

# THE BONDURANT FAMILY ASSOCIATION

Spring 2007

Number 74

Mary Bondurant Warren, Editor  
750 Glenwood Dr., Athens, GA 30606-4628, 706/549-1264  
e-mail: [itsmarbleous@hotmail.com](mailto:itsmarbleous@hotmail.com)

## **"We're Going to Jackson, MS" for the 2007 Bondurant Family Reunion October 26-28**

**Jackie and I and our host, Tom R. Bondurant, have selected the  
Edison Walthall Hotel, located at 225 East Capitol  
(800) 932-6161,  
as our headquarters hotel.**

We picked the late October date for two reasons:

- 1) No conflict with Ole Miss football games, and,
- 2) To avoid the heat of Mississippi.

Located in downtown Jackson, Mississippi, the Edison Walthall Hotel offers 208 spacious guest rooms with 23 suites, exceptional banquet facilities, and delicious food prepared from scratch in the kitchen. With the most luxurious accommodations, next door to the federal courthouse, near the medical center, and at the hub of business, The Edison Walthall Hotel is where you want to be. Room rates are \$85 / \$95 per night for the Bondurant Family Association.

Complimentary shuttle service to and from the airport

Convenient downtown location across the street from the governor's mansion, just blocks from government offices, major office buildings

Secure indoor garage parking, free to hotel guests

Swimming pool and fitness center

Refrigerators and microwaves in many rooms

Iron and ironing board in each guest room

Barbershop

Lavish Sunday brunch

We are anticipating a fun-filled weekend with family and friends and are hoping to make additional friends and recruit members for the Bondurant Family Association.

We'll begin with a FUN NIGHT on Friday, featuring get-acquainted games for the adults and recreation for the younger folk.

Saturday will be filled with morning activities acquainting folks with their heritage, an "on your own" afternoon to explore the area and a family gathering that evening.

We'll depart after breakfast Sunday morning having renewed old acquaintances and made new ones.

Plan now to join us!!!!

There is much for a family to do in the area, so bring the children. . In Jackson don't miss the Mississippi Museum of Art, the Manship House Museum, Eudora Welty's House, and the Old

State Capitol Museum.

A short drive brings you to ante-bellum mansions in Vicksburg and Natchez, Civil War battlefield parks, the Natchez Trace parkway which carried settlers from Nashville, TN, to Natchez, MS, and has a pioneer house exhibit.

### **DEATH**

A member of the Bondurant Family Association, Judge JOHN JAY CRITTENDEN BONDURANT, 89, of Hickman, KY, died May 4, 2007. Burial was in the Hickman City Cemetery.

He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Doris Bell Bondurant, and three daughters, Ann of Conway, AR, Lucy and her husband Max K. Wilson of Hickman, and Ambassador Amy L. and her husband David E. Dunn III of Washington, DC. Grandchildren are Dr. Melanie F. Smith and husband Dr. Scott Smith of Conway, AR, John Max Wilson of Hickman, and David Bondurant Dunn of Washington, DC, and great grandchild Avery Grace Smith of Conway, AR.

Judge Bondurant was preceded in death by his parents C.C. and Lucy Burrus Bondurant, and sisters Katherine B. Caldwell of Union City, TN, and Isabel B. Porter of Halls, TN.

Judge Bondurant attended undergraduate and law school at the University of KY, where he was a member of ATO fraternity. He was a lifelong member of the First Baptist Church of Hickman, and served as a church officer and Deacon for much of his adult life. He served in the military and was a member of the American Legion.

He began practicing law in Hickman in 1945, and served as counsel to the Southwest KY Water District in 1962, when he successfully worked to bring water to rural customers in the area. Much of his career was dedicated to public service as Mayor of Hickman 1947-1957, Fulton Co. Judge 1959-65, Judge of the First District Judicial Circuit 1976-1984, and ended his public career as a senior Circuit Judge.

He was active in community and area affairs, belonged to a number of civic associations. He was a founding member and early President of the Hickman Country Club, and a member of KY and American Bar Associations, Hickman Masonic Lodge 61, and an officer in the Chamber of Commerce in his early years. He was appointed to the Great River Road Parkway Commission, and a member and early counsel for the Jean Pierre Bondurant Chapter of the Huguenot Society.

Judge Bondurant raised cattle and managed his farm for most of his adult life, and was fond of spending time in his workshop. He held seven U.S. patents.

Contributions can be made to the John C. Bondurant Scholarship for Academic Excellence and Leadership, c/o the Rotary Club, P.O. Box 64, Hickman, KY 42050.

### **NEW MEMBERS**

Decatur Genealogical Society, attn. Cheri Hunter, 1255 West South Side Dr., Decatur, IL 62521, 207/429-0135. Gift of Charlotte Ballance.

Frank and Ruth Kramer, 1088 Majestic Hills Rd., Ardmore, OK 73401, 580/223-9440. e-mail: [ftkramer@cableone.net](mailto:ftkramer@cableone.net)

Mrs. Bonnie Pearl Bondurant Larsen, 3939 E 154 N, Rigby, ID 83442, 208/520-4883. e-mail: [larsenbp@cableone.net](mailto:larsenbp@cableone.net)

Carlton W. Nash, 527 Highland Dr., Wenatchee, WA 98801, 509/663-5889. e-mail cwnash@nwi.net

## WILLIAM WILSON BONDURANT'S RESEARCH NOTES

[continued from our previous issue]

JEROME BONDURANT had ten children: Lavona, Eutoka, Samuel, Clifford, Jerome, Jr., Alice, Emmie, Jane, Leslie, Lena. The last two died very young.

Samuel and Maria Walton [Bondurant] had a good many [children]. I don't know that I can name them all, as several have died. Edward, Sim, Samuel, Alver, Claude, Molly, and another daughter. I have forgotten her name, both dead. The boys are living. Also Prof. Walton Bondurant, a graduate of Hampden-Sidney. I know he is teaching somewhere, but can't tell you where. Could find out, though, if it is important.

