GENERAL THOMAS LOVE

of

WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA AND WESTERN TENNESSEE

and

HIS BROTHERS ROBERT AND JAMES

By:

Robert A. Love
5015 Seminole Road
St. Petersburg 3,
Florida
I am writing the foreword as I finish the booklet. General Thomas Love, the booklet, has been a most interesting study for me, and I do not recall any other previous effort that has afforded as much pleasure. I am truly hoping that it will bring to the reader similar rewards.

Naturally, in a booklet of this size a complete story of a life so full of ambition and achievement as that of General Thomas Love cannot be told. I have much more material at hand concerning him and his life and deeds but was compelled to choose only those which seemed most important. I have given little of tradition, and have avoided giving mere opinions of some, where mere facts are not proven.

In my work I have been very graciously assisted by several persons and am greatly indebted to all, in particular to my "cousin by desire", as he puts it, Brig. Gen. (ret.) Albert Gallatin Love, from whom I have quoted very freely, and from his book "The Love Family of Trezevant, Tennessee"; to John M. Welch of Dukedom, Tennessee; Thomas H. Bailey of Kingsport, Tennessee, Albert Lee Love, Palmetto, Fla., and to Mrs. Margaret Love Marshall, Waynesville, North Carolina.

And now to them and to the original twenty subscribers, Dr. Cyril E. Cain, David B. Love, Mrs. Wm. D. Scranton, Albert Lee Love, Gordon Love, Dr. S. Glenn Love, Mary H. Scott, Mrs. Elsie B. Hagen, Mrs. George D. Warner, Mrs. Florelle Love Palmer, Mrs. Frances C. Dale, Gen. Albert G. Love, Thomas H. Bailey, Mrs. Edgar A. Brown, Mrs. Burnie Love Young, Mrs. W. E. Love, Mrs. Patti Leavitt, and H. L. McGeorge, Sr., I dedicate this little booklet with the best of wishes, "to them, their heirs and assigns forever".

Sincerely,

Robert A. Love
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The families of Love in the United States have produced many men and women who have distinguished themselves in the various walks of life and have shed luster upon the name. As actors, artists, business and professional men and women, clergymen, scientists, statesmen, writers, military men, wherever they have found themselves they have acquitted themselves with credit.

General Thomas Love, a native of Augusta County, Virginia, (1766-1844) was a distinguished example of the American boy, son of Scotch-Irish pioneers orphaned in his teens, who with slender means at his command, but with proper ambition, and seizing every opportunity for advancement, at or before middle age had become one of the most prominent men in his section of the country, owner of a vast land empire, a military leader in his youth who had helped to turn the tide of popular opinion against "the Lost State of Franklin"; a general, and a legislator for 28 years, owner of many slaves, and a man of great influence as well as of affluence. Of unimpeachable character. I give you this quote from the historian Arthur who quotes Colonel Allen T. Davidson in re General Thomas and his brother Colonel Robert Love: "These two men were certainly above the average of men and did much to plant civilization in the country where they lived, and would have been men of mark in any community".¹ In his book "The Love Family of Trezevant, Tennessee", Albert Gallatin Love says: "Certainly we should not disagree with Colonel Davidson's appraisal of the two men. We, their descendants, can well be proud of their accomplishments ............. When they moved into Washington County, North Carolina - (Tennessee) in 1782 they were orphans with limited means. They prospered and contributed their efforts in developing better communities there and later in Haywood Co., North Carolina".

-1-
Historian Arthur tells us that the subject of this sketch, General Thomas Love, was "a man of fine appearance, more than six feet tall, very popular, and a fine electioneer".

As before stated the parents of Thomas Love were sturdy Scotch-Irish but probably American born, most likely in Pennsylvania, as we are told that at least eighty five per cent of the pioneers in the Valley of Virginia were of that race and originally settled in Pennsylvania. Some writers have described the Scotch-Irish as a "turbulent" race from the fact that they stoutly refused to be trampled upon where their rights, or what they believed to be their rights, were concerned, and that is the whole of it. Their neighbors in Pennsylvania did not subscribe to some of their beliefs regarding the occupation of some lands, and so it is said that they were "a headache" to the ministers until they migrated south to Virginia about 1753; some a few years earlier.

But to get on with the story - Samuel and Dorcas Bell Love were the parents of Thomas Love. Dorcas was the daughter of James Bell, said to have borne the nickname of "South River" Bell, from the fact that he lived on South River, a branch of the Shenandoah. Samuel and Dorcas were married according to marriage records of the Augusta County Court, on Sept. 3, 1759. It is not known definitely from existing records who was the father of Samuel, but it is definite that he had a brother named Joseph, and Judge Franklin Dederick Love in his book "The Love Family" states that Robert who died and is buried near Craigatempan was doubtless the ancestor of Samuel and Joseph. However, there was another Samuel mentioned in the register of Tinkling Spring Church, as Samuel Sr., and a Samuel who served as a sergeant during the Revolution. I am inclined toward Judge Love's theory as it was a custom followed pretty generally by the Scotch-Irish,
to name the first born son after the paternal grandfather. Samuel and Dorcas' first born was named Robert.

One month after Samuel and Dorcas married they moved to a place on Christian's Creek, near Tinkling Spring. We find this record of a deed made in Augusta County from Thomas and Margaret Black conveying to them 300 acres in the above location, on which they reared their home and set up housekeeping, and raised their six children. They lived there until after the death of Dorcas, at an undetermined date. We have found no record of her death, but when Samuel moved to what was then Montgomery, now Wythe Co., no mention is made of her in the move, and no mention is made of her in the will of Samuel.

Samuel pulled up stakes and moved to a plantation in Montgomery (now Wythe) county, on a site near the present town of Wytheville, in 1774 or 1775, — leaving Tinkling Spring behind. Here, before we go further with the story a few words about Tinkling Spring must be told. Tinkling Spring Presbyterian Church was the only house of worship in the community of which it was the center. The church is about seven miles east of the picturesque little mountain city of Staunton (pronounced Stanton). It is close by the small village of Fisherville. The church stands upon a knoll in a grove of pine and cedar and is a lovely modern building. When I visited the spot with Albert Gallatin Love in 1950, I think it was, we were impressed with the beauty of the location and the attractiveness of the church, interior and exterior. To the genealogist who has delved into the history of Augusta County, this is a "holy of holies", and especially if, as in our case, a great part of personal ancestral history should be centered around the spot. There are two cemeteries; a modern one across the road to the east of the church, and the other across the road in the opposite
direction, leading to the bottom of the hill and the tinkling spring. Because of the name, we seem to hear a tinkling, but in reality it is a gurgling spring of clear cold water, and we drank a little. In the interior of the church, musing upon the days of long ago when Rev. John Craig preached from the then pulpit, we were brought back to reality by the programs of the previous meeting lying around showing that the church engages in the full program of the modern church. The building, I learned from my companion, was not the old original one, which was a log house of 1740, replaced in 1748 by one of stone, replaced in recent years by the present one. So there was nothing in the house itself to remind of the past, but the ancient cemetery across the road to the spring sent us back 200 years in imagination. The old cemetery is the Westminster Abbey of many prominent families and many men famed in their country's history are buried there...Albert Gallatin Love says, quoting Waddell, that there was a violent controversy about the location of the church of 1749. Colonel James Patton and Colonel John Lewis disagreed. Reverend John Craig opposed its location at Tinkling Spring. When the site was selected, he said angrily "Never shall a drop of water from the spring trickle down my throat".

Others of the Love families lived near and worshipped at Tinkling Spring, as we suppose, this being the only church in a vast area until one was built near Harrisonburg. Ephraim and Daniel Love, brothers; Joseph and Samuel, brothers, we are certain were communicants there. Others of the name in the County of Augusta, as then constituted, before 1800, at one time or another, were Samuel, Sr., Joseph (the other one), William, John, James, Thomas, and Alexander, and perhaps others. Reverend John Craig attended to the spiritual wants of a vast territory, sparsely settled, for many years, but he seemed to enjoy it, as when a church was built near
Harrisonburg and a young minister called he is said to have become very indignant saying that he was fully capable of preaching the way of life to all the people "in these mountains".

