

JOHN Y. CRISWELL, Sr.

of

KNOX CO., KENTUCKY

FAYETTE CO., TEXAS

To my friend for whom I have made this Sketch,

W. A. CRISWELL

and to my grandsons without whom
it might have been finished much sooner,

BRADFIELD RAGLAND HORTON

and

BRUCE RAGSDALE HORTON

All material gathered, assembled and typed by

SUE RAGLAND DIGGLE

Retyped in 1988 with great
admiration and appreciation
for Sue Ragland Diggle.

Nada Moon Alexander

DESCENDENTS
OF
JOHN YANCY CRISWELL, SR.
AND
ELEANOR VANNOY

December 1965

I began work on this CRISWELL SKETCH in 1955 with only a very few names and dates given me by Dr. W. A. Criswell for whom I have made it. Everything else I have dug out, either through my own research or through information garnered from the rather voluminous correspondence in which I engaged during the past 10 years.

Many of the records I copied from the originals I located at the General Land Office and in Archives at the Texas State Library in Austin, Texas. Other records I located were sent to me by General Services Administration, National Archives, Washington, D. C. Records located in Frankfort, Kentucky, were sent to me by Thelma L. Stovall, Secretary of State of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Many marriage and other valuable Fayette County records were sent to me by Walter P. Freytag, of La Grange, Texas, whose interest in early Fayette County history has been a constant inspiration to me. Many names, ages, places of birth and other data I found among the dozens and dozens of Census Records I have searched. "An Early History of Fayette County", by Leonie Rummel Weyand and Houston Wade, furnished some items of interest. Many other items I found in various books at the Dallas Library.

I deeply appreciate the generosity of the interested descendants of John Y. Criswell, Sr., who shared with me their family information, particularly Sally Jones Hart (Mrs. C. N.), Elizabeth Routh Wheeler (Mrs. W. M., Jr.) and La Vina Cottle Ware (Mrs. D. F.) who died August 1965 at the age of 91. Her numerous letters, some of great length, so lovingly and painstakingly written gave a privileged insight into the lives of many of the Criswells whom she knew intimately, as well as her own immediate family. Ernestine Tribble Elliott (wife of Rupert Ayres Elliott, a descendant) sent me many wonderful records she copied from a Journal or Ledger kept by John Y., Jr., the first entry having been made in 1850 and the last in 1894. Family data she copied from the old O'Daniel Bible furnished much valuable proof on that part of the family.

Other descendants whose assistance I deeply appreciate were Lula Ayres Napier (Mrs. W. S.); Mary Criswell (Sinclair) West (Mrs. Rose); Mary Criswell (Lomas) Duncan (Mrs. E. C.); Lucille Criswell Chapman (Mrs. J. T.); Effie Jackson Ivy (Mrs. W. T.); Lillie Boykin (Criswell - her first husband was her first cousin) Wheeler (Mrs. Lon T.); Annie Lupton Criswell (wife of T. F. Criswell, a descendant); Lt. Tom J. Cramton; William Dabney Campbell; Dalton L. Criswell and Warren A. Criswell.

Others, not of Criswell descent, who have furnished much interesting and valuable information pertaining to the Criswell family are Joe A. Cole and his mother, Rosa Berry Cole (Mrs. Norman Richard) who died in 1963 at the age of 92. Rosa was born in Fayette County in 1871 and knew all the Criswells living there as she grew up. Her grandmother, Lucinda Kenner (Berry) O'Daniel, married her first husband, T. O. Berry (who died in 1837), in what is now Fayette County in 1833. They lived as close neighbors to John Y. Criswell, Sr. (who died in 1839), and all his family. In 1839 Lucinda married Josiah O'Daniel and became the step-mother of Mary R. who a few years later married John Y. Criswell, Jr. Lucinda (who died in 1903) knew all the Criswells who ever lived in Fayette County. So, directly and indirectly, Rosa Berry Cole knew a great deal about the Criswell family, which knowledge she so generously shared with me.

I also appreciate the assistance of Pete Nikel (whose sister married a grandson of John Y. Criswell, Sr.) who gave me some of their family information. Mary O'Daniel Brown (Mrs. J. Ed), Bertha Dugger (Faulkner) Gibson (Mrs. Frank) and Lillian Forister Miller (Mrs. Sam) furnished some important O'Daniel family information. Dorine Smith Rollins (Mrs. S. W.), foster-daughter of Rev. W. R. and Lucy Criswell Campbell, gave me much helpful information about that part of the family. Others not related who furnished helpful information were Miss Louise Kirk and Seth Breeding, both of Austin, and George Ely Russell, of Bowie, Maryland.

I am deeply grateful to the many County Clerks who answered my queries, particularly A. B. Drawe, of Wharton Co. and Clyde K. Williams, of Knox Co., Ky. I am also grateful to J. W. Edens, of the Elliott & Waldron Title & Guaranty Company, of Bay City, Matagorda Co., to John Schroeder, of the Fayette County Abstract Co., Inc., of La Grange, both of whom gave me most valuable information, and to any others whose names I may inadvertently have omitted, for their assistance during the more than ten years it has taken me to gather the data, compile and type my CRISWELL SKETCH.

SUE RAGLAND DIGGLE

1st Generation (children of John Y. Criswell, Sr.) are marked I, II, III, etc.

2nd	"	(grandchildren	"	"	"	")	"	"	1, 2, 3	"
3rd	"	(great	"	"	"	")	"	"	A-, B-, C-,	"
4th	"	(g.g.	"	"	"	")	"	"	a-, b-, c-,	"
5th	"	(g.g.g.	"	"	"	")	"	"	(1), (2),	"
6th	"	(g.g.g.g.	"	"	"	")	"	"	(A), (B),	"
7th	"	(g.g.g.g.g.	"	"	"	")	"	"	(a), (b),	"

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THE CRISWELL FAMILY

JOHN YANCY CRISWELL, Sr., b. 1786 (between 1780 and 1790) Pa.; d. 9-30-1839 Plum Grove, Fayette Co., Texas; m. ab. 1811 (no marriage record found in Knox Co., Ky.) a Miss Vannoy (I believe), b. ab. 1794 (between 1790 and 1800) Ky.; d. in Texas (either in Matagorda Co. or Fayette Co. which was part of Austin's Colony until the county was organized 1838) before 1839, as no wife was mentioned in the settlement of John Y.'s estate. He died without a will. His probate record in Fayette Co. is Case #48. His oldest son, Leroy Vannoy Criswell was Administrator. Leroy V. was appointed Guardian for the minors, Joseph E. and Andrew Jackson Criswell. A neighbor, William Madison Scallorn, Sr., was appointed Guardian for the minor, John Y. Criswell, Jr., and John Wesley Scallorn, San Jacinto hero, son of William's brother Stephen, was Guardian for James H. Criswell. (Wm. Scallorn, my great-great-grandpa, was the first Baptist Deacon of record ordained in Texas--on July 11, 1840 at the old Hopewell Baptist Church in Plum Grove. Hopewell was begun in the winter of 1838 with prayer meetings held in Wm. Scallorn's home, with Rev. Z. N. Morrell conducting the first Services.

The maiden name of Mrs. John Y. Criswell, Sr., is not positively known now in 1957, but the fact that the middle name of their first two sons, Leroy and William, was "Vannoy" shows it to be a name of importance. For that reason I thought that her maiden name was probably "Vannoy". So when I first had a chance to search the 1830 Knox Co., Ky., microfilm census while in Austin, I looked for a Vannoy as well as for a Criswell. In that census I found John Y. Criswell (40-50) with a wife (30-40), their 8 children and an extra male (20-30) whom I can't identify. (He may have been a brother of either of them or a son of John Y.'s by a previous marriage, but only the 8 known children were named in the settlement of his estate.) I also found a WILLIAM VANNOY (50-60) who was the right age to be the father of Mrs. John Y. Criswell, an Alex. Vannoy (20-30) and a Joel Vannoy (30-40). It seems reasonable to assume that the maiden name of John Y.'s wife was "Vannoy", and that she was the daughter of William Vannoy, although this is not proof.

On 7-23-1821 in Knox Co., Ky., John Y. Criswell witnessed the will of Lurena Sumner. In December 1830, John Y., a married man, arrived in Texas. They were still in Knox Co. when the 1830 census was taken there. They probably left in the fall after the crops were in. Most likely they came by boat rather than by covered wagon since they settled near the port of Matagorda.

John Y. Criswell, Sr., received 2 Land Grants, One was a Spanish Grant dated 6-15-1831 for one League of land in Matagorda Co. situated on the west side of the Colorado River below H League, title being issued in Austin's 3rd Colony. It was signed by Stephen F. Austin. The other was a Republic of Texas Land Grant for one Labor of land issued in Fayette Co. 3-1-1838 which stated he arrived in Texas with his family December 1830. On 3-6-1838 he assigned this Certificate to William Clinton. Title for 1 League of land in Polk Co. on Long King's Creek was issued in Vehlein's Colony 3-25-1835 to Ann D. Criswell, a widow, whose husband may have been related to John Y. Criswell.

NOTE: At long last, on 2-3-1964, I found WILLIAM VANNOY'S will which mentions "the children of my deceased son-in-law, John Y. Criswell and daughter, Eleanor". The will was made 7-12-1845.

In July 1835, John Y. Criswell, Sr., was one of the men with Col. John H. Moore who went to the aid of Capt. R. M. Coleman and his company of 25 men who were on a mission to make peace with the Tehuacana Indians near Parker's Fort. The Indians, mistaking their purpose, attacked them instead. When Col. Moore arrived the Indians were gone. The several groups of volunteers joined forces under Col. Moore and pursued them as far as the forks of the Trinity

who was appointed Guardian for the minor, John Y. Criswell, Jr., when his father died in 1839--(Wm. Scallorn was my g.g.grandpa--SRD). The old Plum Grove Cemetery at West Point is on this land. A church was built after the deed was given, but it burned many years ago.

This Church began in 1838 with the first meetings being held in the home of Wm. Scallorn, Sr., and was first called "Hopewell Baptist Church". It was organized early in 1839 under the articles of the United Baptists of West Tennessee, with Z. N. Morrell as its first pastor. This was the first Baptist Church west of the Colorado River. Wm. Scallorn, Sr., was ordained Deacon at old Hopewell Church July 11, 1840, his ordination being the first one of record in Texas. In 1842 there were 22 members when a rift occurred in the church over the Missionary question. Stephen Scallorn, brother of William, was also a deacon, and was one of the nine members who called themselves "the faithful" and kept the Book (Church Record) and Church House. The other 13 Missionary members, including Wm. Scallorn, Sr., then called their group the "Plum Grove Baptist Church". Both groups, without doubt, considered themselves the "original" church. This is all carefully explained in Stephen Scallorn's obituary when he died 12-24-1887. Another church building was erected about 1870, Dr. Eugene C. Routh says. It is still standing--just barely--and is now used as a barn, in the present town of Plum. The Plum Grove Church the John Click deed refers to is not this one. (Torn down ab. 1959)

If John Y., Sr., were a Baptist, as many of his later family were, then he probably was a member of old Hopewell Church, as he was a friend and close neighbor to Stephen and William Scallorn, Sr., in the Plum Grove area.

John Y.'s sons, Leroy Vanoy Criswell and William Vanoy Criswell were in the first fight of the Texas Revolution, the "Come and Take It" battle at Gonzales Oct. 2, 1835, as proven by the record in Archives showing they purchased 5# of sugar there @ \$1.00 on Oct. 4, 1835.

John Yancy Criswell, Sr., and his wife had 8 known children.

In MILITARY RECORDS at ARCHIVES IN AUSTIN, TEXAS, and in PUBLIC DEBT PAPERS, I found some interesting papers. #7486, issued to John Y. Criswell on 5-16-1838 for Supplies was filed by Genl. Burleson, examined and Audited for \$18.00. The following seem to be part of this \$18 payment:

"Feb. 11, 1836

This is to certify that we in behalf of a squad of Volunteers travelling to St. Antonio being out of provisions called upon John Y. Criswell who fed us in his own house with his own provisions for the night & next morning breakfast eight of us two meals @ 25 cts say five dollars for which the government will no doubt renumerate him, we being authorized to draw on said gov. for provisions.

(signed) M. Autry

(signed) D. W. Cloud

Agents for squad"

(Note by SRD: Both Micajah Autry, of N. C., and Daniel Wm. Cloud, of Ky., fell at the Alamo 3-6-1836)

"This is to certify that the Ranging Corps under the command of Col. E. Burleson made use of 3 bushels of corn at one Dollar and fifty cents per bushel and one bushel of potatoes at one dollar, property of J. Y. Criswell.

Colorado July 22, 1836

(signed) John G. McGehee Captain
M. V. Corps

(signed) Edw. Burleson Colonel"

(and on another scrap of paper)

"The Government of Texas will pay Jno. Y. Christwell on order four dollars and fifty cents for provision furnished my Company.

(signed) Wm. M. Eastland

Capt. of Rangers

Let this be audited 5-15-1838

(signed) A. S. Thurston"

(Note by SRD:

Wm. Mosby Eastland was at San Jacinto, and in 1842 with the Mier Expedition. He was captured, and was the only officer to draw a black bean at Hacienda Salado in Mexico where he was shot 3-25-1843.)

On 2-12-1836 John Y. collected \$51.33 pay for his son Wm. V.'s Service in the Volunteer Army from 5-28-1835 to 12-13-1835, including the Siege of Bexar, where Wm. V. conducted himself so gallantly. John Y. wrote on a scrap of paper: "Recd. of J. W. Moody, Auditor, a draft drawn in favour of William Criswell for \$51.33 on account of which I promise to keep him harmless.

(signed) J. Y. Criswell."

On this same day, 2-12-1836 John Y. also collected \$5.75 owed to Leroy and Wm. V. which they had paid for Coffee, Sugar, etc., in the fall of 1835 (see Leroy and Wm. V.).

Wm. V. also assigned to his father his pay of \$24 for Service in the Army of the Republic of Texas from 3-27-1836 to 6-27-1836, including the Battle of San Jacinto. This was Audited 11-1-1838, and draft #9795 was issued on that date in the form of a tiny certificate. This certificate was not cashed before John Y.'s death in 1839, and on 8-24-1851 it was sent to J. M. Swisher, Auditor of public accounts, by Leroy for his father's estate. Another certificate was issued 9-1-1851 for \$24 on the Public Debt form of the late Republic of Texas. On 5-25-1857 Leroy V., Wm. V., Jos. E. and John Y., Jr. give F. W. Nowlin their power-of-attorney to collect this \$24. It was finally paid in full 7-23-1857--over 21 years after the Battle of San Jacinto was fought! (Records in the Land Office in Austin show that Wm. V. also assigned to his father his Bounty Grant of 120 acres for this same Service in the Army from 3-27-1836 to 6-27-1836.)

On 11-2-1838 John Y. collected \$41.66 for Leroy's Service in the Indian Campaign from 7-25-1835 to 9-13-1835, stating his son owed the Government nothing.

BJS = Black Jack Springs

- I. LEROY VANNOY CRISWELL, b. 1813 Ky., d. ab. 1868 near Oso--which was near Flatonia-- Fayette Co., Texas, on Coldwater Creek where he was killed; m. 2-24-1842 Fayette Co., Texas, Elizabeth (Eliza) McMicken, b. 1825 Tenn, d. ab. 1865--perhaps in 1864 when Leroy, Jr., was born. She was the dau. of Andrew McMicken, b. 1804 Tenn., d. after 1880 Fayette Co., Tex., who m. ab. 1823 Tenn., Eliza A. _____, b. ab. 1806 Tenn., d. 1-2-1844 Black Jack Springs, Texas. Eliza was the oldest of their 3 daus. who married sons of John Y. Criswell, Sr. They had a son, James McMicken, b. 1840 in Texas during the Republic.

After Eliza died Leroy lived with his dau. Mary and her husband, Benjamin Garey. There was an old Dutchman who lived on Coldwater Creek near the Criswell place, maybe on the Criswell place. One night, for a joke, Mary blacked her father's and her husband's faces and they went down to the old Dutchman's house to scare him. When the Dutchman opened the door as they stood knocking, Leroy grabbed the old man who had a gun and, not recognizing them, killed Leroy. There are German people living today who remember hearing their parents tell of the tragedy. Joe A. Cole talked to a very old lady who lives in that neighborhood now. She told him that the old Dutchman said after the killing that he had killed the best friend he had in America, and that if he had not had any money they would not have tried to scare him, and that the money was the cause of the killing. So he took about \$200 in gold and threw it away, and that is said to be the same gold that is being found now on the John Y. Criswell, Jr., place. Mr. Cole has never been able to learn the old Dutchman's name, but says that people in those days did lots of things for a joke that would get them in trouble this day and time. There is no one now living who knows what really did happen when Leroy was killed, although both stories I have heard indicate that it was an accident. Another version is that he was killed by a fellow Ku Klux while trying to capture a negro who had attacked a white woman after the Civil War.

Leroy received 3 Land Grants, one for 1 labor of land in Fayette Co., and two for 1/3 league each, both located in DeWitt Co.. Leroy and Eliza were among the first settlers of the Black Jack Springs colony in Fayette Co., and were close neighbors of the writer's great-grandparents, the William Marshall Robinsons who were also from Kentucky, Joe Cole's g. grandparents, the J.C.C. Smiths, Obediah Fitzgeralds (Candace Criswell), and others, Norman Woods was the first to settle at BJS, in 1840, and built the first log cabin. He didn't live there long, however, as he fell with Dawson's Men near San Antonio 9-18-1842. J.C.C. Smith and his wife, Mary Scallorn (dau. of Stephen), bought the log cabin built by Norman Woods, and their oldest child was born in the cabin in 1844. Close neighbors in those days lived a half mile or so apart. The first known child born in BJS was Susan Prentiss Robinson (maternal grandmother of the writer), 9-1-1844. Joe Cole's grandmother, Elizabeth Smith, b. 10-20-1844 was the second child known to be born in BJS. Leroy's dau. Mary (Garey) and Helen Tuttle were also born in 1844. All the Criswell, Cottle (children of Candace and Lee F. T. Cottle), Fitzgerald, Robinson, Smith, Tuttle and Montraville Woods (bro. of Norman) children and others went to school together in a little log school-house about 1/2 mile from the log-house home--which is still standing--built by Wm. M. Robinson. Wm. Robinson d. in 1848, but his wife Sarah Ann (Ellis, dau. of a Baptist preacher in Ala.) was a close friend for many years --(of Leroy).

The first Teacher at BJS was William Gorham, 3rd husband of Lucinda Kenner Berry O'Daniel and the first preachers were J.W. Shoak and Joe Baker. Later

on the Teacher at BJ was Silas Izard who died in the Civil War. Six of the Criswells were living in BJS in 1850, all except Jim and Mary Jane (Hadden), neither of whom was in the Fayette Co. 1850 census.

