

JOSEPH ABBOTT and FAMILY
Son of Leonard Abbott of Halifax County, Virginia

Research Report by Joan Horsley
Based on research as of Sept 2013
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See notes at the end of the report

JOSEPH ABBOTT, son of Leonard Abbott & Susanna Ferguson
Born: Abt. 1805, Halifax County, VA; Died: Bet. 1850-1854, Lincoln County, MO
Married: 6 Dec 1831, Halifax County, VA to Alice "Ailcey" Abbott
ALICE ABBOTT, daughter of Elisha Abbott & Lydia Clay
Born: Abt. 1815, Halifax County, VA; Marr. 2nd: 17 Aug 1854, Lincoln Co., MO to Bird
Farmer
Died: Bet. 1860-1870, Lincoln County, MO

CHILDREN of JOSEPH ABBOTT and ALICE ABBOTT:

Mary Abbott (m. William C. Farmer), Margaret Abbott, Thomas F. Abbott (m. Mary J. Miller),
William Harrison Abbott (m1 Mattie Dowell, m2 Mary E. Bedwell), Joseph Abbott (died in
childhood), Leonard Abbott (m. Judith Shelton), John F. Abbott (m. Mary E. "Lizzie"), Susan
Abbott (m. Crafton Allen Glore)

Joseph Abbott and Alice "Ailcey" Abbott married in Halifax County, VA by bond dated 6 Dec
1831. Joseph's bondsman was Alice's father Elisha Abbott, who also signed consent for his
daughter to marry, as was required to those marrying under age 21. She is named by her
nickname "Ailcey" in the bond. [Halifax Marriage Bond Register, LVA Reel 82] Elisha was
the son of Benjamin Abbott, the eldest half-brother of Joseph's father Leonard Abbott.

Many unsourced and undocumented online family files with other proved errors incorrectly
list this Joseph who married Alice/Ailcey Abbott as a son of Benjamin Abbott's son Joseph
(probably in part because Leonard Abbott's children, including Joseph, were previously
unknown). Benjamin Abbott's son (and Elisha Abbott's brother) Joseph Abbott moved his
family in early 1804 from Halifax Co, VA to Stokes Co, NC, abt. 100 miles to the southwest.
That Joseph's children stayed in Stokes at least through 1830, and the 1830 census shows
Joseph Abbott's son Joseph was already married with four children under age 10 in Stokes
Co, NC.

Alice's husband Joseph Abbott is proved to be a son of Leonard and Susanna Ferguson
Abbott through a series of deeds whereby Joseph and his brothers both jointly and
separately sold land they inherited through each of their parents. Joseph's father, Leonard
Abbott, was a much younger half-brother of Elisha Abbott's father, Benjamin Abbott, and
Leonard was even six years or so younger than Elisha. This Joseph Abbott's family lived in
Halifax at Difficult Creek perhaps 8 miles or so east of Elisha Abbott's family at Bradley
Creek, and Joseph's maternal grandparents lived roughly half-way between at Terrible
Creek. Thus, besides being close relatives, the families had ample opportunity to establish
close contact, which they obviously did.

In 1827, Alice Abbott's older sister Annis Abbott married Joseph's older brother, Thomas F.
Abbott, who died abt. 1834. When Joseph and Alice's first son was born abt. 1841, they

named him Thomas F. Abbott. (They also had sons John Abbott and Leonard Abbott, names of Joseph's brothers as well as his father, Leonard.)

In 1829, Joseph Abbott sold his portion of the land he and his four brothers inherited from their grandfather Thomas Ferguson: (See report on his father Leonard Abbott for more details.)

Date: 3 Feb 1829

From: Joseph Abbott of Halifax Co.

To: William Vaughan of same

For: \$147

Description: 57 acres in Halifax Co.

Bounds: Wm. Vaughan's line, Hunt's road, Mrs. Bryan's corner (metes, bounds included)

Signed: Joseph Abbott

Witnesses: Jas. Adkinsson, John Royster [sp. here Reyster], Daniel W. Whitman, D. Glass

Recorded: 23 Feb 1829

[Source: Halifax Deed Book 36, p. 653-654. LVA Reel 17. Abstract by J. Horsley. Comments in brackets added.]

Note:

Witness John Royster was related to William Royster, one of the appraisers of the estate of Joseph's mother, Susanna Ferguson Abbott, in 1826. Witness James Adkinsson was appointed by Elisha Abbott in 1837 to be the executor of Elisha's will.

After Joseph and Alice married in December 1831, Halifax personal property tax lists show that by Feb 1832, they were living near her parents at Bradley Creek. They probably lived on part of her father's land that Elisha devised to Alice in his 1837 will.

In Oct 1832, Joseph Abbott and his brothers jointly sold the Difficult Creek land they inherited from their father, Leonard Abbott, who died bet. 1814-1815 when they were all young children. That land was devised to Leonard by the 1787 will of his father Joseph Abbott, and the brothers were living there prior to their marriages. They sold it to William Abbott, another brother of Leonard Abbott. William Abbott owned adjacent land also devised by his father Joseph Abbott's 1787 will. (Again, refer to the report on Leonard Abbott for more details and explanation.)

