ANCESTORS of
JAMES HARRAH COLLINS
and
JANE HILL COLLINS
of
Batavia, Iowa and Del Norte, Colo.

ANCESTORS OF JAMES HARRAH COLLINS

BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF
JAMES HARRAH COLLINS

ANCESTORS OF JANE HILL COLLINS

THE HILL FAMILY

THE DILLEY FAMILY

THE REASONER, FROMAN AND SPEERS FAMILIES

JAMES HARRAH COLLINS, JANE HILL COLLINS
and their DESCENDANTS

INDEX

ANCESTRAL FAN CHART

This volume was originally compiled by me at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, May 1, 1954. We brought it up to date and enlarged it in 1966, mainly to include newly discovered data about THE DILLEY FAMILY. In 1973 we added an ANCESTRAL FAN CHART and pages 81A and 81B. Now we have additional information about THE COLLINS FAMILY so have rewritten pages A to E and 1 to 11B and the index. This volume is furnished free to descendants of JAMES HARRAH COLLINS and JANE HILL COLLINS and to genealogical libraries.

July 1, 1974

Roy E. Curray
P. O. Box 1778
La Jolla, Calif. 92037
THE COLLINS FAMILY

My first information about our Collins ancestors and family came from my mother, Mrs. Emma Collins Curray, who was a daughter of JAMES HARRAH COLLINS, a granddaughter of ELIJAH COLLINS, Sr., and a great-granddaughter of ELISHA COLLINS I. In the late 1930s or the early 1940s she directed me to the home of Mrs. Mae Reynolds at 2318-1/2 Eucalyptus Avenue, Long Beach, Calif., who had the ELIJAH COLLINS, Sr. family Bible. The entries in that bible gave us the birth and death dates of ELISHA COLLINS I, JENNIE FARLEY, ELIJAH COLLINS, Sr., ELIZABETH GRANSTAFF and the birth dates of most of ELIJAH COLLINS, Sr.'s children. We are sure now that Mae Reynolds was a daughter of Elijah Collins, Jr. (See page 11A). I should have asked more questions and taken notes but knew very little about the Collins family at that time and nothing about genealogical searching.

Mother talked about visiting Uncle William and his family near La Plata, Mo. We stopped at La Plata but could find no Collins relatives. She also talked about Uncle Jake, Aunt Lucy and Uncle Lydge. She must have told us that some of Elijah Collins, Jr.'s descendants lived in Southeastern Kansas because we stopped there and talked to them but at that time I was trying hard to trace the ancestors of ELISHA COLLINS I, so did not preserve notes about relatives. They had no data about ancestors.

Mother knew that her grandfather, ELIJAH COLLINS, Sr. had come to Iowa from Ohio and had been a soldier and had received a pension. So on my next trip EAST I went to the Pension Department in the National Archives Building in Washington, D.C. I learned that ELIJAH COLLINS, Sr., had been a soldier in the War of 1812-14 from Guernsey County, Ohio, and that he died at Chariton, Iowa, although buried at Batavia. This led me to an obituary, which said ELIJAH COLLINS, Sr. was born in Virginia. I began to visit the Iowa State Historical Library in Des Moines, where I learned about census returns and found a little book entitled "Early Records, Hampshire County, Virginia". Eventually I made a trip to Cambridge, Guernsey County, Ohio and later to Hampshire County, Va. (now Mineral County, West Virginia.)

It has taken a lot of searching of land records, census returns, cemetery tombstones and other records in Virginia, Ohio, Iowa, Missouri and Nebraska. Many devoted people have helped me. I thank especially Mrs. Mary Prill and her husband for facts and records in Jefferson County, Iowa, and for reading tombstones in Jefferson County and Lucas County in Iowa and Macon County, Missouri. Also I thank her for finding another obituary of ELIJAH COLLINS, Sr., which told me more about his family. I thank Mrs. Carl Main for research in the Western Historical Society Library in Cleveland, Ohio. I thank Mrs. Ruth Slevin for many hours of intelligent research in the Indiana State Historical Library in Indianapolis, Indiana.

ROY E. CURRAY
THE COLLINS FAMILY

CHILDREN

ELISHA COLLINS I
Born 2/22/1732
Died 10/5/1817
Cumberland, Ohio

1st Marriage

* (John Collins
(Born 8/28/1758, Va.
(Died 1/21/1828
(in Ky or Rush Co., Ind. (Married 3/7/1786
(Westmoreland County, Pa.
(Margaret
(Born 10/27/1768
(Date of death unknown
(but she survived John
(and applied for pension
(which was allowed 6/7/1839

GRANDCHILDREN

(John Collins
(Born 1819 -6th Child

(Elizabeth Collins
(Born 11/9/1788
(Married
(Ist. George Laurens
(2nd Graham

(Elisha Collins
(Born 2/8/1791

(Levi Collins
(Born 8/15/1805

(Margaret Collins
(Born 11/22/1807

(Polly Collins
(Married
(Laurens

*We are sure that ELISHA COLLINS I had a son named John by a first marriage but are not 100% sure that this is the right John. The Daughters of the American Revolution records of Rush County, Ind. show the following:

COLLINS, JOHN 1758
Born—Oct. 27, 1758
Died—Jan. 21, 1828. Com. destroyed several yrs. ago; in Rush Co.
Married—March 17, 1786, Margaret ——, b. 1785. Had 10 ch. Elizabeth (oldest dau.), b. Nov. 9, 1785, m. George Lawrence; Elisha, b. Feb. 3, 1791; John (6th ch.); James (8th ch.), b. May 7, 1801; Polly; Sally, b. June 12, 1803; Levi, b. Aug. 15, 1805; Margaret, b. Nov. 22, 1807.
From Waters' Sup., p. 23. Marriage was in Westmoreland Co., Pa.
ELISHA COLLINS I
Born 2/22/1732; Died 10/5/1817, Cumberland, Ohio
Second Marriage
JENNIE FARLEY
Born 7/1/1752; Died 5/28/1837, Cumberland, Ohio

CHILDREN

GRANDCHILDREN
(Sarah Collins, B 1812
 Married 1839
 (John C. Collins
 Born 1813; Died 1833
 Married
 Sarah H. McLees, B 1826
 (Mary Collins
 Married 1836
 (Andrew Nicholson
 Married
 (Hannah Collins, B 1817
 Married 1838
 (William Johnson, B. 1814
 Married
 (Ira Collins, B 1825
 (Silas Collins, B 1829
 Married
 (Frances
 (Jacob Collins, B 1830
 (William Collins, B 1831
 Married
 (Melinda
 Married 1850
 (Margaret Collins
 Married 1850
 (John Shrack
 Married
 2nd Marriage
 (Edward Spencer

GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN
(John F. Smith B 1841
 (James M. Smith B 1842
 (George C. Smith B 1848
 (Lucius Smith B 1853
 (Margaret J. (McCleary)B 1846
 (Hannah Collins B 1845
 (Amanda A. Collins B 1847
 (Mary C. (Taylor) B 1848
 (Loudema (Trimble) B 1849
 (Sarah E. (Miller) B 1854
 (Charles S. Collins B 1858
 (John F. Collins
 (Marah Jane Nicholson
 (William Findlay Nicholson
 (Mary E. Johnson B 1841
 (Abram Johnson B 1842
 (Ira M. Johnson B 1846
 (Maria Collins
 Married 1840
 (Charles Barns
 2nd Marriage
 McClelland
 (L. Karen Collins B 1852
 (Daltin Spencer B 1845
 (William Spencer B 1846
ELISHA COLLINS I
2nd Marriage (Continued)
JENNIE FARLEY

CHILDREN

Elisha Collins II
Born 3/29/1785
Patterson Creek, Va.
We believe he died in Ohio before 1820
Married

ELIJAH COLLINS, Sr.
Born 3/29/1785
Patterson Creek, Va.
Died 7/28/1874
Chariton, Iowa
1st Marriage Rachael Gray
Died 1811 or 1812

GRANDCHILDREN

(John G. Collins
Married
(Charity)

(Andrew Collins
Married
(Nancy)

(Elijah Collins
(Born 1808-9
Married 1830
(Mary Ginn

Andrew C. Collins B 1832
(Isabella Collins B 1834
(Married 1870
(Willis Custer

(John C. Collins B 1836
(Married
(Anna U.

(George Washington Collins
(Born 1838-9
(Married 1877
(Louisa Kiplinger

(Liberty Collins B 1840

(Joseph Collins B 1842-3
(Married 1863
(Mary E. Faulkner

(Nancy J. Collins B 1844-6

(David Collins B 1846-8
(Married 1867
(Emma Jewell

(Thomas L. Collins B 1843

(William W. Collins B 1845

(John J. Collins B 1848

Jane Collins
(Born 12/15/1811, Va.
(Died 10/31/1895
(Chariton, Iowa

Married 12/30/1830
(Samuel Crawford
(Born ca 1806, Pa.
(Died 8/27/1866
(Chariton, Iowa

Elijah Crawford
(Born ca 1832, Ohio
(Died 4/18/1881
(Chariton, Iowa

Rachel Crawford
(Born ca 1833, Ohio
(Died 1853-1855
(Batavia, Iowa

Married 6/12/1851
(William James
(Born ca 1827, England
(Died ca 1895
(Batavia, Iowa
**ELIJAH COLLINS, Sr.**
Born 3/29/1785, Patterson Creek, Va.
Died 7/28/1874, Chariton, Iowa

Second Marriage 1815
**ELIZABETH GRANSTAFF**
Born 5/12/1795, Probably Va.
Died 11/1/1858, Batavia, Iowa

**CHILDREN OF ELIJAH COLLINS, Sr. and ELIZABETH GRANSTAFF**
*(All born near Cumberland, Ohio)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Birth Date</th>
<th>Death Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>Elisha Collins III</td>
<td>9/15/1816</td>
<td>9/29/1847</td>
<td>Bernhart, Iowa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rachel Collins</td>
<td>ca 1825</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Collins</td>
<td>1830 or 1831</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Andrew Collins</td>
<td>10/7/1817</td>
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<td>Adriana Baldridge</td>
<td>1843, Ohio</td>
<td>Died 3/8/1860</td>
<td>Batavia, Iowa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asbury Collins</td>
<td>10/25/1823</td>
<td>Died 1890, Kearney, Neb.</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Collins</td>
<td>1830 or 1831</td>
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<td>Findly Collins</td>
<td>1/11/1819</td>
<td>4/14/1856</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jacob Collins</td>
<td>8/9/1821</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>William Bird Christy</td>
<td>1/1/1829</td>
<td>10/1/1918, Mo.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lucy Caroline Collins</td>
<td>9/22/1839</td>
<td>3/29/1924</td>
<td>Chicago, Ill.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jacob Collins</td>
<td>8/9/1821</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Savilla Loughery</td>
<td>4/29/1852</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Leeper</td>
<td>4/15/1827</td>
<td>9/19/1898, Chariton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sarah Leeper</td>
<td>1830 or 1831</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rachel Collins</td>
<td>1777-1832</td>
<td>1821, Ohio</td>
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<td>David Young Collins</td>
<td>4/1/1826</td>
<td>2/4/1916</td>
<td>Chariton, Iowa</td>
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<td>John Gillogly</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Collins</td>
<td>1788-1837</td>
<td>1821, Ohio</td>
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<td>JAMES HARRAH COLLINS</td>
<td>9/15/1836</td>
<td>4/4/1900</td>
<td>Del Norte, Colo.</td>
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<td>JANE HILL</td>
<td>1/17/1837, Ohio</td>
<td>5/26/1899</td>
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<td>Zora Costin Collins</td>
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<td>9/19/1898, Chariton</td>
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<td>William Bird Christy</td>
<td>1/1/1829</td>
<td>10/1/1918, Mo.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arabella Whitmore</td>
<td>12/29/1846</td>
<td>Jefferson County, Iowa</td>
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<td>Joseph R. Jay</td>
<td>12/29/1846</td>
<td>Jefferson County, Iowa</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arabella Whitmore</td>
<td>1827</td>
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See pages 7 to 11B inc. for more details as respects the brothers and sisters of JAMES HARRAH COLLINS.
ELISHA COLLINS I

To avoid confusion we will designate the Elisha Collins men I, II and III and the Elijah Collins men as Sr. and Jr.

Entries in the ELIJAH COLLINS, Sr. family bible tell us that ELISHA COLLINS I was born Feb. 22, 1732 and died Oct. 5, 1817; that his wife JENNIE FARLEY COLLINS was born Jan. 1, 1752 and died May 28, 1837. We do not know where either of them was born. Family tradition has it that the Collins family came from England and that the family bible was lost in a storm at sea but we have no facts to support this tradition.

We are sure that at least from March 10, 1777 to June 16, 1791 ELISHA COLLINS I lived in Patterson Creek Valley in Hampshire County, Va. (This area is now in Mineral County, West Va.). Many of the records of that area were destroyed in the War of 1812-14 and in the U.S. Civil War. You will remember that in 1814 the British captured and sacked Washington, D.C., burning most of the public buildings, including the National Capitol and the White House. Again in the Civil War this area was fought over. When an invading army overran a county they burned the Court House if possible.

Fortunately some of the records had been removed from the Court House and hidden. A book entitled "Early Records, Hampshire County, Virginia" gives us the following information:

Page 23 — March 10, 1777. "Elisha Collins" was a witness on the lease and release of 67 acres of land on Pattersons Creek from a man named Hartley to Thomas Fearly of Hampshire County.

Page 18 — August 10, 1778. "Elisha Collins" was a witness on the lease and release of 67 acres on Pattersons Creek from Thomas Fairley to a man named Blackburn.

Page 85 — 1788. "Elisha Collins" took up 300 acres of land on Clay Lick Run. (I understand this was land that had been granted to Lord Fairfax but that Lord Fairfax had to forfeit because he was a Tory.)

Page 72 — The 1790 census for most of Virginia was destroyed so tax lists are used as substitutes. The 1784 list of Okey Johnson shows: "Collins, Elisha, white souls 6, dwellings 1, other buildings 0." No slaves were shown.


(See pages 61 to 63, inc.)
I have a photo copy of that deed. In the first part of the deed her name was shown as "Jean" but the signature was "Jenny". Both ELISHA and JENNIE signed by making their marks, indicating they could not sign their names. At that time many people could not read and write so it was common to misspell names. The scribes spelled phonetically and not too well.

You will note that JENNIE's name is not mentioned until they sold their land in 1791. However, we believe that JENNIE was married to and living with ELISHA I for many years prior to 1791. Census reports and tax lists in that era gave the name only of the head of the family. Some of ELISHA's land adjoined the land of Thomas Fairley (or Farley) on Fairley's Run. So ELISHA I and Thomas Farley were neighbors and probably good friends. We suspect that ELISHA I's wife, JENNIE FARLEY, was a relative but not the daughter or widow of Thomas Farley. Thomas died in 1782 and no daughter named Jennie was mentioned. The 1784 tax list of Okey Johnson shows Jane Farley's name immediately following the name of Elisha Collins. Many other Fairleys were shown in this vicinity in the tax lists of 1784.

An obituary of ELIJAH COLLINS, Sr. says: "ELIJAH COLLINS, was born, March 29th, 1785, in the state of Virginia; and at the early age of six years, his father emigrated to the State of Ohio, and settled on the Ohio River near what was then known as the 'Flats of Grave Creek'. At the age of fifteen removed to what was then Guernsey county, in the interior of the State, and located near the present beautiful little village of Cumberland......"

ELIJAH COLLINS, Sr. would have been six years old in 1791 when his father ELISHA COLLINS I sold his land near Patterson Creek. The "Flats of Grave Creek" are at the mouth of Grave Creek on the Virginia (now West Va.) side of the Ohio River where Moundsville is now located in Marshall County, West Va. There were permanent settlements there as early as 1785. The Federal Trail (probably made in 1799) started there for the interior of Ohio, including Zanesville, where Ebenezer Zane settled in 1799 after cutting the Zanesville Trace from the Pittsburgh area to what is now Zanesville.

Ohio became a territory in 1799 (a State in 1803). In Dec., 1800, a petition for a ferry over the Ohio River was signed by Henry, (two) John(s) and James Collins. We believe that as early as 1791, would-be emigrants for Ohio were collecting at the Flats of Grave Creek for early emigration to the interior of Ohio. So it is reasonable to assume that ELISHA COLLINS I and his family did make the trip to the Flats of Grave Creek as early as 1791 and did cross the Ohio River about 1800. Ebenezer Zane had settled at Zanesville so that was a logical place to head for. Also there were salt mines near there and salt was very much in demand.

Two of ELISHA COLLINS I sons, Findley (or Finley) and ELIJAH, Sr., eventually settled on the North edge of Brookfield Township, just South of Cumberland in Spencer Township and a little more than 15 miles Southeast of Zanesville. Brookfield Township was in Muskingum County 1804 to 1810, Guernsey County 1810 to 1819, Morgan County 1819 to 1851 and now is in Noble County.
In the early 1800s the ELISHA COLLINS I family probably lived in Muskingum County, which was formed in 1804 and settled earlier than Guernsey and Morgan Counties. A history of Brookfield Township says that the first settlement there was made in 1806 by Ezekiel Dye. It also says:

"Finley Collins, an early settler, after coming to Ohio, first worked at the salt works near Chandlersville. A few years later came his father Elisha Collins, and his twin brothers, Elijah and Elisha. They also had a half-brother named John". Chandlersville was in Muskingum County between Zanesville and Brookfield Township. Apparently Findley, who was at least two years older than ELIJAH, Sr., was the pioneer for the family. He is mentioned in a history of Muskingum County as a pioneer inhabitant of Meigs Township, in the Northeast corner of the township. That was a very few miles West of where ELIJAH, Sr., eventually lived in Brookfield Township.

William G. Wolf in his "Stories of Guernsey County, Ohio" tells us that "Finley Collins" came from Virginia and entered eighty acres of land where Cumberland is now located (now Spencer Township) in the Southwestern part of the County in 1809. "He paid for it by making and selling maple sugar in the markets of Pittsburg, Zanesville and Wheeling. Collins was a soldier in the War of 1812." We could not find that ELISHA COLLINS I, ever owned any land in Ohio. He died in 1817 before the first census (1820) was taken in Ohio but the 1830 census of Brookfield Township shows a woman of JENNIE FARLEY COLLINS' age (70-80) living with Findley's family.

John Collins

JENNIE FARLEY was much younger than ELISHA COLLINS I and lived until 1837 while ELISHA died in 1817 so John Collins, the half brother of Findley, ELIJAH, Sr. and Elisha mentioned above must have been a son of ELISHA I's first wife. We have no family information about the first marriage and have not been able to find any John Collins of an appropriate age in the census or land records of Muskingum, Guernsey or Morgan Counties.

However, the Daughters of the American Revolution records of Rush County, Indiana and the pension records at Washington, D.C., tell us about a John Collins that we think was a son of ELISHA COLLINS I and the half-brother mentioned above. This John Collins was born in 1758 in Virginia and enlisted in 1776 in the 3rd Va Regiment of Light Dragoons. He served more than six years. He was married in 1786 to Margaret in Westmoreland County, Pa., which is not far from the Flats of Grave Creek. He was probably one of the men who petitioned for a ferry over the Ohio River in 1800. It is reasonable to assume that he was living there when ELISHA COLLINS I and his family crossed the Ohio River, and decided to make the trip to the interior of Ohio with his father and half brothers.

What we know about the family of John Collins is shown on page B. Please note that one of his sons, the oldest of which we have a record, was named Elisha.
Findley Collins

As we have indicated above, the histories of Muskingum, Guernsey, Morgan and Noble Counties tell us more about Findley (or Finley) Collins than they do about any of his brothers. We are sure that he was older than ELIJAH COLLINS, Sr. and Elisha Collins II. The only real clue we have as to when he was born is the 1850 census of Brookfield Township and the film is poor but we think Findley was born in 1888.

The history of Noble County and Brookfield Township tells us quite a little about Findley’s family and we have learned more from the census reports and other county records. In 1810 he married Margaret Shull who was born in Virginia in 1798. They had eleven children, Sarah, B 1812, John C., B 1813, Mary, Hannah, B 1817, Michael, Maria, Ira, B 1825, Silas, B 1829, Jacob, B 1830, William B 1831 and Margaret. Sarah Collins married George Smith and they had four children; John C. Collins married Sarah H. McLee and they had eight children; Mary Collins married Andrew Nicholson and they had two children; Hannah Collins married William Johnson and they had three children; Apparently Maria Collins married first Charles Barnes and second McClelland; Silas Collins married Frances and they had one child; Apparently Margaret Collins married first John Shrack and second Edward Spencer and two children were born to the second marriage.

At least from 1820 until he died in 1854 Findley Collins lived on the Northern edge of Brookfield Township where he was a neighbor of ELIJAH COLLINS, Sr., until ELIJAH moved to Iowa in 1844. Fondley’s will indicates he was prosperous because he left bequests to most of his heirs. As far as we could trace, his descendants continued to live in that part of Ohio for many years. Findley signed his will by making his mark, which explains why his name was sometimes spelled Finley. See page C for more details.

Elisha Collins II

Elisha Collins II was a twin brother of ELIJAH COLLINS, Sr., so was born March 29, 1785 in Patterson Creek Valley, Hampshire County, Va. The only clue we have as to where Elisha Collins II lived are deeds signed in 1844 and 1846 by four of his sons (and their wives), John G. Collins, Andrew Collins, Elijah Collins and Abner Collins. These deeds (signed in Delaware County, Ind.) recite that they are heirs at law of Elisha Collins, deceased, and convey four sevenths of land in the NE Quarter of Section 36-13-11 Meigs Township, Muskingum County, Ohio. This is the township where Findley Collins was a pioneer inhabitant. ELIJAH COLLINS, Sr., owned land in that section, which was just across the county line from where Findley and ELIJAH Sr., lived in Brookfield Township.

Census reports indicate son Elijah Collins was born in 1808-9. John G. Collins and Andrew Collins must have been older so Elisha Collins II must have been married in the early 1800s. We do not have the name of his wife and could not find Elisha Collins II in any 1820 census in Ohio or Indiana so believe he must have died before 1820.
ELIJAH COLLINS, Sr. and ELIZABETH GRANSTAFF COLLINS

Entries in their family Bible tell us that ELIJAH, Sr., was born March 29, 1785 and ELIZABETH May 12, 1795. The census returns for 1850 and 1856 indicate that both were born in Virginia and this is confirmed by ELIJAH's obituaries. We know that ELIJAH's parents lived in the Patterson Creek Valley in Hampshire County, Va., from 1777 to 1791, so ELIJAH must have been born there. Our information as to ELIZABETH's birthplace is not as definite but the name "Granstaff" was common in the Shenandoah Valley of Va., so we suspect she was born there.

As indicated on page 2 above we believe that from the time he was six (1791) until he was fifteen (1800) ELIJAH COLLINS, Sr., lived with his father and family on the "Flats of Grave Creek Va. and that then they crossed the Ohio River and headed West and lived for several years in what is now Muskingum County, Ohio, before ELIJAH settled in Brookfield Township.

ELIJAH, Sr. served two tours of duty with the Ohio troops in the War of 1812–14. First he served as a substitute for Adam Shriver in Captain George Richardson's Company, Colonel De Long's Regiment from August 31, 1813, to December 11, 1813. Then he was drafted at Cambridge, Guernsey County, Ohio, and served as a Sergeant in Captain Isaac Meredith's Company, Colonel Robert Bay's Regiment, from August 26, 1814 to February, 1815. (See Roster of Ohio soldiers of War of 1812, Ohio Historical Library, Columbus, Ohio; also Pension records of War of 1812, National Archives Bldg., Washington, D.C.) During those years Brookfield Township was a part of Guernsey County.

ELIJAH, Sr. was married in 1809 to Rachael Gray, to whom was born one child, Jane Collins 12/15/1811, soon after which Rachael died. His second wife, who is our ancestor, was ELIZABETH GRANSTAFF. They had fourteen children, eleven boys and three girls. Their first child, Elisha Collins III, was born 9/15/1816 so they must have been married in 1815 soon after ELIJAH was discharged from the army. Our ancestor, JAMES HARRAH COLLINS, was their youngest son. For information about his brothers and sisters see page E and pages 7, 8, 9, 10, 11A and 11B.

The land records in Morgan and Muskingum Counties, Ohio, indicate that ELIJAH and ELIZABETH lived, at least from May, 1827 to Sept., 1844 on the Northern Edge of Brookfield Township. This township is South across the line from Cumberland, Ohio, which must have been their mail address. Their home and land was in Brookfield Township. We repeat Brookfield Township was in Muskingum County 1804 to 1810, Guernsey County 1810 to 1819, Morgan County 1819 to 1851 and now is in Noble County. Also they owned land in what is now Muskingum County very close to where we think Elisha Collins II lived. Land records show close business associations between ELIJAH, Sr., Findley Collins and Nancy Harkness so we believe Nancy, an early school teacher in Brookfield Township, was a relative.
It is interesting to note that there were other Grandstaffs in Brookfield Township and that a Cyrus Grandstaff was a witness on a deed that concerned ELIJAH COLLINS, Sr.; also that in July, 1835, fourteen months before our grandfather, JAMES HARRAH COLLINS was born, ELIJAH, Sr., purchased a piece of land from James Harrah. ELIJAH COLLINS signed his name to deeds but ELIZABETH signed by making her mark.

In the autumn of 1844 ELIJAH, ELIZABETH, their children and families migrated to Iowa. It was after Sept. 20th because ELIJAH and ELIZABETH signed a deed in Morgan County, Ohio, on that date. We do not know what route they took but they were in Jefferson County, Iowa, in time for ELIJAH and his son Jacob to preempt land in Locust Grove Township before the land in that township was put on sale May 20, 1846. ELIJAH and Jacob bought the land they had preempted and another son, Elisha III bought land in that sale. ELIJAH, and his sons, Andrew, Jacob, David and Zarah C. Collins are shown as voters in Locust Grove Township in 1848. (See Fulton's History of Jefferson County.)

ELIJAH and ELIZABETH lived in Locust Grove Township from 1844 until she died Nov. 1, 1858. They tell us she got a bone stuck in her throat and the doctors did not know how to get it out. Their first home was just East of Cedar Creek on the South side of the road now known as Highway No. 34 but in a few years they moved to a farm about a mile North and a mile East of Batavia. This farm is still in the family. It is now owned and occupied by ELIJAH Sr.'s great great granddaughter and her husband, Mr. & Mrs. Leo Smith. ELIJAH built a house about 1850. While this house has been remodeled and rebuilt several times, the frame of this attractive home is the original frame that ELIJAH put up in 1850.

Nov. 28, 1850, as a veteran of the War of 1812, ELIJAH applied for bounty land under Congressional Act of Sept. 28, 1850. We presume he received this land and know he bought many other tracts of land and became a large landholder. Sometime after ELIZABETH's death he moved to Chariton, Lucas County, Iowa, where Dr. David Young Collins and several of his other children lived. In the census of 1870 ELIJAH, Sr. is shown living with his youngest daughter Lucy Caroline Collins Jay and her children in Chariton, Iowa. He was living in Chariton March 15, 1871 when he applied for a pension which he later received. He was living with his son Dr. David Young Collins in Chariton when he died July 28, 1874. He was buried in the cemetery at Batavia.

Mother told us this story. ELIZABETH came from a Presbyterian family, probably in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. In the early 1800s the circuit riders of the Methodist Church were holding camp meetings and making converts. ELIZABETH went to one of these camp meetings with ELIJAH and joined what her parents called the "Shouting Methodists". After that her father would not let her come home so she had to live with neighbors until she and ELIJAH were married.
en desired by making erasures with artgum. The map surface has been specially treated for this purpose.
BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF JAMES HARRAH COLLINS
(All born near Cumberland, Ohio, except Jane)

Jane Collins, born in Va. 12/15/1811. She was the only child of ELIJAH COLLINS, Sr. and his first wife, Rachael Gray, who died soon after Jane's birth. We believe ELIJAH and Rachael were living in or near Brookfield Township, Ohio, before 1811 so suspect that Rachael made a trip back to her parental home in Va. to be with her own family when her first child was born. Census returns indicate that Jane was living in 1820 and 1830 with her father and his second wife, ELIZABETH GRANSTAFF COLLINS in Brookfield Township, Morgan County. Jane was married to Samuel Crawford in that county 12/30/1830. Census returns show their family in Jefferson County, Iowa, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1850</th>
<th>1856</th>
<th>1860</th>
<th>Born</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>Jane</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>Jane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>Elizabeth?</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>Elijah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>Rachel</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>Elijah</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rachel A. Crawford was married in Jefferson County 6/12/1851 to William James. She must have died young because William James married again in 1856 and left many descendants by his second wife. However, William and Rachel had at least one son, Andrew, born ca 1853, because when the will of William James was probated in 1895 he bequeathed $5,000 to John James, the son of Andrew and the balance of his estate to the numerous children of his second wife. Rachel's tombstone has not been found but we feel sure that she was buried in the old Dunkard Cemetery in Section 4, Des Moines Township, where William and his second wife were buried, which is close to the James' farm in Section 5 of that township. Samuel, Jane and Elijah Crawford must have moved to Lucas County, Iowa, in the early 1860s. There are stones in the Chariton Cemetery for:

*Samuel Crawford, died Aug. 27, 1866, aged 59 y. 9 m. 29 d. and
Elijah Crawford, died Apr. 18, 1881, aged 49 y. 4 m. 11 d.

No tombstone has been found for Jane Crawford but death records in the Lucas County Court House show that Jane Crawford died Oct. 31, 1895 in Warren Twp., aged 84 y., buried in Chariton Cemetery, and an obituary in the Chariton Patriot of Oct. 31, 1895, says: "Died at her home in Warren township near Freedom, Oct. 31 Mrs. Jane Crawford in the 84th year of her age. The funeral will take place this afternoon, interment in the Chariton cemetery. The deceased was a sister of Dr. D. Y. Collins and an old resident of the county."

Elisha Collins III was born 9/15/1816 and married Ealy or Aly Gregg in Guernsey County, Ohio, 12/8/1842, daughter of Andrew and Elizabeth Gregg. Elisha and Ealy came to Jefferson County, Iowa, in 1844 with his father's family. He was an original purchaser of land in Locust Grove Twp. 5/20/1846. He died 9/29/1847 and was buried in an old Gregg Cemetery near Bernhart, Iowa. My mother remembered that he was a preacher, probably Methodist. They had at least one son, who died 9/22/1846, and was buried near his father in the Gregg Cemetery. Ealy Gregg (Collins) was born 2/22/1822 in Greene County, Pa. After the death of Elisha Collins III she married Samuel Dixon, had six children and died 12/2/1880. She was buried in the Gregg Cemetery.

*On page 10 you will find Jane Crawford keeping house for her half-brother, Zorah Costin Collins, in 1870 and 1885.
Andrew Collins, born 10/8/1817, married Adrianna Baldridge in Guernsey County, Ohio, 11/15/1843. The marriage record shows his name as McAndrew Collins. Census returns show him and his family in Locust Grove Twp, Jefferson County, Iowa in 1850 and 1860 as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1850 Born</th>
<th>1860 Born</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Collins, Andrew 33 m Ohio</td>
<td>Collins, Andrew 38 m Ohio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Andrana 26 f &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; Adnand 34 f &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; John A. 6 m Iowa</td>
<td>&quot; John 15 m Iowa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Elisha M. 2 m &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; Milton 12 m &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Davis V. 3/4 m &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; Homer 4 m &quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tombstones in the Batavia, Iowa cemetery tell us that Andrew's son, David H. died 5/3/1853, aged 3 yrs. and 10 d., another son, Findley B. died 5/13/1853, aged 1 y, 5 m. 21 d. and his first wife Adriana died 3/8/1860, aged 37 yrs, 1 m, 15 ds.

And we could not find Andrew or his family in any later census.

Findley Collins, born 1/11/1819, went to California to look for gold in 1852 with a party, which included his younger brothers, Elijah Jr. and JAMES HARRAH (my grandfather) and was killed by Indians. The story is that the party needed water and Findley volunteered to get it. The Bible records says he died 4/14/1856. Findly was wearing a ring made of pure California gold. After the Indians left someone took the ring off Findly's finger and gave it to my grandfather. He wore it for years, then gave it to my mother who gave it to Irma Frescoln and I understand she gave it to her nephew, John Stevenson.

