

Georgia Genealogical Society Quarterly

Births

William Ball was born May 31st 1797 *Saturday*
 William Ball Married to Mary Benge *21st 1814*
 Mary Ball wife of William Ball died January 26th 1806
 William Ball was married to Elizabeth Gray June 15th 1806
 Elizabeth Gray was born November 24th 1789
 Sarah Gray was born July 24th 1785
 James Gray was born August 10th 1788
 Samuel Gray was born August 13th 1791 *6th 1815*
 Fanny Gray was born May 9th 1793 Died February 1st
 Deborah Gray was born March 10th 1796
 Lydia Gray was born August 7th 1799 died 23rd November 1815
 Simeon Gray was born July 17th 1804
 William Baker Ball was born August 4th 1805
 James Gray Madison Ball was born July 31st 1809
 Edward Ball was born May 3rd 1812 died 12 February 1815
 Eliza Ann Ball born February 5th 1814 Died 20th May 1814
 Elizabeth Jane Ball was born 2nd July 1814
 Amanda Melvina Ball was born July 16th 1818
 Sarah Ann Ball was born 3rd December 1820

GGG QUARTERLY

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COVER:

Photocopy of the "Births" page of the William F. Ball Family Bible, no publication information available, courtesy of Jefferson M. Ball, Warner Robins, Georgia.



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Because the Colonel was on the losing side in the War Between the States, one of his associates felt that Charley had not "attained permanent eminence"²⁴ in his line of work. Perhaps the analyst was right in this assessment. But through this brief accounting of Schlatter's life, it is hoped that this multi-talented delineator, engineer, surveyor, cartographer, and businessman will finally get some of the recognition he deserves.

The author wishes to acknowledge contributions to this essay by Chris Baer (DE), Jim Hansen (WI), Amy Lyn Hedrick (GA), Betsey Mendelsohn (MD), and Martha Ruff (PA). The documents collected in the course of researching Charles L. Schlatter have been deposited with the Copper Country Archives at Michigan Technological University, 1400 Townsend Drive in Houghton, Michigan 49931.

Identifying the Father of William Bartholomew Ball (1767 – 1841/46)

By Susan Sloan, MEd

INTRODUCTION

The Ball Genealogy,¹ originally published in 1968 and revised several times, presents a lineage indicating that William Bartholomew Ball, born 2 December 1767, is the son of Edward Ball, a soldier of the Revolution from Liberty County, Georgia. Other researchers have supported this position. Recent extensive research presented below, however, explains why that lineage can no longer be accepted. Based on credible documentation, the correct father of William Bartholomew Ball is identified.

In a 1991 article, "Unraveling Balls of Yarn: Lessons in the Use of a Skeptical Eye," Elizabeth Shown Mills presents evidence that *The Ball Genealogy* is incorrect in its conclusion that William Bartholomew Ball was the son of Edward Ball, Revolutionary Soldier (R.S.).² In her article, she sets out to prove that William Bartholomew Ball of

Susan Sloan is a professional genealogist whose areas of concentration are teaching genealogy classes, conducting private lineage research, preparing lineage applications and speaking at historical society meetings. She is Vice President of the Georgia Genealogical Society and serves as a Trustee of the R. J. Taylor, Jr., Foundation. Susan is a past President of the Georgia Chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists and President of Sloan Superior Tutors, Inc. in Fayetteville, GA. jandssloan@mindspring.com.

1. George R. Watson, Sr., *Ball Families of the South* (Hattiesburg, Mississippi: privately published, 1980). In 1968, Thomas I. Ball donated his typescript "The Bartholomew Ball Family" to the Ball Family Association Reunion. In 1980, George R. Watson, Sr., the Association's historian, published the updated version cited above. It is referred to in this document generically as *The Ball Genealogy*.

2. Elizabeth Shown Mills, "Unraveling Balls of Yarn: Lessons in the Use of a Skeptical Eye (as taught by William Bartholomew Ball and William F. Ball, Esq.)," *Genealogical Journal* 19 (1991): 1-21, specifically 5-21; digital image at Elizabeth Shown Mills, *Historic Pathways* (<http://www.HistoricPathways.com> : 02 May 2012).