John and Ella Bondurant left three daughters. Minnie married Joe Overton, Birdie married Willie Atkinson from Buckingham; Lelia married Joe Foster from Prince Edward.

Jerome Bondurant, Jr., lives near Dublin, TX, the only surviving son of Jerome, the son of James. Write him. {I did April 29, 1904. Knows nothing about family.} Possibly he can give you a more accurate account than I can.

My husband's family moved to Texas 22 years ago and I have forgotten a great deal they told me of the family, and as to dates, that is something I never could remember.

James Bondurant has a grandson, Dr. Willie Atkins living in Blackstone, VA. Probably he remembers something that I cannot.

Thanking you for your kind invitation to call. Will do so, if I ever come to Washington."

Brentwood, MD, April 29, 1904

"I have your letter of April 13, 1904, containing a further account of Colonel Bondurant and the family of James Bondurant, for all of which I am greatly obliged to you. It is not quite clear from the information at hand as to what branch of this particular family you may belong, and a little more detailed information on this subject would be appreciated.

I have acted upon your suggestion and addressed a letter to Mr. Jerome Bondurant, Jr., who lives near Dublin, TX, and hope that he may be able to furnish other desired data.

Regarding Prof. Bondurant, if it is convenient I would be glad to have his address, as well as the addresses of any of the other members of these families that can be procured without trouble to yourself. I may also write Dr. William Atkins at Blackstone, VA, as you state he may remember something in regard to the family that you have forgotten.

It is hoped very much that you may be able to realize your wish to visit Washington and at that time visit us. Our place is suburban to the city, but easily accessible by electric line."

Hampden Sidney, VA, postmarked Farmville, VA. May 17<sup>th</sup>, 1904

"As I wrote you James Bondurant married Miss Ford of Cumberland. She died without children.

He then married Sallie Watson of Prince Edward [Co., VA]. Her oldest son Jerome was my husband's father. I married his second son Clifford [Bondurant]. I was a Miss Wilkinson from Cumberland Co.

Mr. J.F. Walton, Farmville uncle of Prof. Bondurant tells me Col. Bondurant's name was Thomas. I presume he is the same you spoke of. I enclose the addresses of Prof. Bernard Bondurant. I forgot about him when I wrote you. He taught in WV as you said. Also Prof. Walton Bondurant, both first cousins of my husband & sons of Samuel [Bondurant], Sr. My husband's eldest brother was also Samuel, Jr. If I could talk to you I could explain better...."

**Peter Bondurant, Ararat, R.F.D. #1, Patrick Co., VA. May 11, 1906**

"Your letter of March 5<sup>th</sup> to hand & carefully noted. Please excuse me for my negligence of delay so long as I have been waiting to see if I could obtain more information that would be of interest to you but have gained but little about all I can give is my own family as I before stated that I had no record of the former ancestry.

I have 11 children, 7 boys & 4 girls, 3 of the girls are married, 4 of the boys are married. 3 are still single. The 3 youngest, the youngest is 21 years old. The oldest child is a daughter. I can give you the names commencing at the oldest: Flora Ida, Thomas Peter, next John William, Leona Bell, Joseph Henry, Nora Etta, James Edwin, Andrew Jackson, Richard Green, Mary Elizabeth, Charles Walter, and if you desire I can send you a more complete statement giving dates of birth & place of residence, also who they married. Should I gain further information I will cheerfully communicate it at your request & if you complete your Record of the Bondurant family I would much appreciate a copy of it.

N.B. when writing please say which Syllable of Bondurant you place the accent on 1, 2, or 3. For instance Bon-du-rant and mark the syllable."

/s/ Peter Bondurant

**To Mr. Zachariah Bondurant, 1313 Granville Ave., Columbus, OH. May 19, 1906**

"Recently in looking through a copy of the directory of Columbus, I observed your name.... I shall especially appreciate it if you will trace back as far as possible your own ancestry, giving places of residence, etc., so that it may be gotten into a permanent form."

To Mrs. Thomas Ferguson, Centenary Post Office, Buckingham Co., VA, March 31, 1904

"I have learned in the course of correspondence with Mr. Alexander J. Bondurant of Greyburn, your county, that your father was William Bondurant and he suggests that possibly you may be able to give me some information regarding the relationship of our families.

My father's name is George BonDurant. He lives at Washington, IL. His father's name was Isaac Garrett BonDurant, and his grandfather's name James. The father of James was Joseph (or Darby, uncertain). All except my father were Buckingham Co. people.

If it is convenient for you to do so, I would be grateful if you would give me your immediate family, brothers and sisters if any, and the succeeding generations, all of which it is certain will

make up an important part of a record which I am desirous of compiling.”

**E. Van Anderson, Andersonville, Buckingham Co., VA. April 11, 1904**

“My sister-in-law, Mrs. Annie E. Ferguson, is making her home with us now. Your letter to her came to this office the 4<sup>th</sup> mailed from Washington 31<sup>st</sup>. She was from home at the time, and now asks me to write you all she knows of the Bondurants. Her father’s name was William F., his father’s name John, and his father’s name was Thomas.

William F. [Bondurant] married Sally Yates Flood. John married Salley Garnett; [Garrett?] married Rhoda Agee. I don’t know but it is my impression that the Darby Bondurant you write of was a brother of Thomas.

Darby lived near Willis Mountain in this county. He had a son named Davy. Davy has a grandson living near here, Sam Wheeler, who told me yesterday that his uncle Joe [Joseph] of Appomattox had gotten a letter from you asking same questions.

My [Annie E. Bondurant Ferguson] father and mother and all the children are dead. I am the only living member.

