



BRAWNER BULLETIN



Vol. 2, No. 1

QUARTERLY NEWS OF THE BRAWNERS AND THEIR ALLIED FAMILIES

Fall 1996

Brawners in the News

David Sanford Brawner, of Mt. Laurel, New Jersey, your editor's brother, finished second in the American Model Yachting Association national championships held in Chicago in August and has finished first in Regions I, II and III this year. In model yachting, the sailors maneuver their homemade sailboats over water by radio control. David competes with others who have models of East Coast 12-meter sailboats. Congratulations!

Al Brawner works for Interactive Resources, Inc. in Des Moines, Iowa. Al was involved in his company's project of providing to Olympic officials last summer an interactive compact disc that contained all the anthems for the 195 countries participating in the Olympics in Atlanta. The compact disc, which also includes the Olympic fanfare, processional and recessional music, was provided to each of the 55 venues where medals were to be awarded. [*Cedar Rapids [IA] Gazette at 6A, July 23, 1996; Thank you to Mary Brawner Viter.*]

CHEAP, BUT KIND!

So, what is a Brawner trait? Over the course of the last year, I have had many traits submitted as being THE Brawner trait that has been passed down from generation to generation. The one trait that seems to run through everybody's line is that of frugality (in my family, we call it "cheap"). Other traits I have heard are red hair, athletic, "double-jointed" knees, politically active, tall, fair skin, balding men, stubborn, brown hair, blue eyes, serious-natured, practical jokers, fun-loving, hard-working, troubled by heart problems, focused, blue eyes, tinkerers, quiet, quick-tempered, resourceful, moody, etc. One researcher reminded me that the *most* common trait of our Brawner ancestors "is that they are dead," which, all insensitivity aside, is annoyingly indisputable.

And there is another trait: kindness. *Bulletin* subscriber Kenneth Neth provided me a copy of an article about his great-grandfather, Thomas

Milton Brawner (1848-1932), who was a judge in Clinton County, Missouri. Judge Brawner held court at his home, and one day he presided over a hotly-contested suit for a corn crop in payment of rent. At the conclusion of the case, according to one litigant's attorneys, "the judge had the doors of his court room thrown wide open, and in another room on a long table a sumptuous meal was awaiting for all parties in the case. And the man who was being sued and the man who was suing, the jurymen and the attorneys, and the judge, all sat down together at the table. The dinner was greatly enjoyed and there was good feeling and good humor among all. The kindness of the judge and his good family made all forget the troubles and worries of litigation." [*Liberty Tribune, Liberty MO, Dec. 5, 1912*]. Now there's a trait to be proud of!

So, if you have a particular trait in your family of Brawners, let me hear

"Mystery Lady"

Pictured at right is **Elizabeth Starnal Brawner** (June 5, 1828-October 23, 1904), the wife of **Henry C. Brawner** (1820-1874) and the daughter-in-law of **Joseph Brawner**. Henry and Elizabeth, who lived in Dumfries, Virginia, had six sons: **John R., William, James, Charles, Irvin** and **Frin**. The oldest son, John, has a daughter, age 96, still living in Fredericksburg, Virginia. Henry C. Brawner was born in Prince William County, Virginia (probably in Dumfries), and Elizabeth died there and is buried in the old Dumfries Church graveyard. Elizabeth's birthplace is unknown. Henry, who also died in Dumfries but whose grave cannot be found, was a member of the Dumfries Town Council and was the Commissioner of Roads. However, little is known about the Starnal family, and the name cannot be found in the Virginia census records. [*Thank you to James E. Brawner Jr. for this information and photograph.*] (See also James' query on page 4).



