

HOLIMANS,

HOLLIMANS,

and HOLYMANS.

by Nancy Bertha Sheppard Byrd
August, 1977

James Grantson Holliman was a Revolutionary soldier, born in 1750 in Johnston County, North Carolina. In his pension petition he stated he was positive of his age, that his father kept an accurate record of all his children, indicating that there were others; it also stated that he moved to Lancaster County, South Carolina (the upper part) in 1792. In the 1790 census he is shown in the Hillsborough District of Wake County, North Carolina. He received his pension that he applied for, and died May 7, 1836,

We are probably descended from Christopher Holyman, who came to Jamestown, Virginia in the early 1600's. George W. Holliman, now deceased, who was a lyric tenor with foreign training, wrote a history of the Holliman family. There are copies in the Southern History Department of the Birmingham, Alabama, Library. The Warren Holiman family is partially reported there.

part of
Records have been checked in Wadesboro, the county seat of Anson County, North Carolina. Union County, whose county seat is Monroe, is made up of Mecklingburg and Anson counties in North Carolina. The deeds of Charles, Cornelius and Warren Holliman (who were the sons of James Grantson Holliman) are listed there.

The spelling of the name has confused us in our research. Warren dropped an "l", as did others at times. It is almost certain it was Holyman at the beginning, probably derived from their strong religious convictions. They were dissenters and fled from England and sailed from Holland to America.

The three Holliman brothers came to Newtonville, Alabama on horseback in 1835, spent the winter, rode back in the spring and moved their families from Anson County, North Carolina, to Fayette County, Alabama. Each of them purchased land from the government at Newtonville. Charles Holliman bought 80 acres located where Old Shepherd Baptist Church and Cemetery is now located. Warren bought 40 acres just west of there, and Cornelius bought 40 acres formerly known as the Yerby Place.

1. CHARLES had a big family and remained in the community. His wife's name was Barbara (called Barbary). Their children were:

Asa, born in North Carolina, lived and died at Duck Hill, Mississippi. *1820 anson*

Joshua, born in North Carolina. *1821 anson*

John, born in North Carolina, died in the Civil War. *1823 anson*

Milly E. *Highfill*, born in North Carylina in 1825. *anson*
Peter 1829 - anson Born 5-8-1829 - D. 12-18-1878 - Brunswick, T

Susanna, born in North Carolina in 1827, never married. *died after 1880*

James Jesse, born in North Carolina in 1830, married Nancy Frances Poe. He died December 25, 1853, and she moved to Arkansas with her family; later married W. M. R. Brewer.

Great Grand

*Died 1-12-1908
Chester Hill Co. Va*

Warren C., born in North Carolina in ²⁻⁷1833, married Mary Blakeney, ~~daughter~~ daughter of Captain John Blakeney, who lived south of the Hollimans and was from Chesterfield County, Virginia. (He served in the Revolutionary War with Francis Marion's troops. He gave 15 acres to Old ^{20th} ~~Zoar~~ Church (Methodist) in 1830 and named his ^{20th} ~~Zoar~~ son-in-law and Cornelius Holliman trustees.) Mary Blakeney died and Warren married Louisa F. Howard. "ZOAR"

Cornelius, born in 1835 in Alabama and died in the Civil War at Petersburg, Virginia.

Lamar County, Ala

Elijah, born in Alabama in ⁷⁻¹²1838, died at the age of 97 at Millport, ^{5-11-1939 - married 3 times} Mississippi, one of the oldest Confederate States of America veterans.

Aaron, born in 1840 in Alabama, and died somewhere in Arkansas.

2.

CORNELIUS Holliman lost his wife Elizabeth Pyler and married the widow Rainwater and moved into the northerly part of the county. He had five children, three boys and two girls:

by 1st marriage

Mary, married a Sorrells and moved to Texas.

Sarah, followed her brother to Arkansas, died there.

Uriah, died during the Civil War at Oklona, Mississippi of measles and pneumonia along with his son Charles ~~David~~. DANIEL

Joshua, became a doctor and settled at Magnet Cove, Arkansas and had a large family.

Elijah, went west and died in Texas.

(I have been in touch with one of Dr. Joshua Holliman's descendants, Lois Holliman Wooldridge, of Hot Springs, who is collecting information of the Holliman clan which is to go into a family history to be published in the Record at Hot Springs some time late this year or next.)

3.

WARREN Holiman, son of James Grantson Holiman, was born in North Carolina December 26, 1801, died August 16, 1876. He married Millie Walters in Anson County, North Carolina in 1825.

She was born in the same county in 1806. Both are buried at Jacobs Cemetery. The Holliman and Walters families were closely linked through marriage. The Walters family settled on Dead Pine Creek in Anson County, North Carolina. The south line of their farm was the state line between North and South Carolina. It is said that the home of Warren Holiman was in North Carolina and his barn in South Carolina. The names "Elijah" and "Joshua" in our line of Holimans come from the Walters side. Elijah Walters married Esther Holliman, a sister of Warren, Charles and Cornelius.

