

JOYNER
of
ISLE of WIGHT COUNTY, VA., and NORTH CAROLINA

The first person of the name of Joyner in the Southern States seems to have been a Thomas Joyner, aged 16, who sailed from the Port of London, Sept. 30, 1635, bound for the "Bermudoes" in the good ship "Dorst", Master John Dorst. (Hotten 132) He may have been the Thomas Joyner who settled in Accomac, for a Thomas Joyner was a headright of Elizabeth and Rachell Robbins, orphans of Edward Robbins, who patented 350 acres in Northampton Co., June 4, 1646, for the transportation of 7 persons among whom was Thomas Joyner. (C.P. 167)

The first ancestor of this distinguished North Carolina family was Thomas Joyner of Isle of Wight who may have been the Thomas Joyner who moved from Northampton.

However, John Munger, first of his family in Isle of Wight, Virginia, was a headright of Nicholas George and John Grimsditch who patented 300 acres in Isle of Wight, Feb. 20, 1638 (C.P. 105) On July 29, 1650, John Munger patented 800 acres on the north side of the Rappahannock River on Corotoman River for the transportation of 16 persons. Among them was "Charles Barcroft the fourth time" and THOMAS JOYNER. Barcroft settled in Isle of Wight. (H.S.F. Vol I-21) Also on that same day William Yarrett, a prominent Quaker of Isle of Wight, John Bond and Anthony Fulgham patented land near John Munger. They were residents of Isle of Wight. (C.P. 191-2) It would seem therefore that the above Thomas Joyner was the one who came to Isle of Wight. Thomas Joyner had purchased land in Isle of Wight prior to July 12, 1665, which was the date William Boddie patented 3350 acres in Isle of Wight "northerly to the corner of THOMAS JOYNER near to the head of Elm Swamp." (C.P. 475) Thomas Joyner later patented 1300 acres in Cypress Swamp in that county in 1675. (P.B.6-561)

Thomas Joyner died previous to June 19, 1695, for on that date Ann Lane, aged 50, testified "that she heard Thomas Joyner say in his last illness that what he had was to be his sons, JOHN JOYNER'S." Eliz. Cooke, aged 47, says the same. Thomas Lucas,, aged 34, testified the same. THEOPILIUS JOYNER. aged 35, heard his father say the same. (17C-622) His estate was appraised Oct. 6, 1695, at 12,642 lbs. Tlco. by Arthur Purcell, Will Godwin, Alek Mathews, Will Bradshaw. (l. of W. Bk. A-176)

Children:

- I. Thomas Joyner Sr. m. Elizabeth (See later)
- II. Theophilus Joyner, b. 1660, m. Elinor (See later)
- III. Bridgeman Joyner (See later)
- IV. John Joyner, d. 1745. He made his will Jan. 3, 1741, probated April 22, 1745. He willed all of his lands and move-

ables to his cousin (nephew), Theophilus Joyner and made him executor.

- V. William Joyner, m. Mary. In 1683 he patented 520 acres in Isle of Wight. (17C-694) He made his will May 2, 1698, probated Dec. 9, 1698, as follows: Plantation adjacent William West to two oldest sons, WILLIAM and ABRAHAM, to son ISAREL 100 acres, to youngest son, JOSEPH, plantation I dwell on. Legacies to wife, Mary, and three daus. (not named) Wits.: William Boddie, Theophilus Joyner.