HAVE COUSIN, HAVE LAWYER

If you ever get in legal trouble, consult *West's Legal Directory* and you will find several Brawner lawyers you may want to know about:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Firm Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Emily A. Brawner	Emily A. Brawner	Birmingham AL
Barbara M. Brawner	Wilson & Mains	Irvine CA
Philip L. Brawner	Howard, Brawner & Stone	Miami FL
Jacque Jeffries Brawner	Brawner & Brawner	Oklahoma City OK
Larry C. Brawner	"	"
Gerald T. Brawner	Phico Group Law Dept.	Mechanicsburg PA
Robert E. Brawner	Robert E. Brawner	Memphis TN
Jeffrey B. Brawner	Grogan & Brawner	Dallas TX
F. Brawner Greer	McGuire Woods et al.	Richmond VA
William J. Brauner	William J. Brauner, P.A.	Caldwell, ID
L.A. Loveland Brauner	L.A. Loveland Brauner	New York, NY
David G. Bronner	Ala. Employ. Retirement Sys.	Montgomery AL
Stephen Zweck-Bronner	Stephen Zweck-Bronner	Denver CO
David A. Bronner	Katten, Muchin & Zavis	Chicago IL
Thais A. Bronner	Sweeney, Dabagia, et al.	Michigan City, IN
Jerry Bronner	Oregon Atty. Gen. Counsel	Salem OR
John H. Bronaugh	Todd & Walter	Lexington KY
Michele C. Bronaugh	Michele C. Bronaugh	Oklahoma City OK
Ellen Bronaugh Vergos	Justice Dept., Trustees Office	Memphis TN

Dan Brawner Follow-up

In "Cat Fiction" in the last issue of the *Bulletin*, we discussed fiction writer **Dan Brawner**. His full name is Danny Brian Brawner, and he lives in Iowa. Dan has taught English at the University of Arizona, writes fiction and currently writes a column entitled *Living in Iowa with Dan Brawner* for his local newspaper. Some of his articles have been featured in the Cedar Rapids Gazette and the Des Moines Register as well as other newspapers. Dan is too modest to talk about himself, so we had to get our information from his Aunt **Mary Viter**, who is understandably proud of her nephew. Dan is "such a neat guy" and "I love to visit with him," writes Mary. Dan is the son of **Arnold LeRoy Brawner** and **Marlyn Ray Walton**. Years ago, Dan was in the contracting, repair and maintenance business in Long Beach, California with his father. Dan is the grandson of **Oland Willis Brawner** (1896-1956) and **Daisy Fern Kolosiek** (1900-1992). [Thank you to **Mary Brawner Viter**].

MACON COUNTY BRAWNERS REUNITE

The descendants of **Henry Harrison Brawner**, **Louill Brawner** and **Bethel C. "Buck" Brawner** met in Lafayette, Tennessee this past August 10 for a family reunion. Henry Harrison Brawner was the brother of **Rachel M. Brawner** (1858-1913), who married her cousin, **Jeremiah Peyton "Pate" Brawner** (b 1852-1915) of Macon Co., TN. Pate and Rachel are the great-grandparents of *Bulletin* subscriber **David E. Brawner**. David reports that "some of our more talented cousins played the guitar, banjo, and electronic drums to folk tunes" and that they were "really VERY good." The reunion, writes David, "was one to savor for some time to come."

DID YOU KNOW?

Roy Brawner was a starting guard for the 1949-1951 Auburn University basketball team. In the 1949-50 season, Roy averaged 6.2 points per game on the 17-7 Auburn basketball team. Returning the next year, Roy raised his point production to 8.7 points per game and averaged 4.2 rebounds per game.

[Source: Auburn University All-Time Basketball Lineups Homepage on the World Wide Web.]

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Selected Brawner Marriages

<u>Bride</u>	<u>Groom</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>
Ellen Griffin	William Burton Brawner	Jan. 2, 1873	Prentiss Co. MS
Joanne Brawner	Jerry N. Osborne	Dec. 18, 1971	Houston TX
Bonnie M. Mosby	William Edward Brawner	Feb. 25, 1903	Clay Co., MO
Matilda Semmes	Pembroke A. Brawner	Oct. 15, 1857	Charles Co. MD
Elizabeth Childers	John M. Brawner	Dec. 30, 1856	Itawamba Co. MS
Nancy A. Pipkin	William Haynes Brawner	March 15, 1882	Weakley Co. TN
Maude V. Brawner	Courtland Whitney	March 17, 1910	Mt. Clemens, MI
Alice Marie Brawner	Charlie G. Roberson	Jan. 11, 1953	Fulton Co., KY

MORE BRAWNERS FIGHT FOR REBEL CAUSE

(continued from Summer 1996 Issue)