	[born]	[died]
William Fisher Bondurant	10 April 1807	24 Oct. 1892
Sally Yates Flood	12 Sept. 1810	29 Nov. 1885
Children		
John Huston Bondurant	6 Oct. 1831	18 July 1875
Thomas Baker Bondurant	18 July 1833	29 March 1872
James William Bondurant	23 Oct. 1835	3 Sept. 1867
Annie Elizabeth Bondurant [Ferguson]	18 Oct. 1838	Only one living
Mattie Levina Bondurant	7 June 1841	24 Jan. 1872
Lucy Cathrine Bondurant	29 Nov. 1843	6 Sept. 1884
Mariah Louisa [sic] Bondurant	26 May 1847	25 Dec. 1875
Mary Virginia Bondurant	28 Aug. 1850	1 June 1885

John Huston never married. Died at his father’s in this county. Thomas Baker married Jennie

Holeman, 14<sup>th</sup> May 1862, died and buried in Bristol (VA?), wife died ‘63. James William married Evelin DuBose, Marengo Co., AL, and died of yellow fever in New Orleans. Left 2 children, Dr.

Eugene [DuBose], in Mobile, AL, and James in Texas. Annie E. married Thomas Ferguson 4<sup>th</sup> Jan. 1871. Mr. Ferguson died 7<sup>th</sup> June 1902.

Mattie was a teacher, died at her father’s of consumption.

Mariah Louisa married E. Van Anderson 23 Dec. 1868. [His surname is apparently Van Anderson, and is indexed under V’s]

Mary Virginia married E. Van Anderson 7 Sept. 1876, left 5 children. He since married Nanie Stegeo [sic], 1 child.

Lucie was a teacher. Married William K. Saunders Feb. 3, 1864. I was at the VA Annual Conference in Petersburg in 1900, and Dr. Smith of AL was trying to get a history of the Cobb family. Wanted to come to our county to search the records, but I told him the Court House and Clerk’s office was burnt with all the records in ‘71 [they burned in 1869]. I asked him to tell me

about the Flood family. My grandfather Moses Flood married Mary Bondurant, a daughter of Thomas Bondurant (as given here). He told me I would find all that I wanted to know by examining Henning's *Statutes [of Virginia]*, Vols. 1 & 2. It is likely you may find out about the Bondurants by examining the same records.

Any further information we can give you will be done cheerfully."

/s/ E. Van Anderson

**Mrs. Annie [Bondurant] Ferguson, Andersonville, VA. April 12, 1904**

"I will add a few lines to Mr. Van Anderson's letter and say that my great grandmother, Rhoda Agee, who was the first wife of Thomas Bondurant, had a sister named Chloe that married Charles Garrett. Her daughter married Davy Bondurant, a son of Darby.

I cannot tell you what kin Darby was to my grandfather, but it is my impression that he was a first cousin. I don't know who Darby married and his great grandson, Sam Wheeler, who lives near here can't tell me.

I would like to know who your father's mother was; also your mother.

My father never had a brother, and only one sister. She married a man named Tom McGraw and lived to be old. She was older than my father. She had 7 sons and 7 daughters. My brothers and sisters all died young and I am the only member of the family left. Feel very lonely sometimes, though I have a nice comfortable home here with my brother-in-law.

My husband has been dead nearly two years. I have a nephew, James Bondurant Van Anderson, living at the Southern Depot in Richmond; Eddie A. lives here at home and works the farm. I have two other nephews in Richmond also, Knight Saunders and Edgar. They are railroad men, employed by the R.F. & P. Company. I have a nephew in Mobile, Dr. Eugene D. Bondurant. It was his father that died of yellow fever in New Orleans the fall of '67. Jimmie B., a brother of Eugene, lives in San Antonio, TX. Was editing a paper when I heard from his last.

Please excuse this poor letter and believe me to be Your friend," [written in pencil]

/s/ (Mrs.) Annie Ferguson

**Brentwood, MD, May 11, 1904**

"I have your letter with that of Mr. Van Anderson, which was enclosed with it, and will ask that this be considered a response to both. I am very grateful to you for the information contained in your letters.

That you may be better informed, I will briefly state some facts regarding our family. My father's name is George Napoleon BonDurant. He was born in 1836, was raised and now lives near Washington, IL. In 1862 he married Nancy Wilson, also of that place. He was the only son of Isaac Garrett BonDurant, who was born in 1805 in Buckingham Co., VA, and who migrated to Christian Co., KY, in his youth, and there married Marcy Sutton Hay. Later they moved to IL, where both died and are buried.

He had five sisters, Martha, Mary, Susan, Ruth, and Eva, and two brothers Jacob and Pleasant. Some of these remained in KY, others came to IL, Isaac Garrett's father's name was James Bondurant of Buckingham Co., VA, and I have understood was an only son of Darby (very likely by his first wife).

Here the record becomes uncertain, but it is thought that the Darby Bondurant of whom you write

is the same one about whom I have been inquiring, and that possibly the Davy whom you mentioned was a son of Darby by his second wife.

In your letter it is stated that you are of the impression that Darby was a first cousin of your grandfather, John, whereas Mr. Van Anderson states he is of the impression that Darby was a brother of Thomas Bondurant. Perhaps this discrepancy can be explained.

Is it know whether Davy had any brothers or sisters? If so, can their names be given? In making up a record of this kind it is desirable to have the full names, if possible, dates whenever they can be given; also the names of the children of each generation and the families into which they married....”

Andersonville, VA, May 17<sup>th</sup> 1904

From Mrs. Annie Ferguson

“Your letter was received a few days since, and in reply I will say I am sorry I can’t give you more information in regard to our family.

I have often heard my Father say that two Bondurant brothers came over here from France and settled in Powhatan County, VA. (I don’t know what year) so you see all of us were their descendants. I suppose the Bedford Bondurants are some of the same family.

Captain Jack Bondurant [John Parnell Bondurant I] was a Rail Road Contractor some years ago and was a warm friend of my two oldest brothers. He was raised in Bedford.

