The following are excerpts from the Prewitt-Pruitt Newsletters by Richard A. Prewitt which I inherited from my aunt. I have retyped these but have replicated Prewitt’s work to the best of my ability. I will post more later.

Prewitt – Pruitt Newsletter Excerpts

By Richard A. Prewitt

No. 1 Jan. 1981

BYRD PRUITT: Thanks to E Ragan Pruitt of Lilburn, Georgia, it has been discovered that Byrd Pruitt, Sr. moved to Georgia with his sons: Levi, Lemuel, Elisha and Austin. Byrd Pruitt died in Warren Co., Ga. between Sept. 22, 1799 and May 8, 1800. He also had a daughter, Nancy Pruitt, who married a Wilkinson or Williams.

We have also learned that Levi Pruitt had a daughter: Rosa or Rosanna Pruitt, b 1785-88 and married James McCormick on Feb 12, 1803. Levi’s son, Hardin Pruitt, Married first: Martha (McCormick) Neal and had two children: Marcia Pruitt, B. July 18, 1805 and Terrel Pruitt, b June 2, 1807.

Austin Pruitt also had a daughter: Nancy Winfield Pruitt, B. July 9, 1808 Warren Co., Ga., married William Boswell in Putnam Co., Ga. on Dec. 28, 1826.

No. 4 Jan. 1983

OUT OF THE ORDINARY:

ELISHA PREWITT, son of William Prewitt and Sarah Shipley, was born in Tenn. About 1822. He enlisted at New Albany, Ind. On June 13, 1846, as a Private in Co. B, 2nd Ind. Inf. Elisha was captured by the Mexicans and reported killed, but later returned to Texas. He had a terrible time convincing the War Dept. that he was still alive. He eventually received bounty land for his service in the Mexican War (8784-160-47).

No. 6 Jan 1984

OUT OF THE ORDINARY:

When Frederick Moss Prewitt was conducting his store in Columbia, Missouri about 1830, there was a narrow passageway between his store and the building just west of it. The back door of Prewitt’s store opened into this narrow passage.

Although nearly all of the bears had been killed in Howard County, a few still remained, especially north of Columbia. One day a number of men discovered a black bear near Bear Creek, and with guns and dogs started a chase.

The bear would fight the dogs, then run, and a new supply of dogs would be called to the rescue. Finally the frightened animal ran into town, down Eighth Street, and turned into the narrow passage behind Prewitt’s store.

Mr Prewitt, hearing the terrible noise, stepped out of his back door to see what it was, when the bear knocked him down, and bear and dogs all ran over him. (History of N. E. Missouri, p. 282)

NOTABLE KIN:

Vaul Allen Prewitt was State Representative from Scott Co., Ky. In 1820.

Judge James Allen Prewitt was elected Mayor of Independence, Mo. In 1906, 1911, 19191, and 1921; and served in the Missouri General Assembly as a Representative.

No 8 Jan 1985

OUT OF THE ORDINARY:

Price Prewitt married not only several, but many times. His first marriage was with Nancy Nowlin in Shelby Co., Ky. on Sept. 28, 1830. Price married second: Elizabeth Stewart in Shelby Co., Ky. on Oct 11, 1831. Elizabeth died prior to 1847, and Price married third: Hannah (Stout) Clements in Spencer Co., Ky. on April 12, 1847. Price then married fourth: Mary (Figg) Clements in Shelby Co., Ky. on Oct 1, 1851. Price then married fifth: Mary Ann (Stewart) Garrett between 1855 and 1858. On Dec. 28, 1857, a marriage license was issued in Greene Co., Ind. To Price Prewitt and Charlotte Tungate (but was not used). In the April term of Court, Greene Co., Ind. In 1858, Price was granted a divorce from no. 5 Mary Ann. Price then married sixth: Charlotte Tungate in Greene Co., Ind. on April 18, 1858.

The town of Prewitt, New Mexico was named for Robert Chandler Prewitt, who had a large trading post there. Robert was born in Lincoln Co., Mo. On Sept. 20, 1861 to Francis Elgin Prewitt and Mary Christianna Tinsley. Robert died in Albuquerque, New Mexico on March 9, 1960, and was buried at Gallup, New Mexico.

NOTABLE KIN:

William Henry Prewitt, b. Bourbon Co., Ky. June 2, 1840, was elected Associate Judge of Vernon Co., Mo., and served in the State Legislature.

William Wathen Prewitt, b. Osceola, Ark. Aug 27, 1889, was Mayor of Osceola, Arkansas.

Nelson Gilduroy Prewitt, b. Fayette Co., Ky. Aug. 15, 1806, was elected to the Kentucky State Legislature 1841-1844.

John Marshall Prewitt, b. Covington, Ky. June 16, 1922 was a noted Attorney in Mt. Sterling, Kentucky.