Jacob Collins, born 8/9/1821, was an original purchaser of land in Locust Grove Twp. 5/20/1846 and is shown as a voter in Jefferson County and Locust Grove in 1848. He married Arabella Whitmore in Jefferson County 12/29/1846. Jacob and his family are shown in the 1870 census for Locust Grove Twp., Jefferson County, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collens, Jacob 50 mw Farmer</th>
<th>Born in Ohio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Arabella 43 fw K. H. &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; Iowa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Elizabeth 20 fw At home &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Alice 17 fw &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Cora 8 fw &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Frank 11 mw &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Sarah 4 fw &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Joseph 1 mw &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We could not find Jacob or his family in any later census. Mother thought he moved to Oregon.
Rachel Collins must have been born about 1825 or earlier. She married John Gillogly in Morgan County, Ohio, 11/9/1841. He is shown as a voter in Locust Grove Township in 1848. ELIJAH COLLINS, Sr. and his wife deeded some land to John Gillogley 10/20/1857. John Gillogly and his wife signed deeds 3/28/1850 and again 1/2/1854. The census returns for Locust Grove Township for 1850 and 1860 show their family as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1850</th>
<th>1860</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gillogly,</td>
<td>Gillogly,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rachel</td>
<td>John</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 f Ohio</td>
<td>47 Ohio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Jno</td>
<td>&quot; Rachel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 m</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Lucy C</td>
<td>&quot; Caroline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 f</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; James</td>
<td>&quot; James</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 m Iowa</td>
<td>15 Iowa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Francis E</td>
<td>&quot; Elizabeth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 f</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Aliy L</td>
<td>&quot; Alva</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4 m</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; Elijah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; William</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; Emma Johann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; Amanda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*John, Jr. died March 29, 1855 and was buried in the Gregg cemetery, Bernhart, Iowa, where Elisah III was buried in 1847, the inscription reading "John Gillogly, son of J. & R. Gillogly."

Asbury Collins, born Oct. 25, 1828, was a Methodist preacher. Mother said he was first licensed in 1845 and that in 1848 he was appointed to the Cedar Rapids circuit, which included Cedar Rapids, Iowa, (then a village) and all the river valley as far as Waterloo. He traveled this circuit mostly on foot, finding his way by landmarks and blazed trees. There were wolves, bears and other wild animals around at that time but his greatest danger was bad weather. The winter of 1848 was of unusual severity. Once he was found unconscious and rescued by a church brother after (Asbury) had waded twenty miles. We are told that he developed pneumonia as a result of exposure and had to quit preaching for a while.

The census of 1860 shows Asbury and his family in Chariton, Iowa as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collins, Asbury</th>
<th>38 m</th>
<th>Minister E.M.</th>
<th>Born in Ohio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Louisa E</td>
<td>28 f</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Milton M</td>
<td>8 m</td>
<td>&quot; Iowa</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; David F</td>
<td>3 m</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

He moved to Nebraska in 1871, took the first homestead on the present site of Kearney and went back to preaching. He was the first postmaster in Kearney and performed the first marriage ceremony. With the help of his wife Louisa he organized the first church there. They lived in a large house, sometimes called the Hotel Collins. Louisa was called the "Mother of Kearney". It is said that he helped organize six other churches and added more than a thousand members in nineteen years.

In 1874 he was back in Chariton, Iowa, for his father's last illness. In 1875 their son Milton, then 24 and married, was killed by a drunken cowboy. The 1880 census shows Asbury and his family in Kearney as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collins, Asbury</th>
<th>M 56</th>
<th>Clergyman</th>
<th>Born in Ohio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Louisa E</td>
<td>F 48</td>
<td>Wife</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finley D.</td>
<td>M 22</td>
<td>son</td>
<td>&quot; Iowa</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Finley was accidentally killed while hunting in 1882. Asbury died in 1890 but Louisa lived to be ninety one and died in 1921.
David Young Collins, born April 1, 1826, was a physician. In the 1850 census he is shown as 24, born in Ohio, a physician in Fairfield, Iowa, with the family of Jno. T. Huey. This indicates Dr. Collins took at least a part of his medical training under Dr. Huey who seems to have been a very good doctor of his day, who died rather young. The Fairfield Ledger of July 14, 1853, under Business & Professional Cards shows D. Y. Collins, M.D., Physician and Surgeon, is permanently located in Libertyville, and offers his professional services to the citizens of Libertyville and surrounding country.

In 1854 Dr. Collins married Amanda C. Walker and they moved to Chariton, Iowa. They are shown there in the census returns for 1860, 1870, 1880 and 1885, the last two reading in part as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Born</th>
<th>1880</th>
<th>1885</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Collins, David Y.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Amanda E.</td>
<td>Wife</td>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Charles C.</td>
<td>Son</td>
<td>Iowa</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Harlan</td>
<td>Son</td>
<td>Iowa</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Allopathic Physician</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Keeping House</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Clerk in Store</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Law Student</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Amanda died in April, 1890. Soon after that Dr. D. Y. Collins moved to Colorado where he apparently engaged in mining as well as practicing medicine. He had a mountain home not far from Gunnison. Dr. David Y. Collins died at Chariton Feb. 4, 1916. His obituary in the Fairfield Ledger says that two children died in infancy but that Charles C. Collins of Minneapolis, Minn. and J. H. Collins of Chariton survived him. An item in the Fairfield Tribune of March 3, 1881 indicates that Dr. D. Y. Collins was spending time mining in Colorado (Maysville) as early as 1881. You will remember that ELIJAH COLLINS, Sr. died at the home of his son, Dr. D. Y. Collins in Chariton July 28, 1874.

Zorah Costin Collins, born April 15, 1827, never married. He is shown as a voter in Locust Grove Township in 1848. In the 1860 census return for that township, immediately following Elijah Collins, Jr.'s family we find:

Collins, Costin 30 m farmer Born in Ohio

In the 1870 and 1885 census returns for Warren Township, Lucas County, Iowa we find:

Collins, Z. C. 40 M Farmer
Crawford J. 58 M k.h.
Crawford, Elijo 38 Farmer

Collins, Zorah C. 58 sm Ohio
Crawford, Jane 73 fw Va.
Tuttle, Sarah A. 29 sf Wayne Co.
Larsen, Frank O. 16 sm Sweeden


The obituary in the Chariton Patriot of Sept. 22, 1898 reads: "Costin Collins died on Sunday night at his home one-half mile west of Freedom. He was ill only three days. Funeral services were conducted at his late home by Rev. W. V. Whitten Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock, and the remains were interred in the Chariton Cemetery. Deceased was an old settler in Lucas County and a well respected citizen. He leaves no family. He was a brother of Dr. Collins of Colorado."
William Bird Christy Collins, born June 1, 1828 (a Mo. History) or Jan. 1, 1829 (Bible entry) married in Jefferson County Eleanor Loughery, a daughter of David and Susan Daughery, April 29, 1852.

The Iowa census of 1856 shows William and his family in Locust Grove Township as follows:

Collins, William B. 35 m 11 years in Iowa Born in Ohio
" Eleanor 22 f 11 years in Iowa Born in Pa.
" James 3 m Born in Iowa
" Aderann 1 f Born in Iowa

William and his family moved to Mo. in 1857. Mother visited them near La Plata. They are shown in the census returns for Jackson Twp. (formerly called Gopher Twp.), Macon County, Mo.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1870</th>
<th>Born</th>
<th>1880</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Collins, William M 40 Ohio M 51 Farmer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
" Ellen F 35 Pa. F 45 Keeps House Wife |
" James M 17 Iowa |
" Josephine F 16 Iowa F 25 At Home Daughter |
" Costin M 12 Iowa |
" David M 10 Iowa M 23 Farmer Son |
" Sigel M 7 Iowa |
" Benjamin M 5 Mo. M 15 Farmer Son |
" William M 3 Mo. M 12 Farmer Son |

Collins James Iowa M 27 Farmer
" Amelia Ill. F 18 Keeps House Wife
Sailor Sophia Germany F 49 Keeps House Mother-in-Law

William died Oct. 1, 1918 at his residence at Atlanta. He left a will (filed 10/12/1918), which showed his heirs as follows:

James B. Collins, son, Josephine Eagle, daughter and Darrell L. Collins, grandson, all of Atlanta, Macon County, Mo., Zara C. Collins, son, Cherry Box, Shelby County, Mo. and Herman B. Collins, son, McCall or Boise, Idaho.

Mt. Olive Cemetery, Sec. 13, Jackson Twp., Macon County, Mo. about 8 miles South and 9 miles East of La Plata, shows burials as follows:

COLLINS, William B., 1828-1918
Ellen (Loughery), his wife, 1834-1915
COLLINS, James B. Mar. 10, 1853 - Nov. 18, 1940
   Amelia M. Dec. 24, 1861 - May 29, 1951
COLLINS, William S., son of James B. and Amelia M.
   Died Sept. 10, 1884, Aged 1 y. 6 m. 12 d.
COLLINS, Sigel, 1862 - 1913
   Lillie, his wife, 1890-19
COLLINS, Theodore, son of Wm. & Ellen, 1860-1862
COLLINS, Father - Z. C. Collins, Sept. 5, 1858 - Aug. 2, 1939
   Mother - Cora, Feb. 19, 1875 - Jan. 30, 1969
COLLINS, Leland S., 1900-1930
EAGLE, Anna Josephine, Aug. 18, 1855 - April 21, 1948
LOUGHERY, David, died Jan. 7, 1880, Aged 73 y. 25 d.
   Susan, died Nov. 2, 1869, Aged 58 y. 11 m. 4 d.
LOUGHERY, Amos, Oct. 27, 1837 - May 17, 1902
   Annis, Nov. 2, 1844-Mar. 20, 1910
LOUGHERY, Mary, wife of Amos, died June 23, 1864, Aged 28 y. 8 m. 12 d.
LOUGHERY, Hiram, Oct. 28, 1840 - July 8, 1907
LOUGHERY, Rebecca P., died Feb. 1, 1872, Aged 52 Years
SAILOR, William, died Sept. 26, 1879, Aged 65 years.
   Mary S. Died Sept. 25, 1891, Aged 72 years.
Elizabeth Collins must have been born in 1830 or 1831. She is not shown with her father's family in the census of 1850 so must have died at an early age.

Elijah Collins, Jr., born Jan. 7, 1832, married Sarah Leeper April 15th, 1858 in Jefferson County, Iowa. Elijah and his family are shown in the 1860, 1870 and 1880 census returns for Locust Grove Township as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1860</th>
<th>1870</th>
<th>1880</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Collins, Elijah 26</td>
<td>Collins, Elijah 36</td>
<td>Collins, Sarah 43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Sarah 22 &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; Sarah 32 &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; William 21 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; William 1 &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; William 11 &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; Alexander 19 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miranda, Becky 7</td>
<td>&quot; Alexander 8 &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; Laura J. 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Jane 6 &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; Charles 3 &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; Charles 13 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Charles 11 &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; May M. 4 &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; May 1 &quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At least from 1873 to 1883 Elijah, Jr. and his family lived on a farm 1/2 mile West of my grandfather, JAMES HARRAH COLLINS so they were close neighbors. Elijah and JAMES went to California together to look for gold, April 1852 we think. In the spring of 1880 Elijah and JAMES began making annual pilgrimages to Colorado to mine gold and silver. A news item in the Fairfield Ledger for April 13, 1881 says that a large party from the vicinity of Batavia were starting for Colorado, nearly all intending to locate at Maysville in the Gunnison country. This party included Elijah Collins, Jr., and his son Alexander.

The land records confirm that Elijah and Sarah sold their farm Jan. 8, 1883. They must have moved West at that time because Elijah's family is not shown in the 1885 census of Locust Grove Township. Apparently Elijah never recovered from his early desire to look for gold because some of his descendants in Southeastern Kansas told us he went to Alaska at the time of the Klondike gold rush about 1897-1898 when he was at least 65 years old. The record in the ELIJAH COLLINS, Sr. family Bible shows that Elijah Collins, Jr. died March 20, 1909. We are sure that Mrs. Mae Reynolds who furnished that record (Page A) was the daughter "May" shown above in 1880 so we think the date was accurate. We think he died in Southeastern, Kansas.

John Collins must have been born about 1834 and died early in life. He is not shown with his father's family in the 1850 census.
Lucy Caroline Collins, born Sept. 22, 1880, married Joseph R. Jay in Jefferson County Oct. 20, 1859. We do not know where they lived meanwhile but the cemetery records at Chariton, Iowa, show that Joseph R. Jay was born Jan. 8, 1837 and died at Chariton July 28, 1866; also that he was a Surgeon 66th Miss., U. S. Infantry. The 1870 census for Chariton shows: Jay, Lucy 31; born in Ohio, Lissie 9, Kasson 8, a boy, and Minnie 6, another girl, all born in Iowa. It also shows Lucy's father, ELIJAH COLLINS, Sr. 85 living with them. Lucy died March 29, 1924.

Lucy's obituary in the Chariton HERALD PATRIOT says: "Mrs. Lucy C. Jay, one of the pioneer residents of Chariton, passed away in Chicago at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Lizzie Davis, on Saturday, March 29, 1924, at the age of 84 years, 6 months and 8 days. She, with her family, left Chariton in the early seventies for Indianola, where they resided for some time, but moved to Chicago several years ago. She was the widow of Joseph R. Jay, who died soon after the Civil War. She is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Lizzie Davis of Chicago, and Mrs. Minnie Ellenwood of Boston, Mass., both of whom cared for her during her illness, and accompanied the remains to Chariton on Monday where they were laid to rest by the side of her husband in the Chariton cemetery ......... "
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and
JANE HILL COLLINS
of
Batavia, Iowa and Del Norte, Colo.
ANCESTORS and DESCENDANTS
of
JAMES HARRAH COLLINS
and
JANE HILL COLLINS
of
Batavia, Iowa and Del Norte, Colo.

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This volume was originally compiled by me at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, May 1, 1954. This year it was brought up to date and enlarged. It will be furnished to descendants of James Harrah and Jane Hill Collins and to genealogical libraries as long as the supply permits.

July 1, 1966

Roy E. Curray
P. O. Box 1778
La Jolla, Calif. 92037

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

AUG 17 1966
The Collins Family

My first information about our Collins ancestors came from my mother; Mrs. Emma Collins Curray, who is now 100 years old and in the Nelson Nursing Home at Fairfield, Iowa. Among other things mother told me I could see the Elijah Collins, Sr. family bible at the home of Mrs. Mae Reynolds at 2318 1/2 Eucalyptus Avenue, Long Beach, California. That bible gave me practically all of the names and dates shown on the next page. Mother thought that some of the Collins' relatives had records that would tell about our ancestors so for several years I inquired of every Collins relative I met including the descendants of some of grandfather James Harrah's brothers and sisters in Northern Missouri, Southwestern Missouri, Southeastern Kansas, Chariton, Iowa, and Des Moines, Iowa, but no one seemed to have any such records.

Mother knew that her grandfather, Elijah Collins, Sr. had come to Iowa from Ohio but she did not know the county or town from which he came. She did remember that he had been a soldier and had received a pension. So on my next trip East I went to the Pension Department in the National Archives Building in Washington, D.C. There I learned that Elijah had become a soldier of the War of 1812 from Cambridge, Guernsey County, Ohio, and that he had died at Chariton, Iowa, although buried at Batavia. This led me to his obituary which said that he was born in Virginia. Meanwhile I had begun looking at the census returns for Iowa at Des Moines and these returns confirmed that both Elijah and his wife, Elizabeth, had been born in Virginia. I found a book in the Iowa State Historical Library at Des Moines which indicated they had lived in Hampshire County, Virginia (now in West Virginia).

Now we had a start but before we could put a story together it was necessary to search land records in Jefferson County, Iowa, Guernsey, Muskingum and Morgan Counties in Ohio and Hampshire County, Virginia (now West Virginia). It was necessary also to make searches in the Iowa State Historical Library at Des Moines, Iowa, the Fairfield Public Library at Fairfield, Iowa, the State Historical Library at Columbus, Ohio, the Public Library at Cambridge, Ohio and the State Historical Library at Charleston, West Virginia, including census returns for parts of Jefferson and Lucas counties in Iowa, parts of Guernsey, Muskingum and Noble counties in Ohio and Hampshire County, which was in Virginia prior to the Civil War.

As you will see we have the outlines of the Collins story but much work remains to be done.

Roy E. Curray
(Elijah Collins, Sr. (see below)
First wife's name not known

Elisha Collins, Sr.
Born Feb.22, 1732
Died Oct.5, 1817
Married
Jennie Farley
Born Jan.1, 1752
Died May 28, 1837

Elijah Collins, Sr.
Born Mar.29, 1785
Died July 28, 1874
Married
Elizabeth Granstaff
Born May 12, 1795
Died Nov.1, 1858

Jennie Collins
Born Dec.15, 1811
Died ?

Elisha Collins, Jr.
Born Sept.15, 1816
Died Sept.24, 1847

Andrew Collins
Born Oct.8, 1817
Died ?

Findly Collins
Born Jan.11, 1819
Died April 14, 1856

Jacob Collins
Born Aug.9, 1821
Died ?

Rachel Collins
Born
Died

Asbury Collins
Born Oct.25, 1823
Died

David Young Collins
Born April 11, 1827
Died

Zarah Costin Collins
Born April 15, 1827
Died Sept.19, 1898

William Bird Christy Collins
Born Jan.1, 1829
Died

Elizabeth Collins
Born
Died

Elijah Collins, Jr.
Born Jan.7, 1832
Died March 20, 1909

John Collins
Born
Died

James Harrah Collins
Born Sept.15, 1836
Died April 4, 1900

Lucy Caroline Collins
Born
Died
Entries in the Elijah Collins, Sr. family bible tell us that Elisha was born February 22, 1732 and died October 5, 1817; that his wife, Jennie, was born January 1, 1752 and died May 28, 1837. We do not know where either of them was born. Family tradition has it that the Collins family came from England and that the family bible was lost in a storm at sea but we have no facts to support the tradition.

We know one son, Elijah Sr. was born March 29, 1785 and close business associations between Elijah Sr., and Findley Collins and Nancy Harkness in Ohio make us believe that Findley was a brother, probably older than Elijah, and that Nancy Harkness was a sister.

We are sure that from March 10, 1777 to June 16, 1791 Elisha and Jennie lived in Pattersons Creek Valley in Hampshire County, Virginia. (This area is now in Mineral County, West Virginia). Many of the records of that area were destroyed during the War of 1812 and the U.S. Civil War. You will remember that in 1814 the British captured and sacked Washington, D.C., burning most of the public buildings including the Capitol and the White House. Again in the Civil War (1861-65) this area was fought over. As strange as it may seem now when an invading army overran a county the first thing they did was burn the Court House if possible.

Fortunately some of the records had been removed from the Court House and hidden. A book entitled "Early Records, Hampshire County, Virginia, gives us the following information:

Page 23 - March 10, 1777. "Elisha Collins" was a witness on the lease and release of 67 acres of land on Pattersons Creek from a man named Hartley to Thomas Fearly of Hampshire County.

Page 18 - August 10, 1778. "Elisha Collins" was a witness on the lease and release of 67 acres on Pattersons Creek from Thomas Fairley to a man named Blackburn.

Page 85 - 1788. "Elisha Collins" took up 300 acres of land on Clay Lick Run. (I understand this was land that had been granted to Lord Fairfax but that Lord Fairfax had to forfeit because he was a tory.)

Page 9 - The state censuses of Virginia for both 1782 and 1784 show "Elisha Collens" was a resident of Hampshire County and indicate he had a family but no slaves.

Page 9 - June 16, 1791. "Elisha Collins" and his wife, Jean, transferred 378 acres of land in Hampshire County to John Mitchell.
I have a photo copy of the above deed. Her name is shown as "Jean" in the first part of the deed but the signature was "Jenny". However, both Elisha and Jennie signed by making their marks. Apparently they could not sign their names. Also I have copies of two deeds or patents under which Elisha purchased the 378 acres referred to above from the State of Virginia June 10, 1788 and another 401 acres in the same locality from the State of Virginia June 11, 1788. The land is described by metes and bounds and adjoins Thomas Fairley's land on Fairley's run.

Elisha and Thomas Farley were neighbors and probably good friends. So we suspect that Elisha's wife, Jennie Farley, was a relative but not a daughter of Thomas Farley. Thomas died in 1782 and we have a copy of his will. No daughter named Jennie is mentioned. It was common to misspell names in those days. The scribes spelled phonetically and not too well. Many people could not read or write.

We do not know whether Elisha's sale of land in 1791 was a final sale before leaving Pattersons Creek Valley or whether they continued to live there. We have not been able to find either of them mentioned in any record after 1791 but we must remember that some of the early census and other records of that area were destroyed.

William G. Wolfe's "Stories of Guernsey County, Ohio" tells us that "Finley Collins" came from Virginia and entered eighty acres of land where Cumberland is now located (now Spencer Township) in the Southwestern part of the County in 1809. "He paid for it by making and selling maple sugar in the markets of Pittsburg, Zanesville and Wheeling. Collins was a soldier in the War of 1812. The creek on which he settled still bears his name". Our ancestor, Elijah Collins, Sr. (who was Finley's brother we think) was also a soldier in the War of 1812. So we suspect Elijah and Finley (or Findley) came to Ohio together and that their parents, Elisha, Sr. and Jennie came with them.

There was no Federal census in Ohio in 1810 but the 1820 and 1830 census returns show both Elijah Collins and Findley Collins living in Brookfield Township, Morgan County, just South across the county line from Cumberland and both of those returns show an older woman of an age appropriate for Jennie (the mother of Elijah and we think Findley) living with Findley. So, it looks as if the parents of Elijah and Findley (Elisha and Jennie) came with them to Ohio in about 1809. You will remember that Elisha Collins, Sr. died in 1817 but that his wife, Jennie, lived until 1837.

You will be interested in reading more about Pattersons Creek Valley in an article at the end of the Reasoner family section. See pages 53-63.
ELIJAH COLLINS, Sr. AND ELIZABETH GRANSTAFF COLLINS

Entries in their family bible tell us that Elijah was born March 29, 1785 and Elizabeth May 12, 1795. The census returns for 1850 and 1856 indicate that both were born in Virginia and this is confirmed by Elijah's obituary. We know that Elijah's parents lived in the Patterson Creek Valley in Hampshire County, Virginia from 1777 to 1791 so Elijah must have been born there. Our information as to Elizabeth's birthplace is not as definite but the name "Granstaff" was common in Shenandoah County so we suspect she was born in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia.

We are not sure when Elijah came to Ohio from Virginia but as we said in our biographical sketch of Elisha Collins, Sr. and as we mention below we believe Elijah Collins Sr. and Findley Collins were brothers and that Findley came to Ohio from Virginia in 1809 so Elijah probably came to Ohio in 1809.

Elijah served two tours of duty with the Ohio troops in the War of 1812. First he served as a substitute for Adam Shriver in Captain George Richardson's Company, Colonel De Long's Regiment from August 31, 1813, to December 11, 1813. Then he was drafted at Cambridge, Guernsey County, Ohio, and served as a Sergeant in Captain Isaac Meredith's Company, Colonel Robert Bay's Regiment, from August 26, 1814 to February, 1815. (See Roster of Ohio soldiers of War of 1812, Ohio State Historical Library, Columbus, Ohio; also see Pension records of War of 1812, National Archives Bldg., Washington, D.C.

Elijah's obituary confirms that he was married twice. We do not know the name of his first wife but there was one child, Jennie Collins, born Dec. 15, 1811. His second wife, who is our ancestor, was Elizabeth Granstaff. They had fourteen children, eleven of the fourteen being boys. Their first child, Elisha Collins, Jr. was born Sept. 15, 1816 so they must have married in 1815 soon after Elijah was discharged from the army. Our ancestor, James Harrah Collins, was their youngest son.

The land transfer records in Morgan and Muskingum Counties, Ohio, indicate that Elijah and Elizabeth lived, at least from May, 1827, to September, 1844, on the Northern edge of Brookfield Township. This township is South across the county line from Cumberland, Ohio, which we assume was their mail address since in James Harrah Collins's obituary his birthplace is given as Cumberland, Ohio. Apparently they never owned any land in Guernsey County where Cumberland is located, but they lived and owned land in Brookfield Township in the next county South. At that time Brookfield Township was in Morgan County; now it is in Noble County. Also they owned land in Muskingum County, which is the next county West of Cumberland. Land records show close business associations between Elijah and Findley Collins and Nancy Harkness so we believe Findley was a brother and Nancy was a sister. Please note that Elijah named his third son, Findly.
It is interesting to note that Cyrus Grandstaff was a witness on one of the deeds involving Elijah Collins; also that in July, 1835, fourteen months before our grandfather, James Harrah Collins was born, Elijah purchased a piece of land from James Harrah. The records show that in executing deeds Elijah Collins signed his name but that Elizabeth signed by making her mark.

Elijah, Elizabeth and their family came to Iowa in 1844 but after Sept. 20 because they signed a deed in Morgan County, Ohio, on that date. In any event they were in Jefferson County, Iowa, in time for Elijah and his son, Jacob, to preempt land in Locust Grove Township before the land in that township was put on sale May 20, 1846. Elijah and Jacob bought the land they had preempted and another son, Elisha, Jr., bought land in that sale. Elijah and his sons, Andrew, Jacob, David and Zarah C. Collins are shown as voters in Locust Grove Township in 1848 (See Fulton's History of Jefferson County.)

Elijah and Elizabeth lived in Locust Grove Township from 1844 until she died Nov. 1, 1858. They tell us she got a bone stuck in her throat and the doctors did not know how to get it out. Their first home was just East of Cedar Creek on the South side of the road now known as Highway No. 34 but in a few years they moved to a farm about a mile North and a mile East of Batavia. This farm is still in the family. It is now owned and occupied by Elijah's great great granddaughter and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Smith. The deed to Elijah from the U.S. Government was dated January 1, 1847. He built a house about 1850. While this house has been remodeled and rebuilt several times, the frame of this attractive home is the original frame that Elijah put up.

November 28, 1850, as a veteran of the War of 1812, Elijah applied for bounty land under the Congressional Act of Sept. 28, 1850. We presume he received this land and know he bought many other tracts of land and became a large landholder. Sometime after Elizabeth's death he moved to Chariton, Lucas County, Iowa, where Dr. David Young Collins and several of his other children lived. He was living in Chariton, March 15, 1871, when he applied for a pension which he later received. He was living with his son, Dr. David Young Collins, in Chariton when he died July 28, 1874 but he was buried in the cemetery at Batavia.

Mother told us this story. Elizabeth came from a Presbyterian family, probably in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. In the early 1800s the circuit riders of the Methodist Church were holding camp meetings and making converts. Elizabeth went to one of these camp meetings with Elijah and joined what her parents called the "Shouting Methodists". After that her father would not let her come home so she had to live with neighbors until she and Elijah were married.
The "Chariton Patriot" for July 29, 1874 and August 5, 1874 has the following items:

July 29, 1874, Page 3  "Elijah Collins died at the house of his son, Dr. D. Y. Collins, last evening, aged 90 years. Asbury Collins and his family are in town, having been called here by the serious illness of his father."

August 5, 1874, Page 3  "Died—Just as the Patriot was going to press last Tuesday evening Elijah Collins, familiarly known as Father Collins, died full of years and good works. He was born in Virginia in 1775; served in the War of 1812; was twice married; by his first wife having one child, by his second fourteen. He came to Iowa in 1844, thirty years ago, and settled at Batavia, near Fairfield, where he lost his wife in 1858, since which time he made his home with his children at Chariton, ten of which survive his departure. For 63 years he was a consistent member of the M. E. Church, and his walk was truly that of an upright man. His remains were taken to Batavia.

The date of birth shown in said item is in error. Elijah was born in 1785.
I wish I could remember more that mother told me about her uncles and aunts. I remember her talking about "Uncle Ige", "Uncle Jake" and "Aunt Lucy". I know that we called on the descendants of some of these uncles and aunts in Northern Missouri, Southwestern Missouri, Southeastern Kansas, etc. but they could not help me trace Elisha, Sr. and Elijah, Sr. so I did not make notes.

Jennie Collins, born December 15, 1811 was the only child born to Elijah, Sr.'s first wife. We do not know the name of the first wife or what happened to her and Jennie.

Elisha Collins, Jr., born December 15, 1816, was married in Guernsey County, Ohio, to Aly Gregg, daughter of Andrew and Elizabeth Gregg. They came to Jefferson County, Iowa, with his father's family in 1844. Elisha, Jr. was an original purchaser of land in Locust Grove Township May 20, 1846. He died in Sept. 1847 and was buried in an old GREGG family cemetery near Bernhart, Iowa. The inscription indicates he was a "Rev." and my mother's memory confirms he was a preacher, probably Methodist. Whether Elisha and Aly had any children we do not know. After his death she remarried and had a family.

Andrew Collins, born October 8, 1817, is shown with his family in the 1850 and 1860 census reports for Locust Grove Township as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Born</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Born</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andrew</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>m</td>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>Adnand</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>f</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Adrana</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>f</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot; John</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>m</td>
<td>Iowa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; John A.</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>m</td>
<td>Iowa</td>
<td>&quot; Milton</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>m</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Elisha M.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>m</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot; Andrew</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>m</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Davis V.</td>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>m</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot; Homer</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>m</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Homer</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>m</td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot; Lizzie May</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>f</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We could not find Andrew or his family in later census returns for Locust Grove Township so he must have moved away.

Findly Collins, born January 11, 1819. We are told that Findly was killed by Indians while mining gold in California with his brothers, Elijah, Jr., James Harrah (my grandfather) and others. He died April 14, 1856. Findly was wearing a ring made of pure gold. After the Indians left someone took the ring off of Findly's finger and gave it to my grandfather. He wore it for many years. As will be told later on that ring is still in the family.

Jacob Collins, born August 9, 1821, was an original purchaser of land in Locust Grove Township May 20, 1846 and is shown as a voter in 1848 in that township. He married Arabella Whitmore in Jefferson County Dec. 29, 1846. He and his family are shown in the 1870 census for Locust Grove Township as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Born</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Born</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jacob</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>mw</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Arbor</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>f w</td>
<td>k.h.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Arabella</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>f w</td>
<td>at home</td>
<td>&quot; Elizabeth</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>f w</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Alice</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>f w</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot; Cora</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>mw</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Frank</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>f w</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot; Sarah</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>mw</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Joseph</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot; Joseph</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mother thinks Jacob and his family moved to Oregon.
Rachel Collins must have been born about 1825 or earlier. The census returns for Locust Grove Township for 1850 and 1860 show the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1850 Born</th>
<th>1860 Born</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gillogly, Rachel</td>
<td>John Gillogly, John 47 farmer Ohio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Jno</td>
<td>Rachel 35 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Lucy C</td>
<td>Caroline 16 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; James</td>
<td>James 15 Iowa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Francis E</td>
<td>Elizabeth 13 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Alvy L</td>
<td>Alia 10 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elijah 5 &quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William 3 &quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emma Johann 2 &quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amanda 1 &quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

John Gillogly is shown as a voter in Locust Grove Township in 1848. *This boy died March 29, 1855 and was buried in the same cemetery (GREEG family cemetery), Bernhart, Iowa, where Elisha Collins, Jr. was buried in 1847, the inscription reading "John Gillogly, son of J. & R. Gillogly.". This looks like our Rachel Collins. She must have been married in Ohio to John Gillogly while quite young.

Asbury Collins, born October 25, 1823, was a Methodist preacher. Mother says he was first licensed in 1845 and that in 1848 he was appointed to the Cedar Rapids circuit which included Cedar Rapids, Iowa, (then a village) and all the river valley as far as Waterloo. He traveled this circuit mostly on foot, finding his way by landmarks and blazed trees. There were wolves, bears and other wild animals around at that time but his greatest danger was bad weather, the winter of 1848 being of unusual severity. Once he was found unconscious and rescued by a church brother after he (Asbury) had waded twenty miles. The census of 1860 shows Asbury and his family in Chariton, Lucas County, Iowa, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1870</th>
<th>Born 1885</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Collins, Asbery 38 m Minister E.M. Born in Ohio</td>
<td>Collins, D.Y. M.D. 57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Louisa E. 28 f &quot; Amanda 34 fw k.h.</td>
<td>Amanda 49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Milton M. 8 m Iowa</td>
<td>Charles 12 mw Iowa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; David F. 3 m &quot; Harlan 10 mw &quot;</td>
<td>Harlan 10 mw &quot; James Harlan 23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We are told that he developed pneumonia as a result of exposure and had to quit preaching. He moved to Nebraska in 1871 and took the first homestead on the present site of Kearney. The Chariton newspaper says he was back in Chariton in 1874 for his father's last illness and death. Then he went back to preaching in Western Nebraska and helped build seven churches and added more than a thousand members in nineteen years in Nebraska.

David Young Collins, born April 11, 1827, was a physician. He is shown in the 1860, 1870 and 1885 census returns for Chariton, Lucas County, Iowa, the last two returns reading about as follows:
You will remember that Elijah Collins, Sr. died at the home of his son, D. D. Y. Collins in Chariton July 28, 1874. Dr. David and his family must have moved to Colorado some time after 1885 because when Costin Collins died on a farm in Lucas County Sept. 19, 1898 the newspaper said: "He was a brother of Dr. Collins of Colorado."

Zarah Costin Collins, born April 15, 1827, must have been a twin brother of Dr. David Y. Collins. Zarah C. Collins is shown as a voter in Locust Grove Township in 1848. Then in the 1860 census return for that township, immediately following Elijah Collins, Jr.'s family we find:

Collins, Coston 30 m Farmer Born in Ohio

In the 1885 census for Warren Township, Lucas County, we find:

Zorah C. Collins 58 sm Farmer Born in Ohio
Jane Crawford 73 fw k.h. Va.
Sarah A. Tuttle 29 sf Wayne County
Frank O. Larson 16 sm Sweeden

Coston Collins died in 1898, the Clerk's Death Record reading as follows: "Collins, Coston, male ae 67 Farmer died Sept. 19, 1898- Single, born Ohio, died in Warren Township, cause unknown. Buried Chariton, Iowa". The newspaper said "Deceased was an old settler in Lucas County and was a well respected citizen. He leaves no family. He was a brother of Dr. Collins of Colorado."

