This is a painting of David L. Tullis (1808-1876) who operated a blacksmith shop near the square in Mechanicsburg, OH. This portrait is a copy painted in 1878 by Estella Mitchell from an original painting done in 1873 by the famous portrait artist S. Jerome Uhl. This portrait is currently in the possession of Phil Little of Wichita, KS, a descendant through David’s daughter Helen Mahr Tullis. See additional information on David L. Tullis and his family starting on page 23.
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Tullis Trees is a family-history newsletter published quarterly by Thomas S. Tullis, 68 Meetinghouse Lane, South Easton, MA 02375. It is available both in print and online. Subscriptions to the printed version are $12 per calendar year. Subscriptions to the online version, sent as a link in an email message, are free. Issues are posted at http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~tullis/TullisTrees/. A form to subscribe to either the print or online version can also be found there.

Submissions of articles, photos, documents, etc., are strongly encouraged. Please email to TomTullis@aol.com or fax to 508-256-0527.
From the Editor

Well I haven’t managed to catch up on the publishing schedule for this newsletter as I had hoped, since this is the first issue of 2003 and it’s nearly the middle of the year as I write this. But I still plan to publish four issues this year. I hope to get the next issue out relatively soon since I should already have sufficient material for it.

One thing that makes me particularly happy about this issue is that it is the first one where I didn’t write any of the articles! I’d like to express my appreciation to all of our contributors to this issue, including Ruth Sims, Phil Little, Jeff Tullis, and Jonathan Tullis on behalf of his late great-uncle John L. Tullis. Submissions continue to be strongly encouraged. Even if you don’t feel like writing an article, please consider providing copies of old Tullis photos, records, obituaries, photos of gravestones, etc.

This issue begins with photos of what may be some of the oldest Tullis gravestones in the U.S. These photos were taken by Ruth Sims in the Rose Hill Cemetery, Troy, Ohio. They include photos of the gravestone of Aaron Tullis, who served in the Revolutionary War, and those of several of his sons, including Stephen B. Tullis, Joel Tullis, David R. Tullis, and William Tullis.

The next article is the conclusion of a series by Jeff Tullis begun in the last issue. In this issue Jeff presents the story of the family of James H. Tullis (1838-1914) and his wife, Lavina D. Meredith (1845-1914). This wonderfully detailed article tells of their migration from Indiana to Kansas, where they settled in 1868. Their children who lived to adulthood included Fernando Study Tullis, John Meredith Tullis, Emma J. Tullis, Edna Browning Tullis, Leroy Tullis, Robert Bruce Tullis, and Blanche Della Tullis. Jeff includes numerous photos of the family, copies of their Family Bible, and obituaries.

I hope you’ve already noticed the striking portrait of David L. Tullis (1808-1876) on the cover of this issue. There aren’t many of us who can claim beautiful oil paintings of our Tullis ancestors, but the descendants of David Tullis can! Several years ago I had noticed a reference in Zola Hardy’s book, Tullis and Allied Families, in which she mentioned an oil painting made in 1873 of this David Tullis which was then in the possession of Emily (Tullis) Little. I discovered that Emily had passed away in 1998 and I wondered what had become of the painting. I still don’t know the answer to that question, but then several months ago I heard from Phil Little and learned that he had an exact copy of that painting which was made a few years after the original. Phil’s story of these two portraits is presented in this issue, followed by his photos of the family’s gravestones in the Maple Grove Cemetery.

Finally, I also made contact with Jonathan Tullis of Oregon just a few months ago. It turns out that Jonathan is a descendant of David L. Tullis. But more interesting is that Jon’s late great-uncle, Dr. John Louis Tullis, was very interested in his family tree, had done quite a bit of research, and had written a manuscript documenting the family tree of his father, Bertram Thomas Tullis. (In an interesting coincidence, my late father, Dr. I. Frank Tullis, knew Dr. John L. Tullis, since they were both physicians interested in the Tullis family tree.) So this issue begins a series presenting John’s manuscript, starting with information about Jonathan Tullis (a son of Moses and Mary Elizabeth Tullis) and Jonathan’s son Ezra. The series will continue in the next issue.

Thomas S. Tullis, Editor
Tullis Gravestones in the Rose Hill Cemetery, Troy, Ohio

Photos by Ruth Sims

Editor’s Note: Some of the oldest legible Tullis gravestones in the U.S. are probably in the Rose Hill Cemetery, Troy, Miami County, Ohio. Ruth Sims was kind enough to share her photos of some of those gravestones. Rose Hill Cemetery is in the city of Troy, in Staunton Township of Miami County, Ohio. It is in Troy on the north side of State Route 55 between the railroad and the Troy-Urbana Road (County Road 193). From downtown Troy go north from the city square and across the bridge. You will see the cemetery ahead one block on your right.

Sign placed by the Troy Historical Society commemorating war veterans buried in the Rose Hill Cemetery, including Aaron Tullis (1753-1840), who fought in the American Revolution.
Original gravestone of Aaron Tullis in the center, with a newer gravestone to the left, and original gravestone of Aaron’s son, Stephen B. Tullis, to the right.

Left: 
Newer gravestone marking the grave of:

“Aaron Tullis Sr
Pvt
Continental Line
Rev War
Sep 25, 1753
Oct 29, 1840”

David R. Tullis (son of Aaron), died Aug. 25, 1867. (Born Feb. 23, 1791)

Joel Tullis (son of Aaron). Gravestone broken. (Born Feb. 14, 1793, died Oct. 5, 1854)

William Tullis (son of Aaron), died Jan. 27, 1868 (born July 1, 1787), and his wife Sarah Barbee, died Dec. 2, 1857 (born Aug. 24, 1793).

Children of William and Sarah Tullis who died relatively young: Eliza, William A, Silas A, Saphrona, and William B.
The Family of James H. & Lavina D. (Meredith) Tullis
Roots in Ohio, Branches in Indiana and Kansas

by Jeff Tullis, RR 5 Box 26, Coffeyville, KS 67337
jtullis@ieee.org

Editor’s Note: This is the second article by Jeff Tullis taken from a book he initially compiled in 1996 which identifies over 500 descendants of John and Mary (Burns) Tullis. That family was profiled in Jeff’s article in the last issue of Tullis Trees (Vol. 1, No. 4). The series now concludes with this profile of James Harvey Tullis, his wife Lavina Dorothy Meredith, and their children. Many thanks, again, to Jeff for contributing this material.