The Col. J.W. Bondurant you speak of was my youngest brother, was living in New Orleans when the [Civil] War broke out. He married a lady in AL in ‘61 and joined an artillery company there.

Died of yellow fever in New Orleans 5<sup>th</sup> Sept. 1867, age 31. I find from an old record that Darby Bondurant married Ruth Agee, my great grandmother’s sister, but I hardly think he was my great grandfather Thomas’ brother, or I would have remembered hearing my father say more about him. I know he had 2 sons Davy and Tom. Davy lived and died in this county. Tom married a Miss Mary Moseley of this county and moved to AL. His daughter paid us a visit in the summer of ‘58, was a smart, nice girl. She married and died a few years afterwards.

Many thanks for your kind invitation to visit you, but it is hardly probably that I can ever do so as I am growing older and my health is poor. If you ever have an opportunity to come to see us. We have been shut in for several weeks on account of small pox being near here.”

/s/ (Mrs.) Annie Ferguson.

**Andersonville, VA, Dec. 26, 1904**

From Mrs. Annie E. Ferguson.

Soon after writing you last May I went over to my old neighborhood near Centenary and spent three months very pleasantly visiting friends, and my husband’s relations. While there I met with an old neighbor (Mr. Gid Baber) that told me he had often heard his father speak of Darby Bondurant and he lived and died near Centenary and was buried there. Said he was married twice. One wife was Ruth Agee, and she had 3 sons, Davy, Tom and Sum, said Sum married Rebecca Walker. His other wife was a Miss Hall and raised in that neighborhood but he couldn’t tell me which was the first wife.

So I guess your grandfather was a son of Miss Hall. I told Mr. Anderson when he wrote you last

spring that I was under the impression that Darby B. was buried a mile or two from Centenary as that place was known as **Bondurant's old field**, and **I had noticed the grave yard**. I intended writing and telling you this when I first came home, but was sick and then the House was full of company so I have put it off until now.

Did you come to Richmond during the summer as you spoke of. We were disappointed at my nephew James B. Anderson not coming home this Christmas but he is working at the Southern Depot and couldn't leave. We have had very cold weather for several weeks. Snow and ice. Now it has begun raining two days so I begin to fear the young folks will have a dull time during Christmas.

I will close now by wishing you a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

/s/ (Mrs.) Annie Ferguson

**Mt. Ranier, MD**, Dec. 31, 1904

To Mrs. Annie E. Ferguson, Andersonville, VA

"Your letter reached me in the height of our holiday festivities, and I was glad to be so kindly remembered by you. I think there is nothing better I can do on this closing day of the year than to acknowledge with gratitude the assistance you have rendered in helping to make the record of the family, which is somewhat incomplete as yet, but which I have hopes of making valuable by the addition of reliable information as time progresses. I fear you were put to some trouble to keep in remembrance this subject when on your visit in the vicinity of Centenary, but hope it did not mar any pleasure while there.

Yes, I went to Richmond as expected and remained for a few days but not having the definite address of your nephews, and being unable to locate them in the City Directory, I did not get to look them up. I went from there up into Powhatan county and visited the old Huguenot community, where the Bondurants, among others, first settled, and made an attempt to get some information concerning them from the parish records but was not then successful in securing much of value. I had thought of going into Buckingham County, but time would not permit of such an extended trip just then, so I shall have to reserve that pleasure until another time.

In October I was in the West visiting the Louisiana Purchase Exposition and attending the National Convention of the Christian Church which was held in St. Louis at that time. While there I met at the Convention, Mr. John K. Bondurant of Paducah, KY, with his wife and Mrs. Stalls, his niece from Memphis, TN. We could not establish a definite line of relationship, but very much enjoyed forming the acquaintance, and may be able to discover our kinship yet.

Since then I have met Mr. Albert B. Bondurant and his wife, over in Alexandria, VA. His father is Silas F. Bondurant of Lynchburg, now 80 years old. He and his wife live with their married daughter in Lynchburg. This family comes from Bedford and Campbell Counties and its members descend from Littleberry Bondurant, who moved from Buckingham to Bedford Co. with his brothers Joseph and Thomas, I think at quite an early date. Littleberry married Mary Scott of Buckingham.

The suggestion that Miss Hall may have been one of the ancestral line does not revive any recollection on my part of that name in connection with the family history, but on the contrary that of Ruth Agee does. The information regarding these early ancestors is so meager, however, that

perhaps I have been misinformed, and shall have to come at the subject from another angle. Did Mr. Baker speak of any one by the name of Chloe Garrett who married James Bondurant. I was pleased to be informed of the intended visit of your niece to Washington and shall try at that time to call upon her as you suggest. I cannot now tell which day or the exact hour.”

**To Rev. Martin Johnson** [apparently pastor of the Manakin Episcopal Church], **Subletts Post Office, Powhatan Co., VA. Aug. 4, 1904.**

.... I should be obliged if you would advise me whether or not such parish or other records as may be in your possession contain any information regarding members of the BonDurant (perhaps spelled Bonduran or Bondurand) family. The first emigrant, understood to have been Joseph, was a French refugee who arrived at Manakintown about 1700. It is not known whether he was accompanied by any members of his family, but if not, it is believed that a little later others of the same name joined him.

At least from data at hand it appears that the family became well established, and later moved, perhaps into Buckingham Co. Where some still live, while others migrated farther west, my own people living at present in IL and IA.

In case you find upon the records information concerning this family, it would be highly appreciated if it could be obtained from you in as complete and accurate a form as may be possible, not to trespass upon the time of a busy and faithful minister.”

**To J.R. Cooper, Minneapolis, MN, May 1, 1906**

“Recently I have been making some inquiries along ancestral lines and your father wrote me that you had been working on a family History or record.

