The Lives of

James Boatright

(c1820–1862)



and his wife,

Jane E. Stiles

(1824–1896)

of

Union & Columbia Counties, Arkansas,

&

Farmerville, Union Parish, Louisiana

by Timothy Dean Hudson

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Boatright & Stiles Family Background

The Boatright and Stiles families—both with roots in Virginia and both shaped by the upheavals of the early nineteenth century—migrated westward before settling near one another along the Louisiana–Arkansas border.

James Boatright was born between March 1820 and March 1821 in Batesville, Independence County, Arkansas Territory [1], the son of Powhatan B. Boatright (13 Jul 1790–21 Dec 1880) [2]. James' father was born in Cumberland County, Virginia and had served in the Virginia Militia during the War of 1812, stationed at Norfolk in 1814 to defend against British naval attacks. James' grandfather, John Boatright, died about 1814, and after his discharge from the military, Powhatan moved with several of his brothers to Kentucky [3]. He married Lucy Utley in Jessamine County, Kentucky on 23 December 1815, but their marriage appears to have only lasted barely one month [4]. Powhatan Boatright soon moved west of the Mississippi River and settled in what was then Missouri Territory, now northern Arkansas. On 10 July 1820, he was commissioned as an ensign in the Lawrence County Militia. Boatright lived in the portion of Lawrence that became Independence County in late 1820, and on 21 September 1824, he received a commission as 1st lieutenant in the Independence County Militia [5].

By 1822, Powhatan B. Boatright had remarried to a woman named Charity, but we do not know anything about her or precisely when they married. She was probably the mother of all of Powhatan's eldest children, including James, but the lack of documentation about her makes his maternal family background uncertain [6].

Powhatan B. Boatright remained in Batesville, Independence County through 1824, but about 1825, he moved his family from northern Arkansas Territory to north Louisiana [7]. He initially settled just across the Arkansas/Louisiana border in what was then northern Natchitoches Parish. This region became Claiborne Parish in 1828, and he lived there for the next decade [8]. About 1836, Powhatan B. Boatright moved his family eastward to what became Union Parish, Louisiana in 1839. He and his family settled on a tract of land about two miles north of Bayou Corney in what is now known as the Zion Hill community located a few miles northwest of the village of Farmerville [9].

A few years after the Boatrights arrived on Bayou Corney south of the Louisiana/Arkansas state line, John Stiles Jr. and his wife, Rebecca Cooper, settled with their family a short distance away on the north side of the border in Jackson Township, Union County, Arkansas. Both natives of the Blackwater Swamp region of southern Surry County, Virginia, Jack and Becca Stiles had married there in 1812. Jack Stiles served in the Surry County Militia during the War of 1812, seeing

action during the British invasions of Hampton and Norfolk, Virginia of June 25th through July 10th, 1813, and the next year from August 31st through September 11th, 1814 [10].

Jack and Becca Stiles remained in Surry County, Virginia for the next decade, but financial problems prompted them to make plans beginning in 1823 to emigrate [11]. On 10 March 1824, they leased the 100 acres that Becca inherited from her grandfather to her first cousin for $50 and moved away [12]. They settled in Tennessee by about 1826, for their son, George Thomas Stiles, reported his birth there that year [13]. In 1830, they lived near Jack's father in Franklin County, Tennessee, and they remained in Tennessee through about 1832, when their youngest son was born there [14]. Their whereabouts between about 1832 and 1839 are unclear; they may have remained in Franklin until the 1836 creation of Coffee County and then lived in Coffee with John Stiles Sr. until they left Tennessee. Alternately, they may have moved to western Tennessee or eastern Arkansas in the latter 1830s.

In early 1840, Jack and Becca Stiles settled with their children in Jackson Township, Union County, Arkansas. Their arrival appears to have occurred after the first of the year, for Jack did not pay a poll tax in the county that year. However, on 31 May 1840, their eldest daughter, Elizabeth Stiles, married Dennis Mires in Jackson Township [15]. Shortly afterwards, Jack Stiles' household was enumerated on the 1840 Union County Federal Census, with the households of his son, John N. Stiles, and son-in-law, Dennis Mires, adjoining his [16]. Over the next few years, tax records show Jack Stiles, his elder sons, and brother all paying Union County taxes [17].

By the early 1840s, the Boatright and Stiles families—each shaped by decades of migration—found themselves living only a few miles apart, setting the stage for the connections that would follow.

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Married Life in South Arkansas & Union Parish, Louisiana

On 16 October 1842, Baptist minister John Scarborough performed a marriage ceremony in Jackson Township between James Boatright and Jane E. Stiles, the daughter of Jack and Becca Stiles. Elder Scarborough gave this description of their ceremony when he filed his return with the Union County Court:

> *I do hereby certify that I did Solomize* [sic] *the holy Rights of Matrimony between James Boatright aged 22 years and Jane Stiles aged 18 years by their covnanting* [sic] *in holy wedlock and Joining hands in conformation of that Covenant.*

When Scarborough filed the marriage notice with the Union County Court, he described himself as *"John Scarborough P.G.,"* or *"Preacher of the Gospel"* [1]. Jane was born in late 1823 or the first half of 1824, and although sources conflict as to whether her birth occurred in Virginia or Tennessee, records indicate that her parents still resided in Surry County, Virginia at the time of her birth. It appears that the Stiles remained in Surry County long enough for Becca to give birth to Jane, after which they moved to Tennessee. Thus, Jane's earliest memories would have been of her early childhood in the Volunteer State [2].

Following their marriage, James Boatright and Jane Stiles settled in Louisiana, presumably living on his father's farm several miles northwest of Farmerville, along the north side of Bayou Corney. They had two sons born in Louisiana during the first three years of their marriage, but by early 1845, they moved north and joined her parents in Jackson Township, Union County, Arkansas. They farmed there between 1845 and 1850 [3].

Like many settlers prior to 1862, James and Jane Boatright may have settled on vacant government land, cleared fields, built a cabin, etc., with the intention of purchasing the land from the government. In 1850, their farm consisted of fifteen acres of improved land in Jackson Township, and James' farming implements and machinery were valued at $10. The farm was valued at $150, and the livestock on hand in mid-1850 and the 1849 farm production included [4]:

1850 Jackson Township, Union County, Arkansas Federal Census Agricultural Schedule													
Farm owner	Livestock as of 1 June 1850							1849 Farm Production					
	Horses	Asses/mules	Milch cows	Working oxen	Other cattle	Swine	Value livestock	Bushels Indian corn	Bales, Ginned cotton	Bushels sweet potatoes	Bushels Peas & Beans	Pounds butter	Value, slaughtered animals
Jas. Boatright	3	--	2	1	3	64	270	200	2	50	20	--	50

Jackson Township lies in south/central Union County, with its southern boundary along the Louisiana state line and its northern boundary an east/west line south of the county seat of El Dorado. While James and Jane Boatright were enumerated in Jackson Township in 1850, her parents, Jack and Becca Stiles, and her brother-in-law, Dennis Mires, were both enumerated as residents of El Dorado Township. The Stiles and Mires households adjoined, and the families appear to have worked a contiguous tract of land [5]. Since Jackson and El Dorado Townships adjoined, the Boatright, Stiles, and Mires farms probably lay near one another.

On 13 July 1846, the Union County Court designated the southwestern corner of the county as Browne Township [6]. In late 1850 or 1851, James and Jane Boatright, together with the extended Stiles family, all moved from El Dorado/Jackson Townships in the central portion of the county westward into Browne Township.

In early 1852, the citizens of Browne Township elected James Boatright as their constable. Prior to his taking his oath of office as constable, the law required him to post bond to secure his faithful performance of his duties. On Tuesday, 6 April 1852, Boatright appeared in court to post the required $1000 bond, with his brothers-in-law, George T. Stiles and John N. Stiles, serving as his security. Probably because neither Boatright nor the Stiles brothers owned land or any other substantial property, the Court rejected the Stiles brothers as Boatright's securities. The justices ruled of the Stiles brothers:

> *…which securities are by the Court adjudged to be insufficient, said Bond is therefore hereby by the Court disapproved and rejected.*

To approve Boatright as constable, the Court then issued an order,

> *…requiring the said James Boatwright to come forward forthewith and inter* [sic] *into Bond, with good and sufficient security, as such Constable, according to Law."*

The court clerk later marked this entry as *"Issued,"* seemingly implying that Boatright produced acceptable security, and that the Court later approved his bond. This implies that he then began serving as constable [7].

On 17 December 1852, a strip of western Union County, including Browne Township, was put into the newly created Columbia County [8]. This made the Boatrights, Stiles, and Mires residents of Columbia County. The creation of Columbia and transition of Browne Township from Union to Columbia created confusion among the county tax assessors. In 1851, neither James Boatright nor his Stiles brothers-in-law were assessed Union County taxes, but Dennis Mires was [9]. Then in 1853, after they had all technically become Columbia County residents, James Boatright was assessed taxes in both Union and Columbia Counties. In Union, he was only assessed a poll tax, but in Columbia County, he was assessed taxes on one horse valued at $75 and 1 cow aged two years or older worth $10. John N. and George T. Stiles, as well as Jane's brother-in-law, Dennis Mires, also paid 1853 Columbia County taxes [10].

In 1854 and 1855, James Boatright and his brothers-in-law, John N. and George T. Stiles, were all assessed Columbia County taxes. Boatright owned one horse or mare valued at $100 in 1854, but in 1855, his horse or mare was valued at $80, and he owned two cattle aged two years or older valued at $20. In 1854, Dennis Mires paid taxes on livestock and land near the modern town of Magnolia. Later that year or early in 1855, Elizabeth Stiles and Dennis Mires moved across the state line into Claiborne Parish. Mires was not assessed 1855 Columbia County taxes as were his brothers-in-law [11].

When James and Jane Boatright moved west from Jackson Township in late 1850 or 1851 into what is now eastern Columbia County, they settled near the juncture of Big Corney and Little Corney Bayous just a few miles west of the Union County line. From there, Bayou Corney flows in a southeasterly direction across the state line into Claiborne Parish and on into Union Parish, Louisiana. James had grown up on his father's farm that lay along the north side of Bayou Corney a few miles northwest of Farmerville, Louisiana.

On 9 January 1854, the Columbia County Court officially recreated Browne Township with the same boundaries that it had earlier in Union County [12]. The following year, the Columbia Court met on Monday, 8 January 1855 at the courthouse in Magnolia and made many appointments, including:

> *It is ordered by the Court that James Boatwright* [sic] *be and he is hereby appointed overseer on the Camden & Minden road to work & keep up said road through Brown Township for & during the time prescribed by law.*

and also

> *It is ordered by the Court that John Styles* [sic] *be & he is hereby appointed overseer on the Calhoun & Eldorado* [sic] *road from the Magnolia & Brown Township line to where said road intersects the Minden & Camden road to work & keep up said road for & during the time prescribed by law.*

Since Jane's father was then aged seventy-one years, the Columbia Court undoubtedly appointed her brother, John N. Stiles, as road overseer and not her father [13].

When they moved west from Jackson Township in late 1850 or 1851, James and Jane Boatright must have settled on a 160-acre tract of vacant land located along a prong of Big Corney Bayou about two miles west of its juncture with Little Corney Bayou, near modern Tally, Arkansas. They probably made improvements to the vacant land, including clearing a few acres to plant crops and building a cabin. James did not initially buy the government land, but by late 1855, he and Jane had decided to leave Columbia County.

