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Covers all Wolvertons/Woolvertons in the U.S., Canada, and England. With special focus on descendants of Charles Woolverton (c1660-c1746), Andrew Woolverton (c1750-c1812), Moses Hanks (1746-1831) and allied families (Dodson, Neville, Littlefield, Harris, etc.).

Vol. 5, Number 4

July/August 1997

CONGRATULATIONS

Sincere congratulations are offered to Foy and Gladys (Littlefield) Sellers of Rt. 2, Box 227, Meeker, OK 74855-9630. They are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on November 9, 1997 at Morning Star Church, Meeker, Oklahoma, from 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. The reception is being hosted by their children. Gladys is the daughter of Bascomb Hardeman Littlefield (John Monroe Littlefield⁶, Nancy Artemisia (Woolverton) Littlefield⁵, James Matthew Woolverton⁴, Andrew³, Joel², Charles¹).

Also congratulations to my Uncle John Pyron Harris and Lois Smart Ping who are to be married in McPherson Memorial Chapel at Fort Lewis College, Rim Drive, Durango, Colorado, on November 29, 1997. The ceremony will take place at 5:00 in the afternoon. A reception following will be held at the Strater Hotel in Durango. John is my mother's younger brother and is descended from Sarah Agatha (Littlefield) Harris⁶, who was a sister of John Monroe Littlefield⁶ shown above. Lois is the daughter of Ruby Smart of Cortez, Colorado and the late Rev. J. C. Smart, a Primitive Baptist minister, who was the long-time pastor for my grandparents and many of the Colorado Harrises.

HANKS HISTORICAL REVIEW

Barbara Baber <Baber2@aol.com> is the publisher of the Hanks Historial Review. It is published in January, May, and September. It covers all Hankses in the U.S. The cost is \$10.00. Back issues are available at \$2.50. Write to:

> Hanks Historical Review P.O. Box 191 Monroe, OH 45050

(Thanks to Michelle Ule [e-mail: robertUle@aol.com] and Sierrra Brewi [e-mail: secret@worldnet.att.net] for this information.)

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BIBLE RECORD OF WILLIAM AND SUSANNAH (HALL) WOOLVERTON

Onoldah Rone has provided a photostatic copy of the Bible record of William and Susannah (Hall) Woolverton, her ancestors. William Woolverton (b.1775) is the son of Isaac Woolverton⁴ (Isaac³, Roger², Charles¹). The Bible is currently in the possession of Onoldah's cousin, Carl Hoy Woolverton, Jr. who lives in Kansas. There is still some question as to the maiden name of Adam Hall's wife. In the marriage listing the handwriting distinctly shows her name as Ann "Thatcher." However, in the entry under births it gives her name as "Hatcher."

The Bible is in the King James Version and is recorded as: *The New Testament of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, Translated Out of the Original Greek; and With the Former Translations Diligently Compared and Revised.* Philadelphia: James A. Bill, No. 253 Market Street. The publication date appears to be missing. Here follows an exact transcription of the births, marriages, and deaths as recorded in the Bible:

Marriages. [entries on first page] Family Record

- 1. Adam Hall was married to Miss Ann Thatcher, Dec. 25th 1765.
- 2. John Hall was married to Miss Martha Hampson May 12th 1805.
- 3. William Woolverton. was married to Miss Susannah Hall Oct 2nd 1802.

Births.

- 1. Isaac Woolverton. Born Feby 11th 1813.
- 2. Charles Woolverton. Born May 28th 1815.
- 3. William Woolverton Born March 11th 1817.
- 4. Benjamin F. Woolverton. Born Jany 22nd 1819
- 5. George W. Woolverrton. Born Oct 10th 1820
- 6. & 7. Thos. Jefferson & Alfred Woolverton Born Feby 9th 1822
- 8. Keturah Woolverton Born January 12th 1826 Children of Wm. Woolverton, Sen'r.

Births.

- 1. Adam Hall was born Feby 1st 1740
- 2. Ann Hatcher was born Oct 14 1746
- 3. Sarah Hall. Born Aug. 2nd 1775
- 4. John Hall. Born Feby 18th 1778
- 5. Susannah Hall. Born July 10th 1780
- 6. William Woolverton Born Feby 16th 1775
- 7. Ann Woolverton Born July 26th 1803
- 8. Sarah Woolverton Born Oct 26th 1804
- 9. John H. Woolverton Born Sept 28th 1807
- 10. Martha Woolverton Born Aug 16th 1810

Family Record. [entries on 2nd page] Marriages.

