

**William Peter Christian  
(about 1800 to about 1878)**

**This history was prepared by Harold Christian, probably sometime in the late 1960's. A few notes in blue added by Judy Holsted Oldziewski for clarification.**

(Edited for form, spelling and grammar, with some analysis (in red), by Orville Boyd Jenkins)

**A. INTRODUCTION**

Knowledge of Peter's early life is based almost entirely on verbal information passed down by his descendants. Unfortunately time and event have resulted in both the loss of information and stories about his life which do not correlate with each other as well as one would have hoped. As of this date, the identity of Peter's parents and their relatives in England has yet to be established.

As for Peter, however it may be assumed that he was born on the Isle of Man; he had seafaring relatives; his early life was spent at sea; and that he eventually left the sea and England to establish a new life as a citizen of the United States. In the interest of future research, the various accounts of his life have been summarized below.

**B. TIME AND PLACE OF BIRTH**

Peter's time and place of birth have yet to be established with certainty. His descendants and U.S. census reports variously have identified his place of birth as the Isle of Man, London and Liverpool, England; his year of birth may have been 1786, 1800, 1810, 1815 or 1816 and his year of death may have been 1874, 1875 or 1878.

In the 1850 U.S. census enumeration of Chickasaw County, MS, Peter apparently reported his birthplace as the Isle of Man and his age as 40, which indicates his year of birth was 1810. In the 1860 Calhoun County, MS and in the 1870 Titus County, TX enumerations, his birthplace was reported as England, a more general location, and his age in each enumeration as 45 and 56 respectively. These two ages indicate a year of birth of 1815 or 1814 instead of 1810, as indicated by the 1850 census. No explanation has been found for the 5 year spread in ages obtained from census records.

Essie (Campbell) Lee recalled having heard that "Pete was born in London in 1800. Died 1875 near Douglasville in Cass County TX." This information was reported to have been passed down by Peter's oldest daughter, Mary Jane (Christian) Smith and by her daughter Sarah Frances "Fannie" (Smith) Campbell.

Mr. Elbridge B (Bartlett) "Bridge" Smith, another descendent of Mary Jane, also reported Peter's place of birth as London. Bridge also related that Peter's family moved from the vicinity of Blackton, AR to East Texas, near Douglasville in Cass County on the Sulphur

River. His second wife died there. About 2 years later he married Elizabeth Long. They had been married about one year when he died of congestive chill. He was 89 years of age. Pete Christian was buried in the Union Chapel Cemetery (1 ½ miles south and 3 miles east of Bryan's Mill, Cass County, TX. *Judy's note: there is a Union Chapel Cemetery located near Douglasville, Cass County TX.* I have two sisters buried there. Mandy Smith was age 18 and Lucille was 6 years old. To the best of my knowledge the girls and Peter were buried on the same lot."

William Peter Christian Jr, the last child born to Peter and Polley A (Waldon) Christian, was born about 1871. Information from Louise (Christian) Howell indicated that Polley died about 1871, apparently a short time after the birth of Pete Jr. Based on Bridge's information in the preceding paragraph, Peter must have married Elizabeth Long in 1873, two years after Polley's death.

Peter died in 1874. This year of death coincides with that reported by Mrs. Tabor in the following Paragraph. Assuming 1874 to be the correct year of death for Peter and also assuming that he was 89 at the time of his death, his year of birth would have been about 1785, substantially earlier than indicated by either census records or Mrs. Lee.

Annie (Christian) Tabor, a daughter of Peter's eldest son, William James, indicated "Grandfather Peter Christian. Born in London, England. Died in Cass County, TX at Bryan's Mill in 1874.

Louise (Christian) Howell, a descendent of Henry Harvey Christian also indicated that "Great Grandpa Pete was born in Liverpool, England (rather than in London or the Isle of Man as reported above)." Great Grandpa Peter died about 1878 in Douglasville, TX.

