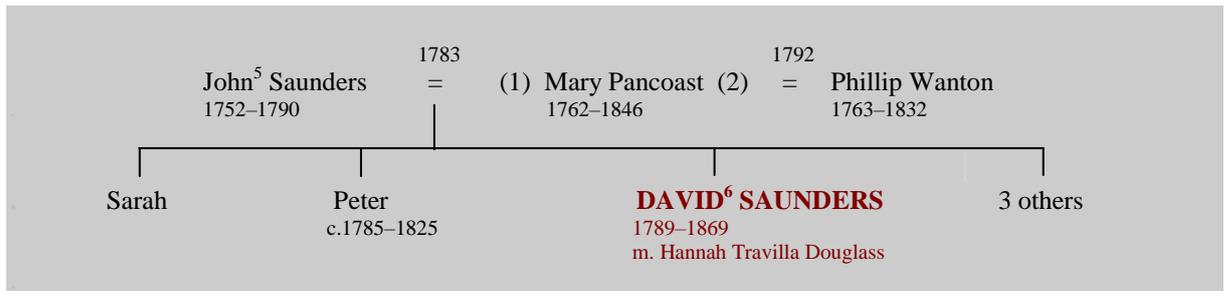


## Chapter Four

Revised  
January 2021**DAVID<sup>6</sup> SAUNDERS**  
**1789–1869***Alexandria, Virginia to San Rafael, California  
via Cincinnati, Ohio and Washington DC*

**D**AVID<sup>6</sup> SAUNDERS was born some time during 1789 in Alexandria, Virginia, during George Washington's first year as president and while George III reigned in Great Britain. He was the youngest of John<sup>2</sup> and Mary Saunders's six children.

David would have been no more than twelve months old when his father died and he and his older brother and sister came under the guardianship of their stepfather Philip Wanton (→ See Chapter 3). Other than mentions in Wills and Orphan's Court records no information has been found on his early life in Alexandria.

18 June 1812

**War of 1812.** The United States declared war on Great Britain for blocking US shipping trade and impressment of American seamen. The war ended 8 January 1815 when American forces won the Battle of New Orleans.



Francis Scott Key  
1779–1843

In 1814 the lyrics to '*The Star-Spangled Banner*', the national anthem of the United States, were written by **Francis Scott Key**, a 35-year-old lawyer and amateur poet, after witnessing the bombardment of Fort McHenry in Baltimore, Maryland by British ships in Chesapeake Bay. It became known as a patriotic song to the tune of a popular English song, 'To Anacreon in Heaven'. It was recognized for official use by the United States Navy in 1889 and by the White House in 1916. It was made the national anthem by a Congressional resolution on 3 March 1931.

In 1814 David left Alexandria and went to Baltimore, Maryland. This is recorded in *Hinshaw*, Vol. VI, Alexandria Monthly Meeting, p. 775:

SAUNDERS

David, rem, gct Balt. MM for WD, Md., 25-6-1814.

When he arrived in Maryland in 1814 aged twenty-five he probably found this was a mistake as the war of 1812 was in full swing and Baltimore was a port city. As a Quaker this was not his scene. We don't know what influenced David to go to Baltimore but it's unlikely he stayed there long. He may have gone back to Alexandria before heading off to Cincinnati, Ohio, as he doesn't appear to arrive there till about 1817. Then, according to the Douglass Bible, he married in 1818 and had two of his three children in Ohio before moving on to Washington DC prior to 1825 when we have the first knowledge of mail addressed to him there.

In Washington he worked for the Post Office in the Treasury department for pretty much the whole time he was there. Possibly further research might show that his movements from Alexandria to Baltimore to Cincinnati were the result of being transferred around various postal departments, finally settling in Washington.

Washington DC in the early 1820s was a fairly small community. Some information on its early development is helpful in understanding the new surroundings in which David and his young family settled. *World Book Encyclopaedia* provides an informative brief history of Washington DC:

The first people known to have lived in the Washington area were Piscataway Indians. Whites moved into the area during the late 1600s and established farms and plantations there. In 1749, settlers founded Alexandria, the area's first town, in what was then the colony of Virginia.

**Washington Becomes the Capital.** Several different cities served as the National capital during the early years of the United States. In 1783, Congress decided that the country should have a permanent center of government. But the states could not agree on a location for it. People assumed that the new capital would become an important commercial and industrial city. As a result, each state wanted it to be located within its borders. Also, both Northerners and Southerners believed the capital should be in their part of the country.

In 1790, Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton worked out a solution. He proposed that the capital be built on land that belonged to the federal government, rather than to a state. He and others persuaded Northern political leaders to agree to locate the capital in the South. In return, Southern leaders supported certain government policies favored by the North.

Once the disagreements were settled, Congress decided to locate the capital along the Potomac River. It asked President George Washington, who had been raised in the Potomac area, to choose the exact site.

The President's choice, made in 1791, included not only the land now occupied by Washington, but also about 30 square miles of land west of the Potomac. The city's present territory had belonged to Maryland, and the land west of the river was part of Virginia. The two states turned over the territory to the federal government.

**Early Days.** George Washington hired Pierre Charles L'Enfant, a French engineer, to create a plan for the physical layout of the city. L'Enfant's plan dealt only with the area between the Anacostia River and Georgetown. But it established the pattern for the entire city. It made the Capitol the center of Washington. The American surveyors Andrew Ellicott and Benjamin Banneker helped work out the plan for the new city.

The federal government moved to Washington from its temporary capital in Philadelphia in 1800. At that time, the entire Washington area had only about 8,000 people. In 1814, during the War of 1812, British soldiers captured Washington. They burned the Capitol, the White House, and other government buildings. Reconstruction of the buildings was completed in 1819.

The Constitution of the United States gave Congress the power to govern Washington. But in 1802, Congress established a local government, including a mayor and a city council, to help run the city. The people of Washington were given the right to elect council members in 1802 and the mayor in 1820, but they were not allowed to vote for members of Congress or the President.

The predictions that Washington would become an important commercial and industrial center did not come true. The city could not compete economically with such long-established cities as Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Charlestown. Lacking economic growth, Washington remained a small city. By the 1840's it had only about 50,000 people, and only a small part of its area was built up. As a result, in 1846, Congress returned to Virginia the land that the state had earlier given to the federal government.

**Growth and Development.** Washington's main periods of growth have been in times of crisis, such as wars and depressions. During such times, the role of the federal government has been greatly expanded to help meet the crisis. Large numbers of people moved to the city to handle the new jobs that resulted.

**David<sup>6</sup> Saunders married Hannah<sup>5</sup> Travilla Douglass on 1 October 1818** in Cincinnati, Ohio, during the presidency of James Monroe (1817–1825). The Bible owned by David and Hannah Saunders is a large King James I edition printed in Philadelphia in 1802. While we call it the Douglass Bible, it probably belonged to David. Somebody had entered in the Bible the birth dates of Hannah and all her siblings and in so doing inadvertently made an error in Hannah's year of birth.

Hannah, born 1799, was the youngest of twelve children born to William Douglass (1744–1839) and his wife Hannah Travilla (1748–). Hannah's oldest sister Sarah<sup>5</sup> Douglass had married George Burnett, the father of General Alexander Shields Burnett, whose family and descendants are fully discussed in [Chapter 12: Lillian Frances Chinn](#).

David's hand-written entries in the Douglass Bible record his marriage and the births of his three children, which are recorded in typical Quaker style:

#### MARRIAGES

**David Saunders and Hannah T. Douglass** were married in Cincinnati on the first of the Tenth Month AD 1818.

#### BIRTHS

**William Hartshorne Saunders** was born at Millford (*sic*), Ohio on the 28th Day of the 6 month AD 1819.

**John Henry Saunders** was born in Cincinnati, State of Ohio on the third day of the Twelfth month AD 1821.

**James Douglass Saunders** was born in Washington City, D.C. on the 10th day of the 8th Month AD 1829.

*Hinshaw* records for Ohio marriages do not have any record of David's marriage to Hannah T. Douglass. However, on p. 919 of Cincinnati Monthly Meetings there is a David *Sanders* (*sic*) received on certificate from Baltimore 8/21/1817 and subsequently disowned for marrying contrary to discipline. This fits our man despite the misspelling of Saunders. David was sure to have been disowned by the Quakers when he married Hannah Douglass, who was a Protestant. Nonetheless, he continued throughout his long life to practice and adhere to the religious principles instilled in him by the Quakers.

The late George Kackley, Superintendent of the *Oak Hill Cemetery* in Washington DC, researched and provided the following information:

In 1827 David Saunders first appears in the Washington City directories and continues there until around 1860, maybe 1862, during which time he was employed in the General Post Office. After that he seems to disappear from the area. At the outbreak of the Civil War (1861–1865) this was not an unusual event with many families.

1827 David Saunders, clerk in General Post Office; dwelling on F north between 7th and 8th.  
1830 David Saunders, clerk, General Post Office; dwelling on F north between 7th and 8th.

- 1834 David Saunders, clerk in General Post Office, north side of E, between 8th and 9th.  
 1843 David Saunders, Auditor of Post Office Dept., principal clerk, north side of E north, between 6th and 7th west, near center. (Government directory here shows him as No. 5 man in the Post Office Dept. Auditor's office of the Treasury Department, with a salary of \$1,600).

13 May 1846

**Mexican War.** When a Mexican force crossed the Rio Grande to wage battle against Major General Zachary Taylor's cavalry unit, they were accused of invading American soil. This gave President James Polk the excuse to declare war on Mexico. The American victory in August 1847 resulted in *The Mexican Cession* (see map).



- 1846 David Saunders, Clerk, Post Office Dept., north side of E north, between 6th and 7th west.  
 John Saunders, Attorney at Law, same address (David's middle son).  
 1850 John Saunders, Attorney at Law, Cor 4 ½ West and La Ave.  
 William H. Saunders, Physician, same address (David's eldest son).  
 1853 David Saunders, Post Office Dept., salary \$1,400.  
 J. D. Saunders, Census Bureau, salary \$1,000 [This is probably his youngest son, James Douglass, who would have been 24 at the time]. They are not listed in the main directory, only in the directory of government employees. This seems to indicate that they might have been living outside Washington City.  
 1855 David Saunders, clerk, 391 D. Street.  
 1858 David Saunders, clerk in Post Office Dept.  
 1860 David Saunders, clerk, Post Office dept.; home at 409 F St., north.  
 1862 D. Saunders, home 453 6th. west. (This might be someone else).

