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DATE: 21 January 2024  
REPORT TO: File  
SUBJECT: **Migration to Arkansas**

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## Objective

The objective of this project is to determine the timeline when the sons of Willis Ralls, William B. and Nathaniel, presumed son Charles M. Ralls and his daughter Sarah Ralls who married Levi Cook departed Obion County, Tennessee. William B. and Nathaniel Ralls, and Levi Cook appear on the 1840 U.S. census, Obion County, Tennessee. Subsequently William B. and Nathaniel Ralls appear on the 1850 U.S. census, Sevier County, Arkansas, along with Charles. Levi Cook and his family appear on the 1850 U.S. census in Stoddard County, Missouri. To the extent possible, determine when these families left Obion County, if they traveled with others (FAN's) and why they relocated.

## Background Information

When Willis Ralls, a chain carrier for William Owen's surveys in 1806, arrived in Hopkins County, Kentucky, this land had been open to settlement in 1795 by an "ACT for the relief of the Settlers on the south side of Green River".<sup>1</sup> On October 19, 1818, Andrew Jackson and former Kentucky Governor Isaac Shelby negotiated with the Chickasaw tribe the purchase of the land bounded by the Mississippi River to the west, Ohio River to the north, Tennessee River to the east or the "land between the rivers". The area located in current day Kentucky is commonly referred to as the Jackson Purchase.<sup>2</sup> Obion, Weakley and Henry counties, Tennessee would be in the Tennessee portion of the purchase.

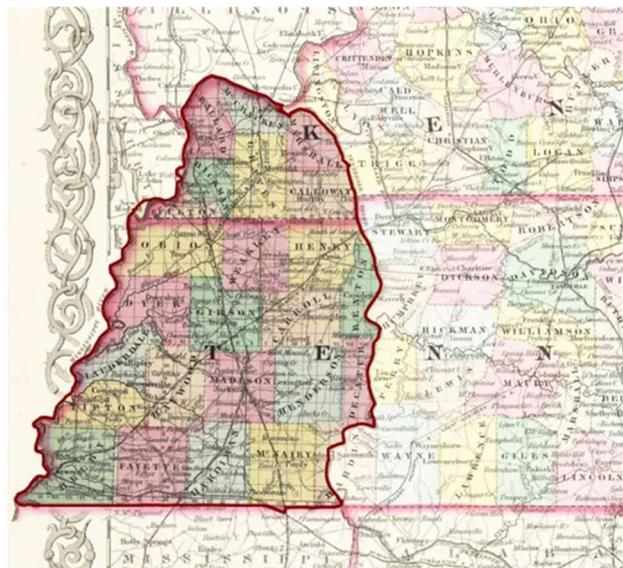
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<sup>1</sup> Survey No. 5341, William Owen, 150 acres, 11 November 1806; South of the Green River Series, Non-Military Registers and Land Records; Kentucky Land Office, Kentucky Department of Libraries and Archives, Public Records Division, Frankfort, KY; and William Littell, *The Statute Law of Kentucky: 1792-1797* (United States: William Hunter, 1809), pp. 349-352; digital images, *Google Books* (<http://books.Google.com> : accessed 20 December 2023).

<sup>2</sup> Fred S. Rolater, "Treaties", Tennessee Historical Society, *Tennessee Encyclopedia* (<http://tennesseeencyclopedia.net/entries/treaties/> : accessed 20 December 2023), 8 October 2017.

Figure 1

**Jackson Purchase**



Source: Scott Williams, "West Tennessee and the Jackson Purchase of 1818," *The Stories of My Ancestors Who Settled Haywood County, Tennessee*, 7 August 2018 (<https://haywoodcountyline.com/west-tennessee-and-the-jackson-purchase-of-1818/> : accessed 21 December 2023).

meeting William Owen at William's house. In his autobiography "A Narrative of the Life of David Crockett, of the State of Tennessee", he indicates meeting Mr. Owen's and his wife at Mr. Owen's residence where Mud Creek joins the South Fork of the Obion Fork. This meeting occurred when Davey Crockett went to Obion County looking for land to relocate his family in 1821.<sup>4</sup> Surely the exploits of Crocket and the newly opened land for settlement was enticing for the Ralls siblings.

With new land opened for settlement, Willis Ralls left Livingston County, Kentucky and arrived in Obion County, Tennessee by 20 July 1822 as evidence of Willis Rawls, a subscribing witness to the conveyance of 150 acres (being part of a 1,000-acre grant to Alexander McKee) lying on Grove Creek from John McKee to Wyatt Bettis.<sup>3</sup>

With the Louisiana Purchase in 1803, the current day Arkansas became a territory of the United States. First, as part of the Missouri Territory from 4 June 1812 to 4 July 1819, and then as the Arkansas Territory from 4 July 1819 to 15 June 15 1836.

Willis was residing in Obion County, Tennessee when Arkansas became a territory in 1819 and a state in 1836. In 1836, Texas wins independence from Mexico. We know David Crocket resided in Obion County, Tennessee prior to departing to Texas to fight at the Alamo. David Crocket discusses

<sup>3</sup> Deeds and trust deeds, 1824-1900; index to deeds, 1824-1904, digital images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org> : 30 July 2023), digital film 1007328, Deeds and trust deeds, v. A1-B1 1824-1834, Book A1, pages 11-12, images 11-12 of 366; citing *Deeds and trust deeds, 1824-1900; index to deeds, 1824-1904*, Obion County (Tennessee). Trustee (Main Author), (Nashville, Tennessee : Tennessee State Library and Archives), 1976.

<sup>4</sup> David Crockett, *A Narrative of the Life of David Crockett, of the State of Tennessee* (Philadelphia: E. L. Carey and A. Hart, 1834), pp. 147-160.

