

DANIEL PUTMAN

of the Pendleton District South Carolina

Daniel Putman was my great-great-great-great grandfather and fortunately his life was the best documented of all of Barnet Putman's children.

Daniel was born on January 1, 1764 probably in Granville County, North Carolina, though possibly in Virginia. A copy of his family's birth dates written in his own handwriting was attached to his widow's Revolutionary War Pension request and is on file in Washington. This list of dates was then transcribed into a family bible owned by Anna Putman King.

Daniel moved with his father, Barnet and his family to South Carolina in about 1773. They settled first in Berkeley County in what is now Union County, near Sedalia, South Carolina.

It was while living in Union County that the American Revolutionary War came to his doorstep. In 1781 young Daniel, barely 18 years old, was given a mare by his father and rode off to join the Regiment headed by Colonel Thomas Brandon in Pickard's Brigade of the South Carolina Militia. He was joined by his uncle John Putman who was a Captain in the same Regiment. He fought in the Siege at Fort Ninety-Six in June of 1781.

Fort Ninety Six was so called because it was 96 miles from the Keowee Trading Post on Lake Keowee on the borders of North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia.

Young Daniel remained in the service until 1782 when the war moved further north in its last years. Barnet's mare was somehow lost in the fighting and Daniel's father was given five pounds, fourteen shillings and three pence as compensation for the loss.

The Siege of Ninety-Six was an interesting and rather important turning point in the Revolution. The Fort at Ninety-Six was occupied by British sympathizing Americans under Colonel John Harris Cruger of New York and was their southernmost outpost in 1781 as the War was moving northwards towards its conclusion in Virginia. The British had decided that it was best to pull up stakes and get out of the area in order to consolidate their forces in Virginia. Just as they were set to abandon the fort without a fight, the Americans showed up and began the siege. The Americans under General Greene had some 1100 men and outnumbered Cruger's 500 men, but the large earthen Fort was not to be taken. The British forces fought off the Americans and the Americans pulled back to Winnsboro. Then after the battle, the British did as they originally planned, they got up and left.

The American defeat turned victorious as the British left. Now the whole thing could have been avoided if the Americans simply stayed out of the way and let the British retreat. But, then without the Battle, ole Dan'l would not have had any place to fight and would have missed out on being an honest to goodness veteran of the Revolution.

Daniel's service record Number W26751 is in Washington and is documented so that his female descendant's are eligible for membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution, and males in the Sons of the American Revolution.

While living in Union County, Daniel married a neighbor, Prudence Skelton on January 5, 1786.

Prudence was born in Union County on April 16, 1770 and was the daughter of William and Sarah Skelton. William and Sarah Skelton had come from Virginia about the same time as Barnet Putman, and had settled near each other in Union County. I have a bunch of information on the Skelton Family for anyone who is interested.

I have no information whether Daniel and Prudence lived with his parents or whether he had a separate farm in the area. However, on August 27, 1792 Daniel purchased a 255 acre plantation on the banks of the Savannah River near Anderson in the old Pendleton District of South Carolina. He later bought an adjoining tract in 1796. At this time his father and most of his family had moved to this western section of South Carolina.

While living in Union County, Daniel and Prudence had three children born to them: Hazeal Putman born May 7, 1787; Lavinia Putman born November 7, 1789 and Reding Putman born April 20, 1792.

In Anderson, Daniel studied and read quite a bit. All of Barnet's children were quite literate and well educated for the times. Daniel farmed and worked in the family blacksmith shop. By 1800 he had studied enough law to become an attorney and he helped administer land deals, wills, and had power of attorney granted him by several people according to recorded sources. He was later to become a Judge in both Kentucky and Indiana.

While living in Anderson, Daniel and Prudence had three more sons: Elijah born May 18, 1794; William born March 15, 1796 and Thomas born July 30, 1798.

Daniel heard of new opportunities in Kentucky and in 1802 he obtained some 200 acres of land near the Town of Bowling Green in Warren County in central Kentucky. It would appear he contracted for the land before going to Kentucky; perhaps it was a land grant for service in the Revolution.

