



Jama Watts <jamama@gmail.com>

## Genealogy question concerning Solomon Gardner and Thomas Gardner

**Vickie Natale** <vnat01@gmail.com>  
To: Jama Watts <jama.watts@marioncopublic.org>

Sun, Mar 17, 2019 at 12:22 PM

Hi Jama,

Thank you for following up with Junie's daughter...

The William Peterson book is what I used the first time to establish this relationship, but alas, that was what DAR did not accept (because he did not personally know them [different time span] and he did not reference any documents to support his claim [will or birth/death certificate, etc.]).

The only other paths I can think of now are:

1. Does anyone know who Cora Ann Wright Riney is? I presume, unfortunately, that her bible is not at your library, but perhaps there is a family member who is still in possession of it (?) *-Do not have*
2. The "Washington county Kentucky Bicentennial History" is not at my local library and not available online. If you have it, could you check to see if it has any valuable reference? *no Gardners*
3. I also cannot find a book called "Marion County History" which is mentioned in Minor's foreword. Is that at your library? *nothing on Gardners*

It's quite exasperating that we all know this is the truth, but we can't find the document that DAR will accept....

Thanks again for your help!

[Quoted text hidden]



Jama Watts <jamama@gmail.com>

## Genealogy question concerning Solomon Gardner and Thomas Gardner

3 messages

**Vickie Natale** <vnat01@gmail.com>  
To: jama.watts@marioncopublic.org

Tue, Mar 12, 2019 at 6:42 PM

Hello Ms. Watts,

I called today and left a message for you, but I thought I could explain my question in this email... I am needing to find a document to establish that Solomon Brooks Gardner (b. 19 Oct 1815 in Washington, KY; d. 9 Nov 1886, Marion, KY) is the son of Thomas Gardner (b. 16 April 1784 in MD; d. Oct 1850 in IN). I have this information from a book: "Ancestors and Descendants of Garrett Peterson and Nancy Smock" by William L. Peterson, 1987, p. 468. However, NSDAR is asking for a primary source to establish this relationship.

The KDLA has told me that death certificates are not available for the 1880s (which might have had his parents named), and his marriage certificate shows his wife's father, but not his. I cannot find a will for Thomas (who left KY). However, both men were ministers for the Smock Methodist Chapel, and I thought there might be some local documents referencing this family. It would be wonderful if Thomas recorded the baptism of his children or if there were any other church records that establish Solomon as the son of Thomas.

Do you have any local records that might have this information? Is it possible to search for the information? Are there any other locations/leads that you might direct me to try to find such a record?

Thank you kindly for your assistance.

Smock's Chapel Church Complete Church  
Register, 1884-1900  
Lists S.B. Gardner, but does not give  
parents. Deaths not recorded until 1889.

Vickie Natale

(361) 549-5285

## CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS

**Jama Watts** <jama.watts@mariونcopublic.org>  
To: Vickie Natale <vnat01@gmail.com>

Wed, Mar 13, 2019 at 12:09 PM

Vickie.

I have some information from Smock's Chapel and will see what I can find, as well as family files and other local history. I'll see what I can find and get back to you. I've helped a few ladies with DAR research, so I know how picky they can be. It'll be a few days before I get a chance to get in our Heritage Hub to research, but I'll let you know as soon as I'm able!

Jama Watts, MLIS  
Reference & Genealogy Librarian  
Marion County Public Library  
201 East Main Street  
Lebanon, Ky 40033

[Quoted text hidden]

**Vickie Natale** <vnat01@gmail.com>

Wed, Mar 13, 2019 at 12:48 PM

Gardner, Nancy K.

Section 5

Born May 6, 1818

Died April 9, 1885

Wife of Solomon Brooks Gardner

Maiden name - Nancy K. Smith

Gardner, Mary Ann

Section 5

Born January 6, 1831

Died October 21, 1886

Daughter of Richard and Mary C. Gardner

Gardner, S. B.

