

1. JAMES GRAY

1. JAMES GRAY
b. Aug. 12, 1786
Halifax Co., Va.
d. Apr. 13, 1855
Williamson Co., TN
m. 1. Alpha Blackman
on Dec. 4, 1810
b. Jan. 29, 1793 -
d. Apr. 19, 1833
m. 2. Mary Jane Black-
on Dec. 5, 1833^m
b. Oct. 22, 1804 -
d. Oct. 28, 1860

2. MARY GRAY
b. May 5, 1814
Williamson Co., Tenn.
d. Aug. 11, 1865
m. 1. George W. Price
on Feb. 14, 1836
b. Dec. 13, 1816
d. Nov. 1, 1865
m. 2. Mary A. Simmons
on Nov. 27, 1865
b. Aug. 11, 1833
d. Dec. 4, 1910

1. Elizabeth
b. Oct. 27,
d. Dec. 18,
m. Rev. Jan
McI
(1829 -
2. Mary O.
b.
d.
m. Thomas E
3. Laura J
b.
d.
m. Philip K
4. JOSEPH ALEX
b. Feb. 25,
Williamson
d. Apr. 8, 1
m. Rachel I
on Jan. 3,
b. Jan., 2
d. Dec. 8,
5. Susan H.
b. 18
d.
6. Wilson F.
b. 18
d.
7. Juliet
b. Feb. 12,
d. Feb. 25,

1. Margaret
b. Oct. 27,
d. Dec. 18,
m. Rev. Jan
McI
(1829 -
2. Mary O.
b.
d.
m. Thomas E
3. Laura J
b.
d.
m. Philip K
4. JOSEPH ALEX
b. Feb. 25,
Williamson
d. Apr. 8, 1
m. Rachel I
on Jan. 3,
b. Jan., 2
d. Dec. 8,
5. Susan H.
b. 18
d.
6. Wilson F.
b. 18
d.
7. Juliet
b. Feb. 12,
d. Feb. 25,

1. Elizabeth
b. Sept. 28,
d. May 4, 192
m. H. C. Lane
on June 16
2. Francis
b. May 9, 184
d. May 12, 18
m. Ellen Rose
on Jan. 9,
3. Sarah Jane
b. July 30, 1
d. Apr. 14, 1
m. Col. W. T.
on Jan. 15,
4. Mary I. (Pol
b. Nov. 19, 1
d. July 11, 1
m. S. D. Cskl
on Nov. 22,
5. James Price
b. Aug. 19, 1
d. July 23, 1
m. Mattie Carr
on Oct. 24,
6. John
b. Jan. 13, 18
d. Oct. 11, 18

2. ALEXANDER WASHINGTON GRAY
b. Sept. 16, 1816
Williamson Co., Tenn.
d. Oct. 2, 1883
Williamson Co., Tenn.
m. Maria Moore Thompson
on Nov. 12, 1840
b. Dec. 3, 1820
d. Oct. 28, 1888

2. JOHN GRAY
b. May 15, 1760
Halifax Co., Va.
d. June 8, 1838
Williamson Co., TN
m. Anney Price
b. July 14, 1767 -
d. June 15, 1838
Moved from Halifax
Co., Va. to William-
son Co., Tenn.
c. 1807

ALEXANDER GRAY
Came from Scotland
b.
d. 1796
m. Elizabeth Fitzhugh
Lived in Halifax Co.,
Va., died there.

