

RICHARD DOWELL
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20 September 2007

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

OBJECTIVES

- Extend the ancestry of John Dowell (born 1810), the presumed son of John Dowell (born 1775) and Sarah (Sally).

RESULTS

- Learned that Margaret Dowell Simpson (probable sister to John Dowell) died between 1870 and 1880 in Washington County, Indiana.
- Peter Wright, the minister who married John Dowell and Phoebe Owen, was a native of Rowan County, North Carolina and his family moved through Kentucky.
- The John and Sally (Hickman) Dowell in Jackson County, Tennessee are from the Surry County, North Carolina branch of the family and not from the Rowan County, North Carolina group. Also, they had a son John who remained in Jackson County and therefore could not be ancestral.
- Analysis was conducted in Rowan County, North Carolina records including the compiling of evidence which appears to show that Peter Dowell, Senior was the father of John Dowell, Senior, the father of John Dowell, Junior who married Sally Dowell in 1797 and may be the father of the ancestral John Dowell born in North Carolina in 1810.
- A possible Owen connection to Rowan County was also discovered.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Order the War of 1812 pension file of John Dowell of Tennessee. Perhaps this is where John Dowell, Junior ended up and may explain why our John Dowell children associated their father with Tennessee.
2. Search the Rowan County, North Carolina deed abstract book 1807 to 1818.
3. Tax lists after 1800 in Rowan County need to be checked to further pin down the departure of various Dowells from the county.
4. Search the many other Rowan County records still available to us, some in book form and many more on microfilm, including Baptist church records. The residence of John has been established on Carter's Creek and other members of the family on land between Muddy and Reedy Creeks. The Baptist churches in that area need to be identified and their records reviewed. Also search Iredell County records.

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RESEARCH REPORT

The objective of this research period was to extend the ancestry of John Dowell (born 1810), the presumed son of John Dowell (born 1775) and Sarah (Sally). The previous research report and all correspondence occurring since the previous research period were reviewed.

The charts found at http://tecsolve.com/Dowells/Maryland_Dowells_Chart.htm were again reviewed as recommended. These charts are helpful for research, although two drawbacks are first, that calculated or estimated birth years are not listed for a generational comparison and second, the names of wives are not listed. The latter would be helpful, considering the number of Philips, Richards, Peters and Johns there are in the family. One particular item of interest gained from correspondence with the client is the possibility that Richard Patrick Dowell or Bucky Dowell descended from John, the son of Philip Dowell. A note also mentioned a family bible which stated that John (born 1810) may have been named Alex and also may have been born in Tennessee. This supports one of our recommendations from the previous research period to search records in that state.

Perhaps the best clue obtained from the previous research period, however, was the likely sibling connection between the ancestral John Dowell and Margaret Dowell, wife of Thomas Simpson. We began research by attempting to learn more about her. We sought her in the 1850 census of Washington County, Indiana with her husband. She was located in Posey Township along with seven children (document #1). As expected, she was born in North Carolina about the year 1816. A William Owens, born in Kentucky, was noted living nearby.

The 1860 census was checked next. Again she was found, this time in Salem Town, with her husband Thomas and six children (document #2). Her age pointed to a birth year of 1814.

We then found Margaret's husband in the 1870 census (document #3). They were living in Washington Township, probably Salem, Washington County, Indiana. Margaret's age actually suggested a birth year of 1811, again in North Carolina. Two of their children were still with them.

The 1880 census was checked and this time Margaret was not found. Her husband Thomas was listed in Salem, however, with a grandson John in his household and a son Thomas living next door (document #4). Margaret very likely died between 1870 and 1880. Unfortunately she died too early for death records to be of assistance in proving her parentage (and thus proving that of her likely brother, John).

The previous research report indicated that John Dowel and Phebe Owens were married by a minister of the gospel. Brief time was spent learning about the minister, at least so that a denomination could be verified. A copy of their original marriage record was obtained (document #5). The couple was married by a Peter Wright.

