

November 28, 1964

Route 4,

Sevierville, Tenn.

Mrs. Louise Bayless

Murphy, North Carolina

Dear Louise:

I notice that the D.A.R. asked for dates for Josiah Rogers and wife, Martha Clack- also, for James P.H. Porter and wife, Nancy Rogers. Without Bible or tombstone records and we have neither, no definite dates are available. Besides, the Sevier County court house with all early County records burned in 1856, so another possible source for these dates was lost.

I ~~would~~ think the obituary in the old Knoxville Register which I notarized will prove both the birth and death dates of Josiah Rogers. The Franklin County, Virginia, marriage bond of Josiah Rogers and Martha Clack, proves that they married early in 1786.

In addition I have the following Sevier County census record of the Josiah Rogers family in 1830- the earliest census record of this County now in existence, earlier census records have been lost. This 1830 census record did not give exact ages, or the full names of family members. Only the head of the family is named in this 1830 census. It is as follows:

JOSIAH ROGERS:

1 male-	age-	60 to 70
1 female-	age-	15 to 20
1 "	"	20 to 30
1 "	"	50 to 60

We know from the old newspaper obituary that Josiah Rogers lived until 1834 and that he was 68 years old at the time of his death, so he was born sometime in 1766. The male listed above in the 1830 census record of Sevier County was born between the years, 1760 and 1770, so we know that this male was Josiah Rogers, and these census dates square up with the old obituary. The female listed above listed above who was between 50 and 60 years old must have been Martha Clack Rogers, so she was born between the years, 1770 and 1780, but we have no definite date for her death. Martha Clack's brother, Rawleigh (Rolly) was born in 1772, and she had sisters, Rhoda, born in 1776, Catherine, born in 1778, Frances, born 1783, and Mary, born in 1785. It would be my guess that Martha was older than either of these and that she was born in 1770 or 1771, but of course I have no absolute proof of this. The 1840 census of Sevier County could be searched to determine if Martha Clack Rogers still lived in 1840. It would be my guess that she died between the years, 1830 and 1840.