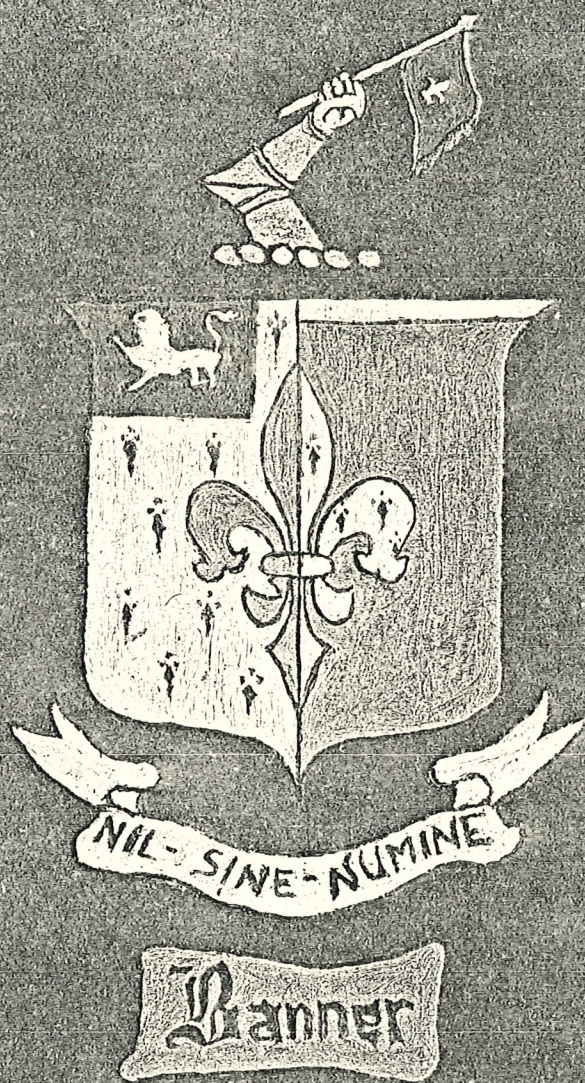




C. Olive
1966

975.6
B

BANNER

NIH SINE NUMINE

(Nothing without the divine will)

Genealogy compiled by Alma Banner Bivens,
for my dear daughter, Beverly Banner Bivens Olive -

Greetings

I am beginning this project November the 1st. 1965.
Next April the 3rd. will be my 77th. birthday, and my vision
isn't as good as it used to be, neither is my printing.
Therefore, if it's messy in places, just remember that a lot
of water has flown over the dam, and it's later than I
like to think. However, tempus fugit, and that is some-
thing over which one has no control.

Important - Please read.

This genealogy is from the maternal side of my
family, which could be confusing to one not know-
ing that my mother's surname wasn't changed
by her marriage to John Lee Banner, a distant
relative; in fact, so far removed the relationship
couldn't be traced.

Joseph Banner, born in England in the 1700's
He married Sarah McAnnalley in 1771

Their children were

- Charles, born 1773 - married Rebecca Evans, 1798
- Ruhamer, born 1775 - married Wyatt Peoples, 1804
- Charity, born 1776 - married Jesse Briggs, 1795
- Elisha, born 1778 - marriage not recorded
- Mary, born 1785 - married Joseph Greag, 1812
- Sarah, born 1788 - married Charles McAnnaley, 1811
- Joseph, born 1792 - married Anna Armstrong, 1815

Charles, my great, great grandfather

Eight Generations

- Joseph, born in England in the late 1700's - great, great, great
- Charles, born 1749 - great, great grandfather
- John, born 1801 - my great grandfather (old com)
- John Elisha, born 1835 - my grandfather
- Mary Emma, born 1865 - my mother
- Alma Louisa, born 1889 - myself
- Beverly Banner Bivens, born 1918 - my daughter
- John Chatham Olive, born 1949 - Beverly's son
- Worth Banner Olive, born 1950 - Beverly's son

