

# TITUS



*A North American  
Family History*

Leo J. Titus, Jr., P.E.



GATEWAY PRESS, INC.  
Baltimore, MD 2004

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Library of Congress Control Number 2004108575

Published for the author by  
Gateway Press, Inc.  
1001 N. Calvert Street  
Baltimore, MD 21202-3897

[www.gatewaypress.com](http://www.gatewaypress.com)

Printed in the United States of America

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2004

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# SECTION I

## INTRODUCTION & ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

In the 1870's the Reverend Anson Titus Jr., of Weymouth, Massachusetts, began compiling genealogical information on individuals with the TITUS surname. He sent letters and questionnaires across the United States seeking to find the descendants of the first Titus to come to America. In 1881 he published an article in the New York Genealogical and Biographical Record called "The Titus Family in America – Three Generations" (Vol. XII, New York, Jan. 1881, No. 1). The article outlined the first three generations of the descendants of Robert Titus, who was born in England in 1600, and immigrated to America in 1635.

For genealogists interested in the TITUS name, Rev. Anson Titus' article is probably one the most referenced sources. It is one of the earliest published documents presenting the history of the first of the TITUS name to immigrate to America.

**Over 120 years after Rev. Titus began compiling his work, I was in the early stages of researching my own family history when I stumbled upon a gold mine that gave me the idea for this book.**

### The Beginning

At the end of 1993 my wife Jennifer and I were living in Foxboro, Massachusetts. I had developed a casual interest in my family history after learning about my great, great, great grandfather, Col. Silas Titus, who commanded the 122<sup>nd</sup> N.Y. Vol. Regiment during the Civil War. I was very interested in Civil War history, so the discovery that I had an ancestor who was at the battles of Bull Run, Gettysburg and others was very exciting.

One day I received a photocopy of a page from a book with some Titus names on it. The book was titled "Refugees of 1776 from Long Island to Connecticut" by Fredrick Mather. There was a brief genealogical history of Robert Titus and about six generations of his descendants. One of the individuals was possibly the father my ancestor Col. Silas Titus. There was also evidence that some of these individuals served in the Revolutionary War. Now I was really excited! I became obsessed with trying to find out if my Col. Silas Titus was related to this line and possibly a descendant from a Revolutionary War veteran.

At about the same time Jennifer began working on a graduate degree at Boston College. There were many occasions that her studies required spending time at the library on campus. On one of these occasions I accompanied her to the library, probably because we were going somewhere together afterward or I had nothing else to do. While Jen was doing her work, I wandered into the stacks of books on American History. I started pulling down books and checking the index for the name TITUS. The more I looked the more Tituses I found. I started taking stacks of books to the copy machine and making copies of pages that had references to people with the name Titus.

From that point I started gathering and sorting the information. I had no connection to these Tituses, and I didn't know how they all connected to Robert. I hoped that keeping this information would help me piece together my own family history as I traced my line further and further back.

### The Gold Mine

As my interest in tracing my roots grew, I decided to join the New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) in Boston. I was not familiar with the society and wasn't sure if they would have any information that could help me, but I decided to join and explore their library on Newbury Street. I was thrilled to find thousands of genealogy books to explore. I resorted to my original game plan of pulling books down and scanning indexes for any mention of a "Titus". I spent many hours there as Jen was doing her studying. My

collection of Titus information grew exponentially given all of the new found sources. Then there was the day I found "The Gold Mine". It was purely by accident. As I casually walked from the main reading room of the NEHGS library into the stacks of books, I noticed about six or seven three-ring binders on a shelf. A sign taped to the shelf below the binders said "Manuscripts". Each binder had a white card on the spine with handwritten notes indicating the alphabetical range of names contained in the binder. For example, one of the binders might have had "Carter – Fisher", indicating the binder started with information about the Carter family and ended with the Fisher family. What caught my eye was the second binder from the end that started with "TITUS". I grabbed it.

Inside the front cover was an outline of the contents of the manuscript collection of Rev. Anson Titus Jr.. The outline indicated that there were three boxes on file at NEHGS that contained all of the original notes, edited manuscripts, letters, charts and questionnaires that Rev. Anson Titus used to write his original article in the 1870's and early 1880's.

I went to the librarian and asked if I could look at the boxes. After a lengthy search, the librarian told me that the boxes were not available. Apparently the contents were being copied onto microfilm and would be unavailable for several months. Somehow I was able to talk the librarian into locating the boxes deep in the bowels of the library where they were being archived. He generously allowed me to review them with the explicit instructions that I leave everything in the exact order that I found it. I went back to the library several times to carefully go through each box, page by page. Most of the documents were hand written letters and questionnaires written by Tituses from across the country in the late nineteenth century.

Before finding the manuscript collection, I was working backwards collecting information on individual Tituses with the hopes of figuring out my ancestral line back to Robert. After I found the manuscript I was able to start from the beginning, from Robert Titus, and piece together the puzzle of his descendants. Not just my direct line, but many lines of his descendants in colonial America. Collecting Titus information and connecting it to the family tree became a hobby for me. It was like putting together a huge puzzle. Within months, I had compiled over 1,000 names connected to Robert Titus and I started to consider putting together a book to expand on Rev. Anson Titus's article published over 100 years ago.

### **Bill Arthurs**

A couple of years into collecting Titus information, I stumbled across Bill Arthurs of Ottawa, Canada. Our meeting on the internet was inevitable. Bill is by far the premier source for information on the descendants of Robert Titus. I decided early to limit my research to the TITUS surname. Bill, on the other hand, has taken on the enormous challenge of collecting information on descendants of Robert Titus with ALL surnames. As a result he has compiled a database of over 100,000 names related to Robert Titus.

