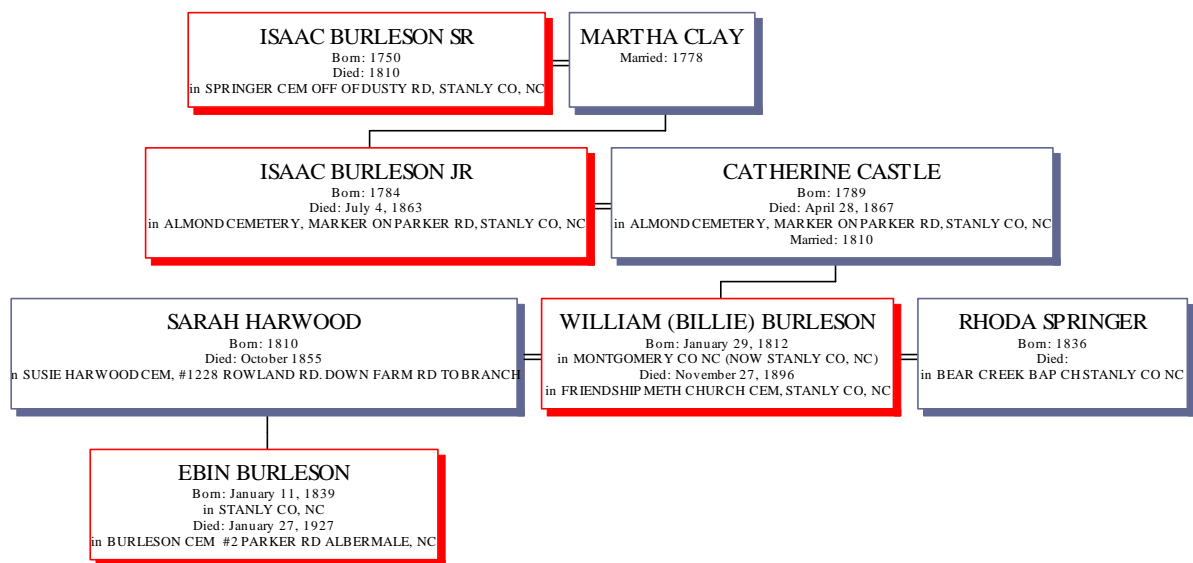


# Descendants of Ebin & Dora Hopkins Burleson



## Direct Descendants of ISAAC BURLESON SR



# The Ebin and Dora Hopkins Burleson Book is Dedicated To the Honor Eddie Burleson

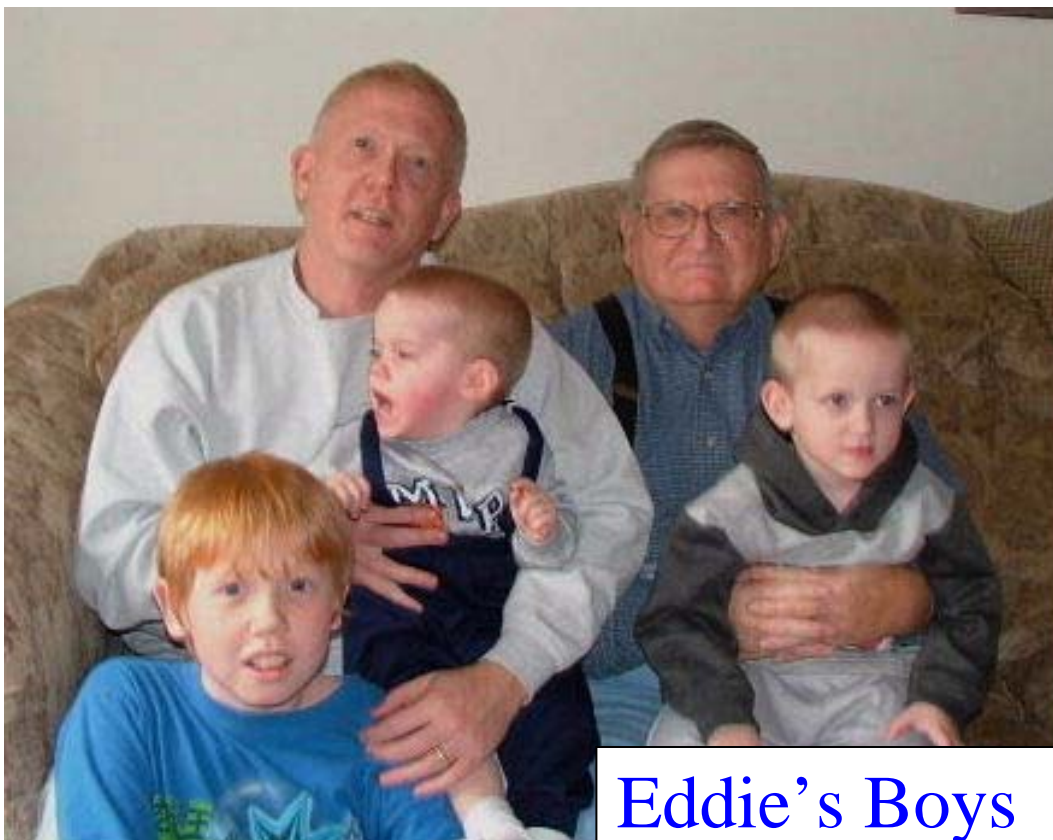
When I started searching for information on my ancestors all I knew was my grandfather, Ray Burleson, had a sister named Jerome. I was talking with Eddie Burleson who lives in Butler, IL and he said he had a picture of Jerome with his mother, Lillie. He sent me this picture and told me about Jerome's son, Paul Bass Jr. I have never meet Eddie, but I can call him a true friend. He has helped me with my research in many ways. Eddie also sent me a story about my great-grandmother, Dora, that I treasure. He did several early maps of Ebin's home place that add a great deal to this book.



EDDIE DUWAYNE & CYNTHIA JEAN ALLSOPP BURLESON

Eddie's mother, Lillie, was one of the first ladies I visited when I started looking for my ancestors. She gave me the first picture of Grandpa Billie I ever saw and a picture of the first Burleson School. She also gave me a picture of the Second Burleson School and she named everyone in the picture. This picture is featured in this book.

*Eddie's line on his mother side is Lillie, David Rutherford Burleson, Howell Burleson, Isaac, William (Billie), Isaac Jr. and Isaac Sr. Eddie's line on his father side is Grover Simeon Burleson, Jonah Lee, Adam, Lee, Isaac Jr. and Isaac Sr.*



Eddie's Boys

# Introduction

In an effort to document all the descendants of Isaac Burleson Sr., the Burleson Family Research Group (BFRG) is proud to present the William and Margaret Ann Hatley Burleson Book. We intend this to be the fifth of many books that we hope will document the numerous Burleson Lines.

The BFRG was formed in August of 1996 following our first Burleson Family Reunion at Morrow Mountain. The Charter Members are:

*Alvin & Louise Burleson*

*Donald K. Burleson*

*Daniel Burleson*

*Jeff Burleson*

*John H. & Nancy Burleson*

*J.D. & Karol Burleson*

*Lena Burleson*

*P.K. & Hazel Burleson*

*Perry Burleson*

*Tony Burleson*

*Mac & Hazel Hopkins*

*Aaron Lorch*

*Lillie Burleson*

*Hilda Burleson Snuggs*

The information in this book was edited and compiled by J.D. and Karol Burleson. It is the result of a great deal of hard work by J. D. & Karol Burleson, Calvin Burleson, Paul Bass Jr., all descendants of Ebin Burleson. We have gathered this information from public records and family members. This is an ongoing work-in-progress and we intend to make corrections and additions as needed. If your family is not represented in this book it is because we did not have access to the information. It is our goal to make this work as complete as possible. We would appreciate your suggestions, corrections, or additional information. If you have any additions or corrections please contact:

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Thomasville, NC 27360  
(336) 476-1682  
E-mail---jdburleson@northstate.net  
www. bfrg.net

This picture was taken at a reunion for all Descendants of Ebin and Dora Burleson.  
Sunday afternoon May 19, 2002



Grand children of Ebin and Dora Burleson  
L/R Ruby Bass, Mildred Huneycutt, Lowell, Billy, Cavin Burleson and Paul Bass Jr.

## *Ancestors of EBIN BURLESON*

1. **EBIN BURLESON**, born January 11, 1839 in STANLY CO, NC; died January 27, 1927 in BURLESON CEM #2 PARKER RD ALBERMALE, NC. He was the son of **2. WILLIAM (BILLIE) BURLESON** and **3. SARAH HARWOOD**. He married **(1) MARY CATHERINE SIDES** January 10, 1867. She was born July 25, 1846, and died February 11, 1891 in FRIENDSHIP METH CH CEM, PLYER, STANLY, NC. She was the daughter of CHARLES SIDES and SOPHIA LYLERY. He married **(2) DORA HOPKINS** April 16, 1893 in ALBEMARLE, NC. She was born January 7, 1874 in STANLY CO, NC, and died April 5, 1951 in BURLESON CEM #2 PARKER RD, ALBERMALE, NC. She was the daughter of EPHRAIM E. HOPKINS and HENRIETTA CARTER.

### **EBIN BURLESON:**

This is an article that was published in the Parapet, a newsletter put out by the Point Lookout POW Org. Nov/Dec 1999.

Ebin Burleson lived in Stanly County, NC. He had fair complexion, red hair, blue eyes and was five and a half feet tall. At age 24, he fought in all of Lee's campaigns beginning on March 15, 1862. Ebin even witnessed his company's regimental flag being taken at the wall by the 126th NY Inf. It was during that battle that cousin J. Benjamin Burleson, 37th NC Infantry, left on the field, wounded for the third time (once in the hand at Fredericksburg), was captured and sent to Point Lookout POW camp. Uncle Joseph Burleson was captured at Harrisonburg, VA (after being shot in the right thigh 6 days prior at Winchester); cousin David Derrick Burleson, 5th NC Inf, was captured at Cedar Creek; cousin John Wesley Burleson, 28th NC Inf, was captured at Waterloo, cousin William Burleson, 42nd NC Inf, was captured at Cold Harbor...all sent to Point Lookout! William died after a transfer to Elmira Prison. On April 2, 1865 Ebin was captured at Petersburg. He too, was sent to Point Lookout POW Camp until his release on June 23, 1865.

Ebin and his relatives were true Southerners. His father, known as Grandpa Billie was conscripted because of the shortage of men in 1864 at the age of 52! He also had four brothers, Absalom, Isaac, and Howell to serve the CSA. Several of the teenage Burleson cousins were registered with Junior Reserves!

In 1893, Ebin married nineteen year old Dora Hopkins and they had eight children. The last baby girl was born on April 4, 1914 and they named her Dallie Mae. Dallie Mae Burleson Moore is our latest PLPOW Real Daughter!

Ebin farmed all his life and lived to be 89 years old. He is buried in a private family cemetery in Stanly Co NC.

Last month, the Burlesons hosted a family reunion, with over one hundred in attendance. A program was presented, highlighting their family members who had served in The War Between The States. At this time, John D. Burleson, Ebin's great grandson, adorned with his PLPOW medal with four stars, presented 85 year old Dallie Mae with her PLPOW Real Daughter certificate! Dallie Mae will receive a free lifetime membership in our Descendants Organization.

The Burleson Family have discovered that their ancestors have been true patriots for over 200 years, starting with American Revolution in the NC militia during our first war for Independence, all the way down to present day. Last year, they honored all 65 of their Burlesons who had been WWII veterans.

There's nothing like family pride and preserving your family's heritage for the present generation and for those who'll follow in your footsteps when you're gone. We need to do as this family has done....tell and show our children!

### **Ebin Burleson Private Company K, 28th North Carolina Troops Branch/Lane Brigade**

Stanly County Heritage Book Volume 1, page 97

Ebin Burleson was born January 11, 1839, the son of William (Grand-paw Billie) and Sarah Harwood Burleson. He was a farmer and a life long resident of Stanly County and made his home on Burleson

Road. According to his military records, he had fair complexion, red hair, blue eyes and was five and a half feet tall. At age 24, he enlisted for the war on March 15, 1862 and fought in all of Lee's campaigns. Ebin was a member of Company K. 28th NC Regiment which was part of the Branch/Lane Brigade. He witnessed his companies' regimental flag being taken at he wall by the 126th NY Inf. It was during that battle that cousin J. Benjamin Burleson, 37th NC Infantry, left on the field, wounded for the third time (once in the hand at Fredericksburg), was captured and sent to Point Lookout POW camp.

On April 2, 1865 Ebin was captured at Petersburg. He too, was sent to Point Lookout POW Camp until his release on June 23, 1865. Family tradition says Ebin was starved half to death and was almost blind when he arrived home. It took several years for him to recover.

Ebin was active in Stanly County's reunions of Confederate Veterans. He died at the age of 89 on January 27, 1927, and was buried at Burleson Cemetery #2 on Parker Road in Stanly County, NC, where he rests today with his wife Dora Hopkins Burleson. John D. (JD) Burleson

**More About EBIN BURLESON:**

Fact 1: March 15, 1862, Enlisted CO K 28TH REGT Lanes Bde.

Fact 2: April 2, 1865, Captured at Petersburg and Released from Point Lookout Jun 1865



Ebin received this medal for attending a reunion for Confederate Veterans in Jacksonville, Fl in 1913

*Generation No. 2*

**2. WILLIAM (BILLIE) BURLESON**, born January 29, 1812 in MONTGOMERY CO NC (NOW STANLY CO, NC); died November 27, 1896 in FRIENDSHIP METH CHURCH CEM, STANLY CO, NC. He was the son of **4. ISAAC BURLESON JR** and **5. CATHERINE CASTLE**. He married **3. SARAH HARWOOD**.

**3. SARAH HARWOOD**, born 1810; died October 1855 in SUSIE HARWOOD CEM, #1228 ROWLAND RD. DOWN FARM RD TO BRANCH. She was the daughter of **6. HOWELL HARWOOD** and **7. CELIA**.

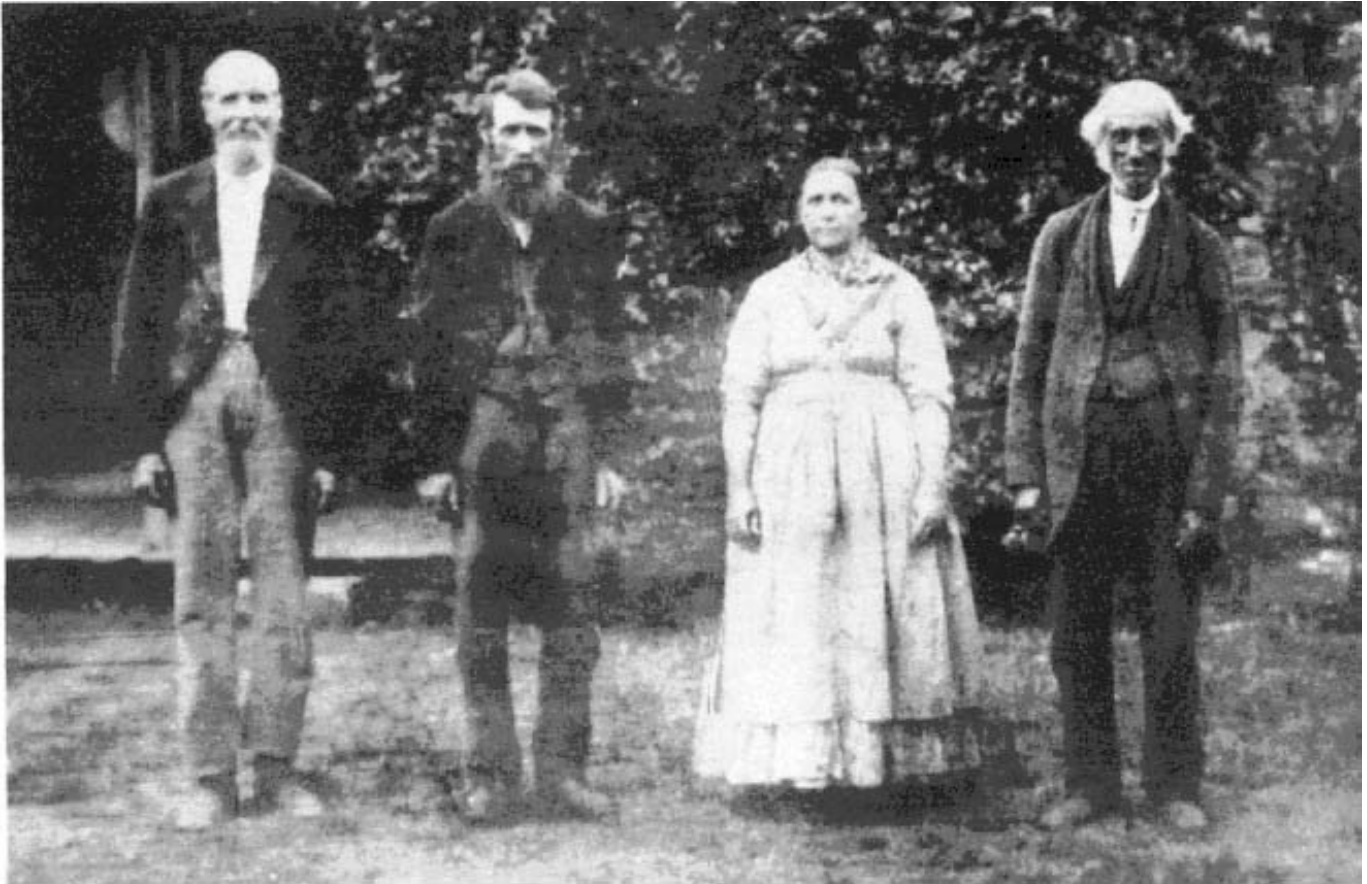


Sarah Harwood Burleson's Stone  
It reads Sary Burleyson Died Oct the ? 1855  
Located in the Susie Harwood Cemetery Rowland Rd  
Stanly County NC

### **WILLIAM (BILLIE) BURLESON:**

GrandPa Billie as he was known on Canton Road was quite a character. Almost all the older Burlesons remember him and they all have stories passed down about him. He raised two families. His first wife was Sarah Harwood. They raised seven known children, two girls and five boys. Sarah died October 1855.

William (Billie) Burleson was conscripted on April 10, 1864 into the 34th NC, part of Scale's Brigade. Billie had three sons already in the service: Absolem in the 10th Artillery, Ebin in the 28th NC, and Isaac in the 42nd NC. Howell would follow in June 1864, He was a 51 year old widower with seven children when he was taken prisoner on 6 May 1864 in the opening battles of the Wilderness Campaign. Billie returned home at the end of the war to be united with his four oldest sons, all hardened veterans of the war. He married Rhoda Springer and raised seven more children.



GrandpaBillie, his son Howell and wife Judith Burris Burleson and Allen Burris

### **Men of the William "Billie" Burleson Family That Served North Carolina**

William "Billie" Burleson was born in 1812 on the Little Bear Creek in the Western part of Montgomery County that is now known as Stanly County. Billie's grandfather, Isaac, was given this land for his service in the fight for American Independence. Isaac received 100 acres for serving as an infantryman for North Carolina.

The leaders of Stanly County anticipated the War Between the States. They raised a company of infantry for State Service two weeks before North Carolina seceded. Billie's two younger brothers, Lee and Nathan, would join the first day and both would die in the war.

Before the war concluded at Appomattox, every Burleson listed as "Head of Household" in the 1860 census from Stanly County and their sons of age served our Confederate States of America.

In February 1862, Billie's third oldest son Isaac, age 20, volunteered in Company C 42nd Infantry. He would serve North Carolina and the Army of Northern Virginia.

In March of 1862 Billie's second oldest son Ebin, age 22 volunteered for Company K of the 28th Infantry.

In August 1862 the oldest son Absalom, volunteered for the Artillery.

Billie himself was conscripted in April 1864 to Scales Brigade.

The fourth oldest son, Howell, age 16, was conscripted in June 1864 into the 70th Regiment of Junior Reserves.

