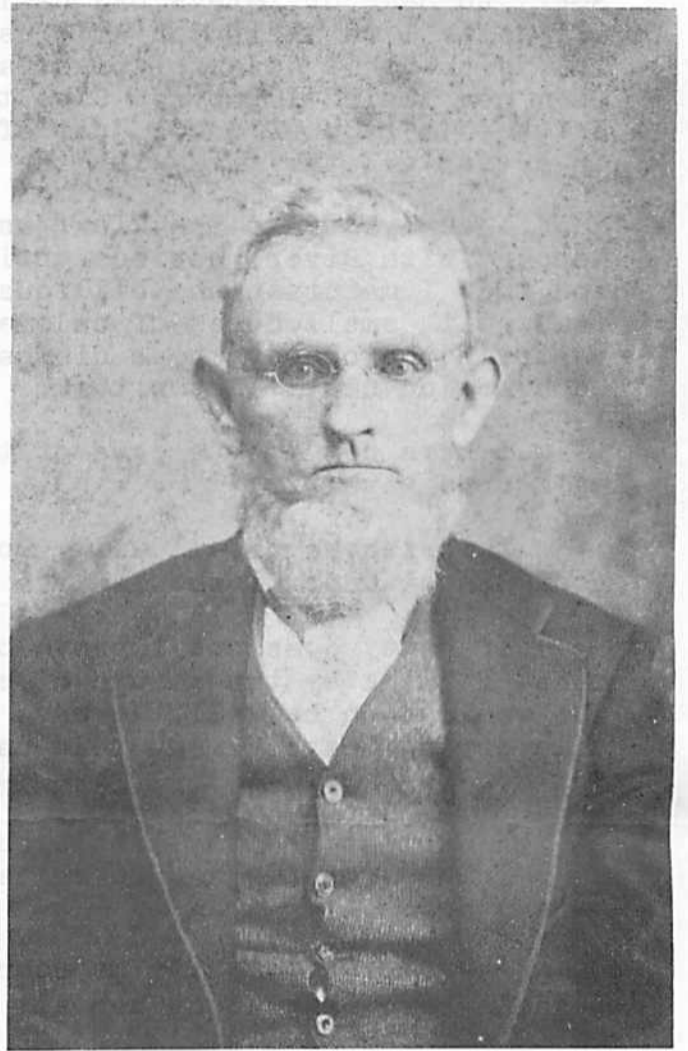


POPLIN PATTERN

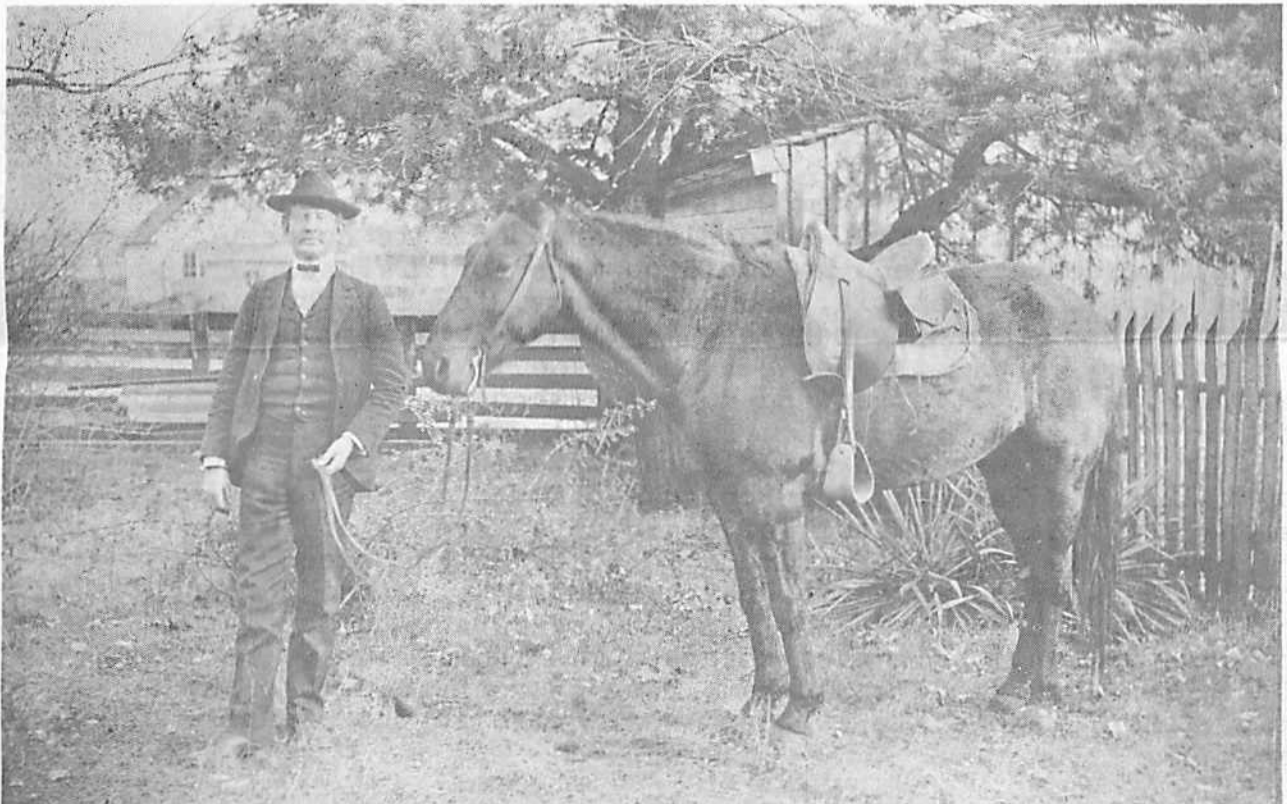
NUMBER 8 DICK POPLIN, SHELBYVILLE, TN. 37160 Editor Sept. 1972



Dr. Richard Wusman Poplin 1871-1949.
Son of W.R. and Anna Poplin.



Dr. Green Lee Poplin 1815-1886.
Son of William and Patience Lee Poplin.



Dr. Thomas Ivin Poplin 1867-1916. Son of William Richard and Anna Jackson Poplin .

Letter from Dr. Green L. Poplin to
His Son-in-law, Dr. James Williams

Mayfield, Ky. March 12, 1884

Dr. Williams Dear Sir. Your kind letter just to hand. Sorry to hear of Leteys bad health. Glad the rest of the family are all well. I think if you will use the Tr of Iron and Blackberry Cordial, with Small doses of Blue Mass about once a week, that you will find her health improved. Give the Cordial tolerable freely every day, and the Tr Iron 20 drops just after meals. Be sure to keep the Liver in action all the time with the Blue Mass or Chalk Mercury.

I always treat the Flux just as I do Billious Fever. I use Chalk Mercury with Divers periods until I excite the Liver to free action and then I maintain the billious secretions with same remedy, or sometimes with small doses of calomel. After the Liver begins to act, I restrain the bloody mucus discharge with Rice gruel and Laudinum after each action until I stop them.

I have not lost a case of the Flux for several years, and this is my course with it.

This leaves us all well. Boyds family are all well. We have a very good School here. I should like to have Minnie Come and go to school.

If Betty does not improve by the opening of spring, send her up here. I think by the change of climate and what I can do for her that she would soon be well. We have been expecting that she would come up this spring. Dave Ozment told us that she was coming. We are all anxious for her to come.

I want to see the little children that I have never seen very bad. I have nothing new to write you. Lives are dull here. Money Scarce --Health good.

I want you to write me soon and keep me posted about Betty's health. I shall be uneasy about her all the time.

Your town will never amount to much until you build good churches and schools, they will build it faster than anything else.

Be sure to write me soon.

