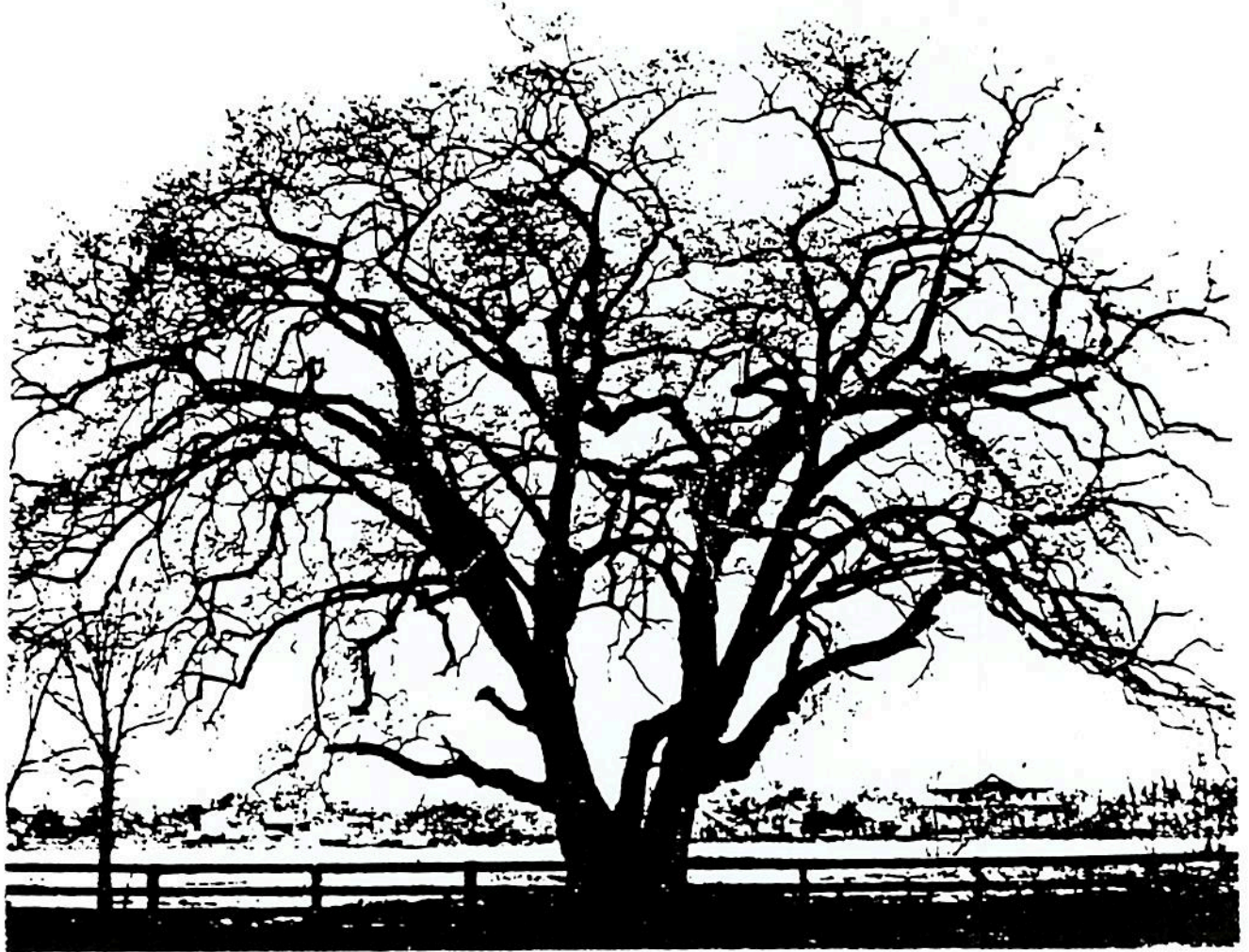


The Pearson Family



Tree

...remembering our past,
living our present,
planning our future

Albert A. Robinson

1989



FOREWORD

Sometimes we take our family for granted. I don't think we do it on purpose, but sometimes it just happens. And occasionally, we need to be reminded about who our family is, what the word "family" really means and how each of us can make a contribution toward strengthening family values, achieving goals and promoting pride.

One day, on my way home from work, I drove behind a car that had a bumper sticker which read "Happiness Is Being With Family." Later when I got home, I had received an endearing letter from a young mother who reflected on the meaning of family as she started her own and praised our family for being so close.

The Pearson family has a special closeness, which sometimes we're unaware of. Fortunately, we're reminded not only from reading bumper stickers and sending Christmas cards, but from attending reunions and reading publications like this. One can only be further impressed with the Pearson history as you turn each page and read the stories, see the pictures and acknowledge the many descendants of Law and Mary Pearson. Not only are all their names listed, but their spouses and many of their accomplishments are listed as well.

This publication fills a void which for years was strictly an oral tradition.

Albert A. Robinson recognized that the Pearsons have a rich oral tradition, but he also realized that there had to be a way to preserve these treasures for future generations to enjoy. "The further you are removed from the source of heat," Albert says, "the less you realize that the fire ever existed." So Albert patiently collected photos, tape-recorded stories, researched interesting facts and tidbits and compiled this magnificent volume.

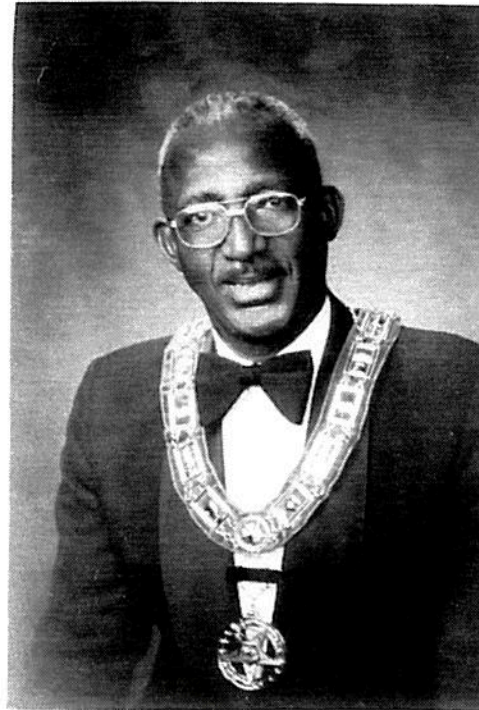
In the Pearson tradition, Albert is a community-minded person. The oldest son of Alexander and Ora M. Coleman-Robinson and grandson of Annie Pearson-Coleman, Albert has devoted many years of service to his church, community and fraternal organizations. And now he has made a major contribution to the Pearson family. Albert has labored many years in providing each of us with valuable information about who we really are, and more importantly, in preserving the Pearson's past so that it will serve as a prologue to our future.

The Pearsons are a proud clan because we know who we are and how we got here. Collectively, we boast a high self-esteem because of our forefathers' and foremothers' teachings. And those teachings are still ever present today.

Albert Robinson has enhanced the Pearson tradition, brought new meaning to the word "achievement" and has boosted our self-esteem a few more notches. He brought it all together for our enlightenment and enjoyment. So sit back, relax and reminisce as you turn the pages of The Pearson Family Tree.

June, 1989

Julius E. Dickens
Family Historian



ALBERT A. ROBINSON
GRAND PATRON
AMARANTHE GRAND CHAPTER OES
STATE OF OHIO
1975 - 1976

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
Inside Cover Page	
"Like a Strong Tree" McKay Claude	
Acknowledgements	
Story of Law Pearson (As related by Ora Mae Coleman-Robinson)	1
"The Family" W. Aikman	5
"Mother-Prayer" Margret Widdermere	6
Anne Hall (Mother of Mary Hall-Pearson)	7
"Let My Children Go"	8
Mary Hall-Pearson	11
"The Little China Doll"	13
Linnie Pearson-Daniels	15
Daniels Family	17
Annie Pearson-Coleman	23
Coleman Family	25
Mary L. Pearson-Carter	33
Emma Pearson-Lock	34
Lock Family	35
Ivory Pearson Sr.	36
Ivory Pearson Family	37
Stories of Ivory Pearson Sr.	41
Ellen Pearson-Baker	45
Baker Family	46

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

	PAGE
Henry Pearson	47
Henry Pearson Family	48
Nathan Pearson	50
Nathan Pearson Family	51
Minnie Pearson-Stewart	55
Lillia Pearson-Coney	56
Coney Family	57
Lillia Coney and daughter Ruby	61
Ethel Pearson-Clayton (as a teenager)	62
Methel Pearson (as a teenager)	63
Methel Pearson-Liggins	64
Coney-Liggins Family	65
Pearson Family Reunion History	67
"To Design a Successful Tomorrow" (A salute to teachers and college graduates)	73
"Family Gathering" (1937)	83-A
Henry Pearson Jr. "Farm Manager"	84
Pillars of Love, Beauty, Strength and Support	86
"Cousins"	95
Photo Section "A" (grandchildren of Law and Mary Pearson)	96
Photo Section "B" (past family reunions)	98
"COPY" Research and Compilation of Family History 1976 by Julius Dickens	99

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

By no stretch of the imagination do I consider myself a writer, nor do I feel that I am in possession of all knowledge regarding family history, for I have relied heavily upon information given to me by family members.

I have endeavored to be as accurate as possible with information on family lineage, yet, there will no doubt, be some mistakes in the area of omissions and typographical errors. For this, I beg your forgiveness.

The stories contained within the covers are factual. I have garnished these facts with my imagination, in the hope that you would enjoy reading them.

When my mother, Ora Mae Coleman-Robinson, and my aunt, Methel Pearson-Baker passed on to their heavenly reward, I came to a jolting realization that the further you are removed from the source of heat, the less you realize that the fire ever existed, and is one of the reasons that I have attempted to put this information in book form.

Many of you have made all of this possible. Some of you have given me valuable information. Some of you have entrusted me with valued family photos. Some of you have given me encouragement when I needed it most, and for this, I am forever grateful.

I would however, be remiss in my responsibility if I did not mention a few of the persons to whom I owe a debt of gratitude: To Ethel Laura Lee Bell, for the times we have spent together, discussing family ties. To Eula Mae and Calvin Jackson for sharing photographs and being there when I needed you most. To Lavera Wynn, Osceola Williams and Esteen Powe for keeping me aware of things within your immediate families. To Eleanor Bernice Pearson-Spearman for the beautiful story about your mother's garden. To all of my Youngstown relatives, and for those in my immediate family, for your patience and understanding. Last but not least, to you, Julius Dickens, who in 1976, did a tremendous job in family research (a complete copy is included within this book) without his gathered information, my attempt would have been most difficult.

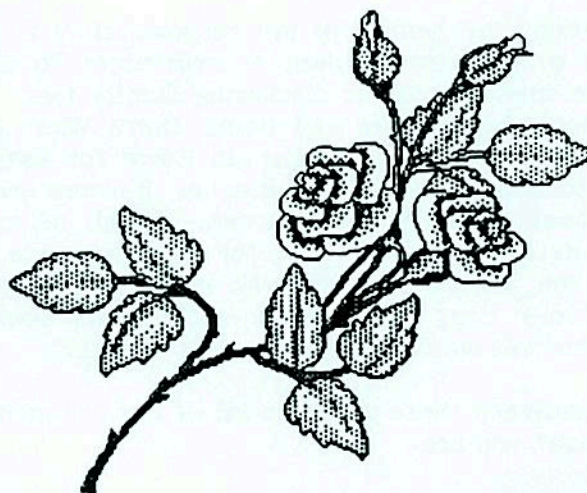
I therefore dedicate these pages to all of our grandchildren and to all Pearson descendants wherever you are.

Albert A. Robinson
Grandson of Annie Pearson-Coleman

THE STORY OF LAW PEARSON

AS RELATED BY

ORA M. ROBINSON



AIM HIGH

During the early years of our family gatherings, our primary goal was to bring the extended family structure back into focus. We came to the realization that families are often crippled and stunted in their growth through the lack of knowledge of themselves, and of each other. The distances that separated many of the family members, personal involvement and other concerns, were some of the causes that prevented us from enjoying the strength and support gained through touching base one with another.

For our ancestors, this strong bond of family ties was a means of survival. They were a close knit family, and shared each others' joys and disappointments. The weddings, births, deaths and the knowledge of their family backgrounds was shared with all through the spoken word, from mouth to ear, and from parent to child, and in many instances to inquisitive grandchildren.

On many occasions, my mother, Ora M. Robinson, the daughter of Annie (Pearson) Coleman, the second oldest child of Law and Mary (Hall) Pearson, would share with us her recollections of family history that had been related to her by her mother and from other family relatives.

Had we known of the importance and value this information could have been to future generations, we could have been better prepared to put these recollections into print.

Slavery in the United States was one of the most despicable forms of human oppression ever devised by mankind. Blacks were systematically stripped of their personhood, stripped of their identities and knowledge of themselves. The system misused the women and abused the men in manners that are unspeakable. One of the more heinous and debasing of all the white man's crimes, was the methods used in breaking down and destroying "The Black Family Structure." Families were quite often torn asunder through the practice of separating husband and wife, mothers and children on the slave auction block.

The use of the whip and other means of torture were used to keep the "Black Man in his Place." We know that the practice was widespread, even though we understand that Law and Holmes Pearson were spared this kind of treatment due to the kindness of a very protective slave owner, yet, the Pearson family still experiences much of this oppressive bit of Americanism.

Law Pearson was born a slave, and was the seed of slave parents, Elias and Alicia Graham, and were property of a slave owner by the name of "Graham." There were seven children born to Elias and Alicia. The names of six of the children were recalled and are thus listed, but not necessarily according to date of birth:

John, William, Joe, Holmes, Law, (Elias Jr.)

Upon the slave owner's death, the Elias Graham family was dispersed and separated by being bequeathed through the instrument of a will to other members of the slave owner's family. One son was deeded to a daughter by the name of McCrae, one or more of the children was deeded to a second daughter by the name of Lott, Law and Holmes were kept together and given to a third daughter by the name of Pearson. The children's parents were also separated. Following the breakdown of this basic family group, Elias took a new mate, and from this union was born a son, Elias Jr. Alicia also took a new mate, and from this union bore several other children who were known by the name of "Willis."

When Law and Holmes were in their late teens or early twenties, the Civil War was in progress. The Confederate Army was being hardpressed by the Union forces and in order to keep their fighting force at full strength, the southern army pressed into service the use of black labor to build trenches and embankments for the army's use. Law and Holmes were a part of this American history. When the war ended, and the slaves had obtained their freedom, Law

and his brother Holmes returned to Coffee County, Georgia, and began to work toward establishing a life for themselves. It was at this time that Law met and married Mary Hall, the daughter of Bob and Annie Hall of Hazelhurst, Georgia (Appling County) where they lived until after the birth of their two eldest daughters: Linnie and Annie. From Hazelhurst, the family moved to the lower section of Laurens County.

