# The Life and Times Narrative of John Bullard (Sr.)

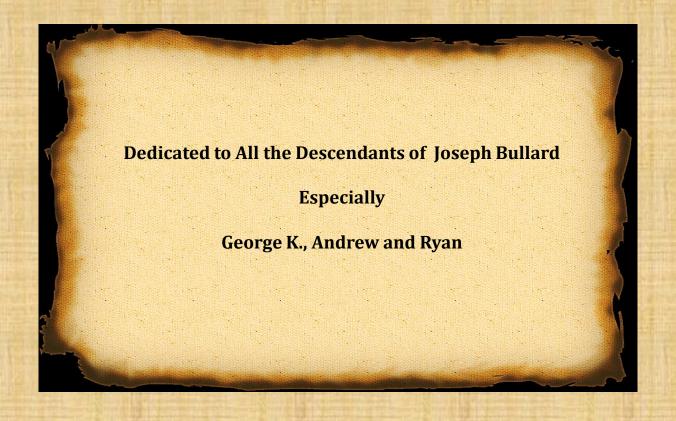
(~1765 - ~1834)



Early Eastern Tennessee Pioneer in Greene County, Jefferson County & Claiborne County, Tennessee; Farmer/Rancher; Founding Father of Claiborne County; Claiborne County Commissioner, Ranger & Constable; Wealthy Land Owner; Family Patriarch; and Father of 12 Children

Rescuing his life from near oblivion.

BULLARD GENEALOGY NARRATIVES VOLUME II



To know the heart of the Bullard story, you have to go back to the beginning.

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### **PREFACE**

A family history is priceless. "The Life and Times Narrative of John Bullard Sr." is done so present family members and later generations may know and appreciate the role of the Bullard pioneer families and their contribution to the settlements of the "western frontier."

This Narrative is not a scholarly nor literary work. It is a family story.

The intent throughout the Narrative is to document the life of **John Bullard Sr**. with historical events and backdrops during the state of Tennessee's formative years. During this time, from the late 1700's to the 1840's, major historical events were unfolding in America. Throughout the latter part of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, eastern Tennessee was a turbulent and dangerous place. The Revolutionary War and its successful end brought new social and political problems. The newly established United States of America was fragile and still in survival mode. To the early pioneers, the notion of "freedom and liberty" were more than just words. They truly believed it, fought for it and died for it.

The Bullard Narratives are a series of four Volumes\*:

- -- Volume I, "The Life and Times Narrative of Joseph Bullard"
- -- Volume II, "The Life and Times Narrative of John Bullard Sr."
- -- Volume III, "The Life and Times Narrative of Isaac & son Henry Bullard"
- -- Volume IV, "The Life and Times Narrative of Paris Bullard"

All four Volumes (and descendant charts) can be found at:

### **Bullardgenealogy.com**

The Bullard Narratives are a work in progress and subject to on-going additions, revision and fact finding. Refer back periodically. Revision dates are noted on each Volume.



**Author's note:** This Bullard Narrative is created for the enjoyment of Bullard family members. Its primary purpose is to put into perspective the genealogy and history of **John Bullard Sr.'s** family, originating in North Carolina and Tennessee. The information can be used as a family road map for future research. Relevant sources are cited. Numerous endnotes and footnotes validate and authenticate the Narrative. Any errors are my own. A few portions of the Narrative are noted conjecture to move the story along. Names, dates, maps, and locales are accurate to the extent possible. Some references have been meticulously documented and others outsourced. Not all sources are cited. As with all genealogy research, there may be unintentional errors or omissions. Naturally, readers should self check all information for accuracy.

I would like to thank my wife, Bonnie, for her endless hours of patience, understanding and help during the years of research that made the Narratives possible. **Corrections, comments or additional information are welcome.** Please emailed to: <a href="mailto:loss@lulardNCTN@aol.com">loss@lulardNCTN@aol.com</a>

The author encourages readers to visit "Bullardgenealogy.com" for the newest version and updated materials.

Bernie Bullard

June 2018

Revision 3

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# **Bullard Genealogy Narratives: A New Approach**

### **Bullard Genealogy Narratives**

The Bullard Life and Times Genealogy Narratives are more than lists of names and dates. It is a vibrant story of geography, history, culture and politics. It puts into context the lives of the Bullard descendants and provides intimate insight into their daily lives.

The Bullard Narratives (Volume I, Joseph Bullard; Volume II, John Bullard Sr.; Volume III, Isaac Bullard and son Henry Bullard; and Volume IV, Paris Bullard) covers the Bullard family line from the 1730's to 1936. The Narratives are family stories of six generations of Bullards who originated in Northern Ireland (Scots-Irish), settled in the Northern Neck of Virginia then moved to western North Carolina and eventually migrated over the Blue Ridge Mountains into eastern Tennessee. This was a period of turbulent times in American history beginning with the European migration, Revolutionary War years, the Antebellum period, the Civil War, and the emergence of the United States as a world power.

### **Combining Genealogy and History**

Genealogy investigation is usually confined by researchers who take great pains to accurately record and list descendant names, birthdates, marriages, and deaths . . . a sort of one-dimensional compilation of facts and some trivia. The Bullard Narratives take it one step further. It crafts and inter-weaves the how, when, why and where of their life and times. From raising families, planting crops, fighting Indians, serving on juries, etc., the Bullard Narratives give the reader a sense and understanding of their surrounding environs.

Maps are used extensively to give the reader a sense of place and geographical orientation. Comments, pictures and observations based on sourced materials are included to bring the Narratives to life. As the Narratives unfold, celebrated personalities and relevant historical events are intertwined with the story. Sources have been researched and are cited in endnotes or footnotes.

### **Puzzle**

Collecting information and evidence from the past is difficult. Names mentioned in early historical documents are misspelled or are no longer legible. Other records (including bible records) have been burned or lost. TVA reservoirs and dams have flooded old homesteads and graves. Some of the verifiable past is irretrievably gone.

However, one can ask questions from the evidence that **is** at hand and like a puzzle, piece together a chronological, multi-dimensional story. The Bullard Narratives are such a puzzle. Some of the pieces are missing, but the story lives on.

### **Reader Involvement**

Readers are invited to contribute to the Narratives by offering their corrections, additions, and comments. Sourced documents and facts are welcome. The more input from readers and shared information, the more complete the Narrative. It is a living document to be read, amended, and updated.

The author encourages readers to start their own genealogy Narrative. If relevant, copy excerpts from the Bullard Narratives and place it in your own family story. Draw maps to show a sense of place. Don't be afraid to add family lore or oral history. Do whatever it takes to bring your descendants to life. A Narrative can start and end at any point in time. (i.e. Joseph Bullard lived from  $\sim 1732$  to 1788, but, the bulk of his Narrative is told from 1775 to 1790.)

All four Volumes of the Bullard Narratives are available on the Internet in PDF files *gratis*. With the advent of Internet search engines and PDF file search tools, a reader can scan in seconds, a person's name or key word from the 200+ page document. The Narratives have complete lists of every person named in sourced documents. Some genealogists abbreviate sourced materials in order to highlight their own descendants. This hinders the sharing of information. For example, in the Bullard Narratives, not only are the Bullard names highlighted on a jury list, but all jury names are included. A reader researching a specific name can easily find their descendant. It can illuminate a reader's genealogy puzzle piece that was previously unknown or missing. Such a process extends genealogy research for the benefit of all.

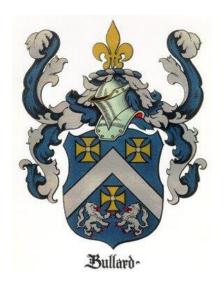
# Origin of the Bullard Name\*

There are two historical meanings of the name Bullard. The oldest is derived from the French word *bulle* which means letters, or church letters. The name was given to scribes who wrote or copied papal church documents or decrees that carried the "Papal Seal" or *bulla*.

The second origin was most probably derived from the French surnames *de Bulard*, or *de Bulwarde*. These French names first emerged around the 10th Century, and traveled to England with William the Conqueror in 1066. The name then journeyed with the Anglo-Saxons as they migrated an intermarried throughout England, Scotland and Northern Ireland. The name was given to one who worked as a bull herder or a keeper of cattle.

The Bullard surname is a derivative from the old English word *Bulluc* which means bull herder.

Through the centuries, there were different English spellings of Bullard: (Bullwarde, Buller, Bullen, Ballaugh, Bullar, Bullin, Bulla, Ballard and Bullard.)



**Bullard Coat of Arms** 

# Notations: Researching the Bullard Name in Virginia, North Carolina and Eastern Tennessee



Territorial and government records obtained for this Narrative were derived from court petitions, court pleas and judgments, jury notices, court findings, marriage records, land grant documents, U.S. census data, county deeds, slave sales, diaries, letters, abstracts and wills. Genealogy records and accounts are liberally referenced with endnotes and footnotes. Oral family history or conjecture will be noted. Historical events are derived from historical references.

In the mid to late 1700's, territorial, state and county records had **different spellings of the Bullard name**. With low literacy rates, scribes of early court sessions did not transcribe words very well. Officials and court clerks of the day did their best to phonically record and spell names when given orally. Consistency and uniformity was not a requirement in early court and legal documents. During this period, the Bullard surname was transcribed or translated as:

### Bullard, Buller, Bullah, Bullaugh, Bullen, Bullar, Butler, Ballard and Bullin.

However, by the late 1790's, the Bullard surname appearing in Eastern Tennessee documents, census data, and court records, had pretty much settled on the "Bullard" spelling. Of note, registration of deeds and other court documents sometimes occurred a year or more after the transaction happened. (i.e. The sale of a deeded tract of land might have occurred in 1800, but the official court registration of the deed could have been registered months later or in 1801 or as late as 1802.)



Throughout this Narrative, the scroll icon denotes sourced Virginia, North Carolina or eastern Tennessee court documents, U.S. Census data or other written records. Documents and dates are transcribed verbatim from preserved records or sources that reference the Bullard name or offspring.



Throughout this Narrative, the double square black & white icon denotes a connection between one of the eastern Tennessee Bullard descendants and slave ownership. Where applicable, documents and dates are transcribed verbatim from preserved records or sources referencing Bullard slave ownership.

Many years after the Revolutionary war, Congress passed a number of veteran pension Acts. Eligible, would-be pensioners, were required to appear before local court magistrates and submit written certified affidavits, under oath, recollecting their militia or Continental service record, campaign locations, officers and commanders. A great many Revolutionary War stories and regimental histories are derived from these petitions that re-constructed times, places and commander names in order to obtain a pension. These preserved documents, called Declarations, are a treasure trove of information for historians and genealogists. A number of these pension declarations mention Captain **Joseph Bullard** (Buller) and place him at a specific time and place in a number of Revolutionary War battles and Indian skirmishes from 1779 until his death in 1788.



Throughout this Narrative, the wax seal icon denotes Revolutionary War Pension Declarations dating from the end of the Revolutionary War until the 1830's. Declarations that reference Joseph Bullard (Buller) will be noted and transcribed verbatim from preserved documents or sources.

# **Early American Bullard Groups**

There were many unrelated Bullard families who first settled in the American colonies in the late 1600's and early 1700's. From genealogy research, there appears to be four main groups of early Bullard families.

### 1. The Massachusetts English Group

The Massachusetts English Group settled near Dedham, Watertown and Medfield, Massachusetts around 1635. Some migrated to western Pennsylvania. Genealogists and related families have well documented this Bullard family group. Principal names include:

William, Benjamin, John, George and Robert Bullard, (Watertown, (Watertown, Dedham, Medfield MA); Richard N. Bullard (Sudbury, MA); Jeremiah, Benjamin, Asa Bullard (Middlesex, MA)

### 2. The Virginia/North Carolina English Group

One group of Bullard's came from England, settled in Massachusetts, moved to the northern neck of Virginia and eventually migrated to North Carolina. Principal names include:

Ambrose Bullard (Spotsylvania Co. VA) James Bullard, Thomas Bullard, Richard Bullard (Orange Co. VA)

One group immigrated to the Isle of Wight, Nansemond and Surrey County areas of coastal Virginia and later migrated west to the south-central region areas of North Carolina. Some settled in western South Carolina, northern Georgia and Florida.

Principal names include:

Thomas Bullard, Richard Bullard, Nathan Bullard/Reuben Bullard, Jeremiah Bullard, Robert Bullard, Benjamin Bullard, Henry Bullard, Ambrose Bullard, William Bullard, John Bullard, (Caroline/Johnston/Sampson/Robeson/Bladen/Edgecombe/Duplin Co. NC); James Bullard (Jasper Co. GA)

### 3. The Pennsylvania/Maryland/Virginia/North Carolina/Tennessee Scots-Irish Group

This Bullard group originated in Northern Ireland (Ulster), and immigrated to ports in Philadelphia, PA, Baltimore MD and New Castle, DE in the early 1700's. This group of Scots-Irish Bullard's migrated into western Pennsylvania and the northern neck of Virginia (in and around Augusta/Frederick Co. VA). From the mid to late 1700's, some settled in the Shenandoah Valley, (western Virginia) while others moved further south into western North Carolina (Granville District/Old Rowan County), and eventually into eastern Tennessee.

**Joseph Bullard** (b. ~1732) originated in this group and eventually settled in eastern Tennessee around 1775. Principal names include:

**John Bullard, Joseph Bullard, Isaac Bullard, Nathaniel Bullard** (Frederick Co. VA, Shenandoah Valley, (Granville District) in Old Rowan County, NC, Washington Co. NC/TN, Greene Co. and Claiborne Co. TN.)

### 4. Other Bullard Groups

A number of genealogists have concluded there are other Bullard family groups who settled in colonial America. Each with a short or sporadic descendant line. Of note, there are ten to twelve separate Bullard families (unrelated) who settled in colonial America.

### John Bullard: Historical Backdrop

When **John Bullard** was born in ~1765, the American colonies were possessions of the British Crown. During John's adolescent and preteen years, he witnessed the birth and conflicts of the Revolutionary War. As a teenager, he saw his father, Joseph Bullard, ride off to South Carolina in 1780 to fight the British at the Battle of Kings Mountain.

In 1786, **John Bullard** married Nancy Agnes Kersey (Casey.) During this time, Cherokee and Chickamauga war parties were routinely attacking white settlements in eastern Tennessee.

John Bullard's adult life was marked by tumultuous changes in all aspects of American life including politics, inventions, economic downturns and the beginning of our American culture. Most American citizens have a general knowledge of the American Revolution and the Civil War, but know little of the eighty five years in-between. It's this period, from the late 1700's through 1850 that somehow gets the short end of the American history stick. John Bullard lived during the United States Antebellum Era. The era refers to pre-Civil War America, especially the pre-Civil War culture in the southern states. There is, however, some disagreement among historians as to the beginning and ending of the Antebellum period.

During this time, the founding fathers were navigating through two factions of political leadership. One bloc wanted the United States to become a great world military leader like Britain and France; the other wanted the new nation to remain a rural agricultural nation isolated from European political entanglements. What occurred was a mixture.

In the 1780's and 1790's, **John Bullard Sr.** lived in present day eastern Tennessee on the "western frontier." In 1796, the new state of Tennessee was established and went through a series of rapid political and social changes. The Cherokee Wars were coming to an end. By 1815, Tennessee's political and social influences were shifting from John Sevier's eastern Tennessee leaders to Tennessee's middle and western settlements dominated by the rise of Andrew Jackson.

In 1815, the nation witnessed the beginning of the "The Great Western Migration." Hundreds of thousands of pioneer settlers were leaving the coastal states and migrating southwest into western Tennessee, Alabama, and Arkansas.

Eastern Tennessee was becoming a stopover for immigrants and settlers moving west.



The untested United States was moving quickly toward becoming a major world power. It was already a world leader in exporting agricultural products, especially cotton to Europe and other countries. Nationalism was on the rise.

The War of 1812 with Great Britain led to Andrew Jackson's victory at the Battle at New Orleans in 1815 and his rise to national prominence. After the war, Americans witnessed their first national economic crisis. Bank loans and land speculators became over extended which led to the Panic of 1819. Rural farmers in eastern Tennessee survived by subsistent farming. Most Americans had to endure another three years of economic depression.

During **John Bullard's** lifetime, the nation saw revolutionary improvements in transportation and communication. It was the age of inventions. The nation went from one-horse travel to steam powered locomotives and boats. **John Bullard** witnessed the era of the telegraph, railroads, photography, the rise of major newspapers, and a strong federal government accompanied by the formation of a two party political system. The period saw the rise of capitalism and the birth of large cities. The nation transformed itself from a subsistence farming economy to a market based economy.

**John Bullard** lived through the presidencies of George Washington, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe, John Quincy Adams, and fellow Tennessean, Andrew Jackson, who redefined the Presidency. It is unknown if **John Bullard Sr.** was a Jackson supporter of the "people's democracy."

The Mexican-American war (1846-48) accelerated western expansion at an unprecedented rate. The American government obtained vast territories west of the Mississippi River including, Texas, Missouri, California and Oregon. A number of **John Bullard's** children would eventually participate in this migration to Missouri, Alabama and Texas. From 1819 to 1849, the U.S. population tripled to 22 million.

In the early 1800's, some American leaders were hoping to see the end of slavery, but slavery was percolating to become a social and political issue between Northern and Southern states. Northern states spearheaded the rise of abolitionists and the anti-slavery movement. The 1820 "Missouri Compromise" emerged as an explosive slavery issue and only postponed the inevitable Civil War. When **John Bullard Sr**. died in 1834, the U.S. Civil War was looming on the horizon.

### John Bullard (Sr.) Synopsis

John Bullard was a third generation Scots-Irish descentant.\* His grandfather, John Bullard the Elder took passage from Northern Ireland to America in the mid 1730's and disembarked at a port near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The Bullard family first settled in Frederick County, Virginia before moving to Old Rowan County, North Carolina and eventually to eastern Tennessee.

**John's** parents, Joseph and Martha Bullard (maiden name unknown), married sometime around 1758. They had eight known children. **John Bullard** was born ~1765.

In the mid 1770's, **John Bullard's** father, Joseph Bullard, migrated west from North Carolina to the Nolichucky settlement in what is now present day Greene County, Tennessee. This journey occurred between 1774 - 1775. The Bullard family was one of the original settlers in eastern Tennessee.\*

During **John Bullard's** childhood and teen years, he witnessed the establishment of the Watauga-Washington District governments. Democratic in nature, the Watauga-Washington Districts were formed outside the domain of the British Crown. The government is recognized by historians as the first American government west of the Allegheny Mountains.

In 1776, **John Bullard** was a teenager at the start of the American Revolutionary War.

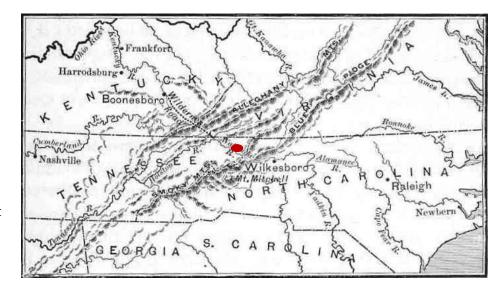
In 1780, he saw his father muster with 1,000 volunteer militiamen and march to Kings Mountain (SC). In a one hour battle, the American patriots defeated British Loyalist troops. The victory, the first decisive battle in the Revolutionary War, was recognized as a pivotal point against the British in the southern campaign.



During this time, John was guarding the family settlement against Cherokee and Chickamauga war parties. Undoubtedly, he was exposed to many hardships in his early life, including the ever present danger of Indian attacks.

**John Bullard** was a third generation Amercian colonist. He was literate. The first recorded **John Bullard** document appeared in January, 1786, the year he married Agnes Nancy Kersey (Casey) in Greene County, NC/TN. John was  $\sim$ 21 and Agnes/Nancy was  $\sim$ 16. The couple had twelve children: seven sons and five daughters.

Two years later, in 1788, at Lookout Mountain near present day Chattanooga, Tennessee, John's father, Major Joseph Bullard, was killed in an ambush by a Chickamauga war party. After his father's untimely death, it appears **John Bullard** became the family administrator of his father's 3,000+ acre Revolutionary War land grants. Over time, John would prove himself to be an able body man of keen administrative skills.



### John Bullard (Sr.) Synopsis

After the death of his father, **John Bullard** migrated from Greene County, Tennessee to adjacent Jefferson County, Tennessee. He and other Bullard family members lived in Jefferson County between  $\sim$ 1790 and  $\sim$ 1798.

In the late 1790's, **John Bullard** and family migrated to Grainger County, Tennessee on the Clinch River. (Grainger County was later partitioned to form Claiborne County.)

**John Bullard** was one of the founding fathers of Claiborne County when it was established in 1801. He was appointed to a county commission to determine the site of present day Tazewell, Tennessee. John was appointed to plot out town lots and locate the site where the county court and public buildings would eventually be built. Later, he was appointed County Constable and County Ranger and served on many county and district juries.

Throughout his lifetime, he bought, sold and swapped many tracts of land. He parlayed large and small tracts of property scattered throughout Jefferson, Hawkins, Grainger and Claiborne County, Tennessee for the benefit of his family and heirs.

There are scores of court documents, court appearances and petitions where he sued and was sued over land disputes, surveys and title deeds. He was not timid in seeking court remedies and seldom lost a case. **John Bullard** made a number of civic and community contributions during his lifetime. He showed a humanitarian side with his support of indigent and needy persons in Claiborne County.



**John Bullard** reflected the new generation of Americans. In the 1800's, land ownership exemplified wealth, stability and influence. His legacy was providing an opportunity for his offspring to have a prosperous life. He followed in the Bullard family tradition of "gifting" numerous land holdings to his twelve children and in-laws throughout his life.

Sometime before September 1834, **John Bullard** died. He was  $\sim$ 69 years old. It was a notable life span. At the time, the average life expectancy for a male was 38.3 years. (One-third of all white males did not live to adulthood).

**John Bullard** wrote his will and last testament the same year he died. One could speculate he knew death was near. His wife, Nancy (Kersey/Casey) Bullard, was 64 at the time of his death. They were married 48 years. Nancy Bullard would live to the age of 81. This longevity would be repeated many times over in future generations.

There is sufficient documented evidence that surrounds **John Bullard's** life to chronicle a reasonable account of his life as a third generation pioneer who settled in eastern Tennessee.



See Appendix "A" for the Bullard descendant charts spanning 9 generations (from 1732 to present.)



# **The Early Years 1765-1779**

**John Bullard's** exact birth year and location is unknown. There is suggested evidence he born in western Virginia\* (Shenandoah Valley) or Old Rowan County, North Carolina.\*\* It is believed **John Bullard** was named after his father's brother, John (b.~1725).

Prior to the Bullard family traveling over the Blue Ridge Mountains into eastern Tennessee, there is documented evidence the family settled in Old Rowan County.

A Rowan County colonial court entry in 1770 charged **John Bullard's** father, Joseph Bullard, with hog stealing. The verdict in unknown. What is known is the principle family names recorded in the court minutes (Joseph, John and Isaac "Buller") were of the same family who later settled in the (Watauga-Nolichucky) settlements in eastern Tennessee in 1774-75. No other such family name combination was known to exist.



Court of Pleas and Quarter Session, Rowan County, North Carolina, Nov/Dec 1770 "The King (British authority) vs Joseph Buller. Hog stealing. Evidences for K-James Ross, GAB: Jones, James Bellamy, HEN: Ross; for P- Isaac Buller, John Buller, Abijah Elmore, John Swim, MATH: Sappinfield." <sup>1</sup>

Another anecdotal court document is found in a Guilford County, North Carolina "Account and Estate Sales" of John McGee dated February 24, 1774. The accounting list, a "Joseph Bular" and "Isaac Bullard" as purchasing unspecified items at the McGee estate sale. This is further circumstantial evidence that **John Bullard's** father, Joseph Bullard, and his uncle, Isaac, resided in the Rowan/Guilford County area of North Carolina prior to migrating to eastern Tennessee.

As the American colonies along the Shenandoah Valley and Carolina's eastern seaboard became more populated, frontier settlers pushed west over the Blue Ridge Mountains into the "western wilderness" in present day eastern Tennessee. This movement was the beginning of America's westward expansion.

The next time all three Bullard names, "Joseph, John and Isaac" would appear together would be in the 1778 Washington District (North Carolina) Poll Tax roll.<sup>3</sup> At the time, Washington District was part of western North Carolina's "backcountry."



"backcountry." 1772-1776.

Washington District

Rowan and Guilford County in 1776

District of Washington

District of Washington

Try

Old Rowan County

BI

Nother Free Proposed Carolina's Shanandoah Valley and Carolina's

<sup>^^</sup> Many persons lived and died without knowing the date of their birth. One would often hear it said that the birthday of the person "had used up." This meant the bible or page in the bible on which it was written had worn out, or lost or burned.

<sup>\*</sup> For more detailed information on the Bullard family early migration see "The Life and Times Narrative of Joseph Bullard", Volume I at: Bullardgenealogy.com

<sup>\*\* &</sup>quot;Old Rowan" County", North Carolina was formed from Anson County in 1753. Prior to that, Anson was created out of Bladen, County in 1750. By 1776, two counties had been carved from the original Rowan County: Surry (1770) and Guilford (1771.) In order to do a thorough genealogy search of family names prior to 1776, one must examine Bladen, Anson, Rowan, Surry and Guilford County genealogy records.

# **The Early Years 1765-1779**

By the mid 1770's, many Scots-Irish settlers left North Carolina and migrated west over the Blue Ridge Mountains to escape British taxation laws and to acquire cheap and more fertile land.

In 1774/75, **John Bullard** ( $\sim$ 10) accompanied his father, Joseph, and family on the long and difficult journey to

resettle in the "backcounty."

Joseph Bullard, led the way with his long rifle over his shoulders. The oldest children, Isaac (~15) and **John Bullard** drove the pack horses, cattle and livestock. Under the watchful eye of Martha Bullard, Ann (~11), Phoebe (~7), Christopher (~3), and Martha (~2) rode in the wagon burdened with household goods, skillets, small meal sacks, tools and farming implements.

Loaded down with all their worldly possessions, the Bullard family along with other families zigzagged through and around deer traces and Indian trails on their journey west. There were no roads at the time. Sometimes the trails were impassable. The family had to traverse the Blue Ridge Mountains, and navigate through unmarked valleys, steep ravines and numerous rivers and streams.



Blue Ridge Mountains



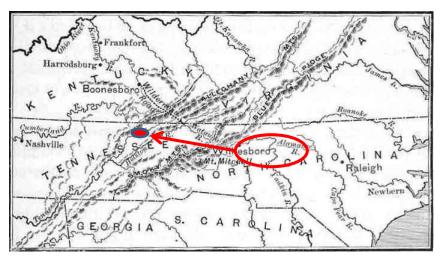




Sometimes they cut through dense brush to get their cattle and carts through narrow pathways. They had to be on constant guard against renegade Indians and prowling bear attacks.

In the late afternoons, after a long day of walking, the families would stop at an isolated spot on the trail and rest for the night. At the tender age of ~ten, **John Bullard** had to possessed the courage, determination and strength to

endure the many hardships which occurred on the frontier trail.



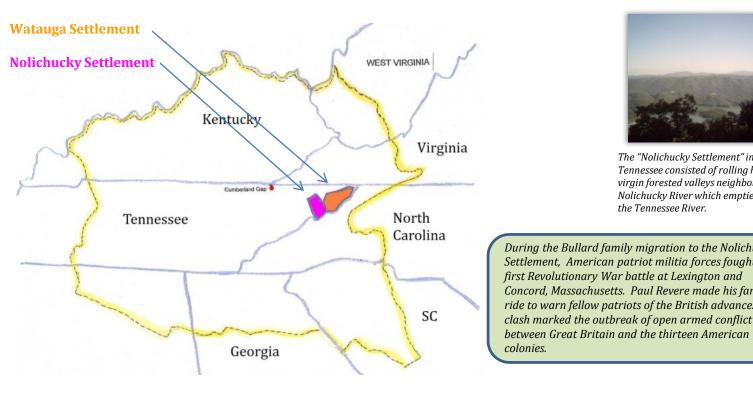
Migration route of the Bullard family from Old Rowan County, North Carolina to the Watauga-Nolichucky Settlements in present day eastern Tennessee.

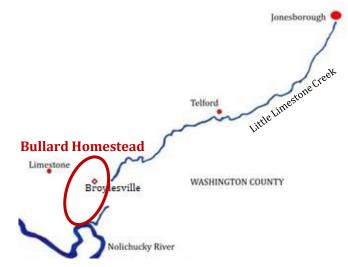
In 1774/75, John Bullard's father, Joseph Bullard, leased and then purchased 200 acres of land from Jacob Brown (Brown's Purchase). The Bullard family built their homestead on the northwest side of Little Limestone Creek in the Washington District (present day Greene County, Tennessee). For exact location and survey patents, see "The Life and Times Narrative of Joseph Bullard, Volume 1.



The Bullard's were one of the original pioneer settlers in eastern Tennessee.

The Bullard family starting a new life on the "western frontier" twenty years before Tennessee obtained statehood. They would become one of the original "Nolichucky Settlers."

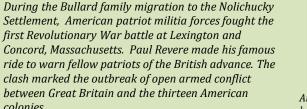






The "Nolichucky Settlement" in eastern Tennessee consisted of rolling hills and virgin forested valleys neighboring the Nolichucky River which emptied into the Tennessee River.





American Revolutionary War begins in the Spring of 1775

Two weeks after George Washington, Ben Franklin, and the founding fathers signed the Declaration of Independence, the Nolichucky settlers were warned of an impending attack by the Cherokee Indians. Aided and fueled by British agents, the Cherokee planned to strategically attack the western frontier settlements.

In the summer of 1776, the backcountry valleys of Watauga and Nolichucky exploded. Three Cherokee war chiefs with six hundred\* warriors took to the war path against the white settlements.





One war chief, Old Abram, attacked the Nolichucky and Watauga settlements. Old Abram marched his war party north out of the Cherokee homelands and crossed the French Broad River toward the white settlements. This major offensive was the beginning of

what came to be known as the Cherokee Wars. The Cherokee were hoping to catch the settlers by surprise and bent on burning cabins, stealing horses, slaughtering livestock, killing and scalping trapped settlers. (The Bullard cabin lay in the path of Old Abrams' war party.) It was the first American Revolutionary War skirmish west of the Appalachian Mountains. The settlers, including the Bullard family, hastily abandoned their homestead and fled northeast to the safety of nearby Ft. Watauga.

With the Cherokee approaching, some 150 to 200 settlers crowded into the fort.

No doubt Joseph Bullard (~44) and his family, Martha (~36), and their six children; Isaac (~16), Ann (~12), **John (~11)**, Phoebe (~6), Christopher (~5), and Martha (~3) were among the fleeing families who found protection inside Ft. Watauga. In all, seventy-five fighting men "forted up" at the stronghold ready to defend their families from the attacking Cherokees.

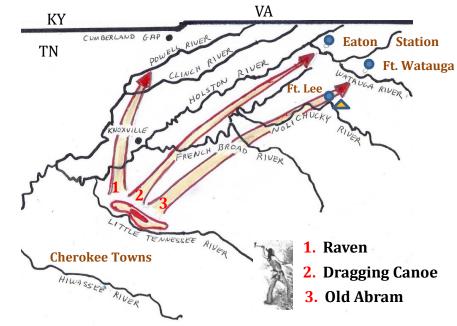


The reconstructed Fort Watauga at Sycamore Shoals State Historic Park in eastern Tennessee

At daybreak, on the morning of July 21, 1776, a few women were outside the walls of Ft. Watauga milking cows. Suddenly, Old Abram's warriors sprang out of the woods and attacked the fort with ear-piercing war whoops, guns and bows and arrows. Old Abram's initial all-out assault failed. The war party was forced to lay siege to the fort. During the siege, two dozen warriors attempted to set fire to the stockade walls but the frontier settlers fought them off with rifle fire.



"Arrows rattled like hail upon the roof. Bullets rained around the portholes. Hundreds of savages were swarming around the stockade on all sides at once, hoping to find some weak point in the defense." 4



# **Cherokee Attack Campaign 1776**

Joseph Bullard homestead on Little Limestone Creek

On July 14, 1776, Patriot General Griffith Rutherford reported in a communiqué, "The Indins is making Grate Prograce, in Distroying and Murdering, in the frunteers of the Country." <sup>29</sup>

15

# **The Early Years 1765-1779**

# FT. WATAUGA SIEGE July 21, 1776

The siege continued. Cherokee warriors kept harassing the settlers with rifle fire and arrows. During the siege, warriors conducted small raiding parties throughout the area killing and scalping white settlers who were not aware of the early warning. Indian scouts discovered a column of Virginia militia marching to the fort's rescue. After two weeks, the siege ended.





The Cherokee three-prong attack collapsed. They retreated back to their towns. Joseph Bullard and other frontiers families returned to their homestead to find their cabins still standing and crops untouched.

The frontier settlers did not wait long to strike back and take the offensive. In October 1776, over 400 militiamen from western Virginia, Watauga, Nolichucky, Holston, and Carter valleys mustered a force against the Cherokee to devastate their homeland. They stuck deep into Cherokee country. In all probability, Indian spy scout, Joseph Bullard was amount the militia troops under the command of Lt. John Sevier. The Cherokee seeing the overwhelming size of the force retreated into the hills and abandoned their towns.

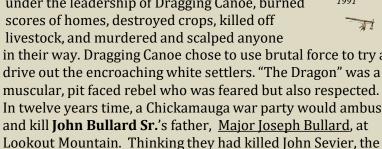




The militia raiding party burned down and destroyed five Cherokee towns. Homes were destroyed, crops burned and most of livestock killed. The Cherokee chieftains, facing a gloomy winter without shelter or food, asked for a peace treaty. It was accepted. The defeat of the Cherokee chieftains gave settlers a few years of relative peace although small skirmishes still occurred which took a toll on border families.

Although the July 1776 Cherokee attacks were unsuccessful, the assault set off a series of Indian raids by other Cherokee warriors throughout the region against frontier settlements.

One of the Cherokee war chiefs who attacked the white settlements was Dragging Canoe. For over 17 years, he and his Chickamauga warriors fought to drive the white settlers from Cherokee lands. He refused to be part of any treaty. Settlers called them the Chickamauga tribe, a name that would command fear and consternation among frontier Canoe" Illustration settlers for two decades. Chickamauga warriors, bv Mike Smith under the leadership of Dragging Canoe, burned 1991 scores of homes, destroyed crops, killed off livestock, and murdered and scalped anyone in their way. Dragging Canoe chose to use brutal force to try and drive out the encroaching white settlers. "The Dragon" was a tall, muscular, pit faced rebel who was feared but also respected. In twelve years time, a Chickamauga war party would ambush and kill John Bullard Sr.'s father, Major Joseph Bullard, at



celebrated Indian fighter, the war party dug up Joseph's grave and performed an all night "scalp dance" in Dragging Canoe's tribal village. (See "The Life and Times Narrative of Joseph Bullard," Volume I for details.)





Due to the militia raids, the Cherokee barely survived the harsh winter of 1777. They would not recover to offer any sizeable danger against the white settlements for several years.

By 1777, two years had passed since the Bullard family had crossed the Blue Ridge Mountains and settled in the isolated Nolichucky River settlement.

After months of continuous skirmishes, raids and fighting, the elder Cherokee chiefs were ready to make peace with the white settlers. In the early spring of 1777, the Treaty of Ft. Henry was signed. The treaty reaffirmed Indian lands given to the Watauga and Nolichucky settlements (Washington District) a few years earlier.



Like other settlers in the area, the Bullard's were constantly on the alert of small rebel war parties under the command of Chief Dragging Canoe while always watchful of troublesome British agents.

Dragging Canoe still refused to recognize any of the white man's treaties. In the late 1770's, it was not uncommon for a man or woman to leave their cabin compound to tend to their livestock and never return or be heard from again. Some frontiersmen who joined local militia patrols would later return home to find their older sons killed and scalped or their wives and children kidnapped by Chickamauga Indians.





Dragging Canoe's vicious and bloodthirsty killings were kept in check by roving detachments of Watauga and Nolichucky mounted militia under the command of John Sevier. Sevier and his militia, including **John Bullard's** father Joseph Bullard, constantly patrolled the area and made sporadic raids on the Cherokee and Chickamauga towns and villages.

As was the practice, **John Bullard's** father taught him, his mother and older siblings how to use a rifle to defend the family homestead from Indian attacks.

"When tribute hears of that wonderful period in the history of Tennessee and the South, we should not forget to give full measure to the brave women, who frequently stayed at home with their children for months at a time, in order that their men might make the country safe for us who followed after. In those months the women faced incredible dangers and, in many cases, succumbed to tomahawk and torch." 5

Undoubtedly, the Bullard family members had terrifying days and nights when Joseph Bullard was away on Indian raids. They no doubt knew friends who were killed by one of Dragging Canoe's war parties or heard stories of Indian atrocities.

Nonetheless, during the spring and summer of 1777, **John Bullard** ( $\sim$ 12) went about helping repair the family cabin and fences, doing chores and clearing more land for corn and other crops.

Throughout the year, the Bullard household saw a continued influx of new settlers into the Nolichucky area.

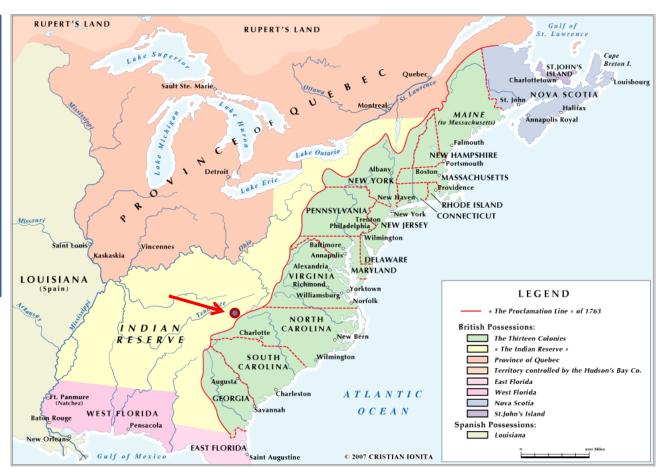
In ~1778, **John Bullard's** mother, Martha, gave birth to John's youngest sibling, Sarah Bullard in Washington County, North Carolina. In twenty years time, Sarah would marry John Fitzgerald in neighboring Greene County, Tennessee.

# THIRTEEN COLONIES: 1775-1778

During his early years, **John Bullard** lived on Little Limestone Creek in Greene County, North Carolina (later Tennessee). The family cabin was within ten miles of:

- Jonesboro, Tennessee, the first town in Tennessee and where Andrew Jackson lived for five months and received his law credentials.
- Daniel Boone's hunting grounds.
- The birthplace of Davy Crockett.
- The home of John Sevier, pioneer Indian fighter and first governor of Tennessee.





• Location of the Bullard homestead in the Nolichucky Settlement (Brown's Purchase) on Little Limestone Creek in present day Greene County, Tennessee.

By 1780, **John Bullard** (age~15) was an adult by the standards of the day. He had witnessed three and half years of war against the British and their Cherokee allies. In late September 1780, John saw his father depart the homestead and join a muster of 1,000 "over-mountain" militiamen who gathered at nearby Sycamore Shoals.



The patriots marched over the Blue Ridge Mountains to engage and defeat 1,000 British Loyalists at Kings Mountain (South Carolina.)

The American patriots triumphed. The victory was the first decisive battle in the Revolutionary War, and was recognized as a turning point against the British in the southern war campaign.





"The Battle of Kings Mountain" by F.C. Yohn

Before the victory, there was universal gloom throughout the Colonies. The news of the patriot's victory at Kings Mountain resonated all the way up to the Continental Army of George Washington. It was a welcome southern victory for the Americans after a string of humiliating defeats.



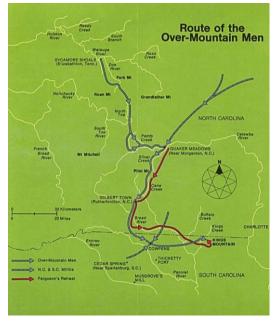
For a detailed description of the Battle of Kings Mountain, see "The Life and Times Narrative of Joseph Bullard," Volume I, at: Bullardgenealogy.com Due to the absence of so many Watauga and Nolichucky settlers fighting at Kings Mountain, the settlements were lightly protected. Bands of Britishbacked Cherokee, Creek and Chickamauga Indians saw an opportunity to attack settlements with small war parties moving swiftly through the backcounty.





Rebel warriors burned cabins, stole horses, captured or scalped men, women and children. In all probability, **John Bullard** and his siblings kept watchful guard on the family settlement while Joseph was away at Kings Mountain.

Immediately after the Kings Mountain victory, Joseph Bullard's militia unit separated from the main troops and made a forced march back over the Blue Ridge Mountains to protect their homes and families from looming Indian attacks.



### Greene County, North Carolina Established

In early 1780's, voting irregularities occurred in the local Washington County election. At the time, officials in the Watauga settlements dominated Washington County politics. The Nolichucky settlers were feeling disenfranchised. A movement formed to separate part of Washington County into Greene County. In 1783, the General Assembly of North Carolina passed an act dividing Washington County by establishing Greene County.\* Three counties now made up the original Watauga, Holston and Nolichucky settlements with a population of ~18,000; (1) Washington, (2) Sullivan and (3) Greene County, North Carolina. In 1783, The Bullard homestead found themselves in the newly established Greene County.



During the Revolutionary War, most Greene County farmers were subsistence farmers. What little trade and bartering done was disrupted by the war. Economic hardship prevailed. It took a number of years before agricultural trade normalized.



★ Bullard homestead in the Western Territory of North Carolina (present day eastern Tennessee). 1783

In 1783, Greene County, recorded its first tax roll of all constituents in the county. John Bullard was  $\sim$ 18.

The Greene County tax list revealed an interesting snapshot of **John Bullard's** homestead. John's father, Joseph, was a prosperous settler with a sizable ranch/farm consisting of 1,000 acres. Joseph was a frontier horsemen with a stock of 43 horses and 21 cattle. The property value of the Bullard homestead was assessed at  $742\pounds$  which was a sizable amount and well above the average of other farms in the District.

By the early 1780's there was a scattering of slave owners in the Watauga and Nolichucky settlements. The 1783 Greene County tax list is the first known document that records a Bullard owning slaves. From the listed categories, Joseph Bullard owned three slaves. When and how Joseph acquired the slaves is unknown. One could assume two of the slaves were a middle aged couple who had a child between the age of 7-16. Considering the size of the Bullard ranch/farm, it wasn't uncommon for frontier land owners to have slaves to do domestic work and attend to family crops and livestock.



T	1783 Greene County, North Carolina Tax List ** Formerly part of Washington County (present day Greene County, Tennessee:				
	•Name	Jos (Joseph) Bullard			
	•Land	1,000 (Acres)			
-	•Negroes from 1 to 7 (age) and from 50 to 60	0			
	•Negroes from 7 to 16, and from 40 to 50	3			
	•Negroes from 16 to 40	0			
	•Horses	43			
	•Cattle	21			
	•Value (pounds)	742			
die.	•Pounds (taxes)	9			
	•Shillings	10			
	•Pence	6			



**November 30, 1782** - A preliminary peace treaty between the United Colonies and Britain was signed in Paris. Terms included recognition of American independence and territorial boundaries along with British withdrawal from America.

<sup>\*</sup> The county was named after General Nathanael Greene, the patriot commander of the southern campaigns. The first court session was held in present day Greenville, Tennessee.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Early East Tennessee Taxpayers, Compiled by: Pollyanna Creekmore, pages 268-275

In 1783, **John Bullard** was ~18 years old. He was living on the family farm located on Little Limestone Creek in present day Greene County, Tennessee. The Bullard's were situated on the western edge of most settlements in the thirteen colonies. During this time, no established white settlements were west of present day Knoxville, Tennessee.



Although isolated, the Greene County settlers were beginning to feel safe from large scale Indian attacks. The immediacy of scampering to the nearest fort or stockade for protection subsided.

A scattering of log school-houses and meeting-houses were cropping up. Wagon roads were being surveyed and built. Young men of John **Bullard's** age were conscripted to work on road crews to clear roads and trails. No doubt he spent many days chopping down trees, clearing land and carving out new trails throughout the county

Throughout John's late teen years, he saw his father gain notoriety as a fierce Indian fighter. One could assume everyone knew John's father rode alongside John Sevier, the leader of the feared Nolichucky militia.

Sevier's militiamen were famous for their horsemanship. Sevier would later become the first governor of Tennessee.

Sometime around John Bullard's 18th birthday, Cherokee- Chickamauga attacks began again. The troubled peace was aggravated by atrocities

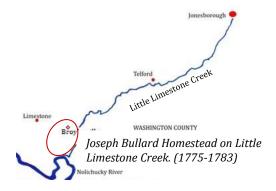


being committed by both sides. Although the Revolutionary War ended and peace declared, the Cherokee Wars would continue for another ten years.



In 1784, frontier settlers in present day eastern Tennessee were still in a precarious position. Pioneer families were hundreds of miles from the western-most towns of North Carolina. Indian attacks were still occurring on a regular basis. The Revolutionary War had ended. The new Federal government was heavily in debt. Settlers demanded compensation for their military service during the war. Similar to the Federal government, North Carolina's treasury was insolvent.

During this period, the Bullard family saw more and more settlers pour into North Carolina's western territory. This was due in part to numerous Revolutionary War land grants and warrants issued to war veterans. Many grants were awarded and many were disputed. In later years, John **Bullard** would spend a decade in land disputes, court claims and petitions ensuring legal title to his family land grants.





Location of North Carolina Revolutionary War land grant territory. 1783



North Carolina

### The State of Franklin

In 1784, the Bullard family and their western frontier neighbors felt disenfranchised. North Carolina claimed sovereignty over the three western counties of Sullivan, Washington and Greene County. At the same time, they were trying to cede their western lands to Congress. The settlers found themselves with a limited state government with nothing in place in the way of military protection or a court

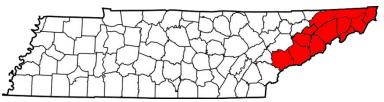
system. The frontier settlers were not sure what to make of the odd sequence of events. The situation was such that they were not fully protected against Indian attacks.

The settlers were in search of protecting their safety and interest. They gathered to establish a new independent government called the State of Franklin. Settlement leaders used their existing militia structure (two men from each captain's company) to elect delegates to a convention. Delegates knew each other from the Battle of Kings Mountain. One delegate was **John Bullard's** father, Joseph Bullard. During the Franklin convention, John Sevier was elected governor of the State of Franklin. The capital was established in Greenville.

While the Franklin delegates were meeting to form an independent western country (that is country and not county), North Carolina's Assembly voted to repeal its land cession to Congress. The situation was getting complicated. Before word of the repeal reached the western settlements, a second Franklin convention met and drafted a formal constitution. The first legislature session for the new State of Franklin met in 1785. The new State made treaties with the Indians, held court proceedings, organized new counties and established a tax system to be paid in money, corn, tobacco, whiskey, deer skins or other items. A militia was formed. The Franklinites had no choice but to rely on each other for survival.

By the end of 1786, the State of Franklin grew from three original counties (Washington, Sullivan and Greene) to eight counties including Sevier, Blount, Spencer, Caswell and Wayne. From 1785 to 1786, an estimated 10,000 families were State of Franklin citizens.

In 1788, the year **John Bullard's** father was killed by a Chickamauga war party, North Carolina asserted her rights to govern the settlers in the western region. The State of Franklin quietly ceased to exist. North Carolina agreed to honor all State of Franklin property transactions, court decisions and marriages (including the 1786 marriage of **John Bullard** and Agnes Nancy Kersey (Casey). This act by North Carolina was the closest it ever came to officially recognizing the State of Franklin. Very few Franklin government records survived.



State of Franklin encompassed the following present day Tennessee counties: Blount, Carter, Cocke, Greene, Hamblen, Hawkins, Jefferson, Johnson, Sevier, Sullivan, Unicoi, and Washington.

From the early 1770's to 1796, **John Bullard** and family's Nolichucky homestead was under a number of governmental authorities..

1	772 - 1	774	Watauga	Association

1775	Nolichucky	Settlement (	(Brown's Purcha	ıse) 🔞

1776 Washington District (Watauga Petition)

1777 Washington County, North Carolina

1783 Greene County, North Carolina

1784-88 The State of Franklin

1790-96 U.S. Southwest Territory

1796 The State of Tennessee

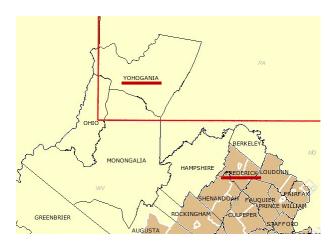


### Agnes Nancy Kersey (Casey)\*

# The Marriage Years 1786-1788

In the first half of the 1700's, Baltimore, Maryland was a major U.S. import/export port between the colonies and Europe. In 1746, Henry Kersey (Casey) married Elizabeth Whealand in St. John's Parish in Baltimore. The couple bore eight known children. (See Kersey family chart, p. 31.) Some Kersey family members were Quakers. Some eventually moved to Frederick County, Virginia. Others to Guilford County, North Carolina in 1759-69 and some to Greene County, NC/TN in the mid 1780's.

By the late 1760's, Henry Kersey's family migrated from Baltimore, Maryland to Frederick Co. VA. By the mid 1780's, four of Henry's sons, (William, Henry (Jr.), James and Joseph) moved to neighboring Old Yohagania, County Virginia near Ft. Pitt (later becoming part of Washington, County in western Pennsylvania.) At the time, parts of the Yohogania County were claimed by both Pennsylvania and Virginia.



Yohogania County lasted for only a few short years. Genealogy records are spread throughout a number of states. Some are located in Washington County, Pennsylvania, northeast West Virginia, and the northern neck of Virginia.

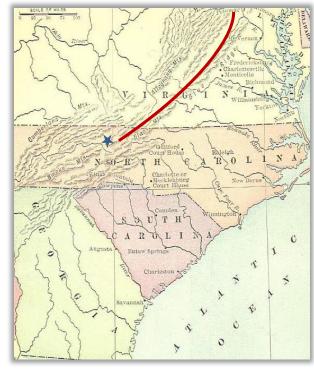


In 1770, while living in Frederick County, Virginia, Henry & Elizabeth Kersey bore a daughter, Agnes Nancy. There are four known Frederick County court documents referencing Henry Kersey from 1767 to August 1770.6)

During Agnes Nancy's childhood and early teen years, settlers in the northern neck of Virginia were under numerous Indian attacks from Shawnee Indian raiding parties.

Around 1785, Nancy Kersey (~15) and family journeyed 350 miles down the Shenandoah Valley and settled in Greene County, North Carolina (present day eastern Tennessee).

Route of the
Kersey family
migration
from Frederick
County,
Virginia to
Greene County,
North Carolina
(Tennessee).



★ 1785 Location
of John Bullard's
homestead in
Greene County,
North Carolina
(State of Franklin)

<sup>\*</sup> The Casey name has appeared in early court records as Kersey, Kirsey and Keasey. Around the early 1800's, the spelling of the Kersey surname settled on "Casey."

<sup>\*\*</sup> In the mid 1700's, the boundaries of old Frederick County encompassed 12 present day counties: Frederick, Clarke, Warren, Shenandoah and Page counties in Virginia; and Jefferson, Berkeley, Morgan, Hampshire, Mineral, Hardy and Grant counties in West Virginia.

# The Marriage Years 1786-1788

### **Agnes Nancy Kersey (Casey)**

Sometime in 1783, Joseph Bullard and family moved from Little Limestone Creek to Lick Creek in Greene County. Two years later, Henry Kersey's family migrated from the northern neck of Virginia to Lick Creek. Both homesteads were just a few miles apart.



There must have been an immediate chemistry between **John Bullard** and Nancy. The time span from Nancy's arrival in Greene County and her marriage to **John Bullard** was less than a year.\*





**Greene County, North Carolina** 

Unlike wealthy colonial coastal families who sometimes married to form social or political bonds between families, western frontier families had more freedom to choose a spouse. Inheriting or protecting property was not a real concern. Pioneer women possessed a courtship advantage.

Women outnumbered men on the western frontier.

Courting usually took place at public functions such as dances, horse races, harvest functions, or just calling upon a prospective bride at her parents house. Since both families lived on Lick Creek,



it is quite possible that one or more of these occurrences happened when **John Bullard** first met and courted Nancy Kersey.

No doubt Henry learned of the Bullard family's standing within the settlement. Joseph Bullard was a prominent militia officer, rancher, Revolutionary War hero and rode with Colonel John Sevier. Nancy would be marrying into an established family.

As was the frontier custom in the 1780's, when **John Bullard** expressed an interest in proposing to Nancy, he had to convince his father. If Joseph (and Martha) concurred, Joseph would talk to Nancy's father of his son's interest.

In North Carolina, men were free to marry if over 21. Anyone under 21 had to have the consent of their parents. It is assumed Nancy ( $\sim$ 16) had to obtain Henry Kersey's consent to marry. It's apparent both fathers were agreeable to the match.

<sup>\*</sup> In the 1740's, **John Bullard's** father (Joseph) and grandfather (John Bullard the Elder), lived in a Scots-Irish settlement at the headwaters of Opequon Creek in Frederick County, Virginia. At the time, Henry Kersey (Casey) and family lived north at the mouth of Opequon Creek in present day Berkeley County, West Virginia. Quite possibly, both families knew of each other. Other families in the area were: Michael Bowyer (father of Luke Bowyer), Valentine Sevier, father of John Sevier, John Hodges, Ulrich Beeler and others.

Source: Pioneers of Old Frederick County, Virginia, by Cecil O'Dell, Walsworth Publishing Company, 1995; and Frederick County, Virginia, Deed Book Series, Volume 4, 1767-1771, by Amelia C. Gilreath; and Frederick County, Virginia, Deed Book Series, Volume 4, Deed Books 12, 13, 14, 1767-1771, by Amelia C. Gilreath.

### **Marriage Security Bond**

# The Marriage Years 1786-1788

When **John Bullard** and Nancy decided to marry, they were required to post a security bond at the local court house. In the late 1700's, North Carolina marriage bonds were notices of intent to wed.

John Bullard registered to marry Nancy Kersey at the Greene County courthouse.\* A security bond was posted to give notice if there were any legal hindrances to the proposed marriage. The bond was necessary in case the husband sired a child and then died, or abandoned the bride. If this occurred, bond money would be given to the mother to help support herself and child. This would insure the community would not be burdened by the disappearance or death of a husband. One or more bondsmen would pledge guarantee the bond money should the marriage prove illegal or if the bride needed support. Typically, the bond was posted by the father of the groom, but could be posted by anyone in the community. Luke Bowyer, family attorney and long time friend of the Bullard family, signed for John Bullard's security bond. (One could surmise John's father, Joseph Bullard, was predisposed, ill or possibly on a winter militia patrol protecting the settlement from attacks by the rebel Indians.)



Greene County Court Session: Marriage Bond "**John Bullard** to Agnes Kinsey (Kersey/ Casey), January 4, 1786 Luke Bowyer, Sec." <sup>7</sup>



Log cabin c. 1785





### Luke Bowyer

There is some speculation that Agnes Nancy Kersey (Casey) was the daughter of Luke Bowyer. This is not the case. The confusion arose due to Luke Bowyer posted the security bond for **John Bullard**. Bowyer had a strong unknown connection to the Bullard family.

Bowyer's first known association with the Bullard family occurred when his signature appeared alongside Joseph Bullard on the 1776 Watauga Association Petition. Both men lived in the Watauga-Nolichucky settlements. At the time, Nancy and family were living in the northern neck of Virginia. In 1776, Nancy would have been  $\sim\!6$  years old. Her family would not arrive in Greene County until 1785. Too, there is a preponderance of genealogy evidence proving Nancy was the daughter of Henry Kersey (Casey) and Elizabeth Whealand.

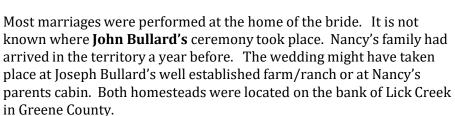
Although not substantiated, there is circumstantial evidence that Luke Bowyer was the brother of Martha Bullard, **John Bullard's** mother. (See "The Life and Times Narrative of Joseph Bullard," Appendix H, Luke Bowyer: "Bowyer – Bullard Family Connection" for suggested evidence that Martha's last name was Bowyer).

# The Marriage Years 1786-1788

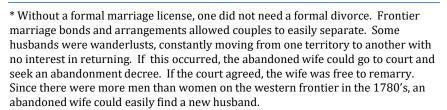
### The Wedding

Best man, brides maids and wedding dresses were unheard of in the late 1700's. Wedding customs we know today would not originate until the Victorian age. The typical 1786 frontier wedding dress was not white. A bride might or might not have had a special dress made. Quite possibly she wore a new simple dress handmade by her mother. Those attending wore their finest clothes.

In the 1780's, the most popular months for weddings were late December, January and early February. The crops were in, the Indians were in winter camp and settlers had more time to attend celebrations. This was the case when **John Bullard** and Nancy Kersey married.



Frontier marriages were a social and public affair. On the wedding day, settlers would gather at the bride or groom's house and play games, sing, dance, roast wild game and consume large quantities of food and corn whiskey. Typical main dishes included beef, venison and pork. No doubt **John Bullard's** father and mother joined in the celebration along with their seven siblings. (Isaac ~26, Anne~22, Phoebe~18, Chirstopher~15, Martha~13, Sarah~9, and Mary~6.





"The Log Cabin Wedding" Illustration by Ronald Himler

In all probability, Nancy's wedding celebration was a large gathering of family and friends. Family attendance included Henry and Elizabeth (Whealand) along with Nancy's siblings; Mary "Molly" (Kersey) and husband David Lindsey; James Kersey and wife Elizabeth; Joseph (John) Kersey who would marry Elizabeth Blackwood in two years time; and Elizabeth Kersey (~14).

By 1786, Greene County had a few ministers. It is not known if **John Bullard** (~21) and Nancy (~16) were married by a local preacher (Presbyterian) or in a ceremony conducted by a court officer.

Once the ceremony was completed, the community treated the couple as being legally married.\* People expected the couple to be faithful to each other and the groom responsible to protect and provide for his wife and children.

These gatherings were fertile ground to meet one's future spouse. It's quite possible this is how John's siblings met their spouses. (Isaac Bullard's (b.~1760) married Mary; Anne Bullard's (b.~1764) married Moses Johnson; Phoebe Bullard (b. 1768) married James Carter; Christopher Bullard's (b.1771) married Rachael Fitzgerald; Martha (Patsy) Bullard (b.1773) married William Baker; Mary Bullard (b.~1777) married David Rutledge; and Sarah Bullard (b.~1778) married John Fitzgerald.



18<sup>th</sup> Century Slang: "Weaning house" a cabin where newlyweds live.

### **The Wedding**

# The Marriage Years 1786-1788

A frontier wedding tradition involved baking a cake with a piece of nutmeg cooked inside. The person who got the nutmeg would be considered the next to marry. One wonders if **John Bullard's** sister, Anne, found nutmeg in her piece of wedding cake. She married Moses Johnson five months later in Greene County.

### **Anne Bullard marries Moses Johnson**

**John Bullard's** sister, Anne Bullard, married Moses Johnson on June 13, 1786 in Green County, North Carolina (later Tennessee.)<sup>8</sup> Little is known of Anne. Her husband, Moses was in the Revolutionary War and lived on Lick Creek/Roaring River near where the Bullard family lived. They had two known sons, Daniel (b. 1789) and Nimrod. It appears the couple later resided in Hawkins/Jefferson County, Tennessee.

The year **John Bullard** and Agnes Nancy married, the State of Franklin was in existence for two years. The Franklinites were still dealing with the hated Chickamauga war chief Dragging Canoe and his warriors. In early 1786, a Chickamauga war party killed several settlers near the Bullard homestead.



On August 17, 1786, two months after Anne Bullard married Moses Johnson, Davy Crockett was born near Big Limestone Creek in Greene County. Crockett was the fifth of nine children born to John and Rebecca Crockett.

Contrary to the well-known Disney song, the "King of the Wild Frontier" he was not "born on a mountaintop in Tennessee." Rather, he came into this world on the banks where the Nolichucky River and Big Limestone Creek join. (The song lyricist probably had a difficult time rhyming "Nolichucky.")

Crockett's birthplace was within four miles of John and Nancy's homestead.

No doubt the Bullard family knew the Crockett family. John Bullard's father, Joseph, fought alongside John Crockett (Davy's father) at the Battle of Kings Mountain in 1780. One could speculate if Davy Crockett played with or knew three of John Bullard's children. By 1795, all would have been about the same age as Davy (9): Joseph Bullard (~8), Anne Bullard (7), Henry Bullard (~6).

### **Marriage Rights**

In the 18th century, colonial and American women's rights, or the lack of rights, were heavily influenced by the 1765 British writings of William Blackstone. He defined a marriage as husband and wife becoming one, but the one was the husband.

Once married, the husband's obligation was to protect and provide for his wife and children. In return, the wife performed household duties such as cooking, sewing, gardening and raising the children. During the marriage, the man held all property rights. A woman, once married, ceased to exist as a separate legal person. Only after the demise of her husband, did her rights to property come into play. Although women lost their rights after marrying (due, in part, to elaborate legal tenets involving 18<sup>th</sup> century inheritance rights and the *coverture* law), they looked forward to getting married. Only in marriage could a woman lilve in her own home. As a spinster, she would have to live in another woman's home or a town lot.

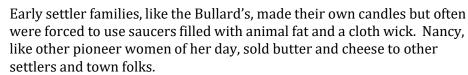
# The Marriage Years 1786-1788

### New Bride on the Western Frontier

Women living on the western frontier in eastern Tennessee in the 1780's led dangerous and difficult lives. Like most pioneer women, Nancy Bullard led a life of toil and hardship. As a new frontier bride, her life's work would be very long and hard. Nancy would quickly become accustomed to working "from daylight to candlelight." She was an equal to her husband, John, in terms of doing the labor around the cabin and livestock. Eastern Tennessee pioneer women were hardy, resolute and fearless. They constantly faced danger and endured hardships.

Being an early Tennessee pioneer, most everything was made by hand; clothing, wool hats, shoes, and most tools. Bedding was filled with cattails, oak leaves or corn shucks, unless one was lucky enough to collect feathers to fill a mattress. Molasses was used instead of sugar as a sweetener.

Nancy Bullard was responsible for cooking, churning butter, feeding and milking the cows, hoeing the garden and crops, washing, planting and picking the garden vegetables, carrying water from the spring or creek to the house, sewing and scores of other household chores.



Besides cooking and cleaning, pioneer women joined together in making quilts and coverlets. They produced cider and molasses and made all their clothing from spinning wheels and looms. Corn was either roasted in hot ashes or made into hominy or ground meal. The women even plowed and split wood, if needed.





Most women living on the wilderness frontier did not own more than two sets of clothing. Many owned only one. Their clothing was made of wool or linen and all hand spun and sewn. The styles of the times dictated that shoulders and knees be covered at all times.

Most early women settlers were illiterate. Some could read and write, but formal education and correct grammar was the exception and not the rule. Wives routinely went about their business of quietly raising their families, cultivating the family farm and living peacefully among their neighbors.



Along with daily chores, pioneer women had to raise their children and protect their family when their husband was away from the homestead. Venturing beyond the cabin compound or farmland was done at one's own peril. In the 1780's, sometimes whole families would disappear without a trace.

Most women in early eastern Tennessee knew how to load and shoot a rifle and defend themselves from attacking Indians, outlaws or bears. It is reasonable to assume Nancy Bullard was ready and willing to use the family rifle to protect herself and her children.





### Daily Life in Greene County, North Carolina (Tennessee)

# The Marriage Years 1786-1788

Jonesboro +

In the first three years of **John** and Nancy Bullard's marriage, there is some evidence the couple lived in the Lick Creek area of Greene County, Tennessee before moving to Hawkins (Jefferson) County, Tennessee. Lick Creek was a days horseback ride northwest of where **John Bullard** grew up. Three years after the marriage, a Jefferson County, court deed records the Bullard heirs sold 600 acres of land on Lick Creek to William Robinson. The deed mentions "where Bullard formerly lived in Greene County..." Witnesses to the Greene County deed were Luke Bowyer and **John Bullard's** elder sister, Ann Bullard.



Greene County, Tennessee Court Minutes: 1790 "Indenture 27 April 1790 Martha Bullard, Relict of Joseph Bullard, Deed, **John Bullard**, Isaac Bullard and Christopher Bullard, Heirs of sd Joseph, Hawkins Co, NC one part, and William Robinson of same county, other part, 400 pounds current money of sd state pd, 600 acres on Lick creek where Bullard formerly lived in Greene County, North Carolina beg (beginning) in live (line) of Levi Carter, adj Samuel Jones. Wit: Lew (Luke) Bowyer, Samuel Mills, Ann Bullard. Reg (Registered) 20 July 1790" 9

The deed does not record which Bullard's lived on Lick Creek. In the 1780's and early 1790's, a number of Bullard family members lived on Lick Creek and surrounding streams. \*

(1) John Bullard, (2) Martha Bullard, John Bullard's mother, (3) Isaac Bullard, John Bullard's brother, (4) Ann Bullard (married to Moses Johnson), John Bullard's sister, and (5) Phoebe Bullard (married to James Carter), John Bullard's sister. Although not researched, other

Bullard siblings might have lived in the area during this time.

time.

Typical of the time, **John Bullard** kept busy clearing land and growing crops. Transforming wilderness tracts of land into productive farming was laborious. Although trees in eastern Tennessee weren't large, they had to be felled one by one with a hand axe. Planting, weeding and harvesting crops kept a man busy from sun up to sundown.

Bullard farming was mixed with selling surplus produce, eggs and pork to neighbors and town folks. Like most pioneer women, Nancy Bullard's garden grew potatoes, turnips, pumpkins, peppers, and cucumbers. Eastern Tennessee woods held large amounts of hickory nuts, walnuts, and wild grapes which helped supplement the family's basic diet.

Milking was all done by hand. Bread was home-made; fresh meat came from farm livestock or hunting. Pigs were common on the farms. Women cured bacon by dry-salting the meat and hanging it in a jerry rigged smokehouse. Chicken feathers were carefully stored and saved until there were enough to make a pillow or bedding.

Washing clothes was a long and tedious job. Piles of firewood had to be gathered from the wood pile and placed under a large three legged kettle.

The kettle had to be filled with numerous pails of water. But first, soap had to be made days beforehand. Pioneer women made soap by boiling meat fat and mixing it with lye. It produced a greasy, blob of "soap." Clothes were thrown into the soapy boiling kettle and stirred with a stick. After an hour of "washing," the clothes were beaten and hung out to dry on nearby bushes or fences.



A typical eastern Tennessee cabin in the late 1780's measureed around 20 ft. by 30 ft. The logs were laboriously "hewed" from axes and chisels. A separate outside cooking area "kitchen" stood nearby. Near the cabin was a structure to store corn and farm tools.

After the crops were in, the really hard work began. In the winter months, there was always more forest to clear and soil to prepare for the next spring plowing. It was not uncommon for **John Bullard** and his neighbors to experience snow covered fields and icy roads during the winter months.

<sup>\*</sup> Of note, there was an unrelated Bullard family living in the Sinking Creek (not Lick Creek) area of Greene County, Tennessee around 1795 to at least 1801. The names of Nathaniel Bullard, Spencer Bullard, and Harman Bullard appear in "Greene County, Tennessee Deed Abstracts (1785-1810) Vol. 2, 4,6,7 and 8", by Joyce Martin Murray on pages 59 and 72.

### Bullard - Kersey (Casey) Family Connection

## The Marriage Years 1786-1788

The Bullard and Kersey (Casey) family connection can be documented as far back as 1786 and lasting over sixty years and spanning four generations. It began shortly before 1786 when members of the Henry Kersey (Sr.) family migrated from Frederick County, Virginia and settled in Greene County.

Accompanying Henry and his wife Elizabeth were sons James Kersey, (Joseph) John Kersey, and Samuel Henry (Jr.) Kersey; and daughters Mary (Molly) Kersey, Agnes Nancy Kersey, and Elizabeth Kersey. (Eldest sons, William & Henry Jr. remained in Frederick County.)

The first known document connecting the two families occurred in January 1786 when a Greene County court minute recorded the marriage bond between **John Bullard** and Agnes Nancy Kersey (Casey).

A year later, Greene County ordered officials to appoint assessors to oversee inventories of local settlers for tax purposes. At the time, settlements were grouped and organized into militia companies headed by a Captain. One company officer was Captain Joseph Bullard (John Bullard's father). Captains were assigned temporary constables to oversee the process. The constable overseeing Joseph Bullard's property inventory was Joseph (John) Casey, brother of Agnes Nancy.



Green County Court Records and Pleas, May session 1787
"Order that James Patterson take inventories of Capt Kings old company and
Clements Phillips notify. Also that John Finn take inventories of Capt
[Joseph]Bullards Company and that Joseph (John) Casey be constable. Ordered
also that David Rankins Esqr take inventories of Capt Campbells Company..." 10

There are a scattering of Greene County court documents in the late 1780's linking Henry Kersey and two of his sons, Joseph (John) and Samuel Kersey (Casey) to the Lick Creek area.

