

Phillips Family

From the DeKalb County 1870 Census:

Abner Phillips age 44, Occupation farmer, born in KY
Martha age 43, born in TN
Hannah age 18, born in TN
Robert L. age 17, born in TN
Nancy age 13, born in TN
Ellis age 18, born in AL
Elizabeth age 11, born in AL
Mary A. age 9, born in AL
Sarah M. age 7, born in AL
James K. age 5, born in AL
Pleasant D age 3, born in AL
Margaret age 1, born in AL

History and remembrances of the Phillips and related families compiled by Lilla Emma Hicks of Fort Worth, Texas, February, 1968.

Cornell (1) and Richard Phillips (1) were two brothers that came to the United States from Wales, a part of the British Isles, at the later part of the 17th century. *This line will follow Cornell Phillips.*

Cornell (1) settled in North Carolina and later moved to Wayne County, Kentucky. He reared four boys and four girls. Two of the girls married Gatewoods. Richard (2) and Pleasant Dallas (1) were two of the boys.

Pleasant Dallas (1) (P.D.) married a Benson.

Richard (2) married a Chambers and settled 5 miles south of Jacksonborough, near a big spring in Camel County, Tennessee. They reared 7 boys and 7 girls.

Boys:

1. Cornell (2),
2. Jim (1) went to Missouri.
3. Gideon settled in Tennessee,
 4. Abner settled in DeKalb County, Alabama 4 miles north of Valley Head. Abner married Martha Ellis who was born 1808. They reared eleven children.

a. Richard Phillips, (4) died in prison at Camp Chase, Ohio, during the Civil War... starved to death.

b. Ellis Phillips spent 4 years in the Civil War ... 11 months in this prison. After the War he married Sarah A. Warren. They had six children: Roxie Ellen, Edgar Ellis, Robert Abner, Lula, Mary, and George.

c. Nancy Phillips, who married Enoch York.

d. Elizabeth,

e. Mary A. Phillips, Polly Ann Phillips married Jim Ellis. Their children: Bill (William), Dock, Jake, Alfred, and are their boys. Hanna, Nancy, Susan, Sarah, Mary "Missie" Gifford John Dean's wife were the girls.

William Ellis lived near head of Tennessee River, raised a large family...Allie married a Long.. two of them married Uncle Billy Morgan...Patsy married Abner Phillips....

Jerry Chambers grandfather Abner Phillips...cousin has visited at our old home. (Lula Phillips's Uncle Nell)

Abner and P. D. were cousins. P. D. was Cornell's son

f. Sarah M. Phillips,

g. James Knox Polk Phillips, Jim married Nancy Lowry Hill.



James Knox Polk Phillips Family 4 generations



James Knox Polk Phillips Family

h. Pleasant Dallas Phillips (Dock) was born Thursday, September 8, 1846 in DeKalb Co. AL and died January 23, 1932. His first wife, Sarah Matilda Hawkins Phillips was born Saturday March 8, 1852 in DeKalb Co., AL and died June 10, 1890. They reared 8 children. Sarah died and he married her sister Hannah Hawkins who was born October 15, 1845 and died August 8, 1937. (Hannah married Charles Hicks). Pleasant Dallas and Sarah's children were:

Richard Lee Phillips, born Thursday 15th of August 1871, in DeKalb Co., Alabama.

Hannah Jane Phillips was born on Thursday 18th day of September 12, 1873 in Dade Co., Georgia.

Martha Elizabeth Phillips was born on Thursday, September 2, 1874 in DeKalb Co. AL.

Benjamin Abner Phillips was born Thursday, August 8, 1878 in DeKalb Co. AL. Married Malinda Jane Humble, daughter of Leander (Le Ann) Blanset Humble.

Dallas Whitfield Phillips was born on Saturday. December 18, 1880 and died March 5, 1952 in DeKalb Co. AL. Wife Eulis B. Hicks born November 2, 1889 and died March 14, 1944. They are buried in Head Springs Cemetery.

Sarah Louise Josephine Phillips was born on Thursday, July 18, 1883 in DeKalb Co. AL.

