#### DAVID MELTON ROBINSON

David Melton Robinson was the third child of David Shannon and Nancy Carolina (Fountain) Robinson. He was born on February 15, 1858 at Cat Creek, near Valdosta, Berrien County, Georgia. He grew up on the family farm at Cat Creek and learned the trade of farming.

David Melton was the second child to be married. He married Malissa Matilda Bennett on July 11, 1875 in Cat Creek (See Exhibit 5-6 for photograph and Exhibit 5-7 for Marriage License). Malissa was the daughter of William A. Bennett (born in Alabama) and Elizabeth "Betsy" Strickland (born in Georgia). Malissa was born on April 2, 1861 near Cat Creek, at the Bennett homestead, located 3.5 miles south of Nashville, Georgia, on the Old Coffee Malissa's sister, Eliza, married David Melton's brother, James Hiram in 1874. Both David Melton and Malissa spent their childhood years living at the homesteads were they were born, near the Cat Creek area. Some of the elders recall that David Melton and James Hiram both met their wives, who were sisters, while attending church (more information pertaining to the Bennett family follows the information on David Melton).

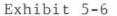
When married, David Melton and Malissa first lived at Cat Creek. It is unknown whether they lived with his parents, her parents, or if they rented their own homestead. Research of the land records does not show any land purchases by David Melton in the Cat Creek area. While living in this area, they had two children, Joseph Milton (Joe) and Nancy Martha (Mattie).

In 1877 they moved to the Oakey Grove area in Berrien County, 1/4 mile northwest of Oakey Grove Church. David Melton and Malissa moved along with David Shannon, Nancy Carolina, and their five children, and his brother's, James Hiram, family.



David Melton Robinson &
Malissa Matilda
(Bennett) Robinson

David Melton and Malissa's home, built by them in 189\_\_ (2?) This house was built in front of their old home, which was converted into a kitchen and dining room (the two houses were separated).





# County: State of Ocorgia, Bernien To any Judge, Justice of the Inferior Court Justice of the Pence, or Minister of the Gospel: You are hereby Authorized to Join 2m Robinson & Malissa M Bennett In the holy state of MATRIMONY, according to the Constitution and Laws of this State ; and for so doing this shall be your sufficient License. Biven under my hand and seal, This Bersien County: GEORGIA, 1 Certify, That D malissa M Bonnett were duly joined in Mutrimony me, this 11th day of July 1875

David Melton purchased a farm and home in the early 1880's. The existing, old house on the property was lived in by David Melton and his family. It was later converted for use as a kitchen and their new house was built in front of the old house (See Exhibit 5-8 for photograph of the family standing in front of the old house and Exhibit 5-6 for photograph of the new house).

David Melton and Malissa were very faithful to their religion and in the beliefs of the Primitive Baptist Church. They attended church services of the Primitive Baptist faith, which were held underneath the shade of a large grape arbor. This was on land owned by them and it was just southeast of their home (this site is just west of where Oakey Grove Church sits today). It is believed the first wooden structure that replaced the grape arbor was built sometime after 1879 and before 1890. On February 22, 1890 David Melton and Malissa, along with nine other members, came together for the purpose of constitution of the church.

David Melton sold 137 acres of land (lot #467, district 6) to his father, David Shannon, on January 11, 1894. This piece of property is where the church and cemetery were located. Years later, in 1904, David Shannon donated 25 acres of this land to the Oakey Grove Church and Cemetery.

According to the 1900 Census Report (dated July 28, p. 32A, Sheet #32, 1146 district, Berrien County, Dwelling #687-751) David Melton was listed as head of the household, age 42. He was a farmer and he owned his own house and farm, which were free of mortgage. Malissa was listed as his wife, age 39. Their children and year of birth were listed as follows: Warren 1883, Arren A. 1885, Matilda E. 1887, Tillman W. 1889, Bettie R. 1891, Jane 1893, Charlie H. 1896, Sallie M. 1898, Arizona 1899. Their first four children were not listed; three had already married and one had died in childhood. After this census, they had two more children (see Exhibit 5-9A through 5-9C for Family Group Record #4). David Melton reported all the children, with the exception of Bettie and her younger brothers and sisters, could



David Melton and Malissa's family in 1892
Left to right: William David, Joseph Milton, John Warren,
Malissa, Tillman Washington, David Melton,
Matilda Easter, Nancy Martha, Rachel Elizabeth,
Arren Asbury (marked out with pencil).

