CAPTAIN JOHN McMurtry

Kentucky Pioneer and Soldier of the Revolution

By

David C. McMurtry, Ed.D.

Sponsored by

MacMurtrie Clan-Family Historical Records Worldwide
(The Alexander David McMurtrie Collection)
Lexington, Kentucky and Berkeley, California

Lexington, Kentucky

1999
DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to the memory of two McMurtry first cousins—great great grandchildren of Captain John and Mary Todd (Hutton) McMurtry. It was this writer's privilege to know personally these two venerable cousins who were both proud descendants of their "Captain John."

Alexander McMurtry
Sarah Todd

CAPTAIN JOHN McMURTRY
Mary Todd Hutton

Alexander McMurtry
Mary Smith

James McMurtry
Martha McKee Letcher

Robert Letcher McMurtry
Artemesia McFeat

Marguerite Hayden McMurtry
(1) Ray Louis Jones
(2) William Strecker

James Letcher McMurtry
Katherine Hunt

William Cassius Goodloe McMurtry
(1) Mary Murphy
(2) Margaret Taylor
(3) Alice Cleve
(4) Ethel (Crowder) Yates
(5) Ann Mary Edwards

(7) Ray Louis Jones
(2) William Strecker
(3) Alice Cleve
(4) Ethel (Crowder) Yates
(5) Ann Mary Edwards
The present book was intended for publication in 1990 on the bicentennial of the death of Captain John McMurtry of Virginia and Kentucky but never reached publication status on time. In the meantime, a distant Todd cousin, Edward Hoyse McMurtry of Lubbock, Texas, began to pursue his McMurtry roots back to Samuel McMurtry of Virginia and South Carolina.

An exchange of letters, telephone conversations, a visit from Hoyse and his wife, Esther, and encouragement from his family became the impetus for a concerted effort on his part to write about his McMurtry lineage. The Ancestry and Texas Families of William Jefferson and Louise Frances Williams McMurtry, his grandparents, was published in early 1993.

Samuel McMurtry referred to above was believed to be the younger brother of Captain John McMurtry of Virginia and Kentucky. Their parents were Alexander and Sarah (Todd) McMurtry of Augusta County, Virginia. Sarah McMurtry, a "widow with children," was married to James Young, a "Miller and Plantationer," under terms of a "Marriage Contract" signed in 1751 in Augusta County. Alexander McMurtry was, according to Augusta County records, the father of Samuel McMurtry of Virginia and South Carolina.

Hoyse McMurtry stated in the preface of his family book that on September 2, 1985 he walked back in history 236 years on land on which his ancestor, Samuel McMurtry and his brother, John, grew to manhood. He said:

"I walked down Whistle Creek, ... to the old foundation of the mill that Samuel and John's stepfather, James Young, built in 1749 on the creek, a tributary of the North River."

Hoyse further stated that "here a myth was broken" about his own grandparents and "here the nebulous information we had accumulated fell into place." He continued:

"Here was good business required, in the marriage contract between Sarah McMurtry and James Young, miller and plantationer, wherein Sarah required protection of her children, and proceeds from the mill if James Young died, and where James Young's son Patrick was protected along with his wife and children."

Hoyse states that "Chalkley, a historian, labels this contract as thorough and typical of marriages of those times." He continues by saying that:
... here was the history of George Washington, whose initials are on the side of the Natural Bridge of Virginia, eight miles away, and when he was 15 and surveying in the Shenandoah Valley. Here, 20 miles or so to the northeast, is the birthplace of Sam Houston, with a Samuel Houston appearing as a signer of papers relating to Samuel McMurtry in South Carolina.

The history of E. Hoyse McMurtry's family covers ten generations and spans nearly 300 years to present generations. The history of Captain John McMurtry's life and family covers only six generations.

In 1980, Richard Keith McMurtry of Oakland, California, published John McMurtry and the American Indian. His book placed John McMurtry as a typical pioneer settler in the midst of the struggle for land between the American Indians and the white European settlers. This book does not deal with that struggle; it is, however, a chronology of the life of John McMurtry beginning in Augusta County, Virginia, continuing in Lincoln/Mercer Counties, Kentucky, and ending with his death in Indiana Territory in 1790 at Harmer's Defeat.

THE MacMURTRIE CLAN-FAMILY RECORDS

In 1938, Alexander David McMurtrie, a druggist of Sarnia, Ontario, Canada, began as a hobby the study of the McMurtrie family worldwide. Over the years the collection developed into the "unofficial" records of the entire "Clan" and a collection of data contributed by scores of McMurtrie family historians in all parts of the world. It is now the largest collection of MacMurtriana known to exist.

All McMurtries descended from a common ancestor are considered members of the same family or clan-family. Today there are some sixty separate clan-families on record as well as the history of numerous smaller families and separate individuals not yet identified with a larger clan-family. From time to time new data yields proof that connects one family with another by blood relationship.

The "MacMurtrie Clan" refers to all McMurtries including those of the various spellings of the surname—MacMurtrie, McMurtrie, McMurtry, McMurtray, McMurtrey, and McMurty.

On November 7, 1959, Alexander David McMurtrie died and by his written bequest, the collection was given in trust to David C. McMurtry of Lexington, Kentucky. The collection is officially referred to as "The Alexander David McMurtrie Collection of MacMurtrie Clan-Family Historical Records Worldwide" and commonly referred to as the MacMurtrie Clan-Family Records (MCFR).

In May, 1994, the collection was entrusted to Richard K. McMurtry of Berkeley, California.
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The author wishes to acknowledge and express gratitude to all those individuals or groups who helped to make this book possible. A debt of gratitude is due to two early Todd-McMurtry family historians -- Dr. Simeon Seymour Todd and Myra Gabriella Madison McMurtry for their attempts to chronicle the Todd-McMurtry connections.

First of all, special acknowledgment is made to my late wife, Mildred, who showed great patience and understanding while most of the research and initial writing for this book took place. Much credit is due also to my late aunt, Zelma McCord McMurtry, for sharing her many records on the Captain John McMurtry family.

The author wishes also to acknowledge and express appreciation to the following people:

Dr. Ron Bryant and Ann McDowell of the Kentucky Historical Society, Frankfort, for consultation and help in locating historical materials and illustrations. Kandi Adkinson of the Kentucky Secretary of State's Office, Frankfort, for providing copies of early land grant records.

Norma Craig Johnston of St. Louis, Missouri, and Mary E. Ruhs of Hamilton, Illinois, for providing biographical and genealogical material on one of Captain John McMurtry’s grandsons whose identity was thought by some family historians to be unknown.

Lorrie S. Curry, Museum Director, Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill, for consultation regarding early Shaker land records and Anne R. Baker, of the Harrodsburg Historical Society for consultation and location of McMurtry records in their files.

John Hunt McMurtry of Nicholasville, Kentucky, for providing the picture of the McMurtry grist-mill stones now extant on the old Alexander (and later James) McMurtry farm in Polly’s Bend in Garrard County through continuous family ownership to the present owner, Ruth McMurtry Wilson. Ruth McMurtry Wilson for permission to display photographs of the stones.


The author wishes also to acknowledge others who are not here named individually but who shared freely from their memories and personal archives and made this book possible.

--The Author
Kentucky Pioneer
CAPTAIN JOHN McMURTRY
1780

viii
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dedication</td>
<td>iv</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preface</td>
<td>v</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The MacMurtrie Clan-Family Records</td>
<td>vi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acknowledgments</td>
<td>vii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter I: The Scots-Irish—who They Were and From Whence They Came</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter II: John McMurtry of Virginia</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter III: John McMurtry's Brother, Samuel</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter IV: The Fictional John McMurtry</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter V: John McMurtry—Citizen of &quot;Caintucky&quot;</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter VI: Captain John McMurtry Posthumous</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter VII: Captain John McMurtry’s Family</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>References</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendices</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A: Captain John McMurtry, An Indian Fighter</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B: McMurtry-Robertson Land Records</td>
<td>163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C: Six Contemporary John McMurties</td>
<td>171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D: The McMurtry Family</td>
<td>181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E: Samuel McMurtry to Elisha Thomas</td>
<td>191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Index</td>
<td>195</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
"By an instinct of our nature, we learn to love the places of our birth, and the chief circumstances in the lives of our progenitors."

--James Savage
Scotland in 1600 may not have been the most desirable place to live. The country was divided geographically into Highlands and Lowlands—the Highlands to the north and the Lowlands to the south. The Highlanders of clan, kilt, and tartan were considered by the Lowlanders as barbarians in a desolate country. The Lowlanders were thought by the Highlanders to be the lowest of peasants living in a barren land. All may have been true!

The Lowland Scots were the ones who migrated in great numbers to Ulster in North Ireland in the counties of Down and Antrim. Scotland in 1600 was a desperately poor country—poor soil, poor and lawless inhabitants, a country barren of forests and wildlife, racked by
recurrent wars with England and widespread disease, little education except in the upper classes, feudalism with no king strong enough to subdue the feudal lords.

The region was a closely-defined system of social classes—from noblemen and lairds who owned and controlled the land down through several classes of tenants. The Protestant Reformation made Presbyterianism the established Church of Scotland, and it was popular with the Lowlanders. With the Reformation came a new zeal for education, the primary aim being an educated clergy. The zeal for learning continued in Scotland and accompanied the Scots who migrated to Northern Ireland and on to America. Religious turmoil raged in Scotland during the latter years of the 17th century, especially after Charles II came to the throne in 1660 and tried to persuade the Scottish Presbyterians to episcopacy (government of the church by bishops or by a hierarchy).

Scots-Irish Migration

With the beginning of the 17th century, conflicting thoughts about migration stirred the people of the Lowlands—economic distress at home, economic opportunity in Ulster; religious difficulties at home, comparative freedom in Ulster. The great migration from Scotland to Ireland continued throughout most of the century until 1689 when William of Orange, the newly crowned Protestant King of England, came to the throne and things became better and the exodus all but ceased.

The opportunity for migration to Ireland was made possible in the 17th century when King James VI of Scotland (who later became James I of England upon the death of Queen Elizabeth I) entered upon the scene. Scotland and England had a common ruler, and King James wished to plant a colony of Protestants in Catholic Ireland. Six counties comprised the Ulster Plantation where the colony was to be planted.

King James granted to Scottish lairds lands in eastern Ulster in the counties of Done and Antrim, to be settled by the Lowlanders. After the lord’s application was approved, this "undertaker" agreed to "plant" his estate with Protestant farmers from Scotland and England. Some Scots remained in Ireland for as much as a generation; others remained only a year or so; and still others merely passed through, remaining long enough to arrange passage to America. It was cheaper to sail from Ireland than from Scotland.

Migration to America

Five waves of migration of the Ulster Scots in the 18th century to America took place: 1717-1718, 1725-1729, 1740-1741, 1754-1755, and 1771-1775. Reasons at various times for the migrations were: drought, rack renting (excessive rent on re-leased property), diminished trade in woollen goods, general economic depression, religious
discrimination, and perhaps other reasons. The 1740-1741 wave had added impetus of a famine from which many in Ireland died.

Ports of entry for the Ulster Scots in the middle American colonies were in Philadelphia, Chester, and New Castle. Many Ulster Scots settled first in Pennsylvania. Immigrants coming into Pennsylvania with the western frontier as their destination, found their path laid out for them by the natural geography of Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia. The "Great Valley" led westward from eastern Pennsylvania for a hundred miles or more, then when the mountains blocked further movement, the valley turned southward across the Potomac into Virginia.

Three distinct groups of immigrants came to Pennsylvania, mostly through Philadelphia. The Quakers centered themselves in and around the immediate Philadelphia area; the Germans, Memnonites, Dunkards and Amish formed an outer ring from Philadelphia. The third ring was the Scots-Irish group—caught in a two-front conflict—the English on the east—the French on the west.

The path of Scots-Irish westward in Pennsylvania and southward down the Valley was paralleled by German immigrants, mostly from the Rhineland Palatinate. Some Swiss and some English were among them. The Germans were a small group and did not mingle with the Scots-Irish. Both were Protestant, but each group did not like the other.

The Germans were orderly, industrious, steady, frugal, serious, and stuck to their own politics. The Scots-Irish were quick-tempered, worked by fits and starts, reckless, some given to hard drinking, good Indian fighters, and interested in anybody's politics. The Scots-Irish were always looking for greener pastures.

The character of the 16th and 17th century Scot is worthy of note. He was dour; he had met famine after plague, after disaster; he fought back and learned to endure; he was ruthless; he was proud, thrifty, and touchy; he was smart, shrewd, and logical even though illiterate and primitive; he was dissatisfied. Satisfied people didn't migrate--dissatisfied ones did migrate.

The "Great Valley"

The Valley of Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia was dubbed the "Great Road," The Great Wagon Road," the "Irish Road," the "Valley Turnpike," the "Pennsylvania Road," and "The Wilderness Road"-- the latter term mostly pertaining to the road through Cumberland Gap and into Kentucky. The "Great Valley" extended to the headwaters of the James River, but the road continued southward into the Holston Valley to the southwest.

In 1745, Augusta County, Virginia, was formed from Orange County. Prior to that in 1736, a patent for Beverly Manor was issued to William Beverly for 118,491 acres, all within the confines of the
The Great Road of Virginia
1750
newly created Augusta County. About the same time, 1739, Benjamin Borden from New Jersey was issued a patent for 100,000 acres in the Valley south of the Beverly grant and almost all within the present boundaries of Rockbridge County, Virginia.

Who Were the Scots-Irish?

They were those who migrated from Scotland in the 17th century beginning in 1610 and were known as Ulster Scots, Irish Presbyterians, Irish of the North, and Northern Irish—those who crossed the 39 miles of water across the Irish Sea between Scotland and Ireland and eventually came to America.

Some had been landowners in Scotland and Ireland; others had been simply tenants of one class or another. Class distinctions were not clearly drawn in the Valley. One who acquired 100 acres or more of land was usually known as a yeoman or freeholder. The small class known as "gentlemen" were few—those who claimed that their ancestors had never been serfs.
Under the regulations of the Presbyterian Church, most boys were taught to read at an early age, since no persons could be admitted to the privileges of the Church who did not understand and approve the Presbyterian constitution and discipline.

The Beverly and Bordon Tracts were settled almost wholly by the Scots-Irish and were known as the "Irish Tract." The families that formed the greater part of the settlements moved in companies and fixed their residence in specific neighborhoods. This had the double advantage of affording them better defense against the dangers of the wilderness and also enjoying the privileges of social and religious communication. Social contact with one another came on the Sabbath with the worship service if there was a Presbyterian minister available.

There were some Scots-Irish who were squatters on the land, but the "better" families took pains to have their land surveyed and purchases confirmed and recorded in the court records. Among those families who purchased land and for whom deed records were made were the Campbells, the Huttons, the McMurtrys, the Todds, and the Youngs.

In the court records of Orange County, Virginia, a record dated June 26, 1740 states that Robert Young, having come from Ireland through Philadelphia "proved his importation."

These Scots-Irish were an adaptable people and quickly accustomed themselves to a simple life and the primitive ways of the wilderness. In times of danger, men joined together for military duty. The military forces of the Augusta County area in the fall of 1742 consisted of 12 companies of about 50 men each.

Five Families in the Valley

As mentioned above, among the early settlers in the Great Valley of Virginia were families bearing the surnames of Campbell, Hutton, McMurtry, Todd, and Young. Little is known to this writer about the structure of the Campbell and Hutton families in the Great Valley.

The Youngs

In the court records of Orange County, Virginia, from which Augusta County was formed, is a record dated June 26, 1740 which states that Robert Young, having come from Ireland through Philadelphia "proved his importation." It is believed by one Young family historian that Robert Young was accompanied by three brothers, Hugh, John, and James. James Young who purchased a tract of 436 acres from William Beverly in June, 1742 is shown on the Beverly Tract map as adjoining Robert who had purchased 234 acres. James Young's wife, according to the Young historian, was probably Sarah. James Young's second wife was Sarah (Todd) McMurtry, a widow with children. This same historian relates that James Young had a son named Patrick whose wife was Isabelle and their children were Sarah, born 1751, James, born 1752, Jennett, and Else (Alice). He further states that Robert Young (1711-1762) came
from Ireland with his wife Anges Crockett and three of their seven children and lived in the Beverly Manor area of Augusta County, Virginia. The last four children were presumably born in Virginia.

The Todds

The earliest known progenitor of the Todds who settled in the "Great Valley" of Virginia was James Todd who was a Laird (a landed proprietor) from Dunbar, Scotland. He died in 1679 by drowning at the Battle of Bothwell Bridge.

His son, John Todd, also known as Laird of Dunbar, Scotland, was one of the many Scots who migrated to Northern Ireland in the 1600s. John Todd was born in Angus, Scotland, in 1660 and died at Drumgare in the County Armagh, Ireland in 1719. He was buried in Tynan Churchyard in Armagh.

John Todd was married first to Isabella Parker according to one tradition (which has been disputed) and secondly to Rose Cornell. His first six children were by his first wife (whomever she was) and the seventh was by Rose Cornell as follows:

- James Todd married Eleanor Quinn (Remained in Ireland)
- Samuel Todd married Ann Houston
- William Todd married Jean Lowe
- Robert Todd married (1) Ann Smith (2) Isabella (Bodley) Hamilton
- Elizabeth Todd married William Moreland
- Esther Todd married John Sloan
- Andrew Todd married Elizabeth (____) McDowell

In 1737, a shipload of one hundred persons—all Todds and their kin—took ship hurriedly in the night from Ulster to America landing in Philadelphia. Samuel Todd above is known to have left Pennsylvania by 1751 and settled in Augusta County, Virginia. He was a founder and elder in the New Providence Presbyterian Church in Augusta County (now Rockbridge) in 1777. Samuel Todd's brother, William, settled in Bedford County, Virginia.

The McMurtrys

Two McMurtry families were among those early settlers in Virginia. The first McMurtry family in the Valley was that of Alexander and Sarah [Todd] McMurtry and their two sons, John and Samuel. This family was in Augusta County by 1751, perhaps earlier. It is believed that Alexander and Sarah McMurtry were part of the Scots-Irish immigration from Northern Ireland to America and on to the Great Valley of Virginia circa 1740-1750. Alexander apparently had died shortly after coming to the Valley. His widow entered into a Marriage Contract with James Young, a widower, on May 7, 1751 to be married "according to the Rules and Disciplines of the Church of Scotland."
The second McMurtry family in Virginia was that of two brothers, James and Joseph who were in Bedford County by 1754 when they first appear in the court records in a lawsuit "McMurtry vs McMurtry." They were believed to be the sons of Joseph McMurtry who died in Oxford Township, Sussex County, New Jersey, in 1762 and who by his will made provision of seven shillings each for James and Joseph "if they come."

James McMurtry married first Ann "Nancy" Todd, daughter of Samuel Todd and secondly to Hannah Todd, believed to have been a daughter of William Todd and cousin of Ann "Nancy" Todd. Joseph McMurtry was married first in 1759 to Susannah Patton, a quakeress, and secondly to Elizabeth (surname unknown).

James McMurtry served in the French and Indian War as did his brother Joseph. James died in Bedford County in 1772 and left eight children, two by his first wife and six by his second as follows:

- **By (1):**
  - Joseph McMurtry who married (1) Rosannah Campbell
  - (2) Isabella Hannah, a widow
  - William McMurtry who married Alice (surname unknown)

- **By (2):**
  - James McMurtry who never married; died young
  - Samuel McMurtry who married Jane Hyde
  - Elizabeth McMurtry who married Hugh Lusk
  - Mary McMurtry (no further data)
  - Susannah McMurtry who married Hezekiah Hargrave
  - Alice McMurtry who married Henry Creighton

Joseph McMurtry had eight children, six by the first wife and two by the second as follows:

- **By (1):**
  - John McMurtry who married Nancy Anne Campbell
  - Susannah McMurtry who married Israel Gable
  - Joseph McMurtry who married (1) _____ Gragg
  - (2) Mary Gragg
  - Elizabeth McMurtry who married John Webb
  - Anna McMurtry who married Jesse Webb
  - James McMurtry who married (1) Mary Reynolds
  - (2) Abigail Reynolds

- **By (2):**
  - Abraham McMurtry who married Elizabeth McIlhaney
  - George McMurtry who married Winnie Vermillion

Joseph McMurtry left Bedford County, migrated across the Blue Ridge Mountains into Augusta County where he bought land and lived before he migrated to Greene County, Tennessee circa 1780. He may have lived for a short time in Botetourt County, Virginia, before migrating to Tennessee.

There is no known McMurtry blood relationship between the two brothers (James and Joseph) and Alexander McMurtry. However, the James McMurtry and Alexander McMurtry families were cousins through
the Todd wives who were either cousins or aunt-niece by relationship. Alexander's son, John (Captain John), addressed James's son, William, as "Cousin William" when they were on the frontier in Kentucky in a confrontation with some Indians.

The Huttons

Little is known to this writer about the Hutton family except that James Hutton, the father of Mary Todd (Hutton) McMurtry, owned land adjacent to William Todd and Samuel Todd in Augusta County, Virginia. Captain John McMurtry in the first of two wills referred to James Hutton "father" though he was in fact his father-in-law.

The Campbells

There were several Campbell families in the "Great Valley" of Virginia prior to the American Revolution. The relationship of Rosannah Campbell and Nancy Anne Campbell noted above is not known to this writer. Their individual family connections have not been identified.
The Campbell-Hutton-McMurtry-Todd-Young Settlement
Augusta County, Virginia
The saga of John McMurtry of Virginia and later Kentucky had its genesis in Augusta County, Virginia, perhaps earlier in Pennsylvania or more remotely in Ireland and/or Scotland. The first McMurtry family to live in Augusta County in the colonial era was that of Alexander and Sarah (Todd) McMurtry and their children.

It is a matter of historical record that in 1737 a shipload of one hundred persons, all Todds and their kin, took ship hurriedly in the night from Ulster Ireland to America, landing in Philadelphia. Samuel Todd, a member of this group, is known to have left Pennsylvania by 1751 and to have settled in Augusta County, Virginia with his family.

There is no positive proof that Sarah (Todd) McMurtry was the daughter of Samuel Todd, but all indications lead to that conclusion when the elements of time, place/s, person/s, and circumstances and events are considered. It is believed that Alexander and Sarah (Todd) McMurtry were part of the Scots-Irish emigration from Ireland to America and then on to the Great Valley of Virginia circa 1740-1750. Alexander McMurtry apparently died shortly after coming to the Valley. His widow entered into a Marriage Contract with James Young, a widower, a miller and plantationer, on May 7, 1751, to be married "according to the Rules and Disciplines of the Church of Scotland" (Presbyterian).

The chronology of events surrounding the life of John McMurtry of Virginia and Kentucky begins with the coming of this group of Todds and their kin to America in 1737 followed by Samuel Todd and family migrating to Augusta County, Virginia circa 1750. As noted above, Alexander McMurtry apparently died shortly after coming to the Valley followed by the Marriage Contract between his widow, Sarah, and James Young. James Young was known to have had one son, Patrick, with a wife and children.

Several traditions have been handed down about John McMurtry of Virginia and Kentucky. A two-part tradition is traced back to Dr. James Champion McMurtry (1829-1903), a great great grandson of Alexander and Sarah (Todd) McMurtry. He wrote that:

"... great grandfather, John [our subject] had a large family of children, five of whom were killed at the battle of Cowpens in Virginia; grandfather, James McMurtry (1771-1851) was one of thirteen children, was born in Tennessee."
The following lineage chart may indicate that this two-part tradition is somewhat garbled and may not be entirely true. If this tradition is true, then it was telescoped by one generation. Those killed at the "cow pens" would have to be siblings of [Captain] John McMurtry. The "one of thirteen" tradition would be describing the generation of his grandfather.

Great\(^2\) grandfather: Alexander McMurtry (died circa 1750)

Great grandfather: [Captain] John McMurtry (circa 1737-1790)

Grandfather: James McMurtry (1771-1851)

Father: William McMurtry (1801-1875) 
married Ruth Chapton

Son: [Dr] James Champion McMurtry (1829-1903)

"battle at Cowpens"

The first part of Dr. McMurtry's tradition deals with the "battle of Cowpens." The "battle of Cowpens" has been interpreted erroneously to mean the Battle of Cowpens which took place in South Carolina. This McMurtry family had no connection with South Carolina until years later when John McMurtry's brother, Samuel, migrated there. [See Chapter III.]

This family did, however, live on or near the Cowpasture River in Augusta County, Virginia. A possible Indian massacre may have occurred near the "cow pens" where they lived. If this part of Dr. McMurtry's tradition is true, then possibly Alexander McMurtry and several children were killed by Indians, thus accounting for the "Cowpens" tradition. This bit of speculation about the tradition cannot be substantiated at this time.

"thirteen children"

The second part of Dr. McMurtry's tradition about his "grandfather James, one of thirteen," can be logically explained. When Captain John McMurtry's widow, Mary Todd [Hutton] McMurtry, was married in 1793 to Captain Lewis Rose, she had eight unmarried children at home and he had five unmarried making a family of thirteen in a merged family group. His oldest daughter was already married.

John McMurtry's Birthplace and Date

McMurtry family historians do not agree on where and when this John McMurtry was born. This writer believes that he was born circa 1737 in Ireland or Pennsylvania. The Todds seemed to have been in Ireland only a short period of time, having originated in Scotland.
In an unfinished letter by Robert Letcher McMurtry (1884-1920) of Rich Hill, Missouri, dated May 20, 1913, written to Miss Sue McMurtry of Rio, Illinois, he said:

"... The family came from Scotland in the very early days ..."

In Crabb’s Journey to Nashville, the fictional character, John McMurtry, on the occasion of the reunion of overland settlers and river flotilla families at the Cumberland Bluffs near present Nashville, Tennessee, was asked by James Robertson to offer thanks for the food of which they were about to partake. "The Scotsman was grateful and told the Lord so in a very personal way, expressed in the rich idioms of Scotland."

When John McMurtry’s mother, Sarah (Todd) McMurtry, was married to James Young, the contract read "according to the Rules and Disciplines of the Church of Scotland." (See Chapter IV.)

Circumstances and events point to John McMurtry’s family having roots in Scotland. This is at least substantiated through the history of the Todd family.

John McMurtry in Virginia Records

Only scant mention is made by name to this John McMurtry in Virginia. They are by chronological order as follows:

May 7, 1751—

James Young, Miller and Plantationer, of Augusta County, Virginia, entered into a Marriage Contract with Sarah McMurtry, a widow with children, to be married according to the Rules and Disciplines of the Church of Scotland (Presbyterian).

John and Samuel McMurtry are the only children of Alexander and Sarah (Todd) McMurtry known to have survived to adulthood.

The marriage is believed to have taken place between May 7, 1751, the date of the Marriage Contract, and November 8, 1755, when Sarah McMurtry Young petitioned the Augusta County Court to have the Marriage Contract recorded. According to Edward Hoyse McMurtry, the Old Stone House shown later, was built in 1753 for Sarah McMurtry Young.
Marriage Contract

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS That I James Young of Augusta County Miller and Plantationer am holden and firmly bound unto Sarah McMurtry of the said County in the Sum of four hundred pounds of good and lawful money of Virginia to be paid to the sd Sarah McMurtry or her lawful Attorney Executors Administrators or As To which payment well and truly to be made I do bind me my Heirs Executors Administrators or Assigns and Every of them firmly by these presents Sealed with my Seal and Dated the Seventh Day of May in the Twenty fourth year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord King George and of mans Redemption one thousand Seven hundred and fifty one.

ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT That whereas a marriage is Shortly by Gods Grace Intended to be had and Solemnized between the above James Young of the one part and the Above Named Sarah McMurtry of the other part as followeth:

IMPRIMIS It is Agreed and Concluded by and between the parties above written that the sd James Young shall take to his wedded wife the above named Sarah McMurtry at Some Convenient time according to the Rules and Disciplines of the Church of Scotland.

Secondly it is agreed and Concluded upon that at the above named James Death that the sd Sarah Shall have the one third part of the Mill that the sold James Young has now in his possession with all the profits ansing from this Mill and She the sd Sarah at her death to Dispose of the same according to her own will and pleasure without any Claim Challenge Suit Trouble Denial Molestation or Interruption of or for the same from any person or persons whatsoever.

Thirdly it is likewise agreed by and between the sd parties that She sd Sarah shall have one hundred Acres of Land now belonging to the said Mill and at her Death to Dispose of the said hundred Acres as She pleases without hindrance of Molestation etc.

Fourthly It is also Concluded and Agreed by and between the sd parties that at and after the Consumation of the sd Marriage all the Cows and Horses belonging to the said James Young Shall be as She sd Sarah may think poss. to Dispose of sd Cows & Horses.

Fifthly It is likewise concluded and Agreed to by and between the said parties that She the said Sarah Shall have all whole and Sole Management and Government of all and Every thing now in the Possession of her Children or what is now before Marriage in her Possession.

Sixthly It is also Concluded and Agreed by and between the sd parties that Patrick Young the son of the above named James Young Shall at and for Everaftuer the Decease of the sd James Young have and hold one moiety or half of the said Mill with all the Profits Arising therefrom and If it so happen that the sd James Young Shall have no Child by the said Sarah that then the sd Patrick Young Shall have from the sd James
Young three hundred and forty Acres of Land To have and hold to him and his Heirs forever.

Seventhly It is also Concluded by and between the sd parties that if it So happens that the sd James Young Shall Die and the said Sarah Shall Survive that then She the said Sarah Shall have the other half of the Mill During her Life. And If the said Sarah shall have a Child or Children by the said James Young then She the sd Sarah Shall have the one half of the Mill and the Land that the said James Young now Pofseffeth And the said Sarahs Children shall be Educated and brought up about the said James Youngs house and shall be provided with all things Necessary without putting the said Children to any manner of Charge for the same.

The Condition of the above Obligation is such that if the above Bounden James Young Shall in all and Every thing or things well and truly Observe perform fulfil accomplish and keep all and Singular the Covenants grants Articles Clauses provisos Conditions and Agreements Whatsoever which on his part and behalf ought to be Observed performed fulfilled Accomplished and kept Comprised and Mentioned in Certain Articles of Agreement between the sd James Young of the one part and the above named Sarah McMurtry of the other part and that in and by all things According the Contents Purposes true Intent and Meaning of the sd Articles without fraud or coven then this present Obligation to be void and of none Effect or Else to be and Remain in full force and Virtue.

Signed Sealed and Delivered in the presence of us the Subscribers

his
John Collier
mark
James Young Seal
William Brown

At a Court held for Augusta County November the 8th 1755 by the oaths of John Collier & William Brown two of the Witnesses thereto and Ordered on the Petition of the said Sarah to be Recorded.

Test John Madison
NOW ALL MEN ARE IN HEARING. That the said George Young, of Augusta County, Miller and Produceowner, and James Young, Bachelor, and both of said County, having in the Court of Quarter Sessions of the Peace held at Augusta County, Virginia, been properly summoned and lawfully presented to make their last wills and testaments, have, in due form, made and declared their last wills and testaments, containing their last desires, and disposing of their property, according to the laws, statutes, and usages of the same county, and the same are hereunto subscribed with their several signatures, the day and year first above written.

