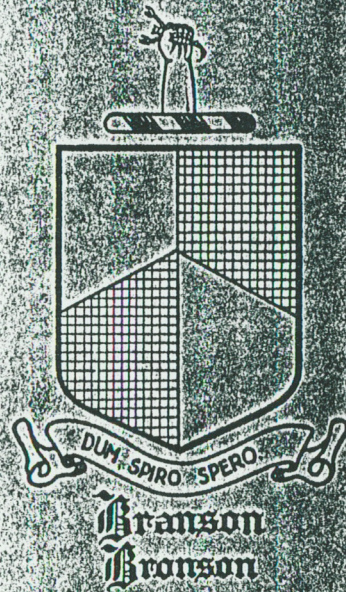


GENEALOGY  
—OF—  
Branson Families  
IN AMERICA



The Branson-Bronson coat of arms is of Scotch design. The motto DUM SPIRO SPERO on the scroll is, in English, "While I breathe, I hope." The small squares on the shield are for numbers. The names of the members of the family or clan are recorded and numbered.

WRITTEN AND COMPILED BY  
George Branson, 18 E. Logan St., Brazil, Ind.  
John W. Branson, ..... Wheatcroft, Ky.

1936



## THE BRANSON-BRONSON FAMILY

We are told the name of Branson and Bronson are of the same stock, originated in Scotland.

There is a book of the Branson Family in the Congressional Library at Washington, D. C., which states that Thomas Branson came from England about 1700. He had two sons, Levi and Eli. Levi was born in 1732, lived near Ashboro, North Carolina. His children were Thomas, Joseph, Henry, Eli, Abner, Lydia, Rebecca, and Mary. Henry married a Miss Cox; Levi married Grace Fruit. Abner and Eli both single. Lydia married W. M. Cox. Rebecca married Thomas Pugh. Mary never married.

No record of Eli and family found.

The book in the Library referred to also states that three Branson brothers came from England with William Penn's Quaker colonists about 1682, or later. The names of the brothers were: Ware, Absolam and Moses Branson. They came to Philadelphia, but only one of them, Moses Branson, remained there permanently. The other two brothers settled elsewhere. Ware settled in New York. Absolam moved to Pittsylvania County, Virginia.

I received a letter from the Corporation of Trinity Church, 72 Wall Street, near Broadway, giving information about the Bransons who were members of that church and were buried in the church cemetery. The early church records show:

Mrs. Branson was born in 1758 and died in 1779.

Ware Branson, Jr., was born in 1753 and died in 1821.

His wife was Nancy Palmer. They were married in 1776. Their children were Mary and Hetty.

Mary married Stephen Sands, and died in 1823.

Hetty married Daniel Darby. She was born in 1790 and died in 1875.

Not all of William Penn's colonists were Quakers. He brought others who were persecuted and not permitted to worship in the state churches of England. Ware Branson and family united with the Trinitarians in New York City. Moses Branson and his descendants remained with the Quakers in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and elsewhere. Absolam Branson and numerous posterity were Predestinarian Baptists.



Many of them settled in Virginia, Tennessee, North Carolina and southern states.

The two names, Branson-Bronson, are of one and the same family. Their coat-of-arms is so labeled in England. It is an old Roman design, the Scorpion, representing the old military machine for throwing heavy stones in battle. Americans have no use for coat-of-arms.

Absolam Branson's date of birth and death not known. His wife's maiden name not known. Their son, Michael, was born in 1766. His wife was Mary Hammerick, born in 1762. Their children were:

1. Jemima, born in 1791. No record of her family.
2. James, born in 1793. No record of him.
3. George, born in 1795, and died in 1867.
4. Ezra, born in 1798. No record of his family.
5. Nancy, born in 1800. No family record.
6. Elizabeth Rebecca, born in 1802.
7. Michael, Jr., born in 1805.
8. Luke Laban, born in 1808.
9. Joseph Branson, born 1810. No family record.

All of these children were born in Pittsylvania County, Virginia. Some of them settled in border states. It is not known that Absolam had other children than the one son, Michael.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### HISTORY OF LEMUEL BRANSON FAMILY

This History of Lemuel Branson and his family was written by his grandson, Newton Branson, in 1901.

Lemuel Branson was born in Roane County, Tennessee, in 1810, and died near Mansfield, Indiana, in 1867. His wife's maiden name was Elizabeth Cena Branson; they were cousins. She was born in Roane County, Tennessee, in 1816, and died near Mansfield, Indiana, in 1861. They were charter members of Rocky Fork Predestination Baptist Church and are buried in the Maines cemetery.

