

LUCY HANKS (Henry Sparrow)
Daughter of Joseph and Ann Lee Hanks

In 2013 a group of five “genealogy friends” got together to participate in a project spearheaded by Suzanne Hallstrom, for the purpose of proving or disproving Lucy Hanks Sparrow the daughter of Joseph and Ann Lee Hanks. Suzanne writes: “While most have believed Lucy Hanks (Sparrow) was the daughter of Joseph Hanks and Ann “Nanny” Lee of Richmond Co., VA and Nelson Co., KY, others have claimed Lucy Hanks (Sparrow) was born Lucy Shipley who prior to her marriage to Henry Sparrow had been married to a James Hanks, a supposed son of Joseph and Ann Lee Hanks, making her a daughter-in-law instead of daughter. They have further claimed she was one of five Shipley sisters, two of whom are Naomi Shipley (Mitchell) and Rachel Shipley (Berry). This study addresses this long-standing controversy and seeks to provide an authoritative reference sample of Abraham Lincoln’s mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA).”¹

The team (see geneticlincoln.com for more details) researched, contacted, provided DNA tests and organized the matrilineal results of descendants of two known daughters of Joseph and Ann Lee Hanks, two known daughters of Henry and Lucy Hanks Sparrow and two known daughters of Sarah Hanks (illegitimate daughter of Lucy Hanks) known as Group A. “Full mitochondrial sequencing reveal Group-A belongs to a rare haplogroup X1c. In addition to the mutations used to define haplogroup X1c, they share a core set of {three} more specific mutations. These results indicate Group-A participants descend from the same maternal line. The rarity of the X1c haplogroup makes these matching samples more definitive.”²

“MtDNA samples were also collected from matrilineal descendants of two Shipley sisters – Naomi Shipley who married Robert Mitchell and Rachel Shipley who married Richard Berry, Sr. This group shall be identified as Group-B. Matching HVR1 and HVR2 results for these two samples are Haplogroup H, indicating Group-B descendants do not descend from the same maternal line as Group-A.”³

The known children of Joseph Hanks Sr. and wife Ann Lee Hanks include:

1. Thomas Hanks- The pension Record of Thomas Hanks of Logan Co. Ohio dated 31 July 1833 show Thomas Hanks, age 74 years, states he was “born in the state of Virginia in 1759 according to the record he received from his father”. Joseph Hanks is the only Hanks residing in Hampshire Co. VA. during the Rev. War. Peter and William Lee, the brothers of Ann Lee Hanks, were residents of Hampshire Co. at the same time as the Hanks family.
2. **Lucy Hanks** may have been born in 1762. She had two illegitimate children Nancy Hanks b. about 1784 and Sarah Hanks born about 1788. Dennis Hanks, the illegitimate son of Nancy Hanks and Charles Friend who lived with the Lincolns gave testimony that Lucy Hanks was a sister of both his mother and his adoptive mother Elizabeth Hanks Sparrow. Lucy is the only child not mentioned in the will of Joseph Hanks, probably because she had already married Henry Sparrow by 1793, the year of Joseph’s will. The other girls were given livestock as a dower.
3. William Hanks born c. 1765 (census records and tax lists which list free males 21 and older), married 12 Sept 1793 Nelson Co. Ky. Elizabeth Hall.

¹ Geneticlincoln.com website, Suzanne Hallstrom author, © 2015 All Rights Reserved, Suzanne W. Hallstrom, Nancy C. Royce, Stephan A. Whitlock, Richard G. Hileman, M.A., J.D., Gerald M. Haslam, Ph.D, AG, FUGA

² Geneticlincoln.com website, Suzanne Hallstrom author, © 2015 All Rights Reserved, Suzanne W. Hallstrom, Nancy C. Royce, Stephan A. Whitlock, Richard G. Hileman, M.A., J.D., Gerald M. Haslam, Ph.D, AG, FUGA

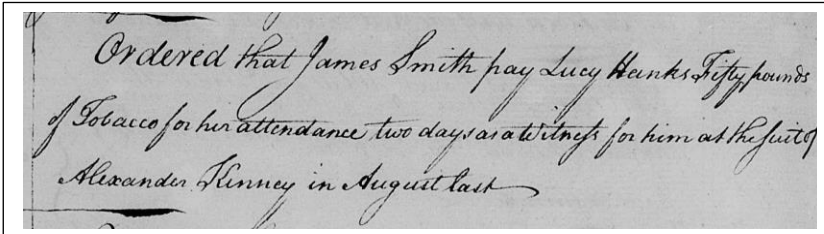
³ Geneticlincoln.com website, Suzanne Hallstrom author, © 2015 All Rights Reserved, Suzanne W. Hallstrom, Nancy C. Royce, Stephan A. Whitlock, Richard G. Hileman, M.A., J.D., Gerald M. Haslam, Ph.D, AG, FUGA

