Descendants of James Rainwater

Generation No. 1

1. James¹ Rainwater (Benjamin⁴, John Rainwater³ Jr., John² Rainwater, Robert¹) was born January 13, 1795 in SC, and died June 24, 1871 in Petersburg, Campbell Co., GA. He married (1) Polly Ann Mason 1817 in Spartanburg, SC (Source: (1) "History of the Baptist Denomination in Georgia" by James P. Harrison & Co., 1881, Page 437, He was married in the fall of 1817 to Miss Polly Mason of Spartanburg district, South Carolina, and in the spring of 1859 to Mrs. Nancy Dobbs, near Villa Rica, Carroll county, Georgia. The first wife became the mother of twelve children, of whom four only are living., (2) "Georgia Pioneers" by M. H. Carter, Volume 5, Page 90, born January 13, 1795. Spartanburg District., SC, became an ordained minister. In the fall of 1817 he was married to Polly Mason, of Spartanburg Dist., SC. They became parents of 12 children. After the death of his first wife, he married secondly to Mrs. Nancy Dobbs, of Carroll Co., GA.), daughter of Francis Mason and Ellender Hammett. She was born March 14, 1799 in SC, and died January 06, 1859 in Campbell Co., GA. He married (2) Nancy A Candler May 15, 1859 in Villa Rica, Carroll Co., GA. She was born Abt. 1811.

More About James Rainwater:
Burial: 1871, Ramah Baptist Church Cemetery in Palmetto, GA. (Source: "Palmetto, A Town and Its People", Ramah Baptist Church. The Reverend James Rainwater was the first pastor and served for twenty-six years. He and his family are buried in the church cemetery. Submitted by Mannie Clifford Reeves, Jr.)
Census 1: 1850, Campbell Co., GA with James age 55, Missionary Baptist Minister of the Gospel, b. SC; Mary age 52, b. SC; Clary age 24, b. SC; Frances E (f) age 14 b. SC; Benjamin F age 12; Catherine age 10; Martha age 9.
Census 2: 1830, Spartanburg, SC
Census 3: 1840, Coweta Co., GA, p. 328 with 1 male under 5, 1 male 5-10, 2 males 15-20, 1 male 50-60; 2 females under 5, 1 female 5-10, 3 females 10-15, 1 female 20-30, 1 female 30-40.
Census 4: 1855, Campbell Co., GA with $5500 taxable
Census 5: 1860, Campbell Co., GA, page 243, dwelling #449, family #413 with James age 65, real estate $5000, personal property $6000; Nancy A age 49; Catherine E age 20; Sarah L Dobbs age 13; Zachariah Dobbs age 12.
Census 6: 1870, Campbell Co., GA, Fairburn District, with James age 75 farmer b. SC, real estate $6000, personal $1000; Nancy age 58 b. SC; Catherine age 30; Sarah Goighty age 26; Edwin Guthrie age 23, farm laborer.
Occupation 1: Moses H. Smith (mentioned below) and James Rainwater were married to sisters, Sarah and Polly Mason. Reverend Miles Rainwater mentioned was James first cousin, being the son of his uncle James Rainwater Sr. (Source: "History of the Baptist Denomination in Georgia" by James P. Harrison & Co., 1881, page 436, This venerable father in Israel has left behind him the memory of a life stretching through seventy-six years, marked throughout by a pure morality, and hallowed for more than half a century by simple yet strong faith in Christ. In him were fulfilled those words of Scripture: "The hoary head is a crown of glory, if it be found in the way of righteousness.""The days of the years of his pilgrimage" began in Spartanburg district, South Carolina, January 13th, 1795. No record of his early youth survives; but in the year 1820 he made a profession of faith in Christ and connected himself with the Philadelphia Baptist church in his native district. Five years late that church granted him authority to preach, and we quote the document of licensure in full, for the sake of a notable peculiarity of phrase, which may or may not have been partially current at that time:"State of Carolina, Spartanburg District. We, the Baptist Church of Christ at Philadelphia, believing that a dispensation of the Gospel has been committed to the charge of our beloved brother, James Rainwater, therefore tolerate him to preach the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, in any part of the world where God, in his providence, may call him. Done in church conference this 12th day of March, 1825, and signed by order of the church. Moses H. Smith C.C. This action was followed by his ordination, January 6th, 1826, the presbytery consisting fo Revs. Thomas Bomar, Gabriel Phillips, T. P. Hernden, Miles Rainwater and Nathan Langston. He became pastor
of the Philadelphia church, and held that position until November, 1835, when he removed to Georgia and settled in Coweta county. After a residence there of ten or twelve years, he transferred his home to Campbell county, where the rest of his life was passed in simplicity of spirit and in useful toil. He served Macedonia church, Coweta county, twenty-two years, and Antioch, Meriwether county, twenty-five years.

