

- 3a. James L. Simmons, b. Sep 1811, d. May 16, 1901(F), m. (1) June 15, 1835(F), Levina Epperly, b. 1815(F), d. Oct 8, 1860(F), of fever, dau of Christian and Elizabeth (Morricle) Epperly;
 James m. (2) Dec 3, 1862(M), Debry V. Ratliff Arrington, wid, b. 1839, d. Nov 25, 1869, of consumption, dau of Elijah & Sarah Ratliff;
 James m. (3) March 30, 1871(F), Dianah Dickerson, b. 1836(F), d. Dec 31, 1873, died in childbirth, dau of Moses & Elizabeth Dickerson
 James m. (4) Dec 15, 1877(F), Timandra Sumpter Sumner, wid, b. May 8, 1826(F), d. Dec 14, 1912, dau of Richard & Catherine Sumpter;
 9 children, first marriage; no children, second marriage; 1 child, third marriage; no children, fourth marriage.

James Simmons' father willed him "the tract of land he now lives on containing 226 acres." This was near the Montgomery County line on present Route 8 and was said to extend as far as Broad Shoals on Little River, where some family members say he first lived. If so, he moved and his later home was on the knoll opposite present Simmons Grocery on Route 8. The log house where his son Hosea lived is still standing.

James Simmons was Justice of the Peace in the Alum Ridge district for a number of years and was called Squire Jimmy.

He was married four times. He said he shod the horse all around.

James died May 16, 1901; his will was not probated until Jan 4, 1902; sons Gideon and James M. were appointed executors. To wife Timandra, he left one-third of the land and one-third of his personal property, this to revert to son Hosea at her death. To sons Gideon W. and James M., who had already received their share of his land, about 40 acres each, he left no more. To son Augustus W., he left 40 acres e of his house. To son Marion C., he left 40 acres south of his house. To youngest son Hosea he left the balance of his land; personal property a house and kitchen furniture was to be sold and divided as follows: daughter Sarah E. Duncan - \$100, daughter Diana J. Thompson - \$20, granddaughter Emily Bell Simmons - \$25. The balance of the estate to be equally divided among Gideon Simmons, James M. Simmons and Sarah Duncan.

Children of first marriage:

- 4a. Tazewell Simmons, b. 1836(F), d. Nov 4, 1861, in hospital, Montgomery White Sulphur Springs, Pvt, Co. A, 54th Va. Inf., CSA; n.m.
- 4b. Sarah Elizabeth Simmons, b. Feb 14, 1838(F), d. Dec 25, 1907(F), bur Duncan Cem, m. Nov 24, 1857(F), Beauford Duncan, b. Nov 30, 1831(F), d. June 14, 1905, bur Duncan Cem, son of George & Elizabeth (Morricle) Duncan; 7 children.
- 4c. Joseph H. Simmons, b. 1840, d. 1876, bur Red Oak Grove Cem, m. Dec 9, 1869(F), Octavia Graham, b. July 28, 1849(F), d. Dec 4, 1906, bur Red Oak Grove Cem, dau of Amos & Permelia (Richards) Graham.
- 5a. Emily Bell Simmons, b. May 3, 1872, d. June 21, 1954, bur Knob Cem, m. March 13, 1890(F), Jacob J. Sumner, b. Aug 11, 1866, d. Nov 17, 1953.