

Section 1

## JOHN RABB ASHFORD

4. John Rabb Ashford, 2nd son of James Ashford and Mary (Rabb) Ashford, b. 29 Jan. 1808 in Fairfield County, S. C., d. 7 April 1856 in Winston County, Mississippi, buried in Old Concord Cemetery, six miles east of Weir, Miss., in Choctaw County, Miss., m. Elizabeth D. Rabb, daughter of Charles Rabb and Mary V., (Harrison) Rabb 6 Jan 1835. She was born in Fairfield County, S. C., 4 Oct. 1814, d. 4 June 1852 in Fairfield County, S. C. Buried at the James Ashford family cemetery. John Rabb Ashford was a planter in Fairfield County, S. C., and also in Winston County, Mississippi. He owned many slaves and worked much land. He came to Mississippi and bought land in Winston County, but which now is a part of Choctaw County.

John Rabb Ashford and his wife, Elizabeth D. (Rabb) Ashford, had issue:

- 5a. Mary Ashford, b. 20 June 1836, d. 8 March 1837, buried in James Ashford family cemetery.
- 5b. John Bunyan Ashford, b. 15 Jan. 1838, d. 5 June 1838, buried in James Ashford family cemetery.
- 5c. James Polk Ashford, b. 12 June 1839, d. 14 Sept. 1916.
- 5d. Sarah V. Ashford, b. 19 May 1841, d. 1 Oct. 1841, buried in James Ashford family cemetery.
- 5e. Catherine Harrison Ashford, b. 15 Nov. 1844, d. 21 April 1917.
- 5f. Charlie Joseph Ashford, b. 19 Nov. 1847, d. 10 Feb. 1895.

Movement of the Ashfords from Fairfield County, South Carolina to Winston County, Mississippi in 1852-53: The late Mrs. Caroline Ellen (Turnipseed) Whitmire furnished much of the following information and verified many statements. She was ninety-three years old at the time she was visited, 16 February 1954. She had a most remarkable memory for her age, sat for two hours answering questions and offered many bits of information which would have taken years of research to uncover. She related several items exactly as the writer remembers hearing his grandfather, James Polk Ashford, relate them.

Who was Mrs. Whitmire, and why did she know so much about the Ashfords? Her mother, Martha Caroline Taylor, first married Robert James Ashford. Her aunt, Rachael Y. Taylor, married James Redding Ashford, Robert's brother. Her uncle, Andrew Jackson Taylor, married Catherine Harrison Ashford. Mrs. Whitmire's father, Jesse Turnipseed, was the foreman of slaves for James R. Ashford. Martha Caroline Taylor and Robert J. Ashford had a little daughter Eliza, "Ella", who grew up in the Turnipseed home with Mrs. Whitmire. These facts lead you to conclude that Mrs. Whitmire related the facts from personal knowledge.

John Rabb Ashford, his thirteen year old son, James Polk; James Redding Ashford and his thirteen year old brother-in-law, Andrew Jackson