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*Our Odell Genealogy
Researched & Compiled by
Hubbard O'Dell Ferrell*

INTRODUCTION

The compilation of this record of over three hundred years of our branch of the Odell/O'Dell family was begun when, upon the death of our mother, Nelle O'Dell Ferrell, we found several old Bible pages containing records of the O'Dell and Lynch families.

A long standing interest in genealogy asserted itself and research was begun by first contacting known relatives for their assistance. Others, of whom we had no knowledge, soon became known and have assisted materially in this work.

Almost five years have been spent in researching and writing this record of our family. It is regretted that we must leave many uncharted lines; an all inclusive work was not our intention and, with biographical material, will be left to other interested members of the family.

We have been greatly assisted by Mrs. Raymond H. Bostick of San Antonio, Texas and Mrs. Wm. J. Doliente of Alexandria, Virginia, who have allowed us to study the research they have done on the Odell family and by Mr. Eddie F. Odell of Driftwood, Texas, who supplied the records of his family. Our sincere thanks to all of them as well as to others not mentioned here.

We hope that future generations will share our interest in this work which has been done in honor of all those who have gone before us.

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Stephenville, Texas
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ORIGIN AND HISTORY OF THE NAME ODELL

Case
you tell me
how much of
this is
correct

The name Odell is English in origin and genealogists are generally agreed that it is derived from the Old English wudu, meaning wood or wooded, and hull, meaning hill; thus, one living on a wooded hill. It is said to have had its origin when, in 1066, William the Conquerer created his brother-in-law, Walter de Flandrensis, Baron de Wuhulle. So named because of the wooded hill on the land granted him in Bedfordshire. ✓

In Magna Brittanica, v. 1, p. 149 we read: "A little lower the Ouse (river) runs by Odell, or Woodhill, called Wahulle. The Barons of Wahulle had a barony consisting of 300 knights fee in several counties. The Castle which anciently belonged to these Barons was nothing but strange ruins in Leland's time, who says it was in possession of Lord Bray."

From Bibliotheca Topographica Britannia, v. IV, p. 31: "The Castle, before the art of war was so refined, must have been an impregnable fortress from its advantage as situated near the river. ...the Allstons purchased the Odell Castle from the Chetwoodes in 1640."

Alice Odell, last of the name to own the Castle, married Richard Chetwoode in 1575.

The name de Wuhulle, or de Wahulle, came to be called Wahulle, Woodle, Woodhull, Odle and Odell and is purely English in origin but with a Norman-French background as it was first applied to the Norman Walter de Flandrensis who became known as Walter de Wahull. ✓

How much?

(3)

That It is written in the Colonial records of Long Island that Richard Woodhull is variously described by that name and as Mr. Richard Odell and Richard Odell, Gentleman. His descent from the Baronial family of de Wahulle is made clear in a letter from Lord Crewe, written to Mr. Woodhull in 1687.

In Victorian History of the Counties of England, History of Bedford, v. 3, we read: "In 1278, Odell as a part of the Barony contributed one Knight's service toward the Castle Guard and Thomas de Wahull was declared to hold the manor in chief, doing service of a Knight's fee, yielding yearly to the Castle Guard of Rockingham, 69 s., at Michaelmas for the King's use." Thus we see the given name Thomas to be one of the oldest and Walter to be certainly the oldest in the Odell family.

Some of the Odells migrated to Ireland at a very early date and were prominent there. A letter from a kinsman tells of a visit to Ireland a few years ago and being shown through the ruins of the old Odell Castle, which he describes as being about 15 miles north of the little Irish town of Tumm, and of shaking hands with the mummified corpse of one of his long departed Odell ancestors.

The name has generally been spelled Odell except in America where numerous members of the family have adopted the O'Dell form, thinking it to be of Irish origin. It is remembered that my grandfather, James Wesley O'Dell, used the small d until, at a family gathering sometime in the 1920's, when he was prevailed upon to adopt the O'Dell form.

OUR ODELL GENEALOGY

~~Was Howard?~~
Howard?