Billie's two daughters were both married to husbands who served our South. William Hatley enlisted at age 22 years in March 1862 into Company C 42nd Infantry. Daniel Bowers was conscripted into Company F 5th North Carolina. This left only the youngest son William Holmes Burleson, age 13, at home to protect and provide for the seven families whose heads of household were gone to war. John Hoyle Burleson

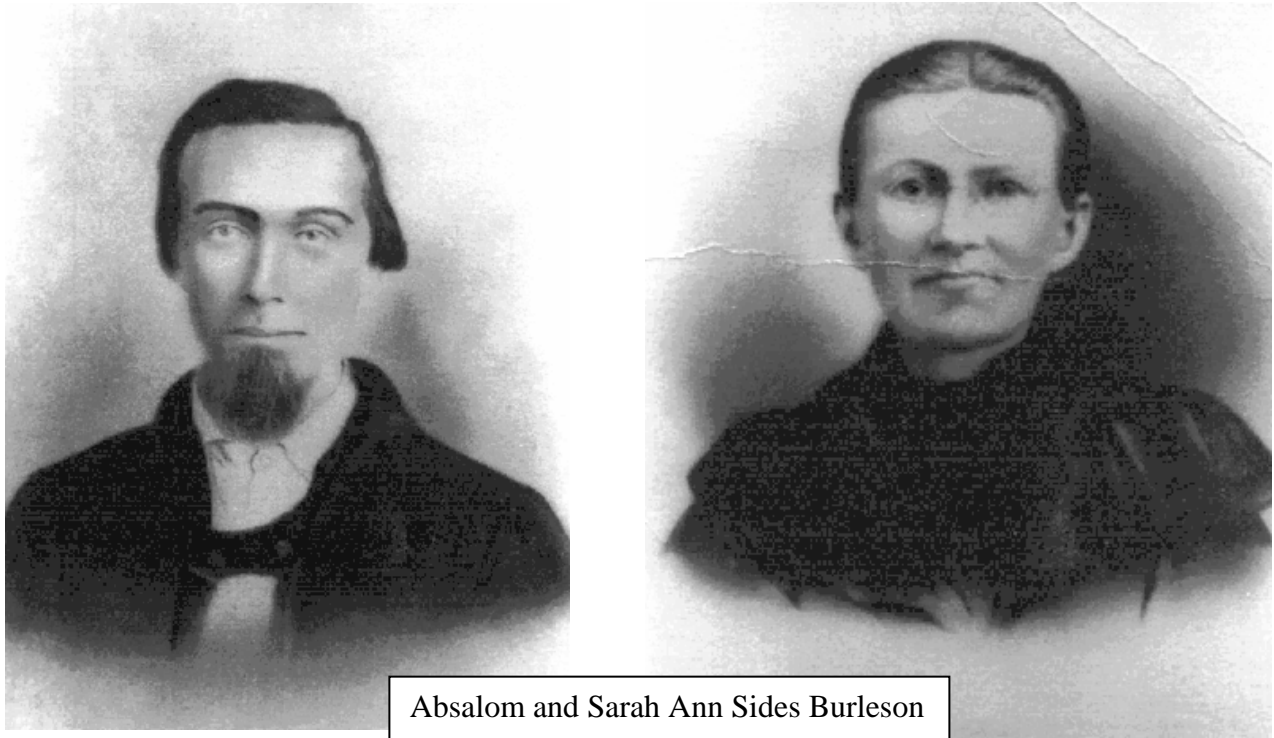
More About WILLIAM (BILLIE) BURLESON:

Fact 1: April 10, 1864, drafted Co D 34th Scales Bde, age 52

Fact 2: 1850, NC CENSUS PG 27

Children of WILLIAM BURLESON and SARAH HARWOOD are:

- i. SUSANNAH BURLESON, born July 24, 1833 in MONTGOMERY CO NC; died June 5, 1901 in SALEM METHODIST CHURCH, STANLY NC; married DANIEL BOWERS December 9, 1852 in STANLY CO NC; born March 24, 1830 in MONTGOMERY CO NC; died December 12, 1904 in SALEM METHODIST CHURCH, STANLY NC.



Absalom and Sarah Ann Sides Burleson

- ii. ABSALOM BURLESON, born February 7, 1835 in MONTGOMERY CO, NC; died August 19, 1898 in BURLESON CEM #2 Parker Road, Stanly Co, NC; married SARAH ANN SIDES; born December 29, 1841 in MONTGOMERY CO, NC; died July 11, 1925 in BURLESON CEM #2 Parker Road, Stanly Co, NC.

### **Absalom Burleyson Company B 10<sup>th</sup> North Carolina Heavy Artillery**

Absalom was the son of William "Billie" and Sarah Harwood Burleyson of Little Bear Creek in Stanly County. Both Billie's and Sarah's Grandfathers fought in the American Revolution. Absalom volunteered for the Artillery on August 9, 1862. His service was in coastal defense of North Carolina until November 1864 when they were sent to Georgia to oppose Sherman's March to the Sea. The 10<sup>th</sup> was at camp in Bush Hill, Randolph County on April 29, 1865 almost three weeks after General Lee's surrender.

My in-depth study of Absalom's record reveals the stress of the times. The ever-present fear of being killed in any action was always there. For all soldiers death from disease was more prevalent, the individual had very little control. Peer pressure alone made every soldier meet these challenges. Families back home were the most important thoughts for all the North Carolina soldiers. Absalom was one of these.



Absalom enlisted at the time wife Sarah Anne Sides Harwood was six-months pregnant with daughter Minnie who was born on February 20, 1863. In June he came home on a 10-day furlough, but stayed several months. Upon returning to the Army he was placed under arrest where he faced a chance of the firing squad, but was returned to service October 1, 1863. His second daughter, Jane Alice, was born June 7, 1864.

Absalom's biggest battle against Sherman was at Averasboro, an artillery dual, and the battle at Bentonville that sealed the fate of the Confederate States. He returned home to see a daughter he had seen only one time and a new daughter age ten months he had never seen before.

The war's end brought home many veterans like Absalom. The real heroes are the wives and family. I am proud to be a great grandson of Absalom and Sarah Anne. By John Hoyle Burleyson

### SARAH ANN SIDES:

Sarah Ann Sides was the only child of Charlie and Betsy Almond Sides. After Sarah's birth, I can find no record of Betsy. Infact, I can find no record of her before this. She fits into no other Almond line I can find. My only knowledge of Betsy comes from my Grandfather, John F. Burleson, when he records Charlie Sides and Betsy Almond as parents of Sarah Ann, his mother on her death certificate.

Did Betsy die in child birth? This is very possible. We do know that Charlie married Sophis Lyerly on November 17, 1844, the daughter of Jacob and Mary Moose Lyerly. From this union came 10 more children.

|                  |               |              |
|------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Mary Catherine   | Daniel Luther | Lucy Alabama |
| Wesley Alexander | Julius E.     | Attie Sophia |
| William          | Frances R.    | Lillie Belle |
| Columbus         | Martha Ellen  |              |

As you can see the Sides family was always in Sarah's mind and heart. The Sides family was also in the mind and heart of the Burleson family. From the 11 Sides children two Burleson brothers, Absalom and Eben, would marry sisters Sarah and Mary. Nephew Hurley would marry Lillie.

Sarah would also name her children after her brother and sisters, Frances, Attie and William Columbus(this was passed on to a son Guy and Mildred Burleson).

Our Harwood connection must be documented also. Absalom Harwood who after his service in the American Revolution settled on Bear Creek and became the first Harwood to establish a link to the Burlesons in Stanly County. His son Howell married Celia and they had 13 children. The oldest Sarah, married William Billie Burleson, and son, Absalom, would marry Billie's sister Dovey.

These two couples (Burleson and Harwood) honored their spouse's family by naming their children after them. We find Absalom, Eben, Howell Burleson and Isaac, William, Davidson Harwood.

The third connection, Davidson, who was the youngest child of Howell and Celia Harwood. We find Davidson a Deputy Sheriff of Stanly County in 1860 with his wife Sara Anne and child Frances. In 1861 a son, David B., was born. We do not know what happened to Davidson, but we know that Absalom Burleson and Sara Anne Sides Harwood took up housekeeping and had 10 children.

Written by John H. Burleson great grandson of Absalom and Sarah Ann Sides Burleson

- iii. ELIZABETH BURLESON, born May 13, 1837; died August 24, 1904 in FRIENDSHIP METH CH CEM OLD ALBEMARLE CEM; married WILLIAM HATLEY; born January 28, 1840; died December 9, 1917 in FRIENDSHIP METH CH CEM OLD ALBEMARLE CEM.

More About ELIZABETH BURLESON:  
Fact 1: 1870, NC CENSUS PG46

- 1 iv. EBIN BURLESON, born January 11, 1839 in STANLY CO, NC; died January 27, 1927 in BURLESON CEM #2 PARKER RD ALBERMALE, NC; married (1) MARY CATHERINE SIDES January 10, 1867; married (2) DORA HOPKINS April 16, 1893 in ALBEMARLE, NC.



- v. ISAAC BURLESON, born May 20, 1842 in STANLY CO NC; died April 8, 1910 in BURLESON CEM #1 ALBEMARLE NC; married MARY ANN HEARNE; born February 1841; died November 11, 1897 in BURLESON CEM #1 ALBEMARLE, NC.



Isaac and Mary Burleson with Ralph Hurley and Fred Burleson, Effie and Kope

### Isaac Burleyson Company C 42nd North Carolina Hoke's Brigade 1842 - 1910

Isaac was the third son of William "Billie" and Sarah Harwood Burleyson of Little Bear Creek in Stanly County. He enlisted into the Confederate Army on February 1, 1862. His service started as a prison guard at Salisbury and ended at Bennett's Place in May 1865. This included service with the Army of Northern Virginia.

The 42nd saw action in the Eastern part of North Carolina in 1862 and 1863. In 1864 the 42nd, Hoke's Brigade, was sent to defend Richmond. General Grant suffered greatly in his attack at Cold Harbor against Hoke's Brigade.

The 42nd was positioned in the center and all other regiments were aligned to the left and right of the 42nd at Bentonville. This was the very last battle to stop Sherman's much larger army.

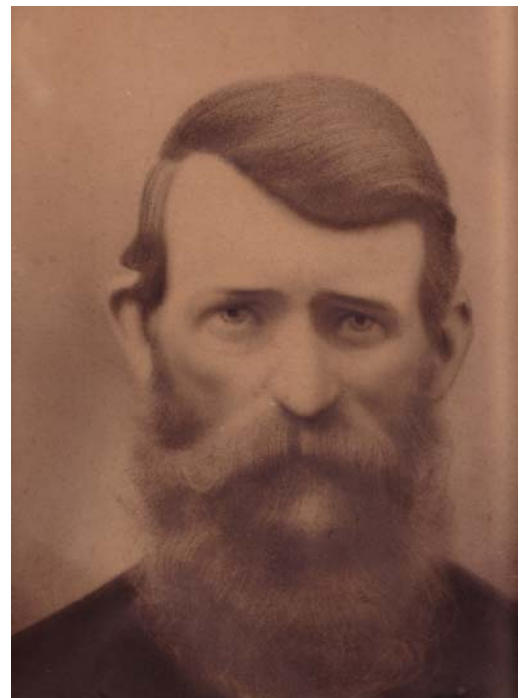
Isaac gave his service in full measure from February 1862 until the final Confederate surrender and the disbanding of the 42nd on May 2, 1865 at Center Church in Randolph County.

Isaac returned to Stanly County after the war to marry Mary Hearne and there they raised their family and helped to rebuild their community. Today they lay in rest in the family graveyard on Burleson Road.

More About ISAAC BURLESON: Fact 1: February 1, 1862, Enlisted CO C 42nd Hoke's Bde

- vi. HOWELL BURLESON, born January 9, 1845 in STANLY CO, NC; died November 12, 1904 in CANTON BAP CH, STANLY CO, NC; married JUDITH "JUDIE" BURRIS May 24, 1870; born November 23, 1840; died January 19, 1918 in CANTON BAP CH, STANLY CO, NC.

More About HOWELL BURLESON: Fact 1: December 4, 1864, Enlisted 20th NC Regt



Howell Burleson

**Howell Burleyson**  
**Company G 70<sup>th</sup> North Carolina Junior Reserves**  
**and 20<sup>th</sup> North Carolina**

Howell was the fourth son of William "Billie" and Sarah Harwood Burleyson of Little Bear Creek. On June 10, 1864 he was conscripted in the Junior Reserves to serve in North Carolina's defense. He was described as 5 foot 9 inches in height with blue eyes and fair complexion.

This 17-year-old fought in battles in Eastern North Carolina but in 1864 the war was not going well for the South and Howell was transferred to Virginia on December 20. He served in the 20<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Iverson's Brigade. The 20<sup>th</sup> was part of General Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. They served the Petersburg line until April 2, 1865 when the Union troops crushed the defenses and Richmond fell.

Howell returned home at age 18, a true veteran and ready to restart his life in Stanly County. In 1870 he was married to Judith Burris Almond, a widow of the War. They raised a large respected family and Howell and Judith were well known in the Canton Church area for their kindness and help to all of their neighbors. John Hoyle Burleson



William Holmes Burleson

- vii. WILLIAM HOLMES BURLESON, born April 22, 1849 in STANLY CO, NC; died September 8, 1873 in BURLESON CEM#2 ON PARKER RD, ALBEMARLE, NC; married MARGARET ANN HATLEY August 2, 1870; born July 18, 1855 in STANLY CO, NC; died August 10, 1905 in CANTON BPT CH CEM, STANLY CO, NC.

*Generation No. 3*

**4. ISAAC BURLESON JR**, born 1784; died July 4, 1863, MARKER ON PARKER RD, STANLY CO, NC. He was the son of **8. ISAAC BURLESON SR** and **9. MARTHA CLAY**. He married **5. CATHERINE CASTLE** 1810.

**5. CATHERINE CASTLE**, born 1789; died April 28, 1867 MARKER ON PARKER RD, STANLY CO, NC. She was the daughter of **10. THOMAS CASTLE** and **11. ELIZABETH COLTER**.



Marker for Isaac and Catherine Castle Burleson on Parker Road, Stanly County, NC  
 The cemetery Isaac is buried in was destroyed.

## More About ISAAC BURLESON JR:

- Fact 1: 1810, Census Mont Co NC male 1, 16-26, females 1, under 10, 1 16-26  
Fact 2: 1830, Census Mont Co NC male 1 under 5, 1, 5-10, 3 10-15, 1, 40-50  
Fact 3: 1830, females 1, under 5, 1, 5-10, 1, 10-15, 1, 30-40  
Fact 4: 1850, Stanly Co NC 430/431, page 28 shows Isaac Burleson age 66  
Fact 5: Catharine age 60, Nathan, age 18, Sarah Cassel age 6, and John Moss, age 50  
Fact 6: 1860, Stanly Co NC Isaac Burleyson, age 76 & Catherine age 71

## Children of ISAAC JR and CATHERINE CASTLE are:

- 2
- i. WILLIAM (BILLIE) BURLESON, born January 29, 1812 in MONTGOMERY CO NC (NOW STANLY CO, NC); died November 27, 1896 in FRIENDSHIP METH CHURCH CEM, STANLY CO, NC; married (1) SARAH HARWOOD; married (2) RHODA SPRINGER.
  - ii. JONATHAN BURLESON, born 1814 in NC; married (1) PERMELIA; born 1814 in NC; married (2) JANE RICHARDS December 10, 1865 in HARDIN CO TN.  
More About JONATHAN BURLESON: Fact 1: 1840, ANSON CO NC PG 92 Fact 2: 1850, ANSON CO NC PG 215  
Fact 3: 1860, HARDIN CO TN PG 228/394
  - iii. DOVIE BURLESON, born 1818; married ABSALOM HARWOOD 1832; born June 6, 1812; died December 23, 1885.
  - iv. CHRISTINA (TENY) BURLESON, born January 20, 1820 in MONTGOMERY CO NC; died October 19, 1901 in JOHN ALMOND CEM STANLY CO NC; married ACKELLIS CALVIN (JR) ALMOND; born 1823; died March 1863 in JOHN ALMOND CEM STANLY CO NC.  
More About CHRISTINA (TENY) BURLESON:  
Fact 1: SEE STANLY CO GEN SOC VOL XVI #3 1997 FOR ALL INFORMATION ABOUT ACHELLIS ALMOND  
Fact 2: 1880, CENSUS SHOWS LIVING WITH JONAH ALMOND
  - v. JOSEPH BURLESON, born October 17, 1822 in MONTGOMERY CO, NC; died February 24, 1902 in FRIENDSHIP METH CH CEM; married (1) LUCY B. ALMOND; born September 25, 1823; died September 29, 1892 in FRIENDSHIP METH CH CEM, STANLY CO, NC; married (2) JANE WHITLEY; born 1844; died December 2, 1922.  
Notes for JOSEPH BURLESON:

### Joseph Burleyson Private Company K 57th North Carolina, Jubal Early's Division

Joseph Burleyson was the son of Isaac Jr. and Catherine Castle Burleyson. He was a life-long resident of Stanly County and made his home in the Little Bear Creek area. Joseph and his wife, Lucy Almond, raised three sons that fought for the Confederate Army. The oldest son, William, was a member of Company C 42nd Regiment and died as a prisoner at Elmira, New York. The middle son, John, died from disease while a member of Company H 14th Regiment, according to the pension records of Stanly County. Dennis was conscripted at age 16 into the 70th Regiment, but survived the war.

Joseph, age 41, was conscripted in March 1864 into Company K 57th Regiment, General Jubal Early's Division, but on August 31 at Winchester, he was shot through the hip and captured. After hospitalization in Baltimore and Yankee prison at Point Lookout, Joseph returned to Stanly County after he was released. He raised a large family.

My records show that Joseph was never paid his eleven dollars a month pay as a private because of his wounding and capture, but he surely paid a high price for the Southern Cause. He lost his brothers, Lee and Nathan, and his two oldest sons, William and John.

Years later, he was active in Stanly County's reunions of Confederate Veterans. He died at age 80 on February 24, 1902, and was buried at Friendship Methodist Church in Plyler, where this soldier rests today. John Hoyle Burleson  
More About JOSEPH BURLESON: Fact 1: August 1995, BFB VOL.XV, NO 2 PAGE 2228 LAST WILL & TEST

- vi. LEE BURLESON, born 1826 in Montgomery Co NC; died October 15, 1864 in Weldon NC; married Elizabeth Almond 1846 in STANLY CO NC; born 1824 in Montgomery Co, NC (NOW STANLY); died November 29, 1903 in CANTON BAP CH STANLY CO, NC.

### Lee Burleyson Company H 14th North Carolina 1826 - 1864

Lee was the son of Isaac Jr. and Katherine Castle Burleyson and joined the first company raised in Stanly County. Lee survived his service in the Army of Northern Virginia for his one-year enlistment in Company H 14th North Carolina. While he was in Virginia he was refused re-enlistment because of being over aged at the age of 35. Lee believed in our Southern cause and later enlisted in a Virginia Artillery unit. This unit would later become part of the 13th North Carolina Light Artillery. Serving with the 13th in Weldon, North Carolina, Lee became ill and died on October 15, 1864 of fever. This warrior served a year in the thickest of battle and was discharged, but wanted to get back in the fight. He was a true warrior who gave his all!

Back home, the oldest son of Lee and Elizabeth Almond Burleyson, Adam, was conscripted into the Junior Reserves. Adam was stationed at Weldon as part of the 1st Junior Reserves during the same time his father, Lee, died in the Weldon hospital. On this day Adam enlisted at the age of 17 into the 28th Lane's Brigade that was in action in Virginia. He would fight until forced to surrender at Appomattox.

Lee and Elizabeth's children grew up and raised families of their own in the Endy Community.  
 More About LEE BURLESON: Fact 1: October 15, 1864, Died IN CIVIL WAR at a field hospital in Weldon NC

- vii. ELIZABETH BETSY BURLESON, born 1828; married LARKIN SR ALMOND Bef. 1847; born 1829.
- viii. NATHAN BURLESON, born 1835 in MONTGOMERY CO NC; died June 16, 1863 in RICHMOND VA; married (1) MARTHA J. HATLEY; born July 4, 1835; died June 4, 1918; met (2) MARY (POLLY) ALMOND.

### Nathan Burleson Company H 14<sup>th</sup> North Carolina

By: John Hoyle Burleson

Nathan was the youngest son of Isaac Jr. and Katherine Burleson of Little Bear Creek.

When the first call to arms came to Stanly County on May 5, 1861, Nathan said good-bye to his wife Martha Jane Hatley and daughter to fight for our State. Nathan fought in the early battles of the war in the Army of Northern Virginia under Joseph Johnston and Robert E. Lee. The 14<sup>th</sup> North Carolina would serve under leaders such as D. H. Hill, Stephen Ramseur, Robert Rodes, and Cox. The 14<sup>th</sup> would be a contender for the most used and reliable regiment of the War. They were awarded their regimental colors by General Longstreet.

Nathan's service came to an end after being wounded and on June 16, 1863 he died at Camp Winder Hospital in Richmond, Virginia. He would not return to Stanly County or his young family.



Marker for Lee Burleson in Weldon NC

**6. HOWELL HARWOOD**, born 1782; died February 4, 1870. He was the son of **12. ABSALOM HARWOOD** and **13. MARTHA**. He married **7. CELIA** 1806.

**7. CELIA**, born 1788.

Notes for HOWELL HARWOOD:

Burial: Susie Harwood Graveyard , Rowland Rd. Stanly Co. , N.C.

Census: 1810, Montgomery Co., N.C.