Willis Ralls, along with sons William B. and Nathaniel Ralls are found on the 1840 U.S. census, Obion County, Tennessee.<sup>5</sup> Willis' daughter, Sarah Ralls who married Levi Cook are also residing in Obion County when the 1840 U.S. census was enumerated.<sup>6</sup> Presumed son Charles M. Ralls is not enumerated on the 1840 U.S. census for Obion County. However, Charles can be found on 1835, 1838-1839, 1841-1842 Obion County tax rolls.<sup>7</sup> Willis' presumed children are Susannah and Margaret Ralls are unaccounted. Susannah married Jesse Cook, 13 July 1815, Hopkins County, Kentucky.<sup>8</sup> Her sister Margaret married a Jesse Cook on 26 December 1832, Obion County, Tennessee.<sup>9</sup> It is not known if Susannah had died and Margaret married her sister's widower, Jesse Cook.

Willis died between 1 October and 31 December 1849, Obion County, Tennessee.<sup>10</sup> Prior to Willis' death it appears that his children left Obion County, Tennessee. When did they leave? Table 1 contains Willis Ralls and his children's households on the 1840 U.S. census, Obion County, Tennessee. In Willis' household there is a female 20 to 30 years old, a male between 5 and 10 years old, and a male and female under 5 years old. These ages are consistent with children from the union of Jesse Cook and Margaret Ralls in 1832. If Margaret was 21 at the

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<sup>5</sup> 1840 U. S. census, Obion County, Tennessee, population schedule, p. 135 (stamped), line 9, Willis Rolls; digital image, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org> : 18 July 2023), image 23 of 55; citing NARA microfilm publication M704, roll 529.; 1840 U. S. census, Obion County, Tennessee, population schedule, p. 135 (Stamped), line 10, Wm B. Rolls; digital image, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org> : 18 July 2023), image 23 of 55; citing NARA microfilm publication M704, roll 529.; 1840 U. S. census, Obion County, Tennessee, population schedule, p. 135 (Stamped), line 8, Nathaniel Rolls; digital image, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org> : 18 July 2023), image 23 of 55; citing NARA microfilm publication M704, roll 529.

<sup>6</sup> "Marriage Register, Volume A-C, 1822-1879" entry for Levi Cook and Sarah Rawls, 1 January 1824, (unpaginated), digital image 9 of 562, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-89SS-MR7?> : 24 Dec 2023); citing FHL film 321,386, Image Group Number 5,552,774; and 1840 U. S. census, Obion County, Tennessee, population schedule, p. 129 (Stamped), line 12, Levi Cook; digital image, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org> : 18 July 2023), image 7 of 55; citing NARA microfilm publication M704, roll 529.

<sup>7</sup> Tax books, 1825-1885, digital images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org> : 25 July 2023), digital film 1007355, 1835 Tax Roll, entry for Charles Rolls, image 131 of 801; citing *Tax books 1825-1842, 1849-1854, 1860*, Obion County (Tennessee). Trustee (Main Author), (Nashville, Tennessee : Tennessee State Library and Archives), 1976.

<sup>8</sup> "Marriage licenses 1806-1826," Marriage License, entry for Jesse Cook and Susannah Rolls, 12 July 1815, digital images 81 and 82 of 552, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org> : 8 October 2023); citing *Marriage records, 1806-1912; indexes, 1807-1985*, Hopkins County, Kentucky, Clerk of the County Court, Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, 1968, 1994; FHL microfilm 554,916.

<sup>9</sup> Gary, Grace Dietzel and Carolyn West Stricklin, compiler, *Obion County, Tennessee, marriage records, 1824-1877* (Union City, Tennessee: Daughters of the American Revolution. Reelfoot Chapter, 1978), p. 14, entry for Jesse Cook marriage to Margaret Ralls; citing *Obion County, Tennessee, marriage records, 1824-1877*, online publication, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/library/books/records/item/738466-obion-county-tennessee-marriage-records-1824-1877> : accessed 17 December 2023); citing FHL microfilm number 6,088,084.

<sup>10</sup> Obion County, Tennessee, County Court minutes, 1845-1849, pp. 410-12, January Session, Monday, 1st, 1849; "Minutes 1836-1849," digital images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QHV-D3CH-C974-9?> : accessed 25 September 2022), images 528-529 of 607; citing FSL microfilm 1,007,245, Image Group Number (DGS) 8,656,552.

time of her marriage, she would have been born prior to 1811. A birth in 1811 would place her in the 20- to 30-year-old category. This assumes Jesse Cook has died. Children from the Jesse Cook and Susannah Ralls marriage would presumably be older by 1840.

TABLE 1. 1840 U.S. census, Obion County, Tennessee and Pike County, Arkansas

Date and Locality	Analysis/Comments
1840, Obion County, Tennessee <sup>a</sup>	Willis Rolls household, 60 – 70, 1 Female 70 – 80, 1 female 20 – 30, 1 Male 5 – 10, 1 Male under 5, 1 Female under 5
1840, Obion County, Tennessee <sup>b</sup>	Wm B. Rolls household, 30 – 39 1 Female 30 – 40 [spouse Mary Ann "Polly" Conner] 1 Male under 5 [William N.] 2 Males 5 – 10 [John N.] [Willis] 1 Female < 5 [Mary] 2 Female 10 – 15 [Sarah "Sallie"] [Martha Elizabeth]
1840, Obion County, Tennessee <sup>c</sup>	Nathaniel Rolls household, 30 – 39 1 Female 20 – 29 [spouse Mary "Polly" Garrett, b. 1815] 1 Male under 5 [Francis Everett, b. 1839] 1 Female under 5 [Sarah, b. 1836] 1 Female 5 – 9 [Ellender Priscilla, b. 1833]
1840, Obion County, Tennessee <sup>d</sup>	Levi Cook household, 30 – 39 1 Female, 30 – 39 [Sarah] 1 Male, 15 – 20 1 Male, 10 – 15 3 Males, 5 – 10 2 Males, under 5 [Stephen and Granville] 1 Female under 5 [Christina]
1840, Pike County, Arkansas <sup>e</sup>	Isom Conner, household, 40–50 1 Female, 40–50 [Mary] 1 Female, 10–15 1 Female, 5–10

