

Emily Stamper Cockerham (1826-1900), Ancestor 45
By her great great great granddaughter, Linda R. Horton, 13 December 2021¹



Emily Stamper was born in Kentucky on 2 January 1826 to Joel Stamper II (1781-1851) and Mary Polly Deaton (1785-1850), natives of Wilkes County, North Carolina who had moved to Kentucky prior to 1819. They were among the first families of British descent to settle in the region. Their farm was in what then was Estill County. With the creation of Owsley County in 1843 and Lee County in 1870, the family lived in three different Kentucky counties without moving.

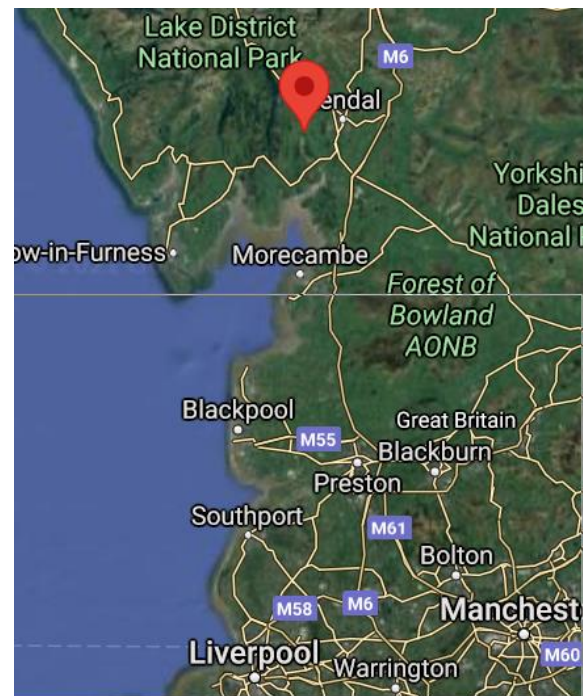
Emily was the second youngest of the family's 13 children. At age 16, she became the wife of James Henry Cockerham. They had nine known children. Emily died on 5 November 1900 and James on 6 August 1904.

The subject of this biography had a name spelled various ways: besides Emily, records also spelled her name Emilia or Embly. The artisan who carved her headstone spelled it Emly: "Emly, wife of James H Cockerham. Born Jan. 2. 1826, Died Nov. 5, 1900".

The Adventurous Stampers: Pioneers and a Patriot

Emily was amongst the sixth generation of Stampers in America. Their history suggests a restless and bold people.

- The immigrant ancestor, John Stamper (1647-1690), our 8x great grandfather, was born in Milbeck, Crosthwaite Parish, Cumberland, England in 1647.¹ Crosthwaite is marked in red. In 1666, John migrated to Middlesex County, Virginia. After his first two wives died, he married Carew Powell (1664-1720).
- Their son Powell Stamper (1682-1727), our 7x great grandfather, was content to farm in Middlesex County.
- However, his son, Jonathan Stamper (1719-1799), moved twice with his wife Rachel Parks (1733-1793), our 6x great grandparents, and their children. Before 1755, they first settled in Amherst County, Virginia, then in 1767 moved to Roaring River, Wilkes County, North Carolina.
- Jonathan and Rachel's son, Joel Stamper I (1755-1833) married Nancy Cannaday. They were of the

