

TEXAS JOURNEY

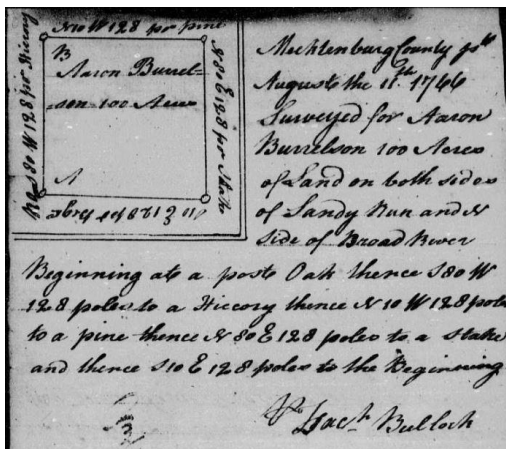
by Gerry Booth

Migration and a Burleson Neighbor

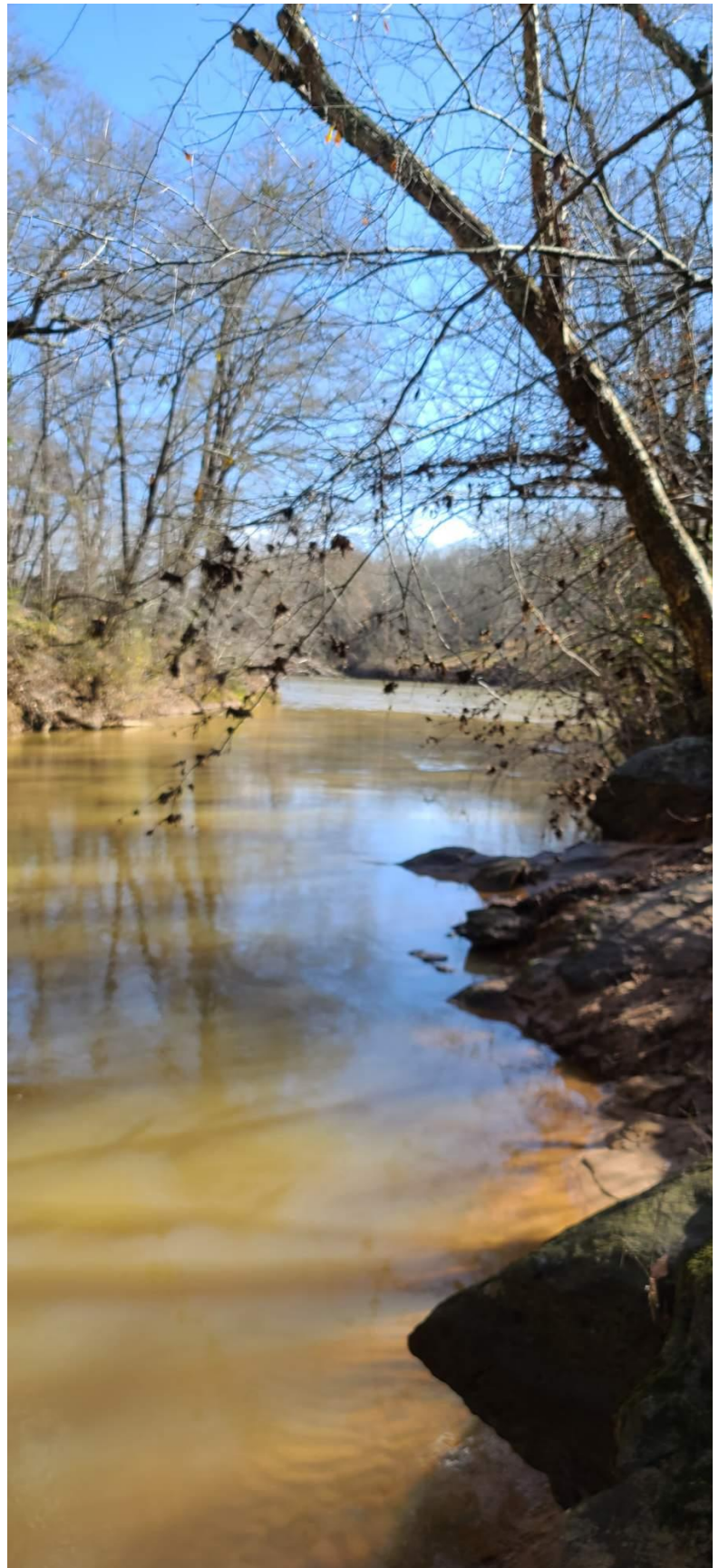
Recently, JD Burleson took a trip to Sandy Run Baptist Church. He met with Pastor Jeff Queen and Associate Pastor Don Allen. They put him in touch with Mr. P. G. Jolly, who took JD on a tour of the area. JD took the photograph to the right. This is the point where the smooth still waters of Sandy Run Creek run into the rippling waters of the Broad River. Mr. Jolly said that his family started acquiring land in this area around the 1800s. There are many Jollys listed on the rolls of Sandy Run Baptist Church during that time. However, before the Jollys, Daniel Shipman and Aaron Burleson owned land in this area.