By the early 1790's, a few Bullard and Casey families, including John Casey, migrated from Greene County to Hawkins/Jefferson County (Tennessee). After residing there for almost a decade, they later migrated to Grainger/Claiborne County, Tennessee.

**John Bullard Sr.** and Nancy Bullard's brother, John Casey, were one of the founding fathers of Claiborne County, Tennessee. In 1801, **John Bullard** was appointed a Commissioner to locate a site for the county seat (Tazewell). In the same year, John Casey was appointed a Justice of the Peace.

John Casey, an attorney and Justice of the Peace for a number of years, had a farm located near **John Bullard's** farm on the Clinch River near the mouth of Big Barren Creek . By 1808, Casey owned a saw mill on the creek. From the early 1800's to the mid 1830's, **John Bullard** and John Casey bought and sold to each other numerous parcels of land throughout Jefferson, Grainger and Claiborne County, Tennessee. It is reasonable to assume **John Bullard** and John Casey not only had a personal family relationship, but also had a well established business relationship.

In the early 1820's, a few Bullard and Casey families left Claiborne County, Tennessee and migrated south to Rhea County, Tennessee.

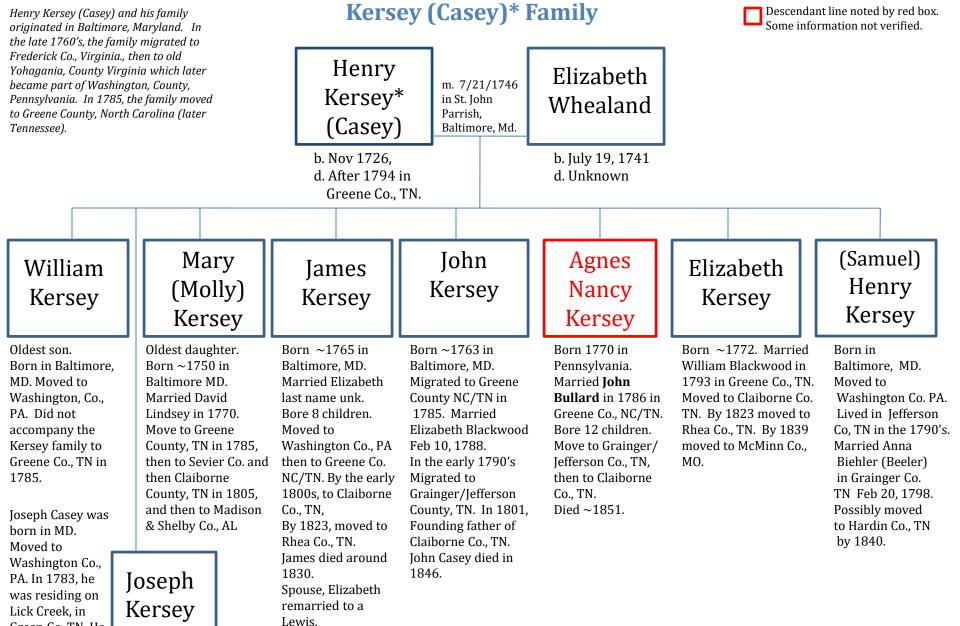
Three of **John Bullard's** sons, (Joseph Bullard, Henry Bullard and **Isaac Bullard**) took part in this migration to Rhea County.



Clinch River

At least three Casey families settled in Rhea County at the same time; James Casey (brother of Nancy Bullard), Elizabeth Casey Blackwood (sister of Nancy Bullard), and a nephew John Jr. Casey. All six families have been found in Rhea County court documents through the 1820's and up to the 1830 Rhea County census.

The Bullard and Casey family connection lasted well beyond the 1840's. By 1850, a number of family members from both sides had migrated from Claiborne and Rhea County, Tennessee to a number of scattered counties in Missouri.



Green Co. TN. He then moved to Campbell Co. KY.

<sup>\*</sup> The Casey name has appeared in early court records as Kersey, Kirsey and Keasey. Around 1800, the Kersey surname spelling settled on Casey. Henry Casey (Sr.)'s parents were John and Eleanor Kersey (Casey). Henry Sr. had two known brothers: (1) John (b. May 1723) married Susannah Shaw in 1749 and (2) William.

Ref: (http://mimpickles.com/lindsey/group2/david/david\_ala/david.htm#blair)

# The Marriage Years 1786-1788

### The State of Franklin

After a year of marriage, **John Bullard** was witnessing the beginning of the end of the State of Franklin. In 1787, Franklin authorities petitioned the Continental Congress to be admitted to the United States as the 14<sup>th</sup> state in the Union. The petition was denied. Franklin was also in a losing battle with North Carolina over sovereignty. During this time, the two rival governmental authorities competed with one another over jurisdiction of its citizens. Loyalties were divided among local settlers. It is likely **John Bullard** was conscripted to serve in the Franklin militia along with his father, Joseph, since the Franklinites did not have the protection of North Carolina's militia. In late 1787, North Carolina offered to waive all back taxes if Franklin citizens would swear allegiance its government.

A year later, in 1788, John Sevier, Governor of Franklin, realized the futility of continuing the independent state and let his term expire; no new governor was elected. The State of Franklin collapsed entirely and the territory reverted back to North Carolina sovereignty. In 1790, Sevier was elected to the North Carolina legislature to represent the territory.

THE EIGHT COUNTIES OF
THE STATE OF FRANKLIN, CIRCA 1786
(Today in Northeast Tennessee)

SPENCER
(modern Hawkins Co.)

WANNE (modern Johnson & Carter Cos.)

WASHINGTON (includes modern Unicoi Co.)

SEVIER

BIOUNT

In September 1787, North Carolina awarded **John Bullard's** father, Captain Joseph Bullard, a large land grant of over 3,000 acres of land for his patriotic participation in the Revolutionary War. The land grant was located south of the Holston River in present day Jefferson County, Tennessee in the vicinity of Beaver (Dam) Creek and Lost Creek. This land grant would later play a key role in the eventual migration of **John Bullard's** family from Greene County to Jefferson County, North Carolina (later Tennessee).

In ~1787, Joseph B. Bullard, first son of **John Bullard Sr.** and Nancy Bullard, was born in Greene County, North Carolina (later Tennessee.) By 1812, he was living with his uncle Christopher Bullard in Franklin Co, Tennessee. At the age of 23, Joseph Bullard married Lucy Campbell on July 26, 1810. He left Lucy ~1817 and divorced her in 1833 and remarried Nancy (last name unknown.) Joseph B. Bullard died ~1852 in possibly Franklin County, Tennessee.



In September 1787, a constitutional convention was held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The United States Constitution, the supreme law of the land, was adopted and ratified by all the states.

The Constitution specifies the powers and duties of the three branches of the Federal government. The first ten amendments are known as the Bill of Rights. In two years time, in April 1789, George Washington would be elected President of the United States.

# The Marriage Years 1786-1788

In the Spring of 1788, at the age of twenty-one, Andrew Jackson crossed the Blue Ridge Mountains and settled in present day Jonesboro (Greene County), Tennessee. He was waiting on a wagon train to form to take him to the western Cumberland territory located near present day Nashville, Tennessee. During his five month stay in Jonesboro, the future President of the United States took the oath of office to practice law.

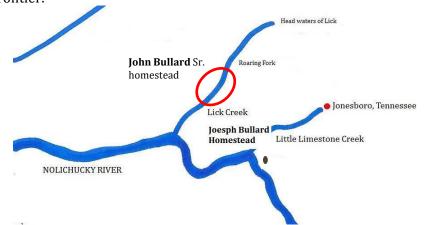


Andrew Jackson



Greene County Court of Pleas & Quarter, August 1788 session "John McNary, Alex McGinty, David Allison, Archibald Roan & Joseph Hamilton Esqrs took the oath of practising (sic)attorneys and were admitted accordingly... **Andrew Jackson** Esqr took the oath of a practising (sic)attorney." <sup>11</sup>

Jackson briefly served as an attorney in Jonesboro before moving westward. **John Bullard's** family homestead was a short distance from Jonesboro, Tennessee. Andrew Jackson would eventually become the military governor of Florida, Commander of the American forces at the Battle of New Orleans in 1815 and the 7<sup>th</sup> President of the United States. Jackson was noted for being a protector of democracy and individual liberty. He was the first president to be associated with the American frontier.



**John Bullard's** approximate homestead location in Greene County (NC/TN) after his marriage to Agnes Nancy Kersey (Casey).

The spring and summer of 1788 saw many Indian attacks and atrocities committed against eastern Tennessee settlers. White families were being murdered and scalped and cabins burnt to the ground. The Cherokee, Chickasaw and Chickamauga Indians, under the leadership of war chief Dragging Canoe, collectively began attacking white settlers throughout Tennessee. The Bullard families and settlers of Greene County found the Chickamauga warriors growing more and more ferocious in their attacks.



In the spring of 1788, an entire family of settlers (the Kirks) was massacred by warring Chickamauga Indians on the south side of the French Broad River; just 25 miles from **John Bullard's** homestead. Eleven men, women and children met their deaths at the hands of a band of Indians wielding rifles and tomahawks.

Militia patrols were reporting numerous atrocities.



"(The Indian) seized his victim's hair with his left hand and with his right drew his father's scalping knife around the top of the man's skull, pulling the scalp free...other Indians mutilated the bodies of the dying and dead whites, decapitation one and opening the body to rip out the heart and guts." 12



Indian scalping

A council of militia commanders assembled at Jonesboro, Tennessee on August 19, 1788 to organize a militia expedition. Their mission was to march down the Tennessee River to Lookout Mountain and quell the rebellious Indians.



The mustering for this campaign against Dragging Canoe's rebel warriors would be a fateful encounter for **John Bullard's** father, Captain Joseph Bullard.

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### The Battle at Lookout Mountain **Joseph Bullard Killed**

# The Marriage Years 1786-1788

Out of 1,000 troops being sought by the militia commanders for the Lookout Mountain Indian expedition, only 450 mounted riflemen from four eastern Tennessee districts answered the call.

John Bullard's father, Captain Joseph Bullard, was among the volunteers from the Nolichucky district who enlisted for the doomed mission. When John Bullard, his mother and siblings bade farewell to Joseph, it would be the last time they would see him alive.



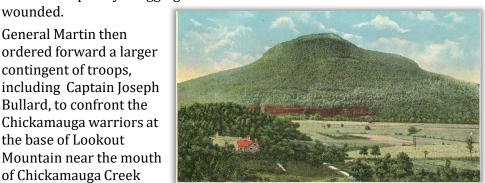
The militia troops arrived at Lookout Mountain in the late afternoon of September 19, 1788. It was too late in the day to cross the river. Captain Joseph Bullard and his group camped for the night at the site of an old Indian field. In the early morning of September 20, 1788, General Martin, commander of the troops, sent out scouts to locate the Indians. The scouts were fired upon by Dragging Canoe's warriors. One of the scouts was

General Martin then ordered forward a larger contingent of troops, including Captain Joseph Bullard, to confront the Chickamauga warriors at the base of Lookout

of Chickamauga Creek

near Moccasin Bend.

wounded.



Lookout Mountain near present day Chattanooga, Tennessee

The warriors opened fired and began pouring down destructive fire on Captain Bullard and his men. Joseph Bullard was caught in a classic Indian ambush.

Great confusion followed. The narrow rocky trail made it impossible for the riflemen to pass through or counter attack. The soldiers fell back to the foot of Lookout Mountain.



During the crossfire and shouts to retreat, Captain Bullard and two other officers were fatally shot.\*

The frontiersmen picked up their fallen captains and retreated back to their base camp. Joseph Bullard later died of his wounds. Captain Bullard and the two other fallen officers were wrapped in blankets and buried near Lookout Mountain under the floor of an old Indian council house.



Dragging Canoe's warriors discovered the body of Joseph Bullard and defiled it.

> "After the battle of Lookout Mountain had ended, the Captains who had been killed were buried beneath the council house of the Indians to prevent the Indians from finding and mutilating the bodies. This battle was a great victory for the Indians and they were especially happy as they discovered the bodies of three dead Captains. Captain Joseph Bullard strongly resembled General John Sevier and word spread among the Indians that they had killed "Chucky Jack" as Sevier was known to them. The bodies of the three Captains were taken to Running Water and a dance was held around (Joseph) Bullard's body..." 13



Dragging Canoe by Mike Smith 1991

For a detailed description of the Lookout Mountain Battle, see "The Life and Times Narrative of Joseph Bullard at: Bullardgenealogy.com

<sup>\*</sup> Three militia officers were killed at Lookout Mountain: Captain Gibson, Captain John Hardin (son of Col. Joseph Hardin) and Captain Joseph Bullard. Captain George Vincent was wounded. 14

# The Battle at Lookout Mountain Joseph Bullard Killed

# The Marriage Years 1786-1788

One can only image the bitter blow and grief Martha Bullard and her children felt when the Greene County militiamen returned home from Lookout Mountain with the distressing news of Joseph's untimely death. For many years, Joseph had been the provider and protector of his family and respected citizen of Greene county. Martha Bullard was now a widow.



After the death of **John Bullard's** father, John was thrust into the role as provider and protector of the Bullard family.

For many years, John and his two brothers would represent their mother's property interests, arising from the family's large revolutionary war land grants scattered throughout Washington, Greene, Hawkins and Jefferson, county Tennessee.

Martha, and her sons, **John**, Christopher, and Isaac, (as heir to Joseph Bullard's estate) would appear in scores of eastern Tennessee land sale and deeds.



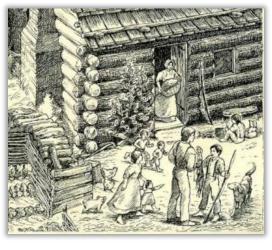
Future court records and documents would show **John Bullard** becoming the administrator and *ad hoc* overseer of the Bullard land holdings. By the early 1800's, all of Joseph Bullard's original land grants would eventually be sold off by his heirs.

In 1788, <u>Anne Bullard</u>, first daughter of **John Bullard** and Agnes Nancy Bullard, was born in Greene County, North Carolina (later Tennessee.) Anne Bullard married Woolery Beeler ~1811. Anne died in 1837 in Grainger County, Tennessee.

Joseph Bullard left behind his wife Martha, three grown sons and five daughters. His oldest son, Isaac Bullard (~28) would remain in eastern Tennessee until the late 1790's and later migrate to western Kentucky. **John Bullard** (~23), would migrate to Jefferson County and then to Claiborne County, Tennessee. Christopher Bullard (17/26), would become a militia officer in Greene County and later become a prominent civic leader in Franklin County, Tennessee.

No doubt Martha sought strength from her five daughters; Anna (~23) who had married Moses Johnson in 1786, Phoebe 19, Martha/Patsy (15), Mary (11), and Sarah (10).

In three years time, Phoebe Bullard would marry James Carter. Phoebe's brother, Isaac Bullard, pledged the marriage surety bond. In 1795, Christopher Bullard would marry Rachael Fitzgerald.



Two years later in 1797, Sarah Bullard, at age  $\sim$ 19, would marry John Fitzgerald on Valentine's Day. In 1798, Martha/Patsy Bullard and Mary Bullard married in the same year. Martha ( $\sim$ 24) married William Baker on January 17, 1798 and Mary (18) married David Rutledge on August 21, 1798.

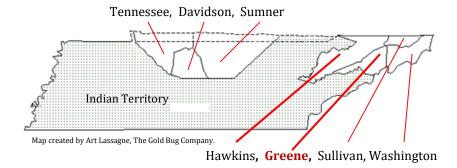
### Land Consolidation Years 1790-1800

In 1790, two years had passed since the untimely death of **John Bullard's** father, Joseph Bullard. The State of Franklin ceased to exist. It quietly went away. All county court documents, deeds, and legal recordings within Franklin were incorporated into North Carolina's state government.

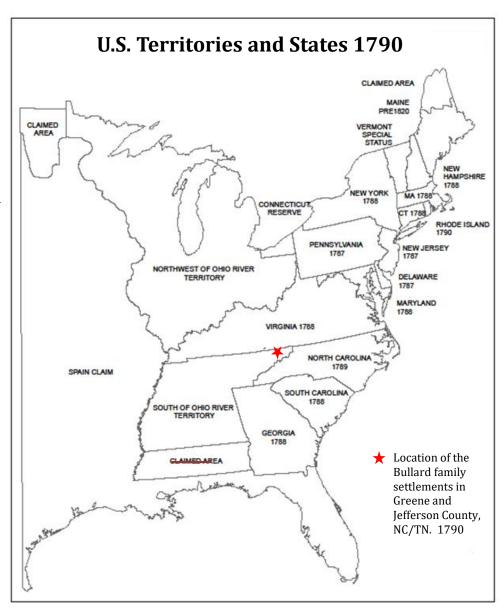
Until 1790, **John Bullard** and his family were under the laws and jurisdiction of North Carolina. In 1790, the Federal government accepted North Carolina's second offer of cession of her western territories. This cession brought into being "The Territory of the United States South of the River Ohio," commonly known as the Southwest Territory. The new Federal territorial government, administered largely by Presidential appointees, appointed William Blount as Governor. In 1792, Knoxville was selected as the governmental seat in the Southwest Territory. Blount served for nearly six years and would later become the second Governor of Tennessee. From 1790 to 1796, the counties where **John Bullard** and other Bullard families lived were under the jurisdiction of the Federal government.

In 1790, Tennessee area population was estimated at 35,690.\*

Eventually, in 1796, part of the Southwest Territory would become the 16<sup>th</sup> state in the Union, Tennessee.



Territory of the United States South of the River Ohio (Southwest Territory) County Lines 1790-1971 Southwest Territory became the state of Tennessee in 1796\*



<sup>36</sup> 

## Bullard Migration to Hawkins/Jefferson County, Tennessee\*

Sometime between 1789 and early 1790's, **John Bullard** (~25) and Nancy (~20) packed their worldly possessions and moved 70 miles from Lick Creek, Greene County to nearby Lost (Beaver) Creek in Hawkins/Jefferson County, North Carolina (later Tennessee.)
Accompanying the couple were their eldest son Joseph (~3), daughter

Anne (2) and possibly Henry (~1). By the mid 1790's, **John Bullard's** mother, Martha, and other Bullard family members migrated from Lick

family members migrated from Creek to Jefferson County and settled near **John Bullard**.



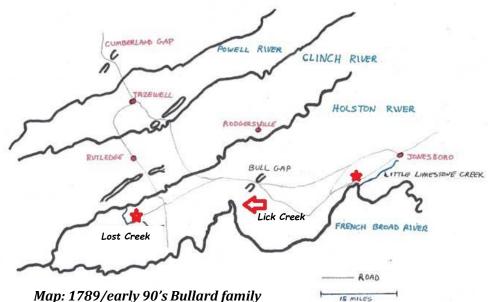
One could ask why the Bullard families left Greene County and moved to Jefferson County.

There are a number of possible reasons: (1) The patriarch of the family, Joseph Bullard had died in 1788 and Martha Bullard (~50) saw no reason to stay on at the family homestead, (2) plus, after over ten years of living and growing crops on Lick Creek, the soil might have been depleting, (3) the influx of new settlers was making the area too "crowded," (4) A number of Martha's children, were now grown and married and were seeking new, fertile land to raise their families, (5) After Joseph Bullard's 3,000+ acre land grant was established in Jefferson County, the Bullard's had an interest in staying together to manage and homestead on the land, (6) The Bullard's were aware that a Quaker colony had settled on portions of their Lost Creek land grant and wanted to be in close proximity to the tracts in order to protect their land interests and sell off unused portions of the land.

Whatever the reason(s), **John Bullard** and family packed their wagons, gathered up their livestock, seeds, and farming tools and travel along rough roads and running streams to reach Lost Creek. Once there, the arduous task began to clear new land, build a cabin and out buildings, plant crops and gardens and start anew homesteading.







migration from Lick Creek in Greene County

(NC/TN) to Lost (Beaver) Creek in

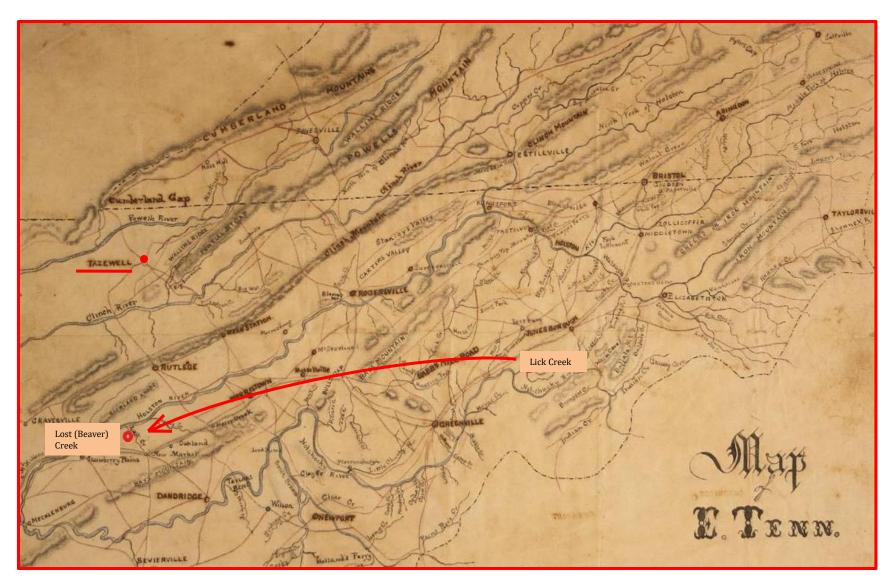
Hawkins/Jefferson County (NC/TN).

Bullardgenealogy.com

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<sup>\*</sup> Some Joseph Bullard land grants reference Hawkins County, NC. Hawkins County was formed in 1786. In 1792, Jefferson County was established from Hawkins County.

# Bullard Family Migration from Lick Creek, Greene County, North Carolina (TN) to Lost (Beaver) Creek in Hawkins/Jefferson County, North Carolina (TN)



#### **Revolutionary War Land Warrants & Grants**

When the Revolutionary War ended, the Continental Congress and North Carolina awarded land warrants/grants to war veterans. Warrants bestowed free land in the public domain to soldiers as a reward their service during the war. Money was scarce but land was abundant. Veterans with land warrants could occupy the land or they could assign it to others. (Many war veterans and their heirs sold numerous tracts without actually living on the land.)

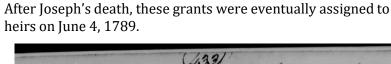
Captains were awarded 3,840 acres of land. John Bullard's father, Joseph Bullard, was a Captain in the North Carolina militia. (In 1782, he was promoted to Major.)\*

Land warrants were later converted into land grants. To illustrate, on February 19, 1784, Joseph Bullard was awarded a number of North Carolina land warrants totally over 3,400 known acres. The land was located on Beaver (Dam) Creek near Lost Creek in present day Jefferson County, Tennessee. (Beaver Dam Creek is a feeder creek to Lost Creek). Three years later on September 20, 1787, a majority of the land warrants were converted into land grants. (i.e. Grants #160 and #226).15

After Joseph's death, these grants were eventually assigned to the Bullard heirs on June 4, 1789.

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-drud	and Sunty	nd expigns form	DIDINARO CO USO	Layof September )
O.S.	Chargone	weetary.		El Charmel

Sample: Joseph Bullard Revolutionary War Warrant No. 840, File 249, "400 acres On the South side of Holston River Including an Island."\*





## North Carolina Land Grants to Joseph Bullard (and heirs) in present day Jefferson County, Tennessee 16

NC Land Grant	Issue Date	Acres	Location/Description of Land	
#160	Sep 20, 1787	1,000	Beaver Dam Creek (Green County)	
#226	Sep 20, 1787	400	Adjacent to Beaver Dam Creek on South side of Holston River (Green County)	
-	Sep 22, 1787	3,000	On the South side of Holston River on Lost Creek	
#75	Nov 19, 1790	-	-	
-	Aug 23, 1788	400	On the South side of Holston River at the head of Lost Creek	
#76	Nov 19, 1790	80	On the South side of Holston River on Beaver Creek (Hawkins County)	
#77	Nov 19, 1790	-	-	
#78	Nov 19, 1790	100	On the South side of Holston River at the head of Lost Creek and West of another Bullard line (plot)	
#819	Nov 19, 1790	200	On the South side of Holston River, adjacent to Bullard Heir line on Lost Creek (Greene County)	
#820	Nov 19, 1790	500	On the South side of Holston River (Green County) sold to Charles Hodges then James Hodges, Baker and Turner	
821	Mar 17, 1791	400	On the South side of Holston River adjacent to Bullard line	
-	-	150	On the South side of Holston River on Beaver Creek, adjacent to Charles Hodges and Adam Meek	
-	-	200	On the head of Raccoon Branch adjacent to Benjamin Neal and Isaac Wright line	
-	-	400	On the head of Raccoon Branch adjacent to Benjamin Neal and Isaac Wright line	

(For a comprehensive listing of Joseph Bullard's Revolutionary War land grants, see "The Life and Times Narrative of Joseph Bullard,' Vol. I, Appendix C.)

<sup>\*</sup> North Carolina 1775-1783: Their Own Words, Volume 2, Part 1, by J.D. Lewis, p. 818.

<sup>\*</sup> Greene County Court, September 20, 1787, Book 65, Grant # 206.p. 432. Image: Patent Book 65,pp. 432-433.

After Joseph Bullard's death in 1788, his property and Revolutionary War warrants and grants were assigned to his widow, Martha and his three sons. Beginning in 1790, Joseph Bullard's heirs began appearing in court documents as, "Martha Bullard, Administrator of Joseph Bullard,.. deceased, and John, Isaac, and Christopher Bullard, sons of Joseph Bullard..."17

By this time, the Bullard heirs were earnestly surveying and registering Joseph Bullard's land grants in Greene, Hawkins/Jefferson County, Tennessee. This was the beginning of the Bullard land holding consolidation.



Although the Bullard heirs appeared on many Jefferson County deeds throughout the 1790's, it is unknown if John Bullard's brothers, Isaac Bullard and Christopher Bullard, ever lived in Jefferson County for any length of time. What is known is both brothers maintained property in adjacent Greene County during the 1790's. Both were listed on a number of Greene County poll tax lists including a listing in 1798

Below are partial listings of Jefferson County, Tennessee land grants deeds awarded to Joseph Bullard. The Jefferson County grants totaled over 3,000 acres. Most of the acreage were located in the Lost Creek and the feeder creek, Beaver (Dam) Creek area. In all probability, Bullard heirs surveyed the land in 1789 and early 1790. The deeds were issued in the November 1790 court records and officially registered by 1794.)

Jefferson County Deeds: 160:76 "Grant # 75 Joseph Bullard

19 Nov 1790 (Reg.) 2 Aug 1794 300 Acres 10 pounds for

Every 100 acres. Paid by Ruben Coughran. County of Hawkins on the south side of Holston River between the waters of Mony Creek and Bever (sic) Creek. State of North Carolina at Fayettville. James Glasgow, Secretary

/s/ Alexander Martin"

Jefferson County Deeds: 158:75 "Grant # 77 Joseph Bullard

19 November 1790 (Reg.) 2 Aug 1794 150 Acres 50 Shillings For every 100 acres. Our County of Hawkins on the south side of Holston River on a creek called Buffaloe Creek. State of North Carolina at Fayetteville. James Glasgow, Secretary

/s/ Alexander Martin"

Jefferson County Deeds: 162:77

"Grant # 820 Joseph Bullard 19 Nov 1790 (Reg.) 2 Aug 1794

500 Acres 10 pounds for every 100 acres. Our County of Green on the south side of Houlston (sic) River including a spring and an improvement. State of North Carolina at Fayettville. James Glasgow, Secretary

/s/ Alexander Martin"

Jefferson County Deeds: 164:78 "Grant # 819 Joseph Bullard

19 Nov 1790 (Reg.) 2 Aug 1794 50 Shillings 200 Acres for every 100 acres. Our County of Green on the south side of Holston river adj.

another place of said Bullard, Loss (Lost) Creek. State of North Carolina at Fayetteville.

James Glasgow, Secretary

/s/ Alexander Martin"

Jefferson County Deeds: 166:79

"Grant # 78 Joseph Bullard

10 Nov 1790 (Reg.) 2 Aug 1794 100 Acres 50 Shillings for every 100 acres. Our County of Hawkins on the south side of Holston River adj. the head of Loss (Lost) Creek and the west line of another survey of said Bullards. John Hornback. State of North Carolina at Fayetville (sic). Jas. Glasgow, Secretary

/s/ Alexander Martin

Jefferson County Deeds: 168:80 "Grant # 76 Joseph Bullard

10 Nov 1790 (Reg.) 2 Aug 1794 80 Acres 50 Shillings for every 100 acres. County of Hawkins on the south side of Holston River adj. on Bever (sic) Creek. State of North Carolina at Fayettville. Jas. Glasgow, Secretary /s/ Alexander Martin

Jefferson County Deeds: 170:81 "Grant # 821 Joseph Bullard

17 Mar 1791 (Reg.) 2 Aug 1794 400 Acres 10 Pounds for every 100 acres. County of Greene on the south side of Holston River adj. Joseph Bullard's other place. State of North Carolina at Danbury. Jas. Glasgow, Secretary

/s/ Alexander Martin

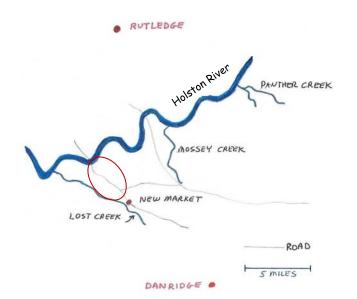
Et al. See Endnote 18

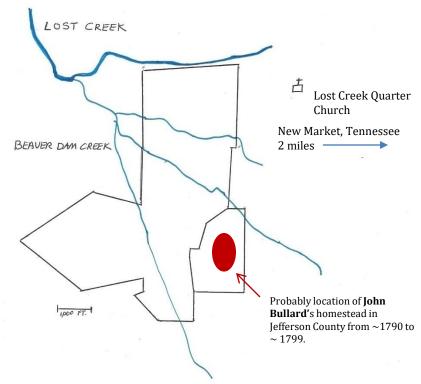
It was apparent throughout the 1790's, the Bullard heirs wanted to ensure Joseph Bullard's Revolutionary War land grants would stay within the family.

Throughout the decade, the Bullard heirs would consolidate their holdings by surveying, buying, selling and trading off their father's land warrants and grants that included the Lost Creek and Beaver Creek holdings in Jefferson County, Tennessee.\* During this time, the Bullard heirs were diligent in surveying their grants and recording their deeds in the county courthouse. If not recorded properly, they knew "squatters" could lay claim to their acquired land and make ownership right problematic. Looking at the evolution of the Bullard court documents in Jefferson County, it is evident the Bullard brothers (Isaac, John and Christopher) kept a watchful eye on their mother's interest with each land transaction. Supporting these transactions and deed recordings was family friend Luke Bowyer who was the representing attorney or witness to a majority of the transactions.

#### **Lost Creek**

Lost Creek and the feeder Beaver Creek are located in present day Jefferson County, Tennessee a few miles west of New Market, Tennessee and due south of Rutledge, Tennessee.





**Above:** Location of 782 acres North Carolina land grants given to Joseph Bullard near Lost Creek and Beaver Dam Creek in present day Jefferson County, Tennessee. (The above survey plots are located two miles west of New Market, Tennessee at the intersection of Whitaker Rd and West Old Andrew Johnson Highway.) From 1795 to 1803, these land tracts were sold off by the "Bullard heirs" with the exception of a 100 acre tract in the southeast part of Beaver Dam Creek. This section was definitely sold by **John Bullard Sr.** (and not the Bullard heirs) to John Turner on July 21, 1800. The sale date coincides with **John Bullard Sr.** moved from Jefferson County to Claiborne County, Tennessee.

<sup>\*</sup> By the mid 1790's, the Bullard heirs would double their land holdings in the area. The tracts lay south of Lost Creek between Beaver (Dam) Creek on the west and Lost Creek to the east to include a few parcels at the headwaters of Lost Creek.

A 1791 Hawkins (Jefferson) County deed from Joseph Bullard heirs to Edward Wright is representative of many land sale transactions carried out by the "Bullard Heirs" from 1790 through the early 1800's. Widow Martha Bullard was the estate administrator along with Martha's sons, **John,** Isaac and Christopher Bullard. The 400 acres of land, located at the head of Lost Creek in Hawkins/ Jefferson County was sold for 50 pounds Virginia money. A sizeable amount of money in 1790. The deed was registered in court on August 7, 1792. Luke Bowyer, attorney, was a witness to the deed registration.

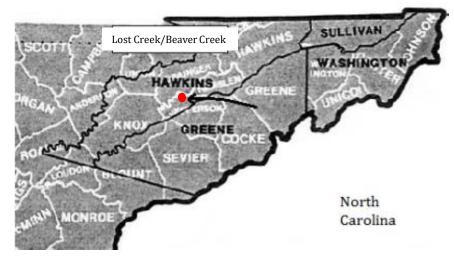


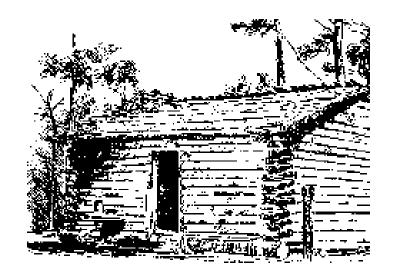
## 1791 Deed from Joseph Bullard's heirs to Edward Wright, Hawkins (Jefferson) County\*

"This indenture made this 27th day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety one between Martha Bullard Administrator of Joseph Bullard late of Hawkins County and John Bullard Isaac Bullard and Christopher Bullard sons of Joseph Bullard of the County aforesaid in the Territory south of the River is of the one part and Edward Wright of the County aforesaid of the other part Witnesseth that they the said Martha Bullard John Bullard Isaac Bullard & Christopher Bullard for and in consideration of the sum of fifty pounds Virginia money to them in hand paid and the said Joseph in his life time the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged have granted bargained and sold and by them proven do grant bargain sell convey and confirm unto the said Edward Wright his heirs and assigns in fee all that tract or parcel of land situated lying and being in Hawkins County aforesaid on the head of Lost Creek beginning at a white oak and black oak south one hundred and ninety two pole to a small hickory on a line of the three thousand acre survey north twenty east forty six pole along said line to two hickorys (sic) a corner of 3rd 3000 acre survey and of a 400 acres survey east along the 400 line to a stake north fifty one east two hundred and twenty eight pole to a stake north sixty six pole to a stake south eighty two west two hundred and thirty pole to the beginning containing two hundred acres together with all improvements ways woods water mines minerals ...and appurtenances thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining which said land the said Joseph Bullard in his lifetime being used and sold unto the said Edward Wright and is part of two large tracts of land conveyed by patent from the State of North Carolina to the said Joseph Bullard in fee and the said Martha John Isaac & Christopher Bullard do covenant and agree that they the said land as above described unto him the said Edward L Wright his heirs and assigns against the heirs of the said Joseph Bullard or any...by or from under them or him shall & will warrant and forever defend. In witness whereof the said Martha Bullard John Isaac & Christopher Bullard have hereunto set there hands and seals the date above mentioned.

/s/ Martha Bullard(seal), **John Bullard** (Seal), Isaac Bullard (Seal) Christopher Bullard (Seal).

Signed sealed &tc L. Bowyer, W. Braselton, B. Thornborough, J. Haworth." <sup>21</sup>





In 1790, \$32 was equivalent to \$1,000 in today's dollars.

<sup>\*</sup> The Bullard/Wright deed was registered in 1791 in Hawkins County. After Jefferson County was established from Hawkins County in 1792, the deed was registered in Jefferson County.

#### The Quakers

In 1784, six years before **John Bullard** moved to Jefferson County, a Quaker named John Mills (Sr.) settled in the Lost Creek area of Jefferson County. Soon afterwards, more Quaker's moved into the area from Guilford County, North Carolina and established a small colony along Lost Creek and nearby Beaver Dam Creek. Some of the new settlers did not hold title to land and were considered "squatters."



In September 1787, three years after squatters began moving into the area, North Carolina warranted over 3,000 acres of Revolutionary War grants along Lost Creek to **John Bullard's** father, Captain Joseph Bullard. The grants extended from the north side of Lewis Branch creek to just below the south side of Lost Creek. Joseph Bullard was now legal owner to some of the land on which a few Quakers had settled.

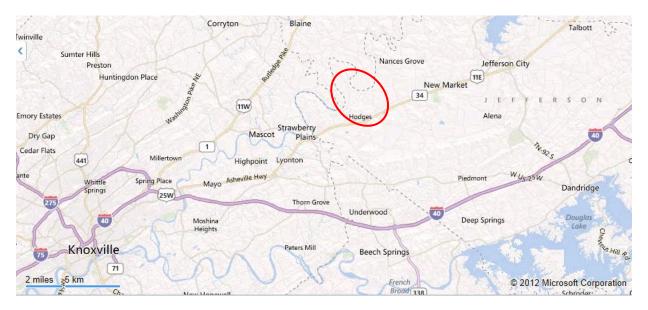
Two forces were working in tangent regarding the land surrounding Lost Creek. The Bullard heirs had legal title to the land and Quaker tradition sought to have full legal title to whatever land they owned and farmed.

At the same time, it appeared the Bullard heirs were accepting to allow squatters to remain on the land they owned until the area could be surveyed. The Bullard's were willing to negotiate in good faith to sell tracts in order for squatters to own land legally.

The wealth of the Bullard heirs accelerated due to the fact they had built-in buyers living on Bullard land which they legally owned. It was also beneficial to the squatters because they could eventually hold title to their farms.

Of note, most Quakers in America, recognizing the evils of slavery, freed their slaves by the late 1780's. In the early 1790's, some Jefferson County's Quakers still owned slaves. Slave ownership became a serious social issue within the Jefferson County Quaker community. By the early 1800's, Quaker leaders were challenging the Jefferson County Quaker colony to take a stand.

By the early 1800's, Jefferson County Quakers had freed all their slaves. Afterwards, a number of Quakers moved to Ohio. During this time, the Bullard families moved out of Jefferson County to neighboring Grainger/Claiborne County, Tennessee.



Lost Creek and Beaver Creek is situated two miles west of present day New Market, Jefferson County, Tennessee. Red circle is approximate location of Joseph Bullard's 3,000 acre land grant holdings.

One of the first Lost Creek Bullard land sales to a Quaker settler was conducted on April 27, 1791. The Bullard heirs (Martha, **John**, Isaac and Christopher) sold over 200 acres of land to Quaker James Haworth (Hayworth) and Benjamin Thorbury (Thornberry). As was again the case, Luke Bowyer was the representing attorney and witness to the transaction.



## "Heirs of Joseph Bullard, Deceased to Benjamin Thornbury (Thornberry) (Both of Hawkins Co.)

17 Oct 1794(Reg) Deed 27 Apr 1791 200 acres. 50 Pounds Martha Bullard, Administratix of Joseph Bullard, late of Hawkins County,\*\* deceased (sic); and **John Bullard**, Isaac Bullard, and Christopher Bullard, Sons of the said Joseph Bullard. Hawkins County on the waters of Lost Creek adj. "\_\_" Baldin. Part of 3 tracts granted by the State of North Carolina by Patent to Joseph Bullard. Wit: Sam (Luke) Bowyers; Edward Wright; James Haworth.

/s/ Martha Bullard;

#### John Bullard;

Isaac Bullard;

Christ (Christopher) Bullard" 22



## "Heirs of Joseph Bullard to James Haworth (Hayworth) (Both of Hawkins Co.)

24 Sep 1793 (Regt.) 27 Apr 1791 (Deed) "\_\_" Acres 50 Pounds Martha Bullard, Administrator of Joseph Bullard, late of Hawkins County, deceased, and **John (Bullard)**, Isaac, and Christopher Bullard, Sons of Joseph Bullard. Hawkins County on the waters of Lost Creek adj. Edward Right (Wright), Benjamin Thornburgh (Thornbury); being part of a tract to Joseph Bullard by patent (sic) from the State of North Carolina. Wit: <u>Luke Bowyer</u>; Edward Wright; Benjamin Thornburgh (Thornbury).

/s/ Martha,
John (Bullard),

John (Bu

Christopher Bullard." 23



On November 5, 1791, the first Tennessee newspaper, Knoxville Gazette, was established in Rogersville, (Hawkins County) Tennessee. The publication moved to present day Knoxville, Tennessee a year later.

In April 1791, the Bullard heirs deeded a large tract of land to another prominent Quaker, Samuel Standfield for 100 (North Carolina) pounds. Standfield had migrated from Greene County to Jefferson County. The description of the land deed is very detailed and specific. (Although Isaac and Chrisopher Bullard are mentioned, they were living in Hawkins (Jefferson) County in 1791.) Luke Bowyer was once again a witness to the transaction.



#### Bullards to Standefield (Standfield)

(Deed April 27, 1791) Registered August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1792

(p.128)

"This Indenture made this 27th of April in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety one-between Martha Bullard administratrix of Joseph Bullard late of Hawkins County deceased and John Bullard of the county aforesaid in the territory south of the River Ohio of the one part and Sammuel (sic) Standfield of Greene County in the territory aforesaid yeoman of the other part witnesseth that they the said Martha Bullard John Bullard Isaac Bullard and Christopher Bullard that for and in consideration of the sum of one hundred pounds money of North Carolina to them the said Joseph Bullard in his life time in hand paid the receipt whereof is presents do grant bargain sell convey and confirm unto the said Samuel Standfield his heirs and assigns in fee simple all that tract of land situated lying and being in Hawkins County on Lost Creek beginning at a white oak running thence north forty degrees west twenty eight poles to a hickory near the creek south sixty west thirty two poles to an ash south sixteen west thirty six poles to a while oak on the south side of the creek south fifty west twenty four poles to a stake south eighteen degrees west fourteen poles to poplar (tree) on the north edge of the creek south twenty four degrees east crossing the creek and spring branch thirty poles to a pine south eighty one west twenty three poles to a white oak north sixty five west thirty two poles to a Spanish oak on the north side of the creek and south eighty two west one hundred and twenty four poles to a Spanish oak sapling these courses run down the creek and cross various times then running by William Bales line north and Lewis' line north three hundred and eighty poles to a market tree then east two hundred and sixty one poles to Geo. Howards line then by his line to the beginning containing five hundred acres together with all improvements ways woods waters mines minerals hereditaments and appertinances whatsoever the route belonging or any wise (otherwise) appertaining which land the said Thos. (Jos) Bullard in his life time bargained and sold unto the said Samuel Standfield and is part of a large tract conveyed by patent from the state of North Carolina to the said Jos Bullard in fee and the said Martha Bullard, John Bullard, Isaac Bullard and Christopher Bullard do covenant and agree that the said land as above described unto him the said Samuel Standfield his heirs and assigns against then and their heirs of the heirs of said Thos (Jos) Bullard, deceased or any claiming by or from under him or them shall, and will warrant and forever defend by these presents in witness whereof the said Martha John Isaac and Christopher Bullard hath hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.

Martha Bullard (Seal)

John Bullard (Seal)

Isaac Bullard (Seal)

Chris (Christopher) (Seal)

Signed sealed and delivered in the presence of Lewis (Luke) Bowyer. W. Brafitton (Brasselton) E. Wright." <sup>24</sup>

In 1791 and 1792, **John Bullard** was ensnarled in a two year legal dispute with Isaac Brazelton. Brazelton was born  $\sim$ 1740 in Frederick County, Maryland and acquired a Revolutionary War land grant in Hawkins County (present day Jefferson County) for service in the war.

As with many Bullard court proceedings, Luke Bowyer represented the Bullard heirs in the lawsuit. The issue is unclear, but in all probability, it centered around a disputed land boundary. (Brazelton's land grants were adjacent to Joseph Bullard's Lost Creek land grants.)

John Bullard, the plaintiff, summoned a number of neighbors as witnesses to give dispositions. It appears, but not confirmed, John Bullard won the case against Brazelton. This might be reflected by the fact that John Bullard was a citizen of Hawkins (Jefferson) County while Isaac Brazelton was an absentee landowner.\* Isaac Brazelton died sometime around 1811.

- "Isaac Brazelton of Hawkins County; writ of capias ad respondendum issued; case of John Buller (Bullard) vs. Isaac Brazelton; issued August 17, 1791"
- •"Isaac Brazelton, Elihu Swain, and John Mills of Hawkins County; bond held unto Thomas Berry, sheriff; case of **Buller (Bullard)** vs. Brazelton; January 9, 1792"
- •"John Buller (Bullard) vs. Isaac Brazelton; court bill and papers; February
  Term 1792"
- •"Luke Boyer(Bowyer), Charles Ewen of Hawkins County; subpoena issued for; case of John Buller (Bullard) vs. Isaac Brazelton; June 4, 1792"
- •John King, John Vance, Alexander Brown, and others from Jefferson County; subpoena issued for; at request of **John Bullard**; October 15, 1792 Endnote <sup>25</sup>

In the same year **John Bullard** was in a land dispute with Isaac Brazelton, the Bullard heirs sold a track of land to Isaac's brother, William Brazelton (b. 1734). William Brazelton was a member of the Quaker colony in the Lost Creek area of Jefferson County.



#### **Bullards to Braselton (Brazelton)**

Deed April 1791

Registered August 8, 1792

"This Indenture made the twenty seventh day of April 1791 between Martha Bullard administratrix of Joseph Bullard late of Hawkins deceased John Bullard Isaac Bullard Christopher Bullard sons of the said Joseph of the county af'd territory south of the Ohio of the one part and William of the same place of the other part witnesseth the said Martha Bullard John Isaac and Christopher for and in consideration of the sum of eighty pounds currency to them and to the said Joseph in his life time paid the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged granted bargained sold and by these presents do grant and sell in fee simple unto the said William Brasselton (Brazelton) and assigns all that tract situated in the county aforesaid on Lost creek beginning at a Spanish oak standing of the creek cunning thence south 50 degrees to a gum then by John M. Mers south 69—then north 70 degrees east one hundred ten poles to a hickory thence by James Howard hundred and thirty poles west thirty poles south the 3000 acres line then by it west 1000 poles to a stake and stons then south three hundred poles to the beginning together with all woods waters mines minerals hereditaments there unto belonging or in any wise appertaining the said Joseph Bullard in his life time bargained to the said William Brasselton (Brazelton) and is part of a conveyed by patent to said Joseph and the said John Isaac and Christopher Bullard do covenant that the above descrived land and premises unto Brasselton (Brazelton) and his heirs from them and their hiers and every person will warrant and defend by these presents whereof they have hereunto set their hands and seals by the day written.

Martha Bullard (Seal)

John Bullard (Seal)

Isaac Bullard (Seal)

Christopher Bullard. (Seal)" <sup>26</sup> ....(torn, unreadable)

## By 1791, John and Nancy Bullard

had been living in Hawkins (Jefferson) County for approximately two years. The Bullard's were raising their first two of twelve children. (Joseph Bullard age ~4; and Anne Bullard age 3.) Their third child, Henry Bullard would be born ~1792. At the time, the county was a U.S. Territory under the authority of the U.S. government.



45

<sup>\*</sup> Although there is a court reference that Brazelton was from Hawkins County, there is no record of him living in the county for any length of time. Records do show he sold his land in Frederick County in May 1791 and moved to Washington County, Kentucky in 1792.

#### Jefferson County, Tennessee Established: 1792

On June 11, 1792, four years before Tennessee became a state, Jefferson County (and Knox County) were formed by ordinance of the U.S. Territorial Governor William Blount. Jefferson County was formed from Greene and Hawkins Counties. The first county court session was held a month later at the house of Jeremiah Matthes near present day Dandridge, Tennessee.

#### **Territorial Ordinance Creating Jefferson County**



"Be it ordained that from and after the fifteenth day of the present month of June, the counties of Greene and Hawkins shall be circumscribed by a line beginning on Nolachucky (sic) river at the place where the ridge which divides the waters of Bent and Lick creek strikes it, thence with that ridge to Bull's Gap of Bay's mountain, thence a direct line to the place where the road that leads from Dodson's ford to Perkin's iron works crosses the watery fork of Bent creek, thence down that road to the head of Panther creek, down the meanders of that creek to the river Holston, thence a northwest course to the river Clinch. Again, from Nolachucky (sic) river where the ridge that divides the waters of Bent and Lick creek strikes it a direct course to Peter Fine's ferry on French Broad, then south to the ridge that divides the waters of French Broad and Big Pigeon and with that ridge to the eastern boundary of the territory.

And be it ordained that two new counties be laid out and established below the aforesaid line, that is to the southward and westward of it, to be distinguished from and after the said fifteenth day of June instant by the names of Jefferson county and Knox county. The county of Jefferson to be butted and bounded by the above described line from the eastern boundary of the territory to the river Holston, and down the river Holston to the mouth of Creswell's mill creek, thence a direct line to the mouth of Dumplin creek on French Broad, thence up the meanders of French Broad to the mouth of Boyd's creek, thence south twenty five degrees east to the ridge which divides the waters of Little Pigeon and Boyd's creed and with the said ridge to the indian boundary or the eastern boundary of the territory as the case may be, and by the eastern boundary... Done at Knoxville the 11th day of June in the year of our Lord 1792." <sup>27</sup>

The first court indictment was found against Reuben Roach for petit larceny. He was tried and found guilty of having stolen three yards of linen and the same amount of "royal ribbon" from George Baxter. For this offense he was sentenced to receive two lashes.



Jefferson County, Tennessee (Bullard land tracts circled in blue)

County, Tennessee was the presence of long time family friend, and counselor, Luke Bowyer. He registered as a practicing attorney in Jefferson County in 1792.

Luke Bowyer was one of the first Jefferson County, Tennessee attorney's. Bowyer would follow the Bullard family migrations, especially Martha Bullard's migration from Washington/Greene County, to Hawkins/Jefferson County and eventually to Claiborne County, Tennessee. Only until the death of Martha Bullard ~1810 did Luke Bowyer separate from the Bullard family. Sometime after 1810, he moved to Greenbrier, West Virginia to live with one of his brothers.

Another telltale sign the Bullards had migrated to Jefferson



Jefferson County Court Records: 1792

"The following Gentlmen (sic) severally produced License authorising (sic) them to practice Law were qualified and accredited accordingly.

Vis: <u>Luke Bowyer</u>, William Cock, John Rhea, Alexander Outlaw,
James Reese, Archibald Roane and Hopkins Lacy." <sup>28</sup>

On September 22, 1792, the Bullard heirs sold 500 acres of land on Lost Creek to John Mills (Sr.). John Mills is recognized as the first Quaker to settled in the area eight years earlier. It is believed Mills purchased his original farm from the Indians. One could assume he was purchasing additional land adjacent to or near his present farm. The land sale was registered with the county court on January 17, 1793. (By the early 1790's, the area became known as Quaker Valley.)



#### "Conveyance from Heirs of Joseph Bullard to John Mills

17 Jan 1793 22 Sep 1792 (Deed) 500 Acres 62 Pounds 10 Shillings. Martha Bullard, Administrator of Joseph Bullard, deceased, and **John (Bullard)**, Isaac, Christopher Bullard, and the other Heirs. On the south side of Holston River on a creek called and known by the name of Lost Creek; being part of a grant of 3,000 acres from the State of North Carolina dated 22 Sep 1787. Wit: Luke Bowyer; Benianon (Benjamin) Murrell; Samuel Mills. /s/ Martha, **John (Bullard)**, Isaac, and Christopher Bullard." <sup>29</sup>

In the same year, 1792, the Bullard heirs sold over 425 acres to Aaron Mills and Samuel Mills. Luke Bowyer was a witness.



#### "Conveyance from Heirs of Joseph Bullard to Aaron Mills

9 May 1793 23 Nov 1792 (Deed) 250 Acres 80 Pounds Martha Bullard, **John (Bullard)**, Isaac, and Christopher Bullard, heirs of Joseph Bullard, deceased. On the head of Lost Creek waters of Holston River; being a grant by patten (sic) from the State of North Carolina to Joseph Bullard. Wit: Luke Bowyer; William Roberson (Robertson); John Mills.
/s/ Martha, John **(Bullard)**, Isaac, Christopher Bullard." <sup>30</sup>



#### "Conveyance from Heirs of Joseph Bullard to Aaron Mills

9 May 1793 23 Nov 1792 (Deed) 76 % Acres 25 Pounds
Martha Bullard, Administrator of Joseph Bullard, deceased, and **John (Bullard)**, Isaac,
Christopher Bullard, and the rest of the heirs. On the south side of Houlston (sic) river
on the head of a creek cald (sic) and known by the name of Lost Creek adj. Edward
Wright, Joseph Bullard, Deceased; being part of a 400 acre grant from the State of North
Carolina dated 23 Aug 1788. Wit: Luke Bowyer; William Robertson; John Mills. /s/
Martha, John (**Bullard**) Isaac, Christopher Bullard." <sup>31</sup>



#### Conveyance from Heirs of Joseph Bullard to Samuel Mills

"3 Jan 1793 23 Sep 1792 (Deed) 100 Acres 20 Pounds Martha Bullard, Administrator of Joseph Bullard, deceased, and **John**, Isaac, Christopher Bullard, and the other Heirs. On the south side of Holston River on a creek called and known by the name of Lost Creek adj. Evin Lewis, Thomas Richey; being part of a 3,000 acre grant from the State of North Carolina dated 20 Sep 1787. Wit: Luke Bowyer(s); Benimon Murrell (Benjamin Murrell); John Mills.

/s/ Martha, John, Isaac, and Christopher Bullard." 32

The Bullard heirs sold other Jefferson County land parcels in the fall of 1792 to Seth Johnston (Johnson), Benjamin Murrell, and Jordan Roach.



#### Conveyance from Heirs of Joseph Bullard to Seth Johnston (Johnson)

"2 Nov 1792 6 Oct 1792 (Deed) 150 Acres 37 pounds
Martha Bullard, Administrator of Joseph Bullard, deceased; **John**, Isaac, Christopher Bullard, and
the other Heirs. On the south side of Holston River on a creek called and known by the name of
Lost Creek adj. John Bulls. Test: Luke Bowyer; Benj Merrell; Elihu Swain.
/s/ Martha Bullard; **John**, Isaac, and Christopher Bullard." 33



#### "Conveyance from Heirs of Joseph Bullard to Benjamin Murrell

200 Dec 1792 22 Sep 1792 (Deed) 200 Acres 50 pounds
Martha Bullard, Administrator of Joseph Bullard, deceased; **John**, Isaac, and Christopher Bullard,
Sun (sic) of Joseph Bullard. Lying on Lost Creek; which land Joseph Bullard in his lifetime sold
unto a certain William Bailes and is part of a larger tract conveyed by Patten (sic) from the State
of North Carolina to Joseph Bullard, and is by contract assigned to Beniamon (Benjamin
Murrell) Morrell from William Bales and the Heirs of Joseph Bullard. Wit: Luke Bowyer, John
Mills; Samuel Mills. /s/ Martha Bullard; **John**, Isaac, and Christopher Bullard." 34



#### Jefferson County Court Session: 1792

"A deed from the Heirs of Joseph Bullard deceased to Jordan Roach was proven in Court and recorded." 35

In late 1792, the county court recorded a land grant survey belonging to Joseph Thornbury (Thornberry). **John Bullard** and Richard Mills witnessed the land survey. One could assume **John Bullard** accompanied the survey team to keep a vigilant watch over his neighbor's boundaries.



#### "Joseph Thornbury: State of North Carolina, Hawkins County, November 15th, 1792.

Surveyed and laid off for Joseph Thornbury by virtue of a supernumerary warrant of No. 1441 dated [no date] a tract of land lieing (sic) on the waters of Beaver Creek on the South side of Holstons River joing(sic) Heremiah Horns land on the east and Adam Meeks land on the West beginning at two poplars and running thence due north along sd Horns line one hundred and sixty poles to the corner post oak thence a course forty poles to a stake near a post oak thence due west one hundred and ten poles to a post oak hence due south two hundred twenty poles to a postoak thence due east one hundred and ten poles to a stake thence to the beginning containing one hundred and fifty acres and as platted by a scale of one hundred poles to the inch./s/Jos McCullah (McCullough) /w/ John Bullard, Richard Mills." 36

By the early 1790's, the area around Lost Creek became known as Quaker Valley. Today, the area is known as Rocky Valley near New Market, Tennessee.



Quaker Valley in Jefferson County

Throughout the 1790's, **John Bullard** served on a number of Jefferson County juries. In 1792, **John Bullard** sat on a jury that found for the plaintiff, David Black and awarded him 33 pounds and one shilling for an unknown claim. It is unknown if David Black was related to Nancy Elizabeth Black who married **John Bullard's** son, **Isaac Bullard** in the early 1820's. Other members of the jury were **John Bullard's** uncle, Isaac Bullard (b. ~1760) and **John Bullard's** brother-in-law, Samuel (Henry) Casey.



Jefferson County Court Session 1792 "David Black Pltf

Vs In Case

**Evan Edwards Deft** 

A Jury to wit: Shadrach Inman, James Harrison, **John Ballard (Bullard)**, Samuel Kasey (Casey), John Hodges, Frazer Brindley, Alex. Montgomery, Nicholas Davis, James Doherty, Robert King, <u>Isaac Bullard</u>, and William Allen being elected tried and sworn do find for the plaintiff thirty three pounds on(e) shilling and four pence besides his costs. It was therefore considered by the Court that the plaintiff recover agaisnt (sic) the Defendant his damages aforesaid." <sup>37</sup>

A 1792, Jefferson County court document recorded **John Bullard's** uncles, Isaac Bullard and Christopher Bullard, serving as jurors on a case between Richard Brindley (Plantiff) vs. John Hodges (Defendant.) <sup>38</sup> The jury found in favor of John Hodges.



In 1792, **John Bullard** served on a Jefferson County jury in the case of William Bell and John Gilliland. The jury found for the defendant, John Gilliland. Two of the jurymen were **John Bullard** and brother-in-law, Samuel (Henry) Casey.



Jefferson County Court Session: 1792 "William Bell

Vs In Case

Iohn Gilliland

A Jury to wit Thomas Kincaid, Andrew Cofman, Thomas Sellers, Robert Douglas, Elijah Rogers, John Hill, George Vineyard, James McDowell, **John Bullard**, Samuel Kasey (Casey), William Morrow and James Menasco, being elected tried and sworn to find for the Defendant. It was therefore considered by the Court that the Plaintiff take nothing by his writ but that he be in mercy & c. It is ordered by the Court that James Todd be fined the sum of three dollars for absenting himself from his fellow jurors." <sup>39</sup>

In 1792, the Jefferson County court recorded **John Bullard** making an unknown "bill of Sale" purchase. What was purchased is unknown. Most likely livestock or a mare. The sale was made from Ann Smith to **John Bullard.** Luke Bowyer was a witness to the sale. In the same year, deceased John Smith had his estate probated. Ann Smith could have possibly been the widow of John Smith.



Jefferson County Court Session: 1792 "A bill of Sale from Ann Smith to **John Bullard** was proven in Court by the oaths of Luke Bowyer a witness thereto and recorded." <sup>40</sup>



In ~1792, <u>Henry Bullard</u>, second son of **John Bullard** and Nancy was born. Henry Bullard married Leah Capps ~1810. Henry died ~1872 in McDonald Co., Missouri.

In the 1790's, Jefferson County's two primary waterways, the Holston and French Broad Rivers, were major navigational routes flowing in a westerly direction to a junction near present day Knoxville, Tennessee. At the time, Knoxville was the nearest major town where farmers could shipped their crops and agricultural goods to market.

Most eastern Tennessee settlers and farmers used the east to west river routes. During the 1790's, demand for tobacco decreased and prices were depressed. Cotton would soon take over as the cash crop for farmers in both eastern and western Tennessee.

## Whiskey, Fighting and Stealing

In the 1790's through the early 1800's, America was a nation of drunkards. Drinking was a way of life. Alcohol was consumed all day and all night...in taverns, in the fields, and at home. Hardly a social or work function went by where alcohol was not consumed; meals, log clearings, road building, funerals, weddings, crop cutting, etc. Alcohol was the beverage of necessity permeating every level of society. The amount of absolute alcohol consumed by Americans rose steadily. By the mid 1820's the annual average *per capita* consumption of alcohol was seven gallons. More than three times what it is today. In the southern states, the drink of choice was corn whiskey and hard cider. (Such activity eventually spawned the Temperance Movement of the 1830's to 1850's.)

At the August 1792\* Jefferson County court session, **John Bullard** and two other settlers, Samuel Duncan and William Carver, were severally fine \$2.50 for fighting in the verge of the court.

Samuel Duncan was a Revolutionary War soldier and blacksmith. He was known as the "fighting Quaker." The name suited him well. Although they were not fighting inside the courtroom, "the verge of the court" meant the men were brawling while court was in session in an area within the vicinity of the courts jurisdiction. It is unclear why the three were fighting, or who instigated it, but respect for the court and the law was ever present on the frontier. **John Bullard** paid the fine.



Jefferson County Court Session: 1792
"It is ordered by Court that Samuel
Duncan, John Bullard and William Carver
be severally fined the sum of two dollars
and fifty cents for fighting in the verge of
the Court and that they be held in custody
untill (sic) the fine and costs are paid.

**John Bullard** and Samuel Duncan paid into office the above fines imposed on them by the Court."  $^{41}$ 



Horse stealing in Jefferson County was not tolerated. In the same year **John Bullard** was fined for fighting, Jefferson County court found Jesse Jeffery guilty of horse stealing.

For his criminal offense, Jeffery was sentenced to stand in the pillory for one hour, receive thirty-nine lashes upon his bare back "well laid on." His ears were cut off and nailed to the pillory and the letters "H" and "T" (horse thief) were branded on his cheeks. Undoubtedly, the community did not look kindly to horse stealing. The next year, Robert Parker was tried for stealing "500 Spanish milled-dollars" from Thomas Humes. He was convicted and sentenced to be hung.



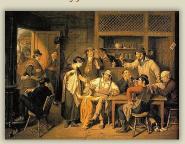


At the Jefferson County, Tennessee court session held in the Spring of 1796, Court Justices, Clerks and a Sheriff were appointed; near the top of the agenda was the setting of tavern rates.



"Tavern Rates – Rum, per half pint, 25 cents
Wine, do (or ditto, meaning the same);
French Brandy and Gin, do;
Peach Brandy, 12 ½
Whisky (sic), 8 1/3;
Beer per quart, 8 1/3;
Cider, 12 ½;
Metheglin 12 ½ (fermented mixture of water and honey)

Diets – Breakfast, 16 2/3 cents; Dinner, 21; Lodging 5 (cents) Horse per night, Fodder or hay, 12 1/4; Oats or corn per gallon, 8 1/3;" 42



In 1792, the Bullard heirs were brought into court regarding a civil Ejectment dispute by plaintiff, Adam Meek a practicing attorney. Ejectment is a legal termed involving the recovery or possession of disputed land (or title) by the owner from a defaulting tenant or squatter.



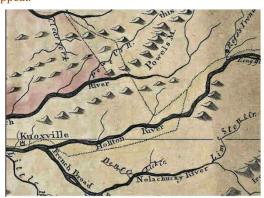
The court appointed two citizens to survey the disputed land. The case went to a jury. It is unclear if the dispute was about Ejectment or land boundaries. A jury was convened and found in favor of the Bullard heirs, "Defendants are not guilty." Meek lost his right to remain on (or own) the disputed land. Meek immediately appealed the verdict. The outcome of the appeal is unknown.



Jefferson County Court Minutes 1792-1798
"The Court appoint David Stuart and Joseph McCullah to survery (sic) the lands in dispute between Adam Meek and the heirs of **Joseph Bullard** dex. And return platts (sic) thereof to our next Court." 43



Jefferson County Court Session, October 1792: "Den on Demise of A. Meek – Pltf. Vs The **Heirs of Joseph Bullard** dec'd – Deft. A Jury to wit: James W. Lackey, Samuel Weir, Thomas Kincaid, James Walker, John Henderson, William Morrow, Bartlett Gentry, Peter Fine, John Counts, Goe (Geo.) Wilcockson (Wilkason), John Balch and Joseph Robinson elected tried and sworn do say the Defendants are <u>not guilty</u> of the trespass laid in the Plaintiffs Declaration of Ejectment. It was therefore considered by the Court that the Plaintiff take nothing by his plaint but that he be in mercy and c. (at the mercy of the court). Whereupon the Plaintiff prayed and appeal which was granted entered into Bond and Security and filed reasons for his appeal."



Five years after Adam Meek lost his ejectment suit, he sold a tract of land to William Robertson on Beaver Creek with a deed notation that part of the boundaries intersected with "Widow Bullard" (Martha Bullard.) Evidence that **John Bullard's** mother, Martha Bullard, was still living in Jefferson County as late as 1797.







Present day photo of property located on the Holstein River near the Bullard land tracts on Beaver Creek (Jefferson County, Tennessee).

In 1792, Kentucky, originally part of Virginia, became the 15<sup>th</sup> State to join the Union. In the same year, Andrew Jackson received his first military appointment as Judge Advocate for the Davidson County (Tennessee) Regiment.

In January, 1793, the Bullard heirs sold 300 acres of land to Evan Lewis in Jefferson County. Witnessed by Luke Bowyer. The parcel was near the Bullard homestead.



"Conveyance from Heirs of Joseph Bullard to Evin (Evan) Lewis 8 May 1793 26 Jan 1793 300 Acres 75 Pounds Martha Bullard, Administrator of Joseph Bullard, deceased, (John Bullard), Isaac, and Christopher Bullard, Sons of the said Joseph Bullard. On a sinking branch called or known by the name of Lewis Branch; being part of a larger tract patented to Joseph Bullard from the State of North Carolina. Wit: <a href="Luke Bowyer">Luke Bowyer</a>(s); Beninom (Benjamin) Murrell.

/s/ Martha, John (Bullard), Isaac, Christopher Bullard." 46

Thirty years later, Evan Lewis died. In his 1823 will and last testament, Lewis willed his property to his surviving son Henry Lewis. Apparently, there was an ongoing land dispute between Lewis and the Bullard heirs. In Lewis's will, he implied that 100 acres of land he bought from the Bullard heirs was fraudulently sold to him. The transaction "appears to be a fraud put upon me by Bullard or his sons." There is no known record that Evan Lewis (or his son Henry Evans) made any attempt to go court over the 100 acre dispute. The true account of what happened and its outcome is lost in history.



Jefferson County, Tennessee Will Book: June 23, 1823 (Abstract) "Wife Susanna Sons: Richard – lands north of Summers and Bullards line. (Sons) Henry and Evan Lewis the place whereon I now live. Six daughters: i.e. Mary Hinshaw, Ann Swain, Racheal (sic) Hammer, Eleanor Adamson, Susanna Beals and Elizabeth Beals.

'...appears to be a fraud put upon me by Bullard or his sons about one hundred acres of land which I paid them for,...sons have this share of the lands of Joseph Bullard...'

Son Henry Lewis and only son in law Elisha Hammer, exec.

Witnesses: John Swain his
Uriah Hinshaw Evan X Lewis

mark

Returned to Court September session 1823" 47

In 1793, Jefferson County court awarded Luke Bowyer ten pounds for his 1792 services as Solicitor for Jefferson County.



Jefferson County, Tennessee Court Minutes "The Court allow <u>Luke Bowyer</u> States Attorney the sum of ten pounds for the year 1792 for his services." <sup>48</sup> The next year, Jefferson County awarded Luke Bowyer \$20 for his attorney services for the year 1793. These two court recordings reflects Luke Bowyer was living in Jefferson County in the early 1790's. He would later resign his position as Solicitor of Jefferson County in May of 1796.



Jefferson County, Tennessee Court Minutes, February 1794 "The Court allow the Clerk thirty three dollars and one third for his exoffico services for the year 1793. And to <u>Luke Bowyer</u> Solicitor for the same year twenty dollars and to the Sheriff for the same year forty dollars."  $^{49}$ 

In 1793, John Sevier led a large group of militiamen through the Cherokee country to quell an uprising. After the expedition, Sevier sought the support of U.S. House of Representative Andrew Jackson to compensate the men who volunteered for the campaign.



Jackson submitted a Congressional resolution for the request and received over \$22,000 compensation for the Indian expedition. In ten years, Andrew Jackson and John Sevier would become bitter political enemies.



#### John Bullard Branded Livestock

Sometime around 1793, **John Bullard** went to Jefferson County courthouse near present day Dandridge, Tennessee and recorded his branding mark for his horses, cattle and hogs.

Court recordings of a settlers brand was done to show evidence of ownership in case livestock wandered off the owners property or was stolen.

#### John Bullard's brand being:



Jefferson County Court Session: 1792-1795 "**John Bullards** (sic) mark of cattle, hoggs (sic) and sheep is thus recorded. A crop of the left ear and two slitts (sic) and a half penny in the right ear in the underside." <sup>50</sup>

Of note, ten years earlier, Greene County had taxed **John Bullard's** father, Joseph, with 43 horses. For whatever reason, it appears **John Bullard** did not follow in his father's footsteps of raising horses.



