

On Saturday, July 18, 1970, the Slusher Family Organization came into being in Floyd County, Va. About 50 families had gathered for a reunion at the Laurel Branch Church of the Brethren on that Saturday at the suggestion of Mrs R. R. Robertson, for the purpose of organizing those of us who were interested in the genealogy of the Slusher Family and related lines. The organizational letter was sent out soon after that to 75 families who had indicated they were interested in the aims of the organization.

A year later, with this newsletter, there are some 300 families receiving the letter. We feel we have made progress for an infant organization as wide-spread as this one. We have learned many things to our mutual benefit that we did not know this time last year. This time next year, we will be looking forward to our first biennial reunion and by the time the next letter comes out, we will have the date and place and time set so you can begin planning your attendance early, and so plans can be made to make it an interesting one.

We had hoped that by this time this year we could have found our Christopher's illusive parents and perhaps delved further back into his ancestry and ours. This has not been possible, as yet, but we have hopes that by next July, if not before we will be able to hire a genealogist for the purpose of delving into records to which most of us have no access, and that our treasury will be able to finance the cost.

Following in this letter you will find the treasurer's report for our first year. Our only source of income is the \$2.00 per year dues per family, which was voted at the organizational meeting, and lets face it - if we are going to have a proper sort of organization, we have to have some source of income. There seems to be some misunderstanding concerning these dues. Some people have thought that receiving the newsletter obligated them to pay dues. This is not so. The dues structure was voted because without some money on hand it would be impossible for us to pay for paper, postage and stencils. What research has been done has been done by folks who were doing it for their own benefit and pleasure and were willing and pleased to share it.

Also, it was hoped and is hoped that by sharing their information, others would be glad to share what data they have and that thereby, we would all benefit. This has happened, although not to the extent that we had hoped - but we are young yet!

Some folks, we believe, feel that perhaps we are being nosy by asking their birth dates and family history. This is not so either. We are interested in the history of the whole family, from whatever beginnings we can find to the newest grandchildren. (According to our records no children have been born into the Slusher family for the past year!!!) This all should be a matter of record

Some people seem to feel that because they cannot or don't want to pay the \$2.00 dues that they must thereby forfeit the right to receiving the newsletter. And this is not so, either. If you enjoy the letter, or think some future generation may enjoy reading them, we are delighted to send you the newsletter. After all, you are a member of the family - this is an incontrovertible fact! If you have no interest in receiving the letter, or if you are not directly connected with the Slusher family or it's related lines, or even if you don't want your mail box cluttered up with unsolicited mail, you could let us know if you want to, otherwise, we are pleased to send you the paper.

We certainly don't want to make anyone mad! or irritate anyone! This letter is written (some folks have asked) by Marguerite Slusher, (wife of the president of the organization, Wm. S. Slusher) with much help, suggestions, and material from several of our members and other sources. It is done in a highly UNprofessional fashion - no one knows this better than she! But she enjoys doing it and believes, unprofessional as it is that it serves a purpose.....hopefully.

All of which now brings us to the point you probably already knew we were approaching: dues for the second year are now due! We hope we have cleared up some of the apparent confusion concerning the dues structure. You may mail dues to Wm. S. Slusher, 206 Rivermont, McMinnville, Tn. 37110 or to Freeman M. Slusher, Treasurer, Rt. #3, Box 18, Floyd, Va. 24091.

The financial statement follows, dated July 2, 1971:

To date we have 100 paid members:
Receipts:

100 PAID MEMBERS \$2.00 dues for year 1970-71	\$200.00
6 paid members for 1971-72	12.00
1 paid member for 1972-73	2.00
\$1.00 ea. sent in by two members for extra postage	2.00
	<u>\$216.00</u>

Disbursements:

Expenses for stencils, paper, envelopes and postage for mailing newsletter	\$115.84
Cash in Bank July 2, 1971	<u>\$100.16</u>

Signed/ Freeman M. Slusher,
Treasurer.

