

MY PATERNAL ANCESTORS

THE SAMS FAMILY

"OUR DEAD ARE NEVER LOST TO US UNTIL WE HAVE FORGOTTEN THEM."

BY:

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Decatur, Georgia

1958

MY SEA ISLAND ANCESTORS

THE SAMS FAMILY

An expedition under William Hilton explored the coast of Carolina in 1663, and the observations were published in London in 1664. PORT ROYAL, which had been explored by the French in 1562 and by the Spaniards from 1566 to 1587, had received highest recommendations as suitable to "plant a settlement."

In January 1665 Sir John Yeamans was appointed Lieutenant General and Governor of Carolina by the Lords Proprietors, who had received the Province of Carolina under a grant from Charles II.

In November 1665 Sir John Yeamans headed an expedition of three vessels to Charles Town (Cape Fear, North Carolina), but soon became discouraged and returned to the Barbadoes.

On June 16, 1666 Secretary Sandford sailed from Charles Town to explore the coast of Carolina in the vicinity of Port Royal. The surgeon of Sanford's fleet was a young Englishman named HENRY WOODWARD. Observing the respect with which the Indians of Port Royal received the Englishmen, Dr. Woodward decided to remain there among the Indians and learn their language, in order to be of greater service to the Proprietors. DR. HENRY WOODWARD, THEREFORE, BECAME THE FIRST SETTLER OF THE PRESENT STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

In August 1669 three ships (called the FIRST FLEET) - the "Carolina", the "Port Royal", and the "Albermarle" - were assembled in the Downes and sailed for the Barbadoes, which was reached in October. On the 2nd of November a storm destroyed the Albermarle at Barbadoes. A substitute ship was obtained and the fleet sailed on, but was forced to "put-in" at the Island of NEVIS. Here they found DR. HENRY WOODWARD, who had been left three years before by the Sanford Expedition at Port Royal. The Spaniards had heard of Dr. Woodward's presence at Port Royal and had captured him and taken him to St. Augustine. He was rescued by Captain Searle and taken to the Leeward Islands, from whence he shipped as surgeon on a privateer that was wrecked at NEVIS by the same storm that had wrecked the "Albermarle" at the Barbadoes.

This expedition reached what is now called "Bulls's Bay" on February 15, 1670, and, after several days there, it moved down to PORT ROYAL, The Cassique of Kiawah joined the expedition at Bull's Bay and convinced the leaders that Port Royal would be constantly menaced by the Spaniards - so the company moved up to the Kiawah, or ASHLEY RIVER, and settled on its South bank. They at first called their settlement "ALBERMARLE POINT" but in December 1670 an order was received from England to call it CHARLES TOWN in honor of the King (the Charles Town on the Cape Fear having been abandoned at that time). The FIRST COMPANY OF ENGLISH SETTLERS were about 200 in number.

The first Governor was William Sayle, who died after one year. By the year 1682 Oysterpoint had supplanted the name and dignity of the old Charles Town. After 50 years - during which time there was a struggle against almost every evil imaginable (religious anesities, Indians, National antipathies, political prejudices, etc.) - the Colony was transferred from the Proprietors to the immediate dependence on the Crown. The Revolution

of 1719 was typical of the greater Revolution of 1776 - the lesson, the right of the people to provide in their own way for the enjoyment of their inalienable rights. Burke called the Carolinas the "Cavalier Colonies" and stated that they "attracted members of the wealthier classes." In 1671 Berkeley wrote - "Every man instructs his children according to his ability - there were no schools."

Dr. Henry Woodward, the first English settler in South Carolina (and who returned, after his capture by the Spaniards, with the First Company of English settlers), lived but 16 years in South Carolina after his return in 1670, yet he made a lasting impression on the history of South Carolina, Although the last of his descendants of the name WOODWARD was a great-granddaughter who married Stephen Bull, of Sheldon, he has many distinguished descendants on female lines. In those 16 years of his life in South Carolina he led traders from Charles Town far into the forests of the southwest and established trade and friendship with the Indians and brought wealth to the settlement. He also introduced MADAGASCAR rice culture into South Carolina about 1682. Dr. Henry Woodward's first wife was named "Margaret" (Vol. 8 - South Carolina Historical and Gen. Magazines - page 173) as shown in Warrant Book 1672-1692. No record of issue by this marriage. His second wife was MARY GODFREY, daughter of Colonel John Godfrey, Senior. Dr. Woodward wrote a letter to his "father-in-law" Col. John Godfrey, Senior, in 1686 and Colonial Godfrey's will is dated 1689/90; therefore, Dr. Woodward died between 1686 and 1690, for he was deceased when Colonel Godfrey made his will. It is stated that Dr. Woodward was born about 1646. He was made Deputy of Lord Shaftesbury and given a grant of 2000 acres - made Indian Agent, and commanded to purchase Edisto Island from the Indians. He was a man of capacity, vigor, and daring.

I have given the brief sketch of Dr. Woodward for two reasons - one because he was the FIRST SETTLER in South Carolina and played a noble part in the earliest history of the state and second because (although I have found no direct descendant from him) his descendants married into our family lines (female).

THE SAMS FAMILY

WADMALAW ISLAM)

MY EARLIEST ANCESTOR in the SAMS family, of whom there is any record, apparently came in 1682, imported by Captain Benjamin Blake. South Carolina records state:

"In 1683 Benjamin Blake, a brother of Robert Blake, the famous English Admiral who humbled the great fleet of Spain, and himself a captain in the British Navy, came to South Carolina with his family and several other families. He died in 1689 and his son, who later bought a proprietary share, assumed the Governorship in right of a proprietor."

South Carolina Historical Magazine - Vol. I - page 153 has the following reference:

"Mr. Blake arrived in the year 1683, with several other families the followers of his fortune."

"That the miseries they endured, meaning the Dissenters then, were nothing to what he foresaw would attend the Reign of a Papish successor; wherefore, he resolved to remove to Carolina; And he had so great an interest among Persons of his principles, I mean Dissenters, that many honest substantial Persons engaged to go over with him." (Oldmixon)

South Carolina Historical Magazine - Vol. 20 - pages: 162-3 - has the following reference:

"Admiral Blake with 21 persons (including no doubt his son Joseph) arrived in the Province in 1681 and established his settlement at the 'New Cut' at the junction or meeting point of the Stono and Wadmalaw Rivers."

In Book (1682-92) - page 243 - South Carolina Historical Magazine:

"...Whose names are recorded in the Secretary's Office in the said Province 10 May 1682 and Dated 18, March 1683."

In "Warrants for Lands in South Carolina - 1692-1711" by A. S. Salley, Jr., printed for Historical Commission of South Carolina by The State Company, Columbia, S. C. in 1915, are found the following WARRAHTS listed for BONUM SAMS:

Page - 49: "Bonnum Samm: had a warr ; out of secty's Office. Dated 13th of September 1694 - Signed by the Hon. Thos. Smith Esq, Landgrave and Governor, for 100 acres of Land on account of arrival Rights for himself and his wife EHSTIS, all of which said p'sons were Imported into this part of the Province of Carolina in the year 1682 by Captain Benj. Blake, the said Bonnum Samm is obligated to signe ye counterpart of the Indented Deed within 90 days after said land is admeasured else the said Land, which he shall make choyee of is free to be run out and granted to any other p'sons use whatsoever."

(To Stephen Bull Esq., Surveyor)

Since this warrant issued to Bonum Sams in 169[^] was for "arrival rights for himself and his wife ENSTIS" it must have been the first warrant he received and this was approximately ten years after his arrival. The Province of South Carolina was under grants to Lord Proprietors until July 26, 1729, at which time a deed was signed and the Proprietors relinquished all their rights to Carolina - Royal Governors were then appointed and "Carolina" was divided into two Royal Provinces of North and South Carolina.

When Bonum Sams received this first warrant Landgrave Thomas Smith was a Governor under the Proprietors. These are the earliest records of Warrants issued that I have been able to find. Exactly where Bonum Sams lived on Wadmalaw Island and whether he had acquired land of his own in some other manner before receiving this first warrant for "arrival rights", I cannot determine; however, I have found listed for him other warrants, as follows:

Same reference - page 146: "Bonnum Sam had a warrant for 200 and 30 acres of land in Colleton County dated the 27th day of July 1697."

MEMORIAL VOL. 5- p-157 - State Archives, Columbia, S. C.:

"Grant to Bonam Sams - 230 acres, Colleton 3-9-1700. West on John Far - South vacant - East on Underwood."

I have never found a record of a BONUM SAMS, JUNIOR, and if there was a child born to Bonum and Enstis, named for his father, and this son had lived, I believe he would have been a second son, for it was customary in early days to name a first son for the grandfather (which, of course, could also have been a Bonum Sams, but which I believe was a John Sams); however, any son born to Bonum and Enstis after arrival in 1682 would not have been of age (which I am presuming was considered 21 years) until around 1703/4 and I do not believe would have received warrants until at least that date.

No children were mentioned as arriving with Bonum and Entis, and I believe they were a young couple. I have never found another record of Enstis and I have no proof that she had children; however, I believe, as will be pointed out later, that John and William Sams of Wadmalaw Island were her sons.

The two warrants mentioned above, therefore, undoubtedly were to Bonum, SENIOR, the immigrant in 1682.

The next warrant, however, from MEMORIAL VOL. 5 - p. 157 - State Archives, Columbia, S. C. in 1707 - could possibly have been to a son - Bonum, Junior.

"23 July 1707 grant to Bonum Sams, planter, 170 acres in Colleton - North on Bonum Sams - East on Thomas Stanyarne - South on William Green and West on Underwood."

Could the "North on Bonum Sams" refer to Bonum, Senior? I do not believe so, but I am trying to point out all possibilities of there being a son Bonum, Junior, who married "ELIZABETH" - else Elizabeth was a second wife of Bonum, Senior.

The last warrant I have found for Bonum Sams is in "Warrants for Lands in South Carolina - 1692-1711 - Sally, page 222.

"Bonnam Sams had a warrant for 500 acres of Land in Colleton County this 15th day of November 1709."

This last warrant could also have been issued to Bonum, Junior, but I do not believe this to be the case, as I believe the record would have said Junior.

I have found no record to indicate that Bonum Sams received land other than on WADMALAW ISLAND, Colleton County, South Carolina, and some of this land must have been the land "which he shall make choyce of" in the first warrant listed. The records show about 1000 acres issued, and there were probably other warrants for him for which I have found no record.