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No. 11 June 1986

PULASKI CO., MO.:

War of the Rebellion Series L, Vol. XLI, part 1:

July 5, 1864—Scouts from Big Piney, Mo. Report of Capt. Henry B. Brown, 5th Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

Sir: I have the honor to make the following report of a scouting party sent in the direction of Houston from this place, Corporal Calvert in command, with orders to capture, if possible, a noted bushwhacker by the name of Pruitt, whom we have tried to capture several times while at this place. Pruitt was also reported by Wayman as being the individual who robbed him (Wayman) a short time ago. The scout succeeded in capturing him, and while returning with him by the way of Mr. Wayman’s and when within three miles of there, learning that he was to be taken before Mr. Wayman, he tried to make his escape by running, whereupon the guard shot him after chasing him several yards, killing him instantly.

Creed Taylor Pruitt of Pulaski Co., Mo. Had his 22nd child at age 70 in 1921. 13 children by his first wife and 9 children by his third wife.

­­­­­­­­­­­­­Richard Pruitte 82, and his wife Martha, age 37, of Pulaski Co., Mo., had their 8th child in 1848. Richard also had at least 5 children by a wife in Virginia.

NELSON PREWITT BIBLE:

My Father Robert Prewitt was born June 1768

My Mother Patsey Prewitt was born March 6th 1762

They were married May 23rd 7182

Betsy Simpkins Prewitt was born January 21st 1784

Vaul Allen Prewitt was born October 14th 1785

William C Prewitt was born March 9th 1788

Henry H Prewitt was born Jan. 29th 1790

Polly Hamblin Prewitt was born Dec. 1st 1792

Robert Prewitt was born May 21st 1795

Willis Prewitt was born July 8th 1797

Levi Prewitt was born Sept. 17th 1799

James Prewitt was born Sept. 26th 1802

Lucy Coleman died August 10th 1840

John Coleman Sen died Nov. 24 1837

Betsy S. Smith died July 7th 1811

Vaul Allen Prewitt Died Feb. 16th 1826

Robert Prewitt Died August 31st 1850

Willis Prewitt Died May 5th 1852

Nelson Prewitt was born on Friday the 15th day of August AD 1806

Mary Ann Coleman was born December 24th 1807

Martha Coleman Prewitt was born July 6th 1830

Lucy Caroline Prewitt was born on Friday October 12th 1832

John Winston Prewitt was born on Saturday the 17th day of January 1835

Anna and Elizabeth Prewitt was born July 22nd on Sunday 1838

William Henry Prewitt was born on Thursday July 8th 1841

Henrietta Clay Prewitt was born February 28th 844

Chiles Coleman Prewitt was born on Thursday the 10th day of Sept 1846

Nelson Prewitt and Mary Ann Coleman were married April 16th AD 1829

Daughter Martha C Prewitt was married to Solomon Van Meter March 1st 1854

Daughter Anna was married to Benjamin P. Goff April 9th 1857

Daughter Callie was married to James D. Gay February 14th 1860

Son John W. Prewitt was married to Margaret Goff February 6th 1861

Daughter Henrietta Clay was married to Josiah Davis Reid April 16th 1868

Daughter Martha C Vanmeter was married to Col William R. Estill on the 14th of Sept. 1869

My Son William H. Prewitt was married to Bettie Gano Rogers on the 4th day of May 1870

Robt. Prewitt my father departed this life April 14th 1819

Patsey Prewitt my mother departed this life June 29th 1833

Daughter Elizabeth Prewitt died March 12th 1839. About midnight

We had a daughter born 24th of March 1840 and died June 4th following of dropsy

Our Son, Chiles C. Prewitt was drowned June 8th 1856

Martha Coleman Estill departed this life on Monday May 21st 1894 at about 9 o’clock P.M.

Departed this life on the 4th of May 1867. My beloved Wife Mary A. Prewitt

Nelson Prewitt departed this life on Friday the 9th day of December 1870 at about 11 oclock A.M.

Mrs. Polly Graves died Dec. 6th 1864

John Coleman Sr died November 24th 1837

NOTE: Nelson Gilduroy Prewitt was born in Fayette Co., Ky. On Aug. 15, 1806 to Robert Prewitt and Martha “Patsy” Chandler. He married Mary Ann Coleman, daughter of John Coleman, Sr. and Lucy Chiles, and resided at “Hathaway Farm” near Mt. Sterling, Montgomery Co., Kentucky.

Nelson was elected to the State Legislature and served four years (1841-1844). He was highly instrumental in promoting the building of railroads, canals and turnpikes in the state.

This Bible record was sent by: John Marshall Prewitt, an attorney in Mt. Sterling, Kentucky.

The following aticle was sent to us by Marian Zook of Des Moines, Iowa.