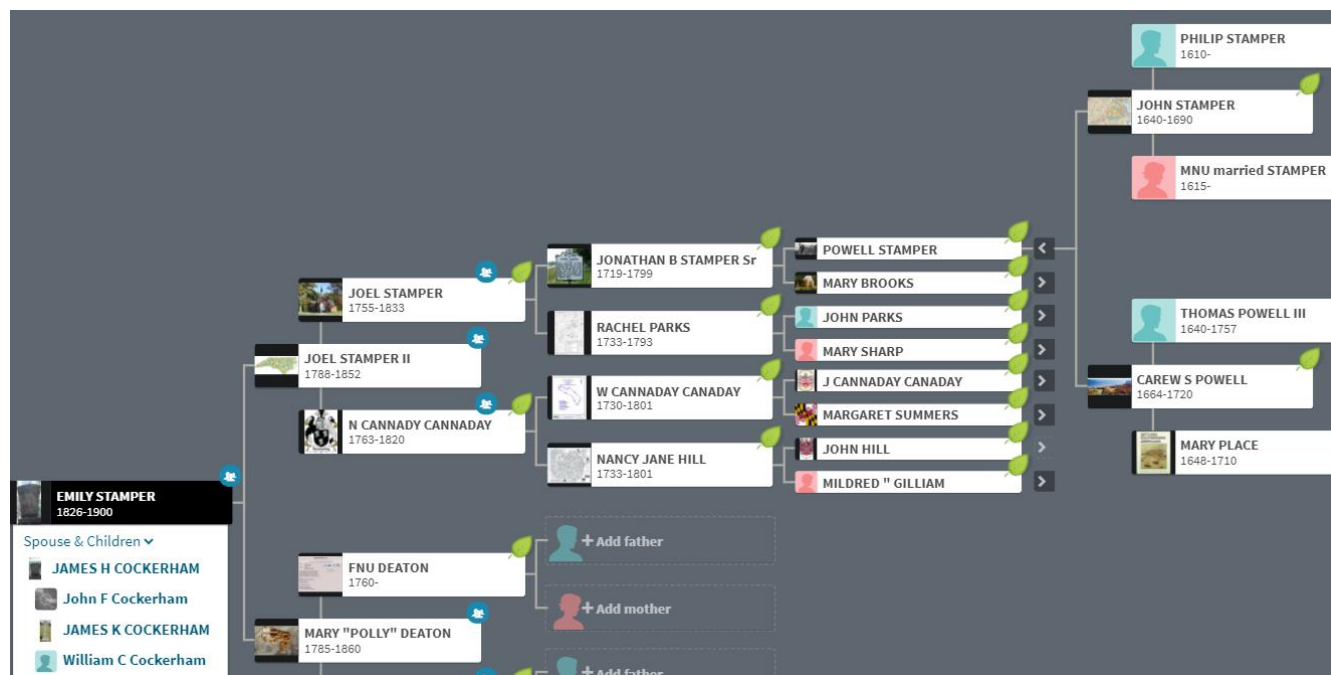


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Baptist faith² and were our 5x great grandparents. In 1780, he served as a private in the North Carolina troops in the War of American Independence. Joel's role is summarized on the website of the Stamper DNA surname project.³

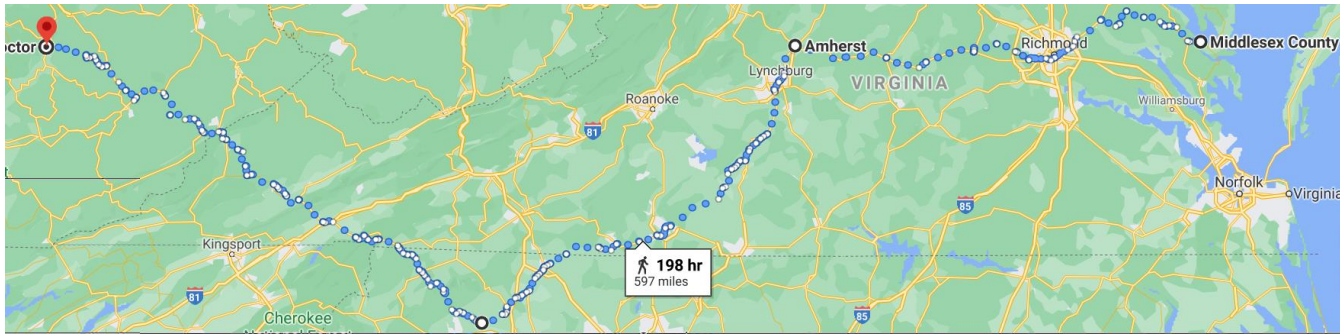
[When] Joel Stamper appeared in open court February 4, 1833, he was seventy-seven years old. He stated in his pension application record (File No. S 3999) that he was born May 17, 1755, in Amherst Co., VA. When he was twelve years old his father moved the family to Wilkes Co., NC. He entered the service as a volunteer in Captain Jesse Walton's company of Minute Men. About a week later, he marched to Salisbury where he was stationed under General Rutherford for three months. At the end of the three months, he was discharged and went home. After being home a short time, they were again ordered out to go against the Tories at Cross Creek or Fayetteville. He was again ordered out by General Rutherford in quest of Tories in the Forks of the Yadkin for three weeks. Ordered out by Colonel Cleveland and marched to Burke County and King's Mountain [South Carolina]. Having no horse, he did not reach battleground in time for battle. Marched with Tory prisoners to Salem, NC where he received his discharge having been gone three months. He states he has no documentary evidence to prove his service, but refers to William Spicer, Joseph Pruitt, and William Johnson as witnesses who can testify to his services. He states that he has a record of his age in his Bible. Joel was granted \$32.33 per annum commencing March 4, 1831. In the Daughters of the American Revolution Patriot Index of 1966, his death date is listed as April 30, 1833.

- The son of Jonathan and Rachel, Joel Stamper II (1788-1852) apparently inherited the family wanderlust gene—or the soil of his land in North Carolina may have been depleted by tobacco production. Joel and his wife Mary Deaton (1785-1860), our 4x great grandparents, moved with the eldest seven of their 13 children from Wilkes County, North Carolina, to Estill County, Kentucky before 1819. There they had six more children, including our 3x great grandmother Emily Stamper (1826-1900). They were members of the Baptist faith.⁴



The map on the next page shows the Stamper family's 600-mile journey through three states. From Middlesex County in coastal Virginia, they traveled west to Amherst, then southwest to

Wilkes County, North Carolina, then northwest to what today is Lee County, Kentucky. The Stamper family was listed as among early families in Wolfe County, the neighbor of Lee County, along with other ancestral families such as Cockerham, Horton, Puckett, and Tyler.⁵



Emily's Early Years

As the twelfth of thirteen children, and the youngest daughter, Emily would have been very aware of her status as one of the younger ones. And she grew up in a very male-dominated household, as she had nine brothers and only three sisters. Her brothers and sisters were Joel III, 1804-1891; Spencer, 1806-1870; John A, 1808-1869; Nancy Matilda, 1810-1906; Larkin, 1813-1875; Sanken, 1813-1890; Sarah, 1819-1900; Lewis, 1820-; James, 1821-1919; Elizabeth, 1823-1916; and William, born 1831.

As children, Emily and her sister Elizabeth, just two years older, might have been close. They were both quite young when their oldest brother, Joel Stamper III, got married and started his family. Any sadness the younger children may have felt when the older ones married and moved out was softened by the gain of space in what must have been a crowded household.

