

THOMAS SUMMERSET TULLIS
Civil War Soldier and Iowa Pioneer

Thomas Summerset Tullis, the fourth child of Moses Grooms Tullis and Mary Summerset was born on February 23, 1835, in Rush County, Indiana. He was named after his grandfather, Thomas Summerset, who died the year before our subject was born. The Grandfather was a veteran of the American Revolution and served in Colonel Armand's Legion as a Dragoon (Cavalry) and for a time was assigned as a body guard to General Lafayette. He no doubt told many stories about the War of Independence and the notables of that conflict he saw while with General Lafayette.

Thomas or Tommy as his parents called him, lived on a farm of his parents, and moved with them to various places in Indiana and Ohio.

On August 1st, 1861, shortly after the start of the Civil War, Tommy enlisted in Company "C", 5th Regiment of Kansas Cavalry. This regiment was considered one of the Union Army's finest mounted units, which might account for Tommy traveling all the way to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, to enlist. Perhaps the stories of his Grandfather's exploits in the Revolution inspired this action.

The 5th Kansas Cavalry served in General Grant's Army of the Mississippi Valley, participating in many of the battles fought in that theater of the War. At Pine Bluff, Arkansas, on October 25, 1863, Tommy was engaged in a mounted duel with a unit of General Marmaduke's Confederate Cavalry, sustaining a slight sabre wound. It wasn't serious as Tommy was back on active duty in a few days.

While at his regimental camp, word reached the 5th Kansas Cavalry of a major Union victory. Reacting to this good news, and in a gesture of celebration, Tommy fired his pistol in the air, contrary to camp orders. He was court-martialled on June 8, 1864. However, his punishment was a fine of \$5.00 to be deducted from his pay. Certainly, this minimum punitive measure shows how minor an offense he had committed and that the officers understood his actions, although they could not condone them.

On September 7, 1864, Tommy was discharged from the Army having fulfilled the terms of his enlistment. He was given \$100.00 in payment for the horse he brought with him when he enlisted, and \$68.47 in back pay and allowances. His discharge was honorable.

Rather than return to the family home in Van Wert, Ohio, he elected to ride due north to his brother's home in Oskaloosa, Iowa. He stayed in and around that town until 1875.

While there, he met a wartime buddy, Jasper Ogle, and through him met Henrietta Clay Ogle. They were married around 1870 (records were destroyed in an 1898 fire). Unfortunately, this was not a happy marriage, which resulted in separation and finally in divorce, which was granted in Maskaska County, Iowa, on May 18, 1875.

Thomas removed to Decatur, Iowa, and lived the rest of his years in that community. While there, he met and married Miss Mary

E. Horner. They were married May 21, 1884.

As a result of the divorce, Thomas had two separate families. The first from his marriage to Henrietta, who bore him a son, Walter Hercules Tullis. The second from his wife Mary, who bore him four children: Loren, John, Mary, and Pearl Marie. His descendants are many and we are going to treat them separately, owing to the confines of this small publication.

On the 24th of February, 1910, Thomas applied for a veterans pension in compliance with the Veterans Act of February 6, 1907. In this application, he stated that he was five foot seven inches tall, dark complexion, grey eyes and had dark hair. He also listed his occupation as a farmer.

His pension was granted under certificate number 162828, and he lived out the remaining few years of his life with the assistance of that well-earned income.

Thomas died at his home in Decatur, Iowa, November 18, 1912, at the age of 75. He left his second wife, Mary, and their four children, his ex-wife and their son, plus several grandchildren to mourn his passing. This information and letters are direct quotes from "Tullis Tracers".

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Our special thanks to Mrs. Marie Tullis Cole who supplied much of the information in this story.

LETTERS TO A SON
IN THE
CIVIL WAR

Vanwert, Ohio

September the 1st, 1861

Dear Child, I take my pen in hand this morning to answer your kind letter I received it yesterday and was glad to hear you were well and in the service of our Country. Your Mother took a good cry over it but when we came to study on it we concluded it is all right and I feel glad that I have a son to volunteer in my place for I no if I was young I would go cheerfully and protect the stars and stripes of our country and now Thomas we want you to be religious for you no not how soon you may be stricken down by the hand of the traytors but if you should fail may you fall fighting for the flag of your Country and we hope your officers maybe God fearing soldiers. May they trust in that arm which protects the universe. I want you to keep us posted on the events that surround you in regard to the movements of your regiment and all about your fare and situation and it may be you may move from one place to another and we not have a chance to write you. I want you to write us often for we will want to hear from you often. You wanted to no about our boys that volunteered from Vanwert. They have to back safe and some of them has volunteered for 3 years. _____ Clark is there captain. I received a letter from John and Henry yesterday. They are all well,

we are well, except your mother, she has bin unwell for some time with the neuralgy in her arm and shoulder but is since better now. The friends is all as far as I no well. Sarah and Langdon with hour Father and Mother send our love to you, No more at this Time.