To them ten children were born: 1st, was George W. Branson, born in 1835, and died in 1890. He was a soldier, a captain in Co. E. 21st Ind. Regiment. His wife was Hettie Catlin, born in Parke County, Indiana, in 1844. George and Hettie's children were: Nellie, born in 1868, and married



William Brubeck in 1888. 2nd child, Cora, born in 1870, and married John Henry Brubeck in 1889.

Lemuel and Cena Branson's 2nd child was Lucy Jane, born in 1837, and died in 1857.

3rd child was Erastus Denman Branson, born in 1840, and died in Andersonville prison in 1865. The number of his grave is 12,596. Erastus' wife was Margaret Elizabeth Singleton, born in 1845, and died in 1870. Their children were Newton, born in 1861, died about 1920. 2nd, Alvina Elizabeth, born in 1862, and died in 1863. 3rd child was James Erastus, born in 1865.

The 4th child of Lemuel and Cena Branson, Joab, born in 1842, and died in 1844.

The 5th was Ceborn Newton, born in 1844. Enlisted in the 43rd Ind. Regiment, and died at Memphis, Tennessee, in 1863, and was buried there.

The 6th was John Acuff, born in 1849, and died in 1898. His wife was Mary Mackabee. They had one child, Alice, born in 1875.

The 7th child of Lemuel and Cena's was Robert Chase, born in 1850. His first wife was Margaret Milligan, born at London, Roane County, Tennessee; in 1857, and died at Monticello, Illinois. Their children were: (1) Noah Edgar, born in 1878; (2) James Arthur, born in 1881; (3) Nellie May, born in 1883; (4) Daisy Dean, born in 1885. Robert Chase's second wife was Hattie Clemmons, born in 1863, at Keokuk, Iowa. Their children were (1) Robert Way, born in 1895; (2) Ellen Christena, born in 1900.

The 8th child of Lemuel and Cena's was Rebecca Ann, born in 1853. Married Frank Berry and died in 1884. Their children were: (1) Edgar Lawrence, born in 1874; and (2), Charles Berry, born in 1881.

Lemuel and Cena's 9th child was Mary Ellen, born in 1856. She married Jerome Elson. He was born in Ohio in 1845. Their children were: 1st, Orville Elson, born at Catlin, in 1877. The family moved to Great Bend, Kansas, where the rest of their children were born. 2nd, Stewart H., born in 1880. 3rd, Jerome E., born in 1882. 4th, Aubry D., born in 1884. 5th, Rosella G., born in 1886. 6th, William V., born in 1889. 7th, Chas. L., born in 1892. 8th, Clara L., born in 1894.



Lemuel and Cena Branson's 10th child was Christena, born at Mansfield, Indiana. Married George Clark and moved to St. John, Kansas. Their children were: (1) Clarence, born in 1882; (2) John T., born in 1889; (3) Estella May, born in 1892; (4) Hattie Ellen, born in 1894.

George Branson, Sr., born in Pittsylvania County, Virginia, in 1795, died in 1867. Married Rebecca Lewis. She was born about 1800, and died about 1844. They had five children. They moved to Tennessee and later to Mansfield, Indiana, in 1837, after all of their children were born. Their first child was Anna Branson, born in 1822. She married Samuel King. They had one son. They moved to Iowa and took her father to their home and cared for him until his death in 1865.

The 3rd child of George Branson, Sr., was Michael Branson, born in 1827. Never married.

The 4th child was Jonathan Branson, born in 1830. Never married.

The 5th child was Laurena, born in 1832. She married Wesley Mallett. Their children were Mary Jane, George Thomas, Francis Marion, Andrew Jackson, Emma Louisa. The family moved to Wilson, Kansas, about 1872.

George Branson's, Sr., 2nd child, was Matthew Branson, born in 1825, and died in 1856. His wife was Mary Overpeck, born in 1821, and died in 1889. Their children were: Marion, born in 1849, and died in 1911. His wife was Sarah M. McClain. They had no children. Marion was killed by a horse. Matthew Branson's 2nd child was George, Jr., born in 1852. His wife was Barbara E. Wimmer, born in 1849, and died in 1927. They had only one child, Cloe Branson, born in 1881. She married Bernard C. Craig, born in 1880. They have two children, George N. Craig, born in 1909, and Elizabeth W. Craig, born in 1913. George N. Craig married Kathryn Heiliger, born in 1911. They have one child, John David, born in 1936.

