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Genealogies

Armstrong
Arnold
Averill
Bayse
Johnson
McAfee
McCoun
divided among them in whatever manner deemed most advisable by my executors, whether by sale, division or other wise with the exception of such property as is in suit.

The property devised to Thos. O. Allen and Granville Allen being considered equal to two thousand dollars, it is my wish that whatever property may come into the hands of my executors, by the termination of any law suit or otherwise should be appropriated to my other children making up to them the sum of two thousand dollars, provided the property already willed them should fall short of that sum—the residue thereafter shall be equally distributed among all my aforesaid children so named. I nominate and constitute as my executors, my four sons William S. Allen, Sterling Allen, Tandy Allen, and Frank Jones Allen or any two of them having full confidence in their due performance of the trust reposed in them, desire that no security be demanded for the true discharge thereof. In testimony whereof I have set my hand and seal this 8th day August 1815.

John Allen seal

Witnesses:


The above was copied this day May 28, 1893, by me from Wills E pages 334-5 courthouse Paris Bourbon Co., while on leave of absence from St. Petersburg, Russia.

Henry T. Allen, Mil. Attache etc.

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This paper was read before the meeting of the State Historical Society, June 6th, by Hon. L. F. Johnson, its author. He is a member-elect to the next General Assembly of Kentucky, and shows himself to be a worthy scion of his illustrious Revolutionary ancestors. Among his distinguished kindred are Stephen A. Douglas, candidate for president of the United States in 1860, and Judge George Robertson, famous jurist of Kentucky, and Col. Anthony Crockett, of fine Revolutionary record. It should be a matter of honest pride with Kentuckians to hold in their families, as their heritage, the land grants of their forefathers in the Revolution. No earthly king can offer an American a badge of honor that equals in distinction the blood-bought certificate of his ancestor's service in the Revolution of 1776.

[Ed. The Register.

Frankfort, Ky., June 20, 1903.—Mrs. Jennie C. Morton, Frankfort, Ky.—

Dear Madam: In response to your request, I will state that my father, William P. Johnson, was the oldest son of William and Sarah (Arnold) Johnson. Sarah Arnold was the daughter of Stephen and Martha (McBride) Arnold, and Stephen Arnold was the oldest son of James Arnold by his first wife.

My mother, Mary (Cardwell) Johnson, was the youngest daughter of John and Margaret (Arnold) Cardwell. Margaret Arnold was the youngest daughter of James Arnold by his second wife.

My mother and father were second cousins. My mother inherited, and still owns, a part of the land in Franklin county, Ky., granted to James Arnold for services rendered in the Revolutionary War, and my father's only sister, Mrs. J. M. Minor, owns and lives upon a part of the same tract of land also, inherited in the same way.

Respectfully,

L. P. JOHNSON.
The descendants of the Kentucky pioneers are proud of their ancestors, and though, in some instances, they have disregarded the heritage received from them, the most degenerate son of these noble sires will speak boastingly of the fighting record of his grandfather, and though devoid of the noble traits which gave prominence to his family name, he is constantly boasting of the proud political and social position of his great-grandparents. To be proud of a good name is some evidence of goodness—he who is totally bad can not appreciate anything that is good.

The Kentucky pioneers were a hardy and brave people, and in many instances, were very prolific; a large per cent. of the present population of the State are descended from pioneers and Revolutionary soldiers who came to Kentucky prior to the year 1800.

The historian has given us much concerning the life and adventures of these early settlers, but there have been many thrilling and pathetic instances in their lives which have not been recorded, but which have been handed down from father to son as a part of the family history. The intermarriages, the adventures, the heroic lives and tragic deaths of these hardy sons of the Kentucky forests, that constant state of warfare with the savage beasts and yet more savage men, which has given to our State the name of "The Dark and Bloody Ground," have, in many instances, been left unrecorded, and have been handed down to us only by tradition.