24. Ibid., 48.

Georgia and Mississippi was not the son of Edward Ball, R.S. Rather, William, the son of Edward, R.S., was actually one William F. Ball, Esq. of Baldwin County, Georgia, born on 31 May 1777.³ While Mills does present the case for the correct son of Edward Ball, R.S., she does not attempt to identify the parents of our William Bartholomew Ball.

In his will, signed on 13 March 1777, Edward Ball, R.S., names his father, Bartholomew Ball, and two brothers, William and Sampson.⁴ Edward, R.S., was Bartholomew Ball's son by his first wife, Elizabeth Henlen.⁵

While no direct evidence has been located that identifies the parents of William Bartholomew Ball, much indirect evidence has been found that reveals their identities. The evidence comes together to tell the story of a second marriage of Bartholomew Ball, to a widow, Sarah Brown, and the subsequent birth of their son William Bartholomew Ball.

WILLIAM BARTHOLOMEW BALL

William Bartholomew Ball was born 2 December 1767.⁶ On 1 January 1796, he posted bond in Richmond County, Georgia, to marry Charlotte Lee.⁷ A family Bible record indicates that he and Charlotte had ten children, the first on 16 November 1796.⁸ William

3. William F. Ball Family Bible, no publication information available, Births; privately held by Jefferson M. Ball, Warner Robins, Georgia, 29 July 2011.

4. Liberty County, Georgia, Old Court Will Book A (1791-1822): 38-9, Edward Ball Will, 1777; Georgia Archives microfilm, drawer 29, box 22.

5. The National Society of the Colonial Dames in America, *The Register Book for the Parish Prince Frederick Winyaw, ANN: DOM: 1713*, (Baltimore: Williams & Wilkins Company, 1916): 6 and 21. The book lists two children born to Bartholomew Ball and Elizabeth his wife: Bartholomew Ball born June 11, 1736, and Edward born February 1744/5. From a petition for land dated 21 October 1755, however, we know that Bartholomew Ball was guardian to six of his own children: Elizabeth, Ann, Edward, Mary, Sampson, and Sarah.

6. William Bartholomew Ball Family Bible, letter dated 30 June 1954 from Paul Z. Ball of Greene County, Mississippi, to Mrs. Horace B. Slimp, certified as a true copy of the original on 19 May 1986 in Harris County, Texas, by R. C. Ball and notarized by Alton R. Slater, Notary Public.

7. Richmond County, Georgia, Marriage Bonds (1785-1849), A-Cupper: unpaginated, alphabetized, William Ball and Charlotte Lee, 1796; Microfilm drawer 40, box 73, Georgia Archives, Morrow.

8. William Bartholomew Ball Family Bible, letter dated 30 June 1954. Children

Bartholomew Ball settled on land in Mississippi that was granted to him in 1811.⁹ He appears on the 1820 census in Jackson County, Mississippi, and the 1830 and the 1840 censuses in Greene County, Mississippi. On each census his age category indicates a birth date range of 1760-1770, completely consistent with the birth date provided in his family Bible.¹⁰ He was last taxed on his land in 1841, and then in 1846 his estate was taxed for the land.¹¹ The tax rolls indicate his date of death as sometime between 1841 and 1846.

RESEARCH FINDINGS

There are four major pieces of information that provide the foundation for the conclusion that Bartholomew Ball and the widow Sarah Brown were the parents of William Bartholomew Ball.

(1) **Bartholomew Ball was named guardian of his minor children on 6 October 1755.**¹² Bartholomew Ball married Elizabeth

listed in the Bible were Edward M., born 16 Nov. 1796; James S., born 22 Sep. 1799; Sarah Ann, born 31 Dec. 1800; Eliza, born 6 July 1801; William S., born in 1804; Susan, born 11 Feb. 1813; Margaret, born 3 Jan. 1816; Harriet[sic], born 22 July 1818; and Henry Augustus, born 10 Jan. 1821. Susan (b. 1813) is listed in the letter as another "Sarah," and later corrected by James S. Ball to "Susan."

