

Early Barron family research – the writings of John Davis Garrard

In your Barron family research, have you read old Georgia county histories or internet sites that tell of the Captain William Barron family and wondered about the source and context of some of these claims? How do we know our earliest ancestor in America was one William Barron – and was he really a Captain killed during a battle for Augusta in the Revolutionary War? And prior to the war, did he marry Prudence Davis in Ireland – sometimes pinpointed as Waterford County, Ireland – and later immigrate to the American colonies and settle in Warren County, GA?

It may shock you to learn that none of the above claims has yet been confirmed by contemporary records. To date (2008), the best information available on our early ancestral line is that a widow, Prudence Barron, appeared in Wilkes County, GA, records beginning in 1785 (several years after the end of the Revolution). Nothing has been found about who her husband was, when he died and where he lived. DNA testing closely links our family to a group of Barrons who settled in what is now York County, SC, before the war. These Barrons apparently emigrated from Northern Ireland, likely Antrim County. Though no documentary evidence connecting the two lines has yet been found, further intensive search for family ties is planned.

So how has tradition come to shape our view that our earliest known ancestor was Captain William Barron from Ireland? The sole source, and an early one, is John Davis Garrard (1827-1903), a great-grandson of William and Prudence Barron. As a young man, Garrard often visited his uncle, William Barron, Jr., son of William and Prudence Barron, who may have shared family stories with him. For certain, Garrard and his father discussed the family history, though Garrard only kept record of the names of his direct ancestors. “After his death,” Garrard penned in 1891, “I commenced to write down that which I could remember, that which my mother had heard and that which she knew, and that which I have since learned through relatives, and aged people who knew my relatives.” In his later years, Garrard was intensely interested in his genealogy and began a correspondence with more distant cousins to share what he had been told and to learn about their Barron lines.

Currently, six letters/documents by Garrard discussing his Barron research are known. Considering their influence on the development of our Barron family story and their importance in continuing research, the following writings have been gathered and transcribed (some for the first time) for the wider audience of Barron researchers to understand the evolution and to evaluate the veracity of some of the traditions and stories we have so uncritically accepted into our Barron history.

A chronological list of these documents and the page on which each item appears follows.

- I. [Undated Barron history found in the papers of Reverend Sanford Barron](#) of Alabama after his death in 1921 appears to have been written by Garrard in 1891 or earlier. (See page 3).
- II. [December 16, 1891 – document sent to Peter R. Garrard, Putnam County, GA](#) (See page 5).
- III. [August 18, 1892 – letter to J. D. Barron, Montgomery, AL](#) (see page 7).
- IV. [September 17, 1892 – letter to J. D. Barron, Montgomery, AL](#) (See page 12).
- V. [February 1896 – document sent to Peter R. Garrard, Putnam County, GA](#) (See page 14).
- VI. [August 27, 1896 \(partial\) – letter to J. D. Barron, Montgomery, AL](#) (See page 15).

Page 1 of 15

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Reading through these documents and letters chronologically gives unique insight into how some of Garrard's views were changed and molded by correspondence he undertook with various relatives. In particular, (1) his early understanding that the Barrons emigrated from Ireland and his later assumption that our Barron line must have derived from the Barrons of Waterford County, Ireland; and (2) Garrard's wrestling with the identity of several early Barrons (Samuel Barron of Jones County, GA, and Davis Barron) and how to fit them into the family tree

In relation to point (1) in the previous paragraph, the early document from Sanford Barron's papers and the letters from December 1891 and August 1892 indicate that Garrard knew from his family's recollections that the Barrons came from Ireland – but not a specific county. By the September 1892 letter, he had obtained a book from J. D. Barron that outlined the history of a Barron family in Waterford County, Ireland. Both Garrard and Barron apparently appropriated this history without further research and Garrard's later document from February 1896 more or less states this origin as fact. DNA testing has conclusively disproved the Waterford connection – and instead points to a Scotch-Irish origin of Antrim County, Ireland. For details, see the article, “The Tradition of Irish Heritage in the William and Prudence Barron family” at <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~barronfamily/Barron/barronirishheritage.pdf>

Regarding point (2), the progression of letters and documents clearly show Garrard's various attempts to identify Samuel Barron of Jones County and his eventual (and likely mistaken) acceptance of this Samuel Barron as a son of William and Prudence Barron. For an extended discussion that concludes that Samuel Barron of Jones was probably NOT their son, see the article “The Barrons of Greene, Hancock, Jackson, Jasper and Jones Counties, GA (1789 – 1820s)” at <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~barronfamily/Barron/barronsofga.pdf>

This article also identifies Davis Barron as the son of Samuel Barron who died in Hancock County, GA, in 1801. Evidence indicates that this Samuel Barron was a son of William and Prudence Barron.

Unfortunately, Garrard's several mistaken conclusions have confused many a Barron researcher and correcting the errors in the mindset of some family historians is difficult. Despite these errors, Garrard's body of writings about our Barron family is seminal and must not be overlooked as a tool to aid our research. Though his account of our Barron history cannot be accepted uncritically, used with care, Garrard's work can offer clues to direct our search efforts as we attempt to locate confirming (or discrediting) evidence. Further, the recollections of early Barrons that he preserved give us rare glimpses of the people behind dry facts of names and numbers.

Vicki Barron Kruschwitz
August 2008

Transcriptions of known documents authored by John Davis Garrard

Document I: Transcription of an undated document – perhaps the earliest known Barron history by John D. Garrard – found in the papers of Sanford P. Barron after his death in 1921.

