

II

Many Years Ago - "Stephen"
(Nowland) Noland "I and II"
1720 or 1725 - 1790

① Stephen (Nowland) Noland II (b. 1720 or 1725; d. between 1790 and 1800).

He may have been born a little earlier. He lived for a time in Charles County, Maryland. Courthouse Records show that he, Stephen (Nowland) Noland II, resided in Frederick County, Virginia, in 1752, 1755, 1759, and 1762, and lived at Noland's Ferry or Noland's Landing.

The pension claim of Shadrack, son of Stephen (Nowland) Noland II, states that Shadrack was born in 1752, in Frederick County, Virginia. It is not recorded how long the family had been living there.

The next records show that Stephen (Nowland) Noland II received a Royal Land Grant in 1772 in Craven County, South Carolina (Fairfield), but there is no record of his activities between 1762 and 1772. Since Stephen Noland II is listed in the 1790 Census of Fairfield District, South Carolina, and not listed in the 1800 census, he evidently died sometime between 1790 and 1800.

Stephen Noland's II wife was Susannah, called Susan. Stephen was of Scotch-Irish ancestry. The family was of the Methodist faith.

Leon Arcle Nolen, born November 13, 1886 (son of Stephen Stonewall Jackson Nolen, born 1862), traced in La Plata, Charles County, Maryland, the purchase of land by Stephen (Nowland) Noland I, in 1714. Leon also found a record of Mary Noland, widow of Stephen Nowland I, marrying John Dempsey in 1737. This Stephen Nowland I and Mary Nowland were probably married about 1714 or 1718 and were the parents of Stephen (Nowland) Nolen II, born about 1720 or 1725.

Stephen I had probably died prior to 1735. It does not seem probable that his widow remained unmarried more than two years.

It will be noted that the spelling is the same in Charles County, Maryland, and in Frederick County, Virginia (that is, Nowland). Also, there are many sources that indicate the family is of Scotch-Irish ancestry and came very early from Maryland into Virginia.

The children of Stephen (Nowland) Noland II (b. 1720 or 1725) and Susannah (Susan) (Nowland) Noland—seven sons and one daughter—are:

1. George (Nowland) Noland (b. 1750).
2. Shadrack (Nowland) Noland (b. 1752; d. 1841)
- ②*3. Stephen (Nowland) Noland III (b. 1753; 1846).
4. James (Nowland) Noland (b. 1756; d. 1838 1840).
5. William (Nowland) Noland (b. 1759; d. 1857)
- ⑥*6. Daniel (Nowland) Noland or David (Nowland) Noland.
7. Mordicai (Nowland) Noland.
8. Susannah (Susan) (Nowland) Noland.

1. George (Nowland) Noland (b. 1750) was the son of Stephen and Susannah (Nowland) Noland II. He was born in Frederick County, Virginia, then moved to Fairfield District, South Carolina. He served in Militia Duty. In May 1785, he received 12 pounds, 17 pence, 1/2 sterling for 180 days of such duty. He married Jennie Rogers. The children of George and Jennie (Rogers) (Noland) Nolen are:

- a. Isaiah
- b. Nancy—married Robert McColloch
- c. Stephen
- d. Jason
- e. Elizabeth—married _____Ready
- f. Isaac
- g. Elijah
- h. Mordicai

2. Shadrack (Nowland) Noland (b. 1752; d. 1841) was the son of Stephen and Susannah (Nowland) Noland II. His wife's name was Any or Ann. The 1790 Census of Fairfield District, South Carolina, shows he had three sons under sixteen years of age and two daughters.

He owned and traded large tracts of land as evidenced by several records or sales of hundreds of acres

This could be our Stephen's father to them.

*Mrs. Jane Clark
Johnston, Md. knew
me as the wife of her son
Virginia C. N.*

*Was David?
Father of Shadrack?*

for 50 pounds sterling. Each time making his mark. Most likely he could not write, or sign his name.

The Revolutionary War Pension records show many significant entries. He served in the Revolutionary War from both Georgia and South Carolina.

The Revolutionary War Pension record of Shadrack Noland (Nolen) is one of the most important records found. He states, among other things, that he was born in 1752 in Frederick County, Virginia, and that after considerable service "about the commencement of the war," he "returned to his father's home in Fairfield, South Carolina," and later rejoined the army.

October 1, 1784, the Treasury Office, in Charleston, of the State of South Carolina, issued to Shadrack Noland Indent No. 488, Book M, for Ninety Four Pounds Sterling, for ten months services commencing June 4, 1781, as private in Captain Philomon Waters' Company of State Troop of Light Dragoons, commanded by Lutn. Col. John Thomas' Regiment of Brigadier General Sumter's Brigade.

November 19, 1784, Shadrack Noland in consideration of 45 pounds sterling sold to his Capt. Philomon Waters his claim against the state for "one grone negro for his ten months services in the said brigade."

Other documents relating to A. S. Salley's *History of South Carolina* during the Revolutionary War give more information about Shadrack's pay for services in the war, as shown below:

Page 8: Shadrack Knowland received pay for clothing.

Page 101: Shadrack Noland: Private: Commencement of service—June 4, 1781: Time of Service 10 months: Pay and Bounty in Negroes—Grone 1: Balance Due—Grone 1.

He made his mark on all documents.

Shadrack was ill with "the fever," wounded, and in the hospital several times during the war. He had smallpox and was given furlough, but recovered and served again. One entry notes "while serving in Captain Philemon Waters' Company, he took some Tory prisoners at 'Cow Castle Swamp' and carried them to jail in Orangeburg."

Shadrack was promoted to Major while serving in the Company of John Intosh in Georgia.

Shadrack later lived in Pendleton County, South Carolina, for over twenty years. He then moved to Hopkins County, Kentucky, then to Dickson County, Tennessee, and then in 1822 to Hardin County, Tennessee. He received his last pension pay in September 1841 at ninety years of age.

3. Stephen (Nowland) Noland III (b. 1753; d. 1846) was the son of Stephen and Susannah (Nowland) Noland II and born in Frederick County, Virginia. He moved to Fairfield District, South Carolina, where he met and married Mary (Polly) Smith. They had at least six sons and two daughters that can be identified. They probably had more children.

a. James (Noland) Nolen (b. 1778; d. June 1864 or 1868).

b. William (Noland) Nolen (b. March 1783; d. December 1850 or 1851).

c. Nancy (Noland) Nolen

d. Mary (Polly) Noland) Nolen (b. January 1785; d. October 1853).

e. George (Noland) Nolen (b. April 1786; d. March 1857).

5. Stephen (Noland) Nolen IV (b. October 1787; d. May 1870).

g. Richard (Noland) Nolen IV (b. August 1789; d. October 1851).

h. Isaac (Noland) Nolen (b. July 1794; d. September 1866).

Stephen III served with his brothers, Will and George, in the Revolutionary War. He purchased many acres of land in South Carolina.