During the childhoods of the Stamper children, there were no schools in eastern Kentucky. We know from census reports for the years 1850, 1860, and 1900 that Emily could neither read nor write. Interestingly, her oldest sister, Nancy Matilda, who married a physician, was unable to read or write at the time of the 1850 census but apparently mastered these skills within the next decade.

Marriage and Children

Emily was only 16 when she married James Henry Cockerham on 9 June 1842. Confirmatory evidence of the marriage year is provided by the 1900 census, which asked married respondents how many years they had been married. For James and Emily, then in their 70s, the answer was an impressive 57 years.

Four years Emily's senior, James had been born 2 January 1822, in Wilkes County, North Carolina, the son of William John Cockerham (1794-1852) and Elizabeth Hill (1796-1881). He was the eldest of their seven sons. James' family had moved from Wilkes County, North Carolina to Kentucky in about 1827, when he was five years old. Wilkes is the same county from which Emily's parents had migrated a decade earlier. The Stamper and Cockerham families may have known each other in North Carolina.

After their marriage, James Henry and Emily lived near other family members. In the 1850 census for Owsley County, Kentucky, their household was listed as #185, James' parents and three of his younger brothers resided at #192, and Emily's parents lived at #185.

From the census reports, we can safely infer that, for Emily, family was central. She grew up in a large family, married young, and produced five daughters and four sons. Brief biographical sketches of Emily's and James' nine children are appended to this biography. When they were young, those children could walk or run to the nearby homes of both sets of grandparents. There they might have a meal, help with chores, or be spoiled as only grandparents can do.

And Emily opened her doors to extended family. When the 1850 census was counted, two of James' younger brothers were living with them. Later, for at least three decades, Emily and James shared their home with his mother, Elizabeth Hill Cockerham, as recorded in the census reports for 1870, 1880, and 1900.

Although during the Civil War, Emily might have shared her husband's pro-Union sentiments—he registered for the U.S. Army—that is unlikely to have prevented her from being kind to the young widows of James' two brothers who joined the Confederate Army, deserted, were arrested, and perished in prison camps. A family-oriented person like Emily might have taken the grieving families gifts of food or helped in other ways.

Additional details about the impact of the Civil War upon the Cockerham family, as well as details from census reports from 1840 to 1900, are found in the biography of James Henry Cockerham. (A fire at the U.S. Department of Commerce building in Washington, DC on 10 January 1921 destroyed the majority of census returns for 1890,⁶ including those for this family.)

Emily and her sister Elizabeth. We have no photos of Emily, but we have one of her sister Elizabeth (1823-1916) when she was 89 years old. In the 1860 Census for Owsley, Kentucky, Emily and Elizabeth were next-door neighbors. James and Emily resided at dwelling #849 with seven children. Next door at #850 were Elizabeth Stamper White and four of her children, along with the sisters' mother, Mary Deaton Stamper. Elizabeth and Mary were widowed, working as farmers, and unable to read or write.

Elizabeth is of interest to Horton family members because, six years after the 1860 census, she married our widowed great great grandfather William S Horton (1812-1895). His first wife, our great great grandmother, Martha Jane Richmond (1812-1865), had died in 1865. William and Elizabeth had one child, William (1868-1869), who died at the age of 19 months. As was mentioned, Elizabeth already had four children with her first husband, Rufus White, who had died in 1853.



One of Elizabeth's children, Amelia White (1849-1937), married Harvey Nelson Horton (1848-1914), a son of her second husband, William Horton. Elizabeth is the older woman seated at right in this five-generation group shot taken in 1912. Clockwise: infant Cecil Tyler (1912-1978), his mother Ethel Lykins Tyler (1894-1995), his grandmother Eudora Horton Lykins (1874-1938), his great great grandmother Elizabeth Stamper White Horton, and his great grandmother Amelia White Horton.

Yes, our family tree is more like a wreath. When Elizabeth married William Horton, her daughter Amelia and son-in-law Harvey became married stepsiblings.

