JOSEPH ALLRED 1772-1856

Part I

Joseph Allred, born about 1772 on Bush Creek in Orange [now Randolph] County, North Carolina, was the son of John and Margaret Julian Allred. His parents were married in about 1770. Joseph’s birth occurred just prior to the Revolutionary War, a critical era for an emerging country and a volatile time period for his family.

Even before the Revolution, emotions ran high in the entire country. By all accounts, though few battles were actually fought in Randolph County, a guerilla war raged between neighbors who were divided in their loyalties. It is not likely that the Allred families living in close proximity to each other and to neighbors escaped the emotion or physical devastations of the time.

Joseph was the tenth in a family of twelve children. Nine of his siblings were older and half brothers and sisters. The name of his father’s first wife is not known.

During the summer of 1780, when Joseph was eight years old, the portion of the American Army being commanded by the Baron DeKalb, camped for weeks at Buffalo Ford. Lord Cornwallis camped several days at Bell’s Mill on Deep River following the Battle of Guilford, but a major skirmish did take place in July 1781 at the mouth of Sandy Creek, within a stone’s throw of where the Allred family was living, close enough to have been able to hear, if not witness the fighting.

Henry Morgan in his account and recorded in his pension application file, stated that he served in the Randolph Light Horse, under the command of Colonel John Paisley, Major John Nalls and Lieutenant William York. James Morgan served in the Randolph militia under General Butler, Colonel
John Collier, Captain John Hines and Lt. William York. Edward Beeson said he served in the company as ‘Ensign.’

By Henry Morgan’s statement, during the battle at the mouth of Sandy Creek he was in the company of Lieutenant William York when three of their company were wounded and three men killed, David Brower, David McMasters and Joel Benje. In August or September they fought at Linleys Mill and defeated the Tories. Major John Nalls and four or five others were killed. A third battle took place thereafter at Wilmington.

James Morgan ‘marched down to Chatham County’ and was sent out against a party of Tories where his unit had an engagement with them. They defeated the enemy, but with three men killed and two wounded, among the latter, Lieutenant William York. They took a good many prisoners.

Edward Beeson said that after Brower was killed, the Tories, commanded by Major Rainey, fired on them from a steep hill on the side of Brush [Sandy] Creek. Woods became Captain. They pursued the Tories forty miles to Fork Creek and besieged them in a house belonging to John Needham. Half of the company attacked the back of the house and half the front. Twenty one were killed, seven at the house and fourteen at the place where they kept horses, ‘The Tories having fled there, to where they were concealed on the bank of a Deep River, where Colonel Dougan had gone to surprise them if they should be driven from the house.’

After the battle of Guilford Courthouse in March 1781, the men in the local militia were engaged in guerilla warfare, fighting local Tories. [Notes on the History of Randolph County, NC, Historian Paul Green Multimedia/Randolphhistory.wordpress]

At least four of Joseph’s brothers-in-law, William Horner, Renne Julian and William York were old enough to participate in the war. William and
Elizabeth Allred Horner had six children born before 1776. During the war, Esther, Catherine, Thomas, and Cavalier were born; Lavania, Susannah, Isaac and Elizabeth, born after.

Catherine Allred married John Madden, but was widowed before 1769 when she married Renne Julian, son of Isaac and Barbara White and a brother to her step-mother, Margaret Julian Allred. [It was not unheard of to marry an uncle in that time period]. They had four children before the War broke out in 1776 and three additional children followed.

Susannah Allred married Hiram Guren in about 1780, during the Revolutionary War. They had six children.

Barbara Allred married William York at the end of the Revolutionary War. Was he the Lieutenant William York who fought and was wounded in the Battle at Sandy Creek? Just the fact that William and Barbara were not married until the conclusion of the War suggests that perhaps he was away fighting. With responsibilities as an officer on the front lines, he may have thought it best to postpone a marriage until he was certain of the outcome of the Revolution. This is purely conjecture on my part, however.

Joseph’s other sisters, Lydia, Rebecca and Margaret were young when the Revolutionary War began. A little brother, Jonathan, was born on the 8th of March 1774 and the last child in the family, Sarah, was born two years later.

The First North Carolina land office was opened in 1778 in Washington County and in 1783 a military district was created. A separate office opened in 1784 for military boundary grants.

Washington County, Tennessee was formed in 1777 from Washington District which was the territory west of Wilkes County and was a hunting ground for the Cherokee Indians. The county was named for President
George Washington, the great Iron Mountains dividing the ground of the Overhill Cherokees from the middle settlements. This is important to our family, because Esther Horner, daughter of William and Elizabeth Allred Horner was born in 1777 in Washington County, Tennessee. Cavalier Horner was also born in Washington County, but Lavania or ‘Vaney’ Horner was born in 1786 in Greene County. Greene County was formed from Washington County, in 1783. The family probably did not move, but the land where they were living was divided from the old county to form the new.

As the Revolutionary War ended, the western lands opened for civilization, especially for soldiers who had participated in the war effort. The state of Tennessee has sometime been referred to as the ‘Squabble State,’ referring to land disputes, beginning with Revolutionary War Pension affidavits, never mind that there were similar quarrels over the western Virginia/ North Carolina boundary at a much earlier date. Some of the names on these records are familiar to any of us who have done research in North Carolina - Fields, Combs, Brashear, Eakin, McMullin, Patton, Churton, etc.

The fact that the Horner family removed to Tennessee and occupied land in Washington, Greene, and then Hamblen Counties suggests that William was at the very least involved with the North Carolina militia.

These families, William and Elizabeth Allred Horner, Rene and Catherine Allred Julian, Hiram and Susannah Allred Guren, and William and Barbara Allred York removed from Randolph County, North Carolina to Greene County, Tennessee in 1786. This becomes obvious when you look at their families and see where their children are being born.

Elizabeth Allred Horner died at Bent Creek, Hamblen County, Tennessee in 1823. Her sisters, Catherine, Susannah and Barbara died in Knox County, Tennessee.
Wikipedia for Knox County, Tennessee states that James White, in 1786 built a fort five miles below the junction of the French Broad and Holston Rivers on the edge of what is present day East Tennessee. White’s fort was designated as the first territorial capital in 1791. Knoxville served as the capital from 1796 to 1812.

In 1786, Joseph Allred was fourteen years old and while some of his older siblings traveled to Tennessee, his father had other plans for his younger children. Joseph would remain in Randolph County for the rest of his life, probably with limited contact with his sisters and their families, who left to go to Tennessee.

Joseph Allred was raised on his father’s plantation, with little or no formal education, but he would have been instructed on how to run a farm and, as he reached adulthood, managing all of his father’s property, including slaves.

When Joseph was twenty years old, his father died. His father was a widower at the time of his death. We do not know how long Joseph’s mother had been deceased, only that she died between 1782 and 1792.

When John died, he divided his land between his two youngest sons, Joseph and Jonathan, leaving a few shillings to his oldest son, John. Lest anyone think he was slighting his heir, John more than likely, as was often the custom, received his inheritance during the lifetime of his father.

A description of the land leaves no doubt as to the relationship between the father, John, and his two sons, Joseph and Jonathan.

Joseph married in 1794, when he was twenty-two years old, to Rachel, whose surname was probably Allison. Robert Allison who died in 1818 in Washington County, Tennessee and his wife, Jane Moore had a daughter Rachel who was married to an Allred. I located one reference stating she
was married to Francis Allred, but is more likely, that she was the wife of Joseph Allred.

Robert and Jane Moore Allison had at least four children Robert, Hannah, Rachel, Anna and possibly a son name Archibald.

In 1999, Larry Cates of High Point, North Carolina wrote a short history on the Joseph Allred family. He stated that "with curious goings-on in the Joseph Allred family he still appeared to be quite affluent and respectable by the standards of his day. Joseph Allred was a land owner with significant slave holdings for the time. Perhaps he acquired some of his property from a father in-law." Admittedly, additional research needs to be conducted. Some of the ‘curious goings-on’ will be addressed as we continue.

In 1806, another of Joseph’s sisters, Susannah Allred Guren passed away in Knoxville, Tennessee. She was a widow when she died and her youngest son, Isaac was about ten years old.

On the 16th of August, 1811, Joseph’s sister, Rebecca was married to John Campbell in Randolph County, North Carolina. It may have come as a bit of a surprise to the family that she was getting married as she was forty two years old. She would have been considered an old maid, especially in at that period of time. She and her new husband left within the year for Tennessee where Rebecca gave birth to three children over the next four years.

In 1813, Hannah Allison and Nicholas Nichols of Randolph County sold to Joseph Alred, a Negro slave named Judy. John Alred and Enoch Davis were the witnesses. The John Alred who signed as witness was Joseph’s half brother, John, as his father was, as stated, deceased.
Know all men by these presents that we Hannah Allison & Nicholas Nichols of Randolph County state of North Carolina for & inconsideration of the sum of one Hundred & Twelve Dollars to us in hand paid by Joseph Allred of the Co. & state aforesd hath Bargained & sold & by these presents doth Bargain Sell unto the sd Joseph Allred one Negro wench named Judy which sd negro we both warrant & Defend form any charges or claim in Testimony whereof we both have set our Hands & seals this 2nd day of June 1813 in Witness present

Hannah Allison and Nicholas Nichols

Enoch Davis, John Alred.  State of N. Carolina August Term 1813.

Joseph and Rachel Allison Allred were the parents of ten children, all of them born within the county. Their second daughter, Delilah Allred married Stephen Phillips on the 13th of April, 1819 in Randolph County.

In 1820, Archibald Elison sold five and one half acres of land to John Allred on the waters of Deep River adjoining the lands of Mendenhall and Henry Ellison. The payment was for $60.00. Henry Ellison and John Hendrick II signed as witnesses, but the deed was not proven until 1841, registered in 1844 [Randolph County Land Records Bk 22 page 276. In 1850, Archibald Alison was 61 years old and his wife Elizabeth was 57. They had children Dorcas, Mary and Cynthia.]

That same year, 1820, John Allred, oldest son of Joseph and Rachel Allred, married Amelia Armstrong. Perhaps, Joseph was looking ahead to a time when he would need to leave an inheritance to his own children.

Daughter, Mary Allred, was married to Daniel Chisholm on March 8th, 1821 in Montgomery County. Mary and Daniel were the parents of two children, John S. Chisholm and Alice Rachel. The daughter seems to have been impaired either mentally or physically.
Martha or Patsy Allred, as she was called, married James A. Patterson on the 26th of December 1829.

There has been some confusion regarding Joseph’s half sister, Margaret or ‘Peggy’ Allred. There are some records that state that she was his daughter, but that is incorrect.

According to a Coroner’s report and Inquest [1816-1860 Randolph County, North Carolina] Peggy Allred hung herself by a rope that she hung from a dogwood sapling at the home of Joseph Allred, on the 30th of November, 1830. No explanation was given for the reason for her actions. She was a single woman of about fifty years of age. Other family documents make it clear that this was Joseph’s sister, not his daughter, but a coroner’s inquest would signify that the family would have gone to court in 1830 where Peggy Allred’s death was deemed suicide.

Joseph and Rachel Allred had two sons who never married. Balaam Allred was born 20th of June 1803. Even though the extent of Joseph’s education is a matter of conjecture, it has been established that at least, his sons were educated. James was involved in more than one business transaction, some of them questionable, but at least he was literate. Balaam was a school teacher. Even though it was specifically against state law in North Carolina, prior to the Civil War, to educate black children, especially black children of slave parents, both Violet and Calvin could read and write. Balaam taught at least these two slaves who were owned by his father, Joseph. If charged, Balaam could have been convicted of flouting the law.

It has been possible to identify at least some of the slaves who were owned by Joseph Allred. Judy, born in 1790, was purchased in 1813 from Hannah Allison. Judy and her husband, Henry, had a daughter, Hetty, and probably two sons, William and Esau.
Hetty’s age was given incorrectly when the slaves were finally distributed to Joseph’s heirs upon his death. She was born about 1816. She and her husband, John Mack Allred, another of Joseph’s slaves, had children, Violet, Calvin, Louisa, Elihu, Emmeline Mary, Henry Monroe and possibly Abraham and Riley.

Violet was born in 1832 and Calvin in 1840. Some of the other siblings, besides Violet and Calvin, may have been tutored by Balaam Allred.

Joseph and Rachel’s daughter, Rachel married Ryland Miller on the 16th of May 1836 and their son, Jonathan Allred, who married Nancy Allen in 1838, was the father of ten children.

Among the papers filed at Duke University in North Carolina, that pertain to Joseph Allred, was a letter written from Concord on the 18th September, 1838:

Dear Sir you will please have an appointment published for me at Pleasant Union for the 5th Sabbath of this month at which I want the elders present and those who wish to join the church we expect to give an opportunity that day have the appointment next Sunday at Jones yours in the gospel G.W. Mitchell.

Though it does not name Joseph Allred anywhere in this document, that he possessed it, implies that he was expressing a desire to join the Church.

In 1840, Joseph’s son, James was summoned to court to answer a charge of bastardy, wherein he was accused by Mary or ‘Polly’ Burgess of having fathered her child. The child, John Burgess, was born that year. It was the first of a number of scrapes in which James Allred would involve himself.
Other matters began to immerse in Joseph’s life. For some time, there had been a movement of people from North Carolina to the Northwest Territories which at that time were Indiana, Illinois and Ohio. There was ‘cheap vacant land’ to be had there. Quaker families, among others, who had long lived in Randolph County, moved to Indiana in such large numbers that by 1818, they had named a new county in Indiana, ‘Randolph County’ in memory of the old country. Not all adventurers went to the new land to try to avoid the evils of slaveholding upheld by the Southern States, but a fair number of them wanted to teach their children about the equality of human nature and to get away from the dominant slave culture.