Sanford Barron (1844-1921) was a well-known Campbellite minister in Alabama, (son of Marcus N. Barron, grandson of James Barron, great-grandson of William Barron, Jr.). A Barron history found in his papers was copied by his daughter Fannie in 1928. No author or date is mentioned in the copy. However, several details identify the work as that of John Davis Garrard: the descendants listed are not from Barron's line, but of Garrard's; the date of William Barron Jr.'s death is described here as in several other Garrard documents, etc.

There are several indications that this document may be the earliest of Garrard's known writings, perhaps penned in 1891 or prior. First, Garrard lists only three children of William and Prudy Barron: John, Elizabeth and William – no Samuel. So this account must have been written before he was contacted by Mrs. Lizzie Austin about her grandfather, Samuel Barron of Jones County. Second, though Garrard identifies John Barron as a son, he perhaps did not know John's heirs as he did not list them. Garrard did not learn John's descendants' names until he wrote to J. D. Barron in summer of 1892. Third, Garrard identifies William Jr. as the oldest son – and perhaps oldest child, whereas in later writings Garrard has placed William Jr. as the youngest.

This account is of special interest to illustrate the evolution of Garrard's knowledge and assumptions about the Barron family. And several stories are told that are not mentioned in any other known Garrard writing.

INFORMATION CONCERNING THE BARRON FAMILY HISTORY

Captian (sic) William Barron was married to Prudy Davis in Ireland prior to 1675 (*Note by VBK: error, should be 1765*), as his oldest son, William, was born about that year, and perhaps he was the oldest child (see further on). Some years after his marriage, he emigrated to America and finally settled in Warren County, Georgia. Cpt. William Barron had one brother by the name of John, who came to the United States several times, and perhaps settled somewhere in this country (perhaps in Colorado). (*Note by VBK: Perhaps the original document was misread*).

William Barron served as a Captain in the Revolutionary War, and was a terror to the Tories, who offered a reward for his head. Hover ? and several Tories captured him once and attempted repeatedly to kill him, but he asserted to them his life was not in the hands of such cowardly men, but in those of a God who would take care of it. They stretched him between two trees by tying his hands and feet to them, cut bark down in his eyes, and then attempted again to kill him as he then could not see them. They finally failed to do so and left him to die. After a few hours of faithful efforts, he succeeded in getting his wrists to his mouth so that he

Page 3 of 15

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untied the knots and extrecated (sic) himself, and then rejoined his command. He was wounded at the battle near Augusta, Georgia and lay on the battle field about three days, when his men came to take up the wounded(.) (H)e ordered them to let him remain where he was but they persisted against his repeated orders to put him down until they carried him to the one Grason, A Tory, in the city of Augusta where they left him on piazza of said house. The Tories hired an Indian to kill him and cut off his head, which they placed upon a high pole in the center of Augusta, where it remained several weeks. In retaliation for the part the Indian played in Capt. Barron's death and many years after this, one of the Barrons, a grandson of the Captain and Thomas ?? who married a granddaughter of Captain William Barron, slipped across the little (sic) River over into the Indian Territory, in Georgia, and each made two Indians bite the dust.

Captain William Barron's widow raised at least three child(ren:) John, Elizabeth and William. John married a daughter of John Garred of Wilks, (sic) County, Georgia and settled in Jones County, where he and his wife finally died, leaving heirs. Elizabeth Barron must have been born about 1770, as her daughter, Nancy, was born about 1789, and was her eldest child. She married Jacob Garred or son of John Garred, Wilks (sic) County, Ga. They moved form this County to Putnam County, Ga in December of 1805. Elizabeth died in the spring of 1826, her husband having died in 1823. The heirs of Elizabeth and Jacob Garred, who however, left heirs of their own are William Garred, Hiram Garred, and Zellah Garred.

William Garred died in 1862, leaving heirs (John M. Garred, Talboton, Ga; Mrs. Catherine Perry, Columbus, Ga; Mrs. Elizabeth Malon, Bellview, Talbot City, Ga; Mrs. Zellah Phillips, Dennis Station, Pulman City, Ga (*Note by VBK: Should be Putnam County, GA*); and William T. Garred – widow lives at Cross Roads, Dennis Station, Georgia.

Hiram Garred married Martha B. Goss. He died in November of the 7th day in 1871, and Martha B on April 30, 1890. They raised nine children who were in their order: Mrs Elizabeth Antonette Leak, Pine Level; John Davis Garred, Pine Level; Hiram Jess; Nancy Ann, Mrs. Howell; Mrs Mary Mary S Eubanks, Pine Level, Al; Joseph William; Martha L; and Frances E (died in 65 and 64 respectively; and lastly, Josephine C, Mrs. Jackson.

Zellah Garred married Rev. James O. ____ who lived in Panola, City, Texas.

William Barron, son of the Captain, died the first or second week of October 1848.

This history of Captain William Barron was found among the papers of Sanford P. Barron, who died December 25, 1921.

(Transcribed by Vicki Barron Kruschwitz from a typed copy made by Fannie S. Barron (daughter of Sanford Barron), March 7, 1928. Fannie added another section to the above account connecting Sanford Barron's line to Captain William Barron and listing Sanford's descendants. A later section was added by Coleta Barron (great niece of Sanford Barron). And on March 16, 1981, Marzee King Tew (daughter of Mary Barron King) obtained the previous two typewritten pages from Celestine Merrill (daughter of Sabina Barron Turner) and listed further descendants.)

