

JOSIAH WHITLOCK OF MORGAN CO. GA

The following items appeared in the Morgan County Sketches section of *Memoirs of Georgia* published by the Southern Historical Association in 1895. It was sent in by Harry Douglas Smith and provides us with an interesting link between the Georgia families and those in Virginia:

"Josiah Whitlock, farmer, and one of Morgan county's oldest and most respected citizens, is the son of Josiah and Nancy W. (Clements) Whitlock. The father was born in Virginia two years before the Declaration of Independence was signed and came to Georgia with his father in 1796. He received the advantages of the best schooling of that period, and in 1818 was married to the daughter of an old Virginia friend. Of eight children born to this union Mr. Josiah Whitlock is the only son of living. Josiah Whitlock was a sergeant in the war of 1812, and in appreciation of his services was given a land warrant for land in northeast Georgia. After his return from the war he visited his cousin, Beasley Whitlock, who lived in Morgan county, and there he met and married his wife. Following his wedding he was overseer for a few years, then a farmer for himself. The wife was a daughter of Charles and Mary (Main) Clements, natives of Virginia, who came to Georgia before 1800 and cleared up a farm from the woods. The paternal grandparents of Mr. Josiah Whitlock were Josiah and Mary (Clayburn) Whitlock, both Virginians, who came to Georgia about 1796 and settled in Tulliver county. Here they passed the hard life of the pioneer and reared a family of children. The subject of this memoir was reared on the farm and received a common school education. He taught school during the war, and after his father's death took charge of the estate, and he still holds the 400 acres of land which his parents originally took up. Mr. Whitlock has been bailiff, and justice of the peace for three terms. In 1861 he joined Company D, Third Georgia regiment, under Capt. Charles Andrew, and was out eighteen months. Mr. Whitlock is well known throughout the county, and enjoys the esteem and good will of all. He has been very successful in business and is the owner of a fine farm near Fair Play, and other valuable property."

This item contained several clues. The reference to Beasley Whitlock was particularly interesting and if we have the parents and grandparents of Beasley correct then the eldest Josiah was a son of Thomas & Mary (Williamson) Whitlock of Goochland Co., Virginia who were married in the 1740's. This would also make this Josiah a nephew of Robert Whitlock who's will was proved in Union Co., South Carolina in 1804.

There are several other references to Josiah in the files. The index to numbered records in the War Dept. collection of Rev. War records 1775-1783 shows a Josiah Whitlock from Georgia under numbers MS034628 and MS034630. Men recruited from Prince Edward Co., Va by Lt. Walton & Lt Dickerson for Capt. Samuel Scott's Georgia Regiment in 1777 lists Josiah Whitlock Dec.16 to May 25, 157 days. Josiah Whitlock shows in the Virginia Tax Payers lists for Lunenburg Co., Va 1782-1787 as one male with six slaves. As well there is a petition from Lunenburg Co., Va Dd Nov.8,1783 signed by Josiah Whitlock. Josiah also shows in some early tax digests for Georgia including Warren Co. 1794 both for himself and as agent for John Whitlock. The British Mercantile Claims (1775-1803) for Lunenburg Co., Va mentions Josiah Whitlock & William Whitlock £39.3.2 1/2. "The former moved to Georgia about 1785, his circumstances very doubtful. The latter died a few years past, a most worthless wreck". If the above article is correct the Josiah Whitlock who shows in the 1820 Georgia Land Lottery was also the eldest Josiah.

There are also several deeds for the 1790's listed in the Georgia Genealogy Magazine that mention James Whitlock, John & Tabitha Whitlock of Oglethorpe Co. and also include references to the Clayburn/Claiborne family. This John Whitlock is the father of Beasley Whitlock and it is possible the Mary or Polly Clayburn who married Josiah Whitlock is part of this Clayburn family. Our thanks to Doug for this item as it pulled a lot of information together.