

Subject Files

Biographical and

Genealogical GORDON

JOHNSON-McCURRY  
FAMILIES

P.O. Box 189  
Slaton, Tex 79364

8-29-87

Dear Lois,

Enclosed please find my check for \$12.25. I am well pleased with the information you gathered. If you should find any other information on what appears to be my Gordons, Johnsons, McCurry or McDonalds please feel free to send it and bill me for it.

The enclosed material is not the family sketch I promised. I have been baby sitting my granddaughter for about the last 10 days. Her regular baby sitter went on a vacation. I did get a chance to spend a couple of hours at the Lubbock Library (about 20 miles from my home & near my daughter's home) and copied the enclosed items.

I have no information that places Gilbert Gordon in the Rev. War and nothing that eliminates him from it either.

The Johnsons evidently spelled their name Johnston at one time. One of Archibald Johnson's younger daughters, Mary, spelled her name Johnston as late as 1832 when she married a McDonald.

This is the family of Gilbert & Mary (McKenzie) Gordon as best I have it - Ages may not be in order and some may be missing.

- 1) Julia Elizabeth      M. Archibald Johnson - my g.g.g. grandparents
- 2) Eleanor              M. Rev. Robert Irwin - Pastor - Little Geneva Church (1800-1823)
- 3) Flora                M. John Lawson
- 4) John                 M. Sarah McCurry - I will show his family.
- 5) Thomas             M. ----- Jones
- 6) William            M. Catherine McDonald
- 7) Mary b. 1795 Ga. M. Moses H. Harris b. 1793 S.C.

(#7 - I think I am related to both Mary & Moses H. Harris. Back in the 1780's there were Sanders & Harris' who lived somewhere near Fishing Creek in Wilkes County, N.C. One was Rev. Moses Sanders, Jr.

His son, Moses Barber, Jr. married Elizabeth (Betsy) Harris in 1789.  
In 1790 they were living in S.C.

Soon after that Rev. Moses, Sr. and Moses, Jr. and other Barbers & Harris moved to Franklin County, Georgia.

Sometimes the Harris name was spelled Harris. The Harrisers must have been related to a family with a name like Minard. Descendants of Moses, Jr. & Elizabeth had first names such as Minard, Minyard, Mainard and Maynard.)

This is the family of Archibald & Julia Elizabeth (Gordon) Johnson or best I have it. Ages may not be in order.

- 1.) Rachel b. 1797 d. 1887      m. James McCurdy b. 1789 d. 1863
- 2.) Daniel b. 1800 d. 1894      m. Elizabeth Chandler b. 1814 d. 1851
- 3.) Elizabeth Eleanor (Nellie) b. 1805 d. — m. — John? — Gordon
- 4.) John — b ca. 1810      no record
- 5.) Angus b. 1812 d. —      m. Sarah Doer
- 6.) Mary b. 1814/18 d. —      m. — — — — — McDonald
- 7.) Rev. Alexander b. 1816 d. 1888      m. (1) Louisa Adelia Tate Mann
- 8.) Rev. Archibald Gordon      (2) Isabella Tidell.
- 8.) Rev. Archibald Gordon b. 1819 d. 1902      m. Isabella Wilson
- 9.) Ruth b. — d. —      said to have married a lawyer. Lived near Marietta, Georgia. — died Young.

The above Daniel made quite a name for himself. He migrated to DeKalb County, Georgia in 1824 and was one of the first white men to live there. He was a Surveyor & Farmer and many roads in DeKalb County are said to run on the first layout there. He surveyed the land for the first Courthouse there. He was a member of the State Legislature in the early 1840's. Later he was a prominent business man in Decatur & Atlanta.

This is a copy of a letter written by Sarah Margaret Gordon, daughter of John and Sarah (M<sup>c</sup>Curry) Gordon and Granddaughter of Gilbert & Mary Gordon. She was the youngest child and never married. I only have a typed copy and I don't know who has the original. I don't know who Boba was but her full name was Boba Goss Ansley and she lived in Decatur, Georgia.

"Royston, Ga.

Sept. 6, 1907

Dear Boba,

Your letter received and highly appreciated. It will be a pleasure to tell you all I know of the dates of my father and mother, their births and deaths, etc.

My father was born in Iredell County, N. C. So was my mother, in October, not a months difference in their ages, but I have heard them say they did not know which was the older.

I will take my mother first as she died first. She was Sarah M<sup>c</sup>Curry. She married in 1811 and died in 1863, on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April, being 76 years and five months old.

My father died the 15<sup>th</sup> day of August, 1868, in his 81<sup>st</sup> year. My father's father was Gilbert Gordon who married Mary M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie. She was just 12 years old when they married and he was 30. He made her a little cedar \*piggie and that made her fall in love with him. They came from Scotland after they were married.