12 MAR 1994 Page 1 of 3

12 MAR 1994		Page 1 of 3
Husband: DAVID MELT		
Chr.: Marr: II JUL 16 Died: 1 FBB 19 Bur.: Father: DAVID SHA Other wives:	Place: CAT CREEK, NEAR VALDOSTA, BERRIEN CO, GEORGIA Place: Place: CAT CREEK, NEAR NASEVILLE, BERRIEN CO, GEORGIA	Parents' MRIN: 1
Wife: MALISSA N	ATILDA BRNNETT 3*-16	
Chr.: Died: 12 JUL 19 Bur.: Father: WILLIAM A Other husbands:	Place: CAT CREEK, NEAR VALDOSTA, BERRIEN CO, GEORGIA Place:	Parents' MRIN: 530
Sex Children		
1. Name: JOSEP Born: 13 DE M Chr.: Marr: Died: 10 AU	H MILTON (JOB) ROBINSON, SR. 3-1*-17 Spouse: CAMILLA (MITTIE) E WALKER-96 C 1875 Place: CAT CREEK, VALDOSTA, BERRIEN CO, GEORGIA Place: Place: NASHVILLE, BERRIEN CO, GEORGIA G 1927 Place: NEAR OAKEY GROVE, TIFT-NASH HWY, BERRIEN CO, GEORGIA	MRIN: 13
2. Name: NANCY Born: 2 AP F Chr.: Marr: 24 DB Died: 10 AP	Place: C 1893 Place: R 1935 Place: AT HOME, NEAR LENOX, COLQUITT CO, GEORGIA	*-154 MRIN: 23
3. Name: WILLI Born: 29 NO	AN DAVID ROBINSON 3-3*-19  V 1879  Place: DMR'S HOMESTRAD, TIFT-NASH HWY, BERRIEN CO, GEORGIA  Place: C 1899  Place: BER HOME, BERRIEN CO, GEORGIA  N 1951  Place:	MRIN: 94
4. Name: BLIZA Born: 5 SE F Chr.: Marr: Died: 18 JU	Place:	
Born: 29 NO Chr.: Marr: 28 JA Died: 14 JA	WARREN ROBINSON 3-5*-21 Spouse: VIRGINIA (JENNY) N KELLEY-653 V 1883 Place: DMR'S HOMESTEAD, TIFTON, BERRIEN CO, GEORGIA Place: N 1986 Place: N 1958 Place: ZOLFO SPRINGS, HARDEE CO, FLORIDA	MRIN: 202
**************	Name and address of submitter:  JOHN SNYDER ROBINSON  3531 KEYSTONE ROAD Phone TARPON SPRINGS, FL  Exhibit 5-9A 34689-9498	:813-937-2719