Now to other important things:

We promised this month to delve into the first and second generation from our Christopher, his children and grandchildren. This is done with rather a lot of fear and trepidation, due to the fact that we personally cannot prove a great deal of this information. It has been gathered from various sources - descendants, court house records, old Bible records, word of mouth, cemetery records, etc. and even a few odd assumptions. Some of it we know to be correct - it may all be correct! but it is our hope that if you have ANY data not included herein, you will please let us have it and we will print it next quarter as correction or addition. If you have the dates of birth or death, even ONE; the places of birth and/or death, burial etc. of anyone mentioned here, or, of course, not mentioned, please do let us know. If you know of a maiden name, or the parents of the wives (or husbands) in the cases of off branches, please write us. In other words, if you have any information at all, not included herein, we surely would appreciate your letting us know.

SUSANNAH

We are starting with Susannah, because we don't know very much about her, as mentioned before. It is a matter of record in the Montgomery County Marriage Records that Susannah Slusher married Henry Bayne on Sept. 15, 1804, John Bayne Security. It is possible that she died shortly after her marriage, or that she and her husband

joined the trek westward. It is also possible that she was a daughter of John Slusher but we have no proof of this either.

GEORGE

The powers of attorney mentioned below are the only proof we have of George's membership in the family. In 1850, five years after the death of Christopher, (but much before his estate was settled, if indeed it ever was!) powers of attorney were filed by the administrators of his estate in the name of "Asabel Slusher, deceased, son of George Slusher, deceased, son of Christopher, deceased, of Page County, Va. to receive his share in the estate of Christopher Slusher" This power of attorney was given to George B. Slusher.

Also, in the same year, George B. Slusher was given power of attorney by Alfred Slusher of Hardy County, Va. (Now West Va.)

And by George Newman (Muman is the way the name was spelled in the marriage record), who stated that he married Artimissie Slusher, daughter of George, deceased, son of Christopher, deceased, and was father and guardian of their children: James William, Sarah Elizabeth, Ambrose B. and George C. of Shenandoah County, Va.

And by John A. Smith and wife Mary, of Crawford County, Ill., who had given the power of attorney to Alfred who then transferred it to George B.

Therefore, we must assume that our Christopher had a son George, who probably was one of the older, if not oldest, children of Chris and Eva. This George had probably married and had a family before the rest of his family came to Floyd County around 1802, and he did not choose to join them. He must have died before 1826, because he is not mentioned as 'father' of Artimissie when she married, which would have been normal. So we assume that George, son of Christopher, married Mary and had the following children:

- (1) Probably this George B. who received all of the powers-of-attorney.
- (2) Alfred, who lived in Hardy County, Va. in 1850.
- (3) Mary, who lived in Crawford County, Ill. in 1850 and who married John A. Smith.
- (4) Artimissie, who married George Newman on Sept. 27, 1826. She was over 21 in 1826, since her mother, Mary Slusher attested her to be of age,

- (5). Asabel, who died before 1850. He married Mary Mauck on Oct. 12, 1818. Bondsman was Joel Mauck.

Note: Later information reveals that the powers-of-attorney filed in Floyd County read George Newman. The records of the marriages were filed in Shenandoah County, Va.

PETER

According to the 1850 census, Peter was then 66 years old, and his wife Celia was 58. The census record states that Peter was born in Maryland, which fits in with where we believe Christopher was at that time, 1784. The records also list as members of his family, or household, Polly 37 (his daughter) and Mahala 8; and Peter 6. We have not placed Peter and Mahala.

Peter died in March of 1870, which date is assumed from the receipt stating that J. H. Slusher had received four dollars from Jacob S. Harmon for making Peter Slusher's coffin, dated March 12, 1870. Jacob Harmon was administrator of Peter's estate.