The said George Young, being lawfully admitted by the said court as Executor of the last will and testament of the said James Young, deceased, and being advised by the said court that the said George Young is the last and only surviving heir of the said James Young, deceased, and is therefore the only person who can take the estate of the said James Young, deceased, according to the laws, statutes, and usages of this county, and of the State of Virginia, and the same is accordingly ordered by the said court, and is hereby declared and ordered as follows:

The said George Young shall have the whole of the estate of the said James Young, deceased, together with all the appurtenances thereof, and all the real and personal estate, both tangible and intangible, of the said James Young, deceased, and shall have the same in fee simple, without any kind of charge or encumbrance.

In witness whereof, the said George Young has subscribed his name, and the said court has caused the same to be certified by the above-mentioned Executor, and by the said court, this present 16th day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-five.
JAMES YOUNG'S MILL

James Young, 77


James Young's Mill
The Old Stone House below was built in 1753 by James Young for his wife, Sarah (Todd) McMurtry Young, mother of John and Samuel McMurtry. The sketch below shows the house as it might have looked when James and Sarah Young occupied it. E. Hoyse McMurtry (1993) in The Ancestry and Texas Families of William Jefferson and Louisa Francis Williams McMurtry notes that in 1985 he visited the site of the old stone house which was then still standing but in a bad state of disrepair. McMurtry states that it was certainly one of the first stone houses erected in the county and that it was evidently one of the best built houses in Borden's Tract.

James Young, "miller and plantationer," was one of the first settlers to enter land in Borden's Tract. He secured deeds for two fine plantations in 1742. One 400-acre tract was situated on the west branch of Whistle Creek. He selected the other 450-acre tract at the mouth of Whistle Creek, for its fine quality and valuable water power supply. On this plantation he constructed and operated the first mill built west of North River.

This Old Stone House (in present Rockbridge County, Virginia) was featured in an article in the Lexington, Virginia News-Gazette, December 1, 1932.
August 13, 1759--

John and Samuel McMurtry purchased 290 acres of land from Benjamin Borden’s Executors, part of the Borden Tract of 92,000 acres. This land was adjacent to James Young’s land.

August 16, 1759--

Samuel McMurtry, "of the age of fifteen years," orphan of Alexander McMurtry, chose Matthew Lyle as his guardian (Augusta County, Virginia Order Book 6, p. 292). It is assumed and believed that John McMurtry was of full legal age at this time. No record has been found in Augusta County records to indicate that he chose a guardian or had one appointed for him.

August 19, 1759--

James Young died in Augusta County, Virginia, prior to August 9, 1760 as attested by the following deed entry as cited by Chalkley: "William Martin and Janet ( ) to John David, £110, 198 acres purchased by William from John McPheelers, 23d March, 1754, and part of a tract he now possesses, line of James Young, deceased. Delivered: Feb, 1762" (Augusta County, Virginia, Deed Book 8, p. 442). James Young’s stepson, Samuel McMurtry, would later (1762) marry William Martin’s daughter, Jane.

November 10, 1760--

When the Vestry of Augusta County ordered the "Progression" of lands within certain bounds, John McMurtry (try) was listed as "abroad" which is interpreted to mean away from home.

By Virtue of an Order of Vestry now Directed we have Progressed all the Land in the Bounds Precisely Stated Excepting William & James Yelko Being abroad Daniel Evans abroad Samuel FM abroad James David abroad John McMurtry abroad James W. Mathew abroad Remember Nov 1760

The Vestry of Augusta-- Signed John Lapley
Robert Moore

1765--

In the Augusta Parish Vestry Book, p. 386, for 1765, the names of John McMurtry (try) and James Young, probably his step-father, appear on "A Return of Lines Inspected by Meffs Collins, McCampbell." Also to be seen on the return is the name of James Hutton (believed to be John McMurtry’s future father-in-law).
The names of Samuel and James Todd are also listed. It is speculated that these Todds are the father and brother or two brothers of Sarah (Todd) McMurtry, widow of Alexander McMurtry who married James Young, "Miller and Plantationer."

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Land</th>
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<td>Alexander</td>
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<td>James Whelch</td>
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<td>John MKr</td>
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<td>Henry Gilmer</td>
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<td>John McWhell</td>
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<td>Mr. Todd</td>
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<td>James Young</td>
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<tr>
<td>John McWhell</td>
<td>150</td>
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<tr>
<td>John McWhell</td>
<td>200</td>
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315 Acres for Capt. Collie,
389 1/2 for John Gilmer,
105 1/2 for Mrs. McGilchrist,
846 1/2 for John Strachan,
50 1/2 for Capt. Mc Cooper,
315 1/2 for William Gilmer,
160 1/2 for David Kellett,
846 1/2 for Col. Mc Whell.
June 9, 1769--

John Summers and Isabella gave deed to land in Forks of James River, "corner of Samuel McMurtry." John McMurtry (try) was a witness to the deed. Isabella Summers was believed to be the widow of Patrick Young, John and Samuel McMurtry's step-brother (Augusta County, Virginia Deed Book 15, p. 392).

August 14, 1770--

"At a court of Oyer and Terminer held at Botetourt Court House the 14th day August, 1770 ... Samuel Todd, Guardian of James, Janet & Alice Young, orphan children of Patrick Young, dec'd., comes into court & on his motion is disc'd from the said Guardianship, and therefore the court doth appoint John McMurtry, Guardian to the said orphans, in the room of the said Samuel, who together with John Collier and John Ellison, his securities, entered into & acknd. their bond in five hundred pounds ... " /S/ Andrew Lewis (Lewis Preston Summers (1929) in Annals of Southwest Virginia 1769-1800, p. 88).

September 19, 1770--

John McMurtry of Botetourt County, Virginia, and Samuel McMurtry of Long Cane, North Carolina (was actually South Carolina), grantors, made deed to John and James Hall for 76 acres on Borden's Run. (Botetourt County was taken from Augusta County in 1769/70.)

John McMurtry of Botetourt County, Virginia, and Samuel McMurtry of Long Cane, South Carolina, made deed to Hugh Wier and wife for 214 acres on Whistles Creek. It is not known exactly when Samuel McMurtry migrated to South Carolina, however it was after his marriage in 1762 and before 1770.

1770/1771--

John McMurtry was married circa 1770 or 1771 to Mary Todd Hutton, daughter of James Hutton and Mary Todd, according to family tradition. She was at that time living in Rockbridge County, Virginia. (Rockbridge County was formed in 1768 from Augusta and Botetourt Counties.)
"... at Holston"

There is little doubt but that John McMurtry lived in Virginia for several years after his marriage to Mary Todd Hutton. According to family tradition his first four sons were born in Virginia.

James was born on November 17, 1771; Alexander was born on March 12, 1774; Samuel was born on July 18, 1776; and William was born on March 4, 1779.

Many early settlers of the Southwest Virginia-Northeast Tennessee area did not know in which state they rightfully resided. It is probable that John McMurtry and family lived near the Holston River (Virginia or Tennessee) as suggested by a reference to the "Holston" in his first of two wills (1780) made after migrating to Kentucky. (See Chapter IV for reference to the fictional John McMurtry's "four bonny lads" and Chapter V for his first of two wills.) Northeastern Tennessee was at that time a part of North Carolina.

"... at Holston"

VIRGINIA or TENNESSEE

22
CHAPTER III

JOHN McMurtry's Brother, Samuel

Some early McMurtry family traditions claim the Samuel McMurtry of early Augusta and Botetourt Counties, Virginia, records as being John McMurtry's father instead of his brother. There is no documentary evidence known to recent family historians and researchers to support such a claim or tradition. This tradition has been discounted by Susan McMurtry of Illinois, Otis D. McMurtry of Tennessee, Zelma McCord McMurtry of Kentucky, Alexander David McMurtrie of Canada, Edward Hoyse McMurtry of Texas, and by Richard Keith McMurtry of California, author of John McMurtry and the American Indian, published in 1980. This writer also concurs that the tradition is in error.

A brief chronology of Samuel McMurtry of Augusta and Botetourt Counties, Virginia, and Abbieville County, South Carolina, will help to understand his relationship to John McMurtry of Virginia and Kentucky known as Captain John McMurtry.

May 7, 1751—

James Young, Miller and Planter of Augusta County, Virginia, entered into a Marriage Contract with Sarah McMurtry, a widow with children, to be married according to the Rules and Disciplines of the Church of Scotland (Presbyterian).

Samuel and John McMurtry are the only children of Alexander and Sarah (Todd) McMurtry known to have survived to adulthood.

August 13, 1759—

Samuel and John McMurtry purchased 290 acres of land from Benjamin Borden's Executors, part of the Borden Tract of 92,000 acres. This land was adjacent to James Young's land.

August 16, 1759—

Matthew Lyle, Guardian, Gives Bond

24

February 10, 1761—

An Augusta County, Virginia, deed describes land lying along "Samuel McMurtry's line."

April 4, 1761—

Samuel McMurtry was one of the witnesses to Patrick Young's will. Patrick Young was the son of James Young and step-brother to Samuel.
November 20, 1761---

A deed was made, between William Todd of Bedford County, Virginia, and Samuel Todd of Augusta County, Virginia. Two of the witnesses were James Hutton and Samuel McMurtry.

This Indenture, made the Second Day of November in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and sixty one, Between William Todd of the County of Bedford of the one part and Samuel Todd of the County of Augusta of the other part Witnesseth that the said William Todd for and in consideration of the sum of Five Pounds current Money of Virginia to him in hand paid by the said Samuel Todd at or before the sealing and delivery of these presents to the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged hath granted bargained and sold and by these presents doth grant bargain and sell unto the said Samuel Todd Four Hundred Acres of Land, Situated on the Tract of the North Branch of Buffalo Creek in Augusta County and bounded as follows beginning at the north west corner to weld the said four hundred of land and all and singular other the premises hereby granted with the appurtenances unto the said Samuel Todd his executors Administrators and assigns from the day before the date hereof for and during the full Term and Time of one whole year from the next ensuing fully to be compleat and ended upholding and paying therefore the rent of one pound of money current on every day next, if the same shall be lawfully demanded, to the intent and purpose that by virtue of these presents and of the statute for transferring titles into possession the said Samuel Todd may be in actual possession of the premises and to thereby enable to accept and take a Grant and Release of the Premises land inheritance whereof to him and his Heirs for himself and his Heirs.

In Witness whereof the said William Todd hath hereunto set his hand and Seal this day and year just above written.

Sealed and delivered in the presence of

James Hutton

Samuel McMurtry
May 12, 1762--

Borden's Executors made deed to Samuel Todd. The land bordered "Samuel McMurtry's line." Samuel McMurtry witnessed the transaction.

September 30, 1762--

A marriage license was issued in Augusta County, Virginia, for Samuel McMurtry to marry. The bride's name was omitted from the records. In 1796, his wife's name was given as Jane in Samuel's estate papers. She was Jane Martin, daughter of William Martin of Virginia and South Carolina as borne out by William Martin's will in Abbeville County, South Carolina, in 1793 (William Armstrong Crozier (1973) in Early Virginia Marriages, p. 87).

November 18, 1762--

Patrick Young's Estate made payment to Samuel McMurtry (try).

November 21, 1764--

An indenture made by Church Wardens binding John Cole to James Campbell was assigned to Samuel McMurtry.

August 19, 1766--

An Augusta County, Virginia, deed for acreage along "Samuel McMurtrie's line" was made "corner to James Todd" (Augusta County, Virginia, Deed Book 13, p. 109).

December 18, 1766--

Samuel McMurtry was listed in South Carolina for 100 acres of land (South Carolina Land Plat Book, Vol. 8, p. 589).
December 9, 1767—

Samuel McMurtry was listed in South Carolina records for another 100 acres of land [South Carolina Land Plat Book, Vol. 10, Folio 165].

March 17, 1768—

An Augusta County, Virginia, deed referred to acreage at "corner of Samuel McMurtry" [try] [Augusta County, Deed Book 14, p. 69.

April 29, 1768—

Samuel McMurtry was established in South Carolina, Granville District, North West Fork Long Cane as of this date.

September 19, 1770—

Samuel McMurtry of Long Cane, South Carolina, and John McMurtry of Botetourt County, Virginia, grantors, made deed to John and James Hall for 76 acres on Borden's Run.

Samuel McMurtry of Long Cane, South Carolina, and John McMurtry of Botetourt County, Virginia made deed to Hugh Wier and his wife for 214 acres on Whistles Creek.

August 20, 1785—

Samuel McMurtry of Abbieville County, South Carolina, had surveyed for him 69 acres on the waters of Calhoun Creek, North West Fork Long Cain.

August 25, 1785—

Samuel McMurtry (try) received payment for services and provisions furnished during the Revolutionary War.

