

CHAPTER 4

THE REST OF THE WAY TO ME

- **MY DESCENT FROM JOSEPH SEAY (II).**

In “The Irish Seays,” vols. I and II, I carefully described my descent from Joseph SEAY (II), with full and complete documentation, from tax records, civic records, real estate records, funeral home records, census records and records of births, deaths and marriages. Thus, I will not repeat all of that in this document, but will offer a summary of the information those two manuscripts contain.

Based on (a) the tax records of King William County and Campbell County, Virginia, as well as (b) his Revolutionary War Pension application, we know the following about Joseph SEAY (II).

1. He was born in King William County, Virginia, about 1753/1754.
2. He was eighteen when he married in 1772. We do not know the name of his first wife but surmise it may have been Floyd.
3. He was a veteran of the Revolutionary War and some combat in the War.
4. After the War, he seems to have been a tenant farmer in King William County.
5. He was in Campbell County, Virginia, by 1790, probably by 1788.
6. He purchased 300 acres of land in Campbell County on September 22, 1790, and seems to have been a farmer.
7. He married Agnes Ligon on March 16, 1804.³⁰ Agnes was his second wife.
8. He died about 1847, when his estate was accounted.

According to (a) his Revolutionary War Pension application and (b) subsequent research into Campbell County tax records by Jones Memorial Library, the following are the children of Joseph SEAY (II):

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Place of Birth</u>
1. Eagy/Agathy SEAY	c. 1774	King William County, Virginia
2. William SEAY	1777/1778	King William County, Virginia
3. Mary (Polly) SEAY	c. 1780	King William County, Virginia
4. Sarah SEAY	c. 1783	King William County, Virginia
5. Joseph SEAY (III)	1783/1785	King William County, Virginia
6. Fanny SEAY	c. 1785	King William County, Virginia
7. Thomas SEAY	c. 1787/1788	King William County, Virginia
8. Delila SEAY	1794/1800	Campbell County, Virginia
9. Elizabeth F. SEAY	1804	Campbell County, Virginia
10. Samuel SEAY	1804/1810	Campbell County, Virginia

I have additional information about these persons, including their marriages and most of

³⁰ Hinshaw, Encyclopedia of Quaker Genealogy.

their children. Also, I have documentation for each of these events.

My Descent From Joseph SEAY (III).

The fifth child of Joseph SEAY (II) was Joseph SEAY (III). This Joseph was born in King William County c. 1783/1785 and died November 15, 1859, according to Campbell County records. He married Elizabeth (Betsey) Overstreet on November 15, 1815, just after his return from the War of 1812. I have a copy of his marriage record. In an interesting bit of irony, Betsey SEAY's step-father was the West Virginian of German descent, George See. I have not been able to determine his vocation. The children of Joseph SEAY (III) were the following:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Place of Birth</u>
1. Rebecca Jane Floyd SEAY	1816	Campbell County, Virginia
2. George William SEAY	1818	Campbell County, Virginia
3. Elizabeth SEAY	Unknown	Campbell County, Virginia
4. Unnamed Daughter SEAY	Unknown	Campbell County, Virginia
5. Joseph SEAY	Unknown ³¹	Campbell County, Virginia
6. Joseph SEAY	Unknown ³²	Campbell County, Virginia
7. Laura F. SEAY	Unknown	Campbell County, Virginia
8. William Thomas SEAY	Unknown	Campbell County, Virginia
9. Andrew Jackson SEAY	1829	Campbell County, Virginia
10. Charles Edward SEAY	1832	Campbell County, Virginia
11. Fanny SEAY	1838	Campbell County, Virginia
12. James Floyd SEAY	1846	Campbell County, Virginia

Again, I have further information on each of these ancestors and have the documentation for each of these events.

My Descent From Charles Edward SEAY.

Charles Edward SEAY was born in 1832 in Campbell County, Virginia, the tenth of twelve children of Joseph SEAY (III). He died in Lynchburg, Virginia, October 16, 1904. I have a copy of his obituary from the local newspaper, in which he is said to have been affiliated with Carroll Brothers tobacco warehouse in Lynchburg. Charles married Caroline Thomas in Appomattox, Virginia, on June 28, 1860,³³ and Frances (Fanny) Terrell Linthicum on February 19, 1879, in Lynchburg. Charles' children were the following:

³¹ This Joseph Seay was buried January 5, 1842.

³² This is yet another Joseph Seay who must have died young.

³³ Caroline Thomas died October 3, 1875.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Place of Birth</u>
By Caroline Thomas . . .		
1. Lula Belle SEAY	August 25, 1862	Appomattox, Virginia
2. Dorarontius SEAY	Unknown	Lynchburg, Virginia
3. Fannie F./R. SEAY	Unknown	Lynchburg, Virginia
4. Cora Lee SEAY	Unknown	Lynchburg, Virginia
5. Lennie Thomas SEAY	Unknown	Lynchburg, Virginia
6. Charles Edward SEAY	February 10, 1876	Lynchburg, Virginia

By Frances Terrell Linthicum . . .