Page 4 of 15

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Document II: Transcription of a document by John D. Garrard to Peter R. Garrard dated December 16, 1891.

(Georgia Branch of Barron Family)

Capt. William Barron of Warren Co., Ga., and his brother John Barron, emigrants from Ireland.

John Barron was perhaps the older one of the two brothers and remained single for a good number of years, if he ever married. Though my father, Hiram Garrard, a grandson of Capt. Wm. Barron of Warren Co., thought that he did marry after ~~his brother~~ Capt. Wm. Barron came to America. As John came to America and returned (torn) visit to Ireland several times before Wm. And family came over, it is presumeable that John made Warren Co. his home, else some county near Warren; and as William settled in Warren Co., when he came or pretty soon thereafter. And it is presumable that John came over first as early as 1760, if not before this. He was very humorous; and would carry snakes back to Ireland with him to have his fun with the Irish people, who were very much afraid of a snake. The snakes not living long after getting them to Ireland, he invented the spring-box surprise toy that has every since been serving it day as "Jack in The Box," under various changes, but really with but little, if any, improvement on Barron's invention. This invention consisted of a box with a fastning. Within the box a spiral steel spring, made of wire, was secured at the lower end to the bottom of the box. Over the spring he drew the skin of a snake with an artificial head on it. A pin served as the tongue, and a tooth to prick the hand. The imitation snake was pressed down into the box and the lid secured. When opened the snake would spring out and prick the hand of the one that unfastened the lid.

Now in regard to Mrs. Austin's grandfather Samuel Barron of Warren Co., Ga. It may be that he was a son of John Barron; yet, I cannot think so; for my father knew nothing of John's marriage, nor ever heard of any of his descendants. Which could not have been so, I think, for my father frequently visited Jones Co., having a sister living in this county for many years, beside other Barron relatives whom we visited. Nor could it be scarcely possible that any other Barrons than the decendants of Capt. William Barron could have lived in Jones county without my father having heard something of them; and he knew of no Barrons in Ga. or Alabama that other than those related to Capt. Wm. Barron. I must think, then, that Samuel Barron Mrs. Austin's grandfather was a son of Capt. William Barron, and a brother of my grandmother Elizabeth Garrard, nee Barron, and a brother of John Barron, of Jones, and of William Barron of Newton. Farther, my father had a near relative by the name of Samuel, of whom I frequently heard him speak, either calling him uncle or cousin Sam Barron, I have forgotten which. He spoke of him and circumstances that occured in such a manner as to lead me to believe that he had been with him a great deal in his earlier days. It must have been an uncle Sam for I know of no cousin Sam Barron of his unless it was a son of his uncle John Barron of Jones county. But I think that, he although he knew where his uncle John Barron lived, he never visited them him nor ever saw any of this family. Yet there were Barron cosins of his, in that county near his sister's whom he has visited, and I must think that they were the children of Samuel Barron. About the last or next to the last visit he made to Jones county near fifty years ago he called on one of these cousins, whose wife was afflicted at the time with a cancer. Barron's wife's uncle lived in S. C. and was a cancer doctor and had just been through Georgia curing cancers; and had been at Barron's, but just before Barron's wife became afflicted with the cancer. Barron told my father that he was going to write to this cancer doctor for the recipie for curing cancer. My father made him promise that, providing he got the recipie, he would let him, father, have a copy of the same. Thish promise Barron fulfilled, and I have a copy now of the same. If either Mrs. Austin's mother or her aunt ever had a cancer while in Jones

Page 5 of 15

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county, this circumstance may I identify Barron's relation to her grandfather as well as to my father. At this time there were none of Wm. Barron's Jun. son living in Jones Co.

Some few years after sister Mary was married to Jno. W Eubank, they settled at Farmersville, in Lownds Co. Ala. At which place or near there lived a widow Barron with a large family of children, some of which were grown. About 1858 or 1859 one of the young ladies, Miss Fannie Barron, accompanied my sister on a visit, by private conveyance, to my father's in Montgomery county, where they remained several weeks. I recalled that she was not a descendant of Wm. Barron, Jun., nor did she know any thing of any of Wm. Barron's descendants except that which she learned through our family. She was not farther related to father's children than second or third cousin. My recollection is that father said that she was a descendant of his relative Sam Barron.

I never wrote down anything about my relatives until after my father's death except a page or two in reference to my immediate ancestors and a few facts in relation to the children of Grandfather Garrard and his brothers and sisters. After his death I commenced to write down that which I could remember, that which my mother had heard and that which she knew, and that which I have since learned through relatives, and aged people who knew my relatives.

Father told me the names of several of the children of Capt. Wm. Barron, though he had forgotten the names of some of them, if he ever knew them. I think, however, that there were only three or four sons with a greater number of daughters. Capt. William Barron and Prudy Davis were married in Ireland; and several of his children were born in Ireland and always retained the Irish brogue in their language. His son Wm. had none of the brogue; so I conclude that several of the children were older than Wm.; that William was born in America; that Capt. Wm. Barron was married somewhere near 1760; and that he emigrated to America about 1765 or 1766.

