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Dear Dr. Peeples:

So you are a descendant of Jacob(3)-Michael(2)-Peter(1) Durr, another delightful surprise! I joined the Orangeburg (SC) German-Swiss Genealogical Society because of their active interest in recapturing lost genealogical data and bringing members together to exchange information. I had in mind the DeWitts and Nix-Nicks, but learned much more about the Durrs, i.e. when and how Peter and family (wife and four children) arrived at Charleston, December 1752. Enclosed is a sketch of the first three Durr generations (my line) in South Carolina. I am a descendant of James Pinckard(4) Durr-Rev. Michael(3)-Michael(2)-Peter(1) Durr. Further, Michael(2) Durr married MARY ABERLY, daughter of ANNA LANG Markley and JOHN ABERLY. The ABERLY-LANG genealogy is enclosed and it may answer your question about the origin of the name, "John L." (John (Hans) Lang/Long) Durr.

My hunch is that Jacob Durr of Chincopine Savannah, Orangeburg Township, Sept 1754, was the brother of Peter(1). I cannot hazard a guess about their relationship, if any, to Nicholas Dirr (died 1756) (given name not carried on in Peter's line).

John(3), Jacob(3), and Peter(3) Durr remained in Colleton County. Until your letter, I assumed that eldest brother, John(3) Durr, left South Carolina soon after 1810 Census for Georgia with brother, Michael(3), the Methodist minister, then both moved on to Alabama by 1840 -- John to Conecuh County (1850 Census: aged 75 years, born SC (1775), wife Elsey), and Rev. Michael(3) to Macon County where he died on 22 May 1860. Also, I presumed that John Durr of St. James Parish (died 1820) was the son of Lewis(2) Durr. John and Lewis Durr obtained land grants in 1794. Daniel may have been another son. Let me know what you think!

Other marriages: Catherine(3) Durr (born 1785) and William Rhode, 1807. She died Rankin Co., MS, 27 Nov 1851; Mary(3) Durr and Daniel Hutto, date unkown (see 1810 Census)

Eleanor () Greene was the widow of Rev. war vet, Benjamin Greene of early Washington and Burke (later Screven) Counties, GA. William Nicks was also allied with the BUFORD/BURFORD and FREEMAN families of Burke/Screven Counties (GA). Does Hollingsworth's History of Screven County, GA, mention the above? About Nicks-Nix. The dual spelling poses a problem. I believe William NICKS knew how to spell his surname, perhaps insisting on the correct spelling when recorded by the 1790 census enumerator and the Georgia county clerks. In upcountry SC, the NIX adhered to that spelling, although they also originated in Virginia. (See the Giessendanner vital records for James, son Samuel, and Edward NICKS, c1750s.)

I am sorry that my mother did not live long enough to explore her ancestry and enjoy the exchange of correspondence and data with others, especially those many distant cousins who have surfaced and make my continuing search so pleasant and productive. She left me with two pages of notes on her maternal lines (Durr-Nicks-Pinckard-Bowman-McKay). These have since been expanded into a series of biographical sketches about her ADAMS ancestry and more than forty related families. I have yet to see a finished genealogy.

Sincerely,

Jægadine lerigles

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