Identifying Emma Jane Chalker's Family (1855-1931)

Introduction and Background

The only source in which Emma Jane Chalker was listed with her likely parents and some of her siblings, was the 1860 federal census for Ocala, Marion Co., Florida, which did not identify relationships. Direct evidence of Emma living with her biological family was not found after the 1860 census. No birth records tie her to her family. Indirect evidence from marriage, pension, census, and death records identified her parents as Edwin Pinkney and Elizabeth (Long) Chalker Stanaland.

Searching for Emma

Emma's father, Edwin Pinkney Chalker died 5 October 1864 during the Civil War, when Emma was approximately nine years old. She was therefore found in no other documents with her biological family.¹ An exhaustive search was conducted to identify and locate Emma Jane's birth record. Statewide registration of birth records in Marion County, Florida did not begin until 1899; none were located. ²

An extensive search of several genealogy websites, family websites, state records, historical societies, online forums, and various browser searches, for Emma's birth records provided no primary evidence of parentage. Therefore, indirect evidence was used to prove that she was the daughter of Edwin Pinkney Chalker and Elizabeth (Long) Chalker Stanaland.

Marriage Records

In 1860, Emma was approximately 5 years old, and lived with her likely family.³ Emma Jane Chalker was identified by her full name in her marriage record, but her birthday and age were omitted; nothing was documented about her parents or stepfather. However, S.T. Standland [Stanaland] performed the marriage ceremony.⁴ In 1860, Saml T. Stanaland, was recorded as a planter/preacher in Ocala, Marion County, and lived close to the Chalker family.⁵

[&]quot;Compiled Service Records of Confederate Soldiers Who Served in the Organizations from the State of Florida," Edward/Edwin P Chalker, "K" Company, 9th Regiment, Florida Infantry, Confederate Military Records, p. 11; digital images, *Fold3* (https://www.fold3.com/image/165977467 : accessed 21 April 2021); citing NARA publication M251, RG 360, roll 0087, 0 National Archives ID 586957.

[&]quot;Marion County, Florida Genealogy," online, FamilySearch Wiki (https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Marion County, Florida Genealogy: accessed 19 April 2021).

¹⁸⁶⁰ U.S. census, Marion County, Florida, population schedule, Ocala, p. 70 (written), dwelling 581, family 530, EP Chalker, digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com : accessed 22 August 2019).

⁴ "Florida Marriages, 1830-1993, Marion County, Marriage Licenses, 1844-1872, John McRae & Emma Jane Chalker.

⁵ "Florida Marriages, 1830-1993, Marion County, Marriage Licenses, 1844-1872, John McRae & Emma Jane Chalker. See also, 1860 U.S. census, Marion County, Florida, population schedule, Chalker, E.P.. Additionally, p. 71, dwelling 587, family 536, Stanaland, S.T.

Emma married John McRae in 1868, about 4 years after the death of her father, when she was just shy of 14 years old. ⁶ On the 1900 census, it was noted that Emma J.'s birthday was May 1855, and she was born in Florida. ⁷ In the 1930 census, Emma was identified by her full name, and her age at first marriage was noted as 14 years old. ⁸

Pension Record

Emma's husband, John McRae, served in the Civil War. Emma filed a widow's pension application after John's death.

On 3 August 1909, Emma Jane McRae initially filed a widow's Civil War application. In her application, she stated that she and John married 23 December 1868 and her name was Emma Jane Chalker. She further attested that she was born in Marion Co., Florida on 27 May 1855 where had lived her entire life, from birth. The information accords with her marriage license, the age and residence noted on the 1860 census, and the birthday noted in the 1900 census.

Census Records

The family lived near other members of the Chalker, Long, and Stanaland families. ¹⁰ Edwin was the son of William Pinkney Chalker and Nancy Stanaland. ¹¹

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[&]quot;Florida Marriages, 1830-1993, Marion County, Marriage Licenses, 1844-1872, Vol A-C," FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-994X-RPWY?i=294&cc=1803936: accessed 25 May 2021), John McRae & Emma Jane Chalker by Saml. T. Standland [sic].

⁷ 1900 U.S. census, Marion County, Florida, population schedule, Salt Springs, ED 94, p. 17B, dwelling 359, family 362, McRae, John, digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com : accessed 22 April 2021).