Samuel Love and Dorcas' home on Christian Creek, we may suppose, to have been a typical pioneer home of the times - of logs chinked with mud, with rooms flanking a breezeway in the center, but we cannot say this with authority, as stone houses were not exactly rare at that time, and it might have been built of stone. Opinion though is to the contrary.

It was here that they reared a family of six children; four sons and two daughters, as follows:

Sons: Robert, b. May 11, 1760

James, b. March 10, 1762

Thomas, b. November 16, 1766

William, date of birth unknown

Daughters: Sarah, date of birth unknown

Mary, date of birth unknown

Brief mention has been made of Joseph, the brother of Samuel, and we are giving you the following facts concerning him, as a part of the family background of Thomas.

Joseph married Mary Teas of Augusta Co. Their children were:


3. A son killed at Battle of King's Mountain.

4. William, killed by the Harpe brothers, in Cumberland Mts.


Children of ROBERT Love, son of Joseph, not mentioned in above list but shown in a Bible record copied by Miss Jean Russell, of Concord, Tennessee:

(Joseph Love d. Nov. 10, 1804, age 76 years)
(Mary Love d. July 1815, age 86 years, 9 months)

Jean (or Jane) Roane, b. May 27, 1762; d. Jan. 31, 1826.

Robert Love and Jean Roane were m. June 23, 1782.

CHILDREN

1. Nancy C. b. April 12, 1783, d. April 7, 1816.
5. Robert b. October 23, 1791.

Confirmation of the fact that William Love married Esther Calhoun is found in the South Carolina Historical & Genealogical Magazine V. 7, p. 91, and several sources confirm his murder in the Cumberlands by the notorious Harpes.

Joseph Love migrated to South Carolina and settled in the 96 District of that state where he had a land grant in 1785 and must have had others but no record found to date. His descendants in South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee and Mississippi are legion.

Samuel and Joseph moved their families from Christian Creek to the now Wythe Co. in about 1775. After two unsuccessful attempts to move to and settle in Carter's Valley, Tennessee, shortly after, Samuel returned to his Virginia home and passed the rest of his days there. His will was made the 2nd day of November, 1780, and filed for probate and recorded March 4, 1781. His will is not a very long document but very interesting and especially to any of his descendants who may read this, not ever having seen the original.
It is headed:

WILL OF SAMUEL LOVE

(This copy was generously given to me by Albert Gallatin Love, III, several years ago)

In the name of God Amen I Samuel Love being weak in body but of perfect mind and memory do call to mind the mortality of the body that it is allotted to all men once to die and after that to come to Judgment. First I bequeath my soul to God who gave it and my body to the Earth to be Buried at the discretion of my Executors in hopes to rise again at the General Resurrection in Christ Jesus. As touching my worldly Estate which God hath Blessed me with I give and bequeath in manner as followeth viz To my three eldest sons Robert, James and Thomas I give and bequeath the plantation whereon I now live to be equally divided between them, only Robert and James to have improvements. I allow my son Robert Love to pay my youngest son William Twenty pounds, James to pay him fifteen pounds, and Thomas ten pounds when William comes to the years of twenty one they are to pay him in Virginia currency as it was in the year sixty three Likewise Robert & James is to give William a horse and saddle out of their part. My movable estate I allow to be equally divided between Robert Love, James Love, Sarah Love, Mary Love and Thomas Love, my children. Each one to have their part when they marry, move off or come of age.

I appoint Capt. John Stephens and John Adams to be my whole and sole Executors; and do revoke and disannull all former wills
and Ordain and constitute this to be my last will and testament
given under my hand and seal this second day of November in
the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty.

SAML. LOVE (SEAL)

Signed sealed and delivered
In the presence of:
Robert Love Sewr
James Love

At a Court cond. and held for Montgomery County March 4th
1781. This will was proven to the satisfaction of the Court
and ordered to be recorded.

Test:
James McCorkle

THOMAS LOVE, A 'TEEN-AGER

As you have seen in the foregoing paragraphs, Thomas Love was the
third child and son of Samuel and Dorcas Love. The era into which he
was born was a bloody and stirring one. He was born on November 16, 1766
the French and Indian War had commenced in 1763, three years before.
The Valley was a frontier in those days, and men from Augusta were with
Braddock when he met with disastrous defeat from the enemy. Six years
before, two Love men, Joseph and William had been killed by the Indians
on the Roanoke, in 1757. Captain Philip Love was with Colonel Lewis in
the Battle of Point Pleasant, where they administered a severe and
bloody defeat to the redskins.

In 1774 Lord Dunmore's small war came on. Philip again served as a
captain, and Joseph, probably Samuel's brother was a private. Two years
later we went to war with the mother country. The storm clouds of revolution already were gathering. Then came a day when resentment flared into action and on July 4, 1776, in Philadelphia, the Liberty Bell rang out its challenge.

Thomas was too young to be involved, being only ten years of age but his elder brothers Robert and James, though young served, Robert throughout the war, and James until 1780.3

Robert, at 16, served as a wagoner in the expedition led by Colonel Christian in 1776, against the Cherokees. Of this expedition the North Carolina State Colonial Records (V. 10, p. 383) has this to say: "Reinforced with three or four hundred North Carolina militiamen, Colonel Christian had been ordered to raise an army and march to the heart of the Cherokee country. The Cherokees, cooperating with the British fleet at Charleston, went on the warpath as soon as they learned the fleet was in port, July 1, 1776. The rendezvous of Colonel Christian was on the Great Island of Holston. The North Carolina troops were in command of General Rutherford. Cooperating were South Carolina troops under Gen. Williamson, Colonel McBury and Major Jack, of Georgia. The Cherokees were defeated." (This item in the State colonial records was captioned "Col. Love" but he is not further identified.) It was during this troublous period that Thomas' father in the winter of 1775-1776 had decided to move from his home in Wythe County, Virginia to the Holston in Washington County, North Carolina - now Hawkins County, Tennessee. At his home in Henry County, Tennessee, in January, 1844, in an interview with Dr. Lyman Draper, Thomas Love gave this interesting example of how "the best laid plans o' mice and men, Gang aft aglae". Quote: "Samuel Love with his three sons Robert, James and Thomas, now aged 16 to 10, had
gone to the Holston to settle in Carter's Valley in the winter of 1775-1776. The location was about 1 to 15 miles below the junction of the north and south forks of the Holston in what is now Hawkins County, Tennessee."

"Snow knee deep. About three or four weeks before the Indian invasion, three Indians came into Carter's Valley, and then passed up the country. No one could converse with them, and it was afterwards thought they were spies. Isaac Thomas, an Indian trader, gave information that the Indians were coming upon the settlement. Every person below the mouth of North Fork of Holston was in great consternation. In a very few hours all were on their way to some place of safety, some on horseback, some in wagons and others on foot. Gen. Love saw numbers fording the north fork of Holston about half a mile above its mouth - dashing through pell mell, in the greatest alarm; a father on foot, with his wife holding on to the skirts of his coat, and children clinging in their arms, wading across the wide ford, perhaps some 3 feet deep. Some fled to Virginia settlements who had friends there, others went to Eaton's and camped in and around the house, and tore down the fences and took the rails and piled them up around the house, as a kind of rude enclosure, hence Eaton's Fort".

"General Love has understood that when the men marched out from the fort they met the Indians at the Island Flats. Thinking the Indians too numerous, they ran. Finally when the Indians pressed them too closely, they had to turn and fight. Tom Price, an old Indian trader distinguished himself. General Love recollects James Thompson, though was not aware he was in the battle - lived somewhere near Seven Mile Ford, and owned Burke's Garden and other valuable property."
"Capt. Cooke, finding the Indians so numerous and trying to surround the whites— to outflank, and endeavoring to prevent this, marched so rapidly that the Indians cut off Cooke and a portion of his company, and 3 or 4 Indians pursued him and prevented him from rejoining the men. This is what Gen. Love has always heard and believes was so. Gen. Love thinks it was towards the last of June, being a new ground, it was lately planted, for corn was about as high as the knee."

