

James Harky

GILL AND STANLY FAMILIES

This is as nearly right as I have been able to find, but I am sure there are many errors in the individual families, which you will want to correct. If each family will fill in the data on children and grandchildren, births, marriages, and deaths the complete record will be of more interest.

Eloise Gill Cavanaugh

Children: not in order

Mary....m. Geo. Kirby and had Gus, Lizzie, Major, and Maggie.

Margaret Eleanor (Mag)....m. Bill Williams (son of Martha

Stanly, so her first cousin) and had Elizabeth and Sarah.

Her father was furious. When Bill was dying, a young man,

he asked his brother Eddie to care for his wife and two little girls, and he did.

Lavana Cintilla Keziah (Viney).... m. Eddie Williams (son of

Martha Stanly) and had Bessie, Desdemona, Guy, Elsie, Quinton,

and Narissa. She ran away to marry, and Major did not forgive

this. Eddie moved her, her sister Mag and little girls to

Pensacola, Fla. Years later, when her daughter was old enough

to remember, her clothes were sent to her, and they fell to

pieces when the box was unpacked.

Ruth Dorcas.... never married, went to live in Pensacola with

Eddie, Viney, and Mag when Major died.

Major Henry Finly....m. Mary Alabama Cavanaugh and had Michael,

Harriet Lillian, Elizabeth, Major Finly, Hugh, Clara, Mable,

Katherine, Alice, Ruth, Lynn, Sidney, and Phillip.

William Wright Hardison....m. Elizabeth Bolton and had

Major, John, Will, Bessie, Edgar, Trudy, Maude, Alice, and

Florence.

Elizabeth Jane Quintilla....m. Dr. C.O. Holton and had Minnie and

Harold.

James Calvin....m. Sophia Bolton and had Betty, Ruth, Henry,

Lugenia, Annie, Jim, Floyd, Roscoe, and Cecelia.

John Joseph Thomas....m. Ruth Crumpler and had Nettie, Stella,

Bunk, and Wilburn.

4....Sarah Susannah....m. John Robert Gill and had Major, Hattie,

Quintilla, Hardy, John R., Barney, Ruth, Crockett, Sally, Calvin,

and Name

Obituary of Brother W. H. Stanly

Bro. W. H. Stanly, son of our beloved Bro. M.H. Stanly, was born in Holmes Co., Fla., on May 24th, 1858, his father moving to La. in 1860, where he continued to reside until his decease. Was married to Miss Elizabeth Bolton, July 7th, 1881. Joined the Castor Baptist Church Sept. 5th, 1881, when he was elected church clerk, which position he occupied until his decease, which occurred on the 10th of March, 1901, leaving a bereaved family, consisting of wife and nine children, five girls and four boys, besides an aged father, brothers and sisters, besides a host of relatives and friends to mourn his loss here, though not as those who die without a hope in the Redeemer. We can truly say that our brother was a good man, a kind and loving son, a loving and affectionate husband, a tender and indulgent father and an humble Christian. In a word, all who knew him could only love him. Yes, we feel assured that we shall again meet him in that house not made with hands eternal in the heavens.

M.H. Stanly

Obituary of M.H. Stanly, Jr.

M.H. Stanly, Jr., son of W.H. Stanly, and grandson of M.H. Stanly, Sr., was born on the 30th of June, 1882, united with the Castor Baptist Church and was baptized by Eld. Brown, Sept., 1900; died the 14th of March, 1901, only four days after the death of his father. Yes, our boy was a good boy, having never associated with bad company or indulged in any wickedness or profanity, as a majority of youngsters are now engaged. He was ever an obedient son, an affectionate brother and kind to all, and to know him was to love him. Yes, we hope to meet our boy where parting shall be no more.

M.H. Stanly

The Gills

1..... John Gill Tradition has him as our ancestor. He was a mariner, who traded between England, the Barbadoes, and the American colonies in the late 1600's. Records in Va. and Md. show a John Gill, trader, Tradition has it that he had trouble with the authorities over some of his transac- transactions and moved his voyages to the Carolinas. His widow, Mary Tull Gill, is mentioned in 1700 in S. Carolina.