Matthew's 3rd child was Thomas, born in 1853, and died in 1928. His wife was Martha E. Mater, born in 1854, and died in 1929. Their children are George E. Branson, born in 1881. His wife was Daisy Hill, born in 1882. Their children are: Homer, Jr., born in 1910; Thomas, born in 1912; and Paul, born in 1917. Thomas married Ione Easter. Their son is Robert Dale, born in 1935.



Thomas' children are: Frank, born in 1884. His wife, Hazel Blake, born in 1889. Their children are Gertrude, born in 1912; Frank Max, born in 1917; Alice Marie, born in 1921. Homer Branson, Jr., married Pauline Collings. Their children are: Patricia, born in 1933; Georganna, born in 1936.

Thomas Branson's 3rd child is Homer, born in 1887; single.

Thomas' 4th child is Mary Jane, born in 1889; single.

Thomas' 5th child is Eric, born in 1893. She married Sheldon C. Brown, born in 1887.

Their children are: Mary Louis, born in 1920.

Carl Eugene, born in 1918; Martha Ellen, born in 1931.

Matthew Branson's 4th child was Ellis, born in 1855, and died in 1929. His wife was Malinda E. Winner, born in 1862. Had no children. They were school teachers.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### HISTORY OF JOAB BRANSON FAMILY

Joab Branson was probably a son of Hezekiah Branson, who died near Tazwell, Tennessee, in Claiborn County, in 1829.

Joab Branson, Sr., was born in Virginia about 1790, and came to Jackson Township, Parke County, Indiana, in 1831. His wife's name not known to me. Their children were:

1. Elizabeth, born in 1816. Married Elemeuel Branson.
2. Michael, born in 1819.
3. Jerry, born in 1821. No record of his family.
4. George, born in 1823. No record.
5. Jonathan, born in 1825, and died in 1881.
6. John, born in 1829, and died in 1908. Married Nancy Lewis.
7. Nancy, born in 1832. No record.
8. Agnes, born in 1834. Married William Salmon. Had two sons, Meston and George.
9. Martin, born in 1838. No record. Moved to Missouri about 1878 or 1880.



10. Joab, Jr., born in 1842, and died in 1903. Was a soldier. His wife was Sarah A. Overpeck, born in 1845, and died in 1923. Their children were: Mary E. Branson, born in 1867. She married James W. Thompson, born in 1866, and died in 1914. Their children are: Ruth A., born in 1896. She married Luther Seybold, born in 1896. Their children are: James Jacob, born in 1917; William Kenneth, born in 1918; Ivan Richard, born in 1924; Robert Glenn, born in 1929; Carl Edward, born in 1933. Mary and James W. Thompson's 2nd child is Grace Agnes, born in 1899.

Joab Branson's, Jr., 2nd child is George Howard, born in 1868. His wife was Mary Stuthard. They have no children. Joab's, Jr., 3rd child is Lennie Branson, born in 1876. She married Charles Mater. They have six children: 1st, Lillie Hocker, born in 1895; 2nd, Frank Mater, born in 1897; 3rd, Foster Mater, born in 1902; 4th, Floyd Mater, born in 1913; 5th, Garnet Mater, born in 1916; 6th, Mabel Mater, born in 1920.

Joab Branson's, Jr., 4th child is William Branson. His wife was Elizabeth Byers. They have two children, Merle and Elsie.

Johnathan Branson was born in 1825, died in 1884. His first wife's name, I think, was Coleman. They had one daughter, named Telitha. She married Cager Rigdon. They had four children born to them: 1st, Rose Emma; 2nd, Matt or Matthew; 3rd, Ella; 4th, Lucy. Rose Emma married a Mr. Marlow; Lucy married Frank Chadwell; Ella married Cecil Snow; Matt's wife unknown to me.

Johnathan Branson's second wife was Elizabeth Lewis. They had five children born to them: 1st, Nancy Ann, married James Joiner, of Rockville, Ind.; 2nd, Martin, married in Kentucky (wife's name unknown to me), they had three or four children born to them; 3rd, Newton, never married; 4th, Lewis, married (wife's name unknown to me), they had two children; 5th, Norval married Estella Galeener, no children.

