

- 3b. Joshua P. Lester, b. Oct 4, 1821(M), d. Feb 10, 1901(M), bur Lester Cem #1, m. Jan 19, 1848(F), Catherine Mary Wilson Peterman, b. July 31, 1828(M), d. June 29, 1908(M), bur Lester Cem #1, dau of George A. & Mary (Lucas) Peterman; 10 children; George, Giles, Mary Jane, Harvey, Christina, Samuel, William, Sidney, Oscar, Helm.

Joshua was the first son, second child, of Hulen & Nellie Lester. Joshua and Catherine lived about 4 miles south of Riner on what is now called the Rustic Ridge Road. Catherine inherited some of the land from her father's estate; Hulen gave Joshua a tract of 111 acres.

Joshua ran the farm and turned the younger boys (William, Sidney, Oscar, Helm) over to his oldest son, Giles, to raise (according to his grandson, Elbert Posey). Giles ruled with a rod of iron - he was foreman. He carried out what Joshua told him to do. The boys looked to him for advice when they grew up. Joshua and Catherine left the place to the three youngest boys, Sidney, Oscar, Helm; William bought them out. William lived there and ran the farm until he moved to Riner. The original house was torn down and a square white frame house now stands on the site.

They lost their two little girls, their only daughters (Mary Jane, aged 9, and Christina, aged 4) and their baby boy (Samuel aged 1), in a diphtheria epidemic in 1863. George, their first-born, died of typhoid fever in 1871, a young man. Six sons lived to adulthood: Giles, Harvey, William, Sidney, Oscar, Helm.

- 4a. George H. Lester, b. April 24, 1849(M), d. April 22, 1871(M), bur Lester Cem #1, n.m.
- 4b. Giles Pleasant Lester, b. April 11, 1851(M), d. Jan 25, 1913(M), bur Riner Cem, m. Dec 19, 1877(M), Mary Elizabeth Walter, b. Aug 4, 1858 (Pulaski Co), d. Jan 25, 1920(M), bur Riner Cem, dau of Samuel & V. Walter; four children.

"Giles Lester, an aged and highly esteemed citizen living near Riner, died suddenly Sunday morning of heart trouble" (Floyd Press, Jan 30, 1913).

- 5a. George Early Lester, b. Feb 14, 1879(M), d. July 21, 1955 (Shenandoah, Va), bur U.B. Cem, m. (1) May 10, 1905, Addie Fuga (Fugie) Simpkins, b. Sept 3, 1878(M), d. Sept 5, 1910 (Newport News, Va), dau of J. Daniel & Mary A. (Feathers) Simpkins; Early m. (2) June 26, 1912, Mary E. Plough, b. March 23, 1877 (Carlisle, Pa), d. Oct 16, 1951 (Shenandoah, Va), bur U. B. Cem; one child first marriage, one child second marriage.

Early Lester was Yardmaster for the Norfolk & Western Railwa and moved from place to place: Christiansburg, Pulaski, Newport News, Shenandoah. After his wife Mary died he went in Grottoes Nursing Home, Shenandoah, where he died.

- 6a. Mary Catherine Lester, b. Aug 25, 1907, m. July 5, 1927, Dewey H. Richards. Moved to Dallas, Texas.