Mr. and Mrs. Hugh R. Hughes 1000 South Howerton Cushing, Oklahoma 74023

> Dr. Luther By Box 576 Elon College, N

Caroline E. Hughes Hugh R. Hughes EN STORES

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February 2, 1980

Dr. Luther Byrd
Box 576
Elon, College, N. C.

Dear Dr. Byrd:

I was delighted to speak with you this morning by phone. I hope the enclosed will excite your curosity and re-whet your enthusiasm in the Byrd-Pruitt connection.

I note in my records that Pruit(t) spelling seemed to prevail until the Monroe Co., Miss records - then it was mixed with Prewitt/Prewett. John Brantley used Prewett all the way through - and it has prevailed among his descendants.

I am an only child and only grand-child, so I have quite an unbroken collection of pictures and mementoes from both sides of my family. Included in these are pictures of John Brantley Prewett in a 20"x24" ornate shadow-box frame - full white beard & moustache and very aristocratic looking. Also, an equal size of wife Caroline Amanda Royston, with dark eyes & hair parted in the middle, the usual broche and collar - prim & pretty. Her namesakes include the C.A. Oliphant of this correspondence, my mother and myself - so I am the 4th Caroline on this side - and Carolina appears regularly in my Erickson Swedes. My home office is a literal 'rogue's gallery' of kin, with the earliest birthdate of 1821 in the Ervin line.

I know the first rule of genealogy is to go to the oldest members of the family -- and at 58 I can see I'm heading into that category. Our only daughter was born in 1950, now married with one young son, living in Dallas where we visit with regularity! In the intervening years I've done all the civic, church, parental things young matrons do, worked with Pi Beta Phi national women's fraternity as "mother superior" of chapters in Ark., Tex., Okla. § New Mexico for several years. Since 1967 I have been heavily involved on an area vocational-technical school board through initial start up to present; State Advisory Council on Voc. Ed. since 1969 and a member of the National Advisory Council, just concluding the third three year term. All demanding and interesting, and followed a five year term on the local school board before the days of women's lib. I'm looking forward to taking on some new endeavors while tapering off so many other responsibilities.

You have had a wealth of experience and enjoy a fine reputation. I will sincerely appreciate your advice.

Varoline Hugher

February 2, 1980 - Caroline E. Hughes - 1000 S. Howerton - Cushing, OK74023

The initial correspondence from Joseph Royston Gathings (J.R.) to you is dated January 15, 1952, in which he indicates "inclosing an outline of our family and what I want to know". These included the parentage of Lemuel Pruitt \S the possible marriage of a Byrd woman and a Pruitt man in Virginia records.

Your exhaustive work continues through Feb. 15, 1954 - the last date of correspondence I have in these materials. It included marriage, deed and will records & reports from: Virginia Census - 1782-1785 § N. C. Census - 1790 - Stokes Co. 1850 Stokes Co., N. C.; Wilkes Co., N.C. & N.C. Land Grants - Stokes, Surry & Wilkes Co. N.C. Virginia Magazine querry, July, 1949, from Mrs. C. S. Goodnight Pittsylvania Co., Va. (Note: you commented Deed Book 5, pg. 314 was missing when you were there. I later got a photostate of it -22 October 1779 - Byrd Pruitt of the County of Pittsylvania sells to Joseph Jennings & Christopher Robinson & their heirs - 2 tracts of land in Pitts. Co. - which Byrd Pruitt purchased in 1773 from Francis Luck - containing 400 acres - for 7,000 pounds current money. Deed acknowledged & recorded 16 Nov. 1779) Bedford Co. Va.; Campbell Co.; Halifax Co.; Lunenburg Co.; Brunswick Co., Mecklenburg Co. - all Virginia, of course. Some Census notes - Conway, Ark. 1850-1860 - not really pertinent, but something you just ran across.

This work, coupled with other short professional genealogical surveys by several other people engaged by Royston, is rather complete coverage of existing public records.

In going back over all this after nearly 25 years, I am nagged by the fact we might not have pursued the "family lore" to the nth degree. Granted, it always has to be taken with reservation - but can be sometimes significant.

In 1937 Royston wrote 'Aunt Carrie' - sending her a summary of his then known family information, and asked her to think carefully over this and fill in all the blanks she could. Her lengthy response was largely about the John Brantley Prewett family (her father), etc. all of which we have pretty well identified at this time. Her following reference was to Lemuel's sons and daughters who moved to Monroe, Co., Miss about 1820: "All of the older Prewetts died in Monroe County, Miss, to best of my knowledge. Great grand-father Lemuel Prewett was buried in the old Prewett cemetery near Athens, Miss". (I visited this family cemetery, sometimes called the Bolivar, with my mother in 1956. It is 2 acres set aside in the deed as a cemetery, on land owned by Kirk & John Brantley Prewett. It has been out of the family for years now -& teen age sons of the then owner literally hacked through the dense thickets & trees for us to see the 20'x30' plot enclosed with a wroughtiron fence. Kirk & wife Elizabeth graves were marked with what I remember as something like metal markers, and the entire J.B. Pruit family with concrete, granite& similar. Lemuel & wife's graves were not marked which was inconsistent with the family's position and solidarity. We were told they had probably been removed by subsequent land owners and used as well stones or porch stoops! My mother was dead set on moving them all into the well kept Old Aberdeen Cemetery - but we talked her out of it Dr. Luther Byrd - page 2

The owner of the land referred to it as a "nigger" cemetery - in the vernacular of the time & place. Mother's hackles really went up, saying, "I'll have you know my people are buried there!" There were several slave graves across the fence, marked only with first names & initial P. All of this is an aside incident, but I thought you might be interested in Lemuel Pruitt at the end of life since you pursued his earlier tracks with such gusto.

Aunt Carrie was Caroline Amanda Prewett Oliphant, b. 15 Aug. 1862, d. Nov. 14, 1956, daughter of John Brantley Prewitt and Caroline Amanda Royston, his third wife. I met her in July before her death at age 94. She did not hear well and I had difficulty communicating with her, but she was mentally alert - and characteristic of her years, her daughter in law said she might not remember yesterday but 50 years ago was crystal clear. I have every confidence she was in full mental control at the age of 75 in 1937.

In Royston's collection is a HISTORY OF PREWETTS AS I REMEMBER IT by Mrs. Carrie Prewett Oliphant. "Lemuel Prewett with his sons and daughters and their families moved from Maury County, Tennessee, to Monroe County, Mississippi, soon after Mississippi was open to white settlers. Lemuel Prewett, my great-grandfather, married a Brantley. His sons were: Abner, Larkin, Dyer, Kirk, and Mark. Kirk Prewett, my grandfather, was born in 1798 and died in 1879. He married Elizabeth Harris of Columbia, Tennessee, in 1818. My father, John Brantley Prewett, was born in 1819 and died in 1905. My father had several brothers, but I remember the names of only two of them: Kirk and Clovis Leroy.

**Grandfather Kirk Prewett once said that he had met the first Prewett of our line that came to America. I do not know his name. When my grandfather, Kirk Prewett, was about seventeen years old, this first Prewett visited my great-grandfather, Lemuel Prewett, in Tennessee. Grandfather stated that the first Prewett was a very old man at the time of his visit. This Prewett was the father or grandfather of Lemuel Prewett."

THIS ONE PARAGRAPH HISTORY is what is nudging me now. Item 1, J.B. Prewett had two brothers: Lemuel Kirk, who died at age 9, buried Prewett cemetery; Clovis Leroy, whom I have documented.**Item 2 has to do with the visit...and sets off all sorts of 'ifs', could be's and conjectures. Kirk Prewett was 17 in 1815 - date of visit. "A very old man" in 1815 would have been born 1735 to 1740. Considering the vicissitudes of travel in that era, I'm inclined to think in terms of age 75 in 1815, or an approximate birth date of 1740. Thinking in terms of immigration at around age 20, arrival in America approx. 1760. I fixed Lemuel's approximate birth year as 1764, based on his probated will in 1844 and Monroe Co., Miss. genealogists placing his age as 80 or 'a very old man'. Given the lattitude of these dates, and allowing several years after arrival in a new country to settle, buy land, marry and have a family, these dates are fairly consistent. If all this be true, the visitor was Lemuel's father. (The pattern of life longevity among Prewett men is well established. Tho Lemuel's sons Mark d. at 51 § Larkin at 39, Kirk d. at 81; Elisher Dyer at 81 & Abner at 82. John B. d. at 86....so they seemed hearty- hardy souls).

My question is, given the number of Pruitts in early Virginia records, have we assumed this line to be in America longer than we

Dr. Luther Byrd - page 3

it really was? Have we overlooked any possible immigrant records, ships logs, arrival lists, etc. -- either here or in the United Kingdom? (That's another keg of worms -- some 'guess' Wales, others English - one even thinks Scotch Jews, if there is such a thing. My only comment on this is that Pruitt/Prewett or derivation is not one of 20 Welsh surnames). We have not been too successful working back from 1787 in Georgia. Is there any future to looking at arrivals from about 1735?

This has been garrulous, but I've attempted to give you enough to go back into your files and records, and perhaps another point of approach for the future.

My basic premise is: Is there validity to this reasoning, and if so, where do I go with it?

Though I've been interested in genealogy for a number of years and one way or another have accumulated quite a mass of information on a number of my lines and my husband's, it has all been on a sort of scatter-gun approach. My files are an absolute mess, reference library practically nil, and the nearest genealogical library in Oklahoma City, with a minimum of three hours on the road to and fro. However, in the foreseeable future, time & commitments seem to be freeing up and I'm more affulent financially than when I began all this. I have traveled all over the country in the last ten years, including at least 75 trips to Washington, D. C. -- and knew the day would come when I'd rue not take an extra day here and there. But you can't do much with genealogy if it is not reasonably fresh in mind.

In 1957 I felt compelled to put together what Royston had spent so many years working on. I did a Lemuel Pruitt & Descendants 41 page typescript with what we had then. I recently had a request for it by a lady who wanted a copy for her Lemuel Pruitt direct descant Dr. of Internal Medicine. When I looked at it all these years later, I wanted to incorporate the new information which had filtered in, add where possible, and do a bit more sophisticated piece of work. I'm beginning to think she did me no favor by the inquiry....

I look forward to your comments and suggestions.

There heen in N.C. several
times and here some very
food friends among educator
- Bostly in Occupationse
El. circles -

Sincerely, Darobine Dugher

Caroline E. Hughes (Mrs. H.R.) 1000 S. Howerton

Cushing, OK 74023

Elon College, N. C. February 5, 1980

Dear Mrs. Hughes:

I was much interested to receive your letter today, just as I was interested some days ago to receive your telephone call concerning the Pruiett, Prewitt (etc) lineages.

As soon as I got your letter I want down into my files in my storage house and workship and got my data on the Prewitt family that I compiled from 26 to 28 years ago. And, believe it or not, I was greatly interested in my correspondence with and reports to Mrs. Gathings.

After all these years, I believe that I did one of the better reports of my quarter centru and more of family research. It covered such a widespread area of county cour houses and both national and state libraries and archives in Washington, Richmond and Raleigh. It grieves me today to realize that I can no longer cover areas like that. I had a stroke two years ago at Thanksgiving, and I have been unable to drive those long trips. They had to lift me in and out of bed for two weeks, and I could not hold a pen to even K-mark a check. However, I was able to make a comeback and within three months I was playing nine holes of golf in the 40's and was doing some of the most elaborate drawing and painting of family coats of arms that I have ever done.

Just as has been the case with genealogy, I have been doing heraldry and coats of arms for twenty-five or more years. I even do family layouts of coats of arms, showing the family tree diagrams of both husband and wife back for four generations and showing paintigs of no less than 16 coats of arms on the same #0"x40# cardboard. I have even been able to go back five generations of the coats of arms and family diagrams for my wife and me, but I have never done over sixteen of the coats of arms for other families. On those layouts I do the four parents of a husband and wife showing the coatz of arms five inches high and four inches wide in full color. Those are centered on the layout, and the other twelbe designs back to the great grand-parents are in smaller coat of ams three inches high by two inches wide. (all in full colorand all of different artistic design and from authentic sources back nearly a thousand years. It give me a term tremendous therapy to realize that I am able to such work after having been disabled so completely by the stroke. I have access in various books to coats of arms for perhaps 200,000 families.

I have also been able to organize fully fifty years of material on both my bwn and my wife's families. As I told you in those reports twnty and more years ago, my Byrd records in upper and eastern Virginia were destroyed when the Yankees burned so many court houses during the Civil War, and that fact kept me from determining the connection of your Prewitt lines with the Byrd lineage However, I have been truly fortunate on my wife's families, for have a lineage for both her father and mother for forty generations back to Emperor Charlemagne and to Egbert of Wessex, who was the first king of United England.

If anyone doubts the authenticity of the data, I would like to tell you that she is a certified member of the Order of the Crown of Charlemagne in the United States of America, a member of the worldwige Society of Magna Charta Dames as a descendant of one of the English barons who forced King John to sign the Magna Charta in 1215, a member of the Colonial Daughters of the Seventeenth Century; a member of the Daughters of the American Colonists; a member of the Order of the First Families of Virginia back to Captain Thomas Graves who came to Jamestown on the ship Mary and Margret in 1607 and also with membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution through five different Revolutionary ancestors. As i said, I have been truly fortunate. All those lineages except the DAR lines go back to William Stone, who became the third givernor of colonial Maryakat Maryland in 1648as a successor to first and second Lord Baltimores.

If you are not familiar with it, there is a series of booklets entitled Fleet, Beveryly: Fleet's Abstracts, which is a compilation of the still existent records from the various ciunties in northeastern Va., such as Essex, Lancaster, King and Queen and others. Some of them just might uncover something.

Akso you might find something in Torrence, Clarton: Virginia Wills and Administrations.

Try Nugent, Nell Marion: Cavaliers and Pioneers which lists the date of arrival of literally thousands of English migrants to Virginia. I checked one book just today entitled Hotten, J. C. Lists of Immigrants to Wirginia America, 1600 to 1700, and I failed to find any Prewitts (etc) listed in that book. Also have you ever check Ray, Worth S. Lost Tribes of N. C.

The DAR has one large book and thres supplements known as the DAR Patriot Index (it is probably in some of your libraries out in that area. It lists the names of no less than eighteen Prewitt, Pruitt (etc) men who have been used as DAR ancestors, and of course their lines of descent to DAR members almost everywhere might fit into some of your lines. Among those listed in that DAR Index were Prewitt (Pruitt) men by ghe given names of Byrd (1752-1833), David (1760-1815), Elisha (1749-1808), Isham Sr., 1730-1806), Jacob (1761-1845), James (1745-1811), John (? -1837), Joseph (1760-1815), Joseph (? -1808), Joshua (1754-1840), Joshua (1765-1843), Martin Jr. (1752-1841), Micajah (1760-1782), Michael Sr. (1722-1798), Obediah (1752-1801), Robert (1752-1919), Samuel (1705-1801), and William Sr. (1725-1817). If you find any of those men whom you might need data on them, you might try writing to the Registrar-General, National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, 1776 "D" Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20006. The NS-DAR will send you copies of a complete lineage for \$2 each in case you should request one as a supposed effort to assemble a DRA line for yourself sombox as a propostie member. Do not just write to request the line as a research project. At least pretend that you are seeking a DRR lineage for yourself or some friend.

I trust that I have me bored you with all this stuff (some of it truly a sort of bragging). Really nothing unless it is some of this second sheet of the letter will avn possibly benefit you. Incidentally I will tell you that both my wife and I are now retired from school work. I am sorry that Tam now not able to get out and go do new research, but maybe you will be able to find some of the sources I mentioned above. I do not charge anything for this renewed check on old material, but if you should fin any of your friends who might be intersted in any of the coat of arms work, your they might contact me. I do a siddhocanathout single coat of arms for \$10 with accompanying write-up, and I do one of those 16-arms layoutsxx on 30x40 board for \$150 each. Plus of course expenses for mailing by insured mai.

I truly hope some of this data above may help you.

Most sincerely

LUTHER N. BYRD Box 576 Elon College, N. C. 27244 Elon College, N. C. November 30, 1952

Mr. J. R. Gathings Box 102 Luxora, Ark.

Dear Sir:

I am getting down to your report at last, having written you that I would wind up the research this week and begin the report this weekend.

The first thing I shall do is to give you the North Carolina land grant records from Raleigh and also the results of my check on the Wilkes County Tax Lists, which I told you last summer I would check when I was in Raleigh without any further charge, along with the Stokes County estates records that are on file in the N.C. Archives at Raleigh.

STOKES COUNTY ESTATES PAPERS, N.C. ARCHIVES, RALEICH, N.C.

There are no records of administration or execution on any Pruitt or Prewitt estates in the Stokes County papers in Raleigh.

WILKES COUNTY, N.C., TAX LISTS FOR 1782 AND 1784 (Raleigh, N.C.)
The Wilkes County Tax Lists for 1782 and 1785 show
no Pruitt or Francitz Prewitt listings.

N.C. LAND GRANTS, SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE, RALEIGH, N.C.

I found records of quite a number of Pruitt land
grants in Surry, Stokes and Wilkes Counties, all recorded in
the office of the Secretary of State, Raleigh, N.C. The following
citations are from N.C. LAND GRANT BOOKS:

IN STOKES COUNTY, N.C. --

Book 79, Page 20% -- Richard Pruitte grant for 100 acres on Dan River. Claim entered 12 Nov. 1791. Grant issued 20 Dec. 1791.

Book 72, Page 118 - William Pruitt, grant for 25 acres on Snow Creek. Claim entered 4 Dec. 1800. Grant issued 19 Dec. 1803.

IN SURRY COUNTY, N.C.

No Book (Grant #1077 in files) -- Micajah Pruitt, grant for 100 acres on Snow Creek (in what later became Stokes County). Claim entered 19 March 1789. Grant issued 18 May, 1789.

IN WILKES COUNTY, N. C. --

Book 156, Page 351 -- Abednego Prewitt, 20 acres Mulberry Creek. Entered 17 May 1850. Issued 23 Dec. 1852.

Book 163, Page 301 -- Hardin Preweitt, 63 acres Roaring River. Entered 3 Jan. 1859. Issued 19 Dec. 1860.

Book 64, Page 132 -- Joseph Prewitt, 100 acres Camp Branch. Entered 1 May 1785. Issed 9 August 1787.

Book 135, Page 228 -- Joel Pruett, 50 acres Sparkes Creek. Entered 8 May 1819. Issued 30 Nov. 1821.

Book 190, Page 316 -- William Prewett, 372 acres Roaring River. Entered 30 April 1898. Issued 20 Dec. 1900.

CENSUS OF 1850 FOR STOKES COUNTY, N.C. (Micro-film in N.C. Archives at Raleigh.)

James Pruitt Nancy C. Pruitt Sally		Asa Nunn in Stokes County in 1854)
Hardin Morgan	13	Perlina Taylor, Surry County, 1863.)
William James	10	
Mildred Rebecca J.	5	

You will find most of these hames includex that I have given in the above grants and census listing in the data that I sent to you last summer from Surry, Stokes and Wilkes Counties. There is actually very little of value to you in the material I found in Raleigh, but I promised to send what I found there. You may be able to connect it in some way.

VIRGINIA DATA ON PRUITTS, PREWITTS, ETC.

The first thing I shall give you on the Virginia data is some added material that I found in late issues of the Virginia Magazine of History and Biography. I gave you some items last summer, but all were from issues prior to 1930, for I checked for them at that time in Swem's Index, which indexed all references in Virginia historical publications up to 1930. There is no index for the various magazines since 1930, but I was checking through some of the later issues and found some interesting information, and in making my checks in the four Virginia counties I double-checked the information in the magazine articles.