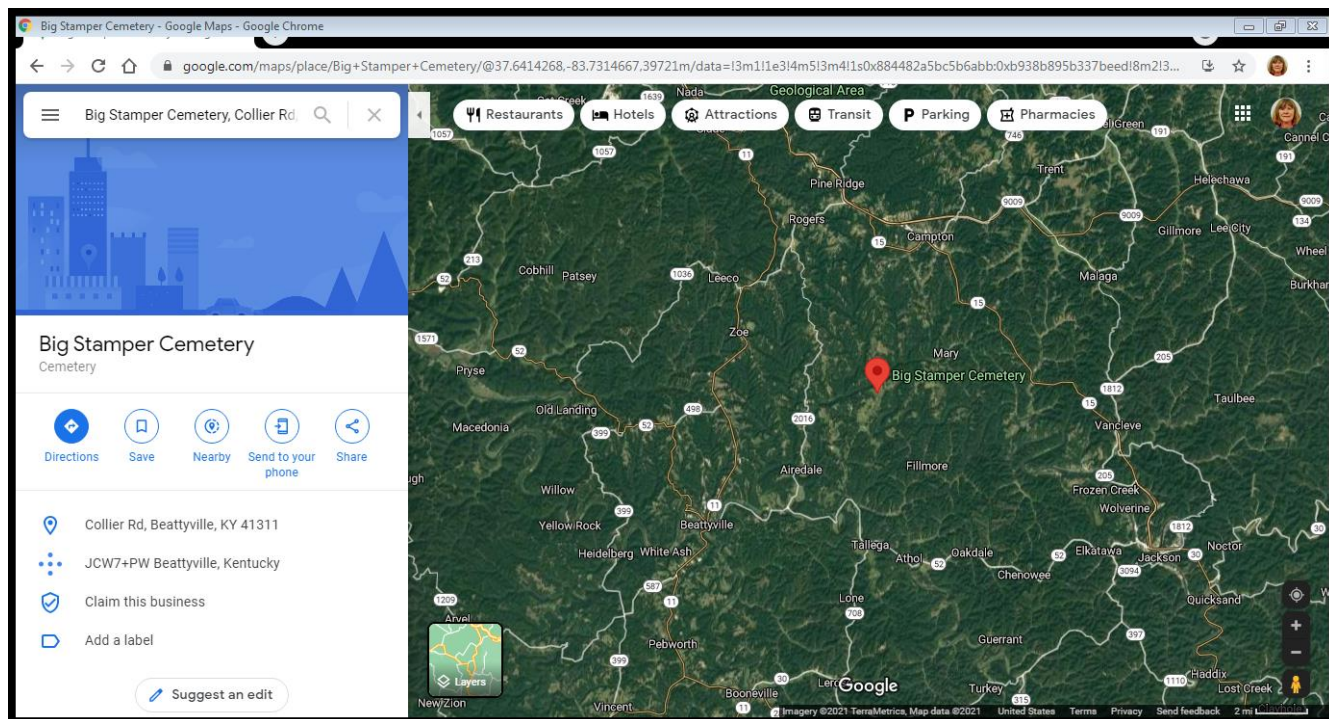
The 1900 census was the last in which Emily and James were enumerated. As of 5 June 1900, in Thomas Precinct No. 3 of Lee County, James, age 78, was still a farmer. He and Emily had been married for 57 years, and Emily reported nine live births, of which eight were living. The child who had died was William, who in 1880 at age 33 had died of typhoid fever.⁷

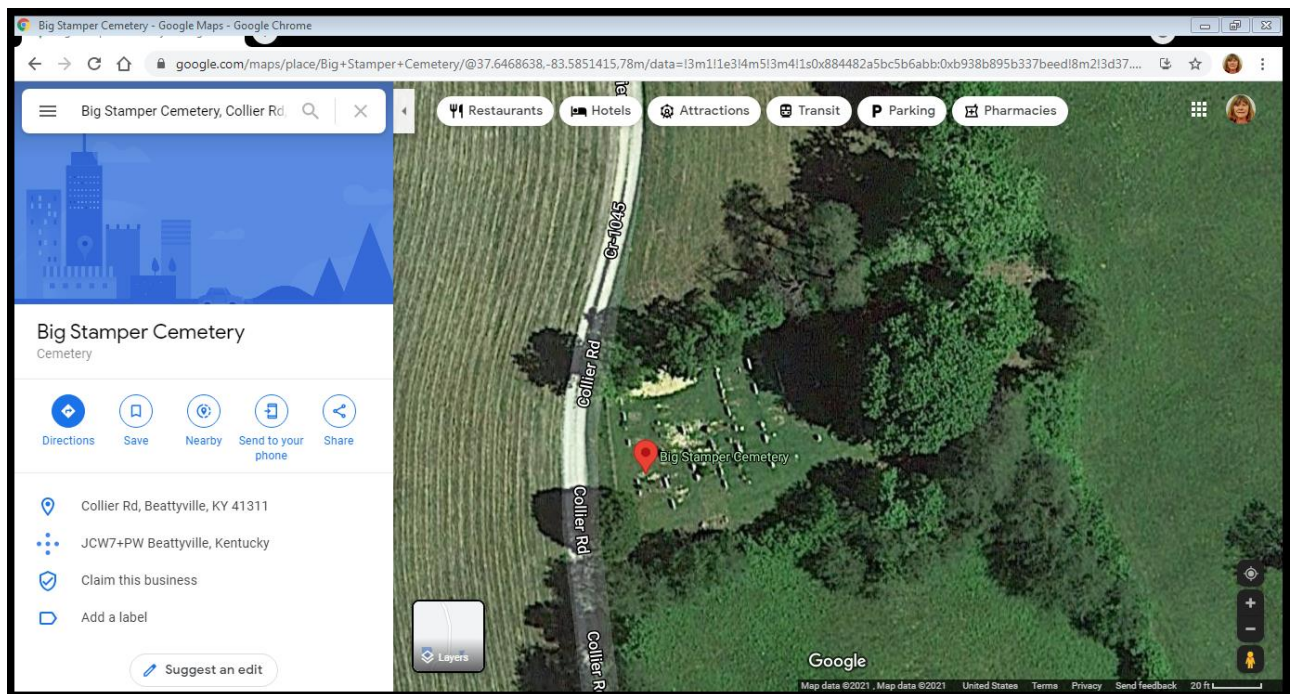
The only child residing with the couple in 1900 was Taylor, age 45, along with his 37-year-old wife of 21 years, Margaret, and their six children ranging from two to 19 years old.