Let us suppose that Samuel Barron of Warren Co. was a son of Capt. William Barron; that Samuel was born, as stated by Mrs. Austin, on July 4th, 1768; that William was born near the same date in 1767; and that Elizabeth, Mrs. Jacob Garrard, was born about the same date or later in 1769; and we have no interruption or clash in dates of birth. I have no clew at the age of John Barron, Jun., who married a sister of Jacob Garrard, and settled in Jones county. I arrive at these figures as follows

I witnessed the death & burial of my great uncle Wm. Barron, Jun. about the first or second week in Oct., 1848. He was 81 years and some months old, three months and some days is my best knowledge of facts at this late date. Secondly, Elizabeth's youngest child, Lucinda Garrard, was born the latter part of 1810 or the early part of 1811 most likely. I presume that she, Elizabeth, was the rise of 40 – ory 42 which taken from 1811 leaves 1769. My mother thought that she was about 59 when she died in 1828. Add 59 to 1769 and we have __ years.

This is as near as I can locate Samuel Barron, the grandfather of Mrs. Austin. You see, from all circumstances that I have given, with the facts narrated by Mrs. Austin, that he was certainly the son of one of the two brothers, William or John; and that the strongest evidences go to show that he was the son of Capt. William Barron. (Jno D. Garrard, M. D., 64 yrs of age, Dec. 16, 1891.

(Transcribed by Vicki Barron Kruschwitz from a copy of the original handwritten document in the possession of Elizabeth Hean Stone, daughter of Petrona Humber Hean, 2008).

Page 6 of 15

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Document III: Transcription of a letter from John D. Garrard to J. D. Barron dated August 18, 1892.

East Lake, Alabama
August 18, 1892

Honorable J. D. Barron
Secretary of State of Alabama

Dear Sir:

Your communication came to hand in due time but up to the present time, I have been so unwell that I have not felt like replying. I am satisfied that your father was not a son of Samuel Barron, but a son of his brother, John. The names of your father and his brothers, to my mind plainly indicate this.

I have all the names of Samuel Barron's heirs and they do not correspond at all with those of your father and his brothers, nor was there, I think, any other Samuel Barron in that portion of eastern and middle Georgia old enough to be the father of your father. My father, Hiram Garrard has an uncle Sam Barron and a cousin Sam Barron. Of the latter I have heard him speak as if he had been with him frequently. And, I am tolerable sure that I have heard him speak of his cousin Hiram Barron.

When, in my youth, I commenced to keep a record of my foreparents, I designed keeping but little more than an account of my ancestors in a direct line down to myself. My father told me a good deal about his kin folks, and proposed at the time I was writing down many things, to give me the names of his Garrard and Barron relatives. I only wrote down a few of their names then, but after his death in 1871, I commenced keeping a record of names and facts that I could recollect and gather from others. This will serve to explain to you the reason that I can give so complete an account of some of the families while I know so little of others of the same household.

I will commence back with two brothers, John Barron, Sr., and William Barron, Sr., of Ireland; which is as far back as I can trace the history of the Barrons on my ancestors side.

John Barron, Sr. was an old bachelor, and came to America some years before his brother, William, for he had returned to Ireland several times on visits before he persuaded William to come with him. My father told me that he did not know what became of him. It is probable that he was killed in the Revolutionary war and left no heirs. If he was ever married and left heirs they were not, I think in the middle or eastern part of Georgia, among the other Barrons, for my father was well acquainted in all that portion of the state and knew nothing of any Barrons other than the descendents of William Barron, Sr. Nor did he ever meet any Barrons in the western part of Georgia or in Alabama whose ancestors he could not readily trace back to William Barron. Nevertheless, it is possible that there were others in that part of Georgia.

William Barron, Sr. of Ireland and his children, are Capt. William Barron of Warren County, Georgia, and his children. About 1762 (or 1760) as near as I can ascertain William Barron, Sr., and Prudence Davis were married in Ireland. Two or three of their children were born in Ireland. About 1766, I estimate they came to America and settled in Warren County, Georgia. William Barron served as Captain in the Revolutionary war

Page 7 of 15

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and was at Augusta, Georgia and fell into the hands of the Tories, and was through their instigation beheaded by the Indians. They then placed his head in the center of the city where it remained until the Whigs recaptured the city about three weeks afterwards. He was hated by the British and the Tories for his bold and daring attacks on them. Therefore, they had previously offered a considerable reward for him. Hence, the cruel act of theirs. The widow, Prudy Davis Barron died in Warren County, Georgia as late as 1815 to 1820.

The heirs of Captain William Barron of Warren County, Georgia were:

1. John Barron, Jr. probably born in Ireland about 1763 or 1765
2. Elizabeth Barron, about April 1766
3. William Barron, Jr. born in Warren County, Georgia, June, 1767
4. Samuel Barron, Warren County, July 4, 1768

Elizabeth was about the third and John was the first or second, but I am not sure John was older than the other three. He may have been younger than Samuel and born in America. He did not come between the other three.

I think that John, William were the sons that left heirs, at least in that section of Georgia. There were probable from two to four more daughters.

JOHN BARRON, JR. OF JONES COUNTY, GEORGIA

John Barron, Jr. of Jones County, Georgia, a son of Captain William Barron of Warren County, Georgia, and was most likely born in Ireland but grew to manhood in Warren, County, Georgia. I guess that if older than Elizabeth, he was married at about 1788 or 1790. He married a daughter of John Garrard of Wilkes County, Georgia. He settled most likely at first in Warren County, though not unlikely in an adjoining county to Warren farther west than Hancock. In 1805 and 1806, there seemed to be a general breaking up and moving west to newer counties of the Barron, Garrard, Roquemore, and other families related to them, and in 1806 there was a general rush to Jones County. John Barron's father-in-law, John Garrard, sold out in Wilkes and moved to Jones late in 1806, and I guess as John was among the first settlers of Jones, that he moved about the same time. John lived in this county many years, and I think my father stated that he and his wife died in this county. They left heirs, but I did not write down their names. But the names you gave me are just as I would have expected to find among the names of John