3. HENRY GRAY
4. ELIZABETH GRAY
5. MARY GRAY
6. SALLY GRAY

3. JAMES W. GRAY
b. Sept. 27, 1821
d. June 22, 1894
m. Frances Amanda
Ferguson
on Dec. 1, 1842
b. Oct. 5, 1822
d. June 12, 1894

4. HENRY PRICE GRAY

on Dec. 17, 1842

- 9. Kate E. Gray
- b. Nov. 8, 1841
- d. May 25, 1900
- m. A. M. Storey
- on Feb. 10, 1860
- 10. William Gray
- b. Mar. 25, 1841
- d. Apr. 30, 1900
- m. Mary Lizzi
- 11. Margaret A. Gray
- b. Jan. 8, 1841
- d. Oct. 4, 1900
- 12. Susan Gray
- b. Apr. 9, 1841
- d.
- m. J. T. Shiel

- 6. JOHN BLACKMAN GRAY
- b. Apr. 12, 1828
- d. Aug. 13, 1919
- m. 1st Margaret B. (1852 - 1859)
- m. 2nd Mary Jane Flippen (1858 - 1907)

- 1. Eugenia Gray
- b. Nov. 27, 1841
- d. Nov. 20, 1890
- 2. Infant son
- b. Sept. 27, 1841
- d. Sept. 28, 1841
- 3. Elizabeth Gray
- b.
- d.

- 7. MARY GRAY
- b. Mar. 24, 1830
- d. July 3, 1842

- 4. Wilson Price
- b. Nov. 15, 1841
- d. Jan. 21, 1890

- 8. TABITHA GRAY
- b. 1832
- d. Sept. 12, 1834

- m. Eugenia Ro
- 5. Jennie Gray
- b. 1863
- d.

- 9. MARTHA ELIZABETH GRAY
- b. 1836
- d. John M. Byers

- m. James A. B
- 1. David R. Bye

- 2. JAMES W. GRAY
- b. 1790
- d.
- m. Lucinda Owen
- on Nov. 26, 1833
- Williamson Co., Tenn
- Listed in Green Co., Md.
- 1850 Census

- 1. E. W. GRAY
- (1837 -)
- 2. WILLIAM F. GRAY
- (1837 -)
- 3. JOHN P. GRAY
- (1839 -)
- 4. LOUISA GRAY
- (1843 -)
- 5. MARTHA GRAY
- (1848 -)
- b. in Mo.

- 1. Susan Ann I
- (1843 -)
- m. W. F. Bir
- 2. Charles H.
- (1845 -)
- m. Alabama
- 3. Josephine I
- (1849 -)
- 4. John Stoke
- (1847 - 1851)
- 5. James Price
- (1851 - 1857)
- 6. F. K.

- 3. JOHN GRAY, JR.
- b. 1791
- d.
- m. Susan Blackman
- on Nov. 16, 1820

- 1. MARY ANN GRAY
- (1822 - 1869)
- m. F. H. Davis
- 2. ANN H. GRAY
- (1824 -)
- 3. JAMES PRICE GRAY
- (1827 - 1864)
- 4. ALEXANDER N. GRAY
- (1830 -)
- m. Sarah

- 7. W. S.
- 8. Mary Lucind
- 9. Sallie E. I
- (1868 - 1900)
- 10. Daniel Cliff

- 4. HENRY T. GRAY
- b. 1791
- d.

- 5. LUCINDA F. GRAY
- (1831 - 1851)
- m. James D. Austin

- 1. Nancy T. G
- 1. John S. D.

- 5. WILLIAM GRAY
- b. 1798
- Halifax Co., Va.

- 6. SUSAN LEBITHA GRAY
- (1837 -)
- m. Phipps
- 7. WILLIAM F. GRAY
- (1825 -)
- m. Sophia Stockett
- (1824 - 1876)

- 1. John D. Ph
- 1. Catherine (
- 2. Susan Gray
- 3. Franklin D.
- 4. Mary Gray
- 5. James Gray
- 6. Elijah W. (
- d. June 12.

- 6. ELIJAH GRAY
- b. 1800
- Halifax Co., Va.
- d.

- 1. JAMES P. GRAY
- (1832 -)
- 2. SUSAN GRAY
- (1837 -)
- 3.

