

# The Documented Life of Nancy Callicott Vaughan

Her Story, by  
Helen Vaughan Michael,

Four Pages from the life of Nancy Callicott Vaughan—from her 200 year old Daybook

James  
Was Born on  
the 15 day 1795  
Annaly Callicott  
Bourley Vaughan  
Was Born January  
the 4 day 1798  
Stoly Vaughan  
Was Born April  
the 12 day 1800  
Relukah Jones  
Was Born June  
the 24 day 1802

in Vaughan  
was Born  
the 4 day 1804  
Nancy Vaughan  
was Born January  
the 17 day 1807  
Mary Vaughan was  
born the 10th day of  
the year of our Lord 1810  
John Vaughan was  
Born in the year of our  
Lord September the 25 day  
Samuel Vaughan was  
born February the 11 day  
in the year of our Lord 1814

Abantha Vaughan  
was born in the year  
of our Lord July the 2  
day 1815  
George W. Vaughan  
was born in the  
year of our Lord June  
the 15th day 1820  
James Jones was born  
in the year of our Lord  
January the 27 day 1822  
is now at present

John Vaughan  
Was Born in the  
year of our Lord May the 18th  
1818  
John Franklin Vaughan  
was Born in the  
year of our Lord April  
the 1st day 1821  
Mary Aldah Jones Vaughan  
Was Born on the 1st day  
1827  
Tennessee Vaughan  
Was Born the 27th day  
1843

The Documented Life of Nancy Callicott Vaughan

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### *I. Birth, 1777, Virginia*

In 1848 the U.S. Congress passed an Act providing the widows of U.S. Army soldiers with a pension. Ten years later eighty-one-year-old Nancy Callicott Vaughan, widow of John Vaughan, a soldier of the American Revolution, applied for the pension. Beginning in February of 1858, when Nancy Vaughan gave Hawkins County lawyer Wm. M. Strickland the power of attorney to make her claim, the first of several documents was filed. The story of Nancy and her family is recorded in these documents, and their words provide a map and timeline to her life.

These and other handwritten records list the names and dates of birth of John and Nancy Vaughan's children, stating unequivocally that there are eleven sons and daughters of their marriage. Known residences of their living offspring are given. Places where the family lived are described. Personal circumstances are mentioned. Poignant recollections are called up by old friends and neighbors.

Transcriptions of handwritten records are particularly valuable because they are handwritten, with original spellings of names. Beginning in 1795, with the birth of her first child, Nancy Callicott Vaughan kept a record of the names and birthdays of her children. We know from her Daybook recordings that the John Vaughan family started out as *Vaughan*, because that is how a mother spelled the names of her eleven children. The *Vaughn* spelling in future documents is the choice of a lawyer or scribe, or census taker—or, even a postal necessity. Where possible, in the records that tell her story, other spellings, unique and quaint markers of the times, are left in the text.

These documents are official, but bureaucratic terms cannot conceal the human story contained in their legal language as they describe the history of one American woman and her family. Taken altogether they make up a family album about Nancy Callicott Vaughan. Many of them are in her own words; some are in her own handwriting.

Nancy's parents were Beverley Callicott and perhaps a woman named Priscilla. She claimed that ". . . she was born and raised in Prince

Edward and Sharlotte Counties in Virginia.” **(Excerpt from 1858 Pension Application)** Her actual month of birth can be calculated as happening in January, or one of the first three days in February, 1777 from the following:

*State of Tennessee*

*County of Hawkins*

*On this 3rd day of February AD One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty Eight personally appeared before Me, Wm. Hutchinsson a justice of the Peace within And for the county and state aforesaid, Nancy Vaughan a Resident of Hawkins County in the State of Tennessee aged About 81 Eighty one years. . . .*

**Excerpt from 1858 Pension Application**

An additional excerpt concerning her age at her introduction to John Vaughan provides an opening window on her residence and their social life.

## *II. Meeting John Vaughan, 1788-1789*

*The first time she ever knew John Vaughan was in Charlotte County in VA and that at that time she states that she was about eleven years of age. . . .* **Excerpt from 1858 Pension Application**

To be the age of 81 by early February 1858, her birth in 1777 would allow their first meeting to have taken place late in 1788 while she was still eleven. It happens that January 1789 brought forth a Vaughan-Callicott social event which possibly involved both of them and could have provided an opportunity for them to be introduced to one another.

In that year, Ligon Vaughan applied for a marriage license January 5<sup>th</sup> and then he married Dicey Callicott ten days later. Dicey is Nancy's older sister, and Ligon has been mentioned as possible kin—even a younger brother--to John. Perhaps John arrived at the Charlotte, Virginia home of the Callicotts in late December to attend a brother's wedding, and while there he met the little girl who eloped with him and became his bride five years later.

In 1792 John, who had property and friends in Maryland, returned to Virginia, and while there, on October 6<sup>th</sup> he and Nancy applied for a marriage license. At least, Nancy applied for one...

As for John, he may have returned to Virginia for a reason that had less to do with young Nancy than with Ligon; Ligon, married for three years,

died in September of 1792. If they truly were brothers, and Ligon was ailing, John's return to Virginia may have been to visit a dying brother, or to attend his funeral.

*VAUGHANS IN DB 1 & 2 BY BEL WISE: WB 2:37: Liggan Vaughan . Inv. & appraisement of est of **Liggan Vaughan, decd, taken Sep 1792**; rec. 7 Oct 1793.*

*[Note: he was m. 15 Jan 1789-abt 3 years, to . . . Dicea who remar. To William Ford . . . m 26 Dec. 1793/4 Jan. 1794 (wid of Ligon Vaughan) & they moved to Hawkins Co., Tenn.]*

**Adapted from Vaughan Notes, "Old Charlotte Stuff."  
December 16, 1990**

## *The French Connection*

*In 1700 several hundred French Huguenots migrated from England to the colony of Virginia, where King William III of England had promised them land grants in Lower Norfolk County.[75] When they arrived, colonial authorities offered them instead land 20 miles above the falls of the James River, at the abandoned Monacan village known as Manakin Town, now in Goochland County. Some settlers landed in present-day Chesterfield County. On 12 May 1705, the Virginia General Assembly passed an act to naturalize the 148 Huguenots still resident at Manakin Town. Of the original 390 settlers in the isolated settlement, many had died; others lived outside town on farms in the English style; and others moved to different areas.[76] Gradually they intermarried with their English neighbors. Through the 18th and 19th centuries, descendants of the French migrated west into the Piedmont, and across the Appalachian Mountains into the West of what became Kentucky, Tennessee, Missouri, and other states.*

### *Effects*

*The exodus of Huguenots from France created a brain drain, as many of them had occupied important places in society. The kingdom did not fully recover for years. **Wikipedia.***

White folks swept across the American continent like the surf foaming up out of the Atlantic Ocean: as the first wave of immigrants washed out, another white wave washed in. Early on it was more the story of the oncoming invaders washing away the natives. The few who survived the 1600 surge of white invaders off the Virginia coast, were forced out by the

white colonists moving inland from 1607 Jamestown. Including the Callicotts and the Vaughans, immigrants from France, Germany, Ireland, and England helped drown the natives in rum and disease before they took over tribal lands.

Down South, in time the natives set up housekeeping and began farming in North Carolina and South Carolina, and after another hundred years or so, they, now intermarried with white settlers, headed out west where the Cherokee were being forced from their homes in Tennessee and Alabama. Many souls were lost on President Andrew Jackson's Trail of Tears during the relocation of the Cherokee Nation in 1838.

Some of the Virginian children of James Callicott and his wife Agatha made the move. James was born in 1705 and Agatha Harrison in 1720, in or near Essex, Virginia. Calculated from the births of their children they were married in the early 1740's and moved south to Prince Edward County. Birthdays of her children suggest 1720 as a reasonable date of Agatha's birth. A son, Beverly Callicott, was born in 1750. He had two brothers, Bailey and Harrison and a sister named Mary. Their father was a tobacco farmer, so Beverly and his siblings grew up on a prosperous tobacco plantation that was maintained by the work of slaves.

Past middle age, James and Agatha's son Beverly and his wife Priscilla left their inheritance in the land of their birth--Virginia, and headed for North Carolina where they lived out their lives. In time, Beverly also became a tobacco farmer. Among their nine children, he and Priscilla had two daughters, Nancy and Dicea, who were highly educated girls, so he may have been a professional in the law or education. The family seems to have been a well-to-do bunch.

The two daughters are noteworthy because they left records of their Callicott heritage that not only are signs of affluence, they are signs that point the way back to France.

Because records over a period of a hundred years show that James Callicott and his children and their children pronounced their name with a French pronunciation, it could be assumed that his people came over from Europe via France with the French Huguenot Protestant refugees who had settled in the Essex, Virginia area and later on in Prince Edward. Early spelling of their name indicates they pronounced *Callicott* with a long "o" as the French would do, a pronunciation that would continue in the family at least until 1820 where it appeared as *Calico* on a White County, Tennessee census—and, even appeared a century beyond.

Many settlers were moving westward into central Virginia from its eastern shore near, or onto, Indian tracts. Indeed, the earlier Essex

settlement of the parents of James Callicott and the French Huguenots--pronounced *Hue-ga-no*, in France--was sixty miles northeast of the Callicott's plantations in Prince Edward County. The Essex settlement had begun early in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, along with Jamestown, and its early European colonists included a group of Protestant French Huguenots.

Besides official records that show the odyssey of their family, Nancy and Dicea left documentation in their own words and in their own handwriting. At fifteen, when Nancy took a liking to the war hero, thirty-year-old Sgt. John Vaughan, she wrote her own documents, perjuring herself, back during a time when lying was a matter of extreme dishonor and punishable.

In spite of residents of the Charlotte area showing support for the American Revolution, wannabe aristocrats, called Tories, were everywhere, and the Callicotts may have been wealthy enough to still support the divine rights of King George III to rule over them. In France people were still hanging on, barely, to the idea that God was still appointing their kings, too.

Since the Callicotts appear to be people of wealth, another aspect of the case might be their own social standing. For one thing, having two strong-willed, well-educated daughters makes the family appear to stand a cut above. If so, since wealthy colonists had often remained loyal to old King George, if Nancy's father had been a Tory in the recent war—and there are no military records that show Beverly Callicott, or his brothers, for that matter, fought for the American Revolution--he would not have been impressed with John Vaughan's valiant and successful struggle for equality and justice. No matter how much wealth the soldier boy had gained in the fight, no Tory would want a Rebel for a son-in-law.

Nevertheless, two years later on October 16, 1794 Beverly Callicott's little girl did leave her father's house in Charlotte County, and Nancy described her elopement with John Vaughan in her war pension application:

*State of Tennessee, County of Hawkins*

*On the 2nd day of June AD One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty Eight ... Mrs. Nancy Vaughan, ... says she ran away with her Husband John Vaughan from Sharlotte County, Virginia and went into Halifax County, Virginia and were married by one Parson Hayze, a clergyman, and that she was married at the house of the said Parson Hayze's, ... that she cannot from her recollection give the precise day and year of her said marriage but she states to the best of her recollection that it was on or about the 16<sup>th</sup> day of October 1794. **Affidavit, Widow's application for Revolutionary War Pension, 1858***



“The course of true love never did run smooth,”  
 William Shakespeare, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* Act 1 Scene 1.



