

Josiah D. Albritton
of
Pactolus, Pitt County, North Carolina,

Son of James B., Grandson of Samuel, Great-grandson of James,
Great-great-grandson of Peter, & Great-great-great-grandson of James Albritton Sr.

by Timothy Dean Hudson

Josiah D. Albritton was born on 15 October 1836, presumably on the old plantation of his grandfather near Pactolus, Pitt County, North Carolina. Josiah's uncle, Elder Benjamin B. Albritton, identified him as the son of James B. Albritton and recorded Josiah's birthdate in his family Bible [1]. Additionally, Josiah's maternal grandmother, Elizabeth Moore, identified him as her grandson and as the son of Penelope Moore Albritton in her 1850 will [2].

James B. Albritton died in April 1840 when Josiah was only three years old, and so the boy likely had no memory of his father [3]. He and his older brother, Edmond, were raised by their mother, Penny, and maternal grandmother, Elizabeth Moore, on the old plantation of their grandfather, Matthias Moore Jr., with their uncles, Wedigan and Edmond Moore, living on adjoining farms [4]. Wedigan Moore died at the age of forty-eight on 5 November 1857, and two months later, on 6 January 1858, Josiah's other uncle, Edmond Moore, conducted a sale of Wedigan's property at his farm. Josiah D. Albritton purchased the following items at the indicated prices [5]:

<i>2 Grubing [sic] Hoes Each 1.0</i>	2.00
<i>1 Double Barrel Gun</i>	1.50
<i>2 Baskets Each 1/-</i>	0.20
<i>2 Sheep in the Woods</i>	0.25

Josiah D. Albritton married about 1859 or 1860, probably in Pitt County, North Carolina, to Penelope Ann Harrington [Penny] (June 1840–9 June 1914), daughter of Isaac Harrington and Elizabeth Tucker [6]. Penny's uncle, Henry Harrington, had married Josiah's aunt, Tabitha B. Albritton about 1830, and so Josiah and Penny had grown up on nearby farms with their families interconnected prior to their births [7].

In 1860, Josiah and his new wife lived with her widowed mother and grandmother in the Pactolus community on the north side of the Tar River. Between the three of them, they owned a large plantation, with Josiah's real estate valued at \$500, his mother-in-law's real estate at \$2000,

and his grandmother-in-law's land at \$500. All three also had valuable personal estates, mostly consisting of slaves, with Josiah's valued at \$4000, Eliza Tucker Harrington's at \$5000, and Penny Tucker's at \$3000 [8]. Josiah owned two slaves, while Eliza owned three and her mother, two [9].

On 14 April 1862, Josiah D. Albritton enlisted as 4th Corporal in Company K, 17th North Carolina Infantry Regiment at Camp Mangum. In his first month in the training camp, he became ill and on May 30th, he was "*Sick at home*" [10]. Apparently after returning to his unit, on June 20th, "*owing to the unsettling [sic] of my earthly existance,*" Josiah wrote his will, leaving all of his property to Penny. He appointed "*my frind*" Samuel H. Langley as his executor, directing him to

...prepare for my body a desent buriel sutible to the wishes of my friends and shall pay all funeral expenses first out of the estate which may go into his hands... [11]

Josiah D. Albritton recovered and returned to service. His commanding officers listing him as present for duty on June 30th. However, he again became sick while stationed at Camp Campbell, Virginia. The army physicians diagnosed him with typhoid fever, and he succumbed to the malady on August 8th [12].

If Josiah and Penny had any children, they did not survive infancy. Penny remarried on 6 February 1866 in Pitt County to Samuel Adolphus Dudley [Dolphus] (1 Nov 1836–24 May 1910) [13]. Dudley had served in the Confederate Army, enlisting in August 1861. Captured in the Battle of Cold Harbor on 31 May 1864, he spent the next ten months as a prisoner of war at Point Lookout, Maryland and Elmira, New York. The Union officials paroled him on 14 March 1865 and took him to James River, Virginia for his official exchange [14]. Penny and Dolphus farmed and raised their family in the Pactolus neighborhood for the rest of their lives [15]. Dolphus Dudley died on their farm about five miles north of Greenville on 24 May 1910, and Penny died there five years later, on 9 June 1914, of "*senile debility*" [16].