Des Moines, Iowa Monday Evening January 18, 1904

Fifteen year old mother destitute

Human Society looks into case of Mrs. James Pruit

 James Pruit – age 45

 Mrs. James Pruit – age 15

 Bably Pruit – age 18 hours

 Mother and Baby destitute

Information alleging that Mrs. James Pruit age 15 years of 513 W. 5th Street, is in a destitute condition with babe of a few hours to care for, has reached the Humane Society and is being investigated by Mrs Elizabeth D. Jones.

The informant of the Humane Society claimed that James Pruit, who is 45 years of age has not been diligent in the search for employment or in holding a position when secured.

The babe is a sweet little girl and the child mother has displayed the greatest anxiety as to its welfare. The mother, its said was greatly in need of proper food. Mrs. Pruit expressed fear that least because of her jestitution [sic] her baby would be taken from her, and still declares that Mr Pruit is the best of husband.

A celebration was being held and a prize offered for the family with the most children. Bright Pruitt stood up with his 13 children, all red headed, and won the prize. (Bright Pruitt, b. ca 1766; d. Morgan Co., Ind. Feb 13, 1836)

No. 13 June 1987

Shelby Prewitt was discharged Nov. 20, 1814 at Detroit, Mich., which was 405 miles from his home in Shebyville, Kentucky. He was allowed 28 days travel time to reach his residence, for which he was paid $.25 a day for subsistence, and $.40 a day for his horse.

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In the winter, George Ashley Prewitt of Fontanelle, Adair Co., Iowa, would put on his buffalo hide coat and operate a Model T taxi service in the 2910s for the town Doctor, who did not like to drive in the winter.

On Dec. 28, 1862, while guarding a railroad bridge, DeWilton Prewitt was taken captive at Muldraugh’s Hill in Kentucky and robbed of his blanket, overcoat and oiled cloth (poncho) and forced to sleep on the frozen ground until exchanged. He was captured by troops commanded by Gen. John Hunt Morgan, under whom DeWilton’s brother, William Prewitt, was serving.

No. 15 June 1988

At the estate sale of Michael Prewitt, Sr. I Shelby Co., Ky. In 1798, his executors report 2 Pounds 2 shillings worth of whiskey consumed at the sale (Shelby Co., Ky. Will Bk 1, p. 41; Bk2, p. 244; Bundle 98, no.3).

No. 16 Jan. 1989

The following was sent to us by Sandra Kennedy of Arlington, Va.

“Monday – July 26, 1819 – First murder and public hanging in Henderson County. When Charles C. Carr ws hung, Mr. Lambert was acting Sheriff, but his young spirit was too tender to strike the fatal blow, which was to send into eternity the soul of one who had done him no wrong. Yet he recognized his duty and made all preparations for the hanging. DOAK PRUITT, somewhat noted character at that time, was employed and broke the neck of the unfortunate Carr for the sum of five dollars.” (History of Henderson County Kentucky, by Edmund L. Starling)

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Richard Pruitt (1835-1903) of Jackson Co., Ind. Had three sets of twins. Two sets by his second wife, Cather Hill, and one set by his third wife, Mariah A. Noblet.

No 17 June 1989

The following was sent to us by Jean Vail of Hillsboro, Ill.

“Tragedy – About 20 years ago William Jarrott shot & killed ANDREW PRUETT at Frogtown (now Wilberton). They were rival saloon-keepers, and under the influence of Liquor. Jarrott was put on trial for the offence, when it was proven that PRUETT made the first attack, consequently he was acquitted.” History of Fayette., Ill., 1878”-Wilberton Twp.

Andrew J. Pruett was shot and killed May 9, 1856. He was born in Morgan Co., Tenn. In 1818 to Andrew Pruett and Mary.

No. 20 Jan 1991

JACOB DECATUR PRUETT, son of Ransom Pruett, Jr. and Margaret McCurry, was killed at Heflin, Benton Co., Ala. in 1850. He was a boxer and following a match, the fellow that he had beated [sic] got up and hi Jacob in the head with a board and killed him.

No. 22 Jan 1992

The following was sent to us by Georgia Walker of Des Moines, Iowa.

Ada, Pontotoc County, Oklahoma

…As late as 1908 there were 36 murders committed in the immediate vicinity during one year, and this was a community that could boast of but a few more than 5,000 residents. Part of the reason for the high crime rate was a dismal conviction record. Killers with money and the right connections often went free. Those who were tried frequently gained acquittal through the efforts of one lawyer, Moman Pruiett. Attorney Pruiett’s record was astounding: during his career he defended 342 accused murderers throughout Oklahoma. He got 304 off without any punishment at all, and of the 38 that were found guilty, not one was executed. Only one was sentenced to death, and he was granted presidential clemency.

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“All four suspects were charged with murder and confined to the county jail at Ada [Oklahoma].

