

JAMES DIAMOND
(1781 - 1849)
And His Descendants

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FOREWORD

This is a simple story of the struggle of one family to live and rear their children in dignity and freedom, and make their contribution to the well being of fellow human beings. They may be described as ordinary people with extraordinary stamina, courage, and faith in God. No attempt has been made to put this manuscript in strict genealogical form; punctuation and grammar have been woefully mistreated; rhetoric has been of no regard. However, I hope it is written with understanding and for enjoyment.

Many persons have contributed to the manuscript but special thanks are due: Mary Jane Marbut for saving many letters from the family; Mabel Harlan and her granddaughter, Julie Ann O'Connell, for such long and continued research on George W. Diamond; Annie Belle Black for hounding all the Diamonds for information; Maxine James Collins for contacting and arranging the descendants of Alice Diamond Garner, daughter of Franklin C. Diamond; all the family representatives for digging up names and dates. Many sources have been used for information, including Franklin Garrett's *Atlanta and Its Environs*, Stewart's *Gone to Georgia*, census reports, a few family Bibles, many court records, and most frequently, the family letters. Corrections and additions will be welcomed.

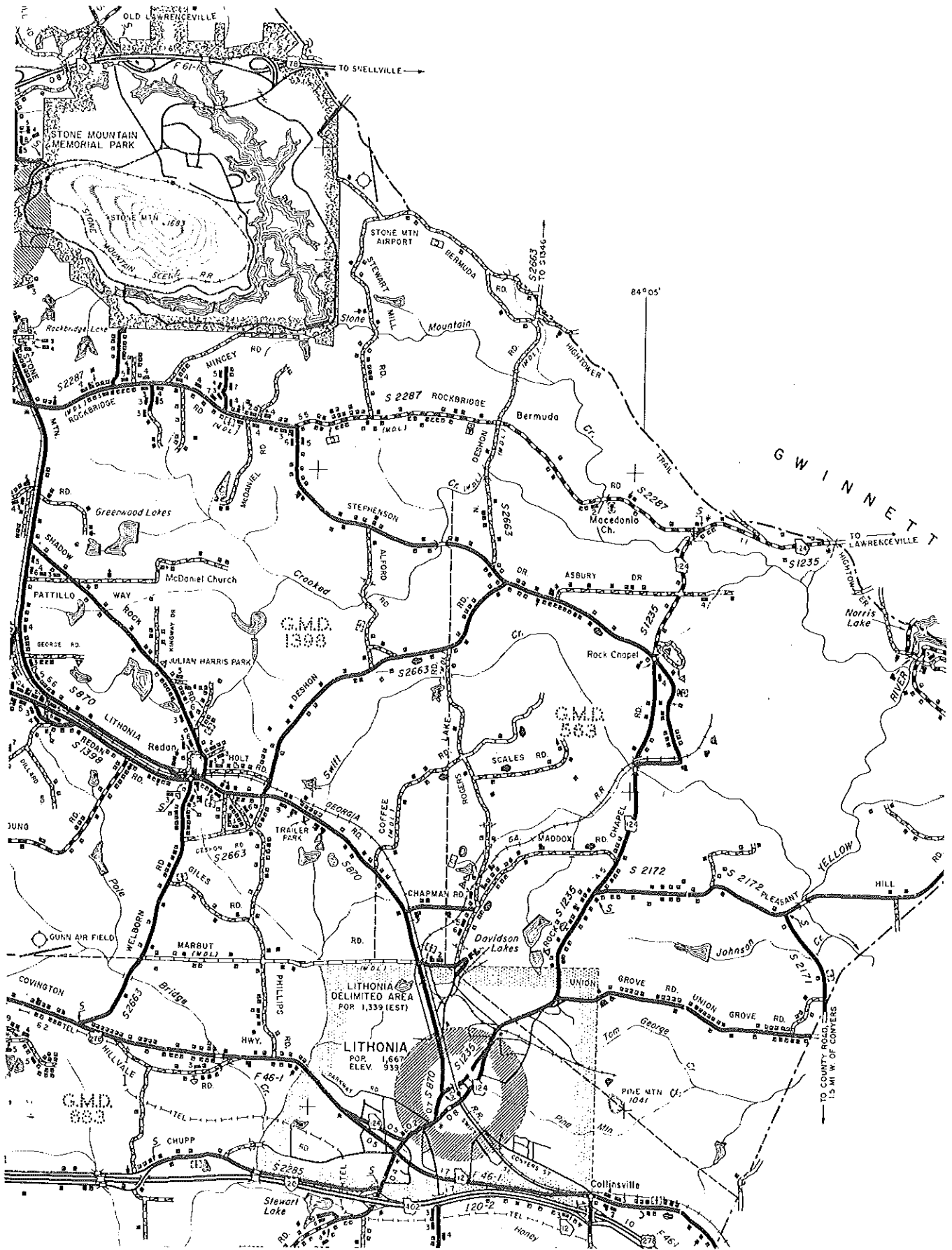
The original letters preserved by "Aunt Mamie," Mary Jane Marbut, are on deposit at the University of Georgia Library, Athens, Georgia 30601, in Special Collections. Here they are available for research by interested persons.

*Out of monuments, names, words, proverbs
Traditions, private records and evidences,
Fragments of stories, passages of books,
And the like, we do save and recover,
Somewhat from the deluge of time.*

Bacon

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This is the Diamond's old home territory in eastern DeKalb County, Georgia.

JAMES DIAMOND AND NANCY CORNWELL'S DESCENDANTS

1800-1849
Exploring the Wilderness

This is the story of a family who were real pioneers in a period of our country's development when frontiers were being pushed westward. With courage, hard work, and perseverance they converted the wilderness into homes and farms and communities where their children could grow up in freedom and dignity.

James Diamond and Nancy Cornwell began their life together about ~~1818~~¹⁸¹² in a rural section of Georgia, probably Jackson County. Their families had moved from other states, Jim having been born in Virginia and Nancy in Carolina, but both migrating to Jackson County, Georgia, about 1801. Elijah Cornwell, Nancy's father, registered in 1803 for the 1805 Land Lottery as a resident of Jackson, and there are records in the same county indicating that Jim had surveyed land there. James Diamond is listed as a private in Capt. Joshua Hagerty's company authorized in 1813 for action against upper Creek towns. This was in Jasper County, Georgia.

Franklin Cornwell, their first son, was born in 1813, according to a family Bible (1815 by his tombstone). Three other sons had arrived by the time they were counted in the 1820 census in Gwinnett County. However, their stay in that locale was brief, for we find them acquiring land in Henry County behind Stone Mountain in 1821. This section became a part of the new county of DeKalb in 1822 making Jim Diamond one of the first residents of a county that now boasts about half million people. There this family lived, endured and prospered until Jim's death in August 1849.

Ten children came into the home, and, amazingly, all survived to adulthood in spite of many diseases, few drugs, few doctors, no refrigeration, poor sanitation, and wild animals prevalent in the wilderness at that period. Obviously, both Jim and Nancy were people of stamina, courage and great religious faith. Nancy was often described in letters as "the best woman I have ever known," a statement made frequently by a daughter-in-law.

Mr. and Mrs. Diamond were among the organizers of Rock Chapel, a Methodist church near Lithonia that continues active to this day. For a few years Jim continued his occupation as a surveyor and was commissioned to lay out the Courthouse Square in Decatur and the town lots of the village. The Georgia legislature paid him \$30 for that service.

Through the years, Jim and Nancy added to their acres, cleared the land and built up their plantation. Mountain Creek ran through their land so they made a dam and built a grist mill to grind corn for the community. Over a hundred years later we saw the remains of the dam and the rock foundation of the mill. The original log cabin and later larger home had long since burned, but a few other houses were still standing in 1940. I suspect that these had been occupied by the older sons who had married and started their families there.

Life was not easy in the 1820's in DeKalb County. In fact, the two eldest sons, F.C. and E.M., were called to militia service to fight the Indians with Capt. E.N. Calhoun's troops as late as 1836. Travel was very limited because of the lack of roads. So, in 1823, the new county government named road commissioners to begin this tedious job, and communication between neighbors gradually increased. Jim was an active participant in this project.

According to historians, the original settlers of DeKalb were plain people primarily English, Scotch and Irish descent, coming mostly from Virginia, North and South Carolina. Franklin and Gwinnett Counties furnished many of the first families to settle in DeKalb so the Diamonds were among relatives and friends. For the most part, these pioneers were poor in worldly goods and were meagerly educated but industrious and temperate, qualities that were much needed in this wilderness they sought to conquer.

Log cabins built by the owners were their first homes. Some of the cabins were not dirt daubed but were boarded on the outside with hand hewn planks. The inside logs were used for catch-alls — the clay or corncob pipes, baby's rag doll or the like. Since large plantations didn't exist at first, they seldom had slaves — one census report indicated that Jim had two female slaves, probably house servants. Of course, the food for humans and livestock was home raised, with the exceptions of sugar, salt and coffee. These early settlers also wove and dyed cloth to make their homespun clothes. Their sheep were often penned up to protect them from wild animals but there were some wide open spaces where they could roam. At the first new moon in the fall, the men went out and rounded them up for the shearing so the women could begin weaving cloth.

The pioneers tanned leather and made their own boots and shoes; they even made their tools, wagons, and harnesses. Their food was prepared in large log fireplaces in iron pots and skillet, very different from our "convenience" foods of today. Water was brought to the house in wooden buckets from near-by springs and streams — often the first and last chores of the day. Light was produced from homemade tallow candles and pine torches; of course there were no matches so fire was produced by flint or borrowed from a neighbor. Indian paths or trails threaded the county; so, until roads were

built travel was by horseback or on foot. However, life was not all hard work — they found amusement at log rollings, quiltings, horse racing, shooting matches and the like.

DeKalb residents were strong believers in religion and education, so in 1823 a few churches were organized, and by 1825 plans were made for academies. However, these earliest schools were in Decatur, so we don't know where the oldest children learned to read and write. All of them wrote good letters, but we have none from Mat.

The three youngest boys attended college. James J. and William W. went to Maryville College in Maryville, Tennessee. The present registrar says that their old records were destroyed by fire, but that J.J. Diamond's name is found on an anniversary program in a scrapbook on Sept. 14-15, 1847. William W. Diamond appears in the scrapbook in 1852. His education and that of George will be described in the 1850 section.

The older sons were out on their own, Frank, Green, and Rob being farmers. Franklin married Mary Ann Blackmon about 1834 and Green married Mary Ann Corley in 1837. John Roberson and Emeline Turner were married in Warren County in 1840, and he was the first son to settle in Texas. At this time we have no information on Mat, but he had left the home before 1850. Two of Jim and Nancy's daughters were married and in their own homes during the 1840's. Rebecca Ann and William Bond were the first, being married about 1840, and they had one daughter, Elizabeth, before his death. Next she married Young Joshua Marbut, a young farmer who had recently moved from Newberry, South Carolina. This occurred in 1843, and they lived in DeKalb until his death twelve years later. Catherine, called Kitty, married Abel Ross Crow in 1846, and moved to Rusk County, Texas a few years later.

From the organization of DeKalb, James Diamond had been active in county affairs, and was mentioned in court records frequently as foreman of the grand jury. Militia District 563 in which he lived is still known as Diamond District and is the voting place for that area.

Jim was appointed a Justice of the Peace for his district in 1829. He was the first road commissioner on record for DeKalb and remained active in road building until his death. When the Monroe Railroad came through he was named in 1840 as one of the land commissioners to assess damage done by the railroad rights-of-way. He was elected to the Georgia Legislature twice — the House in 1835 and to the Senate in 1840. The Court House in Decatur burned in 1842, destroying many of the early county records.

There were other family stories about Jim, not confirmed, including the one that he ran for governor of Georgia on a prohibition ticket and was defeated. One of the current owners of a part of his home place enjoys telling this and adding that one of the largest stills in Georgia was discovered a few years ago on this land. This probably would have disturbed Jim very much, for his children frequently mentioned in their letters being warned about the evils of "the bottle."

We have no picture or description of Jim and Nancy Diamond, but one of their grandsons always described their sons as being tall, over six feet, blonde, and ready to fight "at the drop of a hat." When Jim died in August, 1849, there is no doubt that DeKalb County lost a fine citizen and a pioneer of the type that helped build a great country. Although we have found no obituaries, DeKalb historians say that he was buried in the Diamond cemetery on the home place. There are several large vaults there with no legible markings so this is probably true.

We are not sure of James Diamond's antecedents, he always signed his name without a middle initial, but the Rock Chapel roll listed a "B" and some of the court records show a "D." His mortuary record on file with the 1850 census indicated that he was born in Virginia and died at age 68.

The family name appears in Lancaster County, Virginia, in 1679, according to *Gone to Georgia*, by William Stewart. Peter Diamond served in 1776 in Capt. James Franklin's 10th Virginia Troops, and it would not be unusual for him to name a son James nor for Jim to name his eldest son Franklin. Of course, this is only surmise.

Then there is a John Diamond who appears as a land owner on the militia rolls of Wilkes, Oglethorpe, Franklin, and finally Jackson County. He, James, William and Robert Diamond all registered in 1803 from Jackson County for the 1805 Land Lottery. There is also a William Diamond in Jasper County at the same time that James is listed in Capt. Hagerty's militia company in 1813. So the search for Jim's father goes on.

Elijah Cornwell also registered from Jackson County for the 1805 Lottery, and Jim married his daughter Nancy, probably in that county, although there is evidence that he went to Jasper County briefly. The Cornwells will be discussed in greater detail in another section.

1850-1900
Migration to Texas

By the late 1840's and 1850's migration to Texas was in full swing. Texas had become a state, the east coast was getting crowded, roads were being built and men were looking for new land.

Jim Diamond's children caught the Texas fever — certainly the rocky land around Stone Mountain was not any easy place to make a living. Catherine Diamond had married Abel Ross Crow in 1846 and their first child was born in Rusk County, Texas. John Robeson Diamond probably headed west in 1848, since his fifth child was born in Pontotoc, Mississippi, where his aunt Phenie Henry lived. This was in 1848, and Rob's sixth child was born in Rusk County, Texas in 1850. In a few years he went farther north into Grayson County and, after building up a large ranch, lived there the rest of his life.

After the death of his wife Adelaide, J.J. went to visit Rob and Kitty in 1855, and rode over a large part of East Texas. He wrote Young, Rebecca's husband, that he would give a report on the country when he returned home. Evidently it was favorable, for the rest of the family began to sell their land in preparation for a move to Texas. In November of 1858, a wagon train left Stone Mountain headed west. In the group were Green and his family, Will and family, Nancy and Berry Towers with their children, Mat and George, several other families and several slaves. Some of the party had "hacks" in addition to their covered wagons.

Leaving Stone Mountain they headed northwest passing through Villa Rica and Cave Springs, Georgia; Decatur, Alabama; Ripley, Mississippi; crossing the Mississippi River at Helena, Arkansas; the Arkansas at Pine Bluff; and the Red at Mill Creek, all by ferry. Will reported that Helena was 467 miles from Stone Mountain.

George wrote his mother very interesting accounts of the long trip saying that they got along unusually well together. Hunting and fishing along the way seemed to provide diversion and fresh food for the party. A camp rule strictly enforced was that anyone who felt like complaining or quarrelling had to sing instead. Green wrote that there was little forced singing. On the 38th day traveling expenses had amounted to \$232, much of this for stock feed. Will reported that the trip was much better than expected and there was no sickness except colds. They arrived at Rob's near Whitesboro just before Christmas in 1858, almost two months after leaving the mountain.

For weeks in Rusk County Kitty had been making sausage, baking cakes and pies, and roasting turkeys. Meanwhile, Crow had been going many miles expecting to meet the movers when finally it was learned that all except George were remaining in Grayson County. So the Crows didn't see the family for many months. Kitty didn't hesitate to express her disappointment and disgust. However, she persuaded George to remain in Henderson, "where there were hardly two young men who weren't active church workers."

Almost two years later, Jim resigned as a member of the Georgia Legislature and with his family and mother, Mrs. Nancy Diamond, followed the others to Texas by rail and water. He had married a widow, name unknown except "Amanda," with one son George. He also brought along Adeline's son, Henry, as well as a child born to him and Amanda. Jim bought a farm on a river in Cooke County near the other brothers and immediately became active in the politics of the region.

The 1860 census in Texas shows this distribution of the Diamonds:

Grayson County W.W. Diamond, age 28, lawyer,
E.T., age 24 and 3 children, aged 6 - 2 months
J.R. Diamond, age 40, farmer
Emeline R., age 36, and 10 children, aged 19 - 1
Cooke County Berry Towers, age 30, farmer
Nancy J., age 29, and 3 children, aged 7 - 3
G.B. Diamond, farmer
Mary, age 39, and 10 children, aged 20 - 2
Rusk County - no Diamonds reported in 1860 census

Rusk County - 1870 Census

97 100 Diamond, G.W., age 35, lawyer
Frances S., 27
George P., 7
Luella, 2
Turner, Alohabama, 49
Turner, Benjamin J., 25 farmer

Two of Jim Diamond's children did not go to Texas; Franklin and Rebecca remained in Georgia despite many plans and pleas to join the others. Rebecca's husband, Young Marbut, had been very much interested in the move, but he died in December of 1855 before plans were underway. Then a year later she married his brother, Clide, and the matter was delayed.

Franklin had left DeKalb earlier. The 1840 census showed him in Carroll County. He was still there in 1856 when J.J. bought 300 acres of his father's home place and paid each of them (Mat and Rebecca excepted). However, he moved farther north to Cave Spring, Georgia a year or so later. He wrote Jim in December of 1859 arranging for him to take Reamer, his oldest son, into his office to study law until Jim went to Texas. Then, in December of 1860, Frank urged Clide and Rebecca to join him in Floyd County. They did this about a year later.

There is a family story, unconfirmed, about this move. It is said that on their way north from DeKalb County they were held up by Yankee soldiers, that their wagons, household furnishings, and livestock all were taken, leavin the family on the side of the road. Historians say there were no soldiers in that area that early but there were many marauders roving around the country. At any rate, the War, lack of money, bad health all combined to prevent any move to Texas and these two families remained in Floyd and Polk Counties of Georgia for the next generation.

1850-1900
The War Years

War clouds had already begun to gather when Jim took his family to Texas. Frank wrote in December, 1860, in a letter to Clide, Rebecca's husband, "When delegates to the convention are to be chosen I want it distinctly understood that I am for secession and no mistake." Jim was a delegate to the historic convention in Charleston that voted for secession and then to the Texas convention in Austin when Texas decided to secede.

In the spring of 1861, George wrote from Henderson to his brother Jim in Sherman, "I am for the war.... If any of the Federal troops land on the shore of Texas, I am one that will meet them anyhow and for such conduct I have no excuse or apology to offer you or anybody else. I know they have been ordered there but I don't think they will ever attempt to land since it is ascertained that Houston will not land them. I am out of the paper very safely and satisfactorily - my only profession is law. During the war you know that would be entirely suspended so I can make nothing at home. If an army is marched to Washington City from the South, it will be glory enough for me to be there and if need to, die there. It would be glory enough for all of us to be there. In fact, I am mad and want to fight. I wish I had the other five to go with me and all mess together. Will, Green, You and Mat might - surely - will go if you are assured that your services will be needed. Whoever lived and lived in distinction in any country unless he has at some time showed his willingness to fight for his country? None. But you say you all have families. So you have, you all are the men to fight. It is probable, however, that you can as well at some time be able to I look for an invasion of your section through the Indian territory, if the war progresses. I think there will be only one severe decisive battle and that good fight, I want to fight. I think that will be at Washington, D.C."

So the Diamonds got in the conflict in many different capacities. After listing their locations in another letter to Rebecca, George said, "You can see from this letter that the Diamonds are stirred up. I know how you will regret it and grieve on our account, but you can never blame one of us. You must feel that we are right, and this of itself ought to be a consolation to all who have relatives in this army. Every man ought to forsake his home and pleasures for the toil and dangers of the battlefield in this contest."

The Georgia connections were also "of a warlike spirit." Frank and his two sons were in the C.S.A. or the State Guard, and so were Rebecca's husband, son, and son-in-law. Their service records will be listed in their personal profiles.

As always, this war was hard on the women who were left to keep the home fires burning. This will best be portrayed by the only letter that we have from the old mother, Nancy Cornwell Diamond. It was written in November of 1863 from the home of her son, Jim, in Grayson County, Texas, where she was staying with his wife, Amanda. She wrote this to her son Franklin, and daughter Rebecca in Cave Springs, Georgia. "Tis with a full heart and great anxiety that I am thinking of you my Dear ones each day of my life. Oh when shall I ever hear from my dear children and sister [Phenie Henry] east of the Mississippi again and what news shall I hear? Shall Heaven bless my poor Heart with the glad tidings that my dear ones are all spared through the great battles and many other dangers through which they are passing; it may be too much to ask but my daily prayer is Lord spare protect and shield them from all dangers. Suffer me not to hear that one of my Dear sons have fallen a victim to Death while breath lingers in this feeble frame of mine for shurely I could not bear it now in my weak and feeble stage of life. [None of her sons died in the war but three died before she did.] ...but other doting parents have it to bear and why should I be more favored than they and in many instances they have not the blessed hope the glorious consolation that I would have in hearing that any of mine had died with the exception of poor Green. I thank my blessed Jesus that all of my children I trust are trying to live more or less religious except him and my poor Heart yearns to see them wholly given up to God.... Give me the blessed assurance...that all would be well with you...that Jesus would go with you through the dark valley and shadow of death should you be called to go.... Don't forget to pray for your blessed dear brother who is still out of the ark of safety. I must give you some of the general news.... Jemmy and Roberson are on the frontier. Roberson is Major in a frontier regiment and Jemmy is a captain in the same regiment. They were anxious to elect Jemmy Colonel but he would not accept as he said he would go back to the main army as soon as his health was good enough. Poor William and George are clear away. George was at Galveston about two months ago. He is a prominent Captain in a regiment there....

William is Major in Fitzue's regiment. He left home last March was one year ago and he was never back for eighteen months and then he was shot through the thigh at the fight at William's Bend near Vicksburg and brought home. He staid at home two months and started back six weeks ago.... his regiment is near Millican's bend. He looks vary well has enjoyed fine health all the time is one of the best and most cheerful soldiers they say ever known.

George always keeps up and in fine spirits but looks vary thin and pale. Jemmy and Roberson both have rather bad health...Jemmy is never long at a time without being bad sick. He was brought

home sick about two months ago and was low for 17 days...has gone back... they are stationed about one hundred miles above this on Red river.... Green lives in Cook Co. the heads of families in Cook are exempt he is only in the militia service. Mr. Crow is in the war...dear little Kitty takes it mighty hard...she has 4 lovely children. Lizzie is still living at Sherman and doing pretty well...she has 3 children living. George's wife is still living with her mother in Henderson. She has two boys, one three months old. Berry is in Jemmy's company. Emeline is doing pretty well. Green is living in one mile of Roberson's where he bought when he first came hear...he works and makes a good living. Amanda is living near Roberson...Nancy is living at the same place they bought soon after they came hear. I stay most of my time with her. She has a sweet little babe named William Morgan. Franklin I have herd that one of my brothers is dead and I want you to write which one it is...I want to hear from Rema and his wife and Dear William's widow and her little boy.... If you have herd anything from your Aunt Thena [Triphena Henry] and Brother Ely write me...I am afraid the Feds have ruined them.... Nancy will write Rebecca and we are to start this by a gentleman who is going across the Mississippi.... I have lost five dear grandsons in the war and I want to hear from Rema...Poor Rebecca Burton and Betty [their husbands died in the war] and their little children.... I shall never see you all again and want to hear from you as long as I live.... I don't feel like I can go through the coming winter and I am looking for that glorious day when my blessed Lord shall take me home to rest where no wars or troubles can ever come.... I must bid you farewell my dear ones praying that you may get this. Your affectionate mother,

Nancy Diamond."