(4)

1. Thomas Odell was born in England, probably about 1660 and died in Prince Georges County, Maryland, in 1721. He probably came to America about 1680; his name first appears in 1681, when he purchased land in Prince Georges County from Col. Henry Ridgely. He married Sarah Ridgely Brewer, widow of John Brewer and daughter of Henry and Sarah ~~DOE HOWARD~~ Warner Ridgely. Col. Ridge-[?] ly was the son of the Hon. Henry Ridgely of Devonshire, England and migrated to America in 1659.

HOWARD?

In his Will, which was probated April 11, 1721, Thomas Odell leaves his estate to his wife, Sarah, and portions to each of their five children. In addition to his estate in Maryland, he mentions "my estate in England."

That he was the first of his line in Maryland is confirmed by the reference in the Will of Henry Odell (2b) to his father as "Thomas Odell, the immigrant."

No such reference in Will of this Henry 2b.

Children of Thomas and Sarah Odell were:

- 2a. Thomas Odell Born Jan. 7, 1692; Died about 1748. To ss. late 1750's
- 2b. Henry Odell Born April 15, 1694; Died in 1738.
- 2c. Ann Odell Born Nov. 18, 1703.
Married (1) Jos. Newton; (2) Ninian Magruder.
- 2d. Rignall Odell Born 1705; Died about 1754.
Married Sarah Beall.
- 2e. Sarah Odell Born April 10, 1709.
Married Thomas Hilleary, Jr.

a. Thomas Odell, ^{II} who was born in Prince Georges Co., Maryland, Jan. 7, 1692 and died there about 1748, ^{? 7} lived in that county all of his life. He was married to Margaret Beall, daughter of James and Sarah Pearce Beall, and had five children. James Beall was born in Wile County, Scotland, in 1652 and was the son of Alexander and Margaret Bell. (Beall is pronounced Bell.) hf.

new record state date + place of his death is unknown. There is some indication that he may have been the Thomas Odell who granted land in 1758; we have nothing saying the land they have to go per petition + land grant

Sarah Pearce was a daughter of John + Sarah Spragg Pearce
 Children of Thomas and Margaret Odell were:

Mrs. Delante records for James (q.v.) 1726 md. m Sarah " Mary(?) " John "

- ~~3a.~~ William Odell Born 1714; Died 1749.
- ~~3b.~~ Rachel Odell Married John Prather.
- ~~3c.~~ Thomas Odell

~~3d.~~ ^{MARY} James Odell *(This name is not included in Mrs. Delante says prior to 1740)*

~~3e.~~ John Odell Born about 1730 in Prince Georges Co.,

Henbrit. New Record John Odell born in George Co. Md. & died Newberry, Dist. S.C. He married Eleanor dau. of John Duckett several children In new record, Mrs. Ferrell didn't list children of John Odell

Maryland, and died in 1794 in Newberry County, S.C. He married Eleanor Duckett, daughter of John Duckett, about 1750, probably in Maryland. The Odell, Duckett and other families migrated to South Carolina from Maryland about 1750-60 and were closely associated for several generations. John Odell served in the South Carolina Militia from the time of the Cherokee War until ten years, or more, after the Revolutionary War. He acquired considerable land in what is now Newberry and Laurens Counties and lived at what was known as Odell's Ford on the Enoree River. A history of that time and place states: "Some were Baptist, some Methodist and some Presbyterian; in this entire section the inhabitants were Whigs."

3d

e. John and Eleanor Duckett Odell had:

(There may have been other children regarding whom the records are not clear.)

Do you know how these children names were compiled -
Mrs. Sarah's dau
John Odell by
the deed I listed -

4a. Rignall (Reginald) Odell Born about 1750.
Died in 1805, Newberry County, South Carolina.
Married Mary _____ (b. 1750; d. 1805)

4b. Baruch Odell Lived in Newberry County, S. C.
Died in 1832. Married Rachel Duckett.

4c. Mary Odell Married Josiah Duckett.

4d. Thomas Odell Married Mary Ann _____.