BONUM SAMS did leave a will and I presume this was Bonum Sams, SENIOR, for it was recorded in the INDEX of OLD WILL BOOK X - page 37 in Charleston, but unfortunately the will has been torn out, as so many others are; however, in 1732 a Robert Sams registered land and one piece of land was the 230 acres Bonum Sams received in 1700 warrant (and this would undoubtedly have been the immigrant Bonum Sams) the other was 170 acres received by Bonum Sams in warrant of 1707.

I believe, therefore, that Bonum Sams arrived with his wife "Enstis" and that they had sons (to live) named John and William. I believe Bonum Sams married a second time - "Elizabeth" - and had son Robert and daughter Elizabeth.

The last record was the warrant in 1709 and I believe Bonum died about 1711/12, no proof.

Wadmaw Island, South Carolina, is south of Charleston about 40 miles on State Highway 700. It is adjacent to Johns Island on the northeast - Seabrook and Kiawah Islands on the southeast - and on the southeast flows the North Edisto River. The settlement on the Island is now called Rockville, and I believe it was around this settlement, on the banks of the North Edisto River, that BONUM SAMS received warrants. The plantation and the plantation "cemetery" (unless he was buried in Charleston) were probably in this vicinity; however, I have not been able to determine exactly where any of the WADMALAW ISLAND family were buried.

The first warrant to Bonum Sams for "himself and his wife ENSTIS" .. was for 100 acres on account of "arrival Rights." This was for land "which he shall make choyce of" and, as stated, I believe he made choice of land around the present site of Rockville on the banks of the North Edisto River. There was no mention of children arriving with Bonum and Enstis, nor was there mention of any others by name of SAMS arriving with him or being in South Carolina at that time, that I have found recorded. I have never found any reference to his wife "Enstis" other than that in the first warrant issued to Bonum. I have heard that this name of his wife was "Eustis" - not Enstis, but the name has been taken from the old warrant as Enstis. There were others by name of SAMS shortly after 1682 (mentioned in records of 1714) on Wadmaw Island, and I believe these are descendants of Bonum and Enstis Sams. Without proof, but from all sources I have been able to find, I believe the line descends from BONUM SAMS, as follows:

I. BONUM SAMS - I have never found a copy of his will, although
(1st - Enstis) I believe he made one. Enstis is mentioned as
(2nd - Elizabeth) his wife when he arrived from England. Elizabeth
(have never learned her family name), I believe,
was a second wife of Bonum Sams, Senior, the first
of our line in America.

Issue: First wife - Enstis - no proof:

1. John Sams - I believe John Sams was the next earliest Sams
(Hannah Hamilton) on Wadmalaw Island - perhaps the first to be
born in America. I believe he was the son of Bonum
and Enstis. The first record I find of
John Sams was a grant of 200 acres in 1714 (May 17), and surely he was of
age when he received this grant and would, therefore, have been born at
least by 1693/4, or shortly after the arrival of Bonum and Enstis.
This grant to John Sams was that land granted in 1697 to Freer by warrant.
The land was on the east side of Bonum Sams' land. If John Sams was the
first son of Bonum Sams and Enstis, he was probably named for his grand-
father in England, as it appears that this was a custom in early colonial
days.

John Sams also received land in 1713 and in deed it is stated his wafe
was Hannah and other records say his wife was a HAMILTON; therefore, she
must have been Hannah Hamilton (daughter of Paul Hamilton and his wife
Dorothy, who later married an Ogle).

John Sams also received 15 acres on Wadmalaw Island March 26, 1721 -
received a grant in 1731 and one on May 7, 1733.

In VOL. I - South Carolina Historical Society Papers in State Office -
London, 1723; John Samms Charleston petition to General Assembly against
"Corporation Act." I believe this is the sams John Sams, for if Bonum
arrived in 1682/3 and apparently did not have any children with him, a
grandson would hardly have been old enough to have been making petitions
to the General Assembly in 1723.

In 1734 John Sams witnessed a deed from William McGillvary to ROBERT SAM3,
and, as of this time, this is the last record I have found of John Sams.

John Sams is not listed in the earliest records of "The Colonial Church"
of St. Johns Parish, which was established in 1734. I have no proof, but I
believe he was of St. Phillips Parish and died about this date - 1734. I
have no proof of any issue; however, I believe the following were his
children, and therefore, am so listing them: I know of no others.

Issue: (From St. Phillips Parish Register)

a. Martha Sams - married William Green on December 21, 1732. In
1700 a William Green owned land "East on Boraaa
Sams." This was perhaps the same family. Martha
was probably born about 1717, as girls married at about age 15. I
have no further record of her.

b. Mary Sams - married Risby William on Jan. 29, 1733. No further record of her.

c. John Samms - "a child, buried Nov. 10, 1723". I believe John, Junior.

2. William Sams, Senior - I believe this is the second, or third, son (Clark) of Bonum and Enstis Sams. I say "or third" or I believe they must have had a son named. I can't understand the absence of a "Bonum Sams, Junior" in these early days, unless such a son was born and died as an infant for mortality was very high. Therefore, I believe William Sams would have been a third son, and possibly there were even ether sons and daughters who did not live or of whom there is no available record.

It is stated that this William Sams, Senior, married the daughter of Jeremiah Clarke, but this I have not proven. William Sams, Senior had two sons living in 1738.

a. William Sams, Junior, - on November 3, 1738, William Sams, Senior, deeds to his son, William Sams 200 acres on Edisto - east on late Thomas Grimbball. This deed was witnessed by ROBERT SAMS, John Hogg and Thomas Stanyarne. As yet, I have no further record of William Sams, Junior. A William Sams - born 1755 - died a. 6-5-1825 m Martha Sams (b 1763) (d 7/29-1824) - a long list of descendants - I believe from this line.

b. Joseph Sams - on November 3, 1738, William Sams, Senior, (Susannah MeGilvery) also deeds to his son, Joseph Sams, 250 acres - east on John Stanyarne *s. This deed has the same witnesses as the one to son William, Jr. Joseph Sams married Susannah MeGilvery, for he made a will Dec. 26, 1755 - proved June 30, 1756 and left all estate to his wife - her brother - Alexander MeGilvery was executor. Apparently there were no children. There was a Joseph Sams on Vestry List in 1754 of Colonial CHAPEL, St. John's Parish, and I believe this is the Joseph Sams son of William Sams, Senior. He is not mentioned after this date, 1754, and as shown above, his will was probated in 1756.

The John and William Sams could have been later arrivals and relatives of Bonum, but I have found no records to indicate this. I have found no records of any descendants from John and William, except the two sons of William - William, Junior, and Joseph - and as yet I have found no descendants from William, Junior, or Joseph.

As stated, I believe Bonum (the immigrant) married a second time to ELIZABETH, I believe Enstis died before 1700 and that he had married Elizabeth by this date. I have never been able to learn her family name. All old Sams Family Bibles state that she was the wife of BONUM SAMS and the question has arisen - could she be the wife of a Bonum Sams, Junior - it is possible, but, so far, I have found nothing to indicate this. Elizabeth Sams died after 1718, for in records in Charleston, S. C. (I716-18-page 89 - recorded June 26, 1718) the following is of record: Probate Court Charleston - VOL. 51 - p. 83/84.

Elizabeth Sam, widow, Colleton County: son Robert and daughter Elizabeth - "my beloved children - deed of gift of personal property, etc."

Neither of these "children" was married according to this deed of personal property. She had probably been left a life interest in Bonum's estate and it was not necessary to will it to her children. She does not mention John or William Sams in this deed and, if they had been her sons, I believe she would have also mentioned them, for they were both living in 1718, and, as it was stated, she was a "widow", she could not have been the wife of either John or William. That John and William Sams were closely related to ROBERT SAMS is evidenced by the fact that, as shown, Robert was one of the witnesses to a deed of William to sons William, Jr. and Joseph. Also John Sams was a witness in 1734 to a deed to Robert Sams from William McGillvary.

As stated, all old family Bibles that I have seen or heard about state that Robert Sams was the son of Bonum and Elizabeth, and records of deeds registered by Robert Sams in 1732 - found in MEMORIAL VOL. 5 - page 157 - State Archives, Columbia, S. C. - show that these deeds were for:

"230 acres in Colleton County" - which was granted to Bonum Sams March 9, 1700. and

"170 acres in Colleton County" - which was granted to Bonum Sams July 23, 1707.

As stated earlier, these grants could have been to a Bonum Sams, Junior and Robert Sams could have been son of Bonum, Junior - I have found nothing to prove this and I believe Robert was a son of Bonum (the immigrant) and a second wife, Elizabeth. I find no deeds from Bonum Sams (immigrant) to John or William Sams, but Bonum owned land that I have not found deeded to his son Robert] therefore, it could have been given to these older sons by his will (which has never been found) or even during his life. So far as I have been able to determine no trace has ever been made (if it could be done) of the land Bonum Sams received by warrants to determine whether any of it went to John or William Sams. We do know, however, that some of this original land received by warrants by the immigrant Bonum Sams, was registered in 1732 by Robert Sams, i our ancestor.

Until April 9, 1734 COLLETON COUHTY was in St. Paul's Parish and often people spoken of as living in St. Pauls' Parish were later referred to as living in St. John's Parish.

Commemorative History of St. John's Parish, John's Island, S. C. - compiled by: Sophie Seabrook Jenkins & Rev. Robert N. MacCallum - 1734-1934 - has the following data regarding this Parish:

"Colleton County was originally divided by Church Act into St. Paul's and St. Bartheolomew's Parishes. A division took place in 1734. John's Island, WADMALAW ISLAND, and Edisto Island - and other adjacent islands to the seaward - were taken from St. Paul's Parish and made into a separate Parish called St. John's - Colleton."

In 1742 the first minister, the Rev. Samuel Quincy, A.M. arrived. He remained until 1746. During this period the poor of the Parish were cared for by those

more fortunate. To meet the expenditures a tax was levied. Among the collectors of the tax was CAPTAIN SAMS for WADMALAW.

First Pew List of the COLONIAL CHURCH - St. John's Parish - Colleton County, S. C.

- (A) Captain R. Sams - No. 6
- R. Stanyarne - No. 1
- Stanyarne, Sr. - No. 10

MEMORIALS - GRACE CHAPEL

Alter Cross To - Rev. Barnwell Bonum Sams
Wooden Alms Basin to - Rev. B. B. Sams

(Note: Rev. Barnwell Bonum Sams was the son of Berners Barnwell Sams, who was a grandson of Robert Sams, Sr.)

(Note: The "Captain R. Sams - No. 6 - 1734 - would be Robert Sams, Senior, for in 1718 (when his mother, Elizabeth made the deed of personal property to her "children" he was not married and therefore, in 1734 he could not have had a son old enough to be called "Captain Sams" and to be on the Vestry List)

VESTRY LIST; Continued

1734 - Robert Sams - this is the year the Church was established, and this would be Robert Sams, Senior - our ancestor, and who, I believe, was the son of Bonum (the immigrant) and Elizabeth.