Warren lived in Anson County until the spring of 1836, when he moved his family to Alabama, and in 1840 he moved to Arkansas. He headed the settlers who came to what was at that time Saline County, serving as wagon master, settling about one-half mile west of where Trout Trail intersects the Old Military Road, known as the Camden Trail today.

Among the early settlers of Fayette and Tuscaloosa Counties, Alabama, were the names of Shepherd, Poe, Yerby, Nall, Guin, Ashcraft, Wright, Wilson, Price and others who had migrated earlier from North and South Carolina. Many of these were in Holiman's wagon train to Arkansas.

It is said that Warren Holiman had a cow and a horse hitched together to pull one of his wagons.

In 1840, when they arrived at the place they were to call home, it was a wilderness and most of them settled near a flowing spring where wild game was plentiful, as they had to depend on this for a part of their food. The Warren Holiman house was located on a rather steep hill just above this free flowing spring, which is still flowing and has a plank curb.

Warren brought no slaves as did many of the settlers who came about 1850. He did not believe in slavery, and none of his children owned slaves except Elijah, whose wife Nancy inherited some from her grandfather, John Poe, who came to Arkansas in 1850 with twenty slaves.

He was said to be a witty man, and educated above the average for his day. Among his accomplishments were: member of the state legislature and Internal Improvement Commissioner.

He is believed to be the first Mason in what is now Grant County. On January 7, 1873, a lodge, the Adoniram #288 F. & A.M. was organized on the Hicks Sugar Farm near Old Belfast Spring in Grant County with the following officers and charter members: Worshipful Master - Dr. Jacob W. Hall; Senior Warden - J. W. Graves; Junior Warden - Warren Holiman; with William Lett, Elijah Holiman, Dr. Thomas Page, D. J. McDonald, Hiram Holiman, and James Caple as members. They met in the upper story of a

big log store at Old Belfast. Later the lodge was moved to Sardis and from there to Mabelvale where it is still active. We have not been able to learn where Holiman was initiated into the lodge first, but are working on that as we are on other stories that we have not exactly pin-pointed.

Warren Holiman was a leader and held firmly to his convictions. In 1841, the next year after their arrival in Arkansas, he helped to establish Liberty Church, known first as Lost Creek Meeting House, later changed to Liberty. It disbanded in May, 1946.

He, with W. G. Poe, some of the Halberts, Wilsons and some from what is now Shaw Township in Saline County, and possibly others, had made a map for a new county just prior to the Civil War. The boundaries were not the same as Grant County. The center of the county would have been in Liberty Community and that was to be the county seat. They had chosen the name Anson for the county and Poe for the county seat. After the Civil War a Colonel Vance came to power. The county was named for a federal general and the county seat for another federal general. Afterward, the part that included Shaw Township (the lower part) was partitioned out into Saline County.

Politically, he was a Whig, later a Republican.

It is still unproven because of the different spelling of names, but we are fairly certain that Ezekiel Holliman, who baptized Rodger Williams and helped establish the First Baptist Church in America is connected with our ancestry.

When you view the Old Belfast Memorial, the name "Waven" Holleman on the front as one of the early postmasters should be Warren Holiman. The mistake was made due to dim and faded records.

The Warren Holimans had ten children. Four of the ten were born in North Carolina, two in Alabama, and four in Arkansas.

Suzanne, born in 1827 in North Carolina, died in Arkansas in 1874. She was an arthritis victim and became a cripple. At one time she was engaged to marry Roddy Corder; he was taken ill and died. All the old timers referred to him as a good man from Georgia. Someone asked Aunt Suz (as she was called) later why she never married. Her reply was, "Those I could get I would not have, the one I wanted I could not get." She is buried in Jacobs Cemetery.

Joshua, oldest son, was born December 13, 1829 in Anson County, North Carolina; died in 1892. (1905) He was married in 1852 to Anne Hogue, daughter of Ezekiel Hogue, a Methodist minister. They settled near the Old Military Road east of where Trout Trail intersects at "crying corner", so named because some of the Hogues came to Arkansas, stayed one year, and moved on to Texas. They caught the stage coach at this intersection and held together and cried as they said goodbyes. Joshua served in the Confederate Army. He enlisted June 17, 1862 at Benton, Arkansas, was wounded at Helena in September 1862, and was sent home to convalesce. He later joined the Union Army. Joshua and Anne were parents of the following children:

Millie C., died in infancy.

Sarah Elizabeth, married William Elkin Poe.

Martha Ann, married Dr. J. B. Shaw.

Dr. Joshua Howell, married Mary Sue Reeder.

John, married Mayme Bayless.

Dr. James Elijah Thomas, married Ella Shaw.

Nancy Mariah, married George Walker.

William Harvey, married Vela Mathis.

Olive Mae (Ollie), married Robert H. Allen.

Mollie Nora, married Judson Shaw.