M. G. and Mary Tullis

To: Thomas Tullis

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Vanwert, Ohio

October the 9th, 1861

My dear child, I take my pen in hand this morning to answer your letter we received it yesterday and we all glad to hear from you that you were alive and well. We were very uneasy not hearing from you for some time but this morning we rejoiced that you have been preserved on the battlefield from bullets of the rebels. It has been our sincere prayer to God is you may be preserved from accident or sudden death and that the great general of the universe may shield and protect our army and lead them to certain victory. We all unite in praying for you and your officers that victory may crown every effort for the advancement of our cause. Mrs. Quick says she will pray for you as long as the War lasts that you may be preserved and permitted to return home to the embrace of friends. Tell us wheather you are a drummer or carry arms so we may know how you are placed. I will now tell you of some of the boys that have gone to war. Rubin Carnearn, George Wheeler, Washington Martin, Preston Treedy, 2 of the Limber boys, Bill Crates, Jim and Martin _____ Upgrove, Thadius Gilliland, George Todd, Enoch Butts, Jacob Wortman and we still have a company of cowards left at home. We held our elections yesterday and resulted in a full triumph of our union candidates in the county and the state is also her for the constitution and the union and a vigerous prosecution of the war. We have not heard from Iowa for sometime thay were well than. Our friends here are all well. Thomas write us often and let us know how you are getting along and how you are, I will close now, by saying fare well Tommy, May God bless you.

M. G. and Mary Tullis

To: Thomas Tullis

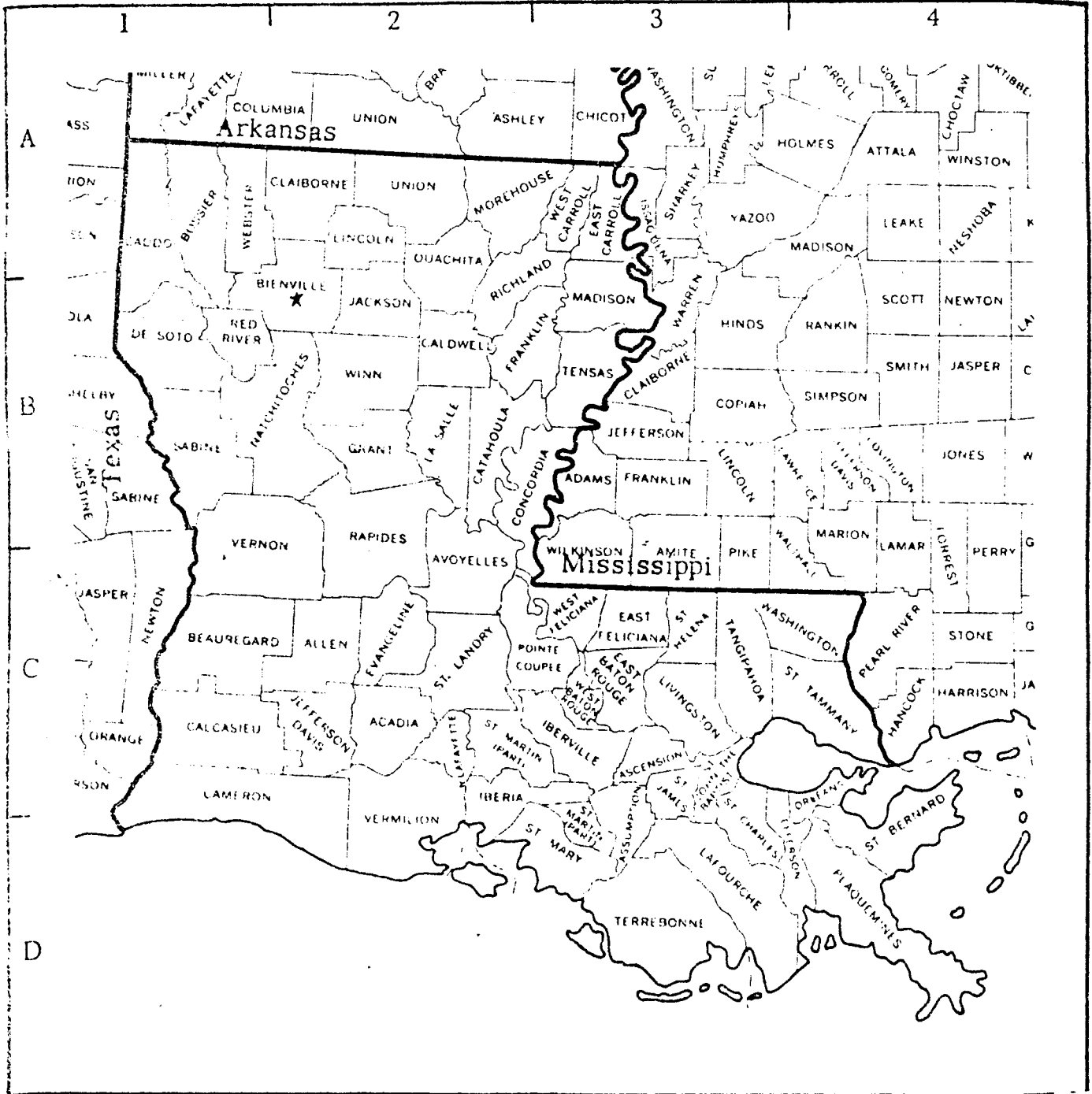
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These letters were written by Moses G. and Mary Tullis to their son, Thomas Summerset Tullis, after he left home to enlist in the Union Army in 1861. Thomas was assigned to the Fifth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, which fought in the Mississippi River Basin and seemingly was always on the move.