Section 5

Born October 19, 1815

Died November 9, 1886

Husband of Nancy K. Smith

Son of Thomas Gardner and Janet Smock

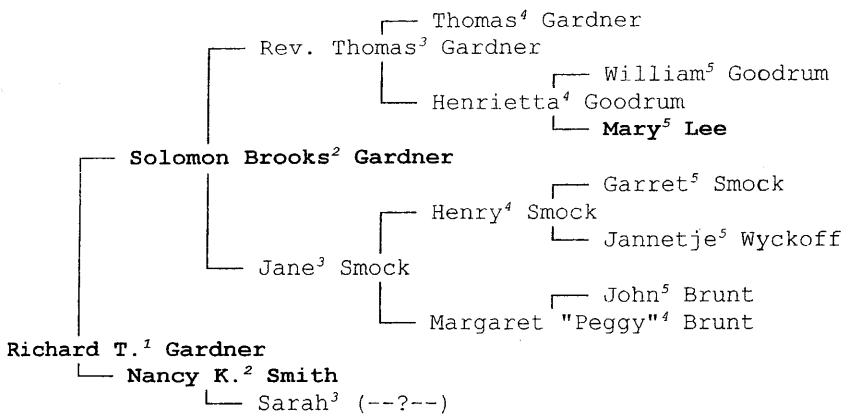
Full name - Solomon Brooks Gardner

Gardner, James W.

Section 5

Born March 10, 1837

Died April 21, 1892



Parents: **Solomon B. Gardner**  
**Nancy K. Smith**

Sister: **Mary Ann Gardner**

Wife: Mandy Wayne

Children: Lizzie (c. 1885- )  
Albert (c. 1892- )

**Gardner, S. B.**

Born October 19, 1815

(East 5-4)

Section 5

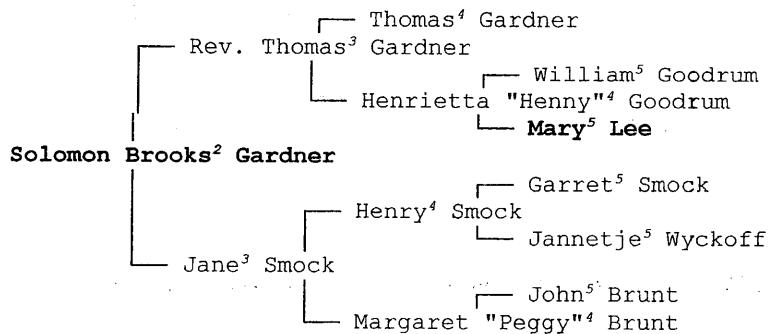
Died November 9, 1886

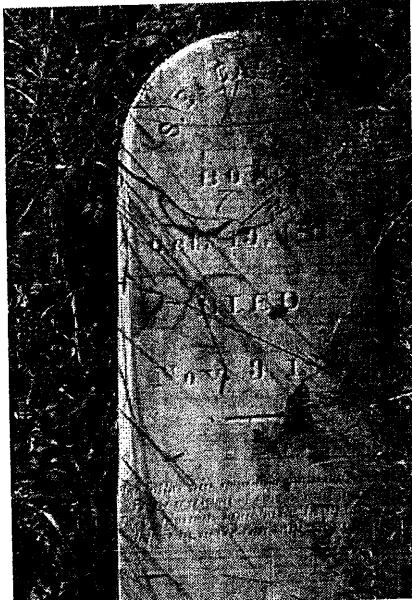
Husband of Nancy K. Smith  
Son of Thomas Gardner and Janet Smock

Full name - Solomon Brooks Gardner

His stone is lying on the ground.

In the 1860 Marion Co. census, Solomon Gardner, 44, Farmer, was listed as the head of household. He was a real estate assessment of \$800 and a personal assessment of \$ 300. Listed in the household was his wife Nancy 42, and children Richard 20, Nancy 18, Mary 17, Elizabeth 16, Henry C. 15, Cordelia 13, William 8, Catharine 6, Larua 5, Emily T. 3, and Solomon 10 months. Also living with them was Nancy's mother, Sarah Smith, age 70.





**Solomon Brooks Gardner**

Wife: Nancy K. Smith

Children: **Richard T.**

m. Mandy Wayne

**Nancy**

m. **C. G. Smith**

**Catherine**

m. **Morgan Davis**

Elizabeth

Henry C.

Cordelia

William

Laura

Emily T.

Solomon

**Eliza Jane**

m. **George Davis**

Parents: Rev Thomas Gardner

Jane Smock

Siblings: Rosa Ann

Eliza

Nancy

**Henry S.**

m. **Isabel Gardner**

Ellen

m. Rev. Abraham Wright

Margaret

William S.