7. Maymie SEAY	1880	Lynchburg, Virginia
8. Raleigh James SEAY	January 8, 1882	Lynchburg, Virginia
9. Unnamed SEAY	Unknown	Lynchburg, Virginia
10. Harry C. SEAY	1888	Lynchburg, Virginia
11. Walter Carroll SEAY ³⁴	1890	Lynchburg, Virginia
12. Edward (Eddie) Harmon SEAY	1892	Lynchburg, Virginia
13. Emmie (Annie) Dexter SEAY	1894	Lynchburg, Virginia
14. Eleanor (Isabel) SEAY	1896	Lynchburg, Virginia
15. Lucy Terrill SEAY	1900	Lynchburg, Virginia

My Descent From Raleigh James SEAY.

Raleigh James SEAY was my grandfather and is the first “Raleigh” in our family.³⁵ He is the eldest SEAY family member that I remember and I cannot find anyone who knows where the name “Raleigh” was derived. He married Emma Hughes of Martinsville, Virginia, on June 22, 1907, worked for the Railway Express Corporation in Lynchburg, and died on March 30, 1962, when I was a senior in high school. He was a quiet and gentle man that everyone loved.

Raleigh James SEAY and Emma Hughes had the following children:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Place of Birth</u>
1. Dexter Lloyd SEAY	April 8, 1908	Lynchburg, Virginia
2. Genevieve Perro SEAY	December 22, 1910	Lynchburg, Virginia
3. Francis Elizabeth SEAY	November 6, 1913	Lynchburg, Virginia
4. Raleigh Franklin SEAY	May 30, 1915	Lynchburg, Virginia
5. Ruth Guitiuse SEAY	May 6, 1923	Lynchburg, Virginia

This is documented in a family bible which is in the possession of the family of Francis Elizabeth Seay Richardson, Lynchburg, Virginia.

³⁴ Walter Carroll Seay was our beloved “Uncle Walter” who provided the family with most of the information on our Irish ancestry.

³⁵ My youngest daughter Katie is the latest Raleigh. Her name is Raleigh Kathryn Seay.

My Descent From Raleigh Franklin SEAY, Sr.

Raleigh Franklin SEAY (Sr.), my father, was born May 30, 1915, and died in 1974 of a series of strokes and other medical complications. He was a veteran of World War II, attended OCS, was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant and assigned to the 45th Infantry Division, the "Thunderbirds." He fought in Italy, France and Germany, landing at Anzio in February 1944 and eventually moving into Rome on June 4, 1944, under General Mark Clark's 5th Army. From Italy, he and his unit shipped out to southern France, where he fought his way through Reipertsweiler, where he won the Silver Star for bravery in action. In addition, he was decorated with the Combat Infantryman's Badge and the Purple Heart. He then fought through southern Germany, by Ashafenburg, into Dachau and ended the war in Munich. As a soldier, he helped liberate Dachau and returned to America in 1946, having been overseas for more than two years, mostly in combat. I was born while Daddy was overseas and was two years old when he returned from Europe. He was informed of my birth while in a foxhole on Anzio beach head, by a brave and dedicated Red Cross worker. I have often wondered what he must have thought

Raleigh Franklin SEAY (Sr.) married Nellie Mae Leathers on August 4, 1941, and they had two children:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Place of Birth</u>
1. Raleigh Franklin SEAY, Jr. (me)	April 5, 1944	Charleston, S.C.
2. Richard Terrell SEAY	November 1, 1945	Roanoke Rapids, N.C.

Thus, the line of Mathew SEE/SEAY extends unbroken from Mathew to me and my brother (and many others along the way, if you are related to any of these SEAYS). I am ninth in descent from Mathew SEE/SEAY.

• From Mathew to Me.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Place of Birth</u>
1. Mathew SEE/SEAY	c. 1660	Ireland (Down? Kilkenny?)
2. Isaac SEAY	c. 1690	King William County, Va.
3. Joseph SEAY (I)	c. 1725	King William County, Va.
4. Joseph SEAY (II)	1753/1754	King William County, Va.
5. Joseph SEAY (III)	1783/1785	King William County, Va.
6. Charles Edward SEAY	1832	Lynchburg, Va.
7. Raleigh James SEAY	January 8, 1882	Lynchburg, Va.
8. Raleigh Franklin SEAY, Sr.	March 30, 1915	Lynchburg, Va.
9. Raleigh Franklin SEAY, Jr.	April 5, 1944	Charleston, South Carolina