West, Allen, and Burell seemed resigned to accept defeat but Miller stubbornly refused to accept defeat. Brash and imprudent, he joked about the “stupidity” of the town officials and bragged that the famous Moman Pruiett would win them all acquittals. This turned out to be their undoing. Knowing full well of Pruiett’s won-and-lost record in criminal cases. Ada citizens decided to take no chances. Shortly after 2:00 a.m. on April 19, (1909) forty masked men seized the jail. In minutes the four prisoners were dragged from their cells, down the alley, and into an abandoned livery stable where ropes were quickly thrown over ceiling beams… (All four were hung.) ---Historical Atlas of the Outlaw West, Richard Patterson, (Johnson Pub. Co., 1985) p. 127

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Iroquois Co., Ill. 1859 – DANIEL PRUITT crossed the plains to Pikes Peak in sarch of gold, walking most of the way. He didn’t find any, and his wife had to knit mittens etc. to send money, so he could come home.

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Mecklenburg Co., Va. Dec. 22, 1800 – Nancy Pruitt m William Bevil (Reel 48, Richmond: They were also married across the county line in Granville Co., N.C. on Dec. 30, 1800 (no. 4384). Perhaps they lived so close to the state line, that they wanted to be legally married in both states.

Civil War sentiments run deep: engraved on the tombstone of Henderson Pruitte, Prathers Creek Baptist Cem., Sparta, N.C.: March 24, 1817- March 12, 1909 “reported to be Northern Soldier in the War of 1860”

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The following was sent to us by Barbara Austin of Dayton, Ohio.

John T Prewett was left in Missouri by his father and grandfather, when they journeyed to California in 1849. John Prewett grew to young manhood there, and soon after the great war started, cast his lot with the Confederate Cavalry. During the hard winter o 1862-63, John was resting at the home of his uncle at Dayton, Cass Co., Missouri. In February, 1863, the Federal soldiers from Kansas surrounded the home of Uncle Jesse Prewett and demanded that all men throw out their arms and come out, for capture. Uncle Jesse finally promised, for his wife and two small girls were there helpless. Just the moment the door was opened, dozens of shots pierced his body. John T Prewett dragged the body inside and barricaded the door again, not knowing what moment the house would fall in embers, for it had been set on fire before Uncle Jesse consented to surrender. Finally, in desperation, young John opened the door and made a dash for liberty. At once he was wounded, but miraculously by only one bullet which shattered his hip. He slid down the slope of the yard and over the bank into the frozen creek, and managed to conceal himself. Union troops thought there was no need to hunt him, as he was riddled with bullets. A neighbor woman hid him until help came from Price’s army, and he was sent to the hospital. Price’s surgeons could not locate the bullet in his hip, and he carried it to his grave. This wound kept John T Prewett from active service, for head a stiff hip, which he later overcame, saying no Union bullet could ever make him limp through life. John died at Hollister, San Benito Co., Calif. On Oct. 17, 1924 (Confederate Veteran, Vol. 33, Jan. 1925, p. 184)

No. 25 June 1993

Levi ruitt – Name omitted from the San Jacinto rolls printed in 1836. He came to Texas in 1823, as is stated in the Headright Certificate issued to him February 15, 1838 for a league and labor of land by the Houston County Board of Land Commissioners.

Mr. Pruitt was a brother of Martin Pruitt. He was married to Hannah Trenary, daughter of John B Trenary. He was a member of Captain Hayden Arnold’s Company. His Bounty Certificate, for service immediately prior to and after the battle of San Jacinto, if issued, is not to be found in the files of the General Land Office. He received Bounty Certificate No. 784 for 320 acres of land for serving in the army from May 9 to August 9, 1836.

On January 6, 1852 Mr. Pruitt was issued Donation Certificate No. 407 for 640 acres of land for having participated in the Battle of San Jacinto. He was living in Navarro County at that time and sold his certificate to George Barnard for $100.00. He could not write. He affixed his mark to the deed of transfer. (The 1850 Census of Navarro Co., Texas shows: Levi Pruit, age 35 b. Ill., and Martin Pruit, age 34 b. Ill.) Sent to us by Patsy Hand of Victoria, Texas.

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Joseph Pruitt a farmer living four miles south of Aurelia was shot and killed by James Elmore. Both men are from Kentucky and it is likely that it is the out growth of an old fued [sic]. (Spencer Reporter, Spencer, Iowa, Nov. 29, 1916, p.2)

No. 26 Jan. 1994

DeWilton Prewitt, son of Price Prewitt and Elizabeth Stewart, was born near Goodhope, Greene Co., Ind. On Dec 27, 1840. On July 22, 1862, DeWilton was enrolled as a private in Co. F, 6th Ind. Vol. Cav. At Fredonia, Ind. This unit was later known as the 71st Cavalry, when it was federalized. DeWilton was mustered into the Military Service of the United States at Indianapolis, Ind. On Aug. 18, 1862, for a term of three years. In those days “Volunteer” really meant what it said; he had gone on his own volition. His father had given him a lovely riding horse and he had his own gun. The officers who were signing him in were so ultra polite he should have been warned. The moment he laid down the signing-in quill pen, the chief officer confiscated his blooded horse, saying he wouldn’t need it as a foot soldier. The next in rank too his well oiled gun. They issued him a drum. DeWilton served as a musician drummer till the close of the war, rapping out advances and sounding a few retreats.