a. 1840 U. S. census, Obion County, Tennessee, population schedule, p. 135 (stamped), line 9, Willis Rolls; digital image, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33SQ-GYTR-3S4J?> : 18 July 2023), image 23 of 55; citing NARA microfilm publication M704, roll 529. (**Document 1**)  
b. 1840 U.S. census, Obion County, Tennessee, pop. sch., p. 135, line 10, Wm B. Rolls.  
c. 1840 U.S. census, Obion County, Tennessee, pop. sch., p. 135, line 8, Nathaniel Rolls.  
d. 1840 U. S. census, Obion County, Tennessee, population schedule, p. 129 (Stamped), line 12, Levi Cook; digital image, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33SQ-GYTR-3S91?> : 18 July 2023), image 7 of 55; citing NARA microfilm publication M704, roll 529. (**Document 2**)  
e. 1840 U. S. census, Pike County, Arkansas, population schedule, p. 67 (stamped opposite page), line 30, Isom Conner; digital image, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33S7-9YBH-72S?> : 30 December 2023), image 1 of 3; citing NARA microfilm publication M704, roll 19. (**Document 3**)

Table 2 contains the 1850 U.S. census for Willis' children. William B., Nathaniel and Charles have relocated to Sevier County, Arkansas and Levi and Sarah Cook relocated to Stoddard County, Missouri. To-date Margaret Ralls Cook has not been located.

TABLE 2. 1850 U.S. census, Sevier County, Arkansas and Stoddard County, Missouri

Date and Locality	Analysis/Comments
1850, Madison Township, Sevier County, Arkansas <sup>a</sup>	Nathaniel Ralls, 41, farmer, born KY Mary, 35, spouse, born TN Sarah, 15, born IL Francis, 12, born TN John, 10, born TN Harriet, 8, born KY Elizabeth, 3, born AR; William P., 1, born AR
1850, Madison Township, Sevier County, Arkansas <sup>b</sup>	William Ralls, 44, farmer, born SC Mary, 40, spouse, born KY Willis, 17, born TN Mary, 13, born TN William, 11, born TN Isam, 9, born TN Elizabeth, 7, born AR James, 5, born AR Benjamin, 3, born AR Eavy, 3/12, born AR
1850, Madison Township, Sevier County, Arkansas <sup>c</sup>	Charles Ralls, 35, farmer, born KY Eavy, spouse, 35, born TN
1850, Madison Township, Sevier County, Arkansas <sup>d</sup>	Isom Conner, 58, farmer, born SC Mary, 50, born VA Nancy, 16, born AR Matilda, age 13, born AR Ephraim, age 10, born AR
1850, Stoddard County, Missouri <sup>e</sup>	Levi Cook, 50, farmer, born NC Sarah, 45, spouse, born SC Willis, 21, farmer, born TN Margarett, 17, born TN Nathaniel, 15, born TN Stephen, 14, born TN Granville, 12, born TN Christmas, 10, born TN Levi, 9, born TN Ruth, 7, born TN Elizabeth, 5, born TN
a. 1850 U.S. census, Sevier County, Arkansas, population schedule, Madison Township, p. 212 (printed), p. 423 (handwritten), dwelling 350, family 350, Nathaniel Ralls household; digital image, <i>FamilySearch</i> ( <a href="https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HT-64JD-64?">https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HT-64JD-64?</a> : accessed 24 November 2023); image 9 of 9, citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 30. ( <b>Document 4</b> )	
b. 1850 U.S. census, Sevier County, Arkansas, pop. sch., p. 212 (printed), p. 98 (handwritten), dwell. 348, William Ralls household.	
c. 1850 U.S. census, Sevier County, Arkansas, pop. sch., p. 212 (printed), p. 98 (handwritten), dwell. 349, Charles Ralls household.	

d. 1850 U.S. census, Sevier County, Arkansas, population schedule, Mountain Township, sh. 209 (printed), p. 416 (handwritten), dwelling 301, family 301, Isom Conner household; digital image, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HT-64JX-G2?> : accessed 30 December 2023); image 1 of 9, citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 30. **(Document 5)**  
e. 1850 U.S. census, Stoddard County, Missouri, population schedule, Pike Township, p. 303 (printed), p. 603 (handwritten), dwelling 705, family 720, Levi Cook household; digital image, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HY-6QK2-WT?> : accessed 12 December 2023); image 23 of 25, citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 420. **(Document 6)**

## Findings/Body of the Report

### Tax Records — Poll Tax

During the nineteenth century most states had personal taxes that covered land, personal property and a poll tax. Since not all residents owned land, poll taxes were used to raise revenue for the county and state governments. Each state implemented varying age ranges and amounts for the Poll Tax.