Mrs. Diamond was 75 when she wrote this and lived six more years, dying in 1869. Her spelling, punctuation, etc. have been copied as she wrote it.

We have little other news from this family during the remaining two years of the war, but the women kept the families together until the men came home. Their Confederate money was no good, they had no crops, no provisions, but, in most cases, they did have land, lawyers Will and George excepted. So the dark days of Reconstruction began in 1866 the Diamonds and the South.

1850-1900
Reconstruction

The years after the Civil War were very hard in Texas as well as in other parts of the Confederacy. Soldiers returning home often found remnants of their families existing on run down farms with no livestock, no seed to begin again, no money, no provisions, and no doubt malnutrition had left them devoid of ambition and prey to many diseases.

The Diamonds fared little better than those around them. The Georgia families remained in the vicinity of Cave Spring; Nancy's letters indicate that she and Berry remained on their farm near Whitesboro; Rob wandered around looking for new territory but eventually returned to his ranch west of Whitesboro; Green left Grayson, went to Henderson for a while, then to Louisiana, and finally back to east Texas; the Crows stayed near Henderson; George returned to Henderson and represented the county in the state legislature. Nancy says, "Brother Jim and Will left about six weeks ago — they went south. I do not know where they will stop. They sold out to go to California and got ready to start and their children backed out. I never was so glad in my life." Jim and Will stopped in Houston and organized the *Houston Journal* — a daily and weekly newspaper. Later George joined them.

Within five years after the war 25 members of the Diamond family had died. Mother Nancy had mentioned in her letter of '63 that she had lost five grandsons — they were Rob's son Jimmy; Franklin's William and son-in-law Dr. Byrd Burton; Green's Madison; and Rebecca's son-in-law Abel Wiggins. Of the 25 who died later there were Mother, Nancy Cornwell Diamond; her eldest son Franklin, his wife, five children and two grandchildren; her eldest daughter Rebecca Marbut; Rob's Susie; Jim and five children; William and two children; Kitty's John; and George's three children. Most of these deaths were caused by an epidemic of yellow fever in Houston in 1867.

After the three lawyer brothers went into the newspaper business, they sent for Franklin's children who had been left orphans and penniless. They included the widow Rebecca Burton, her children Victor and Arthur, her sisters Sallie, Lillie, Emma and Alice, and brother Jimmy. Only Alice and Jimmy survived to return to Georgia, when their eldest brother Reamer came to Houston looking for them. However, Reamer died a short time later, leaving the orphans to live with relatives again. Alice married Mr. Garner years later, and they have many descendants in Georgia. Jimmy also grew up and raised a family.

Lizzie, Will's widow, and Amanda, Jim's widow, with the help of friends and relatives in Georgia, returned to Alabama and Georgia to try to start new lives with their remaining children. Henry and George continued to work in Houston and later joined their mother and went to school in Georgia. Lizzie left her children with her brother in West Point, Ga., and with her father who lived near Lafayette, Alabama. Then she taught in various small schools until Lou and Willie were educated. Willie graduated in medicine in Louisville, Kentucky, and settled somewhere in Tennessee. Lou married Jerry Wiley. They had four children: Sue, Daisy, Towles, and Diamond. Their home was in Troy, Alabama. Lizzie lived with them until her death in 1899, when she was buried in Troy.

Amanda lived in many spots in Georgia — in Putnam County with "sister Sarah and brother Wiley Jourdan"; in Richmond County at Bel Air with her "brother Dr. A.A. McKee." Which was a brother by marriage and which a blood brother, I do not know. Amanda made no difference in them — they were all dear brothers and dear sisters to her.

After George and Henry secured jobs in the press room of the *Sun* in Atlanta, she lived there, too. She frequently visited Rebecca and Clide in north Georgia, and even worked in Cedartown one year. She wrote many letters and some are revealing of her personality and other members of the family. For example: "I am truly gratified to know Sammy [Rebecca's son] is so determined on having a good education, that is the great boon which no enemy or thief can take from us.... I think God has endowed him with the foundation and he has only to build on it. I know he is poor in this world's goods and I know from sad experience that tis hard to struggle beneath the stern waves of poverty and sometimes we feel like tis almost useless to strive ever to rise above them but the wise and more experienced have said perseverance to the end will nobly tell."

Sammy's old trigonometry and Latin textbooks testify to the fact that he did struggle, but marriage and a family often have priority on a man's talents and finances. Before her death, Rebecca Burton also wrote vividly about Texas, "Energy and the right kind of working men are all that are needed to make this an Eldorado" [she was not writing about Houston] urging her brother Reamer to join them in another section of the state.

She said, "Our uncles will move the paper in the fall to Galvaston — they go there to get government printing and of course are in the employ of Radicals. I am perfectly willing that others should be hangers on to those in power if they choose; but as for me and mine, I prefer to have as little to do with our conquerors as possible." Her husband was killed at Richmond.

Rebecca was very anxious about her two young sons and reports how they were learning to set type and would have a trade, instead, they have unmarked graves with Rebecca's sisters near Houston. Jim and Will had been so concerned about their families that they rented the Hermitage about two

miles from the town where they installed 25 relatives. The doctors assured them that they would be safe from yellow fever away from town. That was in August and in October fourteen of them died. Everybody except Amanda and George had the fever and Lizzie was so grieved that some of them died for lack of care. George gives us insight to the situation: "Our little babe died trying to tell of its sufferings, but it could not. We buried the tender flower under the rude clod by the side of the stranger, where we have often sat since then and listened to the pine trees moan its solemn requiem, as it lay there alone. But now you could scarcely discover where the little sleeper rests. Its little mound is the least in one of the long rows of those whose deaths have made life a barren waste. It was at the head but Sallie was laid between it and the stranger's dust. I buried Arthur Diamond by its side, then John Addie and Franky in the same grave, then Emma, then brother Jim who chose the spot himself. I need not tell you more."

George continues in this same letter written in 1869 to Rebecca in Georgia: "George is a good large boy, over five years and gives me much hope of future goodness and usefulness under the teachings of a Christian mother. The babe is said to be the prettiest baby in the town and I am not disposed to quarrel with the saying. She is one year old and has been walking nearly four months. I cherish her as the idol of my heart and the image of the sweet cherub gone before her. Her name is Luella. Well you know what I am without telling you. I am not old but I have wrinkles in my face and care on my brow. Yesterday you know was my birthday. I am at meridian and shall now at 33 start down the steep on the sunset side. You wouldn't know me with my age and whiskers.... You know when we all lived together at the old homestead [Stone Mountain], my whole life was centered there. My recollections of its hallowed walls, the old shade trees, the barn, the orchard, the rocks and the fields; oh that old mill, the result of our father's labour, and the pond, so deep and so wide, and which lay between me and your own peaceful dwelling, where I longed to stroll day after day and romp with your now grown-up Sammy and Mary and Bettie. These things I shall remember until memory's casket is broken." So life went on for the Diamonds, in spite of memories and tribulation. The Crows resumed their farm life in Rusk County and added merchandising to their "wagoning." The children all went to school and Johnny was killed when a tornado hit the school house at Henderson. Several years later Willie was sent to Oxford, Georgia, where he attended Emory for four years before returning to Texas. He spent his vacations with Georgia relatives and they spoke very highly of him. Mother Diamond died at Kitty's home in Henderson, Texas, and was buried in the oldest cemetery in that vicinity.

Kitty wrote that Green was at her house shortly after the war and had left Grayson and was headed toward Louisiana. Jim had said in '66 that he behaved very badly in Grayson. We don't know what Green did to antagonize them, but Nancy wrote: "Brother Rob got a letter from Green not long since asking for help. He said that his notions had changed with regard to us. Poor wicked man, he has served us all so bad that I never want to see him, if I could only see you I could make the blood chill in your veins. When I see you I will tell you. I thought he may turn before it is too late....his wicked ways troubled our precious mother as long as she lived." This comment was written to Rebecca.

As mentioned earlier, Franklin's family was hardest hit by the angel of death, and after he and Mary Ann had both passed away in 1866, Jim arranged for the orphans to join them in Houston. For example, Sallie wrote in typical teen-age style, "This is the sickliest country you ever saw and the ugliest set of people in it. I have seen but one pretty lady since I've been in Houston.... We left home [Cave Spring] on Thursday and the next Thursday ate breakfast at Uncle Jim's." Ten years earlier the wagon train had taken 60 days. "We all live together, 16 children in one little house. They ring the church bell and then wait for the Diamonds to arrive."

This letter had been written in February of 1867; in July she wrote: "We are all sick — rains every day — I fell in the mud last night and ruined my new dress — mosquitoes everywhere. How are the negroes in your part of the world? They are 5 times worse here than they ever dared to be there. They insult every lady they meet on the streets and hold themselves entirely above the white people."

Emma liked Houston, saying that she had been to the theater and circus for the first time in her life. All this was before they moved to the Hermitage, a fine big house, that became their tomb.

This would not be complete without excerpts from a long letter written by Amanda in 1891 from Whitesboro, to Willie Wiggins in Cave Spring. He had written her about the death of Sammy's wife, Lizzie Godwin Marbut, and other news of the Georgia connections. Amanda wrote, "Franklin and Cora you know married while I was in Ga. [Franklin Towers and Cora Diamond] I found them keeping house and a room nicely furnished for me so I made my home with them until June 1888 when to my great surprise I was married to Mr. P. M. Davis of Sherman, Tex. He was one of the best men, a Christian gentleman truly...and worth forty thousand dollars." This was followed by two pages of pros and cons, then "the ceremony was said at ten o'clock on a lovely morning...and I was again happy with a noble and devoted husband to look up to...but my loving husband was spared to me only ten months... the law gave me two thousand dollars and a fine horse and buggy [she refused more] I came again to live with Franky and Cora. We are living in Whitesboro.... Poor Franklin, I feel sorry for him. He had saved money and bought him a nice home here and a few months ago he sold it and put

the money in the business of a newspaper. Henry came here from Indianapolis flat broke and got Franklin to go in with him in this business in Oakcliff and they have failed. When he set the price on his home I bought it so we would have a place to live. At that time we expected to go to Oak Cliff soon but in six months Franklin was back home.... After dear sister Nancy died, it looked like her family never did much more... the next year brother Berry rented the place and he Willie and Eddie all came to town to live with Franklin, but this year Lemma is living on the home place and her father has joined her there. Dora and Mr. Norton moved to Gainesville."

This was the last letter that Mary Jane Marbut saved from her relatives in Texas. So as the century draws to a close we find George Washington Diamond as the only survivor of Jim and Nancy's ten children [Mat?] and the offspring of others scattered over the country but most of them still in Georgia and Texas.

FRANKLIN CORNWELL DIAMOND

Franklin Cornwell Diamond can best be described from the evidence at hand as a strong, courageous man of great piety in the Baptist faith with strong convictions and deep love for family and friends. His photograph indicates that he was probably over six feet tall, as were his brothers and two eldest sons. More than likely he was the eldest son of Jim and Nancy Diamond, but there is some disagreement about his birthdate. A family Bible belonging to his brother James J. Diamond gives the year of Franklin's birth as 1813, but his tombstone in Cave Spring Cemetery states 1815. However, he reported his age on the 1850 census from Carroll County as being 37. Nor are we sure of his birthplace but it was probably Jackson County, Georgia. Being a surveyor, his father moved frequently but there is evidence that Jim married Nancy Cornwell in Jackson and lived there and in Jasper until Gwinnett was cut off. So in the 1820 census he was counted in the new county of Gwinnett.

In 1822 when DeKalb County was organized, the family bought land in a section back of Stone Mountain that had been in Henry County. There Franklin grew to adulthood as a pioneer in the wilderness where only the strong survived. We don't even know where Franklin learned to read but his letters indicate that he had a good teacher. All young Georgians of this period automatically became members of the militia but were called out only in case of trouble. F.C. and his brother Eli Matthew belonged to the DeKalb Light Infantry with E.N. Calhoun as Captain of their company. They were called out in 1836 to control an Indian episode in southwest Georgia. See Vol. 7 of *Georgia Military Affairs*.

About 1834 Franklin married Mary Ann Blackmon of another pioneer family and they settled in DeKalb County, probably on some of his father's land. Two infant daughters are buried in the Diamond Cemetery, Elizabette in 1835 and Lavenia in 1844. However, F.C. Diamond was listed on the DeKalb County tax list of 1848 as owning 134 acres of oak and hickory land in the 18th District, but his father's 512 acres of land were located in the 16th and 27th Districts of DeKalb. Shortly after this Franklin moved his family to Carroll County, for they were counted there in the 1850 census and again in 1856 when he received some money from his father's estate. Apparently there were greener pastures farther north for this family was next counted in 1860 in Floyd County. Letters were written by Franklin from Cave Spring to his brother Jim in Stone Mountain. The first is dated May 2nd, 1859 and is as follows: "Dear Brother, I received a letter a few days ago enquiring about the Boys. they are at Cave Spring going to school. They both speak of takeing up some profession at the end of the session. William is inclined more I think toward reading medicine than anything else. Reamer is entirely enclined to the law, wanted to commence reading the first of this year. My advice to them has been to go to work but I see they are determined not to do that. So I intend to let them go it awhile according to there own inclinations, and the object of this letter is to know what it will cost me for you to take Reamer until you lieve for Texas. He is very anxious to go and stay with you until you lieve.... Mary Ann is now sick and has been for a week.... She was taken with a violent cold and it has settled on her lungs with a severe cough. I recently received a letter from Brother Will not long since all well in Texas.... I have written to Rebecca [in Stone Mountain] to come to see us and I shall look for her all this week. If she comes she will stay with us two or three months.... Is Clide going to Texas how is sister Rebecca's health.... Your affectionate brother, F.C. Diamond." His original spelling has been copied.

We find more news in the next letter, dated August 30th, 1859 at Cave Spring, when he writes, "I write you a few lines to let you know how matters are with us at this time. In the first place, I must inform you that we have another fine daughter born the 21st inst. Insted of saying we have another daughter, I recun I might say we have 2. William married Sunday last in the Baptist Church at Cave Spring and brought his wife home yesterday. Mary Ann's health is not good though she seems to be gradually improving and I hope it will not be long before she will be up.... I have been looking for a letter from you or Reamer for some time. I hope you will write me before long and give me all the particulars about Reamer. Howe is he getting on I want the truth which I know you will give me. How much will I have to pay for him I must caution him against going in debt...." Jim moved his family to Texas in 1860 so Reamer came home and began to farm.

From Mountain Home on Dec. 2nd, 1860, Franklin wrote another interesting letter to Clide Marbut, Rebecca's husband. "Your kind letter has been received I am truly glad that you have some notion of lieving that old wornout country. I know you can do better out here farming than you can in that country and so far as health is concerned I had just as soon risk my health here as at the mountain.... I wish you would get on your horse and come out as soon as you receive this.... When delegates to the Convention are to be chosen I want it distinctly understood that I am for secession and no mistake.... Yours affectionately, F.C. Diamond." We don't know whether Clide rode up to Mountain Home or not but the Marbuts didn't join their brother until the war drove them out of DeKalb County.

Reamer (also spelled Remer, Rema, Rhemer) married Molly Sanford about this time and his sister Rebecca married Dr. Virginius Byrd Burton. An awful war soon brought separation and ruin to all these young couples. Both Diamond brothers enlisted in Company E of the 8th Georgia Regiment on May 14, 1861 in Rome, for the duration of the war. William died that year in Virginia and Reamer received a medical discharge because of disease caused by a gunshot wound. On his discharge certificate Reamer was described as 6 ft. 3 in. tall, fair complexion, hazel eyes, and 23 years old.

This was only the beginning of tragedy in the Franklin Diamond family. Mary Ann, the mother, continued in poor health and died in October, 1862, and is buried in Cave Spring Cemetery. Rebecca's husband, Dr. Burton, was the next victim. He enlisted in the C.S.A. and in 1862 was killed at Richmond. Captain Burton is also buried at Cave Spring Cemetery. A few years ago the headstones for the Diamond brothers were destroyed and some of the Garner relatives provided new ones with the help of the United Daughters of the Confederacy.

Franklin was active in the Georgia State Guards. His service record indicates that he was a sergeant in Co. B, Floyd Legion of Georgia State Guards. There is an interesting story told about his service that is probably of doubtful veracity. "Franklin Cornwell Diamond was taken prisoner at Richmond, Va., near the close of the Civil War. He had to walk home. He would not sign an oath of allegiance to the United States and never got a ride until he reached the Southern states. In the South he fared pretty well. He could sleep on the porch of homes as he passed through. His shoes wore out. When he arrived home, the family was at the "wash place" washing clothes. They all ran to meet him and were so glad to see him but he motioned them back. He had body lice and didn't want them to catch them. They took his old clothes and put them in the wash pot." This sounds typical of this rugged old rebel, but historians say that the State Guard did not leave Georgia, so either his service record is incomplete or the walk was from a less distant point than Richmond.

Franklin married Elizabeth Tumlin, and after the war they moved to Carrollton. However, he died shortly after this on May 29, 1866, and F.C. Diamond was laid to rest beside his first wife, Mary Ann, in Cave Spring Cemetery. His youngest brother, George W. Diamond, published a beautiful obituary in his newspaper in faraway Henderson, Texas:

DEATH OF A BROTHER

Our heart was saddened weeks ago by the reception of the news of the death of an elder and much loved brother. We felt unequal to the task of doing justice to his memory; for as we are not of those prone to indulge in the "outward trappings" or "loud manifestations" of woe. But one who knew him well, and appreciated his worth wrote as follows:

Franklin C. Diamond died at his residence, Polk County, Georgia, May 29, 1866, in the 53rd year of his life. A good man has been taken away. One of Earth's noblest has laid his armor by, and gone to his Master. Ripe for Heaven, God has taken him to swell the ranks of the redeemed and rejoicing hosts on high.

He has for many years been a faithful member of the Baptist Church; the graces of the Spirit adorned his character, and his daily life exemplified the virtues and excellencies of the religion of Jesus. He was sick six weeks. He only gave utterance to his faith and hope in a few words—yet he was calm and happy. He said he felt that he should be happy; that he put his trust in Jesus, and seemed concerned about nothing except the loved ones he was leaving. The best criterion by which to judge, the strongest evidence our friend can give us of their hope and their acceptance, is in their life. He was a Christian. His devoted piety was ever in his life. He knew the way to Heaven and walked in it. In our sorrows and through our tears we look up to the better and brighter world, whose ravishing scenes have burst upon his vision and in whose endless joys and glories he now shares. He leaves a devoted wife and eight children and many relatives and friends to mourn his loss. But "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints"

"Spirit, leave thine house of clay;
Lingering dust resign thy breath;
Spirit, cast thy charm away;
Dust, be thou dissolved in death!"

(Now follows three more verses - then at bottom: Hearon Chapel Aug. 20, 1866.)

This was not the end of tragedy in this pioneer Diamond family. Franklin's death meant that Reamer was the sole support of nine orphans and his own family in a war-ravaged country. So Rebecca Burton contacted the uncles in Houston, Texas, and arranged for them to go to Houston where her two young sons, Arthur and Victor, could learn a trade and her sisters could work at various jobs in the family project. Jim, William, and George Diamond, the lawyers of the family had organized the HOUSTON JOURNAL, a daily and weekly newspaper. Rebecca and the older girls worked in the office, the little boys in the print shop, and the younger girls helped with the housework.

Excerpts from some of their letters to Reamer and other relatives help us to understand life in the post-war South. Emma wrote few letters so we shall quote from one that she wrote from Houston on June 2, 1867:

Dear Cousin Mary [Marbut]

I have had the nicest time since we came here I have been to the theatre and circus. I was never at either before. I went to a May party on the 18th of May. I did enjoy myself so well. I am so well pleased with Texas, the girls are so sociable and kind I am not acquainted with many yet. Tell Sammy that I have found him a sweet heart. She is one of the nicest girls and a good girl. I would like to have her for a cousin. Sallie tries to have the blues all the time....She says she don't like Texas but I think she must be joking. I don't have but one objection to Houston they have the cholera here....I almost forgot to tell you that Uncle Rob has been down almost a week now. His youngest child about six months old died not long since. He seemed to have taken its death very hard he had it buried in the yard....Goodbye Emma Diamond.

Sallie expresses a slightly different opinion in her letter on July 27th, 1867:

Dear Cousin Betty [Bond Wiggins]

This evening I am so lonesome I don't know what to do unless I write you and let you know that we are well and none of us have got the yellow fever or cholera. We are all quite lonely now as there are five of the family gone. Uncles Jim and George have gone to Galveston, Sister [Rebecca Burton] and Vic have gone out to Sugarland. Vic has been out there for some time and was taken sick and Sister went after him. The yellow fever is in Galveston and one case of cholera in Houston but I am not afraid of either....Oh dear I have five blisters on my feet and they almost kill me....The way I come to have my feet blistered I was invited to a wedding and walked out about a mile and came in with the party that night....It is now time for me to go down and see what I can do about supper as our cook has left. Oh the old devilish negroes I could ring every one of their necks because it is really too hot here to work. I had just as soon take a dose of turpentine as to go in the kitchen. I go to market sometimes when I get up soon enough and I never go out but that I wish Cousin Mary was along I know that she would enjoy that so much. I want to see you all so much that it gives me the fits to think of it....I haven't had a letter from Remer in a coon's age. I never would here from him if it wasn't for the girls in Cave Springs....Alice had a letter from Ma [F.C.'s second wife] the other day....I must quit for it is just like hoeing potatoes to write with this pen....Jimmy sends his love, Cousin Sallie P. Diamond.

Of course, Emma and Sallie were dead from yellow fever in three months.

Young Arthur Burton was unable to write but left a pathetic letter with the help of his mother:

Houston, Sept. 8, 1867

Dear Uncle Remer,

I have thought often that I would write to You, but I am so busy at work that I don't have time to learn to write letters, but mama says that whenever a chance offers itself I shall go to a writing school and learn to write....I hope we will live neighbors so that I can often go to your house and spend my time so pleasantly with my cousin Eugene....Uncle Remer we all ought to be good in this world and try to be prepared to die—I saw my little Cousin Arthur [Jim's son] die a few days ago—he suffered and moned so sadly but he talked mighty pretty and kissed us all good by and said he could never play with us any more on this earth but he hoped to play with us in Heaven. I wish I could die as happy when the Lord calls me. [He died two months later.] We do not live in town now—we moved two miles from town to keep from having the yellow fever. We hope we won't have it out here. This is a beautiful place [called The Hermitage] but we have all had chills and some had light fevers—the Dr. comes out nearly every day and we eat quinine like it was crushed sugar...the whole country is covered with water—I think this Southern Texas is like all other extreme southern country sickly for up-country folks and I think our Uncles believe it too....Uncle George came down to a perfect shadow and he left here a few days ago for Henderson....He said he was going to get me a situation in the printing office there and get mama in the school and move us up there this winter, and he said he was going to live there himself the rest of the time. dear Uncle George he is so kind I love him better than any of our kin out here....I am some printer myself I am—I can set two gallies, or about eight thousand in a day and I suppose in a county office I can make about five dollars a week. I love to set type and I think if I live I will soon be able to support my mama and keep her from hard work. Oh Uncle Reamer, I do want to see our old mountain home so bad. If I could have staid at our old mountain home (which I could not for the law would not allow me) perhaps I never would have learned a trade....Dear Uncle, don't wait too long to start-tell cousin Sammie to come and Uncle Clide to bring cousin Jimmie, William and George....Give my love to my little school mates at Cave Spring. Your affect. nephew Arthur Burton.