William Bird Christy Collins, born Jan. 1, 1829, married Eleanor Laughery in Jefferson County April 29, 1852. The Iowa census for 1856 shows William and his family in Locust Grove Township:

Collins, William B. 25 mm 11 years in Iowa Born in Ohio
Elenor 22 mf " " Penn.
James 3 m Iowa
Aderann 1 f "

We did not find William or his family in any later census return for that township. We understand they moved to near La Plata, Missouri. Mother says she used to visit Uncle William at La Plata.

Elizabeth Collins is shrouded in mystery. The bible does not give the date of her birth but it must have been 1830 or 1831. She is not shown with her father's family in the census of 1850 when she would have been twenty or less so she probably died at an early age.
Elijah Collins, Jr., born Jan. 7, 1832, was married to Sarah Leeper April 15, 1858. He and his family were close neighbors of my grandfather, James Harrah Collins, and his family. They went to California together in the early 1850s and to Colorado together in the early 1880s. Elijah and his family are shown in the 1860 and 1870 census returns for Locust Grove Township and his family is shown in the 1880 return as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1860</th>
<th>1870</th>
<th>1880</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Collins, Elijah 26 Ohio</td>
<td>Collins, Elijah</td>
<td>Age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Sarah 22 &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; Sarah Collins, Sarah</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; William 1 Iowa</td>
<td>&quot; William William</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Miranda Becky 7 Ohio</td>
<td>&quot; Alexander &quot; Alexander</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot; Jane 6 Laura J.</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot; Charles 3 Charles</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot; Mary M. Mary</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot; May May 1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We know why Elijah was not shown in the 1880 census. He and my grandfather, James Harrah, were in Colorado looking for gold. His family does not appear in the 1885 census so we think he moved West about that time. Apparently he never recovered from his early desire to look for gold because we understand he went to Alaska about the time of the Klondike gold rush about 1897-98 when he was at least 55 years old. He died March 20, 1909 in Southeastern Kansas I think.

John Collins must have been born about 1834. He must have died at an early age because he is not shown with his father's family in the census of 1850 when he would have been about 16.

Lucy Caroline Collins, born about 1838 or later, married J. R. Jay in Jefferson County October 20, 1859. Mother remembers her Aunt Lucy and says she had two daughters. She thinks they moved to some Western state.
THE HILL FAMILY

The information in this section was obtained principally from Walter Scott, Thomas L. Crossen and Colonel Mathew A. Reasoner.

Walter Scott of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was the son of Candace Hill Scott and a grandson of Dr. Noah Spiers Hill. Walter Scott made a careful study of the Hill family and prepared an elaborate memorandum, "The Hills of Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania", which memorandum was attached to the first edition of this volume. We believe that he is our best authority as respects the early generations of the Hills.

Thomas L. Crossen, 1217 Brockley Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio, was a son of Adaline Baldridge Crossen and a grandson of Mary Hill Baldridge, who was a sister of Dr. Noah Spiers Hill. He collected much information on the Hill and allied families.

Colonel Mathew A. Reasoner, M.D., Medical Corps, U.S. Army was a son of John Reasoner, a grandson of Aaron Reasoner and a great grandson of Nicholas Reasoner II, who was a brother of Sarah Reasoner Hill. He spent years collecting information and made an exhaustive study of the Reasoner and allied families. I regard him as our best authority as respects the early generations of the Reasoners. His compilation, "The Reasoners and their kin, Historical and Genealogical", is comprehensive and is on file in the Manuscripts Division of the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Roy E. Curray
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHILDREN OF JOSEPH HILL I</th>
<th>CHILDREN OF JOSEPH HILL II</th>
<th>CHILDREN OF STEPHEN HILL II</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Joseph Hill III)</td>
<td>(Mary Hill)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Born 1774; died 1853)</td>
<td>(Born 1801; died 1877)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married</td>
<td>Married</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molly</td>
<td>(Dr. John R. Baldridge)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Born 1798; died 1844)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Mary Hill)</td>
<td>Senecaville, Ohio</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Born 1775; died 1853)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married 1794</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Benjamin Reasoner)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Born 1770; died 1844)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(John Hill)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(STEPHEN HILL II)</td>
<td>(Died 1815; Drowned while</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Born 1777 or 1779)</td>
<td>a boy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Died 1853)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Married 1800)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(SARAH REASONER)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Born 1776)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Died Sept. 1852)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Elizabeth Hill)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Married)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Jacob Hausman)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Cassandra Hill)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Sarah Hill)</td>
<td>(Married)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Born 1782; died 1869)</td>
<td>(Ephraim Dille)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Married)</td>
<td>(Dr. John Snodgrass)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Isaac Shepler)</td>
<td>(Louisa Hill)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Died 1837)</td>
<td>(Married)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Dr. Amosy Brown)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Newcomerstown, Ohio)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Nancy Hill)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Born 1804; died 1886)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Married 1828)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Dr. Jacob Reasoner)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Born 1807; died 1884)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Jackson, Ohio)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(continued on next page)
CHILDREN OF
STEPHEN HILL II
(cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dr. John Hill</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Born 1835; died 1904</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne E. Simpson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Vincennes, Ind.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JANE HILL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Born 1/17/1837</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Died 5/26/1899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married 1/6/1859</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JAMES HARRAH COLLINS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Born 9/15/1836</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Died 4/4/1900</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abraham Dilley Hill</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Born 1838</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married: Mary Sargent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Mary Swain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home, Senecaville, Ohio</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sarah Hill</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Born 1840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alfred Weedon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home, Cambridge, Ohio</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elizabeth Hill</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Born 1842; died 1927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married 1877</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Luther Spaid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home, Pleasant City, Ohio</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Leicester King Hill</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Born 1844; died 1910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margaret Sigman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home, Senecaville, Ohio</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CHILDREN OF DR. NOAH SPIERS HILL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mary Hill</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Born 1846</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Washington Taylor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home, Columbus, Ohio</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Steven Benjamin Hill</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Born 1848</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Keil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home, Springfield, Mo.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Joseph Hill V</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Born 1850; died 1851</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nancy Hill</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Born 1852</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harrison Robbins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home, Baltimore, Md.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Candace Louise Hill</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Born 1854; died 1943</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Winfield Scott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home, Senecaville, Ohio</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Homer Milton Hill</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Born 1855; died 1934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carrie Lovell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home, Seattle, Wash.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Noah Hill, Jr.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Born 1858</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st. Mary Forman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd. Mrs. Lottie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Mrs. Eliz. Kackley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home, Senecaville, Ohio</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DR. NOAH SPIERS HILL
Born 10/30/1809
Died 9/12/1894
Married 9/3/1834

MARY ROLAND DILLEY
Born 11/18/1812
Died 8/3/1887

Joseph Hill IV
Married
1st. Julia Chandler
2nd Mrs. Mudge
Had one child, Arthur
by first wife, none
by second wife
JOSEPH HILL I

To avoid confusion we will designate the Joseph Hills I, II, III and IV and the Stephen Hills I and II.

We are sure that Joseph Hill I was a German. The family traditions agree on this point and a part of his will was in German. We believe he was born in Germany in 1736, that his name was originally "Eichelberg", that he immigrated to this country, first to Virginia, then to Carroll County, Maryland and then in 1754 to what is now Rostraver Township, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, where he lived until his death in 1797.

Walter Scott quotes from the History of Westmoreland County by Dallas Albert (1882). Under Rostraver Township, page 561:
"The first actual settler in the township was Joseph Hill" (I), "who came from Winchester (now Westminster), Carroll County, Maryland. He was 18 years old and had made quite an improvement when Braddock's army passed in the summer of 1755. He settled about a mile N.W. of Reheboth church on land now owned by the Fishers, Finleys, Freys, Brownellers and others."

As to whether he was a nobleman's son and as to the exact facts in connection with his departure from Germany, the traditions and the authorities do not agree.

In Chapter 7, Volume I of "The Reasoners and Their Kin, Historical and Genealogical," Colonel Mathew A. Reasoner quotes from several letters written by Joseph Reasoner (son of Benjamin and Mary Hill Reasoner and grandson of Joseph Hill II) as follows:

Letter dated January 22, 1879 to his nephew, Ben Reasoner:
"The Hills were German I know, and the name 'Aynparaya,' which is English for 'Harrow Hill' when translated. They left off the first word and called their name 'Hill.'"

Letter dated January 27, 1879 to Dr. J. L. Geyer:
"I do not know where the Hills came from. The German name 'Aynpanage,' which in English is 'Harrow Hill,' and when it was translated the 'Harrow' was left out."

Letter dated March 15, 1879 to his cousin, Dr. J. L. Geyer:
"Your great-great-grandfather Hill was a nobleman's son in Germany. He ran away from home at the age of sixteen on account of harsh treatment by his stepmother. He swam the River Rhine and got into France and immediately took ship for America. He sold himself to a nobleman to pay his passage over, who made him his carriage driver. I should have said that after leaving home in Germany, Hill enlisted in the regular Army and then deserted and by this desertion forfeited both his life and his fortune.

"This man Hill, of whom I have been telling you so much, was in Germany called 'Egenbargen.' The English translated the name to Harrow Hill,' but they said the name was too long and they called it 'Hill' for short."
Comment by Colonel Reasoner: "So far as is known, there is no evidence which goes to prove that Joseph Hill was connected with nobility. Uncle Joseph was somewhat inclined to promote them into the nobility the same way they make Colonels down in Kentucky. In the absence of positive proof it is not advisable to make this statement too positively. It might be well to quote it purely as a tradition and not as an established fact.

"So far as is known there is no reason to believe that any member of the family or allied families, including the Fromans, Speers, Geyers, Reasoners, etc., ever belonged to the nobility. To anyone who has followed the activities and the achievements of our early ancestors, it must be evident that their courage, their resourcefulness, honesty of purpose and nobility of character stand upon a sufficiently firm and assured foundation not to require the aid of any such idle and futile stories. This is the kind of 'bunk' which makes the genealogists smile because they are so familiar with it in the stories of thousands of other families where the same tales are told in the same sort of way."

"He was still a long way from France when he swam the Rhine, if he did swim it. It is more probable that he may have stowed away on some boat floating down the Rhine to Rotterdam and came across from there as this was the great shipping point for emigrants. If he did sell his services to a nobleman to pay his passage across, he would have been somewhere around seventeen years of age, as he ran away from home, enlisted in the Army and then deserted and got to the shipping port. He never would have had time to work out his passage for the 'nobleman' and then get out to Westmoreland County at the age of eighteen."

"It will be seen that Uncle Joseph is somewhat at sea on the German spelling of the family name. It is too much to expect that a man who did not know the German language would remember the proper spelling of such a name for a lifetime so long as his. Following is a description which is considerably more plausible. It is extracted from a biography of Dr. Noah Spiers Hill and was written by himself or members of his family. He was born in 1809 and certainly had some opportunity for obtaining information about the early members of the family:" (Colonel Reasoner then quotes from "Brief History of Dr. Noah Spiers Hill"--Guernsey County history.)

"The first (Hill) to come to America was JOSEPH EICHELBERG who was obliged to flee from his native land on account of political troubles which were agitating the country. He was pursued by German soldiers and was obliged to cast himself into the waters of the Rhine, which he swam amid a shower of bullets. He made his way to Paris and in 1765 arrived in the United States. Here he changed his name of 'Eichelberg' meaning 'Acorn Hill,' by dropping the first syllable and calling himself 'Hill' - thus shortening and anglicising his name.

Comment by Colonel Reasoner: "The above account has a rather convincing sound and it is probably nearer correct than the first ones given. However, there are some reasons for believing that he arrived in the United States earlier than 1765."
Walter Scott does not agree. He believes Joseph Hill I was the son of a nobleman. He quotes from family records (Hill and Scott):

"Joseph Hill I was a nobleman's son in Germany. His mother died and his father married again. He left home when 16 years old and enlisted in the regular Army. He later deserted and thereby forfeited both his life and inheritance. He was pursued by German soldiers from whom he escaped by swimming the Rhine River amid a shower of bullets. After his escape into France he took passage to the United States. In the United States he changed his name from Eichelberg, meaning Oak Hill, to Joseph Hill." (See page 2 of Walter Scott's memorandum.)

Walter Scott then comments as follows concerning Joseph Hill I:

"1. There is no information as to whether he enlisted in the Army of his own accord or whether he was placed there by his father as a matter of discipline. It does not seem plausible that he would enlist of his own accord and then desert. There was no time of his enlistment in the Army available. It could have been only a few months.

"2. The areas of Europe are not large. The whole German Empire is very little larger than the State of California. The time consumed in getting to a seaport would be at most less than one month.

"3. The sailing time from Europe to a Virginia port would have been less than six weeks. The time from Virginia to Maryland and on to western Pennsylvania would be less than three months. Two years from the time he swam the Rhine River until he arrived in Bedford (now Westmoreland) County would be ample time with much to spare.

"4. The Rhine River is not large—about 600 miles long and drains an area no larger than the State of California. It is quite possible that the soldiers only shot to scare him. Why would they want to kill him or even to capture him? Had they captured him he would have been court-martialed and shot.

After Arriving in Virginia

"5. He did not remain long near seaports. He kept going further inland all the time. Western Pennsylvania at that time was a wilderness.

"6. He changed his name so they could not follow him.

"7. Was he a descendant of a nobleman? His real name was Von Eichelberg (Von pronounced Fon). Von before the last name indicates especially favored families recognized as such by the German government."
Comment by Roy E. Curray. If you will look at the schedule of DESCENDANTS OF JAMES HARRAH COLLINS AND JANE HILL COLLINS you will see that our daughter Margaret Curray married William Eaton Palmer of Sioux City, Iowa. William E. Palmer was the son of Edward C. Palmer and the maiden name of Edward's mother was Eichelberger. William's mother has compiled a very complete genealogy of their family. In one of her manuscripts I find the following:

"After some study over the matter, I have come to this conclusion, that in our case there must have been, according to the church records at Ittlingen, as well as the fact of our having found other Eichelbergers of different descent than ours, a very large clan comprised of many families of Eichelbergers. Now the heads of each of these households, most likely had a name which bore some relation to his occupation. But the name born by the clan entire, is translated thus; Er--he or they; Eiche--oak; Berg--mountains; the letter "l" is apparently only used for the sake of euphony. "The Eichelbergers"-- they are "the mountain oaks," a name suggestive of strength and tenacity. Some advance the theory that the family home, as by the translation of the name, was near the black forest."

Joseph Hill I is said to have been in Braddock's defeat on the Monongahela July 9, 1755, but there is no known record that he was a member of the Army. Since he lived near the line of march of Braddock's Army, it is quite probable that he was a driver. It is known that Pennsylvania supplied quite a few drivers and wagons as well as soldiers. (See page 4 of Walter Scott's memorandum."

There is no known record to show that Joseph Hill I was a soldier of the Revolution. It is known that Joseph Hill I had many slaves.

Joseph Hill I married Elizabeth Shelly, daughter of Michael and Sarah Shelly, but we do not know anything about her except that there were children, three of whom lived to become adults as shown on the chart. She was alive when he made his will August 1, 1792. We think both Joseph Hill I and his wife, Elizabeth, died and were buried in Rostraver Township, Westmoreland County.

JOSEPH HILL II

Joseph Hill II was born in Rostraver Township, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania in 1756, lived there all his life and died there in 1807. He was a soldier of the Revolution and had a splendid military record. We understand he served seven years. He married Mary Connard and they had five children, including Stephen Hill II.

Thomas L. Crossen tells us Joseph Hill II was in the Colonel Crawford or Sandusky Expedition against the Indians in the Sandusky section of Ohio in the summer of 1782. His son, Stephen Hill II, claims to remember this although he was five years old or less at that time. He said what made him remember so well was that each evening when his mother put him to bed, they would kneel down and pray that his father who had gone to fight the Indians would be returned to them. When he did return safe and sound, the mother
claimed it was their prayers that had saved him. However, Stephen was of the opinion that Joseph's knowledge of woodcraft and rifle had something to do with it. We think both Joseph Hill II and his wife, Mary, died and were buried in Rostraver Township, Westmoreland County.

**STEPHEN HILL II**

Stephen Hill II was born in Rostraver Township, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania in 1777 or 1779. He married Sarah Reasoner in June, 1800 and there were seven children, all of whom were born in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. He was a soldier of the War of 1812. In 1814 he migrated with his family to Ohio and settled near Norwich. Sarah's brother, John Reasoner, had moved to Ohio in 1803 and settled about eight miles west of Cambridge in what is now Westland Township, Guernsey County. In 1805 Henry Reasoner, another brother, had settled on the land where New Concord now stands.

In about 1846, Stephen II and Sarah moved to Iowa with their son, Joseph Hill IV. Sarah is said to have died in 1852 and Stephen II in 1853 and they were supposed to have been buried in Ottumwa, Iowa but their graves have not been found.

Thomas L. Crossen wrote to me as follows: "I have the greatest admiration for Sarah Reasoner Hill (my great grandmother). I did not know her as she died before I was born but from the record and traditions she must have been a grand woman.

Sarah Reasoner Hill was a pioneer woman. She never received any education as we know it today. She, of course, could read and write and use arithmetic in its simpler forms, but what she lacked in what is called "book learning" she made up in many other ways. She was skilled in all arts (of those days) of weaving, sewing, caring for children, housekeeping and helping in the general welfare of her neighbors. Also she was skilled in the use of the medicines of that time. She knew how to set broken bones in fingers, legs or arms. She could take care of wounds, minor or major, which she did on numerous occasions.

Here is an example of her skill. A neighbor (farmer) was struck by a sickle in the wheat harvest and his mouth was cut from the corner almost to his ear. Neither her son, Dr. Noah Hill, or her son-in-law, Dr. Baldridge, were available to take care of the wound. It was hot weather and something had to be done at once. She told the wounded man she could take care of it. He consented and she went to work on him. With her needle and homespun thread she sewed that wound. When Dr. Baldridge could be contacted he hurried to the patient expecting to find a man who was possibly disfigured for life. But he said afterward that he had never seen a better job and he doubted that he could have done as well himself. The scar on the man's face was but a faint line that one would have to look a second time to see.

She was loved and respected by the whole neighborhood."
DR. NOAH SPIERS HILL AND MARY ROLAND DILLEY HILL

Dr. Noah Spiers Hill was born in Rostraver Township, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania October 30, 1809. He came to Norwich, Ohio with his father and mother in 1814. The story is that he rode all the way behind his sister, Nancy, on an old horse named Jack. He grew up near Norwich, Ohio where he acquired a fair common school education. In 1828 he went to Senecaville as a teacher and while he taught he studied medicine with his brother-in-law, Dr. John Baldridge (husband of Noah's sister, Mary). In 1833 he attended lectures at Cincinnati, Ohio and in 1834 he graduated from the Cincinnati Medical College.

He practiced medicine at Senecaville with Dr. John Baldridge until Dr. Baldridge died in 1844. Dr. Hill bought the home and drugstore from Dr. Baldridge's widow and continued to practice until he retired and turned his practice over to his son-in-law, Dr. Winfield Scott.

It appears that Dr. Noah Hill made a trip to Batavia, Jefferson County, Iowa, about 1847, because the land records of that County show that Noah Hill of the State of Ohio bought and received a deed to a farm of several hundred acres near Batavia April 29, 1847 for $1,000. He sold this farm September 18, 1849 for $1,700 but the deed was signed by Noah and Mary in Ohio. My mother remembers having been told that Dr. Noah wanted to move to Iowa but his wife, Mary, was not willing to leave Senecaville. Batavia, Iowa is the town where Dr. Milton Baldridge, the son of Dr. Noah's former partner, began practicing medicine about that time and where Dr. Milton's son, Dr. John Baldridge, practiced later. This is the locality to which Dr. Noah's daughter, Jane, went to teach school about ten years later and where she later married and spent many years of her life.

September 3, 1834, Dr. Noah Hill was married to Mary Roland Dilley, who was born at Senecaville, November 18, 1812. 13 children were born to them as shown by the chart, all in Senecaville, Ohio.

Dr. Noah joined the Methodist Episcopal church in 1833 but left it for the Wesleyan Methodist Association in 1847 on account of the slavery question. In politics he was first an old time Whig, then a Free Soiler, next an Abolitionist and finally a Republican.

Another happening should be mentioned. About 1815 Noah and his older brother, John, were on their way to the gristmill at Zanesville, Ohio to have some wheat ground when the wind suddenly blew Noah's hat into the Muskingum River as they were crossing the bridge. John swam out after the hat, was seized with cramps and drowned.

Mary died August 3, 1887 and Dr. Noah died September 12, 1894.

Attached is a copy of Noah's obituary, his will, and a letter to his granddaughter, Elizabeth Collins Baxter, who was a daughter of Jane Hill Collins.
After the foregoing was written, letters were received from Walter Scott and his sister, Mrs. Bernice Scott Hoge, who also resided at 3412 Baring Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Walter Scott comments that when Dr. Noah Hill went to Cincinnati to attend Medical School he went by boat from Zanesville. He also tells us that, "The Medical School was called Ohio Medical College. It was merged with the University of Cincinnati and is now known as the Department of Medicine of the University of Cincinnati. It is one of the best Medical Schools in the United States."

Mrs. Bernice Scott Hoge tells us that her grandmother (Mary Roland Dilley Hill) was about five feet two and that she was a blond with blue eyes and lovely wavy hair. She comments that both her grandfather and grandmother were devout Christians and that they were always sending food from their farm to the poor.

Mrs. Hoge says one reason why her grandmother did not want to move to Iowa was that Dr. Noah Hill's father and mother (Stephen Hill II and Sarah Reasoner Hill) moved to Iowa the year before and Sarah wrote back to Ohio indicating that she was lonesome for her children in Ohio.

Thomas L. Crossen wrote to me in part as follows: "I remember Dr. Noah Speers Hill quite well, although he died when I was a boy of 14 years of age. He was highly respected for his ability as a Doctor, for his clean living and as a citizen of the community but he was bigoted, cold and not too well liked in a personal way.

He (Dr. Noah Hill) was a man of strong personal convictions. When he made a statement he would not brook a contradiction from anyone. He thought his convictions were right and should not be questioned. The Hell of it was he was generally right.

A good many years before Dr. Hill died he had an accident in which his right hip was injured. It never healed properly and he walked with a cane for the balance of his life. That cane was a fearful weapon for us younger children. We soon learned not to get too close to him. If we did we might get a whack across the seat of the pants. I can still feel some of those whacks."

**********

OBITUARY OF DR. NOAH HILL

Dr. Noah Hill died at his home in Senecaville, Ohio, on Wednesday, September 12, 1894, at 4 o'clock p.m. The funeral, which was largely attended, took place Sunday, September 16, from the Wesleyan Methodist Church, at 10 o'clock a.m. The funeral services were conducted by the Rev. A. T. Vestal, assisted by Revs. Evans Thompson and William Lowry. We herewith append a brief sketch of the life of the deceased.

Dr. Noah Hill was born in West Moreland county, Pa., October 30, 1809. In the year 1815, he came with his parents to the vicinity of Norfolk, Muskingum county, Ohio, where they settled on a farm. Here the future doctor received
the benefit of health giving farm work and rural habits and took advantage of
the opportunities offered for getting an education in the very common schools
of that day and neighborhood. By diligence and hard study, Noah Hill had
acquired a very fair common school education and was enabled to pass as
teacher, and in 1828, he went to Senecaville as a teacher and taught the
school of that place and in connection with his duties as teacher he took up
the study of medicine with his brother-in-law, Dr. John Baldridge, of that
place. Here he continued to study and labor until the year 1833, at which
time he attended lectures at Cincinnati, Ohio, and in the following year he
graduated from the Cincinnati medical college. Upon receiving his diploma,
the young M.D. returned to Senecaville and formed a partnership with his
preceptor, Dr. John Baldridge, a partnership which lasted until the death of
the latter, which occurred in 1844. From this time until the year ..........
entered into partnership with his father, which partnership lasted about ten
years. After this Dr. Hill practiced alone until the fall of 1879, when he
formed a partnership with his son-in-law, Dr. W. Scott. This partnership
was dissolved some time in the year 1887. From this time until within the
last year the doctor kept up an office or home practice. His mind was unim­
paired and his counsel and advice were sought for until within a few weeks of
his decease. He had a very extensive practice and was singularly successful
in his treatment of disease.

On the third day of September, 1834, he was united in marriage to Miss
Mary Dilley, of near Senecaville. Thirteen children were born to them,
twelve of whom survive, one dying in infancy. The eldest, John Hill, M.D. of
Vincennes, Indiana; Mrs. J. H. Collins of Del Norte, Colorado; Stephen B.,
of Bolivar, Missouri; Homer M., of Seattle, Washington; Mrs. Harrison Rob­
ins, of Baltimore, Maryland; Mrs. George W. Taylor, of Caldwell, Ohio;
Mrs. Alfred Weedon, of Cambridge, Ohio; Mrs. M. L. Spaid, of Dyson's,
Ohio; and Abram D., Leicester K., Noah L., and Mrs. Dr. W. Scott, of
Senecaville, Ohio. Thirty-eight grandchildren and several great-grandchildren
are numbered among his descendants.

He was converted during the great revival of 1833, at Senecaville, and
joined the M.E. church. He continued his membership with that church until
about 1847, when he withdrew from it on account of the slavery question and
cast his lot with the Wesleyan Methodist connection, which relation was kept
up until severed by death.

In politics, Dr. Hill was first an old time Whig, then a Free Soiler,
next an Abolitionist and finally, when in the great struggle to put an end to
slavery he gave his undivided influence to the Republican party, being a dele­
gate to ............. until about eight years ago, when he espoused the tem­
perance cause and fell in line with the Prohibition party. Always aggressive
and outspoken in advocating the right, as he saw the right, Dr. Hill knew
neither surrender nor compromise in questions of conscience. Ever prompt
in performance of the duties devolving upon him as a church member, liberal
in his support of the gospel, his house was a veritable preachers' home, the
latchstring always being out for the brethren.
Walter Scott comments that the above obituary can be found in "Portrait and Biographical Record of Guernsey County, Ohio (1895)" published by C. O. Owens & Company, Chicago, Illinois, Noah Hill, M.D., P. 321, and points out that the article "also states that Joseph Hill (I) Sr. was the father of Joseph Hill (II) Jr. who was the father of Stephen Hill (III), who was the father of Dr. Noah Spiers Hill. Grandfather preferred the spelling 'Spiers' possibly because he thought that spelling was typically German."

DR. NOAH HILL'S WILL

In the name of the father of all men I Noah Hill of the County of Guernsey and State of Ohio being conscious of the uncertainties of life and certainty of death & being far advanced in life but of sound and disposing mind to make and publish this writing as my last will and testament. Item 1st it is my will that all my just debts be paid including my funeral expenses and the expenses of my last sickness. Item 2nd I bequeath to my daughter Jane Collins Eight hundred dollars and to my daughter Sarah Wedon Eight hundred dollars and to my daughter Elisabeth Spaid Eight hundred dollars and to my daughter Mary Taylor Eight hundred dollars and to my daughter Nancy Robins Eight hundred dollars. Item 3rd I have given to my son Noah a note for fifteen hundred dollars which is to be the full amount of his claim on my estate in full this I consider will make those named in this will equal to the advancements heretofore made to my children not named in this will and if there is anything over after the above legacies are paid the residue if any is to be equally divided among all my children share and share alike unless it gives Noah more than the rest in that case he will get no more. I do nominate and appoint George W. Taylor and M. L. Spaid executors of this my last will and testament 1st to sell all my personal effects according to law regulating the settlement of the estate of deceased persons and 2nd to have my farm in Richland township and my real estate in Senecaville, appraised by three disinterested persons and in no case to sell said property for less than two thirds of the its appraised value but in case said property will not sell to have the property reappraised and then to be regulated as above said executors are hereby empowered to sell either by public or private sale as they may think advantageous to my estate and convey by a good and sufficient deed of conveyance. Having full confidence in the honesty of these my executors it is my will that the Court will not exact bail for the performance of said trust Item 4. It is my will that the persons that lays my body out for burial shall have five dollars out of my estate as I never have done the like and I consider I am indebted to the community that amount. Item 5 farewell I commit my body to the earth and my soul to God who gave it Item 6 is my will that my executors excepting this trust shall receive fifty dollars each out of my estate and no more whether by allowance of Court or other wise for their services in settlement of said trust. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the 7th day of Oct. in the year A. D. 1887.

NOAH HILL (Seal)

Signed and acknowledged by said Noah Hill as his last will and testament in our presence and signed by us in his presence and at his request—Wm. Scerest
Jos. Thompson

..................
Senecaville  
March 15, 1882

Dear Lizzy:

I have purposed a long time to write to you, but still put it off for I wanted to hear from you all. You must remember you never did answer my last letter. We are well and as far as I know all the children is well and I hope you will tell us how you all are. Lizzy, I would like to see you all verry much and I hope you all are prospering verry much indeed. Though we are wide apart we can think across verry quickly and love you verry intencely and hope you will be happy it being the natural result of a pure Christian life.

Now Lizzy and the other two sweet girls I don't know that I could do you a greater favour than to larn you how to court and get married. Now sweeties persons of your age don't know every thing about human nature and the workings of this world. I was peticular in learning my girls these things and I think they obeyed my teaching. In the first place Pinkies strict decency is the first and most important qualification of a young lady. This must never be violated on no pretence. Every young man let him be what he may be wants a decent wife. You must never run after a young man. If you love a young man so well that you could just swallow him you must not let him know it and no body elce for if you don't keep your own secrets no one will keep them for you. If a young man knows you love him much he will think you are cheap, and ten to one if his love dont cool down, and if you would send for him he would hate you ten to one. That was always so with me when I was young. There is one way you can run after him and he not know it you may do so. You may go where you know he will be but not put yourself in his way look at every body elce and him out of the one corner of your eye - and if he comes to you be free courtous and as lady-like as you know and treat him well. One thing is certain and you may rely upon it that if a young man admires you he will find some way to get in to your company and be your Beau, and you are not under the necessity of running him as the girls call it wich is out of place and the worst thing you could do, be Independent and place a good estimate on your good character. When a young man comes to see you if you know he is coming put on the next best of your duds, if at night light the finest and largest lamp you have and not stay up longer than twelve or two o'clock that is full as long as you can keep him in good talk. One other thing I will tell you Sweet Birds is that most of young men will impose on girls if they can and tell their fellows and have sport over it. If a young man is so impolite while sitting with you as to put his hand on your knee or to your bosom modestly move it off, if he does so again strike it off with a little temper and when he does it the third time jump to your feet and say if this is your manner of politeness we will adjourn. Then if he is a young man of any worth he will take an excuse and not use you so any more - And then you have no more trouble with him if you give him no out - And dont talk about getting married. Make the impression you dont want to marry. Speak well of the neighbouring girls, Site him often to them as fine girls, take up much of your time in reading the Bible and testament, History and other good books and tru and know something and if you know something he dont talk about it make him believe you know something. If you have a ring on your finger dont stick it out more than the other. If you have a nice foot you need not trouble yourself. If you have a kind of goos foot like Mary Shafers keep it under your dress.
I fergot to say that huging in courting is out of place and rather vulgar.

This is to finish up the courting matter. If a young man asks you to marry you if you think him in earnest look as innocent as a little dove and say now I have never thought of that but I will tell you the next time you come. You know you are welcome, I like your company. When he comes again and wants to know the answer say (if you want him) I will wed with you with all my heart. That will please him. Hold the rains in your hand till married. Then make as free as you please and tell him how you trapped him.

Now I hope some of you will write me a letter right soon - any of the pile- and tell me how you all are.

Grand Pa
Noah Hill (Signed)

Walter Scott offers the following incidents in the life of Dr. Noah Spiers Hill:

"1. The Underground Railway.

In pre-Civil War times many runaway slaves made their way to Canada where they were reasonably safe. One of these channels was northward through Ohio, starting on the north bank of the Ohio River near Marietta and continuing northward. The slaves were secretly escorted and fed by citizens until they got to the Canadian border. The stops were called stations and they were generally from 5 to 12 miles apart.

Senecaville, Ohio was one station and Dr. Noah S. Hill was the agent. He received the slaves coming from Sarahsville on the south in the night, fed them and put them in the garret to sleep during the day. The next night the slave rode behind grandfather on his horse to the next station north which was Middletown which was about 12 miles. The slave was turned over to this station and etc. to the Canadian border. Dr. Noah S. Hill being a doctor was accustomed to riding all hours of the night and did not raise any suspicion.

"2. The Two Negro Slave Boys.

In pre-Civil War days, Wheeling was in the State of Virginia. Some slave owner in Wheeling shipped by the B & O Railroad two Negro slave boys in a large box to a destination in Kentucky. When the train got near to Cambridge, Ohio it was pretty badly wrecked. People from the surrounding neighborhood went down to see it, and they noticed in one of the cars a large box with many small holes in it and through curiosity found two little Negroes about 5 or 6 years old. The box was opened and an officer of the law took charge. The officers didn't know what to do about the affair. They had a hearing before a judge in Cambridge and he told the many spectators if anyone could find a home for them he would rule on the case. After this he adjourned court. Dr. Noah S. Hill was present and he talked with the judge and stated that he would try and find a home for them and that he would return the next day. The next day the judge opened the court and then asked if there was any
person present who would be responsible for the care of these two Negro boys. Dr. Noah S. Hill arose and walked to the front of the room and said, 'Your Honor, I have found a home where these two Negro boys will be cared for.' Judge De Long struck his gavel on the table and said, 'I rule that these two boys are free, on free soil.' My insert: Ohio was a part of the Northwest Territory where slavery never existed and could not exist.

