

a pretty good idea of what an enormous family that by the name of Medearis has grown into. Each of the aunts and uncles whose names I have listed as having married, now have children AND grandchildren - except Emma and Ethel, both of whom married late in life. Aunt Ethel has several stepchildren and grandchildren.

Aunt Polly Yowell's children, besides cousin Jim, I guess you know as much, or more than I do. His only sister, I believe, was Cousin Mary Gill, who died several years ago. Her youngest daughter, Angie May, married Cecil Wallace, who is at present our state treasurer, and a mighty fine man, we think.

January 17th

Have delayed mailing this letter as I wanted to find the notations I had made after we visited the McAdams farm, but am afraid they have been destroyed, so will send this on in the hope I have given you at least some of the information you want, and am sure Aunt Lily will write to you as soon as she can.

With every good wish for you and your boys, I am, with love.

Your cousin

Mamie Holman

(COPY)

TENNESSEE STATE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

NASHVILLE 3, TENNESSEE

STATE LIBRARY DIVISION

November 4, 1957

BEDFORD COUNTY, TENNESSEE CHANCERY COURT 1837-1845
pp 366-367

Be it remembered that this cause came on for final hearing this 26th day of August, 1845, before the Hon. Broomfield L. Ridley, Judge, upon complaintants Bill, defendants answer & amended Clerks report, which report being read and by the court fully understood, and not being unexcepted to. It is ordered in all things to be confirmed, and it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court, that there is in the hands of the defts. Thomas smith as the administrator of the estate of John Medearis the sum of \$3401. 60 $\frac{1}{2}$ which is to be distributed amoungest the heirs of said John Medearis who are legally entitled to the same, And it further appearing that John Medearis at the time of his death, left four children who were as such entitled to said estate.

But that Benjamin W.D. (sic) medearis one of the heirs of said John Medearis has been advanced in the lifetime of his father a sum greater than his distributive share of said fund would amount to. It is therefore ordered, adjudged and decreed by the Court that Benj. W.D. (sic) Medearis is not entitled to any portion of said fund. but it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court, that the heirs of Mrs. Martha Philips who was a daughter of said John Medearis, have never been advanced any thing from the estate, of sd. John Medearis. It is therefore ordered, adjudged and decreed by the court that they are entitled to one third part of said fund amounting to the sum of \$1133.86. And it further appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that David Yancey as administrator of Washington D. Medearis is entitled to one third part of said estate amounting to the sum of \$1133.86, after deducting the sum of \$813.43, it being the amount of monies found in his hand which sd. Washington D. Medearis received from the debtors of the estate of John Medearis after the death of John, and before the appointment of Thomas Smith as administrator which leave an amount due David Yancey as his admr. of \$320.00 for which amount let execution issue, and it further appearing that Thomas Smith by right of wife, is entitled to one third part of said fund amounting to the sum of \$1133.86, after deducting the amount of \$307.00 which was advanced to said Thomas Smith by sd. John Medearis in his life time, leaves the amount of \$826.86 still due said Thomas Smith & wife.

August term 1845

It is further ordered, adjudged and decreed that David Yancey admr. pay the costs of this suit, for which let execution issue.

(Seal)

State of Tennessee
Davidson County

Personally appeared before me
A Notary Public in and for said
state and county, Mrs. Hermione D.
Embry who makes oath according to law
that the above was copied from the
records of the Tenn. State Library &
Archives in Nashville, Tenn.

Witness my hand and seal this
November 4, 1957.

My Commission Expires APRIL 23, 1960

(Signed) Odis Shackleford, Notary Public.

/ (Signed)
/ Hermione D. Embry
/ Copied by Hermione
/ D. Embry, Mrs. Chas
/ A. Sr., Genealogi-
/ cal Reference Li-
/ brarian

May 19th. 1800 Recd of Dempsey Woodman & Henry Head in full of a
Judgt Obtained against them by Thos Jones Recd pr me D Grady.

14th. January, '80 Receivd of Geo Tasseer Amt on the Estate
of Thomas Bell Decasd the sum of Twenty six Pounds No. Carolina
Currenty -L 26" - " -

Pr me Sarah Bell.

(On one ticket)

Recd april 2d 1782 of Ruth Hygh Deven Bus. of Corn her grain
Tax for the year 1782

James Alford

Recd april 2d 1782 of Capt Robt High 3 Bus/ of Corn his Grain
Tax for the year 1782

James Alford

Recd Decr 19. 1797 of Capt. John Medearis 4/ in full of his
acct due the estate of Col Joel Lane Decd

Kim Hinton Er.

(On one ticket)

Rcd of Jhon Medaris is Texas in full for the Year 1790
August. the 9 Day 1791

W. Jones Col

Also for Bell Smith & Co. P 1 Pound Three3 Shilling and Six
Pence for the Year 1790

W. Jones

Capt John Medearis to S. Wheaton - Dr.

For Medicine from the 15th Augt

1802 to March 11th 1803 L 1 - 17 - 6

Receivd the above in full

Raleigh 31th May 1803

S Wheaton

June 23th 1797 Rcd of Asa Blake by the hand of John McDearice
two pounds four Shillings & 16 in full of a Judgement James
Cammons against Sd Blake Rcd by me

Jno Terrell

Raleigh November 2nd 1808. Recd of Capt John Medeiris Two
Pounds Soxteen Shillings & three pence in full of his acct
with us - £ 2¹⁶ " 3

Jos & William Peace.

TENNESSEE STATE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

NASHVILLE 3, TENNESSEE

STATE LIBRARY DIVISION

March 26, 1958

Mr. Douglas M. Willis
1910 Fernwood Ave.
Dallas 16, Texas

Dear Mr. Willis:

In reply to your request of March 23rd:

Bedford Co. Tenn. Chancery Court Minutes

1837-1845

p 170 Chancery Court , December Term 1841

It is therefore ordered and decreed by the Court that the clerk and Master proceed to collect said purchase money, and that when he collects the same, that he pay out of it said purchase money the costs of this cause, and also the attorneys fee of thirty dollars for filing complainants Bill, and that he pay the balance of said purchase money of said land to complainant or those entitled to the same in the following manner to wit. TO THOMAS SMITH & WIFE POLLY one fourth part thereof, to JOHN, RICHARD, WHITE, HAYWOOD and BENJAMIN PHILLIPS and JAMES AND JANE ARMSTEAD and MARTHA his wife also one fourth, to the heirs or assigns of BENJAMIN W.H. MEDEARIS dec one fourth part thereof and to DAVID YANCY & RACHEL his wife, JAMES LOYD And SARAH his wife, HENRY S. BLAKEMORE and wife MARGARET and to the guardian of POLLY, CATHARINE, GEORGE W., JOHN T., MARTHA F. and WILLIAM MEDEARIS, minor orphans of WASHINGTON D. MEDEARIS, the remaining fourth part thereof, subject however to the claim of ELIZABETH MEDEARIS widow of the said WASHINGTON D. MEDEARIS, to one third of said fourth part for life, which said third part the clerk and Master if hereby directed to pay over to said ELIZABETH MEDEARIS, upon her giving bond and security the same shall at her death be paid over to the heirs of said WASHINGTON D. MEDEARIS, and that said Clerk & Master take receipt for said money when paid.