46	Cockerham, James F. Head	W M	Jan 1822	78	1900	Mar 1900	7	8	Kentucky	North Carolina	North Carolina	Farmer
47	Cockerham, Emily Wife	W F	Jan 1824	76	1900	Mar 1900	7	8	Kentucky	North Carolina	North Carolina	
	Cockerham, Taylor Head	W M	Dec 1854	45	1900	Mar 1900	7	8	Kentucky	North Carolina	Kentucky	Farmer
	Margaret Wife	W F	Mar 1863	37	1900	Mar 1900	7	8	Kentucky	Kentucky	Virginia	
	Chester Daughter	W F	Mar 1881	19	1900	Mar 1900	7	8	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky	
	Lorrey Son	W M	Dec 1883	16	1900	Mar 1900	7	8	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky	Farmer
	Courtney Son	W M	Mar 1886	14	1900	Mar 1900	7	8	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky	Farmer
	Johann Son	W M	July 1892	7	1900	Mar 1900	7	8	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky	
	Emma Daughter	W F	Oct 1894	5	1900	Mar 1900	7	8	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky	
	Carlisle Daughter	W F	Feb 1900	2	1900	Mar 1900	7	8	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky	

Death and Burial

Emily died on 5 November 1900 and was buried in the Big Stamper Cemetery, shown on the map below and on the next page. The cemetery is directly south of Campton, the town associated with so much of our recent paternal ancestry. Although the cemetery is in Lee County, it is close to Mary, a hamlet in Wolfe County near the farm in Vortex where our great grandparents Rob McCoun and his wife Syrene Cockerham McCoun lived from the 1890s until the 1940s.





I hope you enjoy reading these biographies as much as I enjoy writing them.

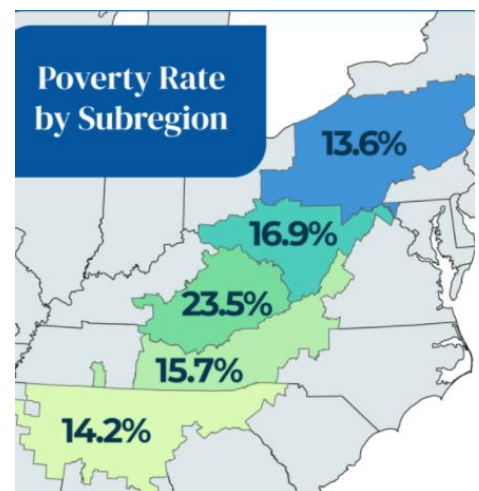
Linda Horton, lrhorton@comcast.net, 13 December 2021

Appendix One: Poverty in Eastern Kentucky

Ancestors in the seventeenth centuries had crossed a broad ocean, and more recent ancestors had traveled from the coastal plains and river valleys of Virginia and North Carolina to the western edge of the Appalachian Mountains of Kentucky. Yet our nineteenth century Cockerham, Stamper, and Puckett ancestors were happy to live close to one another, near small towns like Campton and Beattyville, that were rimmed by mountains, hills, and beautiful natural features like waterfalls and arches. The Civil War brought disruption and sorrow to the region, when the Confederate military wagered, incorrectly, that the region would easily fold under their attacks. Yet the turmoil did not cause our Appalachian ancestors to uproot and move.

Only in the middle decades of the twentieth century did the Great Depression, World War II, and broader demographic trends—coupled with personal tragedies like the 1931 death of our grandfather Herbert Horton—motivate our mountain families to seek better lives in industrial cities in Ohio or Michigan, as well as busy Kentucky cities like Louisville and Lexington. Their departures were part of a mass movement that depleted eastern Kentucky of human capital during the same era in which its timber, oil, and coal resources also declined.

Today the part of Kentucky where our ancestors lived is the poorest of the poverty-stricken Appalachian region.⁸



Appendix Two: Origin of the Stamper Surname

In the U.S. version of the political crime series, *House of Cards*,⁹ a central character named Doug Stamper served as henchman to the evil protagonist, Frank Underwood. Whenever I was watching the show and heard the name “Stamper,” I wondered, “am I related to him?” Then I reminded myself that Doug Stamper was a fictional character, a part played by an actor named Michael Kelly who so thoroughly occupied the role, with such passion and relentless focus, that I had forgotten that the drama was not real life. The original *House of Cards* on BBC also had a central character named Tim Stamper, a Member of Parliament and thus not a precise counterpart to the American Doug.

It is easy to understand why the name Stamper would be given to characters whose role in life is to carry out unpleasant tasks for a ruthless boss. Sure enough, the surname is an occupational name for “one who stamps.”¹⁰



That which was being stamped varied—it might have been coins or grapes—as the photos at left and below suggest. In either case, a degree of force is required to carry out the task.

At left: stamping coins with a flypress.¹¹
Below: stamping grapes.¹²

“All indications point to the fact that the name is entirely English in origin,” with the first record with the surname dating back to the 1273 AD Hundred Rolls for Cambridge County, England, where a John Stamper was listed.¹³ Stamper is a relatively rare surname in England and in the United States.¹⁴ In both the 1881 and 1998 UK census reports, the highest numbers of occurrences of the name were in Carlisle, Cumbria, near the location of our immigrant ancestor’s baptism.



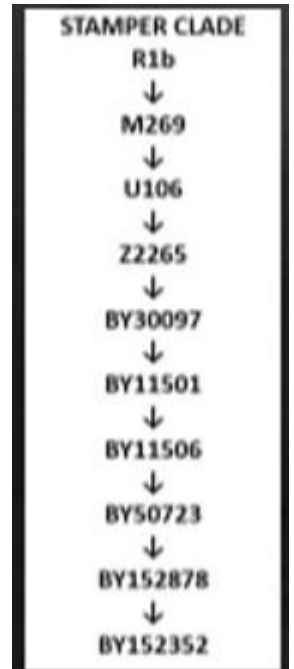
The surname also is found in Germany, where it also is an occupational surname with the same meaning as the English name.