Although they had not yet purchased their land, the improvements Boatright had made on public land gave him the right of *"Preemption,"* allowing him to purchase the tract from the government before anyone else [14]. On 15 November 1855, James Boatright made the trip to the government land office located at Champagnolle, Arkansas, then an important riverport town located on the Ouachita River in Union County. He paid $80 in cash, or 50¢ per acre, for his 160 acres of land [15]:

> *I James Boatright of Columbia County Arkansas having applied to enter the North West quarter of Section N^{o} Eight (8) in Township N^{o} Eighteen (18) South of Range N^{o} Nineteen (19) West under the act entitled an act to graduate and reduce the price of the public Lands to actual Setlers* [sic] *and Cultivators approved 4th August 1854 do Solemnly Swear that I enter the Same for my own use, for the purpose of actual settlement and Cultivation and that together with Said Entry I have not acquired from the United States under the provisions of Said act more than three hundred and twenty Acres according to the established Surveys, and further that the said Land is not now in the Occupancy of any actual Setler* [sic]*…"*

Just four days after making the trip to the Champagnolle Land Office, James and Jane E. Boatright, still Columbia County residents, sold their 160 acres to their neighbor, Stephen Williams, for $140, earning them $60 profit for their effort and cost incurred with their improvements to the tract. They made the transaction before Justice of the Peace Thomas Malock, who examined Jane separately from James, as the law then dictated. Malock attested that Jane acknowledged that she signed the transaction *"as her voluntarily* [sic] *act and deed freely without any threats or compelcion* [sic] *from her said husband"* [16].

James and Jane Boatright left Columbia County soon after this transaction. While her brothers remained in Columbia County and paid 1856 and 1857 taxes there, Boatright was not assessed Columbia County taxes in 1856 [17]. Instead, the Boatrights returned to Union County for 1856 and probably early 1857. Although we do not know precisely where in Union County they lived for this year, presumably they returned to Jackson Township. In 1857, the Union County tax assessor charged James Boatright for one white poll and one horse or mare valued at $100 [18].

James Boatright did not pay these taxes, for on 7 April 1858, the Union County Sheriff filed the county's 1857 delinquent tax list with the County Court. It listed James Boatright as delinquent in payment of his assessment of 18¢ state tax and 62¢ county tax [19]. Boatright probably never paid his Arkansas taxes because he and Jane had already left Arkansas and returned to his father's farm across the state line near Farmerville, Louisiana. The birth of their son, William Pinckney Boatright, occurred in Louisiana on 10 November 1857 [20].

Upon their return to Louisiana, James and Jane Boatright again settled on his father's large farm in the Zion Hill community northwest of Farmerville. Jane's parents, John Stiles Jr. and Rebecca Cooper, either accompanied them to Louisiana from Arkansas, or else they joined James and Jane in Louisiana between 1858 and 1860, when Jack and Becca Stiles lived in their household [21].

In 1860, the Boatright farm consisted of 35 acres of improved land, with their farming implements and machinery valued at $10. Their farm was valued at $350, and the livestock on hand in mid-1860 and the 1859 farm production of both James' farm and those of his father, brother, Linear, and widowed sister, Charity Boatright Price, included [22]:

1860 Union Parish, Louisiana Federal Census, Agricultural Schedule

Farm owner	Livestock as of 1 June 1860							1859 Farm Production					
	Horses	Asses/mules	Milch cows	Working oxen	Other cattle	Swine	Value livestock	Bushels Indian corn	Bales, Ginned cotton	Bushels sweet potatoes	Pounds butter	Pounds of Honey	Value, slaughtered animals
P. Boatrite	4	--	3	--	22	40	570	450	--	50	50	200	100
Jas. Boatrite	2	--	2	--	7	10	300	250	2	--	--	--	--
L. Boatrite	--	1	--	--	7	15	100	125	2	--	--	--	--
C. Price	1	--	5	--	15	10	200	300	4	--	--	--	--

The outbreak of the Civil War in 1861 brought profound upheaval to the Boatright and Stiles families. Several of James and Jane Boatright's close relatives enlisted that summer in the *"Phoenix Rifles,"* a local military unit destined for the Confederate war effort. Those joining included their eldest son, John Nolan Boatright, James' youngest brother, William Cleaton Boatright, and James' eldest nephew, James Evan Price. The soldiers left Union Parish in early August for Louisiana's military training facility, Camp Moore, located in southeastern Louisiana a few miles south of the Mississippi state line. On September 29th, the men officially enlisted in the Confederate States Army, designated as Co. C, 17th Louisiana Infantry Regiment.

The large number of men living in close proximity at Camp Moore resulted in disease sweeping through the ranks, with measles particularly affecting the troops there. All three of the Boatright relatives became ill that fall. Cleat Boatright and J. Evan Price both died of disease at Camp Moore in early November, but John N. Boatright survived his bout with measles and served throughout the conflict [23].

In early 1862, James Boatright, together with his brothers, John and Linear, and his brother-in-law, William H. Mears, all enlisted in military units raised in Union Parish for the Confederate war effort. The eldest Boatright brother, John, enlisted as a private on March 12th in Union Parish. He was recruited to fill the ranks of Co. A, 6th Louisiana Regiment, the first unit to leave Union Parish in mid-1861 and join the Army of Northern Virginia operating in the eastern theatre. He left Union Parish immediately after his enlistment for Richmond, Virginia. Soon after his arrival there, he contracted some disease and died in a Richmond hospital on April 24th [24].

On March 16th, James and his brother-in-law, William H. Mears, both enlisted at Monroe, Louisiana as privates in Co. H, 31st Regiment Louisiana Infantry. According to his enrolling officer, James stood 5'10" tall, had a red complexion, hazel eyes, and red hair. He signed his enlistment papers as *"James Boatright."* Two months later, on May 14th, James' younger brother, Linear Boatright, enlisted in the same unit as James [25].

James Boatright must have received a brief furlough or perhaps his officers allowed the troops to leave the military camp near Monroe soon after enlisting to return to their homes in Farmerville to gather supplies. On March 27th, Powhatan Boatright sold James a 120-acre portion of his farm in the Zion Hill community, with James signing the transaction while Powhatan made his mark to the document. James paid his father $200 for the land, the exact amount that Powhatan had received from Linear one month earlier when he sold him a 160-acre adjoining tract of land [26].

The 31st Regiment spent the bulk of 1862 operating in northeast Louisiana, poorly trained and ill-equipped. Throughout the summer, disease raged through the unit, and Linear Boatright

contracted some malady and received a furlough to return home to Union Parish to convalesce. After he arrived in Farmerville, Linear's condition deteriorated rapidly, and he died there on September 10th [27].

On 11 November 1862, James Boatright's widowed sister, Charlotte Boatright Price (Charity), gave her eldest surviving son, Thomas Jefferson Price, still only seventeen years of age, her permission for him to enlist in James' unit, Co. H, 31st Louisiana Infantry Regiment. Ten days later, on the 21st, after fourteen months service in Co. C, 17th Louisiana, James' eldest son, John Nolan Boatright, received approval of his commanding officer to transfer to his father's unit [28]. Fate allowed James, his son, and nephew to serve together in the same unit for merely ten days.

In late 1862, as the Federal Army moved south from Tennessee in their attempt to reduce Vicksburg, the men received orders to travel to Mississippi. They went by rail from Monroe to Jackson, Mississippi, then north to Water Valley to intercept Union troops on a raid out of Memphis. They then returned to Vicksburg for a few weeks. One rainy night in late November, the soldiers received orders to cook two days' rations and move to Jackson by 3:00 a.m. They travelled to Jackson in box cars with more than 100 men crowded into a single car, forcing the men to stand the entire trip. The cars leaked profusely, soaking the troops. As soon as the rail cars arrived in Jackson, the men were ordered back to Vicksburg, arriving at 3:00 a.m. the next morning. The men had spent twenty-four hours on their feet in wet clothing. Within ten days, forty soldiers died of what physicians termed pneumonia and meningitis [29].

James Boatright was among the soldiers of the 31st Louisiana Regiment who contracted pneumonia from exposure to the elements, and he died at Jackson, Mississippi on November 29th. Jane received $33.32 from Confederate Army officials as James Boatright's final wages and clothing allowance [30].

Although James' military file indicates that he died at Jackson, Mississippi, the precise location of his burial is unknown. He is probably among the one hundred unknown Confederate soldiers buried in what was then known as the *"City Cemetery"* and located in downtown Jackson. The cemetery was renamed in 1899 as Greenwood Cemetery [31].

James Boatright's death in 1862 left Jane a widow at thirty-eight, and it marked the end of a twenty-year marriage shaped by migration, hardship, and the close interweaving of the Boatright and Stiles families.

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Staggering Toll of the Civil War on the Boatrights & Stiles

The staggering death toll among James and Jane's extended family due to Civil War military service is truly astounding. The conflict did not merely claim James Boatright's life; it devastated nearly every branch of the Boatright and Stiles families.

In 1860, James' father, Powhatan Boatright, had six living sons. Four of them have documented Confederate military service, and all four succumbed to disease in late 1861 and early 1862 during the early stages of their military service [1]. Another of Powhatan's sons disappeared during the 1860s, almost certainly dying while in Confederate service. Powhatan had four grandsons who served in the Confederate Army, with the eldest, James Evan Price, dying of disease in late 1861 [2], and the youngest, Sidney Boatright, disappearing after July 1863.

James' eldest son, John Nolan Boatright, and brother-in-law, William H. Mears, both survived the War, serving until the surrender and receiving paroles. James' nephew, Thomas Jefferson Price, was severely wounded in action during the War, but he survived the conflict. In 1911, Price made this statement regarding the wounds he received during the War:

I was shot once in the left groin, from which I have suffered ever since with bad case of rupture.

Price survived the War, but perhaps due to his groin injury, he never married. He lived as a bachelor until his death in 1922 [3].

On 8 February 1863, some two months after James Boatright's death, his second son, Sidney Boatright, enlisted in the Confederate Army at Monroe, Louisiana at the age of eighteen. He soon joined his unit stationed at Vicksburg, serving with his older brother, John Nolan Boatright and uncle, William H. Mears. Together with James' nephew, Thomas J. Price, they all presumably participated in the action at the Battle of Grand Gulf on April 29th and May 1st, and in the later actions in May that resulted in the Confederate Army retreating into the defenses of Vicksburg on May 19th. All four men survived the Siege of Vicksburg and received paroles following the capture of the Confederate Army when Vicksburg capitulated on 4 July 1863.

Sidney Boatright was with his unit when the Confederate Army surrendered at Vicksburg. He signed his parole on July 9th, and this is the last known record of him. He may have become ill during the Siege, or perhaps the harsh conditions weakened him, leading to his death soon afterwards. Since there is no further record of Sidney, it is unknown if he died immediately after the surrender or made it home to Farmerville and lived a few years longer [4].

Jane E. Stiles Boatright's two youngest brothers, George Thomas and Rufus A. Stiles, both served in the Confederate Army. George served in Co. D, 15th Arkansas Infantry Regiment, seeing service at Port Hudson on the Mississippi River north of Baton Rouge. He was captured and

paroled there on 12 July 1863. Rufus had moved to Texas about 1860. He enlisted at Jefferson, Texas on 31 March 1862 as a private in Co. D, 19th Texas Infantry Regiment. He served until his death at Little Rock on 18 January 1863. On 8 February 1862, J. N. Stiles enlisted at Monticello, and he appears to have been Jane's older brother, John N. Stiles. He served until receiving a wound in battle on 6 October 1863. After recovering, he returned to his unit by mid-1864 and served until the surrender. He was paroled at Meridian, Mississippi on 10 May 1865.

When Jane and James Boatright returned to Louisiana from Arkansas in 1857, her elder sister, Elizabeth Stiles Mires, also moved across the state line and settled near Lisbon in Claiborne Parish that adjoined Union to the west. Elizabeth's eldest son, Judge Stricklin Mires, enlisted as a private in Co. G, 25th Regiment Louisiana Infantry on 15 March 1862. He died at Columbus, Mississippi only three months later, on June 26th. Another of Elizabeth's sons, Ansel L. Mires, disappeared after 1860, probably dying while in the Confederate service [5].

For the Boatright and Stiles families, the Civil War was not an abstract national conflict but a personal catastrophe that reshaped the very foundation of their kinship networks.

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Thirty Years a Widow

When her husband perished in the Confederate Army in November 1862, Jane E. Stiles Boatright was only thirty-eight years old. She remained a widow for thirty-four years after James' 1862 death, devoting her life to raising her children and operating her 120-acre farm. At her husband's death, Jane had a house full of children. She had two teenaged sons, one of whom was in the Confederate Army when James died, while the other was nearly eighteen and enlisted a few months later in the same unit in which his father had served. She also had two young boys aged eight and five, and girls aged sixteen, thirteen, eleven, and an infant.

