

## **Sallie Sprigg Carroll, DACOR Bacon House's First Grande Dame**

**Terence Walz**

### **Part 1, Section 1**

#### *Sallie's Youth and Married Life*

Sarah Sprigg was born on Northampton farm, her father's estate near Bowie, Maryland, on March 27, 1812, and enjoyed a childhood of wealth, privilege and connections. In this article her nickname is spelled Sallie, as opposed to Sally, the spelling she usually adopted, in order to distinguish between her and her daughter, also named Sarah and nicknamed Sally. Sallie Sprigg's father, who was governor of Maryland 1819-22, inherited the estate from his uncle, Osborn Sprigg; the Spriggs had settled in Maryland in the mid-seventeenth century and were thus an old established family before the American Revolution. Her mother, Violetta Lansdale, came from the neighboring estate of Hazelwood and was from an equally old family. Sallie's maternal grandfather, Thomas Lancaster Lansdale, had fought in the Revolutionary War. Sallie's brother, named Osborn after his uncle, was born the following year, and the two children must have been close. When Sallie was two years old, her mother was confronted by British troops on their way to Washington in 1814. Family tradition indicates that some of the soldiers stopped at Northampton where they helped themselves to provisions, but, out of respect for the young matron of the house and her baby daughter, did no damage to the plantation buildings.<sup>1</sup>

During the first five decades of the nineteenth century, Northampton was worked by some eighty to a hundred or more enslaved laborers who planted its fields with wheat, tobacco and corn – tobacco being the major money crop and the reason for the employment of so many people.<sup>2</sup> In 1849, the farm produced 1,110 bushels of wheat, 7,500 bushels of Indian corn, 250 bushels of oats, 200 bushels of potatoes, 32 tons of hay, and 62,000 pounds of tobacco. Laborers on the farm also produced 700 pounds of butter, 350 pounds of wool, and slaughter animals worked \$736.<sup>3</sup> When it was sold in 1864, it was described as “between 700 and 800 acres of land, well wooded and watered.... [with] a valuable mill seat. Improvements include a dwelling house, a manager's house, tobacco houses, icehouse, stable, and all other buildings necessary for a first-class farm.”<sup>4</sup>



Northampton farm, ca 1895. Library of Congress.



Northampton Brick Quarter, 1936  
Courtesy of The Library of Congress

One of the houses of the enslaved workers, Northampton farm, 1936. The buildings have since been demolished but the foundations have been made into a state park in Bowie, Maryland.  
Library of Congress

In 1820, the painter Raphaelle Peale was invited to paint the family, and each member sat for him during his visit to the estate. Three of the portraits still exist and today are found in museum collections, but the portrait of Sallie has been lost or lies unidentified or uncatalogued in a private collection or a collection not yet catalogued. Four years later, Raphaelle's father, Charles Willson Peale, came to Northampton to paint the governor at the request of the

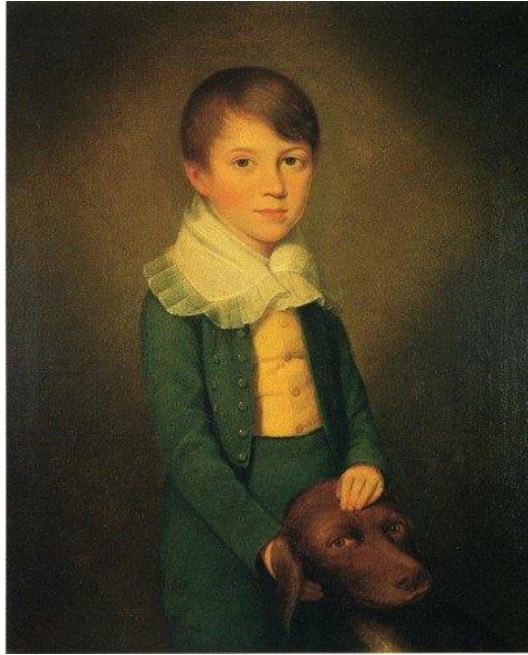


Gov. Samuel Sprigg 1820 by Raphaele Peale.  
Courtesy Washington County Museum of Fine Arts

Maryland state government. He inspected his son's work and found fault with the portrait of Violetta Sprigg, deciding to make a few adjustments that would more accurately reflect her beauty.<sup>5</sup> (I believe these portraits once adorned the walls of the drawing rooms in DACOR



Violetta Lansdale Sprigg, 1820, by Raphaele Peale, with alterations  
by Charles Willson Peale, 1824. Courtesy Washington County Museum of Fine Arts;  
gift of Violetta Lansdale Otis, great-great granddaughter of Violetta Sprigg.