John Branson was born in 1829. His first wife's name unknown to me; died in 1908. Their children were: 1st, Isabell, born in 1850, died in 1919. She married Jefferson Hill, born in 1850, died in 1907. They had two sons: John,



born 1870; James, born 1873; one daughter, Letha, born 1883, died 1932. Second daughter of John Branson, Rebecca, married William Lowery. Her children were: Thomas, born 1870; William, Jr., birth date unknown., and Ann, born 1870. She married Soloman Garrigus, born 1879.

John Branson's second wife was Nancy Lewis, a daughter of Thomas Lewis, who moved to Parke County, Indiana, in 1837. First child by second wife was Delorious Evaline Branson, born 1856, died April 5, 1926; married Cyrus Bennett Woolverton in 1872 or 1873, born 1855, died July 4, 1926. Their children:

1. Claude, born Aug. 23, 1874; married first time to Olive Barney, 1899. Two girls born to them, Irene and Marie, at Rocky Fork, Colo. Second wife, Marie Amelunteen, of Wisconsin. Two boys born to them, John Earl, now living; Duncan, who died June 6, 1912.
2. Lena, born March 14, 1877; married first to Herbert Acres Oct. 5, 1898; lived with him six years. Married Valentine Mendel 1904, in Chicago; he died 1928. Married William S. Streiker, of Chicago, April, 1929. No children by either marriage.
3. Samuel Duncan, born Jan. 11, 1881, died April 14, 1910.
4. Mary Nancy, born Sept. 4, 1883, died June 13, 1887.
5. John Earl, born Dec. 17, 1887, died July 5, 1909.
6. Aric Etta, born May 28, 1891, died Nov. 6, 1909.
7. Edna Frances, born Feb. 8, 1895; married Roy Duvall Miller Oct. 16, 1912. One child born to them, Libby Deloris, Jan. 5, 1914. Married Mr. ----- Ruddock. One child born to them.
8. Hazel Thelma, born Feb. 19, 1901; married Herbert L. Maske, of Des Plains, Illinois, June 7, 1919. Two children born to them: Joy Lois, born May 7, 1924; Herbert Lewis, Jr., born April 8, 1927.

Second child of John and Nancy Lewis Branson was Willard D., born Oct. 14, 1857; died March 17, 1936. Married Bertha H. Thompson May 1, 1889. Four children were born to them: Curtis, of Rockville, Ind.; Oscar, of Fort Wayne,



Ind.; Ray died at the age of 3 years and 3 months; Dorothy Hellen died at the age of 2 weeks and 2 days.

Third child, Lafaett, died in infancy.

Fourth child, Siles Edward, born 1866; married Perlyna Pruitt. Two boys were born to them.

Fifth, John Wesley, born Feb. 14, 1868, in Parke County, Indiana; came to Kentucky in 1893. Married Nora Bell Howerton Nov. 3, 1893. Six children born to them: (1) Everet Odes, born Jan. 5, 1895; married Pansy Clark, of Wisconsin. Two children born to them: Charles Wesley, Jan. 1, 1920; Norma Bell, date of birth unknown. After several years, Everett and Pansy, his first wife, separated. Later he married Edith Tolbott. One child was born to them, Mary Jane. (2) Charles Alton, born Nov. 17, 1897; died Dec. 27, 1897. (3) Maudie May, born Nov. 11, 1898; married Charley Brown. Two children born to them: Charles Wesley (birth date unknown); George Odes Brown (date of birth unknown); Maudie May Branson Brown, died Dec. 24, 1919. (4) Elva Eva, born May 11, 1900; married Leo W. Morris 1918. No children. (5) Hughie James, born June 19, 1902. (6) Mildred Nora, born July 31, 1904; married Roy Hearin. Four children born to them: Leo, born June 11, 1921, died June 22, 1922; Juanita, born Jan. 31, 1923; Ceia Youne, born Nov. 24, 1924, died April 9, 1925; Betty Jene, born July 9, 1926. Mildred Nora Hearin and Roy Hearin separated and divorced and she married Bennie Rickerson, and two children were born to them: Jimmie (date of birth unknown); Joy Evalin, born Feb. 22, 1934, died Nov., 1935.

John Wesley Branson's first wife, Nora, died April 10, 1907.

John Wesley Branson married Theodosia Queen Denny Aug. 29, 1908. No children born to this union. Her father was J. W. Denny, born in North Carolina.

John and Nancy Branson's sixth child was Charles Meston, born Feb. 22, 1870; married Fannie Williams. Four children born to them: Mary, married a Mr. Deplanty; Francis, married first Lemuel Osborn; he died. Second husband's name was Vanhook; Golda and Ralph.