Bill has been very generous sharing information with me over the years. His information is cited as a source for many of the individuals in Section II of this book. Many times Bill's information was a confirmation of data I had already found. In other cases, Bill was my only source. A special thank you goes out to Bill Arthurs for his input.

### **How to Use This Book**

I wrote this book with two purposes. First, I wanted to document as many descendants of Robert Titus in one volume to be used as a reference by other people looking for their Titus roots. Second, I decided to include a section on the ancestors of my three daughters so that they along with other close relatives could have a source of information on their family tree.

**Section II** of this book covers the descendants of Robert Titus. It is in standard register format with an identification number given to each individual that is carried forward to the next generation. Someone doing research for a particular Titus should first start in the TITUS INDEX. Once a name is located in the index it should be located somewhere within Section II where ancestors and/or descendants can be traced.

**Section III** is a compilation of more lengthy biographies. Many of the individuals in Section II have biographical information in addition to traditional name, dates and places. I found several biographies that were relatively long or particularly interesting, so I decided to highlight them in a separate section.

**Section IV** is the family tree of my three daughters. This section is specifically for my immediate family members to learn more about their family history.

**Section V** is a tribute to my late wife, Jennifer (Sierzant) Titus who died of breast cancer just as I was finishing this book.

**The TITUS Index** provides a list of each individual with the Titus surname in alphabetical order by first name. Since there are multiple individuals with the same first name, I used birth dates in the appendix, when known, to identify specific individuals.

### **Sources**

About four or five years into compiling my Titus database, I began to think seriously about publishing a book. I knew that if I were to publish a book that would be considered to be a decent source of Titus information, I would have to provide the sources from which all of the information was compiled. Unfortunately, the first few years of compiling, I was not thinking about keeping track of all of my sources. In 1996 I started to go through all of the pieces of information that I had collected and had stored in boxes. I went through each piece of paper trying to identify sources for the information in my database. Working on it on and off, it took almost another four years to go through everything. At the same time, I was continuing to collect more and more information.

Ideally I would have liked to list sources for each piece of information such as a birth date, place of death, etc. However, given the scope of this book, if I were to try to go to that level of detail with my sources, it would have taken several more years to complete. I decided it would be easier to make a list of general sources for each individual. In some cases the sources are published books and articles that can be found in libraries. In other cases the sources are letters or emails sent to me by others. Sometimes the information came directly from an internet site. Unfortunately, since I spent four or five years collecting information without being diligent about sources, there are some individuals in this book that have no source listed. The only reason for that is that I was not able to find where I got the information from originally.

Some of the best sources are Titus genealogies already written by others. Below is a list of some published Titus genealogies that were valuable sources for this compilation of Titus data. Most can be found in genealogy libraries.

- **The Titus Family in America** by Rev. Anson Titus, Jr.; New York Genealogical & Biographical Record (NYG&BR), Vol XII, New York, Jan. 1881
- **Long Island Genealogies**, by Mary Bunker Powell, 1895
- **Corrections and Additions to Published Genealogical Works** by Edmond D. Titus; NYG&BR, Jan 1920
- **Titus Family Notes** by John R. Totten, NYG&BR, Jan. 1921
- **A Record of Descendants Who Settled in Washington, Litchfield Co., CT**, by Mrs. A. C. Titus, 1933
- **Titus Family of Long Island and Dutchess Co. New York** by Andrew Provost Jr., C.E., Darien CT, 1941
- **The Titus Family of Douglas, Mass. and Vershire, VT**, by Claude W. Barlow, Ph.D., New England Hist. and Genealogical Record, July, 1960.

- **History of the Family of William and Bathsheba (Fisher) Titus**, Typed copy circa 1971 by Eleanor Titus
- **Titus Mug Podge**, Merle (Garton) Phillips, May 1979
- **Some Of The Descendants Of William Titus and Bathsheba Fisher of Rehoboth, MA**, Compiled by Mary J. H. MacDonald, C.G., A.G., 1981
- **A History of the Titus-Capron and Related Families**, by Elroy Wilson Titus, 1984
- **Saga of Two North American Families, Andrews - Titus**, by John Alva Titus, 1987
- **Good Ole Bob**, by Ben Humbolt Titus, 1989
- **Descendants of Ebenezer Titus, 1727-1807** by Millard Charley Titus, Nov., 1, 2000
- **From Sea To Shining Sea**, booklet by Jean Giacopazzi Murray (No Date)

#### **Disclaimer**

This book is a compilation of Titus genealogical information that has been collected over the span of over ten years. A lot of the information was provided by other Titus researchers. I was not able to verify or prove all of the information using official documents such as birth and death records, or marriage records. It is entirely possible that some of the information presented in this text is incorrect. In cases where information was unclear or contradicted other sources, I either excluded it or made a note of the issue.

#### **Acknowledgements**

Besides Bill Arthurs, I have corresponded with hundreds of individuals over the years regarding their connection to the Titus line. Many were kind enough to provide me information on their individual Titus information. There are too many to list here, but I have tried to include all of their names as I listed sources under individuals in Section II. Without their help and willingness to share their genealogical information, this book would be much smaller.