1738-39-40 - Robert Sams
1741 Robert Sams
1745-46 - Captain Robert Sams
1748 - Robert Sams
1753-1754 - Robert Sams - CHURCH WARDEN

1754 - JOSEPH SAMS - I believe he is the son of William Sams, Senior. According to will of Joseph Sams he died in 1756 and I have found no further record of him. He apparently had no children - all estate left to wife.

1755 - Robert Sams - CHURCH WARDEN

1756 - Robert Sams - Vestry

1757 - Robert Sams - Vestry - called Captain here. This is the Last reference I find to "Robert Sams" in Colonial Chapel's Vestry List. Robert Sams, SENIOR, and his son, Robert Sams, JUNIOR, died in 1760. I believe Robert Sams, JUNIOR, was about 30 years of age when he died and, if so, he could have been one of the Robert Sams listed above after 1750 - this I do not know

- 1763 - WILLIAM SAMS - for Abraham Waight - Vestry - this is the first mention I find of a "William Sams" - Robert Sams' son, William, was born 1741 (Bible reference) and I believe this is his son, William (our ancestor)
- 1763 - JOHN SANS - this is the first John Sams listed and I believe he is also son of Robert Sams, Sr.
- 1764 - John Sams
William Sams
- 1765 - William Sams - CHURCH WARDEN
- John Sams - Vestry
- 1767-68-9 - William Sams - CHURCH WARDEN
- John Sams - Vestry
- 1770 - Matthias Brickett for JOHN SAMS - I believe this is John Sams, son of Robert Sams, Senior, and I believe he died about this time. I have not, as yet, found any descendants from John Sams, son of Robert Senior.
- 1771 - William Sams - CHURCH WARDEN
- 1772 - William Sams - Vestry
- 1773.4-5-6-8-9 - William Sams - Vestry

I believe the above mentioned William Sams was our ancestor and I believe he moved to DATHAW ISLAND after 1779 - I have no proof of this, and it is possible that the William Sams mentioned in the above records could be the son of another Sams than our ancestor, Robert Sams, Senior.

There appears to be a skip from 1779 to 1822 of Sams on the Vestry List

- 1822-23-24-25-26-27 - William Sams - Vestry - No proof, but I believe this is William Sams - born 1800 (See 1850 Census) - and if so, he was the grandson of William Sams (son of Robert, Sr.) and great-grandson of Robert Sams, Senior. The descendants of Robert Sams, Senior, probably inherited land on Wadmalaw and some returned to the island.
- 1834 William Sams) See 1850 Census - William Sams, St. John's
1873 - John H. Sams) Parish - age 50 - wife Sarah: issue-
1874 - John H. Sams) William, Catherine, Sarah, Hamilton, John
and Seabrook.

Bonum Sams (whose wife was Elizabeth, according to old family Bibles) was deceased in 17L8, for Elizabeth (according to deed to "children") was a widow - so assuming that I am correct in my believe that Elizabeth was the second wife of Bonum Sams, the immigrant - then Issue Second wife - Elizabeth:

3 Robert Sams, Senior - He is our direct ancestor, so will follow his line in detail.

4 Elizabeth Sams

Elizabeth Sams was not married in 1718. She married William McGillvary,

for Deed Book Q, p. 27 - Oct 21, 173¹* has the following record:

William McGillveray deeds property to ROBERT SAMS, in trust for his wife Elizabeth McGillveray - Witness - JOHN SAMS ...

Also Deed Book Q - pp 23/26 -

William McGillveray - will - mentions: wife Elizabeth - daughter Mary McGillveray - daughter Elizabeth McGillvaray -son ROBERT and son Alexander - WITNESS - ROBERT SAMS.

Also Will Book 8 - p. 3 - Oct. 5, 1756 - will of Alexander McGillvary - wife - Elizabeth - BROTHER Robert - BROTHER- IN-IAW - James Larcock - UNCLE ROBERT SAMS.

The above is all the information I have on Elizabeth Sams, daughter of Bonum and Elizabeth and sister to our ancestor ROBERT SAMS. She married William McGillvary and named a son Robert.

II. ROBERT SAMS, Senior - I believe Robert Sams, Senior, was the son of (1st - Bridget Barnwell) Bonum. Sams, the Immigrant in 1682/3 and his wife (2nd - Mary Stanyarne) Elizabeth. Robert was born, lived and died on WADMALAW ISLAND, S. C. He inherited land from Bonum, the Immigrant, which was granted to Bonum by various warrants. He also owned land on HILTON HEAD Island and this land was evidently received by his marriage to Bridget Barnwell, who received this Hilton Head land from her father (Tuscarora John Barnwell) in his will dated 172U. Bridget was not married at this date, according to his will, but would receive her estate upon marriage. I have found no record to indicate that Robert Sams, Senior, owned land on DATHAW ISLAND.

Robert Sams was left personal property by deed from his mother, Elizabeth, in 1718. He was at that time not of age, nor was his sister Elizabeth, for his mother refers to the fact that they are to receive gifts "at time of marriage." and she refers to them as "beloved children." I believe Robert was born no I earlier than 1700 and no later than 1711. In 1732 he registered deeds to land received by Bonum Sams, and it appears that he was married to Bridget Barnwell at that time. He died in 1760 (See copy of his will attached) and at that time was expecting a child, for he mentions his "unborn child" and I don't believe he was over 60 at the time. In 1738 he was witness to two deeds from William Sams (his half brother, I believe) to his sons William, Jr. and Joseph. In 173[^] he was a witness to will of his brother-in-law, William McGillvary.

In the will of Paul Grimbball, who died in 1749/50, he calls Robert Sams his "Brother-in-law" - Paul Grimbball was married to Mary Barnwell, sister to Robert's wife Bridget Barnwell and I believe this is why he is called brother-in-law.

Robert Sams was also witness to the will of Hugh Hext of Colleton County, made Nov. 8, 1744 - along with Francis Hext, Junior. It is interesting to note, as will be shown later, that the son of Robert Sams and Bridget Barnwell married the daughter of Francis Hext, Junior.

All records that I have found, which I believe come from the same original source. a record copied from the Charleston Gazette of 1741, state that Robert Sams and

Bridget Barnwell married on St. John's Island on April 18, 1741. This reference is found in South Carolina Historical and Genealogical magazine Vol. 2 - page 50. This is the exact day, month, and year that our family Bible, which was owned by William Sams, states Robert's son William Sams was born. Also see - S. C. Marriages by William Montgomery Clemens - p. 2⁶ - same reference. I believe there has been some error in making the original copy from the Charleston paper and that the reference was actually to the birth of the son of Robert and Bridget - William Sams, Senior, our ancestor. I have not, as yet, been able to prove this error. (See abstracts from old Sams Bible, attached)

I believe Robert Sams, Senior, married Bridget Barnwell about 1727/8. I believe she was born about 1712/13. She was (according to father's will) to inherit her share of her father's estate "at marriage or age 16" and his will was dated 1724 She was to have 500 acres on Scule Point on Hilton Head Island, and in the will of Robert Sams, Senior, (who had married a second time) he leaves this particular 500 acres to "my FIRST son Robert Sams, Jr." and I don't believe he would have left land that belonged to his wife Bridget Barnwell to a son that , was not her son also. This son Robert (his first son according to his will) was born before 1741, the date the record states Robert and Bridget were married and the date that our Bible states his "third son, William," was born. This is one reason I believe that Robert and Bridget married earlier than 1741. Another reason is that this son Robert, Junior - "my first son" also died in 1760 - the same year his father died - and in his will he calls Robert Sams' second son, John Sams, "ay, brother John" and Robert Sams' third son, William Sams, "my brother William", but he does not leave any of his estate to his half brother, Charles Sams, although Charles was living at time of Robert Sams, Junior's death and mentioned in his father's will as "my fourth son". I believe Robert, Junior, John, William, and the daughter Elizabeth were all children of Robert Sams, Senior, and Bridget Barnwell, and I also believe it possible that they had a son, Bonum, named for Robert's father, who may have died early. John was the name of Bridget's father - and this name John appears to be a favorite Sams name - also William. Naturally a daughter would have the name "Elizabeth" for this was the name of Bridget's mother (Elizabeth Ann Berners) and also the name of Robert Sams' mother - also both had sisters named Elizabeth.

Robert Sams died Feb. 6, 1760 - his will is dated January 31, and recorded in Original Will Book 1757-60, page 327 - Charleston Probate Court. He died the same year. He begins his will thus: "I, Robt Sams of Wadmalah Island in the Parish of St. John in the County of Colleton and Province of South Carolina, etc." He refers to "eldest son Robert Sams", to "my second son John Sams" and to "my third son William Sams" - so if the record of the marriage of Robert and Bridget in 1741 is correct - then Robert had been married earlier, which I think is unlikely, but, as shown earlier, I believe these are also Bridget's children, also the "eldest daughter Elizabeth."

The children of Robert Sams, Senior, and Bridget Barnwell are as follows - these were living at the time of Robert Sams, Senior's death in 1760. I believe Bridget Barnwell Sams died shortly after the birth of her son William Sams in 1741. I find no further record of her after this date, nor do I know where she is buried - either with the other Sams on Wadmahalaw Island, or wherever they are buried, or in the Barnwell cemetery. Her father, John Barnwell is buried in the old Episcopal cemetery in Beaufort, South Carolina. He died in

June 1724 and is the oldest interment in the Chapel cemetery; however, I have found no record of Bridget Barnwell Sams' place of burial.

Issue by 1st marriage - Bridget Barnwell

a Robert Sams, Junior - Robert Sams, Jr. was called "my eldest son" in will (Unknown, if any J of &is father, and although Robert Sams, Senior, does not mention his first wife, Bridget Barnwell, in his will, I believe Robert Sams, Junior, was her son. His will is of record in Charleston - Will Book 1757-1760. It is dated March 5, 1760 and probated the 7th of October 1760. He died shortly before his father died. He refers to himself as a "planter" -therefore, he must have been of age. I believe he was between 25 and 30 years of age. He is referred to as "my eldest son" at the time of his father's will in 1760. He had apparently not married, or if he had, his wife was deceased and there were no children. He left his estate to his brother John Sams - his brother William Sams and to his sister Elizabeth GODFREY, a widow in 1760), and to his two nieces - BRIDGET Godfrey and AMELIA Godfrey, daughters of his sister Elizabeth.

Since this sister Elizabeth named her daughter BRIDGET, I believe she was named for her own mother, Bridget Barnwell.

