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Sent: Sunday, May 16, 2010 11:43 PM

To: bozard-family-sc@rootsweb.com

Subject: Re: [BOZARD-FAMILY-SC] Bozard Family

Betsy,

I really don't think there was a split in the family, though there may have been. I believe the name changes were because of the pronunciation of the Bozard name. If you recall, with the early census records, the name was listed as Buzzard/Buzard. The first documentation I have, the name was spelled Bossard - "Petition for land by Jacob Bossard." I do not know if Jacob could read or write and he gave the spelling of the name or if this was the way the writer spelled it. I do know that Bossard was one Swiss spelling. I can see how someone could pronounce it bussard/buzzard.

Stephen Joseph was the first to change his name - to Brantley - before 1860.

I have found no documentation, except census records. I think his father and mother were still living, Wish we could find out why he chose that name.

You obtained the documentation for Stephen Edward, who changed his name to Early/Earley on Jan.17, 1885. His brother, Daniel B., also changed his name to Earley, but, again, I have no documentation except the census. Some people say that Stephen Edward changed his name to Early because he had served under Gen. Jubal Early and had so much respect for him. He may have served under Gen. Early but I have never been able to find any record that he was in any of Gen. Early's companies. I think the family lore about the Early name change is correct as was the first change to Edwins. It is said that the son of Martin Oliver Bozard (brother to Stephen E. and Daniel B.), Edward Thomas Bozard, changed his name to Edwins because his bride-to-be, Letitia Bowman, would not marry him unless he changed his name, because she did not want to be known as a Buzzard. There is documentation showing that he changed his name in 1877. Evidently, all of his brothers and unmarried sisters changed theirs. Their mother married Daniel Robinson and some of the daughters and one son - named Edwin - were on the 1800 census with the Robinsons.

To me, the one whose "change" was the best was Frederick Roan. He just added a "u" to Bozard and made it Bouzard. With emphasis on the first syllable, pronounced to rhyme with clue, there is no way it could be made into Buzzard!!! Oh, Yes, another branch added a "w" - Bowzard. pronounced as bow in a bow tie. Which is exactly how I pronounce Bozard, They lived/live in the Holly Hill area.

The rest of us just lived with being teased about our name. I went to a new school and one boy kept teasing me about being a buzzard. His name was Heape, so my dad told me to tell him to call me anything, just don't call me a Heape. He stopped teasing me. When a woman found out my maiden name, she said she bet I was glad I married a Smith and got a "regular" name. I told that I was proud of my maiden name, that it is quite unusual. Jimmie was giving someone information at the hospital before our son was born. When he told her my name, she said "What kind of name is that? I've never heard of anything like that."

I'm sure every Bozard has stories about their name.

Blessings,

Miriam