Appendix Three: DNA Evidence About This Branch of the Family

Our Stamper family is fortunate to be related to Jesse Stamper, founder of a Stamper project under the Guild of One-Name Studies¹⁵ and one of the administrators of the FamilyTreeDNA Stamper Surname Project¹⁶. He estimates that over 95 percent of Stampers in the United States descend from John Stamper (1647-1690), who migrated from Cumberland to Virginia in 1666. Because we, like Jesse, descend from John, if any of us meets an American with the surname Stamper, the chances are good that the new acquaintance is kin. Extensive YDNA testing by Stamper-surnamed male cousins has provided us with substantial information about our Stamper patriline.

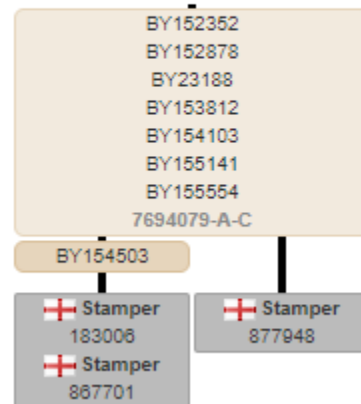
The Stamper males are members of the haplogroup R-M 269, the dominant YDNA haplogroup of Great Britain, Ireland, and western Europe. Additional testing, including FamilyTreeDNA's Big Y test¹⁷ of three male Stamper cousins, has placed the Stamper males in not only one of the major subgroups, RU106, but also in the more recent branches shown on the previous page¹⁸ and below. On the "Big Tree" devised by genetic genealogist Alex Williamson, there is a distinctive Stamper branch arraying the results of the three Big Y test takers with this surname.¹⁹ These men are our cousins.

The Big Y test is a Y-chromosome direct paternal line test designed to explore deep ancestral links on the common paternal tree by examining thousands of known branch markers and also millions of places where there might be new, unknown branch markers. I am grateful that the Stamper males participating in the FamilyTreeDNA Surname Project have tested at the Big Y level. In order for me to sponsor a YDNA test of a Stamper male in my family, I would need to locate at least a fifth cousin, a descendant of Emily Stamper's father, Joel Stamper II, 1788-1852. That appears to be precisely our relationship with Jesse Stamper, the project administrator. He descends from one of Emily's brothers and is thus a fifth cousin.



The Big Tree: R-BY152352

R-U106/S21 > Z2265 > A12135 > BY11513 > FT8426 > BY152352



Appendix Four: Children of Emily Stamper and John Henry Cockerham

1. **John F. Cockerham**; additional details about this family are found in note 20²⁰.

- Born 25 August 1843 in Kentucky.
- Married first Polly Puckett, born about 1845, in about 1864. She died in Lee County in 1877.
- Fathered three known children with Polly before her death: Harrison 1870-1948; Minerva 1865- and Emma 1874-1913.
- Married, second, Margaret "Peggy" Palmer, 1860-1938.
- Fathered two children with Peggy: Nannie (1887-1957) and Elizabeth or Lizzie (1890-1960).
- Died 1925 in Butler County, Ohio.

2. **James Kash Cockerham**, our great great grandfather.

- Born in Owsley County, Kentucky, on 2 June 1846.
- Married Zerilda Manervia Puckett (1837-1921) in 1866.
- With her, had four children: Syrene, 1868-1962; Benjamin Gardner, 1871-1924; Archalaus Congleton "A.C.," 1876-1953; and Harvey Scott, 1881-1915.
- Died in Campton, 30 August 1916.

See biography of James Kash Cockerham by Linda R. Horton; see also biographies of Zerilda Manervia Puckett and Cyrene Cockerham McCoun.

3. **William C Cockerham**.

- Born in Kentucky on 15 July 1848.
- Married Gilly Ann Sebastian (1846-?) on 27 Apr 1870.
- Fathered two children before his death, due to typhoid fever, in 1880: Mary Ellen, 1875-1941, and Sarah A, born in about 1878.
- William died of typhoid fever on 27 May 1880.
- William's uncle, John Miles Cockerham (1833-1924), either married or had a relationship with William's widow, Gilly Ann Sebastian Cockerham. Gilly Ann and John Miles had a son, Vincent (18 October 1882-1947). Nothing more is known of Gilly Ann's circumstances after the 1880 census. The last reference to Gilly Ann was on Vincent's death certificate.

4. **Mary Jane Cockerham**

- Born in Owsley County, Kentucky on 15 April 1852.
- Married John Calloway Sebastian (1851-1914) on 3 September 1870 at the house of James Henry Cockerham in the presence of James Stamper and Logan Stamper.²¹
- With John Sebastian, had nine known children: Emma, 1872-1968; James T, 1875-1935; John H, 1877-; William A, 1880-1950; Asa A, 1883-1952; Carl, 1886-1950; Miles P, 1890-1971; Lillie M, 1892-; Stella A, 1895-1930.
- Lived in Morgan County, Kentucky.
- Hosted the 1891 wedding of her niece Syrene Cockerham to Robert Pepper McCoun.
- Died after the 1930 census.

5. **Zachary Taylor Cockerham**

- Born in Owsley County, 15 Dec 1854.

- First married Margaret Lutes (1863-1918) on 7 Jul 1877 when she was 14 and Zachery 22.
- With Margaret, had seven known children: Dora Ann, 1878-1956; Chester, 1881-1916; Dorsey, 1883-1947; Courtney, 1886-1960; John H, 1892-; Emma, 1894-1926; and Carlie, 1897-1934.
- Margaret died 11 May 1918.
- Married, second, Lorraine Jones Creech in Oct 1918.
- With her, had Laurana Cockerham, 1865-.
- Died in Lee County, Kentucky, 11 August 1940.

