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Property
Of
Fairfield Genealogy Room



GRANDPA

DANIEL GEORGE RUFF

1845 - 1902

THE RUFF FAMILY

Why we never questioned mama, Aggie, and other members of the family about the Ruff family, I'll never know. The only members of Grandpa Ruff's family I remember were Uncle Billy (Coz. Eunita's father,) and Aunt Nan, Coz. Lady Bird's mother - grandpa's brother and sister.

Aggie told me, and I have it in writing somewhere in her handwriting, that Grandpa Ruff bought the old home place and about 350 to 400 acres of land and moved in on January 1, 1873. Aunt Janie Ruff (Mason) and Aunt Fannie Ruff (Perry) were little girls 5 and 3 years old. Aggie was born April 14, 1873, just three and one-half months after they moved in.

The only thing I can remember mama telling me was that great grandfather Silas Ruff and great grandmother Judith Weston Ruff came to visit Grandpa and Grandma Ruff in the fall of 1876 - that was five years before mama was born.

We can't imagine what travel was like in those days. I think they lived in the upper part of Fairfield County, near the Chester-Union-Fairfield corner. It probably took them a couple of days to come by horse and buggy, or it could have been horse and wagon, or mule and wagon. If a rainy spell set in while they were on the road, it may have meant a stop over woffseveral days with somebody living on the road. Anyway, as I recall mama telling me about this visit of 1876 as it was told to her, great grandfather Silas Ruff became ill and died while they were still on their visit to grandpa and grandma Ruff and because of the difficulty of travel it became necessary for him to be buried at Bethel.

I'm not sure that great grandmother Judith Weston Ruff made her home permanently with grandpa and grandma after her husband's death, but as I recall she stayed there a great part of the time and when she died two years later, in 1878, she was buried next to great grandfather Silas in the Bethel cemetery.

When you look at the "Family Record of Daniel and Margaret Hamiter Ruff" page 11 & 12, you will recognize names that will explain how we came to be related to certain families.

Grandpa Ruff was the tenth child in his family of twelve children. His father Silas is the only name I have as being the son of Daniel and Margaret Hamiter Ruff. I feel sure that David H. Ruff, who settled in Ridgeway and gave the material and built the church (Methodist) there (see "Sketch of Ruff's Chapel" page 29), was a brother of great grandfather Silas. He was born 8-28-1796 and died 3-24-1877. Great grandfather Silas was born in 1795 and died in 1876 so they could have been brothers.

Let's look at Grandpa Ruff's brothers and sisters and see how we are connected with certain family names in Fairfield County:

1. David Wesley Ruff married Isabelle Nelson and I don't ever remember hearing or knowing anyone in that branch of the family.

2. Martha Sarah Ann Ruff married Samuel C. McDowell and that is how we are related to the Winnsboro McDowells. I remember being told that Ralph McDowell was a cousin of mama's but never really knew how.
3. Margaret Harriett Ruff married James W. Lever and I guess that is how we are related to Oscar, Winnie and that branch of the Lever family.
4. Jane Jemima Ruff and George P. Hoffman, I never remember hearing about.
5. James Elkin Ruff lived to be only six years old.
6. Mary Elizabeth Ruff (twin to Judith Weston Ruff) married Thomas Sims and that's how we were related to Annie Gibson Douglas. Her mother was Cousin Maggie Sims Gibson. Cousin Maggie and Annie used to come every summer and spend from two weeks to a month with mama and Aunt Fannie. They were real close to the McDowells too.
7. Judith Weston Ruff (twin to Mary Elizabeth) was named for her mother. She was married less than a year to Capt. Kennedy when he was killed near Petersburg, Va., during the Civil War. About seven years later she married Nathan DuBard and that's how we are related to the Cedar Creek DuBards.
8. Nancy Lucretia Ruff married Dr. Lever and I remember her very well. She was Aunt Nan and that's how we are related to the Will Leitner family - Cousin Lady Bird Leither was her daughter. Aunt Nan lived until 1929 and I remember very vividly going with mama to see her many times. She lived in sight of Cedar Creek, in fact, right up on the hill from the creek.
9. Silas Walter Ruff married Mary Rabb from Monticello and that's how we are related to Annie Bess Ruff and the Tom Ruff family - their fathers were sons of Silas and Mary.
10. Then came Grandpa Ruff - Daniel George Ruff married Sallie Crosby. Grandpa died before mama and papa were married; he died October 18, 1902 and they married June 10, 1903. Mama was clerking in Walker's Store in Winnsboro and lived with the Buchanans. She became very fond of Miss Rebecca Buchanan and when I was born she named me for Grandma Ruff and Miss Rebecca. Incidentally, I was the first grand child on papa's side of the family and the first grand daughter on mama's side. Maxey Perry, Marion Mason, Claude and D. G. Ruff, all boys, came before I did - don't you know I was a spoiled one in such a position as that?
11. The only other member of grandpa Ruff's family I knew besides Aunt Nan was Uncle Billy - William Henry Ruff married Annie Stearnes and Cousin Eunita and Stella were their only children. Uncle Billy used to come over in horse and buggy days and spend a couple of days and nights with us. It would usually be in the fall or winter for I remember sitting around the fire at night eating delicious apples he would bring. He was as deaf as a post and we would really get tickled at some of the answers he would give to some of the questions asked him. But mama would take us out and "dress us down" if we dared let him catch us laughing.
12. The youngest child, John Pearson, Ruff, lived to be only four years old. He was named for John Pearson, the Revolutionary hero who was an ancestor on Grandpa Ruff's mother's side of the family, coming through the Elkin, Raiford and Pearson branch.

I have no idea where our great-great grandfather David and great-great grandmother Margaret Hamiter Ruff are buried. We may find them in one of the cemeteries in the Upper Corner of Fairfield County where some of the Crosbys are buried. If any of you ever come across any Ruff markers in a cemetery, please get the information and we'll try to trace the name.