James Harvey Tullis was born on December 28, 1838, in Wayne Co., Indiana, the second child and first son of John Tullis and his wife Mary. He was probably born at the home of his parents in rural Clay Township, Wayne Co., Indiana. Six months prior to his birth, James’s parents had purchased a forty-acre farm consisting of the northwest corner of the southwest quarter of section twenty-one, township seventeen, range thirteen east located approximately two miles east of Hagerstown, Indiana. As a young child, James moved with his parents to north central Indiana, locating in the Fulton Co./Kosciusko Co. area, where he grew to adulthood. The extent and nature of James’ formal education is unknown. However, based on some of the public offices he held during his later life, one would assume James had completed at least a minimum of schooling available in rural Indiana during the mid-1800’s. According to family tradition, handed down from Blanche (Tullis) Graue to her daughter Betty Graue, James taught school for a brief period before his marriage. Although James was a young, unmarried adult during the Civil War period (1861-1865), there is no record that he served in any military unit during that time. His father, John, had died at a young age several years earlier leaving James, the eldest son, the head of the household and responsible for the welfare of his mother and younger siblings. For this reason, it is believed, James was not pressed into military service. His younger brother’s name, Arthur C. Tullis, appeared on a Civil War draft list in the November 17, 1864, edition of the Rochester (IN) Chronicle. However, no record of military service has been located for Arthur C. Tullis either.

On September 10, 1865, James married Lavina Dorothy Meredith, the daughter of Simon C. and Mary Ann (Middleton) Meredith, in Kosciusko Co., Indiana. Lavina had been a resident of Kosciusko Co. since moving there with her parents in 1850. She was born June 15, 1845, in Mahoning Co., Ohio. She was probably named after her maternal grandmother Dorothy (Sharp) Middleton. Lavina’s parents were Quakers just as their people had been for generations before them. Lavina’s mother, Mary Ann, passed away shortly after James and Lavina were married. Since she was the oldest child, Lavina helped her father, Simon, care for her younger brothers during the next few years. Her father later remarried and had more children with his second wife, Sarah.

In 1868, James, Lavina, and their two young children, Fernando and Mary, joined a wagon train of several local families, many of which were relatives, heading for southeast Kansas to take up land
which had recently been opened for settlement. Permanent settlement of this part of Kansas by white settlers had been arranged by an 1865 treaty between the United States government and the Osage Indian tribe. Upon their arrival in southeast Kansas, it is said that the families from Indiana found the native prairie grasses to be horseback high. The only account of this migration from Indiana to Kansas was written years later in 1935 by Lucile (Holman) Leonard and her father, G.W. Holman, in their Genealogy of the Burns Family written for a family reunion held that same year. Their account reads as follows: “... the families of George Byrd, John Brown, Jim Tullis, Ike Lyons, Vandegrifts, Gordons, Mullenhours, Stanley Foland and others left for Kansas in covered wagons, forming the caravan at the home of Charles W. Holman in Kosciusko Co., Indiana.” Tullis family members that joined the caravan included James and Lavina (Meredith) Tullis, Zane and A. Ellen (Tullis) Russell, and Samuel and Lavina (Tullis) Blue. Another brother’s family, Arthur C. and Rebecca (Cellers) Tullis, had left for Labette Co., Kansas from LaPorte, Indiana, the summer before as part of another wagon train including several Cellers family members. Notes inscribed within the Arthur Tullis family Bible say the family traveled by covered wagon pulled by oxen and horses and the trip from north central Indiana to southeast Kansas took twenty days.

Life on the Kansas prairie in the late 1860’s and early 1870’s was filled with hardships and sacrifices as chronicled in the book Little House on the Prairie later written by Laura Ingalls Wilder. During this time, the Ingalls family (Ma, Pa, Mary, Laura, and Carrie) lived the next county over, Montgomery Co., Kansas, from where the Tullis families had settled in 1868. Homesteading life in Kansas was hard on the Tullis families too. Several young children born to the families just before or after their arrival in Kansas died within the first several years. About six years after arriving in Kansas, the families of Zane Russell and Samuel Blue “starved-out” and decided to return to north central Indiana. In 1881, the Arthur Tullis family sold their farm in Labette Co., Kansas and moved to Jasper Co., Missouri. The James Tullis family remained on their homestead in Hackberry Twp., Labette Co., Kansas, where many of their descendants still live in the area some 130 years later.

James Harvey and Lavina Dorothy (Meredith) Tullis.
It is believed James and Lavina settled on a 160 acre farm consisting of the northeast quarter of Sec. 23, Twp. 34 S, R. 20 E, immediately upon their arrival in Labette Co. However, it appears that disposal of the land ceded by the Osage Indians was not approved by the U.S. Congress until Aug 1876. Finally in 1877, James and Lavina purchased this land for $1.25 per acre ($200 Total). A Patent for this land was subsequently issued by the Land Office at Independence, KS, on 20 Jun 1882.4

James and Lavina had a total of twelve children as follows: Fernando Study (named after a family friend of the same name from Wayne Co., IN), Mary (drowned in a well on family farm at 3 yrs of age), John Meredith, Emma J., Harry (d. at 1 yr of age), Edna Browning, Leroy, Arthur (d. at 2 yrs of age), Homer (d. at 6 yrs of age), Julia (d. as infant), Robert Bruce (my grandfather), and Blanche Della.5

On November 16, 1892, James and Lavina purchased an eighty-acre farm consisting of the east half of the northwest quarter of Sec. 27, Twp. 34 S, R. 20 E, in Labette Co.. This farm adjoined the new town of Bartlett, Kansas, which was established in June 1886 by R.A. Bartlett. When James and Lavina bought this farm near Bartlett, it had a single story home (see picture above). In 1902, during the months of Aug-Oct, James had this old house demolished and a new two-story, seven-room, home constructed on the same site (see picture below). Levi Middleton, a cousin of Lavina’s and also a native of Indiana, was the carpenter in charge of construction. While their house was being built, James and Lavina temporarily lived in the smokehouse that was adjacent to their old home.