Date: 23 Oct 1832*

From: Thomas F. Abbott, Joseph Abbott, John Abbott, Leonard Abbott, and Fleming Abbott

To: William Abbott, all of Halifax Co.

For: \$180

Description: tract of land in Halifax Co. [no acres or metes included - 100 acres on Timber Branch, a branch of Difficult Creek per 1787 will of Joseph Abbott]

Bounds: Daniel Palmer, Nathaniel Barksdale, and the said William Abbott

Signed: Joseph Abbott, John (x) Abbott (his mark), Leonard (x) Abbott (his mark)

Witness: John A. McCraw as to Jos. Abbott

Recorded: 23 Oct 1832 - Acknowledged by Joseph (28 Sep), Leonard (17 Oct), and John Abbott (23 Oct)

*Note: Deed is dated 23 Oct, only after the last signer acknowledged the deed that was written at least by 28 Sep.

[Source: Halifax Deed Book 40, p. 257-258, Halifax Courthouse, Halifax, VA. Abstract by J. Horsley. Comments in brackets added.]

Alice Abbott's father, Elisha Abbott, died in 1837. By his will written 28 Jan 1837 (recorded 24 Apr 1837), Elisha gave Alice Abbott 150 acres of land, a slave woman and her three children, a horse, saddle, and bridle. At her mother Lydia's death, Alice was to get one of the slaves loaned to Lydia for lifetime use. [HWB18:295]

1840 - Halifax Co, VA (North District)

Joseph Abbott - Males: 1(under 5), 1(30-39); Females: 2(under 5) 1(20-29) - 8 slaves

By early 1842, the family was making plans to leave Halifax, as many were doing, due in large part to economic hardships there. Alice's mother planned to move with them, and on 4 Jan 1842, Lydia Abbott sold her interests in the 150 acres on Bradley Creek, where she was then living, that was loaned her for her lifetime by her husband's will. [HDB49:144] Her son James Abbott, who was to inherit that tract at her death, and his wife, Susan, sold his rights to the land to the same buyer on 12 Nov 1842. [HDB48:350] By a deed of the same date, Joseph and Ailcey Abbott sold their 150 acres at Bradley Creek that Elisha's will had devised to his daughter Alice:

Date: 12 Nov 1842

From: Joseph Abbott and wife Ailcey

To: Epa H. Clark

For: \$450

Description: 150 acres on waters of Bradley Creek

Bounds: William Walne, James M. Jones, the estate of Elisha Abbott dec'd, Giles Martin, the estate of Wm Carr dec'd "and others"

Signed: Joseph Abbott, Ailcey Abbott

Witnesses: None

Release of dower: 12 Nov 1842

Recorded: 6 Apr 1843

[Source: Halifax Deed Book 48, p. 461. LVA Reel 23. Abstract by J. Horsley]

Joseph leaves the yearly Halifax personal property tax lists after 1842; however, Alice's mother last appears in the tax lists in March 1844. Accounts for Lydia Clay Abbott's slaves indicate she left Halifax in Dec 1844, and apparently Joseph and Alice Abbott and their family moved with Lydia at that time. They moved to Lincoln County, Missouri, where they are recorded in the same household in the 1850 census:

1850 - Lincoln Co, MO - District 49

Abbot[sic], Joseph - 45 - VA [b. c1805]

Alice - 31[sic] - VA [probably abt. age 35 - see note]

Mary - 14 - VA

Margaret - 10 - VA [no marriage found; missing in family in 1860]

Thomas - 9 - VA [later named as Thomas F. Abbott]

Harrison - 7 - VA

Joseph - 5 - VA [d. bef. 1860]

Leonard - 2 - VA [1860 says b. MO]

John F - 1 - VA [1860 says b. MO]

Lidie - 75 - VA [Alice's mother, Lydia Clay Abbott]

Slaves: 7 [1850 Census Slave Schedule]

Note:

Alice Abbott's age is wrong in both censuses that name her. She is listed in 1850 as age 31 and in 1860 as age 36. If Alice were 31 in 1850, she would be 12 at her marriage, which

seems absurd for this family. Alice is enumerated in her father's 1830 census household as age 10-14, thus born bet. 1816-1820 (although both her parents' age groups that census are wrong). Taking the census as given, if Alice were born in the second half of 1815 (rather than first half of 1816), she would be 16 by her marriage in Dec 1831, a more reasonable age for this family and a birth year that fits with her siblings' and her mother's ages.

Joseph Abbott died in Lincoln County, MO bet. 1850-1854, when Alice re-married. Alice's mother, Lydia Abbott, died in Lincoln County, MO on 4 Oct 1857. [HWB26:175, 273]

Joseph's widow Alice Abbott married 17 Aug 1854 to Bird Farmer in Lincoln County, MO. (The online transcribed abstract of their marriage record lists her as "Asa Abbett," probably some form of Ailcey, but the 1860 census proves it was Alice Abbott who married Bird Farmer.)