"A very large stout Indian slightly wounded in the knee and in a sink hole, and in the act of binding the wound, Aleck Moore espied and snapped his gun 2 or 3 times, when the Indian discovered him— the Indian arose, when they clinched, it was a tight scuffle— the Indian drew his knife, Moore seized it by the blade with his right hand and split his thumb and split up to the first joint— Moore finally got possession of it and killed the Indian."

"In the fall of 1776 continuing his narrative, Thomas Love says: Saml. Love and his sons, together with Johnathan Mulkee, Moses Winter, John Long, and Thomas Ormsbee, ventured back to Carter's Valley to repossess their settlements— met several of Col. Wm. Christian's men returning from the campaign; they now thought all safe. In January following a party of Indians passed Carter's Valley, probably not thinking any one had returned there and went to Poor Valley, the next valley above Carter's and running parallel with it, and both nearly paralleled with main fork of Holston, and the head of each was near the west bank of the North Fork."

"There they killed Parrins and family— George Brooks escaped from the Poor Valley and fled to Love's settlement, giving the intelligence. Love waited only long enough to catch horses enough to carry himself and sons away, leaving other horses, cattle behind— went to Virginia again"
and never more returned to Carter's Valley". End quote.

In the campaign with Colonel Christian and others that followed, a force of perhaps 2,000 men including the militias of the Carolinas and Georgia, Thomas' brother Robert, now nearing 17, got his first taste of military life, serving as a wagoner, and driving his father's team. He was present and saw the treaty with the Indians signed at Long Island in 1777, after their towns had been burned and country ravaged and their power broken.

The father, Samuel remained on his farm near the site of the town of Wytheville, Virginia, until his death in 1781.

Thomas, not quite ten years of age when the Declaration of Independence was signed, makes no reference in the Draper Interview to any service he performed during the Revolution, but his two older brothers, Robert and James fought on several fields. As an important part of family history it is deemed essential to give here the record of their services, as given in their pension applications, photostats of which we have on file. The following are part copies:

Robert, as we have already seen, served as a wagoner in the Cherokee expedition in 1776 and again in 1777, and he was present at the signing of the treaty between the whites and the redskins at Long Island, that year.

In 1778 he served as sergeant, Captain Stephens' company, Colonel James Robertson's command, stationed at Fort Robertson at the head of the Clinch and Sandy Rivers, Montgomery County, Virginia. This expedition was against the Shawnee Indians, from April to October, a six months tour.

In 1780 he served as a lieutenant in Colonel Campbell's command in an expedition against the Tories between Tom's Creek and Cripple Creek, branches of New River. He was then stationed at the Moravian Old Town in
North Carolina. In the same year he was on a six months tour in an excursion up the Yadkin River to the shallows.

In 1781 he was a lieutenant in General Pickens' Brigade at Guilford, North Carolina, against Cornwallis. Was in battle at Whitesell Mill and Ready Fork of Haw River (2 months).

In 1782 he was Lieutenant and Acting Company Officer in company of Captain William Love (possibly the son of Joseph Love and therefore his first cousin). He was on the Clinch and Sandy River post (3 months).

James Love, in 1779, as stated in his pension application, had Revolutionary service as follows (and these are almost verbatim quotes from Albert Gallatin Love);

1779 was a private in Colonel Campbell's command. Was on Cripple Creek branch of New River. The command marched toward the head of New River apparently to guard the lead mines. He speaks of a Captain William Love and a Captain Sawyer. There was also a Lieutenant Robert Love. Robert does not mention having served in 1779. And neither he nor James speaks of having served together (3 months).

1780- Called in August. Private in Captain James Montgomery's company, Colonel Crockett's regiment. Guarded lead mines in Montgomery County. His regiment marched against Tories on the Yadkin River. They marched to a Moravian town where they met the command of Major Floyd who had defeated the Tories at Shallow Ford. They arrived on Saturday and on the following Monday the combined commands marched to reinforce Colonel Campbell in the Kings Mountain campaign.

On Wednesday they met Colonel Campbell's commands returning from Kings Mountain where they had killed Colonel Ferguson and destroyed his British and Tory command. They returned with Colonel Campbell to the
Moravian town of Bethlehem where they remained for some time guarding prisoners captured at King's Mountain. After that they returned to guard the lead mines (6 months).

Thomas Love in his Draper interview said that his brother James told him that while guarding the prisoners, the latter would attempt to overpower the guard.

A messenger was sent hastily for Colonel Campbell. He came charging up on his horse, slashing right and left with his saber, and almost single handed overawed the prisoners.

Thomas Love was only 15 years of age when the Revolutionary was over, yet some persons claim that he was a Revolutionary soldier. However, no pension of his has been found and no other documentary evidence that I have seen to establish such a claim. Albert Gallatin Love says in his book that he has found none, and thinks that our Thomas may be confused with another Thomas who was a soldier, but who was an Irishman, and went to Ohio after the war. Still another Thomas was a South Carolinian, a blind man. So our Thomas must remain for the present a doubtful, if not a "doubting" Thomas, in respect to this soldiering.

You have seen in the foregoing pages the dispositions ordered by Samuel Love in his will of 1781, of his estate. On June 4, 1782, Sarah, James, Mary, and Thomas by consent of the Court chose Robert to act as their guardian.

Soon after this Thomas sold his part of the Samuel Love estate to one David Love, no relation. He seems to have realized very little from the sale. In 1782, the year following his father's death, he went with his brother Robert and William Gregory and his family to East Tennessee. The month was October or November 1782. His sister, Mary, married Robert
Montgomery in Montgomery Co., Virginia in 1784. If Sarah married there is no record of it. Robert was 22 years of age at the time of this move, and Thomas 16.

We do not know if they boarded for awhile with the Gregorys, or not, but the following year, 1783, Robert was married to Miss Mary Ann Dillard, daughter of Colonel Thomas Dillard, of the Greasy Cove community where they had settled, and probably they immediately began housekeeping. The happy event was celebrated on September 11, 1783, James, the other elder brother of Thomas married Winnesophia Dillard, sister of Mary Ann, at an unknown date, and Thomas succumbed to the charms of Martha, the other sister (Patsy) and they were married on January 12, 1788. So everybody was provided with a home and there was no problem.

In 1788 Robert Love commanded a regiment of Washington County men in General Martin’s campaign against the Chickamauga Indians, and thus became a colonel.

In 1785, three years before, he and Thomas had been Tipton partisans in the Sevier-Tipton dispute over "the Lost State of Franklin", about which we are going to have somewhat to say later.

In 1790 they moved to what was then Buncombe County, North Carolina. Somewhere they had learned the art of surveying and they were like most men of the day, ambitious to own land. In Buncombe Co., alone, by 1802 they had received grants for over 2,000 acres. In 1809 Haywood County was formed from Buncombe, and the Love brothers were the surveyors, taking their pay, according to tradition, in lands. All or most of the land they had received previously, by reason of the change in boundaries, was now in Haywood County. A county must have a court house and the Loves founded Waynesville. They now were possessors of a small landed empire—probably
as large as a dukedom or larger.

I haven't made a special search along this line but in my files I have a list furnished me by Mr. Thad Eure, Secretary of State, Raleigh, N. C. of land grants made in Buncombe County, the county seat of which is Asheville, to members of the Love family. The list follows:


Love, Robert- 150 acres issued 7 Jan. 1794- On a branch of Swananoa Grant #38, book 82, page 129, File #37.

Love, Robert- 150 acres issued 27 Nov. 1807- On a branch of Richland Creek, Grant #2678, book 137, page 85, File #2664.


Love, Robert- 100 acres issued 5 Apr. 1797- Both sides of a branch of Jacks Creek- Grant #776, book 103, page 262, File #724.

Love, Robert- 200 acres issued 22 Dec. 1799- Lying on both sides of Richland Creek, Grant #776, book 103, page 262, File #724.