Black Jack Springs was made up of 2 leagues of land, the T. O. Berry League on which the springs were located, and the Noah Karnes League. The springs were on land owned by Lee F. T. Cottle and his wife Candace Criswell, sister of Leroy. George W. Tuttle had the first store at BJ, and the first Post Office was in Tuttle's Store. The first Court was also held there. The early community was called Black Jack Springs. Later on, the part that was on the Berry League was called BJS, and that on the Karnes League was called Pin Oak. The community on another League adjacent to the Karnes League was Oso (meaning "bear") which was settled in the 1850s, and was 3 miles from the present Flatonia, settled still later. Flatonia came into being in 1873 when the Southern Pacific Railroad bought land from William Alexander Faires, Sr for its right-of-way. It was incorporated in 1875, and residents of old Flatonia a mile away, and of Oso, loaded their houses on wagons and moved to the new Flatonia (Handbook of Texas). Oso was 3 miles away. W. A. Faires' wife was Ada McClure, youngest sister of Mary (wife of Stephen Scallorn); Alice (wife of my g.g.grandpa Wm. M. Scallorn, Sr.), and Elizabeth (wife of Noah Karnes) all four of whom were sisters of Asa and Levi McClure. All except Mary, who died in Tenn. before the emigration to Texas, were neighbors and friends of the Criswell Family. Mary Ann Karnes, oldest child of Noah and Elizabeth McClure Karnes, married 1843 Fayette Co., Texas, Geo. W. Tuttle who had the first store at Black Jack Springs. Leroy's children went to school and grew up there with the Tuttle children, and with my maternal grandma, Susan Prentiss Robinson (Ragsdale), the first child known to be born (1844) in this new neighborhood.

Leroy, along with his brother Wm. V., served from 7-25-1835 to 9-13-1835 in Capt. R. M. Williamson's Mounted Rifle Co., Col. John H. Moore's Battalion, in the Indian Campaign and "faithfully discharged his duty." For this Service, on 11-2-1838, his father collected \$41.66, Draft #9793, stating that the Claimant owed the Government nothing on his own account or any other person, he being his son. (Robert McAlpin Williamson later was in the Battle of San Jacinto--SRD)

Leroy enlisted again with his brother Wm. V., 9-28-1835 in Capt. J. C. Neill's Artillery Company and served 58 days, through 11-24-1835--just 11 days before the siege of Bexar began--and was honorably discharged on that date at the Camp near Bexar which was 135 miles from home. He was allowed an extra 6 3/4 days pay to return home, and on 2-12-1836 he collected \$43.06 for this enlistment. Wm. V. remained in the Service and conducted himself valiantly during the Siege. The fact that Leroy was 135 miles from home shows that John Y., Sr. was living in Fayette Co. in 1835, as it was 170 or more miles to Matagorda. (James Clinton Neill, of N. C., also enlisted 9-28-1835, as Captain, and was made Lt. Col. during the Siege of Bexar. Because of illness in his family, he left the Alamo 2-14-1836 in charge of Wm. B. Travis, and thereby missed becoming an immortal Hero of the Alamo. Col. Neill was later wounded in a skirmish at San Jacinto--SRD)

On this same date, 2-12-1836, at San Felipe de Austin (in Austin Co.--SRD) Leroy comes before John W. Moody, Auditor, and states that he owes the Government nothing, and presents the following for which his father collects \$5.75:

"The provincial ("provisional"--SRD) Government of Texas:
 To Leroy and William Criswell, Dr.

Sept. 1835	To 3 1/2 lbs Coffee Bought of Taytum and Lee	\$1.00
	" 5 " of Sugar " " Lee	\$1.00
Oct. 4 *	" 5 " " " at Gonzales	\$1.00
	To Cash paid out for ----- and Corn St. Antone	.75
Dec. 27	c/o Two Dollars paid a Doctor at Gonzales	\$2.00
		<u>\$5.75</u>

signed by John Y. Criswell, showing he received payment."

Leroy was appointed Administrator of his father's estate when he died intestate 7-30-1839, and was appointed Guardian of his two youngest brothers, Joseph Eve and Andrew Jackson (Jack) Criswell. Leroy was on the 1840 Fayette Co. list of Freeholders.

In the "Texas Centinel" dated 6-17-1841, Leroy's name appears on a long list of those who had not paid their 1840 taxes in Gonzales Co., showing he owned land there. The amount he owed was \$7.38.

Many neighbors are listed as purchasers at a sale 1-15-1840 of John Y.'s personal property. In December 1841 Leroy, as Administrator, files a petition to partition his father's estate. The land listed was League #11 (his headright grant from the Mexican Govt.) in Matagorda Co. and 304 acres in Fayette Co. which was too small to partition, and value was set on it at \$400. The Bounty Grant of 320 acres which Wm. V. assigned 11-1-1838 to his father for Service in the Republic of Texas Army was not located until after 9-2-1846, the date the certificate was approved. The land was then located in Gonzales Co..

In 1844 Leroy was one of the Appraisers of the estate of Asa McClure (bro. of my g.g.grandma), and in 1845, of Lee F. T. Cottle's estate. Lee was the husband of Leroy's sister, Candace. About this time Leroy was Guardian of 2 of the children of Amelia and Wm. James Trimble who was captured 9-18-1842 with 14 others of Dawson's men near San Antonio, and taken to Perote Prison Vera Cruz, Mexico, where he died 1-5-1844. He was buried in the old moat beneath the gloomy walls of Perote Castle. Their oldest child, Sarah Trimble, married in 1847 Andrew Jackson Criswell, Leroy's youngest brother.

Amelia Trimble married again 10-20-1844 Alexander B. Faith, and had another child. In 1845 A. B. Faith was appointed Administrator of Wm. J. Trimble's estate. On 12-2-1850 A. B. Faith was removed as Administrator, and his son-in-law, Enos S. Basford, was appointed to take his place. Leroy and Geo. W. Tuttle were Sureties on the \$1600 Bond.

In 1850 the Trimble children were living in the homes of neighbors. Elender (Ellen) Trimble was living with Leroy and Eliza, and Mary Trimble was living in the home of my g.g.grandma, Sara Ann Ellis (Underwood) Robinson, her Guardian. Sarah's first husband, James S. Underwood, died 1839 in Fayette Co..

* Note: Their being in Gonzales Oct. 4 indicates they were in the "Come and Take It" battle Oct. 2.

Leroy and Wm. Scallorn, Sr., were witnesses 6-17-1853 in proving the Unconditional Land Grant Certificate of James's for Sarah. Sarah m. (2) my g.grandpa, William Marshall Robinson who died 1848 en route to Kentucky to testify in a law suit. He took sick on the way and died in New Orleans.

At the time of his death, Sarah and Wm. M. Robinson were neighbors in Black Jack Springs (later Pin Oak) of 6. of John Y., Sr.'s children and their families, Leroy, Wm. V., John Y., Jr., Joseph E., Jack and Candace-- who then was Mrs. Obediah Fitzgerald. The house that Sarah and Wm. Robinson built is still standing, although the double rock chimney and walls have been enclosed in other walls, and the house enlarged. (My mother's mother was born here in 1844 and went to school to Mr. Gorham with all of John Y., Sr.'s grandchildren who were born about the same time--SRD)

In 1851 or 1852 Leroy comes before the Court and states that the estate of Wm. J. Trimble is entitled to about \$500 by virtue of an Act of the Legislature passed in 1849 for the relief of Prisoners captured by the Mexicans in 1842, and says that Amelia had "long since died."

On 8-24-1851, in settling his father's estate, Leroy sends to J. M. Swisher, Auditor of public accounts, a draft in the form of a tiny certificate showing that John Y., was the assignee of Wm. V. Criswell for his pay of \$24 for Army Service from 3-27-1836 to 6-27-1836, during which time he was at San Jacinto. This is the same period of Service for which Wm. V. assigned to his Father in 1838 the Bounty Land Grant of 320 acres, later located in Gonzales Co., for having participated in the Battle of San Jacinto. A new certificate was issued 9-1-1851 at Austin on a Public Debt Form of the Late Republic of Texas for \$24. On 5-25-1857 Leroy, Wm. V., Joseph E. and John Y., Jr., gave power-of-attorney to P. W. Nowlin for collection. The \$24 was finally paid 7-23-1857.

Leroy and Wm. V. participated in the "Come and Take It" Battle at Gonzales on Oct. 2, 1835. This is proven by the Public Debt Papers at Archives in Austin, itemized on the previous page. Leroy and Wm. V. paid \$1.00 for 5# of sugar at Gonzales on Oct. 4, 1835. The same statement shows they paid a doctor at Gonzales \$2.00 on Dec. 27, 1835, so it is possible that one or the other was injured in the battle, perhaps both, and the doctor not paid till later. John Y., Sr., collected the money 2-12-1836.

Ab. 1853 Leroy and Eliza sold their home in Black Jack Springs to Vanhart Romburg and his brother John who had just arrived from Germany. Leroy and Eliza then moved to Oso, a few miles from the present Flatonia. Wm. V. moved there the same year. At the time they moved, the area was called Mulberry, and later called Praha, although it was designated as Oso in the 1860 census. A man named Matt Novak was the first Bohemian to settle in Fayette County at what later became Praha, and is Praha now. Among the Germans it was also called Hottentot then. The Germans in the early days didn't get along too well with the Bohemians, as they (the Germans) considered themselves far above the Bohemians in culture, etc.. They called it Hottentot as a term of derision when the Bohemians poured into that part of the county. Wm. V. lived 1 mi. E. of Praha and Leroy V. lived 1 mi. E. of him.

Before 1870 both Leroy and Eliza were dead, and their youngest children, where located in the 1870 census, were living with relatives, Leroy, Jr., the youngest, with Mary (Aunt Polly), widow of Wm. V., and Ruth and David with Leroy's oldest child, Eliza and her husband, Wm. Boykin.

Leroy and Eliza McMicken Criswell had 13 children:

1. Eliza Jane Criswell, b. 2-2-1843 Fayette Co., Texas, d. 2-19-1933 Estelline, Hall Co., in the Texas Panhandle, where she is buried; m. 9-30-1853 Oso, Texas, William James Boykin, b. 5-3-1829 near Macon, Ga., d. 3-26-1902, Davy, Texas, and is buried at Yoakum, Texas.

In the 1850 Gonzales Co., Texas, census there is a Sion (spelled "Scion") Boykin, b. 1806 Ga., listed with 8 children, the oldest of whom was William, b. 1829. Sion's wife was apparently dead, as she was not listed in the census. The oldest daughter was named "Mary" which in all probability was also her mother's name. The Texas Baptist and Herald, 3-5-1887, states in its Historical Series that the Church at Gonzales was organized 7-31-1847 with Richard D. Ellis, pastor, T. J. Pilgrim, clerk, and 7 other members, one of whom was Mary Boykin who I think was Sion's wife, although she could have been his dau. Mary, then 15. The Boykins came to Texas between 1844 when their youngest child was born in Ala. and Nov. 1850 when the census was taken. I have no proof, but I strongly believe that Wm. J. is this same Wm., b. 1829, son of Sion. Further, Eliza Jane and Wm. J. name their oldest child "Mary." Wm. J.'s dau., Lillie told me her father was b. 5-2-1829 near Macon, Ga., but she did not know who his parents were.

From June 1846 to 11-4-1851 Henry E. McCulloch commanded 6 different companies of Texas Rangers. Brown's History of Texas, Vol. II, p. 357, states that Wm. J. Boykin was one of the 2 buglers in the 6th and last company organized 5-5-1851 at Fort Merrill, on the Nueces. He may have served in some of the earlier companies which were 6 months to 1 year enlistments, but no other rosters are given. There were 74 privates and a total in rank and file of 89 in this 6th Company.

Eliza Jane and William lived in Oso, near Flatonia, after they married. Her younger brother and sister, David and Ruth were living with them when the 1870 census was taken, as Leroy and Eliza were both dead then.

Eliza and William were living in Guadalupe Co. in 1879 when their 10th child was born. They had 12 children.

A- Mary (Mollie) Boykin, b. 1- -1860 Oso, Texas; m. before 1880 _____
Hall.

B- William Boykin, b. 1862, Oso, Texas.

C- Hattie Boykin, b. 1864 Oso, Texas; m. _____ Breemlow.

D- Robert Lee Boykin, b. 1866 Oso, Texas; m. and had at least 1 child:

a- Alma Boykin, b. -1892 ; d. 7-24-1958 Goliad, Texas;
m. W. B. Bennett and had at least 1 child:

(1) W. B. Bennett, Jr., b. In 1960 he taught music
in San Antonio.

E- Rhoda (Rody) Boykin, b. 1868 Oso, Texas; m. _____ Utz.

F- Callie Boykin, b. 9- -1870 Oso, Texas; m. _____ McNatt.

G- Henry Finis Boykin, b. ab. 1873.

H- Ruth Lucretia (Cretia) Boykin, b. 1875; d. Waco, Texas; m. (1) James Franklin Hals who d. 1905 Bosqueville, McLennan Co., Texas, and is buried there.

Cretia m. (2) George Washington Wilkerson who d. 1927 China Spring, McLennan Co., Texas, and is buried there. She had no children by either husband.

I- Cuthbert Ferrel Boykin, b. ab. 1877.

J- Lillie Mae Boykin, b. 5-23-1879 near Marion, Guadalupe Co., Texas; m. (1) 3-5-1900 Cuero, Texas, her first cousin, William Alton Criswell (son of James Harvey Criswell), b. 1878 near Terryville, DeWitt Co., Texas; d. 7-8-1908 Mexico, in a railroad accident.

Lillie Mae lives 1960 at 1200 N. Oregon, El Paso, Texas. She spends her summers with her daughter, at Ruidosa, N.M. Lillie and Wm. A. Criswell had 1 child:

a- Inez Criswell, b. 12-26-1900 Yoakum, Texas; m. (1) 12-26-1917 Estelline, Texas, Lloyd Phillips, b. 1-11-1896 near Estelline. Their marriage was annulled 1932.

Inez m. (2) 5-17-1934 Alamogordo, N.M., George Bonal, b. 2-4-1908 Aguilar, Colo. They live 1960 with her mother in El Paso where they stay during the winter, but they own and operate a motel at Ruidosa, N.M. in the summer.

Lillie m. (2) 11-5-1912 Patrick, McLennan Co., Texas, Leander (Lee) Thomas Wheeler, b. 10-18-1868 near Bonham, Texas; d. 1-26-1946. They had no children.

K- Clemmons Eli Boykin, b. 1-12-1882.

L- Maggie Boykin, (stillborn), b. ab. 1885.

2. Mary Elender Criswell, b. 6-15-1844 Fayette Co., Texas; d. after 1880; m. 3-15-1860, by C. J. Lane, Ordained Preacher, near the present Praha, Fayette Co., Texas, Benjamin (Ben) W. Garey, b. ab. 1842 Ga. He may have died before 1880 as he was not in the 1880 Guadalupe Co. census with Mary and their son. After they married, Mary and Ben lived near her father in the Mulberry area where the village of Praha was located in 1868. They were still there when Leroy was killed about 1868. In 1880 Mary and their son were living with her older sister, Eliza Boykin and her family in the Cibolo District of Guadalupe Co. (Mary was marked "married" in 1880 Census.)

Mary and Ben had at least 1 child:

A- Benjamin Garey, b. 1862 Mulberry (then in the old Oso area), Fayette Co., Texas.

3. John Finis Criswell, b. 12-25-1845 Black Jack Springs, Texas; d. in or after 1918 when Orv Cottle (Grandson of Candace) saw him in Bayard, N.M., during World War I; m. 2-5-1868 Oso, Texas, Margaret Rhilie Jackson, b. 1853 Fayette Co., Texas; d. 8-1-1915 Bayard, N.M.

Rhilie was the dau. of George W. Jackson who m. 7-10-1850 Fayette Co., Texas, Elizabeth (Bettie) Lane, b. 1835 Ala.: d. after 1880 when she was living with John F. and Rhilie in Bandera Co. Geo. Jackson died before the 1870 Fayette Co. census was taken when Rhilie, John F. and Oliver were living with her mother and 2 younger brothers.

About 1875 John F. and Rhilie moved to Bandera Co. where they lived in 1880. At some time later they moved to Bayard, N.M. During the 1880s John F. often visited his cousin, Henry Sherman Cottle (son of Candace), in McCulloch Co. He drew a large picture of a ship which he gave to Henry. It hung on his back porch as long as LaVina Cottle Ware, Henry's dau., can remember. She doesn't know what ever became of it.

John F. and Rhilie had 9 children:

- A- Oliver (Ollie) Criswell, b. 1870 Oso, Texas; d. before Dec. 1917. In 1882 when the Henry Cottles moved to McCulloch Co., Ollie was living there with his father's cousin, John H. Criswell (son of Wm. V.).
- B- James Harvey Criswell, b. 1874 Fayette or Bandera Co., Texas; m. and lived 10 mi. from Bayard, N.M., in Dec. 1917. He was ranching and then had 500 head of cattle.
- C- William Henry Criswell, b. 1877 Bandera Co., Texas; m. and lived on the Frisco River, 125 mi. from Bayard, N.M., in Dec. 1917.
- D- John Yancy Criswell, b. ab. 1880; m. and lived 50 mi. west of Albuquerque in 1917.
- E- George Leroy Criswell, b. ab. 1882; m. and also lived 50 mi. west of Albuquerque in 1917. At that time he and his brother John had 600 head of cattle between them.
- F- Anna Lee Criswell, b. ab. 1885; m. Byron Paton. They lived Dec. 1917 in Fierro, N.M. and had 1 child, a daughter.
- G- Eva Criswell, b. ab. 1887; m. a Mr. Feeney. They lived Dec. 1917 in Morenci, Ariz., and had 1 child, a dau., b. 1908.
- H- Etta Criswell, b. ab. 1890. Etta, then a widow, lived Dec. 1917 with her father and young son. Etta and her husband had 1 child:
 - a- Lane Feeney, b. 1909.
- I- Clarence Martin Criswell, b. 1895; m. 1917 N.M. They lived Dec. 1917 at Fierro, N.M., 8 mi. from his father. He worked in a copper mill there and made \$5.00 a day

- 4. Waymon Wesley Criswell, b. 11-23-1847 Black Jack Springs, Texas; d., apparently, before 1860, as Leroy had only 1 son listed as "W. Criswell" in that census, and a William Criswell of his same age appears in later records who is probably Leroy's son William.
- 5. William A. Criswell, b. 1849 Black Jack Springs, Texas; he seems to be the "W." in the 1860 census, and if so, he m. 11-1-1871 Bastrop Co., Texas, Martha L. Warwick. In the 1870 San Marcos, Hays Co., Texas, census he was living with Wm. and Eliza D. Poston, helping them farm.