A VISIT WITH AUNT PEGGY

Beverly's great, great, great aunt

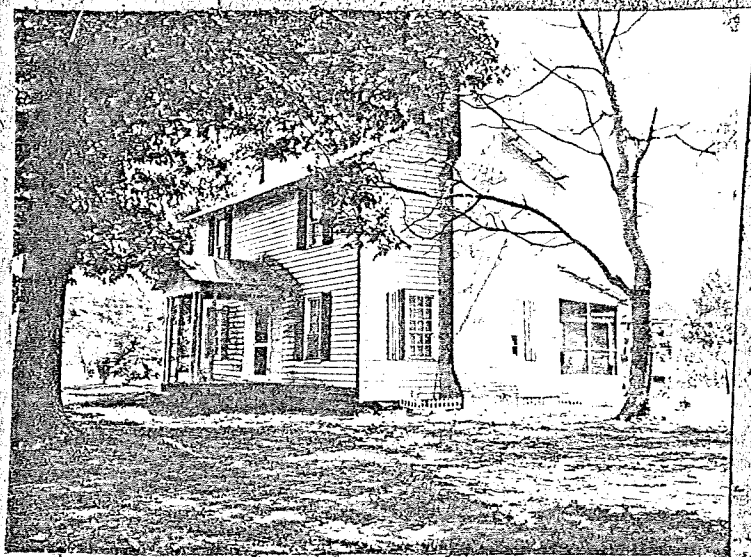
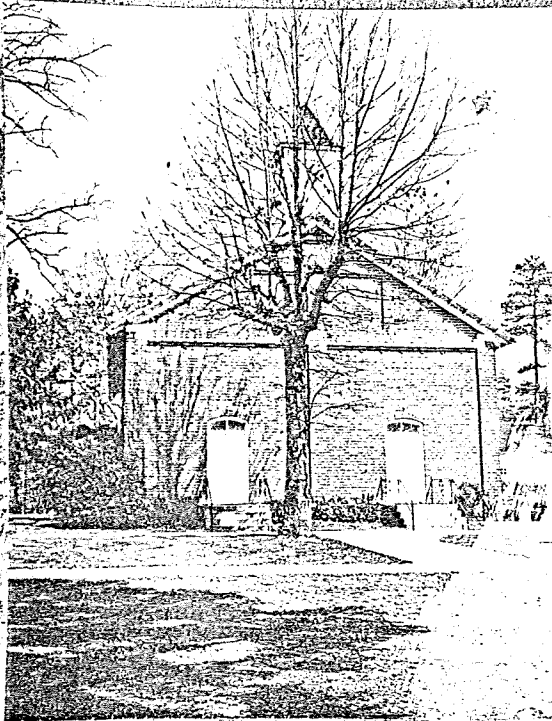
My sister Annie, fourteen years of age, and I twelve, went by train to Rural Hall to spend the day with our great, great aunt, Margaret Banner Helsabeck, who was called Peggy. She was my great grandfather John Banner's sister, 98 years old at the time; considered (so I've been told) an unusually intelligent woman. She was a graduate of Salem Academy, now Salem College; talented in music which she taught in her early life. In spite of advanced years, her mind was lucid and she told us many things concerning the family. Due to our tender years, we weren't too interested; however, I do remember her saying that three Banner brothers came over from England — where they settled didn't register. Her home was a two-story clapboard house, painted white, about two miles north of the village of Rural Hall, and stood on an elevation surrounded by huge oak trees. It's still there, plainly visible from the highway, and in passing I'm reminded of our visit many years ago. Her husband was an itinerate Methodist minister — his name was Solomon Helsabeck. They had no children.

In the summer^{of} 1962 a friend, Mary Pulliam, took me to a beautiful farm near the village of King, which is a few miles north of Rural Hall, to see her husband's aunt, Mrs. Helsabeck, who married Uncle Solomon's nephew. An unmarried daughter, (a retired teacher) lived with her. The place was well kept and the house nicely furnished — in fact everything looked as the cliché goes, "starched and ironed". The mother though well advanced in years but not in spirit, was informative on the subject in which I was interested. After chatting and looking at old pictures, we were served cake and coffee. They went with us to the old church close by, which Uncle Solomon was responsible for building. It's a quaint old structure, reminiscent of

Williamaburg, built of pink brick, with white woodwork inside and out, all in original state; also pulpit furnishings, pews, gleaming brass cross and candlesticks. Mrs. Helsabeck pointed out aunt Peggy's pew. It's all in a wonderful state of preservation and beautifully kept. The only wall decoration is an old-fashioned looking oil portrait of Solomon Helsabeck.

The burial ground is in front of the church - it too is well kept. The two graves are side by side, nearest the church, each covered with a white marble ledger with names and dates there-on. Sorry I didn't write them down. Mama, my sister Kathleen and I went there years ago. This was a pleasant afternoon, and I especially enjoyed seeing the old church and the pew in which my great, great aunt Peggy sat in the long ago.

Mrs. Helsabeck, our hostess for this visit has since passed away.



Aunt Peggy's home

Antioch Methodist Church
Founded by Solomon Helsebeck,
described in the article above.

This is where we
visited next.

My great grandfather — Beverly's great, great grandfather
John Banner

Son of Charles and Rebecca Evans Banner

Born 1801 — married Virginia Moore 1825 — died 1888

I shall write of his life, so that his living descendants and those to come, may know what manner of man he was. His birth was in Stokes county and he received a good business education at the Germanton Academy. Mama told me much about him, and Miss May (Mrs. Jim Hollingsworth) an elderly friend whom I visited often, verified her memories of him. He was a gentleman born, immaculate in dress, which he wore at all times — a black long-tailed broadcloth suit, white shirt and a flowing black tie. A leader in the community, served in the General Assembly several terms, and was the first Worshipful Master when the Masonic lodge was organized. An oil portrait of him, painted by his great, great granddaughter, Kathleen Banner Mitchell, hangs in the Temple. He was the largest slave and land holder in the county. In my very young childhood three of the slave cabins were standing.

He was one of the founders of the Presbyterian church and a ruling elder until his death.

He built his home one mile and a half south of the village of Mount Airy on the main road traveled by stagecoach from Salem to Wytheville, Virginia. Here he reared his children, lived his entire life — and finally rested from his labors.

He was a kind and loving father, but made a mistake in bringing up his sons, which can be excused because young gentlemen of the upper class simply didn't work.

Slaves waited on them hand and foot; therefore, when slavery was abolished and their father gone, they were lost. By this time they had families, and sold land acre by acre, and it was throughout the Southland, their children came up the hard way.

Beverly's great, great grandmother, Virginia Moore
Banner, wife of John Banner.

The Moores were among the aboriginal families and were prominent in this section.

"Miss Jenny" led a very busy life, and from accounts, must have been a remarkable woman. Besides rearing a family of ten children, a large share of the slave responsibility was her's. Cloth for their clothes was spun and woven, cut and sewn — though she had ample help, she trained them and supervised the work. I've heard mama say that her grandmother had two women who spent their time sewing and mending for the slaves; others did the family sewing. When one was ill she went to the cabin to see that he or she received the proper care.