Elizabeth

Nicy Janet

John Thomas

Edmond

Mary Janet

A. Bailey

**Gardner, Susan A.**

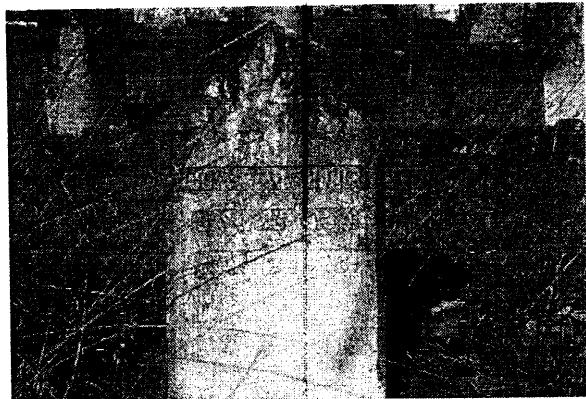
Born January 26, 1834

(East 8-9)

Section 6

Died January 13, 1909

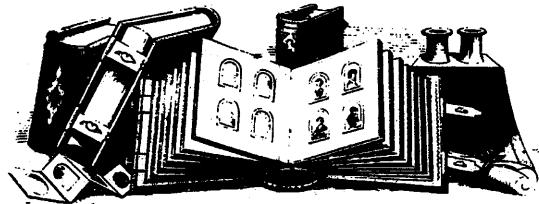
I believe Susan is the daughter of Richard Gardner and Mary C. Darnell. She is buried next to Richard. In the 1850 Marion County census, Mary (Darnell) Gardner is head of household and 50. Children were H. F. 23, Elvina 21, Mary A. 19, Richard 17, and Susan A. 15.



**Susan A. Gardner**

21602

Ancestors and Descendants of  
*Garrett Peterson*  
*and*  
*Nancy Smock*



*by William L. Peterson*

 GATEWAY PRESS, INC.  
Baltimore 1987

## EARLY KENTUCKY

same cemetery.

It is not known when the Thomas Meeting House ceased to exist. The burials recorded there begin in 1819 and continue until the 1850's. There undoubtedly were earlier burials, perhaps more unknown than known, and GARRET and HENRY SMOCK may have been among them.

### Smock's Chapel

Smock's Chapel,<sup>36</sup> a Methodist meeting-house, took its name from John SMOCK, eldest son of our ancestor HENRY SMOCK. His grave is in the cemetery adjacent to the church, and the stone which marks it says he was born October 12, 1788 and died February 12, 1861. He was twice married, and the graves of his two wives are side by side in line with his. His first wife, Celia BUCKLER, died in 1833, age 38 years. His second wife, Letitia (Letty), was born in 1800 and died in 1876. In John SMOCK's will, drawn 1 Jan 1860, the church and cemetery were mentioned:<sup>37</sup>

I will to the Methodist Episcopal Church South the Meeting house and grave yard including about one acre and a thirty foot Road out to the White oak next to Gardiners.

In trying to determine the age of this cemetery, I find it significant that the two oldest known burials there are the wife (Celia) and daughter (Elizabeth P.) of John SMOCK, buried in 1833 and 1834 respectively. I am not aware of any other recorded burials there until the 1850's. This would tend to indicate that it was used as a family cemetery in those early years and that it did not become a burial place for other members of the Protestant community until the Thomas Burying Ground fell into disuse in the 1850's. This is not to say that the possibility doesn't still exist that GARRET and HENRY SMOCK are buried here.

Just how early Smock's Chapel itself was built is not known, though recent information gives us a better idea. Ellen (Nelle) and Elizabeth GARDNER, daughters of Jane SMOCK and Rev. Thomas GARDNER, Jr., married Rev. Abraham WRIGHT; in 1901 he wrote Sketches and Incidents of Ye Olden Times which describes a little of the early history of Smock's Chapel:<sup>38</sup>

In 1839 and that winter we had at Popular Flat a great revival. . .From the Flat we adjourned to Smock's meeting house in Marion county, where we guess there were over 100 conversions. There the wandering boy preacher took up school in the meeting house where he tarried and taught from 1840 to 1845. In 1845 he married Miss Nelle GARDNER, a granddaughter of Col. SMOCK who fought with General Shelby at Tippecanoe. I assisted Brother Davies, on the Salt river circuit in vacations of '41, '42, '43. . .When the church was divided in 1844 our society at Smock's did not go with the South; and in the next year my

father-in-law's family and settled in Owen county on Fish

This information dates Smock's Meeting House to the 1830's! One can speculate that Smock's Chapel was built before 1839. His son Solomon is said to have helped build the chapel.

There appear to be errors in the text. It is likely that the author is referring to the Indian War of 1811, and it seems unlikely that the author is referring to the last mention of him in the text, which is in 1806 (see Chapter 23).