Robert Sams, Junior does not mention any of his half sisters or brother. He wills to his brother William "the tract of Land I now Live on" (which was willed to him by his father) but William was not to receive this during the life of his sister, Elizabeth Godfrey, for she was to have "use of it during her widow-hood." He left the "Hilton Head" property (also left him by his father and which came from the Barnwell family) to his nieces, Bridget and Amelia, when they became of age. Bridget Godfrey was a witness of the will of John Stanyarne in 1772. He bequeaths to "my brother William Sams my Silver Hilted Sword" and I believe this is the same sword that is in the Beaufort, S. C. Museum. William Sams, who inherited this sword moved to Dathaw Island - across the river from Beaufort, S. C. I also believe this sword belonged to Robert Sams, Sr., but I have no proof of this.

As of now I have no further record of Robert Sams, Jr. I believe he is one of the "Robert Sams" referred to in the Colonial Church of St. John's Parish, but, inasmuch as there is no distinction between Robert Senior and Robert Junior in the data from the old records, I have no way of knowing about this.

2 Elizabeth Sams Elizabeth was the "eldest daughter" of Robert Sams, (Robert Godfrey) Senior and Bridget. She is left an estate in both the will of her brother, Robert, Jr. and that of her father, both of whom died in 1760. She is called a "widow" in both wills and in both wills her two young daughters, Bridget and Amelia, are mentioned.

I presume Elizabeth Sams was named for her two grandmothers - Elizabeth Berners Barnwell and Elizabeth Sams. I believe she married Robert Godfrey, Junior, son of Robert Godfrey and AMELIA HEXT (See Hext and Godfrey families).

In Vol. 23 - page 107 of S. C. Historical Magazine, it is stated (From St. Helena Parish Register) that Robert Godfrey, Junior, son of Robert Godfrey and Elizabeth, was buried in the Churchyard cemetery on September 30, 1757. This son, Robert Godfrey, Jr. died before his uncle and grandfather (Robert Sams, Junior and Senior) made their wills in 1760; hence was not mentioned by either. His father was also deceased by 1760, as his mother, Elizabeth, was a widow at that date.

The same reference states that Bridget Godfrey, daughter of Robert and Elizabeth, was born November 1, 1756, and from the wills of Robert Sams, Senior and Junior, we know that there was also another daughter, Amelia, living at the time of her father's death. I believe this daughter, Amelia, was named for her grandmother, AMELIA HEXT - daughter of Hugh Hext, the immigrant. Hugh Hext is also our direct ancestor (See Hext family) and I believe Robert Godfrey was a descendant of John Godfrey, Senior, the immigrant and father-in-law of Henry Woodward the first settler of South Carolina.

I have found no other records to indicate what became of Elizabeth Sams or of her two daughters. The home where she was living "during her widowhood" belonged to her brother, William (who moved to Dathaw Island) and it is probable that in later years the descendants of William on Wadmaw (see Census of 1850) lived at this site.

3. John Sams - was called "my second son" in will of Robert
(Ann Norton) Sams, Senior. I believe he was also a son of
Bridget Barnwell and brother to Robert, Junior,
and Elizabeth. I find very few references to
John Sams, although I believe some of the references to John Sams in the
Vestry List of Grace Chapel refer to Mm.

Vol. 20 - page 233 - S. C. Historical Magazine:

"On December 20, 1771 Benj. Jenkins purchased a plantation on Wadmaw Island bounded on "east on land formerly belonging to David Ferguson and ROBERT SAMS, deceased. Conveyed to Thomas Tucker April 21, 1770 by John Sams of Colleton County, a son and devisee of said ROBERT SAMS."

John Sams was willed land, by father, as follows:

"I give bequeath and devise unto my second son, John Sams and to his Heirs in Fee Simple all that Tract of Land which I Lately bought of William Gibbons (now of Georgia) lying and being on Wadmaw Island, containing by Estimation 500 and 40 acres more or less."

As yet I have found no record of any children of John.

4. William Sams was "my third son" mentioned in will of his
(Elizabeth Hext) father's, Robert Sams, Senior. As William Sams
and Elizabeth Hext are my direct ancestors, I shall
follow his line in detail after finishing
the "issue" of Robert Sams, Senior. All records - Bible and otherwise -

state that William Sams was a son of Robert Sams, Senior, and Bridget Barnwell died shortly after the birth of this son William -1741. I do not find any record of other children of hers.

Issue by second wife - Mary Stanyarne

Robert Sams, Senior, married second Mary Stanyarne, daughter of John Stanyarne, Senior, of John's Island. She was widow of Arthur Mowbray, Surgeon of Colleton County (his will September 20, 1745) - hence Mary Stanyarne (widow Morbray) did not marry Robert Sams, Senior, until after 1746. She witnessed the will of Francis Hext in 1746 as "Mary Mowbray" and it is interesting to note that Robert Sams, Senior, was a witness to Hugh Hext's will. Erancis Hext, Junior - will 1746 - married Elizabeth Stanyarne, daughter of John Stanyarne and sister (or half sister) to Mary Stanyarne Mowbray, and it is the daughter of this Francis Hext, Junior - Elizabeth Hext - who married our ancestor William Sams.

5. Sarah Sams (here we run into a Stanyarne name - Sarah) was "my second (Benjamin) daughter" - so noted in will of Robert Sams, Senior, but (Matthews) Sarah Sams is the daughter of Mary and not Bridget.

Whereas John Barnwell and Bonum Sams are the grandfathers of the 4 previously mentioned children of Robert Sams, Senior - John Stanyarne and Bonum Sams are the grandfathers of the other children, beginning with Sarah Sams. Sarah was, therefore, mentioned in the will of her grandfather John Stanyarne made in 1772 - at which time he refers to her as 'Sarah Matthews' - but she married after 1760, date of her father's will, for he refers to her as "Sarah Sams."

6. Charles Sams - was mentioned as "my fourth son" in will of () his father Robert Sams, Senior. His mother was Mary Stanyarne. Charles was not mentioned in the will of Robert Sams, Junior, as he was a half brother.

Vol. Ill, S. C. Historical Magazines records that Charles Sams was in the 1st Council of Safety, 1775, and I believe he was killed in war or died from wounds received in the war. He was deceased in 1785, when a dispute arose over his estate - that received from his grandfather John Stanyarne. He died without issue and I don't believe he was married. His father, Robert Sams, Senior, left "my fourth son" the following property:

"I give bequeath & Devise unto my fourth son Charles Sams & to his Heirs in fee Simple the tracts of Land Lying and being upon said Wadmalaw Island containing by Estimation Three hundred & Seventy Acres more or Lefs being the Tract of Land which I bought of Benjamin Dennis."

- 7- An Unborn child - which apparently did not live, as I find no mention of it - not even in the will of John Stanyarne, Senior, father of the wife, Mary. John Stanyarne, Junior calls -her in his will his sister -"Mary Sams" but when her father, John Stanyarne, Senior, died in 1772 he calls her his daughter "Mary McGillvary" and he also mentions her son Alexander McGillvary and calls him "grandson" - thus, Mary Stanyarne

(widow Mowbray) - (widow Sams) married again to a McGillvray. She was not married to McGillvray in 1762 when her brother John Stanyarne, Junior, made his will and called her my sister "Mary Sams" but was when her father made his will in 1772. I have no further record of Mary Mowbray, Sams, McGillvray - daughter of John Stanyarne, Senior. If she had children by her first marriage to Mowbray, it is possible that the Elizabeth Richards or Elizabeth Hichols (mentioned in will of John Stanyarne, Senior, and called grand-daughters) may have been her daughter.

A Robert McGillvray witnessed the will of Robert Sams, Sr. and I believe this was his nephew, son of his sister Elizabeth.

An Alexander McGillvray was mentioned as being the brother of Susannah McGillvray Sams (wife of Joseph Sams, who, I believe, was a half-nephew of Robert Sams, Senior). It appears that the McGillvray and the Sams families were closely related. Perhaps detailed research on the McGillvray family would throw more light on the Sams family.

In his will Robert Sams, Senior, leaves his wife the USE of the Plantation and of the "MANSION HOUSE THEREON" where I now live - but only during her widowhood.

No mention has been made of Dathaw Island in any Sams reference I have found up to this time.

Judging from Robert Sams, Senior's, will he was a wealthy planter. He owned extensive land and many slaves. He had married into two of the most prominent families in the Sea Islands - Barnwell and Stanyarne - and his children married into other prominent families: Hext, Matthews, Qibbes, Simmons, Raven, Middleton, Godfrey, and many other old families of South Carolina became connected.

As William Sams, son of Robert and Bridget Barnwell is our direct ancestor, I shall follow his line.

DATHAW ISLAND. SOUTH CAROLINA

III WILLIAM SAMS, SENIOR - We now leave WADMALAW ISLAND, for William Sams (Elizabeth Hext) Senior, son of Robert and Bridge Barnwell Sams, Moved to Dataw Island S. C.

William Sams, SENIOR, was the THIRD son of Robert Sams, Senior, of Wadmalaw Island, S. C., for this is stated in will of Robert Sams:

"I give, bequeath & devise unto my THIRD SON WILLIAM SAMS and to his Heirs in fee Simple one tract of Land Lying & being on Wadmalaw Island, etc...."

William Sams, Senior, was also to inherit land on Wadmalaw Island from his brother Robert Sams, Junior, but only after the widowhood, or death, of their sister, Elizabeth Godfrey.

I mention this estate on Wadmalaw Island for I believe William Sams retained some of this land and that some of his grandchildren returned in later years.

William Sams, Senior, was born April 18, 1741 (according to an old family Bible that belonged to his son) on Wadmalaw Island, S. C. His mother, as indicated in family Bibles, was Bridget Barnwell, daughter of John Barnwell, Immigrant from Dublin, Ireland, to South Carolina in 1701. John Barnwell married Elizabeth Ann BERBERS, the daughter of an English merchant then residing in Charles Town. The name "Earners" has come down in the Sams family - also name "Barnwell." John Barnwell is buried in the old Episcopal cemetery of St. Helena Parish Church in Beaufort, S. C. and his grave is said to be the earliest one in the cemetery (SEE BARNWELL FAMILY). John Barnwell died in 1724, but I do not know when his wife died or where she is buried; however, she was not living when he died, for he leaves the children in the care of his eldest daughter "Sister Ann" who was not married at the time. Their first child is recorded as having been born in 1704 and the last, of record, in 1711; hence, Bridget (whose birth date I have not been able to find recorded) was born, I believe, about 1712/13. She was not 16 years of age when her father died, as shown by his will, nor was she married at that time.