This family later moved to Sweet Home and from there to Sheridan. They are buried in Sheridan Cemetery.

Barbara, born April 15, 1832 in North Carolina, died August 23, 1898. She was married to Archibald Brumbelow. They had five children to live to adulthood (several died as babies). They settled near Highway 190 in what was known as Frog Level near Nall Lake. Later they moved to Tull. Barbara's husband was a Baptist minister. He helped to organize Liberty (Saline) Baptist

Church. Their children:

Buck, married Geneva Rucker.

Leon, married Ida Young.

Joe Casta, married Pickens Sheppard.

Cora Alice, married John R. Ashcraft.

Dennis, married Cordelia DuVall.

He gave land for churches and schools at Tull, and they are buried in Tull Cemetery.

Elijah, born August 4, 1833 in Anson County, North Carolina, died December 21, 1920 in Arkansas, was married October 25, 1857 to Nancy Elizabeth Reynolds, daughter of Benjamin and Sarah Poe Reynolds-Halbert. They are buried in Poe Cemetery. They settled a short distance south-east of the Warren Holiman place which was one-half mile due east of where Trout Trail intercepts the Old Military Road near a free flowing spring. It was at this spring that Nancy Holiman was doing the family washing and had Warren II in a box. While she worked a big eagle swooped down and got him by his clothing and would have carried him away had it not been for Nancy's punching stick. They had a big family consisting of the following:

James Warren, married Serenna Blanch Grogan.

William Bradley, married Handie Ruth Worthan.

John, married Lillie Mae Shoptaw.

Tilman, died at age 7.

Sarah Elizabeth, married William Sheppard.

Elijah Thomas, married Rosa Belle Russell, and after her death married Mrs. Ella Stitt.

Millie Cornelia, married Ruben H. Mooney.

Mary Ann, married W. P. Mooney.

Powell Clayton, married Cora Pearl Shoptaw.

Henry Lee, married Flossie Geneva Segers.

Benjamin Franklin, married Ella Reynolds.

Eva Lulu, married W. D. Corley.

Elijah served in the Confederate Army, enlisting at Benton July 9, 1861, Company A, 11th Regiment. He was discharged a year before the close of the war. His wife Nancy, a brother-in-law, Benjamin Reynolds, who was living with her, and his father, Warren Holiman, went to Camp Hope at Old Austin above Little Rock and brought him back in a wagon on a feather bed because his condition was so fragile. He had had measles and they thought he had consumption. He carried his discharge for a year in his pocket, fearful of being picked up as a deserter.

John, born September 25, 1836 in Newtonville, Alabama, died September 10, 1862 at Camp Hope in Arkansas and is buried at Old Austin. He married Martha Poe September 28, 1858. He enlisted in the Confederate Army at Benton on June 30, 1862, Company D, Cook's Regiment. He and his brothers Elijah and Tilman were together on Island #10 in the Mississippi River near Memphis. When their capture was evident, John, Elijah and another decided to swim to the opposite side. Their buddy failed to make it. They joined up with other troops and came to Camp Hope, where John died. Elijah gave them his only blanket to wrap him for burial.

James Joshua, the only child of John and Martha, married Mary Ellen Pratt, of the family for which the town of Prattsville was named. Martha Poe Holiman later married Hardy Worthan, and is buried at Lost Creek.

Tilman, born November 2, 1839 at Newtonville, Alabama, died April 22, 1888 in Arkansas, married Eveline Brumbelow (Archibald's sister). They are buried at Tull. He joined the Confederate Army at Benton July 9, 1861, Company A, 11th and 17th Regiments combined. He had measles and was in the hospital on Island #10 where his brothers escaped, was captured and taken prisoner and freed at the close of the war from a prison camp in Illinois.

The descendants of Tilman and Eveline Brumbelow Holiman were:

Frank, married Margaret Reynolds.

Joshua, married Sarah E. Holiman, daughter of Jesse Holiman.

Myra, married John Hopkins.

Millie, married George Walker.

Tilman was a singing teacher, taught in schools and churches in the area. They settled at Tull and reared their family on a rocky farm. Hoeing was rough. It is said they visited the Elijah Holimans, and the children wanted to hoe while there because his soil was sandy.

Sarah Elizabeth, born in 1843 in Arkansas at the old Warren Holiman homesite, died at the age of twelve and is buried at the old Lost Creek Cemetery (abandoned), known later as Liberty.

Jesse, born in Arkansas in 1846, died August, 1925 in Arkansas. He was married to Sarah Catherine Ashcraft. They are both buried at Philadelphia Cemetery.

Catherine was the daughter of Maston Ashcraft, whose family was in the wagon train from Newtonville, Alabama. Mr. Ashcraft is responsible for the story about Warren Holiman receiving the title of Governor. The story goes that they elected Mr. Holiman wagon master. On reaching the Mississippi River they would not send the raft over to take them across. Holiman sent word that the future Governor of Arkansas was on the other side, and wanted to make them a speech, whereupon they sent for them. The speech was made and they presented him with a hatchet. Jesse Holiman settled in the Sweet Home community. He served in the Union Army. His children were:

Henry Augustus, married Nora Williams.