My great grandfather on maternal side was James Bondurant, as also yours in direct line. Now if you can give me the line of descent (ascent) back to the original Emigrant you will confer a favor. I have 5 children all in school here. One son graduates from the U of MN next month as an Electrical Engineer. Our daughter Florence will graduate from U. a year from June, and another son is in U. taking course in scientific farming. The youngest boy is in 2<sup>nd</sup> year High School and our baby girl in the 6<sup>th</sup> year grammar school.

With kind regards to yourself, brother and sister Florence.”

/s/ J.R. Cooper, 626 - 11<sup>th</sup> ave. S.E., Minneapolis, MN.

**Mrs. Mary Bondurant Fisher, (Mrs. E.W. Fisher), Heflin, AL.”**

THE GREAT SOUTHERN MICA COMPANY, Box 108, Heflin, AL. July 26, 1907

“I was in Atlanta last week and seeing the name J.A. Bondurant in the phone book as having offices in the 4<sup>th</sup> Natl Bk Bldg, and my maiden name being BonDurant, I called on him. He is a descendant of the VA branch as am I, while in his office he showed me a letter from you written to him some time ago in which you states some of the family yourself included were trying to get data

in regard to the families of our name and write out or get up a history or tree[.] now I am very much interested in this and would like to know what you are doing along this line and to do what I can to assist in the matter.

I was born in OH, my father's name is Joel BonDurant, his father was Thomas and he was born in VA, his father was Drury Bondurant he was born on the Dan River (I think) in VA. Further back I am not very distinct. I only know there were three brothers who were Huguenots came from France. I understand they were French Cavaliers. Now I could give you a history of all my father's brothers and sisters families and a good many of his cousins. I have but one brother living. He is Willard A. BonDurant, 229 Byrne Bldg., Los Angeles, CA. My father's address is Inglewood, via Los Angeles, CA. My brother is a mining broker and dealer and promoter. My husband also is a mining expert. Our home has been in AZ and on the Pacific Slope for a good many years. Our home is really in Phoenix, AZ now but we have become interested in mica mines here in AL and are likely to stay here some time. We have but one child a daughter who is attending a Conservatory of Music in Chicago will be home for the rest of the summer in a few days. Pardon this long letter but I am anxious to hear about this matter and am willing to do what I can to assist either in money matters or with my limited knowledge. Please write me.

Mrs. Mary BonDurant Fisher

I sign my name Mrs. E.W. Fisher, Heflin, AL.”

Mt. Rainier, MD., July 31, 1907

“I have received your letter of the 26<sup>th</sup> instant, and am pleased to learn that you are interested in preserving the record of the BonDurant family in America, so far as may be possible. It is encouraging to receive, unsolicited, your communication, and I think you for the information which it contains. In gathering together the data which I hope to use in compiling such a record, I have been compelled to rely upon the statements of my seniors. For about three years I have been conducting correspondence on the subject and making notes, which it is hoped, I may be able to get into permanent form. I have worked at it only as opportunities permit. Our people are widely scattered, but so far as I know, with one possible exception, all trace their source in this country to Huguenot ancestry in VA....

Can you give the name of the father or grandfather or both of Drury Bondurant; where born; when born; whom he married; where he lived; when he died, and occupation? In brief, such information as indicated is desired on the accompanying blank form. Would also like the names of brothers and sisters, with similar information relative thereto, and such information regarding each subsequent generation....

I thank you also for the offer of financial assistance, but I think it will not be necessary to accept it, as I am not planning any large expenditure in connection with the work.

I have discovered representatives of the family in the following states: MA, PA, MD, VA, GA, AL, MS, LA, KY, TN, MO, TX, IL, IN, IA, OH, WY, and CA.

My father's name is George N. BonDurant. He lives at Washington, IL. I am his youngest living child; have 2 sisters and 2 brothers. One brother, Edgar H., and one sister, S. Florence, and myself, all unmarried, live here. My other brother, Isaac S., married, lives at Sloan, IA. He has two children, Frances W., and Edgar Hale, about 11 and 7 years of age respectively.

Father is now 71. He lives with his younger sister, Sue G. [BonDurant], unmarried, and his older sister, Mary C. Waughop, lives at Henry, IL. On April 2 last [1907] Mrs. Waughop and her husband celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. At that time there was a complete family reunion of all the members living in our own immediate family, at my father's home. My mother's maiden name was Nancy Wilson. She died about 26 years ago. My grandfather, James BonDurant, was born in Buckingham Co., VA, went to KY, there married a Miss Hay, and then moved to IL, where father was born. Grandfather died when my father was about 2 years old, and for that reason it is difficult for him to tell much of the family history, but it is generally understood that we are descended from the Huguenots who came to VA as refugees from the persecutions in France...."

Box 108, Heflin, AL. Aug. 20, 1907

.... "My daughter Rilla is home for her vacation. She is attending the Chicago Musical College, and has to return the first of Sept. She is the only child we have living. Rilla and I are going over to Fruithurst [AL] this morning will return tomorrow and will visit Isham H. Bondurant, and I will take your letter and learn what I can from him. He is my father's cousin, is 72 years old."

**Mr. J.R. Garrett, Postmaster at Garrett, Buckingham Co., VA., Jan. 18, 1904**

"Yours of the 8 to hand inquiring about the Bondurant & Garrett families. I will say to you that I know the Bondurant family well. One of the [can't read] of the County was named Robert Bondurant he had 1 son named Thomas M Bondurant & he left when he died 3 sons of which is one that lives near me that name is A.J. Bondurant.

Mr. T.L. Bondurant that Post Office is Mount Vinco, Buckingham co., VA. I have not had the time to see them & perhaps if you would right to them they may give you more information about the family than I can....

My grandfather Garrett was one of the oldest settlers in the county when he came to the county he came from King & Queen Co., VA. When he died he was 80 years old. My father when he died was 74 years old, and I am 71 years old that used to make 226 years.

