

Chapter 9 Solomon Wetherington Jr. 1804-1880

Solomon Wetherington, Jr. 1804-1880, the son of Solomon and Mary Moore, was born on January 39, 1804. Solomon married (1st) **Rachel Matthews** (1798-1853) in 1832 in Lenoir County ¹ and 2nd **Harriet Ipock Avery** (aka Averitt) on February 22, 1854 in Craven County. ² The marriage license was lost and Jeremiah Heath married them a second time on December 10, 1854. ³ His gravestone also records he was baptized on Mary 10, 1824. A prominent farmer, Solomon appears in the 1840, 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1880 Craven census. Solomon died in on April 13, 1880 from dropsy ⁴ and was buried in the family cemetery in Tuscarora. ⁵ His obituary appeared in the 1880 New Bern Weekly Journal. ⁶

A prominent farmer and landowner, the 1850 Craven County census lists Solomon Wetherington farming assets as 6 horses and mules, 90 head of cattle, 107 sheep, and 60 pigs. He also produced 800 bushels of corn, 500 bushels of sweet potatoes, and 200 pounds of wool. The 1850 industrial schedule lists Solomon as a turpentine maker, with assets of \$8,175, 9 employees, and producing 1500 barrels of turpentine. Also Solomon appears on the 1850 slave schedule holding 18 slaves. ⁷



Figure 19 Solomon Wetherington Home c. 1850

A December 3, 1853 newspaper account for a runaway slave:

\$50 Reward.

Runaway from the subscriber, a negro man named AMOS, but more generally called AMOS MONTFORD. The said negro is about five feet six inches high, and of light complexion. He has a wife at Mr. Daniel Andrew's in whose neighborhood he may be probably lurking. All persons are forbidden from harbouring or employing said negro, and I warn Captains of Vessels and others from carrying him away as in either case I am determined to rigidly enforce the law against all persons so offending. The above reward will be given for his confinement in Jail or delivery to me so that I can get him.

November 26, 1853.

Solomon Wetherington.

An 1861 newspaper account thanks Solomon for the support of the local Confederate militia with his donation of fresh vegetables to the troops:

From the New Bern Daily Progress, February 11, 1862: ⁸

Mr. Editor – Allow me through the columns of your paper to publicly thank Mr. **Solomon Wetherington**, of this county, for his kin and considerate contribution of vegetables and other luxuries to my Company (Core Creek Volunteers) during their service in this place. Such acts of thoughtful consideration are deserving the highest praise and are duly appreciated both by myself and the men of my Company, and I, take this opportunity of returning him our thanks for his repated acts of patriotic devotion to the necessities of the soldiers of his country.

R. A. Rusell, Capt. Core Creek Volunteers

From the Newbern Daily Journal of Commerce, Tuesday, July 23, 1867:

We learn by a passenger on the train last evening that still another Robbery has been perpetrated in the region of Tuscarora, about 10 miles from the city. We did not learn the name of the party robbed, but hear that they took everything he had. This was night before last. On yesterday in broad daylight, four Negroes went to the residence of Mr. **Solomon Wetherington** near Tuscarora, but Mr. Wetherington not showing any fear they departed. It was thought to be the party that did the robbing the night before.⁹

Solomon's obituary appeared in the Newbernian, April 17, 1880:

Died. - At his residence in Core creek section, Craven county on Tuesday, April 13th, 1880, Mr. Solomon Wetherington, aged 76 years.

Mr. Wetherington was widely known in this section as a hardworking, thrifty and successful farmer, and for years was considered one of Craven's landmarks. For fifty years he had been a consistent member of the Free Will Baptist Church and his door stood ever open for the admission of the preacher of any denomination. He was very generally liked, and from his frequent visits to this city, his genial and honest face will be as keenly missed upon our streets, as that of any of our old resident citizens. Some six months ago, evidently having a premonition of his early demise, he ordered from Mr. Geo. W. Claypoole of this city, a marble tombstone to be erected at his grave upon his death, and the ad remainder of the uncertainty of life, having been completed for months, with the exception for the time of his death, was on Tuesday called for, by sorrowing relatives, and now marks the last resting place of one who if he could not lay claim in life to superior brilliancy of intellect, went down to his grave, loved by his relatives and respected by his neighbors for his honesty and sterling integrity. Peace to his ashes.

The children of Solomon Wetherington, Jr. and Rachel Matthews were: ¹⁰

1. **John Herring Wetherington** was born on February 18, 1833 in Craven County and died November 20, 1910.¹¹ He married **Siddie Daugherty**, born May 19, 1844 and died on May 29, 1908 in Craven County. ¹² John Herring Wetherington and Siddie D. Wetherington are buried in the family cemetery in Tuscarora.