A Guide to Kentucky Place Names, 1861:

Prewitt, KY. – populated place in central Montgomery Co., Ky

Prewitt Bend – central Whitley Co., Ky.

Prewitt Cemetery – N.E. Clark Co., Ky.

Prewitt Cemetery – western Grayson Co., Ky.

Prewitt Cemetery – Central Montgomery Co., Ky.

Prewitt Cemetery – western Montgomery Co., Ky.

Prewitt Gap – central Whitley Co., Ky.

Prewitt Knob – northern Barren Co., Ky.

Prewitt Pike – a road in central Montgomery Co., Ky.

Prewitt Lake – N.E. Hardin Co., Ky.

Pruitt Branch of the Big South Fork – northern Casey Co., Ky.

Pruitt Branch of Rockcastle Creek – S.E. Lawrence Co., Ky.

Pruitt of South Fork – northern Clay Co., Ky.

Pruitt Branch of Wells Creek – southern Cumberland Co., Ky.

Pruitt Branch School – northern Clay Co., Ky.

Pruitt Cemetery – western Lincoln Col., Ky.

Pruitt Fork of Clay Lick Creek – eastern Greenup Co., Ky.

Pruitt Landing – S. E. Monroe., Ky.

Pruitt Road – S. E. Monroe Co., Ky.

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Pruitt Knob – in northern Barren Co., Ky. Was named after Abraham Pruitt, who was killed by the Indians there.

Pruitt Family Graveyard – Allen Springs, Allen Co., Ky., named after Obed Pruitt (1816-1905).

Pruitt Cemetery – near Simsboro, Lincoln Parish, La., named after Isaac Pruitt (1814-1886).

Pruett Mountain – in northern Greenville Co., S.C., very near the North Carolina border, named after Michael Pruett (1735-after 1813).

Pruitt, Ark. 72671 – in northern Newton Co., Ark. The 1870 Census shows a William O. Pruitt, age 45, b. Ind., living in Newton County.

Pruitt City, Okla. – in Jefferson or Love Col, Okla., named after Thomas Rowland Pruitt (1857-1928).

Pruitt Cemetery – on the Gene Autry Road at the Pruitt Ranch, Ardmore, Carter Co., Okla.

Pruitton, Ala. – in Lauderdale Co., Ala., named after Thomas Pruitt (1783-1857) who moved there in the 1820’s and built a still, store and a crude iron furnace.

Puett Cemetery – Bean Blossom Twp., Monroe Co., Ind., named after William Nelson Puett (1797-1876).

Pruitt Family Cemetery – 2 to 3 miles N.W. of Little Point, Morgan Co., Ind., named after Bright Pruitt (1770-1836).

Pewitt Cemetery – Williamson Co., Tenn., named for Joel Pewitt (1745-after 1820).

Pruitt’s For of Hogan’s Creek, Rockingham Co., N.C. on 1770 and 1775 maps.

Puett Hill Cemetery – between Lenoir & Morgantown, Caldwell Co., N.C.

Pruitt Cemetery – Pleasant Grove, Alleghany Co., N.C.

Thomas Pruett Cemetery – Boiling Springs, Cleveland Co., N.C., named after Thomas Pruett (1799-1880).

John L. Pruitt Cemetery – Casar, Cleveland Co., N.C., Spencer Pruitt (1784-1865) and descendants.

Pruett, Texas – in southern Cass Co., Texas near the Marion County line, named after Robert A Pruett, an early settler.

Pruitt, Texas – 7 miles south of Grand Saline in central Van Zandt Co., Texas. Was a rural community with two stores and a population of 76 in 1940. Said to have been named for an early settler.

Pruitt’s Tan Yard – a Post Office in 1860 Census, Anderson Co., Texas, (Ira Pruitt, age 45, b. S.C.).

Pruitt Cemetery – located on what is known as “Old Haggerty” plantation just south of the Cass County Line in Marion Co., Texas, and east of Highway 59 (Cemetery Records of Marion Co., Texas, 1960).

Prewitt Lake – in southwestern Cass Co.., Texas, is an expansion of Black Cypress Bayou. The lake is one mile long and five miles wide. Located 1 mile off Highway 166 to the north, 7 miles S.W. of Linden, Texas. Anslem Prewitt was an early settle.

Prewette Creek – an intermittent stream, rises in southwestern Madison Co., Texas and flows southwest five miles into the Navasota River.

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Mercer Co., Ky – In1798, Abraham Goodnight vs Fields Prewitt.

Abraham’s hogs crossed over onto Fields land, and they got forcibly removed.