Copy to
Bob Gill
Mrs Lacy
Mrs Rehfeldt
J. H. Norwood
W. H. Norwood
J. D. Yancey
Floyd Medearis

(Signed)
Hermione D. Embry
Mrs. Hermione D. Embry
(Chas. A. Sr.)
Genealogical reference
Librarian

Novr. 17, 1785

Sir Mr Stephon Loe informs me his Gods and Chatils is under
Exicution to be put to Public Sale on the 1st inst. for M r.
Brumfield Redley for the Sum of Nine Pounds Two Shillin g
if it is Consistant with your Duty & his interest to Postpond
the Matter untill Court ill settle with Mr. Redley then and
there for the Same & am Sir Your

Ob.d.t Sert

John Medearis

(At bottom of same sheet:)

Recd. 7th March 1786. of Capt. John Medearis the above Sum of
Nine pounds two Shillings for the Use of Stephen Lowe

Nat. Jones Shff

Mr. Nathl. Jones
H Sheriff

(Address:)

Mr. Nathl. Jones
H Sheriff

State of Tennessee Retherford County

July the 5th Day 1 807

Honourd
Father

I am tolerable Well at Present Though a few Weeks
Past I Was Verry onwell So much So as to Be under the Necessity
of ta King Medecine though I Hope these few lines will find
you My M(other?) my Sisters and all the family in a perfect
State of Helth Sister Patsy Jerusha Phillips Was Well and the

Children a few Dayes a Go She wrote me a Letter Requesting me to Come and See them and If I Could Doe them any Good I Would Go But I Havenot Been there Since Grady Came away and I Doenot Expect to Be there any More till I Come Home and then I Will Stop at Alexanders and Send for My Sister Whome I Esteem.--- I Went and Saved Your Land By Surveying it on Red River that is one Track your favouret and after that I Went up on Stones River and Surveyed that Myself and Made out t he Interfeerance finding that would be Such at rouble Some Pease of Bisness and Cost Somuch and (Loo)kd at the Land agreeable to Location and Went to Nashville and took Council & was told that the Land agreeable to Survey was yours and that Was all that You Have any Rite to Contend for Jalous Seyz A Rose As I Was Certain I Had But few friends I Wated till Judge Hay Wod Came out I Went and took His advice and he told me to Hold to the Land Granted as that Was the only alturnative Which I Shal attend to tomorrow morning it Being the first Day of our Court---your (1020 Acer Land Warrent) is Condemed also Grant Has Issued on it you aug(ht to ?) Send the Papers to me that is Required to Justify your Clames the Act of Assembly or the Report of the Committe that Gave It to you (an)d a Certific(---)t from the Secreterry Certifying that that Warrant Was Given up By the Legislator of that State and taken By them Back again and that it would Be Equatable and Just for Grant to Isue on it. that is if you Can Send it By the 7 or 8 of Aug-ust Dont Send it till I Come you will find How your Stones River Land is Situate By the Plat Here unto anexd and Write to ~~to~~ me Whether to give the one third to a Surveyar for Locating or ne that is the Duplicate. all so Write to me and Send me the Instrument of Writing I requested Concerning Land an I remain your Dutiful Sun Till Death

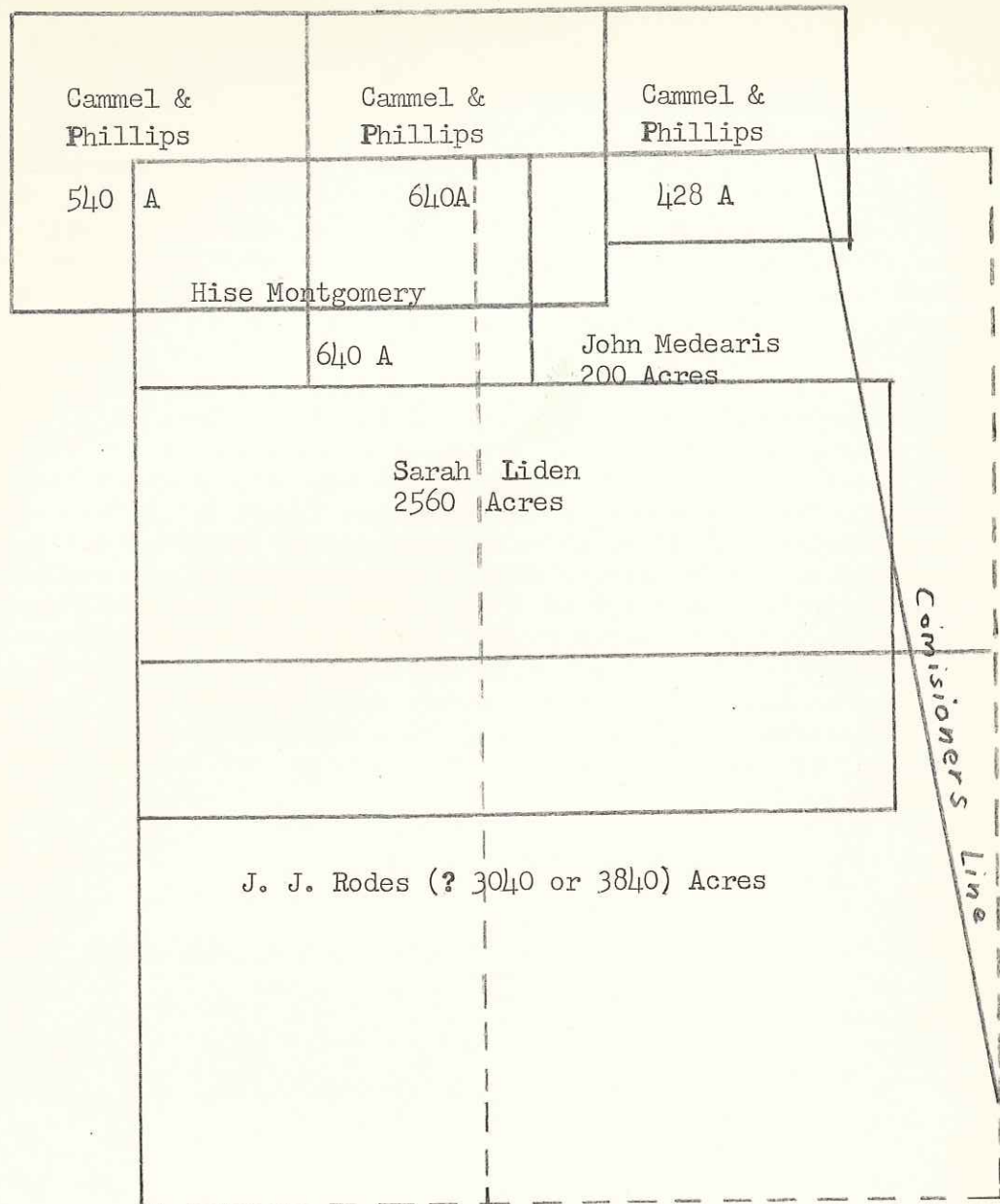
Washington Davis Medearis

(Address:)

Capt John Medearis
Wake County
N. Caroliner

Favour Mr Heritage

(Also enclosed is the following chart.)