The first item I found was a query or item from Mrs. C.S. Goodnight, Apt. 509, 99 South Raymond Ave., Pasadena, 1, Calif. You will remember that she was writing queries to the Virginia quarterlies as early as 1923, at which time she was living in Hawaii, so she has been working on Pruitt family data for thirty years. The first item is below:

Virginia Magazine, Vol. 57, No. 3, Page 329 (July 1949). She says:

"Thomas Watkins, of Bedford County, Va., will probated July 1773 names his mother Elizabeth; brothers George and Reuben; sister Elizabeth; Robert, Benjamin and William Hall, sons of the testator's wife (eveidently by former marriage); and he left the bulk of his estate to muithzwruittyzdaughterx of Michael Pruett. What was the relationship between this Thomas Watkins and Judith, daughter of Michael and Elizabeth (Simpkins) Prewitt (or Pruet) of Lunenburg and Campbell Counties? Judith Prewitt married Daniel Mitchell, and with other members of the Prewitt family moved to Kentucky. Who were the parents of Michael Prewitt (Pruet, Pruett, etc), of Lunenburg County, 1745-52, later of Bedford and still later of Campbell County until his removal to Kentucky; and what was the telationship between Michael Prewitt (above) and Henry Pruet, of Lunenburg County 1749-50, Byrd Prewett of Halifax County (1761) who married annie, daughter of John Dyer, and Henry Pruit who had land on Chapman's Branch of Sandy Creek or Bannister River in Pittsylvania County, Oct. 8, 1753. Would like to have marriage record of Michael Prewitt (Pruet, etc.) and Elizabeth, daughter of John Simpkinsx(who died 1754 in Lunenburg County); also marriage record of John Simpkins, who in a Goochland County deed, Aug. 15,1734 as "John Simpkins of the Parish of Phirino (Varino) and county of Henrico," with his wife Elizabeth. Was she Elizabeth Adams? "John Simpkin" patented 300 acres on North Side of Appomatix River in Goochland County in 1731; and in 1732 Robert Adams patented land in Goochland County; and in 1730, Peter Jefferson, said to have been a relation of the Prewitt family, patented land in Goochland County. Thomas Roberts, of Bedford County, will probated March 1781, names wife Christiana. sons Richard, James, John Daniel and Thomas; daughters Rhoady, Milly, Maryanna and Fanny; and daughter, Elizabeth Prewitt?"

(NOTE: Such was the item or query from Mrs. Goodnight. The questions in the item are hers, as written in 1949. I found the above wills of Thomas Watkins and Thomas Roberts in Bedford County, which I give you later. I now give you a later query or item, which Mrs. Goodnight sent in to the Virginia Magazine in 1950, six months after the first one above, and in this later item she answers some of the queries she filed in the first one, but she adds extra questions, which you would also like to have answered. This second item follows:

Virginia Magazine , Vol. 58, No. 1, Pages 137-141 (January 1950).

Mrs. Goodnight, still giving the address as 99 South Raymond Ave., Pasadena, 1, Calif., states that the records may be of help to interested readers. The article follows, or at least all that pertains to the Prewett or Pruitt family.

"Henry Preut (note spelling), born about 1654, is listed with the heads of families tithed to support an army of defense against the savages in the same group of forty neighbors with Col. William Byrd in Henrico County, Va., in 1679-1687. (She refers here to the William and Mary Quarterly, Oct. 1915.) The age of this Henry Preut is given as about 37 years on Sept. 2, 1691, and he is mentioned at that time as Mr. Henry Prewett, grand juror, on April 17, 1693. (She refers here to Crozier's Virginia County Records, Page 229, Vol. 7). In 1687 Henry Pruett and John Fields patented 440 acres in Henrico County, as shown in Book 6, Page 369 of Henrico County Records, which appears Page 128, Vol. 4 of Crozier's Virginia County Records).

Here Mrs. Goodnight asks the question -- "Whom did the above Henry Prewett marry; when and where and who were his children? Whom did John Fields marry, and who were his children? Did a daughter or grand-daughter marry a Prewitt?

Crozier also gives among Henrico County Court and Land Records, those of John Pruett, juror, Oct. 1690 (pages 350 and 376); John Prewett, summoned as a witness in a suit by Hugh Jones, Aug. 1691 (Page 376); and John Pruett, paid a sum, Sept. 1691 (Page 384). (NOTE THE VARYING SPELLINGS OF THE NAME) And John Prewitt, evidently already well established in the colony, subscribed to a sum to aid "the poverty stricken settlement of French Huguenots at Mannikin Town" in 1700. (She refers here to page 65, Virginia Historical Collections, No. 5, which is entitled "The Huguenot Emigration To Virginia") Mrs. Goodnight also questions here -- "When and where and whom did John Prewett marry? Who were his children and grand-children?"

The Frewitt (Prewett, Pruit, Pruett), Adams, Jefferson, and Simpkins families of Henrico, Goochland, Albemarle, Fluvanna, Lunenburg, Halifax, Pittsylvania, Bedford and Campbell Counties, in Virginia, were closely related and neighbors as shown by family and county records.

Vol. 6, Pages 200-204 of Crozierss Virginia County Records shows an index to Virginia Land Grants, all in Goochland County, Va. the following grants that might be pertinent. (Evidently books referred to are Goochland County land grant books or deed books) Book 14, Page 366 -- 300 acres to John Simpkin, 1731. Book 14, Pages 396,406,431 -- 1200 acres to RobertAdams, 1732. Book 13, Page 495 -- 322 acres to Peter Jefferson, 1730.

Mrs. Goodnight cites a deed -- Goochland County, Va.,
Deed and Will Book No. 6, Page 110 -- Robert Adams toxanters of
Albemarle County to Andrew Pruet, of Goochland County -- Sept. 22
9, 1850 -- 100 acres where said Andrew Pruet then lived. Zitnexzex
WEYEZEBERKKXZEREXZEREXX Agnes Pruet signed the deed with Adams,
and it was witnessed by William Webberd Pruet. (THIS INDICATES
relationship between the Pruett and Adams family someway.)

Mrs. Goodnight says that she wants the marriage record for John Simpkins and Elizabeth Adams, indicating that she thinks that was where the relationship between the Prewitt and Adams families came. She also says the following ----

"Among the old papers of Eminz Joshua Prewutt, who first wife was his cousin, Sally Adams, and who was the himself the grandson of John and Elizabeth Adams Simpkins through their daughter, Elizabeth Simpkins, and her husband, Michale Prewitt Sr., was found the following Emziptz receipt --

"Then being received of John Adams of Fluvanna County the just sum of 15 pounds it being full satisfaction for a bond that he gave William Rountree of the County of Goochland. I say received by me. Signed Julius Chancello. Witness William Leak.

(Stating that she copied that receipt from the original at Winchester, Ky., Mrs. Goodnight seems to use it as proof of the connection of the Michael Prewitt family back to Goochland County, Va.) Mrs. Goodnight continues --

In old Lunenburg, Bedford, Campbell, Halifax and Pittsylvania Counties, Va., are found many records of Prewitts, Pruitts, Simpkins, Adams, Jeffersons and Hurts.

Michael Pruet, 1748-52; Henry Pruet, 1749-50; Joseph Pruet, 1749; John Simpkins, 1752; and Joseph Simpkins, 1762; are all recorded in Old Lunenburg County records, as shown in Landon C. Bell's book entitled Sunlight on the Southside, pages 79, 89, 127, 185 and 215.

The Byrd Prewett, whose wife was Nancy or Anney Dyer, daughter of John Dyer (shown in Halifax Deed Book 5, Page 66, Halifax Deed Book 3, Page 110, and Book 1, Page 428) is recorded in a Halifax County patent or grant in 1755 and he seems to be a contemporary of Michael Pruett Sr., Henry Prewitt and Joseph Prewitt, of Lunenburg County, from which Halifax County was cut in 1752. (NOTE: It seems that she believes this first Byrd Prewitt in Halifax County in 1752 was an older Byrd Prewitt than the Byrd Prewitt who was the son of Michael Prewitt Sr. She does not say so, but I gather that she believes that the older Byrd Prewitt may have been a brother to the others in Lunenburg County about that time. Certainly the Byrd Prewitt, son of Michael, seems to have been too young to have been obtaining a patent in Halifax County in 1755)

(NOTE: you also asked the question, and you will recall that I gave you some notes last summer about Pruitts in Caroline County, Va., and that at that time I told you of my own Byrd family originally coming from King and Queen, Essex and Caroline Counties, where many records were burned during the Civil War. I told you then that it seemed probable that the connection of Pruitts and Byrd stemmed back to Caroline, K.and Q. and Essex Counties, and here we find that Moza Hurt, who had two daughters marrying Prewitts or Pruitts, did come from Caroline County. That serves to bolster my idea that I gave you last summer.)

widely separated sections of the country. (She asks -- "From whom was the batismal name of Byrd in the Prowitt family derived?")

Mrs. Goodnight continues that --

"Michael Prewitt Sr., of Lunenburg and Campbell Counties, Va., and most of his family went to Kentucky, where his will, dated Feb. 1798 and proved in May 1798, is filed in Shelby County, Ky., Will Book I, Page 41. But his daughter, Rachel Prewitt, married Robert Shipley and remained in Virginia." He She asks who were the children of Robert and Rachel Prewitt Shipley, and she brings in an interesting bit of data that might indicate kinship between the Prewitts and Abraham Lincoln.

She cites McKenzie, Colonial Families, Vol. 3, Page 297 for the following: "Captain Abraham Lincoln, born, 16 July 1739, in Pa., married first Mary Shipley, daughter of Rebert and Rachel Shipley, of Lunenburg County, Va., whosex and the daughter of Captain Abraham Lincoln and Mary Shipley (Nancy Shipley) married Joseph Hanks. The Maughter of Joseph Hanks and Nancy Shipley Hanks (Nancy Hanks) was the mother of Abraham Lincoln."

(NOTE: There is so much question about the parentage of Abraham Lincoln that I cannot say whether the above item is authentic or not.)

Mrs. Goodnight continues ---

"Rachel, the daughter of Michael Sr. and Elizabeth Simpkins Prewitt, must have been born about 1743, so she may have married Robert Shipley about 1760-65. Nancy Hanks, the mother of President Lincoln, was born in 1783 and married Thomas Lincoln Jan. 12, 1806. Her mother Nancy Shipley must have beeb norn about 1760-65.

(NOTE: Again I say I cannot say as to the anthenricity of Mrs. Goodnight's data.)

Mrs. Goodnight continues by listing the children of Michael and Elizabeth Simpkins Prewitt as follows:

1 1. Rachel Prewitt, born about 1743, married Robert Shipley and remained in Virginia.

2. James Prewitt, who married first Elizabeth Street and married second Mrs. Matthews, whome His descendants moved from Kentucky north of the Ohio River. He died before Jan. 30, 1810 in Shelby County, Ky.

3. Judith Prewitt, who received a bequest by the will of Thomas Watkins, Bedford County, Va., in 1773. She married Daniel Mitchell, who was one of the executors of the will

of Michael Prewitt Sr. in Shelby County, Ky., 1798-1808.
4. Elisha Prewitt, who is listed as a Revolutionary soldier on Page 353 of Eckenrodess Revolutionary Soldiers of Virginia. He was one of the executors of his father's will, and he bought land in Shelby County, Ky., in 1806. He was a juryman in Fayette County, Ky. in Sept. 1795 as shown in Kentucky Register, Vol. 30, Page 229. He went on Bowman's Campaign to Kentucky in 1779, as shown in Draper Manuscript, 120066, and he bought land in Shelby County, Ky., in 1798. He married Tabitha Collins.

5. Michael Prewitt, Jr., married first Elizabeth Hurt, daughter of Moza Hurt, who died in Halifax County, Va., Jan. 1793, as shown in Halifax Chancery Order Book 3, Page 35. Michael Jr. married second Sarah Catherine ###### (Fuqua) Terry, widow of Stephen Terry, and removed to a homestead on Duck River in Bedford County, Tenn., in 1805, as shown in Pittsylvania Deed Book 14, Page 317 under date of Feb. 18, 1805. He served in the War of 1812 and received a grant of land in Bedford County, Tenn., as shown by Grant # 15567, Page 353, Book R, War Records, War of 1812, in the Tenn. State Library, Nashville, Tenn. 6. Byrd Prewitt, served in Rev. War with the 5th Va. Regiment

and Va. Militia as shown in Pension Claim 35576. This Byrd Prewitt was born in 1753 in Bedford, afterward Campbell, County, Va. He was married Feb. 11, 1782 to Sarah Hurt, sister of Elizabeth Hurt, who had married his brother, Michael Prewitt Jr., as shown in Halifax County, Va., marriage

records, in the will of Moza Hurt, 1791, and Tyler's

Quarterly, Vol. IV, page 59. 7. Joseph Prewittm served in Rev. War, married firstLeah Moss, married second Polly Price August 1221803 in Jessamine County, Ky. He was private with detachment of Ky. Militia ordered to guard the Iron Works for one month, commencing May 24, 1793, as shown Page 222, Vol. 30 of Kentucky Register. His home was on Clear Creek, Jessamine County, Ky., west of Harrodsburg Road and near Troy in Woodford County, Ky. He died January 1808, will recorded in Jessamine Court House. Descendants mostly in Missouri.

8. Robert Prewitt, served as private under Col. Charles Scott and George Rogers Clark in 5th Battalion of Virginia Troops. He was born June 10, 1758 in Virginia, died April 14, 1819, Fayette County, Ky. He was married May 22, 1782 in Halifax County, Va., to Martha (Patsy) Chandler, born 1762 and died 1833. He removed to Kentucky in 1794 after settling his father's estate in in Va. He was a private in Edmundson's Company of Rifleman, War of 1812 in Fayette County, Ky. as shown on Page 422 of Robert Peter's History of Fayette County. He owned slaves and land in Campbell County, Va., as did his father and brothers. He went on expedition to Ky., as early in 1777, along with his brothers, Elisha and Joshua, and Stephen and Joseph Collins, Thomas Glass and Herman Bowmar, and he spent the winter of 1777-78 at the fort at Harrodsburg. With his wife, who was daughter of Robert Chandler (Chandker born 1729, died 1792) of Halifax County, Va., he settled in 1794 at Chilesburg in Fayette County, Ky, 9. Joshua Prewitt, born in Va. in 1763, served in Rev. War and

was living in Trimble County, Ky., at age of 77 in July 1840, as proven by Lewis Collins' History of Kentucky, Vol. I, Page 9. He was just 16 when he went on trip to Kentucky with his brothers and others in 1779. He renoved to Kentucky and settled at Bedford, Trimble County, Ky., where he died after 1840. His will is dated 1843. Berry Crutchfield Prewitt, a grandson of Byrd and Sarah Hurt Prewitt, wrote of his great-uncle Joshua that he was a Presbyterian and that Joshua married first his cousin Sarah "Sally" Adams, whose brother married Joshua's sister Elizabeth Prewitt. Joshua married second Maria Yeager, as proven by various wills and

No! I found her father's will was written in Feb. 1799. Short 12 Sept. 13, 1781 in Halifax County, Va., to her cousin, Bedford County Richard Adams, brother of Joshua's first wife.

(NOTE: I know that you wrote to me last year that the records of Michael Prewitt and family were well known, so you may already have all this, but I copied it as a sort of check against what I found in the four Virginia counties. There is one other item I want to cite, and then I will plunge into what I found in Virginia. This other item is from another person interested in the Prewitt line, so it may give you a new contact. It appeared in the Virginia Magazine for July of this year, and it was written in by Mrs. William Louis Ainsworth, "Green Haven," Route 2, Derby, Kansas. You might like to contact her or Mrs. Goodnight, whose address I have already given you.)

Virginia Magazine, Vol. 60, No. 2, Page 330-331. (July 1952).

Mrs. Ainsworth is interested in James Prewitt, son of Michael and Elizabeth Simpkins Prewitt. She describes James Prewitt as born about 1745, probably in Lunenburg County, Va., and states that he married first Elizabeth Street. She lists

five children of James and Elizabeth Street Prewitt and tells of their marriages:

1. Nathaniel Prewitt, married Charlotte Ford, May 11, 1804,

in Shelby County, Ky. (Page 25, Shelby County Mg. Book I) 2. John L. Prewitt, married Mary Ford, Dec. 6, 1818 in Shelby County, Ky. (Page 140 Shelby County Mg. Book I)

3. Anne Prewitt, married William Lane, April 15, 1801, in Shelby County, Ky. (Page 8, Shelby County Mg. Book I)

4. Elizabeth Prewitt married John Long, July 29, 1802 in Shelby County, Ky. (Shelby County Mg. Book I, Page 24.) 5. Micky (Meeky) Prewitt, married Richard Neill, Jan. 7, 1811

in Shelby County, Ky. (Shelby County Mg. Book I, Page 66)

Mrs. Ainsworth states that Elizabeth Prewitt married second Sept. 18, 1845 to William Ditto in Meade County, Ky. She also lists the second marriage for James Prewitt (father of the above children) to Mrs. Sarah Matthews on Sept. 9, 1791, in Campbell County, Ma., stating that Joshuazzaz Pruitt, his brother, signed the marriage bond, Robert Prewitt, another brother, and his wife Patsy (Martha Chandler) signed with Sally (Sarah) Matthews. James Prewitt died before 1810, for sales of his estate were held in Hardin County, Ky., Jan. 30, 1810, and in Shelby County, Ky., on Feb. 6, 7, 8, 1810.

PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY, VA., DATA

I shall give you first the data from Pittsylvahia County, Va. Let us turn first to the wills. The following are from PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY, VA., WILL BOOKS:

ZXZXZBOOKX

Deeds and Wills, Baok 11, Page 240 --

Samuel Pruett (his will)

Written -- Nov. 13, 1801. Probated Dec. 21, 1801.

His will lists

Son -- Philip.

Son -- Zachariah. (NOTE: Md. Jane Burgess in Pittsylvania, 1784.)

Daughter -- Ruth Cook.

Son -- Samuel. (NOTE: Md. Levina Walters in Pittsylvania, 1787.) Daughter -- Elizabeth Butt. (NOTE:md.Zachariah Butt, in Pittsylvahia 71793. Son -- Benjamin.

Daughter -- Sally Pruett -- single -- gets home place till she marries.

Scn -- Japheth. (NOTE: Wife named Nancy, do not know maiden name) Daughter -- Polly Hockker (WITNESSES -- George Spratin, William Stamps, Polly Stamps.

e (Prewell) Will Book 1, Page 188. William Pruitt (his will) Written May 30, 1826. Probated June 21, 1830. His will lists

Wife -- Jane. Son -- Joseph.

(see next page)

(continuing William Pruitt Will)

Son -- Allen.
Son -- Bowling
Son -- Perkins.
Son -- Magor.
Son -- Smith.
Daughter -- Anny.

Daughter -- Susannah. Daughter -- Mary Ann.

(All above children by second marriage)

Son -- John. Son -- William.

(Last two sons by a first marriage)

EXECUTOR: George May. WITNESSES: William Pritchett, William Edwards, Thomas Knighten.

Will Book 1, Page 266. Perkins Prewitt(his will)

Sworn to Zritzem June 14, 1834. Probated June 18, 1834.

This was a non-cupative or unwritten will, which was sworn to by Willis A. Inman, who had heard Perkins Prewitt state his wishes on his death-bed.

He left his interest in his father's estate to his brother, Boling Prewitt.

Will Book 1, Page 463. Zacharias Prewitt (his will) Written Jan. 15, 1840. Probated March 15, 1843. This will lists

-- Sally Brown. (Sally Prewit md. Obediah Brown, 1819.)

-- Wiley Prewitt. (md. Nancy Carter, 1826)

- Polly Richardson.

-- Jincy Love. -- Leahana Hall.

Grand-dau. -- Mary Ann Prewatt. Grand-son -- Alexander Prewatt.

Dau .-- Rhoda Prewitt.

-- Thomas Prewitt. (md. Susan W. Epperson, 1836.)
-- William Prewitt. (md. Frances P. Epperson, 1834.)

-- Catherine Smith. (md. Thomas Smith, 1839.)

Deed and Will Book 11, Page 383 -- Edward Burgess (his Will)

Written Jan. 23, 1799. Probated Jan. 17, 1814.

Among other heirs, he listed Daughter -- Jane Prewitt.

(NOTE: We find that The Burgess had married Zachariah
Pruitt, son of Samuel Pruitt Sr., in 1784. The next will
before this was his will, and Jane seems to have been
dead before Zabhariah made his will. Zachariah did not
specify the kinship of those to whom he made bequests, but
all seem to be sons and daughters except the one grand-daughter
and grandson.)