6. Gilly Ann Cockerham

- Born in Owsley County, 7 Mar 1857.
- Married Samuel Plummer Kincaid (1857-1884) on 10 May 1877; she was 20 and he 19.
- Had three daughters with Samuel before his death in 1885, Ellice Marcella Kincaid, 1878-1915; Lena Rivers, 1882-1966; and Maude, 1885-1958.
- Died before 1900 census.

7. Malissa Cockerham

- Born in Owsley County, on 9 Jan 1860.
- Married John Crittenden Napier (1843-1919), who had previously been married to Elvira Coldiron (a cousin of the wife of Great Uncle Glenn McCoun) and ran a grocery store in Stanford, Kentucky.
- With John, had five children: Loula, 1880-; Armilda, 1883-; Charles, 1885-Emma, 1893-1979; Mary G, 1899- (who served as an Army nurse in Europe in World War I); and Pearl, 1900-1987.
- Died in Bullitt County, Kentucky on 3 December 1922.

8. Caroline Cockerham

- Born in Owsley County, on 25 Mar 1864.
- Married Alfred Keeton (1858-1946)
- With Alfred, had five children: Brownlow, 1886-; Alonzo, 1887-; Warny, 1890-; Opha, 1893-; Charles L, 1900-1992.
- Died in Magoffin County, Kentucky on 3 December 1941.

9. Lou Ellen Cockerham

- Born 2 April 1867.
- Married Buford Newton Kincaid (1865-) in 1886, as reported in their 1900 census.
- With Buford, had five children: Carrie, 1886-1968; Freddie, 1888-1889; Ofa, 1892-; Osa, 1892-; and Ophelia, 1892-1969.
- Died in Lee County, Kentucky, 24 August 1916.

There were three intra-familial marriages among the Cockerhams, Sebastians, and Kincaids. Two Cockerham brothers, John F and James Kash, married Puckett sisters, Polly and Zerilda Manervia. Two Cockerham siblings, William and Mary Jane married Sebastian siblings, Gilly

Ann and John C Sebastian. Two Cockerham sisters, Lou Ellen and Gilly Ann, married Kincaid brothers, Samuel Plummer Kincaid and Buford Newton Kincaid.

¹ John Stamper, Christening 16 May 1647. "England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975", database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:V5KF-1C6> : 19 September 2020), John Stamper, 1647. The christening took place in the St. Kentigern (St. Mungo) Church, <http://www.crosthwaitechurckeswick.co.uk/history.html>

² <https://www.familytreedna.com/groups/stamper-dna-project/about/background>

³ Id. Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files (NARA microfilm publication M804, 2,670 rolls). Records of the Department of Veterans Affairs. Following Joel Stamper's application are recent letters to descendants including a letter [Rev.& 1812 Wars Section AMF:MLB] dated 10 February 1931 to Mrs. H.E. Hogsett, 1241 Third Avenue, Longmont, Colorado, from E.W. Morgan, Acting Commissioner:

Joel Stamper was born May 17, 1755, in Amherst County, Virginia, and when about twelve years old moved with his father...to Wilkes County, North Carolina. While residing in Wilkes County, North Carolina, he enlisted and served with the North Carolina troops, as follows: three months in Captain Jesse Walton's company; a little later, two months in same company; again, three weeks in same company; three months under Colonel Campbell, guarding the prisoners taken at the battle of Kings Mountain; and two short tours against the Tories under John Morgan, no specific dates of service given. He was allowed pension on the application executed February 4, 1833, at which time he was living in Wilkes County, North Carolina.

⁴ <https://www.familytreedna.com/groups/stamper-dna-project/about/background>

⁵ Hollon, Clay, *Early Families in Wolfe County, in Early and Modern History: Wolfe County, Kentucky, 1860-1957*, compiled by the Wolfe County Woman's Club, Campton, Kentucky 1957; reprinted in 2019 by the Commonwealth Book Company; at page 59.

⁶ https://www.census.gov/history/www/homepage_archive/2021/january_2021.html#:~:text=A%20January%2010%2C%201921%20fire,in%20many%20families'%20genealogical%20record.

⁷ Federal Mortality Schedule 1880 Precinct 7, 8, Wolfe, Kentucky, Enumeration District 116.

⁸ Appalachian Regional Commission. <https://www.arc.gov/income-and-poverty-in-appalachia/>

⁹ The U.S. series on Netflix, *House of Cards* <https://www.netflix.com/title/70178217> was based upon a BBC series with the same name. <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0098825/> Both were based on a 1990 novel, also called *House of Cards*, which was written by Michael Dobbs. Dobbs was a senior official in the Conservative Party. https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0229645/bio?ref=nm_ov_bio_sm The BBC version had a character named Tim Stamper, a character who was as a Member of Parliament rather than the central character's chief of staff was not a counterpart to the U.S. version's Doug Stamper. The closest thing to Doug Stamper in the BBC version is a character named Corder. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_House_of_Cards_trilogy_characters

¹⁰ <https://www.familytreedna.com/groups/stamper-dna-project/about/background>

¹¹ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S_It4ZnfgCw

¹² <https://www.dreamstime.com/photos-images/grape-stomping.html>

¹³ <https://www.familytreedna.com/groups/stamper-dna-project/about/background> The administrator of the FamilyTreeDNA surname project has founded a study with the Guild of One-Name Studies with the purpose of identifying and tracing all Stamper families throughout the world. <https://one-name.org/Results>

¹⁴ <https://one-name.org/Results>

¹⁵ Id.