This poignant letter was probably composed by Rebecca but it reflects their fear of the future.

So after nine months in their new life, this family was almost destroyed. Yellow fever took the heaviest toll among Franklin Diamond's children—Rebecca and two sons Arthur and Victor, Sallie P., Emma, Lula, and Lillie—all succumbed to the dread disease and were buried in unmarked graves near Houston in 1867. The two survivors, Alice age 13, and Jimmy, age 11, were cared for by family friends until Reamer's frantic search for them was successful and they were taken back to Georgia. Another family story indicates that Alice and Jimmy were in the same room when they had the fever. At this time patients with high fever were never allowed to have liquids. One night when they were alone, they drank all the water left in their room for washing. According to them this water saved their lives. Who knows?

Alice Diamond's granddaughter Maxine James Collins, now has the small trunk that made this tragic trip to Texas and back to Georgia. The grim reaper struck again about a year later. Reamer took an active part in a company of vigilante that he had organized in his county; in fact there is a letter on record in the Georgia Archives offering the services of this company to Governor Brown for law and order anywhere in the state. One night in 1868 Reamer was killed in a mysterious manner supposedly because of his activity. So now there were left his widow and two sons, Eugene and Herbert; William Diamond's widow; sister Alice and brother Jimmy.

Alice Diamond grew up among relatives in north Georgia and married John Thomas Garner in 1872. A list of their descendants follows.

Jimmy Diamond married Harriet Isbell and they reared a large family. Both Alice and Jimmy Diamond are buried in Shiloh Cemetery near Cedartown, Ga. We have little information about Jimmy, but Maxine Collins says: "I think Uncle Jimmy's main occupation was farming but they say he was also a good carpenter and bricklayer. I knew one of his sons, William Diamond. He had a daughter my age and we used to play together. They moved to Sand Mountain, Alabama, when I was about ten years old and I saw them only once after that."

Maxine also refers to Eugene Diamond who was a small child when Reamer, his father, died. "Mother says he came and stayed about a year at their house when she was a little girl. She said he loved to sit and draw and write poetry. He left their house and they heard he had died. He and his mother were buried at Cave Spring but their graves have been destroyed."

NO. 1

FRANKLIN CORNWELL DIAMOND

Frank, born 2-5-1813 (a family Bible in Texas) or 2-6-1815 (by marker in Cave Spring Cemetery) probably in Jackson Co., Ga., died 5-27-1866, buried Cave Spring, Ga. Married about 1834, probably in DeKalb County, Ga., 1st to Mary Blackmon, born 8-29-1817, died 10-12-1862, buried in Cave Spring, Ga. Their children:

- A. Elizabette, b. 1835, d. 9-14-1835, buried Diamond Cemetery.
- B. Rebecca E. A., b. ca. 1836, d. 10-1867 in Houston of yellow fever; married before 1860 to Dr. Virginius Byrd Burton, b. 9-1828, d. 1862 in Richmond, buried Cave Spring, Ga., C.S.A. Their children Arthur and Leland Victor both d. Houston 1867 of yellow fever.
- C. Eli Reamer, b. 1838, d. 1868, buried Cave Spring, Ga. Married Mollie Sanford. C.S.A. Their children: Eugene and Herbert
- D. William, b. 1840, d. 1861 C.S.A., buried Cave Spring, Ga. Married 8-1859, had one son.
- E. Lavenia, b. 11-1843, d. 9-1844, buried in Diamond Cemetery.
- F. Sallie P., b. ca. 1845, d. 10-1867 in Houston, yellow fever.
- G. Emma, b. ca. 1848, d. 10-1867 in Houston, yellow fever.
- H. Lula, b. ca. 1850, d. 10-1867 in Houston, yellow fever.
- I. Lillie, b. ca. 1852, d. 10-1867 in Houston, yellow fever.
- J. Alice Burton, b. 3-10-1854 at Cave Spring, Ga., d. 7-12-1923, buried Polk Co., Ga. Married John Thomas Garner in Polk County, 3-10-1872. He was b. 1-16-1849, Franklin Co., Ga., d. 1-22-1915, buried Shiloh Cemetery, Polk Co., Ga. Their children, all b. Polk Co., Ga.:
 - (1) Arthur Franklin, b. 1-5-1873, d. 2-1-1937
 - (2) Martha Elizabeth, b. 2-13-1876, d. 11-13-1956, m. Jesse Prewett James in Polk Co., Ga.
 - (3) Stella Viola, b. 10-8-1878, d. 2-22-1947, Polk Co., m. Augustus Mont Hackney in Polk Co.
 - (4) Mary (Mamie) Ethel, b. 9-20-1880; m. Hooten Ashby James 11-28-1909 in Polk Co. He d. 7-20-1968. Their children:
 - (A) Maxine, b. 9-17-1912, m. Julian W. Collins
 - (B) John Thomas, b. 6-14-1915, m. Gladys Carter 2-1-1939
 - (C) Arthur Downey, b. 8-29-1919, m. Maryse Ferri
 - (D) Mary Patience, b. 1-16-1922
 - (5) Iva Nunnie, b. 10-18-1882, d. 3-11-1956, Polk Co.
 - (6) Ruth Burton, b. 1-27-1885, d. 4-18-1931, m. George M. Ayers in Chattanooga, Tenn.

- (7) James Thomas, b. 7-7-1888, d. 6-30-1960
- (8) John Bunyan, b. 10-3-1891, d. 12-6-1942, m. Ruth Lawson
- (9) Boyd, b. 11-15-1896, d. 3-13-1967, m. Maurine Maret
- K. James, b. ca. 1856, m. Harriet Isbell. Both buried at Shiloh Cemetery, Esom Hill, Ga. Among their children were:
 - Anna m. John Wood
 - William m. Fannie Arrington
 - Lillie
 - Bodie
 - Nan m. Oliver Buttram
 - Herbert
 - John
- L. A daughter, b. 8-21-1859, died infancy and buried in the Diamond Cemetery.

Franklin married 2nd Elizabeth Tumlin and returned to Carroll County where he had been counted in the 1850 census. However, he was returned to Cave Spring for burial in 1866. This was indeed a family tragedy. Of Franklin's twelve children, only Alice and Jimmy survived to raise large families of their own. Seven daughters and grandsons died in the Houston yellow fever epidemic. After Franklin's death his second wife married James M. Griffin.

DESCENDANTS OF ALICE DIAMOND GARNER
Contributed by Maxine James Collins, her granddaughter

Nancy Cornwell, b. 1788 S.C., d. 5-25-1869, buried at Henderson, Texas, was married to James Diamond, b. 1781 Va., d. 8-1849 in DeKalb Co., Ga. They were the parents of Franklin Cornwell Diamond, b. 2-6-1815, d. 5-29-1866 buried at Cave Spring, Ga. He was married to Mary Ann Blackmon, b. 8-29-1817, d. 10-12-1862, buried Cave Spring, Ga.

Franklin Cornwell Diamond and Mary Ann Blackmon Diamond were the parents of Alice Burton Diamond, b. 3-10-1854, Cave Spring, Ga., d. 7-12-1923, Polk Co., Ga. She was m. 3-10-1872 to John Thomas Garner, b. 1-16-1849, Franklin Co., Ga., d. 1-22-1915, Polk Co., Ga., son of Martha Gilliam Isbell, b. 5-24-1811, d. 11-15-1887 and John Garner, b. 7-24-1808, d. 6-16-1879. Children of Alice and John Thomas Garner:

- (1) Arthur Franklin Garner, b. 1-5-1873, d. 2-1-1937
- (2) Martha (Mattie) Elizabeth Garner, b. 2-13-1875, d. 11-13-1956, m. 4-6-1904 Jesse Martin Prewett, b. 1-21-1859, d. 12-31-1922. Children:
 - (A) Thomas Franklin Prewett, b. 10-26-1906, m. 11-2-1929 Cornelia Irene Kuglar, b. 10-1-1909, d. 9-26-1958, daughter of Lenora Stevenson and Albert Lee Kuglar. Thomas Franklin m. 2 3-25-1959 to Mary Irene Mason Martin, b. 10-15-1911. Children of Thomas Franklin and Cornelia Irene Kuglar:
 - a. Thomas Albert Prewett, b. 11-5-1931, d. 7-5-1964, m. 2-7-1954 Joanne Beard in California, b. 12-22-1931, daughter of Lillian and Johnny Beard. Children:
 - (a) Baby boy Prewett, b. and d. 12-1-1958
 - (b) Scott Thomas Prewett, b. 12-10-1959
 - (c) Cindy Leigh Prewett, b. 3-1-1961
 - (d) Sheri Lynn Prewett, b. 8-1-1962
 - b. Elizabeth Ann Prewett, b. 2-28-1934, m. 6-14-1953 Fay Clayton Garmon, b. 4-10-1929, son of Electa Mabel Peek and Clifton Russell Garmon. Children:
 - (a) Donald Clayton Garmon, b. 1-5-1956
 - (b) Rita Faye Garmon, b. 7-29-1958
 - (c) William Anthony Garmon, b. 3-22-1960
 - (d) Joye Ann Garmon, b. 3-12-1962
 - c. William Jackson Prewett, b. 6-16-1939, m. 6-31-1967, Sandra Faye Jenkins, b. 3-25-1945, daughter of Violet Dorothy Marie Payne and B.T. Jenkins. One child:
 - (a) Randy Daryl Prewett, b. 9-1-1968
 - (B) Robert Samuel Prewett, b. 6-17-1910, m. 12-25-1937 Jessie Kate Payne, b. 10-2-1912, daughter of Leila Bell Hendon and William Henry Payne. One child:
 - a. Annette Prewett, b. 12-18-1940, m. 7-3-1958, Bobby George Ledford, b. 12-26-1935, son of Mrs. Cordie Bell Welchel Ledford and the late Clarence Ledford. Children:
 - (a) Emory Leland Ledford, b. 4-10-1960
 - (b) Evan Howard Ledford, b. 10-19-1961
 - (C) Alice Naomi Prewett, b. 1-1-1914, m. 10-26-1947 to Charles James LeMay, b. 12-17-1916, d. 8-8-1966, son of Annie Dury and Riley Allen LeMay of Ohio. Children:

- a. James Edward LeMay, b. 10-13-1949
- b. Carol Sue LeMay, b. 1-17-1951
- (D) Stella Ruth Prewett, b. 4-7-1917, d. 8-16-1919
- (3) Stella Viola Garner, b. 10-8-1877, d. 2-22-1947, m. 12-25-?? to Augustus Mont Hackney, b. 1-24-1870, d. 1-6-1940, son of Lou V. and William (Dock) Hackney. Children:
 - (A) Lula Burton Hackney, b. 5-1-1899, m. 2-7-1927 Ollie Lee Culp, b. 2-12-1888, d. 3-30-1968, son of Fannie and Joseph Culp. Children:
 - a. Lloyd Augustus Culp, b. 5-10-1928, m. 8-17-1951 Juanita Hanson, b. 7-18-1928, daughter of Nelle and J.L. Hanson. Children:
 - (a) Lloyd Augustus Culp, Jr., b. 12-16-1954
 - (b) Daryl Lee Culp, b. 1-21-1961
 - b. Boyd Lee Culp, b. 5-10-1928, m. 9-5-1952 Rose Hare, b. 4-1-1928, daughter of Blanche Adams and Percy Hare. One child:
 - (a) Kristie Burton Culp, b. 3-25-1959
 - (B) Mattie Bell Hackney, b. 10-10-1900
- (4) Mary Ethel (Mamie) Garner, b. 9-20-1900, m. 11-28-1909 to Hooten Ashby James, b. 8-21-1869, d. 7-20-1968, son of Patience Foster and Wiley Jones James. Children:
 - (A) Ruth Estelle James, b. 8-31-1910, d. 11-1910
 - (B) Nonnie Lola James, b. 8-31-1910, d. 8-1910
 - (C) Maxine James, b. 9-17-1912, m. 12-21-1940 Julian Walden Collins, b. 7-26-1908, son of Addie Lee Martin and George Douglas Collins. Children:
 - a. Mary Julia Collins, b. 10-29-1941
 - b. Addie Lee Collins, b. 4-3-1943
 - c. James Arthur Collins, b. 9-20-1945
 - d. Martin Philip Collins, b. 5-23-1948
 - e. Carol Walden Collins, b. 3-1-1950
 - (D) John Thomas James, b. 6-24-1915, m. 11-4-1938 Gladys Jewel Carter, b. 8-18-1920, daughter of Annie Pearl Peace and Wiley L. Carter. Children:
 - a. John Thomas James, Jr., b. 2-1-1940, m. 3-16-1964 Dorothy Evelyn Cooper, b. 5-22-1943, daughter of Julia Edna Ellis and Quimby Cooper. One child:
 - (a) John Lance James, b. 7-13-1969
 - b. Dawn Maryse James, b. 7-7-1944, m. 2-15-1964 Paul Dempsey.
 - (E) Arthur Downey James, b. 8-29-1919, m. 1-11-1947 Maryse Fernande Ferri, b. 4-2-1928, daughter of Marie Louise Vidal and Fernand Julien Ferri of Algeria. Children:
 - a. George Arthur James, b. 2-4-1948
 - b. Kathryn Michelle James, b. 10-3-1951
 - (F) Mary Patience James, b. 1-16-1922
- (5) Iva Nonnie Garner, b. 11-18-1882, d. 3-11-1955
- (6) Ruth Burton Garner, b. 1-27-1885, d. 4-18-1931, m. 7-1925 George Martin Ayers, b. 1875, d. 1952, son of Mary Elizabeth Fincher and Hiliary Colman Ayers. His children by a previous marriage to Martha Elizabeth Hamrick (1881-1923):
 - (A) Josephine Ayers
 - (B) George F. Harrison Ayers
 - (C) Ralph Hamrick Ayers m. Mary Jane Weaver
 - (D) Floy Elizabeth Ayers m. Alfred R. Carrick
 - (E) Robert England Ayers m. Ruby McCary
 - (F) Randolph Hubert Ayers m. Anna Sheffield
 - (G) Marie Gilley Ayers, a niece adopted in the late 1920's m. James LaPlant.
- (7) James Thomas (J.T.) Garner, b. 7-7-1888, d. 6-30-1960
- (8) John Bunyan Garner, b. 10-3-1891, d. 12-6-1942, m. 6-17-1925 Ruth Lawson, b. 5-14-1897, daughter of Josephine Pittman and James Monroe Lawson. Children:
 - (A) Alice Josephine Garner, b. 8-8-1926, m. 9-14-1947 David Trammell Barrow, b. 3-1-1929, son of Virginia Trammell and Hugh W. Barrow. Children:
 - a. David Hugh Barrow, b. 6-13-1948
 - b. Charles Kennon Barrow, b. 1-17-1952
 - c. Virginia Ruth Barrow, b. 12-22-1958
 - d. Frances Ellen Barrow, b. 6-6-1961
 - (B) John Bunyan Garner, Jr., b. 3-11-1929, m. 8-26-1951 Julianne Morgan, b. 1-22-1930, daughter of Julian Hardage and Emory Clyde Morgan. Children:
 - a. Michael Morgan Garner, b. 11-7-1952
 - b. Julianne Garner, b. 3-18-1955
 - (C) James Lewis Garner, b. 7-17-1932, m. 6-3-1956 Mary Ed Anderson, b. 1-10-1931, daughter of Ola Cooper and S.A. Anderson. Children:

- a. Mary Jo Garner, b. 5-17-1957
 - b. Susan Angela Garner, b. 10-6-1958
 - c. James Lewis Garner, Jr., b. 7-22-1961
- (9) Boyd Garner, b. 11-15-1896, d. 3-13-1967, m. 6-24-1925 Maurine Marrett, b. 3-20-1901, daughter of Maggie Cleveland and Will Bunyan Marrett. Children:
- (A) William Thomas Garner, b. 4-21-1927, m. 7-26-1953 Carolyn Busby, b. 3-14-1931, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Busby. Children:
 - a. Linda Carol Garner, b. 3-13-1958
 - b. William Gary Garner, b. 5-5-1961
 - (B) Lorene Garner, b. 7-4-1930, m. 9-17-1955 Arthur J. (Art) Phair, b. 9-21-1928. Children:
 - a. Joan Marie Phair, b. 3-31-1958
 - b. Julie Ann Phair, b. 2-6-1962

ELI MATTHEW DIAMOND

Mat, as called by his family, is almost unknown in our search. The only record that I have found is where he is listed in Capt. E. N. Calhoun's Company in the DeKalb Light Infantry in 1836. This is the same company where Franklin is listed. He is also named in the family Bible copied by Julie Ann O'Connell with a birth date of Oct. 31, 1814 so he was probably born in Jasper County since his father is on a military roll there in 1813. His name is mentioned several times in letters written by his brothers. Green mentions him on the trip to Texas so he evidently came with the wagon train. Will wrote: "George and Mat went 20 miles below this after flour and meal." Then a letter from George written on June 4, 1859, said: "Mat has gone away out among the Indians...." and finally, George named him when he wrote to Jim urging all the Diamond brothers to join the Confederate forces. When and where he died, if he ever married — all this is a big question mark.

GREEN B. (Berry?) DIAMOND

Green (some places Greene), b. 1818 or 1819, probably in Jackson Co., Ga., d. 4-7-1884 in Texas. He m. 10-5-1837 to Mary Ann Corley, b. 8-13-1822, d. 12-1877. Their children:

- A. Eli Madison, b. 8-14-1839, Ga., d. 5-16-1863 in the Civil War
- B. Louise Catherine, b. 8-17-1841 in Ga.
- C. Martha E. b. 8-6-1843, Ga., d. 5-24-1893
- D. John F., b. 10-17-1845 in Miss.
- E. Augustus Tuble, b. 11-22-1847 in Ga., d. 3-24-1903
- F. James McKendred, b. 9-27-1850 in Ga.
- G. William Laurance, b. 7-3-1852 in Ga., d. 10-31-1921 buried Oak Cliff Cemetery, Texas. Married his first cousin Lura Crow in Henderson, Texas.
- H. Green Berry, b. 5-28-1854 in Ga., d. 7-15-1880 Bell Co., Texas
- I. Nancy Jane, b. 5-13-1857 in Ga., d. 12-6-1928
- J. Rooky Anne, b. 10-17-1859, d. 7-16-1861
- K. Mary Ella, b. 1-14-1862, d. 4-1-1892

Green was a farmer and is listed in various counties around DeKalb in census reports and in Newton Co. in 1856 when J.J. bought his share of their mother's land in DeKalb. He and family joined the wagon train to Texas in 1858 when Will and George migrated overland to Texas. He enlisted in the CSA in May 1861 and was still on the roll in 1864. His mother, Nancy Cornwell Diamond, wrote Rebecca in 1863 that she was concerned that Green was not "in the ark of safety," but others reported later that he had become a good church member.

Evidently Green had the "Diamond itching foot" as one relative described their migratory habits. After the war he stated his intention of moving to Louisiana, but visited Georgia and then returned to Texas and was living in Pittsburg, Texas in 1876. Later one of the family letters mentioned that he lived in west Texas and that his wife was dying with consumption. Rob seemed to have great respect for his brother as a farmer, for he frequently mentioned his good crops and what he said about livestock and methods of farming.

We have little information about Green's descendants except that his son, W.L., had a son Lawrence, who had Ethel, Clifford and Vera, whose daughter Tuleta Boatman is living in Houston.

MAJOR JOHN ROBERSON DIAMOND

Rob, as he was called by his family, signed his letters "J.R. Diamond" or John R. He was one of the eldest sons of James and Nancy Diamond and according to a family Bible, was born in Jasper County, Georgia, on May 14, 1820. He spent his childhood days in DeKalb County, and apparently at an early age, learned hard work and thrifty habits, for these seemed to characterize his life. He also had the pioneer spirit of the times, for shortly after his marriage in 1840 to Emeline Turner of Warren County, they began to wander. One son, James Lamar, who later died in the Civil War, was born in Pontotoc County, Miss., in 1844. Since Rob's uncle, John Henry, had moved to Pontotoc some years before this, they probably joined his family temporarily. However, the next child was born in DeKalb and then another in Mississippi, but they were on their way to Texas this time.

The John Roberson's arrived in Rusk County, Texas, in 1849 and possibly travelled with Cathy Diamond Crow's family for they settled in Rusk about that time. However, after two years they decided to move farther west, and much to Kitty's sorrow and disgust, they went to Collin County, Texas, for a short period of time. Finally, about 1853 Rob settled his family in Grayson County and called this home until he died in 1880.

After establishing his ranch, Rob set about making money in other ways, among them a smithy shop. He wrote Jim about averaging over one hundred dollars a month with only one man even after buying his iron—by the way this iron had to be imported from El Paso or New Orleans, many, many miles from north Texas. Then, after most of the brothers came out in 1858, Rob started "wagoning" running a regular freight line to Jefferson, which Nancy's husband, Berry Towers, handled for him. Also, in 1858, Rob's ranch became "Diamond Station," a way station on the Southern Overland Mail Route between St. Louis, Missouri, and San Francisco, California. This contract mail, express, and passenger stage line entered Texas by way of Colbert's Ferry on the Red River. It ran fifteen miles south of Sherman, then turned west for fifteen miles to Diamond Station. An interesting sidelight on the Overland Mail is related by George W. Diamond in his "Account of the Great Hanging": *With St. Louis as the great north-western depot, immigration streamed into northern Texas by this line to an extent hitherto unknown. So rapid was this influx of a heterogeneous population that in a short time the character of the citizenship in Cooke and Grayson counties was materially changed. Until that time this section was thinly settled with a quiet, hardy, industrious population which had not been disturbed by political divisions and discussions. This sudden and rushing tide caused alarm among the older inhabitants; not because they did not desire immigration; but because the actions and conduct of so many strangers in their midst created suspicions and fears that the interests of the old class would not harmonize with the new.* His prognosis certainly proved true, for these northern counties were torn between the Yankees and Rebs for many years. Of course, the Diamond boys became active on the Confederate side, and Rob enlisted in 1861 for the duration. Previous to this, he had presided over a meeting of citizens of Cooke and Grayson counties in regard to participation in the secession movement in Texas. Rob's brother, James J., was named at this meeting as one of a committee to organize the state. Rob came out of the army as a major, and after wandering over other parts of the state, again decided to remain in Grayson County.

