

Here is what I have on my computer. If you don't have the letters, they are especially interesting. The first one pretty well states when Thomas and Isaac went to North Carolina. I'm sending this in two e-mails.
Mary Collins <mcollins@pbmo.net>

Husband: Thomas WHITE

Birth: 5 Mar 1754 Place: Chester County, Pennsylvania
Death: 25 Apr 1824 Place: Bond County, Illinois
Burial: Place: Sugg Cemetery, Bond County, Illinois
Father: John WHITE (-1776)

Wife: Isabella TORRENCE

Birth: 3 Feb 1765 Place: Tyron County, North Carolina³⁸
Death: After Sep 1825
Father: Hugh TORRENCE¹³ (1732-1813)
Mother: Mary BROWN (1738-1803)

Children...

1. M Child: John B. WHITE
Birth: 20 Jan 1790 Place: Rutherford County, North Carolina
Death: 28 Jun 1873 Place: Bond County, Illinois
Burial: Place: Hazel Dell Cemetery, Bond County, Illinois³¹
Spouse: Margaret ROBINSON
Marriage: 31 Dec 1818¹⁸ Place: Madison County, Illinois

2. M Child: James WHITE
Birth: 15 Dec 1794 Place: Rutherford County, North Carolina
Death: 7 Feb 1885 Place: Jerseyville, Illinois
Spouse: Mary "Polly" DENNY
Marriage: 6 Aug 1823 Place: Bond County, Illinois

3. M Child: Hugh T. WHITE
Spouse: Mary GASTON
Marriage: 12 Sep 1827 Place: Bond County, Illinois

4. M Child: Alexander R. WHITE

5. M Child: Thomas WHITE
Spouse: Polly DICKSON
Marriage: 12 Apr 1825 Place: Bond County, Illinois

6. M Child: Charles WHITE

7. F Child: Mary "Polly" WHITE
Death: 1820/1823
Spouse: Samuel G. MORSE
Marriage: 26 Oct 1820 Place: Bond County, Illinois

8. F Child: Peggy W. WHITE
Husband's Notes...

Notes:

1. Will of Thomas White, undated. Mentions his wife Isabella, sons Charles, John B., Hugh F., James, Thomas, and Alexander R. White, his son-in-law Samuel G. Morse, and his daughter Peggy W. White. Executors were his sons John B. and Hugh F. Witnesses were Milton Robinson and Hugh Robinson [17 May 1824, p. 50.]

2. *Greenville Advocate*, July 5, 1860: The issue of the 5th of July gives an interesting reminiscence from Elder Peter Long. He said that Green P. Rice, a Cumberland Presbyterian preacher was an early settler and that Greenville was said to be named for him, but Elder Long did not think this was true. He thought the town was named at the suggestion of Thomas White, who called it Greenville because of the large amount of green foliage and the large number of trees. [*B.C.G.S. News*, Winter, 1990, page 6]

3. Letter : "Greenville, Ill. July 23d, 1831

Sir:- I had the honor of receiving your favor from the war department, respecting the arrears due Lieutenant Thos. White, a few days since. I hope the copy of the following letter I send you , will contain the desired information. The letter was written by my father on the subject, to Hon. N. Edwards, as will appear:

"Shoal Creek, Bond county, Aug. 12th, 1819.

Hon. N. Edwards:-

"Sir:- I feel myself neglected by my country and seek redress through the medium of your honor and the other gentlemen from this state, and will state my case just as it is.

I am a native of Pennsylvania. When the militia was called for in the Revolutionary War, I started from home on the 12th day of July, 1776. We stayed out the time appointed, then each regiment had to raise a company of volunteers, to serve five months in the flying camp (as it was called). Each company had leave to choose their own officers. I was elected first lieutenant in Capt. William Armstrong's company. We got our commissions, I think, in August, signed by Benjamin Franklin, president of the convention. We then went to Fort Lee, thence to Fort Washington on the North River, where we were taken prisoners on the 16th of November, 1776, and taken to New York, and there indeed , sir, we suffered all but death, with cold, hunger, and vermin. Sometime in January, '77, we were sent to Long Island. There I remained until the 27th of May. Shortly before this I had received a letter from home. All the family I had left there was a widowed mother and younger brother. My brother was sick, not expected to live, and my mother entirely helpless. This made me very uneasy. I ran away from the British, and got home on the 27th of June. On the way I called at Middlebrook, Jersey State, at headquarters, and drew a few dollars of pay. In the fall of '78, I moved to North Carolina. Thirteen years afterward I heard that congress had opened the way for those who had not settled with the publick. I went to Philadelphia. I applied to Major Howell's office. He told me the books were foreclosed by congress. I then returned home. The next fall I saw a handbill which stated the way was again open for settlement. I went to Philadelphia again; I applied as directed, to Major Howell's office. He found my name and rank and everything respecting my case. He made out my account to be \$1200 and 13 years' interest. Thus he reported to the auditor's office, Mr. Harrison, (and in the auditor's office I forgot my commission), I produced every voucher required, but he reported against the allowance to the Comptroller, Mr. Walcot. I think his reasons were these: That the troops to which I belonged were not raised on the continental establishment and I had no right to pay from congress, and another reason was that I had not returned to the enemies' lines, agreeably to the proclamation of General Washington. That is the first moment I knew there was such a proclamation. So it was he allowed me nothing. I never received a cent for all the time I was a prisoner. Thirty-six dollars specie were deducted out of my pay that was due me before I was taken prisoner, which the books will show, if access can be had to them. I was in Colonel William Montgomery's regiment. The book in Maj. Howell's office will show the time that I was exchanged.