I was Disappointed in Sending these

Sooner (Whis??) i now

Send for your

Infor Matian

12 of inst

Satae of ~~Tennisee~~ Davidson County
Near Nashville June the 30th Day 1808

Dr Father & Mother

I Being at Lasure afew Moments Will With Pleasure
Imploy my Self in Writing to you first I am tolerable Well
though Verry much fallen away though I Hope these Lines Will
find you all in a Situation as I Cold Wish you I Have Never
Recd anny a Single Letter from from any of the family Since I
Left Home I am verry (oneasy ?) Here I am and Cant git a Way
unless I Run aWay and that I Wont Doe if I Can Help it and I
Expect that I Shall be Under the Necessity to Stay till you
Send me Some Legal Authority to Sell the Stones River Land for
this Authority Will Not Doe in this Contry unless it Was Proven
and Recorded all I Want is Not to Come Home With my finger in
my mouth you Want Money is One that that Causes my Oneasyness I
Have Compleatly Settled all your Busyness in thes Contry & am
this Day With out Money or Horse I Have Sold my Horse for 240
Acres of Warrant & for that I Can Git as Good a Horse and Pay
30 Dollars Which I Owe to My Lawyer Send a Deed to Me Indorsd
to Thomas Tolbert as Soon as Possable and then I Can Come Home
Prepard to Pay all our Debts you are there all Oneasy & I am
Here More Oneasy than any of you Could Posseibly Be Excuse my
Hurry for it is Verry Grate

W. D. Medearis

(Address:)

Capt John Medearis

Pr Mr David North Carolines
Yarbers Wake County Near
favour Raleigh

(Above address, left:)

Hillsborough
July 20

(Right:)

10 (cents postage)

January, the 28th. Day 1813
State of Tennessee, Bedford County

Benjamin W. H. Medearis and Mary M. Medearis
Wake County, on Sick or Lick Creek, Mr. Grady's.
Bearer Mr. Kirkman,

Dear Brother and Sister:- With pleasure I sit down once more to try to give you some faint idea of myself and family and also of your father and mother. I am in only tolerable health. Mrs. Medearis not very well. Rachel Davis Tolerable. The rest of the family in reasonable health. All of which desire to be remembered to you both and family. Your father and mother both hardly ever well, the infirmity of old age which follows of course.

Charity always complaining of some misery. They all wish to see and hear from you both. Mr. Smith and Polly were both well the other day. They have one daughter and one son. We have been unfortunate and have only one daughter. Mr. and Mrs. Phillips were both well when I heard from them and have another son.

I should be more descriptive in my letter but Mr. Kirkman, the bearer of this letter, who is a neighbor can give you satisfaction perhaps. I have sent by him for my money, you will please give him aid in collecting it. I wrote to you to draw thirty dollars of the money and sent in order for the same. As my father could not transmute you money when you wrote him for it. I never heard whether you got the letter or money or not. If you did not you will now draw it and send me the balance by Mr. Kirkman. My father has leased out your place reserving one side of the spring for you, the place where I hold muster joining my land. If you get in the notion of selling your land, let me and Mr. Smith have the refusal of it. I am willing, if you sell, to buy half the land. Come and see it, if you sell it. But to do you and myself justice, I must recommend to you to move to it. I can only say if you sell give me the refusal and (P. Smith.)

I should be very glad to see you and Mr. Grady both, at my house once more. If you should never move, I have nothing more inducing than Hog and Hominy and good whiskey. I wish you to write to me every particular, by this gentleman, my friend Mr. Kirkman. We have not had it in our power to have the land divided correctly, yet if you were to move out at this time as now we are settled and can be having notice give you necessary release out at this time as now we are settled and can by having notice give you necessary release on your recommend. We have tolerable good crops. I have made at least one hundred and seventy barrels of corn and can make one hundred gallons of whiskey a week.

Should try to come to see this spring if it was not that I have to make use of some industry to busy to get up my horse

mill this spring.

Thus I will conclude. Hoping that these lines will meet with your health and prosperity as I conclude and do wish.

I remain your most obedient humble servant and brother
Washington D. Medearis and E. Medearis with father and mother.

This is a copy of a copy of the original letter, said by Miss Elizabeth B. Barton of Jonesboro, Ark, to be in possession of Benjamin T. Medearis of Martha Tenn.

By my investigation thru a Robert M. of Nashville--this party was a station master of the railroad thru the town--has been dead some time--efforts to find widow unsuccessful.

Given as I got it. Don't know if spelling has been altered or not--if not I'll say he seemingly was fairly well educated.

State of Tennessee, Madison City. July, 24th 1832.

Honored Father.

After my Respects to you and all Inquiring friends, I will relate to you my sad Misfortune - on the 16th day of this Instant it Was the Will of God to take my Dear Companion of the Stage of action after a Long and painful Spell Bedfast Sickness Ever Since the 29th. of December Last She lived till all ~~of~~ her flesh was Gon and I think her Lungs also She Craved to see her mother & I wrote to her and Wanted her to Come and Stay with her Little Children Which I Would Be Very Glad that She Would for they are all young & I am Not Well Myself - There is One thing Which Very Gratifying to me and ought to be to all her Connection but a Very Little While before She Died I asked her How She felt in regard to a future State & her Reply Was No Doubt. No Dread on her mind - and Clasped me in her arms & Expired - be So Good as th Shew this Letter to Mrs. Grady- And rite to me. Whither She Will Come or not - I Cannot rite any More But Remain Your Obedient Son Till Death

Benj. W.H. Medearis

Address:)

Mr. John Medearis
Bedford ~~Co~~. Cty.
Tennessee,
Shelbyville.

Sent by mail. Post marked Jackson, Tenn. July 26, 18¢ postage.

September the 17th. 1832 Madison Cty. Tennessee.

Honoured Father

Yesterday at Our Camp Meeting I saw Isaac (Dithard?) & he informed me that Brother Washington Told him you Were Well and All the Rest of the family and Connection Which Gave me Infinate Satisfaction my family are all in Tolerable health at this time Thanks be to God for his mercy & Mr. Dillard Informed me that I Could Git Some Succour from you or Brother & They Start tomorrow it being Out of my power to Leave home I Send My Son to See you in my Stead for I am Very Neady both in Purs & mind though I can Give you Glad Tidings Of Great Joy. After All my Misfortunes Yesterday At Our Meating My Soal Was filled With Joy to here the Sound of the Voyce of One of Dear Children in the Alter Gory to to the most high God her Soal Was happy Great News - Glorious News to me to here that the Lord had pardoned her Sins & in about 5 or 6 hours her Companion ris on his feat Gorefying God this as a Great Comfort to me ~~and~~ in the midst of my misfortunes

Anything that you can Spare Without Disfurnishing yourselves I will be Thankfull for And Account to you for I am in Debt & ~~do~~ know Not how to pay Without the Assistance Of My friends. I Should Be Glad to Come & See you but you Know My Situation the Loss of My Companion and My Crop Now on hand and 7 Small children to Take Care of & No person to Leave with them renders it out of My power to Leave home One Night Alone Let alone 12 or 15. therefore I will Say a Little Assistance is Better than Know & Will be thankfull for Any. if I Could Git the Worth of My Labour & it would be Will of Kind Providence to Give me my health I Could Work Out of Debt in the Course of Next year but I am behind & it Appears that Cant Git up therefore my work will not even Bring Half price - I have One Thrashing Machine Now Done ready for Work Well Worth \$50. & the Other Day I offered to take \$35. for it to Buy Some Bacon & Could Not Git / it therefore I have to Do Without - Except of the assurance Of My Well Wishes through this Life & if We Never More Should Meat Below I hope to Meat you in heaven Where parting Will be No more. - I Remain your Dutiful Child Untill Death -

Benj. W.H. Medearis

Give my respects to Brother & Sisters and all ther family. and Mrs. Grady & Enquiring friends.