There is no further mention of David past 1862 in the Washington City Directories. However, researcher Sharon Hodges located a deed dated 16 February 1863 where David and Hannah Saunders sold a property to a George E. Kennedy. (Deed Book JAS 229, page 262). We think it must have been around this time that David and Hannah left for California, certainly no later as David Saunders first appears in San Francisco in the 1863–1864 Directory at the same address as his son John Henry, who had been there since 1850.

By this time the Civil War was in full swing and Washington DC would have been an undesirable city for people holding strong Quaker beliefs. It is believed that David and Hannah travelled to California by schooner around Cape Horn—in those times an arduous three-month journey. Kackley checked further references in the Washington area and found a few mentions of David Saunders in other records. He writes:

A check of the Records of the Columbia Historical Society (RCHS) uncovers the following:  
 Mrs. David Saunders's boarding house numbered John Bell of Tennessee among its clientele. It was near the Post Office and near another big boarding house, that of Mrs. Obediah B. Brown on the south side of E Street, No. 814, between 9th and 10th. (RCHS vol. 33–34, p. 124)

John Bell was Congressman, Democrat, 1827–1841; Whig Secretary of War to President William H. Harrison, 1841; Senator, 1847–1859, as Whig. He received the Electoral College votes of Tennessee, Kentucky and Virginia in the presidential election of 1860.

Note that everyone who had a big house in Washington was obliged to take in Congressmen and Senators as boarders while Congress was in session. Obediah B. Brown was one of the most prosperous of Washington's citizens. It is said that he drove the finest team of horses in the city. He was the first pastor of the First Baptist Church of Washington City and one of the two most important persons in the founding of what became George Washington University. (Kackley)

David Saunders was one of three members of the Common Council from the Third Ward of the Corporation of Washington for the year ending June 1835. (RCHS vol. 25, p. 116)  
 David Saunders was a Justice of the Peace for Washington County, District of Columbia, appointed 29 April 1840 and re-appointed in 1845, 1851, 1854 and 1857. (RCHS vol. 5, p. 280)

David Saunders was a Justice of the Peace for the district east of Rock Creek, with date of commission being 4 May 1840. (RCHS vol.10, pp. 60–61)

Close reading of these articles might show that David served for Washington County as distinct from Washington City. Boundary Street (now Jersey Avenue) was the dividing line between them. **This would indicate that David had a farm north of the city and was living there.** This would explain the lack of listing his residence in the city directory, where he gets listed only at his office. It would be worthwhile to investigate the ownership, in city records, of that house by the Post Office. The directories suggest that he had left it by 1834. (Kackley)

At a meeting on 12 December 1850, managers of the Ladies Benevolent and Employment Society appointed a committee of three to select persons to solicit donations. David Saunders was one of eight men selected from the 8th Ward of Washington. (RCHS, vol. 39, p. 163)

In 1843 David purchased eight lots of land in Square No.14 in Washington from Jan Bondt and Gulian Daniel Crommelin. The original Indenture is still in good condition, bearing the signatures and wax seals of Bondt and Crommelin. Parts of the Deed make interesting reading with respect to the identity of the vendors and the cost of the property:

This Indenture made the Twenty eighth Day of June in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty three between Mr Jan Bondt, Commander of the Order of the Netherlands Lion, private counsellor of his Majesty the King of the Netherlands and Merchant dwelling in this City of the Heerengracht; and Mr Gulian Daniel Crommelin, knight of the Order of the Netherlands Lion, formerly Counsellor of this City, at present without profession, dwelling in this City of the Heerengracht; Survivors of Rutger Jan Schimmelpinninck; late of the said City, deceased of the first part and David Saunders of the City of Washington, in the United States of America of the second part.

... in consideration of the Sum of a Thousand Dollars of lawful money of the United States of America ... unto the said party of the second part, his heirs and assigns the Lots of parcels of Ground numbered two, six, eight, twelve, fourteen, eighteen, twenty and twenty-two situated lying and being in the City of Washington in the District or Territory of Columbia, in the said United States of America, contained in the Square which upon the plan of the said City of Washington is marked with the number Five hundred and fourteen...

In 1843 David's annual salary at the Post Office was \$1600, so the one thousand dollars he outlaid for this purchase was a very substantial sum of money indeed. It is probable that the inheritance from his grandfather as well as his father played a large part in his real estate acquisitions. His mother was still alive and living in Alexandria. His stepfather, Philip Wanton, had died in 1832. It is also possible, as mentioned by George Kackley, that David owned property outside of Washington City. While he held a senior position at the Post Office, his remuneration there would not have enabled him to acquire a large house and several lots of improved property in the city and perhaps land elsewhere. Additionally two of his children were to be university educated. His eldest son, William<sup>7</sup> Hartshorne studied medicine at the *University of Pennsylvania* (→ See chapter 5) and middle son, John Henry took a law degree at the *University of Virginia* (→ See chapter 6).

A letter amongst the Saunders memorabilia is one written to David in March 1825 by his aunt Rachel Crukshank, née Saunders. The postmarked letter was simply addressed to David Saunders, Washington City. It reads as follows:

Phila. 3rd mo. 26 1825

Dear Cousin,

Often have I been thinking of making some reply to thy contents never having heard of the indisposition of my cousin—it would have been a satisfaction to have known whether he had any prospect of his departure previous to the delirium—it was comfortable to hear of his widow being favoured with resignation—She indeed claims the sympathy of her frds—for tho it may not avail anything as relates to temporal matters—yet sympathy rightly understood I think must be a fellow feeling, and if so it will help to strengthen the mind in affliction—After a while she will I hope be enabled to do something or other that will contribute to her livelyhood [*sic*], and should she live to see some of her children a little more grown they will also be capable of rendering assistance—that where there is youth and health we ought to be encouraged so to hope, that with industry and a steady dependence upon kind Providence there will be no lack of the real necessaries of life. Thy term (of cold unfriendly world) was to me unpleasant—as tho we might expect help from thence—has not the lip of Truth—said *'In this world ye shall have trouble but in me peace'* that the more we seek for right direction the more likely we shall be to experience that peace which will be more than all the world can do for us—that I feel desirous dear David that we may be firm believers in the previous promises of the Gospel which are yea and amen forever.

3rd mo: 28 — The above being written a day or two ago — thought I would now inform that this day I received a letter from our cousin S. Janney who tells me thy Brothers family are now in Alexandria at thy Mothers—where no doubt they will be made as comfortable as her situation will admit.

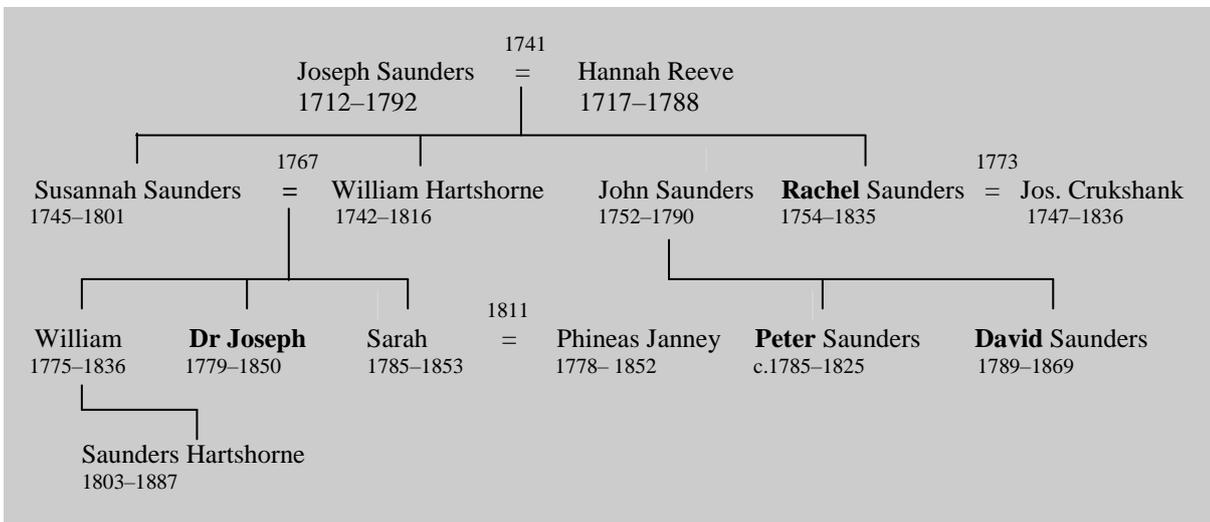
I have not seen Saunders Hartshorne since receiving thy letter. I suppose he keeps busy—I desired his Uncle Joseph to ask him to call—which he once did before he commenced business—but not since. The different branches of our family are tolerably well in health—some of us may now be ranked among the aged. Uncle Coates continues going about daily more or less—but weak and infirm.

When thou hast an opportunity please remember me affectionately to thy Mother—and sisters — tell them I frequently think of them without manifesting it. I am pleas'd to hear that thy sister Sarah and husband are making out to get a living—so much for a good trade—some of our relations here who have not that advantage experience much difficulty.

My husband unites with me in love to thee and family.

R. Crukshank

*Rachel Crukshank's signature on letter to David Saunders in 1825*



The letter is from David's Aunt Rachel<sup>5</sup>, who married Joseph Crukshank (→ See Chapter 2: Joseph Saunders). The common use of the term *cousin* is a Quakerism. In the Quaker community friends, relatives, etc were all invariably called cousins, sisters and brothers. The first part of her letter obviously refers to the death of David's brother, Peter<sup>6</sup>, who died on 26th February 1825, some four weeks prior to the writing of this letter (→ See Chapter 3: John Saunders). The news of his death was apparently unexpected.

