

The land at White Oak Grove, his first? home, he deeded to his son Edward and grandson Charles (son of John), children of his first marriage.

Sons William, Carey and Thomas were given land on Beaver Creek. Carey sold his land and moved to West Fork. In November 1833, "in consideration of the love, goodness and affection which I bear toward my loving son William Simmons," he deeded to him all goods and chattels and all remaining property in his possession.

We have to assume that he gave his daughters cash settlements.

Previous research which has been done on the Simmons family purports to show that Charles Simmons descended from William Symonds, an emigrant from England who arrived in this country in 1635 and lived in James City County in eastern Virginia. The line is traced down to Charles Simmons I, whose will was probated in Campbell County, Virginia, in 1794 (WB I, p. 264), in which he names his children, among them his son Charles Simmons II, who was supposed to be Charles Simmons of Floyd County. At that time there was a Charles Simmons living in Campbell County, two, perhaps three, men by the name of Charles Simmons living in Franklin County, and it is possible that one of them could have been the son named in the will of Charles Simmons I of Campbell County. The statement of Nellie Simmons Lester in 1880 that her father was born in Maryland contradicts the connection with Charles Simmons of Floyd County.

Two marriages are recorded in Montgomery County records:

June 23, 1796, Mary Cummings and Joseph Payne.

Parents: Charles & Elnor Simmons

Charles Simmons & John Simmons, securities.

August 28, 1797, Betsy Cummings and John Willson.

Parents: Charles and Nelly Simmons

Charles Simmons and Edward Simmons, securities.

It is my conclusion that the two Cummings girls were foster daughters of Charles and Nellie Simmons. Their names and the names of their husbands cannot be found again in Montgomery County and it is assumed that after their marriage they moved to Kentucky or some other state.

Much in the life of Charles Simmons is based on conjecture, as positive proof is lacking. Perhaps records will some day come to light which will fill in the gaps and answer some of the questions.

(End Simmons)