Ref: Have notes from Harwood Cem. showing dec. Nov. 22 , 1869

Notes for CELIA: Census: 1850, Stanly Co., N.C., last name shown as Howard

Children of HOWELL HARWOOD and CELIA are:

- 3 i. SARAH HARWOOD, born 1810; died October 1855 in SUSIE HARWOOD CEM, #1228 ROWLAND RD. DOWN FARM RD TO BRANCH; married WILLIAM (BILLIE) BURLESON.
- ii. SUSAN HARWOOD, born 1812; died July 31, 1899 in SUSIE HARWOOD CEM, #1228 ROWLAND RD. DOWN FARM RD TO BRANCH.

Notes for SUSAN HARWOOD:

Also have notes showing Susan to be wife of James H. Harwood who was born May 13 , 1812 . Source : Grave yard list from Jim Harwood , Albemarle, N.C.

Burial: Harwood Cemetery, Stanly County, North Carolina

- iii. ABSALOM HARWOOD, born June 6, 1812; died December 23, 1885; married DOVIE BURLESON 1832; born 1818.
- iv. MARY POLLY HARWOOD, born 1815; married ISAAC SHOE; born 1812.

- v. EBEN HARWOOD, born 1819 in MONTGOMERY CO NC; died September 23, 1875 in Old Salem Methodist Church, Millington, NC; married MARY ANN HARKEY 1843; born January 22, 1825 in CABARRUS CO NC; died February 4, 1900 in Old Salem Methodist Church, Millington, NC.

Notes for EBEN HARWOOD:

Burial: Old Salem Methodist Church, Millington, NC

Census: 1850, Stanly Co., N.C., last name shown as Howard

Military service: CSA 70th NC Co. G

Census: 1850, Stanly Co., N.C., last name shown as Howard

Military service: CSA 70th NC Co. G

- vi. CHRISTINA TEANY HARWOOD, born 1820; married WILSON B. HERRIN 1836; born 1814.

Notes for CHRISTINA TEANY HARWOOD:

More About Christine Harwood:  
Residence: Between 1856 - 1860, Moved to Hot Springs, Ark.  
More About CHRISTINA TEANY HARWOOD:  
Fact 1: 1850, NC CENSUS PG33

- vii. MALICHI HARWOOD, born 1820; died Bef. 1870.
- viii. FRANCES HARWOOD, born 1820; married JOHN BARBEE May 23, 1855; born 1817.
- ix. REDDEN HARWOOD, born 1822 in MONTGOMERY CO NC; died June 2, 1864 in POINT LOOKOUT MARYLAND; married ELIZABETH HATLEY 1850; born 1832; died September 2, 1924 in FRIENDS.  
Notes for REDDEN HARWOOD:  
N.C. Troops 1861-1865 A Roster 27th-31st Regiments, Shows Redding Harwood, private, enlisted Stanly Co., N.C. on Nov. 17, 1863, captured at Spotsylvania Court House, Va. on May 12, 1864, confined at Point Lookout, Maryland where he died on June 2, 1864. Cause of death not reported, pension application filed by widow in 1885 indicates he was wounded at Spotsylvania Court House on May 12, 1864. The Roster of Confederate Soldiers 1861-1865, Shows name as Redding Harwood, N.C. 28th. Inf. Co. K.  
More About REDDEN HARWOOD:  
Fact 1: November 17, 1863, CO K 28TH REGT CSA  
Fact 2: May 12, 1864, CAPTURED AT SPOTSYLVANIA COURT HOUSE
- x. HOWELL HARWOOD, born 1825; died December 22, 1859 in Susie Harwood Cemetery, Stanly County, North Carolina; married MARY POLLY LOWDER 1851.
- xi. CELIA HARWOOD, born 1824; died July 29, 1886 in Harwood Cem. Stanly Co. , N.C.  
Notes for CELIA HARWOOD:  
x. Celia Harwood<sup>39,40</sup>, born 1824; died July 09, 1886.  
Ref: Stanly Co., N.C. Will Book II, pages 136-137 dated 3 May 1879, probate date 1 Aug. 1886 listed her sister Susan Harwood, Witnesses: Eli R. Herrin & E.B. Harward { Emsley B. Harwood }  
Burial: Harwood Cem. Stanly Co. , N.C.  
Probate: August 01, 1886, Stanly Co., N.C.  
Will: May 03, 1879, Stanly Co., N.C. Will Book 2, pages 136- 137
- xii. EMSLEY BEASLEY HARWOOD, born 1827 in MONTGOMERY CO NC; died December 4, 1897 in Susie Harwood Cemetery, Stanly County, North Carolina; married JULIA ANN SHOE July 14, 1856 in STANLY CO NC; born January 7, 1832 in CABARRUS CO NC; died July 19, 1914 in Susie Harwood Cemetery, Stanly County, North Carolina.  
Notes for EMSLEY BEASLEY HARWOOD:  
Ref: Stanly Co., N.C. Will Book 2 pg. 310-311 shows Will of Emsley.  
Ref: Stanly Co., N.C. Will Book 2, page 308-311, dated 26 Nov. 1894, probate date 28 Dec. 1897. Listed wife Julia, daughter Mary E. Harwood, son John D., son N. Dawson. Witnesses: J.L. Peck & M.H. Herrin.  
Burial: Harwood Cemetery, Stanly County, North Carolina  
Census: 1860, Stanly Co., N.C.  
Will: December 28, 1897, Stanly Co., N.C.  
Notes for JULIA ANN SHOE:  
More About Julia Ann Shoe:  
Baptism: March 03, 1832, Bethel German Reformed Church, Stanly County, North Carolina  
Burial: Harwood Cemetery, Stanly County, North Carolina
- xiii. DAVIDSON M. HARWOOD, born 1830 in MONTGOMERY CO NC; died 1861; married SARAH ANN SIDES 1859; born December 29, 1841 in MONTGOMERY CO, NC; died July 11, 1925 in BURLESON CEM #2 Parker Road, Stanly Co, NC.  
Notes for DAVIDSON M. HARWOOD: Census: 1830, Stanly Co., N.C. name spelled Harward  
Occupation: 1860, Census-Stanly Co. Deputy Sheriff More About DAVIDSON M. HARWOOD:  
NC CENSUS: 1830, Spelled Harward NICK NAME: David

*Generation No. 4*

**8. ISAAC BURLESON SR**, born 1750; died 1810 in SPRINGER CEM OFF OF DUSTY RD, STANLY CO, NC. He was the son of **16. ? JOHN BURLESON** and **17. SARAH**. He married **9. MARTHA CLAY** 1778.

## **9. MARTHA CLAY**

### **Who is Isaac Burleson, Sr. by JD Burleson**

Isaac Burleson was the founder of the line which resulted in most of the Burlesons of Stanly County. We know the following about him. He served his country in the American Revolution as a member of Captain Charles Polk's Company of

the North Carolina Militia. Records proving his service are contained in Record Group 93 (# 461) in the National Archives. Most of his service was in the Cross Creek (Fayetteville) area of the state, helping put down uprising Tory, or Loyalist, forces who continued to support King George. In 1785, following the Revolutionary War, the United States awarded ISAAC BURLESON, 100 acres of land along the Yadkin River in Montgomery County, probably as a reward for his services at Cross Creek

It is believed that Isaac was born either in Lunenburg Co., Virginia or Cumberland Co., North Carolina around 1750. ISAAC'S name first appears on a tax list in Montgomery Co. (now Stanly) in 1782. In the 1790 Census, he is shown as a resident of Montgomery County, with a wife, Martha Clay and three children; Isaac Jr. age 10, Jonathan age 8, and Rachel (infant). Tradition says ISAAC'S wife, the former Martha Clay, was related to Henry Clay, the outspoken Kentucky senator.

Isaac and Martha went on to produce five more children; Jane, David, Joseph, an unknown child, and Thomas. Each of these children is another story in itself.

On Nov 5, 1794, Isaac Burleson recorded his purchase of 100 acres of land on Little Bear Creek about 300 yards below the mouth of Running Branch. This is according to Montgomery County land entries, file number 1033, grant book 94, page 80.

The 1800 Census shows ISAAC BURLESON to be a man more than 45 years of age, with his wife between 26 and 45, three male and five female children. A land grant to ISAAC BURLESON in Nov, 1815, file number 1870, grant book 125, page 386, mentions the property of ISAAC BURLESON deceased as a line mark, so by this time ISAAC had died and his son was receiving the grant.



## Isaac Burleson Sr.'s Grave Site Dusty Road, Stanly County, NC



Saturday December 4th, 1999

L/R Alvin and Louise Burleson, JD Burleson, Daniel Burleson, Coolidge Eudy, John and Nancy Woodward Burleson, PK Burleson, Richard Burleson, David Almond, Jeff and Justin Burleson, Claude Burleson, Larry Burleson and Aaron Lorch.

### More About ISAAC BURLESON SR:

Fact 1: Isaac Burleson fought in the America Revolution w/ Cpt Charles Polk's NC Militia

Fact 2: 1790, Salisbury District, NC Census show 1 male over and 2 males under 16, and 3 female

Fact 3: 1800, Mont Co NC males 1, under 10, 2, 16-26, 1, 45 & over

Fact 4: 1800, females, 3, under 10, 2, 10-16, 1, 26-45

Fact 5: 1810, Mont Co NC males 1 under 10, 1, 10-16, 1, 45 & over

Fact 6: 1810, females 2, 10-16, 1 45 & over

#### Children of ISAAC SR and MARTHA CLAY are:

- i. THOMAS BURLESON, born in MONTGOMERY CO, NC; died September 2, 1880 in EVERTON, MO.
- ii. RACHEL BURLESON
- iii. JONATHAN BURLESON, born 1782 in MONTGOMERY CO NC; died October 1857 in UNION CO NC (WILL BOOK # 1 PP138-140); married SARAH Abt. 1804; born August 1786; died July 21, 1861 in UNION CO NC.
- 4 iv. ISAAC BURLESON JR, born 1784; died July 4, 1863 in ALMOND CEMETERY, MARKER ON PARKER RD, STANLY CO, NC; married CATHERINE CASTLE 1810.
- v. JANE BURLESON, born May 3, 1792 in MONTGOMERY CO NC; died January 14, 1879 in NORTH UNION CEMETERY, WEBSTER CO, BELLEFONTAINE, MISS; married WILLIAM SR CASTLE 1809; born April 22, 1788 in VA; died July 21, 1870 in NORTH UNION CEMETERY, WEBSTER CO, BELLEFONTAINE, MISS.  
Notes for WILLIAM SR CASTLE:  
Moved from Stanley County, NC in 1834 to Choctaw County, MS which later became Webster County, MS  
More About WILLIAM SR CASTLE:  
Fact 1: BFB VOL.8, NO 2 PAGE 1012. OLD OBITUARIES
- vi. DAVID BURLESON, born July 8, 1798 in MONTGOMERY CO, NC; died July 14, 1883 in CALHOUN CO. MS BETHLEHEM CEMETERY; married (1) MARY ANN CASTLE 1814; born Abt. 1798 in NC; died 1892 in CALHOUN CO, MS; married (2) MARTHA JULIA THARP March 26, 1839 in TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA; married (3) ELIZABETH BRANNON 1842; born 1811; died 1892 in CALHOUN CO, MS BETHLEHEM CEMETERY.  
Notes for DAVID BURLESON: This family spelled Burleson with a i Burlison  
More About DAVID BURLESON:  
Fact 1: BFBFB VOL XV, NO 4 PAGE 2297  
Fact 2: BFB VOL XVIII, NO 3, PAGE 2726
- vii. JOSEPH BURLESON, born 1805 in MONTGOMERY CO, NC; died 1845 in STANLY CO, NC; married NANCY ROGERS 1828; born 1805 in NC; died August 1847 in STANLY CO, NC.

**10. THOMAS CASTLE**, born 1750 in VA; died March 31, 1838 in CASTLE CEMETERY GOLD HILL, NC. He married **11. ELIZABETH COLTER**. **11. ELIZABETH COLTER**, born 1760; died Bef. 1838.

More About THOMAS CASTLE: Fact 1: ENLISTED JUN 15 1776

Fact 2: HE SERVED 3 YEARS WITH COL THOMAS CLARK'S CO; 1ST NC BN UNDER CPT ROGER MOORE

Fact 3: HE WAS IN THE BATTLE OF MONMOUNT & WHITE PLAINS

Fact 4: WAS WOUNDED AUG 16 1780 AT THE BATTLE OF SANDERS CREEK, CAMDEN NC

#### Children of THOMAS CASTLE and ELIZABETH COLTER are:

- i. EDY CASTLE, married LOWDER.
- ii. JAMES CASTLE
- iii. WILLIAM SR CASTLE, born April 22, 1788 in VA; died July 21, 1870 in NORTH UNION CEMETERY, WEBSTER CO, BELLEFONTAINE, MISS; married JANE BURLESON 1809; born May 3, 1792 in MONTGOMERY CO NC; died January 14, 1879 in NORTH UNION CEMETERY, WEBSTER CO, BELLEFONTAINE, MISS.  
Notes for WILLIAM SR CASTLE:  
Moved from Stanley County, NC in 1834 to Choctaw County, MS which later became Webster County, MS  
More About WILLIAM SR CASTLE:  
Fact 1: BFB VOL.8, NO 2 PAGE 1012. OLD OBITUARIES
- 5 iv. CATHERINE CASTLE, born 1789; died April 28, 1867 in ALMOND CEMETERY, MARKER ON PARKER RD, STANLY CO, NC; married ISAAC BURLESON JR 1810.
- v. MARY ANN CASTLE, born Abt. 1798 in NC; died 1892 in CALHOUN CO, MS; married DAVID BURLESON 1814; born July 8, 1798 in MONTGOMERY CO, NC; died July 14, 1883 in CALHOUN CO. MS BETHLEHEM CEMETERY.  
Notes for DAVID BURLESON: This family spelled Burleson with a i Burlison  
More About DAVID BURLESON:  
Fact 1: BFBFB VOL XV, NO 4 PAGE 2297

Fact 2: BFB VOL XVIII, NO 3, PAGE 2726

**12. ABSALOM HARWOOD**, born July 2, 1743 in ALBEMARLE PARISH, SURRY/SUSSEX CO VA; died 1820 in MONTGOMERY CO NC/NOW STANLY CO. He was the son of **24. JOSEPH HARWOOD III** and **25. SARAH MYRICK**. He married **13. MARTHA**. **13. MARTHA**, born 1750; died Aft. 1841 in STANLY CO NC.

Notes for Absalom Harwood:

Randy Harwood shows b. Aug. 7, 1743

Ref: July 30, 1764 Edgecombe Co., N.C. Deed Book C, pg. 271.

Witness to deed between Edward Moore and William Joyner.



Ref: 1770, North Carolina Milita Records, Colonial Soldiers of the South, 1732-1774 pg. 807, by Murtie June Clark, Genealogical Publishing, Inc. Baltimore, Md. 1986. Absalom Harwood was in Capt. James Wootens Muster List of North Carolina Militia, 1770.

Ref: May 1770, Edgecombe Co., N.C. Estate Records 1759-1772 pg. 124  
Inventory of his father Joseph's estate by Absalom & Joseph Harwood exec.

Ref: Dec. 29, 1770 Edgecombe Co., N.C. Deed Book D, pg. 333 Sold land to Arthur Allen.

Ref: Nov. 4, 1772 Chatham Co., N.C. Deeds 1770-1782, pg. 139  
Witness to a deed of Joseph & Mary Barbee.

Ref: Aug. 31, 1778 Wake Co., N.C. Land Entries 1778-1846, pg. 518  
Enters 640 acres on both sides of Indian Branch joining lines of William Herrard etc.

Ref: Dec. 22, 1778 Wake Co., N.C. Land Entries 1778-1846, pg. 812  
Warrent issued to Amos Hall for 300 acres running to Absalom Herrard's line.

Ref: March 31, 1780 Chatham Co., N.C. Deeds 1770-1782, pg. 255  
State of N.C. to Absalom Harwood 600 acres in Indian Branch waters of New Hope joins county line.

Ref: April 26, 1783 Chatham Co., N.C. Deeds 1770-1782, pg. 738  
Witness to deed on Nathan Jones.

Ref: March 29, 1784 Chatham Co., N.C. Deed Book D, pg. 14  
Absalom Harwood of Chatham Co. to William Yates of Wake Co. 600 acres on Indian Branch Waters.

Ref: June 5, 1784 Wake Co., N.C. Deed Book G pg. 305  
Absalom Harwood, planter of Chatham Co., N.C. to William Teates of Wake Co., N.C. 490 acres lying on the Indian Creek Branch adj. William Harwood & Davis wit. William Harwood.

Ref: Oct. 8, 1784 Chatham Co., N.C. Deed Book D pg. 350  
John Jones to Absalom Harwood 100 acres on Pine Mountain wit. Malchi Harwood.

Ref: May 1790 Chatham Co., N.C. Court Minutes pg. 18  
Juror Absalom Harwood and others summoned to lay off a road.

Ref: May 1791 Chatham Co., N.C. Court Minutes pg. 77  
Absalom Harwood and others summoned to lay off a road.

Ref: Oct. 17, 1792 Chatham Co., N.C. Deed Book G pg. 211  
Absalom Harwood to Obadiah Hudson 100 acres on waters of Bush Creek  
Witness Susannah Harwood.

Ref: Jan. 2, 1793 Montgomery Co., N.C. Deeds  
Geo. Wm. Criskow to Absalom Harod {Harwood} 100 acres on Bigg Bear Creek.

Ref: Nov. 10, 1794 Montgomery Co., N.C. Deeds  
Absalom Harwood entered 100 acres adj. his own corner on E. side of Bear Creek.

Ref: March 6, 1805 Montgomery Co., N.C. Deeds  
Wiley Carpenter to Katherine Duke 100 acres Witness Absalom Harwood.

Ref: Births, Deaths & Sponsors 1717-1778 From the Albermarle Parish Register of Surry & Sussex Co., Va. by John B. Boddie pg. 59.

Baptism: Albemarle Parish Records  
Census: 1800, Montgomery Co., N.C.  
Military service: 1770, James Wooten's , Johnston Co. Militia 1770 Revolution

More About ABSALOM HARWOOD:  
Fact 1: SERVED IN JAMES WOOTEN'S JOHNSTON CO MILITA 1770 REV  
Children of ABSALOM HARWOOD and MARTHA are:

- i. MALACHI HARWOOD, born October 24, 1767; died December 4, 1848 in SUSIE HARWOOD CEM, #1228 ROWLAND RD. DOWN FARM RD TO BRANCH; married MARY HERNDON; born January 10, 1770 in ORANGE CO, CHAPEL HILL, NC; died March 30, 1855 in STANLY CO NC.  
Notes for MALACHI HARWOOD:  
Ref: www.angelfire.com/nc, The Green/Greene Family shows Deed { p. 175, Montgomery Co., N.C. } 23 Feb. 1835 Hardy Green to Malichi Harwood. Being 100 acres on the west side of Yadkin River on the waters of Bear Creek.  
More About Malachi Harwood: Burial: Susie Harwood Graveyard , Rowland Rd. Stanly Co. , N.C.  
Census: 1790, Chatham Co., N.C. spelled Harrod Notes for MARY HERNDON: Census: 1850, Stanly Co., N.C.  
Will: November 1855, Stanly Co., N.C. Will Book 1 pg. 135
- ii. SUSANNAH HARWOOD, born 1790; died Bef. 1860; married WILLIAM C. HATLEY; born 1790; died Bef. April 10, 1844. Notes for SUSANNAH HARWOOD: Notes for Susannah Sukey Harwood:  
Deed: Oct. 4, 1841, Stanly Co., N.C. Deed Book 1 pg. 6 proves parents.  
More About Susannah Sukey Harwood: Census: 1850, Stanly Co., N.C.  
Notes for WILLIAM C. HATLEY: also show death date of 184
- 6 iii. HOWELL HARWOOD, born 1782; died February 4, 1870; married CELIA 1806.
- iv. Jesse Harwood, born in Lewis Fork, Wilks Co. , N.C.; married ? YATES  
Notes for Jesse Harwood: Ref: Will of Joseph Harwood states that Jesse is son of Absalom.

# Selected Stories about our Burleson Family

As related by John Hoyle Burleson at our BFRG Meeting March 6, 2000.

## Isaac Burleson Sr.

My Father, Uncles and my Grandmother, Ada Burleson, told all of us grandchildren the story of three Burleson brothers. If I ever heard any names they were forgotten years ago because I failed to write them down.

### The tradition goes something like this:

One of these brothers got into trouble and was under arrest. The other two broke him out of jail and they all left the county. Of the three brothers, one would go to the Western Mountains, one would go towards the South, and one would settle here in Stanly County on property he had seen once before while traveling to record an earlier land deed. My father, Taft Burleson, said several times that this Burleson lived near what is now Indian Trail, North Carolina. I remember even riding down to look for that area one day when I was six or seven you don't pay too much attention and when you're a teenager you don't listen because you already know more than your parents do. I'm over fifty now and want to write down everything I can for my grandchildren.