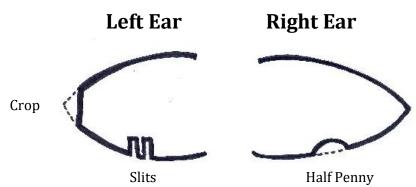
Instead, he chose to raise cattle, hogs and sheep.





**John Bullard** registration used three branding symbols. A "crop" is where the tip of the livestock ear was cut off squarely at the end. A "slit" is where a short straight cut is made at the end or side of the ear; and a "half penny" is where a half circle is punched out on the edge of the ear.

The terms left and right ears were always referenced from the rear view of the animal.



Above: John Bullard's court recorded livestock branding: On the left ear, a crop and two slits, and a half penny on the right ear.





In the late 1700's and 1800's, there were nine general branding symbols in America to prove livestock ownership.\* Settlers identified their livestock by means of marks (slits and cuts) on an animal's ear. These slashes on the ears had the same legal significance as hot branding irons on flanks of cattle on the Western prairies.

<sup>\*</sup> The nine recognizable marks were: (1) a crop, (2) a latch, (3) a crop-latch, (4) a wedge, (5) a penny, (6) slit, (7) half penny, (8) a slope (9) fleur-de-lis. These nine marks made thousands of combinations possible.



In June 1790, President George Washington instructed William Blount, Governor of the U.S. Southwest Territory, to make peace with the Cherokee Indians at any price. The U.S. Congress began recognizing past treaties and began enforcing them. New boundaries were established and the Cherokee were paid a fair price for land where white settlers had squatted. In July of 1791, William Blount signed the Treaty of Holston with the Cherokee Indians. The Cherokee placed themselves under the protection of the United States government and agreed to previous treaty boundaries.

When the Treaty of Holston was signed, two of John **Bullard's** brothers, Isaac and Christopher Bullard, were militia guards at the treaty negotiations. (The militia roll of Captain Hugh Beard's company listed

**Cherokee Wars Ends: 1794** 



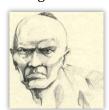
both brothers serving between May 31 and July 3, 1791.51 Other noted guards on the roster were John Bullard's brother-in-laws, Samuel Kersey/Casey and Joseph (John) Kersey/Casey.

However, as in the past, the renegade rebel Dragging Canoe did not recognize the new treaty. Still sparked by his 1788 victory over General Martin at Lookout Mountain (which saw the ambush killing of John Bullard's father), Dragging Canoe's reputation and dominance peaked in the early 1790's.



His influence and reputation as a fierce fighter was well known among all the Indian tribes and white settlers. He was the engine that drove raids on white settlements throughout Tennessee, Kentucky and Georgia.

In late February 1792, after an attack on white settlers near Nashville, Dragon Canoe died at his Chickamauga 'Lower Town' village of Running Water.\* The same camp where in 1788 Chickamauga warriors hung John **Bullard** father's body on a pole and conducted a 'scalp dance' after their victory at Battle of Lookout Mountain.



Dragging Canoe by Mike Smith 1991

Indian atrocities against white settlers were still occurring on a regular basis.

October 12, 1793 - Knoxville Gazette

"On the  $3^{rd}$ , a party of Indians, consisting of 30, plundered the house of Mr. Copeland on the South bank of French Broad (in Jefferson County), the family only a few minutes before passed over to the North side and were eye witnesses to their number and depredation." 52

In 1794, the frontier militia, now under the command of U.S. Major James Ore, mounted a large scale expedition that attacked the five remaining Chickamauga rebels 'Lower Towns' near Chattanooga, Tennessee. Indian homes and crops were burned, orchards cut down, and livestock taken or killed. The towns were totally destroyed and never occupied again. Federal troops not only devastated the Chickamauga towns, they also shattered the remaining rebel Indians will to fight. A final peach treaty was signed in 1794. For all practical purposes, the bloodshed and Cherokee Wars throughout Tennessee had come to an end after 18 years of fighting .\*\*



Cherokee "Sacred Pipe" The frontiersmen referred to it as the Peace Pipe.

#### **Phoebe Bullard marries James Carter**

**John Bullard's** sister, Phoebe Bullard (b. ~1770) married James Carter on May 2, 1791 in Greene County (The Territory of the United States South of the River Ohio, commonly known as the Southwest Territory.) Phoebe was ~21 years old. Sometime after the marriage and before 1811, they moved to Jackson County, Tennessee. In 1838, two years after Texas became an independent country, the Carter's moved to Fannin County, Texas where James acquired a Republic of Texas land grant. They had seven children. Phoebe Bullard moved back to Tennessee and died around 1837.

<sup>\*</sup> Today, the Chickamauga town of Running Water lies underneath a dam at Nickajack Lake near Jasper, Tennessee.

<sup>\*\*</sup> In 1794, President George Washington recommended, if the Cherokee agreed, that a U.S. military post be established on the Tennessee River at Lookout Mountain (near present day Chattanooga, Tennessee.) The Cherokee refused.



In 1794, Jefferson County, Tennessee court ordered John **Bullard's** brother, Isaac Bullard, (b.~1760) to pay the court twelve shillings because he (Isaac) bore a "base begotten child" out of wedlock with Eleonor (Eleanor) McGhee.



Jefferson County, Tennessee pre-November Session: 1794 "Adam Meek Esq. Paid into office the sum of Twelve shillings and six pence prock (?) collected from <a href="Isaac Bullard">Isaac Bullard</a> for being the reputed father of a base begotten child on the body of Eleonor (Eleanor) McGhee." 53

During this time, there were at least three McGhee (McGee) families living in Jefferson County; James McGhee who lived near Panther Creek, Richard McGhee and Zere (Zera) McGhee. Four years after Isaac Bullard was ordered to pay the fine for his "base begotten child," the Bullard heirs deeded two tracts of land in Jefferson County to Richard McGee. Whether Eleanor McGhee was related to Richard, James, or Zere (Zera) is unknown. It is lost in history if the land transfer was due to Isaac's indiscretion or just a coincidence.



"Heirs of Joseph Bullard to Richard McGee 31 Dec 1799 13 Oct 1798 \$133.00 200 Acres On the Draughts of Little Beaver Creek; being the land said McGee now lives on adj. John Nual (Nall). Martha Bullard, relict and administratrix of Joseph Bullard, Decesed (sic). Test: Jos McCulloch; Jas Ewin; Richard McGee, Junr. /s/ Martha Bullard; John Bullard; Isaac Bullard" 54



"Heirs of Joseph Bullard, Deceased, Deed to Richard McGee \_" (Registered) 10 Oct 1798 (signed) " Acres \$133.00

On the draughts of Little Beaver Creek adj. John Naul (Nall); being the land whereon said McGee now lives. Martha Bullard, Relict and Administratrix of Joseph Bullard, deceased, and John, Isaac, and Christopher Bullard Heirs." 55

On October 17, 1803, Elinor (Eleanor) McGhee married Ferrel (Ferrell) Hester in Jefferson County, TN. <sup>56</sup> Hester's family was from Granville County, North Carolina. The couple later migrated to Steward County, Tennessee (adjacent to Christian County, Kentucky.) Isaac Bullard's son, John Joseph, married Nancy Ann Rogers in 1814 and raised their children in Christian County, Kentucky.



On November 28, 1794 in Jefferson County (SW Territory), John and Nancy Bullard welcomed their third son into the world.

They named him Isaac. Isaac was raised in Claiborne County, Tennessee and later moved to Rhea

County, Tennessee. In the early 1820's, Isaac Bullard Married Nancy Elizabeth Black (b.~1799).

Isaac Bullard died after 1860 in Union County, Tennessee.



Depiction

### **Christopher Bullard Marries Rachael Fitzgerald**



**John Bullard's** brother, Christopher Bullard\* (b.~1771/74) married Rachael Fitzgerald on May 16, 1794 in Jefferson County. By 1796, Christopher Bullard was a militia officer. He is found on the 1798 Greene County, Tennessee tax list as owning 440 acres of land, three slaves and a stud horse.

Sometime in the late 1790's or early 1800's, Christopher Bullard moved to Winchester, Franklin County, Tennessee. He was one of the founding town settlers.

Christopher and Rachael had two known daughters. Casey Ann married John Jacob Isaacks who was a U.S. Congressmen. The second daughter, Jane Bullard, married Isaac Thomas who served in the 14th U.S. House of Representative around 1814.

In 1809-10, Davy Crockett lived in Franklin County, Tennessee (ten miles south of present day Winchester, Tennessee.) At the start of the Creek Indian wars, Crockett enlisted as a scout in the militia under the command of Captain Jones. Jones, along with 1,300 other militiamen, including Christopher Bullard, marched against the Creek Indians under the command of General Andrew Jackson.

Sometime after 1812, it was reported Christopher died while travelling in route to Alabama from Franklin County, Tennessee. His daughter, Casey Ann, was with him when he died.

<sup>\*</sup> See The Life and Times Narrative of Joseph Bullard, "Supplement: Joseph and Martha Bullard Children" for a Christopher Bullard sketch.

#### **Bullard Heirs Sell Off Greene County Land Tracts**

**John Bullard** left Lick Creek, Greene County, Tennessee and moved to Jefferson County around ~1790.

John's mother, Martha Bullard was still living on Lick Creek in 1794. A 1794 Greene County deed from the Bullard heirs to John Kee references Martha as living in Greene County.

Greene County, Tennessee Court Minutes
"Indenture 12 Nov 1794 Martha Bullard, Admr Joseph Bullard, and rest of heirs of sd Joseph, one part, and John Kee, other part, both living in Greene Co, 66 pounds 13 & 4 pence pd, tr in Greene County on Lick creek, part of 400 acre tr granted to sd Joseph, being 100 acres. Wit: Luke Boyer (Bowyer), Joseph Roberts, Junr, Hugh Kee. Signed also by John Bullard and Christopher Bullard." 57

In 1795, **John Bullard's** mother, Martha, moved from Greene County to Jefferson County, Tennessee. Around this time, the Bullard heirs began divesting their Greene County land tracts. As with most of Bullard deed transactions, Luke Bowyer was a witness on the land sale documents.

In November of 1795, Martha Bullard, as administrator of her husband's estate, sold two tracts of land in Greene County to Evin Jones and Nancy and (Samuel) Jones. The court document records Martha as being a resident of "Jefferson Co., Terr S of River Ohio." This would indicate Martha was now living in Jefferson County.

Greene County, Tennessee Court Minutes "Indenture 16 Nov 1795 Martha Bullar (Bullard), John Bullar (Bullard), Christopher Bullar (Bullard) and Isaac Bullar (Bullard), Jefferson Co, Terr S of River Ohio, one part, and Evin Jones, Greene Co, other part, 75 pounds pd, tr (tract) in Little Sinking creek the W side of McCartney mountain, and being 250 acres, in 2 surveys, adj Robert Campbell and Joseph Bullard (now deed) old survey, William Reed. Wit: Luke Bowyer, William Rees, William Robertson." 58

"Indenture 9 Mar 1795 Martha Bullard, Admx of Joseph Bullard, Decd, of Jefferson Co, Terr S or river Ohio, one part, and Nancy Jones, of Greene, Admr of Samuel Jones, Decd, and same place, other part, 50 pounds pd, 140 acres in Greene Co on N side of Nolichucky river, adj Bullard and Daniel Carter Lines. Wit: Luke Bowyer, Nancy Williams, Jurat, William Gist." <sup>59</sup>

In the same year Martha Bullard moved to Jefferson County (1795), she sold a slave girl named "Mine" to William Roulstone (Ralston or Raulston).



Jefferson County Court Session: 1799 (or 1795) "A Bill of Sale from Martha Bullard to William Roulstone for a negro Girl named Mine was proven in Court and recorded."  $^{60}$ 



In late 1797, Daniel Carter obtained a performance bond on land that the Bullard heirs sold to Samuel Jones two years earlier. Daniel's brother, Joseph Carter, was a witness. Daniel and Joseph were brothers of James Carter. James married **John Bullard's** sister, Phoebe Bullard in 1791.



Greene County, Tennessee: 1797
"Indenture 11 Nov 1797 Martha

"Indenture 11 Nov 1797 Martha Bullard, Admr of Joseph Bullard, Decd, Jefferson Co, Tennessee, one part, and Daniel Carter, Greene Co, Tennessee, other part, above named Carter bought Bond of Performance against Joseph Bullard, Decd, for right of tr of 143 acres that Samuel Jones had upon sd Bullard, Decd, & which Carter bought from heirs of Jones, Decd: Joseph Jones and Thomas Jones by sd bond & purchase Martha Bullard, Admr of Joseph Bullard, Decd, 50 pounds pd, tr on N side of Lick creek. Wit: John Nashons (Nation), Joseph Carter. Rec 22 Mar 1798." 61

Four years later, the Bullard heirs sold 203 acres of land in Greene County to Joseph Carter for one hundred and ten (Virginia) pounds.



Greene County, Tennessee: 1801

"Martha Bullard to Joseph Carter, Martha Bullard admnx. of Joseph Bullard (dec'd) of the County of Jefferson and State of Tennessee one part, and Joseph Carter of the County of Greene and State of Tennessee, the other part. One hundred and ten pounds, Virginia money, paid for 203 acres of land in Greene County on the Roaring Fork of Lick Creek. Beginning at the mouth of the Dry branch. Mentions Coventry's bottom, and Ma Kustard. Witness: Daniel Carter & John Nelson Registered the 22nd day of August 1801" 62

In 1795, the Federal Southwest Territory encompassed the soon to be states of Tennessee, Alabama and Mississippi. The population threshold for a territory to form into a state was 60,000. The 1795 Federal census showed the territory of eastern and western Tennessee to have a "free white" population of 67,000 along with a slave population of 11,000.<sup>63</sup> At this time, the first Constitutional Convention was held in Knoxville, Tennessee to start the process of being admitted to the Union. A wagon road was completed in 1795 that crossed the Tennessee Cumberland Plateau between Knoxville and Nashville.



1795: Territory South of the Ohio River (also called the U.S. Southwest Territory). Tennessee received Statehood in 1796.

In the Fall of 1795, John Sevier was one year away from becoming the first governor of Tennessee. Eight years had passed since the death of **John Bullard's** father, Joseph, who rode with Sevier at the Battle of Kings Mountain and many Indian expeditions. Apparently, the Bullard family kept in touch with the famous Indian fighter and soon to be governor. On November 28, 1795, three members of the Bullard family (**John Bullard Sr.**, his mother, Martha Bullard and brother Christopher "Kitt" Bullard) met with Sevier at his home. After the encounter, Sevier wrote an intriguing "Memo" in his daily journal noting the names of the slaves traveling in the Bullard party. Why he took time to write the entry is a mystery, but it brings to light the names of some of the Bullard family slave holdings.



Accompanying the Bullard party was **John Bullard Sr.** (~30) who was in possession of a slave named Violet: "*John Bullard (Sr.) Violet...*,"

Soviet noted that widey Martha Bullard (~55) was a seemponied by a glave.

Sevier noted that widow Martha Bullard (~55), was accompanied by a slave named Ned: "Widone (widow) Bullard has Ned."

"Kitt" was Christopher Bullard's nickname. He was  $\sim$ 23 years old: "Kitt Bullard has in possession Rachel old Wench..." (In the  $18^{th}$  century, an elderly female slave was called a "Wench."

Although cryptic, it appears Christopher "Kitt" Bullard had a slave named Austin to give (or sell) to his sister Sally (Sarah Bullard): "Austin in possesso. Of Kitt Bullard for his sister Sally." In fifteen months, Sarah would marry John Fitzgerald.

#### **Tennessee Statehood 1796**

On June 1, 1796, eight years after the death of **Joseph Bullard**, **TENNESSEE\* STATEHOOT**Tennessee was admitted to the Union as the 16<sup>th</sup> state.

During the state convention, a small faction wanted to call

the new state, Franklin, but the proposal was voted down. The Cherokee, Creek and Chickasaw's still claimed three-fourths of the state's territory, but that would dramatically change within a generation. Knoxville, Tennessee was selected as the capitol.

Among the draftees of the state constitution were Luke Bowyer, Andrew Jackson and William Cocke. Andrew Jackson took a behind-the-scenes role in naming the new state, Tennessee.\* The Tennessee Constitution was quite progressive for the time. It provided for direct elections of the governor and suffrage for all free men regardless of property. The Declaration of Rights mirrored the U.S. Constitution.

John Sevier was appointed the first governor, William Blount and William

Cocke U.S. Senators. Andrew Jackson was the sole appointee to the U.S.

House of Representatives.\*\*

It is a well established that **John Bullard's** father, Joseph Bullard, is recognized as one of the first pioneer settlers in Tennessee and an original signer of the 1776 Washington District Petition. His life was rooted in the Watauga Association and the Washington District governments which are generally regarded as the first constitutional government west of the Appalachian Mountains.

The State of Tennessee is known as "the volunteer state."

Officially, the origin of the state's nickname originated from the record number of Tennesseans who volunteered for the War of 1812 and the Mexican War. If one looks back a few years

earlier, the source of the "volunteer state" should have been the 1780 mustering of the Watauga, Holston and Nolichucky militia at the Battle of Kings Mountain. This is where every able-bodied man in the territory left their homes unprotected; and volunteered to march over the Blue Ridge Mountains to defeat the British troops at Kings Mountain. **John Bullard's** father, Joseph Bullard was one of the original Tennessee volunteers before Tennessee became a state.



Tennessee Map 1796-1798

In 1796, a trip from Tennessee to Washington D.C. took about 42 days.

## 1796

John Adams elected the second President of the United States succeeding George Washington.



<sup>\*</sup>Tanasi, or Tennessee was one of the principal Cherokee Middle Towns which gave its name to the river and the state.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Due to the fact that the next U.S. census would not take place until 1800, Congress allowed only one Tennessee U.S. Representative to Congress. The Tennessee Assembly appointed congressman Andrew Jackson.

By the time **John Bullard** was  $\sim$ 31 years of age, the more settled residents in eastern Tennessee had moved from primitive log cabins to larger dwellings consisting of two separate cabins connected under one roof with a porch or "dog-trot" in-between.

It is probable that at one point in time, **John and Nancy Bullard's** house was of this structure. Furnishings were still simple with a few interior "luxuries" such as kitchen clapboards and crafted chairs from the eastern seaboard.



Dog trot cabin



Clothes were still made at home by women reflecting little change from the time **John's** father, Joseph, lived in Greene County. Men's shirts and pants were still generally made of deerskin. Shoes were worn but moccasins were preferred. Women wore dresses of cotton, wool or linsey.



Most family farms still relied on crude agricultural methods. Livestock foraged for themselves. Fences were built around gardens to keep animals out and horses in. Land was in abundance and the soil fertile. Crop rotation was just coming into vogue.



Most eastern Tennessee settlers were subsistence farmers. Some farmers grew cash crops of corn, tobacco and eventually cotton. Some ran a combination of cash crops and sold livestock. It is believed **John Bullard's** farm was a combination of cash crops and livestock sales. Corn was the staple crop of most farmers.

Corn was planted with two kernels every twenty inches. An extra kernel was put in place in case the first one didn't sprout.

In the 1790's, it was no small task harvesting over 100 acres of corn in the hot summer season using primitive plows.





Drinking whiskey and chewing tobacco was prevalent throughout eastern Tennessee in the late 1790's. Almost all men indulged. Many farmers had a homemade still that converted surplus corn to whiskey.

When the corn was harvested, it was hauled to a wagon and driven by oxen and stored in an outbuilding near the homestead. Corn was used to feed livestock and make cornbread.



Depiction



Throughout the 1790's, Jefferson County court documents showed settlers, including the Bullard families, going about their daily business of serving on juries, suing and being sued by other settlers (mostly regarding land disputes), occasionally breaking the law, establishing mills and infrastructure around their farms, buying and selling land, and paying taxes.

The years 1795 to 1798 ushered in a flurry of Jefferson County land transactions from the Bullard heirs (Martha, **John**, Isaac and Christopher Bullard.) By now, the Bullard heirs had completed surveying and recording most of Joseph Bullard's Revolutionary War land grants. Too, the newly formed state of Tennessee made the recording of land sales more stable and secure.

In 1795, the Bullard heirs sold over 1,000 acres of land to their neighbors Jordon Roach, Nicholas Perkins, James Walker and Isaac Hammer. The Roach sale included a 100 acre island in the middle of the Holstein River.

"Heirs of Joseph Bullard to Jordan Roach (Greene Co.)
21 Sep 1796
31 Jan 1795
500 Acres
500 Pounds
Martha, John, Isaac and Christopher Bullard, Heirs of Joseph Bullard deceased. On the south side of Holstein's River joining land of Bullards below and nearly joining William Robison's (Robertson) land above, including an island in said river of 100 acres; likewise a tract joining the above of 400 acres. Wit: Joseph McCullay; William Robertson.

/s/ Martha, John, Isaac, Christopher Bullard" 65

"Heirs of Joseph Bullard to Nicholas Perkins and James Walker
24 Feb 1796 21 Sep 1795 316 Acres 116 Pounds, 16 Shillings.

John, Isaac, and Christopher Bullard, Heirs of Joseph Bullard, deceased. On the south side of Holston River on both sides of Bever (sic) Creek including said Walker's Mill.

Wit: Luk Boayer (Luke Bowyer); William Robertson; Jos McCullah.
/s/John Bullard; Isaac Bullard; Christopher Bullard" 66

"Heirs of Joseph Bullard to Isaac Hammer
25 Feb 1796 2 Sep 1795 200 Acres 145 Pounds

John, Isaac, and Christopher Bullard, and the rest of the Heirs of Joseph Bullard,
deceased. On a creek known by the name of Lost Creek.

Wit: Luke Boyer (Bowyer); William Robertson; Ezeckiel Henry.
/s/John Bullard; Isaac Bullard; Christopher Bullard" 67

In May of 1796, Luke Bowyer was paid \$10 for his services and resigns as Jefferson County Solicitor.

Jefferson County Court Minutes: May 1796
"The Court allow Luke Bowyer Esq. ten dollars for his exoficio services for the year 1795. Luke Bowyer Esquire resigned his appointment or Solicitor for Jefferson County, and Thomas Gray Esquire was appointed to succeed him." 68

In 1796, the Bullard heirs sold another 690+ acres of land for over \$1,300 on Lost Creek in Jefferson County to Moses Yell and Samuel Ruble. It appears the Bullard's had decided to leave Jefferson County at this point in time and were disposing more of Joseph Bullard's 3,000 acre land grant tract. (Samuel Rubles tract was immediately conveyed to Walter Thornbury.)

"Heirs of Joseph Bullard to Moses Yell
17 May 1796 (Reg.) 23 Jan 1796 (Deed) 440 Acres \$1,033.33

Martha Bullard, **John (Bullard)**, Isaac, and Christopher Bullard, heirs of Jos. Bullard, deceased.
On Beaver Creek; being part of a 1,000 acre tract granted by the State of North Carolina, Grant
No. 160 dated 20 Sep 1787, to said Bullard and part of a 400 acre tract granted the same date as aforesaid, No. 226. Wit: Luke Bowyer; Joseph McCullah; Wm. Braselton. /s/ Martha, **John**(Bullard), Christopher Bullard." 69

"Heirs of Joseph Bullard Conveyance to Samuel Ruble 22 Jun 1796 (Reg.) 26 Apr 1796 252 Acres \$300.00 Martha, **John**, Isaac, Christopher Bullard and the rest of the heirs of Joseph Bullard, deceased. On the south side of Holston River on a creek known by the name of Lost Creek adj. William Braselton, Walter Thrornburgh, (Thornborough) Samuel Ruble; being part of a 3,000 acre tract granted by the State of North Carolina to Joseph Bullard bearing date 20 Sep 1787. Wit: Nathan Wright; Walter Thornburgh; Edward Wright. /s/ Martha, **John**, Bullard Ackn Christopher Bullard." <sup>70</sup>

Jefferson County Deeds: 194:48
"Heirs of Joseph Bullard Conveyeance to Walter Thornbury (Thornburgh)
26 April 1796 (Reg.) 21 Jun 1796 252 Acres \$300.00
Martha Bullard, Relect and Adminstrator of Joseph Bullard, deceased, and John, Isaac,
Christopher Bullard and the rest of the heirs of Joseph Bullard. On the south side of the Holston
River on a creek known by the name of Lost Creek adj. Samuel Ruble, Walter Thronburgh,
Samuel Mills formerly "\_\_" Goodwin; being part of the 3.000 acres granted to Joseph Bullard by
the State of North Carolina bearing date 20 Sep 1787. Wit: Nathan Wright; Samuel Ruble;
Edward Wright. /s/ Martha, John Isaac, Christopher Bullard" 71

Prior to 1794, a Revolutionary War land grant warrant was issued to Charles Shaddock. Shaddock died and his widow, Mary Shaddock assigned the 640 acre warrant to Elijah Philips. Philips assigned the warrant to Nathan Arnett. On November 12, 1796, **John Bullard** and his brother, Christopher Bullard had possession of the warrant and sold it to Mathew (Matthew) Brooks. Court witnesses to the land sale were Luke Baugor (Bowyer) and Abraham Woodward.



North Carolina Revolutionary Warrants: #3810

"Heirs of Charles Shaddock, private in the N.C. line; 640 acres; 7 Jan. 1794.... Mary
Shaddock...assigned...(to) 12 November 1796. **John Bullard** and Christopher Bullard,
witnesses: Luke Baugor (Bowyer) and Abraham Woodward sold the same to Mr. Mathew
Brooks, the warrant was issued to Charles Shaddock, dec., who was a continental
soldier..." 72

#### John Bullard sells 62 Acre Land Tract

In January 1797, James Ballenger bought 62 acres of land for thirty (Virginia) pounds reflecting that Tennessee bank money was not yet recognized as a secure currency.

The land was part of Joseph Bullard's Revolutionary War land grants. It was probably the homestead of **John Bullard** since the deed mentions, "every appurtenance thereunto." In the late 1700's, this legal term meant the land sale came with existing attachments on the property (i.e. cabin, outbuildings, etc.)

The deed transaction reflected that John Bullard's mother, Martha, was illiterate. She signed the deed with an "X" mark. This might explain why the Bullard brothers were present at all Bullard heir transactions.

The deed establishes both **John Bullard** and his mother were still living in Jefferson County, Tennessee in January of 1797. The land sale also coincides with the year **John Bullard** migrated from Jefferson County to Grainger/Claiborne County. As with the most important Bullard land transactions, Luke Bowyer was a witness.



[Fig. 1797] Jefferson County, Tennessee Court Session: Deed January 5, 1797, (Reg.) September 9th 1797. "Know all men by these presents that we Martha Ballard (Bullard) and John Ballard (Bullard) both of the County of Jefferson and State of Tennessee for and in consideration of the sum of Thirty pounds Virginia Money to us paid in hand by James Ballenger of the County of Buncombe and State of North Carolina at and before the sealing and signing of these presents the Receipt and payment whereof we do acknowledge for ourselves and our heirs do hereby bargain sell alien enfe(?) off and confirm unto the said James Ballenger his heirs\* and assigns forever a certain piece or parcel of Land in the County and State aforesaid situate lying and being as follows. Containing sixty two acres be the same more or less bounded by Evan Lewises (Lewis) line and Walter Thornbraughs (Thornborough) line and Samuel Rhuble (Rubel) and William Hanshaws line. Beginning at a pine said Thornbraughs corner, thence along Hinchey and Saml. Mills line, due West one hundred and sixty eight poles to a hickory on Evan Lewises (Lewis) line, thence along the same Due North Sixty poles to a Stake, thence due East one hundred and sixty eight poles to said Thornbraughs corner, thence along said line due South to the Beginning. Which said piece or parcel of land with woods, waters and every appurtenance thereunto belonging or appertaining. We have hereby for our selves our heirs & assigns sold set over conveyed, released and confirmed in open Market unto the said James Ballinger his heirs and assigns forever and we do hereby for ourselves our heirs & assigns covenant and promise to and with the said James Ballenger his heirs and assigns that we and our heirs & assigns shall and will shall and will warrant and forever defend the said piece or parcel of land. With all and every of its Members and appurtenances free from all lawful Claims of any person or persons whatsoever unto the said James Ballanger his heirs and assigns forever. In Witness whereof we have set our hands and seals this fifth day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety seven. Martha (her X mark) Bullard (Seal) John Bullard (Seal)

By 1797, it appeared the Bullard brothers were selling even more land with the anticipation of eventually moving away. In the late 1790's, **John Bullard** would move to Grainger/Claiborne County; Isaac Bullard would move to western Kentucky and Christopher Bullard to Franklin County, Tennessee.

In April of 1797, the Bullard heirs sold 485 acres of land on Beaver Creek to Charles Hodges. Charles was the brother of James Hodges. Over the next three decades, three of John Bullard's sons, (Boyer, John and Christopher Bullard) would marry three daughters of James Hodges. (In 1828, Boyer Bullard married Elizabeth Hodges. In ∼1828, John Bullard Jr. married Permelia Hodges and Christopher Bullard married Rebecca Hodges in 1838.) A witness to the 85 acre land sale was Fielding Lewis. John Bullard's youngest daughter, Sarah Bullard, would marry one of Fielding Lewis' sons, George Washington Lewis, in 1826.



Deed from Heirs of Joseph Bullard to Charles Hodges 8 Dec 1797(Reg) 25 Apr 1797 (Deed) 85 Acres 50 Pounds "Martha, John, Isaac and Christopher Bullard, heirs of Joseph Bullard, dec'd. On Beaver Creek; part of a 500 acre tract granted Joseph Bullard by North Carolina, Grant No. 820 dated 19 Nov 1790, adj. "\_\_\_" McGee, "\_\_\_" Nall, Fielding Lewis. Wit: Jos. McCullah; Moses Yell. /s/ Martha, **John**, Isaac, Christopher Bullard." 74



Deed from Heirs of Joseph Bullard to Charles Hodges 9 Dec 1797 (Reg) 25 Apr 1797 (Deed) 400 Acres 500 Pounds "Martha, relect and administrator of Joseph Bullard, dec'd; John, Isaac, Christopher Bullard. On both sides of Beaver Creek adj. Moses Yell; being part of a 1,000 acre tract granted Joseph Bullard by the State of North Carolina bearing date 20 Sep 1787. Wit: Jos McCullah; Moses Yell. /s/ Martha, John, Isaac, Christopher Bullard." 75

In ~1797, William Bullard, third son of John Bullard and Agnes Nancy, was born. William Bullard married Barthena Posey ~1819. William died on June 26, 1852 in Claiborne County, Tennessee.

In presence of. John Wright, Joshiah Wright, Luke Rowen (Bowyer)" 73

## **Bullard Slave Holdings**

The Bullard Narratives cannot be told without the mention of slavery. This ugly, inhumane and tortured chapter in American history was present in eastern Tennessee until the end of the Civil War.

In the 1770's, there was a scattering of slave owners in eastern Tennessee. Slaves were a byproduct of coastal settlers from Virginia and North Carolina who transported a few slaves with them for domestic work and to tend to family crops. By the 1790's, more and more prosperous settlers, including **John Bullard**, were in possession of slaves to assist in running their homestead.

Typically, eastern Tennessee slaves lived as family units in quarters near the crop fields. Slaves were allowed to marry, have children and live together. This arrangement fostered an unnatural paternalistic relationship between slave owner and slave. Even so, when the slave owner died, slave families faced the prospect of being separated by being sold to other farmers. Later court records would show Bullard slaves were primarily sold to other Bullard family members, thus keeping slave families somewhat together.

A slaves life was influenced by the seasonal needs of the farm and by the domestic needs of the family. Slaves living on small farms were given garden plots to provide their families a source of food. Slaves with special skills such as wagon master, carpentry, weaving, or experience with livestock were hired out to other farmers or

townspeople.

In the early 1800's, slaves on small family farms enjoyed more freedom than plantation slaves. They were allowed to travel unescorted from farm to farm to do work, chores and errands. However, under Tennessee law, slaves were still considered property and the courts dealt with it accordingly.

Of note, when Tennessee became a state in 1796, free blacks were given the right to vote if they met residency and property requirements. This act was later rescinded in 1834.





The first known connection of **John Bullard** owning slaves was recorded in John Servier's journal in 1795 where he was "in possession" of a slave named Violet.

In February, 1797, **John Bullard** (~32) bought five slaves: (Toby, Sarah, Silvy, Minty and Benjamin) from Charles Hodges. Considering that over the years, John and Nancy Bullard bore 12 children, one could assume Nancy used one or more slaves to help run the household and tend to her children.



Jefferson County Court Session: February 1797
"A Bill of Sale from Charles Hodges to **John Bullard** for five negroes Viz: Toby, Sarah, Silvy, Minty and Benjamin was proven in Court and recorded." <sup>76</sup>

In the same month, the Bullard heirs sold an unknown amount of land to Charles Hodges. Whether the land sale was connected to the purchase of the five slaves is unknown.



February 1797 Jefferson County Court Session:
"A deed from the heirs of Joseph Bullard deceased to Charles Hodges was proven in Court and recorded" 77

Also in the same month, Martha Bullard sold a slave named Frank to her son **John Bullard**. By 1797, **John & Nancy Bullard** owned seven known slaves.



February 1797 Jefferson County Court Session: "A Bill of Sale from Martha Bullard to **John Bullard** for a negro man named Frank was proven to Count and recorded." <sup>78</sup>

(Fourteen years earlier, in 1783, Martha's deceased husband, Joseph Bullard paid Greene County poll taxes for owning three slaves.)

Throughout the 1790's, Jefferson County court records reflected numerous slave sales between white settlers living in the county. "Bill of Sales" were routinely recorded, "from Thomas Thornton to John Hughes for a negro Girl Mille"; "from John Hughes to William Boyd for a negro girl named Milly"; "from Thomas Thornton to John Hughes for a negro girl name Amy"; "from Samuel Smith to Joseph Hamilton for a negro man named Ned"; "from Alexander Outlaw to Joseph Hamilton for two negroes one a boy named Farlow and the other a girl named Mourning." <sup>79</sup>

See Appendix B for list of known Bullard slave holdings from 1783 to pre-Civil War.

Sometime around 1798, **John Bullard** decided to move his family north from the Holston River and the Lost Creek area in Jefferson County to the northern banks of the Clinch River in Grainger County (later divided into Claiborne County.) Other Jefferson County families who migrated to the Clinch River area were: Baker, Black, Burchfield, Calloway, Caswell, Casey (Kersey), Cloud, Dobkins, Fitzgerald, Goins, Hodges, Lewis, Nation, Neely, Robertson, Rogers, Roddy, and others.

One could speculate the Jefferson County Quakers were an insular community, and did not readily trade or socialize to a great extent with non-Quakers. The Quaker's were known as a strict, tight knit, sober religious group. The Quakers were also anti-slavery. Whether this influenced the Bullard's moving away from Jefferson County is not known. What is known is the Bullard heirs sold off a substantial amount of land (over 4,000 acres) to various Jefferson County families in the mid to late 1790's.

Below is a partial listing of Jefferson County land being sold through the Bullard heirs (Martha, **John,** Isaac and Christopher Bullard.)

1	<u>Year</u>	<u>Grantee</u>	<u>Acres</u>
	1791	to Benjamin Thornbury	200 acres
	1792	to Seth Johnson	
	1792	to Aaron Mills	26 3/4
	1792	to Aaron Mills	250
	1792	to Benjamin Murrell	
	1792	to Samuel Mills	100
	1792	to John Mills	100
	1792	to Seth Johnston	150
	1792	to Evin Lewis	300
	1794	to John Kee	100
	1795	to Jordan Roach	500
	1795	to Isaac Hammer	200
	1795	to Nicholas Perkins &	
		& James Walker	316
	1796	to Moses Yell	440
	1796	to Samuel Ruble	252
	1797	to Charles Hodges	485
	1797	to James Ballenger	62
	1810	to John Vance	<u>540</u>
	Total	acres	4,021+

In 1797, **John Bullard's** youngest sister, Sarah Bullard, married John Fitzgerald in Greene County, Tennessee. At the time of the marriage, **John Bullard** was ~32 years of age.

### Sarah Bullard (b. ~1778) marries John Fitzgerald

Sarah Bullard, **John Bullard's** sister, was born in the Nolichucky settlement in Washington County, NC/TN. In 1797, at the age of nineteen, Sarah married John Fitzgerald in Greene County, Tennessee. Sarah and John had twelve known children. It appears some died in infancy. During her life, Sarah lived in Greene, McMinn, Jackson, White, and Monroe Counties, Tennessee. Later in her life, she moved to Gentry Co., Missouri near where her Bullard nephews lived. Sarah Bullard died in ~1834.

In 1810, **John Bullard** and Nancy named their youngest daughter "Sarah."

In 1797, the Bullard heirs brought to court a 1784 pledge bond from **John Bullard's** father, Joseph, regarding a assignment property (located in Greene County) to Samuel Jones. When Joseph Bullard was awarded a tract of land (warrant from the State of North Carolina), he made a promise to deed the pledged property to Samuel Jones. Another indication that **John Bullard** and the Bullard heirs were men of their word even after a 13 year pledge bond. Luke Bowyer was the Bullard attorney.



Jefferson County Court Minutes: February 1797

"A Bond signed by Joseph Bullard was proven in Court and is the words following Viz: KNOW all men by these presents that I Joseph Bullard of the County of Green and State of North Carolina am held and firmly bound unto Samuel Jones, or assigns his heirs executors Administrators in the penal sum of one thousand pounds specie. To which payment well and truly to be made and done I do bind me, my heirs Executors and Administrators in the above sum sealed with my seal and dated this 5th day of January 1784. The conditions of the obligation is such that if the above whereas said Joseph Bullard hath sold a certain tract of land lying on Lindsey Creek beginning at the mouth of the creek containing one hundred and fifty acres and running up both side of the said creek for compliment.

Now if the said Joseph Bullard shall make a good and sufficient title to the above land such as he receives from the State when he gets the same.

Then the above obligation to be and remain in full force and virtue according to law. Signed sealed and delivered in the presence of

Luke Bowyer

Wm. Robinson

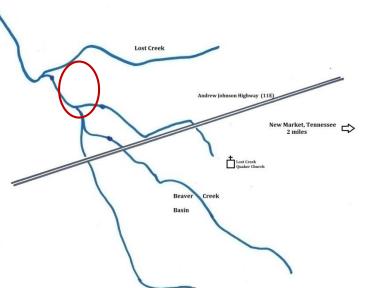
Smith Hutchins, Joseph Bullard Seal" 80

#### Martha Bullard: Jefferson County Homestead

From all indications, **John Bullard** lived in Jefferson County, Tennessee from  $\sim$ 1790 to  $\sim$ 1798. Sometime around 1798, **John** and family moved northwest from Jefferson County to adjacent Grainger (later Claiborne) County, Tennessee. **John Bullard's** mother, Martha, remained in Jefferson County until at least 1807 and possibly longer until her death in  $\sim$ 1810 at the age of  $\sim$ 70.

Of all the Bullard Jefferson County land sales and deeds, only two known tracts were sold that mentioned improvements to the land (i.e. cabins, mills, etc.) The first tract, sold in 1797 to James Ballenger, was presumable the homestead of **John Bullard**.

In 1810, approximately ten years after **John Bullard** moved away from Jefferson County, the Bullard heirs sold a second tract of land with improvements on Beaver (Dam) Creek in Jefferson County. The tract was a large developed property near present day New Market, Tennessee. (Beaver Creek is a feeder to Lost Creek.). The tract was part of Joseph Bullard's North Carolina land grant #226. The 1810 Bullard land deed conveyed 540 acres to John Vance. It sold for a substantial consideration of \$1,000. A large amount of money by any measure, especially in the early 1800's.



O Present day New Market, Tennessee and probably location of Martha Bullard's homestead in Jefferson County, Tennessee.

The deed with mentioned improvements (below) was the home of **John Bullard's** mother, Martha Bullard. The deed specifically mentions a grist mill and dam on Beaver Creek where "Widow (Martha) Bullard formerly lived..." The deed indicates this was not an undeveloped tract of land, but a family home site.



Depiction

Since Martha's signature/seal was not on the 1810 Bullard/Vance deed, it is presumed she died between 1803 and 1810. **John Bullard** was the only Bullard heir to sign the deed. John's oldest son, Joseph, carried Christopher Bullard's power of attorney (Attorney in Fact). It appears both Joseph and Christopher were living in Franklin County, Tennessee. Isaac Bullard had already migrated to Livingston County, Kentucky. Conspicuously absent when the land was sold was Luke Bowyer. The deed was registered and "proven in court" two years later, meaning members of the Bullard heirs were not present when registered.



#### Heirs of Joseph Bullard Deed to John Vance

September 26, 1812(Registered) December 18, 1810 (Signed) 540 Acres \$1,000.00

"On Beaver Creek adj . "\_\_" Robison's line formerly now "\_\_" Ritchey's, the ½ of the benefits of a Mill Seat on said creek only exception; being the tract whereon the Widow Bullard (Martha Bullard) formerly lived and part of a 1,000 acre and a 400 acre tract both granted by the State of North Carolina to Joseph Bullard, deceased, including the old Beaver Dam and joining land sold by said Bullard in his lifetime to William Robeson (Robertson); the 400 acre tract signed by his Excellency, Richard Caswell, of No. 226 date "\_\_\_" 1778, and the 1,000 acre tract signed by the same Governor. John Bullard and Joseph Bullard for himself and as Attorney in Fact for Christopher Bullard and heirs to Joseph Bullard;

Wit: Charles Hodges; Adam Meek; John Sprowl.

/s/ **John Bullard**; Joseph Bullard, Attorney in Fact Christopher Bullard; Joseph Bullard

September Sessions 1812. Within deed proven in court and admitted to record. Let it be registered. /s/ Joseph Hamilton, Clk., by his Deputy, Wyly Martin" <sup>81</sup>



Depiction

In 1798, two of **John Bullard's** sisters, Martha
(Patsy) Bullard and Mary
Bullard married.



## Martha (Patsy) Bullard marries William Baker



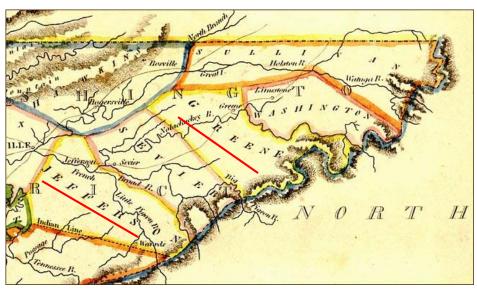
On January 17, 1798, **John Bullard's** sister, Martha (Patsy) Bullard, age ~22, married William Baker (b.1770).<sup>82</sup> The marriage took place in Jefferson County, Tennessee. By 1802, the couple lived in Claiborne County, Tennessee. Both lived in a number of Tennessee counties before settling in Rutherford County, Tennessee. It is said William was killed by Indians in 1806 or 1807 in Bedford County, Tennessee. William and Pasty had five children, possibly six. Pasty married a second time to William Burnam sometime after 1808.

#### Mary Bullard marries John David Rutledge



John Bullard's sister, Mary Bullard (~18), married David Rutledge in Greene County, Tennessee on August 21, 1798. 83 In all probability, Mary Bullard was living with her mother, Martha, in Jefferson County and the family traveled to Greene County for the marriage. James Kennedy secured the bond. Sometime in the early 1800's, Mary and her husband moved from Greene County Tennessee to Northern Alabama (Morgan County, Alabama). The couple was listed on the 1830 Morgan Co. Alabama census. Mary and David had five children.





Map of eastern Tennessee county lines ~1798 by Mathew Carey

The only known deed where **John Bullard's** brother, Christopher Bullard was the sole Grantor was a land sale of 150 acres to Charles Hodges in June 1798. The deed stated Christopher was living in Greene County, Tennessee and not Jefferson County. This validates the fact that although Christopher married Rachael Fitzgerald in Jefferson County in 1794, he and his spouse lived in Greene County, Tennessee throughout most of the 1790's. It appears Christopher, at age  $\sim$ 27, was selling off parts of his own land tracts; with an assumption that he had made a decision to move south to Franklin County, Tennessee in 1799 or 1800.



Jefferson County Deeds: 1798

"Christopher Bullard (Greene County) Deed to Charles Hodges
Deed 18 Jun 1798 (Reg.) 8 Jan 1799

150 Acres

160 Pounds
On Beaver Creek adj. Christopher Bullard; being part of a tract granted by the State of North Carolina to Joseph Bullard, Deceased, bearing date 19
Nov 1790. Test: William Robertson; Moses Yell
/s/ Christopher Bullard" 84

## John Bullard Land Holdings & Consolidation: Summary

In the 1790's, most eastern Tennessee settlers lived on small farms. Owning a farm and the land it sat on meant economic security. It was the dream of most settlers who chose not to live in nearby towns.

John Bullard and his brothers based their prosperity and wealth on inheriting and managing Joseph Bullard's Revolutionary War land grant holdings. The Bullard heirs did not use bank loans to acquire land. Capital came from the proceeds of buying and selling their shares of the family land grants. Over a period of ten years, they parlayed these holdings into doubling their land ownership from 3,000 acres to 6,000 acres. The Bullard heirs were not land speculators as were some noted men in the region.

After the death of Joseph Bullard, court documents reflect **John Bullard** was the primary family administrator who consolidated and managed the family's land grants. **John Bullard** signed almost every 'Bullard Heir' land sale on behalf of his mother who was the legal administrator of her deceased husband's estate. Although the brothers, Isaac and Christopher Bullard, appeared on many land deeds, **John Bullard** was the prevalent signer.

The early Bullard family plan was not to amass property and riches in one place nor pass the wealth down to one or two children. **John Bullard's** parents, Joseph & Martha, passes down whatever wealth they had acquired to their eight children.

Unlike some of their neighbors, the Bullard's were not of want. When **John Bullard** and his siblings became of age and married, they were given ample land (from their father's Revolutionary War land grants) to establish homesteads and raise crops and livestock.



By 1801, when **John Bullard** moved from Jefferson County to Claiborne County, Tennessee he was a prosperous man of means and respectability. He would become one of the founding fathers of Claiborne County and his friends and neighbors were prominent citizens who had political clout.

By the time **John & Nancy Bullard's** children became of age, the couple began passing down their wealth to their children. This family characteristic was evident throughout the early 1800's when **John Bullard** began parceling off his acquired land to his sons and (via his son-in-laws) to his daughters. He undoubtedly taught his sons the practice of moving early to unsettled areas, buying large tracts of cheap land, waiting for more settlers to arrive and later selling off parcels at a profit.

By the late 1820's, the majority of **John Bullard's** land holdings were sold off to his offspring. Each of **John Bullard's** children bore between five and twelve children. By the late 1840's, the Bullard land wealth was diluted many times over by third and fourth generations of descendants who had migrated to middle Tennessee. Alabama and Missouri.



Depiction

John Bullard and his brothers are well documented in surveying, registering, and selling off their father's Revolutionary War land grants located in eastern Tennessee. John Bullard followed in his father's footsteps by passing down his own family wealth to his twelve sons and daughters.



#### The Bullard Brothers Migration Years: 1798-1799

As mentioned, court records reflect the Bullard heirs sold off many land grant holdings in Greene County and Hawkins/Jefferson County, Tennessee. Once **John Bullard**, Isaac and Christopher Bullard had accumulated or acquired their share of the family land holdings, they began to sell off their own holdings and sought out new territory and opportunities for their own families.



By 1799, John Bullard had migrated from Greene County to Jefferson County, and then to Grainger/Claiborne County, Tennessee. Isaac Bullard left Greene County around 1800 and settled in Livingston County, Kentucky. Christopher Bullard moved to southern Tennessee and became one of the founding fathers in Franklin County, Tennessee.

Livingston County, Kentucky



Between 1798 and 1799...

- John Bullard Sr. migrated to Grainger/Claiborne County, Tennessee
- Isaac Bullard migrated to Livingston County, Kentucky



#### **Grainger/Claiborne County Migration**

Sometime in 1798, **John Bullard** moved north from Jefferson County, Tennessee and settled on the north side of the Clinch River in Grainger County, Tennessee.\* (Three years later, Claiborne County would be established from parts of Grainger County).

The trek from Jefferson County to the Clinch River is less than 50 miles. Traveling by wagon trailing livestock and children was slow and cumbersome. On a good day, a person could cover about eight miles. It probably took the Bullard family 6 to 8 days to make the journey.



The Bullard family included **John** ( $\sim$ 33), wife Nancy ( $\sim$ 28), Joseph ( $\sim$ 11), Ann ( $\sim$ 10), Henry ( $\sim$ 6), **Isaac** ( $\sim$ 4), and William ( $\sim$ 1). John's mother, Martha ( $\sim$ 58) did not accompany the family.

In all probability, **John Bullard's** seven known slaves accompanied the group. Like all migrating settlers in the late 1700's, the journey involved traversing a number of river, tributaries and creeks. The roads and trails were crude and the journey difficult.

When **John Bullard** stopped along the trail in the evening, he most likely hunted for fresh game. Nancy was busy unloading the wagon and attending to the younger children. The older children helped search for firewood and berries and filled water containers from nearby streams. When the Bullard group finally arrived along the Clinch River, they were no doubt exhausted from the trip.

John Bullard's
early homestead
and land tract was
located along the
north banks of the
Clinch River west of
Lone Mountain in
present day
Claiborne County,
Tennessee.



On a previous trip, **John Bullard** probably selected the site where their cabin would be built. As with most early settlers, site locations were determined by proximity of good bottom land, nearby streams and springs.

The home site could have been partially cleared before the family arrived, but trees still had to be cut down for cabin walls and roof. Settlers knew the best time to fell trees was in the winter when the sap was not

running.

Using axes and cross-cut saws, John probably sought out poplar trees because they grew to be large in girth, tall and straight. Cutting the trees into cabin logs was tedious work. Door hinges were made out of wood or leather.



Most early cabins were built without windows. Windows were not a priority since most early settlers spent most of their time outside. When time permitted, windows would be cut out and wooden shutters put in place or covered with deer skins. Space between cabin logs were filled with a mixture of clay, straw and cow manure. Undoubtedly, Nancy Bullard scouted a suitable site to start a garden away from the tree line.

After the cabin was erected, small livestock/hog pens and corn cribs were erected. During the cabin construction, the family had to find time to clear virgin land, hunt game and plant crops.

John's homestead was located on the north side of the Clinch River west of Lone Mountain. Once



John Bullard registers three early deeds in Grainger County, Tennessee.



settled, **John** would start operating a ferry

across the Clinch River.

"Deed # 579 John Bullard Deed # 646 John Bullard Deed # 656 John Bullard" <sup>85</sup> From early court records, one can assume **John Bullard's** first cabin was built south of present day New Tazewell, Tennessee on the north side of the Clinch River. This is supported by a Grainger County court record referencing **John Bullard's** home was located on the opposite side of the river from the Capps farm. A motion for adjournment "to meet at the house of Mrs. Jacob Cobb (Capps), opposite **John Bullard**, on the south bank of the Clinch River."



"On the third Monday in August, 1798, the court adjourned for five hours to meet at the house of Mrs. Jacob Cobb (Capps), opposite to **John Bullard**, on the south bank of the Clinch, where they met at the appointed time, but immediately adjourned to Joshua Wombles." <sup>86</sup>

Jacob Capps daughter, Leah Capps would marry **John Bullard's** second son, Henry Bullard (b.~1792) in ten years time.

Grainger County is surrounded by present day Union, Claiborne, Hancock, Hawkins, Jefferson, and Knox counties. After its creation in 1796, Grainger County became a frequent destination, both permanent and temporary, for pioneers heading into western Tennessee and northern Alabama. Two major rivers, Holston and Clinch, carried hundreds of travelers coming from the Shenandoah Valley via the Great Wagon Road into eastern Tennessee on their way west.



**John Bullard's** Grainger County, Tennessee land tracts

Of note, by 1800, two other families with Bullard connections moved from Jefferson/Greene County to Grainger County: John Casey, brother-in-law of **John Bullard** and Joseph Nation (Sr.), brother-in-law to **John Bullard's** sister. Anne Bullard.



Another person of interest who moved with the Bullard clan and eventually settled in Claiborne County, Tennessee was attorney and long time Bullard friend, Luke Bowyer. No doubt these families and others assisted one another in building their new cabin sites.



#### **Postal Service**

Two problems in the  $18^{\text{th}}$  century were time and distance. Communication on the frontier was slow and sometimes non-existent.

In 1799, a Knoxville tavern keeper, named Chisholm, advertised a postal route between Knoxville, Tennessee and Abingdon, Virginia. The Stage coach route (now U.S. 11W) covered a distance of 127 miles. The oneway trip was made every three weeks. Citizens could pay \$2.50 a year for the service of carrying their newspapers and letters to and from Knoxville and Abingdon.



By the late 1790's, eastern Tennessee farmers were sending pork, whiskey, tobacco and cotton back north along the Shenandoah Wagon Road to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Baltimore, Maryland. Farmers traded their commodities for cash or bartered their goods to purchase manufactured items or supplies for use on their farm or in their homes.



## Grainger County/Claiborne County Land Purchases on the Clinch River \*

## **Grainger County, Tennessee**

On September 19, 1799 Joseph Beard conveyed to **John Bullard** 340 acres of land which was part of Beard's 1794 North Carolina land grant. Luke Bowyer was a witness to the deed.

Joseph Beard To John Bullard (Deed Sept 19, 1799) Registered Oct 5th, 1800 This Indenture made this Nineteenth day of September A.D. 1799 Between Joseph Beard of the county of Pulaski in the State of Kentuckey (sic) of the one part and John Bullard of the county of Grainger and State of Tennessee of the other part Witnesseth, that the Said Joseph Beard for an in consideration of the Sum of one hundred dollars to him in hand paid \_\_receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged hath and by these presents doth grant bargain sell alien enseoff and confirm unto the said John Bullard his heirs and assigns forever a certain tract or parcel of land containing three hundred and forty acres, lying & being in the county of Grainger and State of Tennessee on the North side of Clinch river, the first bottom below the lone mountain beginning at a beech standing on the bank of said river, turning up the various courses of said river (except one hundred acres which the said black (?) has a Deed for) Including the mouth of the first large creek below the converence \_\_Walding (Wallen) Ridge that turns through the Said bottom known by name of Beards or Bear Creek, nine hundred poles to a stake on the bank of said river, thence South fifty five west five hundred and thirty five poles to the Beginning it being from a Grand obtained from the State of north Carolina bearing date the fifth of May 1794, with \_and Singular the woods waters water courses profits commodities hereitaments and appurtenances whatsoever on the said tract of land belonging or appertaining and reversions and reversions, Remainder & Remainders Rents, and Issued \_\_nof and all the estate right to the interest property claim and demand of him the said Joseph Beard heirs and assigns forever, of in and to the same and every part and parcel thereof either in law or Equity. To have and to hold the said three hundred and forty acres of land with the appurtenances unto the said John Bullard his heirs and assigns forever against the lawfull (sic) title of all and every person or persons whatsoever (excepting James Berry's & William Reeds claims) the said Joseph Beard his heirs & will warrant and forever defend by those presents; in Witness whereof the sd Joseph Beard hath hereunto set his hand and Seal the day and date above written, Signed Sealed & delivered on presence of Joseph Beard (Seal) Luke Bowver {State of Tennessee} August Term 1800 Andrew Blackwood (Grainger County) Proven in open Court and ordered to be Registered Am (Ambrose) Yancey Ckl" 87

When the land was later surveyed, 300 acres was found to overlap James Berry's grant. Ten years later, **John Bullard** petitioned the Tennessee high court requesting a resolution/certificate to the disputed land. Eventually, the case was heard in 1809. (Bullard Tennessee Petition of January 15, 1809.) The judgment is unknown.



Approximate location (red rectangle) of John Bullard's 340 acre land purchase in December of 1799.

1h Vonet ) Granger bounty ) Proven in open bourt, let it be Vegetland - I'm yancy 694 Joseph Beard To John Bullard This Indenture made this Vintenth day of September AD: 1799 Between Joseph Beard of the country of Prelash State of hintuckey of the one part and John Bulland of the County of Grainger and State of Tennefree of the other + Witnegoth, that the Said Tough Beard for and in bonsideration of the Sum of one hundred dollars to him in hand paid weight whereof is here by auknow ledged hath and by these presents doth grant bargain sell alien enfooff and confirm unto the sail in Bullard his hiers and afrigat for wer a certain tract or pascel of land containing three hundred and forly acres, lying & being the country of Grainger and State of Tinnefue on the north Side of blinch liver, the first bottom below the loan mountain igening at a buch Standing on the bank of Said Tiver, Tuning up the Various Courses of Said Tiver (except one indred acres which the Said black has a Dudfor) Including the mouth of the first large creek belong the Converend Walding Hidge that tung through the Said bottom known by name of Beards or Bear Cruck, Nine hudred poles a State on the bank of Said Tiver, Thence South fifly five west five hundred and thirty five poles to the Begin ngit being from a Grant obtained from the State of North Carolina bearing date the fifth of may 179 Az with land Singular the woods waters ovater courses profits bommodities hereditaments and appurtinances whatsome be Said Tract of land belonging or apprelaining and the leversion and Teversions, Temainder & Temainders Tents and Thus not and all the estate right till interest property blaim and demand of him the Said Joseph Beard him and aprig was, ofire and to the Same and wery part and panel Thore of wither in law or Equity To have and to hold the said a hundred and forty ares of land with the appartenances unto the Said John Bullard his hiers and afrigas forms and the lawfull title of all and wery persons or persons whatsower (excepting James Berrys & William Reeds wone ) the Said Joseph Bund his his see will warrant and for our defend by these presents; in Witness whereofthe a Joseph Buard hath herewate Set his hand and Seal the day and date above written, Signed Sealed & delimine in prenning Joseph Beard Grats august Firm 1800 Wike Bowyer & State of Tinnefice ? whow Blackwood Grainger County Prount in open bourt and ordered to be Registered Sin Janey 440 Tonathan Duglas To James Dre The this in All down There in the year of our Lord one thousand us

\* Original copy of **John Bullard's** 1800 Grainger County, Tennessee registered deed. Tract would be located in newly created Claiborne County in 1801.

Sometime around 1799, Clisby Riggs went to civil court and sued **John** Bullard for an unknown cause. A Grainger County court execution was issued against **John Bullard** but Riggs failed to appear in court. Riggs forfeited his bond.

Martin Ashburn Sheriff of Grainger County being solemnly called to return an execution issued against John Buller (Bullard) at the instance of Clisby Riggs failed so to do. It was therefore considered by Court that he be forfeit according to Act of Assembly. 88

In September 1799, citizens of Grainger County petitioned the Tennessee Assembly to initiate an investigation into a proposed annexation of an area lying south of the Clinch River to be part of Jefferson County, Tennessee. For political reasons, the citizens objected and argued that such an expansion would not be in the interest of the public good. In a related Tennessee Assembly petition filed in the same month, Grainger County citizens objected to a proposal to create three new counties. The citizens were requesting only two counties be established bordering the Clinch Mountain. Citizens also requested the establishment a new Superior Court District. Over 100 inhabitants in Grainger County, including John Bullard, signed the petitions. Some noted petitioners were:



"Grainger County petition signers (partial) to the General Assembly of Tennessee: 1799

John Bullard Thomas Huddleston Benjamin Condry Isaac McBee Larkin Nalls **James Robertson** Andrew Blackwood Thomas Thornbourgh Samuel Casey

Fielding Lewis George Moore Dennis Condry Thos Huddlestone Wm Harrelson Jacob Caps (Capps) **Ios Nation** Isaac Nation William Blackwood

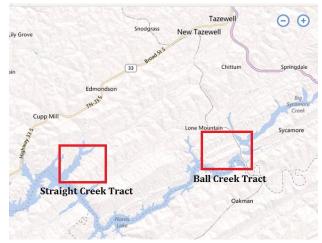
**John Casev** Andrew Blackwood Wm Caps (Capps) David Wilson Iohn Nall William Lane John Black Ino Harrelson Samuel Casev" 89

In 1801, another Grainger County petition to the Tennessee State Assembly was filed (and signed by **John Bullard**) to remove Joseph Powell from his office as County Justice of the Peace. It was stated, Powell being "a man of But few letters, an Exceeding bad Clerk," he was given to fighting, profanity, and intoxication. They asked the Assembly to "displace him" and appoint Joseph Nation who was of upright character and had a tolerable share of law knowledge. 89a

In 1801, Grainger County court appointed Andrew Evans overseer of a crew to build a road from Island Ford on the Clinch River to Ball Creek. The road would traverse over **John Bullard's** "place." There is a hint that John Bullard's original homestead could have been located on Ball Creek prior to moving west down the Clinch River to Straight Creek.



Grainger County, Tennessee Court Minutes: 1801 "Ordered that Henry Clark be appointed overseer of the road from the Island ford on Clinch river to Ball creek in the place of John **Bullard** and that Andrew Evans Esquire be appointed to give him a list of hands--- Issued----" 90







The Arnwine Cabin. Typical cabin built around 1800 on the Clinch River in Grainger County, Tennessee. The log cabin housed a farming couple and their children.

## **Grainger County, Tennessee**

Church now stands. 93a

In 1800, while **John Bullard** was living in Grainger County (later Claiborne County) authorities in Jefferson County levied a poll tax on its citizens. Districts listed each resident who owned land, the number of acres owned, plus slave holdings. **John Bullard's** mother, Martha, was listed as living alone on 500 acres of land and owning two slaves.

(Three years earlier, she sold a slave named Frank to her son **John Bullard**.) It is assumed Frank was conveyed to John in anticipation of his move to Grainger County a year after the sale.



Jefferson County, Tennessee Poll Tax List 1800 Taxable Property in Captain Hodges Company <sup>91</sup>



Bullard, Martha

(1) <u>Acres</u> (2) <u>White Poll Tax</u> (3) <u>Blk Poll Tax</u> (4) <u>Town Lot</u> 500 - 2 -

Of note, at the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, all of Martha Bullard's eight children were still living in eastern Tennessee with the exception of Isaac Bullard who had migrated to western Kentucky.

In October 1800, **John Bullard** now a citizen of Grainger County, sold 100 acres of land on Lost Creek in Jefferson County, Tennessee to John Turner for \$200.



Grainger County, Tennessee Court Session 1800

"John Bullard (Grainger Co.) Deed to John Turner

(Deed) 15 October 1800 (Registered 12 Jul 1804) 100 Acres \$200.00

On the south side of Holston's River near Lost Creek adj. Ezekiel Henry, Seth Johnson. Test: Richard Bailey; Patrick Vance; Jnr; James Baker

/s/John Bullard" 92

In 1800, **John Bullard** sold an unspecified amount of land to John Huddleston for \$50. 93

In ~1800, Elizabeth Bullard, second daughter of **John Bullard** and Agnes Nancy was born. Elizabeth married John

McMahan ~1817. Elizabeth died after 1860 in Newton County,

Missouri.

In 1800 and 1801, Charles Hodges sold 90 acres of land located on Beaver Creek in Jefferson County, Tennessee to his brother, James Hodges. The tracts were parcels of Joseph Bullard's original land grants. Sometime in the early 1800's, James Hodges moved his family to Claiborne County, Tennessee. He owned a large tract of land at the head of Big Barren Creek. Hodges donated the land where the present day Barren Creek

Three of James Hodges' daughters, Elizabeth, Permelia, and Rebecca would eventually marry three of **John Bullard's** sons; Bowyer Bullard, John Bullard Jr. and Christopher Bullard.



Depiction

Charles Hodges Deed to James Hodges (247:396)
Deed 20 Jul 1801 (Reg) 4 Jan 1802 20 Acres \$30.00
"On a draft of Beaver Creek adj. James Hodges, Charles Hodges; being part of a 400 acre tract that the said Charles Hodges now lives on and granted to <u>Joseph Bullard</u>, Deceased, by the State of North Carolina bearing date 20 Sep 1787. Wit: Richard Bailey; William Hodges. Ack.
/s/ Charles Hodges" 94

Charles Hodges Deed to James Hodges (248:397)
Deed 15 Dec 1800 (Reg.) 13 Jan 1802 70 Acres \$200.00
"On a draft of Beaver Creek adj. Charles Hodges, James Hodges, "\_\_"
Baker, John Turner; being part of a 500 acre tract granted <u>Joseph Bullard</u>.
Deceased. Grant No. 820 dated 19 Nov 1790. Test: William Hodges;
Drury Hodges.
/s/ Charles Hodges" 95

In October of 1800, **John Bullard** deeded 100 acres in Grainger County to James Baker for \$200.96 James Baker was the father of William Baker who married **John Bullard's** daughter, Martha (Patsy) Bullard two years earlier. The deed was dated 1800 and later recorded in court in 1804.

In 1801, Thomas Jefferson was elected President of the United States. Jefferson, the third President to serve, held the office for eight years.



## **Grainger County, Tennessee**

#### **Grainger County/Claiborne County Land Purchases on the Clinch River**

On August 27, 1800, a year before Claiborne County was established, James Berry sold to John Bullard 640 acres of land located between Lone Mountain and the Clinch River for \$400. It is unclear to the exact location of the land. The large track lay between Lone Mountain and the Clinch River in present day Claiborne County, Tennessee.



James Berry to **John Bullard** (Deed August 27, 1800) Registered March 5th 1801

"This Indenture made this 27th day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred Between James Berry of the county of Hawkins and State of Tennessee of the one part, and John Bullard of the county of Grainger and State aforesaid of the other part Witnesseth, that the said James Berry for and in consideration of the \_ec hundred & Sixty Six Dollars & two thirds to him in hand paid the Receipt where of is hereby acknowledged \_th and by those presents doth grant bargain Sell a lien enseoff (?) and confirm unto the said John Bullard his heirs and assignees forever a Certain tract or parcel of land containing Six hundred and forty acres lying & being in the county of Grainger and State also on the north Side of Clinch River Begining (sic) at an Ash, sugar tree, \_uckey; and hickory near lower end of the first large bottom on the North Side of Clinch River below the lone mountain and below the mouth of branch, Turning up the River as it meanders 410 poles ????get in feet) to a State, thence North 185 poles to a Stake, then \_45 degrees West 500 poles to a stake, from thence a direct line to the place of Begining (sic). To have and to hold the \_ne in manner and form here affixed, together with all and Singular the woods waters water courses Jro\_ commodities hereitaments and appurtenances whatsoever to the Said Tract of land belonging or appertaining and the reversions and reversions Remainder X Remainders Rents & Isues (sic) thereof and all the estate right title interest Claim and Deon and of him the Said James Berry, his heirs and assigns forever of in and to the Same \_overy part or parcel thereof either in law or Equity, To have and to hold the Said Six hundred and forty acres of land with the appurtenances unto the Said John Bullard his heirs & assigns forever, against the lawfully \_\_\_. Claim and demand of all and every person or persons whatsoever will warrant & forever defend by these \_\_\_sents, In witness whereof & the Said James Berry hath hereunto set his hand and Seal the day and \_\_above written: Signed Sealed & delivered in presence of James Berry (Seal)

Walter Evans {State of Tennessee} February Term 1801 proven in open Court Henry Howell { Grainger County } Let it be Registered

Am (Ambrose) Yancey Clk" 97



**Approximate** location (red rectangle) of John Bullard's 640 acre land purchase from James Berry in present day Claiborne County, Tennessee. August of 1800.

Rigistered March 5 1801 This Indenture made This 27th day of august in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred Bilow Money of the country of Howkins and State of Tunnefree of the one part, and John Bulland of the country of Itale aforesaid of the other part Whenefith, that the Said James Berry for and in Considerations hundred I Staty Sia Dollars & two thirds to him in hand paid the Occupt whenof is hereby acknowled fand by these presents doth Grant bargain Sellalier en fie of and con firm unto the Said John Bulland his hier a bigne for wer a bortain track or parcel of land his hundred and forty acres lying it being in the county of mar and State als on the north Side of Clinch Tiver Begining at an Ush, Sugar tree, buckey, and hickory near lover end of the first large bottom on the north side of blinch liver below the lone mountain and below the mount branch, Tuning up the Tiver as it meanders 410 poles to a Stake, Theree north 185 poles to a Stake, the 15 West 500 poles to a Stake, from thence a direct line to the place of Beginning, To have and to hold the in Maroner and form here affixed, together with all and Singular the woods waters water courses from Commodities hereditaments and appertenances whatsower to the Said track of land belonging or apper sing and The Teversion and Teversions Temainder & Temainders Tents & Trues Thereof and all the estate tight title Tout belaim and Demand of him the Said James Berry, his hirs and a frigns for ever of in and to the Same very part or parcel Thereof either in law or Equity, To have and to hold the Said Six hundred and fortyand and with the appartenances unto the Said John Bullard his hirs & assigns for wer, against the lawfull telain and demand of all and every person or persons whatsower will warrant & for ever defend by the unti, In notiness whereof I the Said James Berry, hath hereunto Set his hand and Seal the day and James Berry Gial above written; Signo scaled & delivered in presence of The Evans & State of Tinnefee & February Term 1801 proven in open bourt Litit be Registered " the soul

Original copy of 1801 Grainger County registered deed of 640 acres from James Berry to John Bullard.

On August 29, 1800, two days after **John Bullard** purchased 640 acres of land from James Berry, he bought an addition 640 acres from William Reed for \$400. Both tracts of land were between Lone Mountain and the Clinch River.