We next looked at Washington County histories, first consulting the *Centennial History of Washington County Indiana*. A search for Peter Wright uncovered a nice history on early religion in the county and on the Wrights' involvement. Elder John Wright was the organizer of the first church in the county (document #6). He was a Separate (or Free Will) Baptist who was born in Rowan County, North Carolina in 1785. He was assisted in his work by his father Amos and his brother Peter. The Dowells probably had no familial connection with the Wrights but there may have been a religious one as both had ties to Rowan County.

To double check, a valuable document taken from *Family Maps of Washington County, Indiana*, found during the previous research session, was reviewed (document #7). John Dowell was initially established in Township 1 North, Range 3 East. The one Simpson in the area was an Isaac Simpson located about 4 miles south in Township 1 North, Range 3 East. Amos

Wright, noted above as the father of Peter Wright, was living a mile north of Benjamin Owens, a possible father or other relation of Phebe Owens, and a little over a mile from John Dowel. Phebe Owens would have easily known Amos and this connection was perhaps what brought Peter to perform her marriage to John Dowell.

Having noted that the *Family Maps* book listed township and range coordinates but not the historical names of townships, the *Township Atlas of the United States* was consulted. A map for Washington County was obtained (document #8). Jackson Township, where John Dowell was found living in 1850, actually includes the southeast corner of the county. It's difficult to determine how the family map pages fit with this map; however, one would expect that the earliest property owned by John in the county would have been in Pierce Township.

Seeking any additional clues on the Wright-Dowell connection, one last search on the Wright family mentioned in the history above was in Ancestry's *One World Tree*. Amos Wright of Rowan County, North Carolina was located with his wife and several children (document #9). These children include John and Peter. It was also notable that Amos married his second wife Margaret Davis in Wayne County, Kentucky. Though research has not yet been conducted on the Owens line, it may be worth pursuing as they may easily have come from Rowan County as well. A path through Kentucky exists for some of those who migrated to Washington County, Indiana.

Our previous research report recommended pursuing the Dowells in Tennessee and made particular mention of a John Dowell and Sally Hickman who migrated there from North Carolina. To review the possibilities here, the 1820 census of Tennessee was searched for Dowel or Dawel (and variants) (document #10). A John Dowell was located in Jackson County, Tennessee (document #11):

Locality		1820 Census of Jackson County, Tennessee												
Page	Head-of-Family	Free White Males						Free White Females					All Others	Slaves
		0 to 10	10 to 16	16 to 18	16 to 26	26 to 45	45 +	0 to 10	10 to 16	16 to 26	26 to 45	45 +		
64	Dowell, John		1	1	1		1	4	1	2	1			2

The family appears to be somewhat middle aged with John being over 45 years old, but his wife being 45 or younger. The listing of four girls under ten and three young women under 26 in the family is curious in that they are not later found among the Dowells in Washington County, Indiana, if indeed there was a migration of the family from Tennessee to Indiana.

We next searched the 1830 census for this same John Dowel. The index at Ancestry.com failed to list him so we turned to a published index; he was possibly found in neighboring Wilson County, Tennessee (document #12). Returning to Ancestry.com, it was noted that he was indexed as John “Dwel” (document #13). The family appeared as follows:

Locality			1830 Census of Wilson County, Tennessee											
Pg.	Head of Family		0 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 30	30 to 40	40 to 50	50 to 60	60 to 70	70 to 80	80 +	Slaves
78	John Dowel	M F	1	1 1	1			1 1						

Based on the age of this John, he is not the same found in Jackson County in 1820. How he may or may not be related is unclear.

The 1840 census of Tennessee was then checked and John Dowel was again located in Jackson County, Tennessee. We had clearly found the older John Dowel this time as the senior male in the household was age 60 to 70 (document #14). We were still unsure whether or not this household pertained to that of John Dowell and Sally Hickman.

Continuing the census search, we again checked the 1850 census in Jackson County, Tennessee. Two Dowells were located in the county. The first was a Reuben H. Dowell, age 43, born in Kentucky (document #15). The second was a John M. Dawell, age 46, born in North Carolina (document #16). This find raised the possibility that the senior John Dowell found in the earlier Tennessee censuses had a son John who stayed in Jackson County, making it unlikely this John Dowell was the father of the ancestral John Dowell.

