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THE LONG JOURNEY
A Family History
1687 to 1991

Embracing an Account of the Arrivals, Movements,
and Ultimate Dispersal of the Southern
Branches and Descendants of
Eleven Allied
Families

ADAMS-BALLENGER-CLEVELAND-DUKE
HAIR-HARBIN-LEWIS-LYLES
O'KELLEY-TRAIL-WARD



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1992

CLEVELAND

There has been a wealth of history written about this family; so much that the task of selecting and condensing appropriate material for the limited space in a genealogy has been one of frustration. The historians and genealogist sometimes disagree on details, but there is general agreement on substance. We will attempt to present a sketch of these people from their origins in England, through their sojourns in Virginia, the Carolinas and Georgia, to the culmination of this genealogical line with Colonel Benjamin Cleveland and his son, Absalom, on the fork of the Tugaloo River and Chauga Creek along the South Carolina and Georgia line in present day Oconee County, South Carolina.

On a current map of England, with sufficient detail, in the District of North Yorkshire and just south of the City of Middlesbrough, will be found the words "Cleveland Hills" in what is now named North York Moors National Park. From Middlesbrough's (coincidence) "New International Encyclopedia" comes the best source on the origin of the name: "Cliy, Cley, Clives, Cleves, Cliffs, plus land equals Cleveland." Other sources also state that the name derives from the English word "cliff", meaning precipice, hill, ridge, etc. From William Camden's "Brittania" we have: "From Whitby the shore retires to the west near Cleveland, so named as it should seem from the hills which we call cliffs, ridges, or mountains." The earliest Cleveland of record was one Thorkil, probably a Saxon land owner, who assumed the name Cleveland soon after the Norman Conquest, calling himself Thorkil de(of) Cleveland. He had his seat at Gisborough, Cleveland, County York, England. The first name, Thorkil, indicates that he was of Anglo-Saxon ancestry and not of Norman descent, although both these and the Danes were of the same origin. It is this area, North Riding of Yorkshire, England, that the consensus of historians and genealogist present as the origin of the ancestors of the Cleveland families in America.

Genealogist have pursued, and at times intermingled, two family lines descending from a Moses Cleveland and an Alexander Cleveland. Apparently Moses was the American progenitor of a line in New England from which President Grover Cleveland descended, and Alexander that of a line which started in Virginia and continued into the Carolinas, Georgia, and points west. It is this line of descent from Alexander which we will follow in this genealogy. Material will be presented on the descendants where material is available, and space permitting, but the general trend will concentrate on the main blood line.

It seems that there is unanimous agreement among those who have researched the Cleveland families that an Alexander was the American ancestor of the Southern Clevelands, and a Moses that of the New England Clevelands. Disagreement enters into the search, and proof thereof, of the father of this Alexander. The following record sources, were compiled by Mr. June Rayfield Welch, a family descendant of Dallas, Texas, have been used to reach a decision in

starting this genealogical narrative:

1. The Genealogy of the Cleveland Families, Vol. 3, Hartford: 1899 by Edmund Janes Cleveland.
2. Minutes of the Council and General Court of Colonial Virginia, Vol. 58, page 254, Virginia State Library, Richmond.
3. Spotsylvania County, Virginia, Records, by Crozier, page 17, Library of Congress, Washington, DC.
4. Virginia Cleveland Ancestor Discovered, by George A. Martin, as published in the National Genealogical Society Quarterly, Sept 1958, Vol. 46, page 152.
5. Abingdon Parish Register, Gloucester County, Virginia, 1678-1761, Virginia State Library, Richmond, births, baptisms, marriages, and deaths, pages 8, 11, 19, 37, 40, 45, and 54.
6. Life and Addresses of W.H. Woolery, LL. D., Cincinnati: The Standard Publishing Co., 1893, pages 10-39.

Edmund Janes Cleveland's research was primarily directed toward Moses Cleveland in New England, however, he did devote a few words to the southern Cleveland line. It seems that there was an Alexander Cleveland in England, born Ca. 1617, who married a daughter of Lord and Lady Axminster. Janes Cleveland, although very vaguely, states that this Alexander later settled in Prince William County, Virginia, and was the father of Alexander, our Virginia ancestor. Yet he presented no proof in the form of authoritative records.

On the other hand, sources 2, 3, and 4 clearly support a **ROGER CLEVELAND** as being the first Cleveland in Virginia. He arrived before 16 November 1670. He married, either in England or Virginia, a lady named **DORCAS** (last name not known). He signed a deed in 1679 in Gloucester County, Virginia. He later moved to that part of Spotsylvania County which later became, in 1734, Orange County. Sources 5 and 6 contain births, baptisms, some marriages, and some death records of the known children of Roger and Dorcas, and some further descendants. The three known children were (probably others):

1. John Cleveland was born prior to 1678.
2. Elizabeth Cleveland was baptized 31 October 1684.
3. **ALEXANDER CLEVELAND** was baptized 31 July 1687 in Gloucester County, Virginia, and died in 1775. He married, Ca. 1711, **MILDRED (MILLEY) PRESSLEY**.

On 7 February 1733, Alexander Cleveland witnessed a deed from William Hutcherson of St. George's Parish, Spotsylvania County, to Rice Curtis of same. VA Deed Book B, 1729-1734. On 20 May 1735, Rice Curtis Sr. of Spotsylvania County conveyed 600 acres on both

sides of "Blew Run" on the Hanover County line to Thomas Chew of Orange County, St. Mark's Parish, adjoining land of John Minor and Alexander Cleveland, part of a 1600 acre patent to Chew, sold to Curtis, and repossessed.

Alexander of Spotsylvania County, in September 1738, bought 100 acres from Laurence Franklin of Orange County. On the same day John Cleveland bought 100 acres from Rice Curtis on branches of "Blew Run" adjoining Alexander. It was witnessed by Grace Cleveland, daughter of Alexander, who probably married Edward Coffey, son of Edward and Ann Powell Coffey.

On 27 May 1743, Alexander Cleveland having petitioned for a road, it was ordered that Alexander Cleveland Jr., John Cleveland, Benjamin Franklin, Edward Coffee, and others, under Laurence Franklin, clear the road. (James Madison, father of the future president, became road overseer from Blue Run Mill Road to the main road below Colonel Chew on 22 March 1749).

We would be more pleased had we found additional records, but this seems to be sufficient proof that our line descends from Roger Cleveland to Alexander Cleveland Sr., to John Cleveland Sr., to Benjamin Cleveland, to Absalom Cleveland, to Mary Cleveland who married Thomas Harbin. At this point we will continue with the family of ALEXANDER CLEVELAND, SR. and MILDRED PRESSLEY on the next page.

Lineage Chart: 432 and 433

THE FAMILY OF
ALEXANDER CLEVELAND SR. AND MILDRED PRESSLEY

Alexander Cleveland Sr.
b-1687
w-Gloucester Co. VA
m-Ca. 1711
d-1770
w-Orange Co. VA

Mildred Pressley
b-Ca. 1687
w-?
c-possibly 9
d-1770
w-Orange Co. VA

1-Alexander Cleveland Jr.
b-bapt 25 May 1712
w-Gloucester Co. VA
m-Ca. 1730
d-1776
w-Albemarle Co. VA

2-JOHN CLEVELAND SR.
b-31 Jul 1714
w-Gloucester Co. VA
m-20 Apr 1734 Elizabeth Coffey
d-Nov 1778
w-Orange Co. VA

3-Grace Cleveland
b-1 Sep 1716
w-Gloucester Co. VA
m-? Edward Coffey
d-?
w-?