Christopher deeded land to Peter on Oct. 20, 1834: "200 acres on Miry Fork". Peter deeded part of this property to his daughter Mary (Polly) and heirs (100 acres on Greasey Creek) in 1863, in 1876 her daughters, Celia A. and Hannah A. deeded 35 acres of the west end of the tract to Allen Slusher, probably a son of Solomon Slusher. (Deed Book O. Pg. 475.)

Part of the farm which Peter had at his death was left to his daughter Martha Wade, and she left it to her son Harvey who divided it between his sons Thomas, Lee, Mil-lard, Randolph and Arthur.

PETER'S CHILDREN:

- (1) Mary (Polly) b: 1813 (1850 Census)
m: Mathe Thompson on Oct. 24, 1854. She was 43 and he was 33 and a widower. They had two daughters:
Celia Ann b: 1857 (1870 census)
Hannah Agnes
- (2) Martha m: Isaac Wade in 1838
Children of Martha and Isaac Wade
Harvey m: Arbelia Thompson in 1861
Eli T. m: Jane Thomas in 1882
Eliza m: (1) Obediah Simmons in 1882
(2) C. C. Weeks in 1902
(Eliza was b: May 4, 1848;
Obediah Simmons was a son
of Cary and Caty Slusher Simmons,
Caty being a younger daughter of

Chris, Sr. Obediah Simmons was born Aug. 15, 1830; d: Jan. 14, 1899 and they are buried in the family cemetery high on the hill behind the old home site, which was on the West Fork of Little River in Floyd County. Obediah had a mill on the river.

Miriam m: William Dickerson in 1865.
Mary m: Peter Quesenberry in 1865
Belle m: James Madison Jennings in 1875.

Martha's will, dated 1887, names sons Eli and Harvey; daughter Miriam Dickerson Mary Quesenberry and Eliza A. Simmons and granddaughter Martha R. L. Jennings. It was probated in 1890

(3) Elizabeth

m: Henry H. Dickerson of Carroll Co. Jan. 4, 1844. He was b: in 1823 d: 1863, son of John and Mary Dickerson. He was a private in Co. I, 63rd Va. Reg. His brother William Dickerson was Pvt. Co. D. 29th Va. and was killed at Farmville, Va. on Apr. 5, 1865 (four days before Lee's surrender). Elizabeth and possibly Henry are buried in unmarked graves at the 'old homeplace' cemetery overlooking the farm. They had 6 children:
E. F. (Ed) Demaris m: C. Sutphin
Frank Dillie m: Caldwell
Bethiel m: Vina Goad
And one whose name we do not know.

- (4) Joseph m: Nancy Wade in 1839, Nov. 29. Went to Kentucky in 1870; had 1 child when Peter's estate was settled (Joe H. Slusher, Co. A. 54th Va. Reg. 1861, Pvt.)

There is a record in Floyd Co. of the marriage of M. Slusher, age 19 to O. Quesenberry, age 18 on 6 Sept. 1860. Her parents are listed as Jos. & N. Slusher and his residence as Carroll Co. no parents listed. This must be a daughter of Joseph and Nancy.

The court costs for settlement of Peter's estate were as follows:

Jacob Harmon adm of Peter Slusher 1870
To the clerk of Floyd County Circ Ct.

Order	20	
Copy	20	
1870 Bind	50	
March Filing	20	
Oath	.20	\$1.30
Adms	1.00	
Recording Will	.30	
Filing	.15	1.45
		(cont'd)

Order to file 20
 Order to record 20 40
 \$3.15

Ct. of payment
 s/ J. F. Edwards clk.

CHRISTOPHER

Christopher was born June 14, 1781 in Bucks Co., Pa. d: Dec. 24, 1853 in Lafayette Co. Mo. He married three times:

- (1) Anna Myers (Hannah Ann) on 12/25/1801. in Frederick Co. Va. Samuel Rogers, security. She was the mother of his children. She was b: 28 Oct. 1785; d: Sept. 5, 1837.
- (2) Susan Houx b: 6/2/1800; m: June 14, 1838 in Missouri.
- (3) Christina Nevins b: 1815; d: 1879 m: Aug. 18, 1845.