Dr. Noah S. Hill took the two Negro boys to Senecaville, Ohio where two Quaker gentlemen who laid out Senecaville cared for the boys. Their names were David and Enoch Saterthwaite. They took the boys and cared for them. One later developed T.B. and died. He was buried in the Senecaville cemetery. The other boy grew to manhood, studied for the ministry and took his place in the world.

"3. The Little Slave Negro Girl Raised in Senecaville.

Senecaville was located on a north and south route from slave territory (Virginia) to Canada.

The slaves when they were escaping traveled northward during the night and were protected along the Underground Railway.

Sometimes the slaves were captured and the slave owners would come and take them to the plantation. Usually the slave owners rode a horse and the slaves walked.

In one instance the slave owner was returning with a colored slave woman with her young daughter. The daughter was probably 3 years old. The little girl became very sick and when they got to Senecaville, Ohio the little girl was quite ill and the slave mother refused to go any further with the slave owner. The slave owner took the little girl to Dr. Noah S. Hill who found the little girl had a bad case of measles and he advised keeping the little girl in Senecaville where she could receive medical attention. Then the slave mother said she was going to stay with her little girl. The slave owner was not able to persuade her to go home with him unless the little sick girl went along.

At this stage Dr. Noah S. Hill got his Quaker friends interested in the little slave girl. They talked to the slave mother and promised to give the slave daughter a home and to care for her. The slave mother then agreed to return with the slave owner.

The sick little girl recovered and her Quaker benefactors called her Charity Freeborn. She lived to be about 14 years of age when she contracted T.B. from which she died. Charity Freeborn was buried in the Senecaville, Ohio cemetery.


Dr. Noah S. Hill was originally a Whig, but in 1856 he was one of the organizers of the Republican Party in the State of Ohio at Columbus, Ohio.

"5. The Presidential Election of 1860.

In the fall of 1860, Edwin M. Stanton, the Secretary of War in the Lincoln cabinet, made a political speech in Senecaville, Ohio. While at Senecaville, he was entertained and dined in the home of Dr. Noah S. Hill.
Prior to 1965 the information we had on the Dilley Family came principally from Ralph H. Dilley, Thomas L. Crossen and Walter Scott.

Ralph H. Dilley of Newark, Ohio, is a son of Parmene Dilley, a grandson of Burkly Dilley, a great grandson of Joseph Dilley and a great great grandson of Ephraim Dilley I.

Thomas L. Crossen, 1217 Brockley Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio is a son of Adeline Baldridge Crossen, a grandson of Mary Hill Baldridge and a great grandson of Stephen Hill II.

Walter Scott of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was a son of Candace Hill Scott and a grandson of Mary Roland Dilley Hill.

Then, August 16, 1965, George Earl Dille, Josephine Kaye Dille and Earl Kaye Dille brought out a new book of 138 printed pages entitled:

THE DILLE FAMILY
1664 Three Hundred Years in America 1964

This book is very complete. If you wish to purchase a copy write to G. E. Dille, 412 North Hanley Road, University City, Missouri 63130. Copies have been placed in many libraries.

This book gave us all of the information we now show on JOHN DILLE (DILLEY) OF WOODBRIDGE and his son JONATHAN HAMAL DILLEY. Also it gave us some additional information on AARON DILLEY.

The first chapter of "THE DILLE FAMILY" is devoted to the "European Beginnings" of the Dille (Dilley) family. In the latter part of that chapter the authors say:

"O. E. Monnette, in First Settlers of ye plantations of Piscataway and Woodbridge, olde East New Jersey 1664-1714, Los Angeles, 1930, in discussing the genealogy of the first settlers, John Dille says, '(The) name was originally Dutch, Flanders (Flemish), the French flavor leading to the suffixes 'e' and 'ey' which were Anglacized as plain Dill, (of) the Anglo-Saxon, Dilla, meaning 'good'. Dill was corrupted into Del and Dell in the early records, but without any etymological authority.'

Monnette goes on to say that the immigrant ancestor of all the Dilles in the country was George Dille (seen spelled in records as Dell, Dill, etc.). Putting Monnette's research together with that of V. Winthrop O'Hara, Upper Montclair, New Jersey, and Grace Dille Maynard, West Jordan, Utah, we arrive at the following story:

George Dille was born about 1619, in Riverstown, Ireland. He first came to Salem, Massachusetts, where he had a land grant, in 1639. He had
a brother, Nathan, in England, who apparently never came to America. George became a seafaring man, and made several voyages between England and the Colonies. He married Abagail Hand, the daughter of John Hand, about 1644, and their first son, John Dille, was born in Boston in August, 1645. About this time George Dille became master of his own ship, the 'Goodfellow'. He and Abigail had three other sons; Samuel in 1647, Joseph in 1650, and Benjamin, in 1652. Captain Dille became a freeman, or citizen of Massachusetts, in 1651. He died at sea in 1654, on a voyage to Ireland.

John's mother, Abagail, was remarried in 1655 to John Hanneford, whose will mentioned her three youngest sons, but not John. This may be because John Dille was on his own at the time the will was written.

Samuel, Joseph, and Benjamin apparently spelled their surname Dill or Dell. Joseph and Elizabeth Dell had a son named George in 1673.

There is a record of a John Dille being born in Hackney, presently a metropolitan borough of London, in October 1645. This John Dille, or the John who was George's son (perhaps they were the same) was apprenticed out to a friend in Salem, where he is mentioned in 1659 court records. Also, Essex County, Massachusetts, records show that John Dille made a deposition, 'aged about twenty-one years', in 1664.

It has not been established to the author's satisfaction whether John Dille was the son of Captain George Dille (Dill, Dell), and born in Boston, or a young Londoner who immigrated to the Massachusetts Bay Colony at an early age.

At any rate, John Dille left Essex County, Massachusetts, in 1664 and moved to Staten Island, New York, with other settlers from Massachusetts. There they lived among a number of French Huguenots. Staten Island was quite a 'melting pot' during this period, being inhabited by the Dutch, French, Walloons (Belgian Protestants), and English.

Monnette mentions that '........ many of the early Huguenot surnames were lost and passed into oblivion because of the faulty pronunciation and writing of them and the dropping of both prefixes and suffixes.' We can not eliminate the possibility that John's grandfather, if not his father, was a Huguenot, who left France or Belgium for England or Ireland early in the 17th Century, during the religious persecutions of that time.

Roy E. Curray
THE DILLE (DILLEY) FAMILY

JOHN DILLE (DILLEY) OF WOODBRIDGE, N.J.
Born in 1645
Died 3/12/1684
Married
SARAH

CHILDREN OF JOHN DILLE (DILLEY) OF WOODBRIDGE, N.J.

Susannah Dille
Born 6/14/1676

Sarah Dille
Born 12/28/1677

John Dille, Jr.
Born 1/24/1681

CHILDREN OF JONATHAN HAMAL DILLEY

JONATHAN HAMAL DILLEY
Born 9/30/1684, Woodbridge, N.J.
Died 5/10/1733
Married
HANNAH ALSTON

(Jonathan Dillely
(Born 9/2/1714; died 1741

(John Dille
(Born 3/7/1717; died before 1747

(Sarah Dille
(Born 9/2/1723

(Aaron Dille
(Born 8/28/1721
Married

HANNAH PERRY
**THE DILLEY FAMILY**

### CHILDREN OF AARON DILLEY

- **AARON DILLEY**
  - Born 8/28/1721
  - Married
  - **HANNAH PERRY**

- **WILLIAM AYRES**
  - Married
  - **ESTHER HARDIN**

### CHILDREN OF EPHRAIM DILLEY

- **JOSEPH G. DILLEY**
  - Born 1782; died 5/4/1833
  - Married
  - Julia Venig

- **ABRAHAM DILLEY**
  - Born 4/30/1785; died 9/5/1875
  - Married 4/19/1808

- **JANE WILSON McCLEARY**
  - Born 8/29/1783; died 10/7/1851

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Born/Died</th>
<th>Married</th>
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<td>EPHRAIM DILLEY</td>
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<td>AARON DILLEY</td>
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<td>Born 1789; died 1883</td>
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<td>ROBERT DILLEY</td>
<td>Born 9/23/1793; died 1878</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WILLIAM DILLEY</td>
<td>Born 1796; died 1875</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELIZABETH LOWRY</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>EPHRAIM DILLEY II</td>
<td>Born 10/25/1799; died 3/20/1882</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RACHEL HENRY</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAMUEL M. DILLEY</td>
<td>Born 5/8/1802; died 9/30/1874</td>
<td>1827</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARTHA ANN LITTLE</td>
<td>Died 1828</td>
<td>1835</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHARLOTTE LEMENDA Usher</td>
<td>Married to William Dille</td>
<td></td>
<td>Hinds County, Miss.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THE DILLEY FAMILY

CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM DILLEY AND
JANE WILSON McCLEARY DILLEY

Lucy Ann Dilley
Born 3/8/1810
Married
Stires

Nancy Jane Dilley
Born 6/10/1811; died 1835
Married
Enoch Sallerwaite

MARY ROLAND DILLEY
Born 11/18/1812; died 8/3/1887
Married 9/3/1834
Dr. NOAH SPIERS HILL
Born 10/30/1809; died 9/12/1894

Hannah Dilley
Born 8/19/1814
Married
Martin, Mt.Pleasant, Iowa

Sarah Dilley
Born 11/12/1816; died 1892
Married
Gooderal

Margaret Dilley
Born 7/22/1817
Married
William Thompson, Jr.

Robert C. Dilley
Born 11/19/1818
Married
Hannah McDonald

Eliza Katherine Dilley
Born 9/24/1820
Married
Reese

Jane Wilson Dilley
Born 5/9/1822
Married
Hatton

Elizabeth Dilley
Born 6/25/1825; died 1890

ABRAHAM DILLEY
Born 4/30/1785, New Jersey
Died 9/5/1875, Senecaville, Ohio
Married 4/19/1808

JANE WILSON McCLEARY
Born 8/29/1783, Belfast, County Down, Ireland
Died 10/7/1851, Senecaville, Ohio
My Dear Mr. Curray:

I received your letter making inquiry as to information about the Dilley family. I will be glad to give you what history I have.

As far as I have been able to find, the Dilley family originated in France and after the Massacre of St. Bartholomew August 24, 1572 many of them escaped to England to save their lives, and from there one lone Dilley migrated to Charleston, S.C. We do not know his name or age, or when he arrived. Tradition has it that he fought in the French and Indian War. We do not know how many children he had, but it seems that a son, Aaron, with his brother traveled up the coast and settled in New Jersey. We do not know the name of the brother. Here they disagreed on the spelling of the name. One said it was spelled with the Y and the other (the brother) spelled it without the Y. So we have two branches of the Dilley family in America. One spells it Dilley and the other branch spells it Dille. The brother went to some other part of the country and we do not have anything on his history, but we do know that he is the remote ancestor of those, who spell the name without the Y.

Aaron Dilley married Hannah Perry, a first cousin of Oliver Hazard Perry, of Lake Erie fame, but I do not have the date of his birth or his death. He and Ephraim both fought in the war of the Revolution. It is said that she plowed all one day when a battle was going on, in which her husband and son were engaged. She could hear the cannonading and was so distressed she could not eat her dinner. She told the younger children it was thunder. Hannah Perry Dilley was a direct descendant of the old Scotch hero, Sir William Wallace. It is said that among the French troops that came to the aid of the U. S. during the war for Independence was a Captain John Roland (a friend of Lafayette) who was referred to by Ephraim Dilley, as Uncle Roland. This would seem to confirm the fact that we are originally from France.

Ephraim Dilley was the son of Aaron Dilley and was born Nov. 6, 1755. Died July 26, 1844. He married Lucy Uiss Ayres, who was born in 1763 and died March 15, 1840. He came to Senecaville vicinity about 1805 or 6 with his family. Lucy Ayres Dilley was a daughter of Dr. Ayres of New York. She had a brother that was a doctor. This is all I have on them. The Dilleys seemed to inhabit several of New Jersey's counties: Sussex, Morris, Essex and Hunterdon, but Ephraim came from Sussex County.

I believe this is all I have at this time. I have a lot of data from Ephraim on down, but this is all I have back of him.

Hoping this will help you some, I am with best wishes to you,

Very truly,

Ralph H. Dilley (signed)

* * * * * * * * *
JOHN DILLE (DILLEY) OF WOODBRIDGE

John Dille, who temporarily settled on Staten Island, was a charter member of the Puritan Colony that founded Woodbridge, New Jersey, in 1669.

In the autumn of 1665, Sir Philip Carteret, who had been appointed Governor of New Jersey in 1664, published the "Concessions and Agreements of the Lords-Proprietors" which established freedom of religion in the new colony. This was the motivating cause for the establishment of the permanent settlements of Piscataway (Piscataqua), Woodbridge and Elizabethtown. A signal result of the distribution of copies of "The Concession" in New England was the arrival in New Jersey of John Pike, Daniel Pierce and seven associates from Newbury, Massachusetts. They entered into an agreement on Dec. 11, 1666 whereby on Dec. 3, 1667 they received from Governor Carteret and some of the Elizabethtown associates a grant of land, embracing what is now the township of Woodbridge, New Jersey. They, as the representatives of 57 families, on June 1, 1669, were granted a charter creating a township covering six miles square, named after their pastor, the Presbyterian John Woodbridge of Newbury.

Most of the settlers were from Newbury and Haverhill, both in Essex County, Massachusetts, but a few families had come here with Governor Carteret by the ship "Philip" which had arrived July 29, 1665. The aforementioned John Pike was the ancestor of General Zebulon Montgomery Pike (1779-1818) who discovered Pike's Peak, Colorado, and who was killed in the War of 1812.

The 57 Woodbridge freeholders drew for the town lots in 1669. The land had previously been laid off, and the lots varied in area from 15 to 448 acres. Some of it was upland and some meadow (bottom). At the drawing for town lots John Dille drew a 94 acre lot on Papilack Creek. As the record states, "John Dilly with the two Pierces and several others occupied lots across the Papiac on the Upland beyond the meadows". The Pierces were prominent men in the Colony. In the above quotation John's name is given first, indicating that he had considerable standing in the community, though only 24 years old.

In 1670 the Papilack was a sizeable stream, but has dwindled to a brook (where it has not been assimilated as part of the metropolitan area storm sewer system). The first highway ran down by the kirk green over the Papilack. The Presbyterian meeting house was built on the green in 1675.

It is not known exactly when John married his wife, Sarah, but it was before 1673, John and Sarah Dille were Presbyterians, and their descendants for several generations were of the same faith. This may tie in with a family tradition that the Dilles were originally from Scotland, a country where this Calvinist faith was widespread.

The New Jersey Archives contain the record of a number of transactions involving John Dille between 1669 and 1683. The surname is spelled variously, Dille, Dilly, Dilley and Dillie. Genealogists all know that this is typical for the records of this period. Law clerks and others spelled phonetically and not too well.
The Dilles had four children, Susannah in 1676, Sarah in 1677, John in 1681 and Jonathan in 1684, who was born after the death of John (the elder) in early 1684. The inventory of the effects of John Sr. by Samuel Hale and John Bishop is recorded in the New Jersey Archives, "Inventory of John Dille of Woodbridge, East New Jersey, yeoman, 63 pounds, 15 shillings, 9 pence, and a sword."

JONATHAN HAMAL DILLEY

Jonathan, the youngest son of John Dille of Woodbridge, was three years younger than John Dille, Jr. Jonathan and his wife, Hannah Alston, had four children: Jonathan in 1714, John in 1717, Aaron in 1721 and Sarah in 1723. The family lived on the Rahway in Woodbridge, on land adjoining that of John Jr. and Benjamin Force. The children and their descendants settled in several New Jersey counties, including Sussex, Morris, Warren, Essex and Hunterdon.

AARON DILLEY

Aaron moved to Whitehouse, Hunterdon County in 1755, and is the ancestor of a great number of the Dilleys still remaining in New Jersey. He married Hannah Perry, a direct descendant of the old Scottish hero, Sir William Wallace and a relative of Commander Oliver Hazard Perry of Lake Erie fame. Aaron and his son, Ephraim, both fought in the Revolutionary War. It is said that Hannah plowed all one day when a battle, in which her husband and son were engaged, was going on. She could hear the cannonading and told the children it was thunder but she, herself, was too distressed to eat.

There is a story in the family which runs as follows: Among the French troops coming to the aid of the colonies during the revolution was a Captain John Roland, a friend of General Lafayette. Ephraim Dilley referred to him as Uncle John Roland. This probably strengthened the idea that the Dilleys originally came from France. There was a family relationship by marriage, as will be seen later, through Ephraim's daughter-in-law.

(All of the information on this page and the preceding page relative to John Dille of Woodbridge and Jonathan Hamal Dilley is from THE DILLE FAMILY - THREE HUNDRED YEARS IN AMERICA by George Earl Dille, Josephine Kaye Dille and Earl Kay Dille; also some of the information about Aaron Dilley).

EPHRAIM DILLEY I AND HIS WIFE, LUCY AYRES DILLEY

Ephraim Dilley I was born in Sussex County, New Jersey November 6, 1755. He was a soldier of the Revolution and has been used as a Revolutionary ancestor many times by descendants qualifying for the D.A.R. He enlisted in 1776 as a private in Captain Henry Countryman's Company, 2nd Regiment, Sussex County, New Jersey militia.

In 1780 or 1781 he married Lucy Uiss Ayres who was born in 1762 or 1763 in New Jersey or New York. Sarah Hill Weedon, daughter of Mary Roland Dilley Hill, said that when Lucy was a little girl she picked huckleberries where New York City now is. Walter Scott says that her father was Dr. Ayres of New York and that her brother was a patent medicine doctor.
Ephraim and Lucy had six sons and two daughters. I assume most, if not all, of these children were born in New Jersey. Abraham, our ancestor, was the second son. Ephraim, Lucy and their family came to the vicinity of Senecaville, Ohio, in 1805 or 1806. Lucy died March 16, 1840 and Ephraim died July 26, 1844. They are both buried in the cemetery at Senecaville.

ABRAHAM DILLEY AND HIS WIFE, JANE WILSON McCLEARY DILLEY

Abraham Dilley was born April 30, 1785 in Sussex County, New Jersey. In 1805 or 1806 he came to the vicinity of Senecaville, Ohio with his father's family. April 19, 1908 he married Jane Wilson McCleary who was born August 29, 1783 in Belfast, County Down, Ireland. A genealogy furnished by Walter Scott says that Jane Wilson's mother (some accounts say grandmother) was the Jane Wilson who married Andrew McClary. Jane Wilson was the daughter of Lady Jane and Lord Thomas Wilson from Belfast, County Down, Ireland. Besides Jane, Lady Jane and Lord Thomas Wilson had a daughter named Mary. Mary married a Captain John Roland. She (Mary) and Jane came over to America on his boat in 1792. Captain John Roland operated sailing vessels between Belfast and Baltimore, Md.

It is said that Abraham Dilley was the first blacksmith in Richland Township. He was living in Cambridge in 1812 and while there enlisted in the army of the War of 1812. He was made an elder in the Presbyterian Church at Senecaville in 1815 and tradition says he donated the site for a new Presbyterian Church. Mrs. Candace Louise Hill Scott, his granddaughter, was 21 years old when he died. She remembered him very well and related the following:

He (Abraham Dilley) was the owner of a general store at Senecaville during the first half of the nineteenth century (the 1800s). At that time he drove a six horse team and wagon to Baltimore, Md. to do his buying, the journey requiring several weeks each way. While in Baltimore he always stayed at the "Three Tun Hotel". On one of these journeys home from Baltimore he was crossing the Ohio River on the ice. While he was in the middle of the river the ice broke loose from the eastern bank of the river and he and his team, wagon and goods floated all day on the river. Toward evening the ice floated over against the west shore whereupon he layed whip and got safely across the river. Along the river banks were great crowds of people who loudly cheered his success and good fortune.

In the early days most merchandising was done on credit. His credit balances became too large so he decided to dispose of his business. He at once started manufacturing salt from salt wells located just across the creek at the White Bridge on the lower eastern side of Senecaville. He was quite successful and managed to clear up all indebtedness, including the interest on same. His creditors in Baltimore were willing to cancel the interest but he refused. He claimed he owed the interest on the debt and paid the same in full to close all accounts. He discontinued the manufacture of salt and retired to his farm just west of Senecaville to live with his youngest daughter, Elizabeth. He died on this farm.

He was a devout Christian, kind, gentle and sympathetic. His home always had a family altar. He took the Presbyterian Banner from the time it was first printed.
Abraham and Jane had nine daughters and one son. Jane died October 7, 1851 and Abraham died September 5, 1875. Both were buried at Senecaville.

Jane Wilson McCleary Dilley had the first English flower and herb garden in Southeastern Ohio.

Her granddaughter, Candace Hill Scott said she always remembered her (Jane Wilson Dilley) beautiful chinaware with clusters of red bittersweet and a gold band. She brought from Ireland over 200 pieces of china to this country; also many beautiful pieces of sterling.

Dr. Noah Hill, her son-in-law said she was the greatest lady he had ever met. Her refined and cultured manners made it easy to discern her royal training.

Here is a letter written 3412 Baring Street by Walter Scott Philadelphia (4) Pa.

May 18, 1945

My dear Janie:

I am enclosing some information which should be of interest to you, vis., the genealogy of the family from whom you are named. The Jane Wilson McCleary of whom I have written was your great-great grandmother. She was also named from Jane Wilson the same as you. She was the one who gave us the accurate account of Lord Wilson. According to this, Jane Wilson, the daughter of Lord Wilson, of Ireland, was your great-great-great-grandmother.

JANE WILSON McCLEARY B. Aug. 29, 1783, Belfast, County Down, Ireland
D. Oct. 7, 1851, Senecaville, Ohio

The data herein contained has been largely furnished by Dr. Winfield Scott, Sr., deceased.

The parents of Jane Wilson McCleary brought her to the U.S. when she was 8 years old (1791) together with her older brother, Thomas, and sister, Nancy. She also had an older sister, Mary, who was married to Captain Roland, who owned and operated a fleet of sailing vessels plying between Belfast and Baltimore. Jane Wilson McCleary, her sister Nancy, her brother, Thomas, and her parents came to the U. S. on one of Capt. Roland's sailing vessels, landing at Baltimore, Maryland, from whence they migrated to Cumberland, Maryland, where they settled and lived.

Nancy McCleary married Peter Tool. Thomas McCleary, who was considerably older than Jane Wilson, had a government position, but when the administration changed he remained.
Family tradition says that Jane Wilson's great-great grandmother was Jane Wilson, who was the daughter of Lord Wilson of Ireland and that he was a direct descendant of the Royal House of Stuarts of England, and also of Mary, Queen of Scots, since her son became James I of England and Scotland and the first of the Stuart line. It was James I of England and Scotland who was instrumental in having the Bible translated to English.

INSERT: The real name of Lord Wilson is not given; neither is it known whether Princess Jane Wilson married a McCleary (whose family would be the third generation from Lord Wilson) or if the name were acquired in the 4th or 5th generation. Jane Wilson, however, did marry a commoner. According to the data given of the Royal Houses of England, it seems probable that Lord Wilson was a direct descendant of James I, the first Stuart King of England and Scotland. End Insert.

THE STORY OF THE PANTHER

Thomas McCleary took his younger sister, Jane Wilson McCleary on a horseback trip with him through the mountains, she riding behind him on the same horse. On the way back it was getting dark and they heard a weird cry like someone in distress. They stopped to listen and called. It seemed to be coming nearer. All at once they saw two big green eyes shining — it was a panther. Thomas spurred his horse to make a quick get away but the panther followed and kept gaining on them, getting nearer and nearer. Thomas called to Jane to throw her cape to the panther. Just at that instant the panther made a lunge and landed on the horse's back, scratching and biting the horse behind Jane. It got so close Jane could feel its hot breath on the back of her neck. Its claws seized the cape and it fell to the ground and tore the cape to bits. By this deceit they managed to get quite a distance ahead. The panther began to follow again but they got to the Inn near Cumberland, Maryland. The horse died two days later from the scratches and gnawing by the sharp teeth of the panther.

Thomas was a warm personal friend of the Marquis de Lafayette who arranged for Thomas to go to France to receive the 33rd degree of Masonry. But Thomas contracted pneumonia and died before he could make the trip.
THE REASONER, FROMAN, AND SPEERS FAMILIES

The information in this memorandum was obtained principally from Colonel Mathew A. Reasoner and Thomas L. Crossen.

Colonel Mathew A. Reasoner, M.D., Medical Corps, United States Army, (son of John, grandson of Aaron, great-grandson of Nicholas II, and therefore great-great-grandson of Peter Reasoner) collected traditions and information for many years and made a careful study of the traditions and records of the Reasoner, Froman, and Speers families. Colonel Reasoner died June 20, 1947 before he had completed the assembling and filing of his genealogical and historical data, but his widow, Mrs. Mabel M. Reasoner, 410 Prospect Street, Alton, Illinois, has made this information available to Reasoner descendants by filing a complete set in the Manuscripts Division of the Library of Congress at Washington, D. C. The compilation is entitled, "The Reasoners and Their Kin, Historical and Genealogical," and is in many volumes. The Manuscripts Division is on the third floor of the Annex Building on Second Street, Washington, D. C.

Mrs. Reasoner advises me that several complete sets were sent to the Department of Archives and History of the State of West Virginia which is at the State Capitol, Charleston, West Virginia. Some volumes pertaining to families in particular states have been sent to individuals or libraries in those states. All Reasoner descendants should be grateful to both the Colonel and Mrs. Reasoner.

Colonel Reasoner's research extended over a period of many years and some of his memorandums and summaries were not dated so sometimes one is not certain as to his final conclusions, but we have done our best to interpret him accurately.

Thomas L. Crossen, 1217 Brockley Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio, is a son of Adaline Baldridge Crossen, a grandson of Mary Hill Baldridge and a great-grandson of Sarah Reasoner Hill. He collected much information on the Hill and allied families.

I am the son of Emma Collins Curray, the grandson of Jane Hill Collins, the great-grandson of Dr. Noah Hill and the great-great-grandson of Sarah Reasoner Hill.

ROY E. CURRAY

May 1, 1954
THE REASONER, FROMAN, AND SPEERS FAMILIES

CHILDERN

Christopher Reasoner
Born about 1690
Dutchess and Ulster Counties, New York

Stephen Reasoner

NICHOLAS REASONER I
Born 1700 or 1705 in Germany
Died 1772 Patterson's Creek, Virginia
married about 1731

MARY FROMAN

Paul Froman
married
Elizabeth Hite (daughter of Joist Hite)

REGINA FROMAN
married about 1731

HENRY SPEERS
Died in 1782 Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania

GRANDCHILDREN

PETER REASONER
Born 1735 probably Bucks County, Pennsylvania
Died 1807 New Concord, Ohio

MARY SPEERS
married 1762
Born 1736
Died Prior to 1807 New Concord, Ohio

Jacob Reasoner
Born 1737

Garrett Reasoner II
Born 1739
PETER REASONER
Born 1735 probably Bucks Co., Pa.
Died 1807 New Concord, Ohio
married 1762

MARY SPEERS
Born 1736
Died Prior to 1807 New Concord, Ohio

CHILDREN OF PETER REASONER
AND MARY SPEERS REASONER

Nicholas Reasoner II
(oldest son and great-grandfather of
Colonel Mathew A. Reasoner)
Born 1764 - Died 1847
married 1797
Mary (Polly) Stout
Born 1772 - Died 1803
married 1810
Polly Smock

Jacob Reasoner - Born 1768

Benjamin Reasoner
Born 1770 - Died 1844
married 1794
Mary Hill
Born 1775 - Died 1853

Henry Reasoner
Born 1772 - Died 1836
married 1796
Mary Shepler

John Reasoner
Born 1774 - Died 1850
married 1798
Mrs. Elizabeth Wilson Thompson

Solomon Reasoner
Born 1779 - Died 1854
married 1809
Elizabeth Smock

Rachel Reasoner - Died 1851
married 1797 or 1798
William Roberts

Susan Reasoner
married 1809
Johann Deppn

SARAH REASONER
Born 5/1776 - Westmoreland County, Pa.
Died 9/1852 - Iowa
married
Stephen Hill II
Born 1777 or 1779 - Westmoreland Co., Pa.
Died 1853 - Iowa

Nancy Reasoner

Mary Reasoner - Born 1786
married 1810
Peter Camp

Regina Reasoner
GARRETT REASONER I

To avoid confusion we will designate the Garrett Reasoners and Nicholas Reasoners I and II as Colonel Reasoner did in his compilation.

Our knowledge of Garrett (or Garret) Reasoner is entirely traditional. However, the traditions have been handed down through many branches of the Reasoner and allied families, particularly by the descendants of Nicholas Reasoner I, and many histories of the Reasoner family have been written. In Volume I, Chapter I of his compilation, "The Reasoners and Their Kin, Historical and Genealogical," Colonel Reasoner reviews and examines these traditions and histories.

The story of Garrett I is about as follows: Garrett Reasoner I was a French Huguenot who was born in France about 1665. He was a teacher or preacher and he fled to Germany to avoid religious persecution about the time of the revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685, probably to the vicinity of Strasbourg or Heidelberg. Colonel Reasoner suggests that the name in French was "Raisonneur."

Thomas L. Crossen thinks Garrett I married a French girl and that her name was Marie, but Colonel Reasoner believed Garrett Reasoner's wife was a German. Some versions are that either Garrett or his bride or both were of noble birth, but Colonel Reasoner did not agree. Apparently, however, he did believe that the German woman that Garrett married had some little means. It is not known what became of Garrett and his wife but there were three sons who came to America, Christopher (born about 1690), Stephen and Nicholas, our ancestor, who was born 1700 to 1705.

PETER FROMAN

The Reasoner tradition is insistent that the Froman family is of Huguenot origin; that they went first to Germany and then with the Reasoners and probably Speers across to America. It is repeatedly stated in the tradition from various sources that Peter Froman was the head of the family in this country (America).

Colonel Reasoner reported that Cartmell and several other writers on the history of the Shenandoah Valley said that the Fromans were from a New Jersey Quaker family. Colonel Reasoner discussed this possibility but discarded it. He pointed out that the name "Froman (or Frohman) is not a Quaker name. It must have been Frohman and German in origin and the Germans were not Quakers."

We agree with Colonel Reasoner. What knowledge we have of the Froman family indicates that they were speaking German when they came to this country and did so for many years. We believe with the Colonel that they came from Germany. (See Volume I, Chapter I, Page 20.)
Eleanor May Reasoner of Bellingham, Washington has a charming story apparently written by Ann Northway which reads as follows: "About the year 1685, a young man by the name of Peter Frohman chanced to be out at some political meeting in his native country, France. He hastily went home, took his ready cash and silverware and other valuables in a four horse wagon and so quickly left that he left without his hat. A friend said to him, 'Peter Froman, where are you going without your hat?' He replied, 'It is better to have a head without a hat than a hat without a head.'

"He placed his valuables in a ship leaving his horses and wagon standing on the street. He also left other valuable property."

Colonel Reasoner tells us the same story has been told many times with Garrett Reasoner instead of Peter Froman as the principal. He thinks the story is imaginary but that it illustrates the fact that someone, probably Garrett Reasoner, was compelled to leave France in a hurry and by stealth.

**THE SPEERS FAMILY**

(Speer, Spear, Spears, Spiers, etc.)

There is some tradition in the Reasoner family that the Speers family was of Huguenot origin but I infer that both Thomas L. Crossen and Colonel Reasoner believed that the name Speers was Irish and was originally spelled "Spears."

The story is that a young Irishman went to England where he intended to take a ship to America. There was some delay and while he was waiting near the dock for his ship to sail he was caught by the "Press Gang" and forced into the British Army. At this time the English were friendly with the Huguenots and were helping them. While in France, Speers deserted the British Army and was aided in this desertion and subsequent flight to Germany by the Huguenots. He remained in Germany for a good many years, married there and raised a family. Some say this young man was Henry Speers but Crossen and Colonel Reasoner say it was Henry's father, Christian Speers, and this seems more probable.

**THE HITE FAMILY AND ITS ASSOCIATION WITH THE FROMANS, SPEERS AND REASONERS**

Joist Hite is not our ancestor but it seems evident that there was such close association between the Hites, Fromans, Speers and Reasoners that the activities and travels of the Hite family throw some light on the activities and travels of the Fromans, Speers and Reasoners during the early part of the 18th Century when the records of these latter families are incomplete. The Hite family was a prominent family and its activities
and travels are of record. In Volume I, Chapter V, Pages 1 and 2, Colonel Reasoner sets out two short abstracts of the Hite story as follows:

Sup. Chap. 1, No. 420 - Scott's History of Orange County, Virginia.