9. Mills, "Unravelling Balls of Yarn: Lessons in the Use of a Skeptical Eye (As Taught by William Bartholomew Ball and William F. Ball, Esq.)," 3. Endnote 7, citing William Ball claim, Mississippi no. 74; Private Land Claim Files, 1789-1908; Records of the Bureau of Land Management, Record Group 49, National Archives, Washington, D.C.

10. Ibid. Endnote 5, citing 1820 U.S. census, Jackson County, Mississippi, population schedule, p. 45A (penned), line 18, Wm. [William Bartholomew] Ball; digital image, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : 04 May 2012); citing National Archives microfilm publication M33, roll 58; 1840 U.S. census, Jackson County, Mississippi, population schedule, p. 149-150 (penned), line 20, [William] Bartholomew Ball; digital image, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : 04 May 2012); citing National Archives microfilm publication M704, roll 213; and 1830 U.S. census, Greene County, Mississippi, population schedule, p. 175 (penned), line 2, William [Bartholomew] Ball Senior; digital image, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : 04 May 2012); citing National Archives microfilm publication M19, roll 70.

11. Ibid., 3. Endnote 8, citing William Ball tax entry, Greene County, Land Tax Rolls, 1841 and 1846, volume 43, record group 29, Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Mississippi.

12. Brent H. Holcomb, *Probate Records of South Carolina, Volume 3, Journal of the Court of Ordinary 1764-1771* (Greenville, South Carolina: Southern Historical Press,

Henlen on 4 April 1733.¹³ Church and court records reveal that they had six children by 1755.¹⁴ It is here that the first foundational fact comes into play. In 1755, "Elizabeth, Ann, Edward, Sampson, Sarah & ____ Ball, infant children of Bartholomew Ball," made choice of their father, Bartholomew Ball, as guardian, to take charge of their estates real and personal.¹⁵ Land grant petitions by Bartholomew Ball indicate the missing name is "Mary."¹⁶ On 2 February 1756, Bartholomew Ball made petition for 100 acres indicating that he "had a wife" for whom he had not been granted land.¹⁷ This indicates that Bartholomew's wife, Elizabeth, had died prior to 1755, most likely leaving property to her children. If this property was not hers directly, it had to come from her side of the family, because if it was from the children's father, he would have owned it himself and no guardianship would have been required.¹⁸ This first foundational fact, that Bartholomew's first wife was deceased by 1755, is necessary for the rest of the facts to take place.

(2) **Bartholomew Ball, of St. Mark's Parish, Craven County, South Carolina, was issued a citation in 1766 to administer the estate of John Brown, deceased, being nearest of kin.**¹⁹ On 4 November 1766, Bartholomew Ball of St. Mark's Parish, was granted a citation to administer on the estate of "Jno. Brown, late of said Parish

2007), 31.

13. Margaret Ball Miller, "Requests for Information," *South Carolina Magazine of Ancestral Research* 19 (Summer, 1991); online archives, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 19 Oct 2011), p. 175.

14. Miller, p. 175; and Brent Holcomb, "Client Report," p. 4, prepared for Jefferson Ball, 20 June 2009. In his report, Mr. Holcomb cites his computer files used to publish his book, *Petitions for Land From the South Carolina Journals: Volume IV, 1754-1756* (Columbia, South Carolina: South Carolina Magazine of Ancestral Research, 1998).

15. Holcomb, *Petitions for Land From the South Carolina Journals*, p. 225. The original is torn where the youngest child's name should be. The original also cites a petition for grant on 21 October 1755 that names all six children.

16. Holcomb, "Client Report," p. 4.

17. *Ibid.*, p. 4.

18. *Ibid.*, p. 5.

19. Holcomb, *Probate Records of South Carolina, Volume 3: Journal of the Court of Ordinary 1764-1771*, 31.

Planter Decd. as nearest of kin..."²⁰ It was common at this time in South Carolina for new husbands of widows to take over as administrator of the estate of their wife's deceased husband.²¹

(3) **The William Bartholomew Ball family Bible provides his birth date as 1767.**²² According to the family Bible of the William Bartholomew Ball family, William Bartholomew Ball was born on 2 December 1767. It is imperative, therefore, to prove that Bartholomew Ball was still alive after the 4 November 1766 citation of administration.