The second paragraph refers to cousin S. Janney. She was Sarah<sup>6</sup>, daughter of Susannah<sup>5</sup> and William Hartshorne, who married Phineas Janney in 1811 as his second wife. The Janneys were a prominent family in Alexandria. Sarah was born in 1785 and died in 1853 so she was more or less David's generation, just a few years older.

In Rachel's third paragraph she refers to Saunders<sup>7</sup> Hartshorne and his Uncle Joseph. Saunders Hartshorne was the son of William<sup>6</sup> Hartshorne (1775–1836) who in turn was the son of William<sup>5</sup> Hartshorne (1742–1816) and David's aunt, Susannah Saunders. Uncle Joseph was Dr. Joseph<sup>6</sup> Hartshorne, another son of William and Susannah<sup>5</sup> Hartshorne, and thus David's uncle. Rachel at this time is aged 71 and is unlikely to be travelling backwards and forwards to Alexandria some 160 miles away. Uncle Coates was Samuel Coates, aged 77, who married Lydia<sup>5</sup> Saunders, Rachel's older sister who died in 1789.

The last paragraph mentions David's sister, Sarah<sup>6</sup>, and her husband who is '*making out to get a living*'. He was Elisha Talbott who was a carpenter. He died in 1832 aged 50. No record of Sarah's date of death has been discovered.

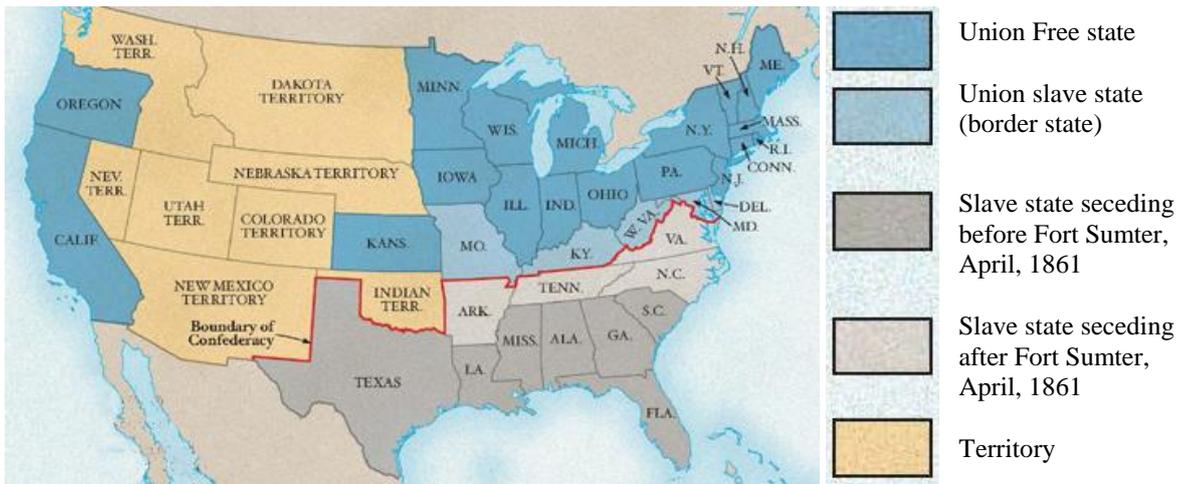
We know that David was in Ohio for a number of years—his first two children were born there. The earliest record we have of his employment with the Post Office in Washington DC is dated 1827. His youngest son James<sup>7</sup> Douglass Saunders was born there in 1829. There is no record indicating when he arrived in Washington, but it must have been between December 1821 when his second son John<sup>7</sup> Henry was born in Cincinnati and March 1825, the date Rachel<sup>5</sup> Crukshank wrote the above letter.

### David and Hannah Saunders had three children.

1. **William<sup>7</sup> Hartshorne Saunders** → See Chapter 5  
Born 28 June 1819 at Milford, Ohio.  
Died 11 February 1857 in San Juan del Sur, Nicaragua.  
Married Hannah S. Bradley (1827–1870) in 1851.
2. **John<sup>7</sup> Henry Saunders** → See Chapter 6  
Born 3 December 1821 in Cincinnati, Ohio.  
Died 3 September 1885 in San Rafael, California.  
Never married.
3. **James<sup>7</sup> Douglass Saunders 1829–1903** → See Chapter 8  
Born 10 August 1829 in Washington DC.  
Died 23 May 1903 in San Francisco.  
Married Emily C. Brannan (1839–1902) at Napa City, CA in 1867.

oOo

On April 12, 1861, while David Saunders and his family were living in Washington DC the Civil War erupted when the Confederates bombarded Union soldiers at Fort Sumter in South Carolina. As a devout Quaker, David could not participate. Two years later he and his wife Hannah relocated to California. Their eldest son, William Hartshorne was dead and their two remaining sons had already gone west and settled in San Francisco.



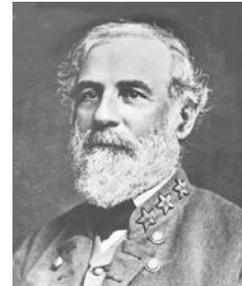
*The United States in 1860 on the eve of the Civil War*

In 1860 and 1861 eleven Southern states seceded from the Union. The counties of western Virginia



*Ulysses S. Grant  
1822–1885*

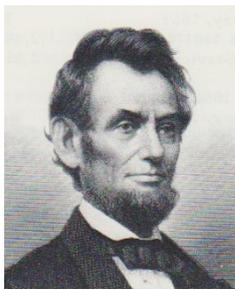
refused to secede with Virginia and these counties organised a separate government that supported the union and formed the state of West Virginia in 1863. Missouri and Kentucky, while essentially slave states, remained in the Union. The four years of bloody fighting between the Union and Confederate States which followed had staggering effects on the nation and caused deep and long-lasting feelings of bitterness and division between the people of the North and South.



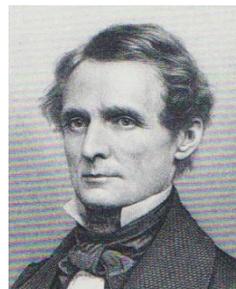
*Robert E. Lee  
1807–1870*

UNION STATES				CONFEDERATE STATES		BORDER STATES	
Pennsylvania	1787	Illinois	1818	Virginia	1788	Delaware	1787
New York	1788	Maine	1820	South Carolina	1788	Maryland	1788
Massachusetts	1788	Michigan	1837	Georgia	1788	Kentucky	1792
New Hampshire	1788	Iowa	1846	North Carolina	1789	Missouri	1821
Vermont	1788	Wisconsin	1848	Tennessee	1796	West Virginia	1863
Connecticut	1788	California	1850	Louisiana	1812	While the Border States were essentially slave states they remained loyal to the Union	
New Jersey	1789	Minnesota	1858	Mississippi	1817		
Rhode Island	1790	Oregon	1859	Alabama	1819		
Ohio	1803	Kansas	1861	Arkansas	1836		
Indiana	1816	Nevada	1864	Texas	1845		
				Florida	1845		

Note: The year after each state indicates date of admission to the Union.



*Abraham Lincoln  
1809–1865  
President  
United States of America*



*Jefferson Davis  
1808–1889  
President  
Confederate States of America*

## THE CIVIL WAR 1861–1865

Quite a few family members can be identified as participating in the Civil War. There are many others whose date of birth would have placed them in a position to have been involved and while most probably were, no evidence was found to verify that. Some fought on the side of the Union. Many others joined the Confederate Army and were primarily from Louisiana and Virginia, two of the eleven Southern states which seceded from the Union.

Most of the ancestors listed on the following pages were essentially from families which the Saunders family married into. The first Saunders immigrant, Joseph Saunders, was a devout Quaker and the next couple of generations followed this religious persuasion. Quakers (or more properly called the Religious Society of Friends) were pacifists and not permitted to become engaged in or associated with military activities. To do so meant expulsion from the Society.

Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, Missouri and West Virginia were Border States. The Border States were slave states that remained in the Union. Nevada was added to the Union during the Civil War.

### Known Family members who fought for the Union:

John Quincy BONER  
1830–1908 Ch. 12

Daniel<sup>3</sup> BRANNAN  
1842–? Ch. 9

Alexander<sup>4</sup> Sullivan BURNETT  
1842–1876 Ch. 12

James Hemingway EMERY  
1848–1909 Ch. 9

David<sup>8</sup> Farnham GERRISH  
1824–1910 Ch. 16

Capt. George<sup>8</sup> A. GERRISH  
1834–1866 Ch. 16

George<sup>9</sup> H. GERRISH  
1847–1933 Ch. 16

Israel<sup>8</sup> Hanson GERRISH  
1832–1909

Lieut. William<sup>8</sup> GERRISH  
1842–1905 Ch. 16

Col. Thomas H. HARRIS  
1829–1896 Ch. 12

Col. Llewellyn JONES  
1801–1873 Ch. 12

Brig. Gen. Roger JONES  
1831–1889 Ch. 12

Dr. Nelson Barrere LAFFERTY  
1846–1921 Ch. 7

General Thomas Francis MEAGHER  
1823–1867 Ch. 15

John<sup>4</sup> Douglass MOLER  
1836–1891 Ch. 12

Rev. James Madison NEWELL  
1840–1932 Ch. 12

Charles<sup>8</sup> SAUNDERS  
1847–1936 Ch. 3

Brig. Gen. Jeremiah C. SULLIVAN  
1830–1890 Ch. 12

Capt. Thomas L. SULLIVAN  
1819–1873 Ch. 12

Major George Spencer WILSON  
1842–1897 Ch. 12

Rear Adm. John Ancrum WINSLOW  
1811–1875 Ch. 7

Rear Admiral Herbert WINSLOW  
1848–1914 Ch. 7

William Randolph WINSLOW  
1844–1869 Ch. 7

James Ancrum WINSLOW  
1839–1927 Ch. 7



Abraham Lincoln  
1809–1865



Ulysses S. Grant  
1822–1885



## THE CIVIL WAR 1861–1865

### Known Family members who fought for the Confederacy:

Corporal Thomas<sup>7</sup> D. BURNETT<sup>1</sup>  
1838–1862 Ch. 7  
Also Ch. 12