Jane's parents both lived with her in 1860, but they may have rotated between living with Jane near Farmerville and Jane's sister, Elizabeth, who lived a few miles to the west in nearby Lisbon. Now in his upper seventies, Jack Stiles died sometime between 1860 and 1869, perhaps while living with Jane near Farmerville. After the end of the War, Elizabeth and her husband, Daniel Mires, left Louisiana and moved to Texas. It is not known where they originally settled, but in 1866 they established residence in Hunt County, Texas. Jane and Elizabeth's mother either moved to Texas with the Mires in 1865 or she joined them shortly afterwards. The widowed Rebecca Cooper Stiles died there in October 1869 of heart palpitations or heart disease [1].

By 1863, James' father, Powhatan B. Boatright, was seventy-three years old, and he had lost five sons and two grandsons serving in the Confederate Army. His deceased sons had all left young children, and with no supplies coming north from New Orleans by steamboat, their survival during the remainder of the War must have proved extremely difficult. The 1865–1866 Union Parish Tax Assessment shows that Powhatan Boatright's 440 acres remained uncultivated, and this seems incredulous given that corn remained the primary food crop during the war years. Jane was not assessed taxes on her 120 acres in 1865–1866 [2].

Once the U.S. Government had assumed control of North Louisiana after the fall of the Confederate Government, they assessed the income and excise taxes approved to fund the debts incurred by the war effort. The assessors reported to the district tax collector that Jane E. Boatright was liable for a $1.00 tax on a carriage pulled by one horse and valued at $75 or more [3].

The spring after Jane's eldest son, John N. Boatright, returned to Farmerville after the end of the War, he planted a crop on his parents' farm that netted 125 bushels of corn in 1866. In 1867, Jane's farm had twelve acres in corn, and in 1868, she had fifteen acres planted in corn and five acres in cotton. The 1868 crop included 250 bushels of corn and three bales of cotton. By 1869, Jane's farm had increased in value to $300, and that spring, her land had twenty-five acres planted in corn and five acres in cotton [4].

In the mid-1860s, James and Jane Boatright's eldest two daughters, Rebecca Jane and Mary Ann Boatright, married Confederate veterans and settled nearby in the Zion Hill community. About 1865, Becky married David Phelps (9 Dec 1844–14 Mar 1930). He had joined the same unit as her father and served throughout the conflict. About 1865 or 1866, Mary Ann married Perry Taylor Johnston (10 Apr 1847–11 Feb 1911). Johnston had also enlisted in Co. H, 31st Louisiana Infantry Regiment in 1864 or 1865 [5].

In 1869–1870, Jane E. Stiles Boatright lived with her four youngest children on her farm in the Zion Hill community, with the farms of her married children and James' father and siblings all either adjoining or nearby [6]. The table below gives the livestock on hand in mid-1870 and the 1869 farm production of the farms of Jane and her extended family [7]:

1870 Union Parish, Louisiana Federal Census, Agricultural Schedule

Farm owner	Farm			Livestock as of 1 June 1870								1869 Farm Production				
	Improved acreage	Unimproved acreage	Farm Value	Horses	Asses/mules	Milch cows	Working oxen	Other cattle	Sheep	Swine	Value livestock	Bushels Indian corn	Bales, Ginned cotton	Bushels sweet potatoes	Pound of butter	Total Farm Production
Powhatan Boatright	20	120	400	2	--	7	--	10	10	10	445	100	1	40	40	310
Jessee Boatright	20	120	400	2	--	9	--	12	--	25	440	200	2	50	50	710
Perry Johnson	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	50	--	--	--	50
John Boatwright	40	74	300	1	--	3	--	4	--	12	120	200	6	100	15	798
Jane Boatwright	20	100	300	2	--	5	--	6	10	15	300	50	--	--		55
Charity Price	30	90	250	2	--	3	2	8	20	20	290	250	?	--	25	471
William Mayes	8	112	275	--	2	1	--	5	1	30	240	150	1	--	15	247
David Phelps	30	90	200	1	1	--	--	6	3	20	275	100	2	25	--	307

By the early 1870s, Jane's two youngest sons, George and William, had grown into teenagers capable of performing substantial farm work. Unfortunately, persistent low prices for cotton and repeated armyworm infestations that reduced crop yields made it a very difficult economic period. By 1880, Jane's eldest surviving children, John Boatright and Rebecca and David Phelps, still lived near her, as did James' father and sister, Charity Boatright Phelps [8].

The tables below give the 1879 farm production and 1880 livestock holdings of the adjoining farms of Jane Boatright and her son, John Nolan Boatright:

1880 Union Parish, Louisiana Federal Census, Agricultural Schedule
Farm of Jane E. Boatright

Farm Description			1879 Farm Production						Livestock on hand, 1 June 1880								1879 Cattle Movement			
Value of Farm	#Acres in cultivation	#Acres woodland/forest	Total Value, 1879 Farm Production	Dozen Eggs Produced	Acres in Indian Corn	Bushels Indian Corn	Acres in Cotton	Bales of Ginned Cotton	Value of Livestock	Horses	Asses/mules	Working Oxen	Milch cows	Other cattle	Swine	Barnyard poultry	Calves dropped in 1879	Cattle Sold Living -	Cattle Slaughtered -	Cattle died, strayed -
200	33	60	400	30	20	135	16	5	125	--	1	--	2	3	16	15	--	--	1	--

1880 Union Parish, Louisiana Federal Census, Agricultural Schedule
Farm of John N. Boatright

Farm Description			1879 Farm Production						Livestock on hand, 1 June 1880								1879 Cattle Movement			
Value of Farm	#Acres in cultivation	#Acres woodland/forest	Total Value, 1879 Farm Production	Dozen Eggs Produced	Acres in Indian Corn	Bushels Indian Corn	Acres in Cotton	Bales of Ginned Cotton	Value of Livestock	Horses	Asses/mules	Working Oxen	Milch cows	Other cattle	Swine	Barnyard poultry	Calves dropped in 1879	Cattle Purchased -	Cattle Slaughtered -	Cattle died, strayed -
500	60	200	450	12	20	100	20	9	--	--	3	--	2	7	15	12	2	1	1	1

In addition to these livestock holdings, Jane and John both owned sheep. In 1879, dogs killed three of Jane's sheep and another three died of disease. In June 1880, she had ten sheep on hand that produced twenty pounds of wool. John purchased seventeen sheep in 1879, and in the spring of 1880, his sheep gave birth to five lambs and yielded 30 pounds of wool.

In 1879, Jane and John had each planted one-quarter acre in sugar cane, with Jane's yielding 44 gallons and John's 24 gallons of molasses. Jane gathered five bushels of peas, while John had both apple and peach orchards of one acre each, with twelve apple trees and fifty peach trees [9].

For two decades after her husband's death, Jane E. Boatright maintained her own household on her 120-acre farm in the Zion Hill community. On 7 September 1882, her youngest daughter, Fannie, married John F. Albritton [10]. His family lived about ten miles east of the Boatright farm, on the south side of Bayou d'Loutre several miles northeast of Farmerville, in what is now known as the Wards Chapel neighborhood.

With the marriage of her youngest daughter, it appears that Jane ceased to maintain her own household. Sometime in the early 1880s, her two younger sons, George W. and Will P. Boatright,

left the Boatright farm at Zion Hill and settled near the Albrittons. They probably helped to cultivate the old farm of Noah Scarborough, the uncle of Fannie's husband. On 25 January 1884, the boys witnessed the deed in which Scarborough's widow and children sold a portion of his farm to William A. Albritton [11].

Noah's young granddaughter, Anna Ham, lived with him on his farm in 1880 and became acquainted with the Boatrights when they arrived. Will P. Boatright and Anna Ham married on 7 April 1884 [12].

About 1883, George W. Boatright became engaged to a local young woman, and on 22 December 1883, he bought a 160-acre farm near Fannie's on which he and his wife would live after their nuptuals. However, before he married, George contracted pneumonia and succumbed to the malady in 1884. George's death left his mother and siblings as joint owners of his farm, and later that year, on December 2nd, Jane and her children sold it back to the original owner [13].

Jane E. Boatright probably left her farm at Zion Hill and moved with her sons eastward to the Wards Chapel neighborhood. About 1883–1884, Jane moved in with Samantha Fowler Scarborough, Noah's widow, and the grandmother of Jane's daughter-in-law, Anna Ham. Lloyd Wilson Albritton, son of Fannie Boatright and John Fowler Albritton, stated:

> *Jane and Samantha Scarborough lived together many years at the Noah Scarborough place, now in the hands of Ollie Albritton, great grandchild of Jane Boatright.*

Lloyd said that *"he and his brothers spent many nights with the two women and always enjoyed their visits. They were so good to us."*

The Wards Chapel Protestant Methodist Church formed in the latter 1830s after the arrival of the original Alabama settlers. In the latter 1880s or early 1890s, it reformed as a Church of Christ. Jane Stiles Boatright attended church at Ward's Chapel Church of Christ, along with her son and daughter, William P. Boatright and Fannie Boatright Albritton [14].

About the mid-1890s, Samantha Scarborough ceased to live on her farm and began living with her daughters. At this time, Jane moved in with her youngest daughter, Fannie Albritton, who lived next to the Scarborough farm. Jane lived until the last few days of July or first few of August 1896. In its issue of August 5th, the editor of Farmerville's *"The Gazette"* briefly commented upon Jane's death:

> *Mrs. Boatright, mother of Mrs. John F. Albritton, died this week.*

Given that she lived east of Farmerville at the time of her death, her daughter buried Jane E. Stiles Boatright in the nearby Taylor/Liberty Hill Cemetery, but her grave is not marked [15].

Jane E. Boatright left her 120-acre farm at Zion Hill about 1882 or 1883 when she joined her younger children in the Ward's Chapel neighborhood. For the next three decades, her sons-in-law, David Phelps and John F. Albritton, paid the property taxes on her farm in her name. In 1914, they petitioned the Union Parish Court to settle the estates of James and Jane Boatright. A few months later, the Court auctioned the Boatright land, selling it to their grandson, Joe Ollie Albritton, for $86 [16].

Jane's long widowhood stands as a testament to the endurance of rural women who held families and farms together through war, loss, and economic uncertainty.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Children of James Boatright & Jane E. Stiles

The children of James Boatright and Jane E. Stiles are documented by 1850–1880 federal census records and an 1884 deed in Union Parish, Louisiana [1].

1. **John Nolan Boatright** (1843/1844–25 Nov 1885) married about 1865 to Nancy Emiline Purdy (c1843–25 Dec 1896).
2. **Sidney Boatright** (1844/1845–aft. 9 July 1863).
3. **Rebecca Jane Boatright** [Becky] (14 Oct 1846–2 Sept 1891) married about 1865 to David Phelps (9 Dec 1844–14 Mar 1930).
4. **Sarah Boatright** (c1848–1850/1860) died young.
5. **Mary Ann Boatright** (Feb 1849–Feb 1915) married about 1865 to Perry Taylor Johnston (10 Apr 1842–11 Feb 1911).
6. **Emily Octavia Boatright** (c1851–1884/1885) married on 10 September 1870 in Union Parish, Louisiana to James Benton Purdy [Benton, Ben] (Aug 1848–15 Jan 1926).
7. **George W. Boatright** (c1854–1884) died single.
8. **William Pinckney Boatright** [Will] (10 Nov 1857–8 Feb 1901) married on 7 April 1884 in Union Parish, Louisiana to Mary Anna T. Ham [Anna, Mittie] (Nov 1867–13 Dec 1900)
9. **Frances James Boatright** [Fannie] (8 Apr 1861/1863–14 Feb 1930) married on 7 September 1882 in Union Parish, Louisiana to John Fowler Albritton (12 Nov 1860–14 Aug 1925).