4-William Cleveland
b-23 Feb 1718
w-Gloucester Co. VA
m-?
d-?
w-?

5-Benjamin Cleveland
b-21 Nov 1721
w-Gloucester Co. VA
m-?
d-?
w-?

6-Jeremiah Cleveland
b-?
w-Culpeper Co. VA (?)
m-?
d-?
w-Habersham Co. GA (?)

7-Jane Cleveland
b-1725
w-?
m-? Chesley Coffey
d-?
w-?

8-Elizabeth Cleveland
b-1727
w-?
m-? James Coffey Rev. Baptist
d-?
w-?

9-Micajah Cleveland (?)
b-?
w-?
m-?
d-?
w-?

(1) Alexander Cleveland, Jr. married Margaret Doolittle. Margaret was born Ca. 1710, probably in Gloucester County, and died about 1785 in Albemarle County.

- (3) Grace Cleveland married Edward Coffey who was born in Essex County, Virginia.
- (4) Nothing more is known of William Cleveland.
- (5) Nothing more is known of Benjamin Cleveland.
- (6) There are some questions about Jeremiah Cleveland being a son.
- (7) Jane Cleveland married Chesley Coffey.
- (8) Elizabeth Cleveland married James Coffey, a Baptist preacher.
- (9) There are also questions about Micajah Cleveland being a son.

(2) The family of JOHN CLEVELAND, SR. has been traced by the southern descendants, and primarily those of Colonel Benjamin Cleveland, so emphasis has been placed on his direct line. John married ELIZABETH COFFEY who was born Ca. 1714 in Essex County, Virginia, and died at the age of 90 which would have been about 1804. John and Elizabeth had nine known children. They lived, raised their family, and died on his plantation on Blue Run, Orange County, Virginia. Elizabeth was a daughter of Edward Coffey (sometimes Coffee) and Ann Powell. Edward Coffey, born Ca. 1670, probably in Ireland, died before 16 July 1716. His 14 February 1716 will was proven in November of that year. He married Ann Powell Ca. 1699 in Essex County, Virginia. Ann was born 1684 and died 1726. She was a daughter of Thomas Powell and Mary Place, who was a daughter of Francis Place and Ann Williams. The known children of Edward Coffey and Ann Powell were:

1. John Coffey, born 1704, died 31 March 1775 in Albemarle Co. He married Jane Graves, daughter of John and Hannah.
2. Edward Coffey, twin of John, married Grace Cleveland. ^{ALL BORN} ESSEX Co. Va.
3. Martha Coffey married Joshua Stapp.
4. Annester (Ann), born Ca. 1710, married a Shenault.
5. Austin, born Ca. 1712, also married a Shenault.
6. Elizabeth Coffey, born Ca. 1714 in Essex County, died about 1804 in Orange County. She married John Cleveland Sr. on 20 April 1734.

Edward Coffey left his will as follows:

In the name of God Aman I Edward Coffey being in bedd of sickness but in perfect sense & membrey thanks bee to God; I Edward Cofey do bequeath this to bee my Last Will & Testament, -I leave all my land to my two suns John Cofey & Edward Cofey equall to be divided at sixteen Ears of age if the mother of them be ded otherwayes att Eighten Years of agee. I also give one Cowe & her increas to my daughter Marther Cofey att the ye Ears of Sixten or at her mothers

deth allso one cow yerlen to my Sun John Cofey & her increas: all of the tenebles Stock & Bock I give to my wife Ann Cofey till her deth but if she marys then every one of my children to have their parts as they come of age, and after ye deces of my wife all tenebles to be Equall devided between my six children, John Cofey, Edward Cofey Marther Cofey Ann Cofey Austes Cofey Elizabeth Cofey as witness my hand & seall this 14th day of Februy 1716.

Edward Cofey

Witness: Samuel Edmondson & Timothy Seleven (Solomon or Sullivan).
Recorded November 20, 1716, in Deeds & Wills No. 14, Page 669, Essex County, Virginia, records.

(Coffey records courtesy of Marvin D. Coffey, James Bluford Coffey, His Ancestors and Descendants in America, Vol. II, 1984. George Anne Hicks, Family History of John Luther Cleveland and Anne Hamilton Upshaw, 1985. L.H. Coffey, Coffey Genealogy, Library of Congress.)

John Cleveland, of Spotsylvania County, planter, bought 100 acres of a 1600 acre patent on Blue Run adjoining Thomas Chew, Alexander Cleveland, Jr., and Hancock Lee. Dated March 18, 1735. On 17 February 1735, John was appointed overseer of a new road to be laid from Piney Mountain Run to the ridge between Blue Run and Petty's Creek. Alexander Cleveland Jr. was to assist. John was not getting enough help so on 16 March 1736 he entered the following petition:

Petition of John Cleveland that Your Worships were Last Court pleased to make an order for clearing a road towards James River mountains wherein your petitioner is appointed surveyor of the same in order to clear from the Piny Mountain Run upwards to about six miles and but a very weak gang to go through with it, one of which being a schoolmaster and not a laboring tithable is not obliged to the duty of clearing roads, and Edward Franklin also being surveyor of the lower part of the said road from Octonia Mill to the said Piny Mountain Run has about fifteen hands under him to clear about three miles at most in a road already cleared, whereas the road your petitioner has to clear is mostly through the woods and a very bad way and so many ways marked that your petitioner knows not which is the right way. Therefore he prays an order for another view on the said road, for Edward Franklin in favour to Head Lynch and to avoid going through his land has marked a very bad way where must be made three bridges, whereas if it were marked through Lynch's land it would be a very good way and no need for making any bridges. Petitioner also begs Your Worships may be pleased to appoint your petitioner his bounds and grant that Edward Franklin, Laurence Franklyn and his son Benjamin, with William Land may be taken from the lower part of the said road to join your petitioner's gang for though Edward Franklyn be appointed a surveyor of the road yet he lives higher upon the road than William Bryan or Phillip Bush. Your petitioner lives four miles above the Piny Mountain Run and Laurence Franklyn and William Land live higher. Therefore your petitioner thinks it

is a very great hardship that they should clear the lower part when your petitioner and others that live lower down must be obliged to clear the upper part. And there are Michael Pearson, George Head, and Robert Deering as proper persons for a surveyor on the lower part. The bounds your petitioner prays for are from the Blew Run up the Octonia Line to the Beaverdam Run, thence up the said run to the county line, thence down the county line to the Blew Run, from thence to the Octonia Line again. Filed March 16, 1736.

The petition was approved on 21 September 1736 with William Bryan as overseer. (Orange County Court Order Book 1, pages 109 and 125).

John Sr., in his will of 1 November 1778, mentions three daughters: Mary Franklin, Betty Claxley, and Patty Smith; and five sons: Benjamin, John, Robert, Jeremiah, and Rueben (deceased according to the will), but son Larkin was omitted. In the life of Thomas Jefferson Rusk, by R.T. Jaynes, the author list for John Sr.: John, Benjamin, Robert, Jeremiah, Larkin, Mary, and a daughter born about 1736 who married a Gillespie. In Draper's work on the Battle of King's Mountain, it is mentioned that Colonel Benjamin Cleveland had brothers Robert and Martin. Perhaps Martin was a second name for one of the sons. The name Larkin has remained in the Cleveland line for generations. From these and other sources, the family of **JOHN CLEVELAND, SR.** and **ELIZABETH COFFEY** has been constructed on the next page.