About 1804, Daniel, his father Barnet, his brothers Thomas, Laban and Ezekiel all made the overland trip to Kentucky. In those times it was common for several families to migrate together for both protection and for companionship. The Putmans were accompanied by several other families that figured prominently in the Putman lives. Some of these families were several Skelton Families; Dolly Combs and her family, her husband Bennett had died in 1801 in Anderson County; John Holcombe and others of his family; the Duffs, some Barnets and perhaps other friends.

These families arrived in Kentucky about 1804 and began homesteading. On January 13, 1805 Daniel and Prudence had another son, Ezekiel, who died as an infant 14 months later.

Daniel Putman received land grants in 1807 for 330 more acres and another in 1807 for 400 acres and in 1808 a grant for another 200 acres. Thomas Putman received a grant of 90 acres in 1807 as well. By 1808 Daniel owned several parcels of land in excess of 1,000 acres and in the same year was appointed Justice of the Peace by the Governor.

On January 1, 1810, Daniel's father, Barnet, was exonerated from paying county taxes due to his 'old age and infirmities.' The tax roll for 1810 shows his name with a line drawn through it and across the remainder of the page. I feel he died fairly early in 1810.

Daniel's eldest son Hazeal married a daughter of Dorothy (Dolly) Combs, Isabel Combs on October 18, 1806. Another son, Reding, was to marry another Combs daughter in Indiana in 1812. Another son, Elijah, was to marry a granddaughter of Dolly's as well. He married

Elizabeth Duff in Gibson County, Indiana in 1817.

By 1810, Daniel was hearing of new opportunities in the Western Territories of Indiana. Daniel sold several parcels of land to Moses Hunt and he and his brother Ezekiel signed a \$1,000 injunction bond for these titles in Bowling Green on June 15, 1811.

Virtually the entire group of South Carolinians moved in 1811 to southwestern Indiana into what was then Knox County. Daniel's two brothers, Ezekiel and Thomas and their families remained in Warren County, but it seems everyone else headed for Indiana.

According to Tartt's *HISTORY OF GIBSON COUNTY INDIANA*, Daniel and the rest arrived in Indiana about 1808 or 1809, but it would appear they did not arrive until the summer of 1811. This is based on the June 1811 date when Daniel was still in Kentucky as mentioned above.

Almost immediately the families were caught up in the various Indian uprisings agitated by the British and which precipitated the War of 1812. Daniel, his two eldest sons, Hazeal and Reding and Daniel's brother, Laban Putman joined the Indiana Militia under Governor William Henry Harrison and fought the Indians at the Battle of Tippecanoe on November 7, 1811. This was officially considered war service in the War of 1812 for you history buffs. Harrison was an extremely popular figure in the area and Hazeal, as well as many others, named one of his sons Harrison in his honor. Hazeal remained roughly connected with the militia and was commissioned a Lieutenant in 1813. I believe they were not involved in further fighting after Tippecanoe.

Daniel continued to practice law in Indiana and was one of the leaders of the 1812 effort to carve a new county out of the huge Knox County. In 1813 Gibson County, Indiana was formed and Daniel was commissioned a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for Gibson County on April 1, 1813. Hazeal was commissioned a Justice of the Peace for Gibson County in May 1813. On January 7, 1814, Daniel was appointed 3rd Judge of the Circuit Court for Gibson County. The foregoing is from the Executive Journal for the Indiana Territory 1800-1816. Nepotism being what it is, son William was paid \$2.25 for his services as Bailiff at the October Court Term.

Daniel Putman made out his will and had it notarized on July 15, 1814. It was written in longhand and filed at the County Courthouse in Princeton, Indiana. A transcript of this will may be found in the addendum.

Daniel's promising political career and rich life came to an end on July 19, 1816 on his Plantation near Princeton. As he had not finished administering his father's will at the time of his death, it can be assumed Barnet had died shortly before.

Daniel Putman's Estate Sale took place on August 28, 1816. Several members of the family, including son, Thomas, had purchased items. Thomas must have himself died very shortly thereafter as Hazeal Putman, as co-executor, paid John Macey \$1.50 for helping make two coffins, for Daniel and his son Thomas.