It was during this period of their lives that an exciting event occurred. Contact had been lost between family members, and although Alicia Graham had raised a new family, she never forgot her two sons, Law and Holmes, and had never given up the hope that she and her two sons would someday and somehow be reunited. She made inquiries about them, and after a long search, she learned that Law and Holmes were still together and located in Laurens County.

This had to have been good news, for Alicia started out on foot and walked across the state of Georgia over many miles of red clay and sandy roads to reach them.

When Alicia reached her destination, the story is told that the soles of her shoes had completely disintegrated, her feet were tired, bruised and bloodied, but her spiritual soul was joyful and happy at being reunited with these two sons, and she remained happily with them until her death.

When Law and Mary were the parents of six children, he purchased his first fifty acres of land upon which was located a one room log cabin. Law proved to be a hard worker, saved his money, and had dreams of becoming self-supporting, for he did not believe in the share crop system.

Law was a shrewd person in his business dealings, and frugal with his earnings. After paying off the debt on the first fifty acres, he purchased a second fifty acres, and deeded title to one hundred acres of land upon which

he and Mary raised fourteen children. Law Pearson continued to add to his holdings, and at one time was the owner of more than eight hundred acres of good farm and timber land.

From a small start, and on a single ox farm, Law progressed to the point where the use of six to eight mule teams were needed to farm the land. We were informed that all types of domestic animals were raised with the exception of sheep and goats. We were also told that Law had a special taste for pure bred horses.

One of the exceptional facets of Law's life, was that with all his wealth, he believed in sharing his good fortune with others. He employed many persons from within the community, and did not fail to go to the assistance of persons who were in distress or need.

Law Pearson did not receive a formal education, but I believe that he had a dream, that someday, his children and his children's children would take advantage of the educational process and the skills that education would afford. Why else would he have shared his good fortune in ways that would leave his footprint in the sands of time? It is known that he financially supported the building of a school (Mary Grove School). He provided the land to house a church facility, (Fleming Chapel A.M.E.) and used a portion of his land to provide a resting place for the deceased. Above all, he was a motivating force for his descendants to develop good work ethics, and instilled within them the knowledge of understanding true kinship and knowledge of knowing that they are somebody instead of nobody.

I don't know what Law Pearson's religious convictions were, but from listening to stories of his life, I firmly believe, that he believed in the principle of love — love for his family, love for each other, love for the community, and love for the church.

"THE FAMILY"

The family was ordained of God that children
might be trained up for himself;

It was before the church, or rather the first
form of the church on earth.

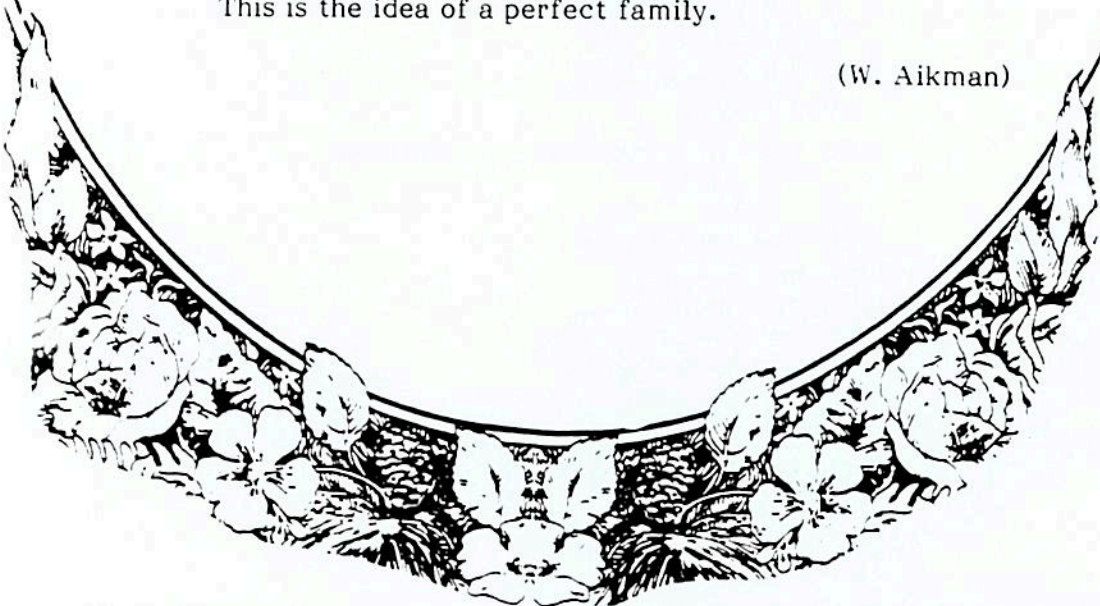
Civilization varies with the family, and the
family with civilization.

Its highest and most complete realization
is found where enlightened Christianity prevails;
where woman is exalted to her true and lofty
place as equal with the man;

where husband and wife are one in honor,
influence, and affection, and where children
are a common bond of care and love.

This is the idea of a perfect family.

(W. Aikman)





Mother - Prayer

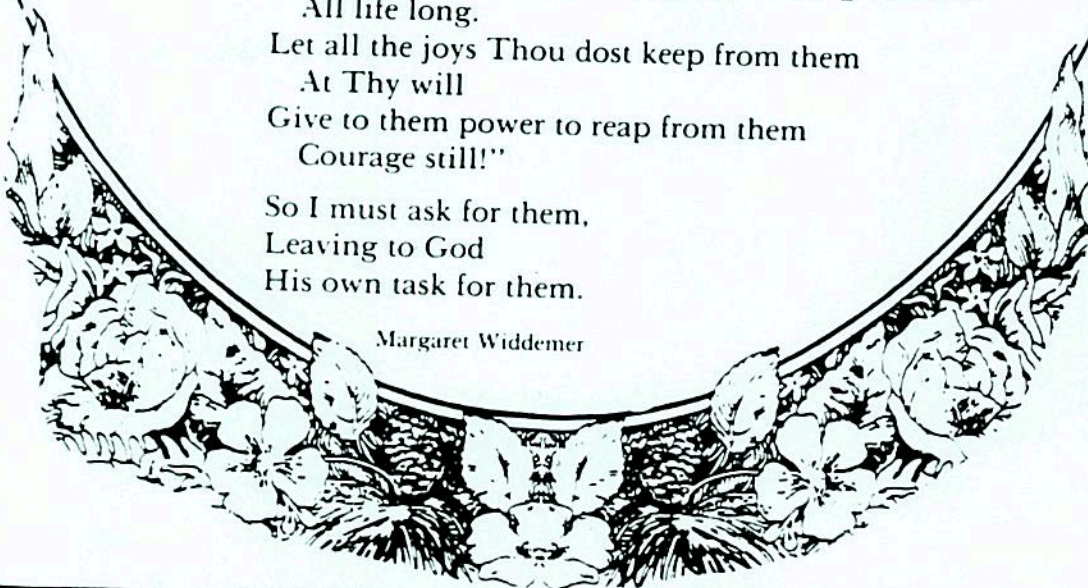
"Lord, make my loving a guard for them
Day and night;
Let never pathway be hard for them;
Keep all bright!
Let not harsh touch of a thorn for them
Wound their ease;
All of the pain I have borne for them
Spare to these!"

So I would pray for them,
Kneeling to God
Night and day for them.

"Lord, let the pain life must bring to them
Make them strong;
Keep their hearts white though grief cling to them
All life long.
Let all the joys Thou dost keep from them
At Thy will
Give to them power to reap from them
Courage still!"

So I must ask for them,
Leaving to God
His own task for them.

Margaret Widdemer





ANNE HALL

MOTHER
OF
MARY
PEARSON

"LET MY CHILDREN GO"

She could no longer hold back the tears which were streaming down her cheeks like tiny waterfalls; the pain of losing her children was almost unbearable. She waved as she watched the loaded wagon disappear around the bend in the road. It was now out of sight, but the memory of this moment would linger with her for a long time. As she turned away in frustration, she raised her eyes toward the heavens, and cried out in the midst of her tears, "Why Lord, why would you allow them to separate us in this manner, haven't I suffered enough?"

This heart rending scene was the result of a will, previously made by the deceased plantation owner, bequeathing his worldly goods and property to his several heirs. Anne's children were included in this division of property and goods. Anne pleaded, but to no avail in her attempt to influence the heirs to keep the children together, thereby becoming an unyielding victim to the inhumane practice of breaking down the Black Family structure.

Anne was still standing by the roadside trying to understand the impact of what was happening. She made a mental note of the several plantations on which her children would be located, and took a solemn vow, "that someday and somehow, I will bring my children home."

The "someday" that Anne had prayed for was called the "Emancipation." That glorious day of Jubilee, when the stroke of a pen shattered the chains that had kept a people enslaved for almost three hundred years. Freedom, a freedom that in some instances created confusion in the minds of some, as to where they would go, or what they would do.

Anne Hall, however, knew immediately what she must do. The restructure of her Family Group was of utmost importance. She realized that to hesitate now could possibly mean the loss of her children forever. She went into the pantry, picked up an empty flour sack, filled it with provisions, gathered a few

of her belongings, and started out on her journey. Anne Hall walked in the hot blazing sun and through pouring rain taking shelter when she could find it, catching rides on the back end of huge wagons that would be going in her direction, stopping here and there, asking questions and seeking directions. Anne never faltered in her determination to press on, for deep within the recesses of her Soul, she believed that she would be successful in her quest.

Early one morning as Anne walked along a sandy back road, she recognized certain signs that indicated that she must be near the plantation she was looking for. The thought was exciting, and she began to walk with more determination. She heard the sound of a dinner bell off in the distance, smiling to herself, she knew that the first leg of her journey was almost over. When Anne reached the crest of a low hill, she saw the big house sitting between two groves of pecan trees, a short distance behind the house was a huge barnlike structure with two flatbed wagons standing in front of the barn doors. There was a lot of activity as a group of young men and boys were loading the wagons with what appeared to be burlap bags filled with pecans.

Anne walked through the gate in front of the house, intently gazing at the faces of the workers, hoping that she would recognize the familiar face of her child. When he did appear, Anne's hands flew to her face, and she could not stop herself from calling his name. The astonished youngster looked at Anne with a sign of recognition, he dropped the sack of pecans, took a few hesitant steps, and then ran headlong to her side. This moment of joy again brought tears to Anne's eyes. Anne looked at her son, took him into her arms and quietly explained to him her mission. Her son was anxious to leave with her, "I must first speak with the owner of this plantation, gather your belongings and meet me at the gate, but hurry along child, times awasting, and we still have others to find."

Anne, resolute in her determination to retrieve the other members of her family, continued her search until the last one was again with her. It had been a long tedious journey, but well worth the effort, and the returns were bountiful. When they reached home, Anne again lifted her eyes toward the heavens and said, "Thank you Jesus, you have brought us from a mighty long way, the sheep were lost, but now are found, and I am bringing them back to the fold.

Bob and Anne Hall were the parents of ten children. Their names are as follows, but not necessarily in order of their birth: ELIAS, JOSEPH, BENJAMIN, MARY, EMILY, ESTHER, JANE, LOUISA, ALFIE, and GREENE. Dr. Clyde Hall, President of Savannah State College (Ret.) is the grandson of Elias Hall.

Louisa Hall's descendants include the proprietors of the Sellers Funeral Home in Atlanta, Georgia, and Mary Ayres, who was elevated to the distinguished position of GRAND WORTHY MATRON, ORDER OF EASTERN STAR, STATE OF GEORGIA.

Emily Hall became the wife of Holmes Pearson.

MARY HALL became the wife of LAW PEARSON.



THE ROOTS OF A GREAT FAMILY

(This story is based upon facts given to me by Eula Mae Jackson)



LAW PEARSON, the son of **ELIAS and ALCIA GRAHAM** was united in marriage to **MARY HALL** daughter of **BOB and ANNE HALL**. To this union was born fourteen children. Ten girls and four boys.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BIRTH/DEATH</u>	<u>SPOUSE</u>
Linnie	1870-1921	Daniels, Ennis
Annie	1872-1946	Coleman, Alexander
Mary L.	1877-1945	Carter, William
Emma	1877-1943	Lock, George
Ivory	1878-1953	Buck, Mattie
Ellen	1880-1977	Baker, James A.
Henry	1884-1960	Butler, Estella
Nathan	1884-1971	McClendon, Bessie
Minnie	1886-1909	STEWART, MARK
Dolly	1888-1892	
Robert	1890-1910	
Lillia	1892-1971	Coney, Eddie
Ethel	1896-1967	Clayton, "Boy"
Methel	1898-1983	Liggins, Jasper

THE LITTLE CHINA DOLL

When Mary was quite a little girl and living on the plantation of the slave owner, she became quite attached to a little china doll that belonged to the household cook. The doll had been given to the cook by the slave owner's wife several years before Mary was born. Mary loved to play with this little doll, and quite often attempted to persuade the cook to give it to her, but the cook would always find some excuse to refuse her request. Finally, one day the cook said to Mary, "If you can catch me on Christmas day, I will give you the doll." I can imagine that Mary was quite excited with the possibility of owning this little toy, and no doubt, began to make plans as to how to make her dream come true.

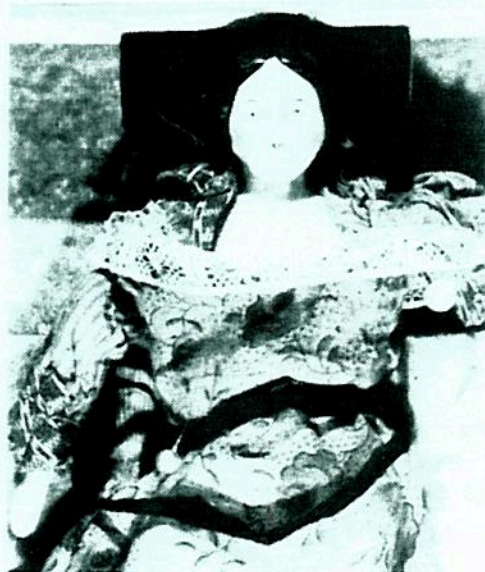
Early on Christmas morning, before anyone in the house had arisen, Mary slipped into the kitchen, and hid herself very carefully. She waited very quietly, her heart, no doubt, pounding like tom-tom drums within her chest. She waited and waited for what appeared to be hours. Soon she heard footsteps approaching her hiding place. Mary peeked out from her secret place, and sure enough, it was the cook coming into the kitchen to prepare the morning meal. As the cook turned her attention to her morning chores, little Mary, leaping from her hiding place, cried out in a loud voice, "Christmas gift, Christmas gift." The cook pretending to look quite surprised, turned toward little Mary, smiling broadly, she kneeled, gathering Mary into her arms, she said, "You truly caught me child, the doll is yours." This was probably the most exciting Christmas for any child ever.