¹⁶ <https://www.familytreedna.com/groups/stamper-dna-project/about/background>

¹⁷ <https://learn.familytreedna.com/y-dna-testing/big-y/big-y/>

¹⁸ <https://www.familytreedna.com/groups/stamper-dna-project/about/background>

¹⁹ <https://www.ytree.net/DisplayTree.php?blockID=6578>

²⁰ The following account of this family was prepared by Bella Gulden on 15 March 2018:

THE JOHN F AND POLLY PUCKETT FAMILY

John F Cockerham is the son of James H and Emily Stamper Cockerham. John is one of 9 known children born to James and Emily. John's siblings are: 1) James K 1844-1916; 2) William 1848-1880; 3) Mary Jane 1852-; 4) Zachery Taylor 1854-1940; 5) Gilly Ann 1857-; 6) Malissa 1860-1922; 7) Caroline 1864-; and 8) Lou Ellen 1867-1916.

John F 1843-1925 marries Polly Puckett (1845-) circa 1864. John's brother, James K marries Polly's sister, Minerva Puckett. John's sisters, Gilly Ann and Lou Ellen marry Kincaid brothers, Samuel Plummer Kincaid, and Buford Kincaid.

John and Polly's married life likely started in Owsley County. By the 1870 census the couple is living in precinct 3, Wolfe County with their children: Emily Minerva 5 and Harrison 1. John is a farmer.

Notable Neighbors in 1870: John and Polly reside at # 229. Uncle Martin and Aunt Lydia and their children reside #235. John's brother, James K and Zerilda (Puckett) and their daughter, Serena resided at #271. John's brother, William and his wife, Gilly Ann (Sebastian) reside at #272. William and Gilly Ann were married in April.

1880 Census: Lee, Kentucky

Polly died before the 1880 census. John is 36, widowed with his 3 children: Emily Minerva 15; Harrison 10; Emmaline 6. In the census Emmaline is reported as "Emarine". John continues to farm.

John and Margaret Palmer Cockerham Family: John and Margaret "Peggy" Palmer (1860-1938) marry in 1884. Their marriage year is as reported in the census for 1900 and 1910. Margaret is about 24 when she marries John who is about 41. They have two children: Nannie Lee (1887-1957) and Elizabeth "Lizzie" (1890-1960).

1900 Census Thomas, Lee, Kentucky: Family #46: John 56 and Margaret 40 are living in Thomas, Lee, KY with their daughters, Nannie 13 and Lizzie 9. They have been married 16 years and Margaret is reported to be the mother of 2 with 2 surviving. Also living with the family is Harrison 28 (he is John and Polly's son) and his wife, Emma (Duesing) 19. Harrison's occupation is a preacher. They have no children. Some of their neighbors include his brother Zachery Taylor and his wife, Margaret (Lutes) who reside next door at #47. John's brother-in

law, Buford Kincaid and his sister, Lou Ellen reside at #124. Samuel and Buford Kincaid's parents, Socrates and Ann (Tremble) Kincaid reside at #28

1910 Census St. Helens, Lee, Kentucky: John 67 and Margaret 50 along with their daughter, Elizabeth 19, were living in St. Helens, Lee, KY. John and Margaret have been married for 26 years and Margaret is the mother of 2 children with 2 surviving. John's nephew, Courtney and his wife, Emma (Davis) Cockerham and their children; Nellie and James H reside at #175. Courtney's parents are Zachery Taylor and Margaret Ann Lutes.

Family #69 is James and Letha Frances (King) Cockerham and their children: Elbert 17; Edger 17; Arvil 13; Corbit 11; Ethel 9; Ann L 8; May D 6; and Burnard 2. James (1870) is the son of Martin and Lydia King Cockerham. James and Letha are maternal first cousins. James H (1822) and Martin Cockerham are brothers. James H (1870) is the son of Martin and Lydia King Cockerham. Lydia King's brother, Addison is Letha's father.

1920 Census: John and Margaret moved from Kentucky to Ohio after the 1910 census. Living with John 76 and Margaret 57 is their daughter, Elizabeth 28. Elizabeth never marries. John and Margaret's grandson, Harry Spencer 14 is also living with the family. Harry's father, Henry died in 1919. His mother, Emmaline Cockerham Spencer died in 1913. John F and Margaret's daughter, Nina 30 and her husband, Eugene H Guignon 57 are also living with the family. Nina and Eugene never have children.

Find A Grave, memorial 86327061, photos provided by Charlene Roark of John and Margaret's headstones. John F and Margaret are buried in Woodside Cemetery in Middletown, Butler County, Ohio. Margaret died in 1938.

John F Cockerham and Polly Puckett Cockerham were the grandparents of only 2 known grandchildren. Their daughter Emmaline Cockerham Spencer had 2 children, Leonard and Harry Spencer. Harry Spencer lived with his grandparents after his father's death in 1919. Harry's mother, Emmaline Cockerham Spencer died in 1913. Their daughter, Emily Minerva had no known children and their son, Harrison had no known children. John F and Margaret Palmer Cockerham children, Nina and Elizabeth did not have children.

²¹ Marriage Book 1 pages 30-31. <http://www.genealogytrails.com/ken/lee/marriagecertificates.html>