A Quaker friend of Joseph Allred’s, who emigrated to Posey, Rush County, wrote a letter from the Beech Grove Post Office at Burlington on Little Blue River on the 1st of February, 1841;

Dear Friend and old Neighbour Joseph Allred It has been a Long time since I wrote to thee and much Longer than I thought it should be when I reed thy Last it somehow or other got mislaid and I did not so well know how to answer thy enquiries without but I cant find it and I will write to thee by guess

I little thought when I Left our Country that it would have been this Long before I should have seen you all and my old native Land a thing that is still verry desirable but it don’t seem like the time is verry nigh yet that I could leave home profitably Long enough to come to Carolina and if I Should come I must make something by the trip or I could not afford to Loose the time without I was better off in the way of this Worlds goods for it is a most Eternal Long Road between here and good old Whig North Carolina or I have most woefully forgot the only chance I know of for me to see you and your County soon is for times to get better and Horses command a high price in Carolina Cash up and be low here at the same so that I could pay some of my Debts by the trip then I should glory in the undertaking I have had an awful sight of hard work to do here since I came here and I don’t see as there is likely to be any end to it but we have got farm enough now to support us decently and make some to spare but not enough to make much headway I commenced Last Spring to get out timber for a sawmill with the
calculation of getting it to work by Christmass but my oldest son living
George was taken with the Fever in the summer and had Long hard spell
and entirely Broke down my calculations and he did not seem like getting
good health verry soon and I sent him to Carolina you may have seen him
before this time as he was verry anxious young as he was when he left
Sandy Creek to see you all he is I understand at Newgarden Boardking
School my sawmill is raised a noble looking Frame and could be finished in
3 or 4 weeks by the Millrights but I am afraid I shall not get the race and
dam done befor May I am verry sorry I could not get to saw all this Spring
Lumber is a fine price here and ready sale and would have helped me much
but so it is I expect to get ready sometime & C

As respects Mendenhalls transfer of what papers I had in thy hands to
John Long and his calling on thee for this same and thy surrendering them to
him was all exactly right and I am verry much mistaken if I did not write to
thee to do so Long ago I wanted Long paid as bad as any man Living for he
actually suffered for being my friend which I am sorry sorry truly sorry
when ever I think of it and if I live to be 90 years old I don’t ever expect to
be satisfied without all my just debts are paid neither do I expect ever to
quit trying to attain that desirable object of once being out of Debt but it is
impossible for me to get along verry fast yet a while if I should be
successful in business and get my sawmill started it looks to me verry likely
that I may begin to gain in a few years quite Lively still this worlds affaurs
are very fluctuating and uncertain or at Least they have generally been so
with me but I now hope for more prosperous times be the upshot what it
may

I don’t recollect anything further to write to thee that would be verry
interesting I want thee to tell Emsley Trogdon & Jacob McDaniel to wake up
& come out of them low Little weed and Little tickle grass and come out here
where there is weeds tall weeds and grass indeed what looks Like something
I don’t wish them to come here because I am able to help them if they
should be in kneed of help but because I do know they could help
themselves abundantly better than they ever had the chance of doing since I
knew them this is far better Country for a Black smith or a shoemaker than
Carolina tell them I have Long intended to write to them but never have
but it was not for the want of good will Joseph Talbert and his sons and
Brother Jesse Lives 4 or 5 miles west of me all near to gather the make a
beautiful settlement the have good Land and are doing well and they have
Room a plenty for Jacob and Betsey and are very anxious they should come a shoemaker could do first rate business there I just give thee my candid opinion Jacob as a friend I really think thee aught to come for thy own good and I saw the same to thee Emsley if you only have the means of getting here you may safely venture I should be very glad to get a letter from you both and that you were coming here next fall and if you do I will be looking out there is hardly any good smiths out here or if there is I don’t find them and their prices are unctiousable such work as Emsley used to do would soon procure him a home and a good Living in any part almost of this Country if he had no other means or way of doing I never have traveled much over this Country or seen very many of my old Carolina acquaintance Like I expect to I have got to be as good to stay at home and work as I used to be to run about I have enjoyed the blessing of good health Letterly and I am able to do more hard Labour than I used to be and full as willing or more so please tell Doctor Hannah Howdy for me and tell him that there is a great many Little quack Doctors making great fortunes in this Country by the practice of Medicine and unctiousable patent Democratic bills I should glory in seeing a well qualified good orderly physician from North Carolina settled here Just to have the glory and the infinite pleasure of seeing these confounded Little weavle eaten Loco Crats drove in the Breeze to Kinderhook and 9 miles tother side without any joke or nonsense tell the doctor that he could without a doubt make a fortune here in a few years by the practice of medicine I think it the best and shurest business in the country I mean professional business a Lawyer don’t rise here Like a Doctor

I must acknowledge my feelings were very much hurt when I read thy Letter on Learning the sore affliction of thy Daughter and the great privation and suffering you have been doomed to undergo we have also been subjected to hard trials Deep and sore afflictions with 2 deaths in our family since I saw thee I feel much sorry and a very sympathy with you in your troubles and Family afflictions our only chance is to submit to the will of Him who is able to Deliver all that call on him aright remember the Language of the of them he saw received in peace and trouble in this world and t the good things of this world good this of the world to co to be prepared for that great hope that we may all be th and be Like Jacob of old [part of the page is torn away] days it is hard for us I tired but if we are resigned of him who is able and willing world
nor the world to come I should like to hear from . . . we are all well [last part of letter missing]

It is intriguing to think that this letter, and ones similar, from people who knew the Joseph Allred family in North Carolina, may have had some influence on some of Joseph’s grandchildren who would emigrate first to Indiana and then further west, to Kansas within a few years after this letter was written.

Joseph’s daughter, Elvina, born in 1816, never married and died in 1841 according to family records. The letter Joseph received from his Quaker friend that year seems to confirm that Elvina was ill, even though the nature of her illness is vague. Elvina was twenty-five years old when she died.

Joseph does not seem to have had any desire to leave his home in North Carolina. He was a land owner and respected in his community. It appears that he had some part to play in the transfer of the land that his Indiana Friend referred to in his letter, either as a friend or because he had some interest in the land title.

From a series of letters that Joseph Allred both wrote and received it is apparent that he purchased a piece of property on Sandy Creek, but it was a move that created controversy for the rest of his life.

From Gold Hill in Rowan county on the 28th of October, 1845 Mr. Wm Huffman wrote to Joseph stating that it was his understanding that Joseph had not accomplished his aim of ‘securing a good title to the tract of land on Sandy Creek so as to commence searching for gold.’ He wrote further, “When you do I wish you to write me a line and I will come and put you to work rite & super and tend to the Work if you will give me an interest in the mind that will be surfishant to justify me I have long look to heare from you and have felt my self under obligation to you from what was said when I saw you please do me the justis to be the first opportunity and the best chance
a miner as I understand all the various branches of the culmination of Gold by yourse you may do me som kindness yourse & C

That year, Joseph’s son James began to oversee the search for gold in the mine that was located on Sandy Creek. It appears that Joseph acted as a liaison between Mr. Samuel H. Hale who was selling the land and the buyer, Joseph’s own son, James.

A question would arise as to whether or not Joseph deceived Mr. Hale by not telling him he was buying the land for his son James, or there was a dispute over payment for the land. It isn’t entirely clear from the letters, but it appears that Samuel H. Hale, had been a friend to Joseph Allred before he left North Carolina and went to live in Wilmington, Ohio. Before he emigrated, he sold a piece of land to Joseph Allred.

The first letter came from Samuel Hale and was written to Joseph on the 18th of July, 1846:

My Friend, Joseph H. Allred, Yours came duly to hand, in answer I fully believe what you have stated in your letter to me, and I shall make no Inquiry of any other man, Butt will take your word for all you say, for I have as much Confidence in you as I have in any man in your Country – You will pleas on Receipt of this forward the money to me by mail, sending in of any Bills but in two and carefully fold it up and mailed in presence of witnesses. Send it Immediately as you say it is Ready and I am a . . . man and in need of money all the time, I hoe you will be willing to send me the interest on the money after a while
Your friend and well-wisher until I die, Samuel H. Hale

A little more than a year later, on the 12th of September, Samuel Hale wrote again, but the tone of this letter was very different and there was no well wishing attached;

My old Friend Joseph Allred I write to tell you again that from what I hear from many of your neighbours in Carolina, I am convinced and have been for a long time that you have practiced a Fraud on me, and deceived me very much in the sale of my Land to your son. I am sorry on two accounts, One that you have so cheated & defrauded me out of my Land. All I Ever had of my poor Old Father and this Other that I have to Bring suit against you unless you will make me full satisfaction for the Land you sold for me to your son. Pleas to write me soon what you will do. I have all the proofs I need to recover for the fraud.

Yours Saml H. Hale

In return Joseph replied on the 25th of September 1847 with a letter that began;

Sir your letter of the 12th Instant, stating that you are satisfied I have practised a fraud on you and deceived you very much in the sale of your land and stating that you will sue me unless I make you satisfaction, was duly received. I requested you distinctly before my son sent you the money for the land to make inquires into the truth of what I had said to you you did not think proper to do so, but now upon some false representation made to you by some rascal here, you choose to insult me & threaten me with a suit. I will only add that I have not deceived you that what I have told you heretofore about the land was true and that I would rather you would sue me than write me such letters. Sue as soon as you please. I have
not injured you and have therefore no satisfaction to make. Alfred Ruth now has a suit pending in the Superior Court to recover this land of my son.

Whether this disagreement was settled in or out of court, James Allred apparently ended up with the land and his son, James, continued to try and find the illusive gold that never seemed to materialize.

Joseph Allred also appears to have also been a landlord or at least there is one court document that reads as follows; Mr. Allred will take the warrant to some Justice of the Peace or rather Mr. Stout. The justice will fill the blanks and sign it – Take it to the sheriff or a deputy. If the justice wishes to see the Act on which the proceedings are founded he will find them under the head Forcible Entry and Detainer - Revised . . . page 285. At the day appointed it will be necessary to provide your deeds and prove that Stout was in possession, as your tenant, and that Anna Willy entered without Stout’s consent and that she refused to leave, on being warned to do so - - The justice will see by the Act referred To, his duties in the premises Mar 4th 1850 J. Worth.

In 1850, Violet, the Negro slave girl who belonged to Joseph Allred, gave birth to a mulatto daughter, who she named Georgia. More than likely, Georgia was the daughter of Balaam Allred, Violet’s school teacher. Three years later, Joseph Allred sold Violet and her child, but separately. One reason that has been put forward by other researchers is that Georgia may have looked too much like her father. It does seem awkward that the only slaves sold by the ‘Old Boss’ as the slaves referred to Joseph Allred, were Violet and Georgia, but just three years later, Old Boss, or Joseph was deemed mentally incompetent. A great many questions could be asked and answered in a short period of time, if we just had the opportunity of visiting with someone who was there at the time. In lieu of that, we are left to draw our own conclusions.
Also in 1850, the Slave Schedule for Joseph Allred, slave owner of the Northern Division, Randolph County included a 70 year old male slave, [Henry]; a 60 year old female slave [Judy]; a 27 year old female, 25 and 21 year old males, a 12 year old female; a 20 year old female; 10 year old male; 9 year old male; 4 year old male and a female infant. There were eleven slaves listed in the schedule.

It may be that the Mr. Stout who was Joseph’s tenant, was Lemuel Stout who had a daughter named Martitia Jane. In 1853, James Allred appeared in court on a charge of producing another bastard child, this time with Martitia. The purpose of signing a bastardy bond was to insure that the father, however illegitimate, would provide for the child so that the support would not fall on the citizens of the county. Mary Emaline Stout [Allred] was born in 1853. Two years later, on the 29th December 1855, Martitia married John Routh. They were the parents of at least four children. James Allred and Martitia’s child, Mary Emaline Stout, is purported to have grown up and married Lee Roy Burkett. [Further research pending.]

By 1853, it appears that Joseph Allred, now eighty one years old, was having other kinds of difficulties. Perhaps if he had been in his ‘right mind’ he would never hold sold the slave girl, Violet and her child. It may be that he was suffering from some kind of dementia, though at the time he was termed ‘mad.’ Isaac Foust was appointed as guardian to care for Joseph’s estate.

From Asheboro [Randolph County] March 25th 1855 Thomas L. Winslow wrote to Mr. J. Allred, [James] Dr sir I have some notion of trying your mine for gold once more provided you will give me a chance. If you will lease to me and Mr. Thomas we will give it a thorough trial. Mr. Thomas is an experienced miner and I think him and my self can do the thing to your satisfaction. Any arrangement you can make with him I am willing to stand
up to. I do not know that we can make any thing in the operation, but I
cant be satisfied in my mind until I try farther. Verry Respectfully Your
friend Thos L. Winslow

The following day March 26th 1855 Mr T. Drew wrote to James Allred from
Brummells, North Carolina a tale of woe;

Dear Sir at last enjoy a few moments of lesure which I gladly devote
to writing you a few lines to let you know that when I started hom from your
sitty [city] I got a ticket to Philadelphia They told me my ticket was not good
no further & I had to stay all knight and then did not git in no car till a
Eleven a clock and then I got to the sitty Washington at ten a clock in the
knight very dark and I had to change carse & I unforced fell down a
impanckment and got badly hurt so that I was helpless for severle days & I
had to stay there four weak & one day and I wroat to my folks to come after
me & that fetch me home & I am not well yet of the hurt & my face is not
well yet and even wen I got home my Famly was all well and is at presant

One can only surmise that perhaps Mr. T. Drew was another of those
enterprising young men who wished to be included in the hunt for gold on
Sandy Creek, but I cannot even guess what business had taken him to
Washington D.C.

Mr. Larry Cates in a paper he wrote on the Joseph Allred family stated
that Joseph, as well as being interested in Gold mines, invested in a
Franklinville Cotton Factory. Although I do not have a reference for such, it
is plausible.