Mary Hall cherished the little doll, and played with it constantly. At the age of fifteen the doll was still in her possession when she met and married Law Pearson, at which time the little doll was carefully put away with her other possessions, as she turned away from childhood play and began to take on new

responsibilities of being a wife and of raising a family of her own. Over the years as her children grew older, Mary would at times take the doll from her old trunk, show it to the children, and tell them the story of how she came in possession of it.

At some point in time, Mary Pearson gave the little china doll to another of her prize possessions, her second eldest daughter. Annie, like her mother, treasured the little doll and took very special care of it. When the time came, she would also relate to her children the story of how their grandmother recalled that special Christmas morning years before. The doll was in Annie Pearson Coleman's possession for years, and prior to her death gave the doll to her granddaughter, Alvertis Robinson, who still has it in her possession.

The little china doll has passed through many hands over the years. The wear and tear from loving hands has taken its toll. Parts of the fragile porcelain have been chipped. The cloth covered, saw dust body is torn and tattered, and unlike the modern day dolls, it does not talk nor does it open or close its eyes, but if you look at it long enough and listen very carefully, it will tell you a story of maternal love . . . a love that has passed from breast to breast for more than one hundred and fifty years . . . a love that continues to grow. Not because of a doll, but because we are family.



MARY'S CHINA DOLL



LINNIE PEARSON

1870 - 1921

Husband - ENNIS DANIELS



AIM HIGH

PARENTS

LINNIE AND ENNIS DANIELS

GRANDCHILDREN

CHILD

Daniels, Arrie
Daniels, Javis
Daniels, Early
Daniels, Beatrice

SPOUSE

McClendon, Clifford
Butler, Eva Mae

Robinson, Editor

FOURTH GENERATION

PARENTS ARIE AND CLIFFORD DANIELS

CHILD

Daniels, Napoleon
Daniels, Vera
Daniels, Addie
Daniels, Thelma
Daniels, Ruth

SPOUSE

Dumas, Emalyne
Mason, Page
Felton, Frank
Williams, Luthur
Burton, Burdett

PARENTS JAVIS AND EVA DANIELS

CHILD

Daniels, Klide
Daniels, Obie
Daniels, Ernest

SPOUSE

Plair, Ernest
Philps, Harold

PARENTS BEATRICE AND EDITOR ROBINSON

CHILD

Robinson, Etta
Robinson, Otis
Robinson, Bertha
Robinson, Dottie
Robinson, Betty

SPOUSE

Carpenter, Wilbur

Harshaw, Leonard
Williamson, Samuel
Durham, Robert

AIM HIGH

FIFTH GENERATION

PARENTS NAPOLEON AND EMALYNE DANIELS

CHILD

SPOUSE

Daniels, Robert
Daniels, Victoria
Daniels, Jo Anne

Pettiford, Dwight

PARENTS VERA (HARRIS) AND PAGE MASON

CHILD

SPOUSE

Harris, Andrew
Harris, Vincent

PARENTS ADDIE AND FRANK FELTON

CHILD

SPOUSE

Felton, Frank Jr.
Felton, Virgene

PARENTS THELMA AND LUTHUR WILLIAMS

Williams, Bernadette
Williams, Michelle

PARENTS RUTH AND BURDETT BURTON

CHILD

SPOUSE

Burton, Dorsey
Burton, Burdett Jr.
Burton, Ruth Regina

PARENTS KLIDE AND ERNEST PLAIR

CHILD

SPOUSE

Wells, Frank
Wells, Osceola

AIM HIGH

PARENTS OBIE AND HAROLD PHILPS

CHILD

Philps, Edith

SPOUSE

Lafate, Bernard

PARENTS ETTA AND WILBUR CARPENTER

CHILD

Carpenter, Erica

SPOUSE

PARENTS OTIS AND ELLA LOUISE ROBINSON

CHILD

Robinson, Denise A.

SPOUSE

Paulin, Vincent

PARENTS BERTHA AND LEONARD HARSHAW

CHILD

Harshaw, Edward

SPOUSE

Del Gardo, Liberty (Betty)

PARENTS WILLIAM AND GENEVA ROBINSON

CHILD

Robinson, William Jr.
Robinson, Anthony
Robinson, Gwendolyn

SPOUSE

PARENTS DOTTIE AND SAMUEL WILLIAMSON

CHILD

Williamson, Pamela

SPOUSE

Hills, Wesley

AIM HIGH

PARENTS BETTY AND ROBERT DURHAM

CHILD

SPOUSE

Durham, David
Durham, La Toya

SIXTH GENERATION

PARENT ROBERT DANIELS

CHILD

Daniels, Dawayne
Daniels, Ayaana
Daniels, Nicole

PARENTS VICTORIA AND DWIGHT PETTIFORD

CHILD

Pettiford, Jon Vincent

PARENT JO ANNE DANIELS

CHILD

Daniels, Terence Jerome

PARENT FRANK J. FELTON

CHILD

Felton, Frank J. Jr.

PARENT VIRGENE FELTON

CHILD

Felton, Vernell

PARENTS OSCEOLA AND HENRY RICHARDSON

CHILD

Richardson, Christina
Richardson, Terry

PARENTS EDITH AND BERNARD LAFATE

CHILD

Lafate, Karyle
Lafate, Kinard
Lafate, Jandre

SPOUSE

Fogan, Jack
Yongae, Kim "Mimi"
Grice, Lorie

PARENTS EDWARD AND LIBERTY HARSHAW

CHILD

Harshaw, Edward Jr.
Harshaw, Lana
Harshaw, Christine

PARENTS PAMELA AND WESLEY HILLS

CHILD

Hills, Tyana

PARENTS DENISE AND VINCENT PAULIN

CHILD

Green, Lakesha

SEVENTH GENERATION

PARENTS KARYLE AND JACK FOGAN

CHILD

Fogan, Deandre
Fogan, Kynara

AIM HIGH

PARENTSKINARD AND KIM LAFATE

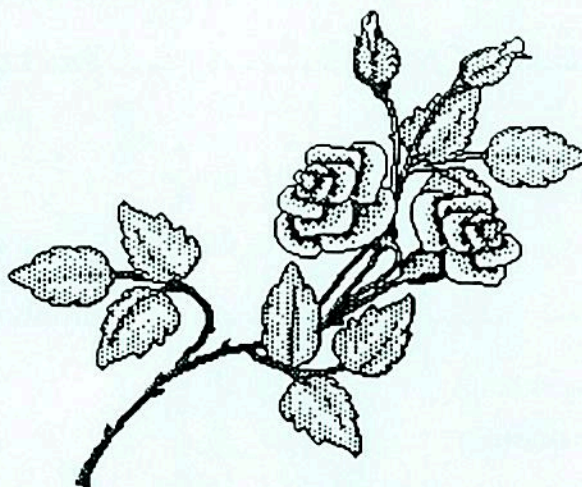
CHILD

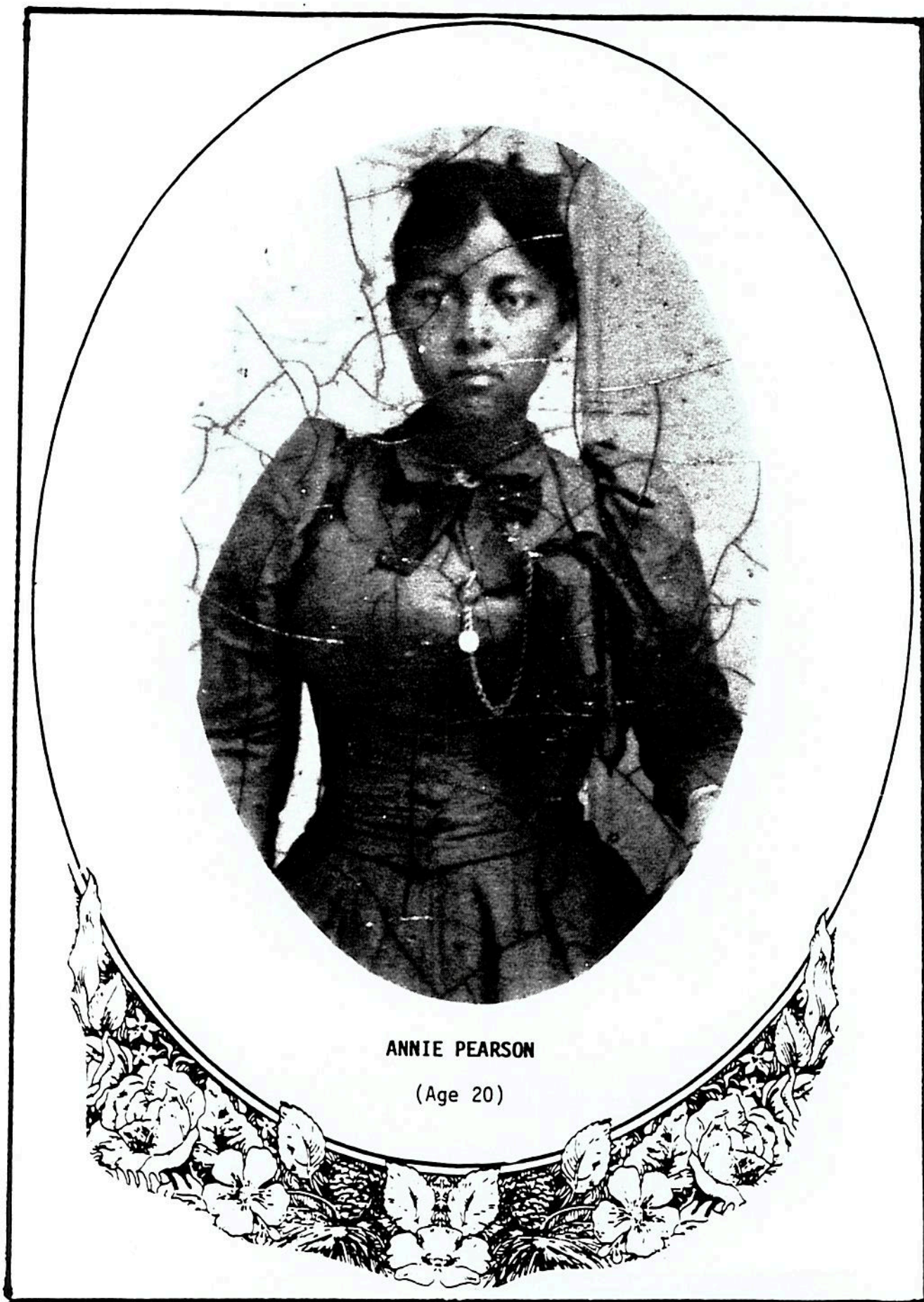
Lafate, Jaurdona

PARENTS JANDRE AND LORI LAFATE

CHILD

Lafate, La Jandre





ANNIE PEARSON

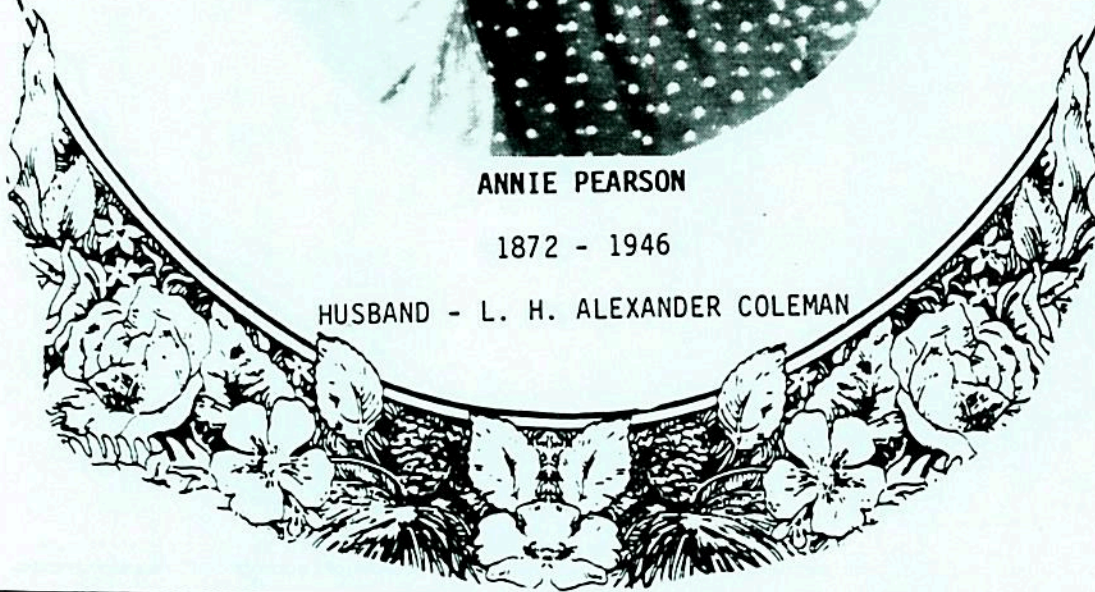
(Age 20)