I have always wondered who the James was that was co-adm. of the estate with Eleanor.
I have a copy of the deed -

4e. John Odell ^{W.} Born in 1771 in Newberry District, (County) South Carolina. Died February 6, 1830 in Laurens County, S. C. He was married to Rebecca Duncan (b. 1775; d. 1850) about 1795.

Like his father, this John Odell lived at Odell's Ford on the Enoree River in the edge of Laurens, Union and Newberry Counties. He owned land on both sides of the Enoree River. On his land he built a church and school. The ruins of the old church is 3/4 mile from the present highway between Clinton and Whitmire, S. C., and the Odell cemetery is located near the ruins of the old church.

In her report on a visit to this part of the country Mrs. Whitley, the genealogist, says, in part:

New Research - Correction

2a Thomas Odell II was born in Prince Georges County, Maryland on January 7, 1692. Date and place of his death is unknown. There is some indication that he may have been the Thomas Odell who was granted land in South Carolina in 1758. We have found nothing saying that he ever lived there, however. He was married to Margaret Beall, daughter of James and Sarah Pearce Beall, and had five children. James Beall was born in Fife County, Scotland, in 1652 and was a son of Alexander and Margaret BELL. Sarah Pearce was a daughter of John and Sarah (Sprigg) Pearce.

See petition

Children of Thomas and Margaret Beall Odell:

- 3a. William Odell Born in 1714; Died in 1749.
- 3b. Rachel Odell Married John Prather.
- 3c. Thomas Odell Nothing known.
- mine* → 3d. John Odell Born in Prince Georges County, Maryland and died in Newberry District, South Carolina, about 1794. He was married to Eleanor Duckett, daughter of John Duckett, and had several children.
- Mr. Farrell* 3e. James Odell Born in Prince Georges County, Maryland date uncertain and died before 1779 in Frederick County, Maryland. He married Martha Prather, daughter of John and Elizabeth Nutwell Prather, and had 8 children. After the death of James Odell, Martha Prather Odell was married secondly to Robert Lazenby and lived in Montgomery County, Maryland.

Correct, so far as I know

New Research - Correction

Children of James and Martha Prather Odell:

(not necessarily in order of birth.)

- 4a. Mary Odell Married James O. Duckett. Is ancestor of Mrs. Wm. J. Doliante of Alexandria, Virginia.
- 4b. Margaret Odell Married _ _ Roberts.
- 4c. Thomas Odell Nothing known.
- 4d. Elizabeth Odell Married _ _ Garrett.
- 4e. Eleanor Odell Married _ _ Robertson.
- 4f. Rachel Odell Married David Beall.
- 4g. Martha Odell Married _ _ Jeans.
- 4h. John Prather Odell Was born about 1755 in Frederick County, Maryland and died after February 11, 1836 in Pickens District, South Carolina. He was married ^{secondly} to Mary Bourland, daughter of William Bourland, and had ~~5 sons and probably 3 daughters~~ ^{no children by second marriage. See below.} He is named, along with other children, in the administration of the estate of their father, in Frederick County, Maryland. The first record we have found of him in South Carolina is in 1788, when he was granted two tracts of land of 120 acres each in 96 District. He is enumerated in the Pendleton and Pickens Districts census reports for the years 1800 through 1830 and appears in the District records many times during this period. We have found no record of his service during the Revolutionary War.

John Prather Odell was married ^{first to} to Mary _____ and had children as shown. HF.

"....The Odell school house, in ruins, is on the main road between Clinton and Whitmire. ...The old church once stood 3/4 mile from the present highway in a large wooded grove. The building fell down some time not too long ago, the timbers, logs, etc remain piled over the old foundation. ...The graveyard is in the fine grove just back of the old log church ruins. The cemetery covers about an acre and a half, all on a slight rise. It is an unused cemetery, with no public road leading to the highway. ...It is completely remote from any main road. ...After driving through the fields to the edge of the pine grove I still could not spot the cemetery. After leaving the car and walking through the pine grove I was upon the church ruins before I knew it, then discovered that the cemetery was just behind the church ruins. It is heavy with ivy, the kind that is found in most old cemeteries. ...One must be extremely careful on foot, as each step sinks in undergrowth, in many places up to the knees. ...There are some 50 or more graves which are vizable and many more might be found by clearing the undergrowth."