William Reed To **John Bullard** (Deed August 29, 1800) Registered March 5, 1801

This Indenture made this 29th of August in the year of our Lord Eighteen Hundred. Between William Reed of county of Knox and State of Tennessee of the one part and John Bullard of the county of Grainger & State \_other part Witnessth, that the Said William Reed for and in consideration of the Sum of four hundred Dollard (sic) and in hand paid, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged hath and by these presents doth Grant bargain Sell \_unseoff and confirm unto the Said John Bullard his heirs and assigns forever a certain tract or parcel of land containing Six hundred and forty acres lying and being in the county of Grainger and State also, on the north side of Clinch River, Including the first large Cane break below the lone mountain on which is Some Deaded (dead) trees a Clay lick. Begining (sic) at an Ash tree on the bank of the river above the mouth of the Creek, turning North fif\_six degrees east 168 poles to a white oak, thence North Sixty one degrees west five hundred and Sixty poles to a oak, thence a direct course to the River, thence up the meanders of the river to the Beginning (sic), being a tract of land \_led to the Said Wm Reed from the State of North Carolina of No. 310—With all the Singular the woods waters – courses profits commodities hereditaments and appurtenanced whatsoever to the? Tract of land belonging on ----ing, and the reversion & reversions Remainder and Remainder Rents & isues (sic) thereof and all the estate rights and interest property claim & Demand of him the sd Wm Reed his heirs and assigns forever, of in and to the Same every part or parcel thereof either in law or Equity To have and To hold the said Six hundred & forty acres and with the appurtenances unto the Said **John Bullard** his heirs and assigns forever, against the lawfull \_\_\_ and Demand of all and every person or persons whatsoever, Shall and will warrant & forever defend \_\_presents, In witness whereof the Said William Reed hath here unto set his hand & seal the day and year above written;

Signed Sealed and delivered in presence of

\_\_Gibbs {State of Tennessee} February Term 1801

Henry Howell {Grainger County } Proven in open Court, Let it be Registered
Am (Ambrose)Yancey Clk."98

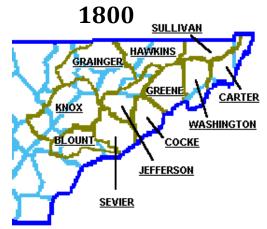


Approximate location (red rectangle) of **John Bullard's** 640 acre land purchase in August of 1800.

Mist - I Grainger County ) proven in open bourt, Let it be Pregistered Som Tancey lefter Milliam Beed To Taken Br. March William Red To John Bullard This Indenture made this 29th of august in the year of our Lord lighteen Hundred Between Milliam Reed of Sundy of Knox and State of Tenneger of the one part and John Bullard of the County of Grainger at thate after other part Witnespeth, that the Said William Red for and in consideration of the Sum of four hundred Dollars on hand paid, the terre pt whereof is hereby, acknowledged hath and by these presents with Grant Bargain sell a infrost and confirm unto the Jaid John Bullard his hiers and a frigns for ever a certain trait or parcel of a containing The hundred & forty acres lying and being in the townty of brainger and state aft, on the north of blinch liver, Including the first large board break below the lone mountain on which is some Deaded trees a blay lick Begining at an Wish tree on the bank of the Tiver above the mouth of the breek Tuning north for a degrees east 168 poles to a white oak, Thence north Seaty one degrees west few hundred and haty poles to a A there a direct lower to the liver, there up the meanders of the liver to the Begining, being a Track of land aled to the Said Mon Reed from the State of North Carolina of 40 310 - With all and Lingular the woods water Townses profits Commodities heredelaments and appurlinance whatsower to the I Track of land belonging or rengand the Teversion & Veversions Terrainder and Temainder Frents & Souls thereof and all the estate tight interest property blaim & Demand of him the I'Mm Cled his hier and afigns for wer, of in and to the some way part or parcel thereof either in law or Equity To have and To hold the Said Six hundred & forty aires nd with the appurtenances unto the Said John Bullard his heirs and assigns forever, against the lawfull. blaim and Demand of all and every person or persons whatsoever, Shall and will Warrant & forwardiffer It is esents, In witness whereof the Said William Red hath hereunto Set his hand I deal the day and year above written; Signed Sealed and delivered in presence of Libbs I State of Tennesse & February Form 1001 Amell Grainger County Prous in open bourt, Let it be Registered Am Janey left to

# **Eastern Tennessee Counties** (where John Bullard Sr. resided.)\*





## Year Established

#### **North Carolina**

**Washington County (NC/TN) Greene County (NC/TN) Hawkins County (NC/TN)** 

<b>6</b>	1777
State Of	1783
Franklin	1787
1784-1788	1/0/

## The Territory of the United States South of the River Ohio (Southwest Territory)

**Greene County Hawkins County** 

1790
------

Jefferson County (from Greene and Hawkins Co.) 1792

### **Tennessee Statehood**

Grainger County, TN (from Hawkins and Knox Co.) Jefferson County, TN (from Hawkins) Claiborne County, TN (Grainger and Hawkins Co.)

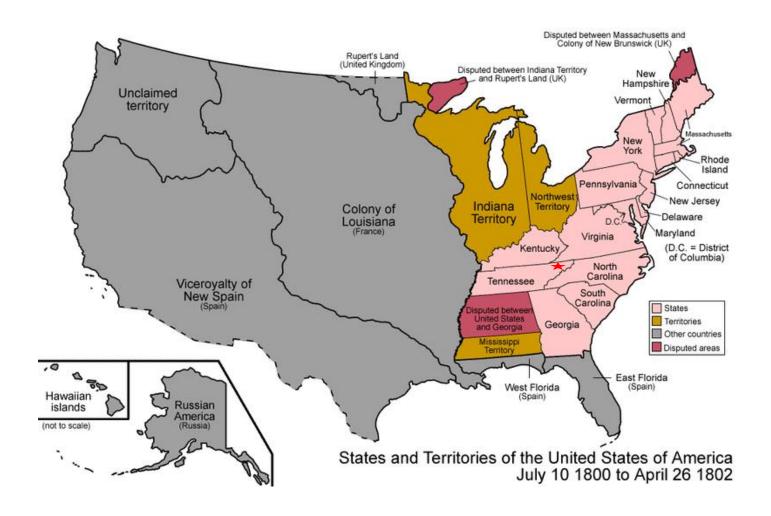
1796
1796

1796

1801

### The Year 1800

In 1800, the population of Tennessee was 105,602. Ninety five percent of the nation lived in rural areas. Thomas Jefferson was elected President of the United States. In 1804, Jefferson commissioned the Lewis and Clark Expedition to explore the newly purchased territory of Louisiana.



John Bullard Homestead 75

#### Claiborne County, Tennessee Established

The first permanent white settlements in Claiborne County occurred around 1794-1795 near the Clinch River at Big Springs (Springdale) near Sycamore Creek. <sup>98a</sup> The cabins were southeast of present day Tazewell, Tennessee.

After Tennessee received statehood in 1796, settlers flooded into eastern Tennessee. Due to this increase, the State Assembly created Claiborne County from parts of Grainger and Hawkins County on October 29, 1801.\* The county was named after a Virginia tidewater aristocrat, William C. C. Claiborne. Primary rivers that flow through the county are the Powell and Clinch Rivers. Claiborne County is situated due south of present day Middlesboro, Kentucky and Cumberland Gap, Tennessee.



Present day Claiborne County, Tennessee.

The beginnings of Claiborne County came with the "Boundaries Creation of the County Acts of 1801."

The Clinch River, where Hawkins and Grainger lines cross, became the first boundary. The county line followed the north bank of the Clinch River as it does today to a point opposite where Knox and Grainger line connect. (A portion of Knox later became Union County.) The line ran north, forty five degrees west, to the Kentucky state line. Then east along the Kentucky line to Cumberland Gap. Then east with the

Virginia-Tennessee line to a point from which a direct line to



Acts of 1801 BOUNDARIES CREATION OF THE COUNTY ACTS OF 1801 CHAPTER 46

the beginning.

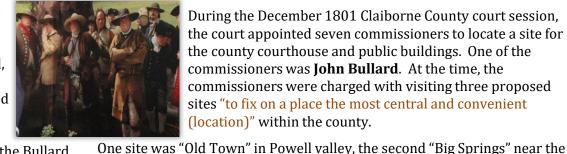
SECTION 1. That Hawkins and Grainger counties be divided by the following lines, (to wit.) Beginning on the north bank of Clinch river where the Hawkins and Grainger line crosses the same, thence down the north bank of said river Clinch, to a point opposite where the Knox and Grainger line strikes the said river, thence north, forty five degrees west, to the line which divides this state from the state of Kentucky, thence east with said line, to where it intersects with the line which divides this state from the state of Virginia, thence due east with said line to a point from which a direct line to the beginning will leave six hundred and twenty five square miles in the county of Hawkins, and all that part of the aforesaid counties of Hawkins and Grainger contained within the lines before described, shall be a separate and distinct county by the name of Claiborne.

There were several other boundary changes through the years until Claiborne County boundaries evolved into what they are today. The biggest change came in 1806 when parts of Claiborne and Anderson were divided to form Campbell County. In 1844, Hancock County was formed from parts of Claiborne and Hawkins. The last change occurred in 1850 when Union County was formed from parts of Claiborne, Grainger, Campbell, Anderson and Knox Counties.



**Iohn Bullard** One of the Founding Fathers of Claiborne County **Establishing the County Seat** 

A month after Claiborne County, Tennessee was established, the first county court session was held at the house of John Owens on December 7, 1801. The state legislators appointed fourteen Claiborne County magistrates.



located.

Tazewell.

During the December 1801 Claiborne County court session, the court appointed seven commissioners to locate a site for the county courthouse and public buildings. One of the commissioners was John Bullard. At the time, the commissioners were charged with visiting three proposed sites "to fix on a place the most central and convenient (location)" within the county.

Two of the court appointed Justices of the Peace had ties to the Bullard family; John Casey and Joseph Nation(s). John Casey was John Bullard's brother-in-law. A member of Joseph Nation's family married John **Bullard's** aunt. Joseph Nations Sr.\* operated two whiskey stills in the county and married Jeretta Victory.



Claiborne County Court Minutes: 1801

Be it known that by virtue of a law of the State of Tennessee passed at Knoxville on the 29th day of October 1801, authorizing and erecting a part of Grainger and Hawkins counties into a separate and distinct county by the name of Claiborne and also in consequence of a Commission from his Excellency, Governor Roan, Commissioning the following persons to the office of justice of the peace for said County, to wit- Isaac Lane, Joseph Webster, Williamson Trent, James Chisum, Abel Lanham John Wallen, Mathew Sims, John Vanbebber, William Rogers, George Real, Cavender Newport, John Casey, Joseph Nations, and James Refro being present. 100

At the first Claiborne County Court of Pleas and Plenary Session, attorney Luke Bowyer, long time friend and counselor to the Bullard family, was admitted as the first solicitor of the county court with a salary of \$12 per court session. 101 (Luke Bowyer is also recognized as the first practicing attorney in the state of Tennessee.) Other attorneys later admitted were James Bray, James Trimble and **John Bullard's** brother-in-law, John Casey. The county magistrates appointed John Hunt Sr., a friend of **John Bullard**, as the first Sheriff of Claiborne County. Hunt served four years. Hunt owned a stagecoach inn in Tazewell. He left the county in 1804 and settled in northern Alabama. John Hunt Sr. founded Huntsville, Alabama. Joseph Nations Jr. was appointed county coroner.

\* Joseph Nations and Zeretta had children; Sampson, Isaac, Charity, Elizabeth, Rebecca, Labon, Joel and Thomas.

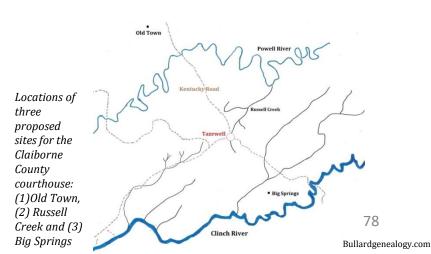
1801 Private Acts of Claiborne County, Tennessee

"SEC. 2. That George Reel (Reed), John Vanbebber, Matthew Sims, Abel Langham (Lanham), Joseph Webster, **John Bullard**, and Silas Williams, be, and they are hereby appointed commissioners, who, or a majority of them, are authorized to fix on a place the most central and convenient in said county of Claiborne, for the purpose of erecting a court house, prison and stocks, at which place the said commissioners are authorized and required to purchase land, and lay off a town to consist of forty lots, with proper streets and alleys, which town shall be known by the name of

Clinch River and the third "Russell Creek" where present day Tazewell is

SEC. 3. That said commissioners are authorized and required, as soon as may be, after agreeing on the place whereon the court house, prison and stocks are to be erected, and they have purchased land and laid off a town as aforesaid, to contract with suitable workmen for the purpose of erecting and building a court house, prison and stocks at the place aforesaid, for the benefit of said county; and the better to enable the commissioners aforesaid, to carry this act into effect:

SEC. 4. That they are authorized and empowered to sell the said lots at public sale, giving such credit as they in their wisdom may deem necessary. And for the securing the monies arising from the same of the aforesaid lots: SEC. 5. That the said commissioners are hereby authorized and empowered to take obligations with sufficient security from the respective purchasers thereof, payable to themselves as commissioners, which said monies, the said commissioners are to collect and apply to the use of paying for the land thereon the said town shall have been laid off, and defraying the expences (sic) of erecting a court house, prison and stocks aforesaid, and in case the monies arising from the sale of the said lots, should not be sufficient to pay for the said land, and defray the expences (sic) as aforesaid: (raise taxes)" 102



### John Bullard Establishing the County Courthouse & Town Plots

History has recorded the commissioners proceeded to visit all three county seat sites. The last site visited was Russell Creek. As was the circumstance, a store located near Russell Creek (at the fork of Mulberry Gap road and the Kentucky road) sold whiskey at ten cents a quart.

The commissioners took to drinking and soon became intoxicated. It was at the Russell Creek store that the commissioners, including **John Bullard**, decided where they sat was the best location for Claiborne County's courthouse. The property was located on land owned by Benjamin Posey and John Hunt Sr. (Benjamin Posey's daughter, Bethena, would later marry **John Bullard's** son, William.)



"There is a tradition that some of the citizens who owned land near where Tazewell was to be built used whiskey so extensively and successfully at the election that many who would have voted for Springdale (Big Springs) got too drunk to vote." 103

The seven commissioners, authorized "to fix on a place the most central and convenient in said county of Claiborne," <sup>104</sup> appeared to have made their decision on inebriated convenience rather than sound judgement.



In June of 1802, Claiborne County's court session was held at the home of John Hunt Sr. Four Commissioner were appointed to lay out town plots for Tazewell, Tennessee and select a site for the court house. The Commissioners were: **John Bullard**, Abel Lanham, Matthew Sims and Joseph Webster. John Casey was appointed surveyor.

filed in the Clerks Office." 105



In late 1803, the Commissioners submitted their plan to the court.



Claiborne County Court Session: December 1803
"The Court received of Mathew (sic) Sims, **John Bullard**, Abel Lanham \_\_\_ & Joseph Webster Commissioners, a plan of the Town of Tazewell together with John Hunts and Nathaniel Austins Bonds to them; Commissioners: and also there with a Memorandum of the Sale of lots in \_\_\_ Said Town – and ordered said – papers to be

After the plots were surveyed, thirty eight lots were sold at public auction and brought in a sizeable sum of \$2,638 to the new county coffers.  $^{106}$  The average lot cost was \$70.

After their task was completed, **John Bullard** and three other Commissioners petitioned the court for reimbursement for their services and expenses. The Commissioners were not timid requesting a three dollar reimbursement for their liquor consumption. Considering whiskey sold for ten cents a quart, the amount of money being requested by the four Commissioners amounted to consuming 7 ½ gallons of whiskey in their 12-15 days of service.



- "John Bullard --- 16 days service \$20.00
- Abel Lanham --- 16 days service \$20.00
- Joseph Webster --- 12 days service \$15.00
- John Casey, surveyor --- 40.00; Drawing the different deeds ---  $13.37\,\%$
- For liquor furnished by the commissioners --- \$3.00" 107

Some early town residents of Tazewell included: John Bristoe who was licensed to keep an ordinary (eating establishment); Elijah Evans was the town hatter; and William Epps was town tailor. The first doctor in Tazewell was Dr. Thomas Walker. He was succeeded by Alfred Noel. <sup>108</sup>

**John Bullard** was one of the founding fathers of Claiborne County, Tennessee. He was appointed a member of a commission to locate the site of the county seat in present day Tazewell, Tennessee and lay out a "plan of the town" in order for the county to sell town lots.

The monument reads:

THIS MONUMENT IS DEDICATED TO THOSE INDIVIDUALS WHO WERE COMMISSIONED THE FIRST MAGISTRATES OF CLAIBORNE COUNTY AND THE INDIVIDUALS THAT TURNED IN THE PLAN OF THE TOWN OF TAZEWELL.

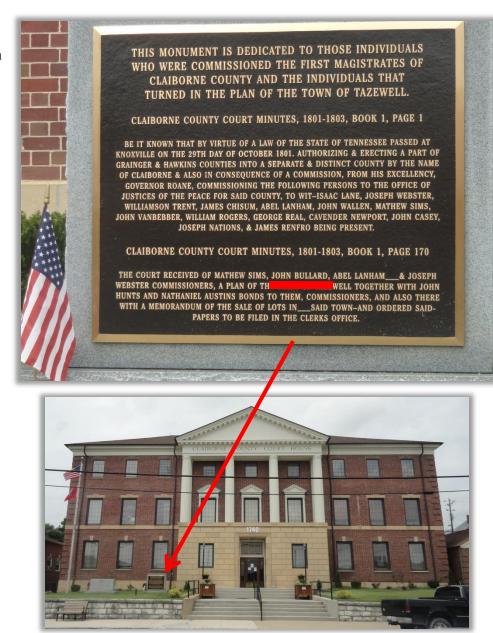
Claiborne County Court Minutes, 1801-1803, Book 1, Page 1

Be it known that by virtue of a law of the State of Tennessee passed at Knoxville on the 29th day of October 1801.

Authorizing & erecting a part of Grainger & Hawkins Counties into a separate & distinct county by the name of Claiborne & also in consequence of a commission, from his Excellency, Governor Roane, commissioning the following persons to the office of Justices of the Peace for said county, to wit - Isaac Lane, Joseph Webster, Williamson Trent, James Chisum, Abel Lanham, John Wallen, Mathew Sims, John Vanberber, William Rogers, George Real, Cavender Newport, John Casey, Joseph Nations, & James Renfro being present.

Claiborne County Court Minutes, 1801-1803, Book 1, Page 170

The court received of Mathew Sims, **John Bullard**, Abel Lanham \_\_\_& Joseph Webster Commissioners, a plan of the town of Tazewell together with John Hunt(s) and Nathaniel Austins bonds to them, Commissioners, and also there with a memorandum of the sale of lots in \_\_\_said town - and ordered said papers to be filed in the clerks office.



Town Monument in present day Claiborne County Courthouse, Tazewell, Tennessee

### **Bullard Ferry on the Clinch River**

After **John Bullard** settled on the north side of the Clinch River\* in 1798, other settlers built their homes along the Clinch River and along feeder creeks and tributaries.

The westerly flow of the Clinch and Tennessee Rivers offered farmers an efficient and low cost conduit to move their goods and cash crops to market. No doubt **John Bullard** saw many types of watercraft transporting people and goods down the Clinch River to Knoxville. Once in Knoxville, boats traveled the Tennessee and Cumberland Rivers to Nashville and eventually down the Mississippi River to New Orleans.

During Claiborne County pioneer years, most roads were nothing more than crooked trails and paths that weaved around trees, through streams and other obstacles. East to west transportation was convenient. However, the Powell and Clinch Rivers posed a challenge to travelers journeying north to Kentucky or south to Knoxville and southern Tennessee.

In the late 1790's, the Tennessee Assembly permitted counties to establish river ferries operated by private companies or individuals. Newly formed counties sold ferry permits and established rates to increase tax revenue and build "infrastructure."

In November of 1798, Grainger County (later Claiborne County) permitted **John Bullard** to establish a ferry across the Clinch River near the mouth of Straight Creek.



Grainger County Court Minutes: 1798 "**John Buller (Bullard)**, (Ferry) at or just above the mouth of Strait (sic) Creek, 22 Nov 98." 109



Typically in the early 1800's, river crossing ferries consisted of two docks connected by an overhead rope line to hold the raft crossing during the strong spring currents.

Bullard's Ferry
On the Clinch River
FARE PRICES

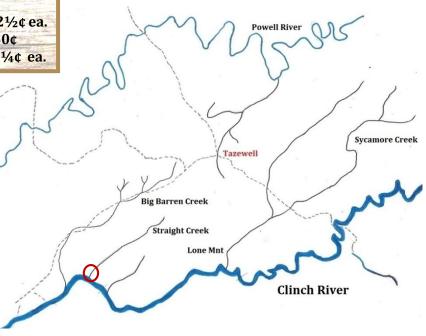
Man or horse 12½¢ ea.
2-wheel carriage 50¢
Head of Cattle 6¼¢ ea.

There are a number of Claiborne County court documents validating that **John Bullard** operated a ferry crossing on the Clinch River at Straight Creek. Later documents will show **John Bullard**'s homestead was located on Straight Creek. It is not known if **John Bullard** had any experience

operating a ferry. His homestead was adjacent to the Tazewell – Knoxville road. He no doubt saw an income opportunity to ferry people, livestock, horses, wagons and cattle across the Clinch River.



"Bullard's operated a ferry across Clinch River. The charge allowed was 12 1/2 cents for each man and horse, 50 cents for a two-wheel carriage, and 6 1/4 cents for each head of cattle." 110



Location of Bullard's Ferry at the mouth of Straight Creek and the Clinch River.

81

<sup>\*</sup> The Clinch River is purportedly named after an 18<sup>th</sup> century long hunter explorer. Oral history also records a story of early pioneers crossing the unnamed river in a boat and an Irishmen fell overboard. Not being able to swim, he yelled out, "clinch me, clinch me!" Thus, the river became the Clinch River.

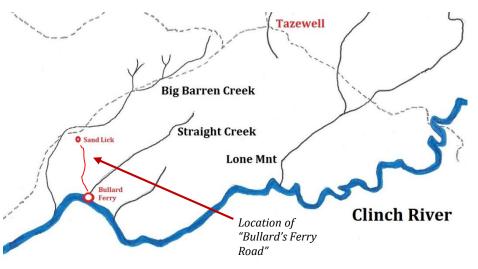
#### **Bullard Ferry on the Clinch River**

From 1802 to 1815, Claiborne County court documents recorded a number of road orders leading to and from "Bullard's Ferry." At the time, Bullard's ferry was near the path of the main Tazewell county road to Knoxville, Tennessee.

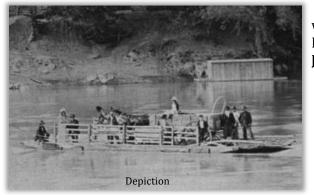
In 1803, the court appointed John Owsley\* as overseer and **John Bullard** "& hands"# as road crew members to build a road from Bullard's ferry to Fielding Lewis' farm located at Sand Lick. Lewis' farm was on the Tazewell-Knoxville road. (In twenty three years time, **John Bullard's** youngest daughter, Sarah Bullard, would marry Fielding Lewis' son, George Washington Lewis.)

Claiborne County Court Session: March 15, 1803
"Ordered that John Owsley \* be appointed overseer of the road from
Bullards Ferry up to Fielding Lewises and be allowed the following hands
1 John Ousley Jnr 4 Peter \_\_\_\_\_? 7 Joshua Wombles

2 Peter Licklighter 5 Adam Idol 8 George Coffman 3 Samuel Tolby 6 John Bullard & hands 9 Seth Betts (Botts)" 111



### **Claiborne County, Tennessee**



In 1802, **John Bullard's** neighbor, John Gossage, was appointed overseer of a road leading from Bullard's Ferry to Gossage's blacksmith shop. **John Bullard** was mentioned as road hand.



Claiborne County Court Session: December 14, 1802 "Ordered that John Gossage have the following hands to work on the road that leads from Bullard's ferry to his Smith-Shop

1 John Ousley 5 Charles Lewis 2 John Ousley - Jnr 6 William Stamper 3 **John Bullard** 7 Robert Whittle 4 Fielding Lewis 8 William Gossage" 112

In 1802, Claiborne County court ordered a road to be built from Bullard's ferry to the Powell River near Old Town Creek. **John Bullard** was mentioned as a road hand.



Claiborne County Court Session: June 8, 1802

"The Jury appointed at March Session 1802 to view & mark a road the nearest & best way from old town creek to John Bullards ferry on Clinch river, report that they have Viewed the Same, agreeable to Said order---passing from the ford of old town creek the direction of an old path, leading to the head of John Owenses (Owens) Sugar-Camp hollow, down the Same crossing Powels river where James Gibson now lives—thence by where James Forest now lives, thence by the Sand lick, thence to John Bullards ferry on Clainch (sic) river-

Signed Iohn Owens

John Owens

John Bullard

Fielding Lewis Samuel Tate" 113

One of the last court references to **John Bullard's** ferry was recorded in 1815. Stephen Owsley was appointed overseer of a road from "Bullards Ferry Road" to Mud Lick Hollow. (In **John Bullard's** Last Will & Testament in 1834, he bequeathed a tract of land to his daughter Mahulda (Huldy) and husband Alfred Moore that was located near Mud Lick Hollow.)



Claiborne County Court Minutes: August 14, 1815

William Savage

"Stephen Owsley appointed overseer of **Bullards Ferry** Road from the Mud Lick Hollow to the Sand Lick, in room of Elijah Hurst. He will have the same hands Hurst had with addition of Fielding Lewis, Joseph Harpe and Harper Pogue." 114

The exact location of Bullard's Ferry is unknown. Most likely the site is underwater at the mouth of Straight Creek just south of present day Straight Creek Boat Marina.

<sup>\*</sup> The Owsley family were neighbors to **John Bullard**. Court documents have recorded the family spelling as; Owsley, Ousley and Housely.

### **Early Claiborne County Roads**

In June of 1802, seven jurors were appointed by the court to marked off a road from Bullard's Ferry to John Hunt's farm. Four of the jury members were **John Bullard**, Fielding Lewis, William Baker and John Hunt. Fielding Lewis would become **John Bullard's** future father-in-law. William Baker had married **John Bullard's** sister, Martha (Patsy) Bullard in 1798. John Hunt was the Sheriff of Claiborne County.

M

Claiborne County Court Session: June 8, 1802

Wm (William) Baker" 115

"The Jurors appointed at March Session 1802 to View and mark a road from <u>John Bullards ferry</u> to John Hunts on the Kentucky road, report that they have Viewed & Marked the Same, the nearest & best way agreeable to Said order

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Nathnl (sic) Austin

John Bullard

John Hunt

Elnathan (Nathanial) Davis Fielding Lewis Wm (William) Savage

At the same June court session, the court ordered John Gossage as the overseer of road construction from Bullard's Ferry to John Hunt's farm. The road spanned the E-W length of Claiborne County. The court appointed 29 men to assist in building the new road. Considering it was the practice to appoint road hands who lived along new road route (and maintain it), one can assume the road crew all lived near or along the proposed route.



10 Joseph York

Claiborne County Court Session: June 8, 1802

"Ordered that John Gosset (Gossage) be appointed overseer of the road <u>from Bullards</u> <u>ferry to John Hunts on the Kentucky road</u> and that he have the following hands assigned for the purpose of opening sd, road (as Viewed by the Jury who reported to the present Session) & keeping open the Same- Vis.-----

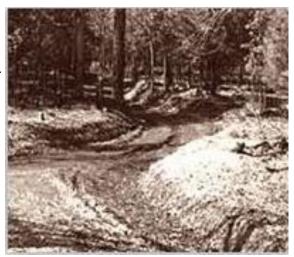
_	coroni, et neeping open ene eum		
1	Fielding Lewis	11 Ezekiel Craft	21 Abram Fitch
2	John Bullard	12 William Bakera (Baker)	22 Jos. Yaden
3	Robert Whittle	13 Richd Forest	23 Chls (Charles) Lewis
4	John Gosset (Gossage)	14 Wat. Edging	24 Thos. Mase
5	Abraham Elkins	15 Sampson Nations	25 William Bridges
6	Wm Stamper	16 Isaac Nations	26 Thos. Bridges
7	John Bogar	17 Joseph Powel (Powell)	27 Morris Baker
8	Samuel Cloud	18 Wm Savage	28 John Murphy
9	Wm York	19 Jno. Hously Snr (Owsley)	29 Thos. Stallions" 116

20 Jno. Housley (Owsley)



Depiction

New roads in the early 1800's were economic arteries for commerce. Surveys and road construction were usually the first order of business in newly formed counties. Courts recruited road crews from neighboring farms. Construction was crude at best.



Depiction

83

During the early years of Claiborne County, building and maintaining adequate roads through hilly and often rain-soaked topography was an ongoing problem confronting county officials.

Tazewell and distant farms were connected by a network of paths and unpaved roads and crudely erected ferry landings. These primitive routes were linked to scores of crooked trails that weaved around tree trucks and boulders.



Almost all eastern Tennessee early roads were notoriously pitiful for travelers and farmers who wanting to carry their crops and goods to market.

The frequently impassable roads and trails were marked with horse and cattle manure. When dry, the roads were dusty. When it rained, county roads including the streets in Tazewell) turned into a mixture of mud, water and the stench of manure.

During the winter when the harvest was in, Claiborne County authorities drafted neighboring farm hands to survey and build more roads for a small daily fee.

There are scores of Claiborne County court documents recording the appointment of citizens to oversee, build and maintain the primitive roadways.

Generally, at the beginning of each county court sessions, road overseers were appointed and road "hands" were selected to help built or maintain the roads. Males in their late teens and twenties were required to work five days a year on roadwork. In most cases, the overseer and workers lived near the road since their families would be the predominant users.

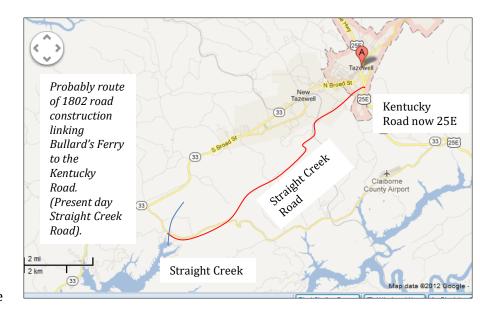
The task was considered menial labor and many young males petitioned the court to be released after being "appointed."

### Straight Creek Road

One of the first extensive county road projects was initiated in March of 1802. The county court ordered a number of citizens to "View and Mark a road the nearest and best way..." from Bullard's Ferry to John Hunts farm located on the Kentucky Road. Although it is difficult to retrieve the location of this road, there is suggested evidence the road is the present day 'Straight Creek Road' running southeast from Straight Creek to the south side of Tazewell. John Hunt's farm was located south of Tazewell.



Claiborne County Court Session: March 1802
"Ordered, that Fielding Lewis – Nathaniel Austin, William Jenins Snr.,
Robert Whittle-John Hunt- **John Bullard**- William Savage-Elnathan
Davis- and Wm Baker – or a Majority of them be a Jury Sworn to View
and Mark a road the nearest and best way <u>from John Bullard's ferry</u> on
Clinch River, to John Hunts on the Kentucky road- and report to the
next Court in Claiborne County to be held on the first Monday of June
next –" 122



In 1802, **John Bullard** was a member of two court-appointed overseers to view and lay a road from (1) Bullard's ferry to Old Town Creek. Old Town Creek was located due north of the ferry near the Powell River; and (2) from the Roddyes Ferry on the Powell River to Cumberland Gap.

C "(

Claiborne County Court Session: March 1802 "Ordered that **John Bullard** - Samuel Tate

William Baker - George Snauffer (Schnauffer)

Fielding Lewis – El Nathan Davis
William Savage and
John Owens Snr James Gibson

Or a Majority of them be Sworn as a Jury to view and Mark a road the nearest & best way – from the ford of Old Town Creek where the Valley road crosses the Same to John Bullards ferry on Clinch river – and report to the next Court to be held for the County of Claiborne on the first Monday of June next in 1802." 117

M

Claiborne County Court Session: June 18, 1803 "Ordered that the order at March 1803 for a Jury to view the road from Roddyes ferry on Powel(I)s river to Cumberland Gap – be revived and that the following hands View and lay out Said road according to Said order and report to next Court –

Fielding Lewis Isom Clark **John Bullard** Wm Acklen

Samuel Lusk George Stubblefied(d)

Jacob Dobbins John Bogar

Richard Harper" 118

William Savage

In 1802, "John Bullard & hands"\* were ordered as members of a road crew to build a road from Jacob Capps farm to Bald Creek.



Claiborne County Court Session: March 1802

"Ordered that Nimrod Dodson be appointed over Seer of the Road from Jacob Capses (Capps)

to Bald creek and His hands to work on the Same be those hereunder written Viz-Thomas Gosage Wm York **Ezekiel Craft** Elisha Sullens Joseph York Samuel Cloud **Moses Collins** John Bullard & hand(s) John Bover Fielding Lewis & hand(s) John Housely (Owsley) El Nathan Davis William Stample Iohn Rice William Baker

Thos. Powel (Powell)

In 1802, **John Bullard** was a member of a Claiborne County court appointment to lay out and mark a road "the nearest and best way" from Tazewell to Miller's Ford located on the Clinch River. Three months, later, the overseers reported that "a good road" could be constructed.

M

Claiborne County Court Session: September, 11, 1802 "Ordered by the Court that Capt Jacob Sharp, Daniel Sharp, James McBroom, Sampson Nations, William Savage, **John Bullard**, William Baker(s) – be appointed Commissioners to lay off a road from Tazewell the nearest & best way to Millers ford on Clinch River & mark out the same & make report to next Court" 120

1

Claiborne County Court Session: December 1802
"The Commissioners appointed at Sept term 1802 to View & mark a road from Tazewell to Millers ford on Clinch river: report as follows whereas there was orders from Court for a road from Tazewell so the County line near Millers ford on Clinch river the best & nearest way – We the Underscribers Summoned & Sworn We proceeded to View Said road & do report to the worshipfull (sic) Court that there May be a good road made as witness Our hands – Underneath

Jacob Sharp - James McBroom
Daniel Sharp - Samson Nations
John Bullard" 121



depiction

Joshua Bots (Botts)" 119

### **Jury Duty**

### **Claiborne County, Tennessee**

In the formative years of Claiborne County, Tennessee, **John Bullard** served on a number of grand juries and petit juries along with his fellow neighbors. Examples from the years 1802, 1803, and 1804 are highlighted.



Claiborne County Court Session: September 1802 "At a Court opened and held for the County of Claiborne at the House of John Hunt Senior, on the Kentucky road, on the first Monday of September in the Year 1802.

Isaac Lane George Real

Present } John Wallen Justices

James Renfro Abel Lanham

The following persons of the Venire of Jurors returned Executed by the Sheriff, and Chosen, tried and Sworn as Grand Jurors for the present Session – to wit.)

1 Joab Hill foreman2 Peter Neal6 Thos. Gibbons7 Ezekiel Craft

3 William Jenins (Jennings) 8 William Strowd (Stroud)

4 John Miller 9 Joseph Bowling

5 Richd (Richard) Harper 10\_

10 Joseph Powel (Powell) 12 Jacob Shoults 11 John Lea 13 **John Bullard**" 123



Claiborne County, Tennessee, Court Session: September 1802 "Ordered that the following Venire, be summoned as Jurors to September Session 1802.

#### Viz -

29 Thomas Gibbons,

	VIZ -		
	1 William Strowd,	2 Peter Neal,	3 John Hunt – not taken,
	4 William Stubblefield X.,	5 William Jinens,	6 John Miller,
	7 William Hord. X pettit Jury,	8 Jacob Shoults,	9 Abraham Devault X,
	10 Peter Huffaker X,	11Hezekiah Jourdan X,	12 David Hodson,
	13 John Lea,	14 John Fitchpatrick X,	15 Tho's Jeffers X,
16 George Snauffer – not taken, 17 John Owens Sn'r – not taken,			
	18 William Nash X,	19 Major Lea X,	20 William Bowman X,
	21 Joseph Powel,	22 John Bullard,	
	23 Nimrod Dodson - not taken,	24 Joab Hill,	25 Richard Harper,
	26 William Grisum X,	27 Joseph Bowling,	28 John Webster X,

30 Ezekiel Craft" 124



A year after Claiborne County was established, **John Bullard** served on jury duty at the trial of Nenion and William Hoskins. The brother's were charged with petty larceny and found guilty. One noted jury member was Samuel Tate. Tate accompanied Daniel Boone on his exploration of Kentucky in 1772-73 and help Boone build the Wilderness Trail in 1775. Samuel Tate, along with **John Bullard's** father, Joseph Bullard, was one of the original settlers in the Watauga/Nolichucky Settlements.

Twenty two years earlier, in 1780, Samuel Tate and Joseph Bullard were under the command of John Sevier at the Battle of Kings Mountain. In the same year, Joseph Bullard posted two security bonds for Tate guaranteeing his appearance in court. In 1797, Samuel Tate bought 600 acres of land in Grainger County (later Claiborne County) from William Hoard. Samuel Tate died in 1812.



depiction



Claiborne County Court Session: December 1802 "State

Vs

Nenion Hoskins Snr- } Petit larceny William Hoskins

Where upon a Jury – to wit.

Elisha Wallen 1 7 Samuel Tate
Samuel Cloud 2 8 John Morgan
John Bullard 3 9 Fielding Lewis

Joseph Powel 4 10 Archibald Mckinny (McKinney)

Samuel Lusk 5 11 Nimrod Dodson William Jinens (Jennings) 6 12 Joseph Bowling

Who being elected tried and Sworn the truth to Speak in the issue of traverse Joined- wherein the State was plaintiff and Nenion Hoskins and William Hoskins was defendants do Say they find the Said defendants guilty of the offence whereof they was Indicted\_\_

Rule to show cause why a new trail should be granted, on argument Rule discharged."  $^{\rm 125}$ 

### **Jury Duty**

### **Claiborne County, Tennessee**

In 1803, **John Bullard** served on a jury in a land trespass dispute between plaintiff, John Rogers and defendants Daniel and George Coffett. One defendant was found guilty, the other not guilty.



Claiborne County Court Session: June 1803 "John Rogers

Vs trespass No. 26

**Daniel Coffett** 

George Coffett

-Where upon Came a Jury to wit 1 Thomas Henderson 7 John Word

2 Sallathiel (Nathanial) Martin 8 Robert Southerland

9 Obediah Jinens (Jennings) 3 William Neal

10 John Bullard 4 Drury Lawson 5 Phillip Nance 11 John Evans 12 John Lea 6 Jahu? Dodson

Who being Elected tried and Sworn the truth to Speak in the Issue Joined Wherein John Rogers is plaintiff and Daniel Coffett & George Coffett is defendants, upon their oaths do Say that the Defendant Daniel Coffett is not guilty of the Trespass and the Plaintiff against him hath complained and do find the Defendant George Coffett is Guilty in manner and form as charged in the plaintiffs declaration – and do asscess (assess) the plaintiffs damages by Reason thereof to Sixty dollars besides his costs -" 126

In 1803, long time Bullard family counselor, Luke Bowyer was sued in court by David Taylor regarding a debt. One of the jury members was John Bullard. The outcome of the case is unknown.



Claiborne County Court Session: June 1803

"David Taylor

Vs debt

Luke Boyer (Bowyer) Whereupon came a jury to wit

7 William Williams 1 John Lea

2 John Keef 8 William Henderson

3 John Neal 9 Thomas Keef

10 William Baker 4 John Stinnet 5 Christopher Damron 11 John Bullard

12 Drury Lawson 6 Josiah Coxt

After the Jury was Sworn in this Cause the plaintiffs attorney directed a on Suit to be Entered." 127

Before the Claiborne County court adjourned in December 1803, the court summoned a number of citizens to serve at the next court session being held in March 1804. The list of jurymen is a snapshot of a number of prominent citizens who were living in Claiborne County, Tennessee in 1803.



4 John Mathew

8 Amis Johnston

20 William Bridges

36 John Cuningham

40 Joseph Crabb

24 Sampson Nations 28 John Webster

16 John Bogar

32 John Evans

11 William Doherty snr 12 Obediah Martin

Claiborne County Court Session: December 8, 1803

"The Court ordered that the following persons be Summoned to attend at March Court 1804 then and there to Serve as Jurors until (sic) discharged

3 John Lea

7 Wm Rash

15 William Baker

23 Elnathan Davis

27 Lewis Robertson

19 Jacob Beeler

31 Thos. Adkins

39 Wm Condry

1 Peter Neal 2 Thos. Henderson (Mathews)

5 James Right (Wright)

6 Major Lea 9 George Snuffer 10 William Sharp 13 Adam Sowder

14 John Bullard 18 George Beeler

38 William Jinens snr

17 Ezekiah Branson 21 Thomas Bridges 22 Samuel Cloud 25 John Owens (Barren Ck) 26. John Latham 29 Joseph Gest 30. William Bowman

33 Thomas Jeffers (Cunningham) 37 Micahah Estes

41 Henry Lebow

42 \_\_\_\_\_ Thursday Dec 8th 1803.

Court adjourned untill (sic) the next Session in course to be holden for the County of Claiborne at the Court house in Tazewell on the first Monday of March in the Year 1804. Isaac Lane IP" 128

34 George Stubblefield 35 Richd. Harper

In 1802, Claiborne County court recorded a survey conducted by James Chisum that expanded **John Bullard's** boundary lines at his homestead located on Straight Creek. The location and extent of the expanded boundary line is unknown.



Claiborne County Court Session: March 1802

"Ordered by the Court that James Chisum ------ Survey and extend the lines of the tract of Land on which John Bullard now lives agreeable to the lines expressed in the Said Bullards deed for Said land, as held by the Origianal (sic) Grant---" 129

In March of 1802, Claiborne County Court of Pleas and Plenary Sessions set poll tax and property rates for county citizens.

Poll Tax\*

On each White Poll .12 ½ cents
On each Black Poll .25 cents
On each 100 acres of land .12 ½ cents

On each Stud Horse 1.00

M

Claiborne County Court Session: June 8, 1802 "Ordered that the following tax be laid for the County of Claiborne to defray the necessary expences (sic) of Said county for the present year 1802.

Viz, on each white poll twelve & a half cents on each black poll twenty five cents on each hundred acres of land twelve & an half cents on each Stud Horse kept for covering mares one dollar" 130

In March 1802, attorney James Chisum was appointed to make a list of taxable property and polls from citizens who resided north of the Clinch river between the southern part of Wallen's ridgeline running from Hawkins County west to **John Bullard's** homestead. In present day, this district encompassed a large portion of land from U.S. 25E west past Lone Mountain to Straight Creek.



Claiborne County Court Session: March 1802
"James Chisum – Esquire was appointed a Commissioner to take in lists of taxable property and polls in that part of Claiborne County South of Wallens ridge & North of Clinch River: from Hawkins (County) old line down to John Bullards: for the year 1802" 131

A year later in 1803, Claiborne County court ordered **John Bullard**, Fielding Lewis and William Baker to value property located within Captain Davis' militia company. All three appointees resided in the Straight Creek area of the county.



Claiborne County Court Session: March 16, 1803 "Ordered that **John Bullard**, William Baker and Fielding Lewis be appointed in Captain Davices (Davis') Company of Militia to Value property taken under Execution agreeable to and ack (acknowledged) of Assembly \_\_\_\_\_\_" <sup>132</sup>

\* Historically, a poll tax was a fee paid by local citizens who did not own property. It allowed them to vote and take part in court activities such as jury duty. It was also a means to raise revenue for local coffers. After the Civil War, poll taxes were misused to make it uneconomical for the poor to vote. In 1964, the  $24^{th}$  Amendment to the Constitution was ratified banning poll taxes altogether.

In September 1802, Samuel Duncan, revolutionary war veteran and blacksmith was fined  $62 \frac{1}{2}$  cents by the court for "misbehaving" while court was in session. <sup>133</sup> (John Owens was also fined the same amount.)



It is unknown what Samuel Duncan did to warrant a fine but he was known as the "fighting Quaker." This was not the first time Duncan was fined by the court. Ten years earlier, in 1792, the Jefferson County, Tennessee court imposed a \$2.50 fine on Samuel Duncan, **John Bullard** and William Carver "for fighting in the verge of the court." <sup>41</sup>



Claiborne County Court Session: September 1802 "Ordered that Samuel Duncan be fined 62 ½ Cents & put in custody of the Sheriff till (sic) paid for Misbehavor (sic) at Court when Seting (sic)" 134

A note of oddity occurred in 1803. Sometime before December 1803, Claiborne County citizen James Devers died. On December 6, 1803, court authorities appointed John Vanbebber, Moses McSpaddin and William Acklen to settle the estate.  $^{135}$ 

During this time, an acquaintance of Dever, Andrew Miller, reported that widow Mary Dever was "not in Her proper sences (sic)." The court summoned twelve citizens to investigate whether or not Mary was "an idiot" or mentally competent. The outcome is unknown.



Claiborne County Court Session: December 1803
"On information of Andrew Miller that Mary Devers widow of James
Devers deceased is Supposed to be an idiot and not in Her proper Sences
(sic) and resides with-in the Jurisdiction of the Court, it is therefore
Ordered by the Court that the Sheriff of this County do Summon a Jury of
Twelve free holders to enquire and Asscertain (sic) whether She is an
Idiot or not and make return to next Court—" 136

On October 1, 1803, Bowyer Bullard, fifth son of **John Bullard** and Agnes Nancy was born. Bowyer Bullard married Elizabeth Hodges in ~1825. Bowyer died on April 19, 1855 in Newton County, Missouri.

In 1803, John Den brought suit against Joseph Powell regarding a land dispute involving Ejectment. The land "on the demise of **John Bullard**" was a legal term meaning **John Bullard** had conveyed a deed to John Den only for a number of years or until Den's death. The jury was deadlocked on a verdict and a mistrial was declared. The eventual outcome is unknown.



Claiborne County Court Session: December 6, 1803 "John Den on the demise of

#### John Bullard

vs Ejectment Joseph Powel (Powell) Where upon came a Jury to wit –

1 Samuel Cloud 5 Christo Damron

2 Amis Johnston 6 Wm Condry John Lea 3 John Rogers 7 James McBroom Henry Baker

4 Philip Williams 8 WM Damron Stephen Austin Who being elected tried and Sworn the truth to Speak in the issue Joined

wherein John Den on the demise of John Bullard is plaintiff and Joseph Powel (Powell) is defendant

Amis (A mis) trail consented to by the parties on the Jury disagreeing—"  $^{137}$ 

In January 1803, 140 citizens of Claiborne County petitioned the Tennessee Assembly to enact a law recognizing the establishment of public buildings in Tazewell. Prior to this time, Claiborne County court sessions were held at the homes of John Hunt (Sr.) and Elisha Walling.

The petition stated the construction of the courthouse was nearly completed, and "the Prison and Stocks" were fully completed. Selected signatures on the petition were: **John Bullard**, <u>Luke Bowyer</u>, John Rice, John Evans, John Hunt, David Linsey, John Bristow, Solomon Dobkins, and others.<sup>138</sup>

By 1804, a small frame courthouse and jail was built on land donated by John Hunt. (In 1819, the county jail was rebuilt out of brick and mortar and still stands today in Tazewell, Tennessee.)



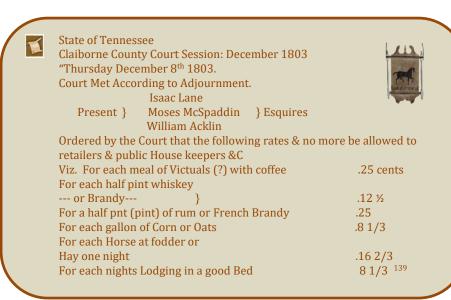
Archibald Mckinny

On December 8, 1802, Claiborne County court set tavern and "public house keeper" rates for its citizens.

The first tavern in Tazewell, Tennessee was established by Reuben Rose. Later, a hostelry was added to it and named "The Temple of Minerva."  $^{138a}$ 



A meal with coffee was .25 cents. A pint of whiskey was .12  $\frac{1}{2}$  cents and a pint of brandy was .25 cents. A nights lodging was .08  $\frac{1}{2}$  cents.



#### **1802-1803 Court Minutes**

While **John Bullard** was raising his family in Claiborne County, a number of Jefferson County, Tennessee deeds records John's mother, Martha Bullard (~63) selling off tracts of land in Jefferson County. An April 9, 1803 deed between Turner and Leox reveals "Widow Bullard" was living adjacent to the deeded land.

(In 1803, Martha's daughter, Ann Bullard, was also living in Jefferson County. Ann Bullard was married to Moses Johnson).



On the same day the Bullard heirs sold 212 acres to John Nall, he turned around and sold the tract to James Baker, father of William Baker for \$1,000.



Jefferson County, Tennessee Registered Deed1803:
"John Nall (Grainer Co.) Deed to James Baker
17 Jan 1804 (Registered) 20 Jul 1803 (Deed) 212 Acres \$1,000.00
On the south side of Lost Creek adj. Isaac Hammer, John Turner,
Charles Hodges, John and Richard McGee." 143



"Walter Turner Deed to Richard Lenox
17 Feb 1807 (Registered) 9 Apr 1803 (signed) 100 Acres \$350.00

[efferson County adj. (adjacent to) William Frazer, "\_" Blunt, Widow Bullard
[Martha Bullard]. Wit: Moses Yell, William Fraizer. /s/ Walter Turner
January term 1807. Within deed proven in court and recorded.

Let it be registered. Test /s/ J. Hamilton, Clk., by D. Barton, D.C." 140

On April 12, 1803, the Bullard heirs sold 24 acres to John Adamson. Martha, **John Bullard** and son, Joseph Bullard (b.  $\sim$ 1787) signed the deed.



"Heirs of Joseph Bullard Deed to John Adamson
14 Jan 1804 (Registered) 12 Apr 1803 (Signed) 24 Acres \$140.00
On the south side of Holstein River on the south side of Lost Creek adj. James
Baker. Martha Bullard, Widow of Joseph Bullard, deceased, and John and Joseph
Bullard, heirs of said Joseph Bullard. Test: Richard Bailey; John Casey; William
Baker. /s/ Martha Bullard; John Bullard; Joseph Bullard" 141

On the same day, the Bullard heirs sold 212 acres of land for \$1,000 to John Nall of Grainger County. The tract was part of Joseph Bullard's Revolutionary War land grant. Witnesses to the deed transfer were John Casey, John Bullard's brother-in-law, and William Baker husband of John Bullard's sister, Martha (Patsy) Bullard.



Jefferson County, Tennessee Registered Deed 1803:

"185 497 Heirs of Joseph Bullard Deed to John Nall (Grainger Co.) (Reg.)

14 Jan 1804, (Deed) 12 April 1803, 212 Acres \$1,000.00,
On the south side of Holston's River on Lost Creek adj. Isaac Hammer,
John Turner, Charles Hodges, John and Richard McGee.

Martha Bullard, Relict and Widow of Joseph Bullard, deceased, and John
and Joseph Bullard, heirs of said Joseph Bullard.

Test John Casey; Richd Bailey; William Baker.

/s/ Martha Bullard; John Bullard; Joseph Bullard "142"

### Andrew Jackson and John Sevier Duel 1803

In 1797, a feud began between Andrew Jackson and John Sevier. Jackson accused Sevier, then Governor of Tennessee, of making fraudulent land deals around the vicinity of Knoxville before choosing the site as the new state capitol.

Four years later in 1801, Andrew Jackson (34) was elected Major-General of the Tennessee militia. Jackson's principal opponent was Governor John Sevier. Sevier lost by one vote.





John Sevier

Andrew lackson

In October of 1803, while Sevier was still Governor of Tennessee, Andrew Jackson was addressing a Knoxville crowd concerning his contributions to the state of Tennessee. Sevier was present and remarked to the crowd, "I know of no great service you have rendered the country except taking a trip with another man's wife." Sevier was making reference to the rumor that Andrew Jackson had married his beloved wife, Rachael, before she had obtained a legal divorce. In a rage, Jackson attacked Sevier with his cane. Jackson then challenged Sevier to a duel. They met near Kingston, Tennessee. After dismounting from their horses, a screaming match ensued between the two duelists. Jackson scampered toward Sevier with his cane in hand and threatened Sevier. Sevier drew his sword. As the two shouted at each other, it frightened Sevier's horse carrying the dueling pistols. The two separated and departed the field of battle. Not a single shot was fired.

### Land Disputes: Background Claiborne County, Tennessee

From 1794 to 1806, settlers poured into Claiborne County. Scores of families settled near the Powell River. Other families, including **John Bullard**, settled south near the Clinch River. Prior to Claiborne County being established in 1801, land titles in the area were based on a 1783 North Carolina land grant situated between the Powell and Clinch Rivers. This "Henderson & Company Land Grant" encompassed 200,000 acres of surveyed land. Prior to Tennessee becoming a state in 1796, North Carolina also bestowed Revolutionary War land grants in the same area to war veterans.

From 1790 to 1796, the area around present day Claiborne County was under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Government (Southwest) Territory. During the territorial years, the United States did not fully recognize the Henderson land tracts because the grants were in conflict with existing Indian treaties; plus it appeared Henderson's huge tract was situated not in Old Hawkins County but further west in Cherokee lands. The Federal government prohibited additional land grants until boundaries and land treaties could be cleared up with the Cherokee Indians.\* During this time, new settlers were squatting on unused land not knowing the property was still being processed as part of Henderson's land grant. By the early 1800's, serious land claims and disputes were arising throughout eastern Tennessee. Many court cases involved claims overlapping one another. Sometimes two or three individuals claimed the same parcel of land. Needless to say, there were many land disputes regarding legal title over lands settled during the Territorial years. Boundary disputes involved all areas of Claiborne County. During this period of confusion, Tennessee became a state in 1796. Many settlers, including John Bullard, bought land tracts during and after the Federal government transition. (Of note, there are numerous Claiborne County land sale deeds that reference; "Henderson tract #\_" or "from John Donelson." Donelson was one of many land company agents selling Henderson grants. (Other land agents included James King, James Glasgow and his son James W. Glasgow.)

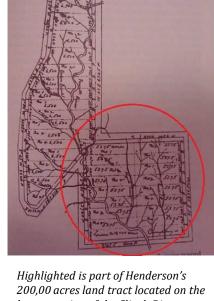
By 1799, James Glasgow was able to assert legal ownership of the entirety of most of Claiborne County and the area around Lone Mountain. Glasgow and later his son, James W. Glasgow sold over 130 parcels of land between 1805 and 1825.

Due to duplicate and sometimes confusing claims, neighbors were pitted against neighbors. After Tennessee became a state, title problems persisted due to legal proceedings between the Federal government and the price being paid to the Indians for the land.

In the formative years of Claiborne County, settlers spent a great deal of time and effort ascertaining ownership of their land and deed titles. In 1806, the Federal government turned

over all land grant jurisdiction to Tennessee. A number of settlers did not receive clear title to their land until 1806 or afterwards. (Scores of Claiborne County court records and surrounding counties have "1806+" on recorded deeds. This does not mean the year citizens settled in the county. A number of citizens were clearly living on the land before 1806, but did not receive clear title until then.) Throughout this period, the sale of land, deeds and titles changed hands many times. Claiborne County Court of Pleas and Plenary Sessions devoted a great deal of time hearing cases involving land disputes and land titles that lasted

well into the mid 1800's.



200,00 acres land tract located on the lower portion of the Clinch River.
The 1783 Henderson & Company tract was surveyed as follows: Beginning at the Old Indian Town, in Powell's Valley, running down the Powell River not less than four miles on one or both sides thereof, to the junction of Powell and Clinch Rivers; then down Clinch River on one or both sides, not less than twelve miles in width, for the complement of 200,000 acres. 144

<sup>\*</sup> In 1798, The Treaty of Tellico established boundaries that had not been marked in previous Cherokee treaties. The Indians ceded lands (including present day Claiborne County, Tennessee) in exchange for U.S. "protection." In the treaty, the U.S. guaranteed the Cherokee that they could keep the remainder of their lands "forever." Over the next twenty years, more treaties were written and more land ceded to the whites until the Cherokee were finally driven off their lands resulting in the "Trail of Tears" in 1838.

#### **Sherriff John Hunt**

In 1804, Tazewell received its first post office. James Graham served as the first Postmaster. In the same year, John Hunt's appointment as Sheriff of Claiborne County was expiring. Hunt, a friend and business associate of John Bullard, was selling off his Tazewell town lots and homestead prior to moving to northern Alabama.

A year earlier, in June of 1803, Sheriff John Hunt was fined a total of \$250 for "failing to make a lawful return on two court executions." 145 The cases involved Isaac & Martha Yokum vs Arthur Markum and George Hover and Samuel Tate vs John Runalds (Reynolds). One can't but wonder if these fines and possible dispute with his fellow Justices was part of the reason Hunt decided to moved from Claiborne County.

Sometime during this time, John Hunt and Andrew Bean departed Claiborne County and traveled south along the Tennessee River to locate new land and opportunities in present day northern Alabama. At the time, the land belonged to the Indians. As with most early settlers in a new territory, anyone living on land as squatters could later exercise "squatters rights" and obtain title for a small fee. It was rumored the Indians were going to cede the land to the Federal government. When that happened, a public auctioned would drive up land prices. Hunt wanted to get there before the land was ceded. No doubt when Hunt returned to Tazewell from a scouting trip he told of rich fertile lands that could produce abundant crops. Upon hearing of Hunt's plans, a number of Claiborne County families sought to join Hunt before other settlers arrived in the area. Families who eventually migrated to northern Alabama with Hunt were: Larkins, Blacks, and a few Bullard's. (Nearby Huntsville, Alabama was named after John Hunt Sr.)

Sometime in the early 1800's, **John Bullard's** oldest son, Joseph Bullard and John's youngest sister, Mary Bullard (b. 1780), and husband David Rutledge moved to northern Alabama. The couple was listed in the Morgan County, Alabama census of 1830. Mary and David had five children. The newly settled area would later encompass Madison and Morgan County, Alabama.

In 1804, **John Bullard** sat on a jury case between William Novell, plaintiff, and Charles Bratcher. The jury found for the plaintiff and awarded Novell \$47.58.



Claiborne County, Tennessee Court Minutes: September Term 1804 "William Norvell

**Charles Bratcher** Silas Williams **John Casev** Wm. Rogers Abel Lanham (Justices) John Hunt Iohn Linch Whereupon a Jury, to wit Jacob Sharp Harman Evans Samuel Webster George Sharp Elisas Harrison Daniel Sharp Robt. Carstarphen William Nation Hardy Hughs Rial Jenins (Jennings) Peter Lower **Iohn Bullard** 

Who being elected tried and Sworn the truth to Speak in the issue Joined wherein William Norvell is plaintiff and Charles Bratcher is defendant upon their respective oaths do Say that they do find that the defendant did assume in the plaintiffs declaration and do assess the plaintiffs damages by Reason thereof to forty seven dollars and fifty eight cents. Motion by the defendants attorney to non-suit the Plaintiff Motion discharged." 146

In 1804, John Bullard and other Claiborne County citizens were appointed jurymen at the next court session.



Claiborne County, Tennessee Court Session 1804.

"The Court appointed the following persons Jurors to next Court (Viz)

1 John Campbel	11 Thos. Bridges	21 John Hunt - Junr	31 John Latham
2 James Sims	12 Jacob Baler	22 Saml. Lusk	32 Lewis Roberston
3 Micajah Estes	13 Ezekiel Craft	23 John Lea	33 Nathaneil Davis
4 Thos. Jeffers	14 S Nations	24 Peter Neal	34 Charles Bratcher
5 Wm Strowd	15 Jos. Powel(l)	25 John Allen	35 Wm. Rash
6 Richd. Harper	16 Thomas Powel(l)	26 Wm. Allen	36 Peter Huffaker
7 John Bristow	17 Nathnl. Austin	27 Wm. Doherty snr	37 Hezekiah Jurden
8 John Miller	18 Jos. Campbell	28 Wm. Evans	38 John Graves
9 <b>John Bullard</b>	19 Jacob Dobbins	29 Joseph Gest	39 Hardy Hughs" 147
10 John Rogers	20 Thos. Henderson	30 Wm. Hord	



In ~1804, Mahulda (Huldy) Bullard, third daughter of John Bullard and Agnes Nancy was born. Mahulda Bullard married Alfred Moore in 1827. Mahulda died ~1843-44 in Missouri.

In 1804, **John Bullard** and brother-in-law, John Casey, witnessed a deed from Nathaniel Austin to William Roger for a \$34 lot located in Tazewell, Tennessee.



Deed from Nathaniel Austin to Williams Roger "Indenture made this 7th day of June 1804, between Nathaniel Austin of Claiborne county, and Williams Rogers of the same place, for and in consideration of the sum of thirty-four dollars to him in hand paid by Rogers, for a lot in the town of Tazewell, known in the plan of the town by Lot No. 36.

Test: John Casey **John Bullard** Nathaniel Austin" 148



On January 19, 1806, a large number of citizens from Grainger and Claiborne County, Tennessee petitioned the state of Tennessee to re-route the main "Kentucky Road" a half mile down the Clinch River for better fording. The Kentucky Road passed by Tazewell linking Bean Station to present day Cumberland Gap, Tennessee. **John Bullard** was one of the petition signers.



"PETITION OF CITIZENS OF GRAINGER AND CLAIBORNE COUNTIES TO CHANGE THE ROAD TO KENTUCKY 1806

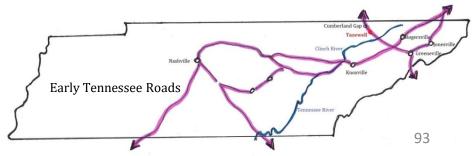
To the Honorable General Assembly of the State of Tennessee:

We the undersigned Citizens of Grainger and Claiborne counties humbly represent that the Turnpike road leading to Kentucky crossing Clinch Mountain at the three stone gap can be much amended by turning to the left at, or near the house of Dawson Creek on the north side of said Mountain . . . coming . . . Present... Road at the town of Tazwell [sic], the ground over which the road would pass is much leveller (sic), an excellent and safe ford in Clinch River, clear of rocks, & only one-half mile the furthest, by total measurement.

(Your petitioners further?) represent that the present Road is very broken full of large rocks, a bad narrow ford in said river which compells (sic) most of the travellors (sic) to ferry the River when it can be forded at the other crossing with perfect safety, the hills are so steep and full of Rocks that it is almost impossible to make a road in many places sufficiently wide for waggons (sic)to pass each other should they meet in those narrow places, which are in pl(aces?) at least one (quarter of a mile ...?) ... your honorable body to pass an act authorising (sic)the commissioners of said road or a majority of them to view the two roads & direct the road the best way for the public – And your petitioners as in Duty bound will ever pray ...

#### "Petitioners:

John Bullard, William Lay, John McCartey, Moses Hodge(s), James Hodge(s), Monoah Dyer, William Hodge(s), William Johnston, Jesse Hodge(s), John Walker, Benjamin Ivey, John Lay, David Gentry, Alexander Donelson, Henry Baker, Danniel Beelar (Beeler), Martin Thornberry, A. Bunch, Thomas Turley, Philip Ivy, Samuel Webster, Mary Little, Rheubin Cofee, Jason Cloud, James Eaton...(and others)." 151



On February 1, 1804, **John Bullard** and Joseph Powell witnessed a deed from William Condrey to Dennis Condrey for 320 acres of land in Putaskee County, Kentucky and another 310 acres in Claiborne County near the head of Sycamore Creek. <sup>149</sup>

In 1805, **John Bullard** and David Lindsey witnessed a deed for Edward Ashely. Lindsey was married to **John Bullard's** sister-in-law, Mary (Molly) Kersey/Casey. The grantor of the deed, James Glasgow, was a land speculator and former Secretary of State of North Carolina. In a few years time, Glasgow would be indicted for massive land fraud.



"John Bullard and David Linsey (Lindsey) witnessed a registered deed from James Glasgow to Edward Ashley on August 24, 1805 and on December 6, 1805." 150

On December 11, 1806, John Bullard Jr., sixth son of **John Bullard** and Agnes Nancy was born. John Jr. married Permelia Hodges ~1828. John Bullard Jr. died on October 13, 1876 in Ellis County, Texas.

In 1804, President Thomas Jefferson commissioned the **Lewis and Clark Expedition**. It was the first transcontinental journey by white men that explored the western territory from the Mississippi River to the Pacific Ocean. The successful expedition ended in 1806.



In 1806, **John Bullard** was overseer for the construction of an unknown road in Claiborne County. The court added two more road hands to help build the road; George Robinson and Timothy Fillpet (Phillip).



Claiborne County Court Minutes: September Session 1806 "Ordered that George Robinson & Timothy Fillpet, be added to the hands of **John Bullard**, overseer of a road\_\_\_\_" <sup>152</sup>

In 1806, **John Bullard** and a number of other Claiborne County citizens were summoned to appear as jurymen at the next February 1807 court session.



Claiborne County Court Minutes: November Term 1806

"The Court appointed the following named persons Jurors to next Term (Vis) 21st Venire

1	William Norvell	19 <b>John Bullard</b>
2	James Vanbebber	20 Fielding Lewis
3	Henry Hunter	21 William Rogers
4	Abraham Hunter	22 John Cardwell
5	Moses Overton	23 John Claunch

6 George Yokum 24 Kiah Jinens (Jennings) 7 William Henderson 25 Thos. Powel (Powell) 8 John Rogers 26 John Richie

8 John Rogers 26 John Richie
9 James McBroom 27 George McCrary
10 Wm. York 28 Peter Huffaker
11 Hardy Hughs 29 Moses Davis
12 Ezekiel Craft 30 Elisha Wallen
13 Robert Whitehead 31 Ruben Grining
14 Peter Lower 32 Thos. Hoskins

15 Joseph Lower 33 David Snauffer (Schnauffer)

16 john Shropshire34 Saml. Wyat (Wyatt)17 Martin Miller35 Isaac Yokum

18 Isaac Nations 36 Wm. Maddy

37 Archibald Mckinny (sic)" 153



The Clinch River in Claiborne County, Tennessee

#### **1807 Court Minutes**

On February 23, 1807, **John Bullard** was sworn in as a juryman in Claiborne County. This is the first known document that records **John Bullard** as Senior ("S"). John Bullard Jr. was born on December 11, 1806. One of the presiding attorneys during the court session was John Casey (Esquire).



Claiborne County Court Session: February 23, 1807: "The following named persons is of the original panel & is Sworn petit Jurors, in chief

- 1. James McBroom s
- 2. Isaac Nations s
- 3. Elisha Wallen (Excused by Court)
- 4. Moses Overton
- 10. John Richie S
- 11. Archibald McKinney
- 12. Ruben Greeing S

Philip Williams Vs. William Gosage One of thee Securities Of Joel Elkins" <sup>154</sup> 5. John Bullard S

6. Thos. Powel (Powell) released

7. Martin Miller released

- 8. (blank)
- 9. Geo Yokum S
- 13. (blank)
- 14. (blank)
- 15. (blank)

Rule to quash the Execution Against Wm. Gosage to this term\_\_\_\_

Claiborne County court took it seriously if a citizen was summoned to jury duty and failed to attend. In 1807, the Court fined George Jinens (Jennings) and John Jinens (Jennings) "five dollars... each (and) two dollars and fifty cents each" for failing to attend a court session. This was no small amount of money in the early 1800's.



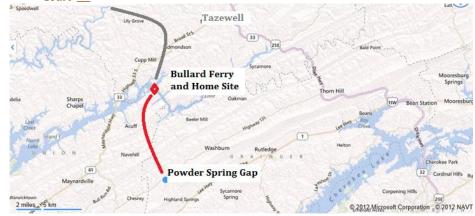
In 1807, Claiborne County Court appointed **John Bullard** and his neighbors to survey and lay out a road from "John Bullards on the Clinch River" north to the Powell River. The road would be a continuation of a Grainger County, Tennessee road that laid south of the Clinch River near Powder Springs Gap. No doubt **John Bullard** had an interest in building this road since travelers using the route north and south of the Clinch River would have to crossed the river at Bullard's ferry landing.



Claiborne County Court Session: February 1807

"(Court) Ordered that **John Bullard**, Fielding Lewis, James Forrest, John Murphy, Abraham Fitch, Joseph Powel(Powell) & Thomas Bridges be a Jury appointed to View and Law (sic) out a road from **John Bullards** on clinch (sic) river, to James Gibsons ford on Powels river.

The nearest & best-way-being a continuation of the road through the Powder Spring Gap in Grainger County to Powells Valley & report the same to next Court  $\,$   $^{''}$   $^{156}$ 



Three months later, citizens reported to the court that another road had been surveyed from Gibson Branch to another ferry location. The appointment of numerous overseers to construct roads to and from ferry landings in the early 1800's reflected the realization from community leaders that in order for Claiborne County to be prosperous, it had to have a good network of connecting roads and ferries.