(Address:)

To Capt. John Medearis or Washington D. Medearis
Bedford Dty. Tennessee.

Care of my Son D.G.M.

Capt. John Medearis

Hope these lines will inform you that we have heard of Your misfortings and Hope that mamah will be able to get ~~here~~ Hear in a Short time as I know that Mrs. Phillips Could attend on her better than where she is. We think Verry long of the time of Your detainer from this place I have Understood that you was not Verry flush of ~~capit~~ Money and you Being detained on the Road (Might?) Make you wish some essistance If you are in Need and Cant Come on Wright to me and I will send you what Money you want and give you any assistance you want (of?) Mr. Washington left hear this morning and all the family was well Mrs. Phillips oftimes looks and wishes to see you all and Joins me in Complements to You all & c.

Wm. Phillips

N.B.

We should be verry happy to hear How Mamah is & c.

W.P.

26th. July, 1809

(Address:)

Capt. John Medearis
11 Miles from the pint
on the Knoxville Road

Wm. Gentleman.

White County, Tennessee,
27th. Novr. 1809

Capt. John Medearis and Faimly,
Dear Friends

These lines will inform you that we are in Reasonable health at present hoping these lines will find you all the same we have Nothing Verry metearrel to wright but hope Some of the family will come and Spend a few days with us Christmas Next as the distance is not Verry Greate. I am doing Tolerable Well Considering the Hard times better than I could Expect fer the Times I am in hopes I will work Through deficeltys without being any was Injured Although Times is dangarous to them that is in debt B. Benjamen Cald and got the Horse in good plite He appeared to be in good sperits on his Return No More

But Remain as Usual with due Esteem Your Dutifull and
obt. &c.

Wm. Phillips

N.B. Mr. Walter Fisk presents his Compliments to the family &c

Madison Cty. Tennessee
July 16th. 1831

Dear father after a Variety of Misfortunes I have the
Pleasure of once more riting to you to inform you that myself
and family are all in Tolerable health Thanks be to God. for
his mercy hoping these lines will find you in Good health. I
have rote to you Several and Times and Never Have Recv. ansr I
should be Glad to See you Once more in Life But Never Expect to
Do So for my family is Large in No. but Small in Age and poverty
Withall Keeps me from Seeing you as I understand that you have
Got to Live to yourself Again but had you of Lived with Washington
to the End of time I Never Shoud have Enterd his primeses - I
rote to you if you had any thing to Spare Without Disfurnishing
yourself that it Would be Very Exceptable With me at this time
and the Litter that Washington rote was So Infamous that it is
Like Old Colonel Barkey Martin Said When he hunted the Hollow
Tree - I Can Only Say that unless you think you Can be Certain
that you Cannot Spare Any thing Without Disfurnishing yourself
So Not Do it Although I am at a Distance from you and the Other
Two Are under the Table ready to Pick up Every Crumb that falls
from your Table - That is the Life of a Cat. &. probably Would
be the Life of Me to were I there - we have a Considerable
drouth. at this time Crops in this part of the World. is but
Gloomy - rite or Send me Word by Josey Stephens Which he has
promised Me. he Will Come and see you -

I Remain your Dutiful and Obedient Son until Death -

Benj. W.H. Medearis,

(Address:)

Capt. John Medearis,
Bedford County
Tennessee.
Favor of Mr. Josiah Stephens

N. Carolina, Wake County -
April, The 17th. 1810

Mr. John Medearis
Honourable father and Mother

After my Sincere Love and Compliments To you Both and All
the family, I will Oncemore rite to you The Situation that my
Business Lyes in the Still and Vice Have Been Sold By (Ecec letn??)
and Fetchd L 33-6 Which money I Cannot Draw They Say Without A
power of Atory of Aturney (sic) from you or A Transfer for the
property that I Bought of you. I yet Have not Received One Attum
of that property Yet (sic) only Some things that I found that
you Had Left Here Without any minit off. There is Joseph Dillards
note that you never Gave me a memorandum of and that money I Can

Collect if I knew What Call for - Tell Washington That there is not One Cent of His money Collected yet And no Likely-hood of it in the Hand that it is in for money is an Object Here now At this time With Every Body in One Case That I Will State to you for a proof Jourdain Warshams Negroes four of them Were Sold the Other Day for Only forty Shillings Could I Of Had my money in Little as it Was I Could Of improved it, for this you may see, But However Them that Was Born Under a Bad plannet must Bear it With patience, Except of Myne & Betseys Complements and give mine to my Dear Old mother and tell Her I Have that Dollar that She gave me yet and I mean to Keep it as Long a pleas God to Allow Me the Liberty of It.

Bee so good as to Remember us both to all the family Both great and Small, and tell mother that Her Dear Little Abby Call Her Grandmah name Thousands Of times, and of nites Cries Sometimes and Sayw Where is Aunt Polley - Myself and all the family are all tolerable Well and my ardent Hope is that those Few Lines will finde you all in a perfect State of Health And. minde- Tell Brother Washington and Sister Betsey not to think that I Had forgot them Because I Did not particular mention them for I Lumpt the Whole and if they Do not mind I shall Have another Heir Before Them, Abby and Pedy are Both fine Large Children & Can Walk and Talk Viry plain, Nothing more at present only Remain Dear parents Your Most Obediant and Humble Servant and Dutifull Sun until Death.

Benj. W.H. Medearis,

N.B. Excuse my Hurry for it is now Misnight and this Letter Starts in the morning -

B.W.H.M.

North Carolina Person County November 1th. 1816

Dear Honorable Brother i have kind embraced This opportunity of Righting to let you kno that i and mine is in a Resonable state of helth at present Thanks be to god for it and hoaping these lines will find you and yours in the like and I should be glad to see sum of you to have some chat with you about the Country i have the soryst Crop that I ever had in my life and the drouth has Been so severe that Corn sels now at fore do from the stack Rotten and all to gether pork at 12-2/3 pr hundred Cows Betwean 20 and 30 doler By Reson of destemper and nomore at present But stil Remane your loving Brother til deth and hope That if we never may see each other in this life that we may meat . . . there to Remane - But stil wish to se you and all your in life I an dear Brother with esteem your dear loving Brother until death and i stil Remain in the monastick way

Abraham Madeares

To Mr. John Madeares
Bedford County
Tennessee State
From Abraham Meadearis

(The above is so indistinct or damaged in places the reading is uncertain. The paper is in four separate pieces at the folds.)