<u>Name</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Unit</u>
Brawner, C.C.	AL	2nd Cavalry, Co. E
Brawner, W.T.	AL	2nd Cavalry, Co. E
Bronaugh, J.F.	AL	4th (Russell's) Cavalry, Co. F
Brawner, Daniel	LA	Miles' Legion, Co. F
Brawner, D.O.	MO	3rd Infantry, Co. I
Brawner, J.R.	MO	3rd Infantry, Co. I
Bronaugh, Addison	MO	Cav., 14th Reg., St. Guard, QM
Bronaugh, C.C.	MO	16th Infantry, Co. K
Bronaugh, David	MO	3rd Infantry, Co. D, Sgt.
Bronaugh, D.H.	MO	16th Infantry, Co. K
Bronaugh, F.B.	MO	Inf., 1st Regiment, St. Guard, Co. G
Bronaugh, F.P.	MO	Cav., 14th Reg., St. Guard, Co. G, 1st Lt.
Bronaugh, F.P.	MO	16th Infantry, Co. K, Capt.
Bronaugh, James H.	MO	16th Infantry, Co. K, Jr. 2nd Lt.
Bronaugh, W.C.	MO	16th Infantry, Co. K, Sgt.
Bronaugh, W.Y.	MO	Cav., 14th Reg., St. Guard, Co. C, Capt.
Brawner, Jesse W.	MS	2nd Infantry, Co. E
Brawner, John M.	MS	2nd Infantry, Co. E
Brawner, Thomas	MS	12th Infantry, Co. G
Brawner, Thomas	MS	22nd Infantry, Co. I
Brawner, William F.	MD	Infantry, 2nd Battalion, Co. F, D
Brawner, T.M.	MD	1st Cavalry, Co. E
Brawner, John J.	MD	1st Infantry, Co. I, 1st Sgt.
Brawner, Richard A.	FL	6th Infantry, Co. E

[Source: *The Roster of Confederate Soldiers, 1861-1865, Vol. II, Edited by Janet B. Hewett (Broadfoot Publishing Co. Wilmington NC 1995)*].

Note: C.C. (Christopher Columbus) Brawner, who served as a Private in the Second Alabama Cavalry, is the great-grandfather of Bulletin subscriber **Emily A. Brawner**. The Second Alabama Cavalry was organized in Montgomery in May 1862, and C.C. enlisted at that time for a period of three years. Emily points out that cavalrymen were paid only when they met muster, even if at the time they were in battle or carrying a wounded soldier home. As a case in point, C.C. was not paid for September and October 1862 because at that time he was escorting a sick soldier to the hospital in Greenville, Alabama.

Czech Chemist

Bohuslav Brauner (1855-1935), a Czech chemist, attained prominence by determining the weight of rare-earth elements such as beryllium and cerium, revealing the complexity of didymium and discovering a new way to obtain fluoride. Born in Prague and educated at the Czech Technical School and the universities of Heidelberg and Manchester, Bohuslav began researching rare-earth elements at Owens College in Manchester. Bohuslav returned to Prague at age 27 to lecture in inorganic chemistry at Charles University, where he served as professor from 1897 to 1925.

[Source: *American People's Encyclopedia, 1955; Thank you to George F. Brawner Sr.*].

Thank You!!

Thank you to all subscribers for their contributions to, and kind letters about, the *Bulletin*. The editor recognizes with gratitude those who have recently made special contributions to the *Bulletin*:

Jean Brawner Barr
A.H. "Harry" Brawner
David E. Brawner
Emily Brawner
George F. Brawner, Sr.
Jack T. Brawner
James E. Brawner Jr.
Katherine Dillon Brawner
Marvin Brawner
William Tyler Brawner
Patricia A. Brawner-Schiro
Donald Ray Dwiggin
Jocelyn Brawner Gary
Betty Ludwig
Ruth Kirk Ramsauer
Marie Brawner Roberson
Kenneth Neth
George A. Stone
Helen M. Sutherland
Mary Brawner Viter
Anne Brawner Weisbecker
Norma Brawner Young

The editor encourages and appreciates all submissions of Brawner family information for publication in the *Bulletin*. Please send information to the *Bulletin* at P.O. Box 10816, Greensboro NC 27404-0816.

THANK YOU!!

AMAZING!

Phillip Moore of Frankfort, Kentucky is the great-great-great grandson of Maryland-to-Kentucky pioneer **Theopolis Brawner** (1789-1866). Phillip married **Elizabeth Barnett**, with whom he had five children. The last 4 children were all born on July 21 in different years: **Phillip W. Moore** in 1943; **Darrell Scott Moore** in 1943; **Sharon Lynn Moore** in 1947 and **Larry Duane Moore** in 1957. The birthdate of the first child, **Wanda Moore**, is unknown. Could it be?