John and Nancy Branson's children were all born in or near Mansfield, Parke County, Indiana, Jackson Township.



Mary Ann Branson, granddaughter of Joab Branson, married John Cabbage. Their children were: (1) Henry (killed in the Civil war); (2) Adam; (3) Campbell; (4) Nancy; (5) Jane. The last three named not married. (6) Jonathan married Nancy Jane Brown, and their children were: 1st, Ella, born in 1879. She married Clyde Overpeck. Their children are: Nitis, born in 1906; and Darrell. Nitis is an artist. She married Dr. John Shattuck in 1935. Darrell, born in 1909. He is a medical student at Indiana University.

The children of Jonathan and Nancy Jane brown are: 1. Ella Brown Overpeck; 2. Margaret; 3. Martha; 4. Sarah; 5. Manuel; 6. Adam; 7. John; 8. James; 9. Dennis.

\* \* \* \* \*

### BRISCOE BRANSON AND FAMILY

Briscoe Branson, born in 1845, claims he came from Scotland. His last address was Carbondale, Illinois. His brothers were: Ellis, Leonard and Hezekiah.

Hezekiah's children were: Hugh, born in 1842; Abigail, born in 1848; William, born in 1850. William was a Predestinarian Baptist minister at Carbondale, Illinois. We do not know to which one of the three Branson families Briscoe belonged. He was of Scotch descent.

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### MICHAEL BRANSON

Michael Branson, Jr., son of Michael and Mary Hammerick Branson, was born in 1805, in Pittsylvania County, Virginia. His son, James, said his father first taught school two years and was a Predestinarian Baptist minister. Later he practiced medicine. In 1830 he married Sarah McNabb, near Knoxville, Tennessee. Their children were John, James, Felix, Thomas and Nancy. Nancy married a Mr. Curry. They had one son and two daughters. Felix had two sons and one daughter. In 1849 Michael and family moved across the country with wagon and team to the Ohio river. They procured a boat with all of their goods stored in it, crossed over the river and from Evansville went up the Wabash river to Terre Haute. He bought 120 acres of land from the Wabash and Erie Canal Company and settled two miles south of Farmersburg, where he lived until his death. The



homestead passed to his son, James, who died there in 1934, at the age of 81 years.

Luke Labon Branson, born in \_\_\_\_\_; was a brother of Michael, Jr. He moved to Hymera, south of Terre Haute.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### PRUETT-BRANSON FAMILY

The Pruett-Branson family came from Virginia (?) and settled near Mansfield, Parke County, Indiana, in the 1830's. Elizabeth Rebecca Branson, born in 1802, in Pittsylvania County, Virginia, was a granddaughter of Absolam Branson. She married Johnathan Pruett. Date of his birth not given. Their children were:

1. Mary Ann; no record of her given.
2. Susan. No record of her family given.
3. Eliza Jane. She married Benjamin Michels, a soldier in the 71st Indiana Regiment. He was held in Andersonville prison for a while and released by exchange. Eliza died in Chicago. Benjamin returned to Rockville, Indiana, where he was born in 1841, and died in 1927.
4. Barthena. No record.
5. Jemima. No record.
6. Abraham, married Sarah Cooper; no children.
7. Marshall, married Sarah Thompson. Their children were: William, Elizabeth, and Willard. Marshall died about 1864. His family moved to Northern Indiana, where Sarah lived to advanced age.
8. James. No record.
9. Jonathan; not married; a soldier. Soon after he returned home went to the far west.

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#### MICHAEL BRANSON FAMILY

Michael Branson, son of Joab Branson, was born in 1819. His wife was Rebecca Moore. They were married in 1841.



They had only one child, Thomas, born in 1842, and died in 1917. His wife was Biddie Hart. She was born in 1845, and died in 1923. They had four children: (1) Michael O. Branson, born in 1868. His wife, Nancy E. Branson, was born in 1877. Their children are: Biddie J. Branson, born in 1896. Their second child is Josie M., born in 1903. She married William Thompson, born in 1904. Their third child was Theresa Branson, born in 1905. She married Raymond Bramlett, born in 1900. They have two children, Edward Lee, born in 1929; and Loretta Alice, born in 1931.