"Joist Hite and Marion DuBoise came to New York Colony in 1710 on the Brigantine Swive and Schooner Friendship. They were married shortly afterward. They settled in Kingston, New York with sixteen other families. Then as a result of persecution of the Germans and religious troubles, they left with these families in 1716 and emigrated to the Pastorius Colony in Germantown, Pennsylvania and went to Perkiomen Creek at Schwenksville. Later, or about 1718, he sold his land there, went to York, Pennsylvania, and eventually took over the VanMeter grant of 40,000 acres in the Northern portion of the Valley of the Shenandoah on which he settled with forty families in the region of Winchester in about 1732. In 1733, he was at Shepardtown, Virginia. States here he was buried at Bunker Hill, but this is probably not correct. It is much more likely that he was buried at Opequon Church about eight miles Southwest of Winchester, Virginia which is on the road leading out to the home of his son-in-law, Paul Froman, and not far distant from his home 'Springdale' at Bartonville, about six miles South of Winchester on the Valley Pike."

See also Sup. Chap. 1, No. 282 - No. 298.

Sup. Chap. 1, No. 298 - The Pennsylvania German.

Story of Joist Heydt -

"Hans Joist Heydt was a member of an ancient Protestant family despoiled and ruined by Louis XIV when he treacherously seized Strasburg in Alsace (see Huguenot Memorials Page 136). He fled to Holland where he met Anna Maria DuBoise, a French Huguenot refugee from Wicres and a descendant of the Counts of Roussay. Probably she was a niece or near relative of Louis DuBoise of New Pfalz of the Palatinate who came across and joined with Joist Heydt.

"He probably arrived in America about 1710. His daughter, Elizabeth, was baptized at Kingston in 1711 and his daughter, Magdalena, was baptized at the same place in 1713. This is shown by the records of the Dutch Reformed Church."

On another page (Volume I, Chapter I, Page 22) Colonel Reasoner comments:

"Without going into the subject deeply at this point, there is good reason to believe that the Hites, Fromans, Speers and Reasoners came from the vicinity of Strassburg and then when they left for America, went down the Rhine and embarked from Amsterdam, as was the custom with all the German emigrants. The Speers say this (Sup. Chap. 5, No. 550) and there are records available on the Hites and it was from this area along the Rhine that the vast wave of emigration started from Europe at this time. It should be remembered that along about 1710 to 1720 there was a feeling of distrust upon the part of the English that the Germans might attempt to take over the New York Colony and they were subjected to great persecution, legal and otherwise; as a result of this, large numbers of them went down to Pennsylvania where they were warmly received by William Penn."
The tradition is that Christopher, Stephen and Nicholas Reasoner came to America from Germany. Crossen gives the year as 1726 but Colonel Reasoner says 1715 to 1720. As suggested before, the Hites, Fromans and Speers came over about the same time and may have come on the same ship.

Christopher was the oldest and Nicholas, our ancestor, (born 1700 to 1705) was the youngest. Christopher and Nicholas went up to Ulster or Dutchess County in the New York Colony. Undoubtedly they were speaking German when they arrived. Nicholas remained for some years with Christopher or until he attained maturity.

About that time or a few years earlier, the English authorities had become alarmed at the number of German-speaking immigrants because they feared the Germans might try to take control of the Colony, so the English authorities had been persecuting and oppressing the German-speaking members. As a result of this treatment, many left there and went to Pennsylvania. Here they were welcomed by William Penn.

Among these were Joist Hite (Heydt) and a number of his friends and families who had intermarried. They went to Bucks County not far from Philadelphia and here in 1731 Paul Froman, son of Peter Froman, married Elizabeth Hite, daughter of Joist Hite. The trend of passage was from New York in the direction of Philadelphia and it is logical that Nicholas should have followed this path. Where he first met up with Henry Speers in America is not known.

However, shortly after 1731 Nicholas Reasoner married Mary Froman and Henry Speers married Regina Froman. Mary and Regina were daughters of Peter Froman and sisters of Paul Froman. It is supposed that these marriages took place in Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

If we interpret Colonel Reasoner correctly, the belief that Nicholas came first to the New York Colony, went up to Ulster or Dutchess County with his older brother, Christopher, and later came down to Bucks County, Pennsylvania, is based on tradition. However, this tradition is persuasively corroborated by the records indicating that the Hite family came first to the New York Colony, went up to Ulster or Dutchess County and later came down to the vicinity of what is now Bucks County, Pennsylvania. (See quotations set out under "The Hite Family and Its Association with the Froman, Speers, and Reasoners.").

Paul Froman's marriage to Elizabeth Hite in 1731 is a matter of record:


"Elizabeth Hite m. 1731, Paul Froman.
  Sarah, born Nov. 15, 1732, m. John Overall.
  John Paul, born Oct. 16, 1734, m. ----- Cartmell.
  Maria Christina, born March 1, 1736 -
  Elizabeth, born May 8, 1738, m. Nath'l. Cartmell.
  Jacob, born _____, m. ________
  to Kentucky, Lincoln County."
We are sure that Nicholas Reasoner married Mary Froman and Henry Speers married Regina Froman, and we are reasonably sure that these two girls were sisters of Paul.

The records in Bucks County do disclose that there were some Reasoners there as early as 1767. (See Volume I, Chapter XI, Page 1.) Colonel Reasoner suggests that these Reasoners may have been descendants of Stephen or Christopher Reasoner.

We do not know how long Nicholas Reasoner and Henry Speers remained in that part of Pennsylvania. There is some tradition that Nicholas went to the Carolinas but that is believed to be a mistake. They did not have geographies at that time and they had little knowledge of boundary lines so it is quite possible that Peter, remembering that as a child they traveled what seemed to him a great distance to Virginia, erroneously surmised they had lived in North Carolina. It is known that they did live in Maryland before they moved to Patterson's Creek, Virginia and from the fact that this has never been mentioned in the family tradition, it is assumed that the two places must have been confused.

About the time Nicholas is supposed to have gone down to Maryland, the successor of Lord Baltimore, who in 1632 had received a grant or charter from the King to a considerable portion of what is now Maryland, was making a great effort to secure colonists. In order to live up to the terms of his grant, it was necessary for the proprietor to have annual income, so instead of selling the land outright he gave what amounted to 99 year leases with the payment each year of a sum termed a "quitrent." The payment of this sum was insisted upon and failure to pay might have resulted in the loss of the land. In 1747 or 1748 there came up a matter which threatened to drive many of the settlers away from western Maryland. These settlers were not always able to pay their "quitrents" as they fell due because money was scarce and exchange was not easy. Accordingly, the collections were turned over to the sheriff who added exorbitant commissions to the point where the colonists threatened to move away and many of them did so.

In the Archives of Maryland, Volume XXVIII, 1732-1753, Page 422, we find a list of farmers of west Prince George County who were called to Frederick Town and compelled to pay 15 shillings penalty in addition to the "quitrent." For this extra amount, no receipt was given although payment was demanded and insisted upon. Among the names in this list was Nicholas Riesner. It is noted that Nicholas had already paid all of his "quitrent" except nine pence, but he had to pay not only the nine pence but a 15 shilling fine in addition. There is no sure way of knowing how long Nicholas lived in Maryland, but Colonel Reasoner says he probably arrived not later than 1743.

In October, 1748, Nicholas is found to have purchased a farm in Virginia from Lord Fairfax who was never noted for his generosity to his tenants. Nicholas must have left Maryland empty-handed and the question arises where he found any money to pay for the farm.

The above information was taken from "Nicholas Reasoner I and a Visit to Patterson's Creek," a copy of which is attached to this memorandum.
In another memorandum, Colonel Reasoner said: "About 1740, Nicholas Reasoner with his wife and three or possibly four children settled upon Patterson's Creek at the mouth of Cabin Run. There is a receipt for Parish Dues from Nicholas for the year 1745, which was in accordance with the drastic regulations of Lord Fairfax, requiring the heads of all families to pay dues for the support of the Church of England.

"They were present when George Washington surveyed the Patterson's Creek area in 1748 and the records in Richmond show that immediately afterward on October 23, 1748, Thomas Lord Fairfax conveyed to 'Nicholas Reasoner of Frederick County, 277 acres, known as Lot No. 3, on Patterson's Creek, adjoining Adam Long's Lot No. 2."

Comments by Roy E. Curry: We are not sure how the apparent discrepancy should be explained but there are several possible explanations: (1) The Nicholas Riesner in the Maryland records could have been a different person, (2) Nicholas Reasoner could have gone over to Patterson's Creek Valley before 1745 but left his family in Maryland until he acquired land in Patterson's Creek Valley, or (3) Nicholas could have actually moved to Patterson's Creek Valley before 1745 and attempted to hold his land in Maryland for a few years.

Nicholas must have known of the presence of Joist Hite and his following near Winchester, Virginia, not over 90 miles distant. In this settlement was Paul Froman, the brother of Nicholas' wife, as well as Joist Hite who was frequently known as "Baron" Hite. The reason Nicholas did not go to Winchester seems obvious. The best land in that region had already been taken up and he wanted as much land and as good land as possible for the money he had secured. Furthermore, the Fromans would now be living on a somewhat different social plane than that to which Nicholas could aspire. It is probable that Paul Froman told Nicholas about Patterson's Creek Valley. This is one of the most beautiful and fertile valleys in the States of Virginia and West Virginia and it must have reminded Nicholas of some of the little valleys of the Rhineland. The farm he purchased was one of the best along the creek.

It is believed that George Washington surveyed the farm and probably was a visitor in the house. Nicholas was one of the first settlers in Patterson's Creek Valley and the Indians were not particularly hostile. Fort Cooke was later situated about 1½ miles upstream.

The land was astonishingly fertile and still is; game was plentiful and the stream which ran through his farm and close by his house was full of fish. His bottom land had probably already been cleared; the timber was of fine quality and of his 277 acres, there were probably 35 or 40 acres immediately available for farming.

From information which Colonel Reasoner got from his grandfather, Aaron, when the Colonel was a boy, it is believed that Nicholas was a large man, something over six feet in height and otherwise filled out in proportion. We know of three sons.
Our ancestor, Peter, was born about 1735 and Colonel Reasoner thinks he must have been born in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. The other two sons were Jacob and Garrett.

The friendliness of the Indians did not last. In September, 1755, many families were murdered, carried away, or burned within their houses by the Indians. There is a story that Nicholas and Mary had a daughter named Susie who was carried away by the Indians, but that story may be a myth. It is not known when or where Mary Reasoner died. From the fact that three sons were born in a few years and then so far as we know there were no more children (except the possible Susie), it would appear that she died young. In any event, it is not believed that she outlived Nicholas since Peter inherited everything and sold the farm back to his two brothers.

In one of his memorandums, Colonel Reasoner refers to "The Writings of George Washington" as follows:

"During the devastating Indian invasion of 1755, George Washington was placed in command of the campaign to protect the settlers. In the Bicentennial Edition of 'The Writings of George Washington,' Page 221, are given the orders of October 23, 1755 for Captain Cooke to:

'remove with your company from the place where you are now Quartered to the Plantation of Nicholas Reasoner in order to escort Waggons from Fort Cumberland and protect the Inhabitants by Sending out frequent Scouting Parties,'

There are also other references to Nicholas Reasoner and the troops upon his plantation. There is a family tradition that there was at this time a young daughter named Susie Reasoner, stolen or killed by the Indians, of whom no word was ever again heard."

HENRY SPEERS AND REGINA FROMAN SPEERS

As has been stated in the write-up under Nicholas Reasoner, Henry Speers married Regina Froman, a sister of Nicholas Reasoner's wife, shortly after 1731. It is assumed this marriage took place in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. How long Henry Speers stayed in that part of Pennsylvania and where he went, we do not know.

As in the case of Nicholas Reasoner I, our information about Henry Speers and his wife during the first half of the 18th Century is based on tradition and what we know of the activities of the Hite family. We quote from Colonel Reasoner (Volume I, Chapter VI, Page 1):

"As has been repeatedly quoted in Chapter I, the Reasoner traditions are insistent in holding that the Speers, along with the Reasoners and Fromans, were of Huguenot origin and that they had been more or less associated and some even say that they came to this country together. If such is the case it would appear if the Reasoner traditions are otherwise correct, that they must have landed in New York Colony and then, at a later date, wandered down toward Maryland, perhaps with Nicholas Reasoner. The fact that they both married Froman sisters (Nicholas Reasoner married Mary Froman, and Henry Speers married Regina Froman), would lead one to
believe that they must have been together at some time prior to 1735, on or about which time their first children were born. If they were together in Europe and before 1735 in America, it would seem very probable they must have been together in New York Colony. However, that remains to be proven and can only be determined by digging into the records."

Beginning about 1760 Colonel Reasoner did find some records. We quote from the Colonel again (Volume I, Chapter VI, Pages 2 to 4):

"One can only conjecture where Henry Speers may have spent the earlier years of his presence in America. The first record which has been discovered, which would appear to belong to him, is one which was found in the records of the Maryland Land Office in Annapolis, Maryland. It has to do with the purchase of a farm by Henry Speers:

Vol. II, Chap. 4, No. 313, Maryland State Records -
'Spear, Henry 1760 -
Speer's Venture County Worcester (Spear) Certificate 50 acres B.C. & G.S. #19 - 51 Patent 50 acres B.C. & G.S. #17 - 351"

"In addition there were records of Andrew, James, and Jacob Spear, or Speers, and also Jacob Froman. Thus here in this Maryland area do we again find representatives of the three family names. Nicholas, as will be shown later, had been a resident of Maryland about 12 years prior to this time, and other Reasoners were still present. It is probable that Henry must have been here earlier and had only succeeded in working out the payment for his farm and then taken title. After having secured title to his farm, he was in a position to sell it and with the money to go further West and secure a larger farm and get enough for himself and his family of children. It is noted here that he calls his place 'Speers Venture.' When he gets up to Pennsylvania he calls one of his farms 'Speers Intent' or 'Speers Intention.' There is certainly some similarity in the two names.

"The logical direction of travel Westward from his Maryland home would be over through Virginia where he would meet the Fromans. Paul Froman I was his wife's brother and, as the son-in-law of Joist Hite, in excellent financial circumstances. From here it is very probable that he would continue on in a Westerly direction over Cacapon River and to Patterson's Creek where his wife's sister and her husband, Nicholas and Mary (Froman) Reasoner lived. There was an excellent trail which George Washington followed, extending in this direction. In fact, that was the logical way to go.

"If he moved about 1762, as is very probable, the two cousins - Peter Reasoner and Mary Speers - met at this time, decided to marry and may well have married, and Peter and his wife went along with Henry Speers up to their new home in Pennsylvania. Several others from Patterson's Creek also accompanied them or went sooner or later, among them being John Roitan (or Ratten), Abraham Kuykendahl (or Keighendall) who also married one of the daughters of Henry Speers, a sister of Peter's wife, several of the Fryes, Thomas Cannon, etc.
"They landed in what is now Rostraver Township and Peter picked out a farm not far distant from that of his father-in-law. The Speers' farm was situated on the East bank of the Monongahela River where the village of Belle Vernon now stands. Peter Reasoner was from a half to three-quarters of a mile North of Henry Speers. See Vol. II, Chap. 8, #279 & 279a for map of holdings of Peter Reasoner and Henry Speers.

"The first record we have of the name 'Speers' in this region of Pennsylvania is as follows:


'1768, on March 31st, there was a commission sent out to get the squatters out of this area in which ownership was still claimed by the Indians and admitted by the whites. A message was sent to the settlers of "Turkey Trot" by one "Speers."

"This of course could have been another Speers, but with the following there can be no question: -


'Pennsylvania Land Office 3rd July, 1769, Thomas Crafts enters a caveat against the order of survey granted to Henry Spiers for 300 acres of land at the Great Crossing of Youghiogheny.'

"This shows that Henry Speers must have been in Rostraver Township prior to this time. Finally, as is shown by the records, on October 29, 1770, the land was granted to Henry Speers - as he was shown to have had prior application and survey and possession of the land, as well as valuable improvements on this date of 1769."

From the records at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, Patent Book "F," Volume 18, Page 138, it is shown that in 1771 Henry Speers secured a warrant to land on the Monongahela River in Westmoreland County. It is believed that it was about 1762 or 1763 that he and his family came to western Pennsylvania. Another farm which he purchased later, he termed "Speers' Intent" and still another "Summer House" and another "Addition."

The records of Westmoreland County show that the will of Henry Speers was dated May 14, 1773, and in the records of that County was never recorded nor letters taken out by the executors. Someone stated that he died in 1772 but since he made a will in 1773, he must have died in 1782.

At least one grandson, John Stout Reasoner, made a record that he saw and remembered Regina Fronan Speers when he was a boy. He said that she was a large woman who spoke German and gave him some dried pears to eat which she took from her pocket.
Colonel Reasoner tells us: "Peter was probably born about 1735 and probably in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, but this must not be taken as more than a surmise upon the part of the writer. Jacob was probably born about 1737 and Garrett about 1739 and, presumably, in the same location as Peter. Whether there was a daughter Susie, we do not know."

"As a small boy, Peter lived with his family in Prince George County, Maryland, not a great distance from the present District of Columbia. Nicholas, his father, moved over into Patterson's Creek Valley in October, 1748 and in this beautiful and fertile valley Peter grew up to young manhood. From the story of Aaron, told to the writer, he grew up to about 6' 3" in height, as did a number of his sons and grandsons. He was of a muscular, but not heavy, physique and of enormous physical powers. His figure was erect, he had blue eyes with black hair and a dark complexion. For a number of years this was a characteristic Reasoner type and still reappears from time to time in his descendants."

"It is assumed that Nicholas died about 1772, as on June 19, 1772, Peter and Mary sold the farm in two parts, one to Jacob and the other to Garrett. Peter, as the oldest son, had inherited the farm.

"These deeds and many other records are on file in the County Court House in Romney, Hampshire County, Virginia and have been seen by the writer. The transfer is of interest because it is by the old 'lease and release' method in which the lawyers get two whacks at the poor farmer. On June 18, 1772, he leased a half of the farm to Jacob and the following day, or June 19, 1772, he released it or sold it. (See Vol. II, Chap. 7, Nos. 262 and 263 - Vol. III, Hampshire County Transfers, Pages 61 - 62, Hampshire County Court House, Romney, West Virginia.) These two documents are well worth reading, as illustrating the number of useless words that lawyers could use in building up an imposing document; probably not more than one-fifth of the words used are necessary. It will also be noted that the land is described by 'metes and bounds':--

'Beginning at the White Oak Corner to Lot (No. 2) and running along a Line thereof N. 85 degrees East 200 poles to a Pine on a Point thence N. 10 East 180 poles to a Hickory thence N. 80 West crossing the creeks 220 poles to a White Oak and a Pine thence South 3 degrees 30 West two hundred and thirty five poles to the Beginning. The whole Tract containing two hundred and seventy seven Acres as the same was granted to Nicholas Reasoner deceased by a Deed under the Hand and Seal of the Right Honourable Thomas Lord Fairfax Proprietor bearing date the 23rd day of October 1748 as may appear."
...hereby granted with their appurtenances unto the
said Jacob Reasoner, his Executors Administrators
and Assignees from the Day before the Day hereof
and during the full term and time of one whole Year
from thence next ensuing fully to be complete and
ended Yielding and Paying thereof.
'The rent of one Pepper corn on Lady Day next if the
same shall be lawfully demanded---'

"The last was a little joker used mainly to fill up space, but
having perhaps some utility. The above is a portion of the lease document
of June 18th by which Peter and Mary lease the portion to Jacob and plainly
show their intention of charging him only a nominal fee, but at the same
time retaining temporarily the ownership, for which purpose the peppercorn
was designated in old English law practice. 'Lady Day' referred to probably
was Annunciation, March 25th, but it has also at times been used to indicate
the Conception on December 8th and the Nativity on September 8th. Both
documents should be read in order to secure a proper appreciation of them.
It will be noted that throughout the body of the deed the name is spelled
'Reasoner'; Peter and Mary sign it spelled 'Resonner,' and Garrett as a
witness spells his name 'Reamer,' all of which goes to show that spelling
in that time should not be taken too seriously." ................

"While the portion of the deed which is copied described the whole
farm of Nicholas, yet the next paragraph, which is omitted, described a line
passing through the farm in such manner as to form a tract of 177 acres which
went to Jacob, leaving of course 100 acres for Garrett.

"It is assumed that Peter and Mary made the trip from Pennsylvania
down to Hampshire County in order to dispose of the estate, as their signatures
are witnessed by the three witnesses who it is believed lived at that time in
Patterson's Creek Valley.

"There is no record yet brought to light which tells us exactly
when Peter Reasoner first settled in Pennsylvania. The deed in question
speaks of Peter Reasoner of Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. As a matter
of fact Westmoreland County was formed the next year, but Peter was un-
doubtedly unaware of any change that had already occurred. For several
years prior to this time this country was under the jurisdiction of Bedford
County, and before then was in reality a part of Cumberland County. From
the fact that he has apparently given his address as Cumberland County
would suggest that he probably arrived there when it was Cumberland County."

We do not know when or where Peter Reasoner met and courted Mary
Speers. However, if Henry Speers did move from Worcester County, Maryland
to western Pennsylvania in the early 60s, it is natural that he should go
through Patterson's Creek Valley and since Henry's wife, Regina, and
Nicholas' wife, Mary, were sisters, it is natural that Henry and his family
should stop for a visit. We understand Peter Reasoner and Mary Speers were
married in 1762 and since we think Henry Speers settled in what is now
Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania in 1762 or 1763, it is natural to suppose
that Peter and Mary moved there with Henry Speers and his wife.

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

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If, as we think, Mary Fromm Reasoner and Regina Fromm Speers were sisters, Peter and Mary were first cousins.

There is a tradition to the effect that Peter went out to Westmoreland County and took up some good land, but was driven out by the Indians and went back of the mountains for several years and then returned at a later date but was not able to get back his original land.

It is difficult to trace the presence of the earlier settlers in western Pennsylvania and the reason is this. They were having much trouble with the Indians at this time and William Penn was trying to avoid any acts which might result in more trouble. The Indians claimed the land in western Pennsylvania and their claim was recognized. It was realized that the Indians would resent the presence of the settlers on this land and an endeavor was made to keep them out, so Henry Speers and his family, his son-in-law, Peter Reasoner, Joseph Hill, and others were really squatters and not until after the treaty in 1769 when this area was transferred to the Colony of Pennsylvania were they able to get title to their land. There is an old Speers cemetery just north of Belle Vernon several hundred yards from the Menongahela River.

It has been established that Peter Reasoner was a soldier of the Revolution and his name has been used as a Revolutionary ancestor by a number of descendants who have qualified for the D.A.R. The write-ups recite that he served as a Ranger on the frontier. It is recorded that May 16, 1791, he was given 136 acres of land on a depreciation claim. It included the land on which McKeesport, Pennsylvania now stands.

Peter and Mary continued to live in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania until about 1805 when they migrated with some of their sons and families to Muskingum County, Ohio, following the later route of the Old National Pike. They settled near New Concord, Ohio where they lived until Peter died in 1807. We think Mary died prior to that time but we know she was alive in 1805 because in the spring of that year she and Peter signed the deed by which they disposed of all of their property in Pennsylvania.

Thomas L. Crossen wrote: "Peter Reasoner's son, John, was the first settler in what is now New Concord, Ohio. He landed there on the 4th day of July, 1803, the same day that Ohio was admitted to the Union as a State. Later Peter Reasoner (two or three years later) came out to join his son.

Two or three miles East of New Concord is a stream called Peters Creek. The way it got its name is that Peter Reasoner, an old pioneer, whose mind was not as good as it once was, became lost in some of his wanderings. Two or three days later some Indians brought him home. They named the stream Peters Creek. That is the name it goes by to this day. Peter Reasoner is buried just outside of New Concord. "Whether his wife came to Ohio or not I do not know. I don't think she did. I would have heard of it."
This article by Colonel Mathew A. Reasoner is doubly interesting to those of us who are descendants of Elijah Collins because the records indicate that Elijah's father, Elisha Collins, lived near Patterson's Creek in Hampshire County, Virginia (now West Virginia) at least from 1777 to 1791. Since Elijah was born in 1785 he must have been born in that valley. We do not know how far Elisha's 300 or more acres on Clay Lick Run were from the Nicholas Reasoner plantation but it is recorded that Elisha Collins was a witness on land transactions in Patterson's Creek in 1776 and it is a good guess that the Okey Johnson who listed Elisha Collins in the Census of 1784 was a father of the Okey Johnson mentioned by Colonel Reasoner as buried in the old Johnson Burying Ground near the Reasoner Plantation.
CHAPTER XII.

NICHOLAS REASONER
AND A VISIT TO PATERSON'S CREEK

In order to make each chapter complete within itself, it has been necessary to indulge in more or less repetition and here again in this chapter on Nicholas will be repeated some of the information which has appeared in the preceding chapters. Also, it should be remembered that the story as it appears in this Volume is only an abstract or a resume' from the data contained within the other Volumes constituting the "Sources of Information," to which reference is recommended.

To briefly repeat the tradition -

Garrett Reasoner, a teacher in France and a Huguenot, at the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685, escaped from France to Germany, some place along the Rhine, possibly in the neighborhood of Heidelberg. It is possible that the association with the Speers and the Fromans began at this time or so the tradition says.

He probably married a German woman and they had three sons named Christopher, Stephen and Nicholas, respectively. Nothing is said as to what became of Garrett and his wife, but the three sons came to America, perhaps about 1715. Christopher and Nicholas went up to Ulster or Dutchess County in New York Colony. For information on Stephen, see the preceding Chapter. The three brothers were doubtless speaking the German language when they arrived.

Christopher was the oldest, probably born about 1690. Nicholas was probably born between 1700 and 1705 and Stephen in between. It is not known whether Christopher was married when he arrived in America. The other two were not. Nicholas remained for some years with Christopher, or until he attained maturity. For some years the English authorities had been persecuting and oppressing the German speaking members of the Colony. As a result of this unfair treatment, many left and went to Pennsylvania where they were welcomed by William Penn. Among these were Joist Kite (or Heydt) and a number of his friends and families who had intermarried. In this connection see Vol. II, Chap. 1, No. 72, "Peter Kahn's Travels in America in 1746 and 1748" and Rupp's "30,000 Names of German Emigrants," Page 452.

They left at an earlier date and went to Bucks County not far from Philadelphia and here in 1731 Paul Froman married Elizabeth, the daughter of Joist Hite. The tradition has it that the head of the Froman Family was named Peter Froman and he must have been living in this vicinity in order that the families might come into contact. The trail of passage was from New York in the direction of Philadelphia and it is logical that Nicholas should have followed this path. Where he first met up with Henry Speers in America is not known. However, Nicholas Reasoner married Mary Froman and Henry Speers married Regina Froman, both daughters of Peter Froman and, it is believed, sisters of Paul Froman I. They were married shortly after 1731 and here was the obvious place for the meeting and the marriage. So much for the tradition in the light of the historical background.
How long Nicholas Reasoner and Henry Speers remained in that part of Pennsylvania is not known. The records have never been properly searched and it is hoped that some day this may be accomplished. It has been stated that Nicholas went to the Carolinas or North Carolina but that is believed to be a mistake. They had no geographies then and but little knowledge of boundary lines and it is quite possible that Peter, remembering that as a child they traveled what seemed to him a great distance to Virginia, erroneously surmised they had lived in North Carolina. It is known that they did live in Maryland immediately prior to their move to Patterson's Creek in Virginia and from the fact that this has never been mentioned in the family traditions, it is assumed that the two places must have been confused.

Lord Baltimore received a grant from the King to a considerable portion of what is now Maryland, with the understanding that he would populate this area and develop a Colony which would trade with and be a source of power to England. As Lord Proprietor it was necessary for him to give financial assistance to his tenants or land purchasers and it was more outgo than income. Consequently the method was adopted of selling what amounted to a 99-year lease with the payment each year of a sum termed a "quitrent." This payment was insisted upon and failure to pay might result in the loss of the land. In this way a steady and permanent income was assured to the Lord Proprietor.

About the time Nicholas is supposed to have gone down into Maryland, that Colony was making great efforts to secure Colonists and were offering cut rates to them. Among other inducements was a proposition to give them the land upon a deferred payment basis, with an absence of "quitrents" for a period of years. Of course, in the meanwhile the title still remained in the name of the Lord Proprietor. The Colonists had for the most part come to America to get away from this sort of thing and it will be understood why it did not appeal to them.

There were quite a few Germans and Huguenots living in the western part of Prince George County, Maryland which would be in or not far distant from the present District of Columbia, or perhaps closer up toward Frederick, where the other Reasoners were living. In 1747 and 1748 there came up a matter which threatened to drive away many of the settlers from Western Maryland. These settlers were not always able to pay their "quitrents" as they fell due because money was scarce and exchange was not easy and the transportation of products to and from their farms might be difficult. Accordingly, a method was adopted of turning these collections over to the Sheriff who added exorbitant commissions to the point where the Colonists threatened to move away, and many of them did so.

Vol. II, Chap. 4, No. 282 - "Pennsylvania German Society,
Vol. 22, Page 189 -

"The details of a recent occurrence was brought before the Council by Governor Ogle, who had apparently become
somewhat alarmed over the trend of affairs. A list was submitted of a number of farmers of Western Prince George County who were called to Frederick Town and compelled to pay 15 shillings penalty in addition to the "quitrent." For this extra amount no receipt was given though payment was demanded and insisted upon. The following men were those upon the list:

Jacob Foot  Peter Apple  Henry Trout
Melchior Wherfield  Christian Thomas  Peter Hoffman
Christian Getsoner  Stephen Rausbergen  Henry Roads
Conrad Kemp  Francis Wise  Jacob Smith
George Lye  Isaac Miller  Thomas Johnson
Joseph Brown  Henry Brown  Nick Frisk
John Smith  John Brown  Jacob Brown
Ken Backdolt  NICHOLAS RIESNER  David Delarte
Martin Wissell  Casper Wendred  Peter Sheffer.

In the paper it is noted that Nicholas Riesner had already paid all of his "quitrent" except nine pence, but when he was called up to Frederick Town by the Sheriff he had to pay not only the nine pence but fifteen shillings fine in addition.

Following this there was a deposition by Stephen Rausbergen, dated May 6, 1748, in which the matter is discussed and the following statement is made:

"A great number of the Germans and some others are so much alarmed by the Sheriff's Proceedings that several of them have already left the Province and others have declared that so soon as they could sell what they are possessed of they would go away. Many of the Germans declaring that their being oppressed in their native country induced them to leave it and that they are equally apprehensive of being oppressed here and that therefore they would go away to avoid it."

Thus it is seen that there is unrest among a number of the inhabitants and since Nicholas was compelled to travel all of the way to Frederick Town in answer to the summons of the Sheriff to pay an unjust charge made against him, it is logical to believe that he may also have been somewhat disturbed.

Also there were a number of rather extravagant promises made to the incoming settlers. These promises were not kept and the treatment accorded them was far from what they had anticipated.

An attempt was made to discover the location of the farm which was occupied by Nicholas, but it was without success. At the time in question, Prince George County was composed of the present Prince George County as well as the District of Columbia and Frederick County. A careful and diligent search was made in the records of Upper Marlboro, County
Seat of Prince George County and in the records of the State Land Office in Annapolis. There was nothing found in either place and then search was made in the records of Frederick, Maryland and this was also without avail.

The Custodian of the State Records stated that the explanation is simple. There were several agents who acted for the incoming emigrants, especially one, Daniel Dulaney, who specialized in looking after the German settlers. In such case, he paid down the initial cost of the farm and assumed title to the land. After the settler had completed the payment to him with a good sized commission, title was turned over by Dulaney. If, in the meanwhile, payments lapsed, Dulaney took over the land and the settler was out of luck. So it is assumed that Dulaney or one of several others acted for Nicholas. Nicholas did not hold the title but he had all the obligations such as the payments of "quitrents," fees, commissions to Dulaney, etc.

There is no way of knowing how long they lived in Maryland, though one can surmise as to what might have been the minimum period. Assuming that Nicholas was granted the three year exemption from "quitrents," then a year in which the "quitrent" accumulated and then at least part of another year in which it was due, he must have arrived not later than 1743. That is probably not so far off as judging from his later career in Virginia, had he been there longer he would probably have paid for his farm and secured title to it.

The next record of Nicholas is as follows: -

Vol. II, Chap. 6, No. 238, Records of the Virginia State Land Office, Richmond, Virginia:

"Thomas Lord Fairfax to Nicholas Reasner of Frederick County, 277 acres, known as Lot No. 3 on Patterson's Creek, adjoining Adam Long's Lot No. 2. October 23, 1748."

The map of the Nicholas Reasner farm will be found in Vol. II, Chap. 7, #280.

In May, 1748 we find Nicholas over in Prince George County, Colony of Maryland, on a farm and in such financial condition that he has trouble in paying the final nine pence due upon his "quitrent." He had not yet secured title to his land and so if he leaves before his payments are completed he has nothing he can sell, and even if he had it is doubtful, considering the temper of the Colonists, if any of them would have bought from him. Nicholas left before he secured title and so he must have gone out to Virginia in an empty-handed condition, excepting for what small sum he may have realized from the sale of his crops for that summer.

