

First Generation

1. **Thomas Nelson (Nelson) COFFEY** was born on 25 Dec 1849 in (probably) Hawkins Co., TN. He died on 9 Dec 1917 in Grainger Co., TN. He was buried in Dec 1917 in Rucker Cemetery, Thorn Hill, Gainger Co., TN.¹

This might be the Thomas Coffey in the 1880 Owen Co., IN census record with wife Alice, age 18, and son Rolla, age 7 mos. Also in the household is Levi Coffey, enumerated as a servant in the household.

Thomas Nelson (Nelson) COFFEY and Cornelia COFFEY were married in 1864 in Grainger Co., TN. They appeared in the census on 5 Jun 1880 in Grainger Co., TN.²

Rev. Thomas, son of Caswell, was b. Dec 25, 1849 and d. Dec 9, 1917. He was married twice, (1) to Cornelia, b. Aug 5, 1848, d. Sep 1, 1892, dau. of Ausburn and Matilda Dalton Coffey. Wife (2) was Jane, m. Jan 31, 1894.

Source: Bennie Coffey Loftin, Rt. 1, Box 270, Kiowa, OK 74553-9727

³ **Cornelia COFFEY** (daughter of Ausburn COFFEY and Matilda (Tildy) DALTON) was born on 5 Aug 1849 in Tennessee. She died on 11 Sep 1892 in Grainger Co., TN. She was buried in Sep 1892 in Rucker Cemetery, Thorn Hill, Gainger Co., TN.

Copies of letters from Cornelia and Nelson Coffey in Tennessee to her family in Rockcastle County, Kentucky:

October the 9th 1877

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I take my pen in hand to let you know that we air all well at present hoping that these few lines may come to hand in due time and find you all well and doing well. I have nothing strange to write to yew more than times is hard in this country and money scarce and stock of all kinds low. Wee would like to hear from yew all wee have rote to you all and have not got no leter only from Fedrick Spiers. I told Uncle Jack Coffee when hee was out hear that youre fathers funeral would bee preached thee 4th Sunday 28th day of October by James Greenly, Thomas Stroud and Simeon Acuff and wee would like for you all to bee hear if yew can and if yew cant come then come as soon as yew can. I, Nelson Coffee, would like to know wheather a man can sell good young cattle out there or not, good stears and heifers about two years old and I want some of yew to write as soon as yew get this letter if none of you dont come .

A few words from Elviry, Nely and Betsy to let you all now that we Air all well and wee hope thees linds may find yew all well. Mother we would like to be with you one time more and we want yew to come and see us and talke with us. Yew dont know how we miss yew, Come out and stay a year with us and we will treat yew all rite if yew will come.

Betsy says to tell James Coffee not to think hard of her for not telling him good by for she forgot it. We want yew all to write one more long letter and let us heare from yew all . Tell mother that Uncle Jack Dalton is married again, he married Malissa Bullen, old Uncle James Bullens youngest child that he had by his first wife and Carter Dalton is ded and Uncle Davy McCoy is also ded. N.P. Dalton says to tell Ausbon Coffee to come out cause youre old sweetheart still alived and well. I want you to come and pant my beard again and we will go to Timothy Leesaus my son-in-laws and get us a turn of roasting ears. Aske James Coffee if he has forgot Tildy Daltons tail she told about Seebe Collins. He has den what he said he would. Sow we will have to close by saying write us soon as theis come to hand.

We remain yours, P.T. Nelson, N.P. Henry and famleys to all

State of Tennessee, Grainger County, Thorn Hill

August the 26, 1886

I this day seet myself in order to right you a few lines to let you not that we ari all well at this time and hoping when these few lines come to hand that they may find you all well. I have nothing strange to rite to you at present time tis tolabable good here at this time. Stock of all kinds is high hear. Produce is tolabable plenty here. Wheat is worth 90 cts pur bushel, corn is worth from 10 to 15 per lbs. John we could be glad to see you all and talk with you. Henry Wolfe family is as well as common also Nathan Daltons family is all well at this time and all the rest of the connections is well. Wee air having some very dry times and everything is needing rane vary bad the pastures air drying up corn crops is only tolabable good land has to tolabable good corn thin land the corn is vary light. I have got a vary good crop of corn. John I want you to right to me as soon as you get this letter and let us no how you all air gitting along we would bee glad to here from you all So good by for this time from Nelson Coffee and family to John Coffee and family.