The letters never caught up with Thomas, so the War Department filed them in Thomas' personal file. Forty years later Thomas applied for and received his Veterans Pension, and the two letters. They were saved because of their content and novelty of taking so long to be delivered.

LOUISIANA

Parish Map For The State Of LOUISIANA



Tullis in Bienville Parish, LA

GENERATION II

AMOS LANGDON TULLIS

Amos Langdon TULLIS, b. 10 Aug 1772, Hedgesville, Berkeley, WVA, son of Moses TULLIS and Mary Elizabeth VAN DYKE, m. Elizabeth Amos, d. 11 May 1861; Elizabeth, b. ca 1781; m (2) 19 Dec 1815 Margaret CREAMER.

Children:

- b. 28 July 1799*
1. John TULLIS; b. 1803, OH.
 2. Amos Fletcher TULLIS; b. 1805. *Dec 1795*
 - * 3. Moses Grooms TULLIS; b. 17 Aug 1804; d. 26 Apr 1879; m. Mary SUMMERSET.
 4. Jonathan TULLIS: b. 3 Dec 1809, Warren Co., OH; d. 17 Sept 1872; m. Hannah ODLE, 20 Mar 1832.
 5. *Vincent -- Dec 1815 m. Elizabeth HOLMS*

GENERATION II

6. Isaac Matthias Tullis + ? Frank?

AMOS TULLIS

Amos TULLIS; b. 10 Aug 1772, Berkeley Co., VA; farmer; m. (2) 19 Dec 1815, Margaret CREAMER; b. 1783, PA.

Children: (as shown on 1850 census of Warren Co. OH, p. 130)

1. Clarissa TULLIS; b. ca 1825, OH.
2. Elizabeth C. TULLIS; b. ca 1829, OH.

GENERATION III

MOSES GROOMS TULLIS

Moses Grooms TULLIS; b. 17 Aug 1804/7, Warren Co., OH; d. 26 Apr 1879, Mashaska Co., IA, son of Amos Langdon TULLIS and Elizabeth m. 7 June 1827, Ross Co. OH. Mary SUMMERSET, dau. of Thomas, Mary d. 24 May 1880, Mashaska Co. Iowa.