Claiborne County Court Session: May 1807

"We your Jurors have viewed the road agreeable to your order from Gibsons branch to James Roddyes (Roddy) ferry and have Jointly agreed and report to your worship there can be a good and sufficient road made that will be of use to the public."  $^{157}$ 

In the early years of Claiborne County, there was no poor house to care for indigent and disadvantaged persons. When such a situation arose, the court solicited bids from citizens to support needy citizens. There are many court references where the county court ordered the sheriff to bid out "let out" support to the lowest bidder to assist a needy person. If capable, the person could do work for the bidder.



In 1807, John Bullard and eleven Claiborne County citizens were appointed by the court to investigate the health condition of fellow neighbor Isaac Childress. It appears Childress was not able to support himself. Why the court appointed such a large number of people to investigate remains a mystery.



Claiborne County Court Session: February 26, 1807 "Ordered by Court that Saml. Love, Jos. Powel (Powell), John Bullard, Jos York, Thos. Powel (Powell), John Owsley, Wm Goen (Goin), Abraham Fitch, John Murphy, Joshua Bots & Jos. Powel (Powell) Jr, & John Casey \_ Proceed & View the condition of Isaac Childress who is supposed to be unable as to his bodily abilities, to support, himself, and that the said Jury above named, enquire (sic) into his situation & report on his infirmities to next Court and that untill (sic) next Court ordered that Jos. Powel take said Childress into his care -for support. Thursday feb.(sic) 26th, 1807. Court adjourned untill (sic) nine oclock." 158

The committee must have determined Isaac Childress was in no condition to support himself. A year later, the court "Ordered that the Sheriff let Isaac Childress to the lowest Bidder for support untill (sic) next Term of this Court." 158a In the early years, Claiborne County court recognized the lowest bidder as the person who would support a poor person. (A modern day version of welfare.) **John Bullard** was one of these citizens.

The first known record of **John Bullard** pledging support to Isaac Childress occurred in February 1812. John Bullard pledged \$15 to support Childress for three months.



Claiborne County, Tennessee Court Minutes: February Term, 1812 "Isaac Childress is let for Support until (sic) next court to John Bullard for fifteen dollars he being the lowest bidder..." 159

Three months later, **John Bullard** continued his support to Isaac Childress when he pledged another \$14.



Claiborne County, Tennessee Court Minutes: 1812 "Ordered that John Bullard be allowed for Supporting Isaac Childress from May Term 1812 up to this term at the rates of \$14.00 for three months. Isued (sic) to Bullard."160

A year later, in 1813, **John Bullard** supported Isaac Childress for another three months for the sum of \$15. It appears the court was seeking support for a number of poor citizens in the county, but only John Bullard and William Stallions presented themselves to lend assistance "...and the others not sold for want of bidders."



Claiborne County, Tennessee Court Minutes: February Term 1813 "Dennis Condry Sheriff made his return on the order of last Term for letting out the poor for support to the lowest bidder until (sic) this term in the following words (vis)

In obedience to the within order I let to John Bullard Isaac Childress for \$15. And Hannah Harp to Wm Stallions for \$14.75 and the others not sold for want of bidders.

Isd 1st March 1813" 161

In late 1813, John Bullard was again low bidder and agreed to care for Isaac Childress for \$18.50.



Claiborne County, Tennessee Court Minutes: November Term 1813 "the Sheriff on the general order of court for letting (sic) out the poor for support -

reported that John Murphy received Dianah Harp for support till February Term 1814 at \$17.90 Isd (Issued)

John Bullard recived (sic) Isaac Childress at 18.50

Ralph Shelton recived (sic) Polly Armstrong for Support tell next court at 16.25." 162

This would not be the first time **John Bullard** showed his compassionate and humanitarian side. There are other examples in later years where **John Bullard** would again lend support to the poor and orphaned people of Claiborne County.

In 1807, Barnabas Roark died. His widow, Sarah, was appointed administrator of the estate. John Bullard and attorney John Owens pledged a \$1,000 security bond for Sarah until the estate was settled at the November 1807 court session. What connection John Bullard had with the Roark family is unknown.

Claiborne County Court Minutes: May Term 1807 "Sarah Roark administratrix of the Estate of Barnabas Roark in open Court took the necessary oaths of an administratrix and gave bond on one Thousand Dollars with John Bullard and John Owens Her Securities\_\_\_"163



Claiborne County Court Minutes: November Term 1807 "An account of sale of the Estate of Barnabas Roark deceased is returned by Sarah Roark administratrix of said deceased let it be recorded." 164

At the May 1807 court session, **John Bullard** was a jury member who found for the plaintiff, Nathaniel Davis. The defendant, Moses Overton, was ordered to pay Davis a \$100 debt plus court costs.



Claiborne County Court Minutes: May Term 1807 Nathaniel Davis assigne (sic) of James Rogers; plaintiff Against debt Moses Overton defendant

Where upon came a Jury (Vis)

**Justices in Court** Wm. Rogers Wm. Graham Silas Williams

John Douthet (Douthat) John Bullard Wm. Williams Barna Gibson Isom Stennet **John Owens Joshua Jackson** Robt. McGaha Thos. Sperry Evan Douthet (Douthat)

Saml. Finley Ranson Smith

Who being elected tried and sworn the truth to speak in the issue of Joined wherein Nathaniel Davis assignee (sic) of James Rogers is plaintiff and Moses Overton is defendant on their oaths do say the defendant did not pay the debt in the plaintiffs declaration mentioned and that they do ascess (sic) the plaintiffs demand by reason of the detention of that debt to three dollars and fifty cents, it is therefore considered by the Court that the plaintiff recover the one hundred dollars the debt in the declaration Mentioned and three dollars and fifty cents the damage aforesaid assessed by the Jury." 165

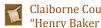
In 1807, **John Bullard** sat on a jury that found for the plaintiff, Sachwell King. The defendants, John Hunt (Jr.) and Joseph Acklen, were ordered by the court to pay a debt to the plaintiff in the amount of \$390. The jury awarded an additional damage assessment to the plaintiff in the amount of \$56.22. The defendant, John Hunt, was the son of John Hunt Sr., former Sheriff of Claiborne County.



Claiborne County Court Minutes: May Term 1807 "Sachwell King plaintiff **Justices in Court** Against debt Silas Williams Iohn Hunt William Graham defendants William Rogers Ios. Acklen Thomas Harrison Paine Esgr. John f. Jack Esgr. Attorney for the Plaintiff & John McCampbell Esgr. Attornies for defendants Where upon came a Jury (Vis)

John Douthet (Douthat) John Bullard Wm. Williams Barna Gibson Isom Stennet **John Owens** Joshua Jackson Robt. McGaha Thos. Sperry Evan Douthet (Douthat) Saml. Finley Ransom Smith" 166

Prior to 1807, Henry Baker had assigned a \$350.75 debt to **John Bullard**. In May of 1807, Baker relinquished his claim and **John Bullard** sued the estate of Joseph Quigley for the assigned debt. The estate acknowledged the debt and paid Bullard the amount owed to him plus interest.



Claiborne County Court Minutes: May Term 1807

attorney comes into Court and dismissed His suit and the plaintiff in Person assumed the payment of costs\_\_\_\_ Against Sarah Quigley

Henry Baker the plaintiff by John Cocke, Esquire his

Administratrix of the Estate of Jos. Quigley Deaceased-----

#### John Bullard

Assigne (sic) of Henry Baker Against Sarah Quigley adminstratrix Of the estate of jos. (Joseph)Quigley deceased\_ The defendant by John McCampbell Esquire comes into Court and confesses Judgment (sic) for there hundred and fifty dollars and seventy five cents debt and one dollar and fifty cents interest." 167

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#### **Bullard - Beeler Land Dispute**

In August 1807, the Claiborne County court, under the authority of Sheriff George Schnauffer, ordered over 600 acres of land to be sold as part of a judgment against Robert King. **John Bullard** was the highest bidder and bought the land for a nominal price of twenty five dollars. (There is a conflicting transcription error of dollars and cents.) The tract was located east of **John Bullard's** homestead between Lone Mountain and the Clinch River and was near George Beeler's farm.



Deed from George Schnauffer, Sheriff, to **John Bullard** "Indenture made this 27<sup>th</sup> day of August 1807, between George Snauffer (Schnauffer), Sheriff of Claiborne county, and **John Bullard** of the same county, in which a judgment was obtained against Robert King for sixteen dollars and forty-five cents. In order to satisfy the judgment, a tract of land lying on the north side of Clinch River, including the first large bottom between the river and the Lone Mountain, above the mouth of Williams' Creek, which falls in on the south side of the river, including the place where George Beeler now lives, was sold at public auction. The tract of land was purchased by **John Bullard**, the highest bidder, for the sum of twenty-five cents (dollars).

Test: John Cocke John F. Jack George Snauffer, Sheriff Deed registered on this  $16^{\rm th}$  day of September, 1807. Ezekiel Craft, Register"  $^{168}$ 

On the same day, **John Bullard** turned around and sold the 640 acres of land to George Beeler for the same nominal amount of twenty five dollars. Portions of the land tract would eventually be divided up among George Beeler's sons and daughters.



Deed from **John Bullard** to George Beeler "Indenture made this 27<sup>th</sup> day of August 1807, between **John Bullard** of Claiborne county, and George Beeler of the same county, for and in consideration of the sum of twenty-five dollars to him in hand paid, for a tract of land containing six hundred and forty acres, and lying on the north side of Clinch river, including the first large bottom between the river and the mountain above the mouth of Williams' Creek, which falls in on the south side of the river.

Test: John F. Jack
John Cocke
John Bullard
Deed registered on this 16th day of Sept

Deed registered on this 16<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1807. Ezekiel Craft, Register" <sup>169</sup>

George Beeler had five children: George, Woolery, Hannah, Rebecca and Mary Elizabeth. In ~1811, Woolery Beeler married **John Bullard's** oldest daughter, Anne. In twenty years time, the 1830 U. S. Census would reveal Anne Bullard and her husband Woolery were living at the homestead of John and Nancy Bullard. Ostensibly taking care of the elder Bullard's. Sometime after the marriage of Woolery and Anne, George Beeler deeded 122 acres of the 640 acres of land to Woolery.

The 1807 Bullard-Beeler land sale was the beginning of a Beeler family dispute that would last until the mid 1840's and end up before the Tennessee Supreme Court.

George Beeler died around 1818. His estate left his daughter Elizabeth Beeler Nicely\*, son Woolery Beeler and other heirs George's land in Claiborne County.

In 1837, Elizabeth Nicely brought suit against Woolery Beeler disputing ownership of 122 acres. Notwithstanding Woolery Beeler's defense, the Chancery Court in Tazewell sided with Nicely and adjudicated against Woolery Beeler.

The case was appealed to the Tennessee Supreme Court in 1841. Woolery Beeler claimed the land was given to him by his father and he had lived on the land (with his wife Anne Bullard) "unmolested possession thereof for 14 years." <sup>170</sup> The court found that some evidence (Beeler's title to the land, etc.) was not heard nor submitted correctly at the original trial. The lower court could not award the disputed acreage to Nicely until they could decided who owned legal title. The court reversed the Chancery Court decision and remanded a new trial be granted. The outcome in unknown.

In 1812, **John Bullard** and Luke Bowyer were witnesses to a recorded deed between William Hunter and George Beeler for 100 acres of land located in Claiborne County, Tennessee.



Claiborne County, Tennessee Court Minutes: August Term 1814 "A deed from William Hunter to George Beeler for 100 acres of land was proven at August term 1812 by Luke Bowyer and at this term by **John Bullard**. Subscribing witnesses thereto and is admitted to record let it be registered" <sup>171</sup>

\* Elizabeth Beeler (b. ~1785) married John Nicely II. John Nicely died around 1830.

In August of 1807, **John Bullard** served on a jury with his two oldest sons, Joseph Bullard ( $\sim$ 20) and Henry Bullard ( $\sim$ 18). It must have been a proud day for **John Bullard** to see his sons serving along side him in the court room.



Claiborne County Court Minutes: August 27<sup>th</sup>, 1807 "Thursday August 27<sup>th</sup> 1807 Court met according to adjournment,

Abel Lanham

Present { Wm. Rogers } Esquires

Wm. Rash John Webster

Thos. Bowlen

Jos. Bullard
Henry Bullard
Henry Hunter
Jonas Roberts
Thos. Branscomb - &

Wm Bowlen

John Bullard

Abraham Hunter

Peter Smith

Wm. Scrichfield

Tapley Hagwood

is Sworn summoned by the Sheriff and sworn to try all causes that may be\_"  $^{172}$ 

In August of 1807, the State sued John Gosage for an unknown cause. **John Bullard** and Joseph Acklen posted bond for John Gosage who was released from the Sheriff's custody. (Gosage's brother, William, was John Bullard's Straight Creek neighbor).)



Claiborne County Court Minutes: August Term 1807
"State against John Gosage in this case **John Bullard** and Joseph Acklen came into Court and acknowledged themselves Security for the payment of the fine and costs of suit at this Term & this day Determined against John Gosage in favour of the state & confessed Judgment for the said fine and costs of suit where for the Court ordered that said John Gosage should be set at liberty by the sheriff\_\_\_" <sup>173</sup>

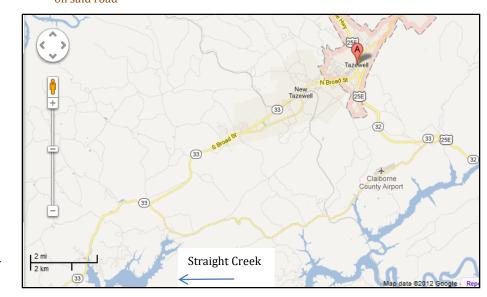
On August 13, 1807, **John Bullard** witnessed a registered deed from Henry Clark and Thomas Clark to William Hunter. Another witness was Henry Baker. The sale was for 100 acres of land for the sum of \$217.  $^{174}$ 

#### Highway 33

In August 1807, William Gossage was appointed overseer of a road to be built from Straight Creek to Tazewell, Tennessee. All citizens living on the road were appointed road "hands." For whatever reason, **John Bullard** and his crew were exempt from the road building. They might have been working on another road construction. This road could very well be present day Highway 33 that runs northwest from Sand Lick and Straight Creek to Tazewell. The court also ordered the old road leading from Sandlick to Fielding Lewis's farm be discontinued.



Claiborne County Court Minutes: August 1807
"Ordered that the road leading from the Sandlick to Fielding Lewises
(sic) be discontinued and the old road from said Lewises (sic) to
Tazewell \_ By Gosages (Gossage's) on straight creek be revived and that
William Gosage be overseer from the Lick hallow – to the Town of
Tazewell and that all the hands living on said road from Tazewell to
Bullards – not including Bullards hands be assigned to Gosage to work
on said road" 175



#### **1807 Court Minutes**

In 1807, **John Bullard** posted a security bond for Joseph Coafer (Coffer) to operate a tavern in Tazewell, Tennessee.\* The license gave Coffer the right to sell liquor and offer accommodations to travelers. On the same day, John Casey and Harman Wynn bonded security for John Brown to "be allowed to leave to keep a house of public entertainment in Tazewell for the purpose of retailing liquors & other accommodations to travellers (sic) & others for one year..." These bonds give a revealing glimpse that **John Bullard** and brother-in-law, John Casey, were no strangers to the local taverns since they were posting bonds for their operation.



"Ordered by the Court Session: May 1807
"Ordered by the Court that Tavern License issue to
Joseph Coafer (Coffer) to sell by retail liquors and other
accommodations for and dureing (sic) one year
immediately hereafter on said Coafers executing His
bond\_ with John Owens and John Bullard for His
securities and doth pay into our office the money for the
use of the state aforesaid, required by law. \_\_\_\_\_
Ordered that the license to Coafer bear date from the
first Monday in June next..." 176

# **Claiborne County, Tennessee**





Early 1800 Tavern

Tavern was used interchangeably with the term "ordinary" or "inn." Taverns were places where men came to hear the latest news, discuss politics and talk about crops and livestock. Since Tazewell was on the Kentucky Road, taverns were also relay stations for stage coach stops and mail delivery. Stage coach passengers brought the latest news of what was happening from other parts of the region and territories.

#### **Hamilton District**

In 1802, 1807 and 1808, **John Bullard** was appointed juror to the Superior Court of Hamilton District. In all three appointments, all other Jurors were attorney's (Esquires). **John Bullard** was not. The prestigious appointment reflected the high esteem the court must have held for **John Bullard**.

The Hamilton District, created in 1792 (Tennessee Ordinance #4), was

The Hamilton District, created in 1792 (Tennessee Ordinance #4), was composed of two Superior Courts of Law. One in Knox County and one in Jefferson County. **John Bullard** was appointed jurors to the Jefferson County Superior Court.



Claiborne County Court Session: September 1802 "Ordered that Elisha Wallen, John Casey, - and **John Bullard** attend as Jurors at the next Superior Court to be holden for the District of Hamilton the fourth Monday of Sept 1802" <sup>177</sup>



Claiborne County Court Session: May 1807 "Ordered that John Casey & William Acklen Esquires and **John Bullard** be appointed Jurors to the next superior Court of Hamilton District." <sup>178</sup>

In the winter of 1808, **John Bullard**, George Schnauffer and Abel Lanham were appointed jurymen to the Superior Court for the Hamilton District.



Claiborne County Court Session: February Term 1808 "Ordered that **John Bullard** \_\_\_ George Snauffer (Schnauffer) & Abil (Abel) Lanham be appointed Jurors to the next Superior Court for Hamilton District." <sup>179</sup>

At one time the Hamilton District was part of Grainger and Hawkins County. It lost its fleeting identity when Claiborne, Grainger and Hawkins County were established in the early 1800's. (When the Tennessee Assembly classified the state militia units in 1801, they gave a glimpse of what encompassed Hamilton District.

"That the aforesaid county of Claiborne, be, and the same is hereby declared to compose a part of the district of Hamilton, in the same manner, and for all purposes civil or military,... nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to prevent the sheriffs or collectors of the said counties of Hawkins and Grainger from collecting all arrearages of public and county tax within the limits of the said county of Claiborne, in the same manner as if this act had not been passed." 180

#### John Bullard Slandered

In November of 1807, John Bullard brought a civil suit against a fellow Claiborne County citizen Joshua Botts for slander. It appears, Botts said words to John Bullard in a state "of heat & passion." (Slander is a form of defamation when a false statement is spoken about a person).



One can go to court if it appears slander has injured a person's character or reputation or if the words "reasonably hold the person up to public hatred, contempt, or ridicule."

Although the slanderous words are lost in history, it appears Joshua Botts was impugning upon John Bullard's reputation. Botts readily acknowledged the insult and paid the court costs. (Botts was married to Sarah Owsley, daughter of John Owsley who was a neighbor of John **Bullard**). This appears to be one of many instances where **John Bullard** demonstrated his character as a no nonsense man of principle who was willing to litigate, if need be, to clear his good name and reputation. It also shows John Bullard was willing to forgive.



277 (p. 138) Claiborne County Court Session: November Term 1807 "John Bullard plaintiff slander of words Against Joshua Botts Defendant

The defendant came into Court and confessed Judgment (sic) for all Costs of suit Whereupon the plaintiff dismissed this suit, because the words of Slander Spoken was words of heat & passion so acknowledged by the defendant." 181

In 1807, John Bullard purchases and additional 200 acres of land near Straight Creek from Robert Whittle for a sum of \$100 cash "in hand paid." It is assumed the land was adjacent to **John Bullard's** homestead. The newly purchased tract was in the vicinity of where **John Bullard's** son, William Bullard later resided. Luke Bowyer was a witness.

Claiborne County Court Session: January 15, 1807 "Deed from Robert Whittle to John Bullard. Indenture made this 15th day of January 1807, between Robert Whittle of Claiborne county, and John Bullard of the same county, for and in consideration of the sum of one hundred dollars to him in hand paid, for a tract of land containing two hundred acres, and lying on a creek known by the name of Strat (Straight) Creek, Robert (X) Whittle" 182 joining the land of William Gosage. Test: Luke Bowyer

Claiborne County Court Session: May 1807 A deed of Conveyance from Robert Whittle to John Bullard for two Hundred acres of land is acknowledged to by said Whittle in open Court let it be Registered." 183



In ~1807, Martha Bullard, fourth daughter of John Bullard and Agnes Nancy was born. Martha Bullard married Barnett Hicklin ~1829. Martha died ~1870 in Titus County, Texas.

### John Bullard, Claiborne County Ranger

In the early 1800's, Tennessee counties were allowed to elect one Ranger per county. The first Claiborne County Ranger was Nathaniel Austin. 184 Elected Rangers were required to post a \$500 security bond. The primary duty of a county Ranger was to round up and manage stray livestock in the county and return them to their rightful owner.

During this time, stray livestock (horse, cow, hog, sheep, etc.) was commonplace.

If a farmer came across a stray, they had 10 days to report the stray to the nearest Justice of the Peace. They were required to give a description as to the age, color, markings and



In the winter of 1808, Isaac Lane, one of the founding fathers of Claiborne County, was elected Claiborne County Treasurer. **John Bullard** and Joab Hill posted the security bond for Lane.



branding of the animal.

Claiborne County Court Session: February Term 1808 "Isaac Lane is duly lawfully & Constitutionally Elected Treasurer for the County of Claiborne, and in open Court took the necessary oaths and gave bond with **John Bullard** and Joab Hill for His Securities." <sup>185</sup>

At the same court session, **John Bullard** ( $\sim$ 43) was elected Claiborne County Ranger. A security bond was posted by **John Bullard's** brother-in-law, John Casey, and Isaac Lane.



Claiborne County Court Session: February Term 1808 "John Bullard was likewise elected Ranger for the County of Claiborne and in open Court took the necessary oaths and give bond with Isaac Lane & John Casey for His Securities." <sup>186</sup>



Also, at the same court session, John Cocke was elected Claiborne County Solicitor and John McCubbins was elected County Coroner.

County Rangers kept a record of strays and were required to make a report to the court once a month. The finder had to keep the stray on his property or deliver the animal to the County Ranger.

The person who found the stray could not sell nor remove the animal from the county for one year. The finder had two options.

Secure a bond that was double the appraised value and keep the stray in safe keeping on his farm or deliver the stray to the County Ranger, **John Bullard**. No doubt **John's** farm was large enough to keep stray livestock corralled until ownership could be established.

**John Bullard's** county Ranger appointments and duties hints he was knowledgeable in horse and cattle husbandry; a trade he undoubtedly acquired from his father, Joseph Bullard.



#### **County Commissioner**

In the winter of 1808, Claiborne County court paid **John Bullard** and Abel Lanham \$20 for their services "as a Commissioner on behalf of the County." This entry indicates **John Bullard** served as a County Commissioner in the early years of Claiborne County.



Claiborne County Court Session: February Term 1808 "Ordered that Abel Lanham be allowed twenty dollars for his services at different times as a Commissioner on behalf of the County twenty days in the collection of public monies."

It is likewise ordered that **John Bullard** be allowed for the same like service. \$20."  $^{187}$ 

In the Spring of 1808, Harman Evans brought John Bullard and three former Claiborne County Commissioners into court for an unpaid debt owned to Evans. No doubt the debt was related to the selection and selling against Joseph Acklen for an \$11.50 debt owed. The court ordered the of town lots in Tazewell in 1802. (All four defendants, Lanham, Bullard, Sims and Webster were Commissioners appointed to locate the county seat and lay out and sell town lots). The four defendants acknowledged owing the plaintiff \$105.44. However, the court judged that the Commissioners owed Evans more and awarded him an additional \$106.77 in damages for a total amount due to Evans of \$212.21. Of interest, Harman Evan's brother, Walter Evans, was the Claiborne County Clerk in 1808. There is a possibility that Walter Evans saw some impropriety in the court records, and brought it to the attention of his brother, but this is conjecture.



Claiborne County Court Session: May Term 1808 "Harman Evans 265 against debt Lanham **Iohn Bullard** Commissioners **Mathew Sims** Joseph Webster Where upon came a Jury \_\_\_\_\_ to wit. 2. Thomas Wallen 1. Moses Davis 3. Enoch Chapman 5. Wm. Critchfield 4. Jacob Pevyhouse 6. David Wilson 7. Isom Stinnet 9. Elijah Harp 8. David More (Moore) 10. Jos. Clark 12. Jos Campbell 11. Thos. Jones

Who being Elected tried and Sworn the truth to speak in the issue Joined wherein Harman Evans is plaintiff and Able Lanham, John Bullard, Mathew Sims & Jos. Webster are defendants, on their respective oaths do say that the Defend did pay the debt in the declaration mentioned all except one hundred and Six dollars, seventy seven cents and thirteen mills and do assess the plaintiffs damages by reason of the detention of the debt to one hundred and five dollars forty four cents & thirty mills in all together two hundred and twelve dollars twenty one cents and forty three mills.

And it is considered by the Court that the plaintiff recover according to the Verdict of the Jury.

On motion of John Cocke Esqr-it is ordered that the sum of two hundred & twelve dollars twenty one cents and forty three mills the amount of principall (sic) and interest found by a Jury at this Term against the Commissioners &c in favor of Harman Evans to be appropriated to them Commissioners for said Evans, by the hands of Isaac Lane the County Treasurer." 188 Three months after the former Commissioners (Lanham, Bullard, Webster and Sims) lost their case against Evans, the Commissioners brought suit county sheriff to start proceedings to sell a portion of Acklen's land to satisfy the debt. The suit was an indication that John Bullard and his fellow Commissions were serious about collecting debts regardless of how big or small they were. Joseph Acklen lost an appeal in the November 1808 court session. He moved to appeal to a higher court. The outcome is unknown.

Claiborne County Court Session: August 24, 1808 Abel Lanham John Bullard Joseph Webster Mathew Sims } Plaintiffs Joseph Acklen defndt \_In this case Execution is returned to Court by Seth Bots (Botts) Constable against the said Jospeh Acklen, levied on an improvement right-of land where Jonathan Wilson and Thomas Marcum lives. & it is ordered that an order of sale issue to the sheriff to sell said Land to satisfy even (eleven)dollars & fifty cents the amount said Execution in favor of said plaintiffs.\_\_\_\_" 189

On February 23, 1808, Claiborne County court met to elect George Schnauffer as Sheriff. Voters for the election were 17 Claiborne County attorneys (Esquires). Attorneys listed were: Luke Bowyer, John Word, John Daugherty, Silas Williams, William Robinson, Joab Hill, John Vanbebber, William Savage, John Owens, William Rogers, John Casey, Abel Lanham, William Dorerty, William Acklen, William Graham, John Webster and William Rash. 189a

In February 1808, Claiborne County Court of Pleas and Plenary Sessions set poll tax and property rates for its citizens. The only change in taxes from 1802 to 1808 was a reduction in the white poll tax from .12 ½ cent to .06 ¼ cents.



Claiborne County Court Minutes: February Term 1808 "Ordered that a tax be laid for the purpose of paying Jurors as follows to wit: On each Hundred acres of land -----.12 1/2 On each white poll ----- .06 ¼ On each Black poll or Town lot

### John Bullard Sons (Joseph, Henry and Isaac)

The earliest known court records listing **John Bullard's** first three sons (Joseph, Henry and Isaac) appeared in 1808.

In the summer of 1808, the court appointed **John Bullard** as overseer of a road, but later the court appointed Henry Bullard ( $\sim$ 18) as overseer. Since the road was near the Bullard family homestead, one could assume Henry's appointment was under the watchful eye of his father.



Claiborne County Court Session: August Term 1808 "Ordered that Henry Bullard be overseer of the road **John Bullard** was overseer of & have the same hands the said John Mad\_\_\_\_\_" 191

For whatever reason (not enough laborers and/or possibly rough terrain), Henry Bullard requested more workers to finish the building of the road. At the next county court session, the court ordered additional men to assist in the work. Two of the additional road hands were **John Bullard's** sons, Joseph Bullard (~21) and **Isaac Bullard** (14). Another worker enlisted was Woolery Beeler, who would marry **John Bullard's** oldest daughter, Anne in three years time.



and Adam Idol" 192

Claiborne County Court Session: November Term 1808
"Ordered that Henry Bullard have the following hands in
addition t his former hands to work on his road.

(Viz) Wm. Hunter Woodrick (Woolery) Beeler
John Montgomery Caleb Shockley
John Rice John Right
Jos. Bullard Isaac Bullard



In the winter of 1808, Claiborne County court paid \$15 to **John Bullard** to escort a minor child, Leroy Bristow (~10) to Knoxville, Tennessee. Leroy Bristow was the son of deceased John Bristow and widow Dorcas Bristow who was widowed with 5 minor children. Speculation is that John was escorting Leroy to Knox County to live with relatives.





Claiborne County Court Session: February Term 1808 "Ordered that **John Bullard** be allowed fifteen dollars for Carrying Leroy Bristow from Tazewell to Knoxville." <sup>193</sup>

In 1808, **John Bullard's** brother, Christopher Bullard, sold an unspecified amount of land in Franklin County, Tennessee to Andrew Jackson. <sup>194</sup> In twenty years time, Andrew Jackson would become the 7<sup>th</sup> President of the United States.



A. Jackson

In November 1808, Claiborne County court appointed a road crew to build and maintain a new section of a road from **John Bullard's** farm to Tazewell along Straight Creek. Further evidence that this road construction is the present day Straight Creek road in Claiborne County.



Claiborne County Court Session: November 1808 "Ordered that John Lebow be overseer of the straight (sic) Creek road from **John Bullars (Bullard's)** to Tazwell (sic) to John Branscomb and have the following hands: Larkin Smith, John Stone, Alexander Cabbage, Thomas Stone, Ruben Stone, Jonathan Wilson, Thos Markam, John Cardwell, Isom Jinens (Jennings) and George Jinens (Jennings)." <sup>195</sup>

In 1808, United States law made it illegal to import slaves into the United States. Slavery itself would continue until the end of the Civil War.



#### **1809 Court Minutes**

In 1809, **John Bullard** petitioned the Tennessee high court asking for relief for a survey error on a 340 acre track in Grainger County purchased from Joseph Beard in 1799 and registered in 1800. When the tract was surveyed, it was found to overlap property owned by James Berry. Bullard's purchase was found to be only 40 acres. The ten year old dispute eventually made its way to Tennessee General Assembly. The Bullard Petition was dated January 15, 1809. The outcome of the petition is unknown.



Petition Regarding Deed from Joseph Beard to John Bullard, 1809:

"Petition to the General Assembly of Tennessee regarding Deed for 340 Acres of land lying on the north side of Clinch River in Grainger County, Tennessee, sold by Joseph Beard of Pulaski County, Kentucky, **to John Bullard** of Grainger County, Tennessee, being Grant #517 obtained from the State of North Carolina on 5 May 1794... Proven in open court Aug 1800, Amb[rose] Yancey, Clk of Grainger County, and recorded by Felps Read, Regt... Survey and plat by Walters Evans 24 Sep 1808, showing an interference with a 640 Acres tract, Grant #127, to James Berry." <sup>196</sup>



15-1-1809 Petition of John Bullard.

"On 19 Sept 1799 Joseph Beard conveyed to Bullard 340 acres granted by North Carolina (to Beard) on 5 May 1794, however, when it was surveyed, the tract was found to contain only 40 acres. Some of the land lies on Clinch River. Bullard requests a certificate for additional land. 1 page." 197

On January 1, 1809, Christopher Bowyer Bullard, seventh son of **John and Nancy Bullard** was born. Christopher Bullard married Rebecca Hodges on November 10, 1838 in Claiborne County, Tennessee. Christopher died on October 18, 1844 at the age of 35 in Newton County, Missouri.





In the Fall of 1809, **John Bullard** was 44 years old and once again in court. He was giving an affidavit regarding the consolidation of his father's Revolutionary War land grant boundaries. Nineteen years earlier, **John Bullard** was transferring registry deeds from Hawkins County court jurisdiction to the newly formed Jefferson County. At the time, he was a chain carrier for surveyor, David Stuart.

The November 1790 two hundred acre survey (Warrant Deed #819) was adjacent to other tracts. The 1809 affidavit make evident **John Bullard** was an active participant in surveying the family holdings to ensure accurate boundaries on the family land grants.



Tennessee Legislative Papers and Petitions: October 2, 1809 "Affidavit of **John Bullard**, Grant no.76 and 819. **John Bullard** one of the heirs of Joseph Bullard, dec., made oath that he searched for the grant to Joseph Bullard, dec. The deponent said he was a chain carrier in surveying the 200 acre tract...

...Joseph Bullard, dec. Grant no. 76 dated Nov. 1790 for 80 acres. Ditto no. 70. Another to the same for 200 acres, and grant no. 819 dated 19 Nov. 1790 for 200 acres, and no. 71 dated 4 July 1810. No. 76 a fifty shilling grant to Joseph Bullard in Hawkins Co., 80 acres on the south side of Holstein River, on Beaver Creek. This grant was registered, on 2 August, 1792 in Ledger A, p. 79, Jefferson Co. No. 819, Joseph Bullard, 200 acres, Green(e) Co.; a fifty shilling grant on south side of Holston River adjoining another place of the said Bullard's. This was registered in Jefferson Co., 2 Aug. 1792 in Ledger A, p. 76. David Stuart of Jefferson Co. made a sworn statement on 11 May 1810 before William Mills, J.P. (Justice of the Peace) for that county. 198

In 1809, **John Bullard** (Grantor) transferred an unspecified amount of property in Claiborne County to William Williams (Grantee). 199

In 1809, James Madison became President of the United States. As Thomas Jefferson was the author of the Declaration of Independence, James Madison was the author of the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Madison, held office for eight years.



### Life on John Bullard's Farm 1810

Farm life in Claiborne County, Tennessee in the early 1800's was characterized by heavy labor in a pre-mechanized agricultural setting. Tilling the land was still done by oxens and plowshares. Most eastern Tennessee farms still used primitive farm tools. Maintaining just a few acres of land was no small task. Farmers needed large families to plant and harvest crops on time.



The Bullard's of 1810 were tied to the land they owned. Most of **John Bullard's** offspring (with the exception of Anne and William Bullard) would eventually sell their land holdings and move to Alabama, southern Tennessee and Missouri. **John Bullard's** descendants would not begin migrating to urban towns and cities until the late 1890's.

Keeping a large family together and fed was a constant struggle. Children generally performed a variety of tasks around the family farm. In the 1810's, **John Bullard** and family worked from sun up to sun down clearing fields, tilling the land, seeding, tending gardens, caring for livestock, doing household chores and building structures.

The 1810 reconstructed Claiborne County tax list recorded **John Bullard** owned 400 acres of land along the Clinch River. In the same year, John and Nancy Bullard had the last of their twelve children, Sarah Bullard. **John Bullard's** oldest son, Joseph ( $\sim$ 24) married Lucy Campbell on July 26, 1810. Joseph left Lucy in  $\sim$ 1817 and was granted a divorce in 1833. Little is known of Joseph's early life. By 1812, he moved to Franklin County, Tennessee presumably to live near his uncle, Christopher Bullard. Joseph owned land in Rhea & McMinn

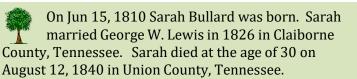


County, Tennessee.

At the end of 1810, eleven of twelve Bullard children were still living on the family farm. Anne(~22) would married Woolery Beeler in a year's time. The other remaining children were: Henry (18), **Isaac** (16), William (13), Elizabeth (10), Boyer (7), Mahulda (6), John Jr. (4), Martha (3), Christopher (1), and newborn Sarah.

Family life in eastern Tennessee was a patriarchal state of affairs. Father's whose sons had not come of legal age could farm out their son's labor to neighbors or road crews to obtain additional money for the family.

In the summer of 1810, John (45) and Nancy (40) Bullard welcomed, Sarah, their last of twelve offspring.





Pioneer women like Nancy Bullard bore between six to fourteen children during their lifetime. Children were looked upon as indispensible assets to the economic livelihood of the family farm. Wives routinely bore a child every two years all the while working and maintaining the family farm.

In a period of ten years (1800 to 1810), Nancy Bullard bore seven of her twelve children. (Elizabeth, Bowyer, Mahulda, John Jr., Martha, Christopher, and Sarah.)



By the 1810's, some Claiborne County farmers were moving from subsistence farming to selling crops on the local and regional market.

In 1810, the population of Tennessee was 261,727. The 1810 U.S. Census recorded the total population of the United States at 7.23 million. Only 1 million lived west of the Appalachian Mountains.

### The Passing of John Bullard's Mother: Martha Bullard (~1740 - ~1805)

Sometime between 1803 and 1810, **John Bullard's** mother died. Martha would have been in her mid 60's. Her last known documented homestead was on Beaver Creek in Jefferson County, Tennessee. Her last known court deed signature/seal was recorded in April 1803 while living in Jefferson County.

In December 1810, the Bullard heirs sold 540 acres of land located on Beaver Creek to John Vance. The deed revealed Martha was no longer living in Jefferson County, "whereon the Widow Bullard formerly lived..." <sup>201</sup> Since Martha's seal as the administrator of her husband's estate was not on the 1810 deed, one can assume she had passed away.

In all probability, Martha Bullard died and was buried in Jefferson County near her homestead.\* At the time, her oldest daughter, Ann Bullard Johnson was living in Jefferson County.

Martha Bullard (b.  $\sim$ 1740). Married Joseph Bullard  $\sim$ 1758. Died  $\sim$ 1805.



Depiction



When the Bullard heirs sold the property to John Vance in 1810, they also sold a smaller parcel on Lost Creek to their former neighbor, Isaac Hammer.

**John Bullard** and his oldest son, Joseph Bullard ( $\sim$ 23), signed the deed transfer. At the time, Joseph was living in Franklin County, Tennessee with **John Bullard's** brother, Christopher Bullard (b.  $\sim$ 1774).

One could assume Christopher Bullard knew of his mother's death and Joseph Bullard had travelled to Jefferson County carrying Christopher's power of attorney.



"**John Bullard** (Claiborne Co.) and Joseph Bullard (Franklin Co.) Deed to Isaac Hammer

25 Sep 1812 (Reg.) 8 May 1810 (Signed) 18 Acres \$36.00 On Lost Creek adjoining the land whereon the said Isaac Hammer now lives; being all that land that lies between the lines of Calloway Hodges that belongs to the said **Bullards**, Isaac Hammer's land and Jordan Roaches old place, now Richard Haworth's and John Baker's line. Wit: Elihu Macy; John Adamson.

/s/John Bullard; Jos. Bullard

September Sessions 1812. Within deed was proven in open court and admitted to record. Let it be registered. Attest /s/ Jos. Hamilton, Clk., by his Deputy, Wyly Martin." <sup>202</sup>

Two months after **John Bullard's** son, Joseph Bullard, signed the Isaac Hammer deed, he wed Lucy Campbell in Madison County, Alabama. Madison County is adjacent to Franklin County, Tennessee.

On July 26, 1810, **John Bullard's** oldest son, Joseph Bullard (b.~1787) married Lucy Campbell in Madison County, Alabama. Joseph lived in nearby Franklin County, Tennessee by 1812. He left Lucy around 1817. Divorced Lucy in 1833.



Possibly remarried to Nancy (last name unknown.)

<sup>\*</sup> There are incidental signs that Martha Bullard might have moved to Claiborne County, Tennessee before her death. Her son, **John Bullard Sr.** and Luke Bowyer were residing in the county as early as 1801. There was a strong family (sibling) connection between Martha and Luke Bowyer. (See "The Life and Times Narrative of Joseph Bullard," Appendix H, Luke Bowyer: "Bowyer – Bullard Family Connection" for suggested evidence that Martha's last name was Bowyer.)

In 1810, **John Bullard** sold an unspecified amount of land in Claiborne County to Joseph Powell for eleven dollars.



Claiborne County, Tennessee Book of Records (1801-1825)

"Grantor Grantee Deed Date Book Page Consideration

Joseph Powell John Bullard D 1810 B 271 \$11" 203

Although **John Bullard** was residing in Claiborne County in 1810, he still owned 400 acres of land in neighboring Grainger County. The exact location is unknown. What is known is the land was situated on the south side of the Clinch River bordering Claiborne and Grainger County.



Grainger County, Tennessee Court of Pleas: February 22, 1810 "James Brown Esqr. Who appointed to take a List of Polls & Taxable property in the Bounds of Capt. Halls Company makes return to Court.

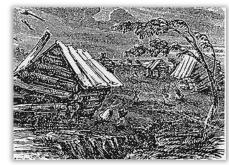
**John Bullard** has leave to return a List of his taxable property for the year 1810 to wit four hundred acres of Land."  $^{204}$ 

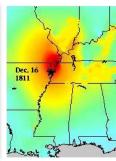
In ~1811, **John & Nancy Bullard's** oldest daughter, Anne Bullard (b. 1788) married Woolery Beeler.\* They lived most of their lives in Claiborne County, Tennessee.



In 1811 and 1812, a series of powerful earthquakes struck Tennessee and were undoubtedly felt in Claiborne County. "The New Madrid Earthquakes" began with a pair of large earthquakes on December 16, 1811.

Strong quakes were felt over 130,000 square miles. Moderate shockwaves were felt over 3 million square miles. Some sections of the Mississippi River appeared to run backward for a short period of time.





Of note, **John Bullard's** name is conspicuously absent from 1811 Tennessee court documents. It is not known why. Speculation might be that court records were lost during this period, or **John** was of ill health or for most part of the year visiting his brother, Christopher, in Franklin County, Tennessee regarding the sales (and profits) of the Bullard heir land holdings.

The Graham-Kivette House, built ~1810, is the oldest home in present day Tazewell, Tennessee. The house was built by merchant William Graham who, along with **John Bullard** and others, was a founding father of Tazewell.



<sup>\*</sup> The Beeler family (Ulrich Beeler or Buehler arrived in Pennsylvania from Switzerland in 1734. The family migrated to Frederick Co., Virginia in the 1740's, then to Dunmore Co, Virginia. Ulrich's sons later moved to eastern Tennessee in the 1780's. The Beeler family were Reformed Lutherans. It is believed Woolery Beeler's first name was Ulrich. With a heavy Swiss/German accent, Ulrich was pronounced Ulrie with a soft ending and could have been misinterpreted as Woolerie. Court scribes wrote the name as Woolery.

#### The War of 1812

The War of 1812 was fought for 2 1/2 years between the United States and Britain. America declared war when Britain refused to honor America's demand to stop seizing American merchant ships for impressments of sailors into the Royal Navy. This was the first time the United States had declared war on another nation. At this time, the British were covertly resisting U.S. western expansion. They were meddling and supporting Indian tribes in the northwest territory and Creek tribes in the southern territories of Tennessee and Alabama.

The declaration of war reached Tennessee on June 26, 1812. Andrew Jackson was commander of the Tennessee militia. Although a great number of Tennesseans volunteered for the southern campaign, John Bullard (~57) was too old to volunteer. John **Bullard's** brother, Christopher Bullard, was a junior militia officer in Franklin County, Tennessee and fought with a militia regiment under one of Andrew Jackson's commanders. John Bullard's oldest son, Joseph, ( $\sim$ 25), served in the Mounted Riflemen,  $2^{nd}$  Regiment commanded by Colonel Newton Cannon. Davy Crockett served in the same militia unit as Joseph Bullard.



#### Roll muster:

July 1814, Captain Francis Jones (Co. K), Mounted Riflemen, 2nd Regiment commanded by Col. Newton Cannon. Appointment of enlistment: Sept 24, 1813 to December 25, 1813. Nashville. Roll dated: July 7, 1814. ...term of service charges 3 months and 6 days, pay per month \$8.00, allowance for pay of horse from Sept 24 to Dec 29, 1813 at 40 cents per day. Present at roll:

Francis Jones, Capt David Hunt 1st Lt Mark M. Harris 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Josiah Barker Tipton Lewis, Corp James M. Lewis Norvboun Lewis Sylvester Wortham Soloman Waggoner Smith Winford John Norman Terry Nichols Sherod Williams

William Buckhannon **Joseph Bullard** Samuel Buckhannon William Berryhill **David Crockett** Samul Cooper John Cooper William Derwin Isaac Estell Joel Embey? David H. Edmunson

John Faris William Faris George Faris John Greenwood Joseph Jeffery John Johnson Reason Keaton George B. McClusky John McClusky **Jonathan Martin** David McClusky **George Nichols** 

Soloman Nichols William Norman **James Puket** Benjamin Rollins George Russell Theodore B. Rice Russell Scrogggins Samuel Sexton Martin Shield or Thiket? Richard Smith Phillip E. Williams John Wicks \*\*





In 1812, Claiborne County Court appointed, among others, John **Bullard** as "county collector" of revenues. <sup>205</sup> **John Bullard** was also appointed to serve as a juror during the summer court session.

In 1812, **John Bullard** bought 500 acres of land located at the headwaters of Ball Creek from James Glasgow for the sum of \$500. The large tract of land is now part of present day Woodlake Golf Club in Tazewell, Tennessee. The land purchase was registered in 1817.



"Deed. John Bullard, Grantee and James Glasco (Glasgow) by his attorney John Adair of Knox County, Tennessee Grantor. 500 acres for \$500. Located at the head waters of Ball Creek. Recorded 24 December 1817." 206

In 1812, **John Bullard** sold an unspecified number of acres in Claiborne County, Tennessee to Jacob Capps for the sum of \$330. 207 Jacob Capps (b. ~1770) was married to Sarah Sanders. Two years earlier in 1810, Capps' daughter, Leah Capps, married **John Bullard's** son, Henry Bullard (b. ~1789). By 1810, Henry Bullard (~21) had moved to neighboring Grainger County, Tennessee and was living near the Capps household. The 1810 U.S. Census lists Henry Buller (Bullard) as the only person in the household.\*\* Of interest, the Census records 3 "free slaves" in Henry's household. Although speculative, Martha Bullard (Henry's grandmother) had died sometime around 1805. The family might have possibly freed her slaves who later lived at Henry's homestead prior to his marriage to Leah Capps.

<sup>\*</sup> Direct Date Capture, U.S. War of 1812, Service Records, 1812-1815. Original data: National Archives and Records Administration. Roll Box: 114, Microfilm: M602, 234. 109

<sup>\*\* 1810</sup> Census: Grainger Country, Tennessee. McClung Historical Collection Special Studies No. 1, Transcribed by Sara Rice, p.2.

#### The War of 1812 Continues

During the second year of the War of 1812, the Tennessee militia won a number of lopsided victories over the British backed Creek (Red Sticks\*) Indians. This was accomplished despite a chronic shortage of supplies and ammunition from the U.S. War Department.



A year later in March 1814, Federal forces and state militia units along with a number of allied Indian tribes under the command of General Andrew Jackson defeated the Creek Indians at Horseshoe Bend. For the most part, the Creek War with the white settlers was over.

In 1812, Claiborne County court recorded a number of Bullard family entries.

l	Claiborne County, Tennessee Court Abstracts: 1812								
	"Case #	Name	Action						
	#455	John Bullard	"circuit court juror"						
	#68	Luke Bowyer	"appeal"						
	#99	John Casey	"appeal"						
	#145	John Casey	"release from payment of taxes"						
	#112	James Casey	"lawsuit"						
	#131	James Casey	"lawsuit" <sup>208</sup>						

The above 1812 court entries reflected: (1) **John Bullard** served as a juror on the prestigious Tennessee Circuit Court, (2) Luke Bowyer who was now 76 years old was again appealing an unknown case in Claiborne County court, (3) Attorney John Casey was still involved in court cases (4) James Casey, brother of **John Bullard's** wife, Nancy, was involved in a number of law disputes. James Casey would eventually move his family to Rhea County, Tennessee in the early 1820's.^^ **John Bullard's** son, **Isaac,** would also move to Rhea County.

### **Global Cooling**

From 1812 to 1817, the United States experienced five years of global cooling. It was not just a cold spell. The cooling was caused by a series of volcanic eruptions that occurred in the West Indies in 1812, the Philippines in 1814 and the most explosive eruption of the last ten thousand years, Tamboro in East Java in 1815.

The sheer volume of volcanic ash caused a general, temporary worldwide cooling of the earth's climate. New England states experienced snowfall in June.



By 1817, the cooling led to crop failures and food shortages and stirred thousands of U.S. farmers to migrate to Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi and Arkansas seeking warmer weather.



In the winter of 1812, Claiborne County citizens experienced a severe winter with record breaking sub temperatures.



In the winter of 1812, a number of Claiborne County citizens posted a security bond for Dennis Condry, newly appointed Sheriff of the county. **John Bullard**, along with Fielding Lewis and others were among the bondsmen.



Claiborne County, Tennessee Court Minutes: February 25, 1812 "The court appointed Dennis Condry Sheriff in and for the county of claiborne (sic) who took the necessary oaths and Entered in to bonds as a Sheriff and also collector – to wit- Johne (sic) Herderson, **John Bullard**, Fielding Lewis, Wm Henderson, William Condry. Joseph Powel(I)" <sup>209</sup>

<sup>\*</sup> The French name for "Red Sticks" is Baton Rouge (Louisiana).

<sup>^^</sup> Rhea County was established from Roane County in 1807.

### **Claiborne County Constables:** Isaac Bullard and William Bullard

# **Claiborne County, Tennessee**

In the 1810's the Claiborne County sheriff entrusted county Constables to (1) collect court judgments on debts and fees and (2) serve court papers within the jurisdiction of the county. Constables summoned by the sheriff, "receive(d) one dollar per day," as compensation. 210



They traveled throughout the county collecting delinquent court fees. If the money collected was lost in transit, Constables were responsible to reimburse the court. Constables also assisted the court in seating appointed jurymen.

In May of 1812, John Bullard's son, Isaac Bullard was appointed Constable of Claiborne County. He was 18 years old. It is assumed Isaac's father had some influence on the appointment. The \$500 security bond was posted by **John Bullard's** brother-in-law, John Casey.



Claiborne County Court Session: May Term 1812. "Isaac Bullard is appointed a constable in Claiborne County is sworn and gives bond in five hundred dollars with John Casey for his Security\_" 211

In 1812, Dennis Condry was sheriff of Claiborne County, Tennessee. In that year, Isaac Bullard collected three court ordered debts from William Hunter.



Claiborne County Court Session: August Term 1812. "James Casey vs Wm Hunter

An Execution is returned by **Isaac Bullard** constable in favour of James Casey for debt \$5.00. Interest 34 (cents). Constable for warrant & Levi \$1.00 levied on the land where William Hunter lives. It is ordered by the court that the Sheriff proceed to sell said land for the Satisfaction of said debt and cost and accuring costs—" 212



Claiborne County Court Session: August 24, 1812.

Andrew Evans against William Hunter In this case Isaac Bullard returns an Execution to court for debt in favour (sic) of the plaintiff for 83 cents debt and 50 cents cost levied on the land whereon said Hunger now lives\_\_\_ It is ordered by the court that the order of sale Issue to the Sheriff to sell said Land for the Satisfaction of said debt and costs & accuruing (sic) costs. August 24th 1812 court adjourned untill (sic) tomorrow 9 oclock." 213



Claiborne County Court Session: August 23, 1812. "Hezekia Branson against William Hunter In this case Isaac Bullard returns an Execution to court for debt in favour (sic) of the plaintiff for \$4.40 debt & 50 cts costs levied on the land where said Hunter lives. It is ordered that an order of sale to the Sheriff issue to sell said Land for the Satisfaction of said debt & costs & accruing costs \_\_\_\_" 214

On August 25, 1812, Claiborne County court appointed a new Constable, Elijah Jones. (Solomon Dobbins and Aaron Davis served as bondmen for Jones.) It is unclear if the county appointed two constables, or if Isaac Bullard's term had expired, or his performance did not meet expectations.

A year later, in 1813, John Bullard's son, William Bullard, was appointed Constable of Claiborne County. He was ~16 years of age. William must have been mature for his age and respected in the community to serve as Constable at such a young age. Of course, his father, **John Bullard**, would have had the political connection to make it happen. Bondmen for William were his father and brother-in-law John Casey.



Claiborne County, Tennessee Court Minutes: November Term 1813 "William Bullard is appointed constable in & for the County of Claiborne & he took the necessary oaths and entered into Bond with John Casey and John Bullard for his Securities." <sup>215</sup>

In August of 1813, John Bullard's son, Isaac Bullard was sued by Benjamin Posey's wife, Susanna Posey. Susanna was the mother of Barthena Posey who would marry **John Bullard's** son, William Bullard in five years time. The dispute is unknown, but Posey's attorney evidently advised the widow against pursing the charge. The suit was dropped and Posey paid Isaac Bullard's court costs.



(p. 507) Claiborne County Court Session: August Term1813. "Susanna Posey Against Isaac Bullard The plaintiff by attorney dismissed her Suit and it is considered by the court that the defendant go hence without day (delay) and recover against the plaintiff his costs by him in his defence (sic) on this behalf expended." <sup>216</sup>

Venire" 217

## **Claiborne County, Tennessee**

jury duty at the next session being held in August of 1813.



Claiborne County, Tennessee Court Minutes: May Term 1813 "Ordered that the following named persons be appointed Jurors to the next County Court (vis)

dounty dourt (vis)		
1 Martin Sharp	2 Thos. McLane	3 Thos Dun
4 Daniel Coffett	5 David More (Moore)	6 Levi Goin snr
7 Elijah Harp	8 Thos Jones	9 Saml Jones
10 Wm Ayers	11 Hezekiah Branson	12 John Bullard
13 Daniel Lebow	14 John Grub	15 John Hughs
16 (Big) Ghos. Anderson	17 Martin Miller	18 Wm Norvell
19 Harmon Davis	20 Hezekiah Smith	21 Thos. Botts
22 John Miller	23 Thos. Mays	24 Saml Cloud
25 Saml More (Moore)		

In August of 1813, **John Bullard** and two other citizens were released from attending jury duty.



Claiborne County, Tennessee Court Minutes: August Term 1813 "For reasons stated in affidavits it is ordered by the court that Hezekiah smith (sic) John Bullard and William Norvell be released from farther (sic) attendance as Jurors at this term" 218

There is a hint that **John Bullard** guided the court regarding construction of other Claiborne County roads not in the vicinity of his home. In February of 1813, John Bullard and citizen Stilling's reported to the court the condition of a road scheduled to be built near the farm of James Right at the Powell River. The court "allowed accordingly" and ordered the road to be moved to the homestead of David Canis (James).



Claiborne County, Tennessee Court Minutes: February Term 1813 "It is ordered that said **Bullard** & Stillings be allowed accordingly Ordered that the road crossing powells (sic) river by James Rights which Isaac Davis & James Rights are overseer of be discontinued. Isd to **Bullard** 

Ordered that David Lynch be appointed overseer of the road from powels (sic) river near David Canis to the top of the vally (sic) ridge and have all the hands and bounds of hands David James had the late overseer of said road. Isd March 1813." 219

At the May 1813 Claiborne County court, **John Bullard** was summoned to In May 1813, **John Bullard** continued his role as one of the county road construction overseers. He was appointed overseer of a road to be built through William Hunter's farm.



Claiborne County, Tennessee Court Minutes: May Term 1813 "Ordered that John Bullard be appointed overseer of the road in room of Wm Hunter and have the same road & hands that Hunter had" 220

Sometime in 1813, **John Bullard** and James McBroom pledged \$2,000 security for the appearance of defendant James Queen at the November Claiborne County court session. For whatever reason, Queen did not appear. The plaintiff, Hardy Hughes, sued to collect the security money. The court gave Queen until February of 1814 to surrender himself to the court or go to prison. (James McBroom was married to James Queen's sister, Margaret.) It is unknown if Queen appeared at the 1814 court session. One could assume he did since Queen died ~1839 in Claiborne County.



Claiborne County, Tennessee Court Minutes: November Term 1813 "Hardy Hughes Peter Lickliter and Joseph Philips appearance Bail for the defendant Surrendered to the court the Defendant in discharge of themselves as **Iohn Bullard** & Bail.

James McBroom James Queen

Whereupon the Defendant James Queen gave John Bullard and James McBroom for his special Bail and the said Bullard and McBroom came into court and acknowledged them selves to be indebted to the Plaintiff Hardy Hughs in the sum of two Thousand dollars in case the said James Queen doth not Surrender himself to the court to be holden on the fourth Monday of February next or to be void in case they do surrender into prison the said Defendant James Queen in discharged of themselves." 221

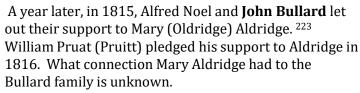
In February 1814, Claiborne County court ordered the sheriff to bid out support to the lowest bidder to assist a number of needy persons in the county.

Once again, **John Bullard** gave support to Isaac Childress by pledging a sum of \$20. James Casey, brother of **John Bullard's** wife, Nancy, let support to a needy woman named Mary Aldridge.



Claiborne County, Tennessee Court Minutes: February 1814 "The Sheriff let out the poor of this county for Support untill (sic) the next Term of this court

John Murphey (sic) takes Dinnah Harp for	14.75
John Bullard Isaac Childress for	\$20.00
Isaac Southern Polly Armstrong for	\$9.00
James Casey Mary Aldnge(Aldridge) for	\$8.74
For Support until (sic) may Term 1814	
Isd" (Issued) <sup>222</sup>	



**John Bullard's** last known support to Mary Aldridge (for the sum of \$25) and Isaac Childress (for the sum of \$22) occurred in 1818.





Claiborne County Court Minutes: February 1818 "The Sheriff Dennis Condry reported to court that the had let out the following persons being the poor of this county for the Term of three months agreebly (sic) to the order of court To wit

Diannah Harp to Ralph Shelton for	\$19.00
Polly Armstrong to Ralph Shelton for	25.00
Mary Aldridge to <b>John Bullard</b> for	25.00
Isaac Childres to <b>John Bullard</b> for	22.00
Isd. Isd. (Issued)" <sup>224</sup>	



In 1814, Dennis Condry was appointed County Sheriff. **John Bullard** and four other Claiborne County citizens pledged a security for Condry. This would be the second time **John Bullard** pledged a security bond for Dennis Condry.



Claiborne County, Tennessee Court Minutes: February 15, 1814 "Dennis Condry is appointed Sheriff by way of Balloting there being a full court & gave Bonds with approved Securities to wit- Abel Lanham, John Henderson, William Condry, **John Bullard**, John Hunt (Jr.)—" <sup>225</sup>

In November 1814, Abel Lanham brought to court defendant David McReynolds and relinquished his security bond for McReynolds. For an unknown reason, **John Bullard** and Grimes Neal assumed the "Special Bail" bond. David McReynolds was married to Leta Lane, daughter of Isaac Lane who was one of the founding father's of Claiborne County. Isaac fought at the Battle of Boyd's Creek in 1780 with **John Bullard's** father, Joseph Bullard. Why David McReynolds was brought to court is unknown.



Claiborne County, Tennessee Court Minutes: November 1814 "Thomas Young

VS

David Mc Reynolds

"#501 Abel Lanham surrendered to court the defendant in discharge of himself as Bail – whereupon the defendant is prayed in custody of the Sheriff when he gave for Spicial (sic) Bail Grimes Neal and **John Bullard** who came into court and acknowledged themselves Special Bail and agreed to pay the condemnation money & costs or if the defendant be cost Surrender into prison the said Defendant in discharge of themselves as Bail—" <sup>226</sup>

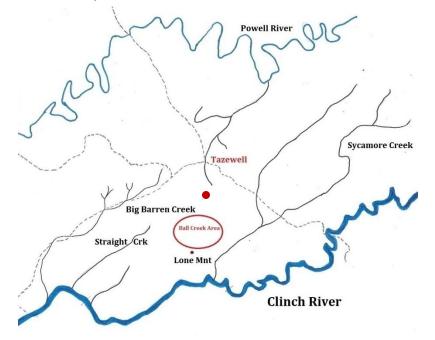
In 1814, **John Bullard** bought another 500 acres of land in Claiborne County, Tennessee near Ball Creek. It appears **John Bullard** was expanding his land holdings along the north side of the Clinch River. In later years, his sons and daughters would live on some of these purchased lands.



Claiborne County, Tennessee1814: "John Bullard, Grantee, John Casey and Walter Evans, Grantors. 500 acres more or less, located on waters of Ball Creek"



Claiborne County, Tennessee 1814: "Property transfer between James Glasgow, Grantor and **John Bullard**, Grantee."



In the early 1800's, roaming wolves were a problem in Claiborne County and nearby counties. There was a bounty on "wolf sculps" because they preyed on costly livestock. Citizens who killed wolves and proved it in court, were given \$3.00 for their effort.



Claiborne County, Tennessee Court Minutes: August Term 1814 "Elijah Dodson in open court produced the Sculp of a grown wolf which he proved by his own oath that he hd (had) killed the wolf of which he so produced the sculp with in the County of Claiborne and in the year of 1814 and the court ordered that said Dodson be allowed the Sum Stipelated (sic) by law for killing wolves" <sup>228</sup>

In 1814, **John Bullard Sr.** stilled owned land in neighboring Grainger County south of the Clinch River. It appears **John** had dual residency in Claiborne and Grainger County. He and son, Henry Bullard, were listed on Captain John Arnwine militia company's tax roll. The 1814 Grainger County Poll Tax recorded John and Henry as each owning 100 acres of land. **John Bullard** was taxed \$75. Henry Bullard was taxed \$43.75.<sup>229</sup> Henry Bullard (~21) had married Leah Capps around 1810. Leah's father (Jacob) and brothers (William and David Capps) were also listed on Captain Arnwine's tax list. One could speculate Henry Bullard and Leah lived in Grainger County after their marriage to be near Leah's family. However, Henry Bullard did not appear on the 1815 tax roll. **John Bullard** did appear on the 1815 list with a taxable listing of 200 acres of land.<sup>230</sup> It is assume **John Bullard** acquired the additional 100 acres after Henry moved out of Grainger County. Of note, both John Bullard and Jacob Capps owned land tracts on the north and south side of the Clinch River.

James (Kersey) Casey was also listed on the 1814 Grainger County Poll Tax. James was **John Bullard's** brother–in-law. By the early 1820's, James Casey and spouse (Elizabeth, last name unknown) would eventually move to Rhea County, Tennessee along with **John Bullard's** son, **Isaac Bullard** (b. 1794.)

In 1814, **John Bullard** sold an unspecified amount of land to his brother, Christopher Bullard for the sum of \$75.<sup>231</sup> This land sale (or transcribing) is somewhat cryptic since Christopher was residing in Franklin County, Tennessee since ~1800.



In 1814, **John Bullard** sold an unspecified amount of land in Claiborne County to Valentine Fulps for \$200. <sup>232</sup>

Clinch River

### Luke Bowyer leaves Claiborne County, Tennessee



In mid March, 1814, Luke Bowyer, attorney and long time counselor and friend of the Bullard family, purchased a one acre town lot in Greenbrier County, West Virginia. Luke's brother, Michael, was living nearby in present day White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia. It appears Bowyer exchanged the lot for an adjacent property nearby.



"14 Mar 1814; Luke Bowver a one acre lot for \$1.00 to George Whetzell adj Lewisburg, land conveyed by John McClenachan to Bowyer. Wit; J N McClenachan, Samuel McClung, Mark H Goshen." 233

In 1815, a Claiborne County deed recorded Luke Bowyer selling a town lot in Tazewell to Elisabeth Herrell for \$80. 234



Claiborne County, Tennessee Book of Records Grantee

Date Bk Page Consideration \$8--" 235 Bowyer, Luke Elisabeth Herrell Deed 1815 E 19

One could surmise Bowyer's property purchase in West Virginia and the selling of property in Claiborne County, Tennessee was a sign he had (or was) moving permanently to West Virginia. One could also assume both properties were town lots and not farmland. There are very few eastern Tennessee deed transactions reflecting Bowyer's ownership of large tracts of land.

Throughout the early 1800's, Tennessee judges and attorneys would ride together from one circuit court to another. If there were no attorneys residing in the area, citizens would retain one of the traveling attorneys once they arrived at the courthouse.<sup>236</sup> This circumstance might explain why Luke Bowyer's name appeared on numerous county court dockets throughout eastern Tennessee's early history. It could also explain why there is very little evidence linking Luke Bowyer to having owned farmland.



It is worth pausing to speculate why Luke Bowyer decided to leave Claiborne County, Tennessee and the Bullard families after a 35+ year association. Sometime around 1805 Martha Bullard, mother of **John** Bullard Sr., died. In 1815, Luke Bowyer was 70 years old. One could conjecture Bowyer was more than an acquaintance to Martha Bullard. It raises the question if there was a family connection between the two.

There is suggested evidence Luke Bowyer was the brother of Martha Bullard, John Bullard's mother. (See "The Life and Times Narrative of Joseph Bullard," Appendix H, Luke Bowyer: "Bowyer - Bullard Family Connection" for suggested evidence that Martha's last name was Bowyer.)

#### The War of 1812 Continues



In August 1814, British troops marched on Washington D.C. and burned a number of Federal buildings in the nation's Capitol. It was a humiliating defeat which marked a low point in the war with Britain. The burning included past Federal census records and many state government documents including Tennessee.

A few years later, records from the 1820 Tennessee census were lost. The absence of these census records, the burning of Washington D.C. and other accidental fires of county court documents makes an incomplete record of early eastern Tennessee. However, partial lists have been reconstructed using poll tax lists and State Petitions.



In 1814, General Andrew Jackson replaced Sam Houston as Major General of the U.S. Army in the south.

#### The War of 1812 Ends

When British forces threatened New Orleans, General Andrew Jackson took command of the defenses, utilizing Tennessee militia units from several northern and western states and territories. He was a strict officer but was popular with his troops who often said he was as "tough as hickory," which garnered him the nickname he bore throughout his life, "Old Hickory."

Whoever controlled the mouth of the Mississippi River, controlled the vast territories bordering the mighty river. The Battle of New Orleans took place on January 8, 1815. It was the final battle of the War of 1812. The American forces under the command of General Jackson defeated the invading British army at New Orleans.



On January 8, 1815, General Andrew Jackson defeats British forces at the Battle of New Orleans.

Unbeknownst to Jackson, American delegates had signed a peace treaty with the British less than a month earlier on December 24, 1814 (The Treaty of Ghent.) The battle is regarded as the greatest American land victory of the war.

The War of 1812 was a draw between the United States and Britain. The real losers were the Indians. They had played off the Americans and British ever since the 1776 Revolutionary War.

The Indians saw the British as the lesser of two evils and sided with them most of the time. For the most part, the Cherokee remained neutral during the war. The Creeks, Chickasaws and Shawnee lost much of their tribal lands and warriors. This was the historical background when Andrew Jackson's presidential decision to relocate the Cherokee and other southern Indian tribes to Oklahoma in the 1830's.



After the War of 1812, money problems vexed the western and southern states and territories. Two years of war with Britain was an economic hardship on the U. S. government. The government and state banks were printing paper money and notes with very little backing.

Eventually, the lack of funds trickled down to local merchants and farmers. During the war, the Federal government had an embargo on all British trade. This aggravated the shortage of bank money in Tennessee and the frontier territories. Especially hard hit were farmers.

The lack of money in the marketplace triggered numerous foreclosures and lawsuits regarding debt payments. Farmers were short of cash and creditors were asking for note payments in hard currency which most farmers did not have. In the southern states like Tennessee, farmers and merchants fell back to bartering and relied less on paper money. Hard currency was scarce.

It appears **John Bullard** was not effected by the hard economic times. He was still buying and selling large tracts of land in Claiborne County, Tennessee.

During this time, Tazewell, Tennessee merchants such as Hugh Graham, kept an account ledger of farmers who purchased items in his store. When a farmer bought a new gun or plow, the storekeeper would debit the farmers account.

Farm women earned or bartered goods from "put out" work asked by merchants, town folks and neighbors. This work included producing butter, cured hams, jams, bedding and sewing.

Once a month, usually during court week, farmers would pack up their produce and "put out" goods and head to town. Their goods would be used to credit their store accounts or in some cases to purchase "luxury goods" such as clocks, furniture, cloth or dresses from the coastal regions.



Around 1815, the first church was erected in Tazewell, Tennessee. William Graham was the benefactor. Although Graham was a Presbyterian, the church was used by other denominations. <sup>237</sup>

#### Farm Life

Farm life in Claiborne County in 1815 was dirty, smelly and laborious. Like most farmers, the Bullard families spent most of their waking hours working. There was very little leisure time. Farmers wore heavy clothes and covered their bodies in the summer heat to fend off pesky mosquitoes and bugs. People owned few changes of clothing. For the most part, the populace stank of sweat. Hygiene was lacking.





A drawing by Roland Robinson depicting hard working settlers clearing the forest.

Historians have drawn a good picture of early 1800 farm methods used by southern farmers. Clearing new land was a never ending task. Constructing out-buildings and adding rooms to the homestead was ongoing. Once the land was cleared and a cabin built, farmers followed a seasonal flow of activity timed to utilize the land as efficiently as possible. Raising livestock and tending crops were coordinated so that livestock, such as hogs, could feed in woodlands while the crops were growing. They would later feed on field residue after the crops were harvested. As **John Bullard** did in the early 1790's, farmers indentifed ownership of livestock by marking their ears with notches and slits. This practice continued as late as the 1880's.

Eastern Tennessee farming methods met the short-term needs of year-to-year survival, but the long-term effect on the land was damaging. Although individual fields and pastures were small in comparison to today's standards, early Claiborne County farmers quickly overused the soil. The soil depletion was part of the reason some Bullard families eventually migrated from Claiborne County and moved southwest via the Tennessee River to southern Tennessee and present day Alabama. This Bullard migration continued on to Missouri in the 1840's.

