

J. Campbell

CAVE

JOHN CAVE may have been the first Cave in America, or the first of our line. He received patents to Virginia land in 1695, died 1730 in Stafford Co., Virginia. He had married Elizabeth Travers. They are named in Giles Travers will in Stafford Co., probated 9-11-1717, as "daughter Elizabeth and son-in-law John Cave." John and Elizabeth had at least three sons, Robert, David and Benjamin.

In 1740, David and Benjamin were both members of St. Thomas Parish. Benjamin was a member of the House of Burgesses from Orange County in 1756. He died in 1762. He had married Hannah Bledsoe, Daughter of William Bledsoe and sister of Abraham Bledsoe. Benjamin and Hannah had two sons who were early Baptist ministers in Kentucky. Rev. William Cave married Mary Mallory, ministered in Garrard, Scott, and Boone Counties. He died in Boone in 1806. Rev. Richard Cave married Betsy Craig, sister of the famous Lewis Craig. He settled in Garrard Co. then moved in 1785 to Woodford County where he died in 1816.

Of the three known sons of John Cave, we will follow Robert.

ROBERT CAVE Sr. was named by Orange County court 7-13-1735, as administrator of the estate of Elizabeth Cave. He died 1755, leaving wife Mary and sons John, William and Robert, according to Culpepper County, Virginia court record Deed book D. We follow William.

WILLIAM CAVE and wife Jeriah came to Kentucky from Orange or Culpepper County Virginia, and settled first in Fayette County and later in Green. (The northern part of Green County later became Taylor County.) The 1810 census for southern Fayette County lists William Cave with 6 in family and 25 slaves, and his son Thomas with 9 in family having 7 slaves. The 1820 Census lists these Caves in Green County. William Caves will is recorded in Green Co. Will Book 2. The will was written 4-3-1825, probated 4-21-28. He names wife Jeriah, sons David, Belfield, then mentions son Abner being in Virginia. (this in 1825-28, while 1820 census shows Abner in Kentucky, then again in Hart County Kentucky in 1850. His consent is on his daughter Ophelia's marriage application in Green County in 1832.) William and Jeriah may also have been the parents of James, Mary and Martin. We have no further records that name David or Belfield. The will names son Thomas and son-in-law Turner Gibson as executors. Turner Gibson married Polly(Mary)Cave 1813 in Green County. James Cave married Rebecca Harding in Green County in 1812, then a Taylor County deed of 1852 says they are of Lincoln County. A Martin Cave married John Eades in 1828 in Green County and a William Cave witnessed.

We will follow Thomas Cave, son of William and Jeriah.

THOMAS CAVE born in 1770's, married Nancy Sims in 1797 in Orange County, Virginia.

One reference states they had six sons and five daughters.

Clarissa Cave born 1798 md Richard Rice 8-9-1816 Green County.

Nancy Cave born 1800 md William Bryant 5-6-1816 " "

Geriah Cave birth year not certain (believed to also md to a Rice)

✓ William T. Cave (middle initial listed one place as S rather than T) born probably about 1805 - 7, married Eliza Hawk. (see later) See page

Abner Cave Born 1809, married Ophelia Cave, his cousin, daughter of his Uncle Abner.

The following furnished by Mrs. Carol Grimes, copied from Kentucky Genealogies and Biographies Vol. 1 p.41.

(Cut family file)

"Abner Cave, born 1809, was a son of Thomas Cave who came from Orange County Virginia to Taylor County Kentucky about 1800, bought 600 acres of land which he farmed with 19 slaves. He was married in Virginia to a Miss Sims who bore him six sons and five daughters." The slave census does not list that many slaves for Thomas. I have not seen the book this quote is taken from, but certainly, it would tell more about Abner. I have heard that he was a minister.

Abner and Ophelia Cave with other Cave and related families settled in Hart County Ky. and appear in 1850 and 1860 census.

Elizabeth Cave (Dau. of Thomas and Nancy) born 1811 md William B. Rice. 1825

Thomas Cave Jr. birth date not certain but probably born 1813-15 or else before Abner. He is believed to have married Emily Wilson. He is listed in his fathers will as deceased before 2-17-1846.

Robert Cave, son of Thomas and Nancy born 1821 md Mary Fisher. He was a wagonmaker at Campbellsville, Ky. They apparently had no children. Their wills are recorded in Taylor county showing considerable wealth. Robert ( R. D.) died about 1897, Mary's will probated in 1917.

