

Not a Son of Aquila and Sarah

On 20 Apr 1768, William Felps married Elizabeth Jones in Rowan. Since William was not on the 1768 poll list as head of his own household, he was probably still living with his father at that time. He was not living with Aquila who had only 1 poll. Therefore, he was either living with Thomas Abner or with Abington. Of those two, only Abington was born early enough to have been William's father. Also, Colonial Georgia land records place both Abington and William in St. Paul's Parish (on the state's northeastern border adjoining S. Carolina) in 1771 and 1774 respectively. In contrast, there is no record of Aquila I ever going to GA, but there are records showing him residing in Rowan up until his death between 1786-1790.

William Felps died ca 1783 in Richmond Co, GA formed from St. Paul's Parish in 1777. He left no will, but estate records show a widow named Elizabeth. Who were his children? There is a 25 Aug 1787 Georgia deed for land originally granted to Thomas Ford and then sold to William Candler by William Felps, deceased. Based on the dates, the Candler connection, and yDNA, this was William Felps m. Elizabeth Jones. The deed indicates that Elizabeth Dysart and Henry Candler conveyed part of the original Thomas Ford tract to Aquila, Avington, David and Sarah Felps. Based on various records, these appear to be at least some of the children of William Felps d. 1783.

Of Interest to Some

Based on family connections, Rev War records, the Dysart/Candler deed, etc., David D. Felps was a son of William Felps. Descendants believe his wife was Falby Candler, daughter of William Candler noted in the estate records of William Felps. The will of David D. names these sons: Joseph L.D. Felps, Aventon Felps, Henry C. Felps, William D. Felps, John Felps. He had 11 children total. David D.'s son John Felps was enumerated in Capt. Kendrick's district of Putnam in 1820 as was John's brother Joseph D. Felps. Neither were in Putnam or in adjoining counties in 1830.

There was, however, a John Phelps on the 1822 tax list in Warren Co, KY who apparently died by 1823 because Cherry Phelps, widow, was on the 1823 tax list. This was Cherry Jackson Phelps, who also appeared in the 1830, 1840, and 1850 censuses. Her son William K. Phelps died 1883 and was buried with a gravestone, reading "born in Putnam County, Georgia." This links the Phelps family of Warren Co, KY back to the John Felps on the 1820 Putnam Co. GA census. Further proof: John and Cherry named a son David D. Phelps.

Error

1. While David D. Felps carefully listed the initials of his sons in his will, he assigned no middle initial for John. Someone long ago made an error by merging the John Felps in the 1820 census for Putnam with the Thomas Phelps in the 1820 census for Warren Co, Ky, creating a fictional John Thomas Phelps. There

are two obvious reasons why this is wrong: 1) a family couldn't be in 2 places at the same time 2) the Thomas Phelps of Warren Co. was over 45 in 1820 and, therefore, much too old to be a son of David D. In short, there was a Thomas Phelps m. Unknown and a John Felps m. Cherry Jackson. The former was much older than the latter. These men briefly lived in Warren Co, Ky at the same time, but at present there is no evidence of kinship.