Abraham Goodnight complains of Fields Prewitt. The defendant [sic] with his servants, between Oct. 1, 1797 and ? 1798, with force of arms (to wit) with guns and bows and arrows, clubs, stones and dogs set upon 20 hogs of the value of 10 Pounds. The property of the plaintiff which had casually come on the defendants lands which was not enclosed by a lawful enclosure, and on the aforesaid property did then and there shoot, wound, worry, beat and abuse, so that many of the aforesaid hogs died, and others were thereby much impaired in their value, and many other wrongs.

Abraham Goodnight then summoned Robert Burton and later Charles Hart, John Bridges, Charles Powell, Jr., Ben Dunn, Mary Prewitt, Joseph Prewitt and Solomon Prewitt. Not to be outdone, Fields summoned Charles Powell, Jr., Polly Prewitt, Solomon Prewitt, Joseph Prewitt, Ben Dunn and John Bridges. Sent by Donald Coonrod of Lexington, Ky.

No. 27 June 1994

Elisha Pruitt, son of Jesse Pruitt and Harriet Adams, was born in Rapides Parish, La. on Sept. 27, 1818. His parents evidently died by 1931. Isaac Harris was appointed his guardian. At the age of 17, Elisha was at the Battle of San Jacinto, Texas on April 21, 1836. Elisha didn’t participate in the battle, but was a member of Capt. Jesse Billingsley’s Company, assigned to guard the baggage and the sick in the camp opposite Harrisburg. Elisha received 640 acres of land in Burnet Co., Texas for being on the baggage detail.

Elisha was mustered into service Oct. 1, 1845, and was a Corpl. In David C. Cady’s Texas Mounted Rangers in the Mexican War.

Elisha married firs: Frances “Fanny” Rhodes at Jollyville, Williamson Co., Texas on August 23, 1849, and died in Merced Co., Calif. on May 12, 1894.

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PREWITT-PRUITT-PRUETT PLACE NAMES: continued from last newsletter

Pruett, Ill. – in Fayette Co., Ill., named for Joseph E. Pruett, who was Postmaster at St. Elmo, Ill.

Prewets Cove – 11814 Tax List White Co., Tenn., Isaac Prewet.

Pruitt Cemetery – near Moulton, Winston Co, Ala.

Preuitt Family Cemetery – Madison Co., Ill., Ft. Russell Twp., Moreland Road, S.E. of Bethalto, Ill. On farm once owned by Solomon Preuitt.

Pruitt Cemetery – Hawkins Prairie Cem. – Jersey Co., Ill., 8 mi. E. of Jerseyville, Ill., established by James Pruitt in the mid 1800’s.

Prewett Cemetery – Madison co., Ind., Pipe Creek Twp., named for William Finley Prewett (1800-1863)

Pruitt Cemeter – Coryell Co., Texas, located on Road no. 2683, which connects Highway 59 with 248, about 2 mi. E. of Mt. Zion Cem. Not used for many years. The cemetery is barely accessible by means of a very dim rough lane entered through at a pasture gate on the old homesite of Morris Jaynes.

Puett Hill School – first school at Collettesville, Caldwell Co., Collettsville was settled in 1837.

N. Pruitt Rd. and S. Pruitt Rd. – N.E. part of Simpson Co., Ky., about 9 mi. from Franklin, Ky. Named for Lamon Newton Pruitt, whose farm was on S. Pruitt Rd. for 80 years.

Prewitt Cemetery – Tuscaloosa Co., Ala., N. of the City of Tuscaloosa off US 43 near Lake Tuscaloosa. This is one of the largest slave cemeteries in the South.

Sandra Pruitt Miller of Greer, S.C., who located the Prewitt Cem. North of Tuscaloosa, stopped at a gas station and asked an older black lady customer about the cemetery. She said to follow her as they were going by the cemetery to a (black) Prewitt reunion. They found the cemetery, but the three white Pruitt cousins decided not to go on to the (black) Prewitt reunion.

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James Asbury Puett, b. Nov. 2, 1818 in Burke Co., N.C., married second: Jane Caroline Kincaid in Burke Co., N.C. on Dec. 23, 1862. She was often referred to as “Shouting Caroline” because of her unusual behavior at camp-meetings.

Henry Nicholas Pruett, b. 1859 at Birmingham, Schuyler Co., Ill. To Nicholas Pruett and Ingaber Smith, died in 1883 in search for the ‘Lost Dutchman Mine’ in Arizona.

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The two Mary Chastain’s

In 1932, the late Dr. Maurice Pruitt stated he believed the wife of Thomas Pruitt, Sr. to be Mary (Chastain) Ducray, daughter of Peter Chastain.

You will notice in my publications that I printed that Mary (Chastain) Ducray was a dau. Of Peter Chastain, not Peter Chastain and Anne Soblet. Everyone assumes that it is the Peter and Anne.