What we have about the Ruff family is far from complete but I wanted to put it shape before too late.

Personal Notes About Grandpa Ruff's Family As
I Remember Them

1. Janie Weston Ruff, the oldest of grandpa's children, married Eber B. Mason. Aunt Janie lived only six years after her marriage. Marion was less than five years old when she died at the age of 27. In later years members of the family often said they felt she probably died with cancer. Little was known about cancer at the time of her death, but her last illness was similar to cancer which became more recognizable in later years.
2. Fannie Lucy Ruff (Aunt Fannie) married Thomas J. Perry. Aunt Fannie was named for her grandmother Lucy Boulware Crosby on her mother's side. She used to talk to me about the Crosby kin and spoke of visiting them and they visiting her when they were young, single girls - especially Johnnie Willey from Union County. I have an old album that belonged to Aunt Fannie when she was young - found it among mama's things in her wadrobe.
3. Mary Agnes Ruff (Aggie) never married. She felt called to be a missionary and as I recall she stood up at a meeting in Greenbrier Church and volunteered to go as a missionary. She attended Williamston Female College (which later became Lander College) and Scarritt Training School for Christian Workers. She was commissioned to go to Cuba where she served for five years. She came home on her first furlough and never returned because of grandma's bad health and her own bad health. Grandma died in 1912 and Aggie's "fifth nerve" trouble in her face had become so increasingly worse, she never did get back to Cuba. It was such a long time before any kind of operation could be done to relieve her trouble. Finally, the operation was perfected and Dr. John Buchanan arranged for her to go to Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore - in fact he went with her - and she came home completely relieved of suffering, but the left side of her face and tongue, even her left eye were without feeling and sight ever again.
4. David Crosby Ruff married Mary E. Delleney. He was the biggest tease in the world but we all loved him for it. He was especially fond of Frank (ous sister Frances) and would promise her everything imaginable if she would go home with him - one thing in particular he would promise was a pair of red shoes - I think red shoes were really unheard of in that day and age but he would be right in style in 1969!
5. Marion Wesley Ruff lived not quite two years. Mama always had a picture of him in the living room up home. She never knew him for she was not born until several years after he lived.

6. Daniel George Ruff married Willie Wells from Greenwood and my earliest recollection of them was that every summer in the month of August, Aunt Willie would come to Fairfield for a visit with the children. We looked forward to these visits. One thing that stands out in my memory was that Aunt Willie always had a new fall hat in August and that was unheard of in the country - but we knew she was the essence of style and we respected her taste in clothes. She had a good sense of humor and we laughed a lot when she was around. Of course when I went to Lander their home was my second home and practically every time I came home for a week end, Madge would come with me.

7. Sallie Estelle Ruff married James Pope Brooks - mama and papa. Mama said papa rented a horse and buggy and they rode out from Winnsboro to Bethel parsonage for mama's preacher to marry them. Grandma was sitting on the front porch when they came down the road - there were no trees between the road and the house. They recognized grandma on the porch but she didn't have any idea who they were. They went on to the parsonage and married then came back and stopped to tell grandma.

8. Willie Pearson Ruff married Maud Lyles October 7, 1906. She was a good natured, pleasant person. I was sixteen years old when she died and it made quite an impression on me. One thing I remember about her was when she would talk about something she didn't want the children to hear, she, as others did too, would spell some of the words so they wouldn't catch on to the conversation. Invariably, Aunt Maud would spell and then pronounce the very word she didn't want them to get. After her death, William and Dan lived with us until Uncle Willie married again. He and Ida Bowles married and the two boys went to live with them and unless people were told, they never would have known that Ida was not their real mother.

RUFF COAT OF ARMS

RUFF: Azure a bond between two suns in splendor or.

CREST: A sun or between two wings azure.

No Motto

This is a very old and distinguished family and well known in South Carolina. The arms was granted in the old country prior to the seventeenth century. It bears no motto as these had not come into use at that early period.