Children of Chris, Jr. & Anna Myers Slusher

- (1) Catherine b: 12/2/1803 d: 9/1837 m: Lewis Starr on 2/7/1821 in Montgomery Co. Va. Lewis Starr took his family to Missouri when Chris Jr. did.
 (They had 8 children, which we will have to give in another letter)
- (2) Allen b: 1/17/1805 d: Nov. 1842 m: Mahala Harris, daughter of Reuben Harris and Laura Fristoe Harris, on Mar. 10, 1828 in Patrick Co. Va.
- (3) Matilda: b: 12/28/1806 d: 11/13/1824 m: Jordon James
- (4) Mary b: 3/2/1809 d: 1846 m: Isaac Gilham on 6/6/1826 b: 1802 d: 8 Aug. 1840, son of Wm. and Maria (Polly) Goodykoontz Gilham.
 m: (2) John Talbort. Mary had 6 children by her first marriage and 2 by the second.
- (4) Nancy b: Apr. 9, 1811 d: 4/19/1896 in Lafayette Co., Mo.
 m: David Phlegar on June 5, 1828. He was b: in 1806 d: Dec. 12, 1869 while on a trip from Mo. to Floyd Co. He was a son of George and Maria Magdaleana Goodykoontz Phlegar and is buried in the Zion Lutheran Cemetery in Floyd Co. He had a twin sister, Rhoda.
 Nancy and David had 14 children.
- (6) Roland b: 3/22/1813 d: 8/18/1843 m: Lockie Trigg Jennings 3/3/1833
 She m: (2) Christian T. Spence on June 15, 1845. She & Roland had 6 children.

- (7) Henry b: 3/16/1816 d: Aug. 11, 1892 m: (1) Rebecca Robinson b: 1821, daughter of John Robinson
 They had 3 children
 (2) Cassandra May Hogan b: 4/3/1825 d: Aug. 3, 1903. They had 12 children.
- (8) Susannah b: 9/2/1818 d: Oct. 17, 1894 m: William Henry Harrison Hockensmith b: 9/9/1813 d: 5/13/1884
 They had eleven children.
- (9) Thomas Holt b: 5/8/1822 d: 8/15/1874 m: Minerva Sylestina Beck Oct. 7, 1841
 She was born Sept. 21, 1818, daughter of Asa W. & Mary (Polly Ann) Beck.
- (10) Mariah Jane b: 2/10/1826 d: 3/11/1907 m: George Washington Cooper m: 5/3/1846
 He was born Jan. 8, 1818 d: Sept. 29, 1897. - 7 children
- (11) Andrew Jackson b: 3/5/1829 d: 12/17/1900 m: Susan Jane Woods Nov. 25, 1851 b: Apr. 1, 1831 d: Feb. 9, 1914
 daughter of Archibald & Elizabeth Woods.

Andrew Jackson is the only one of Chris Jr's. children to be born in Missouri.

Here is a letter which Burwell Hylton wrote to his brother in law, Chris, Jr.
 Harris and Laura Fristoe Harris, on concerning some property Chris sold Burwell:
 Mar. 10, 1828 in Patrick Co. Va.
 Floyd County, Va. June 4 day 1836

Dear Sir. I have taken this opportunity of writing to you to inform you that we are all well at present and hope that these few lines will find you enjoying the same like blessing and your father and Mother are in Common health and Jacob Slusher has moved there to take care of them. We had a wonderful fresh on Mondy last which done a great deal of damig.