From all accounts James was a lifelong farmer. In his later years, he and his cousin, T.P. Burns, opened an implement sales and hardware business in Bartlett, Kansas. He was also a long-time buyer of grain at the elevator in Bartlett. James served in several elected and appointed positions in Labette Co. and Hackberry Twp.. Politically a Democrat, James is known to have held the following offices: Bartlett School Board Member, Assessor for 1875 Kansas Agricultural Census (Hackberry Twp.), Hackberry Twp. Trustee, President of Lake Creek Union Cem Assoc., Justice of the Peace, Hackberry Twp. He is also known to have served as Justice of the Peace for Franklin Twp., Kosciusko Co., IN.6 In his many terms as Justice of the Peace, James acted as executor of estates, arrested lawbreakers, presided over jury trials and conducted marriage ceremonies in the small community of Bartlett.

James Harvey Tullis passed away at his home near Bartlett, Kansas, on August 31, 1914, approximately one week following an operation associated with a kidney ailment. Lavina D. Tullis passed away shortly after her husband on September 16, 1914.

(Footnotes)

1 Wayne Co., IN, Land Records; Book X; pg. 229.
3 “Marriage Record for James H. Tullis and Lavina D. Meredith”, 10 Sep 1865, Kosciusko Co., IN, Marriage Bk. C, p. 227, Kosciusko Co., Courthouse, Warsaw, IN. Lavina’s maiden name was found to be incorrectly spelled “Monteith” on county marriage index card system.
6 Abstracts of Kosciusko Co., IN, Court Records; Sep 1865-May 1869; Items from the Northern Indianaian Newspaper; compiled by Mary Nichols Ettinger.
### Family Group Record

#### Husband  
**James Harvey Tullis**  
- **Born**: 28 Dec 1838, **Place**: Clay Twp., Wayne Co., IN  
- **Died**: 31 Aug 1914, **Place**: Lake Creek Cemetery, Labette Co., KS  
- **Buried**: 1 Sep 1914, **Place**: Lake Creek Cemetery, Labette Co., KS  
- ** Married**: 10 Sep 1865, **Place**: Kosciusko Co., IN  
- **Husband’s father**: John Tullis  
- **Husband’s mother**: Mary Burns

#### Wife  
**Lavina Dorothy Meredith**  
- **Born**: 15 Jun 1845, **Place**: Mahoning Co., OH  
- **Died**: 16 Sep 1914, **Place**: near Bartlett, Labette Co., KS  
- **Buried**: 18 Sep 1914, **Place**: Lake Creek Cemetery, Labette Co., KS  
- ** Married**: 25 May 1902, **Place**: Labette Co., KS  
- **Wife’s father**: Simon C. Meredith  
- **Wife’s mother**: Mary Ann Middleton

#### Children  

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<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Born Date</th>
<th>Born Place</th>
<th>Died Date</th>
<th>Died Place</th>
<th>Buried Date</th>
<th>Buried Place</th>
<th>Spouse 1</th>
<th>Married Date</th>
<th>Spouse 2</th>
<th>Married Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Mary Tullis</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>12 Dec 1867</td>
<td>near Akron, Fulton Co., IN</td>
<td>1 Mar 1871</td>
<td>Hackberry Twp., Labette Co., KS</td>
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<td>Hackberry Cemetery, Labette Co., KS</td>
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### Family Group Record

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<th>Husband</th>
<th>James Harvey Tullis</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wife</td>
<td>Lavina Dorothy Meredith</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Children</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>8 M Arthur Tullis</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Born</td>
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<td>Died</td>
<td>25 Jun 1880</td>
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<tr>
<td>Buried</td>
<td>Place Hackberry Twp., Labette Co., KS</td>
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<td>9 M Homer Tullis</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Born</td>
<td>26 Oct 1879</td>
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<tr>
<td>Died</td>
<td>18 Jan 1886</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buried</td>
<td>Place Hackberry Twp., Labette Co., KS</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 F Julia Tullis</td>
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<td>Born</td>
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<tr>
<td>Died</td>
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<tr>
<td>Buried</td>
<td>Place Hackberry Twp., Labette Co., KS</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 M Robert Bruce &quot;Doc&quot; Tullis</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Born</td>
<td>10 Apr 1885</td>
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<tr>
<td>Died</td>
<td>17 Nov 1956</td>
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<tr>
<td>Buried</td>
<td>Place Lake Creek Cemetery, Labette Co., KS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spouse</td>
<td>Mary Elizabeth Wiley</td>
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<td>Married</td>
<td>29 Jun 1910</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spouse</td>
<td>Henry John Graue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married</td>
<td>5 Nov 1913</td>
</tr>
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</table>

*List each child in order of birth.*
Emma J. Tullis (married Charles H. Sanderson)  
Edna B. Tullis (married George E. Lonnecker, then Lewis D. Crane)  
John Meredith Tullis and his wife Rosa Leta Pever
Fernando Study Tullis (married Inez Hartman)

Leroy Tullis (married Bessie N. Stebbins)

Robert Bruce “Doc” Tullis (married Mary Wiley)

Blanche D. Tullis (married Henry J. Graue)
Home of James H. and Lavina (Meredith) Tullis, Bartlett, Kansas, 1900. Lavina is shown with their youngest daughter, Blanche. House shown here was replaced by a two-story home on the same site in 1902. Photo donated by Robert Peterson of Rochester, IN.