"Surveyed for Daniel Shipman 200 Acres of Land on Both sides of Sandy Run on the N side Broad River."



"Surveyed for Aaron Burrelson 100 Acres of Land on both sides of Sandy Run and N side of Broad River."



Sandy Run Settlement was a beautiful place to live. In the 1790s, many of the Burleson, Gage, and Shipman family members lived in this area. Why did they leave?

Unfortunately, we do not have a specific answer written by one of our ancestors explaining their reasons for moving, but our family was not alone. "After the Revolutionary War, over 25 percent of the eastern population left older settled regions. Established families could no longer make a living on their eroded lands. Merchants and businessmen had lost their import-export business with England. They were eager to find better living conditions. This began a generations long trek westward as families sought greener pastures and new homes on the ever-expanding American Frontier."¹ The majority of people from Virginia and North Carolina migrated to Kentucky and Tennessee. Many of our family members began their migration by going to Kentucky, a new state in 1792. Between 1790 and 1800 the population of Kentucky nearly tripled. The population grew from 61,133 residents to 179,873.²

On January 31, 1678, Anthony Austin and Edward Burlisson (ABT. 1650-1698) took the oath of Allegiance to His Majestie in Suffield, Connecticut.³ Anthony and Edward were neighbors. Anthony Austin's great-grandson, Moses Austin, gives us a description of the migration to Kentucky. In 1796, when his lead mine in Austinville, Virginia, came to its winter's halt, he set out to inspect the Spanish lead mines on the other side of the Mississippi. The following is what he recorded in his journal:

Nor can anything be more distressing to a man of feeling than to see women and children in the month of December traveling a wilderness through the ice and snow, passing large rivers and creeks without shoe or stocking, and barely as many rags as covers their nakedness, without money or provisions except what the wilderness affords....

Ask these pilgrims what they expect when they get to Kentucky, the answer is land. Have you any? [Austin inquired.] No, but I expect I can get it. Have you anything to pay for land? No. Did you ever see the country? No, but everybody says it's good land.

Can anything be more absurd than the conduct of man? Here is hundreds, traveling hundreds of miles, they know not what for nor whether, except it's to Kentucky, passing land almost as good and easy obtained, the proprietors of which would gladly give on any terms. But it will not do. It's not Kentucky. It's not the Promised Land. It's not the goodly inheritance, the land of Milk and Honey.

The desperate search for land was astonishing to behold, and Austin, though not a farmer himself, couldn't help being moved by its power. Perhaps unconsciously, he filed a mental note."⁴ Moses Austin was the father of "The Father of Texas."

When the 1796 Great Migration begins, many members of the Burleson, Gage, and Shipman family moved to Kentucky. Many of the records were burned during the War of 1812. Some of these family members can be found on the tax lists for Warren County, Kentucky, from 1797,⁵ 1799,⁶ and 1800.⁷ Deeds, marriage bonds, and court records help to place who was where. I have not covered every family member. I have only listed people with names I recognized, but as I started documenting, I found more connections. This project may take years. If you have additional information, please share by contacting JD Burleson at bfrginfo@gmail.com.

¹ "United States Migration Patterns 1784 to 1839," FamilySearch June 2012,

[https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/United_States_Migration_Patterns_1784_to_1839_\(National_Institute\)](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/United_States_Migration_Patterns_1784_to_1839_(National_Institute))

² Roseann Reinemuth Hogan, "Pioneer Migration to Kentucky," Bobbystuff, <https://www.bobbystuff.com/genealogy/214/pioneer-migration-to-kentucky> (accessed on February 7, 2021).