We find him in October of the same year purchasing a farm in Virginia from Lord Fairfax and he was never noted for his generosity to his tenants. It is a logical assumption that in this case Nicholas paid down the cost of the farm and the question arises as to where he found the money.

From the traders and hunters, he was aware of the presence of Joist Hite and his crowd over near Winchester, not over eighty or ninety miles distant. In this settlement was the brother of his wife, Paul Froman,
who was the son-in-law of this wealthy land owner, who was frequently known as "Baron" Hite (or Heydt). In 1848 Paul Fromen was in good financial condition and it was the logical thing for Nicholas to start out on the well established road to Winchester, Virginia to seek his brother-in-law and ask for some assistance. This is purely a supposition upon the part of the writer, but certainly an obvious one.

The question might arise as to why Nicholas chose to purchase from Lord Fairfax, an enemy of Joist Hite, rather than in the vicinity of Winchester. Here again the explanation is obvious. The good land of the Hite-VanMeter Grant had been taken up and he wanted to get as much land, and as good land, as was possible for the money he had secured. Furthermore, the Fromens were now living in a somewhat different social plane to which Nicholas could not aspire, from purely financial reasons.

It is probable that Paul Fromen, through information which had come to him, told Nicholas of Patterson's Creek Valley. This is one of the most beautiful and fertile little valleys in the states of Virginia and West Virginia and must have reminded Nicholas of some of the little valleys of the Rhineland. The farm which Nicholas purchased was one of the best along the creek and superior to anything available in the vicinity of Winchester. (NOTE: It is stated that the purchase is made by Nicholas Reasner of Frederick County, and such was the case at that time, as Frederick County, Virginia, of which Winchester is the County Seat, was partitioned shortly afterward and Hampshire County formed. At a much later date, Hampshire County was partitioned and Mineral County was formed and the farm in question is located in Mineral County, West Virginia. It is on Patterson's Creek, not far from a Postoffice known as Reese's Mill, which is located at a little North of the center of a line connecting Romney and Keyser, West Virginia.)

Attention is invited to the map accompanying "The Travels of George Washington" to be found in the rear of Volume II. Upon this map is indicated the location of the farm. The name "A. Johnstone" also appears and it was his farm which joined Nicholas upon the South. The old Johnston house still stands and a photograph is enclosed showing not only the outside, but the fireplace in the living room around which our early ancestors must have gathered in the cold, wintry evenings and the rainy days. If we could only know the stories they told then, we would not have to surmise so much about the events which transpired.

The writer was able to find the location where stood the house as was indicated by the foundation stones still in the ground and the rough indications of the chimney. The old house was probably 10 x 16 feet and may have been a stone house which has fallen down and been carried away. It stood upon a bank about twenty-five or thirty feet above Patterson's Creek, overlooking the valley and the distant hills and was altogether a very lovely spot.

From this and other information it is believed that George Washington must have surveyed the farm which Nicholas Reasner purchased in the same summer and perhaps at the same time at which Nicholas assumed possession. Furthermore, it is known from this same publication that George Washington passed along this way on several of his trips. He may
well have stopped for a meal or overnight with him and his family, but that
also is merely a supposition.

At the time Nicholas moved out to Patterson's Creek, he was one
of the first settlers to arrive and the Indians were not particularly
hostile. Fort Cooke was later situated about a mile and a half upstream,
at a place known as Headsville, where the church and school are now located.
Fort Ashby was located several miles distant in a Northwesterly direction,
probably not more than three or four miles and probably near Cabin Run or
Limestone Run. These forts, however, were established several years after
Nicholas and his family arrived.

The land was astonishingly fertile, and still is; game was plenti­
ful, the stream which ran through his farm and close by his house was full
of fish, his bottom-land was probably already cleared, the timber was of a
fine quality, and of his 277 acres there was probably 35 or 40 acres available
for immediate farming, had he been able to take care of that much. The
winters there are mild and for a time the Indians never came near them.

However, that peaceful condition was not to last.

Vol. XX, Page 149 -

"On Patterson's Creek many families have within this month
(September, 1755) been murdered, carried away or burnt within their
homes by a party of these barbarians, who have entirely broken up
that settlement." (NOTE: This was seven years after the arrival
of Nicholas and his family.)

"In 1756 Captain Dagworthystill occupied Fort Cumberland
but surrounding country was almost deserted."

The writer was once informed by his father (Rev. J. R. Reasoner)
that his father had once told him of a daughter Susan or Susie who had
been carried away by the Indians, but have never heard the story from any
other source.

We know of three children born to this union - Peter, Jacob and
Garrett. The tradition will be considered only as such and for the purposes
of this history, only the three will be considered. It is the general
opinion that Peter, who was the eldest, was born about 1735. Garrett,
the youngest, was present as a witness in the Boquet-Stephen controversy,
as given in the "Journal of the House of Burgesses of Virginia," 1761 to
1765, and another entry in the same series of records shows that he served
as a soldier in the French and Indian Wars, which would not have been later
than 1763 - and possibly earlier. It would seem probable that the three
sons were born between the years 1735 and 1740 and, in such case, they were
probably born in Pennsylvania.

Hostilities extended over as far as Capon Bridge, thirty miles
East of there, where a fierce battle was fought at the site of Fort Edwards.
This condition kept up until about 1763. However, it is assumed that
Nicholas did not remain away from his farm for longer than a year.
Following the purchase of this land by Nicholas, there is no further record of him except such as appears in the subsequent deeds of the farm. It is believed that he died about 1772 as it is in this year that Peter, the eldest son, inherits the farm upon the death of his father. He has already gone up to Pennsylvania to what was originally Cumberland County and he sells the farm in two pieces, one to Jacob and one to Garret.

It is not known when or where Mary (Froman) Reasoner died. From the fact that three sons were born within a few years and then, so far as we know, there were no more (excepting the possible Susie), it would appear probable that she died rather young, as was so often the case in that time. In any event, it is not believed that she outlived Nicholas since Peter apparently inherited everything, as will be shown later, and sold the farm back to his two brothers. Copies of these deeds will be found in Vol. II, Chap. 7.

There is no evidence of a family burying ground upon the old place, but there is a well marked cemetery about a half mile distant upon the old Abraham Johnston farm. There are a number of graves here; in fact, more than the family would have filled, and, while that was not such a common practice in this time, it may be that Nicholas lies in this Johnston Burying Ground. There have been no burials here for many years.

When but a small boy, the writer visited for several days with his grandfather, Aaron Reasoner, son of Nicholas II, son of Peter I, son of Nicholas I. Aaron was 6' 3" in height and, much impressed by this physical greatness, the small boy asked him about the size of his father and grandmother. He replied about as follows: - "My father was larger than I and he was about the same size as his father and grandfather."

We may assume, therefore, that Nicholas was something over 6' in height and otherwise filled out in proportion.

It is a matter of historic interest that, in addition to an almost certain acquaintance of Nicholas and his sons with George Washington, some of the later members of Jacob's family must have known Nancy Banks, the mother of Abraham Lincoln, as her birthplace and home was not more than five miles distant.

In connection with the life and times of Nicholas, it is a matter of interest to know the distinction between necessities and luxuries and, while the decision in such questions is always open to question, yet we have some interesting and almost final information. It is found in "Sup. Chap. 1, No. 253, "History of Winchester, Virginia." It gives a list of foodstuffs, textiles, tools, supplies of various kinds, slaves, etc. and the usual price, along with a statement as to the cost of labor and the value of farm products.
A VISIT TO PATTERSON'S CREEK

Of several visits to Patterson's Creek, the most enjoyable was one made during the summer of 1930 at which time I had the pleasure of attending their Fourth of July celebration. Through the descriptions of the farm as given in the transfers and in Jacob's Will, it was possible to come to a conclusion as to its location and then by following up subsequent transfers to Hampshire and Mineral Counties, it was possible to prove it.

It might be well to tell first how to reach this farm and it is not in any way difficult. It is about seven miles North or downstream from Burlington and on both sides of the stream, the house originally on the West bank. The best way is from U. S. Highway No. 50, which takes its way from Parkersburg or Marietta, across the State of West Virginia, passing through Clarksburg, Grafton, Romney, thence to Winchester, Virginia and then on to Washington, D. C. About 14 miles West of Romney and perhaps 40 miles West of the intersection of this road with the Eastern boundary of West Virginia, is located the little village of Burlington, two or three hundred yards from Patterson's Creek. Burlington consists of a hotel and a store and a garage and a house or two. About two hundred feet East of the hotel is a little lane, not much wider than the automobile, and this is the way. This narrow road twists and turns, now up on a ledge and now running along almost on the level, at one time close to the stream and then a half mile distant. However, it is a gravel road and one can make good time.

Quite a little timber is still standing, though much of it is second-growth. Along the roadside are houses dating back to various periods. There are the log cabins, some of them our forefathers might have known. Then there are the more pretentious structures which were put up after the War of the Revolution, when land titles became fixed and prosperity smiled upon them, and a few of later date, but everywhere there is the evidence of antiquity.

The valley from Burlington down to the Reasoner farm and beyond is from three-fourths to a mile and a half in width and to this is added the additional areas of the many little runs leading into Patterson's Creek.

The black dirt has washed off from the hills and it is present in a heavy stratum in the valley. It is a wonderfully fertile valley and all the farmers who had good farms looked prosperous. Then they have overflows from time to time and that adds to the fertility of the soil.

Following the road for about five miles, one comes to Headsville and that is even less of a village than Burlington. It is a church and a school, and a beautiful green and level meadow bordering the stream, surrounded by a grove of noble forest trees, with two houses in sight and a bridge over the stream. Headsville is, however, more than this as it is something of a community center, which assumes special importance because here they practice their particular sport, which is peculiar to them and has been so for generations. However, more of that later.
But Headsville has more than this to attract the attention and give food for thought. Here it was that Fort Cooke was located shortly after 1750 and here it was that the early settlers sought refuge when hard pressed by the raiding Indians.

I passed along in the morning and the real celebration was not to begin for several hours, and so I continued on my way. Crossing a little run, I mounted up over a hill and then came down once more to the level and here the road widened out three or four feet. Then I passed the Parker house, a descendant, it is believed, of one of the sons of Nathaniel Parker (he of the "Rifell Gon" described in the chapter of Jacob Reasoner) who married Susannah, daughter of Jacob. Then I passed the Umstot house and he is a descendant of Peter Umstot, who was shown present in the Tax List of 1782 with Jacob and Garrett. Then came the old Rees house and the little log hut seen in the photograph, and the Rees name is mentioned in Jacob's will. And now I was in the corporate limits of Reeses Mill, which is given as such on the map. It consists, however, of one little one-room country store at a crossroad, with the house of the owner by the side of it and several hundred yards farther on a bridge crossing over Patterson's Creek.

Not allowing myself to be beguiled by the attractions of Reeses Mill, I continued on my way and crossing the bridge followed the road, past several old-time houses, one about a mile distant, the home of Mr. Robert Kuykendall (pronounced Kirkendall).

About two hundred yards beyond the bridge, and to the left, is an old uninhabited house standing back a little way from the road and on the bank of Patterson's Creek. This was the home of Abraham Johnson, Gentleman, whose name is affixed to the Tax List of 1874 (also the Census of 1790) in which Jacob Reasoner's name also appears. He and the Kuykendalls were the nearest neighbors of Nicholas Reasoner. (Later the Johnsons intermarried with the Kuykendalls and the family is now represented by the Kuykendalls.)

I went inside the old house and it was evident that, at that time, it was a pretentious home. The two old fireplaces in adjoining rooms are still there, around which Nicholas and Peter and Jacob and Garrett must have sat on some of the cold days and wintry nights and conversed with their neighbor, while the snow flew and the wind was howling without. And then I wished that some of their conversation and stories might have been preserved so we might have known more about them. After my prolonged search, at last I was now in contact with inanimate objects which served as a connecting link between me and these long ago forbears. These distant persons about whom I had so much curiosity had actually been here and it seemed to give them a little more reality than ever before.

Then a little farther on, perhaps two hundred yards, is located the old Johnson Burying Ground. No burials have taken place here since 1854, so far as the stones indicate. Here is a stone erected to the memory of Abraham Johnson, Gentleman, just mentioned, and his wife, Rachel. Then there is William Johnson who died in 1801 at the age of 29 years, and his wife, Catherine, who died in 1841. William was a witness to Jacob
Reasoner's Will (Vol. II, Chap. 7, No. 263). Then there is Okey Johnson who was born in 1786 and died in 1844, and his wife, Nancy, who died in 1854. Okey was a witness to the sale of Jacob's farm by the heirs. (Vol. II, Chap. 7, No. 285.) Arjalon Price, who was also a witness to Jacob's Will and whose family intermarried with that of Jacob's, is buried in the cemetery over on the Parker Farm.

This Johnson Burying Ground is a family cemetery, but it would seem from the rough stone markers and the appearance of the ground that there are more than sixty persons buried here, and that is more than would have occurred with the Johnsons and Kuykendalls only, or so it would seem. This burying ground is not more than a half mile from the old Reasoner home, going across fields and it is not beyond the range of possibilities that Nicholas and his wife may have been buried here. This is advanced only as a possibility. The owner of the old Reasoner farm is familiar with the entire place and he has never seen any indications of a burying ground upon it, nor has he nor any other person in the vicinity every heard of any. These private burying grounds are universally respected by the people there and they also have a legal status. So while it is impossible to positively rule out burials upon the old farm, yet at the same time it does not seem convincing that they were buried there.

Reeses Mill was located about three hundred yards downstream from the old home of Abraham Johnson, Gentleman, and on the Eastern bank. All that remains now is a little trace of the old race and a few scattered stones.

For a half mile or more it had been possible to see across the valley where a house was situated upon a little elevation, surrounded by trees and overlooking the stream and the valley. I was now headed directly North and about a quarter of a mile beyond Mr. Kuykendall's and, about a mile and a quarter from the Reeses Mill Bridge, is the lane leading West across the valley over to the old Nicholas Reasoner farm. It is a public road though one would never know it. It is necessary to ford the creek and then follow along what is one of the beds of the creek in highway (the island spoken of in Jacob's Will) and then up a little rise and a turn to the left in front of the barn and we have arrived. Directly in front of the barn may be seen the foundations of the old home, with the fire place to the South. The house was situated upon a bank 25 feet above the level of the stream and probably 50 feet away and no more ideal spot could be found for a home. Nicholas certainly chose well for, in addition, his farm is protected by the hills to the North of him and all of it very fertile as was that which Jacob purchased afterward. The farm is now owned and occupied by Mr. Ernest G. Kimble.

Just back of Mr. Kimble's stable was located the shop of William Rees as mentioned in Jacob's Will; apparently it was on Jacob's ground. Then Mr. Kimble told me of the remains of what had once been a clearing a little farther up the hill and I looked that over and found it was on the part of the farm which Garette had purchased and what I took to be the original home was on that part which Jacob had purchased from Peter. Mr. Kimble also told me that over on the Cabin Run property, which was purchased by Jacob at a later date, there was one spot where, when ploughing, he often turned up pieces of broken pottery or chinaware - evidently occupied later than Nicholas.............
JAMES HARRAH COLLINS, JANE HILL COLLINS
and
THEIR DESCENDANTS

Many people have contributed to the information in this section.

As respects James Harrah Collins and Jane Hill Collins, the first information and help came from my mother, Mrs. Emma Collins Curray and my sister, Mrs. Mabel Curray Frescoln. Other relatives helped, especially my Uncle "Harry" Collins and my Aunt Florence Collins Robb. In tracing the Collins family in Virginia, Ohio and Iowa it was necessary to employ some paid searchers. In addition, valuable help was given voluntarily by Mrs. Mary B. Prill of Fairfield, Iowa, who collects and compiles Jefferson County, Iowa, records for the D. A. R.

As respects the descendants of James Harrah and Jane Hill Collins all cousins contacted have been very cooperative in furnishing information and in writing biographical sketches of their parents. Where this plan was impossible other relatives have furnished data so that grandchildren could write the sketches.

We acknowledge indebtedness to Mrs. Anna Marie (Mary) Collins, to Mrs. Helen Collins Rice, to Miss Irma Frescoln (who searched in libraries in Denver) and especially to Mrs. Ethel Robb Hedges.

Roy E. Curray
JAMES HARRAH COLLINS, JANE HILL COLLINS and their DESCENDANTS

JAMES HARRAH COLLINS
Born 9/15/1836, Cumberland, Ohio
Died 4/4/1900, Del Norte, Colo.

Married 1/6/1859

JANE HILL
Born 1/7/1837, Senecaville, Ohio
Died 5/26/1899, Del Norte, Colo.

CHILDREN

JAMES HARLAN COLLINS, "HARRY"
Born 5/31/1860, Batavia, Iowa
Died 2/11/1940, Oakland, Calif.

Married 1/9/1895
IDA CHARLOTTE GROVES
Born 2/5/1871, Barnesville, Ohio
Died 9/6/1964, Berkeley, Calif.

ELIZABETH MARY COLLINS
Born 12/24/1861, Batavia, Iowa
Died 2/2/1937, Denver, Colo.

Married 11/30/1887
JAMES HERMAN BAXTER "JIM"
Born 9/13/1855, Abingdon, Iowa
Died 9/25/1918, Paonia, Colo.

EMMA MAY COLLINS
Born 9/21/1865, Batavia, Iowa
Res. Nelson Nursing Home,
R.F.D.#4, Fairfield, Iowa

Married 11/24/1886
JOSEPH AGRIPPA CURRAY "JOE"
Born 1/30/1858, Batavia, Iowa
Died 3/14/1944, Elsinore, Calif.

FLORENCE COLLINS
Born 4/15/1867, Batavia, Iowa
Died 3/24/1956, Monte Vista, Colo.

Married 10/13/1890
ROBERT EDGAR ROBB "ED"
Born 1/5/1868, Batavia, Iowa
Died 3/31/1939, Monte Vista, Colo.

CHILDREN

ALBERT MAYWOOD COLLINS "BERT"
Born 12/15/1871, Batavia, Iowa
Died 1/11/1931, Denver, Colo.

Married 4/20/1896
DAISY MAY HALE
Born 9/3/1879, Pueblo, Colo.
Died 12/5/1910, Creede, Colo.

ALBERT MAYWOOD COLLINS

Married 1/17/1912
ANNA MARIE STREAMS "MARY"
Born 9/22/1887, Gilman, Colo.
Res. 1309 Grant Street, Denver, Colo.

ARTHUR HILL COLLINS
Born 5/30/1874, Batavia, Iowa
Died 12/20/1892, Stanley, Colo.

MILTON SHRIVER BECK COLLINS "SHRIVE"
Born 9/5/1878, Batavia, Iowa
Died 1/5/1954, Denver, Colo.

Married 12/20/1909
HALLIE CHAPMAN
Born 4/9/1883, Salida, Colo.
Died 9/24/1946, Denver, Colo.

MILTON SHRIVER BECK COLLINS "SHRIVE"

Married 7/22/1948
MARGUERITE DYER DONNEN "DAISY"
Born 11/21/1880, Del Norte, Colo.
Died 1/31/1965, Del Norte, Colo.
DESCENDANTS of JAMES HARRAH COLLINS and JANE HILL COLLINS

GRANDCHILDREN
(Children of James Harlan and Ida Groves Collins)

GLADYS CHARLOTTE COLLINS
Born 11/3/1895, Monte Vista, Colo.
Married December 22, 1921

EDWARD DOWES WILCOXSON
Born 1/6/1888, Pueblo, Colo.
Res. 1535 Wisteria Lane,
Los Altos, Calif. 94022

GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN

ROBERT HARLAN WILCOXSON
Born 10/7/1922, Berkeley, Calif.
Married 9/12/1950

JUNE CAROLINE LONG SMITH
Born 6/15/1922, Orland, Calif.
Res. 1730 Notre Dame Ave.
University Village,
Palo Alto, Calif. 94303

HAROLD EDWARD WILCOXSON
Married 8/8/1954

WINNEFRED GRANT
Born 5/2/1923, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Res. 40 Iroquois Trail,
Portola Valley, Calif. 94025

GREAT-GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN

BONNIE JEAN WILCOXSON
Born 9/12/1951, San Jose, Calif.

ALLEN ROBERT WILCOXSON
Born 7/17/1953, San Jose, Calif.

SYDNEY EDWARD WILCOXSON
Born 12/17/1955, San Jose, Calif.

GRANT EDWARD WILCOXSON

NANCY KAREN WILCOXSON
DESCENDANTS of JAMES HARRAH COLLINS and JANE HILL COLLINS

GRANDCHILDREN
(Children of James Harlan and Ida Groves Collins)

ELIZABETH BLANCHE COLLINS
Born 10/31/1898, Pueblo, Colo.
Married 5/5/1923

HENRY MARTINDALE PEASE
Born 6/21/1899, Jamestown, Calif.

GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN

CONSTANCE ELIZABETH PEASE
Born 6/15/1928, Oakland, Calif.
Married 9/9/1945

EDWARD OWEN CHEWNING
Born 5/2/1922, Moneta, Va.
Res. 4963 J Parkway,
Sacramento, Calif.

STANLEY MARTINDALE PEASE
Born 5/4/1930, Modesto, Calif.
Married 10/24/1943

GREAT-GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN

KATHLEEN MARIE CHEWNING
Born 5/20/1951, Sacramento, Calif.

MARK EDWARD CHEWNING

STANLEY MARTINDALE PEASE
Married 11/5/1957

KAREN MARIE PEASE

KIRSTEN ANNE PEASE
Born 10/6/1960, Berkeley, Calif.

KATHLEEN MARIE CHEWNING
No children

ELIZABETH BLANCHE COLLINS PEASE
Married 4/2/1958

GERALD CLARK
Born 8/4/1902, Etna, Calif.
Res. 1190 14th Avenue
Sacramento 22, Calif. 95822
DESCENDANTS of JAMES HARRAH COLLINS and JANE HILL COLLINS

GRANDCHILDREN
(Children of Elizabeth Mary Collins and James Herman Baxter)

JAMES HARLAN BAXTER
Born 12/10/1888, Monte Vista, Colo.
Died 10/26/1918, Paonia, Colo.

Married 6/9/1912

LILLIAN FRANCESCA ADAMS
Born 5/20/1887, Spencer, Iowa
Died 11/2/1918, Paonia, Colo.

GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN

KENNETH BAXTER
Born 7/9/1916, Paonia, Colo.
Died 7/9/1916, Paonia, Colo.

CATHERINE ELIZABETH BAXTER
Born 7/7/1917, Paonia, Colo.

Married 3/21/1937

PAUL BECK
Born 9/3/1913, New York, N.Y.
Res. 236-20 Union Turnpike, Queens Village, N.Y. 11427

GREAT-GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN

KATHLEEN ELIZABETH BECK
Born 10/5/1948, New York, N.Y.

SHRIVE PAUL BECK
Born 3/17/50, New York, N.Y.

SUSANNE MELISSA BECK
Born 10/25/1953, New York, N.Y.

JONATHAN JOSEPH BECK
Born 4/10/1956, New Hyde Park, N.Y.

HAZEL BAXTER
Born 12/15/1890, Del Norte, Colo.
Died 7/5/1891, Del Norte, Colo.
DESCENDANTS OF JAMES HARRAH COLLINS AND JANE HILL COLLINS

GRANDCHILDREN
(Children of Emma May Collins and Joseph Agrippa Curray)

MABEL CURRAY
Born 2/12/1888, Batavia, Iowa
Married 9/16/1912
JOHN RAYMOND FRESCOLN
Born 11/25/1885, Abingdon, Iowa
Res. R.R. No. 2, Batavia, Iowa 52533

GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN

MABEL FRESCOLN
Born 11/14/1913, Batavia, Iowa
Married 12/10/1938

WILLIAM ALFRED STUART STEVENSON
Born 10/21/1913, Bisbee, Arizona
Res. 1421 East Hoover Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona 85006

MARY IRMA FRESCOLN
Born 10/23/1915, Batavia, Iowa
Address: % J. Ray Frescoln,
R.R. No. 2, Batavia, Iowa
Married 5/1/1941

ALDEN FREDERICK WOOSTER
Born 7/19/1918, Columbia, Mo.
Divorced and Frescoln name
restored April, 1955

DOROTHY MAY FRESCOLN
Born 10/24/1917, Batavia, Iowa
Married 8/18/1940

LEO GRABER SMITH
Born 2/23/1917, Lockridge, Iowa
Res. R. R. No. 2, Batavia, Iowa 52533

GREAT-GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN

DORIS JEAN STEVENSON

JOHN ALFRED STEVENSON
Born 8/20/1948, Phoenix, Arizona

GREAT-GREAT-GREAT
GRANDCHILDREN

DORIS JEAN STEVENSON

JOHN ALFRED STEVENSON
Born 8/20/1948, Phoenix, Arizona

( Children of Dorothy and Leo Smith)
GRANDCHILDREN
(Children of Emma May Collins and Joseph Agrippa Curray)

ROY ERNEST CURRAY
Born 6/24/1889, Batavia, Iowa
Married 7/6/1922

RUTH LOVILLA ROSS
Born 9/5/1895, Des Moines, Iowa
Res. P.O.Box 1778, La Jolla, Calif. 92037

GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN

ELLEN MAY CURRAY
Born 12/15/1923, Cedar Rapids, Iowa
Married 5/25/1946

FRANK KINGSLEY POWERS, Jr.
Born 1/10/1924, Des Moines, Iowa
Res. 4688 Newlons Drive West,
Murrysville, Pa.15668

JOSEPH ROSS CURRAY
Born 1/19/1927, Cedar Rapids, Iowa
Married 8/24/1949

JOYANN NELSON
Born 3/12/1925, Redondo Beach, Calif.
Res. 2734 Bordeaux Avenue,
La Jolla, Calif. 92037

MARGARET BARDWELL CURRAY
Born 7/21/1928, Cedar Rapids, Iowa
Married 8/12/1950

WILLIAM EATON PALMER
Born 8/31/1924, Sioux City, Iowa
Res. 3565 Lindenwood Street,
Sioux City, Iowa 51104

GREAT-GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN

SHARON MAY POWERS
Born 5/20/1955

CHRISTINE KELLOGG POWERS

MARY KINGSLEY POWERS

MICHAEL ROSS CURRAY
Born 5/23/1952, Tulsa, Oklahoma

STEVEN NELSON CURRAY
Born 12/28/1953, Pacific Beach, Calif.

DONNA BARDWELL CURRAY
Born 2/3/1958, La Jolla, Calif.

DOUGLAS EATON PALMER
Born 10/10/1953, Sioux City, Iowa

MARTIN BARDWELL PALMER
Born 6/29/1957, Sioux City, Iowa

KATHERINE PALMER
Born 4/15/1959, Sioux City, Iowa
DESCENDANTS OF JAMES HARRAH COLLINS AND JANE HILL COLLINS

GRANDCHILDREN
(Children of Florence Collins and Robert Edgar Robb)

RAYMOND ROBB
Born 1/17/1892, Monte Vista, Colo.
Married 10/28/1910

ETHEL HILL
Born 5/1/1892, Wadena, Minn.
Res. 2936 Country Club Drive,
Colorado Springs, Colo. 80909

GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN

CONSTANCE VIRGINIA ROBB
Born 5/28/1913, Del Norte, Colo.
Res. 2936 Country Club Drive,
Colorado Springs, Colo. 80909
Married 8/11/1935

HARBERT SELTERS
Born 1/24/1914, Center, Colo.
Divorced July, 1964

SARAH BEATRICE ROBB
Born 9/21/1914, Del Norte, Colo.
Married 7/29/1944

ALBERT MERRITT
Born 9/20/1909, Denver, Colo.
Res. 2936 Country Club Drive,
Colorado Springs, Colo. 80909

GREAT-GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN

( HENRY RAYMOND SELTERS
Born 12/4/1938, Center, Colo.
Address: 2936 Country Club Dr.
Colorado Springs, Colo. 80909

GENEALOGICAL DEPARTMENT
CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
DESCENDANTS OF JAMES HARRAH COLLINS AND JANE HILL COLLINS

GRANDCHILDREN
(Children of Florence Collins and Robert Edgar Robb)

ETHEL ROBB
Born 9/19/1897, Monte Vista, Colo.
Married 10/1/1919

JOHN WILLIAM HEDGES
Born 3/1/1893, Argenta, Illinois
Res. 2210 South St. Paul
Denver, Colo. 80210

GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN

ELEANOR HEDGES
Born 3/21/1925, Monte Vista, Colo.
Married 3/14/1948

HARVEY LEONARD
Born 4/7/1916, Leadville, Colo.
Res. 3071 South Dexter Way,
Denver, Colo. 80222

JOHN ROBERT HEDGES
Married 7/31/1965

SHARON LYNNE LEONARD
Born 9/18/1950, Denver, Colo.

ROGER KENT LEONARD
Born 2/5/1955, Denver, Colo.

GREAT-GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN

JO ANN MARIE FREY
Born 9/14/1943, Lincoln, Nebr.
Res. 4440 Laguna Place,
Boulder, Colo. 80302
DESCENDANTS OF JAMES HARRAH COLLINS AND JANE HILL COLLINS

GRANDCHILDREN
(Children of Albert Maywood and Daisy May Hale Collins)

MELVIN JAMES COLLINS
Born 8/12/1897, Creede, Colo.
Died 2/22/1936, San Antonio, Texas

Married January, 1925

RUTH REBECCA COCKRELL
Born 5/30/1904, Ballinger, Texas
Died 3/8/1935, San Antonio, Texas

GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN

EMILY RUTH COLLINS McQUEEN*
Born 11/20/1926, Wichita Falls, Texas
Married 6/8/1949

JAMES FRANKLIN LEISY
Born 3/21/1927, Normal, Illinois
Res. 1320 Westridge Drive,
Portola Valley, Calif. 94026

GREAT-GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN

R. E. C.

(Alfred Maywood Collins McQueen
Born 10/29/1929, Wichita Falls, Texas
Res. 3520 East 37th Street, Tulsa, Okla.

MALCOLM CARMICHAEL McQUEEN
Born 8/18/1899, Red Springs, N.C.
Died 8/18/1958, Muskogee, Okla.

Married

IDA RAY GRIMM COCKRELL
Born 6/20/1898, Ballinger, Texas
Res. 3520 East 37th Street, Tulsa, Okla.

MELVIN JAMES COLLINS
Married 8/25/1935

LOUISE DICKENS

*May 4, 1936, after both parents had died, Emily (9) and Albert (6) were legally adopted by their mother's sister and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. M. C. McQueen of Tulsa, Okla., and the children's surnames were changed from Collins to McQueen. Mr. McQueen told me in 1951 that Melvin had left about $20,000.00 for the children but that this money was still intact in a trust fund drawing interest. He said the children had been supported and cared for entirely by his wife and him.

R. E. C.
GRANDCHILDREN
(Children of Albert Maywood and Daisy May Hale Collins)

DORIS MAYWOOD COLLINS
Born 10/2/1900, Creede, Colo.

Married 6/25/1925

JUDSON McCLURG
Born 7/19/1884, Nebraska

Divorced 12/9/1941

Married 8/8/1942

ROBERT WILLIAM WIBLE
Born 12/13/1904, Chicago, Ill.

Res. 1011 Bradford Lane
Schaumburg,
Roselle, Illinois
DESCENDANTS OF JAMES HARRAH COLLINS AND JANE HILL COLLINS

GRANDCHILDREN
(Children of Albert Maywood and Anna Marie Streams Collins)

ALBERTA MARIE COLLINS
Born 5/19/1913, Creede, Colo.
Married 5/11/1930

BEVERLY NOTEMAN SHELTON
Born 11/28/1906, Denver, Colo.
Divorced 8/26/1939
Married 8/31/1942

JOHN JULIAN McENIRY
Born 4/3/1903, Crookston, Minn.
Res. 1420 South Dahlia, Denver, Colo. 80222

GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN

MICHELE TALIEL SHELTON
Born 4/21/1935, Denver, Colo.
Res. See footnote *
Married 7/11/1952

EDWARD COLBURN CROWELL
Born 10/6/1932
Divorced 1/30/1955
Married 11/17/1958

PETER FACCHINELLO
Born 8/15/1935, Fort Morgan, Colo.
Divorced 2/20/1960

GREAT-GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN

GINA FACCHINELLO
Born 10/18/1959
Res. See footnote *

* Michele Facchinello and her daughter, Gina, live with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Julian McEniry at 1420 South Dahlia, Denver, Colo. 80222
DESCENDANTS OF JAMES HARRAH COLLINS AND JANE HILL COLLINS

GRANDCHILDREN

(Children of Albert Maywood and Anna Marie Streams Collins)

HELEN JOSEPHINE COLLINS
Born 11/27/1917, Creede, Colo.
Married 11/12/1941

GEORGE BICKNELL RICE
Born 9/14/1915, Denver, Colo.
Res. 411 Williams Street,
Denver, Colo. 80518

GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN

GEORGE BICKNELL RICE Jr.
Born 2/9/1944, San Diego, Calif.
Married 9/18/1965

CARROLL DIANE REISIG
Born 3/13/1945, Denver, Colo.
Res. 66 Pearl Street
Denver, Colo.
DESCENDANTS of JAMES HARRAH COLLINS and JANE HILL COLLINS

GRANDCHILDREN
(Children of Milton Shriver Beck and Hallie Chapman Collins)

KATHERINE ELIZABETH COLLINS
Born 3/8/1911, Creede, Colo.