Nancy Stella May Phillips was born on Friday, March 19, 1885 in DeKalb Co. AL.

George Harmon Franklin Phillips born Wednesday September 12, 1888 in DeKalb Co. AL.

- i. Prudence (Prude) died.
- j. William Hicks.

- 5. Gilliam,
- 6. Richard (3) settled at Jasper, Tennessee.
- 7. Pleasant Dallas (2). P. D. (1) went West,

Girls: Polly, ---6 names not known.

Lula's notes seems to have some duplication.

The above information was prepared on several scraps of paper by Lula Phillips Cooper, the daughter of Ellis Phillips She died January 1955.

Remarks:

Sarah Hawkins Phillips, .J??? Hannah, Alexander Hannah, came from Luxembourg, Germany, Jane Hannah married Benjamin Hawkins probably a Cherokee Indian. His brothers were Press, Raleigh, Alex. Their children were Harmon, Alexander, Johnny, Frank, Hannah, Nancy, Sarah Matilda, Mandy (Mar) Aunt Ham. It is reported Harmon was a preacher near Little Rock, Ark., Frank lived in Chattanooga, Nancy married a Lofty, Mary married John Gates, Mandy married Tol Boene.

Allie Ellis sister to Martha Ellis Phillips, wife of Abner Phillips, aunt of Pleasant Dallas Phillips married Alford Long, who was a captain in the Battle of Chickamaga, where he died. Aunt Allie Long got the message by an Indian that he was badly hurt and she rode

from Valley Head to Chickamaga to see him, which was unheard of in those days for a woman to travel that far alone. The men couldn't travel with her as the Yankees were in control and would take them as prisoners. They had race horses and at that time she still had one, later they were all taken by the Yankees. She told about playing with Jefferson Davis... and they called him Jeffy-Jingle Heels. Jefferson Davis's mother and their mother were sisters. Girls were not important in 1800s but we have verified she and grand grand mother Phillips were sisters. Ellis being their mother's maiden name. She lived to be 100 years old. Died about 1897. The Long Springs being on their property. Located on Highway 11 where Dixie Brown now own property.

George Washington Hicks :

born November 5, 1860 in Dade County Georgia to Isaac Hicks and Sarah Clarissa McCauley Hicks. George died July 16, 1954 at the age of 93 years, 8 months and 11 days.

Alsey Crabtree Hicks:

born March 31, 1861 in DeKalb County, Alabama to Warren Crabtree and Sarah Ann Stuart Crabtree. Alsey married September 12, 1877; died August 24, 1943 at the age of 82 years, 4 months and 24 days.

Their father Isaac Hicks was killed in the Second Battle of Manassas, Virginia, when George was two years old and before their brother Joseph was born. A Committee of his fellow officers notified his widow of his death and advised her: "He fell mortally wounded gallantly leading his men in Battle." He was a Lieutenant in a Georgia Regiment.

The State of Virginia sent George a scroll, when he was two years old, which his mother saved for him, notifying him that a Fifty Million Dollar estate had been confiscated by the State of Virginia, belonging to the heirs, of which Isaac was one, as the Statute of Limitations had run on it. In the scroll, which was large and bulky, they traced the antecedents of Isaac Hicks back to England, giving their names and places of origin. It seemed that a brother and two sisters had left England and came to Virginia during Colonial days, and that Isaac was the descendant of one of these sisters.

There was a trunk containing the scroll, Isaac's letters to his wife, and copies of the Chattanooga Times, published during the Civil War days which George's mother had saved for him. This trunk was left behind when George's family came to Texas, in March, 1910. Alsey left all of her furniture with Mae Hicks, at her son's W. G. Hicks' home in St. Elmo, a suburb of Chattanooga, Tennessee. Their house was burned down and everything they had was lost. I thought for years that the trunk, and its contents was burned, but Mae said several years later that Alsey left the trunk in a neighbor of hers basement by the name of Bessie Bradford, in St. Elmo, but recently she said again it was burned. I was not mature enough to know the historical value of the trunk's contents, but I did beg Alsey to have it shipped to Texas, which she refused to do. I took a few of the letters out of the trunk and brought them to Texas, but the scroll was too large to fit into my suitcase.