Looking back to 1859 when Rob had been trying to get Jim to bring his family and their mother, Nancy Diamond, to Texas, there is an interesting letter to Georgia from Rob:

My dear Brother,

Again I take my pen in hand....you say you crave two things; news and money; the former we have plenty, the latter, none. George says you flayed him on the right and left about me saying something to you in a gesting way about him marrying. Consequently you have written him to come back to Georgia. Since you talk as if the only hindering cause in your moving to Texas is the lack of money, and you are apprized of the fact that George will spend from 50 to 100 dollars on his return, at least what will carry him to Georgia will bring one of you here and I see no earthly reason in him spending time and money so unprofitably.

You also requested me to come after mother; this would indeed be a pleasure trip to me but then again that would increase the expenses of which we should in every instance try to diminish as finances seem to be the great obstacle. The boys came here almost without a dollar—I bought Green's wagon from him in cows and meat to the value of \$100, he sold his buggy for \$60, I loaned him \$20 and he is making out as well as you ever saw; has plenty to eat and a fine crop and I never saw a better satisfied man. I let Will have \$20 to fix up a little for district court—the waggons of G.W.'s and Will's we can't sell, the mules we can't sell for any advantage; in fact there is not much money in the county at this time. You seem to think you must have \$2,000 yet, well, I have always thought of that as a

right tidy sum, in fact as a right nice little pile....Nancy and Berry talk of going to Crows in a month or so. This is not contrary to my wish but a new comer to start off visiting the first year after he lands in the county with scarcely enough money to buy the first year's rations is something that has not been practiced—Jim, I have never differed with any of my brothers and sisters materially, only on that one point, that is in making calculations about my debts or future contracts. I always take the worst first. If I live to be ten days older, I will be thirty-nine years of age and it has been seldom, very seldom that a man has come to me and said I want you to pay me what you owe me. It is true my business has been on a small scale but the foundation has always been a sure one.

It is doubtful that Rob's frugality ever rubbed off on his younger brothers for he seems to be the only one whose sure foundation was carried over into the next generation.

An historical marker stands at the site of Rob's ranch about a mile west of Whitesboro. This was put up by the State Historical Society Committee, but has several errors in it. It reads: *DIAMOND HORSE RANCH, founded 1850 by James R. and John Diamond, joined later by their brother George who had founded paper that today is "Houston Post." Station 1858-1861 on Butterfield Stage Line. The Diamond brothers were political leaders and active in Texas frontier defense and masonry. James is buried here.* Errors: The ranch was founded by John R. Diamond. His brother, James J. did not move to Texas until 1860 and he is not buried on the ranch. James J. died in Houston in 1867 with yellow fever and was buried by a masonic lodge in that city. James J. and Will had founded the Houston paper and later George joined them in Houston.

In 1966 I climbed barbed wire fences, went through knee high grass, received many scratches and chigger bites, but finally found the small cemetery on the ranch where there was an upright marker for Emeline Turner Diamond, recording her death as Sept. 10, 1884. John Roberson preceded her in death by nearly five years and is supposedly buried on the ranch but I found no marker for him.

NO. 4

MAJOR JOHN ROBERSON DIAMOND

Contributed by Julie Ann O'Connell

Great-great-granddaughter of George W. Diamond

Rob was b. 5-14-1820, Jasper Co., Ga., d. 1-9-1880, Whitesboro, Texas, m. 8-27-1840 to Emeline Turner, b. 6-11-1825, Warren Co., Ga., d. 9-10-1884, buried at Diamond Ranch, Whitesboro, Texas. Their children's information came from Mrs. R. W. Decus, Whitesboro, Texas.

- A. Nancy Catherine, b. 6-16-1841, DeKalb Co., Ga.
- B. Frances Louvina, b. 1-3-1843, DeKalb Co., Ga., m. ——— Brookfield
- C. James Lamar, b. 8-25-1844, Pontotoc Co., Miss., d. 4-10-1862 in Ark.
- D. Warner Knox, b. 11-19-1846, DeKalb Co., Ga.
- E. William Winfield, b. 5-15-1848, Pontotoc Co., Miss.
- F. Georgia Ann, b. 3-18-1850, Rusk Co., Texas, d. 2-27-1934
- G. Mary Josephine, b. 5-24-1852, Collin Co., Texas, d. 8-28-1935
- H. John Wesley, b. 12-9-1854, Grayson Co., Texas, d. 3-31-1892
- I. Eli Franklin, b. 5-28-1857, Grayson Co., Texas, d. 10-24-1930
- K. Alexander Jackson, b. 7-12-1861, Grayson Co., d. 2-15-1925
- K. Alexander Jackson, b. 6-17-1861, Grayson Co., d. 2-15-1925
- L. Cora Emeline, b. 2-19-1864, Grayson Co., d. 4-22-1920 in Kentucky, m. ——— Hensley
- M. Susanna, b. 1867 Grayson Co., d. 1867
- N. Lizzie Surratt, b. 11-22-1869, Grayson Co., d. 10-20-1880

Rebecca Ann Diamond, eldest daughter of Jim and Nancy Diamond, was like her mother in many ways. Described by her relatives as a "good woman," she spent most of her life caring for her family and neighbors. She married while young and spent all her life on a farm. We do not have the date of her marriage to William Bond, for many of DeKalb's records were destroyed, but her first child, Elizabeth Amanda (called Betty) was born in 1842. Shortly thereafter, William died. When or how he died, we have no record. However, there are many Bonds in that section of DeKalb, so he was probably a neighbor boy and was likely buried in the Diamond cemetery.

We do know that in 1843 Rebecca married another young farmer who had recently come from South Carolina and settled in Newton County. This second husband was Young Joshua Marbut, son of Joshua Marbut. The newlyweds settled near the Diamond property; George wrote often of going across the mill pond or the pasture to see them. In 1968 a part of their home, probably built by William Bond, is still in existence but the original logs and fireplace are enclosed in a restored and modern house on the Lithonia Road.

Rebecca and Young had two children, Mary Jane and Samuel Smith. She was usually called Mary or Molly and is the person who saved many of the Diamond letters. The son was known as Sammy and we have never known the origin of his name.

Young Marbut took an active part in community life, being an early member of Rock Chapel Methodist Church (1846) and a Justice of the Peace—a responsible part of the county government in the early years. He and Rebecca seemed to be stabilizers in the Diamond family as many of the brothers and sisters consulted them by letter on family affairs. So, it isn't surprising that Nancy and her youngest son, George, moved in with the Marbuts after the death of Jim Diamond in 1849. They were counted there in the 1850 census. Young was very much interested in the migration to Texas and corresponded with J.J. Diamond while on his exploratory trip to Texas in 1855. But, Providence intervened and Young died just before Christmas in 1855. What a pity that a young man of 32 years should be taken, leaving a widow with three young children. We do not know how this courageous young woman provided for her children in an era when insurance and social security were unheard of, but life goes on. Receipted bills for taxes and merchandise indicate that her lawyer brother acted as her agent in business matters.

Young Marbut had an older brother, Euclides, called Clide, who lost his wife Mary Ann about the same time that his brother died. So, about a year later the widow and widower got together and Becky and Clide were married in December of 1856.

This gave Rebecca the responsibility for Clide's four young children in addition to her three, so I am sure that she was a busy woman in those pre-war years. Betty Bond soon tired of being the eldest of seven children. According to a granddaughter, she said "There were too many young 'uns in the house," so in 1857 she eloped with Abel Wiggins, a neighbor farm boy.

Rebecca was the last of the Diamond family to leave DeKalb County. James J. had taken his family and mother to Texas in 1860, and Franklin had moved to north Georgia ten years earlier but the Clide Marbuts remained in DeKalb. Clide was counted in the 1850 census in Shallowford District and in 1860 his home was reported in the Stone Mountain District. Farm land in that area had long been described by Franklin as no good and too worn out to grow anything. So finally the Marbuts gave up and headed north in search of greener pastures. However, this was after the war had started and there is a family story, unconfirmed, to the effect that while moving to north Georgia, the Marbut family was held up; all their possessions stolen or burned, and the family left on the side of the road. This dastardly deed was blamed on Yankee soldiers, but historians say there were none in that area until later. Marauding robber bands were roaming around the countryside, so they may have been responsible. Needless to say, this event made life harder for Rebecca even though they settled not far from Cave Spring and near her brother, Franklin. Clide joined the Georgia State Guard and later in the war at age 16 Sammy and his step-brother Josh also enlisted.

Betty and Abel Wiggins with their three sons—James Jesse, William Bond, and George Abel—moved with Betty's mother or shortly thereafter to Cave Spring. However, after his enlistment in the CSA Abel succumbed to measles in 1862 while encamped near Kingston, Georgia. He was buried beside his wife, Betty Bond, in the Cave Spring Cemetery. Letters written to Rebecca from Texas inquire anxiously about Betty and the three little boys through the years. Evidently they all lived together until the boys were old enough to support themselves. The three boys married local girls and all of them had families who became prominent citizens in north Georgia.

Rebecca's other children, Sammy and Mary Jane, grew up in the vicinity of Cave Spring and attended school there. In 1876 Samuel Smith married Mary Elizabeth Godwin, daughter of Henry Kinchen Godwin and Eliza Ann Hamilton. Long before this, Rebecca became a victim of bad health, as related by Mamie (Mary Jane) in letters to the Texas relatives, and in 1871, she found peace in

death. At age 49 this hard working, unassuming Christian woman was laid to rest near her brother Franklin in Cave Spring Cemetery. Mary Jane had typhoid fever at age 14 and was very deaf the rest of her life. She was a general favorite with all the family, writing many letters to all the relatives and having many babies named for her. She lived with her brother and other relatives until her death at age 88 in the home of a nephew, Henry Diamond Marbut. She is buried in Oconee Hill Cemetery, Athens, Georgia.

Sammy took advantage of the education available in his community, and he and his wife "Miss Lizzie" became respected citizens in the religious, fraternal, and social life of Floyd and Polk counties. They were loyal members of the Mount Hope Methodist Church and later the Cave Spring Methodist Church. Their eldest son reported that the preacher always went home with them for dinner on preaching days and the kids had to eat meager leavings. This same son stoutly maintained that his father was the best farmer in the county—not the biggest but the best. The reports of carloads of watermelons, many bales of cotton, barrels of sorghum syrup and large amounts of ham, bacon and sausage that were shipped from the Marbut farm seemed to support his opinion. According to this son, he regularly shipped melons to his Bishop and the governor in Atlanta.

Sammy was small in stature with blue eyes and blonde hair, as described by a granddaughter. He wore a goattee and when it stuck straight out, all the children knew that it was time to scatter. Many stories are told about this man by his children. For example, in his philosophy a farm should be self-sustaining with money being spent only for coffee and sugar. In illustration of his attitude toward money, Henry Diamond related that his father came in after selling a pair of mules for \$500 and tossed a handful of gold coins on the floor for the children to play with while he went hunting.

In another story, Sammy, being convinced that the mumps were always fatal for adults, was quite concerned when he took the mumps as a young man. He sat in front of the fireplace all night expecting to die at any minute. When morning came, and he found himself still alive, he got up and went back to work in the field. As a young fellow, his reputation as a billiard player spread around, and when a new shark appeared in Cave Spring, Sammy was always called in to defend the honor of the home town.

Mary Elizabeth and Sam had five children: Henry, Anna, Lillie, Sallie and Walter. All of them were reared in Cave Spring, attending the local schools until they married or went to work in their own jobs. "Miss Lizzie" died in 1890 after an attack of measles and shortly after that Sam married her sister, Nancy Minerva. To this union two daughters were born: Mary Elizabeth and Rebecca Irene. All seven children found spouses, had families of their own and left Cave Spring. Probably the first to leave was Henry Diamond who moved to Athens in 1902 and remained there until his death fifty years later. Sam Marbut finally became physically unable to continue his strenuous farm life and decided to join his son in Athens. However, he died shortly thereafter (1907) and was carried back to the Cave Spring Cemetery. Nancy Minerva, who had raised her sister's children as well as her own, continued to live in Athens until her death two years later. She, too, joined Mary Elizabeth and Sam Marbut in the Cave Spring Cemetery.

Rebecca, Sam's mother, and his two wives lived relatively short lives. Life was hard for women in those years, especially when they lived on farms. After the war, poverty was widespread in north Georgia and survival was the big problem. The general demise in Texas caused financial misfortune for Sammy and Mary Jane also. They had inherited property in DeKalb County which J.J. Diamond had sold and borrowed their money for the Texas enterprise. After the war, he wrote Rebecca from Houston that he would be able to send their money that fall (1867) but of course his untimely death prevented that. Amanda, his widow bemoaned the fact that there was no money left to pay the debt.

As the years passed, living became easier but by that time Sam had lost his mother and gained a family, so that dream of joining the other Diamonds in Texas became a thing of the past. Unfortunately, communication also became a thing of the past, and the descendants of Jim and Nancy Diamond were separated and unacquainted for the next few generations.

NO. 5

REBECCA ANN DIAMOND

Rebecca was b. 7-16-1822, probably DeKalb County, d. 7-23-1871, Cave Spring, Ga., m. 1st William Bond, ca. 1840 in DeKalb Co., Ga. One child:

- A. Elizabeth Amanda, b. 4-16-1842, DeKalb Co., d. 2-22-1904, Cave Spring, Ga., m. Abel Wiggins ca. 1857, he was b. 8-30-1830, d. 7-8-1862.
- M. 2nd Young Joshua Marbut 10-1843, he was b. Newberry, S.C. 3-22-1823, d. 12-19-1855 DeKalb Co., Ga. Children:
 - B. Mary Jane, b. 11-22-1845, DeKalb Co., d. 1-9-1933 in Athens, Ga.
 - C. Samuel Smith, b. 3-31-1847, d. 2-27-1907, buried Cave Spring, Ga., m. 1st Mary Elizabeth Godwin 4-6-1876, she was b. 3-13-1850, Cedartown, Ga., d. 6-20-1890, Cave Spring, Ga.; m. 2nd Nancy Minerva Godwin 12-14-1890, b. 1-4-1857, d. 1-8-1909, buried Cave Spring, Ga.

M. 3rd Euclidus Marbut, 12-3-1856, he was b. 12-12-1817, d. 8-1-1873. Children by his first wife Mary Ann Robinson were:

Nancy Elizabeth, b. 6-28-1842
Sarah Angeline, b. 6-4-1844
Joshua Longshore, b. 9-4-1846
Susan Selema, b. 5-10-1852

A. Elizabeth Amanda (Betty) Bond, b. 1842 and Abel Wiggins, b. 8-30-1830 had these children:

(1) James J. Wiggins m. Sarah Frances Philoura Godwin, Cave Spring, Ga. Children:

(A) Loura May, d. age 3 months

(B) Jessie Ann, m. George M. Lamar, Montgomery, Ala., no children

(C) James Olin m. Emma Johnson. Their children:

a. James Wesley m. Mavis Olivant. Children:

(a) James Wesley

(b) Charles

(c) Mark

b. Henry Abel m. 1st Isabell Head. Children:

(a) Mary Frances m. William A. Berry. Children: Elizabeth, Patricia, Robin

(b) Betty Ann m. Eugene A. Gregg. Children: Aimee Lee, Keith.

Henry Abel m. 2nd Mary Hall, no children.

(2) William B. Wiggins m. Betty Copeland. One child:

(A) Betty Bond m. ——— Manus. Children:

a. Ralph

b. Raymond m. Barbara Goodman. Children:

(a) Nancy

(b) Kevin

(c) Frances

c. William m. Grace Oliver. One child:

(a) Betty

d. Rudy

(3) George Abel Wiggins, b. 1-5-1862, d. 8-8-1936, m. Emma Fincher, b. 1-17-1871, d. 6-17-1959. Children:

(A) Emma Elizabeth, b. 11-5-1891, Cave Spring, Ga.

(B) Ida, b. 3-12-1893, m. 1914 Hiram Bryan. One child:

a. David Coleman, b. 3-4-1915, m. Lucille Blankenship. Children:

(a) Harry. Children: Gregory, Michael

(b) Cecil. Children: Lynn, Elizabeth

(c) Rebecca Ann. Child: Pamela Ann

(d) Edward. Child: Edward

(C) Susie Mae, b. 10-13-1894, m. 8-14-1921, d. 10-26-1956, m. Paul Dempsey. Children:

a. Dallas, b. 8-27-1922 m. Martha Jane Boggs

(a) Marshall. Child: Nadine

(b) Julia Ann

(c) Laura Denise

(D) George William, b. 12-23-1896, m. 9-25-1923 Ellendor Cowan. Children:

a. George William, b. 2-18-1926 m. Patsy Griswell

(a) Yvonne

(E) Minnie Myrtle, b. 10-17-1898

(F) Henry Ivy, b. 7-16-1902, m. 5-26-1937 Ruth Loyd. Children:

a. Mildred Louise, b. 5-16-1939, d. 8-1939

b. Dorothy Elizabeth, b. 10-27-1940, m. Charles Henkle

(G) James Robert, b. 4-16-1905, m. Virginia Cowan. Children:

a. James Robert, b. 8-15-1943 m. Iris Wiley

b. Emma Jane, b. 6-8-1945 m. Larry Houston

(H) Raymond Wilbur, b. 6-20-1907, m. 3-28-1937 Ruby Pearl Wimpee. Children:

a. Gene Raymond, b. 5-23-1938

(a) Randy Douglas m. Carol Ingram

b. George Spencer, b. 1-29-1940 m. Jerry Treadway

(a) Tony

(b) Teresa

c. Linda Faye, b. 1-5-1944 m. Robert Griffith

(a) Lisa Darlene

- (I) Mary Frances, b. 9-20-1910
- (J) Ruth Rebecca, b. 10-12-1912
- (K) John Fincher, b. 5-3-1915, m. 3-24-1940 Alice Virginia Tillery. Children:
 - a. James Richard, b. 6-7-1941
 - b. Laura Ann, b. 9-14-1944
 - c. John Fincher, Jr., b. 5-7-1952
 - d. Joyce Alicia, b. 8-8-1960
- C. Samuel Smith Marbut, son of Rebecca and Young Marbut, and his wife Mary Elizabeth Godwin were parents of:
 - (1) Henry Diamond, b. 2-25-1877, d. 6-2-1952, m. Ida Jane Collins 12-24-1899. She b. 7-4-1880, d. 8-28-1959, Athens, Ga. Their children:
 - (A) Robert Smith, b. 11-24-1900, m. Laura Gordon Powers 8-3-1933. She b. 1-16-1900. Their child:
 - a. Robert Gordon, b. 4-11-1935, m. Huberta Dodd 3-16-1957. She b. 11-27-1936. Children:
 - (a) Robert Gordon, b. 5-5-1960
 - (b) Laura Dodd, b. 8-9-1961
 - (c) Michael Powers, b. 8-9-1964
 - (B) Hugh Stone, b. 9-16-1902 m. Emma Luisa Fonclara 3-23-1940. She b. 5-7-??. Children:
 - a. Ellen Louise, b. 9-20-1944, d. 9-20-1944
 - b. Mary Elizabeth, b. 1-24-1946
 - (C) Hamilton Dubose, b. 9-12-1906, d. 9-12-1906
 - (D) Ida Marguerite, b. 5-20-1907 m. Van Bibb Saye 12-27-1929. He b. 10-20-1903, Rutledge, Ga. Children:
 - a. Van Bibb Saye, b. 12-25-1930, m. Mattie Lois Strickland 8-3-1953, she b. 4-1931, Nahunta, Ga. Children:
 - (a) Susan Elaine, b. 8-11-1955 Richmond, Va.
 - (b) Sandra Diane, b. 5-12-1959 New Orleans, La.
 - (c) John Bibb, b. 4-30-1964, Baton Rouge, La.
 - (d) Joseph
 - (E) Charles Henry, b. 2-16-1909, d. 10-26-1910
 - (F) Howell Diamond, b. 5-10-1910 m. Ola Glen Bishop 6-26-1935. She b. 10-27-1913. Children:
 - a. Richard Howell, b. 5-31-1939, m. Sarah Alice Little 2-12-1966. She b. 9-22-1943. Children:
 - (a) Laurie Ann, b. 12-30-1967
 - (b) Richard David, b. 5-31-1969
 - b. William Thomas, b. 12-28-1941 m. Carolyn Sue Dean 9-26-??. She b. 11-18-1942. Children:
 - (a) Susan Elisa, b. 9-19-1968
 - (b) Margaret Ellen, b. 9-12-1969
 - c. James David, b. 10-21-1946, m. Mary Elizabeth Kirke 12-27-1969. She b. 3-1-1947
 - (G) George Frederick, b. 5-21-1914, m. 1st Emily Campbell 12-27-1941. She d. 8-21-1955. Children:
 - a. Chester Campbell, b. 9-15-1945
 - b. Freddie Campbell, b. 9-21-1949
 - Married 2nd Lilly Colquitt, 6-1956
 - (H) Samuel Alexander, b. 4-6-1917, m. Mary Jane Richards 6-13-1943. She b. 10-9-1921. Children:
 - a. Mary Ann, b. 10-19-1945 m. 2-18-1967 Curtis Alan Shirer
 - b. Karen Patricia, b. 10-12-1947 m. Charles West 8-12-1967
 - (2) Anna Marbut, b. 6-23-1878, d. 1937, Brighton, Ala., m. 12-23-1894 John A. Kidd. Children:
 - (A) Esther, b. 3-5-1897, m. 8-1-1919 Paul G. Crawford, d. 2-25-1928. Their children:
 - a. Mary Elizabeth (Betty), b. 7-24-1920 m. 12-9-1942 Woodrow Paul Wentzy. He b. 9-16-1914. Children:
 - (a) David Albert, b. 1-18-1947
 - (b) James Richard, b. 10-21-1952
 - b. Paul Glenn, Jr., b. 7-23-1922, d. 8-18-1965, m. 5-9-1942 Mary Elizabeth Jackson. Children:
 - (a) Paul Glenn, III, b. 6-9-1943 m. Darlene Reid. She b. 3-28-1945, Alton, Ill. Children: Paul Reid, b. 6-18-1968 and Dawn Michelle, b. 1-19-1970 both b. in Alexandria, La.
 - (b) Jo Ann, b. 2-20-1945 m. 1st ——— Tucker, m. 2nd ——— Pancoast. Child Jamie Lynn b. 7-1968