Benjamin Sw. ^{Mary Several}
 Elizabeth Several
 Martha Several
 Grace
 Reuben Sw. Jane (Mary)
 Fannil Pox Frances
 Jeremiah Nancy
 Martin 2 Eliz
 Jersl. Sarah Jane Several
 William Alice
 Neal Lucy
 James 1774 Ruth
 1700-02 Cleveland 1765-9
 Alfred Joel 1790 Joseph 1765-70
 Ben Franklin 2 Nathan 1760
 Absalom 1788
 Amariah 1745 Newton 1758
 Rutherford 1786 Salathiel B 1771
 William Saunders Chesley 1755 1783
 Eli 1775 1745 Abigail 1757
 Isaac 1782
 John 1784
 Jake 1788 90
 Jordan 1786
 Fielding 1781 Haza Thomas
 Lewis 1749 1803
 Joseph 1743
 Joel 1785

Edward Thomas
 Austin & John
 Allen Eliz
 James Mont
 Smith Anna
 William II Mar
 Reuben Patsy
 Elijah Sallie
 Lewis Sarah
 Jarkin Nancy
 Caleb Sr Cady
 Levi Elenor
 Lewis Sally
 Rev James Jeff
 Joel Eleanor
 Ambrose Rice boy Cassey
 Rite 1766 Louise
 Va Archibald
 John Ellenor
 Reuben ? Nancy Ell
 Ambrose & Martha II
 Eli (Elijah) M. Ratty
 Lewis with Pky M. R. White
 Eliz M. White
 Martha P. Quinn
 Ambrose Boy
 Jesse
 Burke Thomas Jeff 1805
 George Wash Miss
 Holland G
 Diram
 Mc Alice Buckle
 America II
 Milnes II
 Christy
 Emily

House Words
 Meadows
 with elements
 in some
 keef as
 a Coffee
 in Aunt's
 and Cynthia's father
 husband brought
 to his house and
 children should
 children hated his
 Both families
 older

Jim
 Sorry but
 with research
 of Land Transaction
 & Tax Rolls + Censes
 where one family
 (Charles Edwards + Mortimer
 also many of Cleveland more to Coffey
 went also did some favor
 many of the others they
 intermingle consistently in
 residents + naming their
 children after either

Lineage Chart: 216 and 217

THE FAMILY OF
JOHN CLEVELAND SR. AND ELIZABETH COFFEY

John Cleveland Sr.
b-31 Jul 1714
w-Orange Co. VA
m-20 Apr 1734
d-Nov 1778
w-Orange Co. VA

Elizabeth Coffey
b-Ca. 1714
w-Essex Co. VA
c-9 known
d-age 90
w-Orange Co. VA

1-Mary Cleveland
b-26 May 1735
w-Orange Co. VA
m-1752
d-Bef 1807
w-Wilkes Co. NC

2-Rev. John Cleveland Jr.
b-Ca. 1737
w-Orange Co. VA
m-1759
d-Mar 1825
w-Pendleton Dist. SC

3-BENJAMIN CLEVELAND
b-26 May 1738
w-Orange Co. VA
m-Ca. 1758
d-15 Oct 1806
w-Pendleton Dist. SC

4-Elizabeth Cleveland
b-6 Jun 1742
w-Orange Co. VA
m-?
d-19 Apr 1828
w-Madison Co. KY

5-Robert Cleveland
b-8 Jan 1744
w-Orange Co. VA
m-1769
d-Apr-Aug 1812
w-Monroe Co. TN

6-Jeremiah Cleveland
b-Ca. 1746
w-Orange Co. VA
m-?
d-1806
w-Pendleton Dist. SC

7-Larkin Cleveland
b-6 Apr 1748
w-Orange Co. VA
m-Feb 1773
d-9 Jul 1814
w-Pendleton Dist. SC
omitted From father will

8-Martha Cleveland
b-1750
w-Orange Co. VA
m-9 Nov 1775
d-?
w-?

9-Rueben Cleveland
b-Ca. 1752
w-Orange Co. VA
m-?
d-Before father
w-Orange Co. VA

10. + POSS SON MARTIN
or one of the Boys
middle name
if True also omitted
from will

(1) Mary Cleveland married Barnard Franklin. Barnard was born 6 May 1731 in Albemarle County, Virginia, and died in January 1828 in Wilkes County, North Carolina. Barnard married second in 1807, Susannah, widow of James Fletcher of Wilkes County. He was a son of Laurence Franklin and Mary Payne. Barnard and Mary went to Surry County, North Carolina about the year 1769, along with Benjamin Cleveland and his family, the Graves, and the Taliaferro family. They settled on a hill overlooking Fisher River. Their home near Lowgap, built in 1792, was acquired for restoration in 1972 by the Surry County Historical Society. Barnard, who may have founded the Mitchell River Baptist Church, named children for Biblical figures. W.R. Edmonds, in The University Magazine, March 1811, said that the Clevelands and Franklins were settlers of Albemarle County, Virginia. On 6 February 1764, Laurence Franklin Sr. and wife Mary (Payne) of Orange County conveyed to Barnard Franklin, "leather britches maker of Albemarle County" 200 acres, part of a 400 acre tract patented to Franklin, 100 of which was sold to Alexander Cleveland Sr., 100 to Benjamin Franklin, and the other 200 now to Barnard Franklin. The known children of Mary Cleveland and Barnard Franklin were:

1. Jeremiah Franklin, born 2 September 1754, remained in Albemarle County.
2. Barnard Franklin Jr, born 27 April 1756, married Martha Cleveland, daughter of Alexander Cleveland. They remained in Albemarle.
3. Jesse Franklin, third of seven brothers, born 24 March 1760, died September 1823 in Surry County, North Carolina. He married Meekey Perkins of Buckingham County, Virginia. Meekey died February 1834. Jesse was buried at the Guilford Battleground.
4. Elizabeth Franklin, born 10 March 1762, Albemarle County.
5. Abner Franklin, born 28 April 1764, died Ca. 1827 in Dallas County, Alabama. He married Rhoda Cleveland who died prior to 1820.
6. Shadrack Franklin, born 20 April 1769 in Virginia, died August 1859 in Surry County, North Carolina. He married Judith Taliaferro, who was born 27 February 1762 and died 28 September 1850.
7. Mary Franklin, born 14 May 1771 in Surry County, North Carolina.
8. Meshack Franklin, born 17 September 1773 and died 18 December 1839 in Surry County. He married Mildred Edwards of Virginia, a daughter of Gideon Edwards and (Anne?) Perkins, whose brother Thomas Perkins named his plantation Mount Airy. He served eight years in Congress during the 1812 era.

9. Abednigo Franklin, born 31 May 1776, died 16 December 1818 near Madison, Morgan County, Georgia, and was buried in the Bonner Cemetery. He married his cousin, Mary Graves Cleveland who was born 15 March 1782 in Morgan Co. and died 31 July 1858 in Cherokee County, Georgia. Mary was a daughter of John Cleveland and Catherine Sloan Montgomery and granddaughter of Colonel Benjamin Cleveland. Abednigo was a very prominent citizen in the State of Georgia. He was an attorney, Solicitor General of Ocmulgee District, Colonel of Militia in the War of 1812, and a founder of Franklin College, now the University of Georgia. Of the seven children, two were physicians, four lawyers, and the daughter married a future governor of the State of Georgia.

