2, p. 296.



This Will was duly prov'd by the Oath of John Fullilove and on Motion was Order'd to be Recorded at the same time Lemuel Goodwin Qualified as Executor to the said Will.

Teste: Rueben Searcy, C.C.

Truly Recorded by Rueben Searcy, C. C."

1-9. William Tatom, another son of John Tatom, Sr., has been a very elusive person, and few records have been found for him. We know that he came to Georgia with his father and was old enough to be a Revolutionary soldier. From the files of Wilkes county in the Georgia State Archives, in Atlanta, we found the following: "William Tatom: Resolved, as the opinion of this committee that the petition of William Tatom, No. 5, praying payment for a horse, lost while a soldier on duty in Capt. Giles Troop of Horse, prior to the Treaty of Shouderbone, is sufficient proof, and that the petition should be granted." His brothers are: Bernard (Barnett), Absolem, Abel, Abner, and John Tatom, Jr., of Norfolk County, Virginia, and Wilkes County, Georgia.

In 1789, William Tatom witnessed a deed of Edward Jones in Wilkes County, Georgia,<sup>25</sup> and in 1791 he witnessed the will of Jesse Newby.<sup>26</sup> In 1812 he was listed on the Tax Rolls of Hancock County, Georgia, with 481½ acres of land in Hancock, and 202½ acres in Twiggs County. As Administrator for Seth Tatom, he was taxed for 287½ acres in Hancock, and 202½ acres in Wilkes. As Administrator for Nathaniel Tatom, he was taxed for 287 acres in Hancock. Among those entitled to draw from Hancock County in the 1806 Land Lottery for Ocmulgee lands, were: Nathaniel Tatom, Sr., one draw; Nathaniel Tatom, Jr., two draws, and William Tatom, one draw.

#### HOWELL TATOM

There has been much confusion concerning the records and lineage of Howell Tatom because of the fact that there were two men by that name, who were born at about the same time: Howell Tatom of North Carolina and Howell Tatom of Georgia and Alabama. They were evidently kinsmen, and undoubtedly descended from the same Nathaniel Tatom, the emigrant. Both families came from the same

25. Davidson's Early Records of Wilkes County, Georgia, Vol. 2, p. 90.

26. Ibidem, Vol. 2, p. 267.