William Sams married on February 5, 1761, Elizabeth Hext. She was born January 2, 1746 (the same year her father died) - and was the daughter of Francis Hext, JUNIOR, and Elizabeth Stanyarne (daughter of John Stanyarne, Senior). For more detail see families of HEXT and STANYARHE.

William Sams' father died in 1760; hence he was not married at the time. Just where he and Elizabeth lived when first married, I do not know, but I believe on Wadmalaw Island and that he is the "William Sams" listed in the Vestry List of Grace Chapel until 1779 - St. John's Parish - no proof as yet.

In so far as I have been able to learn, William Sams, Senior, was the first of our family to live on Dathaw Island, which name "Datha" to any of the William Sams descendants means the Sams family. Datha Island is in Colleton County, St. Helena Parish, Beaufort District, South Carolina. It is near St. Helena Island and Lady's Island - all of which are now connected to Beaufort, S. C. by a modern bridge. In William Sams' time, and for many years after his death, the only way to reach these islands was by boat from Beaufort. I have been told that the island was named for a giant Indian Chief who roamed the coast - it is spelled Datha, Dawthaw, Dathaw and Data, but I believe maps now show - "Datha".

It is recorded by Mr. Salley that "Datha - or Westbrook" Island was granted on March 21, 1698/9 to Charles Odingsells, who assigned his rights November 13, 1701/2 to Joseph Boone." (See Warrants by Salley - page 176) - also:

Vol. 5, S. C. Historical Col. - "John Norton came from Barbados on "Carolina" in 1671 - married Sarah Fitch - had in 1701 a grant of 960 acres on Washua and Data Islands, Granville."

The Island is now owned by a Mrs. Elizabeth Sanders Roland of Beaufort, and I have been told that she has deeded the acreage, where the Sams cemetery is located on the Island, to the Sams Family. **[Note: The cemetery was deeded by Mr Gustavus Sanders of Beaufort to the Sams Family]**

I have also been told by some that Datha Island was bought by William and Elizabeth Hext Sams from a Mrs Gibbes, who lived there at the time. If this is so, evidently there was a home on the Island when our Sams family moved tot Datha. **[Note: Wm Sams purchased from Sarah Reeve Gibbs & her husband Robert Gibbs - Sarah was a 1st cousin of Wm Sams]**

Members of the family have a photograph of an original sketch of the old home where the first Sams lived on the Island; however, I understand that the original house was added to by a son, Berners Barnwell Sams, and it is this house which is shown in the photograph.

It has also been stated in family records that after the death of William Sams, Senior, his wife Elizabeth built a house in Beaufort (when Beaufort was mostly covered with pines) at what is now 805 Hancock Street, and this became known as the "Elizabeth Hext House." I am told this house is still standing and is the oldest house remaining in Beaufort. I understand also that this house remained in the family until the War Between The States, when it was confiscated and bought by an outsider, Mr. McLeod.

Tradition is that "a French artist was brought from Europe and employed for two years, living with the family during this time, to paint blue morning-glories on the walls in the drawing-room and dining-room of the Sams home on Datha." The ruins of this old home can be seen today on the Island - also the ruins of the Episcopal Chapel that they built and the Sams Cemetery, adjacent to the Chapel. (I understand that recently some of the family have removed the markers from the cemetery and placed them in the Sams Lot in Beaufort - so I doubt if even the graves in the cemetery can be found at this date; however, there is a record of the Sams who are buried in this cemetery in the South Carolina Historical Magazine). (Copy attached). There is also a reference to the plan of the Sams "Tabby Plantation Home" on Datha Island in a book called "Plantations of South Carolina Low Country" - the plan is shown.

The Island of Datha was owned by the Sams family until after the War, and I do not know its history since, except that it is now owned by Mrs. Sanders.

William Sams, Senior, died in 1798 on Datha Island, and it is said in his 57th years. The Bible from which the above reference was taken is owned by Augustine Sams of Atlanta. It belonged to a son of William Sams, Senior. This Bible was used by Rev. Marion W. Sams, Baptist Minister, and a grandson of William Sams, Senior.

William Sams, Senior, and Elizabeth Hext Sams, his wife, (who died on November 8, 1813 - age 67), are both buried in the Sams Cemetery on Datha Island.

Attached is a copy of a copy of William Sams will - the copy I have is not dated, but I understand from others who have a copy, that it was dated November 10, 1795 - I cannot find where it was recorded, but believe in the Beaufort, S. C. Court House, which was burned during the war and all early records destroyed. A copy of the will evidently was in the possession of a member of the family. From his will we learn that he was a "planter of Datha T Island, Colleton County and St. Helena Parish." Because of the loss by fire of old records, early official information about the family is scarce. The wills of his father and uncle, Robert Sams, Senior and Junior, were recorded in Charleston and hence preserved.

William Sams, Senior, mentions in his will the fact that "General John Stanyarne" was his wife's grandfather (from whom she had inherited an estate) and that "John Stanyarne, Junior" was her uncle (from whom she also inherited an estate). These facts are verified in the wills of John Stanyarne, Senior and Junior, and until I had the will of John Stanyarne, Senior, I was not able to "put together" the complete picture of our Sams family and its connection with the Stanyarne family and other early S. C. families. (See STANYARWE FAMILY).

The American Loyalist, Biographical Sketches of Adherents to The British Crown in The War of The Revolution - By Lorenzo Sabine - Boston, MD CCCXLVIII - lists the name of William Sams, also, in the diary of Josiah Smith's (1780-1781 - page 199) it is stated that William Sams' estate was amerced in a fine of 12 per cent ad valorem taxes. This would indicate that William Sams was a British sympathizer to some extent during the Revolution. His estate was not confiscated and his family banished, however, as so many were, so he evidently did not "take sides" with the British.

The 1st Census of the U.S. - 1790, found in the Department of Com. & Labor -, Bureau of Census, Washington, D. C. (Lock Case) - page 10 - lists William Sams as Head of Family and owning 84 slaves.

William Sams was a wealthy planter - his children were well educated and, as his grandson, Marion Washington Sams, later wrote: "the land and sea yielded both necessities and luxuries so abundantly as to render them utter strangers to want."

William and Elizabeth had a long life together, neither married before or after their marriage. He is the first to have "reality" for us and to be located in a definite "spot" - yet I know very little about him personally and no old records appear to be in the possession of his descendants.

Elizabeth Hext's father, as stated, was Francis Hext, Junior - his father was Francis Hext, Senior - and his father was HUGH HEXT, the immigrant who came with his family to the Province of South Carolina from Dorsetshire, England about 1686. There are many references to this family, as there are to the Barnwell family, (See Vol. 6 - page 29-40 - South Carolina Historical Magazine). The Hext family settled on John's Island, S. C., which was adjacent to Wadmalaw -so it appears that William and Elizabeth were neighbors as children.

Elizabeth Hext's mother was Elizabeth Stanyarne, daughter of John Stanyarne, Senior, who, I believe, lived at that time in his "Hickory Hill" home on John's Island - this "Hickory Hill" plantation is shown on old maps of the island.

Francis Hext, Junior, in his will, which is of record, left his daughter, Elizabeth Hext (she was apparently an only child) one-half of his estate when she reached 21 or married, etc. His "father-in-law" John Stanyarne was appointed an executor of his will.

Elizabeth Hext married William Sams at age 15 and she reared a large family. Besides the estate left her by her father, she was left an estate in the wills of her grandfather, John Stanyarne, Senior, and her uncle, John Stanyarne, Junior. In her grandfather's will he also mentions my "great grandson, William Sams and my great grandson, John Sams" - sons of his granddaughter Elizabeth Sams. These are the ONLY great-grandsons mentioned in John Stanyarne's will; therefore, I believe his daughter, Elizabeth, was a child by his first marriage, which I am told, but have not proven, was to MARY WHITMARSH, daughter of John Whitmarsh, the immigrant. Mary Whitmarsh was first married to Robert Seabrook, who died in 1720 and left no issue. The children of John Stanyarne, Senior, certainly have Whitmarsh names: Elizabeth, Mary, Edith, Ann. Mary Whitmarsh's sister Margaret (sister-in-law) was Margaret Barnwell and Margaret Barnwell was a sister to Bridget Barnwell.

If William and Elizabeth Hext Sams did not move from Wadmalaw Island to Dathaw Island until after 1779 (as I believe), then children born before this date were born on Wadmalaw Island.

The known children of William and Elizabeth Hext Sams are:

1. Robert Sams - the family Bibles record his birth as Feb. 25, 1764 - he was evidently named for his grandfather, Robert Sams, Sr. I find no record of his death, but I believe he was born and died on Wadmalaw Island. He was not mentioned as a "great-grandson" in John Stanyarne's will in 1772 and I believe had died by this date.
2. William Sams, Junior - was born on March 7, 1766 and I believe on (no record) Wadmalaw Island. He died on April 3, 1817 and I believe buried on Dathaw Island. I believe he is the William Sams mentioned in the Minutes of St. Helena Parish Church for 1812. He is named in his father's will as guardian of the three younger sons and he was one of the "great-grandsons" mentioned in the will of John Stanyarne, Sr. There is no record available to indicate he ever married.
3. John Sams - was the third son of Elizabeth Hext and William (Catherine DeVeaux) Sams, Senior. He was born on May 1, 1769, and I believe on Wadmalaw Island. He married on March 23, 1792. His wife was the third daughter of Jacob DeVeaux of Charleston and Elizabeth Barnwell (daughter of Col. John Barnwell). Issue:
 - a. William Sams - was born in 1800 (See Census of 1850 - (Sarah Reynolds J John's Island) - he was age 50 - wife Sarah - issue:

William Esmas, Catherine, Sarah, Hamilton, John Hanahan, Seabrook, Henrietta - married James LaRoehe

I believe this is the family of Sams listed in the Vestry List of Grace Chapel, beginning 1834.

- b. James - no record
- c. John - no record
- d. Warren - no record
- e. Asa - issue: Jacob, John, Warren, LeRoy, Rachel, Kathryn Tilson, Lucinda Woodward, Eliza Brown.

k. Francis Sams - was the fifth son of Elizabeth Hext and William (no record) Sams, Senior. He was born on July 31, 1772 and I believe on Wadmalaw Island. There is no record to indicate he ever married. He is buried on Dathaw Island and died on January 15, 1827.