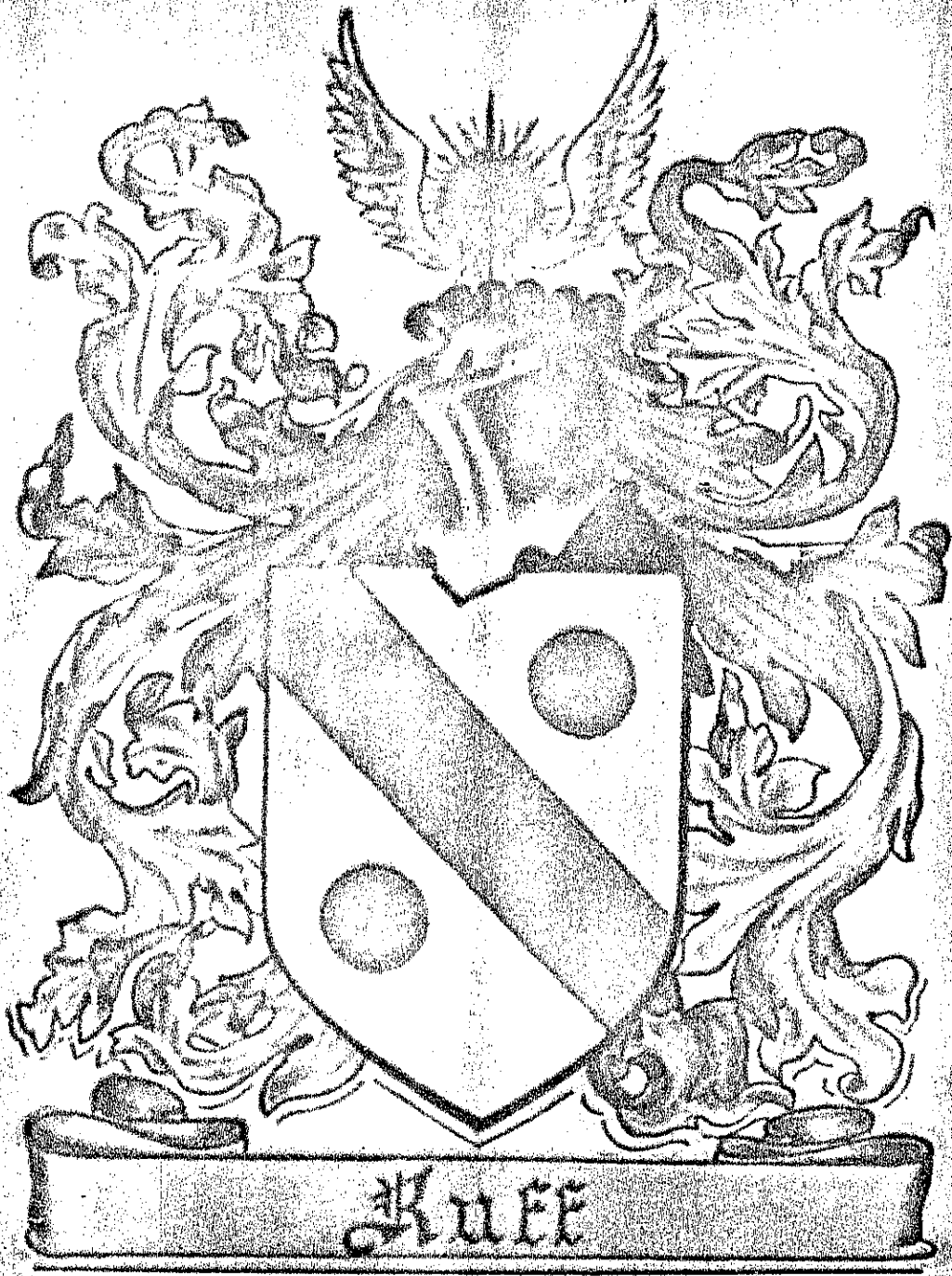
The suns were a symbol of brilliance, success and importance. The wings showed high ambition and ideals.

A bend (band across the shield diagonally) represented the military shoulder strap and was given for rank of honor or distinction.

Azure (blue) signified truth and sincerity.

Or (gold) denoted stainless honor.

The leaves and scroll are used for decorations only and have no special meaning.



PEARSON COAT OF ARMS

8

Pearson: Or on a pale azure the sun in splendor proper between two lions rampant combatant gules.

Crest: A cock's head erased azure, combed and wattled gules charged on the neck with a sun or, and holding in the beak a flower proper, all between two palm branches of the last.

Motto: "Audax et celer" (Bold and swift)

The eminent old family of Pearson was predominantly Scotch, but represented in many parts of the world. The sun in splendor (shining brightly) showed great distinction and outstanding success.

A "pale" was supposed to be a stave of wood as carried by the crusaders in traveling long distances. The lion was considered one of the most honorable charges in the blazoning of arms and signified great strength and fortitude. The cock was a symbol of watchfulness and also an undaunted fighter.

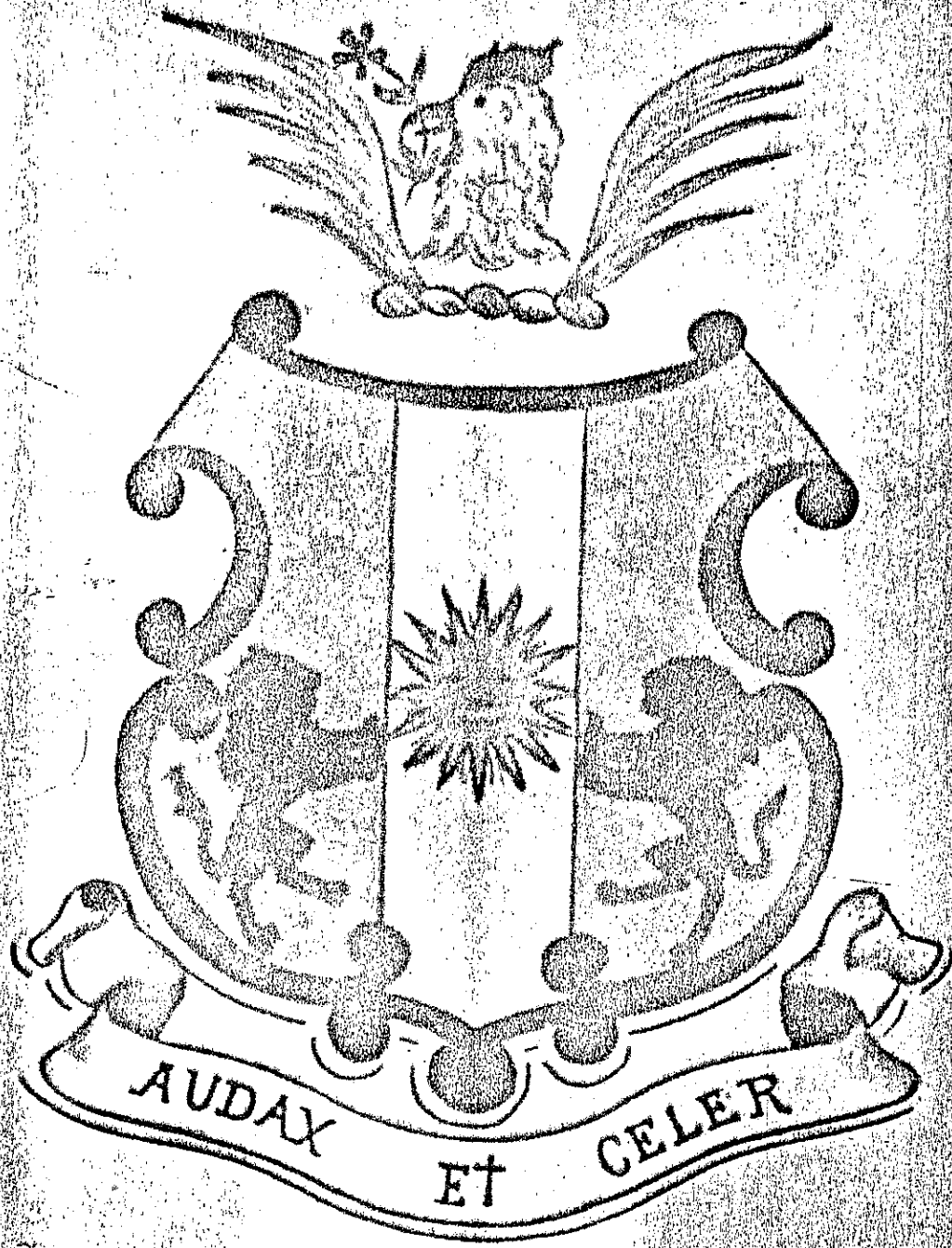
The palm branches indicated a crusader to the Holy Land.