I would also like to thank all of the dozens libraries and librarians that gave me access to so much information. Some of the libraries that were most useful include the following:

- The New England Historic Genealogical Society – Newberry Street, Boston, MA
- Onondaga Historical Association – Syracuse, NY
- Syracuse Public Library – Syracuse, NY
- Huntington Historical Society – Huntington, NY
- Rehoboth Public Library – Rehoboth, MA
- Boston Public Library – Boston, MA
- LDS Family Research Library – Salt Lake City, UT

## Section II

### The Descendants of Robert Titus

**I. ROBERT<sup>1</sup> TITUS** was born 1600 in England, and died Bef. 1679 in Huntington, Long Island, NY. He married HANAH CARTER June 24, 1624 in England, daughter of ROBERT CARTER and PETRONILLA CURLE. She was born 1604 in England, and died 1679. Robert Titus was born in 1600. He was the first Titus immigrant from England to America and is the progenitor of many of the Tituses in America today. Marriage records of the parish register of Watford, England show a Robert Titus and an Anne Carter who were married on June 24, 1624. Based on the date and similar names it has been assumed by other genealogists that this record refers to Robert Titus and Hannah Carter of St. Katherines who immigrated to America on the Hopewell on April 3, 1635.

Robert Titus is described on the Hopwell's passenger list as being a husbandman (farmer). Robert was 35 years old when he took his family; Hannah age 31, John age 8 and Edmond age 5 and embarked with a minister's certificate from St. Katherine's by the Tower in the city of London. The following is the entry in the passenger list for April 3rd, 1635: " Theis underwritten names are to be transported to New England, imbarqued in ye Hopewell, Mr. WM. BUNDICK, the pties have brought certificates from the Minister and Justices of the Peace, that they are no subtedy men. The have taken the oath of allegiance and supremacie. ROBERT TITUS, husbandman of St. Katherines, 35; Uxor (wife) HANNA TITUS, 31; Jo. Titus, 8; Edmond, 5.

The family arrived in Boston a few weeks after leaving London and Robert was granted some land in the present town of Brookline, Massachusetts. They lived in Brookline for two or three years and then moved to the town of Weymouth. Robert's land in Weymouth is described in the town records and is printed on page 274 of The History of Weymouth: "Six acres in the plaine 3 of them first giuen to George Allin 3 to Arthure Warren bounded on the East with a highwaie on the west and north with high waies on the south with the land of John Osborne fflower acres on the other side first giuen to James Ludden the greate swampe being on the west and south of it One acre of ffresh marsh at his dore beinge at the north end of the greate swampe."

Robert and his family belonged to the Church of Weymouth where Rev. Samuel Newman was pastor from 1639 to 1643. In 1643 Rev. Newman and most of his parishioners, including the Titus family, moved out of Weymouth and settled to the southwest and ultimately founded Rehoboth, Massachusetts. In 1643 Rehoboth was a large territory west of Plymouth and was comprised of what is at present Rehoboth, Seekonk, Attleborough, North Attleborough, Massachusetts as well as East Providence, Pawtucket and Cumberland, Rhode Island. The actual town green and church were located in what is now Rumford, Rhode Island just west of the Ten Mile River. The original town green is now a cemetery where the graves of many of the early settlers including Rev. Newman are buried. The eight acres of land that Robert and his family lived on in the 1640's is still undeveloped with the exception of a few residential homes.

The first recorded meeting of the original planters of Rehoboth took place in Weymouth on Oct. 24, 1643. At that meeting it was determined that 65 lots were to be divided between the inhabitants. Each planter had until April 20th of the following year to fence their lot or they would forfeit their land and be forced to move out of the settlement. At the same meeting the townsmen were required to provide the value of their estates so that the size of allotments of land would be distributed accordingly. Robert Titus reported his estate as being worth 156 pounds and 10 shillings. His land is described in the Rehoboth Town Records: "Robert Tytus, Imps his home Lot Eight akors at the South East side of the towne. # Eighteen akors in the woodland plaine being the 24th Lott. # on ackors halfe and 12 Rod fresh medow lying in the 40 ackor med. # three ackors three quarters and 25 Rod of Salt Marsh (28. p. 52.)"

It appears that Robert was a fairly important man in earl Rehoboth. In 1645 he was chosen by the town along with three others to inspect the quality of the fences of each lot and to levee fines on those whose fence did not



meet town standards. That same year a levy was made on each estate to be paid in butter or wampum and Robert was chosen to be a collector of the revenue. In 1649 and 1650 Robert was chosen to be a Deputy of the Court along with Stephen Paine.

In spite of Robert's activity in the town government, it is clear that he began to have some problems with his fellow townsmen. According to the town records Robert was called into court on June 6, 1654. At that meeting he was told to move his family out of the Plymouth Colony for allowing Abner Ordway and a woman with children, "persons of evil fame" to live in his home. It has been assumed by several genealogists that the reference of persons of evil fame indicates that Abner Ordway and his family may have been Quakers. However, as it was pointed out to me by Mr. Alex Simack of Stelle, Illinois, this is unlikely since the first Quakers in New England didn't arrive until 1656. I believe it was some kind of religious dispute and perhaps, as Mr. Simack suggests, it could have been a witchcraft accusation.

The practice of banishing a family from the colony was known as a "Warning Out Notice" and the actual Warning Out of the Titus family was the first recorded in the Plymouth Colony Record (22. p. 52):



*Village green of Rehoboth Plantation founded in 1643.  
It is now part of the town of Rumford, Rhode Island*

"6 June Robert Titus enformed this Court, that hee, haueing sold his house and land att Rehoboth, and being ere long to remoue out of this goument, and that Mr Browne had layed an attachment vpon some pte of his estate to the vallue of aboue fifty pounds, requiring him to ceure the towne of Rehoboth of Abner Ordway; and vpon hearing and debateing the matter, it did euidently appeer that the said Robert Titus had, contrary to the mind of the towne, receiued into and harbored in his house as inmates Abner Ordway and a woman, psons of euill fame, with children. It is therefore ordered by the Court, that the said Titus, when hee remoueth himselfe and famly, shall carry the said Abner, and all that appertaineth vnto him, or else giue such securitie as Mr Browne shall see meet for the saueing the inhabitants of the towne harmles from any determent that may befall them by Abner Ordway, or any such as belong vnto him; and in the interim of his remoueuall to repaire such dammage as any shall sustaine therby."