Barron and his Garrard wife. John's wife had a brother Jacob, who married Elizabeth Barron, John's sister, and thus their children were double cousins. Hence how natural for them to name one of their boys after his brother Samuel, another after his brother, William, another after her father GARRARD, NOT GARRETT; another after her brother, Jacob, and still another after her brother Jacob, and his sister Elizabeth's son, Hiram, born the year before, March 24, 1800. Many of the Barrons and other relatives have persisted in calling our names Garrett and I judge that your uncle's name was Garrard, but miscalled Garrett. Though not unlikely intended to be for my greatgrandfather's name but spelled wrong, as some of the older children, and especially the girls grew up without an education. My father found one of his cousins in the lower part of Georgia without any education whose name the people spelled incorrectly.

Now, I would like to hear from you as to what you think about the way I have mended the broken link in your ancestors. I should like to have stated that Barron's wife had an uncle James Garrard for whom your uncle James may have been named if the son of John Barron, Jr.

Page 8 of 15

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ELIZABETH, BARRON, A DAUGHTER OF WILLIAM BARRON OF WARREN COUNTY, GA.

Elizabeth was most likely born in Ireland and always spoke with a little Irish brogue as long as she lived. Judging from the age of her oldest and youngest heirs and my mother's recollections of her age at her death, she must have been born sometime in the forepart of the year 1766. She died in the spring of 1828 at the age of 62. About 1787 or 1788, she was married to Jacob Garrard, son of John Garrard of Wilkes County, Georgia. They first settled in Wilkes County, Georgia. In December, 1805, they settled in Putnam County, then a part of Baldwin, fourteen miles north of Milledgeville and eight miles south of the present location of Eatonton. Jacob Garrard died at this place in spring of 1823 (see tombstone data). He died of fever and about the same date four of his children. Elizabeth on the same place in 1828.

Their heirs are nine in all. All but four died without marrying. The oldest, Mrs. Nancy Roquemore, of Putnam, died about 1835 without issue. The second, William Garrard of Putnam County was born December 7, 1791, and died Nov. 22, 1862. His two sons, John Marion of Putnam County, then Hancock, then Talbot, then of Columbus, Georgia and William T. of Putnam are both dead. Both left heirs. The late General T. H. Mahone of Talbot County, his two brothers, Gip and Peter and Dr. Abraham married daughters of William Garrard, Sr. of Putnam County.

The sixth heir of Jacob and Elizabeth Garrard, was Hiram Garrard, my father. He was born in Wilkes County, March 24, 1800 and was six years old, less three months, when his father moved from Wilkes to Putnam-Baldwin. He was married to Martha B. Goss, of Newton County, Georgia in November, 1824 and moved to Newton County, in December, 1825 and from Newton County to Montgomery, County, Alabama, near Pine Level, in December, 1852, where he died, November, 7th, 1871, and my mother April 30, 1880. They reared nine children, three sons and six daughters. The 7th and 8th, two grown daughters, 18 and 20 died near the close of the late Internal War. The 3rd Prof. Hiram Jesse Garrard, dropped dead in Kaufman, Kaufman County, Texas., in December 1890. He left two grown sons. The rest are all living in Alabama and Texas. I am the 2nd heir born December 16, 1827. Have only one son and one daughter living: George Davis Garrard and Mrs. Alice Jessie McCrary and have three motherless grandchildren, daughters of Mrs. Lillian G. Miles, who was my second daughter. My other brothers Rev. Joseph W. Garrard, a Baptist minister of Scurry, County, Texas, (living in 1924 at Margaret, Texas) 12 years younger than myself, has four sons and three daughters. His sons are Hiram, William, Malone and Joseph. So you see that we are keeping up the Barron and Garrard names.

The 7th heir of Jacob and Elizabeth Garrard was named Zillah Ann. She married Rev. James M. Roquemore of Jones County Ga. They settled in Talbot County, and then they and all their children moved to Carthage, Texas, Panola, County. Aunt Zillah died about 1875. They left a good number of grandchildren, but only one or two children living.

WILLIAM BARRON, JR., OF WARREN COUNTY SON OF CAPTAIN WILLIAM BARRON

The next heir of Captain William Barron and Prudy Barron, of Warren County was William Barron, Jr., of Warren, later of Newton county, Georgia. I am pretty sure that he was born in America, and about June, 1767. He was married about 1791 to Mary Farr, and moved from Warren county to Newton about 1805 or 1806, where he lived for many years, till in his old age he broke up and lived with his son James, and then with his son Henry of Butts county, Ga., where he died in November, 1848, being 81 years and some five or six months old. I have forgotten the exact number of months, but not the number of years. I saw him frequently until I was

near 21 years of age. Was present at his death and burial. Was the only one besides his wife who witnessed his death, as he died very suddenly, altho complaining of hurting in his breast all the fore part of the day. I had gone on a fisit (DR note: as typed) to see him from Newton county, presuming that I would not have the opportunity to visit him any more. The heirs of William Barron, Jr. of Newton County, Georgia, were, James Barron, of Meriwether county; the father of Dr. Barron of Troy, Alabama, Rev. Thomas Barron of Whitesville, Harris county, Georgia; the grandfather of Rev. Alonzo C. Barron, editor of the Baltimore Baptist. Next Joseph Barron of Troup county, Georgia. Next Smith Barron of the lower part of Meriwether or the upper part of Talbot county. Next HENRY BARRON (DR note: all caps and underlined in pen) of Butts county, and later of Walton County, Georgia. Next Mary Elizabeth Barron nee Mrs. John Roquemore of Newton county, Georgia. I think this includes all the heirs of William Barron, Jr., that lived to maturity. All of them reared a large number of children; and excepting the descendents of Henry Barron and Mrs. John Roquemore, most all if not all, of William Barron's descendants are in Alabama and Texas. A host of them in Pike county, Alabama. (I I (DR: as typed) had forgotten Davis Barron who was a cousin to my father and I am tolerably dure (DR: as typed) a son of William Barron, Jr., I think he settled somewhere in the western part of Georgia. (DR: there is no parenthesis close)