Let me quote you from William S. Burleson, founder of the Burleson Association in his 1983 letter to Beulah Way a Great Granddaughter of Isaac Sr. and you decide if it agrees with tradition that was passed down to me.

*The Father of your Isaac Burleson Sr. is not known for sure. Most Burleson historians, past and present, have believed he was the son of John Burleson, who was killed during the American Revolutionary War. According to family tradition, John did leave a family. David Burleson, 1755-1835, is said to be another son of John. He died in Rutherford County, Tennessee and his descendants migrated to Northern Alabama, then to Texas. The estate of Aaron Burleson was probated in Wilkes County, Georgia in December 1783. Since he fits into no other family, We believe he was also son of John and a brother of your Isaac.*

What we do know about Isaac Sr. is this: all Burlesons from Stanly County are descended from one man, Isaac Sr. He did have at least on brother named David that also lived in Stanly County, but he moved to Tennessee along with all his sons in the early 1800's. Isaac appears in Montgomery County (now Stanly County) on the 1782 tax list as living on Little Bear Creek. The first document we have on Isaac in Stanly is 100 acre land deed on Little Bear Creek filed in 1779. This was probably his pension for his service in the American Revolution.

Isaac Sr. was married to Martha and they had at least five sons. First is Isaac Jr. who stayed in Stanly County, Jonathan who moved to Union County, NC, David who moved to Mississippi, Joseph who also stayed in Stanly County, and Thomas who moved to Missouri. They also had at least on daughter, Jane who married William Castle and moved to Mississippi.

We know Isaac Sr. died between 1810 and 1812 and is buried in a cemetery located near Dusty Road in the Lambert Community of Stanly County, NC.

## Isaac Burleson JR.

Isaac Jr. purchased land adjoining Isaac Sr.'s on Little Bear Creek. He married Catherine Castle the daughter of Thomas Castle, a Rev. War veteran, and she inherited her fathers land on Little Bear Creek when Thomas Castle left this area to settle in Mississippi. His son William who married Jane Burleson (Isaac Jr.'s sister) and Thomas' daughter Mary Ann who was married to David Burleson all left this area with Thomas Castle to settle in Mississippi also.

## “Recollections”

With A. Paul Bass Jr. by J.D. Burleson

On Sunday May 13, 2001 I meet with Paul Bass Jr. and his wife, Eveley. We went to the Burleson Cemetery #2 on Parker Road and visited the gravesite of Ebin & Dora Hopkins Burleson. They are Paul’s grandparents and my great-grandparents. We also visited the cemetery site of Isaac Burleson Sr. Paul showed me where Ebin & Dora’s farm was located -- a big oak tree was the only landmark left to show exactly where it was. From that Oak tree he described the layout of the farm and farmhouse.

He also told several stories that he remembers from his childhood. His family moved to Tennessee when he was young. We had a very enjoyable visit. Later the next week as I thought about our visit, I started putting together all he had told me. I called Paul and asked him to draw out all he had told me about the farm. I also asked him to write the stories he had related to me. Paul did a great job of drawing the farm and layout of the house. Here are the stories as related by Paul Bass Jr.

“On Christmas Day all of the men would rabbit hunt. I remember one occasion Ray (my grandfather), Jerome’s brother, ask Paul Bass Sr. if he could see a rabbit sitting on a nest in some brush. Ray eventually shot the rabbit. Some of the rabbits were roasted in front of the fireplace on a string turning around hanging from nails under the mantle. Ray had a full choke shotgun that he shot a bird out of a fruit tree some 75 yards from the back porch. No one else could top that for distant shooting. While roasting the rabbits we would role hot coals out on the hearth and cook thin slices of cured ham. Dora always made biscuits about 5 inches in diameter. One biscuit with some rabbit or ham made a meal. One Christmas Day I received a football and a piece of fruit from Santa. About the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> time we kicked the football it was punctured on a cut corn stalk end standing in the corn field at the end of the chicken house. Early memories from the 1930s by A. Paul Bass Jr. May 20, 2001.

From the cemetery on Parker Road, Paul showed me where when he was 8 or 9 years old, Marvin or Dewey hooked up the mule and plow and let him try his hand at plowing the corn field, after plowing up a couple or rows, they decided it wasn’t a good idea.



A. Paul Bass Jr. May 2001

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### Meeting with Lillie Burleson

By J.D. Burleson

On Sunday, August 4th I went to talk with LILLIE BURLESON. She lives on Rutherford Road in Albemarle, NC. Carroll and Betty, who live across the street, and John H. Burleson went with me.

We talked about our different Burleson lines. Lillie is 87 years old and is very alert and she could remember dates and peoples names with such ease. She was very encouraging to me and she was very proud of her family.

She gave me four (4) pictures. Two (2) of the Old Burleson School, one taken around 1890 and one taken 1917/1918 that she was in. Lillie was able to tell me everyone that was in the picture. One picture was the Old Pine Grove School that her husband (Simeon Burleson) was in. She also gave me a picture of my great-great Grandfather William (Billie) Burleson. She talked about him as if she personally knew him, but he died about 10 years before she was born. All of her knowledge came from family members talking about Grandpa Billie, especially JAPATHY (JAP). She said that Jap loved to tell stories of Grandpa Billie and his father Isaac Jr. I asked her about Isaac Sr. She said that one day Isaac Sr. saw that his daughters were getting all dressed up and that meant that their boyfriends were coming. He got mad (he was a big man) and picked up the milk churn over his head and dropped it. This messed them all up and his wife got so mad she threw a butcher knife at him as he ran out the door. The knife stuck in the door jam. She said later they all laughed about it every time they saw the hole in the door jam.

I asked about Isaac Jr.’s grave. She said the land where he was buried changed hands and the place had grown up. The new owner, not realizing what he was doing, cleared the field and erased all evidence of the graves. John H. Burleson knows where the field is and he is going to show me later.

We went into great detail about my great grandfather EBIN. I had received a copy of a picture of Ebin from Velsa West. She said her mother had prized it very much. According to family members this was the only picture ever taken. I asked Lillie if she could remember when this picture was taken. She said that it was Ebin, but she remembered him with a long full beard. She said that Ebin didn’t fare well in the Civil War. He was taken prisoner of war and held for several months, and when he returned home, he was starved half to death and was blind. It took him several years to recover.

There is a Burleson Cemetery on Parker Road. She told me how it became a cemetery. When Billie’s youngest son William, by his first wife Sarah Harwood was 21 he became sick (cancer) and all of his brothers and sisters would take turns taking care of him.

Everyday he would want to be taken out to a big Oak tree and he would sit there in a straight back wooden chair. He loved that spot so much that he said he wanted to be buried there. So he was the first grave and now there are 35 or 40 graves in the cemetery.

She also showed me where Ebin's farm was. There was a big Oak Tree that he spent his last years sitting under. She said Jap always loved to sit and talk to Ebin under that tree.

On August 13, (Tuesday) I went back to see Lillie, she helped me with her line so I could enter it on my computer. She also gave me some more pictures and a book (History of Canton Church). She showed me where the First Burleson School was located at 24921 Fink Road. The 2nd Burleson School was located at 28238 Parker Rd. Billie's farm was located at 28139 Parker Road. Ebin's farm was at 26804 Burleson Road.

We had our first meeting in the Stanly County Library. There were eight present; J.D. & Karol, P.K. & Hazel, Tony, Alvin, John H., Burleson and Aaron Lorch. We had a good time discussing our family trees.

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### Students At Old Burleson School

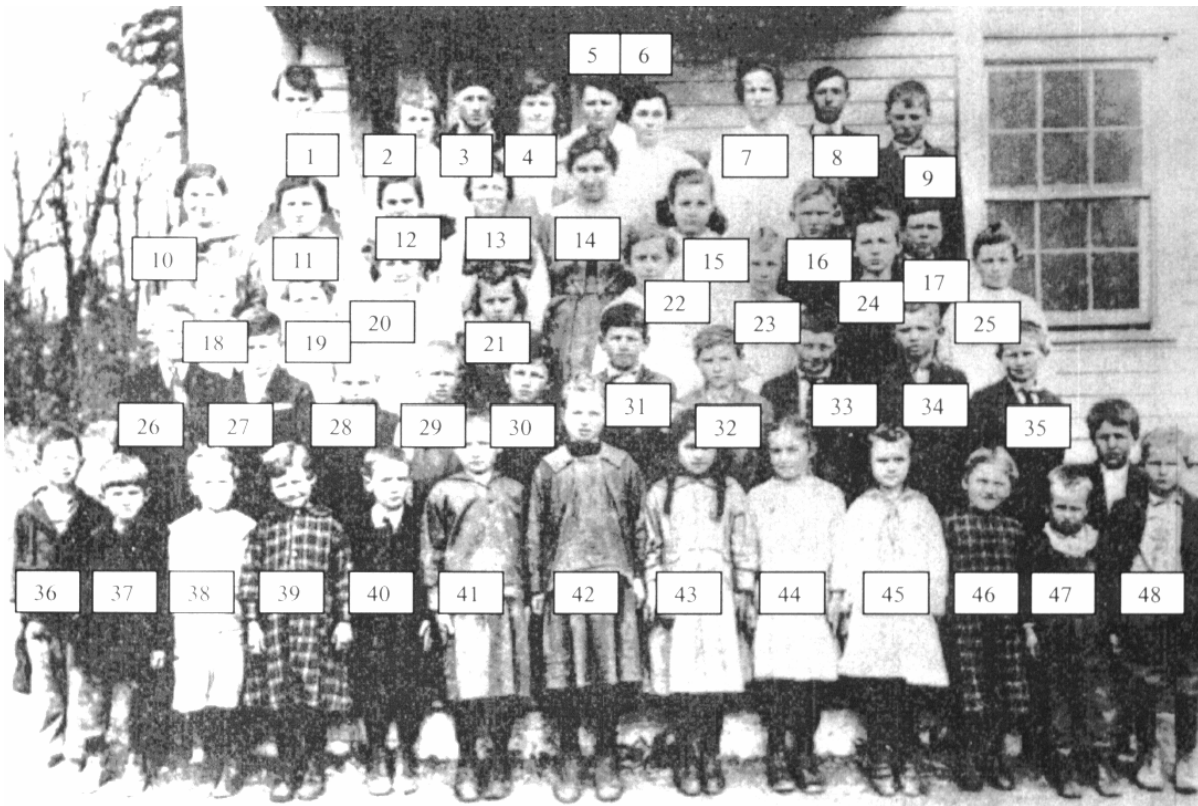
This is a newspaper article Lillie gave me. While we were talking she listed everyone in the picture by name. She was able to tell a little story about most of them, who they married and a little about what happened to them later in life. I wish I had been able to record the discussion, but I was able to record all the names and they are listed on the next page.

This picture fascinated me because several of the children in the picture were younger brothers and sisters of my grandfather, Ray Burleson. I had heard their names but that was all I knew about them. In 1918 my grandfather was in Europe in World War I. His brother, Dewey Burleson, is on the back row listed as #8. He married Mattie Rowland and they had two children; Alvin, who died at birth in 1928, and Mildred, who was born in 1930, and currently lives in Albemarle. Ray's sister, Jerome Burleson, is #25, and she is married to Paul Bass Sr. Paul worked on projects that build dams around the country. They moved to Tennessee. They have 2 children; Paul Jr. and Ruby, who both still live in Tennessee.



If any of the children in this picture are your relatives, would you please send in any information you have about them. We will publish it in a future issue. Notice the hair bow on the girl #21. Everyone who has seen the picture has been interested in the huge bow.

*This picture, believed to have been taken in 1918, shows the student body of the old Burleson School. It was located about five miles west of Albemarle, not very far from the Canton Church community of today. Lillie showed me the location where the school stood, and it is at 28238 Parker Road. This school was abandoned when consolidation took place and the pupils formerly attending Burleson School went to Endy and Millingport. Mrs. Sim Burleson, who appears in the picture, brought it to the newspaper, with identification.*



1. Gence Almond m/Pickler
2. Attie Almond m/Poplin
3. Hal Burris
4. Victoria Harwood m/Lowder
5. Ossie Whitlock m/Hutherson
6. Bertha Almond m/Lambert
7. Nora Burleson
8. Dewey Burleson (my grandfather's brother)
9. Ruben Almond
10. Virgie Harwood
11. Martha Barbee M/Roy Burleson
12. Trula Barbee m/Barbee
13. Lena Almond, m. Burris
14. Teacher Ethel Harkee
15. Enda Burris
16. Nuton Burleson
17. Ray Von Burleson
18. Rosie Leadbetter
19. Flora Burleson (Lillie's sister)
20. Odessa Harwood
21. Mary Burleson
22. Vina Harwood m/Harkey
23. Annie Almond m/ Burris
24. Beula Burleson (Jim Burleson's dau)
25. Jerome Burleson, m/Paul Bass  
(my grandfather's sister)
26. Ocsar Hatley
27. Luther Barbee
28. Ralph Almond
29. Wade Almond
30. Lee Barbee
31. Lonzo Burris
32. Veston Harwood
33. Spencer Burleson
34. Will Burleson (Jim's son)
35. Taft Burleson (John F. Burleson's son)  
(John Hoyle Burleson's father)
36. Harvey Burleson (Jim Burleson's son)
37. Purdy Howell
38. Attas Harwood
39. Lillian Fink m/Charlie Jordon
40. Good Burleson (Lillie's brother)  
Named after Good Morton  
(Store in Albemarle)
41. Eleven Fink
42. Ora Almond, m/Fred Burris
43. Ruth Fink
44. Viola Harwood
45. Lillie Burleson (Ed's Mother)  
She was the one that named  
everyone in the picture for me
46. Zora Barbee
47. Raymond Almond
48. Hugh Burleson

## **Burlison, Burleyson, or Burleson, What Do You Think?**

By John Hoyle Burleson

The father of our Stanly County Isaac is believed to be John the son of Aaron I. Both are listed among tithes of Lunenburg County Virginia. *Sunlight on the Southside, Lists of Tithes of Lunenburg County Virginia.* In 1749 John Burlison is in Talbots District. Aaron Burleson is listed in the Phelps District in 1748.

John appears next in the newly created Bedford County Virginia court record of 1754-1761. John Burlison and his brother Jonathan Burlison were summoned to answer to charges of riot. They did not appear. This is the last early record of Burleson in Virginia. It is believed they all left for North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia.

There is strong evidence that Aaron took up land on the Savannah River prior to 1757. This Aaron is believed to be the same Aaron (Aaron I) from Lunenburg Virginia. On his crown grant his name was listed as Aaron Bereston however, on plats of property adjoining this land, the owner is listed as Aaron Burleson.

John Burlison's travels are lost to us. According to family tradition he was killed during the American Revolution. John's two sons David and Our Isaac both saw service from this area, Mecklenburg and Salisbury Districts, North Carolina. David's name was spelled Burlison on most records and on his will and tombstone.

By the time of the American Revolution in North Carolina our Patriarch Isaac was enlisted in Captain Charles Polk's Company as Isaac Burlison. This record was in 1776. Captain Polk submitted his list of troops (where Isaac Burlison appears three times) to receive payment for service from the United States.

In John Melchor's collection of papers is a ledger of his store that was located in the present Mount Pleasant area of Cabarrus County. Melchor was born in Chester Pennsylvania and opened a gristmill and a general store. His daughter Sarah became the wife of Achilles Almond of Stanly County.

Melchor made an entry in 1793 of Isack Boloson. This note was secured by Major Smith and Joseph Cooper. In 1819 there were entries for William Burleson and David Burleson. Melchor spelled these names as they sounded to him.

Isaac's name appears on a petition to allow Melchor to build a mill dam across Rocky River in Cabarrus County. Here the name was spelled Burlinson. This document was drawn up and sent to our state legislature in December 1800. Approximately 75 other Stanly County residents signed the petition. Some were Jacob Moose, Elyja Hunnicut, Frederich Rogers, Sherod Roland, William Lowder, Howel Harwood, Nehemiah Hearn, Absalom Harwood, Edward Almond, Solomon Burris, William Smith and Jacob Cooper.

The spelling of Burleson in the Stanly County Census varied from year to year. In the 1800 census Isaac Sr. and his brother David lived in Almond Township and were recorded by the same person, but we find David and his son's family spelled Burleyson Isaac Sr.'s name was spelled Burlison.

In 1810 Isaac Sr. and Isaac Jr.'s names appear as Burlison. The 1820 census was lost and in 1830 we find only three sons of Isaac Sr. in Stanly County. Their names are Isaac Jr. Burlson, David Burlyson and Joseph Burleyson. In 1840 only Joseph Burleyson is listed in Stanly County.

By the 1850 census Joseph Burleyson is gone but three of his sons are listed as Benjamin Burleson, Dirrick Burdson, and Wesley Burrelsen. The different spellings can be attributed to several factors. First, all three were orphaned before any formal schooling and only Benjamin was raised by family, Susan Ritchie, who was an aunt. The others were placed in families not associated to the Burleson family to my knowledge. Isaac Jr. is still listed with his four sons in Almond Township. They are all spelled Burleson.

The 1860 census is of no help because of the obvious errors, such as different spelling for siblings living in the same household. Most families in the 1870 census spelled the name Burlison with only Joseph, William, William Jr. and Ebin spelling theirs Burleyson. All in the 1880 census spelled the name Burleyson. The census only tells us that by 1880 the "i" was replaced with an "e" or "ey".

The new century brought new school. By 1925 the community schools were gone and qualifications for teachers became more standardized. They taught and encouraged their students to drop the "y" in the spelling of their name (Burleyson to Burleson).

Another factor would be Stanly County starting to keep more official records such as birth certificates and death certificates. The clerks were becoming more professional and like the teachers recorded names as they heard them, not how they were hand written in the family bible.

Today we still see Burleyson, but most are spelled Burleson. It really doesn't matter, as we are all cousins. Maybe in a later issue we will trace the spelling back to England where we find a William Burleston. This name appeared on documents dated 6 June 1391.

# Meeting for Descendants of Ebin and Dora Burleson

Sunday Afternoon May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2002

The BFRG has compiled a rough draft of our book of Ebin and Dora Burleson's descendants. It will be the fourth book in our series documenting each Burleson line that descends from Isaac Burleson Sr. When we recently found out that Paul and Evelyn Bass were coming from Knoxville, TN for a visit, we hurriedly arranged a meeting to get together as many of Ebin's descendants as possible. Paul is a grandson of Ebin.

This would be a good opportunity to show our rough draft of Ebin's book to his descendants and hopefully to add missing and additional information. Hilda Burleson Snuggs, who is a driving force in the BFRG, invited us to meet in her mother, Lena Burleson's, farmhouse. This was very convenient because it was right across the street from Ebin and Dora's farm.

I received this letter from Paul Bass Jr. Everyone remembers him as Junior.



We want to thank Hilda, Ted, J. Brice, and Johnny for allowing us to use their mother's farmhouse. Notice the oval picture in the background, it is the wedding photo of their parents, Klon Roy and Lena Lowder Burleson. There is a great deal of history just waiting to be told about this family. Their line goes back from *Klon Roy, R. Hurley, Isaac, Billie, Isaac Jr. and Isaac Sr.* We are planning a book on Isaac in the near future.



Grand Children of Ebin and Dora Burleson  
Ruby Bass, Mildred Honeycutt, Lowell, Billy, Calvin Burleson, and Paul Bass  
Not in picture Jeannette Burleson Hall

"Little House" where the large poplar tree stood. That time in 1940 came back as if it was only yesterday. Johnny probably remembered the occasion because of a new 12 gauge automatic shotgun with a polychoke on the barrel that my father had just given to me. I still have the gun with much of the blueing worn off due to the many days that I have taken it hunting. The gun still remains one of my prized possessions.

As we toured Ebin and Dora's home site, I could see the large pile of wood freshly cut ready to use in the kitchen wood cooking stove. The wood was always piled in the fall just beyond the chicken house that stood next to the large *Oak Tree* that still stands to this day. The one remaining out building, which stood just beyond the Scupindine Arbor and large iron pot, was often filled with freshly picked cotton. When corn was harvested it would be piled in a tall, wide row all the way from the huge fig tree to the barn. Then neighbors would gather together to help shuck the corn. Also in the same manner of working together, one wheat threshing machine would go from one farm to another harvesting the wheat with the help of adjoining neighbors. Well, so much for the memories of the good old days. Thank goodness we don't have to hoe and pick cotton today as it was done in Ebin's day.

