

Sketch: Sarah Cocke and Elizabeth Thompson

Pamela Hutchison Garrett, 2017

Champe Fleming Markham, son of John Markham and Lucy Champe Fleming of Goochland county Virginia, was married twice during his lifetime. According to marriage records his first wife was Sally Cocke, and his second wife was Elizabeth Thompson.

Champe F Markham to Sally H Cocke; 23 Dec 1818; security - John Cocke; minister - Reuben Ford; application for license dated 21 Dec 1818.
[source] Marriages of Goochland County Virginia.

Champe Fleming Markham and Elizabeth Thompson; 14 May 1840; William Bolls, JP.
[source] Warren County Mississippi Marriages; Book E, page 420.

As I have searched on Champe F Markham I have had some questions about the identity of Sally Cocke and Elizabeth Thompson.

There are several reasons to support the idea that Champe F Markham's first wife was Sarah "Sally" Cocke. Sally H Cocke is the name given on the marriage license, and the security is John Cocke. A number of genealogies indicate that Sarah Cocke, daughter of Benjamin Cocke and Mary Johnson of Goochland county Virginia, married Champe Markham. I really have no reason to doubt that Champe Markham married Sarah Cocke. But, the question I have asked myself is – Was Sally Cocke the mother of Champe Markham's children?

I have long contemplated where the names of Champe Markham's children come from. They just don't seem to represent either the Markham or Cocke families. Consider:

Champe Markham's children (born about 1820-1833) –
Robert, Edward C, William, John B, Jeannette Champe, Frances M

Champe Markham's parents, grandparents and siblings –
father-John; mother-Lucy Fleming; siblings-Bernard, William Fleming, George, Hugh Mercer, Linneaus Bolling, John Norbourne, Mary Elizabeth, Judith Virginia, Aubin Marie, Martha Bolling; grandparents-Bernard, Mary Harris, William Fleming, Elizabeth Champe

Sarah Cocke's parents, grandparents and siblings –
father-Benjamin; mother-Mary Johnson; siblings-Samuel, Benjamin, Richard, Thomas, John, Ann, Jane, Mary; grandparents-Thomas, Ann Johnson, Joseph and Sarah Johnson
Sarah Cocke's brother Thomas did marry Frances Ann Royster in 1830

Perhaps Champe and Sarah decided not to follow tradition and use family names for their children. I continue to wonder about this. I did come across one reference that identified Champe Markham's wife as Sarah Clark, but I have not pursued this possibility.

I have also wondered about Champe Markham's second wife Elizabeth Thompson who he married in 1840 in Warren county Mississippi. I haven't been able to come up with any clues to her identity. Was Thompson her maiden name, or was she a widow? Census records suggest she was in her thirties when she married Champe. Did she have any children prior to her marriage to Champe Markham? Some questions remain related to the two female children in the Markham household in 1840. What was the status of Elizabeth Thompson Markham when her husband died in 1845, after five years of marriage? Was she living? Did she have any children with Champe Markham?

My purpose in compiling this sketch is pose some questions and offer some thoughts. I would love to add depth to Champe Fleming Markham's story by having a clearer picture of his life partners. I remain hopeful that there are other researchers who know more, and will share.

Do you want to know more?

[Bio: Champe Fleming Markham](#)

[Link to Champ Fleming Markham in database](#)

[Link to Sarah "Sally" Cocke in database](#)

[Link to Elizabeth Thompson in database](#)

Sketch: Sarah Cocke and Elizabeth Thompson; compiled by Pamela Hutchison Garrett for Markham of Chesterfield website; 2018.