I am the only one of the family now living. My grandfather's name was Stephen R. Garrett & I think his father had the same name...."

/s/ J.R. Garrett, Postmaster at Garrett, Buckingham Co., VA

**L. Belle Smith, Beatty, PA, Jan. 13, 1904**

[Envelope addressed to WWB, c/o E.H. BonDurant, Room 502, P.O. Dept., Washington, DC. In pencil, genealogy of Wilson Smith family.]"

"Dear Cousin William,

Mother received your welcome letter yesterday and in answer to some of the inquiries you make, will send you a copy of some family history written by Uncle Hamilton McClure.

Mother says that her grandmother Wilson's maiden name was Gibson but that she knows nothing of the time or place of her grandparents birth. She thinks that you might be able to gather some information upon the subject by writing Cousin Porter Cooper, McComb, Hancock Co., OH.

Grandfather Wilson's mother, by a second marriage, was Porter Cooper's grandmother. Although this does not answer all your inquiries, we hope that some parts of it may give you desired information.

Mother thinks Florence should arrange to make us a visit at an early date. Also, she asks where the new church is situated, what direction from your house.

This was churn day. I just got 10 lbs. of butter from six gallons of cream.

Rev. Townsend died at Meadville Jan. 1, and was buried at Unity, Jan. 4<sup>th</sup>. Notwithstanding the extremely cold weather, the church was filled with people.

The thermometer stood at 23 degrees below zero last Wednesday morning. We have had a good, steady old fashioned winter. All as usual in health.

Your cousin,  
/s/ L. Belle Smith

**Miss Mary C. Sublett, Subletts Post Office, VA**

To Miss Mary Sublett, Subletts Post Office, Powhatan Co., VA. July 9, 1904

"Recently when in Richmond, being interested in the history of the Huguenot settlement made about two centuries ago in your vicinity, I took a trip up to Vinita, thence across the [James] river, up past the old [Manakin] church and over to the Rev. Mr. Johnson's place, where I hoped to secure through him, from the parish records, some information regarding those French refugees, among whom were my ancestors.

He was not at home, but I learned from conversation with the family that your family had been especially interested in preserving records and I thought that perhaps among them there might be found something concerning the Bondurants also.

If so, I would be very glad to receive a memorandum of it, containing as complete a statement as may be given without troubling you. Have there been within your memory any Bondurants living in your county?

I was told that you were getting rather old and for that reason I dislike to trouble you. If my time had permitted I should have been delighted to call on you when in your neighborhood, for I was also informed that you were of like religious faith with nearly all the Bondurants of whom I have any personal acquaintance, being a member of the Christian Church."

Subletts P.O., VA, July 17<sup>th</sup> 1904

"Your letter of inquiry concerning the 'French refugees' to hand. I am sorry to say that I cannot give you any direct information as to the Bondurant family. I think if you would write the County Clerks of Powhatan, Goochland, and also Henrico and Cumberland [counties, VA] you can get valuable and correct information of your ancestors.

I have a faint recollection of meeting years ago, some of the Bondurants over in Louisa Co. Which family I am sure are either kin or connected with the Guarrant family who are people of high character and standing.

They are relatives of the Sublett family, but [I] have lost all knowledge of their whereabouts. I think if you will go to the Historical Society of Richmond, VA, located I think on S. Franklin, St.,

you could find information concerning both families. In searching for information regarding our family there we obtained many facts and also got many facts from the Clerks of County above mentioned.

Miss Mary C. Sublett, per J.B. W?



“Found in Directories

**Cincinnati**, 1887 (none in 1897)

Bondurant, Frank, Clerk, Steamer *Golden Rule*.

Bondurant, J.N., Mate, Steamer *City of Vevay*

Bondurant, Walker I., tobacconist, work 186 W 2<sup>nd</sup> St.

**Philadelphia** 1901

Bondurant, Charles S., machinist, home 2063 Estella St.

**St. Louis, MO**, 1896?

Bondurant, Sarah F., dressmaker, right rear 228 Biddle St.

**Baltimore, MD** 1896

Bondurant, George H., tinner, 1311 Kuper Place

**Baltimore, MD** 1901

Bondurant, George H., tinner, 1337 W. Pratt St.,

**Baltimore, MD** 1902

Bondurant, George H., Saloon, S. Amity St.

Bondurant, William C., tinner, Brooklyn, Ann Arundel Co., MD (suburb of Baltimore)  
work Brooklyn Station, Baltimore.

**Chicago, IL** 1896

Bondurant, George, carpenter, home 11940 Union Ave.”



[Apparently taken from a **postal guide**, but no dates were appended. MBW]

A. Bondurant, Postmaster, St. Joseph, Tensas Co., LA

Benjamin Bondurant, Postmaster, Sharon, Weakley Co., TN

Claud Bondurant, R.F.D. [carrier], Memphis, Scotland Co., MO

E.A. Bondurant, Letter Carrier, Lynchburg, Campbell Co., VA

Guy J. Bondurant, R.F.D., Delhi, Delaware Co., IA

Leo C. Bondurant, Clerk P.O., Bristol, Sullivan Co., TN  
Miss Mary Bondurant, Clerk P.O., Sharon, Weakley Co., TN.  
M.S. Bondurant, Crawford (2 miles N.E. of Shady Grove), Franklin Co., VA  
R.F. Bondurant, Mail Messenger, Claysville [no other location]  
Robert M. Bondurant, R.F.D., Delhi, Delaware Co., IA.



### Reports of the Adjutant General of Virginia

#### 1898-1899

page 129. List of Piedmont Rifles. Pvt. Seymour Bondurant, enlisted Sept. 12, 1899  
page 133. Report of 1900, name spelled Seaymour Bondurant.  
Report of 1901, No. 15 in list of deaths, Oct. 6, 1900, Martinsville, Henry Co., VA.