Children:

1. Abraham Joyner, son of William, made his will July 9, 1727/8, probated Oct. 28, 1728. His legatees were sons. ABRAHAM (see later), WILLIAM, daus. ELIZABETH and SARAH, "to all my children". Wits. William Joyner, Joseph Joyner, John Joyner. (Great Bk. -126)
2. William Joyner, m. Elinor Smalley. On April 22, 1708, he sold Robert Smalley in exchange for 220 acres, the 520 acres patented by his father Sept. 20, 1683. (D.B. 2) He made his will in Southampton Oct. 25, 1757, Rec. Nov. 9, 1758. Legatees dau. ELIZABETH UNDERWOOD, Sons WILLIAM and LEWIS; son MOSES land bought of Benjamin Bradshaw; Son GILES. Wife ELINOR. Wits. Wm. Haynes, Joseph Joyner, John Joyner.
3. Isarel Joyner. Inventory filed in Southampton 1758
4. Joseph Joyner made his will in Southampton Oct. 25, 1760, Rev. April 8, 1772. Legatees, son JOSEPH, son JOHN land purchased of Mary Clother, dau. MARGARET WHITNEY, dau. MARY MACKKEY, grandson Joseph Mackey; daus. ELIZABETH, ANN and AMEY JOYNER. Wits. William Haynes, Giles Joyner, Charles Lawrence. (W. B. I-450)

Thomas Joyner, Jr., known as Thomas Joyner, Sr., after the death of his father in 1695, patented 1300 acres of land in 1698, 300 in 1700 and 440 in 1702. (17C-694). On April 9, 1706, he and wife, Elizabeth, sold James Barnes 100 acres, part of a patent of 400 acres on Seacock Swamp, dividing Wm. Thomas and James Barnes and on the same day sold William Thomas 300 acres. Wits. Richard Reynolds. On Aug. 8, 1704, Thomas Joyner, Sr., of Lower Parish, deeded to son-in-law THOMAS WILLIAMS 150 acres on Blackwater, part of 300 acres granted Oct. 2, 1702, now acknowledged as a deed of gift. (D.B. -2-1704-1715)

Thomas Joyner II made his will April 21, 1708, rec. Aug. 9, 1708, as follows: to wife, ELIZABETH, my plantation where she now lives, at her death to son THOMAS JOYNER (See later). To eldest dau. CHRISTIAN plantation where she lives; to son BENJAMIN land between William Kinchen and Arthur Purcell; to son JAMES land where Charles Berkett lives; to youngest daughter MARTHA JOYNER land where the widow Lotter lives; to son, JOHN, plantation where he lives (See later); to son NEMIAH, land; to son THOMAS where he lives not given to Thomas Williams; to grandson Thomas Joyner a horse; to cousin (niece) Lucy Joyner, a heifer; to daus. CHRISTIAN, ELIZABETH and DEBORAH 5 sh. apiece; James, Nemiah, Benjamin and Martha to have their

parts at 16. Wits. Wm. West, Jenkins Dorman, James Barnes. (BK. A-486)

Thomas Joyner III, son of Thomas II, made his will April 13, 1740, rec. April 28, 1740, as follows: to son, JONATHAN (See later) 360 acres where Wm. Thomas did live and where Arthur Smith lives; to son MATHEW land where I live 240 acres; to dau. CHERRY HARRIS; to daus. PATIENCE and ELIZABETH JOYNER, negroes; son THOMAS JOYNER 140 acres and a still; son JOEL, negroes; to gr. dau. Cathrine Dunkley. Remainder to wife, PATIENCE. Son Mathew and son-in-law John Dunkley, exrs. Wits. Thomas Williams, VIRGUS SMITH.

Thomas Joyner III had a son, Thomas IV, who died before him in 1728 for he names all of the above children in the above will as "brothers and sisters" and adds an extra one, Alexander, whose inventory was recorded in 1732. Thomas Joyner III had four children under 16 but he did not list "Thomas" as one of them. The original copy of the will (page 267-W.B. 4) should be read.

The will of Thomas Joyner IV dated April 8, 1728, rec. May 27, 1728, was as follows: to brother JONATHAN 250 acres, brother MATHEW and 3 sisters, CHERRY, PATIENCE and ELIZABETH one guinea each; to bro. ALEXANDER 275 acres, bro.-in-law JOHN DUNKLEY remainder of 125 acres. Exrs. Alex Joyner and John Dunkley. Wits. Thomas Williams, Richard Lewis, Edward Boykin. (Gr. Bk. 4-97) Thomas Joyner III had a wife "Patience" who is said to have been Patience Mathews.