It is tradition, in part, which enables us to give a few reminiscences of the life and family of James Arnold, whose ancestors first settled in Rhode Island, and one of whom was appointed governor of that colony in its early history. He was reared in the colony of Virginia, and in which place he married a Miss Robertson in the year 1756. His wife had several brothers and sisters whose descendants have become prominent in the history of Kentucky. One of her brothers was the father of Col. Justice George Robertson, and one of her sisters married Col. Anthony Crockett, a Revolutionary soldier and a soldier of 1812. Col. Crockett is very highly spoken of by Col. Bennett H. Young in his work "The Battle of the Thames." Another one of her sisters was the great grandmother of Mrs. W. O. Bradley.

James Arnold and his oldest son, Stephen, were both Revolutionary soldiers; they were with Governor Shelby at Kings Mountain, and with Gen. Marion in the Carolinas. Both of them had grants of land in Kentucky for services rendered in the Revolution, and some of their descendants to this day own and live upon land in this county, thus granted. They, father and son, came to Kentucky about the year 1784. A short time thereafter James Arnold's wife died, and he afterwards married a Miss Berrisford, and to whom was borne a large family of children, from whom have sprung the families of the Cartwells, Dickersons, Chapmans and Shirleys, of Kentucky, and the Arnolds, of Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, California, and other States in the Northwest, as well.

Stephen Arnold married Martha Lapslie McBride, daughter of Col. William McBride, who was killed at the battle of Blue Lick Springs, on Monday, August 19, 1782, and whose name is inscribed on the State monument at Frankfort, Ky. Harlan and McBride were the leaders of the van, and were the first of that brave and dauntless band of Kentuckians to fall in that desperate, but hopeless, battle, a full account of which is given in Marshall's History of Kentucky; also in Collins' History. From this marriage have sprung the Arnolds of Kentucky, the Jett's, Minors, Jonhsons, Redmonds, Graveses and other families. Many incidents have been told of James Arnold's pioneer life, one of which is, that he and a friend were out hunting near where Blakemore's distillery now stands, when they were surprised by a party of Indians. His companion was captured, but Arnold killed two of them and made his escape. Three of his enemies pursued him, and, in attempting to reload his rifle, the rod caught on a bush and was knocked out of his hand. His pursuers were so close upon him that he did not have time to recover it. After fleeing for some distance, he found that they were gaining on him; his mocassins had become so muddy and heavy that his progress was impeded; he took his hunting-knife and cut the strings and made the rest of his run—a distance of about three miles—bare-footed. Arnold did not know, until his friend made his escape from the Indians some time after, that the same bullet had killed the two Indians. We will give only one other instance, which was a bloodless, we might say a French, duel between James Arnold and a man by the name of Mack Sutton. Sutton sent the challenge; Arnold accepted and named the conditions, which were, that the weapons should be rifles; the time, on a day named, between sunrise and sunset; the place, a heavy woodland of some ten or twelve acres. Both of the parties were familiar with the woods; there was a large, hollow tree, which stood near the center of the woods, and, as Arnold expected, Sutton went out very early in the morning and concealed himself in this hollow tree; Arnold came up on the reverse side and held him there until after sunset, and then gave him permission to come out, and ever after that the two were good friends.

Stephen Arnold was sheriff of Franklin county in 1801. Berrisford Arnold, the oldest son of James by his second wife, was with Gen. Winchester at the battle of the River Raisin, and shared the fate of many other brave Kentuckians on that fatal and dreadful day. The tragic events of that terrible disaster are graphically told by Col. Young in his work above referred to.

John Cardwell, who married the youngest daughter of James Arnold, was a soldier in the War of 1812; he lived nearly a century, and he gave
to his family and friends detailed accounts of many stirring events which took place during those troublous times. His brother, George Cardwell, was 6 feet 2 inches tall and weighed 200 pounds, and was a magnificent specimen of physical manhood; he was with Richard M. Johnson at the battle of the Thames, and claimed that he fired the shot which killed the noted Tecumseh. He called the attention of a fellow soldier to the fact that he was going to shoot at the chief, who had been so vehemently urging his men on to the fight, and when the shot was fired, the chieftain fell and was hastily carried away by his followers.