4. Charles Hanks born c. 1767 (on 1788 Nelson Co. Ky. Tax List with father Joseph and brother William). In St. Martin Parish, Louisiana the marriage of Charles Hanks and Christina Hartgreve states "Charles Heinks of Richmond Co., Va., resident of La. 7 years, son of Joseph Heinks and Ana Lies, age 27 years, single to Christina Hartgreve married 1 February 1798." (*born 1771, this date conflicts with the birth of his sister Elizabeth, the only one named in the NFP records of Richmond Co. Va.*)
5. Joshua Hanks born 1769 (based on 1790 Ky. tax record, lists free males 21 and older). Joshua may have been the brother who returned to Hampshire Co. Va.
6. Elizabeth/Betty Hanks born 4 Mar 1771 Richmond Co. VA. (NFP Registers) (Elizabeth is the only child of Joseph and Ann listed in the NFP registers.) She married 17 Oct 1796 Mercer Co. Ky. to Thomas Sparrow. This couple, who had no children of their own, raised Dennis Friend Hanks, illegitimate son of Nancy Hanks and Charles Friend.
7. Mary/Polly Hanks born c. 1773 married 10 Dec 1795 Hardin Co. Ky. Jesse Friend
8. Nancy/Anne Hanks born c. 1775, had Dennis Friend Hanks 1799 and married on 18 Oct 1802 in Green Co. KY. to Levi Hall.
9. Joseph Hanks born c. 1781 married 10 Nov 1810 Hardin Co. Ky. to Polly Young and died 1856 in Adams Co. Illinois.

Note: if my estimated birth dates are correct, these 9 children along with Joseph Hanks and his wife Ann Lee comprise the 11 people enumerated on the 1782 census for Hampshire Co.

Records of Lucy Hanks

30 November 1787 Mercer Co. Ky. Court ordered that James Smith pay Lucy Hanks 50 lbs. tobacco for her attendance for two days as a witness for him at the suit of Alex Kinney in August last.⁴ On 30 August 1787 Alexander Kenny agst. James Smith who intermarried with Margaret Irvine and Margaret his wife, upon a Petition. For reasons appearing to this court ordered suit dismissed and the defendant recover his costs agst. sd. plt. James Smith was on the Franklin Co. Penn. 1785 tax list, married August 1786 Margaret Irvine in Lincoln Co. Ky. and was in Fayette Co. Ky. in 1789.⁵



Ordered that James Smith pay Lucy Hanks Fifty pounds
of Tobacco for her attendance two days as a witness for him at the suit of
Alexander Kinney in August last

⁴ Familysearch.org, Mercer County Kentucky, Court Order Book 1 1786-1793, page 182

⁵ Ibid, page 127

24 Nov 1789 Mercer Co. Ky. Grand jury presentment agst. Lucy Hanks for fornication.⁶

The Grand Jury returned into Court and made the following presentments (Viz) The Surveyor of the road from Harroburg to George Buchannon
Lucy Hanks for Fornication
The Overseer of the road from the County line to Chaplins fork
And having nothing further to present were discharged
Ordered that the Clerk issue Summons against those persons this day presented by the Grand Jury

23 March 1790 – Mercer Co. Ky. Commonwealth agst. Lucy Hanks upon a presentment on the motion of the attorney for the commonwealth an alias summons⁷ is awarded herein returnable, etc.⁸

The same Off
against
Lucy Hanks Def
Aliona Presentment
On the motion of the Attorney for the Commonwealth an
Alias Summons is awarded herein returnable &c.

26 April 1790 – Mercer Co. Ky. – I do certify that I am of age and give my approbation freely for Henry Sparrow to get out lisons (sic) this or any other day given under my hand Thursday April 26, 1790 (signed) Lucey Hanks, Test. Richard Michel (Mitchell) and John Berry?⁹ To give consent without parent permission, Lucy had to have been 21 or older.