She must have had an eye for the beautiful. I've been told by old people, that the home and grounds were a show-place in that day. When I was a child, huge English boxwood lined the front yard, with periwinkle growing around them, but the flower garden was long gone; only the boxwood remained. Mama said there was a round latticed summer-house, with a bell shaped roof, which stood in the center with roses growing on it; graveled walks around flower beds bordered with boxwood, also flowering shrubs of many kinds. Who couldn't have a beautiful garden with plenty of help, as was the case at that time?

In this connection I remember my grandmother saying that her in-laws spoke of their slaves as darkies; only the "poor white trash" called them "niggers", because the latter looked down on the former.

Elisha Banner
Born 1811 - died 1868

Beverly's great, great, great uncle

He was my great, grandfather John's younger brother. He married Mary Eliza Moore, who died in 1883. Second wife was a widow, Mrs Susan Biting, grandmother of Mary Biting Brock and Jenny Biting Graves.

He built the huge house on South Main Street, known in late years as the Webster house. All of its walls, both inside and out were brick, the outside overlaid with wood. Two enormous chimneys stood at each side. It was his home - also a tavern where travelers by stage-coach stopped overnight on the way to and from Salem and Wytheville Va. In this connection I'm reminded of a tale handed down from this time - Boone's Hill was a community several miles south of the village. On arrival there the stagecoach driver blew his mighty trumpet - one blast for each person aboard, which told the cook at the tavern the number of hungry travelers to expect for the meal in prospect. It sounds incredible, but due to the quietness of the countryside, it could be true. Though my grandfather was quite young at the time, he said he would vouch for its authenticity.

Uncle Elisha lived all of his married life, reared his family and died here. The old house outlived its usefulness and was demolished three years ago.

He gave the land on which the old Methodist church stood, and adjacent burial ground. I shall write more of this later.

The old Methodist Church and Cemetery

This is what its called; the one in use now in the northern part of town is Oakdale.

My great, great uncle, Elisha Banner, gave the land on which the church stood, and adjacent burial ground, where his remains rest beside his brother's, my great, grandfather, John Banner.

I don't remember when the old church was used as it was before my time, but I went there frequently prior to its demolition years later. Built of wide clap-board siding, painted white, a high belfry and a recessed porch with an enclosed stairway leading up to the gallery, where the slaves sat. It stood a good distance back from the road (street now) with an avenue of cedar trees lining the wide driveway leading to the church. Beyond them were spacious esplanades for the horses. A few of them were there when I can first remember going there as a very young child.

About 1895 the congregation moved up town to the new Central Methodist church on Franklin Street, and the years following, the burial ground was sadly neglected. Briars and honeysuckle ran riot over it; vandals had turned over gravestones, breaking ^{many} beyond repair and the scene was one of utter desecration. Discouraging as the outlook appeared, two brave souls decided to do something about it. They were Gertrude Smith and Mary Fulton Bennett, friends and contemporaries of mine. Their first step was to go before the Town Board and ask that a high metal fence be put up enclosing the entire ground, as the project wouldn't be permanent without it. They acceded to their request and have been most helpful.

The town paid for the fence, had it put up, the stone gate posts, given by the North Carolina Granite Corp. set in place and ^{the} wrought iron gate hung. Without being asked, they volunteered to take it over as to mowing the grass etc. which insures its maintenance. Money had to be raised for clearing the ground and other expenses involved; they asked my help and we contacted relatives of those buried there, and wrote letters to ones living elsewhere, most of whom responded generously. The Garden Clubs were told of what we hoped to do, and were asked their help. The proposal was accepted as a worthwhile project. Many gave flowering shrubs from their gardens. A few large English boxwood had survived over the years. Hettie Hollingsworth and Irene Smith donated several, and were very proud of them, the aristocrat of evergreens, especially at home in this setting. The gardeners directed the planting and all interested, and they are legion, give most hearty thanks.

The grass is up now, and looks like a green velvet carpet. As one enters the gate, one sees an ancient very tall pine tree standing in the back, close by the fence, which I fancy is saying, "I am keeping watch over this hallowed ground, wherein lies the dust of the long ago citizens of the village of Mount Airy."

John Elisha Banner, my dear grandfather
Beverly's great grandfather

My great grandparents died before I was born, but my grandparents, Pa and Mernie are very real to me.

As I've already stated, John Elisha Banner wasn't brought up to work, and that, he never did. He was average height, straight and slender in build, and not too strong physically. However when the call came, he volunteered to help defend his beloved Southland; fought in many battles and came through without a wound. He was imprisoned and cited for bravery under fire.

In winter he loved to sit beside the roaring fire, play checkers or whist, at which he was adept, and recall experiences encountered in the war, which was of course, the War between the States.

He lived in his father's old home, which was on the part of the plantation he inherited. In late years it was run down, but the stately oaks and boxwood remained, and one seeing it might easily believe the stories of its past charm, and know they were not apochryphal.

Like his father before him, his children grew up in the old home, his life was lived here, and it was the scene of his passing.

He was laid to rest in his Confederate uniform (a replica of the original) which he had made many years previous, to wear to a grand reunion of old soldiers held in Richmond, Virginia.

Louisa Ellen Prather Banner

Beverly's great grandmother

My grandmother's life wasn't easy. There were eight children, but she was thrifty and managed well. Grandfather, having little business acumen, it was she who attended to finances, and when the need arose she would say to him, "John we must sell some land," to which he replied, "do as you think best hon". Despite circumstances she was always in good spirits, and was loved by many relatives and friends. She was well read and an excellent speller. About three years before her death, the Methodist church, of which she was a member, sponsored a Spelling Bee. She entered and won over all contestants even to Mr. Minick who held a Ph.D. degree. Of course she was pleased and said if one studied the Blue Back Speller diligently, anyone could be proficient in spelling.