Close to Faith Rock, Deep River falls over a series of stone ledges,
dropping from Guilford to Randolph County by 500 feet. In 1782, this Rock
was the site of a Revolutionary War legend of a confrontation between the
Tory Colonel David Fanning and a local folk hero, the Whig, Andrew Hunter.
The much hated Tory officer chased Hunter to the ledge over looking the
river where he spurred his horse into jumping into the water, taking him to
safety.
This spot was recognized by Christian Moretz (Morris) to be an ideal spot for industrialization and he built the first mill in 1801. By 1802, Morris owned a cotton gin, a saw mill and a wool carding machine. Elisha Coffin bought the property in 1821, then in 1838 he sold to the Randolph Company Corporation. Construction of the Franklinville factory began that summer and spinning and weaving commenced in March of 1840.

There were four usable floors, one of them where hot starch was applied to warp yarns. A fire started on April 18, 1851, burned down the building. George Makepeace took over the operation, processing raw cotton into yarn, cloth and then clothing. In 1862 he boasted that his company furnished the state government with a large inventory and that he had contracted to supply fifty thousand shirts and drawers for the army.

If Joseph Allred did indeed invest in the Franklinville Cotton Industry it would have been a wise investment, even though he did not live to see the proceeds that resulted from this enterprise during the Civil War.

Joseph Allred died on the 27th of February, 1856 in Randolph County at the age of 84. His wife, Rachel, died the next week, the 3rd of March. They are both buried in the Patterson Grove Chapel Cemetery.


The slaves in question were Abram, Bell, Esau, Calvin, Riley, Henry, Hetty (who was pregnant and may have delivered), Julia, Eliza, Emeline and John. Administration was granted for the May Term to Jonathan Allred, John Allred, Riley Miller and James Patterson.

Violet was sold some three years prior to Joseph Allred’s death in 1856. She was sold first to a slave owner in Rockingham, then bought in Richmond, Virginia and finally was purchased by Mr. James B. Lester who took her to his home in Bulloch County, Georgia.

In February, 1858 John Fruit, William R. McMasters and Alfred Smith were appointed commissioners to divide Joseph Allred’s slaves into nine shares, each of the children to receive one share each and the children of Delilah to have the remaining share.

William Allred was allotted to James and Martha Patterson
Esau Allred was allotted to Ann Allred Hayes
Calvin and Abraham Allred were allotted to James Allred
Riley Allred allotted to Jonathan Allred
Louisa Allred allotted to Balaam Allred
John Allred allotted to Riley and Rachel Miller
Hetty Allred and child, Elihu allotted to heirs of Delilah Phillips
Emeline Allred [age 8] allotted to John Allred
Henry and Judy Allred allotted to Polly Chisholm

Judy and Henry were the oldest slaves and more than likely parents and grandparents to most of the others.

When the widow, Polly Chisholm, died in 1858 Judy was purchased by John Allred’s son, Isaac Allred, but according to a deed recorded in Richmond County and preserved in the Perkins Library Collection, Isaac sold Judy back to James Allred within the same year for $75. She was about seventy years old, born in 1788. Henry died between 1858 and 1860 in Randolph County as he appears in the division papers, but not in the 1860 slave schedule.

James Allred was listed as a slave owner in the 1860 slave schedule for Randolph County, owning a 70 year female and a 20 year old male, one of them obviously, Judy, and the other probably Calvin. Abraham seems to have disappeared. Perhaps he was sold and his name changed.

In 1870, Calvin Allred, a black man age 36, was living in Franklinville, Randolph County with his wife, Martha, and children, Sarah J., William R., Alfred D., Martha J.E., John C. and Doctor F. Allred.

In the 1860 slave schedule for North Carolina, John Chisholm of Fair Ground, Richmond County, North Carolina, more than likely Mary Allred Chisholm’s son, owned a 20 year old female, a 3 year old female and a 1 year old male. The 20 year old could possibly be Louisa who was listed as being 12 years old and who was allotted to Balaam Allred. Balaam died in 1857 so Louisa would either have been shifted to another member of the family or sold.

The 1870 census of Franklinville, Randolph North Carolina lists, Hetta Allred, a black woman age 54, Henry age 16 and Emeline age 20, living together. Hetta listed her occupation as farmer. Henry worked on the farm
and Emeline was a domestic servant. On the same page are Calvin Allred and wife Martha A. with children Sarah J. and William R.

By far, the member of this family who owned the most slaves was John Allred of Steeles, Richmond, North Carolina. Since he also appears in the 1860 census with his wife, Amelia Armstrong Allred and three daughters living in Steeles, it is positive identification that he is the same man. He owned 24 slaves aging from age 50 to 2 years in age, 13 females and 11 males. In the end, it may have been John who benefited most from the death of his father, in sheer capital, at least before the Civil War.

For those of us who have spent years researching the family of Joseph Allred and his descendants, the quest to find histories and pictures and other information that would further add to what we have already learned is on going. That quest includes the African American part that we consider as much a part of our heritage as any other. In doing so, our intent is one of inclusion, perhaps even, a quest for forgiveness.
Part II

Joseph Allred and his wife, Rachel died at a time when the way of life they had known was fading and a new dynamic was beginning to take place.

It was less than a hundred years since a Revolution re-defined a nation. Another war loomed on the horizon. In fact, it has been stated that we have never gone longer than a thirty year period in our history without being engaged in some kind of confrontation as a nation.

Manumission Societies and Colonization Societies had long been in place, in the beginning, largely organized by Quakers. Randolph and Guilford Counties were in the heart of the North Carolina Quaker Belt. Some of these people thought that one solution to the question of slavery would be to return freed black men to Africa. Not only would that have been impractical from a monetary stand point, but after three hundred plus years of slavery in America it would have been impractical for the African American population in every other way.
By 1835, all activities by these groups were prohibited by law. New state laws were enacted by slave owners to protect their investment in their increasingly valuable property. It was illegal for slaves or even freed black slaves to move from one place to another. There was a large population of free African American men who were in danger of losing their status, even though some had never been slaves. It has been stated that free black men sometimes owned slaves of their own, but that statement would necessarily require further scrutiny as in the case of one black man who bought a wife by whom he had several children, assuming that once she was purchased, she would automatically assume free status. That was not the case in North Carolina Courts. He had to petition the court in order to purchase freedom for his wife and children.

The questions raised and ultimately resolved, at least in part, by the Civil War, were inevitable, but prior to 1835 the best method of helping slaves was to assist them in escaping to the North. There sprang up what has been called the Underground Railroad in the Piedmont. Local residents in the before named counties and others, cooperated to smuggle runaway slaves into the free states of New England. When additional laws were passed allowing slave owners from the Southern States to pursue runaways, even if they succeeded in getting out of North Carolina, the Underground Railroad countered by extending its network into Canada.

One solution for Quakers living in Randolph County, North Carolina was to smuggle slaves to Indiana, as was the case for Elisha and Levi Coffin. Helping slaves escape was against the law, punishable by prison sentences and fines that increased yearly from the early 19th century to the civil war. Their story is intriguing, but not pertinent to the one we are telling, except that some of the Allred grandchildren left North Carolina at about the same time and also settled in Indiana.
John Allred, oldest son of Joseph and Rachel as has already been stated, lived in Richmond County with his wife, Amelia Armstrong. John was a land owner who owned a large number of slaves. His loyalties during the Civil War were unquestionably Southern, but John was too old to go to war and neither of his sons, Isaac or Martin seems to have served either.

John S. Chisholm, son of Daniel and Mary Allred Chisholm applied for a Civil War Pension. [Application 195 433 Certificate 250 829, filed 1874.]

James A. Phillips, son of Stephen and Deliah Allred Phillips fought on the side of the Confederacy, but a son in-law and one grandson, Phillip Hedrick and Jesse Miller fought with the Union Army. Jesse joined the 1 North Carolina Infantry, 1st Regiment, Company C. as a Private [film #M391 roll 2] Union Side. [James Madison and Joseph Franklin Allred ??]

Seven of Joseph and Rachel’s children lived and died in Randolph County, North Carolina. Mary moved into Montgomery County, next door and John lived in Richmond County where he died. None of these families seem to have traveled very far from home, but that was not the case for their descendants, some going as far away as Texas and even Idaho.

I have tried to identify and document names, dates and places with as much accuracy as possible, but welcome any additions or suggestions that would add to or improve our knowledge and understanding of this family.
When Mahala Allred, granddaughter of John Allred, died in 1882 she was unmarried. Her will named as her legatees the children of her uncles, Joseph and Jonathan. By that time, her half/ aunts and uncle were deceased or removed from the state, but another explanation that is plausible for her negligence in naming additional relatives is the fact that that Joseph, Jonathan and Sarah were full brothers and sister with the same mother.

THE FAMILY OF JOHN AND AMELIA ARMSTRONG ALLRED

John Allred, son of Joseph and Rachel Allison Allred was born in 1795 in Randolph County, North Carolina, the oldest child in the family.

He married Amelia Armstrong in 1820 and moved to Richmond County where his wife was born and where some of her brothers and sisters were still living.
Amelia was the daughter of Isaac Armstrong and Mary Chappel. Her father was a native of Scotland who came to America in the late 1700’s. He married 1st, Elizabeth Ann Ussery and had four children. Their son, James Armstrong, was married to Elizabeth (Betsy Ann) Allred, daughter of John and Lillie Ann Julian Allred. John, who married Lillie Ann Julian was Joseph Allred’s half-brother and an uncle to John.

John and Amelia Armstrong Allred had seven children, Isaac, Christian who died young, Rachel J., Martin, Mary Ann, Elizabeth and Martha Lillie Allred. Only three of these children married, when grown.

Rachel J. Allred born the 25th of July, 1825 in Richmond County died on the 7th of August 1900 and is buried in the Allred Cemetery. She never married. Mary Ann born in 1829 appeared on the 1860 census with her parents in Steeles, Richmond, North Carolina, listed as ‘idiotic.’ It was a term used to describe anyone who was mentally challenged. Elizabeth Allred born 29 April 1833, died on the 21st of November, 1859 when she was twenty-six years old and is buried in the Buffalo Cemetery in Richmond County.

Isaac Allred married Eliza Jane Bostick and had eight children. He lived and died in Richmond County as did his brother, Martin G. Allred who married Mary Ann Newby. Martha Lillie Allred married Pleasant Robinson Capel.

Very few details have survived about the life of John Allred, but he did write one letter, on the 12th of May 1858, to his youngest sister, Anna Allred Hayes, who had recently married but had no children, yet, which gives us a glimpse of his personality.

The purpose of his writing was to inform Anna about the death of their niece, Rachel Chisholm who had recently died. His sister, Mary Chisholm was still living, a widow and apparently in very poor health. Daniel Chisholm, his brother in-law, had died on the 27th of May 1849.

May the 12th 1858 Richmond County, North Carolina

Dear Sister I seat myself down this evening to write you a few lines to inform you that we are all well at present hoping these few lines may find you all enjoying the same blessing. I have a sad event to relate to you that is Rachel Chisholm died the 5th of this month which was this day a week ago
she died very suddenly one of her neighbors came down here the day she died to tell me about it and I went up there with him we got there about ten oclock in the morning though they had buried her when we got there I went to old Mr McAuleys that night to get him to administer on Rachels estate but he said he was so old and frail he could not do it though he said one of his sons would John will get half of Rachel's property and I fear half of his Mothers for she had made a deed of gift of all she had to Rachel and had it recorded it would make no difference though I don't suppose he will for he has spent all he ever had [marked through – one of the neighbors told me he believed John would spend all his Mother and Rachel had and see his mother put upon the County] therefore I think it the duty of her relations to see the taking care of her and her property only to appoint her a guardian and some of her sisters to take are of her and for pay I think it would suit you as well as any of them because you have no family and room enough. I cannot tell what she wants done or where she wants to go for she cannot talk so I can understand her at all she can walk out and in by leading her she is at John's now I don't suppose he would want her taken away from there by any means I want you to write to me as soon as you get the letter what you think about the circumstances. I will inform you of the most singular murder that ever happened in this County John Chappell and wife was killed by their negro man with an ax he struck them in the head with the ax and wounded two of the children very badly it was thought that the youngest would not recover awhile but it is considerably better now Doctor Ewing went there in time of the fray and shot the negro and he died that night he acted like a deranged man that evening Ewing went there he had just killed his Mistress she was lying dead in the yard & his Master nearly dead had his fatal wound some think the negro was not deranged think it was just meanness they were killed about two oclock in the evening and Ewing and some other neighbors gathered there and could not get the negro to surrender and they shot him about night. We have a cold late spring here we had a goodeel of snow there the 26 of April though the ground was wet and it did not lie and the night afterwards we had a large frost which done a goodeel of damage. I wish you to keep this letter a secret from John Chisholm as he never done me no harm and it would make him very mad at me. I have been expecting a letter from Jonathan for the last two or three weeks but have not received it yet write to me when you get this and give all the good news nothing more at present only I ever remain

Your arfectionate Brother
When Linda Herrick Smith forwarded this letter to me several years ago, she included a footnote. There was an estate settlement in 1858 for John Chappell in Montgomery County in which his surviving minor children were named, Calvin, Margaret, Joshua, Eli, Elizabeth and Mary. No widow was mentioned (naturally if she had been killed). Included in the list of assets were John Chappell’s slaves, Tempe, Rachel and child, Terrell and John. All were sold in December 1858 and the proceeds divided among the heirs. James F. Green initially acted as guardian for the minors and afterwards, Joshua Chappell, possibly their uncle who resided in Richmond County.

John Chappell was born about 1800 and resided in Montgomery County and was married to Mary Benge in 1832. He was probably related in some way to Mary Chappel who married Isaac Armstrong, and who were John Allred’s father and mother in-law.

