

Demsey SIMMONS (1780/90-1835) (yahoo post)

This is my first post to this wonderful list I stumbled over last night searching for my great-great-great grandparents. In all these years the following scraps of information are all I've been able to find that might lead me to finding Demsey's parents.

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[Lenoir/Greene/Jones Counties, NC - General Assembly Records - 1800]
Dec 6 - Petition of inhabitants of the upper part of Craven Co in the fork of the Great Contentnea Creek and Little Contentnea - the inhabitants labor under great disadvantage in attending the county court and other publick meetings in Craven Co at the Court House as it is 35 to 40 miles and sometimes the Neuse River is almost impassable, we wish to be placed in Greene County which is only 10 to 12 miles from the courthouse
Signed by

Alexander Harper Josiah Turnage Lewis Holland
Jonathan Frizzle Senr Nath'l Lockhart Arthur Rountree
Alexander Parker Enos Rogers Jonathan Frizzle
Cullen Coward Dempsey Simmons Josiah Turnage

Bill for adding part of the County of Craven to County of Greene enacted by the General Assembly that the part of Craven lying in the fork of the Great and Little Contentnea Creeks be added to County of Greene.

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I found the families near eachother on the 1800 Craven County Census taken earlier in the year:

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1800 Craven County North Carolina Census, Township Not Stated
page stamped 327

*Moses ROUNDTREE 32010 10200 (father of Arthur?)

page stamped 329

Willis JONES

Mary COLEMAN

Benjamin COLEMAN

[William MOORE 00101 00101]

Willis WETHERTON

Celia KING

Gban BOND

Isaac CLARK

[John MOORE 02110 20010]

*Cullen COWARD 00100 11010

*Enos ROGERS 02110 11010

Richard PHILLIPS

*Josiah TURNAGE 10100 10100

Celia JONES

*Lewis HOLLAND 10100 10010

*Nathaniel LOCKHART 20010 20010

*Alexander HARPER 10010 10010

?Lemuel SIMMONS 02001 01101

*Jonathan FRIZZLE 00101 01101

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There's a Demsey Simmons on

1816 Taxlist.

"A list of Taxables & Taxable Property in Captain Pope's District for the year of 1816:

[Starred inhabitants were listed 6 Dec 1800 as upper Craven Co petitioners to be annexed to Greene County, NC]

