

# Dr. Hodges Writes On Mullins Of Watauga

By DR. J. E. HODGES

Maiden.—Every two or three weeks I receive, from some one in Watauga county, a request to write a historical sketch of some early family of that region, usually a family related, or supposed to be related, by blood or marriage to the Hodges family.

Frequently, the request is for a family of whom I do not have a single item of history. Unfortunately, during my early life, spent in Watauga county, I was not, in the least, interested in local and family history, therefore, let people born from 1802 to 1825, who could have told me much that is now lost forever, die, and the history they knew died with them.

These queries show that a few people, at least, are interested in this old family history, and one wonders why some one in Watauga county does not undertake to collect what information is still available, on the first twenty or thirty pioneer families, who left an imprint on that region, and helped to lay the foundation for the finest county in North Carolina?

The last request was on the Mullins family, of which perhaps, Jesse Mullins was best known, where he lived and something of the family of that name.

I am reliably informed that just east of Perkinsville, when you cross the highway bridge over New River, on the Boone to Wilkesboro road, you enter the Mullins land.

The first Mullins we find any record of is William Mullins, who is shown by the 1790 census as living about the center of what is now Watauga county, Wilkes county at that time.

The wife of this William Mullins, was Sarah Triplett, daughter of Daniel Triplett and his wife Elizabeth. The Triplett family had come to North Carolina from Virginia just prior to the beginning of the Revolutionary War and settled on the north fork of Kings Creek in what is now Caldwell county. This Sarah Triplett was the oldest child of Daniel Triplett. He had a son, Jesse Triplett, for whom Jesse Mullins was named. Jesse Triplett settled on Elk Creek and the greater part of the name living in Watauga County are his descendants.

After 1790, William Mullins evidently went back to Wilkes county as we find him there in 1800. His home was on the Yadin a short distance below Fort Defiance, the home of Gen. William Lenoir. He was living there when William Hodges, son of pioneer Thomas Hodges, married his daughter, Sarah Mullins, December 20, 1800.

Soon after 1800, Thomas Triplett, of Wilkes county, sold to William Mullins a large tract of land on New River in Ashe county—the land later known as the Jesse Mullins land.

The will of William Mullins, on record in Ashe county, dated March 20, 1810, names his wife, Sarah, and three sons, John, Jesse and Mark, but mentions no daughters, though we know he had three. The will is witnessed by Joseph Sands, Cyrus Fairchild and Joseph Brown, and Nathan Horton named executor.

The failure to mention any daughters is obviously a case where they were otherwise provided for, or left to work out their destiny by finding husbands.

Elizabeth, one of the Mullins daughters, married William Hager of Wilkes, and Ann married, July 10, 1803, Francis Irwin, a wealthy and prominent merchant of Wilkesboro. His store and residence was on a lot directly in front of the courthouse.

Sarah, who married William Hodges, completes the three

daughters of William Mullins.

Mark, the youngest son of William Mullins (the name is spelled "Demarcus" in the marriage bond), married Sarah Maret. She was the only child of Elizabeth Kendall, by her first marriage to John Maret. Elizabeth Kendall was a sister to Sarah Kendall, the wife of pioneer Robert Shearer. Elizabeth Kendall Maret married for her second husband, the Rev. John Barlow, a Baptist minister, whose name will be found in the minutes of old Three Forks Church. They have many living descendants.

It has been said that Jesse Mullins never married, but evidence of a wife has been discovered, though none of any children. Perhaps she did not live long. He is said to have been a great hunter and trapper and an expert old-time fiddler. He was, also, something of a miser, and old people said many years ago, that it was thought he buried a considerable quantity of gold and silver coin on his farm on New River.

At one time, after his death various people searched probable places in hope of finding it.

He is said to have spent his last days in the house of Levi Wilson, and died there.

We do not know of a single living descendant of his family who bears the name of Mullins.

**NEW JOBS**

To keep pace with the nation's rapidly growing population, American industry must create 1,000,000 new jobs a year for the next 20 years, according to Earl Bunting, of the National Association of Manufacturers. Bunting predicted that the nation's present labor force of 65,000,000 will rise to 87,000,000 by 1975.

Sen. McCarthy denies that his goal is to be President of the United States.