Private William<sup>4</sup> H. BURNETT  
1837–1888 Ch. 7  
Also Ch. 12

Major Bolling<sup>7</sup> R. CHINN  
1825–1888 Ch. 11

Charles<sup>3</sup> Angelo CONRAD  
1837–1892 Ch. 11

Charles<sup>2</sup> Magill CONRAD  
1804–1878 Ch. 11

Ripley<sup>3</sup> Holmes CONRAD  
1841–1862 Ch. 11

James<sup>6</sup> Travilla DOUGLASS  
1844–1910 Ch. 7

Major Robert F. GIBSON  
1834–1927 Ch. 12

Private William Taylor HAMMOND  
1841–1864 Ch. 12

Major John<sup>2</sup> B. HEREFORD Jr.  
1841–1898 Ch. 11

General Albert Sidney JOHNSON  
1803–1862 Ch. 11

Commander Catesby ap Roger JONES  
1821–1877 Ch. 12

Captain George<sup>7</sup> McCAUSLAND  
1837–1861 Ch. 11

Marcus<sup>7</sup> William McCAUSLAND  
1840–1874 Ch. 11

Dr.. Samuel H. MEREDITH  
1830–1865 Ch. 7

Dr. Marshall<sup>3</sup> POPE  
1833– c.1804 Ch. 11

Nathaniel<sup>3</sup> W. POPE Jr.  
1827–1886 Ch. 11

William<sup>3</sup> POPE  
1836–1883 Ch. 11

Edward<sup>8</sup> White ROBERTSON  
1823–1887 Ch. 11

Capt. William<sup>2</sup> Blount ROBERTSON  
1839–1898 Ch. 11

Col. David<sup>8</sup> L. SMOOT  
1835–1900 Ch. 12

Major James<sup>8</sup> Richard SMOOT  
1828–1902 Ch. 12

Frank B. TRYON  
1828–1863 Ch. 7

Douglas<sup>7</sup> WEST  
1826–1901 Ch. 11

Judge Edward WHITE  
1840–1888 Ch. 7

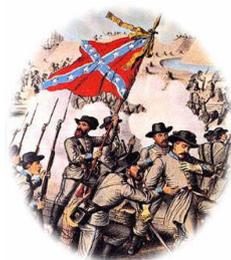
Dr. Robert Walter WITHERS  
1795–1881 Ch. 11



*Jefferson Davis*  
1808–1889



*Robert E. Lee*  
1807–1870

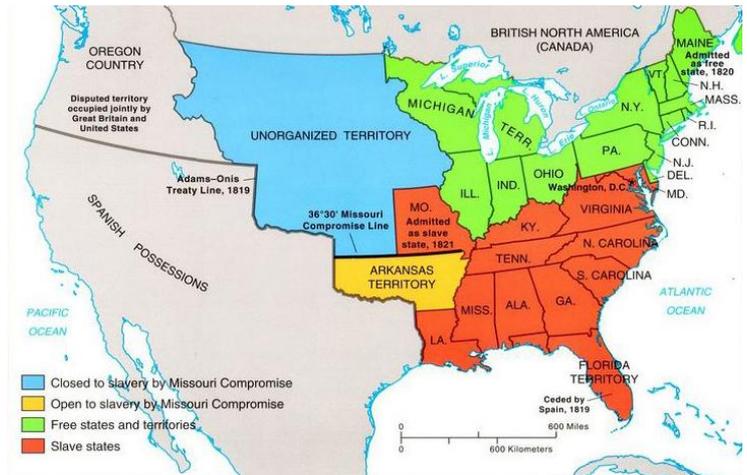


*"Stonewall" Jackson*  
1824–1863



### The Missouri Compromise

In 1818 the Territory of Missouri, which had been carved out of the Louisiana Purchase, applied for admission to the Union. Slavery was legal in the Territory. At the time there were an equal number of slave states and free states so each side was equally represented in the United States Senate. The admission of Missouri seemed certain to break this balance. When Maine, a free territory, applied to join the Union, the road was clear for Missouri and the *Missouri Compromise* became possible. The compromise banned slavery from the Louisiana Purchase north of the southern boundary of Missouri, the line 36° 30' north latitude, except in the state of Missouri. The Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854 repealed the compromise. This is a simple account of what was a very drawn out and heated debate in the United States Congress.



oOo

A couple of years after the start of the Civil War, David decided it was time to leave. His oldest son, Dr. William<sup>7</sup> Hartshorne Saunders, had died mysteriously in Nicaragua in 1857 and his other two sons had moved to California. So he began disposing of his property interests in Washington DC together with any in Virginia in anticipation of his departure.

12-13 April 1861

**The Battle of Fort Sumter** was the bombardment of Fort Sumter near Charleston, South Carolina by the Confederate States Army, and the return gunfire and subsequent surrender by the United States Army, that started the American Civil War.



During 1863 David and Hannah together with all their worldly possessions, boarded a clipper, probably at the port city of Baltimore, and sailed around Cape Horn to San Francisco where their two sons John<sup>7</sup> Henry and James<sup>7</sup> Douglass had been for some years.

This must have been a long and arduous journey for Hannah and David who were 64 and 74 years of age respectively. However, to travel overland by wagon across the vast wilderness would have been just as perilous, if not more so. David's son John<sup>7</sup> had been in San Francisco since 1850 having arrived there by ship via the Panama Isthmus. James Douglass, his youngest son relocated to San Francisco about 1856. It is not known how he travelled there.



While a long and tedious journey in cramped quarters, by the 1860s the trip by clipper around the Horn had become a common means of transport to California as indicated by the following publication.

*Pictorial History of California*, compiled and edited by Owen C. Coy, PhD, Director, California State Historical Association, published by University of California Extension Division, p. 191:

The demand for shorter time for the passage to California around Cape Horn led to the construction of vessels especially prepared for speed. The result was the clipper ships. Previously they had been small vessels but now larger vessels with sharp bows, graceful lines and equipped with full canvas were built. These ships were not only very beautiful but were able to skim the ocean with great speed. The *Glory of the Seas* was a medium clipper ship built in 1869. It made the voyage from New York to San Francisco in 94 days. The fastest time was that made by the *Flying Cloud* in 1854, when it reached San Francisco 89 days after leaving New York.

David's arrival in California is unknown but it would have been in the latter half of 1863 or early 1864. On Tuesday, 10 February 1863 there was an advertisement in the *National Republican* (Washington DC) for the auction of his house:

**BY J. C. McGUIRE & CO., Auctioneers.**  
**B** FIRST-CLASS DWELLING HOUSE ON SIXTH STREET AT PUBLIC AUCTION.—On THURSDAY AFTERNOON, February 12th, at 4 o'clock, on the premises, we shall sell that handsome and well arranged PRIVATE RESIDENCE, erected by David Saunders, Esq., for his own use.  
 The Lot fronts 36 feet on Sixth street, and is improved by a handsome Three-story House, with English basement three rooms deep, all with lofty ceilings, and finely ventilated on the south by an 11-foot lot, which is handsomely laid out as a flower garden. The House contains all the modern improvements—gas, hot and cold-water bath-room, and water-closets—and is in every respect a first-class residence.  
 Persons in want of a fine residence should attend this sale, as the owner is determined to sell for the purpose of removing to California.  
 Terms cash.  
 JAS. C. McGUIRE & CO.,  
 Auctioneers.  
 feb 9—d

9 April 1865

**General Robert E Lee** surrendered the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia to **Lieutenant General Ulysses S. Grant** after four years of Civil War and over one million casualties at the home of Wilmer and Virginia McLean in the Appomattox Court House, Virginia bringing to an end the war between the States.



In the San Francisco 1863–1864 Directory David is living at 725 Bush Street with his two sons. His wife, Hannah, is not mentioned, but in those times wives rarely were. Presumably cashed up from his property sales in Washington, David now commenced to acquire real estate in his new surroundings. In June 1865 he purchased three acres of land in the southern area of San Rafael for \$3,800. In August of the same year he bought an additional 35 acres for \$2000 and in December a 19,000 square foot lot was purchased for

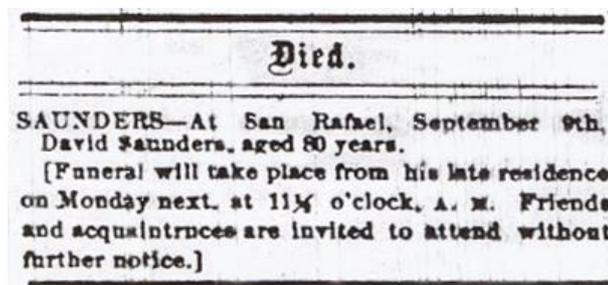
\$150. At that time David was identified on the documents as a resident of San Francisco. Shortly afterwards he must have decided to live in San Rafael as he disappears from the San Francisco directories. In addition to information provided by the late James Lethbridge of the Marin County Office of the Assessor-Recorder, further research here produced numerous property transactions by the Saunders family in San Rafael.

These conveyances are all preserved on microfilm and the following references relate to David Saunders' property acquisitions:

No. 06	Jun 08 1865	Grantee Saunders, David Book F, p. 39 Grantor Simms, Jno etux \$3800 in gold coin for 3 acres in the town of San Rafael
No. 25	Aug 03 1865	Grantee Saunders, David Book E, p.390, 391 Grantor Byrne, John M. \$2000 in gold coin for 35 acres adjoining the town of San Rafael
No. 30	Dec 16 1865	Grantee Saunders, David Book E, pp. 486-487 Grantor Short, J. O. B. \$150 lawful money for 19000 square feet in the town of San Rafael

There is only one record of David Saunders selling some property in October 1868. His Probate records indicate he also acquired real estate in San Francisco to the value of about \$40,000.