Will Book 2, Page 303 -- xxxx

Agnes Ferguson (her will)
Written Aug. 24, 1858. Probated -- June 20, 1859.

Among others she mentions "the heirs of my daughter, Jane Prewitt." We check the marriages and find that Asa Pruitt had married Tabitha Ferguson in Pittsylvania on March 9, 1809.

That seems a long time before Agnes Ferguson made her will, and it may not have been the same person. It is possible, however, that Tabitha's name was really Tabitha Jane and that she was the same mentionned in the above will. However, in view of the lapse of 50 years, I doubt this to be true.

I found no other Ferguson, Prewitt marriage, however.

Now, I turn to the Pittsylvania County marriages. All the following are from the PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY, VA., MARRIAGE RECORD: Note that the marriages are in chronological order, and none are recorded during the first ten years after the county was formed. Undoubtedly there were some in that period, but the records are missing.

Levy Prewet to Elizabeth Taliaferro, Oct. 3, 1776. SURETY: John Akin. Her father was John Taliaferro.

Zachariah Pruit to Jane Burgess, Oct. 17, 1784. SURETY: Benjamin Tarusk
Her father was Edward Burgess. /Thrasher.

Sam Prewitt, Jr., to Levina Walters. Dec. 26, 1787.SURETY: Robert Walters.

Arch Prewett to Rebecca Blankenship, Feb. 22,1790. SURETY: #psxxxxinxx /Charles Kendrick.

Joseph Prewett to Mary Elliott, Mar. 24, 1790. SURETY: Joseph Akin.

Her father Johnnithen Elliott.

John Prewet to Sarah Thomas, Sept.9, 1793. SURETY: Henry Rowlins. Her mother was Sarah Asten.

Abraham Prewett to Rebecca Bransen, Feb. 11,1793. SURETY: Wm. Bransen.

(NOTE: Was this the same Abraham Pruett who had
md. Ann Davidson in Goochland County in 1783, as shown
on Page 12 of last summer's report. Also remember
that Burrell Pruett down in Surry County, N.C., listed
a son Abraham in his will, Page 3, last summer's report.)

Elijah Prewett to Nancy Johnson, Dec. 15, 1795.

Absolom Prewett to Betsy Elliott, Sept.25, 1803. SURETY: Arthur Johnson. Her father John Elliott.

Asa Pruitt to Tabitha Ferguson, Mar. 14, 1809. SURETY: Charles Seal. Her father -- Robert Ferguson.

Joseph Prewett to Mary F. Booker, April.8, 1818. SURETY: John Bolling, Her father, Richard E. Booker. Wiley Prewett to Nancy Carter, Aug. 18, 1826. SURETY: Ezra Walters.

Joseph Pruitt to Sarah Thomas, Jan. 14, 1829. SURETY: John Merrick.

John Prewett to Hannah Owen. June 17, 1829. SURETY: Joshua B. Swaim. Prewit

Bolling Zrużki to Susannah Inman, April 18, 1831. SURETY: Curtis M. (He son of Zuzkarink) William.) Inman and Henry Inman.

William Prewitt to Frances P. Epperson, Nov. 8, 1834. SURETY: Fountain Epperson.

Jesse Prewett to Eliza Walker, Jan. 19, 1835. SURETY: Richard Gregory.

John A. Eruiz Pruit to Jane T. Wier. ZMZKZY: Jan. 18, 1836. SURETY: George H. Gwin.

Thomas Prewet to Susan W. Epperson, Jan. 8, 1836. SURETY: Fountain Epperson.

Elias Prewet to Marinda Madding, Sept. 14, 1836. SURETY: James Myers.

William Prewatt to Susannah Owen, Nov. 15, 1845. SURETY: Hezekiah Pigg.

Thomas S. Pruett to Ezia B. Ford, Aug. 19, 1858. ZNEXZXXX

No surety, but following parents signed:

Zacirer Pruett and Tabitha Pruett, father and mother of groom.

Sally Ford, mether of bride.

Robert J. Pruett to Emily R. Griffin, August 1860.

FEMALES OF PRUETT (PREWETT, ETC.) FAMILY

Frances Pruitt to Edward Covington, Oct. 3, 1777. SURETY: James Austen.

Wealthy Prewet to Joseph Austin, Nov. 26, 1777. SURETY: William Coggin.

Rachel Pruett to Julius Nickerson, June 20, 1782.

(Note name Rachel. Remember oldest daughter of Michael Prewitt Sr. was named Rachel.)

Aggy Prewett to Daniel Hammock, _____ 1788.

Elizabeth Prewett to Zachary Butt, April 26, 1793.SURETY: Bezel Hawker. Her Father -- Samuel Prewett.

Polly Prewett to Bazdel Hawker, Mar. 22, 1794. (She listed as Polly Hockker in will of Samuel Sr.)

Rossey (Rosy) Prewet to Abeddah Johnson, Dec. 30, 1800. SURETY: Elijah Prewett.

Sally Pruett to Charles Seal, Mar. 3, 1807. SURETY: Solomon Seal.

Sally Prewit to Obediah Brown, May 22, 1819. SURETY: Austin Harris. (She was daughter of Zachariah)

Ann Pruet to Sampson Davis, May 1, 1819. SURETY: Joseph Pruitt.

Susanna Prewitt to George Worsham, Dec. 14, 1824. SURETY: Hugh Darby.

Jane Prewett to Isham High, Oct. 20, 1827. SURETY: John Prewett.

Judith Prewit to Russell Blackwell, Jan. 31, 1828. SURETY: John Jackson.
Her father -- Absolom Prewitt.

Sarah Prewitt to John Hamore, Feb. 13, 1832. SURETY: James Elliott.

Rosa Prewitt to Henry Warren, Oct. 4, 1852. SURETY: Sanders Warren.

Catherine Prewitt to Thomas Smith, Mar. 2, 1839. SURETY: John A. Prewitt. She listed in Zachariah Prewitt's will.

Mary A. Prewitt to David N. Colly, Aug. 22, 1846. SURETY: Lovell Walters.

Elizabeth Prewett to Edward I.Franklin, Dec. 29, 1847. SUPETY: Russell Etzek
(She must have been sister of Judith and Blackwell.

Baughter of Absolom. Judith above married
Russell Blackwell.)

Louisa Prewett to William Mann, Jan. 25, 1853.

Lucy Prewit to Algernon F. Cole, Nov.26,1857. Mmz
No surety, but following parents signed.
Mahaley Cole, mother of groom.
Wiley and Lucy Prewitt, father and mother of bride.

(NOTE: You will see the many variations of the spelling of the Prewitt name. I tried to copy it each time as it appeared in the record.)

I now turn to the Pittsylvania deed records. All the following are from PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY, VA., DEED BOOKS:

Book 1, Page 79 -- Samuel Prewet, of Cambden Parish, Pittsylvania County to William Owen. -- Aug. 10, 1767 -- 100 acres on Sandy Creek, part of 335 acres granted to said Prewett by patent. Witnesses -- Daniel Ayres, James S. Owen.

Book 1, Page 153 -- Samuel Prewett to Champness Terry.

Aug. 26, 1768 -- 350 acres both sides Bitcher's Creek.

No witnesses, acknowledged in county court. (NOTE: If no witnesses are listed on other wills, you can know it was acknowledged by maker of deed before the county court.)

Book 1, Page 177 -- Richard Prewet from Thomas Watkins, of Bedford County -- Sept. 23, 1768. 150 acres on Strawberry Creek. (NOTE: You will notice that this Thomas Watkins, of Bedford County, is the same zers person who later left bulk of his estate to Judith Prewitt, daughter of Michable Prewitt Sr. This would indicate close relationship between these Prewitts fo Halifax and Pittsylvania with the Michael Prewitt family.)

Book 1, Page 437 -- Henry Prewet and wife, Rebecca, to Allen Adams. March 28, 1770 -- 100 acres on Bannister River. (NOTE: Here's the Henry name that was first found back in Henrico County in the late 1600's.)

Book 3, Page 167 -- Byrd Prewet from FrancisLuck. March 26, 1773. Deed for two tracts of land, 400 acres and 337 acres on Oak Creek. (NOTE: Question is whether this was Byrd Prewett, son of Michael Sr., or was it that older Byrd Prewett, who married daughter of John Dyer and was in Halifax County by 1755. Remember Byrd Prewitt, son of Michael, was not born until 1753, but this deed in 1770 could have been either of the two men. I am inclined to think it was the older Byrd Prewitt, however, since the younger was probably with his father up in Bedford or Campbell county at this time. He did not marry until after 1780.)

Book 3, Page 171 -- Byrd Prewet to Michael Gilbert, March 23, 1773.

250 acres both sides of Straitstone Creek. Witnesses -Thomas East, John East, Elizabeth Cockerham. (NOTE: The name
"Byrd" was spelled "Bird" in the top of the deed, but he signed
the named with the "y" spelling.)

Book 3, Page 172 -- Byrd Prewet to Joseph East -- Feb. 1, 1773. 215 acres both sides of Straitstone Creek. Witnesses -- Thomas East, John East, Elizabeth Cockerham. (NOTE: These two deeds convince me that this was the older Byrd Prewitt, for here we find him selling two fairly large tracts of land even before he bought the two tracts from Francis Luck. The son of Michael at age 20 years would hardly have been dealing in such large tracts. I am inclined to believe that the older Byrd Prewitt must have been a brother of Michael, with Michael naming his son after the uncle.)

Book 4, Page 36 -- Henry Pruett to Allen Addams -- July 27, 1764. 100 acres south side of Bannister River. (NOTE: Again we find Henry Pruett -- named spelled Prewet in previous deed -- selling land to Allen Adams. Remember the Prewitt-Adams family connection.)

Book 4, Page 90 -- Henry Pruett and wife, Rebecca, to Crispin Shelton. Nov. 14, 1774 -- 254 acres Bannister River, "where Pruett now lives."

Book 5, Page 314 -- Byrd Pruett to Joseph Jennings. (NOTE: I was never able to locate Book 5 while there. I asked the clerk, and he said he guessed the book was being repaired. I don't know whether this deed was important or not. It was probably another deed for this elder Byrd Prewitt, and it is possible it could have shown where he went to from Pittsylvania County. As it is, I do not know where he went. I just wonder if he was not the father of Levy Prewitt, who married the Taliaferro, which would explain the appearance of the Byrd name later in the Georgia family.)

Book 7, Page 76 -- John Prewett from Charles Burton -- June 17,1783. 100 acres on Sandy Creek. Witnesses -- Lemuel Smith, Benjamin White, William Drum.

Book 8, Page 368 -- John Pruett from John Wier. -- Aug. 4, 1789.
15 acres on Rocky River. Witnesses -- Daniel Price, William
Price, Maraday Price. (NOTE: Remember that one of the Michael
Prewitt family married into the Price family for a second marriage.)

Book 9, Page 446 -- Richard Prewett and wife, Elizabeth, to Robert Devin -- Oct. 19, 1793 -- 150 acres on Little Strawberry Creek. Witnesses -- John Tompkins, William Devin, William Devin, Jr., Joseph Devin. (NOTE: This was the land that Richard Prewett had bought from Thomas Watkins, of Bedford County, back in 1768, full twenty-five years earlier.)

Book 10, Page 241 -- Samuel Pruitt to James Woody -- May 4, 1793. 235 acres Little Sandy Creek. Witnesses -- William Dix, Thomas Dix and Adanson Trigg. (NOTE: This name Adanson Trigg is interesting, for if you will check back to last summer's report you will find the name Adenson Pruitt in Stokes County, N.C.)

Book 10, Page 341 -- Samuel Pruitt Sr. to Samuel Pruitt Jr. -- April 15, 1796 -- 100 acres on Sandy Creek. (NOTE: Deed father to son.)

Book 10, Page 342 -- Samuel Pruitt Sr. to Zachariah Pruitt -- April 15, 1796 -- 100 acres on Sandy Creek. (NOTE: Another deed father to son.)

Book 11, Page 352 -- Joseph Prewet from Littleberry Gwin.
March 14, 1798 -- 128 acres, location not given. (NOTE: Who was this Joseph. Joseph, son of Michael, was already in Kentucky long before this.)

Book 11, Page 395 -- INEM Joseph Pruett from Samuel Pruett, Jr. Nov. 6, 1798 -- 100 acres on Sandy Creek. Witnesses -- Zachariah Butt, Zachariah Pruett, Edmund Holloway, George Spratlin. (NOTE: This must have been Joseph, son of William, who died in Pittsylvania in 1830.)

Book 13, Page 415 -- John Prewit, of Messor County, Ky., and Leroy Shelton, of Pittsylvania County, Va., to Samuel Thompson. Aug. 22, 1803 -- 115 acres on Sandy Creek. Witnesses -- Thomas Harperm Christopher Shelton, Ben Harris, Washington Thompson, Edward Robertson, Cutbird Brice, Miles Hall. (NOTE: This places one Pruett in Kentucky.)

Book 13, Page 483 -- Japheth Prewitt and wife, Nancy, to William Stamps -- Dec. 8, 1803 -- 252 acres Sandy Creek. Witnesses -- Zachariah Pruitt, George Soratlin, Timothy Stamps, Thomas Stamps. (NOTE: Japheth Pruitt son of Samuel Sr.)

Book 14, Page 64 -- Elijah Prewett from Aden Gray.

April 16, 1804 -- 56 acres Oak Creek. (NOTE: Elijah must have been connected with the older Byrd Prewett, for Byrd was only one we have found with land on Oak Creek.)

Book 14, Page 317 -- Michael Prewitt and wife, Sarah, formerly Sarah Terry, wife of Stephen Terry, deceased, TO Nathaniel Terry. Feb. 19, 1805 -- Michael Jr. and wife sell her dower right in Stephen Terry's estate, "where the Prewitts now live." Witness -- William Terry. (NOTE: This is one of the deeds cited by Mrs. Goodnight, proves second marriage of Michael Jr.)

Book 15, Page 196 -- Elijah Pruet to Shadrach Corder -- Oct. 20, 1806 -- 56 acres north fork White Oak Creek. Witnesses Welcome Allen, Jacob Experz Harper, John Elliott.

Book 16, Page 397 -- Michael Prewitt and wife, Sarah, now of Bedford County, Tenn., to Joshua Stone -- May 20, 1809 -- Power of Attorney to sell tract of land on Bannister River, where Matthew Terry resided. Witnesses -- Nat Terry, Francis Chumbley, John B. Dawson. (NOTE: This proves that Michael Prewitt and wife removed between 1805 and 1809 to Bedford County, Tenn.)

Book 19, Page 391 -- Mary Prewitt to Jennings Thompson.
Nov. 20, 1814 -- 50 acres of land. Witnesses -- Edward Robertson,
John Hall, Thomas Chattin, James Walker.

Book 20, Page 38 -- Mary Prewett from Pyrant Thompson. Nov. 26, 1815 -- 120 acres Sweeten's Creek.

Book 31, Page 489 -- John Prewitt and wife, Martha, formerly Martha H. Hart, to Joseph Walker -- Nov. 26, 1829 -- Prewitt and wife, listed as of Walker Countym Ala., -- give Power of Attorney to sell Martha Prewitt's share of the estate of her father, James Hart. (NOTE: This places John Prewitt and wife in Alabama.)

Book 33, Page 120 -- Bowling Prewitt, Joseph Prewitt, Major W. Prewitt, Perkins Prewitt, children of William Prewitt, and Jane Prewitt, widow of William Prewitt, all join in agreement with William Prewitt, Jr., in regard to land of deceased husband and father. Oct. 25, 1831.

Book 40, Page 393 -- Robert Prewitt and wife, Sally, of Rockingham County, N.C., William Prewitt and wife, Francis, and John Prewitt and Thomas Prewitt, all of Pittsylvania County, Va. -- the above join in deed to Thomas Worsham -- June 29, 1828 -- 50 acres on Fall Creek. Witnesses -- William Barnett, John Lawson.

(There were other deeds later on in Pittsylvania County, but all seem too late and not pertinent to your problem. We have been able to place certain Prewitts from Pittsylvania in Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama and in Rockingham County, N. C., but no record to place any of them in Georgia.)

BEDFORD COUNTY, VA., DATA

I was much disappointed at the small quantity of data found in Bedford County. You had written me that there was considerable Pruett material in Bedford, and Mrs. Goodnight had

had indicated the same, although she stated that there was much material relating to the Pruett, Simpkins, Adams and related families. Actually I found more mmaterial regarding the other families she mentioned than I found in regard to the Pruett or Prewitt family.

I spent considerable time in the Bedford County court house, which has one of the best-kept and best-indexed sets of records I have yet seen in Virginia. I had been to Bedford several times before, and after looking thoroughly myself I talked with an elderly lady who was there working, and she stated that she had never seen many references to Prewitts or Pruetts there, and she told me she had been working there in the court house on genealogical material for many years.

I did find the references, which were cited in Mrs. Goodnight's Prewitt data. I actually found Prewitts referred to in three wills, but no will made by a Prewitt. I found one marriage in the Pruitt name, and I found barely two deeds for Michael Prewitt. The county indexes in every county I have ever found usually devote a special section or page to any one family name that appears frequently and then groups less frequent names with others. The zwweittxz "Prewitt" listings in the Bedford County indexes were grouped with numerous other names under the general classification of "Pr," the first two letters of the name. Following are the Bedford items:

BEDFORD COUNTY, VA., WILLS ---

Will Book I, Page 188 --Thomas Watkins (his will)

Written Nov. 25, 1769. Probated -- July 26, 1773.

Among other devisees he listed

"Judith Pruitt, daughter of Michael Pruett -- to have plantation where Thomas Watkins now lives -- also land on Falling River."

EXECUTOR? Michael Pruitt and Joshua Morris.

WITNESSES -- William Weatherford, John Raffety, Thomas Sturman. (NOTE: You will remember that Mrs. Goodnight referred to this Thomas Watkins leaving bulk of his estate to Judith, daughter of Michael Prewitt.)

Will Book I, Page 237 --Daniel Mitchell (his will)

Written Jan. 13, 1775. Probated Sept. 25, 1775.

There was no Pruitt or Prewitt mentioned among the heirs, but Michael Pruitt was one of executors, along with Robert

Mitchell, a brother of the deceased.

(NOTE: You will remember perhaps that Judith Prewitt, daughter of Michael Prewitt, Sr., married a certain Daniel Mitchell. Her husband was later an executor of Michael Prewitt's will in Kentucky. It seems likely that this Daniel Mitchell in Bedford was the father of Judith's husband.)

Will Book I, Page 389 --Thomas Roberts (his will)

Written -- Aug. 23, 1780. Probated March 26, 1781.

Among other heirs, he listed

"my grand-son -- Obe Pruitt, gets one horse."
"my daughter, Elizabeth Pruitt, and her son, Obe,
to get one-eighth of my estate."

EXECUTORS: Wife, Christian Roberts; Son, John Roberts; and son, Richard Roberts.

WITNESSES -- Thomas Lumpkin, William Cardle, William Whitton.

(NOTE: I do not remember seeing any reference to this will in Mrs. Goodnight's nates. I could not find out which Pruitt or Prewitt this Elizabeth Roberts married.)

BEDFORD COUNTY, VA., MARRIAGE RECORDS --

Elizabeth Pruitt to Richard Adams, Sept. 12, 1781. SURETY: Robert Pruitt (NOTE: This was positively the only Prewitt or Pruitt marriage listed in Bedford, and the peculiar thing is that I found the same marriage listed in Halifax County.

MMs. Goodnight stated (Page 8 of this report) that Elizabeth Prewitt, daughter of Michael, married her cousin, Richard Adams, in Halifax County, bond bearing date Sept. 13, 1781. I found it just as she said there, and here I found the same bond, except for a different surety in Bedford and on almost identically the same date. I cannot explain it. Can you?)

BEDFORD COUNTY, VA., DEEDS ---

Deed Book 2, Page 265 -- Michael Prewitt, of Bedford, from Richard Parker, of Cumberland County -- Dec. 9, 1762 -- 171 acres north side of Stanton River, part of a ptractz tract patented to Parker in 1747. Witnesses -- Thomas Watkins, Richard Parker, Jr., James Pruitt, Benajah Parker, Andrew Prewitt, Charles Talbot.