Lafayette, married Emma Smith.

Clem, married Robert Smith.

Mary Jane, married Bud Brumbelow.

Barbara, married William McCool.

Martha Frances, married Pete Tucker.

Sarah, married Joshua Holiman, son of Tilman.

Mary Maria, born March 4, 1850 in Arkansas, died June 15, 1928, the last surviving member of her family. Married Benjamin Reynolds, Nancy Holiman's brother, on January 7, 1870. They are both buried at Jacobs Cemetery. They settled in Sweet Home community. Their children were:

Susan Amelia, married George Roberts.

Barbara Jane, married Fagan Williams.

Mary Elizabeth, died at age 8.

Millie Ann, married Calvin Reynolds (no kin).

Nancy Eveline, died age 5.

Sarah Etta, never married.

Martha Louisa, died age 1 year.

Benjamin K. (known as Bennie), married Arthur Stuckey.

Cora Alice, married Jasper Matthews.

George Franklin, married Lexie Young.

Serepta Matilda, married Oliver Williams (no relation to Fagan).

The Reynolds always had a well kept farm and orchard. Their yard was a showplace. Their youngest child is the only surviving grandchild of Warren and Millie Walters Holiman.

Nancy Jane, born September 17, 1852 in Arkansas, died July 2, 1911. Married Robert Clark Dougan February 10, 1871. Both are buried in Jacobs Cemetery. Aunt Nannie, as she was called, was the youngest, and her mother lived with her after Warren Holiman's death.

Her children were:

George Warren, married Mattie Rumph, and
after her death Martha Jordan.

Arthur, married Alice Richey.

Cordelia, married Pad Gill.

Cornelia (Cordelia's twin), married Matthew
Tucker.

Jesse, married Delta Hollinger.

Howell, married Emily ?.

Robert C., married Mary Hollinger.

They also settled in the Sweet Home community.

Whatever else that can be said of our clan, they must have
all had the benediction at their weddings, "May their tribe
increase." They are numerous, that we know.

PROGRAM

PRAYER, Rev. Bernes Selph, pastor First Baptist Church, Benton

WELCOME AND RECOGNITION OF COMMITTEES, Mrs. W. H. Byrd, Gen. Chairman

ADDRESS, Rev. Ed. F. McDonald, Texarkana

UNVEILING OF STONE, Mrs. Maud Morton, Little Rock, and Mr. Frank Jacobs, Tull

DEDICATORY PRAYER AND BENEDICTION, Rev. G. M. Glover, Sheridan

OLD BELFAST

To write the history of Old Belfast, one would probably start with the spring that still flows at the bottom of the hill.

No one can be sure when the first people drank from this spring. Village sites indicate that Indians at periods from 1400--1800 were here. Small Caddo sites have been found and artifacts found in this area would lead us to believe that the Caddo's were here. However, a John M. Ross obtained a land certificate from an Indian named Ish-To-Ah in 1858. This is a short distance south east of Old Belfast. This Indian was of the Choctaw Tribe. It is possible that more than one tribe at times were here.

Since the Indians had their homes near water and good hunting grounds, the pioneers, when they came, followed hunting trails made by ~~the~~ early inhabitants.

When the early settlers began to arrive, some possibly before 1820, we can be almost certain they settled first in the Tull community. In 1826 the Rev. Eli Lindsey, the Davis, Williams, Pelton and possibl other families came to this area they found the Orr's and other families already here.

Old Belfast was the focal point for all of what is now De Kalb Township. Here was the voting precinct, a general store, an Inn, a blacksmith shop, Tannery, Trading Post, Relay station for the stage coach and a doctors office.

According to Ed Baxter of the Historic Preservation Commission who has done considerable research on the old Military Road, found there was a post route established between Little Rock and Camden in 1845. It is believed Dick Chidister established this stage coach line that follows the old military road.

As the demand for mail service grew, the offices were established along the way, this one being no exception.

From 1820 until the civil war there was a steady stream of settlers coming from N. C., S. C., Tenn., Ala., Ill., Va. and other states.

On March 25, 1854 a postoffice was established here. The first postmaster being J. W. Dawdy who migrated to this area in 1850, coming from Hickman County, Tenn. He was born in Tenn. in 1811. His wife, Mary Bartley Dawdy was born in N. C. in 1811. When they came this was a frontier country.

Mr. Dawdy is represenative of so many who have their family names engraved on the back of the stone we are dedicating today. There were those in every group who came whose sole aim was to develop a new state based on high moral virtues and integrity.

They found land and built houses of logs, usually near a spring. All the first houses were of logs as were those built on this site.

No one knows for sure how many were here at any one time. There was one two story building which housed a Masonic Lodge in the upper story. This Lodge was later moved to Sardis and from there to Maplevale where it is still active.