Yours respectfully,

THOMAS WHITE

The above. I think, contains as much information on the subject as I can obtain. You will make what use of it you deem most conducive to justice and equity.

Your obliged servant,

ALEX. WHITE

If you notice, in entry 5, Sprague White, who says the information came from the family Bible, states that Isaac was Thomas's only brother. I think the James White family is definitely a part of the same extended family as Thomas and Isaac, but none of us has been able to learn how. The names of children are the same. The migration pattern is the same. they have to be related, but how?

I am 99 per cent positive that my Thomas and Isaac went to Bond County with the William Robinson family. William was married to the sister of Thomas White's wife (Isabella Torrence). William's wife was Anna Torrence. William and Anna's son John went to Illinois early. Then he went back to North Carolina, married, and brought his wife and all the rest of the tribe back with him.

It's a puzzle, but it's fun.

Mary

4. BRIEF HISTORY OF THOMAS WHITE

Taken from "Historian's Notes" Benjamin Mills Chapter DAR. His grave was marked in 1917

"Thomas White was born in Pennsylvania. He served as Lieutenant in Col. Bull's regiment of Flying Troops (a light horse regiment). He was in Capt. William Armstrong's Co. and taken prisoner and carried to New York where he endured great suffering. He escaped June, 1777, and again enlisted in Col. Wm. Montgomery's Regiment and served through the War.

He married in Penn. But moved to S. Carolina and in 1816 came to Illinois by ox team and covered wagon. He entered 320 acres in Bond. Co. and was the first school teacher in Bond. Co., holding a subscription school in a log cabin on his farm. As money was very scarce, the parents paid the subscription by raccoon, deer and muskrat and coon, corn, honey, cord wood and all produce of farm and hunt. Coon skins circulated like dollar bills. This first school house had a puncheon floor and benches and mud and stick fireplace and chimney. The pupils all studied in loud voices and when Mr. White called a class he stamped on the floor above the roar of voices. Tradition says he stamped once through a crack in the floor and tore his pantaloons, which was a great joke to the pupils.

He weighed 333 pounds and wore a huge cape for an overcoat. In time of storm the cape sheltered the whole family. He received his commission in the Revolutionary War army from Benjamin Franklin.

Mr. White was one settler who made friends with the Indians and though he did not believe in hunting except for food, the Indians brought game of all kinds to his door.

He died aged 76 in Bond Co. and is buried in Sugg Cemetery or "Old Graveyard" near Pocahontas, Ill."

The first president of the Bond County Historical Society said that Thomas White was not buried in Sugg Cemetery, but north of Greenville, where there is a government marker on his grave.

5. Greenville Advocate, Thursday, March 31, 1881

"L.C. Draper, corresponding secretary of the Wisconsin State Historical Society of Madison, Wisconsin, has written to Sprague White of this city for facts about Mr. White's great-uncle, Isaac White, and his father, who distinguished themselves at the battle of King's Mountain, of the Revolution. Isaac White lies buried on Mr. Wesley Floyd's farm north of this city, in a long-unused burying place. Mr. Draper's book will be entitled "King's Mountain and Its Heroes." It will soon be published and should be read by all who feel an interest in those stirring events. Harry Milton in his life time was a valued correspondent of Mr. Draper's.

Greenville,

March 24, 1881

I have gathered the following, in regard to the history of Capt. Isaac White from my father, his only surviving nephew, and the record in the family Bible of Thomas White, my grandfather and brother to Isaac. Isaac White was born A.D. 1760 in Chester County, Penn. of Scotch-Irish parentage; was the youngest of a family of four children, Thomas who entered the service first, being his only brother. They both acquired a good education for those days. Sometime during the latter part of the war, Thomas and Isaac White emigrated to N.C. and soon after joined the army, the country being over-run by British and Tories.