ANNIE PEARSON

1872 - 1946

HUSBAND - L. H. ALEXANDER COLEMAN

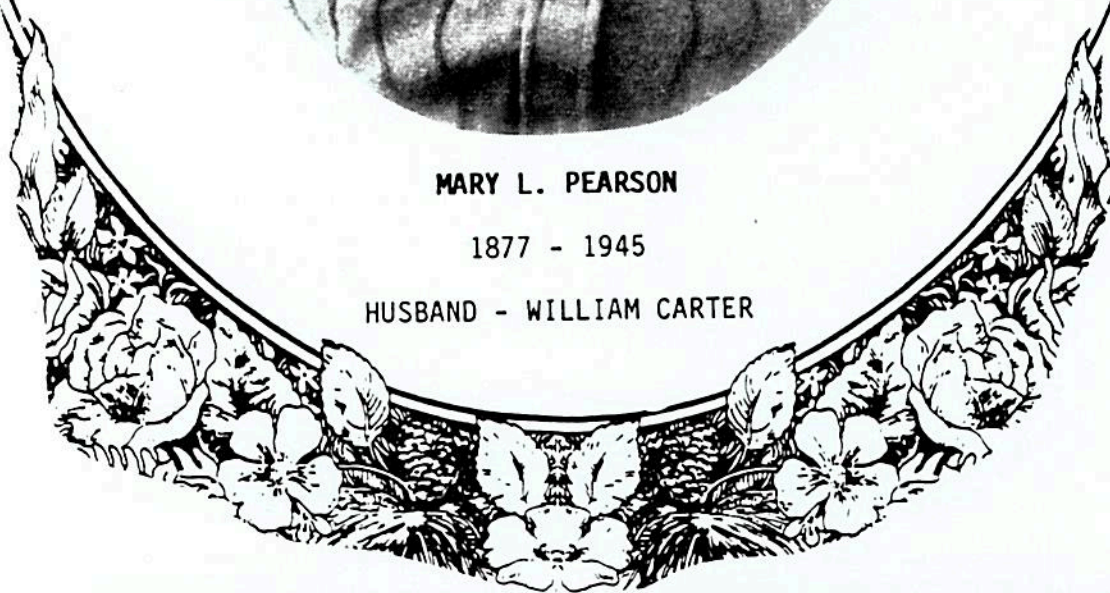




MARY L. PEARSON

1877 - 1945

HUSBAND - WILLIAM CARTER

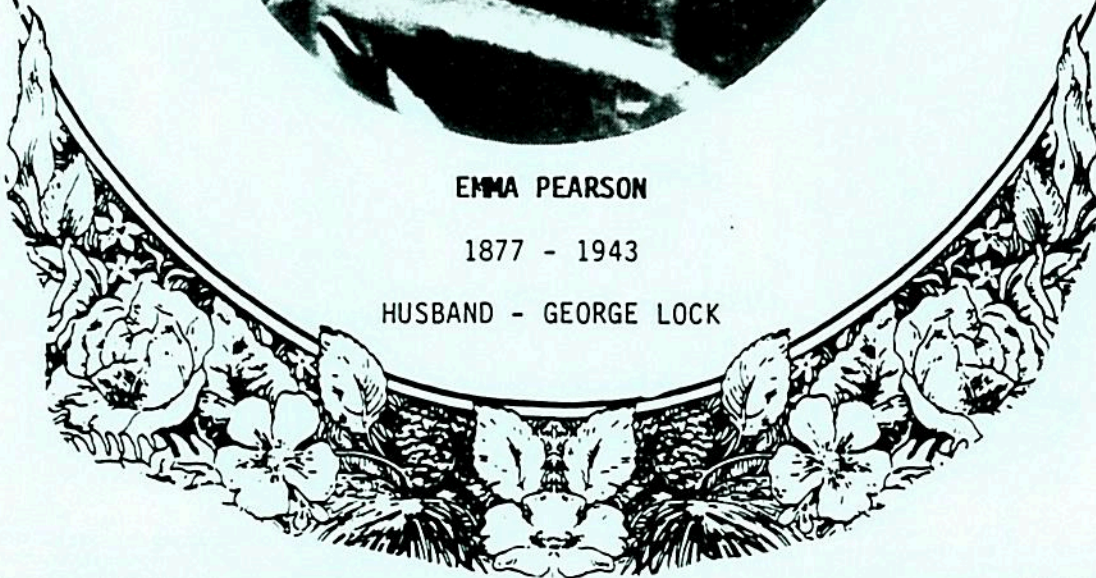




EMMA PEARSON

1877 - 1943

HUSBAND - GEORGE LOCK



PARENTS

ANNIE AND ALEXANDER COLEMAN

GRANDCHILDREN

CHILD

Coleman, Ellis
Coleman, Ora Mae
Coleman, I.J.
Coleman, Ethel L.
Coleman, Lester

SPOUSE

Boatwright, Georgia
Robinson, Alexander
Sample, Eviedell
Bell, Arthur
Wilson, Arletha

FOURTH GENERATION

PARENTS ELLIS AND GEORGIA COLEMAN

CHILD

Coleman, Thelma O.
Coleman, Evelma L.
Coleman, Theresa
Coleman, Theodore

SPOUSE

Miller, John
Wallace, Samuel
Small, Vera

PARENTS ORA M. AND ALEXANDER ROBINSON

CHILD

Robinson, Albert A.
Robinson, Curtis
Robinson, James Edna
Robinson, Alvertis
Robinson, William F.
Robinson, Elinor B.
Robinson, Melvin

SPOUSE

Bolling, Helen
Harris, Marie

Miller, Willie
Grant, Marie

AIM HIGH

PARENTS ETHEL AND ARTHUR BELL

CHILD

Bell, Atheal
Bell, Napoleon
Bell, Thomas L.

SPOUSE

Lyman, Dorothy
Rouse, Barbara

PARENTS LESTER AND ARLETHA COLEMAN

CHILD

Coleman, Lester Jr.
Coleman, Joyce
Coleman, Ronald
Coleman, Carol
Coleman, Betty
Coleman, Larry
Coleman, David
Coleman, Curtis

SPOUSE

McCrae, Minnie
Wood, Haywood
Elizabeth
Owens, Robert Sr.
DuBouse, Nathaniel
Baldwin, Marsha
Sherry
Todd, Carla

FIFTH GENERATION

PARENTS EVELMA AND JOHN MILLER

CHILD

Miller, Reginald
Miller, Gregory
Miller, Kelvin

SPOUSE

Marlow, Dianne

PARENTS THERESA AND SAMUEL WALLACE

CHILD

Wallace, Samuel Jr.

SPOUSE

Maiden, Gloria

PARENTS THEODOR AND VERA COLEMAN

CHILD

Coleman, Cheri

SPOUSE

Daniels, Ronald

AIM HIGH

PARENTS ALBERT A. AND HELEN A. ROBINSON

CHILD

Robinson, Dennis A.
Robinson, Janice A.

SPOUSE

Robinson, Darlene
Williams, Robert

PARENT ALVERTIS ROBINSON

CHILD

Robinson, Lisa Y.
Robinson, Keith A.

SPOUSE

Frank, Joyce

PARENTS ELINOR AND WILLIE MILLER

CHILD

Miller, Pamela
Miller, David
Miller, Clifford
Miller, Albert A.

SPOUSE

Junior, Anthony R.

PARENTS MELVIN AND MARIE ROBINSON

CHILD

Robinson, Terri

SPOUSE

Mitchell, Jeffery

PARENTS NAPOLEON AND DOROTHY BELL

CHILD

Bell, Kayethel
Bell, Napoleon Jr.

SPOUSE

Mason, Vincent

PARENTS THOMAS AND BARBARA BELL

CHILD

Bell, Michele
Bell, Adrienne

SPOUSE

Dodson, Randolph Sr.
Davis, Anthony III

AIM HIGH

PARENTS LESTER AND MINNIE COLEMAN

CHILD

SPOUSE

Coleman, Carlo
Coleman, Denise
Coleman, Keith
Coleman, Venita
Coleman, Kim

Thigpen, Brian

PARENTS JOYCE AND HAYWOOD WOOD

CHILD

SPOUSE

Wood, Cynthia
Wood, Kenneth
Wood, Angela
Wood, Matthew

Franklin, Benjamin

PARENTS RONALD AND ELIZABETH COLEMAN

CHILD

SPOUSE

Coleman, Theresa
Coleman, Arletha
Coleman, Michelle

PARENTS CAROL AND ROBERT OWENS

CHILD

SPOUSE

Owens, Robert Jr.

PARENTS BETTY AND NATHANIEL DuBOUSE

CHILD

SPOUSE

Coleman, Andrea
DuBose, Kelvin

AIM HIGH

PARENTS DENNIS AND DARLENE ROBINSON

CHILD

Robinson, Dason A.

PARENTS JANICE AND ROBERT WILLIAMS

CHILD

Williams, Michael A.

Williams, Marlon

PARENTS KEITH A. AND JOYCE ROBINSON

CHILD

Robinson, Keian Jalil

PARENT CLIFFORD MILLER

CHILD

Miller, Nina Adrienne

PARENTS TERRI AND JEFFERY MITCHELL

CHILD

Mitchell, Jeffery Jr.

Mitchell, Kimberly

PARENTS MICHELLE AND RANDOLPH DODSON

CHILD

Dodson, Randolph Jr.

Dodson, Brandon

AIM HIGH

PARENTS LARRY AND MARSHA COLEMAN

CHILD

SPOUSE

Coleman, Erica
Coleman, Jamilla

PARENTS DAVID AND SHERRY COLEMAN

CHILD

SPOUSE

Coleman, Tara
Coleman, David Jr.

PARENTS CURTIS AND CARLA COLEMAN

CHILD

SPOUSE

Coleman, Demetrica
Coleman, Marlinia

SIXTH GENERATION

PARENTS REGINALD AND DIANNE MILLER

CHILD

Miller, Christopher
Miller, Keisha Monique

PARENTS SAMUEL AND GLORIA WALLACE

CHILD

PARENTS CHERI AND RONALD DANIELS

CHILD

Daniels, Alexandria

AIM HIGH

PARENTS ADRIENE AND ANTHONY DAVIS

CHILD

Davis, Erica
Davis, Andrew
Davis, Alicia

PARENT CARLO COLEMAN

CHILD

Coleman, Latasha
Coleman, Carlo Jr.

PARENTS DENISE AND BRIAN THIGPEN

CHILD

Thigpen, Lashanda
Thigpen, Renatta
Thigpen, Brian Jr.
Thigpen, Tamara
Thigpen, Brileena

PARENT VINITA COLEMAN

CHILD

Coleman, Camilla
Coleman, Shantell
Coleman, Jerome

PARENTS CYNTHIA AND BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

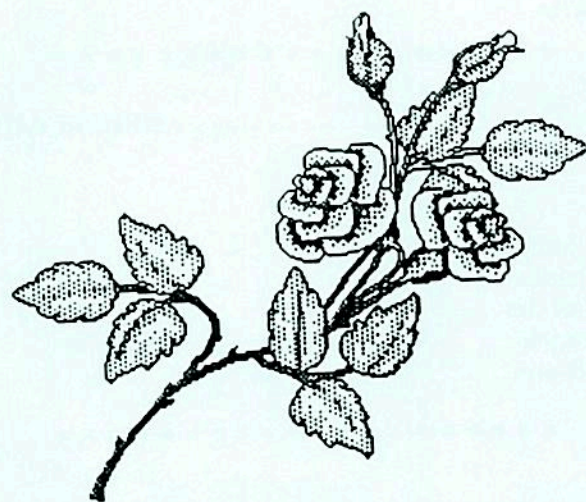
CHILD

Franklin, Cammille
Franklin, La Tasha

PARENT KENNETH WOOD

CHILD

Wood, Kiatra
Wood, Kenneth Jr.



AIM HIGH

PARENTS

EMMA AND GEORGE LOCK

GRANDCHILDREN

CHILD

Lock, Walter (Madder)
Lock, Lettie

SPOUSE

Fuller, Mittie
Hurst, Columbus

FOURTH GENERATION

PARENTS LETTIE AND COLUMBUS HURST

CHILD

Hurst, Walter
Hurst, Julia
Hurst, Emma

SPOUSE

Connors, Stonewall
Davis, S.J.

FIFTH GENERATION

PARENTS JULIA AND STONEWALL CONNORS

CHILD

Connors, Faye
Connors, Cynthia
Connors, Tawanda

SPOUSE

PARENTS EMMA AND S. A. DAVIS

CHILD

Davis, Amberissio

SPOUSE

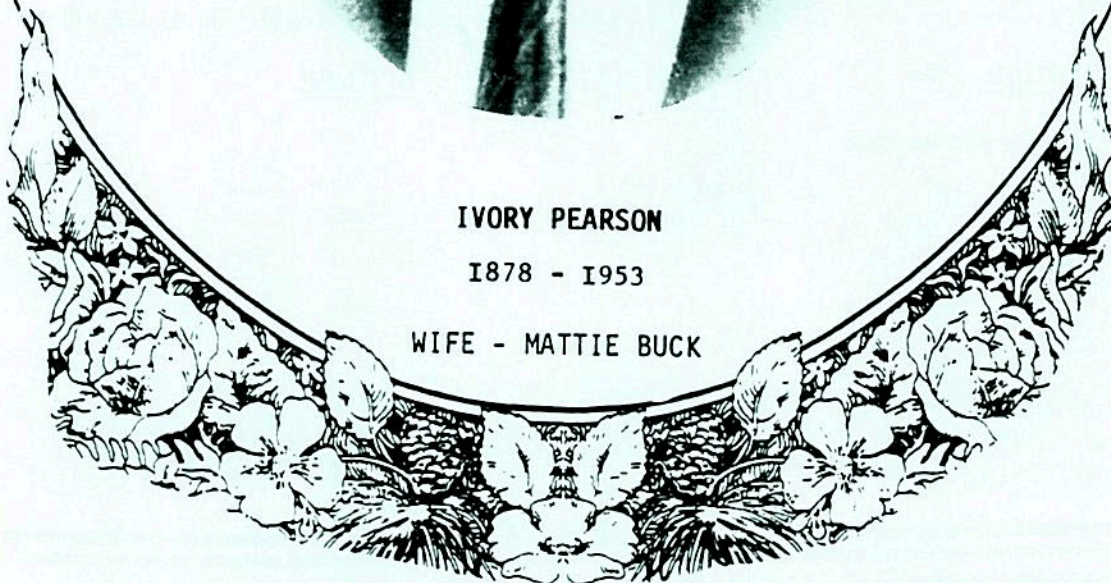
AIM HIGH



IVORY PEARSON

1878 - 1953

WIFE - MATTIE BUCK



PARENTS

IVORY AND MATTIE PEARSON

GRANDCHILDREN

CHILD

Pearson, Levi
Pearson, Schofield
Pearson, Irene
Pearson, Joseph
Pearson, Esteen
Pearson, Ivory Jr.
Pearson, Earl
Pearson, Mary Louise
Pearson, Ambus

SPOUSE

Whitehead, Edna
Nellie
Kruel, George
Hamilton, Pauline
Powe, Maurice
DePreist, Hattie
Williams, Earlene
Orr, Chester Sr.
Johnson, Marie

FOURTH GENERATION

PARENTS LEVI AND EDNA PEARSON

CHILD

Pearson, Mary

SPOUSE

PARENTS SCHOFIELD AND NELLIE PEARSON

CHILD

Pearson, Ira Lee
Pearson, Methel

SPOUSE

Bass,
Walker,

PARENTS IRENE AND GEORGE KRUEL

CHILD

Kruel, Alvie
Kruel, Gerald
Kruel, Jerome
Kruel, Donna
Kruel, Rodger
Kruel, Janice
Kruel, Melvin S.
Kruel, Joey

SPOUSE

Stewart, Mary
Rosemary
Mary

Osenberg, Kathy

Carolyn

AIM HIGH

PARENTS JOSEPH AND PAULINE PEARSON

CHILD

SPOUSE

Pearson, Gwendolyn
Pearson, Georgia

PARENTS ESTEEN AND MAURICE POWE

CHILD

SPOUSE

Powe, Maurice Jr.
Powe, Bernard
Powe, Anthony
Powe, Patrick

PARENTS IVORY AND HATTIE PEARSON

CHILD

Pearson, Ivory Jr.