**David<sup>6</sup> Saunders died 10 September 1869** at his home in San Rafael. He was buried in Laurel Hill Cemetery in San Francisco. The *Marin County Journal* in San Rafael published a death notice on September 11th:



The *San Francisco Newsletter and California Advertiser* of 18 September 1869 carried the following obituary on p. 4:

On September 10th, Mr. David Saunders died at San Rafael. Mr. Saunders was born in Alexandria, Virginia, in 1789. For many years he filled an honorable position in the Post Office Department at Washington where his uniform geniality and courtesy made him numerous warm friends. For the last four years he resided at San Rafael, loved, honored and respected by the good people of that place, among whom his death will leave a painful void. At his funeral they testified their esteem for him living and their grief for him dead by turning out *'en masse'* to honor his remains. He leaves a widow and two sons, one of whom is the Hon. John H. Saunders, State Senator from this county. Mr. Saunders died as he had lived, in the faith of the Society of Friends, and if there be a reward for truth, gentleness, charity and all goodness, he has gone to the bosom of his God.

The reader will notice that the date of death is different by one day in each newspaper. One might be inclined to accept the *Marin County Journal* version as the more accurate given David lived in that county. However, the following story confirms his date of death as September 10, 1869 and that he was buried at Laurel Hill Cemetery in San Francisco. The cemetery was located between California, Geary, Parker and Presidio Streets and used to be part of Lone Mountain Cemetery.

Jocelyn Moss, Librarian/Curator of the *Marin County Historical Society* provided an article from the *San Francisco Chronicle* of April 1, 1977:

#### **S.F. Mystery—Tombstones at the Beach**

Scores of tombstones ... some dating back to the 1860s surfaced mysteriously along a windswept stretch of Ocean Beach [San Francisco]. Joseph Mirabile ... was jogging along the beach when he noticed the slabs of granite and marble jutting out of the sand opposite Rivera Street and the Great Highway.

**One broken slab bore part of an inscription that read:  
“... Saunders ... in Alexandria, Va. ... San Rafael,  
Sept. 10, 1869 ... 80 years.”**

Parts of pedestals and memorial columns lay scattered in the foam of the surging Pacific. The tombstones were from among 38,000 taken in the early 1940s from old Laurel Hill Cemetery to make way for the Laurel Heights development west of Masonic Avenue. The city used the tombstones and old slabs as the core of Marina breakwaters and as anti-erosion barriers for Ocean beach sand ... whose continuing windswept erosion has uncovered them again.

Together with the newspaper article Moss supplied a short explanation:

The cemeteries of San Francisco were coveted for their real estate value and a campaign was launched to move them out of the city. The officials said they were a health menace. Because of this the bodies were removed over time to Colma, south of San Francisco. ... Those whose families could pay to have the bodies reburied, are in the cemetery with their tombstones. However, many whose families were no longer about or who were not able to pay, their bodies were removed to a common grave and the tombstones used as a sea wall as described in the above news article.

Extracts from *Pillars of the Past: a Guide to Cypress Lawn Memorial Park* 1992 by Michael Svanevic and Shirley Burgett, pp. 27–34, provide a more detailed description of the events surrounding the demise of Laurel Hill Cemetery:

#### **San Francisco's Neglected Graveyards**

Marble orchards in the heart of San Francisco.

Seventy square blocks sprawling in all directions from the base of Lone Mountain. Once Garden spots in the hilly country west of the city, by the 1880s Laurel Hill, Calvary, Masonic and the Odd Fellows Cemeteries constituted an insurmountable barrier to municipal development.

To many, the answer seemed simple. The cemeteries had to go. But it wasn't. Some objected to body removal on religious grounds; others objected to it for historic reasons.

Despite warnings that neglected cemeteries would become playgrounds for hooligans, San Francisco supervisors, in 1901, passed a law prohibiting new burials within the city. Almost immediately, worst predictions were realised.

Desecration of burial plots was reported at all four cemeteries. Marauders frequently broke into tombs. Nearby residents reported ominous clanking and muffled sounds of sledgehammers emitting in the night from the burial vaults.

Ultimately in 1913, declaring that the cemeteries constituted a public nuisance, bodies were ordered removed. This decision was subsequently overturned by San Francisco voters. Arguments over removal continued for a generation.

Meanwhile cemetery conditions deteriorated. At Laurel Hill Cemetery high weeds obliterated once stylish paths and avenues. Statues were overturned and carried off. Scavengers methodically pillaged vaults. Coffins were hacked open and bones strewn about. Entire skeletons were stolen. The city's homeless took refuge in the Mausoleums.

Where once the San Francisco elite strolled tree-lined paths, students held bonfire rallies or played soccer with human skulls. The graveyards became sites for 'petting parties', vandalistic orgies and fraternal initiations. Local residents feared the cemeteries offered sanctuary to rapists and child molesters.

Initial agreements for cemetery removal were reached in the 1920s. ...

San Francisco supervisors ordered removals from ... Laurel Hill Cemetery in 1937 and this time voters concurred. It was perhaps the greatest body removal in history. ...

Body retrieval at Laurel Hill, undertaken by Cypress Lawn Cemetery association was a two-year project.

### **Laurel Hill Monument.**

San Franciscans considered Laurel Hill Cemetery sacred. There rested remains of senators, poets, writers, painters, politicians and inventors, indeed virtually all of the city's most noteworthy pioneers.

Individual monuments and family mausoleums at Laurel Hill were revered early San Francisco Art. Many had cost in the neighborhood of \$50,000. ...

In 1937, when it became clear that there was no way to block the transfer of bodies out of San Francisco, *Laurel Hill Association* trustees studied all the bay Area cemeteries. Cypress Lawn Memorial Park was chosen as the permanent resting-place for these San Franciscans.

A thousand families had already moved loved ones to Cypress Lawn and other cemeteries. Beginning in 1940, 35,000 more bodies were exhumed and moved to Cypress Lawn. These were reburied in concrete vaults beneath grass-covered Laurel Hill Mound on the cemetery's west side.

Covering three acres, this site is marked by a towering obelisk and monument erected by the *Laurel Hill Cemetery Association*. It is dedicated to the pioneers of San Francisco.

Individual families paid for the transfer of a few Laurel Hill monuments to Cypress Lawn. Most of the magnificent monuments, however, were dumped, some at Ocean beach and others to form seawalls at the St. Francis Yacht Harbor and Aquatic Park.



David<sup>6</sup> Saunders (1789–1869), his wife, Hannah (1799–1872), their son James<sup>7</sup> Douglass (1829–1903) and his wife Emma (1839–1902) were all interred at Laurel Hill Cemetery. The obituary for their son John<sup>7</sup> Henry Saunders (1821–1885) states that he was buried at Lone Mountain Cemetery.

By 1940 when Laurel Hill was being demolished the only remaining Saunders descendant was the great-grandson of David Saunders whose father died in April 1940. Moreover, it is probable that being now settled permanently in Australia, he was quite unaware of where any of his ancestors were buried let alone even knowing about the demolition of the Laurel Hill Cemetery.

The family was struggling financially, World War II was in progress and there would have been little inclination, even if funds were available, to make any attempt to salvage the tombstones of ancestors in a cemetery ten thousand miles away.

Cathy Gowdy of the *Marin County Genealogical Society* kindly supplied **David Saunders's Last Will and Testament**. The following is a transcript of the handwritten copy of the original Will executed on 5 December 1863.

*Last Will and Testament*

I, David Saunders, formerly of the City of Washington in the State of Columbia and now of the City of San Francisco State of California, do make publish and declare this my Last Will and Testament.

First I direct the payment of all my just debts and liabilities.

Second I appoint my son **John Saunders** and **Louis McLane**, and the survivor Executor of this my last Will and Testament, and request that they be permitted to quantify and all without giving bond or security as such.

Third I give, bequeath and devise to my wife Hannah T. Saunders (the personal property absolute and the real estate in fee) all my estate and property, real, personal and mixed, wheresoever situate, whether in Washington City or San Francisco aforesaid, or in the State of Missouri, or elsewhere, my intention being to vest my whole estate in her, leaving it to her discretion and affection to make such ultimate distribution of it, and such provision for my children John and Douglass and Lucy, the child of my deceased son William, as to her may seem just and proper.

Fourth I hereby revoke any and all former Will, or Will and instruments in the nature thereof.

In Witness Whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal and declare and publish this as my last and only Will and Testament.

Dated San Francisco December 5, A.D. 1863  
D. Saunders (Seal)

Signed by the testator, and by him published and declared to be his Last Will and Testament, this fifth day of December in the year of Our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and sixty three in the presence of us and each in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses. Done in the City and County of San Francisco, State of California.

Blair Lauris  
Sam'l L. Lupton  
Henry Kimball

oOo

Louis McLane, one of David's executors, was born January 20, 1819, in Wilmington, Delaware. Following the path of his father he joined the navy and was appointed as a midshipman in 1835. McLane served on several different ships and sailed over a widespread area which included the East Indies, the Mediterranean and Florida. In 1847 he was Commander of Artillery of the California Battalion under the command of John C. Fremont, and was appointed by Fremont as one of the commissioners to sign the Articles of Capitulation between U.S. and Mexican forces in California. He resigned from the Navy on January 20, 1850 after attaining the rank of Lieutenant.



*Louis McLane*  
1819-1905

While in California McLane became intrigued with steamship travel. With the help of Samuel Hoffman, his father-in-law, he had two steamships built which plied California waters.

In 1855 McLane became an agent for the Wells Fargo Express Company and also for the Pioneer Stage Company, and he eventually became President of Wells Fargo and of the Nevada Bank of San Francisco. Around 1880 McLane returned to

Baltimore and was chosen President of the Mercantile Trust Company. He died in 1905.

Both McLane and Wells Fargo & Co were clients of David Saunders's son John H. Saunders (→ See Chapter 6) and this association must have blossomed into a firm friendship for McLane to be appointed a co-executor of David Saunders's Will.

oOo

Nancy Zimmelman of the California State Archives in Sacramento supplied some 70 pages of Marin County Probate records which stretched out several years and begins with a summary of David Saunders's Will.

Probate Court of the  
County of Marin  
State of California

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In the matter of the  
Estate of  
David Saunders,  
deceased.