*HUGUENOT LOVERS ON ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S DAY*  
 John Everett Millais, 1852.

Not only are her false affidavits evidence that in Beverly's Charlotte, Virginia home resided an educated girl—one of the men who aided and abetted her in her perjury, Wm. Burchet, could be someone from the French community up the road a ways, depending on how he pronounced, *Burchet*.

In the beginning, Nancy, along with several of her relatives, never used the *Callicot* spelling which became the norm, preferring instead, *Calicote*. At sister Dicey's wedding the minister even pointed out that the



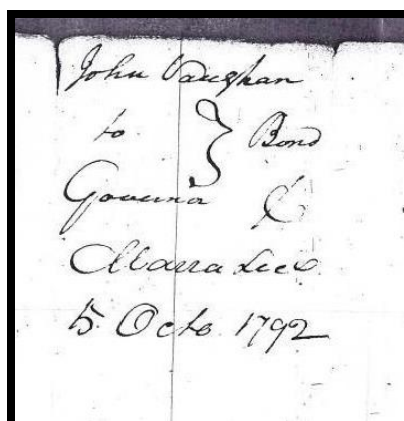
bride pronounced their family name as, “*Calico*.” This would be an Old World pronunciation of *Callicot* from a part of the old world that spoke French. Since Nancy, Dicey and others used “*Calico*,” “*Calicote*,” “*Callicot*,” etc--accordingly, it would be another reason to assume that not far back down the line the father of the Callicott girls had ancestors that came from France. Even more astonishing, among Callicott descendants the French pronunciation lasted into the 20<sup>th</sup> century; when a great-great-grandchild of Beverly died in Texas in 1964, the informant—Beverly’s great-great-great-granddaughter--gave her grandmother's maiden name as *Calico* on the death certificate. The particular grandmother’s maiden name was actually *Vaughan*, but that does not detract from the lasting power of the *Calico* pronunciation of the name going on and on and on.

### *III. Marriage, 1792-1794*

During Sgt. John Vaughan’s visit young Nancy seems to have taken a liking to the dashing war hero. She may have been a mite precocious. At fifteen, she liked him enough to try to get him for a husband by perjuring herself. In her own handwriting, and using legal phrasing that was surely beyond the common fifteen-year-old vocabulary, she fibbed about her age when applying for a marriage bond, and, what’s more, she talked two friends into lying about it also.

*John Vaughan and Nancy Callicott Marriage Bond, four pages.*

Page 1



## Page 2 False Affidavit Made by Nancy Calicote

Charlotte County - October 6th 1792.  
 This is to certify the Clarke of said  
 County that I haveing no Guardian  
 nor Controller Consent for being  
 of age for my self that there may  
 be a law full Licence in Marriage  
 to John Vaughan of said County  
 as witness my hand.

Test  
 Nancy Calicote  
 Henry Hughes  
 Wm Burchet

## Transcription of False Affidavit Made by Nancy Calicote

Charlotte County - October 6th 1792 – this is to certify the clark  
 of said County, that haveing no guardian nor controller, consent for  
 being of age for my self that there may be a law full Licence in  
 Marriage to John Vaughan of said County as witness my hand.

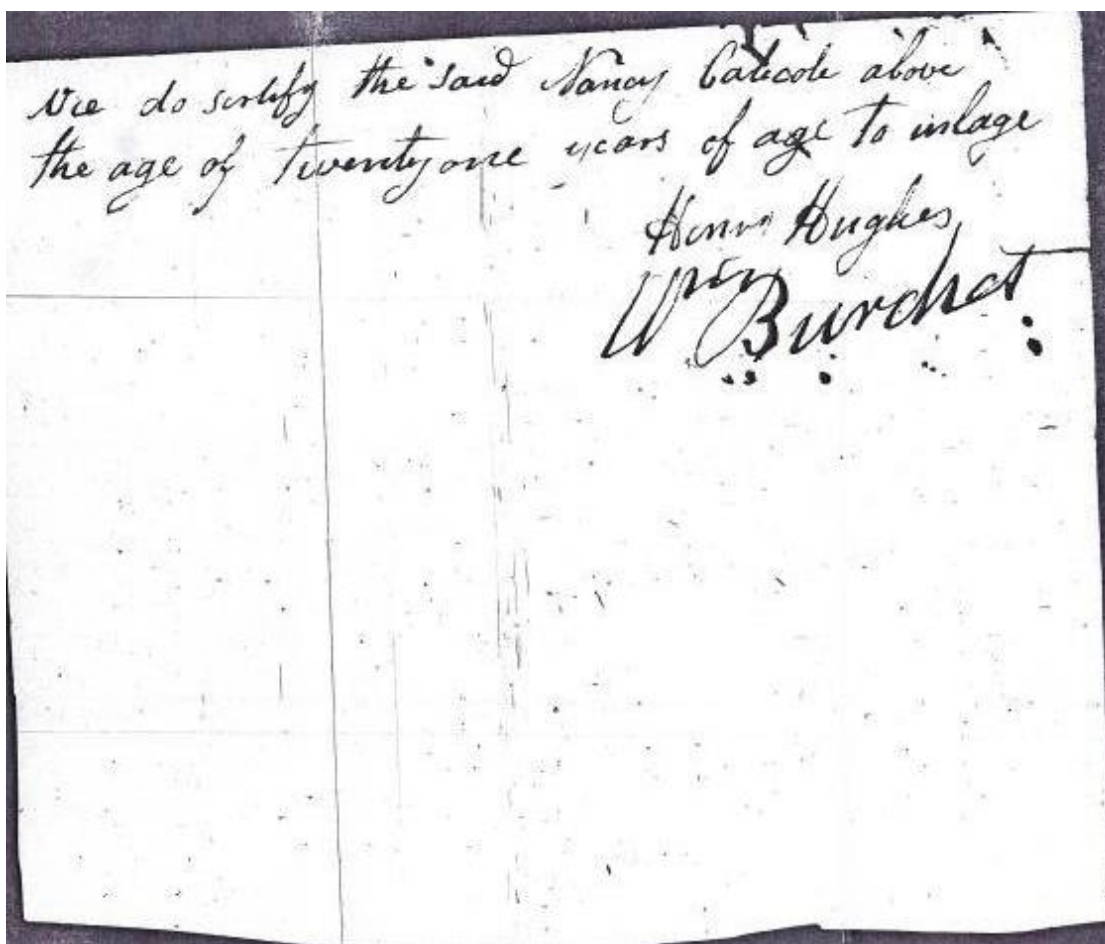
Nancy Calicote.

Test

Henry Hughes

Wm Burchet

Page 3 False Affidavit of Henry Hughes and Wm. Burchet

A photograph of a handwritten document on aged, yellowed paper. The text is written in cursive ink. The first line reads "We do certify the said Nancy Calicote above" and the second line reads "the age of twenty one years of age to inlage". Below this, the names "Henry Hughes" and "Wm. Burchet" are written in a larger, more decorative cursive script. The paper shows signs of wear, including creases and discoloration.

Transcription of False Affidavit of Henry Hughes and Wm. Burchet

*We do certify the said Nancy Calicote above the age of twenty one years of age to inlage.*

*Henry Hughes  
Wm. Burchet*



## Page 4 John Vaughan and Nancy Callicott Marriage Bond Oct. 5 1792

Know all above by these presents that said John Vaughan & Henry Hughes  
 are held and firmly unto Henry Sir Esquire, Governor of the common-  
 wealth of Virginia in the sum of fifty pounds current money  
 to which payment will and truly to be made unto our said Governor  
 and his Successors for the use of the common wealth, we bind  
 ourselves, our heirs & firmly lay these presents sealed with  
 our seals & dated this 5<sup>th</sup> day of October 1792

The Condition of the above obligation is such that whereas there  
 is a marriage suddenly intended to be solemnized between  
 John Vaughan & Nancy Callicott ----- If therefore  
 there be no lawful cause to obstruct the same, then this  
 obligation to be void, also to remain in full force & Virtue  
 Sealed & delivered in presence of } *John Vaughan* }  
*Wm. Morton Lunn* } mark }  
*Henry Hughes* }

## Transcription of John Vaughan and Nancy Callicott Marriage Bond Oct. 5 1792

Know all above by these presents that said John Vaughan & Henry  
 Hughes are held and firmly unto Henry Sir Esquire, Governor of the  
 Commonwealth of Virginia in the (amount) of fifty Pounds current money to  
 which payment will and truly to be made unto our said Governor and his  
 \_\_\_\_\_ pose for the use of the common wealth, we bind ourselves, our heirs  
 do firmly lay these presents sealed with our seal and dated this 5th day of  
 October 1792. -----The condition of the above obligation is  
 such that wheras this is a marriage suddenly intended to be solemnized  
 between John Vaughan & Nancy Callicott ----- If  
 therefore there be no lawful cause to obstruct the same, then this obligation  
 to be void also to remain in full force and Voided. Sealed and delivered in  
 presence of Wm. Morton lunn.}

his

Jno. X Vaughan

mark

Henry Hughes

John was a Revolutionary War veteran. His successful exploits as a sergeant who served as an artillery gunner for the victorious Americans not only made him look heroic, they made him a man with money in his pocket and the owner of hundreds of acres of land in Maryland and Virginia. He was a war hero and a man of substance. But no matter how attractive a catch he was, Nancy's fraudulent document failed to haul him in. Some people have guessed that Mr. Callicott found a problem with Nancy's age, plus the discrepancy in their ages, but records show that this was not a problem for a lot of other newlyweds back in those days. In addition, not many fathers objected to a daughter marrying a man of property—no matter how old he was, and John did own property.

For whatever reason, their marriage had to wait. John returned to Maryland, and it would be two years before he is known to be back in Virginia. That trip could have coincided with Widow Dicey's marriage to William Ford. It could also have been a trip to check on some of his land. After all, the first home he provided for his family was in Virginia. His elopement with Nancy to Halifax took place in 1794.

Nancy did manage to get her new family off to an interesting start.

By 1794 she still felt it was necessary to perjure herself about her age. Born in 1777, the same year young John Vaughan enlisted in the Continental Army, she was fifteen years younger than her fiancé, but her second application claims she was born in 1772. The record also says, truthfully, John Vaughan was born in 1762 and that he was born in Ireland. Years later, when age and sickness had taken a toll on her mind, not only had she seemingly forgotten most of Sergeant Vaughan's distinguished military career and that her husband came to Virginia out of Maryland, she appeared to be unable to recall that John Vaughan gave his place of birth as Ireland. Still, Ireland had at least been mentioned in the home around the children as the story and mementos of the Irish birth of both John Vaughan and his mother persisted and exist to this day among their descendants.

Perhaps societal conditions of 1858 concerning the Irish dictated her memory loss as much as age. The Irish, like Native Americans and blacks, sometimes *did not need to apply*. In 1794, John, who could not read and write, reported to a Halifax record keeper that he was born in Eire, the Irish name for Ireland.



U.S. and International Marriage Records, 1560-1900 about Nancy Callicot

*Name:* Nancy Callicot

*Birth Place:* VA

*Birth Year:* 1772

*Spouse Name:* John Vaughan

*Spouse Birth Place:* Ir

*Spouse Birth Year:* 1762

*Marriage Year:* 1794

**Source Information:** Yates Publishing. U.S. and International Marriage Records, 1560-1900 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2004.

