

THE BEAM FAMILY

Vard Beam was one of the early settlers in Walton County, Georgia, coming from Fairfield, S. C., and locating near Jersey, in about 1820. His sons were Thomas (my grandfather), Elisha, Meredy and William. His sisters were Eddie Mobley---Jack Mobley's wife---Nancy Smith---Jim Smith's wife---and Nancy Coleman.

Grandfather Thomas married a daughter of Sammy Lackey. He was Irish and owned much property and slaves in Walton County. He came to Georgia from either North Carolina or Virginia. Elisha and Levi Lackey were brothers of Grandmother Beam, and Mrs. Susan Bingham of Powder Springs, Ga., was a sister of hers.

The sons of Grandfather Thomas Beam, were Warren--my father--Marion, William, Sam, Joe, John, and Oliver; daughters, Rebecca, Mary, Emma, and Ida, I think, who married Oscar Allen. Rebecca married a Harris, Mary married Bose Berry, and Emma married William Wiley.

Warren--my father married my mother--Mittie Carrol about 1883, and they lived near Jersey, where I was born. My brothers were Claud, and Robert, and my sister, Sadie Ruth, who married Harry Greer.

I was married to Emma Anderson of Hoschtou, Ga., at Laurens, S. C. on Jan. 1, 1908. My children are, Oscar, John Warren, Andy, Louise, and Ruth.

Grandfather Thomas Beam was a member of the 35th Georgia regiment in the war between the states, Co. B. He was wounded at the Seven Days battle, on May 2nd, I think. He lost an eye. He was the best shot in his regiment.

Grandfather Beam was a well-to-do planter before the war. The war and reconstruction days practically ruined him

financially as did practically everyone in the south. But the family being thrifty and industrious, weathered the terrible storm, and lived a very happy life. They all had a sense of humor, and were intensely fond of each other. My grandfather was very religious, and I think all of the boys and girls became members of the church--Methodist. My mother and father taught me about God, had me baptized as a baby, and taught me to love the church. My grandfather and grandmother both lived to a ripe old age, both living until I was nearly grown. My father died at the age of 66, I think. My grandparents are buried at an old cemetery near Jersey, and my father is buried at Oxford.

I was born twenty years after the war, and when I was a tiny tot the war was the biggest topic of conversation, the older men telling of their experiences in the war, and the younger men and women telling of the terrible times during the war, and when Sherman came through taking what they could use, and burning and destroying much that they could not use.

My father had a very happy disposition, and a wonderful personality, loving his family intensely, and giving them anything within his power to add to their well being and happiness.

Oscar C. Beam

Feb. 9, 1938

James H. Carroll Co H. 27th Ga. Regiment, Colquitt's Bridge under Stonewall Jackson.

(This document found in Oscar Beam's Bible after he died. The original held by Sadye Greer, my mother.)