- 7. John Bunya
- d. June 12.
- 8. Lucinda E.
- d. June 27.
- 9. William Sp
- b. May 1,
- d. Jan. 7,

- m. Anna Brooks
- on Oct. 2, 1823

- 1. MARY ANN SHANNON
- (1826 - 1850)
- m. Daniel Robison

- 7. MARY ANN GRAY
- b. Aug. 15, 1802
- Halifax Co., Va.
- d. Aug. 3, 1861
- Williamson Co. Tenn
- m. James Shannon
- on June 9, 1825
- (1799 - 1866)

- 2. JAMES THOMAS SHANNON
- (1832 - 1912)
- m. Cordelia Bittick
- 3. GEORGE A. SHANNON
- (1834 -)
- 4. JOHN GRAY SHANNON
- (1836 -)
- 5. WILLIAM ROBERT SHANNON
- (1840 -)

- 8. ANNA GRAY
- b. Mar. 31, 1805
- Halifax Co., Va.
- d. April, 1840
- Williamson Co., Tenn
- m. Everett Owen
- on Nov. 11, 1824

- 1. MARY ANN DUBERRY
- (1826 - 1852) OWEN
- m. David F. Collins
- 2. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN OWEN
- 3. JOHN PRICE OWEN
- (1828 - 1901)

Sept. 12, 1834
 P. MARTHA ELIZABETH GRAY
 b. 1836
 m. John M. Byers
 1. Jennie
 t.
 d.
 m. James
 1. David P.

Halifax Co., Va.

6. ELIJAH GRAY
 b. 1800
 Halifax Co., Va.
 d.

m. Anna Brooks
 on Oct. 8, 1823

7. MARY ANN GRAY
 b. Aug. 15, 1802
 Halifax Co., Va.
 d. Aug. 3, 1861
 Williamson Co. Tenn.
 m. James Shannon
 on June 9, 1825
 (1799 - 1866)

8. ANNA GRAY
 b. Mar. 31, 1805
 Halifax Co., Va.
 d. April, 1840
 Williamson Co., Tenn.
 m. Everett Owen
 on Nov. 11, 1824
 (1792 - 1859)

1. JAMES GRAY
 2. ALEXANDER GRAY
 3. GEORGE WASHINGTON GRAY
 (1819 - 1883)
 m. Sarah

8. ALEXANDER GRAY
 b.
 Halifax Co., Va.
 d.
 Hickman Co., Tenn.
 m.

Lived for a while in
 Burke Co., N. C. before
 settling on Gray's
 Bend, Hickman Co., TN

4. JOHN B. GRAY
 b. Dec. 19, 1802
 d. Oct. 6, 1887
 Hickman Co., Tenn.
 m. 1
 m. 2 Patlina

5. SHEPHERD GRAY
 b. Dec. 2, 1811
 d. Nov. 3, 1866
 Hickman Co., Tenn.
 m. Elizabeth
 6. Probably had 2 or 3
 daughters

9. GEORGE GRAY
 b. 1772
 Halifax Co., Va.
 d. Oct. 23, 1851
 Callaway Co., Mo.
 m. Frances Brooks
 on Jan. 10, 1799

1. JOHN B. GRAY
 2. ALEXANDER GRAY
 3. GEORGE W. GRAY
 4. MARTHA GRAY
 5. ELIZABETH HOLT GRAY
 m. Matthew Hall
 6. RACHEL GRAY
 7. POLLY GRAY
 8. FANNIE GRAY
 9. ANNA GRAY

7. WILLIAM F. GRAY
 (1822 -
 m. Sophia Stockett
 (1824 - 1876)
 1. JAMES P. GRAY
 (1832 -
 2. SUSAN GRAY
 (1837 -
 3.
 1. MARY ANN SHANNON
 (1826 - 1850)
 m. Daniel Robison
 2. JAMES THOMAS SHANNON
 (1832 - 1912)
 m. Cordelia Bittick
 3. GEORGE A. SHANNON
 (1834 -
 4. JOHN GRAY SHANNON
 (1836 -
 5. WILLIAM ROBERT
 (1840 - SHANNON