6. Henry Elias Criswell, b. 3-22-1851 Black Jack Springs, Texas; d. after 2-4-1900 when Bettie Criswell Jones mentioned him in her diary; m. 4-13-1871 Gonzales Co., Texas, Mary (May) E. Riffer, b. 1852 Ark. Her father was b. in Kentucky and her mother in Ark. In 1880 they lived in DeWitt Co., Texas. They had 3 children in 1880 and probably had others:
- A- William (Billie) Henry Criswell, b. 1873 DeWitt Co., Texas; d. 12-17-1957 Yoakum, DeWitt Co., Texas. His cousins, T. Floris and Cecil Criswell, (sons of David) of Buckholtz, Milam Co., Texas, attended the funeral Dec. 19th in Yoakum.
 - B- Abner B. Criswell, b. 1877 DeWitt Co., Texas.
 - C- Kertie Orson Criswell, b. Feb. 1880 DeWitt Co., Texas; m. 3-24-1898 Y Joakum, Texas, B. O. Townsend.
7. James Harvey (Harve) Criswell, b. 11-13-1852 Black Jack Springs, Texas; d. 2-22-1952 Corpus Christi, Texas; m. 3-14-1872 DeWitt Co., Texas, Melletta Jane Hester, b. 1857 or 1858 Texas.

Melletta was the dau. of a Mr. Hester, b. La., who was dead by 1870 as he was not in that census, and Mary A. _____, b. 1836 Miss. whom he married ab. 1853. In the 1870 DeWitt Co. census, Melletta was listed as "Mellettie J." She was living with her mother and brother J. A., b. 1855 La. Melletta was 12. In the 1880 Terryville, DeWitt Co., census she was listed as "Malletta Jane." Her name, however, on the recorded marriage license as sent to my by the County Clerk was "Martha Jane Hester."

When Harve was a barefoot boy of 13, he accompanied an ox-train of cotton from Columbus, Colorado Co., to Matamoros, Mexico, and returned with crude salt which was vitally needed because of the Civil War embargo. Before long he became one of a horde of young cowboys in the employ of the Cattle Barons of the Coast Country, aiding in the round-up and drives of the long-horns to Dodge City and Wichita, Kansas.

When seagoing freighters put in at Indianola, Harve was among the hardy souls who, with an ox-team and wagon, hauled the freight inland to Austin and San Antonio.

Harve and Melletta Jane lived near Terryville from the time of their marriage in 1872 until about 1881 when they moved to the hill country in Blanco Co., settling near the head of Miller's Creek. About 1889 they went to Travis Co. where their last child was born. Soon afterward they went to Kendall Co. where they lived on Sheppard's Creek. Here, Harve built the home of his prime and saw his family come to adulthood. He spent his later years in public work at scattered points.

Harvey was an active member of the old Trail Drivers Association, and was one of the last 3 living members at the time of his death. His last years were spent in the home of a grand-daughter, Mrs. Lonnie Glasscock, near Corpus Christi, Texas, although he died in a rest home. His interest in the news and in the lives of those around him remained keen, and his memory was excellent to the end, his obituary said.

At the time of his death, Harve had 1 living child (Allie), 27 grandchildren, 47 great-grandchildren and 17 great-great-grandchildren. Harve and Melletta Jane are buried in the cemetery at Blanco, Texas.

(NOTE: There is a mix-up on some of the dates in Harvey's obituary. It says he was 101 when he died, or b. 11-13-1850, yet according to a Bible record sent me, Leroy's son Henry E. was b. 3-22-1851. If Henry's date is correct, then it would be impossible for Harvey to have been born FOUR months previously on 11-13-1850. Nor would he have been born 11-13-1851. Apparently his birthdate was 11-13-1852 which supports the statement that he was 17 when he married.

Harvey's obituary states he was married 3-7-1870 but in July 1870 Melletta, age 12, was living with her mother. The record sent me by the County Clerk of DeWitt Co. states he was married 3-14-1872. Further, the obituary states that his father Leroy V. came to Texas in 1828 but John Y. Criswell, Sr.'s, Land Grant states he came to Texas with his family December 1830. Harvey was a very old man who apparently thought he was 2 years older than he really was. I am using his birthdate as 11-13-1852 as supported by other records.)

Harvey and Melletta had 9 children:

A- Thomas Leverett Criswell, b. 1873 near Terryville, DeWitt Co., Texas; d.

B- Lillie Lea Criswell, b. 1876 near Terryville, Texas; m. James Jefferson Edmondson, the son of James Joshua Edmondson. Lillie and James had at least 2 children:

a- Luna Edmondson, b. 1896; m. Lonnie Glasscock who d. 2-9-1961. Her grandfather, Harvey Criswell, lived in her home in Corpus Christi for some years before he died. Luna and Lonnie had at least 2 children: (order of birth not known)

(1) Lonnie Glasscock, Jr., b.

(2) Woodrow Glasscock, b.

b- James Marion Edmondson, b.

C- William Alton Criswell, b. 1878 near Terryville, Texas; d. 7-8-1908 in old Mexico in a railroad accident; m. 3-5-1900 Cuero, Texas, his first cousin, Lillie Mae Boykin, b. 5-23-1879 near Marion, Guadalupe Co., Texas, who lived 1960 in El Paso, Texas.

William A. and Lillie Criswell had 1 child:

a- Inez Criswell, b. 12-26-1900 Yoakum, Texas; m. (1) 12-26-1917 Estelline, Hall Co., Texas, Lloyd Phillips, b. 10-11-1896 near Estelline, Texas. Their marriage was annulled in 1932. They had no children.

Inez m. (2) 5-17-1934 Alamogordo, N.M., George Bonal, b. 2-4-1908, Aguilar, Colo. They lived 1960 in El Paso during the winter with her mother, and in Ruidosa, N.M., in the summer where they owned and operated a motel. Her mother helped her with the motel. Inez and George Bonal had no children.

After Wm. A. Criswell died, Lillie m. (2) 11-15-1912 Patrick, McLennan Co., Texas, Leander (Lee) Thomas Wheeler, b. 10-18-1868 near Bonham, Texas; d. 1-26-1946. No children.

- D- James Berry Criswell, b. ab. 1880 Terryville, Texas; d. before 1952 when his father died.
- E- Alicia (Allie) Criswell, b. ab. 1882 Blanco Co., Texas. Allie was the only one of her father's 9 children who was living when he died at the age of almost 100 in 1952.
- F- John Criswell, b. ab. 1884 Blanco Co., Texas; d. before 1952 when his father died.
- G- Belle Criswell, b. ab. 1886 Blanco Co., Texas; d. before 1952 when her father died.
- H- Andrew Neal Criswell, b. ab. 1888 Blanco Co., Texas, near the head of Miller's Creek; d. before 1952 when his father died; m. Lula, but her maiden name is not known to me.

When Andrew was small he lived in Travis Co. but he grew up on Sheppard's Creek in Kendall Co. where his father built the home of his prime.

Andrew and Lula had 5 children: (order of birth not known)

- a- Ruby Criswell; m. a Mr. Crumley.
- b- Gloria Criswell
- c- Martha Elkins Criswell
- d- Hester Niemann Criswell
- e- Barney Alton Criswell

- I- Sibley Criswell, b. ab. 1890 Travis Co., Texas; d. before 1952 when his father died.

- 8. Elizabeth Jo Criswell, b. 1854 near the present Praha, Fayette Co., Texas; d. San Angelo, Texas, and was buried there; m. 11-8-1877 Flatonía, Texas, George Wright Izard.

In the 1860 Fayette Co. census she was listed as "Bettie" but was called "Jo" when she was grown. She lived for a while near Buckholts, Milam Co., where her brother David lived, then went to San Angelo where her son lived. Jo and George Izard had at least 1 child:

- A- Silas Izard, b. ab. 1879; d. at some time before 1958 San Angelo, Texas. He had a monument business there for years.

- 9. Thomas (Tom) Criswell, b. 1856 near the present Praha, Texas; d. ab. 1888 Buckholts, Texas, and was buried near there in the cemetery at Corinth. At the time of his death he was living with his brother, David R. Criswell, and his family.

About 1885 Tom went to McCulloch Co. for a while. His cousins, John H. (son of Wm. V.) and Henry Cottle (son of Candace) lived there with their families. His cousin, Mollie (sister of John H.) and her husband, Jim Lyons, also lived there. Other Criswell kin who were in McCulloch Co. for a

while around that time were his cousins, Joe, Jr., and Buck Criswell (sons of Joe, Sr.), his brothers, John F. and Leroy, Jr., and his nephew, Ollie Criswell, John F.'s son.

After Tom's Uncle Jim Criswell died in Fayette Co., his widow Millie and her son Tom--whom Jim had raised from a little fellow and had given the Criswell name--also moved to McCulloch Co. not long after 1880. Tom (Leroy's son) was big and fat. To distinguish him from Jim's son Tom, he was called "Big Tom" and Jim's son Tom was called "Little Tom."

10. David Robert Criswell, b. 10-18-1858 near the present Praha, Texas; d. 1-2-1944 Buckholts, Texas, and was buried near there in the cemetery at Corinth; m. (1) 4-14-1881 near Praha, Texas, Sophronia Isabelle (Belle) Secrest, b. 12-10-1862 near the present Praha, Texas; d. 11-1-1895 Buckholts, Texas, and is buried near there in the North Elm Cemetery. David was a member of the Masonic Lodge in Buckholts, and the Masons conducted his funeral.

Belle was the dau. of Thomas A. Secrest, b. 1816 Tenn.; d. at some time after 1880 Llano Co., Texas; m. ab. 1843 Maria B. Dismuke, b. 1828 Tenn.; d. after 1895 Milam Co., Texas. The given name of Thomas's mother was "Nancy." She was b. 1795 S. C. and lived with them in 1850. Thomas and Maria came to Texas from Ark. ab. 1845. Two children were born in Ark.

Thomas and Maria settled in the Mulberry area, near the present Praha, on Mulberry Creek near the Stephen Scallorn family. In 1854 the first Bohemian, Matt Novak whose wife was a German, moved into the area. In the 1860s the Bohemians poured into the area. They built a Catholic church and named their village "Praha" which is Czech for "Prague." The Germans who didn't then like the Czechs called their village "Hottentot" as a term of derision. Even now it is sometimes called "Hottentot" although on the map the name is still "Praha." Thomas and Maria Secrest lived in this area for about 30 years before they separated.

Around 1880 Thomas gave everything to Maria and moved to Llano County. Not long after that Maria sold out and went to live in Milam Co. where David and Belle lived.

In 1875, at age 17, David was a Trail Boss, driving cattle for the Driskills of Austin. They gathered cattle from the mesquite ranges of Southwest Texas and drove them to Padre Island, not far from Old Indianola, before Corpus Christi was established. When there were 10,000 head, they were put in herd and headed up the Trail. David drove his first herd to Pike's Peak, Colorado, and weighed only 100 pounds when he returned to Austin--with a bottle of chill tonic in his pocket (so his obituary said). He rode the Trail for a number of years, going to Dodge City, Kansas, on some of his trips in the early days.

In 1883 David and Belle moved to Buckholts where both of them later died. David was a Justice of the Peace there for about 50 years. He had a splendid education and taught school in Milam Co., riding 6 mi. each day. In 1902 he was admitted to the Texas Bar, and then practiced Law in Buckholts.

David and Belle Secrest Criswell had 6 children:

- A- Bird Criswell, b. 1-22-1882 Fayette Co., Texas; d. before 1944; m. 1898 Buckholts, Texas, John B. Taylor. They lived in Wichita Falls, Texas.
- B- Dallas Vard Criswell, b. 10-28-1884 Buckholts, Texas; d. 11-29-1901 Buckholts, Texas.
- C- Pearl Criswell, b. 9-1-1886 Buckholts, Texas; m. C. B. Lassiter. She lived Dec. 1962 in El Paso, Texas.
- D- Thomas Floris Criswell, b. 4-28-1888 Buckholts, Texas; m. 1-11-1914 Temple, Texas, Annie (Ann) Irene Lupton, of Rogers, Bell Co., Texas, b. 10-4-1892 Hempstead, Texas. She was the dau. of Thomas McCormick Lupton, b. 8-25-1851 Berryville, Va.; d. 1-12-1902, who m. Eudora Punchard, b. 12-11-1857; d. 3-10-1946.

When they married Floris was asst. cashier of the Buckholts State Bank where he worked for 27 years. He was vice-president of the bank when they moved to Calvert, Texas, where he was vice-president of the bank until 1957 when he retired. They then moved to Cameron, Texas. Ann has served as Regent of the Cameron Chapter, D.A.R.

Following their wedding in Temple, Floris and Ann went to Waco. During their 50 years of marriage they have returned each year on a Sunday near Jan. 11th to Temple or Waco for a traditional dinner. They lived Aug. 1964 at 505 E. 10 in Cameron.

Floris and Ann had 4 sons, all of whom served in World War II.

- a- Thomas Floris Criswell, Jr., W.W. II, b. 2-9-1915 Buckholts, Texas; m. 8-2-1938 Dorothy Marie Maerki. Floris, Jr., a graduate of the University of Texas, is a Lt. Col. in the Medical Corps and in Aug. 1964 was at Randolph A.F.B. in San Antonio, Texas, having previously served in Japan and Westover A.F.B. in Mass.

Floris and Dorothy Marie had 2 children:

- (1) Patricia (Patsy) Ann Criswell, b. 2-7-1940; m. 7-6-1963 San Antonio, Texas, Milford Pike Castles, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herman M. Castles, of Boerne, Texas. Patsy and Pike are both graduates of the University of Texas.
- (2) Jean (Jennie) Elizabeth Criswell, b. 4-5-1944. She plans to return to the University of Texas in the fall of 1964 for her sophomore year.
- b- Dallas Lupton Criswell, W.W. II, b. 12-28-1916 Buckholts, Texas; m. 3-15-1951 Muriel Cora King. Dallas, a graduate of Texas A. & M., is a Lt. Col. in the Reserves. They lived Aug. 1964 in Shreveport, La. He was then with United Gas.

Dallas and Muriel have 3 children:

- (1) Rex Kirby Criswell, b. 3-4-1958.
- (2) Scott Thomas Criswell, b. 5-14-1960.
- (3) J. Glenn Criswell, b. 7-10-1963.

(a Twin) c- Ralph M. Criswell, b. 12-13-1919 (on Friday the 13th) Buckholts, Texas; m. (1) 9-1-1942 Olga Hendrick. Ralph graduated at Texas A. & M. They had 1 child:

(1) Barry Criswell, b.

Ralph m. (2) April 1953 Diane Sullivan. They lived Aug. 1964 at McGregor, Texas, where Ralph was associated with Rockydyne (Rocketdyne). They have 4 children:

- (1) Danny Criswell, b. 1-24-1954.
- (2) Cynthia Criswell, b. 12-20-1954.
- (3) Tracy Ann Criswell, b. 11-18-1960.
- (4) Mark Criswell, b. 4-24-1962.

(a Twin) d- Raleigh R. Criswell, W.W.II, b. 12-13-1919 Buckholts, Texas; m. Gertrude Glider. He is a graduate of Texas A. & M. Raleigh and Gertrude lived Aug. 1964 in Houston, Texas, where he was the asst. cashier of a bank. They have 1 child:

(1) Carol Criswell, b. 10-2-1954.

E- Lennis (Lenn) Vanoy Criswell, b. 5-30-1890 Buckholts, Texas; m. 7-30-1917 Frank Nathaniel Craven, b. 11-16-1891. In Dec. 1962 they lived at 2111 68th St., Lubbock, Texas.

They had 2 children:

- a- Frank Nathan Craven, b. 5-16-1918; m. 8-4-1940 Marjorie Burdett.
- b- Joyce Isabelle Craven, b. 5-26-1920; m. 7-3-1944 James Dow Huggins.

F- Zorus Belle Criswell, W.W.I, b. 2-22-1895 Buckholts, Texas; d. 10-23-1923 Buckholts, Texas, killed in an automobile accident, and was buried next to his father in the cemetery at Corinth, near Buckholts. He served in the Navy during the War.

David m. (2) Stella Pollock Law (widow of Tom Law), b. 8-18-1867 Miss. She survived David who died 1-2-1944. When they married Stella had a small dau., Mildred Law, who grew up with all of David's children. She later married Theodore (Theo) Bryant and had 4 sons.

David and Stella had 5 children:

A- Naomi Lee Criswell, b. 7-7-1898 Buckholts; Texas; m. 8-30-1922 Buckholts, Texas, W. L. English. They lived Nov. 1962 in Moran, Texas, and had 2 children:

a- Marie Joyce English, b. 12-24-1926; m. 8-7-1948 Dallas W. Johnston and had 3 children:

- (1) Lynn Johnston, b. 7-23-1949.
- (2) Lisa Johnston, b. 5-21-1951.
- (3) Laurie Johnston, b. 8-5-1959.

b- Donna Louise English, b. 8-24-1933; m. 5-23-1951 William S. Moore and had 2 children:

- (1) Leslie Ann Moore, b. 10-9-1953.
- (2) William Shoffner Moore, b. 6-29-1956.

B- Audrey Criswell, b. ab. 1900 Buckholts, Texas; m. George W. Goree, deceased. Audrey lived 1958 in Olney, Texas. They had no children.

C- Cecil Criswell, b. ab. 1902 Buckholts, Texas; m. Lula Ezzell. He lived Dec. 1962 in Buckholts, Texas, the only child of David's who stayed there. They had no children.

D- Delmar Ray Criswell, W.W.II, b. 7-31-1904 Buckholts, Texas; m. 2-14-1938 Viola V. Bowman, b. 8-12-1913. They lived Nov. 1962 in Olney, Texas, where he was a Geologist and Oil Operator. Delmar and Bowman (as she signs her letters) had 2 children:

a- David Robert Criswell, b. 8-16-1940.

b- Maryha Lynn Criswell, b. 10-6-1943.

E- Waymon Criswell, b. ab. 1906 Buckholts, Texas; d. ab. 1912, drowned in a tank within sight of his home. His dog was found lying on the bank. He was named for his father's older brother, Waymon, who was b. in 1847.

11. Ruth Criswell, b. 1860 near the present Praha, Texas; d. in New York; m. a Mr. Thomas. When the 1870 census was taken, Ruth and her brother, David, were living with their oldest sister, Eliza Criswell Boykin, and her family. Leroy V. and Elizabeth McMicken Criswell were both dead.

12. Milam Criswell, b. ab. 1862 near the present Praha, Texas; d.

13. Leroy (Lee) Criswell, b. 1864 near the present Praha, Texas; d. Matador, Texas, and is buried there. He married but his wife's name is not known to me.

In 1870 when the census was taken, Lee was living with his aunt, Mary (Aunt Polly) McMicken Criswell, widow of Wm. V., and their 3 unmarried children, John H., Yancy and Lillie, as his parents were both dead then.

