

[Page 1] **FAMILY RECORD** [2 columns of **BIRTHS**

[top left entry is crossed out & re-written on top right]

F.A. Poythress Born
April 4th 1836

Francis A. Poythress
age 64 April 3rd 1836

[Bpn note: "age 64" is written across the column divider, in a handwriting different from the top left crossed-out entry, which handwriting appears to be that of the top right entry. This "age 64" portion here indicates one of the apparently non-contemporaneous discrepancies by the person who was making the entry on the right side, since Francis A. Poythress died far younger than age 64. His father, Joseph Poythress was the man who died at age 64, in 1853.]

[Lower on this page, in the column on the right, we find the two children born to Caroline E (nee Ware), one by each of her consecutive husbands, Frank/Francis A. Poythress, and John T. Gay; Gay's daughter was named for Caroline's brother, Eugene Ware, who was killed in the War in June 1862. The names of these two daughters are divided by a handwritten dotted line.]

Mary Lorana Poythress
Sept 3rd 1856 1856

Eugenia Ware Gay was born
Sept 25th 1863

[Meanwhile, on this same page, in the column on the left, we find the following entry beginning slightly higher on the page than Mary Lorana Poythress' birth. This below-transcribed entry on the left has a heading of "Mary's & Maria's children" shown with six births from 1856-1864, with none listing a surname. Since these births are much too late to refer to any child of Mary King who married Joseph Poythress, and since I see no indication in any source of any person in the family having married either a Mary or Maria, it seems logical that these may well be the recording of births of children of two valued household slaves named Mary and Maria. There is a handwritten dotted line after the first child (in the same fashion as the dotted line between Caroline's two daughters), perhaps indicating that the first-listed child was born to "Mary" and the other five children were born to "Maria." See additional Bpn notes below these 6 births, regarding possibilities explored for these children].

Mary's & Maria's children
Logan was born June 25, 1856

Nathaniel " " Oct 6, 1858

Waverly " " Oct 28, 1859

Madaline " " Feb 26, 1860

Loriann " " May 4(?), 1862

Alice " " April 27, 1864

[Additional Bpn notes re "Mary's and Maria's children" from page 1 -

- (1) Loriann's name was clarified by the Library Archivist in pencil below the photocopied Bible page. The Archivist also indicated "not sure" for the date. I note that the "4" of Loriann's date is written the same way as the "4" in the year for Alice's birth, with a curl at the left top.
- (2) This listing of the six children of Mary and Maria in the family Bible (which descended through the family of the widow of Francis or Frank A. Poythress, Caroline nee Ware, then Poythress, later Gay) may have been merely a way of keeping track of the slaves' increase.
- (3) These children of Mary and Maria (all born after the deaths of Joseph & Mary Poythress in 1853 and 1854 respectively) could have been fathered by slaves owned by other residents of LaGrange in the 655th District of Georgia Military found in the 1850 Slave Schedule, or it is also possible the children may have been fathered by son(s) of Joseph and Mary Poythress.
- (4) Since their son John Hardaman Poythress died in 1842, at age 20, he was not a potential father. The sons of Joseph & Mary Poythress, who may or may not have fathered these children, include Francis or Frank A. Poythress, who died 2 Oct 1859 (after the first two births & just 26 days before the birth of the third child listed); Russell King Poythress (married and father of four children shown in the Censuses of 1860 and 1870); and William B Poythress, for whom no wife or children are in his Census households in 1860 or 1870 (though 49-year old William B's immediately adjacent 1870 household is one of the many Poythress households of Blacks found that year in the Troup County Census: this was the household of Dina Poythress, a 40-yr old Black female farm hand, with children Judy 20, Rena 18, Leanna 16, George 14, Rose 12, Solomon 10, Jack 8, and Samuel 6.
- (5) Searches on these childrens' first names and years of birth in the Troup County, Georgia Census of 1880 yield some potential identification of four of these children in two Mulatto households on consecutive pages of the Census: (1st) Logan Heard, single, 22-yr old carpenter; and (2nd) Nathaniel Harrison, single, 22-yr old brick mason, who also had in his household his 20-yr old brother Waverly Harrison (single; farm laborer) and his 16-yr old sister Alice Harrison (single; keeps house).
- (6) Later in the 1900 Troup County, GA Census, we find: Logan A. Heard was then listed as a Black male carpenter born in Georgia in June 1856, who owned his home on Depot Street in LaGrange free of mortgage, and who had been married 16 years to Hilda, a teacher; both could read and write; his father was born in Georgia and his mother in Virginia; their children were John (b. Dec 1884, a carpenter who had attended school 3 months in the last year); Edgar (b. Nov 1889, a school boy who attended school 9 months); James C. (b. Aug 1892, a school boy who attended school 9 months); and Mary H. (b. Mch 1897). It may or may not be coincidental that Logan (possibly the Logan listed in "Mary's & Maria's children") apparently named his first daughter "Mary."
- (7) In the 1900 Troup County, GA Census, we find: Nathaniel Harrison was then listed as a Black male stone mason born in Oct 1858 who owned his home in part of 655th District of Georgia Militia free of mortgage, and who had been married 16 years to Louiza; both could read and write; their eldest child was Frank (b. Nov 1884); Marie (b. Sep 1886); Mable (b. Sep 1888); Ethel (b. Jul 1891); Grace (b. Sep 1893); Pauline (b. Aug 1895); and Lillian (b. Sep 1897). The eldest three children had attended school 9 months during the year. It may or may not be coincidental that Nathaniel (possibly the Nathaniel listed in "Mary's & Maria's children") apparently named his first daughter "Marie."]