I was married in 1915, two years before Memie's death. Papa ordered Parma violets for her, and she was very excited about the wedding. She dressed early that evening in her best black taffeta, with white tulle neck ruff, white gloves and the corsage on her shoulder, and came up stairs to watch me dress and help arrange my wedding veil. She stood in the receiving line at the reception — was admired and made over and said she was happy to have lived for the occasion and enjoyed every minute of the festive affair.

A visit with Pa and Memie

I must have been ⁱⁿ my early teens, when papa, mama and I were spending a Sunday evening with Pa and Memie. We were sitting around the fire, and Pa and papa were talking of the changes that had come about since the Civil War. Automobiles were just coming out, and Pa said they were dangerous, and he preferred the horse and buggy. Papa laughed and said, "Uncle John (that's what he called him, though he was his father-in-law) 'I expect to see men flying in the air before I die', and he did. Pa looked at him, amazement on his ^{face}, and said, "John are you crazy? What would he have thought if he had been told that I, his granddaughter, would one day fly across the Atlantic and all over Europe?"

Pa died many years before Memie's passing in 1917, after which the home was sold and demolished, to be replaced by (of all things) a tacky bungalow. I was sorry to see it go, as it held many memories of my childhood. The land was sold also and houses in great numbers have been built - a large school, a church, supermarket, filling stations, restaurant, and it's now a growing suburb of Mount Airy, called Bannertown.

1st. generation

I shall begin the genealogy with Joseph Banner, who came from England in the 1700's, and from whom our line stems. His children and their marriages are recorded in the front of the book. Further than this his entire progeny isn't given, except that his eldest son Charles, was the father of John, my great grandfather, so we will begin with the children of Charles.

Think the reader will be interested in the following authentic item. Judge Constantine Lafayette Banner lived in what is now Southside Salem. His home was finally bought by Burton Craig, a prominent lawyer of Winston, who remodeled it and lived there the rest of his life. Don't know who lives there now that the Craigs have died. The street is called Banner Avenue.

2nd. generation

Children of Charles and Rebecca Evans Banner

Judge Constantine Lafayette, 1799-married Mary Bowman 1827

John (my greatgrandfather) 1801-married Virginia Moore, 1826

Cynthia 1804, married Augustine Randleman 1826-Founder of Randleman Cotton Mills - town bears his name.

Sally 1806, married Holsy Anderson 1825

Margaret (Peggy) married Solomon Helsabeck - Methodist minister
I wrote about a visit with Aunt Peggy at the age of 12 years.

Elisha 1811-married Mary Moore and Mrs. Susan Bitting. He gave the land on which the old Methodist church stood, and adjacent cemetery.

Rebecca 1814, married Thomas William Prather.

Ruhamer 1817, married David Doub 1847

Pa — The Old Home — Memmie

When Pa inherited the home a kitchen was built back of the dining room, to replace the old one which stood apart from the house in slavery days. A very wide porch was on the south side, from which the two rooms were entered. This was used for summer living; a table, for magazines and papers, a hammock, rockers etc. and at the kitchen end a shelf with water bucket and dipper and wash pan — truly a spot for comfort and relaxation.

Pa was a kind and gentle man; very slender, because he ate sparingly, while Memmie was on the chubby side. I remember hearing him say to her, (when she was taking a second helping) "hou, if you would eat a peck and stop, you wouldn't be so fat."

The Old Home

Going back to the old home — it was built of heavy clapboard, originally painted white, but at the time about which I'm writing, was badly in need of a fresh coat. There was a porch across the front, first floor and second. As children the upper one was a joy, because Memmie allowed us to make pallets and sleep on it in the good old summer-time. Saturday nights were especially exciting; we called them drunkard's nights. This was long before the day of automobiles and the drunks rode by on galloping horses, yelling and cursing well into the night. However, we felt safe on our 'high perch' and were thrilled from the experience; too young and thoughtless to feel pity for the ones at home to whom they were going.

The Attic

To the children, the attic was the most alluring place in the house. It was over the main portion, divided into two large rooms, well lighted, with a window on each side of the chimneys in both rooms, and ceiled with pine, which with the passing of years, had mellowed to a soft brown. A narrow winding stairway led from the upper hall to it, with a door at the foot which squeaked when opened and closed. Its contents were varied; everything old, including horsehair trunks filled with clothes, yellowed letters tied together with frayed ribbons, stacks of books and Godey's magazines, roller skates, ice skates, picture frames, candle moulds, a sidesaddle used by the ladies in the long past, and other things too numerous to mention. Truly a conglomeration! Even so, Memie kept an orderly house, the attic included, and didn't want ^{us} up there. However, the temptation was great, so when we thought her out of sound of the "squeak", up we "snuk" to the Treasure Chest, and oh, what fun!

At this time I was so young, I didn't know I had great grandparents - I'm sure that most of the attic's contents were there when the house was their home.

The Garden House

In great grandmother's day the large plot of ground was her flower garden, which I've already described. But later, in grandmother's day, it was a vegetable garden. As a child I was fascinated by the house in the garden, and its every detail is clear in my mind. We were taught to speak of it as the "garden house" - never the privy! One entered the gate quite a distance from the south side of the house, then along a walk to the center where three huge boxwoods grew - at least 6 ft. high. Miss Jennie had them put out beside the summerhouse when it was her flower garden. When Memie (grandmother) lived there later, she used them for sunning feather beds etc. From here we turned abruptly to the left, and another stretch of walk took us to the house in question. It was a large one with a heavy door to insure privacy, and accommodated four sitters; a lid over each seat fastened at the back with heavy brown leather straps. Memie was the essence of neatness, so there was a bucket of lime with shovel there-in, and sitters sprinkled it in the opening, after nature took its course. There ^{were} stacks of magazines for entertainment while waiting, and an ample supply of newspapers for use on the posterior. Toilet tissue was unknown in that day. We children loved to sit and read the funnies, our favorite being the very polite Heander and Gaston.