Children:

- * 1. James Wesley TULLIS; b. 23 Feb 1828, Highland Co. OH. d. 1918.
2. Rebecca Ann TULLIS; b. 18 Nov 1829, Clinton Co., OH. m. Solon GLENN.
3. John S. TULLIS; b. 2 Mar 1832, Clinton Co., OH. d. 1887, m. 13 Nov 1856, Elizabeth WALKER.
- (I find a John S. TULLIS, m. Margaret KISER in Ottumwa, IA??)
- * 4. Thomas Summerset TULLIS; b. 23 Feb 1835, Rush Co., IN. m. (1) Henrietta Clay OGLE (div.)
5. Isaac TULLIS; b. 29 June 1837, White Co., IN; d. 30 June 1837.
6. Nancy Elizabeth TULLIS; b. 23 Feb 1839, Ripley Twp., Rush, IN.
7. William Henry TULLIS; b. 1 Oct 1842, Ripley Twp., Rush, IN. m. Annie ?
8. Sarah Catherine TULLIS; b. 11 July 1844, Shelby Co., IN., m. 18 Mar 1867, Mashaska Co., IA., Theodore Lenington SHARP.
- * 9. George Maley TULLIS; b. 7 Oct 1843/5, Ripley Twp., Rush, IN., m. 2 Apr 1870 in Ottumwa, IA, Martha Jeannette TULLIS. *see p. 212*
- * 10. Amos Langdon TULLIS; b. 1 Apr 1852, Van Wert Co., OH; m. 1888, Mary JOHNSON.
11. Mary Ann TULLIS; b. 8 Mar 1857, Lucas Co., IN.

GENERATION IV

JAMES WESLEY TULLIS

James Wesley TULLIS, b. 23 Feb 1828, Highland Co., OH., son of Moses Grooms TULLIS and Mary SUMMERSET; d. 1918, IA. m. 2 May 1850, Van Wert Co., OH., Margaret TROUP. m. (2) 21 May 1884, Mary E. HORNER in Decatur, IA.

Children:

1. Rachel; b. 1851; m. Mr. SHARP
2. Hannah TULLIS; b. 1854, m. Mr. JOHNSON
3. Luella TULLIS; b. 1857; m. Mr. GLENN
4. Mary; b. 1860; m. Mr. SHARP
5. Sherman TULLIS; b. 1865, IA.
6. Charles TULLIS; b. 1871, IA.
7. Minnie TULLIS; b. 1874, IA.; m. Mr. SHAW
8. Emma Etta TULLIS; b. 1876, IA.
9. Amos Langdon TULLIS; b. 1880, IA.

GENERATION IV

THOMAS SUMMERSET TULLIS

Thomas Summerset TULLIS; b. 23 Feb 1835, Rush Co., IN., son of Moses Grooms TULLIS and Mary SUMMERSET; d. 18 Nov 1912, Decatur Co., IA; m. 1870 Mercer Co., MO; m. (1) Henrietta Clay OGLE; b. 24 Apr 1844, Putnam Co., IN; d. 28 Mar 1929, Trenton, MO.

Children:

- * 1. Walter Hercules TULLIS; b. 23 Dec 1871, Oskaloosa, IA.
d.

Thomas Summerset TULLIS; m. (2) ca 1884, Mary E. HORNER, she b. 1860 and d. 1931.

Children:

1. Loren V. TULLIS; b. 1885; d. 1931; m. Orpha
2. John Grooms TULLIS; b. 1888
3. Mary Rebecca TULLIS; b. 1888
4. Pearl Marie TULLIS; b. 1892; m. Forrest COLE (b. 1889).

GENERATION V

WALTER HERCULES TULLIS

Walter Hercules TULLIS; b. 23 Dec 1871, Oskaloosa, IA, son of Thomas Summerset TULLIS and Henrietta Clay OGLE; m. Ninnie Jeanette McKEE, 30 Oct 1894, Humphreys, MO.

Ninnie Jeanette; b. 26 Sept 1868, Humphreys, MO; d. 24 Oct 1932, Los Angeles, CA.

Children:

1. Martha Leila TULLIS; b. 19 July 1895, Humphreys, MO; d. 11 July 1964, Corona, CA; m. 25 Aug 1943, Corona, CA, Herbert BIGGERS (1895) no children,
2. Eulalia; b. 19 July 1897, Humphreys, MO; d. 27 Aug 1899, Humphreys, MO.
- *3. Mary Jane TULLIS; b. 18 June 1900, Humphreys, MO; m. 7 Feb 1931, Pasadena, CA, Perez N. BENNETT, b. 8 Apr 1883, Potter Co., PA; d. 8 Apr 1970, Laurel, MT.
- *4. Susan McKee TULLIS; b. 30 Sept 1902, Humphreys, MO; m. 26 Nov 1930, Ventura, CA, Forrest Ivan HALL; b. 4 June 1899, Canyon City, CO; d. 19 Apr 1962, San Francisco, CA.
- *5. John Lee TULLIS; b. 11 Oct 1905.