Love, Robert- 300 acres issued 30 Aug. 1802- On both sides of Jonathan's Creek, Grant #963, book 115, page #250, File #933.


Love, Robert &c- 100 acres issued 2 July 1807- On W. side of Pigeon River- Grant #1611, book 122, page #324, File #1539.


Love, Thomas- 100 acres issued 10 July 1797- Beg. on a gum tree- Grant #300, book 91, page 606, File #329.


Love, Thomas &c- 100 acres issued 5 Dec. 1806- On first fork of Little Ivey (Paint) - Grant #1521, book 121, page 368, File #1491.

The above land grants as stated were made for vacant lands in Buncombe County alone, at that time,...but the three brothers had many other grants in other counties. A list of North Carolina Land Grants in Tennessee, 1778 - 1791 are found on a microcopy of the records of the General Land Office in the Library of Congress, as follows:

Land Grant 737- Robert Love- 1786- 300 acres, both sides of Indian Creek- Washington County.

Land Grant #1727- Thomas Love- 1787- 300 acres, south side Nolachucky.

Land Grant #25- David Love - 1783, 640 acres, Davidson Co. Both sides Bledsoe's Creek.
Land Grant 699—Thomas Love—1788—640 acres, Davidson Co.—Both sides Sycamore Creek
Land Creek #1100—Josiah Love—1789—640 acres—Sumner Co., N. S.
Cumberland River.

There are records on file in the Circuit Court at Trenton, Gibson County, in West Tennessee, of land titles acquired by Robert and Thomas Love prior to 1788. Tennessee was not organized as a territory until 1790 and became a state in 1796. All of the territory west of the Tennessee River and east of the Mississippi was known as the Western Territory. The land was ceded to the whites by the Indians in 1818 and opened for settlement in 1821, yet notwithstanding the fact of ownership by the Indians prior to 1818, land surveys were made in the area in 1783 and 1784 by Colonel James Robertson and Henry Rutherford, and land was entered by a number of men including 5,000 acres on the site of the present city of Memphis by John Rice and the same number by John Ramsey. The will of Thomas Love shows that he was a landowner in several counties.

In the third population census of the United States for Haywood County, North Carolina, the names of Robert Love and Thomas Love appear as householders. Robert was now of an age over 45, and Thomas under 45. Robert had five sons and six daughters of varying ages, and his wife was still living. Thomas had six sons and four daughters, and a living wife.

Of the sons of Robert, Thomas D. Love was probably a man grown as he served as the census enumerator for that year. An interesting footnote is written on his report, which gives an insight into the conscientious character of the young man, and the painstaking character of his report, a quality we should like to say to be the character of all of the Loves.
Haywood County, 6th, of November 1810

Sir:

In making out the within list in Alphabetical order I had intended to leave a space between each letter, but having by some means omitted several names, particularly under the letter F which is the cause of four or five names being so crowded, the thing being so new to me and the country a new one also, I have not been able to draw to my assistance the aid of any experienced person, therefore I hope any errors or want of accuracy will be overlooked.

With respect Your ob't serv.

Thomas D. Love

The census of 1820 shows that Thomas Love now had lost two sons from the parental roof and had given up two daughters; Robert had only one son with him, and two daughters but the loss is partly compensated by James Love who appears for the first time as a householder, living alone, at 26 years of age. As Thomas had the same number of sons as before, James must have been a son of Robert.

But I am getting a bit ahead of my story - the following is another note addressed to Beverly Daniel Esquire Marshall of North Carolina by Thomas D. Love, enumerator of the census for Haywood County, 1810:

Haywood County, N. Carolina

6th, of Nov. 1810

Sir:

The Act of Congress required two copies of the Enumeration of the inhabitants of each district shall be posted up in two places within such district for the inspection of the citizens of such district, this I have
done and they are still up, and as proof is required before I can be entitled to the compensation allowed by the said Act, in such case I call on Gen. Thomas Love and John Welch Esq.

With respect &c Thomas D. Love

As Thomas Dillard Love said, Haywood County was a new country, and it will not be denied by any one who has ever been there, that it is a rugged one. In another note to the marshal he explained that the enumeration would have been completed earlier but for these circumstances and the fact that the county was sparsely settled, and houses great distances apart.

Let us retrace our steps now to the year 1785. Robert was then 25 years of age and had been married two years. The home was in Greasy Cove on the Nolachucky River. Nolachucky, or Nolichucky, take your choice, is an Indian name meaning "swift and rapid". Greasy Cove was then in Washington County, North Carolina, but lay in the territory later ceded by North Carolina to Tennessee, and now is in Unicoi Co., Tennessee, a short distance from Erwin.

The year before Thomas Dillard had died and Robert Love served as executor with Martha Dillard, the widow. The will was probated Sept. 23, 1784. Robert Love was appointed guardian of the minor children.

In 1785 when Robert was 25 and Thomas 19, an event occurred which is important both in the history of Tennessee, and in the lives of these two brothers who played a prominent part in preventing a permanent organization of "The State of Franklin". The State of Franklin for the period of its existence comprised all the counties of the then western border, the frontier counties of North Carolina — all of the settled area.

As has been stated it was a very rugged country and very difficult
to penetrate, at a great distance from the Carolina capital, so very naturally perhaps the people had been neglected by the State government, indeed it has been said that at one time North Carolina was willing, so it seemed, to "give the country back to the Indians".

The settlers therefore, very logically, decided to form a government of their own in the form of a state which they named Franklin, in honor of Benjamin Franklin. ¹

John Sevier who had joined the Watauga settlement in 1773 had been a prominent and popular man in the civic affairs of the settlement since his arrival. He was a famous Indian fighter with a successful technique, said to have had to his credit 35 victories. He would gather a body of men selected for superior physical fitness, mounted on fine steeds, dash into Indian country, destroy their crops and villages, and dash out again before the braves had recovered from their surprise. He had never suffered defeat. And also had been one of the leaders and heroes in the Kings Mountain battle with the British in 1780. ¹

He was such an outstanding leader, so well qualified to lead them in the difficult frontier situations, in which often it was necessary to defend their homes against the red man, and maintain order amongst the white settlers meanwhile, that he was the natural and logical choice of the people to serve as their governor, although he was not entirely in favor of the movement, or doubted that it was practical. ¹

Robert Love is said to have been active in the new movement and to have held several civic positions and it is presumed that Thomas Love also played a part. At this time Thomas was only 21 years of age but is referred to by historians thus early as "General". The origin of the title— how earned if earned or complimentary this writer has not found, but I do know
that as early as 1810 it is definite that he bore the title and was "General" Love for the rest of his life.

The people of the new state were not all in favor of the new state. North Carolina was aroused and wanted to regain control. An application had been made to the Continental Congress for admission to the Union as a state but was not acted upon favorably. There was a division between those who desired to continue the State of Franklin and those who were in favor of returning to the Old North State. John Sevier was in the nature of things obliged to side with those who favored a continuation of the State of Franklin. Robert and Thomas Love favored reunion with North Carolina. This group was led by Colonel John Tipton. In the interview with Lyman Draper, Thomas Love gives an interesting account of a small skirmish that took place during the heat and excitement that raged in the community for a while, between the two opposing sides. Through the kindness of Albert G. Love, who has made it available to me, I am able to give you the story verbatim, as told to Draper by Thomas Love:

THE TIPTON BATTLE

"Tipton's court used to be held at Wm. Davis' on Buffalo Creek, now in Carter County—3 (illegible) from Colonel Tipton's, and some 11 miles East of Jonesboro. At one of these courts at Davis', John Tipton and John Sevier, sons of the rival leaders, had a fist fight, about a drawn battle."

"Gen. Sevier with his men, probably 150 as stated by Haywood and Cols. Chg. Robinson, Saml. Wear, and Majr. Elholm under him, camped some 3 or 4 hundred yards from Tipton's house, in a sunken or hollow place, wh. protected them from annoyance from Tipton's. At Tipton's when Sevier first came were Col. Robert Love, James Stuart an old member of the Legislature, both of N. C. and Tenn, and Capt. Peter Parkerson and Alexander Moffatt— with Jacob
and John Tipton, the sons of the old colonel, and perhaps Isaac Tipton—and likely a few others—Gen. Love thinks there certainly could not have been more than 15 persons with Tipton, if that."