Back in 1920, Grandma Clarissa gave me Isaac's old Seth Thomas clock, which a cousin, Herschel Hawkins, crated and shipped home for me.

Sarah Clarissa McCauley (I really don't know whether her last name was spelled Mc or Mac). I think her father was Scotch. She had a Scotch accent, coupled with a soft Southern burr. She was born at Morgansville, Georgia; her mother's maiden name was Martin. (I am sorry I don't know their first names). The Martins, several generations removed, came from Ireland. Both parents and both sets of grandparents had died by the time Clarissa was twelve years old, and an uncle named Martin raised her. He owned quite a large farm at Morgansville, Georgia during the Civil War days and had hundreds of "Negro" slaves. (Shame on him). They said he was a blue Presbyterian and would allow no work (not even cooking) to be done on his premises on Sunday. Clarissa's sister's father left her \$30,000.00 in trust, but her guardian, through mismanagement lost it. However, she did get some money; I don't know whether it was through the Martins or her father. She bought the farm where she raised her second family, and got some kind of income during the time she was raising her family.

Joseph (Joe) Hicks married Saphronis Ellis and they had one child, Burlie, who married Whitfield Phillips, Mae's brother. Joe was a school teacher, and Alsey said he was a "good man". He left two farms which his widow and her husband appropriated to their own use. His wife was in love with a young man named John Humble, and married him as soon as possible after Joe's death.

Alsey Hick's father, Warren Crabtree, was a native of Tennessee; all Alsey knew about his place of origin, was he was born and raised in Sequatchie Valley, Tennessee; that his mother was a Jackson and that the Jacksons were a higher class family than the Crabtrees. She said the Jacksons were an aristocratic family, and I think big land owners. Warren used to go to Sequatchie to visit his family, which Alsey didn't seem to know anything about. He only had some cousins left, so far as I know, when I first remember him. Riley Crabtree was one of them; he was Mayor of Chattanooga, Tennessee when I was a little girl, I think; he owned a beautiful (show place) home and was rated a millionaire. When W. G. Hicks was a young man he worked for the Knoll Construction Company. They built highways and streets all over the South. Their lawyers' names were Crabtree; two brothers at Memphis, Tennessee, who were Warren's cousins. Young Knoll had married an older woman, who was said to have been a gold digger; she was unsuitable for him but wouldn't give him a divorce. The Crabtree lawyers got the divorce by means of publication in some unknown newspaper. (It was said on Sand Mountain) that you couldn't beat a Crabtree in a law suit. They were supposed to be full of tricks.

Warren Crabtree's family consisted of the following named:

Alsey Crabtree
Ann
John
George

Wallace

Benjamin (Ben)

William who died as a young boy from pneumonia.

The above named were Warren's family by his first wife, Sarah Ann Stuart who died in childbirth before Asley's family was born. Ben, the youngest, was a small boy, but his sister Ann was there to fight his battles with a stepmother and from what I've heard, she did. Alsey said Ann use to visit her, (She didn't marry until she was 29 years old) and after a short visit, she would say: "Ail, I have got to go home, to keep that old woman from running over the boys." She was quite a character. She told me that she always saw to it, when a peddler went through the country, that she got first choice of the best silk dresses he had.

The old woman referred to was Warren's second wife; she was a widow with two little girls: Mary and Adeline Harris. John Crabtree married Adoline and they had two sons: Bill and Jess. Jess was a handsome brunette and had a very winning personality. He died young of pneumonia. Warren and his second wife had two children: Oscar and Diona. Oscar had a winning personality and eventually became a Baptist Preacher. They are all deceased except the cousins.

One of the Crabtrees married a Phillips- Wallace Crabtree (Alsey's brother) married Mattie Phillips (Mae's sister), and they had one child: Audrey Mae Crabtree: John had two boys, as above stated.

George never had any children, although he was married twice. The last time to Annie Thomas, his half first cousin, although the relationship was never acknowledged.