12 MAR 1994 Page 2 of 3

2 MA	AR 1994		•	of 3
life:	and:DAVID MELTON ROBINSON 3*-5 : MALISSA MATILDA BENNETT 3*-16	Yr of Birt Yr of Birt	h 1858 h 1861	
ex	Children (continued)			
6.	Name: ARREN ASBURY ROBINSON 3-6*-22 Born: 21 APR 1885 Place: DNR Chr.: Place: Marr: Place:	Spouse: R'S HOMESTEAD, TIFTON, BERRIEN CO, GEORGIA		
	Died: 28 MAY 1966 Place: BOW			
	Born: 5 APR 1887 Place: DMR			
	Name: TILLMAN WASHINGTON ROBINSON 3-8	9*-24 Spouse:		
H	Born: 8 JUN 1889 Place: DMF Chr.: Place: Marr: Place: Died: 6 OCT 1918 Place: FRA			
		SON 3-9*-25 Spouse: JACOB (JAKE) BOYD MCMILLAN 3-9*-737 R'S HOMESTEAD, TIFTON, BERRIEN CO, GEORGIA RRIEN CO, GEORGIA ORGIA	HRIN:	225
		3-10*-26 Spouse: ROWLAND ANDREW WALKER, SR. 3-775 R'S HOMESTEAD, TIFTON, BERRIEN CO, GEORGIA RRIEN CO, GEORGIA ANT CITY, HILLSBOROUGH CO, FLORIDA		233
11. N	Name: CHARLIE HOWARD ROBINSON 3-11*-2 Born: 7 JAN 1896 Place: DMF Chr.: Place: Marr: 20 DEC 1915 Place: COL	Spouse: HAVANA ODESSA TAYLOR 3-11*-821 R'S HOMESTEAD, TIFT-NASH HWY, BERRIEN CO, GEORGIA  URT HOUSE, TIFTON, TIFT CO, GEORGIA ANT CITY, HILLSBOROUGH CO, FLORIDA		
	Name: SALLIE MAGDALINE ROBINSON 3-12* Born: 19 FEB 1898 Place: DMF Chr.: Place: Marr: Place: Died: 26 MAY 1981 Place:	R'S HOMESTEAD, TIFTON, BERRIEN CO, GEORGIA		
3.  F	Name: ARIZONA CHARLOTTE ROBINSON 3-13 Born: 20 OCT 1899 Place: DMF Chr.: Place: Marr: 5 OCT 1931 Place: PRE	3*-29 Spouse: ARTHUR LESTER LIPSEY 3-13*-895 R'S HOMESTEAD, TIFTON, BERRIEN CO, GEORGIA  BACHER'S HOME, NASHVILLE, BERRIEN CO, GEORGIA SONIE HOME, ST. PETERSBURG, PINELLAS CO, FLORIDA		282
4. P	Name: MARY EMMA ROBINSON 3-14*-30  Born: 14 APR 1903 Place: DMR Chr.: Place: Marr: 1921 Place: AT Died: 18 JUL 1989 Place: NAS	Spouse: BARLY GRINBR 3-14*-899 R'S HONESTEAD, TIFTON, BERRIEN CO, GEORGIA MARY'S, PARENT'S HOME, OAKEY GROVE	NRIN:	

### PANILY GROUP RECORD-4

12 NAI	R 1994				Page 3 OI .	) ==
Husband:DAVID MELTON ROBINSON 3*-5 Wife: MALISSA MATILDA BENNETT 3*-16 Yr of Birth 1861						
Sex Children (continued)						
15.	Name: BERTHA LEE ROBINSON Born: 14 JAN 1967 Chr.: Marr: 3 AUG 1924 Died:	3-15*-31 Place: DNR'S HOMESTEAD,TIFTON,BER Place: Place: REVEREND GRIFFEN,SHADY GRO Place:			MRIN: 287	

read, write, and speak English. He had a three horse farm and was a general farmer. General farming means that he raised corn to feed both the livestock and the family, tobacco as a cash crop, sugar cane, and vegetables for the family to eat. See Exhibits 5-10, 5-11, 5-12, 5-13, and 5-14. A+B for 5-11 to 5-14. jm

In 19\_\_\_, David Melton wanted another fish pond, in addition to the one he already had. He dug a rather large fish pond, approximately \_\_\_\_ acres, without the use of motorized equipment. Clifford Robinson recalls his great-grandfather, David Melton, paying \$0.05 a wheel barrel load for moving dirt from the pond area to the dam being built.

Sugar cane was one of the annual crops raised on David Melton's farm. The event of cane grinding was an all day long, festive, family tradition. It was a time of fun for both the The relatives have very fond memories young and the old. being able to chew cane and drink all the cane juice they wanted. Both kids and adults would participate in all kinds of games. The adults prepared the ingredients for making pull candy. was made by taking cane syrup and cooking it until it reached a taffy stage. Then the children would participate in rolling the candy in strips and pulling it over and over until it became a bright silver color. Everyone had to remember to bring a glass bottle to get it filled with fresh syrup. Some even remember the adults continuing the party with the whiskey made from fermented cane skimmings. When grinding the cane, enough cane juice was boiled into syrup to last for a whole year. A little bottle syrup was an item that always remained on the dining table. the end of a meal, you could always take a biscuit, make a hole it with your finger, and then fill the hole with cane syrup; this made a good dessert.

David Melton's property contained a big buggy barn and a blacksmith shop for taking care of his horses. He also had a very big buggy that was pulled by a small horse for his personal use.