Some of the doctors who practised in this area had offices here, namely, Dr. Page, Dr. Morton and Dr. Mason. Later on Drs. James and Arch Williams and Dr. J. B. Shaw practiced in this area. A logging camp was the last thing to be at Old Belfast. Dr. Irvin Sheppard was the camp doctor.

When migrants left their homes they brought their favorite shrubs, flowers and garden seeds and fruit trees. And as they cleared fields they also planted seeds and set their orchards.

Schools were started. The ones we have learned about were Walters school established first just above Skull Bone Branch, south of Old Belfast and later moved to near highway 35. This school was eventually merged with Lokey school and Palestine school was built. There was a school at Tull in the north end of the township and Liberty in the south.

Churches came early, the first work probably by the Methodist since the settlers had a Methodist minister in their group. Baptist organized west of highway 35 near Lost Creek in 1841. This was first called Lost Creek Meeting House and later called Liberty Baptist Church. This church was then moved east of Sea Ranch on highway 35 where it stood for many years. Palestine came later also, there were Antioch Christian, Ebenezer Methodist and Saline Baptist at Tull.

Along this Military Road the retreating Federal Army passed in 1864 fleeing the Battle of Jenkins Ferry. It was a tired, discouraged, ragged and hungry army. They robbed the settlers of everything they could find; food, livestock, wagons even the dried fruits the housewives had prepared, they also, cut cloth from the looms and cut feather beds into shreds.

We wonder why all the people left, the stage coach was replaced by railroads, the road from Benton to Sheridan by passed this site. The Civil War left some so impoverished they sought greener pastures, and others moved nearer the river bottoms where land was more fertile.

We have heard so many things of interest that could be written about this place and someday we hope that someone, with time and ability to do so, will put them all together for us to read and keep.

September 4, 1977.

Mrs. W-H. Byrd.,
Box 401
Sheridan, Arkansas, 72150

Dear Mrs. Byrd:

I enjoyed very much my conversation with you regarding our family history, by telephone call last Sunday. I have also received from you a copy of the article on Old Belfast, and the Warren Holliman descendants. With your work, and what I am undertaking, added to the work being done by Winfred Walton, of Benton Arkansas, and Chester H. Bullock, of Magnolia, Arkansas, and Mrs. Lois H. Woodriddle, of Hot Springs, we ought to come up with a fairly good book on our ancestry. I think the data on James Holliman, will come to light when the record is searched in Lancaster County, S.C.

The Census of 1784-87 for North Carolina showed James there. He was listed as: 1 male 20-60 yrs, 4 males under 21, and 4 females, ages not indicated. He then moved from Johnston to Wake county, in a reorganization of the Counties. The 1790 census of Wake County - Hillsboro District, showed him as: one male over 16, 2 males under, 3 females. In the 1800 census of Mecklinburg County, N.C. he is shown as: 1 male 26-45, 3 males under 10, 2 females under 10 and 1 female 16-26 yrs. In the 1810 Census of Chesterfield County, S.C. he is shown as: 1 male over 45, 3 males under 10, 2 males 10 to 16, 1 male 16 to 26, 1 female under 10, 1 female 10-16, 2 females 16-26, and 1 female over 45. In the 1820 Census of Anson County, N.C. he is shown as: 1 male over 45, 1 male under 10, 3 females 10-26, 1 female over 45. In the 1830 census for Lancaster County, S.C. he is shown as: 1 male over 80 and under 90, 2 males over 10 and under 15, 1 male over 20 and under 30, 1 female over 5 and under 10, 1 female over 10 and under 15, 1 female over 40 and under 50, and 1 female over 60 and under 70. He evidently for some reason moved around considerably. However, it is to be noted that the area he lived in was close to both Mecklinburg and Chesterfield Counties, and in fact less than 5 miles from each. Of course, it could be that one of his sons, with family might have been living with James at the 1830 Census. In the 1830 Census, Charles, Cornelius and Warren were all living in Anson County, N.C. but right on the line of South Carolina. If we can develop a bit more on the James Holliman line, and can connect up the John and Willis Holliman who moved on to Choctaw County, Miss. around 1836, we should be about finished with the work. Recently, Chester Bullock has located some good data in Cemetery Records on John and Willis.

I am going to suggest a couple of corrections in your Manuscript. Warren C. Holliman, son of Charles, married Mary Blakeney. She was a great grand daughter of Capt. John Blakeney, Rev. War Sol. Her father was Thomas Blakeney who settled at Newtonville with Simon Poe in 1832. Her grandfather was William Blakeney, who died in Chesterfield County, S.C. in 1807 and who is buried at the Blakeney Cemetery in the NW part of the County, and her Great-grandfather was Capt. John Blakeney, who commanded a troop under Frances Marion.

Holliman's son who died at Okalona, Miss., in the Civil War was Charles Daniel Holliman.

I have a smattering of information on the Poes, Walters, Nalls, Shepherds, Blakenays, Bakers and other early settlers in the Newtonville Area, and will be glad to supply you with anything I have.