Ben married Bertie Blansett, who died young; they had one child: Eunice Crabtree. Ben never remarried, but became a wanderer. He was a mischievous scalawag, but likable, and carried over some of the mischievous spirit of his childhood. He told a story about he and his brother Wallace playing a joke on Warren, when they were young boys. It seemed that their father, Warren, was in the habit of getting up at 4:00 a.m., and making them get up too. They resented this, and decided to teach him a lesson. They got up one morning before he did, and raked live coals out on the hearth and covered them over with ashes. Warren was in the habit of sitting in front of the fire, barefooted. When he felt the fire on his feet, he knew what had happened, and started after the boys gesticulating and scolding, but, of course, they out ran him. Ben also told a story about the time they wanted him to build a school house on Sand Mountain, which he did, and taught school in it until they could get a regular teacher. He was very versatile and could have made his mark in the world because he had the intelligence and education to do so. Warren sent Ben and Oscar and Diona away to school, and they were fairly well educated, whether they used their education or not. Ben also told a little story, which is rather risqué, but tends to show the type of mischievous spirit he had. He said a girl named Ada, in his class at school, was always calling attention to his mistakes, and it caused him to be embarrassed so much, that he decided he would set a trap for her; that the next time he got up to the blackboard to diagram a sentence, he purposely left the conjunction "but"

out; that Ada's hand went up, and the teacher asked "What is it, Ada?"; that Ada said Ben left his but out; that he ran his hand slowly down his pant's leg, and every one laughed; and that Ada never corrected his mistakes any more.

A little description of Warren: He was heavy-set, clean shaven, and had the appearance of being easy-going and never getting in a hurry. He walked with a cane and complained of having gout in his foot. He liked a joke and would have you tell the same story over and over, if it happened to tickle his fancy. He never discussed his financial affairs in front of people, or made any apologies about what he didn't have. He had a habit of making outrageous statements, which he didn't mean, and punctuating them with the gestures of throwing out his arms. He owned a valley farm, which was known as the Big Springs property, parts of which he deeded to certain of his children, among them was his son John. John and his family lived with Warren until John's sons were grown-up, or at least for several years. Warren also owned a mountain farm. He sold the valley property (or they all did) to Mr. Tom Gifford and his son Jim. John used the proceeds from his part of the farm which his father had give him to buy a mountain farm. I understand, he let somebody swindle him out of his farm, after his wife died. He was like a babe in the woods when thrown on his own, as Warren and Adeline has always done his managing for him.

(This paragraph is just for the record and in case some of the younger generation of Crabtrees, namely Willard Crabtree, Bill's son and John's grandson, had an unfavorable impression of Warren, through lack of understanding of that he had been worth to them and theirs, which maybe didn't benefit them directly, but could have had the property been properly managed. It was Warren's intention to provide a future home for John and his heirs when he deeded him part of the Big Springs property.)

Sarah Ann Stuart Crabtree:

Her father's name was Stuart and her mother's maiden name was Howell. Her mother was said to be of Indian origin; probably on her mother's side of the house, as Howell doesn't sound like an Indian name. Her father, Stuart, took a drove of horses across the county (De Kalb County) and was never heard from again. They thought the Indians killed him. At the time, Sarah and her twin sister Jane were small girls. There was a childless couple named Long, Aley and William Long, who wanted the little girls and their mother let the Long couple have them. The Longs had money and were big property owners. They raised the girls as their own children. Captain Long died of a fever during the Civil War, He was a Union soldier as was Warren. Sarah Ann loved the Longs like they were her own parents, and lived with Aley Long, whom they called "Mammy", at the Big Springs place, which Mammy owned. When Aley was a young girl, Mammy wanted her mother to let Aley live with her, and reminded her that she took care of her when she was little and now she wouldn't let her child live with her (Mammy). Aley's mother got her ready and sent her to live with Mammy. Aley and

George lived with Mammy until they had several children. Mammy gave Alsey and her sister Ann each a farm and stocked them with livestock and tools; she also bought two different merchandise and went broke each time.

