

## THE STANDIFER FAMILY HISTORY

*By Sharron Standifer Ashton*

Thomas Standifer was born March 21, 1832 in Lee County, Virginia. In 1849 Thomas married Mary Elizabeth Peavler in Knox County, Kentucky, near Barbourville. They were married by Williams Evans, an United Baptist minister. Elizabeth was born November 14, 1832 in Kentucky. She was the daughter of Lewis Peavler and Catherine Head. On January 26, 1850, Ruth Standifer, the first of their twelve children, was born in Kentucky. By 1851 the Standifers were settled near North Salem in Linn County, Missouri.

In July of 1861 Thomas enlisted in Captain Fred C. Loving's Company "K" of the 7th Cavalry Regiment of the United States Volunteers at Brookfield, Missouri. His occupation was listed as "farmer" on his Civil War records, but he also raised and trained race horses. He furnished his own mount during his tour of duty. Although he had enlisted for a three year term, due to bad health, he was discharged December 22, 1862, at Prairie Grove, Arkansas.

During the years between 1850 and 1879, Thomas and Elizabeth's family grew by leaps and bounds. They had eleven daughters and one son. In December 1878, this son, Archibald Standifer, died short of his twenty-first birthday. Thomas and Elizabeth grieved and suffered over his death for many years. This grief was somewhat lessened by the birth of their only Standifer grandson, Archie Curtis, soon after Archibald's death, and by the closeness of their large family of daughters and their families.

In 1889 Thomas and Thomas J. Stufflebean, his son-in-law, came to Noble, Oklahoma, on the train to buy land. They bought several hundred acres south and west of Noble and returned to Missouri to get their families. Three of Thomas' daughters remained in Linn County, but the rest packed up and moved to Cleveland County.

Although Thomas could neither read nor write he was an astute businessman, having numerous real estate dealings in and around Noble, and was at one time a director of a bank there. Always he considered himself a farmer. He raised sheep, which provided his family with their own wool, tobacco, and raised horses on his farm as well as small grain and garden products.

As Thomas and Elizabeth grew older, they gave up their farm and moved into Noble, living for several years on West Walnut Street, then later with their daughter and son-in-law, Docia and Thomas Stufflebean. Thomas died June 11, 1917, at the age of 85. Elizabeth died May 11, 1921, at the age of 88. They are buried side by side in the Noble IOOF Cemetery.

Although Thomas and Elizabeth Standifer lost their only son, Archibald, who had married Frances Thorp McCoy, the Standifer family name was not lost because Archibald and Frances Standifer had a son born to them named Archie Curtis. It is of interest to follow the continuation of the descendants through Archie Curtis Standifer's marriage to Julia Bell LaCount. This marriage tied together four Cleveland County, O. T., pioneer families: Standifer, LaCount, McCoy and Brandon.

Children of THOMAS STANDIFER and MARY ELIZABETH PEAVLER

Name	Birthdate	Place	Married
Ruth Standifer	26 January 1850	Kentucky	Albert Lambert
Sarah Standifer	30 January 1853	Missouri	Marshall Canada
Elizabeth Standifer	18 September 1855	Missouri	John Davis
Archibald Standifer	18 January 1858	Missouri	Frances Thorp McCoy
Cathern Standifer	11 February 1860	Missouri	Fred Marshall LaCount
Mary (Polly) Standifer	24 December 1864	Missouri	James D. Lambert
Docia Standifer	15 March 1866	Missouri	Thomas J. Stufflebean
Matilda Standifer	15 October 1868	Missouri	Wes Head
Clara Standifer	30 April 1871	Missouri	Will Barnes
Harriett Standifer	16 June 1873	Missouri	Andrew Thompson
Margaret J. Standifer	8 June 1876	Missouri	John Carmon
Zilpha Standifer	27 December 1879	Missouri	Hiram W. Cartwright

Archibald Standifer married Frances Thorp McCoy, their son, Archie Curtis Standifer, married Julia Bell LaCount.

Children of ARCHIE STANDIFER and JULIA BELL LA COUNT

Jesse C. Standifer	1 December 1898	Noble, Okla.	Betty Jo Stover
Virgil C. Standifer	5 February 1901	Noble, Okla.	Myrtle Sweeney
Thomas O. Standifer	5 October 1902	Cogar, Okla.	Velda McQuirt
Fanny Olivia Standifer	12 May 1904	Cogar, Okla.	Charles Polson (1)
Archibald Standifer (daughter: Sharron Jo Standifer)	27 September 1906	Cogar, Okla.	Blance Nail
Theola Bea Standifer	23 August 1908	Cogar, Okla.	Simon Nelson
Charley O. Standifer	10 September 1910	Cogar, Okla.	No marriage
H. Newman Standifer	27 October 1912	Cogar, Okla.	Clara McCord
Robert L. Standifer	10 December 1914	Cogar, Okla.	Alice Nicholason (1)
Noah O. Standifer	16 December 1916	Cogar, Okla.	Dorothy Herbert
Ole Owen Standifer	6 July 1919	Cogar, Okla.	Betty Pearl Pribble (1)
Lloyd I. Standifer	30 December 1923	Foraker, Okla.	Ann Cambra (1)

(1) denotes first wife.

