

AL0 B 36 GORDON FAMILY GENEALOGY AND BRIEF HISTORY
COMPILED BY ISAAC GORDON Statesville, N.C. 1910

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Our first ancestor of whose name we have a record, was Thomas Gordon, who with his parents (names unknown) resided in Ireland last before removing to America but exact location is not known. The family was it seems of Scotch-Irish Extraction. While Thomas Gordon was yet only a child, and evidently about 25 or 30 years prior to the breaking out of the Revolutionary War (as evidenced in part by the fact that his oldest son, John, married Barzilla Martin, who was born 27 March "old style" 1774) he and his mother came to America and established a residence, it seems, in Albermarle Co., Va. not far distant from Gordonsville which is located near the boundary of Orange, Louisa and Albermarle Co. in Va. The father of Thomas crossed over to America afterwards and spent some time with his wife and son in their new home, but at a subsequent date visited the mother country and it appears that for some reason he never again returned to the family in America.

Young Thomas grew up and married Sarah _____, but maiden name of wife and place of birth and place of marriage are not given, but it is very evident they were married in Virginia.

To this union were born 5 sons (in order of their births, beginning with the oldest) John, who was born in 1772, Samuel, William Thomas Jr. and David. William and Thomas were twins. (My information is there was only one daughter but name is not obtainable. Mrs. Ellen Gordon Denny tells me that she died from the effects of drinking poison milk caused by the cattle eating something in the range that poisoned the milk.) It is pretty certain that not less than two of the sons were born in Albermarle County Virginia.

Next we find this interesting family residing on a farm on Stewart Creek in Surry County, North Carolina, which said farm is located on the old road leading from Mr. Airy to Dobson, the residence being close to the creek on elevation and between Mt. Airy and White Plains, on above named old road. The buildings have all disappeared and nothing now remains on this farm to evidence the fact that the family once made its home there, except there is a small field which is about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Mt. Airy, and not at most over $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from the "Bunker Place" and in this field is a clump of trees which mark the last resting place of Thomas Gordon and his wife, Sarah, for they were buried on their own farm at this spot in the same grave. It seems that a few others were buried in this family burying place also.

Conforming to the customs fo the day, their kitchen and dining room comprised a building entirely separate and distinct and some distance from the main building commonly called the "Big House."

A very sad bereavement visited the children in this house one summer day, for both their parents were at the same moment, taken from them. It occurred during a severe storm late in the afternoon, while the children were all together in the kitchen where they had gone to bathe their feet preparatory for retireing for the night, the father was resting on a trundle bed that had been pulled from under a larger one for some of the children, and the mother was busily engaged in "spooling" a piece of cloth as was necessary in those days when the good women spun and wove about all the cloth used to clothe the family. A bolt of lightning struck the home in which the parents were located tearing a whole through the roof and instantly killing both parents.

The young people heard a terrific peal of thunder, but knew nothing of the results until the storm had passed, when they were horrified to find their mother and father lying dead, the faithful mother with the thread still clutched in her fingers and also holding a pair of scissors around the handles of which she had been allowing the thread to pass to save her hads from its friction.

Just at what date or time in life this family had taken up a residence here is not known. The place later became the property of Eng and Chang Bunker, the world's famous and wealthy "Siamese Twins.", and I understand is still owned by their descendants.

Page 4-5-6 Division 1 John Gordon

John Gordon married Barzilla Martin daughter of one John Martin (see note p. 8) They began their married life together with very little means, but by the application of industry, due economy and intelligence, they gained property rapidly until they became quite wealthy for that day. Their property consisted mainly of real estate and slaves. Their home was at what is now know as the "Matt Gordon Place" on the hollow road between Pilot Mountain and Pinnacle, North Carolina. Where they kept an inn or tavern in those days when the old stage coaches ran on that road and had a station or meeting place at this place of entertainment. To this union were born three sons, in their order James, John and Martin (Martin's birth being in 1812) ar nine daughters in their order:

Sallie, who married Thomas Guymon and removed to the State of Indiana, then to Miss., and finally in their old days, to Utah. They had 3 sons who were ministers of the gospel, one a "Primitive or Anti-Mission Baptist, one Methodist and one Mormon.