Jonathan Joyner, son of Thomas III, made his will in Southampton Jan. 10, 1750, proved Nov. 9, 1752; legatees were Wife, DRUSILLA, daus. PATIENCE and MARY; sons THOMAS, ALEXANDER and DAVID. Exrs. wife Drusilla and brother-in-law John Boykin. Wits.: Samson Pitman, Catherine Dunkley. (W.B. 1-113)

Theophilus² Joyner (Thomas¹) testified he was aged 35 in 1695 (ante) therefore he was born in 1660. In 1683 he bought 150 acres on the Blackwater from Elizabeth and Thomas Mann. (17C-594). In the Quit Rents of 1704 he held 595 acres (Id 699). His wife was Elinor -----. About 1724 he married Henrietta, dau. of Andrew Griffin. (C.M. 31) He made his will (no date), probated Feb. 26, 1739, as follows: To sons JOSEPH and THEOPHILIUS 5 sh. each as they have had their parts; to son JOHN JOYNER half of land I live on; son HENRY (See later) the other half; to son LAZARUS, land (See later); daus. SARAH DAWSON and MARY GARLAND 5 sh. each, have had their parts; dau. MARY JOYNER when 18; dau. PRUDENCE JOYNER feather bed; wife HENRIETTA, 2 negroes, "My son Joshua Cleighton afterwards to take them for keeping my four young children, HENRIETTA, Mary, Prudence, and Lazarus. Remainder to wife, she to be extrx. Wits. Robert Johnson, James Johnson, Hodges Council. (W.B. 4-255)

Henrietta Joyner made her will in Southampton Nov. 1, 1750, rec. Aug. 12, 1762. She mentions son, ARTHUR, dau. MARTHA, daus. MARY TYNES and PRUDENCE LONG, son HENRY, Exr. Wits.: John Joyner, Bridget Lewis. (W.B. 1, 504)

Abraham Joyner II, who came to Northampton Co., N.C., before the Revolution, was probably the son of Abraham Joyner who died in Isle of Wight in 1728. Abraham II mentioned his grandsons Abraham Joyner and James Boyett in his will dated July 10, 1792, recorded June 1793, and could have been old enough to be the son of Abraham Joyner I. There are many Joyner wills listed in Southampton Co., Va., and also in Halifax Co., N.C., but there does not seem to be a single "Abraham" shown therein. Abraham Joyner II was granted 100 acres Sept. 1779 on Kirby's Creek on Giles Joyner's land. (G.B.27) His wife was Sarah -----.

Children mentioned in will:

- I. Mary, m. ----- Lowery.
- II. Mildred, m. ----- Boyett.
- III. Elizabeth, m. John Futrell.
- IV. Charity, m. William Brown.
- V. Giles. (see later)

Giles Joyner, son of Abraham Joyner, should not be confused with another Giles, son of William Joyner, Sr., and wife Elinor, daughter of Giles Smally. This William died in Southampton 1758, leaving children: Giles, William, Jr., Israel, Lewis, Moses, Elizabeth Underwood, and Ann Vick. This Giles Joyner seems to be the one who purchased 450 acres from William Joyner on the south side of the Meherrin River beginning at Isarel Joyner's corner thence to Jesse Joyner's lines, Feb. 20, 1777. It was probably this property which was mentioned as adjoining Abraham Joyner's land grant of 100 acres in 1779.

Giles Joyner, son of Abraham II, died in Northampton in 1816. On April 29, 1816, Giles deeded his sons ABRAHAM and DARDEN each a plantation on Kirby's Creek. Giles also deeded his son THOMAS JOYNER land on southside of Kirby's Creek. On Dec. 11, 1816, Abraham Joyner III bought from Darden Joyner, his brother, for \$762.50, land on Kirby's Creek which "after the death of my father Giles Joyner the land would have belonged to me".

