

Dear Friends and Family,

You bought my original book, "The Chronicle of Thomas Stone of Hamilton Parish," in 2009. Thank you.

Now I would like to provide you with a brief update on my research since that time. When you write a book, such as I did, you have to decide when to publish your work. Well I had a heart condition and I knew it was time to publish so that all those years of research weren't lost. I got the heart fixed and now I have developed another malady MDS; it's a rare red cell cancer. I accept this all as part of growing older. I am sure many of you have experienced similar problems and maladies since my work was published. I know others have expanded on my work moving the family forward. Yet, I continue to try to go back in our history and I am trying to get it correct. This research requires a lot of documenting and footnoting as I did in "The Chronicle Thomas of Hamilton Parish". I actually have two books which I am trying to finish. The first is on the family in England, which is where I am currently doing the bulk of my research. I had earlier written a book called "Generations," but I did not publish it. While it is well documented, it needed to be pulled together better and my current research is modifying it in many aspects. My second book is a 2015 revision of "The Chronicle of Thomas Stone of Hamilton Parish," which is already near completion. So what follows is my update on my research.

- First of all in "The Chronicle" I missed a couple of key people. One was a revolutionary soldier named Nimrod, the son of Thomas Stone (1743). Another soldier missed was Daniel Barrow, who was the husband of Hannah Stone, the daughter of William (1727) and Hannah Conway Stone. I also am researching a John Stone who was in the Culpeper Classes, a draft held by the Continental Line of Virginia. This John Stone was from Fauquier County. At the moment, it appears he may have also been a son of Thomas (1743).
- Secondly, I have found evidence that Thomas Stone, the son of Thomas Stone of Hamilton Parish, was born in 1722 not 1721. This will become important in light of some other discoveries.
- I also have research which confirms John Stone, son of William and Hannah, had two sons I had not found earlier: a Thomas and a Corder Stone. These sons appear to be from a first marriage of John. Both of these sons moved to Tennessee after a brief stay in Greene County, Kentucky.
- Next I have made a strong link between the Stones and Darnalls in Maryland. I know I probably put many of you to sleep with the Darnall information in the 2009 version. But in recent months I was able to show that Captain Thomas Stone and his father, John Stone of Maryland, had close links to the Darnalls so it wasn't shocking that we found Thomas of Hamilton Parish living at Waugh Darnall's property in 1721. I think that this relationship opens a wider link to the Stones of Maryland. There is a lot of new documented detail.
- Of course, there are many more finds that are too numerous to list here.
- Lastly, in the new "Chronicle" I want to give you a compiler's view of what I really think is the "Real Story of Thomas of Hamilton". Evidence and findings have mounted that he was in fact Captain Thomas Stone's son. Some is based on the above Darnall relationship, some is based on new DNA evidence, and some is based on my more recent extensive research in Maryland.

Since I know I'm not going to get another shot at this, I hope that my findings will confirm, as well as the fog of time will allow, the relationship back to Captain William Stone, the third Governor of Maryland

and thereby allowing you to claim you have a once removed relationship with Thomas Stone the Signer of the Declaration of Independence. It is my fervent hope my judgment is not being clouded by my desire to solve this long festering mystery. I hope my work will show and convince you of the link.

Next comes my work in England. I have on a few occasions given out copies of my work I had done there between 2001-2005. I called it "Generations". A few of the people who got an unpublished but copywrited version have published their own accounts using much of my original work. The reason I didn't publish it was because I still had some unfinished research and because I was unable to make the link to Captain William Stone from Thomas Stone of Hamilton.

I now have a will that I believe will identify Gov. William Stone's father and grandfather and it is not what was in the earlier version. To be sure my transcription is correct it is being reviewed by a specialist in medieval documents who has a Ph.D. in such work. If my transcription is correct, it fits into the story of Gov. William Stone much better than earlier documents. It identifies his father, and along with a few other wills, makes it clear exactly who his family was.

We now have clear DNA evidence of an English line and its relationship to our line. Over the years, I have tried to have people tested who claim a heritage to William Stone here stateside for years, but none match us and for that matter, none matched one another. I did this at my own expense. Then in May of this year I made a breakthrough when I was given access to the DNA database from a British company. In order to understand the significant nature of the breakthrough you needed the work I had already completed. I knew the importance even before the result was published on FTDNA's site. I had a chat with FTDNA and they confirmed my observations.

Now we are in the process of gathering more DNA evidence.

I have asked for help with this matter since the cancer and chemo can knock me out of the process for periods of time. The person I asked was Sue Stone Patrick. Like many of you, she is a member of group 7 of FTDNA's Stone project. Sue has a degree in English and Journalism and is the communications and marketing director for the state agency that oversees higher education in Kentucky. She is also a member of the DAR, but most of all she has the heart and mind of a researcher. If my health declines too much she will be given my records and disk copies of my work so that it can be brought to fruition. I hope someday you will have two books which will give you an accurate history back into the 1500's.

I thank you for your support and letters over the years. They kept the fire burning in my heart for a final answer. I hope I have finally unraveled this mystery and I can publish these works worthy of your read.

Best,

Bill Stone