Tombstone of James H. and Lavina D. (Meredith) Tullis in Lake Creek Cemetery, rural Labette Co., Kansas.
Family Bible of James H. Tullis and Lavina D. Meredith

Births

James H. Tullis
was born December 25.
1828

Lavina D. Meredith
was born June 15.
1845

Fernando Tullis
was born October 8.
1866
Miscellaneous

Harry Tullis born May 20, 1872
Edna Tullis was born Dec 29, 1872
Leroy Tullis was born Oct 6, 1872
Arthur Tullis was born Aug 27, 1877
Blamer Tullis was born Oct 20, 1879
R. Bruce Tullis born April 20, 1885

Blanche Della Tullis was born May 1889
Deaths

Homer Tullis
Died January 18
1880

Arthur Tullis
Died June 25
1880

Charity
Obituary - James H. Tullis was born in Wayne County, Indiana, Dec. 28, 1838. He was united in marriage to Lavina D. Meredith, Sept. 10, 1865. They came to Labette County, Kansas in 1868 where they have since resided and where Mr. Tullis’ death occurred Aug. 31, 1914 his age being 76 years, 8 months and 3 days. He is survived by Mrs. Tullis and seven children as follows: Fernando S. Tullis of Bartlett, John M. Tullis, Carthage, Mo., Mrs. Emma Sanderson, Bartlett, Mrs. Edna B. Crane, Bartlett, Leroy Tullis, Russell Creek, Okla., Robert Bruce Tullis, Bartlett, and Mrs. Blanche Graue, Bartlett. All the above and an only brother of the deceased, Arthur C. Tullis of Carthage, were present at his death bed. Funeral services were held Thursday afternoon at 2 o’clock in the Presbyterian church conducted by Rev. J.H. Summer and the interment was in Lake Creek Cemetery. There was a large attendance. Mr. Tullis was among Hackberry Township’s earliest settlers and foremost citizens. He has held many of the township offices and his public and private life were ever noteworthy. The relatives have the sympathy of all in this hour of sadness. A good man is gone. Peace to his ashes.

Among the out of town people here to attend the funeral of J.H. Tullis were Mr. and Mrs. L.R. Tullis of Chetopa, Mr. and Mrs. J.M. Tullis and 2 youngest children and Arthur Tullis of Carthage, Mo., Mrs. Lauderback of Coffeyville, Mr. and Mrs. E.G. Byrd of Oswego, and Mr. and Mrs. John Meredith of Akron, Indiana. Mr. Meredith is a brother of Mrs. J. H. Tullis.

Chetopa Clipper, Chetopa, KS, Sept. 9, 1914.

Obituary - Mrs. J. H. Tullis - Lavina D. Meredith was born in Mahoning County, Ohio, June 15, 1845 and departed this life Sept. 16, 1914 aged 69 years, 3 months and 1 day, only 16 days after her husband, J.H. Tullis had passed away. She moved with her parents to Kosciusko County Indiana in March, 1850 and there grew to womanhood. She was united in marriage to J.H. Tullis, September 10, 1865 and from this union still survives the following children: Fernando, John, Leroy and Bruce Tullis and Mrs. Emma Sanderson, Mrs. Edna Crane and Mrs. Blanche Graue. There also survives two brothers and three half brothers John C. Meredith, Mahlon W. Meredith, and Willis Meredith of Akron, Ind., Harry Meredith of Claypool, Ind., and Harvey Meredith of Silver Lake, Indiana, 23 grandchildren all of whom mourn the loss of a kind mother and sister. She is also survived by many other relatives and a host of friends. Funeral services were held Friday afternoon at the Presbyterian Church conducted by Rev. J.C. Morgan and J.H. Summer and interment was in Lake Creek Cemetery beside her husband.

Chetopa Clipper, Chetopa, KS, Sept. 21, 1914.
MRS. SANDERSON DIES AFTER DRENCHING IN HAIL STORM

Mrs. Charles (Emma J.) Sanderson, who as told in The Advance last week was drenched with rain after the roof of her home had been destroyed by the recent hailstorm, died Tuesday of last week at the home of her brother, (Le) Roy Tullis, to which place she was taken after the storm. Mrs Sanderson was ill with typhoid fever at the time of the storm and was drenched with water and hail when the roof was beaten in. The funeral was held last Thursday from the Presbyterian Church in Bartlett, Rev. Darby officiating and burial being in Lake Creek Cemetery. Mrs. Sanderson is survived by her husband and four children, the oldest 12 and youngest 4 years old, of the home place, south of town, and four brothers, John and (Le) Roy Tullis of Timber Hill and F.S. and R.B. Tullis of Bartlett, and two sisters, Mrs. L.D. (Edna) Crane and Mrs. Blanche Graue of Bartlett. She was born on a farm near Bartlett, July 22, 1870.


Parsons Sun, Parsons, KS, Dec. 21, 1953.

Leroy Tullis

BARTLETT - Leroy Tullis, 78, a lifetime resident of this vicinity, died at 6:25 a.m. Saturday at Oswego Hospital where he had been a patient for seven days.

He was born Oct. 6, 1875, near Bartlett. On Dec 29, 1897, he was married to Bessie Nina Stebbins. She died Oct. 27, 1943.

Survivors include three sons, Arthur and Ralph, Bartlett, and James, R. 3. Oswego; a daughter, Mrs. Geneva Davidson, R. 2. Altamont.

Also surviving are three brothers, F.S. Tullis, Bartlett; R.B. and John M. Tullis, R. 3. Chetopa; two sisters; Mrs. Edna Crane and Mrs. Blanche Graue, Bartlett, and nine grandchildren, one great-grandchild.

A son and two daughters preceded him in death.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete but will be in charge of the Miller Funeral Home of Chetopa.


Death of Fernando S. Tullis, Thursday

Fernando S. Tullis, a retired farmer, died at 7:00 a.m. Thursday Dec. 6 at his home north of Bartlett. He was 90 years old. Mr. Tullis had been an invalid for the past six years.

Fernando Study Tullis was born near Akron, Indiana Oct. 8, 1856 and came to Kansas at the age of two years with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James H. Tullis. Since that time he has spent the most of his life in the Bartlett vicinity except for two years in Colorado and four years in Altamont. On Oct. 8 he observed his 90th birthday.

He was married May 55, 1912 to Inez Edna Hertman. She preceded him in death August 22, 1910.

He was a member of the A & M Lodge at Altamont and the Odd Fellow Lodge of Bartlett. He passed away Dec. 6 at his home near Bartlett after a lingering illness.