Mary Allred Chisholm died a little over a month later, before anyone had a chance to do much of anything about ‘taking care of her.’

Tragedy struck John Allred’s own family when his daughter, Elizabeth, died on the 21st of November, 1859.

In 1860, John Aldrid of Steeles, Richmond, North Carolina appears in the census records with his wife Millie, age 60, daughters Rachel age 25, Martha age 21 and Mary Ann age 30. He also appears on the U.S. Federal Slave Schedule as a slave owner. There were 24 slaves, the oldest a 50 year old female. The youngest were 4 three year old males, a three year old female and a two year old male.

On the 12th of November, 1862, Martin G. Allred died in Steeles, Richmond County leaving a widow and six children. His wife, Mary Ann Newby Allred never remarried.

John’s daughter, Mary Ann, who was apparently mentally challenged, died on the 18th of February, 1871 and seven months later, his wife, Amelia Armstrong Allred died on the 29th September, 1871 in Richmond County. Amelia was buried in the Old Buffalo Cemetery beside her four children who had predeceased her.
John’s son, Isaac died on the 12th of July, 1879 in Richmond County, leaving John with only two surviving children, Rachel J. Allred, who never married, and Martha Lillie who married Pleasant Robinson Capel, a widower.

Pleasant Robinson Capel married first, Martha A. Bostick who was born the 30th of Jun 1836 in Richmond County. They were married the 21st of December, 1854 and had one son, Aaron, who was born in September of 1855. Martha A. Bostick Capel died on the 22nd of March, 1858. Pleasant appears in the 1860 census as a widower with a five year old son.

Between 1861 and 1870, Pleasant married Martha Lillie Allred. They only had one child and that child did not live.

In the 1880 census for Mineral Springs, Richmond County, John Allred, a farmer age 82, was living alone. His daughter, Martha was living with her husband, a dry goods merchant. By 1900, Rachel was living with her sister, Martha Capel and two lodgers, Mary Right and Clementine McNair.

Rachel J. Allred died later that year, on the 7th of August, 1900.

John Allred died on the 9th of July, 1890, in Richmond County and was buried beside his wife and children. [Need a copy of his estate papers if they exist.]

In 1909, the only surviving member of this family was Martha Lillie Allred Capel. She died on the 7th of February in Richmond County, North Carolina.
Mary Allred, born 1797 in Guilford County, North Carolina was the oldest daughter and second child of Joseph and Rachel Allison Allred. In March, John Adams was inaugurated as the second president of the United States and within two months he sent Charles Pinckney to negotiate a treaty with France to negotiate neutrality on our part during the war between England and France. The mission did not go well. The kidnapping or ‘impressment’ of American sailors by both the French and the English, but more particularly the English, was one of the issues leading up to the War of 1812, when Mary was about fifteen years old.

By the time the War of 1812 was a declared conflict, there were seven children in the Joseph Allred family. The fact that there is a seven year gap between Balaam, who was born in 1803 and James, born in 1810, raises a question, that there may have been other children who were born and died as infants, or that Rachel may have miscarried, more than once. Still, there are ten children, of record, born to Joseph and Rachel Allred.

Joseph and Rachel’s daughter, Mary Allred, was married to Daniel Chisholm on the 8th of March, 1821 in Montgomery County, North Carolina. Her parents were living in Randolph County, so it is possible Mary was working, perhaps as a servant, for a more affluent family in Montgomery County when she met and married Daniel Chisholm.

Daniel Chisholm, born about 1795, was the son of Malcolm C. Chisholm, and his wife, Mary. Malcolm Chisholm was a Scotsman, born in 1768 on the Isle of Skye, Inverness, Scotland. Skye or the Isle of Skye is the largest island in the Inner Hebrides of Scotland, once under the rule of the Norse. The most powerful clan was that of the MacDonalds.

It has been estimated that 150,000 Scotsman immigrated to America from its earliest colonization through the American Revolution. Not all of those who came to North Carolina did so of their own free will. In 1716 the
Jacobite Highlanders were banished and continuing persecution added to the Scottish population well into the nineteenth century.

Information on one Chisholm family can be found in a book by William Garnet Chisholm, published 1914 by the Knickerbocker press, New York, entitled Chisolm Genealogy, Being a record of the Name from A.D. 1254, but deals mostly with members of the family who settled in South Carolina. The author includes a Coat of Arms and claims descent from the Clan Chisholm of the county Inverness. “The principal seat of the family is Erchless Castle.” John de Chisholme had a wife Emma and by her a son Richard who bore arms in 1292. Colin Chisholm of Knockfin was the leader of the Clan in the mid 1600’s, married to Mary Grant 24 June, 1662. There is no mention, however, in this work, of a Murdock or Malcolm Chisholm.

“Chisholm” with his clan, joined the Chevalier, 1715 and Prince Charles, 1745, according to Sir Bernard Burke in his book of the landed gentry. Possibly the family of Murdock Chisholm came to America to escape persecution due to their involvement with the Jacobite Rebellion.


Malcolm and Mary Chisholm had two sons, Daniel and John. The younger son, John Chisholm, married Elizabeth Burt on the 12th of March, 1816 in Amite County, Mississippi. They were the parents of at least five children, William, Mary Ann, Henry, Calvin and Daniel Washington. William Chisholm, son of John and Elizabeth Burt married Rhona Elizabeth Wacker, the widow of Ezra Allred. Ezra Allred was the son of Azariah and Celia or Salomy Bowlin Allred.
Elizabeth Burt had a sister, Isabella Burt, who married Dr. John Allred, son of Jonathan and Margaret Burt Allred. John Allred and his wife, Margaret Burt Allred were also first cousins.

Because of the intermarrying between these families, it is sometimes very confusing to try and sort out the relationships. William Burt, born 1744, and his wife Isabella McDaniel had a son, William Burt, married to Martha Bates. They also had a daughter, Margaret Burt married to Jonathan Allred, son of Solomon and Mary Hays Allred. William and Martha Bates Burt had daughters, Isabella and Elizabeth as stated above.

Malcolm C. Chisholm’s wife, Mary, born about 1772, died in 1850 in Montgomery County, North Carolina and left a will. “In the name of God Amen. I Mary Chisholm being weak in body, but of perfect mind and memory, calling to recollection the mortality of my body, do publish and ordain the following disposition of my personal property as my Last will and Testament.” She left to her ‘beloved Niece’ Rachel Chisholm and her mother, Mary Chisholm her house and property to be divided between them. The niece she referred to was her granddaughter, but it is not uncommon for relationships to be misstated in probate records prior to and during this time period. Mary’s son, Daniel was already deceased as of the 27th of May, 1849. Secondly, Mary left to her son, John Chisholm, one hundred dollars. This is actually her grandson, John, as her son had gone to Mississippi where he had died in 1835. The rest of the estate was left to Mary’s granddaughter (referred to as niece) Rachel. Kenneth Chisholm was appointed her executor and witnesses were John McAuley and Benjamin Haywood.

On the 27th of February, 1856, Mary Allred Chisholm’s father, Joseph Allred, died in Randolph County, North Carolina. Her mother, Rachel Allison Allred died less than a week later, on the 3rd of March, in Randolph County, North Carolina.
In a deed dated the 11th of July 1857, Mary [Allred] Chisholm gave to her daughter [Alice] Rachel Chisholm, eight hundred dollars, one hundred seventy five acres of land, household furniture and numerous items about the farm.

On the 10th of December, 1857 Mary Chisholm signed a power of attorney as one of the daughters and a legatee named in the last will and testament of Joseph Allred of Randolph County. Mary appointed Welborne Lassiter of Montgomery as her attorney to make certain that her inheritance was secured. Mary’s daughter, Rachel Chisholm and D.D. Deberry signed as witnesses.

Mary, now in her sixties, may not have been well and it appears that she was concerned about how her daughter would fare if she were to die. Perhaps Rachel had some kind of handicap, which would have complicated her care, but in any event, the daughter, pre-deceased her mother, dying on the 5th of May, 1858. As stated in the previous chapter, Mary’s brother, John Allred wrote to his sister, Anna Hayes:

*John [Chisholm] will get half of Rachel’s property and I fear half of his Mothers for she had made a deed of gift of all she had to Rachel and had it recorded it would make no difference though I don’t suppose he will for he has spent all he ever had [marked through – one of the neighbors told me he believed John would spend all his Mother and Rachel had and see his mother put upon the County] therefore I think it the duty of her relations to see the taking care of her and her property only to appoint her a guardian and some of her sisters to take are of her and for pay I think it would suit you as well as any of them because you have no family and room enough. I cannot tell what she wants done or where she wants to go for she cannot talk so I can understand her at all she can walk out and in by leading her she is at John’s now I don’t suppose he would want her taken away from there by any means I want you to write to me as soon as you get the letter what you think about the circumstances.*

This letter was written on the 12th of May, less than a week after Rachel died. It is obvious from this letter, that Mary Allred Chisholm was not
well and on the 17th of June, that same year, she died in Montgomery County, leaving one heir, John S. Chisholm, her son.

After Malcolm Chisholm’s first wife, Mary, died in 1850, he married a second time, to Flora. They had, at least, two daughters, Nancy and Catharine. Catharine was married to Norman McDuffie on the 17th of July, 1849. Because Malcolm’s mother was Flora MacPherson and he also married a woman, Flora, it has caused a certain amount of confusion in the records.

Daniel and Mary Allred Chisholm’s son, John S. Chisholm, married Mary Haywood on the 26th of April 1842. They had five children before Mary Haywood Chisholm died on the 20th of April, 1862 in Montgomery County. John then married Martha J. Macon on the 20th of December, 1863.

Jewell Smith Crouch wrote a history on the Daniel Chisholm family that was published in a book titled, The Heritage of Montgomery County North Carolina. It was published by the Heritage Book Committee in 1981 and published by the Hunter Publishing Company in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Jewell mentions a family Bible, but does not state where it is located. She stated that Daniel was a farmer and lived on the West side of Rocky Creek where it runs into Little River.

She also talks about the deed that Mary Allred Chisholm dated the 11th of July 1857 in which she gave to her daughter [Alice] Rachel Chisholm, and addresses the fact that records had indicated that a ‘Mary Chisholm’ had died in 1850, but that it was likely Daniel’s mother and not his wife who died that year.

There were three generations of ‘Mary’ Chisholm, living and dying in Montgomery County, North Carolina, in the mid-1800’s. It is understandable that they have often been confused.
John S. and Mary Haywood Chisholm were the parents of five children, William J., Moses Sank, Daniel Martin, Anneliza and Jesse Clayton Chisholm.

On the 5th of February, 1871 John wrote to his son, Daniel Martin:

My Dear Son, this leaves our all in good health, hoping it may find you enjoying the same blessing. I recievud a leter and nuspaper and leter when you was on your way to Moses and yourn and his leter dated 11th January and both your likeneses of whitch I was very proud. I suppose you and Moses was glad when You met William and family was well. The 1th January I was down to see him. Last fall he had an excellent crop onlu [unless] the wet had drounded rite smart of it but I think he would make a plenty. He is on a very good place. He can make more and give half where he is than he culd hir and h is at no expence. Noah Thompson is yon to the factory at Rockingham. Martin Sedberry and Nancy Linvigston is married. He is going to live where Thompson left. John Martin and Bel Nicholson is married. Mart Thompson and Sarah Green is married. Mart McDaniel and Mirna White is married.

John and Mary Haywood Chisholm’s son, William J. married Elizabeth Macon on the 2nd of January 1866. By 1871, they had removed to Chesterfield, South Carolina where in 1875 their son, William Fred Chisholm was born. It appears that John had taken a trip to see his son and that after his return, sons Daniel Martin and Moses, also went to visit.

In 1871, Moses Sank Chisholm was still a single man. He married Alice J. Ridenhour in about 1879. Daniel Martin Chisholm did not marry Sarah Addie Parsons until the 18th of April, 1876. They had six children before she died and Daniel M. married Mary Elizabeth McCallum. Daniel Martin and Mary Elizabeth McCallum Chisholm were the parents of nine children.

Jesse Clayton Chisholm married Annie Lillian Watts in about 1881. They were also the parents of nine children.

Anneliza Chisholm, the only daughter of John S. and Mary Haywood Chisholm, died when she was ten years old.
*Note: I became acquainted with Linda Louise Herrick Smith, a descendant of Daniel and Mary Allred Chisholm several years before her death in 2001. She told me that she was doing research that convinced her Daniel Chisholm had fathered numerous slave children, but I do not have access to the research Linda was doing at that time. If anyone else has additional information, I would welcome your contributions. Also, the 'likenesses' of Daniel Martin and Moses Sank Chisholm, if they have survived, would be an excellent addition to this book.
The family of Stephen and Delilah Allred Phillips

Delilah Allred was born in 1798 in Randolph County, North Carolina, the second child and daughter of Joseph and Rachel Allred. I know nothing about her childhood, but she was married to Stephen Phillips on the 13th of April, 1819 when she was twenty one years old. They were the parents of seven children, Losada, Martha Anne, John Franklin, Mary, Rachel, Joseph Harmon and James A. Phillips.

All of these children were born in Randolph County, the youngest born in about 1842. Stephen Phillips appears in the 1840 census with seven people in the family. The oldest daughter, Losada, was married in 1838. Two sons were helping on the farm. John Franklin was born in 1842, not 1824 and is not the John who died in 1902 in Georgia as has been published in written sources and on the internet.

Delilah Allred Phillips died between the years 1842 and 1946. Stephen Phillips married a again, this time to Elizabeth Bailey on the 11th of August 1847 in Randolph, County. They had two children, William C. Phillips born 30th May 1848 who married Hannah Cox in about 1868, died on the 10th of August, 1922 in Randolph County, North Carolina. Stephen and Elizabeth also had a daughter, Barbara Elizabeth C. Virginia (Jennie) Phillips who married Aaron Williams. This family traveled as far west as Montana, and Jennie is purported to have died in Idaho in 1922.