(2) The Reverend John Cleveland Jr. married Mary Mollie McCann. Mary was born in Virginia Ca. 1733. She bore nine known children and died prior to 1809 in Pendleton District, South Carolina. The following biographical sketch of the Reverend John is contained in the Draper Manuscripts, by Dr. Lyman C. Draper:

John Cleveland died at Cleveland's Ferry on the Tugaloo River in Georgia at age 87. John Cleveland came to Franklin Co. Georgia about 1787. His home was on the Tugaloo River and his brother Larkin lived within sight. He preached at the Chauga Church near Fort Madison, South Carolina and at Eastanola Church in Georgia. He was good to his neighbors and the poor, kind to his many darkies, who thought their master better than any other man. He was living with his son-in-law, Benjamin Harrison, at the time of his death.

Still quoting Mr. Draper, Preacher John Cleveland was a brother to Colonel Benjamin Cleveland, from whose grandsons I have taken these notes. He lived about six miles below the Colonel. He was a noted Preacher of the Baptist persuasion, was a man of steady character and well thought of by his acquaintances. He was in charge of the Chauga Church and some others for years. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. He died in Georgia but was brought back to his former residence for burial. Rev. John was the smallest of the boys, rather short in stature and never weighed over 165 pounds.

In the history of the Tugaloo Association, by J.F. Goode, the association was organized in 1818 and the Tugaloo Church was represented by Thomas Gilbert and John Cleveland, who according to Baptist history were aged men. The name of John Cleveland appeared in the Association minutes as a delegate through the year 1822, after which it appeared no more.

The Reverend John Cleveland Jr.(II) died at the age of 87 on "Friday before the 4th Sunday in March 1825" at the home of his son-in-law, Benjamin Harrison, in Hart County, Georgia. He was buried in the Cleveland Cemetery on the hill behind the I-85 Welcome Center near Lake Hartwell on the SC/GA state line. John and Mary had the following known children:

1. John Cleveland III, born Ca. 1758 in Orange Co. VA, died in 1845 in Mobile Co. AL. He married Comfort Gilbert in Wilkes Co. NC on 12 December 1783. Comfort was born in 1761 in VA and died at the age of 85 on 7 January 1846 in Mobile Co. This John was called "Cornfield John" because of the numerous John Clevelands.
2. Neal Cleveland, born Ca. 1762 in VA, died in Pickens Dist. SC. Married Jane Cornell.
3. William Cleveland, born 18 October 1761 in VA, died in Pickens Dist. SC. Married Ann Nancy Harrison. Buried in the Cleveland Cemetery.
4. Fannie Cleveland, born 1768 in VA, died in Pickens Dist. SC. Married John McNeal of Carnesville GA.
5. Elizabeth Cleveland, born 1770 in Wilkes Co. NC, died in Pickens Dist. SC. Married Benjamin Harrison.
6. Jeremiah Cleveland, born 1772 in Wilkes Co. NC, buried in Cleveland Cemetery in SC. Married Obedience Callaway.
7. Mary Cleveland, born 1774 in Wilkes Co. NC, died at Clevelands Ferry SC. She married John Jackson Wolters.
8. Larkin Cleveland, born 1776 in Wilkes Co. NC, died at Clevelands Ferry SC.
9. Benjamin Cleveland, born 1778 in Wilkes Co. NC, died at Clevelands Ferry SC. Married Mary Holland.

(4) Elizabeth Cleveland, born 6 June 1742 on the Blue Run, Orange Co. VA, died 19 April 1828 in Madison Co. KY. Married David Gillaspy who died 24 May 1813. They are buried on Herndon Farm near Richmond in Madison County. Known children:

1. David Gillaspy Jr., born 11 January 1781, died before 27 July 1836. He married Jane ? who was born 16 January 1788 and died 6 May 1850 in Madison Co. KY.
2. Benjamin Gillaspy, born 1784, died 30 September 1820 and buried on Herndon Farm, Madison Co. KY.

(5) Robert Cleveland, born 8 January 1744, Orange Co. VA. Died in Wilkes Co. NC between the date of his will dated 26 April 1812 and the date that it was proven in August 1812. He married Alice Mathis Ca. 1769. Alice was born 11 December 1750 in KY, and died 18 December 1791 on Lewis Fork, Wilkes Co. Robert married second, Sarah Johnson who was born in Wilkes Co. and died after 1812 at the home of her daughter, Fanny, in Monroe Co. TN. Robert was a Captain in the Regiment of his brother Colonel Benjamin at the Battle of King's Mountain. He and his first wife, Alice, are buried near his home on the Lewis Fork of the Yadkin River in Wilkes Co. NC. Thirteen children by first wife, Alice:

1. Robert Mathis Cleveland, born 30 Sep 1770, died before 1812, married Frances Leonard Wight.
2. Larkin Cleveland, born 31 Oct 1772, died 19 Apr 1852, married Sarah Buchanan.
3. Jeremiah Cleveland, born 7 Dec 1774, died 2 Dec 1845, married Sarah Vannoy.
4. Nancy Cleveland, born 9 Mar 1777, died 1 Feb 1846, married John Ashley Reynolds.
5. Presley Cleveland, born 16 Sep 1779, died 31 Oct 1861, married Elizabeth Johnson. Presley inherited his father's plantation.
6. Eli Cleveland, born 1 Oct 1781, died 23 Nov 1859, married Polly Ragan.
7. Elizabeth Cleveland, born 16 Jul 1782, died 4 Nov 1850, married John Yates Jr. John bought Robert's 604 acre plantation from his brother-in-law, Presley, who was then living in TN. John's son, Jesse Yates, occupied the estate in 1885.
8. Jesse Cleveland, born 8 Feb 1785, died 3 Nov 1851, married Mary Blassingame.
9. Martin Cleveland, born 7 Jan 1787, died 17 Jun 1849, married Mary Gambrell.
10. Sarah Jane Cleveland, born 10 Nov 1789, died 8 Jun 1876, married Jesse Rector and lived in SC. Son Lewis was in Texas by 1836 and inherited the Austin land of his mother's half brother, Alfred Cleveland.
11. Alice Cleveland, born 2 Nov 1790, died ?, married Morton Jones Jr.
12. Mary Cleveland, born 2 Dec 1791, died 11 Oct 1850, married a Mr. Robb.
13. (Infant) Cleveland, born 2 Dec 1791, died 18 Dec 1791, a twin of Mary.

Known children of Robert and his second wife, Sarah Johnson:

1. James Harvey Cleveland, born 10 Jan 1796, married Sarah Thompson.
2. Fanny Cleveland, born 11 Oct 1797.
3. Alfred Cleveland, born 27 Nov 1800, died unmarried in TX. He was granted land in what became the City of Austin for his contributions to the Texas War of Independence.

4. Benjamin Franklin Cleveland, born 2 Jan 1804, became the ward of Edmond Jones 6 Feb 1822.

(6) Jeremiah Cleveland, born 1746 on Blue Run, Orange Co. VA, died 1806, married Mary Gentry. He, John, and Larkin are buried at Fairplay SC on the site of Tugaloo Baptist Church. No known children.