QUERIES

Who was Mary Brock (b. ca 1662, d. 1727-1728 in Prince George's Co. MD, who married Henry Brawner (b. ca 1660, d 1697/98 in Charles Co. MD)? She married, second, William Elliot. Her children (by Henry) were Edward, Henry, William, John and Mary. [Reply to John Roberts, 1 Melrose Street, Dunedin, New Zealand].

Seeking information on Henry C. Brawner (1820-1874) of Dumfries, VA, his father Joseph Brawner, his mother (name unknown), his wife Elizabeth Starnal Brawner (1828-1904) and the Starnal family. [Reply to James E. Brawner Jr., 460 Highland Hills Lane, Lewisville TX 75067].

G. MURRAY BRAWNER

"Everybody knows me"

We have all benefited greatly from the work which Galbraith Murray Brawner did on the Brawner family history, particularly the Kentucky lines. In 1959 Murray, then 79 years old, wrote a letter detailing some of his findings to Bulletin subscriber Joan Woodhull. Murray recounts in that letter that "the first Brawner that came to Ky. date back to 1782 - of course this country was a wilderness at that time." According to Murray, the first Brawners that came to Kentucky were John Brawner, his brother Benjamin Brawner and 3 cousins Isaac, Basil & Meredith. This John Brawner (b ca 1730) was Murray's great-great-great-grandfather.

Murray was born September 3, 1880 in Kentucky, the eighth of nine children of Alexander Goldsmith Brawner (1830-1886) and Hannah Catherine Morgan (b 1844). Murray's father fought in the Civil War as a volunteer in a Mississippi regiment, later transferring to the Second Kentucky Regiment. Murray's father, who is discussed on page 7 of the Fall 1995 Bulletin, was captured at Ft. Donaldson, escaped from Camp Morton in Indianapolis and was later injured at Chickamauga.

Murray tells us in that 1959 letter something of his own life. He says he was a drug clerk for the Frankfort Drug Co. in center of Frankfort for 29 years, was elected sheriff of Franklin County and served from 1929-1933, served as Chairman of the Franklin County Democratic Committee on three different occasions. During the Depression, Murray was certifying agent for the county, working under the W.P.A. "helping to feed the hungry." His last job before retirement in October 1956 was as a clerk in the Kentucky Department of Economic Security. Murray closes by suggesting that to get in touch with him in Frankfort, "ask anybody you meet — everybody knows me." [Thank you to Joan Woodhull].

MILK BARON

One of Northern Virginia's most prominent natives is Henry Newlon Brawner, Jr. (1876-1937), whose turn-of-the-century one-horse dairy became by the time of his death one of Washington, DC's largest dairies. In 1896, George M. Oyster Jr. started Chestnut Farms Dairy and five years later hired Henry Brawner as a bookkeeper. During their tenure together, the strict Mr. Oyster would often fire an employee for a slight rules infraction, only to have Henry hire him back later the same day. Mr. Oyster died in 1921, and Henry continued as the sole owner of the dairy. In 1925, Henry, who was known for his expertise in business, engineering and finance, built a large dairy at Pennsylvania Avenue and 26th Street in Washington DC. "The new dairy plant "was widely known for its beauty of design and arrangement, its efficiency, and the outstanding quality of its products" [Record of Progress, Chestnut Farms Dairy, by George B. Taylor, 1929]. Several years later, Henry sold the dairy to National Dairy Products Corp. for close to a \$3,000,000 profit and, in 1931, merged his interest with Chevy Chase Dairy to become Chestnut Farms - Chevy Chase Dairy.

In addition to his success in the dairy business, Henry invested in real estate, sponsored the first Washington Redskins Marching Band (stocked with Chestnut Farms employees) and was active in a variety of church, civic and charitable organizations.

Henry was born on a farm in what is now Loudoun County, Virginia. His father probably was the Henry N. Brawner who fought with Mosby's Rangers in the Civil War. As a child, Henry's family moved to Alexandria, Virginia.

Henry married Edith Graham (1874-1933). With Edith, Henry had two children, Sarah (married Edward S. Pardoe) and Edgar N. Brawner. After Edith's death, Henry married his second wife, Iola.