Sarah Ann had black hair, dark skin and black flashing eyes. Her coloring was doubtless inherited from her Indian ancestry; most of her family were dark and had black hair. She was very well educated for her time and had good business head.

George and Alsey (as stated before) lived with Mammy, at the Big Springs place until they had several children. They both loved her. George said: "Mammy was the only real parent he had ever known". Mammy tried to provide for those she loved during her lifetime, but under Alabama law, the property reverted to the husband's heirs upon the death of the wife. She died at the age of 105, so they said.

I think this little known incident is well worth mentioning in connection with Sarah Ann: After she was a married woman, her mother came to see her. She, at first, refused to see her mother. Her husband, Warren, who was broad-minded, interceded on her mother's behalf. He said: "Sarah, I don't think you are behaving properly, (or words to that affect) "She is your mother, and you will probably never see her again", I think you should go in to see her and be nice to her. She did. Sarah Ann was to have been absolutely fearless and had a high temper; George said Mrs. Crabtree was a good woman; she was his mother-in-law and he liked her. During the Civil War, she stood off a group of soldiers who came to steel anything they could get their hands on. She saw them coming and ran to the barn; one time she went around, she threw the door open; the next time she went around she drove her cow into the barn and got in the door to block their entrance. The one in charge, said: "Come on, men let her keep her damn old cow." She replied: "And a damn good reason for it sir." The soldiers stole practically all of the livestock they owned. Alsey was born during the Civil War and got big enough to be a nuisance while it lasted. She said her mother took their last remaining horse to the woods to hid it; that the soldiers came to the house while she was gone and asked her where her mother was: That she pointed out the way her mother had gone, and tolled them she had gone to hide whatever the horse's name was; that they followed in her mother's footsteps and got the horse. She said that she use to swing on the front gate when the soldiers were marching by and sing: "Chase old Jeff Davis around the stump, make his old heart go "Flipty, Flump". She said she learned the words from the little "Niggers" on the farm. She said she used to call Captain Long: "Ole Marse" and her father Warren: "Young Marse", until her mother told her if she didn't stop calling them that, they were going to get killed in battle, and finally broke her of the habit. (Alsey) was far from being a sissy. She said she use to break the wild colts on her father's farm. George's half sister, Lula, said she remembered Alsey when she used to ride wildly over the country side, carrying a gun. Flossie and I used to go hunting; Flossie carried the gun and did the shooting. I was always a scared sissy and a nervous child, who liked to day-dream and pick wild flowers and run in the woods. Flossie rode the horses on the farm bareback, when she was a child, but I wouldn't let them give me a lesson in horseback ridding, as I was afraid of the horse. Flossie's name was Flossie Folsom, and she was always ashamed of her name, and I don't blame her. When she went out into the business world, she told her name

was: "Florence". She worked in a very exclusive dress-making shop, where they didn't sew for any one but millionaires; others couldn't afford their prices. I was in their salon once. I remember the rooms were lined with mirrors and every thing had a plush appearance. They designed and draped dresses on the customers. They would have scorned to have patterns.

Alsey and John Humble had a run-in in later years; there was a saw mill on Alsey's property, and it seemed that John was bossing the job. Ed Hicks was a small boy, and evidently John had employed him as errand boy. I don't know what Ed did (no telling) but John gave him a tongue lashing. When Alsey heard about it, she charged into John; she said, among other things: "John Humble you are not running over Joe Hicks' child now. This is my child. She evidently released on him all the stored up resentment she had felt against him and his wife, Saphronia for years on Joe Hicks and the child Burlie's account. Joe was supposed to have died of pneumonia when Burlie was a small child. She said Joe Hicks was a fine gentleman; that he was a much better man than George. She always blamed the McCauleys or the Irish element on the Martin side, who always kept the fine wines and whiskies in their home; anyway, it was Clarissa's kin. In later years, Alsey's Granddaughter, Olive, came in contact with John Humble in a friendly business-way. He told her at the time: That she was like her grandmother; that she had nerve; guess he never forgot the things Alsey said to him. I never heard George mention his brother Joe's name, nor his mother but once, and that was in answer to a direct question. I asked him what could have induced his mother (second marriage) to have married the man she did marry, namely: Moses Henegar. He said his mother was not a deep-sensed woman and that the Gardners talked her into it. It seems that there was a Doctor Gardner and his wife, who purported to have been a friend of Isaac Hicks. In fact, I know there was such a man as I met him once. Flossie and I were in the railway station at Valley Head, Alabama waiting for a train to take us back home to Chattanooga, when this old doctor came in and said he heard that Isaac Hicks' granddaughters were in there; that Isaac was a great friend of his, etc. etc. In fact, I don't remember any more of the conversation, but he wanted to meet us and was very affable.