* For more information on Stephen (Nowland) Nolen III, see Chapter 3.

4. James (Nowland) Noland (b. 1756; d. 1838 or 1840) was the son of Stephen and Susannah (Nowland) Nolan II. He served in the Revolutionary War, enlisting in South Carolina in 1770. He died while living with Thomas Wiley in Forsyth County, Georgia.

5. William (Nowland) Noland (b. 1759; d. May 11, 1857) was the son of Stephen and Susannah (Nowland) Noland II who had moved from Frederick County, Virginia, to obtain Crown land. He married Mary Ann Crockrell. William served in the Revolutionary War from South Carolina for which he received a pension. Some records of land sales show that he and his wife Mary Ann lived in Russell County, Virginia, from 1795 - 1817. He died in Carter County, Kentucky, in May 1857, more than ninety-eight years of age. He was buried on the farm at Big Sinking Creek.

The children of William and Mary Ann Cockrell (Noland) Nolan are:

a. George (Noland) Nolen (b. about 1780 in Fairfield District, South Carolina) later lived in Russell County, Virginia; McConnellsville, Pennsylvania; Louisville, Kentucky; and Paducah, Kentucky. He was a potter by trade. He married Nancy Hardin. He died about 1828. Their children are:

1. Henry (b. about 1804) married twice.

2. Isaac (b. 1807)

3. Mary Ann (b. January 1812).

4. William Augustus (b. 1813).

5. George

b. Stephen (Noland) Nolen (b. between 1785 - 1800 in Fairfield District, South Carolina) lived in Floyd County, Kentucky, where he received a Land Warrant in 1836. He married Nancy Reynolds.

c. Jeremiah (Noland) Nolen (b. between 1785 - 1810) received Land Warrant for 50 acres in April 1836 in Floyd County, Kentucky.

6. Daniel, or David (Nowland) Noland was the son

19 *This is the one I wondered about*

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of Stephen and Susannah (Nowland) Noland II.

7. Mordicai (Nowland) Noland was the son of Stephen and Susannah (Susan) (Nowland) Noland II. Very little information has been researched on Mordicai. Two of his great, great grand-daughters, Misses Laura and Alice Nolen, related that at the close of the

Revolutionary War, Mordicai returned to Ireland, from where the (Nowlands) (Nolands) Nolens had originally come. He was never heard from any more.

8. Susannah (Nowland) Noland was the daughter of Stephen and Susannah (Susan) (Nowland) Noland II.

III

Not So Many Years Ago - "Stephen" (Noland) (Nolan) Nolen "III" 1753 - 1846

⑥ Stephen (Noland) (Nolan) Nolen III (b. 1753; d. 1846).

He was the son of Stephen and Susannah (Susan) (Nowland) Noland II and was born in Frederick County, Virginia. About 1774 he moved (probably with his parents) to Fairfield District, South Carolina, where he met and married Mary (Polly) Smith.

Stephen and Mary (Polly) (Noland) (Nolan) Nolen III had six sons and two daughters of which we have records.

1. James (Noland) Nolen (b. 1778; d. June 1864 or 1865).

*2. William Jackson (Noland) Nolen (b. March 1783; d. December 1851).

3. Nancy (Noland) Nolen (b.

4. Mary (Polly) (Noland) Nolen (b. January 1785; d. October 1853).

5. George (Noland) Nolen (b. April 1786; d. March 1857).

⑥6. Stephen (Noland) Nolen IV (b. October 1787; d. May 1870).

7. Richard (Noland) Nolen (b. August 1789; d. October 1851).

8. Isaac (Noland) Nolen (b. July 1794; d. September 1866).

Stephen (Noland) Nolen III served with his brothers, George and Will, in the Revolutionary War from South Carolina. From the Revolutionary War Records of South Carolina, several accounts indicate the periods of time, regiments, and location of his war services. Also, in *Indents for Revolutionary Claims* by A. S. Salley, notations are found of "L. 15 17 shillings... 1 1/2 pence sterling" plus "1 pound, 2 shillings, 2 pence" paid to Stephen Noland III in 1787 for his War Services. It also stated that he "could purchase at any Public Sales of Confiscated Property any property that he wished." He was also given a large parcel of land as a state grant.

Stephen III began buying land in 1791 in, and near, Little River, approximately six miles northwest of

Winnsboro, in Fairfield District, South Carolina, and "prospered greatly for he accumulated several plantations." It is interesting to observe that the records show that Stephen (Noland) Nolen III "made his mark X" on all documents requiring his signature. Could this, would this, mean he could not write his name? It is almost unbelievable that he traveled as he did, bought and sold properties, managed plantations and a large family, yet could not write his name.

The 1791, and later, Courthouse Records in Fairfield District, South Carolina, show many transfers of property from others to Stephen (Noland) Nolen III for varying amounts such as "Thirty-three pounds sterling, for one hundred acres", "Fifty pounds sterling for fifty acres." In 1791 "Fifty pounds sterling for one hundred acres"; "Forty-five dollars for fifty-two acres," in 1802; "Three hundred and fifty dollars for two hundred and fifty-nine acres," in 1805; "One dollar for 13 1/2 acres," in 1824; "\$1,100.00 for 202 1/2 acres," in 1824. Many other entries are found showing purchases of plantations by Stephen (Noland) Nolen III.

He moved in 1814 to Monroe County, Georgia. By 1820 the Land Lotteries in Georgia opened up and Stephen's III sons, James, William, George and Stephen IV settled in Newton, Henry, and Monroe Counties, Georgia. In 1818 Stephen III began disposing of his plantations. In 1824 he disposed of his old homestead, and that same year at the age of seventy-one, he followed his sons and purchased a plantation in Monroe County (later Butts County), Georgia, approximately two miles north of Indian Springs, Butts County, Georgia.

In the *Summary of Land Transactions* of the Courthouse Records of 1817, 1824, and others, in Fairfield County, South Carolina, entries show many transfers and sales of property (slaves and land), from Stephen (Noland) Nolen III. He sold to his daughter Mary in 1817 for one hundred dollars "a negro girl about ten months old, by the name of Nelly." In March 1824 he sold "for the sum of one thousand eight hundred dol-

*An asterisk indicates that more detailed information on that person is to be found elsewhere in the book.

lars, all that plantation wheron I now live, containing one hundred eighty acres." In 1818 he sold "143 acres for the consideration of \$1,716.00." November 1818 he sold "one hundred twenty acres for one thousand and two hundred dollars." In January 1824 he "bargained for and in consideration of selling, the sum of \$500.00, all the plantation containing one hundred twenty acres . . . which my son William lived on for seventeen years past." In November, 1818, he sold "155 acres for fifteen hundred and fifteen dollars." In January 1820, he sold to his son Stephen "that plantation on which he now lives, containing one hundred acres for sum of ten hundred dollars."