Descendants of Thomas Nelson (Nelson) COFFEY

February 23, 2005

A few lines from Cornelia Coffee to Mother. Mother it is with grate pleasure that I seet myself to rite you a few lines to let you no that I have not forgot you tho I have neglected to rite to you. Mother you dont know how glad I would bee to see you one more time. Mother I think you have stayed with the boys long enough. I think that you had better come out and stay with us a while. Mother I think that you have got the purtyst name sake here that you ever saw. This from Cornelia Coffee to Mother. So fair well for this time.

SOURCE: Bennie Loftin

Thomas Nelson (Nelson) COFFEY and Cornelia COFFEY had the following children:

- 2 i. **Eliza Jane COFFEY** (born on 8 Sep 1869).
- 3 ii. **Thomas Jefferson COFFEY** (born on 9 Aug 1871).
- 4 iii. **James Madison COFFEY** (born on 25 Oct 1874).
- 5 iv. **Mack Henry COFFEY** (born on 10 Feb 1876).
- 6 v. **Addison A. COFFEY** (born on 22 Jul 1879).
- vi. **Matilda COFFEY** was born on 24 Jun 1882. She was buried in Dec 1897 in Rucker Cemetery, Thorn Hill, Gainger Co., TN. She died on 25 Dec 1897 in Thorn Hill, Grainger Co., TN.
- 7 vii. **Isabella COFFEY** (born on 27 Sep 1884).
- viii. **Lemmie L. COFFEY** was born on 13 Dec 1886.

Thomas Nelson (Nelson) COFFEY and Margaret Jane HODGES were married on 31 Jan 1894. They appeared in the census on 19 Apr 1910 in Grainger Co., TN.⁴ **Margaret Jane HODGES** was born on 13 Sep 1864 in Tennessee. She appeared in the census on 2 Jan 1920 in Grainger Co., TN.⁵ She died on 12 Mar 1937. Thomas Nelson (Nelson) COFFEY and Margaret Jane HODGES had the following children:

- 8 i. **Myrtle COFFEY** (born in Nov 1894).
- ii. **Joseph Granville COFFEY** was born in Sep 1897.
- iii. **Maude COFFEY** was born in Jan 1899.
- iv. **Claude COFFEY** was born about 1903.

Second Generation

2. **Eliza Jane COFFEY** (Thomas Nelson-1) was born on 8 Sep 1869 in Tennessee. She appeared in the census on 19 Apr 1910 in Grainger Co., TN.⁶

Eliza Jane COFFEY and William Berry SHOCKLEY were married.⁷ **William Berry SHOCKLEY**³ (son of Winright SHOCKLEY and Emaline (Emily) COFFEY) was born on 2 Aug 1862 in Grainger Co., TN. He died on 15 Jan 1910 in Grainger Co., TN. Eliza Jane COFFEY and William Berry SHOCKLEY had the following children:

- i. **Eva Mae SHOCKLEY** was born on 3 Nov 1886. She died on 4 Feb 1930.
- ii. **Lean SHOCKLEY** was born in Dec 1887.
- iii. **Nelson SHOCKLEY** was born in Dec 1892.
- iv. **Lula Elizabeth SHOCKLEY** was born on 31 Dec 1893. She died on 31 Jan 1961.
- v. **Elbert SHOCKLEY** was born in Jun 1899.
- 9 vi. **Etta SHOCKLEY** (born about 1906).

3. **Thomas Jefferson COFFEY** (Thomas Nelson-1) was born on 9 Aug 1871 in Grainger Co., TN. He died on 24 Jan 1956 in Morristown, Hamblen Co., TN. He was buried in Jan 1956 in Jarnigan Cemetery, Morristown, Hamblen Co., TN.

From Sheri Kelly (bluemoonrotts@yahoo.com) Feb. 22, 2005: "[I] got Thomas Jefferson Coffey's death certificate today, Nelson's son, my ancestor line. It states that Thomas Jefferson "Jeff" Coffey's mother was Cornelia Coffee and father was Thomas Nelson Coffey."

Thomas Jefferson COFFEY and Elizabeth Isabell PERRY were married. They appeared in the census on 19 Apr 1910 in Grainger Co., TN.⁸ **Elizabeth Isabell PERRY** was born on 18 Mar 1871 in Norton, Wise Co., VA. She died on 30 Jul 1951 in Hamblen Co., TN. She was buried in Aug 1951 in Jarnigan Cemetery, Morristown, Hamblen Co., TN. Thomas Jefferson COFFEY and Elizabeth Isabell PERRY had the following children:

- i. **Fred COFFEY** was born about 1893 in Virginia.
- ii. **Johnny M. COFFEY** was born on 15 Aug 1897. He died young.
- 10 iii. **Lemmie Lee COFFEY** was born on 29 Jun 1899 in Virginia. He died on 11 Apr 1962.
- iv. **Mazella June (Gin) COFFEY** (born on 2 Jun 1902).
- 11 v. **James Glen COFFEY** was born on 30 Mar 1906. He died on 15 Jan 1959.
- vi. **Nellie Gladys COFFEY** (born on 12 Mar 1911).