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The Petition of John H. Saunders, of the City and County of San Francisco, State of California, respectfully shows:

That the above named Decedent died on or about the 11<sup>th</sup> day of September 1869, aged about 80 years.

That said Decedent at the time of his death was a resident of the County of Marin, State of California, and left real estate in the said City and County of San Francisco of about the value of \$40,000.

That said Decedent left a Will, dated the 5th day of December 1863. Wherein he devised and bequeathed all his property both real and personal to his wife, Hannah T. Saunders, and appointed your petitioner and Louis McLane the Executors thereof with the request that they might not be required to give bonds as such Executors.

That the heirs of said Decedent are his widow, Hannah T. Saunders, aged about 68 years, residing in Marin County, his son Douglass Saunders, aged about 35 years, residing in said Marin County, your petitioner who is the son of Decedent, aged about 45 years, residing in said City and County of San Francisco, and Lucy Maude Saunders, the granddaughter of Decedent, aged about 13 years, and residing in the City of Washington, District of Columbia.

That said Louis McLane appointed Executor of the Will of said Decedent as aforesaid is absent from the State of California, and will be unable to act as such Executor.

Wherefore your petitioner prays that said Will of said Decedent, which is filed herein with this Petition, may be admitted to Probate in this Court and that letters testamentary thereon, without bonds, may be issued to him.

(signed) John H. Saunders

Filed Oct 13<sup>th</sup> 1869

Sidney C. Smith  
Atty. for Petitioner

For a legal document the ages of the various people mentioned are imprecise. In fact, at the time of David's death, his wife Hannah was aged seventy-one, son John<sup>7</sup> was forty-eight, son James Douglass<sup>7</sup> was forty and granddaughter Lucy<sup>8</sup> Maude was fifteen years old. David's date of death was 10 September 1869.

Births, Marriages & Deaths from *The Marin Journal* San Rafael, Marin County, CA, abstracted by Carolyn Schwab. March 23, 1861–Dec 28, 1872:

Oct 17, 1869

The last Will & Testament of David Saunders, late of San Rafael, was filed for probate on the 13<sup>th</sup> inst. John H. Saunders and Louis H. McLane were appointed executors without bonds. The Will was executed December 5, 1863 in the city of San Francisco.

The Probate of David's Last Will and Testament dragged on for some five or six years during which time his wife Hannah died. Most of the probate issues dwelt on the distribution and realisation of David's extensive property interests. During 1869 it seems John spent some time in Europe as evidenced by two observations published in the *Marin County Journal*:

May I, 1869

PERSONAL. Amongst the names of Californians in Europe, as mentioned by a correspondent of one of the San Francisco papers, we notice that of Jno. H. Saunders, Esq., of this place.

September 18, 1869

RETURNED. Hon. Jno. H. Saunders who has been absent from this place for some months past on a visit to Europe arrived here yesterday.

The latter announcement would indicate that John<sup>7</sup> arrived back in California a week after his father passed away. It must have been quite a shock for him to arrive home only to find that his father had died a few days before. We do not know John's mode of travel on his return journey from Europe. The Transcontinental rail line (Union Pacific) across the United States was completed in May 1869 so it is probable he returned to San Francisco overland by train. Otherwise it would have been by steamer around the Horn or via the Panama Isthmus. Either way he would have been out of communication at the time his father passed away.

Two announcements in the *Marin County Journal* of October 16, 1869 confirm David's son John as was one of his executors:

FILED FOR PROBATE. The last will and testament of David Saunders, late of San Rafael, was filed for probate on the 13<sup>th</sup> inst. **John H. Saunders** and Louis H. McLane were appointed Executors without bonds. The will was executed December 5<sup>th</sup> 1863, in the city of San Francisco.

PROBATE COURT of the County of Marin, State of California.

In the matter of the estate of David Saunders, deceased.

The people of the State of California send Greetings:

In pursuance of an order of the Judge of the above named Court, duly made and entered on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of October, 1869, notice is hereby given that Monday the 1<sup>st</sup> day of November, 1869, at 12 o'clock, and the Court Room of this Court in the Court House in San Rafael in said Marin County, have been appointed by said Judge a time and place for proving a document now on file in said Court purporting to be the last Will of above named Decedent, and for hearing the petition of **John H. Saunders** for the issuance to him of letters testamentary thereon.

October 13<sup>th</sup>. 1869

R. W. OSGOOD

Clerk of said Court

Sidney V. Smith

Att'y. for Petitioner

oOo

**Hannah Travilla Saunders died 17 July 1872** at home in San Francisco. It's possible she was living with her son James Douglass at the time. She was 73 years old. Hannah was also buried in Laurel Hill Cemetery and presumably years later her tombstone would also be scattered along the San Francisco shoreline with that of her husband's. The *Marin County Journal*, *Saturday*, July 20 1872 carried a report of her passing:

SAUNDERS. In San Francisco, July 17th, Mrs. Hannah T., widow of the late David Saunders, of Washington, D. C., and mother of the Hon. John H. Saunders, of San Francisco, aged 73 years. [Washington, D. C., papers please copy.]

Hannah's death was also reported in the *Daily Alta California* (a 19<sup>th</sup> century San Francisco newspaper which descended from Sam Brannan's *California Star*) on 20 July:

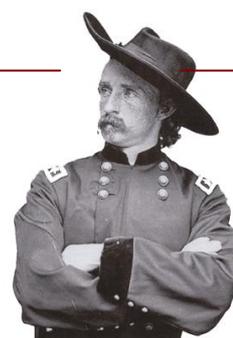
In this city, July 17th, Hannah T., widow of the late David Saunders, and mother of J. H. and Douglass Saunders, all of Washington, D. C., aged 73 years. [Washington (D. C.) papers please copy.]  
The funeral will take place at 11 o'clock A. M. this day (Saturday), from Trinity Church, Post street.

Her Death Certificate, procured from *The Department of Public Health of the City of San Francisco*, reads as follows:

City and County of San Francisco		Department of Public Health	
CERTIFICATE OF DEATH			
Name:	Hannah T. Saunders	Date of Death:	July 17, 1872
Race:	White	Age:	73
Place of Birth:	Virginia	Occupation:	Unknown
Place of Death:	502 Powell St San Francisco, CA.	Social Condition:	Unknown
Causes of Death:	Old Age	Sex:	Female
Place of Burial:	L.H. (Laurel Hill)		
Physician:	Unknown		
Undertakers:	Unknown		

25 June 1876

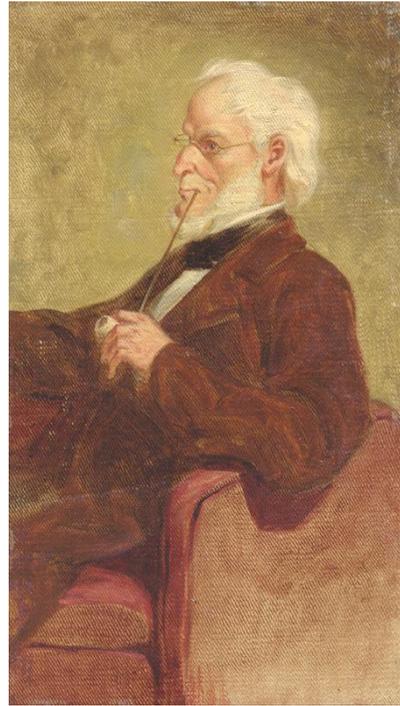
**Custer's last Stand.** On this day the Battle of Little Big Horn took place on the banks of the Little Big Horn River in Montana. **Lieutenant Colonel George Armstrong Custer** and the 265 men under his command lost their lives in battle against a greatly superior number of Lakota Sioux and Cheyenne Indians. Custer was born 5 December 1839 in Ohio.



George A. Custer  
1839-1876

From all that we know of David Saunders he was a very well respected gentleman, who maintained throughout his life the Quaker principles of his Alexandrian upbringing. He seemed to have a penchant for real estate as evidenced from his activities in Washington DC and then again in San Rafael and San Francisco. Following his grandfather's example he moved away from areas where events of the day conflicted with his Quaker beliefs although whether it was the Civil War which motivated David's move west to California or to be with his son John, we will never know.

David was just an infant when his father died so we can only conjecture as to what his formative years must have been like. His numerous Quaker relations would have provided a solid foundation to young David's religious values, though not sufficient an indoctrination to prevent him marrying a non-Quaker. We have no information on his formal training. However, David's job as a senior clerk for many years with the treasury section of the Post Office and his successful real estate investments would indicate an intelligent and educated mind.