There has never been a war, and scarcely has there been a battle in or for the United States wherein James Arnold or some of his descendants have not participated; some of them have held positions of honor and trust in different States of the Union; John Arnold represented Franklin county in the Kentucky Legislature in the year 1813. Stephen Arnold Douglass, of Illinois, was the leader in the lower house of Congress in 1845: was in the United States Senate, and came near being president in 1856, and was nominee for president of one branch of the Democratic party in 1860. But the battlefield has been the place where many of the Arnold descendants thought the call of their country demanded their presence. Some of them were with Gen. Taylor at Monterey and Buena Vista, and with Gen. Scott at the surrender of the Mexican capital; and many of them were engaged on each side in that civil conflict in 1861-65, which brought a thrill of horror to the civilized world. This was, indeed, a fratricidal war, where the descendants of James Arnold engaged in deadly conflict. At the battle of Chickamauga three of them were desperately wounded, and one was killed on the Confederate side, and at least one was killed on the Federal side. In other battles of that civil conflict several of them were wounded, and some were killed or died in prison.

One of them was with Gen. Shafter at Santiago, and one with Gen. Lawton the day on which the brave leader gave his life to maintain the honor of his country. In memory of the dead who sprang from the loins of James Arnold, we repeat the lines of John K. Ingram:

"Some on the shores of distant lands
Their weary hearts have laid,
And by the stranger's heedless hands
Their lonely graves were made.
But thought their clay be far away
Beyond the Atlantic's foam
In true men like you men,
Their spirits still at home.

"The dust of some is 'Kentucky' earth
Among their own they rest,
And the same land that gave them birth,
Has caught them to her breast,
And we will pray that from their clay,
Full many a race may start
Of true men, like you, men.
To act as brave a part."

L. F. JOHNSON.

Averill.

The progenitor of the family of Averill in America was William (1) Averill, who, with Abigail, his wife, emigrated from England to Massachusetts Bay, and settled at Ipswich in 1638. William (2), their son, married Hannah Jackson, of Ipswich, July, 1661, and to them eleven children were born. Paul (3), their son, married Sarah Andrews, of Roxbury, March, 1701, and removed to Connecticut. Joseph (4), their son, married in February, 1744, Sarah Mansfield, and to them were born eight sons and four daughters. Jesse (5), their son, who was born in April, 1757, was a soldier of the Revolution, including the campaign against Burgoyne, ending at Saratoga. In 1785 he married Elizabeth Stoddard and removed to Washington county, New York. To them were born five sons and five daughters. Marvin (6), their son, born September, 1791, removed to Kentucky in 1829, residing in the city of Louisville until his death in 1839. In 1822 he married Rebecca Gordon Paxton, of Franklin county, a daughter of Thomas Paxton, who emigrated to Kentucky from Virginia after the Revolutionary war, in which he served with distinction, participating in the campaign against Cornwallis, ending at Yorktown. To Marvin and Rebecca Averill were born six sons and three daughters. William Henry (7), was born in Louisville, September, 1834; graduated from The Kentucky Military Institute in 1853. Member of the first State Board of Pharmacy, twice president of the Kentucky Pharmaceutical Association, and vice-president of the American Pharmaceutical Association in 1892. In 1860 he was married to Jane Julian Page, and to them were born five children, three of whom survive—Rebecca Gordon Averill (8), Thomas Page Averill (8), and Marvin D. Averill (8).
KENTUCKY BIBLE RECORDS—MERCIER COUNTY

Copied from original records by Lockette Smith, August, 1933.

ARMSTRONG AND MCAFEE

(From Bible owned by John Lapsley Armstrong and Alabama McAfee and now in the possession of Miss Jennie Sharp, Mercer County, Kentucky.)

Cardwell, Mary—born Dec. 12th, 1778. Died 1850, and were married April 5th, 1796.

Anne—born July 26th, 1797. Died Aug. 1797.
Samuel W.—born Nov. 12th, 1802.
Indiana—born Sept. 24th, 1809. Died 1846.
Alabama—born Mar. 2nd, 1811. Died Nov. 6th, 1892.
Polly—born Mar. 27th, 1813. Died April 18th, 1835.
James M.—born May 20th, 1817. Died 1899.
Margaret W.—born June 8th, 1819. Died 1871.
Elizabeth J.—born Feb. 18th, 1822.


BAYSE

("The William Bayse Bible" now the property of Miss Cora Bolin of Harrodsburg, Mercer Co., Kentucky.)