Records seem to indicate there was a bad influenza epidemic at the time that killed a great many people in the area. It would seem both Daniel and Thomas did succumb to this outbreak.

After the estate was settled, Daniel's wife Prudence moved in with her son William Putman. On June 28, 1821, Prudence Putman married Landon Key, a widower and Revolutionary War Veteran from Virginia who was living in Gibson County at that time. Unfortunately, Landon Key died some eight weeks later on August 24, 1821. Prudence Key then moved back with her son

William and later accompanied William and Reding and their families to Illinois and finally to Arkansas where she died in 1847 or 1848. She made her only pension request in 1846. She appears to be living with Reding in 1840 and was staying with him until the time of her death.

The children of Daniel Putman

Briefly the children of Daniel Putman and Prudence Skelton are as follows. Most of these children's lives are expanded in the Illinois and Arkansas sections of this work.

Hazeal Putman

Hazeal was the eldest of Daniel's children and was born in Union County, South Carolina on May 7, 1787. He moved with his family to Anderson, South Carolina in the Old Pendleton District about 1792 and lived on his parents' plantation on the banks of the Savannah River.

The family and many friends moved to Bowling Green, Warren County, Kentucky in about the year 1804, when Hazeal was about 17 years old.

On October 18, 1806, Hazeal Putman married Bennett and Dolly Comb's daughter, Isabel, in Warren County, Kentucky. They later moved to Fulton County, Illinois where Isabel died and then he remarried and moved to Schuyler County, Illinois where he died in 1843.

The life and times and family of Hazeal and Isabel Putman are covered in the section on the **ILLINOIS PUTMANS**.

Lavinia Putman

Lavinia Putman was the second oldest and only daughter of Daniel and Prudence Putman. She was born in Union County, South Carolina on November 7th, 1789.

She never married. She went to Washington County, Arkansas. Her brother William came to Arkansas in 1835 and her other brother, Reding came in 1836 or 1837. I am not certain with whom she traveled.

Lavinia Putman died in February 1855 in Washington County, Arkansas.

Elijah Putman

Elijah Putman was born on the family plantation in Anderson, South Carolina on May 18, 1794. As a 10 year old child, he traveled with the family to Bowling Green in Warren County, Kentucky in about 1804.

On April 18, 1817, he married Elizabeth Duff in Gibson County. They moved first to Fulton County, Illinois and then to Davis County, Iowa where he died in 1863.

Complete details on this family will be found in the upcoming **ILLINOIS PUTMANS** section of this history.

William Putman

William Putman was the fourth son of Daniel and Prudence Putman and was born March 15, 1796 in Anderson, South Carolina in the old Pendleton District.

On August 8, 1817, William Putman married Alla Bridges in Gibson County, Indiana. They moved to Fulton County, Illinois and then in 1835 to Washington County, Arkansas where he died in 1862.

The story of William and Alla Putman is covered in the section on [ARKANSAS PUTMANS](#).

Reding Putman

Reding Putman was perhaps the best documented son of Daniel and Prudence Putman. It is from Reding that my Putman lineage comes down.

Reding Putman was the third child, second son, of Daniel and Prudence Putman. Reding was born at the family home in Union County, South Carolina on April 20, 1792. On June 7, 1812, Reding married Stacey Combs in Princeton, Gibson County, Indiana.

He moved to Fulton County, Illinois where Stacy died. Reding then married a widow Phoebe Marsh Stelle. They moved to Washington County, Arkansas where he remained for the rest of his life.

The full story of Reding and Stacey and then of Reding and Phoebe, his second wife, are covered in the section on [ILLINOIS PUTMANS](#).

Thomas Putman

Thomas Putman was born in Anderson, South Carolina on July 30, 1798. He died in Princeton, Indiana in the fall of 1816 at nineteen years of age. He died shortly after his father and probably of the same epidemic of influenza.

Ezekiel Putman

Ezekiel Putman was born in Warren County, Kentucky on January 13, 1805 and died there in March of 1806 at the age of fourteen months.