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Biographical Sketches of the Children of James Boatright & Jane E. Stiles

1. John Nolan Boatright

John Nolan Boatright (1843/1844–25 Nov 1885) was born near Farmerville, in Union Parish, Louisiana, probably on the farm of his grandfather, Powhatan Boatright, in the Zion Hill community [2]. His parents lived there for a few years before joining Jane's parents across the state line in southern Union County, Arkansas. As a young boy, he moved with the extended Stiles family west into Columbia County, Arkansas before returning by late 1857 to Farmerville, where his family rejoined the larger Boatright kin network.

John Nolan Boatright's life was shaped by the Civil War from the moment he reached adulthood. In the summer of 1861, he enlisted as a private in the *"Phoenix Rifles,"* a military unit raised in Union Parish. According to his commanding officer, he was of short stature, standing only 5' 4" in height, with a fair complexion, gray eyes, dark hair, and worked as a farmer. John's uncle, William Cleaton Boatright, and first cousin, James Evan Price, enlisted in the same unit as John [3]. In September 1861, the men went south to Camp Moore, where they enlisted in the Confederate service on September 29th. John's unit became Co. C, 17th Regiment Louisiana Infantry, and they spent the next month training there. Measles and other diseases swept through the ranks at Camp Moore, and on October 13th, another soldier in Boatright's unit wrote home to relatives in Union Parish:

> *…our boys are all taking the Measles…John Boatright,… are all down with them…There is a soldier buried here every day. They all die of Measles…*

The following week, on October 20th, the same soldier wrote another letter to his home folks:

> *…I am sorry to say that our company is not enjoying good health. The Measles is raging here Rapidly. We have about twelve cases in our company, but they are all able to be up if the weather was not so bad. It has rained here two days in succession. Here is a list of the sick, Viz…John Boatright,…The above names have got the Measles...*

Several days later, on the 24th, he wrote again:

> *Our boys that have had the Measles are all getting on foot. We have Several new cases on hand...Cleat Boatright, and several others have Just began to change their color. They have been complaining for Several days but have just begun to break out...*

William Cleaton Boatright's case proved fatal, for he died at Camp Moore on November 4th, the same day that John's first cousin, James Evan Price perished. John Boatright managed to survive his illness [4].

In January 1862, John N. Boatright went with his unit from New Orleans northward on the new railroad through Jackson, Mississippi to confront the Federal troops moving south into Tennessee. The armies collided in early April at the Battle of Pittsburg Landing (Shiloh) and again in May at the Battle of Corinth, and Boatright was present with his unit during both encounters. In June, his unit moved to Vicksburg, where they formed the garrison during the initial Federal bombardment in the summer of 1862. On 20 November 1862, John's commanding officer approved his transfer to Co. H, 31st Regiment Louisiana Infantry, the unit in which his father served. James Boatright died nine days later, but John N. Boatright served throughout 1862–1863, joined by his younger brother, Sidney, in February 1863. The activities of the 31st Regiment are poorly documented in 1864–1865, but after the soldiers' exchange in July 1864, John N. Boatright rejoined his unit and served at the various Confederate military installations at Pineville, Alexandria, and Bayou Cotile until the end of the War. He received a parole at Monroe on 12 June 1865 [5].

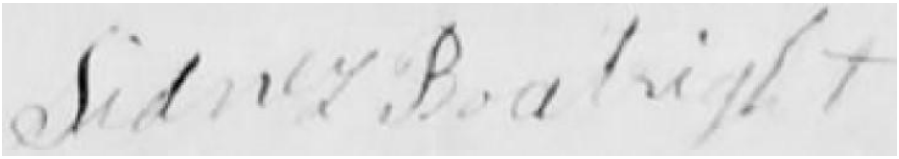
John N. Boatright married about 1865 to Nancy Emiline Purdy (c1843–25 Dec 1896), daughter of William J. Purdy (c1815/1817–aft. 1860) and Ann ? (c1819–aft. 1860). They farmed in the Zion Hill community near Farmerville, Union Parish, Louisiana until his death from a spider bite on his back on 25 November 1885 [6]. His brief life, marked by war, hardship, and early death, mirrored the experience of many young men of his generation in north Louisiana.

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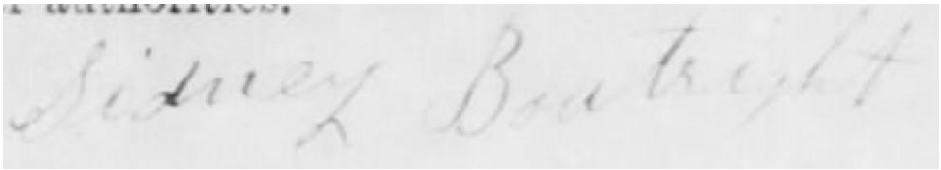
2. Sidney Boatright

Sidney Boatright (1844/1845–aft. 9 Jul 1863) was born in late 1844 or January 1845 near Farmerville, in Union Parish, Louisiana, probably on the farm of his grandfather, Powhatan Boatright, in the Zion Hill community [7]. Shortly after his birth, Sidney's parents moved across the state line into Union County, Arkansas, but they returned to Zion Hill in 1857.

Like many young men of his generation, Sidney entered the Confederate Army just as one of the war's most critical campaigns reached the Gulf Coast region. He had reached eighteen years of age by 8 February 1863, when he enlisted in Co. H, 31st Regiment Louisiana Infantry. This was the unit in which his late father and uncle had served, and in which his older brother and brother-in-law were then serving. Sidney signed his name to his enlistment papers:



Sidney's recruiting officer stated that he had hazel eyes, auburn hair, fair complexion, and stood 5'6" tall. He presumably participated with his unit in the battles at Port Gibson, Grand Gulf, and the retreat across the Big Black River in May that began the Siege of Vicksburg. He was captured along with the rest of the Confederate Army when officials surrendered Vicksburg on 4 July 1863. Sidney signed his parole on July 9th in his own handwriting:



This is the last known record of him. It is not known if he died on his journey home to Farmerville or after his arrival there [8].

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3. Rebecca Jane Boatright Phelps

Rebecca Jane Boatright [Becky] (14 Oct 1846–2 Sept 1891) was born in Jackson Township, Union County, Arkansas soon after her parents moved there from Louisiana [9]. In the mid-1860s, she married in Union Parish, Louisiana to David Phelps (9 Dec 1844–14 Mar 1930), son of John Phelps (1819–1895) and Sarah Rabun (c1815–1862/1866). David was a Confederate veteran who had served in the same regiment as her father.

Becky and David Phelps settled in the Zion Hill community a few miles northwest of Farmerville near her mother and grandfather, Powhatan Boatright. They operated their farm until her death in 1891. Rebecca and David Phelps are buried in the Zion Hill Cemetery [10].

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4. Sarah Boatright

Sarah Boatright (c1848–1850/1860) was born in Jackson Township, Union County, Arkansas. She was the second daughter of James and Jane Boatright and died before or shortly after the family's return to Louisiana in 1857.

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5. Mary Ann Boatright Johnston

Mary Ann Boatright (Feb 1849–Feb 1915) was born in Jackson Township, Union County, Arkansas [11]. She married about 1865, probably in Union Parish, Louisiana, to Perry Taylor Johnston (10 Apr 1842–11 Feb 1911), a Confederate veteran who enlisted in Co. H, 31st Louisiana Infantry, the same unit in which Mary Ann's father and brothers served.

In 1870, Mary Ann and Perry farmed near her mother in Union Parish, but about 1871, they moved northwest and settled in Yell County, Arkansas and began farming there. In 1880, they lived in the village of Petit Jean [12]. Mary Ann Boatright and Perry Taylor Johnston spent their married lives in Yell County, and they are buried in the Salem Cemetery near Plainview, Yell County, Arkansas [13].

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6. Emily Octavia Boatright Purdy

Emily Octavia Boatright (c1851–1884/1885) was born in Arkansas, probably while her parents still lived in Jackson Township, Union County, Arkansas [14]. She married on 10 September 1870 in Union Parish, Louisiana to James Benton Purdy [Benton, Ben] (Aug 1848–15 Jan 1926), son of William J. Purdy (c1815/1817–aft. 1860) and Ann ? (c1819–aft. 1860) [15].

Emily and Benton Purdy lived in Union Parish for the first few years of their marriage, but about 1873, they moved to Texas. In 1880, they farmed in Van Zandt County [16], but they did not remain in Texas for long. Within a few years, they returned to Union Parish. On 2 December 1884, Emily signed a deed as heir of her younger brother, but she died between then and August 1885, when Benton Purdy remarried [17]. She is probably buried in the Boatright Family Cemetery located in the Zion Hill Community near Farmerville, Union Parish, Louisiana in an unmarked grave. Benton Purdy remarried and settled his family near Calhoun, in Ouachita Parish, Louisiana. He is buried in the Calhoun City Cemetery [18].

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7. George W. Boatright

George W. Boatright (c1854–1884) was born during his parents' residence in Columbia County, Arkansas. He worked his mother's farm in the Zion Hill community northwest of Farmerville, Union Parish, Louisiana until the early 1880s [19]. In September 1882, his younger sister, Fannie, married John F. Albritton, whose family lived about ten miles east of the Boatright farm, on the south side of Bayou d'Loutre northeast of Farmerville, in what is now known as the Ward's Chapel neighborhood. After Fannie's marriage, George and his younger brother, Will, joined her near the extended Albritton family. On 22 December 1883, George purchased a 160-acre tract of land along the Wards Chapel Road from David S. Auld [20]. A month later, on 25 January 1884, George and Will witnessed a transaction in which John F. Albritton's aunt, Samantha Fowler Scarborough, and her children sold land to John's brother, William A. Albritton [21].

According to his nephews, George bought his farm in anticipation of his upcoming nuptuals, but he died prematurely from pneumonia in 1884 at about thirty years of age. On 2 December 1884, George's mother and surviving siblings sold the land he had purchased the previous year back to David S. Auld [22]. His early death ended a promising start as a young farmer establishing himself in the Wards Chapel community.

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8. William Pinckney Boatright

A separate biography describes the life of William Pinckney Boatright [Will] (10 Nov 1857–8 Feb 1901).

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9. Frances James Boatright Albritton

Frances James Boatright [Fannie] (8 Apr 1861/1863–14 Feb 1930) is the youngest child of James Boatright and Jane E. Stiles. She was born and grew up on her parents' farm in the Zion Hill community northwest of Farmerville. There is some uncertainty regarding Fannie's year of birth. Her tombstone had 1861 inscribed, and as an adult, it appears that Fannie gave that as her birth year. However, federal census records from her youth indicate a later birth, in 1862 or 1863. Since her middle name was her father's, a name more commonly given to males, her birth may have occurred in April 1863, four months after his death [23].

Fannie Boatright married on 7 September 1882 in Union Parish, Louisiana to John Fowler Albritton (12 Nov 1860–14 Aug 1925) [24], son of George Washington Albritton (23 Oct 1810–28 Oct 1867) and Sarah Ann Fowler (22 Aug 1823–4 Oct 1875) [25]. Fannie and John Albritton settled on a farm about eight miles east of Farmerville near the extended Albritton family, and they spent their lives operating their farm and raising a family of nine sons and one daughter. They are buried in the Taylor/Liberty Hill Cemetery near Farmerville, Union Parish, Louisiana [26].

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Notes

Boatright & Stiles Family Background

1. Compiled Military Service Record, James Boatright, Co. H, 31 Louisiana Infantry (Confederate), Civil War. When Boatright enlisted in the Confederate Army on 16 March 1862, he gave his place of birth as Batesville, Arkansas, and his age as forty-one years. This puts James' birth between 17 March 1820 and 16 March 1821.
2. Documentation for Powhatan B. Boatright's precise dates of birth and death, as the father of James Boatright, and his full name:
    - Union Parish LA Succession Book W, pp. 245–250 (Succession of Powhatan Boatright, filed 11 January 1881).
    - National Archives Collection, Eastern Cherokee Applications of the U.S. Court of Claims, 1906–1909, Record Group 123, Microfilm Publication M1104, #33931 (Mary Elizabeth Murphy, filed 7 August 1907); #33932 (Ella Boatright, filed 7 August 1907); #35535 (James William Boatright, filed 17 August 1907).
    - Logan County KY Equity Court Suits, Equity Box 44, #1060 (Frances Boatwright estate settlement, 15 July 1836); Equity Box 45, #1092 (Heirs of Frances Boatwright, filed 14 October 1836).
    - Logan County KY Deed Book X (1840–1840), pp. 486–487 (Heirs of *"Frances Boatwright Decd."* to *"Lineas B. Boatwright,"* 6 October 1841; heirs included *"Powhattan Boatwright,"* with the document signed by *"Powatan B. Boatright"*).