On November 18, 1834, Warren sold his land in Anson County, to Elijah Walters. Deed Book 10, page 195 Anson County Records. The consideration was \$200.00. Conveyed: 125 acres, more or less, laying on both sides of Dead Pine Creek, described as beginning on a pine in Walters line and run Southeast 2 quarts and 1 chain to a stake, thence Nearly a Northeast course across the creek to a pine corner, being an agreed corner, thence with Cochran's plat to the beginning. The deed was witnessed by Joshua Walters and Thomas D. Collins.

I hope the data enclosed will be helpful. You probably already have a greater part of it. When cool weather sets in, I plan to do a lot of library work here on various of these interesting characters, and especially I want to work out the Civil War records on some of Charles' children, and the two Hollimans who went on to Miss. in 1836. Will keep you posted on anything I find out.

Thank you again for the information you sent.

Sincerely,

C.R. Holliman.

72132

Sheridan, Ark.
Box No 1

9-12-79.

Dear Mr Halliman,

Received your material
and appreciate the correction

So sorry you could not come
to the reunion we had a crowd
of a time more than 200 in
attendance, good food and
every one got real Kingfolks in

Winged Walton is slightly off
about my mother she was Sarah
Elizabeth Halliman who married
William Sheppard. Her mother was
Nancy Elizabeth Reynolds who married
Elijah Halliman. Oliver Perry Poe
was the first to be buried in Poe
Cemetery. He came to Ark. found
a place to settle and was going
west to Cal. for his family

took Dick and died at John
Poe's on Jan. 9, 1857. There
was a big freeze the entire
country was covered with ice
John Poe his father ordered
them to build a sled (slaves)
they drove nails in their
brogan shoes and pulled
him over in the field
just above the burial place
of some slaves he had
buried.

We were none of the Shepherds
in Ala. Our name is spelled
Sheppard my father's people
came from Charleston, S. C.

Maris Williams is writing
for some information on
the Reynolds, Joes.

Have you ever learned the
name of James Harrison Sullivan's
wife?

Sharron Sullivan had a step

brother named Alan or Adese
Reeves, look for that.

Thanks again and keep
me posted.

Bertha Byrd

Her phone: 3-28-77
1-501-942-2517
Mrs Bertha Byrd.

Sheridan, Ark. 72180
Box 401
10 - 1 - 75

Dear Mr. Holliman,

I have run across some notes
& do not know how old they are
but your name and address
was on them.

I am a descendant of Warren
Holliman (not they dropped on to)
So far we cannot trace the
Hollimans any further than Anson
County N.C. My Grand father Elijah
Holliman was born in Anson Co
N.C. He was the son of Warren
and Millie Walters Holliman.

Perhaps you can give me
some information on the
family. If so I would appreciate
it.

Yours truly
Mrs. A. D. Byrd

Birmingham, Alabama,
October 10, 1975.

Mrs. W.H. Byrd.,
Box 401,
Sheridan, Arkansas, 72100.

Dear Mrs. Byrd:

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of recent date regarding our Holliman (Poliman) ancestry. I am very glad to hear from you. I had heard previously from Wilfred Poe Walton, of Benton, Arkansas, who is likewise descended through our line.

I am now retired, aged 73, formerly practiced law here, and have spent some of my spare time in recent years in looking into our genealogy. I would have answered your letter sooner, but my wife has been in a hospital for tests, and hence the delay.

We are probably descended from James Holliman, a Revolutionary War soldier, born in 1750 in Johnston County, North Carolina. I have his pension record. He says in his pension petition that he is positive as to his age; that his Father kept a record of 'all of his children' indicating that there were others; and says that he moved to the upper part of Lancaster County, S.C. near the State line in 1792. In the 1790 Census he is shown in the Hillsborough District of Wake County, N.C. which was a county partially formed from Johnston County and others. He received pension applied for, and died on May 7th, 1836. We are likewise probably descended from Christopher Holyman who came to Jamestown, Va. from England in the early 1600 years. George A. Holleman, now deceased, who was a lyric tenor with foreign training, wrote a history of the Holyman family, and I gave two copies of same to the Birmingham Library, Southern History Dept., and the Warren Holliman family is partially reported there, but not tied into the Christopher Holyman line.

I have visited Wadesboro, the County site of Anson County, and have checked deed and court records there on our line. Union County, the County site of which was and is Monroe, North Carolina, was made up of a part of Mecklinburg and Anson Counties. I found the deeds of Warren, Charles and Cornelius Holliman there, and made copies of same. Incidentally, about the spelling of the name. I find that your Warren used only one L in his name in N.C. while the other two used two Ls. My grandfather, John T. Holliman of Fayette County, Alabama, often used only one L in spelling his name. Apparently it was just a matter of personal choice. To rationalize it, our people, as well as most all people then in the early days, had very little education, and reading and writing was not as necessary as it is today. Names were often spelled as they sounded, so close members of the same family often used different spelling. James, the Lancaster Co. settler used two Ls in his name, and his war record confirms that.