After the death of his wife Mary on January 20, 1829, Stephen (Noland) Nolen III on March 30, 1829, made the two following gifts to his unmarried daughter Mary (Polly) Nolen. Recorded we find:

"I, Stephen Nolen . . . , for the love and true affection which I bear toward my daughter, Mary Nolen, I do give to her, one half of a certain lot of land . . . on which I now live, after reserving the said land to myself during my natural life time . . . I, Stephen Nolen, for the love and true affection I hold towards my daughter, Mary Nolen, I do give unto her the said Mary Nolen, two certain small negro girls, namely; Mariah, about two years old and Rachel, about nine years old; also, I give to her, the said Mary Nolen, two feather beds, and furniture, two bed steads, and two cows and calves, which may be her choice at the time she receives them of all the cattle I possess at that time, after reserving above property to myself during my natural life, then to the said Mary Nolen, her heirs and assigns forever."

He sold the other half of the plantation to one of his sons, Richard. Stephen Nolen's mark was made after every document.

Stephen (Noland) Nolen III continued to live on his plantation until 1842 when he moved to Chambers County, Alabama, six miles northeast of LaFayette, Alabama.

✓ A short time after Stephen arrived at the home of his son, he remembered a trunk he had left. Isaac, the son, drove back in a buggy from near LaFayette, Alabama, to Indian Springs, Butts County, Georgia, approximately 125 miles, to obtain the copper or brass trunk of his father's in which he kept his "gold and silver and other valuables" which had been left in the care of another son, Richard Nolen. Since his father had left the trunk in his safe-keeping, Richard required his brother Isaac to return to Chambers County, Alabama, secure a written authority from their father to turn the trunk over to Isaac. This he did, again making the round trip of approximately 250 miles by buggy.

✓ In the ninety-third year of his life, just a few short months before his death on October 26, 1846, this old frontiersman and Revolutionary War soldier, nearing

the end of his days, executed the following Bill of Sale in favor of his son, Isaac Nolen, which is self-explanatory.

Chambers County Courthouse Records at LaFayette, Alabama. Record of Mortgageal Volume II; Page 122.

Stephen Nolen to Isaac Nolen;
Alabama - Chambers County;

March 10, 1846

Received of Isaac Nolen Six Hundred Dollars for a certain negro fellow by the name of Daniel, about 40 years of age. It being a settlement made this day for services done for me, I being his father, and he has taken care of me for the last four years which I allow him One Hundred and Fifty Dollars for each year; also, I have received in hand the last payment for the negro Lucy and her two children, for which negroes I delivered to him with a Bill of Sale dated the fifteenth day of June 1842; also, I have given him up all the money that I brought from Georgia with me. It being a full settlement made with him for services done for me since he became of age, which payment I acknowledge to be in full satisfaction for the above named negroes, and will warrant and defend the right and title of said negroes, to said Isaac Nolen, from me, my heirs, executors, or administrators or assigns, or any person claiming or to claim the same.

In Witnesseth whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affix my seal, this the 10th day of March, 1846.

His
Test: Robert Lindsey. Stephen Nolen (S.S.)
Test: Martin Burton. Mark

The above biographical sketch is merely a brief skeleton of the life of Stephen (Noland) Nolen III. His life was in a glamorous period — rich in human experiences. On October 26, 1846, he dropped to the ground, dying suddenly, while supervising some work being performed by slaves. The tombstone inscription in the cemetery of the Sweet Home Methodist Church, about six miles northeast of LaFayette, Chambers County, Alabama, records:

Sacred to memory of
Stephen Nolen
who departed this life
October 26, 1846
aged 93 years

The names of the children of Stephen and Mary (Polly) Smith (Noland) Nolen III are listed earlier in the

chapter, but some of the stories about them are given here in the following pages.

1. James (Noland) Nolen (b. 1778; d. June 1864 or 1865) was born in Fairfield District, South Carolina. He married Barbara (Maralda) Addison. Later they lived in Georgia, then moved to Stroud, Chambers County, Alabama, where both James and his wife, Barbara, died. Their children were:

- a. Stephen—later lived in Randolph County, Alabama.
- b. John—lived in Choctaw County, Mississippi.
- c. Richard—later lived in Choctaw County, Mississippi in 1864.
- d. Nancy—later lived in Texas in 1864.
- e. Isaac—later lived in Meriwether County, Georgia.
- f. Elizabeth—married in 1846. Lived in Randolph County, Alabama, in 1864.
- g. William
- h. Jonathan—blind.
- i. Mary
- j. Cynthia
- k. James L.

James (Noland) Nolen, son of Stephen III, bought and sold, for large amounts of money, many acres of land holdings, as is shown in Courthouse Records in McDonough, Henry County, Georgia; Madison, Newton County, Georgia; and LaFayette, Chambers County, Alabama. In sales records from January 16, 1832, to March 31, 1845, entries are made concerning these holdings.

In the July 12, 1864, Record of Wills in Chambers County, Alabama is found a copy of the will and codicil of James (Noland) Nolen (born 1778). It follows:

STATE OF ALABAMA: I, James Nolen, of said State and
CHAMBERS COUNTY: County, being at the time old and
feble in body, but of sound and
disposing mind and memory, and knowing that life is uncer-
tain, do make and publish this my last Will and Testament
in manner and form as follows:

ITEM FIRST: After my death, I wish all my just debts
paid as soon as possible.

ITEM SECOND: My will and desire is that all the property
whether real, personal or of any kind whatsoever,
which I may own or possess at the time of my death,
shall form one common stock for the exclusive use and
benefit of the following persons, to-wit: my beloved
wife Barbara Nolen and my three children, at this
time un-married, to-wit: Johnathan Nolen, and Cynthia
Nolen, and Mary Nolen. They to have a joint use and
benefit and interest in said Common stock or common
property for and during their and each of their
natural lives.

ITEM THIRD: In case my wife Barbara Nolen should marry,
then my will and desire is that she should have out
of the common stock such portion or share as the laws
of the State would have given her, provided I had
died intestate, and then she is to have no more
interest in or control over what may be left of said
common stock.

ITEM FOURTH: Should any or either of the persons named
in ITEM SECOND of this will die, the survivors or
survivor is still to continue to have the use and
benefit of the whole of said common stock, the same
as if all were living, without any division whatever.

ITEM FIFTH: Should either of the three children named
in ITEM SECOND of this my last Will and Testament
marry, then upon such marriage he or she, as the case
may be, is to have one bed and furniture for the same,
also Fifty Dollars in money, but after such marriage
he or she, as the case may be, forfeit all interest
in and benefit out of said common stock, except as
herein after provided.

ITEM SIXTH: Whenever it shall so happen that the
legatees named in ITEM SECOND of this Will and Testa-
ment shall all be either dead or married, then in
either or each event, the said common stock estate
is to be divided among my children, share and share
alike, equally.

ITEM SEVENTH: I do hereby appoint and constitute my son
Stephen Nolen my true and lawful Executor to execute
this my last Will and Testament.