Azure (blue) showed truth and sincerity.

Gules (red) military fortitude.

Or (gold) stainless honor.

Proper - a term for natural colors of the object.



*P*erson

John Pearson, an English gentleman of high rank, was born at Windsor, on the Thames about 1690, and died at his estate, Windsor Forest, Fairfield District, South Carolina in about 1760. He was educated for the British navy. He had two sisters, one married a Beard and one a Coffin. On the death of his father he disagreed with his maternal uncle, came to this country and landed somewhere on the Jersey coast, intending to ship for the West Indies. Off the coast of Florida the small boat in which he and a few companions were making the voyage, was captured by pirates. He managed to escape by leaping over the side of a vessel at night and swimming boldly to the shore; was at once seized by the Spaniards and thrown into the old fort at St. Augustine, where he lay for months in a dungeon. The prisoners were brought forth daily and long discussions held as to what horrible mode of death would be most suitable and most blood curdling. Sometimes a few would be tortured, while the others were held in reserve for something more awful. Finally, he escaped, lay for days in the adjacent marshes, and at last made his way to New Orleans in a row boat. From there he went to Charleston South Carolina, through the country, their journey taking two years. As he made his way slowly from tribe to tribe, through unspeakable dangers and hardships, he gained a knowledge of Indian languages and affairs that was very valuable in after years. Reaching Charleston he was introduced to Governor Robert Johnson, who recognizing his superior intelligence and education, made him his private secretary. He was put in charge of all Indian transactions, which were numerous. He was a captain in Colonial wars, and surveyed the road from Charleston to Nashville, and built Fort London, the first Anglo American settlement in Tennessee.

Captain John Pearson married Mary, the daughter of Philip Raiford. The Raifords were distinguished in both Carolinas. Isaac was one of the richest men who ever lived in the South. His daughter married the celebrated Moses Kirkland. John and Mary Pearson had five children; William, who died young, John who was Brigadier General of Militia in the Revolution and raised two thousand pounds of cotton to the acre (Mill's Statistics); Philip, who was a justice of the peace of South Carolina at the same time George Washington was a surveyor of Virginia. There were two daughters, Martha, who married Captain John Cook, and Mary, who was the wife of Thomas Bond. All the decedents of John Pearson are known.

FAMILY RECORD OF DANIEL & MARGARET
HAMITER RUFF

<u>Daniel Ruff</u>	<u>Married</u> <u>Margaret Hamiter</u>	<u>Date</u>
b. 8--1771	b. unknown	unknown
d. 11/29/1829	d. "	

Children:

Silas Ruff	Judith Weston Elkin	2/1/1827
b. 6-11-1795	b. 8-1-1807	
d. 10-10-1876	d. 9-12-1878	

Children:

<u>Children:</u>	<u>Married</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>By</u>
David Wesley Ruff	Isabelle Nelson		
b. 12-22-1827	b. unknown	9-29-1858	Rev. R. R. Vann
d. 5-24-1862	d. "		
Martha Sarah Ann Ruff	Samuel C. McDowell		
b. 12-2-1829	b. unknown	2-8-1855	Rev. Betts
d. 3-16-1894	d. "		
Margaret Harriett	James W. Lever	5-26-1858	Rev. Jackey Bradley
b. 11-5-1831	b. unknown		
d. 9-7-1880			
Jane Jemima Ruff	George P. Hoffman	1-26-1854	Rev. R. R. Vann
b. 1-8-1834	b. unknown		
d. 4-28-1903	d. "		
James Elkin Ruff			
b. 2-12-1836			
d. 10-24-1842			
*Mary Elizabeth Ruff	Thomas P. Sims	4-13-1864	Rev. Wm. B. Elkin
b. 12-29-1838 (twin)	b. unknown		
d. 4-19-1894	d. "		
*Judith Weston Ruff	Capt. John L. Kennedy	12-10-1863	Rev. A. K. Durham
b. 12-29-1838 (twin)	b. unknown		
d. 12-12-1907	d. with his command near Petersburg, Va. in the Civil War - 8-3-1864		
Judith Weston (second marriage - see above)	Nathan DuBard	11-29-1871	Rev. J. L. Shuford
Nancy Lucretia Ruff	Dr. John D. F. Lever	2-6-1867	Rev. A. J. Cauthen
b. 2-20-1841	b. unknown		
d. 2-7-1929	d. "		
Silas Walter Ruff	Mary Rabb	10-24-1866	Rev. John Zealy
b. 2-1-1843	b. unknown		
d. 8-29-1904	d. "		