Evelyn and I sincerely thank you and the other Burleson relatives for the gathering on May 19<sup>th</sup>. Meeting at Lena's home place made the occasion extra special for me. J. Brice, Ted, Johnny, and Hilda were very kind to invite the group to meet at Lena's. While the time together was so short many memories of long ago were kindled. As we visited Ebin and Dora's home site, Johnny asked me if I remembered the day we were hunting down on the creek, behind the



As you can see we had a good number, and I believe everyone had a good time remembering and learning about the history of our family.



Lowell and his son Mike Burleson  
*Lowell, Shellie, Ebin, Billie, Isaac Jr. & Isaac Sr.*



Only Building remaining



Billy with his daughter, Carolyn and son-in-law  
*Billy, Shellie, Ebin, Billie, Isaac Jr. & Isaas Sr.*



Calvin and his son Gary Burleson  
*Calvin, Shellie, Ebin, Billie, Isaac Jr. & Isaas Sr*  
 At Isaac Burleson Sr. Grave Site



This is a reprint from the Burleson Family Bulletin, June, 1991 given by the Editor Helen Burleson Kelso. There are a lot of different stories and family traditions that have been handed down, but I have found that the Burleson Family Association only publishes what has been proven as fact. In this speech we can all find out about "The Burleson Family: Early History in America"

## BURLESON FAMILY BULLETIN

### *The Burleson Family: Early History in America*

Reunion Speech of Helen Burleson Kelso, Editor; June, 1991

We tend to feel a great deal of pride when we read or hear of a distinguished ancestor, and feel that their success in the past gives us a touch of glory, too. On the other hand, we feel no shame, but manage to distance ourselves quite effectively when we learn of an ancestor who has not brought honor to the family name. Neither of these attitudes is quite logical, since we certainly have had no control whatever over either the successful ancestor or the one who may have been less so. There is some Biblical mention of this, however, when we read in Exodus XXXIV.7: *... visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and fourth generations.* But enough of that.

What we can learn from both the good and the bad is a hint of our own strengths and weaknesses, some of which could very well be genetic in origin. When we recognize certain of these traits in ourselves, then it is possible for us to have some control.

Our earliest proved Burleson in America, Edward Burleson, seems to have had quite a temper, and was quite willing to defy authority. This character trait revealed itself in the Spring of 1685 when he was called to the Court at Springfield in the Massachusetts Bay Colony for "being a disturber & molester of the peace at a town meeting, abetting others and himself voting contrary to law & professing he would do it, although it cost him five pounds, for which disturbing and abusive carriages tending to the breaking of all good order & disturbing the peace, for which his Court Judge meet, he pay as a fine to the Courts five pounds and Courts charges". The ruckus, in which our Edward seems to have been a ringleader, was no doubt due to the fact that many of the settlers in Suffield objected to their minister, Rev. John Younglove. Edward's friend, neighbor and possibly his relative, David Winchel, was also highly critical of Mr. Younglove, and on the same day David also appeared in court and was fined four pounds and charges. Edward and David and others were very upset by Rev. Younglove's sermons.

Again, in March of 1691, David & Jonathan Winchel, and Edward Burlison, all of Suffield, were called to court to answer charges of "reproachful and scurrilous vile speeches against Mr. George Philips their late minister". No doubt, Edward Burleson was serious about his religion, as were all Puritans. In fact, it was not until 1710, with the arrival of Rev. Ebenezer Devotion, that Suffield's Congregational Church had a minister who pleased its members, and he served the church in Suffield for 31 years.

Documents which we have already published tell us that Edward was a planter and also a flax dresser, a somewhat incendiary occupation, as we have learned from one deed which we have published. The discovery of Edward's occupation gives us a bit of a clue as to his origin, if he was indeed the original immigrant, since one would reasonably expect a flax dresser's country of origin to be one where flax is grown.

We know that Edward Burlison was an inhabitant of Suffield when he took the oath of allegiance to the King of England January 31, 1678. Edward was married to Sarah \_\_\_?\_\_\_. Her maiden name and the date and place of their marriage has not been proved. A secondary source states that he was in the area in 1664, but we have not yet found the actual record.

Edward and Sarah's children were born in Suffield. The oldest was John, born 9 Oct 1677, a cooper, who married Sarah Holliday (sometimes spelled Halliday) 16 Nov 1698. Sarah's father Walter Holliday was also a cooper.

## BURLESON FAMILY BULLETIN

### EARLY HISTORY IN AMERICA (continued)

John and Sarah's children, all born Suffield, were:

Sarah born 20 Nov 1699;  
John born 28 Dec 1701 who married Mehepzibah Bromley 29 Feb 1728;  
Jonathan born 11 Jun 1704;  
Mercy born 12 Jan 1706 but not baptized until 15 Mar 1713;  
Joseph born 26 Nov 1708;  
Abigail born 11 Nov 1710 (baptized 3 Jul 1715);  
Mary born 6 Feb 1713 married her cousin Daniel Burlison 20 Sep 1744;  
Elizabeth born 28 Mar 1715 married James Davis 2 Feb 1740;  
Rachel born 29 Nov 1716 married John Warner, Jr., 14 Apr 1741.

Edward and Sarah's second child was Fearnot, born 18 Dec 1679, a carpenter, who married Elizabeth Buckland 8 Feb 1705. Fearnot and Elizabeth's children were:

Esther, born 15 Feb 1706 at Windsor, Hartford Co., CT, married John Matson/Matteson 30 Jul 1723 at Simsbury;  
Elizabeth, born 2 Jul 1709 at Windsor;  
Ebenezer, born 8 May 1711 at Windsor, married Sarah Brace 19 May 1736 at Windsor;  
Job, born 7 Aug 1714 at Suffield, married Thankful Gaines 3 May 1744 at Hartford;  
Daniel, born 7 Mar 1717 at Suffield, married Mary Burleson 20 Sep 1744 at Cromwell, Middlesex Co., CT;  
Mary, born 3 Mar 1720 at Hartford.

Edward and Sarah's third child was Return, born 5 Apr 1682, who died, 4 Oct 1709, having been lost at sea.

Edward and Sarah's fourth child was their daughter Mary who was born 22 Jun 1683. She married Isaac Cornwall 29 Jul 1714.

The youngest child was Edward, born 1 Mar 1686, a cripple, who learned the tailor's trade at Hadley, Massachusetts. He also taught school in a remote part of the village of Suffield. No record of marriage has been found for Edward, but we have found evidence of his love for Elizabeth Jesse, whom he was forbidden to marry. Apparently, being unable to marry his one true love, he never married.

As we all know, the first Edward of Suffield died there in 1698, leaving a modest estate which included "old Bibles and other books". In all the many documents left which pertain to this first known and proved Burleson in America, there is nothing to suggest that he was anything more than a farmer and a flax-dresser. On the other hand, when I make this statement, I do acknowledge that we will, no doubt, learn more about him and his family in the future.

We do not have time to detail all of Edward's hundreds of known descendants, many of whom have brought a great deal of honor to the name of Burleson. However,

## BURLESON FAMILY BULLETIN

### *EARLY HISTORY IN AMERICA (continued)*

since that strange "Sir Edward" story (Sir Edward supposedly arrived in 1716 at Preston, Connecticut or Jewett City, Connecticut, depending upon the story-teller) keeps popping up, I did try to find its source, and I think I may have succeeded.

Edward's son John, born in Suffield in 1677, had a son John born 1701, also in Suffield. This John did go to Preston, Connecticut; he married there in 1728 and then moved back to Suffield, then back to Preston, then on to Rhode Island in 1742, where he died in 1759 leaving a will naming his children. John's son Edward Burleson was born 1737 in Suffield, and it is through his descendants that this "Sir Edward" story seems to have been a family tradition. This latter Edward had a son Edward who was the father of Allen Briggs Burleson (b. 29 Nov 1816 RI d. 29 Dec 1887 Jewett City, CT m. Mary Lathrop Fanning 23 May 1853 at Jewett City, Ct). Edward and Mary had a son Edward F. Burleson who was the source for the "Sir Edward" story which was repeated in a New London County, CT biographical publication in 1905. Edward and Edward F. both seem to have been in contact with Dr. Rufus C. Burleson back when Rufus was working so diligently on Burleson family history, and the story was repeated by him, and copied by many others.

One would expect that if our first Edward Burleson in America had been knighted either before or after his arrival in the colonies, that such an honor would be reflected in the documents which pertain to him. This is not the case. It is possible that some earlier Burleson exhibited valor in some war, which attracted the attention of the crown, but that, too, is yet to be discovered. But Sir Edward or not, his 1716 arrival date is completely wrong. And we have proved it wrong again and again. With the validity of that date for the arrival of the first Edward in America proved false, we have, at the same time, destroyed the much-quoted 1726 arrival date for Aaron.

There was one custom in the early congregational church which does present a possibility for our "Sir Edward", and that was the tradition of addressing church ministers as "Sir" rather than "Rev." or "Father". It is possible that Edward served informally as a preacher on the numerous occasions that Suffield was without a minister in those early days. If so, he could have been called "Sir Edward", affectionately rather than officially. We also know that Edward's son Fearnot, when he died in 1732 in Suffield, left, among many other items, a large number of religious books, bibles, an ordination sermon, and also a tuning fork, which suggests more than a passing interest in church work. Whose ordination sermon was it that Fearnot kept? Another mystery.

As most of us know, Jo and John Burles (a customary abbreviation for Burleson and usually spelled Burles; the colon indicating the "son" suffix) arrived in New England in 1635, John aboard the "Blessing" and Jo. aboard the "Defence". Without further information, they can not be linked to our early Edward of Suffield. We also know that Edw. Burriston (may or may not be Burleson) arrived in Virginia in 1663, followed by Jno. Barthelson in 1674, An. Burlington and Ann Burlison in 1681. Again, without further evidence, we can not assume that they fit into our family tree, although it is possible, of course. It is good to remember that many people who arrived in the colonies returned to England, either temporarily or permanently, and that the documentation for many of the Virginia arrivals was falsified in order for the "importer" to get more land. Sort of like a Duval County, Texas, Box 13.

The first documented Burleson in the South was Aaron, who received a crown grant 15 Dec 1749 in Lunenburg County, Virginia, in an area which became part of

## BURLESON FAMILY BULLETIN

*EARLY HISTORY IN AMERICA (continued)*

Helen *BURLESON KELSO*

Bedford County just a few years later. His land was on both sides of the Little Otter River. Aaron also appears on a 1748 tithe list in Lunenburg County, with 1 tithe. Jonathan Burleson appears on the same list, with 1 tithe. By 1749 John Burlinson shows up. Then in 1752, Jonathan appears as head, with John listed in his household, for a total of 2 tithes. Aaron does not appear in 1752 and whether his absence is due to incomplete lists, or to his moving away, we can not say.

In Bedford County, Virginia, order book 1A and 1B, 1754-1761, we find Jonathan and John Burleson in trouble with the authorities for refusing to assist a Constable in the execution of his office. And again, for causing a riot.

Apparently, they objected to the actions of the Constable and were very vocal about it. The trait of opposing authority, vehemently, in the face of a perceived injustice or wrong is once more recorded in the courts.

Later, in Howard County, Missouri, 28 May, 1822 the State of Missouri indicted Edward Burleson (son of James, son of Aaron "II") for inciting a riot. The reason for said riot was not stated, but whatever the cause, we suspect some Burleson temperament was involved. Still later, in Hardeman County, Tennessee, 1828 and 1829, the same Edward, his brother Joseph and their father, James Burleson, defended themselves in court following an indictment for a riot. They did have to pay a fine. One does wonder what caused them such excitement that would lead them to riot. All three moved to Texas, where they made outstanding contributions to that state's history, and none were known for unreasonable behavior.

Family tradition has given us certain names of the 7 sons and 5 daughters of Aaron "I". We have no proof, one way or the other, although, curiously, the surnames of his traditional married daughters are nearly the same as the surnames of the married daughters of Daniel & Elizabeth Burleson Shipman, named in his will dated 8 Nov 1798, Warren Co., KY. Daniel Shipman's will named his daughters: Sarah Harrington, Anna Lee, Lucy Gage, Phoebe Crawford, Rebecca Cisco, and Mary Johnson. Of course, proof of Elizabeth Burleson's marriage to Daniel Shipman has not been found, either, although family tradition is strong in this regard, reinforced by other clues.

Jonathan Burleson and his son (?) John clearly were both of age by 1749 Virginia, and one would expect both of them to have had families. As a matter of fact, it is not outside the realm of possibility for Jonathan to have been the father of Aaron "II" AND John as well. We note that John and Sarah Holliday Burleson of Suffield had a son Jonathan born in Suffield 11 June 1704. So far, we have found no further information on him, unless he is the Jonathan Burleson found in 1749-1761 Virginia.

By 11 September, 1757 Aaron Burleson is recorded on the Savannah River, in St. Paul Parish, Georgia, and he received a crown grant there 1 May 1759. It is likely that the 1749 Virginia crown grant and the 1759 Georgia crown grant were to the same Aaron Burleson for whom an administration was recorded in Wilkes County, Georgia December, 1783. Family tradition has said that Aaron Burleson "I" died in NC in 1763, but there appears to be no evidence to support this tradition.

Aaron Burleson is found, October of 1761, on Richland Creek in Cumberland County, North Carolina, and also on Dunham's Creek. James Burleson was in Anson County, North Carolina in October, 1779, when he signed a petition. Numerous Burlesons, including Aaron, appear in other early North Carolina records, but with little

in the way of clues as to their parentage. We do thank heaven for those Burlesons who left wills or deeds naming their children. Otherwise, proving our lines would be hopeless.

Burlesons, including Edward of Suffield, have fought and defended their families against hostile Indian tribes throughout our early history. Burlesons have participated bravely in all of the wars of colonial America, as well as the American Revolution, the War of 1812, and all wars up to and including the most recent "Operation Desert Storm".

Records from these wars have been of great help with many of our Northern and Southern families.

Without a great deal of difficulty, almost all the Northern Burleson lines can be traced back to Edward of Suffield, while our Southern lines can be proved only to:

Aaron of Georgia (was he Aaron "I"?);

Aaron "II" (son of Jonathan? or John? or of Aaron "I" by a first wife?);

Served in the Rev. War from NC. Left will probated in Washington Co., NC (now TN) 27 May, 1782, naming his 13 children and his wife (not named - but proved by later deeds to be Rachel). Their children were John, Jonathan, Joseph, Elizabeth, Thomas, Sarah, Aaron, Rachel, Nancy, Abigail, Mary, Rhoda, and James.

David (son of John? or Jonathan?);

Served in the Rev. War from NC.

Left will dated February, 1828 in Rutherford Co., TN naming his wife Ursula and their sons John, Moses, David, William, Hill K., and Isaac and daughters Sarah Rolling, Mary Brooks, Nelly Rolling, Margaret Pope, and Ursula Self.

Isaac of Stanly Co., NC (son of ?);

Served in the Rev. War from NC.

Isaac of Buncombe Co., NC and moved to Monroe Co., TN (son of ?).

Was he the Isaac who served in the Rev. War from SC?

It is thought that he is the father (by a first wife) of Edward Burleson of Buncombe Co., NC. Isaac left a will in Monroe Co., TN naming his wife Polly and their children Isaac M. H., Octavy D., Charlotte, William, John R. D., and Vanburin.

Jesse (probable son of Aaron of Georgia by a first wife).

Served in the Rev. War from NC - was in Valley Forge encampment.

Left a Family Bible giving birth dates of all his children whose names were Aaron, Sarah, Elizabeth, Daniel, Salathael, Isaac, William, and Jane.

Time does not permit going into detailed genealogy or a detailed history of any of the families mentioned, in spite of the fact that some of the history is very interesting. These families have made very significant contributions to progress in every part of America, and we owe each of them our gratitude for their many sacrifices in helping to make America the best place to live on earth.

continued...

I have given merely the highlights of what we know of the earliest Burleson families in America. Although we have published Much important information, we still have a great deal of work to do in all the old records not yet studied, and there are plenty of those waiting for volunteers.

In the early days most of our ancestors were farmers, who were then and still are the backbone of America. Many also learned trades, such as our Suffield Burleson coopers, carpenters, tailors. All were called to military duty when the need arose. The women cooked, and spun, and sewed, and many learned to play a musical instrument. On the frontier they were also expected to know how to use a gun, because when the Men were away, the women defended the home. One common thread found among the early Burlesons both north and south was a religious zeal, and we have found among our Burlesons many church leaders of various protestant faiths. Also, a love of music. Any one of the names mentioned today could be the subject of a fascinating book. So get busy, you Burlesons, and start writing!

## Our Links to the Texas Burlesons

During the past couple of monthly meetings of the Burleson Family Research Group, I have made available information on Edward Burleson and William Weatherford. Both men were prominent in American history. In the early 1800's one followed the path of his Indian heritage inherited from his Mother and became a chief of the Creek Indian Nation and dedicated his life to their cause. The other one was the product of the forever-westward movement of the pioneers of the Southern States. Both had roots here in the Southern Piedmont area of North Carolina. The Burlesons and Weatherfords were documented here in old Anson County, NC as well as Lunenburg County, VA.



John Hoyle and Nancy Gedney Burleson

Recently my wife Nancy, after months of trying, found a copy of the book Edward Burleson, Texas Frontier Leader through a website on the internet and gave it to me as a gift. I have found the book most informative and I wish to share the treasury of information it contained. This book about Edward Burleson was written by John H. Jenkins and Kenneth Kesselus and was published in 1990.

To anyone not familiar with Edward Burleson and William Weatherford, let me give you this short history. David Burleson (a brother to our Isaac) married Ursula Weatherford daughter of Wilkinson Weatherford. Wilkinson would have been a second cousin to William Weatherford who was known as Chief Red Eagle of the Creek Indian Nation.

By 1800 David and Isaac along with several of the Weatherfords had made the move 15 miles north from Richardson Creek in old Anson County into Montgomery County (the part that later become Stanly County). Within a few years all would move westward except our Isaac and his family.

Another Burleson family that was living on Richardson Creek as early as 1761 was that of Aaron II. He began his westward migration by moving to Tryon County, North Carolina and later to Buncombe County, North Carolina. He is listed in Washington County, North Carolina that later became part of eastern Tennessee. This is where Aaron II was killed by Indians and left 14 children to survive on the extreme western frontier. The sons of Aaron II would play a major role in extending the territory of our young nation.

Two of these sons, James and Jonathan, were appointed commissaries and served on the staff of General Andrew Jackson in his campaign against the Creek Nation. Jackson's Army was successful in defeating and killing most of the Creek warriors. After the defeat of the Creek Indians Alabama and Mississippi were open for white Settlers.

The surrender of the Creek Indians came at Fort Toulouse in 1813 when Chief Red Eagle (William Weatherford) rode in to General Jackson's Camp and surrendered. Many of Jackson's staff wanted to hang Chief Red Eagle on the spot. We do not know what action James and Jonathan recommended, but General Jackson spared Red Eagle's life.

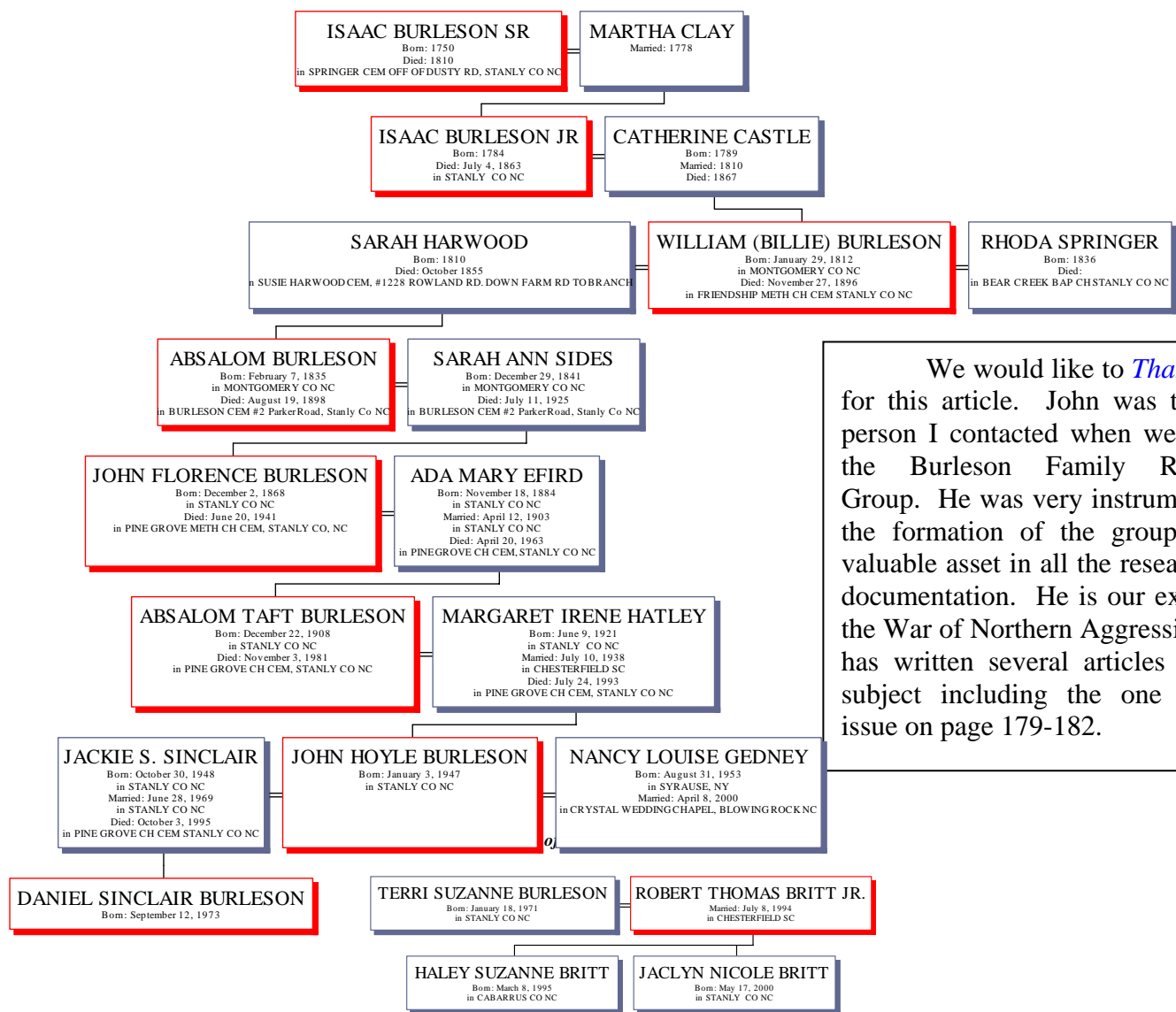
Stephen Austin Colony was the first in the new territory of Texas and here we find James, his son Edward and several other Burleson families. Here we also find the Shipman, Gage, and Kuykendall families that were among the first to settle. All four of these families are linked by marriage and appear to migrate together from Virginia and North Carolina to the West.