Sir,

With Pleashure I imbrace the opportunity of once more Dropping a few lines to you to inform you that I and my famoley are all well hope and Trust you and yours are in the like State,

I have troubled you with two or three letters and have never recd no Ansr which induces me to think this will be the last I shall trouble you with - altho the distance are greate I carnt well forebare when and oppertunity offers dropping a few lines to my Old Acquaintances, and an Ansr to me with Pleashure will ever be recd as they appeare altho at Such a Distance to be more fumillier with me than those who live neare me, I have nothing Strang to inform you off, we have very good Crops and wish all the incoragement for the Settling of our Countrey I desire to be remd to Mrs. Medaris and all inquiring friends - the last letter I wrote to you was by Mr. Quisenbury who I have had no account from requesting of you to send me the small balance due, shou'd you have not paid Quisenbury I will be much obld to you to send it to me by Colo Matt Brooks whos Rect shall be good -

I wrote by Quisenbury that I have either lost or mislade your not which I have acttily done Brooks rect shall be good against the not which is all the acct that is between uss, I am aboute to leave the County I now live in and mmove down the river apeace to my own land and shou'd it so happen that I wont call on you next Spring It woant be convenient for me to have an Eye over yr land any longer yr friend &c

A Martin

Dec 29 1798 Recd Nine Silver Dollars by Virtue of the written Letter I say recd by me

Mattw Brooks,

of Mr. Medaris
(Address:)

Capt. John Medaris
No Carolinea Wake Cty neare Raleigh

Hond by Col Brooks

Memorandum of Agreement maid this nineteenth Day of November
One Eight Hundred & Seven Between John Medearis Scnd of the
County of Wake and State of North Carolina of the one part And
John Minor Goodloe of the County of Davidson and State of
✓ Tennessee for Himself, William Goodlowe Henry Goodloe, David
Short Goodloe and Elizabeth Jones Wife of Samuel Jones and Heirs
of Robert Goodloe now Deceast of the Other part Witnesseth, that
the Said John Medearis Complying With A former Written Covenant
entered into by himself the Said Medearis and the Robert Goodloe
with Abrem Bledsoe Who is Also Deceased for the Said Bledsoe to
Locate Survey and obtain A Grant or Grants from the Aforesaid
State of North Carolina to him the Said Medearis on a Land
Warrent No. 482 for one thousand and twenty Acres, Which jointly
purchased By the Said John Medearis & Robert Goodloe and the
Location Maid By John Medearis Opposite to the mouth of Chicke-
mogga Creek A branch of the Tennessee River the Said John Medearis
Doth agree to make to the Above Named Heirs of Robert Goodloe A
Good and Sufficient Deede for the Equal undivided half of the
Afore Said Land as Soon as a Grant Can Bee Obtained for the Same.
Warranting only against Him Self His Heirs and all others Claim-
ing under Him & I the Said John Medearis Doth further Constitute
and Impower John Minor Goodlowe My Attourney to act for Me in As
full and Compleat a Mannor as if I Was purtionally present in
all and Singular Acts thats Relative to this agreement The Said
John Minor Goodloe for Himself and the Above Named Heirs of
Robert Goodloe Doath Agree to Bee at all further Expense in Ob-
taining a grant or grant for the Above named Warrant No 482 for
one thousand and twenty Acres of Land and the Said John Minor
Goodloe further Agrees that if the Heirs of Abraham Bledsoe Should
at any time Come forward Claiming under the Covenant maid Between
the Said John Medearis and Robert Goodloe With Him the Said Bledsoe
that Him the Said John Minor Goodloe With the Before Named Heirs
of Robert Goodloe is Bound to Comply With that Covenant in the
Same manner as Robert Goodloe Would Himself if living

In Witness Whereof We have unto set Our hands and Seals
the Day and year first Above Written ---

Test

B.S.H.Medearis

John Medearis
(Seal)

John M. Goodloe
(Seal)

Dear Sir

(Ohil) Zanesville Feby 5th 1807

This day, I have sent by private conveyance, to Col Thomas
Worthington, one of our Senators to Congress Eighty five dollars,
requesting him to pay the same to the Hon Nathl Macon for you,
and on the acct of the sales of your land, to Isaac Van Horn Esqr-

This sum together with the \$200. paid to him last Spring in full for the avails of your land, having retained fifteen dollars for my expenses in attending to this business. Mr. Macon would not receive the money last year, until he received your advice, & in consequence it may be necessary for you to write to him again. Hoping sir, that my conduct will meet your full approbation; I am sir, with esteem

Yours Respectfully
Wm Wells

John Medearis Esqr

(Address:)

Capt. John Medearis
Raleigh Wake County North Carolina

MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS

Recd. March 16, 1783 of Capt. John Medearis Six Pounds Specie in full for inoculating, Medicine & attendance Mr. Robert Bell for the small Pox in the Spring 1781

Charles Pasteur

Recd. of Capt. John Medearis Two Dollars being his Carriage Tax for the year to end Sept 1799. Also Two Dollars & fifty four Cents which I am to pay to John Whitaker, being the balance of his act with sd. Whitaker. March 22 1799 Henry Jones

Raleigh 16th November 1807

Recd. of Mr. Washington Madeiras the Sum of two pounds four Shillings in full of his acct.
for W Rogers

D. O'Bryan

April 28th 1804 then Recd. of Washington Mederris the Sum of two pounds twelve shillings it being in full of his Shop Act. for the year 1803 Recd. by me John Ship for Benjamin Grady

Shelbyville Ten Jan. 2nd 1816 - Recvd of John Medearas two Dollars in full for his Subscription to the Herald in advance.
Theo F. Bradford

(On one ticket)

Recd. of John Medearis in full of his Tax for the year 1804
(Signature unintelligible)

Recd. of John Medearis for Washington Medearis in full of his
Tax for the year 1804
(Signature unintelligible)

Bedford County, 1814 Received of
John Medearis 2 dollars & 47 cents for his state, County and
poor tax for the year 1814

Jno. Warner Sheriff.

(A printed form; the underscored words and figures written in)

Find accounts as of date.

79 - May, 16,	Barbara Bell	136 pounds sterling. 15 shillings,
		0 pence
March, 6,	Robert Bell	719 3
		4 pence
1780		437 4
		4 pence
1781. Mar. 6.		1232 15
		8 pence
1782, Mar.		10332 12
		4 pence
March, 28	Hard Cash	14 1
		6 pence

Besides 10 Bonds. I drew from Mr. Hall, calling for each 100 pounds due Thomas Bell for good money. One also on Isaac Hicks by the Guardian to the orphans for 2619 odd. See the release also accounts against all the children in like manner settled (?) purporting in the whole by Ruff (?) Somewhere about 39,000 pounds. Also Mr. Bell have obtained judgements & records a pretty considerable sum of also High Dennis Braley Wm. Massey Wm. Tubb T. Crawford McKullooe by virtue of a list (?) of debts (?). I had in my possession and delivered to him. Be it known that the six thousand and odd pounds reported by administration in favor of the estate of Thomas Bell deceased was the same court and time of the change of administration and was paid to Ridley.

We never to my knowledge received one farthing of compensation for services done towards the estate, was merely nominated for the benefit of raising the children. Mr. Bell well knows that

his mother knows nothing of figures and that Tassie (?) was the acting administrator and had books bond and money in his own care. Greater part of all of her purchases from people that believed themselves injured by such purchases as I see in Sheriff's return of sale.

Now from settlements the accounts purchases very much also have kept a piece of deformity 25 years or thereabout which if I was to be hired to board would ask 100 pounds (Next work unintelligible) year being deaf and dumb and out of joint in every part of her that I think Mr. Bell quite out of the secret (?) to call on me to account with him whereas he ought to account with me But I always meant my accounts to cover my wife's purchases and when the Court informed me that they were far superior I rested contented (to) let what debt or claim come that could and I now stand and ever have without one shilling of the estate he eludes to although I am entitled 1/3 part of it.

The Studd horse Mr. Bell eludes to in his bill was a colt she tells me she bid for him one negroe girl Hager 1 table and a lot of puter That and that alone is bounded with reality in the bill of complaint.