About 1885 Lee went to McCulloch Co. for some time to be near his cousins, John H., Yancy (Yank), their sisters, Mollie Criswell Lyons and Lillie Criswell Waddill (all chil. of Wm. V.), Henry Cottle (son of Candace) and Millie Criswell (widow of his Uncle Jim Criswell), all of whom lived there at that time with their families.

Other Criswell kin who visited McCulloch Co. about that time were Lee's brothers, Tom and John F., and John F.'s son, Ollie. His cousins, Joe, Jr., and Buck Criswell (sons of Joseph Eve Criswell) also were there for a while.

Lee was rather heavy-set, with sandy hair and a ruddy complexion like that of his cousin, John H. Criswell. John H. moved his family to Childress Co. in the Panhandle in the spring of 1889. At some time after that, Lee went to Matador where he later died.

John H. moved to Matador in 1896. Lee may have been there in 1899 when John was accidentally killed while roping a cow, dropping the last coil around his neck. Joe, Jr. was there and cut the rope. John H. soon became conscious and rode the 4 miles home but died soon afterward. It seems that Lee spent most of his early life near John H. who was probably more like an older brother to him than a cousin.

Lee had at least 2 children, as two daughters lived 1961 in Matador, Texas.

- II. WILLIAM (Will) VANNOY CRISWELL, Army of the Republic of Texas, b. 4-15-1815 Knox Co., Ky.; d. 1-19-1858 Praha, Texas, about 4 miles east of Flatonia in Fayette Co.; m. 10-12-1844 Black Jack Springs, Texas, Mary (Polly) E. McMicken, b. 8-24-1829 Tenn.; d. 1-23-1899 Praha, Texas, and is buried in the old Black Jack, or Pin Oak Cemetery.

Polly was the dau. of Andrew McMicken, b. 1804 Tenn.; d. after 6-28-1880 when the Fayette Co. census was taken. At that time he was living with Polly. He m. ab. 1823 Tenn., Eliza A. _____, b. ab. 1806 Tenn.; d. 1-2-1848 Black Jack Springs, Texas, and was buried in the Black Jack Cemetery. Two of Polly's sisters also married sons of John Y. Criswell, Sr.

In the 1830 Knox Co., Ky., census there is a William Vannoy, 50-60, with a wife the same age and a son 20-30. I firmly believe (but have no proof) that this William Vannoy is the father of Mrs. John Y. Criswell, Sr., whose first two children had Vannoy as a middle name. However, descendants of both William V. and Leroy V. have given me the name of "Vanoy".

William V. was one of the San Jacinto heroes, serving in Capt. Jesse Billingsley's Co., under Col. Edward Burleson, 1st Regt., known as Mina Volunteers, later as Co. C. His name appears on the bronze plaque inside the San Jacinto Monument at the Battlefield. He was first buried in the Criswell Cemetery located on his land 1/2 mile east of his home, on the north side of Mulberry Creek. At one time this was a large cemetery. About 1935 the man who then owned the land where the cemetery was located broke down all the stones except two and hauled them away. Houston Wade found out about it and the man was fined a large sum of money.

William V.'s body was then removed to Austin and placed in the Republic of Texas part of the State Cemetery. A number of relatives and descendants attended the reburial ceremony in 1936, including a g.g.g. grandson, Leon Harlan Ivy, who received special mention. William V. is buried opposite the grave of another Fayette County man, Joel W. Robison, one of the 5 men who captured Santa Anna. Next to Joel's grave is a marker telling of the capture. The other 4 captors were James A. Sylvester, Joseph D. Vermillion, Alfred H. Miles and David Cole. Capt. Jesse Billingsley and Rev. Z. N. Morrell are buried nearby.

The two stones left standing in the Criswell Cemetery are, one, a double stone for Wm. V. and his dau., Sara E. (Lee), and the other is that of a little grand-daughter. On Wm. V.'s tombstone is the inscription: "An old Texas Veteran The Cross is my Anchor", and on the opposite side of the stone is the inscription; "Sarah E. Lee, nee Criswell Asleep in Jesus", along with her dates. The stone of the grand-dau. reads: "Florence, daughter of J. P. and Lillie Waddill", and her dates. She was listed in the 1880 census shortly before she died as "Lily Florine".

Richard Alexander Barkley, of Woods Prairie (now West Point), a Dawson Man captured 9-18-1842 wrote a letter dated 6-18-1843 from Perote Castle Prison in Mexico in which he mentioned a steer he had bought from Will Criswell that was then on Scallorn's Prairie (named for some of my family). Norman Woods, another neighbor (who died 1-5-1844 in Perote), wrote in a letter dated 11-24-1843 that old Faith (Alexander B. Faith) was thinking of renting the Criswell place. This was the old home-place of John Y., Sr., near the present West Point.

William V. received 5 Republic of Texas Land Grants. Two were Colonization grants of 1/3 League each. File #155 issued 1-5-1838 for 1/3 League in Cass Co. he assigned to J. H. McReynolds. File #283 issued 12-21-1850 for 1/3 League in San Patricio Co. he assigned to David Snively. File #472, a Donation Grant for participation in the Battle of San Jacinto, issued 2-7-1840 for 640 acres in Uvalde Co. was patented 9-10-1846 to Wm. V. He received 2 Bounty Grants of 320 acres each for Service in the Army during War. File #72 for 3 mos. Service from 3-27-1836 to 6-27-1836 (the Battle of San Jacinto) was for 320 Acres in Gonzales Co. The Certificate issued by Sec. of War, Bernard Bee, 5-16-1838 he assigned to his father who died the next year. The 320 acres were patented 9-10-1846 to Wm. V. File #571, a 320 acre grant in Blanco Co. for Service from 9-28-1835 to 12-13-1835 (the Siege of Bexar) was patented 4-20-1848 to Wm. V. (Wm. V. also served in the Army from 7-25-1835 to 9-13-1835. This was not during War so no Bounty Grant was issued. A third grant for 1/3 League was marked "Void" in the Index.)

On 7-22-1881 Mary E. Criswell, Wm. V.'s widow, received a Donation Grant of 1280 acres, 116 1/2 in Haskell Co., and 1163 1/2 acres in Young Co., through an Act of the Legislature in 1880 giving that amount of land to surviving veterans or their widows.

William V. served in the Army several times. He first enlisted, with his brother, Leroy V., in the Indian Campaign from 7-25-1835 to 9-13-1835. For this Service he received Draft #3082 for \$41.66 on 7-22-1837. The following, written on a torn piece of paper, is most interesting. It was all very faded and I could not read the signature, although the notarization was clear.

" \$41.66 William Criswell
MILITARY (to) Sept. 13, 1835 filed 22 July 1837, examined
and Audited \$41.66 Issued 7-22-1837 No. Draft 3082

Today came William Criswell and says annext instrument is just, and trew and original, that he owes the government nothinge one his owne accounte or one ace. of aney other pierson, nor has he retained, sold or embargled (embezzled?) aney armes, munitions of war or aney other property what Ever belonging to the republic of Texas, or causes the Same to have been done.

(signature not legible)

Sworn to and subscribed to
before me, G. W. Spair, J. P., for the County of
Mina, Texas, July the 13, 1837 (signed) G. W. Spair" (Mina became Bastrop
in 1837)

"I do hereby certify that William Criswell has served as a private in the permanent volunteer Company of Texas Militia and as such discharged his duty for 50 days under my command in Col. Moore Batalion
Mina Sept. 13, 1835 (signed) R. M. Williamson Capt Commanding
(signed) J. H. Moore Col.
Willer Criswell discharged from the Compay"

(Note by SRD:)

Robert McAlpin Williamson was later at San Jacinto. He was known as "Three Legged Willie" as he wore a wooden leg from the knee down on his right leg, from which no part had been removed. A Lawyer at 18. To Texas 1826. Was a Texas Judge, Congressman & Senator)

"The provincial (Provisional--SRD) Govament of Texas
 To Leroy and William Criswell, Dr.
 Sept. 1835 To 3 1/2 lbs Coffee Bought of Taytum and Lee \$1.00
 " 5 " of Sugar " " " " \$1.00
 Oct. 4 " 5 " " " " at Gonzales \$1.00
 To Cash paid out for _____ and Corn St. Antone .75
 Dec. 27 c/o two Dollars paid a Doctor at Gonzales \$2.00
 (collected and signed by John Y. Criswell, 2-12-1836--SRD) \$5.75"

William V. and Leroy enlisted again, as privates, in Capt. J. C. Neill's Artillery Company. Wm. V. served from 9-28-1835 to 12-13-1835, including the Siege of Bexar, but Leroy left the Company 11 days before the Siege began. For this Service of Wm. V.'s, his father collected \$51.33 on 2-12-1836, and wrote on a scrap of paper:

"Recd. of J. W. Moody, Auditor, a draft drawn in favour of William Criswell for fifty one 33/100 dollars on account of which I promise to keep him harmless. February 12, 1836
 (signed) J. Y. Criswell"

I think the following is a beautiful tribute to William V.:

"Head Quarters December 13, 1835
 This is to Certify that Wm. Criswell of the Brass Gun Institution 1824 Entered the Volunteer Army of Texas on the 28 of September and has discharged his duty with Honour and applause. he is also one who so galantly distinguished himself in the Seige of Bexar. he is hereby Honourably discharged

(signed) Almeron Dickinson Captain
 By order (") J. C. Neill Col.
 Wm. T. Austin
 Aid de Camp (") Edward Burleson
 Commander in Chief

(outside) discharged from the service
 of Texas Volunteer"

(Note by SRD:)

Almeron Dickinson was killed at the Alamo 3-6-1836. His wife, Suzanna, was present there and later wrote an eye-witness account of the battle. James Clinton Neill was made Lt. Col. on 12-7-1835 during the Siege of Bexar. He had enlisted 9-28-1835, the same day Wm. and Leroy did. On 12-21-1835 Sam Houston put him in charge of San Antonio and the Bexar district. Because of illness in his family Neill left the Alamo 2-14-1836, with Wm. D. Travis in charge, and thereby missed becoming an immortal Hero of the Alamo. Was on the Runaway Scrape.

On the preceding page an item shows that Leroy V. and William V. paid \$1.00 for 5# of sugar bought at Gonzales Oct. 4, 1835. This places them at Gonzales at the time of the "Come and Take It" battle fought there Oct. 2, 1835. This was the first battle in the fight for freedom from Mexican tyranny. There was also an item of \$2.00 paid to a doctor in Gonzales Dec. 27, 1835 on the same statement. It is possible that one or the other was injured. I am inclined to think that Leroy may have been injured there (but have no proof), because, although they both enlisted 9-28-1835, Leroy served only 58 days before being discharged while Wm. V. served 77 days. If Leroy were injured it would explain why he was not in the Siege of Bexar Dec. 5-9, 1835 with Wm. V. who conducted himself so gallantly there.

William V. enlisted a third time on 3-27-1836 and served till 6-27-1836, which included the Battle of San Jacinto. He served in Capt. Jesse Billingsley's Company of Mina Volunteers. For this Service he received a Certificate for \$24 which he assigned to his father 11-1-1838. John Y. Criswell, Assignee, filed it 11-1-1838 and it was admitted to Audit. On the same date draft #9795 was issued to John Y., Assignee, for \$24. This was in the form of a tiny certificate which was not cashed before his death the following year. On 8-24-1851 it was sent to J. M. Swisher, Auditor of public accounts, by Leroy as Administrator of his father's estate, and another certificate #2063 on the Public Debt form of the Late Republic of Texas was issued 9-1-1851 for \$24. On 5-25-1857 Leroy, Wm. V., Joseph E. and John Y., Jr., sign a paper giving P. W. Nowlin their power-of-attorney to collect this \$24. It was finally paid in full 7-23-1857, signed-for by P. W. Nowlin--over 21 years after the Battle of San Jacinto was fought!

William V. was one of the early settlers in Black Jack Springs. In 1850 Wm. V., his sister Candace, and all of their brothers (except Jim whom I didn't find in the 1850 census) were living as close neighbors there. Most of their dwellings were consecutively numbered in the census. In 1852 Wm. V. sold his house to John Arnold who had just come from Devonshire, England, with his family. Wm. V. then moved to Praha, or Hottentot as it is sometimes called, 4 miles east of the present Flatonia, although that area was called Oso about that time. Oso was in the general vicinity of Black Jack Springs. Wm. V. died at Praha 1-19-1858, and was buried in the Criswell Cemetery nearby. (His body was moved and reburied in the State Cemetery at Austin in 1936--see p. 1, Wm. V.) Polly spent the rest of her life here on their old homeplace. She was affectionately known as "Aunt Polly", and was loved by all who knew her, both family and friends alike.

In the 1860 census Polly was listed with their 6 children. Her father, Andrew, and brother, James M. McMicken, lived next door. Joseph E. Criswell lived in the second dwelling from them. In 1870 Polly's 3 youngest children, her father, and small nephew, Leroy, Jr., age 6, were living with her. Leroy and Eliza had both died before 1870 and their smaller children, where located in that census, were living with relatives. In 1880 Polly's father, her youngest dau., Lillie, her husband and 2 children were living with her. Emiline (Emily) Criswell, age 27, a dau. of one of the Criswell slaves, also lived with her.

Polly had raised Emiline who was given to her when she was a baby by her mother. Polly raised little Emiline in the house, and sold her mother before the slaves were freed. After Wm. V. died Emiline always slept on a small mattress on the floor by Polly's bed. She refused to leave her when the slaves were freed. Emiline didn't have much time for negroes. She loved the

whole Criswell family. The grandchildren all adored her. They called her "Aunt Niggie" or "Aunt Nig". She called herself "Aunt Niggie" to them, and called Polly "Missus". She called Henry Cottle, Candace's son, "Mos Henry".

Polly was visiting her dau., Mollie Lyons, in the Round Mountain area of McCulloch Co. in 1888 when her son Yancy was so tragically killed. She took his death very hard. After Yancy's death, his cousin, Henry Cottle, built a little house on his land for Yancy's wife, Delia, and their children to live in, about 1/2 mile from his own home. They stayed there a year or more, then Delia and the children went back to their own farm 5 or 6 miles away for another year or so. Then she sold the farm and took the children to West Texas, but decided not to stay when they got there. They were on their way back to McCulloch Co. in 1893 when Delia died at Cristoval, Tom Green Co., and was buried there. Yancy's sister Lillie went to Cristoval after the children. They stayed with Lillie for a while after Polly went home.

Polly soon decided to go back and get the children. She and her bro. James took a 4 mule wagon and went to McCulloch Co. after them. She took the 5 girls back to Praha with her, but Tom Yank, as he was called, didn't want to go back with her. He was then about 16. He got on his pony "Old Possum" and rode away to West Texas.

At the time Polly went after the children, her grandson, Tom Jones, and his wife Bertie were living with her. When Bertie saw the wagon coming down the road, she made the fatal mistake of calling out that they were coming. Aunt Nig, who had just finished milking the cows, threw the bucket of milk into the air and ran, crying, to meet them.

When Polly died in 1899 she willed Aunt Nig to her dau. Lillie Waddill who also lived in McCulloch Co. then. There was an old negro there named "Pete" whom Henry Cottle used to tease Aunt Nig about. She would say "Mos Henry, I wouldn't have that nigger if his head was made of gold." When Aunt Nig died, she was buried in the Rochelle Cemetery near the fence, and there is a marker with the name "Emily Criswell" on it. Polly's dau. Mollie Lyons is also buried in the Rochelle Cemetery, but her grave has no marker!

In the spring of 1852 William V. brought a libel suit against Jackson C. C. Smith for defamation of character, asking \$5,000.00 damages. In the suit he declared that he is one of the Criswells referred to in the libel suits. He further declares "that in the State of Kentucky from which he emigrated to this country with his father, the late John Y. Criswell, whose character also the said Smith libels, cruelly, falsely and maliciously in each of said publications, the name of Criswell was without reproach or blemish." Dr. William P. Quinn gave a character reference for the Criswells. William V. was awarded the sum of \$1.00, a token payment but complete moral vindication. His brothers, John Y., Jr., Joseph E. and Andrew J. also brought libel suits against J. C. C. Smith who must have been pretty mad because he posted notices in his grocery store, in the blacksmith shop and along the Gonzales road; however, the suit did not state what he was so mad about. It was about this time that Wm. V. moved to Mulberry, as it was known then, 1 mi. E. of the present Praha and 4 mi. from the present Platonina.

On 12-1-1852 Jeremiah Hill who was then about 3 years old was living with William V. and Polly. Both his mother, Mary Slack (McCown) Hill (Mrs. John) and grandmother, Mrs. Felix Taylor (whose first husband was Richard Slack), Black Jack Springs neighbors, had just died. Obadiah Fitzgerald (husband of Candace Criswell) and John Y. Criswell, Jr., witnessed Nancy (Slack) Taylor's

will which designated William Gorham and Haywood Moore as Executors. When they refused to act, William V. was appointed Executor. When he died 1-19-1858 the Court appointed J. C. C. Smith as Executor who made the final settlement of the estate later that year.

In 1854 (day and month not given) a document was drawn up in Fayette Co. wherein William V. purchased 2 negroes, one of whom was Emaline (Nig or Niggie or Aunt Nig as she was later called) who was then 1 1/2 years old. The photostat of the original document sent to me bore no signature. It is as follows:

"The State of Texas) Know all men by these presents that
County of Fayette) I, C. H. Willborn of the County of
Gonzales and State aforesaid for and
in consideration of the sum of nine hundred dollars, to me in
hand paid by William V. Criswell the receipt whereof is hereby
acknowledged have bargained sold and conveyed and by these
presents do bargain sell and convey unto the said William V.
Criswell, his executors administrators and assigns two certain
negroes, Slaves for life, to wit, One a woman named Julia aged
twenty four years, the other a child named Emmerline aged one
year and a half, to have and to hold the same unto the said
William V. Criswell, his executors, administrators and assigns
forever. And I do hereby warrant said negroes to be sound in
body and mind with this exception in the woman Julia viz, who
has but one eye, and I covenant for myself my heirs, executors
and administrators, to warrant and forever defend the title
to said negroes unto the said William V. Criswell his heirs
and assigns forever against all and every person or persons
lawfully claiming or to claim the same whatsoever.

In Witness where of I hereunto set my hand and seal
(using scrawl for seal) this the day of A. D. 1854
(Seal)"

It was stated on p. 4 that the mother of Emaline gave her to Polly Criswell, as told me by a descendant. This document that later came to light shows that William V. bought both the mother and the baby. They couldn't have had a better home, I'm sure.

The original marriage license of William V. and Polly shows they were married by Josiah O'Daniel, Justice of the Peace, the father of Mary Rebecca O'Daniel who married John Y. Criswell, Jr., in 1847.