### C. PETER'S YOUTH

All family stories of Peter's youth, though fragmentary and somewhat contradictory in content, indicate that Peter lost his father when quite young. Perhaps as a result of that and other causes, Peter left home shortly thereafter and spent a number of years at sea. Subsequently he left the sea and entered the United States. He established and maintained residences in the Southern States. Possibly Alabama and certainly Arkansas, Mississippi and Texas. Derived essentially from the memories of Peter's descendants, the various recollections of his youth are summarized below.

Mertie (Campbell) Christian related that "Neil's mother (Ida Belle (Coleman) Christian, the wife of Henry Harvey Christian) lived with us several years and told me a lot. I remember only this, that Peter ran away from home in England after his father had died and his mother married again. He and his step father did not get along so he went to work on his Uncle's ship. They (he and his uncle) came to the U.S. sometime or other and he met this girl in TN. Went back to England and got his share of the property (left by his mother and stepfather????). Some of it was jewels. Came back and married this girl."

Sallie (Jenkins) Christian recalled hearing discussions involving Zene and William Christian which indicated Peter's father died when he was still quite young and that his oldest brother inherited the family property. His mother remarried soon after. Unable to get along with his brother (or stepfather??), Peter left home soon thereafter.

Information provided by Louise (Christian) Howell indicated that "Grandpa Pete left England at age 13 and worked on his Uncle's ship for 7 years."

Rosa Mae (Christian) said that had heard that Peter's uncle, on his mother's side, lived in New York City, NY. He owned a big ship which Peter started to work on at age 12.

Elbridge Smith, son of Mary Jane (Christian) Smith, related Peter's mother and father died when Peter was 13 years old. He worked on a ship for 30 years.

*\*\*\*Judy's note: appears this is typical Uncle Bridge stretching of the truth, Uncle Bridge usually had the basics right but the ages, dates and so on were almost always "improved" upon. He seemed to feel "more is better."*

Peter came back to London. He married Margaret Turner and they stayed in London 3 years. They had two children, Mary and Margaret Christian. He left London, England. Came to Mobile, AL, lived there about 3 years. (This indication of a marriage in England prior to his final return to the U.S. also is contained in information provided by Mrs. Weaver below.)

Information provided by Harvey L Christian, a descendent of Zene Christian, indicated that Zene told him that his father, Peter, and Peter's uncle were sailors on a privateer. As a result of carelessness in the choice of ship they preyed on (i.e. ships of the British trade), the English Crown put a price on their head and they were forced to leave England and the sea. They entered the U.S. either at the port of Mobile, AL or Gulfport, MS.

*This may just a matter of family not wanting to admit they had a pirate for an ancestor but the story that has come down in the Edward Kelley/Mary Lee Smith family was that the ship was taken over by pirates and Peter and his uncle had to get off in a hurry. Neither story may have any truth in it. It appears William Peter told whatever story he was in the mood for at the time.*

Rosa Mae also related that she had heard that Peter had one and possibly two uncles who were lost at sea in ship fires. Although no relationship to Peter has been established, a Captain Daniel Christian was in command of the Othello, a Liverpool ship which in 1794 recaptured the British ship Minerva. A short time later the Othello caught fire and blew up at Bonney, on the coast of Africa. Captain Christian escaped from this fire.

In 1898 Captain Christian returned to Bonny as Captain of the Liverpool ship, *Paar*, owned by Thomas Paar and Co. This ship also caught fire and blew up. Most of those on board, including the slaves, white crew and Captain Christian lost their lives in the fire and resulting explosions.

In addition to other information Mrs. Lee related that “You might remember that along about 1925 or ’27, the English government had a man over here trying to trace the family and find out a maiden name of William Peter Christian’s mother. Grandmother (Mary Smith) thought one of her sisters had her mother’s (Susan Turner Christian) Bible but the information wasn’t gotten. If it had been we would have inherited a large slice of London. As it was the hundred years passed and it went to the crown.”