Robert took his family to Long Island in the summer of 1654 after being forced out of Plymouth Colony. His son Edmond had moved to Long Island four years earlier and later became a Quaker. Robert settled near Oyster Bay in Huntington, Long Island. Robert's oldest son John was a land holder in Rehoboth in 1654 and remained there when his father moved to Long Island. John had several children and is the ancestor of most of the New England Tituses today.

Robert probably died before 1679 when his wife Hannah's will was read. The following is the will of Hannah Titus made at Huntington, L.I. in 1672. The original is on file in the office of the Clerk of the Court of Appeals, in Albany, N.Y.: "May 14th 1672. The last Will and testament of Hanna Titus, being in prefit memory, I bequeth my sowl to God that gave it, and my body to the earth, and for my Estate I depose of it as

followeth:- Imprimis I give to my sonn Content my house and all my land; and out of the forsaid house and Lands I give to my sonn Johnn tenn poundes, which my son Content is to pay him. And also I give to my son John my mare, and to my son Edmond I give a horse, and to my son Samuel a browne cow, and a yearlen stear, and I give to my son Samuel's wife my warming pan, and to my son Abialle's wife my smothing yron and to my son Contente's wife my Skimar, and for what remnantes of sarg and cloth I have, my will is, that it be equally divided among all my children, and to my dafter Susana I give my sarg hooode, and for all the rest of my estate within the house and without it, I give to my sun Abiall and Content to be equally divided between them two, and to this my will I set my hand in the presence of Richard Williames... Richard Williames being one of the witnesses to this will have given his oath to the truth of it before me. Jonas Wood this 28 of May '79. Thomas Skidmore being a witness to ye wth in written will doth declare in ye presence of God to ye truth of it before me. Issac Platt, Constable

In the absence of ye Justice. Huntington, Dec. ye 17th 1679."

Sources:

1. "Titus Family in America", *New York Genealogical & Biographical Record*, Vol XII, New York, Jan. 1881
2. The manuscript collection of Rev. Anson Titus, NEHGS, Boston Mass.
3. "Early Records of Rehoboth Mass" - Rehoboth, MA Public Library
4. *Weymouth Massachusetts Vital Records*
5. "History of Rehoboth" by George Tilton, Boston, MA, 1918
6. "Rev. John Moore of Newtown, Long Island and Some of His Descendants" James W. Moore, 1903

Children of ROBERT TITUS and HANAH CARTER are:

2. i. JOHN<sup>2</sup> TITUS, b. Dec. 18, 1627, England; d. April 16, 1689, Rehoboth, MA.
3. ii. EDMOND TITUS, b. 1630, England; d. Feb. 17, 1714/15, Westbury, New York.
4. iii. SAMUEL TITUS, b. 1635, Brookline, Massachusetts; d. Aft. 1682.
- iv. SUSANNA TITUS, b. 1638, Weymouth, Massachusetts; m. ROBERT JONES.
5. v. ABIEL TITUS, b. March 17, 1639/40, Weymouth, MA; d. 1736, Huntington, Long Island, NY.
6. vi. CONTENT TITUS, b. Mar. 28, 1643, Weymouth, MA; d. Jan. 17, 1729/30, Newton, NY

- vii. KATHERINE TITUS, m. JOHNSON BLACKWELL.
- viii. WILLIAM M. TITUS.

**243. JOSEPH A.<sup>6</sup> TITUS** (*URIEL<sup>5</sup>, JOSEPH<sup>4</sup>, JOHN<sup>3</sup>, CONTENT<sup>2</sup>, ROBERT<sup>1</sup>*) was born Dec. 05, 1795 in Pennington, NJ, and died April 30, 1880 in Elizabethtown, Essex Co., NY. He married ELIZA BURROGHS Feb. 10, 1819, daughter of JEREMIAH BURROUGHS and JEMIMA SCUDDER. She was born June 01, 1799, and died Sep. 23, 1863. He was an elder of the Pennington Presbyterian Church.

*Sources:*

1. *Notes of Bill Arthurs*
2. *WFT #2013*
3. *FTM Web Page Report by Richard Pettitt of Palm Coast, FL, updated Sep. 5, 2000*
4. *Genforum post by E. S. Smith, Jan. 25, 2003*
5. *"Titus Mug Podge", Merle (Garton) Phillips, May 1979*

Children of JOSEPH TITUS and ELIZA BURROGHS are:

- i. MARGARET ADELA<sup>7</sup> TITUS, m. WILLIAM HENRY WYKOFF.
- 431. ii. ELIZABETH TITUS, b. 1820, New Jersey; d. 1861, Elizabethtown, Essex Co., NY.
- iii. HANNAH JEMIMA TITUS, b. 1820; d. June 20, 1891; m. JOHN WELLING.
- 432. iv. URIEL BURROUGHS TITUS, b. Mar. 14, 1829, Titusville, NJ; d. Feb. 19, 1909, Trenton, NJ.