Thomas and Biddie's second child was Clara J. Branson, born in 1875. Clarence, a twin brother, born in 1875. Their third child, John, was born in 1880. Clara married Samuel Ames. Their children are: (1) Albert, born in 1896; (2) Charles J., born in 1899; (3) Everett, born in 1901; (4) M. Veva, born in 1903; (5) Pauline, born in 1913. Their grandchildren are: (1) Dorothy, born in 1922; (2) Mary H., born in 1924; (3) Albert, Jr., born in 1925; (4) Joanna S., born in 1930; (5) Patricia L., born in 1934; (6) Charles and Anna Wells Ames' son, Chas. W., born in 1919; (7) Everett and Sylvia Campbell Ames' children are: (1) Virgil Glenn, born in 1924; (2) Mildred L., born in 1925; (3) Norma Jean, born in 1927. Veva Ames married W. R. Stallcup. Pauline Ames married Ray Parsons.

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#### 1768 TO 1934 BRANSON GENERATIONS

1. Moses and Sarah Branson, birth and marriage unknown.
2. David Branson, son of Moses and Sarah Branson, born in 1768; married to Sarah Antrem in 1791; died in Ohio. Sarah Antrem, born in 1764, died in 1821. Children of David and Sarah Antrem Branson were: 1. Stacy Branson, born in 1792; 2. Samuel Branson, born in 1794, and died in 1795; 3. Moses Branson, born in 1796; went to Southern Indiana. 4. Thomas Branson, born in 1798, and lived in Philadelphia.



### CHILDREN OF THOMAS BRANSON IN 1836

1. Ellis Branson.
2. Margaret, deceased.
3. Col. David Branson.
4. Thomas Branson, Jr.
5. Dr. Mary Branson.
6. Lucy Branson.

5. Sarah Branson, born in 1800; married Isaac Connarol; 6. Elizabeth Branson, born in 1803; married John Guest; lived in Preble County, Ohio. Their children were located near Clifty P. O., Decatur County, Indiana, in 1864.

Their names were: 1. Thomas Guest; 2. Hannah; 3. David; 4. Stephen; 5. Sarah; 6. Mary; 7. Moses; 8. Elizabeth; 9. Louisa.

3. 7. David Branson, Jr., born in 1808; married to Mary Kenworthy, Preble County, Ohio. Their children: 1. Amos Branson, born in 1831, and died in 1911, lived at West Elkton, Ohio. Married Priscilla Evans. Their children were 1. Elizabeth Branson, she married Linn Glifford. They had three children: 1. Edith; 2. Lucy; 3. Fred, deceased. 2. Gurnsey Branson married Viretta Roberts. 1. Myron Branson. 2. Emma Branson were their children.
4. Thomas Branson, son of David and Mary Kenworthy Branson, born in 1834, and died in 1924, at Amo, Indiana. Married in 1853 in Ohio, to Mary Jane Wasson, born in 1830, and died in 1918. Their children were Mary Emma Branson, born in 1854. Married W. B. Parker, born in 1875, and died in 1881. Children of W. B. and Mary Parker. 1. Everett Parker. 1. Everett Parker lives in Oregon. Has two children.
  2. Josephine Parker Beebe. California.
  3. Fred Parker, lives in Indianapolis, Indiana. Has one daughter, Frances Wildason, married. Frances Wildason has one daughter, Susa Lee Wildason.
2. Jesse Kenworthy Branson married Rebecca Hodson. Lives at Amo, Indiana.
3. Willie Branson, born in 1858, and died in infancy.
4. Albert Branson, born in 1863, and died in infancy.



5. Carman C. Branson, born in 1869. Married Viola Shields. Are living at Danville, Indiana, R. R. 2. Their children are: 1st. David Ernest Branson, born in 1895. Married Ruth Bedell. They live in New Jersey. 2nd. Mary Frances Branson, born in 1900. Married Forest K. Blair. 1. Marilyn, born in 1932.

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#### BRANSON GENERATIONS

1. Moses Branson, date of birth unknown.
2. David Branson, born in 1768.
3. David Branson, Jr., born in 1808.
4. Thomas Branson, born in 1834.
5. Mary Emma Branson Parker, born in 1854.
6. Fred Parker, born in 1880. D. E. Branson, born in 1895.
7. Frances Parker Wildason, born in 1907, Cincinnati, Ohio.
8. Susa Lee Wildason, born in 1934, Cincinnati, Ohio.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### BRANSONS IN TENNESSEE

Hezekiah Branson died in Claiborn County, Tennessee, in 1829, near Tazwell. Some of his heirs are as follows:

Joab Branson, Jeremiah, John, Johnathan, Betsy (married Johnathan Pruett), Serena (married John Pruett), Sarah, Jemima, Mary Ann, Agnes.