In one of those truth is stranger than fiction stories the story about the English government trying to trace the family of William Peter Christian is true. Velma Kelley Koontz born 1917 vividly remembers the man coming to her home and talking to her mother, Mary Smith Kelley. This must have been about 1923/25 since Velma was old enough to remember and her youngest brother Otis was old enough to walk. It seems Otis was scared by the man’s clothes and hid behind the door. The man was wearing a longtailed frock coat and a stove top hat. The man had also visited Bud Smith, brother of Mary.

#### D. PETER’S FAMILIES

Family tradition indicates Peter was married four times. Unfortunately family Bibles and other written records associated with each of these marriages either were not maintained or were lost. As a result of this and biographical confusion generated in general by the rigors of life encountered by Peter’s families, detailed, historical information (i.e. names of the parents of Peter and his wives, complete birth information pertaining to them and their children etc.) in many cases is ill defined or completely lacking.

Based on tradition there is reason to believe that Peter was first married in England. Information as to who this wife was and what happened to her is completely lacking.

Cleva (Christian) Weaver relates having heard her grandfather Zene Christian say that his father (Peter) had a wife in England; and that Peter had to leave in a hurry. Mrs. Weaver did not recall having heard why Peter had to leave; or whether his wife was left behind or accompanied him to the United States.

In Annie (Christian) Tabor’s summarization of Peter’s life, we find some evidence that Peter’s English wife may have accompanied him to the U.S. Mrs. Tabor related “Grandfather Peter Christian was born in London, England and died Cass County, TX at Bryans Mill in 1874. Grandmother Sarah Graham was born in London England and died at Blackton, AR.”

[The time frame is unclear in this comment. One family tradition indicates that William was still married to his English wife when he came to the US and married here. Or perhaps he was already in Blackton, Arkansas, very early before he returned to England, then married Susan about 1843 or 1844. -- OBJ]

As related by Mr. Smith above, Peter returned to England (after a period spent at sea as a sailor); he married Margaret Turner and stayed in London 2 years. *Judy’s note: We*

*know Peter definitely married a Susan Turner and it is likely Peter was thinking of her when he said Peter married a Margaret Turner. They had two children, Mary and Margaret. Judy's note: Peter's first two children were Mary Jane and Margaret but their mother was Susan Turner, so again appears Uncle Bridge got the names confused.*

He left England and came to Mobile AL where he lived for almost three years. (In another piece of correspondence, Mr Smith identified Peter's first wife as Mary rather than Margaret Turner. Both names differ from Sarah Graham who was identified as Peter's first wife by Mrs. Tabor.)

Sarah Graham could have been Peter's English wife or as some speculate the mother of Susan. At least some of the family believed Peter left his English wife in England and was still married to her when he married Susan Turner. Supposedly Susan was only 13 when he married her and this does match with her age of 19 in the 1850 census with a six year old child. There seems little doubt Susan was the mother of Mary and Margaret since all family records and family memories reflect this.

Based on the above information a search of East Coast and Gulf Coast ports ships' passenger list records in the National Archives was made in an attempt to determine when and where Peter landed in the United States and whether he was accompanied by an English wife and children. Thus far such searches have been unsuccessful. Although records were found for some Peter and some William Christian's from England, not knowing the correct age, the port and time of entry for our Peter, there is no way to associate him with any of these records.

According to information provided by Sue Knighton, the name Peter Christian appears on a list of people taking the oath of Allegiance in the Natchez District of Mississippi on 1 January 1899. This oath was taken at the time annexation of this territory "lying between the Western boundary of Georgia and the Mississippi." (Source of this information is the book **Special Aids to Genealogical Research on Southern Families**, page 105). Whether or how this Peter is related to our Peter is unknown at this time.

U.S. census records enumerating families named Christian, Graham and Turner who lived in the vicinity of Blackton, AR and Memphis, TN in 1840 and 1850 have also been checked. As mentioned below a William McCrystian family was living in Phillips County, AR in 1840; although this area is just east of Blackton, and Peter's first child Mary, was supposedly born in AR there is no way yet to associate this William with our William Peter.