1. MARY ANN DUBERRY
 (1826-1852) OWEN
 m. David F. Collins
 2. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN
 OWEN
 3. JOHN PRICE OWEN
 (1828 - 1901)
 m. Judith Ann Davis
 4. JUDITH ROBERSON OWEN
 (1830 -
 m. William A. Davis
 5. WILLIAM EVERETT OWEN
 (1831 - 1831)
 6. JAMES WHITSETT OWEN
 (1832 - 1867)
 m. Sarah J. Callender
 7. ELIZABETH ROLAND
 (1834 -
 OWEN
 m. Dempsey Gardner
 8. ALEXANDER GRAY OWEN
 (1837 - 1858)
 9. LOUISA TENNESSEE OWEN
 (1839 - 1901)
 m. Andrew Jackson Davis

1. ALEXANDER GRAY
 2. NANCEY J. GRAY
 m. N. C. Primm
 3. FRANKLIN GRAY
 4. SAMUEL GRAY
 5. JOHN F. GRAY
 6. MARY GRAY
 m. Clagett
 7. MALINDA C. GRAY
 m. John T. Primm
 1. MARTHA GRAY
 2. JAMES GRAY
 3. ALEXANDER GRAY
 4. SARAH GRAY
 5. JOHN GRAY
 6. ERWIN GRAY
 7. MARY GRAY

1. JAMES GRAY HALL
 (1839 - 1908)
 m. Elmira C. Major

101A
 101A
 40

THE GRAY FRAMILY

The John Gray house was the old Puryear Place, which is now a subdivision. John Gray, (1760-1838) married Annie Price in 1784. He was in Williamson County by 1811, having come from Halifax County, Virginia. He was the son of Alexander Gray from Scotland.

In 1813 he bought 100 acres from James Cockrell and built a fine home. A part of it was damaged and had to be rebuilt.

His daughter Anney Gray married Everett Owen. They continued to live in the house.

Marriages -- Williamson County

Alexander W. Gray to Mariah M. Thompson 1840
Archibald Gray to Nancy Kirby 1817
Charles H. Gray to Sarah E. Hughes 1836
Daniel Gray to Nancy Pewett 1810
Elijah Gra to Anna Brooks 1823 by Geo Shannon
Harry Gray to Parmelia Turner 1835 by Gilbert Marshall
Harvey Gray to Malinda Wood 1831
Henry Gray to Deliah Nolen 1822 Bd James Shannon
Henry Gray to Sarah Owen 1827 by G. Hunt
Henry P. Gray to Sarah Jane Southall 1844 by M. L. Andrews
James Gray to Elizabeth Adams 1808 Bd. Woodson Hailey
James Gray to Lucy Sledge 1820
James Gray to Mary Ann McDaniel 1836 by Joel Anderson
James A. Gray to Martha A. McCrady 1837 by John P. McCay
James W. Gray to Lucinda H. Owen 1833 by Jas. King
John Gray, Jr. to Susan Blackman 1820 by P. Russell
John D. Gray to Cecilia C. McCrady 1837 by Robert Davis
Joseph L. Gray to Polly Crowder 1825
Price Gray to Tilpha Blackman 1810
Robert Gray to Patsey M. Holland 1822
Sandford F. Gray to Elizabeth B. Ormes 1824 by G. Hunt
Thomas W. Gray to Sally Stone 1824 by G. Hunt
William Gray to Mancy Mayes 1815
William Gray to Susan P. Brooks 1837
William Gray to Mary W. Greeman 1847
William F. Gray to Sophia Stockett 1848 by James Marshall

There is a Gray Cemetery in the 6th District on Sneed Road.
Elijah Gray, son of W. F. and S. Gray, d. 1864, 6 years old
James Price Gray, 1827-1864
John Bunyan Gray, 1864, 4 years old
Sarah E. Phipps Gray, wife of A. N. Gray 1829-1892

Sophia Gray 1824-1876
Susan C. Gray, Wifee of W. F. gray, 1833-1905

Buried in the Gray Cemetery on the Puryear Place:

Anna Gray 1767-1838 wife of John Gray
John Gray 1760-1838 father of Anna Gray Owen
Anna Owen 1805-1840
Everett Owen 1792 in Sussex Co., Va., d. 1859
plus Collins, Davis, Gaines and Owens

1813: Doctor Young A. Gray sold 150 acres to Gideon Blackburn on south side and near Big harpeth bounded by Gray's tract on NW, Wm McCay on East and Abram Maury on SE corner, Mary DeGraffenried N line and Joel Parrish on W.