Some believe that it was her father's disapproval of John's social status that led to the elopement. Perhaps so, but John never lacked money or was without his reputation as a war hero. Whatever the impediment, the couple ran off to Halifax County, Virginia where they were married on October 16, 1794. Nancy described their elopement in her war pension application.

Several years passed as the Virginia family got its start, and both public and private records of Vaughan relationships stack up to build a Halifax, Virginia "Family and Friends" album. A number of Vaughans were already in Halifax. John had passed thru there himself during the war. More importantly, other Marylanders had settled in Halifax. One was the Reverend Alexander Hay, who is documented, December 21, 1802, as a minister of Antrim Parish of Halifax, who performed marriages there during the previous decade. Many years later, Nancy's claim that she ran away with John from Charlotte County to Halifax County and was married, "by Parson Hayze, at the house of the said Parson Hayze's," she could be referring to Alexander Hay.

Reverend Alexander Hay's house is most likely the same house as that of Parson Hayze. It's easy to see how, over time, the possessive noun could become confused as it was spoken and then written. The Hay name appeared in early New York and Maryland neighborhoods alongside the Revolutionary army buddies of John Vaughan. Families from Antrim County, Ireland settled in Frederick, Maryland and in Albany, New York during the colonial period. Daniel and Nicholas Hay are listed in Frederick County, Maryland in 1790 amongst the Carmacks and Livingstons, John Vaughan's lifelong friends. An Alexander Hay is living in Albany, New York in 1790 where Robert Livingston, who served in John's artillery regiment, settled at war's end. Reverend Alexander Hay, minister of Antrim Parish, Virginia, and Sgt. John Vaughan may have kept the same company as they traveled the same roads.

After their wedding the couple lived together in, or near, Antrim Parish, Virginia on what could have been significant acreage for the next few years. Two little Virginian sons were born to them—James L. in 1795 and Beverley in 1798. In knowing folks thereabouts, plus owning some Halifax acreage, these events and associations make it seem as if John and Nancy did not elope from Charlotte to some random spot on the map. Nancy's new family quite possibly started life with a roof over its head in a Virginian neighborhood of friends and kin. She had perjured herself well.

#### *IV. Tennessee, 1800*

In 1800 Thomas Jefferson was President and his Louisiana Purchase opened up the continent. The Lewis and Clark Expedition of 1804-1806 led the way to the Pacific Ocean. By 1800 the western movement of United States citizens included the Virginian Vaughans. Nancy was twenty-three years old.

Shortly after the Halifax marriage of John and Nancy, Virginia's neighboring lands became organized enough to become the State of Tennessee. Immediately the tribal lands of the Cherokee entered the real estate market of the white man. The history of the Revolutionary War suggests that the Vaughan children grew up and came to adulthood on the former stomping grounds of the Chicamauga band of natives. The celebrated beauty of the Clinch Mountain area which was the exact spot of the tribal lands of these Cherokee would one day become Hawkins County, Tennessee.

There is some recorded evidence that a relationship between the Vaughans and the area Cherokee lingered on after the Vaughans moved

*View of the original John Vaughan homestead from the Vaughan Cemetery on Copper Ridge. (Mabel Harp photo, 1997)*



in. Abram Helton, Cherokee Veteran of the American Revolution, entered the service of the United States in 1778. In 1804, a young John Helton--whose Cherokee kin had fought and bled for the American cause--made Tennessee his home after the war, and he sold a scenic piece of the former tribal lands on Clinch Mountain to John Vaughan. They had lost their tribal lands because no matter which side they fought



on, the Cherokee were doomed. Sadly, it didn't matter that the Heltons had fought on the side of the rebels. When they applied for their war bounty, their claims were denied by the U.S. War Department. They were denied because the Heltons were Cherokee. In Hawkins County, Tennessee the Helton family remained friends and neighbors of the Vaughans for the next century.

Because Sgt. Vaughan did receive the lands and monetary rewards due him for his military service, Mr. Callicott's daughter was able to spend her life with a man of substance; she had landed herself a husband who could afford the lovely Hawkins County farm he purchased for her and her children.

Helton's land deal came about after William Vaughan, who was related in some way to Nancy's husband, bought some land from William McClean in the new state of Tennessee. It was two hundred and fifty acres on the north side of the Clinch Mountains, nestled down in the beauty of the Clinch River Valley in Hawkins County. Three years later William and Fereby Looney Vaughan--with her own Cherokee legacy--sold one hundred acres of the same tract to John Helton. Shortly thereafter, Helton sold this farm to John Vaughan, already in Tennessee with Nancy and their growing brood; John then moved his family to this north side region of Clinch Mountain

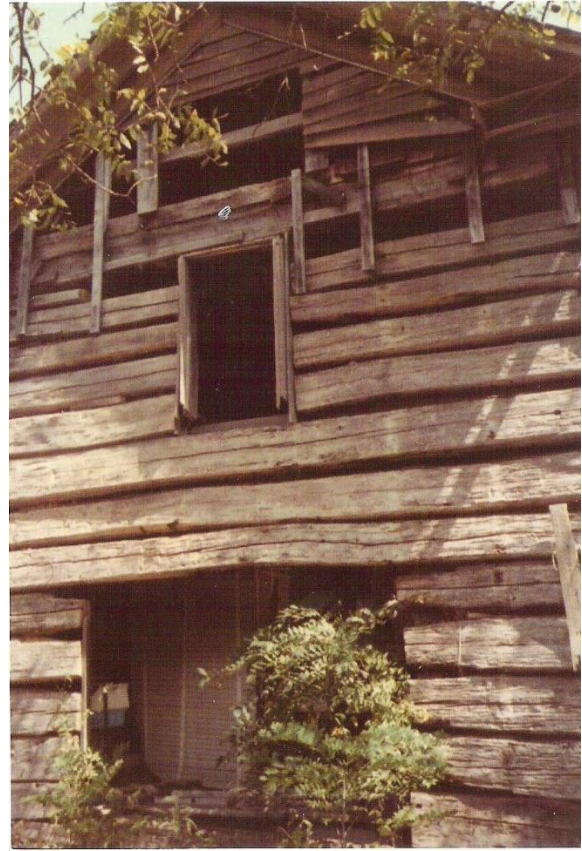
By 1806, the year the farm was purchased, Beverley and James had another brother, Benjamin--possibly named Benjamin Franklin. Two sisters, Mary Polley and Rebekah Greaser, perhaps provided the boys with the amusement and aggravation that little girls bring to a home of boys. Nancy, Mahala, John, Jr., Samuel N., Martha, and a boy named George Washington—presumably after their father's great General--were born during the next fifteen years, all in the same house. The two story structure for nearly thirty years was home to John and Nancy, their children, and later on, to some of their grandchildren and even a great grandchild. The property, including a barn and family burial grounds, stayed in the John Vaughan family for the next century.

In the 1830's when they were able to purchase a second farm, on the mountains' south side--in neighboring Poor Valley—they made for themselves a virtual Vaughan family mountain compound.

According to Nancy, and the testimony of her longtime neighbors, she and her family resided in the original home until about the year 1832 at which time, she said, her husband bought another

house on the south side of Clinch mountain, and so, after being in one place for thirty years, they moved.

*RIGHT: Original Home of John and Nancy Vaughan, before remodeling/restoration.*



*BELOW: In later years the barn on the original property has been used for drying tobacco, which is grown and harvested on the acreage.*

***Barn (Mabel Harp 1997 photo)***



***Barn (Opal Frances Vaughan 1985 photo)***



V. Daybook and Children, 1795-1820

James  
 Was Born at  
 the 15 day 1795  
 Beverly Vaughan  
 Was Born January  
 the 4 day 1798  
 Poley Vaughan  
 Was Born at present  
 the 12 day 1800  
 Reluiah Green  
 Was Born June  
 the 24 day 1802

Mary in Vaughan  
 Was Born at  
 the 1 day 1804  
 Mary Vaughan  
 Was Born January  
 the 19 day 1807  
 M. Mary Vaughan was  
 born the 10th day  
 in the year of our Lord 1808  
 John Vaughan was  
 Born in the year of our  
 Lord September the 25 day  
 1811  
 Samuel Vaughan was  
 born February the 11 day  
 in that year of our Lord 1814

Martha Vaughan  
 was born in the year  
 of our Lord July the 2  
 day 1815  
 George Vaughan  
 was born in the  
 year of our Lord June  
 the 15th day 1820  
 James Jones was born  
 in the year of our Lord  
 January the 27 day 1822  
 at present

William Jones Vaughan  
 Was Born in the  
 year of our Lord May  
 the 18th day 1828  
 John Franklin Vaughan  
 Was Born April  
 the 11 day 1831  
 Mary Tildah Jones Vaughan  
 Was Born on the 11 day  
 1832  
 Tennessee Vaughan  
 Was Born the 27 day  
 1833

At age eighteen, Nancy Vaughan began to keep a Daybook; eventually recorded were the birthdays of her eleven children, plus James Jones—her neighbor's child, and Mary Jane Brown—her daughter-in-law, and also three of her grandchildren—the children of Mary Jane Brown and George Washington Vaughan. Only the first six names of her own babies are recorded in Nancy's hand.

### **Transcribed Day/Datebook of Nancy Callicott Vaughan**

By Helen Vaughan Michael

#### *Page 1*

*James Vaughan was Born october the 15 day 1795*

*Beverley Vaughan Was Born January the 4 day 1798*

*Poley Vaughan Was Born April the 12 day 1800*

*Rebekah Greaser Was Born June the 24 day 1801*

#### *Page 2*

*Benjamin Vaughan Was Born November the 4 day 1804*

*Nancy Vaughan was Born January the 19 day 1807*

*Mahaly Vaughan was bornd the 10th day of March in the year of our Lord 1809*

*John Vaughan was Bornd in the year of our Lord september the 28 day 1811*

*Samuel Vaughan was bornd february the 11 day in the year of Lord 1814*

#### *Page 3*

*Martha Vaughan was bornd in the year of our Lord July the 2 day \_ 1815*

*George W. Vaughan was bornd in the year of our Lord June the 15th day 1820*

---

*this above is the Record*

*James Jones was bornd in the year of our Lord January the 27 day 1822*

---

*No more at preazent*

#### *Page 4*

*Mary Jane Vaughan Was Bornd in the Year of our lord May 22, 1818*

*John Franklin Vaughan WAS Bornd April the 4th day 1841*

*Mary Ulda Jane Vaughan Waz Bornd August the 14 day 1842*

*Tennessee Vaughan Was Bornd Dec the 27, 1843*

## Analysis and Comment

### Page 1

James Vaughan was Born october the 15 day 1795

**NOTE: On her second entry, *Beverley Callicot* (Nancy's father) is entered by mistake and marked out.**

Beverley Vaughan Was Born January the 4 day 1798

**NOTE: Year dates are marked out and changed.**

Poley Vaughan Was Born April the 12 day 1800

Rebeckah Greaser Was Born June the 24 day 1801

**Note: Spelled *Rebecca* on grave stone and father's will.**

### Page 2

Benjamin Vaughan Was Born November the 4 day 1804

Nancy Vaughan was Born January the 19 day 1807

Mahaly Vaughan was bornd the 10th day of March in the year of our Lord 1809

**NOTE: Later records say Mahala. Handwriting changes.**

John Vaughan was Bornd in the year of our Lord september the 28 day 1811

Samuel Vaughan was bornd february the 11 day in the year of our Lord 1814

### Page 3

Martha Vaughan was bornd in the year of our Lord July the 2 day \_ 1815

George W. Vaughan was bornd in the year of our Lord June the 15th day 1820

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this above is the Record

James Jones was bornd in the year of our Lord January the 27 day 1822

**NOTE: James Jones is a neighbor on the 1840 census. A later Lt Gov of TN is named James Jones.**

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No more at preazent

**NOTE: Next entries are wife and children of George Washington Vaughan.**

**Since his wife and children are enrolled in his mother's book, it can be assumed George lived with his mother until at least December, 1843. In 1858 Nancy makes it clear that he moved away in 1844.**

### Page 4



Mary Jane (Brown) Vaughan Was Bornd in the Year of our lord May 22  
1818

John Franklin Vaughan WAS Bornd April the 4th day 1841

May Uldah Jane Vaughan Was Bornd on the 14 day 1842?

