

### JOHN MILAM III

John Milam III was born 12/19/1789 in Laurens Co., S. C. and died 06/03/1880 in Pontotoc Co., Miss. He is buried beside his second wife, Milly (Pitts) Milam, at Oak Hill Cemetery, in Pontotoc Co., Miss. Milly was born 09/02/1802 in either Laurens or Newberry Co., S. C. and died 09/29/1889 in Pontotoc Co., Miss.

John Milam III was a son of John Milam, Jr. (born 06/12/1753, in Brunswick Co., Va., died 10/26/1838, in Madison Co., Ala.) and Nancy \_\_\_\_\_, about whom little is known, except that she presumably was the first wife of John Milam, Jr., and the mother of all of his known children. Nancy apparently died in 1813 or before, <sup>in S.C.</sup> but where she died and where she is buried are details as yet unknown.

In 1813, John Milam, Jr. married second, in Laurens Co., S. C., Mary ("Polly") Allison. Polly was probably born in S. C., but the exact date of her birth is as yet unknown. In 1858 she gave her age as seventy-five (75) years old, thus born in about 1783. Her exact date of death is also as yet unknown, but she was still living in 1860, according to the 1860 Census of Monroe Co., Miss. Polly (Allison) Milam had no Milam children.

According to (among other sources) a letter dated 02/22/1932, and dictated by his second-youngest son, Henry Pickens ("Pick") Milam, John Milam III also married twice: first, in about 1816 or 1817, to a "Miss Madden"; and second, 09/16/1824, to Milly Pitts. There were children born of both marriages.

**ERRONEOUSLY** identified by many researchers as **NANCY**, a daughter of George and Phebe/Phoebe Madden of Laurens Co., S. C., the first wife of John Milam III **MIGHT** have been A daughter of this couple, but her name **DEFINITELY WAS NOT NANCY MADDEN!** George and Phebe/Phoebe Madden did indeed have a daughter named Nancy, but this child was still single as late as 01/31/1822, by which time John Milam III and his first wife had had at least three children, and possibly four: Willis was born about 1817-1818; Diatrephus (aka DIATREPHOS, DIATAPHUS, DIOTREPHES, and "DODGE") was born about 1819-1820; James Madison was born about 1820-1821; and (according to the 1820 and 1830 Census Reports of Laurens Co., S. C.) there was another son (possibly the first child of John Milam III) born sometime between 1810 and 1820, who evidently died young--between the summers of 1829 and 1830.

Whatever her name was, John Milam III evidently married his first wife prior to 1817-1818, the approximate year of birth of their first known child, Willis, and she appears to have died quite early--"before March of 1824," according to one source. Also, since this "Miss Madden" first wife is listed as between sixteen and twenty-six (16 and 26) years of age in the 1820 Census of Laurens Co., S. C., she presumably was born between 1794 and 1804, although it is unlikely that she was born after 1800.

The five known children (not including the son presumed to have died young) of John Milam III and his "Miss Madden" first wife were: Willis; Diatrephus M.; James Madison; William; and Parthenia.

1. Willis \_\_\_\_\_ Milam  
 / /c. 1817-1818, Laurens Co., S. C.- / /1850+, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
 Married / /c. 1839-1840, Laurens Co., S. C.  
 Martha \_\_\_\_\_ ("Patsy") Washington (NOT a descendant of Pres. George Washington)  
 / /c. 1818, Laurens Co., S. C.- / /1850+, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_
2. Diatrephus (aka Diatrephos, Diataphus, Diotrephe, and "Dodge") M \_\_\_\_\_ Milam  
 / /c. 1819-1820, Laurens Co., S. C.-01/25/1895, Laurens Co., S. C. (AE. 75)  
 Married / /c. 1842, Laurens Co., S. C.  
 Sarah Ann Pitts  
 03/01/1817, Laurens Co., S. C.-06/08/1896, Laurens Co., S. C. (AE. 79)
3. James Madison Milam  
 / /c. 1820-1821, Laurens Co., S. C.- / / , \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
 Married / / , Laurens Co., S. C.  
 Rebecca <sup>(Becky)</sup> Pugh Wait Sims  
 11/09/1823, Abbeville or Laurens Co., S. C.-09/17/1916, Benton (now Calhoun) Co., Ala
4. William <sup>M</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ Milam (NOTE: The 1815 DOB on William's tombstone is INCORRECT.)  
 07/ /c. 1821-1822, Laurens Co., S. C.-01/18/1912, Faulkner Co., Ark.  
 Married / /c. 1848-1849, Pontotoc Co., Miss. (?)  
 Mary ("Polly") Parthenia Nixon  
 12/ /1826, Laurens Co. (?), S. C.-10/13/1913, Faulkner Co., Ark.
5. Parthenia \_\_\_\_\_ Milam (Definitely born before 09/16/1824, and probably bef. Marc  
 / /c. 1823-1824, Laurens Co., S. C.- / / , \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
 Married / /c. 1847, Pontotoc Co. (?), Miss. (her first marriage, his second)  
 Joseph J \_\_\_\_\_ Garner  
 09/20/1814, Newberry Co., S. C.-02/15/1862, Pontotoc Co., Miss.