Henry died suddenly of a heart attack on July 7, 1937 at his summer home at Cape Neddick, Maine. He had been ill for several weeks, but his death was unexpected. He was survived by his wife, Iola, son Edgar and daughter Sarah Brawner Pardoe, all of Washington DC. Edgar continued the family's dairy business after his father's death.

[Thank you to Donald Viridin for providing a copy of Henry Newlon Brawner, Jr.: Outline of His Career and Accomplishments, which served as the source for much of the information in this article. Other information came from the Washington Herald, July 8, 1937 and the Washington Evening Star, July 8 and July 9, 1937].

Happy 100th!

Many Brawners posthumously celebrate their 100th birthday this year. Some of the proud (albeit deceased) celebrants are:

Howard Briscoe Brawner (September 5, 1896 - 1985), grandson of John Alexander Brawner (1834-1886) and Catherine Elizabeth Briscoe (1834-1893) of Charles County, MD and Baltimore, MD.

Lewis Ralph Lancaster (b April 3, 1896), son of Leslie Lancaster (1869-1944) and Lillie Mae Brawner (1874-1962) of Missouri.

Susan Maude Ann White (October 4, 1896 - 1986), granddaughter of Mary E. Brawner (b 1816 Elbert County, GA).

Maud Adele Brawner (b July 21, 1896), daughter of William Strasser Brawner (1863-1908) and Olivia Rebecca Carlin (1861-1945) of Missouri.

Ethel N. Brawner (b February 28, 1896 - January 10, 1982), a native of Macon Co., TN, daughter of J. Peyton Brawner (1852-1918) and Rachel M. Brawner.

Heathey Gammon (b February 1896), daughter of Phillip G. "Lem" Gammon (1862-1936) and Sarah Frances Brawner (1862-1926), all of Tennessee.

Atchie Brawner (b September 14, 1896), son of Charles M. Brawner (1854-1934) and Louisa Ellen Buford (1860-1920), of Kentucky.

Hattie May Brawner (b June 19, 1896 - d July 30, 1957), daughter of John Robert Brawner (1865-1909) and Julia Hazelwood (1872-1928) of the Kentucky line of Brawners.

Stella Florence Brawner (b 1896), daughter of John Wesley Brawner (1870-1950) and Leona Dove Casey (1875-1956), of the Georgia line of Brawners.

Herbert Brawner (b 1896), son of John F. Brawner Jr. (b 1866) and Ola Vietta Jackson (1871-1945), of the Georgia line of Brawners.

Jesse W. Brawner (b 1896), son of Jesse Oscar Brawner (1868-1953) and Elizabeth Wallace (1878-1960), of the Georgia line of Brawners.

Mamie L. Brawner (b 1896), daughter of G.F. "Gus" Brawner (b 1872) and Lou N. [maiden name unknown] (b 1881), of the Georgia line of Brawners.

*Note: The preceding four centenarians are all great grandchildren of **Joel Brawner** (b 1798 in Elbert County, GA; d 1866 in Bartow Co., GA) and **Elizabeth King** (1800-1866). Must be*

REUNION NEWS

Bulletin subscriber **Marvin Brawner** reports that a Brawner Family Reunion took place on Sunday, October 19, 1986 at the Garfield County Fairgrounds in Enid, Oklahoma. Sixty-eight Brawner family members attended this reunion, ranging in age from 4 months to 80 years of age. Last year, 56 persons attended the same reunion (see *Brawner Bulletin*, Fall '95). Included among the guests were the families of the late **Ada Brawner McGee** (1890-1969), **George B. Brawner** (1888-1938), **General Lee Brawner** (1903-1986) and **Fredrick David Brawner** (Marvin's deceased father, who married **Elexes Mae Golding**). Ada, George, General Lee and Fredrick were children of **David Oliver Brawner II** (1860-1941) and **Rhoda Jane Stewart** (1861-1933). Marvin reminds everyone that next year, the Brawner family reunion will be held on October 19 at the Youth Building at the Garfield County Fairgrounds.

