

Several weeks ago I wrote the Probate Clerk in Lamar County, Texas requesting a copy of the will of Ezekiel Hogue or in event he did not leave a will then information from Probate Court records. They could not find any record. It is possible that his will is on record here. If so I will find it.

Grant County adjoins Saline County. Until 1869 the largest part of ~~XXXXXX~~ Grant County was part of Saline County. Most of the Hogue and Watsons live in Saline County on the boundary line of what is now Grant. The early records of Grant Co. were destroyed in a fire. Luckily our Court House has never burned (that is the part that houses the records.) / Talking of fires I think every Family Bible that was ever kept by twollines of our family burned.

Wish we had contacted you sooner so you could have stopped in Benton on your way home. It is closer to go to Ft. Smith from ~~Benton~~ Benton than Little Rock. We are only 18 miles from Little Rock.

Building a new home in the country sounds real interesting. I have lived in Benton all of my life. Although it is still a small town (12,000) it has tripled in pop. in the last 15 years. I was born and raised one block from the main business district (Mother ~~lives~~ in the 14 room house we all call home). Jane and I built our home in what used to be our pasture. At that time it was out of the city limits but now is in the center of town.

Excuse the mistakes. I should have read the evening paper. A B58 Hustler Bomber out of Ft. Worth just flew over creating a sonic boom. It was the loudest we have heard here. Our house really shook. The paper said it would be flying between 35,000 and 50,000 feet.

We do not have any information on the Watsons except what we have mentioned and will appreciate anything you can send. In the meantime if we get other information we will send it to you. There is another question regarding the Watson line. Samuel married Lucretia Hogue. Sarah married Hiram Hogue. Were Samuel and Lucretia brothers and sister.

I have thought a lot about the information which we have. Ezekiel was born in North Carolina and married in S.C.. Hiram and Lucretia were born in S.C.. Hiram married in Tenn. Some of Ezekiel's children were born in Tenn. It seems that the family started in ~~the~~ N.C. and from there to S.C. and then to Tenn., Ark. Since Hiram and Lucretia were born in ~~the~~ S.C. we will find the will of their father in S.C. or Tenn. Census records show that Nancy (Ezekiel's daughter) was born in Tenn. in 1831. Ezekiel came to Arkansas in 1839, however, we did not find his name in the 1840 census. A check of the ~~the~~ Tenn. Census of 1830 and 1840 should reveal where they lived. I have a friend in West Memphis and I will ask her to have it checked for me.

John Cheek is a descendent of Simon Poe, my great grand-father). I have never met John but have corresponded with him. Give him our regards when you see him.

WE will school supplies in our stationery department and then after school opening next week we go to the Gift Market in Dallas. After that I will see if I can find additional information. So glad that I found ~~your~~ name in the Bulletin and above all that we are working on the same lines. (Over.)

Your Aunt Ellen will be Happy to know that she has three first cousins living. Aunt Mollie (daughter of Lucretia and Joshua Holiman) will be 82 in January. Her address is Mrs. Judson Shaw, 1300 W. 24th St., Pine Bluff, Ark. ~~James~~ James Harvey Hogue who married Nannie Crudginton has 2 daughters living: Sarah who is Mrs. Will Banks of Bryant, Ark. ~~Ark.~~ She is 83 and Lillie who is wife of Jim Hogue (Hiram's Grandson). She is 80 (Mrs. Jim Hogue, Benton, Ark.)

As soon as you get over the rush of School Opening will look forward to hearing from you again. ~~What~~

Sincerely,

W.P. Walton
Box 249
Benton, Ark.

Mat & Mrs. Marcia Hogue
Jones, Oklahoma

PHC