Deed Book 2, Page 268 -- Michael Prewitt from Bartholomew Lawson. Feb. 9, 1863 -- 100 acres on Falling River, land which was bequeathed to Lawson by John Simkins. Witnesses -- Thomas Watkins, James Prewitt, Patient Shipley.

(NOTE: Check back to Page 5 this report, and you will see a reference to a certain Andrew Pruet in Goochland County, in which he received deed from a certain Robert Adams. The James Pruitt who witnessed the first deed above might have been the eldest son of Michael, who married Elizabeth Street and later the Widow Matthews. Notice the reference to Bartholomew Lawson receiving land by bequest from John Simkins -- Remember that Mrs. Goodnight stated that Michael Prewitt married Elizabeth Simpkins, daughter of John Simpkins. Mrs.

Goodnight says (Page 3 this report) that John Simpkins died 1754 in Lunenburg County, but she does not say whether he left a will or not. However, it would seem that he must have left a will if he made a "bequest" to this Bartholomew Lawson.)

It would seem that a search in Lunenburg County might be interesting, although one might also have to go back and search in Brunswick County, for Erunswickx Lunenburg was cut from Brunswick in 1746. Brunswick was formed in 1720, but its records date back only to 1832. It is obvious that that marriage of Michael and Elizabeth Simpkins Prewitt could not have been in Lunenburg, for their oldest daughter was born about 1743, and the county was not formed until 1746.

CAMPBELL COUNTY, VA., RECORDS ---

I now turn to Campbell County, which was cut from Bedford in 1782. I shallx was also somewhat disappointed in the Campbell findings. It seems that Michael Prewitt was first in Lunenburg during his early marriage life, so his earliest deeds and grants must have come while he was in Lunenburg or earlier. Those two deeds by which he acquired land while in Bedford were for land in the section later cut off to form Campbell County, and the whole area that became Bedford and Campbell were at one time in Lunenburg, so he probably lived in about the same community through all the years, although successive county formations threw him into three different counties. His location was also not far from the Halifax and Pittsylvania County lines. Halffax County was cut from Lunenburg in 1752, just one year before Bedford was cut off. Pittsylvania was then cut from Halifax. Therefore, we see that the entire Pruitt area was in Lunenburg prior to 1752 and 1753. The records in Campbell County seemed to deal mainly with Michael Prewitt and his family and their moving to Kentucky. Remember that I remarked earlier in this report that I had a theory that Byrd Prewitt (the older one who married Annie Dyer) of Halifax and Pittsylvania might have been a brother of Michael and that that elder Byrd Prewitt might possibly have been the father of Levi Prewitt and I also believe he might have been the father of Lemuel and Elisha, who appeared in Warren County, Ga., in the 1780's.

CAMPBELL COUNTY, VA., WILLS -There were no Prewitt or Pruitt will records in
Campbell County. They went on west before dying and making wills.

CAMPHEIL COUNTY, VA., MARRIAGE RECORDS --

James Prewitt to Sarah Matthews, Sept. 9, 1791.

(NOTE: This was the second marriage of James, son of Michael.)

Sally Pruitt to Joel Wam Womack, Nov. 22, 1800. (NOTE: Cannot Identify this girl.)

It seems that most of Michael's children had married earlier down in Halifax and Lunenburg Counties.

CAMPBELL COUNTY, VA., DEEDS --

DeedzbookkiyzRayox272kekzMishaeizRrevitizigkEquadzBayoizkekz 28zMgrahzi282kekzi00zagrakzonkEniingkRiverxzkVitnosseskek EndertzkLekhadarzkEguundzTaioyzRichardxSiihyzJohnkMuniorzk

Deed Book 1, Page 272 -- Michael Prewitt to David Hatchison.
29 Jan. 1784 -- 150 acres on Falling River. Witnesses -John Marshall, Thomas McCown, Adam Mitchell, Daniel Mitchell.
(NOTE: The Daniel Mitchell was probably his son-in-law, Daniel Jr. Older Daniel had died in Bedford.)

Deed Book 2, Page 199 -- Michael Prewitt to Edmund Baget. 28 March 1787 -- 100 acres on Falling River. Witnesses --Robert Alexander, Edmund Tate, Richard Stith, John Hunter.

Deed Book 2, Page 299 -- Robert Prewit from Gregory Matthews -- 3 Sept. 1788 -- 190 acres adj. Robert Prewitt's own line and Michael Prewitt line. Witnesses -- James Hart, Alexander Kelly, Thomas Bailey. (NOTE: see the name James Hart as witness above and then turn to Page 16 thid report and see where John Prewitt and wife, Martha, of Walker County, Ala., sold her share of estate of her father, James Hart.)

Deed Book 2, Page 347 -- Robert Prewitt and wife Martha to Philip Major -- 12 March 1789 -- 5 acres and mill site on Falling River. Witnesses -- Michael Prewitt, Gregory Matthews and James Prewitt.

Deed Book 2, Page 344 -- Michael Prewitt and wife, Mary, (?) to Phillip Major -- 1 April 1789 -- 568 acres north side of Stanton River and South side of Falling River, whereon there is a mill formerly operated by Michael Prewitt. Witnesses -- Charles Talbot, Plummer Thurston, Ezekiel Talbott.

Deed Book 2, Page 390 -- Michael Prewitt and wife, Mary, to John Black -- 20 July 1789 -- 100 acres Bowman's Creek. No witnesses -- acknowledged in court.

(NOTE: Now the question is about that wife, Mary. Michael Prewitt's wife was Elizabeth Simpkins, and Michael Jr., married Elizabeth Hurt and later Sarah Catherine Terry. Question is did Michael Sr. marry a second time?)

Deed Book 2, Page 392 -- Michael Prewitt Sr. to John Lane -- 4 Sept. 1787 -- 300 acres Phelps Creek. Witnesses -- John Sain Sr., Daniel Driskell, Josiah Bass, Robert Prewitt.

Deed Book 2, Page 407 -- Michael Prewitt Sr. to Alexander Howard. 2 Sept. 1789 -- 300 acres Bowman's Creek. Witnesses -- Daniel Driskell Sr., Daniel Driskell Jr., Robert Prewitt/

Deed Book 2, Page 409 -- Michael Prewitt Sr. to Daniel Driskell Jr. 2 Sept. 1789 -- 100 acres Phelps Creek. Witnesses -- Robert Prewitt, Richard Womack, Luke Wade.

(NOTE: In this series of deeds above, Michael Prewitt Sr. was apparently selling out in preparation for the move to Kentucky. He was "of Campbell County, Va.," in each of them.)

Deed Book 2, Page 461 -- Michael Prewitt Sr., "of Campbell County, Va.," to Robert Prewitt -- 27 Sept. 1789 -- Power of Attorney to collect moneys due to Michael Prewitt in Virginia. Witnesses -- Williston Talbot, John Phelps, William Patrick, William Gunson.

(NOTE: It was by this "Power of Attorney" that Robert Prewitt settled his father's affairs in Virginia. -- Note that Michael still in Virginia Sept. 27, 1789.)

Deed Book 3, Page 216 -- Robert Prewitt, attorney for Michael Prewitt of Kentucky, to Thomas Black; -- 5 July 1792 -- 170 acres on Whipping Creek. Acknowledged in court. (NOTE: By this time Michael already in Kentucky.)

Deed Book 3, Page 215 -- Robert Prewitt to Joseph Scott, of Charlotte County, Va. -- 10 Dec. 1791 -- 200 acres east side of Falling River. Acknowledged in court.

Deed Book 3, Page 595 -- Robert Prewitt, attorney for Michael Prewitt Sr. of Kentucky, to Perrin Cardwell, of Amelia County, Va. -- 5 Jan. 1794 -- 124 acres on Falling River.

Deed Book 2, Page 444 -- Michael Prewitt (Sr.) from Phillip Major, 31 Aug. 1789 -- Bill of sale for 5 negroes. Witnesses -- Gregory Matthews, David Womack.

Deed Book 3, Page 447 -- Michael Prewitt Sr. from Price Butler Pennell and wife, Elizabeth, -- 20 Feb. 1788 -- 177 acres on Whipping Creek. Witnesses -- James Hurt, William Goulding, Carter Talley.

Deed Book 3, Page 454 -- Robert Prewitt and wife Martha to John Howell -- 3 Sept. 1794 -- 200 acres Falling River and Rockie Branch. Acknowledged in Court. (NOTE: His wife was Martha Chandler)

Deed Book 3, Page 363 -- James Prewitt and wife, Sarah, of Fayette County, Ky., to Philip Majors -- 27 Feb. 1793 -- 100 acres Falling River. Witnesses -- Absolom Watkins, Daniel Mitchell, Byrd Prewitt. (NOTE: This was James, son of Michael Sr. -- already in Ky. by 1793. He had married Sarah Matthews, widow, in 1791.)

Deed Book 4, Page 488 -- Michael Prewitt Sr., of Fayette County, Ky., to Michael Prewitt Jr., of Campbell County, Va. -- 9 April 1788 -- 179 acres Stanton River opposite the "Seven Islands." Withesses -- Plummer Thurston, Ezekiel Thurston, Thomas Smith, George Hightower.

Deed Book 4, Page 524 -- Michael Prewitt (Jr.) and wife Betsy, of Campbell County, Va. to John Brooks -- 28 Dec. 1798 -- 479 acres Stanton River. Witnesses -- William Cooper, Joseph Seay, William Seay. (NOTE: This proves that Michael Jr.'s first wife, Betsy Hurt, was still living in 1798. He was married to Widdwm Terry by 1805, and at the time 222 of his second marriage he was in Pittsylvania.)

Prewett

Deed Book 7, Page 34 -- Michael Kriem and wife Sarah, of

Pittsylvahia County, Va., to Enhaz Thomas Scott -
18 Jan. 1805 -- INZ sells 479 acres on Stanton River and Falling

River. Witnesses -- J. Scott, Joel Womack, Richard Womack.

(NOTE: These last two deeds are definitely Michael Eremett

Prewitt Jr., and so is the one below.)

Deed Book 8, Page 406 -- Michael Prewatt of Tennessee, to Thomas Scott 21 Nov. 1808 -- 100 acres adjoining Calloway. Acknowledged in court.

Deed Book 8, Page 489 -- Bird Prewett, of Jessamine County, Ky., to Charles Talbott **Existance Zeomerzne zerze zerze and wife, Patsy Prewitt, late of Campbell County, Va., heirs of Joseph Prewitt, deceased, late of Exarka zessamine County, Ky., -- 16 Aug. 1809 -- Power of Attorney to collect interest in land which Joseph Prewitt had sold in Clark County, Ky. Witnesses -- Williston Talbot, Thomas Vaughan, Hilary Talbot. (NOTE: The nearest I can make this out is that all of these parties were song, daughter and son-in-law of Joseph Prewitt, Joseph being the son of Michael Sr., Joseph & ied in Jessamine County, Ky., in 1808. It would seem that this Bird Prewitt was his son and that Patsy Prewitt, wife of Charles Talbott, was Joseph's daughter. Here we see the Byrd Prewitt name carried down in this line.)

(NOTE: These Campbell County records have not really proven a thing for you on your line, for they all deal with Michael Sr. and family. The land grant records in Richmond must show a lot of patents and grants for Michael, £azxwzz or else the Lunenburg County deeds must show him acquiring a lot of land, for we have seen him disposing of many tracts, which we can't see how he got, at least records we have found do not show it.xx I will go into Halifax County, Va., records on the following page.

HALIFAX COUNTY, VA., DATA

The first thing I shall check into is the Halifax County wills. The following are from --

HALIFAX COUNTY, VA., WILL BOOKS ---

Will Book O, Page 71 -- Daniel Pruit (his will) Written May 16, 1755. Probated Aug. 21, 1755. The will lists

Son -- William.
Wife -- Sarah.
Son -- John.
Daughter -- Lucy.
Daughter -- Ann.
Daughter -- Welthy.

EXECUTORS -- Wife and sons John and William.

(NOTE: There was no other will in the Pruitt or Prewitt name until nearly 100 years later. This is by far the earliest Prewitt or Pruit will we have found. In fact, it seems to be the earliest Pruitt will in all of Virginia, for I checked C.W. Torrence's "Index To Virginia Wills and Administrations, 1632-1800," and he does not list an earlier will. Of course, deed books in some county might show a division of land of an earlier date. We can figure that this Daniel must have been a man of least middle age, for he had sons John and William old enough to be joint executors of his will. I wonder, though, whether this Welthy Pruit listed in his will was the same Wealthy Prewet who married Joseph Austen in Pittsylvania County in 1777, full twenty-two years later.)

Will Book 3, Page 7 -- Robert Chandler (his will)
Written Dec. 4, 1784. Probated July 23, 1792.

Among other heirs, he lists Martha Chandler; Prewitt, whom we know to have been the wife of Robert Prewitt, son of Michael, Sr.

Will Book 3, Page 35 -- Moza Hurt (his will)
Written Dec. 15, 1791. Probated January 28, 1793.

Among other heirs he lists
Dau. -- Sarah Pruitt, wife of Byrd Prewitt.
Dau. -- Betty Brewitt, wife of Michael Prewitt (Jr.).

Will Book 13, Page 245 -- John Stone (his will)
Written Jan. 30, 1824. Probated -- July 26, 1824.
Among other heirs he lists

Dau. -- Sally Prewitt. (I checked marriages and found she married Moses Prewitt in 1813.)

Of course that last will was far too late to be of any real interest in your problem.

Now I shall turn to the Halifax County, Va., marriages. All the following are from HALIFAX COUNTY MARRIAGE RECORDS:

Book 1, Page 204 -- Elizabeth Prewett to Richard Adams, Sept. 13, 1781. Certificate signed by Mikel Pruitt.

(NOTE: This was that youngest daughter of Michael Prewitt Sr. I do not understand why she also had a marriage record in Bedford County.)

Book 1, Page 27 -- Mary Pruit to Peter Tribble, May 4, 1793.

Book 3, Page 6 -- Elizabeth Pruett to Almon Saunders, Jan. 9, 1856.

Book 3, Page 214 -- Ida Pruett to Powhatan Slagle, Sept. 2, 1889.

Book 31, Page 36 --Frances A. Pruett to Joseph Boothe, Mar. 29, 1895.

Book 1, Page 3 -- Michael Prewitt to Mary Thurston, Mar. 10, 1778. SURETY: Charles /Simmons. (NOTE: This must surely have been a "first" marriage for Michael Prewitt, Jr. -- However, we know that he did marry Elizabeth Hurt, daughter of Moza Hurt, for she was listed in her father's will in 1793, and again we know that he married Sarah Catherine (Fugua) Terry between 1798 and 1805, she being widow of Stephen Terry. NOW, TURN BACK TO PAGE 20
OF THIS REPORT, and you will notice two deeds
in Campbell County in 1789 made by Michael
Prewitt and wife, Mary, and you will note that
I questioned this at that time and made the query whether Michael Prewitt Sr. married a second time to Maz a wife named Mary. He was first married to Elizabeth Simpkins. Considering all the evidence, it seems that this must have been Michael Sr. and a second marriage.)

Book 1, Page 6-Byrd Pruitt to Sarah Hurt, Feb. 9, 1782. SURETY: Philemon Hurt.
Signed by M. Hurt (father).

Book 1, Page 7 -Anthony Pruitt to Susannah Cholson, Nov. 15, 1785. SURETY:/Francis
Signed by Mary Gholson, mother./Petty.

(NOTE: Cannot identify him.)

Book 1, Page 66 -- Thomas Prewitt to Susannah Drum, Jan. 22, 1807.

Book 1, Page 83 -- Moses F. Prewett to Sallie Stone, Oct. 11, 1813. SURETY: James Terry. Signed by John Stone (Father).

Book 1, Page 160 -John S. Prewett to Mary Ann Boyd, April 2, 1838.SURETY: John B. Wall.
Signed by Elizabeth B. Boyd (mother)

Book 3, Page 38 -- William T. Prewett to Mary A. P. Hopson, Jan. 29, 1866.

Book 3½, Page 18 -- W. T. Pruitt to Mary J. Clark, April 5, 1892.

Book 3t, Page 23 -- Feter E. Pruitt to Elnora Clark, Feb. 27, 1893.

Book 32, Page 40 --Zemerazir James H. Pruitt to Semora Bane, Dec. 25, 1895.

(COMMENT: This brings the Halifax marriages up to 1900, many of them too late to do you any good. Note that we did not find the marriage of Michael Prewitt Jr. to Zazakawazz Elizabeth Hurt, and yet we know that he did marry her, for it was proven by her father's will. Neither did we find the marriage of the elder Byrd Prewitt to Nannie Dyer, which was proven by Halifax deed records. He must have married early enough that it was colemnized in Lunenburg County before Halifax County was cut off.)

Now, I shall turn to the Halifax County, Va., deeds.

HALIFAX COUNTY, VA., DEED BOOKS --

Book 1, Page 426 -- John Dyer to Nanney Pruett, wife of Byrd Prewitt -- March 16, 1758 -- 108 acres -- deed mentions her as daughter of John Dyer. Witnesses -- Joseph Collins, John Bates, Charles Bostick.

Book 2, Page 3 -- Abraham Pruett from Thomas Pruett, blacksmith. May 16, 1759 -- 150 acres Catawba Creek -- "gift deed to son." Witnesses -- Donnell Abney, Thomas Prewitt, William Prewitt.

Book 2, Page 100 -- Thomas Pruitt and wife, Sarah, to David Pruitt. Feb. 1760 -- 100 acres Turable Creek (Terrible Creek). Acknowledged in court.

Book 2, Page 2, Thomas Pruett to Renny Pruett. -- May 16, 1759.
"gift deed to son," 150 acres Catawba Creek. Witnesses -- Donnell Abney, Thomas Pruett, William Pruett.

Book 2, Page 98 -- Thomas Pruit and wife, Sarah, to William Pruit -- Feb. 21, 1760 -- 100 acres Turable Creek. Acknowledged in court.

Book 1, Page 34 -- Thomas Pruett to John Royal -- July 16, 1753 -- 400 acres Catawba Creek. Witnesses -- John Cox, William Roy, Richard Sulings.

Book 1, Page 157 -- Thomas Pruett to Donnell Abney -- Sept. 25, 1755 -- 98 acres Catawba Creek. Witnesses -- Elijah Hunt, Nat Abney, John Dean.

Book 2, Page 1 -- Thomas Pruett to John Farmer -- May 16, 1759 00 "gift deed to son, John Farmer -- 150 acres. Witnesses -- Donnell Abney, Thomas Pruett, William Erement Pruett.

Book zł zx Engo złzkskihomas złku itt kto złokak Batask

Book 3, Page 110 -- Byrd Prewitt from Welcome Hodges. May 21, 1761 -- 200 acres Bradley Creek. Acknowledged in Court.

Book 5, Page 141 -- Byrd Prewatt from John Ballinger -- July 19, 1764 -- 365 acres Straitstone Creek. Witnesses -- Joseph Collins, Agnes Campbell, Robert Durham.

Book 5, Page 427 -- Michael Prewitt from William Prewitt -- June 20, 1765 -- 500 acres Terrible Creek. Witnesses -- Joseph Collins, John Camron, James Bates.

Book 5, Page 142 -- Abraham Prewitt to William Prewitt -- July 19, 1764 -- 50 acres Catawba Creek. Acknowledged in court.

Book 5, Page 66 -- Byrd Pruett and wife Nanney to John Gunson -- April 19, 1764 -- 108 acres. Witnesses -- Joseph Collins, Owen Murphy. (NOTE: This was the same 108 acres that Nanney's father had deeded them by gift back in 1758)

Book 6, Page 344 -- Thomas Prewit Jr. from William Prewit, David Prewit and Michael Prewit -- Feb. 18, 1767 -- 2222 193 acres Turable Creek. (NOTE: Once more were we see that unusual way of spelling Terrible Creek -- This deed seems to indicate that all of these were brothers -- sons of Thomas Prewit Sr.)

Book 14, Page 453 -- Thomas Pruitt to Daniel Pruitt -- Feb. 18, 1789 -- "gift deed to son" -- 105 acres -- Witnesses: William Pride, Jeffrey Palmer, Elias Palmer, Alexander Pruitt.