⁸ 1930 U.S. census, Putnam County, Florida, population schedule, Putnam, ED 54-12, p. 2B, dwelling 53, family 53, McRae, Emma Jane, digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com : accessed 21 April 2021).

State Library and Archives of Florida, Civil War pension files, digital image, Florida Memory (https://www.floridamemory.com/items/show/172656 : accessed 2 September 2019), Marion Co., Fl, application #A00432, 9th Regt, Inf., McRae, John M., pp. 1-29., specifically p. 7.

¹⁸⁶⁰ US Census, Marion County, Florida, Ocala, p. 70, dwelling 581, family 530, Chalker, E P, digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com : accessed 22 August 2019); citing NARA publication M653, roll 108. See also, dwelling 582, family 531, Chalker, William; p. 71, dwelling 587, family 536, Stanaland, Saml T; dwelling 588, family 537, Stanaland, Hugh, and dwelling 592, family 539, Long, Ann E.

Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), Genealogical Records Committee (GRC), member database online, (https://www.dar.org : accessed 20 April 2021), descendant Search, William Chalker, Patriot, Isaac Chalker, #A026567, Member Thelma Knoblock Avera, supporting documentation, document 8 of 16; deposition, Colquitt County, Georgia, Thelma K Avera, attestant, 28 April 1981. Thelma attests that her father, William Pinkney Chalker told her on many occasions that Edwin Pinkney Chalker was her grandfather and Edwin died during the Civil War. She further states that her father, William P. Chalker was 17 when his father, William Chalker died. See also, DAR, GRC, member database online, patriot record, Isaac Chalker, member, Virginia McLucas, document 2 of 5, land record; citing Horry Co., South Carolina, Deed Books, Book B-1, pp 238-241. "Needham Stanaland...of the love, good will and affection...my loving daughter Nancy Chalker. I have given...the lawful heirs of her by her present marriage with William Chalker...."

Census records were used to track the family and extended family members throughout the years as they moved from South Carolina to Florida. The Chalker family moved from Horry, Horry Co., South Carolina to Marion Co., Florida. As the family grew, the family members set up households near one another. This also helped trace members of Emma's family enumerated in 1860, after her mother's remarriage to S.T. Stanaland. The Chalker and Stanaland families lived near one another throughout the years. Several family members chose similar names. Emma had two sons, Daniel E[lkanah] and William T.¹² The two boys were likely named after her twin brothers Daniel and William who were both enumerated in the 1860 and 1870 census records. ¹³ Fortunately, there were also unique names such as Norgood, Decoat, Orilla, Drysdel, Sinthy and Excellent Chalker.

In 1850, Edwin and Elizabeth (Long) Chalker lived in Horry Co., South Carolina. They lived near Edwin's brothers, Charles and Randolph Chalker, as well as their parents William and Nancy (Stanaland) Chalker. The Chalker families also lived near other Stanaland/Standland families. 15

In 1860, Edwin Pinkney, and Elizabeth (Long) Chalker lived with their (presumed) children. Ann A. was the Adaline that was captured in the 1850 Horry Co., South Carolina federal census when she was two years old. In 1860, Ann/Adaline was 12 years old. In the ten years that passed between the 1850-1860 census years, Daniel and William (twin brothers), Emma, and Victoria were added to the family. Emma's family lived next to her grandparents, William and Nancy (Stanaland) Chalker, along with Edwin's younger brother, Excellent.

Other Stanaland families are nearby, some of whom are combined with various Chalker family members.¹⁷

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¹⁸⁸⁰ U.S. census, Marion Co., Florida, population schedule, Powell, p. 163C, ED 11, dwelling 54, family 54, John McCray, digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com : accessed 22 August 2019).

¹⁸⁶⁰ U.S. census, Marion County, Florida, Ocala, EP Chalker. See also, 1870 U.S. census, Marion Co., Florida, population schedule, Ocala, p. 26 (written), dwelling 172, family 173, Elizabeth Shockland.