Rufus Burleson, the son of Jonathan, would become the founder of Baylor University. Edward Burleson, the son of James, was the first military leader of Texas. It was Edward that was first to give the call to arms for protection against Indians and Mexican Armies. He held the highest military ranks and was victorious in thirty battles never retreating. He was a statesman in the formation of the Texas Nation and the State of Texas. He served as the Vice President of the Lone Star Republic.

Recording the history of Texas cannot be done without telling of the life and deeds of Edward Burleson and his family, but rest at ease because Edward's deeds have been recorded and the map reflects his accomplishments. The Southern boundary of the United States is the Rio Grande River...not the Red River!

John Hoyle Burleson

*Direct Descendants of ISAAC BURLESON SR*



We would like to *Thank* John for this article. John was the first person I contacted when we started the Burleson Family Research Group. He was very instrumental in the formation of the group and a valuable asset in all the research and documentation. He is our expert on the War of Northern Aggression. He has written several articles on this subject including the one in this issue on page 179-182.

This is the ancestral chart for John Hoyle Burleson's family. Absalom and Sarah Ann Sides Burleson, John's great-grandparents was the subject of our first book. Absalom was a Civil War Veteran and John is responsible for all the great history of this family being recorded.



Our regular monthly meeting was Monday night, July 7, 2003 at Lena's Farm House. We had a great time with about 25 present. Several people brought interesting items to share with the group. Calvin Burleson, grandson of Ebin Burleson, brought a medal that Ebin received for attending a reunion of Confederate Veterans. Ebin was very active and enjoyed attending these reunions and meetings. In a conversation with Mae Burleson Moore, Ebin's daughter she said that she could remember Ebin getting the whole family together in a wagon pulled by a horse and traveling to Salisbury to attend one of these reunions. She was young when Ebin died, but that was one of the things she said he really enjoyed. Here is a picture of the Medal. We are going to research further to find out more about this Medal.

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### *Grandpa Billie's Bible*

My first impression of viewing the Bible that belonged to William Burleyson was that the information inside could answer many questions. This proved to be the case only in a few entries. I had hoped to find a chronological order of the birth and death dates of Billie's first and second family or others, but what I found was quite different.

For the physical characteristics, the Bible is about 5 inches wide by 8 inches tall and was published in 1847. Today it is in remarkably good condition. There is little wear or tear for a new Bible, much less one that is 155 years old. This fact alone is enough for me to believe that it belonged to Grandpa Billie.

The entries in the Bible appear to be made by several different persons. Three I can identify by their statements in the Bible.

I believe Billie himself made the first entry. It is in very nice, impressive handwriting using ink that has smeared and turned brown over the years. This entry is on the front inside cover page. He records the birth and death dates of Isaac and Katherine Burleyson and continues to say, "Rote by their son Wm. Burleyson."

On a page at the beginning of the Gospel of Matthew, in the same nice handwriting, Billie records his birth date. Directly above this is the same listing, only it is "rote by Jap". The quality of this handwriting is considerably less. Japethy had custody of this Bible so his entries could have been made up until 1953. I find no entry dated after 1893.

There are two entries I believe that Reubin wrote. One is when he wrote down how old he was by the number of years, 19, and how many months, 2. He finished by saying this is the 20<sup>th</sup> day of February 1884. The practice of numbering the years, months, and days for a person's age was common of the period to be cut

onto the tombstone. Reubin was doing this in a Bible three years before he died. From the math problems that are made randomly on these and other pages, I believe Reubin was making this entry as no one had kept up the book since Billie's original entry. Reubin's other signed entry is a quote or verse from somewhere. It starts, "If any man should add to this..." and is signed Reubin Burleyson, Seribling 1884.

By these two entries I can only guess that Reubin was possibly sick and was afraid of not being remembered so he made the entries for his own immortality. He would surely die on 21<sup>st</sup> of November 1887.

All the other entries could be by these persons or anyone else. They contain birth dates of all of Billie and Rodv's family, but not in order and along with some other information.

The new information for me is the death dates of Katherine and Reubin. Also the confirmation of Billie being the son of Isaac and Katherine exists no place else that I know of. The selected verses, numbered by hand, (approximately 1 through 25), mostly Psalms, is the only sign that any text page had ever been used.

Elizabeth Almond's death date is listed beside Billie's sister Dovey Harwood's death date. The mystery continues for me to identify who Elizabeth is. Could she be a sister to Billie or just someone that died the same year as Billie's sister Dovey in 1893? I would suppose she is family, but how close? Could she be the mother of Sara Anne Sides, wife of Absalom? We'll just have to keep digging!

John Hoyle Burleson  
1<sup>st</sup> January 2002

The Bible belonged to Jap Burleson and when he died in 1953, at the home of Lillie Burleson, she became the owner. Lillie, knowing how important this Bible would be to other Burleson researchers, donated it to the Stanly County Library. The Bible can be viewed at the Stanly County Library.



This is listed in a Heritage Book in the library in Ripley, Mississippi.

AARON BURLESON, 1st,

The fifth Great Grandfather of the Author

It was in Wales, a rugged little province of the British Isles, that Aaron was born in 1703. Of his birthplace and early life before he immigrated to America we know nothing. Aaron immigrated to America in 1724, settling in Baltimore, Md., and moving on to Lunenburg Co., Va., in 1726. He died in Rutherford Co., N. C. in 1763. The descendants of Aaron are scattered throughout the nation and participate today in almost every branch of human activity.

Aaron married a maiden named Sarah, and to this union eight sons and six daughters were born.

All of the sons served in the Revolutionary War, and only three survive:

Aaron's Children

His Sons

- |                       |                    |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Jonathan, b, 1727; | 4. James, b. 1738; | 7. Jesse b.        |
| 2. John, b, 1730;     | 5. Edward, b.1742; | 8. Thomas, b.1752; |
| 3. Aaron II, b. 1734; | 6. Daniel, b.1744; |                    |

His Daughters

No first names, nor births are available, just married names,

- |             |              |                |
|-------------|--------------|----------------|
| 1. Hardman, | 3. Ellison,  | 5. Kuykendoll, |
| 2. Shipman, | 4. Crawford, | 6. Herrington  |

John, son of Aaron, 1st, was born in 1730 in Baltimore Md. He went to N. C. in about 1760, and was killed in the Revolutionary War--date is unknown. His wife's name is unknown, but we are told that John had two- sons, named David and Isaac. No information is available on Isaac at this time.

David Burleson, son of 1730 John Burleson, was born in 1752; Lunenburg Co., Va., and died Aug.13, 1832. David married Ursula Weatherford a Creek Indian maiden. She was the daughter of Wilkerson Weatherford, who was the son of William Weatherford. David and Ursula are buried in the Burleson Cemetery, on the Burleson farm near Murfreesboro, in Rutherford Co., TN. On the old Burleson home place near the site of the original log cabin stands a government marker. It was placed there by Captain William Lytle, Chapter of the D.A.R.'s and bears the following inscription:

David Burleson, James Farris Battalion,  
Col. Wades Reg. North Carolina.

Discharged Oct. 9, 1782-Died Aug. 13, 1832

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## *Where Did I Come From?*

By: John Hoyle Burleson

Have you ever wondered who you are? Has a friend or family member ever told you that you look like your father or mother or that you have the same mannerisms as a grandparent? I have. I see some of this in my two granddaughters. They don't look like me thank goodness, but the four year old is a little hardheaded.

In my defense I can only take a fraction of credit for my grandchildren's genes. Let's do the math. Every one of us has two parents, we all have four grandparents, we all have eight great grandparents, we all have sixteen great-great grandparents, we all have thirty-two great-great-great grandparents and we all have sixty-four great-great-great-great grandparents. I'm stopping there because for me this takes us back to Isaac Sr., born 1750 and the patriarch of the Burleson family in Stanly County.

The total number of ancestors from me back to Isaac Sr.'s generation is 126. I have not discovered all their names at this time but I'm still working on it. To go back any further I would need access to J.D. Burleson's database of the Burleson Family. His list is simply amazing. I just explained that with each generation you go back your ancestors double, J. D's did also until he recorded umpteen generations back through Celtic England, back to Northern Europe.

Somewhere in Northern Europe the generations quit doubling and started to divide in half. J.D. has recorded and followed this division all the way back to the single digits of Noah Burleson and his wife from Mount Ararat. Noah Burleson was a ship builder and owner of a large zoo. (Reference to Genesis 10 verse 5.)

Now back to my humble research of my Stanly County ancestors. I know that the Burleson family came from England so I consider myself of English decent. My project was to go back to my four grandparents and make a pedigree chart for each of them. Following is the results.

I'll start with my Father's side. My grandfather, John F. Burleson, was English and his wife Ada Efird was German. Next I went to my Mother's Hatley family with her father, James Hoyle Hatley who was English and his wife Vernie Herlocker who was German. Looks like a tie so far. The pedigree sheet back shows the Burleson line, which is strong English, with names like Burleson, Harwood, Clay, Castle, and Almond. There are also Sides families who are German.

The Efird line is strong German with names of Efird, Harkey, Coble, and Cagle, however there are also several Harwoods that are English.

My Hurlocker line is strong German with Hurlocker, Rhinehart, Melchoir, Sides, and Eudy, but with several Lowders that are English.

My Hatley line should be strong English, but there are more German ancestors than English. England is representative only in the Hatley and Rogers lines. German family names are Sides, Moose, Lyerly and Bushart.

My counts of identified ancestors are 46 German and 25 English. These facts are a reflection of the Burleson Families that settled on Little Bear Creek in Stanly County. The later generation had connection with the people of Western and Northern Stanly County. Primarily German immigrants settled this area.

With my newly found German genes I began to research the history of German immigration into North Carolina to see if they “pulled their weight” like my Burleson ancestors did in fighting for and settling our country that we have today or were they “late” immigrants that just fell in line and reaped the benefits of those who settled before them. Again I was pleasantly surprised. In the future I will not call German family immigrants, but will refer to the time they arrived in America to settle the new land as I do my English ancestors.

My Burleson line arrived in America in 1726 according to tradition. We now know that there were Burleson in New England as early as 1655. But Aaron’s arrival from England and settling in Virginia is the start of my Burleson line.

The Clays can be traced back to John Clay who arrived in Virginia in 1613. Our Harwood line goes back to William Harwood of Thurlby County, Lincoln, England. William’s son, Sir Edward Harwood was a member of the Virginia Company of London, Governor of North Carolina in 1625 and Incorporator of the Providence Islands or Bahama Company in 1630.

William’s son George who is the ancestor of my Harwood line arrived in Jamestown on board the ship *Abigail* in 1622. He came to take over ‘Martin’s Hundred’ that was wiped out in an Indian uprising and he resettled this charter of one hundred families.

The Castle or Cassel family of Stanly County is not known for sure. The Castle family comes from Henry Castle who at the age of 22 came from England on board the ship *Transport* in 1635 to New England. But there is also evidence that the Castle/Cassel family in the South was from German descent.

The Almond family traces its origin in America to the Isles of Wright Virginia of the early 1700. They are of English origin with many Almond families still in England today.

My Rogers line can be traced through James Rogers who at the age of 20 sailed from England on board the ship *Increase* in 1635 to Plymouth Colony. He came here to rejoin his father, Thomas Rogers, who had arrived in America aboard the *Mayflower* in 1620.

The Hatley family of England traces its name back to 300 AD to a Saxon settlement in the southwest corner of Cambridgeshire. I would like to quote my friend Coy Hatley in his history, “The Doomsday Book completed in 1016 shows two spellings of the village name; both of which have similar pronunciation: Hatelai and Atelai. The present spelling “Hatley” probably came about in the fourteenth century, and was certainly established by the fifteenth century.”

My German forefathers history is just as impressive. They were certainly not latecomers, but were on the front edge of the frontier just like my English ancestors.

The Stanly County Moose family traces its history to Gall Davidt Mussgnug from Sollingen/Baden Wurttensburg, Germany. JoHann Davidt and his wife Elizabetha came over in 1751 to Pennsylvania then to North Carolina.

My Efird family arrived in America in 1773 on the ship *Britannia*. Their roots came from Wurttensburg, Germany.

The Coble Family arrived in America in 1733 on board the ship *Hope*. JoHann George Coble married Maria Geisler and had 12 children. Some of them moved to North Carolina.

The Cagle Family arrived in Pennsylvania on the ship *The Loyal Judith* in 1732 than moved by wagon train to the Moravian settlement in North Carolina. The Leon Hunt Cagle family moved to Montgomery County, North Carolina.

My Sides line goes back to Henry Sides who came to Philadelphia on the ship *Lydia* on December 11, 1739. Henry settled in Eastern Cabarrus/Western Stanly County area and raised a large family.

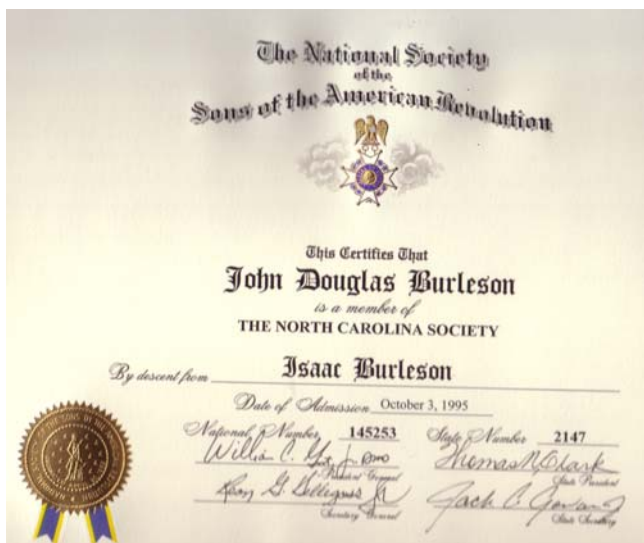
JoHannes Herche born 1708 came to America on the ship *Lydia* in 1743. He established the Harkey Family in North Carolina.

John Melchoir born 1750 in Pottstown, Pennsylvania settled in the Cabarrus/Stany County area. The Hurlocker family came to Rocky River area with Melchoir. The Lipe family came from Switzerland/Germany in the 1700’s.

The German families settled in communities on the North Carolina frontier where the Scotch/Irish settled on the front edge of the frontier. Our Burleson family was not Scotch/Irish but was from Northern England and settled more independent of any support group on the frontier. The ground they stood on was the ground they would defend and my ancestors did not want anyone to tell them where they could stand.

I made no judgment of how all this affects me. I now know I’m more German than English, however my two children’s Mother was a Sinclair. This family is strong English. My Son-in-law, the father of my two granddaughters is from the Britt family that is also strong English. My grandchildren and future generations will have a more English make-up than mine. Let’s see how they turn out!

To all Descendants of Ebin Burleson you are eligible to become a member of the Son of the American Revolution SAR. Through Isaac Burleson Sr.



When I first started looking for my ancestors these individuals were there to help. Everyone associated with the Burleson Family Research Group know PK and Hazel Burleson. I published an article on PK's family on page 146 – 149 of the *Recollections*. Nat and Martha Clark are friends of PK and Hazel, but not related to the Burleson Family. I first meet Nat when PK invited me to join the Sons of the American Revolution, I submitted my application and I was missing documentation to prove

that Billie was Isaac Jr. son. Nat took it upon himself to go to Albemarle and the Register of Deeds Office and found a land deed that showed Isaac Jr selling Billie one hundred acres of land. This document proved the connection and I was accepted into the society.

I would like to encourage everyone interested in their family history to investigate the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) or the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). I could not begin to list everything that this couple has done as part of the SAR and DAR. Nat was the past President of the North Carolina SAR, State Registrar, National Trustee, and he organized and started the Alamance Battleground Chapter SAR. Martha in the Alamance Battleground Chapter DAR, has served as the State District Director, State Board of Finance, Historian, and Treasurer.



PK and Hazel Burleson Thomas N. (Nat) and Martha Clark  
At the Dedication Ceremony for Isaac Burleson Jr.'s Marker

As part of the SAR Color Guard, Nat has been involved in hundreds of Grave Marker Dedications. He was part of the color guard at the ceremony for Isaac Burleson Sr. Nat told PK that this ceremony was the largest one he had been associated with. Nat Clark, on the left, and PK Burleson on the right next to the tree.



Honoring the Grave of a Revolutionary War Soldier May 28, 1995  
*Isaac Burleson Sr. 1750 - 1810*

## *Burleson Settlements in North Carolina*

*by John H. Burleson*

Because of a recent surgery I am finding plenty of time to read. My favorite subject is History and particularly about my ancestor's participation.

The rights of the Indians that owned and occupied the land to the West supposedly hindered the Westward movement. Every settler that came down the great wagon road and took up land in the Carolina's had an abundance of land by today's standard, very few farmers could farm more than 640 acres. That is a block 1 mile by 1 mile, but the want of more and better acreage was weighed against the risk of the Indians.

The Indian's boundaries were enforced by the British and later the US Government. I'll try to use what I have learned about my Burleson family to understand why the pioneers would risk their lives and the lives of their families for land.

I am reminded of Aaron the patriarch of our Southern Burlesons. By 1745 he and his extended family John and Jonathan were living on Little Otter River in Lunenburg County, Virginia, located in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. That was the Western limits of settlement allowed by the British Government. As Aaron's family grew they moved South instead of West, down the Great Wagon Road.

In 1757 an Aaron Burleson settled West of the Savannah River (there were many Aaron's during this period) in Indian Territory on unoccupied land. This was a chip taken out of the lands owned by the Chickasaw and Creek Indians. It was not until 1758 that the Colony of Georgia established a county where Aaron was living.

We next find our Burleson's in Cumberland County (known as Moore County today), NC in 1761. The Waxhaw, Cheraw, and Kewaunee Indians had previously occupied this region. By 1761 they had been reduced in numbers and were absorbed in the Catawba Nation that sits on the North Carolina and South Carolina line on the Great Wagon Road. The Catawba Nation remained a strong force until 1800, but stopped all hostility as whites settled around their borders.

In 1763 we find an Aaron Burleson on Richardson Creek, on Rocky River. This location is in today's Union County, NC and borders the Catawba Nation east boundary. David is also here in 1779. Within a few miles west of the Nations is Turkey Creek in today's York County, SC. Land deeds show that our Burlesons had owned land here long enough to clear the land. The land and improvements were vacant by 1766. They did leave the middle fork of Turkey Creek the name of Burleson Creek.

The headwater of the Broad River to the West was in Cherokee Territory and here is when we find part of the Burleson clan in 1766. They were on Sandy Run Creek in today's Cleveland County, North Carolina. Indian raids were frequent and caused white retaliation that in 1767 Governor Tryon came from his palace on the Coast to establish a dividing line between the Cherokee and white settlers. The line he established ran from Tryon Mountain on the South Carolina line and ran straight to Fort Chiswell that protected the lead mines on the Virginia most Western frontier.