Sallie's brother, Osborn Sprigg, age seven,  
1820, by Raphaele Peale.  
Courtesy Maryland Historical Society.

Bacon House later in the century – see further on.) That same year, General Lafayette, whom Samuel Sprigg had accompanied on his journey through the state in 1824 from Baltimore to Washington, DC, was invited to Annapolis, and on his way there, stopped off for a visit with him and his family.<sup>6</sup> There is a delightful story about the visit related in the Lansdale family history.<sup>7</sup>

Sally Sprigg was brought up at Northampton, her father's place in Prince George County. Here came Lafayette in 1824-25. He was very loquacious and at "High Tea" absentmindedly helped himself to preserves on the plate where he still had some Potomac herring. On Mrs. Sprigg's horrified expostulation, General Lafayette paused, spoon in hand, glanced at the herring, and then, to the little Sally's delight, cheerfully proceeded. "It all goes the same road," he remarked, pointing down his open mouth with one slim forefinger.

In October 1828, when she was sixteen, Sallie married her twenty-six year-old cousin, William Thomas Carroll, who had recently been appointed Clerk of the Supreme Court.<sup>8</sup> Son of Charles Carroll of "Bellevue," the renamed home of Joseph Nourse in Georgetown and later called Dumbarton House, he had been teaching law at the new Columbian College in Washington before the appointment.<sup>9</sup> They were married in Northampton farm, Sallie attended by five bridesmaids and William by four groomsmen. The celebration, as Sallie reminisced many years later to her son-in-law, John Marshall Brown, went on for a week.<sup>10</sup> The young couple

eventually set up house on Capitol Hill, aided perhaps by the inheritance of \$16,000 and parcels of land in Washington that her mother received from her father, Col. Thomas Lansdale, when he died in 1805<sup>11</sup> and by other lots William received as inheritance from the estate of his father, who died in 1823.<sup>12</sup> By 1830, Sallie and William were the parents of a little girl and supported by a staff of eight enslaved workers.<sup>13</sup>

Prior to his marriage, William had purchased an enslaved woman to serve as his housekeeper. She was a twenty- or twenty-four-year-old woman named Mariah who, during the time the Carrolls were living on Capitol Hill, met and was married to a wagoner named John Warren. We do not know her family name before she met John, but it is possible she came from the community of enslaved workers at Northampton farm. In 1834, she and John became parents of a girl they called Ellen ("Nellie"), and in due course had at least two other children, Henry (d. 1838) and Henrietta (b. 1841).<sup>14</sup> After Sallie and Williams' marriage and shortly before the birth of their first child, Governor Sprigg gave Sallie a young man aged twelve named John Brooks, one of the family of Brookses who lived at Northampton.<sup>15</sup> It can be assumed that the other enslaved workers of the Carrolls at their Capitol Hill residence also originated in the Northampton plantation enslaved population. Then four years before Sallie's father bought the Ringgold house on F Street in 1835 for them, they acquired the services of William Shorter, an enslaved worker owned by Washingtonian Maj. Parke Howle, who rented him to William Carroll for a period of three years starting in 1831 at \$10 a month.<sup>16</sup> They and those enslaved people already working for them formed the initial domestic staff that the Carrolls maintained in the coming years, and they provided much needed services to the family during their periods of sorrow and sickness, while enabling the Carrolls' entertainments, of which they were so fond.

Sallie entered motherhood at the age of seventeen in 1829 with the birth of her first child, a daughter, Violetta Lansdale Carroll. A son, Samuel Sprigg Carroll, followed two years later, and a second son, William Thomas (Jr.) in 1833, and a second daughter, Sarah (Sally) Virginia in 1837. Eleven years after her marriage a fourth son, Charles Holker came in 1839,<sup>17</sup> and a third daughter, Caroline Ann (Carrie) was born in 1841, followed, two years later, by a fourth daughter, Alida, in 1844. In 1852, when she was 40 years old, a fourth son arrived who was



Sally Sprigg Carroll by an unknown artist, painted sometime in the early 1830s and later reproduced as a *carte de visite*.  
Courtesy Maine Historical Society, Coll. 2145, 2020.091.015

named Howard, and, surprisingly a fifth, named William Cuyler, arrived in 1860 when she was 48 years old. In a letter to her son-in-law about business matters, Sallie wrote in passing that she had lost a child through miscarriage, though the date is unmentioned.<sup>18</sup> Thus, from the early years of her married life to nearly the last, Sallie was bearing and raising children. In this task, too, she must have relied heavily on her enslaved women workers.