⁶ Familysearch.org, Mercer County Kentucky, Court Order Book 1 1786-1793, page 415

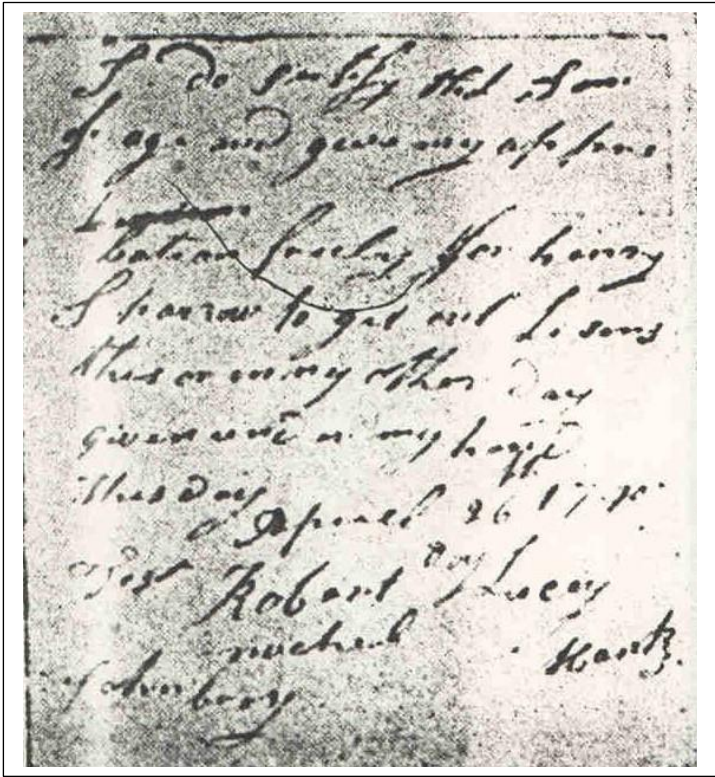
⁷ An alias summons is a second summons served when the first attempt at serving a summons is unsuccessful.

⁸ FHLC #191837 Mercer Co., Kentucky Court Order Book 1 (1786-1790), page 482. Presentment - The written notice taken by a grand jury of any offence, from their own knowledge or observation, without any bill of indictment laid before them at the suit of the government upon such presentment, when proper, the officer employed to prosecute, afterwards frames a bill of indictment, which is then sent to the grand jury, and they find it to be a true bill. In an extended sense, presentments include not only what is properly so called, but also inquisitions of office, and indictments found by a grand jury. <http://www.lectlaw.com/def2/p148.htm>

⁹ Wm. E. Barton Collection of Lincolniana, University of Chicago.

The following is from Marriage Bonds and Consents 1786 – 1810, Mercer County, Kentucky, Compiled and published by Alma Ray Sanders Isom and Rebecca Wilson Conover, Harrodsburg, Ky. July 1970.

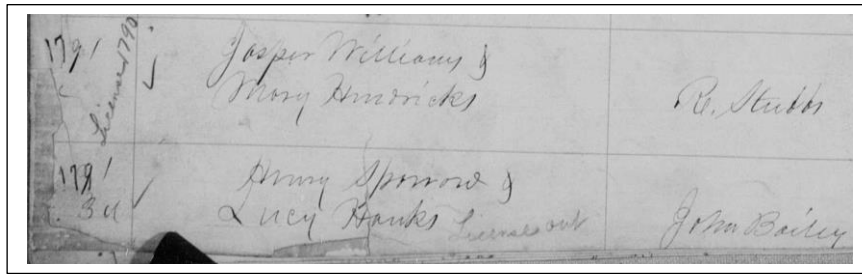
Sparrow, Henry and Lucy Hanks, April 26, 1790
(Lucy Hanks was the grandmother of Abraham Lincoln, the mother of Nancy Hanks. Her note of consent was not with the bond in 1966, but in 1929 her written consent was with the bond and read:
"I do certify that I am of age and give my approbation freely for Henry Sparrow to git out lisons this day or any day given under my hand this April 26 day, 1790."
Lucy Hanks)
Bondsman: John Daniel who certifies that Lucy Hanks is of full age.
Teste: John Berry and Robert Mitchell
(Bond and teste taken from Lineage of Lincoln by William E. Barton, p. 354.)