Those were carefree and wonderful days, and as I look back over the years I can still see that Garden House.

Sam Banner

Sam was a child when the 13th amendment abolishing slavery became law. His father was called big Sam, and he little Sam. He stayed on the plantation until he was grown, when he moved to town in the Negro section, and did gardening and odd jobs for, as he said, his "white folks". After old age overtook him he stopped often to see mama and me. I had a portrait of mama painted from a picture taken in her youth, and asked him in to see it. In spite of his failing vision, he looked at it and without hesitation and a clap of his hands, said, "Well bless God if that aint Miss Emma".

He loved to recall the old days - said "all the darkies loved Mars John and Miss Jenny."

The 13th amendment enacted in 1865

My great grandfather John's brother, Elisha Banner
Children of Elisha and Mary Moore Banner and their families.
Elisha Matthew died in infancy

Rachel (Rach) married Frank Moore, her first cousin - children were
Dr. Wm. married Edith Lamson from Baltimore, Md. their children,
Wm. and Marie.

Matt married Annie Hollingsworth Haynes - no children

Rachel (Rachie) married James Miller - children, James and Rachel Moore

Frank, Arthur, James and Moir lived in Texas and Louisiana

Cornelia married Marshall Davidson - Supt of schools. Birmingham, Ala.

Charles married Jetty Briggs - lived in Texas and was the
grandfather of T.V. producer Bob Banner, who sent a liberal
contribution to the Old Methodist Cemetery Restoration, about which
I've already written.

Mary Rebecca married Thomas Wm. Prather, a relative of my grand-
mother, Louisa Prather Banner. Their children were Charity, Emma
and Phineas (Finny) unmarried

Charity married Judge Amos M. Stack - children are Lee Prather
Stack, high executive of John Hancock Life Insurance Co. He too sent
check for the Cemetery Restoration. Amos, Guerd and Wm. other sons.
Stack daughters, Lillian, Rebecca, Chattie and Horraine Gilmer.

Emma Prather married W. F. Gilmer (Dixie) - Their children are
Ella Glenn, Marie, Thomas, Rebecca, Emily, Wm. and Charity.

Elisha Banner and wife, a widow, Susan Bitting, grandmother of
Mary Brock and Jenny Graves, who were Bittings.
James Grayson, their only child married Marybell Gilmer - children
Mamie married Joseph Gant of Burlington - Elizabeth and Joe jr.
Sons were Grayson, Bernard and Lawrence Banner.

Sallie Banner Anderson's son John, lived in Rural Hall. My sister and I spent a few days in his home when we were children. His wife was a Kiser of Dutch ancestry, which accounts for the pies and cakes served; we even ate pie for breakfast! His home was a large two-story white house on the main highway, inside the village and is still standing. He was chubby, always in a convivial mood, and reminded me of his cousin, Dr. C. h. Banner (Uncle Conse). There were two sons and two daughters, all much our senior, and I've been told that all have passed on.

Cynthia Banner Randleman's descendants were founders of cotton mills in Randleman, N. C. and town was named for the family. Cousin Mary Feeze, a lovely white-haired unmarried woman from that town, whose mother was a Randleman, visited us many years ago.

This finishes my great grandfather John Banner's brothers and sisters, and what the records tell of their progeny.

The name listed below is in the wrong place.
It should have been on the Elisha Banner page.
Wm. Oliver Tolman, son of Elisha and 1st. wife,
Mary Moore Banner.

Wm. Oliver (Chuck) married Elizabeth Raine, a
sister of Mrs. J. M. Brower, Essie Fawcett's mother.
Their children were Rowland, Powell and Henry.
All lived in Texas.

Children of John and Virginia Moore Banner
Beverly's great, great, grandparents

Constantine Lafayette, married Charity Prather, and Marietta Tatum

William Martin married Catherine Whitlock

John Elisha married Louisa Ellen Prather

Matthew Redd married Mary Willis - second, Louisa, Mary's sister

Wiltcher Cardwell married Cordelia Hines

Robert Henry married Eliza Mitchell

Mary Letitia married Dr. Joseph Hollingsworth } These two were
first cousins

Sarah married Dr. Edwin Hollingsworth

Eliza married William G. Foy - half brother of R. C. Foy

Anne married Jesse Franklin Moore

Beverly, afflicted

David, died in infancy

On the next page I shall begin listing the sons and
daughters above, in the order given, each with their
children and grandchildren.

Grandfather's brother

Children of Dr. Constatine Lafayette and Marietta Banner and their families.

We were very close to uncle Conse and aunt Marietta. He was a jolly good fellow - practiced medicine till old age interfered.

Dr. John Elisha (dentist) married Elizabeth (hizzie) Fulton. One child Worth.

Worth married Betty Durham - one child Worth.

Mattie married John H. Sparks. Frances and Charlotte are their children. Frances married Dr. T. H. Underwood.

Charlotte married - both have children and live in Georgia.

Charlotte (Hottie) married Wm. B. Sydnor - Their children are,

Margaret married Morgan Simmons - children are

Charlotte, who married John Adams - 3 children

Richard (Dick) married Mary Henry - 5 children

Margaret married Charles Trent - 5 children

Kyle Sydnor married Irene Simmons.

William married Carma George - children are Frances Lee, Shirley and Granville.