Incidentally, at least one published work on the Albritton family misidentifies Penny, wife of Samuel Adolphus Dudley. That work claims her maiden name was "*Albritton,*" but the documentation given herein clearly shows those claims are bogus. Dolphus Dudley indeed married the woman born as "*Penelope Harrington,*" the widow of Josiah D. Albritton [17].

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Notes

1. [Benjamin B. Albritton Family Bible](#) (Pitt County Genealogical Quarterly, Vol. V, No. 2, May 1998, pp. 19–20). In Rev. Albritton's family Bible, he identified James B. Albritton as the son of Samuel, and he also included this entry:

Ages of James B. Albritton Children
Josiah D. Albritton was Bornd the 15th day October 1836
2. Pitt County NC Will Book 1, p. 157 (Will of Elizabeth Moore, written 19 December 1850, filed in court in May 1866). Compiled Military Service Record, Josiah D. Albritton, Co. K, 17th Regiment North Carolina Infantry (Confederate), Civil War. In her will, Elizabeth Moore, widow of Matthias Moore Jr., identified Penelope Albritton as her daughter, Edmond and Josiah Albritton as her grandsons, and Wedigan Moore as her son.
3. In his family Bible, Benjamin B. Albritton identified James B. Albritton as the son of Samuel Albritton and gave his death in this entry: "*James B. Albritton Departed this Life April 16 day 1840.*"
4. 1850 Pitt County NC Federal Census, Parkers District, p. 60a, Dwellings #970: Wedigan Moore (age 41); #971, line #17: Elizabeth Moore (age 74); #18: Penelope Albritton (age 39); #19: Edmond Albritton (age 15); #20: Josiah Albritton (age 13); p. 63a, Dwelling #1016: Edmond Moore (age 37).
5. Pitt County NC Estate Files, Wedigan Moore, 1858, LDS Film #7384072, Images #54–58, 61–66.
6. 1860 Pitt County NC Federal Census, P.O. Greenville, N^o Carolina, p. 31a/62, Dwelling #575, line #21: Penny Tucker (age 75, "*Farming*"); #576, line #22: J. D. Albriton (age 23, "*Farming*"); #23: Penelope Albriton (age 20); #24: Eliza Harrington (age 52, "*Farming*"). 1900 Pitt County NC Federal Census, "*Greenville North Side Tar River*," ED #92, p. 211b/12, Dwelling #226, line #97: Samuel A. Dudley (age 63, Nov 1836, "*Farmer*"); #98: Penny A. Dudley (age 60, June 1840). North Carolina Death Certificate #385, 1914, Pennie Ann Dudley, Pitt County (date of death: 9 June 1914; father: Isaac Harrington; mother: Pennie Tucker). Other records show that the death certificate erred in the identity of Penny's mother, who was actually *Elizabeth* Tucker.
7. 1850 Pitt County NC Federal Census, Parkers District, p. 57b, Dwellings #930: Henry Harrington; #932: Benjⁿ B. Albritton; #933: Tabitha Albritton; #937, line #31: Penelope Tucker (age 67); #32: Eliza Harrington (age 42); #33: Penelope Harrington (age 9); Dwelling #938: Enoch Moore; p. 60a, Dwellings #970: Wedigan Moore; #971: Elizabeth Moore; #974: Tabitha Albritton. This shows Penelope, her mother, and grandmother living on a plantation that adjoined those of Josiah's family, including his grandmother, aunts Tabitha Albritton Harrington and Elizabeth Albritton Moore, and uncle, Benjamin B. Albritton.
8. 1860 Pitt County NC Federal Census, P.O. Greenville, N^o Carolina, p. 31a/62, Dwelling #575, line #21: Penny Tucker (age 75, "*Farming*," real estate: \$500; personal estate: \$3000); #576, line #22: J. D. Albriton (age 23, "*Farmer*," real estate: \$500; personal estate: \$4000); #23: Penelope Albriton (age 20); #24: Eliza Harrington (age 52, "*Farming*," real estate: \$2000; personal estate: \$5000).
9. 1860 Pitt County NC Federal Census, Slave Schedule, p. 520b/30, column, line #35: Penelope Tucker; line #37: Eliza Harrington; line #40: "*J. D. Albritton*." Penelope Tucker owned one male slave aged 33 and one female aged 12 who lived in one "*slave house*" on her farm. Eliza Harrington owned two males aged 20 and 16 and one female aged 27 (mulatto colored), while Josiah D. Albritton owned one female aged 40 and one male aged 19, with the Harrington and Albritton slaves living in two "*slave houses*" on their farm.
10. Compiled Military Service Record, "*Josiah D. Albritton*," Co. K, 17th Regiment North Carolina Infantry (Confederate), Civil War.
11. Pitt County NC Wills & Testaments Book 1, pp. 79–80 (Will of Josiah D. Albritton, dated: 20 June 1862, filed in court: August Term 1862).
12. Compiled Military Service Record, "*Josiah D. Albritton*," Co. K, 17th Regiment North Carolina Infantry (Confederate), Civil War. Curiously, the [Benjamin B. Albritton Family Bible](#) gives this entry:

Josiah D. Albritton Departed this Life 1831 October the 13 day

 It is unclear if this were a transcription error, an error Benjamin made while recording the death of his nephew, whose military record clearly states that he "*Died Augst 8th 1862 at Camp Campbell, Va.,*" or if this Albritton male is an older and otherwise unidentified man with this name who indeed died on 13 October 1831. Incidentally, that date was merely six weeks following Samuel Albritton's death.
13. Pitt County NC Marriage Book 1 (1851–1866), p. 32 (Adolphus Dudley to Penelope Albritton, 6 February 1866).
14. Compiled Military Service Record, Samuel A. Dudley, Co. G, 8th Regiment North Carolina Infantry (Confederate), Civil War.
15. 1870 Pitt County NC Federal Census, Greenville Township, P.O. Greenville, p. 163b/31, Dwelling #296, line #16: S. A. Dudley (age 33, "*Farmer*"); #17: Penny Dudley (age 27). 1880 Pitt County NC Federal Census, "*Greenville Township N. Side of Tar river*," ED #127, p. 368a/6, Dwelling #57, line #42: S. A. Dudley (age 43, "*Farmer*"); #43: Pennie Dudley (age 39, Wife). 1900 Pitt County NC Federal Census, "*Greenville North Side Tar River*," ED #92, p. 211b/12, Dwelling #226, line #97, Samuel A. Dudley (age 63, Nov 1836, "*Farmer*"); #98: Penny A. Dudley (age 60, June 1840, wife).

16. *"The Eastern Reflector"* (Greenville, NC), 27 May 1910, p. 5, column 4. *"The Carolina Home and Farm and The Eastern Reflector"* (Greenville, NC), 12 June 1914, p. 6, column 5. North Carolina Death Certificate #385, 1914, Pennie Ann Dudley, Pitt County. In 1910, May 27th fell on a Friday, and the death notice of *"S. Adolphus Dudley"* published that day stated that he
...passed away Tuesday...about 11 o'clock a.m. at his home 5 miles from town. Mr. Dudley was 74 years old, and while he had been feeble for a year past, he was up Tuesday morning until a short while before his death.
17. Albritton, Bobby G. [*Albrittons of the Second Millennium*](#), Revised ed. Alpharetta, GA: Balbritt, 2004, p. 238. North Carolina Death Certificates #385, 1914, Pennie Ann Dudley, Pitt County; Certificate #17739, 1961, Samuel Isaac Dudley, Pitt County. Mr. Bobby G. Albritton states that Penelope Albritton who married Adolphus Dudley on 6 February 1866 was the daughter of Matthew Albritton (14 Jan 1813–20 Aug 1893), son of John Hodges Albritton. He apparently failed to realize that the 1866 marriage of Penny Albritton to Dudley was her second marriage, and so the marriage record used her married name. The identities of Penny's parents and her own maiden name are clearly documented in Penny's death certificate and that of her son. Hers lists her parents as *"Isaac Harrington"* and *"Pennie Tucker,"* whereas Samuel Isaac Dudley's certificate lists his parents as *"Samuel A. Dudley"* and *"Penny Ann Harrington."* Incidentally, Penny's own death certificate incorrect listed her mother's given name, which was actually *"Elizabeth Tucker Harrington,"* whose own mother's married name was *"Penelope Tucker."*

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