In Tennessee, each adult free male in a household between the ages of twenty-one and fifty paid a poll tax of 12 ½ cents.<sup>11</sup> A poll tax not to exceed one dollar was included in the State of Arkansas' first state constitution, adopted in 1836. The poll tax was applied to male adults between the ages of twenty-one and sixty. These tax records can help develop a robust timeline for Willis' children departure, William B. Ralls, Nathaniel Ralls, Charles M. Ralls and Sarah Ralls wife of Levi Cook from Obion County, Tennessee and the arrival to southwest Arkansas and Missouri.<sup>12</sup>

### Isom Conner, Jr.

William B. Ralls' father-in-law Isom Conner, Jr. appears to be the first of Willis Ralls' extended family to move from Obion County, Tennessee to Pike County, Arkansas.<sup>13</sup> A search of the Pike County, Arkansas tax rolls for "1832-1843" and "1844-1848, 1850-1853, 1855-1859, 1861, 1866-1867" resulted in entries for Isham Conner, Jr. for 1839, 1840 and 1841. Examining the Sevier County, Arkansas tax rolls for "1837-1838, 1846, 1849-1855", Isom is found on the 1846, 1849, 1850, 1851, 1852, 1853, 1854 and 1855 tax rolls. Of the surviving tax rolls, Isom is

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<sup>11</sup> Tennessee Secretary of State, "Tennessee Taxation Information and Chart, 1796-1899," *County and Municipal Records at the Library & Archives* (<https://sos.tn.gov/tsla/guides/county-and-municipal-records-at-the-library-archives#1796> : accessed 11 January 2024).

<sup>12</sup> John William Graves, "Poll Tax," *Encyclopedia of Arkansas* (<https://encyclopediaofarkansas.net/entries/poll-tax-5045/> : accessed 11 January 2024).

<sup>13</sup> 1840 U. S. census, Pike County, Arkansas, population schedule, p. 67 (stamped opposite page), line 30, Isom Conner; digital image, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33S7-9YBH-72S?> : 30 December 2023), image 684 of 1159; citing NARA microfilm publication M704, roll 19.

missing on the 1842–1845 Pike County tax rolls. Unfortunately, the tax rolls for Sevier County during this time-period are missing. Isom Conner, Jr.'s timeline is illustrated in Table 3.

TABLE 3. Isom Conner, Jr. timeline 1839-1850

Date and Locality	Source
1839 May 16, AR, Pike County	Pike County, Arkansas, 1839 Tax List, unpaginated entries arranged chronologically, entry for Isham Canner, 16 May 1839; "Arkansas county tax records Pike County, 1832-1841," digital images, <i>FamilySearch</i> ( <a href="https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSTN-BCCS?">https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSTN-BCCS?</a> : accessed 30 December 2023), image 803 of 852; citing FSL microfilm 2,321,482, Image Group Number (DGS) 8,339,773.
1840 Jun 1, AR, Pike County	1840 U. S. census, Pike County, Arkansas, population schedule, p. 67 (stamped opposite page), line 30, Isom Conner; digital image, <i>FamilySearch</i> ( <a href="https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33S7-9YBH-72S?">https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33S7-9YBH-72S?</a> : 30 December 2023), image 684 of 1159; citing NARA microfilm publication M704, roll 19.
1840 May 1, AR, Pike County	Pike Co., AR, 1840 Tax List, p. 2, entry for Isham Conner.
1841 Jun 19, AR, Pike County	Pike Co., AR, 1841 Tax List, unpaginated entries arranged chronologically, entry for Isom Conner.
1846 Jun 13, AR, Sevier County	Sevier County, Arkansas, 1846 Tax List, unpaginated entries arranged chronologically, entry for Isham Conner, 13 June 1846; "Arkansas county tax records Sevier County, 1837-1838, 1846, 1849-1855," digital images, <i>FamilySearch</i> ( <a href="https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSKW-99BT-3?">https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSKW-99BT-3?</a> : accessed 31 December 2023), image 508 of 752; citing FSL microfilm 2,363,101, Image Group Number (DGS) 8,140,598.
1849 May 22, AR, Sevier County	Sevier Co., AR, 1849 Tax List, p. 5, entry for Isham Conner
1850 Jun 1, AR, Sevier County	Sevier Co., AR, 1850 Tax List, unpaginated entries arranged chronologically, entry for Isham Conner.
1850 Nov 18, AR, Sevier County, Madison Twp.	1850 U.S. census, Sevier County, Arkansas, population schedule, Mountain Township, p. 416 (handwritten), dwelling 301, family 301, Isom Conner household; digital image, <i>FamilySearch</i> ( <a href="https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HT-64JX-G2?">https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HT-64JX-G2?</a> : accessed 30 December 2023); image 1 of 9, citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 30.

## William B. Ralls

Between 1842–1843, William B. Ralls relocated from Obion County, Tennessee to Sevier County, Arkansas. Since the Sevier County Arkansas tax rolls between 1842–1845 are missing, it cannot be confirmed that William B. was in Sevier County until 1846. According to the 1850 U.S. census for Sevier County, Arkansas, William B. Ralls' child Elizabeth is identified as being born in Arkansas. Table 4 illustrates William B. Ralls timeline.