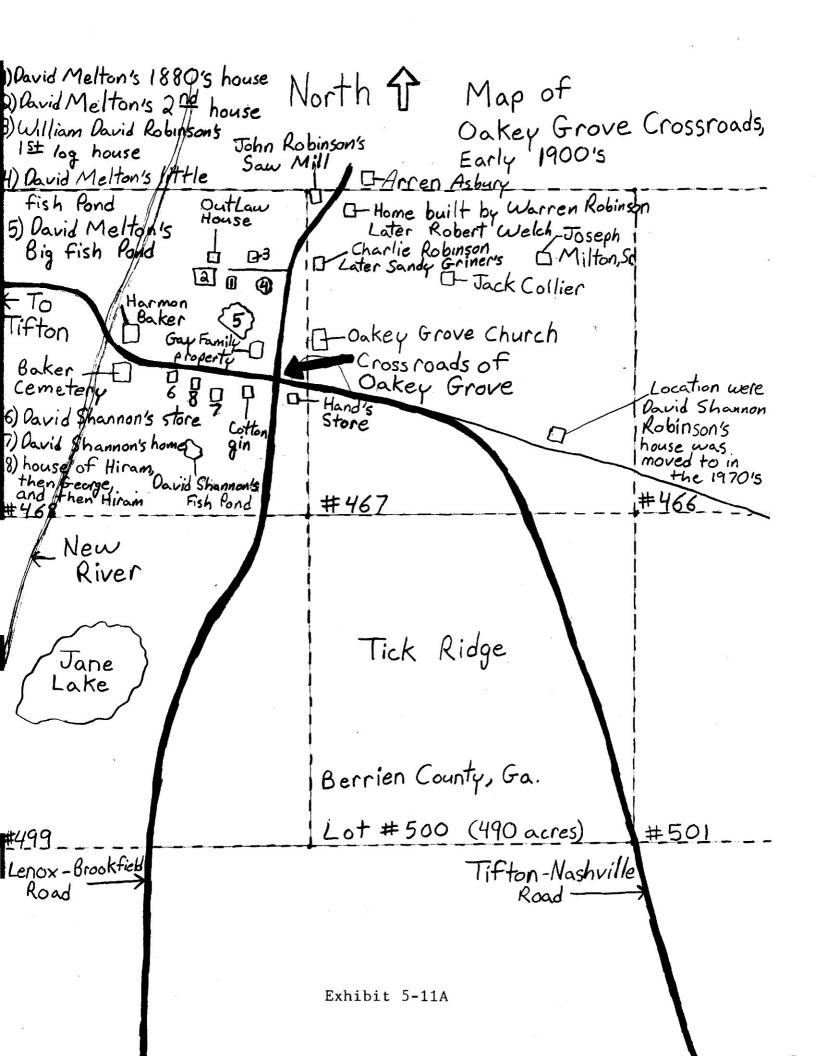
Malissa Matilda (Bennett) Robinson and her 1923 Model "T." Arlie Snyder Robinson learned how to drive on this car (See page 103).