2.... John Gill

.....Presumably his son, first one mentioned in S. Carolina records. Had a land grant in Berkeley Co., Feb. 8, 1704. A battle was fought between the French and Spanish here 1707-8.

3..... James Gill

.....Son of above John was granted 350 acres of land in Richland Co., S.C., Feb. 3, 1749, on Gill's Creek, which runs through a part of Col- umbia, S. C. Probably married Hannah Goodwyn.

4.... Thomas Gill

.....Son of James. Had a deed recorded July 6, 1786. Married Hannah-----.

5.... John Gill

.....Son of Thomas. Married Mary Jackson, then Elizabeth-----, then Ann-----. He was a lieutenant in the Revolution and later a captain of militia.

Lieut. John Gill, #2830 of Richland Co., S.C., served under Col. Thomas Taylor May to July 1, 1781 and under Col. J.P. Kirkland, Mar 1, Mar 31, 1781. Service Record sworn to before Timothy Rives, Aug 3, 1784 in Richland Co. S.C.

The story is told that while he was on a visit to his home, the British came in search of him. His wife Mary held the door while he escaped by the rear. When she opened the door, a British officer came in and put his hat on the table. Mary promptly picked it up and put it on the fire.

From here on we are sure of the descent

6.....John Gill, Jr. (about 1773-1828) b. Tenn., to Columbia, S.C., to Lincoln Co. Miss., then Pike Co. about 1810. He was a gunsmith and blacksmith, was married 4 times, lived above Bogue Chitto, Miss., and was buried in old Gill plantation burial ground.

Sons of John:....

John Gill III, Jan. 2, 1796- Aug. 22, 1864, known as "Doc" Gill, lived near Leesville, La. (Gill place became the old Glasscock place.) Buried Smart's Chapel Cemetery.

Uriah Gill... b. Oct. 1, 1879, Columbia, S.C., d. June 28, 1872, on Gill plantation, north of Bogue Chitto, Miss., and buried there.

Jefferson... b. about 1809, S.C., to Miss., then to La. before 1830, was in Reuben's house in 1850 census. Reuben claimed him as his whole brother, half brother to "Doc."

7.....Reuben Gill... b. 1805 in S.C., d. May 11, 1874, Buried Castor Cemetery. Tombstone gives 1809, but census has 1805. His daughter-in-law, Grandma Gill, saved buffalo nickels to buy that stone. Reuben came to Miss. with his parents about 1810. He married Harriet Price, b. S.C., 1814, believed to be the daughter of Robert Price and Mary Moak, both b. Richland Co., S.C., married there before 1800, and who lived near the Gills in Amite Co., Miss. Reuben and Harriet moved to Rapides Parish, La., in 1845, only John Robert, b. 1849 being listed as born in La.

1850 Census

Reuben Gill	47	Farmer	S.C.
Harriet	34		S.C.
Abraham	19		Miss.
Jane	16		Miss.
Elizabeth	11		Miss.
William	8		Miss.
Susan	5		Miss.
John R.	1		La.
Jefferson	45		S.C.

Great Grandfather

Children of Reuben and Harriet Price Gill:

Abraham.... b. about 1831, had cleared "Abraham's old new ground" on Liberty Creek. Killed in the war. From Confederate Records: Gill, A.W., Pvt. Co. B 1st (Nelligan's) La. Inf. Enlisted 8/2/61 New Orleans. Killed Sharpsburg, Sept. 17, 1862. B. Miss. Age 23(?) Single. Residence Huddleston P.O.

Jane.... b. Miss. 1834

Elizabeth.... b. Miss, 1839, m. Henry Williams and had John, Henry, William, and Reuben. (I visited Bill and Reuben near Lake Charles in 1927).

William.... b. Miss. about 1842, killed in war. From Confederate Records: Gill, Wm. Pvt. Co. C, 1st (Strawbridge's) La. Inf.. Enrolled 4/10/61 New Orleans. Killed in action, Battle of Shiloh, Tenn., April 6, 1862.

Susan.... b. Miss. about 1845, never married.