According to a reference made in a letter to President Fillmore in 1852, Sallie recorded the births of each of her children in the family Bible.<sup>19</sup> This Bible would seem to be different from the one that William purchased for the Supreme Court in the 1850s for use at Capitol Hill ceremonies and later used during for the inauguration of Abraham Lincoln in March 1861 (known and now cataloged by the Library of Congress under the name “Lincoln Inaugural Bible.”) It was published in 1853 by Oxford University Press and bears a dedication to “Mrs. Sally Carroll from her devoted husband William T. Carroll,” and is dated 4 March 1861. The publication date of that Bible and the date of the dedication suggest it was not the older Carroll family Bible. It is speculated that the “Lincoln Bible” may have been in the possession of the Carroll family for a generation but was eventually given to Robert Todd Lincoln whose widow

gave it to the Library of Congress.<sup>20</sup> A similar, but much less known, Bible is the one used during the Buchanan inauguration in 1857 and now housed in the Smithsonian Museum. It, too, is dedicated to Sallie.<sup>21</sup>

Sadly, Sallie's child-rearing days were also marked with heartbreaks. The Carrolls' second son, William, had been prepared by his parents for a promising future. In his teens he was enrolled with his older brother Sprigg in the newly opened St. James Academy outside Hagerstown, Maryland, which the two boys attended for several years.<sup>22</sup> In 1849 they were enrolled at Benjamin Hallowell's School in Alexandria and both boarded there.<sup>23</sup> It was a well-known preparatory school for the sons of wealthy congressmen and others in the area, including Robert E. Lee in an earlier day. Like Lee, Sam entered West Point after finishing his schooling at the Hallowell School; William might also have enrolled there or at another college<sup>24</sup> had he not developed tuberculosis around 1851 and had to return home where he lingered, sometimes in agonizing pain, for the rest of his short life.<sup>25</sup> Then, shortly after Willie died, their young son Howard, only five years old, died. His appealing nature must have captured the hearts of his parents, as they kept a portrait of him long after he died.<sup>26</sup> The double tragedy of both their deaths prompted the Carrolls to purchase a mausoleum in the newly open Oak Hill Cemetery in Georgetown in 1857.<sup>27</sup>

#### *Move to 18<sup>th</sup> and F Streets, 1835*

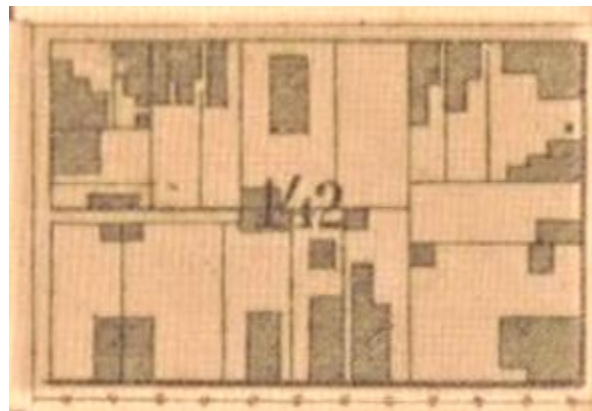
With a growing family, the young Carrolls looked to buy a new home. Sallie's cousin, Dr. John Moylan Thomas, had married Sally Ringgold, the daughter of Tench Ringgold, marshal of the District of Columbia and a well-known figure in the city. Miss Ringgold had lent her father \$6,000 to build a house in 1825 on the corner of 18<sup>th</sup> and F Streets, but in five years, when the loan was due to be repaid, he had been unable to do it and in due course the bank foreclosed. The Thomases themselves repaid the loan and, after taking possession of the property, sold it in 1835 to Sallie's father, Governor Sprigg, for \$6,000 which he gave as a gift to his daughter and nephew.<sup>28</sup> Sallie may have encouraged the purchase because she had visited Sally Ringgold in the house in 1829 – when she was being courted by Dr. Thomas<sup>29</sup> -- and may have been attracted by the large second floor formal rooms, the spacious adjoining garden, and the nearness to the Executive Mansion. A drawback might have been that William would have been required



The Ringgold House on F Street that the Governor Sprigg purchased for the Carrolls in 1835. This is a sketch of the house by Beyer Blinder Belle as it is thought to have originally looked.<sup>30</sup>

to travel by coach – unless he was willing and able to walk the slightly over one-mile distance – to his work in the Capitol Building, where the Supreme Court Clerk had an office.