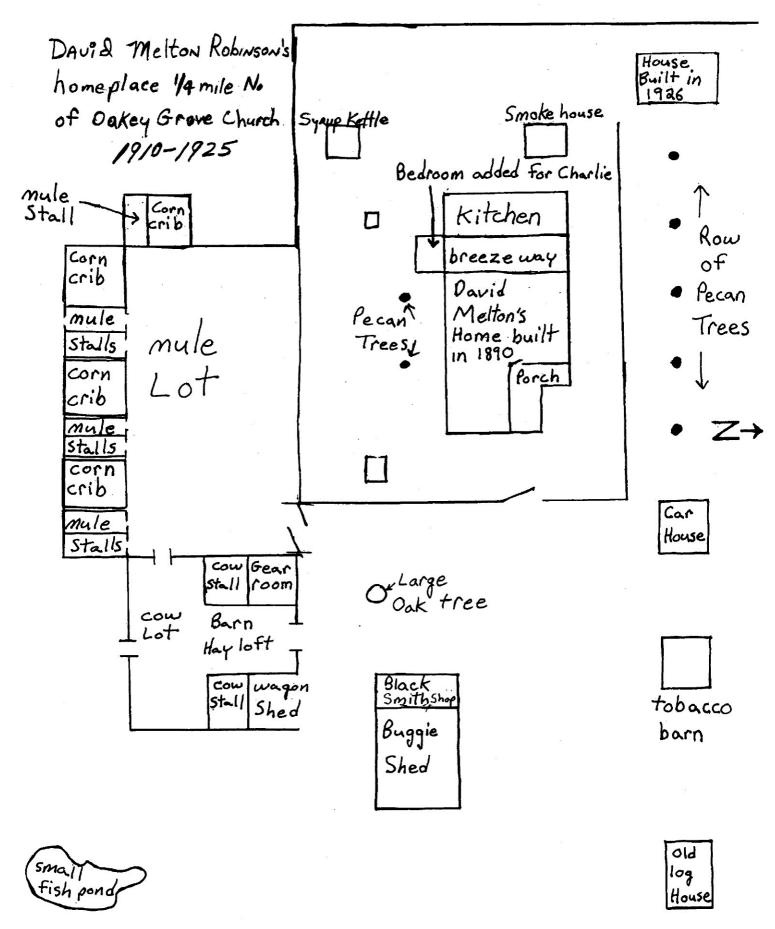


Easter Bennett (sister to Malissa)



Exhibit 5-10







Family photograph taken on Sunday July 4, 1909. The occasion was to celebrate July 4th. plus the upcoming 34th.wedding anniversary of David and Malissa on July 11th. This picture was made about 4 mile from Oakey Crove in front of David's and Malissa farmhouse. The background shown in the picture is what you would see standing on their front porch looking east, to the right side of roadway.

1. Archie Shannon Robinson

2. William Shannon Robinson

3. Joseph Milton Robinson Jr.

4. Author Lee Robinson

5. Laura Sylvania Robinson

6. Irene Elizabeth Robinson

7. Walter Mitchell Robinson

8. Bertha Lee Robinson

9. Alice Rachel Buckholts 10. Fannie Belle Buckholts

11. Arizona Charlotte Robinson

12. Leona Collier

13. Mary Emma Robinson

14. Ethel Victorie Robinson

15. Eula Collier

16. Ella Jane Robinson 17. Charlie Howard Robinson

18. Tillman Washington Robinson 40. James (Jim) Thomas Buckholts

19. William David Robinson

20. Jesse James Robinson

21. Lou Alice (Alexander) Robinson 43. Easter Bennett

22. Arlie Snyder Robinson

23. Virginia (Kelley) Robinson

24. Mattie Mae Robinson

25. Maggie Collier 26. John Warren Robinson

27. Carrie Collier

28. Sallie Magdaline Robinson 29. Camilla (Walker) Robinson

30. (Mattie) Nancy Martha Robinson

31. Jim Collier

32. Jack C. Collier 33. Arren Asbury Robinson

34. Missouri C. Robinson

35. Malissa Jame Robinson

36. (Betty) Rachel Eliz. Robinson

37. David Melton Robinson

38. Malissa (Bennett) Robinson

39. Matilda (Robinson) Buckholts

41. William (Willie) Lee Buckholts

42. Joseph Milton Robinson Sr.





Family photograph taken of David Melton and family on July 4th. 1915. This celebration was in honor of David and Malissa's 40th. wedding anniversary which occurred on July 11th. 1915.

1 David Melton

2 Malissa (Bennett)

3 Joseph Milton

4 Nancy Martha (Mattie)13 Charlie Howard 5 William David

6 Eliza E. (Not shown)

7 John Warren 8 Arren Asbury

9 Matilda Easter

10 Tillman Washington

11 Rachel Elizabeth (Betty)

12 Malissa Jane

14 Sallie Magdaline

15 Arizona Charlotte

16 Mary Emma 17 Bertha Lee

(Arranged by number in order of their age)



Family photograph taken on July 4th. 1915. The celebration was to commemorate the 40th. anniversary of David Melton and Malissa Robinson. This picture #27 shows David Shannon and 3 generations of his offspring.