Tennessee Vaughan Was Bornd Dec the day 1843

**NOTE: Handwriting changes at least three times, indicating more than one scribe; Spelling, twice; Wording, three times. Entries reflect some education.**

**NOTE: Book and his father's papers were in Benjamin's possession in 1858.**

The Daybook was used as evidence to prove the names and dates of birth for her eleven children in her pension application:

*State of Tennessee, County of Hawkins} On this 3rd day of February AD One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty Eight , Nancy Vaughan a Resident of Hawkins County in the State of Tennessee aged About 81 Eighty one years , . . . doth on her oath make the following Declaration . . . that her and her said husband . . . raised eleven children, the eldest is James born Oct 15 day 1795; Beverley was born January 4th 1798; Polly was born April 12 day 1800; Rebekah G. was born June the 24 day 1801; Benjamin was born November 4th Day 1804; Nancy was born January 19th day 1807; Mahaly was Born the 10th day March 1809; John was born September 28th day 1811; Samuel Vaughan was born February the 11th 1814; Martha Was born July 24, 1815; George W. Vaughan was born June 15th day 1820; from my hand and seal.*

*Nancy her X mark Vaughan*

**Affidavit, Widow's application for Revolutionary War Pension, 1858.**

In her eighties, and no longer able to write so much as her name, she referred to her Daybook for this data. The Daybook was provided by her son, Benjamin.

On June 15, 1820 George Washington Vaughan was born. He was the last of John and Nancy's eleven children. James L., the first-born, was twenty-five years old. There were five girls and six boys. James L., born 1795, was long gone. He married Martha Patty Vaughan and started a family of his own about 1815 in Tennessee. He left his first Martha and married Martha A., with whom he fathered two more sons in Indiana. He ended up with a lot of land in Texas after serving in the Texas Army. Beverley was born January 4, 1798, and he also left his Hawkins County

home, early on, and traveled from state to state after leaving Tennessee for Indiana. Mary Polley was born April 12, 1800, married John Gilliam, and lived out her life near the old home place. Nancy stayed with Mary Polley after her son, George Washington, sold her house and moved to Mississippi. Rebeckah was born June 24, 1801. She married a German, John Roller in Virginia, and they ended up in Missouri. Benjamin was born November 1, 1804. Though there is no record of it, he was probably named Benjamin Franklin. His numerous nephews with the Franklin name are more likely to have been named after him than a beloved Revolutionary hero remembered by his father. He married Eve Everheart, and in 1860 they also moved to Texas. Nancy was born January 19, 1807. She married David Hickman, stayed in the neighborhood, and, eventually many of their descendants ended up as outlaws--which the Hickmans supported. Mahala, or Mahaly, was born March 10, 1809 and died young—at least before her father wrote his will in 1841. She married William Deckard, and they lived next door to her parents in 1830. They had at least two children. John Vaughan, Jr. was born September 28, 1811. He married Susan Mauk and lived out his life within the Vaughan compound. Two of his children are buried in the Copper Ridge, Vaughan Cemetery. Samuel N., born February 11, 1814, also died young. He married Malvina Church and they were the parents of William, John, George Washington (b.1846), Julienne, Carter, Matilda, Evan, and Hiram. Their children were all born at the original John and Nancy Vaughan home place. Samuel N. died in the old house in 1863 during the Civil War, leaving Malvina a widow for nearly twenty-five years. He and Malvina are buried together up on Copper Ridge. With the help of her youngest daughter, Matilda, and a black woman from North Carolina named Phyllis Vaughan, Malvina kept up the farm. At her death in 1887, son Carter took it over and tended to the old house, and it still stands today. Martha was born July 2, 1815, and she married Wilson N. Davis. Her family, like Rebeckah's, moved to Missouri. George Washington Vaughan, Nancy's last baby, seemingly was named after the general with whom his father had served in the American Revolution, who afterwards became the first President of the United States. He was born in 1820. When he was about twelve, his parents bought a second farm, not far away, and they moved to the other side of the mountain. George inherited the second family home, but sold it and moved to Mississippi.

In 1841, when his father willed him this south side home, George W. and his family were living there with his elderly parents. At least they were living with Nancy's Daybook. Three of George's children, along with his



wife, are listed in her book. The names of his wife, Mary Jane Brown, born May 22, 1818, and three of their children almost fill the last page. John Franklin was born April 4, 1841. Perhaps the old grandpa made out his will in December with a nine-month-old grandson on his lap. John Vaughan died in 1842. His will left Nancy and her home in the keep and care of John Franklin's father, their youngest son, George Washington.

In 1858 the Daybook was in Benjamin's possession.

*State of Tennessee*

*County of Hancock,*

*Be it remembered that on this 28 day of May AD 1858 formally appeared . . . Benjamin Vaughan aged about 54 years . . . , who further certifies that. . . “ the enclosed record of my father John & Nancy Vaughan is the record which was found among my father's old papers and it has ever since remained to my possession.”*  
**(Affidavit, Widow's application for Revolutionary War Pension, 1858)**

#### *VI. Residence, 1830-1858*

From 1792 to 1820 Nancy's family in Tennessee saw all the lands around them annexed into the United States. Further on, Missouri, Arkansas, and Texas followed. She saw three of her children move out into these areas in her lifetime--her sons, James L. and Beverley, and daughter, Rebecka.

By 1830, fellow Tennessean, Andrew Jackson, was in the White House. Jackson too had lived in northeast Tennessee, and as a boy during the Revolution he had witnessed the Battle of Hobkirk's Hill in which John Vaughan had fought. Elected president in 1828, he served from 1829–1837. His Indian Removal Act, the forced relocation of thousands of Native American tribes to Indian Territory (now Oklahoma), opened up more land for white settlement. Nine states to the west continued to offer cheap land. In territories such as Texas, land could be bought for twenty-five cents an acre--if one didn't mind fighting the Mexicans and Comanche for it.

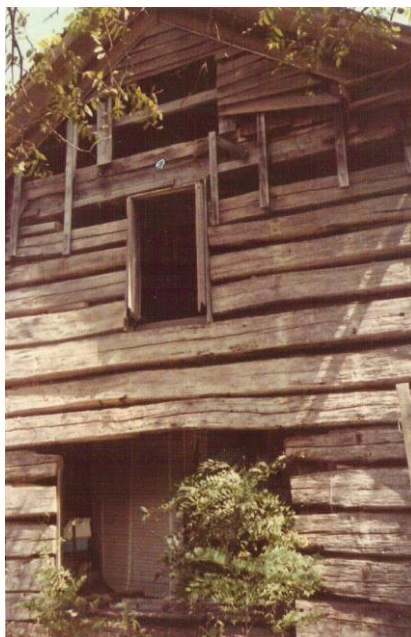
The 1830 census shows Nancy at age fifty-three at the original Hawkins County home site with her four youngest children still with her. Mahala lived next door, and all but her two wanderers—James L. and Beverley, who had both followed the western movement, were living in the neighborhood.



Testimony from Nancy's 1858 Pension application describes her whereabouts at the age of fifty-five as dwelling in the original homestead:

*Hawkins County, Tennessee,*  
*. . . we settled on or near Clinch river some 5 or 6 miles from here where I now live. and that we lived there all the while until about the year 1832 at which time my husband bought land on this side of Clinch mountain, and we moved over here in this valley, called then and now, Poor Valley.*  
**Affidavit, Widow's application for Revolutionary War Pension, 1858**

When the family moved to the south side of Clinch Mountain, George, Martha, Samuel N., and John Jr., were teenagers and still living with their parents. By 1840, when their mother was sixty-three, only twenty year old George Washington was still at the home in Poor Valley. The other living children, except for James and Beverley—who had answered the call to go west—had grown up but had not gone away. Rebeckah's family lived in Virginia, but that was just across the fence from Hawkins County. The Benjamin Walker Vaughan listed on the 1840 census is probably a distant relative of her husband. Nancy's Benjamin was still residing on or near the old northside home place.



***Two hundred year old Tennessee home of Nancy Callicott Vaughan's Family***

# 1840 Census

(No. 4.) <sup>14</sup> SCHEDULE of the whole number of persons within the division allotted to *Henry Watterton*

NAME OF HEADS OF FAMILIES	FREE WHITE PERSONS, INCLUDING HEADS OF FAMILIES																				FREE COLORED PERSONS																				
	MALES										FEMALES										MALES					FEMALES															
	Under 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 30	30 to 40	40 to 50	50 to 60	60 to 70	70 to 80	80 to 90	90 to 100	100 and up	Under 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 30	30 to 40	40 to 50	50 to 60	60 to 70	70 to 80	80 to 90	90 to 100	100 and up	Under 10	10 to 20	20 to 30	30 to 40	40 to 50	50 and up	Under 10	10 to 20	20 to 30	30 to 40	40 to 50	50 and up		
brought forward	229	155	162	129	176	86	96	37	27	14	2			22	161	120	138	207	121	83	37	38	11	6			7	2	3	6		4	6	5	2	2					
Joseph Schenck	1													1																											
Anthony Smith		2																																							
William Johnson	1														2																										
Manning Weston																																									
Stephen Johnson	1																																								
Mary Sloan	1																																								
Isidore Rustig	2																																								
James Brown																																									
John Broughman																																									
Thomas Boston																																									
Mark Kops	2																																								
Isziah Pittkin																																									
John Gilliam	1	1	2	2																																					
William Leane	1																																								
Charles S. Manley																																									
William Kitchin																																									
Benjamin Kitchin	1																																								
Benjamin Kitchin	1																																								
Katharine Davis																																									
Louis Davis	1																																								
Andrew Galbraith	4	5	1																																						
Thomas Caldwell					2																																				
Elizabeth Kitchin																																									
William H. Gray	1				2																																				
Hardy Redick	1	1	1																																						
David Shanker																																									
Nancy Hazard																																									
Walter B. Howell	2	2	1																																						
James M. Hargood																																									
James Montgomery	2	2																																							
	247	176	172	135	174	92	75	60	32	17	2			252	177	146	166	221	133	57	62	38	11	6			7	2	3	6		4	6	5	2	2					

This 1840 neighborhood is important to Nancy's future. Mary Polley Vaughan Gilliam is nearby, and it is her home that Nancy will share after son George sold this southside property and left. Afterwards, Nancy lived with the John Gilliam family till the end of her life. George is still at home in 1840, and will marry Mary Jane Brown, and carry her across the threshold of the Poor Valley residence in June. As usual with the Vaughans, there are unknown children counted in 1840, but they could be Mahala's-- Mahala died before 1841, proven by her father remembering her heirs in his will. An interesting neighbor is James Brown. Since the children of this clan usually chose their mates from the neighborhood, perhaps he is Mary Jane's father. Mary Jane registers herself and her first three children— from 1841 to 1843--in Nancy's Daybook, so probably less than five years after her husband's death, Nancy was moved into the Gilliam home. Concerning George moving on, in 1858 Nancy claimed,

*the last account I had of him he lived near Nashville, Tennessee and he has been gone from here about 14 years.*

Around the time of her death, George had moved to Mississippi.