Losada Phillips married Orrin T. Williams in about 1838. They were the parents of eight children. Immediately after their marriage, they moved from Randolph County, North Carolina to Washington, Hamilton County,
Indiana where children, Stephen Franklin, John Knox Polk, Nathan Jefferson and Elzena J. were born.

Sometime during the next ten years, the family removed from Illinios to Stanton, Miami, Kansas where they had children, Andrew Jackson, Amanda Emma, James Monroe and Joseph Lincoln. Losada died on the 28th of March, 1870. Her husband, Orrin died sometime between 1870 and 1880.

Martha Ann Phillips married John G. Henry on the 4th of July, 1846 in Randolph County, North Carolina. They had children, Lydia, James Porter, John Quincy Adams, Mary Ann E., Joseph Lafayette and Elizabeth Isabella. All of their children were born in Randolph County and all but James Porter, died there. James Porter Henry removed to Jay County, Indiana.

Mary Phillips, third child of Stephen and Delilah Allred Phillips, was married to Riley P. Vestal in about 1843 and gave birth to eight children, the first five born in Chatham County before they moved back to Randolph County. These children did not all remain in Randolph County, but they lived and died in North Carolina.

Rachel Phillips married Thomas Vestal in 1849 and gave birth to two daughters, Lucinda and Lusina before they moved to Iowa in 1854. Daughters, Malinda and Dulcina were born in Iowa, then in 1859 the family removed to Lamar County, Texas. Two more daughters were born before Thomas died on the 30th of December 1876. Rachel remained in Lamar County as a widow until her death on the 15th of September 1893.

Joseph Harmon Phillips married Melissa E. Guilliams in July 1858 in Paola, Lykin, Kansas. The following month, his new bride passed away on the 5th of August. Joseph then married Melissa’s sister, Marian Helen Guilliams on the 2nd of September 1860. They had two children, Alice Gertrude and William G. Phillips. William was born in 1863 in Indiana, but
the family returned to Kansas where Joseph died on the 4th of February and his wife, Marian, died on the 10th of June, both in 1907.

James A. Phillips never married, but by 1860 he was living in Burlingame, Osage County, Kansas where he remained until his death on the 3rd of May 1872.

John Franklin Phillips was born in 1842 in Randolph County and was married to Hannah Walls in about 1861. They had one son, William Franklin Phillips born 27th March 1862. More research pending on this family, but contrary to information posted on the internet, he is not the John Franklin who died in 1902 in Georgia.

In 1855 when Stephen Phillips died he left a will which was probated in the court. He left to his wife, Elizabeth Phillips all of his household and kitchen furniture and the balance of his property after his just debts were paid, to be divided between his children, Wm C. and Barbary E. C. V. Phillips, wherein William would received the land but would be required to pay his sister one hundred and twenty five dollars. He left to his daughter Martha A. Henry all of the land where they were living and he appointed William Hinley [Henry] the executor of his last will and testament. The balance of his land was to be divided among his six children, Losady Williams and her heirs, Polly Vestal and her heirs, Rachel J. Vestal and her heirs and John, Joseph and James A. Phillips.

On the 19th of May, 1857, Joseph Harmon Phillips had arrived in Kansas and wrote a letter to his uncle and aunt Allred (Jonathan and Nancy Allen Allred) as follows;

Territory of Kansas, Co. of Lykins

Respected uncle and aunt I embrace this opportunity of writing you a few lines my health is good and hope this will find you all well I got home
without any accident and found things all in a stir the territory is filling up very fast there is not any vacant claims roud here not any whers near I got home in time to get me a claim within a half mile of town but people thought it was Indian land and had passed it by on that account but I got the Indians to show me their claims and foud it was vacant James and I is building for ourselves but we have to stop now on to work for other people we have considerable work on hand and at a fair price we are building a house 26 feet square for our selves with 4 rooms in it we calculate to finish it before the land sales which commences the 24 of June and it will be for sale as quick as it is done we have had some good offers for it all ready but think it expedient to hold on a while I want you to write to me without fail as soon as you get this Miss ageline I wont you to write me soon send me word when you are going to get married if you are not married and I will just stop over to the weding James talks of going Caifornia next spring but I think he will give it up yet I will bring my letter to a close

Your obedient servant

J H Phillips

The following year, Joseph’s brother, James A. Phillips wrote to the same aunt and uncle;

Paola Lykins Co K T [Kansas Territory]

Oct the 30th 1858
Mr. Allred I have no doubt but what you will be surprised on receiving this note and I am shure I would be almost startled at receiving a communication from you; Though I can ashure you that I am agreeable to surprise. I must say that I feel a little stung at the negligent way in which you have treated me. I wrote to you about a year ago and have never received an answer (thence my anger) I have not much to communicate to you that will interest you. I do not know that I ever told you exactly what kind of a country we have. Our Country has about one tenth timber, which is situate along the streams and the rest Prarie. I wish you could come to this country and use some money; I am certain you could do well with it. I will close this epistle by asking you to give my respects to my friends and relations. Joseph and I are well.

Yours obsequiously

James A. Phillips

PS direct your letters to Paola Lykins Co K T

These letters add a great deal of detail and flavor to what would otherwise be a lengthy list of names and dates. It is regrettable that additional information of this kind has not survived.

Joseph and his brother, James A. Phillips, obviously left Randolph County, North Carolina in order to settle in a new country which had just opened to settlers. Joseph married within a year, James never married, but in the census records of 1860 and 1870 his occupation was listed as ‘lawyer.’ Where did he receive his education and are there other documents in Lykins and Osage County, Kansas that would shed further light upon the lives of these two brothers?
Anyone who has history or photographs pertaining to this family are invited to contribute to this project. [Provided there is 2nd edition.]

In the name of God Amen  I Stephen Philips of the County of Randolph and State of North Carolina, being of sound mind and disposing Memory and knowing that it is appointed unto all men once to die, do make and publish this my last will and testament as follows viz 1st I will and direct that my Executor herein after Named, provide a decent and Christian burial and that my Executor pay all expense of my burial and of my estate and also all my just debts out of my estate  2ndly I give and bequeath to my beloved wife Elizabeth Phillips a portion of the home place whereon I now live; beginning at an Elm on the Little Creek, thence running the various courses of the creek to the first fork, then the right hand fork of the Road, running to the road that goes from Abel Cox’s to Isham Thrifts, then the various course of the Road to his line running his own line to the big Creek below Hendleys, thence down the said Creek to the school House Branch, thence S.W. to Abel Coxe’s line, thence on said line to the Elm. I also give and bequeath to my beloved wife Elizabeth Phillips all my house hold & kitchen furniture and all the rest of my property, after paying my just debts, the balance of my property at her death to be equally divided between Wm C. Phillips and Barbary E.C.V. Phillips  Wm C. Phillips is to have said land at his mother’s death by paying Barbary E C V Phillips One hundred & Twenty-five Dollars. Third, I give and bequeath my daughter Martha Ann Henrey and her heirs, wife of Jno G. Henry, all my land where on they Now live, lying East and North of the said line above mentioned. Fourthly, I nominate and appoint William Hinley My Executor of this my last [will] and Testament, revoking all other wills by me heretofore Made and ratifying and confirming this and no other to be my Last will and Testament. 5th I Stephen Phillips empower my Executor Wm Henley to sell the balance of land and divide it equally among

Signed Sealed and delivered in presence

[my copy too dark to read]  Stephen Phillips.

*Note: also need date

The Family of James A. and Martha Allred Patterson

Martha Allred, third daughter of Joseph and Rachel Allred, was born the 20\textsuperscript{th} of May 1799 in Randolph County, North Carolina. She married James A. Patterson on the 26\textsuperscript{th} of December, 1829, one day after Christmas. She may have thought it a novelty at the time, but it would have made for a hectic holiday for her parents if there was any kind of wedding celebration and more than likely there would have been.

Martha was thirty years old when she married, a double reason for her parents to have been elated as she would have been, considering the times, an old maid. Her husband, James A. Patterson was five years her senior.

The children born into this family were Joseph A. Patterson born 7 Sep 1830, and Mary C. Patterson born March 1835 and Martha Angeline Patterson born 23 June 1838. Undoubtedly, this was the Angeline, Joseph Harmon Phillips was referring to when he wrote to his Aunt and Uncle in 1857 from Paoloa, Kansas where he had gone with his brother, James A. Phillips. Martha Angeline was married to John H. Kirkman on the 3\textsuperscript{rd} of January, 1858.
These Patterson families married and remained in North Carolina. Joseph A. Patterson married Sarah Allred, daughter of William and Margaret Welborne, in about 1852 and had nine children.

Mary C. Patterson was married to Jacob Phillip Hedrick on the 8th of May 1853 and had two children, James H. and Martha Catherine.

Martha Angeline Patterson married John H. Kirkman and before mentioned and they were the parents of eight children.

Shortly after the birth of her second daughter, Mary C., Martha Allred Patterson received a letter from her young friend, Asenath M. Duncan who had left with her family and gone to Hendrix County, Indiana.

Asenath Marilla Duncan was born the 6th of Jun 1824 in North Carolina, the illegitimate daughter of Nancy Duncan and granddaughter of Charles and Elizabeth Allred Duncan who died in Morgan County, Indiana. If Asenath wrote this letter in 1836 as appears to have been written on the document, she would have been twelve years old. She mentions two James and Martha Allred Patterson’s children, Joseph and Mary. Martha Angeline Patterson was not born until 1838. Was there another child named Evaline?

October 1836;

State of Indiana, Morgan, Hendrix County

Esteemed friend Marthya Patterson I have at last taken My pen in hand to inform you that I am in terable health & have been ever Since I left that will [well] remember old place and all the rest of our relations except uncle Charley he has had a few shakes of the ague but has quit sheaking & is on the mend I stood the journey very well I walked when I pleased & rode when I pleased & wherever the company suited me best I saw a great many curious sights on the road the mountains rivers towns drovers of
horses mules cattle hogs & sheep & Movers of all description  Some in little old carts. Some pact up on horses some on foot with their budgets on their backs  Some lone women traveling hundreds of miles on foot. We met one very old crooked grey headed man with his pantaloons rolled up above his knees with the money & other shows in it with Marilla A large box on his back with the money & other Shows in it. When I got here every body & every thing looked so strang that I often wished myself back where I could see little Joseph & Mary & Nancy & William and all my school mates. Tell Evalina [Angelina] my little present makes me think of her whenever I see it tell Sarah Curtis I often look at my cape & mittens  I think of her  I would like to be with you all but I never expect to see any of you unless you com to this Cold & Muddy country for nanny is so set up with her corn & large potatoes a garden & the prospect of living so plentiful that to hear her talk you would think she scarcely saw the mud & I am getting better reconciled as I am getting acquainted with the people here for they have been very good to me nearly all the neighbor women gave me a chicken a piece some two one was so near like the one you gave me that Uncle John said I certainly brought it with me. I like this plaice on account of making sugar & molasses last spring  we made a large pillar case nearly full of nice sugar as you ever saw. I have seen a great many strange looking people since I left there but the greater part of our settlement are Carolinians & begin to look very natural  I want cusin Samuel Allred to see this letter  I saw Eli Bray since he returned & he said that he wished me to hurry about writing that letter so I conclude my letter with my best respects to all inquiring friends this from  Asenath M. Duncan

Write to me Whenever you can

It is a remarkably descriptive letter to have been written by one so young and would have given those who remained at home in North Carolina a wonderful feel for what it must have been like to travel so far from home.
Another interesting letter that was written to James A. and Martha Allred Patterson came from Wayne County, Iowa on March 10th, 1855. James A. Patterson had a brother, John W. Patterson who married Genoa Hannah York in about 1818. They had children, Eleanor, Mary, Sylvania, David, Hannah and Almira.

Daughter, Eleanor Patterson was born the 17th of May 1819 and married Mahlon Allred on the 29th of August 1842. In about 1850, the family moved to Wayne County, Iowa and it is Eleanor, or Ellen, who writes the letter:

To Mr. James Patterson Franklinville, Randolph County, North Carolina
Wayne County, Iowa, March 10th 1855

Dear Uncle and Aunt

I will try to write you a few lines at last we went to Arkansas but did not like so we went to Mearou to uncle Jacksons they are well fixed and Aunt Betty was the fleshiest I ever seen her by a good deal old Demey is about old Demey yet his family said he was a good deal better than he used to be but if these are his good days I should not have wanted to have lived with him in his bad days his family has all left him but Sibble Betsy was married the 16th of last April to a man from the state of New York he had not been in the country quite three months when they were married Elisha is doing very well. He has a fine wife he is a fine good hearted fellow and treated us kindly James died while we was there and left a wife and two little children. Levi Tartars had five children and a likely prospect of another. Jonathan Hinshaws had six and looking for the seventh when we left. Elishas had three children

I will try to tell you something about the country Southwest Missouri is a tolerable good country but very sickly the prairies are very beautiful
but the timber is sorry the north part of the State is a great deal better than the south Arkansas is a heap rougher than where you live the soil of Iowa is very rich and from 18 inches to 2 feet deep the prairie is rolling the timber is along the water course it is tolerable good water somewhat scarce and limestone it can be had by digging for it

We live in a Carolina settlement there is thirteen Carolina families in this settlement. They are Wm Odell Wm Duskin John Duskin Old John Miller and his sons and sons in law Mahlon has entered 160 acres of land. He has two sets of house logs out and haved one wauled up Brother David has entered land Joining Mahlons and they aim to find and break 50 acres they have got most enough rails made and about half hauled out David is hauling now Mahlon is gone to the sawmill with a log to make a floor in the house they have rented 20 acres that they aim to sow in wheat the oats and tend in corn David has got a set of house logs cut and expects to have them out on the prairie this spring

David and Almira is living with us Hannah is married in Illinois to man by the name of Samuel Harvey the still live in Ill. David says he is worth some three or four thousand dollars we have not heard from Brother Isaacs since David and Almira was there

We stayed at Brother Laban Allreds over two months last winter he is doing very well he has 50 acres of very good land he had when we was there 9 head of horses and just sold one for $90.00. he had 17 head of cattle and over 30 head of sheep about 40 head of hogs

As I have nothing of interest to write I will quit but remain your affectionate niece Ellen Allred to Mr. James Patterson and Martha Patterson and their children.
PS we have a fine son he was born the 27th of Jan. I want you to write how uncle Samuel Allred's comes on and whether they are any friendlier than they were or not this leaves us all well. Direct to St. John Putnam Co., Mo.