The children of John H. Wetherington and Siddie Daugherty were:

- a. Mary Elizabeth Wetherington 1866 – 1914 married J. A. Ringgold ¹³
 - b. Richard Wetherington 1868-1940 married Leuetta Garner 1878 – 1970 ¹⁴
 - c. John Edward Wetherington 1872-1952 married Mary Daly 1876-1971 ¹⁵
 - d. Harvey Mason Wetherington 1874 – 1876 ¹⁶
 - e. Solomon Wetherington 1878-1881 ¹⁷
 - f. Macon Frank Wetherington 1880 – 1916 ¹⁸ m. Cornelia L. Wethington ¹⁹
 - g. Claude H. Wetherington 1880 – 1943²⁰ m. Eliza Pernita Daugherty ²¹
 - h. Debbie A. Wetherington 1884-1960 m. John H. Herring 1883 –1969 ²²
 - i. A. A. Wetherington – died as infant, age 30 days – no dates ²³
 - j. Rachel Wetherington – died as infant – no dates ²⁴
2. **Mary Elizabeth Wetherington** 1835 – 1917, married **James Harriett** of Jones County in 1852.

Their children were: ²⁵

- a. John Harriett (1854 – 1856)
 - b. Rachel Wetherington Harriett (1856 – 1888) m. Frank H. Henderson
 - c. Matt Nathaniel Harriett (1859 – 1921) m. Idella Bynum 1880 – 1953
 - d. George Kornegay Harriett (1861 – 1918)
 - e. Sam S. Harriett (1865 – 1920)
 - f. Susan M. Harriett (1863 – 1903) m. John Martin Hargett (1863 – 1927)
 - g. Maken Thomas Harriett (1868 – 1928) m. Elinor Robinson (1875 – 1900)
 - h. Charles Peter Harriett (1871 – 1929) m. Rosa Elvira Wooten (1881 – 1951).
 - i. Timothy G. Harriett (1872 – 1923)
3. **James Thomas Wetherington** 1837 – 1906, was born on October 28, 1837 and died on January 26, 1906 in Craven County. ²⁶ James married **Charley Ann Averitt**, the daughter of Harriet Ipock Averitt and Stephen Averitt. Charlene was born on May 27, 1848 and died on July 19, 1901 in Craven County.²⁷ James T. and Charlene A. Wetherington are buried in the Asbury Methodist Church Cemetery. Along with Charlene's mother, Harriet A. Wetherington, other Averitts and the infants below were buried on the family farm called Oak Forest off Asbury Road.

The children of James Thomas and Charley A. Wetherington were:²⁸

- a. Mabel Rivers Wetherington September 3, 1861 – September 27, 1861
 - b. William Thomas Wetherington 1862- 1941 m. Alice C. Arnold 1873-1914 ²⁹
 - c. Sarah C. Wetherington 1865 – 1937 m. John W. Stewart 1853-1919 ³⁰
 - d. Herbert Matthews Wetherington 1867 – 1917 never married
 - e. Harriet Cary Wetherington – March 24, 1872 - August 8, 1872
 - f. Julia Elizabeth Wetherington 1873- m. William H. Hill ³¹
4. **Holland Ann Wetherington** was born on 1840 and died on 1882. Holland Ann never married and was buried in the family cemetery in Tuscarora. ³²

Rachel Matthews died on August 21, 1853 in Craven County and was buried in the family graveyard at Tuscarora.³³ Solomon, Jr. married (2nd) **Harriet Ipock Avery** (aka Averitt), widow of Stephen Averitt on February 22, 1854 in Craven County.³⁴ Two children from her 1st marriage also lived in the home in Tuscarora, daughter Charlie (Charlene) and son, William J. Averitt.³⁵ Harriet Wetherington died in 1884 and was buried in a cemetery at OakForest off Asbury Road in Craven County with her 1st husband, Stephen Averitt, and son, William J. Averitt.

The children of Solomon, Jr. and Harriet Ipock Averitt were: ³⁶

5. **Oliver Hazard Perry Wetherington** 1860-1919 was born on October 29, 1860 and died November 15, 1919 in Craven County. **Nannie A. Daugherty** 1861-1921 on April 15, 1881 in Craven County. Oliver and Nannie Wetherington are buried in Maplewood cemetery in Kinston, NC. ³⁷ There children were:
 - a. Bertha Wetherington 1883-1945 m. Waldron S. Richardson 1878–1958 ³⁸
 - b. Infant Son 1888-1888 ³⁹
 - c. Florence Wetherington 1889–1976 m. Lehman Wetherington 1874–1945⁴⁰
 - d. Julia Wetherington 1892 – 1978 never married ⁴¹
6. **Henry Clay Wetherington** 1858 – 1859 was born on January 16, 1858 and died on July 19, 1859. Henry was buried in the family cemetery in Tuscarora. ⁴²
7. **Edward Duffy Wetherington** 1862 – 1942 was born on March 7, 1862 and died on February 16, 1942 in Craven County. Edward ‘Duff’ Wetherington never married and lived with several relatives over the years. He wished to be buried in the family cemetery in Tuscarora and the burial required a mule cart to transport the coffin to the gravesite, as the path to the cemetery was not accessible by auto. ⁴³ His was the last known burial in the Solomon Wetherington cemetery on Rollover Creek in Tuscarora.
8. **Nannie (Nancy) Caroline Wetherington** was born August 6, 1856 in Craven County. Nannie C. Wetherington married 1st **John G. Smith**, son of Hardy Smith and Mary Wetherington, on March 5, 1872 in Craven County. ⁴⁴