- (c) David Edwin, b. 3-16-1948
 - (d) Patti Sue, b. 12-13-1953
 - (B) Willine, d. 4-9-1937 m. Olin Eugene Naylor. Children:
 - a. Olin Eugene Naylor, Jr., b. 3-6-1923 m. Edna ——. Children:
 - (a) Dorothy
 - (b) Olin Eugene III
 - b. John Marbut Naylor, b. 5-3-1922 m. 8-26-1942 Ora Jeanette Palmer. She b. 2-16-1924. Children:
 - (a) Jeanette Ora, b. 12-16-1946
 - (b) John Wesley, b. 1-18-1949
 - (c) Richard Crenshaw, b. 4-27-1954
 - (C) William Marbut, b. 6-23-1901 m. 6-14-1925 Hazel Halfacre. Children:
 - a. William Marbut, Jr., b. 2-6-1928, m. 6-28-1947 Grace Neyrey
 - b. John Robert, b. 8-9-1930 m. 6-27-1952 Rae Lather. Child:
 - (a) Karen Rae, b. 6-19-1953
 - (D) John Noble, b. 6-1-1904, d. 8-14-1952 m. Jean Moore. Child:
 - a. Anna
 - (E) Wilbur Stuart, b. 6-16-1919, m. 10-2-1943 Geraldine Marie Penner. Children:
 - a. John Michael, b. 10-6-1944
 - b. Joan Margaret, b. 9-20-1950
 - c. James
- (3) Lillie Godwin Marbut, b. 1-25-1880 m. George P. Holbrook 6-14-1899, d. 195—. Children:
- (A) Howard Holbrook, b. 3-23-1900, d. 12-4-1915
 - (B) George Marion Holbrook, b. 9-16-1901 m. Ora Brandon. Children:
 - a. George Marion m. Norma Green
 - b. Robert Brandon
 - (C) Walter Alexander Holbrook b. 3-29-1903 d. 2-23-1945 m. Annie Chapman. Children:
 - a. Frances Ann m. Melvin Bartlett. Children:
 - (a) Lewis Lynn
 - (b) Candice
 - (c) Francine Ann
 - b. Charles Holbrook
 - (D) Hattie Inez, b. 3-6-1905 m. Ted Killough
 - (E) Carlton Holbrook b. 7-21-1907 m. Ruby Payne
 - a. Wayne
 - b. Carolyn
 - c. Jimmie
 - d. Linda
 - (F) Virginia, b. 5-25-1910 m. Olin Rozell. Children:
 - a. Howard
 - b. Donald Glynn
 - (G) John Wallace, b. 6-8-1912 m. Margaret Lynch. Child:
 - a. Barbara Jean
 - (H) Jessie Jane, b. 4-30-1914 m. T. C. Blount. Children:
 - a. Mary Lou
 - b. Peggy Lynell
 - c. Virginia Gayle
 - (I) Mary Elizabeth b. 9-3-1918 m. Owen Carberry. Children:
 - a. Patricia Ann
 - b. daughter
 - (J) Henry Marbut Holbrook b. 5-29-1922 m. Gladys Duplechain. Children:
 - a. Ledell
 - b. Sandra
 - c. Mical
 - d. Gerry
- (4) Sallie Marbut, b. 5-23-1882, d. 10-7-1911 m. William Henry Morris. Children:
- (A) Lula Mae, b. 4-25-1903 m. 9-21-1924 Oscar William Monk, d. 4-28-1968. Children:
 - a. Alice Louise, b. 6-26-1925, m. 10-19-1944 James Elbert Able. Children:
 - (a) Elbert Boyd Able, b. 6-13-1945, m. Ila Sue Smith, she b. 2-9-1945, m. 7-16-1965. Child: Christopher Alan b. 3-22-1968

- (b) Charles Wayne, b. 3-6-1949
 - b. Troy Vernon, b. 11-24-1927, m. 5-23-1952 Ann Story Peterson, b. 6-14-1932. Their children:
 - (a) Christie Ann, b. 9-3-1954
 - (b) William Kenin, b. 11-17-1955
 - (c) Robin, b. 5-13-1957
 - (d) Michael Kelly, b. 8-28-1958
 - (e) Kathy Pam, b. 12-5-1960
 - c. Richard Doyle, b. 3-19-1930, m. 6-6-1951 to Oleeta Russell, b. 3-14-1928. Children:
 - (a) Douglas Morris, b. 1-9-1957
 - (b) Richard Russell, b. 8-3-1953
 - d. Flora Juanita, b. 2-8-1932, m. 5-6-1950 Bobbie Joe Smith, b. 9-2-1930. Children:
 - (a) Betty Suzanne
 - (b) Dorothy Kay.
 - (B) Julia Myrtle, b. 1-15-1906, m. 11-16-1924 John Samek, Jr., b. 5-24-1897. Children:
 - a. Theresa Annie, b. 9-20-1925, m. 1-27-1946 Isaac F. Stevens, b. 1-22-1921. Children:
 - (a) Sarah Ann, b. 2-27-1947, m. 8-3-1968 Royce Cain
 - (b) Isaac Franklin, Jr., b. 1-3-1952
 - (c) Betty Louise, b. 3-2-1959
 - (d) John Abner, b. 8-10-1962, d. 8-13-1962
 - (e) Michel Abner, b. 2-27-1964
 - b. Edna Ruth, b. 11-14-1926, m. 6-20-1948 Richard D. Barker, b. 7-19-1924. Children:
 - (a) Richard Dewey, Jr., b. 11-20-1949
 - (b) Randall Ray, b. 12-10-1953
 - c. John William, b. 3-7-1929, m. 10-10-1964 Barbara Green, b. 12-30-1943
 - d. Charles Edward, b. 1-21-1931, m. 6-6-1952 Dorothy Marie Skinner, b. 9-8-1934. Children:
 - (a) Linda Sue, b. 10-10-1953
 - (b) Charles Vaughn, b. 11-24-1958
 - e. Joseph Eldon, b. 9-22-1934, m. 1-25-1958, Wanda Lou Davis, b. 3-17-1937. Children:
 - (a) Gary Eldon, b. 7-25-1960
 - (b) Bradley Dale, b. 7-24-1964
 - (C) Lillian Elizabeth, b. 7-1-1909, m. 10-7-1928 Charley Lee Mahoney
- (5) Walter Pierce Marbut, b. 9-15-1884, d. 1-28-1958, m. Ruby May Burch 12-1-1912, d. 11-23-1959. Children:
 - (A) Mary Ann, b. 12-3-1913, m. 10-30-1945 Joe Page Crawford. Children:
 - a. Mary Jo, b. 10-16-1946
 - b. Charlotte, b. 1-25-1949, d. 3-4-1949
 - c. Marbut Page, b. 2-14-1950
 - (B) Sarah Louise, b. 9-23-1921, m. Gordon L. Statham 8-21-1949, d. 10-1-1964. Children:
 - a. Gordon L., b. 7-3-1951
 - b. Terry Lee, b. 3-8-1953
 - c. Jerry, b. 7-17-1956
 - (C) Walter Pierce, b. 8-13-1925 m. Helen Drake 9-8-1951. Child:
 - a. Sarah Jane, b. 9-13-1955
- (6) Mary Elizabeth Marbut, b. 10-1-1891, d. 1967, m. 1st James Arthur Mullinnix 10-11-1910. Children:
 - (A) Louise, b. 7-1-1912
 - (B) James Arthur, b. 6-29-1914, m. Tommie Jones
 - (C) William Marbut, b. 1-28-1916, m. Florence Pearl Townsend. Children:
 - a. Patricia Ann
 - b. William Arthur
 - c. Lynn Elaine
 - (D) Hugh, b. 1917, d. 1923
m. 2nd Van Deusen; m. 3rd H. H. Barr
- (7) Rebecca Irene Marbut, b. 11-22-1894, m. James Frank Hammett 12-24-1917, d. 2-1968. Children:
 - (A) Dorothy Ann, b. 4-18-1920 m. B. R. B. Davis 5-1-1948. Children:
 - a. James Barry, b. 2-22-1949

- b. Charles Hammett, b. 11-3-1951
- (B) James Frank, b. 7-16-1925, m. Doris Marie Bixby 7-3-1949. Children:
 - a. Karen Marie, b. 7-15-1952
 - b. James Frank II, b. 6-10-1954
 - c. Kristen
- (C) Rebecca Jean, b. 3-24-1930, d. 9-14-1967

Catherine (Kitty, Cathy) Crow was a real old fashioned, homeloving housekeeper of other days. She loved her family, wrote frequent letters to her Georgia relatives after she and "Mr. Crow," as she always called her husband, moved to Texas and happily described her beautiful flowers and the crops of corn and cotton. The Crows may have left DeKalb with John Robeson's family for he spent some time in Rusk County but then moved on to secure land northwest of this section. The Crow family stayed in Rusk near Henderson and, so far as we know, did not leave there. Abel was a hard worker adding to his acreage and building up his freight line, wagoning to Shreveport, La., until they seemed to live very comfortably. After the war, Kitty wrote that he was considering "merchandising" so they probably moved into Henderson then. In 1970 we visited a large old house in Henderson that we were told was the Crow home. It is in dilapidated condition and we were told that the historical society wanted to restore it, but the present owner objected.

Our earliest letter from Cathy was written in 1850. She is writing her sister, Rebecca, and says: *Brother [Rob] brought me a letter last evening from Sister Nancy. Tell her I am much indebted to her for the hair and kind epistle she wrote me and I hope she will improve her time well at school for it will probably be much to her advantage but she must not studdy much about beaus in school hours. [That was a little late, for she married Berry Towers shortly thereafter.] O Sis I cannot write anything of interest but if I could only see you I could talk a week without sleeping one night. Our children are very healthy John R is said by every person that ever saw Pap to be just like him and if he will be like him in every way you may be sure he will be to my notion indeed.*

Cathy's father James Diamond had died the previous year and her mother was living with the Young Marbut's. In a letter to her mother, Kitty describes her husband this way: *We are working very hard to make preparations to come to see you but have no set time yet. You know we had but little to commence on so the only chance to get anything is to work for it. But Mr. Crow does not mind work any more than you did when you were well. I often tell him he is more like you than any person I ever saw. He is very careful and loves to stay at home. He is also very attentive to prayers and Bible and you know that is worth more to him than anything else.*

Cathy's renown as a cook had spread abroad and all her brothers enjoyed deer and turkey hunts with the Crow home as headquarters and Cathy as the cook. George delights in describing the Yankee boarder who would not live near his store in town because only Kitty could cook to suit him. Even years after the war when she had lost her old negro cook "to move to town and get rich," this man lived with them and took over the job of milking the cows. George said that he drank two pitchersful at every meal. In addition to her own four children, Cathy reared several orphans left by Abel's brother, and frequently cared for neighbor children for months at a time. The eldest of their children was John Robeson who was a great help to his mother and father and seemed an unusually smart boy. He was killed when a freak tornado struck his brick schoolhouse in March, 1867. Kitty never fully recovered from this shock. Many of her letters were relating details of tragic deaths in the family.

The other son, Willie, was sent to school in neighboring schools until grown and then in 1869 he went to Georgia to attend Emory at Oxford. Willie remained there for four years, spending vacations with various relatives who described their pleasure at knowing him. On his return to Texas, he studied law, eventually setting up practice in Dallas where he gained quite a reputation as a barrister. Willie and his wife, Fannie Caswell, are buried in the Oak Cliff cemetery.

One daughter, Ella, died while a small child. The next daughter, Loura, wrote many letters to her Georgia cousins whom she never met. On her nineteenth birthday Loura wrote Mary Marbut: *Cousin, I am nineteen today but if you were to see me you would think me a little girl. Brother often tells me I am the most complete child in my ways he ever saw, says I should begin to act like a young lady. I am in the yard with my pet cat and dog or some motherless little chicken, or minding the cows in the field. If I can only get a little ways from the house, Ma will have to do my part of the sewing for she knows I am gone for sometime. I have quit school, will not go anymore unless I go off to college. Most of my class have married and I thought I would only take music lessons this term. Ma says she thinks girls have something else to learn outside the school room. Loura married her first cousin, Laurance Diamond, and lived in Oak Cliff, Texas, until she was in her seventies.*

The youngest daughter, Ella Bonnie, evidently didn't write letters to unknown relatives, for we have no letters from her. She was married twice: first to Mr. A. C. Parker, second to Mr. N. B. Gray of Fort Worth. She died at age fifty-seven.

After the war Cathy had the sad task of writing many letters bearing bad news about the death of many family members. She notified the Georgia relatives about the death of the fourteen victims of yellow fever as they died in Houston in 1867. Since her mother was living with her at that time, she was the only one to comfort the old lady in her sorrow. So, in 1869 she had to write the surviving children about Nancy Cornwell Diamond's death. She wrote: *Alas Death with his icy hands has again*

crossed our threshold and this time taken our dear, precious Mother. She died May 25th.... Mother never got up after Brother Green was here except to go in the garden a few times. She was not so bad until the last week she taken pneumonia and was so weak she could not stand it. The Doc said she could not stand strong medicine and she was so much opposed to taking it that we did not give her but very little. She had such a sick stomach and such pain in her lungs. Oh sister, you don't know how much it hurt me to see her suffer so much. It seemed I could feel the pain myself. She did not murmur at it but bore her suffering with more patience than anyone I ever saw... but all the time would say that she would never get up again. She sympathized and grieved for Brother Green as long as she lived. [Green had gone to visit relatives in Georgia] She would ask me everyday if I thought he had got to your house, was so afraid he would be drowned or something bad would happen to him. She said just before she died that she had but one desire and that was to see her Dear Green a religious man...she said Father sold her to come to heaven where he was and bring all the children, not leave one behind. She told me to remind all of you as long as I lived. Sister, she died so happy, was in her right mind to the last, would clasp her hands together and praise God as long as she could raise them. Cathy's letter continues in the same manner at length but Nancy died after surviving her husband, James, for twenty years. In 1970 we searched Henderson cemeteries for her grave but failed to find it. There were many unmarked graves and many headstones without inscriptions in the oldest cemetery where Cathy and Abel are buried so she was probably buried there. However, this was shortly after the war, and it is possible that she and John were both laid to rest on the homeplace.

For twenty years Kitty tried in vain to get her sister Rebecca and Clide to move their family to Texas. Practically every letter begged them to come "this year" and Crow even secured land for Clide and later Sammy several times, and Kitty never gave up. In spite of the years of separation she wrote them letters as long as she lived. This was true of those living in north Texas, too, for she complained that she saw them no oftener than the Georgians. In fact, Loura wrote Mary Jane in 1875 "I had the exquisite pleasure of seeing Ma's sister [Nancy] I could not think it was me in the house of Ma's sister, how I love her. Although with her but a short time, I think she is the best lady I ever saw." Now the two hundred miles that separated them could be covered in a few hours.

Shortly after her 56th birthday Catherine Diamond died leaving Abel and their children Willie, Loura, and Ella. She is buried in City Cemetery, just across from the Court House in Henderson. Abel lived four years longer and married twice during that time, first to Mrs. Lavendar, and second to Mrs. A. R. Boynton. He is buried in the same cemetery and between his first two wives.

CATHERINE DIAMOND CROW
Contributed by Mabel Card Harlan

Cathy or Kitty, born Oct. 21, 1824 in DeKalb County, Georgia, died Oct. 27, 1880 in Henderson, Texas. She married Abel Ross Crow on Mar. 28, 1846, probably in DeKalb County. Crow died in June 11, 1884 in Henderson, Texas. Their children:

- A. John Robeson, b. 5-17-1847, probably in Henderson, Texas, d. in a tornado March, 1867 in Henderson.
- B. Laura E., b. 1-29-1849, d. 10-6-1853, Henderson, Texas.
- C. William Milton (Willie), b. 6-23-1852, Henderson, Texas., d. 9-5-1927, Oak Cliff, Texas. Married Fannie Caswell, b. 1858, d. 1944 Oak Cliff. Their children:
 - (1) Lamar, 1881-1899
 - (2) Milton, 1883-1896
 - (3) Claude and Clifford, 1887-1887
 - (4) Lucile Beacham, 1888-1952
 - (5) Kenneth, 1893-1913
 - (6) Walter, 1898-1926
 - (7) Loura
 - (8) Ella Bonnie, all are buried in Oak Cliff, Texas.

COLONEL JAMES J. DIAMOND

Jim, as he was usually known after his father's death, came along in the family sequence at the right time to profit by the hard work of his older brothers and the development of DeKalb County. After attending local schools, he went to Maryville College, in Tennessee. Although their records were burned, he is listed in the anniversary program of Beth-Hacma and VeBereth Societies as having been there in 1847. He settled down to reading law and in a few years married a young girl, Adaline E. (Holmes?). We don't know where they settled, but she died in Charleston, S.C., in Feb. 1855, at the age of twenty. Adaline left two children: Henry and an infant who died shortly after his mother. Henry lived to have a family of his own. Adaline is buried in the Diamond Cemetery with a tall, plainly inscribed shaft marking her grave.

After an exploratory trip to Texas where he rode over many counties, Jim wrote Young, Rebecca's husband, that he was well pleased with what he saw and thought they could make a living in Texas. However, Young died a few months later and the Marbuts remained Georgians instead of Texans.

Shortly after his return to Georgia, J.J. found another wife, Amanda Finley, widow of George W. Finley of Putnam County. She had a son, George Finley, and he had a son, Henry Diamond. However, they soon had three sons and three daughters of their own. Jim had opened a law office in Stone Mountain, Ga., which was not far from the old home place. After a few years Will came back from Alabama and joined him in this office. Jim also went into politics, being elected to represent DeKalb in the House of the Georgia General Assembly. He served as Clerk in the 1859 session and seemed to take an active part in the activities of this body. After the move to Texas became imminent, he resigned in December 1859.

Early in 1860 Jim and Amanda with their six children and the old mother Nancy Diamond headed to Texas by rail and ship—probably by rail from Atlanta to New Orleans and then by water to Galveston and probably by rail to the vicinity of north Texas.

We find this description of J. J. Diamond in *A History of Grayson County, Texas* by Lucas and Hall. He settled in Grayson County near present day Whitesboro. A cotton planter and slave owner in the Red River valley portion of northwestern Grayson County, he was the leading spokesman in that area for Southern rights and views in the days immediately preceding the Civil War. He attended the 1860 Democratic Convention at Charleston, South Carolina as a delegate from Texas and bolted as a member of that delegation upon the nomination of Douglas for president. He was a member of the Committee of Public Safety named by the Secession Convention in Austin. This committee in effect took revolutionary control of the state in the interim after the Convention adjourned on Feb. 4 until its reassembly on March 2, 1861, to announce the ratification at the polls of the ordinance of secession. He was named lieutenant colonel of the 11th Texas cavalry upon its organization in the spring of 1861, participating in its occupation of the Indian Territory. He succeeded to its colonelcy in 1862. This description was abstracted from a footnote of Diamond's Account of the Great Hanging when it appeared in the *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*.

So Jim joined the other Diamonds in the fight for what they thought was right. One letter written to his brother Franklin in Georgia is interesting in revealing the change in style of life that war brought to a family.

*Headquarters 15 Regiment, Texas Vol. Cavalry
10 miles east of Sherman
Sept. 8, 1861.*

Dear Brother,

*It is now eleven o'clock at night and Green is making down our pallet in our tent to go to bed... All the war news is better known to you than to me. You may have heard that I have the honor of being the Lieut. Col. of this regiment. I went into the state service on May 15 and have been in the service ever since, though have not had the pleasure of meeting up with the enemy. We are now ordered to this camp and will hold until joined by other regiments. I am the oldest commissioned officer and consequently have command and you know I have little time for letter writing with the interest of two thousand men to look after. Brother Green is the 2nd lieut. in the company I carried out and does the best you ever saw. Rob is regimental wagon master and we are all together. William wanted to go home tonight but we talked him out of the notion. George you know was in a Texas regiment that helped to whip the fight at Springfield, Mo. We have heard that he came out safe. Was William or Reamer at Manassas? I know very little of that great fight. I hope the war will soon be over. I know that victory will be ours tho some of us may be in our graves. My duty I intend to do and do not be uneasy we all intend here to do the same. Poor Jim; fortunately he was not clairvoyant, little realizing that there were four more years of hell and defeat at the end. Jim continued his letter: *Mother stands it all better than you would think. I left my wife at Gainesville with the little ones full of**

trouble and in three or four months expecting additional cares. She went with me to Fort Cobb and stayed two months in camp life and would be here now if she could.... Frank, this is now the most bountiful country that ever I saw and no mistake—corn, oats, barley, wheat, potatoes and everything in great abundance.... I will say by way of closing and honestly speaking my heart I hope God will protect us all and that we may be able to tell our toils to each other, but if we die in this cause, that God will save our souls and take care of our desolate and unfortunate wives and children.

*Your brother,
J. J. Diamond*

Jim was furloughed home several times on sick leave but always went back. At the close of the war, without money, without jobs and with nobody to help them work the broad acres the Diamonds set about rebuilding their lives. Green, Frank and Rob had all lost sons but the brothers all survived although several were wounded. Jim, Will and Rob made tentative plans to go to California, but according to Kitty, the children wouldn't go, so Jim and Will went to Houston and organized a newspaper.

As mentioned earlier, Houston almost destroyed the Diamond family, but a year before the tragic epidemic Jim wrote to Rebecca on HOUSTON JOURNAL stationery,

Oct. 1st, 1866

My dear sister,

You doubtless think I am slow in writing to you and really I have been but it was a long time before I could know where you were and for two months I have been in bed and today can scarcely walk a step but I think I will soon be up. I do want to hear from poor Betty and her little ones [she lost her husband in the war] and from Dear Mary and Sammy. I am so sorry that I am not able to send them some money, I want to know their wants. I would and could have paid them off but the money would have been of no value [Confederate] to them at least such as I had, but I will be able to pay them I think soon. At least I am working to that point and now I want to know what they want to do...to come to Texas? Why stay there and starve? I would be so glad to hear you were all coming to our flourishing state. So Jim was still the Texas booster with confidence in his own ability to succeed and the greatness of his state.

However, in the summer of 1867 yellow fever spread to Houston, and Jim moved all the family out of town to a large house to keep them safe. The result is described in other sections. James J. and three sons—Franklin, John Addie, and Arthur Lewis—succumbed to the fever and were buried in Houston. James J. was buried by Holland Lodge No. 1 A.F. & A.M. on Oct. 19, 1867 in the "old cemetery." [Contributed by Julie Ann O'Connell]

It is difficult to understand how a widow can pick up the pieces and continue after losing a husband and three children, but evidently Amanda was a strong woman. Her brother (he may have been a brother-in-law), W. B. Jourdan in Putnam County, Georgia, sent her the means to return to Georgia with her three children—Bonnie, Jimmie and Cora. Later, Henry and George joined her, and she immediately put all of them in school. They were scattered among her relatives, and Henry worked as a typesetter in Madison while George went to farming on land provided by an uncle. But tragedy struck again with Jimmie dying in 1869 and Bonnie in 1870. So, Cora was the only child left of Jim and Amanda's children. Years later she returned to Texas and married her cousin, Laurance Towers and lived in Whitesboro where they raised their three daughters—Jimmie, Bonnie, and Birdie. More details are related in Nancy Towers' section.

In the meantime, Amanda, or "Aunt Mandy" struggled very hard to be independent. Numerous letters from her describe her efforts, such as sewing, nursing her "dear brother," Dr. McKee, in Bel Air near Augusta (Mandy made no distinction between blood relatives or in-laws), a year in Cedartown, so through the years she managed until both Henry and George were employed by Atlanta newspapers. Then she joined Henry and his wife for a short period. She evidently visited north Georgia frequently for Rebecca's grandchildren remembered Aunt Mandy's visits with pleasure saying she always brought them sacks of candy.

Finally in the late 80's Amanda went to Whitesboro to live with Cora and Frank. She remained there the rest of her life, with the exception of one year when in 1888 she "was surprised to find myself married to P.N. Davis of Sherman, Texas." In considering this proposal, she wrote that she hated to give up the "dear name of Diamond."

George W. Diamond wrote her obituary, and Mrs. Harry Harlan sent me a copy:

Mrs. Amanda J. Finley, Diamond, Davis

Above born in Putnam County, Georgia and died in Sherman, Texas on June 22, 1903. She married George W. Finley about 1850. He died the next year. About the year 1856 she married James J. Diamond at Eatonton, Georgia and he died in Houston, Texas in October, 1867 in the epidemic of yellow fever with many of his family. She was among the early inhabitants of Whitesboro, Texas before Whitesboro was named or known. She left two children, George Finley of western Oklahoma.

and Mrs. J. F. Towers of Sherman, Texas. She was buried in Whitesboro, Texas. by Brother.

