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RE: WM. EATON OF PALESTINE IL

By [genealogy.com user](#) August 29, 2000 at 06:23:40

In reply to: [Re: Wm. Eaton of Palestine IL](#)

4/10/00

As I have diligently been searching for William Eaton b. 1764 in VA I occasionally come across information which might be useful. From a Faye Purcell hpurcell@bwoodtx.com comes the following:

"From Limestone County Genealogical Society Book:

Richard Eaton [b. 1782 in VA]

'Early in American history, the Eatons erected a fort in the state of Illinois and named it Fort Foot. It was a refuge for all the settlers during Indian uprising. It is generally accepted that the Eatons were the first settlers of Crawford County, Illinois as early as 1808-09. Family characteristics were a large family, with a large physique, who possessed extra large feet, thus 'Fort Foot'. They were men of action, a very clannish people who always put God above all. William Eaton, the patriarch, having many children, among them John, Stephen, Benjamin, Joseph and Richard. They were in Palestine, Illinois during our last war with England (1812). Richard Eaton met Polly in Tennessee and married her and they moved to Illinois in 1808-09. They lived there until 1833 when Richard traded their homestead for a yoke of oxen, a wagon and a hope for a better life. They joined Daniel Parker, David Faulkenberry, and others somewhere along the long trek to Texas. They came to establish the Pilgrim Church. Some of the colonists settled Fort Brown in east Texas, others came to Limestone County and settled Fort Parker. Prichard and Polly built a homestead there on Boxes Creek . . .

Richard and Mary Eaton

Richard, the son of Col. William Eaton, was born in 1782 in Virginia. He first married Elizabeth Heaton in Kentucky and their first child, Absolem was born in 1803. When Elizabeth died, he married Mary Polly . . .

Benjamin Eaton (p. 92)

Benjamin Eaton, a distant cousin of Richard, was possibly the only one of his immediate family to join the settlement in Illinois. He married Malinda Eaton in Crawford County, Illinois in 1826. . . . the couple moved to Limestone County about the same time that all Richard's children moved, about 1849. They, too, settled at Eatontown about two miles southwest of what is now Thornton. . . .

Benjamin and Malinda Eaton

'Benjamin was born in Kentucky in 1806. His father, Benjamin, had served with George Washington in the American Revolution. On April 6, 1826, he married his cousin, Malinda 'Malindy' Eaton, in Crawford County, Illinois. Malinda was the second child of Richard Eaton. She was born in 1805 in Tennessee. They came to Texas around 1838 and joined Richard and Polly around Elkhart. . . .'"

I also recently saw an entire line of Eatons I had not come across before on an aol site. I will see if I can locate them again and post and 2nd part of this message.

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