William Woolverton and Miss Hannah Myers were married January 20th 1839. James H. Woolverton and Miss Sarah A. Mitchell were married January 8th 1861 A. H. Skelton and Miss Sarah L. Woolverton were married July 19th 1865 James J. Web and Miss Lucinda Woolverton were married January the 10th 1866 William Cohea and Miss Julia Woolverton were married October 16th 1883

Births. [entries on 3rd page]

- 1. James H. Woolverton Born December 30th 1840
- 2. Sarah Woolverton Born June 12th 1843
- 3. Lucinda Woolverton Born August 6th 1845
- 4. Louisa Woolverton Born February 6th 1848
- 5. John Woolverton Born July 28th 1850
- 6. William Robert Woolverton Born Dec. 24th 1852
- 7. Julia Ann Woolverton Born July 29th 1855
- 8. Mary Woolverton Born July 16th 1858

Hannah Woolverton the wife of William Woolverton was born February 8th 1827 Joseph C. Woolverton was born February 13th 1861

Births. [entries on 4th page]

Sarah A. Woolverton Born October 21st 1862 James W. Woolverton Born February 8th 1865

Deaths. [entries on 5th page]

5. John Woolverton Died January 6th 1861 James H. Woolverton Died November 30th 1864 Wm. Woolverton Died Apr. 15th 1879 Wm. R. Woolverton Died Feb. 2nd 1878

Onoldah also provided names and dates on some later entries in the Bible. I do not have those actual pages, but the information follows below:

Joseph C. Woolverton married Amanda S. Darrow on Sept. 14, 1882 Carl Hoy Woolverton married Lydia Virginia Ferguson on Sept. 25, 1935 Carl Hoy Woolverton, Jr. married Anna Sue Hood on June 8, 1957 (divorced) Carl Hoy Woolverton, Jr. married Ethyl Lynn Sweetin on March 12, 1962

Children of Joseph C. and Amanda (Darrow) Woolverton:

Franklin C. Woolverton, b. Dec. 3, 1883 Joseph W. Woolverton, b. July 24, 1885 William A. Woolverton, b. Feb. 11, 1887 Gracy B. Woolverton, b. Feb. 24, 1889 James E. Woolverton, b. Aug. 6, 1891

Mary M. Woolverton, b. Feb. 9, 1893 Sallie C. Woolverton, b. Jan. 30, 1895 Carl H. Woolverton, b. Jan. 23, 1898 Nellie V. Woolverton, b. Feb. 9, 1900 Nina E. Woolverton, b. Aug. 30, 1902

Children of Carl H. Woolverton:

Helen E. Woolverton, born July 18, 1921 Carl H. Woolverton, Jr. b. April 13, 1937 Joseph E. Woolverton, b. Aug. 10, 1939

Children of Carl H. Woolverton, Jr.:

Carla Woolverton, b. March 8, 1958 Karl H. Woolverton, b. Sept. 19, 1960 Carl H. Woolverton III, b. March 21, 1963 Cara L. Woolverton, b. June 6, 1966 Kevin S. Woolverton, b. Dec. 20, 1967

Deaths:

Franklin C. Woolverton, d. Oct. 13, 1884 James E. Woolverton, d. Sept. 12, 1891 Amanda S. Woolverton, d. April 11, 1935 Joseph C. Woolverton, d. Oct. 7, 1940 Joseph Edward Woolverton, d. Nov. 13, 1941 Carl Hoy Woolverton, Sr., d. March 19, 1961

MOSES HANKS by Michelle Duval Ule

Moses Hanks probably grew up in the foothills of Fauquier County, Virginia. Married about the age of 21 to Aggatha Dodson, Moses Hanks threw in his lot with her Baptist family and joined them on their move south to Pittsylvania County. There he purchased land, perhaps with help from the Dodsons, and began to raise his family.