With high regard

Green L. Poplin

Be sure to push the remedy in Betty's case. I feel sure they will restore her health

Dr. James Williams and wife Letitia Elizabeth Poplin were living in Jonesboro, Ark. With a father's characteristic concern, Dr. Green L. Poplin seemed to feel he could do more for his daughter, whom he called Letey, for Letitia, and also Betty, for Elizabeth, than her doctor husband. Reading between the lines, it seems that he really wanted Dr. Williams to send her to Mayfield, Ky. so he could treat her. How well Letitia responded to the recommended treatment is not known.

Dr. Poplin was born in 1815 in Montgomery County, now Stanly, N.C. to William and Patience Lee Poplin who moved to Bedford County, Tenn. before 1820. He began study of medicine at age 17 and graduated from the Louisville Medical Institute in 1842. He practiced in Tennessee until 1853 when he moved to Graves County, Ky., then to Bloomfield, Mo., in 1858, to Poplar Bluff, Mo. in 1867, and back to Mayfield, Ky. in 1877. He was active in many things while in Missouri. (See Vol. I No. 2 of Poplin Patten). He would have been 69 years old when the above letter was written. He died in 1886 and was buried in the cemetery at Mayfield Kentucky.

Boyd's family spoken of in the letter was the family of Green L. Poplin's daughter Martha, who was the daughter of his first wife, Martha Locke and married James S. Boyd of Mayfield, Kentucky. Martha Poplin Boyd had 14 children, of whom 3 were still living in 1949 -- Lee, Wiley and Elexie Boyd Fowler. Mrs. Fowler furnished me with information in 1949. Boyd descendants live in Birmingham, Ala.

Green L. Poplin's second marriage was to Rebecca E. (Emily in the 1850 census) Rucker, daughter of William Rucker of Bedford County. Children of this marriage were Letitia Elizabeth who married Dr. James Williams, Wiley A. and John R.

Children of Letitia E. and Dr. Williams were Myra who married Timothy Draper, Minnie married W.D. Cobb, Emma died an infant, Lena Belle married Matthew Martin, James R. never married, Harry Lee Married Allie Neill Bandy of Newport, Ark.

Myra and Timothy A. Draper had a son, Fred Draper. Children of Minnie and W.D. Cobb: W.D. Jr. m. Edna Earl Speed -- their children, Dr. William Daniel Cobb III, teacher at Eureka College, Ill. and Earl Davis Cobb -- James Carr m. Marian Willard Bradshaw (we have visited in their home and they in ours) -- their son James Carr II lives in St. Louis, Mo., Elizabeth married Lowell Sowle who died several years ago. They had no children. She lives in Jonesboro, Ark. as do James Carr and Willard Cobb, Gladys never married and died at age 26, and Guy Cobb who died Dec. 30, 1970, also leaving some descendants.

Lena Belle Williams Martin has descendants living, and Harry Lee Williams also has descendants. Perhaps Letitia Elizabeth Poplin has more descendants than any other of Green L.'s children unless it is Martha Poplin Boyd. Perhaps I should say that they are the only two who have many descendants.

Green L. Poplin was married the third time to Mattie E. Hall of Ripley County, Mo. They had children Flem W.H. Poplin, Green L. Poplin and Roy L. Poplin. Roy L. Poplin died just last year in New Mexico, leaving a daughter, Mrs. Ruth Baker who has no children.

So far as I have been able to determine, none of Dr. Green Lee Poplin's sons left sons to carry on the Poplin name.

There was a Mrs. Thompson who was a descendant of his who had some information on the family a number of years ago. If any one knows of anyone connected with Mrs. Thompson, please let me know about it.

Letter from Dr. Thomas Ivin Poplin

These old letters indicate the hardships of country doctors eighty years ago. Dr. Tom Poplin was my father's oldest brother. He was born Mar. 12, 1867 and died Feb. 9, 1916, the son of William Richard and Anna Jackson Poplin.

