

# PICKELSIMER FAMILY

F430

The Pickelsimer family came originally from Germany. The branch of the family in Fannin County is descended from Henry Pickelsimer of Anderson County, S.C. and Buncombe County, N.C. Henry had two sons, Abraham (1787-1861) and David (b. 1789), who moved to Fannin County, Ga.

David Pickelsimer married Nancy Rogers (b. 1793, N.C.) and their children were: Eri (1816), Jason, Crayton (1824), Rebecca (1826), Hannah (1832), David, Jr. (1834-1914), Adolphus (1835), and Arena (1839). David, Jr. and Adolphus settled in Fannin.

David Pickelsimer, Jr. married Nancy Barnes (1739-1917). They were living in the Wilscot community in 1860. David, Jr., was a gunsmith and blacksmith. He made muzzle loading rifles and became quite skilled in marksmanship. During the Civil War, he was conscripted against his will and served in the Confederate Army a short while until his wife became seriously ill. He returned home and remained there for the duration of the war. There were over 800 men in this region who also refused to bear arms against their fellow Americans. All were classified as deserters, and were forced to hide out in the mountains for safety. Because of his political beliefs, his family was continually harassed by the Confederates. On one occasion, his plow horse was stolen by the Rebels. Nancy, in true pioneer tradition, took her gun and reclaimed the horse.

The children of David and Nancy (Barnes) Pickelsimer were: Armanda ("Mandy," b. 1857, m. Morgan Walker), Andrew Gailor ("Bud," b. 1860, m. Roxana Thomas), Mary Josephine ("Josie," m. Levi Payne), John Landon (b. 1864, m. Alice Daves), Elijah D. (b. 1867, m. Mary Emma Cook), Polly (m. Lawson Crawford), Ann (m. Barney Thomas), Ida (m. first, Henry Walker, and m. second, a Thomas), Alice (m. Cephus Ad-dington), and Cicero (m. Julia Cook).

Adolphus Pickelsimer, son of David and Nancy (Rogers) Pickelsimer, married Mary Jane Barnes (b. 1833, N.C.), and in 1860 was living in Fannin County near his brother, David, Jr. Adolphus was also a gunsmith, and the brothers probably worked together. The children of Adolphus and Mary included: Martha (b. 1858), Grover Cleveland ("Cleve," m. Bessie Cordell), and Lafayette (m. Susan D. Cavender).

About 1851, Abraham Pickelsimer (1787-1861), son of Henry Pickelsimer, moved from Macon County, North Carolina to Fannin County, Georgia with his son Abraham, Jr., ("Abram," b. 1832). Abram, Jr., had at least two children, Eleta (son, b. 1851) and George (b. 1832), but whether they left descendants in Fannin is not known.

(Source: Louise Pickelsimer Henry)

by Doyle R. Harper