Young A. Gray moved to Alabama.

James Gray died 1809 and left land to his sons James M. and Henry L. Gray. Their mother had a life estate. She was Sukey Gray. They sue of division in 1821.

James Gray will dated 1807, probated 1809. Wife Sukey. Daughters Lucy Kearny, Suckey Booker, Sally S. R. Gray. Two youngest boys James M. and Henry K. Land to be deeded to him by James Robertson. Rights to undivided land on Diers or Spring Creek of 3,840 acres granted to Joseph and James Gray north side of Cumberland in Stewart County. Son Young A. Gray one half lands in Georgia. Other half to three youngest children. Wm Dickson named guardian for son James and Young A. Gray guardian of Henry K. Exts wife Suckey, friend Wm Kickson, son Young A. Gray and friend Peter R. Booker.

Gray Family -- Census ,

1820

Jacob Gray 000401/00001/3
Price Gray 200020/00100/2 next to James Stanley
John Gray 100211/02001/12
Robert Gray 321201/10010/2 Brentwood area
Henry Gray 3000010/10010/0 next to Luke Pryor
George Gray 110101/22201/0 near the above
Janus Gray 001201/00201/0 next to Standfield
Archibald Gray 100100/00100/0
James Gray 221211/11101/0

1840

Hardy B. Gray 1001/00001
Charles Gray 10002/10001
Price Gray 00120001/102001
John Gray 0030001/110201
Elijah Gray 010001/10110101
James Gray 20001/0001
Henry H. Gray 121101/101101 next to Nolen
Elizabeth Gray 000001/0000001001 next to above
Henry T. Gray 0000001/00001 Brentwood
John G. Gray 00002/10001 Brentwood
James A. Gray 00001/20001 Brentwood
James W. Gray 20001/0000001
William Gray 0000001/00000000000
Robert Gray 1121001/120001

1850

Alexander Gray 33 TN
Mariah M. Gray 29 TN
Margaret Z. Gray 8 Tn
Mary O. Gray 6 TN
Margaret Thompson (Black) 70 Va.

Henry P. Gray 26 Tn
Sarah J. Gray 26 TN

Susanna Gray 48 Va
Jane Gray 29 Tn
William Gray 29 TN
Sarah Gray 18 TN
Minerva Gray 13 Tn

Price Gray 63 Va
Mary J. Gray 45 Tn
John B. Gray 22 Tn
Martha E. Gray 14 Tn

John Gray 59 Va
Susan Gray 47 Tn
Ann Gray 26 Mo

James Gray 23 Mo
Alexander Gray 20 Tn
Lucinda Gray 19 Tn
Lebetha Gray 13 Tn
Benjamin Brown 20 TN

William F. Gray 24 Tn
Sophia Gray 24 Tn
Katherine Gray 3/12 Tn

Robert Gray 63 Ky
Martha Gray 50 Va
Joel A. Gray 22 Tn
Sarah Gray 18 Tn
Samuel Gray 20 Tn
Frances Gray 15 Tn
Robert Gray 12
America Gray 11

James Gray 32 Tn
Mary A. Gray 27 Tn
Jno W. Gray 12
David Gray 10
Andrew Gray 8
Nancy Gray 6
Henry Gray 4
Robert Gray 2