Jennie (Virginia) who married Mordecai Phillips. They made their home in the state of Missouri, had a son named John M. Phillips who, till his death a year or so ago resided at Harrisville, Cass Co., Mo. (The writer at one time carried on a correspondence with him.)

The mother Jennie attended religious services on a certain Sunday and she returned to their home, riding horseback. She complained of not feeling well, and after being helped off the horse at her request, died suddenly.

"Polly" (Mary), who married William Stone and they resided in Surry Co. about three miles from Pilot Mountain N.C. They had two sons Enoch and Augustin. This Enoch was the father of Reverend William Mattison Stone, Enoch Jr. and Melissa who married Joseph Stone, son of Wesley, and brother to Edwin Stone.

"Betsie" (Elizabeth) who married Enoch Stone, brother of William Stone who married Polly. They had about a dozen children among whom was Wesley, father of Mrs. H. Wick Gordon Jr. and Mrs. Silas M. Gordon who are sons of Samuel P. Gordon.

Rhoda, who married a Mr. Fisher. They resided in the vicinity of Winston-Salem North Carolina and had some children names unknown.

Stacy, who married John H. Ferris and they made their home in the community of Pilot Mt. in Surry Co., N.C. No Children.

Barzillai who married James King and removed to and died in Indiana. This James King was the son of John King who first settled the J. Gideon Gordon place in

place in Stokes Co., raising a family and residing there about forty years prior to the time it came into possession of Martin Gordon. Said place was entered or taken up from the State by this John KING, who sold it to John Gordon, father of Martin Gordon, for about \$350, and removed to, and lived and died on the "Bill Snyder Place", a part of what was formerly the J. Quincy A. KING place near Pinnacle Stokes Co., N.C.

Frankie died at the age of about 40 years, after having lived an invalid for some seven years.

It seems that there is a 9th daughter of whom I have no account. Having given a short sketch of the large family of daughters, we next turn our attention to the three sons. (In order of their ages.)

James Gordon married Susan Jackson (sister of William who married Celia Gordon, daughter of "Billie" Gordon,) and settled at the Doc Gordon place. They had seven sons (no daughters) all of whom lived to be married and settled in Stokes Co. near the home of their parents and there lived to good mature ages. Their names (in their order) were: Jessie Allen, who married Sallie Ebbert, sister of wife of his brother J. Madison; Jefferson Madison who married Martha Ebbert, sister of Sallie. William Martin who married Jane Hill, daughter of Charley Hill and 1st wife Lucy (Briggs) sister to "Polly" W. Gordon. James Dalton who married Martha Eaton sister to the wife of his brother Granville C. Gordon. Samuel Preston who married Elizabeth Tuttle. Granvill Crawford who married "Sug" (Mary) Eaton, sister of the wife of his brother J. Dalton Gordon.

Dr. Yancey who married Alice Cook, sister of Samuel and Wilcher Cook; D. Y. resided at the same old home place till his death in 1909.

Only J. Dalton and Samuel P. are at this date living. All have children except William which said children have grown up and settled in the community between Pilot Mt. and Piccacle N.C.

John Gordon (second son of John and Barzallai) married Rebecca Reark and removed to Indiana. They had one son.

Martin Gordon (3rd and youngest son of John and Barzallai) on August 28, 1834 married "Polly" (Mary) Wilderson Briggs, who was born 7 July 1812, being a daughter of Henry Briggs of Forsyth Co., N.C., whose wife was a Miss Wilkinson and came from Virginia. Martin Gordon and Polly settled on the aforementioned John King place now known as the J. Gideon Gordon place. To this union were born 4 sons and 2 daughters in order: Henry Wilders on 19 June 1835; Annie; John 24 Feb. 1840; Columbus; Julius Martin 6 Jan. 1845; and Eliza. (Book also lists who these children married and their children).