*Note: Following the paternal lines, **David Oliver Brawner II**, who married Rhoda on September 17, 1882, is the son of **William Thomas Brawner** (1833-1917) and **Nancy Ellen Bowser** (1841-1926), the grandson of **David Oliver Brawner** (1802-1869) and **Sarah Utinger** (1807-1874) and the great grandson of **Thomas Brawner** (c. 1765-1833) and **Martha Elizabeth Neet** (1778-1859). Thomas and Martha were natives of Frederick County, Maryland, where they married in 1798. They then migrated west to Fayette County, Kentucky. Later, on the family's way to Missouri, Thomas became ill and died in Jessamine County, Kentucky. Martha Elizabeth died in Clinton County, Missouri. The Frederick County, Maryland Brawners are believed to have migrated from Charles County, Maryland.*

PERFORMER

Kenneth Roy Brawner, a composer, author and singer, is listed in the *ASCAP Biographical Dictionary, 4th ed.* (R.R. Bowker & Co. New York 1980). Kenneth, who was born in Augusta, Georgia on August 9, 1944, was educated at Howard University. He is a singer and keyboardist at nightclubs, performs in concerts and television commercials and has appeared in the Broadway Production "Censored Scenes from Hong Kong" and in the movie "Hair." Does anyone have other information on Kenneth Roy Brawner?

Pawnee Loss

On Wednesday, April 19, 1961, the Illinois Brawners suffered a loss with the passing of 59-year-old **Jerry Brawner** of Pawnee. He had been ill for four months. Jerry was born near Pawnee in 1901 and worked for the Peabody Coal Company as a track layer from 1924 to 1954, when the mine closed. Jerry, a member of the United Mine Workers, sustained serious injuries at work shortly before the closing of the mine. He is survived by his wife of forty years, **Lillie Bell Harrier**; a son **John** of Pawnee; daughters **Juanita Brawner Drone** and **Norma Brawner Young** of Pawnee; brother, **Lewis** of Springfield IL; and sisters **Myrtle Brawner Alexander**, **Anna Brawner Hamilton** and **Golda Brawner Matthew** of Pawnee and **Sadie Brawner Hildreth** of Edinburg IL. He is also survived by five grandchildren. Jerry is the the son of **John Brawner** and **Chloe Landrey Brawner**.

Note: Jerry is the father of Bulletin subscriber Norma

DID YOU KNOW?

In Camden State Park in Lynd, Minnesota — a tourist attraction featuring hiking, skiing, biking, horseback riding and swimming — one of the main attractions is *Brawner Lake*.

WILL OF HENRY BRAWNER

In the name of God Amen! I, Henry Brawner, son of Charles County in the State of Maryland, being of sound and disposing mind, memory and understanding and considering the uncertainty of life, have thought proper to commit to writing this my last will and Testament ... Imprimis. I desire all my just debts to be paid, and afterwards I will and desire my property to be disposed of in the following manner, that is to say, I will and bequeath to my wife, Esther Brawner, in lieu of her right of dower, and what the law entitles her to, one third part of all my estate, giving her the exclusive right of choosing the same so as to suit herself after an appraisalment of and valuation of the same by two well judging and disinterested men to be chosen mutually by her and my children John, James & Henry. Item. I give and bequeath to by grandsons Henry and James Nelson, sons of my daughter Sarah Nelson, one hundred dollars to be equally divided between them or the survivor of them. Item. I give and bequeath to my Daughter Ann Wood one negro girl named Jenney now in her possession and her increase to her and her heirs. Item. I give and bequeath to my daughter Catharine Dent one negro girl named Louisa with all future increase to her and her heirs. Item. I give and bequeath to my son John S. Brawner one negro girl named Anna and her future increase to him and his heirs. Item. I give and bequeath to my son James Brawner one negro woman named Grace and one negro girl named Henny and their future increase to him and his heirs. Item. I give and bequeath to my son Henry Brawner one negro boy named Ben to him and his heirs. It is my will and desire that in case I die possessed of my money, more than will discharge my just debts and funeral expenses, then same shall be disposed of in the following manner, to wit, one third to my wife Esther Brawner and the residue to be equally divided amongst [my] children now here, to wit, John S. Brawner, James Brawner, Catharine Dent and Henry Brawner. It is my will and desire that the residue of my estate after the above legacies are paid to be equally divided among my children, to wit, John S. Brawner, James Brawner and Henry Brawner and my two daughters Ann Wood and Catharine Dent, ... In testimony that the foregoing is my last will and Testament, I do hereby acknowledge and sign the same in the presence of the countersigning this sixteenth day of October Eighteen Hundred and seventeen.