FAMILY RECORD OF DANIEL & MARGARET HAMITER RUFF (continued)

Daniel George Ruff b.4-1-1845 d.10-18-1902	Sallie E. Crosby b.3-27-1846 d.10-19-1912	10-24-1867	Rev. Parker
William Henry Ruff b.6-21-1847 d.	Annie W. Stearns b.7-6-1876 d.	7-6-1878	Rev. W. B. Elkin assisted by Rev. G. Smith
John Pearson b.6-8-1849 d.10-3-1853			

FAMILY RECORD OF DANIEL GEORGE & SALLIE CROSBY RUFF

Daniel George Ruff b.4-1-1845 d.10-18-1902	Sallie E. Crosby b.3-27-1846 d.10-19-1912	10-24-1867	Rev. Parker
<u>Children:</u>			
Janie Weston Ruff b.10-15-1868 d.6-2-1895	Eber B. Mason b. d.	10-16-1889	Rev. Jas. C. Stoll
Fannie Lucy Ruff b.11-12-1870 d.8-20-1949	Thomas J. Perry b. d.	1-12-1893	Rev. M. W. Hook
Mary Agnes Ruff b.4-14-1873 d.11-30-1961			
David Crosby Ruff b.8-30-1875 d.8-18-1930	Mary E. Delleney b. d.	2-24-1898	Rev. J. D. Crout
Marion Wesley Ruff b.12-10-1877 d.8-28-1879			
Daniel George Ruff b.6-10-1880 d.1-7-1934	Willie C. Wells b. d.	6-16-1904	
Sallie Estelle Ruff b.12-17-1882 d.12-30-1953	James Pope Brooks b.10-7-1883 d.5-29-1935	6-10-1903	Rev. W. W. Williams
Willie Pearson Ruff b.2-27-1887 d.	Maud Lyles b. d.1-30-1920	10-7-1906	Rev. W. W. Williams
Willie Pearson Ruff (second marriage)	Ida Bowles b. d.	12-23-1920	Rev. A. J. Bowers

Ruff

James Pope & Agnes Ruff } Sep 29 - 1915

Abner C. Ruff, son of Silas & J. H. Ruff was born Apl 7th 1845.

Sallie E. Crosby, daughter of David & Lucy W. Crosby, was born March 22nd 1846.

Maria Weston Ruff, first daughter of D. S. & S. E. Ruff was born Oct. 15th 1868.

Fannie Lucy Ruff, 2nd daughter of D. S. & S. E. Ruff, was born Dec. 12th 1874.

Abner Ruff born April 14th 1875.

David Crosby Ruff August 30th 1876.

Merrion Wiley Ruff December 10th 1877

Daniel George Ruff June 10th 1880

Sallie Estelle Ruff December 17th 1882

Millie Pearson Ruff February 27th 1887

Grand children

James Marion Mason - Sept 23, 1890

George Marcus Perry - Sept 18, 1893

Clara N. Ruff - Nov. 14 1899

Little W. S. Ruff son of Crosby & Mary, Oct 1903

Lara Rebecca Brooks Aug. 15 - 1904

Mary Francis Brooks Oct. 1907

J. A. Brooks April 30, 1910

Mrs. Crosby Brooks Sept. 15 - 1912

James Pope Brooks born Sep 29 - 1915

Agnes Ruff (Brooks)

BAPTISMS

June 11, 1905
 1907
 1908

Orlie W. Ruff was baptized by Rev. A. J. Cawther
 Annie S. & Mc Agnes Ruff " Rev. J. T. Kelgo
 David Crosby, ^{Ruff} baptized " Rev. J. Marion Boyd
 Marion Wesley Ruff " " " "
 Daniel George Ruff " " Rev. A. J. Cawther
 Nellie Estelle Ruff " " Rev. J. K. McBain
 Willie Pearson Ruff " " " St. K. Melton

J. Marion Mason
 W. Marcy Perry by Mr. M. W. Hook
 Claude H. Ruff
 D. G. Ruff Mr. Campbell
 Sara Rebecca Brooks Mr. Campbell
 Frances Brooks Mr. Blodgett

Mary Frances Brooks and Claude Lewis
 married Feb. 22, 1926 by Rev. Mr. Huggin
 at Winnebago Methodist Parsonage

Sara Rebecca Brooks & H. Berley Shirley
 were married June 10, 1926 by J. M. Mason
 J. Brooks and Marion Center were
 married Aug 31 - 1929 at Supts
 Columbia SC

MARRIAGES

Married Oct 24th 1867 by the Rev.
Pastor Daniel G. Ruff of Fairfield, Conn.
Sullivan County of New York.

Janis W Ruff and Ebet-B. Mason
Married by Rev Jas. C. Stoll. Oct 16th
1889.

Fannie L. Ruff and T. J. Perry
Married by Rev M. W. Hook Jan 12th
1893.

Dinah Crosby Ruff and Mary E. McHenry.
Married by Rev J. L. Corant Feb 24th 1898.

Sallie C. Ruff and Pope Brooks
Married by Rev. W. W. Williams
June 10 1903.

D. George Ruff & Helen C. Heller
Married June 16, 1904.

Willie P. Ruff & Maud Lyles
Married Oct 7-1906

Willie P. Ruff and Iida Bowles
Married Dec 23 - 1920
by A. J. Bowers, at Greenwood

RUFF FAMILY RECORD

Silas Ruff, eldest son of Daniel Ruff and Margaret Hamiter Ruff, was born June 11, 1795. He married Judith Weston Elkin, third daughter of James and Sarah Elkin. Her birth date was August 1, 1807. They married March 1, 1827 and had the following children:

David Wesley Ruff, first son of Silas and Judith Weston Ruff, was born December 22, 1827. David married Miss Isabelle Nelson, by Rev. R. R. Vann, September 29, 1858. David died May 24, 1862, far, far from home in Ashland Hospital, Virginia, age 34 years, 6 months and 28 days.