Three doctors are buried in the cemetery. One is Dr. John D. Drough, probably of the pioneer generation, born 1827; died 18 May 1858. The other two are Dr. Jefferson WRIGHT (who married Ellen GARDNER in 1843 and died 4 Oct 1879). The author notes that the three doctors died at the relatively young age of 31, 31, and 36, respectively, suggesting something about the long life expectancy in those early days.

### Counties and Towns

The population of Washington county in 1790, was 9,050. The town of Lebanon, then the county seat was established in 1792. It sprang up about the courthouse, which included a tavern for the accomodations of travelers, a small general store, a blacksmithery, and a cabinetmaker's shop. The settlement started in 1792 and the first legislature in late 1793.<sup>39</sup>

Looking back at the old records of Washington county, we come across an interesting entry: "Prisonment if the offender be a slave. . .flogging with 40 lashes on the bare back if he be a slave. . .clothes in the public spring--water for drinking and cooking purposes."

Danville became a leading town in the early date. It had the first Presbyterian Church west of the mountains.

In 1850, the roads around Lebanon were in poor condition because of increased travel, and the author suggests that efforts were made to improve the roads around the town. The author notes that nearly every house in Lebanon had a well, and nearly all the wells in Lebanon were dry.

## EARLY KENTUCKY

father-in-law's family and mine came back to Indiana and settled in Owen county on Fish creek hills.

Meeting House ceased to exist.  
1819 and continue until the  
earlier burials, perhaps more  
HENRY SMOCK may have been

This information dates Smock's Meeting House or Chapel back to the 1830's! One can speculate that Rev. GARDNER preached at Smock's Chapel before 1839. His son Solomon B. GARDNER (1815-1886) is said to have helped build the chapel.

There appear to be errors in the above excerpt as it was Gen. Harrison who fought the Indians at the Battle of Tippecanoe in 1811, and it seems unlikely that HENRY SMOCK played a part in it as the last mention of him in the Kentucky militia that I have found is in 1806 (see Chapter 23).

Three doctors are buried at Smock's Chapel. Dr. E. H. Muldrough, probably of the pioneer family of that name, was born 3 Feb 1827; died 18 May 1858. The second medic was Dr. Thomas Jefferson WRIGHT (who married Cass Phillips SMOCK), born 11 Apr 1843 and died 4 Oct 1879. The third was Dr. R. M. Peake. The three doctors died at the respective ages of 31, 36, and 32, saying something about the longevity of those in the practice of medicine in those early days.

### Counties and Towns

The population of Washington County, as shown by the census of 1800, was 9,050. The town of Lebanon in 1830 reported 384 people. When the county seat was established at Springfield, a settlement sprang up about the courthouse. The first business houses included a tavern for the accommodation of persons attending the courts, a small general store, a gunsmith's shop, a hattery, a tannery, and a cabinetmaker's shop. The first homes, not more than ten or twelve in number, were nothing more than log cabins. The settlement started in 1792 and the town was established by the legislature in late 1793.<sup>39</sup>

Looking back at the old records in the county clerk's office in Springfield, we come across an ordinance providing for a fine or imprisonment if the offender be a white person or a certain number of lashes on the bare back if a Negro, for bathing or washing clothes in the public spring--which the whole town was dependent upon for drinking and cooking purposes.<sup>40</sup>

Danville became a leading political center in Kentucky at an early date. It had the first postoffice, the first jail, and the first Presbyterian Church west of the Allegheny Mountains.<sup>41</sup>

Popular Flat a great revival  
at Smock's meeting house  
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took up school in the meeting  
from 1840 to 1845. In 1841  
granddaughter of Col. SMOCK  
at Tippecanoe. I assisted  
circuit in vacations of '41  
divided in 1844 our society  
th; and in the next year

## HENRY SMOCK CHILDREN

Isabel L. GARDNER. Mason GARDNER married and divorced Nancy J. BUCKLER, who later married Cary Allen PETERSON, Sr., a son of GARRETT PETERSON and NANCY SMOCK. Celia S. GARDNER married and divorced from Williston Talbot BUCKLER. Edmon GARDNER married Henrietta BULLOCK, probably related to the Bullocks who married Petersons. "Kate" GARDNER married Sam PETERSON (see Chapter 36), son of GARRET PETERSON and NANCY SMOCK. More Gardner references are listed in footnote #24.

