

3-28-08

Dear Lester & Roger,

Hope this letter will find you and all of your family doing well. I have overcome myself with all of the information that I have over several of my family lines. I'll work on one, then I'll find something on another line. So I have finally decided to go through all of my old papers and see what I have put away and forgotten.

I came across this letter, I don't know if you have a copy or not. Genera Orrick Duncan gave me this letter years ago. Willene Orrick Rigney wrote it to Genera in 1978. Genera was always interesting in our family. Her mother died young and two neighbors' took each child to raise. Not until years later did she know who her real family was. Genera was a faithful woman to the Lord, and the sweetest one that you ever could meet. I always love going to see her, she was always so up-beat. She died a few years back.

I could have e-mail this letter but I didn't think you would be able to read it. It's just another piece of the puzzle. Hope to find many more, you are both doing a really good job.

Birnie

Wed Morn.

Dear Geniva,

So proud to hear from you & thanks for your information. Guess you think I didn't appreciate your help. But Seem's like writing is a problem for me. as we have three children to write doesn't seem like I ever get my writing caught-up.

So sorry you were in hosp. but happy for you lie home again.

My husband went to Murphysboro hosp. Feb. 12th had gland surgery. we've went to Murphysboro for you. too had if we were there at same time & not know it.

Jess + Clara came in day or so after you all went to Grady's Gen's. oh, wish you had come by. all of uncle Albert's children know where we live they could brought you all over. Clara + Jess called Sunday & said they didn't believe Grady would live too long.

I had gotten a letter from uncle Denton's daughter (Nell) just before I got yours maybe a wk before + she gave uncle Denton date. I knew he died close to Thanksgiving of 67 for our bro. died Sept 14-1967 & then uncle Denton. Nell told me her mother (Aunt Sirtie) was 68 last Sat. I called her to say happy birthday she was so pleased for me being so thoughtful.

Geniva, as you will see grandpa Orrick's other sis Name (Mary) she hurt her back don't know how.

Great Aunt Virginia Elizabeth has a granddaughter
lives in Manchester (Lizzie O'Kelley) her mother was
Aunt V. E. Oldest Child. She was 91 Couple yrs ago.
She is almost blind, never been to see her + I call to
check on her she has a daughter never married that lives
with her. Oh! yes Cousin Lizzie mother's name (Hess).

I'm sending you their Bible record. Cousin Colonel is
Aunt V. E. 9th Child + lives at Merrison. He + wife (Irene)
are very sweet. Cousin Colonel gave me his mother's Bible +
her photo album, he didn't know who had taken the picture
out. Anyway I was so proud of Aunt Virginia Elizabeth's
Bible + album. He said his mother took enough other
things + sold to get this Bible.

To grandpa Orick's dad. Aunt Jessie's daughter Hazel
said Uncle Isham told Aunt Jessie that John Rains
was his dad. Also Cousin Colonel Wood told us John Rains
was grandpa's dad

John Rains born May 5 - 1828 - died June 22nd 1857

his wife Mary born 1832 died 1892

They had 3 children Rebecca + John W. died very
young + was buried at Cherry Cemetery in Cannon Co.
They have a steel fence around their grave +
very expensive rock for that time very tall rocks.

Their other son Doc lived to be up in years. Doc had 3
sons + one his son's (Elija born 1876) married Aunt
Virginia E. daughter (Anna) also buried at Cherry Cemetery
S. L. talked to John Rains great grand son by marriage
he told S. L. John Rains was a wealthy man He not only
had money he also had gold. - his great grand son said
they never did know what John did with ~~it~~ part of it
I see believe he gave it to great grandma Nancy (Aunt)
with Education grandpa + Aunt Virginia E. had me