This line was in sight of the Burleson's cabin. Before the Revolution the line had to be moved again because of the numbers of settlers in the foot hills. The new line would be the peaks of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Abiding by British law our clan established their farms on Sandy Run Creek. The young children and women planted and harvested corn, the staple for man and beast. Aaron and Thomas Burleson and others hunted to provide meat for the table, but also they were exploring farther and farther for game and scouting for better lands to move to. While technically living East of the Indian boundary line they became known as "Long Hunters". They knew the best lands over the peak of the Blue Ridge very well.

By 1771 our Burlesons were among the first to cross the Blue Ridge, with their families, and settle in what would be come Tennessee. Every gain has its price and the following years several of our clan were killed and scalped in these new homes.

I have seen stories of how David the brother of our Isaac traveled from Anson in the 1780's to mid Tennessee and built a cabin only to have to leave it because of hostile Indians. He returned to Anson and then Little Bear Creek but years later (approx.1810) returned to the same cabin to live out his days with his family.

The Burlesons of the next generations would follow a common pattern. They would scout for new lands, then with their families move on to clean the trees and plant crops, always with a look out for Indians. Other settlers would follow and bring civilization and government.

Well this is a summary of what I have learned of the Burleson's and their dealing with the Indians up until 1776. I believe our Isaac and David were descendants from the Burlesons of Cumberland County and Richardson Creek. In 1776 General Griffin Rutherford of Salisbury called out the militia to crush the Cherokee Nation. Captain Thomas Shelby, Captain Ezekiel Polk, Col. Adam Alexander and Captain Charles Polk from Anson and Mecklenburg Counties in North Carolina crossed the mountain and burned seven of the chief towns of the Cherokee. Our Isaac Burleson was a member of Captain Charles Polk's Clear Creek Militia in 1776. No roster remains but it would be hard to believe that Isaac and David both just over twenty years of age did not muster for this Indian campaign. Every male from 18 to 60 was required to be in the militia.

All these events had to imprint on the next generations as they pushed the frontier to Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Indiana, and Texas. To show how this "imprinted" on the Burleson family, let me repeat a story about Hopson Burleson born 1806. He was grandson of David and Ursula Burleson, a brother to our Isaac. His chart says he was born in NC and I know David and his son David II were living on Little Bear Creek in 1806 when Hopson was born. I suppose Hopson rambled the same woods that I have rambled and went swimming at "the round hole" just as I have done many times. In my childhood I walked the same trails that Hopson walked 140 years earlier. I was looking for "pretend Indians", but Hopson's Indians were real.

Hopson's imprinted characteristics are revealed in a story in Vol. XIX, No. 1 of the Burleson Family Association Bulletin written by Eugene Pullin. I quote:

"During the years between 1825 and 1830, Hopson Burleson and several other men came to different areas (in Texas) looking for a place to settle. Fertile land, trees to build home and rail fences, grass for animals, and water in abundance made this location their choice. But Indians attacked this group, and one man was captured, tortured and killed. After the Indians left, the body was recovered and buried near the present cemetery site. These men then returned to their homes in Alabama and prepared to move their families to this new home."

Hopson must have thought these hostilities could easily be overcome by the arrival of his family or if the Indians resisted this much this land had to be the goal of his 1,000-mile search from Alabama, Indians or no Indians. Hopson's descendants are still living on this same land today.

Well there you have it. Maybe my next article will be on the Burleson clan in North Carolina and their part in the American Revolution against the hated British Troops. If you remember, by tradition, Aaron the Emigrant lost 5 of his 7 sons to this conflict. I'm sure that would have left a "British imprint" on the Burleson family.

# Honoring the Grave of a Revolutionary War Soldier

*May 28, 1995*

*by P.K. Burlson*

In 1988 I was invited to become a member of the Battleground Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution here in Burlington, N.C. However, there was the requirement that I must prove that I actually was a descendant from a Revolutionary War ancestor; thus began my Burlson family research.



My first endeavor was a trip to Raleigh, NC, --NC Department of Archives-- where I began an exhaustive search through Census Records, Birth Certificates, Marriage Bonds/Certificates, Wills, Deeds, and Land Sale Records.

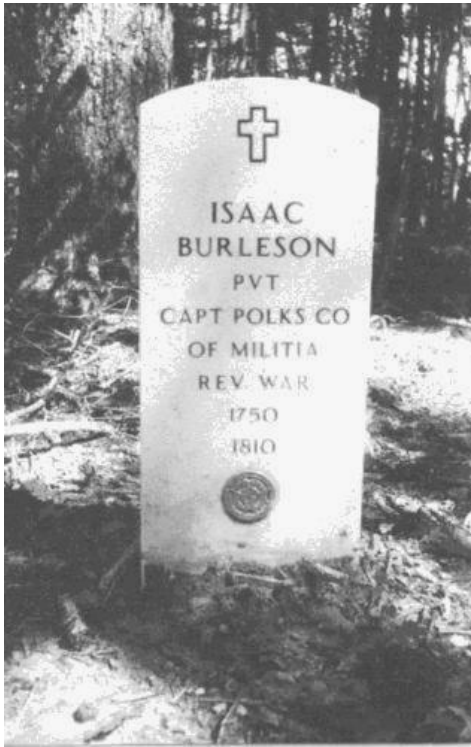
Eventually, I was able to verify four Burlson generations beginning with Jape C. Burlson (b. Oct 26, 1884), Adam Burlson (b. Jan 29, 1847), Lee Burlson (b. 1826), and Isaac Burlson Jr. (b. 1784). During this lengthy process, I did secure the assistance of a Professional Genealogist who was able to provide additional Burlson information working toward completion at this point.

Information on the next generation back was that of Isaac Burlson, Sr. which seemed to be more difficult to establish. Fortunately in the fall of 1991, I was referred to Thurman Burlson who, supposedly, had much information on Burlson families, and who was an active member of the Burlson Family Association, Dallas, Texas; and, further, had attended several of the Annual Meetings.

Thurman and I had several telephone conversations and he confirmed the Burlson information which I had been able to assemble. When I mentioned the fact that I had been unable to find a record of Isaac Burlson being in the military, he immediately gave me information that Isaac Burlson's enlistment was in South Carolina (my search had been in NC only). Records confirmed his enlistment was with the 5th SC Regiment-Revolutionary War-April 16, 1776. Thurman and I had planned to meet in January 1992, however, his death occurred earlier.

In the meantime, my SAR application was approved and I officially became a member of the local SAR Chapter on Dec 5, 1989. Later this SAR Chapter indicated a desire to honor this Revolutionary War Patriot.

In the spring of 1995, I contacted Thurman Burlson's son, Ronnie Burlson of Richfield, NC who was able to point out the grave site of Isaac Burlson in the Ruben Springer Burial Ground, Stanly County, off of Dusty Road (NC 1226). A publication in the Stanly County Library --Private Cemeteries & Burial Grounds-- confirmed this information and stated, further, he was the first person to be buried at this location.



I then applied for a headstone through the Department of Veteran Affairs, who confirmed Isaac's Military Service in the Revolutionary War after 184 years. This headstone, complete with lettering, was received from the Georgia Marble Company.

A contact was made with the present owner of this particular property, Dale Burriss of Oakboro, NC, who gave permission for this headstone to be installed. At 11:00 AM, May 5, 1995, Ronnie Burleson, my brother Aaron and Gretchen Burleson of Burlington, NC, JD & Karol Burleson, of Thomasville, NC, Thomas N. and Martha Clark, of Burlington, NC, Hoey & Stella Burleson Curlee, and Wilma Burleson Harris of Albemarle, NC, Hazel Burleson and I erected this headstone beside the slate marker, along with the Bronze Patriot Seal.

On May 28, 1995 the SAR Color Guard, dressed in Colonial Uniforms, comprised of Richard J. Moore, E.F. Sharpe, Nat Clark, and myself led the solemn Ceremony. The unveiling of the Marker was by Jerry Burleson and Christopher Burleson --5th & 6th great-grandsons; the laying of the Wreath was by Katie and Daniel Burleson --6th generation grandchildren. (Randleman, NC)

Others participating in the Dedication were Dr. Charles E. Page, former Chaplain General of the National Society SAR, Mrs. Hazel B. Burleson, Regent of the Battle of Alamance Chapter DAR, Raymond Donnell, President of the Alamance Battleground Chapter SAR, and Thomas N. Clark, President of the NC Society SAR.

Refreshments were served to approximately 80 of the Burleson descendants and SAR participants.

Isaac Burleson Sr.'s Grave Site after we put a fence around it.  
Dusty Road, Stanly County, NC



## Helpful Hints To Follow a Family Outline

This book and each of the previous books contains many “Family Outlines” (See \*\*\* Example \*\*\* below). These Family Outlines can be confusing and hard to follow at times. The outlines are printed out by my computer using a program called Family Tree Maker. It is a very good program and has been the central storage location for the BFRG research for 7 years. The Family Tree Maker program keeps each person’s name in the right place so we can follow generation after generation. Below is a sample page. It can start with any individual. Each book will be different, but the numbering system is consistent.

Each book starts with the Descendants of the subject of the book and each of their children is listed in small Roman numeral, i.e., i, ii. Each book is divided into chapters, one for each child with descendants. The number to the left of the small Roman numeral is the number for more information on descendants’ of that individual. In the sample below number **iii**, is **Jonathan Burleson** and the number **2** indicates how to find more information on his descendants. So when you go to number **2**, you will find **Jonathan Burleson** and all of his known children listed the same way. Then you would go to number **7** to find more information on Dennis Clay Burleson’s descendants. You can follow this numbering system all the way through the book. If there is no number to the right of a individual, such as **i. Thomas Burleson** that means that Thomas Burleson has no known children and that will be all the information listed for him. According to how large the generation is you may have to go several pages to find the next number.

### \*\*\* Example\*\*\* *Descendants of ISAAC BURLESON SR* \*\*\*Example\*\*\*

#### *Generation No. 1*

1. ISAAC BURLESON<sup>3</sup> SR (? JOHN<sup>2</sup> BURLESON, AARON<sup>1</sup>) was born 1750, and died 1810 in SPRINGER CEM OFF OF DUSTY RD, STANLY CO NC. He married MARTHA CLAY 1778.

Children of ISAAC SR and MARTHA CLAY are:

- i. THOMAS<sup>4</sup> BURLESON, b. MONTGOMERY CO NC; d. Sep 2, 1880, EVERTON MO.
- ii. RACHEL BURLESON.
2. **iii. JONATHAN BURLESON**, b. 1782, MONTGOMERY CO NC; d. October 1857, UNION CO NC (WILL BOOK # 1 PP138-140).
3. iv. ISAAC BURLESON JR, b. 1784; d. July 4, 1863, STANLY CO NC.
4. v. JANE BURLESON, b. May 3, 1792, MONTGOMERY CO NC; d. January 14, 1879, NORTH UNION CEMETERY, WEBSTER CO, BELLEFONTAINE, MISS.
5. vi. DAVID BURLESON, b. July 8, 1798, MONTGOMERY CO NC; d. July 14, 1883, CALHOUN CO. MS BETHLEHEM CEMETERY.
6. vii. JOSEPH BURLESON, b. 1805, MONTGOMERY CO NC; d. 1845, STANLY CO NC.

#### *Generation No. 2*

2. JONATHAN<sup>4</sup> BURLESON (ISAAC BURLESON<sup>3</sup> SR, ? JOHN<sup>2</sup> BURLESON, AARON<sup>1</sup>) was born 1782 in MONTGOMERY CO NC, and died October 1857 in UNION CO NC (WILL BOOK # 1 PP138-140). He married SARAH Abt. 1804. She was born August 1786, and died July 22, 1861 in UNION CO NC. Children of JONATHAN BURLESON and SARAH are:

7. i. DENNIS CLAY<sup>5</sup> BURLESON, b. September 21, 1805, MECKLENBURG CO NC.
- ii. MARY BURLESON, b. Abt. 1807, MECKLENBURG CO NC; d. Bef. 1852, NC; m. STEWART.
8. iii. SUSANNAH BURLESON, b. June 20, 1809, MECKLENBURG CO NC; d. November 20, 1886, OLD UNION METH SOUTH CH CEM, WAXHAW, NC.
9. iv. JOHN B. SR. BURLESON, b. April 16, 1811, MECKLENBURG CO NC; d. October 12, 1880, BELEN, QUITMAN CO MS.
10. v. MARGARET A. BURLESON, b. March 29, 1819, MECKLENBURG CO NC; d. January 28, 1847, UNION CO NC.



# *Descendants of EBIN BURLESON*

**1.** EBIN<sup>6</sup> BURLESON (*WILLIAM (BILLIE)*<sup>5</sup>, *ISAAC BURLESON*<sup>4</sup> JR, *ISAAC BURLESON*<sup>3</sup> SR, ? *JOHN*<sup>2</sup> BURLESON, *AARON*<sup>1</sup>) was born January 11, 1839 in STANLY CO, NC, and died January 27, 1927 in BURLESON CEM #2 PARKER RD ALBERMALE, NC. He married (1) MARY CATHERINE SIDES January 10, 1867, daughter of CHARLES SIDES and SOPHIA LYLERY. She was born July 25, 1846, and died February 11, 1891 in FRIENDSHIP METH CH CEM, PLYER, STANLY, NC. He married (2) DORA HOPKINS April 16, 1893 in ALBEMARLE, NC, daughter of EPHRAIM HOPKINS and HENRIETTA CARTER. She was born January 7, 1874 in STANLY CO, NC, and died April 5, 1951 in BURLESON CEM #2 PARKER RD, ALBERMALE, NC.



## Notes for EBIN BURLESON:

This is a article that was published in the Parapet, a newsletter put out by the Point Lookout POW Org. Nov/Dec 1999.

Ebin Burleson lived in Stanly County, NC. He had fair complexion, red hair, blue eyes and was five and a half feet tall. At age 24, he fought in all of Lee's campaigns beginning on March 15, 1862. Ebin even witnessed his company's regimental flag being taken at the wall by the 126th NY Inf. It was during that battle that cousin J. Benjamin Burleson, 37th NC Infantry, left on the field, wounded for the third time (once in the hand at Fredericksburg), was captured and sent to Point Lookout POW camp. Uncle Joseph Burleson was captured at Harrisonburg, VA (after being shot in the right thigh 6 days prior at Winchester); cousin David Derrick Burleson, 5th NC Inf, was captured at Cedar Creek; cousin John Wesley Burleson, 28th NC Inf, was captured at Waterloo, cousin William Burleson, 42nd NC Inf, was captured at Cold Harbor...all sent to Point

Lookout! William died after a transfer to Elmira Prison. On April 2, 1865 Ebin was captured at Petersburg. He too, was sent to Point Lookout POW Camp until his release on June 23, 1865.

Ebin and his relatives were true Southerners. His father, known as Grandpa Billie was conscripted because of the shortage of men in 1864 at the age of 52! He also had four brothers, Absalom, Isaac, and Howell to serve the CSA. Several of the teenage Burleson cousins were registered with Junior Reserves!

In 1893, Ebin married nineteen year old Dora Hopkins and they had eight children. The last baby girl was born on April 4, 1914 and they named her Dallie Mae. Dallie Mae Burleson Moore is our latest PLPOW Real Daughter!

Ebin farmed all his life and lived to be 89 years old. He is buried in a private family cemetery in Stanly Co NC.

Last month, the Burlesons hosted a family reunion, with over one hundred in attendance. A program was presented, highlighting their family members who had served in The War Between The States. At this time, John D. Burleson, Ebin's great grandson, adorned with his PLPOW medal with four stars, presented 85 year old Dallie Mae with her PLPOW Real Daughter certificate! Dallie Mae will receive a free lifetime membership in our Descendants Organization.

The Burleson Family have discover that their ancestors have been true patriots for over 200 years, starting with American Revolution in the NC militia during our first war for Independence, all the way down to present day. Last year, they honored all 65 of their Burleson's who had been WWII veterans.

There's nothing like family pride and preserving your family's heritage for the present generation and for those who'll follow in your footsteps when you're gone. We need to do as this family has done....tell and show our children!

#### Ebin Burleson Private Company K, 28th North Carolina Troops Branch/Lane Brigade

Ebin Burleson was born January 11, 1839, the son of William (Grand-paw Billie) and Sarah Harwood Burleson. He was a farmer and a life long resident of Stanly County and made his home on Burleson Road. According to his military records, he had fair complexion, red hair, blue eyes and was five and a half feet tall. At age 24, he enlisted for the war on March 15, 1862 and fought in all of Lee's campaigns. Ebin was a member of Company K. 28th NC Regiment which was part of the Branch/Lane Brigade. He witnessed his companies' regimental flag being taken at he wall by the 126th NY Inf. It was during that battle that cousin J. Benjamin Burleson, 37th NC Infantry, left on the field, wounded for the third time (once in the hand at Fredericksburg), was captured and sent to Point Lookout POW camp.

On April 2, 1865 Ebin was captured at Petersburg. He too, was sent to Point Lookout POW Camp until his release on June 23, 1865. Family tradition says Ebin was starved half to death and was almost blind when he arrived home. It took several years for him to recover.

Ebin was active in Stanly County's reunions of Confederate Veterans. He died at the age of 89 on January 27, 1927, and was buried at Burleson Cemetery #2 on Parker Road in Stanly County, NC, where he rests today with his wife Dora Hopkins Burleson.

JD Burleson

#### More About EBIN BURLESON:

Fact 1: March 15, 1862, Enlisted CO K 28TH REGT Lanes Bde.

Fact 2: April 2, 1865, Captured at Petersburg and Released from Point Lookout Jun 1865

Children of EBIN BURLESON and DORA HOPKINS are:

2. i. GENNIE<sup>7</sup> BURLESON, b. January 1893, STANLY CO, NC.
3. ii. JOHN RAY BURLESON, b. July 27, 1896, STANLY CO, NC; d. November 4, 1963, HOLLY HILL CEM THOMASVILLE, DAVIDSON CO, NC.
4. iii. SHELLIE BURLESON, b. January 6, 1898, STANLY CO NC; d. May 1, 1975, MOUNTAIN CREEK PRIMITIVE BAP CH NEW LONDON NC.
5. iv. DEWEY HENRY BURLESON, b. May 2, 1900, STANLY CO, NC; d. April 25, 1966, SALEM METH CH STANLY CO, NC.

- v. LIZZIE BURLESON, b. July 24, 1903, STANLY CO, NC; d. September 9, 1908, BURLESON CEM #2 Parker Road, Stanly Co, NC.
- 6. vi. ADDIE JEROME BURLESON, b. May 18, 1907, STANLY CO NC; d. January 7, 1982, CITY CEM LENOIR CITY, TN.
- 7. vii. DALLIE MAE BURLESON, b. April 4, 1914, STANLY CO NC; d. May 3, 2003, ROWAN MEMORIAL PARK.
- 8. viii. MARVIN BURLESON, b. February 12, 1917, STANLY CO NC; d. November 23, 1989, Plyer Baptist Church, Stanly Co NC.

## Remembrance of Aunt Dora

(Wife of Ebin Burleson)      By Eddie Burleson

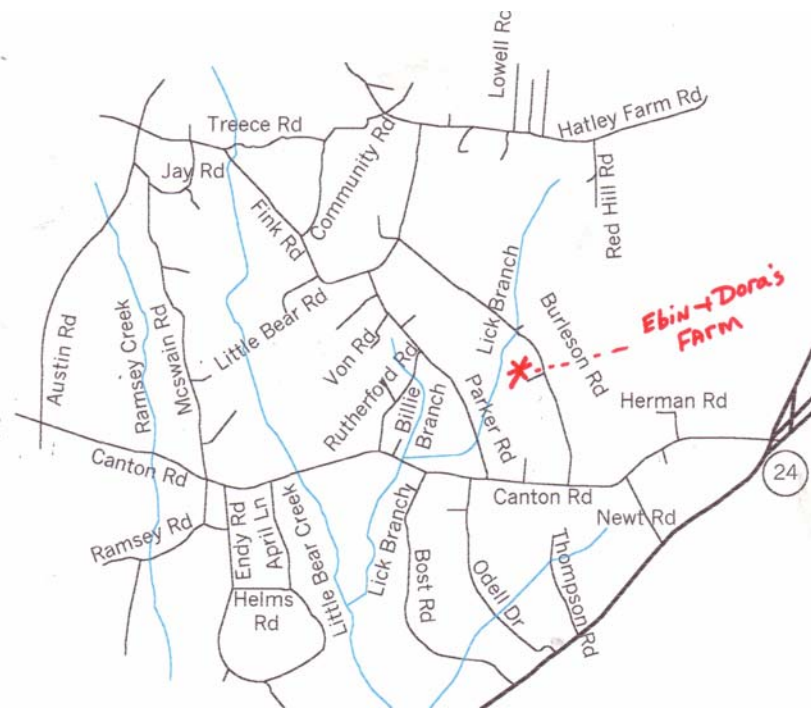
At one time everyone had paths that went to other people's houses. There was a road that ran from Grandpa Rutherford's house to what is now Parker Road, next to the cemetery where Uncle Ebin and Aunt Dora are buried. You could take the path up to the cemetery. There was another path that ran over to Aunt Dora's house. I think at one time it was an old wagon road. This was the pathway that we took to go over to see Aunt Dora. Later on we would take the road by Grandma Judy's house and then walk down Burleson Road. People did not visit much in the winter time for it was so far to walk. I never remember Aunt Dora leaving the farm. She was always there when I just happened to show up. I can still see her with her bonnet on. She was always free with her large biscuits and ham which we all loved. She had what I called a country kitchen. There was a huge cook stove and this large table with benches for all to sit on. For me it was going back in time to early years. Dewey had a model A Coupe that he drove for years. He always made over me. The house was a very nice house in its time. I loved to hear Dora talk about the early times. I wish I could remember some of what she said, Grandpa Rutherford had a nickname for almost everyone. Aunt Dora was "Old Maw". My mother could not remember why but it is my belief it was because she mothered everyone.