Isaac White was elected Captain of a company and participated both in the battles of Cowpens and King's Mountain. His brother Thomas White was an officer in the same company, and served with him in these engagements. An incident connected with his history illustrates the condition of society at that time of our country's history. A Tory, Capt. Beaty, was harassing the Whigs with his marauding band. Capt. White was detailed with his company to arrest him. They found him upstairs with windows and doors barricaded. On being ordered to surrender he refused with

scorn. While a parley was going on, a young mountaineer private in the company, gawking around, happened to see the Tory's head through a crack, raised his rifle, and before anyone knew what he was about, shot him dead. After peace was declared, the two brothers located in Rutherford Co., N.C. Capt. Isaac White held the office of County Judge for many years and was a leading man in the county as long as he remained in the State. He was a staunch Presbyterian in religion and a ruling elder in that denomination during the greater part of his life. In 1816, he emigrated to Indiana and from thence in 1820 to Bond Co., Ill., where he resided until his death, which occurred in 1821. He was buried in a cemetery three miles north of Greenville, which is now abandoned and his grave cannot be identified. He left six children, and it is not known that he has any surviving descendants in the direct line. His children's names were John, who moved to Texas, Robert, near Hennepin, Ill., Margaret, Lucy, Sally, and Rachel. This is all the information I can give.

Respectfully yours,
Sprague White

King Mountain Incident
Greenville, April 10, 1881

Prof. Draper,

Dear Sir, I thank you for your favor of the 27th ? , and am sorry that I am unable to give you the information you desire in relation to Capt. White. The date of his birth and death is not known, except the year. The family record is probably lost. Thomas White, my Grandfather, was born March 5, 1754 and died Apr. 25, 1824. He was 1st Lieut. in Captain White's Co. I get this information from my father, James White, who is now 88 years old, and a native of Rutherford Co., N.C.

The only incident father remembers to have heard, connected with the battle of King's Mountain is that Capt. White's Co. was sent out, probably with others, as skirmisher, to bring on the engagement, with order to advance to a certain place, and then fall back. They advanced gallantly to the designated spot to the evident astonishment of the British, and opening a galling fire upon them, each man deliberately taking aim as if at a target, picking off many a "Red Coat" from their ranks. After firing a few rounds, the order to fall back seems to be forgotten, and Capt. White with his gallant Command continued to advance right up to the British lines. A courier was sent after him, with orders from his Commander for him to immediately fall back "and give the rest of us a chance to fight," which he did, with reluctance.

Another incident I have heard my mother relate often. (her father was in this battle too). An Irish weaver by the name of Ferris was pressed into service as guide by the British Commander. The day before the fight, in piloting them across a river, he managed to get them, their baggage, and ammunition all wet, by telling them the stream was all the same "depth" forty years up and forty yards down. When they saw the trick they hacked him to pieces, almost, with their swords and left him for dead, as they thought, on the bank. He lay on his side, however, and looking out under his arm, counted the British soldiers as they passed, and reported their number to the Whigs before next morning. I have heard my mother tell of this old Irish weaver being at their house in N.C. and of his mutilated head, that I have no doubt of its authenticity.

This is all the information I can give at this time; and I regret that time and the vicissitudes of frontier life have destroyed so much that should have been preserved of our country's heroes. Harry Wilton died a year ago last July. He went on horseback to Kaskaskia to attend the Centennial of its capture on the 4th of July from the English by Gen. Clark and died a short time after.

Most respectfully yours,
Sprague White⁷

6. Draper's King's Mountain book, p. 478.

" Isaac White, of Scotch-Irish parentage, was born in Chester County, Pennsylvania, in 1760; and migrated, with his elder brother Thomas, to Lincoln County, North Carolina, about 1779. Though young, James White was chosen a Captain, and his brother the Lieutenant of the company; and served at King's Mountain and Cowpens. In 1816, they removed to Bond County, Illinois, James dying in 1821, aged sixty-one years, and Thomas in 1824, at the age of seventy."

Wife's Notes...

Notes:

Original member of the Greenville Presbyterian Church, September 15, 1825 ⁶

Last Modified: 6 Jun 1999

Reference Note 6

Presbyterian church records, B.C.G.S. News, Summer, 1985, p. 18

Reference Note 7

Sprague White letter of March 24, 1881 to L.C. Draper, author of King's Mountain book.

Reference Note 13

Lynne D. Miller from book, "Genealogies of the Glenn, Wilson, Torrence and Allied Families of Gaston County, NC", compiled by Dr. Leonidas C. Glenn.

Reference Note 18

Illinois Marriage Index:1790-1850-Internet Lookup

Reference Note 31

Cemeteries of Bond County, Illinois, Book 1

Reference Note 38

LDS website