John Odell's grave is in this cemetery and his stone reads:

In Memory of
JOHN ODELL
who departed this life
February 6, 1830
Age 58 years, 2 months 25 days.
Friends and physicians could not
save my mortal body from the grave
nor can the grave confine me here
when Christ in Heaven shall appear.

- This is the John Odell that was buried in the Odell Church Cemetery? -

Could this be your line Mr. Odell?

4e. John and Rebecca Duncan Odell had:

5a. John Odell Born in 1797.

5b. Eleanor Odell.

5c. Margaret Odell.

5d. William Odell Born in 1804. Thought to have married twice and had children by each wife.

5e. Thomas Odell Born 1808. Married Charity ____.

5f. Martha Odell Married Powel Cooper Jan 5, 1838.

5g. Eli Odell Born 1817; Died 1829.

These are the children of John, Jr. (John, Sr. was from S.C. from Md. worked here by Mr. Fenell hope this is correct)

This is the John Odell that descended from John Prather & Mary Odell

5a. John Odell Born 1798 in Laurens County, S. C.

all back of page

Died after 1860 in Whitfield County, Georgia.

Married Elizabeth ^{Mullins} Watson (b. 1799 Laurens Co. S.C.

~~d. in Whitfield Co., Ga.)~~

John Prather Odell was the son of James & Martha Prather Odell

What Mr. Fenell did in these records (I corrected a book of pages) He descended himself from John instead of James. The children of Thomas Odell, Jr. & Margaret

John and Elizabeth Odell were married in Laurens County South Carolina and lived there until about 1839 when they moved their family to Murray County, Georgia. Their names appear in South Carolina records until about 1842 in connection with the estates of their parents. The Census for Murray County, Georgia, for 1840 enumerates them and states that their youngest son. age 2 years, was born in South Carolina. After Whitfield County was formed in 1851, from parts of Murray and Walker Counties, they lived in that county. The 1860 Census states that he was a farmer and owned land worth \$5000 and personal property valued at \$10,000.

Mullins

5a. John and Elizabeth ~~Watson~~ Odell had 6 children, all of whom were born in South Carolina. Names of the girls are not known; their three sons were:

6a. William Odell Born Aug. 14, 1819.

6b. John W. Odell Born in 1829; Married Susan C. ___ (b. 1827 in N. C.) In 1850 lived in Whitfield Co., Georgia and had one son, Samuel C. Odell, who was then ten months old.

6c. James A. Odell Born in 1838; Married Caroline ___ (b. 1830 in Georgia) In 1860 lived Whitfield Co. No children at that time. *In 1880 lived in Comanche Co. Texas.*

corrected from 2nd Rec.

6a. William Odell Born Aug 14, 1819 in ^{*Pendleton Dist.*} ~~Laurens County~~, South Carolina. ^{*l. died in Whitfield Co. Ga. between 1880 + 1890.*} Moved to Murray County, Georgia, about 1839 with his parents, John and Elizabeth O'Dell. Married Melinda W. McCurdy, who was born in Georgia August 24, 1818. They were married in Murray County, Georgia, May 31, 1840 and lived there and Whitfield County the rest of their lives.

C. from 2nd Rec.

William Odell was a farmer and land owner. After the death of Melinda ^{*McCurdy*} Odell, about 1880, he married Elizabeth Smith and ^{*children of William & Melinda McCurdy Odell*} had no children.

6a. William and Melinda McCurdy Odell had:

7a. James Wesley Odell Born April 11, 1841.

7b. Mary A. E. Odell Born 1842; Married ___ Brown.

7c. Harriett E. Odell Born 1844; Married Cargile.

7d. Zadoc A. Odell Born 1847; Died in young manhood. Unmarried.