SAMUEL BARRON, SON OF WILLIAM BARRON

Samuel Barron was born in Warren county, Georgia, July 4, 1768 and died in Jones county, June 20, 1826. He was married to Miss Joannah Braswell, March 22, 1793, and lived in Warren county most probably till he moved to Jones county, about 1806. He left a widow, eight sons and three daughters. His children were 1st., James, 2nd, Sarah; 3rd Willie; 4th Capt. William; 5th Nancy; 6th Rebecca; 7th Benjamin; 8th Jonathan 9th Willis; 10th Green; 11th Abington.. Willis, Nancy, Green and Abington died and left no heirs. Capt. William Barron the 4th heir of Samuel Barron left eight children, four of whom yet living (the first of the year, at least) namely, Mrs. Mary Morris of Jones county; Dr. James F. Barron of Clinton, Jones County; Capt. Robert H. Barron of Macon, Georgia, and Mrs. Lizzie Austin or Mrs. J. E. Austin of Fort Valley, Georgia. Perhaps I will draw of your patience, but as you may conclude that John Barron, Jr., was your grandfather, and hence, that John Garrard of Wilkes county was your great-grandfather of your grandmother Barron's side, I will append a little about him and his people.

John Garrard, pronounced Gar-rard' - was of French parentage. But my father thought that his grandfather Garrard's parents had left France and had come to England before John was born as his grandfather never spoke with any of the French brogue. And that was his understanding, that he came directly from England. John with his two brothers, Robert and James, came to America to South Carolina; and a cousin of theirs settled in Penna., the grandfather of Garrard, once Governor of Kentucky, for whom a county named in that state. Robert settled in South Carolina, and perhaps James also. One of James' son's grew up and settled in Wilkes County, Georgia. On an adjoining farm to Jacob Garrard's. He was the ancestor of Col. Louis F. Garrard of Columbus, Georgia. John Garrard was born as early, I suppose in 1730. (James should be Jacob according to Garrard history.)

He came to America about 1750 to 1755. (About 1755 to 1760 Garrard History 1758) he was married to Mary Bolt of South Carolina, a sister of Abram Bolt, of that state. He followed overseeing, first in South Carolina and then in Georgia, until he accumulated enuf to buy a farm in Wilkes County, Ga. about 1772. He moved to Jones county 1806, and died in the spring of 1807, having married his second wife about three months prior to his death. The heirs of John Garrard of Wilkes county, were two sons and three daughters. Jacob and Robert were the two sons. Jacob as previously stated, married Elizabeth Barron and one of his sisters, John Barron.

Robert Garrard, about 1806, settled in Wilkes county, Georgia. He left three sons: John, James, and William, and several daughters. One daughter of John Garrard married Ledloe. The settled in Jones county about 1806. I do not know whom the other daughter married.

Now, I would like very much to know something about the history and pedigree of that Barron family in Ireland and America that you mentioned having. If possible, I would like to have a copy. Is it printed? And can another copy be secured.

Yours truly,

John Davis Garrard.

This is an exact copy of the letter of (DR: to) J. D. Barron written Aug. 18, 1892. This letter is in the possession of his daughter, Miss Theodora Barron #9 North Jackson Street Montgomery, Ala. It was sent to Petrona Garrard Humber Hean Feb. 1, 1924 thus this copy. (Copied by Mrs. Newt Etheredge Jackson, Georgia, April 5, 1949,)

The pencil marks are my corrections from gravestone datas at Watt Field Dennis Ga., Old Garrard cemetery, and from Gov. Garrard of Kentucky, His Descendants and Relatives, history. The section relating to our branch of the Garrards was compiled by the above John D. Garrard.

Garrard
Petrona/Humber Hean

(Transcribed by Davis Reese, April 2000).

Document IV: Transcription of a letter from John D. Garrard to J. D. Barron dated September 17, 1892.

East Lake, Ala
September 17th, 1892.

Hon. J. D. Barron,
Montgomery, Alabama

Dear Sir:

As Mr. Rogers was absent when I called there the first of the present week, and was not to be back until Monday next, I had your book put away till he returns. Will call next week and mail to you. I am truly obliged by the use of it. Many thanks to you for your kindness in sending it to me. It affords me much pleasure to trace the history of the Barron family back to the origin of the name. I knew that they were Barons in Ireland and that the title had been changed to a family name and an additional letter "r" added, but I did not know how it came about. What is the meaning of Fitz as prefixed to Gerald? Am also pleased to learn of the descendants of my father's double uncle and aunt, John and Francis Barron, as I have been on the lookout for some member of the family for ten or fifteen years. Also glad that I was the means of your finding out the names of your ancestors. It has only been a few months since I learned of the descendants of Samuel Barron, the brother of your grandfather. Mrs. Lizzie Austin, of Fort Valley, Ga., knowing that her father, Capt. Wm. Barron, of Jones County, Ga., son of Samuel Barron, of same place, was closely related to the Garrards, and by some means, having learned that Miss Lizzie Henrietta Mahone, of Belleview, Talbot County, Ga., was a daughter of the late Gen. Th. H. Mahone and Elizabeth Mahone, nee Garrard, wrote to her to ascertain how the Garrards and Barrons were related and to find out, if possible, who her great-grandfather was. Not being able to give her the information sought, my cousin's daughter sent the letter to me. The fact that my father had an uncle Samuel Barron and a cousin Samuel Barron and that he knew of no other Samuel Barron in that part of the State coupled with her knowledge (Mrs. Austin's) of the relationship of her father to the Garrards and the date of his birth as well as the place of his birth--Warren County, assures me that I am correct in placing Samuel Barron, the grandfather of Mrs. Austin, as the son of Capt. William Barron, Sr., of Ireland and Warren County, Ga.

Yes, my father and yours were first cousins. They were little more than first cousins. They were double cousins, which made them of the same blood as much so as own brothers, --both being Garrard and Barron. Which makes me and you, so far as blood is concerned, the same as first cousins. I am one-half Garrard and Barron and so are you. You see, your John Barron, your grandfather, a son of Capt. Wm. Barron, Sr., of Ireland and Warren County, Ga., married Frances Garrard, a sister of Jacob Garrard, my grandfather, and Jacob Garrard married Elizabeth Barron, a sister of John Barron, your grandfather. Jacob and Frances Garrard being children of John Garrard of Wilkes county. John Garrard of Wilkes County married Mary Bolt of S. C. She was of Welch parentage, and Wales, I believe, was settled largely by German. The origin of the name Bolt is said to be German. No; your uncle John Davis was not named after the Davis Barron I alluded to in my letter. He was the one himself that I alluded to, as your letter in reply proved to me. I did not have Davis Barron's name with the sons of Wm. Barron of Newton, nor did I recollect ever seeing him in Newton; therefore, I thought that he was a son either of your grandfather, John Barron, or his brother Samuel, but when Mrs. Austin, the granddaughter of Samuel Barron, gave recently the names of her grandfather's sons and you gave those of your grandfather, and

Page 12 of 15

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both of you left out Davis Barron, and knowing so well that my father had a cousin Davis Barron whom he had associated with frequently, I necessarily concluded that I had forgotten that he was a son of William Barron, of Newton. But I got to thinking about it after mailing that letter to you, and became pretty well satisfied that Wm. Barron of Newton, your grandfather's brother, had no son by the name of Davis; and was determined to write two of his grandsons to know if they had an uncle Davis Barron. Your letter explains it; your uncle John Davis Barron was called by his second name, when my father knew him. You can therefore erase Davis Barron's name from the names of William Barron's sons. I did not mention it, I believe, but I recollect hearing my father speak a few times of his cousin Garrard Barron, as he called him, but I could not recollect it so distinctly as I could his mention of Davis and Samuel, whom he seems to have been with oftener than the others. Perhaps they visited Putnam County more than the others. I have only a faint recollection of his mentioning that had a cousin Jacob Barron, and no recollection at all of the others you mention except your father, of whom he did not speak as often as of Davis and Samuel. No, he (John Davis Barron) was named Davis after his grandmother Barron. Capt. William Barron, his grandfather married in Ireland, perhaps in Waterford or Kilkenny County, Lucy (Prudence) Davis, who was of the Royal Family of Davises of England and of Ireland. [note from VK: probably should be 'Prudy', not 'Lucy'] His father (John Davis Barron's) being named John who had an uncle John Barron, and his mother's father being named John was the origin of the name JOHN. My name came down through the same channel on my father's side. In addition, he my father, had a brother John Goss and a brother Davis Goss, and uncle John Davis, and a grandfather Jonathan Davis, Sr. So my father and mother, as they said, readily agreed to name me, their first son, John Davis. Jonathan Davis was of the Royal family of Davises of England; so my father and mother thought that their ancestors, on the Davis side, were distantly related in the old country, or rather was of the same family away back. Jonathan Davis, my great-grandfather was an uncle of the late ex-President Jefferson Davis's father, my mother and Jefferson Davis being second cousins. I had a sister, Frances B. Garrard, but I did not know for whom my father named her; but it now looks as if he had named her after his aunt, your grandmother. Sister Elizabeth was named after her grandmother, Elizabeth Garrard, nee Barron, your grandfather's sister.

You suggest tracing the Barron family pedigree back from Capt. Wm. Barron, our great-grandfather, to the Barron's in Ireland, I suppose. This I think a good idea. If we cannot succeed in tracing it all the way back, perhaps we can trace it far enough to ascertain whether that estate left back there for one Barron justly belongs to the heirs of Capt. William Barron of Warren County. The marriage records in Ireland may help out considerably to do so.

It will be a good thing for you to do, while that aged aunt (grandmother Barron) is alive, to get all the information from her that you can of your grandfather's family--their names, including their children's grandchildren, etc., their places of residence, births, deaths, etc. The age of the oldest child of your grandfather would help us to get at his age pretty closely, probably. But closer to the date of his marriage, The latter, however, unless the courthouse has been burned, can readily be found recorded at Washington, Wilkes County, Ga. I would examine the record first from about 1785 to 1795. As your father was born in 1801, and you probably can learn about how many brothers and sisters were older than he was, from your aunt, you can come very close to the date of his marriage. I would be pleased to have all the facts that you can learn, as I am thinking that I will be compelled to publish my little history of the Garrard and Barron and of the Goss and Davis families. So many are writing me to copy my account of these families and send them that it would be quite a tiresome undertaking. I have over one hundred and fifty pp written on 9 x 11 inch paper. Six pages about Captain William Barron and fourteen more about his descendents, not including my grandmother's descendents, which are given with the history of the Garrard family; nor that I copied from your book.