Parthenia is believed to have been the last child of John Milam III by his "Miss Madden" first wife. If this first wife did indeed die "before March of 1824" as one source indicates, it is possible that her death was a result of childbirth complications with Parthenia.

John Milam III married second, 09/16/1824, in Laurens Co., S. C., Milly Pitts (born 09/02/1802, in either Laurens or Newberry Co., S. C., died 09/29/1889, in Pontotoc Co., Miss.). Milly was a daughter of Jehu Pitts (born 01/07/1779, in Newberry Co., S. C., died 12/29/1850, in Pontotoc Co., Miss.) and Jehu's first wife, Mary Teague (born 11/17/1777, in Newberry Co., S. C., died 04/23/1836, in Laurens Co., S. C.). Mary (Teague) Pitts is buried at Poplar Springs Baptist Church Cemetery in Laurens Co., S. C. She and Jehu were married 09/25/1798, in Newberry Co., S. C. Jehu's second wife (said to be a sister of his first wife) was Rebecca Teague (born 05/23/1790, in Newberry Co., S. C., died 10/31/1862, in Pontotoc Co., Miss.). Rebecca (Teague) Pitts had also been married before. Her first husband was Thomas Goggans. Jehu and Rebecca migrated to Pontotoc in about 1838. They both died there and are buried at Cherry Creek Cemetery in Pontotoc.

For reasons as yet unknown, the year of 1841 was apparently fraught with financial difficulties for John Milam III and his family, for in the early part of 1842 they were being sued for debts which they seem to have been unable to pay. In the latter part of 1842, one creditor brought suit against John for failing to pay a debt totaling \$135.20, and as a result of this suit the Milam homestead and farm, consisting of some 414 acres of land, was foreclosed upon and put up for sale. The sale occurred 01/03/1843, and shortly thereafter, on about 01/14/1843, John and Milly set out in a covered wagon for Pontotoc, Miss. As far as can be determined at this point, the children accompanying them were as follows: Parthenia (the only child by John's "Miss Madden" first wife); Elizabeth ("Betsy"); Mary ("Polly"); John Wesley; Jehu Leake; Wiley Ferrell; Lucinda Jane; and Henry Pickens. John Milam III's three oldest sons (Willis, Diatrephus M., and James Madison--all children of the "Miss Madden" first wife) were already married by 1843, and thus remained in Laurens Co. For whatever reason, William, John's youngest son from the first marriage, seems to have migrated to Mississippi the previous year, in 1842.

In probable order of birth, the seven known children (not including a child who appears to have died young, in the same 1829-1830 period as the son from the first marriage, who also appears to have died young) of John Milam III and Milly (Pitts) Milam were: Elizabeth ("Betsy"); Mary ("Polly"); John Wesley; Jehu Leake; Wiley Ferrell; Lucinda Jane; and Henry Pickens. All of these children were born in Laurens Co., S. C. Later on, after their move to Pontotoc, John and Milly had an eighth child, Larkin ("Locke") Cole. As far as is known, he was their only child born in Mississippi.