Martin Gordon died 3 Feb. 1871; and "Polly," his wife, died 13 Feb. 1893.

Pages 8-9

In an old Bible known as the "Old Gordon Bible", now in possession of Mr. and Mrs. H. Wick Gordon, Sr. but which was formerly owned by Barzillai wife of John Gordon Sr. appears the following family record: "John Martin, son of George Martin, and Sarah, his wife was born the 27th day of August old stile in the year of our Lord 1754. "When this you see remember your old father John Martin"

"Barzillai Martin, dau of John Martin and Sarah his wife, was born the 27 day of March old stile in the year of our Lord 1774".

"The old Stile" above named refers to the difference in time between the Julian Calendar introduced by Julius Caesar in B.C. 46 and the Gregorian Calendar (the correct one now in general use) introduced by Pope Gregory XIII in A. G. 1582, reforming the Julian Calendar. The Julian Calendar (Old stile) puts about 11 minutes too much time into each year according to the astronomical year which difference during the period from AD 1700-1800 amounts to 11 days.

It will therefore be seen that John Martin was born 7 Sept. 1754 and that Barzillai Martin was born 7 April 1774 or 11 days later than dates above given in said Bible according to our present Gregorian Calendar.

The above Barzillai Martin was the wife of John Gordon Sr. and I failed to state at the proper place that Barzillai died first, and that John Gordon married for his second wife in his old age, Mary Tuttle, an old maid, from about Germantown, N.C.

There were no children by his second wife. He died before his second wife and his son James Gordon was the Executor of his will or the administrator of his estate, as the case may be.

Div. N. (2) p. 9 (gleanings)

Samuel Gordon married Nancy Herring sister of Elizabeth. These girls had a sister named "Polly" who according to my information was the oldest of 3. To this union were born several sons and one or more daughters.

Division NO. 3 p. 10 (Gleanings)

William Gordon ("Uncle Billie") married Betsie (Elizabeth) Herring sister of Nancy wife of Samuel Gordon. Three sons: Thomas, Hardin and Squire; and one daughter: Celia who married William Jackson.

Division No. 4 page 11

Thomas Gordon emigrated westward to St. Joseph Missouri. Married Sarah Creed and their children were: Calby, Hardin, Elizabeth and Margaret.

Division No. 5 David Gordon p. 11

David went to Indiana. Lived near Brooks, Indiana.

N.C. 12 Vol. 3 North Carolina Cemetery Records--Gordon Family Cemetery Records
Pinnacle, Stokes Co. N.C.

GORDON,

Barzillai Martin, b. 27 Mar 1774 Stokes Co. N.C. dau. of John Martin
wife of John Gordon.

David, b. 19 May 1794 Surry Co. N.C. son of Thomas Gordon and Sarah,
died 19 Oct. 1878. Husband of Nancy Creed.

James. b. 27 Mar 1809 Stokes Co. N.C. son of Barzillae Martin; d. 7 Nov. 1868
John, b. 1772 Va. son of Thomas and Sarah d. 1839. Husband of Barzilla Martin
and Mary Tuttle.

Martin, b. 22 Mar. 1812, Stokes Co. N.C. son of John Gordon and Barzillae
Martin. d. 3 Feb. 1871; md. 28 Aug. 1834 to Polly Wilkerson
Briggs.

Samuel, b. 4 June 1785 Surry Co. N.C. d. 31 Oct 1869 son of Thomas Gordon and
Sarah. Husband of Nancy Harring.

Sarah, b. VA. d. 1803 wife of Thomas Gordon.

Thomas ; b. Ireland son of Jane Stuart. May 1803 Husband of Sarah Gordon.

Thomas Jr. b. 16 Nov. 1779, Albemarle Co. Va., son of Thomas Gordon and Sarah
d. 1846 twin of William, Husband of Sarah Creed.

William b. 16 Nov. 1779 Albermarle Co., Va. son of Thomas Gordon and Sarah
twin of Thomas Jr.

(I copied only direct line-----many other names on collateral lines too.)