#### 1898-1899

page 258. Muster-out roll, 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment VA Infantry, US Volunteers, Co. E, original station Lynchburg, VA. Mustered into service May 14, 1898, mustered out Nov. 5, 1898. Pvt. Henry C. Bondurant, Bristol, Washington Co., VA.

#### 1898-1899

page 326. Muster out roll, 4<sup>th</sup> Regiment, VA Infantry, US Volunteers, Co. E, original station Norfolk, VA, mustered into service May 16, 1898, mustered out Apr. 27, 1899. Corporal Frank H. Bondurant, Kempsville, Princess Anne Co., VA.  
Page 87, report of 1901, made Sergeant Dec. 1899.

### CHARTS

Nine hand-drawn family charts were made by WWB, which because of faded ink and dark paper didn't reproduce well. Most of the data on these families were gathered from the correspondence WWB had received in the letters previously abstracted and typed.

#### #1 Chart

**ROBERT BONDURANT married Ruth Merida [Meredith]**

Children:

William, married Prillaman

Jacob P., born 1829, married Susan Vail (born 1828, died 1899), lives Henry Station, VA.

[He] died Mar. 13, 1905. Their children:

W.H. lives Danville, VA

J. Powell lives Danville, VA

Jacob P., Jr., lives Henry Station, VA

James R. lives Roanoke, VA

Mrs. S.F. Petigo, married Peter Petigo, lives Martinsville, VA.

Mrs. R.F., married Scott, lives Danville, VA

Mrs. [blank], married Benjamin Hutchinson, lives Danville, VA

Garnett  
James, lived in MO, and Indian Territory [OK?]

## #2 Chart

**DARBY BONDURANT**, thought to be brother of Thomas, cousin of [blank],  
Jacob  
J.K. Bondurant, wholesale grocer, Paducah, KY.

[separate chart:]

[blank] Bondurant  
Anne Bondurant (Stahl)

## #3 Chart

**THOMAS BONDURANT** married Rhoda Agee  
Mary, married Moses Flood  
John married Salley Garnett  
William Bondurant  
Annie Elizabeth born 1838 [married Ferguson]

## #4 Chart

**J.D. BONDURANT** married Miss Gray. Lived at Louisville, KY, married into a prominent family. Was 2<sup>nd</sup> cousin of Albert Bondurant of St. Joseph, LA  
Myra  
Lillie  
unknown

## #5 Chart

**OLIVER BONDURANT**, born in France (?) came to Ohio direct. Information of Mrs. Frances BonDurant, Washington, DC. Jan. 1, 1905 – verbal.  
E.G. Bondurant married Susie McGowan of North Vernon, IN. Once Supt. of J.M. & I later ORM Railway (now BrosW Ry). Mrs. Bondurant died about 3 years ago, 1901. Later agent BrosW Ry at Washington, IN, moved to Marinette, Wis. is with USX Co. there  
Ella married Walters (Catholic?)  
Oliver married Frances Stone, educated at Christian College, Columbia, MO.  
Robert, only son born 1884, single, private secretary to Senator Stone of MO 1905  
Elva married Austin Cabel (Catholic)  
Fannie married Dr. Cole, dentist, lives Akron, OH  
Will lives in Chicago

Daisy married Davis, lawyer, lives Marinette, Wis.  
A daughter married Gunkle  
Ed Gunkle  
daughter Gunkle

Brother of Oliver, Jr. or Sr. Lived St. Joseph, MO.

**#6 Chart** (fan type, with William Wilson BonDurant at center)

Father - **GEORGE NAPOLEON BONDURANT** born June 9, 1836, Washington, IL, son of Isaac Garrett Bondurant born Aug. 31, 1805 and Chloe Garrett born VA; son of James BonDurant?; son of Drury Bondurant

Grandfather Isaac Garrett Bondurant married Marcy Sutton Hay, Todd Co., KY April 10, 1805, died May 11, 1875 Washington, IL. Her parents were Peter Hay, born Boston, MA about 1769 and Elizabeth Finley, born VA. Peter was son of John Hay of Boston, 1725, died Feb. 11, 1802, age 77 years.

Mother - Nancy Wilson was born Oct. 6, 1834, Washington, IL, married Sept. 2, 1863 George Napoleon BonDurant. Nancy was daughter of William Wilson, born Fayette Co., PA Sept. 7, 1806, died Nov. 19, 1857, married Sarah Givens McClure, born Dec. 15, 1815, Washington, IL, married June 12, 1832. Sarah was the daughter of James S. McClure of Lincoln, KY, and Mary Givins (Polly) Campbell, Mercer Co., KY. James was the son of Samuel McClure of Augusta Co., VA, near Staunton and [blank] Hamilton; Polly was the daughter of a Campbell born in Scotland.

**#7 Chart**

**LITTLEBERRY BONDURANT** born 1800?, married Mary Scott, died Buckingham Co., VA.

John, 9 children

John, to Texas

James (?) Henry to Texas

Green

James

Jesse married Matilda Gibbs, 12 children, six boys, six girls.

James D. of Lynchburg, married Alice Hughes of Campbell Co., VA

J. Fletcher born 1860, married 1<sup>st</sup> [blank], 2<sup>nd</sup> Miss Stevens, lives in Bedford City, VA. Their son

Charles Richard born 1880.

**#8 Chart** [There are some comments apparently written in short-hand, which I cannot read.]

**DANIEL M [MAXEY] BONDURANT**, born in Bedford Co., VA, Feb. 14, 1779, married 1816 Elizabeth Peyton Cammack, a Virginian. [Buried Natchez, MS, City Cemetery] Children:

Mary Jane born Dec. 22, 1817, married Rev. Wm. H. Anderson, Baptist minister. Both dead.