1. Elizabeth \_\_\_\_\_ ("Betsy") Milam  
 09/07/1825, Laurens Co., S. C.- / / , \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
 Married First, 12/21/1848, Pontotoc Co., Miss. (her first marriage, his second)  
 Bartley [probably Bartlett] \_\_\_\_\_ Milam (a widower, and also Betsy's cousin)  
 03/16/1825, Laurens Co., S. C.-07/30/1852, Pontotoc Co., Miss.  
 Married Second, 10/04/1858, Pontotoc Co., Miss.  
 Rev. William M \_\_\_\_\_ Fuqua (a widower who had children by his first wife)  
 / /c. 1813, Richmond (?), Va.- / / , \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_
2. Mary A \_\_\_\_\_ ("Polly") Milam  
 11/25/1827, Laurens Co., S. C.-09/07/1869, Pontotoc Co., Miss.  
 Married, 02/18/1851, Pontotoc Co., Miss.  
 John Columbus Vaughn (middle name possibly Columbus)  
 04/20/1813, Laurens Co. (?), S. C.-08/14/1880, Pontotoc Co., Miss.
3. John Wesley Milam  
 04/24/1830, Laurens Co., S. C.-02/23/1924, Van Zant Co., Tex., but buried in Pontotoc  
 Married, 12/06/1855, Pontotoc Co., Miss.  
 Permelia \_\_\_\_\_ Andrews  
 02/28/1832, Laurens Co. (?), S. C.-11/25/1907, Pontotoc Co., Miss.
4. Jehu Leake Milam (often mistakenly identified as John Leake Milam)  
 11/25/1832, Laurens Co., S. C.- / /1900+, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
 Married, 10/13/1851, Pontotoc Co., Miss.  
 Sarah Slaton ("Sally") Pound(s)  
 03/ /1832, \_\_\_\_\_, Tenn.- / /1900+, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

5. Wiley Ferrill Milam (sometimes referred to as Wylie Farrell Milam)  
12/28/1835, Laurens Co., S. C.-11/23/1922, Faulkner Co., Ark.  
Married, 09/24/1865, Pontotoc Co., Miss.  
Mary Elizabeth Jackson  
08/26/1840, \_\_\_\_\_, Va.-03/26/1904, Faulkner Co., Ark.
6. Lucinda Jane Milam  
/ /c. 1838-1839, Laurens Co., S. C.- / / \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
Married, 09/25/1865, Pontotoc Co., Miss.  
Joseph \_\_\_\_\_ Reeder  
/ /1838, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ - / /1905, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_
7. Henry Pickens ("Pick") Milam (dictated the accompanying 02/22/1932 letter)  
12/25/1841, Laurens Co., S. C.-10/04/1932, Dallas, Tex.  
Married, 09/25/1865, Pontotoc Co., Miss.  
Martha Ann Nixon  
07/28/1846, \_\_\_\_\_, S. C.-11/15/1933, Dallas, Tex.
8. Larkin Cole ("Locke") Milam (the only known child born in Miss.)  
/ /c. 1848, Pontotoc Co., Miss.- / /1880+, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
Married, / /c. 1875, Pontotoc Co., Miss.  
Martha M \_\_\_\_\_ ("Mattie") Russell  
/ /c. 1858, \_\_\_\_\_, Miss.- / /1880+, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE NOTE: THIS JOHN MILAM III FAMILY GROUP SUMMARY IS A ROUGH DRAFT.  
CORRECTIONS AND ADDITIONS WILL BE MADE AS RESEARCH CONTINUES IN LAURENS,  
S. C., PONTOTOC, MISS. AND ELSEWHERE. IN THE MEANTIME, SUGGESTIONS AND  
ASSISTANCE WITH THIS PIECE OF RESEARCH WILL BE WELCOMED AND APPRECIATED.

PAUL S. LAWTON  
4900 SOCASTEE BLVD.  
MYRTLE BEACH, S. C. 29577  
PHONE: 803/293-6193

I would be particularly interested in and appreciative of readers' responses to and/or assistance with the following items:

1. PROOF that John Milam III's mother's name was Nancy McClardy (sometimes appearing simply as Nancy Clardy). That I know of, there is NO DOCUMENTED EVIDENCE OF THIS McCLARDY/CLARDY SURNAME.
2. PROOF that John Milam III's first wife was a Madden, as well as any other biodata about her, particularly her dates of birth and death, her marriage date to John, and her place of burial.
3. Any biodata on John Milam III's stepmother, Polly Allison Milam, particularly her dates of birth and death, her marriage date to John Milam, Jr., her place of burial, and the names of her parents.
4. Same as the above, for Nancy McClardy/Clardy--her dates and places of birth and death, her marriage date to John Milam, Jr., her place of burial, and the names of her parents.