l Jim Collier	30 James (Jim) Buckholts
2 Arlie Snyder Robinson	31 Roland Andrew Walker
3 Roy Melton Robinson	32 Lou Alice Robinson
4 Jerry Jackson Robinson	33 William David Robinson
5 Howard Collier	34 (Betty) Rachel (Robinson) McMillan
6 Bertha Lee Robinson	35 Jacob (Jake) McMillan
7 Walter Mitchell Robinson	36 Camillia Robinson
8 Laura Sylvania Robinson	37 Daniel Webster Robinson
9 Frank Kelley Robinson	38 Joseph Milton Robinson Sr.
10 Irene Elizabeth Robinson	39 Matilda Easter (Robinson)Buckholts
ll Jessie James Robinson	40 John Warren Robinson
12 Mattie Mae Robinson	41 Virginia (Kelley) Robinson
13 Alice Buckholts	42 Ethel Victorie Robinson
14 Arthur Lee Robinson	43 Ella Jame Robinson
15 Fanny Alma Walker	44 Leona Collier
16 Malissa Jane (R.) Walker	45 Eula Collier
17 John Melton Andrew Walker	46 William Shannon Robinson
18 Charley Allen Walker	47 Farmie Buckholts
19 Jewell McMillan	48 Arren Asbury Robinson
20 Vida Mae Robinson	49 Arizona Charlotte Robinson
21 Cecil Woodrow McMillan	50 Mary Emma Robinson
22 Willie Buckholts	51 Archie Shannon Robinson
23 Randall Walker	52 Charlie Howard Robinson
24 Robert Collier	53 Tillman Washington Robinson
25 Malissa (Bennett)Robinson	54 Sallie Magdaline Robinson
26 David Melton Robinson	55 Carrie Collier
27 David Shannon Robinson	56 Joseph Milton Robinson Jr.
28 Jack C. Collier	57 Maggie Collier
29 Mattie (Robinson) Collier	

David Melton was the fertilizer agent for the local farmers. He extended credit to farmers and occasionally made cash loans to them. He gave his fertilizer customers a large man's leather pocketbook. It had large drawstrings and could hold bills, change, and other papers. His grandson, Arlie Snyder Robinson, said it was big enough to carry the money of at least three or four farmers.

David Melton was always known as a person that was "good for his word," which meant, if he promised you he would do something, you could count on it to happen. He was a very soft spoken person and easy going, but there was never any doubt about him meaning what he said. Also, he was very well respected and a person held in the highest regards by the people in the community and his church.

David Melton told his children they were always welcome to come back home to live. However, if they did, then he would hire them as paid farm hands and require them to pay room and board.

David Melton felt very strongly about the need for his children to get a formal education. He always offered them the opportunity to attend school, which was not required by law. If you elected to attend school, he would spend the money to provide for your education. If you elected not to continue school after basic schooling, then he would help you get a section of land as your own for learning how to become a farmer. Later, when becoming an adult and getting married, he would provide you with a small piece of property that you had earned by share cropping while learning to become a farmer.

His oldest son, Joseph Milton, took the option to learn how to farm. Later, his father gave him a real nice farm of approximately 100 acres, which used to be the old Carter's place. His next to the oldest son, William David, was the first one to choose the offer of a formal education. This gave him the opportunity to attend grades one through seven. John Warren elected to accept his father's offer of property and learn how to farm.

When David Melton died, he was transported to Oakey Grove Church and Cemetery by the old gray mule called "Old Tom." This same mule was used by David Melton to carry his deceased son, Tillman Washington Robinson, to Oakey Grove Church and Cemetery.

#### MALISSA BENNETT'S FAMILY

Malissa's parents were William Asbury Bennett and Elizabeth

Strickland (See Exhibit 5-15 for photograph). William was born
in South Carolina in 1825. He came to Lowndes County as a young
man (this area later became Berrien County when it was formed in
1856 out of Lowndes County). Eddie Bennett of Berrien County,
recalls the story told by his elders about William Asbury
Bennett's parents. During William Asbury's early youth, his
mother,, died and his father, Bennett,
left William Asbury with his mother's people. His father then
left and moved to Alabama, where he died. William Asbury
received word that his father had died, had left him an estate,
and that he needed to collect it. William Asbury and his son,
John, walked to Alabama to acquire the property. They found they
had inherited a mule, cart, slave woman, and baby. They loaded
the woman and baby in a cart and returned them to Berrien County,
Georgia.
William Asbury resided in Berrien County and he married

Elizabeth Strickland, daughter of Stephen D. Strickland and

Rachel \_\_\_\_\_. Elizabeth was born in South Carolina.