Survivors include three daughters, Miss Mabel Tullis, Bartlett; Miss Hazel Tullis, Dodge City, and Miss Wilma Tullis, Winfield; two sisters, Mrs. Edna Crane and Mrs. Blanche Graue, Bartlett; one brother, John Tullis, rural Chey- oga, and a number of nieces and nephews.

One son, Ernest Evelyn Tullis, and three sisters and five brothers preceded him in death.

Funeral services were held in the Bartlett Presbyterian Church Sunday afternoon with J.W. Bolton, Methodist pastor, and Rev. Roy Alt, Presbyterian pastor, in charge, and burial was in the Lake Creek Cemetery west of Bartlett.


John Meredith Tullis

Special to The Sun

CHETOPA — John Meredith Tullis, a retired farmer who lived south of here in Craig County, Oklahoma, died yesterday at the Oswego Hospital at the age of 94.

He was born Feb. 13, 1875, near Bartlett, the son of James Harvey and Levina Tullis. He grew up in Bartlett and was married there March 28, 1908, to Rosa Feuer.

They spent the early part of their marriage in Indian Territory, south of Bartlett. Later they moved nearer to Bartlett, crossing the line into Kansas.

From there they moved to Carthage, Mo., and from there to the present farm south of here, where they had lived many years.

Surviving besides the wife are three sons, Homer P., Los Angel- es; Joseph Harvey and Lloyd Raymond, both of rural Chetopa; two daughters, Mrs. Florence Whitcomb, Chetopa, and Mrs. Antje May Brady, rural Chetopa; two sisters, Mrs. Edna Crane, Independence, and Mrs. Blanche Graue, Bartlett; 14 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

The funeral will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at the First Baptist Church of Chetopa, conducted by the Rev. Vernon Biggs and the Rev. Houston Seaton.

Burial will be in Lake Creek Cemetery near Bartlett under the direction of the Miller Funeral Home.

Mrs. Edna B. Crane

Special to The Sun

INDEPENDENCE—Mrs. Edna B. Crane, 94, a native of the Bartlett area, died at 3 a.m. today in an Independence nursing home where she had been a resident since Sept. 1, 1980.

Born Dec. 27, 1937, at Bartlett, she was the daughter of James M. and Lavinia Meredith Tullis. She attended Labette County schools and as a young woman taught for several years in the Bartlett area.

She was first married to George E. Lonnecker. After his death she was married to Lewis D. Crane who died in 1951.

She was a member of the Presbyterian church at Bartlett and was the oldest member of the Bartlett Rebekah Lodge, receiving her 50-year pin in the early 1950s. She was a past noble grand of the club and was a member of the Past Noble Grand club and the Bartlett Culture Club.

Survivors include two sons, Meredith W. "Tom" Lonnecker, Independence, and Lewis D. Crane Jr., Mobile, Ala.; a daughter, Mrs. Ernest M. Medgen, Mobile; two step-daughters, Mrs. Fred Spaulding and Miss Ruth M. Crane, both of Boca Raton, Fla.; four grandchildren; several great-grandchildren, and a sister, Mrs. Blanch Graue, Bartlett. A son preceded her in death.

Funeral services and burial will be at Bartlett under the direction of the Potts Funeral Home of Independence with the time to be announced.

Parsons Sun, Parsons, KS,
Jan. 17, 1968

MRS. BLANCH D. GRAUE

Mrs. Blanch Della Graue passed away at 9 a.m. on Monday, April 23, 1973, in the Labette County Medical Center at Parsons.

A resident of Bartlett for many years, she had been seriously ill for a year and in critical condition for the past three weeks.

The daughter of James and Lavinia (Meredith) Tullis, she was born on May 2, 1889, on a farm northeast of Bartlett. Reared to womanhood there, she was a switchboard operator for the telephone company in Bartlett for a number of years. On November 5, 1913, she was united in marriage to Henry J. Graue at Vinita, Oklahoma.

With the exception of a few years spent in Oklahoma and Missouri, Mrs. Graue had spent nearly all of her life in the Bartlett community. Her husband had been employed by the Missouri Pacific Railroad Company. He died on April 20, 1959.

Survivors are a daughter, Miss Betty Graue, and a son, Fred Graue, both of Bartlett.

Mrs. Graue was the last surviving member of her immediate family. She was preceded in death by three sisters, Mary Tullis, Mrs. Emma Sanderson and Mrs. Edna Crane, and seven brothers, Fernando Tullis, John Tullis, Robert B. Tullis, LeRoy Tullis and three young brothers who died in infancy, Harry, Arthur and Homer Tullis.

Funeral services were held at 2:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Bates Funeral Home in Chetopa. The Rev. Vern Wilkinson, pastor of the Chetopa Christian Church, officiated.

Mrs. Gilbert Cole was the soloist and sang "The Old Rugged Cross" and "In the Garden." She was accompanied at the organ by Mrs. Larry Allen.

Pallbearers were Harvey Tullis, Charles Tullis, Lloyd Tullis, Randall Tullis, Ernest Tullis and R. A. Tullis.

Interment followed in the Lake Creek Cemetery at Bartlett.

David L. Tullis (1808-1876):  
“A Tale of Two Portraits”

Photos and information supplied by Phillip A. Little, Wichita, KS  
Phillittl@aol.com

Editor’s Note: This article is about David L. Tullis (1808-1876) of Mechanicsburg, Ohio, and his family. David’s portrait graces the cover of this issue. This article is based on information supplied by Phil Little, a great-great-grandson through David’s daughter, Helen Mahr Tullis, who married Lewis Luther “Lute” Little in 1867. To me, the most interesting part is the story of the two portraits of David Tullis, on the following page.