PARENTSMARY LOUISE AND CHESTER ORR

CHILD

SPOUSE

Orr, Chester Jr.
Orr, Marcus
Orr, Jerusha
Orr, Daniel
Orr, Joyce
Orr, Mary
Orr, Doris
Orr, Ruth
Orr, Sandra
Orr, Karen

Williams, Ezelda
Ohara, Gloria
Burgess, Edward
Rogers, Vanessa

PARENTS AMBUS AND MARIE PEARSON

CHILD

SPOUSE

Pearson, Ricky
Pearson, Ambus Jr.
Pearson, Gregory
Pearson, Ken

Elliot, Wonder

AIM HIGH

FIFTH GENERATION

PARENTMARY (PEARSON)

CHILD

Letithia

PARENTIRA LEE (PEARSON) BASS

(THREE CHILDREN, NAMES NOT AVAILABLE)

PARENTSMETHEL (PEARSON) WALKER

(INFORMATION REGARDING CHILDREN NOT AVAILABLE)

PARENTSALVIE AND MARY KRUEL

CHILD

Kruel, Alvie Jr.
Kruel, Lamarr

PARENTSGERALD AND ROSEMARY KRUEL

CHILD

Kruel, Kimberly
Kruel, Gerald Jr.

PARENTSJEROME AND MARY KRUEL

CHILD

Kruel, Quentin

PARENTSROGER AND KATHY KRUEL

CHILD

Kruel, Samuel
Kruel, Kelsie

AIM HIGH

PARENTS CHESTER AND EZELDA ORR

CHILD

Orr, Tandrika
Orr, Verna
Orr, Timothy

PARENTS MARCUS AND GLORIA ORR

CHILD

Orr, Marcus Jr.
Orr, Maurice
Orr, Julius
Orr, Meshauntis
Orr, Jordan

PARENTS JERUSHA AND EDWARD BURGESS

CHILD

Burgess, Edward II
Burgess, Christopher
Burgess, Curtis

PARENTS DANIEL AND VANESSA ORR

CHILD

Orr, Daniel Jr.
Orr, Jerri

PARENT MARY L. ORR

CHILD

Orr, Ebony
Orr, Ivory

PARENT SANDRA ORR

CHILD

Orr, Brittane

PARENT GWENDOLYN PEARSON

CHILD

Pearson, Charles
Pearson, Paula

AIM HIGH

THE MARKSMAN, MAN OF STRENGTH, AND FEARLESS FIGHTER

I V O R Y P E A R S O N

Ivory, was the first son born to Law and Mary Pearson. He, like the other children, grew up on his parents' farm, and was taught all the skills related to farming and tilling the soil. Ivory and the other children worked hard in assisting their parents develop the farm into a successful venture.

This story, however, is not about farming, but rather about how Ivory spent some of his leisure time. It has been pointed out that all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy, but the saying had no place in Ivory's life, for he found plenty of time for pleasure and other activities in which he excelled.

I V O R Y , T H E H U N T E R

The story is told that Ivory was large in stature, his physical stamina, and hunting skills were known throughout the community. His skill with the shotgun was equal to that of the finest shooters in today's modern sport of Skeet Shooting. Ivory and his friends loved the sport of hunting, and would often take to the woods and fields in search of wild game for the table. It was told that Ivory would often allow his hunting companions the first shot at any available game, if the first shooter missed the mark, Ivory would level his shotgun at the moving target, and more often than not, the target would find a place in Ivory's game bag.

I V O R Y , T H E M A N O F S T R E N G T H

Ivory's strength was also a topic of conversation among his friends and companions. On one occasion, when the boys were in town, and the business of selling the family's cotton crop had been completed, the young men found themselves with a lot of free time to idle away, and as young men will often do, were swapping tales and drinking sodas. Somehow the subject of strength became the topic of conversation. After some friendly "joshing", Ivory was

persuaded to demonstrate the power that so many had heard of, but of which only a few had witnessed.

Ivory was at first a little hesitant. He did not want to be a showoff, but with some encouragement from his friends he walked over to the nearest platform, backed up to a bale of cotton, where two of his companions tilted the load onto his shoulders. The weight was back-breaking, and the veins in Ivory's neck bulged under the heavy strain. Ivory used his brawny hands to steady the load, and made certain that his footing was firm. As Ivory made his first step a low murmur of admiration was heard from those who watched. He took a second and then a third step; confident now that he could indeed carry this tremendous burden. Ivory, moving slowly and deliberately, made a complete circle returning to the point from where he started, and with the assistance of his friends replaced the bale of cotton on the platform. Perspiration dripping from his body, Ivory slowly stood erect, he looked toward his friends, smiled, and quietly walked away.

IVORY, THE FIGHTER

Ivory was known for his abilities in self defense, and that he feared no man, be he black, white or otherwise. The story was told that he was especially adept in the sport of wrestling. This information had reached the ears of a young man from the opposite end of the county who was interested in finding out if Ivory was as good at this manly art of self defense as had been reported.

A challenge was issued to determine who was the better man, and Ivory accepted. The time, the place and the rules of the match were agreed upon. In the meantime, the news was spread throughout the community about the impending battle of strength. On the appointed day, a large group of supporters for each contestant was in attendance, waiting anxiously for the battle to begin.

Ivory and his opponent, stripped to the waist, and faced each other, their bulging muscles glistening and rippling in the late afternoon sun. The admirers

had formed a human ring two rows deep with each onlooker giving moral support through their vocal encouragement. A quiet hush came over the crowd as Ivory and his opponent slowly circled each other, each seeking to find a weakness in the other's defense. They pawed at each other like cats playing with a ball of string, hoping that a slight mistake on the one's part would give the other a tremendous advantage.

Ivory's opponent made a sudden inside move, used his powerful arms in an attempt to lift Ivory from his feet and dash him to the ground. Ivory anticipating such a move, simply shifted his weight, breaking his opponent's hold. Ivory counter attacked with a bone crushing full nelson. The spectators' emotions were now at fever pitch, screaming at the top of their voices, encouraging their champion to greater effort.

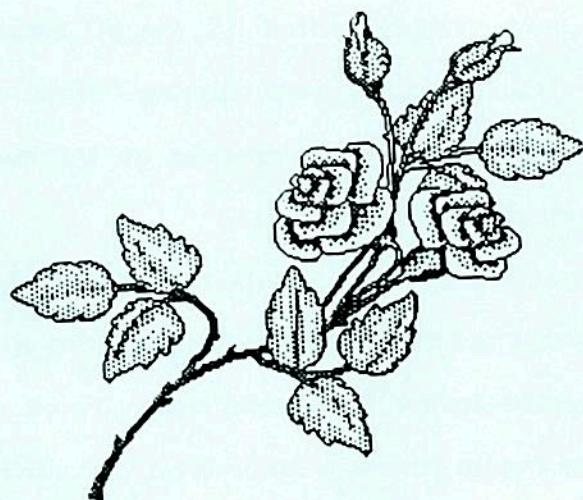
The battle of strength raged on, and the tide of control changed frequently without either combatant getting the upper hand. During a lull in the contest, as each fighter struggled to get his second wind, Ivory's opponent, realizing that he and Ivory were evenly matched, called for a truce, indicating that further struggle was unnecessary and would prove nothing; a truce that was readily accepted by Ivory. The two contestants looked at each other with admiration, shook hands, and went their separate ways.

The stories of Ivory Pearson are based on information related by:

Ellis Coleman

Dr. Huey Pearson, Sr.

AIM HIGH





ELLEN BAKER

1880 - 1977

HUSBAND - A. J. BAKER

PARENTS

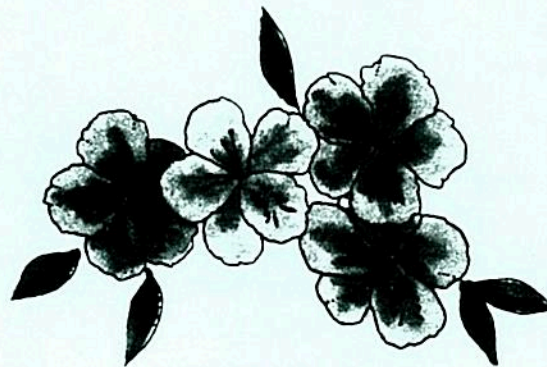
ELLEN AND JAMES A. BAKER

GRANDCHILDREN

CHILD

SPOUSE

Baker, W. Dewey
Baker, Essie
Baker, Cressie D.



AIM HIGH

FIFTH GENERATION

PARENTS CHERYL AND JAMES SMITH

CHILD

Smith, Jonathan W.

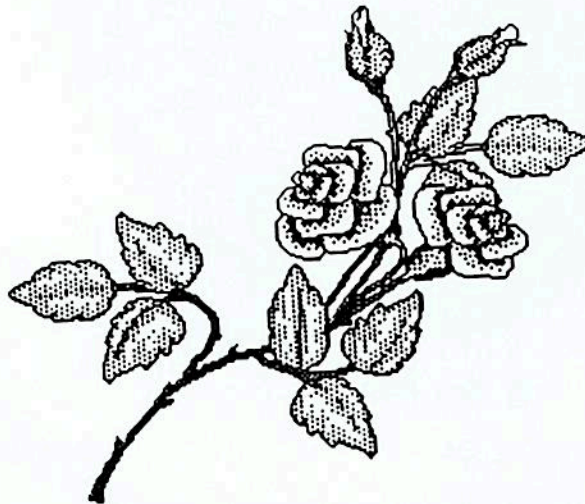
PARENTS HILDA AND LUCIUS WILLIAMS III

CHILD

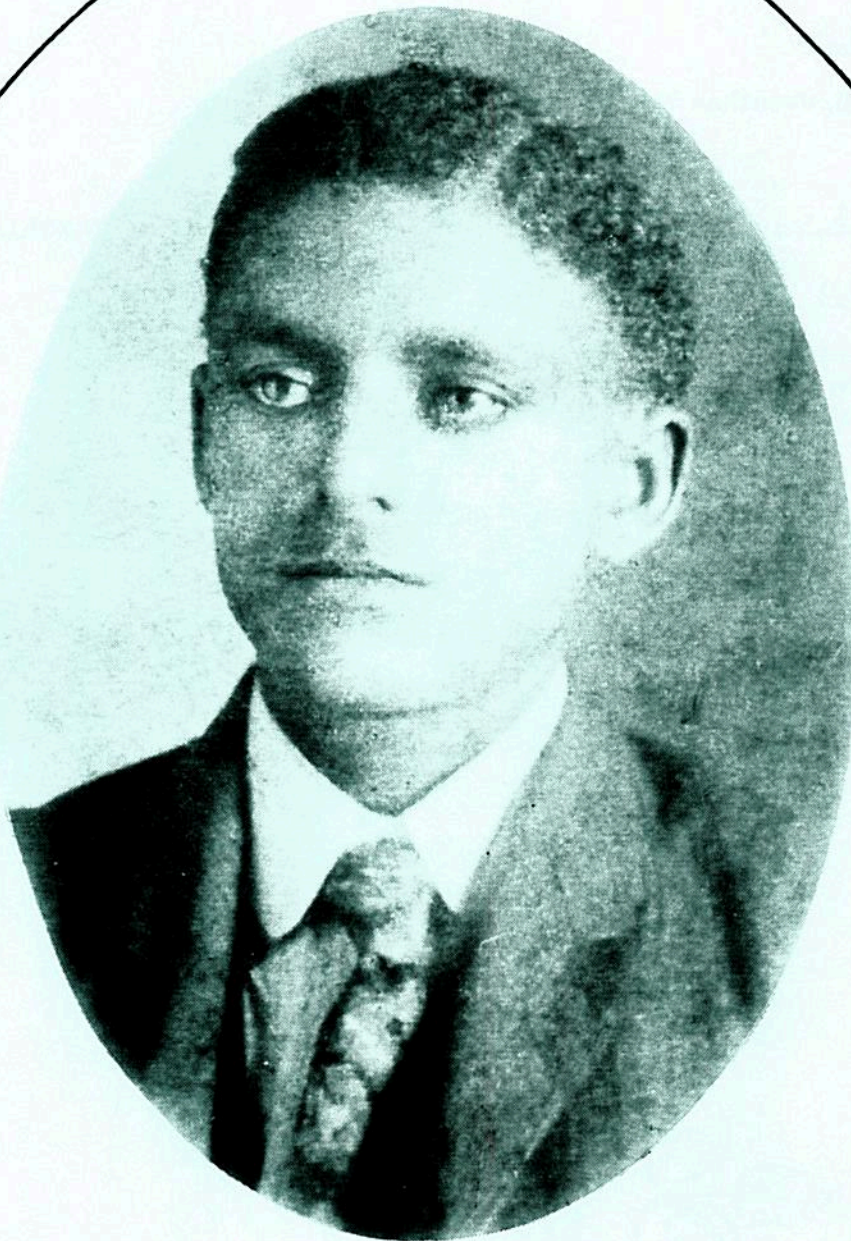
Williams, Lucius IV

Williams, Shonta

Williams, Wavie R.