In 1815, running water was nonexistent inside cabins. Water had to be carried from nearby springs or pumped from simple wells. People gave themselves sponge baths by using a wash tub or bathed in a nearby creek. Most folks bathed once in the spring and once in the summer. Considering the period, **John Bullard** undoubtedly had a crude privy (outhouse) located away from the family cabin. Outhouses had to be moved often once they became "filled up." Overflow due to heavy rains or occasional flooding was common.



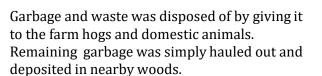


Chamber pot: Personal toilet used in the privacy of a bedroom; to be emptied in the morning.

Outhouse

Outhouse Seat

Most settlers had "chamber pots" under their beds to avoid the inconvenience of getting up in the middle of the night and trudging outside in the cold or snow to relieve themselves.





Families would sleep in one or two room cabins; several in one bed. Privacy for married couples was a luxury.





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### **Claiborne County Farming**

By 1815, most families in Claiborne County, Tennessee practiced composite farming. The men labored long hours over crop production and raising livestock while the women tended to household chores and the garden. Eastern Tennessee farmer's primary diet was corn, sweet potatoes and pork. Milk, cheese and butter was plentiful. Assorted fruits appeared in season. The big meal of the day occurred at noon. The more prosperous farmers, one being **John Bullard**, had a family orchard. (In his will, **John Bullard** bequeathed the family orchard to his wife.) To make an adequate livelihood, Claiborne County farmers needed everyone in the family to work in concert from morning to night. Able bodied children were required to fetch water from the well, feed chickens, collect firewood and run endless errands to and from neighboring farms. Most farmers added an extra room to their cabin when the family had more children.

By 1815, **John and Nancy Bullard's** three oldest children had left the farm. Joseph Bullard was  $\sim$ 28 and had married Lucy Campbell five years earlier. Anne Bullard ( $\sim$ 27) lived in Grainger County, Tennessee and was married to Woolery Beeler. Henry Bullard ( $\sim$ 23) married Leah Capps  $\sim$ 1810.

The remaining children living on the **John Bullard** farm were **Isaac Bullard** (21), Boyer Bullard (12), William Bullard (~18), Elizabeth (15), Mahulda (Huldy) Bullard (~11), John Bullard Jr. (9), Martha Bullard (~8), Christopher Bullard (6), and Sarah (5).



Depiction

Most eastern Tennessee farmers had a large cultivated garden, at least one milking cow and enough chickens and hogs to keep the family table well supplied. Families were "raised on hogs and hominy," and "bacon and greens." A small log building was separated from the main house for cooking. Accidental fires were common.

**John Bullard's** children were fortunate. The family's wealth was derived from owning large tracts of land holdings in neighboring Greene, Hawkins, Jefferson and in Claiborne County, Tennessee. In all probably, the Bullard's were not subsistence farmers.

In 1815, John Casey sold to **John Bullard** an unspecified amount of land for a nominal amount of \$20. <sup>238</sup>

At the same time, John Casey sold to **John Bullard's** son, William Bullard  $(\sim 18)$ , an unspecified amount of land for \$100.  $^{239}$ 

On March 20, 1815, the *Knoxville Gazette*, the first Tennessee newspaper, ran a notice that the Claiborne County Pleas and Quarters court was ordering the sale of 130 acres of land belonging to Andrew Hunter. The proceeds of the "Sheriff's Sale" was to satisfy three debt judgments against Hunter. One was a debt owed to **John Bullard**.



Depiction



Knoxville Gazette, Monday, March 20, 1815 "SHERIFF'S SALE

In obedience to three orders of sale issued from the court of Pleas and Quarters Sessions for the County of Claiborne and to me directed. I shall expose to public sale, at the court house in Tazewell, on the second Monday in April next, all the right, title, interest, claim, and demand that Andrew Hunter has of and to one hundred and thirty acres of land lying in the county of Claiborne on Powells (sic) river and adjoining lands of Robert Crocket and John Henderson, taken to satisfy three judgments obtained against said Hunter, one by Grimes Veel, one by Thomas Markirm (Markum) and one by John Bullard, unless debts and costs are previously satisfied.

Dennis Condray, S.C.C. (Sheriff Claiborne County) March 13. 1815." <sup>240</sup>

Throughout the early 1800's, Claiborne County Court of Pleas and Plenary Session would met out justice for common offenses such as trespassing, assault & battery, murder, libel, and contract disputes. In 1812, a woman brought suit against a male acquaintance asking for child support of her illegitimate child.

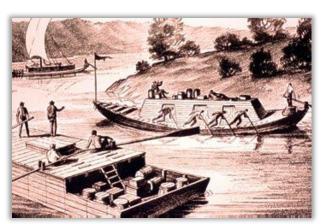
The court awarded the woman and child, "which had been gotten on her body by the said suitor"  $$130.^{241}$ 

### Claiborne County and Eastern Tennessee Rivers

In the early 1800's, Claiborne County farmers traveled and shipped their crops and livestock by flatboats down the Powell and Clinch Rivers. Both rivers flowed down to Knoxville. From there, flatboats and keelboats were loaded with goods and passengers and traveled further down the Tennessee River to Nashville, the Mississippi River and New Orleans. These boats, made of heavy timber and steered with long sweeping

rudders, were capable of carrying large cargo.

# Claiborne County, Tennessee



There is definitive evidence **John Bullard** operated not one but two ferries on the Clinch River. In an 1816 Claiborne County court road appointment, there is reference to a road leading from "Tazewell to John Bullards Upper Ferry." If there was an upper ferry, there had to be a lower site too. The known site of Bullard's lower ferry was located at the mouth of Straight Creek and the Clinch River. The site of the "upper ferry" location is unknown, but in all probability, it was located near the mouth of Ball Creek and the Clinch River.



Some flatboats were fitted with small apartments. Farmers standing on the river bank could see keelboats floating downriver loaded with men, women, slaves, cattle, horses, sheep, dogs, poultry and crops.

Throughout this period, Nashville, Tennessee was becoming the strategic economic hub of Tennessee linking the state to New Orleans and the world markets.

After cargo was disposed of in New Orleans, the larger flatboats were sold to timber merchants. It was impossible to work the flatboats back up river. Boatmen returned overland to repeat the task.

Disney's TV series
"Davy Crockett Keel
Boat Race," featuring
the mythical Mike Fink,
was patterned after the
Tennessee keelboat era.



Disneyland, California Mike Fink Keel Boat



Claiborne County Court Minutes, May 13, 1816
"Ordered by court a majority of the justices present that John
Dobbs, Thomas Hurst, Heirom Hurst, Henry Lebo, David
Huddleston, John Lebo and William Lining be appointed a jury to
view the <u>road leading from Tazewell</u> to **John Bullards** Upper
<u>Ferry</u> the part to be reviewed lies between Tazewell the Old
Garrison and make report to the next term of this court
accordingly." <sup>242</sup>

In 1818, another Claiborne County court minute mentions building a road from "Bullard's upper ferry" to Tazewell, Tennessee.



Claiborne County Court of Pleas and Quarter, November 9, 1818. "Wm. McBee is appointed overseer of the <u>road leading from Bullard's Upper Ferry to tazewell (sic)</u> from the ferry in room of Perrin Cardwell. Roadhands: Frances Cardwell (sic), Rial Cardwell (sic), John Cardwell, William Cardwell, Anderson Jennings, Daniel Beeler, Hiram Collins, Jacob Branson, Jeremiah Branson, John Branson, Nathaniel Harrison and Perrin Cardwell." <sup>243</sup>

In 1819, another Claiborne County court minute mentions a road to be built from "Bullard's upper ferry" to Tazewell, Tennessee.



Claiborne County Court Minutes: May 10<sup>th</sup>, 1819 "Ordered by the court that William Cooper be appointed overseer of the Road leading <u>from Bullards upper ferry</u> to Mulberry gap in room and stead of John McCarmack and have the Same hands and bounds of hands said McCarmack had the said road beginning at the Kentucky Road and ending at the Spicewood Spring. Issued July 22" <sup>244</sup>

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, 1815, John Sevier, one of Tennessee's founding fathers and the first governor died. He was buried on the east bank of the Tallapoose River. John Sevier, who had led **John Bullard's** father (Major Joseph Bullard) through the Cherokee wars and the Revolutionary War, was seventy years old at his death.

John Sevier was a product of the early frontier settlers and a hero to most Tennesseans. His monument at the Knoxville, Tennessee courthouse describes his life as a pioneer leader. It reads:

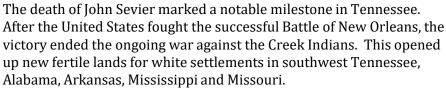
"John Sevier, pioneer, soldier, statesman, and one of the founders of the Republic; Governor of the State of Franklin; six times Governor of Tennessee; four times elected to Congress; a typical pioneer, who conquered the wilderness and fashioned the State; a protector and hero of Kings Mountain; fought thirty-five battles, won thirty-five victories; his Indian war cry, "Here they are! Come on boys!"



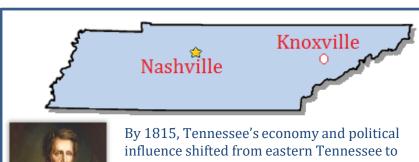
One of the "boys" was Major Joseph Bullard. Joseph fought alongside John Sevier's state militia at the Siege of Ft. Watauga, the Battle of Kings Mountain, the Battle of Boyd's Creek and many other Indian campaigns and skirmishes.

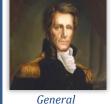
Throughout the late 1700's, Tennessee state militia units were respected, strong and highly regarded fighters during the time John Sevier and Joseph Bullard were officers. During this time, every able bodied white male was expected to serve in the militia with the rooted mission to protect and defend family settlements.

For the most part, by the early 1820's, the obligation and duty to join the local militia had diminished substantially and in come cases disappeared altogether. The Tennessee militiamen by 1820 could be characterized by rowdy males, heavy drinking, brawling and occasional fighting.



By 1815, the western most frontier settlements were now located in central and western Tennessee bounded by the eastern shores of the Mississippi River.





General Andrew Jackson

influence shifted from eastern Tennessee to central and western Tennessee. Nashville replace Knoxville as the political center of the state. Andrew Jackson replace John Sevier as the leading Tennessee statesman and leader.

In 1815, after 12 years of fighting, the Napoleonic wars in Europe ended. Napoleon Bonaparte was defeated at the Battle of Waterloo in June of 1815.



#### John Bullard: Businessman

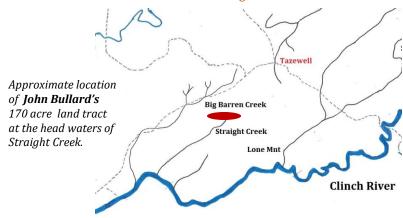
In 1816, and 1818, two land sales demonstrated **John Bullard's** business acumen. In 1816, John Casey and Walter Evans sold a 170 acres tract of land at the headwaters of Straight Creek to **John Bullard** for \$20. Two years later in 1818, **John Bullard** sold the same tract to William Barnwell for \$300; a tidy profit of \$280. No doubt there were other similar transactions, but the court deeds of the Straight Creek transactions reflected **John Bullard's** ability at buy and sell land for a profit.



Claiborne County, Tennessee Deeds: August 1816 "**John Bullard**, Grantee, John Casey and Walter Evans Grantor, 170 acres selling for \$20.00. Located at the head waters of Straight Creek." <sup>245</sup>



Claiborne County Deeds, July 21, 1818 "Deed. **John Bullard**, Grantor to William Barnwell, 170 acres for the sum of \$300. Located at the head waters of Straight Creek." <sup>246</sup>



In ~1817, **John Bullard's** daughter, Elizabeth Bullard (b.~1800) married John McMahan.



In 1816, James Monroe was elected President of the United States. Monroe, the fifth President to serve, held the office for eight years and was known for the "Monroe Doctrine."





After the War of 1812, General Andrew Jackson led Federal troops and Tennessee militia units on a number of military Indian campaigns in the southwest territory in what is now present day Alabama, Arkansas, and Florida.

In the summer of 1814, the Treaty of Fort Jackson was signed with the Creek Indians. The treaty grossly cheated the Indians out of fertile land in central Alabama and southern Georgia. Nonetheless, the treaty opened up 22 million acres of new settlement land. Four years later, the Chickasaw Treaty of 1818 opened up Tennessee's western lands to the Mississippi River. These military campaigns and treaties unlocked rich agricultural lands (ideal for growing corn, tobacco and cotton) and helped accelerate white settler migration into southern Tennessee and the gulf coastal plains. After the War, land credit was easy and land speculators abounded. By 1815, land purchases in the coastal states were selling at a bargain rate of \$2 per acre. (As a comparison, land in the central Tennessee valley was selling for \$7.50 an acre.) Settlers were required to put down 25% of the land value with terms of 4 years to pay the balance.

John Bullard's sister, Mary Bullard (b. 1780) and husband, David Rutledge, were one of the settlers who took advantage of the land sale. They moved from Greene County, Tennessee to northern Alabama sometime during this period. (By 1830, the U.S. census in Morgan County, Alabama listed Mary and David as having five children.) Another factor that probably pushed the Rutledge's and a few Bullard families in Claiborne County to eventually move further south was the widespread summer crop failures in 1816. The bazaar cold summer of 1816, known as the year without a summer, left many crops bare and half grown.

In 1819, **John Bullard's** son, Henry Bullard, bought 160 acres of land in Tennessee's Hiwassee District on Mouse Creek (present day McMinn County, Tennessee.) The grant was recorded in 1820. <sup>247</sup> In a few short years, Henry and his brother, Joseph Bullard, would migrate to McMinn County.

In 1818, the United States government opened land offices in southern Tennessee and the Alabama territory and began selling plots to white settlers. (The territory had been mostly cleared of Indian titles). Many eastern Tennessee citizens (including **John Bullard Sr.'s** oldest sons and daughters (Joseph , Anne, Henry and Isaac) would begin the trek south to settle in the new regions of Rhea and McMinn County, Tennessee.

The phrase, "doing a land office business" originated from the large migration of settlers from Virginia, North Carolina and Tennessee to southern Tennessee, Alabama and Mississippi.



Conjecture could assume that at one point, **John Bullard** saw land values in eastern Tennessee declining or stabilizing. His lessening of buying and selling Claiborne County land might have been the result of the economic reality that more and more settlers were pushing south and west and bypassing eastern Tennessee.

The years surrounding 1818 saw the beginning of the rapid rise in worldwide demand for American goods, especially agricultural staples of cotton and tobacco. Britain, with its abundance of textile mills had an insatiable demand for cotton. Cotton, selling for 27¢ a pound, transformed many Tennessee subsistence farmers to cotton producers. The cotton gin, invented almost twenty years earlier, greatly aided in the separation of cotton seed. The commodity was easily shipped down Tennessee rivers to the Mississippi River and then to New Orleans for export. John Bullard might have experimented growing cotton since many Tennessee farmers were mixing cotton with corn fields. The rise in cotton demand accelerated the economic and political influence in western Tennessee. It transformed the Tennessee economy to a slave economy. The price of slaves increased dramatically. In a few short years, cotton would be "king" and the leading export in America.

To feed the overheated economy, state banks proliferated. Credit was easy. The selling of vast tracts of western Federal land fueled real estate speculation funded by state bank notes. By late 1818, money reserves of specie, or hard money, fell dramatically in the South. The economic Panic of 1819 was just around the corner.

In the summer of 1818, **John Bullard's** son, **Isaac Bullard** age 24 (and William McConnell) were ordered by the court to pay \$12.10 to William Jennings. The reason for the judgment is unknown.



Claiborne County, Tennessee Court Session: Wednesday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, 1818 "William Jennings

Vs William McConnell (Isaac Bullard)

This day came the parties by Jury who were sworn on yesterday who Sat together and heard the Evidence upon their oaths do say they find for the plaintiff twelve Dollars & ten cents beside his costs & on motion to render up a Judgment(sic) against **Isaac Bullard** the Security for the appeal in this case. It is considered by the court that the plaintiff recover against the defendant & **Isaac Bullard** his Security the sum of twelve Dollars ten cents the sum assessed by the Jury together with his costs & &" <sup>248</sup>

In 1818, **John Bullard's** son, William Bullard (~21) was appointed Constable of the Sandlick area of Claiborne County. He replaced Caleb Dobbs. (Other constables appointed were: Aaron Hurst in Joseph Hurst's Company and Reuben B. Rogers in John Rogers Company.)



Claiborne County, Tennessee, Court of Pleas & Quarter Session: November 9, 1819 "On a motion <u>William Bullard</u> is appointed a constable of the Sandlick Company for the ensuing two years and was sworn as the law dericts (sic) and thereupon entered into bond with John Hunt (Jr.) and Jeremah Cloud as his Security in the sum of five hundred Dollars. Caleb Dobbs resigns his appointment as constable." <sup>249</sup>

In 1818, William Bullard was ordered to attend and assist a grand jury session representing the county sheriff as constable of the court.



Claiborne County, Tennessee Court Session: Tuesday May 12<sup>th</sup>, 1818 "...the Sheriff returned <u>William Bullard</u> as a constable to attend the Grand Jury at this Term and Robert Yoakum as a constable to attend on the court who was Sworn as the Law dericts (directs)." <sup>250</sup>



### John Bullard Sr.: Claiborne County Ranger

As mentioned, **John Bullard** was the county ranger in Claiborne County. One duty was appraising livestock and collecting bond money for the court. County Rangers had to be knowledgeable in horses, cows and other farm animals to make a creditable appraisal. The County Ranger was required to make a report to the court once a month.

On February 9, 1818, **John Bullard**, Claiborne County Ranger, submitted one of many reports to the court. The report appraises the value of stray livestock and lists the finder (William Murphy, Thomas Dunn, George Evans, William McHenry, John Berry and Zachariah McCubbens).



Claiborne County Court Minutes: February  $9^{th}$ , 1818 "I **John Bullard** Ranger of Claiborne County do report to court all the money due on the rangers book up to this Term.

Wm Murphey one cow appraised to -	\$9.50
Thomas Dunn one Stear appraised to -	9
George Evans one cow appraised	7.50
William McHenry one Steer appraised to -	10
John Berry one stray hog appraised to	1.20
Zachariah mcCubbens one Shoat (goat) appraised	.50



I do certify that the above is a true copy as returned in my office By Henry Baker for **John Bullard Ranger for Claiborne County**" <sup>251</sup>



On August 14, 1818, **John Bullard** submits a county Ranger report consisting of a bay mare with an appraised value of \$12 and one stray colt with an appraised value of \$8.



Claiborne County, Tennessee Court Session: Friday August 14, 1818 "**John Bullard** Ranger of the county of Claiborne reports to court the money due on the rangers book up to the present Term (to wit)

- Andrew McMellin one bay mare appraised to Twelve Dollars
- John Parker one bay colt appraised to Eight Dollars

I, **John Bullard** Ranger of Claiborne County do certify that all the money due on the rangers book up to this Term is as above stated.

**John Bullard** Ranger of Claiborne County by his Dep. J. (Jeremiah) Cloud" <sup>252</sup>

#### Statute Laws of the State of Tennessee 1829

County Ranger Para 6;

"It shall be the duty of the rangers in each county in this state, to record in a book to be by them kept for that purpose, the valuation and description of each and every stray which may be entered in his office; and it shall be the duty of such ranger, to put up an advertisement at the court house in his county, on the first day of each term of the county court, in which he shall particularly describe the strays entered upon his book, and which are not proven by the owner." <sup>253</sup>



In 1818, The U.S. government signed a treaty with the Chickasaw Indians extended Tennessee's western boundary to the Mississippi River. The treaty opened up rich, new agricultural land for settlers and farmers.

### John Bullard Humanitarian

# **Claiborne County, Tennessee**

In 1814 and 1815, **John Bullard** let his support to a Claiborne County poor person named Mary Aldridge. Two years later in 1817, John Bullard's son, Isaac **Bullard**, let support to Aldridge for the sum of \$14.50. What connection Mary Aldridge had to the Bullard family and why they supported her is lost in history.



\$14.50

\$10.00

Claiborne County, Tennessee Court Minutes: August 12, 1817

"Isaac Bullard takes Mary Aldridge for three months for Abner Childress under takes the Support of Isaac Childres one of the poor of this county three months for Ralph Shelton agrees to Support Daunah Harp one of the poor Of this county till next Term for Also Polly Armstrong one of the poor of this county Three months for

\$20. \$15.00 D. Condary Shff." 254

John Bullard continued "supporting and clothing and furnishing" Mary Aldridge in 1818. The county court ordered reimbursement to John **Bullard** for the sum of \$27.50.



Claiborne County, Tennessee, Court of Pleas & Quarter Session: November 9, 1819 "Ordered by the court a majority of the acting Justices Present that John Bullard be allowed to recive (sic) of the Trustee of Claiborne County Twenty seven Dollars fifty cents for supporting and clothing and furnishing Mary Aldredge (Aldridge) one of the poor of said county with money in the year 1818 and that the clerk make out certificate accordingly." 255

As the Claiborne county population grew, the number of needy persons increased. A county poor house was established in Tazewell sometime after 1820. Expenditures to maintain the poor house still arose from lowbid citizens who desired to support the underprivileged.

Throughout the early 1800's, John Bullard Sr. demonstrated his charitable compassion and moral responsibility to assist the plight of the needy and disadvantaged.



**John Bullard** again displayed his charitable side in 1818 when he and John Cocke pledged a \$2,000 security bond for neighbor, Rial Jinens (Jennings). Jennings was appointed guardianship of six orphan children. The children's father was Hezekiah Jinens (Jennings).



Claiborne County Court Minutes: November Term 1808 "Rial Jenens is appointed Guardian for the minor orphans of Hezekiah Jinens deceased namely -polly Jinens, Becky Jinens. Anderson Jinens, patty Jinens, Sally Jinens, Lucy Jinens Whereupon the said Rial Jinens entered into Bond of two Thousand dollars with John Bullard and John Cocke for his securities for the faith discharge of his Guardianship." 256

In 1818, **John Bullard** and John Cocke posted a security bond for defendant Catherine Brawdy. David Campbell was the plaintiff.



Claiborne County Court Minutes: February 1818 "David H. Campbell This day Came the defendant in open court and surrender herself in discharge VS

Catherine Brawdy of her bail & thereupon John Cocke & John Bullard Look upon themselves that if the defendant in this action be case she shall pay the cost & condemnation or surrender herself in person in execution for the same or that they the said John Cocke & John Bullard will pay it for her" 257

In 1818, the court registered 200 acres of land deeded to John Bullard from brother-in-law John Casey and Walter Evans. On the same day, John Casey deeded 150 acres to John Bullard's son, William.



Claiborne County Court Minutes: February 9th, 1818 "A deed of conveyance from John Casey and Walter Evans to John Bullard for two hundred acres of Land was acknowledged in open court by the said Casey and Evans and is ordered to be Recorded and registered."258



Claiborne County Court Minutes: February 9th, 1818 "A Deed of conveyance from John Casey to Wm Bullard for one hundred and fifty acres of Land was acknowledged in open court by the said Casey and is ordered to be recorded and Registered." 259

In 1818, John Bullard and other prominent Claiborne County citizens were appointed juror to the Circuit Court.



Claiborne County Court Minutes: November 10, 1818 "Ordered by the court that the following named persons be appointed Jurors to next circuit court (:) William Russell, Elijah Claiton, Martin Webb, John Breaden, Henry Moyers, Isaac Lane, John Sanders, Jacob Shoultz, Abraham Devault, John McBee, George McClary Senr., Andrew Crockett, Alexander Ritchie, William Condray, John Hardy, Joel Jones, Abraham Hurst, Moses Davis, Isaac Yoakum, Rueben Moss, George Yoakum, Robert Gibson, 124 Fielding Lewis, Elnathan Davis, John Bullard and John Sharp" 260

#### The Panic of 1819

In 1819, Americans got a harsh lesson in the vicissitudes of capitalism when the economy crashed. The Panic of 1819 set off the nation's first major depression. The cause of the Panic was twofold. To serve the needs of the wave of settlers heading west, the new western states began establishing state banks. These banks supplied settlers with credit in the form of unsecured state banknotes. In addition, the Federal Bank (Second Bank of the United States) opened branches in the new western states.



Both banking systems were inept and issued banknotes freely.

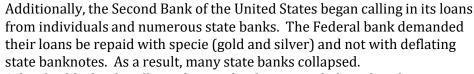
Speculators entered the land sale fever. Over time these widely

Speculators entered the land sale fever. Over time, these widely circulated notes lost value resulting in significant inflation.

Settlers buying directly from the Federal government were required to buy at least 640 acres. Many plots were sold on terms of twenty five percent down and the balance within four years. Speculators, who bought land only to resell quickly, thrived. The land rush into western Tennessee, Alabama, and Mississippi was motivated by the soaring demand for cotton. Just in 1818, cotton prices rose from 27¢ to 33¢ a pound. Settlers anticipated growing cotton and selling it at an exorbitant price.

Unfortunately, in the spring of 1819, world commodity prices collapsed; and cotton prices fell by more than 50 percent.

Settlers who borrowed money on the assumption that they would be selling large quantities of cotton in two or three years at high prices were unable to pay back their bank loans. Banks began foreclosing on farmers.

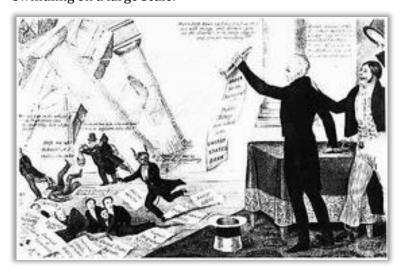


Sale of public lands collapsed. Many land tracts and plots already purchased reverted back to the government. The huge optimism that had fueled the land boom gave way to the first economic depression in the United States. Western migration slowed dramatically. Interstate trade trickled to a standstill. The collapsed land prices would not recover until the early 1830's.

Many farmers suffered. They survived by resuming a subsistence lifestyle and resumed bartering for goods. The Panic of 1819 slowed the conversion of the U.S. economy from one based on subsistence farming to one based on market commodities.



Needless to say, the Panic of 1819 fostered mistrust of banks, bankers and paper money. The volatile Tennessee politician Davy Crockett spoke for many when he dismissed the whole banking system as nothing more than "a species of swindling on a large scale." <sup>261</sup>



In 1819, Alabama becomes the 22nd state in the Union.

### **Bullard & Posey Family Connection**

In the early 1800's, Benjamin Posey was a prominent Claiborne county citizen. He was a wealthy landowner in the county who lived on the north side of Tazewell, Tennessee. In 1812, Posey was appointed Coroner of Claiborne County. **John Bullard** posted the security bond for Posey.



Claiborne County, Tennessee Court Minutes: February 25, 1812 "The Court appointed Benjmin (sic) Posey. Coroner in and for the county of claiborne (sic) who is accordingly worn & give bond with **John Bullard** for Security." <sup>262</sup>

Benjamin Posey and wife, Susannah had a number of children.\*

In  $\sim$ 1819, **John Bullard's** son, William Bullard (b. $\sim$ 1797) married Barthena Posey (b.  $\sim$ 1802).



The couple had 10 children. <sup>263</sup>

The union brought together two prominent families. William Bullard would eventually become one of the largest land and slave owners in Claiborne County, Tennessee.

#### Old Time Tazewell by Mary Hansard

"Bethena, the daughter of old Mr. (Benjamin)Posey, I have heard my parents speak of in the highest terms as being a fine, nice looking lady. Her husband, William Bullard, was raised on Clinch River on the farm owned at present by William Sharp. His father (John Bullard) and mother (Nancy Bullard) lived and died on this farm. They were very wealthy; owned a large boundary of land and many servants (slaves); and of course William, their son, heired (sic) part of his father's estate (John Bullard), and his wife Bethena Posey fell heir to several thousand dollars also." 264

In 1818, Benjamin Posey petitioned the court to open a public "ordinary." An eating establishment serving meals at a fixed price. **John Bullard** bonded security for Posey.



Claiborne County Court Minutes 1818:

"John Bullard was named security for Benjamin Posey who was granted a right to keep a house of public entertainment for one year."  $^{265}$ 

Benjamin Posey died sometime before August, 1818. His wife, Susannah, submitted an inventory of her late husband's estate to the court. On the same day, the court appointed three citizens to oversee Benjamin Posey's crops until the estate could be settled in order "to support the widow and orphans (children) for one year." <sup>266</sup>

In 1819, Susannah Posey sold an undetermined amount of land to her son-in-law, William Bullard, for \$250. Two years later, William Bullard's brother-in-law, Leander Posey, sold an undetermined amount of land to William Bullard for \$300.

1	<u>"Grantor</u>	Grantee	Inst	Date	Consideration
	<u>"Grantor</u> Leander Posey	William Bullard	D	1822	\$300
	Susanah (et al)	Wm. Bullard	B.S.	1820	\$250" <sup>267</sup>

In 1821, two years after William Bullard married Barthena Posey, his mother-in-law, Susannah, requested the court to renew her license to keep an ordinary in the county. The person pledging the security bond was **John Bullard**.





Claiborne County Court Session: Wednesday May 16, 1821
"Susannah Posey presented to court her petition praying leave to Keep an ordinary in the County of Claiborne and the court being satisfied that the sd. Susanah came into court and Entered into bond with **John Bullard** her security and was sworn as the Law dericts(sic)." <sup>268</sup>

In May 1819, **John Bullard** was a plaintiff against Ashael Johnson in a case to collect an assigned debt. In the case, the court recognized Johnson only paid 75 cents of an \$873 debt and awarded a judgment to **John Bullard** for \$873. Considering the amount of money, it is assumed the debt owned involved a land assignment. Johnson did not pay the debt. **John Bullard** took the case back to the court in August of the same year. The court once again declared that Johnson owed the money to John **Bullard**. (Bullard's assignment came from his brother-in-law, John Casey.) Considering the number of court cases involving John Bullard, it appears he was a practical, no nonsense administrator who was persistent in business dealings and won a great deal more cases then he lost.

In the summer of 1819, John Bullard, Claiborne County Ranger, dutifully submited the stray livestock report to the county court.





Claiborne County, Tennessee Court Session: Wednesday August 11th, 1819 "State of Tennessee

I John Bullard Ranger of Claiborne County do cartify (sic) that all the money Due on the stray books of said county up to August Term 1819 is as follows to wit

- Heifer by Charles Shearmon appraised to \$3.33 1/3
- Bull by Thomas Anderson appriased to \$2 \_\_\_\_
- Boar by George Sharp \$1
- Boars by Michael Moyres appraised to \$2.50 stear (sic) by Benjamin Cloud appraised to \$9





John Bullard Ranger of Claiborne County

August 11th 1819

Indictment

by his Dep (Deputy) J. Cloud" 271

Claiborne County, Tennessee Court Session: Tuesday May 11th, 1819

Vs. Ashael Johnson

"John Bullard assigne(e)

This day came the parties by their attor (attorneys) and a Jury Geo. McNeal, Jesse(e) Davor, Thos. Dunn, Jno (John) McCarty, Jacob Shouts, Drury Herrel, Richd. Bundron, Wm. Cuningham (Cunningham), Jno. Whitaker, Jno Dobbs, Jesse(e) Neil, Jas (James) Southerland who being Elected tried and sworn well and truly to try and the truth to speak upon the Issue Joined in the above and upon their oaths do say the find that the Defendant has not paid the debt in the plaintiff Declaration Except seventy five cents and assess Damage to \$873" 269



Claiborne County, Tennessee Court Session: Thursday August 12th, 1819 "The State

possibly could be another example of **John Bullard's** compassionate side.

During the same court session, Jesse Prichard was fined by the court and

ordered to pay \$2.50. For whatever reason, John Bullard personally

appeared in court and paid Prichard's fine and court costs. This guite

Vs

Jesse(e) Prichard

This day came the state by the Solecitor (sic) and the Defendant in his proper person and being charged upon the bill of Indictment pleaded thereto Guilty. It is therefore considered by the court that the said Defendant be fined the sum of two Dollars and fifty cents besides costs and that the defendant be in mercy & &." ...Personally appeared in open court **John Bullard** and took upon himself that he would pay the fine and costs in the above cause. Therefore it is considered by the court that the state recover of the said John Bullard this fine and costs aforesaid confessed and that Execution Issue." 272



Claiborne County, Tennessee Court Session: Tuesday August 10th, 1819 "John Bullard assigne(e)

Vs.

Ashael Johnson

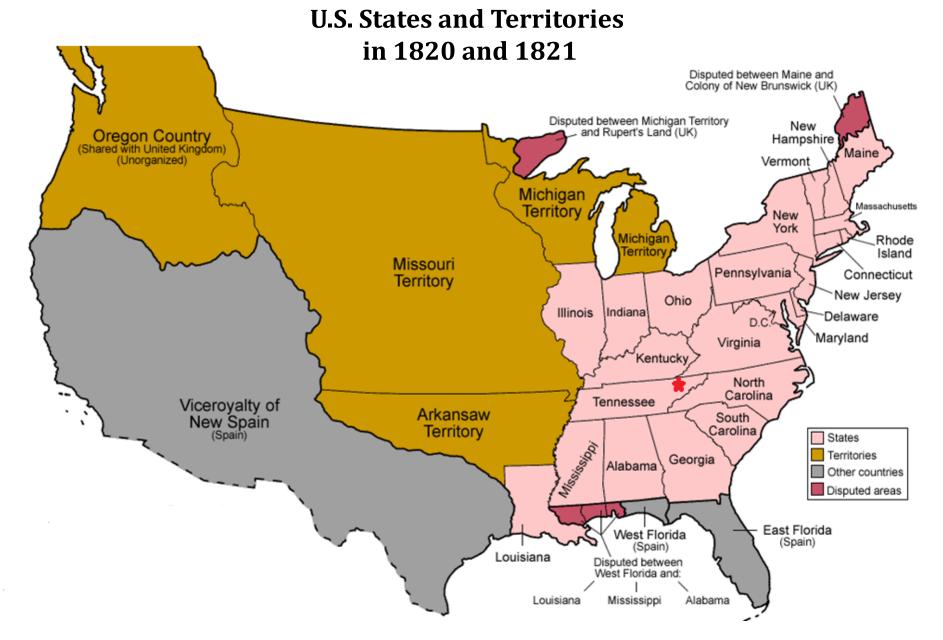
This day came the parties by their attornies (sic) and thereupon also came a Jury to wit

William Lea John Jenkins William Jenkins Lewis Wilbourn Joel Bayse lesse(e) Cain **Charles Shearmon** Rice Whitaker Lea Bundron Frazur (Frazier) Brundley Williams Dobbs **Thomas Berry** 

Who being Elected tried and sworn well and truly to try and the truth to speak on the issue joined between the parties upon their oath do say they find the defendant has not paid the debt in the declaration mentioned except the sum of seventy five cents and assess the plaintiff damage by reason of the delention (sic) thereof to ten dollars and Eight one and one half cents and they further find that there was no money in the hands of John Casey before the assignment of the bond declared on to which the defendant was or is entitled to a set off in this action. It is Therefore considered by the court that the plaintiff recover of the defendant the debt in the declaration mentioned except the sum of seventy five cents and the further sum of ten Dollars and eight one and one half cents and the damage aforesaid by the Jury in form aforesaid assessed together with the costs in this behalf expended and the defendant in mercy & &." <sup>270</sup>

In 1819, American author Washington Irving published the short story "Rip Van Winkle."





By 1820, a number of prominent land owners and civic leaders had emerged in Claiborne County; one being **John Bullard**. He was a founding leader, a wealthy landowner, overseer of many road constructions throughout the county, respected juror and Claiborne County Ranger. Another leading citizen, Hugh Graham, was a well known merchant. Hugh, along with his brother, William Graham, had successfully invested in land straddling the Kentucky Road around Tazewell. In time, Hugh Graham would be appointed the executor of **John Bullard's** 1834 last will and testament.

No sizeable town could survive without its crafts and trade people. Tazewell was no exception. In addition to storekeepers, innkeepers, physicians, attorneys, and ordinary houses, Tazewell had a number of trade businesses. In 1820, trade businesses had to register and pay a license fee. Trades were assigned to a Marshall Assistant. In 1820, John Hunt (Jr.), was Claiborne County's Marshall Assistant.\*

Blacksmiths were usually the first tradesman to set up shop in an emerging town. In 1820, there were four <u>blacksmiths</u> in Claiborne County where horses were shod, tools fashioned, and farm equipment and wagons repaired. The blacksmiths were: <u>Frederic Bowlinger</u> (Bolinger), Willaim Dobbs, Larkin Fogarson (Ferguson), and Peter Marcum.\*

Other court registered businesses supplied goods and services to the community. There were three forgers; Daniel Coffett, James Walker and Andrew Crockett. In 1820, Walker's forger employed 16 men and produce 26 tons of iron worth \$10 per 100 lbs.\*

There were two <u>shoe and boot makers</u> in town; Robert Mitchel (Mitchell) and Noah Alford. They made and repaired boots for neighboring farmers and field hands. Thread was made from waxed linen and needles from pig bristles.

Tennessee Margraves owned a tanner.

In 1820, Tazewell had a hatter shop owned by Elijah Evans. Two town folks, John Graves and Henry Sharp, owned and operated a whiskey distillery. In 1820, Sharp's distillery employed two men and produced 1,500 gallon of whiskey selling at 50 cents a gallon.\*









Daniel Rice owned a gunsmith shop and David Rogers owned a powder mill.
Townsperson
Crampton Harris was the proprietor of a saddler shop.

In 1820, **John Bullard's** son, **Isaac Bullard**, pledged a security bond to townsman Abraham Murphy. Murphy petitioned the court to open an ordinary (eating establishment) in Tazewell.



Claiborne County Court Minutes:
February Session 1820
"Abraham Murphy files his petition in court praying leave to keep an ordinary or house of public entertainment at his Residences in the Town of Tazewell and the court being Satisfied that he is a man of good demeanor it is therefore ordered that a license issue to him accordingly thereupon the said Abraham Murphy Entered into bond with John Lynch Esqr. And Isaac Bullard his security and was qualified as the Law dericts (sic)." <sup>273</sup>

In 1824, John Quincy Adams was elected President of the United States. Adams was the son of John Adams. They each held office for only one term.



<sup>\*</sup> Claiborne County 1820 Census of Manufactures: "List of the Different Manufacturing Establishments in Claiborne County East Tennessee," The directory contains all the "Manufactorys" in the District that were assigned to John Hunt, assistant to the Marshall of East Tennessee.

### Tazewell, Tennessee 1820

When **John Bullard** and his family traveled to Tazewell, they no doubt hitched up their wagon and headed out over Straight Creek road and the back trails to town. The Bullard's like most Claiborne County farmers would take their excess produce to town (eggs, milk, butter and pork) to sell or barter for needed supplies.

Making the trip was a half day experience. During the rainy season, they forded small streams, dodged mud holes and tree branches. Once they reached the Kentucky Road, they swung north toward town.

Most Claiborne County farmers went to Tazewell during court week. No doubt, **John Bullard** could be found near the county court house while Nancy Bullard would seek out relatives and friends to catch up on the latest gossip.



Tazewell's main general store was owned and operated by **John Bullard's** friend, Huge Graham. The general store stocked such items as molasses, flour, salt, coffee, vinegar and tobacco. Due to the scarcity of hard currency in eastern Tennessee, most residents relied on bartering for goods and services. Bartering was an everyday occurrence and a way of life.

Graham commissioned wagon masters to trek from Aberdeen, Virginia to Tazewell to carry the latest goods of soap, herbal tonics, plows, farm tools and glass bottles. No doubt Graham stocked the necessities of what farmers needed, but also the latest cloth fabrics and dry goods from the east.





In the 1820's, transit peddlers with wagons full of dry goods were common in Tazewell. These early traveling salesmen would unpack their wares and lay them out in an empty town lot.



The goods and trinkets they sold were unavailable in the local stores and shops. The wagons were full of the household utensils, picture frames, combs, mirrors and other scarce luxuries. Naturally, traveling salesmen also sold the latest homemade "snake oil" remedies.



The first known formal school in Claiborne County occurred around 1820. An Irishman named Michael Miles tutors students at Yoakum Station in Powell Valley. Tazewell's first school house was established in 1822. The first school teacher was Walter Evans Sr.

School books were rare. The first Claiborne County arithmetic book was written by Miles and Evans. Slaves were ubiquitous of the time and whiskey was consumed by almost every citizen. Some of the arithmetic problems developed by the school masters (see below) were peculiar but reflected the times.

# Math Problems

"A man had three slaves, Stephen, Fillis, and Andy. He sold Stephen for \$1,575, Fillis for \$980 and Andy for \$815. How much money did he get for the three, and what was the average price of each slave?"

Another reads, "If a man has \$2.17 how much whiskey can he buy at 25 cents per gallon?" <sup>274</sup>



Old School House (depiction)



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All images on this page are depictions of what Tazewell, Tennessee might have looked like in early 1820's.

By 1820, the total population of Tennessee reached 422,823. Tennessee's economic engine and political influence rapidly shifted from eastern Tennessee to Nashville.

A year earlier, the first Mississippi River steamboat arrived on the Cumberland River, the *General Jackson*. It ushered in a new era where Nashville was becoming the shipping center in the state. Much of Knoxville's early commercial importance passed to Nashville.

The influx of new settlers were bypassing eastern Tennessee and migrating more toward the middle and western regions of the state. The primary distinction between eastern Tennessee and the rest of the state was the relative absence of cotton and slave plantations in the east. In 1820, the national economic and financial crisis continued to intensify. Prices for produce and commodities fell, sheriff creditor sales increased, and the value of bank notes kept tumbling.



Andrew Jackson

The 1820's saw the meteoric rise of Andrew Jackson who related to the working farmers and common man. He had a known distain for the wealthy, elitism of New England bankers and political leaders. The Panic of 1819 and ensuing recession was blamed largely on the Federal Bank and other banking institutions. It was one of the economic forces that propelled Andrew Jackson to the presidency from 1829-1837.

In 1820, **John Bullard Sr**. was still a Ranger in Claiborne County attending to stray livestock and horses. In March of 1820, the County posted a notice in the Knoxville, Tennessee newspaper concerning a mare found by Joab Hill.\*

State of Tennessee, Ranger's Office, Claiborne County, 15th March 1820.

NAKEN up by Joab Hill living in said county, on the Kentucky road, five miles from Tazewell, a yellow bay mare with a blaze face, her near hind foot white, shod before, no brands or marks, nine years old, adjudged to be fourteen and a half hands high, and appraised to \$30

JOHN BULLARD, Ranger.

By his deputy, B. CLOUD.

March 28.

**Daniel Boone**, American pioneer, explorer, folk hero, and Kentucky rifleman died on September 26, 1820 at the age of 85.



In February, 1820, John Casey and Walter Evans sold five hundred acres of land to **John Bullard**. Two witnesses to the land sale were **Isaac Bullard**, son of **John Bullard Sr**. and William Blackwood. Blackwood married **John Bullard's** sister-in-law, Elizabeth Casey in 1793. The deed reflects **Isaac Bullard** was still living in Claiborne County, Tennessee prior to his migration to Rhea County, Tennessee in the early 1820's.



Claiborne County, Tennessee, Court of Pleas & Quarter Session: February 14, 1820 "A Deed of conveyance from John Casey and Walter Evans to **John Bullard** for five hundred acres of land was proven in open court by the oaths of <u>Isaac Bullard</u> and William Blackwood admitted to Record and ordered to be Registered." <sup>275</sup>

The next day, **John Bullard** was a witness to a land deed involving his brother-in-law John Casey.



Claiborne County Court Session: Tuesday February 15, 1820 "A deed of conveyance from John Casey and Walter Evans to Ryal Jennings for twelve acres of land was duly proven in open court by the oaths of **John Bullard** and Isham Jennings two Subscribing witnesses thereto was therefore admitted to record and ordered to be registered." <sup>276</sup>

In 1820, James W. Glasgow, Henderson & Company land agent, sold an unspecified amount of land to **John Bullard** for \$60. Glasgow was living in Madison County, Alabama.



Claiborne County Court Minutes: 1820 "John Bullard, Grantee and James W. Glasgow, Grantor of Madison, Alabama. Sum of \$60.00." <sup>277</sup>

In the winter of 1820, **John Bullard** submits his last known Claiborne County Ranger written report to the court.



Claiborne County Court Session: Wednesday February 16, 1820 State of Tennessee

"I **John Bullard** Ranger of Claiborne county do report to court all the money due on

the stray Book up to this time as follows to wit Peter Neil X Borrow (Burrow) appraised \$3. John Mason 1 sow appraised to \$3. John Wallis 1 Ram appraised to 1.50 **John Sanders** 1 Heifer appraised 7.50 Hardy & Campbell 1 stear (sic) appraised to 9.10 John Bartlet (Bartlett) 2 Barrows (sic) appraised 4.50 1 Black Hog pd. To 2.50 William Sharp

I **John Bullard** Ranger of Claiborne County do certifify (sic) that the above Report is true as stated.

Given under my hand the 16<sup>th</sup> day of Feby. 1820 **John Bullard Ranger**" <sup>278</sup>

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### **Bullard Family Migration**

Claiborne County, Tennessee

The United States has always been known for the great mobility of its people. The early beginnings of Manifest Destiny occurred in the early 1820's. Many farmers and settlers moved to the Southwest Territory encompassing the states of Tennessee, Alabama, Arkansas, Mississippi, and Louisiana. The migrating settlers took advantage of the opportunity to acquire cheap and fertile land in a warmer climate. Settler migration attracted trades people, merchants and blacksmiths.



Depiction

In 1820, **John Bullard's** son, Henry Bullard ( $\sim$ 28), and wife Leah Capps were residing in Rhea County, Tennessee. Henry was appointed overseer of a road from Adam Miller's farm to Ross' Ferry.

T

Rhea County, Tennessee Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions: February 4, 1820.

"Henry Bullard appointed overseer of road from Adam Millers bounds to Rosses Ferry, "to have all the hands living on Tennessee River (south side below Dick Taylors place) and all living on the South West side of said Road to work thereon under him." 280

After the Panic of 1819, scores of Claiborne County citizens began selling their farms for what they could get. They began moving further south into southern Tennessee and northern Alabama.

Around 1820, the three oldest Bullard brothers (Joseph, Henry and **Isaac**) bought land in the Rhea/McMinn County, Tennessee. Eventually, all three brothers moved down via the Tennessee River to Rhea and McMinn County. Moving there was relatively easy considering the ease of traveling the navigable Clinch and Tennessee



Longboat on the Tennessee River

Rivers (via Longboats.) No doubt the Bullard brothers were attracted by the prospect of starting a new beginning for their families.



In 1823, **John Bullard's** sons, Joseph Bullard (~36) and Henry Bullard (31), are found in McMinn County, Tennessee. Both brothers gave witness statements in a divorce proceeding initiated by Methodist Evangelist preacher, Henry Price. Price alleged his wife Rynay had "taken up with William Gossage and has children by the said Gossage." (In 1823, some members of the Gosage family were Claiborne County neighbors to **John Bullard Sr.**)

1 "

Tennessee Private Acts 1823 McMinn County "(Henry Price) says that his wife, Rynay Price, has left him and has taken up with William Gossage and has children by the said Gossage. Statements by: Henry Bullard, Joseph Bullard, Timothy Philpot & Patsay Ganbery." <sup>279</sup>

In 1820, John Bullard's son, <u>Isaac Bullard</u>, was appointed to sit on a Claiborne County jury in  $1820.^{282}$ \*

In 1821, **John Bullard's** sons, <u>Isaac Bullard</u> and Joseph Bullard were released from paying taxes on land located in Rhea County. One could assume the brothers had purchased property there but were not living on the land. By the late 1820's, <u>Isaac</u> and brother Joseph were living in Rhea County, Tennessee.



Rhea County, Tennessee Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions: November 1821

"Collector of Taxes is released from the payment of the following taxes for 1821; Jacob Hunter, Joseph Cowan, Joshua Moor(e), Hugh Murphy, Strother Blackwell, Alexander Mahan, Isaac Bullard, Joseph Bullard, and John Leuty." <sup>281</sup>

### The Casey Family

Sometime in the early 1820's, James Casey (brother-in-law to **John Bullard Sr.**) and his wife Elizabeth moved to Rhea County. James' sister, Elizabeth Casey Blackwood, also moved to Rhea County at the same time.



<sup>\*</sup> Other jurymen were Jeremiah Henderson, Elisha Bruice, William Ritter, James Williams, Thomas Whitehead, John Hedges (Hodges), Joseph Hurst, James Dobbs, John Bunch, George Shoults, John Bowman, John Carr, Martin Sharp, Mann Maddy, Emamel Sowder, and Elijah Harp. <sup>282</sup>

In the spring of 1821, **John Bullard** served on a jury finding in favor of plaintiff, Absalom Morris. Morris was awarded \$100 to recover a debt from William Maddy.



Claiborne County Court Session: Tuesday May 15, 1821
"Absalom Morris This day came the parties by

Vs their attornies (sic) and William Maddy therefore came a Jury to wit

William Maddy therefore came a Jury to wit Thomas R. McClary 2. James Vanbebber 3. David Wright 1. 4. William Walles 5. Anson L. Carden 6. Peter Marcum **Iohn Bullard** 7. 8. Ambrose Day 9. David Huddleston 10. **Daniel Slavens** 11. John Hurst 12. Joseph Cloud

Who being Elected tried and sworn well & truly to try and the truth to speak upon the issue Joined in this cause do say they find the defendant has paid Declaration as in Pleading he hath alledged (sic) and assess the plaintiff Damages by reason of the detention of that Debt to fourteen Dollars and twenty five cents besides his cost. It is therefore considered by the court that the plaintiff recover of the defendant the sum of one hundred Dollars in Debt in the declaration mentioned together with his Damages aforesaid in form aforesaid Assessed beside his costs in this behalf expended and the defendant in mercy & c." <sup>283</sup>

During the same court session, **John Bullard** served on a jury leading to a mistrial. Richard Moore was the plaintiff and Daniel Sowder the defendant. The jury was deadlocked. The case was postponed to the next court session. The outcome is unknown.



Claiborne County Court Session: Tuesday May 15, 1821

"Richard Moore

Vs. Appeal

Daniel Sowder

This day came the parties by their attornies (sic), and thereupon came a Jury to wit.

Isaac Lane
 James Vanbebber
 Anson L. Caiden
 John Bullard
 Daniel Slavens
 John Hurst &
 Joseph Cloud

Who being elected, tried and sworn well and truly to try the matter of controversy now before them on their oath do say they cannot agree whereupon it is ordered by The court with the consent of the parties that a mistrial be entered and the cause continued until next court."  $^{284}$ 



In August 1821, the court registered a land sale between agent James W. Glasow and **John Bullard** for 500 acres of land in Claiborne County. It is assumed the tract was on the north side of the Clinch River. The exact location is unknown. On the same day, James Glasow sold 100 acres of land to **John Bullard's** son, William Bullard (~24). The two land sales could be William Bullard's homestead tract on Ball Creek.



Claiborne County, Tennessee, Court of Pleas & Quarter Session: August 14, 1821

"A Deed of conveyance from James W. Glasgow to **John Bullard** for five hundred acres of land was duly proven in court by the oaths of Thos. L. Walker and Sterling Cocke the subscribing witnesses thereto and was admitted to record let it be registered." <sup>285</sup>



Claiborne County, Tennessee, Court of Pleas & Quarter Session: August 14, 1821

"A Deed of conveyance from James W. Glasgow to <u>William Bullard</u> for one hundred acres of land was duly proven by the oaths of Thomas L. Walker and Sterling Cocks the Subscribing witnesses thereto and was admitted to record let it be registered." <sup>286</sup>



In 1821, the total population of Eastern Tennessee, encompassing 22 counties, was 135,545.

Claiborne County inhabitants totaled 5,508. <sup>287</sup>

### John Bullard: Persistent & Determination

# **Claiborne County, Tennessee**

In May of 1821, **John Bullard** was assigned a debt (most likely a note) from Dennis Condrey and Anderson Barton. (Condrey was the Sheriff of Claiborne County from 1810 to 1820.) Defendants Jeremiah Cloud and Richard Mays originated the note. The debt case went to a jury who found for the plaintiff, John Bullard. A day later, it was discovered one of the assignees of the note was Anderson Barton who was also sitting on the jury. The court ordered a new trail.

Claiborne County, Tennessee, Court of Pleas & Quarter Session: May 18, 1821



When the court reconvened in August 1821, a new jury again found for the plaintiff, John Bullard, and ordered Jeremiah Cloud and Richard Mays to pay \$50, plus 12 ½ cents interest, and court costs. This is one of many examples where **John** Bullard sought court relief for what he thought was due him and winning a favorable judgment.



Claiborne County, Tennessee, Court of Pleas & Quarter Session: August 16, 1821 "John Bullard assignee Debt appeal

Vs

**Jeremah Cloud and** Richard Mays

this day came the attorney and the Defendant in their own proper person and confesses Judgment for the sum of fifty Dollard the amount of Justices Judgment.

It is therefore considered by court that the Justices Judgment be affirmed and that the plaintiff recover of the defendant the sum aforesaid confessed together with twelve & one half percent Interest from the condition of the Justices Judgment besided his cost in and about his defence (sic) n the behalf expended for which execution may Issue Court adjourned till tomorrow morning 9 oclock.

John Brock, Wm.Savage, Mercurious Cook, John Neil, George Brock" 290



Jeremiah Cloud Appeal Richard Mays This day came the parties By their attornies (sic) and thereupon also came a Jury to wit

"John Bullard assignee of Dennis

Condrey who is assignee of

Anderson Barten (Barton)

7. Daniel Coffelt William McCullough •John Richardson 8. Anderson Barton •John Hurst 9. William Lynch • Joseph Ferrell 10. Isaac Vanbebber •Jacob Vanbebber

11. John Rice 12. Eli McVay

Who being elected tried and sworn well and truly to try and the truth to speak on the matter of dispute upon their oath do say they find for the plaintiff the sum of fifty Dollars the amount of the Judgment (sic) rendered by the Justice of the peace. It is therefore considered the by court that the plaintiff recover of defendants and their security the sum aforesaid assessed together with his expended & the defendant in mercy &&" 288



Claiborne County, Tennessee, Court of Pleas & Quarter Session: May 19, 1821 "John Bullard assignee of

Dennis Condrey

•John Dobbs

Vs

Vs.

Jeremiah Cloud

..on a motion and sufficient reasons appearing to the court tit is ordered by the court that a new trail in This cause be granted because it appears to the court that Anderson Barton the original oblige was one of the Jury in the case who passed on the trial thereof" 289



Clinch River

Claiborne County had abundant creeks and water run-offs. The early 1800's, saw a number of grist mills spring up around the county.

In 1821, **John Bullard** owned and operated a grist mill near Straight Creek. At the time, the land descended sharply down to the creek.



Grist Mill Depiction

In 1821, the Claiborne County court appointed Isaac Ousley to oversee a road linking "Bullard's Mill" to Sandlick.



Claiborne County Court Session: Monday August 13, 1821
"Ordered by the court that Isaac Ously be appointed overseer of the road from **Bullards Mill** to the Sandlick in room and stead of Jacob Coots and have the same hands and bounds that said Coots had." <sup>291</sup>

Although the exact location is unknown, the site could have been on Straight Creek but more probably west of Big Barren Creek. What is known is that in 1834, **John Bullard** willed the "mill tract" to his daughter, Sarah Bullard, and husband George Lewis. The will states, "It is awarded that George Lewis and wife Sarah have the mill tract and that they account with the others heirs four hundred dollars, the estimated value of the said mill tract." <sup>292</sup>

Like the local general stores, mills were considered a hub of social gatherings for farmers. Since cornmeal and flour could not be purchased in large quantities in Tazewell, farmers from the surrounding area would travel to nearby grist mills to grind their wagon load of grain.

While the giant grist stone ground the harvested corn (for cornmeal), and wheat (for flour), farmers would pass the time with neighbors. Mills were fodder to catch up on local gossip, the latest crop prices and politics.

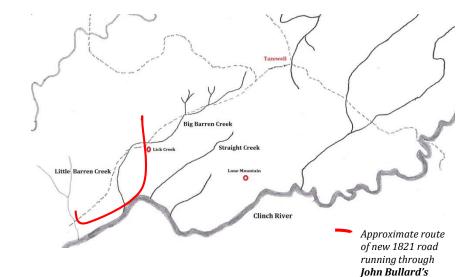


In 1821, the court appointed Spencer Edwards to construct a road through **John Bullard's** property.



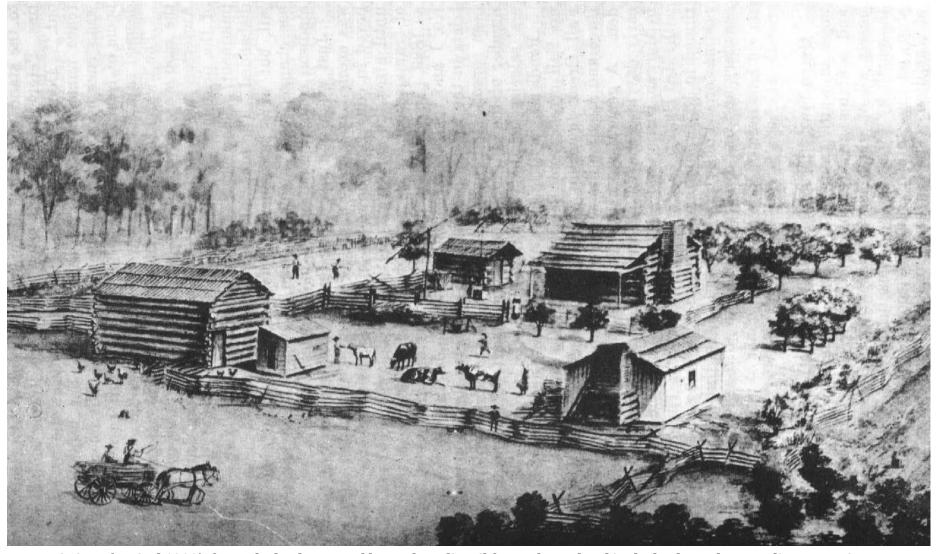
Claiborne County Court Session: Monday, August 13, 1821

... And also it is further ordered by the court that Spencer Edwards be appointed overseer to open the new above recited road as viewed and marked from the cross hallow near goankses (Gosage?) to the said lick (Sandlick) and have the following bounds for hands that is begining at the mouth of Camp Creek leaving cootses and powers cut then to the mouth of the cross hollow down little baron (Creek) to the mouth . There up clinch river (sic) to John Bullard taking him—then along the road from Bullards to the sandlick so as to include all the hands living on Lewis old place then from the sandlick up the big vally (sic) to John Hursts Esqr. Then Including the Bridges and the governeses then taking in the Hoppers and then to the mouth of Camp Creek."



In 1821, the State of Tennessee created three classes of public roads: First Class - 30 foot wide for stagecoaches, Second Class - 12 feet wide, and Third Class - wide enough for a horse and rider. Trees along roads were notched to indicate class. First class = 3 notches. (See image to the right)





Depiction of typical 1800's farm: the log house and barn, the split rail fence, the orchard in the back, workers tending a crop in a cleared field, a child feeding a calf, the well with wooden crane next to the shed, as well as cows, chickens, and a farm wagon being driven through a pasture. The smokehouse is in the bottom right corner and hog house in front of the barn. The surrounding dense forest is also evident in the background and right foreground.

#### **1822 Court Minutes**

In 1822, **John Bullard**, Claiborne County Ranger, was notified by John Long that a stray bay horse had been found near the Powell River. It appears **John Bullard** ordered his deputy, Joseph McCleary, to assist.





"John Long, living on the Powels (sic) River, has taken up a bay horse. **John Bullard**, ranger, by his deputy, Joseph M'Cleary, Claiborne County." <sup>294</sup>

In 1822, **John Bullard's** son, William, sold an unspecified amount of land in Claiborne County to David Chadwell for \$60. <sup>295</sup> Since Chadwell lived north of Tazewell, it is assumed the deed was for a town lot or partial of land formerly owned by William Bullard's father-in-law, Benjamin Posey. Chadwell was a large slave owner in Claiborne County. In 1828, Chadwell hired an overseer to attend to his summer crops. At the end of the season, the overseer stole \$1,500 from Chadwell. The cash was hidden in a corn barrel. The overseer also took "two of his most intelligent negro boys and left in the night." <sup>296</sup> It was later reported the overseer took the slaves to the free state of Ohio.

In April of 1822, **John Bullard** obtained ownership rights totwo town lots in Tazewell, Tennessee from a previous year judgment against Jeremiah Cloud. Cloud sold Tazewell Lot #4 and #5 to **John Bullard** to satisfy his debt. It appears **John Bullard** did not have any interest in owning town lots for he offered them up for sale the following month.



Claiborne County, Tennessee Court Session: April 2, 1822 "By virtue of a writ of fieri facias directed from the Claiborne County Court, I will expose to public sale in Tazewell on the 13<sup>th</sup> of May next, all the right that Jeremiah Cloud has in lots nos. 4 and 5. Lot no. 4 is occupied by Benjamin Lankford. The property was taken by **John Bullard** to satisfy a judgment obtained against Jeremiah Cloud and Richard Mayes. John Hunt, sheriff." <sup>297</sup>

In 1824, John Quincy Adams defeats Andrew Jackson for Presidency of the United States. The election was decided by the House of Representative. Sometime around 1823, **John Bullard's** son, **Isaac Bullard** (28 years of age) married Nancy Elizabeth Black. To date, no known document has been found to substantiate **Isaac Bullard's** marriage date and place. Isaac's marriage is referenced in "Early Settlers of Claiborne County" by P.G. Fulkerson. The source mentions Isaac married "Elizabeth Black." <sup>298</sup>



Deniction

Sometime before or after the marriage, Isaac moved to Rhea County, Tennessee. Isaac and Nancy Elizabeth had six children: Joseph, **Henry**, Ann, Isaac Jr., Christopher C., and Leah. (There are a number of Claiborne County, Tennessee marriage abstracts referencing **Isaac Bullard** marrying Polly Rogers. This is incorrect.\* The marriage is listed as being in Duplin County, North Carolina. There was in fact, an Isaac Buller (Bullard) who married a Polly Rogers in Duplin County on October 25, 1823,<sup>299</sup> but the event

had no known connection to the Claiborne County Bullards.

Also, the 1850 U.S Claiborne County census lists Isaac's wife,

Elizabeth as being 51 years of age and born in Tennessee.)

Claiborne County, Tennessee

Duplin County,
North Carolina

<sup>\*</sup> In the early 1800's, there was an **Isaac Bullard** living in Duplin County, North Carolina. The Duplin County Isaac was one of six children by Nathan Bullard and Sarah Stroud). Duplin County is located in southeastern North Carolina. It is highly improbable that Isaac Bullard traveled 530 miles in 1823 to marry. Traveling such a distance and back again was not a common practice. Too, from known information, Isaac Bullard did not have the means to travel such a distance. (However, there were Bullard and Roger families living in Duplin County NC at that time, but no known connection to the Claiborne County families.)

### Slaves in Claiborne County

During the 1820's, Americans saw the release of many slaves in the northern states. They witnessed the rise of the abolitionist movement and the anti-slavery movement. However, in the southern states, the ugly and inhumane institution was present until the end of the Civil War.

The 1820 "Missouri Compromise" emerged as an explosive slavery issue but only postponed the inevitable Civil War.

Rural slave activity was somewhat different than plantation slaves. In Claiborne County slave owners were scattered throughout Tazewell and nearby farms.

#### **Tazewell**

Inside the small southern town of Tazewell, slaves were ubiquitous. They walked around town unescorted and attended public events. They provided skilled and unskilled labor indicative of small southern towns: domestic work, street hands,



coachmen, housepainters, laundresses, and midwives. Some worked in grist mills and the local mines west of Tazewell.

Town merchants and trade people hired out individual slaves for specific work. Hiring or bargaining slave labor was a common practice. Some slaves, especially those with special skills (carpentry or foundry work) were hired out on a continuous basis. Generally, slaves living in town had greater freedom than those living on nearby farms.

Tennessee's three slave districts.

When Tennessee became a state in 1796, slavery was firmly intrenched throughout state. Over the course of time, eastern Tennessee would have the fewest number of slaves due to the hilly terrain and scattering of small independent farms. Middle Tennessee held a larger number of slaves due to the demand for commercial cash crops such as cotton, corn, tobacco and grain. Western Tennessee saw the largest concentration of slaves due to the worldwide demand for cotton and the establishment of large slave plantations bordering the Mississippi River.

#### Farms



In the 1820' a number of family farms owned two to ten slaves. Rural slaves in eastern Tennessee enjoyed fewer restraints on their daily activities than did the western plantation slaves.

Since most farmers knew the slaves in the area by sight, most could travel alone through the countryside doing errands and other work. Some carried guns to hunt game and some where skilled wagon drivers carrying goods and crops to market. Farmers who were too poor to own slaves hired them from neighboring farms during planting or harvest season. Most slaves were allowed to retain a small portion of the earnings when hired out.

John Bullard's slaves probably lived in quarters near the crop fields. Generally, eastern Tennessee slaves were housed in family units rather than plantation barracks. This arrangement reinforced the sense of family unity (as understood by both black and whites of the eighteenth century) despite the way in which slavery violated the moral norms of family life. In the early 1800's, the typical eastern Tennessee slave cabin encompassed 170 sq. ft. (White settlers average cabin size was 320 sq. ft). Furnishings inside slave cabins were sparse. There was very little creature comforts. Slaves and their families spent most of their time outside their cabins working, socializing, cooking or consuming meals. The cabin was mainly a place to sleep. Rural slave families could plant small garden plots near their cabins to grow a portion of their food subsistence needs.



Right: Slave cabin at the Museum of Appalachia in Norris, Tennessee. The cabin was originally located in Grainger County, Tennessee, and was probably built ~1820.

By 1830, the number of slaves in Tennessee totaled 140,000. Most were working on large plantations in the middle and western part of the state. At the Tennessee state convention in 1834, efforts to abolish slavery were raised by factions in eastern Tennessee. Their efforts were sounded defeated. Instead, the state legislators rescinded free black voting rights that had earlier been allowed.

<sup>\*</sup> When "hired out," some farmers allowed slaves to bargain for their own labor. However, slaves would have to give back a fixed percentage to their owner. Although it was illegal to contract business this way, it was convenient and difficult to stop.

By the mid 1820's, Tennessee's economy bounced back from the Panic of 1819 which ruined most state banks and many individuals. Part of the recovery was due to the increased demand for cotton. Western Tennessee became the center of the new south's cotton boom.

A few years earlier, Mexico won its independence from Spain in 1821. The fledging government was encouraging Americans, mostly southern state settlers to migrate to what is now east Texas.

Throughout the 1820's, eastern Tennessee saw the birth of religious revivals. Isolated farming families would gather in town on Sunday to hear itinerant preachers. No doubt some came through Tazewell.

In 1825, **John Bullard's** son, Boyer Bullard (b.1803) married Elizabeth Hodges in Claiborne County, Tennessee.



In 1826, **John Bullard's** daughter, Sarah Bullard (b. 1810) married George Washington Lewis in Claiborne County, Tennessee.



In 1827, **John Bullard's** daughter, Mahulda Bullard (b. ~1804) married Alfred Moore.





Davy Crockett

In 1826, Davy Crockett was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives as a Jacksonian. As a Congressman, Crockett supported the rights of squatters. He opposed President Jackson's Indian Removal Act which attributed to his defeat when he ran for re-election. Crockett won again 1832. In four years, Crockett would die in Texas at the Alamo.

In 1826, John Berry was chosen administrator of James Brown's estate. Brown lived in neighboring Grainger County. **John Bullard** helped Berry secure bond money to administer the estate. The \$3,000 bond implied James Brown was a wealthy Grainger County citizen. It also reflects **John Bullard** owned enough land in Grainger County to be register as a resident even though he lived in Claiborne County. This strengthens the suggested evidence **John** owned large tracts of land on both the north <u>and</u> south side of the Clinch River. (The Clinch River was the dividing line between Claiborne County and Grainger County, Tennessee.)



Grainger County, Tennessee court Session: November 21, 1826 "James Brown

We John Berry & **John Bullard Sr.** of Grainger County & State of Tennessee are bound unto William Carroll Governor of sd State in the sum of \$3,000.00 this 21<sup>st</sup> November 1826. The above bounded John Berry administrator of James Brown deceased.

Witnesses: Wm. E. Cocke

John Berry (seal)

John Bullard Sr. (seal)" 300

John Bullard Sr. owned many acres of land on the North <u>and</u> South sides of the Clinch River in Claiborne and Grainger County, Tennessee



Two years later, **John Bullard** was the administrator of the estate of James Brown's widow, Polly Brown. What connection **John** had to the Brown family is unknown. Of interest, the document shows that **John Bullard Sr**. signed the estate papers with an "X" mark although he was known to have writing skills.



Grainger County, Tennessee Court Session: November 19, 1828 "Polly Brown. We **John Bullard** & john (sic) Cocke all of Grainger County and State of Tennessee are bound unto Samuel Houston Governor of sd State in the sum of \$200. 19<sup>th</sup> November 1828.