**Paul Said To Mr. Ed:**

Billy, aged nine, was told by his teacher to write a story about his origin. He promptly went home and questioned his mother: "Mom, where did Grandpa come from?" "The stork brought her, dear." "Well then, where did you come from?" pursued Billy. "The stork brought me, too." "Did he bring me too?" "You too son."

With a little frown, Billy wrote the lead paragraph of his article: "There have been no natural births in our family for three generations."

"The natural thing to do is sell your tobacco in Boone and buy your insurance from us."

Your friendly agent,  
PAUL  
WATAUGA INSURANCE AGENCY  
BOONE, NORTH CAROLINA  
E. A. Gaultney & J. Paul Winkler (Agents)  
Phone 343 - 130-M  
Northwestern Bank Building

After 1790, William Mullins evidently went back to Wilkes county as we find him there in 1800. His home was on the Yadin a short distance below Fort Defiance, the home of Gen. William Lenoir. He was living there when William Hodges, son of pioneer Thomas Hodges, married his daughter, Sarah Mullins, December 20, 1800.

Soon after 1800, Thomas Triplett, of Wilkes county, sold to William Mullins a large tract of land on New River in Ashe county—the land later known as the Jesse Mullins land.

The will of William Mullins, on record in Ashe county, dated March 20, 1810, names his wife, Sarah, and three sons, John, Jesse and Mark, but mentions no daughters, though we know he had three. The will is witnessed by Joseph Sands, Cyrus Fairchild and Joseph Brown, and Nathan Horton named executor.

The failure to mention any daughters is obviously a case where they were otherwise provided for, or left to work out their destiny by finding husbands.

Elizabeth, one of the Mullins daughters, married William Hager of Wilkes, and Ann married, July 10, 1803, Francis Irwin, a wealthy and prominent merchant of Wilkesboro. His store and residence was on a lot directly in front of the courthouse.

Sarah, who married William Hodges, completes the three

daughters of William Mullins.

Mark, the youngest son of William Mullins (the name is spelled "Demarcus" in the marriage bond), married Sarah Maret. She was the only child of Elizabeth Kendall, by her first marriage to John Maret. Elizabeth Kendall was a sister to Sarah Kendall, the wife of pioneer Robert Shearer. Elizabeth Kendall Maret married for her second husband, the Rev. John Barlow, a Baptist minister, whose name will be found in the minutes of old Three Forks Church. They have many living descendants.

It has been said that Jesse Mullins never married, but evidence of a wife has been discovered, though none of any children. Perhaps she did not live long. He is said to have been a great hunter and trapper and an expert old-time fiddler. He was, also, something of a miser, and old people said many years ago, that it was thought he buried a considerable quantity of gold and silver coin on his farm on New River.

At one time, after his death various people searched probable places in hope of finding it.

He is said to have spent his last days in the house of Levi Wilson, and died there.

We do not know of a single living descendant of his family who bears the name of Mullins.

**NEW JOBS**

To keep pace with the nation's rapidly growing population, American industry must create 1,000,000 new jobs a year for the next 20 years, according to Earl Bunting, of the National Association of Manufacturers. Bunting predicted that the nation's present labor force of 65,000,000 will rise to 87,000,000 by 1975.

Sen. McCarthy denies that his goal is to be President of the United States.

**Paul Said To Mr. Ed:**

Billy, aged nine, was told by his teacher to write a story about his origin. He promptly went home and questioned his mother: "Mom, where did Grandpa come from?" "The stork brought her, dear." "Well then, where did you come from?" pursued Billy. "The stork brought me, too." "Did he bring me too?" "You too son."

With a little frown, Billy wrote the lead paragraph of his article: "There have been no natural births in our family for three generations."

"The natural thing to do is sell your tobacco in Boone and buy your insurance from us."

Your friendly agent,  
PAUL  
WATAUGA INSURANCE AGENCY  
BOONE, NORTH CAROLINA  
E. A. Gaultney & J. Paul Winkler (Agents)  
Phone 343 - 130-M  
Northwestern Bank Building



# There is a SANTA CLAUS!

"During these days of high living costs — all of us feel in need of Santa Claus! We are making it our business to play the role of Santa — to your Christmas holiday budget! Here's a grand opportunity to lighten your shopping time next week — by stocking up those items you know you need! So — GET THE BEST FOR LESS FOR YOUR FEAST!"