¹⁸⁵⁰ U.S. census, Horry Co., South Carolina, population schedule, Horry, p. 52a,dwelling 727, family, 727, Chalker, Edwin, digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com: accessed 22 Aug 2019). See also dwelling/family 725, W. Chalker, pp 51b-52a; dwelling/family 726, Chalker, Charles, p 52a; and dwelling/family 728, Chalker, Randolph. Additionally, see Daughters of the American Revolution, Genealogical Records Committee (GRC), William Chalker, Patriot, Isaac Chalker, #A026567, Member Thelma Knoblock Avera.

¹⁸⁵⁰ U.S. census, Horry Co., South Carolina, population schedule, Horry, p. 51b, dwelling/family 720, Standland, Drysdel, *Ancestry*. Family included their son Needham, the same name as Nancy Stanaland's father. See also, p. 52a, dwelling/family 730, Standland, J. . This family had a son named Needham.

¹⁸⁶⁰ U.S. census, Marion Co., Chalker, E P. See also, dwelling 582, family 531, Chalker, William. Additionally, "U.S., Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles, 1861-1865," database online, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com : accessed 22 April 2021), Chalker, Excellent C.

¹⁸⁶⁰ U.S. census, Marion Co., Florida, population schedule, Ocala, p. 71 (written), dwelling 587, family 536, S.T. Stanaland; dwelling 588, family 537, Hugh Stanaland; and 589, family 537, Nancy E Stanaland. See also, p. 72, dwelling 598, family 545, W.H. Driggers. This household is mix of Driggers, Chalker and Thompson.

Table 1

Year	Head	Spouse	Children
1850 Horry Co., South Carolina federal census	Edwin Chalker, 30, farmer, born SC ^A	Elith ,19, no occupation listed, born SC	Adaline , 2, born SC
	C. Chalker, 32, farmer, born SC ^B	Sarah 20, born SC	Norgood, (female), 5, born SC Decoat (male), 3, born SC Nancy, 6 mos., born SC
	Randolph Chalker, 36, farmer, born SC ^C	Sarah 57, born SC	Orilla (female), 8, born SC Albert, 7, born SC Franklin, 5, born SC Wm, 4, born SC Wm (2 nd one), 3 mos., born SC
	W. Chalker, 55, farmer, born CT ^D	Nancy 45, born SC	Drysdel, 18, cooper, born SC Sinthy (female), 16, born SC Nancy, 14, born SC Harriet, 12, born SC Excellent (male), 9, born SC

A. 1850 U.S. census, Horry Co., South Carolina, population schedule, Horry, p. 52a, dwelling 727, family, 727, Chalker, Edwin, digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com: accessed 22 Aug 2019).

B. 1850 U.S. census, Horry Co., South Carolina, population schedule, Horry, p. 52a, dwelling 726, family, 726, Chalker, Charles, digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com: accessed 22 Aug 2019).

C. 1850 U.S. census, Horry Co., South Carolina, population schedule, Horry, p. 52a, dwelling 728, family, 728, Chalker, Charles, digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com: accessed 22 Aug 2019).

D. 1850 U.S. census, Horry Co., South Carolina, population schedule, Horry, p. 51b, dwelling 725, family, 725, Chalker, Charles, digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com: accessed 22 Aug 2019

Table 2

Year	Head	Spouse	Children
1860 Ocala, Marion, Florida federal census	EP Chalker , 38, planter, born SC ^E	Elizabeth (presumed), 26, domestic, born NC	Ann A, 12 (1848), born NC Daniel, 8 (1852), born FL William, 8 (1852), born FL Emma, 5 (1855), born FL Victoria, 3 (1857), born FL
	William Chalker, 70, planter, born CT ^F Saml T Stanaland, 54, Planter/Preacher, born NC ^G	Nancy Chalker, 62, domestic, born SC Margt Stanaland, 55, domestic, born NC	Excellent (female), 21, domestic, born SC John Brackman [?], 25, hireling, born SC

E. 1860 US Census, Marion County, Florida, Ocala, p. 70, dwelling 581, family 530, Chalker, E P, digital image, Ancestry (https://www.ancestry.com : accessed 22 August 2019); citing NARA publication M653, roll 108. F. 1860 US Census, Marion County, Florida, Ocala, p. 70, dwelling 582, family 531, Chalker, William, digital image, Ancestry (https://www.ancestry.com : accessed 22 August 2019); citing NARA publication M653, roll 108. G. 1860 US Census, Marion County, Florida, Ocala, p. 71, dwelling 587, family 536, Chalker, William, digital image, Ancestry (https://www.ancestry.com : accessed 22 August 2019); citing NARA publication M653, roll 108.