John Robert.... b. La. Sept 5, 1849, d. Mar. 28, 1918. Married Sarah Stanly, buried Castor Cemetery.

Reuben and Harriet settled about 6 miles from Leesville, on Liberty Creek, at what was later known as the Albert Self place. A young son (possibly between Jane and Elizabeth) was bitten by a rattlesnake as they cleared land, died in Reuben arms before they could reach the house, and was buried back of the garden. Later Harriet died and was buried beside him. These two graves were visible in 1927, having been carefully tended by Aunt Sidney Self and then by Aunt Lou Self until the land became part of Fort Polk. In 1973, with the help of Lyndon Smith, who located the exact spot, and C.J. Cavanaugh, who made a concrete stone, the graves were marked with these words: Harriet Price Gill and little son 1814-1855. Reuben had built a small log house then later a larger one, using the smaller for a kitchen, as the custom was. At a party celebrating the new house, a young school teacher from Florida, Sidney Bryan, met the man she was to marry, Albert Self, in the log kitchen. Perhaps because of Harriet's death and the news which the Cavanaugh boys wrote home, "Tell the Gills Abraham and William have both been killed," Reuben sold to Albert Self, and as long as Aunt Sidney lived she would never let the old kitchen be torn down, "because I

met Mr. Self there." I saw it about 1920.

The only known article in existence today that belonged to Reuben is a straight razor, made in England and bought when he was 18. At his death it passed to his and Harriet's only living son, John Robert Gill. At his death in 1919 it went to his son, C.O. Gill, who had it hollow ground in 1923. He gave it to Warren Gill about 1945; at Warren's death it was returned to Uncle Crockett, who wrote, "In 1957, my health being very bad, I turned it over to B.A. Gill, the youngest great-grandson of the late Reuben Gill; with the understanding that this razor be kept in the Gill family and preferably in the Gill name and only to those who would appreciate it very much."

Reuben.... married second Frances Knapp and had Harrison, who m. Julia Hext and had John, Reuben, Barney, Alvin, Willie, Goldie, and Sally.

8.....John Robert Gill (Sept 5, 1849-Mar. 28, 1918) m. Sarah Susannah Stanly, (Oct. 16, 1851-Feb. 2, 1920) on Sept. 2, 1869 at the home of M.H. Stanly, married by P.H. Cavanaugh, J.P., Witnesses, M.H. Stanly and John C. Cavanaugh.

Children:

Major Henry (July 24, 1871-July 31, 1946) m. Fannie Nessmith (May 4, 1869-July 7, 1966) on Dec. 1, 1892 and had Chuyler, Susie, Ruth, Matt, Warren, Frances Augusta, Maggie, Price, Bill, and Gertie Mae.

Harriet Elizabeth (^{Jan 21}~~May 24~~, 1873-Jan. 8, 1901) m. Roan Johnson (1868-1952) and had Vernie, Olaphan, and Grady.

Quintilla Ursula (^{Jan 27, 1893}~~May 18~~, 1874-Dec. 1933)

William Wright Hardison (May 3, 1876-April 17, 1936) m. Ella Cooper (^{2/12/17-2/25/75}) on and had Jennings and Robbie Lee. ^{April 22, 1908}

John Robert, Jr. (April 27, 1878-Nov. 18, 1957) m. Etta Wise (Aug 25, 1883-Nov. 5, 1940) on April 29, 1906 and had Denzell and Eloise.

Ruth Dorcasina (Mar. 24, 1880-May 19, 1954) m. Warren Nessmith (1878-1959) and had Hardy, Calvin, Wesley, and Oscar.

Barney Abraham (Jan. 16, 1882-Jan. 16, 1938) m. Mary Elizabeth Weeks on May 6, 1911 and had Mildred, Milford, Gussie, Lee Roy, Wilhamena, Elaine, and Barney.

Crockett Oscar (Jan. 2, 1884- Sept. 28, 1957) m. Mary Iles on April 24, 1927.

Sarah Susannah (Mar. 2, 1886-Jan. 25, 1966) m. William Hunt (1880-1956) and had Otis, Ocie Lea, Irma, C.O., Dovie, Naomi, Gill, and F.A.

