Joseph Alexander Family

Information on the Alexander Family provided by Floyd Owsley (see reference 103)

First Generation


Joseph married Abigail.

They had the following children:

2. James (26 Sep 1740-aft 1799)
3. Sarah
3. Oliver. Born on 26 Sep 1740 in Pennsylvania. Oliver died in Maury County, Tennessee, after 1812; he was 71.

Alexander Family Bible of descendant of Adam Rankin Alexander, son of Oliver Alexander:

Adam Rankin Alexander born in Washington Co. Va. November 1, 1781
(in margin):
Oliver Alexander born in Va.
John Alexander born in old country.

A copy of a letter written by EBENEZER ALEXANDER, 1900 Chapel Hill, N.C., gives his line descending from OLIVER ALEXANDER, says OLIVER twin to JAMES, born September 26, 1740, had half brothers: JOHN and JEREMIAH ALEXANDER. OLIVER married MARGARET PAUL, who was half sister to DAVID and JOHN CRAIG. Ebenezer didn’t name OLIVER’S father, but thinks it may have been JOHN, but did state he was from Scotland via Pennsylvania.

(NOTE: Ebenezer Alexander was a great grandson of Oliver Alexander.)

Augusta County, Virginia deeds:


Page 105.--20th March, 1772. Oliver Alexander, teste.

Page 121.--16th March, 1773. Oliver Alexander and Margaret ( ), James Alexander and Martha ( ) to Robert Thomson, corner Francis Beatty’s other tract, the great road. Teste: James ( ) Trotter, Jacob ( ) Patton. Borden’s 92100.

Page 44.--3d July, 1787. James Gillespy and Sarah, of Sevier County, North Carolina, to Andrew Lecky, 143 acres on Elk Run in Beverley Manor, corner Thomas Hutcheson, deceased. Acknowledged in State of Franklin. Sevier County, 3d July, 1787, before Oliver Alexander and Thomas Gillespy, certified that they are justices by Samuel Wear, Clerk of Sevier County Court.

WASHINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA:

Battle of Kings Mountain Campaign in Revolutionary War
September and October, 1780
Captain David Beattie’s Company:
James Alexander
Joseph Alexander
Oliver Alexander
William Alexander
John Craig

Captain William Neal’s Company:
Jeremiah Alexander (NOTE: In Jeremiah’s Revolutionary War pension application, he claimed he served in Capt. Neal’s Company. Other sources say he served in Capt. David Beattie’s Company.)

Oliver Alexander served on jury in Washington Co., Virginia, May 18, 1781.

Nancy King’s ‘Places in Time’, Vol. III which outlines original surveys in Washington Co Va. and then traces The property from 1770’s until present.

“Oliver Alexander’s 190-acre survey was recorded in 1782, but he was already living here in 1780 when he received authorization to build a mill on Fifteen Mile Creek. He operated The mill for a few years, but by 1791 was living in Greens County, Tennessee. His land was sold in two tracts -- The upper 82 acres to Samuel Duff and The lower 108 acre mill tract to Adam Kerr.”

The Washington County (VA) Surveyors Record 1781-1797
Page 37 - Samuel Montgomery...266 ac...Commissioners Certificate...on Holstein River...Beginning on Oliver Alexanders line...corner to Adam Hope...corner to William Duff...corner to John Berry & William Duff...June 16, 1782 - Samuel Montgomery, Robert Montgomery, Joseph Montgomery, Thomas Montgomery, Margaret Montgomery, Mary Montgomery, Susannah Montgomery & Abigail Montgomery, representatives for Michael Montgomery, decd, assignee of Thomas Gorman...400 ac...to extend on the south side of Holstein river...110 ac surveyed January 28, 1774...includes improvements, actual settlement made in 1771...August 24, 1781

Page 173 - David Dryden...330 ac...Commissioners Certificate...on Holstein River on the Fifteen Mile Creek...Beginning in a rocky gap...on Joel Drydens line...corner to Dryden & James Doren...corner on Oliver Alexanders land... on the west side of Fifteen Mile Creek...at the mouth of Fifteen Mile Creek...June 15, 1782 - David Dryden, assignee of John Row...400 ac...on both sides of Holstein River...160 ac surveyed for David Dryden on February 1, 1774, actual settlement made in 1771...August 30, 1781

Page 248 - Oliver Alexander...190 ac...Commissioners Certificate...on both sides of the Fifteen Miler Creek...Beginning on the south side of the knobs corner to Adam Hopes land...on the east side of the creek...corner to Alex Dorans land...corner to David Drydens land...corner to Samuel Montogmerys land...June 16, 1782 - Oliver Alexander...200 ac...on 15 mile creek adjoining David Dryden, includes improvements, actual settlement made in 177_...September 1, 1781