**244. THEODORE<sup>6</sup> TITUS** (*JOHN<sup>5</sup>, ANDREW<sup>4</sup>, JOHN<sup>3</sup>, CONTENT<sup>2</sup>, ROBERT<sup>1</sup>*) was born Oct. 09, 1794 in Trenton, Mercer Co., NJ, and died Jan. 1865 in Wilkesbarre, PA. He married CATHERINE FLICK HOWELL 1820, daughter of ELLET HOWELL and CATHERINE FLICK. She was born Nov. 12, 1798, and died July 08, 1843 in Wilkes Barre, Luzerne Co., PA. He owned a 300-400 acre farm in Trenton, NJ. He also had a grist mill and a brewery. He owned 30 to 40 slaves who did not accept their freedom when it was offered to them.

*Sources:*

1. *"A Titus Family", by Ianthe Bond Hebel, Daytona Beach FL, 1968*
2. *Notes of Bill Arthurs*
3. *FTM Web Page Report by Richard Pettitt of Palm Coast, FL, updated Sep. 5, 2000*
4. *Descendancy charts by Harry Titus, Santa Barbara, CA*

Children of THEODORE TITUS and CATHERINE HOWELL are:

- 433. i. HENRY THEODORE<sup>7</sup> TITUS, b. Feb. 13, 1822, Trenton, Mercer Co., NJ; d. Aug. 07, 1881, Titusville, FL.
- ii. ELLETT HOWELL TITUS, d. Mexico or Texas.
- iii. JULIA ELIZABETH TITUS, m. SAMUEL MINER.
- iv. SARAH MERSHON TITUS, b. Oct. 15, 1826; m. SAMUEL BOWMAN, May 19, 1845; b. Oct. 31, 1818; d. April 19, 1889.
- v. MARIAN ANN TITUS.
- vi. HELEN CATHERINE TITUS, b. 1836; m. JAMES BLACK HODGKINS.
- vii. CAROLINE TITUS, m. (1) EUGENE PROVOST; m. (2) EDWARD HERBERTON.
- viii. JOHN TITUS, d. age 2.
- ix. PHILLIP TITUS, d. age 2.

**245. ENOCH<sup>6</sup> TITUS** (*JESSE<sup>5</sup>, ANDREW<sup>4</sup>, JOHN<sup>3</sup>, CONTENT<sup>2</sup>, ROBERT<sup>1</sup>*) He was born abt. 1786 in Hunderton Co., NJ, died Nov. 12, 1866. He mar. PHEBE DAVIS., daughter of Israel Davis. She was b. 1786.

*Sources:*

1. *Notes of Bill Arthurs*

Children of ENOCH TITUS and PHEBE DAVIS are:

- i. JOHN<sup>7</sup> TITUS, b. abt 1807
- ii. CATHERINE TITUS, b. abt. 1808

**246. SMITHE<sup>6</sup> TITUS** (*STEPHEN<sup>5</sup>, ANDREW<sup>4</sup>, JOHN<sup>3</sup>, CONTENT<sup>2</sup>, ROBERT<sup>1</sup>*) He married FANNY HUNT.

*Sources:*

1. *Notes of Bill Arthurs*

Child of SMITHE TITUS and FANNY HUNT is:

- i. MARY<sup>7</sup> TITUS.

Child of URIEL TITUS and ANNE DEMOREST is:

- vi. HELLEN WELLING<sup>8</sup> TITUS, b. Hamilton, Mercer Co., New Jersey; d. Aft. 1921; m. ARTHUR MOON, March 25, 1903, Mercer Co., NJ; d. Abt. 1954.

**433. HENRY THEODORE<sup>7</sup> TITUS** (*THEODORE<sup>6</sup>, JOHN<sup>5</sup>, ANDREW<sup>4</sup>, JOHN<sup>3</sup>, CONTENT<sup>2</sup>, ROBERT<sup>1</sup>*) was born Feb. 13, 1822 in Trenton, Mercer Co., NJ, and died Aug. 07, 1881 in Titusville, FL. He married MARY EVELINA HOPKINS March 07, 1852 in Darien, Camden Co., GA, daughter of EDWARD HOPKINS and MARY DUFOUR. She was born Dec. 23, 1832 in St. Mary's, Camden Co., GA, and died Nov. 1911 in Thomasville, Thomas Co., GA. More biographical information is presented in Section III.

Sources:

1. "A Titus Family", by Ianthe Bond Hebel, Daytona Beach FL, 1968
2. Descendancy charts by Harry Titus, Santa Barbara, CA
3. FTM Web Page Report by Richard Pettitt of Palm Coast, FL, updated Sep. 5, 2000
4. "Saga of Two North American Families, Andrews - Titus", John Alva Titus, 1987
5. Biography of Henry Theodore Titus, compiled by his grandson Henry Wayne Titus after 1973
6. The Titus Trail, Volume I, No. 1, Summer 1980

Children of HENRY TITUS and MARY HOPKINS are:

- i. EDWARD HOPKINS<sup>8</sup> TITUS, b. Jan. 15, 1859, Savannah, Chatham Co., GA; d. 1934.
- ii. KATHERINE HOWELL TITUS, b. Dec. 02, 1860, Jamaica, Long Island, New York; d. Feb. 03, 1883, During birth of twins (who also died); m. JAMES MCCOMB, May 20, 1882, Titusville, FL.
- iii. MARY EVELINA TITUS, b. April 29, 1862, Jamaica, NY; d. April 01, 1940, Miami, FL; m. GEORGE F. ENSEY, Dec. 27, 1882, Titusville, FL; b. May 15, 1858, Baltimore, MD; d. Tropic, FL.
- iv. HOWELL TITUS, b. Aug. 11, 1865, Madison, FL; d. May 21, 1937, Jacksonville, FL; m. LUCY D'BARBOUR, Sep. 11, 1884.
- 700. v. HENRY THEODORE TITUS, b. Aug. 12, 1867, Wilkesbarre, PA; d. Oct. 21, 1946, Daytona Beach, FL.
- vi. ELLETT LIVINGSTON TITUS, b. Nov. 25, 1869, Titusville, FL; d. Oct. 1894, Brooklyn, NY. Articles from The New York Times: Oct. 19, 1894 "Miss Mary Duff, daughter of Peter, and Ellett Livingston Titus, her "affianced husband" were found dead. She had died from an overdose of chloroform and he had shot himself. She was 23. He was 24. She had used chloroform for relief of headaches and had a heart condition. He was the son of Col. Henry Titus, the founder of Titusville, FL. and lived at 440 Clinton St. in Brooklyn with his aunt."
 