GENERATION VI

MARY JANE TULLIS

Mary Jane TULLIS; b. 18 June 1900, Humphreys, MO. dau. of Walter Hercules TULLIS and Ninnie Jeanette McKEE; m. in Pasadena, CA 7 Feb 1931, Perez N. BENNETT. Perez b. 8 Apr 1883, Potter Co., PA. d. 8 Apr 1970, Laurel, MT.

Children:

- * 1. Walter D. BENNETT; b. 16 Mar 1933, Signal Hill, CA.

GENERATION VII

WALTER D. BENNETT 235

Walter D. BENNETT; b. 16 Mar 1933, Norwich, CT., son of Mary Jane TULLIS and Perez N. BENNETT; m. 15 Nov 1958, Norwich, CT.
 Janet R. FREEMAN. Jane b. 4 Sept 1933, Norwich, CT.

Children:

1. David W. BENNETT; b. 15 Jan 1962, Saratoga Springs, NY.
2. Thomas W. BENNETT; b. 25 Oct 1965, Portsmouth, VA.
3. James E. BENNETT; b. 30 Aug 1967, Portsmouth, VA.

GENERATION VI

SUSAN McKEE TULLIS

Susan McKee TULLIS; b. 30 Sept 1902, Humphreys, MO. Dau. of Walter Hercules TULLIS and Ninnie Jeannette McKEE. m. 26 Nov 1930, Ventura, CA, Forrest Ivan HALL.

Forrest; b. 4 June 1899, Canyon City, CO; d. 19 Apr 1962, San Francisco, CA.

Children:

1. Suzanne J. HALL; b. 6 Apr 1932.

GENERATION VII

SUZAANE J. HALL

Suzanne J. HALL; b. 6 Apr 1932, Altadena, CA. Dau. of Susan McKee TULLIS and Forrest Ivan HALL; m. Charles L. WATKINS; b. 16 June 1932, Altadena, CA.

Children:

1. Deborah L. WATKINS; b. 31 Mar 1955, Long Beach, CA.
2. Sharron L. WATKINS; b. 12 June 1957, Long Beach, CA.
3. Elaine S. WATKINS; b. 1 June 1959, Long Beach, CA.
4. Vivian L. WATKINS; b. 15 Apr 1961, Long Beach, CA.

GENERATION VI

JOHN LEE TULLIS

John Lee TULLIS; b. 11 Oct 1905, Bellflower, MO; son of Walter Hercules TULLIS and Ninnie Jeanette McKEE; d. 15 Dec 1966, Sun Valley, CA., m. 3 Sept 1937, Riverside, CA, Vivian Grace McKEE. Vivian b. 18 Feb 1918, Humphreys, MO.

Children:

- * 1. John L. TULLIS, b. 22 Oct 1938, Riverside, CA. m. Yvonne Fleming 12 June 1965, Sun Valley, CA. (b. 1945).
2. William D. TULLIS, b. 15 June 1941, Riverside CA. m. 2 June 1973 in Canoga Park, CA. to Barbara A. ROCAREK.
- * 3. Linda Rea TULLIS, b. 3 Dec 1943, Los Angeles, CA. m. 8 July 1962 to Donald Norman MORAN.
- * 4. Patricia R. TULLIS, b. 12 Sept 1945, Glendale CA. m. 18 June 1967 in Burbank, CA. to Jimmie COLLINS (b. 21 Aug 1943, Los Angeles, CA.)

GENERATION VII

JOHN L. TULLIS

John L. TULLIS; b. 22 Oct 1938, Riverside, CA., son of John Lee TULLIS and Vivian G. McKEE. m. Yvonne R. FLEMING, 12 June 1965, Sun Valley, CA., Yvonne b. 14 Sept. 1945, Woodland, CA.