TABLE 4. William B. Ralls timeline 1840–1850

Date and Locality	Source
1840 Jun 1, TN, Obion County	1840 U. S. census, Obion County, Tennessee, population schedule, p. 135 (Stamped), line 10, Wm B. Rolls; digital image, <i>FamilySearch</i> ( <a href="https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33SQ-GYTR-3S4J?i=18">https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33SQ-GYTR-3S4J?i=18</a> July 2023), image 23 of 55; citing NARA microfilm publication M704, roll 529.
1840, TN, Obion County, District 1	Obion County, Tennessee, 1840 Tax List, District 1, unpaginated entries arranged chronologically, entry for Wm. B. Rolls, 18 March 1840; "Tax books 1825-1842, 1849-1854, 1860," digital images, <i>FamilySearch</i> ( <a href="https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSHM-9Y1B?i=1,007,355">https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSHM-9Y1B?i=1,007,355</a> ; Image Group Number (DGS) 7,903,247.
1841, TN, Obion County, District 1	Obion Co., TN, 1841 Tax List, District 1, unpaginated entries arranged chronologically, entry for William B. Rolls.
1841, TN, [Birth of child, Isham W. Ralls]	1850 U.S. census, Sevier County, Arkansas, population schedule, Madison Township, p. 212 (printed), p. 423 (handwritten), dwelling 348, family 348, Isham W. Ralls listed in William Ralls household; digital image, <i>FamilySearch</i> ( <a href="https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HT-64JD-64?i=1">https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HT-64JD-64?i=1</a> ; accessed 24 November 2023); image 9 of 9, citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 30.
1842, TN, Obion County, District 1	Obion Co., TN, 1842 Tax List, District 1, unpaginated entries arranged chronologically, entry for Wm. B. Rolls
1843, AR, [Birth of child, Elizabeth Ralls]	1850 U.S. census, Sevier County, Arkansas, pop. sch., p. 212 (printed), p. 423 (handwritten), dwell. 348, Elizabeth Ralls listed in William Ralls household.
1846, AR, [Birth of child, James Ralls]	1850 U.S. census, Sevier County, Arkansas, pop. sch., p. 212 (printed), p. 423 (handwritten), dwell. 348, James Ralls listed in William Ralls household.
1847, AR, [Birth of child, Benjamin Franklin Ralls]	1850 U.S. census, Sevier County, Arkansas, pop. sch., p. 212 (printed), p. 423 (handwritten), dwell. 348, Benjamin Franklin Ralls listed in William Ralls household.
1849, AR, Sevier County	Sevier Co., AR, 1849 Tax List, p. 15, entry for William Rolls.
1850 Mar, AR, Birth of child, Eavy Ralls	1850 U.S. census, Sevier County, Arkansas, pop. sch., p. 212 (printed), p. 423 (handwritten), dwell. 348, Eavy Ralls listed in William Ralls household.
1850 Jun 1, AR, Sevier County	Sevier Co., AR, 1850 Tax List, unpaginated entries arranged chronologically, entry for William B. Ralls.
1850 Nov 18, AR, Sevier County, Madison Twp.	1850 U.S. census, Sevier County, Arkansas, pop. sch., p. 212 (printed), p. 423 (handwritten), dwell. 348, William Ralls household.

## Nathaniel Ralls

Nathaniel Ralls also leaves Obion County, Tennessee during the 1842–1843 time-period.

TABLE 5. Nathaniel Ralls timeline 1840–1850

Date and Locality	Source
1840 Jun 1, TN, Obion County	1840 U. S. census, Obion County, Tennessee, population schedule, p. 135 (Stamped), line 8, Nathaniel Rolls; digital image, <i>FamilySearch</i> ( <a href="https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33SQ-GYTR-3S4J?i=18">https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33SQ-GYTR-3S4J?i=18</a> July 2023), image 23 of 55; citing NARA microfilm publication M704, roll 529.
1840, TN, Obion County, District 1	Obion County, Tennessee, 1840 Tax List, District 1, unpaginated entries arranged chronologically, entry for Nathaniel Rolls, 18 March 1840; "Tax books 1825-1842, 1849-1854, 1860," digital images, <i>FamilySearch</i> ( <a href="https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSHM-9Y1B?i=1">https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSHM-9Y1B?i=1</a> : accessed 26 July 2023), image 336 of 801; citing FSL microfilm 1,007,355, Image Group Number (DGS) 7,903,247.
1841 Jan 20, TN, Birth of child, [John H. Ralls]	1850 U.S. census, Sevier County, Arkansas, population schedule, Madison Township, p. 212 (printed), p. 423 (handwritten), dwelling 350, family 350, John Ralls listed in Nathaniel Ralls household; digital image, <i>FamilySearch</i> ( <a href="https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HT-64JD-64?i=1">https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HT-64JD-64?i=1</a> : accessed 24 November 2023); image 9 of 9, citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 30.
1841 Feb 22, TN, Obion County, District 1	Obion Co., TN, 1841 Tax List, District 1, unpaginated entries arranged chronologically, entry for Nathaniel Rolls.
1841 Aug 24, TN, Obion County, Troy [Power of Attorney to brother-in-law]	Gallatin County, Illinois Probate Court, probate case file box 35, F, Francis E. Garrett (1841) Nathaniel Rolls and Mary Rolls, Power of Attorney to Bryant Bozarth; digital images, <i>Family Search</i> ( <a href="https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C95B-K9MW-5?i=1">https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C95B-K9MW-5?i=1</a> : 16 Aug 2023), images 22–25 of 423; citing FSL microfilm 977,848, Image Group Number (DGS) 7,654,182.
1843, KY, [Birth of child, Harriett Ralls]	1850 U.S. census, Sevier County, Arkansas, pop. sch., p. 212 (printed), p. 423 (handwritten), dwell. 350, Harriett Ralls listed in Nathaniel Ralls household
1847, AR, [Birth of child, Elizabeth Ralls]	1850 U.S. census, Sevier County, Arkansas, pop. sch., p. 212 (printed), p. 423 (handwritten), dwell. 350, Elizabeth Ralls listed in Nathaniel Ralls household
1849, AR, [Birth of child, William Peter Ralls]	1850 U.S. census, Sevier County, Arkansas, pop. sch., p. 212 (printed), p. 423 (handwritten), dwell. 350, William Peter Ralls listed in Nathaniel Ralls household
1850 Nov 18, AR, Sevier County, Madison Twp.	1850 U.S. census, Sevier County, Arkansas, pop. sch., p. 212 (printed), p. 423 (handwritten), dwell. 350, Nathaniel Ralls household.

Nathaniel did not go directly to Sevier County, Arkansas joining his brother William B. Ralls. Nathaniel travels to Carroll County, Kentucky before joining his brother William B. Ralls in 1847.<sup>14</sup> Mary Ralls on her affidavit in her application for a Widow's pension due to her husband Nathaniel Ralls' service in the Black Hawk Indian War states that the family resided in Carroll County, Kentucky between their residence in Obion County, Tennessee, and Arkansas. In addition, on the 1850 U.S. census for Sevier County, Arkansas, Harriett the daughter of Nathaniel and Mary was born in Kentucky.