Emma's father, Edwin Pinkney, died from illness in Oct 1864.¹⁸ Emma was married 23 Dec 1868. ¹⁹ Therefore, she was no longer enumerated with her parents. By 1870, her mother remarried and had another child, James, who was either born right before or after the death of his father, Edwin. Elizabeth Shockland was enumerated with her children in Ocala, Marion Co., Florida. Although her name was incorrectly transcribed, she was with her twin sons, Daniel and William, her daughter Victoria, and her son James. ²⁰ Daniel, William, and Victoria were all in the same household with Emma and Edwin in 1860. Their ages were all within the age frame expected. Emma and John McRae were not located in the 1870 census records. No other Chalker, Long, or Stanaland families lived near Elizabeth and the children.

[&]quot;Compiled Service Records of Confederate soldiers Who served in Organizations from the State of Florida," Civil War Service Records (CMSR) Confederate-Florida, digital image online, *Fold3* (https://www.fold3.com/image/165977467?terms=p,chalker,edward: accessed 22 April 2021).

¹⁹ "Florida Marriages, 1830-1993, Marion County, Marriage Licenses, 1844-1872, John McRae & Emma Jane Chalker.

²⁰ 1870 U.S. census, Marion Co., Florida, Ocala, Shockland, Elizabeth.

In 1880, S.T. lived with his wife, Elizabeth and his stepson, James Chalker. ²¹ In 1885, the three again shared a home in Marion County; however, James' relationship to S.T. was not stated. ²² Given the stepson relationship noted in 1880, S.T.'s wife was likely to be Elizabeth Chalker, widow of Edwin. Tombstone images from the "Chalker Cemetery" in Forest Corners, Marion Co., Florida on *FindAGrave* note a marriage between Rev. S.T. Stanaland (1802-1892) and Elizabeth (1829-1899). ²³ The birth location on Elizabeth's tombstone corresponds with the birth location noted on the 1860 census. ²⁴

Table 3

Year	Head	Spouse	Children
1870 Ocala, Marion, Florida federal census	Elizabeth Shockland, 40, keeping house, born NC ^H	None listed	Daniel E Shockland, 17, farmhand, born in FL William Shockland, 17, farmhand, born in FL Victoria A. Shockland, 12, born in FL James N. Shockland, 6, born in FL
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H. 1870 U.S. census, Marion Co., Florida, population schedule, Ocala, p. 26 (written), dwelling 172, family 173, Elizabeth Shockland, digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com : accessed 22 Aug 2019).

In 1880, Emma and John McCrae/McCray lived in Powell, Marion Co., Florida with their children, which included their sons Daniel and William. ²⁵ In the 1860 census, Emma lived in the household with twin brothers, Daniel and William. ²⁶ In 1870, those same twins lived with their mother, Elizabeth. ²⁷ In 1880,

¹⁸⁸⁰ U.S. census, Marion Co., Florida, population schedule, Powell, p. 160B (stamped), ED 11, dwelling 13, family 13, Stanalan[d], S T, digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com : accessed 22 August 2019).

²² 1885 Florida state census, Marion Co., population schedule, p. 5 (written), ED 10, dwelling 22, family 18, Stanaland, S T, digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com: accessed 22 August 2019).

FindAGrave, database with images (https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/21746044/s-t-stanaland: accessed 20 April 2021), memorial #2174644, Rev S.T. Stanaland (1802-1892), Chalker Cemetery, Forest Corners, Marion Co., Florida; gravestone photograph by Teresa. See also, FindAGrave, database with images (https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/21746176/elizabeth-long-stanaland: accessed 20 April 2021), memorial #21746176, Elizabeth Long "Lizzie" Chalker Stanaland (1829-1899), Chalker Cemetery, Forest Corners, Marion Co., Florida; gravestone photograph by Teresa. "Elizabeth Stanaland Born Aug. 26, 1829, in Brunswick Co., N.C., Died Nov. 24, 1899."