The Carrolls decided at some point to enlarge the space on the second floor by adding a porch 36 ft by 14 ft on the western side of the house, as indicated the early Boschke map of Washington dated 1857. The exact date of this addition is unknown at this time – neither the Carrolls nor the contractor were required to file architectural plans allowing for alterations to Washington houses until later in the century. The 1857 map also shows a structure that served as



The 1857 Boschke map showing Square 142, with the Carroll house lower right corner with its two appendages. Image courtesy of D.C. Public Library DigDC, Boschke.

a stable and a small square structure placed at the western end of the garden that probably represents an icehouse. The map does not show the placement of the well in the courtyard which served as the source of the household's water supply. Other alterations were probably done on the ground floor, which by 1863 included a servants' dining room and two servants' rooms, most probably carried out in the late 1850s.<sup>31</sup> They may have been done to accommodate the hiring of Irish servants to replace the family's traditional reliance on enslaved workers. The furnishings of these rooms were modest, simple beds and matting on the floor. In the servant's dining room, there was a large table plus a bookcase.<sup>32</sup> Further alterations followed in the early 1860s when gas lighting was extended to the neighborhood and in the 1870s when the street was lowered and water and sewer lines were installed: see the next part of this chapter.

The staff of the house grew in tandem with the increasing size of the family, so that by 1840, the census reveals there were three free colored women working for the family, along with nine enslaved men, women and children. Of the enslaved workers, four were boys and girls under the age of 10. Three of the four would have been the two daughters and son of Mariah Warren: Ellen (Nellie), Henry and Henrietta, who would remain enslaved members of the household until they were given away or emancipated. As children, they would have done chores about the house, including helping their mother with her tasks, and as they grew older, tasked with looking after specific children. Mariah Warren may have been employed in the kitchen, so her children would have helped with the preparation of food or with fetching water from the well, bringing wood or coal for the stoves and fireplaces, and running household errands. There were stoves in at least four bedrooms in 1863, the other six rooms being heated by fireplaces. The enslaved staff would also have done the washing, ironing and mending of clothes. Sallie had her own dressmaker, but with four young daughters in the house and her own busy social schedule, there must have been plenty of work tending to the clothes they wore.

In addition to Mariah Warren, the older staff probably included a free colored woman named Mary, who, in the 1850 census, is identified as Mary A. Brooks. She was born in Pennsylvania and may well have been free at birth since Pennsylvania abolished slavery at an early date. Mary appears to be married to John Brooks, who had been with the Carrolls since 1829. As the 1860 census makes clear, they lived outside the house in an apartment or rooms they shared with another freed colored man named George Burrell and his wife. It was not

uncommon for enslaved workers to be allowed to live independently of their masters. The names of the two other free colored women employed by the Carrolls are unknown. At some time, probably in the 1840s, the Carrolls purchased a “first rate pastry and French cook” named Fanny Lee from William S. Nichols of Georgetown.<sup>33</sup> Fanny was an older woman, “hardly five feet high,” and may have found the level and pace of the Carroll’s entertaining too much for her. She was sold in 1856 for \$40 to a free woman of color named Amelia Tilghman who hired her

For and in consideration of the sum of Forty Dollars (\$40) to me in hand paid by Amelia Tilghman, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged and confessed, I have bargained sold and assigned and by these presents do bargain sell and assign all my right title and interest in and to a colored woman named Fanny Lee purchased by me from William S. Nichols of Georgetown in the District of Columbia unto the said Amelia Tilghman her heirs and assigns. In witness whereof I have unto Subscribed my name and affix my Seal at the City of Washington in the District of Columbia this Eleventh day of July in the year of our Lord Eighteen hundred and fifty six.

Witness  
S. Sprigg Carroll

Wm. T. Carroll

Document signed by William Thomas Carroll agreeing to the sale of Fanny Lee for \$40 to Amelia Tilghman, 1856. S[allie] Sprigg Carroll was the witness.  
Courtesy <http://civilwardc.org/texts/petitions/cww.00615.html>

services out for parties until 1862 when she was emancipated.<sup>34</sup> She may be the “female slave” listed in the Carroll’s 1850 census Slave Schedule who was born in 1810.

Despite the existence of some Carroll family letters, we have little notion of Sallie Carroll’s abilities as a household manager, especially her skills at handling an enslaved staff or the young Irish women who later worked in the house. The Carrolls never had the need to advertise for escaped slaves in the local newspapers (though her father did).<sup>35</sup> There is evidence to suggest that some members of the staff felt safe enough living at the house to stay on after emancipation. Three of the Carrolls’ staff were finally given their freedom in 1862, but John and Mary Brooks continued to live – at least for a time – in the house until after the Civil War.<sup>36</sup>

We cannot know the real state of relations between enslavers and enslaved. Both Sallie and her husband came from slave-owning families, long accustomed to living and working with people who had been robbed of their freedom. In the Carroll family, Sallie remembered two of her long-time servants in her will with small but significant bequests – certainly a sign of gratitude on her part for their years of care.<sup>37</sup> Recently found photographs in the Brown family papers in Maine Historical Society library in Portland, Maine, include a photograph of a Black woman with two of the children of Alida Carroll Brown and John Marshall Brown. She is only identified as “Mammy.” The explanation in the library of who “mammy” could be was that she had been Alida’s “mammy” and that Alida had persuaded her to come north to work for her after she was married in 1866 and given birth to children in the late 1860s.<sup>38</sup> There is a strong possibility that “Mammy’s” name was Nellie Warren, born in 1834, and old enough to look after Alida, who was born in 1844.