Martha Sarah Ann, first daughter of Silas and Judith Weston Ruff, was born December 2, 1829. She married Samuel C. McDowell, by Rev. Betts, February 8, 1855. She died March 16, 1894. Cousin Maggie Gibson was their daughter and her only daughter was Annie Gibson who married Dr. Ed Douglas - that's how we were related to them.

Margaret H. Ruff was the second daughter of Silas and Judith and was born November 5, 1831. She married James W. Lever on May 26, 1858 with Rev. Jackey Brady officiating. She died September 7, 1880.

Jane Jemima, third daughter of Silas and Judith was born January 8, 1834. She married George P. Hoffman, by Rev. R. R. Vann, January 26, 1858. She died April 28, 1903.

James Elkin, second son of Silas and Judith was born February 12, 1836. He died October 24, 1842, at the age of 6 years, 8 months, and 12 days.

Mary Elizabeth and Judith Weston (twins) born December 29, 1838. These were the fourth and fifth daughters and the sixth and seventh children of Silas and Judith. Mary Elizabeth married Thomas P. Simms, Rev. William B. Elkin, officiating, April 13, 1864. She was called Lizzie. She died April 19, 1894. Judith Weston married Captain John L. Kennedy, Rev. A. K. Durham, officiating December 10, 1863. Captain Kennedy died with his command near Petersburg, Virginia during the Civil War, August 8, 1864. Judith was married the second time to Nathan J. DuBard, November 29, 1871, by Rev. J. L. Shuford. Their daughter, Annie Cooper, died August 30, 1968 in Raleigh, N. C. She was cremated and her ashes were brought to Cedar Creek Methodist Church, Fairfield County, and buried next to her father, at which time a memorial service was conducted on Saturday, September 7, 1968 at 4:30 p.m.

Nancy Lucretia, sixth daughter, was born February 20, 1841. She married Dr. John D. F. Lever, by Rev. A. J. Cauthen, February 6, 1867. She died February 7, 1929. I remember her distinctly. We called her Aunt Nan. She lived in Cedar Creek community. Cousin Lady Bird Leitner was one of her daughters - that's how we are related to the W. J. Leitner family.

Silas Walter, third son of Silas and Judith W. Ruff, was born February 1, 1843. He married Mary Rabb, October 24, 1866, by Rev. John Zealy. He died August 29, 1904. It is through his line that we are related to Annie Bess and Buck Ruff, also Louise McMeekin's family and Cousin Tom Ruff's family (Ruff Hardware)

(Children of Silas Ruff and Judith Weston Ruff continued)

Daniel George, fourth son of Silas and Judith Ruff, was born March 31, 1845 and he married Sallie E. Crosby, October 24, 1867 - these are our grand parents. He died October 18, 1902, before mama and papa married. His nickname was Tuck - and all of his neices and nephews called him Uncle Tuck - taken from "Old Dan Tucker"

William Henry, fifth son of Silas and Judith, was born June 21, 1847 and he married Miss Anne W. Stearns, July 6, 1878, by Rev. W. B. Elkin, assisted by Rev. G. Smith. This was Uncle Billy Ruff, Cousin Eunita and Cousin Stella's father. He used to visit us when I was a child and what I remember about him was that he was almost "stone" deaf and would always bring apples when he would come and would always spend at least one night.

John Pearson, sixth son of Silas and Judith Ruff, was born June 8, 1849. He died October 3, 1853, at 2:30 a.m., at the age of 4 years, 3 months and 24 days.

Six sons and six daughters, a total of twelve children born to Silas and Judith Ruff, two of the sons dying at early ages. All of the other ten children lived to be grown, married, and rear a family.

GRANDPA RUFF'S GUEST REGISTER

Relatives and friends used to come for overnight visits and sometimes extended visits. Grandpa Ruff fixed a note book for the guest room and had the poem below written in the front of the book. Everyone who spent the night was supposed to sign his/her name and address and the date. Some of the post offices shown have long since been discontinued. The first date shown is 1893 - mama was about ten years old then. I don't know whether this was the first time the "register" was used but the few pages I have date from August 1893 to February 1897. I have no idea who wrote the poem but it may have been Grandpa's original.

"Sleep sweetly in this quiet room
O thou, who sees thou art,
And let no mournful yesterday
Disturb thy peaceful heart.
Forget thyself and all the world
Put out each light -
The stars are watching overhead,
Sleep sweetly, then, - good night."

James R. Mason Aug. 16, 1893
Horeb, P. O., S. C.

Maggie Gibson Aug. 16, 1893
Winnabow S. C.

Fannie E. Adair Aug. 28, 1893
Clinton S. C.

Aug 17 to Aug 29
Willie J. Adair Aug 28, 1893
Clinton S. C.

Adams Dubard, Edd Struggs,
Cedar Creek, Winnabow S. C.
Aug. 27, 1893.

Mrs. E. B. Mason,
Aug 30, 1893 - Horeb, S. C.

Mrs. Lattie Chappell
Mossy Dale, Sept 6, 1893

Miss Vera Sammon, Dec. 17, 1893

Horeb, S. C.

James Macon Dec 27 & 28, 1893

Horeb, S. C.

Herbert Canthun Dec 30th 1893

Horeb S. C.

Mabel C. Clark March 23, 1894

Kallaeville S. C.

Miss Weatt Elkin April 20 1894

Columbia S. C.

Mr Nathan Cook

March 1894, Horeb. S. C.

Mr Stark Delaney

Apr 29. 94. Rockton S. C.

Frank S. Mann, May 13/94

Horeb, S. C.

Miss. May Marchant, May, 15 1894

Columbia, S. C.