Children:

1. James W. TULLIS; b. 8 Mar 1967, Panorama City, CA.
2. Julia C. TULLIS; b. 31 Aug 1968, Panorama City, CA.

GENERATION VII

PATRICIA R. TULLIS

Patricia R. TULLIS; b. 12 Sept 1945, Glendale, CA., dau. of John Lee TULLIS and Vivian G. McKEE; m. Jimmie B. COLLINS, b. 21 Aug. 1943, Los Angeles, CA.

Children:

1. Rachel R. COLLINS; b. 18 July 1969, Burbank, CA.
2. Hallie K. COLLINS; b. 1 Oct 1972, Panorama City, CA.

GENERATION VII

LINDA REA TULLIS

Linda Rea TULLIS; b. 3 Dec 1943, Los Angeles, CA., dau. of John Lee TULLIS and Vivian Grace McKEE; m. Donald Norman MORAN 8 July 1962, Burbank, CA. Donald b. 16 July 1940, Brooklyn, NY.

Children:

1. Kelly MORAN; b. 17 Aug 1963, San Fernando, CA.
2. Laureen MORAN; b. 5 July 1965, Glendale, CA.
3. Kathleen MORAN; b. 10 Nov 1968, Burbank, CA.
4. Vivian MORAN; b. 8 Dec 1972, Panorama, City, CA.

GENERATION IV

WILLIAM HENRY TULLIS

William Henry TULLIS; b. 1 Oct 1842, Ripley Twp., Rush IN., son of Moses Grooms TULLIS and Mary SUMMERSET. m. Annie, b. 1845, England

Children:

1. Moses H. TULLIS; b. 1865, Mahaska Co., IA.
2. Viola TULLIS; b. 1868, Mahaska Co., IA.
3. William E. TULLIS; b. 1969, Mahaska Co., IA.
4. Minnie H. TULLIS; b. 1879, Mahaska Co., IA.

GENERATION IV

GEORGE MALEY TULLIS

George Maley TULLIS; b. 7 Oct 1843/5, Ripley Twp., Mush Co., IN. d. 11 Feb 1931, son of Moses Grooms TULLIS and Mary SUMMERSET, m. 2/3 Apr 1870, Ottumwa, IA., Martha Jeanette TULLIS, Martha b. 11 Dec 1850/51, IA; d. 30 Sept 1937, IA., dau. of Michael TULLIS and Rebecca LEONARD.

Children:

1. Ettie Orah TULLIS; b. 25 July 1872, Ottumwa, IA; m. Charles E. HUBBARD.
2. Freeman Gerald TULLIS; b. 7 June 1875, Ottumwa, IA; d. 15 Mar 1929; m. 3 Oct 1900 in Wapello Co., IA. to Anna Pearl TETER.

GENERATION IV

AMOS LANGDON TULLIS

Amos Langdon TULLIS; b. 1 Apr 1852, Van Wert Co., OH; d. 29 Nov 1912, son of Moses Grooms TULLIS and Mary SUMMERSET; m. 29 Feb 1888, IA. to Mary JOHNSON (b. 28 Sept 1864, Des Moines, IA, dau. of William)

Children:

1. Harry Maley TULLIS; b. 31 July 1889, Sheldon Twp, O'Brien Co., IA., m. Viola PLUMMER.
2. William Amos TULLIS; b. 4 Feb 1891, Sheldon Twp, O'Brien Co. IA., m. Hazel Ethyl WILHELM (b. 1895).
3. Maude TULLIS; b. 18 Mar 1892, Rock Rapids, IA., m. William BRADEG (looks like).
4. Rebecca TULLIS; b. 29 July 1895, Sheldon Twp, O'Brien, IA.

GENERATION V

WILLIAM AMOS TULLIS

William Amos TULLIS; b. 4 Feb 1891, Sheldon Twp., O'Brien Co., IA., son of Amos Langdon TULLIS and Mary JOHNSON; d. 1953, m. Hazel Ethyl WILHELM, ca 1912. Hazel b. 1895.

Children:

1. Dewey P. TULLIS; b. 1913; m. Garnet Y. JACOBSEN (b. 1917).
2. Dorothy F. TULLIS; b. 1917, d. 1918.

3. Harold F. TULLIS; b. 1918, d. 1948, m. Aileen JOHNSON.
4. Kenneth M. TULLIS; b. 1920 m. Patricia L. BURCH (b. 1931).
5. Robert W. TULLIS; b. 1921, m. Coleen ALLISON.
6. Patricia A. TULLIS; b. 1935, m. Chester WESTAFER.