I have a copy of the last will of James Holliman, Jr., who died in 1804, leaving residue of his estate to his Father, including 700 acre farm in Lancaster Co. He resided at time of death in Anson Co. N.C. I find that our Holliman line were closely allied through marriage with the Walters family. This latter family settled on Dead Pine Creek, in Anson County, with the South line of their property being the State line. The Elijahs and Joshuas in our family got their names from Elijah Walters and Joshua Walters. Elijah was married to Easter (probably Esther) Holliman. Charles and Warren owned land and resided in Anson County, adjoining the Walters. Esther Holliman was probably a sister of the 3 Hollimans who came to Alabama in 1836 (possibly 1835). Millie Walters who married Warren was related to the Walters group there. A few miles South of the Walters-Holliman settlers lived Capt. John Blakeney in Chesterfield County, S.C. He was my GGGG Grandfather, and was a captain in Frances Marion's troops. He gave 15 acres to Old Zoar Church (Methodist) in 1830 and named a son, a son-in-law, and Cornelius Holliman as Trustees of it.

Years ago, I recall that my Father said that the three Hollimans came to Alabama by horse back, in 1835; that they spent the winter near Newtonville, in Fayette County, Alabama, and then rode home in the Spring and brought their families to settle. Each of them purchased government land at Newtonville, and settled there. My father said that they were cousins, but I think he missed it by a generation, and that he was referring to the children of the three Hollimans. Anyway, Charles Holliman bought 80 acres, located where Old Shepherd Church and Cemetery is now. Warren bought 40 acres just West of there, and Cornelius my ancestor, bought 40 acres, formerly known as the Yerby place, now owned by Gitsen. Charles had a large family, and they remained in the community. Warren moved on to Arkansas about 1840. Cornelius lost his wife (Elizabeth Plyler) there, and remarried, to a widow, Elizabeth Rainwater, and moved to the Northerly part of the County.

I have a fairly good account of the children of the three Hollimans, but my record does not go further than that.

A good many settlers to Fayette County, Alabama, came from the same area of North and South Carolina. A number of Walters families settled there.

Cornelius Holliman had 5 children by his first marriage. Three boys and two girls. Mary married Sorrells and moved to Texas. Sarah followed her brother to Arkansas and died there. Uriah, my ancestor, died in the Civil War at Okla, Miss. of Measles-Phaniponia, along with a son Charles Daniel. He left a widow and 12 children. ~~Three~~ ^{Two} sons died in the Confederate Army. Joshua, became a Doctor, and moved to Hot Springs area in Ark, and had a large family. Elijah went West and died in Texas. I have him in touch with his great-grandson Ben. You will note the Elijah and Jacob names, both of which came through the Walters family.

I have a lot of census records on these Hollimans, from 1850 on. The best source of material at this time would be the county records of Lancaster County, N.C. I plan to get up there sometime, but thus far have not found it convenient.

I am confident that a number of other Hollimans came this way in 1836, as there was a John Holliman, Willis Holliman, and others who went on to Western North Carolina, and Willis the younger from Lancaster County, N.C. In 1850 the names showed that Cornelius and Willis were living on adjoining farms, with Willis considerably older than Cornelius. I have not discounted the fact that Cornelius may have been a son of Willis, and grandson of James. You will be glad to settle the relationship. James was the only Holliman in Lancaster County in 1800.

I have a mass amount of notes, but above will give you the substance of my data. If you can be of further assistance, please feel free to write. My best regards to you and the Hollimans of Arkansas.

Incidentally before closing, I should say that two of my Grandfather Holliman's brothers moved to Texas in reconstruction days, also a brother-in-law (Sorrell), and a sister, who married her cousin, another Holliman settled at various places. All of them had large families.

Sincerely,

C. W. Holliman.

Birmingham, Alabama,
November 29, 1977.

Mrs. W.H. Byrd.,
Box 401,
Sheridan, Arkansas, 72150.

Dear Mrs. Byrd:

From two sources I have heard that Warren Holliman, who settled in Saline County, Arkansas, around 1840, had a half brother, or step brother, named Allen Reeves. I think this should be carefully checked, for it may indicate the name of Warren's father. I have been checking some census records to get a line on Allen Reeves, but have not come up with much data. The 1840 Census of Mississippi did not show him. The 1830 Census for South Carolina and for North Carolina did not show him. I did find an Alleg' Reeves in the 1820 Census of Surry County, North Carolina. I did not find the name in the 1850 Census of Arkansas. I have checked under the names of: 'Reaves', 'Reeves' and 'Rives'.