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No. 536 | Issued 25th. August 1785. to Mr. Samuel McMurtry, for One hundred & twenty Pounds 11/3 Sls. for Militia Duty &c. in 1779, 80, 81, & 82, as Private Horseman, also 37 days Horse Hire, & 30 dr. of waggons, & lost in service, as per Acco. passed by the Commissioners on Acco.
Principal £120. 1...3 Annual Interest £8...8...9 10: more
```

27
July 20, 1787—

Samuel McMurtry received 335 acres in Abbieville County, South Carolina on a branch of Calhoun Creek.

1790—

Samuel McMurtry was listed in the 1790 census for Abbieville County, District 96, South Carolina, as "Saml McMurtrey" and his household consisted of the following:

4 males over 16, 1 male under 16,
2 females, 3 slaves

March 12, 1796—

Samuel McMurtry (trey) died intestate before March 12, 1796. Jane McMurtry, widow, and Joseph McMurtry "as next of kin" applied to the Abbieville County, South Carolina Court for Letters of Administration to settle the estate of Samuel McMurtry.
State of South Carolina

On the day of... (date unspecified), in the county of... (county unspecified), advertised among the papers of the said county for a period of... (time unspecified) before... (name of person), at the county... (location unspecified), to be held for the sum of... (amount unspecified) on the... (date unspecified). The said estate... (description unspecified) and... (description unspecified), to be sold... (date unspecified). The proceeds of the sale... (disposition unspecified).

I, John Smith, do hereby certify that the said sale... (description unspecified) and... (description unspecified), was held and sold in accordance with the law and... (additional information unspecified).

John Smith, Notary Public

[Signature]
By this time, the spelling of the McMurtry surname had acquired an "e" in the terminal; "try" became "trey." From that time forward, some of the known descendants of Samuel McMurtry (trey) have maintained the McMurtry spelling of the surname.

March 14, 1796--

A "Citation" was read re the estate of Samuel McMurtry in the presence of the Congregation of Greenville on March 14, 1796 as "Certified by Robert Wilson V.D.M."

March 31, 1796--

The Abbeville County Court appointed six freeholders and ordered the appraisement of the personal estate of Samuel McMurtry. Bond was executed for Jane McMurtry and Joseph McMurtry for one thousand, five hundred pounds, sterling.
May 3, 1787.

The Honorable James Chavis, Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for the County of Edgecombe, North Carolina, is informed that the within-mentioned parties, John Smith and James Brown, have deposited with him the sum of five hundred dollars, which sum is sufficient to cover all claims against them in the matter of the late estate of John Doe. The said sum is to be held in trust for the benefit of the heirs and executors of said John Doe, until the settlement of the estate is completed. The said John Smith and James Brown hereby agree to abide by the decision of the Court in this matter and to pay all costs and expenses incurred in connection with the settlement of said estate. 

Daniel A. Williams, 

Notary Public.
June 14, 1796--

The inventory and appraisement of the personal estate of Samuel McMurtrey, deceased, of Abbeville County, South Carolina, was returned to the court and ordered recorded. This included four slaves.
August 26, 1796—

By order of the Abbieville County Court,
Joseph and Jane McMurtrey, Adm't and Ad'm'x
of the Estate of Samuel McMurtrey were directed
to sell his property at "publick sail" which
was done.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Price</th>
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Items of interest offered for sale were "one looking glass" and "one punch hole" purchased by Jean McMurtrey; two "lots of books," "one Hymn book," "one Confession of faith," "one Bible," and "Boston's Works" all bought by William McMurtrey who later became a minister.

Samuel McMurtrey's Family

Samuel McMurtrey's surname in later years in South Carolina was spelled as McMurtrey with an "e" in the terminal. As stated by Richard Keith McMurtrey (1980) in his book John McMurtrey and the American Indian, the families of John and Samuel lost track of each other and neither family seemed to know anything about the other. Samuel and Jane (Martin) McMurtrey had six children as shown in the Master Chart on the following page.
Master Chart

Alexander McMurtry
m Sarah Todd

Joseph McMurtry
m Nancy Holland

(Rev) William McMurtry
m Sarah McCord

John McMurtry
(no marriage/family known)

Samuel McMurtry (trey)

m Jane Martin

Sarah McMurtry
m (?) Walls

Jenny McMurtry
m (?) John Turk

James C. McMurtry
m (1) Eleanor Dickerson
(2) Mary Fisher
Joseph McMurtrey

Joseph McMurtrey was born between 1763 and 1770 in Virginia or South Carolina. He died circa 1827 in Alabama. He had migrated to Alabama after the death of his father and before his marriage. He was married to Nancy Holland on January 13, 1813 in Madison County, Alabama, according to Marriage Records of Madison County from "Inhabitants of Alabama in 1816" as cited by E. House McMurtry (1993) in The Ancestry and Texas Families of William Jefferson and Louisa Frances Williams McMurtry. Joseph McMurtry can be traced through documents in South Carolina and Alabama from the early 1790s to the late 1820s.

Joseph and Nancy (Holland) McMurtry had one known child:

1.1 Joseph James McMurtry married Cornelia C. Davidson and had one child:

1.1.1 [Daughter] McMurtry

2 (Rev) William McMurtry

William McMurtry was born circa 1772 in South Carolina and died in Madison County, Missouri, in 1839. Before migrating to Missouri, he lived in Jackson County, Tennessee. He was married circa 1793 to Sarah McCord who was born May 22, 1773 in South Carolina and died August 17, 1856 at Castor in Madison County, Missouri. She was the daughter of John McCord. William McMurtry was a minister. William and Sarah (McCord) McMurtry had nine children:

2.1 William Martin McMurtry who married Catherine [surname unknown] and had three known children:

2.1.1 Lucinda S. McMurtry
2.1.2 Elizabeth Jane McMurtry
2.1.3 Rachel McMurtry

2.2 Alexander McMurtry who married Rebecca Powell and had eight children:

2.2.1 Samuel P. McMurtry
2.2.2 Rebecca W. McMurtry
2.2.3 David S. McMurtry
2.2.4 Alexander F. McMurtry
2.2.5 Jasper Newton McMurtry
2.2.6 Mary M. McMurtry
2.2.7 Forman D. McMurtry
2.2.8 Margaret McMurtry
2.3 Sarah McMurtrey who married Samuel B. Jennings and had ten known children:

2.3.1 Charles Losson Jennings
2.3.2 William Jennings
2.3.3 John Martin Jennings
2.3.4 Thomas Hilton Jennings
2.3.5 Erzekel Melman Jennings
2.3.6 James McMurtrey Jennings
2.3.7 Samuel Canada Jennings
2.3.8 Jetson Franklin Jennings
2.3.9 Martha Jane Jennings
2.3.10 Henry Orvil Jennings

2.4 Jane McMurtrey who married James S. McCord and had one known daughter:

2.4.1 Elizabeth McCord

2.5 Margaret McMurtrey who married Eusebius Stone and had three known children:

2.5.1 James A. Stone
2.5.2 Martha Stone
2.5.3 Rachel Stone

2.6 Mary "Polly" McMurtrey who married James McMurtry (no relation), grandson of Joseph and Susanna (Patton) McMurtry of Virginia. They had one known child:

2.6.1 Mary Magdalene McMurtry

2.7 Malissa Jane McMurtrey who married (1) Harcourt Brown and had two children:

2.7.1 Jane Brown
2.7.2 _____ Brown

She married (2) William Underwood and had three children:

2.7.3 William Underwood
2.7.4 Amanda Underwood
2.7.5 Sarah McCord Underwood

2.8 Mary Elizabeth McMurtrey who married Micajah Stone.

2.9 Clementine McMurtrey who married John G. McMurtry (no relation), a brother of James McMurtry who married Clementine's sister, Mary.
3 John McMurtrey

John McMurtrey was born in 1774 in Abbieville County, South Carolina. He should not be confused with a John McMurtrey who lived in Abbieville County in the early 1800s and who died there in 1823. This John McMurtrey owned land situated in close proximity to John McMurtrey’s father, Samuel McMurtrey (de jun.), formerly of Virginia. This John McMurtrey was born circa 1751 in Ireland and immigrated to South Carolina in the late 1700s. He left a large family.

John McMurtrey and his brother, Joseph, were closely associated with each other in Mississippi Territory which later became Madison County, Alabama. John McMurtrey served in the War of 1812 from November 2 to December 2, 1813, serving in Captain Stephen Griffith’s Infantry Company, 16th Regiment of Burnus’s Mississippi Militia in the fight against the Creek Indians. He then served for several months between September 29, 1814 and April 25, 1815 with Captain William Johnston’s Company of Militia, Battalion 7, Perkin’s Regiment of Mississippi Militia.

In 1816 John McMurtrey appointed an attorney to collect his wages for his 1814-1815 military service, and in 1820 he appointed an attorney to collect his wages for his earlier 1813 service. The 1820 attorney papers were witnessed by Joseph McMurtrey and Thomas Holland (believed to be Joseph’s father-in-law). John McMurtrey purchased 160 acres (a quarter section) of land in what became Limestone County, Alabama, but later assigned the land to Reuben Tillman.

John McMurtrey is believed never to have married. He was listed in the 1810 census for Abbieville County, South Carolina as the only household member. As stated above, this John McMurtrey should not be confused with John McMurtrey who left a large family of children all named in his will and many of whom migrated into Mississippi and Texas.

4 Sarah McMurtrey

Sarah McMurtrey who married _____ Walls according to the 1793 will of her maternal grandfather, William Martin, formerly of Virginia who died in Abbieville County, South Carolina, where his will was probated.

5 Jenny McMurtrey

Jenny McMurtrey who was not married in 1793 at the time of William Martin’s will. She may have later married John Turk (?).
James C. McMurtrey

James C. McMurtrey was born in 1785 in Abbeville County, South Carolina, the youngest child of Samuel and Jane (Martin) McMurtrey, formerly of Virginia. He would have been the "1 male under 16" in his father's 1790 census enumeration for Abbeville County. He was married (1) circa 1805 to Eleanor Dickerson by whom he had eight children. He was married (2) to Mary Fisher by whom there were no known children.

Sometime prior to 1810 he migrated to Kentucky. In 1810 he was enumerated in the Warren County, Kentucky census. On June 14, 1810 he was grantee for 100 acres of land on the East Fork of the Barren River. His brother, (Rev) William McMurtrey and wife Sarah of Jackson County, Tennessee were the grantors. In the 1820 and 1830 censuses, James C. McMurtrey and family were enumerated in Monroe County, Kentucky. (Monroe County was created from Barren and Cumberland Counties in 1820.) In the 1840 and 1850 censuses for Monroe, there were only two enumerated in his household.

James C. and Eleanor (Dickerson) McMurtrey had the following eight children:

6.1 Mary "Polly" McMurtrey who married John Simpson and had eight children as follows:

6.1.1 Rebecca Simpson
6.1.2 (Daughter) Simpson
6.1.3 William Simpson
6.1.4 (Son) Simpson
6.1.5 Sarah Simpson
6.1.6 James Simpson
6.1.7 Margaret Simpson
6.1.8 Eunice Simpson

6.2 Samuel B. McMurtrey who married Louisa A. Perkins and had six children:

6.2.1 William Alexander McMurtrey
6.2.2 Joseph Allen McMurtrey
6.2.3 Micajah Watson McMurtrey
6.2.4 Susan M. McMurtrey
6.2.5 Jacob J. McMurtrey
6.2.6 Jonathan Watt McMurtrey
6.3 Solomon Dickerson McMurtrey who married D. M. (surname unknown) and had two known children:

6.3.1 John McMurtrey
6.3.2 Nancy E. McMurtrey

6.4 William McMurtrey who married Margaret Malinda Hammer and had eight children:

6.4.1 Sarah Fitz-Allen McMurtrey
6.4.2 Mary Ellen McMurtrey
6.4.3 Richard McAdoo McMurtrey
6.4.4 James Henry McMurtrey
6.4.5 Lorenzo Taylor McMurtrey
6.4.6 John William McMurtrey
6.4.7 Virginia Melvina McMurtrey
6.4.8 Joseph Samuel McMurtrey

6.5 John R. McMurtrey who married Sarah "Sally" Davis and had six children:

6.5.1 Benjamin Franklin McMurtrey
6.5.2 R. E. "Ruth" McMurtrey
6.5.3 Elizabeth E. "Betsy" McMurtrey
6.5.4 James McMurtrey
6.5.5 Josephus S. McMurtrey
6.5.6 Mary Isabelle McMurtrey

6.6 Isabel Bushong McMurtrey who married (1) Willis Davis and (2) Henry Cunningham. She had the following children:

6.6.1 Sarah Jane Davis
6.6.2 Nancy Elender Davis
6.6.3 Mary Katherine Davis
6.6.4 John Newton Davis
6.6.5 James Franklin Davis
6.6.6 Matilda Caroline Davis
6.6.7 Martha Vienna Davis
6.6.8 Josephus Allen Davis
6.6.9 Sanford Irvin Davis

6.7 Sarah "Sally" McMurtrey who married John W. Bailey and had the following children:

6.7.1 Emily Virginia Bailey
6.7.2 John Gillam Bailey
6.7.3 Callum Haalmer Bailey
6.7.4 Josephus Favor Bailey
6.8 Josephus Samuel McMurtrey who married Louisa Susan Baker and had the following children:

6.8.1 Saltie E. McMurtrey
6.8.2 James Edward McMurtrey
6.8.3 John Dallas McMurtrey
6.8.4 Margaret McMurtrey
6.8.5 Susan McMurtrey

The family of Samuel and Jane (Martin) McMurtrey of Virginia and South Carolina—their six children, eighteen known grandchildren and seventy-nine known great grandchildren—was abstracted from three sources:

1) "The Alexander David McMurtrey Collection of MacMURTRIE CLAN-FAMILY HISTORICAL RECORDS WORLDWIDE" commonly referred to as the MacMurtrie Clan-Family Records (MCFR). These records were turned over to Richard Keith McMurtrey of Berkeley, California, as trustee, in May 1994 (see p. v).


3) The writer's own personal research notes.
CHAPTER IV

THE FICTIONAL JOHN McMURTRY

We turn now to historical fiction for a clue to the activities of a pioneer John McMurry. One of the characters in Alfred Crabb's Journey to Nashville is a John McMurry who was present at the Watauga Settlement in East Tennessee in the year 1779 when plans were being made for James Robertson's Cavalcade to the Bluffs of the Cumberland River where Fort Nashborough was later built.

Watauga Settlement

The Watauga Settlement was located in what is now northeast Tennessee along the Holston River and was fairly well established by 1771. A great majority of the Watauga settlers were Scots-Irish, a plain, substantial, "right-minded" people. In 1776, the Watauga area was annexed to North Carolina as Washington District, later to be divided into Greene, Washington, and Sullivan counties before becoming a part of Tennessee.

Settlers came from North Carolina and Virginia to the area. Some from Virginia were under the leadership of James Robertson. Under the influence and leadership of James Robertson and John Donelson, two journeys were made to the French Salt Springs near the Cumberland Bluffs.

Two Journeys to the Bluffs

First in time was the James Robertson Cavalcade (1779-1780), composed predominately of frontiersmen, with horses, cattle, and
domestic animals, trekking westward from Watauga through Cumberland Gap and Southern Kentucky (at that time the western part of Virginia) to establish Fort Nashborough at French Lick on the western bank of the Cumberland River. A John McMurtry was among those who went in this overland cavalcade.

The second group of the migrating force, transported by water, was the sixty or more families, comprised largely of old men, the women and children, led by the Virginia surveyor, Colonel John Donelson, with his flotilla of thirty or forty pole-propelled boats.

As "admiral of the fleet," and in personal command of the leadership "Adventure," Donelson escorted his pilgrims over dangerous waters from Fort Patrick Henry (Kingsport) down the Holston and Tennessee Rivers and up the Ohio and the Cumberland Rivers to Fort Nashborough. This epic covered four hard months between December 22, 1779, and April 24, 1780.

"Keep Going"

On the first Sabbath in March, 1779, Brother Samuel Doak from Augusta County, Virginia, preached at the Watauga Meeting House. He had been invited by James Robertson. The Watauga settlers "had gone without preaching for ten weeks, too long for true Presbyterians to remain ungospeled, to use Brother John McMurtry's word." Brother Doak chose as his Bible text the following command to Joshua, a successor to Moses:

"Now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them."

To James Robertson, John Donelson, and other Wataugans, this sermon seemed to say "keep going." In the afternoon on that March Sabbath, James Robertson called for a four o'clock meeting of some
ten or twelve Wataugans. The meeting was about "moving on." Soon a discussion of being "of one blood and faith" and how they "would make good neighbors and work together" developed.

"'We have made good neighbors here,' John McMurtry agreed, 'but I got to say we haven't worked very well together. I'd like to make a change.'"

It was decided ten days later that James Robertson should take two or three men and explore the western country on the Cumberland River. Robertson calculated that he could explore and return by the tenth of September. He made his exploratory trip to the Bluffs. Not being sure that he wasn't in Kentucky, he went to Kaskaskia to see General George Rogers Clark. Upon his return to Fort Patrick Henry about fifteen miles from the Watauga Settlements, he met John Donelson there and the two men sat on the banks of the Holston River and discussed the country to the west.

"Getting Ready for the Journey"

Most of the Watauga settlers, about two hundred men and women, decided to make the move westward with Robertson. They would assemble at Fort Patrick Henry which was only a few miles south of the Virginia line and await completion of plans for the journey. Women, children, and older men would be part of John Donelson's boat party via the Holston, Tennessee, Ohio, and Cumberland Rivers route. The younger men and stock would travel overland with James Robertson.

"Through the Wilderness"

Robertson and his men left November 1, 1779 on the overland trek to the Bluffs. While trekking through the wilderness, wild geese were spotted overhead and one of the men grumbled about the "'first-rate eatin' goin' to waste.'"

"'It ain't come the time yet to worry about eatin'."' John McMurtry pointed upward. The men's eyes followed the gesture. Two enormous raccoons lay snuggly together in the fork of a tall sycamore growing from the creek bank."

"'We'll have enough to eat for a month yet,'" said McMurtry. "'McMurtry laid his right hand tentatively on his powder horn."' 'Powder is what's goin' to be scarce. I haven't enough to waste a single shot.'" One night when having stew Titus Murray was relating a tall-tale experience "'... a-eatin' supper with General Gwage Washington.'" "'What was that, Titus?' asked John McMurtry."

The trail the party followed had been used by Indians and later blazed by Daniel Boone. It took the men through the Cumberland Gap along the Wilderness Trail deep into Kentucky. William Whitley's Station was on the route taken. Upon reaching the Green River some difficulty was encountered in finding a suitable place for men and
stock to cross. Finally a good place was found.

"'It's a good place to cross,' said John McMurtry, 'but I am dog-tired. Let's camp here for the night and cross in the morning.'"

Along the way a stop was made at a wilderness cabin where one of the praying stalwarts of the Watauga Meeting House besought Almighty God in prayer and another voice was raised in "that great apostrophe of the early Presbyterians, 'O God, Our Help in Ages Past.'"

"That's Nancy Gower's favorite hymn,' said John McMurtry. 'He's singing it for her.'"

After passing Kilgor's and Mansker's Stations, Robertson and party arrived at the Bluffs on the Cumberland River on December 24, 1779 with snow on the ground.

Robertson made announcements about what the men were to do and said "'... we'll start on the cabins here tomorrow. John McMurtry, you know more about building than the rest of us. I appoint you to be in charge. Make them good cabins, John. Womenfolks are first-rate judges of such things, and I want them to be pleased."

"It was still very cold the next morning, but there was not a cloud in the sky. John McMurtry got his cabin builders together very
early and made assignments. Some were to choose the sites and place stones to mark their measurements. There were those who chose and cut down the trees, and others who heaved and notched the logs; still others hunted for, and cut slender saplings to be made into rafters. All day long the cold air was filled with the sound of voices and axes. McMurtry was well pleased with that day's work."

"Robertson felt that he had made no mistake in selecting McMurtry to head the cabin work. McMurtry knew what had to be done and how to get the men to do it."

"In the late afternoon snow began to fall ... The snow didn't stop McMurtry's men, but it slowed them down."

"'I want six hundred acres of good land and two-room cabin of my own ready when the boats get here,' said McMurtry. 'And if nothing happens, I'll have both. The cabins we're building now are to be used just a little while. We'll all be moving out to our own places soon. I'm mighty finicky about a cabin. I just can't abide one that is sloppy built, and I feel the same way about one that's built in the wrong place. When I get my own land, I'm goin' to pick out the prettiest place on it for my cabin.'"

As the cabins neared completion, James Robertson assembled the men and announced that each settler was entitled to six hundred acres of land and more under special conditions.

"John Donelson Builds the Boats"

Back at Fort Patrick Henry John Donelson and his crew had been putting the finishing touches on the boats to be used over the river route to the Bluffs. It was already December and later than the river route travelers had planned to leave. The Adventure was the largest boat ever made ready for the western rivers. The passenger list carried the names of forty-eight persons, including the family of John Donelson. Perhaps John McMurtry's wife and children were on the large boat. A thousand miles of water would be covered, one-fourth of it upstream. The boats were completed and tested.

"The Boats Set Out"

Thirty boats drifted slowly away from the landing site, most of which were flat-bottomed with a cabin in the middle. John Donelson's, The Adventure, was much the largest. It was almost Christmas Eve. The Cumberland River at the Bluffs was frozen over by the cold weather. Cold weather, rough shoals, unfriendly Indian encounters made the water trip a test of pioneer endurance. After leaving the Tennessee River, it was upstream on the Ohio and Cumberland Rivers until they reached their destination at the Bluffs.
Spring had arrived and the men at the Bluffs were eagerly awaiting the arrival of their families. Anxiety was beginning to get next to many of the men. James Robertson was concerned about crops and gardens, but uppermost in his mind was the reunion with his own family. It was now the latter part of March and the anxiety had deepened at the Bluffs.

"'A wife and four children I had,' said John McMurtry, 'four lads, and they were a bonny sight! And my wife--she could keep the cabin as clean as any dame that ever lived. There was good cheer in my cabin at Watauga. We were poor, but we had good fare. It was home. We didn't have to leave there. Tell me, James Robertson, do you think I'll see my wife and four lads again? Tell me plain."

James Robertson answered quietly and with conviction: "'The boats will come with your family and mine.'"

"'Thank God,' said McMurtry fervently, for the moment reassured." For a time there was no sound except McMurtry's hard breathing. Then he inquired about Andrew Lucas. Andrew had cracked his skull in an accident, but it was healing.

"John McMurtry spoke with his eyes closed. 'I hate to think of it, but Andrew was to marry the day the boats came. I remember well how Nancy Gower looked that morning. Ah, she was fair! Could they
be married if the boats come soon?" One of the men responded that it would probably take a month for Andrew's skull to heal--the wedding would have to be delayed.

"'A month!' said McMurtry, his hands gripped together." At this point James Robertson felt that a bit of humor would be good for the men who were standing about. Andrew had wanted to be the first man to marry in the new settlement. Titus Murray was very much interested in having a shivaree and it didn't matter who it was for.

"'I won't feel like no shivaree,' said John McMurtry. 'I'll be too busy lookin' at my own wife and four lads.'"

Some of the men had left the little gathering of those who were watching the river. "John McMurtry left with the others, but in a few minutes he was back. "James, do you believe in signs? Tell me, do you?"' Robertson responded that he believed more in that horn than in an itching big toe. "If you hear the horn and it keeps on blowing, go to the river to meet your folks."

One of the men sat on the step of one of the stockade cabins with an itching toe. Several of the men drifted by to inquire as to the state of the itching toe. Each man was told that the toe was still itching which to the man with the itching toe was a sign that something was about to happen.

"'It'd just as well stop,' said John McMurtry. 'I don't put no trust in your toe any more.'" Henry Hardin didn't like taking the blame because that sign hadn't failed him in ten years. He hadn't said that the boats were coming--maybe something else is going to happen.
"What else could happen?" said John McMurtry. Henry responded that the Good Book said that the earth is filled with marvels and wonders. He inferred that his itching toe was one of them.

"'You got no right to get us all stirred up like this.'" came McMurtry's retort.

The settlers had finished cleaning up the stockade and the grounds. Robertson sensed that the men needed to be kept busy. He made a speech to his men telling them that there were a lot of things their wives would want done and to humor them. He wanted the word spread that when the boats arrived the men were to do whatever their wives wanted done—it was to be their homecoming and he wanted it to be a happy one. Some of the men had been sent out to hunt game for meat and had returned with their kill.

"'What's the use of cookin' all that meat unless the boats are really comin'?'' asked John McMutry." He was told it wouldn't be wasted.

"'I'll say it won't be if my four lads get here. And they'll be hungry, half-starved, I reckon.'" responded John McMurtry. McMurtry was assured those four boys would be stuffed until their buttons popped off.

The poke green hunters had also returned. Robertson said, "'Titus, you and John McMurtry go down to the salt spring and get the kettle Theron Drake is using. He won't be making any salt for a while. Tell him to come back with you.'"

One morning Robertson noticed that the men were more carefully dressed than was their usual state. Though the wilderness had obscured the culture of the Virginia Valley, of the Carolinas, of Pennsylvania, and of Watauga, it was showing again. However, beneath their bright, clean faces despondency was showing through.

"'There ain't a sign of boats on that river,' said John McMurtry. 'Not a sign. I'm about ready to give up.'" McMurtry was reminded that there was nothing in the Scripture that says for people to give up. Those men in charge of cooking had begun to prepare lots of food in anticipation of the arrival of their families.

"'What are we cookin' all this up for?' asked John McMurtry. 'I'm not hungry. Ain't nobody hungry and it'll be wasted.'"

"Reunion"

The long awaited day arrived. It was April 24, 1780 when James Robertson's son, Jonathan, sounded a quick succession of blasts on his horn. It was as though he was filling the air with an inspired proclamation. James Robertson recognized John Donelson at the rudder
of his boat, The Adventure. After several boats came into view there was a scramble down the bluff to the river. Robertson invited all to come down and await the arrival of the boats. Robertson's own wife and children were on the deck of The Adventure.

"He heard John McMurtry say, 'There's my wife and four lads. There they are, there they are!" Tears streamed down the man's face. As he saw some of the men looking at him, he said, 'I'm not ashamed to cry, and I'm not goin' to be ashamed when I get to heaven neither.'"

By this time, all who were near were straining for recognition of their loved ones. After all the boat travelers were ashore, James Robertson announced that a home-coming dinner, a reunion dinner, a thanksgiving dinner would be ready in one hour.

When the feast was ready, Robertson got the attention of the settlers and announced that Rachel Donelson would lead them in a song, "a regular meeting-house song." It was Robertson's favorite of the pioneer Presbyterian church songs. The young girl began to sing:

"O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come ..."

As Jonathan blew his horn, men, women, and children crowded to the serving ground, "Robertson called on John McMurtry to offer thanks for the food of which they were about to partake. The Scotsman was grateful and told the Lord so in a very personal way, expressed in the rich idioms of Scotland."
Donelson's Journal

In The Annals of Tennessee by Ramsey the following excerpts are found from John Donelson's journal of his voyage in the boat The Adventure from Fort Patrick Henry on the Holston River to the French Salt Springs on the Cumberland River:

December 22, 1779

"Took our departure from the fort ... with sundry other vessels bound for the same voyage ..."

Monday, April 24, 1780

"This day we arrived at our journey's end at the Big Salt Lick, where we have the pleasure of finding Capt. Robertson and his company. It is a source of satisfaction to us to be enabled to restore to him and others their families and friends, who were entrusted to our care, and who, sometime since, perhaps, despaired to ever meeting again. Though our prospects at present are dreary, we have found a few log cabins which have been built on a cedar bluff above the Lick by Capt. Robertson and his company."

Among those believed to have been on one of the boats was John McMurtry's wife and four "bonny lads."

Cumberland Compact,
May 1, 1780

According to History of Middle Tennessee by Putnam, James Robertson issued a call to people of the different stations to the Bluff area to meet at Port Nashborough on May 1, 1780. Those who answered the call met in convention and signed an "Articles of Association" variously called "Cumberland Compact," "Articles of Agreement," or "Compact of Government." This was an attempt to organize themselves into some democratic form of government.

No sooner had the overland cavalcade and water flotilla travelers been united with family and friends and settled down than trouble began. In the early summer of 1780 in little war parties of 10 to 25, the Cherokee and the Creek, the Chickamauga and the Chickasaw Indians set forth to carry "death and destruction" to the intruding adventurers who had taken possession of their choice hunting grounds.

Among the names attached to the Cumberland Compact was that of a John McMurty [McMurtry], the 177th of 256 names.
The real John McMurtry made reference to "Holston" in his first of two wills written July 7, 1780 after coming to Kentucky and then settling near Harrodsburg, Kentucky, then Lincoln County, now Mercer. He said the following in this first will:

"In the Name of God amen I John McMurtry of Caintucky in the Stat of Virginia ... I give my son James one hundred and fifty Eaceres of land with the Bugloe Spring Joining his Granfathers line and extending along the South line of my Survey and a good Mean bought with the money at Holston for him ... whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal the 7th day of July and in the year of our Lord 1780."

The real John McMurtry's mother, Sarah [Todd] McMurtry of Augusta County, widow of Alexander McMurtry with children, entered into a Marriage Contract on May 7, 1751 with James Young, Miller and Planter, to be married according to the Rules and Disciplines of the Church of Scotland (Presbyterian).

In an unfinished letter by Robert Letcher McMurtry (1884-1920) of Rich Hill, Missouri, dated May 20, 1913, written to Miss Sue McMurtry of Rio, Illinois, he said:

"... The family came from Scotland in the very early days ...

Robert Letcher McMurtry was a great grandson of the real John McMurtry. The letter was never mailed, but was saved, and was in the possession of Marguerite Hayden McMurtry Strecken of Winter Haven, Florida in 1992. She is now deceased.

The real John McMurtry's oldest son, James, was born November 17, 1771, and according to the 1850 census of Knox County, Illinois, was born in North Carolina. It is probable that he was born in the Watauga Settlement area close to the present Virginia-Tennessee state line.

The real John McMurtry was a God-fearing man who knew how to pray to his Lord; he became an Elder in the Old Cane Run Church, later the Providence Presbyterian Church in present Mercer County, Kentucky, which office he held until his death in 1790 at Harmer's Defeat in Indiana.

The Writer's Belief

It is believed by this writer that John McMurtry, the fictional character in Crabb's Journey to Nashville, was indeed the real John who may have been a "Scotsman" removed by birth by one generation. The characterization of the fictional John McMurtry is almost parallel without exception to the character of the real John McMurtry of Kentucky as portrayed through family tradition and documentary evidence.
Another John McMurtrey

In Bedford County, Virginia, on August 26, 1759, a Joseph McMurtrey was licensed to marry Susannah Patton, a quakeress. Circa 1760, their first child, John McMurtrey, was born. On October 28, 1779, this John McMurtrey was licensed to marry Anne "Nancy" Campbell. This John McMurtrey was under age at the time, and his father gave permission for him to marry.

Some family historians believe that the fictional John McMurtrey portrayed in Alfred Leland Crabb's book, Journey to Nashville, was this John McMurtrey. This John McMurtrey and his wife had only one child, a daughter, Rosannah McMurtrey, who later married Solomon Bartlett.

In 1782, this John McMurtrey was killed in the defense of Davidson County, Tennessee, and was awarded a 640-acre tract of land by the government of North Carolina. Tennessee was still a part of North Carolina at that time. This 640-acre grant of land was later disposed of by Solomon and Rosannah McMurtrey Bartlett.

When James Robertson organized his cavalcade to the Cumberland Bluffs, this John McMurtrey was under 21 years of age and unmarried. This John McMurtrey does not fit Crabb's fictional character of John McMurtrey in time and place, family make-up, circumstances and events, and in other characterizations.

The fictional John McMurtrey was on the scene at Watauga in March, 1779. He was already married and had four sons, the last of whom was born March 4, 1779. John McMurtrey was not licensed to marry until October 28, 1779, at which time he was under age.

James Robertson and his men left Watauga on November 1, 1779 on their overland trek to the Cumberland Bluffs. It seems very unlikely that this John McMurtrey would be licensed to marry on October 28, 1779 in Botetourt County, Virginia, many miles away from the Watauga Settlement in the Washington District of North Carolina and be ready to leave on November 1, 1779 for the Cumberland Bluffs.

Therefore, it seems reasonable to assume that the fictional John McMurtrey was in reality the John McMurtrey (McMurtry) who signed the Cumberland Compact on May 1, 1780 and who was in Lincoln County, Kentucky by July 7, 1780 as attested by the Lincoln County court records.

The Real John McMurtrey

John McMurtrey of Augusta and Rockbridge Counties, Virginia, the Holston River area, and perhaps the Watauga Settlement, son of Alexander and Sarah (Todd) McMurtrey, had married Mary Todd Hutton, circa 1770/1 and had four sons born by 1779. They were James, born November 17, 1771; Alexander, born March 12, 1774; Samuel, born July 18, 1776; and William, born March 4, 1779.
JOHN McMURTRY—CITIZEN OF "CAINTUCKY"

John McMurtry came to Kentucky when Kentucky was still a county in Virginia. Family traditions say: that he came in 1780; that he came circa 1780 with his Todd cousins,* Joseph and William McMurtry (brothers from Bedford County, Virginia, and sons of James and Nancy [Todd] McMurtry of the same county); that he came to Kentucky from Virginia by way of Tennessee in 1780. The three statements of the same tradition agree on the year of 1780 as the year of his coming to Kentucky.

Whether he came directly from Virginia with his two Todd cousins or from Virginia by way of Tennessee, the year 1780 marks the beginning of John McMurtry--Citizen of "Caintucky." Several records attest to and confirm family traditions:

(1) On May 1, 1780, a John McMurtry signed the "Cumberland Compact of Government" at Fort Nashborough on the Cumberland Bluffs (present site of Nashville, Tennessee).