(4) **Edward Ball names his father, Bartholomew Ball, and his brothers William and Sampson in his will written 13 March 1777.**²³ The will of Bartholomew Ball's son, Edward, signed by Edward on 13 March 1777, provides proof that Bartholomew Ball was alive in December 1767 when William Bartholomew Ball was born. In this will Edward mentions not only his father, Bartholomew, but also his brothers William and Sampson. There are only two sons mentioned in the guardianship document in 1755, Edward and Sampson. Edward mentions two brothers, William and Sampson, providing proof that his father, Bartholomew, had another son, William, sometime after 1755. William Bartholomew, born in 1767, fits this description.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Additional information supports the conclusion that William Bartholomew Ball, born 1767, was the son of Bartholomew Ball and the widow Sarah Brown. Land records provide locality information, and census records and DNA results support that conclusion.

Locality Analysis

Land plats and petitions indicate that Bartholomew Ball owned land bordering the land of Elizabeth Henlen in 1735 and John Brown in 1749. This plat of Elizabeth Henlen most likely belonged to Bartholomew Ball's mother-in-law, also named Elizabeth, and not his

20. *Ibid.*

21. According to Brent Holcomb, in an email to the author dated 23 May 2012, the new husband actually "joined" the new wife in the administration of the deceased husband's estate, as married women could not transact official business on their own.

22. William Bartholomew Ball Family Bible, letter dated 30 June 1954.

23. Liberty Co., Ga. Will Book A : 38-9.

wife, Elizabeth. In 1735, his wife Elizabeth would have been known as Elizabeth Ball.²⁴ On a plat dated 8 November 1749, Bartholomew Ball is shown as an adjacent landowner to John Brown's plat for 450 acres in Craven County, South Carolina.²⁵ This close proximity to the land of his first wife's (Elizabeth Henlen's) family and his second wife (Sarah, the widow of John Brown), shows their geographic relationship to Bartholomew Ball. In both cases, he married women whose families shared land boundaries with him.

William Bartholomew Ball and Charlotte Lee married in 1796 and lived in Richmond County, Georgia. William Brown, son of John Brown (first husband of Sarah Brown Ball) lived in the same area, having adjacent property to William Lee (father of Charlotte²⁶). Several items in the *Augusta Chronicle* (the newspaper of record for that area), reference William Ball, Mrs. Charlotte Ball, and William Brown, in the 1796 to 1808 timeframe,²⁷ providing additional evidence of a close relationship between the two men.

Census Analysis

William Bartholomew Ball was enumerated on the 1820 Jackson County, Mississippi, and the 1830 and the 1840 Greene County, Mississippi, censuses. Each enumeration places his birth date between 1760 and 1770, completely consistent with the 1767 date of birth listed in his family Bible. He has not been located on the 1810 census. However, a William Ball obtained a passport to travel through the Creek Nation in Georgia on 2 October 1809. He may, therefore, have been traveling to the Mississippi Territory at that time.²⁸

24. Miller, p. 175. Marriage bond dated 4 April 1733. Also, Unrecorded Plat for Land Not Granted to Elizabeth Hendlen[sic], 26 May 1735; Unrecorded Plats for Land Not Granted, Surveyor General Series S213197, box 2, item 00573; South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia.

25. John Brown Plat for 450 Acres in Craven County, 08 November 1749; Colonial Plat Books (Copy Series), Surveyor General Series S213184, Volume 5, Page 49; South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia.

26. Jefferson Ball to author, email, 24 April 2011.

27. Alice O. Walker, *Personal Name Index to the Augusta Chronicle (Augusta, Georgia), Volume I, 1786-1799* (1987): 18 and 47, and *Volume II, 1800-1810* (1988): 18 and 57 (Augusta, Georgia: Augusta-Richmond County Public Library). The original newspapers are available on microfilm at the Georgia Archives, Morrow, Georgia.