From The History of Champaign County, Ohio  
Published by W. H. Beers & Co., Chicago, 1881  
p. 900:

DAVID TULLIS (deceased); was born in Lebanon, Warren Co., Ohio, Oct. 17, 1808, and was the son of Ezra and Mary (Blue) Tullis, pioneers of Warren Co., and natives of Virginia. When David was a small boy, his parents pioneered their way into the wilds of Champaign Co., and here passed the remainder of their lives, raising their family of four sons and two daughters to honest toil. David was the second child of the family, and was reared, and inured to farm labor. Early in life, he learned the trade of a blacksmith, which he followed in Mechanicsburg for seventeen years. By his industry and careful attention to business, he won the confidence of the public and the reputation of a first-class workman. At the end of this time he purchased and moved on a farm, and began the pursuit of agriculture with the hope of improving his failing health. Here he remained successfully operating his farm for about twenty-one years, and then returned to Mechanicsburg, where his death occurred July 15, 1876. By his death the community suffered the loss of one whom it recognized as a valuable and honorable citizen. He was married, July 8, 1831, to Nancy Cartmell, who was born in 1812, near Mechanicsburg, her parents being natives of Winchester, Va., and pioneers of this county. They located in Goshen Township in 1805, and lived the remainder of their days on the place on which they first located. Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Tullis, seven of whom still survive; one died in infancy.
On April 29, 2003, after Phil and I had exchanged several email messages and he had sent me a photo of his portrait of David Tullis, I received the following message from him explaining the story behind the portrait(s):

“When I was young (many years ago) I spent every possible moment with Dad in his basement woodworking shop. Apparently they emptied his parent’s home after Granddad died in 1931 and Dad inherited the portrait. It was prominent enough in the shop that it would come under discussion occasionally. Dad thought it was “Lute” Little and later so did his older sister. Dad died in 1956. In 1966 Mom had to go to a care home. The portrait became ours and was propped against a basement wall. Over the 90 years it had suffered — one slit, paint missing on one eye, a few dents, etc. When our two sons decided they wanted the basement bedroom for their “wolfs” den as I called it, they would refer to it as “Moses in a business suit.”

Years later I decided something must be done to preserve the portrait. I asked a very prominent interior decorator at our church for a recommendation. He gave me Mr. McArthur. I called him, told him what I had and what it needed and asked for an appointment to take it to his art “shop” for an estimate. He did and said it would take six weeks. I readily agreed and left it with him. Three weeks later he called and I thought, “Oh, &,%#, he has a problem.” Mr. McArthur said he had removed all the dirt, crud, etc, cleaned it, and found the painter’s name, Estella Mitchell, 1878. It was a very faint red. Did I want him to restore it? “Yes.” To repair the slits, dents, etc, he had glued nylon net on the back. He called when it was finished. The portrait was propped up in his shop and I could tell by the looks on his and his brother’s faces that it had become a pet due to all the TLC they had given it. He said a wealthy lady had visited his shop, asked who it was and he said we do not know for sure. She asked to buy it. No deal.

When we visited Urbana, OH, Roger “Jack” Tullis took us to Emily and Lawrence’s home and showed us their portrait. We explained we had one just like it at home. That caused a lot of confusion! However, the date on theirs was 1873 and a different name. Our is an exact copy.”

The original portrait, which Emily (Tullis) Little, a great-granddaughter of David Tullis through his son Henry Tullis, had inherited, was painted in 1873 by the noted portrait artist S. Jerome Uhl.
Gravestones in Maple Grove Cemetery, Mechanicsburg, OH: David L. Tullis and Family

Photos by Phillip A. Little, Wichita, KS
Phillittl@aol.com

The Tullis burial plot, Maple Grove Cemetery, Mechanicsburg, OH.

After entering cemetery, take first right turn to top of the hill.

Left: Tullis monument

Right: One face of the monument, marking the graves of the parents of David Tullis: Ezra Tullis (Mar 18, 1783 - Apr 5, 1842) and Mary (Blue) Tullis (Mar 29, 1777 - Mar 20, 1843)
Another face of the monument, marking the grave of David L. Tullis (Oct 17, 1808 - Jul 25, 1876).

Another face of the monument, marking the grave of David’s wife, Nancy (Cartmell) Tullis (Feb 18, 1812 - Dec 1, 1898).

Gravestone of David and Nancy’s son, John C(artmell) Tullis (1846 - 1932).

Gravestone of John’s wife, Anna R(achel) (Thomas) Tullis (1848 - 1911).

Gravestone of David and Nancy’s daughter, H(elen) M(ahr) (Tullis) Little (Feb 14, 1842 - Sep 29, 1883), wife of Lewis Luther Little.
**Family Group Sheet**

**Husband: David L. Tullis**

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<th>Event</th>
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<th>Location</th>
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<td>October 17, 1808</td>
<td>Champaign Co, OH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Married</td>
<td>July 07, 1831</td>
<td>Champaign Co, OH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Died</td>
<td>July 25, 1876</td>
<td>Champaign Co, OH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burial</td>
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<td>Maple Grove Cemetery, Mechanicsburg, OH, lot 100-A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Father</td>
<td>Ezra Tullis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mother</td>
<td>Mary Blue</td>
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**Wife: Nancy Cartmell**

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<td>Born</td>
<td>February 18, 1812</td>
<td>Champaign Co, Ohio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Died</td>
<td>December 01, 1898</td>
<td>Mechanicsburg, Champaign Co, OH</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Father</td>
<td>John Cartmell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mother</td>
<td>Sophia Leutz</td>
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**CHILDREN**

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<td>Henry Tullis</td>
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<td>Champaign Co, OH</td>
<td>March 21, 1919</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Sarah Elizabeth Tullis</td>
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<td>Champaign Co, OH</td>
<td>1906</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Mary A. Tullis</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Helen Mahr Tullis</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>February 14, 1842</td>
<td>Champaign Co, OH</td>
<td>September 29, 1883</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>John Cartmell Tullis</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>April 06, 1846</td>
<td>Champaign Co, OH</td>
<td>January 23, 1932</td>
<td>Mechanicsburg, OH</td>
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<td>6</td>
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<td>Champaign Co, OH</td>
<td>March 05, 1887</td>
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</table>
Editor’s Note: Several months ago I came in email contact with Jonathan Tullis of Oregon. He provided me with a copy of a manuscript his late great-uncle, Dr. John Louis Tullis, had written in 1983 about his Tullis family tree. That manuscript will now be reproduced, exactly as John wrote it, in a series of articles starting with this one. Although John started with “The First Generation”, which was Moses Tullis and Mary Elizabeth Van Dyke, I’m skipping that generation for now since many others have also written about their family. A separate article specifically addressing that family and the information about them from all sources will be presented in the future. This article begins with “The Second Generation”, Jonathan Tullis, and “The Third Generation”, Ezra Tullis (grandfather and father of David L. Tullis also profiled in this issue). The references noted are explained at the end; appendices mentioned are not included.