So we conclude the story of one of Jim and Nancy Diamond's sons, all of them different but all were leaders in their own fields. James J. in his short life of forty years was a leader of men. He was a professional man of ability, a shrewd politician, and a devoted family man. It is impossible in a few pages to describe fully the life of this man.

JAMES J. DIAMOND

James J. (I don't know what the J. stands for) Diamond, b. July 15, 1827, DeKalb County, Ga.; d. Oct. 9?, 1867, Houston, Texas; married first Adeline Holmes? about 1852, b. 1835, d. Feb. 5, 1855, Charleston, S.C., buried Diamond Cemetery, DeKalb County, Georgia. Their children:

A. Henry, b. ca. 1853

B. infant son, born and died 1855

James J. married second Amanda Jourdan? Finley (Mrs. George W. Finley and son George W. Finley, Jr.), b. June 22, 1830 in Putnam County, Ga., m. 1855, d. June 22, 1903 in Sherman, Texas. Their children:

C. Franklin, b. Ga., d. 10-1867 in Houston

D. John Addie, b. Ga., d. 10-1867 in Houston

E. Arthur Lewis, b. Ga., d. 10-1867 in Houston

F. Bonnie, b. 1859, d. ca. 1869, Putnam County, Ga.

G. Jimmie, b. 1861, Texas, d. ca. 1869, Putnam Co., Ga.

The following information on the descendants of Cora and Franklin Diamond was contributed by their granddaughter Olive Bryson, and great granddaughter Jimmie Ann Howell.

H. Cora, b. ca. 1863, Rusk Co., Texas, d. 1940, m. Franklin Towers, Whitesboro, Texas. Their children:

(1) Jimmie, b. 1886, Whitesboro; d. 1935, m. J. Robert White, 1904. Children:

a. Joy, b. 1906, Sherman, Tex., d. 1968, m. G. Frank Smith, 1928, no children.

b. Olive, b. 1909, Sherman, Tex., m. 1931 Alfred Drake Bryson, b. 1906, d. 2-15-1970. Children:

(a) Joy Elizabeth Bryson, b. 1934 Shreveport, La., m. Charles Harvey Morris 7-20-1957. Children:

Charles Drake, b. 5-30-1962

Victoria Ann, b. 2-28-1964

(b) Jimmie Ann Bryson, b. 1936 Shreveport, La., m. 1st Arnold Neal Adams 1953. A daughter Joan Elizabeth b. 1955. Divorced 1962. Married 2nd Rufus James Howell 10-30-1966.

c. Lindel White, b. 1911, d. 1914

(2) Bonnie, b. 1885 in Whitesboro, Texas, d. 1968, McKinney, Texas, m. Clarence W. Ludlow 1910, divorced 1918.

(3) Birdie, b. 1890, d. 1962, never married.

Cora Diamond Towers late in life fell and broke her hip and was confined to her bed for the rest of her life. She started painting and did her finest one at age 71. Olive and Alfred Bryson lived and raised their children in Shreveport, La. In 1965 they moved to Richardson, Texas, to be near their children who had moved there earlier. Because of Alfred's illness, their business was sold in 1969 and he died Feb. 15, 1970. Olive, Joy Elizabeth, Jimmie Ann with their families all live in Richardson, Texas. Franklin and Cora Tower's third daughter, Birdie, became State Seed Analyst for California and was listed in Who's Who in Agriculture. Upon retirement, she came to Dallas to live with her sister Bonnie, until her death in 1962.

NANCY JANE DIAMOND

Nancy was the youngest of the three Diamond sisters and probably had a happy childhood in this large family of devoted brothers and sisters. It would be hard to find a group of relatives who enjoyed being with each other any more than James and Nancy's children. They wrote letters to each other frequently and lived and worked together whenever possible. Nancy wrote many letters, most of them about her everyday life, so most of this sketch will be taken from her letters.

In 1852 Nancy married Berry Towers, also of DeKalb County. They joined the family wagon train that migrated to Texas in the fall of 1858. One of Nancy's letters describes part of that trip.

*Bank of the Missouri River, Pike Co., Arkansas
Dec. 8, 1858*

Dear Sister,

This is but a scanty opportunity to write—though I know you are anxious to hear from some of us, that is the reason I attempt to write to you on my lap in this dirty swamp. We stopped here today to dry and rest. We got wet last Sunday crossing a swamp — to wit The Washita [Ouachita] River, that was a hard day — though we are now on much better roads, over all the bad bottoms. We are all able to eat and go. Last night some rascal stole the meat out of our pots, which we had cooked for our dinner today. That was the first and only thing stolen from us.... Lizzie and myself have built our beds on the cane — it is about eight inches high and thick as grass.... We have some fun and many little trials and troubles. This is a pretty place and 3 other companies are camped with us. Some are whistling, hollowing, singing, some laughing, some playing the fiddle, some dancing, some patting -- with belled horses makes one almost terrifying noise. This closes our 38th day. We will soon be in the Indian territory — we will go through a corner of the Nation....

They made it safely to Texas and at first Berry settled near Rob in Grayson County. However, Nancy said that she had two objections to that country — lack of running water and the Indians who were just across the Red River. The real reason came out eventually — she wanted to live near her sister Kitty. So the Towers family moved to Rusk County for a few years but Berry insisted that he could do better farther north, so this time they bought land in Cooke County. They were near Rob and the other brothers who came later, so Nancy was happy. Berry farmed and also "wagoned" for Rob. Nancy became a real Texas booster, writing Rebecca about the beautiful fields of wheat waving in the wind, her gorgeous flowers, and her delicious rich milk and butter, and what a beautiful sight to see the cows grazing in grass six inches high. She thought their farm was the best in the county — timber on the north and broad acres of prairie on the south. All of this was in an effort to persuade the Marbuts to come to Texas, but they never made it.

The Towers children went to school in nearby Whitesboro and Nancy wrote about the heavy expense in sending them but she and Berry felt that "education was the best thing they could give them."

After Mother Diamond came to Texas, she spent much of her time with Nancy, especially while Berry was in the CSA. She went to Rob's every day so his home must have been very close. Before the war started, Nancy writes about the good times they had together — there was never any lack of fresh meat. Rob, Will, Jim and Berry would go "saining" in the Red River and bring home barrels of the "biggest fish you ever saw"; Berry kept them supplied with fresh venison; Green went buffalo hunting and brought in all his wagon could hold; wild turkeys were plentiful and with all the corn meal and wheat flour they could use — there was never a lack of food among the Diamond family. So far as I know, Nancy and Berry had six children; Lemmah who had six children: Franklin who married Cora Diamond; Dora with red curly hair who married a Norton and had four children; Willie, a quiet, retiring jeweler; Eddie, who probably had the Diamond temper — Berry borrowed \$13 from Amanda to pay him out of a fight; George W. We need more information about all of these.

Nancy Towers died on her farm in 1887 at age 58, and is probably buried in Whitesboro. Cora's mother, Amanda, writes that "poor Berry was never the same again." He was physically unable to work his farm, finally renting it and spending most of his time at the home of Franklin and Cora in Whitesboro. Amanda describes him as the same quiet, good man (1891) who came every weekend to go to church with them, but obviously Nancy was the dynamo of the Towers family. After her death the family seemed to drift from job to job, and place to place.

Amanda, Cora's mother, lived with Franklin's family both before and after the death of her third husband, Mr. Davis, and she relates some interesting facts about their life in Whitesboro. She said that Franklin was a hard worker and had saved money to buy a home for his family. About this time Henry Diamond, J.J.'s eldest son, came for a visit and persuaded Frank to join him and Laurance Diamond, Green's son, in organizing a newspaper at Oak Cliff, across the river from Dallas. Amanda begged them not to try it as this field seemed to bring bad luck to the family (the Houston deaths, George W's efforts in Henderson and Whitesboro, and Henry's failures with several papers). However, they were

determined, so Frank borrowed money and put his house up for sale. Amanda bought the house "so we would have a roof over our heads" and in six months Frank was back in Whitesboro, and later became a lawyer. Nor do I know the fate of the paper, but I believe that Willie Crow, another cousin, joined Henry and Laurance. Mrs. Cora Diamond Towers lost her husband about 1903 after they moved to Dallas. She died in Shreveport, La., in March 1941.

NANCY JANE DIAMOND

Nancy, b. Sept. 26, 1829 in DeKalb County, Georgia, died Dec. 30, 1887 at Whitesboro, Texas, married Jan. 22, 1852 in DeKalb to Berry Towers, b. ca. 1828 in DeKalb County, Ga. Their Children:

- A. Franklin, b. 1853, m. Cora Diamond. Franklin d. after 1903, and Cora in March 1941. More details under J.J. Diamond's section.
- B. Lemmah m. ??, and had 4 boys and 2 girls, names unknown
- C. Dora m. Mr. Norton and had 3 girls, names unknown
- D. George D., b. May 1861
- E. Willie, b. ca. 1863
- F. Eddie, b. ca. 1872

COLONEL WILLIAM WINFIELD DIAMOND

Will was another young man who grew up with DeKalb County, but having so many older brothers and sisters probably made life easier for him. In addition to the local schools he followed J.J.'s footsteps as a student to Maryville College in Tennessee. He wrote interesting letters to his family about his life there — the pretty girls who could discuss politics much better than the Georgia females; how wonderful Christmas was and the populace didn't imbibe too freely of spirituous liquors; his studies one term consisted of Greek, Latin, and Roman antiquities and he assured his brother that he had already completed Virgil. He didn't say how well these studies prepared him for teaching in Milltown, Alabama for the next few years.

However, Will was fortunate enough to find a wife there — he and Miss Elizabeth Towles, a music teacher from LaFayette, Alabama, were married, and their first child was born in Alabama in 1854. His teaching career soon ended when he decided to read law. So, Will joined his brother James J. in practicing law in Stone Mountain, Ga., but this, too, was soon interrupted when Will and Lizzie joined the family wagon train to Texas.

In 1858 they reached north Texas, and Will opened his law office at Sherman and before long was accepted by the court at Sherman, Grayson County and at Gainesville, the next county seat. Lizzie soon found employment in a local school and then persuaded them to purchase a piano "for \$500" and she began to teach classes in piano. In writing relatives in Georgia Lizzie describes her new life:

Feb. 4, 1859

This is a very nice place and three times as large as the mountain [Stone Mountain] and a long ways ahead of it in regard to society and fashion. I was deceived in this part of Texas. I did not expect to see anything here but find that it is ahead of me. Money seems to be very plenty in this country, it is made easy and goes easy. I think the chances for making fortunes are as good in this country as any I ever saw at almost anything a person wants to go at. Will wrote his brother Tell my friends I am just as pleased with North Texas as I expected to be or as I want to be. I would not exchange Sherman and Grayson County now for any place I ever saw. I have no hesitancy in saying that I know I made a good exchange. He mentions the circus that John had attended and the county Fair that had begun. He labels as "pure humbug" the idea that Texas is an uncertain farming country. The old settlers laugh at the credulity of those who believe such tales. I never saw in any country such crops of wheat and oats... The mills in this country are propelled entirely by steam and horse power -- no water courses for mills as the streams almost cease to flow in summer. Plenty water for the stock though and good wells and cisterns in town. Obviously, the Will Diamonds had joined the Texas boosters.

Lizzie continues her enthusiastic letter to Georgia: We are now living an easy life which makes us appreciate it. We are in Sherman boarding at a fashionable hotel and living on the fat of the land which is not always common in such places. I am very pleased with the landlady. She is all sorts of a clever lady. She is as good to my children as a mother and they think a great deal of her. I am teaching school, get \$1.50 a day for my assistance in the female department and for that reason boarding suits me better.

Will continued to urge his brother James J. to join them — he and Rob even attempting to raise money for the move, and finally in the spring of 1860 they were successful in getting J.J. to move his family and their old mother, Nancy Diamond. They settled in Grayson County in the Red River valley near Whitesboro, and the two brothers again entered the practice of law. Sad to say, the "easy life" was short lived when war clouds continued to gather and the summer of 1861 saw the brothers joining with other Southerners in preparation for the fray.

Will was active in organizing troops in north Texas in the Eleventh Texas Cavalry and saw much service over the south. He was furloughed home several times to recover from wounds but always returned. At the close of the war he was a colonel in the Confederate Army. No doubt his physical disabilities contributed to his death in 1867 when yellow fever struck.

During the war Lizzie continued to teach and take care of her children until Will's return when the three lawyer brothers made another move. This time they went to Houston to organize a newspaper in 1866, and were quite optimistic about its success when all three members were hit by yellow fever. Will died on Oct. 20, 1867. Lizzie grieved many years because she believed that he felt that he died from neglect (she had the fever at the same time) and would have lived had there been somebody to nurse him. So, Col. W. W. Diamond was buried in Houston after only a few short years in Texas. Their young daughter died the same month, and she too was left in Texas soil.

The terrible epidemic left the family penniless so Lizzie's family sent her funds to return to them, and in December of 1867 she took her three children to her father's home in LaFayette, Alabama. Lizzie's mother had died while she was in Texas and John Towles had married again, and they were received with open arms. Death struck again a month later when Lizzie's eldest son, John, died in January of 1868 at his grandfather's home in the same bed in the same room where he was born.

Heartbroken, but not crushed, the widow made plans to rearrange her life and live independently. She opened schools in various places — West Point, Ga., where a brother had a mercantile business; Troy, Alabama, and longest, in LaFayette “where my father can help us to live more comfortably.” The two children received the best education available, Lou graduating from a female college in LaFayette and Willie receiving his MD in Louisville, Kentucky. Dr. Diamond settled “somewhere in Tennessee” and “was so handsome and popular” that many of the babies were named after him. In 1891 he was unmarried and was expected to visit his mother in Troy, Alabama.

Lou married Jerry Wiley and had four children. Lizzie spent her later years with them in Troy, Alabama, where she died in 1899. A newspaper clipping relates this:

Mrs. Lizzie F. Diamond died at her home in Troy, Ala. on the 15th day of February, 1899 from a sudden stroke of paralysis. Mrs. Diamond was the widow of Col. W. W. Diamond who died in Houston, Texas, a victim of the yellow fever epidemic of 1867. She will be remembered by the older residents of Sherman, where she began life in 1858 with her husband, a member of the law firm of Diamond and Woods.

WILLIAM WINFIELD DIAMOND

Will, b. Sept. 6, 1831, DeKalb County, Georgia, d. Oct. 20, 1867, Houston, Texas. Married about 1853 to Elizabeth Towles in LaFayette, Ala., b. 1835-6, d. Feb. 15, 1899, Troy, Ala. Their children:

- A. John Towles, b. 1854, LaFayette, Ala., d. 1-1868, LaFayette
- B. Lizzie, b. 1856, Stone Mountain, Ga., d. 10-1867, Houston
- C. Louisa, b. 1860, Sherman, Texas, m. Jerry Wiley, Troy, Ala. Children:
 - (1) Sue
 - (2) Daisy
 - (3) Towles
 - (4) Diamond
- D. William, b. ca. 1862, Sherman, Texas

MAJOR GEORGE WASHINGTON DIAMOND

George W. Diamond, as he signed his numerous letters, was the youngest and certainly the most versatile of Jim and Nancy's children. His letters depict a petted child developing into a popular and carefree young man. Losing his father at age 13, he and his mother lived with Rebecca and Young Marbut at their farm adjoining the old Diamond place back of Stone Mountain. When Will was teaching in Milltown, George joined him for a year, probably going to school, and then went north to attend Albany University (now N.Y.U. in New York). After his graduation in 1857, he returned to "the mountain" and began organizing a wagon train to go to Texas. There is a family story that this spoiled young man took his own body servant with him to New York. However, he rode horseback from Georgia to New York. No doubt his mother felt he was safer with company.

He succeeded in organizing the migration to Texas, and that trip has been described. For a year he flitted from one home to another; all of the brothers and sisters seemed to want him with them. In letters to his mother he gaily describes the fun he has riding over the prairies pretending he is a Texas ranger. On trips with Abel Crow to north Texas to buy mules, George says his reward was always the choice of the wildest mule, and he was sometimes dumped while the mule took off to the timbers. He thoroughly enjoyed hunting for game with his older brothers, and both north and eastern Texas seemed to abound in deer, wild turkeys, birds, etc. Finally he settled down to reading Texas law in Henderson. He wrote Jim, his lawyer brother in Stone Mountain: *After sitting and hearing the Henderson lawyers spout for several weeks, I arrived at the conclusion that was a weak bar. Lawyers in Texas are generally indolent or lazy if you prefer it. The industrious, honest, faithful lawyer makes money, irrespective of talent. Most of the lawyers of this state have migrated to it and expect to take things by storm, to hurry along in style, and live on the ignorance of the people. The day has been when they were successful but now the people are beginning to see their ignorance of the law and general inefficiency, and in consequence the lawyers are getting a little lean. Everyone wants a place in politics, and in fact, get tight. In seeking for a loyal representation the people look for a "sober man" who, in Texas, is rarely found. I want you to prepare your mind to make every other interest secondary to the law when you get here.*

George wrote his mother hilarious accounts of his life in Henderson and made it very plain that he enjoyed Kitty's home, especially her cuisine. *Now let me tell you about Baker, the bachelor boarder - to describe him is to describe his eating, peculiarities of diet, etc. He is a Yankee bachelor, so far, good enough. He will not board in town where his business is. Why—cause he can't get enough sweet milk. The women call him "the old calf"—has boarded with different families, Kitty is the only woman that can please him. His diet - morning - 2½ cups of coffee, 3 glasses milk - mackerel, cod fish egg bread - Dinner - 2 cups coffee, 5 glasses milk - fritters with sugar, preserves, honey, pickles, molasses (which he eats with a spoon) - Supper - 3 cups coffee, 4 glasses milk, codfish and cake and bun sweetened with honey. I had forgotten to say that he uses ½ cup sugar at each meal which is set at his plate for his sole use. The pitcher of milk is also set by him. Now Mama, you remember our old gilded pitcher—well Kitty has just such a pitcher in size. He drank that empty at every meal though it was filled to the brim.*

Then George waxes poetic as he often did in writing his mother: *Ah! Mama! let the world if it will sneer at this mentioning of our table dishes so few in number that each should love its every shade and name marked and stamped deep and indelible upon the memory of the recollections which that old gilded pitcher helps nourish and sustain. There was the old calico pitcher. We may never hope to realize again on earth the joys which once surrounded them—all this is in remembrance. As they were filled to the brim with foamy milk so was our cup of happiness full. Can earth furnish other pleasures like these?... Others sink insignificantly when compared with the joyful feasts of plenty and abundance of our good family around those relics; testimonials of better days.* George wrote many such letters and in all of them, he displays a sensitivity toward people and a love of family that is rare indeed.

In 1860 the youngest of the Diamond clan gave evidence of further maturity when he selected a wife in Henderson. She was Frances Susan Turner who had come from Henry County, Georgia, with her parents, Pleasant Barnett Turner and Ahola Bama Harper. They were married on Oct. 26, 1860, and they lived in Henderson with her parents. Sister Nancy described her as "plain to tolerably good looking," but a good Christian girl and the family accepted Sue and loved her as a fine person.

In a few months it was obvious that war was imminent and George began his campaign to get the Diamonds involved in the action. Eventually all of the brothers and brothers-in-law, both in Texas and Georgia, were in the Confederate forces. George enlisted as a private on May 7, 1861 in Capt. R. H.

Crumbly's Company B, 3rd Texas Cavalry Regiment. Later he was transferred to the 11th Texas Cavalry of which his brother Jim was colonel. In 1863 he raised a cavalry company on the lower Brazos River and was a captain in Terrell's Texas Cavalry Regiment and when the war ended George was a major.

At the end of hostilities, George returned to his family in Henderson, and was elected state representative from Rusk County. However Reconstruction delayed the convening of the legislature until 1870, and George had moved his family to Whitesboro. There were intervals of adjustment in which George tried various occupations — writing for newspapers, farming, selling insurance, practicing law in Lard, but finally he joined Jim and Will in publishing the HOUSTON JOURNAL. The terrible yellow fever epidemic has been described earlier, and after the destruction of so many members of the Diamond family, George sold the paper in 1867 for barely enough to pay the debts and moved back to Whitesboro. Although he survived the fever, he and Sue lost two small children, Emma and Crumbly.

Physically weak, frustrated and discouraged, George had to begin life again and it was probably at this time that he began to rely on alcohol to help him through this period of Reconstruction. Lou Crow mentions in one of her letters to Mary Jane in 1875, "Uncle George has built up a good law practice in Lard but we hear he is drinking heavily." Years later Amanda, Jim's widow who was living in Whitesboro, wrote to the Georgia relatives: *Poor brother George drinks a great part of the time. My eyes fill with tears as I write this sad news for it will be awful if he does give way to hard drink. People say Brother George could have been governor of the state had it not been for whiskey.* However, there were many times when this handicap prevented him for making the living that he could have provided for his family. After returning to Whitesboro, George continued his first loves — law and journalism. He held some county offices, wrote for the WHITESBORO NEWS, and practiced law in the county seat, Sherman.

According to Amanda, Sue and George had eleven children, three of them dying as small children. They reared the others in Whitesboro until they married (Nell did not) and scattered to establish homes of their own. Susan died in 1902 and her husband contributed this to the Whitesboro paper:

Mrs. Frances Susan Diamond, wife of Major George W. Diamond

On Sunday morning Oct. 26, 1902 at 1:30 a.m. the above died after a long illness and much suffering. She was born in Henry County, Georgia, May 11, 1843, and was married to George W. Diamond at Henderson, Rusk County, Texas on Oct. 26, 1860. She was survived by her husband and seven children: Mrs. Luella Card, J. W. Diamond, Turner A. Diamond, Mrs. Eula Blanton, Fitzhugh Diamond, and Misses Elizabeth and Nellie Diamond. Rev. P. L. Smith held services at the home on Chestnut St. She joined the Methodist Church early in life and was ever a devoted and humble Christian. The funeral procession reached from the home almost to the cemetery.

George had also lost his eldest son, George Pleasant, in 1899 and "little George" as he called him in letters to Rebecca was his pride and joy as he was growing up. He wrote that he was a sturdy and smart lad giving much promise for the future so I am sure that his death was a great blow to his parents. George Washington Diamond died June 24, 1911, and is buried in the Whitesboro cemetery.

While some of his family deplored the weakness that prevented him from achieving his potential, there is no doubt that he had an adventurous and colorful life. In 1909 he wrote his daughter, Nellie: *As I am out of a job, guess I had better do down and join the revolution in Nicaragua. [At age 74!] Way back in the early fifties I was a filibuster under Gen. William Walker, the 'Gray-eyed Man of Destiny' who, with a handful of Americans, whipped out and exiled the despot of Nicaragua of that day, was himself quickly and peaceably elected president and established a stable and good government for that turbulent people. But the United States and English and France, for commercial purposes turned their gunboats against him, drove him into the hands of his enemies who led him out and shot him without a trial. Your Uncle Jim and I were together in this adventure and when the time came to start (the first trip) brother Jim had married a wife and could not go. The time to start (second trip) was set and while I was on the way to New Orleans with recruits from Atlanta, Ga., most of them boys with whom I had wrestled, fished, and possum hunted from childhood, and others from Montgomery and Mobile, our ship had left port 12 hours sooner than the time fixed and we were left behind. As recruiting officer, I was left orders to hold my 32 recruits.... Of course, I acted all the time under the instructions of my brother, J. J. Diamond, who was one of Gen. Walker's trusted adherents.*

It is difficult to summarize George Diamond's life and personality, but there is no doubt that he was a remarkable man. Brilliant, gentle, courageous and dearly loved by all the family (the Georgia relatives deplored that Uncle George no longer wrote them letters, they stopped shortly after the war) he seemed to be equally at home in "society," his church in early years, on the Texas plains, in the courtroom or in a newspaper office. One of his most noteworthy journalistic productions was published in the *Southwestern Historical Quarterly* in January 1963. This was "Account of the Great Hanging at Gainesville, 1862" which was a detailed account of an event during the war and written by George W. Diamond in the 1870's. This document was preserved by his granddaughter Mabel Harlan until its recent publication.