28. Dorothy Williams Potter, *Passports of Southeastern Pioneers 1770-1823*

DNA Analysis

DNA analysis of men with the same surname can determine if they share a common male ancestor within a "genealogical timeframe." In the case of males carrying the surname Ball, three have taken part in the Ball family DNA project. The lineage of one of them is not known, but the lineages of the other two participants provide the needed information to tie them to Bartholomew Ball. Edward Eugene Ball is a proven descendant of Sampson Edward Ball, son of Edward, R.S.²⁹ Jefferson Martin Ball is a proven descendant of William Bartholomew Ball. A 37-marker Y-DNA test indicates they match 35 of 37 markers. A 35/37 match between two men of the same surname or variant means they share a common male ancestor.

Unless there is documentation proving descent from a named common ancestor, the common ancestor may not be able to be determined with one hundred percent certainty. In the case of Edward Eugene Ball, his descent from Sampson, son of Edward Ball, R. S., son of Bartholomew Ball, has a documented paper trail. It has been previously proven that William Bartholomew Ball does not descend from Edward Ball, R. S.,³⁰ so he must descend from either the brother of Edward, R. S., (Sampson), Bartholomew Ball, or Bartholomew's father. The children of Sampson Ball are known and do not include William Bartholomew.³¹ No other possible candidates for William Bartholomew's father are indicated in family records.

DISCUSSION OF CONFLICTING EVIDENCE

Evidence supporting the fact that William Bartholomew Ball's parents were Bartholomew Ball and the widow Sarah Brown is compelling. There is one fact, however, that may point to another conclusion.

(Baltimore: Gateway Press, 1982): 245.

29. Line of Edward Eugene Ball is Bartholomew/Edward/Sampson Edward/John Warren Ball/John Warren Ball Jr./Eugene Adams/Eugene Otis/Edward Eugene Ball. The line of Jefferson Martin Ball is said to be William/Bartholomew/William Bartholomew/Henry Augustus/Alex Monroe/Lamar O. Ball/Jefferson Martin Ball. From the files of Jefferson Ball.

30. Mills, "Unravelling Balls of Yarn: Lessons in the Use of a Skeptical Eye (As Taught by William Bartholomew Ball and William F. Ball, Esq.)," 5-21.

31. Family information indicates Sampson Ball's (1750-1823) children were Sampson (1771-1775), Margaret, Elijah, Edward, and William Robert.

That fact—that Bartholomew Ball and Elizabeth Henlen had a son, Bartholomew, born on 11 June 1736³²—must be explored. This son of Bartholomew and Elizabeth is of an age that he could have been the father of William Bartholomew, born in 1767.

There are several compelling reasons why it is believed that this Bartholomew Ball is not the father of William Bartholomew born in 1767. The first is that he is not listed among the children who chose Bartholomew as their guardian in 1755. He would have been 19 years of age, below the age of 21 that was the threshold for owning property. He does not appear in any other court documents claiming any inheritance in his own name or for any other reason. Bartholomew Ball does not ask for land grants on his behalf when he petitions for his other children. When Edward, R. S., lists his brothers, he names only Sampson and William. Most likely, Bartholomew, Jr., died before the 1755 document naming Bartholomew Ball guardian of the property of his six minor children.

SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS

Evidence presented in this document points convincingly to the fact that William Bartholomew Ball, who was born 2 December 1767, was the son of Bartholomew Ball and the widow Sarah Brown. Church, land, and court records provide evidence of their relationship to each other. Bartholomew Ball's first wife died before 1755, and the names of his children are revealed in land petitions and other court documents. Only two sons are listed in a 1755 petition for guardianship, Edward and Sampson. Bartholomew's administration of the estate of John Brown as nearest of kin provides strong indirect evidence of his marriage to John Brown's widow, Sarah, before 4 November 1766. The family Bible of William Bartholomew Ball provides his birth date some thirteen months later. The will of Edward Ball, signed 13 March 1777, names his father, Bartholomew, and his brothers, William and Sampson, indicating Bartholomew Ball had a son named William after the 1755 court document. Based on the evidence cited, there can be no doubt that this son is William Bartholomew Ball.³³

32. The National Society of the Colonial Dames in America, *The Register Book for the Parish Prince Frederick Winyaw*, ANN: DOM: 1713, 6 and 21.