A search of Jackson County marriage records did not produce any Dowells prior to 1872. Earlier records were apparently destroyed. A volume of Jackson County cemetery inscriptions also failed to list John Dowell.

A book titled *Building Neighborhoods: Jackson County, Tennessee Prior to 1820* indicated that a Prettyman Jones purchased two acres approximately a mile south of a field occupied by John Dowell (document #17). A tax list for Jackson County in 1836 listed a Reuben H. and Martin (perhaps John M) Dowell (document #18). They were residing in the same district in the county, suggesting a close relationship.

A published volume of Jackson County, Tennessee Chancery Court minutes from 1840 to 1861 proved to be valuable. John Dowell is mentioned in 1846 and 1847 followed by “Hickman” Dowell in 1855. Hickman could likely be the Reuben H. Dowell mentioned in the other records. This provided evidence to indicate that John and Sally Hickman Dowell had a son John Martin Dowell who remained in Tennessee along with his brother Reuben Hickman Dowell, meaning this would not be the ancestral family. These findings correlate with the results of DNA testing done by members of the Dowell family.

Reviewing the family chart, it is likely our John comes from another, closely related branch of the Dowell family, perhaps a John Dowell, Senior as has been suggested.

The previous report suggested a search of military records, particularly Revolutionary War and War of 1812 pension records for clues. Excellent indexes exist to these records and they were consulted. The *Index to War of 1812 Pension Files* was searched first. A John Dowell was among the five Dowells listed (document #20). His wife was named Elizabeth and he served from Tennessee. Unfortunately, the War of 1812 pension records are not available at the Family History Library and a copy of the record will need to be ordered from the government. It should be considered for future research as it may help clarify which branch of the family this John Dowell comes from. If he is the John who was husband of Sally Hickman, perhaps Elizabeth is then a second wife. None of the pensioners indicated ties to North Carolina.

A similar index for the Revolutionary War was searched and seven Dowells were mentioned, including a John Dowel (document #21). This John Dowel applied for enlistment from Jackson County, Tennessee and was born in Albemarle County, Virginia; mention was made of a brother George. The name of George doesn't appear on the client's family chart though the pension information reveals that George ended up in Monroe County, Indiana by way of Albemarle County, Virginia and Burke County, North Carolina. Monroe County is just a few counties north of Washington County, Indiana. An index to the service records for soldiers in the Revolutionary War was also reviewed (document #22). Curiously, the John from Jackson County, Tennessee isn't even mentioned nor is any other John Dowell, for that matter.

We next turned to the 1800 census in North Carolina for Dowell entries. The John and George noted above in the pension records were found in Burke County (document #23). A John Dowell and John Dowell, Senior, Peter Dowell and Peter Dowell, Senior, and a Philip Dowell were all noted in Salisbury, Rowan County, North Carolina. They appeared as follows (document #23):

Locality		1800 Census of Salisbury, Rowan County, North Carolina												
Page	Head of Family	Free White Males					Free White Females					All Others	Slaves	
		0 to 10	10 to 16	16 to 26	26 to 45	45 +	0 to 10	10 to 16	16 to 26	26 to 45	45 +			
436	James Dowell			1			1		1					
	Peter Dowell	1				1				1				
	John Dowell, Sr.	1		1	1			1				1		
	John Dowell	1		1					1					
	Peter Dowell, Sr.	2				1						1		

This provided a very good picture of the family. John Dowell and his wife appeared to be a young, newly married couple with one male child.

John Dowell, Senior could be John's father as the senior was used to show the distinction, although he could also have been an uncle. John Dowell, Senior is not older than 45 years old; Peter Dowell is older than 45, but his wife is not. It therefore appears Peter and John Senior were in the same generation. The fact that Peter Dowell, Senior is also over 45 would

imply that he is much older and possibly the father of them both as well as of James Dowell. James doesn't appear on the family chart though a William does. This may be the William living in nearby Wilkes County.

