

## GENERATION SIX

LEWIS HALL, JR. AND NANCY COLLEY

(1753-1821)

(1777-1858)

SAMUEL SELLERS JR. AND MARY BISHOP

MATTHIAS JOHNSON

(1741-1799)

Lewis Hall, Jr. was born in North Carolina on June 25, 1753, and was the son of our second-generation ancestor, Lewis Hall. We want to take a careful look at Lewis, Jr. because of the incredible life that he led.

Lewis was a lieutenant in the Revolutionary War, and was wounded, taken prisoner and confined for some time in prison in Charleston, S. C. Later, he was "exchanged" and rejoined his command, serving until the close of the war. Returning home to Bladen County, he married Flora Beaty and their first child was born June 27, 1776. North Carolina deed records show several purchases and sales of land by him and are very explicit.

Following is a list of the children born to Lewis and Flora:

Bridget	b. June 27, 1776 m. Sion Hall, A. O. Smith
Thomas	b. June 27, 1778 m. Permelia Swilley
Enoch	b. March 3, 1780 m. Elizabeth----
Lewis III	b. March 12, 1782 m. Rebecca----
Alston	b. Sept. 23, 1785 m. unknown
Isaac	b. Jan. 5, 1788 m. unknown
John	b. April 15, 1793 m. unknown

Looking at the dates of birth of children often gives us a clue as to what was going on in the lives of the family. Our information comes from Bible records owned by a true descendant of Lewis, and show that Nancy Colly (Colley) became the second wife about 1795. Nancy was born in N. C. in 1777, died in Georgia in 1858. Children born to Lewis and Nancy:

Flora	b. Feb. 12, 1796 m. James Kemp
INSTANCE	b. April 28, 1800 m. DRUSILLA SELLARS
Piety	b. Dec. 11, 1805 m. Henry Cook

Priscilla	b. Dec 11, 1805 m. B. H. Smith
Seaborn	b. March 3, 1807 m. Ann Gainey, Crissie (Creasy) Quinn
James	b. Feb. 22, 1809 m. Rebecca Bell, Ava Mann
Rebecca	b. Dec. 28, 1810 m. Daniel D. Davis
Jehu	b. May 20, 1813 m. Catherine Johnson

(We are interested in Jehu Hall only because he was the brother of Instance and therefore, the son of Lewis Jr., but also because he married Catherine Johnson, daughter of Malcolm, which makes her the sister of Mariah Johnson (our grandmother who is buried in Seville).

This is, of course, a case of brothers marrying sisters. It also introduces us to a new set of "grandparents" on our maternal lineage.

Jehu and Catherine's children were Rebecca, Sarah, Lewis, Nancy, Catherine, Mariah, Instance, Jehu, Jr., Seaborn. James Seward and Lucretia. Names are going to get confusing, but we must remember that the last name of these children is HALL and their MOTHER was a Johnson...the SISTER of OUR Mariah Johnson Hall. These children listed above therefore become the nieces and nephews of our Mariah. Jehu and Catherine are buried at Zoar. He died June 13, 1877, she died in 1893.)

Fathering seven children by his first wife, and eleven by his second, we will have to consider Lewis as one of our most prolific ancestors. He was 66 when the last child was born and Nancy was 44. Only one child is recorded as dying early.

It is easy to "bog down" in dates and not see the true picture of this man's life. From old records, it appears that Lewis, his brothers Thomas, Enoch and Instance and their sister Mary Hall Gilmore all moved to Georgia from North Carolina in the early 1790s.

We seem to lose Mrs. Gilmore at this point and Thomas died in 1811. The other brothers may appear as we study this family. Many, many families migrated from North Carolina into Georgia and inter-marriage between the

families produced our ancestors on paternal as well as maternal sides of our Hall lineage.