    The Louisiana succession records give Powhatan's date death of 21 December 1880, but the records transcribed in the succession book do not give a list of his children or heirs. However, in the surviving original papers in Powhatan Boatright's succession file in the courthouse is a paper containing a list of his children: *"Powhatan, Jesse, Linnor, Cleaton, Mollie, Mrs. G., John, Jim, Price."* The list identified Powhatan, *"Linnor,"* Cleaton, and Mollie as deceased, but omitted any such indications for John or Jim. *"Mrs. G"* is Frances Boatright Pearson Goyne, who remarried in the 1870s to William Goyne. The paper indicated that she received a horse from her father's estate, whereas Jesse appears to have obtained 80 acres of land. *"Price"* represents Charlotte (Charity) Boatright Price, who received a mule cart from her father's estate. The Eastern Cherokee applications were filed by three of James Boatright's grandchildren, who identified their father as John Nolan Boatright, son of James Boatright, who was the son of Powhatan Boatright. Their applications were all rejected. The Logan County, Kentucky equity suits list *"Powhattan B. Boatwright"* as an heir of Frances Boatright. This brings into question the authenticity of claims from the 1950s and 1960s that his full name was *"Powhatan Valentine Boatright."* No known document in Louisiana shows a middle initial for Powhatan, but the 1860 Federal Census lists his son, referred to in 1850 as a younger *"Powhatan,"* as *"P. B. Boatrite."* This suggests that the claims of the elder man's middle name of *"Valentine"* are inaccurate supposition based upon the use of *"Valentine"* in previous generations of the family. Powhatan's precise date of birth comes from the Boatright Bible record transcribed in a Boat(w)right family book written in the 1950s and 1960s. The Bible appears to have then been lost, as no one has managed to locate either a photocopy or scan of the family pages.
3. Compiled Military Service Records, Powhatan Boatright (private), 4 Regiment Virginia Militia (Lt. Col. Huston; Lt. Col. Wooding); 5 Regiment Virginia Militia, War of 1812. Cumberland County VA Order Book (1811–1815), p. 486 (*"On the motion of Frances Boatright who made oath according to law certificate is granted her for obtaining letters of administration of the Estate of John Boatright deceased she having entered into bond and security according to law,"* 27 March 1815); p. 497 (*"An Inventory and appraisement of the Estate of John Boatright deceased is returned and Ordered to be recorded,"* 23 May 1815). Cumberland County VA Will Book 5 (1814–1817), pp. 63–64 (Inventory of Estate of John Boatright, filed by Frances Boatright at court session in May 1815). Powhatan's military record shows that he served at Camp Peach Orchard near Norfolk, Virginia from February 28th until June 10th, 1814.
4. Jessamine County KY Marriage Licenses and Bonds File 1, A-D (1799–1867), LDS Film #7724987, Images #404–406 (*"Powhattan Boterite"* to *"Miss Lucy Utley,"* 23 December 1815; security: William Utley). Jessamine County KY Marriage Licenses and Bonds File 12, W-Z (1799–1867), LDS Film #7724998, Image #554 (John Shackelford, *"To the Clerk of Jessamine C. C., This is to Certify that I have joined together in the holy State of Matrimony in the year 1815 The parties as follows Viz:…Powhatan Boatright and Lucy Utley"*). *"Kentucky Gazette"* (Lexington, KY), 5 February 1816, p. 3, column 4. Powhatan Boatright signed the marriage bond as *"Powhatan boat Right,"* the only document in which he is shown as signing his name. On the same day, Lucy Utley wrote a note in her own handwriting stating, *"I have no ubgetion again The inter marreg with Powertan Boatwrie."* Some six weeks later, on 3 February 1816, *"Lucy Botewright"* paid for a newspaper advertisement addressed *"To the Public, and especially TO ALL UNMARRIED WOMAN,"* in which she stated, *"THAT whereas a certain Powhattan Botewright, lately from the state of Virginia,"* did marry her, and on 31 January 1816, he

    > *…taking advantage of his wife's absence who had gone to one of the neighbours, and packed up his clothes and all the money, and made his escape…*

taking a *"considerable quantity of money, a part in specie and a part in Kentucky notes."* She stated that *"she is determined to prosecute him, if he marries contrary to the laws of this state or any of the U. States."* Given this public condemnation, it seems unlikely that Powhatan and Lucy reconciled. It is not known what became of her.

5. Carter, Clarence Edwin, comp. and ed. *The Territorial Papers of the United States.* Vol. XX: *The Territory of Arkansas: 1825–1829.* Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1954, pp. 68, 71, 74. *"The Arkansas Gazette"* (Little Rock, AR), 14 June 1825, p. 2, column 2. On 10 July 1820, Powhatan *"Boatwright"* was commissioned as an ensign in the 3rd Regiment Lawrence County Militia. On 21 September 1824, Powhatan *"Boatwright"* was commissioned as 1st Lieutenant in the 7th Regiment Independence County Militia. Both the territorial papers and newspaper record give the same information for Boatright's 1824 commission as lieutenant.
6. Louisiana Death Certificate #2573, 1916, Vol. 6, Charity Price, Union Parish, died 28 January 1916 (birthplace: Batesville, Ark; father: *"Powhattan Boatright;"* mother: *"Charity Boatright"*). Charlotte (Charity) Boatright Price was born in September 1823, indicating that Powhatan had remarried soon after his 1815 marriage to Lucy Utley. While the precise identity of James' mother is uncertain, the close proximity of James and Charity's births suggests that James' mother was also Charity.
7. 1824 Independence County AR Tax List, LDS Film #8199108, Image #58, line #22: *"Powhatan Boatright."* *"The Arkansas Gazette,"* July 12 (p. 3, column 4) and 26 (p. 4, column 4), 1825. Both newspapers published this notice: *"List of Letters Remaining in the Post Office in Batesville, A.T. on the 30th June, 1825…Boatright, P."* Powhatan Boatright paid his 1824 territorial and county tax of 31¢ in Independence County, Arkansas, but he was not listed on the 1825–1826 tax list there. The newspaper notices suggest that he had left the area by mid-1825.
8. War of 1812 Pension Application #21112 and #28984, Powhatan Boatright, Virginia Militia. 1830 Claiborne Parish LA Federal Census, p. 238, line #26: *"Powhattan Boatwright."* When he applied for a pension based upon his War of 1812 military service, Boatright stated that he married in Claiborne Parish, Louisiana on 24 July 1826. This suggests he left Independence County, Arkansas and moved south into Louisiana about 1825.
9. Ouachita, Louisiana Land Office Cash Entries #3821 (Powhatan *"Boatwright,"* 3 November 1836, SE¼ of NW¼); #4009 (Powhatan *"Boatwright,"* 2 December 1836, NW¼ of SE¼). 1840 Union Parish LA Federal Census, p. 339a, line #20: *"Powhattan Boatright."* Both tracts that Boatright purchased lay in Section 4, Township 21 North, Range 1 West, and they each consisted of 38.31 acres, for which he paid cash of $1.25/acre or $47.89.
10. 1812 Surry County VA Marriage Bonds, LDS Film #4129172, Images #4–5 (John Stiles to Rebecca Cooper, 22 December 1812). Compiled Military Service Records, John Stiles, 71 Regiment (Allen's) Virginia Militia; John Stiles, Capt. Judkins' Company, Virginia Militia; War of 1812. *Muster Rolls of the Virginia Militia in the War of 1812.* Richmond, VA: William F. Ritchie, 1852, pp. 494–495 (Pvt. John Stiles, Capt. Irby Jones' Company, 71st Regiment Virginia Militia, Lt. Col. William Allen). Butler, Stuart. *A Guide to Virginia Militia Units in the War of 1812.* 2nd ed. Athens, GA: New Papyrus, 2011, pp. 11–13, 192–193. Capt. Judkins' Company served from June 30th through July 10th, 1813, whereas Stiles' military record shows that he served in Capt. Irby Jones' Company of Infantry from August 31st through September 11th, 1814. Both Judkins and Jones' companies served under Lt. Col. William Allen in the 71st Regiment Virginia Militia from Surry County, Virginia.
11. 1823 Surry County VA Personal Property Tax List, LDS Film #8248743, Image #202: John Stiles (one white poll, one slave aged 12–16, one horse, ass, mare, or mule). Surry County VA Deed Book 7 (1823–1826), pp. 8–9 (John and Rebecca Stiles to Benjamin George, 7 March 1823). John and Rebecca sold 17½ acres for $30.
12. Surry County VA Deed Book 7 (1823–1826), pp. 186–188 (John and Rebecca Stiles to Edwin Rogers, 10 March 1824). 1824 Surry County VA Land Tax Book, LDS Film #4124841, Image #17: John Stiles. For $50, John and Rebecca leased the 100 acres of land *"known by the name of Coopers"* that Rebecca had inherited from her maternal grandfather, Thomas Dewell. John Stiles paid the 1824 land taxes on Rebecca's 100 acres of land, which he was described as owning for *"wife's life."* John Stiles did not pay 1824 personal property taxes like he had in 1823. This suggests that they departed from Surry County about midyear. Edwin Rogers had married Lucy Collier on 24 November 1817 in Surry County; she was the daughter of Emelia Cooper Collier, the sister of Frederick Cooper, Rebecca's father.
13. 1850 Union County AR Federal Census, El Dorado Township, p. 236b, Dwelling #419, line #31: Jack Stiles (age: 66; Farmer; born: *"Va"*); #32: Rebecca Stiles (age: 56; born: *"Va"*); #33: *"D. T. Stiles"* [sic] (age: 24; Farmer; born: Tenn). 1860 Columbia County AR Federal Census, Mississippi Township, P.O. Palestine, p. 262/48, Dwelling #321, line #39: George Stiles (age: 34; Farmer; born: Tenn). 1870 Columbia County AR Federal Census, Mississippi Township, P.O. Magnolia, Ark., p. 447b/19, Dwelling #115: George T. Stiles (age: 43; Farmer; born: Tennessee). 1880 Columbia County AR Federal Census, Mississippi Township, ED #43, p. 207b/1, Dwelling #6, line #36: George T. Stiles (age: 53; Farmer; born: Tennessee).
14. 1830 Franklin County TN Federal Census, p. 64, line #21: *"John Stiles Senr;"* #26: *"John Stiles."* 1850 Union County AR Federal Census, El Dorado Township, p. 236b, Dwelling #419, line #31: Jack Stiles (age: 66; Farmer; born: *"Va"*); #32: Rebecca Stiles (age: 56; born: *"Va"*); #34: *"Rufus A. Stiles"* (age: 18; Farmer; born: Tenn). The 1841 will of John Stiles proves that his sons were John Stiles (Jr.) and Leroy Stiles, both of whom had moved to Union County,

Arkansas. See Coffee County TN Will and Probate Records, LDS Film #4727878, Images 73–74. Coffee County TN Will Book 1 (1833–1859), pp. 40–41, LDS Film #4776229, Image #37 [original]. Coffee County TN Will Book 1 (1833–1860) [typed], pp. 34–35, LDS Film #4769001, Images 622–623 (Will of John Stiles, written 6 November 1841, proved 4 March 1844).