The 1810 census data for the family in North Carolina was copied from the previous research project (document #24). Peter, James and John Dowell remain in Rowan County, indicating perhaps that John and Peter Dowell, Seniors had moved away or passed on. Based on his age, it is also possible the John Dowell in this census is John Dowell, Senior from the previous census, but the distinction of "senior" was no longer needed if the younger John had moved out of the area.

The 1820 census data was also copied and reviewed in light of our new insights. It appears that this Rowan branch of Dowells moved to Wilkes County though the Peter Dowell there does not fit the profile of Peter Dowell, Junior from Rowan County based on his age. The John Dowell there also did not fit the John Dowell in Rowan County but may fit the John in Iredell County. Clearly additional research in these counties was needed to sort it all out.

A map of North Carolina counties as they were in 1810 was also reviewed (document #26).

We now began research in earnest in Rowan County as was suggested during the previous research project and as seemed relevant based on findings thus far. The Family History Library has significant resources for the county, both published and on microfilm. We checked the published sources first beginning with county histories.

A History of Rowan County, North Carolina failed to mention the Dowell family although it had a nice history of the Baptist congregations in the county; which was copied for future reference (document #27). The next history mentioned the Dowell family in a few places but just in passing; particularly, a John Dowell witnessed a land transaction in 1791 and a Richard Dowell was neighbor to Benjamin Gilpin on Mill Creek in 1794. A seven volume series

of pedigrees submitted by members of The Genealogical Society of Rowan County was also checked without results.

Marriage records for Rowan County were reviewed next (document #29). The marriage of John Dowell to Sally Dowell (which has been mentioned by the client) is intriguing because it occurred in 1797, just before the 1800 census entry we reviewed. This must be for John, Junior and could easily be for the parents of the ancestral John born in 1810. A second volume of marriages was located which listed the bondsmen and witnesses to the marriage as well (document #30). A John Hawkins was the bondsman to the above marriage and John Rogers was a witness. The marriages of the female Dowells showed a continued Rogers and Hawkins/Hawkings connection. Rowan County cemetery records were also searched but none of the Dowell entries appear to be relevant at this time (document #31).

A fascinating probate record for John Owen mentioned daughters Pricilla Dowel and Mary Dowell (who appears to be Peter Dowel's wife) (document #32). He also mentioned a John Dowel, son of Philip Dowell. The will was dated 1787 and according to information received from the client, pertains to the maternal grandfather of Sally Dowell (wife of John Dowell). The will of Richard Pack in 1804 mentions John Dowell having property next to Richard. A Peter Dowell married an Elizabeth Pack in 1810 and a John Dowell was one of the witnesses, creating a secondary tie between the two families and between John and Peter Dowell in particular. Another will extract on the page mentions a Benjamin Owen, brother to Henry Owen, as well. Lastly, the will of Peter Dowell, Senior in 1802 was noted (document #32). He names his wife Elizabeth, son William, son Peter, son Piper [James?], son John, son Philip, and son Richard. This also agrees with the scenario as to their relationships laid out above based on census records. A Benjamin Berryman was one of the witnesses. Though probably meaningless, in 1830, there was a Little Berry Dowell in Vigo County, Indiana. Perhaps there is some tie-in to the ancestral family because our John ends up there.

A Rowan County Division of Estates book lists the estate of Peter Dowell in 1825 (document #33). His widow is mentioned several times but not by name. His grandsons

Benjamin and William Rogers are mentioned in connection with Polly Rogers. Granddaughters Peggy, Polly, Anna and Betsey are also mentioned in connection with Polly Rogers and a payment of \$1.00 due annually to the widow of Peter. The Berryman name also pops up again. Perhaps they were the children to Robert Rogers and Nancy Dowel who married in 1806. Lewis Rodgers and Betsey Dowel married in 1817 but wouldn't have been married long enough to have so many children by 1825.