7e. Martha A. Odell Born 1849; Married (1) __ Howard
and had 2 children. Married (2) and had one son.

7f. Sarah D. Odell Born in 1851; Married (1) John
Baggett and had 3 children. Married (2) Wiley
Duke and had 6 children. Lived in Hayes County
several years then moved to Hardeman County where
they lived the rest of their lives. Some descendants
still live there in 1963.

7g. William Levi Odell Born July 1, 1853; Married Mary
J. Howard and had 8 children.

7h. Georgia M. Odell Born 1855; Married __ Springfield
and had 5 children. After death of Springfield was
married secondly to __ Magee.

7i. Theodosia A. Odell Born 1857. Nothing else known.

7j. May C. Odell Born 1859; Married __ Price and had
3 children whose names are not known. Moved to
California in 1888.

7e. Martha A. Odell and __ Howard had:

30a. Walter Howard.

30b. Lillie Howard.

7e. Martha A. Odell and George Etheredge had:

31. Odell Etheredge.

7f. Sarah D. Odell and John Baggett had:

32a. Mollie Baggett Married Alfred Brown of Nashville.

32b. Jesse Odessa Baggett Married James B. Jones who
died in Ft Myers, Florida in 1930.

32c. Louis Edgar Baggett Married Melissa Mansfield.
Died in 1944; No Children.

7f. Sarah D. Odell and Wiley Duke had:

33a. William Ross Duke Married Pearle Harper. Died 1960.

No children.

33b. Katie Lee Duke Married Will Stephens, Nashville, Tenn.

33c. Wiley Oscar Duke Married Jettie Rozell.

33d. Hattie Duke Married (1) Roy Tomlin; Married (2)

John ? Farque. Had children by both.

33e. Pruitt Duke Married Pearl Rudicill, Chillicothe, Tex.

33f. Jimmie Lee Duke Married Bobby _____ who had a son,

Bill, who was adopted by Jimmie Lee Duke. No other children.

7h. Georgia M. Odell and _____ Springfield had:

34a. Alice Springfield.

34b. Mattie Springfield.

34c. Mollie Springfield.

34d. Jodie Springfield.

34e. Will Springfield.

7j. May C. Odell and _____ Price had:

35a.

35b. Names unknown.

35c.

32a. Mollie Baggett and Alfred Brown had:

50a. Claude Brown married May Orrear and had one child.

50b. Arthur Brown married _____. Had no children.

50c. Gladys Brown married Benton Collins. No children.

32b. Jessie Odessa Baggett and James B. Jones had:

51a. Ivey Lloyd Jones married (1) Betty Westerkamp and had one daughter. Married (2) Myrtle Sanders and had two daughters.

51b. Estelle Lois Jones married Forrest F. Edwards who had two sons by a previous marriage. They had no children.

51c. Jesse Dallas Jones married _____ and had one child.

33b. Katie Lee Duke and Will Stephens had;

52a. Ollie Stephens who married Emmett Chamberlain.

52b. Louise Stephens married Louis Bradfield.

52c. Milford Stephens married _____.

52d. Emma Lee Stephens married Willie Joe Matthews.

33c. Wiley Oscar Duke and Jettie Rozelle had:

53a. Merle Duke married Ellie Green; had 4 children.

53b. Eunice Duke married (1) Jack Burt; had 2 children.
Married (2) Buddy _____ and had two children.

53c. Johnny Lee Duke married Bill Fugitt; 4 children.

53d. Aldine Duke married Sybil____; had 2 sons.

53e. Janelle Duke married _____ and had several children.

33d. Hattie Duke and Roy Tomlin had:

54a. Clark Tomlin.

54b. Clifton Tomlin.

54c. Orion Tomlin.

54d. Ross Lee Tomlin.

54e. Onis Tomlin.

33d. Hattie Duke and John Farque had:

55a. Nadine Farque.

55b. Iris Farque.

55c. Wayne Farque.

33e. Pruitt Duke and Pearl Rudicill Duke had:

56. Willie Ruth Duke.