Please pardon this narrative, if I have not written the sequence of events in their proper order, as I am writing from memory and about things I heard a long time ago, and events do not always come to mind that way.

I inadvertently left out Alsey's family, which I will now set forth:

Sarah Clarissa (Married Henry Gifford)

William Gurley (Married Mae Phillips)

Edward Pierce (Married Leola Fuller the first time and Myrtle Walker the second marriage.

Ida Mae (Married twice: William Sweeton, Tract City, Tenn. Edward Dickinson, formerly of Greenville, Ala.

Flossie Folsom (Married William Caufield, formerly of Fort Payne, Ala.

Willa Emma Jane (a feme sole)

Alsey's sister Ann married Raleigh Hawkins, and they had the following named sons:

John Linz (Deceased)
Herschel
Claude
Emery

The Hawkins farm was in the valley (nearest Lookout Mountain) the Post Office was also Valley Head, Ala.

Alsey's Mother's (Sarah Ann Stuart Crabtree) sister's name was Jane, and she married Jack Painter; there were two valleys in that part of Alabama, in DeKalb County, between Lookout Mountain and Sand Mountain; the Painters lived in the same valley as George and Alsey.

Jane Stuart Painter was Sarah Ann's twin sister. She and her husband, Jack Painter, had three girls and one son: Susan and Margaret (Peggy), who married brothers by the name of Morgan; the Morgans were an old pioneer family; they sold the land, or part of it, to a Mining Company who opened the coal mines on the land and built the little town of Battelle, Alabama; this town was located between Valley Head, Alabama and Chattanooga, Tennessee. (Chattanooga is only about 40 miles North of Valley Head, and George and Alsey used to do their shopping there and go there to have dental work done.) I suppose the coal mines have long since been exhausted; the third daughter was named Sallie Payne (Aug 13, 1869-?), whose husband, Marshall Payne (Jan 5, 1861- Oct 4, 1934), seemed rather prosper-on, in that he owned real estate and made real estate deals for the country folk, etc. I personally liked him, because he once told me that I surely was a cute little girl, when I was small girl; that I laughed and talked all at the same time; the son Jackie they say has descended the local ladder and isn't thought very well of. His parents held their heads high and didn't associate very much with the local folk. Jack was a great pillar in the local Methodist Church.

I am sorry that I didn't ask Clarissa for their first names of her relatives, because I am sure she would have given them to me.

I have decided to keep the family skeleton in the closet, but if any one, over 40, should be curious enough to ask, I might tell them. However, I don't think it wise to write it down for posterity.

Please excuse mistakes; what I have written may not be of any benefit to any one; however, it might be interesting. I thought I would write down what little I know while I am still able to, but frankly, I wouldn't wade through the family history again for money.

Dated at Fort Worth, Texas, this 15 day of February, 1968.

Lilla Emma Jane Hicks

P.S. Anything you may deem inappropriate, you may leave out.

For Lee's information:

Father: William Gurley Hicks:

Born Sept. 12, 1882 (DeKalb Co., Ala.)

Died: Feb. 10, 1936 (Ft. Worth, Texas)

For the Gifford's information: Sarah Hicks Gifford:

Born: Dec. 7, 1879 (DeKalb Co., Ala.)

Died: Feb. 22, 1910 (DeKalb Co., Ala.)

For the Dickersons information: Ida Mae Hicks Dickerson:

Born: July 13, 1887 (DeKalb Co., Ala.)

Died: Nov. 18, 1963 (DeKalb Co., Ala.)