THE SECOND GENERATION IN THE BERT. TULLIS LINE

Jonathan, the 4th son of Moses and Mary Elizabeth Tullis, migrated to the western territory sometime after his father's death in 1777. In the period 1778 to 1802 Jonathan's whereabouts are not known with certainty. There is a possibility he may have been one Captain Jonathan Tullis who is named on the 1787 tax list filed by Assessor John Hammer in Washington Co., Tennessee as follows: Captain Jonathan Tullis, 400 acres, 1 poll, 1 femme covert, 2 male infants, 2 female infants". ("1 poll" indicates that the taxpayer was under 50 years of age and was therefore subject to a poll tax. "1 femme covert" means 1 married woman.) Captain Jonathan Tullis does not appear on the tax lists after 1799. (L. & E. Little)

Our Jonathan was born circa 1755. In 1787 he would have been 32 years old. The Captain's family in 1787 consisted of a wife and 4 infants. One of "our" Jonathan's sons, Ezra, was born in Virginia March 18, 1783. Thus the dates for father and son in Tennessee in 1787 are comparable with the dates for father and son who moved to Ohio in 1802 and settled there permanently.

Another interesting date correlation occurs in a deed filed at the Jonesboro Co. C.H., Johnson City, Tennessee dated Dec. 1, 1800 which states: "Jonathan Tullis sold 399 acres more or less for $1,500.00". The date fits the picture, but again Jonathan's wife is not named in the deed of sale. A search is now underway for the deed of purchase which if it exists and can be found may list the name of Jonathan's wife, our ancestor. (L. & E. Little)

It is important to recall that in the 18th and early part of the 19th centuries the territory from which the present states of Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee were formed existed as primeval wilderness. (See appended Xerox copy of "Early Dayton History) Many early settlers simply staked out a tract of land, cleared it, built a log cabin on it and planted crops on it. In
other words they claimed the land by squatter's rights and their success in warding off Indian raids. In Ohio, for instance, the Indians fought for 40 years with raiding parties and sometimes full scale battles before a lasting peace was achieved with the signing of the Treaty of Greene Ville in 1794 after General Anthony Wayne's victory over Chief Little Turtle and his army of two thousand Miami warriors in the battle of Fallen Timbers. (History of Ohio, Vol. I) Life in early Tennessee was probably much the same as in early Ohio. The settlers formed companies of militiamen for their mutual protection. One Jonathan Tullis was possibly the Captain of such a company.

The first, presently known, certain reference concerning our Jonathan after he witnessed his father's will is in the form of a deed of land purchase dated Sept. 15, 1802 on file at the Warren Co. C.H. Lebanon, Ohio. It states that Jonathan Dayton of Elizabethtown, N.J. transferred to Jonathan Tullis of Hamilton Co., Ohio 200 acres of land for a consideration of $600.00. The land was located in Section 33, Township 4, Range 3, Territory northwest of the Ohio River. The land is now a part of Union Township, Warren Co. (L. & E. Little)

Hamilton Co. bordering on the Ohio River included in 1802, as it had for several years before that date and continues to do today, the major population center in southwestern Ohio, the city of Cincinnati. It would be a likely stop-off for a migrant from Tennessee looking for land to buy in the area. Warren Co. abuts the northeast corner of Hamilton Co. Jonathan's brothers Aaron and Amos were in Warren Co. by 1800 and sister Sarah and her husband Timothy Sewell were in Clinton Co., which abuts the eastern border of Warren Co. (Note: Many of the original counties contained large areas which as the population increased were sectioned off to form new counties. Thus land purchased in one county may belong to a different county today. The following table indicates the years of "Erection and Organization" of some of the counties in Ohio of particular interest to us (History of Ohio, Vol. II).

Hamilton 1790, Warren 1803, Montgomery 1803,
Champaign 1805, Miami 1807, Clinton 1810

Ohio was admitted to Statehood in the Union in 1803, although not officially until 1953! (See appended Xerox account) Jonathan Tullis is listed as a taxpayer in Warren Co. in the 1810 records. In the 1820 Census of Ohio A J Tullis is listed as a resident of Turtle Creek Township, Warren Co. (A. Tullis, Salem Township; D. Tullis, Turtle Creek Township; and W. Tullis, Union Township all in Warren Co. are also listed. Aaron Tullis and members of his family are listed as residents of Concord Township, Miami Co.) The number of persons and their stated ages in the "J" Tullis household are inconsistent with those verified data for the Jonathan Tullis household.

As funds accumulated in the Federal Treasury from the sale of Congressional Lands to private buyers, Congress appropriated a portion to the State for the construction of roads. A grant for $75.00 was received by Warren Co. for the construction of a road from Lebanon to Hamilton. In 1820 "Jonathan Tullis, Commissioner" signed the receipt for the money. (L. & E. Little)

On Jan, 8, 1818 a deed was recorded at the Champaign Co. C.H. Urbana, Ohio (Deed Book D, page 202) stating that Jonathan Tullis and his wife, Nancy, sold to Jonathan Tullis, Jr. 9½ acres of land lying between the Miami Rivers for $400.00.

The Nancy Tullis named in the deed to Jonathan, Jr. was Jonathan Sr's second wife. The only information we have about his first wife, Mary, comes
from an entry in a Tullis family Bible. Zillah Tullis Owen was able in 1944 to locate the Bible at the home of a "distant cousin" living in nearby Urbana, Ohio. She submitted the following list she copied of the entries in the Bible.

Marriages
Ezra Tullis and Mary Blue, Feb. 13, 1806.
Jonathan Tullis and Rebecca Rigdon, Sept. 24, 1829
James Spry and Mary Tullis, Feb. 24, 1831.