Giles Joyner died intestate. A property settlement was made March 19, 1821, as follows:

"The heirs of Giles Joyner who left no will but being possessed of considerable property" agreed to the inventory and sale of father's property. Each heir had already received land and \$775.00 value in slaves in 1816. (BK-Inventory of Sales (1811-1818). The following children were named as heirs:

- I. Abraham Joyner III, m. Temperance Hart, daughter of Fanny (Brantly) and William Hart, d. 1800. William Henry Hart was the son of Arthur Hart and his wife, Martha Warren, daughter of Thomas Warren of Southampton, Va., who made his will in Northampton Oct. 22, 1788. Arthur Hart was the son of Ann and Thomas Hart who made his will in Northampton in 1761. Fanny Brantley was the daughter of Martha and Thomas Brantley of Northampton who made his will in 1776. He was the son of Clay Brantley whose will was probated in Southampton in 1755. (For the

families of Clay, Brantly, and Hart see index former books).

Abraham Joyner III made his will in Northampton, May 17, 1850, recorded Sept. 1850 (Bk. 5, p. 87) as follows:

"wife Temperance Joyner; son, SAMUEL C. JOYNER; daughter ELIZABETH; daughter EVELINE JACOBS, wife of Willie Jacobs; daughter JANE JOYNER; grandson, William C. Joyner; son of my daughter LOUISA. Executors: son SAMUEL B. C. JOYNER; son-in-law Willie Jacobs.

- II. Darden Joyner made his will Feb. 25, 1844, recorded June 1845, Bk. 5, p. 23: "Wife Jerushy, daughter of Everett Lasiter; son JOSEPH P. JOYNER, land adjoining that of Jesse E. Joyner; sons DRURY J. and JEFFERSON, youngest sons; daughter MARTHA SUMNER, wife of Willie Sumner; daughter SUSAN JOYNER, land adjoining that of John Joyner. A witness, John F. Joyner.
- III. Thomas Joyner, Sr. (See later)
- IV. Elizabeth Joyner, m. ----- Lassiter.
- V. Sally Joyner, m. Thomas Joyner, Jr., her first cousin, son of Thomas Joyner, Sr. Sally died before 1832, as Thomas, Jr., had married Rebecca Wright by that time.

Thomas Joyner, Sr., left no will. The information about him came from his great-grandaughter, Mrs. Claudia Bertrude Joyner Griffin, in her 84th year. He was born about 1780 and married about 1800. He was a teacher and farmer.

Children:

- I. Giles W. Joyner, b. ca. 1810; m. Celia Harrell. (See later)
- II. Jesse Joyner, m. Elizabeth -----.
- III. Thomas Joyner, Jr., m. (1) Sept. 5, 1815, Sally Joyner, his first cousin, daughter of Giles Joyner; m. (2) Rebecca Wright.
- IV. Fannye Joyner, m. Willie Fennel. Deed of gift, June 24, 1854, by Thomas Joyner, Sr., to daughter Fanny J. Fennel and her husband Willie Fennel.

Giles W. Joyner, son of Thomas Joyner, Sr., was born at Woodland, Northampton Co., N.C., and died there about 1870. He was a farmer, merchant, and Justice, and married Celia Harrell of Gates Co., N.C. His plantation was 3 miles north of Woodland, and is now known as the Henry Griffin Place.

Children:

- I. Alfred Thomas Joyner, b. March 13, 1844, m. Frances C. Jacobs. (See later)
- II. Martha Joyner, m. Edward Best.
- III. William Henry Joyner, b. July 11, 1850; m. Elizabeth Bristow.
- IV. Napoleon Bonaparte Joyner, m. (1) Kizziah Bolton; (2) Mary Jones.
- V. Harriet (died in early twenties)
- VI. Celia Joyner (died in early twenties)

Alfred Thomas Joyner, son of Giles W. Joyner, was born March 13, 1844 at Woodland, N.C. and died there Dec. 10, 1890. On Oct. 4, 1865, he married at Woodland Frances Cornelia Ja-

cobs, daughter of Eveline (Joyner, daughter of Temperance (Hart) and Abraham Joyner) and Wiley Jacobs, who was born at Woodland August 15, 1848, and died there June 29, 1884.