³ "Court Records Hampden & Hampshire Counties, Massachusetts 1678-1692, *Burleson Family Bulletin* Vol. 8 No.2, 1988: 1003.

⁴ H. W. Brands, "The Promised Land," *Lone Star Nation The Epic Story of the Battle for Texas Independence*, (New York, Anchor Books A Division of Random House, Inc., 2005), 9.

⁵ "1797 Warren County Tax List," Burgoo, September 20, 2017, <http://www.burgoo.com/taxlist1797.html>

⁶ Sandi Gorin, "Warren County Tax List – 1799," <http://kykinfolk.com/warren/1799TaxList.htm> (accessed on February 7, 2021).

⁷ Sandi Gorin, "Warren County Tax List –1800," <http://kykinfolk.com/warren/1800TaxList.htm> (accessed on February 7, 2021).

The following underlined names were on at least one of the Warren County tax lists. I have tried to group the names with their families and give information to help with their identity.

DAVIDSON

FAMILY GROUP: **ALEXANDER DAVIDSON (1744–1817) and ANNA BRIDGES (1744–1783)**^{1ST WIFE}

- **ALEXANDER DAVIDSON** (1744-1817) married **ANNA BRIDGES** (1746-1783) in 1768, probably in Virginia. Anna died in 1783, and in April of that year, Alexander remarried **MARY ELLIS** (1762-1849). He began preaching at Sandy Run Baptist Church in 1795. He moved his family to Warren County, where he became the first pastor of Mount Tabor Church, which he helped to found in 1798.

Based on the assumption that every member of Sandy Run Baptist Church that was on the church rolls from 1782 to 1804 was related to each other, Alexander should be a family member. On Ancestry, setting the home person to Daniel Shipman, Sr. I checked Alexander's relationship to Daniel Shipman, Sr. Daniel Shipman, Sr. is the *father-in-law of the brother-in-law of the uncle of the wife of step great-grandnephew*. In other words, Alexander's daughter was **MARGARET DAVIDSON** (1772-1860), her husband was **RUBIN BOSTICK** (1772-1813), his father was **CHARLES BOSTICK** (1745-1813), his daughter was **NANCY SCOGGIN BOSTICK** (1776-1813), her husband was **JOHN STREET HARRILL** (1778-1836), his father was **HOUSAND HARRILL** (1747-1809), his son was **GILBERT HARRILL** (1782-1864), his daughter was **MARTHA FARMER HARRILL** (1816-), her husband was **CORNELIUS GREEN** (1807-1896), his mother was **MARY GAGE** (1760-1846), her father was **DAVID GAGE** (1734-1805), his father was also named **DAVID GAGE** (1701-1805), his father was **NICHOLAS GAGE** (1685-1720), his wife was **MRS. ESTHER SCHIFFMAN/SHIPMAN** (1685-1720), she was the mother of **DANIEL SHIPMAN SR.** (1715-1798). Some of the relationships are just through marriage, but they are a part of the big family. Alexander did have a relationship to Daniel.

- **JOHN DAVIDSON** (1770-1844), son of Alexander and Anna, married **RACHEL ELLIS** (1770-1846), the youngest sister of his stepmother, Mary Ellis. John was received into the fellowship of Sandy Run Baptist Church in October 1788.
- **HEZEKIAH DAVIDSON** (1773-1841), son of Alexander and Anna, married **LETTICE ISBELL** on October 15, 1798, in Rutherford County, North Carolina. After Lettice's death, he married **ELLENOR WILSON** on November 24, 1800.

SHIPMAN/SCHIFFMAN

FAMILY GROUP: **DANIEL SHIPMAN, SR. (1715–1798) and ELIZABETH BURLESON (1715–1789)**^{1ST WIFE}
and PHOEBE STANTON/STATON (1720–1820)^{2ND WIFE}