JAMES NOLEN.

Signed, sealed and attested
this Twenty Ninth day of September 1853,
in the presence of: M. T. Walker; A. F. Zachry; G. F. Hill.

This is intended as a codicil to the foregoing will,
to-wit: Whenever it shall so happen that the Legatees
named in ITEM THE SECOND, or those that may survive,
should become dissatisfied with their home and wish
to sell and purchase another, it shall be their
privilege of doing so.
This the 20th day of December in the Year of our Lord,
1850
Signed in the presence of, as witnesses:
A. J. Penn,
John W. Nolen,
James L. (X) Nolen.

JAMES NOLEN.

Proven 9th August, 1864.
Recorded Will Book Vol. 3, Page 149.

Found also in the Chambers County Records is a
personal inventory.

ESTATE OF JAMES NOLEN, Dec'd; Inventory &
Appraisement; October 21, 1864

THE STATE OF ALABAMA, Before John Appleby, Judge of
CHAMBERS COUNTY: Probate for said County, per-
sonally came Stephen Nolen,
Executor, of the Estate of James Nolen, Dec'd, who being
duly sworn, says on oath, that the foregoing one page
contains a true and correct inventory of all the goods
and chattels, debts and moneys which has come to his
knowledge or possession.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 21st Day of
October 1864.

John Appleby, Judge of Probate Stephen Nolen.

THE STATE OF ALABAMA, Personally came before me, Mr.
CHAMBERS COUNTY: J. Grady, a Justice of the Peace
in and for said County, Vines H.
Collier, Mr. J. Grady, and James M. Hester appraisers of
the personal estate of James Nolen, late of said County,
Dec'd, who being sworn severally say that the foregoing
sheet contains a full and complete appraisement of all the
personal estate of said James Nolen as exhibited to them
the said appraisers by Stephen Nolen, Executor, on the
21st October 1864.

Mr. J. Grady, J. P., James M. Hester,
V. H. Collier.

Appraisement of the personal estate of James Nolen, late
of said County, Dec'd, as exhibited to us the undersigned
appraisers by Stephen Nolen, Executor, this 21st October
1864, viz:

6 Pork Hogs	\$ 700.00	Amt. Prot. up	\$4,430.00
1 Sow & 10 Shoats	350.00	1 Pine Table	25.00
2 Cows & Calves	750.00	3 Hen Trunks	25.00
1 Young Heifer	150.00	8 Split Bottom	
1 Yoke Steers	1,200.00	Chairs	20.00
80 lb. Old Cast Iron	200.00	1 Lot Crochery	75.00
8 Bu. Stands	80.00	1 Shot Gun	25.00
1 Sorrell Mare	1,000.00	1 Lot Pot Ware	75.00
	<u>\$4,430.00</u>		<u>\$4,675.00</u>

Amt. Brnt. over	\$4,675.00	List of moneys & notes:	
1 Man's Saddle	40.00	1 Certificate of	
1 Load & Harness	40.00	Deposit of	
1 Wheel & Carde	65.00	Confederate	
1 Lot Jars & Juqs	30.00	Notes	\$ 100.00
1 Gine Stone	20.00		
1 Plantation Tools	100.00		
7 Head Sheep	200.00	Amt. of cash on	
Total Amount	<u>\$5,170.00</u>	hand	359.44

Mr. J. Grady
James M. Hester
V. H. Collier

The above appraisement affords a sad but interesting
study of the values of every-day items of an average
farm existing only a few short months before the sur-

tender of Lee at Appomattox in April 1865. The appraisal above is in Confederate money, one can only speculate what the value would have been only six months later. Here in cold figures may be visualized the tragedy of the South following the collapse of the Confederate Army. It is well for all living 110 years later, to ponder and study the tragic era in which our grandfathers and great-grandfathers lived.

2. William Jackson Nolen (b. March 10, 1783; d. December 18, 1851) was born in Fairfield District, South Carolina.

William and Mary Alcorn Nolen had six sons and two daughters, as listed below:

- a. James Nolen (b. about 1808 or 1809)
- *b. Abner Nolen (b. April 14, 1811)
- c. Stephen Nolen (b. March 1, 1815)
- d. Mary Nolen (b. 1817 or 1818)
- e. Sarah Nolen (b. 1819 or 1820)
- f. Richard Nolen (b. April 23, 1823; d. April 21, 1841).
- g. Elijah Nolen (b. January 14, 1825; d. April 17, 1841)
- h. William Nolen (b. February 26, 1827; d. May 14, 1841).

William and Mary Ann (Alcorn) Nolen were buried in the family graveyard located on the homestead, situated on the Yellow River near Rocky Plains, Newton County, Georgia.

For more information on William Jackson Nolen, see Chapter 4.

3. Nancy (Noland) Nolen (b. about 1780 or 1790) was born in Fairfield District, South Carolina, daughter of Stephen III (1753) and Mary (Polly) Smith Nolen. Records do not show if she married or where she later lived or died. Thomas - Hughey Nolen, a grandson of Richard Nolen, a brother of Nancy (Noland) Nolen, relates that while quite young he was present when the family was cleaning off the graveyard located on the homestead of Stephen (Noland) Nolen III and that one of the older members of the family pointed out a grave that was located a little distance from the others and stated that was the grave of Aunt Nancy Brown, who had died while on a visit to her father and was buried there.

4. Mary (Polly) (Noland) Nolen (b. about 1785) was born in Fairfield District, South Carolina. Mary moved with her parents in 1824 to near Indian Springs, originally Monroe, now Butts County, Georgia. After the death of her mother in 1829, she continued to live with her father until 1842. She was never married. In 1842 her father, Stephen III, moved to Chambers County, Alabama, to reside with his son Isaac (Noland) Nolen. Mary's brother, Richard, looked after her affairs after her father went to live with Isaac.

Mary was engaged to marry some young man in Fairfield District, South Carolina, and some sudden

tragedy befell him—either sickness, or an accident—or it may have been that he was killed in the War of 1812—and in her sore bereavement, shock, and grievous strain over the loss of her lover, something snapped, or gave way in her mind and memory. She never fully recovered from her deep sorrow. Thomas Nolen a grandson of Richard Nolen (1798-1851) relates that she would go to the well, or spring, and look down into the glimmering water and imagine that she could see the face of her lover.

To what extent Mary was incompetent is not known. Judgment can be made only by the records. After the death of her mother in 1829, her father, Stephen (Noland) Nolen III (1753-1846) deeded all of his personal property to her. In 1842 he left her living there, seemingly in charge of directing and superintending the work of the slaves in the operation of the plantation. Her father went to live with his son in Chambers County, Alabama, where he died in 1846.

While Mary seems to have had full possession of, and authority over, the plantation and its operation, she had the help and advice of her brother Richard Nolen who lived on a nearby plantation. Richard looked after Mary's affairs until about 1848 when she went to live with her brother, William. He was appointed guardian of Mary in 1848. After William's death in 1850 or 1851, Mary continued to reside with William's sons, Jessie and Stephen, until her death.