We next turned to published deed records. A volume of deed abstracts covering the years 1762 to 1772 failed to mention the Dowell name. They were likely in Virginia at that time. A series of deed abstract books covering the years 1786 to 1840 was next searched. Volume one (from 1786 to 1797) records the purchase of land on Great Duchman's Creek in 1788 by Peter Dowell (document #34). The witnesses to this purchase were John and Phillip Dowell and the deed was proved by James Dowell. The first two are most certainly his sons and it seems reasonable that James would be also. In 1790, Richard Dowell and his wife Mary (perhaps Mary McDaniel, who a Richard Dowell married in 1787, which marriage is witnessed by John Dowell) sold several pieces of property to Peter Dowell, mostly in the area of the Yadkin River, and also soled a few pieces of property to Philip Dowell. John Dowell witnessed at least two of the transactions. Our initial thought is that Richard, Philip, Peter and John were indeed siblings. The will of Peter Dowell in 1802 mentions all four as brothers. What is unclear is the John Owen will in 1787 which mentions a John, son of Philip Dowell. Perhaps there is a tie in there instead, though the first possibility seems more likely because all four names are in common. A Benjamin Berryman was a witness to one of the transactions and a Henry McDaniel to another two of them. In 1793, Peter Dowell and wife Elizabeth granted to John Dowell 300 acres on the southwest side of the Yadkin River. This was land originally granted to Richard Dowell in 1784 and was perhaps part of the land he sold to Peter in 1790. Zephniah Harper and Peter Dowell were witnesses to the transaction. In 1795, Abraham Hawkins deeded land to John Dowell, Senior. The land is on Carter's Creek and the transaction was witnessed by Richard Pack, Hezekiah Smith and Peter Dowell.

The next volume, covering the years 1797 to 1807, first mentions the sale of land by Peter Dowel, Senior and his wife Elizabeth (which helps clarify that Elizabeth is the wife of

Peter Senior not Junior) in 1792. The sale was to William Pack; Richard Pack and Peter Dowel, Junior were witnesses. The previous land sales by Richard may have been to his father and not his brother. In 1797, Philip Dowel and his wife Priscilla (daughter to John Owen) sold land to Abraham Tennison. The witnesses were Elijah Veatch and John Miers. That same year, Edward Cox, Senior and his wife Susy sold land to Peter Dowel, Junior. Phillip Dowell and Richard Pack were witnesses.

Peter Dowel (most likely “the third” because Senior was dead and Junior should have been married long before 1800) married an Elizabeth Pack in 1810. A Peter Dowell marriage to Elizabeth Collier in 1785 may be for the senior Peter Dowell, although in retrospect it seems more likely that we have three generations of Peter Dowells: Senior, who married in the 1750s or so, Peter Dowell, Junior who married Elizabeth Collier, and maybe a son Peter who married Elizabeth Pack in 1810. This scenario fits better with the 1800 census entries.

In 1797, Zephania Harper of Stokes County, North Carolina sold land to Phillip Dowell of Rowan. Zephania’s name came up above in a sale of land from Peter to John Dowell. Phillip and his wife Priscilla then sold land in 1797 or 1798 to Nathan Peebles. In 1800, John Dowell, Senior sold the land he purchased earlier of Peter, as noted above, to William Weyatt. Elijah Veatch is both a neighbor and a witness. Benjamin Hodgins and Joseph Chaffin are the other witnesses. Elijah is also a witness to the sale of land by Philip and Priscilla above. This indirectly ties Phillip and John together. Next, John Dowel, Senior purchased land on Carter’s Creek from John Howard. Jesse Adams and Elijah Veatch were witnesses. In 1801, Phillip sold more land. The Pack surname appeared again, along with Nathaniel Peobles, to whom Phillip sold land in 1797 or 1798. In 1803, Phillip and Priscilla sold more land to the Packs. In 1803 the name of William Dowell shows up for the first time. Perhaps he had been living in another county. He sold land to Peter Dowell (Junior) adjacent to John Dowell on Carter’s Creek. Peter Dowell (Senior) was deceased. It was William’s residence so perhaps this when he moved to Iredell County. The fact that the land was adjacent to John Dowell’s implies a close relationship. The two were probably brothers as has been suggested based on the Peter Dowell, Senior will of 1802. In 1806, John Dowel, Senior sold land to John Dowel, Junior. This was land on the Yadkin River and Jacob and David Sheets were the witnesses. The Sheets name appears in the