The 1850 Chickasaw County, MS U.S. census record is the earliest official record found thus far which we are sure pertains to our Peter Christian. By this time a Susan, age 19 and born in TN, was enumerated as the oldest female of the family. It therefore appears that if Peter did bring an English wife with him to the United States, she must have died (possibly at Blackton) before 1850.

**Susan Turner** Although somewhat limited, sufficient information has been obtained to strongly indicate that Peter's first marriage in the United States was to a young girl named Susan who was born in TN. Both tradition and census records have provided information regarding this marriage.

Bertie (Campbell) Christian's summary of Peter's life makes no mention of his having been married to an English girl. She did relate however that Peter and his uncle came to the United States (date unknown), that Peter met this girl in Tennessee, (name not given); that Peter went back to England and got his share of the property, some of it was jewels; and that he came back and married this girl.

(In the 1850 Chickasaw County, MS census, the oldest female in Peter's family was named Susan. Her age was 19 and her birthplace was reported to be TN. Conceivably she is the girl from Tennessee mentioned by Mrs. Christian.)

Essie (Campbell) Lee identified Susie Turner as Peter's first wife and Zin or Zene Turner, born in Germany, as Susie's father. Mrs Lee also stated the "He (Zene Turner) married Margaret in Mississippi. She died near Jackson....." Mrs Lee also said that she felt as if Margaret Graham might have been Susie's mother. (This information ties the Susan named in the 1850 census to the Zene and Margaret Turner family.)

Other U.S. census information (1880, Cass county, TX) indicates Mary's mother was born in TN rather than in England-where Sarah Graham or Margaret (or Mary) Turner (referenced above was supposedly was born. Census records also in Bart's age, 18 year, reported indicate that Mary was born in Arkansas rather than in England. As a result it would appear that Mary and her younger sisters and brothers were born to Susan (Turner) Christian rather than to Peter's English wife.

**PETER AND SUSAN'S FAMILY** -- Information concerning their family has been summarized below in a chronological order.

**MARY JANE CHRISTIAN** -- Mary was born December 10, 1844 in the state of Arkansas and possibly near Blackton (in either Monroe or Phillips County). She is believed to be the first child born to Peter and Susan. Apparently soon after her birth, Peter moved his family to Mississippi where Mary's next younger sister, Margaret, was born about 1846. Mary subsequently married Edward D Smith of Monroe County, AR at the home of her father on 15 February 1862.

**MARGARET CHRISTIAN** -- Little is known of Margaret. From U.S. census records we believe she was born about 1846 in Mississippi. Peter either could have moved his family to Mississippi by this time or Susan could have been staying with relatives, possibly the Turner's, in Mississippi when Margaret was born. (Mrs. Lee indicated in her account of Peter's life that she believed Susan's father, Zene Turner, married Susan's mother, Margaret in Mississippi and that they lived near Jackson Mississippi. Conceivably Margaret was named for her grandmother.

**SARAH ISABELLA CHRISTIAN** -- The third child born to Peter and Susan is believed to have been named Sarah Isabella and to have been born in Mississippi about 1847. She was identified as Isabella in the 1850 U.S. census enumeration of Chickasaw County, Mississippi and Clara (the enumerator may have thought Clara rather than Sarah was the name reported) in the 1860 U.S. census of Calhoun County, MS.

During a visit with Bridge Smith in 1965 he identified a Sarah Christian Snelgrove as the mother of a Laura Snelgrove. Cass County, TX marriage records (book 2, page 232) identified a Sarah I Christian marriage to a John Snelgrove on or about 25 June 1867. This Sarah is believed to be Peter's daughter. There is evidence in Cass County deed book ?, page 269 that Peter purchased land from Thomas J White there in 1866, the year preceding Sarah's marriage.

