

Appendix A

Family Tree

One day in 1999 a mysterious mailing tube arrived at the door. Inside was a large sheet of paper upon which someone had carefully printed the names of my relatives going back six generations, only a few of whom I recognized, showing their relationship and dates of birth and death. There was no explanation, but the mailing label indicated that it came from the family office supply store in Memphis of which my now deceased brother was then the owner. This was shortly after my brother remarried, and I speculated that somehow his new wife Mara Fulghum, whom I have never met, was somehow involved.

I had never been particularly interested in my genealogy or even been much in touch with my relatives since leaving Memphis for college forty years earlier. I somehow thought that my ancestry was Scandinavian, and I knew very little about my grandparents, all of whom died before I was born. I knew that my great grandfather died fighting in the Civil War for the Confederacy. I decided it would be fun to digitize the data I had acquired and to put it on my website.¹ Various relatives found the website and provided corrections and additional fascinating information.

I learned that my branch of the Sprott family originated in Scotland and migrated to Northern Ireland for a few generations. In 1838, Robert Sprott (1808–1862) decided to try his fortune in the New World, and came to Philadelphia from County Down, Ireland. He remained there for eighteen months before joining his brother Samuel Sprott who had arrived in Charleston, South Carolina in 1828 and then moved to Alabama. Robert

¹See History of the Sprott Family at <http://sprott.physics.wisc.edu/famhist.htm>.

Sprott was a rather unsuccessful farmer, but he had seven children, including three boys who were in the Confederate Army. One of these, James Sprott (1834–1864) served in Alabama’s Forty-second Regiment and was mortally wounded at the Battle of New Hope Church, dying a week later in Atlanta. Before he died, he fathered three children, one who died as an infant, a daughter, and a son, William Leonidas Sprott (1862–1940) of Memphis, Tennessee, who was my grandfather. My grandfather had two sons and six daughters, all of whom married and lived in Memphis—except for one who moved to New Orleans—and became part of the large family of aunts, uncles, and cousins that I knew as a child.

Only years later did I realize how odd it was that my father and his siblings remained a close-knit family all their lives, while their spouses, even the men, did not seem close to their blood relatives. In fact, I cannot recall a single such relative except for my mother’s two sisters. The men seem to have been totally absorbed into the rather large Sprott family, from which I conclude that our large extended family was probably more the exception than the rule in that era.

Particularly interesting is that James Sprott who died in the Civil War had a brother Samuel Henry Sprott (1840–1916) who fought in Alabama’s Fortieth Regiment and eventually rose to the level of Captain. After the war, Samuel became a lawyer and served as circuit judge in Alabama for twenty-eight years until his retirement in 1910. Commencing in 1899, he wrote his own memoirs, lucidly recounting his experiences and the life of a common soldier in the Civil War. A hundred years later, his memoirs were discovered in the estate of one of his descendants and published as an edited book.²

A portion of my family tree, omitting the ancestors of my mother and other spouses as well as some individuals who were subsequently determined to be adopted and their offspring, is shown in the table that follows, along with dates of birth and death where those are known. I know relatively little about my mother’s ancestors, although the original data included names and birth dates of her parents and the names of three of her grandparents. It is my hope that other relatives and future genealogists will fill in additional details so that my genetic connection can be traced to the largest possible number of relatives.

²Samuel H. Sprott, *Cush: A Civil War Memoir*, Livingston Press: Livingston, AL, 1999, edited by Louis R. Smith, Jr. & Andrew Quist.

Family Tree

1 John Sprot
 . +Elinor Atkin
 . 2 James Sprot 1754–1846
 +Margaret Hamilton 1764–1846
 3 Robert Sprot 1808–1862
 +Mary Bothwell 1807–1882
 4 Mary Jane Sprot 1832–1832
 4 James Sprot 1834–1864
 +Esther Boone
 5 Mary Elizabeth Sprot 1860–1955
 +Thomas N. Rogers
 6 Thomas Sprot Rogers 1892–1981
 +Ruth Olive Wilson
 7 Infant Rogers 1925–1925
 7 Elizabeth Lee Rogers 1929–
 +H. C. Fryar
 8 Thomas Curtis Fryar 1954–
 +Brenda Sue Smart 1950–
 9 Leah Christine Fryar 1982–
 9 Megan Ruth Fryar 1986–
 8 William Frank Fryar 1959–
 +Margot Maurine Chartrand
 9 Kristryn Marie Fryar 1986–
 9 Henry Curtis Edward Fryar 1988–
 9 Eric Franklin Chartrand Fryar 1990–
 8 Eric Carter Lee Fryar 1964–
 +Stephanie Lynn Beeman 1970–
 9 Mackinzie Blake Fryar 1989–
 7 Ruth Olive Rogers 1930–
 +James Harry Soffos
 8 Beverly Sue Soffos 1951–
 +Mackie Pierce
 9 Wendy Leigh Pierce 1976–
 9 Lindsay Ellen Pierce 1980–
 8 James Harry Soffos 1954–
 +Katherine Sanders

..... 9 Stacey Renee Soffos 1977–
 9 Rebecca Elaine Soffos 1982–
 8 Thomas Michael Soffos 1955–1998
 +Carla J. Butler
 9 Ambra Collen Soffos 1978–
 9 Michael Soffos 1984–
 6 Virginia Page Rogers 1889–
 +Thomas Clayborn Epperson
 5 William Leonidas Sprott 1862–1940
 +Sarah Bettner Wilson 1869–1941
 6 Reba Lucille Sprott 1891–1966
 +John Herring
 7 Dorothy Eleanor Herring 1925–
 +Edward L. Lang
 8 Reba Louise Lang 1948–
 8 Dorothy Adele Lang 1952–
 6 Marie Louise Sprott 1893–1983
 +Eustice Jackson 1886–1940
 7 Eunice Jackson
 6 Sadie Chandler Sprott 1896–1986
 +Julien L. Cox 1891–1961
 6 Willie Maie Sprott 1898–
 +Sterling L. Stanley
 7 Richard Stanley
 +Virginia Weller
 7 Robert Stanley
 +Al Gine Kirkland
 6 William Leonidas Sprott, Jr. 1908–1984
 +Evelyn Peters
 7 William Sprott
 7 John Sprott
 6 Frank Wilson Sprott 1910–1992
 +Ila Fern Tidwell 1912–2002
 7 Frank Wilson Sprott, Jr. 1931–2009
 +Roalise Elizabeth Chambers
 8 Frank Wilson Sprott III 1957–
 +Harriett Sayers 1958–
 8 Sherri Sprott 1959–

..... +Maurice A. Ethier
 9 Ashley Elizabeth Ethier 1983–
 9 Sean Evan Ethier 1985–
 9 Matthew Ryan Ethier 1987–
 *2nd Wife of Frank Wilson Sprott, Jr.:
 +Mara Regent Fulghum 1948–
 **7 Julien Clinton Sprott 1942–**
 +Mary Ann Royal 1942–
 *2nd Wife of Julien Clinton Sprott:
 +Dan Zhu 1964–
 6 Yetive Calhoun Sprott 1911–1982
 +Leslie G. Bone 1905–1975
 7 Leslie Bone 1941–1944
 6 Udell Sprott 1912–
 +John S. Letellier
 7 Yetive Letellier
 7 John S. Letellier
 5 Infant Sprott 1864
 4 John Sprott 1837–1874
 +Mary Evans 1852–1873
 4 Samuel Henry Sprott 1840–1916
 +Leonora A. Brockway 1849–