15. 1840 Union County AR Tax Lists, LDS Film #8339821, Images #722, 724: S names; no Stiles listed. Union County AR Deed Record A (1830–1845), p. 123 (*"Dennice Mires"* to *"Elisabeth Stiles,"* 31 May 1840). The record reads *"I M. C. Driskill an acting Justice of the Peace in and for the township of Jackson in the County foresaid do hereby certify that on the 31st day of May A. D. 1840, I solemnised* [sic] *the rights of Matrimony between Dennice* [sic] *Mires & Elisabeth* [sic] *Stiles. Both being of lawful age by the consent of both parties. Recorded this May 20th A.D. 1840."* It seems that one of the days was incorrect, for the marriage record could not possibly have been recorded before it occurred. The next record was the sale of a horse dated 3 December 1839 and recorded 20 May 1840, the same day the Mires/Stiles married was recorded.
16. 1840 Union County AR Federal Census, Jackson Township, p. 222, line #7: Dennis Myres; #8: *"Jas. Dunbar;"* #9: *"John Styles Senr;"* line #10: *"John Styles Jr.;"* line #18: M. C. Driskill.
17. 1841–1844 Union County AR Tax Lists, LDS Film #8339821, Images #766–767 [1841; #23: *"Stiles Frederic;"* #24: *"Stiles Jno. Sen;"* #25: *"Stiles Jno Jr."*]; Images #818–819 [1842; #13: *"Stiles Leroy;"* #14: *"Stiles John Senr.;"* #15: *"Stiles Frederick"*]; Image #856 [1843; #22: *"Stiles F. C.;"* #23: *"Stiles Leroy;"* #24: *"Stiles Jno. Senr;*]; Image 881 [1844; #3: *"Stiles John;"* #4: *"Stiles Leroy"*].

Married Life in South Arkansas & Union Parish, Louisiana

1. Union County AR Deed Book A (1830–1845), p. 215 (James Boatright to Jane Stiles, 16 October 1842). Verification that Jane was the daughter of Jack and Becca Stiles comes from the 1860 enumeration of the Boatright family showing the Stiles in their household (see below).
2. 1850 Union County AR Federal Census, Jackson Township, p. 279a, Dwelling #191, line #24: James Boatright (age: 28; Farmer; born: Ark); #25: Jane E. Boatright (age: 24; born: Tenn). 1860 Union Parish LA Federal Census, P.O. Farmerville, p. 587, Dwelling #528, line #23: *"James Boatrite"* (age: 38; Farmer; born: Ark); #24: *"J. E. Boatrite"* (age: 36; female; Housekeeper; born: *"Tenn"*); #32: *"John Stiles"* (age: 76; Farmer; born: Va); #33: *"Becca Stiles"* (age: 66; *"HouseKeeper;"* born: Va). 1870 Union Parish LA Federal Census, Ward No. 3, p. 66a/34, Dwelling #229, line #27: *"Jane Boatwright"* (age: 40; Keeping House; born: Virginia). 1880 Union Parish LA Federal Census, Ward No. 3, ED #87, p. 471b/35, Dwelling #311, line #48: Jane E. Boatright (age: 50; widowed; Keeping house; born: *"(Arks);"* father born: *"(Ga);"* mother born: *"(Miss)"*). 1900 Union Parish LA Federal Census, Ward 1, Precinct 2, ED #116, p. 20a, Dwelling #25, line #23: Fannie Albritton (born: Apr 1861; age: 39; wife; born: Louisiana; father born: Louisiana; mother born: Virginia). While the 1850 and 1860 enumerators recorded Jane's birth in Tennessee, the 1870 enumerator gave Virginia as her birthplace. The 1880 enumerator clearly did not have the correct information, listing her birth in Arkansas, her father's in Georgia, and her mother's in Mississippi. However, the 1900 enumerator listed the birth of Fannie's mother as occurring in Virginia.
3. These records document the residence of James and Jane Boatright between 1845 and 1850:
   - Compiled Military Service Records, J. N. Boatwright (private), Co. C, 17th Louisiana Infantry Regiment; Sidney Boatright (private), Co. H, 31st Louisiana Infantry, Civil War (Confederate).
   - Union County AR Tax Lists, LDS Film #8339822, Image #16 (1845); Image #56 (1846), Image #107 (1848), and Image #154 (1849).
   - 1850 Union County AR Federal Census, Jackson Township, p. 279a, Dwelling #191, line #24: James Boatright (age: 28; Farmer; born: Ark); #25: Jane E. Boatright (age: 24; born: Tenn); #26: *"Jno. L.* [sic] *Boatright"* (age: 7; born: La); #27: Sidney Boatright (age: 6; born: La); #28: Becky Boatright (age: 4; born: Ark); #29: Sarah Boatright (age: 2; born: Ark); #30: Mary Boatright (age: 1; born: Ark).

   John N. Boatright's military file gives his birthplace as Union Parish, Louisiana, whereas Sidney's gives his as Louisiana. The 1850 census enumeration also shows that the Louisiana births of John and Sidney, whereas the births of the next several Boatright children occurred in Arkansas. James Boatright paid for one white poll tax in the years 1845, 1846, 1848, 1849, and 1853. In 1845, he paid taxes on personal property consisting of two horses or mares valued at $20 but no cattle; in 1846, he owned one horse or mare valued at $60 and two cattle valued at $20; in 1848, two horses or mares @ $80 and two cattle @ $20; and in 1849, two horses or mares @ $100 and two cattle @ $20. In 1853, he was only assessed one white poll tax. There are no extant tax lists for the years 1847 or 1850. James Boatright's name does not appear on either the 1844 tax list (LDS Film #8339821, Images #866–868) or 1851 tax list, showing that he remained in Louisiana through 1844.
4. 1850 Union County AR Federal Census, Agricultural Schedule, Jackson Township, pp. 461–462, 11 October 1850, #4: *"Jas Boatright."*

5. 1850 Union County AR Federal Census, El Dorado Township, p. 236b, Dwelling #418, line #24: Dennis Myers (age: 40; Farmer; born: *"Ga"*); #25: Elizabeth Myers (age: 28; born: *"Va"*); #419, line #31: Jack Stiles (age 66; Farmer; born *"Va;"*); line #32: Rebecca Stiles (age 56; born *"Va"*).
6. Union County AR County Court Record Book A (1830–1846), p. 311 (*"Brown Township established,"* 13 July 1846).
7. Union County AR County Court Record D, p. 226 (James *"Boatwright"* Bond as Constable, 6 April 1852); LDS Film #8197438, Image #593. The Union County court minutes did not indicate who served as Boatright's approved securities after they initially rejected the Stiles brothers.
8. Baker, Russell Pierce. *Arkansas Township Atlas: A History of the Minor Civil Divisions & each Arkansas County.* Revised ed. Arkansas Genealogical Society, 1987, p. 197.
9. 1851 Union County AR Tax List, LDS Film #8339822, Image #231: #3: *"Dinnis Myers;"* Image #242, #24: Leroy Stiles. It is unclear why James Boatright and George T. Stiles were not assessed 1851 Union County taxes, as other records show them as residents that year. Leroy Stiles was Jane's uncle, the younger brother of John Stiles Jr.
10. 1853 Union County AR Tax List, LDS Film #8339822, Image #267: #27: James Boatright (one white poll tax). 1853 Columbia County AR Tax List, LDS Film #8197448, Image #13: #15: *"James Boatright"* (one horse @ $75, one cow @ $10, one white poll). 1853 Columbia County AR Tax List, LDS Film #8343025, Image #420, #11: *"Jas Boatright;"* Image #437, #11: *"Denis Myres;"* Image #446, #10: *"John M. Styles"* [sic]; #11: *"George Styles."*
11. 1854 Columbia County AR Tax List, LDS Film #8343025, Image #481, #9: *"James Boatwright;"* Image #504, #5: Dennis Mires; Image #514, #16: George Stiles; Image #515, #10: J. N. Stiles. 1855 Columbia County AR Tax List, LDS Film #8197448, Image #234, p. 9, line #4: James Boatright; Image #287, p. 60, line #17: George T. Stiles; Image #290, p. 63, line #3: John N. Stiles.
12. Columbia County AR County Court Record Book A (1855–1858), p. 32 (Creation of Browne Township, 9 January 1854).
13. Columbia County AR County Court Record Book A (1855–1858), p. 93 (Court session 8 January 1855); p. 94 (James Boatright and John *"Styles"* appointed road overseers, 8 January 1855).
14. Gates, Paul. *History of Public Land Law Development.* Wm. W. Gaunt & Sons, Inc., Holmes Beach, Florida, 1968, pp. 224–226.
15. Champagnolle, Arkansas Land Office, Cash Entry #3948, James Boatright, 15 November 1855 ($80 for 160 acres @ $0.50/acre, for the NW¼ of Section 8, Township 18 South, Range 19 West).
16. Columbia County AR Deed & Mortgage Record Book B (1855–1857), pp. 130–132 (James and Jane E. Boatright to Steve Williams, 19 November 1855). The Boatrights sold the precise tract of land that James had purchased four days earlier at the land office.
17. 1856–1857 Columbia County AR Tax List, LDS Film #8343025, 1856, Image #621, #1: *"J. T. Stiles"* [sic–G. T Stiles]; Image #651, #19: *"John M. Styles"* [sic–John N. Stiles]; 1857, Image #759, #7: *"George Styles;"* Image #751, #13: *"J. N. Styles."* James Boatright was not listed on the 1856 or 1857 Columbia County tax lists as were his brothers-in-law.
18. 1857 Union County AR Tax List, LDS Film #8339822, Image #446, #7: James Boatright. In addition to one white poll, Boatright was assessed for one horse or mare over two years of age valued @ $100 for which he owed state taxes of 17¢.
19. Union County AR Count Court Record E, p. 265 (1857 Delinquent Tax List, 6 April 1858). James Boatright owed 18¢ in state taxes and 62¢ in county taxes.
20. Hamburg City Cemetery (Hamburg, Ashley County AR), tombstone of William P. Boatright.
21. 1860 Union Parish LA Federal Census, P.O. Farmerville, p. 587, Dwelling #528, line #23: *"James Boatrite"* (age: 38; Farmer; born: Ark); #24: *"J. E. Boatrite"* (age: 36; female; Housekeeper; born: *"Tenn"*); #32: *"John Stiles"* (age: 76; Farmer; born: Va); #33: *"Becca Stiles"* (age: 66; *"HouseKeeper;"* born: Va).
22. 1860 Union Parish LA Federal Census, Agricultural Schedule, P. O. Cherry Ridge, pp. 27–28, #18: *"P. Boatrite;"* #22: *"Jas. Boatrite;"* #23: *"L. Boatrite;"* #25: *"C. Price."* The enumerator failed to complete the columns giving the 1859 farm production for James and Linear Boatright, and Charity Price. James' father, Powhatan Boatright, also owned ten sheep, and he had 150 acres of improved land, 850 acres unimproved, with his farm valued at $3000.
23. Compiled Military Service Records, J. N. Boatwright (private), W. C. Boatright (private), and J. E. Price (private), Co. C, 17 Louisiana Infantry Regiment, Civil War (Confederate).
24. Compiled Military Service Records, John Boatright (private), Co. A, 6 Louisiana Infantry Regiment, Civil War (Confederate). John Boatright's file merely states: *"Died in Hospital Richmond Apr 24/62."*
25. Compiled Military Service Records, James Boatright (private), Linear Boatright (private), and William H. Mears (private), Co. H, 31 Louisiana Infantry Regiment, Civil War (Confederate). Their military files show that James Boatright and William H. Mears both enlisted at Monroe, Louisiana on 16 March 1862, while Linear enlisted there on May 14th. The precise marriage date of Mary Boatright, James' younger half-sister, and William H. Mears is unknown, so Mears and Boatright may not have been brothers-in-law at the time of their enlistment. By about 1864, Mears had married Mary Boatright.

26. Union Parish LA Conveyance Record K, p. 54 (Powhatan Boatright to Linear Boatright, 25 February 1862); pp. 85–86 (Powhatan Boatright to James Boatright, 27 March 1862). The land that Powhatan sold to his sons lay in Section 5, Township 21 North, Range 1 West. He sold Linear the SW¼, and he sold James the E½ of NW¼ and NW¼ of NE¼.
27. Compiled Military Service Records, Linear Boatright (private), Co. H, 31 Louisiana Infantry Regiment, Civil War (Confederate).
28. Compiled Military Service Records, Thomas J. Price (private) Co. H, 31 Louisiana Infantry Regiment; T. G. (Thomas J.) Price, Co. C, 17 Louisiana Infantry; J. N. Boatwright (private), Co. C, 17 Louisiana Infantry, Civil War (Confederate).
29. Harris, D. W. and B. M. Hulse. *The History of Claiborne Parish, Louisiana.* New Orleans: W. B. Stansbury, 1886, pp. 221–222.
30. Compiled Military Service Record, James Boatright (private), Co. H, 31 Louisiana Infantry, Civil War (Confederate).
31. Greenwood Cemetery (Jackson, Hinds Co MS), memorial for Pvt. James Boatright.