**JOHN CHRISTIAN** -- John was three months old when the 1850 census enumeration of Peter's family was made. The census show Peter had moved his family from Arkansas and was living in Chickasaw County (Eastern District). MS. Since this is the only record of John and since no mention of his name has been made by Peter's descendants, it is assumed John must have died sometime between his birth in 1850 and 1860 when the enumeration of Peter's family was made. John's name was missing from the 1860 census.

PETER'S FAMILY AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 1850 The following information is taken from 1850 census of Chickasaw County, Eastern District, MS dated 30 September 1850.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>SEX</u>	<u>OCCUPATION</u>	<u>REAL ESTATE</u>	<u>BIRTHPLACE</u>
Peter Christian	40	m	Farmer	\$700	Isle of Man
Susan		19	f		TN
Mary J*		6	f		AR
Margaret		4	f		MS
John		3/12	m		MS
Hilliard J Gore		34	m		SC
George Turner		18	m		TN

Bridge Smith reported that Susan had two brothers, George and Anthony Turner. Although no record has been found for Anthony, Cass County, TX records reflect a George Turner. According to Bridge both of the brothers came to TX with Peter. According to Sallie Christian, there were some Turners living at Mountain View 1900's who were kin to the Christians.

**William James Christian** -- Based on information from William's family Bible, he was born 20 November 1853. His birthplace as recorded in the census was Mississippi. (It is interesting to note that Bill's ages as reported in successive census years beginning with the 1860 census not only are inconsistent with each other but also are different from the information taken from his family Bible.

Inconsistencies in census information are not unusual however. In the three census years of 1860, 1870 and 1880 Bill's age was recorded respectively as 10, 15 and 29 instead of 6, 16 and 26 as might have been expected.) In an 1890 Record of Birth on file in Cass County, TX (Delayed reports, volume 29, page 178) for Bill's daughter Iler Frances, his age was given as 42 on 10 August 1890 (date of the record) and his birthplace was given as Mississippi.

According to the report, the information was reported by Bill's wife Amanda. Here again errors in reporting and recording of information is a possibility. Bill was married to Amanda Lucinda Jenkins, daughter of Joseph Sanford and Lucinda Taylor Jenkins, 1 November 1882.

**DANIEL ZENE CHRISTIAN** -- Zene was the next child born to Peter and Susan. His date of birth has never been known for certain. He is believed to have been born in October 1854, the date entered in his record of death (on file at the court house at Hobart, OK) If this date is correct and that of Bill's birth in the family Bible is correct, Zene would have been eleven months younger than Bill. Just as for Bill the census information relating to Zene's date of birth is also inconsistent. The 1860, 1870 and 1880 census respectively reported Zene's ages as 8, 12 and 23. His place of birth was reported as Mississippi in each of the census.

**GEORGE BARTLETT CHRISTIAN** -- As far as is known, Bart was the last child born to Peter and Susan. As with Zene, the exact date of birth for Bart is not known at this time. Based on Bart's age, 48 years, reported at the time of his death on June 8, 1904 (records of death, Courthouse, Linden, Cass County, TX) one can approximate his year of birth as 1856.

This is fairly close to the 1860 census when he was age 5 and 1880 when he is listed as age 23. His age was reported as 11 in the 1870 Titus County, TX census. All censuses listed Bart's place of birth as Mississippi.

Since Peter's family was living several miles south of Corinth, MS when Bart was born and since Susan's parents, Zene and Margaret Graham Turner are reported to have been living near Jackson, MS during the 1850-1860 time period and since the Cass County TX birth record for Bart's son Thomas reported Bart's place of birth to be Jackson, MS, it appears Susan was staying with her parents at the time of Bart's birth. Bart's age at the time of Thomas' birth on 10 November 1890 was reported as 35, which is consistent with that reported in the 1860 census.

**SUSAN'S DEATH** -- Peter apparently lost Susan sometime between the date of Bart's birth about 1856 and 25 September 1860. This was the date of the 1860 census in which Peter's family was listed. Susan was missing from this census and the Waldon family had joined Peter by this point in time.