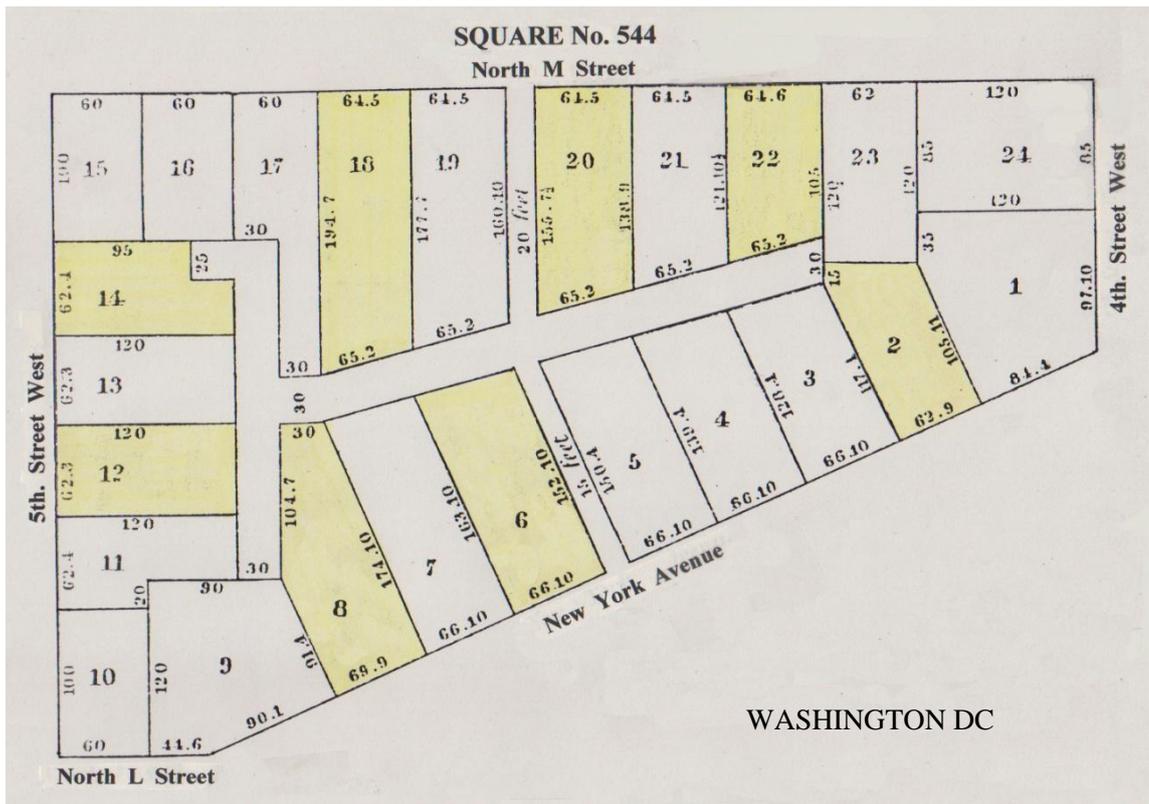


*Supposed oil portrait of David Saunders c.1865*

In the late 1860s David was approaching his eightieth birthday and not surprisingly there is little information of his activities. He lived his last years comfortably surrounded by his family in San Rafael. They would have been well off financially; indeed the family would have been considered quite wealthy. They had large property holdings in what is now downtown San Rafael as well as acreage on the verge of the town. This together with their San Francisco properties would have provided a substantial income. His son, John, had become a very successful and prosperous attorney in San Francisco and the youngest son, James Douglass, was recently married with one small child. The quiet town of San Rafael would have been a much more pleasant environment than the boisterous and unruly San Francisco for David to see out his years.

*David Saunders's signature from the family Bible*

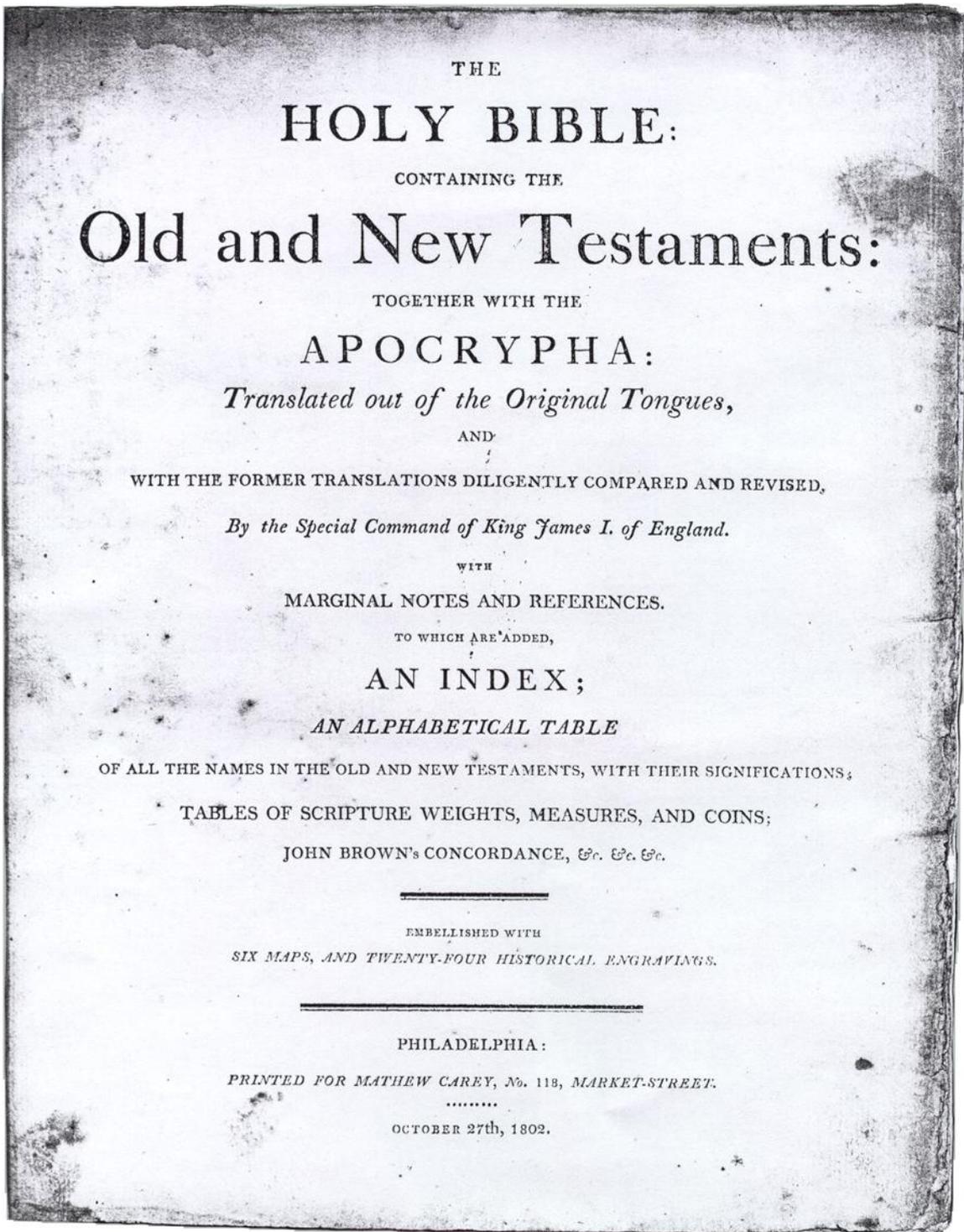
*Hannah Travilla Saunders's signature*



*Highlighted areas represent property acquired in Washington DC by David Saunders from Jon Bondt and Gulian Daniel Crommelin in 1843*