Bayse, William and Jane Logan, were married December 12th, 1788.
Mitchell, William and Polly Bayse, were married the 3rd day of April, 1811.
Smith, George W. and Hannah Bayse, were married August —, 1835.

Bayse, William, was born the 20th day of September, 1759.
Logan, Jean, was born the 6th day of June, 1765.

714
The Turner Family.

By Jozie Mae Turner Matthews (Mrs. Walter Matthews).

The fact that Maryland was the first of the colonies to allow religious freedom to all who professed the Christian faith, and to allow the people a voice in the laws, caused many to choose it for their homes.

Among the early colonists was Edward Turner. He was of English parentage, and was born about 1631, since on December 3, 1651 “att a Court held at St. Maries,” “Edward Turner, aged about 20 years was sworn and examined in open court,” as a witness. (Maryland archives.) He is frequently mentioned in the records and apparently there was no other person of the same name at that time in the county.

Having sold tobacco to a Captain Tillman, in 1657, he sued for the payment of same in the Provincial Court at “Putchten” and won his case. In 1676 he was assessed for 1055 pounds of tobacco taxes. In 1682 his name occurs in connection with the giving of information to the Council against one John Pryor, for trading with the Indians. He must assuredly was a person of much importance, for when in 1696 news reached the colony of a conspiracy in England against William and Mary, his name appears below a loyal address which was drawn up and “signed by the Civill Officers and Magistrates of St. Maries Co."

He owned land which was called Turner’s Forest, the first survey of which is dated 1670. He was married twice; the name of the first wife was Elizabeth; she was probably the mother of his children. He married, second, Mary ——, who survived him. His children were: Thomas, Samuel and Elizabeth. He died about 1707. In his will, proved July 27, 1707, he left all his property as follows: Thomas received the plantation whereon Edward Turner had lived, Samuel received the plantation “whereon my quarter is built, called Bow.”

Samuel Turner, second son of Edward Turner, was a well-to-do planter; he had large tracts of land in both St. Mary’s and Charles counties; his residence was in Charles county. He married Lydia Dent, daughter of John Dent. Their children were: Edward, John, Samuel, Ruth and Mieba. He died perhaps in 1746, since according to his will, proved October 29, 1746, he made the following bequests: To Edward 200 acres of land on the east side of the Wicomico river, St. Mary’s county, in Bastile “manner,” also part of a tract in Charles county called “Turner’s Forest.” To John was left a part of Turner’s Forest, in Charles county. To Samuel was given a part of Turner’s Forest, “formerly called Bow.”

Just how many acres Turner’s Forest comprised is not known. In 1712 450 acres were added to it. According to the foregoing will, it seemed to have been a large tract.
The testaments and family names reveal the line of descent very clearly. Samuel Turner inherited from his father, Edward Turner, a plantation "called Bow." He, Samuel, in turn bequeathed to his youngest son, Samuel, "part of my land formerly called Bow, now called Turner's Forest."

Edward Turner, eldest son of Samuel Turner and Lydia Dent, like his father, is spoken of as "planter." Like his father, he held large tracts of land in both Charles and St. Mary's counties. His residence was in St. Mary's county. In the records of Trinity Parish, Charles county, dated April 8, 1751, he is mentioned as a church warden. The following entry appears on the Trinity Parish records, Charles county, dated April 8, 1751:

The name of his first wife has not been found. Their children were: John, Joshua, Nellie, Patsy and Clara.

There is in the Maryland Historical Society an original manuscript entitled, "Militia returns for each county 1780." Joshua Turner's name appears on this list, which proves that he sided in the cause of the American Revolution. He was married second on the 3rd day of December, 1792, in Culpeper county, Virginia, by the Rev. John Prickett, to Mary Ann Maddox Culpeper county, Virginia, by the Rev. James Voires. Issue: Emmett, William, Sallie, Joseph, and Steven.

Jacob Hawkins. Issue: Sallie, Joseph, Eve and Jeff.


(4) Notley Ransdall never married.


(7) Martha J. Ransdall married Jacob Hawkins. Issue: Sallie, Joseph, Emma and Steven.