William V. and Mary (Polly) B. McMicken Criswell had 6 children:

1. Elizabeth (Bettie) Jane Criswell, b. 5-5-1846 Black Jack Springs, Texas; d. 4-6-1919 BJS, Texas; m. 11-7-1865 Oso (ab. three miles northeast of the present Flatonia), Texas, Col. John Calvin (Cal) Jones, C. S. A., b. 3-2-1843 DeSoto Co., Miss.; d. 3-23-1926 Smithville, Texas. Both Bettie and Cal are buried in the old Black Jack (or Pin Oak) Cemetery in Fayette County. Cal was the son of Thomas (Tom) Jones, b. 4-5-1818 S. C.; d. 3-24-1892 BJS, and his wife Lettitia, b. 2-14-1818 N. C.; d. 12-13-1897 BJS in Bettie's and Cal's home where she had been living since her husband's death. Lettitia and Tom are also buried in the Black Jack Cemetery. In 1851 Calvin came to Texas with his parents who settled at Warrenton, Fayette Co.

Cal Jones served in Capt. Virgil S. Rabb's Company I, 16th Texas Infantry, Flournoy's Regt., Walker's Division, during the Civil War. The "Col." in his name had no military significance.

After Bettie's younger brother, Yancy, was waylaid and killed in 1888 near Brady, McCulloch Co., Texas, and his wife died in 1893, Bettie took his dau., Ida, to live with them until she married in 1897. Bettie and Cal Jones had 7 children:

A- Sarah (Sallie) Elizabeth Jones, b. 2-13-1867 BJS, Texas; d. 11-30-1947 Hardin, Liberty Co., Texas; m. (1) 1883 BJS, Texas, Allen Franklin Jackson, b. 6-2-1860 in Texas, d. 1-20-1900 (22 Jan - tombstone and diary) Muldoon, Texas, and is buried in the Black Jack Cemetery. Sallie died at Hardin while visiting a step-dau. and is buried in the Pitman Cemetery at Muldoon. Sallie and Allen Jackson had 8 children:

a- Effie Agnes Jackson, b. 4-13-1884 Muldoon, Texas; m. 12-9-1903 near Muldoon, Texas, William (Willie) Thomas Ivy, b. 10-14-1884 Muldoon, Texas; d. 1-15-1943 San Antonio, Texas, and is buried there. Effie lives (1961) at Muldoon, Texas, where she is Asst. Postmaster. Effie and Willie Ivy had 1 child:

(1) Leon Jackson Ivy, b. 9-7-1904 Muldoon, Texas; m. 1-7-1927 Schulenburg, Texas, Gertrude Meyer, b. 6-4-1907 Schulenburg, Texas. They lived 1958 at Ringgold, Montague Co., Texas, and had 3 children:

(A) Leon Harlan Ivy, b. 3-2-1928 Schulenburg, Texas; m. 6-16-1956 San Antonio, Texas, in the First Baptist Church, Dr. Perry Webb officiating, Clarice Good, b. 8-3-1926.

Harlan, the first great-great-great-grandchild (I believe) of William V. Criswell, San Jacinto hero, attended the Services in 1936 when William V. was re-buried in the State Cemetery in Austin, and received special mention. Harlan was then about 8 years old. When the Battleship TEXAS was presented to the State of Texas about 1942, Harlan was invited and had the honor to sit just back of Admiral Nimitz during the presentation ceremony.

In 1958 Harlan and Clarice lived at 4260 Emory St., Houston, Texas. They had no children then.

- (B) Gertrude Wynelle Ivy, b. 8-6-1931 Schulenburg, Texas; d. 4-2-1938 Duncan, Okla., and is buried there.
- (C) Charles William Ivy, b. 2-25-1943 Houston, Texas.

- b- Ira Jackson, b. 5-9-1886 Muldoon, Texas; d. 1-3-1904 Muldoon, Texas, and is buried in the Pin Oak Cemetery.
- c- Josie Jackson, b. 8-22-1888 Muldoon, Texas; d. 11-10-1904 Muldoon, Texas, and is buried in the Pin Oak Cemetery.
- d- Pauline Jackson, b. 3-9-1891 Muldoon, Texas; d. 3-20-1892 Muldoon, Texas, and is buried in the Pin Oak Cemetery.
- e- Raymond Carroll Jackson, b. 2-2-1893 Muldoon, Texas; d. 3-25-1964; m. 11-15-1914 Kittie Meek, b. 12-18-1897. They had 3 children:

- (1) Irma Jackson, b.
- (2) Vera Jackson, b.
- (3) Raymond Jackson, b.

- f- William Calvin Jackson, b. 4-19-1895 Muldoon, Texas; m. 3-6-1930 Evadean Hardy. They had 2 children:

- (1) Janna Jackson, b.
- (2) Mary Lou Jackson, b.

- g- Robert Vanoy Jackson, b. 8-7-1897 Muldoon, Texas; d. 12-30-1914.
- h- Allan Fae Jackson, b. 3-12-1900 Muldoon, Texas; m. (1) 9-17-1919 Elmer Minor who d. 7-29-1946. They had no children. Allan Fae m. (2) 6-25-1950 V. T. Null. They had no children.

Sallie Jones Jackson m. (2) May 1903 Lockhart, Texas, Robert (Bob) Ray, b. 9-20-1872; d. 1-5-1919 Muldoon, Texas; and they had 1 child:

- a- Oscar Davis Ray, b. 9-30-1906 Muldoon, Texas; m. 9-9-1930 Irma Duke. Had 1 child:

- (1) Dixon Ray, b.

Sallie m. (3) 6-1-1930 Robert (Bob) Jones, b. 11-14-1859; d. 12-20-1931 Lockhart, Texas.

- B- William Thomas (Tom) Jones, b. 10-20-1870 BJS, Texas; d. 9-29-1939 LaGrange, Texas; m. 1-12-1892 Bertie Irene Langston, b. 2-6-1871 Ala.; d. 1-31-1939 LaGrange, Texas. Both Tom and Bertie died in the hospital at LaGrange, and are buried in the Pitman Cemetery at Muldoon.

Bertie was the dau. of William Andrew Jackson Langston, b. 5-18-1832; d. near Muldoon, Texas; m. 6-26-1853 Ala., Mary Elizabeth (Betty) Screws, b. 1-29-1837 Ala.; d. near Muldoon, Texas. W. A. J. and Betty Langston are buried in the old Black Jack (or Pin Oak) Cemetery in Fayette Co. Bertie came to Fayette Co. from Alabama with her parents in 1874.

Betty was the dau. of Jacob Screws, b. 4-12-1805 who married Nancy Denson, b. 8-4-1812, dau. of Jethro Denson who made his will 4-5-1851 Barbour Co., Ala.

In 1893 Tom and Bertie were living with Tom's grandmother Polly Criswell (widow of Wm. V.) when she went to McCulloch Co., to get her son Yancy's children after their mother died. Tom and Bertie had 5 children:

a- Eldon Thomas (Bud) Jones, b. 11-10-1892 Muldoon, Texas; m. 11-8-1914 Anna Mae Kula, b. 7-22-1897 Scotland, S. D. She came to Texas in 1912. Eldon and Anna Mae live 1961 at 924 E. Mistletoe, San Antonio, Texas. They had no children.

b- Sarah (Sally) Elizabeth Jones, b. 7-27-1894 Muldoon, Texas; m. (1) 2-14-1916 Muldoon, Texas, James Perry Null, b. 8-19-1888 Fayette Co., Texas; d. 5-1-1917 Muldoon, Texas. They had 1 child:

(1) Perry Clifton Null, b. 1-19-1917 Muldoon, Texas; d. 2-3-1918 Muldoon, Texas.

Sally m. (2) 11-20-1920 Muldoon, Texas, Charles Martin Hart, b. 7-20-1892 near Cistern, Fayette Co., Texas. Charles was the son of John Hart and Sarah Ann Mills.

Sally and Charles live 1961 in Mathis, San Patricio Co., Texas, Box 314. They had 2 children:

(1) Charlene Mable (Dottie) Hart, b. 10-12-1922 Muldoon, Texas; m. 10-20-1942 Jim Wells Co., Texas, Robert B. Erickson, b. 7-21-1917 in Texas. Dottie and Robert were divorced in 1951. They had 1 child:

(A) Linda Sue Erickson, b. 10-31-1943 Alice, Jim Wells Co., Texas.

Dottie m. (2) 2-12-1952 LaGrange, Texas, Richard Gayle DeVilbiss, b. 4-25-1914 Oak Island, near San Antonio, Texas. He was the son of Richard Watson DeVilbiss and Ora Gayle.

Dottie and Richard live 1961 at 402 19th St., Carrizo Springs, Dimmit Co., Texas. They have 1 child:

(A) Jo Ann DeVilbiss, b. 10-26-1953 Shiner, LaVaca Co., Texas.

(2) Dixie Dale Hart, b. 1-17-1924 Muldoon, Texas; m. 11-27-1942 Alice, Texas, Erich Bauch, b. 10-11-1916 Mathis, Texas. He was the son of Herman Bauch and Anna Marie Meyer.

Dixie Dale and Erich live 1961 in Mathis, Texas. They had 3 children:

(A) Elizabeth Lynn Bauch, b. 9-10-1943 Alice, Texas.

(B) Erich Keith Bauch, b. 5-30-1947 Urbana, Ill.

(C) Charles Dale Bauch, b. 6-1-1952 Big Spring, Howard Co., Texas.

c- Dixie Irene Jones, b. 12-8-1904 Muldoon, Texas; m. ab. 1922 LaGrange, Texas, James Walker (J. W.) Bell, b. Fayette Co., Texas. He was the son of Jim Bell, a violinist.

Dixie was named for a woman physician, a rarity in those days, Dr. Dixie Tucker, whose husband was also a doctor. Dr. Tucker wanted her named "Dixie Tucker Jones", but her mother gave her her own middle name.

Dixie and J. W. live 1961 in Brownsville, Texas, and had 1 child:

(1) James Carroll Bell, M. D., b. 10-29-1924 Muldoon, Texas; d. 9-2-1960 Denver, Colo.; at his own request he was cremated. He married and had 4 children who live 1961 in Denver, Colo.

d- Claude Vanoy Jones (a twin), b. 9-19-1906 Muldoon, Texas; m. 8-7-1930 San Marcos, Hays Co., Texas, Sue Beaty, b. 9-15-1907 Harwood, Texas. She was the dau. of Perry Beaty.

Claude and Sue live 1961 at 4311 Seabrook, San Antonio, Texas. He is a teacher in the San Antonio Public Schools. They had 1 child:

(1) Ronald (Ronnie) Claude Jones, b. 7-12-1937 Luling, Caldwell Co., Texas; m. 3-14-1959 San Antonio, Texas, Carolyn Alwine Zillman, b. 11-18-1941 San Antonio, Texas. She was the dau. of Walter George Julius Zillman and Nelda Marie Wolter.

In August 1962 Ronnie and Carolyn live in San Antonio, Texas, and have 2 children:

(A) Kathy Eileen Jones, b. 10-30-1960 San Antonio, Texas.

(B) Douglas Michael Jones, b. 8-17-1962 San Antonio, Texas.

e- Clyde Vernon Jones (a twin), b. 9-19-1906 Muldoon, Texas; m. 8-2-1929 San Marcos, Texas, Thelma Gray, b. 11-3-1907 Harwood, Texas.

Clyde is a teacher in the San Antonio Independent School District and they live 1961 at 426 Merry Ann, San Antonio, Texas. A few years ago Clyde and Thelma went to Europe and back on the U. S. liner, United States. He was asked to call the square dancing on the ship both ways. While in Europe they had the pleasure of square dancing with square dance clubs in London and Liverpool, England, and Wiesbaden, Germany. Clyde and Thelma had no children.

C- Charles (Charley) Jones, b. 7-9-1873 Black Jack Springs, Texas; d. 7-27-1954 Temple, Texas; m. 12-16-1896, Lutisha Minor, b. 8-14-1878. They had 6 children in 5 births.

D- Minnie Jones, b. 4-5-1875 BJS, Texas; d. 10-16-1950 Smithville, Texas; m. 10-9-1895 BJS, Texas, Louis (Louie) Homuth, b. 7-10-1872; d. 6-7-1929 Smithville, Texas, where they made their home. They first lived in LaGrange, and had 4 children.

E- Lillie Jones, b. 10-16-1877 BJS, Texas; d. 4-1-1879 BJS and is buried in the Pin Oak (or BJS) Cemetery.

F- Gazza (Gazzie) E. Jones, (a girl), b. 9-6-1884 Muldoon, Texas; d. 7-21-1888 BJS and is buried in the Pin Oak Cemetery there.

G- Clarice Jones, b. 3-5-1890 BJS, Texas; d. 5-2-1954 LaGrange, Texas, in a hospital there. She is buried in Smithville, Texas; m. (1) 1910 Rudolph Rethke, b. 1-18-1883. They had 1 child:

a- Milton Rethke, b. 11-21-1912; married Helen Boyd.

Clarice m. (2) June 1943, Fred Emnos.

2. Sarah E. Criswell, b. 11-12-1847 BJS, Texas; d. 3-24-1868 near Praha, Texas; m. 1-8-1867 near Praha, Texas, W. H. S. Lee. She was buried on the same lot with her father in the old Criswell Cemetery near their home about a mile from Praha, although his body was moved to the State Cemetery at Austin in 1936, with appropriate burial ceremonies. At one time the Criswell Cemetery was a large one, but about 1935 the man who owned the property broke down the stones and hauled them away. It is said they were later used for door-steps. Only 2 stones were left standing in 1958, a double stone for Sarah and her father, and the other one for a grandchild of Wm. V.'s. On her stone is "Sarah E. Lee, nee Criswell" and "Asleep in Jesus".
3. Mary (Mollie) Ann Criswell, b. 12-1-1850 BJS, Texas; d. 4- -1925 Brady, McCulloch Co., Texas in a hospital there; m. 6-2-1870 near Praha, Texas, James (Jim) Warren Lyons, b. 12-16-1847 Lyons Station (later Lyonsville, then Schulenburg), Texas; d. 12- -1892 Durham, Borden Co., Texas, and was buried there. Mollie was buried in an unmarked grave in the Rochelle Cemetery about 10 miles north of Brady. Emiline (Aunt Nig) Criswell, the negro Mollie's mother raised is also buried in the Rochelle Cemetery, near the fence. Her grave is marked "Emily Criswell".

Jim was the son of Seymore Clinton Lyons, b. ab. 1819 New York; d. January 14, 1848 Lyons Station, Texas; m. by Wm. B. Meriwether, Justice of the Peace, 11-18-1841 Lyons Station, Texas, Mary Bridges, b. 12-18-1825 near Navidad on the Lavaca River, Jackson Co., Texas (on her father's Land Grant of 1 League in Austin's 1st Colony, dated 7-20-1824); d. Dec. 1, 1895 near Salado, Bell Co., Texas, and is buried in the Nolanville Cemetery not far from Salado.

Seymore C. was the son of James Lyons, b. ab. 1785 N. Y., and was killed by the Indians 10-15-1837 Lyons Station, Texas. His wife Martha was b. 1786 Mass.; d. after 6-21-1865 when her grand-daughter Frances (sister of Jim Lyons) married Henry Cottle, as she attended the wedding.

NOTE: SRD added in pen: "Martha Lyons b. Jun 18, 1786; died Aug 20, 1873."

In the 1850s Martha Lyons, who was then around 70, used to ride horseback about twice a year from Fayette Co. to Karnes Co., near Runge, to visit her son DeWitt Lyons who had moved there from Fayette Co. after 1850. It was about 100 miles. She used to take one of her grandchildren with her to keep her company on these trips. Sometimes she took Jim Lyons; sometimes she took one of his sisters, Frances or Clara. They rode behind her on the horse. Martha had a friend who lived about half-way where they spent the night on the way there and back.

Mary A. Bridges was the dau. of William B. Bridges, b. 1795 N. C.; d. March 1853 Black Jack Springs, Texas, who m. (2) 1824 Miss., Cynthia Ross, b. ab. 1805; d. December 1831 Jackson Co., Texas. His first wife and children died before 1824 in Miss. He m. (3) 1836 in what is now Fayette Co., Texas, Mrs. Eliza Tribble, b. 1815 Vt.; d. 1880 or after in Limestone Co., Texas. She was a widow with a dau., Melissa Tribble, b. 1833 Ind. who m. 5-25-1852 Fayette Co., Arthur Crownover. Wm. B. and Cynthia had 3 children. He and Eliza had 6 children.

It wasn't safe in those days for a young woman to live alone with her small children. So not long after Seymore died, Mary Bridges Lyons married again. She m. (2), by W. B. Anderson, Justice of the Peace, 12-14-1848 Lyons Station, Texas, William Alexander Ranney. Their marriage was a long and happy one. They had 9 children. Mary and Seymore Lyons had 3 children.

Jim's sister, Frances Martha Lyons, married Henry S. Cottle, son of Candace Criswell and her 2nd husband, Lee F. T. Cottle. Jim's half-sister, Laura Ranne, married Leander (Lee) C. (Criswell?) Cottle who was also a son of Candace and Lee Cottle.

Jim was given the middle name "Warren" for his uncle, Warren F. Lyons, who was captured by the Indians on 10-15-1837 when he was about 12 years old. He and his father, James Lyons, were out milking the cows when the Comanches suddenly attacked them, killing his father and taking Warren captive. LaVina Cottle Ware, a grand-dau. of Candace, and a grand-niece of Warren, wrote me that the Indians told Warren they had killed all of his family except his mother, and that she had gone across the deep waters. This was not true, of course, as the rest of his family were not harmed. Thinking his family all dead, Warren did not want to go back. He lived with the Indians for about 10 years, returning home early in 1848. He joined the Texas Rangers soon afterward and fought Indians. He was of great assistance to his Captain as he could interpret the Indians' signals for him. Warren married a few months after he returned home. (He m. 9-22-1848 Fayette Co., Texas, Lucy Boatright.) He is said to have had an Indian wife while he lived with the Indians. He kept his Indian garb, and every so often he would put it on and do an Indian dance for his family and friends. He kept some of his Indian ways too, for when they would kill a beef, he would catch a cup of warm blood and drink it. Warren and his family later moved to Johnson Co., Texas, where he died 8-11-1870.

In 1870 Mollie and Jim Lyons were still living in Black Jack. About 1879 they moved to the Round Mountain Community ab. 5 mi. N. of Rochelle, McCulloch Co., where they lived as neighbors to Mollie's brother Yancy (Yank) Criswell and his wife Ardelia (Delia) Burke.

In December 1892 Mollie's cousin Henry Cottle and his wife Frances Lyons (sister of Mollie's husband) moved to McCulloch Co. with their family. They stayed in Mollie's and Jim's new house for about a month while Henry located land and built a house near them. Before Henry and Frances moved into their house, Mollie and Jim gave a big dance and supper for them to which all the surrounding neighbors were invited.