- **DANIEL SHIPMAN** - Tax records from Warren County, Kentucky, in 1797 show one Daniel Shipman. This record could be for **DANIEL SHIPMAN, SR.** (1715-1798), married to his second wife **PHOEBE STANTON/STATON** (1720-1820). Daniel died in 1798, and his will was probated in Warren County.
- **ISAAC CRAWFORD** (1758–1833) was married to **PHOEBE SHIPMAN** (1755–1766), the daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth.
- **ROBERT ABEL LEE** (1745-1815) was the son of **ABEL LEE** (1710-1780) and **ANN LEE** (1714-1780). (Abel and Ann are from two different lines of Lees.) Robert married **ANNA HANNAH SHIPMAN** (1746-1818), the daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth.
ISAAC BURLESON LEE (1764-1850) was the son of Robert and Anna (Shipman) Lee. He married **SARAH PHEBE LANDERS** (1765- 1850) in 1789 in Rutherford County, North Carolina.
- **JACOB SISCO** (1755-1816) was the son of **JOHN "FRANCISCO" SISCO** (ABT. 1725-ABT. 1806) and **REBECCA** (ABT. 1750 -). Jacob married **REBECCA SHIPMAN** (1754– 1817) about 1784 in North Carolina. Rebecca was the daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth.
- **SARAH HARRINGTON** (ABT. 1740-ABT. 1790) was the oldest daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth. She was the widow of **THOMAS HARRINGTON** (1740-1789), who died in Rutherford County, North Carolina.

FAMILY GROUP: DANIEL SHIPMAN, JR. (1747–1831) and MARY ELIZABETH MCMINN (1752–1808)

- **DANIEL SHIPMAN** - On the 1799 Tax List for Warren County, there is a DANIEL SHIPMAN. Since this was after the death of Daniel Shipman Sr., this Daniel is Daniel Shipman Jr. Daniel, Jr. was married to **MARY ELIZABETH MCMINN**. Elizabeth was the daughter of **ABRAHAM MCMINN** (1719-1778) and **ELIZABETH VAN ZANDT** (1735-1800).
- **GEORGE REED** (1754-1834) was the father of **JOHN REED** (A.B.T. 1775-A.B.T. 1835), who married **HANNAH ANNA SHIPMAN** (1780-1855). Hannah was the daughter of Daniel and Mary Elizabeth.
- Nancy Shipman, daughter of Daniel, Jr. and Mary Elizabeth married Peter Saling. See *Saling, Peter*

FAMILY GROUP: EDWARD SHIPMAN (1742–1814) and ELIZABETH AUSTIN MERRILL (1747–1790)

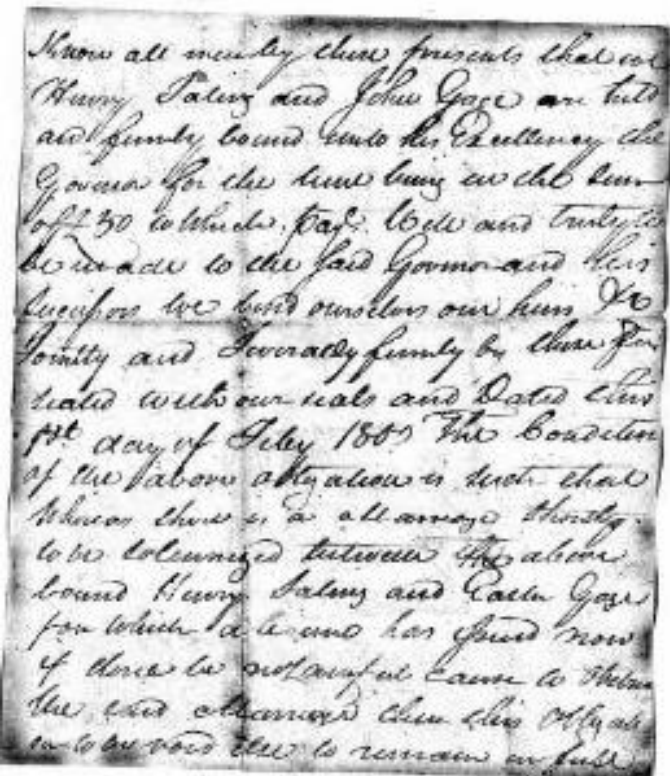
- **MOSES SHIPMAN** (1774-1838) was the son of Edward and Elizabeth. He married **MARY DAVIS ROBINSON** (1783-1842). Mary Robinson was the daughter of **JOHN CARR ROBINSON** (1749-1845) and **JANE GAINES BARR** (1764-1855).