feel he helped her. Some of ^{the} family ^{part} Aunt Virg. Eliz.
could do the most beautiful needle work they ever saw
& we know Grandma Nancy Surly taught her.
Cousin Colonel told us his mother (Aunt Virg. Eliz.) was the
power behind the throne. That she taught his dad. his
A. B. C.'s & John Wood, Aunt V. E. husband was justice of
Peace in Warren Co. for yrs. and 6 of Aunt V. E. & John
Children made School teachers! Cousin Colonel was a teacher
as you can. Chick John Rains was 29 when he died & our
Granddad was 14 days old we've ask different one can't find
out what caused his death, we've also wondered if he knew
Grandpa was born (or) saw him. Uncle Isham said they
grew up together. & from some reason John Rains moved to
Cannon County & his wife Mary was a Cannon Co. girl.
I never the reason that Grandma Nancy is typed as
widow & I haven't told our children, after all if every couple
that does the same thing, had children like Grandma Nancy
& John Rains they wouldn't be standing room in this
wicked world. such a great no. of School girls quit School
to have a baby or abortion. every yr. all I know Patsy was
Grandma Nancy's mother & her husband died young. there
was the Orrick Cemetery we went & talked to the people that
looked or bought part of Orrick place that had the Cemetery. this
man said his father-in-law ask Grandpa Orrick to come
show him how much to fence in for the Cemetery Grandpa
told him he would. but Grandpa got sick & died & ^{thought} over to
fence it in. Now when this man that talked to Grandpa died.
then Mr Brewer that married his daughter bought it. we went
over & ask them about the Cemetery, we couldn't wait to get
there for we knew we could get Patsy's dates her husband & get
lot of information, oh! me he ^{said} yes there was a Cemetery & I took
my slide & old mule put the rocks on the slide & put them in a
well. & worked over the graves, he said there were 2 or 3 rocks he
had a hard time getting it on his slide so large. we ask if
they had names & dates on them he said yes but I don't
on page 1 remember

for they didnt mean a thing to me, and the big building.
He tore it down + used it for wood. way he described the
building it was a church house + a well. the Orricks
had a double log house, 2 story, hall between + fireplace
at each end. + the best orchard + they were workers.
He told what his father-in-law told him. + Mr Higley
told us that this man that destroyed the cemetery. before he
destroyed it. He came to ~~Mr~~ Mr Higley wanted him to help do
some work on his back porch. He went. + this old man went
to the cemetery + got a rock + put under his porch. I ask
Mr Higley if they were writing on the rock. he said yes.
but he didnt pay any attention.
that old man was so wicked if only he hadnt destroyed
those rocks, what wonderful help we could get.

With John Rains 29 when he died. grandma Nancy was very
young + not having more children surely John Rains was
only man she ever cared for. oh! we can wonder about
so many thing, no way for us to know.

Cousin Colonel Wood wife. Cousin Irene told me that people told
her that Colonel's mother was so beautiful surely she look like
the mother of Jesus. + that Colonel's mother had an awfully hard time.

I've written in a rush hope you can make every thing
out.

I must say hi to your husband + close for now
I'm sending you some pictures, wish you would send
back.

love

Willene + S. L. Rigney

This is a list Irie Woods sent me
of Jack Orick and Callie Summers Orick
Children.

- 1 Andrew - Deceased.
- 2 Albert - ~~living~~ deceased
- 3 Richard - Deceased. I never heard of him.
- 4 Robert - Deceased.
- 5 Doyle - Deceased.
- 6 Sam - Deceased.
- 7 Oscar - Deceased.
- 8 Denton - Deceased.
- 9 Josie - ~~living~~ Deceased
- 10 Maggie - Deceased.
- 11 Bessie - living.
- 12 Twins - Deceased Do not know their
ages at death or their sex.

Obediah Hurtt - O. W. Wood
 Born Jan 4 - 1846 died Nov. 1 - 1940
 Virginia Elizabeth (Orrick) Wood
 Born Nov. 2 - 1857 died Jan 7th 1913

Their Children age when died

- (1) Rosa Born July 1st 1865, She was 48
- (2) Anna .. Aug 1st 1868 74
- (3) Sallie .. Jan 8th 1870 5 when she died
- (4) Della .. Jan 8th 1873 5 when she died
- (5) Jessie .. Oct - 1875 10 yrs.
- (6) Hillie .. Aug 21st 1877 63 ..
- (7) Hallie .. Nov. 15th 1881 29 yrs
- (8) Charlie .. Dec. 22nd 1884, _____
- (9) Colonel .. Aug. 4th 1886 _____
- (10) Roy .. Oct 4th 1888 _____
- (11) Scie .. Oct 12th 1893 She died in 1975

The 8th, 10th + 11th their ages at death wasn't down

Cousin Colonel is only one living + he 92 in Aug.

I wrote this for my Cousin Mar. 8 - 1978

Callie Geneva (Orrick) Duncan
 daughter of Andrew Orrick

Willene (Orrick) Rigney
 daughter of Robert + Nettie (McVey) Orrick