I suspected several years ago that James Holliman, the Rev. War. Sol., from Johnston County, N.C., was married twice. He had grown children in 1803, for in that year, his son James, Jr., was old enough to make a last will, and did in fact die in 1804, for the will was probated in Anson County, N.C. No doubt he had other grown children at that time. He had two known daughters, Sarah Holliman and Elizabeth Parker, who petitioned to obtain anything in the way of a pension due him on 11-4-1854. I suspect that Easter Holliman, wife of Elijah Walters, of Anson County, was a daughter. James probably lost his first wife around the time he moved to Lancaster County, S.C. in 1793. In 1820 he was the only Holliman there, of any spelling. There were none in Anson County, N.C.

The following is accumulated data on James:

Census of 1784-87 of North Carolina,
James Holliman, 1 male 21-60, 4 males under 21, or over 60, 4 females all ages.

Census of 1790 - Wake County, N.C. (formerly part of Johnston County).
James Holliman, 1 male over 16, 2 males under 16, 3 females.

Census of 1800 - Mecklinburg County, N.C.
James Holliman, 3 males under 10, 1 male 26-45, 2 females under 10.
(Signed) 1 female 16-26 (No Hollimans shown in either Anson Co or Lancaster Co.)

Census of 1810 - Chesterfield County, S.C.
James Holliman, 3 males under 10, 2 males 10-16, 1 male 16-26, 1 male over 45,
(60 yrs. old) 1 female under 10, 1 female 10-16, 2 females 16-26,
1 female over 45.
(No Hollimans in Lancaster County S.C. or Mecklinburg Co. N.C.).

Census of 1820 - Anson County, N.C.
James Holliman, 1 male under 10, 1 male over 45, 3 females 10-16, 1 female over 45
At that time Charles Holliman was living in Anson County, and in Lancaster County were the following:

Cornelius Holliman, 2 males under 10, 1 male 26-45, 1 female 16-26, 1 slave.
Willis Holliman (apparently on adjoining property), 4 males under 10, 2 males 10-16, 1 male 45 & up, 1 female under 10, 1 female 10-16, 1 female 45 and up, 5 slaves. (Willis might be as much as 17 years older than Cornelius).

Census of 1830 - Lancaster County, S.C.
James Holliman, 2 males under 10 & under 15, 1 male 20-30, 1 male over 80 & under 90, 1 female over 5 & under 10, 1 female 10-15, 1 female 40-50. Close by were Conrad Fowler, Jr and Sr., Emanuel Plyler, Martin Plyler, Elijah Laney, John M. Vail. Charles, Cornelius and Warren Holliman, were living in Anson County. James Holliman was born May 25, 1750, and died in Lancaster Co., on May 7, 1836. At the time he died he may have been living in the home of one of his children. (Keep in mind that the area where James lived was in a corner where Chesterfield, Lancaster, and Anson Counties join, and these Hollimans lived not more than a mile or so from each other. In his pension Application James said he had lived in the same community all the years since he arrived in 1793.

It is difficult to check marriage records in S.C., for the churches and parishes are the only source. In North Carolina it is much easier,

Where does Allen Reeves fit into the picture? If Warren's mother died, and his father married the Widow Reeves, who had a son by her first marriage named Allen, then Warren and Allen would have been Step-brothers. On the other hand, if Warren's father died, and his widow, the mother of Warren married a Reeves and had a son named ~~William~~ Allen by the second marriage, then Warren and Allen would be half brothers. This could not be so if James, the Rev. War Sol was the father of Warren, for he lived until 1836, which was the time when Warren arrived in Fayette County, Alabama. We know the birth date of Warren. We need to know the birth date of Allen, (or at least the approximate date), to determine which of them was the elder. If you have any statistical data on Allen, I would like to have it.

For your information, I found Warren Holliman in the 1840 Census index of Itawamba County, Mississippi. I think he was then en route to Arkansas. I looked over the list of people enumerated in that County in the 1840 Census, thinking that I might identify some of the wagon trail folks from Fayette County, however, I did not find any I could identify.

I am almost certain that the John Holliman and Willis Holliman, who came with Cornelius, Warren and Charles to Fayette County, went on to Choctaw County, Miss. Evidence convinces me that they were close kin.. When Dr. Joshua Holliman left Fayette County, on account of the trouble resulting from the killing of Ben Northam, around 1865, he went to Choctaw County, and also Carroll County. While there, he gave a power of attorney to John Holliman, authorizing John to sell and make a deed to lands in Fayette and Marion Counties, Alabama, previously owned by his father Cornelius, who died in 1862. This involved a good deal of trust, and I don't think Joshua would have done this unless he had great confidence in John. Also, Asa Holliman, a son of Charles and Barbara Holliman, of Fayette County, moved to Duck Hill, Miss., and lived near John and Willis, indicating a relationship. I feel that it would be a good idea to try and persuade some of the Holliman descendants in that area to work up their family history. Chester Bullock recently visited in the Choctaw County area and gave me some grave stone data on these Hollimans.

I hope this data will be of interest to you, and will appreciate any data you have relative thereto.

Yours very truly,

C.R. Holliman,
8212 6th Ave. S.,
Birmingham, Alabama, 35206.