### Charles M. Ralls

Charles M. Ralls has not been located on the 1840 U.S. census to-date, but he is listed on the 1839 and 1841–1842 Obion County, Tennessee tax rolls indicating Charles was living in Obion County, Tennessee. Charles Appears on the 1849 Sevier County, Arkansas tax roll and the 1850 U.S. census for Sevier County.

TABLE 6. Charles Ralls timeline 1840–1850

Date and Locality	Source
1839, TN, Obion County, District 1	Obion County, Tennessee, 1839 Tax List, District 1, unpaginated entries arranged chronologically, entry for Charles Rolls, 4 March 1839; "Tax books 1825-1842, 1849-1854, 1860," digital images, <i>FamilySearch</i> ( <a href="https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSHM-9BHT?">https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSHM-9BHT?</a> : accessed 26 July 2023), image 290 of 801; citing FSL microfilm 1,007,355, Image Group Number (DGS) 7,903,247.
1841, TN, Obion County, District 1	Obion Co., TN, 1841 Tax List, District 1, unpaginated entries arranged chronologically, entry for Charles Rolls.
1842, TN, Obion County, District 1	Obion Co., TN, 1842 Tax List, District 1, unpaginated entries arranged chronologically, entry for Charles Rolls.
1849, AR, Sevier County	Sevier County, Arkansas, 1849 Tax List, p. 15, entry for Chas. M. Rolls, 22 May 1849; "Arkansas county tax records Sevier County, 1837-1838, 1846, 1849-1855," digital images, <i>FamilySearch</i> ( <a href="https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSKW-99B5-C?">https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSKW-99B5-C?</a> : accessed 2 December 2023), image 549 of 752; citing FSL microfilm 2,363,101, Image Group Number (DGS) 8,140,598.
1850 Nov 18, AR, Sevier County, Madison Twp.	1850 U.S. census, Sevier County, Arkansas, population schedule, Madison Township, p. 212 (printed), p. 423 (handwritten), dwelling 349, family 349, Charles Ralls household; digital image, <i>FamilySearch</i> ( <a href="https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HT-64JD-64?">https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HT-64JD-64?</a> : accessed 24 November 2023); image 9 of 9, citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 30.

<sup>14</sup> General Affidavit, 18 January 1893, Mary Ralls, widow's pension application no. 283, widow certificate no. 117, service of Nathaniel Ralls (Pvt., Capt. Joel Holliday's Co., 1st Regt., Illinois Mounted Volunteers, Blackhawk War); Case Files of Indian Wars Pension Applications, 1892–ca. 1926; Record Group 15; Records of the Department of Veterans Affairs; National Archives, Washington, D.C.

## Levi Cook

Brother-in-law Levi Cook and his family move after 1844, presumably to Stoddard County, Missouri, presumably to Stoddard County, Missouri where he is found on the 1850 census.

TABLE 7. Levi Cook timeline 1840–1850

Date and Locality	Source
1840, TN, Obion County	1840 U. S. census, Obion County, Tennessee, population schedule, p. 129 (Stamped), line 12, Levi Cook; digital image, <i>FamilySearch</i> ( <a href="https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33SQ-GYTR-3S91?">https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33SQ-GYTR-3S91?</a> : 18 July 2023), image 7 of 55; citing NARA microfilm publication M704, roll 529.
1843 March 6, TN, Obion County	Obion County, Tennessee, 1843 Tax List, District 1, p. 1, arranged chronologically, entry for Levi Cook, 6 March 1843; "Tax books 1843-1844, 1862," digital images, <i>FamilySearch</i> ( <a href="https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C39J-SGJJ?">https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C39J-SGJJ?</a> : accessed 11 January 2024), image 6 of 171; citing FSL microfilm 1,007,354, Image Group Number (DGS) 8,479,063.
1844 April 2, TN, Obion County	Obion Co., TN, 1844 Tax List, District 1, p.117, entry for Levi Cook.
1851 Jun 1, MO, Stoddard County, Pike Twp	1850 U.S. census, Stoddard County, Missouri, population schedule, Pike Township, p. 303 (printed), p. 603 (handwritten), dwelling 705, family 720, Levi Cook household; digital image, <i>FamilySearch</i> ( <a href="https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HY-6QK2-WT?">https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HY-6QK2-WT?</a> : accessed 12 December 2023); image 23 of 25, citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 420.

## Results Summary

### Obion County, Tennessee Tax Rolls

- Searched Obion County, Tennessee, "Tax books 1825–1842, 1849–1854, 1860" and "Tax books 1843–1844, 1862" for Isom Conner, William B., Nathaniel, Charles M. Ralls, and Levi Cook. William B. Ralls is on the 1840–1842 tax rolls, Nathaniel is on the 1840–1841 tax rolls, Charles M. on the 1839, 1841–1842 tax rolls, and Levi Cook on the 1842–1843 tax rolls. Isom Conner is not listed on these tax rolls.

### Pike County, Arkansas Tax Rolls

- Searched Pike County, Arkansas, "Tax Books 1832–1843" and for "Tax Books 1844–1848, 1850–1853, 1855–1859, 1861, 1866–1867" for the years 1838–1850 for Isom

Conner, William B., Nathaniel, Charles N. Ralls, and Levi Cook. Only Isom Conner is listed on the 1839–1841 tax rolls. No results for William B., Nathaniel, Charles N. Ralls, and Levi Cook.