Married 11/27/1934

ANDERS CHRISTIAN RASMUSSEN
Born 6/8/1910, Denver, Colo.
Res. 2818 Country Club Drive,
Colorado Springs, Colo. 80909

GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN

KATHERINE ANN RASMUSSEN
Born 9/4/1938, Hayward, Calif.

Married 8/3/1962

FRED ZULAUF
Born 5/7/1935, Buenos Aires, Argentina
Res. 44 Mercer Avenue
Englewood Cliffs, N. J.

JANE COLLINS RASMUSSEN
Born 6/9/1943, Hayward, Calif.
Res. 2818 Country Club Drive
Colorado Springs, Colo. 80909

GREAT-GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN

ROXANNE ZULAUF
Born 3/14/1963, Buenos Aires, Argentina

MARINA ZULAUF
Born 9/7/1964, Buenos Aires, Argentina
DESCENDANTS OF JAMES HARRAH COLLINS AND JANE HILL COLLINS

GRANDCHILDREN
(Children of Milton Shriver Beck and Hallie Chapman Collins)

JANE HILL COLLINS
Born 2/25/1916, Creede, Colo.
Married 7/21/1938

ROBERT BARBOUR TEMPLE
Born 2/8/1915, Denver, Colo.
Res. 4212 Mercerwood Drive,
Mercer Island, Washington 98040

GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN

VIRGINIA LEE TEMPLE
Born 8/27/1941, Schenectady, N. Y.
Died 6/17/1944, Portland, Ore.

MARTYN COLLINS TEMPLE
Born 5/24/1943, Portland, Ore.
Married 5/18/1963

BARBARA SCHODDE
Born 7/22/1943, Denver, Colo.
Res. 16 Greenway Drive,
Bristol, Rhode Island.

BARBARA JANE TEMPLE
Born 1/21/1946, Portland, Ore.

DEBORAH ANN TEMPLE
Born 6/10/1949, Portland, Ore.

GREAT-GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN

(LISA JANE TEMPLE
Born 4/4/1964, Boulder, Colo.)
James Harrah Collins was born September 15, 1836, on a farm on the northern edge of Brookfield Township a few miles south of Cumberland, Ohio. Cumberland is in the southwestern corner of Guernsey County and was the mail address, but the farm of James' father, Elijah Collins, in Brookfield Township was in Morgan County. Brookfield Township is now in Noble County. The land transfer records give us a clue as to where the name "Harrah" came from. In July of 1835 Elijah purchased some land from James Harrah.

James' obituary and his children tell us that James was seven years old when his father and mother brought him to Iowa but he must have been eight because his father and mother, Elijah and Elizabeth, signed in Ohio on September 20, 1844, the deed by which they disposed of their remaining Ohio land, and James would have been eight years old at that time.

James' father and mother settled in Locust Grove Township, Jefferson County, Iowa. Their first home was just East of Cedar Creek on the South side of the road now known as U.S. 34, but in a few years they moved to a farm which my sister's daughter and her husband, Leo and Dorothy Frescoln Smith now own and on which they now live. It is about a mile East and a mile North of Batavia. The land records indicate that the 80 acres on which the improvements stand was the first land acquired by Elijah, Sr. in Iowa. The deed from the U.S. Government was dated Jan. 1, 1847 and we think the house must have been built by 1850. While this building has been remodeled or rebuilt several times the frame is the original frame that Elijah, Sr. put up.

In the spring of 1853 or 1854 when James was about 17, he and a neighbor boy were allowed to go as far as the Missouri River to help some of his older brothers and neighbors get their ox teams and wagons across the river on their way to the gold fields of California. As might be expected James and the other younger boy went on to California instead of returning home. We know Findly, age 34 or 35, went along on the trip and we think Elijah, Jr., age 21 or 22, was along. One interesting incident is that their dog got sore feet so they had leather shoes made for it at Omaha. The trail to California at that time was through Idaho and Oregon so we assume that was the route they followed.

While prospecting or mining in California Findly was killed by Indians. He was wearing a ring made of pure gold. After the Indians had left, someone took the ring off Findly's finger and gave it to James. He wore it for many years. One day mother was admiring it so he took it off and gave it to her. Later she gave it to her granddaughter, Irma Frescoln. We are not sure when James returned from this trip but think he came across the Isthmus of Panama and that it must have been in 1837 or late in 1836 because the entry in Elijah, Sr.'s family bible says Findlay died April 14, 1856 and the 1856 Iowa census does not show either James or Elijah, Jr. back in Iowa with Elijah Collins, Sr.'s family.

Jane Hill, the second child and oldest daughter of Dr. Noah Spiers Hill and Mary Roland Dilley Hill, was born in Senecaville, Ohio January 17, 1837. She spent her girlhood attended school there. She came to Iowa with her
cousin, a sister of Dr. Baldridge of Batavia. We think this was in 1857. They came by train to Keokuk and then by stagecoach. The stagecoach stopped at Keosauqua, Ashland and Agency. After arriving in Iowa she taught school at the Ashland Academy, which was a few miles southeast of Batavia. We are told that shortly before they were married, probably in 1858, James took Jane to a camp-meeting which was held in the locust grove at his father's home (where my sister now lives) and that James' mother (Elizabeth) took Jane up on her lap and kissed her.

James and Jane were planning to go back to Jane's home in Senecaville, Ohio, to be married when James' mother, Elizabeth, died unexpectedly November 1, 1858. She got a bone stuck in her throat and the doctors did not know what to do. James' older brother, Zara Costin and his younger sister, Lucy, were still at home but Lucy was planning to get married soon so they needed a cook and a woman to take charge. Jane quit her school and James and Jane drove about ten miles to Fairfield in a sleigh and were married in the Leggett Hotel, January 6, 1859. Lucy was married in October and we suspect James' father and brother did not stay with James and Jane very long. They are not shown with them in the 1860 census. This house and farm belonged to James. The records show that Elijah, Sr. and Elizabeth deeded this farm to Zara Costin Collins and James H. Collins December 9, 1847 and that Zara Costin deeded his share of it to James March 5, 1858.

We are told that James built a big barn (not later than 1861) and needed money to finish it, which was the reason (or excuse) for his second trip to California, which was made in the spring of 1862. Jane went back to Senecaville with her two babies (Harry about 2 and Elizabeth less than 6 months) to be with her father and mother, and James went to California by train and stagecoach. James did well this time and stayed in California a long time until finally Jane wrote him a letter and told him to make up his mind whether he was coming back or not. My uncle, Harry Collins, (now deceased) told me that James took what gold he had mined and left their mine in the hands of his partner who promptly sold the mine and absconded with the proceeds. At any rate, James returned this time by ship around Cape Horn to the Atlantic Coast. He stopped in Philadelphia and had his gold minted ($4,000), picked up Jane and the children in Ohio and returned home in the fall of 1864.

Five other children were born in the next fourteen years, my mother, Emma May, in 1865, Florence in 1867, Albert in 1871, Arthur in 1874 and Shrive in 1878. Jane made several trips back to Senecaville. My mother thinks she took all of the children back to see their grandparents at one time or another.

In 1879 or 1880 James and his brother, Elijah, Jr., began to receive letters from their older brother, Dr. David Collins, who had gone to Colorado from Chariton, Iowa, about the rich gold mines in Colorado. In the spring of 1880 the two brothers, James and Elijah, and many others went to Colorado to seek their fortune. James returned in the fall but went back again the next spring. This went on for about three or four years with James' oldest son, my Uncle Harry, looking after the farm and family. After that, the fields were rented to neighbors and Harry went with his father. I have always understood that at least during a part of this period James and Harry were supervising
mining operations for other owners and that their services were in demand not only because they were competent but also because they were not addicted to the use of liquor and were trustworthy.

Finally, in the spring of 1888 the James Harrah Collins family moved to Colorado, all except my mother who had married Joseph Curray and had a daughter about 7 weeks old. My mother says her father had gone on ahead with a car of stock and furniture and that the others left about March 1. Aunt Florence says they arrived in Monte Vista in the San Luis Valley of Colorado April 4, 1888. James bought land there and they lived in some small buildings while their house was being built. While Shrive was in school at Golden (School of Mines) Jane went there to stay with him (1896 or 1897). However, they found she had cancer so James bought a house in Del Norte near daughter Elizabeth, and they moved there. They lived in Del Norte until Jane died in 1899 and James in 1900.

We are told that James Harrah was of medium build and a little less than six feet in height. He had blue eyes and his hair, beard and whiskers were light brown or sandy. He enjoyed people. He liked to sing and he liked to talk. He was a 32nd degree Mason and a member of the Knights of Pythias. He belonged to the Methodist Episcopal Church and he could not let a collection basket go by without putting something in it. For some reason he was called Captain but he was never a soldier in a major war. He liked trees and shrubs and planted many varieties. He liked to do the family shopping and he liked to be the first to have something new. They had the first sewing machine and the first Brussels carpet in the neighborhood. He was not miserly with his money.

I understand Jane had black hair and blue eyes and that she was of about average height or a little less, probably about five feet three. They tell us that she liked to sing and go to parties but I infer that she was quieter and more reticent than James. We are told that one of her Ohio cousins, who was a musician, was very much in love with Jane and that he wrote some songs to or about her. That may be one reason why she left Senecaville and came West to Iowa at an early age.

They tell us also that she was strict about the observance of the Sabbath. One story is that while James was away in Colorado and Harry was managing the firm the big wheel was blown off the windmill and Harry repaired it and put it back up on Sunday. Jane did not approve and was not surprised that the wind blew it down again.

My mother recalls another incident that is interesting. In about 1876 they were having a basement dug under the house. While the work was in progress, it was impossible to lock up at night. James was away and the children were still small, the oldest, Harry, being about 16. At that time there were no banks nearby and there were several thousand dollars of currency in the house. Jane sat up all night with a revolver in her hand although, as my mother says, she had probably never used one in her life.

Jane devoted her life to her husband and her children, and in my opinion, she did the job well. As one granddaughter, Mrs. John W. (Ethel Robb) Hedges expressed it, "my impression is that she must have been a very wonderful person."
Miss Hill,

Thou, with whom I have spent many pleasant hours.

Thou, whom I have been delighted to see, and would now relish the sight.

Your letter came duly to hand, was thankfully received, and read with pleasure.

It is pleasant to correspond even with the world, agreeable to have intercourse with friends; but, far exceeding all these, is it to communicate with one, whom of all others I esteem the fairest and most to be admired.

The weather is not so pleasant as you predicted it would be, but is rather cool to be very pleasant; however, we have had some pleasant weather already, and hope we may have still a greater supply.

I have no doubt but that things have, and will continue to transpire in Senecaville, agreeably with the ordinary events before passing. It would certainly be ominous of some great event if anything worthy of note should go off in Senecaville.

After all you said against the Buffalo people, you seem to think well of some of them. I thought you would be likely to fall in love with some of them. I suppose you have had the exquisite delight of seeing Mr. W. J. McGaw, which was no doubt a pleasure. Mr. W. J. wrote me two letters, which did me a great favor, indeed.

He seems still to be desirous of your company. I rather think if you had not shown more favor to me than to him, I would, long since, have turned my eyes some-where else.

Some people are quite unfortunate.

I am getting along quite well, as I suppose, though not boasting.

We have a pretty fine Society, not much in advance, however, of the P. L. Society. Our Session will close four weeks from next Wed. The time seems long, but will soon roll around.

I will, in all probability, pay you a visit soon after my arrival; i.e. I may if circumstances are favorable. I will not come up to Buffalo though to see you, that’s so.

I suppose though you will not be very anxious to see me, as there are many with whom you can pass the time nearer at home. But still I would like to see you once more which I hope I will if prospered.

I presume that this is protracted sufficiently, for the present, and will therefore refrain.

Remember and write as usual.

My best wishes for you.

Yours truly,

H. S. Thompson (Signed)
Death of Capt. J. H. Collins

James H. Collins, an old and respected citizen of Del Norte, and a man well known in Colorado mining circles, died at his residence in Del Norte at 2 o'clock a.m., Wednesday, April 4, 1900, of cancer of the stomach, after an illness lasting nearly a year. Age 63 years and 6 months.

The funeral, under Masonic auspices, took place from the M.E. church, Thursday, April 5, 1900, at 11 a.m., and was attended by a large number of the many old friends and acquaintances of Mr. Collins.

The Knights of Pythias, of which order Capt. Collins was a valued member, attended the funeral in a body.

A delegation of Scottish Rite Masons consisting of George L. Cooper, Albert L. Moses, M. G. Woodruff, James A. Westlake and M. G. Boyle, accompanied by their ladies came down from Creede Thursday to attend the Collins funeral.

The death of Capt. Collins, while not altogether unexpected, came as a great shock to the community nevertheless, for few men in this section had more friends than James H. Collins, who was admired for his many sterling qualities.

It was only last May that the estimable wife of Mr. Collins passed on to a better land, and his decline has been noticeable since that date.

Following are the resolutions of Rev. L. J. Hole, during the funeral services at the M.E. church.

James Harrah Collins was born on September 15, 1836 at Cumberland, Ohio. From that place he removed with his parents to Jefferson County, Iowa at 7 years of age. Here it was that most of his boyhood was spent. When quite young his interest in the far west induced him to travel through what was then an almost uninhabited wilderness, and during the early days of the California gold discoveries he made the long journey to that country.

Returning he was married on January 6, 1859 to Miss Jane Hill of Fairfield, Iowa. Her death, which we were called upon to mourn only a few short months ago, occurred on May 26th, 1899, she having preceded her husband by a little less than one year.

In the year 1888 they removed with their family to Colorado, where Mr. Collins had been interested in mining for some years. For the greater part of this time they have resided in Del Norte, where they have had the esteem and friendship of the entire community.

Mr. Collins, in early life, was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and for years has been an esteemed brother of the Masonic fraternity, having taken the 32d degree. He was also a member of Coronado Lodge No. 25, Knights of Pythias, of Del Norte.

He leaves six children to mourn his loss and cherish his memory, namely:

Harry Collins, Pueblo; Mrs. Lizzie Baxter, Del Norte; Mrs. Emma Curry, Batavia, Iowa; Mrs. Florence Robb, Monte Vista, Colo.; A. M. Collins, Creede, Colo., and Shrive Collins, Del Norte, Colo.

The following resolutions were adopted by Coronado Lodge No. 25, Knights of Pythias, at a meeting held Thursday evening, April 5, 1900:
WHEREAS, It has pleased the Supreme Ruler of the Universe to remove our Brother Knight James H. Collins from among us, and

WHEREAS, It is but just that a fitting recognition of his many virtues be had, therefore be it

Resolved, by Coronado Lodge No. 25, K. of P., that while we bow in humble submission to the will of the Most High, we do not the less mourn for our brother, who has been taken from us.

Resolved, That in the death of James H. Collins, this lodge laments the loss of a brother who was ever ready to proffer the hand of aid and the voice of sympathy to the needy and distressed of his fraternity, a member of this society whose utmost endeavors were extended to its welfare and prosperity, a friend and companion who was dear to us all.

Resolved, That the heartfelt sympathy of this lodge be extended to his relatives in their affliction.

Resolved, That these resolutions be spread upon the records of the lodge, and a copy thereof be send to the relatives of our deceased brother.

The following resolutions were adopted Thursday, April 5, by Del Norte Lodge No. 105, A. F. & A. M.:

WHEREAS, It has pleased Almighty God in His divine wisdom to call from his earthly labors to that reward which awaits all true men and Masons, our brother James H. Collins, and

WHEREAS, Deceased was made a Master Mason more than 20 years ago at Batavia, Iowa, exalted by the Royal Arch near the same time in McCord chapter, Fairfield, Iowa and became a Master of the Royal Secret of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite Masons of the 32d degree in Denver, Colorado, on the 31st day of March, 1899, and

WHEREAS, Our brother always remembered his several obligations and so lived as to endear himself to his brethren and bring credit to the order, it is but fitting that some suitable expression of our regard for the departed and our sympathy for his family should be recorded; therefore, be it

Resolved, That to the family of our departed brother we extend our heartfelt sympathy in their hour of distress; that we have sustained a loss which will be seriously felt in the several bodies of which our brother was a member, and that the community has lost one of its leading and most progressive citizens - a pioneer of the west who was a pillar of strength wherever he went.

Resolved, That an engrossed copy of these resolutions be presented to each of the children of the deceased, and that the same be spread at length upon our records.

J. A. Israel, of Denver, arrived Thursday. He was en route to see Capt. J. H. Collins on business, and did not know of Mr. Collins' death until he saw it in the Denver Times at Pueblo. As it was, Mr. Israel arrived in time for the funeral Thursday.
"THE MINERS' BANK -- The first banking institution organized to do business in Creede camp was the Miners' Bank which opened its doors December 23, 1891 before the rush of people began. It is associated with the State Bank of Monte Vista, Colorado which has a paid-up capital of $80,000 with a surplus of $5,000. The Creede institution is offered as follows: President, J. D. Maben; Vice-President, James H. Collins; Cashier, C. L. Graves. The bank was located in Upper Creede where every newcomer into the camp went in the early days, but as the population in the gulch increased, the space for building being limited, structures gradually loomed up in the broader part, and the entire territory for a mile and a quarter south was soon inhabited. Through the foresight of the officers of the Miners' Bank in coming in when they did, they soon were doing an immense business. Every man with money who came in made them the guardians of his dollars. At one time their deposits reached $100,000 and four men were kept busy during banking hours for many months. After the Jimtown fire, the officers of the bank purchased a lot on Main Street and erected a handsome brick building and fitted it with all modern improvements for a banking institution at a cost of $5,000. Here their business has doubled. Mining men, business men, miners and many mechanics are depositors, the institution enjoying the full confidence of all.

"James H. Collins, Vice-President of the bank, is a mining man of long experience, having followed the business for 39 years. He was born in Guernsey County, Ohio in 1837, and when 17 years of age went to California, meeting with all the incidents and experiences subject to that period while engaged in placer mining. From California he went to Idaho and Montana and was the first to introduce hydraulic mining in Idaho, at Elk River. Since 1878 Mr. Collins has been in Colorado engaged in superintending mines and developing new properties. For nine years he was in the Gunnison country, seven of which he spent as superintendent of the Hiawatha and Legal Tender mines, and still holds valuable interests in that county. Together with J. D. Maben he is interested in some of the best prospects in Creede. Among these are the Mary Taylor, Ironclad, Eureka, Stanley, Arion, Sunol and others. He has retired from the active superintendence of mines and only looks after his interests to which are added large ranches in the San Luis Valley where he spends part of his time looking after the raising of wheat and fine horses on his 2,000 acres of land."

The flyleaf, which probably gave the name of the author or publisher, is missing, but another page gives credit to H. C. Butler of the Leadville "Herald-Democrat," Mr. Charles O. Springer of the "Sunnyside Sentinel" and others. The Central City "Register-Call," the Aspen "Times," the Creede "News" and "Candle," the Colorado Springs Gazette, "the Rice "News," the Leadville "Herald-Democrat," the Curay "Plaindealer" and the Red Mountain "Journal" are mentioned. All historical facts have been based on Frank Hall's "History of Colorado" and Hollister's "Colorado Mines." This book was loaned to me by Mrs. John J. (Alberta Collins) McEniry, 4761 East Colorado Avenue, Denver, Colorado, a granddaughter of James Harrah and Jane Hill Collins.
JAMES HARLAN COLLINS "HARRY"

Father was born May 31, 1860, near Batavia, Iowa. He was always called "Harry".

Father said he did not get to finish high school. He was a great reader. He particularly liked to read history and about famous people and places. In the evening after dinner you could usually find him by the big stove, one leg over the arm in his old leather chair, reading a library book. He had an excellent memory to the day he died. He was a fine one too to tell stories about the early days of Colorado.

Grandfather Collins (dad's father) had gone to California twice to find gold, once as a boy in the early 1850s and again after dad was born in the early 1860s. About 1880 he and his brother, Elijah, began going to Colorado each spring to look for gold returning each fall. During these long absences, dad, the oldest son, was left with the care and responsibility of the farm. Being of a cheerful and outgoing nature, he did not let this weigh him down too much. "Many was the time", he said that he would dance until dawn, go home to care for the animals and then go on to school. After three or four years the fields were rented and dad went to Colorado each spring with his father and uncle.

In 1888, when dad was 28, the family moved to a large farm in the San Luis Valley in Colorado. The virgin soil was very fertile and farming was prosperous. Dad said he could walk out into a field of grain so tall that he could tie it over his head. Soon grandfather and his sons were engaged in other business projects, particularly mining at Creede, which was a booming mining town of 20,000 in 1893. That year it is reported to have produced $4,150,946 in silver and lead.

Father had to stop working in mines as he became very ill from lead poisoning. He and a friend went on a trip West to regain their health. They lived in the open and had several dangerous skirmishes with Indians. They lived in Utah with the Mormons for whom dad always had a word of praise. We used to listen spellbound to his interesting and funny stories about his trips and the early days. He told about pulling a wet greasy dish rag across his friend's face while they were sleeping on the ground. Dad yelled "Snake! Snake!". His friend, Ek, jumped for his gun and Father just missed being shot.

Father and mother were married in Denver January 9, 1895. They lived in Monte Vista about three years where he was in the grain storage business with his father. They moved to Pueblo in 1898 where the altitude was lower. About this time grandfather thought he had cancer so dad took him to see several doctors. While in New York grandpa bought a set of fine wicker furniture at Wanamakers and had it shipped to mother as a gift.

Mother had some money from her farm in Ohio so they bought a nice brick home with a large yard in a new part of South Pueblo. They had a garden, fruit trees, a cow (which the neighbors milked) and a big black stallion. Dad liked to drive a snappy buggy and a high stepping horse. We girls had such a difficult time getting by the horse that we were very happy when he sold the horse and bought his first truck.

After working several years for Frank Sutton dad went into business for himself. The Suttons were old Iowa friends and neighbors. We were close friends and spent many holidays together. What wonderful meals mother and Sue Sutton could put on the table. Their businesses were similar. Sutton had a wholesale commission produce company handling fruits, grains and vegetables. Father sold some
fruits and vegetables; also dairy and poultry products. This kept him very busy and he worked long hard hours, but he rarely complained and seemed to get a lot of fun out of life. The business was prosperous.

Dad was generous with his family and friends and, when younger, spent money easily. As he grew older he learned to be more calculating and careful. Often he surprised mother with his saving and economies. This was especially true after they moved to Oakland. Like his father and many of the men of his day he always hoped to "strike it rich". It was very hard for him to turn down an "opportunity to invest". Most of this money was lost partly due to the flood. Some investments were good and came in handy later.

In 1921 a terrible flood hit Pueblo, killing and ruining thousands. Father's business was hard hit and he almost lost his life. A few days after the flood the bank called him to come down and see about his safety deposit box. The floor of the bank had fallen through so the safety deposit boxes were lying in the mud in the basement. Elizabeth went to the bank and dad went to his store. He was anxious, too, to find his big old brown poodle, which he loved.

When he stepped into the water upon what he thought was the loading zone he fell through into a basement full of water as the zone had washed away. He couldn't swim much anymore but was finally washed against the steps and managed to get up and out alive. He was much shaken for days. The flood made it easy for mother to persuade him to move to California. She loved California and felt better in the lower altitude. She had visited there several summers with Elizabeth.

When they started again in Oakland dad was over sixty so it took courage. He opened a neighborhood grocery and they bought a nice five room home. They were very happy here. They loved the pleasant climate, the "fog rolling in" and especially the Berkeley hills. Dad retired for a while but did not enjoy leisure so bought the store back and worked until he was too sick to be up. The doctor told him he had heart trouble so he stopped smoking overnight. He died Feb. 11, 1940.

He had many friends all his life, partly because he always had a good joke or funny story on hand. When he lived in Pueblo he took an active part in the Chamber of Commerce and other civic organizations. He and mother enjoyed a good life. She loved to go places. In the summers we went to Manitou, Colo. She went to Ohio several times and later to California. Dad liked to attend ball games and we went to many shows. When he was younger he went to Silverton to fish. On Sundays we girls went to Church but dad went to town to the store. Later he would come home with all the papers, some magazines, ice cream and a big bag of candy "for the girls". Then the family spent a quiet but pleasant day together. Sometimes mother would entertain friends for Sunday supper or we would attend the Band Concerts at the Park.

Gladys Collins Wilcoxson
Elizabeth Collins Clark
Mother's paternal grandfather was Joseph Groves. His ancestors came to Pennsylvania from Holland. Later they settled at Egypt, Ohio, a small farming village near Salem. The name had been Von Groves.

Mother's maternal grandfather was Hugh Douglass who married Catherine Elizabeth Sheppard, daughter of Daniel Sheppard and Charlotte Quilling. We do not know where the Sheppards and Quillings were from but know that the Douglas family came from Scotland, first to Virginia, then to Antrim, Ohio, where grandmother Charlotte Douglass was born.

After grandfather Samuel Groves married grandmother, Charlotte Douglass, they moved to a large farm about ten miles from Barnesville, Ohio, in Belmont County on the old National Pike. This road is now part of Highway 40. Grandfather Groves was prosperous. He owned several farms. Their home place was very attractive. We girls visited there several times as children. We were very interested in the brook (which had poisonous snakes) and in the large woods. We enjoyed making the trips for food to the little stone summer house, built over the brook, which was as cold as ice.

Mother was the youngest of four daughters. She had an older brother, Elliott, on whom she depended. Mother told us about the lovely new home which grandfather built for "his girls". They had the first grand piano in the county. All of the girls had studied the organ. They now started to study piano. The new house caught fire in a storm. In those days it was impossible to save it. This was a sad experience as grandfather was a very proud man. He was ill with "Bright's Disease" and did not live to rebuild his home.

Grandfather was greatly admired by mother. He was neat and particular about his farm and himself. He was a large well-built man and the pictures we have show his Dutch ancestry. Grandmother was small and rather plain but full of fun and energy.

Mother attended a school nearby and finished what would now be about the Freshman Year in High School. Mother had a nice voice. She enjoyed playing the piano and was quite an accomplished player on her beautiful guitar. By the time she was nineteen she had her inheritance from her father which made her independent and courageous.

She and her brother, Elliott, were fond of each other and he looked after her. When his first wife died mother took his son, our cousin Murray, to live with us until he was ready to go to the University of California. When Elliott's second wife became seriously ill they were living across the street and mother helped nurse her.

As a girl mother had her own horse and was free to get around the countryside and visit relatives. She was determined to get out and see new places. She went to the Chicago World's Fair with Elliott. Next, she decided to go to Colorado with Ad Major, an older woman and a family friend. Miss Major had an aunt in Creede which she wanted to visit. Creede was "booming" at the time. Mother got a little bored after visiting several months with nothing to do. She decided to help Mrs. Hammond for a while in the dining room of the hotel where they were staying. The Hammonds were old friends of both Grandfather Collins and dad. Mrs. Hammond made a point of introducing dad to mother. He was a good looking bachelor and mother was very pretty so it soon became a love affair which lasted their lifetimes.
It was difficult for grandmother to give her consent when mother told her she wanted to go back to Colorado to be married. However, mother and her friend "Ad" made a handsome trousseau. Years later we "dressed up" in the wedding clothes which hung in her closet. Mother returned to Colorado, met dad in Denver and they were married. Uncle Jim and Aunt Lizzie Baxter made the trip from the San Luis Valley with dad and were with them at the ceremony, which, Gladys thinks, was in the famous old Brown Palace Hotel.

Mother and father lived in a small house in Monte Vista. The next important event was the birth of the first girl, Gladys Charlotte. Mother almost died; she was ill for about a year. About three years later they moved to Pueblo where the second girl, Elizabeth Blanche was born.

Grandmother Groves made two visits to Colorado. She was very pleased with her son-in-law. When Grandmother died a few years after her last visit she left her grandchildren money to be used for college.

Mother was never well in Colorado but she and dad had a happy life. They both worked very hard and gave their best to each other. We know that she sacrificed a number of times for our music. They were always proud to take us when we were performing at affairs.

Mother had a "green thumb". She grew beautiful flowers wherever she lived. Dad always admired them so much. She had a big garden during most of the years we lived in Pueblo. He did not enjoy yard work so sent a young man from the store to do the heavy work in the yard and garden for her. He was not a farmer by nature. He always said that his idea of a good lawn was "green cement".

After father died she moved to an apartment in Berkeley. She preferred to stay there to be near old friends. They were loyal to her to the end. She lived to be 93 and her mind was as keen as ever until the last three months.

Gladys Collins Wilcoxson
Elizabeth Collins Clark
JOSEPH AGRIFFA CURRAY and EMMA MAY COLLINS CURRAY

Father was born January 30, 1858; mother September 21, 1865. Father wanted to be a physician but since his father came from England, the chance to get an education was offered to the first son who was not interested rather than to father who was the second son. So he became a farmer. He must have farmed for himself for several years before 1886 because August 26, 1886 he bought 75 acres of good land for $2,000.00 (NW 1/4SW 1/4 and SW 1/4NW 1/4, Section 16-72-11). Plus 40 acres added later this was his farm for many years.

He had been admiring mother since she was 16 but her parents would not let her go out with a 23 year old man so father waited. Eventually he courted her and they were married November 24, 1886. Mother tells us that when he was young father had the nicest riding horses and driving equipment in the neighborhood. Before the marriage he had built a small house, a kitchen, a living room, a bedroom and a covered porch. Later the bedroom was divided into two bedrooms. There were two children, Mabel, born February 12, 1888 and Roy, born June 24, 1889.

Father was an enterprising and successful farmer. His crops were in the ground early and well tended. He had milk cows and raised some cattle but more hogs. He reasoned correctly that while raising and feeding cattle was more spectacular, hogs with their shorter life span were a more dependable source of farm income. He liked his livestock, had good ones and took good care of them. He worked hard and utilized his time by building and repairing fences and doing odd jobs on rainy days and between seasons so that when weather conditions were right he would be free to plant, cultivate and harvest crops.

Some land was needed for pasture; timothy, clover and oats were used for rotation crops but the main field crop was corn and the corn was fed to livestock rather than sold. Once or twice, when he thought (and his judgment was good) that the price of corn was too low he built extra cribs and bought corn; when the price went high enough he sold the extra corn. Father had the first self-binder (a harvesting machine that cuts grain and binds it into bundles by machinery) in the neighborhood and was the first farmer in the community to have his grain threshed by a steam-powered threshing machine. His neighbors were almost afraid to help for fear the countryside would be set afire.

In those days orchards, gardens, chickens and milk cows were important because thrifty farmers raised much of their food. Some years mother sold eggs, chickens and butter but in the main the fruit, vegetables, milk, butter, chickens and eggs were for our own use. Father built the chicken house and coops and he ploughed the garden and helped plant but mother looked after the chickens and garden and she helped with the milking. Mother was a little superstitious about the number 13 so father usually managed to plant 13 rows of sweet corn or some vegetable.
Mother worked hard and efficiently. Her house was always neat and clean with curtains and tablecloths and flowers in the windows as well as outside. She made the carpets, which were rag woven in neat patterns. She did her sewing by hand until 1892 when father bought her a solid walnut Demorest sewing machine with drawers and shelves on each side. She did some sewing for other people and mended for the hired men.

In addition to doing the things described above, taking care of her two children and cooking for the family which usually included at least one hired man, mother looked after many of the sick neighbors. There were no hospitals. When a neighbor woman became seriously ill someone had to "sit up" with her at night. In our community it was usually mother.

Mother's parents moved to Colorado in 1888 and died in 1899 and 1900 so the Grandfather Collins farm (including the house where mother had lived as a girl) was for sale. Father sold his farm and bought the Collins farm (2/28/1901) and we moved there in the summer of 1903. The house was more than 50 years old and had been occupied by tenants for the last 15 years so it must have been in need of repairs and renovating but we can not forget that the old woodwork that was torn out and discarded was black walnut while the new woodwork that replaced it was pine. Not only was this house larger and the farm bigger (120 acres of level, tillable land and 120 acres of timber and pasture) but it was closer to town - about two miles to the Batavia High School.

A year or two after Mabel and Roy entered Parsons College at Fairfield (ten miles distant) father and mother thought it would be better if we could live at home so they bought a house in Fairfield and spent a part of their time there. In 1912, while Roy was away at law school, Mabel married John Raymond (Ray) Frescoln. They needed a house and farm so father soon turned the management of the farm over to them (and eventually sold it to them) and father and mother began spending their winters in California.

They always went to Southern California. At first they went to Los Angeles; then they tried different beaches and finally settled on Long Beach which continued to be their winter home until the military activity of the Second World War drove them to Elsinore. In California they lived in furnished apartments, usually a different one (a new one if possible) each year. They stayed near the beach, walked a great deal and spent much time at the beach. One of their California experiences was the Long Beach earthquake of 1933. They were in the street in front of a bank when the ground began to rumble. At first they thought the bank was being robbed. While they had to stay out of buildings and in the street for a few days the earthquake experience did not disturb them as much as it did the native Californians.