Jim Miller and his older brother Barney both attended the party. They were quite unsavory characters. Jim, although most polite and gentlemanly in his manner, was a known killer. About a year before the party, Barney had married a young neighbor girl. He took her to a nearby county and deserted her before their son was born. She was in dire straits but finally got a postcard which she sent to her parents telling of her predicament. They went after her and took her home. She, too, was at the party that night with the baby, and asked Frances Cottle to take care of him while she danced. She lived in mortal terror until the child was nearly grown for fear Barney would take him away from her--not that he wanted the child, but just to torment her. Barney was later killed in Indian Territory. Frances and Henry were good Baptists who did not believe in dancing, so she took care of the little 2 month old Miller baby that night and stayed in the room with the children while the others danced.

In the spring of 1887 Jim, his brother-in-law, John H. Criswell, and Henry Cottle decided to move to the Panhandle. They rounded up all their cattle except a few milk cows they planned to leave at home. Henry didn't go. He was ill but sent his two sons, Will, age 19, and Joe, age 17. LaVina Cottle Ware (Henry's dau.) thinks John H. didn't go either, but if he didn't he sent a hired hand, either Joe E. Criswell, Jr., or little Tom Criswell, Jim Criswell's adopted son.

At any rate Jim Lyons, Will and Joe Cottle, a chuckwagon boss, Jim's hired hand and about two others started up the trail with the herd. It took them a month to get to Collingsworth Co., where they stopped. It was 60 miles from the nearest Post Office. Jim put Will Cottle in with another cow outfit, then he and the others went back to McCulloch Co. leaving Will in charge of all the cattle.

The ensuing winter was a very severe one. There were no fences anywhere in that country then, except drift fences. So when the northers and the sand-storms came, many of the cattle died or wandered off. Some time after he got there Will moved north to Wheeler Co. where Mobeetie was the nearest Post Office. It was a long way off, but not 60 miles as the other place had been.

In the summer of 1888 Jim Lyons took a hired hand and someone to drive the chuckwagon, went up to Wheeler Co. after Will, and they drove back the few remaining cattle. While they were on their way home on Aug. 9, 1888 Yank Criswell (who was Jim's brother-in-law, John H.'s younger brother, and Henry Cottle's cousin) was killed. Mollie's mother who lived at Praha, near Flatonia, was visiting her when Yank was killed. She took his death very hard. LaVina Cottle, Henry's daughter, who was then 14 was the first one to get there when the news of Yank's murder reached them. She says she will never forget his mother's anguished screams when given the tragic news.

When Will Cottle got home he used to tell the family of the terrible sand-storms and of the bitter cold. He said it was so cold in the Panhandle that they had to thaw out the kerosene before they could build a fire! The family never could figure out, though, just how they got the kerosene thawed out! The tales he told of the sand-storms turned out to be pretty much true to others of the family who later went to the Panhandle. John H. Criswell and his family moved to the Panhandle in the spring of 1889, but after that experience Henry Cottle no longer had any desire to go there. John H. had stopped his cattle in Childress Co. in 1888.

Jim and Mollie Lyons moved to Bell Co. soon after Will Cottle came home in August 1888. They were living in Bell Co. in 1890 when Henry and Frances Lyons Cottle visited them there.

In the early part of February 1891 Mollie and Jim Lyons moved back to McCulloch Co. By that time they had accumulated another little herd of cattle with the increase of the ones they left behind for milk cows in their unfortunate attempt in 1887 to move to the Panhandle. Jim stopped his cattle at Brady but they stayed with the Henry Cottles in the Round Mountain Community about 15 miles northeast of Brady. Mollie's and Jim's youngest child was born there 3-13-1891. When the baby was about a month old they moved on to Durham, Borden Co.

They lived in Durham about a year and a half when Jim died. Mollie stayed there till Sept. 1897. Several of their children were grown by then. She went back to Fayette Co. for a while, and was there when her mother died 1-23-1899. About 1900 Mollie went back to Borden Co. and lived in Gail at the foot of the cap rock until 1905. Two of her sons died while she was there. In 1905 she took her two youngest children, Roy and Eula, and her grandson Claud, age 4, and went to visit Henry Cottle's daughter, LaVina, and her husband, Dave Ware, in Fluvanna, Scurry Co., Texas, 28 miles N. E. of Gail and 15 miles N. W. of Snyder.

Dave took a real liking to them and persuaded them to spend the winter. Roy helped him with the crops. The next spring Dave built Mollie a house and rented Roy some land. They lived there for 2 years before going back to the plains between Gail and Lamesa. They didn't stay there long before they went on to Matador where they lived for several years. By then Roy and Eula were married, and Claud was about grown. When Mollie finally was alone she went to Fisher Co., near Rotan, to visit her husband's cousin, Cass Lyons, for whom she and Jim had named a son.

In the fall of 1923 Dave went to Rotan after Mollie at Cass Lyons' house and took her home with him. She stayed with Vina and Dave until March 1925 when she went to McCulloch Co. to visit her sister, Lillie Criswell Waddill, and some of her other relatives for about two months. When she had been there a few weeks she had an attack of appendicitis, was operated on, and died.

Mollie was very gentle and sweet. Everyone who knew her loved her. Vina who loved her dearly said it was always a pleasure to have her around. Mollie was LaVina's father's first cousin, and her husband, Jim Lyons, was the brother of LaVina's mother. So Mollie was LaVina's aunt by marriage, and by blood LaVina was her first cousin once-removed.

Mollie and Jim Lyons had 11 children, only 5 of whom lived to be grown and married:

- A- Ida Lyons, b. 1871 Black Jack Springs, Fayette Co., Texas, d. as a baby or small child several years before her parents moved to the Round Mountain Community of McCulloch County.
- B- William (Bill) Seymore Lyons, b. 2-27-1873 Black Jack, Texas; d. ab. 1950 in Wyoming. He married ab. 1899 (probably in Motley Co. where he was living in Nov. 1898), but I do not know her name. She died ab. 1904 Gail, Texas. Bill had taken her to the doctor's office for a check-up and she died while there.

In the fall of 1897 Mollie took her 4 youngest children, Jack, Dock, Roy and Eula to Fayette County for about 2 years. They arrived 9-18-1897 in Pin Oak where her sister, Bettie Jones (Mrs. Cal) was living. In the early days all this area was known as Black Jack.

In Nov. 1898 while they were there Mollie Lyons filed a Partition Suit for herself and the 4 minors Vs her 3 oldest children, Bill, Cass and Nettie. This suit was for a division of 82 acres, part of the 1/3 League land grant to the children's grandfather, Seymore C. Lyons who had died about 50 years before. Mollie and her 7 children were joint owners of the 82 acres located in Lavaca County. Jim Lyons, the children's father, had died about 6 years before.

At the time the Suit was filed Bill was living in Motley Co., but went back to Gail some time after that.

Bill Lyons and his wife had 2 children:

- a- Claud Lyons, b. 1901. He was living in 1959 but I don't know where. His grandmother, Mollie Lyons, took him when his mother died ab. 1904 and raised him with her 2 youngest children, Roy and Eula. Claud called Mollie his "Maggie Mama".

In the fall of 1905 Mollie left Gail, Borden Co., with Roy, Eula and little Claud, planning to visit her dau. Nettie who then lived in Fisher County. On the way they stopped at her niece's (LaVina Cottle Ware) home for a while. LaVina and Dave Ware lived on their farm in Scurry Co., ab. 28 miles from Gail and 15 miles from Snyder. Dave liked them very much and persuaded them to stay with them for about 2 years. Roy helped Dave with the farm. The next spring Dave rented Roy some land and built them a house. When they left they moved back on the Plains, between Gail and Lamesa, but did not stay there long; before they went to Matador, Motley Co., where they lived until Claud was about grown.

In 1924 Claude was living in Oakland, Calif., and was planning to marry soon at that time.

- b- A boy, b. ab. 1903 Gail, Texas; d. ab. 1904, just a few months after his mother died. His grandmother, Mollie Lyons, took him when his mother died, but he died a short time later.

- c- John Cass Lyons, b. 3-12-1875 Black Jack, Texas; d. ab. 1930; m. Mildred Sanderson. He was given the name "Cass" for his father's first cousin, Cass Lyons, son of Warren Lyons and his wife Lucy Boatright.

In Nov. 1898 when the Partition Suit was filed in Fayette Co., Cass (Mollie's son) was living in Borden Co., near Gail.

In the fall of 1923 Mollie was visiting her husband's cousin, Cass Lyons, and his 2nd wife Bettie near Rotan in Fisher County. Mollie wrote LaVina from there. LaVina and Dave Ware went after her and she stayed with them till the latter part of March 1925 when she went to McCulloch Co. for a 2 months visit. In a few weeks she had an attack of appendicitis, was operated on and died.

Cass was 7 years old when LaVina's parents, Henry and Frances Lyons Cottle, moved to the Round Mountain Community of McCulloch County. They stayed (with their 6 children) in the home of Mollie and Jim Lyons (with their 4 children) until their house was built. John H. Criswell, Mollie's brother, had recently moved there from San Saba Co. and was building his home when the Cottles arrived. It was a half mile or so from the Lyons home. The children were all

excited over Uncle John's new house, and since they were playing over that way, Cass and Nettie Lyons, and LaVina and Ida Cottle, they decided to go over and inspect it. It was farther than they thought but they kept on going. They didn't think anyone would miss them, but they WERE missed. Jim Lyons rode over and found them. He was pretty mad. He got them in the road ahead of him, and although Nettie and Ida were only 4, they all got home in a lot less time than it took them going over!

D- James Yancy (Yank) Lyons, b. 1876 Black Jack, Texas; d. 1878 or 1879 at Black Jack before his parents left Fayette Co. and went to the Round Mountain Community of McCulloch Co., ab. 5 mi. north of Rochelle. He was named for his mother's brother, James Yancy Criswell, who was called "Yank". Yank Lyons was called "Little Yank".

E- Nettie E. Lyons, b. 10-3-1878 Black Jack, Texas; m. 9-8-1897 Durham, Borden Co., Texas, Louis T. Polk. They were living in Borden Co., Nov. 1898 when the Partition Suit was filed in Fayette County. This concerned 82 acres in Lavaca Co., part of her grandfather Seymore C. Lyons' 1/3 League land grant, in which she had a joint interest with her mother, brothers and sisters.

In the fall of 1905 Nettie lived in Fisher County. In 1959 she was living in Canadian, Hemphill Co., Texas.

Nettie and Louis Polk had 5 children but I do not know their names.

F- Jasper (Jack) Warren Lyons, b. 11-27-1880 in the Round Mountain Community, McCulloch Co., Texas; d. 1901 Gail, Texas, from typhoid fever during an epidemic in which even the doctor died. He was buried in Gail.

Jack was given the name "Warren" for Warren Lyons, brother of his grandfather, Seymore Lyons. Warren was about 12 years old when on 10-15-1837, near the present town of Schulenburg, the Indians killed his father and took Warren captive. He lived among the Indians for about 10 years before he was found and returned to his own people. He married 9-22-1848 Lucy Boatright. Their oldest child was Cass, for whom Jack's brother Cass was named.

On 9-18-1897 Jack, Dock, Roy and Eula and their mother arrived at Pin Oak for a visit with Mollie's mother, "Aunt Polly" (widow of Wm. V.) and her (Mollie's) sister, Bettie (Mrs. Cal Jones). They stayed in Fayette County for about two years, and were still there when Mollie's mother died 1-23-1899.

In Nov. 1898, while they were there, Mollie filed a Partition Suit for herself and the 4 minors VS Bill, Cass and Nettie, adults, all joint owners of 82 acres in Lavaca Co., part of the 1/3 League land grant to the children's grandfather Seymore C. Lyons who came to Texas with his parents and their other children about 1835. The land grant of 1/3 League shows that he was a single man, and that he was in Texas BEFORE 3-2-1836. Records show that a JAMES M. LYON came to Texas 1835 and was vouched for by Nathan Allen. According to 1825 Colonization Laws of Mexico, any person entering the Province of Texas had to be vouched for as to good character and intent of becoming a citizen.

by someone who was already a citizen. I believe this James M. Lyon and James Lyons, Seymore's father, to be one and the same person. We KNOW they were in Texas BEFORE 3-2-1836. However, I found a Dr. James H. Lyons; b. 1809 in Kentucky, who was living in Bexar Co. in 1850 but I do not know when he came to Texas.

In September 1899 Mollie and the children went to Matador to be with her sister-in-law, Josie Jones Criswell, after her husband, John H. Criswell, died 9-23-1899 from injuries sustained 2 days earlier while roping a cow. Josie was the sister of Cal Jones who married Mollie's sister Bettie. On 10-1-1899 Mollie wrote a letter to Bettie from Matador. Sally Jones Hart (Mrs. C. M.) still has the letter written to her grandmother.

- G- A girl, b. 12- -1882 in the Round Mountain Community, McCulloch Co., Texas; died there when she was 3 days old. She was buried in the Cowboy Cemetery about 6 mi. north of their home.
- H- Edward Bertram (Bertie) Lyons, b. 1884 in the Round Mountain Community, ab. 5 mi. north of Rochelle, Texas; d. at 14 months and was buried in the Cowboy Cemetery.
- I- Guy Rowland (Dock) Lyons, b. 4-2-1886 in the Round Mountain Community, Texas; d. 1903 Gail, Texas, and was buried there.
- J- Roy Vanoy Lyons, b. 12-26-1888 Bell Co., Texas; m. Matador, Texas, Lonnie Clark. Roy later lived for some time in Haskell, Okla., but a letter addressed to him there in Nov. 1959 by LaVina Cottle Ware was returned to her marked "Unknown".

Roy and Lonnie had at least 1 child:

- a- A girl (name not known).
- K- Eula May Lyons, b. 3-13-1891 in the Round Mountain Community, Texas; m. Matador, Texas, Gordon Barber. Eula lived for some time in Jacksonville, Florida. LaVina Cottle Ware has lost contact with Eula but thought she was still living in 1959.

In the spring of 1887 Eula's father, Jim Lyons, her uncle, John H. Criswell, and Henry Cottle (who was her mother's first cousin and was her father's brother-in-law) moved their cattle to the Panhandle. Henry could not go as he was in bed for months at that time with inflammatory rheumatism. LaVina doesn't think John H. went either. Jim Lyons, with 2 of Henry's sons, a chuck-wagon boss and 2 or 3 others drove the cattle up there. Will Cottle, Henry's son, stayed with the cattle, first in Collingsworth Co., and then in Wheeler Co., for about a year and a half. In the early summer of 1888 Jim and John H., along with a few hands, went to the Panhandle to bring back the few remaining cattle. John H. stopped his cattle in Childress Co., but Jim drove his and Henry's back to McCulloch County. It had been a very severe winter, and with no fences in that part of the country, most of the cattle had wandered away or died.

Originally Jim Lyons, John H. Criswell and Henry Cottle had intended moving to the Panhandle in the summer of 1888, but after their great cattle losses John H. was the only one moved there at that time. He and his family lived in Childress Co. till 1896 when they moved to a ranch near Matador. Jim and Henry had no desire to move farther west at that time. Yank Criswell (bro. of Mollie and John H.) was killed while Jim was on his way home,

Jim Lyons had left a few milk cows at home in McCulloch Co. in the spring of 1887. In the late fall of 1888, not long before Christmas, Jim and Mollie sold out, took their few remaining cattle and went to Bell County. By 1891 he had accumulated another little herd with the increase from the cattle he had brought back from the Panhandle and those he had left behind in 1887.

In early February 1891 Jim and Mollie set out for Durham, Borden Co. On their way from Bell Co. they stopped their cattle in Brady and went with their 6 children to visit Henry and Frances Lyons Cottle, Jim's sister, who lived ab. 15 mi. northeast of Brady, in the Round Mountain Community. Eula, their 11th and last child, was born in the Cottle home the next month. Four other Lyons children had died as infants or small children.

When Eula was 2 months old they went on to Durham where Jim Lyons died 18 months later, in December 1892.

On 9-18-1897 Mollie, with Jack, Dock, Roy and Eula, arrived in Pin Oak to visit her mother, Polly McMicken Criswell, widow of Wm. V., who lived at Praha, or near there, ab. 4 mi. east of Flatonia, and her sister Bettie Criswell Jones, wife of Cal Jones. They made quite an extended stay in Fayette Co. as they were still there when her mother died 1-23-1899.

While they were there Mollie filed a Partition Suit for herself and her 4 minor children, Jack, Dock, Roy and Eula VS Bill, Cass and Nettie, Adults, all joint owners of 82 acres, a part of the 1/3 League land grant to the children's grandfather, Scymore Lyons.

On 9-23-1899 Mollie's brother, John H. Criswell died from serious injuries he received while roping a cow 2 days before. The last coil caught around his neck, jerking him from his horse to which the rope was fastened. The cow went full speed one way, and the horse, the other, suspending him by his neck. His cousin, Joe E. Criswell, Jr., who was working with him, cut the rope. John H. soon became conscious and rode the 4 miles home. After he died Mollie and the children went to Matador to be with Josie, his widow, for a while.

About 1900 Mollie took the children back to Borden Co. and they lived in Gail until 1905. While they were there Jack, Dock and Bill's wife all died.

In the fall of 1905 Mollie took Roy, Eula and her son Bill's little 4 year old boy, Claud Lyons and started out to visit her dau. Nettie who was then living in Fisher Co. On the way there they stopped to see LaVina Cottle Ware and her husband Dave near Fluvanna, Scurry Co.,

where they had a large farm. Roy helped with the crops. Dave liked them very much and insisted that they stay with them for a while. The next spring Dave built them a house and rented Roy some land. They stayed there about 2 years, and then went back to the plains between Gail and Lamesa. They didn't stay there long before they went on to Matador where Roy and Eula both married. Mollie stayed there until Claud was about grown.

Eula and Gordon Barber had some children but LaVina doesn't know how many, nor does she know their names.

Note by SRD: Sally Hart, a g.g.grand-daughter of Wm. V. Criswell, learned late in 1964 that both Wm. V. and John Y., Jr., were Masons. She wrote the Grand Lodge in Waco for their records which she sent to me; however, it was too late to put this in its proper place in Wm. V.'s final copy. It is particularly fitting here, though, since Lyonsville (which was in the area of the present Schulenburg) was named for Jim's grandfather, James Lyons, who was killed 10-15-1837 by the Comanches.

Wm. V.'s Masonic record is:

"William V. Criswell, Lyons Lodge No. 195, Schulenburg.
Initiated 3-9-1857; passed 4-18-1857; raised 7-4-1857;
died 1-19-1858."

Also, in "Masonry in Texas", by James D. Carter, with an introduction by Walter Prescott Webb, on p. 282, is the name of William V. Criswell on a long list of Masons who participated in the Battle of San Jacinto. (This reference was also sent by Sally Hart who has given me so cheerfully a lot of valuable Criswell information. This book can be found in the Dallas Public Library where I looked up the reference she sent.)