"Tipton's house was a large sized house, some 25 by 30 feet, hewed logs, a story and a half—no windows below—two or three window holes, round, in each gable end above—a door in front—. Gen. Love inclines strongly to the opinion that the battle was the first week in March—and if Col. Johnathan (this might be Johnston) is correct as to the time that Sevier made his appearance—i.e. 28th. of Feb. 1788—and taking the time as occurrences took place as stated by Haywood—and that being leap year the battle must have (been) fought the morning of March 3rd—or possibly the morning of 2d., of March".

"The summons-refusal and correspondence all took place as stated by Haywood. During this siege, Sevier kept out scouts and sentinels to watch and prevent reinforcements. Of nights, however, Tipton's friends came in one by one, undiscovered, through the fields—Jonathan Pugh, the North Carolina sheriff of Washington county was of the number. A couple of women going there in day time, probably to see some of their friends, one of them was wounded in the shoulder by Sevier sentinels at the Limestone rocks."

"Thos. Love who then resided in the Greasy Cove 'Chucky (Nolichucky) just below the mouth of West Indian Creek, and some 15 miles (miles) from Tipton's, hearing of the trouble at Tipton's, and his brother being among the besieged, raised a party of 10 or a dozen men in the neighborhood and started for Tipton's in the evening late—reached Maj. Thos. Stuart's, within five miles of Tipton's, a brother of James Stuart, he and a few others joined there and on the way to the scene of war, making altogether some 18 men. Before reaching Stuart's, met Co. Rob. Love, who had just stole out
from the house and was going to the Greasy Cove settlement where he lived
to raise men—Col. Love gave his brother the necessary information as to
Sevier’s position—the rocks & sentinels there—and then Col. R. L. went on
towards the settlement—no one with him... When Thos. Love and party reached
the summit of the high ground a few hundred yards—perhaps 2 or 3—to the
limestone rocks—and on the road east of the rocks—halted. It was proposed
that a party go to the rocks and reconnoitre. It was now about 3 o’clock in
the morning, dark and lowery and very cold. Mr. Love proposed he would go
to the rocks, if any one would go with him—it was deemed a dangerous service,
and all excused themselves, some from bad guns, poor buses (?) etc. It was
now talked about returning home—when Love said they had come to aid Tipton
and he was anxious to do it, and if they would wait there he would go alone
and ascertain whether any sentry was placed at the rocks. He dashed off
down a descending road, on a fine prancing horse, with his musket loaded with
buckshot and two balls and finger on the trigger resting across the pummel of
his saddle—when he got opposite, in the road, and some 20 or 30 paces from
the rocks on the north of the road, reined up, hemmed and coughed to attract
the attention of the sentry if there was one, intending if hailed to shoot
at random and dash on to Tipton’s but there was no sentry, but a few minutes
before young John Sevier and the sentinel with him had gone to camp to warm
themselves. Love returned to his companions with the intelligence that
there was no sentry, and all put spurs to their horses and raising a loud
shout dashed on past the rocks, into the lane and down to the house, where
they were gladly received. Tipton had already some 35 men there, and this
reinforcement under Love, gave him such fresh vigor, that he declared he
would fight Sevier in the morning”.

"Until morning, with their large comfortable fire, and talking and
preparing for the fight, they kept up a vigilant watch. Tipton’s men, it is
not recollected, fired at all on Sevier’s men during the siege. Just at daylight the snow began to fall, and at this time a small party of horses from Sevier’s camp passed through the field between the house and Sevier’s camp and fired off a volley at the house, the balls striking the roof and gable end without doing harm, and then rode on, on a scout. By this time, Col. Maxwell, Col. Scott and Maj. Pemberton, with a party of about 100 men from Sullivan (some 40 ms. off) were within a mile; and hearing the firing concluded the battle had begun and dashed on to the rear of Sevier’s camp and at a long shot, fired upon Sevier’s men, with a shout. At this announcement Tipton opened the door and turning himself exclaimed, "Boys, every man who is a soldier come out" and all rushed down the lane towards the camp, a portion under Col. Tipton cutting across the field from the stables to head Sevier’s men and Love with another portion dashed on down the lane to the camp and then took part in the fight and pursuit which followed......"

"Maxwell’s men had just before firing, mostly dismounted, some tied their horses to trees &c and some let them go. The fire from Maxwell’s men, together with their loud shouts made a great noise,— but the shot— some 200 yards, was too far for execution. Sevier’s men returned the fire and the fighting, or firing lasted a few minutes — Sevier’s men taken by surprise and in confusion and seeing the Sullivan men on their west and Tipton’s men from the house on their east, they fled scattered, towards the north through the woods and along the fence, until they crossed and descended a ridge some 2 or 3 hundred yards from camp,— The men pursued on foot as far as the ridge, and then returned and made up a horse company and renewed the pursuit and took a few prisoners in the woods."

"John Webb of Maxwell’s men was mortally wounded on the top of his
head, and died the same day; and Dr. Delaney of the same party was slightly wounded in the arm. Jonathan Pugh of Tipton's party was shot through the breast and survived but a few days."

"In a few minutes after the rout of Sevier, and when the victors were around the camp fires, when the troop of horsemen who fired on Tipton's house and had just returned from a scout, rode up to camp and did not discover their mistake until the presented guns of Tipton's men and an order to surrender, compelled them to dismount and give themselves up— one of the mounted men named Vaut, either from the fright of his horse or intentionally dashed off, though within 30 paces, and a volley of guns were shot— making the wool fly in every direction from his red coat, and slightly wounding his horse, and himself in the arm. He made his escape. He was the only one of Sevier's men injured."

"Gen. Love is very certain, nay— very positive it is erroneously stated by Haywood, that Sevier made an attack on Tipton's house, when Maxwell came upon him. Nor can he think there was anything like a battery formed nor even a piece of ordinance."

"Among the prisoners taken (and Gen. Love thinks between 20 and 30) were James and John Sevier, whom Tipton probably incensed to so rash an act from seeing his right hand man Pugh mortally wounded, and Webb almost expiring, determined to hang. The young men heard of this, and sent Thos. Love to intercede for their lives. Love took the Colonel to one side, represented the rashness of such an act, and appealed to him, how he would feel, supposing Sevier had possession of his sons and should execute them for their father's act? With tears trickling down his cheeks Tipton replied "I'll desist from the act, from my impulsive feelings, I'm no more fit for a commander, than a hog for a king". Tipton was brave to a fault, and though
it was his misfortune to be rash in his acts, he was always ready to yield to the dictates of reason and humanity, when properly made known to him".

"The young Seviers, and all the other prisoners, were liberated that evening, and the horses, some 40 or 50, and other articles left in Sevier's camp were given up to their owners. Robt. Young (?) as stated by Haywood came in with a flag and no doubt the propositions sent by Sevier led to this procedure. Rob. Love didn't return till after the fight".

"It should be added, that when the fight took place in the morning it was quite a dark morning, and the snow falling rapidly and in large flakes and fully an inch on the ground. When Tipton's first made their appearance the Sullivan men mistook them for a part of Sevier's troops and came near firing on them, and wd. have done so but for the active exertions of Maxwell, Scott and Pemberton, who on horseback waved their hats and bid them desist as they were friends."

At the time of the battle Thomas Love was slightly over 21 years of age but is spoken of by Ramsey and Arthur as General Love. Williams, however, speaks of him as Mr. Love. It is certain, however, that the title of "General" was bestowed upon him prior to 1810, when his son, Thomas Dillard Love in an official communication to the Deputy Marshal at Raleigh referred to his uncle as "General Thomas Love".