The above bounded **John Bullard** administrator of the estate of Polly Brown deceased.

John X Bullard (seal) his mark John Cocke (seal)"<sup>301</sup>

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### **Luke Bowyer Dies**

In 1812, Luke Bowyer was living in Claiborne County, Tennessee. Around March of 1814, Bowyer moved to Greenbrier County, West Virginia. (Of note, **John Bullard's** mother, Martha Bullard, died sometime around 1805.)



Sometime in 1828, Luke Bowyer died in Greenbrier County (present day West Virginia) at the age of  $\sim$ 83.



Settlement of <u>estate of Luke Bowyer</u>, 1828, Box 2, Folder 31: Finding Aid for the Caldwell Papers, 1785-1975 (Bulk range:1785-1900), Call number: MS-2013, University of Tennessee Special Collections Library, Knoxville, Tennessee. Encoded by Elizabeth Dunham, September 7, 2006.

Luke Bowyer ( $\sim$ 1745-1828) was an intriguing frontier attorney. He is considered to be the first practicing attorney in Tennessee. The first documented link between Bowyer and the Bullard family occurred in 1776. Bowyer was connected to the Bullard family and played in the family background for almost forty years. Bowyer's connection to the Bullard family is unknown although there is suggested evidence he is the brother of Martha Bullard.

(See: "The Life and Times Narrative of Joseph Bullard," Appendix H, Luke Bowyer: "Bowyer – Bullard Family Connection" for suggested evidence that Martha's last name was Bowyer.)

As mentioned, three generations of Bullard's would name children after Luke Bowyer.



In  $\sim$ 1827, **John Bullard's** son, <u>Isaac Bullard</u> and wife Elizabeth (Black) saw the birth of their second son, Henry Bullard.

In ~1828, **John Bullard's** son, John Bullard Jr. (b.1806) married Permelia Hodges. The couple resided in Grainger County, Tennessee.



~1829, **John Bullard's** daughter, Martha (Patsy) Bullard (b.~1807) married Barnett Hicklin.



Andrew Jackson Elected. 1828 was a pivotal year in American politics. Andrew Jackson defeated John Quincy Adams and became the 7<sup>th</sup> President of the United States. He went on to serve for eight years. No sooner than Jackson was inaugurated, his administration began

accelerating the sell-off of cheap Federal land to settlers in the western territories. Jackson's policies spurred yet another wave of migration to the gulf states of Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana. Missouri which lay west of the Mississippi River was also impacted.

**Gold.** In late 1828, gold was discovered in northern Georgia near present day Dahlonega. This was the second most significant gold find in the United States; the first being the 1849 California gold rush. Within a year, thousands of miners descended into Georgia. Unfortunately, the Cherokee controlled most of the land in the gold region. The Georgia government, supported by Andrew Jackson, began planning the removal of the Cherokee Indians almost immediately after gold was

discovered. This
eventually led to the
1838 "Trail of Tears"
mass relocation of the
Cherokee to
Oklahoma. By the early
1840's, the Georgia
mines had pretty much
played out.





Depiction

The 1830 U.S. Census put Claiborne County population at 8,470.# The county had more people than any neighboring county, with the exception of Knox County.

The 1830 U.S. census data only recorded the name of each head of household, plus the number of individuals in the household by age range and sex. (Recording the names and ages of every person living in each household did not occur until the 1850 U.S. Census). Nonetheless, one can make reasonable assumptions as to who was in the household by looking at the age range of known parents and their children.

The 1830 Claiborne County census is revealing. In 1830, **John Bullard (Sr.)** is ~65 years of age. The census data affirms **John Bullard Sr.** was born around ~1765. His wife, Nancy (Kersey/Casey) Bullard was 60 and born in 1770. The Census District data also reflects three of **John Bullard Sr.'s** offspring (John Bullard Jr., Bowyer Bullard and daughter, Mahulda Bullard Moore) were living near their father's farm.

## The Bullard and Beeler Family Connection

In 1830, there is another family living with John & Nancy Bullard. It appears John Bullard's oldest daughter, Anne Bullard and her husband, Woolery Beeler, were living on **John Bullard's** farm. The number of persons and age ranges of the Beeler family confirms this dual living arrangement. The adult male listed in the census (between 30-40 years of age) is Woolery Beeler. The female adult listed (between the age range of 30-40) is Ann Bullard (b. 1788.) One could assume John and Nancy **Bullard** needed family help to run the farm due to their advanced age. The younger children listed in the John Bullard household are the children of Woolery and Ann Beeler: Mahulda (b. 1825), Rebecca (b. 1826), Luke Boyer (b.1822), Margaret Ann (b. 1830), Nancy (b.1821), Polly Mary (b.1814) and William H. (b. 1816). Their oldest daughter, Elizabeth Beeler (b. 1812), had married and moved away. The only age category discrepancy is Polly Mary, but this could have been a census transcription error. All other children's ages are accounted for. By 1834, Woolery Beeler's name began to appear as head of household in Grainger County, Tennessee records; the same year John Bullard Sr. willed a tract of land to Beeler (and Anne Bullard). The tract was situated south of the Clinch River in Grainger County. 302 Anne Bullard died in 1837.

1830 U.S. Federal Census (Claiborne County, Tennessee)*																	
Name (Head of Househo	old)				<u>Males</u>								<u>Fema</u>	<u>les</u>			
<b>John Bullard</b> (Sr.) (Ann Bullard/Beeler)	Under 5, 0	5-10, 1	10-15 1	15-20, 0	20-30,	30-40, 4	0-50, 5 0	0-60, 60-70, 0 1	Ţ	Jnder 5, 5 3	-10, 10 2	0-15, 1 0	5-20, 2 0	0-30, 30-4 0 1	50-60, 1	60-70,	
John Bullard (Jr.)	1	0	0	0	1					0	0	0	1				
Bowyer Bullard	0	0	0	0	1					2	0	0	0	1			
Alfred Moore (Mahulda Bullard)	2	0	0	0	1					1	0	0	0	1			
* 1830 U.S. East Tennes	see Census	, trans	cribed a	nd index	ed by By	ron Sistle	r, 1969,									141	

#### Tazewell, Tennessee 1830's

In the 1830's, Tazewell, a small country town in eastern Tennessee was a major stopping point for stagecoach traffic along the Kentucky Road to Knoxville. The town consisted of one hundred or so wooden and brick structures scattered along a broad street.\* There was very little vegetation or shrubs surrounding the buildings. The town was situated on a hill and "touched" by wood lines.

For three decades, Tazewell's busiest days were centered around the week the county court was in session. Farmers and residents gathered up their families and traveled from all areas of the county to attend the week long sessions.

When court was held, male citizens would congregate at the local taverns in the surrounding vicinity of the courthouse. Their conversations centered around land deals and disputes, crop prices and politics. Women gather together to catch up on fashions coming from the coastal areas, home life, children and of course, the latest gossip.

Throughout the 1830's, one thing permeated the way of life of every citizen was chewing and smoking tobacco. It was ubiquitous to the time and "the leisure vice of choice." Almost all men, and some women chewed, dipped or smoked tobacco. Spittoons were found at the entrance and inside of every Tazewell store and shop.



Spittoon

1832 saw the beginning of the removal of the indigenous Indians to the far west. The first tribe to relocate to Oklahoma were the Chickasaws. In six years time, the Great Cherokee Removal (The Trail of Tears) would commence.

In 1833, there were three practicing attorneys in Tazewell; John M. Brobson, James B. Robinson and Gray Garrett. <sup>303</sup>

In 1835, a U.S Census Bulletin reported there were 4,525 home in Claiborne County, Tennessee; 3,065 or 67.7% were farms. Of the farms, 61.1% were free of mortgage encumbrance. 7% were mortgaged farms, 30.7% of the farms were renter occupied, and 1.2% miscellaneous. 304

*A Tennessee Hill Town*, by Charles F. Hoffman, told in *Harper & Brothers* Magazine, 1834. 305

### Tazewell, Tennessee, April 21, 1834



"There is a group of the white beaver and hunting shirt gentry collected at this moment around a blood-horse, whose points a groom is showing off opposite to my window; and farther up the street, round the steps of the little unpainted wooden court-house, is a collection of old women, in scarlet cloaks or plaid wrappers, gossipping (sic) together."

I entered Tazewell about sunset, a day or two since. My horse had fallen lame within ten miles of the place; and taking the bridle in my hand, I trudged leisurely along, till I gained the inn, where I have established myself. The afternoon was perfectly still, and a herd of cows, which a mounted negro was urging homeward, were the only objects stirring in the town. I could discern, however, that it was inhabited, from seeing the village tailor and other dignitaries of the place lounging upon rush-bottom chairs in front of their dwellings, while the lazy vapour (sic) that curled from their pipes, in the evening air, bespoke a sort of indolent repose, such as whilom reigned in the drowsy region of Sleepy Hollow."







Depiction

\* Charles F. Hoffman was an editor, poet and novelist. In October of 1833, he left New York City for a tour of the southwestern country on horseback. To defray the cost of his trip, he wrote long descriptive letters of his experiences in the American magazine "Harper and Brothers."

#### The 1830's

In the 1830's, farming was still tedious and laborious. Most Claiborne County citizens were preoccupied with cultivating their crops and raising their families. There was very little leisure time.

It wasn't until 1831, that Cyrus McCormick invented the first practical crop reaper. Six years later, John Deere invented the steel plow.

These inventions would eventually make their way to the southern rural states but wouldn't become widespread until after the Civil War.



McCormick Reaper 1847

1832 saw the re-election of Andrew Jackson. Jackson defeated Henry Clay of Kentucky by a 55% popular vote. It was the first election that utilized the National Party Convention. Jackson's ran on reducing the role of the Bank of the United States and expanding the power of the presidential veto. Jackson was a proponent of state banks rather than a centralized Federal banking system. Claiborne County's election tally was Jackson 338 votes and Clay 3 votes. <sup>306</sup>

In the fall of 1831, Nat Turner led a slave rebellion in Virginia. The rebellion resulted in the deaths of 60 whites and the hanging of Nat Turner and his followers. The rebellion sent shockwaves throughout the south. Many southern states passed new laws prohibiting the education of slaves and free blacks, restricting the right of assembly and restricting civil rights of free blacks. In 1833, England abolishes slavery altogether.

In the 1830's, the Tennessee Assembly began appropriating money to build new roads and improve navigation along its many rivers and tributaries.

In March of 1828, the first steamboat, *Atlas*, docked in Knoxville, Tennessee. By the mid 1830's, there was regular steamboat service on the upper Tennessee and Holston Rivers during periods of high water in the autumn and spring.



Depiction

Claiborne & Grainger County used their state allocated funds to improve the channel-ways along the Powell and Clinch Rivers.

In 1837, **John Bullard's** son, John Bullard Jr., was appointed to the Grainger County-Powell Valley Board of Internal Improvements. He was also appointed as one of the Claiborne County commissioners to oversee the improvement of the Clinch River.<sup>307</sup> The authority was also ordered to use any unexpended funds to improve a road leading from Claiborne County to Campbell County.

Beginning in 1836, the Tennessee legislature passed a number of Acts permitted counties to build roads. In order to keep taxes low, courts granted private companies the right to build "turnpikes" and charge a toll. Private companies were responsible for the maintenance and improvement on the toll roads.

Eastern Tennessee did not fare well with turnpikes due to its hilly topography inhibiting a profitable return. Some were built, but not maintained very well.

In 1833, the wife of **John Bullard's** oldest son, Joseph Bullard (b.  $\sim$ 1787) petitioned the Tennessee Assembly for a divorce. They were married in 1810. Lucy Campbell bore witness that Joseph left her after 6 or 7 years of marriage. It is unknown what circumstance occurred that compelled Joseph to leave. She remarried in Giles County believing "he was dead." The Tennessee Assembly granted the divorce.

Ter Luc

Tennessee Private Acts 1833

Lucy Bullard 18 November 1833 Giles County

"Lucy Bullard was formerly Lucy Cavell (Campbell). She married <u>Ioseph Bullard</u> ca 18\_years ago. Joseph left Lucy "about 15 years since." She heard he was dead, and she remarried 7 November 1833 to Richard Jamor (Jamar) in Giles County. Lucy wants a divorce from Joseph Bullard. Petition is accompanied by the signatures of 18 persons. Another statement by Lucy is that she married Bullard ca 1814 (actually 1810). They lived together 6 or 7 years before he left. After her second marriage, it was rumored that her first husband was still alive. She wants a divorce."

>> "The marriage bonds between Lucy Bullard and her husband, <u>Joseph Bullard</u>, are hereby dissolved. "The marriage heretofore solemnized between the said Lucy and Richard Jamor (Jamar) (is to) be...made valid." <sup>308</sup>

Giles County,

Tennessee

#### **Medicine in Eastern Tennessee**

# **Claiborne County, Tennessee**

In the 1830's and 1840's, the most commonly prescribed remedy for major ailments was bleeding the patient. Most physicians of the time believed diseases were caused by congestion of fluids inside the body. Hence, bleeding (by cutting or leaches) was the common remedy.\* Prescribing meaningful medicines was primitive at best.



Doctors regularly prescribed mercury compounds. If a person require any type of crude surgery, the physician gave his patient alcohol or opium. Most farmers and townspeople lived in unsanitary conditions that bred disease.



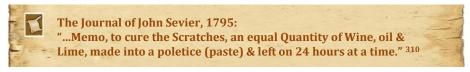
Bleeding a patient

Germ theory was decades away. (Anesthesia did not come on the scene until 1846.) Contagious diseases took its toll. The leading cause of death was "consumption" (Tuberculosis) and gout. In 1832/33, Asiatic cholera sweep over Tennessee bringing widespread deaths. Another cholera epidemic struck in 1849.

"Snake Oil" remedies sold by traveling merchants were widespread. *Eclectric Oil* was a liniment that contained: spirits of turpentine, camphor, oil of tar, red thyme, and fish oil. It claimed to cure ailments such as a toothache in 5 minutes, backache in 2 hours, and coughs in 20 minutes.



In 1839, Claiborne County, Tennessee had two known physicians. Doctor Philips and Dr. Westerfield. Pleasant Gowen's (Goins) 1839 estate settlement revealed what Claiborne County doctors charged ailing patients. Dr. Philips and Dr. Westerfield charged the Goins estate \$4.00 and \$3.73 respectively for "medical aid." 309



<sup>\*</sup> In 1799, George Washington didn't die from a disease. He died from having a common cold and being bled too much by his physician.

### 19th Century Medical Remedies

Cough or Sore Throat: Wear a flannel cloth saturated with turpentine around the neck. Make a tea mixture of mullen flower, boneset, catnip, cocklebur, goldenrod, marigold, chamomile, wild cheery bark or sumac berries.

Toothache: Smoke leaves of the Life Everlasting plant. Put a drop of oil or cloves on a piece of cotton and place on tooth. Chew yarrow leaves, mistletoe, bull nettle root or prickly bark.

Ear ache: Place a drop of buttermilk in the ear.

## Tennessee Epidemics and Natural Disasters (1800-1866)

1812	Tennessee experiences a severe Winter (December)
	Unusual cooling of earth (1812-1817)
1819	Tennessee farmers experience drought
1823	Severe Winter statewide (February)
1830	Farmers experience drought (May)
1832-1833	Cholera epidemic statewide
(1834)	(John Bullard Sr. dies)
1835	Eastern Tennessee experiences severe winter (February)
1838	Cholera epidemic around Knoxville
	Malarial fever epidemic around Knoxville (Summer/Fall)
1844	Earthquake near Knoxville (November 28)
1849	Cholera epidemic in Tennessee (June-August)
	Severe cold and snow statewide
1850	Cholera epidemic (June)
(~1851)	Agnes Nancy (Kersey/Casey) Bullard dies
1852	Earthquake (Tennessee, Virginia, North Carolina)
1854	Cholera Epidemic
1866	Cholera Epidemic (September)

The most common birth practice was to situate the would mother in a chair attended by two or three midwives.



### John Bullard (Sr.) Dies

Sometime in 1833/34, **John Bullard Sr**. knew he was in failing health. He wrote has Last Will and Testament. Although a coincidence, an epidemic of Asiatic cholera sweep over Tennessee in 1833/34. Urban areas were paralyzed and many small towns were depopulated.

It is not known how **John Bullard** died; old age, illness or cholera. What is known is that sometime before September 1834 **John Bullard** departed this life. He was ~69 years old. His wife, Nancy (Casey) Bullard, was 64. They had been married 48 years and raised twelve children.

Depiction

A remarkable long life span considering the average life expectancy for a male in the early 1800's was 38.3 years. One-third of all white males did not live to adulthood. John's wife, Nancy, would live to the age of 80. This longevity would be mirrored many times over in John and Nancy's descendants.

In September 1834, Hugh Graham and John Cocke were appointed administrators "of said John Bullard Deceased..." 311

Both men were prominent citizens in Claiborne County and Grainger County respectively.\*\* They were undoubtedly long time friends of **John Bullard** to be chosen to administrator the will.



As was the custom of the time, family graves were marked with a hand-lettered pieces of limestone or rock with an inscription of the person's name and year of death. Over the centuries, cemeteries fell into disuse and primitive gravestones became weathered or broken and unfortunately, unreadable.



#### 1800 Burial Customs

"The actual preparation of a body for burial was a considerable task...after death the body was prepared by friends and neighbors and they made sure by every known test that life had departed with the spirit. One test was a small mirror which was placed in the mouth to detect if any breath was left. Another test was sticking a pin in the flesh and an experienced person could tell if there was life in the body... A neighbor was often contracted to produce a coffin (unless it had been made in advance under the supervision of the person who had died)\*...The coffins were generally made of poplar, pine, oak or chestnut...The early coffins were not made in today's rectangular shape, but were made so that the bent elbows would fit... the wake would take place...in the home of the deceased. The "settin' up" was held in the home since there were no funeral homes to take them to...The eyes were closed and the lids weighted with coins (silver coins preferred), since quite often with homemade fixin' and all the joustlin' they'd come open...the service usually took place with as little delay as possible---often, in fact, the very next day. (They would open the coffin) and all the neighbors and family filed around to view the corpse...Then they'd close the coffin and move it out to the graveyard to bury him in a grave that had been dug by his friends... All graveyards were generally near the home place on the family property or a nearby meetin' house. The coffin was placed in the ground with the head toward the east which was thought to be an old custom handed down by the Indians. Most generally stone or wooden slabs, with the names, dates of birth and death crudely scratched on them with a piece of metal or nails, served as markers for the grave. Time and weather have obliterated nearly all the markings so much that they are almost illegible." 314

of Representatives. As a Jacksonian Republican, Cocke was also Grainger County Court Clerk from 1813-1836. John Bullard's family kept in good company. 313

<sup>\* &</sup>quot;...it was not uncommon to hear a man making his coffin before he died. The reason for this peculiarity was that ready made coffins were not available, and plank suitable for making coffins was hard to get on short notice. Consequently, individuals would prepare their coffins in order that their burial would not be delayed." 312

\*\*\* (1) Hugh Graham was well known throughout Tennessee as a shrewd and successful landowner. He was a leading Claiborne County merchant, Presbyterian leader

and philanthropic donor. Arguably, Graham was the wealthiest man in Claiborne County. He foresaw the need to bring wagon loads of eastern seaboard goods and merchandise from Baltimore into eastern Tennessee. It was said Graham had acquired one of the largest private libraries in Tennessee. (2) John Cocke was an attorney and one of the original Claiborne County founding commissioners. Cocke served both in the Tennessee House and Senate. From 1819-1827 he served in the U.S. House



# Will of John Bullard Sr. September 1834 Claiborne County, Tennessee\*



Depiction

We Hugh Graham of Clairborne County and John Cocke of Grainger County being chosen by Joseph Bullard, Henry Bullard, Isaac Bullard, William Bullard, John Bullard, Boyer Bullard, Christopher B. Bullard, Woolry Buler who intermarried with Anna Bullard, Elizabeth McMahon, Alfred Moore who intermarried with Huldy Bullard, George Lewis who intermarried with Sarah Bullard, Barnet Hecklin who intermarried with martha Bullard Children and heirs of John Bullard deceased and Nancy Bullard widow of said John Bullard Deceased have in compliance with said appointment taken upon themselves the Burten (burden) there of do make the following award and divisions First because some of said heirs have heretofore Received Lands on advancement and in word others of parts prefer that no land should be awarded them and other less lands may be awarded them, it is ordered and awarded that all to whom lands are not here in awarded shall receive in current Bank noted a sum in addition to what they and each of them have heretofore received that shall make the Share of each equal deducting the amount apposite their names on a paper written by hugh Graham, headed September 1834 and marked at the bottom by John Cocke advancements.

It is awarded that Nancy Bullard have her dower in the land of her husband John Bullard out of the home tract to be measured and laid off to her so as to include the Dwelling house, a part of the land on the River and up the road with the free and uninterrupted use of the Spring at all times, the said Dower to contain twenty acres in the middle of the Bottom extending from the River back to the fence at the road leading down the river and to be equal in width on the Road and River then to include fifteen acres of the cleared land past the said road up towards Tazwelll and North of the main road and also that said Dower include the free and uninterrupted use of fire wood and timber necessary to keep the fences to be taken from the house tract wherever the said Nancy may think proper to take the same

2nd It is awarded that Woolry Buler (sic)and wife Anna have three fourths of the tract of land on the South side of Clinch River to be taken off the upper end of said tract to run from River and as near as may be parallel with the River and the upper line of the tract.

3rd It is awarded that Elizabeth McMahan have the other forth of said tract and also the tract on the north side of Clinch River called the Joe tract and that she account with the other heirs for four hundred dollars being the estimated value of said two tracts to be deducted out of her share of the estate.

4th It is awarded that George Lewis and wife Sarah have the mill tract and that they account with the others heirs four hundred dollars, the estimated value of the said mill tract.

5th It is further awarded that Alfred moore and wife Huldy have the lower end of the home tract up the Robinsons Branch running up the Branch to the mud lick hollow then to the back line of the tract across the ridges towards the Sand Lick Road.

6th It is awarded that the Residue of the home tract be equally divided between Bowyer Bullard and Christopher B Bullard. Bowyer Bullard to have the upper end of the tract, and Christopher B. Bullard to have the lower end to be divided from the River bank to the line next Tazewell and to run as to divide according to quality and quantity subject however to the dower of Nancy Bullard the widow and the said Boyer v Christopher account with the other heirs for eleven hundred and fifty dollars each being the estimated value of the lands awarded them.

7th It is further awarded that Nancy Bullard in addition to what is already awarded her have the free use of the sugar camp and Orchard above the creek being the same she hs heretofore used.

8th It is further awarded that the other heirs have no lands awarded them because it is the desire of all that they should have money in lien of lands to be paid to them in current Bank notes after deducting the sums each and every of said heirs received agreeable to the names above referred to which is made a part of this award.

Given under our hands and Seals this 26th day of March 1836.

## Comments and Observations on John Bullard Sr.'s Last Will & Testament: Nancy Bullard Home Tract

The two estate administrators (Hugh Graham and John Cocke) entrusted **John Bullard's** sons (Joseph, Henry, Isaac, William, John Jr., Boyer and Christopher Bullard)\* to dispose of their father's estate and "do make the following award and divisions..." (It should be noted **John Bullard's** will was written sometime before September of 1834. It wasn't recorded in the Claiborne County court until March 26, 1836.)

**John Bullard's** widow ,Nancy, was awarded a specific "home tract" where she and **John Bullard** resided. The 20 + 15 acre home property line was very definitive in terms of what the land encompassed but suggested it was only a small part of a larger tract. One could speculate **John Bullard** didn't want to burden Nancy (64) with a huge tract of land subject to property taxes and all that was needed for upkeep. Larger tracts were awarded and distributed among the siblings who were still residing in the county.

The land that Nancy would keep as her dower gives a glimpse of John Bullard's homestead arrangement. After his death, the property was "to be measured and laid off" to include:

(1) The dwelling house, (2) bottom lands from the Clinch River up to the road, (3) "free and uninterrupted use of the spring at all times," (4) free use of the "sugar camp" and (5) family orchard above Straight Creek.



#### (Excerpt) Will of John Bullard Sr. 1834

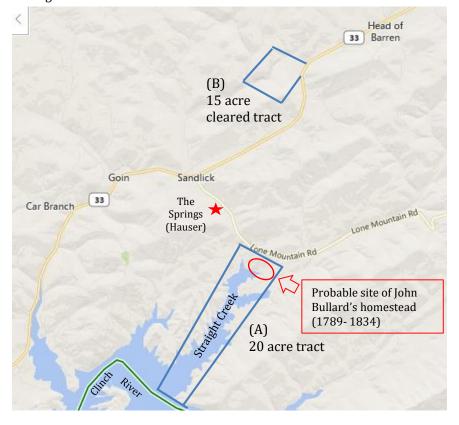
"...It is awarded that Nancy Bullard have her dower in the land of her husband **John Bullard** out of the home tract to be measured and laid off to her so as to include the Dwelling house, a part of the land on the River and up the road with the free and uninterrupted use of the Spring at all times, the said Dower to contain twenty acres in the middle of the Bottom extending from the River back to the fence at the road leading down the river and to be equal in width on the Road and River then to include fifteen acres of the cleared land past the said road up towards Tazwelll and North of the main road and also that said Dower include the free and uninterrupted use of fire wood and timber necessary to keep the fences to be taken from the house tract wherever the said Nancy may think proper to take the same ...

...7th It is further awarded that Nancy Bullard in addition to what is already awarded her have the free use of the sugar camp and Orchard above the creek being the same she has heretofore used."  $^{315}$ 



Depiction

John Bullard's original homestead acreage totaled over 600 acres. He bequeathed two small "home tracts" parcels to his wife Nancy: (A.) 20 acres, a dwelling house; plus bottom land from the Clinch River up to the main road. The location of the road is unknown but most probably it was the present day Lone Mountain Road/Straight Creek Road. Nancy was to have "free and uninterrupted use of the spring on the land." The spring (on John Bullard's larger tract) is located at present day Hauser Springs on Lone Mountain Road. (B.)Nancy was to also have free use of the 15 acre "sugar camp" and family orchard located somewhere above Straight Creek.



<sup>\*</sup> In the 1800's, the order of names in a will sometimes, but not always, reveals the chronological ages of the offspring. Although not always accurate, court recordings as a rule began with the oldest siblings.

## Observations on John Bullard Sr.'s Will: Sons and Daughters

After bequeathing a portion of the family farm to his wife, **John Bullard** awarded other Straight Creek tracts to his sons and daughters still living in Claiborne County. He mentioned "some of said heirs" had already received land prior to the Will being written.

### John Bullard's Daughters

Part of **John Bullard's** Straight Creek land holdings were partitioned off to four daughters (and their spouses) residing in the area. Although **John Bullard's** bequeaths were directed for his daughters, title went to their husbands as was the practice.

Appraisals were determined on each land tract with the value subtracted from each heirs share of the estate. The list of deductions were recorded by the estate administrator, Hugh Graham. Once the estate was settled, each heir received equal share balances in bank notes.

- Anne Bullard Beeler (age 46) was given three-fourths of an unspecified tract of land south of the Clinch River. The land was located in Grainger County, Tennessee. No dollar value was stipulated in the will for this tract of land.
- Elizabeth Bullard McMahan (~34) was given the other one-fourth tract of land on the south side of the Clinch River. Elizabeth and her husband were also given an additional tract located on the north side of the Clinch River in Claiborne County. This tract was known as the "Joe Tract" presumably John's son, Joseph's homestead before moving from the county. The land value of \$400 was deducted from Elizabeth's share of the estate.
- <u>Sarah Bullard Lewis</u> (24) was given the "Mill Tract" of land. The location of the Mill tract is unknown. \$400 was deducted from her estate share.
- Mahulda (Huldy) Bullard Moore (~30) and husband Alfred Moore were given the lower end of **John Bullard's** home tract.
- <u>Martha/Patsy Bullard Hicklin</u> was not mentioned in **John Bullard's** will. Martha was living in McMinn County, Tennessee. Sometime after 1833,
- she and her husband, Barnett Hicklin, moved to Titus County, Texas.

#### John Bullard's Sons

Four of **John Bullard's** sons (William, John Jr., Bowyer and Christopher) were still living in the Claiborne County area in 1834. All were well established and prominent land owners.



Depiction

Two of **John Bullard's** sons, Bowyer Bullard (31) and Christopher Bullard (25), were given the remainder of **John Bullard's** "home tract," "It is awarded that the Residue of the home tract be equally divided between Bowyer Bullard and Christopher B Bullard."

Bowyer received the "upper end" of the tract and Christopher was given the "lower end" near the Clinch River. The estimated value of the tracts was \$1,150. (It is noteworthy to mention that sometime after the passing of **John Bullard**, Nancy Bullard lived with her son, Christopher, until his death in 1844. The 1850 Claiborne County census found Nancy living in the household of son Bowyer Bullard.)

Although three sons were living in Claiborne County at the time of **John Bullard's** death, they were not listed by name in the will, but were identified as "...the other heirs." They were: <u>Isaac Bullard</u> (40), William Bullard (~37), and John Jr. Bullard (28). **John Bullard** willed that these three son "...have no lands awarded (to) them because it is the desire of all that they should have money in lien (lieu) of lands." Each son received \$1,150.

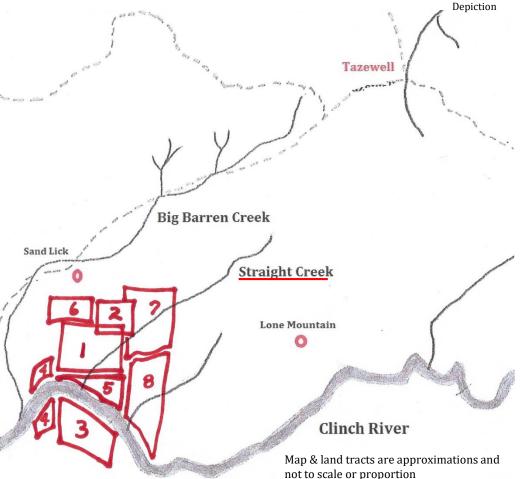
The two oldest sons, Joseph ( $\sim$ 47), and Henry ( $\sim$ 42) resided Franklin and Rhea County, Tennessee respectively. Conspicuously absent from **John Bullard's** will were mention of his slave

holdings. Although he owned at least seven known slaves, none were bequeathed to his heirs in his will. However, after Nancy Bullard died in 1850, her estate sale identified the names of three slaves still in her possession (Anthony, Nancy and Caroline). It is assumed Nancy retained the slaves after John's death. Nancy's slaves were purchased by Martin Burchfield.\*

\* Burchfield was married to Susan Bullard the daughter of William Bullard who was the son of **John Bullard Sr**.

Comments and Observations on John Bullard Sr.'s Last Will & Testament: Sibling Land Parcels





# Approximate location of John Bullard's estate "Home tracts" bequeathed to his wife and children still living in Claiborne County.

- 1. Wife Nancy Bullard: Home bottom land tract of 20 acres.\*
- 2. Wife Nancy Bullard: Additional 15 acres
- 3. Daughter <u>Anne Bullard Beeler:</u> Tract of land south of the Clinch River.
- 4. Daughter <u>Elizabeth Bullard McMahan</u>: Tract of land south of Clinch River to include the "Joe Tract" on the north side of river.
- 5. Daughter <u>Mahulda Bullard Moore</u>: Lower part of home tract
- 6. Daughter Sarah Bullard Lewis: The Mill tract
- 7. Son Bowyer Bullard: Upper part of large tract
- 8. Son Christopher Bullard: Lower part of large tract.



Present day Straight Creek Boat Dock, Claiborne County, Tennessee

\* If an acre were a perfect square, the measurement would be 208 feet wide by 208 feet long.

## John Bullard Sr. Property Legacy

## **Claiborne County, Tennessee**



**John Bullard Sr.'s** legacy was providing his children the opportunity to own land in order to give them a head start in life. In the 1800's, land ownership represented wealth, stability, influence and power.

When **John Bullard Sr.**'s children became adults, it is well documented he began passing down the family wealth to his children. He gave or sold numerous acres of land to all twelve of his children (and son-in-laws) throughout his life. This family tradition started with John Sr.'s father, Joseph Bullard. Both undoubtedly taught their sons the lesson of buying cheap land early, waiting for more settlers to arrive and later selling it at a profit.

His children not only inherited their father's genetic make up, but also inherited the desire to pass along to their children property and wealth that they had acquired. Owning land outright made it easier to raise families and assure the survival of the next generation of Bullards.

Depiction

When **John Bullard** died in ~1834, his wife Nancy was 64 years of age. All the children were married except for Christopher Bullard.

John Bullard's children	<u>Age</u>	In 1834, Residing in:
Joseph Bullard Anne Bullard Beeler Henry Bullard Isaac Bullard William Bullard Elizabeth Bullard McMahan Bowyer Bullard Mahulda (Huldy) Moore John Bullard Jr.	(~47) (46) (~42) (40) (~37)	Hardin/Franking Co. TN Claiborne County, Tennessee Rhea County, Tennessee Rhea County, Tennessee Claiborne County, Tennessee Rhea County, Tennessee Claiborne County, Tennessee Claiborne County, Tennessee Claiborne County, Tennessee Grainger County, Tennessee
Martha Bullard Hicklin Christopher B. Bullard Sarah Bullard Lewis	(~27) (25) (24)	McMinn County, Tennessee Claiborne County, Tennessee Claiborne County, Tennessee

"Old Time Tazewell—Early History and Reminiscences of the County Seat of Claiborne," -- Alexander Moore Cloud

In the 1830's "The citizens of (Claiborne County) were notable for the many lawsuits they had in court in Tazewell with each other. They were mostly land suits...They would fall out over their lines and titles and bring suits against each other and...summon ...witnesses to attend from one court to another for several years. The men all appeared to have plenty of money,...When they would ride up and hitch their fine, fat, sleek horses to the (hitch)...it looked as though a drove of horses had stopped at (the) door. This was a very prosperous time in Tazewell...Although the citizens of (Claiborne County) would fall out and law each other...(they did not) kill each other." 317



Depiction

This fitting description could very well characterize **John Bullard Sr.'s** years in Claiborne County, Tennessee. Throughout his life, he bought, sold and exchanged many tracts of land as if he were playing a modern day game of Monopoly. There are abundant court documents where he sued and was sued over land disputes, surveys and title deeds. He parleyed large and small tracts of property scattered throughout Jefferson, Hawkins, Grainger and Claiborne County, Tennessee. **John Bullard's** many court appearances attest to the fact he was one of the men who had plenty of money to "fall out and law" his fellow citizens.

# Area of John Bullard's Land Holdings in Claiborne County, Tennessee (1789-1834)

"After the death of John Bullard (Sr.), four of John's sons owned a great deal of land in Claiborne County, Tennessee. The sons, John, Bowyer and Christopher (Kitt) Bullard owned all the land starting a short distance below where Lone Mountain Creek empties into the Clinch River along the north bank of the river to the mouth of Big Barren Creek. Christopher Bullard owned a celebrated mill on barren Creek about a mile above where the creek empties into the Clinch River." (William Bullard not mentioned.) 316
--- Recollections by P.G. Fulkerson from the Tazewell Observer



#### The late 1830's

In March of 1836, **John Bullard's** Last Will and Testament was settled and recorded in the Claiborne County court house. In the same year, **John Bullard's** son, **Isaac** (42), sold and unspecified amount of Claiborne County property for \$75 to his brother Bowyer Bullard. This is the last known Claiborne County land transaction recorded by **Isaac Bullard**. At the time, Isaac was living in Rhea County, Tennessee. One could speculate he was disposing of land holdings to his brother.

The Texas War of Independence between Mexico and Texas settlers began in October 1835 and ended April 1836.

In 1836, The Battle of the Alamo was fought. It was a central event in Texas' independence that inspired the battle cry, "Remember the Alamo." Among the Americans killed at the Alamo were Davy Crockett, Jim Bowie, Sam Houston and William Travis. A month later, the Texas militia defeated General Santa Anna's Mexican army ending the Texas revolution.



The Alamo

Two years after Texas won their independence, **John Bullard's** sister, Phoebe Bullard, migrated with her husband, James Carter, and their seven children to Fannin County, Texas. Carter had acquired a Republic of Texas Land Grant. In 1838, Texas' white population was about 35,000.

In 1837, **John Bullard's** oldest daughter, Anne, died at the age of 49 of unknown causes. Anne and husband, Woolery Beeler lived with **John and Nancy Bullard** in the latter years of their lives. It is assumed Anne was the caretaker. Around this time, Nancy moved to the homestead of her son, Christopher, on Straight Creek.

A year after Anne died, Woolery married Lucy Carter and bore one child, Hannah Jane (b. 1840.) Woolery Beeler died thirteen years later in 1851.

In 1837, President Andrew Jackson served out his last term in office. He arrived in Washington D.C. in a horse carriage and left on a train. The birth of the transportation era had begun. During Jackson's administration, his impact on the south and eastern Tennessee was twofold. He was the catalyst in removing the Cherokee Indians from their tribal lands and relocating them (The Trail of Tears) to Oklahoma. Jackson also played a pivotal role in selling off numerous western lands to settlers in the south and west. Jackson's land policies opened the migration of a number of **John Bullard's** children to Alabama, Arkansas, Texas and Missouri.

From 1836 to 1839, cotton prices began to rise. Western Tennessee farmers increased their production to meet demand. Bankers started to lend more money. The economic Panic of 1819 was far behind most Tennesseans. Then came the panic of 1839. It was a repeat of the Panic of 1819 but this one lasted until 1843. Northern states were impacted the most, but credit to farmers and southern land owners dried up. A crisis in the banking institutions developed. Speculators were caught holding large tracts of land that were worth only 1/10 of what they paid for it. The selling of western public lands came to a virtual halt. Banks failed at an alarming rate and the U.S. money supply evaporated. Martin Van Buren was President and inherited the recession. At the end of his term, his nickname was Martin Van Ruin.

#### 19th CENTURY SLANG WORDS and MEANING

"A whoop and a holler" a considerable distance

"Arkansas toothpick" Bowie knife

"Booger Tales" ghost stories

"Cat head" biscuit

"Clabber headed" dumb

"Feeling poorly" sick

"Doney girl" sweetheart

"Hit the shucks" go to bed

"Poke" sack

"Rooster a gun" to cock a gun

"Buck" Young black man

"Wench" Older black woman

#### **Claiborne County, Tennessee Districts**

"Pursuance to a 1835 Act of the Tennessee State Assembly, Claiborne County Commissioners were appointed and authorized to establish county districts "for the purpose of Electing Justices of the Peace, Constables and other officers of the County and State." Until 1836, citizens were grouped by companies under militia officers. Appointed Commissioners were: William Rogers, Walter Evans, Elijah Jones and James Overton. A resolution establishing 12 Claiborne County Districts was passed in Tazewell, Tennessee on January 28, 1836.

The Districts were (verbatim):

- District N 1st Clearfork District
- District N 2nd Speedwell District
- District N 3rd Old Town District
- District N 4th Cumberland Gap District
- District N 5th Robcamp District
- District N 6th Mulberry Gap District
- District 7th Brier Creek District
- District N 8th Sycamore District

#### District N 9th Tazewell District

Beginning on the top of Wallens Ridge in Henderson Gap and Corner to District N8th & N5 then down Cedar Fork and Russell Creek with the line of District N5th to Powell River then down sd River to the mouth of the Lonesome Valley then up said Valley so as to include George Treece, Samuel Cloud, and Richard Harper to the top of the dividing Ridge Between the waters of Barren & Straight Creeks and with said Ridge so as to include <a href="Wm Bullard">Wm Bullard</a> and Mill and then a direction to the extreme Height of Wallens Ridge then to where Jennings Road Crosses the same and Corner to District N8th then with the top of said Ridge to the Beginning And that the place of Holding Elections in said District shall be at the Court House in the town of Tazewell.

#### District N10th Lone Mountain District

Known by the name of the Lone Mountain District

Beginning on Clinch River on Jennings Road and corner to N8th then down said River to the mouth of Straight Creek then up sd Creek to the mouth of Mays Mill Branch then up the same to the dividing Ridge between the waters of Straight Creek and Barren Creek and with the top of sd Ridge to the line of N9th then with the same to Jennings Road on Wallens Ridge and Corner to N8th & N9th and with said Road to the Beginning And that the Place for Holding Elections in said District shall be at the House of the Rev. Samuel McBee.

#### District N 11th Sand Lick District (John & Nancy Bullard's District)

Beginning on Powell River at the mouth of the lonesome Valley and Corner to District N9th then with the line of sd District N9th to the top of the dividing Ridge dividing the waters of Straight Creek & Barren Creek to the line of District N10th then with the top of said Ridge to Mays Mill Branch then with the same to straight Creek then with said Creek to Clinch River then down sd. River to the mouth of little Barren Creek then up said Creek to the Head of the same

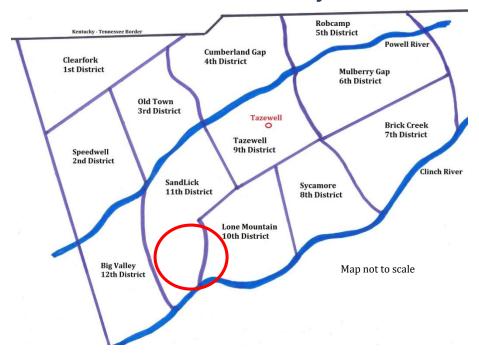
and the A Direct line to Powell River so as to include James Queens on sd River and then with the said River to the place of Beginning.

And that the place for Holding in said District shall be at the House of Elijah Harp.

■District N 12st Big Valley District" 319



## **1836 Claiborne County Districts**<sup>320</sup>



O John Bullard's home land tracts



From 1776 to 1788, **John Bullard's** father, Joseph Bullard fought the Cherokee Indians for twelve years for the right to live and settle his family in eastern Tennessee. Fifty-eight years later, the Cherokee were finally removed from their tribal lands.



In 1838, the U.S. Senate voted 31 to 15 to resettle twelve thousand Cherokee Indians\* (men, women and children) to Oklahoma; 4,000 died on the "Trail of Tears."



It was a modern day version of ethnic cleansing. Five years earlier, Georgia's governor defied U.S. authority and refused to uphold Cherokee treaties and property rights. The U.S. Government, under Andrew Jackson's administration, looked the other way. Although the Cherokee had assimilated well into the white man's society, political forces in the southern states pushed their wholesale removal from their fertile tribal lands.



Water and Land Route of Cherokee "Trail of Tears" 1838-39

In 1838, the Claiborne County court house in Tazewell burnt down. Many court records, deeds and other documents were lost to history and to modern day genealogists. Twenty four years later, during the Civil War, most of the buildings in Tazewell burnt down including the court house.



Depiction

A new court house was built in Tazewell in 1867. V.H. Sturm was the builder.

On November 10, 1838, **John Bullard's** son, Christopher Bullard (b.1809) married Rebecca Hodges in Claiborne County, Tennessee.<sup>321</sup>



In 1838, **John Bullard's** son, Christopher Bullard, sold an unspecified amount of land in Claiborne County to Graham Hugh.

By 1839, the Claiborne County Tax List recorded Nancy Bullard (age 69) and sons Joseph, Christopher, William, and Bowyer Bullard and, living in District 9, 10 & 11 in Claiborne County.\*\* (William Sharp who would eventually buy the John Bullard Sr. farm)

Renting Out Slaves Claiborne County, Tennessee

Although slaves who lived on smaller farms of

Although slaves who lived on smaller farms often enjoyed closer relationships with their owners, slaves were still the "property "of their owner.

Throughout America's ugly slave history, slaves were routinely bought and sold, but they were frequently "hired-out" to other whites for the week, month or year. Yearly arrangements were usually made on the first day in January of every year. Hired slaves were ubiquitous to eastern Tennessee. Many were hired out to till and harvest crops, do domestic work or work as skilled tradesmen. Most hired-out slaves did not receive full wages for their work. Instead, wages were transferred between the two masters. However, it was common to let hired slaves keep a small portion of the wage. Sometimes, the complexity of having two masters found its way into court. **John Bullard's** son, William Bullard, was a wealthy land owner and known to have had over 30 slaves. Many of them were hired out.

After William's death, part of his will was contested. William directed his executors to hire-out five of his slaves "for the purpose of getting money enough to pay off all my debts, defray expenses that may occur during the winding up on my estate, and make up for the payment of the money directed to be paid to any of the legatees." 322 Notwithstanding the immorality of hiring out slaves, the language in the will was poorly written ("will construction") and William's intent unclear. Hence, a neighbor who had acquired a number of William's hired slaves file a complaint against the estate seeking ownership. The case found its way to the Tennessee Supreme Court. Eventually, the Bullard estate won the case and ruled that William Bullard's intent was to indeed hire out five of his slaves and not to sell them.

In 1839, William Bullard sold an unspecified tract of land to in-law Laden Posey for \$300.  $^{323}$ 

In another case, an estate administrator hired-out the deceased slaves until the estate could be settled in court. Due to complex deed transfers and family situations, probate sometimes took two to three years.

In 1839, Claiborne County citizen Pleasant Gowen (Goin) died and left behind a number of minor children. At the time of his death, he owned three slaves; Jane, Huldy and Cole. While the estate was being probated, the administrator hired-out ("let out") Gowen's slaves for one year to three separate families. (John Kelly acquired Jane for \$25; Solomon Phulp (Fulps or Phelps) acquired Huldy for \$6; and **John Bullard's** son, <u>John Bullard (Jr.)</u> acquired Cole for \$36.



Depiction

Considering the charge received, one could assume Cole and Jane were adults and Hudly was a minor. The slave family was split up for a year. However, in the next year, 1840, the family reunited and all three family members were "let out" (hired) to Daniel Marcum for sum of \$71.25.



Claiborne County Tennessee Court: 1839

"Personally appeared before me Whiley Huffaker Clerk of the (Claiborne) County Court...heirs of Pleasant Gowen (Goin) decd. And entered into Settlement which is as follows to wit:

...Reced of John Kelly for the hire of <u>Jane</u> for 1839 \$25.00

To this amount recd. <u>John Bullard (Jr)</u> hire of <u>col</u> (Cole) for 1839 \$36.00

To this amt recd of Solomon Phulp (Fulps) fire of <u>huldy</u> 1838 \$6.00

67.00" 324



Claiborne County, Tennessee Court: 1840

"...Recd of Daniel Marcum for the hire of Cal Jane & Huldy for 1840 \$71.25" 325

Pleasant Gowen's 1839 estate also revealed what Claiborne County, attorney's were charging citizens for their services. Attorney W.R. Evans charged the Gowen estate \$5.00 in 1839 for "counsel." Two years later in 1841, when the estate was settled, Evans charged the estate \$12.50 for "attorney attending to the sd business." Some things never change.

### Nancy (Kersey/Casey) Bullard: Age 70

The 1840 U.S. Census found at least four of **John Bullard Sr.'s** offspring living in Claiborne County, Tennessee; Elizabeth Bullard McMahan, William Bullard, Bowyer Bullard and Christopher Bullard. <sup>327</sup> The U.S. Census also recorded John Bullard Jr. living in Grainger County. **Isaac Bullard** had moved from Rhea County to nearby Hamilton County, Tennessee.

The 1840 U.S. Census recorded **John Bullard's** widow, Nancy, living with her son Christopher Bullard on Straight Creek in Claiborne County, Tennessee. Nancy Bullard was 70 years old. The 1840 Census revealed intriguing information about Christopher Bullard's household.

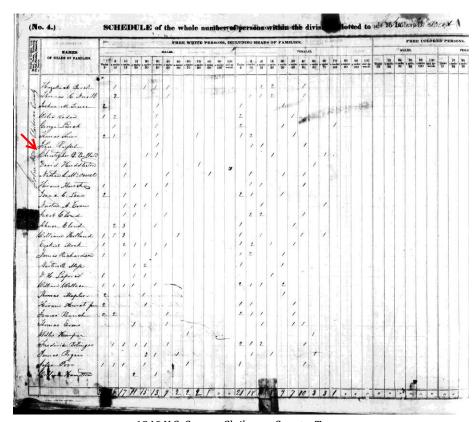
Christopher, age 31, had married Rebecca Hodges 17 months earlier, but she does not appear in the census household count. (By evidence of his 1840 will, Rebecca left Christopher a short time after their marriage). There is an unknown male between the age of 20 to 30 and an unknown female between the age of 15-20 living in Christopher's household. Who these young adults are is a mystery. They could possibly be Christopher's nephews or nieces caring for Christopher's mother, Nancy. The other female (between the age of 60-70) in the household is the matriarch, Nancy Bullard.

Sometime after 1840, Christopher moved to (or traveled to) Newton County, Missouri where he died in 1844.

(By 1850, the U.S. Census found Nancy Bullard living in Claiborne County with one of her other sons, Boyer Bullard.)

	U.S. Census 1840 (Claiborne County, Tennessee)			
	Head of Household: Christopher B. Bullard			
Free W	hite Males	Free Whi	te Females	
<u>20-30</u>	<u>30-40</u>	<u>15-20</u>	<u>60-70</u>	
1	1	1	1	
(Unk.)	(Christopher B.)	(Unk.)	(Nancy Bullard) 328	

In 1840, the United States population reached 17 million people, equaling the population of England. The population of Tennessee was 829,210.



1840 U.S. Census, Claiborne County, Tennessee



Depiction

In June 15, 1840, John Bullard's son, Christopher "Kitt" (31), had moved to Newton County, Missouri. He wrote his Last Will and Testament and acknowledged his health was failing of an unknown disease. At the time, Christopher was married to Rebecca Hodges (b. 1814) for 17 months. He begueathed to her the sum of \$1 because "she left me because I was sick and for other reasons." The will mentioned Rebecca filed a civil suit against Christopher in Tazewell's Chancery Court (sometime between November 1838 and 1840. ) The "other reason" might have been her discovery that Christopher Bullard had an illegitimate son. In his will, he left an equal share of his estate to "William" who he acknowledged as his son and born to Julie (Rice) Wilson.\* Christopher requested William be raised by his brother John Bullard Jr. If Julie refused, then William would be disinherited.

Christopher offered Rebecca \$200 and her share of three slaves (Anthony, Nance and Caroline) if she returned home. It appears Rebecca never went back to Christopher. She was found living in her father's household (James Hodges) in the 1850 Claiborne County census.\*\*

Christopher was evidently at odds with his brother, Bowyer Bullard. All of Christopher's siblings would share in his estate equally except for Bowyer. He is to receive \$1 "my reason I have for not giving him more I will not name."

Christopher's will had a curious mention regarding his slave Anthony. He requested that Anthony be taken to another county and sold because, "it is my belef (belief) that he has shortened my days and is working on my Mother in the same way." 329

> Three Bullard brothers would marry a Hodge: Bowyer Bullard m. Elizabeth Hodges John Bullard Jr. m. Permelia Hodges Christopher Bullard m. Rebecca Hodges

On October 18, 1844, Christopher B (Kitt) Bullard died at the age of 35 in Newton County, Missouri. Why he was there is unknown. Christopher's death was reported in a letter from his brother, Joseph Bowyer to his sister, Sarah (Bullard) Lewis. 330 Christopher's estranged wife, Rebecca, married two more times and died in 1899.



Christopher B. Bullard's tombstone in Newton County, Missouri. It reads, "In memory of C B Bullard Born January 01, 1809 Died October 18, 1844"



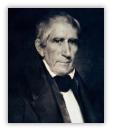
Newton County, Missouri

<sup>157</sup> 

#### **Eastern Tennessee**

By the early 1840's, the western migration of the U.S. population was still bypassing eastern Tennessee and making a beeline to cheaper and more fertile lands in the southern Gulf states, Texas, and Missouri. Steamboats were taking the place of longboats and railroad lines were beginning to push farther and farther west. Eastern Tennessee's hilly terrain was a hindrance to these new marvels and inventions.

In the 1840 Presidential election, most eastern Tennessee farmers backed the states rights Whig party and presidential nominee William Henry Harrison. Eastern Tennessee citizens were hoping the Whigs would lend support to the region with government sponsored projects boosting the areas economic growth.



William Henry Harrison

In 1840, William Henry Harrison was elected the 9<sup>th</sup> U.S. President of the United States. Harrison died on his 32<sup>nd</sup> day in office serving the shortest tenure of any U.S. President. Vice President John Tyler was sworn in as the 10<sup>th</sup> President of the United States.



John Tyler

During the first half of the 1800's, Claiborne County, Tennessee was described as a "rock-ribbed Republican" iudicial district. <sup>330a</sup>

#### **Bullard vs Copps**

Six years after the death of **John Bullard Sr.**, an old Bullard land dispute finally made its way up to the Tennessee Supreme Court.

Toward the end of his life, **John Bullard Sr.** sued Jacob Copps. The case involved a Claiborne County boundary dispute. The case was heard in Tennessee's Circuit Court which found for the plaintiff, **John Bullard**. The defendant, Copps, appealed to the Tennessee Supreme Court. The dispute, one of ejectment, was heard in 1841. (An action for ejectment is a lawsuit brought to remove a party who is occupying real property. This is not the same as an unlawful detainer (eviction) suit against a non-paying or unsatisfactory tenant. An ejectment suit is against someone who has tried to claim title to property.)

The attorney representing **John Bullard** was John Cocke who was **John Bullard's** estate administrator. Part of the dispute involved a boundary description recorded in the deed from Bullard to Copps. The deed called for the property "at the ford of Clinch river, known by the name of Copp's ford, on the north side of said river, running up the different meanderings of said river to the first gut below where William Hunter now lives, for compliment...containing one hundred acres, more or less." <sup>331</sup> The 100 acres did not include all the land **John Bullard** owned above the gut of the river. The court ruled the other portion of land in dispute was, indeed, included in the Bullard deed to Jacob Copps and that Copps could sell that portion of the land. The Court found in favor of **John Bullard** and sent the case back to circuit court for another trail. The outcome of the case is not known. **John Bullard** (and heirs) was still intangled in a land dispute seven years after his death.

By the mid 1840's, most of the fertile and valuable land in Claiborne County, Tennessee had been bought and sold numerous times over by speculators and local citizens. Land disputes and court cases had, for the most part, subsided.



Depiction

#### Seeds of the Bullard Sibling Migration to Missouri

## **Claiborne County, Tennessee**

In the early 1840's, the U.S. Congress passed the Pre-Emptive Act or sometimes called the Land Act. In short, the Act gave western settlers the right to preemptively buy 160 acres of squatted land at the low price of \$1.25 an acre if they lived on the land for more than 14 months. The Act was popular because it pulled the growing population west, and helped lift America out of a recession. Thus began the western population migration in the 1840's. It spawned, in part, America's notion of "Manifest Destiny."\* There is some evidence the Land Act spurred a number of **John Bullard Sr.'s** children to begin searching for western lands in the state of Missouri.

In 1840, widow Nancy Bullard was living out the remaining years of her life in Claiborne County at the home of her son, Christopher. The start of the new decade also saw Christopher and brother Bowyer Bullard, journeying to Newton County, Missouri to acquire land. While in Missouri, Christopher was of ill-health and wrote his last will and testament. He was found back in Claiborne County by 1843 but journeyed back to Missouri a year later and died there.

Sometime after the 1840 U.S. census was taken, **John Bullard's** daughter, Mahulda (Huldy) Bullard, and her husband Alfred Moore migrated from Grainger County, Tennessee to Newton County, Missouri. In 1843/44 Mahulda died in Missouri at the age of ~39.

There is some evidence Boyer Bullard was in Missouri in the early 1840's, but eventually moved back to Claiborne County before 1850.

This was the early beginning of the Bullard sibling migration from Tennessee to Missouri. At this time, Missouri (and Texas) were on the western most "frontier" for white settlers. It would be another eight to nine more years before more Bullard siblings followed the move west to Missouri.



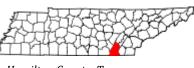
Depiction



Although conjecture, one possible reason a few Bullard families migrated to Missouri was the passing of the **Missouri Compromise Act** in 1820. The measures provided for the admission of Maine as a free state along with Missouri as a slave state in order to maintain the balance of power between the North and South. In 1840, all Bullard landowners in Claiborne County owned slaves

By 1840, **John Bullard's** son, **Isaac Bullard** and family were living in Hamilton County, Tennessee. <sup>332</sup> There is evidence that Elizabeth Casey, widow of Isaac's deceased brother-in-law, James Casey, had remarried a Lewis and resided in Hamilton County.

Both families are found in the Hamilton County 1840 U.S. Census. (**Isaac** was not found in the 1840 Rhea County census nor in the 1840 Claiborne County census.)



Hamilton County, Tennessee

From 1843 to the Civil War, the U.S. experienced a long economic boom and prosperity. A flood of settlers kept moving further west to Missouri and Texas. (The term "Bull Market" was coined during this period.) Western Tennessee was flourishing as cotton was again king. In 1843, Nashville became the state Capitol of Tennessee.

By the 1840's, **John Bullard's** son, William Bullard, was one of the largest land and slave owners in the county. He undoubtedly wielded considerable political influence. In 1843, a movement began to extend the town boundaries of Tazewell to the southwest. The proposal included land owned by William Bullard. William gathered signatures from a number of Claiborne County citizens and petitioned the Tennessee Assembly opposing the extension of the town limits. <sup>333</sup> The outcome of the petition is unknown.

In 1843, it appeared Christopher Bullard returned to Claiborne County for a short period of time. When John Barnwell's estate was being settled, Christopher was appointed guardian to Barnwell's two minor orphan sons; William Russell (9) and Samuel (R.J.) Barnwell (7). Guardianship involved looking after the business affairs, collecting notes, and paying bills, until the estate was settled. No doubt Christopher Bullard was well acquainted with John Barnwell to have Barnwell consider him administrative guardian of his two sons.\* Christopher received \$30 in 1843 for his services. Soon afterwards, Christopher would return to Missouri and die of unknown causes in 1844.



Guardian Settlement with C. B. Bullard State of Tennessee, Claiborne County April 3, 1843

"...this day appeared before me Wiley Huffaker clerk of the County Court...entered into settlement as follows to wit:

... (22) C. B. Bullard act

\$30.00" 334

In 1845, Andrew Jackson, Governor of Tennessee, U.S. Army General and 7<sup>th</sup> President of the United States, died. He was 78 years old. Similar to the 1815 passing of John Sevier, Jackson's death marked a transitional period in Tennessee and another milestone in Tennessee history.



In August, 1844, **John Bullard's** son, John Jr. was the administrator of the estate sale of D. M Hodges. The Claiborne County court transcription of the property gives a glimpse to the value of everyday items in Claiborne County.

D.M. Hodges Estate Sale: Claiborne County, Tennessee August 5, 1844

Se	elected items:	Price	
1	"Pistol Rifle gun	\$3.00 8.00	To be fold at Public Auction,
	Side saddle	5.00	By order of the Executor of the last will and testament of Thomas Huse, bate of Newbury, deceased,
	Saddle	6.51	OnWEDNESDAY, the 17th inst. st 9 o'clock, A. M. at or near the late dwelling house of the decreased,
	Silver Watch	21.75	A VARIETY of valuable of Tables, Chairs, Berls, Bedfeade and Bedding, looking Glaffe, Capter, Andlorous, Showel and Tongs, Kitchen Fernitter, one eight day Locks, and a great
	Cross Cut Saw	1.56	rons, Shovel and Tongs, Kitchen Furniture, one eight day Cock, and a great variety of other articles. ALSO,
	Kettle	1.25	A variety of Farming Uten- ills, viz-1 Ox Waggon, 1 Ox Cart, Ox Chains, Ploughs, 1 Grindftone, 1 covered.
	Chest	.12	Sleigh, &c. ALSO, One share & 1 undivided third part of 44 thares in the Mertimack Bridge,
	Horse collar	.80	and other articles beinging to the chate of the faid deceafed.  July 9.
	Pad Lock	.25	Depiction
	Cow & Calf	6.31	
	4 Hogs	4.06	

I certify that this is a true account of the Sales of the personal Estate of D.M.Hodgs (Hodges) Decd. to the best of my nollege (sic) and belief. August 5<sup>th</sup> 1844.

Jacob Cloud and

<u>Iohn Bullard (Ir.)</u> the Admr of Said estate attest: T. J. Johnson Clk" <sup>335</sup>

In November 1844, James K. Polk from Tennessee was elected President of the United States.



#### The Mexican-American War 1846-1848

## **Claiborne County, Tennessee**

In 1845, the United States annexed Texas. A year later, on May 13, 1846, the United States declared war on Mexico. President James Polk and the U.S. Congress made the war declaration in hopes of expanding American land interest in Texas and California. Expansionists wanted the Texas border moved further south to the Rio Grande River, plus establish California as a new state. Both goals were accomplished when U.S. troops defeated the Mexican army in a number of battles. The U.S. eventually purchased the land from the Mexican government for \$15 million.

When the war began, Tennessee Governor Brown called for volunteers to fight the Mexicans. Tennessee's quota was 2,800 volunteers, but 30,000 responded.



Tennessee began organizing a number of military units and muster points throughout the state. Tazewell, Tennessee was a rendezvous point for citizen volunteers who lived in the vicinity. The area troop muster was part of the Tennessee 1st Mounted Infantry, Company F. Five grandsons of **John Bullard Sr**. enlisted in the muster and served duty in the Mexican war. One of the volunteers was <u>Henry Bullard</u> (b. 1827) the son of <u>Isaac Bullard</u>.



"Bowyer Bullard – Pvt/Co. F, Mounted Infantry, Rendezvous at Tazewell. Enlisted June 10, 1846 at Knoxville. Age 23. Discharged May 31, 1847.

<u>Henry Bullard</u> – Pvt/Co., F., Mounted Infantry, Enlisted June 10, 1846 at Knoxville. Discharged October 27, 1846 at Corpus Christi on Surg. Cert. (wounded)

Joseph Bullard – Pvt/ Co., F, Mounted Infantry, Rendezvous at Tazewell. Enlisted June 10, 1846 at Knoxville. Age 22, discharged May 31, 1847 at New Orleans.

Joseph H. Bullard – Pvt/Co., F, Mounted Infantry, Rendezvous at Tazewell. Enlisted June 10, 1846 at Knoxville. Age 23. Discharged May 31, 1847 at New Orleans.

William Bullard – Pvt/Co., F, Mounted Infantry, Rendezvous at Tazewell. Enlisted June 10, 1846 at Knoxville. Age 28. Discharged May 31, 1847 at New Orleans." <sup>336</sup>



In 1846, at the age of ~83 John (Kersey)Casey died. John Casey was the brother of Nancy (Casey) Bullard. He was the brother-in-law and long time confidant to **John Bullard Sr.** The beginning of their friendship can be traced to the mid 1780's. They both lived and migrated from Greene County, Jefferson County, and eventually Claiborne County, Tennessee. Both were founding father's of Claiborne County. There are scores of collective court documents connecting both men to numerous property sales and court recordings. John Casey would precede his sister, Nancy, in death by five years.

In 1846, **John Bullard Sr.'s** son, William Bullard and his wife, Barthena Posey "Deeded for Love" an unspecified amount of land in Claiborne County, Tennessee to "Martin Burchfield and wife." <sup>337</sup> Martin Burchfield (~26), the son of Elias Burchfield, married William Bullard's daughter, Susan Bullard (~26) in 1842. (When no money exchanges hands between a Grantor and Grantee of deeded property, Claiborne County, court recorders transcribed the transaction as a "Deed of Gifts" or "Deeds for Love." This usually happened when property was transferred between family members or families with a relationship with one another). This land transaction followed in the footsteps of William Bullard's father, **John Bullard Sr**. Similar to his father, William Bullard passed down land tracts to his offspring and son-in-laws. Six years later, William Bullard died. After his death in 1852, his wife, Barthena (Posey) Bullard gifted another tract to "Martin Burchfield and wife, Susan." <sup>338</sup>

"Susan (Bullard), oldest daughter of Wm. Bullard, was a very neat, good looking young lady. Her mother (Barthena) managed to dress her fashionable, and she made a fine appearance in company, and was much respected." 339



In 1845, Edgar Allan Poe, American author of mystery and macabre stories, poet and editor publishes the poem, The Raven.



## Decline of the Bullard Presence in Claiborne County, Tennessee

Throughout the first half of the 1800's, the Bullard family wealth came from Joseph Bullard's Revolutionary War land grants which were later consolidated and divided up among Joseph's sons; John Bullard (b. ~1765), Christopher Bullard (b.~1774) and Isaac Bullard (b.~1760). In the latter part of the 1790's, Christopher and Isaac moved away from eastern Tennessee. John Bullard took up the role of administrator of the Bullard heir land holdings. The bulk of these land grants were sold off for considerable profit while other tracts were traded for more fertile land and/or combined with other parcels. These transactions occurred throughout Greene, Jefferson, Hawkins, Grainger, and Claiborne County, Tennessee. John Bullard eventually sold off or gifted large portions of his land holdings to his sons and daughters. From 1800 to 1835 there were scores of court documents recording land sales and estate bequeaths from John Bullard to his in-laws; the Beeler's, Capps', Hodges', Moore's, Lewis' and McMahan's.

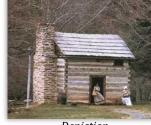
Over time, **John Bullard's** Grainger and Claiborne County land holdings were diluted, sold off or gifted to heirs and their descendants. His offspring did the same for economic reasons, or as family gifts, or to acquire funds for eventual migration away from Claiborne County. After **John Bullard's** widow, Nancy, died in ~1851, only two sons, William Bullard and **Isaac Bullard**, were still living in Claiborne County.\*

The 1850 U.S. Census finds **Isaac**, age 56, living back in Claiborne County, Tennessee. The census report lists Isaac's occupation as a farmer. The Census also lists his wife Elizabeth (51), and offspring, Joseph–farmer (25), **Henry** – farmer (23), Isaac –farmer (20), Ann (22), Christopher (15), and Leah (10) living in the household.



Depiction

The census does not reflect any real property value owned by Isaac. Isaac was listed as living next to his brother Bowyer Bullard whose property value was listed at \$2,600. One could assume Isaac was living on Bowyer's property.



Depiction

By the late 1840's, a number of **John Bullard Sr.'s** children and their children started to settle away from Claiborne County. Evidence of their western migration was apparent in a March 23, 1847 estate sale of a wealthy neighbor, Benjamin Sewell. Sewell's estate listed scores of "bad and doubtful" IOU notes due to him from Bullard families. From the number of notes due, it appeared half the county, including his son, owed Sewell money.



Sale of the Estate of Benjamin Sewell, deceased (held on the 23rd day of November 1848). (Excerpts):

"Book accounts (lists of notes) considered Bad and Doubtful... (John Bullard Sr.'s siblings and in-laws:)

- Isaac Bullard (son) \$5.47
- John Bullard Jr. (son) for \$18.37.
- John McMahan (husband of Elizabeth Bullard) for \$36.54.
- Barthena Ballard (Bullard) who married William Bullard (son)
   \$7.27

(Assigned lawsuit); J. A. Garrett on behalf of the plaintiff in the case of Gray Garrett vs William Bullard (son of John Bullard Sr.) and assigned by L. A. Garrett without recourse \$69.50

(John Bullard Sr.'s nephews and nieces:)

- William Beeler \$.56
- Daniel Beeler \$7.47
- William Bullard \$.50
- David Mahan \$.20
- James Mahan \$1.00
- William Bullard \$.65
- William Beeler \$9.06
- William Beeler \$5.00
- Joseph Beeler \$2.25
- Daniel Kibert \$7.38
- Solomon Dobkins (His daughter would later married Joseph H. Bullard (b. ~1825) for \$31.74.

Additional List of Accounts - some of which are good:

- Bowyer Bullard (son of John Bullard Sr.) \$4.30
- Elizabeth McMahan (daughter of John Bullard Sr.) \$5.22 ½
- Benjamin Sewell, Jr. (Son of Benjamin Sewell Sr.) \$176.02" 340

In 1847, **John Bullard's** son, John Bullard Jr., was Acting Justice of the Peace in Grainger County, Tennessee. On April 10, 1847, he officiated at the marriage of John Q. A. Merritt and Elizabeth Jane Smith. Bondman was Lewis Merritt. <sup>341</sup>

## **Bullard Migration to Missouri**

## **Background**

In 1821, Missouri became the 24<sup>th</sup> state in the Union. During the 1830's and 1840's Americans poured into the Missouri Territory. The state's population explosion was fueled by broken treaties that extinguished Indian land titles, plus the attraction of abundant, fertile land at bargain prices. The territory was surrounded by easy access to the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers. The land was considered public domain. Settlers who worked the land were quickly rewarded. Ranchers raised cattle in the Missouri woodlands and ample grazing grassland was nearby. By the late 1840's, some of **John Bullard Sr.'**s family members were

beginning the process of leaving Claiborne County to establish a new life west of the Mississippi River. One could speculate the Bullard's saw hordes of settlers coming on the well traveled Shenandoah Valley and North Carolina wagon roads and passing through Claiborne County. What the Bullard families heard from migrating settlers were stories of unlimited and cheap land in the Missouri territory. Undoubtedly, brothers Bowyer and Christopher Bullard's trips to Missouri in the early 1840's told the same story of abundant grassland where livestock and crops could be cleared and cultivated with ease.