Nevertheless, the records show that Mary's father provided security for her as is set forth below. It is of interest, and rather unusual, to note that in these following records the phrases "estate of Mary Nolen, an insane lady" — "estate of Mary Nolen, insane woman" — "the land of Mary Nolen, insane woman" — are used in making out proper documents in the Court-house Records of Winnsboro, Fairfield District, South Carolina, and Jackson, Butts County, Georgia.

Mary evidently was well cared for and died about 1853 being about sixty-eight years old. She died at the old homestead and was probably buried in the William Nolen family cemetery on the homestead near Rocky Plains on the Yellow River in Newton County, Georgia.

Court House Records - Winnsboro, Fairfield District, South Carolina:

Witness my hand and seal, this 21st day December, 1817.
his
WITNESSES: STEPHEN (X) NOLIN (SEAL) mark

Richard Nolin
Isaac Nolin,

SOUTH CAROLINA: FAIRFIELD DISTRICT:

Personally came Richard Nolin, before me the subscribing Justice, and made oath that he was present and saw STEPHEN NOLIN sign, seal and as his act and deed deliver the within Bill of Sale to the MARY NOLIN for the uses and purposes therein mentioned. That he together with ISAAC NOLIN in the presence of each other, witnessed the same.

Sworn to the 14th April 1818, before

D. K. Coleman, J.P. RICHARD NOLIN.
Recorded 14th April 1818.

Courthouse Records - Jackson, Butts County, Georgia:

March 30, 1829: Record of Deeds Vol. F, Page 358:

STATE OF GEORGIA, BUTTS COUNTY: Know all men by these presents, that I, Stephen Nolen, of the County and State aforesaid, for the love and true affection I hold towards my daughter, Mary Nolen, I do give unto her, the said Mary Nolen, two certain small negro girls, namely: Mariah, about two years old, and Rachel about nine years old; also, I give to her, the said Mary Nolen, two feather beds and furniture, two bedsteads, and two cows and calves, which may be her choice at the time she receives them of all the cattle I possess at that time, after reserving the above property to myself during my natural life, then to the said Mary Nolen, her heirs and assigns forever. Witness my hand and seal this the 30th day of March, 1829.

Richard Nolen, Joseph Brown, Margaret Brown, his STEPHEN (X) NOLEN (SEAL) mark

GEORGIA, BUTTS COUNTY: In person came Richard Nolen this day before me, John Hall, one of the Inferior Court for said County, who being duly sworn, deposed and saith that he was present and saw Stephen Nolen affixing his mark and sign, and that he saw also seal and deliver the within deed of gift for the purposes therein mentioned, and that Joseph R. Brown and Margaret Brown together with himself witnessed the due execution thereof, and signed the same as witnesses. Sworn to and subscribed before me this Thirtieth day of March, 1830.

John Hall J. I. C., Richard Nolen. Recorded 8th day of January 1848, Wm. H. Hasketon, Clk.,

Courthouse Records - Winnsboro, Fairfield District, South Carolina:

December 21, 1817: Vol 2, Page 181:

Know all men by these presents: that I, Stephen Nolin, of the State of South Carolina and Fairfield District, for and in consideration of the sum of One Hundred Dollars paid me in hand by Mary Nolin, have bargained, sold and delivered and by these presents do bargain, sell and deliver unto the said Mary Nolin, a Negro Girl about ten months old by the name of Nelly, which Negro I do warrant her to be sound property, and I do likewise warrant her against myself, my heirs, Executors, Administrators and Assigns or any other person lawfully claiming or to claim the same.

Courthouse Records - Jackson, Butts County, Georgia:

STATE OF GEORGIA, BUTTS COUNTY: Know all men by these presents, that I, Stephen Nolen, of the State and County aforesaid, for the love and true affection which I bear towards my daughter, Mary Nolen, I do give to her, the said Mary Nolen, one-half of a certain lot of land lying on the waters of Sandy Creek, known and distinguished by Lot No. 28, in the Fourth District of formerly Monroe, but not Butts County, East half of said lot of land all that appertains thereunto, being the East half of the lot of land on which I now live, after reserving the said land to myself during my natural life time, then by these presents I do give, grant and release the above named half lot of land unto the said Mary Nolen, her heirs and assigns for ever. Witness my hand and seal this Thirtieth day of March, 1829.

Richard Nolen, Joseph R. Brown, Margaret Brown, his STEPHEN (X) NOLEN, (SEAL) mark.

(Proved by Richard Nolen March 30, 1830 before John Hall, J. I. C., same language as above.)

Recorded 8th January, 1848. Vol. F. Page 358.

November 9, 1848:

William Nolen, and son James Nolen Surety, appointed guardian of Mary Nolen, Bond \$7,200.00.

November 9, 1848:

Richard Nolen of Butts County, Georgia, to Brother William Nolen conveys interest in the estate of his sister Mary Nolen.

October 25, 1848:

Isaac Nolen of Chambers County, Alabama, to Brother William Nolen, conveys interest in the estate of his sister Mary Nolen.

April 9, 1849:

George Nolen of Randolph County, Alabama, to his brother William Nolen, conveys his interest in the estate of his sister, Mary Nolen for and in consideration of \$150.00.

April 17, 1849, Vol. F. Page 381:

William Nolen, of Newton County, Georgia, guardian for Mary Nolen to Richard Nolen of said County of Butts, by order of the Inferior Court sitting as a Court of Ordinary, for and in consideration of \$300.00, conveys the East half of Lot 28 of the Fourth District, originally Monroe, but now Butts County, Georgia.

October 25, 1848:

James Nolen of Chambers County, Alabama, to his brother William Nolen, conveys interest in the estate of his sister Mary Nolen.

An inventory of appraisement of the estate of Mary Nolen, an insane lady; this the 10th day of November 1848.

101 1/4 acres of land appraised to N-28 Fourth District, originally Monroe, now Butts County	\$ 450.00
Nelly, a woman and child, appraised to	650.00
Catherine, a girl, appraised to	400.00
One boy Bob, appraised to	250.00
One woman and 2 children; Rachel, Lucinda, and Christianna	850.00
One woman, married	500.00
1 lot of corn, supposed to be 40 barrels	60.00
2 lots corn, supposed to be 50 barrels	30.00
Amount carried up	\$3,190.00

4 stacks of fodder	5.50
1 white cow and calf with a yellow head	12.00
1 cow and calf	14.00
1 red heifer	11.00
1 red sided cow and calf	10.00
1 white and tan heifer	5.00
1 red yearling	3.50
1 bull \$6.00; 1 bridled cow and calf	18.00
1 black sided cow and calf	11.00
1 lot hogs 33	55.00
1 lot hogs - 12, not up	
1 lot of castings	1.50
3 feather beds and furniture	15.00
	\$3,351.50

We do certify upon oath, that as far as was produced to us by the Guardian, William Nolen, the above and foregoing contains a true state on appraisement of the estate of Mary Nolen, an insane woman, to the best of our judgment and understanding. This 10th day of November, 1848. Thos. J. Saunders, David Higgins, Jas. B. Tomlinson, Hugh H. Heard, Appraisers.