Why our families settled in the area northeast of the Altamaha River is unknown. The invention of the cotton gin in 1793 lured many settlers into Georgia, and the more prosperous settled in the fertile lands in the "cotton belt" along a line from Augusta to Columbus. The section chosen by our ancestors was not fertile land and was actually an unbroken forest of huge pine trees. The floor of the forest was carpeted by thick "wiregrass" which offered year-round protection for wildlife. The area was a huge hunting ground for the Creek Indians, and their presence was the factor which kept the early settlers from crossing the Altamaha River into Indian territory. Not until 1818 were the Indians finally forced to cede this area to Georgia, and immediately Appling County was created...extending from the river south to the Florida border.

Lewis and his family seemed to have lived in several different location in this area according to various legal records. He is first found in Montgomery County in 1797, as a taxpayer. On September 3, 1798, he was commissioned as a lieutenant in that county's militia, serving in the "Silver Bluff Company". He moved to Wilkinson County in 1804 and one year later, he moved to Tattnall County, where records show him as a juror in July, 1805, road-hand in 1806, grand juror in 1810. He was granted a tavern and liquor license in 1810 and was also granted 283 acres of land in 1811. He served in the War of 1812 as a private in a militia detachment from January to March, 1814 at Ft. Perry. At this time, Lewis was 59 years old.

Lewis died on April 22, 1821 in Tattnall County. He left a will which the court found to be "too informal" to be recorded and it was rejected on August 1, 1821. His widow, Nancy and our ancestor INSTANCE were appointed as administrators of the estate in November, 1821. His grave site is known to be on the bluffs overlooking the Altamaha River valley in what is now Toombs County, and it is shown on the U. S. Dept. of Interior geological maps, not too far from the present Montgomery/Toombs County

line. It is near the crossing of the Altamaha River where he operated a ferry during his long and varied career. The DAR marked the grave of this old patriot. The headstone has been moved and is presently located in Old Smyrna Cemetery on the road which follows the north bank of the Altamaha in Toombs County, just off U. S. 1. Note: As of 2002, the headstone has disappeared completely.....obviously stolen.

#### NANCY COLLEY

No actual information on her ancestral line has been found.

WHAT A WONDERFUL LEGACY HE LEFT FOR US, THE DESCENDANTS OF LEWIS HALL, JR., REVOLUTIONARY WAR SOLDIER AND GEORGIA PIONEER!!

#### MATTHIAS JOHNSON

Matthias Johnson becomes yet another of our ancestors to have fought in the Revolutionary War. Not much is know about him other than the fact that he was living near Wilmington, NC when Malcolm was born. He seems to have immigrated to this country from Scotland. According to Kay Johnson Bohler, a cousin living in Augusta, he had two sons, JOHN and MALCOLM. Kay has written a genealogy based book about his family and I have it. Kay says Matthias was a son of John Johnson, and that he was a Revolutionary War soldier under Capt. Childs, 10<sup>th</sup> Continental Army which he joined in Hillsborough District, Orange County, NC. His wife was a Smith. His children were JOHN (1774-1845) who married Mary (Polly) Love, and MALCOLM (1797-1862) who married Sarah Davis. We descend from MALCOLM.

Matthias' son named John is interesting....so here is his story. He moved to Georgia about 1805, settling in Tattnall County, then in 1820, he moved across the Altahama into Appling County. He had: Daniel (1800-47) m. Justine Douglas, Duncan (1806-57) m. Lujoice Sellers, who was a daughter of Samuel and Mary Z. Bishop Sellers. Mary Z's father was William Bishop of Effingham County. Next came a daughter, Flora (1808-1854) who m. Thos.

Howell Courson, then James (1813-1878) who m. Elizabeth Smith, then John, Jr. who m. Mary Johnson ( a cousin?); Martha (1818-1887) who never married but had THREE KNOWN CHILDREN BY SEABORN HALL!!!. Finally, there was Mary (1814-1860) who m. Sampson Altman, Jr.

### SAMUEL SELLERS, JR. AND MARY BISHOP

We know very little about the Sellers family. They were the parents of :  
Samuel III who married Nancy Carter  
Cinderella who married James Lee  
Lujoice who married Duncan Johnson  
Freeman W. who married Ann Summerall  
Lemuel who married Eliza Hall (daughter of Seaborn)  
It might be fun to look for this family on the computer.