Witnesses: Thomas Price, Senior
William Brawner

Henry Brawner (Seal)

Codicil to the foregoing will:

It is my will and desire that the clause bequeathing to James and Henry Nelson in the above will be and the same hereby is revoked, but if they or either shall be living and call for the same at any time previous to the division of my estate upon my wife or either of my sons aforesaid, then and in that event, they or either of them so demanding the same shall be entitled to the legacy in said Will mentioned but to no other part of my Estate either Real or Personal.

Witnesses: Noble Young - James Brawner, Junior
Basil Brawner

Henry Brawner (Seal)

[Will and Codicil were probated in 1822 and 1823, respectively].

[Source: Liber H.B., No. 14, Page 178, Charles County, Maryland Register of Wills].

Note: This is Henry "Harry" Brawner (b ca 1755, d 1822), the son of the John Brawner (b ca 1730) who was a Kentucky pioneer. Harry apparently stayed in Maryland. In 1779, Henry took the Patriot's Oath of Allegiance in Charles County in 1778, and his patriot status has provided a basis for D.A.R. membership for his female descendants. Harry's wife Esther mentioned in the Will is Esther Dunnington (d March 1823), his second wife. Harry's first wife was a Miss Scott. Harry's son, Henry, probably was the Henry Brawner who served in the Maryland General Assembly for many years.

“Brawner Place”

James Middleton Brawner married **Elizabeth Allman** (d 1887) on December 14, 1819 in Elbert County, Georgia. The couple lived in Elbert County until about 1836, when they moved to the Antioch Community of Harris County, Georgia. They owned about 1,000 acres of land in the community, on which they built a log home. On this farm is a spring with “cold, refreshing water and large shade trees.” [*History of Harris County, Georgia, p. 337*]. When James Middleton Brawner died in 1847, his son **James Henry Brawner** and his mother, Emma, built a large colonial house. The colonial house had wide halls, verandas and chimneys constructed of rock, handmade brick and mud.

In 1854, James Henry Brawner married his wife, **Lavonia David**. After the death of his wife several years later, James sold the farm to a Mr. Hutchinson, who lived there during the Civil War. In the days just before the Civil War, the spring on the farm served as a gathering place for members of the community to discuss the tense situation in the country. When the Union Army came through on a “scorched earth” mission in April 1865, they spared the house after finding the dying mother of Mr. Hutchinson in it. Marshall Bruce Kimbrough next owned the Brawner farm, followed by George L. Lynch and then Francis Marion Mullins. Francis’ grandson, Ralph Land, purchased the property in 1927 and occupied it as of 1960.

There is the family cemetery located near the Brawner place in the Antioch community. Buried there are George L. Lynch (1811-1881), Ann E. Lynch (1814-1902), Lavonia David Brawner (wife of James Henry Brawner), in an unmarked grave; James Middleton Brawner, in an unmarked grave and various other Brawner family members in unmarked graves.

Note: The “Middleton” name is suspected of being a connection between the Brawners of Georgia and those of Charles County, Maryland. “Middleton” was a common surname in the early history of Charles County, Maryland, though the direct connection to the Brawner line has yet to be found. The mystery on the specific connection between the Brawners of Georgia and the Brawners of Maryland and Virginia remains.

[Source: *History of Harris County, Georgia, p. 337*; information provided by Brawner researcher “Cynlynn” on the Internet, March 31, 1995].

EMPTINESS

“It will never be the same”

On 9:30 a.m. on April 19, 1995, a group of curious children would have made their way about one block from their day-care to visit the Metropolitan Library System building in downtown Oklahoma City. Upon their arrival, they would have found books, seashells and snacks. They probably would have been entertained with puppet shows, stories or sing-alongs. And because the children were so much fun to watch, the Executive Director of the Metropolitan Library System since 1971, **Lee B. Brawner**, probably would have peaked out of his office at the children and their fun.

But at 9:02 a.m., as we all know now, the little children were traumatized and many killed by the bomb blast at the Murrah Office Building where their day-care was located. The children never arrived. “The staff all knew those children. Sometimes I would even sneak out of my office to join in the programs, just because they were so much fun to watch and be with,” Brawner said. “It will never be the same again.”

The library building itself sustained broken windows and interior fixtures, but not enough to seriously injure any of the children had they been there.