BOWDEN, White, 24 acres, \$50, 1 white pole

BROOM, Sarah, widow, 165 acres, \$330, 1 black pole

BULLS, Noah, 1 white pole

COWARD or COWARD, Edward Senr, 374 acres, \$1,490, 4 black poles

COWARD, Arthur, 588 acres, \$1,480, 1 white pole

COWARD**, Cullin, 493 acres, \$1,720, 1 white pole, 4 black poles

COWARD, Edward Junr, 1 white pole, 3 black poles

CARR, Titus, 1,092 acres, \$3,800, 1 white pole, 8 black poles

CARR, Robert, 1,133 acres, \$3,500, 1 white pole, 12 black poles

CARR, Elias, 58 acres, \$130

DALL, Thomas Senr, 182 1/4 acres, \$640, 1 black pole

DALL, Theophilus, 365 acres, \$890, 1 white pole, 2 black poles

DAVIS, James, 102 acres, \$260

DAVIS, Gideon, 1 white pole

DAVIS, Blake, 1 white pole

DARDEN, Elizabeth, 171 acres, \$550, 3 black poles

EDWARDS, Charles, 716 acres, \$2,860, 1 white pole, 7 black poles

FORREST, William, 578 acres, \$1,150, 3 black poles

FORREST, Henry, 300 acres, \$750, 1 white pole

FORREST, Samuel, 106 acres, \$240, 1 white pole, 2 black poles

FRIZZLES**, Jonathan Junr, 245 acres, \$610

FRIZZLE do, Jonathan for Susan DARDEN, 143 acres, \$280

FRIZZLE**, Jonathan Senr, 700 acres, \$1,550, 3 black poles

GRIFFIN, Joshua, 200 acres, \$400

GRIFFIN, Elisha, 202 acres, \$450, 1 white pole, 2 black poles
 GRIFFIN, William, 130 acres, \$300, 1 white pole, 1 black pole
 GRIFFIN, James, 1 white pole
 HARPER, John Senr, 360 acres, \$1,020, 8 black poles
 HARPER, Francis, 111 acres, \$390, 1 black pole
 HARPER, William, 153 acres, \$530, 1 white pole, 1 black pole
 HARPER** Alexander, 186 1/2 acres, \$500, 1 white pole, 2 black poles
 HART, Mary, 514 acres, \$1,280, 1 black pole
 HART, Barrom, 1 white pole
 HART, William, 1 white pole
 HART, Micajah, 296 acres, \$660, 1 white pole, 1 black pole
 HART, Rachel, 33 1/3 acres, \$100
 HIEDLEBURGE, Sam, 1 white pole
 HOLLIDAY, Thomas, 1,495 3/4 acres \$4,500, 1 white pole, 13 black poles,
 1 Stud @ \$60, town lots 17 & 30, valued, 2 Stores, 1R Spirits
 HOOKER, James, 300 acres, \$750, 1 white pole, 4 black poles
 HOOKER, James B, 1 white pole
 HOOKER, Thomas, 800 acres, \$2,300, 1 white pole, 5 black poles
 HOOKER, Nathan, 800 acres, \$3,000, 1 white pole, 7 black poles
 JACKSON, Levy, 1 white pole
 JACKSON, John, 1 white pole
 JONES, Sarah, widow, 100 acres, \$200
 JONES, Calvin, 1 white pole, 1 black pole
 JONES, Simon, 1 white pole
 JONES, Abram, 1 white pole
 JONES, Allen, 1 white pole
 JOINER, Exum, 216 acres, \$860, 1 white pole, 1 black pole
 KING, Brittain, 296 acres, \$700
 LOCKHART**, Nathaniel, 92 1/4 acres, \$180, 1 white pole
 MOORE, William, 800 acres, \$3,200, 8 black poles
 MOORE, James, 1 white pole
 MOORE**, John, 1 white pole
 MCCOYE, Cullen, 100 acres, \$200
 MCKOY, John, 1 white pole
 MOYE, William, 100 acres, \$200
 MOYE, Wyat, 325 acres, \$650
 MILLER, William, 231 acres, \$600, 1 white pole
 MILLER, Thomas, 191 acres, \$400, 1 white pole
 ORMOND, Thomas, 871 acres, \$2,500, 1 white pole, 5 black poles
 ORMOND, James, 600 acres, \$2,000, 1 white pole, 3 black poles
 ORMOND, Watkins, 650 acres, \$1,600, 1 white pole, 5 black poles
 OLDS, Elizabeth, 268 acres, \$670, 2 black poles
 OLDS, Allegood, 568 acres, \$1,140, 1 white pole, 2 black poles
 OLDS, Fredereck, 228 acres, \$520, 1 white pole, 7 black poles
 OLDS, Evans, 375 acres, \$625, 1 white pole, 1 black pole
 POPE, William, 882 acres, \$3,530, 1 white pole, 8 black poles, 1 R Spirits
 POTTER, John, 1 white pole, 1 black pole
 POTTER, Isaiah, 1 white pole
 PEARSON, Levi, 1 white pole
 ROGERS**, Enos, 980 acres, \$2,900, 1 white pole, 8 black poles
 RAWLS, Ruben, 238 acres, \$240, 1 white pole, 1 black pole
 RAWLS, William, 260 acres, \$550, 1 white pole, 2 black poles
 STANCIL, Alen, 273 acres, \$600, 1 white pole
 SIMMONS, James, 69 acres, \$170, 1 white pole
 SIMMONS** Dempsey, 91 acres, \$180, 1 white pole
 SPIVEY, Caleb, 84 acres, \$330, 1 white pole, 2 black poles
 SEARS, Celah, 96 acres, \$200
 SULLIVANT, John, 1 white pole
 TAYLOR, John, 306 acres, \$700, 1 white pole, 2 black poles
 TAYLOR, Joseph, 410 acres, \$1,030, 1 white pole, 4 black poles
 TULLE, William Senr, 160 acres, \$400
 TULLE, Pearson, 150 acres, \$400, 1 white pole, 2 black poles
 TULLE, William Junr, 1 white pole
 TURNAGE, William, 225 acres, \$780, 1 white pole, 4 black poles
 TURNAGE, Anne, 100 acres, \$200
 TURNAGE**, Josiah, 325 acres, \$890, 1 white pole, 1 black pole
 VAN PELT, Anthony, 466 acres, \$1,400, 2 black poles
 VAN PELT, Anthony Junr, 1 white pole
 WARREN, Jethro, 227 acres, \$790, 1 white pole, 5 black poles
 WARREN, Jethro do for J DARDEN Heirs, 348 acres, \$1,200
 WITHERINGTON, Robert, Guardian to G. Olds Children, 70 acres, \$70."