(7) Larkin Cleveland, born 6 Apr 1748, died 9 Jul 1814. Married Frances Wright of Bedford Co. VA in February 1773. He was wounded during the Revolution at Loneday Ford, NC in 1780. He moved to Wilkes Co. NC and then to Franklin Co. GA in 1784, was a Justice and a Legislator. He was granted 650 acres on the Tugaloo on 10 Nov 1787. He and Frances were buried in the Cleveland Cemetery in Oconee Co. SC. Known children were David and Benjamin who lived in Mississippi, Oliver and Abner who lived in Alabama, and Betsy, Rhoda, and Seiny.

(8) Martha Cleveland, born Ca. 1750, also in Orange Co. VA, married 9 Nov 1775, James Smith, at St. Thomas Parish. Children included Austin, John, and a daughter who married a Mr. Alexander.

(9) Rueben Cleveland, born Ca. 1752 in Orange Co. VA, married Elizabeth ..?.., and probably died before his father.

(3) COLONEL BENJAMIN CLEVELAND and his family begin on the following page.

COLONEL BENJAMIN CLEVELAND

Benjamin Cleveland was apparently quite an impressive man, and at times somewhat controversial. He was born, according to most sources, on the Blue Run, Orange County, Virginia, on May 26, 1738. In reading the history of this man, and attempting to summarize his character in a few words, it would be "a restless, somewhat impatient, exploring man, who still had the best qualities to render him kind and considerate to those with whom he dealt, and who deserved it". His early life was that which exemplified the restless and exploring nature, later to mature into a leader of men in the Revolutionary War, and then to spend his waning years participating in community affairs.

The various sources list two places in Virginia for his birth: on Bull Run in Prince William County, and on Blue Run in Orange County. Records of Orange County show a deed for 600 acres to John Cleveland, his father, in 1734 which was about four years before he was born. About the year 1757 Benjamin married Mary Graves, daughter of Joseph and Sarah Graves. The will of Joseph Graves tells all we know of this family:

Surry County, North Carolina, August Court 1774.

In the name of God Amen. I Joseph Graves being very sick and weak but of perfect mind and memory thanks be to God calling into mind the mortality of body and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die do make and ordain this my Last Will and Testament. That is to say principally and first of all give and recommend my soul into the Hands of Almighty God that gave it and my body I recommend to the earth to be buried in decent Christian burial at the discretion of my executors. Nothing doubting but at the resurrection I shall receive the same again by the Almighty Power of God. And touching such worldly estate wherewith it has pleased God to bless me in this life I give devise and dispose of the same in the following manner and form.

First I bequeath to Sarah my dearly beloved wife the third part of my worldly estate with all my house and goods and hearth effects together with all my lands and tenements and the remainder equally divided between Absalom Cleveland and John Cleveland, sons of Mary Cleveland my beloved daughter. This my estate to be equally divided: my wife at my death to receive her equal part and the other two parts to be securely kept in the hands of my executors until the above named Absalom Cleveland and John Cleveland arrive at the age of twenty one years and I hereby require and devise that Benjamin Cleveland the husband of my beloved daughter and Jesse Walton shall be my executors. This my Last Will and Testament in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 12th day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy four.

Joseph Graves (seal)

*Witness: James Bunyard
Reuben Stringer
Hannah Bunyard*

In presenting a synopsis of the life of Benjamin Cleveland, we have collected much valuable information from the Draper Manuscripts. Dr. Lyman C. Draper, a Secretary of the Wisconsin Historical Society, in the mid 19th century, corresponded with hundreds of people in preparation for his book, King's Mountain and Its Heroes. He was a meticulous researcher who contacted everyone who knew anything about the Cleveland family. His manuscript collection is now on 30 rolls of microfilm. Only a small amount is devoted to the Clevelands, but even so, his coverage consist of hundreds of letters and memoranda. Many were from direct descendants, from neighbors, military and civilian associates. Benjamin's brothers were famous men in their own right, but the fame of Ben has overshadowed all others.

Other good sources on the life and times of Benjamin Cleveland are found in the writings of Dr. J.B.O. Landrum and Benjamin F. Perry. Dr. Landrum wrote Colonial and Revolutionary History of Upper South Carolina. Benjamin F. Perry, Provisional Governor of South Carolina in 1865, also added accounts of Ben and his descendants in his Biographical Sketches of Eminent Statesmen. A monument was erected July 28, 1887, at Fort Madison, South Carolina, to the memory of Colonel Benjamin Cleveland. This event was covered in the Greenville, South Carolina newspaper.

It has been said that Ben Cleveland did not receive the benefits of an early education, being limited to "reading, writing, and arithmetic to the rule of three". During his early years in Virginia, he spent most of his time in the wilderness collecting furs and pelts for the ready market. It was said by one writer that he, "like Daniel Boone, had an aversion to the tame drudgery of farm life". It has also been said that his marriage to Mary Graves did little to tame his ways. It is said that he was fond of horse racing, gaming, and other wild sports common to frontier life. It is also said that he fought in the French and Indian Wars, but this is not proven.

New land was being opened by the Crown in the western part of the Province of North Carolina about the year 1765. Land which needed settlers to push the Indians further west. About 1769, Benjamin Cleveland came from Orange County, Virginia, with his wife Mary, her father Joseph Graves and his family, and Ben's brother, Robert. They settled near the foot of the Blue Ridge on the waters of Roaring River, a northern tributary of the Yadkin, in what was then Rowan County, later Surry County, and a few years later Wilkes County, North Carolina. Ben opened a farm with the aid of Mr. Graves' servants. He raised stock and devoted much of his time to hunting. He later relocated to the northern bank of the Yadkin and established his home which was known as the "Round About", having taken its name from the horse-shoe shape of the river, and nearly surrounded by water. Daniel Boone was among the earliest of the old pioneer settlers of the Yadkin Valley. It was from Boone that Ben heard of the Kentucky country with its great abundance of wild game, wild charm, and rich lands. In the summer of 1772, along with Jesse Bond, Jesse Walton, Edward Rice, and big William Hightower, he set out on a trip of exploration and hunting

in quest of this far land of Kentucky. Upon reaching the far away Cumberland Gap they were met by and plundered by a party of Cherokee. They lost their guns and horses and were told to leave the Indian hunting grounds. They had no alternative but to return to their settlement. Several months afterwards in an adventure with chosen friends, Cleveland recovered his horses from the noted Cherokee Chief, Big Bear.

Cleveland's hunting days were coming to an end. The news of Colonial taxation by the King and Parliament reached the Yadkin Valley, and he was among the first to resent the threatened tyranny. During 1775, when his neighbors and friends of the Upper Yadkin Valley went to Cross Creek (now the City of Fayetteville) to sell their surplus products and purchase supplies of iron, sugar, salt, and other necessities, they were compelled to take the oath of allegiance to the king before they were permitted to sell and buy. When the Cherokees were enticed by the British into hostilities, Captain Cleveland, in the summer of 1776, served a tour of duty as a scout on the western frontier of the state. In the fall of 1776, when General Rutherford led a strong force against the Cherokee, Ben and his company went on the campaign in the Surry Regiment under Colonel Joseph Williams and Major Joseph Winston. William Lenoir, who was Cleveland's Lieutenant, was accustomed in after years to recount the hardships and privations the troops had to endure on that service. They were often low of provisions, without tents, with but few blankets, and dressed in clothing mended of crude material derived from the field and forest. Though often harassed on their march by parties in ambush, there was no general engagement, but they all shared in the skirmishes and bushwackings of the campaign. The villages and settlements of the hostile Cherokee were laid waste, their crops and provisions destroyed, and they were compelled to sue for peace.