FAMILY GROUP: JACOB SHIPMAN (1746–1794) and SARAH KUYKENDALL (1749–1830)

- Sarah (Kuykendall) Shipman, widow of Jacob Shipman, married George Saling. See *Saling, George*.
- Jo Elizabeth Shipman, daughter of Jacob and Sarah Shipman, married James Burleson. See *Burleson, James*.

SALING/SALLING/SOLLEY

FAMILY GROUP: GEORGE ADAM SALING (1736–1788) and JANE^{1ST WIFE} and ELIZABETH^{2ND WIFE}



- **HENRY SALING**⁸ (1778-1858) was the son of George and Elizabeth. Henry married **HESTER GAGE** (1779-). **DANIEL GAGE** (1756-1820) signed the document giving Henry permission to marry his daughter Hester. William Chaplin and Isaac Crawford also signed the document.

- **WILLIAM SALING** (1774-1817), the son of George and Jane, married **MARY "MOLLY" GAGE** (1775-1840) in Warren County in 1800. Mary was the daughter of Daniel Gage (1756-1820).

⁸ Folklife Archives, Manuscripts & "Warren County, Kentucky Marriage Records (MSS 230)," Western Kentucky University TopSCHOLAR, 2008, https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1586&context=dlsc_mss_fin_aid (image # 29)

- **GEORGE SALING**⁹ (1770-1848) was the son of George and Jane. In 1800, he married **SARAH (KUYKENDALL) SHIPMAN** (ABT. 1749-AFT. 1830) in Warren County, Kentucky. Sarah was the widow of **JACOB SHIPMAN** (1746-1794), the son of Daniel and Elizabeth (Burlleson) Shipman.
- **PETER SALING** (1782-1857) was the son of George and Elizabeth. Peter married **NANCY SHIPMAN** (1752-1808), the daughter of Daniel, Jr. and Mary Elizabeth (McMinn) Shipman in Warren County, on May 13, 1802. **ALEXANDER DAVIDSON** solemnized the marriage.

GAGE/GAUGE

FAMILY GROUP:

DAVID GAGE (1734–1805) and ESTHER SHIPMAN (1730–1775)

- **DANIEL GAGE**¹⁰ (1756-1820) was the son of David and Esther. Daniel left North Carolina with his brother Aaron, apparently attracted by the offers of land. The state of Kentucky was giving prospective settlers "headright claims."

Mary Gage, daughter of Daniel Gage, married William Saling. See *Saling, William*

- **AARON GAGE** (1758-1844) was the son of David and Esther. Aaron married **NANCY CARTER** (1768-1833) on May 28, 1782, in Rutherford County, North Carolina. In 1780, Aaron served in a troop called "Dragoons" under Captain Thomas Harvey attached to Colonel Samuel Marmon's regiment during the American Revolution. In May of 1781, Aaron joined General Green's army under General Pickens and Captain Richard Johnson's command and fought at Eutaw Springs. After the Revolutionary War, Aaron went to Warren County, Kentucky.

While in Warren, on June 21, 1800, Aaron's daughter **HANNAH GAGE** (1783-1849) married **JOHN "ONE-EYED" SMITH** (1778-). "One-Eyed" John Smith was the founder of Smith's Grove, Kentucky.¹¹ "Hanna's sister, Ester [Hester], was married at same time to Henry Solley [Saling] by the same minister, Henry Jones, so it must have been a double wedding."¹²

Aaron's son **JOHN GAGE** (1788-1836) was born in Rutherford County, North Carolina. He was raised in Warren County, Kentucky, until about 1802. Then his family moved to Tennessee. He married **MARYANN ARBAUGH** (1798-1876) and had eight children. He was found guilty of passing a counterfeit banknote and was sentenced to the Tennessee State Penitentiary for three years in 1834. He died on March 14, 1836.

Aaron's daughter **MARY ESTHER GAGE** (1798-1870) was born in Warren County. She married **CHARLES W. WESTERMAN** (1798-1834) on September 17, 1818. Aaron was living with Mary in Lincoln County, Tennessee, when he died.

- Nancy Gage, daughter of David and Esther Gage, married Joseph Burlleson. See *Burlleson, Joseph*
- **JOHN GAGE** (1762-1817) was the son of David and Esther.
- **MOSES GAGE** (1764-ABT. 1830) was the son of David and Esther. Moses married **SARAH "SALLY" WOOD** (1765-1789).
- **RUBEN GAGE** (1770-1844) was the son of David and Esther. Ruben married **ABIGAIL BURLESON** (1771-1865), a niece of Elizabeth (Burlleson) Shipman. Abigail's parents were Aaron (Washington County Will) and Rachel Burlleson.