Page 294 - Alexander Doren - 170 ac - Commissioners Certificate - on the waters of the Wolf Creek and of fifteen mile Creek north branches of Holstein River - beginning corner to David Dryden, Oliver, Alexander & James Doren - by two roads - above Wolf Creek - at the foot of the knobs - corner to Oliver Alexander - August 26, 1785...Alexander Doren, assignee of Joseph Alexander - 400 ac - actual settlement made in 1777 - on fifteen mile creek adjoining Adam Hope, James Philips, James Doren & Oliver Alexander, includes improvements - August 14, 1781

1782 Washington County, Virginia Tax List
Captain James Montgomery’s Precinct:
Olipher (Oliver) Alexander, William Alexander

Petition Sundry Inhabitants South of French Broad North Carolina General Assembly Session Records Nov-Dec 1789:
Goodspeed’s History of Blount County, Tennessee:
Blount County was established by an act of the Territorial Assembly, passed July 11, 1795. The court of pleas and quarter sessions was organized on the second Monday in September, 1795, at the house of Abraham Weaver. The justices present were William Wallace, William Lowry, James Scott, Oliver Alexander, David Craig and George Ewing.

Oliver first married Margaret Paul. Born abt 1745. Margaret died in Blount County, Tennessee, abt 1812; she was 67.

Margaret Paul and Mary Craig may have been the same person. Margaret Paul had two half brothers named David Craig and John Craig.

Oliver second married Mary Craig.

Second Generation

2. James Alexander. Born on 26 Sep 1740 in Probably Pennsylvania. James died aft 1799; he was 58.

A copy of a letter written by Ebenezer Alexander, 1900 Chapel Hill, N.C., gives his line descending from Oliver Alexander, says Oliver twin to James, born September 26, 1740, had half brothers: John and Jeremiah Alexander. Oliver married Margaret Paul, who was half sister to David and John Craig. Ebenezer didn’t name Oliver’s father, but thinks it may have been John, but did state he was from Scotland via Pennsylvania.

(NOTE: Ebenezer Alexander was a great grandson of Oliver Alexander.)

Augusta County, Virginia deeds:

Page 121.--16th March, 1773. Oliver Alexander and Margaret ( ), James Alexander and Martha ( ) to Robert Thompson, corner Francis Beatty’s other tract, the great road. Teste: James ( ) Trotter, Jacob ( ) Patton. Borden’s 92100.

WASHINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA:

Battle of Kings Mountain Campaign in Revolutionary War
September and October, 1780
Captain David Beattie’s Company:
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Joseph Alexander
Oliver Alexander
William Alexander
John Craig

Captain William Neal’s Company:
Jeremiah Alexander (NOTE: In Jeremiah’s Revolutionary War pension application, he claimed he served in Capt. Neal’s Company. Other sources say he served in Capt. David Beattie’s Company.)

1783 Greene County, Tennessee Tax List:
Ebenezer Alexander
James Alexander
Joseph Alexander

James married Martha Long.

They had the following children:

4 i. Margaret (abt 1776-18 Mar 1851)
5 ii. Joseph (abt 1766-15 Dec 1851)
6 iii. Lucy (abt 1777-)
7 iv. William (abt 1780-bef 1820)


abt 1772 Sarah married Alexander Montgomery, son of John Montgomery (abt 1717-) & Esther Houston (abt 1718-), in Augusta County, Virginia. Born abt 1750.

They had the following children:

8 i. John (4 May 1775-2 Jan 1856)
   ii. Joseph. Born on 17 Dec 1786. Joseph died in Lawrence County, Alabama, on 21 Feb 1868; he was 81.
On 1 Jul 1806 when Joseph was 19, he first married Mary (Polly) Jacks.
On 10 Jun 1813 when Joseph was 26, he second married Jane Watson.
On 27 May 1818 when Joseph was 31, he third married Polly Brunson in Madison County, Alabama.
   Lived on Fountain Creek, Maury County, Tennessee in 1810. On the 1820 Maury County Census.
   In 1809 when James was 29, he married Susannah Craig in Maury County Tennessee.
   Marriage bond was signed by John P. Craig.
iv. Alexander. Born between 1776-1780. Alexander died in Williamson County, Tennessee, in 1833; he was 57.
On 10 Jan 1807 when Alexander was 31, he married Margaret Craig, daughter of David Craig (1758-1825) & Mary Duncan (1760-1826). Born in Tennessee.

Third Generation

4. Margaret Alexander. Born abt 1776 in Augusta County Virginia. Margaret died in Lawrence County, Alabama, on 18 Mar 1851; she was 75.

In the 1850 Lawrence County Alabama census she recorded that she was 75 years old and was born in Virginia. Margaret Alexander Montgomery’s line is NSDAR approved for James Alexander’s service at the Battle of Kings Mountain. NSDAR Patriot Number A206280.

On 28 Nov 1798 when Margaret was 22, she married John Montgomery (8), son of Alexander Montgomery (abt 1750-) & Sarah Alexander (3), in Blount, TN. Born on 4 May 1775 in Virginia. John died in Lawrence County, Alabama, on 2 Jan 1856; he was 80.