In the autumn of 1776, Captain Cleveland attended the legislature, not as a member, but to use his influence for the division of Surry County and the formation of a new county for the better convenience of the Upper Yadkin settlements. Wilkes County was formed and named in honor of John Wilkes, noted for his steady opposition in parliament to the American war. In March 1778, when the new county took official form, Cleveland was placed at the head of the Commission of Justices, and was made Colonel of the Militia. Also in 1778 he was chosen to represent Wilkes County in the House of Commons, and was regarded as one of the popular leaders of the mountain section of the state. This was followed by the Battle of King's Mountain and the great service of his life. Before, and during the Revolutionary War period, he was severe in his treatment of the Tories, perhaps not unjustly so, considering the times and circumstances of an exposed frontier when the execution of civil law was so infrequent and uncertain. Colonel Cleveland was not the only Colonel and Commander at the Battle of King's Mountain. There were Colonels Shelby, Chronicle, Williams, Campbell, Sevier, Winston, and McDowell. Ben Cleveland commanded the left flank of the Continental Forces. During that period Col Ben was active in sending out scouting parties into the

mountainous regions to break up Tory bands still infesting the frontier. By that time his Wilkes County riflemen had acquired a reputation of which they were justly proud. They were generally known as Cleveland's Heroes, sometimes as Cleveland's Bulldogs, but the Tories called them Cleveland's Devils.

By the close of the war, Cleveland had lost his Round About plantation to a "better title". Land speculation and "claim jumping" was rampant in that area so anyone who was away for any period of time could expect trouble. He owned considerably more land than was involved in the Round About. At this point he turned his attention to the beautiful region of the Tugaloo on the western border of South Carolina. In 1785 he was granted 1050 acres on the Franklin County, Georgia side of the Tugaloo. He had been attracted to the Tugaloo many years before when he was returning from the Cherokee Nation with his stolen horses. He began selling off his land in Wilkes County, North Carolina. About 1786-87 he moved to his new home in the fork of the Tugaloo River and Chauga Creek, in the present day County of Oconee, South Carolina. He was accompanied by many kinsmen, friends, and old comrades in arms. Colonel Cleveland served many years as a Judge of the Court of Old Pendleton District, along with General Pickens and Colonel Anderson as his associates. Governor Perry wrote that "Ben would often take a snooze on the bench while the lawyers were making long, prosy speeches". If he snored too loudly, his judicial associates would give him a nudge and awaken him. He always administered justice promptly and fairly. For several years before his death he became so unwieldy in size that he could not mount his favorite saddle horse. Colonel Cleveland had two sons and one daughter whose descendants are numerous and respectable, many of them becoming prominent. His wife preceded him to the grave some half dozen years. In the prime of life, Colonel Cleveland was a little short of six feet, finely proportioned, and possessed a pleasing and intelligent countenance.

North Carolina deservedly commemorated the services of this noble hero by naming a county and town after him. With a limited education, but with a vigorous native intelligence, he exerted a commanding influence among a frontier people, and his patriotic activities did much in preserving the western portion of the Carolinas from British and Tory ascendancy.

Although there is no evidence that Benjamin Cleveland actually did any farming himself, he did acquire a considerable amount of land. Records of his grants and deeds have been gleaned from the courts and archives of North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. The list summarized below may not include all of his land acquisitions:

Wilkes County, NC	Mar 1779	668 acres
	Mar 1780	1242 "
	Oct 1782	1504 "
	Jul 1787	400 acres
Franklin County, GA	Jun 1785	1050 acres

Pendleton Dist, SC

Mar 1789 650 acres
Dec 1791 1351 "

The records indicate that Benjamin Cleveland sold all of his property in North Carolina. The lands in South Carolina and Georgia, between and on both sides of the Tugaloo River and Chauga Creek, became the Cleveland estate. All of this land passed to Absalom Cleveland, son of Benjamin. From Absalom it passed to his one son and six daughters. Over the intervening years most of this estate was bought in small portions by local residents and newcomers. The most desirable portion of this estate, consisting of some 230 acres, was purchased in 1969 by Paul and Lucy Wilkerson who were still living there in 1987. This land, referred to as the Cleveland Plantation, or Rivoli Farms, juts into the fork of the Tugaloo River and Chauga Creek. The backwaters of the Hartwell Dam now make the joining of the two streams appear as a large lake, rather than the previously deep ravine creek and river. A most beautiful spot where large trees surround a gracious home sited at the highest point overlooking the bodies of water. Mr. Wilkerson is a retired executive of the Allstate Corporation. The grave of Colonel Benjamin Cleveland lies in a stand of trees on the riverside slope just below the house. It has a marker and a wooden fence around it. It is said that Mary, Benjamin's wife, and his son, Absalom, were also buried there.

Lineage Chart: 108 and 109

**THE FAMILY OF
BENJAMIN CLEVELAND AND MARY GRAVES**

Benjamin Cleveland
b-26 May 1738
w-Orange Co. VA
m-Ca. 1757
d-15 Oct 1806
w-Pendleton Dist. SC

Mary Graves
b-?
w-Virginia
c-3 known
d-1800
w-Pendleton Dist. SC

1-ABSALOM CLEVELAND
b-24 Feb 1759
w-Orange Co. VA
m-14 Nov 1782
d-Jul-Dec 1837
w-Pickens Dist. SC

2-John Cleveland
b-1760-61
w-Orange Co. VA
m-09 Jun 1781
d-Prior to Sep 1806
w-Pickens Dist. SC

3-Jemima Cleveland
b-Ca. 1765
w-Orange Co. VA
m-Ca. 1780
d-1810
w-Louisiana

(2) John Cleveland, early in life acquired the nickname "Devil John", perhaps for his size and devilish ways. John married Mrs. Catherine Sloan Montgomery who was born in Antrim County, Ireland. Catherine died July 31, 1841 in Macon, Georgia. She had two daughters by a previous marriage to Hugh Montgomery. One of these daughters, Rachel, married Montford Stokes who was later Governor of North Carolina in 1830-32. The second daughter, Catherine, married General James Welborn. John and Catherine settled in Franklin County, Georgia, had six known children and numerous descendants, many of whom became, or married, prominent individuals in Georgia and as far west as Texas. John Cleveland was also a soldier in the Revolutionary War, serving as a Lieutenant in his father's command at the Battle of King's Mountain. The children of John and Catherine Cleveland were:

1. Benjamin Cleveland (1783-1858) married Argin Blair in 1802. Argin was the eldest daughter of Colonel James Blair of Franklin County. For many years Benjamin was a prominent citizen of Habersham County, Georgia which he represented in the state legislature for twenty years. He was a Major in the War of 1812. He was later known as "General" Cleveland, at least in his community. He owned much land and was also a merchant in Clarksville, Georgia. His son-in-law, Thomas Jefferson Rusk, was a partner in the business for some years. Argin died at the home of her son-in-law, Mr. Hoyle, in Mississippi on July 29, 1867. Her remains were returned to Clarksville and buried beside her husband. Benjamin and Argin had the following children:

John	-died at age 21, unmarried.
Mary	-married Thomas Jefferson Rusk, in 1827, and died July 29, 1856.
Catherine	-married James Thorne.
Ann	-married 1st, Leander Smith, and 2nd Mr. Hoyle.
James	-died at age 21, unmarried
Nehemiah	-not sure about this one

2. Mary Graves Cleveland married her second cousin, Abednego Franklin, in 1800. (See Franklin family)
3. Absalom Fauche Cleveland died unmarried at age 47.
4. Nancy Catherine Cleveland married Chapley R. Welborn.
5. Elizabeth Cleveland (08 Jun 1792-11 Mar 1879) married James Smith of Macon, Georgia. She is buried with her mother in Rose Hill Cemetery at Macon.
6. Martha Cleveland married Thomas S. Bonner.