*Dixie Thrifty*

**THIS CHRISTMAS GIVE FOOD!**



**NOW Is The Time To Buy YOUR CHRISTMAS Quality-Tender**

# TURKEY

• Priced For Every Budget

18 To 24-Lb. Average! Dressed & Drown Oven Ready

## Tom Turkeys lb. 55c

Your Favorite Size! Whole Or Half Fresh

**Pork Hams . . . 57c** **FAT HENS . . . 47c**

The Best For A Grand Feast! 10 To 14-Lb. Avg.

**Turkey HENS lb. 63c** **DUCKLINGS lb. 59c**

4 To 7-Lb. Average! Beltsville White

**Small Turkeys lb. 65c** **Cooked Hams lb. 79c**

**Holiday Dairy Values!**

In 1/4-Lb. Prints  
**Dixie-Home Butter . . . 73c**

Heat and Serve! Puffin  
**BISCUITS 4 7 1/2-Oz. 49c**

New York State  
**Sharp Cheese . . . 71c**



get the BEST for LESS!

**Holiday Savings in Grocery Values!**

SAVE 20c Dixie-Home... 100% Pure

**Instant Coffee 4-Oz. Jar 78c**

**Turnip Greens No. 1 Can 10c**

The Young Tender Leaves!  
**Golden Isle Collards No. 2 Can 10c**

Cut From Sweet, Tender Earls! Hottest  
**Golden Cream Corn No. 303 Can 10c**

Delicious With Pork! Watauga  
**Sauer Kraut No. 303 Can 10c**

A Tasty Fudge & Frosting Mix!  
**Dromedary Mix 12-Oz. Pkg. 33c**

Roasted To Perfection!  
**Gold Cup Coffee lb. 88c**

Gold Medal  
**MACARONI 2 8-Oz. 27c**

Gold Medal  
**SPAGHETTI 2 8-Oz. 27c**

Shortening By Swift  
**SWIFTNING 3-Lb. Can 85c**

New Improved  
**LAVA SOAP Bar 10c**

Florida Sweet Juicy  
**Oranges 8-Lb. Mesh Bag 45c**

Zipper Skin  
**Tangerines 2 Lbs. 17c**

Red Delicious  
**Apples 2 lbs 35c**

Fall Russett  
**Pears 3 lbs. 33c**

Sugary Sweet S. C.  
**Yams 3 lbs. 33c**

A Holiday Must! Durand  
**Sweet Potatoes No. 2 1/2 Can 25c**

Sliced or Halves — Yellow Cling  
**Dixie-Home Peaches No. 2 1/2 Can 27c**

For Delicious Pies! None Such  
**MINCE MEAT 9-Oz. Pkg. 25c**



cranberry sauce



# OCEAN SPRAY

16-Oz. Can  
**19c**

**SKYVU DRIVE-IN THEATRE**

One-Half Mile from City Limits on Old Blowing Rock Road

Saturday and Sunday — December 19 and 20

# RED RIVER

JOHN WAYNE

All Purpose Shortening <b>JEWEL 3-Lb. Can 81c</b>	Southern Gold <b>MARGARINE lb. 24c</b>	Wilson's Certified Meats <b>MOR 12-Oz. Can 43c</b> <b>TRIPE 24-Oz. Can 41c</b> Corned Beef <b>Hash 16-Oz. Can 29c</b> Vigano <b>Sausage 4-Oz. Can 19c</b>	Peanut Butter <b>SWIFT 12-Oz. Jar 37c</b>	All Purpose Meat <b>PREM 12-Oz. Can 43c</b>
Jewel <b>COOKING OIL 3-Lb. Can 61c</b>	Flag Enriched <b>DOG FOOD 16-Oz. Can 9c</b>	Ideal <b>DOG FOOD 2 No. 1 Cans 29c</b>	All Vegetable <b>SNOWDRIFT 3-Lb. Can 89c</b>	For Better Baking <b>WESSON OIL 3-Lb. Can 63c</b>
			16-Lb. Prints—Parkay <b>MARGARINE lb. 31c</b>	