4. **James Madison COFFEY** (Thomas Nelson-1) was born on 25 Oct 1874 in Tennessee.

James Madison COFFEY and Maud _____ were married. **Maud** _____ was born about 1872 in Colorado.

5. **Mack Henry COFFEY** (Thomas Nelson-1) was born on 10 Feb 1876 in Tennessee.

The 1880 census records indicates that his name is spelled McHenry.

Mack Henry COFFEY and Bettie SHOCKLEY were married. They appeared in the census on 19 Apr 1910 in Grainger Co., TN.⁹ They appeared in the census on 14 Jan 1920 in Grainger Co., TN.¹⁰ **Bettie SHOCKLEY** was born about 1890. Mack Henry COFFEY and Bettie SHOCKLEY had the following children:

- i. **Lester COFFEY** was born about 1907.
- ii. **Annie COFFEY** was born about 1909.
- iii. **Coy COFFEY** was born about 1910.
- iv. **Clarence COFFEY** was born about 1913 in Tennessee.

6. **Addison A. COFFEY** (Thomas Nelson-1) was born on 22 Jul 1879 in Tennessee. He died on 5 Feb 1938. He was buried in Feb 1938 in Meadow Branch Cemetery, Bean Station, Grainger Co., TN.

Addison A. COFFEY and Alice _____ were married. **Alice** _____ was born on 7 Jun 1885. She was buried in Meadow Branch Cemetery, Bean Station, Grainger Co., TN. Addison A. COFFEY and Alice _____ had the following children:

- i. **Addison A. COFFEY Jr.** was born on 13 May 1929.

7. **Isabella COFFEY** (Thomas Nelson-1) was born on 27 Sep 1884.

Isabella COFFEY and Edward Jennings KINCAID were married about 1915. They appeared in the census on 11 Apr 1930 in Grainger Co., TN.¹¹ **Edward Jennings KINCAID** was born on 13 Apr 1870. He died on 16 Sep 1931. Isabella COFFEY and Edward Jennings KINCAID had the following children:

- i. **Mary KINCAID** was born about 1916.
- ii. **John Arthur KINCAID** was born on 1 Apr 1921. He died on 12 Nov 1969.

8. **Myrtle COFFEY** (Thomas Nelson-1) was born in Nov 1894.

Myrtle COFFEY and E. P. HILL were married. **E. P. HILL** was born.

Third Generation

9. **Etta SHOCKLEY** (Eliza Jane COFFEY-2, Thomas Nelson-1) was born about 1906.

Etta SHOCKLEY and _____ COOKE were married. _____ **COOKE** was born.

10. **Mazella June (Gin) COFFEY** (Thomas Jefferson-2, Thomas Nelson-1) was born on 2 Jun 1902. She died on 14 Feb 1998 in Chattanooga, Hamilton Co., TN.

Mazella June (Gin) COFFEY and Walter Lee PARKER were married. **Walter Lee PARKER** was born on 13 Aug 1901 in

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Rogersville, Hawkins Co., TN. He died on 29 Jul 1966 in Johnson City, Washington Co., TN. He was buried in Aug 1966 in Jarnigan Cemetery, Morristown, Hamblen Co., TN.

Mazella June (Gin) COFFEY and Robert Joshua SMITH were married. **Robert Joshua SMITH** was born on 14 Feb 1910. He died on 27 Jun 1985 in Chattanooga, Hamilton Co., TN.

11. **Nellie Gladys COFFEY** (Thomas Jefferson-2, Thomas Nelson-1) was born on 12 Mar 1911. She died on 2 Jun 1997 in Hamblen Co., TN.

Nellie Gladys COFFEY and Arthur Dice RYMER were married. **Arthur Dice RYMER** was born.