John Cleveland died on the Tugaloo River, Franklin County, Georgia, prior to September 1806. His wife, Catherine, and his long time friend, Barnard Franklin, administered his estate.

It was mentioned earlier that Mary Cleveland, daughter of Benjamin, and grand-daughter of John, married a Thomas Jefferson Rusk. Rusk was a friend, neighbor, and associate of many of our ancestors in Upper South Carolina. His life was such that we would be remiss if some few words were not devoted to him. Thomas Rusk was born on the Fort Hill Plantation where Clemson University now stands. When he was young, his parents, John and Mary (Sterritt) Rusk moved into the village of Pendleton. Thomas attracted the attention of John C. Calhoun who was at that time entering upon his career as a statesman. He encouraged Rusk in his ambition to be a lawyer, loaned him books and even taught him law. Rusk later moved with his father-in-law to Clarksville, Georgia where he opened a law firm and joined the mercantile business as a partner with Benjamin Cleveland. He acquired a comfortable amount of money, but unfortunately he invested it in a mining concern and the managers disappeared westward. When he had finally tracked them down the money was gone. They had also been "fleeced" by professional gamblers. That was in Nagodoches, Texas. Rusk decided that a new start in Texas offered a better future than going back to Georgia and trying to start over (also less embarrassing). That was in the winter of 1834 and Rusk was age 31. He sent for his family and stayed in Texas.

Thomas Rusk became one of the leaders in the movement for the independence of Texas from Mexico. He was a jurist, soldier, patriot, and statesman in this fight to make Texas a Republic and the largest state of the United States, at that time. Besides being a member of the committee which drafted the constitution and one of the fifty-nine signers of the Declaration of Independence on March 2, 1836, Rusk was also Secretary of War and succeeded Sam Houston as Commander-in-Chief, and General of the Armies. He was the first Chief Justice of The Supreme Court of the Republic of Texas, and the first United States Senator along with Sam Houston. Quite a feat for a man who started his life over at the age of 31.

The career of Thomas Jefferson Rusk and his contributions to the State of Texas have been somewhat overshadowed by the more romantic names and events of that era. Rightly so by the famous Sam Houston, but there are other names: Davy Crockett, former Congressman of Tennessee; Stephen F. Austin of Virginia fame; the brothers James and Rezin Bowie of Georgia, inventors of the famous Bowie Knife; Albert Sidney Johnson of Kentucky; and James Butler Bonham, William Barrett Travis, Samuel Augustus Maverick, George W. Barnett, and Charles B. Stewart, all of South Carolina. Thomas Rusk was involved in much of the fighting for Texas Independence, but obviously not at the much glorified event at the Alamo. It would seem that he could spot a losing battle.

John Rusk, father of Thomas, was the builder of the now famous Old Stone Church near Clemson University and the small town of Pendleton. He and his wife, Mary, were buried there. On March 2, 1941, the State of Texas celebrated her 105th anniversary. In connection with that event, David E. Burress of Pendleton sent three gavels made from discarded beams secured when the Fort Hill Mansion of John C. Calhoun was restored. Two of these gavels were

presented to the courthouses of Calhoun County and Rusk County in Texas. The third gavel was presented to Judge James V. Allred, who, while Governor of Texas had caused a small monument to be erected at the graves of John and Mary Rusk in the Old Stone Church Cemetery. The monument states simply, "Mother and Father of Thomas Jefferson Rusk (1803-1857), a pioneer, soldier, and Statesman of Texas".

Colonel Benjamin Cleveland died 15 October 1806. His wife, Mary, passed on in 1800. According to his will, his son John was deceased. His daughter, Jemima, died in 1810. Ben left a vast amount of land on the Tugaloo. His will was signed 10 September 1806, leaving all of his land to Absalom. The estate must have totaled upwards of 3000 acres.

(3) Jemima Cleveland grew up in Wilkes County, North Carolina, and married James Wyly (Wyley). James was born December 19, 1762, in Iredell County, North Carolina, and died in February 1851 in Blount County, Tennessee. Jemima and James lived for awhile in Franklin County, Georgia, and somewhere in Louisiana since records show that Jemima died there about 1810. James Wyly moved on to Tennessee, married a second time, and had several children living in Tennessee in 1886. Two known children are listed for Jemima and James. James Rutherford Wyly was born June 24, 1782 on the east bank of the Tugaloo River just above the mouth of Chauga Creek. A daughter, Elizabeth, born 1784, married Mr. Ingraham and had daughters Elizabeth, Polly, and Mary Ann. Elizabeth married a second time to John Hall.

(1) **ABSALOM CLEVELAND** born 24 February 1759 in Orange Co. VA, died in 1837 in Pickens District. He married **MARTHA (PATTY) HARRISON** 14 November 1782 in Wilkes Co. NC. Martha died in Pickens District before 1817. Absalom also was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. He was a Lieutenant in the Salisbury District of the NC Militia. He received a pension 13 August 1834. There is no record of his having been at the Battle of King's Mountain. He was in the Battle of Camden in 1780 when General Gates was defeated. Absalom obviously had some mental disturbance and physical impairment which started about 1815-16. Some of the Draper correspondence indicate that it probably started when his wife, Patty, died. For a number of years he was said to have drunk no water, nor talked to anyone. He also did not believe that his wife was dead. In those days the words "lunatic, lost his mind, visitation from God" were used to describe the condition. The modern medical profession now recognizes such conditions as the on-set of senility brought on by Alzheimer's Disease, Parkinson's Disease, and the results of minor strokes which render portions of the brain only partially operable. About the year 1818, Absalom was placed in the care and custody of his son-in-law, Thomas Harbin, where he remained until his death during the latter part of 1837. His estate was settled over a number of years and the property was passed to his one son and six daughters, and grandchildren. Some say that Absalom and Patty were also buried on the Cleveland plantation.

Lineage Chart: 54 and 55

THE FAMILY OF
ABSALOM CLEVELAND AND PATTY HARRISON

Absalom Cleveland
b-24 Feb 1759
w-Orange Co. VA
m-14 Nov 1782
d-Jul-Dec 1837
w-Pickens Dist. SC

Patty Harrison
b-?
w-Probably NC
c-7
d-Bef 1817
w-Pickens Dist. SC

1-Elizabeth Cleveland
b-1783
w-Wilkes Co. NC
m-?
d-?
w-?

2-John Harrison Cleveland
b-1 Oct 1785
w-Wilkes Co. NC
m-20 Jul 1805
d-1858
w-Habersham Co. GA

3-Sarah Cleveland
b-1787
w-Wilkes Co. NC
m-?
d-?
w-?

4-Mickie Cleveland
b-1791
w-Franklin Co. GA
m-?
d-Ca. 1878
w-?

5-MARY CLEVELAND
b-1794
w-Franklin Co. GA
m-Ca. 1814
d-1859
w-Pickens Dist. SC

6-Jemima Cleveland
b-1797
w-Franklin Co. GA
m-28 Apr 1816
d-?
w-?

7-Lucy Cleveland
b-1799
w-Franklin Co. GA
m-?
d-?
w-?

