

Hill, Ed

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**From:** Ed [ed@hill-ky.org]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 02, 2002 7:03 AM  
**To:** ed.hill@mercer.com  
**Subject:** FW: Thomas Family, Putnam Co, IN

-----Original Message-----

From: brian cooper [mailto:brianevans\_99@yahoo.com]  
Sent: Wednesday, October 02, 2002 2:25 AM  
To: Ed  
Subject: RE: Thomas Family, Putnam Co, IN

--- Ed <ed@hill-ky.org> wrote:

> Brian,  
>  
> Thanks for your message. I sent this once and then  
> realized that there  
> were several other email addresses on the email, so  
> I am summarizing  
> things again.  
>  
> My wife's great grandmother was Margaret (Maggie)  
> Thomas who married  
> Charles W. Gibson in Putnam Co., IN. They had three  
> children, one of whom was Beulah Gibson (my wife's  
> grandmother) who married Robert Ragal Acre. Maggie  
> left Charles when Beulah was about 13 and she would  
> never  
> talk about her mother, so we do not know a lot.  
>  
> I have done some research on the Thomas family of  
> Putnam Co. I am fairly certain that Maggie was the  
> daughter of Aaron Thomas and the granddaughter of Joel  
> Thomas and Mary Stites, but I cannot say I am 100%  
> certain. I am certain she is part of this Thomas  
> family.  
>  
> I am on my way out of town for the weekend and I  
> will touch base with you when I return. I would love  
> to compare notes on this family.  
>  
> Check out my website at: [http://www.hill-ky.org/union\\_chapel.htm](http://www.hill-ky.org/union_chapel.htm)  
> Among other things is a picture of the tombstone of  
> Joel Thomas. I have a lot more Thomas tombstones  
> that are at Union Chapel, but are not on my website.  
>  
> I look forward to hearing from you.  
>  
> Ed Hill

> -----Original Message-----

> From: James Cooper [mailto:canduer@coastalnet.com]  
> Sent: Friday, September 27, 2002 5:01 AM  
> To: Ed@Hill-Ky.org  
> Cc: ivyroots68@yahoo.com  
> Subject: Thomas Family, Putnam Co, IN

> 26 Sept 2002

> Dear Mr. Hill,  
>  
> I just saw your query seeking others who are  
> researching the Thomas  
> family  
> of Putnam County, IN. I cannot assume that all the  
> Thomases there in  
> the  
> 1800s are related--as I'm sure you'd agree.  
> However, let me throw out  
> some  
> pieces of the puzzle that I've not yet assembled  
> completely.  
>  
> My grandfather, Chauncey Edgar Cooper of Paris,  
> Edgar Co, IL (across  
> Wab-  
> ash from Terre Haute), who died in the 1950s(?), was  
> the youngest of  
> about  
> 10 children born to George Harris Cooper and  
> Margaret Thomas. Both  
> fami-  
> lies had come from KY--if memory serves me, between  
> 1824 and 1830s--  
> and apparently from Bath or Montgomery counties.  
>  
> Margaret's father was Elzeaphus Thomas, whose  
> parents (according to an  
> old Putnam County biographical directory) were Joel  
> Thomas and Mary  
> Stites (or Stiles), whose forebears had immigrated  
> from Ireland.  
>  
> The Cooper homestead was at Owl Creek, near Morton,  
> Putnam Co--though  
> I believe it is all part of Greencastle now. Much  
> of the family is  
> buried in  
> Brick Chapel Cemetery.  
>  
> I'm not familiar with county geography, but the  
> places I find associated  
> with  
> "my" Thomases aren't Morton, but perhaps other  
> communities nearby.  
>  
> My grandfather had a first cousin--a nephew of  
> Margaret, and also born  
> in 1877,  
> I believe, like him--named Elmer Thomas. Elmer went  
> out to Oklahoma  
> after  
> attending the normal school locally (with some legal  
> training) hoping to  
> benefit  
> from all the business likely to come out of the  
> opening of Oklahoma  
> Territory  
> to settlement. (Just after 1900?) In due course,  
> he rose up the  
> political ladder,  
> becoming US Senator, a member of the  
> Appropriations?? Committee and  
> later  
> a U.S. ambassador. He was a Democrat, and quite  
> influential within the

No -  
John? Mary Kennedy

> state  
> as well as in Washington. (You can read about him  
> in the American  
> National  
> Biography, which you local public or college library  
> should have. There  
> are also  
> websites, but nothing much that's biographical.)  
>  
> If you see a possible connection, I'd welcome a  
> chance to share  
> information.  
>  
> I look forward to your reply,  
>  
> With regards,  
>  
> Brian Evans Cooper  
> Greenville, NC  
> brianevans\_99@yahoo.com  
>  
> -----  
1 Oct 2002

Dear Ed,

Thanks for your prompt and promising reply about  
the Thomas family of Putnam Co....

I'm up to my ears with other matters for a few  
days, but I'll try to see what I can dig out  
that may be of further use.

Have you happened to check the 1880 Census, which  
is available on CD-ROM (perhaps at your local LDS  
family history center/etc) now that the Mormons  
have transcribed it?

I have some handwritten notes on my grandfather's  
siblings, and perhaps some other family, which he  
made years ago. It's a bit hard to read in places,  
but I'll see if I can find any references to Gibson,  
Beulah, etc....

My father, aunt and uncle--all now just about 80  
or over--all recall making a family visit during  
the late 1920s or probably 1930s to a related  
family on a farm near Mt. Pleasant, KY...They  
may have been Thomases, or Evanses...My Dad recalls  
that they had two very comely daughters.

It would be so helpful to actually get out there  
to Indiana, KY and IL and research some of this  
where the material is much more plentiful. I usu-  
ally find when I request a genealogy-related book  
through Inter-Library Loan, that the library that  
owns it won't lend it. I can understand this, but  
...

I'll get back to you by mid-month, if not sooner--  
and please jostle me if I forget. Meanwhile, look  
forward to anything else you may be able to forward.

You can scratch my Dad's email address, the "canduer" one--since that  
got attached when I emailed you while visiting my parents. Best to  
email me on brianevans\_99@yahoo.com.

Regards,  
Brian (Cooper)

>  
>

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<http://sbc.yahoo.com>