⁹ I spell "Saling" with one "L" because this is the way Daniel Shipman spelled it in his book *Frontier Life* and this is the way it is spelled on the marriage record in Kentucky

¹⁰ G. Glen Clift, "Second Census" of Kentucky 1800, Ancestry.com, 1954,

https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/3720/images/gpc_secondcensusk-0121?treeid=47024475&personid=372142151404&hintid=1026884166629&usePUB=true&_phsrc=FGc17638&_phstart=default&usePUBJs=true&ga=2.219403098.291953678.1615331088-1830654357.1613251000&pid=9963 (120).

¹¹ Kentucky Library Research Collections, "Traces Volume 3, Number 2," *Traces, The Southern Central Kentucky, Barren County Genealogical newsletter, Paper 38*, Western Kentucky University TopSCHOLAR, July 1975, https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1586&context=dlsc_mss_fin_aid (image # 30).

¹² Bryan Harrison, "How Pocahontas Came To Texas," *Local History and Genealogy Society Dallas, Texas*, December 1972, http://dallasgenealogy.com/DGS_Docs/Quarterlies/1972/December/PDF/DGS_Journal_1972_December_Vol_18_Num_4.pdf (165).

Reuben was in Rutherford Co. in 1790 and 1800. He appears to have gone to the same location in Kentucky as did the others at a later date for we find him receiving a grant of 200 acres of land in Warren Co. Sinking Creek under date of 27 Aug 1799. A Moses Gage received a similar grant 24 Aug 1799. On Reuben Gage, this land grant is of record in "Kentucky Land Grants" page 316 by W. R. Jillson. By way of explanation: they are commonly called "headright" claims which were granted to anyone who would settle and clear this land. They do not denote military service. The number of acres, water course and date are given. Often these claims were not taken up but the record stands. The settlers were to settle in and improve the land and that was the only condition. As Reuben was still in Rutherford Co., in 1800 and his brother Moses was not, it is quite evident that Moses settled on Reuben's property sometime in 1799. Reuben looked to his father's interests until he could leave Rutherford Co.¹³

BURLISON/BURLESON/BURLESSON/BURLISSON/BURLEYSTON

FAMILY GROUP: **JONATHAN BURLISON (1704–1755) and SARAH CAMP (1700–ABT. 1756)**

- Henrietta "Dolly" Burleson married John J. Russell. See *Russell, John J.*

FAMILY GROUP: **AARON BURLISON (1722–1784) (WASHINGTON COUNTY WILL) and RACHEL (ABT. 1730–ABT. 1800)**

- **RACHEL BURLISON** (ABT. 1730 – ABT. 1800) was the widow of Aaron Burlison, who, according to legend, was killed by Indians on his way to visit his friend Daniel Boone.
- **DAVID ALLARD** (1776-1816) married **MARY BURLESON** (1760-1818) in Warren County in 1799. Mary was the daughter of Aaron and Rachel. David's father was **HARDY (HENRY) ALLARD** (1741-1816), who was also on the tax list.
- Abigail Burleson, daughter of Aaron and Rachel, married Ruben Gage. See *Gage, Ruben*
- **JAMES BURLESON** (1775-1836) was the son of Aaron and Rachel. James married the daughter of Jacob and Sarah (Kuykendall) Shipman, **JO ELIZABETH SHIPMAN** (1770-1834). After Jo Elizabeth died, James married **MRS. MARY RANDOLPH (BUCHANAN) CHRISTIAN** (ABT. 1758-1872).
- **JOHN BURLESON** (1767-1824) was the son of Aaron and Rachel. John married **ABAGAIL ADAIR** (ABT. 1770-1824) first and then **MARY "POLLY" HODGES** (1767-1847).
- **JONATHAN BURLESON** (1768-1830) was the son of Aaron and Rachel. He was married first to **MARY BLACKMAN** (1767-) and then to **MARGARET PULLIAM** (1775-1815) in Warren County in 1818.
- **JOSEPH BURLESON** (1770-1849) was the son of Aaron and Rachel. Joseph made a trip to Warren County, Kentucky, where three of his brothers, James, John, and Jonathan, had moved in 1796. He made arrangements for a land grant and returned to North Carolina for his family. Sometime during 1800, he moved his family to Warren County. Joseph **Burleson** was married to **NANCY GAGE** (1772-1815), the daughter of David and Esther (Shipman) Gage, on February 20, 1790. After Nancy's death, Joseph married **ELIZABETH AILOR/AYLOR** (1788-1857) on February 15, 1815, in Madison County, Alabama.