In all likelihood, the Bullard farms, owned and tilled for many years along the Clinch River, were probably overworked. Livestock grazing was becoming scarce and more fences were being erected around them. Like other Americans of the time, moving west was an opportunity that couldn't be passed up. The Bullard families who moved to Missouri in the late 1840's were in their middle age years (40's and 50's). They probably thought it was time to move while they still had their health. More importantly, they probably saw an opportunity, like their father **John Bullard**, to settle new lands early before others followed. The Bullard families were pulled to Missouri by American's notion of "Go West, Young Man."

There seemed to be no real reason to stay in Claiborne County. **John Bullard Sr.** had died in 1834 and Nancy Bullard was in her twilight years. It was time to move on and seek new opportunities for the next generation of Bullard's.

Sometime in 1847-48, a wagon train of settlers left Tennessee and Alabama for the long journey to Missouri. In all probability, the wagon train carrying the Bullard families followed the "Northern Land Route." The same path taken by the Cherokee "Trail of Tears" ten years earlier.



Depiction

The Bullard's first leg of their journey might have been on longboats down the Clinch River to the Tennessee River. Somewhere near Knoxville the group loaded up their worldly possessions on wooden wagons along with trailing livestock. The wagon train drove across the Tennessee Cumberland plateau near Nashville, into Kentucky (near Hopkinsville), and then west toward Missouri.

The wagon train journey was difficult. Under good conditions, the trip took eight weeks. There were many rivers to cross and hills to climb.

"...they traveled on Indian and buffalo trails, crossed the many streams by fording or by crude rafts they made by felling trees and lashing them together to cross the larger rivers including the wide Mississippi. There were often accidents and many became ill on the trail causing some families to drop out of a caravan until the sick became better or died." 342



#### Newton and McDonald County, Missouri

On the family journey, the wagon train crossed the Ohio River near southern Illinois and then the Mississippi River. After crossing the Mississippi, and trail took a northerly route toward Springfield, Missouri where the wagon train split up. Some families went north, others south to their final destination.

The Bullard wagons eventually meandered toward the southwestern edge of Missouri in present day Newton and McDonald County, Missouri. The same area where **John Bullard's** sons, John Jr. and Christopher, had traveled to in the early 1740's.

Two of **John Bullard's** children were members of the wagon train. Deed records show that Henry Bullard settled in Newton County and sister Elizabeth (Bullard) McMahan settled in McDonald County around 1847-48.

■ <u>Henry Bullard</u>, (~56) and wife, Leah Capps settled in McDonald County, Missouri.

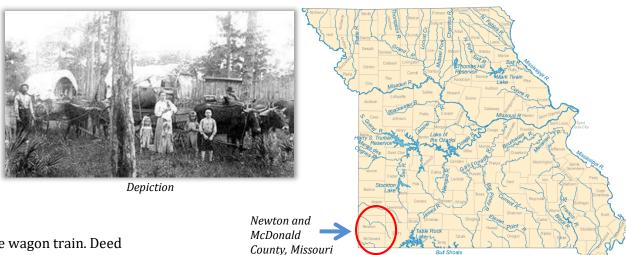
"Newton County, Missouri Original Land Entries March 11, 1848 Henry Bullard, Township 24, R-30" 343

It is said early settlers of McDonald County were attracted by abundant springs and game. They settled on the bottom lands were the soil was fertile producing a variety of crops.

• <u>Elizabeth Bullard</u> (48), now a widow\_and her son, John McMahan Jr., made the trek from Tennessee and settled in adjacent Newton County, Missouri. Elizabeth died after 1860.

John Bullard Sr's children who settled in Newton/McDonald Counties, Missouri (1847-1851+):

- Henry Bullard m. Leah Capps
- Elizabeth Bullard m. John McMahan
- Christopher Bullard m. Rebecca Hodges
- Boyer Bullard m. Elizabeth Hodges
- John Bullard Jr. m. Permelia Hodges



The southwest area of Missouri was mostly overlooked by the first Missouri settlers. However, there were a few early settlers including the Bullard's.



**Bullard Migration to Missouri** 

"In 1847 there is said to have been but one house between where McNatt's mill now is and Mitchell's prairie. This was Bullard's, a family of that name having settled on the flat woods prior to that time." 344

- Sometime after 1850 and the passing of Nancy Bullard (~80), <u>Bowyer Bullard</u> (43) and wife Elizabeth (Hodges) moved to Newton County, Missouri. Bowyer died there in 1855.
- Sometime after 1852, and a prominent citizen of Grainger County, Tennessee, <u>John Bullard Jr.</u> (42) and wife Permelia (Hodges) migrated to McDonald County, Missouri. Sometime after Parmelia's death in 1858, John Jr. moved to Ellis County, Texas. He died there in 1876 at the age of 70.

In 1848, the first telegraph company was established in Tennessee.

#### **Claiborne County 1850**

In the early 1850's, Claiborne County was experiencing hard times. The 'flux' or dysentery spread throughout the county. Drought and poor crop production were prevalent throughout the area. Below are letters from Claiborne County citizens expressing the hard times in the county. <sup>353</sup>



"June the 30 day 1853 my...
there has been the greatest Droueth (drought)in this
country this season that ever has been known Since
the county was first Settled there hant (hasn"t) been
but one rain in too months that wet the ground more
than one inch deep..."

"November the 18. 1850 Dear sister & Brother

After a delay of some considerable time, we put pen to paper to give you some information concerning our selves and cuntry (country) as we promised and we feell (sic)vthat it is our duty in the first place to ask for givveness (sic) for our failure in not writing as we promised and hope you will do us the kindness to do so. I will now state to you that we are all well as common, and so as the connection. The Helth (Health) of this County and adjoining ones ar(e) generally good times ar(e) hard in this cuntry. (country). Corn crops ar(e) very indifferant (sic) this season. Corn is going to b a very good price. Other property at tolerable prices. Their is nothing very strange in thi as parts. Their as a good many People leaving East Tennessee, some for Arkansas & some for Texas and other places and their is a great many preparing to leave this state for verrious (various) places to tedious to mension (mention),..."



June 23, 1857 Letter, Lone Mountain, Tennessee Correspondence written by James Hodges for David Moore in Claiborne County... "Times has been so hard that good men cannot pay there debts unless they are corn sellers. The corn is worth from one to one and a half dollars per bushel and very scarce at that. We have between three and four hundred dollars yet at interest and 1 horse, 1 cow, our household and hitching furniture so you need not be a feared of our suffering for somehting (sic) to eat provided it can be had for mony (sic)." "July the 5th 1857 I have concluded to finish my letter and can in form you that the wheat crop is now redy (sic) for cuttin(g) and there is a tolerable good crop and has come in good time for the corn is very near consumed (sic)."





Bank of Tazewell \$50 bank note issued May 1, 1854.



Depiction

Depiction

In 1850, the State of Tennessee established Union County, Tennessee. The newly formed county was formed from portions of Grainger, Claiborne, Campbell, Anderson and Knox counties. The new county boundary referenced portions of the Clinch River, Copper Ridge and Log Mountain. Part of the newly created boundary bordered John Bullard Sr.'s land. The county line referred to John Bullard's sugar tree (Maple tree)... "thence north twenty-five, east one hundred and ninety-two poles to a sugar tree near John Bullard's..."

This sugar tree is the same tree referenced in an 1800 deed transaction between James Berry and **John Bullard**. Berry sold 640 acres of land to **John Bullard**. Part of the property line was marked by a sugar tree located on the Clinch River.



Grainger County, Tennessee Deed: James Berry to **John Bullard** (Deed August 27, 1800) Registered March 5, 1801 "Certain tract or parcel of land containing Six hundred and forty acres lying & being in the county of Grainger and State also on the north Side of Clinch River Begining (sic) at an Ash, <u>sugar tree</u>, <u>uckey</u>; and hickory near lower end of the first large bottom on the North Side of Clinch River below the lone mountain and below the mouth of branch." <sup>345</sup>





#### Tennessee Act Establishing Union County, Tennessee:1850

"That the county of Union, shall be bounded as follows, to wit: Beginning at a sweet gum, in the Knox County line, at the end of Clinch Mountain, and four chains south of the Nance's Ferry Road; thence running north thirty-eight, east one mile, and thirty-four poles, to the top of a chain of Clinch Mountain; thence north, twenty-five east, one mile and forty-two poles, to the top of a spur, of said mountain; thence north six west, three quarters of a mile, crossing the main range of Clinch Mountain; thence north forty-five east, along the side of the mountain one mile, to a white oak on the top of a spur, leading down the mountain opposite Wm. Donehue's; thence north, crossing Flat Creek two miles and twenty poles, to a beech on the bank of Dyer's Branch; thence north ten west, two hundred and twenty poles, to the top of the Copper Ridge; thence north one mile and three quarters, to the top of the Log Mountains; thence north twenty-five, east one hundred and ninety-two poles to a sugar tree near **John Bullard's**; thence north eighty, east one hundred poles to a stake, near John Wolfinbarger's house; thence north eighteen, east five miles and eight poles to Clinch River, three quarters of a mile above Capp's Ford; thence down the south bank of said river, as it meanders, five miles and a quarter, to a large double sycamore, below Dodson's island; thence north twenty-five, west, crossing Clinch River, one hundred and eighty-two poles, to a white Clinch river, three quarters of a mile above Capp's ford; thence down the south bank of said river, as it meanders, five miles and a quarter, to a large double sycamore, below Dodson's island; thence north twenty-five, west, crossing Clinch river, one hundred and eighty-two poles, to a white oak, four poles north of the Big Valley road; thence north thirty-five, west five miles, to Powel's river, at a Spanish oak, forty poles below the mouth of Camp creek; thence down the south bank of Powel's river, as it meanders, twenty-nine miles and a quarter, to a walnut, at Thomas's ford; thence south ten east, four miles and a quarter, to Clinch river, eight poles above a large spring; thence crossing said river the same course, twenty poles, to a beech on the south bank of said river; thence down said river, as it meanders, two miles, to the line of Henderson & Co's survey, about two miles above the mouth of Powel's river; thence with the line of Henderson & Co., south forty-five, east a half mile, to a white oak in said line; thence south, thirty-eight east, four miles and one hundred and ten poles, to Byram's fork, on Hynes's creek, four poles above a large white oak; thence south fifty west, one hundred and forty poles, to a stake, in Charles Mitchell's field; thence south twenty-eight east, two miles and one half, to the Knox county line..." 346

#### **Claiborne County and Early East Tennessee Railroads**

In the 1830's, a wave of railroad building swept through the nation.\* Efforts to establish a railroad system in eastern Tennessee began in the 1830, but the economic "Panic of 1837" slowed the initiative.

Eastern Tennessee struggled to overcome economic isolation created by the Blue Ridge Mountains in the east and the Cumberland Plateau in the west. Like other regions, civic leaders knew railroads would increase commerce and expand growth. Farmers would have easier access to distant markets. Eastern Tennessee officials had a keen interest in linking up Knoxville's railroad networks to eastern Tennessee counties. The two most talked about routes lay between Knoxville and Cumberland Gap passing though Tazewell and Knoxville through Virginia to the Atlantic states.

In 1850, the Tennessee Assembly passed an Act conferring upon the Lexington and Knoxville Railroad Company the right to incorporate in the state. Officials planned to build a line northward into Kentucky to join existing lines at Cincinnati and Louisville. A state charter was created to form the Knoxville and Kentucky Railroad.



Depiction

The special Tennessee Act granted the railroad company the right to "make a railroad communication" between Knoxville and Lexington via an East Tennessee railroad. The rail route would pass through Tazewell then through Cumberland Gap into Kentucky.

The Tennessee legislators made it clear that no bonds or government guarantees would be issued for the undertaking. Funds would have to come from private investors and banking institutions.

The railroad would have to commence five years after the Act was passed and be finished within ten years.

The State appointed commissioners throughout eastern Tennessee to sell a total of 10,000 shares of railroad stocks. As an incentive, Commissioners would receive fifty cents for every share sold. It was thought citizens along the proposed route would buy the initial stock offerings.

In 1851, Grainger County appointed a number of Commissioners to promote the railroad line from Knoxville, Tennessee to Cumberland Gap. **John Bullard Sr.'s** son, John Bullard Jr. was one of the Commission members.



Grainger County commissioners were: <u>John Bullard Jr.</u>, Allen Hurst, William Cocke, John F. Huddleston, William Dyer, Harmon Lea and Samuel Shields. Claiborne County commissioners were: William Houston, Hugh Graham, Walter R. Evans, Lewis A. Garrett, Isaac Miller, Hugh Jones, Isaac Thomas, Daniel Huff, James Patterson, William Kincaid and John Easley. <sup>347</sup>

The chartered railroad company had laid only nine miles of track before the outbreak of the American Civil War in 1861. It wasn't until the late 1880's that railroad construction started again from Knoxville to Cumberland Gap. The railroad line and depot bypassed Tazewell and was constructed two miles west in the town of New Tazewell.

In 1855, another track was started on the East Tennessee and Virginia Railroad line. The line connected Knoxville to Bristol, Tennessee. Prominent elected officials and business leaders were strong supporters of the railroad. One was Tennessee Governor Andrew Johnson who would become the 17<sup>th</sup> U.S. President of the United States succeeding Abraham Lincoln. The line was completed in 1858 and joined existing tracks that created an unbroken rail line from New York to Memphis, Tennessee. The line, however, passed many miles south of Claiborne County, Tennessee.

In 1830, the first American steam locomotive was built. The "Tom Thumb" ushered in the era of steam engines and the rapid growth of the American railroad system.



<sup>\*</sup> One of the first railroad newspapers created in the United States was established in Rogersville (Hawkins County), Tennessee. The *Rogersville Rail-Road Advocate* was established in 1831-32.

**Claiborne County 1850** 

## **Claiborne County, Tennessee**

The 1850 U.S. Census in Claiborne County, Tennessee (taken in October, 1850) revealed Nancy Bullard was 80 years old and living with her son, Boyer Bullard. The census confirms Nancy was originally from Pennsylvania and was born in 1770. The Census information also revealed Nancy was illiterate. (The census column that listed "Person over 20 years of age who cannot read or write" was marked with a slash next to Nancy's name.)



Depiction

The census also recorded Nancy owning \$200 worth of property. Where the property was located is unknown but in all likelihood, it was the 20 acre "home tract" that was bequeathed to Nancy in **John Bullard's** 1834 will. The house probably laid empty for well over ten years.



Depiction

**Isaac Bullard**, son of **John Bullard Sr.**, was living near or on the property of his brother Bowyer Bullard. There is no known record of Isaac owning land in Claiborne County in the 1840's. One could speculate Bowyer provided Isaac a tract of land to farm and raise his family.

#### U.S. Census of 1850

For the first time in U.S. Census history, census takers recorded the names of every person living in each household. Census takers recorded the age, sex, color, birthplace, occupation of males, literacy and property values. Unfortunately, relationships between household members were not noted.



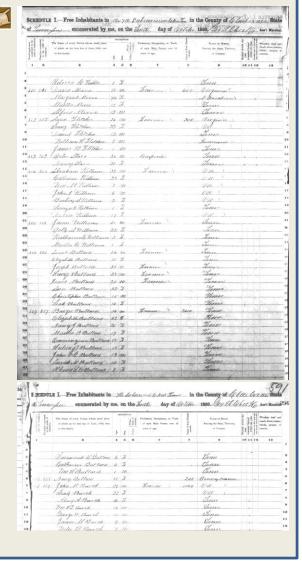
In 1850, Jack Daniel, founder of the largest Tennessee whisky distillery in the world was born.

## U.S. 1850 Census Claiborne County, Tennessee

Household #806
Isaac Bullard\* 56 Farmer
Elizabeth Bullard 51
Joseph Bullard 25 Farmer
Henry Bullard 23 Farmer
Isaac Bullard 20 Farmer
Ann Bullard 22
Christopher Bullard 15
Leah Bullard 10

#### Household #807

Bowyer Bullard 50 Farmer Elizabeth Bullard 42
Nancy J. Bullard 21
Martha B. Bullard 19
Emerenzina Bullard 17
Hulda Bullard 15
John G.G. Bullard 13
Sarah M. Bullard 10
Rhoda or Minerva Bullard 8
Susannah Bullard 6
Catherine Bullard 4
Wm.(William) H. Bullard 1
Nancy Bullard 80



\* Son of John Bullard Sr.

In 1850, the population of Tennessee was 1,002,717.

A separate "Slave Inhabitant Schedule" was also conducted in the 1850 Claiborne County Census. The census reported Nancy Bullard owed 3 slaves. In all probability, the two middle age slaves (ages 45 and 40) were a couple. The older male and pre-teen listed were mulattos "M".\*



1850 Slave Schedule, 7th Subdivision Eastern District October 6, 1850.



"Name of Slave owners	no. of slave	age	sex	colour
Nancy Bullard	1	45	M	M
	1	40	F	В
	1	11	F	M" <sup>348</sup>



Depiction

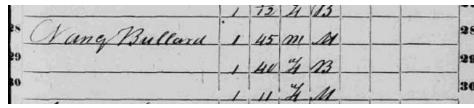
Slave quarters

There is no known evidence the Bullard mulatto slaves were of Bullard parentage.\* A year after the 1850 Slave Schedule was taken, John Bullard Sr.'s estate sale reported Martin Burchfield had purchased Nancy Bullard's three slaves for the sum of \$1,272. 349 Burchfield was married to Susan Bullard the daughter of William Bullard and niece to Nancy Bullard. The estate sale identified the names as: Anthony,

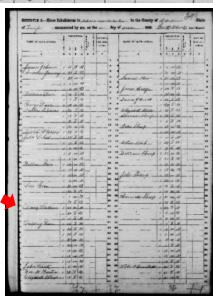
Nancy and Caroline. One could assume the three slaves listed in 1850 were

Anthony (45), Nancy (40) and Caroline (11).

The 1850 Claiborne County Slave Schedule also listed John Bullard Sr.'s daughter, Elizabeth (Bullard) McMahan, as owning a twelve year old female slave and son William Bullard owning at least 30 slaves.



U.S. Census 1850 Claiborne County, Tennessee 7<sup>th</sup> Census District Slave Schedule 2



The 1850 Claiborne County Census "Slave Inhabitant Schedule" also revealed a number of neighbors living near the Bullard's as owing slaves. They were:

- George Lewis (widower of **John Bullard Sr**.'s deceased daughter, Sarah Bullard.) Slave Schedule lists 1 male age 15. 348
- James Hodges (John Bullard Sr.'s father-in-law of Bowyer, John Jr. and Christopher Bullard). Slave Schedule lists 1 male (24) and 1 female (20).

Other slave owner neighbors included:

John Burch, May Thompson, Steven Ousely, Spencer Ousely, John Ousley, William Lewis, William Sharp, John Sharp, William Goin, Alex Sharp and Walter Evans.

<sup>\*</sup> It was fairly common for white slave owners or their offspring to have children by slaves. Too, the Bullard mulatto slaves might have been purchased.

Agnes Nancy (Kersey/Casey) Bullard Dies at the age of 81

Sometime between October 1850 and November 1851, Agnes Nancy (Kersey/Casey) Bullard, age 81, wife of John Bullard Sr. and mother of 12 children died in Claiborne County, Tennessee.\*



Depiction

Nancy Bullard was listed in the 1850 Claiborne County Census which was taken in October, 1850. **John Bullard Sr.** and Nancy Bullard's final estate sale occurred in November 1851. The sale included all of the Bullard household possessions and slaves. One can reasonably assume Nancy died sometime between October 1850 and November 1851.

#### John Bullard Sr. and Nancy Bullard Gravesite

As was the custom, family members were buried on their family farm. There is strong circumstantial evidence that the remains of **John Bullard Sr**. and Nancy Bullard were moved in 1935 to Big Barren Memorial Cemetery in Maynardville (Union County), Tennessee (Plot E-75.)<sup>350</sup> When Norris Dam was being constructed in the 1930's, Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) removed four unidentified Bullard graves from Gose Cemetery located at Straight Creek in Claiborne County.\*\* After removal in 1835, TVA designated the site as a "Disinterment Cemetery-Flooded Area." The four Bullard graves were relocated to Big Barren Memorial Cemetery in Union County. The names, birth dates and year of death on the gravestones were very weathered and obliterated.

Prior to the death of Nancy Bullard in  $\sim$ 1851, there were only four Bullard's who had died near Straight Creek in Claiborne County. They were:

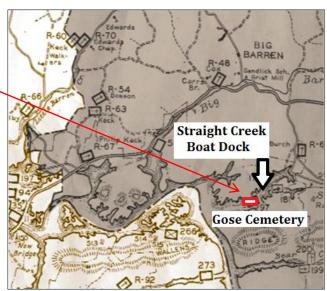
- **John Bullard Sr.** (Father: died ~1834)
   Anne Bullard (Daughter: died 1837)
- Sarah Bullard (Daughter: died 1840)
- Nancy Bullard (Mother: died ~1851)

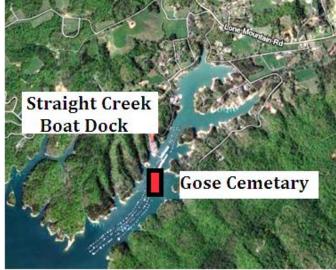
Two other Bullard siblings (Mahulda (Bullard) Moore and Christopher Bullard) died in 1843/1844 in Missouri.

The four Bullard gravesites removed by the TVA are now underwater in the vicinity of present day Straight Creek Boat Dock.



TVA Cemetery Index Map, Norris Reservoir Map # 2 ES 7 50 K 1 (May 4, 1937) 351







Present Day Straight Creek Boat Dock

## NANCY CASEY BULLARD (1770- ~1851) CRONOLOGICAL LIFE MILESTONES



Depiction

<b>DATE</b>	<u>EVENT</u>	NANCY'S AGE
1770	Agnes Nancy (Kirsey/Kersey/Casey) is born in l	PA -
1785		
	Agnes Nancy Casey marries <b>John Bullard</b>	16
	~Joseph Bullard born	17
1788	~Anne Bullard born	18
1789		
1790		
1791	Nancy Bullard moves to Jefferson County TN	21
1792	~ Henry Bullard born	22
1793		
1794	~ Isaac Bullard born	24
1795		
1796		
1797	~ William Bullard born	27
1798	Nancy Bullard moves to Grainger/Claiborne Co.	TN 28
1799		
1800	~ Elizabeth Bullard born	30
1801		
1802		
1803	Bowyer Bullard born	33
	~ Mahulda Bullard born	34
1805		
1806	John Bullard born	36
	~ Martha Bullard born	37
1808		
	~Christopher Bullard born	39
	~ Sarah Bullard born	40
	~ Husband <b>John Bullard Sr.</b> dies	64
1851	~ Agnes Nancy (Kersey/Casey) Bullard dies	81



Depictio



## 1851 ESTATE SALE OF JOHN BULLARD, SR., DECEASED\* (Final Estate Settlement: 1854)

Buyers were: John C. Bullard, Jr. – lot of corn \$16.66 ½; yearling \$5.00; plough stock \$.42; lot of nubbins \$1.00 Jerry Jones – yearling \$5.0

Isaac Bullard – cow and yearling \$13.00; crock \$.16; skillet \$.06; four glass tumblers \$.30; cups and saucers \$.14;

coffee mil \$.12 1/2; bed and stead \$12.06; skillet \$.20

Bowyer Bullard - pair andirons \$.80 1/2; cupboard \$.06 1/2; candlestick \$.01; lot of flax \$.37

Henry Bullard – pair gears \$.50

George W. Lewis - skillet \$.10

J. H. Bullard – loom \$4.00

George Blackburn - pitcher \$.13

Polly Lewis - bureau \$5.00

John Owsley - water pail \$.18 3/4

William Inkleberger - kettle \$2.06; dish and lid \$.75

David Bullard – 50 bushels corn \$17.00; 50 bushels corn \$15.62 ½; large chair \$1.00

John Vance – 50 bushels of corn \$16.66 ½; 12 ½ bushels of corn \$3.75; three plates \$.15; counterpane \$3.65; Bible \$.20; knives and forks \$.10

Mathew Bullard – dish and lid \$.75; hackle \$.25; Bible \$.20

Joseph Priddy - two hogs \$9.80

George Priddy - bedstead \$9.16

Anna Bullard - bed \$4.67

Lea Miller - bed \$11.17

James Williams - two hogs \$4.00; pot and skillet \$.82; pickling tub \$.29

Samuel McBee - hog \$3.00; pail \$.06; chair \$.25; meal sifter \$.12 1/2; small bedstead \$.30

D. C. Bullard - eight hogs \$10.25; clock \$1.50; table \$1.03; counterpane \$.85; quilt \$1.75; stack of fodder \$2.72; mare \$65.00

John Burke – clay bank colt \$40.25; sow and pigs \$9.55; five shoats \$6.00

Henry Walker – stack of fodder \$2.50; stack of fodder \$2.72; seven geese \$2.10; pair scissors \$.11

Thomas Knight – sheet and blanket \$1.40; fat stand and barrel \$.45; five chairs \$.87 ½; pair harness and slay \$.12 ½

William Berry - wheel \$.75; stack of fodder \$2.01

Spencer Owsley - table \$2.50

C. S. Bullard – yoke of steers \$22.50; cupboard \$10.00

Simpson Jones – cow and calf \$13.25

Martin Burchfield - slave Anthony \$457.00; slave Nancy \$118.00; slave Caroline \$697.00

Total amount received from sale of the estate was \$1655.60, held the 17th and 29th day of November 1851.

William Bullard, Administrator John Bullard, Administrator

Settlement with F. M. Fulkerson, Attorney for John Bullard (Jr.), Surviving Administrator of the Estate **John Bullard**, deceased Amount of sale of the personal property and negroes \$1655.60 Interest on the same \$7.86 Paid clerk's receipt \$9.00 Paid Executor charges for all his trouble in winding up estate, selling negroes and collecting and paying over the money \$60.00

Leaves a balance of \$1594.46 remaining in the hands of the Executor, this 23rd day of March 1854.

Thomas J. Johnson, Clerk





### John and Nancy Bullard's Final Estate Sale

In mid-November 1851, **John Bullard Sr.'s** final estate and property sale was conducted in Claiborne County, Tennessee. Sons William and John Bullard Ir. were estate administrators. Although John Bullard died seventeen years earlier, his remaining household items were in the possession of now deceased Nancy Bullard. It is assumed the estate sale was conducted a few months after the death of Nancy Bullard making 1851 the probable year of her death.

The estate sale occurred over two separate days; the 17<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of November, 1851. In all likelihood, the bulk of widow Nancy's personal family belongings were already sold or given to family members during her last remaining years. Tidbits of information include; Nancy (and possibly John Bullard) were religious. A bible was bought for 20 cents.\* Undoubtedly, the primary family Bible was retained by one of Nancy's sons or daughters. Nancy Bullard's three remaining slaves were sold for the sum of \$1,272. The total amount of the estate sale was \$1,655.60. Final settlement occurred on March 22, 1854. 352

The closing John and Nancy Bullard estate sale reveals a piece of history of how Nancy Bullard lived in her twilight years and what household items remained with her before her death. Sadly, after a long marriage and life journey that spanned over 80 years, Nancy Bullard's remaining material possessions were sold off to the highest bidder.

1 pot

#### **Household Estate Sale Items**

Pickling tub Crock Fat stand and barrel 4 Skillets Meal sifter

Kettle 4 Glass tumblers Dish and Lid **Cups & Saucers** 3 plates Coffee mil (grinder) Bible

2 Cupboards Knives & forks Candlestick Hackle (flax comb) Clock Large chair

2 Tables 6 Chairs Loom 2 Bedstead Scissors 3 Beds Pitcher Quilt 2 Andirons (fireplace irons)

Sheets and blankets Bureau

2 Counterpanes (bedspread) Water pail









All photos depictions

#### **Farm Equipment**

Plough stocks

Gears

Harness and slay (sic)

Wheel

Steer Yoke



#### Livestock

Yearlings 2 Cows

1 Calf 13 Hogs

1 Mare 1 Colt 5 shoats

7 Geese



#### Slaves^^ Anthony Nancy Caroline





^^ Nancy's three slaves were given to her by her son Christopher Bullard around 1840.

#### Crops

Lot of corn Corn nubbins Flax (fiber plant/seed) 112 bushels of corn Stacks of fodder for cows

## John and Nancy Bullard's Final Estate Sale

A number of notable Claiborne County citizens bought the last remaining possessions of John and Nancy Bullard.

The buyers were:

#### **Bullard Siblings**

<u>Isaac Bullard</u> – cow and yearling \$13.00; crock \$.16; skillet \$.06; four glass tumblers \$.30; cups and saucers \$.14; coffee mil \$.12  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; bed and stead \$12.06; skillet \$.20 <u>Bowyer Bullard</u> – pair andirons \$.80  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; cupboard \$.06  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; candlestick \$.01; lot of flax \$.37

George W. Lewis (Husband of Sarah Bullard, deceased.) - skillet \$.10

#### **Bullard Nephews and Nieces**

John C. Bullard, Jr. – lot of corn \$16.66  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; yearling \$5.00; plough stock \$.42; lot of nubbins \$1.00

J. H. Bullard – loom \$4.00

Henry Bullard - pair gears \$.50

David Bullard – 50 bushels corn \$17.00; 50 bushels corn \$15.62 1/2; large chair \$1.00

D. C. Bullard – eight hogs \$10.25; clock \$1.50; table \$1.03; counterpane \$.85; quilt

\$1.75; stack of fodder \$2.72; mare \$65.00

Mathew Bullard – dish and lid \$.75; hackle \$.25; Bible \$.20

C. S. Bullard – yoke of steers \$22.50; cupboard \$10.00

Anna Bullard - bed \$4.67



Martin Burchfield (husband of Susan Bullard\*) – slave Anthony \$457.00; slave Nancy \$118.00; slave Caroline \$697.00 : Total: \$1,290.



Depiction

#### **Neighbors**

Polly Lewis (Wife of Samuel Moore) - bureau \$5.00

John Owsley - water pail \$.18 3/4

John Vance – 50 bushels of corn \$16.66  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; 12  $\frac{1}{2}$  bushels of corn \$3.75; three plates

\$.15; counterpane \$3.65; Bible \$.20; knives and forks \$.10

Henry Walker – stack of fodder \$2.50; stack of fodder \$2.72; seven geese \$2.10; pair scissors \$.11

William Berry - wheel \$.75; stack of fodder \$2.01

Spencer Owsley - table \$2.50

# John Bullard Sr. & Nancy Bullard Children Profile

## John Bullard married Agnes Nancy Kersey/Casey on January 4, 1786. The couple had twelve children.

- 1. JOSEPH BULLARD (b.~1787) married Lucy Campbell on July 26, 1810. They separated in ~1817. Children unknown. The couple divorced in 1833. By 1812, Joseph lived near his uncle, Christopher Bullard, in Franklin County, Tennessee. He owned land in Rhea or McMinn County, Tennessee. He died ~1852.
- 2. ANNE BULLARD (b.1788) married Woolery Beeler ~1811. The couple had nine children. Ann and Woolery lived with John Bullard Sr. and Nancy Bullard in the 1830s/40s. The Beeler's lived their entire lives in Claiborne and Grainger County, Tennessee.
- 3. HENRY BULLARD (b. ~1792) married Leah Capps ~1810. Henry and his family migrated south from Claiborne County to McMinn County, Tennessee. In his later years, Henry Bullard moved to Missouri.
- **4. ISAAC BULLARD** (b. 1794) married Elizabeth Nancy Black ~1823. The couple had six children. Isaac Bullard moved south to Rhea County, Tennessee in the early 1820's. He lived in Hamilton County, Tennessee by 1840 before moving back to Claiborne County sometime in the late 1840s.
- 5. WILLIAM BULLARD (b.  $\sim$ 1797) married Barthena Posey  $\sim$ 1819. William Bullard was a wealthy land owner and one of the largest slave owners in Claiborne County, Tennessee.
- 6. ELIZABETH BULLARD (b.~1800) married John McMahan(Sr.) ~1817. The couple had 4 possibly 5 children. Elizabeth moved to Rhea County, Tennessee. In her later years, Elizabeth migrated to Missouri.
- 7. BOWYER BULLARD (b. 1803) married Elizabeth Hodges ~1825. The couple had 12 children. Bowyer lived in Claiborne County, Tennessee and eventually moved to Missouri. Bowyer was estranged from his younger brother, Christopher Bullard.
- 8. MAHULDA (Hudy) BULLARD (b. ~1804) married Alfred Moore in 1827. They had eight children. Mahulda died in Missouri at the age of ~39.
- 9. JOHN BULLARD JR.(b. 1806) married Permelia Hodges ~1828. The couple had 11 children. John lived in Grainger County, Tennessee and later moved to Missouri.
- 10. MARTHA BULLARD (b. ~1807) married Barnett Hicklin ~1829. The couple had six children and lived in McMinn County, Tennessee and eventually moved to Titus County, Texas.
- 11. CHRISTOPHER B. (Kitt) BULLARD (b. 1809) married Rebecca Hodges in 1838. The marriage was estranged. The couple had no known children. Christopher conceived a boy, William, out of wedlock with Julia Wilson. Christopher died in 1844 in Missouri.
- 12. SARAH BULLARD (b. 1810) married George W. Lewis in 1826. She died at the early age of 30. The couple had 8 children.

## **Epilogue**

The deaths of **John Bullard**, **Sr**. in ~1834 and of his wife Agnes Nancy (Kersey/Casey) Bullard in ~1851 completed the **third generation** of the American Bullard descendant line.

From the inauguration of George Washington as the first President of the United States to the eve of the Civil War, (a period spanning more than 80 years), this pioneer couple flourished and acquired much land and wealth. But their real and lasting legacy lies in the 12 children they bore, raised and nurtured in eastern Tennessee while that state was in its infancy.

The passing of John, Sr. and Nancy Bullard heralded in a new **fourth generation** of Bullard descendants.



Depiction

And so the Bullard Narrative and story continues . . . See Narrative Volumes I, III, IV

# **Appendix**

- Appendix A. Bullard Descendant Charts (including John Bullard Sr.'s Grandchildren)
- Appendix B. Bullard Slaves (1783-1852)
- Appendix C. Notes and Charts
  - C-1. THE BULLARD NARRATIVES, Descendant Volumes I, II, III, IV,
  - C-2. Eastern Tennessee Historical/Event Time Line
  - C-3. John Bullard Sr. Siblings Marriage Dates and Spouse Names
  - C-4 Descendant Life Spans

# Appendix A

## **Generation Charts**

(John Bullard the Elder) Generation II Joseph Bullard John Bullard Sr. Generation III Isaac Bullard Generation IV Generation V

**Henry Bullard** Generation VI Paris Bullard

Generation VII George K. Bullard

Generation VIII (Living)

**Generation IX** (Living)

b. = born

dd. = died

m. = married

Legend

d. = date

#### Customary 18th Century Family Naming

Son Father's Father

Generation I

- 2nd Son Mother's Father
- 3rd Son Father
- 4th Son Father's oldest Brother or Mother's oldest Brother
- 5th Son Father's 2nd oldest Brother or Mother's 2nd oldest Brother
- Daughter Mother's Mother
- 2nd Daughter Father's Mother
- Daughter Mother
- Daughter Mother's oldest Sister or Father's oldest Sister
- Daughter Mother's 2nd oldest Sister or Father's 2nd oldest Sister

## **Generation I**

(Earliest Known Generation)



Descendant line noted by red box (Some information not validated)

John Bullard (the Elder)\*

b.  $\sim 1710$ Northern Ireland

dd. Oct/Nov 1780

Washington Co. NC

Mary (Unknown)

b.  $\sim 1710$ 

pl. Northern Ireland

dd. After 1780

Washington Co. NC/TN

John **Bullard II** 

~1725

pl. Unk

dd. Before 1780

Greene Co. TN

Anne Nation#

Ch: Nathaniel?

Joseph **Bullard** 

~1732

Northern Ireland or VA

dd. September 20, 1788

Lookout Mtn., TN

Martha (Unk)

~1758

Isaac Bullard

b. Unk

Unk

dd. Late 1778

or early 1779

pl. Washington County (NC)

m. Unknown

Nathaniel! Bullard?

b. Unk

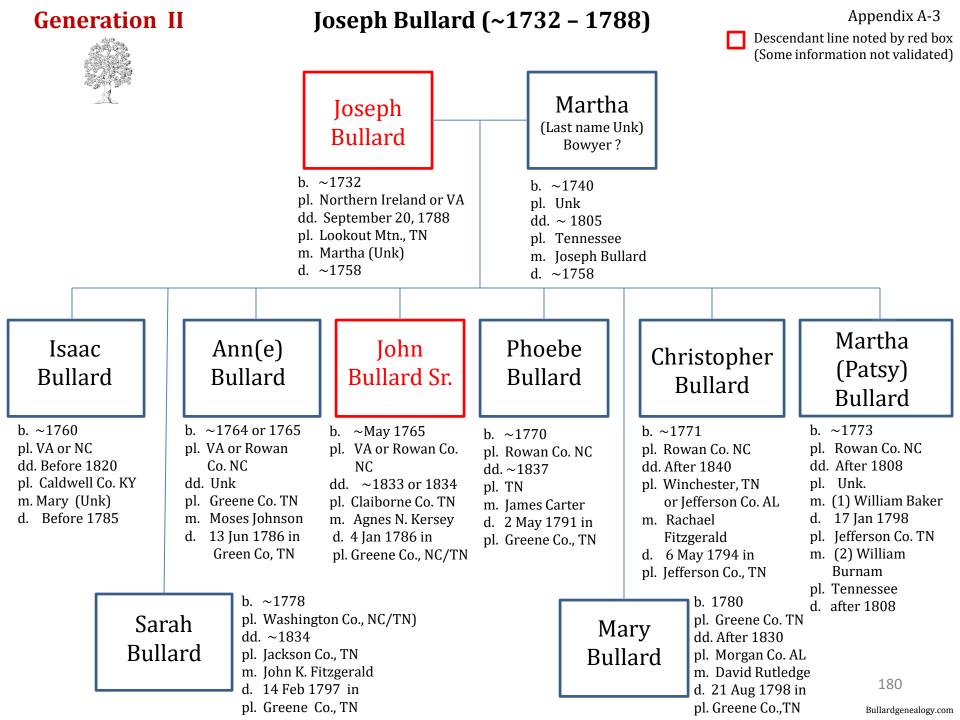
dd. After 1792

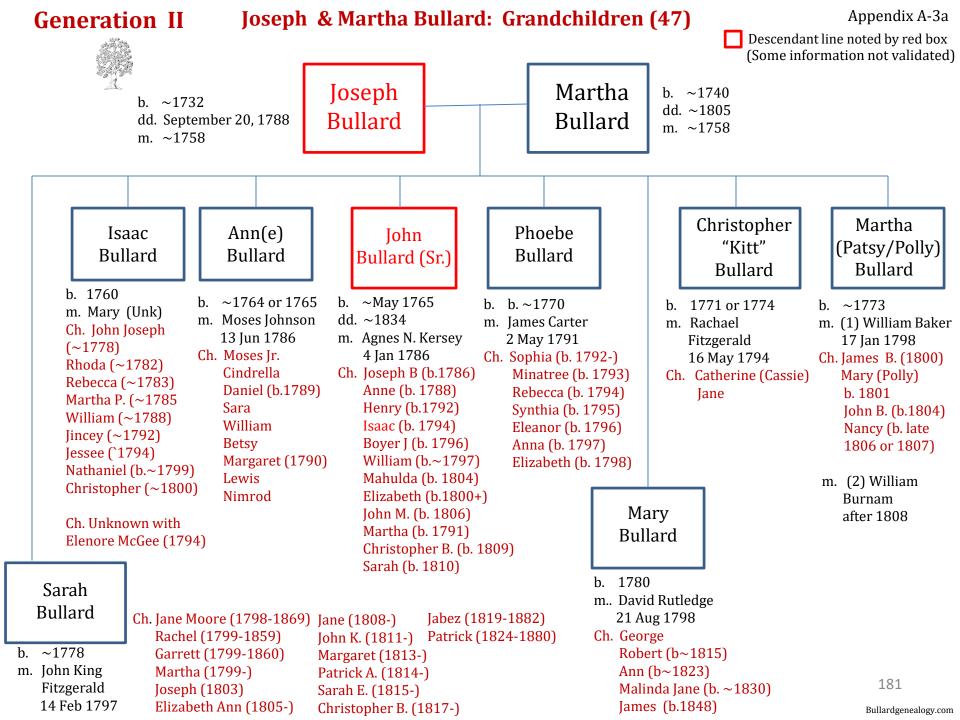
Unknown

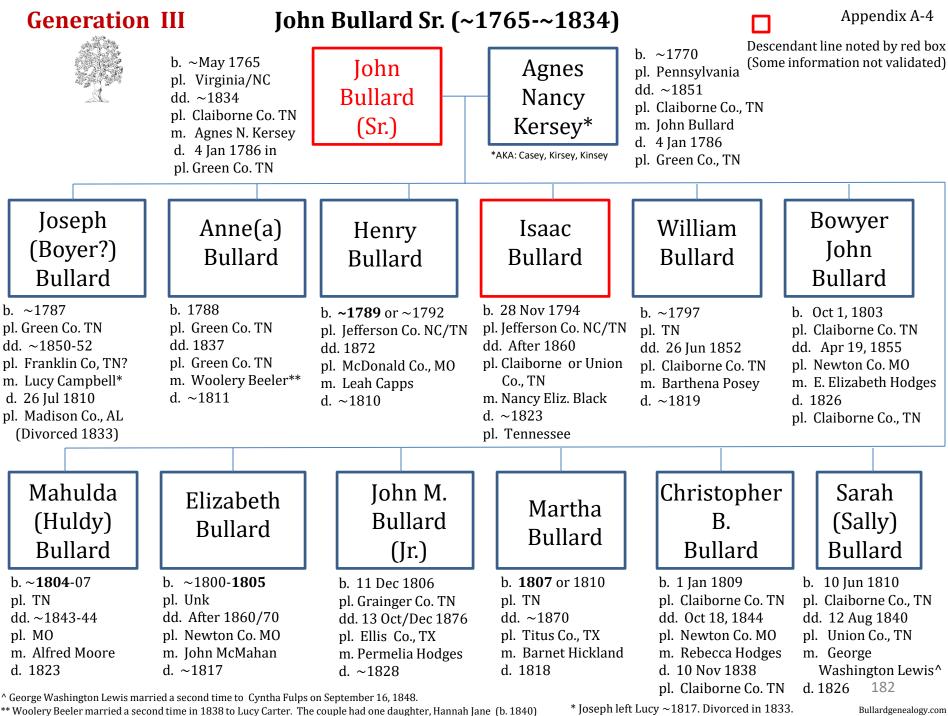
Bullards\*\*

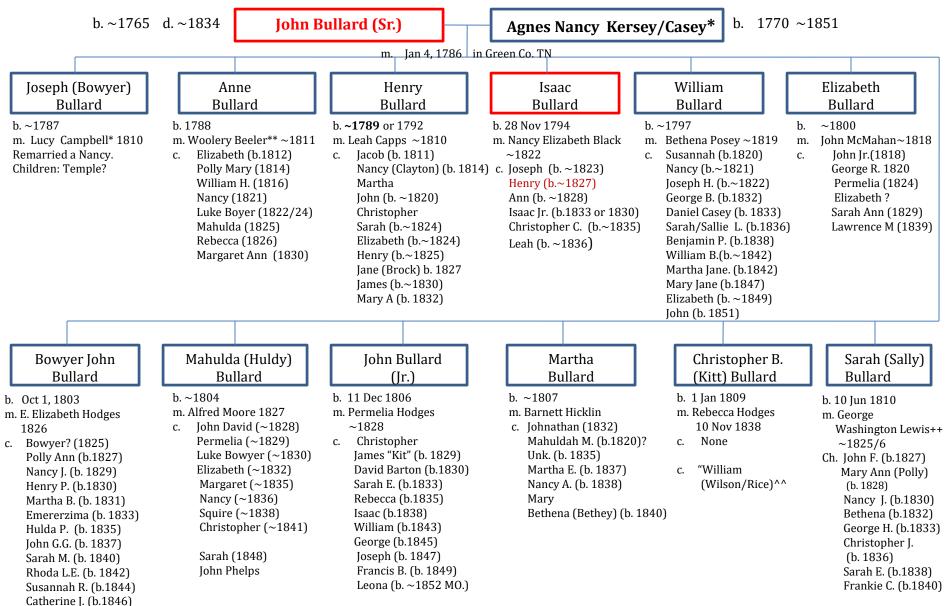
<sup>\*</sup> John Bullard is identified as "the Elder" to distinguish him from offspring with the same first name.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Presumably, there were a number of unknown Bullard daughters who married unknown spouses. # Ann (Nation) Bullard died after 1790.









<sup>\*</sup> In 1833, Joseph Bullard and Lucy Campbell divorced.

William H. (b. 1849)

<sup>\*\*</sup> Woolery Beeler married a second time in 1838 to Lucy Carter. The couple had one daughter, Hannah Jane (b. 1840)

<sup>#</sup> Alfred Moore married a second time to Lucretia Scott. Children: Syntha (b.∼1848) and Lucinda (b.∼1849)

<sup>++</sup> George Washington Lewis married a second time in 1848 to Cynthia (Synthia) Fulps in Tazewell, TN. Children were Rebecca C. (b.1849), William L. (1851), Joseph A. (1853), Robert Lee (1856), Margaret V. 1858), Henry A. b.1862; step children were Amanda Jane (b. 1844) and Milton Fulps (b. 1840.)

#### **Generation IV**

### Isaac Bullard (1794 - 1860+)

Appendix A-5



Descendant line noted by red box (Some information not validated)

b. 28 Nov 1794 pl. Jefferson Co. NC/TN dd. After 1860 pl. Claiborne Co., TN m. Nancy Eliz. Black d. ~1823 Isaac Bullard Sr. Nancy Elizabeth Black

- b. ~1799
- pl. Unknown
- dd. Between 1850-1859
- pl. Claiborne Co. TN
- m. Isaac Bullard
- d. ~1823
- pl. Tennessee

## Joseph Bullard

b. 1825 pl. Unk dd. Unk.

### Henry Bullard

pl. Tennessee

- b. 1827
- pl. Claiborne Co. TN
- dd. ~1862
- pl. Lafollette, TN
- m. Celia Haynes
- d. 26 Sep 1853

## Ann Bullard

- b. 1828
- pl. Rhea/Claiborne County, TN
- dd. Unk
- pl. Unk
- m. Henson

## Isaac Bullard (Jr.)

- b. 1830
- pl. Rhea County, TN
- dd. 9 Dec 1898
- pl. Knox Co. TN
- m. (1) Rebecca P. Gibson
- d. 13 May 1854 in Claiborne Co., TN
- m. (2) Tempia Catherine Warwick (Worwick)
- d. 17 Sep 1866 in Claiborne Co., TN
- m. (3) Susan Neely
- d. Unk

## Christopher Columbus Bullard

- b. 1835
- pl. Tennessee
- dd. 18 May 1909
- pl. Real Co., TX
- m. Mary Ann Covey
- d. 2 Oct 1866
- pl. Kerr Co., TX

## Leah Bullard

- b. 1840
- pl. Tennessee
- dd. Unk
- pl. Unk
- m. William Rogers?
- pl. Tennessee

#### **Generation V**



### **Henry Bullard (1827 - ~1862)**

Celia

Descendant line noted by red box



Henry pl. Grainger Co/later Union Co. TN pl. Tennessee dd. Between 1870-1880 Bullard dd. ~1862 Haynes pl. Unk pl. Claiborne Co. TN Henry Bullard m. Celia Haynes 26 Sep 1853 d. 26 Sep 1853 pl. Claiborne Co., TN pl. Claiborne Co., TN John A. William B. Isaac H. **Paris** (Abraham) (Bowyer) (Henry) Bullard Bullard Bullard Bullard b. 26 Nov 1853 b. 19 Jan 1860 July 1862 b. ~1859 pl. Union County, TN pl. Claiborne Co. TN pl. Claiborne Co., TN pl. Claiborne Co. TN dd. June 10, 1936 dd. 10 Feb 1936 dd. 1908 dd. 30 Jun 1929 pl. Columbiana Co. Ohio pl. Union Co. TN pl. Unk pl. Union Co., TN Buried: Knoxville, TN m. Sarah A. Rogers\* m. Unk m. (1) Sarah A. Jesse

Children:

d. 16 Dec 1871

pl Tennessee

-Stella b.1872

b.  $\sim 1827$ 

b.1875 -Chester

-Jesse L. b.1876

b. 1878 -Jarvis

-Mary E. b.1886

-Cam(w)H.b. 1886

-Hassie L. b. 1889

-William R. b.1892

## Children:

d. Oct 22, 1879

m. (2) Mary A.

-Isaac Paris (b. 13 Aug

d. Between 1900-1910

b. ~1829

1880)

-Others: Unk

#### d. 18 Sep 1882

pl. Union County, TN

(2) Dicie (Lingar) Kibert

m. (1) Lucy Cornelia Walker

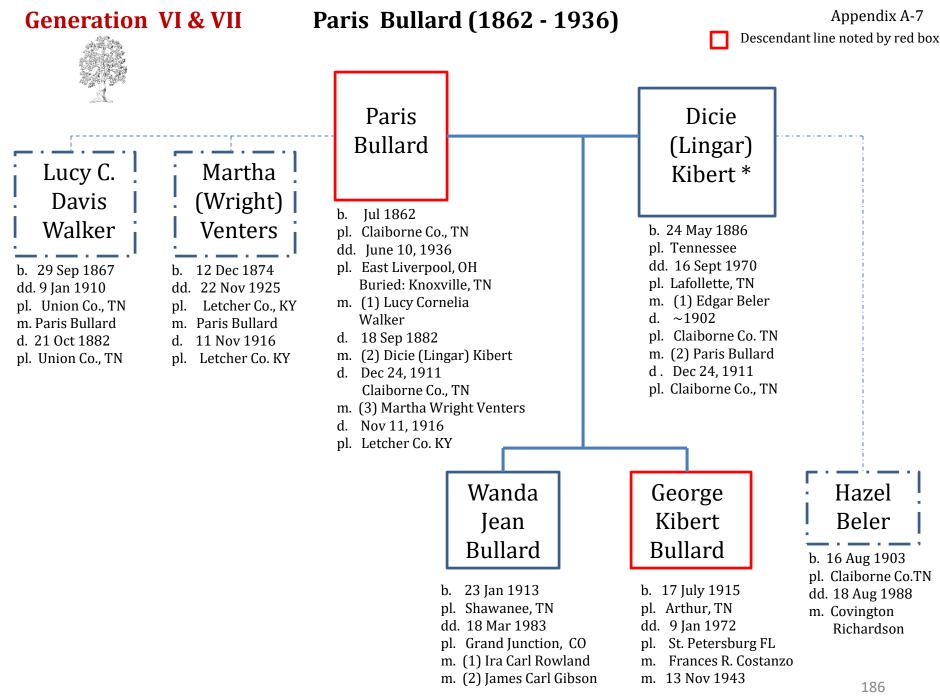
Dec 24, 1911

pl. Claiborne Co., TN

m. (3) Martha Venters

Nov 11, 1916

pl. Letcher Co. KY





## **Generation VIII & IX**

Living

#### **Known Bullard Slaves (North Carolina and Tennessee)**

Listed below are known Bullard families who owned slaves in eastern Tennessee. The table was created to assist families and genealogists who are searching slave ancestries.

The list, extracted from the Bullard Narratives, is derived from court records, wills, slave census schedules, probate, and "bill of sales." The list is by no means complete, but may provide clues to researchers. Early court documents usually recorded only the first names of slaves making descendant research difficult if not impossible. Considered property, slaves were sometimes mentioned only by count. Some slave families named their children after parents, or grandparents. After the Civil War, slaves sometimes adopted the surname of their owner, or a past owner who treated them well.



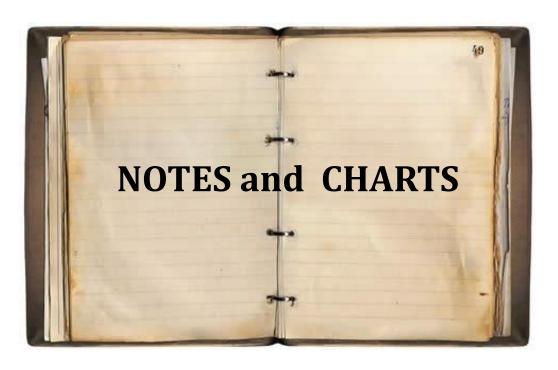
YEAR	SLAVE HOLDER NAME	NO. SLAVES	SLAVE NAME	LOCATION
1783	Joseph Bullard	3	FRANK, plus an UNKNOWN female and UNKNOWN minor (age 7-16)	Green County (NC/TN)
1792	John Bullard Sr.	1	UNKNOWN purchased from (John) & Ann Smith	Jefferson County, (NC/TN)
1795	Christopher Bullard	2	RACHEL (Elderly) AUSTIN given to Sarah Bullard m. John Fitzgerald	Greene County, (NC/TN)
1795	John Bullard Sr.	1	VIOLET (female)	Green County, (NC/TN)
1795	Martha Bullard	1	NED (male). Also see Joseph Bullard	Green County (NC/TN)
1795	Martha Bullard	1	MINE (Minnie) Sold to William Roulstone. Also see Joseph Bullard.	Jefferson County, TN
1797	John Bullard Sr.	5	Purchased from Charles Hodges TOBY, SARAH, SILVY, MINTY, BENJAMIN	Jefferson County, Tennessee
1797	Martha Bullard	1	FRANK sold to John Bullard Sr.	Jefferson County, Tennessee
1798	Christopher Bullard	3	3 UNKNOWN slaves	Greene County, Tennessee
1813	Joseph Bullard	1	"One negro boy" to Christopher B.	Franklin County, Tennessee
1800	Martha Bullard	2	UNKNOWN	Jefferson County, Tennessee
1810	Henry Bullard	3 free slaves	UNKNOWN	Grainger County, Tennessee
1812	Christopher Bullard	3	UNKNOWN	Franklin County, Tennessee
1815	Joseph Bullard	2	CYRUS and NELSON	Franklin/Sumner County, Tennessee
1820	Susannah Posey	1	One UNKNOWN female sold to William Bullard	Claiborne County, Tennessee



	1			
1840	Henry Bullard	3	One UNKNOWN male, two UNKNOWN females	Claiborne County, Tennessee
1840	Sarah (Bullard) Lewis	3	Two UNKNOWN females (~10), One UNKNOWN female (24-36)	Claiborne County, Tennessee
1844	Christopher Bullard	7	BEN sold to Elizabeth (Bullard) McMahan. DAVID, HONEY, ELIZABETH sold to John Bullard Jr. ANTHONY, NANCE, CAROLINE given to Martha Bullard then sold to William Bullard	Claiborne County, Tennessee
1852	William Bullard (Will & Last Test.)	26	JACOB (JAKE) ~50-55), ROSE or RON, (~45-50), ANTHONY (~45-50), NANCY (~45-50), BETSY (~28-30) bequeathed to wife Barthena Bullard (wife); NANCE or NANCY (~14) bequeathed to daughter Susan Burchfield; BOB (~10) bequeathed to son Joseph H. Bullard; JACOB (~7 or 8) bequeathed to son Daniel C. Bullard; ELIZA (~8-10) bequeathed to daughter Nancy Denny; SIMON (~7-8) bequeathed to son George B. Bullard; CAROLINE (~13-14), ELIZA (~5) bequeathed to daughter Sarah L. Bullard; WILLIAM THORNTON (~3 or ~10), LUCINDA (~4) bequeathed to son Benjamin P. Bullard; BARTHENA (~8), CHARITY (~8), TABITHA? bequeathed to daughter Martha Jane Bullard; LUCY (~15-16), FINE (~12) bequeathed to minor son William B. Reese Bullard; JULIA ANN (~6), EVA JANE (~6) bequeathed to minor daughter Mary Jane Bullard; HENRY (~40), JOHN, NELSON (18), WILL (~15-16), LURANA (30), MARIA (21) to be hired out for 5 years and divided among William Bullard heirs.	Claiborne County, Tennessee

Over the course of time, eastern Tennessee had the fewest number of slaves due to its hilly terrain and small independent farms scattered along its creeks and rivers. Middle Tennessee held a larger number of slaves; and western Tennessee, bordering the Mississippi River, saw the largest concentration of slave plantations.

## **Appendix C**



- C-1. THE BULLARD NARRATIVES
  Descendant Volumes I, II, III, IV,
- C-2. Eastern Tennessee Historical/Event Time Line
- C-3. John Bullard Sr. Siblings
  Marriage Dates and Spouse Names
- **C-4** Descendants Life Spans

NOTES & CHARTS

APPENDIX C-1

# THE BULLARD NARRATIVES Descendant VOLUMES I, II, III, IV,

#### **Volume I**

#### The Life and Times Narrative of Joseph Bullard

- Narrative Approach and Bullard name
- Immigrant Years (Early Family History)
- Settlement & Western Frontier Years
- Cherokee Wars
- Government Years
- Revolutionary War Years
- Greene County/State of Franklin
- Final Years

#### **Volume II**

#### The Life and Times Narrative of John Bullard (Sr.)

- Early Family History
- Marriage Years
- Jefferson County, Tennessee Years
- Grainger/Claiborne County, Tennessee Years
- Wills and Estate Settlements

#### **Volume III**

## The Life and Times Narrative of Isaac Bullard & son Henry Bullard

- Family History
- Claiborne County, Tennessee Years
- Rhea County, Tennessee Years
- Pre Civil War Years

#### **Volume IV**

#### The Life and Times Narrative of Paris Bullard

- Claiborne County, Tennessee Years
- Union County, Tennessee Years
- Knox County, Tennessee Years
- Marriages
- Early 1900's to 1940 Years

All Bullard Narratives are posted at: Bullardgenealogy .com

## **Eastern Tennessee Historical/Event Time Line**

~1765	John Bullard born	
1784-1788	State of Franklin established	
1786	John Bullard Sr. marries Agnes Nancy Kersey/Casey	
1792-1800	John Bullard resident of Jefferson County, Tennessee	
1796	Tennessee Territory (Southwest Territory) becomes s St	tate
1800	Thomas Jefferson elected President of the United States	
1801	Claiborne County, Tennessee created from Granger and	Hawkins
Counties		
1803	Louisiana Purchase	
1804-1806	Lewis and Clark Expedition	
1812	Tennessee experiences a severe Winter (December)	
1812-1814	War of 1812 (U.S. and British)	
1814 1815	Andrew Jackson defeats British at the Battle of New Orle	eans
1816	Unusually cool summer	
1819	Financial Panic Hits U.S.	
1819	Tennessee farmers experience drought	
1823	Severe Winter statewide (February)	
1823	Monroe Doctrine established	
1830	Farmers experience drought (May)	
1832-1833	Cholera epidemic statewide	
1834	John Bullard dies	
1835	East Tennessee experiences severe winter (February)	
1835	Gold Rush in northern Georgia	
1837	Economic Panic of 1837	
1838	Cherokee Removal to Oklahoma ("Trail of Tears")	
1838	Cholera epidemic around Knoxville	
1838	Malarial fever epidemic around Knoxville (Summer/Fall)	)
1840	Underground railroad established	
1844	Earthquake near Knoxville (November 28)	
1848	Gold Rush in California	
1949	Cholera epidemic in Tennessee (June-August)	
	Severe cold and snow statewide	
1850	Cholera epidemic (June)	
1851	Nancy (Casey) Bullard dies	
1852	Earthquake (Tennessee, Virginia, North Carolina)	
1854	Cholera Epidemic	
1861	Abraham Lincoln elected President	
1863	Emancipation Proclamation to free slaves	
1866	Cholera Epidemic (September)	101
1866	Tennessee first state readmitted to the union	191
1867	Yellow Fever epidemic	Bullardgenealogy.com

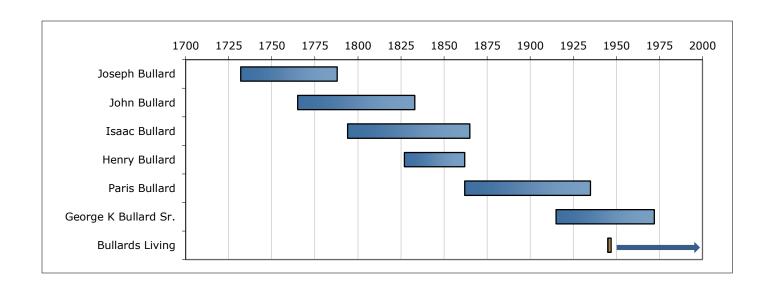


# John Bullard Sr. Children and Chronological Order of Their Marriages

MARRIAGE YEAR	SIBLING AND SPOUSE	HISTORICAL EVENT
1810	Joseph Bullard (b. ~1787) m. Lucy Campbell	
	Henry Bullard (b. ~1792) m. Leah Capps	
1811	Anne Bullard (b. 1788) m. Woolery Beeler	
1812		James Madison elected to 2 <sup>nd</sup> term as U.S. President War of 1812 to 1814 (U.S. and Britain)
1814		
1815		John Sevier, 1st Governor of Tennessee dies
1816		James Monroe becomes 5 <sup>th</sup> President of U.S.
1817	Elizabeth Bullard (b. ~1800) m. John McMahan	
1818		
1819	William Bullard (b. ~1797) m. Barthena Posey	Economic Panic of 1819
1820		
1821		
1823	Isaac Bullard (b.1794) m. Nancy Elizabeth Black ~ 1823	
1823	Mahulda (Huldy) Bullard (b.~1804) m. Alfred Moore	
1824		John Quincy Adams becomes President of U.S.  Mexico wins Independence from Spain
1825		
1826	Sarah (Sally) Bullard (b. 1810) m. George W. Lewis	Davy Crockett elected to U.S. House of Rep.
1827	Martha Bullard (b. ~1807) m. Barnett Hicklin ~ 1829	
1828	Boyer Bullard (Jr.) (b. 1803) m. Elizabeth Hodges John Bullard (Jr.) (b. 1806) m. Permelia Hodges	Andrew Jackson elected President of U.S. Luke Bowyer dies
1829	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	
1830		
1831		
1832		
1833		
1834		John Bullard Sr. dies
1835		
1836		Texas Battle of the Alamo fought
1837		
1838	Christopher B. Bullard (b. 1809) m. Rebecca Hodges	Cherokee Removal "Trail of Tears"

## Joseph Bullard Direct Descendant Line Life Spans

Bullard Descendants	Born	Died	Age
Joseph Bullard	1732	1788	56
John Bullard	1765	1833	68
Isaac Bullard	1794	1865	71
Henry Bullard	1827	1862	35
Paris Bullard	1862	1936	74
George K Bullard Sr.	1915	1972	56
Bullards Living	1945+		



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- 5. The History of Hamilton County and Chattanooga, Tennessee, Volume 1, By Zella Armstrong, p. 172.
- 6. Frederick County Deeds, Book 11, p. 458, 1767; Book 12, p. 45, 1767; Book 13, p. 271, 1769; and Book 13, p. 353, August 8, 1770.
- 7. Sources: (1) "Early Marriages in Greene County. Source: Greene County Tennessee Marriages (1784-1824); (2) Tennessee's First Settlers & Soldiers, Edward C. McAmis, p. 363; (3) Tennessee Marriage Records, Vol. 3, Greene County 1783-1818. Creekmore, Pollyanna & Gertrude L. Soderberg. (Knoxville, TN: Clinchdale Press) 1965, p. 22/33; (4) Early East Tennessee Marriages, Vol I, Grooms, B&B Sistler, 1987, p. 46.
- 3. Early East Tennessee Marriages, Vol 2, Brides, by Byron & Barbara Sistler, 1987, p. 46; and Early Marriages in Greene County; Greene County Tennessee Marriages (1784-1824).
- 9. Greene County, Tennessee Deed Abstracts (1785-1810) Vol. 2, 4,6,7 and 8, by Joyce Martin Murray, p. 49.
- 10. Greene County Tennessee Archives History Records Of Greene County, Tennessee Minutes Of Court Of Pleas And Quarter Sessions 1783-1796, November term, 1787, page 88.
- 11. Greene County Tennessee Archives History Records Of Greene County, Tennessee Minutes Of Court Of Pleas And Quarter Sessions 1783-1796, August term, 1788, page 92.
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- 13. Old Frontiers, by John P. Brown, page 284.
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- 15. Mary(Thornborough) Turner and Family in Tennessee 1783-1805/1807, by Turner N. Wiley; and Land Deeds of Jefferson County, Tennessee (1792-1814) 144-24, Bullard to Moses Yell, p. 52.
- 16. Mary (Thornborough) Turner and Family in Tennessee 1783-1805/1807, by Turner N. Wiley, p. 91; and Land Deeds of Jefferson County, Tennessee, 1792-1814, Appendix A, p. 294-297.
- 17. Hawkins County, Tennessee 1790: Land Grant number; 2619: Joseph Bullard, North Carolina Land Grants in Tennessee 1778-1791; transcribed by Virginia L. "Ginny" Keefer.
- 18. Land Deeds of Jefferson County, Tennessee, 1792-1814, p. 9 and 10.
- 19. Mary (Thornborough) Turner and Family in Tennessee 1783-1805/1807, by Turner N. Wiley, p. 66.
- 20. Jefferson County, Tennessee Deed Book G, p. 32.
- 21. Hawkins County, Tennessee Deed Book Number 1, 1788-1800, p. 125; and Hawkins County Deed Book, Vol 1. p.133, transcribed from Registered 7 August 1792, Lib. E, p.155, by Helen B. Bumgardner; and contributing for use in the USGenWeb Archives by: Nadine Holder nadin@C2i2.com.
- 22. Land Deeds of Jefferson County, Tennessee (1792-1814), Vol. B, Sep 1793-Feb 1796), 167-107, p. 31.
- 23. Land Deeds of Jefferson County, Tennessee (1792-1814) 117-59, p. 50.
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- 25. Washington County Court Records, 1780-1965, Miscellaneous Judicial Documents, 1777-1928, Subgroup G, Boxes 1-8, ID: 500/AppMS 18.
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- 30. Land Deeds of Jefferson County, Tennessee (1792-1814), 78-38 and 83-41 31 respectively, p. 48.
- 31. Ibid.
- 32. Land Deeds of Jefferson County, Tennessee (1792-1814), Volume C (Sep 1792-Apr 1792), 34-18, p. 45.
- 33. Land Deeds of Jefferson County, Tennessee (1792-1814), Volume C. (Sep 1792-Apr 1792) 25-14: and 30-16. p. 45.
- 34. Ibid.
- 35. Jefferson County, Tennessee Court Minutes: 1792-1795, by James L. Douthat and Roberta D. Hatcher, 1985, Court page 125.
- 36. http://freepages.family.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mygermanfamilies/Land.html

- 37. Jefferson County, Tennessee Court Minutes: 1792-1795, by James L. Douthat and Roberta D. Hatcher, 1985, p. 15.
- 38. Jefferson County, Tennessee Court Minutes: 1792-1795, by James L. Douthat and Roberta D. Hatcher, 1985, Court page 45.
- 39. Jefferson County, Tennessee Court Minutes: 1792-1795, by James L. Douthat and Roberta D. Hatcher, 1985, Court page 46.
- 40. Jefferson County, Tennessee Court Minutes: 1792-1795, by James L. Douthat and Roberta D. Hatcher, 1985, p. 9.
- 41. Jefferson County, Tennessee Court Minutes: 1792-1795, by James L. Douthat and Roberta D. Hatcher, 1985, Court page 46.; and The History of Tennessee; East Tennessee, 1887, The Goodspeed Publishing Company, 1887, (FHL book 976.8 H2ha Vol.2), Jefferson County, Tennessee, p. 858.
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- 44. Jefferson Co., Tennessee Court Minutes 1792-1795, by James L. Douthat & Roberta D. Hatcher 1985; October Sessions 1792: Page 97.
- 45. Land Deeds of Jefferson County, Tennessee (1792-1814), 255-135, p. 84.
- 46. Land Deeds of Jefferson County, Tennessee (1792-1814), 73-36, p. 47.
- 47. Jefferson County, Tennessee Will Book 2, 1811-1826, by James L Douthat, p. 36-37 (Document pages, 383-385.)
- 48. Jefferson County, Tennessee Court Minutes (1792-1795), by James L. Douthat and Roberta D. Hatcher, 1985, p. 6 (document p. 19).
- 49. Jefferson County, Tennessee Court Minutes (1792-1795), by James L. Douthat and Roberta D. Hatcher, 1985, p. 19, (document p. 55).
- 50. Jefferson County Tennessee, Record Book No. 1, Court Minutes 1792-1798. (Historical Document copy project WPA, August 13, 1936.), plus Jefferson County, Tennessee Court Minutes: 1792-1795, by James L. Douthat and Roberta D. Hatcher, 1985, Court page 76.
- 51. American Militia in the Frontier Wars, 1790-1796, p. 102. Document Reference: RG94:54, Box 9.
- 52. Ancestry World Tree Project, http://awtc.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=efkubinski&id=I01168
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