Oct. 21, 1894. "The funerals of Ellett Livingston Titus and Mary S. Duff, who died Wed., Oct. 17 at Sea Cliff, LI, were buried in Greenwood Cemetery, Brooklyn yesterday. His only brother, Thomas from Thomasville, GA was present."

Oct. 24, 1894. "The cause of death of Mary Duff was heart failure induced by chloroform administered by Titus to relieve a headache."
- 701. vii. THEODORE TITUS, b. Oct. 23, 1871, Titusville, FL; d. July 04, 1959, Thomasville, GA.
- 702. viii. PIERRE SOULE TITUS, b. Aug. 16, 1873, Titusville, FL; d. Aug. 25, 1956, Los Angeles, CA.
- ix. THEODOCIA TITUS.

**434. NOAH<sup>7</sup> TITUS** (*NOAH<sup>6</sup>, JOHNSON<sup>5</sup>, SAMUEL<sup>4</sup>, JOHN<sup>3</sup>, CONTENT<sup>2</sup>, ROBERT<sup>1</sup>*) was born 1824, and died 1907. He married LOUISE DYE. She was born 1829, and died 1906.

Sources:

1. Notes of Bill Arthurs
2. New Jersey Marriages, pp. 289-290

Children of NOAH TITUS and LOUISE DYE are:

- i. LOUVENIA<sup>8</sup> TITUS, b. 1848; d. 1849.
- ii. ELY D. TITUS, b. 1850, Hopewell, NJ.
- iii. ADELIA TITUS, b. 1852, New Jersey.

From a letter by O. Lynne Titus, Nov. 29, 2000, Grand Prairie, Texas: "... My gggrandfather Andrew Jackson "Jack" Titus was a very civic minded individual. He was the first Postmaster of Savannah, Texas. He held a high position in the Masonic Fraternity. He opened up the Titus Co. area to the river port at Jefferson, Texas. He later served in the 4th Texas State Legislature in 1851-52. He died at the young age of 41 at 7:00 o'clock in the morning at his plantation near Savannah, Texas. It's sad, because of the pure nature of his character, he could have fulfilled so many other things in his life for the benefit of his family and fellow citizens.

Before his death, a third child was born to "Jack " Titus and his wife Jane Park Titus. It was a son named James Fearin Titus, who is my great grandfather. He was born on Jan. 21, 1853 in Red River Co., Texas.

"Jack" Titus did not live to see the Civil War, but certainly his family did. His oldest son, Ebenezer Brown Titus, entered the service as a 1st Lieutenant with the "Savannah Blues", which was formed on June 22, 1861, Captain James Gilliam, Commanding. He later became Captain E. B. Titus, Commander of Company K, 34th Texas Calvary (dismounted), Confederate States of America. He was badly wounded, being shot several times, during the fight at Yellow Bayou on May 13, 1864. This was during the Red River Campaign. He was discharged later that same year.

After the war's end, hard times were in store for the Titus family as it was for people all over Texas and the southern states. They still had land, but no one to work it. The Confederate money was worthless. This set a precedent that was to carry on for several generations. Most of the land would eventually be gone. I know not all the reasons for the loss of the land, but stories have passed down through the years about all the hardships. My gggrandfather, Andrew Jackson Titus, was a wealthy land owner, planter and politician. His youngest son, My great grandfather, James Fearin "Tobe" Titus, was a poor farmer on what was left of James Titus Headright near Savannah, Texas. My gggrandmother, Jane Park Brown Titus died on March 11, 1869. Times were so bad after the Civil War, that there is not even a headstone for her next to her husband. Ebenezer B. Titus died at the Savannah plantation on Jan. 31, 1883 of pneumonia. He was only 44 years old. Ann Rebecca "Becky" Titus died on Oct. 9, 1906 in Red River Co., Texas."

From the Young article, 1964: "... Andrew Jackson Titus was active in developing the area in which he lived. It is interesting to me that of all the land available, they chose the sandy type soil. This was done, according to a relative, because there was plenty of water and timber, both necessary for farming at this time. Since there was a heavily timbered section, a ready cash crop was at hand...

... Col. Titus would have been proud of his descendants. On the genealogy table, we note teachers, lawyers, store owners, lawmen and doctors. As one granddaughter told us, the Titus men died early. Col. Titus died at the age of 41. In that time he had build a road, a post office, established a church and Masonic Lodge, served in the Legislature, fought a war, helped in establishing annexation of Texas, and had a Co. named after him. In concluding:

We put a lilac where he lay - Col. Andrew Jackson Titus, giant of his time.  
 We turned and walked away - In search of knowledge of his kind.  
 History now reveals this man believed, built and fought - Because his heart was in this land  
 Can we do less than follow what he taught? - So we placed a lilac where he lay in the East Texas sand.