(2) A survey was made for John McMurtry and Alexander Robertson for "Fourteen Hundred Acres of Land in Kentucky County lying on Cedar Run a branch of Kentucky River," on June 9, 1780 (Surveys #8195, #8196, #8197 as recorded in Kentucky Land Grant Book 15, Secretary of State's Office, Frankfort).

(3) John McMurtry made his first of two wills on July 7, 1780 which was probated in 1783 in Lincoln County February Court. The will read: "... I John McMurtry of Caintucky in the Stat of Virginia ..." (Lincoln County, Kentucky, Will Book A, pp. 35, 36).

(4) Ten years later, John McMurtry made his second of two wills on September 6, 1790 which was probated in the April 1791 Mercer County, Kentucky, Court. The will read: "... I John McMurtry of Mercer County and late of Virginia ..." (Mercer County, Kentucky, Will Book 1, pp. 52, 53).

* There is no known blood kinship between John McMurtry and Joseph and William McMurtry through the McMurtry surname.

Lincoln County was one of three original counties of Kentucky created in 1780 out of Kentucky County, Virginia. Mercer County was created out of Lincoln County in 1785.
First Will

 Shortly after arriving in "Caintucky," John McMurtry made the
first of two wills on July 7, 1780 as follows:

 "In the Name of God, amen, I John McMurtry of Caintucky
in the State of Virginia being in perfect health praised
be God do make this my last Will and Testament as
followeth: I allow Father his hundred acres of land in
the Southeaste corner of my Survey with the Spring called
William McMurtry's Spring. I give my son James one
hundred and fifty acres of land with the Buffalo
Spring Joynling his Grandfather's line and extending along
the South line of my Survey and a good mear bought with
the money at Holston for him. And to my Alickander I
give the Cove Spring with a hundred and fifty acres of
Land Joynling the North Line of my Survey. And to
my son Samuel I give an improvement towards the Weste
line and to my son William I give the Little Spring with
the remainder of the land and to my wife Mary I give a free
privilege of my son William's land and all its
conveniences during her lift time tho not to hinder
him of a privilege of water and woodland when he comes
of age and for the movable estate I leave to my wife to
Soll and Support the children with and to distribute
as she sees proper in witness whereof I have hereunto
set my hand and Seal the 7th day of July and in the
year of our Lord 1780."

John McMurtry (Seal)

John Hutton Sealed and declared by the above named
James Hutton John McMurtry for and as his last will
William McMurtry and Testament in the presence of us.

At a Court held for Lincoln County the 18th Feb'y 1783 This
Instrument of Writing was exhibited in Court as the last
Will and Testament of John McMurtry dec'd and proved by the
Oaths of James Hutton and William McMurtry and Ordered to
be Recorded.

Teste William May

James and John Hutton may have been father and son or father-in-law
and brother-in-law respectively to John McMurtry. They may also have
been brothers. William McMurtry was a cousin through the Todd family.

The second will of John McMurtry may be found in Chapter VI.
LEGEND: 1 According to McMurtry family tradition the site of John McMurtry's Grist Mill (first mentioned in Kentucky according to Lewis Collins, the historian). Orion W. McMurtry (1903-1981) of Harrodsburg conducted this writer to the site and pointed out the mill dam, mill flume, and mill foundation in 1966. The tradition has not been affirmed nor refuted. 2 The mill stones are extant in the yard of the old Alexander McMurtry Farm (later referred to as the old James McMurtry Farm) at Polly's Bend in Garrard County now owned by Wilson. 3 Site of a McMurtry Fort on a 192½-acre tract of land owned by Joseph McMurtry, cousin of the writer. The outline of the fort area were still visible in the late 1800s. 4 McMurtry's Ford identified by historian. 5 McMurtry's Trace across Joseph McMurtry's land, a portion of which was to be part of the road from the Mouth of Dicks River to Danville. Beginning at the Mouth of Dicks Trace ..." NOTE: The late Col. George N. Chinn (1902-1987), Mercer County historian, believed that a precursor to the Shaker Mill of 1816 at Kissing Bridge.
In the name of God, Amen. I John McMurray of Lincoln County, in the state of Kentucky, being of perfect age, of sound and disposing mind, do make this my last will and testament, as follows: I give to Andrus his hundred acres of land in the north east corner of my farm, with the spring and meadow at McMurray's Spring, to my son James; and fifty acres of land with the spring joining his grand father line and running along the said line of my farm and a good share of the money.

I give to my son John the house, barn and outbuildings on my farm, and all the livestock thereon during his lifetime. I give to my son James the four acres of land joining the North line of my farm, and to my son William I give the other share with the remainder of the land and my legacy shall. I give a full privilege of my son William's land and all its boundaries during her lifetime, not to hinder him of his继承权. I leave to my wife to deal and dispose of the children with and to distribute the sums payable in testamentary allowances, if I have incapacity at my death and deal the property of my wife and in the year of our Lord 1780.


At Lincoln County for Lincoln County the 19th day of June, 1783. This instrument of writing was substantiated in court on the 2d day of June, 1783. I, William McMurray, do subscribe and cause the same to be recorded.

Lincoln County, Kentucky, Will Book A, pp. 35, 36.
In 1879, John McMurtry (1812-1890), a well known architect of Lexington, Kentucky, wrote the following letter to another McMurtry:

Lexington, Ky. April 28th, 1879

Mr. J. A. McMurtry, Harmonsburg, Pa.

Dear Sir:

... My grandfather McMurtry emigrated to Ky ... in about 1776, & I heard my Father say they changed the trie to try.

They built a Fort on the Banks of the Ky. River, the relics of which are yet visible & from which they would sally in search of game, & the Indians. My grandfather finally settled near Lexington, Ky.

Respectfully

/s/ John McMurtry

On the left margin of the letter were written these words: "This from one John McMurtry an old family--who live at Lexington, Ky."

John McMurtry, the architect, was the son of David McMurtry and the grandson of Joseph McMurtry from Virginia to Kentucky circa 1780.
McMurtry's Settlement

In an unpublished 428-page manuscript titled When Wilderness Was King written by Dr. Tillman E. McMurtry (1868-1923) of Chicago, Illinois, about the turn of the century and edited by his daughter, Esther McMurtry LeBaron in Chapter 16, "Harrodsburg Harrassed by Indians," pp. 198-200, the following is found:

"The winter 1787 passed with the occupants of the little McMurtry fort working like beavers on their stockade, cabins and clearing. It was hoped by spring to have several more acres of new land ready for cultivation. The clearing was already far out onto the hill and down the little creek to Shawnee Run. Everything pointed to a good year, but in the first days of March went their hopes of peace.

William and John were beyond Salt River hunting. While walking silently through the woods they came across six or seven Indians. The Indians fired on them without effect, but the return shots made two less pursuers. The whites had learned to load their guns as they ran. This fast shooting by the whites kept the Indians dodging from log to tree and tree to log. The men headed north so as to put the Indians off their trail. They soon came to Salt River, swollen and jammed with ice. John McMurtry was a thick, short man and a poor swimmer so William got him onto a loose log and started him across the rushing stream, instructing him to use the stock of his gun for a paddle. William seized a grape vine that hung far out over the river from the top of a leaning tree. He climbed the vine, chopping it off below his feet and swung safely over. When he released the vine it hung too far out for the Indians to get it. The whites had scarcely cleared the river when twelve or fifteen Indians came up on the other side. Their leisurely retreat made the Indians afraid to attempt the river. Hurrying to the McMurtry settlement, they hastily gathered what they could and hurried everyone into Harrodsburg. At this time Harrodsburg was by far the strongest fort in the entire Kentucky country. For this reason Harrod's was the center for the protection of the settlers. The wisdom of evacuating the settlement was proven for it turned out that Black Fish, a Shawnee chief, was leading a party of over eighty Indians.

... Sometime in the night the McMurtrys arrived. Harrod's was now in a state of siege."

This manuscript is now in the possession of Richard Keith McMurtry of Berkeley, California, as part of the MacMurtrie Clan-Family Records.
First Water-Powered Grist Mill in Kentucky

Lewis Collins in writing about the early beginnings of Mercer County, Kentucky, recorded the following:

"The First Grist Mill driven by water-power in Kentucky was about 1782, that of Capt. John McMurtry, near Shakertown, in Mercer County."

Collins also recorded that Captain McMurtry "owned and was the first person to settle upon the land which was afterwards built upon by early settlers and became known as the village of the Shakers but by themselves called--'Pleasant Hill' or 'Union Village' and later was called Shakertown."

A study of the Mercer County deed records reveals that one of Captain John McMurtry's sons, Samuel, sold land in 1808 to Elisha Thomas--land Samuel had inherited from his father. (See Appendix E.) Elisha Thomas was a Shaker trustee.
Appraised Estate of Isaac Hogland

At the June Court, 1782, for Lincoln County, the following entry is found:

"Ordered that Hugh McGary, John McMurtry, Jacob Froman, and Henry Higgins, or any three of them do appraise the estate of Isaac Hogland deceased, and return the appraisement to Court" (Lincoln County Original Order Book 1781-1791, p. 17).

Recommended to Governor as Ensign

"The following persons are recommended to his Excellency the Governor as proper persons to serve as Militia Officers, Viz ... John McMurtry ... as Ensigns ... as Lieutenants ... as Captains ..."

Land Entry

In Lincoln County land entries, John McMurtry was an entry for 25 acres on July 22, 1782. No watercourse was listed, however, later court records reveal that this acreage was located on Cedar Run (now in Mercer County) which empties into the Kentucky River at High Bridge.

Siege of Bryan's Station, August 18, 1782

Lewis Collins in his History of Kentucky, Vol. II, p. 188 recorded that "on the night of the 14th of August, 1782, Bryan's Station was surrounded by a body of Indians from various tribes ... Messengers were forthwith dispatched to the adjoining stations to communicate intelligence of the siege, and to procure assistance."

From Harrodsburg came a number of Lincoln County Militia among whom was Ensign John McMurtry. Ensign McMurtry was reported killed in the siege of Bryan's Station as evidenced by the following extract of a letter from Colonel Levi Todd to his brother, Robert Todd:

"Lexington, Aug. 16, 1782

On the 16th instant, in the morning an express arrived from Bryan's Station informing us it was expected a Body of Indians lay around the Fort ... As people in different parts of the County will be anxious to know the names of the killed, I will add a list of those I can now remember ... Ensign John MacMurtry ... (Calendar of Virginia State Papers, p. 334).

Ensign McMurtry was not killed as reported but was among those who pursued the Indians on to Blue Licks where a fierce battle took place with the Ottawa."
Battle of Blue Licks, August 19, 1782

Collins, the historian, recorded the following:

"On the 19th of August, 1782 the fatal battle ... took place on the Old State road, about half mile north of the Lower Blue Licks. The Kentuckians who fought this battle left Bryan's Station on the afternoon of the 18th, and was composed of one hundred and eighty-two men, according to General G. R. Clark ..." (George Rogers Clark).

Among the one hundred and eighty-two men who fought in this battle was Ensign John McMurtry.

Captured by Indians

Colonel Benjamin Logan in writing to Governor Benjamin Harrison of Virginia gave the following account of the disaster at Blue Licks:

"August 31st, 1782

Sir--

I beg leave to present your Excellency and Council with one of the most melancholy events that has happened in all the Western Country... our loss in this action is 50 missing from Lincoln and 15 from Fayette, among whom are ... Ensign McMurtry ... (from Lincoln)."

Life Spared by Simon Girty

Simon Girty was the second son of Old Simon Girty, an Irish immigrant, who came to Pennsylvania and "engaged in packhorse driving the Indian trade." Young Simon was born in then Lancaster County in 1741 at Chamber's Mill, five miles above the present site of Harrisburg, and very early in his life grew acquainted with the Indians and their ways." His mother was Mary [Newton] Girty, an Englishwoman. Old Simon was tomahawked to death by a warrior named The Fish. Young Simon's stepfather, John Turner, was tortured with red hot gun barrels, blazing faggots piled on his stomach, and a scalping knife slipped over his skull. Young Simon was fifteen at the time. John Turner was finally killed after torture by being tomahawked.

"... number of times, and nearly always at the risk of offending the Indian chiefs and warriors, he pleaded or demanded that the lives of doomed white prisoners be spared ... That he often did successfully intercede for former countrymen of his who had been taken and condemned by the Indians is proved by records."

Simon Girty was variously called the "cut-throat renegade," "an inveterate woodsman," and he was known far and wide to the border people of that day as the "White Renegade."
John Carr, writing in 1857, in his History of Middle Tennessee, gave the following account:

"I will now endeavor to give the outlines of the Blue Licks defeat. A large body of the Northern Indians and Canadians, came over into Kentucky, with the view of doing all the mischief they could. They were commanded by the notorious Simon Girty, a white man, who ran away from some crime committed when quite young, and joined the Northern Indians, and became a commander among them ..."

The Indians took several of our men prisoners, and among them, Sergeant McMerter [Ensígn McMurtry]; he and Simon Girty had been raised together.

In the evening after the battle, the Indians numbered their men and counted the scalps taken; they found they had lost more men than they had scalps. Girty ordered as many of the prisoners to be killed as would bring the number even.

The way they executed them was this: they stripped the victims naked, to keep their clothes from being bloodied, and, while two Indians led them out by the arms, a third stuck them to the heart with a knife. It fell McMerter's [McMurtry's] lot to be killed. While they stripped him, he turned to Girty, and said,

'Simon, I never did you any harm.'

He [McMurtry] touched some tender chord of his savage heart, and he [Girty] freed him from the execution; but another poor fellow had immediately to go. When the number became even, they stopped.

Before the people from Kentucky could come to bury their dead, they were so swollen and torn by the wild beasts, that they could not distinguish them apart, and it was even believed that McMerter [McMurtry] was killed in the battle."

Blue Licks Prisoners

Collins, the historian, also related the following:

"Of the seven prisoners who survived Blue Licks, three—Jesse Vocum, Lewis Rose, and Captain* John McMurtry—were packed to the extent of their strength with the spoils of the day. With their captors, they were hurried next day across the Ohio River, at the mouth of Eagle Creek, 7 miles below Limestone creek.

* Then an Ensign but later a Captain.
Maysville; then passed Upper and Lower Sandusky, and the foot of the Miami Rapids to Detroit—where they arrived on September 4, and were delivered into the hands of the British. On the route, they were several times compelled to run the gauntlet, in Indian towns through which they passed. At one of them. Capt. McMurtry was knocked down and fell senseless; the Indians jumped upon and stamped him, breaking several of his ribs. But the gauntlet failed to satisfy the savage craving for fiendish cruelty, and the prisoners were condemned to be burned. Just as they were tied to the stake, and the torch was already applied to the fagots around, a storm of remarkable violence burst over their heads."

Prayed for Deliverance

Family tradition says that John McMurtry, who was an elder in the old Providence Presbyterian Church in present Mercer County, observed a storm cloud over head and lifted his hands toward heaven and feverently prayed for deliverance.

Collins continues the plight of McMurtry, Rose, and Vocum as follows:

"The flashes of lightening increased in ovidedness, and louder and deeper rolled the thunder. When the storm cloud broke, and the torrent from above extinguished the fires, the savages were struck with awe and reverence, and dared not re-light them. The Great Spirit had interfered to save them, and would not permit them thus to die. Thereafter they were treated with far more kindness and consideration."

One McMurtry family tradition says that John McMurtry was adopted by an Indian and his squaw. No documentary evidence has been found to substantiate this tradition.

Imprisoned Near Montreal

"On Sept. 18th, the prisoners were forwarded to Montreal, and rigorously confined for a month; then to Mont du Luc Island, and imprisoned until July, 1783—when they were exchanged and sent to Ticonderoga, reaching their homes near Harrodsburg, Ky., Aug. 28th. They were received almost as men from the dead ..."

Robert B. McAfee in a letter dated January 10, 1849, to Lyman C. Draper stated that Lewis Rose, captured with John McMurtry at Blue Licks, "was so altered that his wife did not know him for sometime." Other accounts state that Ensign John McMurtry returned home several weeks after Lewis Rose.
Daniel Boone's Account

Daniel Boone reported the following:

"... that the Indians upon numbering their dead found four more than they counted of the whites killed on the field and in retreat; and therefore 4 of the prisoners were, by general consent, ordered to be killed, in a most barbarous manner, by the young warriors in order to train them up to cruelty; and then they proceeded to their towns."

First Will Probated

Mary [Todd] Hutton McMurtry, believing her husband to be dead, brought his first of two wills into court as attested by the following court entry:

"February Court, 1783

At a Court held for Lincoln County the 18th Feb'y 1783 This Instrument of Writing was exhibited in Court as the last Will and Testament of John McMurtry dec'd and proved by the Oaths of James Hutton and William McMurtry and Ordered to be Recorded.

Teste William May"

It is believed that James Hutton was John McMurtry's father-in-law whom he mentioned as "father" in his will. Family tradition, supported by documentary evidence, points to the fact that his own father, Alexander McMurtry of Augusta County, Virginia, was killed by the Indians in Virginia circa 1750. William McMurtry was his Todd cousin and brother of Captain Joseph McMurtry, both of whom had come to Kentucky from Bedford County, Virginia circa 1780, settling on land near the present site of Shakertown and in the present county of Mercer where McMurtry's Fort was built on Captain Joseph McMurtry's 192-½ acre tract of land at the confluence of Cedar Run and Dix River.

Certificate of Probate Granted

At the Lincoln County June Court, 1783 "on the motion of Mary McMurtry the Executrix named in the last Will and Testament of John McMurtry Deceased ..." certificate was granted her for obtaining a probate of his will. At the same court it was "ordered that James Hutton, John Todd, William McMurtry and John Campbell or any three of them being first sworn, do appraise the Estate of John McMurtry deceased and return the appraisement to Court."
Tale of Romance

Ensign John McMurtry left Kentucky on August 20, 1782, a captive prisoner of the Indians and did not return, according to family tradition, until several weeks after his friend Lewis Rose who returned on August 28, 1783. They both returned to their respective homes near Fort Harrod in present Mercer County, perhaps at the same time or weeks apart. Several accounts of a romance involving his widow, Mary, have been recited and recounted. John Carr in his History of Middle Tennessee wrote this about John McMurtry's wife and children in Bryan's Station:

"He had a wife and two children, I believe, in Bryan's Station ... She was said to be a beautiful and smart young widow. About twelve months after the battle, a young man in the fort paid his addresses to her, and they were married. Some two or three months after their marriage, who should come home but McMurtry! He appeared like one from the dead, for it was universally believed that he was killed in the battle. He immediately learned that his wife was married. At the sight of him she was so overcome, that it seemed she could hardly live. He relieved her as quick as he could and told her he attached no blame to her; he also knew that if she had had any idea that he was living, she would not have married. He knew that she needed someone to support and protect her. It was said that he and the young man went out and talked the matter over, and agreed to leave it to her, and whoever she said she preferred to live with, the other promised upon the honor of a gentleman, to withdraw and never interfere. They went in and proposed the question to her. She said she would take the father of her children and her first love. It was said the young man never interfered, and she and McMurtry lived happily together."

There is no other source known to this writer to support this romantic tale. McMurtry family tradition makes no mention that John McMurtry nor any of his immediate family were ever a part of the body of persons in Bryan's Station in Fayette County. McMurtry names do not appear on any of the known lists of inhabitants of the Station. There is reason to believe, however, that John McMurtry and family may have been in McMurtry's Fort and in the fort at Harrodsburg at different times. A similar account about a pioneer woman may be found in The Great Meadow by Elizabeth Madox Roberts.
Fort Harrod and Salt

Myra Gabriella Madison McMurtry, an early family historian and a granddaughter of Captain John McMurtry, indicated that he and his family may have been inhabitants of Fort Harrod sometime during the early period of the Fort. This family historian relates to an event that substantiates the fact that John McMurtry and family were in Fort Harrod as follows:

"Onetime," said Mrs. Alice Todd Craig, a friend and relative of the family, 'the supply of salt gave out and Captain McMurtry sallied out at the peril of his life to get the coveted luxury for his family.'"

"Cousin William"

The same family historian above related another story which "throws into relief the stalwart character of Captain John McMurtry. His Todd cousin, William McMurtry, during an Indian attack, was in the act of loading his gun when an Indian bullet took off the end of his powder horn and with it the end of his finger."

Captain John is reported to have said the following to his Cousin William:

"'Never mind, Cousin William, I have killed six Indians and here goes the seventh.'"

Another Tale of Romance

A second romantic story was told in 1849 by George Robertson, then Chief Justice of Kentucky and a son of Alexander Robertson who was a close friend of John McMurtry, in a speech in Harrodsburg later published in the Harrodsburg Herald. This romantic tale was published under the title of "Romance of the Early Days."

The speaker of the day related how Captain McMurtry had gone "but to fight the Indians [1782] and did not return," how "his wife mothered his little ones, firm in the belief that he would come back
Cousins John and William

some day," how "time passed and nothing was heard of him, and Captain Lewis Rose asked Mrs. McMurtry to marry him."

It is only fair to say that Captain Lewis Rose's wife, Barbara (Trayer) Rose, was still living and bore him two children after 1782—Rebecca Rose, born January 23, 1785 and Lewis Rose Jr born June 4, 1787. Mrs. Barbara Rose did not die until 1792.

Justice Robertson continued by saying that:

"... she refused, as she could not believe her husband dead, but her friends urged her to accept the gallant Captain, as a woman with small children was not equal to the hardships and dangers of early settlement life without a stronger arm to aid her."

This part of the story did happen but not until the early 1790s after Captain John McMurtry's death in 1790 and after Mrs. Barbara Rose's death in 1792. Captain John's widow did marry her husband's friend in 1793 but not in 1783.
"That's John's Gun"

Justice Robertson further says that: "Finally she agreed to marry her husband's friend, but just as they were standing together for the ceremony, a gun shot was heard." This would have been on or after August 28, 1783 when Ensign John McMurtry returned from a year's imprisonment by the British in Montreal followed by his release and exchange at Ticonderoga, New York, all of which followed the Battle of Blue Licks.

Justice Robertson also said that: "The bride bounded away, crying 'That's John's gun' and ran joyfully to meet the wanderer who had been captive by the Indians so long that everyone thought he was dead. He had fired his gun as he reached a knoll in sight of his dwelling as a signal of his return, as had been his custom before he disappeared."

This writer has no reason to doubt the next portion of Justice Robertson's story:

"Many years afterward, when death took Capt. McMurtry, his widow made good her promise and married Captain Rose."

Tale Refuted and Confirmed

This tale is both refuted and confirmed. The refutation is not an attempt to discredit the intellectual honesty of Chief Justice George Robertson of Kentucky nor to defend the honor of Captain Lewis Rose and Mary Todd (Hutton) McMurtry. It is to say, however, that it is highly improbable that one who confirmed the faith (Lutheran) of his forefathers and later who became an Elder in the Old Providence Presbyterian Church would become a philanderer and court his friend's supposed widow while his own wife, Barbara, was still living. It is further improbable that the friends of Mrs. McMurtry would urge her to marry the "gallant Captain" knowing that the Captain's own wife was still living with young children in her care. The refutation and confirmation are made in the interest of discovering the true facts and untangling the early records of the Captain John McMurtry family in Kentucky.

Justice Robertson was no doubt correct in the fact of the romance, but not at the time it took place. He was also correct in the fact that the McMurtry-Rose marriage took place.

The Whistling Bullet

Joseph Samuel McMurtry (1893-1971) of Lawrenceburg, Kentucky, a descendant of Captain John McMurtry's "Cousin William," in a letter to this writer wrote the following:
"When I was a small boy, perhaps eight or ten years old, I remember my father telling me and my three sisters about John McMurtry and the whistling bullet. This is the story as I recall it ...

During the early days of Harrodsburg when there was considerable fighting going on with the Indians, John McMurtry was captured by them and kept prisoner for a considerable length of time, just how long I do not recall him saying. But at length he escaped with a stolen rifle and after eluding the Indians and near starvation he reached the outskirts of the fort at Harrodsburg.

It had been his habit in the past to notch his bullet, before loading the rifle, in a certain way so as to cause the bullet to make a whistling sound. This he did and when his wife, Mary, heard the sound she rushed out through the gates of the stockade, crying,

'It is John; I know the sound of that bullet.'

The entire company followed her and there was great celebration and jubilation over his return. There is in my mind also the story that she was to be married to Captain Lewis Rose, which she later did after John's death ...

MacAfee to Draper

Robert B. MacAfee in writing to Lyman C. Draper from Harrodsburg, January 10, 1849, closed his letter with the following statement:

"It was on McMurtry's return after the Battle of Blue Licks that Mrs. McMurtry exclaimed as Judge Robertson relates 'That's John's Gun.'"

Blue Licks Payroll

The payroll for the Blue Lick Defeat includes the name of Ensign John McMurtry for 12-1/3 months or 373 days for £95. S5, D0 (95 pounds, 5 shillings, and no pence). Hugh McGary, Magistrate for Lincoln County, endorsed the fact that John McMurtry came before him and "made Oath that the above Pay Roll is just. Given under my hand this 28th Day of April 1784."

Blue Licks Prisoners Payroll

On April 28, 1784, John McMurtry made oath before Hugh McGary regarding the payroll for the eleven Blue Licks prisoners from Lincoln County, Kentucky. The payroll, a part of the Illinois Papers, Document 188, had the following heading:
"Pay Roll for a Number of the Militia of Lincoln County who were taken prisoners at the Blue Licks Defeat on the 19th Day of August, 1782, and who were released at Crown Point about the 18th Day of July 1783, and such of them as continued their Journey without wilful Delays arrived at Home the 27th Day of August following."

John McMurtry, Ensign 12-1/3 months 373 days 951 55

Among the other ten names were those of Lewis Rose, Jesse Yoakum, and James Ledgerwood.

Lincoln County

"This Day John McMurtry came before me and made oath that the above Pay Roll is Just. Given under my Hand this 28th Day of April 1784."

/s/ Hugh McGary Magistrate

Hugh McGary and Benjamin Logan made the following certifications:

"I do hereby Certify that the Men whose names are contained in this Pay Roll were missing after the Battle of Blue Lick and were then supposed to be Slain; But they returned to this Country about the Time specified above, and it cannot be doubted that they had been taken to Canade and detained there as prisoners."

/s/ Hugh McGary Major

"I do certify the above mentioned men were Missing from the Battle at the Blue Licks & supposed to be slain and in time have returned."

/s/ Benjamin Logan County Lieut.

Lieutenant of the Militia

Nothing is known about the activities of Ensign John McMurtry from April, 1784 until August, 1786.

At the first court session held at Harrodsburg on Thursday, August 3, 1786, Ensign John McMurtry, among others, was "recommended to his Excellency the Governor as proper persons to be commissioned as ... Lieutenant ... of the Militia of this County." (Mercer County had just been formed out of Lincoln County earlier in 1785.)
Deposition of Thomas Young

On November 29, 1786, Thomas Young made the following deposition:

"... on the 22d Sept. he [Thomas Young] was ordered by Col Patterson to impress 100 pounds of lead from old Mr. Grymes, which was done by Lieut. McMurtry with a file of men."

This reference in the deposition is to John McMurtry who had just been recommended to the governor to become a Lieutenant in the Mercer County Militia but who had not yet received his commission.

To View a Road

At the Mercer County Court for December 5, 1786, the following order was given:

"ordered that Samuel Woods, John McMurtry, Martin Nall and John Smith [the last] or any three of them being first sworn do view the best and most convenient way for a Road to lead from Todd's Ferry so as to fall into the Road that leads from the Mouth of Dicks River to Darville at or near Alexander Robertson's and make report thereof to the next court."

Appointed Lieutenant of the Militia

On "January 2nd, 1787" at the Mercer County Court the following was recorded:

"John McMurtry Gen't produced a Commission from his Excellency the Governor appointing him Lieutenant of the Militia in this County bearing date the third day of August One thousand seven hundred and Eighty six which being read, he thereupon took the Oath of Fidelity to the Commonwealth and the Oath of Office." (Mercer County, Kentucky, Order Book I, p. 22.)

Estate of David Woods

At the January Court, 1787 on the 2nd, it was ordered that John McMurtry and others after being first sworn appraise the personal estate and slaves of David Woods.
Lieutenant John McMurtry again appeared in Mercer County Court on August the 30th 1787, and the record shows:

"John McMurtry Gentleman produced a commission from his Excellency the Governor appointing him Captain of the Militia of this County to take rank from the 21st of July 1787 which being read he thereupon took the Oath of Fidelity to the Commonwealth and the Oath of a Captain." (Mercer County, Kentucky, Order Book 1, p.134.)

Captain John McMurtry's Company

At a court held for Mercer County Court on April 22, 1788 the following order was given:

"Ordered that Ebenezer Corn Gentleman be recommended to his Excellency the Governor as a proper person to be commissioned Ensign of the Militia in Captain John McMurtry's Company."

Second of Two Wills

Captain John McMurtry made the second of two wills on the "6th day of September in the year of our Lord 1790" about six weeks before he was killed by Indians at Hamer's Defeat on October 22, 1790. He named his six sons: James, Alexander, Samuel, William, John, and Joseph; his daughter, Mary; and his wife, Mary. His second daughter, Sarah, was born posthumously. The will was probated at the April 1791 court in Mercer County, Kentucky. See Chapter VI for complete will.
Kentucky's early history was filled with accounts of hostilities between the early settlers and Indians from the North and the South. Since the end of the Revolutionary War, Virginia had not actively provided for the defense and protection of the frontiersmen living in the District of Kentucky. The greatest dangers lay in the regions north of the Ohio River. Numerous expeditions were made into the territory north of the Ohio in retaliation for Indian raids, some the result of spontaneous uprisings of incensed settlers.

In 1787, Edmund Randolph, Governor of Virginia, was informed by his attorney-general for the District of Kentucky "that the Indians were so intolerable that Kentucky would likely revolt and become independent." Indian depredations were on the increase throughout the entire Ohio Valley. The main source of disturbance was from the Indians on the Wabash and Maumee Rivers in present Indiana and Ohio.

Governor Arthur St. Clair of the Northwest Territorial Government stated in a communication to President George Washington that the constant hostilities between these northern Indian tribes and the Kentuckians was creating embarrassing circumstances to the Government of the Northwest Territory and that he hoped the Federal Government would take the matter into consideration and inform him what course he should pursue.

In response to a continual clamor from the western frontier for protection, President Washington sent a message to Congress in September, 1789 advising that provisions be made for calling forth the militia of the United States for the purpose stated in the Constitution.

Secretary of War Henry Knox was not as sympathetic toward the views and problems of the frontiersmen as President Washington, however, in January, 1790, he agreed with President Washington that Kentucky should be protected.

Already in late 1789, Governor St. Clair of the Northwest Territory had been instructed by the President to call upon Virginia and Pennsylvania for military support. Governor St. Clair contemplating hostilities over a wide area ordered the militia of Virginia and Pennsylvania to protect a certain part of the Ohio Valley while General Josiah Harmer was to march up the Miami against the Maumee Indian settlement. The main expedition under General Harmer was largely a Kentucky one. By the end of September, 1790, General Harmer had completed preparations at Fort Washington to march upon the Maumee settlement. An organized campaign against these Northern Indians seemed at the time the only remedy to end the hostilities.

After extensive military maneuvers and rendezvous, Colonel John Hardin proposed to Col. Harmer that he be allowed the pick of the assembled militia with which to make a secret return upon the Indians of Miami Village on the Maumee River.
Captain McMuntny Surprised and Wounded

The following excerpt tells how Captain John McMuntny and others were surprised and wounded at Harmer's Defeat:

"On the morning of October 22, 1790, a surprise attack was made after sunrise, but due to a wanton firing upon a fugitive Indian before the signal for attack was given and the militia's pursuit of fleeing redskin parties, a group of regulars were left unsupported. These regulars were suddenly assailed by an overpowering force led by Little Turtle. One hundred and eighty-three men were killed and thirty-one wounded.