June 4 Gussie Canthun =

Lillian Power

Parsonage, June 10 1894

Jamie Mason and Marion.

Horeb S. C. June 10-17 1894.

Eula Lauther
Horeb S. C. June 27 1894

Nannie R. Watt.
Horeb, S. C. July 11, 1894.

Jamie R. Mason, Jessie Robinson
Horeb S. C. July 17, 1894.

Willie Irby, Aug 18, 1894.
Horeb, S. C.

Preston Irby, Aug. 25, 1894.
Horeb, S. C.

Dr W. M. Wright Oct 12, 1894
Talstar, S. C.

Mr. H. J. Bibba, Agent

Mr. Eber Mason
Horeb, S. C.

Jamie Mason - Nov 2 1894

Dr. H. L. Salmon Agent
Nov 9th Columbia, S.C.

James Howell

Nov 24th 94 Cedar Creek S.C.

N. J. Dubard & Wife
Nov 29th Cedar Creek

Miss Edith Posser
Dec 7th Ridgeway S.C.

Rev Connor Burns
Dec 17th Anderson S.C.
1895

Jan Horse Trader
Jan 1895

Feb 25
30 Jamie Mason
Feb 1895

Nathan Cook
Mch. April 9 1895

Rev Lips

Apr 20, Englishs Gamaks Horeb SC
Starks Delleney Rockton SC
Eugene Rabb Rion SC

June
1st Silas Lever Jr
C. Creek

July 1/95-
Nat Cook

" Maggie Gibsons
Ahrick
Winaboro SC

Aug 3 1895-
" Nathan Dubard C Creek
" Staff Curry Shiloh

4 Rev E. S. Lupo Monticello
E. B. Mason Horeb

7 Lorie Grby

Aug 18
Charlie Trapps
Jennings SC

Sept 1 1895-
Willie Jones
Jennings, S. C.

Sept 8, '95-
Preston Drbu

Klomie Mcneekin Sept 6-9-8- 1893
Loula Mcneekin " " " " " "
Jenkinsville S.C.

Mr George Brown, Oct. 9, 1893,
Putman, Ga.

" Herbert Caution, Oct 28 1893.
Horeb S.C.

Fannie R. Perry Oct 28, 1893
Mary Dale, S.C.

Messrs Will Robinson + Tebe Crosby
Jennings S.C. - Feasterville, S.C.
November 1, 1893.

Janie R. Mason
Horeb S.C., Nov - 1893

Mr D. P. Crosby + Miss Daisy Nov. 15 1893
Feasterville S.C.

Mr. Roland Lyles Nov. 21, 1893,
Mossydale, S.C.

Miss Gussie Caution, Dec. 1st 1893

Rev O. S. Lupo

Monticello, Oct 6 1895 -

Nathan Dubard, Oct 5-6

Nathan Cook Oct. 9 1895 -

Mr Hargan Seed Agt

Oct. 17th /95 - Virginia

Mr Nathan Cook Rockton
- 80

Dec, 20th

Blanch Canak

Dec, 25th

English Canak

Jan 11 Uncle Lupo Monticello

March 6th 96 Miss Chalice Trapp

" " " Miss Bessie & Henry

March

Apr 18 96

Rev Walter Dickson

Apr 15

Gertrude Watt, Willie Jones

Apr 23 Nanne Watt

May - 96. Tom Leitner & Leitner & his
Greenland

Wesley O. Stewart
Horeb, S.C. June 27, 1896.

Dr & Mrs N. L. Lever.
Lever, S.C. July 28th 1896

Adam, Maggie and Kathleen Dubard
Lever S.C. Aug 18 1896

N. J. Dubard & Lady
Cedar Creek Sept. 1st 1896

Mrs Porter, Sept 9 1896
Feasterville S.C.

English Canak Sept-25-1896
Mosy Dale

1827
1896
21

Mrs S. W. Ruff Oct 2nd 1896

Silas Ruff " 1896

Mr Jim Lips Nov & Dec 1896

" " Clark & Will Coleman

Mr Cameron Dec 17 & 18 '96

Mr Jim Edge 24 to 31 '96

English Canack & Blanche - 29, Dec '96

Johnnie Willey, Carlisle, S.C.
From Dec 18. 96 to Jan 14 1897

SKETCH OF RUFF'S CHAPEL

Mrs. A. T. Moore

In the late '60's and early '70's the only churches in Ridgeway were Aimwell Presbyterian and St. Stephen's Episcopal churches, which came into existence 1832-1856.

When Mr. David H. Ruff came to town to live, in the late '60's from his country home in Richland County he brought with him his nephew, A. Fletcher Ruff, and they built what is probably the first store in Ridgeway, which was known as Ruff & Ruff. He afterward built a handsome residence which still stands in its grove of water oaks, and is now owned by the family of the late W. J. Johnson, who for years was senator from our county, and whose family were devoted members of this church. Mr. Ruff, being a Methodist, and there being no Methodist church in town, secured the lower floor of the Masonic Hall where preaching was held and a Sunday School was organized. This Hall stood at the crossroads where the present school building stands. He then set to work to build a church. He had the lumber sawed from choice pine trees growing on his land, using the finest heart timber cut from these pines. It was then hauled by mule teams a distance of miles to the site of the present church. The building was erected, painted and furnished completely, even to the carpet on the floor, new organ, Bible, hymn books and a handsome silver communion service. The latter was destroyed by fire when our parsonage was burned during the pastorate of the late Reverend O. N. Rountree.

Mr. Ruff ordered the bell molded especially for this church, and when it was being made he stood by and threw into it sixty silver dollars, giving it that sweet silvery tone. This is the same bell which calls us to worship every Sunday morning.