Bridge Smith said Peter moved his family from MS to AR just before the Civil War. He believed that Susan died while they lived near Blackton, Monroe County, AR. He believed Peter married the widow Waldon during this time. However based on the 1860 census information it seems more likely that Susan passed away while the family lived in MS and it was in MS that the Waldons joined Peter.

Information provided by Mrs. Arthur Lee indicated that Susan died in TN which is also a possibility. No information is available at this time relating to Susan's birth place in TN.

**OTHER CHRISTIAN, TURNER, AND GRAHAM FAMILIES** -- Since Mary, Peter's first child was born in AR in 1844 and also was married to Edward Smith in 1862 while residing in Monroe County, AR and since Sarah Graham as mentioned above supposedly died at Blackton, Monroe County, AR the census records for that area were checked for the above families. No records of interest were found in 1830 or 1840 in Monroe County where Blackton is located.

However in 1840 in Phillips County, which is located just east of Monroe County and bounded on the east by the Mississippi River, a Wm Chrystian family was listed as a resident of Richland Township. Since only one male was listed, he is assumed to be the head of the family, Wm Chrystian. Wm Chrystian's age in this 1840 census is given as between 50 and 60.

If Bridge Smith's information about Peter being age 89 at the time of his death about 1875 then Peter would have been between 50 and 60 in 1840. As mentioned above a Peter Christian was present in Natchez Territory in 1899 and could have been the above William or related to him.

Living with the William Chrystian family in 1840 (unknown if our William Peter) was a female age 30-40, a female age 10-15, a female age 5-10 and a female age under 5.

Since Mary (born 1844) is supposedly Peter's first child, and since the William Chrystian family included both an adult female as well as children, it would seem that this William and our Peter are two separate people, unless a widow with children was living with him at the time.

The difference in spelling in the last name is not considered significant since it could be an error of the census enumerator.

Also in Phillips County in 1840, but in Mooney township rather than Richland Township, lived the family of Sarah Graham. Conceivably this family could have been related to the Margaret Graham believed to be the wife of Zene Turner, father of Susan Turner, Peter's first wife.

Using Ancestry web site, which has all census indexed, I have never found a Zene or Zen Turner. It is possible this was a middle name and he was always listed on the census under his first name.

With Sara's family were a male (20-30); two males (10-15); one male (5-10); a female (50-60) assumed to be Sara; a female (30-40); two female (5-10); and three females under 5.

No Graham children were enumerated with Peter's family in the 1850 census. No enumeration has been found for Zene Turner's family.

In Cearey Township of Phillips County AR, in 1840 also lived the family of Eliza Turner, a family to which our Susan, George and Anthony Turner (mentioned above) may have been related. In Eliza's family were two males (15-20); one male (5-10); one male under five; one female (30-40) assumed to be Eliza; two females (10-15) and one female under five.

By 1850 William Chrystian either had moved or passed away; his family is not enumerated in the 1850 Phillips County census. Nor were the names of Sara Graham or Eliza Turner found in the 1850 enumeration. As of 1850 Peter's family was located in Chickasaw County, Mississippi.

There are three Christians listed in Helena, Phillips County, Arkansas, in 1850. They are living in three different households and appear to have been taken in by these various families, possibly because they are orphans. The interesting thing is all three were born in Tennessee. They are George born about 1840, James born about 1830 and Nancy born about 1838. This is interesting primarily because it is reported the William Peter Christian family lived near Helena, Arkansas, during the Civil war.

Although no connection with Peter's family has yet been established, a family headed by Sarah J Graham was enumerated in the 1840 U. S. census of Shelby County, Tennessee. With her family were two females (20-30), one of whom was probably Sarah; one female (5-10); one female under five; one male (5-10); and one male under five. In addition to Sarah's family, the families of John D Graham, James Graham and Watt Christian (the first two living in Memphis City) were enumerated.