In the spring of 1813 or 1816, Joshua Turner, his wife and children, the children of his wife by her Corley marriage, the Magruder and Maddox families and others, moved to Kentucky, making the trip by flat boat. They brought their negroes, stock, household goods and some crude farming implements. They landed at Port William (now Carrollton) at night. They went to secure lodging and the man to whom they went refused them. They then told him they would sleep in his barn, but he told them he would rather have them in his house than his barn. The chances are they stayed with him. At dawn they started out in search of a place to locate. The Maddox and Magruder families located near where Pleasureville now is. The Turner family decided on a place in Henry county, adjoining the Barker farm. Just whom the land was bought from is not known. It was all in woods and the task of clearing it was stupendous.

The first house was of log, and was built near where the Turner burying ground is. Later another house was built, several hundred yards east of the first site. Some of the settlers brought seeds from Virginia with them; among these were three Catalpa seeds. One was planted on the farm of Joshua Turner, and a tree from the seed is still standing. Joshua Turner died March 21, 1825, on the farm where he settled, and was buried in the Turner burying ground. His wife lived to be 93 years of age. She died January 25, 1856, and was buried at the same place.

Notley, Samuel, Mary (Polly) and Joseph Burch, all born in Virginia.
Martha Turner, married second, Thomas Antler. Issue: Harriett and Jacob.

(9) Thomas Randall married Sarah Ringo. Issue: Morgan, Luther, James, Mary and Sallie.


Joseph Burch Turner, youngest child of Joshua and Mary Turner, was born in Culpeper county, Virginia, February 3, 1803. As a boy he worked on the farm and there was very little time for him to go to school. However, he realized the importance of an education, and pursued his studies until he was soon able to teach. He was a splendid mathematician. It was from his mother's family, no doubt, that he inherited this accomplishment, for his uncle, John Maddox, was one of the foremost surveyors and mathematicians of his day, having written the arithmetic and geometry he taught in Virginia and Kentucky in the early part of the nineteenth century.

Joseph Burch Turner inherited part of his father's farm, and at various times added to it. One early record shows where he bought 517 acres of land for $500. An indenture made and entered October 27, 1832, reads: "For and in consideration of the sum of $150.00, to me in hand paid by Joseph B. Turner, having bargained and sold and do by these presents bargain and sell unto the said Turner all that piece or parcel of land lying on Mill creek, being part of Peter Shepherd, 1,000 acres survey and bounded as follows, &c. Signed Moses Olds."
It is very often a matter of amusement as well as instruction to future generations to hear an authentic account of the origin and progress of any family or individual who has at any period filled a portion of our country's history.

With this view I have been induced to give my own biography as well as that of my family. That our posterity may know from whence they came and how they got along in this changeable world of ours, in which we have enjoyed much pleasure, many blessings from an All-wise Providence as well as some pain and adversity.

I have also been further led to write these sketches because the McAfee family were among the first settlers in Kentucky as well as the earliest pioneers of the West, who crossed the Allegheny Mountains from the State of Virginia to occupy the banks of that after celebrated stream called "Salt River."

When and how they accomplished this will be the object of this history as well as to trace the mysterious workings of Providence which led the family first from Scotland to Ireland and thence to America which has become their present home.

It is impossible to give more than a general outline of my family ancestors previous to their removal to North America as all I know about them has been derived from traditions which must in some measure be inaccurate as to dates.

According to my father's family register I was born on the 18th day of February 1784 on the banks of Salt River, near where my mill now stands, about fifty yards above a large cave spring and about four miles northwest of the town of Harrodsburg in an humble log cabin, and was rocked in a cradle made out of peeled hickory bark. I do not know that anything extraordinary took place at my birth except there was a deep snow on the ground and my mother's sister, Mrs. M. Magee, presided over my advent.

I was the eighth child of my mother and a second son by the name of Robert, a brother of the same name having died only twelve days previous, viz., on the 6th day of February 1784, and my father despaired of having any more sons was anxious for a man, it was immediately bestowed on me with the addition of the letter "B" for his friend John Breckinridge, afterward a celebrated lawyer in Kentucky and at his death in 1806 attorney General of the United States under President Jefferson.

My father's name was Robert McAfee, my mother's name was Anne McCoun before she was married.