Agreable to a request of Solomon Harmon for me to write to you in answer to your letter he rec. of you May the 10 stating something about the land that I rote to you. sir you stated that if I had not the land that you sold me that you wold reduct. it seams that you think that I am contending for land that is out side of the Corners that you showed me. sir I am not contending for any land that is without the limits of thoes corners but only for a strate line from the three populars to the White oak on the ridge next to whites place which all the deed and _____ will not cover which you may see in this plat. all the titel papers that you give me will not

AGREE WITH THAT CORSE. THE CORSE OF THE (Pardon!) deed that you made me from the poplars is south and East 102 poles to a white oak. this corner stands on the Branch near the ford where you crosed in hauling shingle timber and from thence N 73 & E 89 poles to the white Oak on the ridge near to the rokenob. Now sir you may see in this the true corse from the poplars to the above white oak which is south 59 East 120 poles which you may see in plat the lines marked off down the branch is 102 poles and acrows to wards whites place is 89 poles. I am sure sir I had a right to contend for my right as well as you and if you think that i am aiming to defraud you com here & I will show you that the deeds will not cover it

if they wold run the corse from the populars to the white Oak I wold not have said one word against paying the balance but there is not one of them that will. you Can write me or Harmon an answer. I payed to Solomon Harmon seventy Dollars in a short tim after he Rote to you last and he stated to me this Morning that he did not think worth while to rite as he thought i ought and I am wiling to settle it on any fair turms so as to git my Right and that is all I want but I am not wiling to pay for it until I get a right. sir you will agree that you told me that the line run from the populars to the white oak on the ridge to wards the Rockenob and I am sure that you are bound to make it good. Nothing more but to Remain yours

s/ Burwell Hylton Christopher Slu-
and Maryan Hylton sher and Consort

June 4th 1836

Burwell Hylton signed the letter on the left hand side and the "Christopher Slusher and Consort" is by way of address.

(We actually have the answer to this letter which Christopher directed to Solomon Harmon on Nov. the 6, 1836. we'll print it next time.)

Also, we call Burwell Hylton's wife Mary Ann, but the only two times I have seen it written by a contemporary it has been spelled as above, "Maryan". The other place was Burwell's family Bible. Don't know whether this is misspelling, or if this was actually her name.

STEPHEN

Although we have been unable to find a birth date for Stephen, we believe him to be one of Christopher's older children, possibly born between Peter and Elizabeth (1784 - 1787). There is, however, another gap in the more or less two-year-spaced births of Chris S's. children from 1792 when Caty was born to 1796 when Solomon was born. It would have been unusual for people of that day and age to produce 12 or more children and not lose any at birth or in infancy. Stephen's only marriage was on Dec. 21, 1824 as far as we have been able to find. He married Charlotte Hylton then, the daughter of Archelous and Katherine Weddle Hylton. Charlotte was born on May 19, 1804; died in 1894 and is buried in the Harris Cemetery, Burksfork, Floyd County.

Archelous Hylton was born Apr. 13, 1779 and died Dec. 10, 1865; Katherine Weddle Hylton, his wife was born Mar. 7, 1787 and died Sept. 26, 1863. They are buried in the Hylton Cemetery in Burksfork.

Sometime after Nov. 1833, when he wrote his brother Chris, Jr. of his plans to move his family "to the upper end of idiana or illinois" (Vol. I, No. 2, pg. 5) - probably in the late Spring of 1834, Stephen moved with his family in a covered wagon to N. Salem, Indiana and he died and was buried there probably in 1840-41.

His wife later married Jackson Harris.

On March 31, 1834, Stephen sold to Jacob Helms, a land agent, for \$300, his tract of land deeded to him by his father in 1829. (which is another reason to believe Stephen was one of Chris' older children, because Chris, Sr. didn't deed land to his other children until 1834 (October) and 1837). It lay on the waters of Greasey Creek of Big Reed Island, containing 100 acres: was bounded beginning at 2 white oaks in a line of land of John Reynolds, thence S. 27° W. 68 poles to a white oak S 12° W 38 poles to a white oak S 5° E 90 poles to a chestnut, N 60° E 150 poles to a chestnut and maple, N 33° W. 163 poles to 2 small chestnut oaks on a rock S 50° W. 90 poles to the beginning.