Captain McMuntny (try) was among the principal officers of the militia who were surprised and wounded."

The Captain's Horse

A half century later in 1842, a "Mr. Woods" related to someone in Myra Gabriella Madison McMuntry's family in Woodford County, Kentucky, that his uncle, "Private Woods," had tried to save their grandfather at Harmer's Defeat. As an officer of the militia, Captain John McMuntry was mounted on horseback when wounded by one of Little Turtle's men. The Captain held onto his horse, and when the Indians came near in pursuit, the Captain requested Private Woods to lay him to one side of the road, out of sight of the Indians, so he could not see them when they came to scalp him.

The Captain also instructed Private Woods to take his horse home to his wife in Mercer County which Private Woods did. The private could not bear to face the Captain's widow, Mary Todd (Hutton) McMuntry, and tell her all the harrowing things that had happened to her husband, so he turned the horse in at the yard gate and left its presence to tell its own story.

Trenches Beside the Maumee River

Governor St. Clair wrote to the Secretary of War on October 29, 1790 from Fort Washington that Captain McMuntry was "among the slain." Robert S. Robertson (1889) writing in the Valley of the Upper Maumee River recorded that Captain John McMuntry and other officers and men of the militia who fell in the engagement with Little Turtle, were buried in trenches near the Maumee River in what is now Allen County, Indiana, near the present site of Fort Wayne.

Wallace A. Brice (1868) in his History of Fort Wayne, Indiana notes the following:

"Among the names of the killed during the efforts of the army in the campaign were ... Captains ... McMuntry (try) ... "

78
Did Not Deserve to Die

Richard Keith McMurtry (1980) in his book, John McMurtry and the American Indian, wrote about John McMurtry as a frontiersman in the struggle with the American Indian for the Ohio Valley. In his discussion of the conflict between the two civilizations—the white man and the American Indian, he stated:

"John McMurtry did not deserve to die in Harmer's Defeat."

He also stated that "John McMurtry ... was in the prime of his mature years. He could reasonably have been looking forward to a prosperous life ... He was a husband and father who ... cared for his family, and they cared for him. The Indian bullet or tomahawk that took his life prevented the realization of his hopes and ended those relationships which had given life meaning."

Thus, ended a decade as "Citizen of Caintucky" for John McMurtry—a Kentucky Pioneer and a Soldier of the Revolution.

A Final Tribute

Myra Gabriella Madison McMurtry, a granddaughter of Captain John McMurtry, paid him a final tribute:

"He was a Christian patriot."

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The Cabin That John Built for Mary
CHAPTER VI

CAPTAIN JOHN McMURTRY POSTHUMOUS

Shortly after his arrival in Kentucky, John McMurry made his first will of two wills dated July 7, 1780. His first will was probated by his wife, Mary McMurry, after he had been reported killed either at the Siege of Bryan's Station in Fayette County or the Battle of Blue Licks on August 18 and 19 respectively in the year 1782. The will was offered for probate at the February Court for Lincoln County in 1783; a certificate of probate was granted at the Lincoln County June Court of the same year.

In this first will, John McMurry referred to his father-in-law, James Hutton, as "Father." He referred to his "Cousin William" as "William McMurry's Spring." He also named his four older children—James, Alexander, Samuel, and William, and, his wife Mary.

John McMurry returned home on August 21, 1783 in the company of Lewis Rose and others who had been imprisoned in Montreal, Canada, for approximately one year. Several years later on October 22, 1790, John McMurry was killed by the Indians at Harmer's Defeat near the present city of Fort Wayne, Indiana, and was buried in a trench on the banks of the Maumee River.

Second Will Probated

At a court held for Mercer County on Tuesday the 26th day of April 1791, with Hugh McGary and other "Gentlemen" present, the following record was made:

"The last will and Testament of John McMurry Deceased was produced in Court and proved by the oaths of William Gordon and William McKeen two subscribing Witnesses thereto and ordered to be recorded." (Mercer County, Kentucky, Order Book 2, p. 164.)
William Miller

This last will and testament of John Alleyne, deceased, was exhibited into court and proved by the oaths of [names redacted] and William Geddes, two subscribing witnesses thereto and sworn to be correct.

John Alleyne, Sr.

April Court 1791

Mercer County, Kentucky, Will Book 1, pp. 52-53.
Posthumous Daughter, Sarah, Born

Sarah McMurtry, the eighth child and second daughter of Captain John and Mary Todd (Hutton) McMurtry was born in Mercer County, Kentucky, on May 11, 1791 (Lewis Rose Family Bible). Captain John McMurtry's widow later married Lewis Rose in 1793.

Mary McMurtry, Executrix

At a Court of Quarter Sessions held for the County of Mercer at the Courthouse on Tuesday, the 24th of May 1791 with Hugh McGary and other Gentlemen present, the following was recorded (Order Book 2, p. 174).

On the Motion of Mary McMurtry who was named as Executrix, to the last Will and Testament of John McMurtry the late, who made oath as the law directs, certificate is granted her for obtaining a Probate on the said Decedent's will in due form. The giving bond and security whereupon she with George Buckhannon James Hutton and William Hutton, her sureties entered into and acknowledged their bond in the penalty of one thousand dollars conditioned as the law directs.
Sfc-Í' *ts,'..'

8 head of hogs, tare £6. 82. 6s. 8d. £36. 18.
2 head of cows, tare £1. 10. 6d. £2. 16.
13 head of sheep £6. 10. 3 head of hogs £5. 6d. £13. 6.

Mcgrew Drown 2,000 lbs. £10. 30. 0
250 lbs. and hogs £10. 15.
2 full sets of혁s and 30 lbs. butter £2. 15.

Wagon 1 Hhd. years X X £1. 20. 0

A set of two Wares with some plate £1. 10. 0
set of knives & forks. With some other articles £5. 0

Cooper Vesal 32. 5. 5. £50. 0

A quantity of Books £1. 12. 6d. £1. 12.

2 spinning wheels £1. 36. 0

A quantity of shot & a quantity of hemp £18. 6d.

A loamery saddle

£385. 18. 6

As the Appraisers John Thomson & David Graham,
David McGraw & Alisha Thomas after being duly sworn
have appraised the estate of JohnMcMurtrie Deceased as
you will find in the list given under our hands as
this day of July Anno Domini 1791

John Thomson
Samt. Graham
David McGraw
Alisha Thomas
Widow McMurtry Marries Deceased Husband’s Friend

The tale of romance recounted by George Robertson, Chief Justice of Kentucky, which this writer refutes as to time, was later confirmed on November 4, 1793 by the following marriage bond:

"Know all men by these presents that Lewis Rose and Thomas Allin are held and firmly bound unto his Excellency, Isaac Shelby Esq., Governor of Kentucky in the Sum of Fifty pounds current money of Kentucky to which payment will and truely to be made to the said Governor & his Successors We bind ourselves our Heirs & jointly and Severally firmly by these presents Sealed with our Seals and dated this 4th of November 1793.

The condition of the above obligation is such that whereas there is a marriage Shortly intended to be solemnized between Lewis Rose and Mary McMurtry on which a Licence has been Issued now if there be no lawful cause to obstruct the said marriage then the above obligation to be void or else to remain in full force.

Teste Lewis Rose (Seal)

John Jefferys Thos. Allin (Seal)"

In the margin of this marriage bond the following words were inscribed:

"The widow of John & both had grown children."

The marriage of Mary Todd (Hutton) McMurtry and the "gallant Captain," Lewis Rose, took place on December 17, 1793 in Mercer County, Kentucky. One son, David R. Rose, was born to this marriage.
McMurtry-Rose Marriage Bond

David R. Rose Born

On September 2, 1794, David R. Rose was born to Mary McMurtry and Lewis Rose. He was the only child born to Mrs. Rose after their marriage (Lewis Rose Family Bible).

McMurtry Heirs to Woods

On May 28, 1798 James and Alexander McMurtry, the two oldest sons of Captain John and Mary Todd (Hutton) McMurtry, gave deed to Samuel Woods Jr for a tract of land on Cedar Run, representing themselves and the other heirs of the Captain: "James, Alexander, Samuel, William, John, Joseph, Mary, and Sarah McMurtry" (Mercer County, Kentucky, Deed Book 24, pp. 24-25).
McMurtry Heirs to Woods

McMurtry Orphans

At the court for Mercer County held early in October, 1800, Lewis Rose was appointed guardian for Captain McMurtry's four younger children: John, Joseph, Mary, and Sarah McMurtry.
The following extract is found in the Mercer County, Kentucky, court records:

Oct the 27th 1800

Lewis Rose returned into Court his account as Guardian for John Joseph Polly and Sarah McMurtry orphans of John McMurtry deceased which being sworn to and approved of said Court was ordered to be recorded (Mercer County, Kentucky, Order Book 3, p. 503).

Death of Captain Rose

Captain Lewis Rose "departed this life on Friday the 20th day of February 1829 ... in the 80th year of his life." He was born on October 11, 1749 in a small village near the city of Bingen on the Rhine River in one of the Palatinate states of Germany. His parents, Gudloff and Barbary Rose, had come to America in the year 1764. On March 31, 1772, Lewis Rose had married Barbara Trayer. She died in Mercer County, Kentucky, in 1792.

A tradition in the Captain John McMurtry family says that Mary McMurtry Rose was left destitute and lived her life out in poverty. This writer feels compelled to correct this tradition. She was not left destitute, nor did she die in poverty. An examination of the will of Captain Lewis Rose, written on the "9th day January 1829," revealed the following provision for his wife, Mary:

"I, Lewis Rose Senior, of the County of Mercer and the state of Kentucky ... do ordain and establish this instrument of writing as my last will and testament ...

2nd—My beloved wife Mary is to have my dwelling house and one half of my plantation and home tract of land where I now reside during her natural life, also 2 beds & furniture & ½ of the kitchen furniture, the chairs, my clock, the desk, two cows & calves my riding chair and horse that works it, all my books, six sheep & ½ of the hogs, and all the poultry, also one plow and gears, to her during her natural life & to dispose of as she pleases at her death except the land, clock and Scotts family Bible which is to be disposed of as here after directed, also my black woman Malinda & and my black boy Ben who are to live with my wife during her life or until they arrive at the age of 29 yrs at which time they are to be free, but in case my wife dies before they arrive at that age Malinda is to go to my grand-daughter Deniza McMurtry until that age & Ben may be disposed of as my wife chooses until he is free."

3rd: My son Charles ...
4th: The remainder of my personal estate after my wife has received her part is to be sold & the money when collected shall be equally divided between my children: Mary Graham (of Indiana), Catherine McMurtry, Jemima McMurtry, Lewis Rose Jr, and Rebecca Chenoweth of Illinois ...

Witness my hand & seal this 9th day of January 1829.

/s/ Lewis Rose

Jemima McMurtry mentioned above as one of his children was Lewis Rose's daughter by his first marriage to Barbara Trayer. Jemima Rose was married to Samuel McMurtry, her step-brother, son of Captain John and Mary Todd (Hutton) McMurtry. The relationship may be better understood by observing the following chart:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>John McMurtry</th>
<th>Lewis Rose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>m Mary Todd Hutton</td>
<td>m (1) Barbara Trayer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(2) Mary (Hutton) McMurtry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel McMurtry</td>
<td>Jemima Rose</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Samuel McMurtry and Jemima Rose became step-brother and sister in 1793 when Lewis Rose married Samuel's mother, Mary Todd (Hutton) McMurtry. They became man and wife in 1802, a rather unusual dual relationship. (See "Other McMurtry-Rose Connections" shown later in this chapter.)

Catherine McMurtry mentioned above was Catherine Rose, daughter of Lewis Rose and his first wife. She was married in 1797 to her Todd cousin, John McMurtry, son of Captain Joseph and Rosannah (Campbell) McMurtry of Mercer and later Fayette County.

Timothy Corn's Statement

Forty-four years after the death of Captain John McMurtry and on September 1, 1834, Timothy Corn of Mercer County, Kentucky, who was 74 years old at the time made the following statement as recorded in the Virginia Calendar of State Papers:

"... went home and was enrolled in Capt. McMurtry's Co. and drafted to serve a tour of one month at Bryan Station which tour he served faithfully and returned home ... Captain McMurtry ... being killed by the Indians."

Captain McMurtry as noted earlier was not killed at Bryan's Station as reported but captured by the Canadians and Indians at the Battle of Blue Licks in August of 1782.
Captain McMurtry's Widow (Mrs. Lewis Rose) Dies

According to a letter written by Myra Gabriella Madison McMurtry of New Albany, Indiana, granddaughter of Captain John McMurtry, to her cousin, John McMurtry of Marshall, Indiana, dated February 3, 1905, Mary Todd Hutton McMurtry Rose died before 1840. This date is not correct. She also wrote that her grandmother was past 90 when she died. This last statement is substantiated by the non-custodial will of Jemima (Rose) McMurtry, step-daughter of Mary Hutton McMurtry. Jemima's will of 1842 refers to her step-mother as "Mother." The executor of Lewis Rose's estate made final disposition of his land by deed in the early 1840s.

MacAfee’s 1849 Letter

Robert B. MacAfee in writing to Lyman C. Draper from Harrodsburg, Kentucky, had the following to say about John McMurtry:

"Harrodsburg Jany 10th 1849

My dear Sir

Yours of the 31st October ... I will answer your enquiries as made ... as to Lewis Rose and John McMurtry I have now before me a sketch of Mr. Roses life written by myself from his own mouth a few weeks before his death ... in 1779 in the Spring, he came to Kentucky ... in August 1782 he was taken at the Battle of Blue Licks with John McMurtry and James Ledgerwood prisoner. Lewis Rose was taken by the Ottawas and was taken to Detroit and sold to the British Commandant & returned home by the way of Montreal & got back the last of August 28th 1783, he was so altered that his wife did not know him for some time, McMurtry was taken to the Miami village near Fort Wayne where he run the Gauntlet & was then taken to Detroit & got home some weeks after Rose ... Lewis Rose lost his first wife in 1792 and in 1793 he married Mrs. McMurtry the widow of John McMurtry who was killed in Harmers defeat, but it was not positive That he was killed for a long time and Mr. Rose was at first rejected but persevering he finally married her & even Than it was reported that McMurtry was alive to their great annoyance but Genl Robt Caldwell having last seen him surrounded by the Indians put the matter to rest--Lewis Rose became an Elder in the Presbyterian Church at Cane Run and Harrodsburg in the place of McMurtry ... It was on McMurtry's return after the Battle of Blue Licks that Mrs. McMurtry exclaimed as Judge Robertson relates 'That's John's Gun.'

/s/ Robt. B. MacAfee"
The old Bible of Lewis Rose was printed in England in the year 1789. Inside the back cover were inscribed these words:

"Lewis Rose, his book."

This old Bible became the property of Mrs. Mary McMurtry Rose, second wife of Captain Lewis Rose. Mrs. Mary McMurtry Rose was the grandmother of Abraham Sharp, an elder in the Providence Presbyterian Church in Mercer County, Kentucky. Abraham Sharp was the grandfather of Mrs. Lucille (Sharp) Brown of Harrodsburg, Kentucky, to whom the Bible had been handed down from her ancestors. The Bible contained the following records which were copied by this writer with the permission of and in the presence of Mrs. Brown in 1957 at her residence on College Street in Harrodsburg.

Louis Rose born October 11, 1749; died February 20, 1829; age 79 years, 5 months.

Mary Rose, born March 19, 1752.

David R. Rose born September 2, 1794; died December 2, 1814; 20 years, 3 months.

James McMurtry born November 17, 1771

Alexander McMurtry born March 12, 1774

Samuel McMurtry born July 18, 1776

William McMurtry, born March 4, 1779

John McMurtry born April 16, 1782

Joseph McMurtry born July 3, 1786

Mary McMurtry born November 12, 1788

Sarah McMurtry born May 11, 1791

Other McMurtry-Rose Connections

The marriage of Mary Todd (Hutton) McMurtry and Lewis Rose on the 17th of December 1793, brought together eight McMurtry children ranging in age from 2 to 21 and six Rose children ranging in age from 6 to 20. The oldest of the Rose children was married at the time leaving 13 unmarried children. (See Chapter I for the tradition of a large family of "thirteen children." The names and birthdates of these fourteen brothers, sisters, and step-brothers and sisters are as follows:
McMurtry Children  
of  
John McMurtry and  
Mary Todd Hutton  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date of Birth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>James McMurtry</td>
<td>November 17, 1771</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexander McMurtry</td>
<td>March 12, 1774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel McMurtry</td>
<td>July 18, 1776</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William McMurtry</td>
<td>March 4, 1779</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John McMurtry</td>
<td>April 16, 1782</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph McMurtry</td>
<td>July 3, 1786</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary McMurtry</td>
<td>November 12, 1788</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah McMurtry</td>
<td>May 11, 1791</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rose Children  
of  
Lewis Rose Sr and  
Barbara Frayer  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date of Birth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mary Rose</td>
<td>December 31, 1773</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Rose</td>
<td>October 6, 1778</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catherine Rose</td>
<td>November 22, 1780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jemima Rose</td>
<td>October 12, 1782</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rebecca Rose</td>
<td>January 23, 1785</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lewis Rose Jr</td>
<td>June 4, 1787</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To this family of fourteen McMurtry-Rose brothers, sisters, and step-brothers and sisters was born a half brother to both the McMurtry and Rose children:

David R. Rose, September 2, 1794

Samuel McMurtry and Jemima Rose became step-brother and sister in 1793. They were married in Mercer County, Kentucky, in 1802 becoming man and wife—a dual relationship.

As noted earlier, Catherine Rose married in 1797 John McMurtry, son of Joseph McMurtry and Rosannah (Campbell) McMurtry of Mercer County and later Fayette County, Kentucky. Joseph McMurtry and John McMurtry were Todd cousins. Their mothers were Nancy Todd and Sarah Todd respectively. They were believed to be either sisters, cousins, or aunt and niece by relationship. There was no known relationship through the McMurtry family.

The writer of this book is not descended from Captain John McMurtry but is a great grandson of Joseph and Rosannah (Campbell) McMurtry.
Erected July 16, 1937
by Leslie M. Rose
Yakima, Wash.
Sponsored by
Jane McAfee Chapter, DAR.

Mary McMurtry Rose*
wife of
Lewis Rose

Born Feb. 4, 1779 Mercer Co. Ky.
Died Nov. 24, 1854 Mercer Co. Ky.

A true pioneer Mother
Lived where Shakertown, Ky.
now is defending self and
children against Indians
while husband held war captive.

* The dates used for Mary McMurtry Rose (1779-1854) are incorrect. See detailed explanation on facing page.
Memorial Acre

On July 16, 1937, Leslie M. Rose of Yakima, Washington, a descendant of Captain Lewis Rose and his first wife, Barbara (Trayer) Rose, under the sponsorship of the Jane McAfee Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Harrodsburg, Kentucky, erected three memorial stones in the Memorial Acre adjacent to the Pioneer Cemetery in the Pioneer Memorial State Park in Harrodsburg, Mercer County, Kentucky. These memorial stones bear the names of Captain Lewis Rose, Mary McMurtry Rose, and Charlie S. Rose. The inscriptions on the raised slabs are shown on the facing page in the following order:

Mary McMurtry Rose Captain Lewis Rose Charlie S. Rose
wife of son of
Lewis Rose Lewis Rose

The dates used for Mary McMurtry Rose (1779-1854) are the dates for Captain Lewis Rose's daughter-in-law, Mary (Lewis) Rose, wife of Charles S. Rose. Mary (Lewis) Rose was born in Mercer County on February 4, 1779 and died in Mercer County on November 24, 1854. Her husband, Charles S. Rose was born October 6, 1778 and died in Mercer County on February 28, 1845.

Mary McMurtry Rose, widow of Captain John McMurtry and second wife of Captain Lewis Rose, was born in Rockbridge County, Virginia, on March 19, 1752, the daughter of James and Mary (Todd) Hutton. She died in Mercer County, Kentucky circa 1842. Mary McMurtry Rose's first child by her first marriage to Captain John McMurtry was James McMurtry, born November 11, 1771 in Virginia or North Carolina.

Error in Stone

This error has been carved into stone and may be perpetuated in the minds of those who visit Fort Harrod and the Memorial Acre and in the family records of those descended from the McMurtry and Rose families.
Military Monuments

Two Kentucky monuments record the involvement of Captain John McMuntry in Revolutionary War period military activities. In both instances the confrontation was between the white pioneer settlers and the American Indians and Canadians.

Blue Licks Battlefield State Park is located on U.S. 68 between Paris and Maysville, Kentucky, and is the site of the last battle of the American Revolution. Here 182 pioneers engaged some 240 Canadians and Indians on August 19, 1782 and were defeated.

The Park contains an obelisk which was dedicated August 19, 1928. This granite shaft bears the following inscription on its front facade:

"THIS LAST BATTLE OF THE REVOLUTION WAS FOUGHT BETWEEN 182 KENTUCKIANS Commanded by Colonel John Todd ON THE AMERICAN SIDE. AND ABOUT 240 INDIANS AN CANADIANS ON THE BRITISH SIDE."
Among the names of those captured and killed whose names were thereon inscribed is the following:

ENSIGN
JOHN McMURTRY (Captured)

An inscription at the base of the monument reads:

"So valiently did our small party fight that to the memory of those who unfortunately fell in the Battle, enough of Honour cannot be paid."

**************

The 65-foot tall obelisk in the Frankfort, Kentucky Cemetery was erected by the Commonwealth of Kentucky and dedicated to Kentuckians killed in the Revolution, Indian, 1812, and Mexican Wars. One of the top facade panels bears the following inscription:

Harmer's Defeat

Capt. J. McMurtry

An inscription on the base of the monument reads as follows:

Military Monument
Erected By
KENTUCKY
A.D. 1850
From an old engraving, courtesy of the Kentucky Historical Society, Frankfort.
CHAPTER VII
CAPTAIN JOHN McMURTRY'S FAMILY

Captain John was believed by this writer to have been the older of the two known sons of Alexander and Sarah (Todd) McMurry of Augusta County, Virginia. There may have been other siblings in this family since one family tradition indicates that John McMurry was from a large family five of whom were killed by Indians at the "cow pens" circa 1750. "Cow pens" is interpreted to mean an enclosure near the main dwelling used to fence in the cows.

As noted earlier, McMurry family historians do not agree on where and when this John McMurry was born. When the elements of proof such as name[s], place[s], date[s], circumstances and events, and family tradition[s] are considered, it is possible that John McMurry was born as early as 1737 in Ireland or Pennsylvania with a strong and close heritage tie to Scotland.

On May 7, 1751, his mother, Sarah McMurry, entered into a Marriage Contract with James Young, a widower, and a "miller and plantationer" with one son, Patrick Young, whose wife's name was Isabella and whose four children were named: James, Janet, Sarah, and Alice. Patrick Young died circa 1760 after which Samuel Todd was made the guardian for his orphans. At the August 14, 1770 Botetourt County, Virginia, Court Samuel Todd was discharged from the guardianship and John McMurry was appointed as guardian and gave bond for "five hundred pounds."

John McMurry was married circa 1770/1771 to Mary Todd Hutton, daughter of James Hutton and Mary Todd of Augusta and Rockbridge Counties, Virginia, and later Lincoln County (Mercer), Kentucky. According to family tradition John McMurry and Mary Todd Hutton were cousins, perhaps through the Todd family.

John McMurry is believed to have come to Kentucky in late spring or early summer of 1780 by way of Tennessee. His four older children were born before the migration to Kentucky, and his four younger were born after.

Captain John McMurry and Mary Todd (Hutton) McMurry had 8 children, 48 known grandchildren, 143 known great grandchildren, 252 known great great grandchildren, and many more ever-so-great grandchildren beyond those chronicled in this book.
* Samuel McMurtry and Jemima Rose were step-brother and sister when they married.
James McMurtry

James McMurtry, the oldest son of John and Mary (Todd) Hutton McMurtry was born in Virginia or North Carolina. The 1850 United States Census of Knox County, Illinois, enumerates James McMurtry as being 78 and born in North Carolina. He was born November 17, 1777 and was licensed to marry Mary McKee, daughter of James and Lydia (Todd) McKee, on February 19, 1795 in Mercer County, Kentucky. She died on May 17, 1799.

James and Mary (McKee) McMurtry had three children as follows:

1.1 Lydia Todd McMurtry

Lydia Todd McMurtry was born December 7, 1795 in Mercer County, Kentucky. She was married on February 13, 1817 at Corydon, Harrison County, Indiana to George Jones. She died in Doyleston County, Iowa on October 4, 1887. George Jones was born in Virginia in March, 1785 and died in Doyleston County, Iowa, March 29, 1850. Both are buried in the old "Shorts" graveyard north of Skunk River and west of old Boyles Mill. Lydia (McMurtry) and George Jones had eight children:

1.1.1 Elizabeth Jones

Elizabeth Jones was born December 10, 1817 in Corydon, Indiana. She was married August 20, 1850 in Henry County, Iowa, to Walter King. Elizabeth (Jones) King died May 18, 1874 in Chehalis, Washington. No children were born of this marriage.

1.1.2 Isaac Howe Jones

Isaac Howe Jones was born May 19, 1820 at Corydon, Indiana and was married to Mary Ann Garrison on October 26, 1845 in Henry County, Iowa. Isaac H. Jones died in June, 1860 in Boone, Iowa. Three sons and two daughters are reported to have been born of this marriage. No further data.

1.1.3 Nancy McMurtry Jones

Nancy McMurtry Jones was born October 3, 1821 and died October 1, 1822.
1.1.4 Silas Marcer Jones

Silas Marcer Jones was born May 31, 1824 and was married to Esther Jane Garrison on June 15, 1850 in Henry County, Iowa. He lived at Eola, Oregon and died February 13, 1905 in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. He is reported to have had three sons and three daughters.

1.1.5 Sarah Jones

Sarah Jones was born December 26, 1826 and died on July 29, 1831.

1.1.6 James Jones

James Jones was born May 17, 1830; he is said to have married in 1875 in Salem, Oregon, and died in 1890 in Spokane, Washington, leaving one son.

1.1.7 William Franklin Jones

William Franklin Jones was born June 17, 1832 in Morgan County, Illinois and was married to Dorothy Davolt in Henry County, Iowa, on November 17, 1864. He died July 14, 1912 in Salem, Iowa. Dorothy Davolt was born January 1, 1834 in Piqua, Ohio, and died October 24, 1926 in Salem, Iowa. They had the following children: Mary Alice Jones who married George W. Wanser; Dove Jones who married Charles Wanser; Elnora Jones who married Merton W. Hadsell; Mattie Jones who married E. S. Bonnell; John David Jones who never married; and Sarah Jane Jones who married Charles H. Hollowell.

1.1.8 Catherine Jones

Catherine Jones was born April 11, 1837 in Henderson County, Illinois and was married to William L. Davolt on February 14, 1856 in Henry County, Iowa. She died in 1895 in Kelso, Washington. Catherine (Jones) and William L. Davolt had four sons and seven daughters among whom were two sets of twins.

1.2 John McMurtry

John McMurtry was born June 6, 1797 in Mercer County, Kentucky; he was married first in 1819 to Mary Williamson in Crawford, County, Indiana, who was born in South Carolina in 1796. He was married second to Mary Fowler in Illinois. John McMurtry died March 19, 1877 in Henry County, Iowa. He had six daughters by his first wife.
1.2.1 Mary Ann McMurtry

Mary Ann McMurtry was born May 20, 1820 in Corydon, Indiana. She was married to Allen Brown on December 31, 1831. He was a farmer at North Henderson, Illinois, where they both died. Family tradition says that they reared eleven besides their own thirteen children who were as follows: Sarah Jane Brown who married A. M. Tate; Eliza Allen Brown who married L. F. Gentry; Mary C. Brown who married [1] Heflin and [2] Brown; William Henry Brown who married Maria Heflin; Martha Ellen Brown who married Isaac Stevens; James N. Brown who died an infant; John Thomas Brown who married Letitia Brown; Amanda M. Brown who died young; Charles West Brown who married Orphelia West; Barbara Annette Brown who married Judd Smith; Allen Douglas Brown who married Jennie Hill; Levi Franklin Brown who married Bell Brown; and Fred A. Brown who married Kate Chamberlain.

1.2.2 Louisa McMurtry

Louisa McMurtry was born circa 1822; she was married to Benjamin Brown of North Henderson, Illinois. Louisa (McMurtry) and Benjamin Brown had six children as follows: (Rev) John Brown, a Baptist minister; Elizabeth Brown; Matilda Brown who married Alexander Heflin; Jane Brown who married French; Archibald Brown who never married; and Etta Brown who never married.

1.2.3 Martha McMurtry

Martha McMurtry was born in Corydon, Indiana, on January 11, 1824. She was married to John Piatt; she died at Galesburg, Indiana. Martha (McMurtry) and John Piatt had four children: Harriet Ellen Piatt who married J. K. Taylor; John T. Piatt who married _____; James J. Piatt; and Catherine Piatt.

1.2.4 Harriett McMurtry

Harriett McMurtry was born in Corydon, Indiana; she married John Pitman and migrated to Oregon. They had six children: Lottie Pitman; Emily Pitman; James Pitman; David Pitman; Nora and Dora Pitman, twins.

1.2.5 Sarah McMurtry

Sarah McMurtry was born in Corydon, Indiana; she was married to Joshua Bruner. She died in North Henderson, Illinois. They had ten children: Edward Bruner, Lucian Bruner, Anna Bruner, Auslan Bruner;
1.2.6 Eliza McMurry

Eliza McMurry was born in 1830 in Corydon, Indiana, and married Milan Thomas. They had four children: Edward Thomas; John Thomas; Anna Thomas; and Elliott Thomas.

1.3 Mary McMurry

Mary McMurry was born April 19, 1799 in Mercer County, Kentucky. She died in Rio, Illinois, an invalid and was never married.

James McMurry married secondly Elizabeth (Lucas) Jewell in Mercer County, Kentucky, on April 8, 1800. He died June 15, 1851 in Knox County, Illinois, where he had migrated and settled in Henderson Township in 1829. He had been a farmer his entire life. Elizabeth (Lucas) Jewell McMurry was born in 1772 and died in 1818. James and Elizabeth McMurry had three children:

1.4 (Lt Gov) William McMurry

William McMurry was born February 20, 1801 in Mercer County, Kentucky. His father, James, went to Knox County, Illinois, and settled in Henderson Township on November 1, 1829. William and his brother, James, purchased a farm of 160 acres with a small log cabin, paying $1.25 per acre but afterwards had to repurchase it to acquire a legal title. This farm was in Section 10, Henderson Township. About 25 neighbor families assisted in building a block house or stockade to afford protection against the Indians.

During the Black Hawk War, William McMurry organized a company of Rangers of about eighty-nine men, which embraced nearly all that were fit for service in Knox, Warren, and Mercer Counties, William being their captain. They were mounted and though ready to pursue Indians in all directions never engaged them in battle.

In June, 1832, James McMurry and two men went to Rock Island to secure guns for the settlers. They obtained 100, which were sent down the river to Ruthsburg and thence transported to the James McMurry home where they were distributed to the settlers. The McMurrays served in the Black Hawk War under Major Butler. William McMurry was also Colonel of the Sixty-seventh Regiment of Militia of Illinois.

William McMurry was one of the most remarkable men of his time. He was strong intellectually, was a thorough student of human nature and adept in the art of leading and controlling men. He became an active and influential politician. He was the first Knox County man to hold a state
office. It was largely through him that the history of Ken­derson is so closely identified with the history of the county and the state.

In 1832, he was appointed first county commissioner of school lands, and his chief duty was to sell a section in each township and later to distribute interest money from this fund to the teachers. He felt deep concern for the schools, invested the money, and advanced the educational welfare of the schools. His perception of public needs brought him into general notice and he was elected a member of the legislature, serving in the Tenth General Assembly as a member of the House, 1836 to 1838. In 1842, he began a four-year term as a member of the State Senate and was known as a man of pronounced ability.

In 1848, William McMurtry was elected Lieutenant Governor of Illinois. He served in this office from 1848 to 1852 in which capacity he was President of the State Senate. His position gave the county considerable political prestige in the State. In 1853, he was active in the organization of Henderson Township.

When the Civil War broke out, he took a conspicuous part on the side of the Union. In 1862 he was commissioned Colonel of the 102nd Regiment of Illinois Volunteer Infantry. After serving a short time in Kentucky he resigned on account of ill health and was honorably discharged.

"Governor McMurtry," as he was called, was an uncompromising Democrat and a particular friend of Stephen A. Douglas. He was instructed in the democratic ritual by his father and grandfather. He was one of the most conspicuous political figures in Illinois, and on account of his tenacity of opinion and firm adherence to democratic principles, he was regarded as a "wheel horse" in his party.

The natural powers of "Governor McMurtry" were great. He was a great reader and had a well stored mind. He was entertaining and agreeable in conversation, a good neighbor, and constant friend. He performed the duties of citizenship faithfully, and was regarded by everyone as a conscientious and upright citizen.

In 1846 he became a member of the Masonic Order, joining the Hiram Lodge in Henderson and the Horeb Chapter in Henderson. He was the Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge and Chapter for fourteen years.

"Governor McMurtry" was said to have been a staunch friend of Abraham Lincoln. His mother, Elizabeth (Lucas) Jewell was reared near the Lincoln home in Hardin County.
James Champion McMurtry.

James Champion McMurtry, son of William and Ruth (Champion) McMurtry, was born in Crawford County, Indiana, February 4, 1829. He belongs to a noted family, whose descent is from the French Huguenots. His great-grandfather, John McMurtry, had a large family of children, five of whom were killed in the Revolution at the battle of Cowpens.