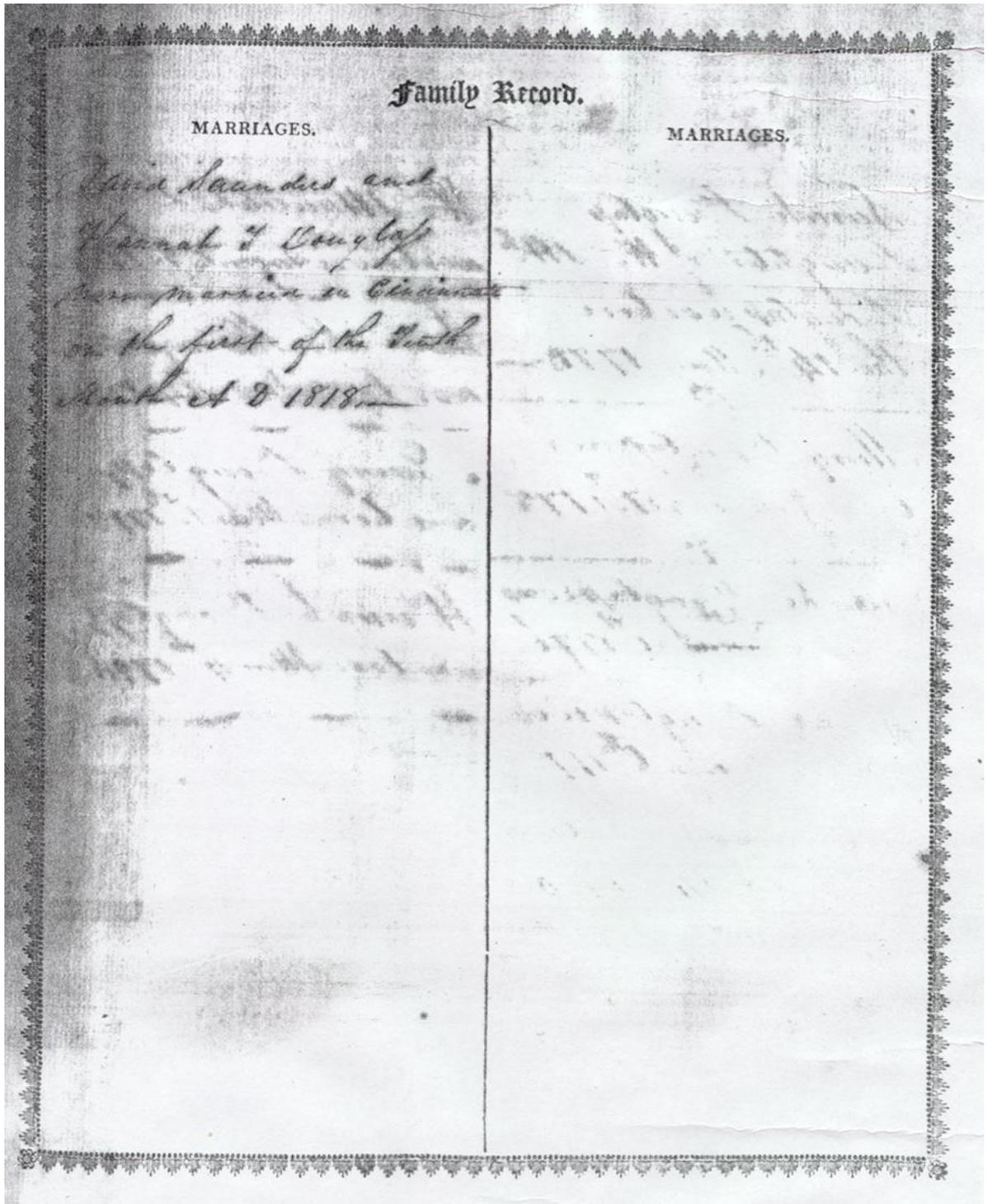


*Mission San Rafael founded 18 December 1818*



***The Title Page of the Douglass Bible.***

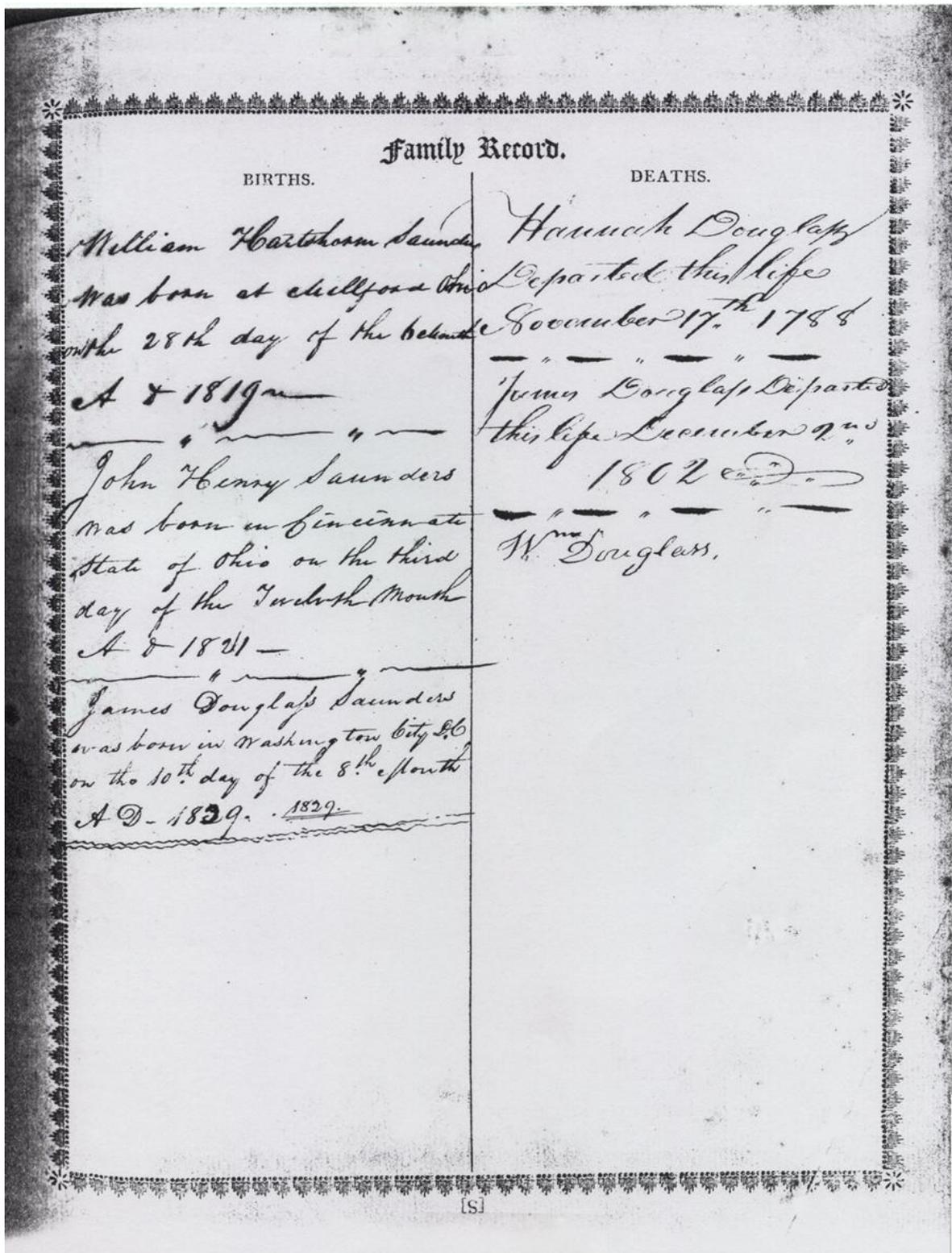
*It has been called the 'Douglass Bible' because it records the births of Hannah Douglass's brothers and sisters and also to differentiate it from Joseph Saunders's Bible. It may indeed have belonged to David Saunders. The written record of David's marriage to Hannah Douglass and the births of their three children are made in typical Quaker fashion as apposed to the entries for members of the Douglass family.*



***The Douglass Bible***

*The record of David and Hannah's marriage:*

*David Saunders and  
Hannah T. Douglass  
were married in Cincinnati  
on the first of the Tenth  
Month AD 1818*



### **The Douglass Bible**

Third page of entries listing the births of David and Hannah's three children and the deaths of two of Hannah's siblings. The remaining entry for Wm. Douglass was never completed, and is perhaps Hannah's father who died in 1839 aged 95

Family Record.

BIRTHS.	BIRTHS.
Sarah Douglass Daughter of M <sup>r</sup> J <sup>r</sup> Douglass was born the 14 <sup>th</sup> May 1773	M <sup>rs</sup> Hannah Douglass was born August 9 <sup>th</sup> 1787
Mary Douglass was born January 17 <sup>th</sup> 1775	Abner K. Douglass was born Mar 14 <sup>th</sup> 1791
Rebecca Douglass was born Dec <sup>r</sup> 30 <sup>th</sup> 1776	Fanny Douglass was born Mar <sup>ch</sup> 26 <sup>th</sup> 1793
Rachel Douglass was born Dec <sup>r</sup> 6 <sup>th</sup> 1778	Hannah Douglass was born Mar <sup>ch</sup> 4 <sup>th</sup> 1795
Kelly Douglass was born Dec <sup>r</sup> 14 <sup>th</sup> 1780	
John Douglass was born March 17 <sup>th</sup> 1782	
Josiah Douglass was born April 16 <sup>th</sup> 1785	

### The Douglass Bible

The birth records of Hannah and her eleven brothers and sisters.

Hannah Travilla Douglass is the last-born. Her date of birth reads '1790'. However, this is incorrect and should be 1799. The entries look to have been all written at the same time which might account for the error and are believed to have been made by Hannah, who, not being a Quaker was content to nominate the month of birth by name.

**Summary****DAVID<sup>6</sup> SAUNDERS 1789–1869**

1789	Born -	Alexandria, VA, the youngest child of John <sup>5</sup> Saunders, carpenter, and his wife Mary (née Pancoast).
1790 18 May	Aged about 1 -	Father John <sup>5</sup> died.
1792 26 Jan	Aged about 2 -	Grandfather Joseph <sup>4</sup> died.
1792 31 May	Aged about 3 -	Mother marries Philip Wanton.
1797 05 Sep	Aged about 8 -	Philip Wanton appointed his guardian.
1812 18 June	Aged 23 -	<i>War of 1812 commenced when the United States declared war on Great Britain.</i>
1814 25 Jun	Aged 25 -	Went to Baltimore, Maryland.
1814 24 Dec	Aged 26 -	<i>The Americans and the British sign a peace treaty in Ghent, Belgium ending the War of 1812. However, this news did not reach the United States until after the American forces won the battle of New Orleans on 8 Jan 1815.</i>
1816	Aged 27 -	William Hartshorne died in Alexandria. He was the husband of David's aunt Susannah <sup>5</sup> Saunders.
1818 01 Oct	Aged 29 -	Married Hannah Travilla Douglass, Cincinnati, Ohio.
1819 28 Jun	Aged 30 -	Son William <sup>7</sup> Hartshorne born in Milford, Ohio.
1821 03 Dec	Aged 32 -	Son John <sup>7</sup> Henry born in Cincinnati, Ohio.
1822 - 1824	Aged about 34 -	Moved to Washington DC Employed at Post Office.
1825 26 Feb	Aged 36 -	Brother Peter <sup>6</sup> died in Petersburg, Virginia.
1829 10 Aug	Aged 40 -	Son James <sup>7</sup> Douglass born in Washington, DC.
1832 27 Feb	Aged 43 -	Stepfather Philip Wanton died.
1835	Aged 46 -	Member of Common Council from the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ward of the Corporation of Washington.
1840	Aged 51 -	Appointed Justice of the Peace for Washington County. Re-appointed 1845,1851,1854,1857.

**Summary of David<sup>6</sup> Saunders (1789–1869) continued**

1840	04 May	Aged 51 -	Appointed Justice of the Peace for the district east of Rock Creek.
1843	28 Jun	Aged 54 -	Purchased property from Bondt and Crommelin.
1843	05 Oct	Aged 54 -	Son John <sup>7</sup> Henry graduated from University of Virginia.
1846	26 Nov	Aged 57 -	Mother Mary Saunders Wanton died aged 83.
1850		Aged 61 -	Son John <sup>7</sup> Henry leaves for San Francisco arrives via Panama Canal on 20 June 1850.
1850	12 Dec	Aged 61 -	Appointed to committee to solicit donations for the Ladies Benevolent and Employment Society.
1851	21 Dec	Aged 62 -	Son William <sup>7</sup> Hartshorne married Hannah Bradley.
1854	21 Jul	Aged 65 -	Granddaughter Lucy <sup>8</sup> Maude born to William <sup>7</sup> H. and Hannah (Bradley) Saunders.
1854/5		Aged 66 -	Son James <sup>7</sup> Douglass left for California
1857	11 Feb	Aged 68 -	Son William <sup>7</sup> Hartshorne died in Nicaragua.
1859	01 Oct	Aged 70 -	Purchased Lot 432 in Oak Hill Cemetery.
1861	12 Apr	Aged 72 -	<i>Civil War commenced when Southern artillery shelled Fort Sumter in the harbour of Charleston, South Carolina.</i>
1863		Aged 74 -	Moved to San Francisco with wife to join his two sons. Travelled by clipper around Cape Horn.
1865	09 Apr	Aged 76 -	<i>Civil War ended when General Robert E. Lee surrendered to General Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Court House in Virginia.</i>
1865		Aged 76 -	Purchased property in San Rafael.
1869	10 Sep	Aged 80 -	Died at his home in San Rafael and buried at Laurel Hill Cemetery
1869	18 Sep		Obituary published in the <i>San Francisco Newsletter and California Advertiser.</i>

END  
of  
Chapter Seven  
David Saunders