Frances Lee married Frank Tolar - Candy and Carma are their children. Granville married Lucy Tilley - two little girls.

Gray Banner Sydnor married Caroline Wood. Their only child Gray, married Wm. Haynes - 5 children.

Frank Sydnor married Frances Fawcett - no children.

Grandfather's brother

Children of Wm. Martin (Billy Martin) and Catherine Whit-
lock Banner and their families.

William (Will) unmarried - lived and died in El Paso Texas

Mary Virginia (Mary Jenny) married Dr. W. S. Taylor

Their children were,

Carrie, who died in young womanhood

Katherine (Kate) married W. O. Howard. Tarboro, N.C.

Katherine and Paige, their daughters

Katherine married G. E. Holden - a son and daughter

Paige married Geo. Bradham - a son and daughter

Charles married Hizzie Jones - their children are,

Carrie who married Ralph Boyles - an adopted daughter

Mary married Wm. Maddrey - two daughters

William (Bill) married Marjory Nicholson - three sons

Huey married W. W. Burke - their children are,

Virginia - married T. R. Robertson - a daughter and son.

Willie Taylor married Kenneth O'Conner - two sons

Marion married Mary Henri Gilliam - daughter and son.

Edmund married Clara Meade Smith - 4 sons

Willie, a daughter and the youngest child, died at age 16 years.

Children of Wm. Martin Banner and wife continued next page.

Charles W. married Josephine Fawcett. one child, Charles jr.
Charles jr. married Mary Engle Hoffman - four children

John married Annie Borden from Wilmington, N.C. and had one child Allen, who became a doctor.

Dr. Allen married Marion Boven - their children are Jane and Allen - both married, but I don't know to whom.

John's second wife was Johnny May Roberts.

Elizabeth, their daughter, married D. E. Hudgins and have one child, Betty.

John, their son, married Elizabeth Hicks - divorced.

Celia married Mr. Parker, who died before I remember.

Lucile, Kate and Ora, their children.

Lucile married Jack Lindsay - children are, Jean, Houie and Mary Martin

Jean married Jack Berry - six children

Houie married in California

Mary Martin married - don't know to whom

Kate and Ora Parker, both unmarried

They live in Greensboro

Children and grandchildren of John Elisha and Louisa
Ellen Prather Banner.

Ida Banner and Wm. F. Banner - their children,
May married Charles Norman - no children - lived in Georgia
Marie married Wm. R. Tomlinson - 1 child, Hazel - Knoxville, Tenn.
Kent Rawley married Bessie Blue - no children - Sedgfield

Emma and John Lee Banner and family

Annie Lee married Dr. A. S. Mitchell - children are Kathleen
and John Banner.

Kathleen married Henry D. Rozendal, an Annapolis graduate,
who retired from the U. S. Navy with the rank of Rear Admiral.
John Banner married Alma Hines - children are Charlotte
and James (Jimmy) Both in college.

Alma Louisa married Edward Chatham Bivens, lawyer,
who later became a Superior Court judge - one child, Beverly.
Beverly married John Worth Olive - two children.
John Chatham and Worth Banner Olive

Kathleen married P. Hester Hawks - three children.
Mary Lee married Norwood L. Hodge - no children
William died when 11 years of age
John married Alyce Gerber, a lovely German girl.
Kathleen Banner, their only child.

Mary John died in infancy

continued on next page

Love Hilliard Banner married Jame Marsh Diffie - Ga.
 Their children, Love Banner, (James and William), twins.

Love Banner married Raymond A. Smith - their children
 are Raymond and Michael (Mike)

James married Lynda Adams, Ky. children are James,
 Lucinda, Susan and Mary Lynn.

William married Genevieve Hubasik, Pa. Their children,
 William and Love Anne, twins - Deborah and Barry.

Children of Jesse and Blanche Hickman Banner
 Louise, Marquerite and Virginia - all married but I don't
 know to whom. Columbus, Ohio, has always been their home
 so we haven't kept in close touch; however, they visited us
 years ago - they were most attractive, as well ^{as} good look-
 ing. I hear from aunt Blanche each Christmas. She is in
 her 80's, but still able to travel, which she loves. Uncle Jesse
 died some years ago.

Charles married late in life - no children.

Richard (Dick) married Helen Harris - no children.

Children of Margaret (Maggie) and Claude H. Beard

have married John H. Brownback - no children

Margaret married Charles McMichael - two daughters

Lucinda and Charlotte

Lucinda married - don't recall the name. Charlotte in college.

John Walter and Lillian H. Banner's family

Marjory married Thad Daber - Two sons two daughters

Thad Jr. married Josephine Stewart - 1 daughter

Wanda married Romney Simmons - divorced

Jean

Adele married Foster Christian - 2 young daughters, Daphne

Adele and marriage to John Coker

Their mother's and marriage to Philip Cranford

Kenneth Daber married Juanita McGee - 2 children

Banner

Phillip married a widow - no children - lives in California.

Grandfather's brother

Family of Dr. Matthew Redd Banner and wife Louisa.

Mary, unmarried

Paul married Dickey Gash - two sons

Matt married Isla Powell - several children

Grandfather's brother

Children of Wiltshire and Cordelia Hines Banner.

Constatine (Conse) died in young manhood

Annie died in childhood

Delia died in middle life - unmarried

Edward (Ed) married Blanche Hale - their children are

Clyde - married Sue May Hendren - two children

Lucile married Glenn Tedder - children - live in Georgia

Scott married Mary Jo Smith - two children

Sarah married Will Smith - Two sons (twins) Banner + Kennett,
both married and have families.

Certrude and Virginia are not married. All live in Charlotte.

James (Jim) married Bessie Mitchell - no children.