The McMurtry family came to Knox County, November 1, 1829, and settled in Henderson Township. The family consisted of the grandfathers, the mother's side, William and James, their wives, and the children of William—Mary and James C. The following families, whose names will always be associated with Knox County, were already settled in the neighborhood: Daniel and Alexander Robinson, and Riggs Pennington, of whom William and James McMurtry bought their farm of one hundred and sixty acres, on which was a small log cabin. On this farm, the people of the whole neighborhood assisted in building a block house or stockade, which afforded protection against the incursions of the Indians. At different times before, during and after the Black Hawk War, about twenty-five families were gathered here. During the war, William McMurtry organized a company of Rangers of about eighty-nine, which embiucod nearly all that were fit for service in Knox, Warren and Mercer counties. They were all mounted, each man furnishing his own rifle and horse. They pursued the Indians in all directions but were never engaged in battle.

His father, William McMurtry, was one of thirteen children, and was born in Tennessee, and married Ruth Champion, a native of Kentucky. He was a State Senator for many years. In 1848, he was elected Lieutenant Governor of Illinois. During the Civil War, he was elected Colonel of the One Hundred and Second Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and after serving a short time in Kentucky, he became ill and was honorably discharged.

In 1846, he became a member of the Masonic Order, joining the Hiram Lodge in Henderson and the Horeb Chapter in Henderson. He was the Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge and Chapter for fourteen years. He was one of the first three County School Commissioners of Knox County, and has held the office several times since.

Governor McMurtry was an uncompromising democrat, and a particular friend of Stephen A. Douglas. He was early instructed in the Democratic ritual by his father and grandfather. He was one of the most conspicuous political figures in Illinois, and on account of his tenacity of opinion and firm adherence to Democratic principles, he was regarded as a “wheel horse” in his party.

The natural powers of Governor McMurtry were great. He was a great reader and had a well stored mind. He was entertaining and agreeable in conversation, a good neighbor and constant friend. He performed the duties of citizenship faithfully, and was regarded by everyone as a conscientious and upright citizen.

Dr. James C. McMurtry received his education in the common schools. Later, he was a student in Knox College, and in Union College, Schenectady, New York. He took his degree in medicine at the Rush Medical College in Chicago. After graduation, he returned to Knox County, and has practiced medicine here ever since.

In early life, Dr. McMurtry embraced the political faith of his father. He was a Democrat until the breaking out of the Civil War. He cast his first Republican vote for Abraham Lincoln's re-election. Since that time he has been a firm adherent to Republicanism; his voice is often heard in the council hall of the Republican party. He is regarded as an influential party man, and is a party leader in local and state politics. He helped to form the Union League in Henderson Township and was elected its first president. He has been offered many official positions in the party, which he has declined. He says that "during the war, his life was threatened many times by members of the Golden Circle; but his good nerve, judgment, and reputation as a good fence, and "dead shot," did much to prevent disorder in Knox County." The doctor is a superior athlete, and has exhibited his strength and nerve on many occasions.

Dr. McMurtry possesses many of the characteristics of his father. He is noted for the honesty of his convictions, his clear sightedness of obligation and duty, and his moral courage in maintaining the right. In manner, he is not formal or affected, and in his speech he is straightforward and plain. He is liberal in his views, charitable towards all, given to hospitality, and has lived a life full of good deeds.

Dr. McMurtry was married in 1855, to Caroline Nelson, of Warren County. She is the daughter of Andrew Nelson, who, at the time of marriage, was a merchant in Henderson. To Dr. and Mrs. McMurtry were born five children: James W., Franklin H., Susan H., Caroline and Mary. Franklin H. died at the age of five.
Dr. James Champion McMurtry (1829-1903)
On November 15, 1826, William McMurtry married Ruth Champion of Crawford County, Indiana. She died at Henderson, on February 12, 1864. He died on April 11, 1876 on the same farm on which he originally settled. William and Ruth [Champion] McMurtry had five children as follows:

1.4.1 Mary Elizabeth McMurtry

Mary Elizabeth McMurtry was born September 16, 1827 in Crawford County, Indiana; she was married August 30, 1849 to Joseph W. Adcock who was born on January 22, 1826 in Virginia. She died November 11, 1891, and he died on April 17, 1901—both in Warren County, Illinois. He had been a farmer and county surveyor for Warren County. Mary (McMurtry) and Joseph W. Adcock had seven children: William who married Jennie Henderson; Edmund Adcock who married Bessie Nichols; Cynthia Adcock who married Edwin E. Turpening; Robert Adcock who married Ora Shelton; Ruth Adcock who married Frank Barnett; Lucy Adcock who never married; and Mary Adcock who married Nathaniel Adcock.

1.4.2 (Dr) James Champion McMurtry

James Champion McMurtry was born in Crawford County, Indiana, on February 3, 1829 and died in Henderson County, Illinois, on March 31, 1903. He was married on June 9, 1855 to Caroline Nelson of Warren County. She was the daughter of Andrew Nelson, who at the time of her marriage, was a merchant in Henderson.

He was brought by his parents to Illinois from Kentucky when an infant. He received his education in the common schools and was later a student in Knox College, and in Union College, Schenectady, New York. He took his degree in Medicine at the Rush Medical College in Chicago. After graduation, he returned to Knox County where he set up his practice.

In early life, Dr. McMurtry embraced the political faith of his father. He was a democrat until the Civil War. He cast his first republican vote for Abraham Lincoln's re-election. He became a firm adherent to republican principles and his voice was often heard in the council hall of the party. He was regarded as an influential party leader in local and state politics.

Dr. McMurtry helped form the Union League in Henderson Township and was elected its first president. He was offered many official positions in the party.
which he declined. During the Civil War, his life was threatened by members of the Golden Circle but his good nerve, judgement and reputation as a good fencer and "dead shot" did much to prevent disorder in Knox County. The doctor was a superior athlete, and he exhibited his strength and nerve on many occasions.

Dr. McMurtry possessed many of the characteristics of his father. He was noted for the honesty of his convictions, his clear sightedness of obligation and duty, and his moral courage in maintaining the right. In manner, he was pleasant and unaffected and in his speech, he was straightforward and plain. He was liberal in his views, charitable to all, given to hospitality, and lived a life full of good deeds.

Dr. James Champion and Caroline (Nelson) McMurtry had five children as follows: James Willard McMurtry who married Nancy Henderson; Franklin Hiram McMurtry who died young; Susan Harriett McMurtry* who never married; Caroline McMurtry who married Harry B. Conyers; and Mary McMurtry who never married.

1.4.3 Nancy McMurtry

Nancy McMurtry was born May 29, 1830 in Knox County, Illinois; she was married on August 21, 1850 to Thomas H. Pool, son of Benjamin and Nancy Pool. Thomas H. Pool was born August 29, 1830; he was a soldier in the Civil War. He died April 16, 1899; she died June 16, 1899. Both died in Logan County, Kansas. Nancy (McMurtry) and Thomas H. Pool had two sons and six daughters as follows: Lucinda Pool who married O. J. Lansing; Ruth Pool who married Robert Roseberry; Ida Pool who married (1) E. H. Marker (2) W. C. Sampson; William Asa Pool who married Dell Kehlet; Cora J. Pool who married Francis Roseberry; James Francis Pool who married Harriett Kehlet; Jennie Florence Pool who married (1) John Gingrich (2) Thomas Maxwell; and a daughter, name not known.

1.4.4 Francis Marion McMurtry

Francis Marion McMurtry was born November 15, 1831 in Henderson, Illinois; he was married to Elizabeth Pitman on October 23, 1851 near Henderson. They migrated to Jasper County, Iowa in 1872. He died in 1912 and she died in 1920 at Crestin, Iowa. Francis Marion and Elizabeth (Pitman) McMurtry had

* Early McMurtry family historian.
ten children as follows: Mary Susan McMurtry who married J. A. Bruner; Katherine McMurtry who married J. E. Bruner; William Henry McMurtry who married Louisa Lesper; Flora McMurtry who married John Showalter; Asa McMurtry who married S. E. Miller; Sererpta Ruth McMurtry who married J. C. Crane; Jessie T. McMurtry who died young; Lucien McMurtry who never married; George D. McMurtry; and Cynthia Effie McMurtry who married William A. McKee.

1.4.5 Cynthia McMurtry

Cynthia McMurtry was born July 3, 1834; she was married to Dr. Joseph Henderson of Knox County, Illinois; and she died circa 1864. They two children, both of whom died young.

1.5 Nancy McMurtry

Nancy McMurtry was born in Hardin County, Kentucky on April 4, 1804; she was married to William Condra who was born July 17, 1803 in Crawford County, Indiana. They migrated to Knox County, Illinois, in 1830. She died November 3, 1866, and he died April 30, 1876, both in Knox County. Nancy (McMurtry) and William Condra had six children:

1.5.1 Mary Ann Condra

Mary Ann Condra married Joseph Kahn and had four children as follows: Hester Kahn who married Reuben Kiffer; William Kahn who married Alice Johnson; Mattie Kahn; Frank Kahn.

1.5.2 Dorcus Condra

Dorcas Condra married Samuel Melton and had six children. They are reported to have had six other children; however, there is no further data on the last six. Their first six were: Mary Ann Melton who married Matthew Witherspoon; Amos Melton who married Sarah Coziahr; Nancy Melton who married James Victor; Edward Melton who married Mary Cox; Warren Melton who married (1) Epperson (2) Hilda Johnston; and Harriett Melton who married Calvin Sickles.

1.5.3 Ruth Condra

Ruth Condra married Eli Melton. There is no further record.

1.5.4 John Condra

John Condra died young and was probably not married.
1.5.5 James Condra

James Condra married Mary O'Brien in July, 1866. They had four children: William Condra who married; Frank Condra who never married; Ada Condra who married Albert Cooksie; Edward Condra who married Lillian Folger.

1.5.6 William Condra

William Condra died young, aged 19, and probably was never married.

1.6 James McMurtry

James McMurtry was born October 21, 1807 in Hardin County, Kentucky; he was married to Eliza Rice on April 5, 1829 in Crawford County, Indiana. She was born November 20, 1809 in Breckinridge County, Kentucky. James McMurtry died at Henderson, Knox County, Illinois on March 28, 1893. His wife, Eliza died September 23, 1879 in Knox County.

From an old newspaper clipping, it is known that in 1818 James McMurtry met with a farm accident that "tested his iron constitution." His right hand was caught in a threshing machine and so badly mangled that amputation of the arm was rendered necessary. "He bore this affliction manfully ... "

James and Eliza (Rice) McMurtry had twelve children as follows:
1.6.1 Jonathan Rice McMurtry

Jonathan Rice McMurtry was born January 25, 1830 in Knox County, Illinois; he was married in 1848 to Zerelda Maxwell by whom he had two children; he drowned in the Iowa River. His children were: Thomas B. McMurtry who married Lydia Lewis and Mary McMurtry who married Donaldson.

1.6.2 Minerva Jane McMurtry

Minerva Jane McMurtry was born September 29, 1831 in Knox County, Illinois. She was married in May 1850 at Henderson, Illinois to Reuben Reeves who was born in Washington County, Ohio. She died in Afton, Iowa; her husband died in 1904. Minerva Jane (McMurtry) and Reuben Reeves had four children: William R. Reeves who married Catherine Headley; Ann Eliza Reeves who married W. S. Bourne; Andrew Jackson Reeves who married Angie Seeley; and Harriet Reeves who married George C. Crockett.

1.6.3 William McMurtry

William McMurtry died young and unmarried.

1.6.4 Andrew Jackson McMurtry

Andrew Jackson McMurtry was born in Henderson, Illinois on March 12, 1835. He was married June 4, 1857 to Ruth Champion who was born July 17, 1837. In 1875 Andrew J. McMurtry moved to Iowa and in 1887 he migrated on to Nebraska. His wife died October 18, 1899 in Nebraska and he died March 24, 1906 at Sarat, Nebraska. Andrew Jackson and Ruth (Champion) McMurtry had eleven children as follows: Charles E. McMurtry who never married; Althea E. McMurtry who died young; Lucinda McMurtry who married Delbert Jared; Cynthia McMurtry who married Charles F. McMahon; Reuben F. McMurtry married Margaret Coulter; James L. McMurtry who married Mary F. Pickett; Mary Jane McMurtry who married Luther Picket; Hettie D. McMurtry who married (1) William McClure (2) L. A. Bruner; Albert T. McMurtry who married Elizabeth B. Sweeney; Alonzo Andrew McMurtry who married Mildred Doxie; and Fauntleroy McMurtry who married (1) Emma M. Doty (2) Florence Hanke.

1.6.5 Margaret Elizabeth McMurtry

Margaret Elizabeth McMurtry was born in Henderson, Illinois, on May 1, 1837; she was married in 1860 to Michael Conley who was born
August 23, 1842 in New Haven, Connecticut; she died on February 19, 1897 at Broken Bow, Custer County, Nebraska. Michael Conley died in July, 1910. Margaret Elizabeth (McMurtry) and Michael Conley had eight children as follows: Ellen Conley who never married; John William Conley who married Elizabeth Headley; Fannie Eva Conley who married James Prettyman; Nellie Edith Conley who married Hiram J. Vincent; Charles Conley who married (?) Emma Lyle McGuire; Frank Conley who died young; Fred Elias Conley who married Nellie May Boots; and James Gilbert Conley who married Annie Prettyman.

1.6.6 Lucinda McMurtry

Lucinda McMurtry was born March 6, 1839 and married in March 1868 to Fielding Scott. She died in February, 1912 in Nebraska. Lucinda (McMurtry) and Fielding Scott had three children: Notley Scott who never married; Edd Scott who married Stella Fodge; and Fannie Scott who married George Rose.

1.6.7 Sarah Ellen McMurtry

Sarah Ellen McMurtry was born in 1841; she married Robert Young and died in 1867. Sarah Ellen (McMurtry) and Robert Young had two sons: James Young who married Rebecca J. Headley and John Young who married Bertha Hodges.

1.6.8 George McMurtry

George McMurtry died young and unmarried.

1.6.9 Jacob R. McMurtry

Jacob R. McMurtry was born on March 27, 1846 and was married first to Sarah Scott in 1871. She died in 1872; no children were born to this marriage. He married secondly in 1875 to Jane Bingham by whom he had two children: Mary McMurtry who married J. Peck and Winfield McMurtry.

1.6.10 Ruth McMurtry

Ruth McMurtry was born December 15, 1848 and was married in 1867 to John Conley who died on March 27, 1904. Ruth (McMurtry) and John Conley had five children: Minnie Conley who married Edward M. White; James Conley who never married; (Dr) George J. Conley who married (1) Laura
Burdick (2) Tinknour; Katie Conley who died young; and William Conley who married Mary Emerson.

1.6.11 Ezra Green McMuntry

Ezra Green McMuntry was born May 10, 1851 and was married in 1877 to Fannie Pitman. He died in Galesburg, Illinois. They had two daughters: Ethel McMuntry who married Charles Baer and Grace McMuntry who married James Shops.

1.6.12 Harriett McMuntry

Harriett McMuntry was born February 1854. In 1904 she was married to Joseph Bingham of Murray, Iowa. She died on October 15, 1947. No children were born to this marriage.

2 Alexander McMuntry

Alexander McMuntry was the second son of John and Mary Todd (Hutton) McMuntry. He was born March 12, 1774 in Virginia. He migrated to Kentucky with his father in 1780. He was married to Mary Smith on October 4, 1798 in Mercer County, Kentucky. Mary Smith was the daughter of William "Billy" Smith, "an Indian fighter." Alexander McMuntry settled in the adjoining county of Garrard where he was a farmer and slave owner and where he died on December 4, 1855. He was the progenitor of the McMuntrys of Polly's Bend on the Kentucky River. He was buried in old Harmony Presbyterian Churchyard near Polly's Bend.

Alexander and Mary (Smith) McMuntry had ten children as follows:

2.1 John Smith McMuntry

John Smith McMuntry was born on August 23, 1799 in Garrard County, Kentucky; he married Margaret McKee on August 23, 1827. He migrated to Judson, Parke County, Indiana, in 1831. He had previously been there in 1825 and 1827 when he entered claims for land; he served Parke County as a Justice of the Peace, County Commissioner, Deputy Sheriff, a Township Trustee, and Land Appraiser. He died in Park County in 1888. John Smith McMuntry and Margaret (McKee) McMuntry had six children as follows:

2.1.1 Mary Ann McMuntry

Mary Ann McMuntry was born circa 1828 and was married in 1851 to R. C. McWilliams who was born June 11, 1821 in Madison County, Kentucky and who migrated to Parke County, Indiana in 1845. He was a well-known farmer and stock dealer. No children were born of this marriage.
2.1.2 Alexander Rice McMurtry

Alexander Rice McMurtry was born June 29, 1837 in Parke County, Indiana, and was married to Melissa Russell. She was born October 27, 1829 and died January 28, 1901. He died in 1909. They had four children: Edward Combs McMurtry who married Carrie Ellen Wilson; Alice McMurtry who married George Matthews; William Wallace McMurtry who married Elizabeth Jane McPheeters; and Maribel McMurtry who married Butler.

2.1.3 David William McMurtry

David William McMurtry was born circa 1835/6 and married Martha Eleanor Cooper in 1858. He lived in Parke County, Indiana, where he owned 640 acres of land. He was an elder in the Presbyterian Church for forty-seven years. He died in 1910 and his wife died in 1917. They had six children: Mary Elizabeth McMurtry who never married; Margaret Jane McMurtry who married Perminter Parks Noel; William Albert McMurtry who married Ada Lee McPheeters; Sophronia Eleanor McMurtry who never married; (Dr) James Gilmer McMurtry who married Mary Anice Bray; and Clarence Strain McMurtry who married Emma Blanche Burbard.

2.1.4 John McMurtry

John McMurtry was born October 14, 1838 and was married on September 11, 1864 to Elizabeth Judson Buchanan who was born in Jackson, Indiana, on June 27, 1845. She died September 12, 1907 and he died on October 11, 1922. They had three children: Walter Dewitt McMurtry who married Mary Grubb; Mary Effie McMurtry who married Tyre L. Canine; and [dau] McMurtry who died in 1904.

2.1.5 James H. McMurtry

James H. McMurtry married Amanda Wells of Lafayette, Indiana. The family lived and died in Lincoln, Nebraska. They had one daughter: Sophia Bonnie McMurtry who died while a young woman.

2.1.6 Margaret McMurtry

Margaret McMurtry married E. C. Russell and died in 1857. No children were born of this marriage.
2.2 Mary Andrew McMurtry

Mary Andrew McMurtry was born March 11, 1801 and was married in 1811 in Garrard County, Kentucky to John Rice. They later moved to Paris, Missouri. No further data.

2.3 James McMurtry

James McMurtry was born May 2, 1803 in Garrard County, Kentucky, near the village of Buena Vista. He was married in 1833 to Martha McKee Letcher. She was born in 1813 in Lancaster, Kentucky, the daughter of Benjamin and Mary (Robertson) Letcher. James McMurtry was reared on the "old plantation" of his father at Polly's Bend on the Kentucky River. This old farm is now in the possession of his granddaughter, Ruth (McMurtry) Wilson. The millstones from the old Captain John McMurtry Grist Mill are still to be seen in the front yard near the old house. James McMurtry died in September, 1887 and was buried near the graves of his father Alexander McMurtry and his mother, Mary (Smith) McMurtry at the Old Harmony Presbyterian Church at Buena Vista. The grounds for this church and cemetery were donated by his father, Alexander McMurtry. James McMurtry and Martha McKee (Letcher) McMurtry had six children:

2.3.1 Nancy Ann McMurtry

Nancy Ann McMurtry known as "Pet" was born in 1838. She was mentioned in her mother's will as an "invalid and afflicted." She died October 12, 1919. She was never married.

2.3.2 James Letcher McMurtry

James Letcher McMurtry was born November 11, 1840 in Garrard County, Kentucky. He was married to Katherine Hunt on March 1, 1865 in Lexington, Kentucky. According to Alice (Cam) McMurtry, her father-in-law, "James L. McMurtry was a colorful character. There are many here yet who remember his oratory." He was educated at Center College, Danville, Kentucky, and was known as "Apple-Jack Orator of Polly's Bend." The family had a large orchard and made apple brandy. James Letcher McMurtry was a staunch Republican and often swayed the vote his way although the county was known as a strong democratic county. He married "Kate" Hunt who was a graduate of Science Hill Academy in Shelbyville, Kentucky. She died on February 11, 1906; he died July 10, 1922; both are buried in the Nicholasville, Kentucky Cemetery.

2.3.3 Robert Letcher McMurtry

Robert Letcher McMurtry was born in Garrard County, Kentucky, on January 14, 1844. He was married July 21, 1881 to Artemesia McFeat of Harrodsburg, Kentucky. She was born December 24, 1861. He migrated to Missouri where all of his children were born. He died January 19, 1920 in Rich Hill, Missouri. His wife also died at Rich Hill on August 26, 1908. Robert Letcher McMurtry and Artemesia (McFeat) McMurtry had nine children as follows: Clara Ophelia McMurtry who married Ernest Skeppmd; Martha White McMurtry who married (1) Albert T. Christman (2) Julius H. Haller; Katherine Carolyn McMurtry who married Paul Wagner; Kellog McMurtry who died in infancy; Brobecka McMurtry who married Arlie F. Smith; Marguerite Hayden McMurtry who married (1) Ray Louis Jones (2) William Strecker; Zella Minor McMurtry who died young; Zoe McMurtry who never married; Roberta Elizabeth McMurtry who married (1) Francis Taylor (2) Harry Mills.

2.3.4 Alexander Rice McMurtry

Alexander Rice McMurtry was born circa 1841 and was married to Mary Elizabeth McFeat, half sister of Artemesia McFeat. She was born in 1849 at Harrodsburg, Kentucky. She died circa 1930 in Kansas City, Missouri. They had four children as follows: Edward Thornton McMurtry; Josephine Bonner McMurtry who married _____ Ely; Owsley Granger McMurtry who married _______; William S. L. McMurtry who never married.

2.3.5 Mary McMurtry

Mary McMurtry was born in 1850 and married in 1875 to Andrew Cunningham of Louisville, Kentucky. She died in August, 1926 and was buried in the Nicholasville, Kentucky Cemetery. They had one son: James L. Cunningham.
2.3.6 Eliza McMurtry

Eliza McMurtry was born in Garrard County, Kentucky, in 1852 and died young at the age of 20 with tuberculosis.

2.4 Elizabeth McMurtry

Elizabeth McMurtry was born in Garrard County, Kentucky, on January 16, 1805; she was married first to Peter Bost in 1824. They later moved to Missouri. She married secondly David Russell in 1849. No further data.

2.5 Alexander McMurtry

Alexander McMurtry was born September 22, 1806 in Garrard County, Kentucky, the fifth child of Alexander and Mary Smith McMurtry. According to an old newspaper clipping, he was reared in the Presbyterian faith. "He was governed and taught to govern himself. By precept and example these were instilled into his youthful mind a reverence for the Sabbath and the proper observance in the worship of God and that holy day. His early teaching shaped his life."

In 1831 he migrated to Missouri and settled first in New London, Ralls County, where he was in the mercantile business with his younger brother. On November 14, 1838 he married Emily Jane McPherson who was born on May 24, 1821, the daughter of Stephen and Cecelia McPherson. In 1842 he moved to Shelbyville, Missouri and continued in the mercantile business where he was a successful merchant until 1856 when he took on farming. Emily Jane (McPherson) McMurtry died in March, 1847 leaving four young daughters. In September, 1848 he was married to Mary Ann Ennis, daughter of Joseph Ennis. By his second wife he had one child.

In 1859, the Presbyterian Church was organized in Shelbyville. Mrs. McMurtry gave two lots for the church building and he contributed $300 toward its construction. Alexander McMurtry superintended the erection of the church building "and ever afterwards cared for its preservation and comfort as a place of worship." In 1860 he united with the church and in 1865 he was elected and installed as a ruling elder.

In personal attributes, he was "an honest man" in business. "In his family, as a husband and father, he was faithful and kind. His object was to bring up his children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. He gave liberally to the support of the ministry and the church."
"He was kind to the poor and cared for the widows and orphans of the household of faith; he was a kind and true friend; the advocate of everything that was good and the enemy of everything that was evil." The writer in the clipping noted: "He is missed by his friends and in the social circle; by the church in all its works and in the community at large." He was for "over 40 years an honored and respected citizen of Shelby County."

Alexander McMurtry was also "one of the enterprising and progressive stock-raisers of the county." In 1876 his health became greatly impaired and he left the farm and returned to Shelbyville where he resided until his death on October 24, 1882. His first wife died shortly after the birth of their fourth child. His second wife, Mary Ann (Ennis) McMurtry, died February 6, 1881.

Alexander McMurtry had five daughters, four by the first wife and one by the second as follows:

2.5.1 Eliza Jane McMurtry

Eliza Jane McMurtry was born in Ralls County, Missouri, in 1841. She died in Ralls County on December 11, 1867. She was not known to have been married.

2.5.2 Cecelia F. McMurtry

Cecelia F. McMurtry was born in Shelby County, Missouri in 1843. She married Alexander Graham on February 4, 1861; she died in Quincy, Illinois, on February 7, 1908. Cecelia F. (McMurtry) and Alexander Graham had seven children as follows: John Graham who married Della Fowler; Stafford (or Stanford) Graham who married (1) Goldie Jones (2) Lulu (____) Judson; Roseburg Graham; William Graham; Ralph Graham; Nettie Graham who married W. A. Coogler; and Fannie Graham who married ____ Brownridge.

2.5.3 Mary Ann McMurtry

Mary Ann McMurtry was born on December 21, 1844 in Shelby County, Missouri. She was married on July 24, 1864 to Henry Clay Carlile who was born December 6, 1839 in Alleghany County, Maryland. (He dropped the "s" from his name.) He died on October 22, 1892 in Shelby County. She died on December 5, 1914 in Los Angeles, California.

Mary Ann (McMurtry) and Henry Clay Carlile had nine children as follows: George McMurtry Carlile who married Millie Cox; Mary Ann Carlile who married James L. Jennings; Laura Cecilia
Carllle who married Robert Richard Stewart; * Amos Baldwin Carllle who never married; Emmett Ennis Carllle who married Bertha Lee Holliman; Cornelia Ellen Carllle who never married; Emily McPherson Carllle who married Deward H. Churchwell; Myrtle Cresap Carllle who never married; and Everitt Peabody Carllle who never married.

2.5.4 Emily Jane McMurtry

Emily Jane McMurtry was born in 1847 in Shelby County, Missouri and died August 6, 1919 in Los Angeles, California. She was married circa 1870 to Daniel O'Brien. They had six children: Alexander McMurtry O'Brien who died young; Mary H. O'Brien who married Eugene Linthicum; Charles O'Brien who married Lucia Blincoe; James Brock O'Brien who married Lucinda Cleek; Adeline O'Brien who married Frank Hagar; and Daniel O'Brien who never married.

2.5.5 Clara McMurtry was born in Shelby County, Missouri, in 1850. She was married to Preston B. Dunn in 1874. She died in 1885. They had two sons: Preston B. Dunn Jr and Alexander McMurtry Dunn.

2.6 Sarah S. McMurtry

Sarah S. McMurtry was born June 15, 1809 in Garrard County, Kentucky. She married in 1839 Jacob Sharp, brother of William Sharp who married her aunt Sarah McMurtry. Jacob Sharp was a widower. There were no children.

2.7 Margaret McMurtry

Margaret McMurtry was born in Garrard County, Kentucky on April 4, 1813. She was married in 1828 in Jessamine County, Kentucky, to James McKee. No children.

2.8 (Dr) William McMurtry

William McMurtry was born in Garrard County, Kentucky, on May 3, 1811. He was never married. He migrated to Paris, Missouri where he became a physician and later died.

2.9 Martha Jane McMurtry

Martha Jane McMurtry was born on October 24, 1815 in Garrard County, Kentucky. She was married in 1838 to George Sell who died the same year. She died August 25, 1839. No children were born of this marriage.

* Laura Cecilia (Carllle) and Robert Richard Stewart's son, F. Willard Stewart of St. Louis, Missouri, is Alexander McMurtry's [2.5] oldest living descendant. He is 93 and one of the known oldest living descendants of Captain John McMurtry, if not the oldest.
2.10 Joseph McMurtry

Joseph McMurtry was born in Garrard County, Kentucky, on August 2, 1818. He died unmarried on December 7, 1844.

3 Samuel McMurtry

Samuel McMurtry, the third son of John and Mary (Todd) Hutton McMurtry was born July 18, 1776 in Virginia or Tennessee. He was married in 1802 in Mercer County, Kentucky, to his step-sister, Jemima Rose, daughter of Lewis and Barbara (Trayer) Rose. Samuel McMurtry’s widowed mother married Lewis Rose in 1793 after Captain John’s death, thus Samuel and Jemima (Rose) McMurtry became step-brother and sister as well as husband and wife. Samuel McMurtry was a farmer in Mercer County until his death on April 17, 1815/6. In 1808 he sold land he had inherited from his father to the Trustees of the Shaker Society. It is believed that his land contained McMurtry’s Mill on Shawnee Run.

Samuel and Jemima (Rose) McMurtry had six children:

3.1 Rebecca Rose McMurtry

Rebecca Rose McMurtry was born in Mercer County, Kentucky, on December 28, 1803 and died unmarried July 26, 1823. She was buried in the Lewis Rose Graveyard in Mercer County.

3.2 Mary E. McMurtry

Mary E. McMurtry was born circa 1805 in Mercer County, Kentucky. She was married to Elijah Harrison Burford on November 3, 1825 in Harrodsburg, Kentucky, and died shortly after, circa 1832. Elijah H. Burford was born on March 23, 1801 and died May 6, 1888. After his wife’s death, he was married on October 5, 1835 to Mary Neville Holtzclaw. Both Mary E. and Elijah H. Burford are buried in Spring Hill Cemetery, Harrodsburg, Kentucky. Two children were born to this marriage:

3.2.1 Rebecca J. Burford

Rebecca J. Burford was born in Mercer County, Kentucky, on June 13, 1828. She was married in Richmond, Missouri, on September 10, 1872 to William A. Byers, her brother-in-law and widower of her deceased sister, Mary Eliza (Burford) Byers. Rebecca J. (Burford) Byers died May 8, 1877 and was buried in Spring Hill Cemetery, Harrodsburg, Kentucky. No children were born to this marriage.

3.2.2 Mary Eliza Burford

Mary Eliza Burford was born in Mercer County, Kentucky on October 3, 1830 and was married in Danville,
JEMIMA McMurtry'S NON-CURATIVE WILL

Jemima McMurtry at her residence in the County of Garrard and State of Kentucky during her last illness made the following testamentary disposition of her property:

"It is my last will and desire that my son, Lewis R. McMurtry, shall have all of my property absolutely, towit, household and kitchen furniture, one cow, some farming utensils, a note which I hold against my son, Lewis, for three hundred and twenty-five dollars due May thirty-first, 1840, and also my undivided interest in the proceeds of the sale of a tract of land in Mercer, containing about two hundred acres willed by father, Lewis Rose, to my mother, Mary Rose, and the executor of my deceased father, towit, one-third of the rent of said land to my mother during her natural life, and the other two-thirds to be assets in the hands of her executors for the payment of all debts and at the death of my mother, Mary, to be sold and the proceeds thereof to be divided into five equal parts (my mother still living) one portion of which is my interest, which property above named and the personality which I may have at my death, it is my wish shall belong absolutely to my son, Lewis, at her death.

As my son, Charles McMurtry, is unfortunate and imbecile in body and mind, and incapable of taking care of himself, it is my wish that my son, Lewis, shall take care of him and support him during his natural life."

The above testamentary words were spoken in our presence on the fourteenth September, 1840, on which day the testatrix departed this life. October the twelfth, 1840.

/s/ Fountain Rothwell
William W. Duff

Garrard County, towit,

I certify that the foregoing non-curative will of Jemima McMurtry, dec'd, was produced to court at the November County Court, 1840, and proven by the oaths of Fountain Rothwell and William W. Duff, in whose presence the words were spoken and approved and ordered to be recorded, whereupon the same is truly admitted to record.

/s/ Alex. R. McKee, Clk

* The reference to "my mother, Mary Rose," is to her step-mother, Mary Todd [Hutton] McMurtry Rose. Her birth mother, Barbara [Trayer] Rose was deceased. This will is included here because it proves that her step-mother was still living in September, 1840, and had not died earlier as reported in family tradition. (Garrard County, Kentucky, Will Book K, p. 253.)
Kentucky, on May 22, 1849 to William A. Byers. He was born May 15, 1816. She died May 31, 1865 and was buried in Spring Hill Cemetery, Harrodsburg, Kentucky. They had five children: Mary R. Byers who married Alexander Royston; Ella V. Byers who died in infancy; Nannie W. Byers who married Daniel Lewis Settle; William Howard Byers who married Cora Bohanan; and John E. Byers who never married.

3.3 Lewis Rose McMurtry

Lewis Rose McMurtry was born in Mercer County, Kentucky. He was a merchant in Lincoln County at the time of his marriage to Amanda Reid on June 10, 1837. She was born March 17, 1811 in Garrard County, Kentucky, the daughter of John Reid, a pioneer settler of Lincoln County. Lewis Rose McMurtry was later a merchant in Boyle County. Lewis Rose and Amanda (Reid) McMurtry had two sons.

3.3.1 Reid Leslie McMurtry

Reid Leslie McMurtry was born May 5, 1839 and died unmarried on November 15, 1926. He lived in Danville, Kentucky and served in the Civil War.

3.3.2 (Dr) Lewis Samuel McMurtry

Lewis Samuel McMurtry was born September 14, 1850 in Harrodsburg, Kentucky, according to one source and in Danville, according to another. He was married to Mary E. Ball on September 11, 1879. She was born in Covington, Kentucky, in 1856.

From an old newspaper article titled: "Operations which made the State's Early Surgeons Famous Recalled"--Danville Advocate, Danville, Kentucky, circa 1925:

"Dr. Lewis Samuel McM, native of Danville, Ky. the home of McDowell, had as preceptor Dr. John G. Jackson, a surgeon of distinction & enthusiastic contemporary of McDowell.

Reared in an atmosphere of surgical history, he graduated from the Univ. of Louisiana in 1873 & returned to Danville to practice.

Becoming more & more interested in surgery, he became an ardent advocate of the modern principles of surgery.
In order to fully acquaint himself with the teachings of the masters, he spent some time abroad, during which he served as Ass't to one of the leading surgeons of the continent.

McM = McMurtry
He returned to Louisville, limiting his work to gynecology and abdominal surgery. During many years of activity, his brilliant endowments as teacher, author & speaker, combined with lovable traits of character, gave him permanent position as one of the leaders in his profession.

He was one of the founders of the American Society of Obstetricians & Gynecologists & the American College of Surgeons, and fellow of the American Gynecological Society & the College of Obstetricians.

Living in 2 generations of surgery, seeing the decline of the old & the rise of the new, he tentatively followed the rise of surgical progress keeping his own judgement poised. In surgical affairs playing a leading part, blessed with ideals beyond those of the average man, he did much for the cause of medical education.

He possessed the mind of the pioneer, the poise of the man who knew men and loved work. No two men in their generation meant more to the medical prof. than Dr. McM & his good friend, Dr. J. M. McCormack.

Of his genial & lovable character, it is difficult to speak except in a superlative degree. The sobriquets by which he was known "The Cavalier" and "The Professor"-- indicate the loving regard of those basking in the sunshine of his friendship."

Also from the Danville Advocate: "Dr. L. S. McM performed the 1st operation for appendicitis in the U.S."