William R. Poplin was born Sept. 25, 1845 at Unionville, Tenn., served in Forrest's Escort during the War Between the States, and died April 2, 1879, lacking one day being eight months before his youngest son, William Jackson Poplin -- my father -- was born. Since my father was the youngest of seven children and the oldest was born in 1867, Anna Poplin was left with 7 children the oldest of which was 12 years old.

Thomas Ivin Poplin and his brother Richard Wusman Poplin read medicine at home along with several cousins who lived in the neighborhood. They both attended lectures at the University of Tennessee Medical School at Nashville. Dr. Tom stayed in the home of Dr. Robert Read of Murfreesboro for a while and studied medicine with him. Dr. Read was a second cousin of Dr. Poplin -- I should have said a first cousin.

After that he began practice for himself at Patterson, near Triune, in Williamson County, Tenn., 15 or twenty miles from his mother's home. He once wrote from Murfreesboro, after making a trip home, that he got back at eleven o'clock the night before, but he would never try to walk home and carry a heavy valise again. It was 16 miles.

On Nov. 10, 1891 he wrote his mother from Murfreesboro:

Mrs. Amna Poplin Dear Moma, I will try and write you a few lines this evening as I haven't heard from you all since I saw John Lee and Billie. I am as well a common. I have been looking for John Lee and Mattie ever since I saw John Lee in town. I heard from Dick last week he is doing alright..... I haven't much practice now have had two cases of typhoid fever one has gotten well & the other very nearly. I don't know what arrangements I am going to make for another year you know Christmas will soon be here and it is time that I was knowing what about it if I was financially able I would know what to do but mama you know I am not and I will have to do something and that pretty quick. I owe money and interest due on it but there will be no trouble about that if I just knew how to do now but I dont I love my chosen profession & can make money out of it if I was only able to commence business but am not. I have a notion of abandoning my profession for a while & going to something else. I can get \$40 per month in east Tenn. Guarding convicts and I think as I am needing money so very bad I had better go up there where I can make some money. I can take up my profession again when I get the money paid back.

He sign his letter T. Ivin Poplin. Later his sign them Dr. Tom Poplin. It is interesting that although Dad, and I thought all his brothers and sisters, called his mother Mammy, Dr. Tom and Dr. Dick always addressed her in their letters as Dear Mama, or Moma.

On April 15, 1892 Dr. Tom wrote his mother and his sisters Jemima (Jemima Tennessee -- we always called her Aunt T. He once referred to her as Tee.) and Lytle. He was not feeling well as he had get wet and had a sore throat. He was practicing in Patterson and said he had been busy. He had been "down home" and found Dr. Read and Dr. Poplin gone. That was his brother Dick who was studying medicine with Dr. Read at that time.

He wrote Jemima, "You will have to put the egg Basket up where old Pup cant get to it he is old and childish & to kill him wouldnt rob him of many years days So I would let him pass the remainder of his time peaceful and quiet." "Tee you must write again you write a good letter you will make the best Scribe in the Poplin family. How is grandma Jackson is she well?"

He wrote of buying old Henry for a \$100. His mother signed his note. Henry was a good horse but very nervous, he said. He wrote about Billie and John Lee, their crops and wondered if John Lee had a school in one of his letters. In Sept. 1892 he said he was doing some surgery. Mr. Akin, the sawyer at Shys mill sawed off his hand and almost bled to death. In May 1892 he was concerned about his mother's health and wanted her to go to Dr. Read's and get medicine. In July 1893, he took his mother to task for not writing him and said he doubted that he could get home before Christmas because he had such a busy practice. He wrote of the sick and said, "The long black wagon from Triune has been out and got two more & carried them up on the Hill & left them to await the morning of the reserrection. I dislike very much to see them die but God's will & not mine be done."