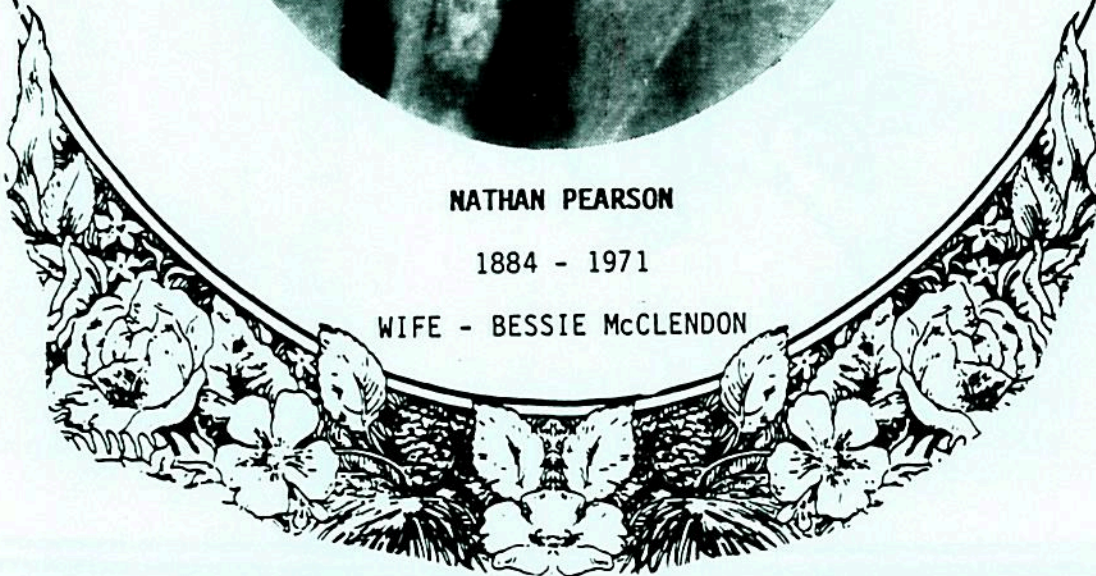
AIM HIGH



NATHAN PEARSON

1884 - 1971

WIFE - BESSIE McLENDON

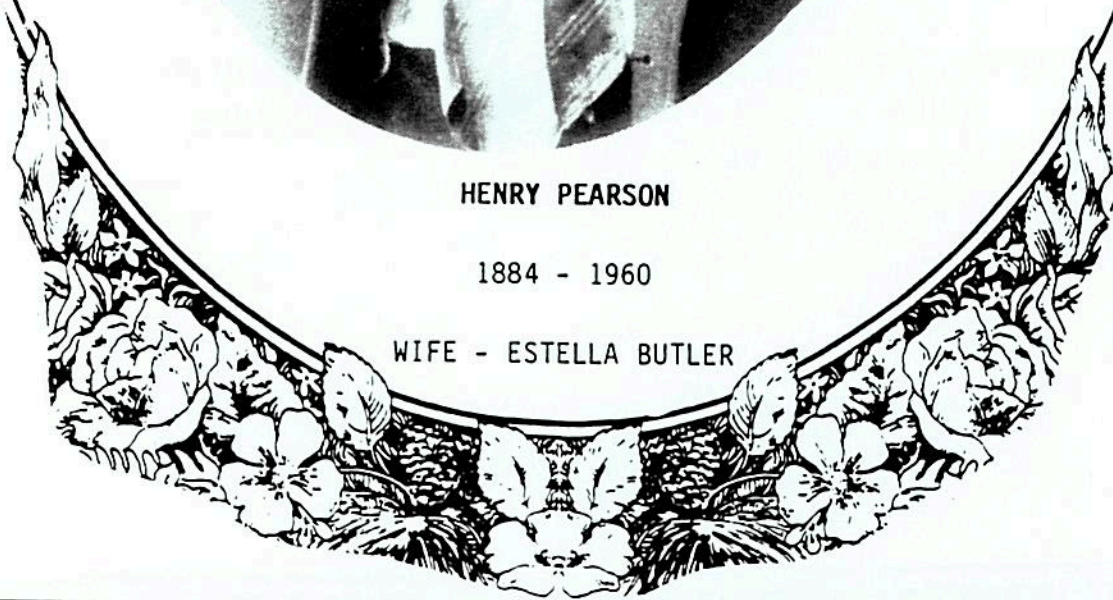




HENRY PEARSON

1884 - 1960

WIFE - ESTELLA BUTLER



PARENTS

HENRY AND ESTELLA PEARSON

GRANDCHILDREN

CHILD

Pearson, Lavera
Pearson, Oselola
Pearson, Henry Jr.

SPOUSE

Wynn, LeRoy
Williams, Lucius
Beard, Eudel

FOURTH GENERATION

PARENTS LAVERA AND LEROY WYNN

CHILD

Wynn, Cheryl
Wynn, Veronica
Wynn, Featrice
Wynn, Casandra

SPOUSE

Smith, James

PARENTS OSCEOLA AND LUCIUS WILLIAMS

CHILD

Williams, Lucius III
Williams, Lucinda
Williams, Betty

SPOUSE

Austin, Hilda
Dunn, Reginald
Jones, Harold

PARENTS HENRY AND EUDEL PEARSON

CHILD

Pearson, Henry III

SPOUSE

AIM HIGH

PARENTS KENNETH P. AND HELEN RUTLAND

CHILD

Rutland, Kenneth Jr.
Rutland, Kimberly
Rutland, Kevin

PARENTS ALFRED AND CAROLYN RUTLAND

CHILD

Rutland, John Elijah
Rutland, Alicia Vivian
Rutland, Ashley Katherine

PARENT RITA JORDAN

CHILD

Freeman, Maurice

PARENTS LORENE AND VERNER WILSON

CHILD

Wilson, Venus
Wilson, Verner Jr.
Wilson, Vinson

PARENTS VIRGIL O. AND BESSIE PEARSON

CHILD

Pearson, Lakimberly
Pearson, Virgil O. III

PARENTS TERESA AND IRA EDWARDS

CHILD

Edwards, Judon
Edwards, Brandon

PARENTS NAVITA AND JULIUS JAMES

CHILD

James, Erica
James, Jessica

DOLLY PEARSON

1888 - 1892



ROBERT PEARSON

1890 - 1910



PARENTS

NATHAN AND BESSIE PEARSON

GRANDCHILDREN

CHILD

Pearson, Cecil
Pearson, Lavesta
Pearson, Mamie
Pearson, Nathan
Pearson, Huey
Pearson, Mildred
Pearson, Virgil
Pearson, Eleanor B.
Pearson, Alfred

SPOUSE

Hill, John
Rutland, S.E.
Jordan, Lewis
Lampton, Dorothy
Morrison, Joyce
Cummings, Herdon
Stuckey, Dorothy
Spearman, David
Walker, Thomasenor

FOURTH GENERATION

PARENTS LAVESTA AND S.E. RUTLAND

CHILD

Rutland, Edward
Rutland, Kenneth Pearson
Rutland, Alfred

SPOUSE

Fields, Constance
Franklin, Helen
Kilgore, Carolyn

PARENTS MAMIE AND LEWIS JORDAN

CHILD

Jordan, Brenda
Jordan, Patricia
Jordan, Rita

SPOUSE

Magee, James

PARENTS NATHAN AND DOROTHY PEARSON

CHILD

Pearson, Nathan
Pearson, Jerome

PARENTS HUEY AND JOYCE PEARSON

CHILD

Pearson, Huey Jr. }
Pearson, Carol } ---- (Edith Richardson)
Pearson, Jennifer }
Pearson, Judy Michele }

AIM HIGH

PARENTS MILDRED AND HERDON CUMMINGS

CHILD

Cummings, Navita
Cummings, Cynthia

SPOUSE

James, Julius

PARENTS VIRGIL AND DOROTHY PEARSON

CHILD

Pearson, Lorene
Pearson, Glenda
Pearson, Gwen
Pearson, Virgil Jr.
Pearson, Teresa
Pearson, Solretta

SPOUSE

Wilson, Vernon

Kilgore, Ricky
McClendon, Bessie
Edwards, Ira
Jordan, P.J.

PARENTS ELEANOR B. AND DAVID SPEARMAN

CHILD

Spearman, D. Ronald
Spearman, Gregory
Spearman, Huey W.

SPOUSE

Adams, Barbara
James, Elmerleen
Fountain, Cynthia

PARENTS ALFRED AND THOMASENOR PEARSON

CHILD

Pearson, Ojetta
Pearson, Alfred Jr.
Pearson, Carl
Pearson, Herbetta

FIFTH GENERATION

PARENTS EDWARD AND CONSTANCE RUTLAND

CHILD

Rutland, Amber Nicole
Rutland, Heather Joy
Rutland, Crystal Jade

AIM HIGH



MINNIE PEARSON

1886---1909

HUSBAND
MARK STEWART





LILLIA (P) CONEY

1892 - 1971

HUSBAND - EDDIE CONEY

PARENTS

LILLIA B. AND EDDIE CONEY

GRANDCHILDREN

CHILD

Coney, Ruby
Coney, Otis
Coney, Orison R.
Coney, Marshall B.
Coney, Alma
Coney, Edward
Coney, Bertha

SPOUSE

Tolbert, Virginia
Warren, Louise
Warren, Hattie

Dickens, Julius Lee

FOURTH GENERATION

PARENTS OTIS AND VIRGINIA CONEY

CHILD

Coney, Otis Jr.
Coney, Lois Margret
Coney, Patrick
Coney, David
Coney, Lisa

SPOUSE

Monroe, Albert

PARENTS ORISON AND LOUISE CONEY

CHILD

Coney, Oris (Bunchie)
Coney, Patricia (Pat)
Coney, Carolyn
Coney, Marilyn

SPOUSE

Harris, Willie
Collings, Willie

PARENTS MARSHALL B. AND HATTIE CONEY

Child

Coney, Marshall B. Jr.
Coney, Doris
Coney, Raymond (Butch)
Coney, Cynthia

Spouse

Taylor, Michelle
Pegues, Morris
Thomas, Marilyn

AIM HIGH

PARENTS BERTHA AND JULIUS DICKENS

CHILD

Dickens, Nancy Dyanne
Dickens, Julius
Dickens, Dwayne

SPOUSE

Murray, Edward

FIFTH GENERATION

PARENTS LOIS MARGRET AND ALBERT MONROE

CHILD

Monroe, Albert III

PARENT OTIS CONEY JR.

CHILD

Coney, Anika
Coney, Sidon

PARENT PATRICK CONEY

CHILD

Coney, Robin

PARENT DAVID CONEY

CHILD

Coney, Dione

PARENTS ORIS AND WILLIE HARRIS

CHILD

Harris, Tracy
Harris, Tonya

PARENTSCAROLYN AND WILLIE COLLINGS

CHILD

Collings, Brandon
Collings, Bryon

PARENTS MICHELLE AND MARSHALL B. CONEY JR.

CHILD

Coney, Kimberly
Coney, Allison

PARENTS DORIS AND MORRIS PEGUES

CHILD

Pegues, Morris Jr.
Pegues, Lori
Pegues, Marcus

PARENTSMARILYN AND RAYMOND (BUTCH) CONEY

CHILD

Coney, Tayrn
Coney, Raymond
Coney, Rayn

PARENT CYNTHIA CONEY

CHILD

Coney, Kelli
Coney, Kendra
Coney, Kyle

PARENTS NANCY DYANNE AND EDWARD MURRAY

CHILD

Murray, Monica
Murray, Edward Jr.