Children:

- I. Virginia Ann Joyner, b. 1866, d. 1867.
- II. Olivia Frances Joyner, b. Sept. 11, 1867, d. July 18, 1931; m. J. Jack Beale, of Potecasi, N.C., b. Oct. 8, ----, died March 22, 1946. They had one son, Foy Clyde Beale, b. Oct. 1898, single.
- III. Abraham Thomas Joyner, b. 1870, died in infancy.
- IV. Alfred Godwin Joyner, b. April 4, 1872, died Dec. 25, 1952; m. Margaret Blowe of Northampton, b. Jan. 17, 1894. Children: Roy, Beulah, Lula, Marvin, Alfred Troy, Jack, Lena.
- V. Claudia Bertrude Joyner, b. Feb. 20, 1875, m. Dec. 14, 1893 in Woodland, N.C., Nathan Ephraim Griffin, b. Dec. 14, 1870, died August 1, 1947. (See later)
- VI. Eldred Haywood Joyner, b. Dec. 17, 1877, died June 7, 1938, m. 1901, Elizabeth Liverman of Hertford. Attended Oak Ridge Inst. and Guilford College.

Children:

1. Oliver Key Joyner, Wake Forest College in Law, m. Christine Vick.
2. Dr. Powell Winfred Joyner, d. 1958; m. Marian Dunn of Enfield, N.C.
3. Alfred Stanley Joyner, manufacturer, m. Hilda Thompson of Windsor, N.C.
- VII. Evelyn Eugenie Joyner, b. Nov. 30, 1881, d. May 18, 1957; m. July 26, 1900, Woodland, N.C. Hampton Whitley. Their only child died in infancy.

Claudia Bertrude Joyner, daughter of Frances C. (Jacobs) and Alfred Thomas Joyner, was born at Woodland, N.C., Feb. 20, 1875, and is still living, married Dec. 14, 1893, at Woodland, Nathan Ephraim Griffin, son of James Henry Griffin, who was born at Woodland, N.C., Dec. 14, 1870, and died there August 1, 1947.

The homeplace and the burial ground of Thomas Joyner, son of Giles W. Joyner, was sold to James Henry Griffin, Sept. 29, 1869. This homeplace is 3 miles from Woodland on the road to Murphreesboro, N.C. On the land was a church known as the Joyner Church of the Religious Society of Baptist's. The church and land was sold by Thomas Joyner Sept. 9, 1856.

Children, all born in Woodland:

- I. Jessie Elizabeth Griffin, b. Feb. 19, 1895; m. Samuel R. Motzno, b. Sept. 2, 1896, at Goldsboro, N.C. Lives in Woodland. One son, Joseph David Motzno.
- II. Claudia Marie Griffin, b. March 2, 1899, a teacher, m. John Richard McLean of Aberdeen, N.C., d. August 11, 1943. They had one son, Thaddeus McLean, an Eastern Air Line Pilot.
- III. Russell Aubrey Griffin, b. April 29, 1904, d. Oct. 3, 1957; m. Ursula Brown of Lasker, N.C.

- IV. Hazel Cornelius Griffin, b. Sept. 7, 1905, was educated at Chowan College, U.N.C. and North Carolina State College. She formerly taught at Chowan College, and is now teaching at N.C. State College at Raleigh, N.C. Miss Griffin kindly furnished the data for compiling this chapter.
- V. Helen Wilma Griffin, b. Dec. 8, 1910, County Home Agent, Pulaski, Va.
- VI. Janet Olivia Griffin, b. Nov. 13, 1913, was a teacher; m. James Lawson of Stuart, Va., Dec. 12, 1953.
- VII. James Wendell Griffin, her twin, b. Dec. 12, 1913, d. 1914.
- VIII. Imogene Dare Griffin, b. Sept. 16, 1915.