[Source: "Missouri, Marriages, 1750-1920," index, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/V282-VYM>) citing GS Film No.: 973688.]

Joseph and Alice's daughter Mary Abbott married 24 Feb 1859 to William C. Farmer. [Abstract on FamilySearch.org] William is likely related to Alice's husband Bird Farmer, also born in VA but not identified in the 1850 census. In 1850, Mary's later husband "Wm. C. Farmer" (b. c1833, VA) was living in adjacent St. Charles County, MO with his apparent father Samuel D. Farmer (b. c1803, VA) and Samuel's wife Frances (b. c1815, VA).

Joseph and Alice's son "Thos. F. Abbett" married 1 Dec 1859 to Mary J. Miller in Lincoln Co, MO.

By 1860, Alice and Bird Farmer have a newborn son, unnamed and not identified later. (Perhaps Alice's age at his birth affected his survival and maybe hers as well.)

1860: Clark Township, Lincoln Co, MO - Post Office: Troy

Farmer, Bird - 46 - Farmer - VA

Alice - 36[sic] - VA [Alice Abbott; should be abt. age 45]

Infant - male - 1 month - MO

Abbott, Harrison - 17 - VA

Lane [Lene?] - 15 - MO [Leonard in 1850 & 1870 - here prob. means "Lenny"]

Jno F - 13 - MO

Susan - 11 - MO [age wrong; not yet born by the 1850 census]

Joseph and Alice's daughter Susan married 12 Nov 1868 in adjacent St. Charles Co, MO to Crafton A. Glore (transcribed as Glower in FamilySearch abstract). In 1860, "Crafton A. Glore," age 10, is with his parents Walker & Lydia Glore in Troy, Lincoln Co, MO, and no other Susan Abbott lived in or near Lincoln or St. Charles Co. bet. 1860-1870. In the 1870 census, Crafton named as "Allen Glore" and wife Susan are living in St. Charles Co. with a daughter, age 1, in the household of Crafton Allen Glore's parents H. W. and Liddie Glore, Allen and his father are listed as shoemakers.

By 1870, both Alice Abbott and her second husband, Bird Farmer, are deceased.

In 1870, Joseph and Alice's son Leonard Abbott is still in Clark Twp., Lincoln Co., married to wife Judy. By 1880, "Len Abbott" (b. MO) and wife Judith are living in McLennan Co, TX. No marriage record was found for them in online resources, but two death records give her name as Judith Shelton. The 1945 Dallas, TX death record for their daughter Lura A.

Hanson names her parents Len Abbott (spelled phonetically as Lynn) and Judith Shelton (born in VA). The 1917 death record for their son William H. Abbott in Waco, McLennan Co, TX lists his parents as L. M. Abbott and Judith T. Shelton (born MO). The informant was "T. F. Abbott," probably William's brother Thomas F. Abbott (named after Leonard's own brother of that name).

In 1870, Joseph and Alice's son Thomas F. Abbott and wife Mary are still in Clark Twp, Lincoln Co, MO, and Thomas' brother John F. Abbott is living with them. John seems to be the John Abbott in 1880 in Clark Twp. with wife Lizzie and oldest child age 9, but no marriage record was found in online resources. Thomas F. Abbott was not found in 1880. John F. Abbott and wife Mary E. were still in Lincoln Co, MO in 1900.

Joseph and Alice's son Harrison Abbott served in the Civil War from Missouri and was in McLennan Co, TX, in 1880, as was his brother Leonard Abbott. Harrison (listed as W. H. Abbott) married a widow, Mattie Dowell, on 11 Feb 1880 in McLennan Co, TX, and as William H. Abbott married in 1887 to another widow, Mary E. Bedwell. Harrison does not appear to have children of his own.

Susan Abbott Glore had a daughter Alice Glore (b. c1870) and died bet. 1873, when son George Glore was born, and 1 Dec 1878, when "C. A. Glore" married again to another Susan, Sue Embry in Randolph Co, MO. (In 1900 in adjacent Boone Co, MO, he is listed as Crofton Gloer with the same birthyear as Crafton A. Glore who married Susan Abbott, and he is listed as married 22 years to then-wife Susan, so he appears to be the same man.)

Joseph and Alice's daughter Mary Abbott and husband also moved to McLennan Co, TX, where she died bet. 1880-1900.

Source note:

Marriage and death records for MO and TX are from abstracts on FamilySearch.org

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This is a fairly complete report that Joan Horsley was working on when she died. There were no notes included in the text that indicated any facts or other lines of inquiry she wanted to pursue. Any correspondence that would have been directed to my late wife should be sent to JHGenResearch-Abbott@yahoo.com

If you use any information from this report, please include the documentation as given here and cite this paper as:

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