#### *VII. Will and Death of John Vaughan, 1841--1842*

In December of 1841 Nancy's seventy-nine year old husband made out his will, and he died the next summer. She was sixty-four. She never remarried and died a widow. Instead of leaving their home to Nancy, John left it, the land it was on, and all their personal property to their son, George Washington. In less than two years after John's death, George sold the farm and was living near Nashville. It's very likely that he took his mother with him, but had to bring back the elderly, but still strong-willed lady. Nancy had to move in with her daughter, Mary Polley Gilliam, who lived nearby the home George sold.

#### **WILL OF JOHN VAUGHAN**

Dated: Dec. 27, 1841

Proven: Aug. Term 1842

*I, John Vaughan of the County of Hawkins and State of Tennessee, do make this my last Will & Testament hereby revoking and making void all former wills by me heretofore made.*

*First. My will and desire is that all my just debts be paid out of any money that I may die possessed of, or that may first come into the hands of my Executors.*

*Second. My will and desire is that my son George Washington, for and in consideration of the bequests hereinafter made to him, do keep and support my wife Nancy Vaughan during her natural life.*

*Third. I do give and bequeath unto my sons Samuel N. Vaughan and Benjamin Vaughan during their natural lives and then to their lawful heirs forever all my lands on the north side of Clinch Mountain, it being about 110 acres and 10 acres on the south side to copper ridge whereon the said Samuel N. Vaughan now lives, to be equally divided between them according to quality.*

*Fourth. I do will and direct that the above named Samuel N. and Benjamin Vaughan for and in consideration of the above bequest shall within 12 months after my death jointly pay unto my son John Vaughan \$100.00.*

*Fifth. I give and bequeath unto my son George Washington Vaughan all my land whereon I now live and joining it being about 170 acres, together with all my personal estate that I may die possessed of or entitled to, and all money and debts due me except so much as may be necessary to supply the bequests made in this will in money.*

*Sixth. Whereas my sons Beverley Vaughan and James L. Vaughan has gone to parts unknown, if they should return within two years after my death, I do give and bequeath to them one dollar each.*

*Seventh. I do give and bequeath unto the heirs of my daughter Mahala Dickerd one dollar.*

*Eighth. I do give and bequeath unto my daughter Mary Gilliam one dollar.*

*Ninth. I do give and bequeath unto my daughter Rebecca Roller \$1.00.*

*Tenth. I do give and bequeath unto my daughter Nancy Hickman \$1.00.*

*Eleventh. I do give and bequeath unto my daughter Martha Davis \$1.00.*

*And for the performance and execution of this my last will, I do appoint Robert W. Kinkead my Executor. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal. This 27th day of December, 1841.*

*John his x mark Vaughan (seal)*

*In presence of: William Carmack, James T. Brice, William E. Carmack*

The Carmacks were John's lifelong friends from Maryland who also had Irish ties. They may have come to Tennessee together, they lived in the neighborhood, they were war buddies with war stories to tell, and all of them hailed from Maryland where they had families from Ireland. John's war record speaks volumes, but for some reason members of his family didn't hear it well enough to recall it.

#### *VIII. Pension Application and Death, 1858*

When the U.S. Congress approved a widow's pension Act in 1848, Nancy began trying, but failed, to get someone to help her make her claim. Not until 1858 when William M. Strickland, a lawyer from Sneedville, filed for her did she receive any assistance. After her husband's death, her life

was filled with disappointment. Her pension application describes the last fourteen years of her life:

*And that at his death aforesaid he left a will in which he divided his lands and tenements among his children, generally that he left the place we settled when we first came to Tennessee to his sons to wit: Benjamin, Samuel and John Vaughan and that he left the place where he died to his youngest son George W. Vaughan with a provision in it that he was to take care of me my lifetime and he notwithstanding has sold the land and moved from here, the last account I had of him he lived near Nashville, Tennessee and that he has been gone from here about 14 years.*

She tells how after the death of her husband she remained unmarried and a widow of John Vaughan. She tells how she lived at her daughter's house instead of her own. She tells of how when she first knew that there was a pension allowed to the widows of Revolutionary soldiers that she appealed for help to one agent after another--William C. Baldwin of Hancock County, one Hicks of Abingdon, Virginia, one Hiram Rodgers who then lived in Hancock County, Tennessee, and finally one Granville Rodgers, plus "several others not named," who falsely promised their help. She tells how she had been ". . . so much confined from old age and bodily infirmity that I could not go to have my claim fixed out and authenticated." She tells of being disappointed and held in suspense from time to time until the attorney Wm. M. Strickland of Sneedville, Tennessee came along.

The application of eighty-one-year-old Nancy Callicott Vaughan, widow of John Vaughan, a soldier of the American Revolution, filed February 2, 1858, was ten years too late. Her hand which at fifteen wrote out an illegal declaration in legal language—the same hand that recorded the births of children in her Daybook—was too infirm to sign her name. She ended her final words with an X. On September 28, 1858, her attorney wrote the last page to her application ordeal:

*Hawkins County*

*Tennessee*

*Sept 28, 1858, Sir, In the case of Nancy Vaughan, widow of John, a Revolutionary Soldier, she deceased a few days ago.*

*Wm C Strickland*

**Affidavit, Widow's application for Revolutionary War Pension, 1858**



Nancy lived as a widow for more than fifteen years. By 1858 she did not have anything, and she applied for a pension which Congress had appropriated for war widows ten years earlier. In her application is the implication that she began trying to get compensation early on. She complained in her affidavit that in all her previous efforts she could find no one to help her—this in spite of six of her eleven children still living close by. Sadly, the application she finally got through was denied. One objection was that she couldn't prove her legal marriage to a war veteran; the other objection was that she did not prove her husband's war record.

Since it should have been approved, because the sworn testimony of her neighbors and Hawkins County officials clearly provided sufficient evidence, the times in which she lived suggest a more sinister element was at work here. Her trouble with the pension folks may have been caused by a social element--the Great Migration from Ireland that started in 1848. Running from the Irish potato famine, hordes of starving people made themselves *not welcome* in America. The years after 1848 were not a good time to be applying for anything when signs were posted everywhere saying blacks, Indians, Jews, dogs, and Irish need not. Especially troubling is a bureaucracy that aided and abetted this prejudice.

Under such circumstances, if they existed early on, even John changing his place of birth to Virginia makes sense. Dealing with people who make up their minds by forming their opinions out of the fetid pool of prejudice can alert a person to take such precautions. For whatever reason, regrettably, Nancy didn't send the search for her marriage record to Maryland; if she had, that is where it was. John was a war hero whose friends and neighbors, at least, remembered his service:

*John Vaughan was by the neighbors generally believed to have been a soldier of the Revolutionary war and especially at the time of his death it was said that another one of the old revolutionary soldiers was dead and frequently spoke of there being so few of them living. . .*

**Affidavit, Widow's application for Revolutionary War Pension, 1858**

Except for a biased world, it remains a mystery why Nancy and her children seemingly knew so little, or spoke so little, of John Vaughan of Maryland, a soldier of the American Revolution.

**Maryland Revolutionary Records**  
***Part IV. Marriages proved through Maryland Pension Applications***

## MARRIAGE RECORDS

125

Abraham Van Buskirk	Jane Burdette	Nov. 29, 1778	New Jersey
John Van Horn	Eve Finley		
John de Vaubrum	Anne Howard	Sept. 1781	A.A. Co., Md.
John Vaughan	Nancy Callicott	Oct. 16, 1794	Halifax Co., Va.
Adam Vigal	Ann Barnes	<i>circa</i> 1790	Mont. Co., Md.
Aaron Vincent	Rebecca Smith	Aug. 30, 1792	Dorch. Co., Md.
Edward Wailes	Sarah Oden	Mar. 21, 1781	Pr. Geo. Co., Md.
John Walker	Mary Shultz	Oct. 18, 1811	Fred. Co., Md.
John Wall	Elizabeth Scarberry	1771	Rowan Co., N.C.
William Wall	Kitturah Wright, wid.	Sept. 27, 1831	Caroline Co., Md.
Benjamin Walls	Elizabeth Harry	July 30, 1835	Maryland
George Walls	Martha Naylor	Mar. 28, 1784	Pr. Geo. Co., Md.
George Walls	Sarah Club	Jan. 20, 1824	Maryland
Albert Walrath	Catherine Yule	<i>post</i> 1810	Herk. Co., N.Y.
William Wanton	Mary Elizabeth Hughes		Virginia*
Edward Ward	Lucy Wilson	Aug. 6, 1779	Maryland
Joseph Ward	Elizabeth Patterson	<i>ante</i> 1828	Maryland
Joseph Warfield	Elizabeth Dorsey	Aug. 6, 1778	Maryland
George Washburn	Eleanor Rankins	<i>post</i> 1834	Ohio
James Waters	Dradin King		
Richard Waters	Elizabeth Boyle	Dec. 20, 1818	Tal. Co., Md.
Gassaway Watkins	Eleanor Clagett	Apr. 22, 1803	Balto. Co., Md.
Leonard Watkins	Mary Higdon	Dec. 1781	Maryland
Stephen Watkins	Sarah Miller	June 26, 1804	Virginia
Christian Waetherman	Martha Runegan	<i>ante</i> 1793	North Carolina*
John Webb	Susannah Duval	June 15, 1775	Fred. Co., Md.
Isaac Webster	Clemency Gilbert	<i>post</i> 1800	Maryland
Michael Weirick	Elizabeth Rimby	Nov. 16, 1784	Pennsylvania
Adam Weise	Catherine Patton	Dec. 10, 1820	Pennsylvania
Benjamin Wells	Mary Altz	Aug. 2, 1805	Kanawaha Co., Va.
Charles Wells	Mary Williamson		
Cornelius Wells	Sarah Hiller	Nov. 8, 1839	D.C.
Duckett Wells	Sarah Leakin	Jan. 20, 1774	Maryland*
Enos West	Jane Robinson		Harf. Co., Md.
William Wheatley	Rhoda Tull	1782/3	Dorch. Co., Md.
Birdsey W. Wheeler	Machel Fulton	Dec. 23, 1805	York Dist., S.C.
William Whitacre	Sarah Carman	<i>ante</i> 1786	Q.A. Co., Md.
John White	Eleanor Williams	May 13, 1788	Westmoreland, Pa.
John Whittingham	Sarah Patterson	<i>ante</i> 1828	Maryland
Jacob Wilcox	Catherine Sellman	<i>post</i> 1810	Georgia*
George Wilcoxon	Anne Hoskinson		Ohio*
James Wilkinson	Celestine Crudeau	Mar. 5, 1810	New Orleans
Simon Willard	Sarah Patterson	<i>ante</i> 1828	Maryland
Elisha Williams	Harriet Beale	May 6, 1784	Mont. Co., Md.
Gabriel Williams	Margaret Lytton	June 22, 1784	Wash. Co., Md.
Gerard Williams	Ruth Clemens	Feb. 2, 1792	Pittsburg, Pa.
James Williams	Elizabeth Miller	May 26, 1805	Adams Co., O.
Jeremiah Williams	Mary Gaither	Dec. 15, 1784	A.A. Co., Md.