James A. Gray 36 Va
Martha Gray 24 TN
Martha A.E. 12, Nancy E. W. 10, James A. Jr. 8, Sarah J. 6,
Joseph H. 4, Frances 3, Richard W. 1 (next to Hadley)

H. H. Gray 51 Va
Dilly 49 Tn
John B 19, Jane 14, Joseph H. 11, Fanny 9, and Delila 7

W. Gray 28 Tn
M. Gray 21 Tn
R. 2 and S. 3/12

J. Gray 23 Tn
S. Gray 20 N. C.
R. 1

'OUR GRAY FAMILY

Compiled in Celebration of

My Father's 90th Birthday

February 11, 1975

Jane Gray Buchanan (*Ms. Joel Buchanan*)
114 ~~114~~ *Beverly Drive*
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830

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FOREWORD

The following sketch on the ancestry of my father, Joseph Alexander Gray, Jr. is the result of two and one half years of sporadic research. It was inspired by the autobiography written by him, dated January 29, 1964.

The memorable occasion of my father's 90th birthday provided the impetus to put something on paper at this time. This anniversary in itself sets a record, since we know of none of his progenitors who has reached the age of four score and ten.

A great deal more time and effort is needed before a complete family history can be written; hopefully that will be done by someone some day. In the meantime, this sketch which places emphasis on my father's paternal ancestry will serve as a basis for more research.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A concerted attempt has been made to accept as fact only well-documented information. An effort has been made to record references, although this was handled quite casually at first when the object of the research was simply to answer a question or two that arose from the writing of my father's autobiography. If it had not been for my father's incredible memory, this project would have been much more difficult, if not impossible, since the homeplace fire of 1929 burned all materials that would have been helpful to genealogical research.

Most of the resource materials that have been examined are deposited in the excellent McClung Historical Collection at our nearby Lawson-McGee Library in Knoxville, or the State Archives of Tennessee, North Carolina, and Virginia.

Cousins in various lines were gradually discovered in a family in which there seemed to be so few descendents. Special thanks go to Faye Gray of Franklin, Tenn., who got me off to a good start by copying the James W. Gray Family Bible information; Louise Shannon Dedman of Franklin, whose interesting letters and storehouse of information added spark to sometimes long periods of fruitless searching; Mrs. Ida Mae Bratton and Miss Sue Owen of Franklin, who led us to the John Gray farm, the "original" Williamson County Gray settlement; Mrs. Virginia M. Bowman, author of Historic Williamson County, Homes and Sites who helped us find the Price Gray cemetery; Mrs. Thomas E. Dilworth, of Huntsville, Ala., who generously shared her information on the Blackman lines; our two Buchanan cousins, Betsy Ragsdale of Nashville and Howard Jones, of Cedar Falls, ^{Howard Jones} Iowa, who are real "pros" in this genealogy business and lots of fun to boot; Margaret Gray Bohannon, who showed her interest in the project before her untimely death, her daughter Peggy Twichell, who graciously sent the Charles Gray Family Bible records for copying, and our cousin, Frances Bostick, who added valuable information on that line; Elizabeth Cook Abernathy, who through the years has been supportive in many ways; Jim Thompson of Knoxville, whose interest in the Thompson line has been a real asset; and Catherine Kelly Gilliam of Huntsville, who generously copied the plethora of material on the Russell and allied lines.

Part I. ALEXANDER GRAY - ELIZABETH FITZHUGH

Although ~~references to~~ the name Gray ^{is found} ~~are made~~ in several areas of early Virginia, it is now established that our line is to be traced from one Alexander Gray, significantly, the name of the descendent, my father, for whom this sketch is being written. According to William S. Bryan in his Pioneer Families of Missouri¹ (in a biographical sketch on Alexander's son George), Alexander Gray came to this country from Scotland and was married to Elizabeth Fitzhugh; we do not know where or when. (The Fitzhugh family was prominent in the early history of Virginia, but no attempt has been made to trace the ancestry of Elizabeth.)