5« Edward Hext Sams - was the youngest son of Elizabeth Hext and (Sarah E. Fripp) William Saras, Sr. He was born on January 1, 1790 and I believe on Dathaw Island. This family moved to Florida later and it is possible that the parents also went with them - I have no proof of this. Issue:

- a. Edward Hext Sams - b. 1821 - d. 182?
- b. Angelon C. Sams - b. 1823 - d. 182?
- c. Angeline Barnwell Sams - b. 1825
- d. Elizabeth Emily Sams - b. 1817
- e. Angeline Hext Sams - b. 1819 - d. 1823
- f. Francis William Sams - b. 1819
(Cornelia C. Hopkins) - married in 1844 - she was daughter of Governor of Florida - they lived in Palatka - he was a doctor: issue- Benjamin Hopkins - d. 1846; Charles John d. 1858; Susan Floyd; Francis William, Jr. b. 1846

6. Berners Barnwell Sams - was the sixth son of Elizabeth Hext (1st - Elizabeth Hann Fripp) and William Sams, Sr. He was born (2nd - Martha Fripp Edwards) on May 26, 1787, on Dathaw Island. His name Berners came from the Barnwell family - Elizabeth Ann Berners - his great-grandmother. Berners Barnwell Sams married twice. His first wife died on 3-16-1831 - she was born on August 11, 1795. They married on Nov. 5, 1812. Issue:

- a. - Berners Bairibridge (1814-1850) - m. Sarah L. Vendier.
- b. Melvin Melius (1815 - m. Eliza M. Black 1831. (Arthur Sams line)
- c. Donald Decatur (1820 - m. Elizabeth Moreland in 1860 - Donald D. Sams line.
- d. James Julius (1826 - a doctor - m. Mary E. Whittle - Miss Duffy's line, in 1859-
- e. Robert Randolph - (1827) - m. Sarah Jane Sams daughter of Lewis Reeve Sams, Jr. in 1853.
- f. Horace Hann (1829-1865) - died in War - m. Grace L. Whittle in 1860 - Conway Whittle Sams line.
- g. Barnwell Bonum (1835) - m. Rebecca Stock,
- h. Charles Clement (1837-1865)

- i. William Washington (1817 - d. 3 months.)
- j. Ariana Adelaide (1819 - d. 9 months.)
- k. Elvelina Edings (1822-1861) - m. James Edings Lawrence Fripp
- l. Elizabeth Exima (1831 - she was "Aunt Bet" and her mother died when she was born).
- m. Adelaide Arianna (1832) - m. Hollonquist, in 1865.
- n. Sarah Stanyarne (1840) - m. in 1865 John H. Sams, who, I believe, was son of William and Sarah Reynolds and great-grandson of William and Elizabeth Hext Sams of Dathaw.
- o. Franklin Fripp (1824)

Berners Barnwell Sams' second wife, whom he married on Nov. 30, 1831, died Feb. 23, 1857. She was a cousin of his first wife. It is said he lived in the "old plantation home" near the Chapel and cemetery and that it was this son who added to the old home - with 15 children he certainly needed more house. I also understand that he later built in Beaufort; however, he and both of his wives are buried on Datha Island.

His first wife, Elizabeth, was a sister to the first wife of his brother, Lewis Reeve Sams, and they were daughters of Thomas and Martha Fripp.

- 7. Lewis Reeve Sams - was the fourth son of Elizabeth Hext and William; Sams, Senior. It is his line from whom we descend see following page.

It has been said by some of the family that Elizabeth Hext and William Sams, Senior, did not have any daughters. I believe, however, that they did have one - perhaps their first child - I have no proof of this but:

There was an Ann Sams spinster of Datha Island, who married September 15, 1785 John Palmer of Lady's Island, Vol. 23- S. C. Historical & Gen. Magazine - p.-150 and-187

Also in the 1st Census of the U.S. 1790, it is listed that there were 2 females (including head of house) in William Sams, Sr's. family.

No daughter was mentioned in William Sams' will, but she had probably been given her part of the estate when she married, or perhaps she had died and there were no children. I have no proof of any of this, but have listed this data for future reference. She may have been a relative.

It has also been told me that after the death of her husband, Elizabeth Hext Sams moved to Beaufort in order to better educate her children. It does appear that she lived in the house known as the Elizabeth Hext home in Beaufort, but the estate on Datha was not sold, as her two sons, Berners Barnwell Sams (as shown earlier) and Lewis Reeve Sams (as will be shown following) both lived on Datha when first married. It appears that they inherited the island. It also appears that they, too, left the island when the children became school age and built in Beaufort, although the island was still cultivated and owned by the family into the next generation. I don't know the particulars, but believe it was lost to the family, as so many other old plantations in that vicinity were, after the War Between The States.

Before leaving "Dathaw (Datha) Island" I want to say that it was here, according to an article attached, that the first oranges were grown in the United States.

It seems that there were about 30 or 35 acres planted in oranges and that it was quite a profitable business. I have been told that even a few years ago some of the old orange trees were remaining. Rice, indigo and cotton were also important crops on the island.

BEAUFORT, SOUTH CAROLINA

IV. LEWIS REEVE SAMS, SENIOR - Although Lewis Reeve Sams was born on Datha Island on July 23, 1784, we associate him with BEAUFORT. He was the fourth son of William and Elizabeth Hext Sams. He was not married when his father died in 1798, and as one of the "younger children" was left in the care of an older brother, William. I am of the belief that he received his name "Lewis Reeve" from Dr. Ambrose Reeve from Kent England, who married Ann Barnwell (sister of Bridget Barnwell, Lewis Reeve Sams' grandmother).

Lewis Reeve Sams was born on Datha Island, but after the death of his father it appears that his mother bought a home in Beaufort known as the Elizabeth Hext House. It seems however, that after his marriage Lewis Reeve Sams was living on Datha Island in a home on the Morgan River side, and that his brother, Berners Barnwell, lived on the old plantation home side. These two brothers evidently had inherited the island property. I don't know just when Lewis Reeve Sams moved from Datha to Beaufort with his family, but I believe before my grandfather, Marion Washington Sams, was born in 1822, for he stated in an article written for the Baptist Denomination during his lifetime that he was born in Beaufort. Some family records state that Lewis Reeve Sams, Senior, lived in the old Elizabeth Hext House - 805 Hancock St., which he inherited from his mother - that later he lived in a house on Bay Street, which he afterward pulled down and then built the house which is now there (1958). It is also stated he left the house on Hancock St. to his daughter Caroline (Mrs. James Fripp), who lived there until the War. It also seems that after Lewis Reeve Sams moved into Beaufort that his son, Miles Brewton, lived on the island and took care of his father's interest there. It is also stated that in the will of Lewis Reeve Sams, Senior, (I have not found or seen a copy of this will) he left his half of Datha Island to his two sons by a second marriage (Frances Fuller), Richard Fuller Sams and Thomas Fuller Sams.

Lewis Reeve Sams, Senior, married first Sarah Fripp, who was a member of the Baptist Church and I believe it was through her influence that Lewis Reeve Sams' children became Baptist - all other Sams before this appear to have been Episcopalians; however, Lewis Reeve did not join the Baptist Denomination until after his second marriage to Frances Fuller. He is buried in the Baptist Church Cemetery in Beaufort (See S. C. Historical Mag. VOL. 35, p. 121). He died December 21, 1856, and from his second marriage (about 10 years after the death of his first wife) he had the following children:

Thomas Fuller Sams, Richard Fuller Sams, Elizabeth Sams, another daughter.

From these children come the present lines of the Richard Sams (Clarkston and Atlanta, Georgia) - the Worthy family in Americus, Georgia - and the Nash family Atlanta.

Sarah Fripp, his first wife, was born December 26, 1789 and died on August 12 1825, and on her marker are the following words: "blessed are the dead who die the Lord." She is buried on Datha Island in the Sams Cemetery and on her it is also stated that she is a Baptist and lists her children.

Sarah Fripp was the sister of Elizabeth Fripp, wife of Berners Barnwell Sams, according to all family records; however, I have no actual proof of this. Elizabeth Fripp Sams died when her daughter, and 11th child, Elizabeth Exima, was

born. She was called "Aunt Bet" by her family and a letter to some of the family (after she was quite old) stated that she did not know much of the Fripp side as they all died young. She said her mother's parents were "Thomas and Martha Fripp" - that they reared 2 sons and 2 daughters but the only one she could remember was her Uncle James who lived on St. Helena Island. One of the daughters was her mother, Elizabeth, who died when she was born; therefore, the other daughter was Sarah, wife of Lewis Reeve Sams, Senior. This is the only proof we have of the parents of Sarah Fripp, but it appears to be correct. {See Family of Fripp}. Aunt Bet was born the year her mother died and her Aunt Sarah died in 1825, before she was born. (See S. C. Historical & Gen. Mag., VOL 51 - p. 173)

Lewis Reeve Sams was a wealthy planter. He gave his children excellent educations and advantages in the "cultural things" of life. The 1850 Census gives his age as 66 and wife, Frances, as 45.

"A Guide to the Palmetto State (1941) - S. C. Dept. of Education - p. 172" gives the following:

"The Waterhouse Home - N.W. corner Bay and Hew Streets, is a white frame Greek Revival structure built in 1856 by Lewis Sams. (Note: He died in 1856, so the date is wrong - it was built much earlier.) The two-story piazza with super-imposed colonnades of Doric and Ionic columns, has a long flight of marble steps leading to the first floor. The small house at the rear with over-hanging cornice, was the kitchen in Ante Bellum days."

I do not know who lived in this home after his death, or which, if any of his children inherited it. After the War it appears that everything was lost to the family in the way of wealth.

Lewis Reeve Sams, Senior, and his FIRST WIFE, Sarah Fripp, had the following children:

I

1. Angerona Hext Sams - born July 1813 - died age 5
2. Caroline Edings Sams - from family records it is learned that she married (James Fripp) James Fripp and lived before the War in the old "Elizabeth Hext" house on Hancock Street in Beaufort, South Carolina.
3. Robert Barnwell Sams - born June 15, 181? - died September 29, 181?.
4. Sarah Emily Sams - died age 35 and is-buried in Baptist Church Cemetery in Beaufort, South Carolina, where her father is also buried.
5. Stanhope Augustus Sams - no record of his life other than he is buried (no record) on the Sams Lot in the Old Decatur, Georgia, Cemetery, where his brother, Marion W. Sams, is also buried. He was born in 1820 and died in 1889. I believe he was living in Decatur with his brother at the time of his death. In 1850 Census he was listed as living with his father - was 30 years old. His grave has been marked by U.D.C.'s for service.
6. Lewis Reeve Sams, Junior - was born in 1808 and died March 29, 1888. He (Sarah Graham) was a graduate from South Carolina College in

1829 - married Sarah Graham on October 16, 1834. She died August 17, It seems that he was a doctor and lived on St. Helena Island. I have heard from family that after the War his family moved to Texas, but that some of them returned to South Carolina. I don't know where Lewis Reeve Sams, Junior, and his wife are buried. Their children were: Issue:

- a. Sarah Jane - b 9/22/ m. 1868 - Dr. Robert Randolph Sams - son of Berners Barnwell Sams.
- b. Calhoun - b 6/12/1839 - m. Seabrook and moved to Texas.
- c. James Graham - b. 3/29/1840 - m. Loft in and moved to Texas.
- d. Mary Emily - b 7/23/1843 - m. Dr. Swann
- e. Martha Phoebe - b 1/13/1844 - m. Rev. McFarland.
- f. Eugenia Fripp - b. 2/17/1845 - lived in Texas
Elizabeth Hext - b. 10/14/1848 - lived in Texas
- h. Joseph Eddings - b. 6/13/1849 - d. in 1865.
- i. Lewis Reeve - b. 3/6/1854 - Texas
- j. Florida - b. 2/6/1856 - d. 1879.
- l. Caroline - b. Oct. 18, 1836 - d. 6 wks.