Sale Bill of the negroes and land of Mary Nolen, insane woman, sold by William Nolen, Guardian, April 3, 1849.

Rachel, Lucinda and Christianna to Wm. D. Hightower at	\$1,001.00
Mariah to Wm. D. Hightower	536.00
Catherine to Albert Watkins	560.00
Robert to Wm. D. Hightower	316.00
101 1/4 acres of land to Richard Nolen May 1, 1849. William Nolen, Guardian.	300.00
	\$2,713.00

July 3, 1849; John McCord, C.C.O. Voucher 1 \$ 9.12 1/2
September 18, 1849; S. Rose and Co., Advertising 20.25

January 12, 1850; John Webb \$ 15.09 1/2
January 1, 1850; Trouble of boarding and washing Mary Nolen, from 15 Nov. 1848 to 1 Jan. 1850 allowed by the Court of Ordinary 200.00
Commission for receiving estate 87.37 1/2
January 19, 1850 William Nolen \$ 331.84 1/2

Annual Return of William Nolen, Guardian of Mary Nolen for 1849.

To hire of 3 negroes for four months \$ 20.70
 To hire of one woman and child for clothing 10.00
 To interest on \$251.50 for 3 months 7.19
 To interest on \$6.25 for 12 months .44
 \$ 44.53

5. George Nolen (b. 1786, d. about 1857) was born in Fairfield District, South Carolina, but later lived in Henry County, Georgia. George married Elizabeth Addison, daughter of Christopher and Agnes Addison. George and Elizabeth moved to near Newell, Randolph County, Alabama. He and his wife are buried in Old Moore's or Butler's graveyard near Newell. Their graves are marked with native stones "with dates scratched thereon" that are now almost illegible.

Their children are listed here. Four of them, Reuben, Harriet, Isaac and Christopher were born in Fairfield District, South Carolina.

- a. Reuben Nolen (b. about 1808).
- b. Harriet Nolen (b. about 1809).
- c. Isaac Nolen (b. about 1810). He first married Mary (Polly) Camp. Then he married Elizabeth Camp. He lived near Old Cole Iron Works, near Anniston, Alabama. His children are: Mordicai (b.), Harriet (b.), William (b.), Susan (b. 1840), Isaac (b. 1842), Jane (b. 1844), George (b. 1846), Sara (b. 1848), and Mary (b.).
- d. Christopher Nolen—first married Elizabeth Copeland. Their children are: Washington, Elias, Elihu, John, Fannie, Elizabeth, and Margaret. Christopher later married Mary Copeland and their children are: Harriet and two other girls.
- e. Agnes Nolen—married Seaborn Camp. Their children are: Washington, Marion, William, Jack, Mordicai, Seaborn Jr. and Reuben (twins), Jessie, Stephen, Burwell, Susan, George, Lewis, Nancy, and Sarah.
- f. Polly Ann Nolen—married Wilson Pullen. She died in St. Clair County, Alabama.
- g. Mordicai Nolen—lived with his parents in Randolph County, Alabama, never married. Family tradition says he was an expert card player. He was taken ill at the home of his brother Christopher Nolen of Newton County, Georgia, and then carried to the home of his father in Randolph County, Alabama, where he died very soon—it was thought from exposure during the trip. He is buried by the side of his parents in Old Moore's or Butler's graveyard near Newell, Randolph County, Alabama.

h. Susan Nolen—married Joseph Henson or Hanson. Their children were all born in Clay County, Alabama, except Elizabeth who was born in Smith County. Their children are: Edwin, Joseph, Oneil, Harriet, and Elizabeth.

i. William Nolen (b. May 4, 1824; d. September 23, 1880)— married Elizabeth Addison. Their children are: John Richard, Edward, George Ranson, Harriet, Susan, Reuben, Joseph, Mary Ann, Isaac, and

Elizabeth. The tombstone inscriptions at Harmony Congregational Methodist Church, Randolph County, Alabama, record:

To my husband William Nolen Born May 4, 1824 Died September 23, 1880 56 years, 4 mos, 19 days ... at ...	To my wife Elizabeth A. wife of William Nolen August 10, 1824 April 4, 1911 Rest in Hope
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6. Stephen Nolen IV (b. October 1787; d. May 5, 1870) was born in Fairfield District, South Carolina. He married Mary (Polly) Addison about 1809. He moved to Newton County, Georgia. About 1835, he moved to Chambers County, Alabama, and finally to Coosa County, Alabama, where he died.

Stephen IV owned and traded much land for "considerations of fair amounts" as is shown in various Courthouse Records of Fairfield District, South Carolina; Newton County, Georgia; Jackson, Butts County, Georgia; McDonough, Henry County, Georgia; and Rockford, Coosa County, Alabama.

Stephen IV and Mary (Polly) Addison Nolen had twelve children. They are:

- a. William (Billie) (b. about 1809) —born in Fairfield District, South Carolina. Married Martha Stone. They had fifteen children.
- b. Nancy (b. about 1811)—married William Nesbitt. They had fifteen children.
- c. Caroline (Winnie) (b. 1813; d. 1857) — married Anthony S. Ficquette. They had seven children.
- d. Hiram (b. about 1815) — married Mariah Jane Scott. They had eight children.
- e. Mary Ann (Polly) (b. November 1817; d. 1903 near Equality, Coosa County, Alabama) — married Joseph M McCarley. They had eight children.
- f. Jane Eliza — married William Oslin. They had ten children.

g. Francis Marion (Mell) (b. December 30, 1821? in Newton County, Georgia; d. September 28, 1865 near Nixburg, Coosa County, Alabama) — married Nancy Dulema Lock. They had six children.

Francis Marion was in Lee's Army of Virginia during the Richmond campaign, and after the surrender in April 1865 at Appomattox Courthouse, Virginia, he trudged his weary and heart-broken way home, consuming approximately two months from Appomattox to Alabama. He arrived home in late May, 1865, sick from exposure, starvation, and privation suffered in more than four years of campaigning in Tennessee and Virginia in the cause of the Confederacy. From this privation, he never recovered.

He died in September, approximately four months

could be a daughter to Stephen, born ca 1790, S.C.

Did David... name a first...

after reaching home, wife, children, father, brothers, and sisters. He was a victim not of one bullet received in one battle, but a victim of a thousand sufferings and tortures of starvation and privation received on a thousand battlefields of muddy, frozen roads, snow-covered camp and bivouacs. The spirit and soul were willing, but the mortal body had suffered too much to survive — but, he was a hero, nevertheless. An inspiring record of his hopes and heartbreaks and of his love and affection for his wife and children has been preserved and saved for us in letters exchanged between himself and his wife. These are now in the hands of his descendants.