Research of the Virginia records concerning the Grays is incomplete at this time. The information presented below is from secondary sources and deeds which were examined during a few hours of research in the Virginia State Archives in October, 1973. It is hoped that at some time in the future more information on Alexander Gray's family will come to light.

Alexander Gray bought land² in Halifax County, Virginia from William Byrd on April 27, 1761. The purchase price of the 150 acres of land "lying on the county line", (also on the North Carolina state line), was 1 pound, 12 shillings, and 6 pence. An additional 100 acres³ was added to the original purchase at a later date. No record of earlier transactions has been found, although it is quite possible that Alexander settled

1/Pioneer Families of Missouri, William S. Bryan, p. 335, 1876.

2/Halifax County (Va.) Deed Book 3, 1761-1762, p. 166.

3/Halifax County (Va.) Deed Book 13, p. 6, 1784.

for a short while in the more established eastern counties of Virginia prior to the granting of the deed of 1761.

It can be assumed that the family of Alexander Gray supported the revolutionary cause, although nothing is yet known of the active service of family members in the War for Independence. In 1782, an official entry⁴ shows that Alexander Gray furnished the Colonial Army with corn, oats, etc. from his storehouses.

Alexander and Elizabeth Fitzhugh Gray reared their family of 6 boys and 3 girls^{1,5} in Halifax County. The Halifax County Tax List of 1785 includes: Alexander Gray as the head of a family of "9 white souls" with "1 dwelling" and "1 other building" listed; John Gray (our ancestor, who was apparently recently married at the time), "2 white souls, 1 dwelling"; and James Gray "7 white souls, 1 dwelling". Alexander Gray apparently died in 1796, because it was at that time that an administration⁶ of his estate was filed by his widow and administrator, Elizabeth.

Elizabeth Fitzhugh Gray is mentioned again occasionally in legal records concerned with the settlement of her husband's estate. In addition, on April 30, 1811, Elizabeth made a gift⁷ to her granddaughter Polly Gray of "a negro boy named Manuel Parks, one feather bed, and furniture, and 3 head of cattle". We do not know the date of her death, but we do know that on

4/(Va.) Commissioners Book, LL, p. 14, p. 17. (reference from DAR papers of Kathryn Hall Lewis of Sedalia, Mo., descendent of Alexander Gray through his son George Gray).

5/James, John, Alexander, Jr., Robert, George, Henry, Elizabeth, Mary, and Sally.

6/Virginia Wills and Administrations, 1632-1800, Torrence, 1931.

7/Halifax Deed Book 23, p. 94. Entered on June 24, 1811.

May 2, 1813 she was still living at the original homeplace deeded from William Byrd. It was at that time that her son, Henry, turned over his 1/9 share of his father's estate to a neighbor in payment of a debt.⁸

Part II. JOHN GRAY - ANNEY PRICE

The children of Alexander and Elizabeth Fitzhugh Gray married one by one and in some cases settled on nearby farms and plantations. Their son John (1760-1838, our ancestor) married Anney Price (1767 -1838), probably in 1784 or 1785. No official record of this marriage has been found, but family tradition in the Shannon line of their descendents carried the information through the years that Anney was the daughter of John Price. Sure enough, the will⁹ of John Price was probated in Halifax County on March 12, 1772. Ann was the youngest of the 10 children mentioned in his will, and would have been 5 years old at the time of her father's death. Additional evidence which supports the claim that Price was Anney's maiden name is, of course, the fact that John and Anney named their first child Price, it being fairly common practice for the eldest son to be named for the wife's father.

On July 20, 1786, less than a month before his eldest child was born, John Gray bought 150 acres¹⁰ adjoining his father's

8/Halifax County Deed Book 24, p. 255. Entered on May 2, 1813.

9/Torrence, op. cit.,

10/Halifax County Deed Book 13, p. 449. Entered on July 20, 1786.

land on the South Dan River. He added to this purchase the following year.¹¹ It was on this farm in Virginia that John and Anney's children¹² were born.