Page 13 of 15

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Perhaps you know something of these Barrons whom I mention below.

There is a very prominent man at Birmingham--Lakeview, I believe--known as Major Barron, whom I have not yet met, and whose initials of given names I do not now recollect, but have them somewhere among my papers, I think.

There was a fine old Baptist lady, the widow Julia Barron, who lived at Marion, Ala., for many years. She died a year or two ago; and I think she had but one son, who died probably fifteen or twenty years ago or more, and left two daughters, Julia and Olive, who now reside at Marion.

There was also a widow Barron, who lived near Farmersville, Lowndes, County, Ala., who also had daughters and no sons living. One daughter, Frances Barron, accompanied a married sister of mine on a visit from that place to my father's in Montgomery County, and remained at father's several weeks. My father said she was a descendent of Samuel Barron, I suppose he ment his cousin Sam Barron, your uncle; though he may have alluded to the elder Samuel Barron, his uncle. The widow and her daughters went to Texas, about twenty or twenty-five years ago, I think.

I am very nervous and have written very herredly, but suppose you will be able to read most that I have written and allow for all mistakes. I intended to give you a description of the Garrard and Barron families, but am too tired now to do so. Will do so, however, at some future time, if you desire it.

Will be plesed to hear from you at any time.

Yours truly,

Jno. D. Garrard

(Transcribed by Vicki Barron Kruschwitz from a typed copy in the possession of William Maddocks, 2002. Bill received the copy from Barbara Barron Bellomo. Her aunt, Marie Barron, daughter of Morgan Milton Barron, may have obtained the letter from her second cousin, Theodora Barron, daughter of J. D. Barron).

Document V: Handwritten original of a document by John D. Garrard to Peter R. Garrard, dated February 1896.

Click on the following link to view this document:

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~barronfamily/Barron/barronfamilywarren.pdf>

Typed transcription of John D. Garrard's February 1896 document, made by Petrona Humber Hean, dated July 22, 1928:

Click on the following link to read this document:

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~barronfamily/Barron/petronastranscriptiongarrard.pdf>

Page 14 of 15

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Document VI: Transcription of a letter from John D. Garrard to J. D. Barron dated August 27, 1896.

Avondale, Ala.,
Aug. 27th, 1896.

Hon. J. D. Barron:
Dear Sir, _____

I am getting up a Garrard—Barron Chart and a Goss—Davis Chart, or rather two charts of each — one of each for my son's heirs and one of each for my deceased daughter's heirs; and would like to have the full names, births, location of most permanent homes, deaths, &c., of your father's descendants as near as you can give them. Include when and to whom married. Would also like to have the location of the homes of your _____'s _____

MISSING PAGE(S)

The other Barrons say that Davis Barron was not a brother of their ancestors, but a cousin. So he must have been a son of John and Frances Barron, although you have no account of him. However, the name Davis, may have been the middle name of one of those you gave me, and his relatives knew him only by this name.

Since writing to you, I have learned more about the brother of John and Robert Garrard, who came with them to America. I did not know his name then, but finding out through the Columbus, Ga. Garrards that Col. Louis F. Garrard's grandfather was named Jacob Garrard, and that that branch of the family was keeping up the name of Jacob, as well as our branch of the family. I at once concluded that the name of my great grandfather's other brother was Jacob; and that as he had named ~~of~~ one of his two sons, Robert after, or for his brother Robert, that he named the other son, Jacob, for his other brother. And I wrote to the Columbus Garrards that the grandfather of Jacob Garrard of Columbus was also named Jacob Garrard, **that ???** he settled in S.C. and that only one of his sons came to Ga. This son was named Anthony, and he settled in Wilks Co., Ga., on an adjoining farm **as ??** that of his cousin Jacob Garrard, **my ??** grandfather. The Columbus Garrards, learning that I had ~~had~~ a history of the Garrard family, wrote to me to learn about their ancestors. They knew nothing of their grandfather's (Jacob's) foreparents, nor where he came from to La Grange, nor did they know anything about any of Jacob's brothers or sisters, not even James Garrard (or his descendants), who also lived in La Grange and Columbus having moved from La Grange to Columbus about twenty years after Jacob did. I wrote back to Wilks county and John L. Garrard a grandson of Anthony G. replied to my letter, stating that his great grandfather was named Jacob and that only Anthony came over from S.C. to Ga.; and that his great grandfather's brothers were John and **Robert. ???** I knew that James Garrard was a second cousin of my father, that he came from Wilks to La Grange, and from La Grange to Columbus, and I had been misinformed that he was the father of Col. Louis F. Garrard's father and his father's brothers and sisters. If I had ever known of Jacob, he was one of the sons of Anthony G. that I had forgotten.

I heard that you were to be at the Confederate Reunion at Birmingham, and I went out in hopes that I would **???see you and???**

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(Transcribed by Vicki Barron Kruschwitz from a handwritten copy in the possession of William Maddocks, 2002. Bill received the copy from Barbara Barron Bellomo. Her aunt, Marie Barron, daughter of Morgan Milton Barron, may have obtained the letter from her second cousin, Theodora Barron, daughter of J. D. Barron).

Page 15 of 15

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