### Sevier County, Arkansas Tax Rolls

- Searched Sevier County, Arkansas, "Tax Books 1837–1838, 1846, 1849–1855," for Isom Conner, William B., Nathaniel, Charles M. Ralls, and Levi Cook. Isom Conner is listed on the 1846, 1849–1850 tax rolls. William B. Ralls is listed on the 1846, 1849–1850 tax rolls. Charles M. Ralls is listed on the 1849 tax roll. Nathaniel is not listed on Sevier County tax rolls during the 1840–1850 period.

## Conclusion

Willis's children William B., Nathaniel, Charles M. Ralls all departed Obion County, Tennessee between 1842–1843 and Sarah (wife of Levi Cook) left in 1844. Willis stayed behind in Obion County, Tennessee. On the 1840 U.S. census, Willis has a spouse and a younger female (20–30 years old) with children in his household. By November/December 1846, Willis Ralls becomes a ward of Obion County, Tennessee, a pauper, and is taken in by John Huzza. John Huzza married the sister of Levi Cook, Sally Cook. Most likely Willis' spouse listed on the 1840 census has died and the younger female with children has possibly re-married and moved as well.

## Future Research Suggestions

- Study Obion County, Tennessee history to determine if there was any local events that triggered Willis' children to leave.
- Conduct a records search of Carroll County, Kentucky to determine why Nathaniel took his family there for a few years before joining his brothers in Sevier County, Arkansas.
- Contact Stoddard County, Missouri archives to determine what records are available during the period that Levi Cook resided there.
- Conduct a survey of Obion County, Tennessee to identify FANs of Willis and his children.

## APPENDIX

## *Genealogy Research Report by David A. Ralls*

1840 U.S. census, Obion County, Tennessee, census for Nathaniel, Willis and Wm. B. Rolls

1840 U. S. census, Obion County, Tennessee, population schedule, p. 135 (Stamped), lines 8–10, Nathaniel Rolls, Willis Rolls and Wm. B. Rolls; digital image, *FamilySearch*.

(<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33SQ-GYTR-3S4J?i=18> : 18 July 2023), image 23 of 55; citing NARA microfilm publication M704, roll 529. **(Document 1)**

## *Genealogy Research Report by David A. Ralls*

1840 U.S. census, Obion County, Tennessee, census for Levi Cook

1840 U. S. census, Obion County, Tennessee, population schedule, p. 129 (Stamped), line 12, Levi Cook; digital image, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33SQ-GYTR-3S91?i=18> July 2023), image 7 of 55; citing NARA microfilm publication M704, roll 529. (**Document 2**)

Genealogy Research Report by David A. Ralls

1840 U.S. census, Pike County, Arkansas, census for Isom Conner

NAME OF HEAD OF FAMILY	NUMBER OF PERSONS IN FAMILY																				FREE COLORED PERSONS									
	Males		Females		Males		Females		Males		Females		Males		Females		Males		Females		Males		Females							
	Under 5	5 to 10	10 to 20	20 to 30	30 to 40	40 to 50	50 to 60	60 to 70	70 to 80	80 to 90	90 to 100	100 to 120	120 to 140	140 to 160	160 to 180	180 to 200	200 to 220	220 to 240	240 to 260	260 to 280	280 to 300	300 to 320	320 to 340	340 to 360	360 to 380	380 to 400				
Isom Conner	2	1	1	31																										
Moore Brown	2	1	2																											
James B. Goff	1	1																												
Murphy Jerry	2	1	1	1	1																									
Stewart Whitman	1	1	1																											
John Scotty	2																													
Horace Goff	1																													
Isaac White	1	1	1	1																										
Sammy Godwin	1	2	1	1																										
Lewis S. Bellman																														
John G. McLean	1																													
Isaac S. Bellman	1																													
Middleton & Clark	2	2																												
Sammy Scott																														
Elbert G. Neal																														
Henderson Brown	3																													
Tellogood, May	2																													
David Sanders	1																													
Benjamin Robison	1																													
Horace Ward																														
John Ward	1		1																											
Barrel S. Ford																														
Isaac S. Daniels	3																													
English Scotty	2	1																												
Horace Ward	2	1	1																											
Sammy Henry	1		1																											
Isaac W. Lottman	3	1																												
John Gray			2	2																										
Robert Lottman	1	2																												
Sam Conner																														
	81	13	14	66	19	18	27	12																						
	26	15	14	26	15	10	12	21																						

1840 U. S. census, Pike County, Arkansas, population schedule, p. 67 (stamped opposite page), line 30, Isom Conner; digital image, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33S7-9YBH-72S?i:30> December 2023), image 1 of 3; citing NARA microfilm publication M704, roll 19.

## *Genealogy Research Report by David A. Ralls*

1850 U.S. census, Madison Township, Sevier County, Arkansas, census for Nathaniel, William B. and Charles Ralls

1850 U.S. census, Sevier County, Arkansas, population schedule, Madison Township, p. 212 (printed), p. 423 (handwritten), dwelling 348–350, family 348–350, William, Charles and Nathaniel Ralls households; digital image, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HT-64JD-64?> : accessed 24 November 2023); image 9 of 9, citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 30. (Document 3)