According to the family Bible, Moses and Aggatha Hanks had eleven children, all born in Pittsylvania County. They were as follows:

Joicey (July 13, 1769-ca 1847); md. Reubin Hill
Frances (September 6, 1771-); md. Fortune Dodson
George (June 6, 1773-September 1, 1859); md. Lurana Hill, Angeline Sutton
Mary (June 9, 1776-); md. John Gwin
Moses Jr. (January 6, 1779-)
Elizabeth (September 9, 1782-aft 1830); md. Robert Williams
Thomas (April 30, 1786- November 28, 1857); md. Sarah Hill
Annie Jane (January 5,1788-); md. John Bird Woolverton

Sarah (March 15, 1790-); md. Hightower Dodson Elijah (December 12, 1793-August 12, 1871); md. Mary Woolverton, Mrs. Esther L. Miller

We don't know how much land Moses Hanks owned in Pittsylvania County, though it can be assumed to be at least 50 acres, the standard size of property at the time. Quit rents were a yearly tax of one shilling per 50 acres, payable directly to the crown. In the early years of the county, three of every 50 acres had to be cultivated or three head of cattle maintained to own the land.

Families also had the option of building and maintaining a house of a certain dimension to "prove up" the property. With all the children Moses and Aggatha had, I'm sure their house was sufficiently large, and they were listed as having one dwelling in the 1785 Pittsylvania County census.

The 1782 census had listed the Moses Hanks family as having eight white members, no blacks. In 1785 they were listed as having seven souls in the household and owning one dwelling. As the next head of household listed in the census is Reubin Hill, thought to have married Moses' oldest daughter Joicy between 1782 and 1786, it is likely the two were wed by 1785 and lived on the next parcel of land. Reubin Hill is listed as having two souls in his household in 1785.

The Dodson, Hanks and Hill families became closely intertwined during their years in Pittsylvania County. While it's likely Moses Hanks moved to Pittsylvania County to follow his wife's family, it appears they first met the Hills once they were in southern Virginia. (And how or why the Hills were there, can only be conjectured, though they were Primitive Baptists and Thomas Hill was a minister of the church. They arrived in 1765). 5,304 white people lived in Pittsylvania County in 1782 (and 1,835 blacks); over 100 of those people had a Hanks, Dodson, or Hill surname and they all lived fairly close to each other. Three of Moses and Aggatha Hanks' children married Hills, an equal number married Dodsons (who must have been cousins, nieces or nephews of Aggatha's), and two children married Woolvertons as well.

It would be only natural for the kin to go into business with each other. In addition to farming, there is some indication the Dodsons and Moses Hanks may have owned and operated a mill. An article in the August 1989 *The Quill Pen* historical magazine, cites a reference in a book called *Pittsylvania's Eighteenth Century Grist Mills* suggesting some Dodsons may have owned a mill: "... [though] there is a connection to milling other than ownership. Such connections may have been a part of a mill application, devisee in a will, employee in a mill, building contractor, millwright, surveyor or other." There are over 120 names, and they include a Hanks as well as several Dodsons. As Moses is the only known Hanks in the area at the time, we can assume he probably was working with a grist mill.

Although there is not record of him ever serving in a conflict during the Revolutionary War, Moses Hanks is recognized as a patriot by the Daughters of the American Revolution and by the Sons of the American Revolution. With three children born during the War, he obviously was in the Pittsylvania County area during that time and probably was simply farming. Most of the major battles were fought a long way from Pittsylvania County and he may just have missed them. *The Hanks Historical*

Review claims no Hanks family members were Tories during the War and notes Moses' brother George is thought to have died during the siege of Yorktown.

Moses' patriotic service which assisted in the cause for American freedom is the fact that he signed an oath of allegiance. The February 1985 edition of the *Virginia Genealogical Society Magazine* printed an article on the "Oaths of Allegiance 1777 Pittsylvania County, Virginia," transcribed by Marian Dodson Chiarito. According to the article, the signers had to

swear or affirm that I renounce and refuse all allegiance to George the third, king of Great Britain, his heirs and successors, and that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the commonwealth of Virginia, as a free and independent state, and that I will not, at any time, do, or cause to be done, any matter or thing that will be prejudicial or injurious to the freedom and independence thereof, as declared by congress; and also, that I will discover and make known to some one justice of the peace for the said state, all treasons or traitorous conspiracies which I now or hereafter shall know to be formed against this or any of the United States of America.