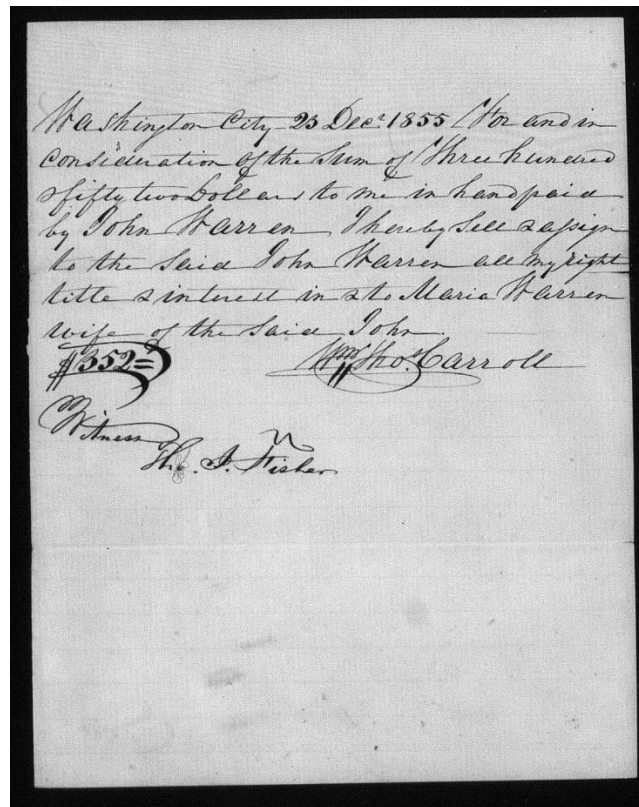


“Mammy, Carroll, & Sally,” image from the Brown family album, ca. 1882.

“Mammy” may be Nellie Warren; Carroll and Sally Brown were the oldest and youngest of the children of John and Alida Brown.

Image: Maine Historical Society, John Marshall Brown Papers.

Another sobering part of the story of enslaved workers in the Carroll household is the fact that Mariah Warren, after decades of forced labor for the family, was sold at Christmas time in 1855 for \$352 by William Carroll to her husband, John Warren. John, who was a wagoner by trade, did not have the money. It was lent to him by an up-and-coming businessman name John F. Fisher who was then working for the McGuire auction house. John and Mariah eventually found a place to live on 20<sup>th</sup> Street near E Street, which was not far from where the Carrolls were living.<sup>39</sup>



The bill of sale of Mariah Warren to her husband at Christmas time in 1855. It was witnessed by Thomas F. Fisher, who lent John Warren the money to buy his wife.

Source: <https://civilwarcdc.org/texts/petitions/cww.01007.html>.

The food, board and clothing of the staff were traditionally the responsibility of the house manager, presumably Sallie, though there is a possibility that a housekeeper was taken on. The 1850 census shows an Englishwoman named Mary Clay, aged 40, living in the house. She could have been a housekeeper or a governess for the two younger daughters.<sup>40</sup> Sallie's brother, Osborn, had a governess in his employ as well as a housekeeper according to the 1860 census, but in his case, he was at that time a widower with four children to look after.<sup>41</sup> Of the food that servants and staff were allotted, we have no information. For shelter, they may have lived in

small rooms set aside for them on the ground floor of the house, or near the ground floor kitchen or in the outside stables. When it came to clothing, Sallie Carroll may have gone to Pittman and Phillips, the dry goods store on Market Square, to purchase “negro clothing” that was advertised in the *National Intelligencer* in November 1843.<sup>42</sup> It lists stocks of Canada cassimeres, “one of the cheapest and best articles of servants’ wear, all wool,” Penitentiary linseys<sup>43</sup> and plaid cottons, twilled Negro blankets, and “Whitney blankets, a very superior product,”<sup>44</sup> and “best cotton Osnaburgs.”<sup>45</sup> Some attention must have been given to the clothing worn by the Carrolls’ house servants who would have interacted with frequent visitors to the house and at their dinner parties, as well as to William Carroll’s coachman who would have escorted him daily to Capitol Hill for work and most probably wore distinctive livery. William was taxed on one carriage in the 1843 District tax books; another coach, “an elegant and fashionable four-seater barouche” made-to-order by Watson of Philadelphia, was offered for sale by William in 1862.<sup>46</sup> This if a