(1) Elizabeth Cleveland married Gideon Smith.

(2) John Harrison Cleveland married on 20 July 1805 his first cousin Amelia Elizabeth Martin, born in Wilkes Co. NC, the daughter of Benjamin Martin and Diana Harrison. Known children:

1. Benjamin Franklin Cleveland, born 1806, died before 4 March 1850 when his will was probated in Yalobusha Co. MS. His children were: Jane L., Nancy S., Catherine A., Louiza M., and Larkin.

2. Milton Absalom Cleveland, born 1809, married Sarah Evans, and died in Indiana.
3. Robert Harrison Cleveland, born 1811, married Harriet Cooper, and died in Marietta GA.
4. Mary Lamira Cleveland, born 1813, married William W. Wheatley 19 December 1829, and died in Missouri.
5. Sarah Carolina Cleveland, born 1815, married Zachariah B. Adams, and died in Clay Co. MO.
6. Diannah Elmira Cleveland, born 1819, married Alfred Staley 2 December 1846, and died in Wilkes Co. NC.
7. Martha Amelia Cleveland, born 9 September 1823, died 15 January 1884. She married Esley Staley, Sheriff of Wilkes Co. NC.
8. Pauline Elizabeth Cleveland, born 1825, died 18 August 1905 and was buried in the Calloway Cemetery, Ashe Co. NC. She married Shadrack Calloway.

(3) Sarah Cleveland married first, Hudson Greenwood, and second, Joshua Yowell, a son of James and Mary Yowell.

(4) Mickey Cleveland married Benjamin F. Martin. Her children included daughter, Amelia.

(6) Jemima Cleveland married Moses Shannon on 28 April 1816.

(7) Lucy Cleveland married Micajah Bryant.

(5) MARY (POLLY) CLEVELAND married THOMAS HARBIN (CHAUGA TOM) in 1814. Thomas was born 1784 in Wilkes Co. NC and died 11 September 1875 in Oconee Co. SC. They had seven known children. This family will be presented in the Harbin family section.

FORT MADISON, SOUTH CAROLINA
July 18, 1887

As a member of the Cleveland family, you are cordially invited to be present at the unveiling of a monument to Colonel Benjamin Cleveland who commanded a regiment of North and South Carolina Troops at the Battle of King's Mountain, 7 October 1780. The monument has been erected at this place where Colonel Cleveland is buried by members of the Cleveland family from South Carolina, Georgia, and Tennessee, and will be unveiled July 28th.

Very Respectfully, The Honorable Vannoy Cleveland

GREENVILLE SC, July 28 (Special)--The monument erected at Fort Madison in honor of Colonel Ben Cleveland, the distinguished soldier of Revolutionary fame, was unveiled today with ceremonies

in the presence of a large crowd including many prominent citizens. The ceremonies began with an impressive prayer by the Reverend Ellison Capers, after which he read an ode composed by Miss Mary Cleveland, a descendant.

Letters were read from President Cleveland, Governor Richardson, Ex-President Davis, and other prominent men. The unveiling was performed by six young girls of the Cleveland families. The monument is sixteen feet high and is inscribed as follows: Erected by the members of the Cleveland family in honor of Colonel Benjamin Cleveland, a hero of the American Revolution for independence, and a Commander at the Battle of King's Mountain.

Lieutenant Governor Mauldin made appropriate remarks and introduced the Honorable Rufus Alexander Child of Pickens, the orator of the occasion, who eloquently portrayed the life and character of Colonel Cleveland.

(Authors note: This monument now stands in the weeds alongside Highway 123 between Westminster SC and Toccoa GA, and a scant distance from the bridge which crosses Chauga Creek.)

THE WILL OF BENJAMIN CLEVELAND

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN

I Benjamin Cleveland being weak in body but of perfect mind and memory and knowing that it is once appointed for all men to die do make this my last will and testament. And first recomend my soul to God who gave it; and my body to be decently buried and paying all lawful debts the surplusage of my property I will and bequeath in the following manner.

In the first place I give to my son Absalom Cleveland after my death the tract of land whereon I now live, except a part lying below a branch which runs unto the river below Chauga which part is to be otherwise disposed of, together with all the lands tracts or parcels of tracts of land on either side of the Tugaloo River adjoining each other together with the following negroes: Viz. Jim Lucey Venus Bess by Tom with the half of all my stock of horses cattle hoggs and sheep and half of all my redy cash which I may have in hand after my just debts are paid. In the next place I will to my grandson John Cleveland, son of Absalom, one negro man named Primi. It, third, I will to Betsy Smith daughter of Absalom Cleveland my cupboard with all the furniture belonging to same.

Item 4-I will and give to Benjamin Cleveland son of John Cleveland deceased after my death two negro boys Viz. Tom and Charles together with one feather bead with common furniture.

5th-I will and bequeath to Chapley R. Welborn one negro woman Charlotte with her child Ben together with one feather bed and common furniture.

6th-I will and give to my grandson Absalom Fauche Cleveland son of John Cleveland deceased two negro boys named ?? and Joe with one

feather bed and furniture.

7th-I will and bequeath to Betsey Cleveland daughter of John Cleveland deceased two negroes Viz. Aquilla and Lize with one feather bed and furniture.

8th-I will and bequeath to Patsey Cleveland daughter of John Cleveland deceased two negroes Viz. Jane and Ned with also one feather bed and furniture.

9th-I will and bequeath to Bidney Franklin one negro fellow named Jack. I further give to my son Absalom Cleveland my set of blacksmith tools, I further will all the property not herein before disposed to be sold and equally divided between the children of John Cleveland deceased, and the children of Absalom Cleveland except one iron gray horse called Telemachey now in the possession of Jesse Coffee he being my friend and relation the stud horse I will and bequeath to the said Jesse Coffee and giving the authority to my executors to dispose of two negroes Viz. York and Dinah in what ever manner or way they shall think most advisable for the two negroes cause and convenience and that they be taken good care of.

I further will that the property in this will and testament given or bequeathed to any infant children, or child, shall be under the direction of my executors until the legatee become of age or marries, at either of the times of full age or marrying then the property to be delivered to the legatee becoming of full age or marrying, and my will is further that if any of the legatees dies without issue and under age or without marrying that their portion of property is to be equally divided between my grandchildren Viz. The children of my son Absalom Cleveland and my son John Cleveland deceased.

And my will is and I do appoint Absalom Cleveland, Jesse Coffee, and Bidney Franklin my executors to carry unto effect this my last will and testament or a majority of them, and if there should appear a necessity in the opinion of the herein named executors that there should be one other executor, my will is that my son Absalom should appoint one and he then becomes my executor hereby revoking all former will or wills signed and sealed this 10th September 1806.

Benjamin Cleveland (SEAL)

In presence of: Bill Hawkins
Daniel Cleveland
Nimrod Leathers

Proved October 21, 1806
John Harris, O.P.D.
Roll No. 99

Recorded in Will Book A76
Recorded October 21, 1806

If you plan to use this material
for your family only, then you
may use this Cleveland manuscript
from which to copy. That way you
won't have to bend and tear your
book, you must give me credit as the
source and the material cannot be sold
under any circumstances.

Thomas may
feel C.C.C. is selling
But if your non profit
& convince him
it's to help many
nuts like me he will
let you use some
We sent his Book
Plus this
I did me
& I sent it the Book
to Barleen
for her research
Thomas Hair
Please Call
Thomas if
you plan on
using this
I'll send you
a Book