From "Reminiscences and Memoirs of
North Carolina dn Eminent North Carolinians"
by John H. Wheeler, Columbus Printing Works,
Columbus Ohio, 1884, pages 178-179

The Hicks family were distinguished among those worthy of remembrance in Granville.

Captain Robert Hicks lived about a mile from Oxford in 1770.

The family is English, and settled in Brooklyn, New York, in the locality now known as Hicks Street. The family was distinguished in England for its courage and ability and one of them was knighted for his deeds of daring.

Robert Hicks entered the revolutionary army and was in the battle of Guilford, with the North Carolina militia, where these raw and undisciplined troops were placed by General Greene in the front line, and there, overwhelmed by the British, fled; young Hicks stood his ground and fought single handed, until nearly surrounded and after his men had gone a considerable distance, he then escaped and shared, during the remainder of the war, its dangers and its glories.

He died suddenly of a disease of the heart, and left a large family, some of whom still live in Granville.

One of his sons is a professor of a Medical College in New Orleans and another moved to Arkansas, another Dr. John R. Hicks, one of the best and purest of men, died not long since, near Williamsboro in this county. The old homestead is now owned by a colored man, whose wife once belonged to one of Captain Hicks daughters. Her husband now owns the home from which her young mistress went years ago as a bride. How strange, is the revolution of time and circumstance!

Compliments of
Douglas M. Willis

From Bible & Family Records Vol. 9, Page 56 Compiled by
DAR in (Sutro) Branch Cal State Library--Public Library--Civic Center--
San Francisco Cal. (Book dated 1951-52)

Records taken from the family Bible of the James Henderson
Medaris family and now in the possession of (Wilma Medaris Stevens,
Tulare, Calif.

Compiled by Mrs. Arline Hargis, Tulare Cal.
Alta Mira Chapter D. A. R.
Lindsay, Calif.

There is a notation for the first generation. It states that a
(Scotch-Irish boy came to America with a French family and landed
on Virginia shore.) With this family also was a girl named (Rachel
Davis.) Young McDaris married this girl but they changed the name
to Medaris.

To them was born:

James Davis, b. Feb 13-1788, Mar. Levisa King, d. Feb.
8, 1878, Ind.

Wash. (no more records for that generation)

Livisa King, b. Jan. 7, 1790, Ind. d. Apr. 10, 1838

Their Children:

Johnathon H. B. Dec. 26, 1809, No. Carolina
Ithamer Red b. Mch. 28, 1812 No. Carolina
Enorial b. Sept. 5, 1814, No. Carolina
Icency Jane B. Nov. 14, 1816, No. Carolina
Salathiel b. July 4, 1818-No. Carolina
Messa Wista b. May 19, 1821-No. Carolina
Stephen b. Mch. 13, 1823-No. Carolina
Nathanial b. Apr. 21, 1825-No. Carolina
Abraham b. May 5, 1829-Shelby Co., Ohio

Mary b. Jan 27, 1831-Owen Co., Ind.
died June 22, 1850

Livisa King's mothers name is listed as Caroline Coble
d. Indiana. A notation states that in his later years James
Davis Medaris spelt his name Madearis.

Stephen Medaris (notation says in early life spelled name
Madaris but later went back to Medaris).
Married Molly Coble b. May 23, 1825 d. June 29, 1879 in
Indiana.

Their Children:

Ind.

William Hasten- b. June 6, 1848
Married Ruth Melick, Apr. 29, 1869

James Henderons- b. Nov. 7, 1851, Ind.
Married Samilda D. Davis, May 20, 1875
Died Nov. 11, 1923, Helena, Okla.

Sarah Catherine- b. Feb. 21, 1854, Ind.
Married Rufus Spear, Dec. 31, 1876

Minerva Jane- b. June 18, 1856, Ind.
Married W. S. Williams-Mar. 17, 1880
died June 4, 1884

Mary Hestletins- b. Oct. 31, 1858, Ind.
Married M. H. Perkins- Feb. 18, 1882

Martha Emaline- b. Oct. 31, 1858, Ind.
Married John Layman Apr. 7, 1889

LauraIndiana- b. Dec. 29, 1861, Ind.
Married F. H. McCormick, Feb. 25, 1881

Ada Ellen - b. June 1, 1864, Ind.
Married W. H. Rice- Apr. 20, 1885

Stephen Cyrus - b. Sept. 17, 1867, Ind.
Married Pluma Layman - Apr. 7, 1889

James Henderson Medaris Mar. Samilns Dorcus Davis at
Spencer, Ind. May 20, 1875 by H. Hight.
Her parents were Alexander Davis of Ohio--died in
Indiana and Jane who died Apr. 1895 in Okla.

Their Children:

Loura May - b. Sept. 1, 1876, Ind.
Married John B. Vanwye, Nov. 28, 1895

Gertrude Belle- b. Aug. 8, 1878, Ind.
Married Alvin McCall

Ada Ellen - b. Sept. 29, 1880, Ind.
Married Guy Johnson, Dec. 25, 1897

Metta Agnes - b. Aug. 3, 1886 - Kans.
Married Frank W. Bull Dec. 25, 1905

James Vernon- b. July 3, 1890, Kans. Mar. Arline Young
1-1-1914- Kans. d. 2-23-1923

Una Clara- b. 11-22-1896-d. 12-26-1900

Compliments of
Douglas M. Willis

Dallas, Texas
January 23, 1955

Dear Mr. Norwood:

When I got home this evening and learned of your call, I decided to copy an old letter I have and send a copy to you and one to your borther in Arlington. The typing is poor though as I am tired and it is late. Sorry I was not at home and hope you and Mrs. Norwood will make it another Sunday.

You will note in this letter from W. D. Medaris to my sister Frances (now Mrs. D. S. Key, living in Austin) that he mentioned Grandfather Medearis' second wife, Kate Smith. She was the daughter of W. S. Smith; he was born March 9, 1793, died Jan. 1, 1876; and Nancy Smith, who was born April 22, 1813 and died April 29, 1876-- 20 years younger than her husband, yet she died a little less than four months after his death. I copied this from her tombstone:

"Dear Mother, thou are gone to rest,
Thy toils and cares are o'er
And sorrow, pain and suffering now
Shall ne'er distress thee more."

I have one picture of my grandfather and it is not very clear. I am going to take it down and see if I can get some copies of it made. I have pictures of all my father's brothers and sisters except Uncle John; and of course of my own brother and sisters (one brother, two sisters) and will be glad to give you copies of any of these you wish. I don't know whether you are interested in more family history concerning the grandchildren of Wiley Medearis but if you are I can give you quite a bit of that.

Your brother Harvey very kindly invited me to your family picnic next June 11 and I am going to try to get my sister Frances to come to Dallas for a visit in June and go with me to the picnic at Greenville. I think it would be great to meet so many fine people.

Sincerely,

S/ Alice Tew
Alice Medearis Tew

(Letter written by W. D. Medearis, a first cousin of T. W. Medearis and nephew of Wiley Woodward Medearis, to a daughter of T. W. Medearis)

COPY

Fayetteville, Tenn.
April 15th, 1926

Miss Frances Medearis
Dallas, Texas

Dear Miss Medearis:

Your letter of the 8th received and I am glad to give you any information I can concerning our families. I will therefore go back as far as I can and give you the genealogy of our family up to date.