In spite of her husband's glorious military career that formally began at Valley Forge with General George Washington, Nancy could not recall much of it. She could not name the famous place where her husband entered the service, and she could only recollect hearing John speak of two places where he served--the High Hills of the Mt. Santee and Fort Schuyler. By war's end John was a gunnery sergeant in the Continental Artillery.

As for Nancy's state of mind, she was a tired, sick old woman, already disappointed by one child, and needing help which she got so little of from the others. On her deathbed, the youthful hand that had written up a bogus, yet clever, legal document in 1792 had become so crippled she could not so much as sign her name.

When she died no one even left her a headstone in remembrance—at least not one that lasted, thus, no one tended her grave. It has been speculated that she and John are buried at the Copper Ridge site, but the sad truth may be that they are not even buried together. The earliest recorded burial on Copper Ridge is of their son, Samuel N., who died in 1863. Her husband, who died about twenty years earlier--after the purchase of their second home--is probably buried at this second site, the property that George Washington Vaughan inherited and sold. Since Nancy's southside home and land was sold, and in the hands of someone else when she died, she may have been buried in 1858 with the Gilliams with whom she had lived for the past fourteen years. The Gilliam graves are lost as well.

### *IX. Afterwards*

John Vaughan always seemed to have enough money to buy what he wanted, and gave that as a reason for not applying for his veteran's war pension. "I have *anuff* to do me in this life," he said--a family philosophy and phrase Vaughans have been known to use to this day.

When Nancy died, she didn't have anything. Her final documents say she spent her last days lost in nineteenth century bureaucracy trying to obtain a small widow's pension that was due her. Gone was the youthful sprite who would forge legal documents. Gone was the educated hand that could write out the correct spellings for *February* and other months of the year. Gone was the memory of the famous battles in which her husband once fought in famous places and with notable men. The second of her affidavits with its guarded language and her selective memory, is unpleasant to contemplate. But further research of her time and place, leading back to her tragic claims over and over again, lends a familiarity to her situation, and even though carefully chosen, these words tell a powerful story of a once powerful woman.

*FINIS*

**Transcriptions of Affidavits of Widow's  
Application for Revolutionary War  
Pension, 1858**

*Hawkins County, Tennessee, and Maryland  
Revolutionary War Records about John Vaughan*

***Name: John Vaughan (The Widow Applied For Pension)***

***Rank: Gunner Establishment: Continental Line***

State of Tennessee County of Hawkins

On this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of February AD One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty Eight personally appeared before Me Wm. Hutchinsson a justice of the Peace within And for the county and state aforesaid, Nancy Vaughan a Resident of Hawkins County in the State of Tennessee aged About 81 Eighty one years who being first duly sworn According to law doth on her oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Provision made by the act of congress passed July the 29<sup>th</sup> 1848 And that she is the widow of John Vaughan who was a Gunner in or about the year 1780 and was a sergeant in or About the year 1781 in the company commanded by Capt. William Brown of Col. Charles Harrison's regiment of Artillery that he was an enlisted soldier in the aforesaid Maryland artillery and served three years till he was formally discharged From the aforesaid army of the Revolutionary war of the United States and that his discharge is lost or mislaid it and it Cannot now be had and in order to establish the service and Length of service she refers to the evidence in the department of the Said company of artillery and State line. And she further certifies that she was married to John Vaughan on or about the 16<sup>th</sup> day of October AD 1794 by one Parson Hayse a clergyman in Halifax County In the state of Virginia and that her and her said husband Moved from the state of Virginia about the year 1800 And settled in the county and state aforesaid and in the settlement Where I have and since and now reside and that her husband Died at home in the county of Hawkins and state of Tennessee on The 14<sup>th</sup> day of July AD 1842 and that she has remained a Widow ever since that time and is now a widow and that Her name before her said marriage was Nancy Callicott That her nor her said husband never kept any record or other Writing of the dates of their said marriage nor does she know of Anyone or believe that any person is now alive who was At their marriage as aforesaid nor does she believe that the same is on record unless it should appear of record in the county of Halifax in the state of Virginia where they were married as aforesaid And she further states that

her and her said husband lived together from the date of their marriage aforesaid to the date of His death aforesaid and raised eleven children, the eldest is James born Oct 15 day 1795, Beverley was born January 4<sup>th</sup> 1798, Polly was born April 12 day 1800, Rebekah G. was born June the 24 day 1801, Benjamin was born November 4<sup>th</sup> Day 1804, Nancy was born January 19<sup>th</sup> day 1807, Mahaly was Born the 10<sup>th</sup> day March 1809, John was born September 28<sup>th</sup> day 1811, Samuel Vaughan was born February the 11<sup>th</sup> 1814, Martha Was born July 24, 1815, George W Vaughan was born June 15<sup>th</sup> day 1820. And that she has never heretofore applied for or received A pension she alleges it has been through neglect and an \_\_\_\_\_ and attending to prosecute her claim and that she cannot From afflictions of old age and loss of memory more supply or Correctly state the facts from her recollection but for the Further proof of her said marriage cohabitation and (reproduction) she refers to the proof hereto amassed and that she makes This declaration in order to obtain her claim for pension under The act approved July the 29<sup>th</sup> 1848 and she further declares That she is not able in consequence of bodily affliction and Old age to attend the court: therefore Know all men by these presents that I Nancy Vaughan Aforesaid do hereby constitute and appoint William W Strickland of Sneedville Tennessee my true and lawful attorney for me and for my name to demand And *present* My said claim and to do all and every legal act that He could \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ personally present the Doing \_\_\_\_\_ and that I will not revoke this power hereafter as it is from my hand and seal the day and year aforesaid written.

Nancy her X mark Vaughan

Attest. Thomas his X mark Davis , Lilborn his X mark Davis

We, Thomas Davis and Lilborn Davis *residence* of Hawkins County in the state of Tennessee upon our oaths declare that the foregoing declaration announced the power of attorney was signed and acknowledged by Nancy Vaughan by making her mark to her name and we further declare that we knew John Vaughan in his lifetime and know that he was always understood and believed to be a soldier in the Revolutionary War by his neighbors generally, and since our first acquaintance with him and we know that the said John Vaughan died on or about the 14<sup>th</sup> day of July 1842, and that he died in this settlement but that we know nothing of the marriage of the two parties but know that the said John Vaughan and the said Nancy, this declarant lived about 35 years from our first acquaintance with them to the date of his death aforementioned in the county of Hawkins, state of Tennessee and in the neighborhood where they lived as man and wife. They \_\_\_\_\_ and behaved ever as re\_\_\_\_\_ and

respected by their neighbors, generally up to the date of the said John's death aforementioned. And we further state that the said John Vaughan with the said Nancy his wife had raised several children the most of which we are presently acquainted with and that from the appearance they are about the ages which said Nancy states in her declaration and we further state that the first as well as the last was always acknowledged by them both to be legitimate and that at the death of the said John that his (friend) together with Nancy his wife was all in his statement that we have known by acquainted with the declarant and since the will of her said husband John Vaughan aforementioned and that she has not again remarried but has remained, and is now, the reputed and respected widow of John Vaughan aforementioned. That \_\_\_\_\_ from (acquainted/acquired) \_\_\_\_\_ from her appearance and statement \_\_\_\_\_ and circumstance that she is the identical person she therein represents herself to be and that she is not able in consequence of old age and bodily infirmity to attend the court and that we have no interest in this claim but believe that she is entitled to the same \_\_\_\_\_.

Our hand and seal this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of February AD 1858

Thomas his X mark Davis, Lilborn his X mark Davis

State of Tennessee County of Hawkins

Be it known that the foregoing declaration \_\_\_\_\_ power of attorney, an affidavit made, sworn to, signed, and acknowledged before me Wm. Hutchisson, a Justice of the Peace on the day and year it bears date and testify that I know the affiant to be creditable in person and residence of my county that they are men of truth and veracity and that they are of sufficient age to know the facts about which they state and that I further certify that I have known this claimant and about 20 years previous to the death of her husband and have known her ever since and she is a widow and that this affidavit foregoing is true and it is generally believed that she is the identical person she therein represents herself to be and that \_\_\_\_\_ the applicant from bodily infirmity and old age (is unable to) attend the event and that I have no further interest this claim whatsoever.

Witness my hand and official seal the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of February AD 1858

Wm. Hutchisson, J.P.

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State of Tennessee, County of Hawkins} I, James Vance, clerk of the County Court of Hawkins County in the state aforesaid, by my deputy Willie B. Mitchell do hereby certify that William Hutchisson wherein named subscriber to the above certificate is an acting Justice of the Peace for said

county and state duly commissioned and qualified and that his signature therein is genuine.

Given under my hand and seal of office

At office in Rogersville the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March AD 1858,

James Vance, Clerk;

By W. B. Mitchell, Deputy

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State of Virginia, County of Halifax} ss I, William S. Holt, Clerk of the County Court in the County and State aforesaid, do hereby certify that I have carefully examined the records and files of my office for the marriage of John Vaughan and Nancy Callicott and find no record of said marriage—I further certify that the records of marriages in my office are not so complete as to raise a presumption against the alleged marriage. In testimony whereof I have hereunto affixed the seal of said County and subscribe my name this 30<sup>th</sup> day of March 1858.

Wm. S. Holt, Clerk

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Sneedville Aprile 14th 1858; Sir, enclosed, Please find the declarations and certificates of Nancy Vaughan, widow of John and *Sergent* in the Revolutionary War. You will please to consider the claim of the old lady as soon as the opportunity will admit of it. Her claim has been held up for a certificate from the clerk of the County Court of Halifax County State of Virginia where they were married. We could not find a record or get a certificate of marriage as you will see by the enclosed certificate but we are satisfied that we have sufficient proof of cohabitation and general reputation to suffice in this case of the roles of the Va state line, and Companies mentioned will afford record proof of service. So we depend on the records of the department and for the proof of service. So we hope to hear from you soon.