Book 14, Page 693 -- Byrd Prewit, of Campbell County, Va., from James Prewitt, of Campbell County, Va. -- Sept. 21, 1789 -- 400 acres of land

Book 14, Page 452 -- Thomas Pruitt to Alexander Pruitt -- Feb. 18, 1789 -- "gift deed to son" -- 105 acres. Witnesses -- William Pride, Jeffrey Palmer, Elias Palmer, Daniel Pruitt.

Book 16, Page 498 - Thomas Prewett, of Spartanburg County, S.C. to Samuel Prewett, of Spartanburg County, S.C. - Nov. 27, 1795 -- "gift deed to son" -- 100 acres Terrible Creek. Witnesses -- Elias Palmer, Alexander Pruett, Newbell Puckett, Thomas Vaughan, James Brown.

Book 16, Page 535 -- Daniel Prewatt to Elias Palmer -- Dec. 3,1795 -- 105 acres Terrible Creek. Witnesses -- John Roberts, Alexander Prewitt,

Book 17, Page 95 -- Samuel Pruitt and wife, Elizabeth, to Daniel Palmer Oct. 26, 1795 -- 100 acres on Terrible Creek. Acknowledged in court. (NOTE: This was the same 100 acres that Samuel's father had given him in 1795, at which time both he and his father were listed as "of Spartanburg County, S.C. "See deed just above this page.)

Book 17, Page 335 -- Alexander Pruitt and wife, Fanny, to Philemon Hurt -- Oct. 19, 1797 -- 105 acres on Terrible Creek. (NOTE: This seems to have been the same 105 acres given to Alexander by his father, Thomas Pruitt, arz as shown first deed on this page. It is interesting to note that Alexander Pruitt, son of Thomas, was selling his land to Philemon Hurt, who was a brother of Sarah and Elizabeth Hurt, the wives of two sons of Michael Prewitt Sr. This indicates that all these Prewitts had been of the same neighborhood or group originally.)

Book 15, Page 60 -- Thomas Prewitt, of Spartanburg County, S.C. to William Prewitt, of Spartanburg County, S. C., -- Sept. 1, 1790 -- "gift deed to son" -- 100 acres Terrible Creek. Witnesses -- John Palmer, Samuel Prewitt, Alexander Prewitt. (NOTE: Here's proof that Thomas was in S.C. by 1790, and mmz that other deed proves he was still there in 1795. They also prove that two of his sons, William and Samuel were in S.C. with him.)

NOW, I RAN INTO SOMETHING WHICH SIMPLY COULD NOT BE HELPED - EIMES TIME RAN OUT ON ME - I WORKED HALIFAX EXSTZ IN THE AFTERNOON, AND I HAD NOTED SEVERAL OTHER DEEDS FROM THE INDEXES, WHICH I DID NOT GET TO COMPLETE.

THE OFFICE CLOSED AT 5 O'CLOCK, AND THE CLERK RAN ME OUT. I COULD NOT STAY AND SPEND THE NICHT, FOR I HAD TO BE BACK HERE THE NEXT MORNING. MEMNER HOWEVER, I GIVE YOU BELOW THE DATA I HAVE ON THOSE OTHER DEEDS - I DO NOT HAVE DATES OR WITNESSES, IF ANY.

I CANNOT AFFORD TO MAKE A SPECIAL TRIP BACK UP THERE ON ACCOUNT OF DISTANCE, BUT I EXPECT TO HAVE ANOTHER ASSIGNMENT UP THERE BEFORE THE WINTER IS OVER, AND I WILL COMPLETE THESE DEEDS FOR YOU THEN. IN THE MEANTIME, HERE IS WHAT I GOT ON THEM --

Book 2, Page 371 -- Rennie Prowett to William Lax -- 150 acres Catawba Creek. (NOTE: I did not get the date, but it was about 1761. This was the 150 acres which Thomas Prewitt had "given" to his son, Rennie in 1759.)

> Book 4, Page 194 -- William Prewitt to Thomas Skain. (NOTE: not much dope here, and I doubt whether this deed was really significant, even if completed.) Roan Cly he.

Book 7, Page 324 -- Abraham Prewittato James Hill.

130 acres on Cuttapa Creek.

(NOTE: Cutapa Creek was really meant for Catawba Creek. This seems to have been the same tract of land that Thomas Pruett, blacksmith, had given to his son Abraham in 1759. See Page 25 this report.

Book 7, Page 365 -- William Prewitt Sr. to John Haynes Strait. apue 1,1767 50 acres on Catawba Creek. (NOTE: This was the 50 acres which William Prewitt had received from his brother, Abraham, in 1764. See deed on Page 26 this report.)

Book 10, Page 197 - Michael Brewitt to William Wyatt.

200 acres Enzkzfzeekzx Brush Creek. (NOTE: I do not know who this Michael Prewitt was. I cannot tell whether it was Michael Sr. or Michael Jr., of the Campbell and Bedford County family.
It is possible that he was still another Michael,
member of either the family of Thomas Prewitt or the family of the elder Byrd Prewitt.)

of Bedford Book 10, Page 390 -- Michael Prewitt to James Farris. 200 acres Brush Creek. (NOTE: Same remarks as above.)

Book 11, Page 275 -- Field Pruitt and wife, Mary, to William Burke. may 10 1779 sells her interest in estate of Patrick Burke. (NOTE: Here is another strange Prewitt.)

(w) Thos Hughes Chas mullen an Mul Book 12, Page 732 -- Byrd Prewitt from Daniel Palmer.
100 acres on Difficult Creek.

(NOTE: This must have been the elder Byrd Prewitt)

Book 14, Page 660 -- Byrd Prewitt and wife, Sanny, to William Pride.

100 acres on Difficult Creek.

(NOTE: This proves it was the elder Byrd Prewitt, for it mentions wife, Nanny," so they were selling here the 100 acres they bought from Daniel Palmer. Remember this William Pride witnessed deeds for the Thomas Prewitt family, so Byrd Prewitt the elder must have been somewhere in the same section with the others.

Book 21, Page 317 -- Byrd Prewitt to Haynes Morgan.

300 acres on Cow Creek.

(NOTE: This deed was certainly after 1800, and I cannot figure who this Byrd Prewitt was.)

FINAL ANALYSIS

It seems after a study of Mrs. Goodnight's material and a search of the records in Pittsylvania, Bedford, Campbell and Halifax Counties that all of the Pruitts, Bruitzx Prewitts (or other spellings of the name) that all of this southern Virginia group of Prewitts stemmed from Lunenburg County and probably prior to that from Cumberland, Goochland and Henrico Counties in Virginia.

I am disappointed in that I cannot point to any definite proof of anything you want, but I am convinced that there were several men in Lunenburg County (probably in the section that was cut off into Halifax County) shoutx a group of several Previtts as follows --

1. Michael Prewitt, Sr. 2. Byrd Prewitt (the elder)

3. Thomas Prewitt

4. Perhaps a Henry Prewitt (I have little dope on him, but see deed on Page 14 this report)

5. Perhaps a Joseph Prewitt (I have little on him)

Now let us take each one just briefly in review.

- 1. Michael Prewitt, Sr. -- We have discussed his family in full. No use repeating that here.
- 2. Byrd Prewitt, the elder, who married Nannie Dyer, daughter of John Dyer, was certainly born by 1730 or earlier, for he was receiving patent for land in Halifax by 1755 and perhaps earlier. He was than same certainly not the son of Michael Prewitt Sr., for Byrd Prewitt, son of Michael Sr. is known to have been born in 1753. This older Byrd Prewitt in Halifax County was the same Byrd Prewitt who was in Pittsylvania County later. Look on Page 26 of this report and you find where he bought 365 acres of land on Straitstone Creek from John Ballinger. This was in Halifax County. Now turn to Page 14 of this report in the Pittsylvania Deeds, and you will see where Byrd Prewet sold that 365 acres in two different deeds. He sold 150 acres to Michael Gilbert in 1773, and that same year sold 215 acres to Joseph East, both tracts being on Straitstone Creek. Add 150 acres and 215 acres and you get 365 acres. Now, we also find in Pittsylvania Deeds (Page 14 this report) that Byrd Prewett had land on Oak Creek. Then on Page 15 this report, we find an Elijah Prewett also buying land on Oak Creek. Now, you were interested in a Byrd Prewett, an Elisha Prewett, and a Levi Prewett, who were in Warren County, Ga., by 1787. We know that

3. Thomas Prewitt, the other of those older Prewitts in Halifax County, had a large family of sons, for he made "deeds of gift" to no less than eight different sons between 1760 and 1795 -- Those sons were Abraham, EnwidyzBaniziy Alexander, Daniel, David, Renny, Samuel and Thomas Jr. -- He also deeded a gift to "my son, John Farmer," who was probably a son-in-law -- and it seems likely that he also had a son named Michael, for a certain Michael Prewitt joined with David and William Prewitt (known to be sons of Thomas Sr.) in making a deed to Thomas Jr. for land on Terrible Creek in 1767. I think very likely that Samuel and William Prewitt, the sons of this Thomas Prewitt of Halifax County, were the same Samuel and William Prewitt who later had large families in Pittsylvania County. Names of their children may be found in Pittsylvania wills on Pages 9 and 10 of this report.

Now, you have no doubt been disgusted with me for my tardiness in making this report, but I have already explained why I was so long. It is now almost a week since I started typing the report, and I have put in all the time I could spare from my regular job. I know I have not found actual proof, but I do feel that there is a pretty good circumstantial case for saying that Byrd Prewitt and wife Nanny Dyer were parkatsantzaemunik parents of that Warren County, Ga., group from which you descended.

It is possible that Eunenburg County, Va., records might show something of evidence to indicate the kinship of the elder Byrd Prewitt to Michael Prewitt Sr. and others of that period. I would appreciate hearing from you as to you opinion of these findings and theories. I certainly hope you are not too much disappointed, for I have really tried to get what I could and to figure the thing out for you.

Sincerely

Box 576 Elon College, N. C.

Elon College, N. C. February 15, 1954

Mr. J. R. Gathings Box 102 Luxora, Ark.

Dear Mr. Gathings:

It seems that every time I make a report on your Pruitt family materials I am forced to open with an apology for delay, and I guess you'll think I am as filled with aking excuses as anyone you have ever known.

However, I do have to do this genealogical work as sort of an avocation (over and above my regular work), and this time I have an added reason. Late in the summer I was feeling so sluggish and short of energy to the constant of a slang expression, I was feeling "do-less," or unable to do anything), so I went to the doctor for a check-up and found that my blood pressure was quite low, and my blood count was down so much that I was victim of a sort of anemia. The result was that throughout the autumn months I scarcely felt like doing my regular work here at the college, and I did as little as possible outside of that work. In fact I have gotten to the point that I even telephone my mother over long-distance rather than to write a letter.

I went up into Lunenburg County/ Va., in the latter part of the summer as I wrote you I would and plantal made the search there, but I was so disappointed in what I found that I was simply not satisfied with the results. Therefore, I kept delaying in making the report because I wanted to go back and try again. I could scarcely believe that there was not some sort of material that I had overlooked. Therefore, I went back up there again during Christmas holidays and looked again.

I had recommended the search in the two counties to you, and I always feel bad when such a recommendation turns out so poorly. Since better the search are transfer Halifax, Bedford, Campbell and Pittzylvania Counties (all of which had netted some Pruitt material) had one time been a part of Lunenburg County, I was reasonably sure that there would be som pertinent records in Lunenburg. And, too, I thought that in case Lunenburg County failed to produce the desired results, then surely there would be something in Brunswick County, which from which Luenburg had been formed in 1746.

Let us recall just briefly the pertinent facts in Halifax that led us to Lunenburg. We had found that John Dyer, of Halifax, had deeded land in 1758 to his daughter, Nanny, wife of Byrd Prewitt. We had found that this Byrd Prewitt was dealing in land in Pittsylvania County (Pittsylvania having been formed from Halifax in 1766) in the 1770's and 1780's. We were led to believe that this Byrd Prewitt was the same who later appeared in Warren County, Ga., by the fact that one of his

descendants was named Elisha Dyer Prewitt. Furthermore, I knew that there were Dyers and Prewitts in Lunenburg County, all of which led me to believe that Lunenburg County would show the key to the puzzle.

At any rate I went to Lunenburg, and I make the following report:

I checked first the Lunenburg Will Books, looking for both Prewitt and Dyer material. There were no wills made by a Prewitt, but I was not too much disappointed there, for I told you introduced in my report of November 30, 1952 that Clayton Torrence's index of Virginia Wills and Administrations failed to list any very early Prewitt or Pruitt wills. You will remember a previous reference to a Simkins will in Lunenburg, in which John Simkins made a bequest to his daughter, Elizabeth Pruit, whom we knew to have been the wife of Michael Prewitt Sr., of Campbell County, Va., and later of Kentucky. I found that will, just as Mrs. C. S. Goodnight's data had listed it.

IUNENBURG WILL BOOK 1, PAGE 119 -- John Simkins (his will) Written Jan. 22, 1754. Probated April 1754. The will lists

Dau. -- Mary Wheeler. Dau. -- Rachel Stag.

ad

Dau. -- Elizabeth Pruit. (note this spelling here and other

Dau. -- Susannah Lawson. spelling below.)

Dau. -- Sarah Simkins.

Dau. -- Welthy Simkins.

Wife -- Elizabeth.

EXECUTOR: Wife Elizabeth and Son-in-Law Michael Prewitt.

(NOTE: That name "Welthy" intrigues me. Check back to Page 23 of my report for Nov. 1952, and you will find that Daniel Pruit in making a will in Halifax County in 1755 listed a daughter Welthy and a wife Sarah. I wonder if there had not been a connection between this Daniel Pruitt, of Halifax, and John Simkins, of Lunenburg. It would seem possible that Daniel Pruitt might have possible married a sister of Simkins, since we find the names John, Sarah and Welthy (Welthy spelled the same in each case and an unusual name).

That reference to the "Prewitt" name among the bequests in Simkins' will was the only Prewitt or Pruitt heir I found in Lunenburg, so I then turned to the Dyer name, trying to find a connection with John Dyer, of Halifax, and his daughter, Nanny or Annie Prewitt, wife of Byrd Prewitt. I did find some Dyer wills.

LUNENBURG WILL BOOK 1, PAGE 346 -- Robert Dyer (his will) Written Mar. 18, 1761. Probated March 2, 1762. His will listed

"My father and mother" -- net named.

Wife -- Elizabeth.

Daughter -- Etania Martha. "My late daughter" -- not named. EXECUTOR -- My father, Robert Dyer. Witnesses -- Philemon Payne, Charles Hamlin, Reps Jones.

LUNENBURG WILL BOOK 2, PAGE 246 -- Robert Henry Dyer (his will) Written Nov. 22, 1764. Probated March 14, 1766. His will lists

Grand-son -- Robert Phillips. Grand-son -- John Exer Phillips. Grand-son -- Dyer Phillips.

Daughter -- Susannah Phillips. Grand-Daughter -- Mary Phillips.

Grand-Daughter -- Mary Dyer, daughter of late son, Robert. Grand-daughter -- Martha Dyer, daughter of late son, Robert. EXECUTOR - Reps Jones.

(NOTE: This Robert Henry Dyer had been in Lunenburg County when it was formed in 1746. I cited a reference to him found in Landon C. Bell's "Old Free State" when I wrote you last July. Bell shows on Page 100 of his boo Volume I of that work that Robert Henry Dyer was granted land in the Lunenburg area as early as 1727, long before the county was formed. Then, on Page 328 of the same book we find that Robert Henry Dyer was one of the first justices of the Lunenburg County Court from 1746 to 1749 and again from 1754 to 1755.)

Considering these dates, it is certain that Robert Henry Dyer must have been born by or before 1700, very probably several years before 1700, for he must have been a man of considerable age by 1745 when he was named a justice of the Lunenburg Court. They usually phose men of advanced years for those positions. He could have been the father of John Dyer, of Halifax County, and of course he could have been a brother of that John. It seems very likely that Byrd Paralle Byrd Prewitt and Nancy Dyer may have been married only a short while when John Dyer deeded her the land in Halifax in 1758 (see Page 25 of My report for Nov. 1952, for it was usually the custom for fathers to give their daughters land soon after their marriage. We figure that Byrd Prewitt and probably his wife Nanney were in Warren County, Ga., in 1790, which was more than 30 years later, and that make it entirely probable that they married around 1755 or later. If they married that late, then they could have had a son marrying by 1776, the date on which Levy Prewitt married Elizabeth Taliaferro in Pittsykvania County.

Page 4

Also, if Byrd Prewitt and Nanny Dyer married as late as 1755, then Nanny Dyer could have been a grand-daughter of Robert Henry Dyer, of Junenburg County, as far as age went. Say she married in 1755, she could have been and probably was born as late as 1738. That would mean that her father, John Dyer, could have been born as late as 1717 or 1718. That would also mean that John Dyer could have been a son of Robert Henry Dyer, who was very probably bimself born by 1690; Notice that I merely say could have been in these instances, and I do not say such was true.

There were no other Dyer references in the Lunenburg will books that I could find. Therefore, I turned next to the Lunenburg deeds. The following references are from Lunenburg Deed Books.

DEED BOOK 3, PAGE 309 -- Richard Prewitt, of King and Queen County, Va., from George Walton. Dec. 31, 1750 -- 65 acres and a mill on Springfield Creek, partzed

DEED BOOK 5, PACE 159 -- Richard Prewitt, of King and Queen County, Va., from Timothy Murrell, of Amelia County, Va. -- April 1, 1752 -- 400 acres on both sides of Halls Creek, a tract originally granted jointly to Prewitt and Murrell by the statement king on June 11, 1751. Witnesses -- Thomas Taylor, Richard Ellis and Gubbeniser Athenasa Thomas.

(NOTE: That "King and Queen County" origin for Richard Prewitt is interesting. Look back to Page 14 of my report made June 21, 1952 and also to Page 6 of my report made November 1952, and you will find that I make the back to come from a relationship with the Byrd family of King and Queen, Caroline or Essex Counties. That was my branch of the Byrd family. Unfortunately the records of those counties were burned during the Civil War.)

DEED BOOK 12, Page 539 -- Joel Prewitt, of Lunenburg, from Thomas Blackwell; and wife, Peggy. Dec. 30, 1771 -- 217 1/2 acres, part of tract granted to William Bivors and conveyed by Bivors to Robert Blackwell. Witnesses -- Robert Blackwell, William Meredith and Thomas Williams.

DEED BOOK 19, PAGE 183 -- Cornelius Pruett to Robert Brown -- Sept. 7, 1803 -- 29 1/4 acres . Witnesses -- Edward Garland, George Overby, Freeman Reese.

(NOTE: Those were the only Pruett or Prewitt deeds I could find. It seems that Michael Prewitt, Sr., who married Elizabeth Simkins had no deeds in Lunenburg. I could hardly believe that, and that is the reason I went back again for a second search. However, there were instances when persons received grants from the king or the state and then failed to record them in the county deed books. Probably the next step would be to check the Virginia Land Grant records in Richmond and try to locate Michael and Byrd Prewitt and others of the name who were contemporary with them.)

Let us now look at the only Dyer deed I could find in Lunenburg County.

DEED BOOK 9, PAGE 432 -- Robert Dyer from William Rhodes -- March 29, 1762 -- 200 acres on Crooked Run. Witnesses -- Richard Leake, Reps Jones, John Rhodes.

There were no other Dyer deeds that I could 2000 find until 1823, and that was too late to do us any good on our problem. Now, we already know that Robert Henry Dyer did receive his land in the Lunenburg area in 1727, which was while the land still lay in Brunswick County. Brunswick County was formed from Prince George County in 1720, but the Brunswick County records do not begin until 1732. Perhaps that explains why I did not find any Dyer deeds in Brunswick. It is possible they were recorded in Prince George. Of course Robert Henry Dyer disposed of his land by will, and perhaps that accounts for there being no Dyer grantee deeds in Lunenburgzx at any early date.

I even read the <u>Lunenburg County Court Minutes</u>, and that is quite a task, since they are not as well organized as are the deeds and wills. I found the following references to Prewitts and Dyers:

LUNENBURG COUNTY COURT ORDERS -- (Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions)
The dates are for the term of court in which the order was recorded.
The initials OB stand for ORDER BOOK, with number of pagezand volume,
and the page.