The signers look like a who's who of our family and include not only Moses Hanks, Thomas Dodson and Thomas Hill, but also the following Dodsons: David, Fortunatus, George, Greenham, Hightower, Jesse, Rolly and William; as well as Jonathan and Joseph Hill.

There may have been a great deal of pressure brought to bear on Pittsylvania County residents who refused to sign. The statute, which had to be signed by October 10, 1777, required non-signers to relinquish arms and to be refused permission to hold any office, serve on juries, sue for debts or purchase land.

The situation was difficult in Virginia following the end of the Revolutionary War in 1783. The newly formed country had bills to pay and a nation to forge. Trading with Britain was no longer an option and hard feelings ran between neighbors, depending on what side of the battles they had been on.

In repayment of her debts, Virginia began giving away western lands to soldiers who had served in the war. As explorers returned from their trips, people like Daniel Boone among them, they brought tales of virgin land ready to be cleared and settled, plentiful game and a place where politics wasn't so important, at least not at the moment.

Young Reubin and Joicy Hill may have been the first family members to leave Virginia. After the birth of their first son, Thomas in 1789 in Pittsylvania County, they apparently left for the west. They may have traveled with other Dodson family members, including Joicy's grandparents, Thomas and Mary Dodson, south to Tennessee. While a number of Dodsons were happy to remain in Grainger and Hawkins counties, the young Hills moved on.

Reubin and Joicy and the party they were traveling with probably followed the trail first traveled by the well-known Pittsylvania County Donelson family (who had gone in 1780), and sailed down the many rivers of eastern Tennessee. Their second son, Moses Hill, was born in 1791 in the French Broad area of Tennessee, not far from present day Knoxville. At some point they headed north, possibly after hooking around past

Nashville (or French Lick) to reach Cumberland County, Kentucky. Two years after Moses, son George was born in American Bottom, Cumberland County, Kentucky, probably not far from the Cumberland River.

The Hills were not done traveling and soon moved up to the Pulaski County area of Kentucky. Revolutionary War soldier William Dodson, brother of Aggatha Dodson Hanks, received a land grant on Singing Creek in Pulaski County, Kentucky about 1795 and they may have decided to live near each other. [Note: Some references call this "Sinking Creek"--ed.]

As was the custom of the time, when one family decided to head west, they often went as a group with other family members. With William Dodson and Reubin Hill in Kentucky, the whole family may have decided to go along. Dodsons and then Hanks family members all set out for Kentucky within a few years.

It was wild countryside. The Indians were still fighting savagely with any settlers they came upon who were not adequately protected. For that reason, most emigrants traveled with large groups of settlers and once they found a spot they liked, settled down to build a fort wherein they slept at night, going out to their land during the day. Hariette Simpson Arnow's books *Seedtime on the Cumberland* and *Flowering of the Cumberland*, both document the difficulties of establishing a life in the area at the time the Hanks, Hills, and Dodsons moved in.

Moses Hanks' family undoubtedly journeyed with Dodson relations, as well as the Hill family, about 1797-1798. At that time they probably traveled with ox-pulled wagons, horses and lots of walking.

Gladys Hanks Johnson writes of the difficulties of pioneer life:

In the new settlements, the settlers banded together for safety's sake, going in groups to their small farms out from the protection of the stockades. Each family grew a small plot of flax for their linens and a small patch of cotton for their cotton goods. Carding and weaving was required to make a bit of cloth in that day and then sewing was done by hand.

Their foods were simple and yet complex. Living here was about the same as it was when the first settlers arrived in America over a hundred years before. The art and therefore the materials, of canning had not been discovered, so the task of preserving foods for the winter were arduous. Salt supplies were sometimes as much as 75 miles away. All cooking was done over an open fire, though as soon as the homes were properly built with the huge cooking fireplaces, they could be inside.

In 1798 Moses and his eldest son George received 200 acres of land each in Lincoln County, Kentucky, not more than 50 miles from Boonesboro where Moses' brother Abraham had helped survey the township twenty-five years before. They had to live on the land at least a year and Moses' property was located on Pitman Creek in the southern section of the county. Shortly thereafter the county was split in two and most of the Hanks family ended up in Pulaski County rather than Lincoln.