[The York and Colbert, Gillespie, Chipman, Allred and Jones Families, by Douglas A. Colbert. Pages 38 and 39. The original letter from which this was copied is located in the Duke University Library, Durham, North Carolina and reprinted by special permission.]

Written and posted at the same time was a letter to Miss Martha A. Patterson (daughter of James and Martha Allred Patterson) from Almira Patterson, sister of Eleanor Patterson Allred.

Dear Cousin

As Ellen has been writing some I will write you a few lines to let you know what I have been doing since I left old North Carolina. I went to school last winter and taught 60 days last summer for $25. I have not had much work to do since I left there the neighbors wants me to teach school this summer if they get the school house done.

Hannah is living in Ill. They talk of coming out here next fall on a visit if they do not come to stay if they come and go back I expect to go with them I would be very glad to see you I wanted to come and see you before we left there but did not have the chance my health is good the most of the time since I have been in the west I think this is healthier country than Ill. As my paper is full I must conclude but remain your affectionate cousin Almira Patterson to Miss Martha A. Patterson.

Write as soon as you receive this I sent my best respects to uncle James and Aunt Martha also to cousin Mary and Joseph Almira Patterson [ibid]
James A. Patterson lived his entire life in North Carolina and died on the 22\textsuperscript{nd} of June 1871 in Randolph County.

Joseph A. Patterson, his son, swore in court that his father was deceased and that he had published a last will and testament and he was the executor. There were three heirs, Joseph A. Patterson and his sisters, Mary Hedrick and Martha Kirkman. Their mother also survived and was bequeathed one hundred and fifty acres of land during her life time and to be equally divided between Mary and Martha after the decease of their mother. Joseph was to have the land upon which he was presently living and if, after all his debts were paid any surplus was to be divided equally between the wife and the children. Witnesses to the proceedings were John Hays, Henry and Zanger Ellison.

Ten years later, on the 1\textsuperscript{st} of June 1881, Martha Allred died and was buried in the Patterson Grove Cemetery beside her husband, James A. Patterson. She was eighty-two years old.

FHL f #247249/ Probate of James A. Patterson, 1871

Randolph County: In the probate court In the matter of the will of James Patterson before BB Queen, Judge of Probate

Joseph A Patterson being sworn doth say: That James Patterson late of said county is death having first made and published his last Will and testament and that he Joseph A. Patterson is the Executor named therein. Further that the property of the said James Patterson consisting of Real & personal is worth about $1100.00 so far as can be ascertained at the date of this application; and that Joseph A. Patterson, Martha Patterson, Mary Hedricks & Martha A. Kirkman are the parties entitled under said will to the said property. Said will is exhibited and is in words and figures to wit-
I James Patterson of the county of Randolph and state of North Carolina being of sound mind and memory but considering the uncertainty of my earthly existence do make and declare this my last will and testament in manner and form following that is to say first, that my executor hereinafter named shall provide for my body against burial suitable to the wishes of my relations and friends and pay all funeral expenses together with my just debts howsoever and to whomsoever owing out of the monies that may first come into his hands as a part or parcel of my estate.

Item 1st I give and devise to my beloved wife Martha one hundred and fifty acres of land whereon I now live to have and to hold to her the said Martha Patterson for and during her natural life and after her death said tract of land be equally divided between my two daughters Mary C. Hedric and Martha A. Kirkman during their natural lives and after their decease to the Heirs of their body in fee simple forever.

Item 2nd I give and bequeath to my beloved wife Martha all my personal property all the crops of every description that may be upon the plantation whereon I now live and all the provisions on hand at the time of my death.

Item 3rd I give and bequeath to my son Joseph A. Patterson all the tract of land whereon he now lives to have and to hold to him and his heirs in fee simple forever.

Item 4th My will and desire is that all the residue of my estate if any after taking out the devises and legacies above mentioned shall be sold and the debts owing to me collected and if there should be any surplus over and above the payment of debts expenses and legacies that such surplus shall be equally divided and paid over to my said wife and all my children in equal proportional share and share alike to them and each and every of them their executors administrators and assigns absolutely forever and . . . I do hereby constitute and appoint my son Joseph A. Patterson my lawful executor to all
intents and purposes to execute this my last will and testament according to the true intent and meaning of the same and every part and claim thereof.
In witness whereof I the said James Patterson do hereunto set my hand and seal this day of 1871.

Signed sealed, published James Patterson (his mark)

And declared by the said James Patterson to be his last will and testament in presence of us who at his request and in his presence do subscribe our names as witnesses thereto.

John Hays

Henry Ellison

Zanger Ellison

State of North Carolina Randolph County In the probate court a paper purporting to be the last will and testament of James Patterson deceased is exhibited for probate by Joseph A. Patterson the executor.

The Family of Balaam and Violet Allred
Balaam Allred was born the 20th of June, 1803 in Randolph County, North Carolina, the fifth child and second son of Joseph and Rachel Allison Allred.

It was the same year that the United States entered into an agreement with France for what would forever after be called the “Louisiana Purchase.” It nearly doubled the size of the nation and extended the western boundaries as settlers from the Carolinas, along with most other states began to move into Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin. The following year, in France, Napoleon Bonaparte was proclaimed the French Emperor.

One history of Randolph County during this time period gives a description of the kinds of food people in Randolph County ate, roasted acorns, almonds, barley, beechnuts, beet roots, carrots, chicory, corn, cottonseed, dandelion root, figs, okra, peas, Irish potato peels, rice, rye, soybeans and sweet potatoes. [Internet; Notes on the History of Randolph County, North Carolina.] We can only assume that most of the crops raised on land owned by Balaam’s father, Joseph Allred, was accomplished with slave labor.

In 1807, Robert Fulton’s steamboat made its first trip up the Hudson River, a pre-cursor to the Industrial Revolution that would escalate during the century, changing the lives of people on both sides of the ‘pond.’ In Europe, England and France were at war and even though in North Carolina, as elsewhere in the United States, Americans thought of themselves as free and sovereign over their own lives, the British were still having a hard time letting go. They impressed American sailors into their Royal Navy to fight against their enemy and imposed trade restrictions, hoping to limit expansion into the Northwest Territory, recently purchased from the French. Some of this interference was looked upon as inciting the American Indian
tribes to violence against settlers, and taken altogether, cause enough to go to war. In June of 1812, the conflict began. Balaam Allred would have been about nine years old.

In the early part of the nineteenth century, people in North Carolina were not the only ones who were wary of taxation even though the need to improve transportation and education were paramount. It was difficult to travel, difficult to get goods to the sea or children into school, but it appears that John Allred was very much interested in getting an education for at least, his sons. By the time Balaam was grown, his vocation was that of a teacher.

At the start of the century, in Randolph County, there was a court house where all kinds of business were transacted including the recording of deeds and proving of wills. Each town would have had a school house, but according to one source, there were, approximately, only a hundred towns in North Carolina spread over sixty counties.

The North American Review, published in January of 1821 stated that in North Carolina “at present, the number of schools was nearly fifty and rapidly increasing. “ The location of a University in Chapel Hill, Orange County, was decided upon in 1793 and opened its doors in 1795. However, how much education Balaam Allred had attained to by his early twenties, no one has ascertained, but it is obvious that he was teaching by that time.

Prior to the Civil War, the education of slave children was prohibited by law, the most severe limitations being imposed as a result of the reaction to ‘Nat Turner’s Revolt’ in Southampton County, Virginia during the summer of 1831. Fear of a slave uprising impacted education in the South for at least the following three decades. North Carolina had allowed free African-American children to attend schools, but by 1835 the public education of all African-American children was prohibited. Punishment for white teachers,
who chose to ignore this law, varied from one state to another, but if caught, slaves could be whipped and few things outraged their sense of justice more than these whippings for trying to learn to read. These were among their ‘bitterest recollections.’ [Wikipedia; Education during the Slave Period.]

In about 1832, John Mack and Hetty Allred, two of the slaves on the Allred Plantation rejoiced in the birth of a baby daughter they named Violet. There is no description to tell us what she looked like, but that she was attractive and had a keen mind and a desire to learn are pretty apparent. She was one of at least seven children and along with her brother Calvin, Violet could both read and write.

By 1850, when the census was taken, there were three of Joseph and Rachel’s children still living at home, Anna who was 42 years old, James who was 40 and Balaam who gave his age as 43 and his profession as, school teacher. That year, Violet was about eighteen years old and Balaam was in love with her.

That year, Violet gave birth to a baby daughter she named Georgia. All indications are that the father was Balaam Allred. Without records to verify or dispute some of the feelings that must have surfaced, there are many unanswered questions.

As previously stated, perhaps it was the deteriorating state of Joseph Allred’s mental condition that caused him to sell Violet and her child. Perhaps, he thought the child looked too much like the Allred family. Three years prior to Joseph Allred’s death in 1856, Violet was sold to James B. Lester and taken to Bulloch County, Georgia.

On the 19th of August, 1857, Violet wrote from Bulloch County Georgia to Martha Allred Patterson who was still living in Randolph County,
North Carolina. It is a heart wrenching letter, carefully couched so that nothing she said could give offence, but at the same time, revealing enough emotion that she hoped to invoke pity from her former mistress, enough to at least help her find the daughter who had been taken from her and sold to another master. She even hinted that she hoped the family might be willing to buy them back;

My Loving Miss Patsey  
I have long bin wishing to imbrace this present and pleasant opertunity of unfolding my Seans and feelings Since I was constrained to leav my Long Loved home and friends which I cannot never gave my Self the Least promis of returning to  
I am well and injoying good hith and has every Since I Left Randolph  
whend I left Randolph I went to Rockingham and Stad there five weaks and then I left there and went to richmon Virgina to be sold and I stade there three days and was bought by a man by the name of Groover and brought to Georgia and he kept me about Nine months and he being a trader Sold me to a man by the Name of rimes and he Sold me to man by the Name of Lester and he had owned me four years and Says that he will keep me til death Siperates us without Some of my old north Caroliner friends wants to buy me again  
My Dear Mistress I cannot tell my feelings nor how bad I wish to See you and old Boss and Miss Rahol [Rachel] and Mother  
I do not know which I want to See the worst Miss Rahol or mother  
I have thoug[t] that I wanted to See mother but never did I no what it was to want to See a parent and could not I wish you to gave my love to old Boss, Miss Rahol and Bailum and gave my manifold love to mother brothers and Sister and pleas to tell them to Right to me So I may here from them if I cannot See them and also I wish you to right to me and Right me all the nuse  
I do want to now whether old Boss is Still Living or now and all the rest of them and I want to now whether Bailum is married or no  
I wish to now what has Ever become of my Presus little girl. I left her in Goldsborough with Mr. Walker and I have not herd
from her Since and Walker Said that he was going to Carry her to Rockingham and gave her to his Sister and I want to no whether he did or as I do wish to See her very mutch and Boss Says he wished to now whether he will Sell her or now and the least that can buy her and he wishes a answer as Soon as he can get one as I wis him to buy her and my Boss being a man of Reason and fealing wishes to grant my trubled brea[s]t that mutch gratification and wished to now whether he will Sell her or now  So I must come to a close by Escribing my Self your long loved well wishing play mat as a Survant until death Vilot Lester of Georgia to Miss Patsey Padison of North Caroliner My Bosses Names is James B. lester and if you Should think a nuff of me to right me which I do bed [beg] the faver of you as a Servant direct your leter to Millray Bullock County Georgia

James B. Lester was born in Georgia in about 1825. He married Georgia Rushing [Zeld] on the 23 Nov 1848, and in November of 1850, William Lester administered the estate of Mary Lester, widow of Daniel Lester in Bulloch County, Georgia. James B. Lester and John B. Lester signed as sureties.

No doubt James B. Lester inherited property from his mother, Mary Lester, when she died in between 1846 and 1850. With his newfound wealth, James B. Lester went to the slave market and bought a twenty eight year old slave girl named Violet.

Between the time Violet was taken from her childhood home and her arrival in Brier Patch, Bulloch, Georgia [true place] there is no telling what horrors she might have experienced, but she referred to her new and latest master as ‘feeling.’

In October of 1857, Balaam Allred died in Randolph County, North Carolina. Again, we are left to conjecture as to the cause of his death. Upon his sister’s receiving and reading the letter written by Violet, and conveying
its contents to her brother, did it hasten in any way his death? Is it possible that he died of a broken heart? He would have known that it was impossible for him to marry Violet, but had he lived, would he have tried to buy her back?

By 1860, J. B. Lester was listed in the 47th District of Bulloch County as owning five slaves. These would have been Violet and her daughter, Georgia, (who he succeeded in buying back for Violet) and the four children he fathered with Violet; William Troy born 1855, Caroline or Emmeline born 1857; John Benny born 1858; and Commodore born 1860. All of these children were born in Brier Patch.

Georgia appears in census records as a mulatto, further strengthening the evidence that she was the illegitimate daughter of Balaam Allred.