- OB 1, Page 7 -- Robert H. Dyer qualified as justice of Lunenburg County Court -- June 1746.
- OB 1. Page 130 -- Robert Henry Dyer named surveyor of road from Forks of Nottoway to Meherrin River. March 1747.
- OB 1 -- Rage 366 -- Richard Prewitt summoned to show cause why he did not appear as a witness.
- OB 6, Fage 99 -- Henry Prewitt defendant in suit against by James Roberts. Ordered to pay 19 pounds 16 shillings 8 pence. May 1760.
- OB 7, Page 16 -- Henry Prewitt defendant in debt suit by William Stokes for 1 pound 16 shillings 4 pence. May 1761.
- OB 7, Page 58 -- Henry Prewitt defendant in debt suit by Andrew Buchanon for 2 pounds 6 pence. June 1761.
- OB 7, Page 95 -- Isham Prewitt Assert plaintiff in lawsuit against Thomas Portwood for 90 pounds. August 1761.
- OB 7, Page 123 -- Henry Prewitt plaintiff in lawsuit against John Ashworth for 14 pounds, 19 shillings 5 pence. Sept. 1761.

48 7, Page 169 -- Henry Prewitt defendant in lawsuit by William Thompson for 14 pounds 5 shillings 3 pence. April 1763.

OB 9, Page 330 -- Robert Hyer--William Rhodes Deed recorded. April 1764. (This was the deed I gave you on previous page).

(NOTE: This Henry Prewitt seems to have been a contentious cuss, always "lawing" or being "lawed" by his beighbors. He was probably the same Henry who was later giving deeds in Pittsylvania County. See Page 14 of my report for Nov. 1952.)

BRUNSWICK COUNTY, VA.

After not finding too much stuff in Lunenburg County, Va., I felt sure I would really hit it rich in Brunswick County, the county from which Lunenburg County had been formed.

However, I drew/complete blank in Brunswick County.
I found no Prewitt or Dyer data whatsoever, neither deeds, wills,
many and the court orders. Brunswick marriages
are on file in Richmond in the Virginia Archives.

MECKIENBURG COUNTY, VA.

Mecklenburg County was also cut from Luenburg County, and it adjoins Lunenburg on the South and adjoins Halifax County on the eastern edge of Halifax. Therefore, I thought possibly it might yield something. You had said nothing of searching Mecklenburg County, and I had not planned to do so, for I felt sure that either Lunenburg or Brunswick were the key counties. However, I decided on my second trip up there to take a look in Mecklenburg County.

It was no use, however, for I drew another complete blank there in the Prewitt and Dyer material.

SOME CENSUS NOTES

I was in Washington for a couple of days last fall, and I always drop by the National Archives when I have a spare moment, where I look over Census records. I was looking for some stuff in certain Tennessee and Arkansas Counties and I ran across some Pruitt Census Records. They may be of no interest whatsoever to you, but I am sending them on anyway.

of 1850. I found the following in Conway County, Ark. in Census of 1850. (See next page -- not room on this page)

CONTANTO IN THE PARKS TO THE PROPERTY OF THE PORT

Ing Renigna Pownships and

CONWAY COUNTY, ARK., CENSUS OF 1850

In Benton Township

John Pruitt, 39 Born Tenn.
Rachel Pruitt, 33 Born Ala.
Martha 13
James 11
Samuel 8 (All childron born Ark.)
Nancy 5
Mary 2
John 1.

In Benton Township

Phillip Pruitt, 49 Born Ga.
Elizabeth Pruitt, 35 Born Ky.
Benjamin 11 Born Ky.
Sarah 10 Born Ky.
William 7 Born Ky.
Mehala 5 Born Ky.
James 3 Twins born Ark.
Mary 1, Born Ark.

Union Township

Born Ind. John Pruitt, 28 Nancy Pruitt, 33 Born Ky. Elizabeth 13 Born Ky. David 6 Born Ky James 3 Born Ky. Nancy 1 Born Ark. David Pruitt 60 Born Ind. Born Ind. Frances Pruitt 60

David and Frances, aged 60, were parents of John Pruitt, aged 28, and probably of the Phillip Pruitt listed above. They were evidently not of the same family as the other John listed upper left, who had been born in Tenn.

CONWAY COUNTY, ARK., CENSUS OF 1860/

Phillip Pruitt, 59
Elizabeth Pruitt, 45
Benjamin 19
Sarah 17
William 16
Mehala 14
Mary 1
John C. 7
Thomas P. 7

This was same family as was listed above for 1850. Note that ages of some of the children do not exactly fit as 10 years older, but one frequently finds such discrepancies. The twins who were three years old in 1850 seemed to have died before 1860, and one sees another set of twins by that time.

HENDERSON COUNTY, TENN., CENSUS OF 1860.

Levi Prewett, 25 Born Tenn.
N.C. Prewett, 27 (wife) Born Tenn.
N.S. 2 (a boy)
F.R. 1 (a girl)

I was intrigued by this because of the name "Levi".

CONWAY COUNTY, ARK., CENSUS OF 1860

Thomas Prewitt, 51 Born Ala.
Mary Prewitt, 40 Born Ky.
Sinthy C. 23
Alluzia A. 21
Richard 19
John W. 17
Elizabeth J. 15
Lewis 13
Josiah 11
Mary A. 5

CONWAY COUNTY, ARK., CENSUS OF 1860

Abner Prewitt, 33 Born Ky.

Mary Prewitt 25 Born Ky.

Lewis 8 Born Tenn.

John T. 7 Born Tenn.

James Y. 5 Born Tenn.

Nancy C. 3 Born Tenn.

I note that there is a Dyer County in Tenn., in some of the Census lists. Wonder if it is connected with the Dyer family of Va.

time can write care with with sides along ages this care with this with this with this with this time this with this with this with this with this care with the care with this care with this care with this care with the care with this care with the c

Well, that's it. It seems that we have each drawn a blank, or practically so, in this report. I am more sorry than I can say, for I felt so sure that we'd find some stuff in Lunenburg and Brunswick. I feel much worse if I fail to find material after I have recommended a search in a certain area than I would if I had received a direct request to search that section. It was for that reason that I went back up in Virginia on my own to look again, just to be sure that I not overlooked any possibilities.

Frankly, I am somewhat stumped. I would say that the next best possibility would be to search the Virginia land grant records in Richmond with a view to finding out exactly what counties had Prewitts or Dyers or both families getting early grants of land. Then, following up that possible clue, one would have a better idea just where to look for the families prior to the 1750's, when they were in Halifax County.

There is just one thing we have gained by this search. We know now that we can cross out Lunenburg and Brunswick Counties as possible zacretez sources, so it narrows your quest down somewhat.

Sincerely yours

BOX 576 Elon College, N. C. J. R. GATHINGS
GINNER AND PLANTER
ELECTRIC GIN CO.

May 12, 1953.

Mr. Luther N. Byrd, Elon College, N. C.

Dear Mr. Byrd:

I wrote you in December of 1952 that I would like for you to search the records in Lunenburg and Brunswick counties, Virginia, with a view to determining more about Byrd Pruitt who appears in the records of Halifax Co. about 1750 to 1760. You reached the conclusion in your report of 1952 that this Byrd Pruitt was the father of my Lemuel who was in Warren County, Ga. in 1790. Lemuel had a son whom he named Elisha Dyer, and you will recall that Byrd Pruitt of Halifax Co., Va., married Nancy Dyer. You thought at that time that it might pay to search the two counties above mentioned.

LUXORA, ARKANSAS

I suppose that your school activities will be over soon, and I certainly hope you will make this search for me. I have been greatly pleased with what you have done for me, heretofore.

Please write me if you can do this work and what remuneration you will expect.

Sincerely yours, J. R. Gathings.

Elon College, N. C. July 14, 1953

Mr. J. R. Gathings Luxora, Arkansas

Dear Mr. Gathings:

I am the sorriest hand to get letters written in the world, but it seems that I am also one of the busiest much of the time. However, I am finally getting time to answer your letter of May 12th in regard to the searches in Lunenburg and Brunswick Counties in Virginia on your Pruitt-Prewitt line.

I finished my regular school year the first of June and had planned to take this entire summer off, but then I got tied up with some summer school work for the first summer term. I will complete that work here at the college this weekend, so I will be free after this week to make that trip up into Virginia for you.

I will search the two counties of Lunenburg and Brunswick for \$40. It will require about 270 miles driving and an overnight trip, so I will not get rich at that, but I have been interested in your Pruitt material and would like to see it bhrough to a finish.

You remember that I told you that Halffax, Pittsylvania, Bedford, Campbell and all those counties were cut from Lunenburg, and Lunenburg itself was cut from Brunswick in 1746. I am absolutely sure that Lunenburg will show something on the Puritt family (at least just as sure as one could be prior to the actual search), and most of the Lunenburg families stemmed back into Brunswick, which was records dating back to 1732. You will remember that we found evidence that the elder Byrd Pruitt(or Prewitt), who married Nancy Dyer, was certainly born by 1730 or before, for he was a landholder in Halifax by 1753, which was one year after Halifax County was cut from Lunenburg. Both Lunenburg and Brunswick have good records, although many of the Lunenburg wills and estate records are tangled up in their deed books, which makes them a little difficult to work. (I have just checked the index to the Old Free State," a history of Lunenburg County, and I find some Dyer names there, which is added evidence that Byrd Prewitt may have been there. I note that a certain Robert Henry Dyer was a land-owner in Lunenburg by 1727, and he was a justice of the county court in 1746-49 and again in 1754-55.

While writing this I will also tell you that I was back up in Halifax County early this spring on another mission, and I checked those deeds that I failed to complete when I was there for you in November of last year. I am giving you the complete abstracts, including the dates and matter that I failed to get then.

HALIFAX COUNTY (VA.) DEED BOOKS (Originally given in part Page 28 of last report)

Book 2, Page 271 -- Rennie Prewitt to William Lax -- Aug. 28, 1766 -- 150 acres on Catawba Creek. Witnesses -- Samuel Lewis, James Bates. (Rennie was a son of Thomas Preweitt, who had given him this land in 1759.)

Book 4, Page 194 -- William Prewitt to Thomas Skain.
Mar. 9, 1753 -- 8 acres on Bear Branch. Ackowledged in court, so no witnesses. (not much data here, just as I said before)

Book 7, Page 324 -- Abraham Prewitt, of Roan (meant for Rowan)
County, N. C., to James Hill --- Oct. 13, 1767 -- 150 acres on
Cuttapa (Catawba) Creek. ** Witnesses -- Daniel Alney,
William Alney and William Hill. (Abraham was son of Thomas Prewitt)

Book 7, Page 365 -- William Prewitt, Sr., to John Haynes Strait. April 1, 1767 -- 50 acres on Catawba Creeek. (William was brother of Abraham above). Witnesses -- James Boles, Nathaniel Spraggin, Daniel Alney, Ephraim White.

Book 10, Page 197. Michael Prewitt to William Wyatt. -- Mar. 20, 1777 200 acres on Brush Creek. Witnesses -- Joshua Stone, Dudley Glass. (This was either Michael Sr. or Michael Jr., for he was listed as "of Bedford County" in the deed below.)

Book 10, Page 390 -- Michael Prewitt, of Bedford County, to James Farris -- Feb. 29, 1778 -- 200 acres on Brush Creek. Witnesses -- Joseph Collins, Elisha Pruett and Elijah Farris. ** INGTEXTREZEREX ELISHA Pruettzappentazasxaxwitnessxindicates** (NOTE: The Elisha was probably son of Michael, as listed in his family in previous report.)

Book 11, Page 275 -- Field Pruitt and wife, Mary, to William Burke. May 10, 1779 -- she sells her interest in estate of Patrick Burke. Witnesses -- Thomas Hughes, Charles Mullen, Ann Mullen. (NOTE: Cannot place this Pruitt)

Book 12, Page 732 -- Byrd Prewitt from Daniel Palmer. Aug. 15, 1782 -- 100 acres Difficult Creek. Not witnesses.

Book 14, Page 660 -- Byrd Prewitt and wife, Sarah, of Campbell County, to William Pride -- Jan. 28, 1790 -- 100 acres on Difficult Creek. Acknowledged in court, no witnesses. (NOTE: I said in previous report that I thought this was the elder Byrd Prewitt, since the indexes listed his wife as Nanny, but the deed book itself showed the wife as Sarah, and the date as 1790, also listing them "of Campbell County," so this was the younger Byrd Prewitt, son of Michael.)

I am glad to get those final deeds off my hands, and I am sorry I did not report on them earlier. However, none of them offer anything pertinent to your Byrd Prewitt and his wife, Nancy Dyer. (You can check back to Page 28 of my last report for the partial data on them. About all that was lacking was the dates.)

I would like to make the trip up into Lunenburg and Brusswick as soon as I can get to it, so if you are still interested you may send me the check for the \$40 and I will go on up and get the data. I am sorry I have to ask for the money in advance, but money is tight with an old teacher in the summer and sometimes I cannot even finance a trip in advance without some degree of inconvenience. You know I am sort of slow, but I do get the goods, provided the date is there. I am mailing this letter by air mail and will hope to hear from you at an early date.

Most sincerely

Box 576
Elon College, N. C.

Chapel Hill, N. C. June 21, 1952

Mr. J. R. Gathings Box 102 Luxora, Arkansas

Dear Sir:

I finished your research some days ago with a trip up into Wilkes County. I did the Surry and Stokes zerzezzkx work some weeks ago, but I had car trouble and did not get up into Wilkes until early this week, since the college commencement season caught me, and then my wife and I had to get moved down here for Summer School at the University of North Carolina.

I finally got me another car and made the trip into Wilkes County, and I am at long last getting your report started. It is a matter of several hours work to compile the report from the things that I found.

I shall take my findings in order of counties, giving you the material from Surry first, followed by Stokes and Wilkes Counties afterward.

ZMITZ PRUITT DATA IN SURRY COUNTY, N. C.

First I checked the Surry County tax lists to see if any Pruitts were listing taxes in that county in the early years. SURRY County was formed in 1770 from Rowan County and became active as a new county in 1771. The Tax List for 1771 shows no Pruitts at all in that first year of Surry history. Neither does the Surry Tax List of 1774 show any Pruitts. I did find a couple of Tollivers (Taliaferros) listed in 1774.

SURRY TAX LIST FOR 1774
In Captain Benjamin Cleaveland's District:
John Tolliver and Jesse Tolliver 2 polls. (Seemed to be living together, since listed taxes together)

SURRY TAX LIST FOR 1784
In Captain James Gaines' District (Now in Stokes County)
Richard Pruett no land 1 poll
Shadrach Pruett no land 1 poll
Peke Pruett no land 1 poll
Charles Pruett no land 1 poll
Micajah Pruett no land 1 poll.

SURRY TAX LIST FOR 1785
In Captain Mames Gaines' District
Richard Pruett no land 1 poll.
Peter Pruett no land 1 poll

Charles Pruett no land 1 poll Smadrach Pruett no land 1 poll (No listing for Micajah this year)

SURRY TAX LIST FOR 1786

In Captain James Gaines' District

Charles Pruitt 150 acres 1 poll.
Shadrick Pruitt 100 acres 1 poll.
Peter Pruitt no land 1 poll.

(No listing for Richard Pruitt or Micajah Pruitt)

SURRY TAX LIST FOR 1789

In Captain James Gaines' District

Shadrick Pruit 100 acres 1 poll.
Peter Pruit 50 acres 1 poll.

(No listing for Richrd, Micajah or Charles Pruitt this year.)

(NOTE: Wilkes County was cut off from Surry in 1777, so if there had been any Pruitts in that county (or section which was formerly in Surry) they would have been listed in the Wilkes County tax lists by 1784, when we find this first listings in Surry.)

We now turn to the Census of 1790 (which you probably have already seen, but I include it here to coordinate it with the other material).

N. C. CENSUS OF 1790

NAME	COUNTY	MAIES OVER 16	MAIES UNDER 16	FEMALES ALL AGES
Joshua Prewit John Prewit Thomas Pruitt Henry Pruitt Joseph Pruitt Joseph Pryuitt Lus Pruitt Micajah Pruitt	Wilkes	1 1 1 2 0 1	1 2 0 0 2 4 1	3 4 1 5 2 2 1
Micajah Pruitt Peter Pruitt		1	1	1 4

(NOTE) After the Surry Tax Listing of 1789, the eastern half of Surry County was cut off to form Stokes County, so we find Micajah Pruitt and Peter Pruitt living in Stokes County in 1790. We do not know what had become of Shadrick Pruitt within that year which elapsed. Note that there are two Pruitts in Wilkes County, with varying spelling.—John Prewitt and Lus Pruitt, who was probably a widow and whose name was probably really Lucy Pruitt. Of course there is a possibility that this was a mistake in copying some old writing and that the name should have been Levi instead of Lus. I am more inclined to think that it was Lucy, however.)

I shall now turn to the Surry County deeds. Remember that in the Surry tax lists for 1786 and 1789 we found Charles, Shadrick and Peter Pruitt listing small tracts of land. However, the Surry deeds show no record of such. The tracts of land may have been state grants, which had been granted from Raleigh and never recorded in the Surry Deed Books. The following are the earliest Surry County deeds, reference being in each case to SURRY COUNTY DEED BOOKS.

BOOK M, PAGE 449 -- Burrell H. Pruett of Surry County from Jacob T. Rupe, -- June 1, 1811 -- 50 acres in forks of Deep Creek of Yadkin River. WITNESSES -- Benjamin Naylor and William Austin. (NOTE: This was in that section of Surry which was cut off to form Yadkin County in 1850. It was perhaps 50 miles from the holdings of those Pruitts listed in Stokes County in 1790)

BOOK 3, PAGE 435 -- Abraham Pruett from Hoppin Charles Steelman Oct. 18, 1843 -- 96 3/4 acres on Fishing Creek, part of a tract granted to John Hoppers. WITNESSES -- L. Speer and John Steelman. (NOTE: This was also in what later became Yadkin County, so Abraham was probably of same family as the Burrell listed above. In fact, Burrell's will listed a son, Abraham.)

BOOK 3, PAGE 441 -- Abraham Pruett from Hoppin Charles Steelman, 1838 -- 160 acres north side Deep Creek. WITNESSES-John Steelman, Louisa Steelman.

BOOK 3, PAGE 448 -- Abraham Pruett from Joseph Steelman -- Dec. 24, 1840 -- 3 1/2 acres south side Deep Creek above Steelman's Bridge. WITNESSES -- Thomas Long and S. C. Davis.

BOOK 4, PAGE 70 -- Abraham Pruett from Joshua Steelman -- Jan. 27, 1845 -- 258 acres south side Deep Creek.

(NOTE: There were no more Pruitt grantee deeds untiliagex until 1890, and we find no Pruitt grantor deeds in Surry until 1878, when a certain J. M. Pruitt gave a deed of trust on some tools to secure a debt.)

Now, let us turn to the Surry County wills and estates. We find one Pruitt will and a couple of other wills in which Pruitts were mentioned.

SURRY WILL BOOK 3, PAGE 110 -- Burrell H. Pruitt (his will) Written Feb. 3, 1814. Probated -- May, 1814. His will lists

Wife -- Peggy.

Son -- John.

Son -- Abraham.

Son -- Anderson.

EXECUTREX -- Wife.

WITNESSES -- William Allgood and Anthony Bates.

SURRY WILL BOOK 6, PACE 4 -- Sterling Taylor (his will). Written March 11, 1869. Probated -- March 1869/ Among other devisees, we find Sterling Taylor listing a daughter, Perlina Pruitt. We shall later find her marriage to Harden Pruitt.

SURRY WILL BOOK 6, PAGE 207 -- W. R. Hollingsworth (his will)
Written -- Nov. 28, 1883. Probated: May 1884.

Among other devisees, we find him listing
a daughter, Elizabeth Pruitt, and we later
find her marriages to William Pruitt.

SURRY ESTATE RECORDS, FILE 1217 -- Burrell Pruitt's invoice made by Peggy Pruitt on Aug. 7, 1814. Lists 2 horses and usual household furniture.