See “Some Early Settlers of Lawrence County Alabama”, Taylor & Taylor Page 112-116 for the family Bible transcription showing that John Montgomery was the father of James Madison Montgomery. John was recorded in the 1820, 1830, 1840 and 1850 Lawrence County, Alabama census. On the 1850 census he indicated he was born in
Virginia and was 75 years old. John was among the first white settlers in Lawrence County.

John is a church founder and elder (1820-1856) per the Old Prospect Presbyterian Church minutes. A transcribed copy of the minutes is found in “Old Lawrence Reminiscences” Volume 17, Number 1, March 2003.

Before settling in Alabama John and Margaret lived in Tennessee. The Williamson County 1806 land records lists John with 120 acres of land. Maury County Tennessee Tax book (1808-1811) lists Alexander Montgomery (150 acres on Fountain Creek ) (John’s father), and brothers John, Joseph and James living on Fountain Creek.

Before 1806, the John and Margaret Montgomery family resided in Blount County, Tennessee. See Blount County, Tennessee 1800 and 1801 Tax Lists.

The minister who performed the marriage of John and Margaret was Gideon Blackburn of Blount, TN. There was a marriage bond posted in Jefferson County, TN. The bondsman was Margaret’s father, James Alexander. January 24, 1799.

The death date is based on the Old Prospect Church minutes. Due to the age of the markers and vandalism, the grave marker could not be located. He was an elder in the church at the time of his death and there are identifiable markers for his infant great grandson W.H Montgomery .0 (son of RC Montgomery.

They had the following children:

i. James Madison (28 Oct 1810-17 Apr 1891)
ii. Sarah (Sally) (4 Oct 1799-)
iii. Martha (Patsy) (25 Nov 1801-18 Apr 1875)
iv. Jane (23 Oct 1803-)
v. Mary (Polly) (28 Apr 1805-)
vi. Alexander Houston (4 Apr 1807-2 Nov 1872)
vii. Louisa Calvinia (9 Dec 1808-)
viii. Tabitha (4 Jul 1812-abt 1843)
ix. Bertheny (31 Dec 1814-Dec 1851)
x. Robert (9 Jul 1817-)
xii. Eliza (21 Oct 1819-)


abt 1790 when Joseph was 24, he married Elizabeth (Betsy) McReynolds in Blount County, Tennessee.

They had the following children:

i. (Living, Female)
ii. Martha (Patsy) (23 Feb 1794-)
iii. James (15 Sep 1796-)
iv. Sarah (Sally) (2 Oct 1799-)
v. Joseph M (2 Aug 1802-)
vi. Nancy H. (27 Jun 1806-)
vi. James Harvey (20 Jun 1808-9 Dec 1891)
viii. Jane (1 Feb 1810-17 Jun 1892)
ix. Elizabeth (20 May 1813-)
x. William Early (5 Jul 1816-14 Feb 1890)


On 30 Mar 1797 when Lucy was 20, she married Samuel Bingham, son of William Bingham & Sarah Vance, in Jefferson County, Tennessee. Born in 1776.

They had the following children:

i. Martha Long(Patsy) (8 Jan 1798-1864)
ii. Sarah Vance (Sally) (10 Oct 1799-1847)
iii. Lucinda (16 May 1801-)
iv. Barthemy (20 Aug 1803-)
v. William Washiington (19 Oct 1805-28 Dec 1881)
vi. Elizabeth (Betsy) (5 Dec 1807-)
vii. James Madison (2 Feb 1810-30 May 1862)

7. William Alexander. Born abt 1780 in Washington County, Virginia. William died in probably Lawrence County, Alabama, bef 1820; he was 40.

On 5 Sep 1800 when William was 20, he married Ann Bingham, daughter of William Bingham & Sarah Vance, in Blount County, Tennessee. Born abt 1782 in Tennessee. Ann died in probably Tishomingo County, Mississippi, bet 1850 and 1860; she was 68.

They had the following children:
   i. Martha (abt 1801-)
   ii. Sarah (abt 1804-aft 1860)
   iii. Abigail (abt 1806-1882)
   iv. Joseph (1808-1845)
   v. Rutha (abt 1810-abt 1836)
   vi. Margaret (Bet 1810 and 1815-)

8. John Montgomery. Born on 4 May 1775 in Virginia. John died in Lawrence County, Alabama, on 2 Jan 1856; he was 80. Buried in Old Prospect Church Cemetery, Landersville, AL.

See “Some Early Settlers of Lawrence County Alabama”, Taylor & Taylor Page 112-116 for the family Bible transcription showing that John Montgomery was the father of James Madison Montgomery. John was recorded in the 1820, 1830, 1840 and 1850 Lawrence County, Alabama census. On the 1850 census he indicated he was born in Virginia and was 75 years old. John was among the first white settlers in Lawrence County.

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