Eventually John and his brothers, Alexander, Jr. and George, and probably others, could not resist the call of the lands to the west. On October 27, 1806, John Gray and his wife Anne sold their 250 acres, making plans for the westward move with their family.

I have often wondered what the journey from Central Virginia to Middle Tennessee was like in the early 1800's. Indians were still very much a problem along the route, particularly in the mountains. Even after arrival in the settlements of Middle Tennessee, there was no guarantee as to safety from Indian attack. For this reason families usually traveled in groups, hoping that there would be safety in numbers. Members of the Brooks family married into the Gray and Price families; in addition they were neighbors and witnessed legal documents for each other, both in Virginia and Tennessee. Therefore, I have visualized in my mind's eye their making the long journey together, most probably in the company of other families. It is likely that Alexander Gray, Jr. and his family also moved to Tennessee from North Carolina about this time.

The name of John Gray appears consistently in the tax records of Williamson County from the year 1808 until the year

¹¹/Halifax County Deed Book 14, p. 180. Entered on Oct. 18, 1787.

¹²/Price, James W., John, Jr., Henry T., William, Elijah, MaryAnn, and Anna survived their parents.

of his death, 1838, so we must assume that the family moved to Williamson County shortly after the sale of their Virginia holdings. Details of the lives of the John Gray Family members immediately after the move to Tennessee are lacking, although the name of John Gray appears on numerous occasions for various reasons in the legal records of Williamson County. Land was bought in 1810, again in 1814, 1816, 1829, 1830, and 1835; there are no records of any land being sold by John Gray. It appears that in 1814, a move was made to the Little Harpeth property purchased in that year. Evidence for this assumption is an entry in the Williamson County Court Minutes of July 4, 1814. In an order concerning road maintenance, a reference is made to "the plantation where John Gray did live". (It is fortunate for our research that during this period of Williamson County history our John Gray and his son, John Gray, Jr. were the only males by that name making their residence in the county).

There is an entry in the Williamson County records of 1815¹³ that puzzles me. "Ordered that John Gray have letters of administration on the estate of Alexander Gray, deceased who gave bond of \$400 with James Smith and Nicholas Perkins, his securities. Rec'd letters and qualified accordingly." Who was this

¹³/Williamson County Court Minutes, 1812-1815, p. 282, July 7, 1815.

Alexander Gray? John's brother, Alexander, had moved from Burke County, North Carolina to Tennessee by this time and was living in nearby Hickman County.¹⁴ (Spence's History of Hickman County, Tennessee¹⁵ notes that Alexander Gray was living on Gray's Bend in Hickman County when it was established as a county early in 1808. There are records of numerous land grants issued to Alexander Gray in the early years of Hickman County. The state legislature named him as one of Hickman County's first magistrates; he was also elected corcner.) He was very much alive in 1815, because he and his family appear in the 1820 Census. Could the Alexander who was deceased in 1815 have been a son of John Gray? This certainly seems possible, since the names of the children of John and Anney Gray known to us came from legal documents¹⁶ following their deaths at advanced ages. There is no Alexander among them; it is likely that there would have been.

John was a member of the Grand Jury in 1816; he also served on other juries during the period 1816-1817. Times were hard on occasion. In 1812, Radian Poe¹⁷ sued John Gray for a debt of \$300 plus \$100 damages. He received the \$300 plus \$10 damages.

The War of 1812 saw two of Anney and John's sons enlist. John and Henry T. represented their family in the patriotic effort which earned Tennessee its reputation as the Volunteer State.

John and Anney Gray spent more than 30 years together after the move, relatively late in life, to Tennessee. They died a

¹⁴/Information in Virginia and North Carolina deeds, tax and census records confirms this statement.

¹⁵/A History of Hickman County, W. Jerome Spense, 1900.

¹⁶/Williamson County Deed Book O, p. 549-550, July 14, 1838.

¹⁷/Williamson County Court Minutes, 1812-1815, p. 16, July 16, 1812.