

Janelle Taylor

From: "Stephanie Booth" <boothstephanie@hotmail.com>
To: "Janelle Taylor" <jcoats@cafes.net>; "Mona G Moreland" <gommie@sirinet.net>; "Anna Goforth" <2goforths@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, March 03, 2006 12:28 PM
Attach: Law Family.jpg
Subject: Laws of Tracy City

I wanted to thank all of you for posting your survey of the Law Cemetery on the Grundy County website. Since I have corresponded with you, I have received more information on the Law family and I thought I should share with anyone who is interested. I am attaching a photo of the Laws that was probably taken about 1900. The older couple standing is William Law and Margaret Emaline Parsons Law. To the left, Fannie, James William, and Alice? are standing. I think Margaret Jane "Jennie" Law Griswold is sitting with three small children. I scanned the photo from a color copy, so it is not very clear, but you can see the corn stalks off to the right and a fruit tree in the background loaded with fruit. I believe this photo was taken on the Law's truck farm. My great-great grandmother Maggie Mae Fox wrote about living on this farm after her mother died in her life story:

"After my mother's death close to a year later I was taken to the home of my mother's father to live. My father was a rail road engineer. In a few months he was transferred to Birmingham, Alabama by the Southern Railroad, but I had a very interesting life on a large truck farm, gathering rhubarb for pies which was shipped to Nashville, Tennessee, picking gooseberries and currants also for shipping to different places. While picking these berries the small green snakes ran through the bushes. I was not afraid of them but they ran from me. Garlic, early in the Spring it began to sprout, was a favorite vegetable with me. Sometimes after eating it I would go in the house. Those people my Grandmother and others would say here comes the garlic eater. Bill Law, my mother's half brother, was four months my senior. He and I would go out on the hill side in the fall of the year and gather chestnuts and chinquapins. Then in cold winter days at night, the whole family would gather around a large fireplace and boil chestnuts, parch peanuts or pop popcorn. Grandfather would read the Bible to us, then everyone would scramble to our own bedrooms and go to bed for the night."

She lived 100 years, so that garlic must have done some good.

I have gathered some documents on William Law including the ship passenger list of the Webster, when he and his daughter Sarah came to New York from Liverpool in 1854. I have a marriage certificate for William and his first wife Elizabeth Whiston, Married 25 Dec 1850 at St. Matthew's Church, Aston, Warwickshire, England. It states that William's father name is John Law, a farmer, and Elizabeth's father in John Whiston, a jeweler. Witnesses were James Law and Elizabeth Law. William and Elizabeth are living with James and Elizabeth in the 1851 British census in Aston near Birmingham. William is a nail cutter born in Woodhouse, Leicestershire, age 22. Elizabeth is 25 born in Birmingham, Warwickshire. They are "lodgers" in James' house, so I don't know their relation yet.

Also in 1851 British census is John Law, age 75, agric. laborer, living in Woodhouse with a young wife Ann, age 30, and son John, age 7.

I have Sarah Ann Law's birth certificate, born 4 Sep 1852, Court Francis Street, Aston, Warwickshire. Father William Law, a nailor, Mother Elizabeth Law formerly Whiston. I also have Elizabeth's death certificate. She died 29 Dec 1853 at 1 Court Macdonald Street, Birmingham, Warwickshire. She was 28 and wife of William Law, engineer.

I would be glad to send copies to anyone who is interested.

I am still looking for someone who has information on the other Law children. Any help identifying the people in the photo would be appreciated. The Law Cemetery must have several unmarked graves. From the 1900 census, I gather that Margaret Emaline and William Law had two or three children whole did not live to be listed on a census. I wonder if anyone has a record of those children. Perhaps there is a Law family Bible still in existence, maybe the one William read to his family on cold winter nights.

The broken headstone in the Law cemetery is most likely William Fox son of Francis Marion and Sarah Ann Law Fox.

If you come across anyone interested in this family, I would love to correspond with them.

Thank you so much for your hard work in keeping the history of Grundy County!

Stephanie Booth

----- Original Message -----

From: Stephanie Booth

To: Janelle Taylor ; Mona G Moreland ; Anna Goforth

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1. Margaret Jane "Jennie" Law Griswold

2. Fannie Law

3. James William Law

4. Alice Law

5. William Law

6. Margaret Emaline Parsons Law