Sallie Jenkins Christian related that she had heard of a Turner family living in Mountain View, Oklahoma, in the early 1900's who were kin to the Christians.

The 1900 census for Mountain View, OK and the immediate surrounding area does not show any Turner families. 1910 census for Mountain View only lists one Turner family: Perry Turner born Texas about 1870 with wife Lillie. They have several children, all born in Texas. The youngest was born in 1908 so the family did not move to Oklahoma until after 1908. I could not locate this family in 1920.

Bridge Smith identified two brothers of Peter's first wife, Susan Turner. They were named George and Anthony Turner. According to Mr. Smith, George and Anthony died in Northeast Texas. Their descendants could have been the Turners who lived in Mountain View referred to by Sallie Christian above. [They could have moved with the Christians. -- OBJ]

George Turner was included in 1850 and 1860 enumerations of Peter's family. George must have accompanied Peter's family to Cass County, TX. Both his name and Peter's name were on an 1867 Cass County voters registration list.

As of this date [WHAT DATE?] no official records identifying George Turner have been found.

[section of text missing] Essie Lee mentioned in correspondence always being told that Grandma's mother [section of text missing] (Mary Smith) Mother, Susie Turner of Jackson. In the 30's there were still some of our Turners living at Jackson (Mississippi).

THE CHRISTIAN AND WALDRON FAMILIES (SEPTEMBER 25, 1860)

The following enumeration was taken from 1860 U.S. census for families of Calhoun County (formed from a part of Chickasaw County after 1850), Mississippi. (Sheet 163, page 699, family.1140, dwelling 1156, dated September 25, 1860).

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Real Estate</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>
Peter Christian	45	M	Farmer	\$3,000	England
Mary	25	F			AL
Mary	14	F			MS
Margaret	13	F			MS
Clara	12	F			MS
William	10	M			MS
Daniel	8	M			MS
Bartlett	5	M		MS	
Sarah E Waldron	11	F			MS
Mary Waldron	9	F			MS
Thomas Waldron	7	F			MS
James Waldron	5	F			MS
George Turner	26	M			VA

Susan was missing from this enumeration and is assumed to have passed away sometime after Bart's birth and prior to this date. No information is available as to the 25-year-old Mary who was born in Alabama might be. John also was missing from this enumeration. Notice that William's age is about what John's should have been as reported in the 1850 census. Isabella (1850 census) appears to have been reported here as Clara instead of Sarah. She was not enumerated with Peter's family in the 1850 census indicating she was born after 1850 or possibly staying with Susan's folk when the census was taken.

The Waldron or Waldon children are present but Polley A identified in 1870 Titus County, Texas enumeration of Peter's family, and who is believed to be the mother of the Waldon children either is missing or was called Mary in the above census. Polly's A's birthplace was reported in the 1870 census as Alabama, but her age should have been 45 instead of 25 as reported for Mary above. George Turner's birthplace in 1860 was shown as VA.

In 1850 George's birthplace was shown as Tennessee. Since Susan was supposedly born in Tennessee a year or so before George, he was probably born in Tennessee as reported in the 1850 enumeration. The 1860 Slave schedules for Calhoun County Mississippi show Peter owned two slaves, one an old woman and the other a young girl, who undoubtedly were most useful in caring for the large number of children from the two families Peter now had.

Although in 1850 Peter is listed in Chickasaw County, Mississippi and in 1860 in Calhoun County, Mississippi he did not relocate. Calhoun County was created in 1852 from part of Chickasaw County.

It seems very probable the Mary age 25 in 1860 is the Polley in 1870. [Her age in 1870 reads as 36 to me. -- OBJ] Both were born in Alabama. Polley is one of the most common nicknames for Mary. Also it does not seem likely all the Waldon/Waldron children would be living with Peter if he had not married their mother.

\*\*\* END \*\*\*

Last edited by Orville Boyd Jenkins 09 July 2014