²⁴ 1860 U.S. census, Marion County, Florida, Ocala, Chalker, E.P.

²⁵ 1880 U.S. census, Marion Co., Florida, Powell, McCray, John.

²⁶ 1860 U.S. census, Marion County, Florida, Ocala, Chalker, E.P.

²⁷ 1870 U.S. census, Marion Co., Florida, Ocala, Shockland, Elizabeth.

S.T. and Elizabeth Stanalan[d] lived with Elizabeth's biological son, James.²⁸ James was the same child enumerated with Elizabeth Shockland in the 1870 census.

Table 4

Year	Head	Spouse	Children
1880/federal	John McCray, 34, farmer, born FL ¹	Emmer J, 25, keeping house, born FL	Mary, 9, born FL Daniel K. 8, born FL William T, 8, born FL Noah, 1, born FL
	Stanalan[d] S.T., 74, farmer, born NC ^J	Elizabeth, 57, keeping house, born NC	James Chalker, 17, (stepson), working farm, born FL

I. 1880 U.S. census, Marion Co., Florida, population schedule, Powell, p. 163C, ED 11, dwelling 54, family 54, John McCray, digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com : accessed 22 August 2019).

By 1930, most of Emma's children were out of the home, she was widowed, and never remarried. She lived in Putnam Co., Florida and reported that she was first married at the age of fourteen.²⁹ This coincides with both her marriage record and her pension application.

Death Records

The death record for Emma had the wrong parent information. The death certificate for her brother William also had incorrect parent information. Emma's sister, Margaret Victoria's death certificate finally provided the correct parents. All three children were listed in the 1860 federal Marion Co., Florida census. William and Victoria lived with some of their siblings and their mother in the 1870 Marion Co., Florida federal census. 31

J. 1880 U.S. census, Marion Co., Florida, population schedule, Powell, p. 160B (stamped), ED 11, dwelling 13, family 13, Stanalan[d], S T.

²⁸ 1880 U.S. census, Marion Co., Florida, population schedule, Powell, p. 160B (stamped), ED 11, dwelling 13, family 13, Stanalan[d], S T.

²⁹ 1930 U.S. census, Putnam Co., Florida, population schedule, Welaka, ED 54-12, p. 2b, dwelling 53, family 53, McRae, Emma Jane.

³⁰ 1860 U.S. census, Marion County, Florida, Ocala, Chalker, E P.

³¹ 1870 U.S. census, Marion Co., Florida, Ocala, Shockland, Elizabeth.

Emma Jane Chalker 32

Emma's death certificate listed her name as Emma Jane McRae, a widow, consistent with her marriage record, several census records, and the Civil War pension record. Her birthday was noted as 27 May and her age was 76 at the time of her death on 7 June 1931 in Welaka, Putnam Co., Florida, making her birth year approximately 1855. Her father was listed as Randolph Chalker born in Connecticut and her mother was only listed by the last name of "Long" from South Carolina. Edwin's father was from Connecticut and Edwin had a brother Randolph. Elizabeth's birth location, Brunswick, North Carolina bordered Horry, South Carolina. The informant was Mary Hutchinson, who may be the same as the Mary Hutchinson that lived near Emma and her husband in the 1885 Marion Co., Florida state census. ³³ She may alternately be the Mary Hutchinson who lived near the family in the 1930 Welaka, Putnam Co., Florida federal census.³⁴

William P. Chalker 35

William Chalker (1852-1940) died in Dunellen, Marion Co., Florida. His widow was Mary Rebecca Perkins. His birth year was consistent with the 1860 census in which he and his twin brother were eight years old. ³⁶ In 1885, William P. Chalker and his wife Mary lived near Emma, Daniel, his mother, and his stepfather. ³⁷

William's father was identified as William Edward Chalker of North Carolina and his mother, Elizabeth Long, was from North Carolina. His mother's name and state of birth were correct, however, his father's name was not William Edward. In the Daughters of the American Revolution record, the attestant stated that her grandfather's name was wrong on her father, William Pinkney's death certificate, and should be Edwin Pinkney Chalker.³⁸

Florida Bureau of Vital Statistics, death certificate, Emma Jane McRae, 7 June 1931, state file #10104.