My great-grandfather's name was John T. Medearis. He was a captain under George Washington in the Revolutionary War and after the close of this war he entered his land warrants (that were given him for service) on about 6,000 acres of land that is in now Marshall County of this State. He lived there the remainder of his life, died at about the age of 95 years and is buried on this tract of land, his grave being about 20 miles of this place and marked by a marker furnished by The Daughters of the Revolution. I do not know just how many children he had, but a son by the name of George W. Medearis was my grandfather.

George W. Medearis had three sons and three or four daughters. Names of his sons are as follows: The eldest, John T. Medearis; the second Wiley Medearis (your grand-father), and the third George Medearis who died at the age of 21 years, leaving no family. John Medearis's first wife (who was my mother) was Frances Dean. Wiley Medearis's first wife was Mary Lipscomb and she was a niece of my mother. John Medearis had five children

by his first wife as follows: the oldest, Mary; second, Lucy; third, Harvey Dean; fourth, Washington D. (the writer of this letter); fifth, Frances. All of us are living and married except my sister Frances, who died at the age of about 23, leaving a little baby girl and a boy 2 years old.

Wiley Medearis had only one child by his first wife whose name is John Medearis (your Uncle John).

My father (John T. Medearis) and his brother (Wiley Woodward Medearis) at this time were engaged in farming in Bedford County, this state, owning fine farms and many slaves. They decided to sell all of their land and move with their slaves to Texas. This was about the year 1859, when they started on the journey with quite a caravan of wagons, teams, carriages and horsemen, conveying families, household goods, provisions and slaves.

All went well with them until they reached the southwest portion of Arkansas. At this time my mother was taken very ill with malarial fever and on the next day, my Uncle Wiley's wife also was taken with the same fever. So ill were they that the entire crowd went into camp to await the outcome of their illness. In just two weeks from the time my mother was stricken, she fell asleep in the Lord and the next day Uncle Wiley's wife departed from this earth to a home above; and on the next day their mortal bodies were placed side by side in the same grave to be watched over and cared for by kind and tender hands of strangers who had so kindly rendered every aid possible during their short illness. And thus were two brothers left with six little motherless children in a strange land.

It was at once decided that my father and his belongings would return to Tennessee bringing your Uncle John (who was a very small baby) back with us and your grandfather with his teams and everything would go on to Texas.

My father after returning, married again and shortly afterwards your grandfather married, as well as I can remember, a Miss Kate Smith, who was your grandmother. Two of my own sisters are widows and are still living. Mary married A. W. Feeney. Lucy's first husband was J. D. Neeld and her second husband was Hugh D. Smith. They live in and near this town. My brother Harvey D. married Bettie Dean and they live in Pulaski of this state. My brother has three children. John, the eldest, in Los Angeles, Calif.; the second, Frances, married Bennett Eslick, an attorney, and lives in Pulaski; the third, Harvey D., Jr., is still with his father and mother.

I married Miss Lucy Allen of Shelbyville, Tenn. We have only two children, both boys. Frank Lipscomb, the older, married Miss Gladys Wheatley of Marshall County and has two little boys

and one little girl. Leland D., the last and youngest married Miss Mamie Sue Franklin of this county. They have one little girl two and one-half years old and live with us here, and he is engaged in business with me.

My father has 11 children by his second wife. Names of the living are Wiley Alice, Robert W., Sallie, Nellie, Emma and Hattie Lee. All are married and have children except Wiley Alice, who has never married. Three of the girls have lost their husbands.

I have given you just what I thought would be of most interest to you, and I am glad to know that we are related, as from your letter I take it that you are a lady of refinement and culture. Bro. C. E. Wooldridge who called you over the telephone was our preacher at this place for several years****

My son Frank and family lived in Dallas in about 1920 but is now living in Winter Garden, Florida. He is general sales manager for a large real estate company in Chicago.

All of the Medearis (family) as far back as we know were members of the Church of Christ and I am anxious to know if your family are still clinging to this faith as are all of the descendants in this part of the country.

My brother Harvey and I spent several months in Dallas in 1877 and traveled over several of the surrounding counties and I have always had a desire to return and see the wonderful changes that time has made. At that time there were several descendants from the Medearis family living there. The wives of Dr. King, Dr. Johnson and a Mr. Charlie Gill were cousins of ours. Mr. Gill was the contractor who built the old Lamar Hotel.

* * * I was seventy years old on the 13th of this month and am still enjoying good health, playing golf and fishing most of the time.

I shall be glad to hear from you telling us more about your grandfather and his family. He was a man of few words and lines and after this second marriage and his return to Tennessee to get his little son John we did not hear very often from him.

My wife joins me in extending to you an invitation to visit us at some time and we will promise to take you to see many of your relatives whom you have doubtless never heard of.

With kindest regards and best wishes, I am

Your cousin,

(Signed) W. D. Medearis

It was my sister Mary that corresponded with your Aunt Annie.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS, and OTHER RECORDS OF
THE FAMILY OF JOHN THOMAS MEDEARIS

Births

John Thomas Medearis - April 5, 1828
Frances E. Dean (first wife) - March 28, 1833
Births of Children of these two:

Mary E. Medearis - February 22, 1850
Lucy C. Medearis - February 16, 1852
Harvey Medearis - February 9, 1854
Washington Davis Medearis - April 13, 1856
Martha Frances Medearis - November 11, 1858
- - - - -

Harriet Jane Noblett (2nd. wife) January 19, 1840
Births of children by this 2nd wife:

Nancy Thomas Medearis - August 28, 1861
Anna Belle Medearis - May 4, 1863
Wiley Alice Medearis - March 26, 1865
William Robert Medearis - October 3, 1867
Sallie Lenore Medearis - November 11, 1869
X Ethel May Medearis - August 6, 1872
X Lily Myrtle Medearis - July 20, 1875
Gertrude Medearis - August 21, 1877
X Emma Medearis - October 5, 1878
X Nellie Medearis - November 17, 1880
X Hattie Lee Medearis - March 12, 1884

Deaths

✓ John Thomas Medearis - August 5, 1897
Frances Dean Medearis - October 31, 1859

Mary Medearis Feeny - died at age 79
Lucy C. Smith -
Harvey Medearis - died at age 80
Washington D. Medearis - died at age 74
Martha Frances Smith - May 18, 1881
Harriet J. Medearis - February 23, 1917

Nannie Medearis - May 25, 1879
Belle Medearis Holman - September 14, 1916
W. Alice Medearis - February 1, 1945
Wm. Robt. Medearis - December 5, 1929
Sallie Medearis Vertrees - September 22, 1927

Gertrude Medearis - November 19, 1877

Sons - in - Law

Willis F. Holman died January, 1902
Harry Winnett died about 1900
Dr. J. L. Foster died November 11, 1924
Dr. John O. Cummins - died July 28, 1932
Prof. Wm. Edw. Saxon died February 28, 1945

Marriages

John T. Medearis and Frances Evaline Dean - March 22, 1849
(1st marriage)

John T. Medearis and Harriet Jane Noblitt - April 29, 1860
(2nd marriage of Grandpa)
(Sorry, but we do not have here in Nashville a record of
the dates of marriages of the children of Grandpa's first
wife)

Mary E. Medearis married Fon Feeney; Lucy C. Medearis married John Neeld first time; later she married Hugh Smith, widowed husband of Martha Frances Smith; Harcey Medearis married Betty Dean; Washington Davis Medearis married Lucy Allen; Martha Frances Medearis married Hugh Smith. --Anna Belle Medearis married Willis Franklin Holman December 4, 1881; Sallie Lenore Medearis married Dr. Wm. Simon Vertrees January 1, 1890; Lily M. Medearis married Wm. Harry Winnett October 4, 1894. After his death she married Dr. John Levick Foster May 1902; Nellie Medearis married Albert Romaine Tallman June 21, 1904; Hattie Lee Medearis married William Bradford September 20, 1905. Some time later after his death she married Louis Morgan, but was later divorced from him. Wm. Robt. Medearis married Nana Elizabeth Burton November 18, 1898. Emma Medearis married Prof. Edward Saxon December 31, 1917. Ethel May Medearis married Dr. John O. Cummins June 22, 1919.