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 1820 FEDERAL CENSUS, Twp Not Stated, Greene Co., NC.
 Roll: M33_82 p256-7 Ancestry.com Image 8 of 14 Indexed as "Dancy" Simmons
 There are only 3 SIMMONS Heads of Households in Greene Co in 1820, and are
 they listed below.

It is not possible to determine neighbors because the census is enumerated
 semi-alphabetically.

These 3 families fall under the 'S' es.

SIMMONS, Demcy 101200 00100 0200 0000100000000000
 SIMMONS, James 200010 40010 0300 0001010000000000
 SIMMONS, Susanna 000100 00201 0100 0000101000000000.

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1830 FEDERAL CENSUS, Not Stated, Pitt County, North Carolina.
Roll: 124 p50 Ancestry.com Image #19-20 of 66
SIMMONS, Dempsey 1010001000000 1200010000000.
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Although my Demsey & Mary (MOORE) SIMMONS & their little family moved on to Lawrence, then Crawford Co., Illinois by the mid 1830s, some of the other families on the original petition to be annexed from Craven seem to be near each other in the 1850 "Griffins District" of Pitt County which may help identify where Demsey was located on the 1830. Their children who all married in Illinois or Wisconsin, were Charlton Jackson Simmons b. 1 June 1819 m1 ALLISON m2 HEILMANN; Catharine Mariah Simmons b. Oct 1820 m. HEATH; perhaps a daughter Athaline Elizabeth b. abt 1822-3 who died an infant; Elizabeth Athaline Simmons b. 1 Nov 1824 m. CLAYTON. Demsey S. Simmons b. 1827 m. SIRES, Nancy Jane Simmons b. 25 Dec 1829 or 1830 m1 HOLLOWAY m2 GRIFFEY. According to their biographies these SIMMONS children were all born across the river in Greene County. Demsey & Mary's next child, Martha A. Simmons was born 1 Mar 1832 in Crawford County, Illinois, as was their last child, John Calvin Simmons born 14 Aug 1835, 4 months after his father's death in Crawford County, Illinois. Mary (Moore) Simmons died the following year in February of 1836.

Perhaps at least a deed of sale of the Pitt County property between 1830 and 1832 may survive which could give me more clues. How Demsey acquired the property would help even more. I'm unable to find a father for him. I very much doubt it was the "Lemuel" SIMMONS family of upper Craven 1800 that I believe ended up in Jones County. I could be totally wrong but my feeling is that my Demsey may very well have been born in Southampton County, Virginia, and somehow just turned up in Greene & Pitt. Demsey married a MOORE daughter who may have been born in Bertie County, NC.

The only scrap of reference above I'm nearly 100% positive is actually *my* Demsey - is the 1830 Pitt Census.

[Family legend is that "they" were Scotch-Irish. "They", the MOORES & the SIMMONS didn't emigrate at the same time however, but married after, maybe long after arriving, so I don't know what the legend means and I suspect SIMMONS were English. Anyway, they were Protestant. And the children married Primitive Baptists & Methodists in Illinois and Wisconsin later on, if that helps differentiate these SIMMONS from families of the deGraf...(sp?) migration.]

I hope something rings a bell with someone.
Cynthia, lost in Wisconsin