At the same time, James Lester was having children with the slave girl, Violet, he and his wife, Georgia, were having children; Sarah born 1852; Mary J. born 1854; Isabel A. born 1855 and seven more children thereafter.

During the first half of the nineteenth century, the long held practice of not only owning slaves, but propagating children with them, seems unconscionable, but it was part of a culture that had been accepted since the early days of slavery in America.

What is most surprising is that not only did slave masters feel they were within their rights to use slaves however they chose, but their wives seemed to turn a blind eye. No one is putting forward the idea that white women were all stupid, but the society in which they lived, whether out of unconscious resignation or willful exploitation, added to the problems that the practice of slavery created and that are still waiting for resolution, a century and a half after the Civil War.
James Allred, son of Joseph and Rachel Allred

James Allred was born in about 1810 in Randolph County, North Carolina, the 7th child of Joseph and Rachel Allred. He does not appear in any of the county records, however, until 1843 when he was in his thirties. His first appearance in the county court records was when he was summoned before the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions on the 1st Monday of August at Asheboro. Nathaniel York and his wife Polly, formerly Polly Burgess, were suing him for the sum of forty five dollars and court costs for the maintenance of a child that he had ‘begotten’ three years earlier.

Mary or Polly Burgess had married Nathaniel Milton York on the 1st of February 1843 in Randolph County. Together they would have two more children, Martha R. York and Eli M. York before Mary died, possibly in child birth in 1845. Nathaniel then married Cary Keziah Ann Arledge on the 2nd of June 1849 in Randolph County and had five more children, Jesse Holton, Isaac Henry, Lydia E., William C. and Mary Alice. However, there is another child who appears in the census records, born before 1843, John M. York and is more than likely, the child who was conceived from James Allred and Polly Burgess when James was thirty years old.

The next mention of James Allred appears when a note came from Gold Hill in Rowan County, North Carolina on the 28th of October, 1845 to James Allred of Randolph County;
Mr. Aldred Sir  I understand that you have not accomplished your aim
insecuring a good title to the tract of land on Sandy Creek so as to continue
shaerching for gold,  When you do I wish you to write me a line and I will come
and put you to work rite, super antend to the work if you will give me an intrest in the mine that will be surfishant to justify me  I have long loock
to heare from you and have felt my self under obligation to you from what was said when I said you please do me the justice to the first opportunity and the best chance as a miner, as I understand all the various chances of the cumalation of Gold  by course you may do me som kindsness forever Wm . . .

Apparently James was convinced that there was gold on the land owned by his father, Joseph on Sandy Creek, or at least he had convinced someone else to that effect and with enough persuasion that they were ready to being mining.

From Wilmington on the 5th of April 1846 Mr. Saml Hale wrote to James’ father, Joseph concerning another of James’ business matters.

Mr. Joseph Allred

My Dear Friend,

I wrote you some 2 or three month ago, Inclosing to you a Deed for your son, and have never herd from you whither the deed come to hone or not, or any thing about it. You will pleas to answer this and Tell me Whither or no you rec.d the deed: And if so how and when I am to get my money for the Land,  I am in much need of money or I would not have sold for the price I did. We are well and hope you are also in good health and that you may live & die happy, and rest with god forever & Ever Saml. H. Hale
If it will suit your son Best you can send me a Draft on some Bank in Philadelphe or Baltimore

Saml

We do not have a copy of the reply, but again on August 11th, 1846 came another;

Joseph Allred

Dear Friend yours came to house this evening Covering the $250 in cut Notes pleas forward the other halfe in the same maner on the rest of this I will Copy and send the Letter your Request in due time on the subject of Interst I was in hopes your son would be willing to pay it as he had the use of the Land and Mary Beth and I think he must have a grand bargain the Land would Bring several thousand dollars if it was near our place I wrote you Last mail that the notes had not come & I was a fraid they were Lost

It is Late at night I must close for a while and Bless you all

Saml H. Hale

Then in the same month there appears a document resolving that;

Aug 1846 James Allred has in our presence this day enclosed in a letter directed to Samuel Hale, Wilmington, Ohio the left hand of three Bank notes to wit one for $50 Issued by the Bank of the state of North Carolina payable to I Whitmore on order at the Branch Bank at Fayatte dated Oct 1, 1835 No. 458 Letter A one other for $100 issued by the Bank of the state of North Carolina payable as the fore going Bill dated Oct 1. 1835 No. 583 Letter A one other for $100. Issued by the Bank of Cape Fear payable to B Rusgars or bureau at Washington dated July 4th 1844 No 99 Letter A
We this day issue said Allred in close in a letter directed as a favor The left hand half of the above described Bills and seal up the same & put such letters into the possession of A.S. Horny P.M. at Franklinville, N.C. with directions to mail it Augt 21 1846 also one $3. Bill ishued by the Bank of the state of North Carolina to W. R. Hill or . . . Raligh Dated July 1. 1842 no. 4718 Letters B. also one $4. Bill ishued by the Bank of Cape Fear payable to I F C Hardy or . . .At Asheville N C dated Sept 1 1832 No 477 Letter A mailed as the above Aust 21 1846

Joseph Allred, Wm McMasters, J.H. Caveness and James Patterson

With some help from his father, Joseph, it appears that James made good on his debt and that Mr. Samuel Hale was satisfied.

On August 23, 1851 there is the second mention of mining gold;

Mr. James Aldared Sir I send you these few lines hoping it will reach you safe and find you doing well as this leaves mee at present according to greement I promis to be at your house this day but I am sory to dispint at present I am in the same mind now as when I left you this day 2 weks ago I am satisfied about the mine that I shall go into operation to work the mine in good order ask for the saving the gold I think is no danger about that if you and Mr. Craven will go in with mee you can plase your sealf about that if you do not chuse to go in I will take it in and my sealf and direct amil on the mine in a little while you plase to hould on to the mine on till I come over that will bee this day 3 weeks and then I will arrange all business

Yours respectfully Thoas Daniel

To Mr. James Aldared
By 1853, James had troubles other than a gold mine that had so far not produced any gold. On the 8th of May Martitia Jane Stout appeared in court and on oath charged that she was with child, a bastard that would become chargeable to the county, except that she named James Allred as the father. The court ordered that James be brought to court to answer the charge.

One month later, on the 9th of June, James Allred came into the court and acknowledged that he was the father. The court made a levy against his land and tenements and ordered him to make an appearance at the court house in Asheboro on the first Monday in August and that he be present in relation to the charge of bastardy being preferred against him by Martitia J. Stout, a single woman of the county. Both James and his father, Joseph, appeared that day in court.

On the 7th day of November, James Allred and James Patterson signed a bond for $500 to the effect that James would assume the responsibility of supporting his illegitimate child begotten with Martitia Jane Stout.

Martitia gave birth to a daughter whom she named Mary Emaline Stout. When grown, Mary Emaline has been purported to have married Le Roy Burkett but further research is pending. Martitia Jane Stout married John Routh on the 29th of December 1855 and had four more children, Gaston William, Sarah, George Winborn, and Henry Harrison Routh.

Asheboro, March 26th 1855

Mr. J. Allred, Dr Sir: I have some notion of trying your mine for gold once more, provided you will give me a chance. If you will lease to me and Mr. Thomas we will give it a thorough trial. Mr. Thomas is an experienced miner and I think him and myself can do the thing to your satisfaction. Any arrangement you can make with him I am willing to stand up to
I do not know that we can make anything in the operations, but I can't be satisfied in my mind until I try farther

Very Respectfully

Your friend Thos L. Winslow

James had still not married and apparently had also not given up on his dream of owning a producing gold mine.

On the 14th of May, 1857 . . .

On the 23rd of August 1857 Thomas Daniel wrote to Mr. James Aldared;

Sir, I send you these few lines hoping it will reach you safe and find you doing well as this leaves mee at present according to greement I promis to be at your house this day but I am sory to dispoin at present I am in the same mind now as when I left you this day 2 weeks ago I am stesfied a bout the mine that I shall go in to operation to work the mine in good order ask for the saving the gold I think is no danger a bout that if you and Mr. craven will go in with mee you can plase your sealf a bout that if you do not chuse to go in I will take it in and my sealf and derect a mil on the mine in a little while you plase to hould on to the mind on till I come over that will bee this day 3 weeks and then I will a range all business Yours respectfully

This December the 28 1858

I take my pen in hand to inform you that we are all well at this time I have sold my mule and I want to by two good mules of fare sise I will pay the cash for them I wnt you to find out a bout all the muels that you can I
want young mules well broke you may look fore me the last of January I am obliged to by stock you find out what will by 2 mules in cash you will rite me a line direct your let to P. . . Montogomery Co.

To James Allred of Randolph Co, Isaac Allred of Richmond County N. Carolina

You find out if $50 Dollars will by 2 good large mules in cash I want them for service I want to put them to work Right off we can by the western mules for 250 but I want the Nor Carolina mules you need not let Evr’y body see this close levy bill mules I must by and I want something that will bring the money again if I want to sell them Mr. John rouch of Richmond County a bout sixty six or seny years old to Miss Martha Ann Jackson of South Carolina is to be married Sunday morning the 2 day January 1859. Now Mr. Allred you need not be out of hart nor non of the old widowers Remembar Rachel is a water a grat Revivel so nothing more Remember your frend I Allred

To James Allred of Randolph

Apparently James had an interest in Miss Martha Ann Jackson of South Carolina, but she was about to marry Mr. John Routh of Richmond, smart girl.

May the 19th 1859

Mr. James Allred

Dear Sir, I seat myself down This Monday morning To inform you that we are all tolerably well and hope these few lines may find you enjoying The same blessing, you desired me to let you know how my mules worked. They work very well. I have Very little that is interesting to communicate to you. I Want you to find out what a good strong two horse wagon can be
bought at for me. I would like to buy, after laying by time or next fall. I do not like the cracked sort. A tragical event occurred about three miles from here the first of last week. Old Mr. Turner Smith & old Mr. Thomas Robison were living together & Smith was found dead in the yard a Tuesday & Robison was found hung by a grape vine yesterday nearly rotten. It is supposed that Robeson murdered Smith & then hung himself. We have been . . . [faded] days Uncle Johnathan spoke of coming when we were up there but he has not come & don’t suppose he will come now. Write immediately when you get this & give me all the news of your vicinity. I must close.

Isaac Allred

Despite James’ success in buying and selling and horse trading, he continued to get into scrapes with girls in the county. He appeared in court on the 9th of November, 1859 on charges of having gotten Dorinda C. Cox pregnant with his child. He signed a bond to that effect with Lewis Hayes signing with him as surety. James and Dorinda’s child, Mary Ellen Cox, was born in 1858 in North Carolina. Dorinda Carolina Cox did not marry until the 9th of February, 1875 when she married Daniel Orin Siler and had one more daughter, Mary Jane born in 1876.

On August 8th 1860 Jesse A. Miller, a nephew to James Allred, wrote him a letter;

Dear Uncle

I take the pleasur of giving you my hand once more to let you know that we are well at present and I hope that you are enjoying the same pleasure the wether is dry and the water low I have not ground any to day Mr. Allred I want you to com not forget mee because I have got a wife come and see her and see if it on so tell Calvin to com and Judy too I would com down if I could get any way to com but the chance is bad I rote for you to come to my weden but you did not think a Nuff of mee to come we had a great time that day out to have bin ther There was not many
ther but when I moved this letter mee to doo some good you out to have
bin there I have not seen mother in fore weeks I herd from them to day and
they was well I shal look for you soon Dear uncle pleas Right to mee as soon
as you get this and tell mee when you are coming So I must com to a clos
by saying fare well

Hooeverhill the p o J A Miller to James Allred

Jesse A. Miller, son of Ryland and Rachel Allred Miller was married to
Susannah Younts on the 17th of May 1860. Apparently, his Uncle James
Allred, among others, did not attend the wedding, but he was scolded for his
negligence. We can only hope that he paid the newly weds a visit.

In 1862, James Allred and Susan Hayes became the parents of
another child, but James was still not married. To date, there is no more
information about Susan or about the child.

From Soapstone Mt in Randolph County came a letter from John
Reitzel on the 18th of February 1864;

Mr James Allred

I seat my self to drop you a few lines to let you no that we are all well at
present Calvin is well and he seys he is well satisfied with his home Calvin
wishes you to by him some of that little plug tobacco and bring it down when
you come we have bought some factory clothe for you and my wife says
shee thinks that she can have you some clothe for pants in the corse of a
month or soe if you wish to come down I will say to you that Milten Allred
has got back home to his mothers and is in tolerable health tho he is weak
yet he come home on a sixty days furlow he will be out the first of April
Levi was in the hospital sick for some time but he has got well and is at home. He came home last Saturday evening so will bring my letter to a close.

Yours Respectfully, John Reitzel

Levi William and John Milton Allred were the sons of William and Margaret Welborne Allred and would have been of interest to James and his family as they were connected in a couple of ways. William Allred was a first cousin, son of James’ Uncle Jonathan Allred. Also, William and Margaret Welborne Allred’s daughter, Sarah, was married to Joseph A. Patterson, the son of James’ sister, Martha.

This time period was during the Civil War and both of William and Margaret’s sons, Levi and Milton had been away from home, Levi being ‘in hospital’ for a time.