James Calvin (July 2, 1888-Sept. 1928) m. Kate Williams and had Garland, Donald, and Kathleen.

Naoma Belsora (Dec. 19, 1890-July 2, 1911) m. Lindley Dickerson and had Clifford.

The mantle of M.H. Stanly fell on this son-in-law, John Gill, who became a pillar of the church and community. He brought up his children "in the fear and admonition of the Lord." He quoted and practiced this verse, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." It was his duty to keep the keys of the church, and this faithful deacon and his family missed no service, save for illness. He did not allow young men to stand around outside the church, but politely persuaded them to come in. When he was old and so ill that he would fall asleep on his bench, he still came to every service. Castor Cemetery was dear to the hearts of this couple, and they labored to make it a place of beauty.

A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children.

Proverbs 13:22

The Stanlys

1....Moses Stanly...Lenoir Co., North Carolina

2....Major Stanly... son of Moses....m. Mary----- in N.C., and the children through Major 11 were born there, probably in Lenoir Co., moved to Twiggs Co. Ga., where they were members of Richland Baptist Church. In 1834 his wife, Mary, asked for and received her church letter, evidently giving a satisfactory reason for being separated from her husband, else she would not have been given a letter, as churches were very strict. Major is said to have married four times.

Children:

Mary Hardy, b.1814, m. Arthur B. Horne, Pulaski C. Ga.

Dorcas, m. Bowers

Susan

Martha, m. Wesley Williams and had: Sarah, Emma,

Martha, Eddie, William, John, and Albert.

3....Major Henry Finly Stanly....(July 14, 1825-Mar. 1, 1916)
m. Elizabeth Jane Turner (Oct. 12, 1826-Feb. 13, 1897) in Florida.

Major would have been about 9 and Martha 5 when their parents separated. At some period he is said to have looked after her until her marriage. She and Williams moved to Pensacola, where he farmed and preached on Sundays.

It is told that Major had dinner at the Dempsey Turner home, where Elizabeth waited on the table. Teased about the eligible young man, she said, "I'd never marry him, he's too short." They lived in Holmes Co., Fla., where Major, apparently well educated for his day, taught school, organized a school system for the county, and became its first superintendent. After being wiped out two years in a row by hurricanes, they moved to La. Several families, presumably Stanlys, Turners, and Williamses, moved together, planning

to settle in Texas, but one of the children took sick, and they stopped in Rapides Parish, near Leesville (in what became Vernon P.) in 1860.

1860 Census		Value of real estate	Personal	
M.H. Stanly	36	\$1800	\$225	N.C.
Elizabeth J.	34			Ala.
Mary M.	11			La.
Ruth F.	9			La.
Suzannah	7			La.
Margaret	5			La.
Major	3			La.
W. (?) Hardison	2			La.
Elizabeth C.	6/12			La.

It is supposed that this is in error, and that all but the baby were born in Florida.

Confederate Records:

Stanly, M.H. Pvt. Co. K 6th La. Cal. Roll of P.O.W. of detachment of Regiments C.S.A. Paroled Natch. La. June 12, 1865. Res. Rapides La.

M.H. Stanly was an asset to his new home. Early records show that he was clerk of Vernon Parish Police Jury from 1890 to 1893 and treasurer from 1894 to 1900. He was treasurer of the newly organized school board in 1871.

A Sunday School was begun at Castor with his leadership, and he kept it alive throughout the years of Civil War, then helped to organize Castor Baptist Church in 1868. There in 1872 the Vernon Baptist Association was formed, and he was elected clerk, serving for thirty-one years. When the second log house was replaced by one of "sawed lumber" in 1890, he was chairman of the building committee.

This delightful story of him as a church leader was told by Mrs. P.H. Cavanaugh (Fannie Jane Smart), who was a young girl when it happened. The visiting preacher, a stern Calvinist in his beliefs of predestination and infant damnation, declared from the pulpit, "There's babes in hell not a span long." The strong old patriarch, thinking of all those there whose babes lay outside in the churchyard, rose to his feet and said simply, "Step down, Bro. -----." And Bro. ----- stepped down.