Genealogy Research Report by David A. Ralls

1850 U.S. census, Madison Township, Sevier County, Arkansas, census for Isom Conner

Dwelling or tenement in which this family numbered in the order of visitation.	Family numbered in the order of visitation.	SCHEDULE I. Free Inhabitants in Madison Township in the County of Sevier, State of Arkansas, enumerated by me, on the 12th day of November 1850. H. G. French, Asst. Marshal.											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		DESCRIPTION.											
Line	Number	First name	Sex	Age	Color	Whether white, black, or mulatto.	Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each Male Person over 15 years of age.	Value Real Estate owned.	Place of Birth, Naming the State, Territory, or County.	Migrated within the year, if so, when and from where.	Attended School within the year, if so, where.	Present value of personal property.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, or convict.
301	301	Isom	M	21	M		Fanner	see	Alabama				
4		Lancey	f	31	f				Alabama	v			
5	302	Isom Conner	M	58	M		Fanner	see	South Carolina				
6		Mary	M	50	M				Virginia	v			
7		Stanley	f	16	f				Arkansas				
8		Marta	f	13	f				Arkansas				
9		Elizabeth	M	11	M				Arkansas				
10	302 303	William Conner	M	32	M		Fanner	1500	North Carolina	v			
11		Margret	f	44	f				Tenn	v			
12		James	M	23	M		Fanner		Arkansas				
13		Thomas B	M	21	M		Fanner		Arkansas				
14		Legay	f	16	f				Arkansas				
15		James	M	14	M				Arkansas				
16		Peninissa	f	12	f				Arkansas				
17		John S	M	10	M				Arkansas				
18		William	M	7	M				Arkansas				
19		Anna	M	5	M				Arkansas				
20		George	M	2	M				Arkansas				
21	303 303	Isom Conner	M	25	M		Fanner		Arkansas				
22		Mary	f	32	f				Arkansas	v			
23		Joseph	M	1	M				Arkansas				
24	303 304	George Conner	M	58	M		Fanner		Virginia	v			
25		Salery	f	57	f				Arkansas	v			
26		Abigail	M	19	M		Fanner		Arkansas	v			
27		Eliza S	M	17	M		Fanner		Arkansas	v			
28		Wellina	M	14	M		Fanner		Arkansas	v			
29		Jacob	M	12	M				Arkansas	v			
30	304 304	Benjamin Conner	M	40	M		Fanner	160	Indiana	v			
31		Patry	f	36	f				Illinoian	v			
32		Robert	M	15	M				Arkansas				
33		John W	M	11	M				Texas	v			
34		George	M	9	M				Texas	v			
35		Margret	f	7	f				Arkansas				
36		Joseph	M	5	M				Arkansas				
37		Mary	f	3	f				Arkansas				
38		Marta	f	1	f				Arkansas				
39		John Conner	M	24	M		Fanner		Mississippi	v			
40	304 304	John Conner	M	36	M		Fanner	120	Mississippi	v			
41		Stanley	f	34	f				Tenn	v			
42		Lancey	M	13	M				Tenn	v			
43		Isom	M	24	M				Tenn	v			
44		Stephan	M	24	M				Tenn	v			
								2480				144	

1850 U.S. census, Sevier County, Arkansas, population schedule, Madison Township, sh. 209 (printed), p. 416 (handwritten), dwelling 301, family 301, Isom Conner household; digital image, FamilySearch

*Genealogy Research Report by David A. Ralls*

(<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HT-64JX-G2?> : accessed 30 December 2023); image 1 of 9, citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 30.

1850 U.S. census, Stoddard County, Missouri, census for Levi Cook

SCHEDULE I. — Free Inhabitants in <u>Pike Township</u> in the County of <u>Stoddard</u> <u>6</u> State of <u>Missouri</u> enumerated by me, on the <u>fifth</u> day of <u>November</u> 1850. <u>Salomon Kitchen Ass't Marshal</u>												303
Dwelling or other number of inhabited buildings.	Family, number and name of head of family.	The Name of every Person whose usual place of abode on the first day of June, 1850, was in this family.	DESCRIPTION.			Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each Male Person over 15 years of age.	Value of Real Estate owned.	PLACE OF BIRTH. Naming the State, Territory, or Country.	Married within the year.	Attended School within the year.	Persons over 20 years of age who could read and write.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, or convict.
			1	2	3							
701	716	Leasee Prattell	51	M		farmer		Mo			m	
		Sam	44	F				Mo			m	
		Sarah	22	F				Tenn			m	
		James	19	M		farmer		Tenn			m	
		Julia	17	F				Tenn			m	
		William	14	M				Tenn			m	
		Elleanor	13	F				Tenn			m	
		Charity	12	F				Tenn			m	
		Loosee	11	M				Tenn			m	
		Simon	10	M				Tenn			m	
		Nathaniel	5	M				Mo			m	
		Margaret	3	F				Mo			m	
702	717	Orvin Davis	47	M		farmer		Virginia			m	
		Louisa	20	F				Al			m	
		Charles	10	M				Mo			m	
		Manerva	8	F				Mo			m	
		Mary	6	F				Mo			m	
		Washington	4	M				Mo			m	
		Sophia	1	F				Mo			m	
703	718	John Thompson	28	M		farmer		Mo			m	
		Mary	23	F				Miss			m	
		Ann	3	F				No			m	
		Sandy	1	M				No			m	
704	719	Isaac Stafford	48	M		wagonmaker		Virginia			m	
		William	16	M		none		Tenn			m	
		Paricia	14	F				Tenn			m	
		Lydia	11	F				Mo			m	
		Martha	8	F				Mo			m	
		Rhoma	5	F				Mo			m	
		Elizabeth Stafford	10	F				No			m	
705	720	Levi Cook	50	M		farmer		No			m	
		Sarah	45	F				Mo			m	
		Willie	21	M		farmer		Tenn			m	
		Margaret	17	F				Tenn			m	
		Nathaniel	15	M				Tenn			m	
		Stephen	14	M				Tenn			m	
		Granville	12	M				Tenn			m	
		Christenow	10	F				Tenn			m	
		Levi	9	M				Tenn			m	
		Ruth	7	F				Tenn			m	
		Elizabeth	5	F				Tenn			m	
706	721	Andrew J. Hollock	56	M		farmer		No			m	

1850 U.S. census, Stoddard County, Missouri, population schedule, Pike Township, p. 303 (printed), p. 603 (handwritten), dwelling 705, family 720, Levi Cook household; digital image, *FamilySearch*

(<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HY-6QK2-WT?> : accessed 12 December 2023); image 23 of 25, citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 420.

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