SURRY ESTATE RECORDS, FILE 1254 -- Burrell Pruitt, report of sale of property held Dec. 1, 1814, bringing a total of 58 pounds, 3 shillings, 1 pence. Purchasers included Samuel Speer, Balas Hutchens, Tobias Tompson, James Pilcher, Joseph Ryal, William Thompson, John B. Hutchens, Ryal Allgood, John Dickson, Jonathon Willard, John White and Hezekiah Williams.

SURRY ESTATES RECORDS, FILE 1216 -- Patsy Pruett account, with Jonathon Joyner reporting on her orphan's legacy. Does not say whose orphan she was.

Now, let us turn to the Surry County marriage records. The following are from old SURRY COUNTY MARRIAGE BONDS:

Harden Pruitt to Perlina Taylor, Feb. 27, 1863.

Jacob Pruett to Sarah Cockerham, Sept. 19, 1864. SURETY: John M. Cloud.

- James M. Pruitt to Lear F. McHone, May 31, 1866. (NOTE: He seems to have been the J. M. Pruitt who gave deed of trust in 1878.)
- Jesse Pruett to Tabitha C. Legins, July 26, 1828. SURETY: Joseph NOTE: This the Yadkin county family of / Steelman.)
 Abraham Pruitt.
- Samuel M. Pruett, aged 21, son of James and Nancy, to Lucy F. Simmons, aged 21, daughter of Amer and Nancy, Sept. 28, 1872.
- Thomas Pruett to Charlotte Wishon, June 15, 1821. SURETY: David Extity (NOTE: Also Abraham Pruitt group.)

 Baity.
- Anderson Prewitt to Lucy Clanton, Feb. 4, 1833. SURETY: John G. Pettitt. (NOTE: Exexpixes Burrell Pruitt listed a son Anderson, but this is 20 years later and was probably a grandson of Burrell.)

- Mahala Prawitt to James E. Jarvis, Aug. 11, 1838. SURETY: Israel Jarvis. (NOTE: Probably Yadkin County group.)
- Jane Pruette to William Love, May 17, 1828. SURETY: Archibald Taylor. (NOTE: This was same group as Harden Pruitt, who married Perlina Taylor, and same as the William Pruitt, who married Elizabeth Hollingsworth. They lived some miles south of present town of Mount Airy in Surry County.)

Impiax Clark x to z Mx

Milly Pruett to Lewis Clark. April 7, 1865. SURETY: Wm. Clark.

Nancy Pruett to Thomas Allen, Jan. 26, 1812. SURETY: Charles Johnson.

Rebecca J. Pruitt, daughter of James and Nancy, to Thomas L. Flinchum, Sen of Thomas and Fanny, April 5, 1871.

Santel Pruitt to Martin Sawins, July 4, 1827. SURETY: Thounton Bowman.

Sarah Pruette to Abraham R. Gregory, Mar. 28, 1829. SURETY: James Clanto. (NOTE: This was the Bursell Pruitt group.)

Susannah Pruitt to John Graw, Jan. 12, 1793. SURETY: John Pruitt.

Tamsa Pruitt to William Clark, Sept. 29, 1860. (NOTE: Probably sister of Milly Pruett, who married Lewis Clark above. Possibly sisters marrying brothers. I think they were of the group that lived near Mount Airy.)

Tempe Pruitt to Jacob Speer, Dec. 26, 1803. SURETY: Abraham Pruitt. (NOTE: Probably a daughter of Burrell and sister of Abraham.)

Pruitt to Balas Hutchens, Oct. 28, 1814. SURETY: John B. Hutchens (NOTE: Also possibly a daughter of Burrell, altho he did not list daughters in his will.)

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Listed in the Surry marriage index records after 1853 were someother marriages. Some of the later ones above were found in both the old marriage bonds and in the later indexes.

William Pruitt to Elizabeth Hollingsworth, April 4, 1858.

James Pruitt, aged 70, to Elizabeth Fry, aged 44. June 7, 1880. He was initiated as of Stokes County.

Joshua Pruitt (of Patrick County, Va.) aged 18, to Adeline Coleman, (also of Patrick County, Va., aged 18. Reavz@zxi@@sxFeb.11,1881 (MOTE: Patrick County adjoins Surry on the north. Also adjoins Stokes County.)

Peter Pruitt, aged 21, of Stokes County, to Flora Stephens, aged 20, also of Stokes County. Dec. 8, 1885.

- Sebron H. Pruitt, aged 23, to Ida Forkner, aged 18. Aug. 21, 1887. (NOTE: He was son of Hardin and Perlina Taylor Pruitt.)
- Jacob Pruitt, aged 40, to Elizabeth Thomas, aged 21. July 4, 1890.
- William Pruitt, aged 30, of Entrinkx Chenty zx Ynzyzto Rockingham County, N.C., to Mary V. Jones, aged 26, of Surry County. July 12, 1890.
- Gabe F. Pruitt, aged 22, of Surry, to Rosa L. Marshall, aged 19. May 12, 1896.
- Charles C. Pruitt, aged 19, to Carolina Adams, aged 19, both of Wilkes County -- Sept. 20, 1896.
- Thomas Pruitt, aged 21, to Ida Carter, aged 21, both of Wilkes County.
 Nov. 28, 1897.

(NOTE: Those were all the Pruitt marriages in Surry up to 1900. Marriages of women from 1853 to 1900 are not indexed.)

PRUITT DATA IN STOKES COUNTY, N. C.

I could find no Tax lists for Stokes County. I think they are fited in the N. C. Archives at Raleigh. T have already given you the Census of 1790 for Stokes County and have showed you that the early Pruitts who listed taxes in Surry before 1790 were in that section that became Stokes County.

I shall first take up the Stokes County deeds in the Pruitt name. The following are from STOKES COUNTY DEED BOOKS:

BOOK 4, PAGE 265 -- Willis Prewett from Jemes Coffey, Jr. Sept. 1, 1803 -- land on Raccoon Creek, adjoining Riddle. WITNESSES -- George Cloud and Frances Steep.

BOOK 4, PAGE 391 -- William Prewitt from Electious Musick. Jan. 1, 1802 -- 140 acres on Snow Creek, adj. William Nelson. WITNESSES -- John Whitlock and William Whitlock.

BOOK 7, PAGE 335 -- Willis Prewitt from Anderson E. Matthews. Nov. 6, 1821 -- 58 3/4 acres Snow Creek.

witnesses -- william Matthews, Tandy Matthews. (NOTE: They were in the same section of Stokes where one found William R. Hollingsworth, who later removed to Surry and made will there. Hollingsworth settled some miles south of Mount Airy, in a section where we found Hardin Pruitt and other Pruitts after 1850. One would think that those Pruitts in Surry later were of this group found on Snow Creek in northern Stokes, which was also near the Patrick County, Va., line.)

BOOK 1, PAGE 103 -- Micajah Pruitt grant from State of N. C. May 18, 1789 -- 100 acres on Snow Creek in Stokes County, which was formerly Surry County.

BOOK 2, PACE 68 -- Richard Prustt grant from State of N. C. 1792 -- 100 acres on Dan River.

BOOK 3, PAGE 511 -- Willis Pruitt from Charles Beazley -June 2, 1800. 154 acres south fork of Crooked Creek.
WITNESSES: James Young and Thomas Neal. (NOTE: I happen to know
from previous research that the Beazley or Beasley family
of Stokes County came from Halifax County, Va. In fact
there were hundreds of people who migrated down across
the line from Halifax, Henry and Patrick Countyes in Va.
It might be interesting here to note that Halifax was
formed in 1752, Pittsylvania was cut from Halifax in 1766,
Henry was cut from Pittsylvania in 1776, and Patrick was
cut from Henry in 1790. Therefore, iis possible that
those people in Halifax County might have resided in the
section that was later cut off to form those other counties.
I think there is no doubt that the Pruitts of Surry, Stokes
and Wilkes were of these Virginia families.)

BOOK 4, PACE 500 -- William Pryett grant from State of N. C. Dec. 19, 1803 -- 25 acres Snow Creek.

BOOK 5, PACE 50 -- Willis Pruit from Thomas Silvey. Sept. 3, 1804. 200 acres Mill Creek.

BOOK 5, PACE 219 -- Willis Pruit from Robert Cramp. Feb. 3, 1807 -- 144 acres Long Branch of Beaver Island Creek. WITNESSES -- John Dalton, Adenston Pruitt.

BOOK 5, PACE 219 -- Willis Pruitt from James Larimore.
May 21, 1808. 25 acres Beaver Island Creek. WITNESSES: L. David
and William Hutcheson.

BOOK 5, PAGE 483 -- Willis Pruitt from Martin Heath.
Nov. 10, 1810.-- 115 acres Beaver Island Creek. WITNESSES:
Nicholas Dalton and Russell Vawter. (NOTE: Beaver Island Creek
was also in northern Stokes County, slightly east from
the Snow Creek section.

BOOK 4, PAGE 323 -- Willis Pruitt to Robert Adams (Adams of Patrick County, Va.) -- May 15, 1803 -- 154 acres on Crooked Creek. WITNESSES -- Nathaniel Scales and Charles Beasley.

BOOK 5, PACE 54 -- Willis Prewit to Thomas Silvey. -- Sept. 3, 1804. -- Tract of land on Raccoon Creek, adjoining Riddle.

BOOK 5, PACE 82 -- Willis Prewit to Isaac Eades.

Aug. 25, 1806 -- 8 acres adj. Thomas Silvey. WITNESSES * Joseph Coffey, John Silvey, Thomas Silvey.

BOOK 5, PACE 711 -- Willis Prewitt to Joseph Hollingsworth.
Nov: 4, 1816 -- 80 acres Raccoon Creek of Snow Creek.
WITNESSES James Hollingsworth, Samuel Stewart.

BOOK 4, PACE 847x-- Micajah Pruett and wife, Elizabeth, to Thomas Farmer, of Stokes, and Gabriel Penn, of Patrick County. -- Sept. 8, 1801 -- 100 acres on Snow Creek. WITNESSES-- Edmund Beasley and John Greenwood. (NOTE: This was the same 100 acres Micajah had gotten in a grant in 1789.)

Book 2, Page 165 -- Richard Pruitt to James Taylor, of Patrick County, V Feb. 25, 1795 -- 100 acres Dan River. WITNESSES -- Peter Hudson and Richard Beasley. (NOTE: Richard was selling the 100 acres he got by grant in 1791. Question is were Micajah and Richard selling out and hoving on west or south.)

BOOK 5, PAGE 455 -- William Pruitt to Robert Flinchum. Dec. 3, 1808 -- 140 acres on Snow Creek.

BOOK 5, PACE 462 -- William Pruitt to Robert Flinchum, Dec. 3, 1808. 25 acres on Snow Creek, adjoining Electious Musick. WITNESSES -- John Whitlock, Cely (Celia) Whitlock. (NOTE: Here we also find William Pruitt selling the 140 acres he had bought from Electious Musick in 1802 and also the 25 acres he got by grant in 1803. It would seem that he, too, was moving on out of Stokes. Perhaps, William Pruitt, Richard Pruitt and Micajah Pruitt were all of the same immediat family group.)

BOOK 5, PAGE 492 -- Willis Pruitt to Joseph Allen. -- Mar. 6, 1813 -- 225 acres on Beaver Island Creek. WITNESSES -- Bolling Fisher and William Manuel.

These were the last Pruitt deeds in Zuzzykowanx Stokes County until 1907. It would seem that the family of Willis Pruitt was the one that stayed in Stokes, and they were not selling or buying land from about 1813 until 2220zzz after 1900.

Now, I shall pick up the Stokes County marriage records. The following are from STOKES COUNTY MARRIAGE BOND RECORDS.

Isham Prewett to Frances Fry, Aug. 6, 1860. SURETY: Wm. Dodd.

Morgan Prewett to Letitia J. Hutchings, April 14, 1849. SURETY: ZJ.W. Bitting.

William Prewett to Nancy Willard, Nov. 10, 1853. SURETY: Daniel New.

Thomas Prewitt to Elizabeth Buller. Sept. 9, 1825. SURETY: Christian Wagomer.

Adenston Pruet to Sassandra Brooks. May 22, 1803. SURETY: Willis Pruet.

Oliver Pruett to Nancy Epperson, April 18, 1853. SURETY: Hardenz Pruette

/John Fry.

Page 9
Pruette.

Martin Pruette to Nancy Lawson. Oct.1, 1855. SURETY: Harden Pruette.

(NOTE: This was probably same Harden Pruette Pruitt who
later went up into Surry County and married Perlina Taylor.
I know that Hardin Pruitt, of Surry, was said to have
come from Stokes County.

Elizabeth zwitzzte Prewett to William Lawson. Feb. 7, 1832. SURETY: /Lewis Hicks.

Sally Pruett to Asa Nunn, Sept. 11, 1854. SURETY: Harden Pruett.

Lydia Pruett to John R. Salmons, Nov. 10, 1863. SURETY: Drury Wilkes.

Newell
Matilde Pruitt to Jeremiah Beasley, Jan. 26, 1846. SURETY: Extra M6Hone

Nancy Pruitt to Morgan Going, Aug. 28, 1865. SURETY: Pressley George.

There were no Pruitt wills in Stokes, although there were two other wills (other names) in which Pruitt women were mentioned as legatees.

STOKES WILL BOOK 2, PAGE 15324-- Charles Whitlock (his will)
Written -- March 24, 1811. Probated -June 1814.

He mentioned land on Snow Creek and, among other legatees,
histed a daughter, Mary Pruitt. She may have been wife
of Willis Pruitt.

STOKES WILL BOOK 6, PAGE 229 -- John Fry (his will).
Written -- May 20, 1889. Probated -- Feb. 22, 1890.

Among other legatees, he listed a daughter, Sarah Pruitt.
It is possible that she was the same who had married
Isham Prewett in 1860 under the name of Frances Fry.
Perhaps she was Sarah Frances Fry Prewett.

PRUITT DATA IN WILKES COUNTY, N. C.

Just as was the case in Stokes County, the annual tax lists for the early years of Wilkes Zeuntzz County are stored in the N. C. Archives at Raleigh. Therefore, I shall turn first to the WILKES COUNTY DEED BOOKS:

BOOK G-H -- Page 376 -- John Pruett from Benjamin Ellis. Feb. 2, 1805 -- 120 acres on Roaring River.

BOOK I, PAGE 58 -- Joel Pruett from William Hampton from William Hampton, Sheriff. -- Mar. 20, 1815 -- 125 acres on Elk Spur. WITNESSES -- Joshua Witherspoon, Peter Noland.

BOOK P, PAGE 35 -- Ralph Pruett from State of N. C. Entered Jan. 22, 1830 -- 100 acres on Roaring River,

BOOK P, PAGE 374 -- John Prewitt to Talph Holbrooks
June 3, 1832 -- 85 acres on Roaring River. WITNESSES -John S. Johnson and Caleb Holbrook.

Those were the only Pruitt deeds (of any spelling) found in the Wilkes County records prior to 1850, and very few since that time. We find Tolliver (originally Taliaferro) deeds in the names of Moses, Jesse, Embaz Joel, William, Charles and John, but your Taliaferro kinship seems to date back into Pittsylvania County, Va.

Neither does the one find any Pruitt wills of record in Wilkes County. I cannot figure what became of the John Prewit or Lus Pruitt who were listed in the Wilkes County Census of 1790. I do not understand why there were no deeds or wills for either of them early. There are not even any Pruitts listed in the wills of other people in Wilkes.

I now give you the Pruitt marriages from Wilkes County, N. C. The following are from WILKES COUNTY MARRIAGE BOND RECORDS:

H. P. Prewett to Mary Wagoner, May 31, 1862. SURETY: Owen Absher.

Isaac Prewitt to Charlotte Richerson, May 21, 1835. SURETY: Wm.Baugess.

Joel Prewitt to Elizabeth Durham, Nov. 9, 1835. SURETY: Ralph Prewitt.

Benjamin Pruett to Peggy Tyre, July 11, 1808. SURETY: Carlton Keeling.

Catherine Pruet to Henry Banks, Sept. 16, 1807. SURETY: Wm. Laws.

Nancy Pruit to John Blevins, Jan. 7, 1824. SURETY: Wm. Blevins.

Polly Pruett to Isaac Holloway, Mar. 17, 1828. SURETY: Deniel Brown.

Sarah Pruitt, daughter of John, to Colbea Sparks,

Dec. 28, 1822. SURETY: Claburne Wadle.

I HAVE BEEN SOMEWHAT DISAPPOINTED AT WHAT I HAVE FOUND FOR YOU IN THESE THREE COUNTIES, BUT IT SEEMS TO ME THAT YOUR FOUR PRUITT MEN WHO WERE IN WILKES COUNTY, GA., WERE MORE OR LESS CONTEMPORARY OR EVEN EARLIER THAN THESE PRUITTS WHO APPEARED IN SURRY, STOKES AND WILKES COUNTIES.

There are a couple of things that I want to check for you the next time I am in Raleigh in regard to these counties:

- (1) I want to check the N. C. Land Grant Books in the office of the Secretary of State to see what they may yield.
- (2) I want to check the tax lists for the 1780's and 1790's from Stokes and Wilkes Counties, and also the Stokes Estates Files, showing settlement of estates. All are filed in the N. C. Archives.

It is quite interesting that the names of Hardin, Moel and others seem to follow these North Carolina families and also your Pruitts in Georgia and the West. It appears all must have stemmed from the same source in Virginia.

You wrote me that you wanted me to check some of the Virginia counties for you, and I will be glad to make the search in the near future if you are still interested. You may not want me to do so since I have taken so long to get this material to you.

Looking to such a search in Virginia, I have checked some material here at the University of North Carolina Library. I checked E. G. Swem's Virginia Index, which lists material in the three Virginia historical quarterlies, that is the Virginia Magazine of History, Tylers quarterly and the William and Mary Quarterly. In citing the material found I have worked out the following abbreviated citations, the same that Swem uses:

4T-350 would mean fourth volume of Tylers Quarterly, Page 350.

15V-350 would mean fifteenth volume, Virginia Magazine, Page 350.

5W(2)350 would mean fifth volume, second series of William and Quarterly, Page 350.

See the following:

4T-59x9+2x212stxof2merriagexbondsxfromz

4T-59x22 -- A list of marriage bonds from Halifax County, Va. 4T-60 -- includes the followingxx marriages:

Byrd Prewett to Sarah Hurt, 1782. (Month and day not given) Michael Prewett to Mary Thurston, 1778.

23V-378 A list of Tithables in Pittsylvania County, Va., 23V-304 in 1767 includes the following:

Byrd Prewett Richard Prewett Henry Prewett Joseph Prewett (These men were all at least 16 years of age in 1767, or they would not have been listed as "tithables.")

9W(2)48 A list of marriage bonds in Norfolk County, Va., included the following:

Hypolite Herpet to Christina Prewett, June 27, 1803.

3W(2)46 -- This shows a query from Mrs. Lillian Prewett Goodknight, of Honolulu, Hawaii, query being sent in 1923.

She states that She states that Henry Prewitt listed as one

in same district with Col. William Byrd, and she wants to know if this Henry was the father of General George Byrd Prewitt, who was the father of Michael Exempitiz Prewitt of Virginia and Kentucky. She also wants to know in Virginia in 1752 and then married in Wirginia in 1752 and then married in Wirginia in 1752 and then married in Wirginia to Fayette County, Va. to Ellen Hurt about 1779, later removing to Fayette County, Ky. (NOTE: She does not cite her source of information that Merry General George Byrd Prewett was father of Michael. I think she was mistaken about Byrd Prewitt marrying Ellen Hurt in Campbell County, Va., since I have already cited marriage of Byrd Prewett to Sarah Hurt in Halifax County in 1782. Of course there could have been two Byrd Prewitts who married Hurt women. Only a search of Campbell and Halifax County records would show that.)

5W(2)268 -- Another query from Mrs. Goodknight in 1925 asked whether Michael Prewett, of Virginia, had a Rev. ZXXX War record.

20W(1)144 -- A list of Pittsylvania County, Va., marriage bonds 6W(1)221 -- shows the following:

Levi Prewitt to Elizabeth Taliaferro, 20 Oct. 1778, with consent of father, John Taliaferro.

Edward Cotington to Frances Prewitt, 3 Oct. 1777. Security: Joseph Austen.