The church was then dedicated to the worship of God, and Reverend Jesse Clifton was the first pastor to occupy the pulpit of the new church. He was a man of unusual power. With a fine physique, an intelligent face, and rare oratorical powers, he was naturally an attractive speaker, and did much for the up-building of the church.

He always had a large congregation of Methodists, Baptists, Presbyterians and Episcopalians. Everybody went to church in those good old days, all worshipping God with singleness of purpose and good fellowship.

We will digress right here from the building of the church to claim the honor of having as citizens of our town the parents of one of the greatest and most beloved men that South Carolina has ever produced, and one who did more for the moulding of fine Christian characters of the young men of our state than any one man who has ever lived in South Carolina, I suppose. I refer to the late Doctor James H. Carlisle, who for years was President of Wofford College. Where the residence of Doctor Dobson now stands was a four room log house in which the parents of Doctor Carlisle lived. Old Doctor Carlisle, the father, was at that time a practicing physician of our town - contemporary with Doctors Campbell, McCants and Palmer. There were no automobiles in those days and Doctor Carlisle rode an old flea-bitten horse, with saddle bags across the saddle. He was a great dispenser of calomel, paregoric and blue mass.

I have been told by one of our oldest citizens that nearly every afternoon Doctor Carlisle stopped by the hospitable home of Mrs. Genie Coleman, who lived in the big brick house known later as our hotel, and now owned by Boykin Sessions, where a bowl of mush and a glass of creamy milk awaited him. Mrs. Carlisle kept the post office - one of the front rooms being fitted up for the same. The boxes being made of small dry goods boxes, with the names of the owners printed above. This was the famous gathering place for the planters of the community.

After the dedication of the church there was a combination of Sunday schools composed of all the Sunday schools in town which met in the Methodist Church every Sunday afternoon. I don't know who the first superintendent was, but Mr. W. B. Hogan served in this capacity for thirty or more years with Mr. George W. Moore as secretary and treasurer. Mr. Richard Desportes, an Episcopalian, taught the Bible class, and Miss Mat Oliver, a Baptist, played the organ.

One object of admiration in the church was a huge bronze chandelier with eight burning lamps, and one on each side of the pulpit, all using kerosene. The first wedding in the church was the double wedding of Miss Minnie Coleman and Mr. James Kennedy, and Miss Mamie Cason and Mr. Al Porter. The chandelier and lamps added much beauty to the occasion. The pictures of Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy were placed in the corner stone, along with valuable papers.

Mr. David Ruff was a man with rather abrupt manners, but a kind heart, and his word was his bond. He was a big upstanding man with a big voice. He led the singing in the church, and responded loudly with "Amen" to emphasize truths uttered by the preacher. He never married, but his sister, Miss Nancy Ruff Lanhon, lived with him. He had another sister whom he often visited, and it was on one of these visits to her that he contracted pneumonia and died. He lies buried just behind our church, in the shadow of the pulpit of the church he gave and so much loved, there to await the general resurrection of the just. He was born August 28, 1796, and died March 24, 1877.

This is a wonderful gift to the Methodists of Ridgeway, and may we exclaim with David of old when he said, "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go unto the house of the Lord."

Ridgeway, S. C.

AN INTERESTING NOTE ABOUT THE
JOHNSTOWN FLOOD

In Reader's Digest Condensed Books, Volume 4 - 1968, THE JOHNSTOWN FLOOD, BY David G. McCullough, is found. It is a very interesting and vivid account of the flood and why it happened. It happened May 31st, 1889.

Johnstown was a "new, rough and busy" town lying in the iron-rich Conemaugh Valley in the Alleghenies. High above it on Lake Conemaugh sat the South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club, a private resort owned by the great Pittsburgh industrialists. An earth dam held back the waters of the man-made lake from the valley below. When the dam gave way on May 31st, at 3:10 p.m., an estimated twenty million tons of water started down the almost unwarmed valley.

Among the wealthy Pittsburgh industrialists who owned the private fishing and hunting club was Benjamin F. Ruff who had been a railroad tunnel contractor and real estate broker. In fact, he bought the dam and the lake for \$2000 from Congressman John Reilly, a former Pennsylvania Railroad official. Benjamin Ruff kept four shares in the club and rounded up fifteen other Pittsburgh gentlemen who bought the rest. Ruff was made president of the club. The dam had been built in 1836 and was built to supply extra water to Pittsburgh during the dry months. Ruff bought it in 1879 and the South Fork dam was getting on in years and the years had been hard on it. When Ruff bought it he set about repairing the dam by "boarding up the stone culvert and dumping in every manner of local rock, mud and brush. The man in charge of this mammoth face-lifting was one Edward Pearson, about whom little is known except that he had no engineering credentials at all."

Note: It seems strange or unusual that Benjamin F. Ruff and Edward Pearson - both names of our ancestors - should be working together in Pennsylvania - they just may have some connection with our Ruff-Pearson line.

Anyway, the rebuilding of the dam cost the club about \$17,000 and by the spring of 1881 the lake was deep enough to stock and the fish arrived by special tank car from Lake Erie, a thousand black bass. In 1889 there were 61 names on the club's membership list. Some of the members were Andrew Carnegie, Henry Phipps, Jr., Andrew Mellon, and Henry Clay Frick - (another Dutch Fork, S. C. name).

The only other time Ruff is mentioned is near the last of the book after the dam broke and Johnstown was flooded and half the people killed. "It was when people began describing how the dam had been rebuilt by Ruff that their old, deep-seated resentment against the rich city men began surfacing. Farmers recalled how they sold Ruff hay to patch the leaks..."

A full investigation was made and the full report said that "the original dam had been thoroughly well built, but that the repairs made by Ruff had been carried out with slight care." The book mentions that several members of the club contributed generously to a fund collected toward a relief fund - some gave nothing and would not even make a statement about the flood.

I include this item because of the Ruff-Pearson connection.