On July 25, 1799, William Dodson set aside 40 acres of his land grant for a county seat and this land was presented to the county council. The land had to be plotted

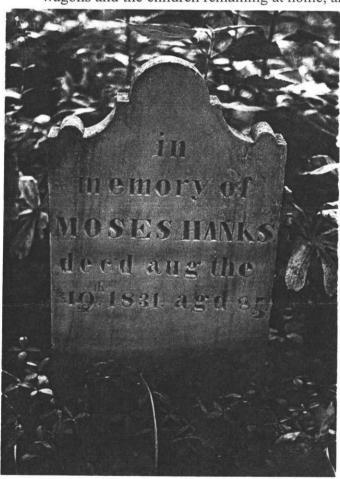
into a town within a year and a \$1000 bond had to be posted. William Dodson, Reubin Hill, and his father-in-law Moses Hanks provided money for the bond.

In his agreement with the Pulaski County Council, William Dodson made provision to own several lots in the town but also to set aside some acreage for a Baptist Church. It was called Singing Creek Baptist church and they probably all went there to worship God.

The Reverend Thomas Hill, then 75 years old, also obtained land in Pulaski County, receiving a grant on February 25, 1800. Johnson noted "he presented his credentials as being in 'regular communion' with the Baptist Church and 'leave is granted him to celebrate the rites of matrimony'".

Among the marriages the Reverend Thomas Hill performed was probably one for his youngest child, Sarah Hill, when she married Moses' son Thomas Hanks on September 2, 1804. Thomas Hanks was 18 at the time of his wedding, his bride was 20.

The Hanks family did not stay long in Kentucky. On December 14, 1806 Moses sold 128 acres of land for \$110. He had previously sold 200 acres for \$150. With that nest egg, the 62 year-old Moses and 59 year-old Aggatha once again loaded up the wagons and the children remaining at home, and moved south to Tennessee.



Grave of Moses Hanks located in the Old Knob Creek Cemetery, Maury County, Tennessee

PRAYER OF A GENEALOGIST

Lord, help me dig into the past, And sift the sands of time. That I can find the roots that made This "Family Tree" of mine. Help me trace the ancient roads On which my ancestors trod, And led them through so many lands To find our present sod. Help me to find an ancient book Or dusty manuscript. That's safely hidden away In some forgotten crypt; Let it bridge the gap that haunts My soul when I can't find, The missing link between some name That ends the same as mine.

(Poem contributed by Nora Wolverton of Waynetown, Indiana and by Jim Wright of San Jose, California.)

WOLVERTONS IN HARDEMAN COUNTY, TENNESSEE (Contributed by Paul L. Wright)

Hardeman County Free Press--18 May 1867 Married 12th of May at residence of brides father WILLIAM FLEET, Hardeman County, by B. F. USSERY, ESQ.--S. W. WOLVERTON and MARY A. FLEET.

Hardeman County Free Press--1 Jan.1904
Married 23rd Dec.1903 at home of brides father, elder B. S. WOOLVERTON near SAULSBURY; SUSIE WOOLVERTON to WALTER SCOTT. [Saulsbury is just above the BENTON COUNTY, MS. line--PLW]

BIRD WOLVERTON & ANN JANE TUCKER. Bond made 27 Oct.,1835 by BIRD WOLVERTON and J. L. MATHIS. Lic. issued 27 Oct.,1835 by R. P. NEELY, Co.Clerk--Solemnized by DUTTON SWEETON.

GEORGE A. SHELTON to MARY WOLVERTON. Bond made 27 Oct.,1835 by GEORGE A. SHELTON and JAMES N. HUDSON. Lic.issued 27 OCT.,1835 by R. P. NEELY, COUNTY CLERK--Solemnized by DUTTON SWEETON.

P.59 ALLEN HANKS to ELIZABETH WOLVERTON. Bond made 23 JAN.,1833 by ALLEN HANKS and E. D. HANKS. Lic.issued JAN.1833 by this J. HARDEMAN, County Clerk--Solemnized 24 JAN.,1833, by A. MCKINZA, J.P.