will of Richard Pack, who mentions land adjacent to Martin Sheets and John Dowell in his will in 1804. The names of William Howard and Nathaniel Peoples were also found in the will. This may be important because Sarah Dowell married Phillip Howard in 1824. Perhaps Sarah was a daughter to John Dowell, Junior and a possible sibling to our John Dowell, who married Phoebe Owens in 1831. Andrew Sheets sold land about the same time to James Dowel. This was land on Carter's Creek adjacent to George Holbrook's. John Dowell had had land on Carter's Creek. In 1806, Richard Dowel "of Wilkes County, North Carolina" sold land to Jacob Hufman. This land is on the Yadkin River between the mouths of Muddy and Reedy Creeks. Richard had made the move to Wilkes County and it seems the others were soon to follow. The last deed abstracted in this volume was the sale of land on Carter's Creek to Abraham Hawkins in 1805 by John Dowel (most certainly Senior). A John Dowel and John Hawkings were the witnesses. It is believed that this John Dowel is the same who married Sally Dowell in 1797, for whose marriage John Hawkins was a bondsman. In 1798, Abraham Hawkings married Sarah Dowell. Perhaps this Sarah is the daughter of John Dowell, Senior and the sale of land was actually to his son-in-law.

The deed abstract book covering the years between 1807 and 1881 was missing at the Family History Library and is not available on microfilm. This was extremely unfortunate as the time period is of vital interest to the research problem and may shed more light on John Dowell, Junior and his wife Sally. This should be pursued in a future research project.

Continuing with the abstracts from 1818 to 1828, in 1819 a deed was recorded which actually took place in 1814 and involved a sale of land by Philip Dowell of Wilkes County to Nathaniel Peebles (document #36). The land is part of the same that was originally granted to Richard Dowell in 1784. This land between Muddy and Reedy Creek is mentioned again, though the two principal parties had no known connection to the family. A key entry was then found. John Dowell, Senior of Iredell County sold land to Robert Foster in 1816. The deed was recorded in 1821. This was land on Carter's Creek that has been mentioned before. It provided a concrete direction for pursuing John Dowell. John was mentioned again when this same land was sold by Robert Foster and others to someone else. Lastly, in 1814, Philip Dowell, Senior of

Wilkes County sold land to Jacob March. Peter Dowell was a witness to the transaction. The deed was recorded in 1824.

The final deed abstract book in this series, which covers from 1828 to 1840, reports the sale of land on Carter's Creek by Elizabeth Tucker and husband (document #37). This same land was obtained when it was deeded to her by her grandfather Peter Dowell, deceased. A curious transaction then occurred in 1825 in which Charles Fisher, sheriff, seized 144 acres belonging to John Dowell and sold it at auction for \$44. It was to pay for a judgment of \$27.32 ½ dollars against him. The amount was paid to Aquilla Cheshire. It would be interesting to read a court entry about this for additional insight. Because of the critical 1825 time period, it is an item worth pursuing. It is the last entry related to the Dowells in Rowan County land records until at least 1840.

Continuing work in available published information on Rowan County, a volume on vacant land entries from 1778 to 1789 was reviewed (document #38). It included a nice map of creeks in Rowan County. Carter's Creek was readily identified, as was a Reedy Creek which, as it turned out, was not the Reedy Creek mentioned in deed records relating to the family. The earliest known mention of Dowells in Rowan County came from this record in which Richard Dowell is noted in 1780. Philip and Richard Dowell are then listed as having property near each other in 1784. The remaining records deal with other principal property owners whose land is near or adjacent to Richard or Philip Dowell.