Jesse married Alma Webb - no children.

Virginia married Charles Vestal - no children.

Grandfather's brother

Children of Robert (Bob) and Eliza Mitchell Banner and their families.

They moved to Texas before I can remember, so my knowledge of the family is almost nil. Uncle Bob and aunt Eliza visited relatives before I was married, and spent the day with us.

Their daughters came back several times over the years and were wined and dined extensively by the large circle of relatives.

The sons, I didn't know; however, I had an interesting experience in regard to Frank's daughter. In 1962 I was on a trip to Europe and the Middle East, and we were flying from Athens to Istanbul. A lovely woman, one of the tour from Athens, Ga. was sitting beside me, and we were filling out our landing cards when she noticed the Banner in my name - said that she had a close friend by that name before marriage, who was a Texan, but she had told her about her grandfather moving there from North Carolina in his youth. She was uncle Bob's granddaughter. Wasn't that a coincidence?

Now back to Mary Lou and Jenny.

Mary Lou married Harry Maust - Two children - lives alone in Greenville, Texas. Mary Hollingsworth and Alma Sparger went to see her when on a trip several years ago. Mary, a relative on the Banner side, and Alma, the Mitchell. They said she had a nice home, and although she lives alone, her many friends are very attentive. She is in her late 80's and the only one of her family living. I hear from her occasionally.

Virginia (Jenny) married a Mr. Wood and ^{had} a son and a daughter, Willie Ruth, a gosh awful name. She married Dr. Jagoda, prominently connected with a large hospital in Houston. They have a son and daughter. Jenny lived with Willie Ruth till her death two years ago.

Grandfather's sister, Mary Letitia Banner
Mary Letitia married Dr. Joseph Hollingsworth
Their children and grandchildren
Letitia (Tish) married Richard H. Gwyn - their children,
Genie - unmarried

Joseph Hollingsworth, married Blanche Holt - their children,
Blanche Holt - unmarried
Scott Gwyn married Bob Dickerson - daughter, Scott Gwyn
Joe married Ray Tatum divorced - Isabe Diggs, son, Joe III
Allen and Mary, twins
Allen married Susan Wray - 4 children
Mary - unmarried

Annie married Thomas Gilliam - their children are,
Nancy - unmarried
Betsy - unmarried
Thomas married Carolyn Snipes - 3 children

Hugh died in young manhood
Letty married Wm. R. Simpson - no children
May married William Ashby - no children
Richard - unmarried

Elma married Robert (Punch) Ashby - their children are
Letitia (Tish) married John Leach - child, Elmagene
Robert (Buddy) married Frances Cokerham - 2 children,
Robert (Bob) and Lou.

More of Grandfather's sister Mary, and Dr. Joe Hollingsworth's children and their families.

Dr. John married Mary Moore - children were Paul, Cleon, Matt and Hettie.

Paul married Anna Ellis in Texas - one child, Mary Margaret.

Mary Margaret married Walter Mason - one child, Walter X.

Cleon, unmarried

Hollingsworth Mason

Matt died in young manhood.

Hettie, unmarried - all the brothers have passed on.

Dr. Joe married Connie Payton - children, Mary and Joe (Pete)

Mary and Pete, unmarried - Pete isn't living.

Dr. Ed married Cora Holcomb - one child, Zeb.

Zeb, unmarried, died two years ago.

Grandfather's sister

Children of Sarah Banner and Dr. Edwin Hollingsworth and their families.

Edwin was their only child, and was born soon after his father's death. It's strange but true - he too died before his youngest son was born.

Dr. Edwin (Ed) Hollingsworth married Cora Moore. Their children were Rachel, Ed, Will, Annie, Jesse, Kate and Samuel.

Rachel married Wm. Simpson - one child, Wm. jr.

Wm jr. (Billy) married Louise Jackson - one child, Margaret.

Ed unmarried - lived and died in Seattle, Washington.

Dr. Will married Nina Blackstone - no children.

Annie married Will Haynes and Matt Moore. no children.

Jesse unmarried

Kate married Edwin Sparger (divorced) Sam Brown also divorced and Mansfield Hoster of Fla. who died recently. no children.

Samuel married Hilda Mallard - two children Cora Anne and Edwin.

Cora Anne is a teacher - not married.

Edwin is married, to whom I don't know.

Annie, Jesse and Kate are the only ones living at this time.

Nov. 1965

Grandfather's sister

Anne Banner married Jesse Franklin Moore
no children

Two of her sisters died young, each leaving a small child. They were Edwin (Dr.) Hollingsworth and Kate Foy. She became their mother and reared them as brother and sister, which they called each other, so I've been told, throughout life.

Aunt Anne's home stood where Hamm's drug store is now; a charming old-fashioned brick house with white woodwork. A brickpaved walk bordered with hedges of English boxwood led to it from the street, and I remember the fragrant white running rose which grew on the south side of the porch.

Mama said that the original lot was from Taylor and Banner drug store (now Wolfe) to the corner at Franklin Street. When I first remember, the south side from the house to the drug store was part of the yard, but on the north side, the Leonard building was on the corner, and the young people played croquet where the ^{other} buildings now stand. After uncle Jesse died aunt Anne sold the property to Mr. Jim Fulton, father of Mary Fulton Bennett, who is the owner of a part of it now. The old house was demolished in 1930 to make room for the buildings erected soon thereafter.

Grandfather's sister

Families of Mary Banner and Dr. Joe Hollingsworth

Annie married Wm. F. Carter - children are Joseph, Cora, Frank, Cecil, Edwin, Walter, William (Billy) and Archie.

Joe married Elizabeth Bright - children are Gene, Mary, Virginia Bright and Joseph.