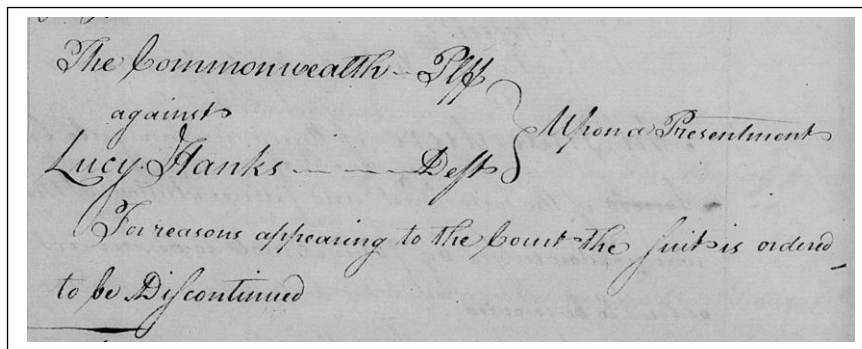
30 April 1790 Henry Sparrow married Lucy Hanks, bond in Mercer Co. Ky. dated 30 ____ 1790 1 (1791 is written over the original date of 1790 which is faded) married by John Bailey¹⁰ (*Marriage Record in Mercer Co., Ky. The page for this record is missing the left side half inch or so which means at least the "17" portion of the year is missing as is the month. It does appear that someone has tried to replace the missing portion on the Sparrow/Hanks marriage and has written 91 in the space. The month is missing entirely, and the day is 30th. The marriages on this page are for 1790 and 1791 but not in numerical order. Mary Sparrow's birth is apparently in the first half of 1790 and she may have been the child that caused the presentment. It seems the court would not have discontinued this action in May 1790 without*

¹⁰ "Kentucky, County Marriages, 1797-1954," index and images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/V653-XXL> : accessed 22 February 2015), Henry Sparrow and Lucy Hanks, 1791; citing p. 16, Mercer, Kentucky, United States, Madison County Courthouse, Richmond; FHL microfilm 192,267.

the Hanks/Sparrow marriage in April 1790. Also, it seems illogical a marriage bond was issued with the actual marriage occurring a year later. Today's marriage licenses are only good for 30 days.)



25 May 1790 – Mercer Co. Ky. Commonwealth agst. Lucy Hanks. For reasons appearing to the court the suit is ordered to be discontinued.¹¹



Mary Sparrow Whitehouse was born in the first part of 1790 according to most census records. To have been age 60 in mid-August 1850, she was born between mid-August 1789 and mid-August 1790. To have been born between these dates, the dates of conception are between mid-November 1788 and mid-November 1789. Based on the assumption Lucy was visibly pregnant when the charge of fornication came to court 24 Nov. 1789, then she conceived 5/6 months prior to Nov. 1789 or in June/July 1789 and Mary Sparrow was born in late March/early April 1790. Henry married her in April 1790 after a one-month lying-in and the case was dismissed in May.

1850 Boyle Co. Ky. census¹² District 1, 12 Aug 1850, p. 22, #151/167
 Benjamin Whitehouse 62 Ky
 Mary 60 Ky

Census Records show Lucy and her daughter Sarah with Henry Sparrow though 1830.

1810 Mercer Co. Ky. census¹³ (alpha.)
 Henry Sparrow 30210 - 12110
 Benjamin Whitehouse 10100 – 10200 married Mary Sparrow

¹¹ FHLC #191837 Mercer Co., Kentucky Court Order Book 1 (1786-1790), page 516

¹² Ancestry.com. 1850 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2010. Images reproduced by FamilySearch.

¹³ Ancestry.com. 1810 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2010. Images reproduced by FamilySearch.

1820 Mercer Co. Ky. census alpha.¹⁴

p. 108 Henry Sparrow 311201 – 01001 (may also have female age 26-45, faded census)

1830 Washington Co. Ky. census¹⁵

p. 174 Henry Sparrow 01002001 – 0101101

p. 198 Henry Sparrow 102100001 – 01000011 (40-50 age female born 1780-1790, age 50-60 female born 1770-1780, probably wife Lucy and her daughter Sarah. Lucy died between 1830 & 1840)

1840 Mercer Co. Ky. census¹⁶ p. 137 (top of page)

Henry Sparrow 0010100001 -01010001 pensioner age 79, female age 50/60 (born 1780-1790, probably Sarah Hanks)

Henry Sparrow had died by June of 1841. Deposition of Polly Edwards, of lawful age, “I went to the house of Henry Sparrow shortly before he broke up housekeeping to borrow the sd. Harness hackle but did not get it. The reason was Sally Sparrow a daughter of Henry Sparrow and his housekeeper said that I could not get it for her father had much agst. his will let Mr. Ben Whitehouse have it. 2 July 1841 (abstracted from copies of original documents shared by Gerald R. Haslem PhD, obtained from Kentucky State Archives, Frankfort, Ky., Civil Court Records for Mercer Co., Ky. Court.)

Ancestry.com. 1820 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2010. Images reproduced by FamilySearch.¹⁴

¹⁵ Ancestry.com. 1830 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2010. Images reproduced by FamilySearch.

¹⁶ Ancestry.com. *1840 United States Federal Census* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2010. Images reproduced by FamilySearch