When the Sevier government collapsed later in the year the old Indian fighter was taken into custody. He is said to have stated that "I am surrendering to Colonel Robert Love". He was given all the attention and courtesies due to one of his services and position as he was escorted across the mountains but he escaped and returned to his home. The authorities were relieved of an embarrassing situation as they had no desire to prosecute one who had been one of the more prominent leaders at the battle of
King's Mountain and the hero of many battles with the Indians. 6

It was in this year (1788) that Robert Love commanded a regiment of Washington County men in General Martin's campaign against the Chickamauga Indians, known as the Chattanooga campaign. 6 It also marked the appearance of the young Attorney General and Public Prosecutor Andrew Jackson upon the Washington County scene, at 20 years of age. He arrived at the county seat, Jonesboro, in the spring of that year, in the company of the newly appointed Judge McNairy of the Superior Court of the Western District of North Carolina, to whom he owed his appointment. Marquis James says in his "Life of Jackson" that he appeared with two pistols slung from his saddle, a beautiful rifle lashed to the pack of his stout "bat" mare and trailed by a troop of hunting dogs—adequately prepared to defend the dignity of the "Old North State" while in transit through the seduced domain of "Nolichucky Jack"—(John Sevier). 6 The ultimate destination of the court was Nashville, for which place the court left Jonesboro in September, 1788, with the first party to travel over the new Cumberland Road. 6

Now Andrew Jackson was very fond of horse racing and brought a fine thoroughbred racer with him when he came to Jonesborough. Albert Gallatin Love, in his book, gives an amusing and interesting quote from Judge Allison's book "Dropped Stitches in Tennessee History" about a race between the Jackson horse and one of Robert Love's...which I am quoting here. Judge Allison says, "The race was widely advertised and every one who could do so attended. The name "Moon Shine" was then unknown but there was plenty of that liquid by another name. Everything available was bet by those attending including liquor, coonskins, otter skins, etc. The race was held in a natural amphitheater in the Greasy Cove locality. On the day of the race, Jackson's negro boy (jockey) was ill unfortunately and unable to
ride. Consequently Jackson rode his own horse. The race was close but near the end the Love horse forged ahead and won. Jackson was not a good loser and angrily denounced the "Love brothers" as "band of land pirates" because they held title to so much choice land in that section. (Jackson himself entered large tracts of land very soon). Robert Love stood his ground and retorted by calling Jackson a d-m long gangling sorrel-topped soap stick." The name came from the use of a sassafras stick to stir the soap kettle. Mutual friends recognizing the fighting qualities of the two men eventually separated them without either one being hurt. Afterwards they became friends— Andrew Jackson when President appointed Robert Love on a Boundary Commission to settle the boundary between United States and Mexico." End quote.

Robert Love represented Washington County, North Carolina in the State Legislature in 1789, and Buncombe Co. in 1793-94-95.

James Love moved from Washington Co., North Carolina, apparently in 1788, or after having been there six years. He seems to have had roving feet for after another five years he moved from his Buncombe Co. (then Burke Co.) home to Logan County, Kentucky. After five more years he moved in 1798 to Williamson Co. Tenn., and after he had spent his five year limit there he moved to Maury Co. where records show he was a circuit court juror in 1807. He was a member of the first court to sit in Maury County.

Thomas Love represented Buncombe Co., North Carolina, in the State house of Representatives in 1797-1803 inclusive. He introduced a resolution in 1803 establishing Haywood County. The resolution was ratified December 23, 1803, and the new county was established March 4, 1809. Thomas was one of the judges assembled to establish it, and his brother Robert one of the two clerks of the court. A county seat was selected and named Waynesville,
the name suggested by Robert, in honor of General ("Mad") Anthony Wayne.

Thomas represented Haywood Co. in the State Legislature 1809-1811 inclusive, 1817-1820 inclusive, and in the State Senate 1823-1828 inclusive.

Robert was a presidential elector beginning with the first election of Thomas Jefferson in 1800, and continued as such through the first election of Andrew Jackson in 1828. His son, J. R. Love stated in a letter to Lyman Draper that his father, after that refused to accept any additional political office.

Thomas was something of a rover himself, like his brother James, but not quite his equal. He moved from Haywood Co. in 1830 to Macon Co. His wife Martha Dillard Love (nicknamed "Patsy") died in Macon Co. and is buried in a Methodist Church cemetery near Franklin. His youngest brother William, who seems not to have made history like his older brothers, also died there, a single man, about 1828 or 29, according to Albert G. Love. Martha Dillard Love was alive at the time of the census of 1830. Thomas was quite prosperous as the number of his slaves is given as 36. The historian Arthur says that his son Robert who was living with him, was a captain in the War of 1812. Robert does not appear in his will.

Thomas moved to Henry Co. in West Tennessee sometime before 1839. He served as a member of the Tennessee State Senate that year (1839) representing the counties of Henry, Weakley, and Obion. He was Speaker of the Senate for that legislative session that met in Nashville, and was the first speaker of the Tennessee Senate from the area west of the Tennessee River. Albert Gallatin says, in his book: "Why or when he moved to West Tennessee, I do not know. It will be recalled that he and Robert had entered land in that area prior to 1788 while it was controlled by North Carolina. He had extensive land holdings in that area, and is still remembered by name,"
by the older people in the area as a legendary one although he died 108 years ago."

"There is a clay that is quite superior for the manufacture of china-ware and porcelain. It was being dug and shipped out by oxen-drawn wagons before he moved there. It is still being dug and shipped for the same purpose. Possibly this industry may have influenced him to make the move. But it was a new virgin country and had been officially opened for settlement in 1821."

"The Census report of 1840 shows him (Thomas) as living in Henry Co. No other member of his family was listed with him. The name of Albert Gallatin Love was listed next to that of Thomas. It appears from that evidence and from evidence in the will of Thomas Love that he and Albert Gallatin were living together."

Again we quote from historian Arthur re Thomas and Robert Love: "They were born in one of the most advanced outposts of christian civilization. They spent their boyhood, early adult life, and a large part of their remaining life in such communities. Surrounded by constant dangers, with all of the hardships of frontier life, and with few of the comforts that are commonplace with us today, they developed as unusual men. It appears from fragments of information that we have available that they were men of unquestioned physical bravery, who became leaders in their communities early in their lives, but above all in frontier communities where there was so much brutality and disregard of human rights, they were kind humane men, with an innate courtesy, regard and consideration for the rights of others. Thomas Love influenced Colonel Tipton to reprieve the two sons of John Sevier and later to release them and to allow the other prisoners to return home with their horses. These acts of kindness and mercy no
doubt did much to restore tranquillity in the area torn by dissension. Then when Colonel John Sevier surrendered, he stipulated, "I surrender to Colonel Robert Love" by whom he was treated with courtesy and consideration as he so richly deserved, on account of his splendid service to the frontier area and the county at large. One cannot read the record of the interview of Thomas Love with Dr. Lyman Draper in January, 1844, just prior to his death without being impressed with his humanity and kindliness, and also with his wide knowledge of frontier events and character."

After the manner of all men, Robert and Thomas began to be "full of years". A life of stirring action behind them they began to lift up their eyes and steer their courses toward the Eternal City. Thomas made his will on the ninth of May, 1844, and it was probated on the 18th day of September the same year. A verbatim copy follows.

A feature of Thomas Love's will is the care that he exercised for the protection of the 41 or more negro slaves, providing for the comfort and sustenance of the faithful old servants, and that younger families should not be separated in the sale that he directed should be held, in the division of his property. He appears to have made every effort to be impartial where his children were concerned. He will not wear "the Assembly boots" more. Tradition says that he had a pair of boots which he wore to the Assembly only, and they were called the "Assembly boots". Another story is that his son (don't know which) ran for the Legislature and was defeated. When the next campaign for the office came around General Thomas said he believed he'd enter the race, which he did, and, of course, won overwhelmingly.

The following is his will:
In the name of God Amen I Thomas Love of the County of Henry and State of Tennessee being of sound mind and memory blessed be God do this ninth day of May in the year of our Lord one Thousand Eight hundred and Forty four make and publish this my Last Will and Testament in manner following that is to say - - - 

I give my soul to Almighty God who gave it and my body to the earth all my just debts and funeral expenses to be first paid. 

