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The Putnams of Jefferson County Tennessee

We have seen a family of either Putmans or Putnams, some of whom were Quakers, move from central Virginia to Guilford County, North Carolina and then into Jefferson County, Tennessee.

If you refer back to the Virginia Section, you will see that I feel they are a part of our family and connected to Thomas Putman the 4th of Gloucester County. Only a strong hunch, but I am going to follow this gang as best I can.

These Putnams/Putmans came from Guilford County in North Carolina, which had a fair size Quaker population at the New Garden and Springfield Monthly Meetings, into East Tennessee in Jefferson County, which also had a Quaker Monthly Meeting at Deep River.

I tried to cover the Putmans of Guilford County back in the section on NORTH CAROLINA. In this section, I only try to make a connection back to that group and to move you forward a bit.

The first of this family to appear in Jefferson County record books are these daughters whose marriages are on record.

They are:

Nancy Putnam who married Solomon Copeland on April 20, 1818

Mary Putnam who married Robert Elgin on September 14, 1821

Betsy Putnam who married James North on February 15, 1822

Jenny Putman who married Hugh McCall on April 22, 1825.

Some of these marriages are also shown as having taken place back in Guilford County, so I am not certain exactly where they did occur. The important thing is the tie between the two areas.

The problem is that I have no idea who these girls parents were. There is a record in the Quaker Monthly Meeting Minutes where a **JOSIAH PUTMAN** or **PUTNAM** was received in the Springfield (North Carolina) Monthly Meeting on request from the New Garden Monthly Meeting (also North Carolina). Many from this meeting area went to Deep River in Jefferson County, Tennessee in the 1805-1810 time period. They must be daughters of Josiah.

The first Putman to appear in the Census records is **ELIZABETH PUTNAM** who in 1830 was a young widow in her 20s. By 1850 we find she was born in Virginia in about 1806. She had three sons and one daughter in the 1830 and 1840 census.

In 1850 we find them to be: **William J. Putnam** born in 1824 (on a separate listing), **Mary A. Putnam** born 1825, **Francis M. Putnam** born 1827, and **James L. Putnam** born 1829.

Then in 1850 as well, a George Washington Putnam pops up here in the 1850 census and settles on the adjacent farm to Elizabeth's son William. The census shows he is 35 TN and his wife Eleanor is 45 TN, but the writing is tricky here and it most likely he is 55. As such he would likely be a brother to the Putnam who married Elizabeth. He is dead or gone by 1860, so this is

his only appearance.

Josiah or some Putnam/Putman seems to have had at least one son who married this Elizabeth, and George.

I know nothing else on George Washington Putnam, but here is how I see the family of Elizabeth Putman. Elizabeth herself was born in Virginia in 1806. The kids were:

WILLIAM J. (JACKSON?) PUTNAM born about 1823 or 1824 in Tennessee. He married Sarah Foland on September 18, 1847. She was a daughter of George Foland and Susannah Hinkle of Virginia and then Tennessee. She was born in Virginia in 1822-1823. Then according to a researcher, her husband deserted here in about 1856 and was never heard from again. In 1860, Sarah was in Roane County, Tennessee and had reverted to her maiden name of Sarah Foland, and she had the kids with her. Then she headed west into Missouri with other members of the Foland clan and was in Centre Township of Vernon County, Missouri for the 1870 census. She is there still in Vernon County in the 1880 census at age 56. In 1880 she is living with her daughter Rowena who had married John W. Foland in about 1874. She died in Vernon County on November 1, 1892. These were her children, all were born in Tennessee:

Orville Putnam born 1844. Orville died in the Civil War, and his mother had applied for a pension on that service.

Julia Putnam born 1847.

Commodore M. Putnam born April 29, 1850. He married Eliza Wasson. He died in March 1880, and in the census Eliza was a widow with a daughter **Mary** born 1870 and a son **Arch** born in 1877 and was living with her brother and sister. Then it seems Eliza married John M. Collins on January 27, 1881.

Rowena Putnam born May 29, 1850. She married John Foland, a cousin on March 5, 1875.

Jacob Stanley Putnam born May 8, 1853. He married Celestine Almira Lawton on September 1, 1877. She was born September 1858 IL. In 1900, Jacob and Celestine are in Osage Township, Bourbon County Kansas and in Fort Scott in 1920 and 1930. Their children were:

Myrtle Edna Putnam born September 30, 1880 in Missouri. She married John Frailey in 1914 in Galesburg, Illinois.

Benjamin Franklin Putnam born March 16, 1883 in Missouri and married Amy Morris August 16, 1902 in Williamsfield, Illinois.

Harry Ernest Putnam born June 8, 1886 in Fort Scott, Kansas. He married Alice May Bishard January 31, 1905 in Fort Scott. They are in Archuleta County Colorado in 1910 through 1930. He was a farmer. He died in Fort Scott, Colorado on January 4, 1974. Alice was a daughter of James Carson Bishard and Ida Cleavenger and was born in Bourbon County Kansas on May 3, 1888 and died in Montrose County Colorado January 9, 1959.

Boyd Alton Putnam born May 11, 1889 in Kansas. He married Pearl Givins August 12, 1907 in Kansas City. Pearl is alone with the kids in Fort Scott, Bourbon County Kansas in 1920. Guess the got a divorce as he married a Maud in Kansas in 1922 and they were in Kansas City, Missouri in 1930.

Sarah Grace Putnam born December 20, 1891 in Kansas. She married Frank Gunesullus February 6, 1923.