Children of Stephen and Charlotte:

- 1) Elizabeth B: Oct. 1, 1827 d: m: J. Joseph Martin on July 3, 1862.
- 2) Henry b: 3/19/1829 d: 6/12/1898

2) Henry (cont'd)

m: Nancy Harter dau of Adam and Margaret Stigleman Harter on Oct. 18, 1855 in Floyd Co. Both are buried in Henry Slusher cemetery, Burksfork, Floyd County. (Henry Slusher was a Captain in Co. D. 54th Va. Inf. He was taken prisoner May 5, 1865 and sent to Ft. Delaware on Pea Patch Island, Delaware Bay, was released and mustered out in June of 1865.

Children:

Mary Elizabeth b: 8/1/1856 d: Apr. 19, 1938

m: Jeremiah Harmon of Dec. 23, 1879 in Floyd, Va. Both are buried in the Henry Slusher cemetery, Christiansburg, Va.

Henrietta Margaret

b: Mar. 2, 1862 d: Dec. 23, 1934

m: Joshua Thomas Knowles 12/4/1879 both buried in Sunset Cemetery in Christiansburg, Va.

Emmazetta

b: 2/6/1863 d: Feb. 13, 1946

m: Thourborn Webb Feb. 6, 1883 in Floyd Co. Both buried in Meadows of Dan Cemetery, Patrick Co.

Samuel Johnson

b: Apr. 3, 1867 d: Dec. 2, 1954

m: Maggie Doll Feb. 3, 1894 in Kansas.

3) Susannah

b: Nov. 1, 1830 d: Sept. 14, 1857
Infant son b & d 8 Sept. 1857

m: Lewis J. Hylton on Sept. 17, 1854.

m: (2) Emily Allie Elliott

4) Mary Ann

B: Apr. 29, 1835 in Hendricks Co. Ind.
d: 29 Sept. 1936 in Floyd Co.

m: James Quesenberry Sept. 8, 1856 in Floyd Co.

b: Dec. 16, 1828 d: 12/3/1915

Both buried in James Quesenberry cemetery Mira Fork.

Mary Ann's children:

Ananias b: 1857 m: Mandia E. Sutphin in 1884.

Arabella Ann b: 1859 m: Walker Quesenberry

Lydia Ellen b: 1861 m: James Duncan

Nancy Elizabeth b: 1867 m: (1) Trigg Quesenberry (2) Bracton Phillips.

Thomas b: 1868 m: Mary Emma Quesenberry.

Samuel b: d: while his father was away in the Civil War 3 - 5 yrs.

SORRY

- we hate to break into the middle of a family, Stephen had three more children: Samuel J.; Eva Jane and Katherine (Katie), with whom we'll start next time, along with Christopher's grandchildren. It occurs to us that we may have to break up several of these families in order to ever get to Mary Ann before 1980 or so. The continuity won't be as nice, but it seems only fair. Eight cents just won't take five sheets no matter how hard we talk to the man at the post office.

* * * *

We need to tell you about the Coat of Arms included: it is not to be considered in any way our very own authentic coat of arms for our particular family. 'Tisn't. We saw it advertised once and ordered it out of curiosity. On the back is written the following description which includes a whole lot of accent marks which our old Royal typewriter simply won't cope with:

HERALDIC DESCRIPTION OF THE ARMS OF SLUSHER

ARMS: D'azur, a la cle d'or en bande, accompagne de deux roses du meme, l'une canton senestre du chef, l'autre au canton dextre de la pointe.

CREST - Une estoile d'or entre un vol d'azur chaque aile charge d'une rose d'or.

AUTHORITY - Rietstap - "Armorial General" Page 944.

We think (are pretty sure?) it's French, but it's been 30 years since we had High School French and wouldn't even dare try to translate it! We had an electronic stencil made of the original and then ran it off on the mimeograph. On the original the dark places are blue, the light ones yellow, except for the helmet which is dark gray. Thought maybe it would amuse you for our First Anniversary.

Mary