He once wrote of wishing he didn't have to wear checked pants. Somebody asked him why he wanted to wear them. He said, "Because they are cheaper." He met a young girl, Mattie Leathers while at Patterson, whom he called "the best girl in the world" and married her. All his life she was pleased to wait on her busy doctor husband and called him "Dochie" or Dotchie, however it should be spelled, as an endearing diminutive of Doctor.

They later lived at Rockvale and finally at Midland in Rutherford County, Tenn., and although doctors then did not become wealthy, he had a busy practice. The number of people still around with Poplin in their first name indicates the esteem in which the doctor was held.

Two daughters, Mrs. B.L. Tucker, Sr. and Mrs. Walter Modrall, live in Murfreesboro, Each has two sons. I have a brother Thomas Ivin Poplin named for the doctor who was our family doctor as long as he lived. He died two years before I was born.

Richard Wusman Poplin was born in 1871 and died in 1949. He "read medicine" attended lectures at the Nashville Medical School, practiced with Dr. Robert Read and then practiced at home until he went to Texas and began practice there. He married Pearl Hightower. They had no Children.

My father is the only one of his family of four boys who has a Poplin grandson. This grandson, Bill Poplin of Oklahoma City, Okla. is

has a son Phillip to carry on the name. To my knowledge, Phillip is the only boy of the coming generation with the name from William Poplin who came to Bedford County before 1820. I say to my knowledge because, as I said before, I do not know of any left in the Green Lee Poplin line. And then there was Hampton who left home soon after 1850 and was never heard from again. It could be that he went to another state, reared a family and has numerous Poplin descendants. One of my great desires is to find out what happened to Hampton.

Letter from Dr. Richard W. Poplin

Dr. Dick Poplin's letters are a little harder to read than his brother Tom's. In November 1891 he wrote from medical school at Nashville.

Mrs. Anna Poplin

Dear Mama,

I received your ever welcome letter yesterday. Was very glad indeed to hear from you all glad you are all well. Wish I could be at home a little while it seem like if I could only see Home I would be alright. but thank God it wont bee long till Christmas I will come skiping then. I am worked to death Have seven lectures each day. We have the largest medical class that was ever in Nashville nearly 400. I tell you there is a great responsibility resting on a Dr.

A Dr. has to lay aside Sympathy he hears the crys of the afflicted and the groans of the dying I see the dead and the dying on every side.

One of Uncle Kit Farrises granddaughters died at the city hospital day before yesterday. Dr. W.T. (illegible) removed a tumor from her and Septisema set up and she died. Iff one of the our professors had performed the operation she would not have died.

I am well over 130 lbs. I am getting out of sight. When is John Lee's school out tell him he must bee sure and come down when it is out.

I don't know whether I will ever practice or not yet. How is grandma Tell her she must have a turkey dinner Christmas & a qt of Old Rye. Make the girls take care of therselves and don't let them go to school in the rain. There is measles & diphtheria here. Guess I will have the measles.

Ever your loving boy Dick Poplin

As a P.S he wrote that Dr. and Mrs. Harrison were both sick in bed. He boarded with them it seems. "I haven't bought an overcoat yet iff you have sold my corn send me all over \$19.00 so I can get one My old one is too small i guess I want a new one anyway I will Give my old one to Billie. Well good bye Dick

In March of 1895, Gardner Batt wrote from Waxahachie, Texas to R.W. Poplin saying he was glad to hear that he was coming to Texas and he thought he could build up a good practice there.

On March 23, 1895 he wrote from Waxahachie, Tex.

Dear Mamma

I arrived here last night at 8:30.

Later letters to his mother and sisters indicated that his practice at times was good and at others not so good. He was very homesick at times it seems. He sent letters from Saralvo, Tex., later from Sardis and also lived at Midloathian.