[Source: *The Children Didn’t Come to Library’s Story Room, by Brian Bus, Staff Writer, in The Daily Oklahoman, April 1995*].

1860 Mortality Schedules

<u>Name</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Month</u>	<u>Cause of Death</u>	<u>Occupation</u>
Brawner, John	Franklin GA	M	GA	66	April	Paralysis	Farmer
Brawner, Awora G.	Oglethorpe GA	F	GA	6 mo.	June	Cholera	
Brawner, Caroline	“	F	GA	3 mo.	August	Unknown	
Brawner, Millard	Hancock IL	M	IL	3	March	Croup	
Brawner, Henry L.	Crittenden KY	M	KY	5	December	Pneumonia	
Brawner, William	Prince William VAM		MD	77	July	Unknown	Farmer

[Source: *Mortality Schedules, 1850-1880, CD #164, by Automated Archives, Inc.*]. The mortality schedules cover deaths in the year preceding the taking of the census; thus, the above deaths occurred in 1859 or 1860.

SYLVANUS & JULIET

The marriage of **Juliet Eleanor Brawner** (1834-1911) to **Sylvanus Harlow Stevens** (1827-1902) on January 29, 1852 in Quincy, Illinois united the Stevens and Brawner families. Juliet was born in Chillicothe, Ohio, the oldest daughter of **John Alfred Brawner** of Virginia and **Louisa Williams**. When Juliet was an infant, her family moved to Henderson, Kentucky, and about 5 years later they moved to Quincy, Illinois. Sylvanus, a native of Maine, was the son of **Sylvanus Boardman Stevens** and **Rebecca Proctor Bunker**. After marriage, Sylvanus and Juliet lived in Quincy for 2 years where Sylvanus was a grain buyer. The family moved to West Urbana (now Champaign), Illinois in 1854 and to Chicago in 1856. In Chicago, Sylvanus and a younger brother became early members of the Chicago Board of Trade. In 1862, Sylvanus resigned as Chief Grain Inspector for the Chicago Board of Trade in order to serve in the Union army in the Civil War. He served for three years with the Chicago Board of Trade Battery. During this time, Juliet moved to Nashville, TN to be near her husband during the war. Juliet served as a war nurse, and her dedicated service was acclaimed in the Chicago newspapers in which she was referred to as "The Angel of the Battery." After the war, Sylvanus and Juliet shared time between Chicago and Nashville. In 1869, the family moved to St. Louis, Missouri and shortly thereafter moved to Humboldt, Kansas, where they lived until 1882. In Humboldt, Sylvanus founded a lumber firm. In 1882, the family moved back to Chicago, where Sylvanus was appointed Chief Flaxseed Inspector for the Chicago Board of Trade. Sylvanus died in 1902, shortly after the couple's 50th wedding anniversary. Juliet lived until 1911, dying in Chicago one week after suffering an apoplectic stroke. She is buried at Graceland Cemetery in Chicago. The couple had four children: Russell Houston Stevens (b March 10, 1863), Juliet Nora Stevens (b September 17, 1868), Edith Agnes Stevens (b January 21, 1870) and Sylvanus Harlow Stevens Jr. (b June 1, 1872). [Source: *The Descendants of Samuel Stevens*, pp. 108-21, 445-450].

PITTSYLVANIA CO., VIRGINIA *Court Records*

Between 1782 and 1814, there are ten separate Court Orders of record in Pittsylvania County, Virginia in which a Brawner is a party to the dispute. Among those court orders are the following:

- By order dated April 17, 1782 (Book 4, Page 399), **John Brawner**, "for reasons made known to the court," is exempted from payment of public and county levies in the future.

- By order dated February 21, 1786, (Book 5, Page 293), **Benjamin Brawner** is awarded a judgment on a debt against Thomas Buckingham in the amount of 5 pounds, 12 shillings and 4 pence half penny.

- By a series of orders dated in the early 1800s up to 1816 (Book 12, Page 337; Book 14, Page 549; Book 17, Page 164; and Book 19, Page 103) certain judgments entered against **Dozier Brawner** in favor of Drury Pulliam and David Rice were stayed temporarily and then permanently, the result being that the judgments could not be executed by the judgment creditors.

[Source: *Pittsylvania County Court Records, Chatham, Virginia*]

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