

Hi Ron,

Have you seen this 1891 Cook letter? Mrs. C. B. Cleveland's maiden name was Eliz Pinson Askew. I transcribed this from an old document my friend JoAnn Woolf has.

Bill

>>>>>>>>

Cook Family History

as related by

Zoroaster Cook

of Kimbrough's, Wilcox Co., Ala.

to

Mrs. C. B. Cleveland

Demopolis, Ala.

January 24, 1891

The oldest member of the family of whom there is any record is Leticia Birding. She was born the 28th day of November 1761; where she was born is not known, but supposed to have been in England. It is known that her father immigrated to the British colony of South Carolina. The family lived there during the troublesome days with the savages. Tradition gives an incident of the life of Leticia, when the family had taken refuge in a fort for protection against the Indians. All the families from the surrounding country were concentrated in the fort. The country had become quiet but vigilance was maintained, when the girl Leticia, about seventeen years old, went on the outside of the fort to a spring in order to do some washing for the soldiers. While at the springs they were attacked by two Indians, who attempted to kill them with their tomahawks. Leticia being very strong fought the Indians with all her strength at the same time yelling at the top of her voice. This gave the alarm, and a young man killed the Indian before he could succeed in killing Leticia, but not until he had struck her in the head with his tomahawk. In fact, the shot that killed the Indian almost at the very moment that she was struck. The other Indian made his escape after killing the other girl. Leticia was carried inside the fort, and when the wound examined her brain could be distinctly seen through the wound. She lingered a time, but got well. The young man that saved her life was Enoch Hooper. As soon as she was able they were married in the fort.

Some years after, how many is not known, Enoch Hooper moved further west, settling in Caldwell County, Kentucky. How many children they had is not known, but one we do know was Betsy or Elizabeth Hooper, who married a man named Mathias Cook. By this marriage there were Levicey Cook, Enoch Hooper Cook, ?lif Cook, Leticia Cook, and Ellender Cook. After these children were born, all of them in Kentucky, their father, Matthias Cook, went with a flatboat of produce down the Mississippi river, sold the produce, started back home by land, got as far as Rodney in Jefferson county, Mississippi, where he was taken sick and died. His wife, Betsy Cook that was, went from Kentucky to bring him home, but he died, and his widow was so pleased with the country that she sent for the family, when they also settled in Jefferson county.

It was there that Levicey met and married James Woolf on the 8th day of January 1816. Your (Mrs. Charles B. Cleveland) father, Thomas J. Woolf, was their first child, who I have always thought was born in December of that year, but learned when he died that he was born in 1817. While Thomas J. Woolf was an infant, in the early part of 1818 his father moved from Mississippi to Marengo County (Alabama) settling near Dayton. They moved on horseback; your grandmother, Levicey, with her baby in her arms, rode on horse, your grandfather another and their worldly goods were packed on two other hoses which they led and drove. They brought one feather bed packed in this way.

This brings the family down to the point that can be traced onward, and consequently there is no need to say more in regard to them.

When Betsy Cook left Kentucky her mother Leticia Hooper, who was then a widow, followed her daughter and grandchildren. After they had been living in Jefferson counties for a time Betsy Cook, the widow of Mathias Cook and Mother of Levicey as mentioned, met with and married a widower by the name of William Selman. He had several children, boys and girls. William Selman's first wife was Brunetta Woolf, a sister of James Woolf who married Levicey Cook, and was married to William Selman on the 15th day of September 1803. She died on the 13th day of February 1813; was born October 28, 1782.

Betsy Cook as stated, married William Selman on the 10th day of February 1815. William Selman and family moved to Marengo County (Alabama) and settled near what is old Whitehall. He died in 1832, and his wife Betsy Cook that was, died June 23, 1842. Her mother, Leticia Hooper, who moved with the family to Marengo, died on the 28th day of June 1827. This Mrs. Hooper is the Great-grandmother of this children of Thomas J. Woolf and the

great-grandmother of the children of Enoch Cook. This Leticia Hooper, her daughter Betsy, the wife first of Mathias Cook and then of William Selman, and also William Selman are all buried in a graveyard about one mile west of Old Whitehall in Marengo county. William Selman was born and raised in Georgia, first moved to Louisiana when it was a French colony, then to Mississippi. I don't know James Woolf was born, nor his sister the wife of William Selman, nor do I know where William Selman first married. As stated before, Betsy Cook was a widow with children, one of whom was Enoch Hooper Cook. William Selman was a widower with children, one of whom was Elizabeth whose mother was Brunetta Woolf. Enoch and Elizabeth married. They had children, one of whom is

Yours affectionately,

Zo S. Cook

My son William lives with me. He had six children. Now Cousin Houston, if you can tell me from whence came the Woolf family I will be very glad. You will see that my grandmother, my mother's mother, was a Woolf, a sister of Uncle Jim Woolf. It is in this way that the Woolf children - James - and myself are nearer that the ordinary first cousins. Thomas J. Woolf's mother and my father were sister and brother. Thomas J. Woolf's father and my grandmother were brother and sister. I see that the name Leticia, as I always spelled it, is spelled in the old family Bible Leticia. I haven't followed up the Cook family further than to mention my father, Enoch Hooper Cook, and your grandmother, Levicey, his sister. I have lately written out the history given in my family Bible so those coming after may know as much about it as I do. In two or three centuries it may be interesting reading to my posterity.

Affectionately,

Zo Cook.