Francis Marion was buried in Old Pine Grove Methodist Church Cemetery, by the side of his parents. Nancy Dulcina, his wife, was buried in the Methodist Church Cemetery, Equality, Coosa County, Alabama.

h. Sarah (Sally) (b. about 1824 in Newton County, Georgia) —married Samuel McCarley, brother of Joe, who married Mary Ann. They had four children.

Sarah died in Louisiana.

i. Isaac (Ike) (b. about 1826 in Newton County, Georgia) —married Caroline Hubbard. They had three children. He was killed in the Confederate Army near Chattanooga, Tennessee, and buried there on the battlefield.

j. Harriet (b. about 1828 in Newton County, Georgia) —married Martin Stanley Brown. They had four children. Harriet died near Nixburg, Coosa County, Alabama.

k. Thomas Jefferson (Jeff) (b. about 1830 in Newton County, Georgia) —married Martha Jane Hubbard in 1851. They had nine children. He later married Mary Jane Haynie. They had no children. Thomas Jefferson died near Nixburg, Coosa County, Alabama.

l. Andrew Jackson (Jack) (b. September 1832 in Newton County, Georgia) —married Mary Catherine Hawes. They had nine children. He died August 1901 near Nixburg, Coosa County, Alabama.

On the tombstones in Old Pine Grove Methodist Church Cemetery, Coosa County, there are the following inscriptions:

Sacred to the Memory of
Stephen Nolen
who died in Coosa County, Alabama
May 5, 1870
aged 82 yrs. 7 mos. and 18 ds.

Sacred to Memory of
Mrs. Mary Nolen
wife of Stephen Nolen
and daughter of
Christopher and Agnes Addison
who was born in Fairfield District
South Carolina, September 14, 1790

and died at her residence in
Coosa County, Alabama, June 17, 1859
aged 68 years, 9 months, and 3 days
Blest be the thought of meeting her
In that Celestial World
Entirely freed from earthly care,
With joys of Heaven unfurled

7. Richard (Noland) Nolen (b. August 12, 1789, according to the family Bible and August 12, 1798, according to tombstone inscription; d. October 7, 1851)—lived in Fairfield District, South Carolina. He later lived in Butts County, Georgia. Richard taught school at Crosbyville, Fairfield District, South Carolina, January 1822. Richard and his wife Nancy Ann were buried in the Nolen family graveyard located on the homestead of Stephen (Noland) Nolen III (his father's old homestead) which later came into Richard's possession. This was approximately two miles north of Indian Springs, Butts County, Georgia.

The old family Bible of Richard Nolen is in the possession of a granddaughter, Mrs. Carrie Eddie McClain, 943 Capital Street, S.W., Atlanta, Georgia.

After his father Stephen (Noland) Nolen III moved in 1842 to Chambers County, Alabama, to reside with his son Isaac Nolen, Richard Nolen looked after Stephen's plantation on which Stephen's daughter Mary (Polly) Nolen, who was mentally ill, continued to live.

The Courthouse Records between 1827-1849 of Winnsboro, Fairfield District, South Carolina, and of Jackson, Butts County, Georgia, show transactions by Richard of considerable acres of land for which he made varying amounts of money.

Richard and Nancy Ann Coleman Nolen had the following children, all except Hartwell were born in Butts County, Georgia:

a. Hartwell H. Nolen (b. December 1822)—unmarried.

b. Sarah R. Nolen (b. June 1824)—married Albert A. Watkins.

c. Isaac W. Nolen (b. June 1826)—married Nancy C. Williams.

d. Edward Griffin Nolen (b. April 1828)—married Clara Jane Hughey.

e. Mary Nolen (b. January 1830)—married E. Alexander Clark.

f. Stephen Wiley Nolen (b. December 1836)—Captain in Confederate Army.

g. Hilliard J. Nolen (b. February 1839)—moved to Macon, Noxubee County, Mississippi, where he accumulated considerable property.

h. Nancy Ann Nolen (b. March 1843)—married Thomas J. Towles, Captain in the Confederate Army. They moved to Canton, Texas.

i. Infant son—date of birth unknown.

Tombstone inscriptions in the Nolen family

*Wm. Nolen
6 Nov
85
returned
probably
McClain
12 Nov 85*

graveyard, located on the old homestead of Stephen (Noland) Nolen III on the E 1/2 of Lot 28 of the 4th District, Butts County, Georgia, approximately two miles north of Indian Springs record:

Richard Nolen Born August 12, 1798 Died October 7, 1851	Nancy Ann Coleman consort of Richard Nolen Born December 6, 1801 Died July 6, 1847
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Hartwell H. Nolen Born December 6, 1822 Died July 18, 1825	An Infant Child of Richard and N. A. Nolen
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8. Isaac (Noland) Nolen (b. July 5, 1794, in Fairfield District, South Carolina)—moved to Butts County, Georgia, about 1820-1825; moved to Chambers County, Alabama, about 1840 or 1841 and then to Smith County, Texas, about 1855. He married Elizabeth Coleman. Some of their children were born in Butts County, Georgia, and some in Chambers County, Alabama. All are listed here.

a. Andrew Jackson Nolen (b. 1831 in Butts County, Georgia; d. 1855 in Smith County, Texas)—his parents had moved to Smith County, Texas, about 1855.

b. Isaac H. Nolen (b. 1840 in Butts County, Georgia)—buried at Harris Creek Cemetery, about four miles west of Winona, Smith County, Texas.

c. John R. Nolen (b. 1841 in Chambers County, Alabama; d. 1879 in Smith County, Texas)—buried by his father in Smith County, Texas.

d. Albert Sidney Nolen (b. 1843 in Chambers County, Alabama)—lived with his parents in Smith County, Texas, where he died in 1873.

e. Wade H. Nolen (b. 1846 in Chambers County, Alabama; d. 1894)—buried by the side of his father.

In the 1850 Census of Chambers County, Alabama, there are three other children's names listed immediately following those that are known to be Isaac Nolen's, his wife and children. Since there was a break in the sequence of their ages, they may not be Isaac's children. However, their ages fit in with the other children. Following are the three names:

R. W. Nolen (b. 1830 in South Carolina)—lived in Chambers County, Alabama; married Sarah E. Darden on October 16, 1851.

Laura Nolen (b. 1835 in Georgia)—lived in Chambers County, Alabama.

Elizabeth Nolen (b. 1837 in Georgia)—lived in Chambers County, Alabama.

Thomas H. Nolen (b. 1859), a grandson of Richard Nolen, brother of Isaac, recalls as a child he was told that Isaac Nolen buried two children in a family graveyard located near his home on the "Old Indian

Trail" about two miles south of Indian Springs, Butts County, Georgia. There is a gap between the ages of Andrew Jackson Nolen and Isaac Jr., where they would probably fit in.