To remember her – she was a fine "Mother"

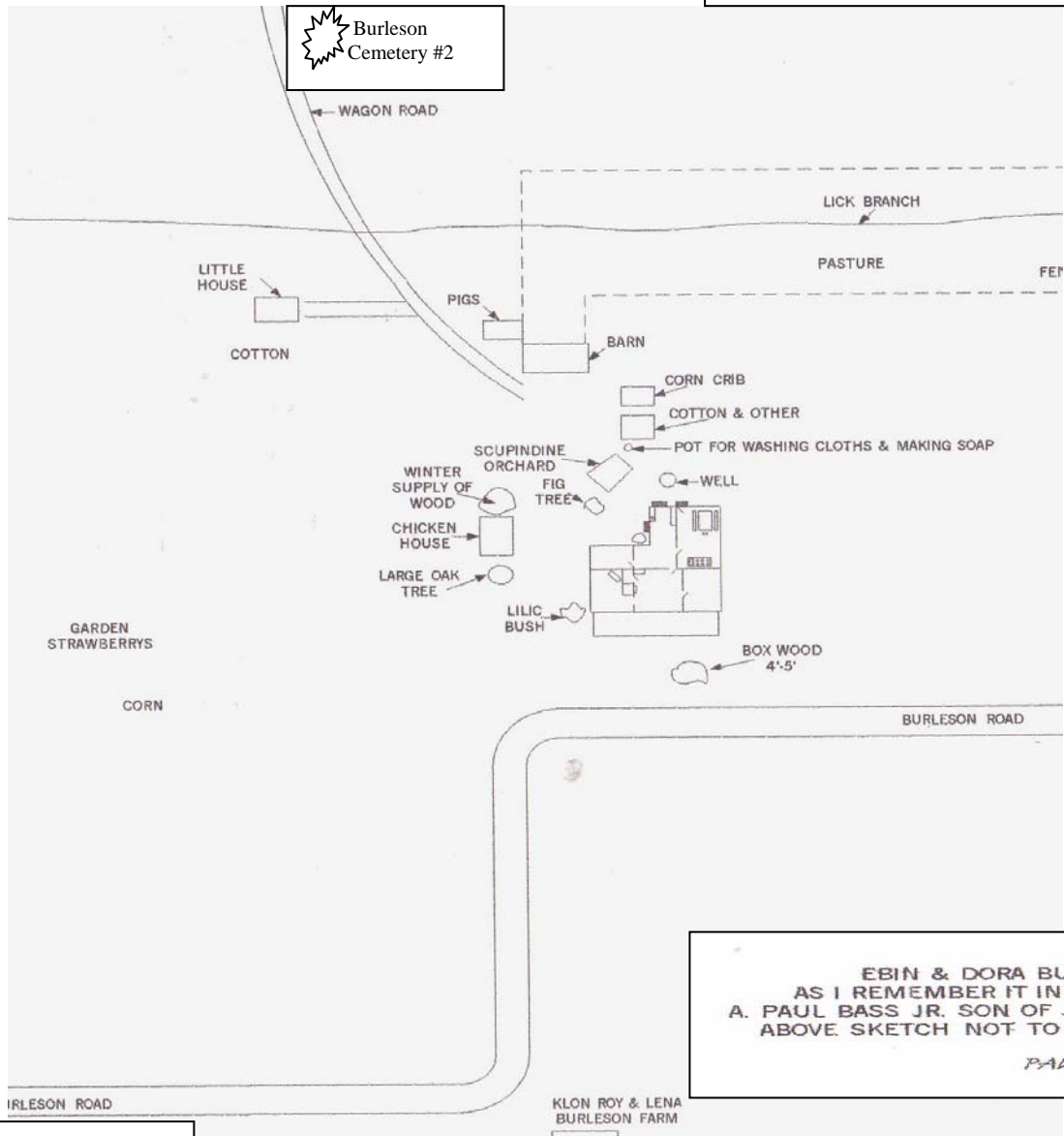
Article from our Recollections newsletter, Vol V No 3, page 135



Klon Dell Burleson Nunn holding a quilt that Dora made for her when she was a teenager.



Only building still standing from Ebin's Farm Map of Canton Road Area, Showing the location of Ebin and Dora's Farm. Notice that Burleson Road has changed from the drawing below.



EBIN & DORA BURLESON FARM  
 AS I REMEMBER IT IN 1935 TO 1940 TIME  
 A. PAUL BASS JR. SON OF JEROME BURLESON BASS  
 ABOVE SKETCH NOT TO ANY SCALE 5/20/2001  
 PAUL BASS JR.

Burleson Cemetery #1

Klon Roy and Lena Burleson Farm House 26750 Burleson road



Burleson Cemetery #2

LIZZIE BURLESON, b. July 24, 1903, STANLY CO, NC; d. September 9, 1908, BURLESON CEM #2 Parker Road, Stanly Co, NC. Daughter of Ebin and Dora Burleson



This the view of Burleson Cemetery #2 from 26602 Parker Road, Stanly Co, NC



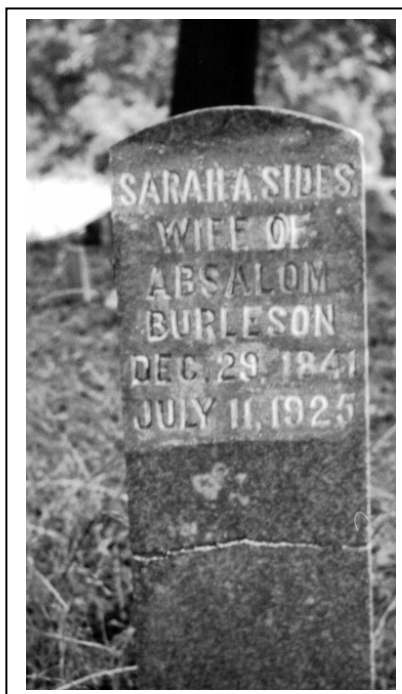
Ebin and Dora Burleson Stone

Burleson Cemetery #2 is located in the middle of a wheat field. Lillie Burleson told an interesting story about this cemetery. In the early 1870's William Burleson, Ebin's brother, became ill and was unable to work in the fields. Every day his brothers would carry him to this group of trees and he would sit there in a tall straight back chair all day. He was married to Margaret Ann Hatley and he had two sons, Augustus, and James (Jim) Burleson. Because he liked this spot he requested to be buried there. In September 1873 he died and was buried here.

This is William Holmes Burleson's stone, US Burleson, a cousin, carved the stone.



Ebin's brother,  
Absalom Burleson and his wife, Sarah Ann Sides, are also buried here.



# Men of the Light Division

In the past few years I'm sure you all have heard J.D. or me talk about the greatest army of all times, The Army of Northern Virginia, commanded by General Robert E. Lee. Some may think I'm bragging, but we all can be proud of the defenders of our South. Many history books will back me up.

I am humbled every time I read of the hardships and sacrifices these soldiers made. The South gave all of her young men while the majority of the North only read about the war in their daily newspapers, but it brought death and grief to almost every family in Stanly county.

The South gave all of her manufacturing trade and farms to the War effort, but the Northern economy was never even tested. I believe the History books would also say the South could never have won a war against a nation with such a strong manufacturing economy and unlimited man power. The only way the Confederate States survived for four years was by the dedication of the soldiers and leadership of Godly men such as Robert E. Lee and Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson. Volumes have been written about these two men, but more needs to be written about the soldiers that made all the South's victories possible.

On my first visit to Gettysburg Battlefield National Park I joined a tour group at the Rock Wall where a park ranger was giving an explanation of how and why the battle happened the way it did. The Ranger posed a question to the crowd, "Why would a General like Robert E. Lee attack a fortified line, out numbering his troops by thousands, and attack over an open area where his soldiers would be in full view and in the line of fire for a mile?" The crowd was silent. The Ranger concluded, "Because General Lee thought his men were invincible." As soon as the words came out of his mouth I turned and left this group. I didn't stay to hear the rest. I didn't like his explanation any better than I liked his accent, but that was 11 years ago and since then I have read and studied many hours of these events. I now think the park Ranger's explanation was correct. General Lee's men were invincible, but sadly not immortal and could not be replaced as they fell. They had always accomplished the seemingly impossible. This can be seen in a report written by Gen. Lee to General Samuel Cooper the Inspector General in Richmond. Read the following report and you can see that General Lee knew of his soldiers needs but had full confidence in their invincibility, enough to attack with less that 40,000 men (many were barefoot) against Union forces of 87,164 (well equipped) troops waiting for them in Sharpsburg MD.

"To prolong a state of affairs in every way desirable, and not to permit the season for active operations to pass without endeavoring to inflict further injury upon the enemy, the best course appeared to be the transfer of the army into Maryland. Although not properly equipped for invasion, lacking much of the material of war, and feeble in transportation, the troops poorly provided with clothing, and thousands of them destitute of shoes, it was yet believed to be strong enough to detain the enemy upon the northern frontier until the approach of winter should render his advance into Virginia difficult, if not impracticable." Signed Robert E. Lee.

In the Valley Campaign General Thomas Jackson earned the name "Stonewall" and his troops became known as "Foot Cavalry". Jackson's Corp. operated in the Shenandoah Valley with three divisions, one of these divisions from the start stood head and shoulders above the others, "The Light Division" of A. P. Hill. This division contained six brigades. The Branch/Lane Brigade of North Carolina; Pender's Brigade of North Carolina; Thomas' Brigade of Georgia; Gregg's Brigade of South Carolina; Archer's Brigade of Tennessee, Alabama and Georgia; and Field's Brigade of Virginia.

Our Burleson family and Stanly County was well represented in the Branch/Lane Brigade. In the 28<sup>th</sup> Regiment there were two companies from Stanly County. Here we find Adam Burleson who joined in late 1864, John Wesley Burleson who served until Sept. 1863, David Almond surrendered at Appomattox, his brother, Harris Almond, died in Sept. 1862, Howell Harwood served until 1865, his brother, Wesley Harwood, who died in Sept. 1864 and Ebin Burleyson who served from the first day of Co. K, 28<sup>th</sup> (15 March 1862) until it's first and only defeat. That was the fall of the Confederate Line at

Petersburg, Virginia on April 2, 1865. This was the final blow to General Robert E. Lee's Army and he was forced to surrender seven days later.

Ebin's surviving pay voucher does not give any notice of Ebin having time out for wounds or hospital stays, and certainly no leaves from his three years in Virginia. The Gettysburg Ranger's words were, "Lee thought his men were invincible," and invincible was the best description of Ebin Burleyson. His physical description was fair complexion, red hair, blue eyes and he stood five feet five and three quarters inches high. His description was that of an average twenty-two year old in 1862, but the ordeals and hardships of his next three years in the Light Division took their toll.

After Ebin's capture on 2 April, 1865 he was sent to Point Lookout Prison until 23 June 1865, nearly three months after the end of the war. Ebin survived Point Lookout Prison but suffered sun blindness from the glaring sand and sea because there was no shelter of any kind for the prisoners. After his release, the 500-mile trip home must have been another ordeal, but when Ebin was lead up to his front porch at last, he was still invincible. He recovered his sight soon afterward. Was it luck that Ebin endured all the ordeals that the Army of Northern Virginia asked him to participate in? Maybe a small amount. Was it good training? Definitely not, there was little training if any. Was it experience? Definitely, the private learned what it took to survive. Each battle was another lesson.

Men like Ebin made up the 28<sup>th</sup> NC. The 28<sup>th</sup> NC, 7<sup>th</sup> NC, 18<sup>th</sup> NC, 33<sup>rd</sup> NC, and 37<sup>th</sup> NC made up The Branch/Lane Brigade. The Branch/Lane Brigade was one of the six brigades that made up the famous "Light Division". Time does not allow me to mention the numerous battles where the Light Division displayed a heroic effort. I will be happy to show one example of how the brigade under General Lawrence O'Brien Branch saved Jackson and his brigade at Second Manassas in Branch's own words from his official report to General Lee.

"Friday we passed through Orange Court-House and stopped within 2 miles of it on the Rapidan to wait for the commissary wagons to bring up something to eat.

Saturday morning at 1 o'clock we were roused by picket-firing in front and the brigade was immediately under arms. In a few minutes I received an order to march forward. Continued the march [without] stopping until about 2 o'clock in the evening, when our advance came up with the enemy, posted and really to give us battle. General Jackson was present in person to command on our side. General Ewell was ordered to take possession of a mountain on our right. General Jackson's own division, commanded by General Winder, was on the left. General Hill's division was placed behind General Jackson's to support it. The battle commenced and raged for a short time, when General Jackson came to me and told me his left was beaten and broken, and the enemy was turning him and he wished me to advance. I was already in line of battle and instantly gave the order "Forward, march." I had not gone 100 yards through the woods before we met the celebrated Stonewall Brigade utterly routed and fleeing as fast as they could run. After proceeding a short distance farther we met the enemy pursuing. My brigade opened upon them and quickly drove the enemy back from the woods into a large field. Following up to the edge of the field, I came in view of large bodies of the enemy, and having a very fine position, I opened upon them with great effect. The enemy's cavalry attempted to charge us in two columns, but the fire soon broke them and sent them fleeing across the field in every direction. The infantry then retreated also. Advancing into the field, I halted near the middle of it, in doubt which direction to take. Just at that moment General Jackson came riding up from my rear alone. I reported my brigade as being solid and asked for orders. My men recognized him and raised a terrific shout as he rode along the line with his hat off. He evidently knew how to appreciate a brigade that had gone through a hot battle and was then following the retreating enemy without having broken its line of battle, and remained with me directing my movements until the pursuit ceased. We returned and slept on the battlefield among the dead and wounded.

After remaining there and near by until Monday at dark, we were ordered to light large camp-fires, and immediately after dark the army commenced moving back, and our division reached this place last night.



We gained a splendid victory and the credit of it is due to my brigade. I was among my men all through the fight and they were brave and cool. Most of my cowards have been got rid of in one way and another. Signed General Lawrence O'Brien Branch.

This incident surely made an impression on Jackson. On another occasion, in the Maryland Campaign at the Battle of Sharpsburg, General Lee's Army was only two separate corps. Commanded by General Jackson and General James Longstreet. After this encounter, General Lee was forced to give up his plan of threatening Washington, D.C. and demanding recognition of the Confederate States. The daylong battle known as The Battle of Antietam in the North, on the 17 September 1862 produced more casualties in one day than any other battle of the entire War. The Union suffered losses of 12,410 men and the South suffered losses of 11,172 men in the campaign. This was more than one quarter of General Lee's army. The total surely would have been more if not for the arrival and attack of the Light Division that saved Generals Lee, Longstreet, and Jackson from certain destruction.

Here is what General Longstreet said a few years after, "Nearly one-fourth of the troops who went into the battle were killed or wounded. We were so badly crushed that at the close of the day ten thousand fresh troops could have come in and taken Lee's Army and everything it had. But (Union General) McClellan did not know it."

Keep in mind the Union did not use but 60,000 troops in the fight. They did not need to send for fresh reinforcements as they had over 27,000 fresh troops on the battlefield then. General Lee at day's end had only about 27,000 remaining and they were the worn survivors of the original 40,000 that started in the morning, their ammo and food supply exhausted by dark with no hope of reinforcements. General Longstreet was correct; Lee's Army was whipped. At 3 PM the Union Army's, left wing, had successfully taken and crossed the Burnside Bridge on Antietam Creek that the Confederates had kept between the two armies all day. By 3:30 PM the Confederates right wing had been pushed back with the Potomac River to their back. The Army of Northern Virginia could not stop or slow the overpowering force of the blue clad Troops. General Lee was very aware of his dilemma. In another 15 minutes his whole right wing would be pushed into the river to die or surrender now. There was no escape. General Lee had sent for Hill who was 17 miles away in Harper's Ferry, but could he bring his Light Division in time?

Lee and Jackson's only hope was for the Light Division to travel the 17 miles from Harper's Ferry in record time. General Lee was waiting at Boteler's Ford on the Potomac River as the Light Division arrived. In the lead was the Branch/Lane Brigade commanded by Lawrence O'Brien Branch. Correct protocol would be for General Lee to issue an order of his needs to first General Hill, Hill would direct General Branch, General Branch would position Col. Lane into the desired position. That would be correct protocol, General Lee instructed General Hill to take the first regiment across the River which was the 28<sup>th</sup> NC commanded by Col. James H. Lane to block the lead union division advancing through Lee's line. The 28<sup>th</sup>, including Ebin Burleyson was still wet from fording the waist deep river and without slowing, stopping or missing a step, fired volley into the advancing blue line. Ebin and the others of Co. K did not need any further orders. They knew why they had marched with their 11 lb. Springfield rifles those 17 miles. Their work had just begun, fire, reload, keep marching, fire, and reload.

While General Hill was placing the 28<sup>th</sup> to meet the most urgent threat General Branch was directing the remaining regiments into position to have the most effect. Sadly General Branch was killed at this moment.

Immediately with the first volley from the 28<sup>th</sup> the Union advance stopped. Within minutes the rest of the Light Division was firing into the stalled line of Union troops. This sudden shock turned the Union attack into a retreat. The day was saved for General Lee and Jackson and they successfully escaped the following day back into Virginia. General McClellan had had enough after the attack of the Light Division and wanted no more of the Army of Northern Virginia. He was happy to lick his wounds and watch General Lee return to Virginia.

Would this timely forced march and direct attack without stopping from Harper's Ferry, by A. P. Hill's Light Division, be so important to General Lee and General Jackson that the Light Division was on their mind until their last breath? In the memoirs of Robert E. Lee written by A. L. Long who was formerly Military Secretary to General Lee, afterward Brigade General and Chief of Artillery Second Corp., Army of Northern Virginia, wrote this of General Lee's last moments of his life,

"The great mind sank to its last repose almost with the equal poise of health. The few broken utterances that evinced at times a wandering intellect were spoken under the influence of the remedies administered; But as long as consciousness lasted there was evidence that all the high controlling influences of his whole life still ruled; and even stupor was laying its cold hand on the intellectual perceptions, the moral nature complete orb of duties and affections, still asserted itself. A southern poet has celebrated in song those last significant words, 'Strike the Tent!' And a thousand voices were raised to give meaning to the uncertain sound when the dying man said, with emphasis 'Tell Hill he must come up!' These sentences serve to show most touchingly through what fields the imagination was passing; but generally his words, though few, were coherent, and for the most part his silence was unbroken."

General Thomas Jackson's last moments are best recorded in the book They Called Him Stonewall by Burke Davis. Davis describes the last hours of General Jackson's life as Jackson was told by his wife Anna and Doctors that he had only two hours to live. I will pick up Davis' narrative at that point,

"At one thirty, the doctors told him he had two hours to live, and he seemed to understand. Feebly he said, 'All right. Very good. It's all right.' A short time later he shouted, 'Tell A. P. Hill to prepare for action!...Pass the infantry to the front'. Soon a faint smile, almost sweet, passed across the pale lips under the beard. Anna and the men leaned forward to the bed, 'Let us cross over the river and rest under the shade of the trees.' He was gone. It was three fifteen in the afternoon."

I believe I have made my point of how well respected the Light Division of General A. P. Hill was to Lee and Jackson. Many of Stanly County's finest including Ebin Burleyson were in the forefront of the unit until the end.

If anyone does not accept Generals Lee's and Jackson's dying words of highest respect for the Light Division, I suppose I could give you 90,000 plus eyewitnesses from the Union Army. The sight of the Light Division approaching ---was the last sight ---their eyes ---witnessed.

Humbly submitted,  
John Hoyle Burleson

*We want to John Hoyle Burleson for this interesting history of Ebin Burleson's Civil War experiences. John is my 3<sup>rd</sup> cousin and a descendant of Ebin's brother, Absalom Burleson.*