After the First World War Roy was working and living in Des Moines, Iowa. Father and mother thought they should move there to make a home for him so they sold the Fairfield house and bought one in Des Moines. Before long Roy was offered a better position in Cedar Rapids and moved there but
father and mother kept the Des Moines house and it was their summer home until they sold it in 1938. From then on Southern California was their year around home until father's death at Elsinore March 14, 1944. He had lived more than eighty six years.

Father was a man of medium size with a light complexion and blue eyes. His hair was very fine and he lost most of it before he was thirty. He was active. In those days farming required hard physical work. However, after he retired he did a great deal of walking so was never overweight. He was quiet. When father and mother visited with other people she did more of the talking and she made most of the new contacts. Father was quite stern at times but he was very much interested in his family and was quite considerate. He had not had a chance to get an education but he wanted his children to have every opportunity. He made it possible for both of us to finish college.

When, after getting his B.A. degree at Parsons Roy decided he wanted to study law and wanted to go to Harvard Law School (1200 miles distant) father must have thought he was impractical and visionary but he cooperated and furnished the funds. Even after Roy finished law school and was working in a law office father helped financially when help was needed. Also after Roy was well situated with an insurance company father helped Roy finance his first purchase of stock in that company. He helped Mabel too and tried to treat both children fairly and equally.

As I said before father was a successful farmer. After he retired he did pretty well with his investments. Like most people he made some mistakes but he came through the Great Depression of the Early Thirties and when he died he left mother with enough land and other good investments to keep her comfortably.

Mother had four brothers and two sisters. She must have been a lively girl and very attractive with blue eyes and a fair complexion. She liked people and had poise. She had the happy faculty of being able to talk to anyone and everyone without feeling timid or afraid. She made new friends easily in Fairfield, Des Moines and California. Her family were Methodists and she belonged to the Methodist Church in Batavia. When we lived four and a half miles from town it was difficult to attend but after we moved to the Collins house father joined the church too and all of us went to Sunday School or Church or both.

Mother was always active and busy. In addition to other things she liked to knit and sew. She explained that her father taught her how to knit when she was a little girl and her mother was away from home visiting her parents in Ohio. After father and mother left the farm she made many quilts for her children and grandchildren and she did a lot of fancy work. In her later years when her eyesight began to fail she gave up the fancy work and quilting but continued to knit. Her health was good so she hardly saw a doctor until late in life she had some falls. At ninety she broke a hip but had
but had it pinned and was walking again before very long. A few years later she broke the other hip but recovered from that accident also.

Mother said father was the one who had the urge to go to California. After his death she returned to Iowa and rented an apartment in Fairfield. She liked variety, so changed apartments several times but continued to live by herself until the late fall of 1963 (she was 98) she entered the Nelson Nursing home.

September 21, 1965 she celebrated her 100th birthday. Relatives and friends were there from California, Sioux City, Iowa and Cedar Rapids as well as Batavia. She took 17 of us down town to lunch at her favorite restaurant. Then in the afternoon, there was an Open House, for her at the Nursing Home attended by fifty or sixty people. Mother felt fine and enjoyed every minute. She received more than one hundred cards and letters. Of course daughter Mabel and granddaughters Dorothy Frescoln Smith and Margaret Curray Palmer and their husbands made the arrangements and did the work.

Roy E. Curray
Mabel Curray Frescoln
ROBERT EDGAR ROBB

My father, Robert Edgar Robb, was born at Batavia, Iowa, January 5, 1868. He moved to Monte Vista, Colorado, with his parents in 1887. They came in covered wagons with another family by the name of Lawson. They lived Northeast of Monte Vista, just across the road from former Iowa neighbors, the Collins family (my mother's family).

My mother, Florence Collins, and father were married in 1890. They built their first home two miles West of their parents and later built another home only one mile West of their parents. This district was known as the "Robb Neighborhood". A school was built and my uncle, James Baxter, was a teacher there at one time. Church services were held there on Sunday afternoons. This was the community center.

My father farmed in this district the rest of his life, farming 320 acres when he died. At one time he owned part interest in a feed store and livery stable in Monte Vista. He was one of the group organizing the Methodist Church in Monte Vista and was a devoted member all his life, helping in many capacities. He was an active member of the Masonic Lodge at Monte Vista, where his father was a charter member.

He was 5 feet 8 inches in height, had brown hair and blue eyes. He had a good tenor voice and loved to sing. He also liked to read. He died March 31, 1939.

In his obituary it was said "Ed was a leader in valley development, a good farmer and an authority on irrigation and drainage. He was a member of the original board of directors of the Rio Grande drainage district and served in that capacity 5 yrs., afterward being superintendent of the district until time of his death."

It was also said "Mr. Robb was admired by both young and old for his ready wit, fine sense of humor and sympathetic understanding of human nature. He possessed all the qualities of a true pioneer - appreciation of the rights of others, fairness and fine ideals and generosity."

Ethel Robb Hedges
FLORENCE COLLINS ROBB

My mother, Florence Collins Robb, was born April 15, 1867 at Batavia, Iowa. She moved with her family to Monte Vista, Colorado, in 1888, coming by train. She was married October 13, 1890 to my father Ed. Robb. I have heard them tell that my father had to drive to San Luis, Colorado (some 56 miles from Monte Vista) for the marriage license. They farmed in this district, called the "Robb Neighborhood", all their lives. My mother lived on the farm several years after my father's death, renting the land to others.

My brother, Raymond, went to the Robb school until I was six years old. From that time on we lived in Monte Vista during the school year and on the farm most of the summers. It must have taken very good management on the part of my mother to maintain two homes.

My mother and father were devoted Christians with the church taking our full time and interest outside the home. At my earliest recollection, our home was always opened to the visiting church officials. Mother was devoted to her "Dorcas Circle" in the church. She was at her church helping make new kitchen curtains the week she passed away at the age of 89 years. She was a charter member of the WSCS (Women's Society for Christian Service) and a member of the Eastern Star.

However, her main devotion was to her home and family. She was always ready to "take us in" between our moves and to help us in untold ways. She was a wonderful cook and made each family occasion a real treat and joy. Her sewing and needle work were beautifully done as were her mother's, Jane Hill Collins.

Mother had lovely dark hair which later turned to beautiful white. Her eyes were lovely dark blue. She was about 5 feet 4 inches tall.

Most of all she lived as a fine example of Christian Faith and Courage - always true through any disappointment or hardship. She had a keen mind and I am sure would have made a real success in a business career.

Mother came to live with us at different times but always thought of Monte Vista as "home". We felt so badly the last time we took her to Monte Vista to stay but can now say we are glad she had the happiness of being with her life-long friends attending "her" church and church circles. She passed away March 24, 1956.

Ethel Robb Hedges
My father was born in the San Luis Valley (Colorado) at the Robb farm home January 17, 1892. He was brought up in a staunch Methodist home at the height of the Victorian era on a then prosperous farm. He early attended the little Robb School down on the corner. Years later it was my pleasure to meet the first "schoolma'am". Mrs. Frank Spencer; her husband was my college history professor. As a child I remember skating on the cement sidewalk of the dismantled school.

Dad must have been a model lad, always quiet, neat, gentle and helpful. These traits were outstanding all thru his life. He spent some of his school years in Monte Vista, later moving during the winter time to Pueblo to attend high school. His inordinately proud mother had high hopes her lad would become a lawyer or doctor so sent him to Colorado University at Boulder. It was there during his freshman year he met mother who had come west for her health and to enroll in the music school. Dad had one sister, five years younger than he, who was also named Ethel Mae.

Mother was born in Wadena, Minnesota May 1, 1892. Her mother, Eliza Mae West, was the fourth child of the Samuel West family who had migrated to that virgin country to establish the first flour mill in the region. Eliza's father (Samuel West) was the nephew of Benjamin West of American History fame. In her blood ran the names of Revolutionary times - Tuckys, Fraziers and Hills. Grandmother's father (Samuel West) was killed by being caught in the belt of his own mill, leaving the young widow with seven small children. At eighteen my grandmother had won the local beauty contest. At this time she met and married a handsome salesman, Grande William Hill, whose home was in Glens Falls, N.Y. Grande Hill's family were early settlers of Manhattan and Hudson River territory. His mother was a Manning who came from the Manning clan of early Plymouth. Grande was born while his Colonel father was away fighting the Civil War. Grande and Eliza Mae were thoroughly unsuited in temperament and separated when mother was two years of age. Her father took her back to New York to be raised by his parents in Glens Falls. Grande went to Des Moines, Iowa, where he built a medicine bottling plant and spent the remainder of his life, doing much Masonic work. Grandmother went on to the West Coast, settling in the young city of Los Angeles. Tho formally uneducated she made herself a fine living buying and selling real estate. She died when I was twelve years old but I will always remember her great enthusiasm and zest for life and travel. She spent her money wisely for good living, thus creating many lasting memories. The year she died (1927) she had bought herself an Oldsmobile and was taking driving lessons so that she might drive to Eastern Oregon to visit us. Mother resembled her mother in build, being almost five feet three inches in height, small boned with dark brown eyes. Grandmother had beautiful auburn hair while mother's early reddish hair has gradually turned darker until at the age of seventy four her hair is a very dark brown. Grandmother enjoyed her self-taught hobbies of painting and piano playing whereas mother's hobby has been just piano playing.

Anyway, mother and dad met at the University (Boulder), fell in love and eloped during the second month of their second year. They were planning
on keeping the marriage a secret but the news reached the papers. Both sets of parents were irate - such was not done. The anger of both sets of parents cast mother and dad out on their own to make their way in the cruel world. Dad got a job as a clerk and mother gave music lessons. Three years later their first child, Constance Virginia, was born. Sarah Beatrice followed sixteen months later. Both girls proved to be alike in size and looks but different in personalities. Connie is the outgoing talkative carefree idealist, making friends easily, while Betty is the quiet skeptic who makes friends slowly. Both have been inseparable and life-long companions - enjoying doing the same things together.

Dad held many positions during his lifetime which led to various experiences of life in the Western States. During World War I he was manager for a dry-goods store in Laramie, Wyoming. After a spell as a salesman he became an assistant manager for a dry-goods store in Alamoso, Colorado. Later he was assigned to be manager of a store in the historic silver mining town of Tonopah, Nevada. Experiences in this town at the time would make a novel of unbelievable episodes. A severe heart condition of his youngest daughter caused dad to ask for a transfer to a more favorable climate and we were sent to a small town in North-eastern Oregon, which proved to be a veritable fairyland of flowers and fruit. In the summer of 1927 dad resigned his position in order to go to Los Angeles to help mother settle the estate of her late mother. He accepted a fine position as a buyer in a large department store there which was to commence in October. Came the famous stock market crash of that time - and the job vanished. Mother and dad came back to the Valley in November and left my sister and me with our paternal grandparents so that we might attend high school. Mother and dad went on the road selling. When Connie was ready for college dad accepted a job as manager for a co-op in Alamosa and staid there until we were both thru the little college. We both attended college on scholarships. I went on to teach, later taking my M.A. degree in 1941. Connie married her high school sweetheart. She later went back in 1960 to take her M.A. degree and to teach.

Dad was always a very slender man of about five feet ten inches in height. He had light blue eyes and fine dark blond (brown) hair. Quiet and ever serious, never talkative, he never-the-less enjoyed meeting people. Several happenings during his life proved he had outstanding, instant and marvelous courage. His hands were the memorable part of his being - very beautiful, capable and dexterous. I have always felt he missed his life calling by not being a dentist or surgeon where his high intelligence and patient ways would have won him awards.

Both dad and mother's hobby was reading. They were not club minded, but helpful to friends and neighbors when the need arose. They were church goers, not workers. They managed their modest means to the best advantage and were fine parents. I am sure St. Peter would agree with me when I say that dad's life was so exemplary that "he was too good for his own good" doing for others when he might have well done for himself. After nine months of illness he died of lung cancer in my home March 15, 1952. Mother has made her home with me since dad's passing.

Sarah Beatrice Robb Merritt
Grandfather, Albert Maywood Collins, called Bert, was born December 15, 1871, near Batavia, Iowa. He was away at school when his parents moved to Colorado but followed them to the San Luis Valley in 1888 or shortly thereafter. Grandmother, Daisy May Hale, was born September 3, 1879, at Pueblo, Colorado. They were married in Alamosa April 20, 1896, and settled in Creede, Colorado, where they lived until her death December 5, 1910.

Creede was a booming, mining town in those days. At its peak, around 1893, it is said to have produced more than four million dollars in silver and lead. The population was about twenty thousand, including prospectors, miners, businessmen, gamblers, prostitutes and outlaws of every description. I am told that it was Creede that inspired the old song, "There'll be a Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight".

Two children were born to Albert and Daisy, a son, Melvin James, August 12, 1897, and a daughter, Doris Maywood, October 2, 1900. Grandmother Daisy died September 5, 1910, of heart trouble. Apparently she had suffered for years from valvular heart disease and had been advised to go to a lower altitude (altitude at Creede 8,854) but she could not bear the thought of being separated from her children and husband. Her obituary was written in a wonderful, old-fashioned, journalistic style, mentioning how well-loved she was, and pointing out that on the day of her funeral the saloons and mining companies closed in her honor.

I was not very old when grandfather Albert died in 1931 so will let his younger daughters tell you about him. See the biographical sketches of Albert Maywood Collins and Anna Marie Streams Collins by Alberta Collins McEniry and Helen Collins Rice on page 101.

Since grandmother Daisy died many years before I was born I appreciate the following information which was furnished by Albert's second wife, Mrs. Anna Marie Streams Collins:

"Daisy was about 5' 4½" tall, a beautiful brunette with blue eyes. She was active in the social and church activities in Creede and belonged to the 'Stevens Study Club', an educational group. However, due to a heart condition she wasn't as active as she would have liked. She was a most charming and gracious person to know."

Daisy was only thirty-one when she died and her children were quite young, Melvin thirteen and Doris ten.

Emily Ruth Collins McQueen Leisy
MELVIN JAMES COLLINS AND RUTH COCKRELL COLLINS

My father, Melvin, was born August 12, 1897, in Creede, Colorado, a bustling mining town. His mother, Daisy May Hale Collins, died when he was thirteen years old and his sister, Doris, was ten years old. Evidently, shortly thereafter, Melvin was sent to Pueblo for his high schooling; Creede provided education through the eighth grade only.

January 17, 1912, Melvin's father, Albert Maywood Collins, married Anna Marie Streams. They had two daughters, Alberta Marie and Helen Josephine. About 1918 the family moved to Denver. I know little of my father's life at this time. However, borrowing a quote from Ethel Robb Hedges, I do have this little bit of information. "Melvin was a fine, ambitious boy; I think he went to the University of Colorado on a scholarship. He did good work there. He worked in the oil fields as a geologist. He must have been five feet eight or ten inches tall, with blonde hair and blue eyes." He was granted the degree of Bachelor of Science cum laude in geology by the University of Colorado on June 25, 1919 and the degree of Master of Science in geology by the University of Colorado on June 6, 1921. He was also a Phi Beta Kappa and belonged to Sigma Phi Epsilon, a social fraternity.

After graduation he was employed by the State Geological Survey to map the Northwestern part of Colorado with reference to oil and gas possibilities. It is my understanding that this work was a definite contribution and proved valuable to geologists following him.

By 1921 he was living in Texas and seeking his fortune in the oil fields. He was employed by Marland Brothers, Texaco and Midland Oil Company. About 1924 he located in Ballinger, Texas, where he met my mother, Ruth Cockrell, who was working in the office of an oil company. Backtracking a bit, Ruth was born May 30, 1904, in Ballinger, the youngest of 14 children. Grandfather Cockrell was the editor of the local newspaper. Mother was a lovely, tall, slender brunette, with beautiful blue eyes. Incidentally, I felt my father strongly resembled Roy Curray, a little taller perhaps. He was an energetic man, but always kind and very patient.

Mother and father were married in January 1925. I was born November 20, 1926, and my brother, Albert Maywood, was born October 29, 1929, in Wichita Falls, Texas. We moved around frequently, mostly living in tiny, oil towns. This was the heyday of the oil boom in Texas. My earliest recollection of homelife (I was about three years old) was living in a small, gray, frame house, sitting on our front porch and watching what seemed to be hundreds of oil derricks pumping up and down, just across the street. These oil settlements always seemed to be in flat, treeless areas. This may sound a little bleak, however, our family atmosphere was always pleasant. Father was a tease and one of his little tricks was ventriloquy. My brother and I were always searching for the little voice under the table or in the far corner of the room.

About 1930 we moved back to civilization, putting down roots in San Antonio, Texas. It was a lovely place, with a river wandering through the town, and
trees everywhere. It was here that my father was promoted to be Vice President and Chief Geologist of the Plymouth Oil Company. It was an agreeable life. However, my mother's health was poor. I can remember a succession of doctors' visits and operations. On March 8, 1935, she died. August 25, 1935, father married Louise Dickens and although she was a kind person, it was a difficult period of adjustment for my brother and me (no doubt for her also). The following year, February 22, 1936, father died from a heart attack.

Shortly after his death my brother (6) and I (9) moved to Tulsa, Oklahoma, to live with my mother's sister and her husband, Ida Ray and Malcolm McQueen. They legally adopted us and our name was changed from Collins to McQueen. There were many Cockrell relatives in Tulsa and we quickly fell into a normal family routine, which helped to heal the sadness of the loss of our parents. I shall never be able to thank the McQueens for all the love and kindness given us throughout all these years. They never seemed like "adopted parents" and we were very close. Malcolm McQueen died in 1958 and is buried in Tulsa.

Adding a brief resume on my mother's side, the Cockrell family migrated from Arkansas to Texas, and were of Scotch-Irish and English extraction. Grandfather Cockrell was a drummer in the Confederate Army. He began his career as a teacher and later became a newspaperman. Grandmother Cockrell was one of his pupils. Apparently she was one of the typical Southern belles who had never had to lift a finger to do anything. She must have learned quickly enough on a small teacher's salary and the advent of fourteen children. My mother's sister (who was later my adopted mother) has spoken so often of the good times they all had together and the wonderful spirit of helping and sharing.

Emily Ruth Collins McQueen Leisy
Albert Maywood Collins, called Bert, was the fifth child and second son of James Harrah and Jane Hill Collins. He was born December 15, 1871 at Batavia, Iowa, and lived there until he completed his education at Parsons College in Fairfield, Iowa. Thereafter, he joined his family at the ranch which they had purchased near Monte Vista, Colorado and continued to live in Colorado until his death January 11, 1931.

His early employment included work as a ranch hand on the Hedley ranch at Monte Vista. He then joined his father in the Miners' Bank at Creede, Colorado and was associated with him in various mining enterprises. With this experience as a background he continued his activities in Creede for some twenty-five years. During this time he built and owned a business block, the Creede Opera House, the Ford garage, a motion picture theatre, a coal company and a livery stable.

His time was also devoted to community interests and he was a leader in the erection of the Congregational Church. He was a member of several social and fraternal organizations including the Elks and Masons.

On April 20, 1896 he married Miss Daisy May Hale. Their son, Melvin James, was born August 12, 1897 and their daughter, Doris Maywood, was born October 2, 1900. Daisy died December 5, 1910 of heart trouble.

Albert and Anna Marie Streams were married January 17, 1912 at Creede. Anna Marie, or Mary as she was called, was a pretty, dainty young lady and a most popular and well-liked member of the social set of the community. Their two daughters were born in Creede, Alberta Marie, May 19, 1913 and Helen Josephine, November 27, 1917. They lived in Creede until the latter part of 1918 at which time they moved to Denver. Melvin was attending the University of Colorado and Doris was attending Colorado Woman's College in Denver.

During the thirteen years Bert lived in Denver he was engaged in the following business interests: a lumber company, a bank, a drug store and a ranch southeast of Denver which he maintained until his death.

Albert Collins was a good-looking man with very dark brown hair, smiling blue eyes, straight nose, wide generous mouth and firm strong chin. He was five feet eight inches tall and strongly built. His coordination was excellent and he excelled in the physical activities in which he engaged. He loved the outdoors and spent much time with his family and friends at his ranch or in the mountains. His outlook on life was optimistic and enthusiastic. His death, the result of an accident, occurred on Sunday, January 11, 1931.

Alberta Collins McEniry
Helen Collins Rice
Milton Shriver Beck Collins was born September 5, 1878 at Batavia, Iowa, to James Harrah Collins and Jane Hill Collins. He was the youngest of seven children. (I believe that at an early age he dropped the Milton and was known as "Shrive"--K.C.R.) At the age of 10, he moved to Colorado with his family. They settled on a ranch near Stanley, Colorado, later moving to Del Norte, Colorado. He graduated from high school at Del Norte. He then enrolled in the Colorado School of Mines, from which he graduated in 1901, as a Civil and Mining Engineer. He was about six feet tall, of a spare build, with dark brown hair and blue eyes.

After his graduation he was employed by the State of Colorado to survey the San Juan Mountains (the Continental Divide) from Durango to Lake City. (We were told by a dude rancher in the area that they still find his markers, "and they're usually just about right".--K.C.R.)

In 1909 he was married to Hallie Chapman. They had two daughters, Katherine Elizabeth and Jane Hill.

From the time of his graduation from college, practically until his death, he was engaged in various mining activities in the Creede area. In 1912 he had a lease on the "Happy Thought" mine. About six months before his lease was due to expire they hit a rich vein of gold. Needless to say, they expedited their activities, knowing that the lease would not be renewed, and the last few weeks they worked day and night. Shrive used to say with a wry smile, "They never took much gold out of the 'Thought' after that". This successful venture financed a trip to California for Shrive and Hallie and Little Katherine. They rented a house at the corner of Gower and Vine, in what is now the heart of the Hollywood business district. They seriously considered moving to California, but returned to Creede.

In about 1916 Shrive discovered a fluorspar deposit at Wagon Wheel Gap, 10 miles from Creede. He organized the American Fluorspar Mining Co. In order to get title to the property on which the fluorspar deposit was located, the company had to buy the Hot Springs Hotel, a summer resort built originally by General William Palmer, the builder of the D.&R.G.W. railroad and the founder of Colorado Springs. During World War I there was a great demand for fluorspar, which is used in making steel, and the mine and the mill at Wagon Wheel Gap ran three shifts, around the clock. Both the mining property and the hotel were operated by the American Fluorspar Mining Co., of which Shrive was president and general manager, until 1925. At that time the mine was sold to the Colorado Fuel and Iron Co. The family moved to Denver, but Shrive retained his interest in mining properties in the Creede area and ranches in the San Luis Valley.

In 1927 Shrive was doing some engineering work in the Commodore Mine(?) above Creede with a Mr. Dean. As they crossed a mine shaft a plank gave way with them and they fell. Shrive hit on his head and neck and he knew he was hurt, but the other man hit on his feet and thought he was all right. He was able to
help Shrive get to the doctor in Creede. When Dr. McKibben called Hallie in Denver, she and Bert, Shrive's brother, arranged for a special train to bring Shrive to Denver. There it was found that he had broken some vertebrae in his neck. These were set, and aside from his head being slightly tilted Shrive completely recovered. Mr. Dean, who had lit on his feet, developed gangrene, had to have his legs amputated, and died.

Shrive also developed a very successful fluorspar mine near Salida and one near Van Horn, Texas. He served several terms as county commissioner of Alamosa county, and upon his retirement was honored at a banquet in recognition of his fine work for the county. He was also especially pleased when the Alamosa daily paper, traditionally of Republican leanings, paid tribute to him in a fine editorial, though he had been elected on the Democratic ticket.

Hallie died in 1946, and in 1948 Shrive married Marguerite Dyer Donnen, whom he had known as a fellow student at Del Norte High School.

Throughout the years Shrive was active in various mining groups and commissions. He was Vice-Chairman of the Metal Mining Fund of the state of Colorado. He was also a member of the state Board of Cooperative Marketing. He belonged to the Masonic Order, Al Kaly Shrine, B.P.O.E., Rotary Club, the Denver Country Club, and the University Club. He died in 1954 at the age of 76.

Katherine Collins Rasmussen

Jane Collins Temple

Comment by Roy E. Curray  "From what my mother and relatives (not Katherine or Jane) have told me I am sure that Shrive was generous in helping other members of the Collins family when they needed help."
Hallie Lillian Chapman was born April 9, 1883, to Lewis Jones Chapman and Emma Webber Chapman on her grandparents ranch on the Arkansas River near Nathrop, which is near Salida, Colorado. Not only was Hallie a native of Colorado, but her mother, Emma Webber Chapman was also, having been born in Canon City in 1863. Supposedly, she was the first white girl born in Canon City. She told many interesting stories of her childhood, living on her parents' ranch on the Arkansas at a time when the Ute Indians still commanded the respect of the early settlers. Hallie's father, Lewis Jones Chapman, came to Colorado as a boy of 16 for his health (he lived to be 85 years of age). He came at the height of the mining boom in Colorado. When Creede was in its glory he moved his family there where he freighted ore from the mines to the railroad. Later he became a contractor and built the first auto road over Wolf Creek Pass, from South Fork to Pagosa Springs, and the road in its present location between South Fork and Creede.

Hallie attended school first in Creede. When she was in high school she spent one winter with her grandparents in Canon City. At that time she contracted typhoid fever and was critically ill. She also attended high school in Denver at both North High School and East High School, from which she was graduated.

Hallie was tall and slender with hazel eyes and beautiful blonde hair. She was ambitious and wanted to go to college. Since she was the oldest of six children she had to finance her college education herself. This she did in part by teaching school in Creede for three years. After she had enrolled at the University of Colorado she became a member of the Pi Beta Phi sorority and acted as house manager her last two years at college. She must have found time to study also because she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. She graduated from the University of Colorado in 1909.

Hallie and Shrive Collins were married December 27, 1909. They had two daughters, Katherine Elizabeth and Jane Hill.

During the time they lived at Wagon Wheel Gap, Hallie was responsible for the management of the summer resort, while Shrive was busy with the mine and the ranch. She laughingly said that she had functioned in every position at the hotel, from laundress to cook to room clerk.

After the family moved to Denver she was quite active in church work at St. Thomas Episcopal Church. She made many layettes for the Needlework Guild. She was president of the Denver Pi Beta Phi Alumnae Club, and she served several terms as Province Vice-President. She was interested in everything, especially music, stamp-collecting, literature and writing, and gardening. She died in 1946 at the age of 63.

Katherine Collins Rasmussen
Jane Collins Temple
THE BAXTER FAMILY

(James Herman Baxter "Jim" and Elizabeth Mary Collins Baxter )
(James Harlan Baxter "Harry" and Lillian Francesca Adams Baxter)

James Herman Baxter (better known as "Jim") was born Sept. 13, 1855 at Abingdon, Iowa. His grandfather was John George Baxter who came to this country from North Ireland when he was a baby. He married Anna D---she may have been an Indian. Jim's father was William George Baxter and his mother was Sarah Abram Fish.

Elizabeth Mary Collins was born on Dec. 24, 1861 at Batavia, Iowa. She was the oldest girl in the family and was often given a mother's responsibility. She must have been a courageous girl, and she certainly had all the qualities needed to pioneer in the early West. She was an expert horsewoman, a good shot (except when she shot herself through the hand while cleaning a gun) and had a compulsion to kill rattlesnakes. She said she always carried a hoe and shovel in her buggy. If she saw a rattler she would stop and kill it even though it might not be in her path.

Elizabeth (often called "Lizzie") and Jim were married Nov. 30, 1881 at Batavia, Iowa. They traveled to Colorado with the Collins family in 1888.

Jim taught school in Monte Vista—for a time at the little Robb schoolhouse. He became a lawyer, probably by studying law in a lawyer's office. He became a judge in Rio Grande County in 1890 and served until 1898.

James Harlan Baxter was born to them Dec. 10, 1888 in Monte Vista. Hazel Baxter was born in Del Norte on Dec. 15, 1890 and died at six months of age with Whooping Cough. As a child James Harlan or "Harry" as he was always called, had a prolonged bout with rheumatic fever. They spent some time in southern California in an effort to improve his health.

The family moved to Paonia, Colorado in 1905. Harry went to University of Denver for college and law studies. He met and married Lillian Francesca Adams in Denver. She was born May 20, 1887 in Spencer, Iowa. She had a beautiful contralto voice and had sung with a concert trio in Denver. Most people in Paonia remember her singing in Liberty Bond drives. They lived next to Harry's parents in Paonia, and he went into law practice with his father.
Jim was paralyzed for seventeen years and traveled about in a motorized wheelchair. He had a photographic memory, and in addition to extensive knowledge of law, could quote practically all the Encyclopedia Brittanica.

Elizabeth and Jim were busy with church and fraternal organizations. They helped found two Masonic and Eastern Star groups. Both reached the highest chairs on their organizations.

Then tragedy struck. Within six weeks three of the family were gone, Jim first, with a stroke. Paonia was having a flu epidemic. Lillian was visiting in Omaha with their daughter Catherine and was advised to stay there. However, when Harry became ill with the flu, she returned and was with him when he passed away in October, 1918. This devotion cost her life as she also died of flu one week later.

Elizabeth picked up the threads and went about the task of raising her granddaughter Catherine, 14 months of age. She was a busy person and yet found time to do china and oil painting. She was close to the Methodist Church and was usually singing hymns about her work. She was a cheerful woman with merry blue eyes, dark hair and a beautiful laugh—just like the one Emma Curray has.

I'm certain she hadn't read any books on child psychology, but her ways were effective. When punishment was indicated, I was told whether to pick a switch from the lilac bush or the cherry tree. It was much later that I realized that the hardest part was in returning to her for a rather minor switching on the legs. One of my fondest memories is sitting on her lap in a huge rocking chair and listening to her singing hymns.

Most of all, I believe I remember the gentle manner as she would point out the right thing to do—and at the time one would think he had come to that conclusion by himself. One of her quotes that my children know well is "if it's worth doing at all, it's worth doing well."

I would like to end with an obituary of Harry written by his neighbor. Otherwise, it will become lost to succeeding generations. I am so grateful to Roy Curray for preserving so much of our family heritage for those to come after us.
Obituary of James Harlan Baxter

"J. H. Baxter, Jr.
Dec. 10, 1888 Oct. 26, 1918

Harry, old man, it was mighty hard to say goodbye to you.

The three who were left to you to live for—your wife and your baby and your mother—had no monopoly on anxious hours and wakeful nights while your life hung in the balance. As one person, we all watched and prayed and worked for some faint glimmer of hope that you might be spared to us. But it was not to be, and so we sadly whispered our farewell till the dawning of that Great Day.

Somehow, we can't think of you as lost to us, Harry. We see you, and we hear you, still, and we shall always feel somehow that you are living on with us, for you lived such a life as is not measured by time or things material.

What a flood of memories surge about us whenever your name is spoken, whenever we move about these scenes of which you have been a living part. We didn't know you, of course, over there at Del Norte, where you were born short thirty years ago, but if we had, we would have known a real boy. True, as a lad you were handicapped by that illness which brought to your fond parents many a sleepless night. You had to deny yourself some of the vigorous pleasures of healthy boyhood, but you were always a man in brain and a boy at heart.

Well we remember when you came to Paonia with your parents, thirteen years ago this month. We realized, as you completed your high school studies here, that no common place in life was to be yours. We were proud to see you one of the vanguard of the great army of young people who have since gone from the little home town to pursue learning in higher institutions. You didn't have smooth sailing always through those seven years of liberal arts and law study, but you stayed with it. We admired your grit.
"We gave you a warm welcome when you brought us as your talented bride Miss Lillian Adams of Denver. It made us happy to see you starting your life together so happily. And it was a proud day for your father and your mother and all of us when you came to take your place in the professional life of Paonia, and the sign was made to read "J. H. Baxter & Son, Attorneys at Law".

When you had to lay aside your little boy, we were sorry for you. "This is my pal," you would say, when we passed by and saw you and the baby swinging together on the porch. Shall we ever forget how your face lighted up when she began to toddle about and try to learn to say "Daddy"?

The comradship of you and your father made other sons closer to their fathers. The tender care you gave him when, after you became strong, he became helpless made others more thoughtful and tender. Only a month and a day between his farewell and yours; and now you are comrades Over There!

We were building great hopes on you, Harry. You were modest, but you could not hide from us the latent ability which was yours doubly secure by inheritance and training. You never guessed; you believed in knowing. You would rather starve than plead an unjust cause. If you ever frowned at an interruption, we never saw it. We can't remember that you were ever too busy or worried to do something for the public good. Many a client is blessing you today for your sense of justice and your generosity.

These were some of the things that led us to plan continually larger things of and for you. Your United States Commissionership, your Town trusteeship, and your seat on the directorate of the First National Bank were only the beginnings. Men of smaller calibre would perhaps have scorned some of the tasks to which you cheerfully gave your best. So, we would have been sending you to Congress or seating you with the Diplomatic Corps if you had stayed a little longer; it was in you to meet big responsibilities.

But you have done a big life work. The biggest thing you did was crowded into the fleeting minutes between noon and two-thirty last Saturday afternoon, when you left us. Like Charles Frohman, when he stood calmly on the sinking Lusitania and said to his neighbors, "Why fear death? It is the greatest experience of life!" you met the transition like a man. We would not invade the sacred precincts of that sweet farewell. Content to have been close enough to catch a gleam of your assurance, we shall remember you for the crowning act of your life--you glorified Death!"

Catherine Baxter Beck
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