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A Few Comments

I apologize for the lateness of this issue of *Wolvertons Unlimited*. Because of time constraints I find it more and more difficult to keep on schedule with the newsletter, but I'll just have to plug along a little harder as I feel this is a worthy avenue of research and discussion. It has been a busy summer and fall.

In May I traveled to Berkeley, California for a week to attend a "School For Scanning" which was a seminar on scanning digital images onto computer disks or onto the web. This was paid for by my employer, the Assemblies of God Archives. As yet the Assemblies of God Archives does not have a website, and I am a real novice at this sort of thing, but we hope to start one soon and include all back copies (1913-present) of the *Pentecostal Evangel*, which is the main publication of the Assemblies of God.

While at Berkeley I was able to meet cousin Jim Wright and his wife Peg (who is the real Woolverton cousin) of San Jose, California. They met me at the Berkeley Marina Marriott where I was staying. We had a very nice visit. Jim has provided me with some very enlightening material which I intend to share with the group in the near future.

On that same trip I also was able to visit with my Uncle Bill and Aunt Norma Harris of Novato, California, who had celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last December (this was reported in the newsletter). Their son, Philip, provided transportation to their

house. I also visited with my cousin Linda Harris and her son Jeffrey. And living in the same town (Novato) is Earl Dean Harris, a first cousin of my grandfather. I'd never met him, so my cousin Phil took me over to visit him. He is the son of Uncle Willie Harris. Willie is the son of Sarah Agatha (Littlefield) Harris⁶ shown above. Uncle Willie's family left Adamsville, Tennessee and lived at Fletcher, Oklahoma near the Littlefield family for many years. Descendants of that family now live in Oklahoma, Colorado, and California.

Memorial Day weekend found us in Arnold, Missouri, where my nephew, William Bartell, celebrated his 19th birthday and also had a high school graduation party in the park there. This fall he has been attending the University of Missouri at St. Louis, but in January he is transferring to the University of Texas at San Antonio. It turns out that my sister, Margery Bartell, her husband Jimmy, and 4 children, are moving at Christmas time to San Antonio, Texas. Margie and Jimmy were married in August 1972 at Wichita Falls, Texas (the town where I grew up) and then lived in San Antonio for 5 years before moving to Arnold, Missouri in 1977. Now after 20 years in Missouri, they are moving back to San Antonio with Jimmy's job transfer with Southwestern Bell. This will be a big adjustment as none of our immediate family lives in Texas anymore. My parents live at Monte Vista, Colorado, and my younger sister, Alice, lives at New Holland, Illinois.

June 13th brought us to Kansas City, Missouri, where we finalized on the adoption of our youngest son, Aaron Philip Gohr, who turned 1 in July. On June 14th we traveled to Colorado for a vacation trip. While enroute, we brushed against a semi-truck (or vice-versa) on the Nebraska interstate going 70 miles an hour (the speed limit). Amazingly our car only had minor damage and was still drivable. We counted our blessings (a little shook up), and went on our way. We later visited my parents and Margie's family at Monte Vista, Colorado and also attended the 37th annual James David Harris family reunion at Cortez on June 20-21, 1997. Total attendance count I believe was 167.

Upon arriving home from our trip, we found our house infested with fleas. After a week of fleas, we had a week of company. Then on July 2, while in the church gymnasium, I had the misfortune of hitting the gym wall while being chased in a game with some youngsters. I was unconscious for about 15 minutes and was rushed to the emergency room. After several X-rays and two different catscans, I was released. I've had a lot of difficulty with my neck since that time, but it is getting better with chiropractic treatment.

Our oldest son, Jared, started kindergarten this fall and appears to be the head of his class.

We plan to travel to New Holland, Illinois, over Thanksgiving weekend to visit with my parents and 2 sisters and family as everyone will be meeting there at my sister Alice's. It may be the last time we all can be together for a long time as Margie will be moving to San Antonio before Christmas.

I intend to mail out the Sept./Oct. newsletter shortly. Then it is time to mail out the Nov./Dec. newsletter also. Hopefully the newsletters will be sent in a more timely fashion in 1998. I am about half way through with making an index to the first 4 years of *Wolvertons Unlimited*. This will be a big help in keeping track of what has already been put into print. The index will be made available when ready.

Dlenn Dohr, editor