It would appear that most of the children of Lewis Reeve Sams, Junior, settled in Texas. I have learned very little about them, as yet.

7. Miles Brewton Sams - He is also listed in the 1850 Census. He (Caroline Matilda Oswald) was born December 25, 1811 and married on my 18, 1837, Caroline Matilda Oswald, eldest daughter of Robert Oswald (who owned "Lands End, St. Helena, Island) and his wife, Lavinia Chaplin. (See Oswald Family) Caroline Matilda Oswald was born 9-8-1819 and died 7-25-1896. Miles Brewton Sams, S. C., and I understand died January 1895 He is buried in Gaffney, S. C., where his son, Robert Oswald Sams lived and died.

It is interesting to note that Marion Washington Sams, brother of Miles Brewton Sams, married the daughter of Hansord Dade Duncan (by first wife) and Miles Brewton Sams married the daughter of Robert Oswald and Lavinia Chaplin.... then, after the death of Robert Oswald, Lavinia Chaplin Oswald married Rev. Hansord Dade Duncan, whose wife was also deceased at that time There were no children by this second marriage

Miles Brewton Sams and his wife Carolina Matilda Oswald had the following children:

- a. Robert Oswald - m. Emmie Roberts and lived in Gaffney, S. C. I believe he married 3 times - all sisters. Mrs. Creech of Gaffney, S. C. is .a daughter.
- b. Lewis Reeve - bachelor
- c. Duncan - born 11/1854 - m. Carrie Lee Lawton and second a Miss Moon - lived at Ervington, S. C.
- d. Richard Henry - b. Nov. 1850 d. 1927 - m. Mrs Mary Ann Maner Fraser - lived at Allendale, S. C.
- e. Marion Washington - m. Sarah Judson and his family settled around Covington, Ga. Mrs. Pharr is his daughter - and Dr. Sams of Covington, Ga. is his son. He was named for his uncle - Marion Washington Sams.
- f. Caroline Matilda - b. 12/1856 - m. •& Erwin - lived at Ervington.
- g. Anna Eddings - b.. 1846 - m. Thos. B. Haygood.

- h. Emma Lavinia , b. Sep 7, 1843 - d. June 9 1927.
- i. Sarah Adelaide - m. Lawton - b. Mar 1, 1849 - d. Nov 6, 1932
- j. Miles Brewton, Jr. - b. 18⁵ - d. 1864.

There are descendants from Miles Brewton Sams in Gaffney, S. C., Covington, Georgia, Gainesville, Ga. and Atlanta, Georgia, and there must be a great many others elsewhere - he had a large family.

- 8. Marion Washington Sams - He is our line so we follow in detail.
(Mary Lucia Duncan)

It is interesting to note the different old South Carolina family names that appear in the names of William Sams' children and grandchildren - such as: Barnwell, Fripp, Brewton, Stanhope, Reeve, Edings, Hext, Washington, Harm, Stanyarne, etc. Many of these families were direct family lines - others closely connected by family ties or friendship.

V. MARION WASHINGTON SAMS - Marion Washington Sams was the son of Lewis Reeve (Mary Lucia Duncan) Sams, Senior, and Sarah Fripp Sams - his first wife. He was born in Beaufort, South Carolina, on February 10, 1822. He married Mary Lucia Duncan, daughter of Rev. Hansford Dade Duncan of Barnwell District, South Carolina, on December 2, 1847, near Barnwell Court House. She was born in Barnwell District, S. C. in 1825« The Reverend Duncan was a Baptist minister (see Duncan Family).

Marion Washington Sams went to Harvard to study law but was not able to complete his education on account of ill health. It was after this that he studied to become a Baptist minister. The remainder of his life he spent as a minister and teacher. The attached Biography of his life, written by the Baptist Denomination of Georgia, tells of his life as a minister and teacher.

It would seem that until the War Between The States he was a man of means, but when he moved to Decatur (after living in many places in South Carolina and Florida) he was in bad health and had very little means to support his family. It would seem that he came to Decatur about 1870 and he would have been about 48 years of age. He was 59 in 1881 when the Biography was written and he was 77 when he died in 1899. He preached for a short time in the Baptist Church in Decatur.

They bought a home in Decatur on the Covington Road, about one mile from the Court House. This was called "Violet Cottage" and here he and his wife lived a very quiet life. As stated, he had lost all his wealth and was in bad health. His children were not, therefore, able to secure the education their ancestors had. They had to go to work very early in life to help their parents support the family, and it seems that most of this became the responsibility of the two sons - Hansford Dade Duncan and Joseph Augustine.

Rev. Marion Washington Sams was a good man and a devoted father, but he was most exacting in the rearing of his children.

Marion Washington Sams died at Violet Cottage in Decatur, Georgia on August 2, 1899, age 77 years. He is buried on Lot No. 91 in the Old Decatur Cemetery. This lot was purchased February 7, 1886 by H. D. D. Sams.

His wife, Mary Lucia Duncan (See Family of Duncan for this line) died in Decatur at Violet Cottage on November 6, 1902, at 77 years. On their marker are these words:

"On Christ the Solid Rock we Stand
All other Ground is Sinking Sand."

Mary Lucia Duncan's family originally came from Virginia and, although born in South Carolina, she was not a "Sea Island Family". Her grandfather, Joseph Duncan, moved to Barnwell District, S. C. from Fauquier County, Virginia, after the Revolutionary War.

Marion Washington and Mary Lucia Duncan Sams had the following children:

1. Miles Stanhope Same - Was one of the younger children, and inasmuch (Camilla Johnson) as his father was not able to give him a

college education, his brother, Joseph Augustine Sams, sent him to college. He was a graduate of Vanderbilt Law School, was Secretary to Alexander Stephens - was a reporter for the Cuban War - and spent a number of years in foreign countries writing for the United States Government, or as Editorial writer on newspapers. He was bestowed a Doctor's Degree from Newberry College. He had a charming personality and many, many friends. He married Camilla Johnson of Charleston, S. C. There were no children. He and his wife are buried in Charleston, S. C.

2. Mary Duncan Sams - was the elder daughter of Marion Washington and Mary Lucia Duncan Sams. She died as an infant and is buried in Grahamville Cemetery, S. C. near Beaufort, S. C.

3. Hansford Dade Duncan Sams - was one of the older sons and after the (Julia Avary) family moved to Decatur, Georgia, he went to work and helped with their support.
He married Julia Avary of Decatur and they lived at the Sams home - "Violet Cottage" - for a number of years. Later he built her a home on College Avenue in Decatur and lived here until his death. He was a member of the Decatur Baptist Church - a sincere Christian - always ready with a hearty laugh and a friendly smile. He and his wife are buried on the Sams Lot in the Old Decatur Cemetery. He and his wife had the following children:

- a. Avary Sams died at the age of 4.
- b. Dagmar Sams, who lived with her father and cared for him devotedly until his death. She is living in the home on College Avenue in Decatur.
- c. Hansford Dade Duncan Sams, Jr. - married Louise Scott of Decatur, is now retired and living in the old Scott home on Candler Street. He and Louise have three children - all married.

Hansford Sams, III; Louise Sams; Betty Sams

4. Marion Washington Sams, Jr. - was born 1853 and died 1896. He (Margaret Mitchell) married Margaret Mitchell of Charleston, S. C. and they had the following children:

- a. Rebecca Sams - married Wilson & Dorsey
- b. Margaret Sams - died young
- c. Marion Sams - Buried Lot 107 Decatur.
- d. Lucia Sams - married Gus Alston of Decatur and had k children.

Marion Washington Sams, Jr. is buried on Lot No. 107 in Old Decatur Cemetery. His wife is buried in Charleston.

5. MARY Lucia Sams - was the only living daughter. She was a beautiful (Hunter Pope) young girl and a lovely looking older woman. As a young girl she had been reared in luxury; however, after the War Between The States she found it necessary to teach school, Mary Lucia Sams (called "Mamie" by her

family) married Hunter Pope of Madison, Florida. When their first and only child- was quite small, her husband died, and Mary Lucia Sams Pope returned to Decatur to live with her parents. She then taught in one of Atlanta's private schools for young ladies; however, she was soon stricken with an illness similar to polio and was never able to walk again without crutches. Most of her life thereafter she was confined to a wheelchair.

"Mamie" pope was an accomplished woman - she did beautiful hand embroidery and crocheting, and played the piano exceedingly well. She had been given an excellent education and was a constant reader. During the latter part of her life she became a member of "The Shut-in-Society" and this was a pleasure to her. She knew a great deal of the history of the family, and it was from her that much of the family "tradition" was obtained. She had in her possession the old family Bible of William Sams, which her father, Rev. Marion Washington Sams, had used throughout his ministry. This Bible she gave to her nephew, Augustine Sams of Atlanta, Georgia. Mamie Sams Pope was a member of the Baptist Denomination in Decatur, Georgia. She loved flowers, and the home of her parents became a "show place" because of her flower garden. It was she who named the home "Violet Cottage" and it was her work and effort which made it so beautiful.

After the death of her parents, she went to live with her son and his family, spending her summers with her two brothers in Decatur, Georgia. Her only child, Hunter Pope, Junior, died when he was still a young man, and thereafter Mamie Sams Pope made her home with her brothers - finally living with her brother Joseph Augustine Sams. She was born June 24, 1855 and died March 18, 1935, at her brother's home on College Avenue in Decatur, Georgia. She is buried in the Old Decatur Cemetery on the lot with her parents ...Ho. 91, and on her marker are the following words: "Simply To Thy Cross I Cling." Issue:

- a. Hunter Pope, Junior - the only child of Mary Lucia (Mamie) Pope and Hunter Pope - married Ruth Candler of Decatur, Georgia, daughter of Milton Candler, Senior. They had one child: Mary Lucia Pope, who married Joseph Green of Decatur. Hunter Pope, Junior, died as a young man.
6. Lewis Reeve Sams - was named for his grandfather, Lewis Reeve (Georgia Williams-widow) Sams, Senior, of Beaufort, S. C. Lewis Reeve and Georgia Sams had no children. Lewis Reeve Sams died at his home near Decatur and is buried in Oakland Cemetery, Atlanta, Ga. He spent the latter part of his life truck farming.
7. Joseph Augustine Sams - was the son of Marion Washington Sams and Mary Lucia Duncan Sams, and it is his line that we follow in detail.