Nannie and John G. Smith had one child:

- a. Harriet Smith 1877 - married Thomas Alexander Dillon 1867-1931 ⁴⁵

John G. Smith, the son of Mary Wetherington and Hardy Smith, was born on May 5, 1839 and died on May 11, 1889 and was buried in the Wetherington family cemetery in Tuscarora. ⁴⁶ Nannie later married **Jesse Atkinson**, the son of Benjamin Atkinson and Jennie Adams. Jesse Atkinson was born on August 1, 1852 and died on November 17, 1918. ^{47,48} Jesse Atkinson was buried in the Harris – Lane Cemetery (Hickory Grove) off Lane Farm Road near Fort Barnwell. Nannie Atkinson died on January 2, 1935 and was buried in the Maplewood Cemetery in Kinston, NC. ^{49,50}

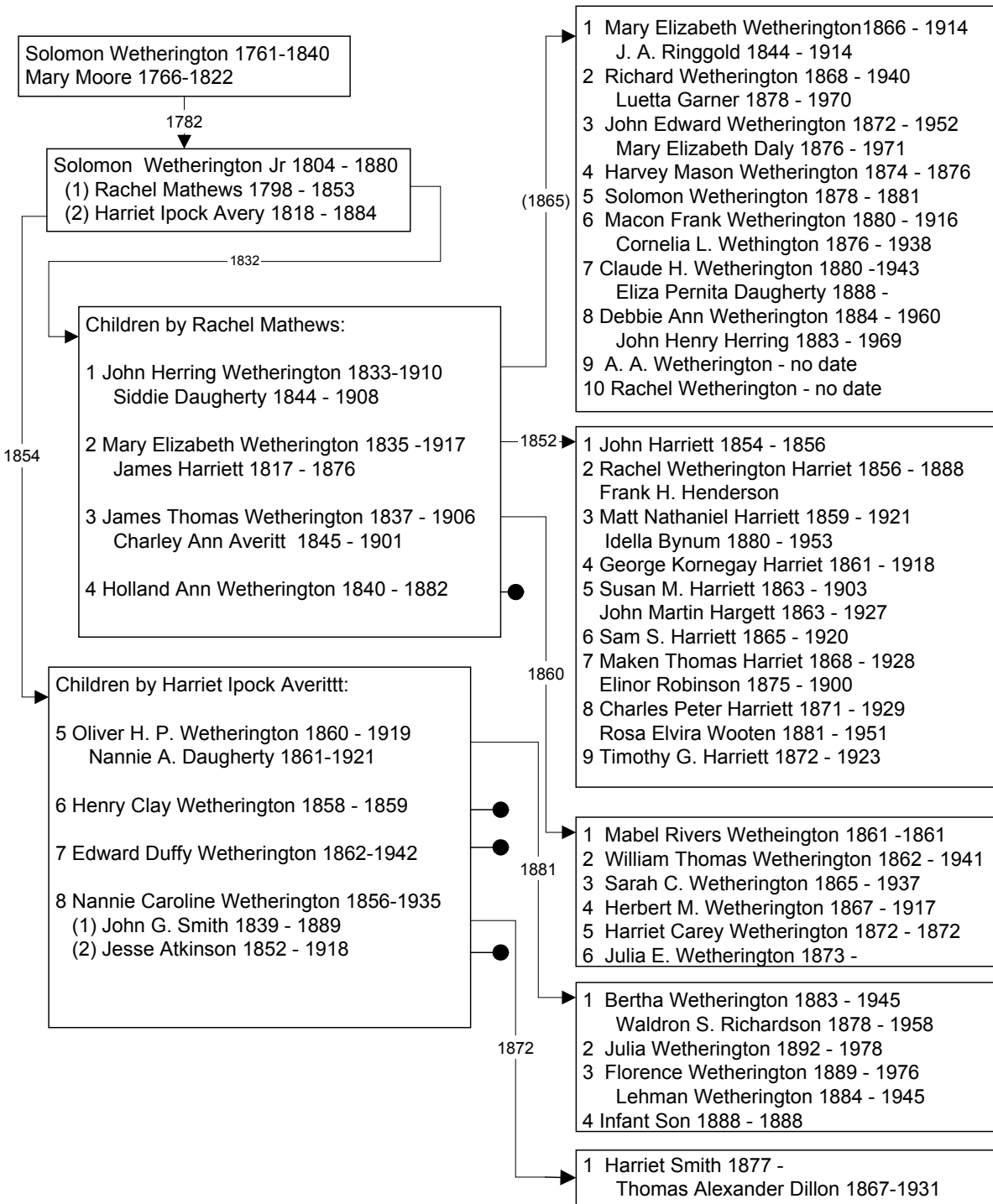


Figure 20 Solomon Wetherington Jr. Family Tree