Staggering Toll of the Civil War on the Boatrights & Stiles

1. Compiled Military Service Records, Civil War (Confederate):
    - John Boatright (private), Co. A, 6 Louisiana Infantry Regiment
    - James Boatright (private), Co. H, 31 Louisiana Infantry Regiment
    - Linear Boatright (private), Co. H, 31 Louisiana Infantry Regiment
    - W. C. Boatright (private), Co. C, 17 Louisiana Infantry Regiment

    All four are documented as sons of Powhatan B. Boatright, and their military files show that all died of disease while serving in the Confederate Army.
2. Compiled Military Service Record, J. E. Price (private), Co. C, 17 Louisiana Infantry Regiment, Civil War (Confederate). Powatan B. Boatright Jr. lived in Union Parish with his family in 1860, but then disappears. He presumably died while in Confederate military service.
3. Louisiana Confederate Pension Application #5658, T. J. Price (Thomas J. Price), filed 11 February 1911, Union Parish. Compiled Military Service Record, Thomas J. Price (private), Co. H, 31 Louisiana Regiment, Civil War (Confederate).
4. Compiled Military Service Record, Sidney Boatright (private) and William H. Mears (private), Co. H, 31 Louisiana Infantry, Civil War (Confederate).
5. Compiled Military Service Record, G, T. Stiles (private), Co. D, 15 (Johnson's) Arkansas Infantry; Rufus A. Stiles (private), Co D, 19 Texas Infantry; J. N. Stiles (private), Capt. Owen's Battery, Arkansas Light Artillery; J. S. Miers (private), Co. G, 25 Louisiana Infantry, Civil War (Confederate). It unclear if the J. N. Stiles who served in Capt. Owen's Artillery Battery is Jane's older brother, John N. Stiles, but it would appear so. He enlisted in Monticello, which is in southern Arkansas to the east of Union County.

Thirty Years a Widow

1. Hunt County TX List of Registered Voters, LDS Film #8152026, Image #18 (*"Dennis Myers,"* born: Georgia; registered 2 August 1867); Image #34 (*"Dennis Myers,"* born: Georgia; registered 19 November 1869). Texas Records, LDS Film #8504518, Images #758–759 (*"Dennis Myers,"* born: Georgia; registered 2 August 1867, Hunt County; residence in state: 2 years; residence in county: 1 year). 1870 Hunt County TX Federal Census, Precinct No. 2, P.O. White Rock, Texas, p. 343a/20, Dwelling #151, line #29: Dennis Mires (age: 63; Farmer; born: Georgia); #30: Elizabeth Mires (age: 48; Keeping House, born: Virginia). 1870 Hunt County TX Federal Census, Mortality Schedule, Precinct No. 2, line #12: Rebecca Stiles (age: 78; widowed; born: Virginia; died: October 1869; died at home; cause of death: *"~~Palpitation~~ Dis Heart."* It appears that the cause was originally written as *"Palpitation Heart,"* but then someone crossed out *"Palpitation"* and wrote *"Dis"* above it.
2. 1865–1866 Union Parish LA Tax Assessments, Louisiana States Archives, Baton Rouge, LA. For both years, *"P. Boatright"* was assessed taxes on 440 acres valued at $1045, with all 440 acres listed as uncultivated. Most other farmers planted corn and had raised considerable amounts the previous year.
3. National Archives Collection, Internal Revenue Assessment Lists for Louisiana, 1863–1866, Record Group 58, Microfilm Publication M769, Roll 10, Target 2, Divisions 1–10: 1865 Annual Lists, LDS Film #7110294, Image #110 (p. 129, #13: *"Jane E. Boatwright;"* post office: *"Farmersville;"* item liable for tax: *"Carriage;"* tax: $1.00). Estee, Charles F. Esq., comp. *The Excise Tax Law Approved July 1, 1862; and all the Amendments.* New York: Fitch, Estee & Co., 1863, p. 61. In 1862, the United States government assessed a tax of $1.00 on any person owning a carriage whose body rested upon springs, was drawn by one horse, and valued at $75 or over.
4. 1867–1869 Union Parish LA Tax Assessments, Louisiana States Archives, Baton Rouge, LA.

1867 – *"Mrs. J. E. Boatright"* assessed taxes on 120 acres of land valued at $120 and animals valued at $90. Uncultivated land: 108 acres; 12 acres planted in corn. In 1866, the Boatright farm produced 125 bushels of corn.

1868 – *"Jane E. Boatright"* assessed taxes on 120 acres of land valued at $120 and animals valued at $90. Uncultivated land: 100 acres; 15 acres were planted in corn; 5 acres planted in cotton.

1869 – *"Jane E. Boatright"* assessed taxes on 120 acres valued at $300. Uncultivated land: 90 acres; 25 acres planted in corn; 5 acres planted in cotton. In 1868, the Boatright farm produced 250 bushels of corn and 3 bales of cotton.

5. Compiled Military Service Record, David Phelps (private); Perry T. Johnston (private), Co. H, 31 Louisiana Infantry, Civil War (Confederate). David Phelps' enlistment papers show that he was a Union Parish native and enlisted at the age of eighteen on 14 May 1862. Phelps had black hair, brown eyes, a light complexion, and stood 5'9½", and he served throughout the conflict. Johnston was paroled with Phelps on 12 June 1865, but he enlisted sometime after the surrender at Vicksburg.
6. 1870 Union Parish LA Federal Census, Ward No. 3:
   p. 66a/34:
   Dwelling #225, line #11: Perry Johnson (age: 24; Farmer; born: Alabama); #12: Mary Johnson (age: 20; Keeping House; born: Arkansas).
   Dwelling #228, line #24: *"John Boatwright"* (age: 26; Farmerville; born: Louisiana); #25: *"Emiline Boatwright"* (age: 24; Keeping House; born: Alabama).
   Dwelling #229, line #27: *"Jane Boatwright"* (age: 40; Keeping House; born: Virginia).
   p. 66b/35:
   Dwelling #237, line #28: Charity Price (age: 40; Keeping House; born: Louisiana).
   p. 67a/36:
   Dwelling #239, line #1: *"William Mayes"* [sic–Mears] (age: 26; Farmer; born: Mississippi); #2: *"Mary Mayes"* (age: 31; Keeping House; born: Louisiana).
   Dwelling #240, line #9: David Phelps (age: 26; Farmer); #10: Rebecca Phelps (age: 24; Keeping House).
   p. 69b/41:
   Dwelling #272, line #1: *"Powhatan Boatwright"* (age: 80; Farmer; born: Virginia); #2: *"Nancy Boatwright"* (age: 72; Keeping House; born: Georgia).
   Dwelling #273, line #4: *"Jesse Boatwright"* (age: 36; Farmer; born: Louisiana).
7. 1870 Union Parish LA Federal Census, Agricultural Schedule, Ward No. 3, pp. 39/9–40/10, #31: *"Powhatan Boatright;"* #32: *"Jessee Boatright;"* pp. 42/13–43/14, #24: Perry Johnson; #27: *"John Boatwright;"* #28: *"Jane Boatwright;"* #36: Charity Price; #38: *"William Mayes;"* #39: David Phelps. Those that owned sheep also produced wool, with Powhatan Boatright's sheep yielding 10 pounds, Jesse's 5 pounds, Jane's 10 pounds, Charity's 20 pounds, and David Phelps' yielding 3 pounds of wool. Several of the Boatright farms produced Irish potatoes, including John Boatright's 15 pounds, William Mears' 10 pounds, and David Phelps' 20 pounds. Some of the farms had slaughtered animals, and the preserved meat and goods had these values: Powhatan: $70; Jesse: $275; Charity Price: $100.
8. 1880 Union Parish LA Federal Census, Ward No. 3, ED #87:
   p. 471b/35:
   Dwelling #310, line #42: Charity Price (age: 50; widowed; Keeping House; born: Arks; father's birth: Va; mother's birth: Arks).
   Dwelling #311, line #48: Jane E. Boatright (age: 50; widowed; Keeping house; born: *"(Arks);"* father's birth: *"(Ga);"* mother's birth: *"(Miss)"*).
   p. 472a/36:
   Dwelling #313, line #4: John N. Boatright (age: 35; Farming; born: La; father's birth: SC; mother's birth: *"Ten"*).
   Dwelling #317, line #25: *"Powhattan Boatright"* (age: 89; widowed; Farming; born: Va; father's birth: Va; mother's birth: Va).
   p. 477a/46:
   Dwelling #399, line #2: David Phelps (age: 35; Farming; born: La; father's birth: Ala; mother's birth: Ala); #3: Rebecca J. Phelps (age: 33; Wife; Keeping house; born: Arks; father's birth: NC; mother's birth: NC).
9. 1880 Union Parish LA Federal Census, Agricultural Schedule, Ward 3, ED #87, p. 23, line #6: *"Jane E. Boatright;"* #8: *"John N. Boatright."*
10. Union Parish LA Marriage Book 6 (1880–1883), p. 408 (John F. Albritton to Fannie Boatright, 7 September 1882).
11. Union Parish LA Conveyance Book U, pp. 246–247 (Noah Scarborough's widow and heirs to William Arnett Albritton, 25 January 1884; witnesses: G. W. Boatright, W. P. Boatright). Noah Scarborough married Samantha

Fowler, whose younger sister, Sarah Ann Fowler, was the second wife of George Washington Albritton. The Albrittons were the parents of John Fowler Albritton who married Fannie Boatright in 1882, and of William A. Albritton, who bought part of the Scarborough farm in January 1884.

12. Union Parish LA Marriage Book 7 (1883–1889), p. 172 (William P. Boatright to Anna Ham, 7 April 1884).
13. Union Parish LA Conveyance Book U, pp. 83–85 (David S. Auld to George W. Boatright, 22 December 1883). Union Parish LA Mortgage Book G, p. 198 (David S. Auld to George W. Boatright, 22 December 1883). Union Parish LA Old Deeds & Patents 1, pp. 341–343 (Jane E. Boatright and children to David S. Auld, 2 December 1884). Statements regarding the engagement and death from pneumonia of George W. Boatright (c1854–1884) were told to his grandniece, Fabrice Boatright Hudson, by her uncle and father, Jewel E. Boatright (1885–1971) and George W. Boatright (1886–1934), sons of William P. Boatright.
14. Hudson, Fabrice Boatright. *Ancestors and Descendants of Powhatan Valentine Boatright.* G&R Publishing: Waverly, IA, 1981, p. 14. Fabrice Boatright Hudson, grandmother of the author of these notes, conducted extensive interviews with family members between the 1940s and 1970s. The statements regarding Jane E. Stiles Boatright moving in with Samantha Fowler Scarborough on the old Scarborough farm come from conversations between *"Cousin Wilson Albritton"* (Lloyd Wilson Albritton) and Fabrice B. Hudson.
15. *"The Gazette"* (Farmerville, LA), 5 August 1896, p. 3, column 1.
16. Union Parish LA Succession Book A-4, pp. 449–453 (Succession of James and Jane Boatright, filed 7 March 1914). Union Parish LA Conveyance Book 25, p. 532 (A. J. Hammons, Union Parish Clerk of Court and Administrator of the Estates of James and Jane Boatright to Joe Ollie Albritton, 11 July 1914).

