

JOHN THOMAS CHURCHILL

John Thomas Churchill-born 7 December, 1822 in Ms. Married Eliza-beth O'Gwen 24 Dec., 1848 in Miss. John and Elizabeth came to Evergreen, Texas in Washington Co. in 1849, moving to Lee Co. shortly after where John built himself a furniture shop. He was a builder of all kinds of household furniture.

He and Elizabeth raised eight children: (1) William H.-born 16 Feb., 1850. (2) Melinda-born 25 March, 1852. (3) Alfred George (Alvie)-born 5 June, 1854. Married 14 July, 1880 to Lavenia Dodds-born 29 Oct., 1861. Died 20 Jan., 1939. Alvie died 20 March, 1921. Both are buried in Valley Springs Cemetery. (4) Mary Jane-born 6 Jan., 1857. Married 1877 to Alvie Cornules Wright-born 18 Jan., 1845 in Miss.-died in Esbon Community after 1900. Mary died 1 Sept. 1926 Wingate, Texas. (5) Thomas Jefferson-born 14 Feb., 1859-died 18 Oct., 1938 in Brownwood. Married 31 Oct., 1877 to Georgie Ann Smith-born Nov., 1861-died 10 May, 1920 in Brownwood. (6) John Jr.-born 28 Feb., 1861. (7) Samuel S. Churchill-born 5 Oct., 1864. He married and moved to California, where he did woodwork like his father. (8) Elizabeth Paralee-born 20 Jan., 1867. Married 20 Jan., 1881 to Joseph Hiram Elliott-born 9 June, 1857-died 1 Jan., 1949. Paralee died 5 March, 1939. Both are buried in Voca Cemetery.

In 1882 John T. was left alone from the death of his wife. His children were all married in homes of their own. He disposed of his property, saddled his horse, and at the age of sixty, traveled five-hundred miles from Lee Co. to Mason County.

He first stopped to visit with his two daughters, Mary Wright and Paralee Elliott and his son, Thomas Jefferson in Hays County, coming on to Llano County and stopping at Tow Valley to visit with a son, Samuel S. and his family. Samuel was working in a Dry Goods store in the little Tow Community. From there he traveled on to Valley Springs to visit with another son, Alfred G. (Alvie) and his family. Leaving Valley Springs, he traveled on to Mason County. He found things to his liking there and remained until his death in 1908. He opened another shop, making spinning wheels, looms, and caskets. He made all the caskets used in that part of the country. These caskets were very plain, being made of boxing plank covered with cheap black cloth on the outside and bleached muslin inside. He also built chairs and furniture and repaired wagons and buggies.

John Thomas Churchill was a descendant of Johiah Churchill born 1615 in England.