Occupation 2: (Source: "History of the Baptist Denomination in Georgia" by James P. Harrison & Co., 1881, Page 437, "besides ministering for a number of years to Ramah, Providence, Enon and Bethlehem churches, Campbell county; Carrolton and Pleasant Groves churches, Carroll county, and still others. Deprived in a large degree of the advantages of early education, he was possessed of a vigorous well-balanced mind, which, united with his deep piety and untiring energy, made him a power among the churches of his day. Endowed with a sound constitution and a full, strong voice, his love for the name and the cause of Christ led him to undergo physical labors that would have shattered the health of ordinary men. He feared not to attack error and sin in any of their Protean forms; and he discharged of this usually unwelcome task with such earnestness of purpose and meekness of manner as to secure the respect and confidence of all classes. This was exemplified by his bold advocacy of temperance, when its friends were few and its enemies numerous and powerful, and by the success which crowned that advocacy. But that which is first in importance was always first in his affection: he found his chief delight in "preaching Jesus and the resurrection" and few men have been more effective in winning souls to the Redeemer. Mr. Rainwater continued the charge of his churches until a few years before his death, when the infirmities of old age compelled him to relinquish them.)

Occupation 3: (Source: "Coweta County Chronicles" by Mary G. Jones and Lily Reynolds, 1928, Page 313, "In the 'Herald' of April 5 (1895) in a tribute to Reverend James Rainwater it is stated that he rode 40 miles to his appointments, frequently reaching the place by the preaching hour on Saturday, though he had to start on his ride at 2 o'clock A.M. to do so. He would plow five days a week and preach Saturdays and Sundays, being pastor to four churches.)

Occupation 4: 1850, He was a census taker for Campbell Co., GA

Will: January 10, 1865, Campbell Co., GA (Source: Campbell County, GA Will Book B, Pages 58-62, State of Georgia, Campbell County. In the name of God, Amen. I, James Rainwater, of said county being of sound and disposing mind and memory but sensibly impressed with the uncertainty of life and being desirous of making some disposition of what property God hath blessed me with do make, ordain, and publish this to be my last will and testament, hereby revoking all others heretofore made by me. Item First. I give and bequeath to my beloved wife, Nancy A. Rainwater, one hundred and seventy acres of land to wit the west half of the lot of land on which my house where I now reside stands and to include said houses; and seventy five acres of land immediately west and adjoining to said one hundred acres. This I give and bequeath to her for and during her natural life or widowhood. Item Second. I also give and bequeath to my said wife, Nancy A. Rainwater, the following household furniture: one folding table, one cupboard, one bedstead and one half dozen chairs, with such cooking utensils as may be necessary; also one cow and calf and farming implements for one horse, and also necessary table furniture. The bequests in this second item are given under the same restrictions as in the first item. Item Third. I also give and bequeath to my said wife all my right, title and interest in two negroes to wit, Morgan and Alsie, and also one bed and furniture with one years provisions; these I give to her and her heirs forever. Item Fourth. Having heretofore given my daughter, Emily Golightly, one thousand dollars in money and provisions, I hereby confirm the same to her and her heirs forever and I also now give and bequeath to her an equal proportion of my estate with the rest of my children after they have received money and property to the amount of one thousand dollars. Item Fifth. Having heretofore given my son, Z. Miles Rainwater, deceased, one thousand dollars in money and provisions, I hereby confirm the same. I also now bequeath to his wife, Lilly Ann, an.)