I am sir your Humble Servant, Wm Strickland, Sneedville, Tennessee  
Honorable George C Whiting, Commissioner of Pensions,  
Washington City, DC

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State of Tennessee county of Hancock, Be it remembered that on this 28 day of May AD 1858 formally appeared before me a Justice of the Peace in and for the county aforesaid Benjamin Vaughan aged about 54 years, after being by me duly-sworn according to law both on his oath depose and say that he will be fifty four years of age on the 4th day of November AD 1858 to the best of his knowledge information and belief and that he further certifies that the enclosed record of my father John & Nancy



Vaughan is the record which was found among my father's old papers and it has ever since remained to my possession and as to the correctness of which I certify that I can recollect the birth of Samuel, Martha & George W. Vaughan which part of the record I certify from my resolution and from circumstances is correct and that I certify that James, Polly, Beverley, Rebeky Vaughan are all four elder than me, and that the last account I had of James he was in the State of Texas and that the last account I had of Beverley he was in the State of Arkansas and that Polly lives in Hawkins County in the State of Tennessee. Rebecky lives in the State of MO the last account, and that Nancy, Mahaly & John are all three younger than me but I cannot recollect the dates of their births and that Nancy & John lives in this county and that Mahaly is dead and that Samuel resides in the county and that the last account of George is he lived near Nashville Tennessee and that Martha lives in Knox County in the State of Tennessee; and that my father John Vaughan died on the 14 day of July AD 1842 and that at his death he left a will in which I certify he willed to me John & Samuel Vaughan the tract of land whereon I now live and where on Samuel now lives, that they paid him after the death of their said father \$100. for his part of said tract of land and that his other lands and Tenements was divided amongst the other heirs and that I further certify that I know of no other record of the dates and births of said heirs or any other dates or record of the marriage; if any such record exists private or public he does not know anything of them, and I further certify that after the Act of 1832 I heard my father frequently speak of his claim, that he said that he would not trouble himself about it, that he did not kneed it, and that on several occasions I have heard him in conversation with one Samuel Dollison who is no more and who was a vain, drinking character and who applied for pension, that if he, Dollison, could obtain his pension and could get what was due to him, John Vaughan, that he, Dollison, would have money enough to pay for his drinking and that Dollison never received a pension as I know of.

In witness I do here unto set my hand and seal the day and year aforesaid: Benjamin Vaughan

Attest

1. Unreadable signature;
2. W. N. Berry

State of Tennessee, County of Hancock, I, James Forde, a justice of Peace do hereby certify that the foregoing affidavit was sworn to, signed and acknowledged by Benjamin Vaughan and witnessed in my preasence and that I further certify that the said affiant is a man of truth and veracity and that I have known him for many years and know that he is the \_\_\_\_

person he therein represents himself to be, and that his statements are true, and the witnesses forgoing are each credible persons and that I have no interest in this claim in any manner whatever.

Witness my hand and official seal this 28 day of May AD 1858; James Ford

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State of Tennessee, County of Hancock, (ss,) on this 28 day of May AD 1858 personally appeared before me the undersigned as Justice of the peace George Anderson, said aged about 78 years who am well known to me to be a man of truth and veracity and who is a reliable witness and who being by the law duly sworn, depose, and say that he is well acquainted with Mrs. Nancy Vaughan the respected mother of Benjamin Vaughan the fore going affiant, and who I understand has applied for a pension that he has known her for about 58 years past that he was acquainted with John Vaughan, her late husband, having known him for about 42 years previous to his death; that they, the said John and Nancy lived together as husband and wife all the while he knew them as aforesaid and were reported so to be that deffendant never heard the fact of their marriage disputed or questioned; that the said John Vaughan died on or about 14 day of July AD 1842 and that he further states that the said John and Nancy lived together all the while he knew them from about the year 1800, AD to the day of his death, first at the place where the above affiant and Samuel Vaughan now lives till about 10 years before his death, at which time he moved down Clinch mountain and settled in the valley called then and now Poor valley near where the reputed widow now lives in Hawkins County that they raised several children about eleven which was all acknowledged by them both to be legitimate that James was always said to be the eldest, and that from his acquaintance and from his, the same James', appearance he must now be about 63 years of age and that the several children went by his name and at the death of the said John Vaughan he has understood and believes that his children heird a part in his estate and that during my acquaintance with the said John Vaughan I always understood that he was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and that I never heard the fact questioned, but that it was to the best of my knowledge and belief, generally understood and believed by his neighbors that he was a soldier as aforesaid and that the said James moved to the west some years ago and that George W Vaughan the youngest moved from here toward middle Tennessee and never came back, and that the following children lives in this vicinity to wit Benjamin, John, Samuel, Polly, Nancy, Martha in Knox County, Tennessee, and the others have moved from here, I don't know where they are and since the said John Vaughan's death the said Nancy

has never again married but has remained and is now the reputed widow aforesaid and that I am no ways related to the said Nancy, the claimant, and that I have no interest in her claim whatever.

Witness my hand and seal, George his X mark Anderson  
Attest M. (Panner)

The affiant is a resident of my county and (that he) sworn to, signed, witnessed, and acknowledged \_\_\_\_, on this 28 day of May 1858.

James Ford, Justice of the Peace.

State of Tennessee, Hancock County} I, Richard Mitchell, clerk of the county court for said county do hereby certify that James Ford is an acting Justice of the Peace for said county and State legally commissioned and sworn into office and that his signature to this above is genuine.

Given under my hand in office, Sneedville this 5<sup>th</sup> day of June 1858,  
Richard Mitchell, Clerk

State of Tennessee, County of Hawkins} ss On the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June AD1858 personally appeared before me the undersigned a justice of the peace in and for said county, John M. Charles – aged about 47 years who am well known to me to be a man of truth and veracity and who is a credible witness and who being by me duly sworn, depose, and say that he is well acquainted with Mrs. Nancy Vaughan the foregoing applicant for a pension that he has known her for about 30 years past that he was acquainted with John Vaughan her late husband having known him for about 20 years previous to his death that they, the said John and Nancy, Lived together as husband and wife and was reputed so to be that deffendant never heard the fact of their marriage disputed or questioned that the said John Vaughan died on or about the 14<sup>th</sup> day of July 1842 and that he further states that the said John and Nancy lived together all the time during the 20 years I knew them as man and wife on Clinch River then Hawkins county, now Hancock County, in the state of Tennessee and that they raised several children that was acknowledged to be legitimate that James was always said to be the eldest and from my acquaintance with him he must from his appearance now be the rise of 60 years of age and that about 10 years before his death aforesaid they moved down the Clinch Mountains in a valley, called then and now, Poor Valley, Hawkins County, Tennessee and died in about one mile of where his widow Nancy now lives and that their several children all went by his name and at his death they all heired a part in his estate and that the said JohnVaughan was by the neighbors generally believed to have been a soldier of the Revolutionary

war and especially at the time of his death it was said that another one of the old revolutionary soldiers was dead and frequently spoke of there being so few of them living and I further certify that James Vaughan aforesaid moved from here to Texas and that the youngest son moved near Nashville Tennessee and that the rest of them lives in this county that I am personally acquainted with to wit—Benjamin, John, Samuel, Polly, Nancy, Martha in Knox County Tennessee the others have move off-- I don't know where, and that the said Nancy has been since the day of said John's death and still is reputed to be his widow which deponent believes to be the fact, that she has never married since her said husband's death, and still is his widow and that he the deponent do reside in the county aforesaid and that I Believe she is the identical person she represents herself to be and that I am in no way related to the applicant and that I have no interest in the *prosicution* of her claim or otherwise whatever.

John M. Charles

John Templeton

James Harrison

Sworn to, Subscribed, and witnessed before me this 2 day of June AD 1858,

Wm Hutchisson JP, For Hawkins County, State of Tennessee, Hawkins County} ss I, James H Vance, clerk of the county court of said county, do certify that William Hutchisson Esq. before whom the foregoing declarations and affidavits were made is now and was at the date thereof was acting Justice of the Peace in and for said County legally commissioned and qualified and that his several Signatures foregoing are genuine. Given under my hand and Official Seal at office in Rogersville the **sixth day of June 1858**, J.H. Vance, Clerk

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State of Tennessee, County of Hawkins; On the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June AD One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty Eight personally appeared before me the subsender, a justice of the peace, in and for said county, Mrs. Nancy Vaughan, who is to me known to be the person mentioned as Claimant in a previous declaration in the pension office at Washington City. And who being by me first duly sworn doth on her oath state that there is no public nor private record of her marriage to the best of her knowledge, information, and belief, she further state that she ran away with her Husband John Vaughan from Sharlotte County Virginia and went into Halifax County Virginia and was married by one Parson Hayze, a clergyman, and that she was married at the house of the said Parson Hayze's and that she knows of no one that is now living who was present at

her marriage aforesaid. She further states that she cannot from her recollection give the precise day and year of her said marriage but she states to the best of her recollection that it was on or about the \_\_\_\_ day of October 1794. *There* is one thing she states she does know, that it was something over one year after the said marriage that James Vaughan, her eldest son, was born on the 15 day of October 1795 and that since her previous declaration we have found in the possession of her son Benjamin Vaughan of Hancock County, Tennessee a part of an old day book containing the records of my children's ages to wit the day and year of each birth which she certifies is true to the best of her recollection and which is here with enclosed, and that she was born and raised in Prince Edward and *Sharlotte* Counties in Virginia and to the best of her information her said husband John Vaughan was born in the state of Virginia at least the first time she ever knew him was in *Sharlotte County* in Virginia and at that time she states that she was about eleven years of age. She further states that she does not know the name of the place where her said husband entered the service at, that her first acquaintance she ever had with her said husband was some years after the service aforesaid and that she recollects of hearing her said husband speaking of several places that he was at during his service some of which she recollects as follows, to wit: The High Hills of the Mt. Santee\* & Fort Schuyler\*\* and several other places which I cannot at this time call to mind but at what particular place he entered service at I cannot now recollect which he said that he entered at. And that she further states that after her marriage aforesaid she and her said husband resided in the state of Virginia some six years and that they moved from the state of Virginia about the year 1800 and came to Hawkins County, Tennessee, that they settled on or near Clinch river some 5 or 6 miles from here where I now live. then Hawkins County now Hancock County, Tennessee where her sons Benjamin and Samuel Vaughan now lives and that we lived there all the while until about 10 years before his death which was in the year 1832 at which time (1832) her said husband bought land on this side of Clinch mountain, and we moved over here in this valley, called then and now, Poor Valley in Hawkins County, Tennessee, where he lived till the day of his death which took place on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of July 1842 and in about one mile of where I now live with her daughter Polly. She further states that if her husband ever made any application for a pension she never knew anything of it but that she does not believe that he ever did from the fact that she has heard him oftimes speak of his service and of his claim and say that he would not trouble himself about his claim that he had *anuff* to do him his lifetime without it.

And that at his death aforesaid he left a will in which he divided his lands and tenements among his children generally that he left the place we settled when we first came to Tennessee to his sons to wit: Benjamin, Samuel and John Vaughan and that he left the place where he died to his youngest son George W. Vaughan with a provision in it that he was to take care of me my lifetime and he notwithstanding has sold the land and moved from here, the last account I had of him he lived near Nashville, Tennessee and that he has been gone from here about 14 years and that since the death of her said husband she states that she has remained unmarried and is now the widow of John Vaughan aforesaid and that ever since she first understood that there was a pension allowed to the widows of the Revolutionary Soldiers which was several years ago she certifies that at the first opportunity which was some 6 or 7 years ago I *applied* to one William C. Baldwin of Hancock County Tennessee to file my declaration and to prosecute my said claim and he said he would at some other time that he had not time then and went off and never came back and again about 3 or 4 years ago one Hicks of Abingdon, VA sent word me time and again that he would come and fix my papers and that he never came and again about two years ago one Hiram Rodgers who then lived in Hancock County aforesaid came to see me and said he would fix out my declaration for me and prosecute my claim and that he run off and was to be back at a certain time but never came and that about one year ago one Granville Rodgers sent me word that he would come and fix out my application but never came all of the foregoing named with several others not named has promised me to fix and some promised to have my claim fixed out and never done anything and I have been so much confined from old age and bodily infirmity that I could not go to have my claim fixed out and authenticated and that she had been thus disappointed and held in suspense from time to time until the time of filing her declaration by her attorney Wm. M. Strickland of Sneedville Tennessee which is on file in the pension office at Washington City which is the first declaration that I ever made my claim, and this next additional, in order to obtain a pension certificate for the amount which may be due me under act approved July 29<sup>th</sup> 1848 which certificate I wish made payable at Knoxville Tennessee agency as it is most convenient and that she further certifies that she cannot from bodily infirmity, old age, and loss of memory from her recollection more correctly or safely State the facts and she refers to the evidences in the department on file and the evidence herewith enclosed in support of my claim aforesaid and that I am not able in consequence of bodily infirmity and old age to attend the court.