A record of Joseph and his brother John appears on October 2, 1798, at a Court held for Warren County. "Ordered that **JOSEPH BURLESON, JOHN BURLESON, William Barker and GEORGE GREEN** (ABT.1755- 1834) do view the highest and best way for a road leading from Warren Courthouse to **THOMAS CHAPMAN'S** & make report to the Court."¹⁴ Thomas Chapman lived in a stockade dwelling located about four or five miles from McFadin's Station on the Barren River.

¹³ John A. Gage, "The North Carolina Gage Family – Revised," *The Gage Family Newsletter*, xi.

¹⁴ Kentucky Library Research Collections, "Longhunter, Southern Kentucky Genealogical Society Newsletter Volume 11, Number 1," 1988, 10, https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1039&context=longhunter_sokvgsn

“Here every morning, with a beat of drum and shouldered muskets, he marched around the stockade at the head of his family.”¹⁵ Thomas was an American Revolution veteran. George Greene was also a Revolutionary War veteran who had enlisted in Captain Robert Porter’s Tyron County, North Carolina Militia. His wife was **LUCY JONES** (1758-1834)

FAMILY GROUP:**AARON BURLESON (1754–1785) and VOLLEY HOGAN (ABT. 1730–ABT. 1800)**

- **ANDREW MCFADIN** (1754-1816) was a widower in Warren County, Kentucky, when he married **VOLLEY (HOGAN) BURLEYSTON** (1750-1851), the widow of **AARON BURLEYSTON** (1754-1785), the son of Aaron and Rachel Burleson, on March 12, 1799. Like his father, Aaron was killed by Indians.

Volley (Hogan) (Burleson) McFadin’s brother was **EDWARD HOGAN** (1760-1827), who married **ELIZABETH HENDRICKS** (1765-1848). Elizabeth Hendricks was the sister of **RACHEL HENDRICKS** (1745-1817), who married **WILLIAM MCFADIN** (-1812), Andrew McFadin’s brother. Rachel and Elizabeth Hendrick’s brother was Thomas Hendricks (1755-).

Four of Aaron and Volley’s children were married in Warren County, Kentucky. These Burleson children’s great aunt was Henrietta "Dolly" (Burleson) Russell, who was in Warren County.

JOHN BURLISON (1785-1860) married **MILDRED “MILLIE” HENDRICKS** (ABT.1785-1840) on September 4, 1805. Milly’s father was **JOHN HENDRICKS** (1734-1791), and her mother was **ELIZABETH NEIL** (1735-1809).

AARON BURLISON (1786-1866) married **ELIZABETH HAMPTON** (1789-1875) in 1805.

MOSES BURLISON (1784-1829) married **DELILAH HOGAN** (1786-1850) on March 9, 1805. Moses Burleson and **THOMAS HENDRICK** executed the marriage bond with **WILLIAM CHAPLIN** as the witness.

RACHEL BURLISON (1781-1848) married **SAMUEL GILL** (1775-1851) on June 9, 1804.

Andrew McFadin and his older brother William were the founders of McFadin's Bluff, which later became Mount Vernon, Indiana.¹⁶

RUSSELL

FAMILY GROUP:**WILLIAM RUSSELL (1679–1757) and MARTHA HENLEY (1692–)**

- **CAPTAIN GEORGE RUSSELL** (1720-1796) was the son of William and Martha. He married **ELIZABETH BEAN** (1723-1800). George was a captain under Col. John Sevier in the battle of King’s Mountain.

George was the brother of **JOHN J. RUSSELL** (ABT.1722-Abt.1812), who married **HENRIETTA “DOLLY” BURLESON**¹⁷ (1724-1789) the daughter of **JONATHAN BURLESON** (1704-1755) and **SARAH CAMP** (1700-1756).

George was the brother of **LYDIA RUSSELL**, who married **CAPTAIN WILLIAM BEAN** (1721-1782), whose family for four generations had been master gunsmiths.