More About POLLY ANN MASON:
Burial: Ramah Baptist Church Cemetery in Palmetto, GA.

More About NANCY A CANDLER:
Notes (Facts Pg): Nancy's children from a previous marriage include: Sarah L. born in 1847 and Zachariah born in 1848. Sarah L. Dobbs married Romulus Cook in Campbell Co., GA

More About JAMES RAINWATER and NANCY CANDLER:
Children of JAMES RAINWATER and POLLY MASON are:

i. 

EMILY O RAINWATER, b. 1819, SC; m. PINCKNEY GOLIGHTLY; b. 1810, SC.

More About PINCKNEY GOLIGHTLY:
Census 1: 1860, Campbell Co., GA, page 57, dwelling #448, family #413, with Pinckney age 50; Emily age 41; Mart T age 23; Sarah E age 18; Elizabeth M age 16; David O age 14; James F age 10; Henry F age 8; Luther R age 6; Martha T age 4.
Census 2: 1850, Campbell Co., GA, 10th District, page 469, with Pinckney age 40 b. SC; Emily age 31 b. SC; Partheney age 12; Sarah age 8; Melvina age 6; David O. age 5; unnamed male age 1 month.
Census 3: 1880, Campbell Co., GA, Fairburn District, with Pinckney age 70, b. SC, father b. SC, mother b. NC; Emily age 62, b. SC, parents b. SC; P. Mary age 42, b. GA; R. Luther age 27; L. Rosa age 17.

ii. 

ZEBULON MILES RAINWATER, b. November 16, 1822, SC; d. December 08, 1857, Campbell Co., GA; m. LILLA ANN THOMPSON, January 16, 1845, Coweta Co., GA; b. November 08, 1824, GA; d. April 22, 1896, Campbell Co., GA.

More About ZEBULON MILES RAINWATER:
Census: 1850, Campbell Co., GA with Z.M. age 27 b. SC; Lilla Ann age 25; John J age 4; Catherine L age 2; Sarah C age 11 months.
Notes (Facts Pg): From "The Georgia Black Book" by Robert Scott Thomas Jr., p. 158, he was shot and killed at age 34 by his younger brother, Benjamin Rainwater, who was 19 at the time.
Occupation: He was a 1st Lieutenant in Co. 27, 20th Bn, 3rd Division, District 73, Campbell Co., GA, commissioned April 21, 1845.

More About LILLA ANN THOMPSON:
Burial: Bethlehem Baptist Church Cemetery in Palmetto, GA.
Census 1: 1880, She was listed in the census in the household of her son-in-law, William R. Short, and her daughter, Martha.
Census 2: 1860, Campbell Co., GA, page 243, dwelling #451, family #414 with Lily A Rainwater age 25 (incorrect), widow. Next door Dwelling # 452, Family #416: John J Rainwater age 14; Catherine L age 12; Sarah C age 10; Blewn W (m) age 7; Ephraim D age 5; Martha C age 3.
Notes (Facts Pg): 1850, Campbell Co., GA Thompson family: Elvira age 45, Anderson age 23; Nancy (?) age 19; Matilda age 16; Martha age 14; Ephraim age 13; Samantha age 11.

iii. 

JOSEPH RAINWATER, b. June 11, 1824, Spartanburg, SC; d. February 01, 1873, Wood Co., TX; m. CAROLINE ELIZABETH WALTON, January 18, 1844, Coweta Co., GA; b. September 26, 1829, GA; d. October 06, 1860, Webster, Wood Co., TX.