From the time he went to Texas in 1895 until his death in 1949 he made one trip back to Tennessee, I believe when Dr. Tom was sick and died. His mother died in 1921 but he did not get to come. In his later years he quit private practice and was on the staff at the Eastern State Hospital in Terrell, Tex. I visited him there in 1936. In 1940, Sybil, Dad and Mother and I visited him on our way home from California. Dad, Mother, a cousin, John Kimmins, and I attended his funeral in March of 1949.

C.C. Poplin of Decatur, Ga. knew Dr. R.W. Poplin.

Speaking of C.C. Poplin, 117 Northern Av. Decatur, Ga. 30030, I received a copy of a newspaper article with a large picture of him last December. His picture was used to show how emphysema sufferers are being helped by breathing exercises. His picture covers almost half a

page of the Atlanta newspaper. He is shown seated before a burning candle. The caption to the left of the picture says, "C.C. Poplin of Decatur, uses candle to learn to breath more easily. Exercise will help him lead a more comfortable life."

I had a letter from him just a few days ago telling of his son Bill's move from Rome, Ga. to Greenville, Miss. He said he had had a cracked hip but was on his feet again and had a good report from his heart man at Emory.

I have also had letters from Beattie Price, East Rockingham, N.C., Oner G. Poplin, Lilesville, N.C. and others that I haven't answered. Maybe this will suffice for the time being.

Jim Poplin

I had a letter from Mrs. Ina Poplin of Madisonville, Tn. in Jan. of 1971. Her husband was Macie Hugh Poplin. All Mrs. Poplin knows about her husband's family is that his father Jim Poplin came from Texas, then went up north and married Callie Poplin .

Jim Poplin had a brother who went to the woods one day to get fire wood and never returned. Seems the Poplins were always doing that. See earlier reference to Hampton in my line.

Jim Poplin had a son Bruce who was in WW I and is dead now but his wife, at that time, was living in Baileyton, Ala. Hugh and Ina Poplin have 3 sons and 5 daughters. Bruce is in restaurant business in Madisonville, Tenn., James and Hugh Poplin both in the air force. Jim Poplin and his wife Callie were both preachers, Mrs. Ina Poplin said.

That Coat of Arms

I think every Poplin by name got a letter about the Poplin Coat of Arms. I didn't put much stock in it but sent for it anyway out of curiosity. I had my doubts about there being a Poplin coat of arms. I know may of you also sent \$2 for the same information. I have recently received a letter offering a plaque of the coat of arms for \$27.75, but the picture of the plaque has POPHAM instead of Poplin.

It is said that documentation of the Poplin Coat of Arms design can be found in Rietstap Armorial General. I have not had time to check it. I suppose it could be checked in large libraries. The Halberts gave the information that the surname seemed to be occupational in origin -- from weavers of the cloth -- that most prominent variations were Popeline Poplain, Popellain and Poplins. They said there were approximately 550 heads of households in the U.S. with the "old and distinguished" Poplin name. The Census Bureau estimates 3.2 persons per household for a total of 1760 people in the nation by the name of Poplin.

Just Talk

This is almost a double header, or a one and a half header, maybe. You will notice that instead of Volume and number I have numbered this issue Number 8. There were 4 issues of Vol I and 3 of Vol. 2. Since I can not seem to keep on schedule I thought it would be less confusing to just number them consecutively. This one has six pages instead of four because it has been so long since I put one out. This way also, I can get full value on my postage. Six will not cost anymore than 4 to mail although the printing will be more, of course.

I will get out another issue when I can. I hope that the added length of this one will not keep anybody from reading it all the way through. I still like to hear from you. Keep working on your branch of the Poplin family.

There have been several reasons for the delay in getting out this issue. I was in the hospital a short while for ear surgery which was satisfactory. My mother, age 88, has been in the hospital twice. My only living uncle passed away awhile back. My wife lost a brother and a sister. We made a trip to New Orleans in March on business and to Okla. in August on vacation. Visited David Poplin and family at Pryor and Adair. This has really been a busy year. Every one goes a little faster. I turned 54 a short time ago, but don't feel a day of 53. So long for now.