In December of the same year came another letter from Soapstone Mt. Dec. 15th 1864

Mr James Allred

I have the opportunity to address you with a few lines to let you know that I am well hoping this may find you enjoying the same blessing. I want you to come down shortly and let me know where you are going to hire me to Mr. Reitzel another year or not. Mrs. Reitzel will hire me. Mr. Reitzel isn’t here, he had to start to the Army 19th Oct and it may be that he will get to come home shortly. He has been in Hospital ever since he left home and has had the typhoid fever thoe he is getting better. Come down just as quick as you can and let me know what you are going to do with me another year. Mrs. Reitzel said she wanted you to come down and get that money that Mr. Hutson payed for your corn. Philip Hedrick has got home from yankeedom and they are all tolerable well as far as I know and so Patersons are all well as far as I know. Joseph Paterson and Milton Allred was sent to Georgia the
last account  Levi Allred is at Kinston NC  I will have my few lines brought to 
a close by saying come down or write soon and fail not

Your obedient servant Calvin Allred

To James Allred

There are two possibilities as to the identity of this Calvin Allred, but 
the best one would appear to be the son of James’ half brother, John Allred. 
There is little question, however, that he was somehow related.

Among the other documents found at the North Carolina Archives 
pertaining to James Allred is the following which may or may not have 
significance;

Oh that I had some humble place, where I might hide from sorrow 
Where I might see my Saviours face and there Be freed from sorrow 
Oh, Had I wings like noahs dove, I’d leave this world of sorrow 
And fly away to relms above whare Jesus stand inviting, my heart is often 
maide to morn 
Because I am faint and feeble and when my Savior seems to frown, 
My soul is filled with trouble 
But when he doth again return and I repent my foly 
Tis then I after glory . . and still my Jesus follow 
I have my bitter and my sweet while through this world I travel 
Sometimes I shout and sometimes weap which makes my foes to marvel 
But let them think and think again, I fell [feel] I am Bound for heaven
I hope I shall with Jesus reign I therefore still will praise him

I want to live a Christian here I want to die a shouting

I want to feel My Savior near when soul and body parting.

I want to see bright angels stand and waiting to receive me

To Beare my Soul to Canaan land where Christ is gone before me.

From the scant records that do exist for James Allred, it appears that he was involved in business, that he was a trader, perhaps even a merchant. He obviously had ambitions where his gold mine was concerned, continuing to pursue that possibility for many years, but with no evidence that he ever succeeded in finding any gold. Still, he was persuasive enough or had enough evidence to convince several other people to participate in his ventures. He was probably fairly handsome and appealed to the young women in the county, but he lacked commitment when it came to marriage. He did, however, agree to financially support the children that he fathered and did not deny his responsibility for bringing them into the world.

It could be said that he was a bit of a scallywag, but his nieces and nephews seemed to be fond of him and wanted his approval. His father was undoubtedly concerned about his son’s activities on more than one occasion, but came to his aid at least twice.

James died on the 11th of June 1872 in Randolph County, North Carolina, a date that can only be verified through family records. He was probably buried near his parents.
The Family of Jonathan and Nancy Allen Allred

Jonathan Allred was born in 1812 on Sandy Creek, Randolph, North Carolina, the fourth son of Joseph and Rachel Allison Allred. In 1812, the country was at war. It is almost impossible to know what effect the war had on the people living along Sandy Creek that year, people like Joseph Allred who were farming their land and providing for their families, but they could not have been oblivious to what was going on even though some historians claim that it had little effect on the people in North Carolina.

Still, men seem ever eager to join a cause and several heroes emerged from the ranks in North Carolina, one of these favorite sons, the native born Andrew Jackson. Within the state itself, only two minor
skirmishes took place when British troops landed on the barrier island of the outer banks.

Very little is known about Jonathan Allred’s early life. Most of the information we have about his later life, comes from census records and one document, a court record concerning the probate of his father in-law, Samuel Allen.

In 1816, after the War, the Federal government, enacted a Tariff in an effort to make American manufacturers competitive with the European market, but it was a tactic that back fired, hurting the South and doing little if anything to help the Northern States. The result was the first major financial crisis in the United States, the Panic of 1819 which featured foreclosures, bank failures, unemployment and a slump in agriculture and manufacturing, all of which sound ominously familiar in the twenty first century. It was also a wedge to drive between the Southern and the Northern States.

Debt from the War of 1812 and the Louisiana Purchase, coupled with inflation had a lasting effect on the banking system, which all but failed, and yet in this extraordinary environment, the New York Stock Exchange was founded in 1817.

By 1818, banks tried a deflationary tactic in order to combat inflation and pay off the debt, but most of this debt was held outside the United States. As state banks failed and the anti-bank sentiment rose in North Carolina, land values plummeted. Poverty stricken, farmers were further distressed by the depletion of the fertility of the soil and cotton production began moving South west. The conflict between creditors and debtors lasted for decades, up to the conclusion of the Civil War.
Jonathan was married in 1838 to Nancy Allen, the youngest daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Barbee Allen, born in 1818 in Randolph County, North Carolina.

Jonathan lived on property on Sandy Creek in Randolph County that had belonged to his father, Joseph and to his grandfather, John Allred. All of Jonathan and Nancy’s children were born on Sandy Creek: Elizabeth Catherine was born in October of 1839; James Madison born the 22nd of May 1842; Martha Jane born the 17th of June, 1846; Joseph Franklin born 16 April, 1848; Thomas born in 1850; John M. born 26 April 1851. A son, Jesse, was born and died in 1852; Celia Ann was born in 1856; Jane was born in 1860 and died before 1868; Lydia Margaret was born the 17th of April, 1861.

Prior to the Civil War, Joseph Allred had been one of those who tried to promote the cotton industry within the county, investing in the Franklinville Cotton Factory.

Samuel and Elizabeth Barbee Allen were the parents of twelve children, John, Mary, Matthew, Claiborne, Zilpha, Celia Jane, Jemima, James R., Lydia, Elizabeth, Sarah and Nancy. Nancy married Jonathan Allred.

When Samuel Allen died, he left a will in which he appointed his wife, Elizabeth Allen his executrix with a life interest in all his property, both real and personal, as well as his black slaves. Unfortunately, the court house in Montgomery County, North Carolina burned and along with it, all of the documents that would have proven what his intent was as the distribution of the residue of his estate.

According information published on the internet, Samuel died in 1831, however, the first documents that survived, surfaced in 1851. John Joran and Loven Richardson obtained a note for sixteen dollars and forty two cents
on the 27th of May and Jonathan Allred, one for one forty dollars on the 31st of December.

On the 25th of February, 1852, Jonathan held another bond for one hundred and twenty dollars from the estate and again in February of 1854, an additional one hundred and seven dollars.

Another note on Peter Shamburger for forty dollars was dated on the 24th of February, 1852 with a credit on the 7th of June for seven dollars. Another note for six hundred dollars was dated the 10th of April that same year.

When Samuel Allen’s widow, Elizabeth, decided to sell two of the slaves that had been owned by her husband, it caused an uproar in the family. She did not obtain permission from her children, the heirs of her husband, to make the sale and only her children who still lived in North Carolina benefited from the sale.

John Allen, Zilpha and her husband, Enoch Spivey, Claiborne Allen, Celia Jane and her husband, Robert B. Moore were living out of state.

Zilpha Allen, born about 1801, was married to Enoch Spivey in about 1823. They moved first to Alabama, then Tennessee and finally settled in Henderson County, Texas. Celia Jane Allen married Robert B. Moore in about 1825. More than likely, they traveled with the Spivey family to Lauderdale, Alabama where the first son was born. They also went to Tennessee, but then settled in Mississippi where Celia Jane died in 1884. Her husband, Robert B. Moore died on the 27th of October, 1870 in Tishomingo County, Mississippi.

Jemimia Allen, born 1810, married Joshua H. Jordan in about 1833. They stayed in North Carolina for a few years before she followed her sisters to Tennessee and then Tishomingo, Mississippi.
Elizabeth Allen married John McCaskill and appears to have stayed in Montgomery County, North Carolina, at least through 1880. Sarah Allen, married to Daniel Russell remained in North Carolina until her death on the 3rd of December 1886 in Randolph County.

When the dispute over the property that belonged to Samuel Allen arose, Jonathan Allred was said to “have a certified copy of said will, but on application to him through the agent and attorney, Alfred Brower, he refused to give it up and declined to permit said Brower to see it even.”

Emotions were running high and if Jonathan did not produce a copy of Samuel’s will, it was likely because he didn’t have one. It would not have benefited him in any way to withhold it as he was not claiming additional right to any of the property in question, beyond his wife’s legal share as one of the heirs. When a facsimile was produced by the heirs it bequeathed all of the property to Elizabeth Allen for the term of her natural life and at her death, the property to be divided equally amongst the children.

In the fall of 1868, Daniel Russell and Jonathan Allred were the only two defendants who attended the court where it was ascertained that Celia Moore, James Allen, Daniel Russell and his wife, Jonathan Allred and his wife, McCaskill and his wife and Claiborne Allen had received their portion ($107.00), most of them by the 1st of February, 1854. Matthew Allen, Lydia Deaton, John Allen, Enoch Spivey and his wife Zilpha, and Joshua Jordan and his wife Jemima received nothing from the sale of the slaves. As there was nothing to show how much had been received from this sale, nor what interest was made before Elizabeth Allen’s business transactions were put into Jonathan Allred’s hands, it was deemed it was “probable that several of the notes received by Allred were given for other considerations than the sale of the Negroes and Elizabeth Allen, being still alive, the plaintiffs are not
entitled to recover this excess above the amount for which they were sold.” Jonathan Worth handed down the judgment.

None of the papers referred to Elizabeth’s daughter, Mary, but in the 1850 census, Mary, age 56 was listed as lunatic, a term that could have covered a number of conditions. Apparently, she died before the heirs of Samuel Allen went to court. It is also evident that the 1861 death date listed in some family records as Elizabeth Allen’s, is incorrect, as she is listed as ‘still living’ in 1868 when the final court document was signed. However, she does not appear anywhere in the 1870 census, and probably died between 1868 and 1870.

Jonathan Allred’s parents both died in the spring of 1856. As well as dealing with the dispute over his father in-law’s estate, he would have been grieving the loss of his own parents. Joseph Allred also died intestate.

In 1865, Jonathan and Nancy’s oldest son, James Madison was married to Ruth Coward. They remained, with their family in Randolph County. Martha Jane Allred was married to William Manley Routh the following year.

Joseph Franklin Allred married Laurena Adaline Craven on the 10th of November, 1871. Two months later, Jonathan Allred of Sandy Creek, North Carolina died on the 1st of January. He was 60 years old.

Jonathan and Nancy’s son, Thomas Allred, is purported to have married Isabelle Cross in about 1872, but I can find no record of this marriage or any probable candidates for this family in the census records. Additional information would be welcomed and research is continuing.

Elizabeth Catherine Allred married Augusta or ‘Gustie’ Routh on the 4th of April, 1876. She already had an illegitimate son named Samuel R. Raines,
born in 1862. She and Augusta had two children, Julia Pandora and William W. Routh.

John M. Allred married when he was in his forties to a woman named Daisy (last name not known). She was twenty years younger than John and may have married after his death in 1920, but I can find no record of a second marriage nor of her death. John M. and Daisy Allred had one daughter, Viola, who was married to Bennett Henry.

Jesse Allred was born and died 1852. Celia Ann was born 1856 and died about 1882. She married on the 3rd of September 1881 to William Dennis McDaniel and a child who probably died at birth and is buried at Gray’s Chapel in Providence, Randolph County, North Carolina.

A daughter, Jane Allred, was born in 1860 and died before her eighth birthday. Lydia Margaret Allred, the last child in the family was born on the 17th of April 1861. She married Gaston Monroe Redding on the 15th of February, 1885 and had five children. After Lydia died, Gaston married Cora E. Foster.

Fourteen years after Jonathan Allred’s death in 1872, Nancy Allen Allred died, on the 21st of November, 1884, and was buried beside her husband in Gray’s Chapel Cemetery. Probate records for both Jonathan and Nancy Allen Allred would be helpful in adding information about this family, neither of which I have in my possession.
The Family of Ryland and Rachel Allred Miller

Rachel Allred, named for her mother, was born in 1819 in Randolph County, North Carolina, the ninth child of Joseph and Rachel Allison Allred.

She was seventeen years old when she married Ryland Miller on the 26th of May, 1836 in Randolph County. He was eight years older than Rachel.

They were the parents of ten children, Evelina, Jesse A., Joannah, Martha J., William R., Rebecca Ellen, Mary A., Benjamin Franklin, John and Rachel.

Evelina was born in 1837 and Jesse in 1840. The next year, Rachel’s older sister, Elvina Allred, died. She was only three years older than Rachel and no doubt, Rachel would have grieved the loss of her sister and childhood playmate.

In 1856, both of Rachel’s parents, Joseph and Rachel Allred, died in Randolph County. Rachel was thirty seven years old.

By 1870 Riley and Rachel Miller were living in Trinity, in Randolph County. They remained there until Riley’s death on the 6th of May 1881. He died intestate.
ELVINA AND ANNA

Two additional daughters were born to Joseph Allred and his wife, Elvina who was the 8th child and Anna who was the tenth and last child in the family. Elvina who is purported to have been born in 1816 and died in 1841 when she was about twenty-five years old. There is no documentation for this child with the exception of family group records in the FHL archives in Salt Lake City. She was deceased before the first nominal census and family records appear to be the only source available.

Anna Allred was born about 1825. She was married to Lewis Hayes, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Hayes, on the 8th of October, 1857 in Randolph County and appears with her husband in the 1860 census:

Lewis Haze, a farmer age 33 was born in North Carolina. His wife, Anna, age 35 was also born in North Carolina. Living in the household was James W. a boy age 6, and Aaren Ruth age 15 year old ‘hireling.’ If the boy was the son of Lewis and Anna, he would have been born three years before their marriage. This child has not been identified, nor is it known what became of him after he appears in the 1860 census.

By the 19th of December, 1865 Anna Allred Hayes was deceased and Lewis, a widower, was married to Josephine Harden. Lewis and Josephine
were the parents of at least four children, Mary E. Hays, John Thomas Hayes, Dora Isabella Hayes and William Lewis Hayes.