The informant states there were some others, but the above named are the ones that signed the deed to the land Hezekiah owned at his death. Said land was located on the north bank of Clinch river, at the upper end of what is known as long bottom.

Wm. H. LEWIS, The Informant.  
Lone Mountain, Tenn.



## A PART OF THE HISTORY OF THE FAMILY OF BRANSONS IN HOPKINS COUNTY, KY.

By STROTHER BRANSON, Madisonville, Ky.

Richard Branson was born in Virginia; came to Kentucky about the year of 1772; went with George Rogers Clark on his expedition to Vincennes. Upon returning to Kentucky he moved his family to Indiana. Shortly after he died. Two men of Slaughters, Ky., went to Indiana and moved his family back to that town.

Thomas Jefferson, son of Richard Branson, had two sisters (names unknown). John Henry Branson, son of Thomas J. Branson, born Aug. 5, 1848, died May 9, 1936. Children of John H. Branson were: Sarah Frances, born Aug. 31, 1869; Joe L., born April 5, 1871, died Dec. 27, 1888; Charlie, born April 14, 1873; Walter R., born Oct. 10, 1876; Ova, born Oct. 14, 1878, died 1922; Calie, born June 17, 1881, died Aug. 5, 1886; Nora, born June 23, 1887. Children of Walter R. and Willie Reynolds Branson: Robert Henry, born March 22, 1901; William Strother, born Feb. 17, 1906; Maurice Reynolds, born April 26, 1910; Coleman Ira, born July 16, 1912; Mary Ruth, born Sept. 14, 1914; Nadine Frances, born Aug. 30, 1917.

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## HISTORY OF BALOS BRANSON, OF WEBSTER COUNTY, KENTUCKY

I have met his grandchildren and we think he was a brother to my grandfather, Joab Branson. They are of the same stock and are of Scotch descent. He settled in Kentucky about the year 1832, and grandfather had a brother to stop in Kentucky the year he came to Indiana, and another brother that went somewhere in Illinois and settled the same time.

Balos Branson was born 1801, died 1886; buried in Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Onton, Webster County, Kentucky. He was married to ~~Elizabeth Simmons~~.

Children of Balos Branson—Rufes, born 1829; Lacky, born 1831; Frank, born 1832, married to Nancy Cobb; George, born 1846, married to Mary Cobb; Efrim, born 1847.

Joab Sr.  
6-1790



Children of Rufes Branson—Barbra, born 1849; Willis, born 1851; Thomas, born 1858; Brady, born 1860; Nancy, born 1862; Lucy, born 1864; Marthy, born 1866; Malissa, born 1867; Columbus, born 1871; Luvada, born 1872.

Children of Brady Branson—Effie, born 1885; Bud, born 1890; Euford, born 1900.

Children of Frank Branson and Nancy Cobb (first wife)—George, born (date not given), married to Anliza Wise; Laffete, born (date not given), deceased; Sarah, born (date not given), married to Wm. Louis Hancock; Iley, born 1865, died 1891; Bailey, born 1864, married to Artelia Chamberlain; Wm. Lonzo, born 1870, married to Fredonia Brans; Allie, born 1873, married to Benjamin Luck; James Fonzo, born 1876, married to Laura Luck. Frank Branson had one daughter by his second wife, Mary Rideout, name Lillie Branson, married to Arkanburg Dickerson.

Children of George Branson and Analiza Wise—Hattie, married to Dorris Hart; Allie, married to Ed Nance; Annie, married to Hartwell Marks; Ermine, married to Alver Jackson; Leo, married to Verla Dew; Earnet and Henry, both live in Akron, Ohio.

Children of Bailey Branson and Artelia Chamberlain—Nannie; Vergie, married to Mr. Grass; Eula, married to Mr. Foster; Frankie, died young; Foster.

Children of Wm. Lonzo Branson and Fredonia Brans—Bertha; Hobart, married, and has one son; Frank, deceased; Roy, deceased; Wh. L., Jr., married to Jetty Wilson, has one daughter.