More About JOSEPH RAINWATER:
Burial: Sharon Cemetery in Wood Co., TX
Census 1: 1850, Campbell Co., GA with Joseph age 25 b. SC; Caroline E age 20; William W age 4; Robert age 3; Nancy J age 1; unnamed son age 1 month.
Census 2: 1855, Campbell Co., GA with $2500 taxable
Notes (Facts Pg): Much of the information on Joseph and Caroline Rainwater's descendents comes from Ancestry.com file #17469; contact: ogleviz@flash.net
Residence: 1871, Wood Co., TX

More About CAROLINE ELIZABETH WALTON:
Burial: Sharon Cemetery in Wood Co., TX
iv. CLARIAH RAINWATER, b. 1826, SC; d. Aft. 1874; m. EBENEZER P SANDERS, July 29, 1850, Campbell Co., GA; d. Aft. 1874.

More About EBENEZER SANDERS and CLARIAH RAINWATER:
Marriage Fact: Campbell Co., GA Marriage Book B

v. SARAH RAINWATER, b. October 11, 1827, SC; d. August 15, 1887, TX; m. JESSE MERCER MOSELEY; b. October 13, 1828, GA; d. November 14, 1910, Wood Co., TX.

More About SARAH RAINWATER:
Burial: Sharon Cemetery in Wood Co., TX
Residence: 1871, Wood Co., TX

More About JESSE MERCER MOSELEY:
Burial: 1910, Sharon Cemetery in Wood Co., TX.
Census: 1850, Campbell Co., GA with Jessse M age 23; Sarah 22 b. SC; Lewis B age 2; John H age 1.
Military service 1: Confederate in Majors Brigade, Walter P. Lane Regiment, Co. C, Russell Co., TX.
Military service 2: December 1862, Was a Texas Partisan Ranger at the battle at Prairie Grove, Arkansas.

vi. ELIZABETH RAINWATER, b. June 16, 1829, SC; d. April 09, 1871, Campbell Co., GA; m. PIERCE SEWELL, January 06, 1846, Coweta Co., GA; b. December 29, 1824, Franklin Co., GA; d. March 18, 1883, Campbell Co., GA.

More About ELIZABETH RAINWATER:
Burial: Ramah Baptist Church Cemetery in Palmetto, GA.

More About PIERCE SEWELL:
Burial: Ramah Baptist Church Cemetery in Palmetto, GA.
Census: 1860, Campbell Co., GA, dwelling #1405, family #1219, real estate valued at $6000, personal property valued at $2000
Military service: He was a Confederate private in Company F, 2nd Georgia Cavalry, State Guards.
Notes (Facts Pg): The information on Pierce's descendents is from W. Roger Gillem (genedr@netscape.net).

vii. CHRISTINA RAINWATER, b. April 27, 1832, SC; d. October 28, 1867, Campbell Co., GA; m. GREEN H SANDERS; b. Abt. 1824.

More About CHRISTINA RAINWATER:
Burial: Ramah Baptist Church Cemetery in Palmetto, GA.

More About GREEN H SANDERS:
Census: 1860, Campbell Co., GA
Military service: Confederate soldier in Co. K, 30th Regiment, Georgia Volunteer Infantry.
Occupation: He was the executor of his father-in-law, James Rainwater's, estate.

viii. FRANCES E RAINWATER, b. 1836, SC; d. Bet. 1865 - 1870, GA; m. EPHRAIM R MILLER, November 11, 1854, Campbell Co., GA; b. 1831, NC; d. Bef. January 1865.

More About FRANCES E RAINWATER:
Census: 1870, Fairburn, Campbell Co., GA, Dwelling #1329. She may have been living in the home of her father-in-law, Abraham Miller. Listed in his household are "Fanny Miller, age 31; James or Joel Miller, age 15, Maggie Miller, age 13, and M. Miller, age 11."
More About Ephraim Miller and Frances Rainwater:
Marriage Fact: Campbell Co., GA Marriage Book B

ix. Benjamin F Rainwater, b. 1838, GA.

x. Martha Rainwater, b. 1841; m. John A Segar, November 17, 1859, Campbell Co., GA.


More About Catherine Eliza Rainwater:
Burial: Bethel Baptist Church Cemetery in Fairburn, GA.

More About James Henderson Luck:
Burial: Bethel Baptist Church Cemetery in Fairburn, GA.

xii. Unknown Rainwater.