So we bring to a close the biographies of the children of James and Nancy Diamond with their descendants scattered from the Atlantic to the Pacific with the hope that they may receive some inspiration from the tales about their pioneer ancestors who helped build our great nation.

MAJOR GEORGE WASHINGTON DIAMOND

George, b. Dec. 26, 1835 in DeKalb County, Ga., d. June 24, 1911 in Whitesboro, Texas. Married on Oct. 26, 1860 in Henderson, Texas to Frances Susan Turner, b. May 11, 1843 in Henry Co., Ga., d. Oct. 26, 1902 in Whitesboro, Texas. Their children:

- A. George Pleasant, b. 8-9-1863, Henderson, Texas; d. 9-10-1899 in Whitesboro, Texas. Married Ela Davidson
- B. Luella, b. 12-22-1865, Henderson, Texas; d. 12-8-1942, Dallas; m. 10-22-1887 in Whitesboro, Texas to Roger Sherman Card, b. 5-10-1860, d. 11-10-1932, Dallas.
- C. James Robert, b.ca. 1867, d. Weatherford, Tex.; m. Nell Shelton
- D. Turner Ashby, b. 1-28-1873, Henderson, Tex.; d. 3-24-1937; m. Lena Bush, b. 5-24-1875, d. 12-16-1955, Dallas.
- E. Elizabeth b.?, d.?, Troup, Texas; m. 1st J. C. Holmes, 2nd W. E. Webb
- F. Nellie, b. 1877, d. 1944, never married
- G. Eula, b. 1881, Whitesboro, d. 8-2-1961, buried Dallas; m. Thomas Blanton
- H. Fitzhugh Lee, b. 4-15-1887, d. 4-15-1965, Lubbock, Texas; m. Billie Brozell
- I. Emma, d. infancy 1867
- J. Cumby, d. 1867

GEORGE PLEASANT DIAMOND

Contributed by Mabel Card Harlan

George Pleasant Diamond was the eldest child of George Washington Diamond and Frances Susan Diamond. He was born in Henderson, Texas on Aug. 9, 1863, and moved with his parents to Whitesboro, Texas in 1870. On June 20, 1888 he married Ela Davidson, daughter of T. H. Davidson, with Rev. T. E. Sherwood, officiating. After a brief life of 36 years George died on Sunday morning, Sept. 10, 1899. He was survived by his wife and two children, Lela and Emory Lee. Two sons had preceded him in death: Luther Campbell Diamond, b. June 6, 1891; d. June 14, 1892; Harry Clifford Diamond, b. Oct. 20, 1892, d. May 27, 1894. Lela never married, and Emory Lee had a son named Emory Lee Diamond, Jr.

George W. Diamond wrote glowing accounts of his son "little George," how smart he was, to his Georgia relatives. In early life he was a blacksmith, and his father bragged about how much money he made at that essential occupation. When he married he built his house on his father's lot and helped take care of his parents until his death.

MY MOTHER LUELLE DIAMOND (CARD)

By Mabel Card Harlan

Granddaughter of George W. Diamond

Luella was of a long line of Diamonds living in DeKalb County, Georgia. Her father George Washington Diamond, was born Dec. 26, 1835, the youngest child of James and Nancy Diamond.

After his graduation in 1857 from Albany, N.Y., College, now New York University, with a law degree he followed his five brothers to Texas. He first located in Henderson, Rusk County, where he married Frances Susan Turner, October 26, 1860.

He was in the Civil War for the duration, leaving his wife and two children, George Pleasant and Luella, in Henderson. After the war he, with his family, moved to Whitesboro, Grayson County, Texas, where he spent the rest of his life. He died June 14, 1911.

Frances Susan was born in Henry County, Georgia, May 11, 1843, and died Oct. 26, 1902. They are both buried in the City Cemetery in Whitesboro.

Andrew Johnson was President of the United States and Throckmorton was Governor of Texas at the time of Luella's birth, May 11, 1863. The county seat was Sherman, and the neighboring city of Denison was the birthplace of Dwight David Eisenhower.

Whitesboro was a small village during the Civil War, and Luella's childhood was the time of primitive buildings, the fencing of the land by thorny bois d'arc trees, and the invention of barbed wire. The women spun their cloth and dyed it with wild berry juices. The looms were home-made but efficient to weave beautiful cloth and patterns. Lace was knitted on steel needles, as were the stockings and suspenders. Coffee was ground by hand, as was the corn to make meal.

When the Diamond family came from Georgia to Texas they brought handsome silk dresses, jet beads, lace gloves, hand painted fans, ruffled blouses and long, wide skirts. The furniture was solid

walnut; one bed had ropes to hold the feather mattress. The bolsters were long, with lace trimmed cases. After the war, Confederate money had no value, and the children used it for play money.

Since there were no telephones, when a death occurred, hand bills were sent from door to door. Black crepe was hung on the front door, and a widow wore a cap-like black bonnet with a long veil down the back. The cortege was made up of horse-drawn buggies and wagons. The funeral was at the residence or the church.

More customs in Luella's girlhood: Each family had to make its own lye soap, hominy, sorghum honey, raise the stock, fowls, fruit trees, fodder for the animals, and food for the table. The family doctor delivered the babies and prescribed calomel, castor oil, turpentine, asafetida, coal oil poultice, quinine, vasaline, camphor, and sassafras tea. The medicine man, who traveled through the country, had many cures for sale — for rheumatism, catarrh, consumption, or warts. There were worm syrup, tonics, eye water, prepared chalk for face powder, curling irons and many more remedies and necessities.

A lady's corset was laced in the back, they rode their horses side-saddle, and the riding habit was a long, wide skirt. Little girls' dresses were ankle length and they wore black ribbed stockings with high-top button shoes which had patent leather tips and cloth tops. The ladies had bangs, some had short hair. Such was a small part of the girlhood of Luella. At age twenty she married Roger Sherman Card, an implement salesman. They were married at her parents' residence, and spent their honeymoon at the Windsor Hotel in Dallas, where they had gone to the Texas State Fair. They had three children: Mabel, Anna Shelly, and Charles Fuller, all born in Whitesboro.

This was Mother, as I see her from my childhood until her death in my home, December 1944. She is buried beside my Dad in Greenhill Cemetery, Dallas.

She was slender, fair, and her eyes were beautiful deep blue. She had a heavy suit of light brown hair that never turned gray, and was worn in a twisted knot on the top of her head.

She had a quiet, gentle and even disposition. I never saw her angry. She was careful of her language, and abhorred slang in any form. She chided us to be the right kind of children and loyal citizens, and her example was all the sermon we needed to help us become a Christian. We always had grace at our meals, family prayers and Bible reading.

She was a perfect housekeeper and our home was always open to visitors. We had them almost daily. Our table was ample for unexpected guests and she served delicious meals, which to a large extent, she prepared herself. She had a special recipe for hot biscuits and no matter who came, or for what meal, we all asked for biscuits.

Mother made our clothes, and her work as a seamstress was a credit to all of us. She was a dainty and well dressed lady, and often wore a flower in her hair.

When she was old and sick and had to be taken to the hospital for blood transfusion, she insisted on putting on her best dress and white gloves.

While she cooked, served, and worked at the church, sat up with the sick neighbors, churned, planted a garden, and raised chickens, she was never a public figure, nor did she take part in many things away from home.

She was frail and in poor health for several years before her death of a stroke, when she lived only one week. After the death of her life companion in 1932, she divided her time among her three children. Her greatest joy was her grandchildren.

We all called her 'Mother' as we needed her help every day. What a blessing it was to know when she was coming to each one of our homes. She did all our mending, watched the children, made beautiful crochet table cloths, watered the flowers, and loved pot plants to pet and enjoy.

If she were sad at giving up her home and her husband, she never showed it, and her greatest desire was that she should never be a burden to her children.

This is a scant outline of her beautiful Christian life. The half could never be told.

Children and grandchildren of Luella Diamond and Roger Card:

- (1) Mable Card married Harry Harlan and had one child Julie Harlan (Hudson)
- (2) Charles Fuller Card married Barbara Rickleman and had two daughters: Mary Elizabeth Card (Sutton) and Carolyn Card (Colderwood).
- (3) Anna Shelly Card married Lieut. Harold M. Cobb. They had one son, Harold Cobb, Jr.

Contributed by Julie Ann O'Connell
Granddaughter of Luella Diamond

Luella Diamond, b. 12-22-1865, Henderson, Texas; d. 12-8-1942, Dallas; married 10-27-1887 to Roger Sherman Card, b. 5-10-1860, Bettes Co., Missouri. Their children:

- (1) Mabel, b. 7-22-1888, Whitesboro, Tex.; m. Harry Harlan 5-26-1906. Children:
 - a. Jewel (Julie), b. 1-1-1909, Dallas; m. James Spearman Hudson 4-14-1934, Dallas. Children:
 - (a) Julie Ann, b. 4-14-1935, m. Raymond J. O'Connell. Children:

- Kathleen Harlan, b. 11-10-1957
- Julie Ann, b. 11-23-1958
- Margaret Lee, b. 8-1-1962
- Sally Hudson, b. 9-26-1963
- Mary Caroline (Molly), b. 7-17-1969
- (b) James S. Hudson, Jr., b. 10-8-1938, m. Claudette Pelta, Paris, France. Children:
 - Marc Reed, b. 4-7-1963
 - James Spearman III, b. 8-12-1966
- (c) Harry Harlan Hudson, b. 5-24-1946, m. Barbara McCutchin, Dallas. One child:
 - Alexis Card, b. 6-24-1968
- (2) Charles Fuller Card, b. 9-21-1889, d. 1-11-1965, Philadelphia, married Barbara Rickelman 11-23-1915, Dallas. Children:
 - a. Mary Elizabeth, b. 2-20-1918, m. Edwin Lewis Sutton 11-25-1939, Rahway, New Jersey. Children:
 - (a) Edwin L., Jr., b. 5-27-1943, m. Michele DeLong 6-18-1966
 - (b) Carolyn Card Sutton, b. 4-24-1946
 - b. Carolyn Christine, b. 12-20-1920, m. 1st Robert H. Maida, Rahway, N.J., d. 1959, m 2nd John N. Calderwood, d. 1962. Adopted child:
 - (a) Christina, b. 1957
- (3) Anna Shelly Card, b. 9-19-1892, m. Harold Mendell Cobb of Massachusetts. Child:
 - a. Harold M. Cobb, Jr., m. Joan Vandiver of Philadelphia. Children:
 - (a) Alan
 - (b) Bruce
 - (c) Sarah
 - (d) Joanne

DOCTOR CHARLES F. CARD
 Contributed by Mary Elizabeth Card Sutton,
 Granddaughter of George W. Diamond

The Union County Medical Society notes with regret and sincere mourning the recent death of Dr. Charles F. Card.

Dr. Card was born 77 years ago in Whitesboro, Texas and after winning a battle with a bone infection which forced him to use crutches for the rest of his life, he matriculated at Southern Methodist University, being a member of their first graduating class and probably their first graduate. He then attended Baylor University Medical School, graduating in 1912.

Dr. Card moved to Rahway in 1928 and again as a first, the first specialist in the City, he began practice limited to Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat. He retired in 1962 shortly after receiving The Golden Merit Award of the New Jersey State Medical Society in recognition of his 50th anniversary as a physician.

His familiar figure, pleasing personality and devotion to medicine will leave a void difficult to fill. His sincere interest and encouragement in helping younger physicians to establish practices will be long remembered by his colleagues.

Medicine and the community have lost a faithful and devoted servant.

Be it resolved that the Union County Medical Society acknowledge our loss and express our sympathy to his daughters and their families and to his sisters and that a copy of this resolution be spread on the minutes of the Society.
 January 15, 1965

CHARLES FULLER CARD
 Contributed by his daughter Mary Elizabeth Sutton

Charles Fuller Card was the only son of Luella Diamond and Roger Sherman Card. He was born in Whitesboro, Texas on Sept. 21, 1889, and died in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on Jan. 11, 1965. He is buried at St. Gertrude's Cemetery, Rahway, N.J. On Nov. 23, 1915 he married Barbara Magdelene Rickelman in Dallas, Texas. Their children were:

- a. Mary Elizabeth Card, b. 2-20-1918, graduated Mount Saint Mary's Academy, North Plainfield, N.J. 1937. Attended Southern Methodist University. Married Edwin Lewis Sutton 11-25-1939, Rahway, N.J. Children:
 - (a) Edwin Lewis Sutton, Jr., b. 5-27-1943, graduated Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pa. 1966. Married Michele DeLong 6-18-1966.
 - (b) Carolyn Card Sutton, b. 4-24-1946, graduated 1968 Bucknell University, Lewisburg, Pa.
- b. Carolyn Christine Card, b. 12-20-1920, graduated Mount Saint Mary's 1940. Married R. H. Maida, 1949, Rahway, N.J., he died 1959; married J. N. Calderwood 1959, he died 1962. An adopted child:
 - (a) Christina Maida, b. 1957

TURNER ASHBY DIAMOND
 Contributed by Annie Belle Diamond Black
 Granddaughter of George W. Diamond

Turner was born 1-28-1873 in Henderson, Texas, died 3-24-1937 in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Married 10-10-1894 to Lena Bush, born 5-24-1875 in Whitesboro, Texas, died 12-16-1955 in Dallas, Texas. Their children:

- (1) Thomas Erwin Diamond, b. 7-29-1895 in Whitesboro, Texas.
- (2) Susan Juanita Diamond, b. 4-24-1898 in Whitesboro, Texas; died 12-8-1918, Dallas
- (3) Ella Janette Diamond, b. 8-11-1900 in Dallas
- (4) Annie Belle Diamond, b. 2-11-1903 in Dallas

Turner, son of George Washington Diamond and Susan Frances Turner, was a gentle, soft-spoken man with a merry twinkle in his eye and a real aversion to seeing anything hurt, man or animal. He had a phenomenal memory for events and dates. He worked for a newspaper in Whitesboro. He and his family moved to Dallas in the late 1890's and it is not known if the reason for the move was that Dallas was a growing city and offered better opportunity, or that he had the Diamond itching foot. He worked for Blaylock Publishing Co. as a linotyper and proof reader until all the children were grown. Janette and I loved to go to the office as he would let us type our names and we always squealed when he handed us the hot slug. I remember the time that several girls and I skipped school and walked across the viaduct to his office. He let us type our names, gave us money for ice cream and streetcar fare and sent us home. I also remember that my mother refused to give me a note of excuse the next day. She said that she had not given me permission to skip school and that she would surely not give an excuse. So I was the only girl that was called to the Principal's office, a real disgrace in those days. He loved to play card games, checkers, and dominoes, but his favorite was dominoes. It has been said of him by so many people that they never knew him to take a drink, swear or to say an unkind thing about anyone and as for me, I know that this is the truth.

Every Sunday Mother would cook an extra nice dinner, this was at noon, and he would smoke a cigar afterwards. I don't remember him smoking at other times, but I can still smell that after-dinner cigar, and I have never tasted ambrosia that compares with that which my mother made for Sunday dinner. He mostly left the discipline of the children to Mother, but I remember that when he spoke to us, we minded him. I don't believe that he ever spanked any of us. He left the cooking to Mother except when we had oysters. Nobody could cook oysters that were fried exactly the way he fried them. They came out crisp and non-greasy on the outside and just right on the inside.

The sons and daughters of George W. Diamond were very close to one another as were the sons and daughters of Tom Bush and I remember much visiting back and forth. "Uncle Turner" was a great favorite of the nieces and nephews on both sides of the family and it was a great blow to all when he died of a stroke in 1937. He was buried in the Laurel Land Cemetery in the Oak Cliff section of Dallas.

Lena was the daughter of Thomas H. Bush and Annie E. Henry. Thomas was a Mason, and a prominent business man of Whitesboro. He was born 10-22-1845, died 9-8-1920, buried in Whitesboro. Annie's father was Robert P. Henry, also a Mason, born 2-29-1828, died 11-5-1873 in Whitesboro. Annie was born 11-13-1856, died 2-29-1888 in Whitesboro.

Lena was an optimist and always looked on the bright side of things. She had great joy in just living and every day was a world made new for her. She had great faith and believed that everything happens for the best. She thought that life and the wonders that God had made were for enjoying and I remember the many times that she gathered up us three girls and our friends and took us on picnics. Our home was a gathering place for all our friends and when we were older, all the boys and girls of the "Fraternal Order of Frolic & Fun" wanted her to chaperone all our parties, weiner roasts,

marshmallow toasts and swimming parties. She loved people and would sit comfortably on a bench with the lunch, watching the passing parade at the Fair every year while we and the neighboring children ran all over the Fairgrounds, knowing that if we wanted a drink, got hurt or just wanted to rest, she was right there on the bench. She was a great one for helping her neighbors and I remember an occasion or two when the bread that she had cast on the waters came back to her when it was most needed. If anyone needed anything that she had, she gave it to them and in her last years we had difficulty in seeing that she had enough for herself, as she gave so much away. She was always very active, exercised a great deal and took her walk of at least a mile a day until she broke her hip in 1955 which resulted in her death. She was buried by Turner's side in Laurel Land Cemetery and her eight grandsons were the pallbearers.

THOMAS ERWIN DIAMOND

Erwin, b. 7-29-1895 in Whitesboro, Texas. married 7-29-1920 to Elma Adeline Rawlings, b. 4-21-1899. Children:

- a. Rawlings Erwin Diamond, b. 11-6-1924, Dallas, married 3-31-1961 Sarah McKinney, b. 10-10-1930. Children:
 - (a) Lisa Anne Diamond, b. 11-9-1963 in Dallas.Children born to Sarah by a previous marriage are:
 - Richard William Bowen, b. 6-2-1951
 - Carol Jeanine Bowen, b. 9-12-1953
- b. Jack Louis Diamond, b. 5-18-1930, Dallas, married 8-30-1952 Jewell Page Kidd, b. 2-13-1931, Lawrenceville, Va. Children:
 - (a) Cynthia Page Diamond, b. 2-17-1954
 - (b) Kathryn Louise Diamond, b. 2-1-1957
 - (c) George Thomas Diamond, b. 5-7-1958

Steady as a rock is the phrase that comes to mind when I think of Erwin. His hair was dark brown and his eyes are blue. From high school he went to work as an office boy for Gross R. Scruggs where he stayed until he retired, with time out for service in the Navy in World War I. Before he married he bought a house. Before his first son was born he had a larger house built and there he still lives. He had a clear idea of what he wanted from life and worked steadily toward that end. He always said that when he retired he and Addie would travel (the Diamond itching foot again). He and his family went to bed at nine o'clock (as did Grandpa Bush) and arose early. They saved their money. This is not to say that they were niggardly for they took nice vacations each year, went on fishing trips and dressed well.

Addie is a wonderful helpmate and manager. Also a wonderful cook. She always could go to the kitchen and in no time at all cook up a mighty tasty meal. She makes many of her clothes. Erwin kept himself fit by going to the YMCA twice a week and playing handball. They bought a house trailer before he retired and go south in the winter and north in the summer, staying at home during the pleasant months. They are both hale and hearty and enjoy meeting people on their travels and have been all over the United States and to Canada and the Bahamas. They enjoy life and their children and grandchildren. Like Turner, Erwin is "favorite uncle" to many of his nieces and nephews. Their two sons served in the Navy in World War II. They have nice homes and well-behaved children.

SUSAN JUANITA DIAMOND

Juanita was the beauty of the family. She had patrician features and beautiful auburn hair. She was artistic, painted pretty pictures and was a good seamstress. After high school she went to business school and then took a job as comptometer operator. She wore her clothes with an air and always looked like a princess to me, the tomboy. She married Allen McDowell and was pregnant with her first baby when she died of the flu in the epidemic of 1918. She was buried in the old Oak Cliff Cemetery.

ELLA JANETTE DIAMOND

Janette, b. 8-11-1900 in Dallas, Texas, married 5-8-1920 to Merkel Nolan Stubbs, b. 9-15-1900, d. 12-25-1965 in Dallas, buried in Laurel Land Cemetery. Their children:

- a. William Nolan Stubbs, b. 8-11-1921 Dallas, m. 7-1941 Hazel Ione Hargrove, b. 12-16-1921, d. 3-13-1948. Children:
 - (a) Hazel Marie Stubbs, b. 7-26-1942, Dallas, m. Tommy Wooten, b. 3-14-1937. Children:
 - Hazel Annette Wooten, b. 11-24-1960
 - Tommy Jack Wooten, b. 8-17-1962

- (b) Nolan Wayne Stubbs, b. 12-19-1943, Dallas, m. Cecelia Ann Cook, b. 2-29-1948.
Children: Cynthia Ann (Cindy) Stubbs, b. 4-17-1968
Faye Ellen Stubbs, b. 4-18-1970
- (c) Linda Ruth Stubbs, b. 3-7-1948, Dallas, m. Loyd Brigance. Children:
Tamara Lynne (Tammy) Brigance, b. 5-21-1968
William N. Stubbs m. 2nd Birdie Faye Jones, b. 7-22-1921, in 1950 Birdie Faye's daughter
by a previous marriage is
Elizabeth (Beth) Roman, b. 5-24-1939
- b. Erwin Virgil Stubbs, b. 2-4-1923, Dallas, m. 8-26-1941 Veneta Noree Fulton, b. 8-26-1923.
Children:
(a) Ronald Douglas Stubbs, b. 2-7-1946
(b) Larry Duane Stubbs, b. 7-31-1948
Second wife of Erwin V. Stubbs is Margie Lucille Flatt, b. 6-16-1930, m. 4-21-1955.
Children:
(c) Brenda Kay Stubbs, b. 8-17-1958, Dallas.
Lucy had two children by a previous marriage:
Kathleen, b. 7-7-1946
Danny Ray, b. 1-3-1954
Both these children have taken the name of Stubbs.
- c. Kenneth Diamond Stubbs, b. 3-29-1927, Dallas, m. 4-19-1948 Barbara Brice. Children:
(a) Ricky Dean Stubbs, b. 8-12-1949, Dallas
(b) Carolyn Ann Stubbs, b. 12-1-1950, Dallas
Kenneth's second wife is Mildred Jane Johnson, b. 11-6-1935, m. 10-26-1956. Children:
(c) Mary Janette Stubbs, b. 8-8-1958, Dallas
(d) Karen Dawn Stubbs, b. 4-7-1966, Dallas.