My mother's father was named Angus M<sup>c</sup>Curry and her mother was Flora M<sup>c</sup>Dougal at first, but she married a M<sup>c</sup>Donald and he and she had one child named Rory when M<sup>c</sup>Donald died. After a reasonable time she married my Grandfather, Angus M<sup>c</sup>Curry, and they had two daughters, Margaret and Sarah. The latter

was my mother. She always claimed that her right name was Marion, but my Grandfather could not translate the Gaelic into English. You see I am full-blooded Scotch.

My father and mother were married on the 29<sup>th</sup> of January, 1811. I was born on the 29<sup>th</sup> of January, 1832, so you see I am 75 years and some months old.

There were ten children: Gilbert, Neal, Thomas, Mary, Flora, Eleanor, Angus, John, Robert and Margaret. I am the only one of the family living.

I wrote a little family\* history a few years ago to Sarah Halloway.

Give my love to all and accept a good share for yourself and Wiley; kiss the children for me.

Your true Aunt,  
S. M. Gordon"

- 1. \* piggin - Gaelic for bucket
- 3. \* little family history - "Thinking to spare me heart break, my mother, Mrs. Sarah Gordon Halloway, destroyed her letters and private papers before her death." - Mrs. Ben S. Parker, 1286 Faxon ave., Memphis, Tennessee.
- 2. \* name correction - "Flora M: Donald married a M: Leougal and they had a son named Neal, for whom one of John Gordon's sons was named." - Mrs. Ted Parsons

"John Gordon was a very strict old man. His daughters bears had to sit with the family and read the Bible on Sunday afternoons. These people settled about 10 miles southeast of what is now Hartwell, Georgia and forded the Savannah River to attend services at the Little Genevaes Church. A number of the Gordons became noted Presbyterian

ministers including Gilbert Gordon, Neal Gordon and Laughlin M<sup>c</sup> Donald.

Some of the earlier spelling of M<sup>c</sup> Donald was Mac Donald,

I have heard that the D.A.R. has erected a marker of some type to Angus M<sup>c</sup> Curry. If that is true he must have been in the Rev. war but I have found no record.

I have found no connection between Gilbert Gordon and the Gordons mentioned in my book. However I am working on a chart of that family from the beginning through the Rev. war. As you live in the same part of North Carolina as they did I will send you a copy if you should want it.

Sincerely  
John C. M<sup>c</sup> Curdy

P.S. "John + Margaret (M<sup>c</sup> Curry) Mac Donald had, among others: Rev. Laughlin M<sup>c</sup> Donald, b Oct. 3, 1810, Hart Co., Ga., (now) Graduated from Miami University in Ohio, 1836; Ordained minister of Associated Reform Presbyterian, 1838. Family belonged to the Geneva Pres. Church in S.C., about 10 miles across the Savannah River. His father died while the children were young..... Mother reared the children in a rural section. --- Laughlin M<sup>c</sup> Donald was a man of polished manners." - from Centennial History

Also 3 of John Gordon's sons and some M<sup>c</sup> Curdy relatives also attended Miami University at Oxford, Ohio. Later several attended Erskin Seminary, Elm Hill, South Carolina.

422. MATTHEWS, Mrs. W. C., 1097 Oakdale Rd. N. E., Atlanta 7, Ga. Gilbert Gordon, Scotland to Rowan, Iredell; Julia Elizabeth Gordon, 1780, Rowan, Iredell; Archibald Johnson(t)on, 1761, Scotland, Ga., Alexander Blackshear, 1720, Jones; Johan Martinfranchke, 1710, Onslow; Lewis Williams, 1750, Warren Aquilla Matthews, 1750, Rutherford.

page  
155

269. HAWKINS, Mrs. Nora, 489 Sterling St., N.E., Atlanta 7, Ga. Edmond Cartledge, 1749-57, Bladen, Anson; Daniel Johnson, from Scotland 1774 to Iredell Co., N. C., wife ——— McCurry; William Pullin, 1777, Halifax, mar. Chancey Pullen; James Highsmith, New Hanover, Halifax, wife Millie; Tread(a)way, Richard, Daniel, and William; Philip Cox mar. Jemima Taylor (Want parents of Philip Cox); Luke Landers; McCurry.

*I never knew either of these women but I have heard of them.*

*In # 269 - Page 155 Daniel Johnson and wife ——— McCurry - This would be the parents of Archibald Johnson, my G.G.G. Grandfather. I would have guessed his name to be Daniel and her name to be Rachel (McCurry or McDonald). I have seen no proof that gives their names. Also no proof that they lived in Iredell County before moving to Georgia. I do believe that the data given are about right!*

estate. ~~The entire estate to remain in the hands of my wife Betsy for widowhood. Wife, son William and son-in-law James Upshaw, Exors. Signed April 21, 1821. Probated Sept. 3, 1821. William King, Levi Stinchcomb, George Upshaw, Test.~~