## Elizabeth (Strickland) Bennett

Mother of Eliza & Malissa

Berrien County, Georgia Approx. 1890

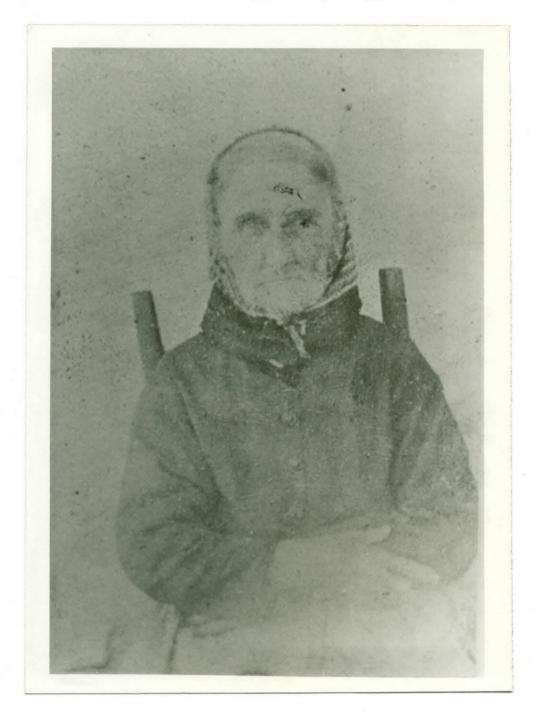


Exhibit 5-15

William Asbury and Elizabeth had 15 children:

	<u>Name</u>	Yr. of Birth	Comments
1.	Jeremiah	1845	m. Rhoda Spikes
2.	John F.	1846	m. Rachel Elizabeth Shaw
3.	James S.	1848	-died in youth
4.	William A.	1848	-died in childhood
5.	Rachel	1849	m. Seaborn Tison
6.	Eliza	1851	m. James Hiram Robinson
7.	Nancy	1853	m. Andrew Jackson Aikens
8.	Charlotte	1855	m. Henry Aikens
9.	Easter	1856	-never married
10.	Elijah	1857	m. Mary Spikes
11.	Joseph	1859	m. Queen Ann Hodges
12.	Henry W.	1860	-died young
13.	Lucy J.	1861	m. William A. Lott
14.	William Asb	ury 1863	m. Susan Baker
15.	Malissa	1864 *	m. David Melton Robinson

<sup>\*</sup>In accordance with the 1860 Berrien County Census Records, the above listing varies in sequence and birth years.

William Asbury was the owner of lots of land (#278, 279, and 320) in the 10th. District of Berrien County. His home was on lot 279, which is located about 3.5 miles east of Nashville on the Old Coffee Road. This was the main thoroughfare of travel before the Civil War. William Asbury died March 10, 1864 and Elizabeth died about 1900. She and her husband are buried in the Bennett Family Cemetery on the old home place (Pioneers of Wiregrass Georgia, Folks Huxford, V. 5, p. 31).

The following pages contain information the author acquired over the past several years. It is not intended to be anything other than a collection of notes about the individuals listed. Since I had this information, I felt others would enjoy reading it, rather than waiting for me to put together a book on the descendants of David Melton and Malissa Robinson.

I encourage all descendants from this line to share information with me about the individuals in this family. I welcome any type of information you are willing to provide, whether it be written, scribbled, or verbal. You will be given credit for the information that one day will be transformed into a book.

#### CHILDREN OF DAVID MELTON AND MALISSA ROBINSON

JOSEPH MILTON ROBINSON, SR. (JOE) was the first child of David Melton and Malissa (See Exhibit 5-16 for photograph). He was engaged in farming, along with running a sawmill and grits mill, located four miles south of Brookfield, Georgia. He resided in Berrien County, near Oakey Grove. He later sold his businesses and moved to Puddleville, now known as Adel, to start a General Merchandising Store.

At a reunion on July 22, 1979, Joseph Milton, Jr. and his first cousin, Arlie Snyder Robinson, recalled a trip they took in the fall of 1925 to a fishery in Florida. Those that went on the trip were William David Robinson, his sons Shannon, Jessie, Arlie Snyder, Roy, Joseph Milton Robinson, Sr. and his sons Joseph Milton, Jr. and Jerry. Also, William David's brother-in-law, Jim Congo, and Rube Peacock, a friend, went along for the trip. They left from Oakey Grove early one morning at daylight. Their mode of transportation was a 1923 "Model T" Ford truck that was owned by Joseph Milton, Sr. The truck was described as having a flat