Janette, the black haired, blue eyed one was, as Mother used to say, "born in a hurry and is still running." She belongs to two clubs, does church work, does baby sitting for a large family and at the drop of a hat will take off on any trip to anywhere that anyone wants to go (the Diamond itching foot again). This is good, for she had a tied down marriage. Merkel was a stern disciplinarian. He served in the Navy in World War I. He did not have a happy childhood. His mother died when he was young and he had two stepmothers. He seemed to have had a sense of insecurity. After a few years of marriage he and Net bought a home and he worked in a filling station and auto repair shop. They lived very frugally and saved money. Merkel bought guitars for the two oldest and a ukulele for the youngest and they took music lessons. After school they had to throw their papers, practice their music and then study until late at night. Janette worked as hard as any of them, and later when he bought the filling station, she helped there as well. In all fairness to him, he worked harder than anyone, seeming obsessed with building security for his family and his old age. Janette did not mind this, for they planned that when the children were older and had left the nest then they would take it easier and enjoy life. But making money and saving it seemed to become his only pleasure and there was no time for anything else when the boys actually had left. He had been buying houses and renting them through the years and when he retired from and sold the filling station, his excuse for no vacation was the care of the property. This she did resent and it made for much unhappiness.

Virgil and Kenneth were in the Navy in World War II but Nolan was not accepted because of a kidney operation. All three are fine, upstanding men. Nolan has worked for General Electric Co. since he first married. After the war Virgil went back to the First National Bank and Kenneth to Dallas Power & Light Co. where they are still employed. They all urged Merkel in the last years to stop and enjoy the fruits of his labors, that they had rather have him than his money. They all loved him and grieved when he died, partly for what to them were the lost years. But who knows? If working and amassing money were his pleasures, then he got what he wanted from life. Janette used to say that she wanted to see every state in the Union and she has only missed two, not including Alaska and Hawaii.

ANNIE BELLE DIAMOND

Annie Belle, b. 2-11-1903 in Dallas, married 9-8-1918 to Garnett Eugene Black, b. 3-11-1900, d. 1-1952 in Odessa, Texas. Their children:

- a. Garnett Eugene Black, Jr., b. 12-30-1919, Dallas, m. 10-1944 Dorothy Maurice Johnson, b. 3-28-1922. Children:
(a) Kathryn Helen Black, b. 12-15-1945, San Pedro, Cal., m. Patrick Lee Williams.
Children:
Jon Marc Williams, b. 5-7-1965, Arlington, Texas
Kenneth Gregory Williams, b. 1-26-1967, Arlington
Jeffrey Allen Williams, b. 5-28-1968, Arlington

- (b) Jane Ellen Black, b. 12-4-1948, Dallas, m. 7-21-1966 Dennis Neal Morgan, b. 12-3-1947. Children:
 - Jennifer Eileen Morgan, b. 7-22-1967, Dallas
 - Dennis Neal Morgan II, b. 9-23-1969, Dallas
- (c) John Kelly Black, b. 4-24-1963, Dallas
- b. Turner Nelson Black, b. 10-11-1923, Dallas, m. 6-20-1946 Vivian Maurine Roberts, b. 3-30-1926. Children:
 - (a) Keith Nelson Black, b. 3-23-1947, Dallas
 - (b) Lee Ann Black, b. 1-18-1957, Dallas
 - (c) Vivian Dawn Black, b. 5-7-1959, Arlington, Texas
- c. Walter Joe Black, b. 12-24-1924, Galveston, Texas, m. 3-2-1951 Ona Faye Gilmer, b. 12-23-1926, Canton, Texas. Children:
 - (a) Susan Elaine Black, b. 10-29-1954, Dallas
 - (b) Peggy Ruth Black, b. 9-10-1956, Ozona, Texas

I was the foolish one of the family. I was firmly convinced that I could do anything that I wanted to do if I tried hard enough. I just wouldn't give up. I had the reddest hair and the biggest freckles of any kid in the neighborhood. I have always had the hoof and mouth disease, every time I opened my mouth I put my foot in it. Somehow what I said just didn't sound the way I meant it. At an early age I just knew that I had found the boy that I would love until death. After a year's engagement we finally wore our parents down to the stage of consent and were married.

My first big mistake was made when I was pregnant with the first baby. I could see no reason for a man having to stay home every night because his wife must, and he became accustomed to nights out with the boys. This set the trend and he drifted into drinking with the boys. No one knew that alcoholism was a disease at that time and the alcoholic got no sympathy. After nine years of periodic non-support and misery, I figured I could do better than that for the children so I got a divorce. Dear Aunt Eula knew the Assistant Superintendent of Baylor Hospital and helped me to get a job there.

The Lord must surely take care of fools and children. He certainly blessed me with three wonderful boys. They never gave me any trouble and were always thoughtful of me. They were such fun. Often, on my day off, I would take them and several of their friends to a Park near where we lived, and I felt as young as any of them as we slid down a hill on flattened out corrugated boxes. We all loved a joke and if the joke was on us, it was that much funnier.

The day after Pearl Harbor Gene wanted to enlist in the Navy, but at my request waited until the following January when the other two finished high school. The next fall Nelson enlisted and Walter followed when he was eighteen in December. Then I thought that Uncle Sam was pointing his finger at me (it could have been the Diamond itching foot) and I joined the WAACS. A quick ear and nimble fingers earned me a placé as Radio Operator after basic training. I was sent overseas, first to England, then France and on to Germany. Occasionally I had a going down in the elevator feeling and thought "What am I doing away over here with Gene and Nelson in the South Pacific and Walter in Trinidad?" Gene was also a Radio Operator. He had always wanted to go to college and we had discussed it many times while he was in grade school and also the price of tuition.

After the war he dot married instead of going to college, while Walter, who at the age of four had suggested that when Gene went to college if tuition was too much, why didn't I get just one ition, went to SMU on the GI Bill of Rights. He received his degree and then got married, and started his teaching career. Going to school during the summers, he finally got his Masters Degree at East Texas State College.

Gene is red haired and has Dad's twinkle in his eye. He likes people and square dancing. Walter is also red haired, likes books and is a good family man. Nelson, the dare-devil one is a God-fearing, steadfast man whose son, Keith, is presently in Viet Nam (guess what, not in the Navy but in the Marines). Nelson likes fishing and antique collecting, coin collecting, any collecting. So here we are, and as I look over the descendants of Turner and Lena, I don't find a mean old horsethief in the crowd!

EULA DIAMOND BLANTON AND NELLIE DIAMOND
 Daughters of George Washington and Susan Diamond
 Contributed by Mrs. Annie Belle Black
 Granddaughter of George W. Diamond

Nellie Diamond, b. 1877, d. 1944, Troup, Texas, buried Laurel Land Cemetery, Dallas was never married.

Eula Diamond, b. 1881, d. 7-2-1961, Lubbock, Texas, buried Laurel Land Cemetery, Dallas, married Thomas Blanton. Their children:

- (1) Robert Diamond Blanton, b. 1904, d. 1941 in Odessa, Texas, buried Laurel Land Cemetery, Dallas. Married Golda ? Children:
 - a. Richard Blanton
 - b. Robert Blanton
- (2) Lawrence Card Blanton, b. 2-1-1910, d. 4-20-1969, Evanville, Ind., buried there. Married Dorothy Carter. Children:
 - a. Lawrence Card Blanton, Jr., b. 9-24-1936, m. George Ann Brockman, b. 2-29-1940. Children:
 - (a) Jennifer Annalee Blanton, b. 11-12-1964
 - (b) Lawrence Card Blanton III, b. 8-29-1967
 - b. Thomas Armstead Blanton, b. 7-6-1940, m. Honora Smith, b. 4-24-1945. Children:
 - (a) Mark Douglas Blanton, b. 5-12-1965
 - (b) Heather Dale Blanton, b. 12-26-1969

The sons and daughters of George W. and Susan Diamond were gentle people. I never heard one of them raise his or her voice in anger. I never heard them speak unkindly of one another. If this sounds unbelievable, I can only say that I was much in their company as a child and also when I was grown and I speak the truth of what I saw and heard. I loved my Diamond aunts and uncles and added to my natural grief at their passing was the melancholy conviction that a way of life was also passing. Aunt Nell and Aunt Eula led lives of quiet courage, self-sacrifice, and service. Aunt Nell lived with her father until he died and then moved to Dallas and went to work in the office of Harry Harlan. When Aunt Eula was left to raise two small boys alone, Aunt Nell moved in with her and together they raised those boys well. Aunt Eula worked for the Board of Education until she retired. When the boys were out on their own the two sisters still lived together until Aunt Nell went to live with Aunt Elizabeth in Troup, Texas, where she died. Aunt Elizabeth had married a Mr. Webb after her first husband's death and in the late fifties she was very ill. Mr. Webb was almost totally blind and Aunt Eula went to live with them and took care of both until Aunt Elizabeth died. After the funeral Uncle Hugh told Aunt Eula to pack up her things and come to live with him in Lubbock, which made her happy. Mr. Webb did not like this at all but he had daughters and sons by his first wife and it was only reasonable that they take care of him. Aunt Eula was happy with Uncle Hugh and Aunt Billie until she died.

Golda took her children to California to live and letters and cards were exchanged for several years and then gradually ceased altogether. We do not know their whereabouts at present.

Lawrence, Jr., and Tommy live in Dallas, Texas.

FITZHUGH LEE DIAMOND
 Contributed by William R. Diamond
 Youngest grandson of George W. Diamond

Born April 15, 1887, Whitesboro, Texas, Fitzhugh Lee, was the 11th and last child of George W. and Susan Frances (Turner) Diamond.

He migrated from Whitesboro, Texas, to Slaton, Texas, in approximately 1915. He worked for the Santa Fe Railway in Slaton for about the next twenty years. In 1917 (Oct. 1st) he married Willie Mae Brazell of Slaton. They had only two sons. The first is Hugh Lee Diamond, Jr., born Oct. 22, 1919, and William Raymond Diamond, born July 21, 1932. As you might note, Mr. Diamond dropped the Fitz from his first name, and went by Hugh the rest of his life.

In later years, Hugh Diamond took the painting profession and continued in this until his death. One unusual thing about this is that he died on his birthday, April 15, 1965. Exactly 78 years old. He is buried in the city cemetery in Slaton, Texas. At the present time his wife and both sons are still alive.

The oldest son, Hugh Lee, Jr., lives in Merced, California, having moved there in approximately 1958 and is a Vice-President of a moving and storage company, and has two sons and three daughters.

These notes have been written by the youngest son, William. He presently lives in Lubbock, Texas. He has a wife Virginia and three daughters. He works for a daily newspaper in Lubbock, Texas (LUBBOCK AVALANCHE-JOURNAL). This profession has turned out to be interesting in that his grandfather, George Washington Diamond, was associated with several newspapers in Texas such as the HOUSTON JOURNAL, the WHITESBORO NEWS, and the paper in Henderson, Texas. William has presently been in the newspaper business for 16 years.

Fitzhugh Lee (Hugh) Diamond, youngest son of George W. Diamond and Susan Turner, b. 4-15-1887, Whitesboro, Texas, d. 4-15-1965, Lubbock, Texas, buried Slaton, Texas. Married Billie Brazell, b. 1-19-1891. Children:

- (b) Jane Ellen Black, b. 12-4-1948, Dallas, m. 7-21-1966 Dennis Neal Morgan, b. 12-3-1947. Children:
 - Jennifer Eileen Morgan, b. 7-22-1967, Dallas
 - Dennis Neal Morgan II, b. 9-23-1969, Dallas
- (c) John Kelly Black, b. 4-24-1963, Dallas
- b. Turner Nelson Black, b. 10-11-1923, Dallas, m. 6-20-1946 Vivian Maurine Roberts, b. 3-30-1926. Children:
 - (a) Keith Nelson Black, b. 3-23-1947, Dallas
 - (b) Lee Ann Black, b. 1-18-1957, Dallas
 - (c) Vivian Dawn Black, b. 5-7-1959, Arlington, Texas
- c. Walter Joe Black, b. 12-24-1924, Galveston, Texas, m. 3-2-1951 Ona Faye Gilmer, b. 12-23-1926, Canton, Texas. Children:
 - (a) Susan Elaine Black, b. 10-29-1954, Dallas
 - (b) Peggy Ruth Black, b. 9-10-1956, Ozona, Texas

I was the foolish one of the family. I was firmly convinced that I could do anything that I wanted to do if I tried hard enough. I just wouldn't give up. I had the reddest hair and the biggest freckles of any kid in the neighborhood. I have always had the hoof and mouth disease, every time I opened my mouth I put my foot in it. Somehow what I said just didn't sound the way I meant it. At an early age I just knew that I had found the boy that I would love until death. After a year's engagement we finally wore our parents down to the stage of consent and were married.

My first big mistake was made when I was pregnant with the first baby. I could see no reason for a man having to stay home every night because his wife must, and he became accustomed to nights out with the boys. This set the trend and he drifted into drinking with the boys. No one knew that alcoholism was a disease at that time and the alcoholic got no sympathy. After nine years of periodic non-support and misery, I figured I could do better than that for the children so I got a divorce. Dear Aunt Eula knew the Assistant Superintendent of Baylor Hospital and helped me to get a job there.

The Lord must surely take care of fools and children. He certainly blessed me with three wonderful boys. They never gave me any trouble and were always thoughtful of me. They were such fun. Often, on my day off, I would take them and several of their friends to a Park near where we lived, and I felt as young as any of them as we slid down a hill on flattened out corrugated boxes. We all loved a joke and if the joke was on us, it was that much funnier.

The day after Pearl Harbor Gene wanted to enlist in the Navy, but at my request waited until the following January when the other two finished high school. The next fall Nelson enlisted and Walter followed when he was eighteen in December. Then I thought that Uncle Sam was pointing his finger at me (it could have been the Diamond itching foot) and I joined the WAACS. A quick ear and nimble fingers earned me a place as Radio Operator after basic training. I was sent overseas, first to England, then France and on to Germany. Occasionally I had a going down in the elevator feeling and thought "What am I doing away over here with Gene and Nelson in the South Pacific and Walter in Trinidad?" Gene was also a Radio Operator. He had always wanted to go to college and we had discussed it many times while he was in grade school and also the price of tuition.

After the war he got married instead of going to college, while Walter, who at the age of four had suggested that when Gene went to college if tuition was too much, why didn't I get just one ition, went to SMU on the GI Bill of Rights. He received his degree and then got married, and started his teaching career. Going to school during the summers, he finally got his Masters Degree at East Texas State College.

Gene is red haired and has Dad's twinkle in his eye. He likes people and square dancing. Walter is also red haired, likes books and is a good family man. Nelson, the dare-devil one is a God-fearing, steadfast man whose son, Keith, is presently in Viet Nam (guess what, not in the Navy but in the Marines). Nelson likes fishing and antique collecting, coin collecting, any collecting. So here we are, and as I look over the descendants of Turner and Lena, I don't find a mean old horsethief in the crowd!

EULA DIAMOND BLANTON AND NELLIE DIAMOND
 Daughters of George Washington and Susan Diamond
 Contributed by Mrs. Annie Belle Black
 Granddaughter of George W. Diamond

Nellie Diamond, b. 1877, d. 1944, Troup, Texas, buried Laurel Land Cemetery, Dallas was never married.

Eula Diamond, b. 1881, d. 7-2-1961, Lubbock, Texas, buried Laurel Land Cemetery, Dallas, married Thomas Blanton. Their children:

- (1) Robert Diamond Blanton, b. 1904, d. 1941 in Odessa, Texas, buried Laurel Land Cemetery, Dallas. Married Golda ? Children:
 - a. Richard Blanton
 - b. Robert Blanton
- (2) Lawrence Card Blanton, b. 2-1-1910, d. 4-20-1969, Evanville, Ind., buried there. Married Dorothy Carter. Children:
 - a. Lawrence Card Blanton, Jr., b. 9-24-1936, m. George Ann Brockman, b. 2-29-1940. Children:
 - (a) Jennifer Annalee Blanton, b. 11-12-1964
 - (b) Lawrence Card Blanton III, b. 8-29-1967
 - b. Thomas Armstead Blanton, b. 7-6-1940, m. Honora Smith, b. 4-24-1945. Children:
 - (a) Mark Douglas Blanton, b. 5-12-1965
 - (b) Heather Dale Blanton, b. 12-26-1969

The sons and daughters of George W. and Susan Diamond were gentle people. I never heard one of them raise his or her voice in anger. I never heard them speak unkindly of one another. If this sounds unbelievable, I can only say that I was much in their company as a child and also when I was grown and I speak the truth of what I saw and heard. I loved my Diamond aunts and uncles and added to my natural grief at their passing was the melancholy conviction that a way of life was also passing. Aunt Nell and Aunt Eula led lives of quiet courage, self-sacrifice, and service. Aunt Nell lived with her father until he died and then moved to Dallas and went to work in the office of Harry Harlan. When Aunt Eula was left to raise two small boys alone, Aunt Nell moved in with her and together they raised those boys well. Aunt Eula worked for the Board of Education until she retired. When the boys were out on their own the two sisters still lived together until Aunt Nell went to live with Aunt Elizabeth in Troup, Texas, where she died. Aunt Elizabeth had married a Mr. Webb after her first husband's death and in the late fifties she was very ill. Mr. Webb was almost totally blind and Aunt Eula went to live with them and took care of both until Aunt Elizabeth died. After the funeral Uncle Hugh told Aunt Eula to pack up her things and come to live with him in Lubbock, which made her happy. Mr. Webb did not like this at all but he had daughters and sons by his first wife and it was only reasonable that they take care of him. Aunt Eula was happy with Uncle Hugh and Aunt Billie until she died.

Golda took her children to California to live and letters and cards were exchanged for several years and then gradually ceased altogether. We do not know their whereabouts at present.

Lawrence, Jr., and Tommy live in Dallas, Texas.

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- (1) Hugh Lee, Jr., b. 10-22-1919, Slaton, Texas, lives Merced, Cal.; married Thora Jane Locke, b. 2-9-1923, Sunnyside, Utah. Children:
 - a. Buzzie B. Diamond, b. 10-30-1946, San Francisco; lives Merced, Cal.
 - b. Marilyn J. Diamond, b. 5-18-1948, Lubbock, Tex.; lives Lubbock
 - c. Judy Kay Diamond, b. 3-27-1949, Lubbock, Tex.; lives Merced, Cal.
 - d. Stephen Lee Diamond, b. 3-6-1952, Houston; lives Merced, Cal.
 - e. Vickie Lynn Diamond, b. 12-10-1962; lives Merced, Cal.
- (2) William Raymond, b. 7-21-1932, Slaton, Texas, lives in Lubbock, Texas. Married Virginia Ann Embry, b. 1-10-1934, Nocona, Texas. Children:
 - a. Patti Dianne Diamond, b. 7-12-1958, Lubbock, Texas
 - b. Nancy Beth Diamond, b. 3-14-1961, Lubbock, Texas
 - c. Amy Karol Diamond, b. 4-26-1964, Lubbock, Texas

NANCY CORNWELL DIAMOND

We have done little research on the Cornwell line but I will include the information that we have and hope that someone will undertake the job. To date, Mr. William Davis Cornwell has probably done more than anybody else. This information has come from Mrs. George William Cornwell, deceased, of Monticello; the Diamond letters; census reports; and William Stewart's *Gone to Georgia*.

Nancy's father was Elijah Cornwell who served in 1776 and 1777 in Capt. Thomas Blackwell's company in the 10th Regiment, Continental Troops in Virginia and later in Georgia. He was born in Virginia in the 1750's and died November 14, 1827 in Jasper County, Georgia. His wife's name is in doubt but the evidence favors "Catherine Cavender" instead of "Cavenaugh" as sometimes listed. They were probably married in Dinwiddie County, Virginia about 1783. Elijah's migration south seems to follow this pattern: Amelia County, Virginia to Dinwiddie, to Rowan - Wilkes County, North Carolina, to Pendleton District, South Carolina (where he was counted in the 1800 census). He then crossed into Jackson County, Georgia in 1801, Henry County and finally in Jasper County after drawing land as a soldier of the Revolution in the 1827 Georgia Land Lottery.

Elijah and Catherine's ten children were as follows:

1. Elizabeth (Betsy), b. 1784, N.C. d. DeKalb Co., Ga.; m. ca. 1806 Absolom Steward (later Stewart), b. 1776 Va., d. DeKalb Co., Ga. Children:
 - A. Elijah, b. 5-27-1807, d. 8-30-1886, m. 1-26-1832 Annie Alford, d. 9-8-1877. Their daughters married William and Frank Wade.
 - B. Wilson, b. ca. 1808, went to Ala. before 1840.
 - C. Austin Greene, b. 1819, m. ca. 1838 Carolyn Veal. One daughter m. Beacham, another m. Wade. Moved to Mississippi after 1850.
 - D. John B., who had 3 girls and 4 boys
Absalom moved to Jackson Co. 1801, to Morgan Co. 1810, to Jasper in 1811, Gwinnett 1816, Henry in 1821, and his land became DeKalb in 1822. Absalom and Betsy lived near the Jim Diamond's and are buried in the Diamond Cemetery in DeKalb County. Their son John Barnett became a prominent judge in Decatur, Georgia.
2. Catherine, b. ca. 1786, m. William Taylor, Henry Co., Ga., went to Nacogdoches Co., Texas.
3. Nancy, b. 1788, N.C., m. James B. Diamond. Details of this family are given earlier.
4. Eli, b. 1790, N.C., d. 1863 Union Co., Miss.; m. Eleanor Taylor. Went to Ala. before 1840, then to Pontotoc, Miss. after 1840. Children:
 - a. Mathilda H., b. 1822, Ala., m. ca. 1841 Rev. Walter Blythe Drenan, b. Tenn. 1817
 - b. Adeniah, b. 1830, Walker Co., Ala.
5. Sarah, m. 12-25-1809, Jasper Co., Ga. to George Ramsey. Moved to Henry Co. by 1830.
6. Elijah, Jr., b. 1794 N.C., m. Elizabeth Morris 8-3-1817, Jasper Co., Ga.
7. Triphena (Bethenia, Phenie), b. 1802, Jackson Co., Ga.; d. after 1870 in Pontotoc Co., Miss. m. John Henry, b. 1790 in N.C., moved to Gwinnett Co. by 1820 and Henry and DeKalb, then to Pontotoc Co., Miss. before 1850. Children:
 - a. George Washington, m. Emeline ?, went to Pontotoc, 5 children:
 - (a) Dr. Marcus
 - (b) Rufus
 - (c) Edna
 - (d)
 - (e)
 - b. Patsey m. Levy Hoyl, d. Pontotoc Co., near Tardyville, Miss. before 1870.
8. Hiram, b. 3-8-1804 Ga., m. 9-28-1827 Mahala (Martha) Wynne, moved from DeKalb Co., Ga. to Miss. after 1850.
9. Obadiah (Oba, Obie), b. 9-7-1805, Ga., d. 6-15-1873, m. 1826 Mary Ann Lane, b. 1808. Children:
 - a. Kitty m. Malone
 - b. Thenie m. Kelley
 - c. Mary m. Faulkner
 - d. Eli, killed in war
 - e. Joel, killed in war
 - f. William Dawson, whose daughter Lula Lane m. G. W. Cornwell
 - g. Addie m. Williams
10. George Washington, b. 3-8-1808, Jasper Co., Ga., d. 1-5-1863, m. ca. 1827 Eliza D. Lane. Children:
 - a. Davis Lane, who had son George William, who had son William Davis
 - b. William Dawkins