The Lincoln barouche, made in 1864, used when he and Mrs. Lincoln went to Ford’s theater in April 1895. Smithsonian Museum of American History.

less fashionable coach and horse are mentioned in the 1863 inventory. The barouche or coach may have been used by Sallie Carroll and the daughters to make their social rounds in the city. From contemporary diaries, she is known to have left calling cards to be found by returning ladies from their own social rounds.<sup>47</sup>

The 1860 census reveals that the Carrolls were gradually relinquishing their use of enslaved workers and relying on Irish servants to run their household, although they may have called upon free Blacks to help on big occasions. Mary Murphey, born in Ireland, had been taken

on as cook, as well as three others of her countrywomen: Julia Murphey, possibly a younger sister, Mary Santry, and Sarah O'Neal. The latter worked as a seamstress, and much needed skill among Carroll family servants.

Three of the Carrolls' enslaved staff remained – John Brooks, Nellie Warren and her brother Henry. Henrietta, the third of the Warren children, had been “given” by the Carrolls to their eldest daughter, Violetta, when she married Dr. John Mercer in 1856, and eventually moved out of the house when Violetta and her husband went to live with his family in West River, Maryland following the birth of Violetta's eldest son, Carroll Mercer, in 1857. Mary Brooks, John's wife, also continued working in the house. John and Mary probably performed chief duties on the second floor, where social activities took place; Nellie was described in her emancipation document as a “valuable chambermaid and lady's dressing maid,” but, as we have surmised, she had also been designated as Alida's “mammy.” Henry Warren was probably the house man-of-all-trades, asked to run errands, shop at the Western Market on K Street, haul coals, logs, and water, look after the horses, and, when required, stand in as a waiter at their dinner parties. With their emancipation in 1862, further changes may have been required. Given the chance, Black women workers may have preferred to live outside the houses they worked in, whereas Irish women were willing to live in-house. Moreover, after the Civil War, it may not have been fashionable to keep a staff of Blacks since it might have been seen as a sign of the “old Washington.”<sup>48</sup>

How the downstairs staff got on with each other is a subject of great interest, but not one about which we have any information.

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<sup>1</sup> Susan G. Pearl, Biography of Samuel Sprigg, 2: <https://msa.maryland.gov/megafile/msa/speccol/sc3500/sc3520/001400/001448/html/spriggspeech.htm>. (accessed 04/26/20).

<sup>2</sup> 1820 census, Maryland, Samuel Sprigg. The farm population included 13 “free colored” men, women and children, 39 enslaved black males and 34 enslaved black females.

<sup>3</sup> Alvin Thornton and Karen Williams Gooden, *Like a Phoenix I'll Rise: An Illustrated History of African Americans in Prince George's County, Maryland, 1696-1996* (Upper Marlboro, MD: Pyramid Visions, 1997), 51.

<sup>4</sup> *Daily Morning Chronicle*, February 18, 1864, p. 3.

<sup>5</sup> Pearl, *op. cit.*, 5.

<sup>6</sup> *Auguste Levasseur, Lafayette en Amérique, en 1824 et 1825: ou Journal D'un Voyage Aux États-Unis*, 2 vols. (Paris: Baudouin, 1829), 2: 32.

<sup>7</sup> Maria Hornor Lansdale, comp., *Two Colonial Families: The Lansdales of Maryland and the Luces of New England* (privately published, Philadelphia, 1938), 46. Available online at <http://www.seekingmyroots.com/members/files/G004209.pdf> (accessed 6/25/2021).

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<sup>8</sup> His mother, Ann Sprigg Carroll, was the half-sister of Sallie's father, Samuel Sprigg.

<sup>9</sup> "During his tenure on the court, Cranch published a biography about Adams and edited his own volume of reports on civil and criminal cases from the District. On February 3, 1826, the Columbian College board of trustees elected Cranch and William Thomas Carroll, Esq., as the first law professors:

<https://peoplepill.com/people/william-cranch/> accessed 2/25/20. On the establishment of the law library and a history of the early period of the law school, Jeane Meade, "Life of a Library: A History of the George Washington University Library," <http://alegalmiscellanea.com/lifeofalibrary/>. She states that the Notebooks kept by Carroll of the lectures he attended at Litchfield Academy are the most noteworthy volumes in the library. Another copy of his notes is found in the Lilian Goldman Law Library of Yale University:

<https://collections.library.yale.edu/catalog/32423033>.