We next analyzed published tax lists from 1757 to 1800. A John Dowell is first noted in 1761 in the part of Rowan County which became Iredell County. This would have to be John Dowell, Senior if not another John Dowell. No other mention of a Dowell is made until Richard Dowell, Peter Dowell, Senior and Peter Dowell, Junior are recorded in 1784 in the part of Rowan County which later became Davie County. These must be the same Peter Dowells found in the 1800 census as senior and junior, though at a much younger age. John Dowell first appears in 1791, also in the future Davie County area. The fact that they are all listed in the same area continues to denote a strong family relationship and, based on Peter's will, indicates that this John Dowell is Peter Dowell Senior's son. What is unclear is who the descendants of Richard

Dowell are, who arrived with Peter in the county about 1780. It is probable that this Richard is an older, if not the oldest son to Peter, and that John is one of the younger sons. This volume also included interesting maps that showed the relationship between Carter's Creek and the area between Muddy and Reedy Creeks. They were just a few miles apart. Tax records after 1800 were not yet reviewed but should be in the future, as they will more definitively show when Dowells left and will continue to show the relationships between the various family members.

The last three published items searched related to the Rowan County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions. The first volume covered the years 1775 to 1789 (document #40). In 1783, John Dowell (Senior?) was committed to the stocks for 15 minutes for contempt and drunkenness. A land purchase for Peter Dowell was noted in 1785. John Dowell was later named a constable at various times and was involved in a few disputes which were apparently dismissed. The will of John Owin was also mentioned.

The next volume deals with 1815 to 1816. In 1814, Peter Dowell (Junior) sold land to Jilson Berryman (document #41). James Dowell was listed as a jury member a few times. John Dowell sold land in 1813, perhaps as part of his move to Iredell County. In 1816, an appeal was filed in the case of John Dowell versus Aquilla Cheshire in which an award and judgment were noted but no amounts were given. Interestingly, when the John Dowell land was sold by the sheriff in 1825, the proceeds of the sale went to Aquilla Cheshire. Certainly the two items are related.

Lastly, the abstracts of Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for the years 1817 to 1818 were reviewed (document #42). The entries involved sales of land by John Dowell in 1810 and 1813 respectively.

Due to time constraints research had to be halted at this point. In summary, we were successful in learning more about Margaret Dowell Simpson, probable sister of the ancestral John Dowell (born 1810). We also demonstrated that John Dowell and Phoebe Owen were married by a Baptist minister, who was originally from Rowan County, North Carolina. In addition, we determined that the John and Sally (Hickman) Dowell in Jackson County,

Tennessee were from the Surry County, North Carolina branch and not from this Rowan County group, and thus were not the parents of John (born 1810). Finally, analysis was conducted and excellent progress made in Rowan County records. Some time was spent in learning about the earlier Dowell generations in order to understand more about possible parents to John. This included the compiling of evidence which appears to show that Peter Dowell, Senior was the father of John Dowell, Senior, who was the father of John Dowell, Junior. This John may have married Sally Dowell in 1797 and they could very likely be the parents of the ancestral John Dowell. A possible Owen connection to Rowan County was also discovered.

In future research we should consider ordering the War of 1812 pension file of John Dowell of Tennessee. Perhaps this is where John Dowell, Junior ended up and may explain why our John Dowell children associated their father with Tennessee. The Rowan County, North Carolina deed abstract book for the years 1807 to 1818 also needs to be reviewed. Post-1800 tax lists for Rowan County need to be checked to further pin down the departure of various Dowells from the county. Many other Rowan County records are still available to be searched, some in book form and many more on microfilm, including additional Baptist church records. The residence of John has been established on Carter's Creek and other members of the family on land between Muddy and Reedy Creeks. The Baptist churches in that area need to be identified and their records reviewed. Research should then move to Iredell County records. The strategy should continue as has occurred thus far in Rowan County.

We have made great steps forward in solving this difficult pedigree problem, especially considering the discovery that the ancestral John may be the son of John Dowell and Sarah Dowell, who married in 1797. We look forward to learning more about this couple and the possibility that they were ancestral.

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