Nancy (her X mark) Vaughan

1. Wiley M. Davis,
2. Uriah B. Still

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State of Tennessee, County of Hawkins} On the second day of June AD 1858 personally appeared before me, the undersigned Justice of the Peace in and for said county Wiley M. Davis and Uriah B. Still who are to me well known and who are each credible persons and who living by me duly swore and depose and say that they are each well acquainted with Mrs. Nancy Vaughan the above applicant for a pension, that they have known her for 22 years, past that they were acquainted with John Vaughan her late husband , having known him for 6 years previous to his death that they, the said John and the said Nancy this declarant, that they lived together as husband and wife and so reputed to be that deponents never heard the fact of their marriage disputed or questioned that the said JohnVaughan died on or about the 14<sup>th</sup> day of July 1842 , and the said Nancy Vaughan has remained since that day a widow and is still the reputed widow of John Vaughan aforesaid which the deponents believes to be the fact and that her said husband is and was the identical man mentioned as a soldier in the foregoing affidavit and that was and is generally believed to be by his neighbors a soldier of the Revolutionary War and that they were present and saw the affiant sign her name to the foregoing affidavit by making her mark to her name and further that the deponents do reside in the County aforesaid, and that \_\_\_\_\_ and neither any was Related to the claimant and that we have no interest in the claim aforesaid in no manner whatever. Witness our hand and seals, Wiley M. Davis , Uriah B. Still.

The foregoing affidavits were sworn to, signed, and acknowledged before me on the day and year it bears date and I certify that they are credible persons and that I am the Justice of the Peace before whom the previous declarations was made an acknowledged and ratify my certificate \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ witness and that I have no interest in the claim in no manner whatever and that I further certify that the affiants is of sufficient age to know the facts about which they state. Witness my hand and official seal, W. Hutchisson, JP, for Hawkins County

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Sneedville, June 7th 1858. Sir, in reply to yours of May the 11<sup>th</sup> I understand you to intimate that the name of the Sergeant John Vaughan appears on the roles of Capt Wm Brown's Company and Col. Chas. \_\_\_\_\_ \* and Company, if so in *connexion* with that and, in *obediants* to the

requirements of the 11<sup>th</sup> May, we enclose *our* evidence to clearly identify her marriage and identity with the service claimed which is sufficient *Primaphasia* evidence herewith enclosed beyond a reasonable doubt the claimant is clearly entitled to her claim and I plead that her claim should issue. I am your most obedient Servant

Wm. M. Strickland

Sneedville, Tennessee

Hon.

Commissioner of Pensions, Washington City, DC

\*should be Harrison, but it is not; may be word or words that mean "unreadable"

Department of the Interior; August 12<sup>th</sup> 1858

Sir, I have examined the claim of Nancy Vaughan widow of John Vaughan for a pension under Act July 29<sup>th</sup> 1848, upon which an appeal has been taken from your decision.

I am of the opinion that the evidence is insufficient to show in a satisfactory manner, that the widow's husband was the identical John Vaughan who served as a gunner and Sergeant under Col. Charles Harrison and Capt. William Brown, in the Virginia Continental line. Your decision is therefore affirmed, and the papers which accompanied your report are herewith returned to your office.

I am, very respectfully, Your obdt. Servt., J. (unreadable signature),  
Secretary.

Hon. G.C. Whiting. Commissioner, of Pensions

Sneedville , September 28th 1858

Sir, Having just received yours of the 11<sup>th</sup> of August 1858, in the case of Nancy Vaughan widow of John a Revolutionary Soldier, claim to pension under Act of July 29 1848, and will now inform you that the claimant Nancy Vaughan deceased a few days ago and we wish to know if we will not have a right to complete the adjustment of her claim in the name of her kin owing to former decisions we have the right and we claim that we ought to have the right yet. So I hope to *heare* from you. I am and remain yours truly, Wm C Strickland, Sneedville, Tennessee

Honorable George C. Whiting, Commissioner of Pensions



## Timeline

1777

Jan

Prince Edward CO , VA. . . enclosed, and that she was born and raised in Prince Edward and Sharlotte Counties in VA . . . (Excerpt from 1858 Pension Application)

Introduction to Nancy Callicott's Papers

1777

Feb

Her life, on paper, w/signature.

First Meeting

1789 Jan

Age: 12

Charlotte CO , VA , USA "The first time she ever knew John Vaughan was in Charlotte CO in VA and that at that time she states that she was about eleven years of age." Affidavit, Pension Application

Marriage to John Vaughan

1792 5 Oct Age: 15

Charlotte CO , VA .

Marriage License to John Vaughan

1792

Age: 15

Charlotte VA Transcription, False Affidavit Made by Nancy Calicote, Charlotte CO , October 6th 1792, this is to certify the clerk of said CO that having no guardian nor controller, consent for being of age for my self that there may be a law full Licence

Marriage to John Vaughan

1794 16 Oct

Age: 17

Halifax Co., VA. Eloped and married by Parson Hay. Name: Nancy Callicot, Gender: Female, Birth Place: VA, Birth Year: 1772, Spouse Name: John Vaughan, Spouse, Birth Place: Ir, Spouse Birth Year: 1762, Marriage, Year: 1794

Residence

1794

Age: 17

Halifax, Halifax, VA , USA of record in the CO of Halifax in the state of VA where they were married... 1858 Pension affidavit.

1795 13 Oct

Age: 18

Hawkins Co TN, USA The ELEVEN Vaughan children.

Nancy Vaughan's Daybook

1795 14 Oct

Age: 18

Halifax, Halifax, VA , USA The recorded birthdays of her 11 children, plus James Jones, Mary Brown, and 3 grandchildren--from VA to TN.

Birth of James L. Vaughan

1795 15 Oct

Age: 18

VA , USA 1.Daybook entry. 2.they raised several children that was acknowledged to be legitimate that James was always said to be the eldest and from my acquaintance with him he must from his appearance now be the rise of 60 years of age

Birth of Beverley Vaughan

1798 4 Jan

Age: 21

Halifax, Halifax, VA , Daybook Entry

Birth of Polley Vaughan

1800 12 Apr

Age: 23

Hawkins CO, TN, Daybook Entry

1800 Age: 23

Hawkins/Hancock, TNA History of the First John Vaughan Hawkins, TN Homestead. Hancock Co was later formed out of this Northern part of Hawkins Co.

Birth of Rebeccah Vaughan

1802 24 Jun

Age: 25

Hawkins CO, TN, Daybook Entry

Birth of Benjamin Vaughan

1804 4 Nov

Age: 27

Hawkins CO, TN, Daybook Entry

Birth of Nancy Vaughan

1807 19 Jan

Age: 30

Hawkins CO, TN, Daybook Entry.

Arrival

1808 Age: 31

Hawkins CO, TN, Sister, Dicey Callicott Vaughan Ford arrives w/husband. Son of Dicey, Beverley C. is born aft 15 yrs of marriage. No records have been found of earlier births..

Birth of Mahaly Vaughan

1809 10 Mar

Age: 32

Hawkins CO, TN, Daybook Entry

Birth of John Vaughan, Jr.

1811 28 Sep

Age: 34

Hawkins CO , TN, Daybook Entry

Birth of Samuel N. Vaughan

1814 11 Feb

Age: 37

Hawkins CO, TN, Daybook Entry.

Birth of Martha Vaughan

1815 24 Jul

Age: 38

Hawkins CO , TN,Daybook Entry.

Birth of last child

1820 15 Jun

Age: 43

Hawkins CO , TN , raised eleven: Jmes Oct 15 1795; Beverly Jan 4 1798; Polly Apr 12 1800; Rebechah Jun 24 1802; Benjamin Nov 4 1804; Nancy Jan 19 1807; Mahaly 10 Mar 1809; Jhn Sep 28 1811; Samuel Feb 11, 1814; Martha Jul 24,1815; George W Vaughan Jun 15 1820: Pension claim

Birth of George Washington Vaughan

1820 15 Jun

Age: 43

Hawkins CO, TN, Daybook Entry.

Death of Father

1824

Age: 47

Reportedly, Nancy's father Beverly Callicott dies. No data..

Census

1830

Age: 53

Hawkins CO , TN , USA 5 thru 9=1 – George Washington Vaughan, b 1820; 15 thru 19=2 -- John, Jr. b 1811 and Samuel N b1814 Vaughan; 60 thru 69=1 – John Vaughan Sr., b1762; 10 thru 14=2 – Martha Vaughan, b1817 and UNKNOWN; 50 thru 59=1 – Nancy

Residence

1830

Age: 53

Hawkins, TN , United StatesCensus page 119 lists family of James Jones, w/u-15 male, which matches info in Nancy's Daybook for a baby James Jones..

Residence

1830

Age: 53

Hawkins, TN, United States.

Death of Daughter, Mahala

1831, aft

Age: 54.

Hawkins Co TN, John Vaughan's 1841 Will: Seventh. I do give and bequeath unto the heirs of my daughter Mahala Dickerd one dollar. Mahala is alive w/one male U/5 heir in 1830 Census.

Property  
1832

Age: 55

Hawkins CO , TN , Family moves to south side of Clinch Mt. George, Martha, Samuel N., and John Jr, are teenagers and still at home. The 2 older boys may have stayed at the old home site, along w/Ben.

Census  
1840

Age: 63

Hawkins CO , TN , USA that we settled on or near Clinch river some 5 or 6 miles from here where I now live. and that we lived there all the while until about the year 1832 at which time my husband bought land on this side of Clinch mountain, and we moved over here in this valley

Residence  
1840

Age: 63

Hawkins, TN , United States Home in 1840 Hawkins, TN, New home, Southside Clinch; Males-10 thru 14: 1 = Unknown Visitor; Males-20 thru 29: 1 = George Washington, son; Males-70 thru 79: 1 = John Sr; Females-10 thru 14: 2=Martha & Unknown Visitor; Females-60 thru 69:

Will  
1841 Dec

Age: 64

Hawkins CO , TN , USA Will of Husband, John Vaughan

Departure  
1845

Age: 68

Son, Geo., sells Nancy's home and moves his family to Nashville. Nancy moves in with Mary Polley Gilliam, her oldest dau.

Pension Application  
1858 2 Feb

Hawkins CO , TN , USA . In 1858, eighty-one year old Nancy Callicott Vaughan, widow of John Vaughan, a soldier of the American Revolution, applied for a widow's pension.

Death Sept 1858

FINIS



John Everett Millais, 1852. *HUGUENOT LOVERS ON ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S DAY*