

Chamberlain. Sampson is stated as the son of Thomas and Elizabeth Washington Lanier of Virginia.

The father of the Sampson Lanier who married Elizabeth Washington is documented as John Lanier II, born 1655 in England and lived in Charles City County, Virginia. His father was another John Lanier, who was baptised in 1633 and arrived in Virginia in 1656. His wife was named Lucrece. The elder John's parents were Clement Lanier and Hannah Collet. Clement was buried in East Greenwich in 1651, and Hannah was buried there in 1653. Clement's parents were Nicholas Lanier and Lucretia. Nicholas was from Rouen, France. He settled in London in 1561 and died in 1612. His wife Lucretia was buried at Greenwich in 1634. Nicholas' father was John Lanye, who was born in Rouen, France. His wife was named Joan, and he died November 29, 1572.

The Laniers were highly acclaimed musicians and artists in London. Nicholas was a musician in the court of King Henry II of France in 1561 when the Earl of Hertford engaged him to fill a place in the Royal Orchestra of Queen Elizabeth. About this time, when there were 44 members of the Royal Orchestra, as many as 10 of the 44 were of the Lanier family. In later generations in America, poet Sidney Lanier was widely famous.

The children of the Rev. William Lanier of Madison County were:

- Asa H. – son by 1<sup>st</sup> wife, Miss Hill. Asa was mentioned in William's will of 1834 as having been given land and negroes, as well as negroes having been given to the children of Asa, and Asa had been given money in exchange for "a certain bond" for "two or three hundred dollars". Asa moved to Texas at some time, perhaps even before 1834, as the will does not mention where he was living when it was written. However, the wording seems to imply that he was a resident of Madison County by the fact that it does not say he was in Texas, and the transactions mentioned would normally be concluded with nearby family – unless they were "parting gifts". The only possibility found in the Ancestry.com searches for Asa in the federal censuses of Alabama was in 1840 Madison County. On page 181 is listed Bryant **A. Lanier**, age 20 – 30, with a wife given as age 15 – 20 and no children. There was likewise no suitable match for an "A.", "Asa", or "H." Lanier who would have been born in the early 1800s in