<sup>10</sup> See my posting, [https://www.dacorbacon.org/docs/Sally\\_Carrolls\\_Reminiscences\\_in\\_1883-2.pdf](https://www.dacorbacon.org/docs/Sally_Carrolls_Reminiscences_in_1883-2.pdf).

<sup>11</sup> Lansdale, *Two Colonial Families*, p. 18.

<sup>12</sup> The text of the will is found at <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/11391653/charles-carroll>. It was registered in the DC courts March 10, 1830.

<sup>13</sup> 1830 census, William T. Carroll, 4<sup>th</sup> ward. The enslaved workers included one boy under 10, two men aged 10-24, and two men "over 100"; the women included two aged between 10 and 24 and one between 24 and 36.

<sup>14</sup> See my posting, [https://www.dacorbacon.org/docs/Carrolls\\_Enslaved\\_Warren\\_Family.pdf](https://www.dacorbacon.org/docs/Carrolls_Enslaved_Warren_Family.pdf).

<sup>15</sup> In the 1820 census, Northampton included some 15 enslaved men under the age of 14; in 1864, prior to the emancipation of all remaining enslaved people, the state of Maryland made census that included the full names of all: <https://msa.maryland.gov/megafile/msa/coagsere/ce400/ce404/000000/000001/pdf/ce404-1.pdf> (accessed 05/06/2020). The chief family names were Brooks, Ford, Barnes, Anderson, and Henson.

<sup>16</sup> Dorothy S. Provine, *District of Columbia Free Negro Registers, 1821-1861* (Bowie, Md: Heritage Books, 1996), vol. 2, p. 250, #1192

<sup>17</sup> Charles H. Carroll appears in the 1850 census as being born in 1841. He was alive and listed as an heir in 1896 when Sallie Carroll's will was probated in 1896. He was buried in Dayton, Ohio, and the birthdate on the stone is 1839. More about him in a later chapters.

<sup>18</sup> Maine Historical Society, John Marshall Brown Papers (henceforth Brown Papers), Box 15, folder 2 (Correspondence to JMB regarding Washington lands, 1867-1881), Sally Carroll to John Marshall Brown, undated (probably 1874), p. 2.

<sup>19</sup> See footnote 60 below.

<sup>20</sup> Communication 08/20/2020 from Michael North, Librarian of the Rare Books Division, Library of Congress. The Bible is now digitized and available to the public at: <https://www.loc.gov/item/78317681/>. On the Lincoln Bible, <https://blogs.loc.gov/loc/2013/01/oath-of-office/>. This was the Bible used again by Barack Obama for his inauguration in 2009. It is now called the "Lincoln/Obama Inaugural Bible" by the Library of Congress.

<sup>21</sup> On the Carroll Bibles, see my posting [https://www.dacorbacon.org/docs/Mr.\\_Carroll\\_and\\_His\\_Bibles.pdf](https://www.dacorbacon.org/docs/Mr._Carroll_and_His_Bibles.pdf).

<sup>22</sup> On their education, see my posting [https://www.dacorbacon.org/docs/Educating\\_Sons\\_and\\_Daughters.pdf](https://www.dacorbacon.org/docs/Educating_Sons_and_Daughters.pdf).

<sup>23</sup> The 1850 census of Alexandria shows them to be living there. "J. Sprigg Carroll" in the transcription should read "S. Sprigg Carroll." Samuel was 17 at the time; the age given for J. Sprigg Carroll is 19. However, Sprigg was unsure of the date of his own birth.

<sup>24</sup> His uncle Osborn Sprigg has attended the College of New Jersey, known now as Princeton.

<sup>25</sup> The Seward Family Papers, University of Rochester Library, Frances Miller Seward to Lazette Miller Worden, January 3, 1852, pp. 6-7: "Mrs Carrolls son, Willie, who came home from school ill last spring is said to be declining rapidly with a pulmonary disease":

[https://sewardproject.org/18520103FMS\\_LMW1](https://sewardproject.org/18520103FMS_LMW1). The Seward's daughter Fanny also contracted tuberculosis and died young in 1866 when she was 22.

<sup>26</sup> John Marshall Brown Papers, Box 11 (Estates), folder 15 (Estate of Mrs. Sally Carroll). Alida and John Brown marked the list of portraits and other works of art in Sallie's estate with an asterisk indicating the ones they wanted.

<sup>27</sup> The first interments were made in 1857: Oak Hill Cemetery Records, Lot 242, Superintendent's office, Oak Hill, Washington, DC. Willie and Howard were placed in vaults 8 and 9.