William born Dec. 14, 1819

Martha Mary died in infancy

Albert born Aug. 11, 1824. Early years at "Pleasant View" plantation, Tensas, Parish, LA. banks of Mississippi River, at "Anchorage" owned by his father back of Natchz. Married in 1852 Laura Williams of Louisville, KY. Happy & prosperous at Waveland "cotton plantation" on Miss. River partner with Horace. Enlisted at beginning of Civil War, Tensas Cavalry, in command of Gen. West Adams, severally wounded at Shiloh, by poisonous ball. Recovered returned & in fight at Britton's Lane where horse was killed under him; escaped and took family overland to Texas to Waco. Returned after [Civil] War. Children:

Lena E. Married John C. Henderson of New Orleans

Maurice A.

Laura W. Married Rev. J.H.C. Braubie [?]

Alberta married Col. A.C. Young

Albert, Jr.

George W.

Florence May married Dr. W.A. Burkhalter of Greenwood, MS

John born 1826

Horace born 1828.

**#9 Chart.** Written on two sides of half-sheet of paper.

[Gen. 1] **DR. JOSEPH BONDURANT**

[Gen. 2, sons] Jacob, Benjamin, Joseph, William

[Gens. 3, & 4 are blank lines]

[Gen. 5] Joseph Bondurant born Sept. 15, 1801, Bedford Co., VA, moved to KY in early life, married Martha Sharp, Oct. 27, 1823, moved to Sangamon Co., IL, Oct. 1828, school teacher.

Died April 30, 1864, near Mechanicsburg. Mrs. Bondurant [widow] resides with [son] Thomas.

[Gen. 6, children of Joseph Bondurant and Martha Sharp]

1. John T., born June 5, 1824 in KY, raised in Sangamon Co., IL, married near Des Moines, IA in 1848 to Virginia Cooney. In 1850 emigrated to CA & died in Sacramento, Dec. 23, 1850, of disease contracted crossing the Plains. No children.

2. Lucretia J., born Nov. 4, 1825 in KY, married Nov. 1845 in Sangamon Co., IL to Joel Churchill. They reside at DeLand, Piatt Co., IL. [Children]

1. Martha A.

2. Mary L.

3. Elizabeth J.

4. John T.

5. Joseph W.

6. Thomas A.

7. Jesse

8. Edgar

9. Harvey

10. Esta

11. Arthur

3. Elizabeth T., born April 28, 1827 in KY, married in Athens, IL, May 15, 1842 to William Miller of that place, where they resided until 1852 when they moved to Mechanicsburg. William Miller died July 17, 1868. Wife and children live in Mechanicsburg. [Children]

1. Martha E., married Jan. 16, 1872 to T.P. Lofland, died June 14, 1873. Infant son brought up by her Aunt Mrs. Underwood..
2. Annie M., died under 10 years of age
3. John T., died under 10 years of age
4. Thomas B., died under 10 years of age
5. Albert D.
6. Joseph W.
7. Sarah J.
8. Amanda B.
9. George L.

4. Alexander C., born Sept. 1, 1829, in Sangamon Co., [IL], went to IA in winter of 1856. Was married there in Oct. 1869 to Margaret Brooks of Des Moines [IA]. They live at Bondurant, IA, Polk Co., named for A.C. Bondurant. Bulletin No. 147, U.S. Geological Survey, *The Origin of Certain Place Names in the U.S.*, page 47. [Children]

1. Emma
2. Fannie
3. Lizzie
4. Frank
5. Florence
6. Benton
7. Nellie

5. Thomas E., born Dec. 29, 1831, in Sangamon Co. [IL], settled in Piatt Co., IL in Dec. 1856, near DeLand, not married. Died Jan. 1904. Benefactor of Eureka, IL, Christian College.

[reverse]

6. Samuel F. Born Dec. 9, 1834 in Sangamon Co., IL, married Nov. 15, 1860 in Edwards Co. to Sarah Ellen Barnett. They have two living children and reside near Wabash, Wayne Co., IL. Enlisted Aug. 17, 1862 for 3 years in Co. E, 79<sup>th</sup> IL Infantry [G.A.R.]. Dec. 2, 1862 he was detailed to the Pioneer Corps, Dept. of the Cumberland. March 19, 1863 took charge of 4 sawmills on Stones River, TN and put them in order. Sept. 15, 1863 ordered to Chattanooga, [TN] took charge of building water works. On 8<sup>th</sup> of Oct. Doing the Civil Engineering with a common spirit level & remained in charge until May 15, 1865. Resigned for purpose of perfecting some invention of his own. Now engaged in the lumber trade.

7. Margaret D., born Jan. 31, 1837, married Oct. 28, 1858 to James Underwood. No children reported. Underwood enlisted in Co. I, 73<sup>rd</sup> IL Infantry [G.A.R.], Aug. 6, 1862 for 3 years. [She raised her niece, Martha E. Bondurant Lofland's son.]

8. Mary E., born Feb. 3, 1840. Not married, resides with Thomas Bondurant near DeLand,

IL

9. Martha F., born March 24, 1842 in Sangamon Co., IL, married Jan. 1864 to William Thornton[?] of Des Moines, IA. Resides near Des Moines. [Children]

1. Lillie
2. Lucy
3. Harry.

10. Joseph Newton, born May 2, 1844, went to Iowa in 1866, married in 1867 to Sarah DeVore. In 1871 returned to DeWitt Co., IL, resides near Farmer City. [Children]

1. William
2. Ernest
3. Frank.

11. Amanda E., born April 25, 1847 in Sangamon Co., died Oct. 4, 1858.

## **THE BONDURANTS OF GÉNOLHAC, FRANCE \$30.00**

By Mary Bondurant Warren

Following your suggestions, along with family history and “family trees,” are included photographs of the sites and documents relating to the family, maps, and even a driving tour of our most important places. With this hardbound, 172 page book, you can be your own tour guide, and see the sights of France at your leisure.

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