33. The foregoing article is part of an updated genealogy of the William E. Ball family that was published in 2011: R. C. Ball, Jefferson Martin Ball, et. al.,

Ball Family Bibles

Transcribed by John & Susan Sloan

The following is a transcription of a Bible page from the William E. Ball Bible. It is from the files of Jefferson Ball of Warner Robins, Georgia.

BIRTHS

William Ball was born May 31st 1777 Saturday Evening
 William Ball Married to Mary Burgess 27th September 1804
 Mary Ball wife of William Ball died January 26th 1806
 William Ball was married to Elizabeth Gray June 16th 1808
 Elizabeth Gray was born November 24th 1789
 Sarah Gray was born July 24th 1785
 James Gray was born August 10th 1788
 Samuel Gray was born August 13th 1791
 Faithy Gray was born May 9th 1793 Died February 1st 1815
 Seaborn Gray was born March 10th 1796
 Lydia Gray was born Agust (sic) 7th 1799 died 23rd November 1815
 Simeon Gray was born July 19th 1804
 William Baker Ball was born August 4th 1805
 James Gray Madison Ball was born July 31st 1809
 Edward Ball was born May 3rd 1812 died 12 February 1815
 Elisa Ann Ball born February 5th 1811 Died 25 May 1811
 Elizabeth Jane Ball was born 2nd July 1814
 Amanda Melvina Ball was born July 16th 1818
 Sarah Ann Ball was born 8th December 1820

Chronology of William Ball of St. Johns Parish, Berkeley County, South Carolina, and Some of His Descendants (Houston, TX: William Ball Family Association, 2011). The book was researched by Elizabeth Shown Mills & R. C. Ball.

The following is a transcription of a letter sent from Rev. Paul Z. Ball to Mrs. Horace B. Slimp in June of 1954, concerning the William Bartholomew Ball Bible.

Pearlhaven Baptist Church
201 Railroad Street
Paul Z. Ball, Pastor
200 Railroad Street
Brookhaven, Mississippi

June 30, 1954

Mrs. Horace B. Slimp
26G Taft Blvd
San Antonio
Texas

Dear Mrs. Slimp:

I am sorry for the delay of answering your letter, of inquiry, of May 21, 1954. However, due to a heavy schedule in my Church work, I have not been able to answering before now.

My people came from, either one of the Carolinas or Georgia. I believe that my Grandfather, Henry Augusta[sic], came from Georgia and settled on Chicksawha[sic] River, in the southern part of Greene County and Northern part of George County, Miss. His Father was William Bartholomew Ball born in 1767, on Dec. 2. I think that probably he came from S.C. I'm not sure. An uncle of mine said that His wife, Charlottie Lee Ball was a sister to Gen. Robert E. Lee, However, I've never found any History to substantiate that statement.

I'm sending you a Bible Record of My Family as far back as I have it.

William Bartholomew Ball.....Born, Dec 2, 1757.
Charlotte Lee Ball, Wife of W.B.....", Aug. 27, 1781.
Edward M. Ball...Son.....", Nov. 16, 1796.
James S. Ball.....Son.....", Sept. 22, 1798.
Sarah Ann Ball...Daughter.....", Dec. 31, 1800.
Eliza Ball.....", July 6, 1801.

William S. Ball...Son....." , xxxx 1804.
Bartholomew Ball, Jr...Son....." , Feb. 6, 1807
Sarah Ball'.....Daughter....." , Feb. 11, 1813.
Margaret Ball....." , Jan 3, 1816.
Harriet Ball....." , July 22, 1818.
Henry Agustius Ball, ...Son....." , Jan. 10, 1821.

Henry Augustius Ball Baby Son of William Bartholomew Ball..

B. Jan 10, 1821

1st. Wife xxx named. Martha Lundy Ball....