Mary (Chastain) Ducray was several years older than Thomas Pruitt, Sr. Nicholas Ducray and wife (no children) came to Virginia on the ship “The Nassau” in 1699. Their sons Nicholas Ducray and Jean Ducray would have been born between 1701 and 1714, since they first show up on the 1730 tithables of Goochland Co., Virginia. Then of course, Nicholas Ducray, Sr. would have died before 1710, when Mary married Thomas Pruitt, Sr.

Mary would probably have been born around 1680, and was probably a first cousin of the Peter Chastain, who married Anne Soblet and had a daughter, Mary Chastain (1709-1924/31).

Mary (Chastain) Ducray-Pruitt had to have been a close relative of the Peter Chastain-Anne Soblet family. Mary Pruitt was godmother to the son of James Robinson and Susanna Chastain in Goochland Co., Va. In 1733, presented by Jean Chastain and Rene Chastain, two brothers of Susanna. Mary and Nicholas named a son, Jean Ducray, and Mary and Thomas named a son, Rene Pruitt. In Goochland Co., Va. In 1737, in the case of Thomas Pruit vs James Robinson, Thomas is ordered to pay Joseph Dobbs, Peter Sublet and Mary Magdalene Chastain as witnesses.

Mary Pruitt was last mentioned when Thomas sold land in Amelia Co., Va. In 1747. She would have been about 67 years of age. She was not mentioned in any of Thomas’s land sales in Halifax Co., Va. 1752 to 1759, so she evidently died between 1747 and 1752.

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STATE NAMES:

Georgia Prewett m. J. P. Gatewood, 1872, Henderson Co., Texas

Indiana Prewitt m. William Johnston, 1829, Shelby Co., Ky.

Kansas Pruitt m. Benjamin Cohen, 1887, Etowah Co., Ala.

Lousiana Pruitt m. William P. Henderson, 1858, Rutherford Co., Tenn.

Missouri E. Pruitt m. John F. Trumbull, 1887, Douglas Col., Mo.

Tennessee Arthula Pruitt m. Burlen Phillips, 1909, Lawrence Co., Tenn.

Texie Pruitt m. Charlie Miles, 1916, Alleghany Co., N.C.

Virginia Prewitt m. Montgomery Brown Mason, 1824, Spencer Co., Ky.

Washington Prewitt m. Karen Hankens, 1825, Oldham Co., Ky.

America Pruitt m. P. G. Prosser, 1852, Giles Co., Tenn.

No. 28 Jan 1995

Joseph Elisha Prewitt was the oldest son of Francis Elgin Prewitt and Mary Christianna Tinsley of Louisville, Missouri. In 1881, he went to Durango, CO to manage a hotel owned by his uncle, George Prewitt. A year later, Martha Jackson, dau. Of William Jackson and Nancy Ann Vandeville of Goodlettsville, TN, was persuaded by a sister and a brother to come to Durango, CO to teach in high school. There she met Joseph Prewitt and they were married in 1884.

They soon moved to Farmington, NM where Joseph organized the San Juan Stores Co. and his wife taught school. His great interest was the development in the La Plata River Basin of an irrigation project known as the “Prewitt Ditch”. It opened up thousands of acres of land to agriculture. His mercantile business took him away from Farmington for many years, but when he retired, he returned to the land he had helped reclaim. (Sent by Mrs. Martha S. Potlock of La Mesa, CA)

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The Madison County Historical Society has extensive information on the Illnois Pruitts (Martin, Solomon, James, Jacob, etc.). The museum is located in Edwardsville, Illinois. In addition they can provide directions to the numerous Pruitt (Prewitt) cemeteries located in Madison County, Illinois (Sent by Curt A. Cochran of Herndon, VA)

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John Robert Pruitt, born Aug. 7, 1860 in White co., AR to Jeremiah Pruitt and Polly Ann Bond, was a farmer, horse trader and trainer in White Co., AR. He rode his horse across Arkansas and other places buying horses and cattle. He had a horse trained so well, that at night he would take his rope, lay it on the ground in a large circle, then he and his horse would lay inside the rope to sleep. His horse was trained to wake him if anything came near the rope.

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Dr. Rufus King Prewitt (b Feb 13, 1844 to John Prewitt and Elizabeth Cochran) of Ackerman, Choctaw Co., MS graduated from Louisville Medical College with the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1882, “having previously been in practice for thirteen years after taking one course of lectures.”

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James Henry Pruitt (b April 3, 1838 to Joshua Pruitt, Jr and Elizabeth Stone) moved his family from Henry Co., KY to Brown Co., In 1870 “He purchased 85 acres of land for $5.00 and a shotgun”.

No. 29 June 1995

TORIES

When we think of the Revolutionary War, we think of the Patriots fighting for independence. We tend to forget that not everyone wanted independence from Great Britain. I was reminded of these Loyalists or Tories by Paula Prewett of San Clemente, CA who sent the following.