Ivah Putnam born March 19, 1894. She was married to a Pofford guy and was home and widowed in 1930. She later married Vinton Hall July 4, 1953 in Fort Scott.

Merza Dollie Putnam born March 18, 1897. She married Roy Hudson November 11, 1915 in Mt. Vernon, Missouri.

Gladys Lenora Putnam born January 7, 1900. She married Wesley Ernest Stoufer October 6, 1918 and was home and widowed in 1930. She later married Edward Bass September 18, 1945.

Elizabeth Putnam born in 1854. She married James Sewell on July 17, 1870.

Catherine Putnam born October 5, 1856. In 1880, she is with her mother living with her sister Rowena.

MARY ANN PUTNAM born in 1824. She married George Brevard on July 6, 1853.

FRANCIS MARION PUTNAM born in 1827. He married Martha E. Blackwell on June 4, 1855. They are here in 1860 and in Sevier County, Tennessee in 1870. In 1870, he is a widower with two children. In 1880 he is in Sevier County with a new wife, Sarah Adeline Underwood, 15 years younger than he, with more kids. In 1900, the family is in Cooke County, Texas. I do not find Francis any later than the 1900. The children were:

Tabitha A. Putnam born in 1856 and married off by 1880. Believe she married Powhatan King Lester in Sevier County, Tennessee.

George L. Putnam born in November 1862 and is at home in 1880. In 1900, he is married to Laura Belle Simmons, also born here in Tennessee, and is in Collin County, Texas. They will be there through the 1920 census. Laura is widowed in Hunt County with the kids in 1930. Children were:

Rose Putnam born in Tennessee in July 1882.

James Franklin Monroe born in Texas March 22, 1886, and still at home in 1920.

Charles Sylvester Putnam born February 18, 1893 and died December 30, 1975. He married Maves Edna Stinebaugh June 2, 1916, and they were in Collin County, Texas in the 1920 census and in Hunt County in 1930. She was born March 28, 1893 and died July 17, 1985. They had seven children (I have the list).

Nannie Putnam born in May 1890, and gone by 1910.

Nora Putnam born in September 1893, and gone by 1920. She married a McMillan.

Jesse Grady Putnam born December 24, 1898, and home in 1920.

Winnie Leona Putnam born in 1902. She married Charles Mansfield.

Samuel Alonzo Putnam born November 10, 1906. He went by the name Lonnie and married Willie Jewell Howell. He died in Greenville, Texas in April 1982.

Cora Putnam born in 1871. The first child in the second marriage.

William Alvin Putnam born in January 1874. In 1900 he is with his folks, and in 1910 and 1920 he is in Garvin County, Oklahoma with his wife Elizabeth 'Lizzie' Howard, and in McClain County in 1930 and has these children:

Gladys Putnam born in Oklahoma in 1905.

Vada Putnam born in 1907.

Eddington Putnam born in 1911. He is listed as Vernon in 1930.

Joseph H. Putnam born in 1922.

Alfred Putnam born in 1924.

Commodore S. Putnam born in Strawberry Plains, Tennessee September 15, 1876. He is at home in 1900, then in 1910 is in Cooke County, Texas married to Martha Adeline Hampton (born 1873 in Tennessee), and in 1920 and 1930 they are in Love County, Oklahoma. He is a Justice of the Peace in Leon. He died in Leon on March 25, 1954. Addie was born May 5, 1884 and died in Leon February 26, 1943. The children shown in census reports were:

Ada Putnam born in Texas in 1904.

Zada Putnam born in 1905.

Nuel Leonard Putnam born August 12, 1907 and died in Leon, Love County Oklahoma June 14, 1996.

Frank Houston Putnam born in 1908.

Helen Thelma Putnam was born December 8, 1911 and will die here October 26, 1982.

Harriet N. Putnam born in Oklahoma in 1916.

Savannah Putnam born in 1878. She was gone or married by 1900.

JAMES L. PUTNAM born in 1829. I do not find him in 1860. He married Mahala Bourland in the 1860s. He is in Grayson County, Texas in 1880. In 1900 Mahala is a widow. She and the kids are in Oklahoma in Chickasaw Nation, Indian Territory in 1900. I don't find them in 1910, but by 1920 Mahala is widowed in Kemp, Bryan County. She is still there in 1930 at age 87. Based on census reports the children were:

Rufus F. Putnam born in 1871. He is married in 1900 to Fannie or Melissa. They are in Bryan County in 1910. Melissa is back in Montague County Texas by 1920 widowed and has their two daughters with them. They had:

Maggie Putnam born in Texas in 1895.

Myrtle Putnam born in Oklahoma in 1899.

Arthur H. Putnam born in 1872.

Jane Hester Putnam born in 1874.

Braxton Holmes Putnam born December 8, 1876.

James Albert Putnam born August 10, 1878.

Commodore Earl Putnam born October 11, 1880.

Singleton Lafayette Putnam born September 26, 1882. He has a wife Carry and these kids in 1920 and 1930 in Bryan County.

Everett Putnam born in 1915.

Hattie G. Putnam born in 1919.

Hattie M. Putnam born in 1885.

Then there are other marriages that took place in Jefferson County.

Louisa Putnam and Jonathan Ward on December 29, 1867.

Lou Putnam and W. M. Sartin on July 16, 1882.

All this indicates there was probably more than one Putnam/Putman family in Jefferson County, but they had to have come and left between census times as they just do not appear. I'm working on this family and hope to know more.