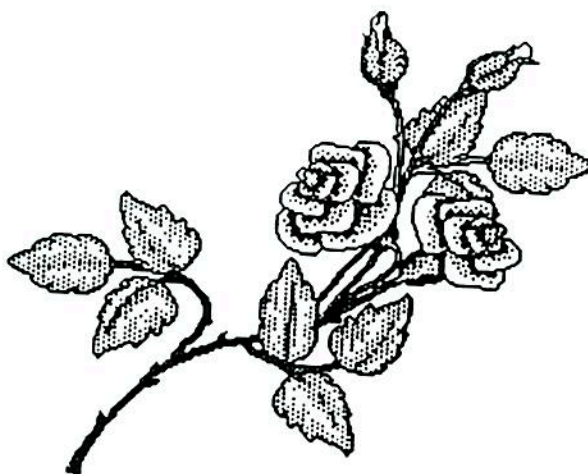
AIM HIGH

SIXTH GENERATION

PARENTTONYA HARRIS

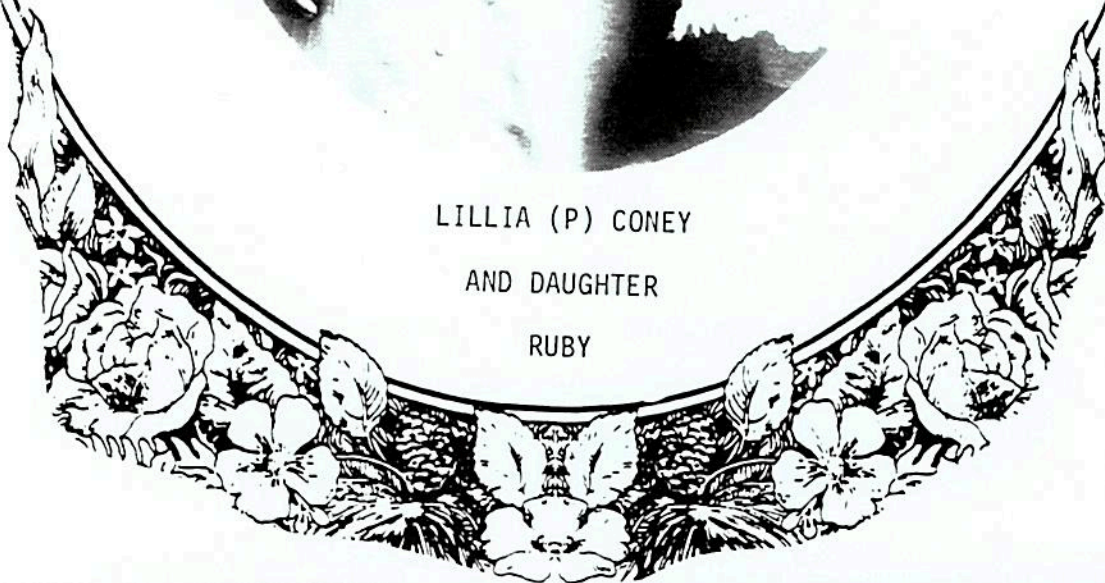
CHILD

Harris, Antwan





LILLIA (P) CONEY
AND DAUGHTER
RUBY

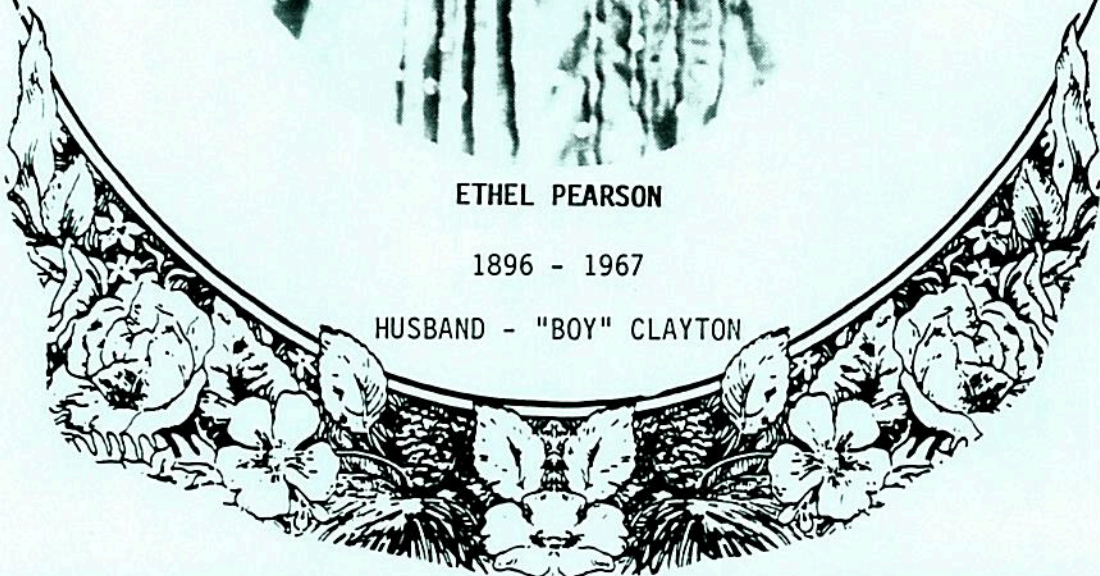




ETHEL PEARSON

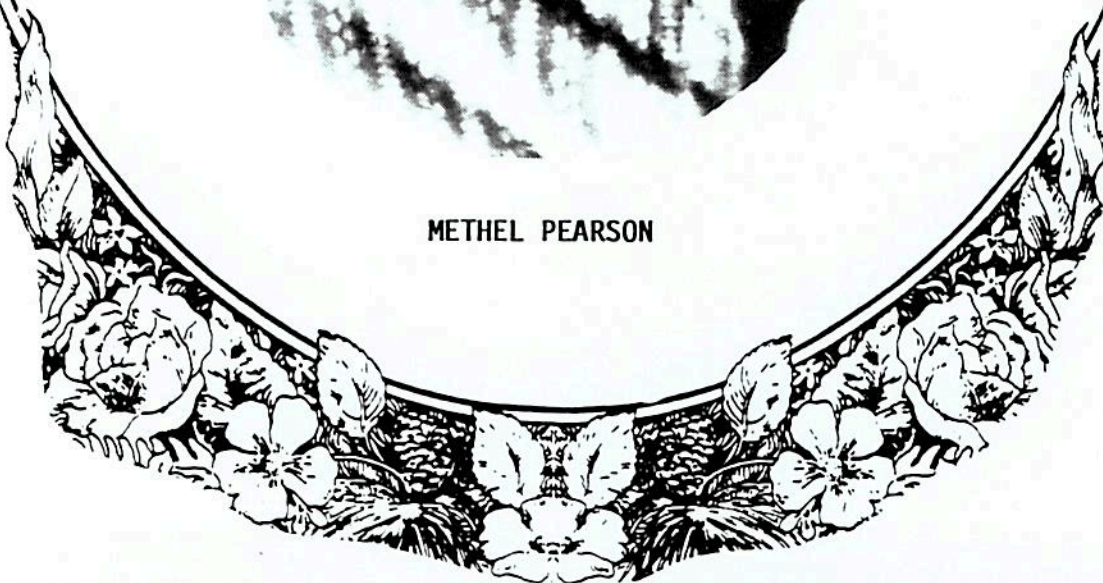
1896 - 1967

HUSBAND - "BOY" CLAYTON





METHEL PEARSON





METHEL (P) BAKER

1898-1983

HUSBAND - JAMES A. BAKER

PARENTS

METHEL AND JASPER LIGGINS SR.

GRANDCHILDREN

CHILD

SPOUSE

(Coney, Methel and William)

Coney, Eula Mae
Liggins, Rudolph
Liggins, Jasper Jr.
Liggins, Shirley

Jackson, Columbus
Blair, Barbara
Seward, Luvenia
Hall, William

FOURTH GENERATION

PARENTS EULA M. AND COLUMBUS JACKSON

CHILD

SPOUSE

Jackson, Calvin A.

Seward, Sandra

PARENTS RUDOLPH AND BARBARA LIGGINS

CHILD

SPOUSE

Liggins, Rudolph Jr.
Liggins, Mechelle
Liggins, Duane
Liggins, Gail
Liggins, Troy
Liggins, Kourtney
Liggins, Blair

Hunt, Brenda
Yerima, Ken
Black, Yevette
Jones, Julius
Martin, Stephanie

PARENTS JASPER AND LUVENIA LIGGINS

CHILD

Liggins, Kindra
Liggins, Synetra
Liggins, Jasper Jr.

AIM HIGH

PARENTS SHIRLEY AND WILLIAM HALL

CHILD

Hall, Melody
Hall, Kim
Hall, Kesha
Hall, William Jr.

FIFTH GENERATION

PARENTS RUDOLPH JR. AND BRENDA LIGGINS

CHILD

Liggins, Rudolph III
Liggins, Kyle
Liggins, Sherisse

PARENTS MECHELE AND KEN YERIMA

CHILD

Yerima, Adam

PARENTS DUANE AND YVETTE LIGGINS

CHILD

Liggins, Demetria Methel
Liggins, Duane Jr.
Liggins, Damien

PARENTS GAIL AND JULIUS JONES

CHILD

Jones, Jennifer
Jones, Julius Jr.

AIM HIGH

PEARSON FAMILY REUNION HISTORY

Shortly after World War I, economic conditions in the South, and industrial unrest in the North helped to create changes in family lifestyles that would in many ways have long lasting effects. Families would again be uprooted and separated from strong family ties, familiar surroundings, and the traditional ways of life to which they were accustomed.

Many southern families migrated north for one reason or another. Whatever the cause may have been, descendants of Law and Mary Pearson were included in the surge of humanity that moved into the northern states, hopefully to better their living conditions, and to seek employment in the sprawling steel mills, and bustling automobile factories. Jobs were plentiful and available, and for a time things appeared to be on the upswing, however, after a few years, "Good Times" began to fade as the "Great Depression" of the thirties began to take its toll, and again affected the lives of these families as well as other family groups throughout the nation.

The harshness of the times was of vital concern, and survival was uppermost in the minds of many families. It was self determination, and a strong family background that helped members of the "Pearson Clan" meet this new situation head on. The early training received as children, love and concern for each other, the ability to make something out of nothing, was a collective virtue that helped these families survive, under conditions less than favorable.

In 1933, during the "Roosevelt Administration," Lillia B. Coney, Georgia (Boatwright) Coleman, Ora M. (Coleman) Robinson, and Ethel (Coleman) Bell along with several other ladies in the community formed a club group which was known as "The New Deal Art Club." The name, somehow, suggested that the group was politically motivated, whatever may have been in the thoughts

of the organizers, one of its primary objectives was for social enjoyment. Each year, the members of "The New Deal Art Club" would host an annual picnic, and its members would invite their immediate families to attend the festivities. For years, members of the Coney, Coleman, Robinson, and Bell families would come together under the umbrella of their parents' club group.

It was during one of these gatherings, that Orison "Roy" Coney, Theresa (Coleman) Wallace, Curtis Robinson, and Bertha (Coney) Dickens suggested that a committee be formed to discuss the possibility for a "Yearly Family Picnic" which would bring the Family together for mutual enjoyment, and to give the children of the newly formed families an opportunity to become better acquainted.

After meeting with, and discussing the issue with the older family members, it was decided that the plan had merit, and a green light was given for the planning process to begin.

The first "Family Annual Picnic" was held on the third Sunday of July, 1959. A communication mailed to family members indicated that . . . "it was a joyous occasion and enjoyed by all . . . and that we would be making plans for 1960." The financial report showed total receipts of \$87.00, and our expenses were a grand total of \$84.42 with a balance of \$2.58. We were also informed that the cost of mailing this information to family members would be deducted from the current balance.

In the beginning we identified ourselves by using the letters from the surnames of the participating families. "CO-RO-BEL FAMILY PICNIC." The name was short lived however, for we all realized that we all had one common denominator, "The Pearson Background," and thereafter our gatherings were called the "PEARSON REUNION."

Contact with relatives outside of the Youngstown area, inviting them to share in our festivities was one of our major goals. It was always a joy when

a family member from out of town came to the picnic. Methel Pearson Baker, Eula Mae Jackson, Dr. Huey Pearson and family, Beatrice Daniels Robinson, Etta Carpenter, Bertha Harshaw, Giles McClendon, Addie Felton, Thelma Williams, Ruth Burton, Julia and Stonewall Connors, Herndon and Mildred Pearson Cummings, Lavera and LeRoy Wynn and family, Osceola and Lucius Williams, and the members of the Ivory Pearson family of Chicago were some of the relatives who were in attendance during the early years of the "Reunions."

The Family gatherings were usually held in picnic areas in close proximity of the Youngstown district, some of the sites were as follows: Lincoln Park, Bailey Park, Roosevelt Park, Steel City Sportsmen Farm, Midway Lake, Mill Creek Park, and on some special occasions, on the back lawns of some family member.

At one point in time, the Youngstown group began to discuss the possibilities of taking the reunion to Dublin, Georgia. The idea appeared at the time to be a little far fetched, but the more it was discussed, the greater the possibilities became.

The idea was shared with Eula Mae Jackson and Lavera Wynn who made contact with Virgil Pearson and other relatives in the Dublin area to see if such a plan was feasible. We realized that this was a tremendous responsibility to lay on the shoulders of those persons who would be making plans for the entertaining and housing of a bus load of relatives from the Youngstown area. It was at this time that the spirit of true kinship again came to the surface. In their reply to our request, the answer was, "Certainly, we will do it, come on home."

Those persons who attended the "Dublin Reunion," especially the younger members of the family, are still remembering the warmth, the hospitality, and the excitement of a very fulfilling experience. This was a turning point in all of our lives, the sunrise of a new day.

More than thirty years had passed, as we recalled our early days of coming together under the banner of our parents' club group. Another fifteen years passed, as we observed our children advancing through the learning stages, and how we remembered the excitement on their faces as they looked forward to that date in July, a day when there would be all kinds of delicious food, playground equipment, games, foot and sack races, peanut scrambles, and prizes to be awarded to the lucky winners. We feel that these events will be long remembered, but we also realize that changing times brings about a change in thinking. The "Dublin Reunion" was a big help in bringing about these changes, for our children were now young adults, taking on new responsibilities, meeting new relatives, sharing new ideas, and wanting to do new things; and new things began to happen. The "Dublin Reunion" set a new tone as to how our future reunions would be conducted.

In 1977 the Chicago Branch of the Pearson Family requested that the Reunion be held in Chicago for the year 1978, an offer that was readily accepted. The "Chicago Reunion" proved to be the one that would also be long remembered. The sponsors left no stone unturned in order to make our visit an enjoyable one. We were now off and running. During the next ten years the Reunion was held in ten different cities, and each year found us growing in size, and enjoying each other more and more.

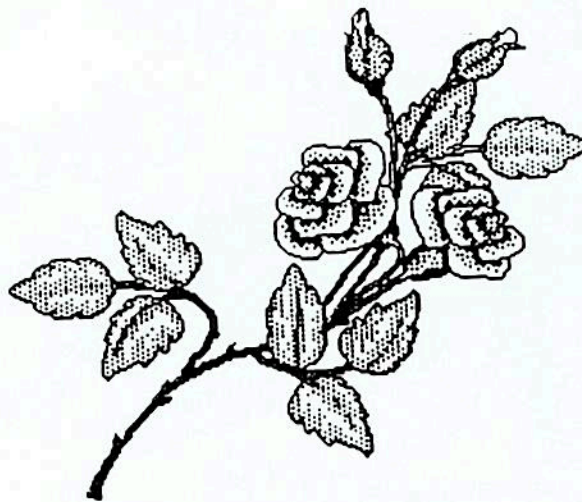
The Torch has been passed on to the young and the strong, and for those of us who are standing in the wings, we can feel assured that the future of our Reunions are in good hands.

The "CO-RO-BEL" Family gatherings met in Youngstown from 1959 through 1972.

The name was changed to the PEARSON REUNION in 1973 and met in Youngstown through 1976.

The following is a list of the cities and year that the PEARSON REUNION has met since 1976:

DUBLIN, GEORGIA	1977
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	1978
YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO	1979
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA	1980
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA	1981
DUBLIN, GEORGIA	1982
TUSKEGEE, ALABAMA	1983
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	1984
NEW YORK, NEW YORK	1985
YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO	1986
WASHINGTON, D.C.	1987
ATLANTA, GEORGIA	1988



AIM HIGH

AIM HIGH



CAMPUS

Scholars

EDUCATION

Honors

A salute to



Dean's list

Graduates

SKILLS



lawyers

Doctors

SOCIAL SERVICE WORKER

LATHE OPERATOR

Farmers

MANAGER

teachers

GENERAL MAINTENANCE

PAINTING

RECEPTIONIST

engineer

SKILLED TRADES

CARPENTER

MACHINIST

PUNCH PRESS OPERATORS

MACHINE OPERATOR

WELDING INSTRUCTOR

HOMEMAKERS

NURSING

SECRETARY

AUTO CASHIER

Retired teachers

LIBRARIAN-BRANCH -EAD

Business Management

Child care

High schools

ACCOUNTING

work ethic

Funeral director

COLLEGE

church

Family Service

character love

Service

tradition

SACRIFICE

COMMUNITY

POSTAL SERVICE

MOLDER
FOUNDRY

politics

TELEPHONE OPERATORS

BUSINESS

Library Assistant

grandparents

parents

OPPORTUNITY INDUSTRY

TO DESIGN A SUCCESSFUL TOMMOROW

"Education does not commence with the alphabet it begins with a mother's look; with a father's nod of approbation, or a sign of reproof; with a sister's gentle pressure of the hand, or a brother's noble act of forbearance . . . To acts of benevolence; to deeds of virtue and to the source of all good To God"

Law Pearson was born during a period in history when it was considered unlawful to teach enslaved servants to read or write; he therefore did not reap the benefit of a formal education. He was, however, a gifted and intelligent young man, with a potential for learning that was recognized by those around him. A trait that gained the attention of the slave owner, who in due time, gave to Law special responsibilities in the operation of the plantation on which he lived.

In contrast to the definition and general concept of how society views education; we can safely say that Law received an education that was comparable to that of many individuals in his day and time. We admit that his education was not of the variety found in a schoolroom setting, but rather one that was gleaned through the struggle of everyday living. The kind of education that prepared him both mentally and physically to accept any and all challenges that would face him in the years to come.