- VI. JOSEPH AUGUSTINE SAMS - Joseph Augustine Sams was the son of Marion (Eliza Catherine Houston) Washington Sams and Mary Lucia Duncan, daughter of Rev. Hansford Bade Duncan of Barnwell District, South Carolina. He was born in Greenville S. C. on November 13, 1856. He married Eliza Catherine Houston, daughter of Washington Jackson Houston of Decatur, Georgia, on May 25, 1879. She was born in Atlanta, Georgia on May 15, 1859. They were married at the home of Rev. Spaulding, Baptist Minister of Atlanta, Georgia - Dr. Spaulding officiating. Mrs. Travis Johnson of Atlanta, daughter of Joseph Augustine Sams and Catherine Houston Sams, has the letter that her father wrote to Major W. J. Houston informing him of the marriage. They had been married six months before he wrote this letter, announcing their marriage, to her parents - she having been living with her family and he with his during this time. Four years after their marriage their first child, Norma Sams, was born.

Joseph Augustine Sams and his wife lived for eleven years at the home of his parents - "Violet Cottage" on Covington Road - near Decatur. This was necessary, as he and his brother, Dade, were the chief support of their family at this time. He finally built for his wife a home on the same street on a twenty-two acre tract. It was a beautiful home and she was very proud of it. This home was sold after the death of Joseph Augustine Sams, and it has been remodeled and is now used as the Elks Home. Joseph Augustine Sams had thought his parents would move into this home with him, but, being old, they did not want to make a change and, therefore, there were now two homes to maintain, with his brother's help. He also educated his younger brother, Stanhope Sams, and his nephew Hunter Pope, and sent his sister to New York numerous times for operations, finally taking her into his home and he and his wife caring for her until her death.

Joseph Augustine Sams did not have an opportunity to attend college because of the responsibilities he had to shoulder as a very young boy. His father, however, was highly educated and taught him as he could. He worked hard all of his long life - spending over half of it in "railroading" and ending his working career in the top executive position attainable in the southeast. He had opportunities to have gone even higher in railroading had he accepted the executive position offered to him in Washington, D. C., but he loved his home so much he did not want to leave.

The attached record of the life of Joseph Augustine Sams was written by his beloved daughter, Katie Lucia Sams Johnson, who lived with him until his death and cared for him after the death of his wife as no other could have done. She brought joy and comfort to him during his last years. What she has written about her father is so complete, "there is nothing further to add.

Joseph Augustine Sams died at his beloved home on Covington Road (College Avenue), Decatur, Georgia at 7:20 p. m. on September 12, 1939. He is buried in Oakland Cemetery, Atlanta, Georgia, on the large Houston Lot. Dr. D. P. McGeachy, who had been pastor of the Decatur Presbyterian Church in Decatur, Georgia for years, said of Joseph Augustine Sams in officiating at his funeral: Mr. Sams has lived a life akin to the Christ." This was so true.

Joseph Augustine Sams and Eliza Catherine Houston Sams had the following children - only three lived past childhood... Augustine, Lula, and Katie Lucia. The others died young and their deaths brought sorrow into the lives of

the parents. They are all buried on the large Houston lot in Oakland Cemetery Atlanta, Georgia, where their parents are also burried: Issue:

1. Norma Sams, born November 14, 1882 - died May 26, 1887
2. J. A. Sams - born August 4, 1885 - died October 22, 1886
3. Catherine Sams - born September 20, 3B90 - died October 20, 1891
4. Lieta Sams - born April 17, 1889 - died May 28, 1890
5. Clarence Sams - born July 23, 1887 - died September 2, 1889
6. Marion Houston Sams - born October 17, 1894 - died July 26, 1901
7. Augustine Sams - son of Eliza Catherine Houston and Joseph
(Lucile Eileen Dodd) Augustine Sams, was born on February 19, 1893
at the home of his parents in Decatur, Georgia.

His name "Augustine" is for his father and this name has come down for generations from the early Jennings family of Virginia. Augustine Sams married Lucile Eileen Dodd, daughter of Anna Seffins and Charles D. Dodd of Decatur, Georgia. He attended the Decatur Public Schools - the Donald Frasier School For Boys in Decatur - The Peacock School For Boys in Atlanta - and was graduated from the University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, with a Law Degree and with honor. Since finishing college he has practiced law in Atlanta, Georgia. He has also taught law in the Atlanta Law School.

Augustine Sams served in the First World War as a Captain. He served in the Georgia State Legislature for a number of years, and has been active in the civic work and the progress of both Decatur and Atlanta. He has devoted much of his time to young people, both in scouting (having been Scout Master for many years) and in Sunday School work. He is a member of the Decatur Presbyterian Church -serving as Elder. As an attorney, he has the enviable reputation of being one of the best and one of highest integrity - a Christian gentleman.

Augustine Sams has been a wonderful father; a devoted husband; a noble son; and a helpful, loving brother. A quotation often repeated by his father is so applicable to his son: "I shall pass this way but once; therefore, any good that I can do for others I shall not defer or neglect it" Augustine's first thought is always for others. Augustine and Eileen Dodd Sams have made a happy home for their four sons:

- a. Marion Augustine Sams, who married Dorothy Vansant of Atlanta
- b. Charles Edward Sams, who married Beverly Nixon of Atlanta
- c. Edward Stanhope Sams, who married Virginia Vickery of Atlanta.
- d. Richard Houston Sams (single)

- 8- Katie Lucia Sams - is the youngest child of Joseph Augustine Sams (Travis Johnson) and Eliza Catherine Houston. She was born on February 27, 1900, in her parents home in Decatur, Georgia. "Peggy" - as Katie Lucia Sams is called by her friends - married Travis Johnson of Decatur, Georgia. She began her education in the Decatur Public Schools, later attending the Misses Hilyers Private School She was graduated from the Decatur High School. After this she attended college in Nashville, Tennessee; however, being interested in an art career, she did not remain in

Nashville but began studying art in Atlanta, next in Philadelphia, and finally in New York. She became a very successful and prominent fashion artist in Atlanta - eventually opening her own studio as a Commercial Artist. She gave up her art work as a profession after moving into her home; however, her artistic ability is in evidence here as in everything she undertakes to do.

Katie Lucia Sams lived with her father after the death of his wife. He needed her and she willingly and lovingly recognized this fact - keeping house for him, caring for him, and comforting him until his death. After her father's death she and Travis moved into their new home on Habersham Road, Atlanta, Georgia. Although she has made a wonderful success as an artist, she has and is making as great a success as a devoted wife and as a "mother to her family" (which consists of a niece, six nephews, a sister, and brother).

Katie Lucia Sams (Peggy) and Travis Johnson have no children. She is a member of the Decatur Presbyterian Church. She has been very active in garden club work, inheriting from her father his love of nature and of the beautiful. Like her brother, Augustine, her first thoughts are always for others - especially her family. In recent years she has renewed her study of art at the Atlanta Institute of Art - studying oils for the first time - and, again, has proven her outstanding ability as an artist by having a number of her paintings selected for exhibit.

- 9- Lula Duncan Sams - Lula Duncan Sams was born June 29, 1897 in (Cone Eavenson Bond) the home of her parents in Decatur, Georgia - the present site of the Decatur Elks Club. She received her pre-college education at the Decatur Public Schools - the private school of the Misses Hilyers in Decatur, Georgia, - Agnes Scott Academy - and The Decatur High School (finishing in the second class to be graduated from the Decatur High School). She then spent one year at Randolph Macon Woman's College in Lynchburg, Virginia. The year following she remained at home and attended the Southern Business University in Atlanta, Georgia. This was during World War I. After completing her business course, she worked for five years in an insurance office in Atlanta. This at first made her parents very unhappy, for it was not usual for ladies to be in the business world before this generation; however, the war changed many things for ladies of this period - just as the War Between the States had changed circumstances for the Sams family in that generation. Soon her parents became reconciled, and, later, upon the death of her husband, when it was necessary for her to work, the fact that she had had this business experience proved instrumental in her securing work during the depression period.

On October 24, 1922, she married Cone Eavenson Bond of Decatur, Georgia. They were married at the home of her parents in Decatur, Georgia and i_a the home where she was born. Dr. D. P. McGeachy, of the Decatur Presbyterian Church, officiated. Only the immediate families were present. They drove to Florida for their wedding trip. See marriage book L - page 186 - DeKalb county Court House Decatur, Georgia - Recorded Nov. 7, 1922 by Rev. D.P. McGeachy.

The first year of their married life, Lula Sams and Cone Eavenson Bond lived in a duplex on Superior Avenue, Decatur, Georgia, in the home of her cousin, Mrs. E. R. Terrell. Upon the birth of her first child, Catherine Sams Bond (who was born at the home of her grandparents in Decatur Georgia, where her mother was also born), they moved into a small house next to the home of her parents and remained here for several months while their own home at 1230 Clairmont Avenue, Decatur, Georgia, was being built. They moved into their own home on Clairmont on July 4, 1924, and here were born her two sons - Robert Eavenson Bond and Joseph Augustine Sams Bond.

Her husband, Cone Eavenson Bond, died April 1, 1933 and she, as mentioned before, returned to work - working first at an advertising agency and later with the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, a Government Agency. She is at present working with The Small Business Administration (another Government Agency - RFC having been liquidated). She has worked 33- of her 62 years. She is now living alone in the home built for her by her husband on Clairmont Road, Decatur.

Lula Duncan Sams Bond is a member of the Decatur Presbyterian Church - an inactive member of the Baron DeKalb Chapter of the DAR's - a member of The Daughters Of Colonial Wars (Georgia Branch) - a member of The Sons and Daughters of The Pilgrims - and the DeKalb County Historical Society.

Lula Duncan Sams and Cone Eavenson Bond had the following children:

- a. Catherine Sams Bond - married Prank Alonzo Gheesling of Atlanta, Georgia.
- b. Robert Eavenson Bond - married Dorothy Virginia Medlock of Decatur, Georgia
- c. Joseph Augustine Sams Bond (single)