4. John Henry Criswell, b. 9-12-1852 Black Jack Springs, Fayette Co., Texas; d. 9-23-1899 Matador, Motley Co., Texas, in the Texas Panhandle; m. 9-2-1875 BJS, Texas, Lettitia Josephine (Josie) Jones, b. 1856 BJS, Texas; d. 1-13-1909 Matador, Texas.

Josie was the sister of Cal Jones who married John H.'s oldest sister Bettie. Josie and Cal were children of Thomas (Tom) Jones, b. 4-5-1818 S. C.; d. 3-24-1892 BJS, Texas, and his wife Lettitia _____, b. 2-14-1818 N. C.; d. 12-13-1897 BJS, Texas. Tom and Lettitia Jones are buried in the old Black Jack, or Pin Oak, Cemetery. It is called by both names.

John H. and Josie lived in Fayette Co. about 4 years after they married. They were living in San Saba Co. when the 1880 census was taken there on June 12. Josie's younger brother was then living with them, James W. Jones, b. 1859 in BJS. His occupation was listed as "Hunts Cattle", and John H. was listed as "Stock Raiser". They lived in San Saba Co. about three years before moving to the Round Mountain Community of McCulloch Co., near Rochelle, in the fall of 1882. Many of John H.'s kin lived in McCulloch Co. in the 1880's, including his younger brother Yank and his two sisters, Mollie Criswell Lyons (Mrs. Jim), and Lillie Criswell Waddill (Mrs. John), and also his cousin Henry Cottle, all with families.

John H. was building his home in McCulloch Co. in Dec. 1882 when Henry and Frances Lyons Cottle moved there. Frances was the sister of

Mollie Criswell's husband, Jim Lyons. Henry and Frances, along with their 8 children, stayed with Jim and Mollie Lyons until their own home was built. LaVina Cottle (Ware) was only 8 when they moved there. One day Cass and Nettie Lyons told LaVina and her younger sister Ida about the house their Uncle John was building, so they decided to go over and investigate as they were playing over that way anyway. They thought it was nearer than it was but it turned out to be a half mile or more, and of course they never thought they would be missed anyway. However, Jim Lyons did miss the children and started looking for them. He finally found them at the new house and was plenty angry at them for wandering so far from home. He followed them down the road on his horse, and they got home in a lot less time than it took them going over!

Many others of the Criswell clan visited John H. in McCulloch Co., some of them making prolonged visits. Among them were his first cousins, Big Tom and Leroy Criswell, Jr., (sons of Leroy, Sr.), Joe, Jr., and Buck Criswell (sons of Joseph E.). Ollie Criswell, son of his cousin John F. (son of Leroy, Sr.), also stayed with John H. for a while. LaVina Cottle Ware told me that John H. was a big man, with a ruddy complexion. All of the Criswells she knew were large, both men and women.

In the spring of 1887 John H., Henry Cottle and their mutual brother-in-law, Jim Lyons, decided they would all move from McCulloch Co. to the Panhandle. They rounded up all their cattle except a few that they left at home for milk cows. Henry Cottle was sick at the time and could not go, but sent his two sons, Will and Joe. LaVina isn't sure whether John H. went or not, but said that he sent a hired hand in his place if he didn't go, either Joe Criswell, Jr., or Little Tom (Jim Criswell's adopted son).

So Jim Lyons, Will and Joe Cottle, the chuck-wagon boss and about three others started up the trail with the herd. It took them a month to get to Collingsworth Co. The place they stopped was 60 miles from the nearest Post Office. Jim Lyons got Will Cottle, who was just 19, in with another cow outfit and put him in charge of all their cattle. Then Jim and the others all went back to McCulloch County.

Some time after he got there Will Cottle moved the cattle on to Wheeler Co. where he was not so far from a Post Office. Disaster overtook them, however, as the ensuing winter was a very hard one. There were no fences, except drift fences, between there and McCulloch Co., so when the northers started to blow and the sand-storms began to come, most of the cattle drifted off to the four winds.

In the late spring of 1888 Jim Lyons, John H. Criswell, a hired hand or two and someone to drive the chuck-wagon went up to Wheeler Co. to help Will Cottle with the few remaining cattle. John H. stopped his cattle in Childress Co. and stayed out there. The others were on the trail coming home with the cattle on August 9 when Yank, John H.'s brother, was killed. After this costly experience with the cattle Henry Cottle decided he would stay right where he was, in McCulloch Co., but Jim and Mollie Lyons moved to Borden Co. about 3 years later. John H. moved his family to Childress Co. the following spring, and to Matador in 1896.

On September 21, 1899, John H. was injured while roping a cow. In dropping the coil and stopping his horse, he accidentally dropped the last coil around his neck. The cow, running at full speed, jerked him from his horse and almost severed his head, as the rope was tied to the horn of the saddle. LaVina told me he was suspended in air by his neck when his cousin,

Joe E. Criswell, Jr., got to him and cut the rope. John H. soon became conscious and rode 4 miles home, but died two days later from his injuries. Had this happened today he would probably have recovered through the use of modern drugs and surgical techniques. Joe, Jr., was working for John H. at that time.

John H. was a member of the Methodist Church. It is interesting to note that 2 of their 8 children were born in each of the 4 counties they lived in. Six of these children had died before December 1961, all of whom were buried in Matador. The same preacher conducted the services for 5 of them, all except Claude.

John H. and Josie Jones Criswell had 8 children:

A- Alice Maude Criswell, b. 1877 Fayette Co., Texas; d. 7- -1958 Matador, Texas; m. _____ Johnson. She died from a stroke and is buried in Matador.

B- John Claude Criswell, b. 1879 Fayette Co., Texas; d. 1918 Brownfield, Terry Co., Texas, from the flu and is buried in Matador. He married and had several children, at least two of whom were sons. In 1960 his widow and their children lived at Plains, Yoakum Co., Texas, about 20 miles from Brownfield.

C- Effie Olive Criswell, b. 1880 San Saba Co., Texas; d. 7- -1959 Matador, Texas; m. William Rans Moore. She died from a stroke and is buried in Matador. They had 6 children:

a- John Criswell Moore, b. 9-24-1899.

b- William (Bill) Rans Moore, Jr.; m. Velma Walters, a descendant of Moses Walters who also lived in Texas during the Republic. Bill and Veima live 1962 in Fort Worth, Texas, and have 1 child:

(1) Billie Beth Moore, b. 11-2-1930 Matador, Texas.

c- Olive Moore; m. _____ Russell.

d- Josephine Moore; m. _____ Hamilton.

e- Narjoria Moore; m. J. Merrell Harper. They lived in Lubbock, Texas, until August 1961 when they moved to Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, Box 243. They have at least 2 children, a daughter and a son, and may have had others.

f- Ray Peyton Moore; d. at age 11. He was killed riding a horse that reared, stepped in a cess-pool and fell with him.

D- Ora Criswell, b. 1881 San Saba Co., Texas; m. _____ McLane. In 1909 when her mother died they were living in Concho Co. In Dec. 1961 she was living alone in Carlshad, New Mexico, and was not very well then as she stayed in bed most of the time.

E- Lena Josephine Criswell, b. 1883 in the Round Mountain Community, McCulloch Co., Texas; d. 8- -1961 Lubbock, Texas; m. _____ Davis. When her mother died in 1909 they were living in Matador. In July 1961 Lena fell and broke her hip. She was in the hospital in Lubbock when she had a second stroke which caused her death, probably brought on by the shock of the break. She was buried in Matador.

F- Mary Lettitia (Lettie) Criswell, b. 1885 in the Round Mountain Community of McCulloch Co., Texas; d. 4- -1961 El Paso, Texas, and is buried in Matador. She was not married at the time of her mother's death in 1909 but may subsequently have married. She died from cancer.

APR 1887 - Source: 1900 Census, Matlock Co. TX

G- Albert Bertram Criswell, b. (1892) Childress, Childress Co., Texas; d. 4- -1936 in New Mexico. He was killed in an automobile accident and buried in Matador.

SEP 1894 - Source: 1900 Census, Matlock Co. TX

H- Myrtle Florence Criswell, b. (1895) Childress, Texas. When her mother died in 1909 Myrtle was not married, but may have married after that. In Dec. 1961 she lived in El Paso, Texas, was in good health, and was working there.

5. James Yancy (Yank) Criswell b. 1855 ab. 4 mi. east of Flatonia, near the present Praha, Texas; d. Thursday, 8-9-1888 McCulloch Co., Texas; m. 2-1-1876 Plum (Plum Grove), Texas, Ardelia (Delia) Burke, b. Nov. 1859 Plum Grove, Texas; d. 1893 on the way back to McCulloch Co. from West Texas with her 6 children. She died at Christoval, Tom Green Co., Texas, and was buried there. Yank was buried in the Cowboy Cemetery 11 mi. north of Rochelle, in McCulloch Co.

1858 Delia was the dau. of John C. Burke, b. 1834 La., who m. 11-4-(1859) Fayette Co., Texas, Priscilla Boatright, b. 1842 Ark. or Texas, although the place of birth was marked "unknown" in the 1860 Fayette Co., Texas, census. Yank and Delia ran away when they married and her family never forgave her, I was told. They may have lived in Fayette Co. for a while, but not long after they married they went to McCulloch Co. and settled in the Round Mountain Community, ab. 5 mi. north of the Rochelle Post Office, but 10 or 15 mi. from any settlement. They were living there when the 1880 census was taken. Yank's sister Mollie and her husband, Jim Lyons, lived in the next house then.

One hot August morning in 1888 Yank set out with a wagon-load of sorghum cane to have syrup made. Between the Glabe Wicker place and the Cowboy Post Office, not far from his home, he was shot off of his wagon from ambush. He lay there all day in the hot sun. He was found about 4 o'clock that afternoon by a little neighbor boy coming from the direction in which Yank was going. His family had not missed him as they thought it took that long to make the trip. Yank was shot from a blind which had been made alongside the road several days previously, as the leaves had all turned yellow and the grass had been trampled down, showing that whoever killed Yank had been lying in wait for him at least 2 or 3 days.

Yank's death is still an unsolved mystery. There were no eye-witnesses, but several versions exist of his death. At that time there was a gang of men operating in Mills Co. which spread over into San Saba Co. and to some extent into McCulloch Co. One of the men was a notorious killer, historically well-known. The family think that Yank may have known a little too much about some of their goings-on, and that some of this mob were responsible for Yank's death. They have good reason to think so because the day before the murder one of these men went to Yank's house in his absence and borrowed his rifle from Delia, saying that some of them were going to kill hogs the next day. The family were convinced later that it was borrowed to make sure Yank wouldn't have his rifle with him when they got ready to kill him.

Shortly after Yank was killed, a man named Johnny Jernigan was riding along another road, not the one Yank was killed on, and saw three men set the grass afire behind them. He wasn't close enough to recognize them, but reported the incident, telling what he had seen. He worked at the Post

Gin and Mill on the Colorado River at Milburn. In a few days he was going home one night carrying a sack of meal on his shoulders when he was shot down. Nothing was ever done about either murder. The Sheriff was a cousin to one of the tough characters thought to have killed Yank--which is the probable reason that nothing was ever done about either murder.

The family know of no real reason why Yank should have been killed. He may have had some sort of argument with some of the men, or perhaps he just knew too much about them. For a few dollars soft-spoken Jim Miller, one of the men, could be hired to kill anyone, it is said. Many articles written about him bear this out.

Yank's mother, Polly, was in McCulloch Co. visiting his sister Mollie Lyons when Yank was killed. LaVina Cottle Ware, now (1962) nearly 88, was the first one of her family to get to Polly when she was told of Yank's death. Vina says she will never forget Polly's screams when she was told the tragic news.

Some time in the spring of 1888 Yank's brother, John, and their brother-in-law, Jim Lyons, and a hand or two went up to Collingsworth Co. in the Panhandle to help their nephew, Will Cottle, bring back the cattle that had been taken there the year before. Will had stayed there and taken care of the herd for nearly a year and a half. On the way back to McCulloch Co. John stopped his cattle in Childress Co. where he and his family lived for several years. Jim Lyons and Will Cottle were on the way home with their cattle when Yank was killed. Henry Cottle, Will's father, couldn't go with John and Jim to see after his cattle as he was flat on his back in bed for several months at that time with inflammatory rheumatism of the knee which was very painful.

When Henry Cottle got up he and his sons built a little house on his land for Delia, about 1/2 mile from his own home. They moved her family and her sheep over to the new place, and helped care for the sheep. Delia's oldest child, Tom Yank, was only 11 and didn't really know how to tend the sheep. He had a pony named "Old Possum" which he rode. He would often take the sheep out a little distance, then go and spend the rest of the day with the Cottles. He was such a little fellow to be expected to care for the sheep by himself, as he was only 10 or nearly 11 when his father was killed.

Tom Yank didn't seem to care too much for school and was often late. One morning, some time before Yank died, he was late for school, and came in crying. He kept on crying and the teacher went to him and asked him what was his trouble. He hesitated for a while and finally said "My Daddy says he's going to make a dad-gummed old Methodist Preacher out of me!"

Delia and her family lived in the house Henry Cottle built for them a year or more, then she moved back to her old farm 5 or 6 miles away where she stayed another year or so. Then she sold her place, took the children and went out west for a while. She was on her way back to McCulloch Co. when she died in Christoval in 1893.

Lillie Criswell Waddill, Yank's younger sister who also lived in the Round Mountain Community of McCulloch Co., went after Delia's 6 children. Delia was buried in Christoval. The children stayed with Lillie until Polly (her mother, Mrs. Wm. V.) came after them.

Polly and her brother, Jim McMicken (Yank's uncle) took a 4 mule wagon and went to McCulloch County for the children. She took the 5 girls back to Praha (sometimes called Hottentot) with her, but Tom Yank who was then about 16 didn't want to go, so he got on Old Possum and rode away. They didn't hear from him for some time. He went out on the plains and settled at Olton, Lamb Co., near Plainview, in the Panhandle. He later married, and is said to have accumulated a lot of property around Olton. He grew up to be a fine man, but didn't become a Methodist Minister!

When Polly got back to Praha with the 5 girls, Ida went to live with Yank's oldest sister Bettie (Mrs. Calvin Jones) and her family at Pin Oak. Another of the girls, Jessie, died about a year after she got there. May, Bernice and Mittie lived with Aunt Polly (as she was called by most folks) and drove the 4 miles to school in Flatonia every day. May married in 1898, Aunt Polly died in 1899 and Bernice married the following year.

Aunt Polly never got over her son Yank's murder. After she died Alf W. Routh, husband of Kate Criswell (dau. of Joseph E., Sr.) was appointed Guardian of the girls who were then minors. Mittie lived with Kate (Yank's 1st cousin) and Alf until she married in 1903. All four of the girls married boys from the Pin Oak (or Black Jack) neighborhood.

LaVina Cottle Ware told me that Delia (Yank's wife) and her sisters were orphaned when they were young. One of her sisters lived with Mollie and Jim Lyons for a while, and LaVina Cottle knew her then. Their parents (John C. and Priscilla Boatright Burke) must not have died until after Delia was married. She was only a little over 15 when she ran away and married. Rosa Berry Cole told me her parents never forgave her for eloping. They probably died soon after that.

The exact date of Yank's death was ascertained from the book "I'll Die Before I'll Run" by C. L. Sonnichsen. This is an account of the more important feuds in Texas, and is fairly well documented. The San Saba "News" of 7-17-1888 is quoted as follows: "J. Y. Criswell was shot from his wagon and instantly killed on Thursday of last week near his home in McCulloch County. It is not known who did the shooting."

Yank and Ardelia Burke Criswell had 6 children:

- A- William Thomas (Tom Yank) Criswell, b. 1877 in either Fayette or McCulloch Co. where they were living on June 1, 1880; d. probably in Olton, Lamb Co., Texas, where he lived when he was grown. When he was a little fellow he rode horseback to school.

Tom Yank was only 10, or nearly 11, when his father was killed in August 1888. He helped tend his mother's sheep after that. He was 15 or 16 when his mother died in 1893 at Christoval. She and the children had been out in West Texas and were on their way back to McCulloch County when she died. His aunt, Lillie Criswell Waddill, went to Christoval after the children and took them back to McCulloch County. They stayed with her there until their grandmother, Polly Criswell (Mrs. William V.), came from Praha to take them home with her.

Tom Yank didn't want to go with her, so he got on his pony, Old Possum, and rode away. They didn't know where he was for some time. He settled in Olton, near Plainview, later married and accumulated a lot of property there. He grew up to be a fine man.

- B- L. Mary (May) Criswell, b. 1879 in the Round Mountain Community of McCulloch Co., Texas; m. by W. T. McDonald, 10-26-1898 Fayette Co., Texas, S. D. Bell. (His given name was Dan.)
- C- Ida Criswell, b. 1881 in the Round Mountain Community of McCulloch Co., Texas; m. 12-1-1897 Pin Oak, Texas, in the home of her aunt (Bettie Criswell Jones), Miles B. Jones, b. after 1870 Pin Oak, Texas.

After Ida's mother died in 1893 she went to live with Bettie and her husband, Cal Jones, at Pin Oak and was married there. Cal and Miles were first cousins although there was about 30 years difference in their ages. Miles was a child of his father's second marriage. Ida also stayed some with the Billy Fitzgeralds--son of Candace.

Miles was the son of Wiley Jones, b. 1820 S. C., who m. (2) 7-14-1869 Pin Oak, Texas, Nancy (Nan) E. Hale McCormic who divorced her first husband, Winfield McCormic. Nancy was b. 1835 Arkansas. Nancy and Winfield McCormic had several children, one of whom later married, and was divorced from, Jim Criswell's adopted son Tom.*

Nancy was the dau. of Mrs. Mary Hale, b. 1804 Pennsylvania.

Wiley was the brother of Tom Jones, father of Cal and of Josie Jones who married John H. Criswell, brother of Cal's wife Bettie.

Ida and Miles Jones lived in Beaumont, Texas, and had 5 children:

- a- Clara Belle Jones.
- b- Bertha Mae Jones.
- c- Wiley Jones, Jr.
- d- Ruth Jones.
- e- Bessie Jones.

- D- Jessie Criswell, b. 5-8-1882 Round Mountain Community, McCulloch Co., Texas; d. 7-31-1894 Praha, Texas, and is buried in the old Black Jack, or Pin Oak, Cemetery.
- E- Ardelia Bernice (rhymes with "rice") Criswell, b. 8-6-1884 Round Mountain Community, McCulloch Co., Texas; d. 6-6-1954 Muldoon, Texas; m. 11-7-1900 Flatonia, Texas, Wesley (Wes) B. Jones, b. 11-29-1878 Pin Oak, Texas; d. 2-25-1935 Pin Oak, Texas, where both of them are buried. He was a brother of Miles B. Jones who married Bernice's sister, Ida.