Gene (deceased) married Geo. Lundrum - two children - Anne - Nick.

Virginia Bright married Dr. A. H. Covington - children are Westly and Elizabeth.

Mary married Augustus Sitton

Joseph married Sadler Neely - children.

Cora married John McSween - no children.

Frank married Carrie Young - children, Carolyn + Frank

Carolyn married Vivian Johnson - child, Lynn Carter.

Frank (Buddy) married Jean Burton and was killed in a plane accident soon thereafter.

Cecil married Mary Durbin - children are Mary and Charles. Cecil now deceased.

Edwin married Anne Fulton - child, Anne.

Anne married Baxter Freeze.

Edwin now deceased.

Walter married Catherine Marion - one child, Wilson.

Wilson married Emma Cain.

William (Billy) married Polly Talum Sargent

continued on next page

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Archie Banner Carter married Juanita Francisco from Tenn. They had no children, but adopted Charles Carter, Archie's brother Cecil's son, whose father died when he was a small child. They sent him through college and medical school. Dr. Carter is married and has two children.

Grandfather's sister

Continuation of children of Mary Banner and Dr. Joseph Hollingsworth and their families, and children

Virginia (Jenny) married Joseph Bittng.

Children were Mary and Jenny.

Mary married T. J. Brock - one child, Joe.

Joe married Marie Wood - divorced. and wife Louise Lineback, and their children are Mary and William - both married

Jenny married Yancey Graves. children are Yancey, Virginia, Margaret and Joe.

Virginia married Wm. Porter - no children

Margaret married Byron Wolfe - no children.

Joe married Iris Smith - four children.

Yancey, the eldest, married years ago - died soon thereafter.

A PORTRAIT OF GRANNY

My granny loves this earth,
Faithful she is to God
And not unmindful of fair heaven's worth,
Yet she clings
To all the sweet ephemeral things
That she has found most dear
The flowers she grew in the early spring,
Her fine old lace, her thin gold ring,
Her house sweet scented with remembering,
But granny does live in vanished times,
Her laughter chimes
At each new actor's witty play;
She loves a box of sweets
A bright bouquet.
My granny makes her age a cloak
To wear
Across one shoulder with a saucy air.

Kathleen Banner Mitchell printed the above poem, and framed it for her granny's 70th birthday. She looked so young that "granny" didn't seem the right appellation for her. However, all the grandchildren addressed ^{her} so except Beverly, who called her Nannere. Where she got the name, we don't know.

I printed this - a copy of Kathleen's.

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Mary Emma, daughter of John Elisha and
Louisa Ellen Prather Banner.

Mama's Party

To honor mama on her 80th. birthday, my sister
Lave, came down from Washington to join Annie, an-
other sister, and me in giving a party in my home
October 4th. 1945. Friends sent flowers; so many that the
house looked like a flower shop. She insisted that we
specify no presents, in the invitations extended; des-
pite this request, many were ^{sent} as well as the flowers.
She wore her "Sunday best dress", and seated in the
drawing room, greeted the host of friends who came
to offer congratulations. It was an informal party, so
we mingled with the guests throughout the house.
Mama had a keen sense of humor. I happened to be in
the hall in sight of her, when Garnett (Bud) Fawcett
came in — she kissed him! Teasingly, I said to her, "mama,
are you kissing the gentlemen?" She laughed and said,
"no, not all of them, only the pretty ones."

Refreshments were served in the dining room
and everyone seemed to enjoy mama's party.

An Apology

This tale has already been recorded, but to remove it would upset the apple cart, so please excuse the mistake and charge it up to senility.

Sam Banner

great grandfather John Banner's slave.

Sam was a child when the 13th. amendment abolishing slavery became law. His father was called big Sam and he, little Sam. He stayed on the plantation until he was grown, when he moved town in the Negro section, and did gardening and odd jobs, as he said, "for my white folks". Of course he was old when I first remember him, but he came to see mama and me from time to time. He had an oil portrait of mama painted from a picture taken in her youth, and when he came for a visit, asked him in to see it. Despite his failing vision, he looked at it and without hesitation said, "Vell bless God if that aint Miss Emma". He enjoyed talking of the old days - said that all the clarkies loved Mars John and Miss Jenny, (in his words), "cause they wuz so good to um."

My sister, Anne Banner Mitchell, did beautiful old English printing and illuminating. She lived for a time in Washington, and in the interim her work was accepted for a showing in the Smithsonian Institute. However, her ambition was realized when she was commissioned to execute a large piece for The National Cathedral, which hangs in that lovely edifice, majestically crowning Mount St. Albans in our capitol city of Washington, D. C.

I don't remember where I read the lines below, but they came to mind in connection with my sisters craft, in which she excelled.

To some one act apply thy whole affection
And in the craft of others seldom mell,
But in thine own strive to attain perfection
For 'tis no small honor to excel.

This genealogy is far from complete; there are many connections not included, as doing so would have required much letter writing and telephone calls. The names of some of the young children whom I knew are listed - many are not.

I had an insatiable desire to make this genealogy as clear as possible, and I hope the reader won't be confused because of its being from the maternal side of the family, which was explained on the first page.

My habits are nocturnal - therefore much of the work was done in the wee small hours of the night.

Perhaps I was loquacious in relating the tales of our ancestors; as for me, I like to reflect on them and enjoy my heritage.

Although printing all these words wasn't easy, I've thoroughly enjoyed doing it, as the project filled many hours that would have been lonely otherwise.

Much love for my loved ones has gone into the effort which I'm sure will be appreciated and cherished through eons of time to come.



Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now and
ever shall be, world without end,

Amen.