Births
Ezra Tullis, son of Jonathan Tullis and Mary his wife, born Mar. 18, 1783.
Mary Blue, daughter of John Blue and Catherine his wife, born Mar. 20, 1778.
Children of Ezra and Mary his wife:
Jonathan L. Tullis, born Mar. 30, 1807
David L. Tullis, born Oct. 17, 1808
Mary Tullis, born May 13, 1811
Rebecca Tullis, born Feb. 27, 1813.
Ezra C. Tullis, born Feb. 19, 1815.
Peter T. Tullis, born Jan. 7, 1817
Children of Jonathan and Rebecca his wife:
Ezra Tullis, born Sept. 7, 1830.

Jonathan's wife Mary was probably a native of Virginia and Jonathan and Mary were probably married in Virginia. No record of the marriage has been found. It is known that their first son was born in Virginia. (Beer's History of Champaign Co. Ohio under David L. Tullis - Xerox copy appended.)

Jonathan was married a second time to the widow, Nancy (Darke) Welsh, on Nov. 18, 1811 in Ross Co., Ohio. Nancy was born May 31, 1769 in Berkeley Co., Va., married the Rev. Samuel I. Welsh, a Methodist Circuit Rider, on Mar. 29, 1798 in Berkeley Co., Va. They had four children and migrated to Ross Co., Ohio about 1805. The Rev. Welsh died there circa 1806. One child, David H. Tullis was born to Jonathan and Nancy (L. & E. Little).

Jonathan died intestate circa 1831, but the court ordered probate of his estate, dated June 4, 1831, lists his heirs as follows: Ezra, Harvey, Jonathan, Jr. and John W., sons, Peter Sewell (identified as the widower of a deceased daughter) and Solomon Weston (not otherwise identified - perhaps he was a second son-in-law?) (L. & E. Little)

Jonathan's place of burial is unknown. Nancy, his second wife, died Dec. 8, 1839. Her body is buried in the Red Lion Cemetery, Lebanon, Ohio.

THE THIRD GENERATION IN THE BERT T. TULLIS LINE

From the family Bible entries we know that Ezra Tullis, son of Jonathan and Mary Tullis, was born March 18, 1783 and that he married Mary Blue, daughter of John and Catherine Blue on Feb. 13, 1806. (Warren Co., Groom's Index Marriage Record Book 1, Page 10, Entry 83 lists Blew, Mary 2/12/1806 Ezra Tullis"). Ezra's grave marker in the Maple Grove Cemetery, Goshen Township, Mechanicsburg, Ohio shows his date of birth as above and his date of death as April 5, 1842. The same grave marker indicates that Mary Tullis, his wife, was born March 20, 1777 and died March 20, 1843. Ezra and Mary were first buried in the "old cemetery" near the town square in Mechanicsburg, but when it was scheduled to go out of existence their grandson, John Cartmell
The references to "L. & E. Little" refer to Lawrence and Emily (Tullis) Little. This is the same Emily (Tullis) Little mentioned in the article about the portraits of David L. Tullis. Emily was the owner of the original portrait of David Tullis. As John Tullis states in his Acknowledgements: "Special thanks are due Lawrence and Emily Tullis Little who are themselves preparing an in-depth genealogical review of a Tullis family branch closely related to ours. Mrs. Little is descended from Henry Tullis, son of David L. The Littles have made available to me portions of early drafts of their manuscript, 'The Tullis Family' which is not yet in final form." That manuscript, entitled "A Record of Descendants of Moses Tullis, Sr., of Berkeley Co., VA and Thomas Little of Hunterdon Co., NJ", is now available at the DAR Library in Washington, DC. And speaking of the DAR, I understand from "Tullis Trees" subscriber Waunita Gibbons that Jonathan Tullis, profiled above, is recognized by the DAR as a Revolutionary Soldier from his service in a militia unit in Berkeley Co, VA. Source: "Muster and Pay Rolls of the War of the Revolution, 1775-1783", reprint from the New York Historical Society, 1914, 1915, 1996; p.643.

Tullis Trees, Volume 2, Number 1 (1st Quarter 2003)
**Tullis Questions, Queries, etc.**

*Submitted by LaRhesa Allen Pilcher (Lgpilcher@aol.com):*

I am trying to trace my Allen family and not getting very far. On my grandfather’s death certificate it lists a Phillip E. Allen as his father and his mother’s maiden name as Tullis. I have found a listing of a Purnind Elizabeth Tullis and Phillip marriage license in Sunflower, Mississippi. They are listed in the 1880 census in Washington County, MS. The only information I have on my great-grandparents is that they both died in 1886 and are buried at Allentown Cemetery in Semmes, AL. Does anyone have any information on Purnind Elizabeth Tullis? I am not sure if this Phillip and Purnind are my great-grandparents. I am trying to prove this one way or the other. Thanks for any help.

*Random questions from the Editor, Tom Tullis (TomTullis@aol.com):*

In the last issue of *Tullis Trees*, there was extensive information on Michael Ezra Tullis (1756-1832). I now realize that I’ve never seen any original sources showing a middle name or even initial for him. However, I’ve found information from other researchers dating back at least 10 years giving his middle name as “Ezra”. Does anyone have any original sources for that information?

In a future issue of this newsletter I plan to include an article about what we actually know and don’t know about Moses Tullis and Mary Elizabeth Van Dyke. Does anyone have any original sources to document their marriage?

---

**Harvey Tullis**

*Ruth Sims (ruthsims@earthlink.net) writes:*

Back in 1998, my daughters and I discovered a Tullis Cemetery in Fayette County, Indiana. In the graveyard I found a headstone for a Harvey Tullis (left) who died in October 1836, aged 83 years. This would make him born about 1753. His wife’s name was Sarah. The land for the cemetery was given by a Henry Tullis according to a Fayette County history book. I have never been able to find out who this Harvey Tullis is or, for that matter, Henry.

*Editor’s Note: The year of birth for this Harvey Tullis makes him the right age to have been a son of Moses Tullis and Mary Elizabeth, or perhaps a son of one of the brothers of Moses. If anyone has any thoughts, please contact Ruth (ruthsims@earthlink.net) or me (TomTullis@aol.com).*