Paterna
My father's name was Robert McAfee
My grandfather's name James McAfee
My great grandfather—John McAfee
My great great grandfather—John Mcatee
My great great grandmother—Ellzabeth Montgomery

Materna
My mother's name was Anne McCoun
My grandmother—Margaret Walker
My great grandmother—Molly Campble
My father's name was Robert McAfee
My grandfather—James McCoun
My great grandfather—James McCoun

*This article was excerpted from "The Life and Times of Robert B. McAfee and his Connections, Written by Himself," which appeared in three installments in Vol. 25 (1927) of The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society.
after them including the C7rs About the year 1735 my grandfather entered soon after. 

Win our ly acted as an itinerant pedlar James II against the Presbyterians about his interest who was born the year 1717.

liberal grants of land in the eighteenth century will he was pretty much of part of them availing themselves in quite young. He did not 

Gland, emigrated to the United States my grandcount father, John McAfee reflecting grand- 

father, John McAfee, John McMichael, was Malcolm McMichael. Their families originally lived in Scotland between Edenboro and Glasgow, and shortly after the restoration of Charles II, my great-grandfather John McAfee, removed to the North of Ireland, settled in the county of Armagh where he became the owner of a small farm upon which his son, John, my great-grandfather, afterwards built a stone house, which was occupied by the family for many years, some of their descendants living in that county to this day.

The McAfee family can only certainly be traced back to Scotland where they resided during the time of Cromwell, but after the restoration of Charles II part of them availing themselves of the liberal grants of land in the North of Ireland, emigrated to that country about the year 1672 and the persecutions of James II against the Presbyterian covenanters soon after drove many others after them including the Campbells, Montgomerys, McMichaels, and McCouns, who were more or less connected by marriages. This was in the year 1676.

When the revolution in England took place under King William and Mary 1688, John McAfee, the Patriarch of the family, and my great-grandfather then a boy took part with King William and were soldiers in the battle of the Boyne in 1690 which was often the boast of my grandfather who was born in Armagh County, Ireland on the 17th of October 1707. He was one of the ten children, viz., four sons, John, James, Malcolm and William, and six daughters, whose names I have not been able to procure. The family name, (reasoning from Analogy), is part Scotch and part Spanish, and originated in Scotland. The remote ancestors probably came from Normandy as the old stock were very large athletic men and women; many of them with the Spanish black eyes and hair, but this is all conjecture and is only drawn from the appearance of the different races of men connected with their family name.

My great-grandfather James McCoun was of Danish extraction. The whole family feature the clear blue eyes and fair or auburn hair both men and women. He emigrated to Ireland, settled in Antrim County, adjoining Armagh when quite young. He did not marry until he was pretty much of a Bachelor—had a son, James, my grandfather, who was born in the year 1717. His father kept a small store and occasionally acted as an itinerant pedlar.

About the year 1735 my grandfather James McAfee, married Jane McMichael, and his father dying soon after, in 1739 leaving a large family who had married off, the division of the patrimony being insufficient to satisfy all he turned his attention to N. America as opening to him better prospects for himself and family. In accordance with this determination he with his wife and three children, viz., John, James and Malcolm, then an infant, together with his aged mother who was willing to accompany his fortunes embarked at Belfast, Ireland in the Spring of 1839 (sic), and after a tedious passage landed at New Castle on the Delaware River on the 10th of June in that year, his son having died a few days before landing which was a severe blow to his mother so soon after entering into a new and strange land. His resources being limited his wife and himself were compelled to follow weaving for their support reserving his small stock of money to purchase land which he accomplished that fall in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania on Ototorara creek where he purchased one hundred acres of land, and went to work to clear and cultivate it, here by industry and close economy he maintained his family in equal standing with his neighbors, who were very kind to them. Here his other children were born, viz., George, Margaret, Robert, Mary, William and Samuel, also one other daughter who died young. Robert, my father, was born on the 10th of July 1745. My grandfather James McAfee was a large square-built man, raw boned Scotch Irishman, strong passions and great decision of character, dark hazel eyes, six feet in height. When aroused he was ready for any danger or enterprise. My grandmother, Jane McMichael, was a woman about middle size, tall, mild and dignified, with a remarkably fine face and open prominent forehead, indicative of great goodness of heart, sensitive feelings, with dark grey eyes and black hair. Her mild, decided, and conciliatory looks could always silence the old man when in a passion.