James Cave born 1823 .. The census for 1850 in Taylor County lists a James Cave with wife R. C. and children, occupation wagonmaker. Ann Cave, dau of Thomas and Nancy, born 1825, md Robert Allen. They went to Hart County Kentucky.

Sometime between Ann's birth and 1828, Nancy Sims Cave died. Thomas Cave Sr. then married Mary Cowherd, 3-29-1828. They had two daughters. Mary Cave born 1832. (probably md a Glasscock or Bailey). Martha Jane Cave born 1834, md James M. Jarboe, son of Thomas Jarboe, 1848.

The families of Clarissa Cave Rice, and Elizabeth Cave Rice with some Cave families moved to Macaupin County Illinois. One of the Cave families came back to Kentucky. A descendant of Clarissa provided this information and confirmed by her research that Thomas Sr. and Nancy Sims were married in Orange county Virginia. (Mrs. Carol Grimes P.O. Box 1462 Rancho Santa Fe, California, 92067.)

It was told by older members of the family( c 1960)that two Cave brothers were on a long wagon trip in the 1840's and that as they returned home they stopped somewhere and encountered a man who was deathly ill. As a result they apparently contracted a contagious illness and died of some fever type of sickness. These brothers were William T. and probably Thomas Jr.

Thomas Cave Sr. wrote his will on Feb. 17, 1846, many years before his death. It was probated 5-12-1863. In the will he provides property to his children specifying equal shares to the children of sons, Thomas Jr. and William T. who are deceased. William T., however, had time to make a will of his own. He stated that he knew the "certainty of death". The will was written and signed 8-6-1845.

There are two rude stone markers in the cemetery at Palestine Baptist Church in Taylor County, one marked T. C. 1845 the other W. C. 1845 .

WILLIAM T. CAVE, son of Thomas Cave Sr. and Nancy Sims born between 1801 and 1808, probably about 1805-06. (his marriage record was copied as William S., which could well be correct. Old handwritten records are sometimes misleading.) He married July 4, 1829, Elizabeth Hawk known as Eliza. She was daughter of Frederick Hawk and Sally Wright, daughter of Thomas Wright. There were seven children by census.

THOMAS CAVE, born 1830, married Melinda Coyle. They had children. The 1850 census tells that Thomas was born in Illinois. The 1840 census lists the family back in Green County again.

WILLIAM FREDERICK CAVE, born 1832, see below.

ROBERT CAVE, born 1835, according to 1850 census, did not appear in Taylor County census in 1860. Estate settlement in 1867 did not mention him. Mrs. Newton's genealogy mistakenly listed his cousin Robert, son of Thomas Jr. and Emily, in this family.

NANCY S. CAVE, born 1837, married 8-19-1862, James K. Mardis. They had children. JAMES R. CAVE, born 1839, married 1st 9-4-1873 Elizabeth Shipp, 1850-1881. They had three children. He married 2nd, Mrs. Sallie Marr, 1894. They had two children.

SARAH A. CAVE, born 1842, married 2-24-1863, John H. Shipp.

ELIJAH CAVE, born 1844, married Mary Bowles, daughter of John and Elvira Bowles.

WILLIAM FREDERICK CAVE, son of William T. Cave and Eliza Hawk, born 1832. He married first Mary Wilson, daughter of Green and Sally Wilson, 12-22-64.

GREEN CAVE, born 1866, married Eva Fisher. One daughter, Avo Keuhn. He married second Lillie Caffee, widow, having one son, Otis Cave.

ELIZA CAVE, born 1867, married Clay Davis, one daughter, Callie Davis married Jesse Sullivan, their daughter Opal Sullivan md Lewis Sallee. Mary H. Cave died after Eliza's birth. William F. married second Nancy Robinson Bowles 11-26-71. Nancy was born in 1852 daughter of John and Elvira Bowles, and sister to Mary, above. The 1871 log home stand William F. and Nancy's children were:

MYRTLE CAVE, born 1-6-1873 d. 7-9-1960 md. 12-24-1891, William Caffee. Their children; Hallicy, Ursel, Guy, Andy, Vera.