NAMES ONLY OF GRANDCHILDREN OF J. T. MEDEARIS, so far as I can
remember them.

Born to Mary and Fon Feeney:

John, Lula, Robert, Rosa May, Annie Belle, Raymond, Mary
and Fon, Jr.

Born to Lucy and John Neeld:

Jessie, Eva, Harvey, Bertha, and Mary

Born to Harvey and Betty Medearis:

John Frances, and Harvey Dean

Born to Wash and Lucy Medearis:

Frank and Leland

Born to Martha Frances and Hugh Smith:

William

Born to Bell and Willis Holman:

Mamie, Annie Belle, Beulah, who died at age 1 year, Maude Medearis, Alice, Willis Franklin, and Elizabeth

Born to Wm. Robert and Nana Medearis:

Virginia, Helen, and Robert

Born to Sallie and Simon Vertrees:

Mattie Belle, Woodford Mitchell, Robert Medearis, and Duncan

Born to Lily and Harry Winnett:

Martha Lucile

Born to Lily and Dr. Foster:

Edward and Jane

Born to Nellie and Albert Tallman:

Ruth Romaine and Richard Medearis

Born to Hattie Lee and Wm. Bradford:

Sara Clare, Harriet Locke, Marian Medearis

This letter from Mrs. Jane Wallace Alford, (Mrs. W. H.) Lewisburg, Tenn. March 6, 1957

Mr. Robert Gill
Arlington, Texas

Dear Mr. Gill:

It is with a great deal of pleasure that I write you in regard to two of our family lines as they seem to be the

same two lines that I have in my family. That is a singular thing to find two lines in common and yet be strangers to each other. I think you can help me more with the Medearis line but I can be of some assistance with the Gill line to you.

(Comments about the Gill Family omitted here.)

Now for the Medearis data; I thought that I was the only one who had found that Sarah Bell who married John Medearis was formerly a Hicks. I have corresponded with so many including Mrs. Rehfeldt, Mrs. Eslick of Pulaski who believed strongly that Sarah was a Haywood. Only last year did I find litigation in the Supreme Court law reports showing that Sarah Bell was the daughter of Robert Hicks. This litigation involved the giving of a slave, Violet, to Sarah Bell's older daughter Barbara who was later married to a Powers. Where did you get your information about this? I notice too, that you have the birth and death dates of Sarah Hicks Medearis which I did not have. I had only approximately known of her death. Where did you get these dates? Just last week I found the first marriage bond of Sarah Hicks to Thomas Bell. This was found in a historical magazine to which I subscribe and included the list of early North Carolina marriages which have been in the Archives in Raleigh, N. C. and never indexed before. This reads as follows: Thomas Bell to Sarah Hicks, Daughter of Robert in Granville Co., N. C. in 1763. (Found in The North Carolinian, March 1957 issue on page 271.) This is the first time I have heard of this in records. It proves beyond a doubt that Sarah was a Hicks. I never believed the Haywood line because there was no evidence pointing that way. There is a Robert Hicks who many have joined D. A. R. on from Granville County, N. C. and he has a daughter named Sarah too, but our Robert Hicks is an older man than he. The Robert Hicks in the D. A. R. have dates 1759-1829 but this is too late for our Robert who has a daughter marrying in 1763. It is likely that he was her brother.

You have more of the family records than I have on the Capt. John Medearis. All I have is the Bible record which is attached to his pension records in Washington. I have a copy of the land grant which is No. 1771. In the Bible record it does not list Martha Jerusha as being a child of Capt. John. It list only Washington Davis, Benjamin, B. W. H. and Polly. I did not know what B. W. H. stood for until I got your letter. Do you have a Bible showing Capt. John's children? Do you have the old letter from Washington to Capt. John?

All that I have on John Medearis is from a McDarris History written by Chas. McDarris Box 37, Barnardsville, N.C. as follows: "John and his Welch bride separated from his brothers Harvey Medearis (1711-1796) and James William (1713-1799) on the Grand Road from Philadelphia and stopped off with her parents near Tappahannock, in Essex Co., Va. They had one son named

John who was born in 1744. Around 1750 they and many other families from this section of Virginia moved into the frontier country of North Carolina to take up new land. John Jr. and his family settled in what is now Warren Co., N. C. near what is called Buffalo Race Path. A near neighbor was Gen. Jethro Sumner".

Also that part of my speech made at the dedication exercise was taken from this history, however it read very much like my speech with just the facts and no dates or proven data to say where he got this. The first mentioned dates with the individual name is found in the above quoted paragraph with reference to the three brothers. I take it that these brothers were single when they came to America and the above says John stopped off with her parents in Essex Co., Va. I presume they must have married in or near Essex. I have not proven or even looked for this marriage. I have this history and will send it to you if you wish to see it. It deals in the most part with author's side of the family which descend from the James William (1713-1799).

Family tradition has told us that Capt. John Medearis was a cousin of George Washington and that too has not been proven. Some think it comes through the Rachel Davis who was the daughter of Mary Reade and Edward Davis of Kin and Queen Co., Va. This Mary Reade was a grandchild of Col. Geo. Reade from whom George Washington descended. At least we do know that there is a close relationship and the other will have to go until we have proven this which I, of course, would like to do.

Mr. Chas. McDarris in N. C. says in his history that the Scottish name came down from MacDarock, MacDarris and finally the Mac was changed to Me and we have the spellings like Medarris, Medearis, etc. He says they wore the Stewart tartan in time of battle for they fought under their colors. I have a book on Scottish clans and tartans but nowhere have I found a Medearis tartan.

It is most interesting to note that you have in your possession a letter to John Medearis from his brother Abraham dated Person Co., N. C. 1816. That is the first word I have of Abraham. We might look in Person Co. for additional data on Medearis'. I do not know the date Capt. John came to Tenn. from North Carolina, but will look up the Bedford Co. Census and find when he first appears. The first census, however was not until 1820. Mrs. Rehfeldt stated she found a Green Medearis in the Bedford County 1830 Census. In the Bible record attached to pension file I find that Washington Davis had a child William Green Medearis born in 1825. He was only 5 years old in 1830 but could have been named for someone else. I will check this the next time I go to the State Library.

I would certainly like to have photostatic copies of your records if you have anything that will specifically throw any light on this family. Maybe we can work together and go toward Scotland a little with the search. This letter is quite long and rambling and I wont confuse you any more. Hope to hear from you again soon. Let me know if I can help you.

Yours truly,

Signed Jane W. Alford

Mrs. Jane Wallace Alford, (Mrs. W.H)