

JESSE PUTMAN

South Carolina to Georgia to Tennessee

Jesse would have been born somewhere around 1773. He was in Union County in 1800 and 1810. He signed his receipt for his legacy there. Then he was in Habersham County, Georgia in the 1820 census and in Bedford County, Tennessee in the 1830 census. I do not find him after then.

In 1830 he was about 60 and was living with his wife and 3 sons and 5 daughters. I have no idea who they were. In 1830 he was living next to a John Putman about 46 and his family. That John was a son of Daniel Putman of Abbeville County, South Carolina and will soon move on to Missouri.

Jesse wrote his will in Bedford County, Tennessee on August 6, 1833. In it he mentioned his kinfolk to whom he left a dollar each: Four brothers, Joseph, Jacob (Jabel), Amos and Daniel, and to the heirs of William and James who had both died. He also left the dollar to the heirs of Nancy Lawson and Elizabeth Ray.

The following is taken from a book, *Tennessee Tidbits, Volume II*:

Jesse Putman died a short time after making his will on August 6, 1833. It was proved in November 1833. He named his wife Sarah Putman and gave his estate to her during his lifetime. He also left one dollar to each of his brothers, Joseph, Jabel, Amos and Daniel Putman. He also left a dollar to the heirs of William Putman, James Putman and Elizabeth (Putman) Ray. After Sarah's death, the estate was to go to John W. Meeks, Minerva A. Cotton and Malissa F. Meeks.

Then things get confusing. There was a suit brought by odds and ends of heirs against Sarah Putman. The suit was brought by William J. W. Wakefield, John W. Meeks and 'others'.

The section goes on to say that William Wakefield and his wife Malissa F. are residents of Lincoln County. John W. Meeks lives in Bedford County. James Cotton and Malissa Cotton are minors who sue by their uncle and 'next friend' John W. Meeks, said James Cotton lives in Mississippi and Malissa Cotton in Bedford County. Defendant Sarah Putman lives in Bedford County. James Cotton and Malissa Cotton are the only children of Manerva A. Cotton named in said will. Manerva died since the will was probated in November 1833. Complainant Wakefield married Malissa F. Meeks mentioned in the will. John Wammock of Georgia was mentioned. John was a son of Sarah Putman. It stated that the complainants are not related to Jesse Putman, but are descendants of the children of Sarah Putman by a former marriage.

After all this bitching, Sarah then threatened to "sell all the Negroes and go to Georgia." All this came from the Bedford County Children's Court Minutes 1:93.

Good luck with this! Can you tell if Jesse had any kids of his own? Was Sarah his only wife, or a second or even third wife? I can't. So, I won't put any kids here. There were 7 people including 3 young children in the 1830 census, but about 3 daughters and 1 son were Sarah's alone, and they most likely were not in this family in 1820, if I was ever able to find that data.

The 1800 census shows Jesse and wife number one and zero kids. I do not find Jesse in 1810, but

there was no census in Tennessee in 1810 and the 1820 census is not remotely complete or extant. In 1830, it looks like it is he, Sarah, a young adult husband and wife with three little ones. I have a feeling this young household is that of young James Putman. Jesse's brother James seems to have died in the 1815-1820 time range. See the next listing.

Have fun!