Lydia was captured by Cherokees and was sentenced to execution. She was being tied to a stake when Nancy Ward, "Beloved Woman" of the Cherokees, saved her. She convinced the Cherokees that Lydia could instruct them in making butter and cheese. Lydia was spared. Her brother George was killed by Indians while hunting in Washington County in 1796. Lydia's daughter Jane was killed by Indians in 1798 while working her loom outside the walls of Bean's Station.

¹⁵ Kentucky Library Research Collections, “Longhunter, Southern Kentucky Genealogical Society Newsletter Volume 18, Number 2,” 1995, 10, https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1039&context=longhunter_sokygsn

¹⁶ Maude A. McFadin, “William, Eldest Son of John Stephen McFadin,” *The John Stephen McFadin Family of North Carolina, Kentucky, Indiana and Kansas*, (Kansas: Mennonite Press Inc, 1971), <http://dangel.net/AMERICA/Gass/McFadinBook/MaudeMcFadinBook.html>

¹⁷ “Church Records,” http://www.ajlambert.com/history/hst_scbc.pdf (4-5)

(Captain George Russell had sons named John, George, and William. Tax lists in Warren County have these same three names. I believe that this places the following Russells in the vicinity of Warren County around 1800.)

- **MAJOR WILLIAM RUSSELL** (1762-1825) was the son of Captain George and Elizabeth (Bean) Russell and the nephew of Dolly (Burluson) Russell. Major Russell served under Maj. General Andrew Jackson in the War of 1812. He and **JAMES BURLESON** (1775-1836) led Mississippi companies during the war.
- **GEORGE RUSSELL** (1794-1832) was the son of William and Agnes and the grandnephew of Dolly (Burluson) Russell. George's best friend was Davy Crockett. In his autobiography, Davy Crockett described being at Beaty's Spring just past Huntsville, Alabama, during the War of 1812. A Major Gibson wanted some volunteers.

*He came to my captain, and asked for two of his best woodsmen, and such as were best with a rifle. The captain pointed me out to him, and said he would be security that I would go as far as the major would himself, or any other man. I willingly engaged to go with him, and asked him to let me choose my own mate to go with me, which he said I might do. I chose a young man by the name of George Russell, a son of old Major Russell of Tennessee. I called him up, but Major Gibson said he thought he hadn't beard enough to please him, — he wanted men, and not boys. I must confess I was a little nettled at this; for I know'd George Russel and I know'd there was no mistake in him; and I didn't think that courage ought to be measured by the beard, for fear a goat would have the preference over a man. I told the major he was on the wrong scent; that Russell could go as far as he could, and I must have him along. He saw I was a little wrathful, and said I had the best chance of knowing, and agreed that it should be as I wanted it. He told us to be ready early in the morning for a start; and so we were.*¹⁸

Buddy Ebsen played George in Disney's Davy Crockett Films.¹⁹



At the death of Major Russell, his gun was given to James Burluson, who had it restocked and sent to his brother, Joseph Burluson, in 1839. In 1849 it was given to Joe Burluson, Jr., who used it in the battle of Plum Creek, near Lockhart, Texas. Then the gun was given to John F. Burluson, who had the original flintlock made into a percussion lock. The gun is now at the Alamo.

It is amazing how many people, over a short period of a few years, picked up their belongings, gathered their family, and moved westward. There are other family members that moved to Warren County, Kentucky, not mentioned in this article. Even though this is not a complete list of the Burluson, Gage, and Shipman family that migrated to Warren County, Kentucky together, this list does illustrate how large the family was becoming. This list also demonstrates how connected the family stayed. Some Burlusons and McFadins stayed in Mount Vernon, Indiana, but as early as 1802, many of the family members moved on to Tennessee. The journey to Texas, according to Daniel Shipman in *Frontier Life*, had not yet begun.

¹⁸ Davy Crockett, "Chapter V.," *A Narrative of the Life of David Crockett, of the State of Tennessee*, Sixth ed. (Baltimore: Carey, Hart & Co., 1834), 64. <https://play.google.com/books/reader?id=vl2-pBghhEEC&hl=en&pg=GBS.PA73.w.1.2>.

¹⁹ "George Russell (Born: Abt. 1793. Tennessee)," Sims Genealogy, April 26, 2009, <http://the-sims-family.net/genealogy/sims/index.htm>