Joseph Austen to Wealthy Prewett, 26 Nov. 1777.

7W(2)197 -- Index to Goochland County wills in Virginia lists following will.

John Prewitt, will, 18 Nov. 1788, found in Goochland Deed Book 16, Page 346.

12V185 -- From records of Virginia Militia in Amer. Rev. lists
Philip Prewitt for 35 days as pack-horse driver
in Cherokee Expedition. Paid by P. Perkins. (NOTE: This
would probably have been from Halifax County, since
Peter Perkins was in Halifax and later he or his family
came to Stokes County, N. C.)

36V-261-262 -- List of citizens furnishing supplies to Continental Army during Rev. War znzeżwaeż included Robert Prewit of Campbell County, Va. This from Campbell County Court Minutes of Oct. 3, 1782.

5V-94 -- Abstracts of Virginia Land Patents showed that Joanne Bennett, widow, received 450 acres on Charles River May 6, 1636 for transporting herself and 8 other persons to the colony. One of the persons she brought to Va. was Thomas Prewitt.

32V-152 -- Virginia Otttrent Rolls for 1704 lists

William Prewitt, 200 acres in King and Queer County. Listed by zikki Robert Bird, sheriff.

(NOTE: My Byrd ancestors came from King and Queen County, so it is possible that this Preweitt in King and Queen County was ancestor of those Byrd Exempits Prewitts and Pruitts. I shall show you later some references to Prewitts in Caroline County, and Caroline County was cut off from Ming and Queen County in 1727. Many of those King and Queen and Caroline County people later were in Goochland and on down through west-central Wirginia is that so many of the records of King and Queen, Caroline, Essex, New Kent, Hanover and other counties above and east of Richmond were destroyed in Civil War.)

23V-201 37V-322 57V-328 29V-98 57V-331 22V-431 37V-529 All of these references are to lists of marriage bonds from Carolina County, Va. I give them below:

Richard Pruet to Elizabeth Mason, Feb. 5, 1823.

William Pruet to Mary Chenault, Jan. 11, 1836.

Henry Pruet to Catherine Farmer, May 4, 1837.

Elijah Pruet to Elizabeth Williams, Dec. 20, 1795.

John Bastian to Martha Pruet, dau. of Charles, Dec. 19, 1836.

Churchill Dallas to Nancy Pruett, Dec. 29, 1822.

Joseph E. Payne to Peggy Pruett, Oct. 20, 1795.

Thaddeus Pruett surety for mg. of Mordeai Grymas and Mary Jane Studdy, April 11, 1836.

and Mary Jane Studdy, April 11, 1836.

Ceivin Elliott to Elizabeth Pruitt, Dec. 20, 1821

Moses Pruitt to Amey Hall, May 3, 1797.

(NOTE: All of these are too late in date to be ancestors of your Pruitts, but it indicates continued presence of Pruitts or Prewitts in Carolina County, Va., which was once part

of King and Queen County.)

4V-295 -- Slave owners in Spotsylvania County, Va., 1783 included John Pruet, with one slave.

8W(1)95 -- Goochland County, Va., mg. bonds included

Abraham Pruett to Ann Davison, Nov. 5, 1783. SECURITY John Jouett.

Obediah Pruitt to Frances Jarrett, Dec. 11,1785 John Jouett.

SECURITY: Abraham Pruitt.

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17V-193 -- The Henry County, Va., militia ordered to assistance of General Greene on March 11, 1781 included

David Pruit in Captain Tully Choice's Company.

1V-386 -- The roll call of Captain Thomas Wagoner's Company from Caroline County, Va., in French and Indian War included

Thaddeus Pruit, aged 25, height 5 feet 92 inches.

He was a carpenter at Fort Holland and
a native of Virginia.

9W(2)192 A sketch of Yager family of Virginia shows following 9W(2)280 matriages but does not give dates.

Aaron Wilhite to Fanny Pruitt. James Pruitt to Mary Wilhoit.

From these few scattered notes on Virginia, it would appear to me that your ancestors must certainly have come from that section of Virginia which includes Bedford, Pittsylvania, Campbell and Halifax Counties. We note that there were Pruitts in Henry and Patrick Counties (Henry Gnünty being cut from Pittsylvania and Patrick County cut from Henry), but it would seem that these two counties were too late for your line in Georgia.

As I pointed out before so many of the people migrated from Goochland, Cumberland and other counties on the James River above Richmond to the Halifax, Pittsylvania, Campbell and Bedford areas, and we find indications in the foregoing historical notes that there were Pruitts in that upper part of Virginia before they were in the southside and west-central sections.

It is quite a jump from here up into Virginia, but I will search Halifax, Pittsylvania, Bedford and Campbell Counties for all available records there if you wish. I will do all four counties on one swing up through there for \$60. Of course I would have to have more to search them one at a time.

I find that I only have to do reading work this summer on my Ph.D. courses, so my wife and I are moving back to Elon College tomorrow. Since I do not have to catch regular classes, and I have just purchased another car, I could make the swing up through Virginia within the next week or ten days, and I promise you I will try to get the report to you much sconer than I have done this report. I simply had so much to do winding up my college year of teaching and then had car trouble toc.

My wife and I are going to Washington a little later in the summer, and while there I might be able to do some work for you in the Federal Census if such proved advisable after doing the various Virginia Counties. If you wish me to do those four counties up in Virginia, please send check for \$60, and I will make the trip within the next ten days. It would take more than one day to do those counties,

so would have overnight expense.

Going to that Byrd Prewitt problem, I just recalled that some of those Byrds from King and Queen and Caroline Counties settled in Prince Edward County, Va., and were there before Revolutionary War days. Prince Edward zejwinskix is in that same section just east of Campbell and nurk above Halifax Counties. It could be that the Pruitt-Byrd relationship came there.

But I must get this in the mail.

If and when you write me regarding the trip to Virginia, please send the letter to my Elon College address. I will be back there zamezrawax after tomorrow.

Most sincerely

BOX 576
Elon College, N. C.

P.S. I hope you are not too much disappointed with my findings in Surry, Stokes and Wilkes. I will pick up those Stokes-Wilkes tax lists for you in Raleigh a little later at no extra charge.

J. R. GATHINGS

GINNER AND PLANTER

OPERATING ELECTRIC GIN CO. AND ACME GIN CO.

LUXORA, ARKANSAS

January 15, 1952.

Mr. Luther N. Byrd, Elon College, N. C.

Dear Sir:

I was referred to you by the Clerk of the Superior Court of Surrey County, N. C. as being available to do some research. Your name "Byrd" immediately got my attention. This name appears in our family a dozen times.

I am inclosing an outline of our family history to familiarize you with what I want to know. It is possible that while you were doing research work in North Carolina and Virginia, you may have encountered the family in which I am interested.

Please write me if you can do the work, when, and at what cost.

Sincerelygyours,
J. R. Gathings.

5. 9.5 10

In Warren County, Ga. (Warren was carved from Wilkes County) in 1787, there were four Pruitts, Byrd, Elisha, Levi and Lemuel, who were charter members of the Williams Creek Baptist Church. They allowned land adjacent to each other on Rocky Comfort Creek. Later, the church minutes reveal that Elisha and Levi were brothers and were excluded from the church for joining the Masons. I do not know if they were all brothers, or if one was the father. They must have come to Georgia about the time they joined and organized this church.

Lemuel Pruitt, above, my great-great-grandfather, was married to Katey Brantley, daughter of Phillip Brantley of Warren County, Ga.. Phillip Brantley was also a member of the Williams Creek Baptist Church. He and his brothers, however, also owned land in Wilkes County, Ga.. Lemuel Pruitt's first son was born in 1789 in Warren County, Ga., his name was Abner. Thereafter, Mark, Larkin, Elisha Dyer and Kirk (my great-grandfather) were born in Georgia to him and Katey. I do not know where Lemuel Pruitt and Katey Brantley were married. In 1805, Lemuel sold his farm in Warren County and moved to Maury County, Tenn.. In 1819 Lemuel and his sons all moved to Monroe County, Mississippi, where he died in 1844.

Levi Pruitt married Elizabeth Taliaferro in Pittsylvania County, Va. on October 20, 1778. I quote from my records as follows:

"Levi Prewitt (spelled in other places Pruett, Pruitt), Pittsylvania Co., Va., married Elizabeth Taliaferro Oct. 20, 1778, and removed to Wilkes Co., N. C., thence to Surrey Co., N. C., later removed to Warren Co., Ga.. Elizabeth Taliaferro was the daughter of Dr. John Taliaferro of Virginia, a surgeon in the Revolutionary war. Levi had a son, Austin, who married Nancy Yarbrough. Ref. Upson Co., Ga. History, pp. 854-855."

Levi and Elizabeth had two sons, Austin and Byrd, who appear in my records. According to Mrs. S. Y. Pruitt, age 82, of Thomaston, Ga., they had a third son named Lemuel. Mrs. S. Y. Pruitt's husband was Levi's great-grandson. Levi's son, Byrd, administered Levi's estate in Warren Co., Ga., in 1805.

I do not have any further record on Byrd or Elisha of the original four in Warren Co., Ga.. I think these four Pruitts must have come out of Virginia down through North Carolina into Georgia. I reached that conclusion by the route Levi took when coming to Georgia.

In Bedford Co., Va., about 1750-75, there were a number of Pruitts, and Halifax and Pittsylvania Counties, Va. (which were carved out of Bedford) had great numbers of Pruitts. The best known Pruitt from Bedford Co., Va., whose record all of the genealogists have, was Micheal Pruitt, Sr., whose children were:

James
Micheal
Elisha
Byrd
Col. Joseph
Robert
Joshua
Judith
Elizabeth
Rachael

Micheal Sr., with eight of his children, migrated to Kentucky shortly after the Revolutionary war. At the time he sold out, his land had been cut off in Halifax Co., Va.. But there were other Pruitts in Bedford Co., who were his contemporaries. For instance, Byrd Pruitt appears in the deed records of Bedford Co., Va., in 1763, as do many other Pruitts.

Some of my Pruitts think we were descended from Micheal Sr., but I am doubtful about that because the Pruitts in Warren Co., Ga., were contemporaries of Micheal Sr.'s children. Micheal Sr.'s son Byrd was married to Sarah Hurt in Halifax Co., Va., in 1782. You will recall that Levi, of Warren Co., Ga., married Elizabeth Taliaferro in Pittsylvania Co., Va., in 1778. Some of my Pruitts seem to think that Levi might have had a prior wife, by whom he had sons who were the other first Pruitts in Warren Co., Ga.. It has occurred to me that Micheal Sr. might have had a brother who fathered the first four Pruitts in Georgia. Two names, Elisha and Byrd, are common to Micheal Sr.'s children and the Pruitts of Warren Co., Ga..

I am chiefly interested in knowing, in this order of importance, the following:

- 1. Who was the father of the four Pruitts in Warren Co., Ga., and what were his Pruitt connections?
- 2. What was his war record, if any, also the war records of the original four Pruitts in Warren Co., Ga.?
 - 3. Where were Lemuel Pruitt and Katey Brantley married?
 - 4. Where do the "Byrds" come in?

April 8, 1952

J. R. Gathings Luxora, Arkansas

Dear Mr. Gathings:

I must indeed apologize to you for the long delay in answering your letter of January 15th in regard to information on the Pruitt (Prewitt) family, which seems to have passed through Surry County, N. C., enroute from Virginia to Georgia and later westward.

I am a faculty member and director of publicity here at Elon College, and my duties have been unusually heavy during the winter, so that I have been forced to neglect much of my personal correspondence and business. However, I am at long last finding time to catch up with my genealogical correspondence.

I was interested in your Pruitt (Prewitt) material, and I have run into the name many times in the fifteen years that I have been doing research for myself and others in Surry and adjoining counties.

I taught high school history and edited a weekly newspaper in Surry County for 19 years and then went back to the University of North Carclina to get my Masuers Degree in History, and I am still working toward my Ph.D. degree in History. I have been a member of the faculty here for the past three years, but I still do a great deal of genealogical research in spare time.

The county officials in Surry do not do research, and most inquiries are referred to me, and I have been doing the bulk of the genealogical work in that county for fifteen years. I have worked in the original records of over fifty counties in N.C. and as many counties in Virginia. I remember running into the Pruitt (PrewitT name in Pittsylvania, Halifax and Bedford and I believe in Henry County, Va.)

That name Byrd Pruitt intrigues me. My Byrd ancestors were from Wilkes County, N. C., by way of Virginia, so it seems possible that there may have been an intermarriage of the Pruitts and Byrds in Wilkes, or it could have been that they were merely close friends and neighbors.

I have a huge file of genealogical material right here at home, including the only complete card index of Surry County marriage records (which I compiled for my own use through three months of hard work). This marriage index includes the Surry records at Dobson, those in the Moravian church records and the ones at Raleigh.

In tax lists for Surry County (which include Stokes County until 1789) I find records of Shadrach, Charles, Peter, Richard and Micajah Pruitt, but the Census of 1790 for North Carolina fails to show any Pruitts in Surry County. It does show in 1790 Joseph Ereixt Prewitt in Wilkes and Lus (Lucy, evidently a widow) in Wilkes and also Peter and Micajah Pruitt in Stokes. Etzmontalesementiate Perhaps you already know that Stirry was formed in 1771 and that Wilkes was cut off from Surry in 1777 and that Stokes was cut from Surry in 1789. It would seem that a search of deed, will and estates records, along with marriages and tax lists might by fruitful in each of the three counties of Surry, Wilkes and Stokes. I do know that there are Pruitt records in each of the three. There were also Talifarro's in both Surry and Wilkes.

You asked in your letter whether I would do the work for you, when and at what cost. Well, my mother still lives in Surry, and I go up there occasionally to visit her and at the same time get in some genealogical work. Of course I have to do the work when I can get away from here. I have two bases upon which I work. I will take assignments on a rate of 5¢ per mile and \$1 per hour, or I will make a straight price to do a certain county. In figuring the per county price, I figure mother, so I can figure it somewhat less than if I made a special trip up there for the job. I will do either Surry, zikkaz or Stokes County for \$15 each, or I will do attachencenz thexamezataxupzahenezar Wilkes County for \$20 flat price. (It is about 60 miles from my mother's to the Wilkes County seat). Or, if you wanted me to do more than one, I will do all three for \$45. Such a search would include the deed, will, marriages and any available tax lists and estates records.

If you wish me to do the work, please indicate which county or what counties you wanted searched and enclose check. I will then try to get up there within the next few weekends and do the work. Again I apologize for having waited so long to write.

Most sincerely

Luther N. Byrd Box 576 Elon College, N. C.

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J. R. GATHINGS

GINNER AND PLANTER

OPERATING ELECTRIC GIN CO. AND ACME GIN CO.

LUXORA, ARKANSAS

April 15, 1952.

Mr. Luther N. Byrd, Elon College, N. C.

Dear Mr. Byrd:

I am in receipt of your very nice letter of April 8th, and am glad to know that you will be in position to do some work for me. I want to tell you that I envy you as an instructor of History. I majored in History under Dr. J. Reese Lynn, Ph.D., Millsaps College, Jackson, Miss. Very much to my embarrassment, he frequently told the class that I was his ideal pupil. Frankly, I made as deep a study of my instructor as I did my subject.

I am inclosing an additional sheet showing the Pruitts in N.C. in 1790. I think you are right—an investigation of Wilkes, Stokes and possibly Surrey, would be in order. There were three families in Burke Co. in the 1790 Census, but the Clerk of the Superior Court of that county tells me there are no records prior to the year 1865. Of course, there is Rockingham Co., with Joshua Pruitt, but we can leave it until you have time to make an investigation in Virginia. I anticipate that I will want you later to search Bedford, Pittsylvania, Halifax and Campbell counties in Virginia. On the way up to Virginia, you could stop in Rockingham Co., N. C.. I am quite certain we will have to make this Virginia search. That state was the home of the Pruitts. They fanned out from there to North and South Carolina, Georgia, Kentucky, Alabama and Texas.

In your letter to me, you mentioned marriage records of Hardin and Jacob Pruitt in Surrey Co., N. C. You will note on the attached sheet that Jacob Pruitt was in Georgia near my Prewetts, in 1785. Of course, he could have returned to N.C. to be married just as Levi returned to Virginia. You will also note that Hardin Pruitt was security on the administrator's bond in settlement of Levi Pruitt's estate.

I am inclosing a check for \$45.00 as per your request to cover the cost of searching Wilkes, Stokes and Surrey Counties, N.C.

Keep in mind that I want you to search the counties mentioned in Virginia, and tell me your charge.

With kindest regards, and assurances of best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,
JAR. Gathings.

Virginia Census of 1782 to 1785 gives:

Hannah Pruit, four in family, Halifax Co.
John Pruit, seven in family, Pittsylvania Co.
Samuel Pruit, six in family, Pittsylvania Co.
Joseph Pruit, five in family, Charlotte Co.
Alexander Pruit, five in family, Halifax Co.
Byrd Pruit, two in family, Halifax Co.
Michael Pruit, six in family, Halifax Co.

Census North Carolina, 1790

Joshua Pruitt, five in family, Rockingham Co.
John Pruitt, six in family, Wilkes Co.
Henry Pruitt, two in family, Burke Co.
John Pruitt, eight in family, Burke Co.
Joseph Pruitt, eight in family, Burke Co.
Thomas Pruitt, five in family, Wake Co.
Lus Pruitt, three in family, Wilkes Co.
Micajah Pruitt, three in family, Stokes Co.

Pension Department of Revolutionary Soldier, Washington, D. C.

JOSEPH PRUITT, #8506, Wilkes Co., N. C., Aug. 1833. Makes application for pension from Ashe Co., age 79 born Pittsylvania Co., Va., July 16, 1754. Record taken from Bible now in his possession. He remained in the county of his birth until about 19 years of age, removed to Wilkes Co., N. C., about four years before the Revolutionary War. He enlisted as private in Capt. Cleveland Co. of Minute Men in the month of Aug. 1776, under Gen. Rutherford; afterwards joined Gen. Pickens. He was discharged at Wilkes Co. Courthouse. Moved to the County of Ashe about 1830. Test. Joel Pruitt, Jan. 1835, Wilkes Co., N. C.

SAMUEL S. PRUITT. Pension application #21432, Abbeville, S. C., Sept. 4, 1832. Age 82, entered Service under Capt. William Bethel & Col. Cooke's Regt. July 1, 1780. He resided in Rockingham Co., N. C. He joined Gen. Green near Dan River, in August 1781. He served under Gens. Butler and Rutherford. Had a brother Joshua Pruitt. Samuel Pruitt was born in James City Co., Va., near Williamsburg, 1751. Age in Church records at Williamsburg, Va. Made application for pension from Abbeville, S. C. May 16, 1833. His brother Joshua testified to his statement.

Jacob Prewett paid tax in Wilkes Co., Ga., in 1785. His lands were cut off in Elbert Co., Elbert Co. records examined.

STATE OF GEORGIA)
WARREN COUNTY

Administrators Bonds in Deed Book "A"

Page 72 Levi Pruitt, dec'd. Elizabeth Pruitt and Bird Pruitt appointed Admrs. Isaiah Tucker; Hardin Pruitt Security. Mar. 4, 1805.

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Elon College, N. C. May 9, 1952

Mr. J. R. Gathings Box 102 Luxora, Ark.

Dear Mr. Gathings:

I am sorry that I have not written back to you earlier to acknowledge receipt of your check and to let you know something of your research, but several matters came up here at the college which have simply tied xxx me here on weekends, and I have been unable to get away to get a start on your Pruitt material.

However, I am going up home this weekend, and I will at least get a start on the material tomorrow. I do not know whether I made it clear that I have to do this work on weekends and spare time off from my regular job here at the college, but you would know of course that the family history is somewhat of an avocation with me and that I have to keep up my regular work here at the college.

I feel sure that I will find some interesting material for you, for I have always been intrigued by that Pruitt name, since I had run into it in connection with other families on which I worked.

I shall get started tomorrow, and there is only two more weeks of the college year, after which I will be free for sometime and can wind up the work for you.

Please accept my apology for not writing back earlier. I will try to write again next week.

Most sincerely

Box 576
Elon College, N. C.

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