## **HENRY THEODORE TITUS (#433) b. Feb. 13, 1822**

Henry Theodore Titus Bio: Mostly from the memory of his daughter, Mary (Minnie) Titus, compiled by H.T. Titus' great grandson, Harry Wayne Titus some time after 1973. It has also been reprinted in "Saga of Two North American Families, Andrews - Titus" by John Alva Titus in 1987.

"Late in 1867 Colonel Henry Theodore Titus arrived and Sand Point, Florida, where he founded the city that was to bear his name. This event marked a significant change in the live of Col. Titus.

Henry T. Titus was born in Trenton, New Jersey, on Feb. 13, 1822. At the age of twenty-eight, in Aug. of 1850, Henry Titus achieved nation-wide notice when he joined the revolutionist Narciso Lopez to form an expedition to help free Cuba from Spanish control. Titus was assigned the responsibility of enlisting recruits in the Southern States from a headquarters in Jacksonville, Florida.

A year later, Lopez and some of his followers arrived in Cuba from New Orleans on the ship Pampero. The Pampero then sailed to Jacksonville to load the recruits, arms and supplies. As Colonel Titus trained his men near Fornandina, word was received that Lopez and some of his men had been captured and executed in Cuba. The Pampero rushed back to Jacksonville but was seized by Federal ships and men in Dunn's Lake, a tributary of the St. John's River. Colonel Titus was arrested for violating the neutrality laws of the United States. He was later tried, but no evidence was found of any punishment.

Following his release, Colonel Titus became a merchant in Jacksonville. It was during this time that Henry T. Titus married Evalina Hopkins, the daughter of the prominent General Edward Stephen Hopkins. On April 2, 1856, the Jacksonville Florida Republican announced that Colonel and Mrs. Titus were to leave for Kansas and stated that Colonel Titus' "adaptation by experience, as well as by physical proportions, for frontier life, warrant us in predicting for him a successful career in that new territory."

The Tituses joined with other Southerners in supporting the pro-slavery cause in Kansas. It was not long before open combat with the abolitionists ensued, and the entire nation became inflamed over the situation. Colonel Titus' activity in "Bleeding Kansas" is surrounded with controversy. Some newspaper reports stated that Titus was a coward, but Mrs. Titus wrote that "... Titus' bravery commands the admiration of everyone - the enemy say they never saw such a man." Colonel Titus was captured by the abolitionists and faced the possibility of being executed; however, he was released in a prisoner exchange. Not long after this event, peace came to Kansas, and in Dec. 1856 Colonel Titus left the area.

The Kansas episode is vividly recalled in the early recollections of Mary Evelina Titus, known to her family as Minnie, the younger daughter of Henry and Evelina:

'Daddy was a Northern man and never owned a slave in his life, but he espoused the Southern cause and went to Kansas with a number of Southern men. Mother went also, and they were in the thick of things there. I remember my father telling of having John Brown's sons as prisoners and of feeling sorry for them and letting the ride mules unbound upon their promise not to try to escape, but the first chance they got they were off.

Father was wounded by a minie ball, which came out just before he died in large abscess. It was while he was in Kansas his rheumatic condition made its first appearance, which finally was to cripple him and cause his death...'

The "Border Ruffian" as Titus was then called, gathered a group of men to join the Nicaraguan Army under the "President" of Nicaragua, William Walker. The troops arrived in Nicaragua on Feb. 4, 1857. All accounts indicated that Colonel Titus showed no bravery in his commands in Nicaragua. One report stated that the Colonel was dashing madly about with a pistol, fearing attack from his own men. In April, Titus fled to San Francisco.

Nothing is known of Colonel Titus' activities from late 1857 until the Civil War. Confederate records showed Titus was paid for delivery of supplies and materials during most of the war. In 1863 while captain of the ship Charm, Colonel Titus was captured on the Indian River. Several of his passengers were trying to avoid the Confederate Conscript Act. What happened as a result of the capture is not known. It is apparent, however, that Colonel Titus was a Confederate blockade-runner and that he was familiar with the Indian River area.

After the Civil War Colonel Titus returned to his wife and family. He was now severely afflicted with muscular rheumatism and in order to help his condition determined to move to a warmer climate. Perhaps he remembered the Indian River with its warm climate and great beauty and decided to return to this vicinity to live. Minnie Titus related the events of 1865 to 1867:

'In 1865 (I was three years old at the time) my father and mother and we children made the first trip down from New York on the Indian River, which was the new name of the old blockade-runner. The trip was disastrous, and we had to abandon ship.

For many years at low tide the remains of the ship's hull could be seen; a few years ago the cannons were salvaged and now adorn the Fort Pierce park, supposedly the cannons from a pirate ship, but in reality the only part of the old Indian River ever to reach dry land. They were encrusted with barnacles and rust, but a mute reminder of days of yore when the South fought to break the blockade and when the company's dream of a fortune to be made in 'oysters and green turtle' was buried in the sea.

After reaching land at Fort Capron (Fort Pierce) they (Colonel Titus and Judge Payne) build a cannery to can oysters, green turtles, etc. to be sold in the north. To finish what might be left of father's dream, the cannery caught fire and went up in smoke, leaving only some cans and burned machinery to attest to his vision of future prosperity. The insurance company they were insured with failed also, so the venture was a total loss.

While there, waiting for my father to become well enough to travel, I have vivid recollection, though only three years old, of seeing the Indians driving their hogs in for us to buy. It seems that the squaws did this, and I don't know how it always seemed to happen at sundown. The man would come in the dining rooms while we were eating and sit down on the table. They would eat anything my mother gave them, but their manners left much to be desired. I was very afraid of them.