Loyalists in the Southern Campaign of the Revolutionary War, by Murtie June Clark, Vol 1, 1981:

p. 129 – Pay Abstract no 98, Col. William Ballatine’s Regiment, second Regiment of Camden Militia. Soldiers Certification, Charleston, SC, March 25, 1782, 120 days, Nov. 13, 1781 – March 12, 1782. No. 75 , Private – ELISHA PRUIT, dead (belongs to the 96th District Militia)

p. 253 – Pay Abstract no. 64, Maj. Patrick Cunningham’s Regiment, Little River Militia, Ninety Six Brigade, Capt. William Parker’s Company. Soldier’s Certification to be paid Jan. 1782. No. 7, Private – ANSELOM PRUIT, 159 days, July 1, 1781 – Dec. 6, 1781.

p. 265 – Pay Abstract Maj. Patrick Cunningham’s Regiment, Little River Militia, Ninety Six Brigade, SC, Capt. Joseph Person’s Company, 102 days, June 14, 1780-Dec 13, 1780. No. 19, Private BEASLEY PREVIT.

p. 304 – Pay Abstract no. 100, Col. Thomas Person’s Regiment, Little River Militia, Ninety Six Brigade, Capt. William Parker’s Company, 125 days pay, July 1, 1781 – Nov. 2, 1781. No. 10, Private – ANSELM PRUIT, 159 days, July 1, 1781 – Dec. 6, 1781.

p. 323 – Pay Abstract no. 2, Maj. Daniel Plummer’s Regiment, Fair Forest Militia, Ninety Six Brigade, Capt. Shadrack Lantrey’s Company. Men who came to Orangeburgh, SC with Lieut. Col. John H Cruger, June 14, 1780 – Dec. 13, 1780. No. 18, Private – DUDLEY PRUET

p. 325 – Pay Abstract no. 32, Maj. Daniel Plummer’s Regiment, Fair Forest Militia, Ninety Six Brigade, 183 days pay, June 14, 1780 – Dec. 13, 1780. No. 5, Private – DUDLEY PREWIT

p. 328 – Pay Abstract no. 111, Col. Daniel Plummer’s Regiment, Fair Forest Militia, Ninety Six Brigade, soldiers omitted from a former abstract, Capt. John Vernon’s Company, six months pay, June 14, 1780 – Dec 13, 1780. No. 4, Private – ELISHA PREWIT, dead.

p. 331 – Pay Abstract no. 34, Lieut. Col. William Young’s Corps, Little River Militia, Ninety Six Brigade, six months militia, 159 days pay, June 1, 1781 – Dec. 13, 1781. Private – ELISHA PREWAT.

No. 31 June 1996

Solomon Preuitt was born in Greene Co., TN on Jan. 7, 1790 to Martin Pruitt and Mary Woods. On Jan. 2, 1810 Solomon was a Lieut. In the St. Clair Co, IL Militia, and on Jan. 24, 1812 was a Capt in the Militia. In 1813-14, He was a Federal Ranger out of Fort Russell. Solomon drove the horse and sled that carried the seven bodies of the Wood River Massacre to their burial places in Vaughan Cem. about three miles southeast of Bethalto Center, Madison Co., Illinois. The seven were murdered by marauding Indians onJuly 10, 1814. In 1832, Solomon served in Col. John Thomas Brigade of Mounted Volunteers of Illinois Militia, under Brig. Gen. Samuel Whitesides. Capt. Solomon Preuitt was elected Lt. Col on April 28, 1832 and was mustered out of the US service at the mouth of Fox River, IL on May 27, 1832. Solomon died in Madison Co., IL on Jan 9, 1876.

No. 32 Jan 1997

Charles Franklin Pruett was born Oct. 4, 1882 at Burnet, Burnet Co., TX to James Madison Pruett (of Indiana) and Theresa Catherine O’Brien (of Louisiana). The family moved to southern Texas in 1888, where he spent the remainder of his childhood. At the age of 20, he met Sarah “Sadie” Virginia Brundrett, and they were married on May 30, 1903, two days after her 21st birthday.

Charles and Sadie decided to move to California shortly after their marriage, but stopped to visit Charles’ brother, James Brian Pruett at Globe, AZ, and never made it any further. They eventually settled at Copperhill (about 3 miles from Globe) and lived there many years. Charles worked as a Stationary Engineer for a local copper mine, where he operated the equipment that raised and lowered workers into the mine. Charles was very musical and played the violin and guitar very well. He was also very interested in learning and took many International Correspondence Courses covering many subjects. Charles and Sadie had two children, Charles Alvin, born March 30, 1904 and Leta Virginia, born Aug. 28, 1905. Many years later Charles and Sadie divorced, and Sadie left Arizona to live in Southern California with her daughter Leta. Charles also eventually moved to Southern California, where he died at Rancho Los Amigos on Nov. 13, 1944.