First I give and bequeath unto my Executors (to wit) my son Samuel C Love my son Albert G Love and my son in law George V Prater four hundred and seventy five acres of land lying in Henry and Weakley Counties State of Tennessee the Plantation where my son James B. Love now lives on also one Negro man by the name of Andy aged about thirty two years which land and Negro Boy are to enure to the sole use and benefit of my son James B. Love during his natural life Provided my son James B. Love should wish to remove to any other Country my Executors are hereby authorized and impowered if they think proper to sell the said four hundred and seventy five acres and purchase land elsewhere to the amount the same is sold for it is to be understood that the said Negro Boy Andrew is to remain intirely under the control of my said Executors also I impower my said Executors to set apart two thousand dollars out of my real estate bonds or obligations to be put out upon Interest and the Interest arising from said two thousand dollars to be paid to son James B. Love annually during his natural life and if the said two thousand dollars shall not be put out on Interest by my said Executors then and in that case my said Executors is to pay my son James B. Love one hundred dollars annually out of said two thousand dollars and at his death the said four hundred and seventy five acres of land or such lands as it may
be exchanged for and said Negro Boy and said two thousand dollars if there should be that much remaining of said money is to enure to my children (to wit) To the heirs of the body of my Daughter Dorcas now deceased formally the wife of John M Welch my son John D Love my son Thomas B Love My Daughter Sarah wife of David Coleman my son Samuel C Love my Daughter Martha wife of George W Prater and my son James B Love of all bonds notes and accounts that I may lawfully hold against him at my death.

Secondly I give and bequeath unto my Daughter Dorcas wife of John M Welch now deceased Two hundred and fifty acres of land lying in Madison County State of Tennessee at the price of Twelve hundred and fifty dollars which land I have heretofore deeded away for her benefit and to the benefit of her husband John M Welch during the lifetime of my said Daughter Dorcas also one Negro girl by the name of Jinney also one Negro girl by the name of Esther and their Increase which Negros I gave to my said Daughter Dorcas in her lifetime also I give unto John M Welch the husband of my said Daughter Dorcas now deceased twelve hundred and fifty dollars worth of land in the County of Weakley State of Tennessee at the price of three dollars per acre being part of a five hundred acre tract of land which the said John M Welch now lives on during his natural life and at his death to be equally divided amongst the heirs of the body of my Daughter Dorcas now deceased.

Thirdly I give and bequeath unto my son John D Love five hundred acres of land in the County of Henry and State of Tennessee the tract of land he formerly lived on at Pleasant View and which tract I secured to him by a deed of conveyance some years ago at the price of fifteen hundred dollars also one thousand dollars worth of land out of a tract of land which I formerly owned in the County of Madison and State of Tennessee at the price of two dollars and seventy five cents per acre which tract of land I deeded a way
to a man by the name of Owdun for the use and benefit of my said son John D Love the remaining part of said tract of land that is to say three hundred and seventy dollars worth at the price of two dollars and seventy five cents per acre is to be accounted for by my said son John D Love to my use also one Negro Boy by the name of Tom also one Negro girl by the name of Melinda which Negros I gave to him some years ago.

Fourthly I give and bequeath unto my Son Thomas B Love five hundred acres of land in the County of Madison State of Tennessee at the price of fifteen hundred dollars which land I have deeded away to his use and benefit also four hundred acres of land in Gibson County State of Tennessee known by the name of the deer creek tract of land being part of a five hundred acre tract of land at the price of one thousand dollars also one Negro Boy by the name of Dick also one Negro girl by the name of Vina and her increase which Negro I give to him some years ago.

Fifthly I give and bequeath unto my Daughter Sarah wife of David Coleman five acres of land in Carroll County State of Tennessee where on they now live at the price of fifteen hundred dollars during their natural lives and at their deaths to desend to the Issue of the body of my said Daughter Sarah which Land I have deeded away to them some time ago to that effect also one thousand dollars worth of land in the Western district of Tennessee to be pointed out and set a part out of any of my lands by my Executors also one Negro girl by the name of Sally and her increase also one Negro girl by the name of Sealy and her increase (also one Negro Boy by the name of Henry which Negros I gave to my Daughter Sarah some years ago.

Sixthly I give and bequeath unto my Daughter Mary wife of Samuel Conner five hundred acres of land in the County of Weakley and state of Tennessee where on they now live being part of a nine hundred and fifty acre tract of
land so as the five hundred acres to include all their improvements of any
value made previous to the twenty fifth of December Eighteen hundred and
ty forty two and with as little injury to the ballance of the tract as the
nature of the case will admit of, also one Negro girl by the name of
Matilda and her increase, also one Negro girl by the name of Arty and her
increase which Negros I gave to my Daughter Mary some years ago.

Seventhly I give and bequeath unto my son Samuel C Love three hundred
and ninety five and a half acres of land in the County of Henry and the
State of Tennessee known by the name of the Busnley and Aycock tracts of
land whereon he now lives at the price of Twenty two hundred and fifty
dollars which lands I have already conveyed to him by deed also one hundred
acres of land out of a five hundred acre tract of land before mentioned in
Gibson County State of Tennessee known as the deer creek tract of land
at the price of two hundred and fifty dollars which tract of land of one
hundred I have conveyed away to use and benefit of my son Samuel C Love also
one Negro girl by the name of Elvery and her Increase also one Negro girl
by the name of Betsey and her Increase also one Negro Boy by the name of
Philip which I gave to my Son Samuel C Love some years ago.

Eighthly I give and bequeath unto my Daughter Martha wife of George
W Prater six hundred acres of land in the County of Gibson and State of
Tennessee being the North half of a tract of land known by the name of
the Cole tract of land which tract of land I have deeded away to the use
and benefit of my said Daughter Martha and her husband George W Prater
heretofore at the price of Twenty four hundred dollars also one hundred dol-
lars of land out of any such lands that I have in the Western District of
Tennessee that my Executors may point out also one Negro girl by the name
of Letty and her increase also one negro girl by the name of Ann and her
increase which Negros I gave to my Daughter Martha some years ago.

Ninthly I give and bequeath to my Son Albert G. Love three hundred and eighty acres of land being a part of the tract of land whereon I now live out of a six hundred and forty acre tract of land conveyed to me by H. S. Dickerson. Beginning at the North East corner conveyed to said Doomas by said Dickerson Runs West with the North boundary line of said six hundred and forty acres tract passing a stake corner of said tract at the distance of one hundred and Eighty Eight and one Eight poles thence continuing on due west so far as by running due South to the South boundary line of said tract until it strikes the Line of a piece or parcel of land of about twenty acres I have sold to Champion Terry thence North with the line of said poles of land to the North west corner of the same thence East with the same to the East boundary line of the said six hundred and forty acre tract thence North to the Beginning also one hundred acres of land out of a Tract of a one hundred and twenty acre tract conveyed to me by said Dickerson Beginning on three Maples standing on the west bank of the Barren fork Runs to the East boundary line of said six hundred and forty acre tract thence South and East, for Complement also a piece or parcel of land of about twenty acres for which I have paid Champion Terry's bond to make me a title to the same at the price of Twenty five hundred dollars which lands he is to have at my death also one Negro Boy by the name of Washington also one Negro girl by the name of Vilet and her increase which Negros I gave to my son Albert G. Love some time ago.