JOHNSTON, JOHN—Page 109—Money borrowed of Benjamin Thornton and Ralph Banks to be returned with interest. To son William a slave Samson. To son Thomas a slave Willis. To dau. Elizabeth B. Johnston, slave Olary, bed and furniture to all, to be received when they arrive at majority or marry. To dau. Frances G. Hayley, wife of James Hayley, slave Abballine. To dau. Sally Gaines, wife of Leavenston P. Gaines, a sum of money. To wife Mary Johnston, money, "it being about one-third of her first husband's estate which I received by her". Sons William and Thomas to have a years schooling. To Jeremiah Warren "his account against me for his fathers estate, as admr. and gdn. in right of my wife", and bed furniture. Sons William and Thomas to have land adj. Ralph Banks and land purchased of Mark and Thomas Thornton and Hiram Gaines and a gun a piece. Friends Robert Burk, Sr., William Bailey, Larkin Johnston and William Banks, Exors. Signed Nov. 10, 1817. David A. Reese, Samuel N. Bailey, Littleton Johnson, Test. Codicil in regard to cotton crop Signed Nov. 10, 1817. Both probated Dec. 1, 1817. James Rucker, Jeremiah S. Warren, Test.

KERLIN, WILLIAM—Page 157—All estate to be kept together for the mutual benefit of wife and children (not named) till the oldest is of age, then to be divided. ~~James N. Brown, Archelaus Jarrett, Joseph Brawner, Test., Nicholas Meriwether Marks came before the court May 4, 1818, and swore he wrote the above will at the request of the testator in his last illness, Mar. 1, last. James N. Brown and James Brawner qualified as Exors.~~

MANN, JAMES, SR.—Page 17—To wife Judith full possession of all estate including slaves Daniel, Dosha and Silva. At death or marriage of wife Judith an equal division amongst my sons viz: John, Joel, Jesse, James, Jr., Jeremiah, Asa and Henry Mann and daus. Martha Shackelford and Elizabeth Roebuck. Wife Judith and son John, Exors. Signed June 24, 1814. Probated Nov. 4, 1816. John Carroll, James Shackelford, Test.

McDOUGAL, NEAL—Page 310—To Neal McDougal Gordon, son of John Gordon, \$300.00; to Neal McDougal McCurry, son of Angus McCurry, Jr., \$200.00, to be delivered when they reach majority. To Margaret McDonald, wife of John, \$300.00; to Mary and Nancy McDonald daus. of John \$100.00 each; To Flora McCurry, wife of Angus, Sr., \$100.00. To Katharine Ferguson, wife of Norman, \$40.00, all to be delivered when collected. Residue to be divided between Angus McCurry, Sr., John McDonald and John Gordon. John Gordon, Sole Excr. Signed May 17, 1819. Probated Sept. 6, 1819. John Dobbs, Benjamin Head, Test.

*all of these  
Gordons, McCarry &  
McDonalds as well  
as the Johnsons buried  
the Savannah River  
and attended services  
at the Little Jerusalem  
Presbyterian Church  
mentioned in my book.*

53. COTTEN-GORDON—Can you tell me the ancestors of George W. Cotten, born in Charleston, S. C., probably between 1780 and 1790? He was married twice. His second wife was Miss Rebecca Pennington. By this marriage there were two children—Julia C. and James K. James K. married a Miss Sarah W. Reid near Crawfordville, Ga. They had quite a large family.

I wish particularly to know of the revolutionary record of Gilbert Gordon. He was a Scotchman, born in the Highlands; emigrated to America and with his wife settled in North Caro-

62

JOSEPH HABERSHAM

*Chapter - D. A. R. - Georgia*

lina. Gilbert is said to have been on General Washington's staff in the Revolutionary War. In this conflict he fought against his own brother, who came over with the British army.

Not until after the war was ended did they discover this, however. About this time he moved to Georgia and settled either in Elbert or Wilkes county. I think he is buried in Washington, Wilkes county.

After Gilbert's death the younger children of his family were left with Governor Erwin, of Georgia, until the older ones could provide a home for them. Gilbert had four daughters and three sons, I think. Their names were, viz: Julia Elizabeth, Eleanor, Flora, Mary, Thomas and two sons whose names I do not know. Julia Elizabeth married Archibald Johnson, a Scotchman. They had a large family.

McCURRY; LAUHLIN—Page 112—dec'd. Lauchlin Johnston and John McDonald apply for letter of administration, Jan. 7, 1811. Angus and John McCurry and Joshua Carpenter, Security.

Page 113—Angus McCurry applies for letters Aug. 3, 1810, John McDonald, Security.

Page 114—Granted Lauchlin Johnson and John McDonald, Jan. 7, 1811

Page 208—Inventory Feb. 15, 1811. Angus Johnson, Roderick McDonald and Moses Haynes, Sr., appraisers. Shows 153 acres land adj. Donald McDonald, 300 acres adj. Joshua Carpenter on Coldwater creek, 100 creek adj. Powell Shiflet on Coldwater creek, 169 acres on both sides of Cedar creek, 287½ acres on north fork of Broad river. Purchasers of the name at sale, Nancy McCurry bought household goods, John and Angus McCurry.

*when Archibald Johnson made his will in Dec. of 1831 in Wilkes County, Georgia Lauchlin Johnson was one of the witnesses.*