Malcolm McMichael, the father of my grandmother, Jane, came to N. America some years after, in 1746, with four other daughters, viz., Anne, who afterward married James Campbue, Mary, who married Alexander Ferguson, Margaret, who married Samuel Ewing, and Elizabeth, who married first, a Mr. Keath and after his death, a Mr. Rogers. All which marriages took place after he came to Pennsylvania, where he settled near my grandfather and lived until he died leaving one son, Daniel McMichael, after he settled in Lancaster County. Another daughter, Sarah, married John Montgomery.

My grandfather, James McCoun, came to Virginia from Ireland when a young man, and landed at Norfolk in company with another young man by the name of William Adams in 1742. They engaged for some time working at the loom and farming until he procured money enough to buy himself a small package of goods. Then he went to peddling in the back and frontier counties which at that time did not extend farther than the lower counties on the Roanoke, but as the settlements extended, James McCoun and William Adams married and some years afterward settled on the Cataha in Bedford.
County. These marriages took place in 1744, about two years after they arrived in Virginia, having met with Margaret and Mary Walker, who came to N. America about the same time with their brother Samuel Walker and landed at Charleston, South Carolina, with an uncle by the name of Thomas Clark, who had married their mother's sister, their family moved to Virginia, and settled on Ronoke, where James McCoun married Margaret, the eldest sister who was said to be a remarkably handsome neat Irish girl who proved to be one of the most tidy housekeepers in their neighborhood and I have now in my possession a plain common rocking chair which she used to sit in previous to her death in March 1784. James McCoun in his trading rambles occasionally visited Philadelphia to get his goods. Thomas Clark returned to Ireland and again came back to Charleston where he took sick and died before he reached his family. Samuel Walker hearing of his death went to see after his affairs and was never heard of afterward. It was supposed that he was murdered or that he had taken sick and died at or near Charleston.

My grandfather, James McCoun, was married April 1744 and had the following children: James, born March 11th, 1745, who married Nancy Tilford; Ann, (my mother, born August 1st, 1746, married Robert McAfee Dec. 10th, 1766); Samuel, born October 20th, 1748, died young and unmarried; Mary, born August 13th, 1750, married John Magee and moved to Monroe County Missouri and died in 1837. Susan born April 7th, 1752, married James McCoun (no relation, from South Carolina); John, born March 28th, 1754, married Elizabeth Telford (sister to James' wife); Jane, born May 1st, 1756, married James Woods and afterward Samuel Adams; Margaret, born April 15th, 1758, married to — Kerr; Elizabeth, born February 7th, 1761, married James Ledgerwood; Joseph, born February 10th, 1765, taken prisoner by the Indians 1780 and burnt to a stake on head of Mad River in Ohio.

My grandmother, James McCoun, was a person of ordinary size, about five feet, nine or ten high, heavy made, and became fleshy before he died in 1800; grey eyes, heavy eyebrows and finely rounded forehead, a man of extraordinary strong mind with a great fund of cheerfulness and good humor, in which the Irish character predominated. He was an excellent farmer and great economist, fond of his friends and much attached to his sons, especially the eldest. He could never get clear of his idea of primogeniture and was a Presbyterian of the Seceder denomination.

My grandmother was a remarkable woman neat and spare made of the ordinary height, lively temperament, and beloved by all her children and friends.

My paternal grandfather's family and history may be summed in a short summary, his mother, whose maiden name was Mary Rogers, came with her son to N. America and lived with him on Otitorara Creek in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania to the advanced age of 84 years, when she died, and of her children John was killed at the ford of Rudy Creek near New River in Virginia about the year 1768.

James married Nancy Clark, the daughter of Thomas Clark who is mentioned above as the uncle to my grandmother, and had children as follows: Mary, who married David Woods and had three children. Woods died and she again married Samuel Woods, his nephew, and had four more children, viz., Harry, Anne, Sally and Woodford.

John, who married Margaret Ewing, the daughter of Samuel Ewing, and granddaughter of Samuel Ewing who married Margaret McMichael as already stated.

James who died in his bed suddenly one night, a young man, after they had removed to Kentucky in 1783.


