

ERNESTUS PUTMAN

of Jefferson County West Virginia

In the 1810 census of Jefferson County, we find Ernestus Putman. He is from the Dutch family begun by Jan Poutman in upper New York State in the middle 1600s. This part of New York was originally Dutch, a part of New Amsterdam.

Ernestus Putman was born on October 27, 1776 in Schenectady, New York. He was a son of Arent Putman and Elizabeth De Spitzer. Arent's line of descent works back to Johannes to Arent to Jan Putman from Holland.

He married Nancy Becker on April 1, 1797 in Schenectady. The family moved to the northern most part of Virginia just below Pennsylvania and Maryland and settled in Jefferson County.

Nancy was the wife in the 1810 census, but she died on June 8, 1812. Ernestus then married Elizabeth Gray in Shepardstown, Jefferson County, Virginia on March 24, 1814. They moved west into Ohio and were in the Greenville section of Darke County by the 1820 census.

In the 1850 census he was still in Darke County and was 74 at that time and Elizabeth was 62. A son, James 19, was with them. His son Ernestus J. Putman age 24 and Sarah 24, his wife, lived next door. In the area was a Franklin Putnam, but probably not related.

He then went with Ernestus Jr. to Winchester, Indiana. He was in Randolph County in 1860. He died on October 20, 1865. Elizabeth died there the previous year on February 15, 1864.

For more on the early Dutch Putmans, see the Addendum of this history.