

The following history of the Hambright family was obtained from A.R.T. Hambright, Cohutta, GA December 18, 1916, as recorded and brought down through records from the Revolution War.

Some time before the Revolution War, three brothers came to the United States from Germany, two of them settled in Pennsylvania. Our Great Grand father settled in North Carolina near Kings Mountain, his name was Frederick Hambright.

Mr. Theodore Roosevelt in his history winning the west in Vol. 2, page 298, gives an account of the battle of Kings Mountain in which he names Frederick Hambright as in command as a Colonel of a regiment that gained this important victory for Independence of our Country.

Our Grand Father John Hambright was in this battle and to my own knowledge his widow draws a pension from the United States Government this account. After Independence was gained the settlers of the Atlantic Coast began to move west, our Grand father John Hambright moved from North Carolina Green County, East Tennessee, in the year 1795 and a few days after our father Benjamine Hambright was borned. I have heard him say that he came across the mountains of East Tennessee, but had no recollection of the route.

For a time our Grand father stayed in Green County but as the Indians was driven back west they to Knox County near Knoxville. When the Hiwasey purchased was made by the Government, he moved to McMinn County Tenn. And purchased a valuable plantation in the bend of the Hiwasey river, which is still in the hands of his decendents, now owned by the heirs of John Hambright our fathers brother and could not be bought for \$30,000.00.

While our Grand father was in Knox County our father enlisted in the United States Army and served in the war of 1812, then coming with his father to McMinn County, Tenn. He was the first register of McMinn County in its organization. For some years he acted as deputy Sheriff in this County, during this time became acquainted with my mother Thursa Howe who was living with Clonel Archibald R. Turk and they were married on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of April 1828 at the residence of Colonel Turk.

For some years my father was engaged in the Merchandise business in pardonership with Colonel Turk. During the emigration of the Cherokee Indians he sold goods at Calhoun Tenn. And kept hotel after the removal of the Indians and the opening of the United States Land Office at Cleveland, Tenn. for which was the only district. He entered 480 acres land in the beautiful red hill valley embracing the flint spring which we foolishly sold after the death of our father for about \$4,000.00 it could not now be bought for less than \$30,000.00 the upper farm sold the other day for \$16,000 and the Jones place is held for \$16,000.00 and could not be had at that and none of us are better off for what we got. My Mother dies June 11, 1845 leaving six children living and two dead.

Benjamine Hambright and Eliza Jane Mitchell your mother was married 30<sup>th</sup> day of October 1848 the record gives the birth of all her children. I want to testify as to the oldest of our father's family, that no woman could have made a better step mother to orphan children than did your mother to us.

It is a little remarkable that so many of us are living, so far as I know there are still living ten of us, nearly all of you are in the west, Eliza Hoskins in Florida, she spent last summer with us. Dorris her husband is dead, died with cancer, she has one daughter Lilly Jones and two grand children one boy and one daughter. My children are scattered except Fannie. Frank is in Milburn, K.Y. Jim and Mary in Chattanooga, Tenn. Thursa in Winchester, Tenn.

Thursa has three children. Mary has three. Both are widows. I am living with Fannie, she married Mr. Boyd, a good man, she has never had any children, they are very kind to me. I am still at the same place at which you visited me when you were here.

I receive an annuity from the board of Ministerial of relief of the Presbyterian Church of the U.S.A. which amply supplies by temperate needs so that I can spend the evenings of my life very pleasantly. You will see by the records that February 26, I will be 88 years old, my health is very good except by feet are a little clumsy. I have lived longer than any of our ancestors that I know of, some of them live up to 80 years.

Father was not quite 72. Well we are scattered but the sun shines upon us all and a loving father cares for and some sweet day we hope to meet around his throne and enjoy him for ever. There is nothing real and lasting but the Christian religion. I think of you in my prayers every night when I go to bed some times I mention your names. What a great comfort to know that our God our Father hears and answers prayers.