Isaac Nolen accumulated a great deal of property in South Carolina as is shown in the Courthouse Records, Winnsboro, Fairfield District, South Carolina. Some of this property was land and some was Negroes. Some acreage was very large, some smaller, but large amounts of money was spent in the sales.

Isaac Nolen was the first Sheriff of Butts County, Georgia, when it was established about 1826. During his term of office, a very celebrated incident happened. On the morning of a hanging, the condemned man defied the Sheriff to enter his cell in the jail. The prisoner was armed with some kind of blunt bludgeon of wood or iron and presented a very formidable defense in his cell. After some persuasion and delay, the Sheriff succeeded in entering the cell and the prisoner was duly executed in accordance with the law.

Isaac Nolen owned much land in Butts County, Georgia, as the Courthouse references of Jackson, Butts County, show. From January 1826 through November 1848, records show sales of land by Isaac. One sale is noted of 148 acres for \$6,000.00 to Thomas Douglass.

Isaac Nolen is said to have built the first fine home of manufactured lumber in Butts County, Georgia. In 1940 it was still standing approximately two miles south of Indian Springs, on the "Old Indian Trail" in Butts County, but it was in a sad state of repair, having been occupied by tenants for a number of years, yet the old two-story home still showed its substantial soundness and impression of its builder. Previous to the time this home was built, about 1825 - 1830, the early pioneers, settling in the wilderness, built their homes of rough hewn logs of the forest, since sawmills and planing mills had not yet made their appearances.

Isaac Nolen, disposing of his holding in Butts County, moved about 1839 to 1840 to Chambers County, Alabama.

The Courthouse Records in LaFayette, Chambers County, show that Isaac bought and sold extensive acres of land in Chambers County. The following notations show some of these purchases:

January 1842, 320 acres for \$2,000.00

January 1843, 320 acres for \$2,330.00

July, 1844, 320 acres for \$2,500.00

November 1844, 320.08 acres as a State Grant

February 1847, 330 acres for \$600.00

December 1849, 160 acres for \$1,500.00

January 1851, 240 acres for \$1,200.00

March 1853, 160 acres for \$500.00

Also found in the Records, in the Minutes of June 3, 1839, Term of Orphan Court, is an application from Isaac Nolen to the court for a building permit, quote

Isaac Nolen wishes to erect a grist mill and sawmill and dam on and across the stream called Doyle's Creek, to be erected on lands entirely belonging to said Nolen, and after examining the above described land, agreeable to the direction of a writ of ad quod damnum issued by the Courts of said County returnable to an Orphans Court to holder for said County on the first Monday of June next. We the said Jury allow the said Nolen to build a dam five feet and a half high across said stream and we believe it will not damage the lands of any person, neither will the Mansion house, office, barns, or orchards, or gardens of any person be damaged and we are of the opinion that it will not materially injure the health of the neighbors by the stagnation of waters" This May 31, 1839.

With Witnesses Signed:

"Whereupon it is ordered adjudged and decreed that said Isaac Nolen have leave to build said mills and dam according to said Jury Report and it is hereby decreed to be established agreeable to said Jury Report."

It is significant to note in the wording of these minutes, the court members' interest and concern for the health and welfare of the people in the township at that time.

So with permission granted, Isaac built, upon Doyle's Creek, a very substantial flour, grist, and sawmill which was operated by the construction of a dam across Doyle's Creek.

The old frame building, three or four stories high, and the dam, and trace of the old water race were still there in 1940. All of this is stimulating, though silent testimony to the glories of another day. In Ante Bellum days when plantation owners produced their foodstuff at home, mills of this type was very profitable for grinding flour from wheat, and meal from corn. So was sawing lumber from the forests for the plantation owners in their respective communities. However, shifting economic conditions have changed all this, and these once prosperous and busy plants today are in ruins and decay. The mill of Isaac Nolen was later known (after a century and the builder almost forgotten) as Ward's Mill and was located about six miles north by northeast of Lafayette, Chambers County, Alabama.

In July 1842 Isaac Nolen with John Barbour, Samuel E. Brown, and John T. Bullock for and in consideration of \$1.00 deeded to the citizens of Township 23 and Range 27 one acre of land where four sections of land cornered upon which to build a school house and church. Upon this lot stands today (1976) the Sweet Home Methodist Church with the graveyard wherein is buried the father of Isaac Nolen, Stephen Nolen III, who died October 26, 1846, aged ninety-three years. He was living in the home of Isaac at the time of his death. Sweet Home Methodist Church is located about six miles north by northeast of Lafayette, Chambers County, Alabama, about one-half mile from the Isaac Nolen mill.

Isaac Nolen, by late in the year 1852, was disposing of all his holdings in Chambers County. The Court-house Records in LaFayette, Chambers County, show sales made in several years. Some are given below.

December 1852—Township 23—910 acres for \$8,585.00

December 1853—Section 21—for \$1,030.00

December 1853—122 acres for \$610.00

February 1854—520 acres for \$3,840.00

After disposing of his land holdings in Chambers County, Isaac Nolen, about 1854-1855, moved and settled in Smith County, Texas. Thomas H. Nolen, born 1859, a grand nephew of Isaac Nolen, recalls that it was told to him that Isaac Nolen drove by foot through the country, his cattle to his new home in Smith County, Texas. What a long, tiresome, tedious, and perilous trip this must have been in that day to both man and beast!

Isaac Nolen died September 27, 1866, and is buried in Starrsville Cemetery about four miles southeast of Winona, Smith County, Texas.

The Richard Smith Nolen (born 1837) family reunion was held in the Sweet Home Methodist Church, Sunday, August 20, 1972. Richard Smith Nolen was the great grandson of Stephen Nolen III.

For that weekend, Willie Smith Nolen, widow of Emmet O'Neal Nolen (b. September 3, 1912; d. December 1, 1970), the great, great, great grandson of Stephen Nolen III, had invited all five of O'Neal's sisters, and his brother, and their families to be together in her home. Willie lived in LaFayette, Chambers County, Alabama, at the Ranch Motel, which she and O'Neal had owned for many years. Willie closed the motel to customers for three days and had just these sisters, the brother, and their families, and her own daughter, Billie, and her family.

On Sunday, August 20, almost everyone drove about six miles to Sweet Home Methodist Church to join the other Nolens gathered for the Richard Smith Nolen Annual Reunion.

After the service and program in the large, white painted church, and during and after the "spread basket lunch" under the big trees, various ones, visiting together, walked about the grounds and through the cemetery. Reading the inscriptions on many of the tombstones and, or on the stone slabs over the ancient graves proved very interesting. Of course, the grave which held the main interest was that of Stephen Nolen III, whose inscription showed the date of his death, October 26, 1846.

All who looked upon this grave were proud to recall that their ancestor, Stephen Nolen's III son, Isaac had joined in contributing to this church and cemetery space. All were equally proud to see both were still well preserved, used, and revered.