Children of Sarah Branson and W. L. Hancock—Emsley, married to Leona Ashby; Vergie, married to Will Halle, children: Hazel, Ilyne, Lila, Bessie, Dandridge and Dora; Frankie, married to Clyde Melton, children: Murphy and Elsworth; Conrad, married to Mary Craig, children: Dorothy and Norman; Gordon, married to Eula Dunville, children: Halman, James and Frank; Lorene, married to Claude Branson, children: Liola, Bessie, Sarah, Evelyn, Georgie and Norris; Stella, married to Dr. J. E. Jenkins, children: Thula, J. E., Jr., John, and one other daughter; Roy, married to Lorene Winebarger, one child, Marietta; Vaughn, married to Belva McCurry, children: Kenneth and Josephine; Wm.



Louis, Jr., married to Elizabeth, two children, one daughter living, and Sarah Jane, deceased.

Children of Allie Branson and Ben Luck—Lurton, married to Lola Mahurin, children: Ralph, Dorris and Sue Beth; Violet, married to Robert Dunville, children: Bobbie Lee and Nancy Carol; Elen, married to Clarence Dunville, children: Rue Nell, Allie, Benjamine and Clarence, Jr.; Loretta; Naomi, married to Ervin Saddler, children: Jean and Joyce (latter deceased).

Children of George Branson (born 1846), and Mary Cobb—Resie, married to Ellis Fridy, children: Alma, Annie, Marshal, Charles and Thomas; Lilburn, married to Jannie Ashby, children: Claude, Verna, Leona, Irene, Ben and Willie (Willie has one daughter, Ann Dora); John, married to Lizzie Slaton, children: Dalton and Hugh Graden; Maggie, married to Robert Winn, of Tennessee; Edward, married to Myrtice Simpson, children: James F., Author and Velma (died young).

Children of James Fonzo Branson and Laura Luck—Hermon (died in infancy); Clarenc, married to G. M. Friday, children: Maxine, Whit, Bobbie and Mary Lou; Albert, Odell, James, Naomi; Wilma and Wilbur, (twins, born 1910): Wilma was married to Julius Patterson 1931; Wilbur was married to Evelyn Clayton 1934; Lila, married to Malcolm Nance, one son, Wendell Morris; Malcolm and Mahlon, twins; Wallace McCoy (deceased); Kathleen.

Written by John Wesley Branson, of Wheatcroft, Ky., grandson of Joab Branson, who settled in Parke County, Indiana in 1831, and by Wilbur Branson, Hanson Ky., great-grandson of Balos Branson, who settled near Onton, Webster County, Kentucky, about the year 1832.

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## BRANSONS OF HOPKINS COUNTY, KENTUCKY

By GILBERT BRANSON, Slaughter, Ky.  
Great Grandson of Armstead Branson

Armstead Branson came to Kentucky from Virginia about the year 1830.

Children of Armstead Branson—George, born 1824, mar-



ried to Sarah Danah; James, born 1827; Isabell, born 1830; married to James Hobgood.

Children of George Branson—Harrison, born 1845, married to Sallie Beasley; Elijah, born 1847; John, born 1850; Newton, born 1860; Samuel, born 1857, married to Jennie Tomblinson; James G., born 1855; Kate, married to John Sisk; Nannie, married to Allison Ashby; Fannie, married to John Carlisle.

Children of Samuel Branson and Jennie Tomblinson Branson—Gilbert, born 1893, married to Froy Crowley in 1915; Grace, born 1895, married to Hobert Branson in 1917; Elnor, born 1900, married to Jack Ashby in 1919; Marjorie, born 1903, married to Marshal Majors in 1928; Georgie, born 1905, died 1907; Katie, born 1908, married to Harrison Clements in 1934.

Children of Elijah Branson—Charles, born 1895, married to Francis Royster; Evelyn, born 1893, married to Peyton Canary; Marguarite, born 1903, married to Mr. Canary.

Children of Charles Branson—Charles, Jr., born 1924; John, born 1926; and three other sons.

Children of Harrison Branson and Sallie Beasley—Lee, born 1870, married to Sadie Chandler; Otho, born 1872, married to Gertrude Orton 1910; Annie, born 1880, married to George Crowley.

Children of Lee Branson and Sadie Chandler—Wm. F., born 1898; Raymond, born 1902.

Children of Otho Branson and Gertrude Orton—Sylvia, born 1910; Ioan and Iola, twins, born 1914; and another son and daughter.

Children of John Branson (born 1850)—Paul, born 1890; Ed, born 1895.

Children of James G. Branson (born 1855)—Lola, born 1880, married to Albert Whitfield 1900; Lottie, born 1885, married to Harvey Hart 1912; Wallace, born 1887, died 1902.

Children of James Branson (born in 1827)—Perrean, born 1860; Howard, born 1865; both lived in Texas.