Written by Jennifer Nodwell Wednesday, 08 September 2010 09:05 - Last Updated Wednesday, 08 September 2010 20:21

My Crowder ancestral lines stops with <u>John W. Crowder</u> who was born around 1808 in Virginia. It is more likely he was born in 1813, going off the 1850 census record. His middle name may be William or Wesley. I have seen trees which name his parents as Robert (Hubert) Crowder and Martha Myers, Anthony Crowder and Maria Unknown, Jeremiah Frederick and Martha Frederick, and John W. Crowder, Sr. and Martha P. Dickson.

In the 1810 Census taken in Virginia, there is no Robert, Anthony, or Jeremiah listed, but there are two Johns. There is no Mary, Martha, or Maria listed as a head of household in Virginia in 1810, either. It would seem, then, that his father is most likely one of the Johns - one in Dinwiddie County and one in Northumberland County.

My John W. Crowder married Elizabeth Pittman and later Lucy Jane Hays. The only child by his first marriage was Elizabeth Jane born Aug 16, 1837, near Memphis, TN. Children by the second marriage appear to be Isabella, Jamima, James S, Emma G and William H. born in Virginia before 1850. However, I find John W. on the 1850 Haywood Co., TN census with Jane, spouse, Elizabeth, Isabella, Jamima, James and William (1 month old). Other children born to the second marriage are Ellen A., George W., Martha J, John W., Charles Allen and Virginia Lee Forrest Crowder all born in MS between 1854 and 1864. These appear on the MS census 1860. In 1870 Census, 4 year old Richard is added. In the 1880 census, the family minus John W. appear in Hamilton Co., TX. There are 7 children still living with Lucy J, James age 34, William H age 30, George W age 26, John W age 21, Charles 18, Virginia L. F. age 16 and Robert age 12. In retrospect, it is much more likely that Isabella is a child of the first wife Elizabeth and not Lucy Jane. I have seen indications that Elizabeth and John had 3 daughters, but have not found any records to confirm the third (first-born) daughter Virginia.

I assume that John married in Tennessee, since his brides were both born there. Unfortunately, Haywood County, Tennessee marriage records only date back to 1859.

I have indicated John is the child of John W. Crowder and Martha P. Dickson in the family tree here, but I still do not have a confirming source record for this relationship. John and Martha were married in North Carolina in 1811. I can't understand why John, Sr. would have married in North Carolina and returned to Virginia for a few years before moving on to Tennessee.