### Jane SMOCK and Rev. Thomas GARDNER, Jr.

Jane,<sup>25</sup> the daughter of HENRY SMOCK and MARGARET BRUNT, was born 19 Oct 1794, undoubtedly on the farm that later included Smock's Chapel, as that was where her parents lived. She married Rev. Thomas GARDNER, Jr., 16 Apr 1811.<sup>26</sup> They had a large family and migrated to Kansas. Thomas GARDNER appears to have deeded the land on which he at one time lived (on Hardin's Creek) to his wife's brother John SMOCK in 1837; a very similar deed to MARGARET (BRUNT) SMOCK appears in 1838.<sup>27</sup> Thomas GARDNER sold 166 1/2 acres to MARGARET SMOCK for "\$750 paid in a negro woman and child the receipt hereof I do acknowledge." According to E. J. RINEY, Thomas GARDNER and Janett SMOCK raised their children in the Hodgenville, Ky., area. Research there would probably verify that. I have found no further record of Jane Thomas in Marion Co., though their son Solomon Brooks GARDNER lived close to Smock's Chapel. He fathered fifteen children, reportedly helped build the Smock's Chapel building; he died 9 Dec 1886 and is buried there,<sup>28</sup> alongside many other Gardners.

Jane and Thomas had fourteen children: Rosa Ann, Eliza, Sarah Brooks, Nancy, Henry S., Ellen, Margaret, William S., Elizabeth, Nicy Janet, John Thomas, Edmond, Mary Janet, and A. B. GARDNER. Ellen (Nelle) married Rev. Abraham WRIGHT (1818-1841) and moved to Owen Co., Ind., in 1845; they had ten children: Owen T. WRIGHT<sup>29</sup> (the father of Mrs. E. J. (Eliza) WRIGHT RINEY, an early Smock historian), Dr. John WRIGHT, Rev. Wilson WRIGHT. Protestant ministers abounded in the Gardner family. Abraham later married another sister, Elizabeth. The above William S. GARDNER was killed by Quantrell's Raiders at Lawrence, Ks. Jane and Thomas' children scattered widely: Kansas, Indiana, Iowa, and California.

For more information about Rev. Abraham WRIGHT, see Smock's Chapel section in Chapter 29.

### William SMOCK, Sr., and Elizabeth (Betsy) BUCKLER

William, Sr., the youngest son of HENRY SMOCK and MARGARET BRUNT, was born 20 Jul 1798,<sup>30</sup> and like his sister Polly, lived in the area of Smock's Chapel all his life. Like his older brother John, he married a Buckler. Elizabeth (Betsy) BUCKLER, the mother of Celia BUCKLER SMOCK, became the bride of William 20 Jul 1820, almost eleven years after Celia married John SMOCK. The

federal mortality record of Marion Co., Ky., gives considerable information about William SMOCK, Sr., who died in January of "applexy" at age 71. G. (Garrett) D. SMOCK (her son) was born in Kentucky (Virginian mother) in Virginia, and survived his father by 23 years (74 actually) (see Chapter 29).

William SMOCK, Sr., died 2 Dec 1869. Dr. Garrett D. SMOCK, he "lived in Marion Co., Ky., where his father and Grandfather were born in Kentucky."<sup>33</sup> His will was destroyed during the Civil War but a copy of the will was accepted as being valid in 1869. Elizabeth and a number of his children (John, Gilbert, Henry H., Jefferson, and others) made for his son Jefferson, who was managing his own affairs.

William, Sr., according to his will, owned 527 1/2 acres on the farm, 10 horses, and 7 blacks--an evaluation of his property throughout his life. Celia BUCKLER willed to his wife. It is not known if he was in the census, over fifteen years after his death. Kentucky, Charity Smock, a black servant in Dr. Garret SMOCK's household, is the only instance that I have found of this situation, though it probably was not unique.

Dr. Samuel B. SMOCK, Sr., son of William SMOCK, and his cousin Sarah E. SMOCK (see above) sold their farm in Marion Co., Ky., for one dollar and other considerations to Dr. John WRIGHT of Pottinger's Creek to "my son John WRIGHT, who is to have the tract of land owned by my father and myself, and the same tract on which said William SMOCK died."<sup>39</sup>

A good bit has been said about the Gardner family in other chapters. His active interest in the church was one of the earliest that I have found. He graduated from the University of New Haven Methodist Church in New Haven, Conn., and Hodgenville, was a drug store owner, and a member of the cemetery in Larue Co., Ky. He was a descendant of the prominent Sibley family. Sibley had two children: Fanny and William SMOCK, both of whom married