During his youth, Law was determined to increase the limited knowledge that was available to him. He was constantly seeking answers to questions and solutions to difficult problems that he did not quite understand. When answers and solutions were revealed, Law would share this new found information with members of his family; a trait that placed him in the un-intended role of being a "TEACHER." In later years, and as Law's children grew in body and mind, his role as a teacher became more apparent, for he taught them the basic skills of survival, they were taught the arts of farming and tilling the soil. His children were given a strong sense of pride and tradition, and were taught to be responsible for their action. Above all else, they were taught to love one another, and were given a solid background in religious training. In addition to the lessons in life that were taught to the children, Law and Mary played an important role in their future educational process.

Following the Civil War, schools were developed for the purpose of giving those who had been denied one, an opportunity to gain a formal education. These schools were widely scattered and rarely found in rural communities. Teachers for the existing schools were just as rare, and the possibility of a school being located in the community in which they lived was remote indeed, but Law and Mary along with others, pioneers for higher education, had a dream and were instrumental in giving financial support for the erection of a one room school building. The school was not as well furnished, nor were they able to supply all of the necessary materials and books needed by the students, but it was a beginning, and was the vehicle that provided classes for the Pearson children in the first through the eighth grades. Upon completing the eighth grade, students seeking additional credits were required to travel long distances and be boarded out with families who lived in communities where high schools were located. For many families, the cost of sending a child to high school was usually out of reach, and

in addition to this stumbling block, was the practice of keeping the older children at home to assist in the planting and harvesting of the farm crops. Two facts, that no doubt, precluded the Pearson children's advance beyond the elementary level.

This handicap, however, did not dampen the children's enthusiasm for the learning process; for they realized that if knowledge was to be of any consequence, it had to be shared and passed on to others. There were many children within the community who were anxious to become a part of this learning process. The greatest need was for someone to teach them. Therefore, upon completing the classes available to them, and being certified by the county in which they lived; **Annie Pearson-Coleman, Mary Pearson-Carter, Ellen Pearson-Baker, and Ethel Pearson-Clayton** would become "teachers" to the younger children within the community. At a later time, two grandchildren: Ora M. Coleman-Robinson, and Ethel Coleman-Bell would also serve in this vital area of community service. This was only the beginning of a long line of Pearson descendants, who would in later years, and being better prepared than their predecessors, who would choose the time honored profession of "teaching" as a life work.

Those who educate children well are more
to be honored than ever their parents, for
these only give them life, those, the art
of living well.

--Aristotle

These are those, who have given, and who are still giving of their time and talent, stimulating and molding the minds of youngsters in their gentle formative years. In many instances, they have been the motivating factor that has prompted some of their students to continue their education to the end result of obtaining a college degree in their own right:

WE HONOR AND SALUTE OUR TEACHERS

Esteen Pearson-Powe
Essie Baker
Lavesta Pearson-Rutland
Mamie Pearson-Jordan
Nathan Etheridge Pearson
Huey Pearson Sr. (Dr.)
Mildred Pearson-Cummings
Featrice Wynn
Lois Margret Coney-Monroe
Betty Williams-Jones
Gwen Pearson-Kilgore
Michelle Bell-Dotson
Navita Cummings (Atty.)
Roger Krue
Lucenia Williams-Dunn (Dr.)

Eleanor B. Pearson-Spearman
Alfred Orlando Pearson
Lavera Pearson-Wynn
Osceola Pearson-Williams
Eula Mae Coney-Jackson
Shirley Liggins-Hall (Dr.)
Virgil O. Pearson
Cassandra Wynn
Cheryl Wynn-Smith
Cynthia Cummings-James (Dr.)
Veronica Wynn
Ojetta Pearson
Donna Krue
Janice Krue
Mechelle Liggins-Yerima

Nancy Dyanne Murray-Dickens

HENRY PEARSON, JR.

FARM MANAGER



HENRY PEARSON, JR.

From the early existence of time, farming has been a way of life. Farmers, the world over, have consistently pitted their skills against destructive insects, feeding wildlife, the harsh elements, and in many instances, against an invading enemy; and yet, each succeeding year would find them returning to their fields, to till the land, sow their seed, and look forward to reaping a bountiful harvest.

For more than one hundred years, farming has been a way of life for members of the Pearson family. A way of life that has provided the necessities of shelter, food, and clothing. A way of life that has given stability and meaning to many lives. A way of life that also provided the means for the educational opportunities enjoyed by many family members.

Over the years, the number of potential farmers within the family has dwindled, and today, the lone survivor to follow in the footsteps of Law Pearson, is his grandson, Henry Pearson, Jr. Henry has always enjoyed the challenge of withdrawing from Mother Earth all the goodness and bounties that she had to offer. He grew up on his father's farm which is located in Laurens County, Georgia, and it was here that he learned the skills of tending the land, skills that had been passed down for two generations.

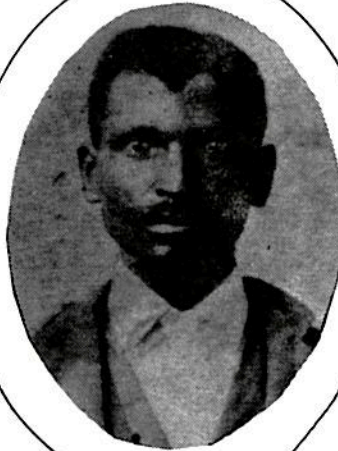
Following World War II, Henry returned home from his tour of duty, and became the first Black veteran in his area to purchase land under the G.I. Bill.

It was at this time that he committed his life to Farm Management. Henry was never quite satisfied with the old methods used by his predecessors, methods that sometimes drained the land of necessary nutrients, or created wasteful loss of topsoil due to erosion. He could not help but feel that there had to be a better way to farm the land in order to produce greater crop yields.

As the years passed, and Henry took over the responsibility of his father's land, he began to take advantage of new and innovative farming techniques. His first and most important change was in persuading his father to move from mule power to the horse power of a tractor. He then learned to become an environmentalist as he improved the land against natural erosion. He became more acquainted with the crop rotation process. He learned how to prepare the soil against diseases that can affect the growth of plants. he began to move away from the standard crops of cotton and sugar cane and began to plant peanuts, corn, and soybeans. He also concentrated his efforts on producing healthy live stock, and eventually erected a meat processing plant on his property. When asked to share his feelings about farming, Henry replied, " I love restoring the land to its original and normal potential, and it gives me a great feeling of joy and satisfaction in seeing things grow and develop."

On February 9, 1989, an article printed in the Courier Herald, a newspaper published in Dublin, Georgia, paid tribute to Henry Pearson, by commending him on his stewardship, hard work and good management in making his four hundred acre farm a growing and paying proposition. We share in giving accolades to Henry Pearson, Jr. for his outstanding achievement in Farm Management.

HE IS INDEED A TRUE FARMER AND BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR



**Ennis
Daniels**



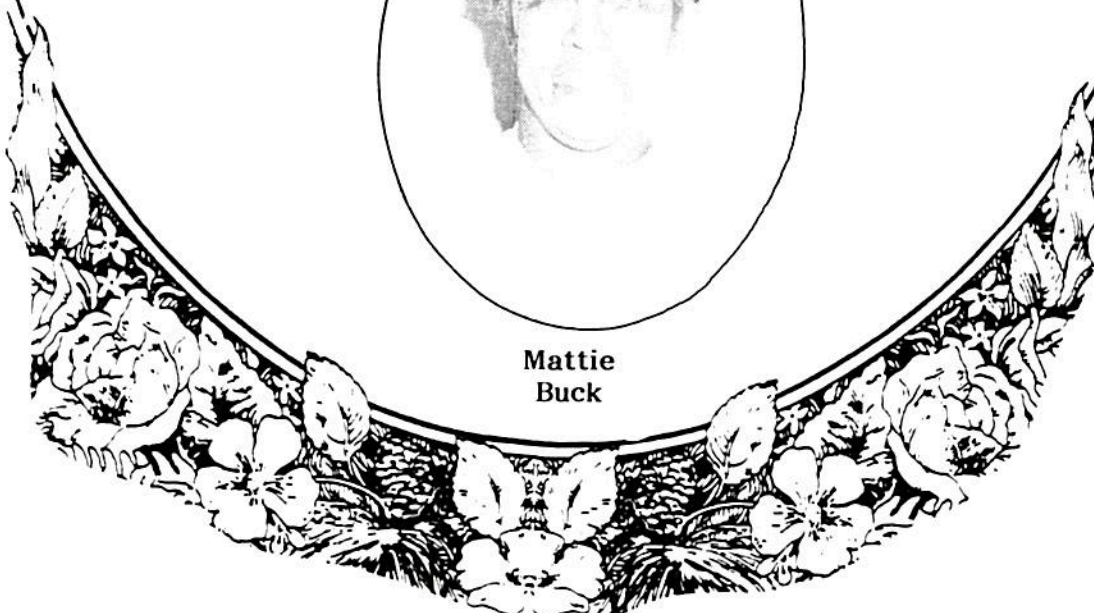
**Alexander
Coleman**



**William
Carter**



**Mattie
Buck**





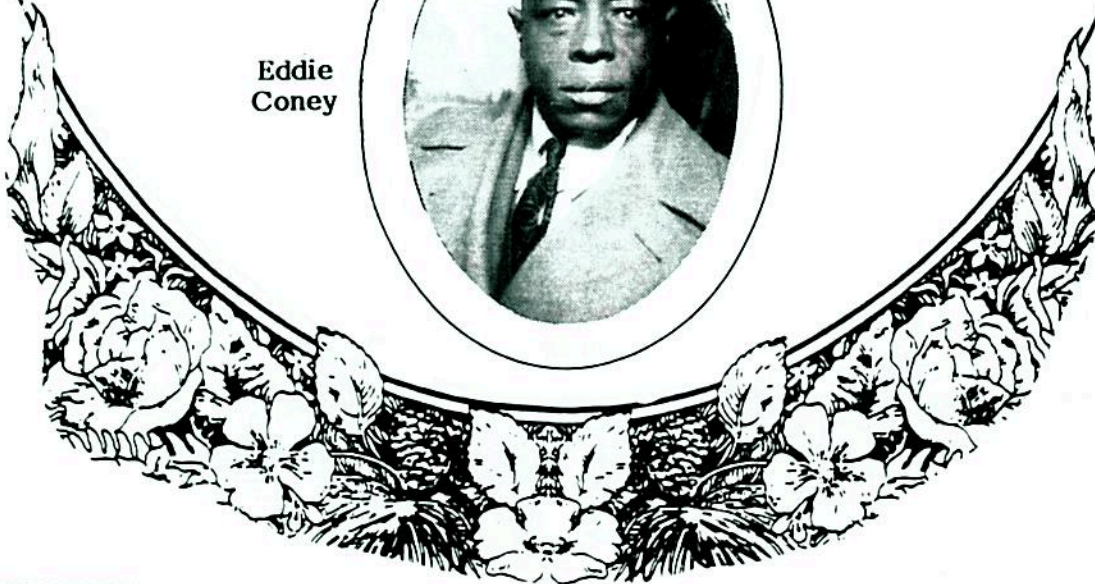
Jasper
Liggins Sr.

Leonard
Clayton



James A. Baker

Eddie
Coney





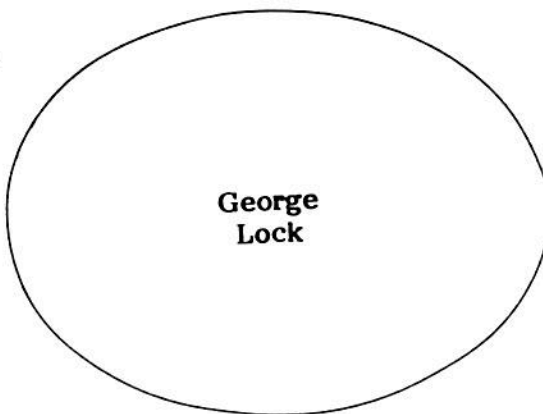
**Estella
Butler**



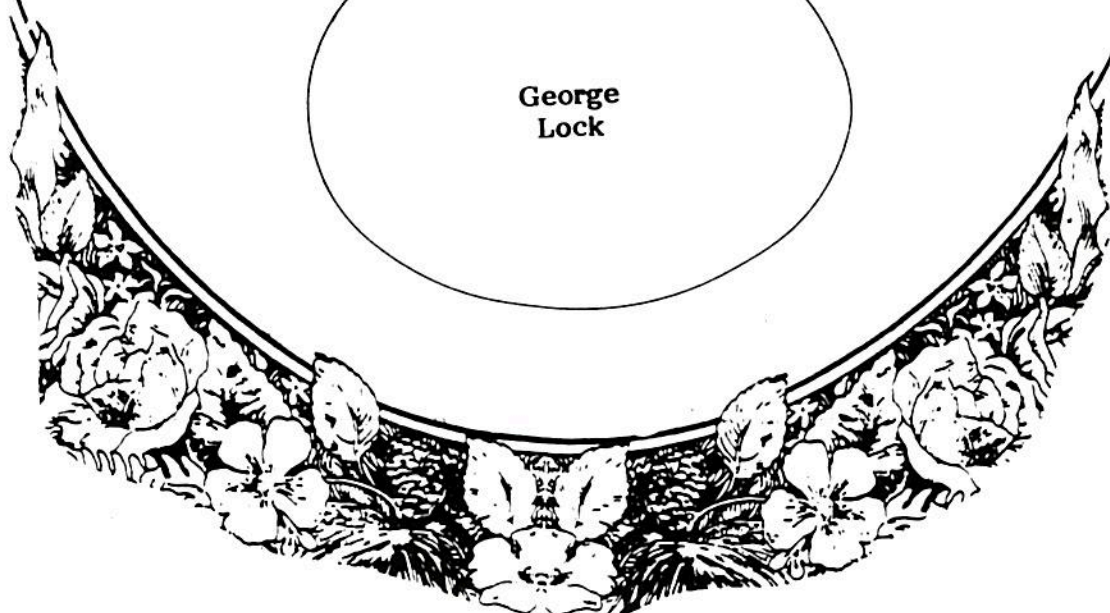
**Bessie
McClendon**



**Mark
Stewart**



**George
Lock**



"Cousins"



Standing – left to right:

**Irene Pearson, Gladys Pearson, Eula Coney, Mildred Pearson,
Cecil Pearson.**

Seated:

Dewey Baker

Background:

Leonard Clayton (husband of Ethel Pearson)