Children of James Boatright & Jane E. Stiles

1. Union Parish LA Old Deeds & Patents 1, pp. 341–343 (Jane E. Boatright and children to David S. Auld, 2 December 1884). Census records are referenced below. The deed was made by

   Jane E. Boatright widow (a femme sole), John N. Boatright, Mrs. Rebecca Jane Phelps, wife of David Phelps, William P. Boatright, Emily O. Purdy, wife of James Benton Purdy, J. Frances Albritton wife of John Albritton, all residents of Union Parish La, and Mrs. Mary Ann Johnston, wife of Perry T. Johnston, residents of Yell County, Arkansas…and we the aforenamed parties being the sole heirs of the Succession of George W. Boatright deceased.
2. 1850 Union County AR Federal Census, Jackson Township, p. 279a, Dwelling #191, line #24: James Boatright (age: 28; Farmer; born: Ark); #25: Jane E. Boatright (age: 24; born: Tenn); #26: *"Jno. L.* [sic] *Boatright"* (age: 7; born: La). 1860 Union Parish LA Federal Census, P.O. Farmerville, p. 587, Dwelling #528, line #23: *"James Boatrite"* (age: 38; Farmer; born: Ark); #24: *"J. E. Boatrite"* (age: 36; female; Housekeeper; born: *"Tenn"*); #25: *"J. N. Boatrite"* [or J. W.] (age: 17; Farmer; born: La). 1870 Union Parish LA Federal Census, Ward No. 3, p. 66a/34, Dwelling #228, line #24: *"John Boatwright"* (age: 26; Farmer; born: Louisiana); #25: *"Emiline Boatwright"* (age: 24; Keeping House; born: Alabama). 1880 Union Parish LA Federal Census, Ward No. 3, ED #87, p. 472a/36, Dwelling #313, line #4: John N. Boatright (age: 35; Farming; born: La); #5: Nancy E. Boatright (age: 32; wife; Keeping house; born: Ala). Compiled Military Service Records, J. N. Boatwright (private), Co. C, 17 Louisiana Infantry Regiment, Civil War (Confederate). John N. Boatright's precise year of birth is unclear, as census records give conflicting dates. On 21 November 1862, Capt. Jordan G. Taylor, Boatright's commanding officer, signed his transfer papers, stating that Boatright was then seventeen years old. This must have been a mistake, with Boatright actually eighteen years. The 1850 and 1860 census records do not indicate that John and Sidney were twins, and according to his enlistment record, Sidney had already turned eighteen years of age by 8 February 1863. It seems more likely that John Nolan Boatright was born in late 1843 or early 1844, with Sidney born soon afterwards, in late 1844.
3. Compiled Military Service Records, J. N. Boatwright (private); W. C. Boatright (private); J. E. Price (private); Co. C, 17 Louisiana Infantry Regiment, Civil War (Confederate).
4. Vandiver, Frank E. ed. "A Collection of Louisiana Confederate Letters." *Louisiana Historical Quarterly,* 26 (1943), pp. 937–974.
5. Compiled Military Service Records, J. N. Boatwright (private), Co. C, 17 Louisiana Infantry Regiment; John N. Boatright (private), Co. H, 31 Louisiana Infantry, Civil War (Confederate).
6. Union Parish LA Succession Book 2 (1887–1895), pp. 38–48 (Tutorship of the Heirs of John N. Boatright, filed 12 December 1887). The court record gives his precise date of death. John N. Boatright's cause of death from a *"spider bite to his back"* comes from family information conveyed to his grandniece, Fabrice Boatright Hudson, by his descendants in the 1940s or 1950s. She prepared her notes and family information in a Boatright book privately published in 1981.
7. 1850 Union County AR Federal Census, Jackson Township, p. 279a, Dwelling #191, line #24: James Boatright (age: 28; Farmer; born: Ark); #25: Jane E. Boatright (age: 24; born: Tenn); #27: *"Sidney Boatright"* (age: 6; born: La). 1860 Union Parish LA Federal Census, P.O. Farmerville, p. 587, Dwelling #528, line #23: *"James Boatrite"* (age: 38; Farmer; born: Ark); #24: *"J. E. Boatrite"* (age: 36; female; Housekeeper; born: *"Tenn"*); #26: *"Sidney Boatrite"* (age: 16; Farmer; born: La).

8. Compiled Military Service Record, Sidney Boatright (private), Co. H, 31 Louisiana Infantry, Civil War (Confederate). His military record stated that when he enlisted at Farmerville on 8 February 1863, he was eighteen years of age.
9. 1850 Union County AR Federal Census, Jackson Township, p. 279a, Dwelling #191, line #24: James Boatright (age: 28; Farmer; born: Ark); #25: Jane E. Boatright (age: 24; born: Tenn); #26: *"Jno. L.* [sic] *Boatright"* (age: 7; born: La); #27: Sidney Boatright (age: 6; born: La); #28: Becky Boatright (age: 4; born: Ark). The birthplaces show Rebecca J. Boatright's Arkansas birth.
10. Zion Hill Cemetery (Farmerville, Union Parish LA), tombstones of Rebecca Jane Boatright Phelps and David Phelps.
11. 1850 Union County AR Federal Census, Jackson Township, p. 279a, Dwelling #191, line #24: James Boatright (age: 28; Farmer; born: Ark); #25: Jane E. Boatright (age: 24; born: Tenn); #29: Sarah Boatright (age: 2; born: Ark); #30: Mary Boatright (age: 1; born: Ark).
12. 1870 Union Parish LA Federal Census, Ward No. 3, p. 66a/34, Dwelling #225, line #11: Perry Johnson (age: 24; Farmer; born: Alabama); #12: Mary Johnson (age: 20; Keeping House; born: Arkansas); Dwelling #228, line #24: *"John Boatwright"* (age: 26; Farmerville; born: Louisiana); #25: *"Emiline Boatwright"* (age: 24; Keeping House; born: Alabama); Dwelling #229, line #27: *"Jane Boatwright"* (age: 40; Keeping House; born: Virginia). 1880 Yell County AR Federal Census, Village of Petit Jean, ED #222, p. 387a/2, Dwelling #15, line #27: *"Perry Johnson"* (age: 35; Farmer; born: Ala; father: Ohio; mother: Ala); #28: *"Mary Johnston"* (age: 31; wife; Keeping house); #29: *"James Johnson"* (age: 12; Son; works on farm; born: Ala [sic]); #30: *"Geo Johnson"* (age: 10; Son; works on farm; born: La); #31: *"John Johnston"* (age: 8; Son; born: Ark); #32: *"William Johnston"* (age: 6; Son; born: Ark); #32: *"Leander Johnston"* (age: 3; Son; born: Ark).
13. Salem Cemetery (Plainview, Yell County AR), tombstones of Mary Ann Boatright Johnston and Perry Taylor Johnston.
14. 1860 Union Parish LA Federal Census, P.O. Farmerville, p. 587, Dwelling #528, line #23: *"James Boatrite"* (age: 38; Farmer; born: Ark); #24: *"J. E. Boatrite"* (age: 36; female; Housekeeper; born: *"Tenn"*); #29: *"E. O. Boatrite"* (age: 9). 1870 Union Parish LA Federal Census, Ward No. 3, p. 66a/34, Dwelling #229, line #27: *"Jane Boatwright"* (age: 40; Keeping House; born: Virginia); #28: Emily Boatwright (age: 16; born: Arkansas). If Emily's age on the 1860 Federal Census was correct, her 1851 birth would place it in Union County, but if she were born about 1854 as the 1870 census indicates, it would have occurred in Columbia County. The 1880 census gives her age as 24, which would mean born about 1856. Based upon the births of her siblings, it appears that the 1860 census is more likely to be accurate.
15. Union Parish LA Marriage Book L4 (1869–1871), p. 205 (James B. Purdy to Emily O. Boatright, 10 September 1870).
16. 1880 Van Zandt County TX Federal Census, Precinct No. 1, ED #119, p. 29a/60, Dwelling #520, line #20: James B. Purdy (age: 33; Farmer; born: Alabama); #21: Emily O. Purdy (age: 24; wife; Keeping house; born: Arkansas); #23: William J. Purdy (age: 8; son; born: Louisiana); #24: James P. Purdy (age: 4; son; born: Texas); #25: Mary E. Purdy (age: 1; *"D"* [daughter]; born: Texas).
17. Union Parish LA Old Deeds & Patents 1, pp. 341–343 (Jane E. Boatright and children to David S. Auld, 2 December 1884). Union Parish LA Marriage Book 7 (1883–1889), p. 388 (James Benton Purdy to Mrs. Bettie Bell, 20 August 1885).
18. Calhoun City Cemetery (Calhoun, Ouachita Parish LA), tombstone of James Benton Purdy.
19. 1860 Union Parish LA Federal Census, P.O. Farmerville, p. 587, Dwelling #528, line #23: *"James Boatrite"* (age: 38; Farmer; born: Ark); #24: *"J. E. Boatrite"* (age: 36; female; Housekeeper; born: *"Tenn"*); #30: *"G. W. Boatrite"* (age: 6). 1870 Union Parish LA Federal Census, Ward No. 3, p. 66a/34, Dwelling #229, line #27: *"Jane Boatwright"* (age: 40; Keeping House; born: Virginia); #29: *"George Boatwright"* (age: 15; born: Arkansas). 1880 Union Parish LA Federal Census, Ward No. 3, ED #87, p. 471b/35, Dwelling #311, line #48: Jane E. Boatright (age: 50; widowed; Keeping house; born: *"(Arks)"*); #49: George W. Boatright (age: 25; Son; single; Farming; born: Arks).
20. Union Parish LA Conveyance Book U, pp. 83–85 (David S. Auld to George W. Boatright, 22 December 1883). Union Parish LA Mortgage Book G, p. 198 (David S. Auld to George W. Boatright, 22 December 1883).
21. Union Parish LA Conveyance Book U, pp. 246–247 (Widow and heirs of Noah Scarborough, deceased, to William Arnett Albritton, 25 January 1884; witnesses: G. W. Boatright, W. P. Boatright). Noah Scarborough married Samantha Fowler, whose younger sister, Sarah Ann Fowler, was the second wife of George Washington Albritton. The Albrittons were the parents of John Fowler Albritton who married Fannie Boatright in 1882, as well as William A. Albritton, who bought part of the Scarborough land this day.
22. Union Parish LA Old Deeds & Patents 1, pp. 341–343 (Jane E. Boatright and children to David S. Auld, 2 December 1884). Family information told to Fabrice Boatright Hudson, grandniece of George W. Boatright, by her uncle and father, Jewel and George W. Boatright.
23. 1870 Union Parish LA Federal Census, Ward No. 3, p. 66a/34, Dwelling #229, line #27: *"Jane Boatwright"* (age: 40; Keeping House; born: Virginia); #31: *"Fannie Boatwright"* (age: 7; born: Louisiana). 1880 Union Parish LA Federal

Census, Ward No. 3, ED #87, p. 471b/35, Dwelling #311, line #48: Jane E. Boatright (age: 50; widowed; Keeping house; born: *"(Arks)"*); #50: Frances Boatright (age: 18; Daughter; born: La). 1900 Union Parish LA Federal Census, Ward 1, Precinct 2, ED #116, p. 20a, Dwelling #25, line #23: Fannie Albritton (born: Apr 1861; age: 39; wife). Taylor/Liberty Hill Cemetery (Farmerville, Union Parish LA), tombstone of James Frances Boatright Albritton.

24. Union Parish LA Marriage Book 6 (1880–1883), p. 408 (John F. Albritton to Fannie Boatright, 7 September 1882).
25. Louisiana Death Certificate #11071, 1925, Vol. 26, John Albritton, Union Parish, died 14 August 1925. Union Parish LA Succession Book G, pp. 154–160; Book A-1, pp. 8–9 (Succession and Tutorship of minor heirs of George Washington Albritton); Book A-1, pp. 9–13; Book 1, pp. 615–625 (Succession and Tutorship of minor heirs of Sarah A. Albritton). On 25 November 1867, Sarah Ann Albritton petitioned the Union Parish District Court that her husband, George Washington Albritton, had died in October 1867 leaving eight children with her, including John Fowler Albritton.
26. Taylor/Liberty Hill Cemetery (Farmerville, Union Parish LA), tombstones of James Frances Boatright Albritton and John F. Albritton.

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