Henry Clay Ball, Son of Henry Augustius Ball,

Born...Aug. 16, 1846.

Charlotte Ball, Daughter " " " " " ...Sep. 1, 1849.

Elbert Ball, Son....." ...Dec. 29, 1850.

Edward Rufus Ball, Son....."Jan. 23, 1854.

Lasuras Ball, Son.....Dec. 25, 18, 1853[?]

Malisa Ball, Daughter....." Jul. 31, 1856.

William Daniel Ball, Son....." Feb. 15, 1859.

James Lafayett Ball, Son....." Aug. 27, 1862.

Georgiann Ball, Daughter....." Jan. 16, 1866.

Samuel W. Ball, Son....." Sep. 20, 1867.

CONTINUED [end of page 1 of letter]

Continued [page 2 of letter]

Louisa Jane (Courtney) Ball, 2nd Wife of Henry Augusta Ball,
Born...May 16, 1853.

Menervia Ball, Daughter of Henry A. Ball... "Nov 29, 1871.

Warren Mansfield Ball, Son....." ...Jan. 28, 1873.

Sarah Malinda Ball, Daughter....." ...Jan. 27, 1876.

Alex Monroe Ball, Son....." ...Jan 15, 1878.

Eliza Jane Ball, Daughter....." ...Aug. 1, 1881.

Victoria Evelyn Ball, " " ...Sep. 28, 1883.

Florence Luella Ball " " ...Oct. 6, 1886.

Nora Ball " " ... Jul. 16, 1890.

1. This is actually Susan Rebecca Ball. See note on next page at end of letter.

ALEX MONROE BALL, Son of Henry Augusta Ball.....

Born..Jan. 15, 1878.

Leona Virginia (Byrd) Ball, wife of A.M. Ball ... "....Aug 16, 1882.

Beatrice E. Ball, Daughter of Alex M. Ball..... "....Dec. 28, 1900.

Flury Evelyn Ball, " " ... Nov 3. 1903.

Iva Savannah Ball, Daughter..... "....Jan. 19, 1911.

Paul Z. Ball, Son.....Preacher..... " ... Jul. 26, 1913.

Wynema Louvenia Ball, D. "....Nov. 24, 1918.

Lamar Osby Ball, Son....Preacher..... " ...Oct. 2, 1921.

Alex Daniel Ball, Son..... Druggist..... " Jun. 16. 1924.

I hope that this information will be of help to you, and I would like to get any family history or anything that would be in connection with tracing the Family tree.

There is a Ball Reunion every year at Percy Quinn Park, near McComb, and they are working on the History of the Ball Family. I understand from my father, and his brothers that William Bartholomew Ball's sons were in the Civil War, and some were never heard of and others settled in different parts of the South. There are a good many Balls in Pike County, Jasper County, Marion County and Greene County,---My home county, here in Mississippi.

May I hear from you again, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

[signature]

Paul Z. Ball

Note: The following corrections were made to the above letter by R.C. Ball and were notarized in Harris County Texas on 19 May 1986:

James S. Ball, son of William Bartholomew Ball, birth date changed to Sept. 22, 1799, from Sept. 22, 1798. Sarah Ball, daughter of William Bartholomew Ball, name changed to Susan Rebecca Ball.

Bowden Methodist Church Register: Part III

by Elizabeth C. Snow

Editor's Note: The First United Methodist Church was organized in 1849 or 1850, in Bowden, Carroll County, Georgia. The organizing pastor was Nathaniel Shelnutt, who came from neighboring Clayton County.¹ The register was transcribed from microfilm records available at the Georgia Archives in Morrow, Georgia.

The register is laid out across facing pages. In order to present the register in its original format, each set of facing pages is transcribed across two pages. Editor's comments are in square brackets [].

Elizabeth Snow is the editor of the Georgia Genealogical Society quarterly. She can be reached at esnowccfl@comcast.net.

1. I. V. Sherrill Wood and Jessie Bartlett Digby, History of the Bowdon United Methodist Church, (Bowdon, GA: no publisher, 1978), 4.