Wesley was a son of Wiley and Nancy E. Hale (McCormic) Jones. (See Ida, above, for their dates.) Wesley and Bernice lived for some years in Beaumont, Texas.

* I do not know how Wylie Jones spelled his name but I am using the spelling "Wiley" which I found in the 1870 Fayette Co. census. He and Nan died after 1900, as Bettie Criswell Jones mentioned them several times in her diary from 1896 through 1900. Years after the above was typed I read the diary and see that she spelled his name "Wylie".

After Bernice's grandmother, Polly, died in 1899, Alf Routh (husband of her father's first cousin, Kate Criswell) was appointed her Guardian.

Bernice and Wesley Jones had 4 children:

- a- Louis Lee Jones, b. ab. 1902; lived 1959 in Louisiana.
 - b- Evie Jones (a girl), b. ab. 1904; died at some time before 1959.
 - c- Alton Jones, b. ab. 1906; lived 1959 at Nederland, Texas, near Beaumont.
 - d- Wesley B. Jones, Jr., b. ab. 1908; lived 1959 in Louisiana. He had his mother's Bible at that time.
- f- Mittie E. Criswell, b. 1886 Round Mountain Community, McCulloch Co., Texas; m. 12-30-1903 James (Jim) H. Davidson, in or near Flatonia.

Mittie and Bernice were living with their grandmother, Polly (widow of Wm. V.) when she died 1-23-1899. Alf Routh was then appointed Guardian of the two girls. Mittie who was about the same age as Alf and Kate Criswell Routh's dau., Elizabeth, went to live with them. She lived with them for some time, but went to live with one of her sisters for a while before she married in 1903.

In 1959 Mittie lived at 2016 Lucile Street, Wichita Falls, Texas. She and Jim probably had children, but I have no further information.

6. Lillie Martin Criswell, b. 6-29-1857 ab. 4 mi. east of Flatonia, near the present Praha, Texas; d. 11-4-1925 Rochelle, McCulloch Co., Texas; m. 10-4-1875 Praha (or "Hottentot" as it is sometimes called), Texas, John Pamplin Waddill, b. 12-28-1850 in Texas; d. 5-16-1937 Rochelle, Texas, where both of them are buried.

John was the son of William S. Waddill who was living on Mulberry Creek, near Schulenburg, Texas, in 1880. My grandfather, Wm. Robert (Bob) Ragsdale, was murdered 6-23-1880 near Schulenburg by cattle thieves. When his body was found the next day it was taken to the home of William Waddill. The thieves had dragged his body off to the brush and covered it with leaves. Grandpa's horse, a little lame from a shot in the shoulder, lived to be 29 years old.

Lillie and John who then had 2 children were living with her mother, Polly McMicken Criswell, when the census was taken at Praha on 6-28-1880. The younger child, Florence, died just a few months later and was buried in the Criswell Cemetery. This cemetery was located on William V.'s land 1/2 mi. east of Praha on the north side of Mulberry Creek. At one time it was a fair size cemetery with a number of markers. In the 1930's the man who owned the land broke all the headstones except two and hauled them away. Houston Wade found out about it and the man is said to have paid a large fine. Little Florence's is one of the 2 stones left standing. The other was a double stone, for William V. and his daughter Sara E. Lee (Mrs. W. H. S.). In 1936 the body of William V. was taken to Austin and reburied in the State Cemetery with appropriate ceremony, as he was a veteran of San Jacinto.

About 1884 Lillie and John moved to the Round Mountain Community of McCulloch Co., Texas, where her brothers, John H. and Yank, and her sister, Mollie; were living. Her first cousin, Henry Cottle, was also living there then. Many of the other Criswells visited McCulloch Co. during the 1880's.

The Community was ab. 5 mi. north of Rochelle. Lillie and John built a house on their farm there which has been added to from time to time, but in 1960 it was still in good condition and was still in the family. It was lived in then by a grand-dau., Emma Mae Rodgers Benifield (Mrs. Roger).

Lillie's mother, Polly, was visiting them when Yank Criswell (Lillie's brother) was killed 8-9-1888, shot from ambush while taking a load of sorghum cane to the mill to have syrup made. LaVina Cottle Ware, who was then 14, was the first person to get to "Aunt Polly", as she was affectionately known to many members of the family, after she was given the news of his tragic death. LaVina says she can never forget her screams. Aunt Polly and Nig were staying at Mollie Lyons' house when the news was told to the family. All the facts surrounding his murder were never made clear to the family, and it is still pretty much an unsolved mystery.

After Yank was killed Henry Cottle built a house about 1/2 mile from his own for Delia, Yank's widow, and their 6 children. Henry's sons helped Tom Yank, the oldest child who was 10 or 11 tend Delia's sheep. They lived there a year or more then went back to their old farm 5 or 6 miles away for another year or two. Then Delia sold out and went to West Texas with the children. They were on their way back to McCulloch Co. when Delia died in 1893 at Christoval, Tom Green Co., Texas. She was buried there.

Lillie went to Christoval after the children and took them home with her. Not long afterward Polly and her brother, Jim McMicken, took a 4 mule wagon and went to McCulloch Co. after the children. Tom Yank didn't want to go to Fayette Co. with them so he got on his pony and rode away to West Texas. Polly and Jim then took the 5 girls back to Praha with them.

On 1-15-1899 Lillie arrived in Fayette Co. Her mother was seriously ill and grew worse each day. Polly died 1-23-1899. Aunt Nig, the daughter of a slave Polly had bought, was raised by Polly and always slept at the foot of her bed. She took Polly's death very hard. When no one was looking, Aunt Nig would go up to the casket, wring her hands and cry "Oh, my Missy". Nig, or Niggie as she was sometimes called was born 1853. Her name was Emiline Criswell. Polly either willed or gave her to Lillie and she went to McCulloch Co. to live after Polly died. When Nig died she was buried in the Rochelle Cemetery with a marker "Emily Criswell". Mollie, Polly's daughter, was also buried in the Rochelle Cemetery but she had no marker.

Polly's great-grandson, Claud V. Jones, of San Antonio, has the original bill-of-sale given to Wm. V. when he bought Nig's mother, Julia, in 1854 and the baby, then 1 1/2.

Lillie and John Waddill had 9 children:

A- Mary (Mamie) Susan Waddill, b. 10- -1877 Praha, Texas; m. 9- -1892 at her parents' home near Rochelle, Texas, Frank Wicker who is now dead. Mamie lived 1960 in New Jersey with her daughter, and was then in poor health. They had 3 or 4 children; 2 of whom are:

a- Katie Eugenia Wicker, b. 10-26-1893 near Rochelle, Texas. She married (name not known) and lived 1960 in New Jersey and her mother was with her. She had 1 child:

(1) Roy _____, He married and had children. In 1960 he lived in Clovis, N. M.

b- Hollis Wicker. He married and had children. In 1960 he lived in Clovis, N. M.

B- Lillie Florence Waddill, b. 10-18-1878 Praha, Texas; d. 10-26-1880 Praha, Texas, and was buried in the old Criswell Cemetery 1/2 mi. east of Praha on her grandfather's land. Hers is one of the 2 stones left standing in what was once a fairly large family cemetery. The other was a large double stone with her grandfather's name on one side, and the name of his daughter Sarah on the other side. However, her grandfather's body was reburied in the State Cemetery at Austin in 1936. William V. Criswell was a San Jacinto veteran.

C- Pearl Yancy Waddill, b. 9-16-1881 Praha, Texas; m. 1-20-1898 Robert (Bud) H. Rodgers, b. 4-11-1878. They eloped but did not marry in McCulloch County. They were both living early in January 1960. They had 5 children:

a- John William Rodgers, b. 11-12-1898 near Rochelle, Texas; m. 1921 Ruby Barton, b. 4-29-1896. They had 1 child:

(1) Nellie Pearl Rodgers, b. 1-14-1922.

b- Ina Rodgers, b. 12-27-1900 near Rochelle, Texas; m. 12-18-1920 Allen Howard McShan, b. 8-6-1887. They had 1 child:

(1) a Son, b. 10-8-1921.

c- James Robert Rodgers, b. 5-6-1903 near Rochelle, Texas; m. 10-22-1955 Willie Mae Askew. They had 1 child:

(1) Robert (Bobby) Rodgers, b. 4-15-1957.

d- Martin Eldon Rodgers, b. 9-27-1906 near Rochelle, Texas; m. 2-6-1928 Mable Nix. They had 3 children:

(1) Hulen Rodgers, b. 5-21-1929.

(2) Rebecca Rodgers, b. 5-6-1931.

(3) Mary Ann Rodgers, b. 4-4-1933.

e- Emma Mae Rodgers, b. 4-23-1909 near Rochelle, Texas; m. 12-29-1928 Roger Benifield, b. 8-13-1907. They live in the old home her grandparents, Lillie and John Waddill, built when they went to McCulloch County to live in 1884. They had 2 children:

(1) Roger Benifield, Jr., b. 10-13-1930 near Rochelle, Texas.

(2) a Daughter, b. 1-13-1934 near Rochelle, Texas.

D- John Paschal (Pack) Waddill, b. ab. 1883 Praha, Texas; d. 5- -1937 near Rochelle, Texas; m. ab. 1912 McCulloch Co., Texas, his 2nd cousin once-removed, Flora Edna Cottle, b. 1-9-1894 Coryell Co., Texas. She lived 1960 at Placid, McCulloch Co., Texas.

Flora Edna was the dau. of Frederic (Fred) Alexander Cottle, b. 3-10-1873 Black Jack Springs, Texas, and his wife Ella Mae Cross. Fred was given the names for his 2 grandfathers, Leander Frederic Trent Cottle and Alexander Ranne.

Fred was the son of Leander (Lee) C. Cottle, b. 1841 Black Jack Springs, Texas; m. 12-22-1869 Black Jack, Laura Ranne, b. 1850 Lyons Station (near the present Schulenburg), Texas; d. 1883 Bell Co., Texas, from typhoid fever, just a few months after Lee died.

Lee was the son of Lee F. T. Cottle, b. 1786 Woodstock Vermont; d. 8-8-1845 Black Jack Springs, Texas; who m. as 2nd husband by Contract or Bond ab. May 1836 Plum Grove, Texas, Candace Ann Criswell (Underwood). Lee F. T. was the son of Joseph Cottle, b. ab. 1751 who m. Azubah Power, b. ab. 1753. Joseph was the son of Sylvanus Cottle, Sr., and his wife Abigail Sherman who went with their family in 1772 from Martha's Vineyard, Mass., to Woodstock, Vt.

Laura Ranne was the dau. of William Alexander Ranne, b. 1825 Nauvoo, Ill.; d. ab. 1900 Bell Co., Texas; who m. as 2nd husband 12-14-1848 Lyons Station (near the present Schulenburg), Texas, Mary A. Bridges Lyons (widow of Seymore Clinton Lyons), b. 1825 near Navidad, Jackson Co., Texas; d. 12-4-1895 Bell Co., Texas. Mary was the dau. of William B. Bridges, b. 1795 N. C.; d. March 1858 Fayette Co., Texas. and his 1st wife, Frances Cook, b. in Ireland; d. ab. 1830 in what is now Jackson Co. or Fayette Co., Texas. They married ab. 1823. Two of Mary's children by her first husband were Frances Lyons who married Candace's and Lee F. T. Cottle's son, Henry, and James (Jim) Warren Lyons who married Mollie Criswell, dau. of William V. Mary's father, Wm. B. Bridges was an early settler in Texas. His Land Grant was dated 7-2--1824, and the land was located in the present Jackson County.

Paschal and Flora had 6 children:

a- Lillie Mae Waddill, b. 10-31-1914 McCulloch Co., Texas; m. Clyde Mathews. They had 2 children:

(1) Clydale Mathews, b. 8-6-1936 McCulloch Co., Texas; m. Harold Hampton, and in 1960 they had 1 child:

(A) Vickie Kay Hampton.

(2) Judy Mathews

b- Billie Maxine Waddill, b. 1918 McCulloch Co., Texas; m. Fred Frenzel, and in 1960 they had 2 children:

(1) Joan Frenzel.

(2) Janice Frenzel.

c- Lorena Nell Waddill, b. 1920 McCulloch Co., Texas; m. G. C. Spence who in 1960 was dead. They had 2 children:

- (1) Georgiann Spence.
- (2) Linda Jean Spence.

d- Roxy Ann Waddill, b. 1927 McCulloch Co., Texas; m. Roy Wiley, and in 1960 they had 4 children:

- (1) Connie Nell Wiley.
- (2) Donnie Wiley.
- (3) Sandra Wiley.
- (4) William Wiley.

e- Jo Ella Waddill (a twin), b. 1-23-1929 McCulloch Co., Texas; m. Arthur Young, and in 1960 they had 3 children:

- (1) Kathy Sue Young.
- (2) Gay Young.
- (3) James (Jimmy) Young.

f- John Paschal Waddill, Jr. (a twin), b. 1-23-1929 McCulloch Co., Texas; m. Robert (Bobby) Black, and in 1960 they had 1 child:

- (1) Laura Ann Waddill.

E- Otis (Ote) C. Waddill, b. ab. 1885 McCulloch Co., Texas. He married (name not known). In 1960 they lived at 800 S. Cypress St., Brady, Texas. At that time, early in 1960, Otis was in bed with a heart condition. They had 2 children, names not known.

F- Lelia Waddill, b. ab. 1887 McCulloch Co., Texas; m. Henry Hardin who in 1960 was dead. Lelia lived 1960 somewhere near Odessa or Monahans. They had 2 children:

- a- Horace Vernon Hardin who lived 1960 Odessa or Monahans, Texas.
- b- a Daughter who in 1960 was dead. She married but had no children.

G- Ethel Waddill, b. ab. 1889 McCulloch Co., Texas; d. 1918. She married a Mr. Lee, but they had no children.

H- Vernon Waddill, b. ab. 1891 McCulloch Co., Texas; m. Lockie Adams. They lived 1960 near Rochelle, Texas, and had 2 children:

- a- Vernon Waddill, Jr., b. McCulloch Co., Texas. He lived 1960 somewhere near Rochelle.
- b- a Daughter, b. McCulloch Co., Texas. She lived 1960 near Rochelle, Texas.

I- Vanoy Waddill, b. ab. 1893 McCulloch Co., Texas. He married and had a family. In 1960 they lived near Hobbs, New Mexico.

(Note by SRD:)

I feel certain that the name was originally spelled "Vannoy". There was a William Vannoy in the 1810 Knox Co., Ky., census. He and others were in the 1820 census there. John Y. Criswell, Sr., was also there in 1820. The name was always

spelled "Vannoy" in the 1810, 1820, 1830, 1840 and 1850 censuses. I believe, but have no proof, that John Y. married a daughter of this William Vannoy. "Vannoy" was the middle name of John Y.'s first two sons, but the spelling among descendants seems to be "Vanoy".

(Later-- The name is VANNOY, and John Y., Sr., married Eleanor Vannoy, dau. of William and Mary Vannoy.)

(Later still-- At long last, on 2-3-1964 I have proof that this is so. John Y. Criswell, Sr., married ELEANOR VANNOY, daughter of William Vannoy who made his will 7-12-1845 in Knox Co., Ky. I was immensely pleased and terribly excited to find the will which confirmed my belief. A codicil to the will says in part: "I also give and bequeath to the children of my deceased son-in-law, John Y. Criswell and daughter, Eleanor, one Dollar, they having received heretofore their full proportion of my estate through their Father, the said John Y. Criswell....."

III. CANDACE (Candacy, pronounced Can-day'cy) ANN CRISWELL, b. 1816 (in Aug. or after) Knox Co., Ky.; d. 7-28-1900 Black Jack Springs, Fayette Co., Texas, in the home of her niece, Bettie Criswell Jones (Mrs. John Calvin), dau. of Wm. V. Candace is buried in the old Black Jack (or Pin Oak) Cemetery beside her 3rd husband, Obediah Fitzgerald, in a plot with an iron railing around it. There is another grave, unmarked, beside hers but just outside the railing that is thought to be that of her 2nd husband, Lee F. T. Cottle. Her name is "Candacy" Fitzgerald on the marker.

Candace was a large woman, as were her children. She had brown hair and a medium complexion, which became tanned from exposure as she grew older.

Candace came to Texas with her father's family from Knox Co., Ky., to Matagorda Co., Texas, in Dec. 1830 when she was 14 years old. They moved to Fayette Co. some time between 1833 and 1835. Records show they were in Fayette Co. in the summer of 1835. Candace's mother may have died in Matagorda Co. before they left there. She was alive on 6-15-1831 when Stephen F. Austin signed John Y.'s Land Grant for 1 League in Matagorda Co., but she was dead when John Y. died 9-30-1839, as she was not mentioned in the settlement of his estate. She may have died in old Plum Grove, near West Point. When the land, formerly the residence of John Y. Criswell, was deeded in 1851 to the Trustees of the Plum Grove Baptist Church, it included the graveyard--where John Y. was no doubt buried, and possibly his wife.

Candace married 3 times. She m. (1) ab. 1835, in Matagorda or Fayette Co. (then the Municipality of Mina) a Mr. Underwood who was dead by late March 1836 when she went on the Runaway Scrape with her father's family and their neighbors, as she was then a young widow named Underwood. I am inclined to think that Candace and Mr. Underwood were married in Fayette Co. because I know there were at least two Underwood men there, one of whom was the first husband of my great-grandmother, Sarah Ann Ellis, who came to Texas from Wilcox Co., Ala., about 1838 with her husband James S. Underwood. He died 1839 in Fayette Co., and in 1841 she married (2) my great-grandfather Wm. Marshall Robinson, formerly of Henry Co., Ky. I think it highly probable that Candace married James Underwood's brother, or other kin. Sarah and Candace lived as neighbors in the Black Jack area from the early 1840s until 1900 when they both died. Candace and Mr. Underwood had no children.

Fayette County was created from Bastrop (formerly Mina) and Colorado Counties, all a part of Austin's Colony, by the Republic of Texas Dec. 1837, and organized Jan. 1, 1838. While Texas was under Mexican rule, all marriage ceremonies had to be performed by a Catholic priest. If no priest lived nearby, it was customary to be married by Contract or Bond. The boy and the girl signed this legal and binding contract, as well as both of her parents. In May 1836 this procedure, no doubt, was still in effect.

Candace m. (2) by Contract or Bond ab. 1836, Plum Grove, in what is now Fayette Co., Texas, Leander Frederic Trent Cottle, b. 1786 Vermont; d. 8-8-1845 Black Jack Springs. He is thought to be buried on one side of Candace in an unmarked grave in the Black Jack Cemetery.

Lee was a large man. He was the son of Joseph Cottle and Azubah Powers, and was the grandson of Abigail Sherman. He was also a descendant of Edward Winslow of the Mayflower, I'm told. Therefore all of Lee's and Candace's descendants are eligible for membership in many patriotic organizations.