Sources

1. Eastern Tennessee Cemeteries, Hayes Cousins Group online [<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~schayes/>], accessed Jan 18 2005 (Visit this site for list of contributors to the Hayes Genealogy: <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~schayes/contributors.htm>).
2. Ancestry.com. *United States Federal Census* [database online]. Provo, Utah: MyFamily.com, Inc., 2004. Original data: United States Federal Census for years indicated. 1880 Grainger Co., Dist. 10, ED102, Page 7, dwelling 62, family 61, Coffey, Nelson, white male, age 21, married, farmer, born TN, parents born TN; Cornelia, white female, age 30, wife, married, keeping house, born TN, parents born TN; Eliza J., white female, age 11, dau., single, born TN, parents born TN; Thomas J., white male, age 9, son, single, born TN, parents born TN; McHenry, white male, age 4, son, single, born TN, parents born TN; Alison A., white male, age 1, son, single, born TN, parents born TN.
3. Sheri Kelly, "Descendants of Thomas Nelson Coffey," e-mail message from <bluemoonrotts@yahoo.com> (19199 N. St. Charles Ave., Loranger, LA 70446) to Jack K. Coffee, Feb. 23, 2005.
4. Ancestry.com. *United States Federal Census* [database online]. 1910 Grainger Co., Dist. 4, ED61, Sheet 3A, dwelling/family 43, Coffey, Thomas N., head, male, white, age 60, married twice, this time 16 yrs., born TN, parents born TN, farmer; Jane, wife, female, white, age 45, married once, for 16 yrs., mother of 4, 4 living, born TN, parents born TN; Belle, Dau., female, white, age 24, single, born TN, parents born TN; Mertie, dau., female, white, age 15, single, born TN, parents born TN; Granville, son, male, white, age 13, single, born TN, parents born TN; Maud, dau., female, white, age 10, single, born TN, parents born TN; Claude, son, male, white, age 7, single, born TN, parents born TN.
5. Ibid., 1920 Grainger Co., Dist. 2, ED57, Sheet 11<?>B, dwelling 228, Coffey, Jane, head, remts, female, white, age 55, widow, born TN, parents born TN; Joseph, son, male, white, age 23, single, born TN, parents born TN; Maude, dau., female, white, age 20, single, born TN, parents born TN; Claude, son, male, white, age 17, single, born TN, parents born TN.
6. Ibid., 1910 Grainger Co., Dist., 4, ED61, Sheet 3A, dwelling/family 44, Shockley, Eliza, head, female, white, age 42, widow, mother of 12, 5 living, born TN, parents born TN; Nelson, son, male, white, age 18, single, born TN, parents born TN; Lula, dau., female, white, age 16, single, born TN, parents born TN; Albert, son, male, white, age 10, single, born TN, parents born TN; Etta, dau., female, white, age 4, single, born TN, parents born TN.
7. , "Descendants of Thomas Nelson Coffey," e-mail to Jack K. Coffee, Feb. 23, 2005. I just cannot prove that it is Winwright's son William Berry who married Eliza Jane. Other than that, all else is proven. If you post this on the web be sure you indicate that William Berry Shockley, son of Winwright is thought to be the husband of Eliza. [Sheri stressed that it is not proven that William Berry Shockley, son of Winwright is the husband of Eliza.]
8. Ancestry.com. *United States Federal Census* [database online]. 1910 Grainger Co., Dist. 4, ED61, Sheet 3A, dwelling/family 42, Coffey, Thomas J., head, male, white, age 38, married once for 12 yrs., born TN, parents born TN, farmer; Elizabeth, wife, female, white, age 35, married once for 12 yrs., mother of 5, 4 living, born VA, parents born TN; Fred, son, male, white, age 17, single, born VA, parents born TN; Lemmie, son, male, white, age 10, born VA, parents born TN; Mazella, dau., female, white, age 7, born TN, parents born TN; James G., son, male, white, age 4, born TN, parents born TN.
9. Ibid., 1910 Grainger Co., Dist. 4, ED61, Sheet 3A, Coffey, Mack H., head, male, white, age 34, married once for 4 yrs., born TN, parents born TN, farmer; Bettie, wife, female, white, age 30, married once, mother of 3, 3 living, born TN, parents born TN; Lester, son, male, white, age 3, born TN, parents born TN; Annie, dau., female, white, age 2, born TN, parents born TN; Coy, son, male, white, age 1 mos., born TN, parents born TN.
10. Ibid., 1920 Grainger Co., Dist. 4, ED63, Sheet 3B, dwelling 55, family 56, Coffee, Mack H., head, rents, male, white, age 43, married, born TN, parents born TN, farmer; Bettie, wife, female, white, age 40, married, born TN, parents born TN; Lester, son, male, white, age 13, born TN, parents born TN; Annie, dau., female, white, age 11, born TN, parents born TN; Coy, son, male, white, age 9, born TN, parents born TN; Clarence, son, male, white, age 7, born TN, parents born TN.
11. Ibid., 1930 Gainger Co., Dist. 4, ED8, Page 6B, dwelling 103, family 105, Kincaid, Ed. J., head, owns, male, white, age 59, married at 21, born TN, parents born TN; Belle, wife, female, white, age 45, married at age 30, born TN, parents born TN; Mary, dau., female, age 14, single, born TN, parents born TN; John, son, male, white, age 9, single, born TN;.

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