## FRANCES THORPE MC COY

*By Sharron Standifer Ashton*

On the 24th day of February 1842, Joel McCoy and Susan Thorpe, both of Kentucky, were married in Marion County, Missouri. To this union five daughters were born. The fifth daughter, Frances Thorpe "Fanny" McCoy was born January 24, 1855, after her father had died in December 1854. When Fanny was six weeks old, a couple on their way home to the state of New York came through Marion County. They met Susan and asked to adopt her baby daughter. Susan, now a widow with five small daughters to raise and no visible means of support, decided to let them take Fanny and raise her as their daughter.

We do not know anything of Fanny's life in New York, or how she came to be in Linn County, Missouri, in 1878, but as late as 1880 she still believed she and her parents were born in New York. In 1878 she married Archibald Standifer, the only son of Thomas Standifer and Mary Elizabeth Peavler.

In December of 1878, Archibald, while chopping wood with one of his brothers-in-law, was struck in the leg with an axe. From this injury, he developed blood poisoning, and on the 31st of December 1878 he died. He was buried near North Salem, Missouri. This was not to be the end of the Standifer line, as on the 16th of August, 1879, Fanny gave birth to a healthy son. The boy was named Archie Curtis, and he was to be the father of ten sons and two daughters.

Sometime around 1881 Fanny remarried. Her second husband was Henry Peavler, probably a nephew to Mary Elizabeth. Fanny and Henry had two sons, Amos E., born 1882, and Truman O., born 1885. Before 1889 Fanny was again a widow.

According to Mrs. Bessie Pinkston of El Reno, "Fanny, now twice a widow with three small sons, set out in a wagon pulled by a team of mules to make the 'Run of 1889'. She was not lucky enough to get a farm, but she got a lot in the city of Norman, providing she built a house on it within a year. She hired a carpenter to build this house and on February 20, 1892, she married the carpenter. He was Peter F. Hoffman.

Sometime before the 1890 census Fanny found that she had been adopted as a baby. Her real mother, Susan Thorpe McCoy, located her in Cleveland County, and came from Missouri to visit her. Susan had remarried after Joel's death and had at least one more daughter. Fanny and her mother corresponded until Susan's death in 1908.

In 1894, Peter and Fanny sold their home in Norman which was on the south side of Symmes between Porter and Crawford, and moved to Noble to raise their two daughters, Bessie and Mabell, and her three sons. On the 14th of February 1898, Fanny's son, Archie Curtis Standifer, married Julia Bell LaCount in Noble. Julia was born in Daviess County, Missouri, February 15, 1884. She was the daughter of Benjamin Carter LaCount and Olivia Bell Brandom.

In 1902, Peter Hoffman died of blood poisoning from a splinter in his hand. Now Fanny at the age of 47 was a widow for the third time. She continued to live in Noble for a while, then she moved to Archie's farm near Minco. She died in 1936 and is buried beside Peter Hoffman in the Noble IOOF Cemetery.

## THE LA COUNT and THE BRANDOM FAMILIES

*By Sharron Standifer Ashton*

Benjamin Carter La Count was born February 29, 1852, in Indiana, the son of James La Count and Elizabeth Eddy. On September 11, 1874 he married Olivia Bell Brandom, born August 23, 1855, in Missouri. She was the only child of Charles Peter Brandom and Elizabeth, both originally from Virginia. Olivia's mother was killed when struck by lightning when Olivia was two or three years old.

In 1885 Olivia La Count bought a farm in Daviess County, Missouri from her grandfather, William Brandom and his wife Catherine, with the provision that she take care of him and his wife the remainder of their lives. William died in 1886, leaving his estate to his wife and after her death or if she remarried, to his grandchildren.

"In 1894" according to Olivia's daughter, Elizabeth La Count Canada, of Shawnee, now deceased, "when brother Freddie was three years old our mother had T. B. or in those days it was called consumption of the lungs. The only help for it was a change of country, so the doctor said 'go west'. We lived in Missouri, so your grandmother, Julia, came to Noble, Oklahoma, with her mother and the rest stayed 10 days longer renting the home, selling stock, packing and chartering a railroad for three horses and furniture. We got there the 10th of March 1894. We moved mother from Uncle Fred La-Count's to a house we had rented. It was the 15th of March, and mother was taken bad that night and the next morning at 8 o'clock she asked Father to raise her up in bed as she was choking and she wanted to see her family for the last time. He sat on the bed with her in his arms and she passed away." Olivia is buried in the IOOF Cemetery at Noble.

Benjamin was left with five children. Alvia, Elizabeth, Julia, Willie and Freddie. In November of 1894 Alvia married Richard Baker and in December Elizabeth married Archie Canada, son of Marshall L. Canada and Sarah Standifer. Julia kept house for her father and took care of her two younger brothers. In 1898, one day before she was fourteen years old she married Archie Curtis Standifer.

Benjamin remarried around that same time. His second wife was Minnie Davis, daughter of Joshua and Laura Davis. Minnie was one-eighth Chickasaw Indian. Both she and Benjamin received land allotments in McClain County. Benjamin later went to Foraker, Oklahoma, in Osage County. He lived with his daughter Julia and her family until his death in 1919. He is buried in the Foraker Cemetery.