¹⁸⁸⁵ Florida State census, Marion Co., Florida, population schedule, districts 11 & 12, (singular page), dwelling 22, family 47, Hutchinson, C P, digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com : accessed 21 April 2021). Mary Hutchinson was the 4-year-old daughter of CP and Elizabeth Hutchinson. The family lives close to the John McRae family (dwelling 22, family 50).

³⁴ 1930 U.S. census, Putnam County, Florida, Welaka, population schedule, ED 54-12, p 2B, dwelling 52, family 52, Morris, Lycurges [?]. Mary Hutchinson, 25, was listed as a stepdaughter. Emma and her son were living close by (dwelling/family 53).

Florida Bureau of Vital Statistics, death certificate, William P. Chalker, 4 July 1940, state file #14382.

³⁶ 1860 U.S. census, Marion County, Florida, Ocala, Chalker, E P.

³⁷ 1885 Florida state census, Marion Co., Florida, District 10 and 11, unpaginated, dwelling 22, family 31, Chalker, William P., digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com : accessed 21 April 2021). See also 1870 U.S. census, Marion Co., Florida, Ocala, Shockland, Elizabeth.

Daughters of the American Revolution, Genealogical Records Committee (GRC), William Chalker, Patriot, Isaac Chalker, #A026567, Member Thelma Knoblock Avera, deposition, Colquitt County, Georgia, 28 April 1981, document 8.

Margaret Victoria Chalker 39

Margaret was born in 1858 in Marion Co., Florida and died 16 March 1918 in Grahamville, Marion Co., Florida. Her death certificate correctly noted her parents as Edwin Chalker, born in South Carolina and Elizabeth Long, born in North Carolina. Her age and birth location were consistent with the 1860 Marion Co., Florida federal census. Victoria, Emma, and William were in the same household.⁴⁰

Conclusion

An exhaustive search failed to locate a birth record for Emma Jane Chalker that specifically stated her parents were Edwin Pinkney Chalker and Elizabeth Long. Her death record also recorded the wrong parental information. Indirect evidence clearly showed that the information provided in the 1860 Marion Co., Florida federal census, when Emma lived with her parents and some siblings, was accurate.

Emma was born 27 May 1955 in Marion Co., Florida where she lived nearly her entire life. She was married 23 December 1868 to John McRae when she was 13 years, 6 months, and 27 days old.

Census records showed that the Chalker, Long, and Stanaland families lived near, and moved with, one another throughout the years. Emma, named two of her sons after her twin brothers, William, and Daniel.

The combined indirect information clearly associated Emma with the family enumerated in the 1860 Marion Co., Florida census. Emma's death certificate provided partial information on her mother. Her brother William's death certificate provided her mother's name and partial information on her father. Her sister, Margaret Victoria's death certificate proved both parents' names and birth locations accurately.

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Florida Bureau of Vital Statistics, death certificate, Margaret Victoria Fort, 16 March 1918, state file #2971, digital image online, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com : accessed 21 April 2021), originally shared by Christine M.W. Galvin, a distant cousin of the author..

¹⁸⁶⁰ U.S. census, Marion County, Florida, Ocala, Chalker, E.P.

Chalker Family

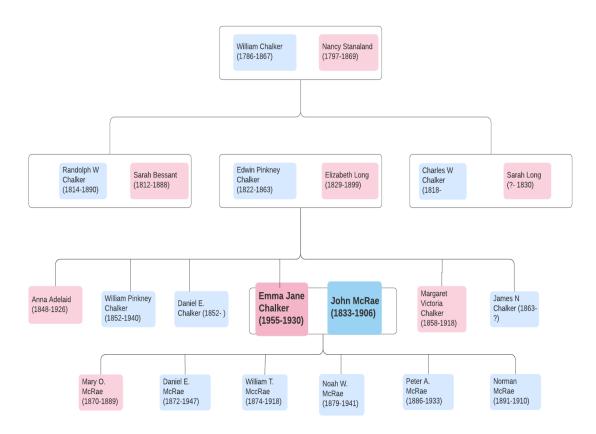


Figure 1: Chalker Family Tree

Only those children discussed were included in the family tree.