I give and bequeath all my Negros that I may own at my death not before Mentioned and given a way with the exception of four Negros that is to say one old Negro man by the name of Jim Nancy and one old Negro woman by the name of Lucy and also a little Negro Boy by the name of Albert shall be
laid off in Seven lots not parting a man and his wife putting some of the
greatest value and some of the least value together as to make the lots as
equal as possible to be so lotted and valued by three disinterested men
chosen by my said Executors for that express purpose the lots to be
numbered and drawn for as my Executors may direct amongst my children that
is to say the heirs of the body of my Daughter Dorcas now deceased formily
the wife of John M Welch which lot of Negroes when drawn for that falls to
their shall be placed in the hands of the said John M Welch for his use
and benefit by my said Executors until the youngest child of the body of
my Daughter Dorcas now deceased shall become of age and at which time said
lot of Negroes shall be equally divided amongst all the heirs of the body
of my said Daughter Dorcas under the direction and in such manner as my said
Executors may deem most proper but said lot of Negroes is not to be removed
out of the County nor disposed of in any way without the consent of my said
Executors John D Love Thomas B Love My Daughter Sarah wife of David Coleman
Samuel C Love My Daughter Martha wife of George W Prater and Albert G Love
Furthermore all the Lands that I may own at my death in the State of Tenn-
essee or elsewhere and not before distributed or dissegnated and all other
property of every discription not before mentioned shall be sold after my
death by my said Executors upon a credit not less than twelve months the
purchaser given bond with approved securiety and the money arising from the
sales thereof and also any money notes bonds or other property which I may
own at my death shall be equally divided amongst my Children that is to say
(to wit) The heirs of the body of my Daughter Dorcas now deceased formily
the wife of John M Welch shall compose one share and that share to be
equally divided amongst the heirs of my said Daughter Dorcas now deceased as
they come of age by my said Executors, and my Son John D Love and my Son
Thomas B. Love and my Daughter Sarah wife of David Coleman and my Son Samuel
C Love and my Daughter Martha wife of George W Prater and Albert G. Love.
Furthermore my will and desire is that the before mentioned old Negro man
Jim Haney and the old Negro woman Jude shall be at liberty after my death
to live with any of my Children that they may think proper or fit and that
they shall not be compelled to do any kind of labour further than they may
think proper to do and should such child or children whom they might feel
a willingness to live with not being inclined to feed and cloth the said
Negros Jim Haney and Jude without the benefit of their labour then and in
that case my will is that my Executors shall retain in their hands a suf-
iciency of the moneys arising out of the before mentioned sales to have them
well provided for as they may think proper both as to food and clothing dur-
ing their natural lives for their servitude heretofore to me and their de-
parted Mistress furthermore my will and desire is that the before named Negro
woman Lucy shall be valued by the three persons that may be chosen by my
Executors to value and lot out my other Negros and she shall be at liberty
to make choice of which of my Children she may wish to live with and such
child agreeing to receive her shall pay over to my other Children their pro-
portional part of her value Furthermore my will is that my before mentioned
Negro Boy Albert now about six years old after my death shall be hired out
by Executors and proceeds arising from his labour or hire shall be paid
over annually to my son James B Love and at the death of my son James B Love
the said Negro Boy Albert shall be Sold and the money arising from the sale
of said Boy Albert shall be equally divided amongst my children that is to
say John D. Love my son – Thomas B Love my Daughter Sarah wife of David
Coleman my son Samuel C Love my Daughter Martha wife of George W Prater and
Albert G Love and Furthermore my will is all my lands that I have pointed to

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be sold on a credit of not less than twelve months by my Executors or any part of them may be sold at any time when my Executors may think most advisable.

And I do hereby make and ordain My Son Samuel G Love my son Albert G Love and my Son in law George W Prater Executors of this my last will and Testament.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this ninth day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and Forty four.

Thomas Love (Seal)

Test

Signed in the presence of
James Crowder Jurat
Champion Terry Jurat

State of Tennessee Henry County Court June Term 1944 This day the foregoing Will was Produced in open Court and was Proven by the oaths of James Crowder and Champion Terry the Subscribing Witnesses thereto Ordered to be recorded which was done.

C. Frazure Clerk

The foregoing copy of the will of Thomas Love as is in the files of this office is a true and correct copy to the best of my ability to do so.

Witness my hand and seal this 18th. day of September, 1950.

J. N. Madlock (Signed)
Deputy Court Clerk

The children of Thomas and Martha Dillard Love were:

2. James B. b. North Carolina
7. Martha b. North Carolina m. George W. Prater
8. Mary b. North Carolina m. Samuel Conner

Granting that the census of 1810 is correct they had seven sons and there is one unaccounted for. Probably died in infancy.

The total number of acres of land willed to the heirs was 6,163 besides there were other lands in Tennessee willed to be sold by the executors and much other valuable property.

General Love is buried in the Springhill Church cemetery between Paris and Puryear, Tennessee.

Robert Love died in 1845. Says Arthur, "loved by his friends, feared by his enemies".

Robert Love, his wife, Mary Ann Dillard, and five generations of their descendants are buried in beautiful Green Hill Cemetery, Waynesville, North Carolina.

The following is a condensed summary of the life of General Thomas Love by John Preston Arthur, in his book, "Western North Carolina". A History 1730-1913, pp. 128-9 which gives so many interesting sidelights upon his character and career, that I cannot refrain from borrowing it for my readers:

GENERAL THOMAS LOVE. He was a brother of Robert Love, and was born in Augusta county, Va., November 15, 1765. The date of his death is not accurately known, as he removed to Maury county, Tenn., about 1833. Prof. W. C. Allen, in his "Centennial of Haywood County", says (p. 55) that he was a soldier of the Revolution, and served under Washington," but this must have been towards the close of that struggle, as he could not have been quite
eleven years of age on the 4th of July, 1776. At the close of that war, however, "he went to East Tennessee and was in the Sevier-Tipton war when the abortive State of Franklin was attempted." Ramsey's "Annals of Tennessee" (p. 410) records the fact that on one occasion one of Tipton's men had captured two of Sevier's sons, and would have hanged them, if Thomas Love had not argued him out of his purpose. He was one of Tipton's followers, but he showed Tipton the unworthiness of such an act. "He came to what is now Haywood county about the year 1790. When Buncombe was formed in 1791 he became active in the affairs of the new county," continues Prof. Allen. In 1797 he was elected to the house of commons from Buncombe, and was re-elected till 1808, when Haywood was formed, largely through his efforts. There is a tradition that in 1796 he had been a candidate against Philip Hoodenpile who represented Buncombe in the commons that year, but was defeated. For Hoodenpile could play the violin, and all of Love's wiles were powerless to keep the political Eurydices from following after this fiddling Orpheus. But Love bided his time, and when the campaign of 1797 began he charged Hoodenpile with showing contempt for the common herd by playing the violin before them with his left hand; whereas, when he played before "the quality," as Love declared, Hoodenpile always performed with his right hand. This charge was repeated at all the voting places of the county, which bore such significant names as Upper and Lower Hog Thief, Hardscrabble, Pinch Stomach, etc. Hoodenpile who, of course, could play only with his left hand, protested and denied; but the virus of class-feeling had been aroused, and Hoodenpile went down in defeat, never to rise again, while Love remained in Buncombe. "From the new county of Haywood General Love was one of the first representatives, the other having been Thomas Lenoir. Love was continuously re-elected from Haywood till 1829, with the exception of the year 1816. Who it was that
defeated him that year does not appear, though John Stevenson and Wm. Welch were elected to the house and Hodge Raborn to the senate. This Hodge Raborn was a man of influence and standing in Haywood county, he having been elected to the Senate not only in 1816, but also from 1817 to 1823, inclusive, and again in 1838; but whither it was he or John Stevenson who defeated Thomas Love, or whether he ran that year or no, cannot now be determined. William Welch was a nephew by marriage of Thomas Love, and it is not likely that he opposed him. Gen. Love moved to Macon county in 1830, where his wife died and is buried in the Methodist church yard of the town of Franklin. He was one of the commissioners for North Carolina who ran the line between this State and South Carolina in 1814. "He resided in Macon for several years, and then removed to the Western District of Tennessee; was elected to the legislature from that State, and was made presiding officer of the senate. He was a man of very fine appearance, more than six feet high, very popular, and a fine electioneer. Many amusing stories are told of him, such as carrying garden seeds in his pocket, and distributing them" with his wife's special regards to the voter's wife. His service in the legislature for such an unprecedented length of time was due more to his genial manner and electioneering methods, perhaps, than to his statesmanship; though, unless he secured what the voters most desired he would most probably have been retired from public life. He never was so retired.

The End.
## REFERENCES

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