<sup>28</sup> The seller was John Moylan Thomas and his wife Sarah Brooke Lee Ringgold, daughter of the builder. John's mother, Cornelia Lansdale, was a sister of Sallie Carroll's mother, Violetta Lansdale. Thus the purchase of the

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property was a transaction between cousins. The purchase of the house: District of Columbia Archives, Property Deeds, Liber W.B. 55, new page 91, deed dated 2 April 1835.

<sup>29</sup> On Sallie's visit to the Ringgold House:

[https://www.dacorbacon.org/docs/Sally\\_Carrolls\\_Reminiscences\\_in\\_1883-2.pdf](https://www.dacorbacon.org/docs/Sally_Carrolls_Reminiscences_in_1883-2.pdf).

<sup>30</sup> Beyer, Blinder Belle: *DACOR Bacon House: Historical Structure Report* (Washington, 2021). 51, Fig. 2:20.

<sup>31</sup> On the alterations of the ground floor from essentially two large rooms, Calderhead, 68. However, he dates them to the Fullers' period in the house, i.e. at the end of the century.

<sup>32</sup> National Archives, Washington, DC, Probates and Wills, District of Columbia, "William T. Carroll," Box 74.

<sup>33</sup> He appears in Georgetown directories but his occupation is unclear.

<sup>34</sup> Source: <http://civilwardc.org/texts/petitions/cww.00615.html>;

[https://www.friendsofthelincolncollection.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/LL\\_1964-01.pdf](https://www.friendsofthelincolncollection.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/LL_1964-01.pdf) (accessed 05/01/2020.)

<sup>35</sup> For example, Clem Hill and his wife Sophy escaped Northampton farm in May 1817, and Sallie's father posted a reward of \$100 for their return: *National Intelligencer*, August 20, 1818; Sena Brooks, committed as a runaway in the District jail 23 January 1851, was released to Osborn Sprigg, Sallie's brother, two days later. Sena remained enslaved on the farm until 1865. Jerry M. Hynson, *District of Columbia Runaway and Fugitive Slave Cases, 1848-1863* (Westminster: Willow Bend Books, 1999), 17.

<sup>36</sup> Noted in the Freedman Bureau's record.

<sup>37</sup> They were Delia Noonan, an Irish woman, and James (Jimmy) Jackson, a Black man from Maryland, both of whom had worked in the house since the 1860s. Each was left \$300 in her will, made in 1894.

<sup>38</sup> The explanation was provided by the former librarian of the Maine Historical Society when I visited in 2024.

<sup>39</sup> For the details of their lives, see my posting,

[https://www.dacorbacon.org/docs/Carrolls\\_Enslaved\\_Warren\\_Family.pdf](https://www.dacorbacon.org/docs/Carrolls_Enslaved_Warren_Family.pdf). The 1864 Washington Directory has the Warrens living at 421 20<sup>th</sup> Street W.

<sup>40</sup> There is no information on Mary, even how long she stayed in the family. She is no longer in the house in 1860.

<sup>41</sup> 1860 census for Osborn Sprigg, Prince George's County, Maryland. Sarah Gales was the housekeeper; and a Mrs. Tapt (?) was a governess. It was not uncommon for landed families to employ them at this time: "The subscriber wishes to engage the services of a Governess, well qualified to teach the higher branches of English education, French, Music, and Drawing. Testimonials as to character and qualifications will be required. All applications to be postpaid. Robert Ghiselin. Near Nottingham, Prince George's county, Maryland."--From the *National Intelligencer* Washington, D.C., March 29, 1845. In Washington, Mary Abigail Dodge, an early feminist writer, started her writing career working as the governess of Gamaliel Bailey's children in the 1850s: see her article in Wikipedia.

<sup>42</sup> *Daily National Intelligencer*, November 22, 1845, p. 2.

<sup>43</sup> Linsey-woolsey, a coarse twill or cotton cloth often given to enslaved workers to wear.

<sup>44</sup> I.e. Witney blankets: <http://witneyblanketstory.org.uk/WBP.asp?navigationPage=Blanket%20types>.

<sup>45</sup> Cassimeres, often made from merino sheep, were frequently imported from Canada; Osnaburgs were often worn by enslaved workers.

<sup>46</sup> *Evening Star*, August 26, 1862, p. 3.

<sup>47</sup> For example, mentioned by Mrs. Dix below, and by Dolley Madison, also below. For taxes, National Archives, R. G. 51, Tax Book 1843 M-Z, Corporation of Washington, vol. 49, entry 37.

<sup>48</sup> Jennifer Lynn Altenhofel, "Keeping House: Irish and Irish-American Women in the District of Columbia, 1850-1890" (Ph.D., American University, 2004), 153ff.