IRVIN FELIX CAVE, born 3-30-1874, d. 5-31-1959. He married Maud Hay 11-10-1898. Their Children;

Lewis, Gladys, Lela, Flossie, Omer.

BERNETTA CAVE, born 1877 d. 1901. married Francis Mardis, son of James K. Mardis and Nancy Cave, above. One son, Millard Mardis, b. 1898.

WILLIAM CLINTON (Willie) CAVE, born 1880, d. 2-23-1963. He married Iva Davis daughter of R. H. Davis. Their children; Malcom, Jeff, Hammon, and Helen.

CORA CAVE, born 4-18-1882, d. 11-13-1960. She married 10-31-1906 Alex Phillips. Their children; Virgil, Elijah, Edith, George, Harold.

JOSEPH CAVE, born 10-12-1885, died Pleasant Plains Illinois.

He married Mary Pyle. One daughter, Laverne, married Olin Kreige.

MARTHA OMAR CAVE, born 10-12-1888, d. 3-25-1971. She married 10-11-1918, John W. Miller, son of E. B. Miller and Harriett S. Jarboe. 1872-1954. Their two sons; William Edward, born August 1919, died July 1921; Samuel Marshall Miller, born 3-18-1925, married 6-4-1948, Elwanda Wilkerson. One son, James Kenneth Miller, born 4-23-1964. Martha O. Cave was known as "Mattie".

DELLA CAVE, born 9-20-1892, died single 4-6-1964.

LILLIE E. CAVE, born 4-16-1897, died single, 12-8-1971.

THOMAS CAVE Jr. born 1813 ? We have found no record of Thomas exact age or of his marriage. It is supposed that he married Emily Wilson daughter of Robert Wilson. The 1850 census lists the Robert Wilson family as including Emily J. Cave 28, Robert Cave 7, and Thomas 4. In the 1880 census the household of Washington Wilson (probably Emily's brother) includes Thomas Cave, boarder laborer, age 35. So if Emily and Thomas Cave Jr. had sons, Thomas could have been born about 1845 and Robert 1843. This seems to fit our other information.

ROBERT CAVE, son of Thomas Cave Jr. and Emily J. Wilson

The following taken from his obituary in Campbellsville News Journal. Robert Cave was born Dec. 19, 1843. He married Catherine Robertson Dec. 9, 1870. He died Jan. 16, 1921. They had four Children, Mrs Emma W. Richeson, Mrs Lula E. Arvin, Mrs Lizzie F. Brockman, and Thomas B. Cave.

In her research on the Caves, Mrs Edith Newton had assumed this Robert Cave to be the son of William T. and Eliza Cave because they did have a son Robert, who according to 1850 census was born 1835. He is not listed in Taylor County in 1860. So no record of him. See next page. Robert Cave and Catherine Robertson were probably married outside Taylor County since there is no record here. Also the above date reported by the News Journal must be wrong since Emma W. birthdate is given as 1868.

The following are descendants of Robert and Catherine Cave. (taken from Mrs. Newton's genealogy, 1962.)

Emma White Cave b. 7-19-1868 d 5-26-1947 md 11-10-1886 James Craig Richeson 1863-1951. Their Children; Robert Thomas Richeson, Ernest T., Lula Bell md Joe Hedgespeth, James R. md Lillian Deener, Mae md 1st William Faucett, 2nd Emerson Brockman, Lizzie Etta md Clarence Graham, Harry M., Willard, and Dillard.

Lizzie F. Cave b 1875 md 9-6-1892 J. S. Brockman, Merchant.

Their Children; Monia, Roscoe, Ruth, Bernia, Dora, Alta, Ellis.

Lula E. Cave b 11-7-1870 d 3-20-1943 md 1894 John Spencer Arvin, 1870-1947. There were children but names not available.

Thomas Bernard Cave md Bertha Wade

Their Children; Catherine, md Coakley Milby, Hershel Bernard, William Floyd, Lulu, Robert, Laurence, Dorothy md \_\_\_\_\_ Durham.

Descendents of Emma W. and Thomas Bernard now live in Taylor County.

Robert Cave's monument is found in Palestine Baptist Church cemetery. It is inscribed "Robert Cave Dec. 19, 1844 d. Jan. 19, 1921"

On the back side of the same stone is "Mary Catherine b. May 28, 1851". Nearby are stones of Thomas Bernard Cave and wife Bertha Wade, and others.