Early in 1867 we journeyed up the Indian River to Jacksonville on the sailing vessel Live Yankee. We slept on beds of green palmetto fans covered with blankets and under mosquito bars. Father left the family in New York and returned to Florida. The cold of the north was not good for his rheumatism; the warmth and sunshine of Florida attracted him. He was a great sufferer by then...

My mother owned a tract of land at what was then Sand Point, now Titusville. Father conceived the idea of founding a town and opening that part of the country. In two years (early 1869) the family joined him. We had no lack of company for we had many friends in New York who came to spend the winters and to hunt and fish as well as enjoy the climate. Lord and Lady Parker, from England were among the visitors.'

From that point Colonel Titus' life changed. He was determined to build a city of significance in a land he came to love. There is some indication that he ruled his land with an "iron hand"; however, he was always the first to fight for the improvement and the betterment of his town.

Minnie Titus' recollections contain accounts of some of the accomplishments of her father, Colonel Titus: 'Father established a 'mule team' to connect Titusville with the St. Johns river steamer which ran from Enterprise opposite to where Sanford now is on Lake Monroe. This was a great help... He also established a mail route which was carried on horseback. The route by sailboat from Daytona to Jupiter was delivered once a week.

He had a machine to make shingles and also all kinds of fancy canes, cups and saucers, and napkin rings out of native wood. Ligvum Vitae, crab wood, palmetto, and black mangrove were among the woods used.

Daddy gave me employment to many in clearing out the land and laying out the town buildings. He was a lover of beauty; Titusville still has wide streets which he beautified with shade trees and shrubs, bringing in hibiscus and other plants.'

In 1870 the Titus House was completed. It was '...built in what may be called the tropical style - a large main building with two long wings, all one story high, forming three sides of a square neatly laid out in a garden, and with the rooms opening off the wide verandahs like a row of houses in a city block. The table at once convinces the guest that he is in a tropical region, the meats being principally oysters, clams, fish, etc. with many strange and familiar fruits and vegetables, all tropical and fresh...'

The Titus house became the 'hub of social activity' for the Indian River area. If the dining room did not appeal, Titus' ample saloon would. Guests came from hundreds of miles to purchase the fine liquors, imported wines, and ales. The saloon was even provided with a billiard table.

Colonel Titus entertained many prominent people at the Titus House. One guest, who stayed in the House in 1875, later wrote of the Colonel: 'Notwithstanding the ravages of illness, we could readily note that he had been a man of wonderful proportions and splendid appearance. As he related some incidents of adventurous careers, his dark eyes flashed, and this, associated with a choice selection of vituperative adjectives, disclosed what manner of man he must have been. During our stay of several days the natives whispered mysteriously that the General's (sic) daily habit included several hours of sitting on his verandah with a loaded rifle across his lap waiting to locate one or more of his local enemies, who might carelessly invade the territory covered by the range of his gun. We found him a fine old gentleman, however, interesting and hospitable; and, moreover, the brand of his liquor drove away the remembrance of our long discredited supply.'

A somewhat different picture of Colonel Titus' personality and appearance is found in the words of his daughter, Minnie: 'He was very handsome and commanding in appearance, with dark brown eyes and hair, standing well over six foot in height and weighing two hundred and fifty pounds, though very graceful. Men either hated or loved him; many hated him without.... He suffered but did not complain. He would say, 'God have mercy on my soul.' His character and courage was such that he carried on daily... when lesser men would have given up.'

In 1873 the name of the Post Office was changed to Titusville. Clark Rice gave this account of the changing of the name from Sand Point: 'He (Captain Rice) and Mr. Titus that came about the same time wanted to give the place a name, so they agreed that the winner at a game of dominoes should have the name. Riceville if Rice won, and Titusville if Titus won. The result we know, for Titusville it is'

Colonel Titus worked diligently to have the Co. Seat located in Titusville. His dream was realized on Oct. 7, 1879, when a vote was taken to relocate the Co. Seat. The voting totals were for Eau Gallie, 35; for Rockledge, 39; and for Titusville, 135.

Titusville grew and prospered under the leadership of Colonel Titus. In 1880 there were approximately two hundred people living in the town. Titus made many improvements in the streets and landscape. He was constant in the defense of his town.

On Aug. 3, 1881, Colonel Titus wrote in the Florida Dispatch, 'Titusville is the ... grand center of all trade and will so continue to be. No Slanderous article from any irresponsible person will change or alter its destiny. Her motto is 'live and let live.'

Four days later Colonel Henry T. Titus died. These words appeared in the Titusville Star, 'Died at his residence in this place on Sunday morning, Aug. 7th, Colonel Henry Titus, after prolonged illness.' The Titus heritage lives on in the city which bears his name."

### **JAMES HENRY TITUS (#508) b. Sep. 26, 1823**

The following information was printed in "Saga of Two North American Families, Andrews - Titus", John Alva Titus, 1987. The source of the information is attributed to Ms. Jean McDermott of Kent, WA and a biography of Lillian E. (Titus) Shoff, written in 1955. "... About this time gold was discovered in California and James got gold fever. He left his wife and two year old boy, George, and sailed around Cape Horn for San Francisco, which took six months. His wife and son went back to Maine where they stayed for the next seven years, until he sent them money. The money was sent so they could join James in the fall of 1856. She went by boat by way of the Isthmus of Panama, by rail and then took another boat up the coast to San Francisco."

The following letter was written by James to his wife March 25, 1856 and was reprinted in . "Saga of Two North American Families, Andrews - Titus" by John Alva Titus. He lists a 1955 biography written by Mrs.