

March 26, 1881 continued

"memorandum", a typescript of which is on file in the genealogical collection of the Marshall County Library in Holly Springs, Miss. Quoting D.S. Greer, "My grandfather on my father's side was named James, was born in Pennsylvania, January 15th 1742 and married Mrs. Ann Love. She had two children by her first husband named Stephen and Polly.... My grandmother, whose maiden name was Haynes, was born May 2, 1744. My grandfather died in the year 1824 or 1825, leaving his property to be divided at my grandmother's death, but she sent a request to her children all to meet at her house in Clark County, Georgia on the 1st day of January, 1827, which most of them did, and she divided the estate. Her main object was to get them all together once more. She was then 80 years old. The meeting at the old residence in indelibly impressed on my mind. The place is about 16 miles westwardly from the city of Athens. In a pine county, within one hundred yards of the old dwelling are the remains of my grandfather and within about 200 yards, I was shown the spot on which I was born, near a beautiful clear cold spring.

"The following children were born to them: Parsha Greer born 17th November 1767; Henry Greer born 11th October 1769; David Greer born 20th January, 1772; James Greer born 21st September, 1774; Diannah Greer born 9th February, 1776; Nancy Greer born 30th October, 1777; Elizabeth Greer born 20th May, 1779; Sally Greer born 10th November, 1780; Aquilla Greer born 5th January, 1782; Priscilla Greer born 27th April, 1783; Lucy Greer born 9th October, 1784; Delilah Greer born 20th July, 1786.

"Grandmother /Ann Greer/ died in Lounds /Lowndes/ County, Mississippi on the south side of Butte Hatchie River at her son David Greer's sometime in 1832 and was buried in an old field on her son Harry's land, so says D.D. Greer, who was a son of Uncle David and was living with his father at the time of his death.

"James Greer born in Bedford County, Virginia on the 21st of September, 1774 (on Stanton River). Susannah Searcy born on the 29th of October, 1780 and after giving birth to the 9 following children died on the 16th day of September 1819: Elizabeth Greer born November 27, 1799; Ann Haynes Greer born July 1, 1801; David S. Greer born August 21, 1804; Diannah Greer born November 28, 1806; Jane Greer born October 15, 1808; Robert Searcy Greer born May 29, 1811; Sally Low Greer born September 19, 1813; James Madison Greer born January 29, 1816; Susannah Greer born January 1, 1818."

Here James M. Greer diverges from his uncle D.S. Greer's account, to write, "Very shortly after my grandmother's death, my grandfather married a Mrs. Rachel Williams... she had two children, Isaac Williams and Miriam Williams... She was about medium height, blue-eyed, quite stout, of a quick temper.... I shall now resume copying from Uncle David's book, so as to give the names and births of the second set of children: Henry Greer born September 16, 1820; Aquilla Greer born April 23, 1822; Mary Greer born February 29, 1824; Elkanah Greer born October 11, 1825; Martha Greer born August 25, 1829. My grandfather, as I vaguely recall him, and as I have had him vividly described, was about five feet, ten inches in stature, was blue-eyed, rather stout, after passing middle life and weighing about 175 pounds.

"He was a man of no culture and possessed only the rudiments of an English education. He read but little and wrote less but was a practical surveyor and very keen and quick about arithmetical calculations. Possessed of an energy of the most indomitable kind, he was naturally restless.... When he was only a boy of 17, he ran away from home... returning home at the end of a year he settled to work on the farm in Georgia where his father then lived.... There was one form of speculation or trade with him, which amounted to passion, and to which he devoted the best energies of his life.