Thomas Clark McAfee married Nancy Greathouse of Shelby County, Kentucky. My uncle, George McAfee married Susan Curry, daughter of William Curry, and had children—viz., John, who lived to be an old bachelor, and died in South Carolina (trading); James, who married Nancy McKamey, moved to Missouri in 1826; Margaret, who married Abraham Irvine, now of Boyle County, head of Salt River, George, who married Anne Hamilton, Susan, who married Robert McKamey, brother of John above mentioned.

My aunt Margaret McAfee married George Buchanan a cousin to the father of the present Secretary of State of the U. States, James Buchanan; had issue as follows: John, who married his cousin Margaret Guant and lived in Green County, Kentucky; James, who married Rebecca Armstrong, lived near Salt River west of Salvisa and afterward moved to Clark County, Indiana.

Mary, who married Mr. Purviance and moved to Indiana; Alexander, who married his cousin Nancy McAfee and settled on Salt River at his mill.

Margaret, who married William Ewing, and moved to Indiana; Jane, who married Dr. McCamphile and moved to Indiana; Nancy, who married Thomas Gilkerson, moved to Indiana; Anne, who married Joseph Woods, lived adjoining me in Mercer County; Dorcas who married Joseph Woods, cousin of the above named Woods, moved to Fleming County and lived on Licking River.

Robert McAfee, my father, married Anne McCoun, December 10th 1766 and had issue as follows: Margaret, who married Nathan Neel; James, who married Mathew Forsythe of South Carolina, descended from the same paternal stock of John Forsythe, former Secretary of State of the U. S.; Sally, who married James Curran; Samuel who married Mary Cardwell, daughter of John Cardwell; Mary, who married Joseph Adams; Robert, who died at six years of age, February 6th, 1784; Anne, who married John R. Cardwell, brother of Mary Cardwell named above; Robert B, who married Mary Cardwell, daughter of James Cardwell (cousin of the above); John, who died unmarried in 20 years of age.
The foregoing are my father's family
and marriages from whom they may
know their ancestors in future, all of
whom settled in Mercer County, Ken­
tucky. My Aunt Mary McAfee married
John Poulson and had issue—one
dughter, Margaret, who married Wil­
liam Ewing, one of the grandsons of
Samuel Ewing the elder. Mr. Poulson
having died, my aunt again married
Thomas Guant, and had issue—Mar­
garet, Jane, John and Mary, the first
of whom married her cousin John Buch­
anan. John married — Darland,
and Mary married Henry Eccles.

My uncle William McAfee, married
Rebecca Curry, sister of George Mc­
Afee’s wife, and had issue—(he was a
captain and killed by the indians on
Clark’s Campaign in 1780) as follows:
Anne, who married Elijah Craig, who
lived at the mouth of the Kentucky
River; Margaret, who married Thomp­
son Jones. She died in Indiana, oppo­
site Yellow Banks. Mary married
Willis A. Lee, clerk of the Senate of
Kentucky and general court. After Mr.
Lee’s death she lived in Frankfort
until 1843 when she moved back to
Mercer County in Salvisa and now live
there with her Sister Anne, both widows
(since dead June 4th 1847).

My uncle Samuel McAfee married
Hannah McCormick and had issue as
follows: John, who married Margaret
McKamey; Anne, who married Thomas
King of Shelby county, Kentucky, and
died there; Robert, who married Pricilla
Armstrong (he was sometimes de­
 ranged); Jane, who married Beriah Ma-
goffin, a merchant of Harrodsburg; Han­
nah, who married Capt. Samuel Daviess,
attorney and senator of Mercer County;
William yet unmarried and a merchant
in Harrodsburg, (afterward married a
widow Lowery February 1849); Sam­
uel died a young man and unmarried in
Harrodsburg; Mary, who married
Thomas P. Moore, a member of Congress
and Minister to Columbia in South
America from 1829 to 1833.

I have thus given the name and mar­
rriages of my father’s and mother’s fam­
ily as far back as I get from tradition
as given to me by my uncle, James, the
eldest branch of our family, and from
Anne Hillis, who was a daughter of
Samuel Ewing the elder and who was
in the 84th year of her age in 1831
when I conversed with her.