It was performed at the old Alum Springs Hotel, near Danville; the subject was W. D. Scrugham, a native of Danville, now a prominent business man of Minneapolis, Minn.--Dr. McM made a tour of Germany where he took postgraduate work. At the time of his sojourn there, the Germans were performing their first operations for appendicitis. Upon his return to Danville, Dr. McM performed numerous similar operations, Mr. Scrugham being his first patient.

It is possible that central Ky. physicians will eventually start a campaign to erect a monument to the memory of Dr. McM in McDowell Park, where a fitting shaft marks the last resting place of the internationally famous surgeon Ephriam McDowell.

From Temple Bodley's History of Kentucky, Vol. I, p. 696, the following is gleaned:
Kentuckians organized three base hospitals for service overseas. They were known as Hospital D, Hospital M. 40 and Hospital M. 59. Base Hospital D was the first medical organization in the state founded for activity overseas. Its organization was suggested to the War Department by Dr. Louis S. McMurtry of Louisville." (This would have been at the time of World War I.)

The following biographical sketch is found in Perrin's (1887) History of Kentucky, p. 934:

DR. LOUIS S. McMURTRY, of Danville, who is widely known in the State as a skillful and accomplished physician, was born in Harrodsburg, Ky., September 14, 1850. His youth was spent in Garrard County until he was sixteen years of age, when he entered Centre College at Danville, from which institution he graduated in 1870. He at once entered the office of the late Dr. John D. Jackson, of Danville, as his pupil. He received the degree of M. D. from the University of Louisiana in New Orleans in March, 1873. He then spent a year in that city as assistant demonstrator of anatomy in the university, and was attached to the staff of the great Charity Hospital. In July, 1874, he began the practice of his profession in Danville, and quickly worked his way into the confidence of the community. He spent the winter of 1877-78 in New York City pursuing advanced studies in the medical schools and hospitals of that city. In 1882 he accepted the chair of anatomy, tendered him by the Kentucky School of Medicine in Louisville. The following year he discharged the duties of demonstrator of anatomy and lecturer on clinical surgery in the University of Louisville. He was at the same time associate editor of the Louisville Medical News. He discharged the duties of these exacting public positions most acceptably, but preferring the active duties of general practice, he resigned these positions and resumed his practice in Danville. In 1879 he married Miss Mary E. Boll, of Covington, Ky., who died a year later, leaving a daughter. Dr. McMurtry has made numerous and valuable contributions to medical literature upon practical subjects, mostly relating to surgery and gynecology. He has successfully performed some of the most difficult and heroic operations in surgery, among which may be mentioned the successful ligation of the subclavian artery for aneurism, ovariotomy, etc. He is a member of the Kentucky State Medical Society and of the American Medical Association; an honorary member of the New Orleans Medical and Surgical Association. Three years ago he was elected a fellow of the American Academy of Medicine at its annual meeting in Baltimore. He is thoroughly devoted to his profession, and is an earnest student of medical science. He is a man of broad, general culture, and a graceful and forcible writer.
The following letters were exchanged when Dr. Lewis Samuel McMurtry (1850-1924) was chairman, McDowell Monument Committee, Danville, Kentucky, in 1879:

Memorial Services.

Dr. L. S. McMurtry,
Chairman McDowell Monument Committee, Danville.

Dear Sir: In accordance with the resolution adopted by the Kentucky State Medical Society on the 15th of May, I would respectfully request you to forward me for publication the Proceedings of the McDowell Memorial Exercises, held in your city on the 14th instant.

I am, very respectfully,

Coleman Rogers,
Chairman Committee of Publication.

Danville, Ky., June 13, 1879.

Dr. Coleman Rogers,
Chairman of the Committee of Publication, Louisville.

Dear Sir: I have the honor to send herewith the Proceedings connected with the Dedication of the McDowell Monument, as requested in your favor of the 17th instant.

I am, yours, etc.,

L. S. McMurtry,
Chairman McDowell Monument Committee.
Mary E. McMurtry died on October 25, 1880 in Louisville, Kentucky. Dr. Lewis Samuel McMurtry died on February 1, 1924 in Louisville. Dr. Lewis Samuel and Mary E. (Ball) McMurtry had one daughter: Marie Louise McMurtry who married Paul Stewart Woodson.

3.4 Deniza McMurtry

Deniza McMurtry was born in Mercer County, Kentucky, on April 16, 1815 on the farm of Captain Lewis Rose. She was married in Mercer County on December 12, 1833 to William Carmichael Burford who was also born in Mercer County on May 8, 1810. They migrated to Cass County, Missouri in 1840 where both died and are buried in the Burford Cemetery. She died on January 2, 1869 and he on August 26, 1879. They had four children:

3.4.1 Louis McMurtry Burford

Louis McMurtry Burford was born in Mercer County, Kentucky, October 3, 1834. His parents migrated to Cass County, Missouri, shortly afterward. He was married to Augusta S. Redfield on April 26, 1859. Louis McMurtry Burford served in the Civil War and was killed at the Battle of Wilson’s Creek, Missouri on August 10, 1861. He was buried on the battlefield. One son was born to this marriage: William Redfield Burford who never married.

3.4.2 John Samuel Burford

John Samuel Burford was born in Mercer County, Kentucky, on March 9, 1840. His parents migrated to Cass County, Missouri, in the Spring of 1840. He was married on November 5, 1867 to Susan Margaret Eavey. John S. Burford died October 21, 1905 at LaHarpe, Kansas, and was buried in the Burford Cemetery in Cass County, Missouri. John Samuel and Susan M. (Eavey) Burford had the following children: Maude Deniza Burford; Irene Burford who married Hugh D. McCourt; Gertrude Helen Burford; Benjamin Simpson Burford who married Flora Agnes Cox; Louis Wesley Burford; and Edward Clyde Burford.

3.4.3 William Carmichael Burford Jr

William Carmichael Burford Jr was born in Cass County, Missouri, on August 25, 1844 and died as a young boy on February 6, 1854.
3.4.4 James Wesley Burford

James Wesley Burford was born in Cass County, Missouri, on March 22, 1848. He was married to Zara Laura Wright on February 18, 1869. He died April 21, 1912. They nine children, six of whom are known to have died as infants: Mary Buchanan Burford, Harry Allen Burford, Roy E. Burford, Fannie Deniza Burford, Don Spring Burford, Walter Tredwell Burford (all died as infants); Wesley Campbell Burford who married Edna R. Niles; Kathleen W. Burford who died as an infant; and Andrew Wright Burford.

3.5 Charles McMurtry

Charles McMurtry was born in Mercer County, Kentucky, and died in Harrisonville, Missouri. No further data.

4 William McMurtry

William McMurtry, the fourth son of John and Mary Todd (Hutton) McMurtry was born in Virginia or Tennessee on March 4, 1779. He was brought to Kentucky by his parents as an infant in 1780. He was married to Priscilla Sharp on December 1, 1808 in Mercer County. They migrated to Indiana in 1825 where he died after 1843. He was known as the "deaf man" according to Miss Sue McMurtry of Rio, Illinois. William and Priscilla (Sharp) McMurtry had seven children:

4.1 Abraham S. McMurtry

Abraham S. McMurtry was born in Mercer County, Kentucky, circa 1810 and died young.

4.2 John McMurtry

John McMurtry was born in Mercer County, Kentucky. No further data.

4.3 (Dr) William Sharp McMurtry

Dr. William Sharp McMurtry was born in Mercer County, Kentucky, on August 24, 1818. He was married first to Ellen Hayden in 1858 and second to Olivia McMillen in 1864. He died December 8, 1904. The following obituary from an unidentified and undated newspaper clipping (probably from a December, 1905 issue of a newspaper in Los Gatos, California) gives additional information about Dr. McMurtry:

"The numerous friends of Dr. W. S. McMurtry and family of Los Gatos will learn with regret that after a lingering decline the venerable pioneer passed away last night. Dr. McMurtry was born in Kentucky, Aug. 24, 1818 and he removed to Indiana in 1825.
Dr. W. S. McMurry Has Passed Away

Pioneer Who Was Among the First to Arrive in This State

Dr. William Sharp McMurry
In 1839 and 40 he attended the first course of lectures given at the Miami University Medical College at Cincinnati. In 1844 he was graduated from the Louisville Medical Institute. He practiced medicine in Mississippi until the commencement of the Mexican War.

Dr. McMurtry enlisted for that war, and he was one of the famous Texas Rangers under Colonel Jack Hays, under whose command he continued until the battle of Monterey. He was one of the party that stormed the "Bishop's Palace." His first enlistment having expired, he returned home, but he subsequently joined another company of Texas Rangers and remained in the service until 1848. He then began the practice of medicine in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Dr. McMurtry came to California by way of Mexico upon the discovery of gold and arrived in San Francisco May 24, 1849. He engaged in mining in Grass Valley and other places in this state, and finally, in 1858, he came to Santa Clara Valley and here engaged in the lumber business until 1868 at which time he located at Los Gatos, where he continuously remained until his death.

In 1863 Dr. McMurtry was elected state senator from this county, and in the following year he was elected a delegate to the Republican national convention at Baltimore and he voted in that convention for the re-nomination of Abraham Lincoln for president.

He was first married to Ellen Headen (Haydon) at Santa Clara in 1858. She died in 1863, leaving two children, W. S. McMurtry, now deceased, and Mrs. John Flournoy residing in San Francisco. He was again married to Olivia A. McMillin of Rockville, Indiana, who survived him. There were four children by this marriage--Mrs. James A. Dick of El Paso, Texas; George S. McMurtry now of the Commercial bank of this city; Mary O. McMurtry and Belle S. McMurtry, both residing at the home in Los Gatos.

Dr. McMurtry was a man of exceptional ability and firm integrity, and during his long residence in this valley he was at all times recognized as one of its foremost and most substantial citizens."

Dr. William Sharp McMurtry had six children, two by his first wife, Ellen "Nellie" Haydon and four by his second wife, Olivia Almeida McMillen as follows:

4.3.1 William Spencer McMurtry

William Spencer McMurtry was born near Los Gatos, California, on November 17, 1861. At the age of 24, he became a "popular young promoter of business ventures." In 10 years, he amassed a fortune of "a quarter of a million dollars." His
first venture was in a glace fruit factory in San Jose. He later went into water company schemes. He had gone to Europe in 1895 to interest European capitalists in California Water-Supply Enterprises. He died in Paris, France on August 13, 1895. His body was returned to Los Gatos where he is buried. He was never married.

4.3.2 Sarah Eleanor McMurtry

Sarah Eleanor McMurtry was born July 26, 1863 near Los Gatos, California. In 1885, she was married to John Flournoy who was born in Danville, California, in 1856. He spent thirty years practicing law in San Francisco. He died in San Francisco on January 20, 1912. Sarah (McMurtry) Flournoy died May 13, 1916. No children were born of this marriage.

4.3.3 George Sherman McMurtry

George Sherman McMurtry was born in Los Gatos, California, on June 5, 1865. He was married to Estelle (Balch) Harwood who died February 21, 1936.

4.3.4 Mary Olivia McMurtry

Mary Olivia McMurtry was born in Los Gatos, California, on November 1, 1866. She never was married.

4.3.5 Amanda Katherine McMurtry

Amanda Katherine McMurtry was born in Los Gatos, California on February 24, 1868. She was married to James A. Dick about 1895. Two children were born to this marriage: Katherine Dick and James A. Dick Jr.

4.3.6 Belle Stuart McMurtry

Belle Stuart McMurtry was born on August 20, 1875 in Los Gatos, California. She was married on September 27, 1923 to William Randolph Kettie Young who was born on January 21, 1865 and died September 28, 1943. No children were born of this marriage.

John Henry Nash, a world famous printer, acclaimed Belle (McMurtry) Young the "Greatest Living Bookbinder." This is attested to in the following unidentified, undated newspaper clipping:
Critics Say Belle McMurtry, San Francisco Woman, Is ‘Greatest Living Bookbinder’

By Betty Briggs

Among the treasures of many bibliophiles are volumes marked "Belle McMurtry" in tiny gold letters. To the novice in book lore, these volumes are things of exquisite beauty. To the connoisseur they are volumes to be prized as the work of one of the greatest bookbinders in the country. Such authorities as Albert Bender, art patron, and John Henry Nash, world famous printer, call Mrs. Belle McMurtry Young the greatest living bookbinder.

Spent Years Learning

In her bindery at the back of her Lyon St. home she does her work with endless patience. There she has her tables, press, cabinets filled with tools, shelves lined with implements used in the craft, and a great red chest filled with finest leather.

She has devoted years to perfecting her art. A Stanford graduate, she studied the art of leather tooling with Henri Noulhac in Paris and the mechanics of the art with Maylander. Later she worked in England.

In Europe she is known among the select group that collects valued books and fine examples of binding.

Work Praised

One of her works which has brought her great acclaim is the binding of a copy of the Life of St. Francis. Dr. John Gallwey has the volume in his library.

"A masterpiece. The finest piece of leather inlay I have ever seen," Mr. Nash says of that work.

Several of the treasured books in Mr. Nash's $300,000 library were bound and presented to him by Mrs. Young.

Studies Each Book

So painstaking is she in her work that she spends months on a single volume. Six weeks of almost steady work is the shortest time she has given to a binding.

She studies each book she takes to bind. Its covering must carry out the feeling, the story and the printing of the book.

She finished a copy of "The Life of Abraham Lincoln" in crimson leather, inlaid a bit with dull blue and lined with a design in gold. Of this rather modernistic design, she explains:

"Lincoln was a far-seeing person, a person with a modern mind."

Sometimes when she finds a person with great talent she gives lessons in bookbinding.

Expensive Hobby

It is an expensive hobby. She advises anyone to take it up a profession. The field is too limited, she says.

It takes a skilled person from one to two years to learn the mechanics of the craft, she believes. After that, it is a matter of artistic talent, which cannot be taught.

She will not bind books unless they have real value, a sentimental value to the owner, fine specimens of printing or limited or first editions.

She is Modest

A modest woman, Mrs. Young is eager to explain the mechanics of her art, to bring out volumes wrapped like jewels in velvet or cased in protective boxes, but reluctant to talk of herself.

In her home is a fine library belonging to her husband, W. R. K. Young, who is a well known bibliophile.

It was through their mutual fondness for books that they became acquainted and married.
George Alexander McMurtry was born in Mercer County, Kentucky in 1819. His parents migrated to Parke County, Indiana in 1825. He was married circa 1849 to Mary Helen Scott of Rockville, Indiana. He was a merchant in Judson, Parke County; he died in 1865. Six children were born to George Alexander and Mary Helen (Scott) McMurtry:

4.4.1 Oscar McMurtry

Oscar McMurtry was born in Parke County, Indiana circa 1849. He died when about nine years old.

4.4.2 Son McMurtry

4.4.3 Daughter McMurtry

A son and daughter were born circa 1851 and 1853 respectively. Both died young.

4.4.4 George William McMurtry

George William McMurtry was born in Parke County, Indiana, near Judson on January 22, 1855. He attended Bloomingdale Academy and was graduated from Earlham College. He was a merchant most of his adult life in Terre Haute, Rockville, Perryville, and Judson. He was married on March 7, 1895 to Ella Peyton. He died in Terre Haute on May 8, 1925 and was buried in Mt. Moriah Cemetery. No children were born to this marriage.

4.4.5 Charles T. McMurtry

Charles T. McMurtry was born in Park County, Indiana, circa 1857. He was married to Celia ______. He was a widely known citizen of Marshall, Indiana where he was living when killed by a train near Plainfield, Indiana, September 6, [year not recorded]. Two children were born to this marriage: Helen McMurtry who died young and George C. Dewitt McMurtry who married Mary McCarthy.

4.4.6 Mary Belle McMurtry

Mary Belle McMurtry was born in Parke County, Indiana on August 20, 1863. She was married on December 25, 1889 to William V. Durham who was born on October 22, 1863. In 1849, the address for this couple was Waveland, Indiana. Three children were born to this marriage: Rue Bell Durham who married
(1) Bessie Biggs (2) ; Frank A. Durham who married Kathleen Bersot; and William Harold Durham who married Louise Hopkins.

4.5 James H. McMurry

James H. McMurry was born in Parke County, Indiana. He went to California in the Gold Rush of 1849 and was killed in Grass Valley, California on July 1, 1858.

4.6 Mary McMurry

Mary McMurry was born in Parke County, Indiana. She was married to Samuel Logan of Shelbyville, Kentucky. She died in 1846. Mary (McMurry) and Samuel Logan had six children who later migrated to Kansas and California.

4.6.1 (Judge) James L. Logan

James L. Logan lived in Santa Cruz, California. He was a noted horticulturist and originator of the Loganberry in 1881. The Loganberry is a prickly shrub of the rose order and was derived from the European raspberry and California blackberry. It attained swift popularity, being cultivated like the raspberry. The Loganberry is featured in the World Book Encyclopedia as being one of the "fruits unknown to our forefathers."

4.6.2 Joseph Lee Logan

Joseph Lee Logan was a lawyer in Cincinnati, Ohio. He was married and had at least one daughter who taught school in the Cincinnati school system: Cora Lee Logan.

4.6.3 John Logan

John Logan lived in Canon City, Colorado. No further data.

4.6.4 Mary Logan

Mary Logan married ____ Mann. No further data.

4.6.5 Priscilla Logan

Priscilla Logan lived in Kansas City, Missouri. No further data.
4.7 Elizabeth McMurtry

Elizabeth McMurtry was born in Parke County, Indiana, circa 1825. She died unmarried at the age of 20 of tuberculosis.

5 John McMurtry

John McMurtry, the fifth son of Captain John and Mary Todd (Hutton) McMurtry, was born in Kentucky on April 16, 1782 in Lincoln County (now Mercer). He was married before March 1810 to Sallie Wrenn, daughter of Vincent Wrenn of Garrard County, Kentucky. According to an old family letter written in 1913,

"... He enlisted in the War of 1812, was taken sick and did not report for duty. The company left without him and he was in trouble about it and grandfather ... got him out of it and from all I can learn he did not live long afterwards. (He died in Garrard County in September, 1819.) He was buried near Buena Vista in Garrard Co. Ky. about 9 miles from McMurtry Station where he was born ... "

There is a family tradition that Vincent Wrenn was a lineal descendant of Sir Christopher Wren (1632-1723), the renowned English architect. If the tradition is true, he probably would have been a 4th or 5th great grandson of Sir Christopher. John and Sallie (Wrenn) McMurtry had five children as follows:

5.1 Vincent Wrenn McMurtry

Vincent Wrenn McMurtry was born in Louisville, Kentucky, circa 1806. He migrated to Natchez, Mississippi, where he was married to Anne Stevens circa 1839. They were the parents of Sarah Frances (McMurtry) Rumble whose husband, Captain Stephen Edgar Rumble, after the Civil War, became the owner of the now famous antebellum mansion in Natchez called "Rosalie." Rosalie is now a national historic shrine. Vincent Wrenn McMurtry died of the yellow fever in 1845 and his wife died in 1844 in childbirth. Vincent Wrenn and Anne (Stevens) McMurtry had three children:

5.1.1 Sarah Frances McMurtry

Sarah Frances McMurtry, "Fannie" as she was called, was born January 4, 1840 on the Andalusia Plantation, Issaquena County, Mississippi. She was orphaned at six and adopted by Andrew L. and Anne Elizabeth (Bowman) Wilson who owned and occupied Rosalie in conjunction with other family members. When "Fannie" was a young teenage girl, she was sent to New York to attend Madame Meres' School for Young Ladies, a fashionable school for girls. She also studied painting at the Hudson River
School of Art and "became an artist of merit." Some of her landscapes hang in Rosalie today. After spending six years in New York, "Fannie" was ready in 1858 to return to Rosalie and "become a belle of the South."

The story of Rosalie, the site and the mansion, involves a history of that part of Mississippi covering a period of more than 200 years. The site high on the bluffs of the Mississippi River was chosen in 1716 for Fort Rosalie. Early in 1800, the Rosalie land tract was acquired and the mansion was built by Peter Little and first occupied by him, 1823. Then it went through several ownerships before being occupied by the Wilsons and later the Rumbles. It was used as Union Officer Headquarters during the Civil War. After the war was over and all union forces were gone, the mansion became a private home again and was acquired by Captain Stephen Edgar Rumble, husband of Sarah Frances McMurtry.

Before "Fannie" came home from New York, her adoptive mother, Mrs. Wilson, joined her "for the purpose of selecting new furnishings for Rosalie's double parlor. They purchased a rosewood parlor set by John Henry Belter. The set included 12 small and four large chairs, two sofas, and two tables with marble tops." This set
has remained in Rosalie since 1859 except for the Civil War years when it was stored while Union Army Officers used the first floor for their headquarters.

Double Parlor at Rosalie

Dining Room at Rosalie
In January 1861, Mississippi seceded from the Union. On September 2, 1862, the city of Natchez was fired upon by the Union gunboat, The Essex, and Natchez was surrendered to Union forces. Rosalie was chosen to serve as headquarters for the Union Army. Mr. Wilson, "Fannie's" adoptive father, took all the slaves and fled to Texas for safekeeping until the war was over. Mrs. Wilson and "Fannie" remained in Rosalie on the second floor while Union officers occupied the first floor. "Fannie's" to be husband, Stephen Edgar Rumble, was a Captain in the Confederate Army.
Sarah Frances McMurtry and Stephen Edgar Rumble were married on August 2, 1866. He was born February 22, 1837 near Moundville, Virginia (now West Virginia). She died November 21, 1927 at Rosalie. He died July 6, 1913.

Sarah Frances (McMurtry) and Stephen Edgar Rumble had six children: Andrew Lucky Wilson Rumble who married Mary Lyntot Peirce Haralson; Anne Eliza Rumble who died at age four; Rebecca Smyth Rumble who never married; Anna Lucky Rumble who married James Hyde Marsh; Stephen Edgar Rumble Jr who died at age five; and Mary Rumble who never married.

After the Civil War, hard times fell upon the Wilsons. Rosalie had to be mortgaged and sold. Stephen Edgar Rumble bought out the interests of other family members and became the sole owner of Rosalie.

5.1.2 Rebecca Matilda McMurtry

Rebecca Matilda McMurtry was born on the Andalusia Plantation in Issaquena County, Mississippi on December 4, 1842. She, too, was orphaned in 1845 upon the death of her father. She was taken to Louisiana to be reared by a Bowman family. Mr. Bowman was a brother of Mrs. Wilson who took Sarah Frances. She was married during the Civil War to John Smyth who was born February 14, 1832 in Tryone, Ireland. She died on August 30, 1885 at Rosalie in Natchez. John Smyth died March 29, 1900 at Wavertree Plantation in Tensas Parish, Louisiana.

Rebecca Matilda (McMurtry) and John Smith had seven children: Barbara Salome Smyth who married Dwight Stone; Elam Bowman Smyth who died unmarried; (Dr) John Smyth Jr, a prominent physician, who married Jeanne Sully, a niece of Thomas Sully, the well-known artist; Andrew Woods Smyth who died unmarried and twin to Frances Rumble Smyth who married Louis LeSassier Young; Henry Smyth and Annie Rebecca Smyth who both died unmarried.

5.1.3 Son McMurtry

A son was stillborn in 1844 at which time Anne (Stevens) McMurtry died.
In the early 1930s, "Miss Annie, Miss Rebecca, and Miss Mary, the Rumble girls, lived together at Rosalie." They were unmarried daughters of Sarah Frances (McMurtry) and Stephen Edgar Rumble. In the depression years hard times came and the sisters' income was greatly reduced. "The sisters could not adjust to the life in which they found themselves." In 1935, "Miss Mary" who had married in 1932, died leaving "Miss Rebecca" and "Miss Annie" living alone in the huge mansion. By 1938, the two sisters decided they could no longer live with the existing conditions. "Rosalie was shabby and badly in need of repair ..." "Their income was almost nothing, and they had liquidated everything possible.

On April 25, 1938, the Rumble sisters sold Rosalie to the Mississippi Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution for $14,000. The Society needed help with the restoration of Rosalie and appealed to the Mississippi Legislature for aid.
The Mississippi Legislature gave $10,000 to save the mansion and restore it for posterity. Rosalie is today open to the public as a historic shrine.

It was agreed that "Miss Rebecca" and "Miss Annie" should have exclusive use and occupancy of two bedrooms on the second floor for the remainder of their lives. It is not known when they died, but it is believed they were both deceased by sometime in the 1950s.

Upstairs Bedroom at Rosalie
Joseph McMurtry, sixth son of Captain John and Mary Todd (Hutton) McMurtry, was born in Mercer County on July 3, 1786. He was graduated from the Philadelphia School of Medicine in 1811. On April 8, 1813, he was married to Margaret Hoggin. He was married secondly on February 26, 1822, to Lucy Lewis Madison, daughter of Colonel Gabriel Madison. Dr. McMurtry practiced first at Harrodsburg in Mercer County, later in Jessamine, Greenup, and Bourbon Counties, Kentucky. He was living in Greenup County in 1824 where he co-owned an ironworks and when the Kentucky Legislature passed an Act authorizing him and his co-owner "to raise their mill-dam across Little Sandy, higher."

**Acts**

PASSED AT THE FIRST SESSION

OF THE

THIRTY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

FOR THE

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY,

BEGUN AND HELD IN THE TOWN OF FRANKFORT, ON MONDAY THE FIRST DAY OF NOVEMBER, IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1824, AND OF THE COMMONWEALTH THE THIRTY-THIRD.

CHAP. 74.—An ACT to authorize M'Murtry and Ward, of Greenup county, to raise their mill-dam across Little Sandy, higher.

SEC. 1. BE it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, That it shall be the duty of the county court of Greenup county, upon the application of Joseph M'Murtry and William Ward, of Greenup county, or of such person or persons as may succeed them in the erection or ownership of the ironworks now building by them on Little Sandy, to award a writ of a/d quod damnum; and the sheriff shall, in virtue of said writ, summon a jury of freeholders, as in other cases of a like nature, which jury shall be charged by the said sheriff, on oath, to enquire if any lands are in the possession of said M'Murtry.
and Ward, will be overflowed by raising the said mill-dam two and a half feet higher; and if so, to say to the best of their knowledge, whose lands will be so overflowed, and of what damage it will be to the respective owners of said land so overflowed; and also, to say whether the first ford above the house of Willis Hord on Little Sandy, will be obstructed by so raising said dam as aforesaid; and also, to say to what height said dam may be raised, without doing any damage to the lands of other persons above said dam, by overflowing the same, and without obstructing said ford.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, That upon the return of the inquisition of the jury aforesaid, if it shall appear that the said dam may be raised two and a half feet higher, without thereby overflowing the lands of others, or obstructing the said ford of Sandy, the said county court shall have the power to order the height of the said dam to be fixed upon by the jury, not exceeding that height, and which will not cause an overflow of the lands of others or obstruction of said ford.

Sec. 3. Be it further enacted, That if it shall appear by the return of said inquisition, that the lands of others will be overflowed by thus raising the said dam, or that the said McMurtry and Ward, or other owners of said mill-dam, upon paying or tendering to the persons or persons who will be so injured, the damages assessed by the jury, shall have the privilege of raising said dam as aforesaid; and upon satisfactory proof being made to the county court of said county, that the payment or tender as aforesaid has been made, said court shall make an order granting leave so to raise the said dam to the height fixed upon by the jury, not exceeding two and a half feet, which height will produce the overflowing for which the damages aforesaid shall have been assessed, unless the said ford of Sandy will be obstructed by so raising said dam, and in that case, the said county courts may require the said applicants to enter into bond with approved security, in such penal-

1824.

May permit dam to be raised higher.

Sec. 4. Be it further enacted, That in case the owners of said mill-dam, upon paying or tendering as aforesaid; and upon satisfactory proof being made to the county court of said county, that the payment or tender as aforesaid has been made, said court shall make an order granting leave so to raise the said dam to the height fixed upon by the jury, not exceeding two and a half feet, which height will produce the overflowing for which the damages aforesaid shall have been assessed, unless the said ford of Sandy will be obstructed by so raising said dam, and in that case, the said county courts may require the said applicants to enter into bond with approved security, in such penal-
"Being far removed from the iron works and boundaries of the Northern states, the Kentucky pioneers built their own furnaces and forges ..." Several factors determined the location of an iron furnace--adequate supply of surface iron ore, abundance of hardwood timber to make the charcoal for firing the furnace, good water supply to drive the blast machinery and a supply of limestone. The typical furnace "was a truncated pyramid of stone, about 25 feet square at the base and from 25 to 40 feet high, with the top open where it reached its smallest size."

"Rich ore beds and a heavy supply of hardwood forests were located in Greenup, Boyd and Carter (Counties) and a considerable number of charcoal-iron furnaces sprang up, some of them not more than five or six miles apart." From the Kentucky Historical Society file on "Iron Furnaces" in "A List of the Old Charcoal Furnaces of Greenup County from 1818-1881" the following listing is found:

"Pactolus 1824 McMurry and Ward"
Myra Gabriella Madison McMurtry, Joseph's daughter, wrote in an old letter to one of her cousins, Frederica Venable Parmalee, on December 3, 1901 that:

"... he owned the iron works in Greenup Co., failed, & removed his family to Jessamine Co. where he left my mother and went to Paris, Ky. to practice medicine. Cholera broke out and swept the town and he fell victim; and my mother was left a widow with 5 small children."

Dr. Joseph McMurtry died in Bourbon County on June 30, 1832. No children were born of his first marriage. Dr. Joseph and Lucy Lewis (Madison) McMurtry had five children as follows:

6.1 Catherine Blanton McMurtry

Catherine Blanton McMurtry was born in Kentucky in 1824 probably in Greenup County. She was married in 1844 to Theodore F. Lehman, a native of Oldenburg, Germany. He lived in Woodford County, Kentucky, where he was a teacher and where he died in 1894.

Theodore Frederick Lehman came from a distinguished family in Germany where he held the rank of Lieutenant in the German Army prior to coming to America. At the outbreak of the Civil War when residing in Pittsburg, he was appointed to Lt. Col. of the 62 Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. He was later promoted to Colonel of the 103rd Regiment and served throughout the war with his regiment in Virginia and North Carolina.

Catherine Blanton Lehman died of cholera in 1855 in Morganfield, Union County, Kentucky. In 1858, Theodore F. Lehman married Fannie Floyd of Henderson, Kentucky.

Five children were born to Catherine Blanton (McMurtry) and Theodore F. Lehman:

6.1.1 Adolphus Lehman
6.1.2 John Lehman

Both died young.

6.1.3 Charles Alexander Lehman

Charles Alexander Lehman married Carrie Alicia Tuite of Cincinnati, Ohio. Nothing more is known about this family except that eight children were born to the marriage: Edward Tuite Lehman who died young; Frederick August Lehman; Lucy Madison Lehman who married Ellis Howard Lafayette; Carrie Alicia Lehman; Ann Eliza Lehman; Charles Alexander Lehman; Laramee Lehman; and Lois Wales Lehman.
6.1.4 Frederick Augustus Lehman

Frederick Augustus Lehman was born on February 16, 1847 in Franklin County, Kentucky. He was married first to Mary Knox and secondly to Burnetta Brockett of Alexandria, Virginia.

6.1.5 Catherine Augusta Lehman

Catherine Augusta Lehman was born in Kentucky and was married on January 30, 1889 to John Robert Zimmerman of Washington, D.C. One daughter was born to this marriage: Catherine Blanton Zimmerman.

6.1.6 Lucy Ida Lehman

Lucy Ida Lehman was born in Kentucky; she was never married and lived in Washington, D.C.

6.2 Mary Elizabeth McMurry

Mary Elizabeth McMurry was born in Kentucky circa 1827. She was married in New York on April 18, 1852 to Theodore Stuart Parsons who was a teacher. Mary E. (McMurry) Parsons died November 14, 1900. Before his death in 1874, the Parsons lived at Henderson, Kentucky. Three children were born to this marriage:

6.2.1 Lucy Emma Parsons

Lucy Emma Parsons was born in Kentucky. She married William Young Watson of Henderson, Kentucky. Three children were born to this marriage: Stuart Madison Watson who married Caroline Dennis; _____ Watson; and _____ Watson.

6.2.2 Thomas Grayson Parsons

6.2.3 Chester Parsons

No further information.

6.3 Myra Gabriella Madison McMurry

Myra Gabriella Madison McMurry was born in Kentucky in 1828. Little is known about her life except that she was the first family historian in the Captain John McMurry family. In 1907, she published "The McMurry Family" in the Register of Kentucky State Historical Society, Frankfort. This article contains some inaccuracies about the early progenitors of Captain John McMurry's family. She died after 1914 in New Albany, Indiana, where she had lived for a number of years. She was never married.
6.4 George Joseph Madison McMurry

George Joseph Madison McMurry was born in Kentucky in 1830. He was never married. The following quote comes from William Terrell Lewis's (1893) Genealogy of the Lewis Family.

"George Joseph McMurry died of consumption in New Albany (in) 1856. Said to have been a good pious young man and died a Christian."

6.5 Jane Madison McMurry

Jane Madison McMurry was born in Kentucky in 1831. On April 11, 1856, she was married to Judge Jefferson Brown, a lawyer in Morgantown, Union County, Kentucky. According to information in the Lewis Genealogy, he was found dead in the canal at Louisville, Kentucky, after having been missing for ten weeks. It was thought that he was murdered for his money and thrown in the canal. Jane Madison (McMurry) Brown was married secondly to Cabell Allen of Livingston and Louisville. Two children were born to Jane Madison (McMurry) and Jefferson Brown:

6.5.1 Catherine Blanton Brown

Catherine Blanton Brown was never married and died young.

6.5.2 Stuart Brown

Stuart Brown was married to Laura Justice Spielhoff of Indianapolis, Indiana, in 1900. They had one son: Kenneth Stuart Brown.

7 Mary McMurry

Mary McMurry, seventh child and first daughter of Captain John and Mary Todd (Hutton) McMurry, was born November 12, 1788. She was married on October 24, 1810 to Samuel Hogue who was born on December 18, 1783 and died on May 10, 1839. Mary (McMurry) Hogue was born, married, and died in Mercer County, where she lived her entire life. Both are buried at the Old Mud Meeting House in Mercer County. Mary (McMurry) and Samuel Hogue had six children:

7.1 (Rev) Aaron Alexander Hogue

Aaron Alexander Hogue was born in Mercer County, Kentucky in 1810. He was married on July 12, 1842 in Boyle County, Kentucky, to Elizabeth Jane Gilkerson of that county. Aaron A. Hogue was graduated from Centre College, Danville, Kentucky, in 1839 and from Princeton
Theological Seminary in 1840. Soon after graduation he was called to the ministry of the First Presbyterian Church at Lebanon, Kentucky. Rev. Hogue died in 1886. Aaron A. and Elizabeth Jane (Gilkenson) Hogue had three children:

7.1.1 Twyman Hogue

Twyman Hogue died before he was 20 years of age. According to Myra Gabriella Madison McMurtry's history of the McMurtry family, Twyman Hogue's memoir was written by the Rev. W. W. Hill, D.D. which gave promise of a remarkable career, but he died young.

7.1.2 (Rev) Charles Lehman Hogue

Charles Lehman Hogue was married first to Katherine Crawford. No children were born of this marriage. He married secondly Mattie Hoover. He was educated at Center College, Danville, Kentucky, and Union Theological Seminary in Virginia. Rev. Hogue was pastor of the Lebanon Church near Goshen, Virginia from 1875 to 1884 and later of the Presbyterian Church at Memphis, Missouri. His last pastorate until his death on December 31, 1906 was in Denton, Texas. Rev. Hogue was an honorary member of the Pan-American Council in Glasgow, Scotland in 1896. That same year the Presbyterian College of Fulton, Missouri conferred upon him the honorary degree, Doctor of Divinity.

Seven children were born to Charles Lehman and Mattie (Hoover) Hogue: Elizabeth Hogue; Catherine Crawford Hogue; Mabel Hogue; Beatrice Hogue; Twyman Hogue Jr; Mary Thompson Hogue; and William Alexander Hogue Jr.

7.1.3 William Alexander Hogue

William Alexander Hogue was never married. He was a lawyer by profession. No further data.

7.2 Ellen Hogue

Ellen Hogue was born in Kentucky. She was married to Christopher Beeler and had six children.

7.2.1 Lorenzo Beeler

Lorenzo Beeler was married to Emma Little of Cincinnati, Ohio. One child was born to this marriage: Caroline Beeler who married Paul Jarvis.
7.2.2 Emma Beeler
7.2.3 William Beeler
7.2.4 Bessie Beeler
7.2.5 John Beeler

No further information on these four Beeler children.

7.2.6 Jennie Beeler

Jennie Beeler was married in Phoenix, Arizona to Dr. Scott Helm. Dr. Helm was thrown from a horse and killed.

7.3 Ann Alice Hogue

Ann Alice Hogue was born in Kentucky circa 1824. She was married to Lorenzo Noble who served as a judge in Lebanon, Kentucky Circuit Court. Ann Alice (Hogue) and Judge Lorenzo Noble died in 1899 leaving four children.

7.3.1 Chrisella Noble

Chrisella Noble was married to Colonel Thomas Burns and had one child: Walter Noble Burns who was a "great traveller and writer."

7.3.2 Charles Noble

Charles Noble married Fannie Beeler. He was known to have owned and operated a ranch in Colorado. Charles and Fannie (Beeler) Noble had one son: Daniel Noble who lived in Colorado.

7.3.3 William Noble

William Noble married Ellen Noble of Cincinnati, Ohio. No children were born of this marriage.

7.3.4 Daniel Noble

Daniel lived in Colorado. No further data.

7.4 Pattie Hogue

Pattie Hogue was born in Kentucky and was married to Dr. W. H. Hopper of Lebanon, Kentucky. Three children were born to this marriage.

7.4.1 Mary McMurtry "Mirta" Hopper

Mary McMurtry Hopper was married to Brewer. She died at the age of 90, placing her birth year at 1848. Seven children were born to this marriage--the
names of only two are known: Lillian Brewer who married W. Henry Spragens and Elizabeth Noble Brewer who married William Tillett Bass.

7.4.2 Charles Hopper

Charles Hopper died young. No further data.

7.4.3 Lillian Hopper

Lillian Hopper married __ Laton of Lancaster, Kentucky.

7.5 Sarah Hogue

Sarah Hogue was born in Kentucky. She was married to Henry May of Taylor County, Kentucky and died in 1874. Sarah (Hogue) and Henry May had three children:

7.5.1 Selena May

Selena May married Buchanan of Indiana. Selena (May) Buchanan had two children: Josephine Buchanan and May Buchanan.

7.5.2 Alice May

Alice May died young.

7.5.3 Elizabeth May

Elizabeth May lived in Chatanooga, Tennessee. No further data.

7.6 Elizabeth R. Hogue

Elizabeth R. Hogue was born in Kentucky on December 1, 1827 and died July 31, 1845.

8 Sarah McMurtry

Sarah McMurtry, eighth child and second daughter of Captain John and Mary Todd (Hutton) McMurtry, was born posthumously on May 11, 1791 in Mercer County, Kentucky. Her father had been killed at Harmer's Defeat on October 22, 1790. On October 24, 1810, she was married to William Sharp, son of Abraham and Rebecca (Armstrong) Sharp of Mercer County. He was born on June 7, 1783.

Abraham Sharp had lived in Pennsylvania and Virginia before migrating to Mercer County in 1784. William Sharp is said to have been a noted Indian fighter and also to have fought a duel with a British officer. He died April 25, 1840 in Mercer County. Sarah (McMurtry)
Sharp died on October 4, 1872; both were buried in New Providence Presbyterian Church Cemetery, also called Kirkwood, Mercer County. They lived near Salisbury in Mercer County. Sarah (McMurtry) and William Sharp had ten children as follows:

8.1 John M. Sharp

John M. Sharp was born in 1811 in Mercer County, Kentucky. He was married to Elizabeth . He died in 1847 in Mississippi. One child was born to this marriage:

8.1.1 John Anna Sharp

John Anna Sharp was born in Mercer County. No further data.

8.2 Mary H. M. Sharp

Mary H. M. Sharp was born April 27, 1814 in Mercer County. She was married on May 9, 1832 to John A. Magill. Mary (Sharp) Magill died August 4, 1837 in Mercer County. One son was born to this marriage:

8.2.1 William S. Magill

William S. Magill, no further data.

8.3 Hannah Todd Sharp

Hannah Todd Sharp was born in Mercer County, Kentucky, on March 8, 1816. She was married to James McKee on March 14, 1839 in Mercer County. He was born June 12, 1807 and died March 1, 1859. Hannah Todd (Sharp) McKee died February 12, 1892 in Holmes County, Mississippi.

Hannah Todd (Sharp) and James McKee had three children born to their marriage:

8.3.1 William Sharp McKee

William Sharp McKee was born January 16, 1840 and died May 10, 1840.

8.3.2 Sarah Ann McKee

Sarah Ann McKee was born September 25, 1841 in Jessamine County, Kentucky. She was married in Mercer County on April 8, 1861 to William Alexander Lockhart who was born October 25, 1835 and died January 15, 1890 in Alabama. Sarah Ann (McKee) Lockhart died in Holmes County, Mississippi, March 12, 1881.
Eight children were born to this marriage: James Vanter Lockhart; Hibernia Todd Lockhart; Many Louise Lockhart; Sarah Minerva Lockhart who married Etter; William Lockhart; Earl Edward Lockhart; and Annie McKee Lockhart who married Harold Grant.

8.3.3 Mary Rebecca McKee

Mary Rebecca McKee was born in Jessamine County, Kentucky, on December 2, 1846. She was married on April 14, 1879 to Patrick Philip Bostick Hynson in Batesville, Arkansas. Mary (McKee) Hynson died on December 26, 1919 in Arkansas. Five children were born to this marriage: Robert Trezvant Hynson who married Estelle Jones; Rosalie Bostick Hynson who married Thaddeus Rowden; Lawrence McKee Hynson who married Carrie Elizabeth Elmore; Seldon Lear Hynson who married (1) Louise Mahan (2) Gladys E.; and Louise Deadrick Hynson who married (1) Leslie B. Hopkins (2) Earl Hariouff.

8.4 Abraham Sharp

Abraham Sharp was born April 27, 1817 in Mercer County. He was married on October 5, 1852 to Cynthia Leavell who was born in Mercer County in 1819 and died there in 1899. Abraham Sharp died in Mercer County on June 12, 1883. One son was born to this marriage:

8.4.1 Benjamin Leavell Sharp

Benjamin Leavell Sharp was born August 17, 1853; he was married to Annie Davis who was born on March 19, 1855 and died on December 28, 1906. Benjamin Leavell Sharp died August 1, 1887. Four children were born to this marriage: Isabella Miller Sharp who never married; Lucille Davis Sharp who married W. Nelson Brown and was the family historian for the McMurtry-Sharp family; Abraham Sharp who married Anna K. Allin; and Benjamin Sharp who married Genevieve Kaufman.

8.5 David S. Sharp

David S. Sharp was born in Mercer County, Kentucky, on December 5, 1817; he married Mary J. _____ and died on February 24, 1877 in Mercer County.

8.6 Rebecca A. Sharp

Rebecca A. Sharp was born circa 1822 in Mercer County and was married to Edward M. Leavell in 1850. One son was born to this marriage:
8.6.1 Lewis Leavell

Lewis Leavell was a banker in Lancaster in Garrard County. No further data.

8.7 Elizabeth A. Sharp

Elizabeth A. Sharp was born in Mercer County, Kentucky, on June 19, 1823; she was married to Joseph Adams who was born on March 21, 1814 and died November 20, 1887. Elizabeth (Sharp) Adams died on June 12, 1846 in Mercer County. Three children were born to this marriage:

8.7.1 Mary P. Adams

Mary P. Adams was born in 1845 and married to Joseph McConn. No further data.

8.7.2 William Thomas Adams

William Thomas Adams was born circa 1847 and married to Anna Smith. No further data.

8.7.3 George Adams

George Adams was born circa 1849. No further data.

8.8 George W. Sharp

George W. Sharp was born in Mercer County, Kentucky, in 1828. He was known to have lived in Daviess County, Kentucky.

8.9 Adam M. Sharp

Adam Sharp was born in Mercer County, Kentucky, in 1830. He died between 1850 and 1860. No further data.

8.10 Priscilla Ann Sharp

Priscilla Ann Sharp was born on October 12, 1831 in Mercer County, Kentucky. She was married in 1864 to William A. Holeman. Priscilla (Sharp) Holeman died on February 22, 1897.

In an article titled "Descendants of Mathew Sharp" published in The Fayette County (KY) Genealogical Society Quarterly, Volume 14, Number 1, Spring 1999, an eleventh child is listed for Sarah (McMurtry) and William Sharp, namely, William Sharp. This child is not found in the Alexander David McMurtrie Collection of MacMurtrie Clan-Family Historical Records Worldwide.
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156


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Joseph McMurtry, of Scotch extraction, came to Pennsylvania from Wales and settled in Philadelphia. McMurtry, the manufacturer of "morocean leather," had four sons — John, James, Samuel, and Joseph, — and a daughter, Sarah, who married James Young. Joseph McMurtry Jr. was the father of Samuel II, who was the father of Capt. John McMurtry of pioneer Kentucky. Samuel McMurtry, father of Capt. John, moved to Rockbridge County, Va. where he lived until his death. He married Hutton, the mother of his son, John. Samuel McMurtry is said to have changed the spelling of the name from the Scotch "McMurlrie" to the Irish "McMurtry."

Capt. John McMurtry, son of Samuel and Hutton McMurtry, married his first cousin, Mary Hutton, daughter of James and Mary (Todd) Hutton. Mary (Hutton) McMurtry was born "at the foot of natural bridge in Rockbridge County, Virginia." With his friend, Alexander Robertson, and his cousin, William McMurtry, Capt. John McMurtry came to Kentucky and settled first at Fort Harrod. According to a family story, William McMurtry was a Joseph McMurtrie (try) came to New Jersey circa 1720s. He was a "yeoman" (farmer) and had sons James, Joseph, John, Abraham and daughters Agnes and Mary. He died in Sussex County in May 1762.

The "morocean leather" tradition cannot be documented.

The Sarah McMurtry who married James Young in Augusta County, Virginia, was Sarah (Todd) McMurtry, widow of Alexander McMurtry who died circa 1750 and who was the father of Capt. John McMurtry of Kentucky and his brother Samuel McMurtry (try) of Virginia and South Carolina.

The traditional cousin relationship of Capt. John McMurtry and Mary Todd Hutton was probably through the Todd family.

The original of this article has been clipped apart and arranged for inclusion in this appendix.
loading his gun during an Indian attack on Fort Harrod when an enemy bullet took off the end of his powder horn and with it, the end of his finger. "Never mind, Cousin William," said Capt. John, "I have killed six Indians and here goes the seventh."

In December 1788, Capt. McMurtry and Alexander Robertson were granted 1,400 acres of land near present Pleasant Hill (Shakertown) in Mercer County. In 1794, the heirs of Capt. McMurtry purchased Col. Robertson's share of the land, which was later sold to the Shaker colony at Pleasant Hill. The first grist mill run by water power was said to have been built by Capt. McMurtry in 1782 on this land.

During the Battle of Blue Licks, Capt. John McMurtry and Capt. Lewis Rose and others were captured by the Indians. McMurtry and Rose were forced to "run the gauntlet." Capt. Rose escaped, but McMurtry was knocked senseless and made to run a second time. "This time he ran close to one side of a double file of Indians to ward off many of the blows. For this, he was condemned to death at the stake. He was tied, and the fire was ready to light. Being a Presbyterian elder, Capt. John was praying as never before. As he prayed for a deliverance from the torture of such a death, the answer came swiftly. A violent thunderstorm came up and the fire was extinguished by a deluge of rain. The Indians, believing the Great Spirit had taken the prisoner under His protection, spared his life. McMurtry was then taken to Canada and later exchanged by the British at Fort Ticonderoga." He then returned to his home near Harrodsburg.

Referring to Capt. John McMurtry's episode, Chief Justice George Robertson, son of Alexander, said in an 1840 speech: "During Capt. John's absence, his wife and family were in great danger of Indian raids. Her friends, believing her husband dead, urged her to marry Capt. Lewis Rose, who was a widower. For a long time, she refused, for she believed that her husband was alive and would return. At last she consented and the day was set. One day she heard a gun fire near her home. That is John's gun," she exclaimed, setting off toward the sound and throwing herself into the arms of her husband."

In 1790, Capt. John's militia company from Harrodsburg was mustered in the service by Gen. Harmer in his expedition against the Indians "encroaching upon Fort Washington, now Cincinnati, Ohio." Harmer was defeated, and Capt. McMurtry was wounded in the retreat. "In the attempted escape of the company, Capt. John was held for a time on his horse by a friend named Woods. The Indians gained rapidly in pursuit and when the hope of escape fled, Capt. John compelled his friend to leave him along side the road, to prevent his being seen, and to ride home for help. Mr. Woods escaped and took the Captain's horse to his wife. No help could be given to the wounded man — his body was left among the Miami Hills."

At a court held in Mercer County on August 15, 1798, the following record: "On motion of legal representatives of Capt. John McMurtry deceased, ordered that it be certified that Capt. John McMurtry was killed in the year 1790 in the service of the United States."

The widow of Capt. John married Capt. Lewis Rose on November 4, 1793 in Mercer County, Kentucky. Capt. Rose succeeded Capt. McMurtry as captain of the company of militia and as an elder in the Presbyterian Church. Capt. John and Mary (Hutton) McMurtry were the parents of eight children:

This tradition is refuted as to time it happened. Captain John McMurtry returned home from imprisonment in August 1783. Captain Lewis Rose's wife, Barbara (Trayer) Rose bore, two children, one in 1785, the other in 1787. Lewis Rose and Mary (Hutton) McMurtry did marry in 1793 after Barbara (Trayer) Rose's death in 1792.
1. James McMurtry, born November 17, 1771; married Polly McKee on February 18, 1794 in Mercer County and had son, William, who was Lieutenant Governor of Ill (1849-53); married a second time on April 8, 1800 to Mrs. Eliza Jewell (1772-1818). The millstones from Capt. McMurty's mill were taken to James' home in Garrard County and were there in 1871.

2. Alexander McMurtry, born March 12, 1774; married Polly Smith (born February 1775; died 1859; buried Harmony Presbyterian Church, Garrard County) on October 4, 1798 in Mercer County. "She was the daughter of Billy Smith, renowned Indian fighter." Children of Alexander and Polly McMurtry: John Smith McMurtry, married Margaret McKee; James McMurtry, married Martha Letcher; William McMurtry, married Prescilla Sharp; Alexander McMurtry Jr., married "lady from Shelbyville, Missouri."; Joseph McMurtry, died young (1844) in Garrard County; Mary McMurtry, married Mr. Rice and moved to Paris, Missouri in 1830; Eliza McMurtry, married Peter Bart and moved to Missouri; Margaret McMurtry, married James McKee of Jessamine County, Kentucky; Sarah McMurtry, married Jacob Sharp, brother of William Sharp who married her Aunt Sally; and Martha McMurtry, married George Sill of Rockville, Indiana in 1838.

3. Samuel McMurtry, born July 18, 1776; married Jerminia Rose (born 1772; died 1840), his stepsister, on September 24, 1799 in Mercer County; their children: Lewis Rose McMurtry, married Amanda Reid; Mary McMurtry, married Elijah Burford; Deniza McMurtry, married William Burford and had two sons, later moving to Missouri.

4. William McMurtry, born March 4, 1779; married Priscilla Sharp on December 1, 1808; died after 1843.

5. John McMurtry, born April 16, 1782; married Sallie Wrenn (1777-1821), daughter of Vincent Wren, of Garrard County; one son, Wrenn McMurtry.

6. Joseph McMurtry, born September 3, 1786; died June 20, 1832; married first to Margaret Haggin. She died and Joseph married second to Lucy Lewis Madison of Jessamine County in 1822. Lucy was the daughter of Gabriel Madison and Myrah Lewis of Virginia. Joseph McMurtry was graduated from Philadelphia School of Medicine in 1811, practicing first in Harrodsburg and later moving to Greenup County, then Jessamine County, then Paris, Kentucky where he died during a cholera epidemic. Children of Joseph and Lucy Madison McMurtry: Catherine Blanton McMurtry, married T. F. Lehmann of Oldenburg, Germany; Mary Elizabeth McMurtry, married Theodore Stuart Parson in 1852; Myrah G. Madison McMurtry, unmarried, lived in New Albany, Indiana; George J. McMurtry, died single; Jane Madison McMurtry, married Judge Jefferson Brown in 1856 and second to Cabell Allin of Livingston, Kentucky.

7. Mary McMurtry, born November 12, 1788; died 1839; married Samuel Hogue, October 24, 1810 in Mercer County; children: Aaron Hogue, married Elizabeth Gelkerson of Boyle County in 1842 (Aaron graduated from Princeton University and was baptised in a Harrodsburg church); Ellen Hogue, married Christopher Beeler; Ann Alice Hogue, married Judge Lorenzo Noble of Leoni, Kentucky.
Sally McMurtry, born in Mercer County on May 5, 1791; married William Sharp, son of Abraham Sharp, on October 24, 1810 in Mercer County. "William Sharp was a noted Kentucky Indian fighter." Their children were: George Sharp; Abraham Sharp; David Sharp; Hannah Todd Sharp, married James McKee; Rebecca Sharp, married Mr. Leavitt and had a son, Lewis Leavitt, of Lancaster, Kentucky, and Prescilla Sharp, married — Holman.

Mary (Hutton) McMurtry Rose, wife and widow of Capt. John and mother of their eight children, has a marked stone in "Memorial Acre," which adjoins the Old Fort Cemetery, Fort Harrod State Park, Harrodsburg. "Memorial Acre, a sacred spot of ground adjoining the first cemetery of Kentucky, for pioneers whose graves are being destroyed by the effects of time. Dedicated by the Kentucky Society of Daughters of the American Revolution, June 16, 1930."

The stones of Capt. Lewis Rose and his wife, Mary (Hutton) McMurtry Rose, were erected in "Memorial Acre" by Leslie M. Rose, Yakima, Washington, and were sponsored by the Jane McAfee Chapter, D.A.R. Mary McMurtry Rose's stone reads:

"Mary McMurtry Rose, wife of Lewis Rose. A true pioneer mother, lived where Shakertown now is, defending self and children against Indians while her husband was held captive."

There is today but one descendant in Harrodsburg by the name McMurtry — Mr. O. W. McMurtry.

The dates on the stone slab for Mary McMurtry Rose are: "Born Feb. 4, 1779 Mercer County, Ky." and "Died Nov. 14, 1854 Mercer County, Ky." These dates are not correct for Captain John McMurtry's widow, Mary Todd (Hutton) McMurtry. She was born on March 19, 1752 in Rockbridge County, Virginia, and died circa 1840 in Mercer County, Kentucky.
APPENDIX B

McMURTRY-ROBERTSON LAND RECORDS

Kentucky Land Grant Book 15, pp. 175, 176.
Sometime between the issuance of the Preemption Warrant and the Survey, Alexander Robertson assigned or sold part of his interest in the land to John McMurtry.
survey for John McManus, Township, County of Lincoln, by virtue of part of an Act of Assembly, No. 1109, for surveying a parcel of land. Beginning at a survey point, and on the east, the land of Joseph M. McManus, on the north, the land of John M. McManus, on the west. Beginning at Joseph M. McManus, corner, lying on the west. Thence N. 63° 34' W. 54 paces along a white oak thence W. 75.8 paces to a corner. Thence S. 63° 34' E. 75.8 paces to the beginning.

Survey 1049
13th January 1878

John McManus, Benjamin Harrison, Esq.

25 acres of Virginia to which these premises shall come granting conveyance.

Executed 1878

No. 1049

The seventeenth of June one thousand seven hundred and eighty-five.

166
There is granted by the said commonwealth unto John McCowne,
epigraph of Lieut-Enfant, epigraph of Lawrence Graham, epigraph of Lewis Riggs, who was epigraph Benjamin Gibson, a certain tract
in the county of Land containing, twenty-five acres by survey having
date the 13th day of January, 1783, lying and being in the county
of Lincoln adjoining the said Wickliffe Land on the east.
Joseph McMonty on the north and Stafford on the west and
bounded as follows: to W. Beginning Joseph McMonty
beneath Sugar Tree and then thence north 60 degrees East thirty five
feet a long, thence east to a white oak thence and twenty five
feet to a lime in said John McMonty line thence and fifty
four paces to two sugar trees and said Joseph McMonty
beneath East with said McMonty line twenty three and
then Stanton paces to the beginning, with its appurtenances.
To have and to hold the said tract of parcel of land
with its appurtenances to the said John McMonty and his
heirs forever.

In witness whereof the said Benjamin
Harrison, Esq., Governor of the commonwealth of Virginia
hath hereunto set his hand and cause the signet of
the said commonwealth to be affixed at Richmond on the
first day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand seven
hundred and eighty four.

The commonwealth of,
the Eighth.

Benjamin Harrison
John W. deering, Beverley Randolph, Esquire, Governor of the commonwealth of Virginia,

Due to the following three presents shall come bearing: Whereas, by virtue
of a certificate in right of settlement given by the Governor for adjusting
the titles to unappropriated lands in the District of Kentucky, and in consideration
of the ancient composition of the present deering, paid by John W. deering to
Alexander Robinson into the Treasury of the commonwealth, there is granted
by the said Governor unto the said John W. deering, Alexander Robinson
a certain tract or parcel of land containing four hundred acres by survey,
being due to the north day of June 1790, lying and being in the county of
former Kentucky, on the north branch of Kentucky river, and bounded
as follows: West, beginning at two Sugar trees and running from the southwest
three hundred and nine rods, sub-dividing branch to two Sugar trees on the side of Bridge
thence East two hundred and eight rods to a Sugar tree and red oak. Thence south
three hundred and nine rods to a Sugar tree and Sugar tree, thence North to the beginning,
with its appurtenances, to have and to hold the said tract or parcel of land
with its appurtenances to the said John W. deering, Alexander Robinson, their
heirs forever. In witness whereof the said Beverley Randolph, Esquire, Governor
of the commonwealth of Virginia, hath hereunto set his hand and caused the
deed to be recorded to be affixed at Richmond, on the eighteenth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred
and eighty-eight of the commonwealth of Virginia.

B. Randolph.
Kentucky Land Grant Book 15, p. 175.
Kentucky Land Grant Book 1, pp. 289, 290.
APPENDIX C
SIX CONTEMPORARY JOHN McMURTRIES

Early family historians have for one reason or another confused the lives and families of six John McMurtries (by variant spellings of the surname), all contemporary and born between circa 1740 and circa 1760. One historian in particular, Frederick James McMurtrie (1867-1947) of Detroit, Michigan, a family historian of the Pennsylvania-Michigan McMurtrie Family, confused the genealogical connection between Captain John McMurtry of Kentucky and John McMurtrie of Philadelphia by making them one and the same person and by claiming a Hugh McMurtrie as the oldest son of the mythical John who first married Margaret Robinson and then Mary Todd Hutton.

Mr. McMurtrie placed considerable stock in these family connections and claims but offered no documentary proof for same. His one claim that Captain John McMurtry of Kentucky had a son named Hugh prompts this writer to include something about the other John McMurties and their families which will show that they were distinctively different and share only sameness of names.

The Daughters of the American Revolution and the Sons of the American Revolution have accepted applications based on Mr. McMurtrie’s undocumented data. He also confused the military record of John McMurtrie of Philadelphia and John McMurtry of New Jersey, North Carolina, and Tennessee. Heitman also confused the military records of Captain John McMurtry of Kentucky and John McMurtry of New Jersey, North Carolina, and Tennessee.

Not all of the six contemporary John McMurties were closely related, however, three of the six were known to be cousins—first or second degree. Frederick James McMurtrie confused the first of the three six contemporary John McMurties listed below:

1. Captain John McMurtry (c1738-1790) of Kentucky
2. John McMurtrie (c1750- ) of Philadelphia
3. Judge John McMurtrie (1738-1791) of New Jersey
5. John McMurtry (c1760-1782) of Virginia and Tennessee
6. John McMurtray (1751-1823) of Ireland and South Carolina

See chart on page following for kinship of three of the John McMurties and assumed kinship of the fourth.
NOTE: Variant spellings of the surname existed within known family-blood kinship.

* Assumed by Adnah McMurtry (1872-1946), Westfield, New Jersey, historian of the New Jersey McMurtrie/try families.


172
Captain John McMurtry of Kentucky

Captain John McMurtry was born perhaps as early as 173, the son of Alexander and Sarah (Todd) McMurtry of Augusta County, Virginia. He was married circa 1770/1 to Mary Todd Hutton in Virginia. She was born March 19, 1752 in Rockbridge County, the daughter of James and Mary (Todd) Hutton.

According to family tradition, John McMurtry came to Kentucky in 1780 and settled in Lincoln County (now Mercer). He received a grant of land from Virginia in 1780 and made his first of two wills that same year as a citizen of Kentucky County, Virginia.

He built and operated the first water-powered Grist Mill in Kentucky near the present site of Shakertown. He pursued the Indians after the Siege of Bryan's Station in August, 1782; was captured by the Indians and Canadians at the Battle of Blue Licks a few days later, and was imprisoned by the British in Canada for about one year. He died on October 22, 1790 at the battle of Harmer's Defeat and was buried in a trench on the banks of the Maumee River in Allen County, Indiana, near the present site of Fort Wayne. Captain John McMurtry and Mary Todd (Hutton) McMurtry had the following children:

- James McMurtry, born November 17, 1771, Virginia
- Alexander McMurtry, born March 12, 1774, Virginia
- Samuel McMurtry, born July 18, 1776, Virginia or Tennessee
- William McMurtry, born March 14, 1779, Virginia or Tennessee
- John McMurtry, born April 16, 1782, Kentucky
- Joseph McMurtry, born July 3, 1786, Kentucky
- Mary McMurtry, born November 12, 1788, Kentucky
- Sarah McMurtry, born May 11, 1791, Kentucky (posthumously)

* McMurtry-Rose Bible in possession of Lucille Sharp Brown (1957), of Harrodsburg, Kentucky. Bible was printed in 1789. LDS Microfilm #551319 and personal examination of the original by this author in 1957.

Other reference sources: Richard K. McMurtry's John McMurtry and the American Indian; Lewis Collins's History of Kentucky; Charles Kerr editor, History of Kentucky; MacMurtrie Clan-Family Historical Records Worldwide (Alexander David MacMurtrie Collection), Berkeley, California.
John McMurtrie of Philadelphia was born February 15, 1753; his parents and place of birth are unknown. He was married to Margaret Robinson on November 22, 1769 in Christ Church, Philadelphia. Margaret Robinson was born April 4, 1750 the daughter of Thomas and Mary (Eyre) Robinson. She died March 12, 1772 and was buried in Christ Churchyard Cemetery. John and Margaret (Robinson) McMurtrie had two children as follows:

Hugh McMurtrie, born September 22, 1770, Pennsylvania
Elizabeth McMurtrie, born July 10, 1771, Pennsylvania

John McMurtrie was a "soldier in the Pennsylvania Continental Line" having served as an Ensign in 8th Company, First Regiment, Pennsylvania Continental Troops, 1775-1780. Hugh McMurtrie, his son, was married in Union County, Pennsylvania, and lived and died in New Columbia of that county.


Frederick James McMurtrie Papers, "Burton Historical Collection," Detroit Public Library, Detroit, Michigan.
Judge John McMurtrle of New Jersey

John McMurtrle of New Jersey was born in 1738 in Oxford Township, Sussex County, the son of Joseph McMurtrle, one of several immigrant brothers to America circa 1720’s. He was married first to Margaret Craig circa 1768 and second to Sarah [Albertson] Butler, widow of a Revolutionary soldier with two children and the daughter of Nicholas and Angelechea Albertson.

In 1775, John McMurtrle was an organizer of the Oxford Township Committee of Safety and was Township Delegate to the Sussex County Committee of Safety as recorded in the proceedings of the session held on August 10 and 11, 1775. He was a captain of the home guard. Esquire Benjamin B. Edsell in his Continental Address in August, 1775, remarking upon the minutes of their meeting, said:

"Captain John McMurtrle and Lieutenant William White of Oxford Township, being desirous of going to Boston where the Americans were rallying under the standard of Washington, then just appointed Commander in Chief of the Continental forces, requested the Committee to certify as to their place of abode, character, and reputation, which was at once complied with."

Oxford Township claimed credit for the first two soldiers from Sussex County to join the Revolution, McMurtrle and White. Captain McMurtrle and Lieutenant White raised a company of soldiers, marched to Boston, and joined the Continental Army after the Battle of Bunker Hill. In 1778, John McMurtrle was listed as a member of the New Jersey General Assembly being one of three representing Sussex County.

On August 18, 1779, the Governor of New Jersey appointed John McMurtrle, one of three men from Sussex County, to receive subscriptions of money and transmit same to the proper office in keeping with a resolution by the Continental Congress for the borrowing of twenty million dollars for the prosecution of the war. For these services he received a Memorial Scroll which thanked him for his services rendered.

Beginning in 1777 and for several terms, John McMurtrle served as a Judge in the Oxford Township Court of Justice. He died on November 6, 1791/2 and was buried in the Old Oxford Cemetery.

John McMurtrle had nine children, seven by his first wife and two by his second as follows:

Elizabeth McMurtrle, born November 1, 1769
Nancy McMurtrle, born April 11, 1771

Reference source: MacMurtrle Clan-Family Historical Records Worldwide (The Alexander David McMurtrle Collection), Berkeley, California.
Joseph McMurtrie, born July 2, 1772
James McMurtrie, born circa 1774 (died young)
John Hancock McMurtrie, born November 10, 1776
Margaret McMurtrie, born June 23, 1779
Abraham McMurtrie, born July 30, 1782 (died the same year)
Abraham Clark McMurtry, born April 1787
Sarah McMurtry, born November 22, 1789

All of the above children of John McMurtrie were born in New Jersey, presumably in Sussex County.

John McMurtry of New Jersey, North Carolina, and Tennessee

John McMurtry of Sumner County, Tennessee, was born February 15, 1752 in Somerset County, New Jersey, the son of James and Agnes McMurtry and grandson of immigrants, Thomas and Mary McMurtry of the same county. Sometime prior to mid-1775, he migrated to Cumberland (now Franklin) County, Pennsylvania where in June or July, 1775, he enlisted in the Continental Army as a Private in a Company of Riflemen in the First Pennsylvanian Regiment commanded by Captain James Chambers and a Colonel Thompson. In this regiment, he marched to Boston and back to New York and Long Island.

After this sequence of events, he was promoted to Sergeant. He later retreated through the Jerseys across the Delaware; was at Trenton, Princeton, Paoli, and "fought the enemy" at the Battle of Germantown. After this, he was appointed Sergeant-Major and was engaged in the recruiting service in Pennsylvania. (Revolutionary War Pension File W-1448).

In September, 1779, he was appointed Ensign in the First Pennsylvania Regiment, Colonel James Chambers commanding. He served until August, 1780 when he resigned, went to Philadelphia, boarded the brigantine, "The Fair American," as a privateer, a Captain Decatur commanding.

He was married in Somerset County, New Jersey, on January 26, 1781 to Margaret Gomer, daughter of Henry and Mary Gomer of that county. Between October, 1784 and March, 1787, he migrated with his brother, James, and sister, Jane, to North Carolina (circa 1786) where he was enumerated in the 1790 census for Orange County in the Hillsboro District.

In the early 1790s, he migrated to Middle Tennessee settling in Sumner County where he was listed on the tax roll for the year 1794. In 1799, he was appointed Justice of the Peace for Sumner County by John Sevier, first governor for the State of Tennessee, "during good behavior." By virtue of this office, John McMurtry, Esq. performed marriages as late as 1836.

He later served Sumner County as coroner and juryman. In 1962, the Tennessee Historical Commission placed a marker near Hendersonville
in Sumner County on Highway 31-W at the Shackle Island Road. The inscription on the marker reads:

"The first Synod of the Cumberland Church was constituted 5 Oct. 1813 at the Church [Beech Cumberland Presbyterian] located 6.4 miles N.W. on Long Hollow Pike. The congregation was organized in 1798 by Thomas Craighead. In 1828 the stone building was erected with walls 3 ft. thick. William Montgomery, pioneer surveyor for the Federal Government and John McMurtry, soldier in the Revolution, are buried in the Churchyard."

John McMurtry's wife, Margaret (Gomer) McMurtry, was born in New Jersey on August 1, 1763 and died in Sumner County, Tennessee on April 7, 1846. He died March 18, 1841 in Sumner County, and is buried in the Old Beech Cumberland Presbyterian Churchyard. John and Margaret (Gomer) McMurtry had eight children:

- Henry McMurtry, born December 6, 1781, New Jersey
- Jean McMurtry, born October 18, 1784, New Jersey
- John McMurtry Jr., born March 10, 1787, North Carolina
- James McMurtry, born December 22, 1789, North Carolina
- Mary McMurtry, born June 15, 1796, Tennessee
- Asa McMurtry, born May 1, 1799, Tennessee
- Margaret McMurtry, born October 18, 1800, Tennessee
- Thomas Wilkerson McMurtry, born September 5, 1802, Tennessee

Two ancient tombstones still visible today attest to the last resting place of John and Margaret McMurtry. At the foot of the grave of John McMurtry, Esq. is a bronze plaque, placed there by the Daughters of the American Revolution in 1948, which reads:

John McMurtry
Revolutionary Soldier
1775 - 1780

John McMurtrey of Virginia and Tennessee

John McMurtrey of Virginia and Tennessee was born in Virginia circa 1760, the son of Joseph and Susannah (Patton) McMurtrey of Bedford and Botetourt Counties, Virginia, who were licensed to marry in Bedford County on August 27, 1759. Susannah Patton was a Quakeress, the daughter of Jacob and Jennet Patton of Augusta County, Virginia. John McMurtrey was married to Anne Campbell on October 29, 1779 in Botetourt County with the consent of his father. The Register of Marriages for Botetourt lists Jos. McMurtrey as parent and John Campbell as security and witness on the marriage bond dated October 28, 1779.

John McMurtrey died in 1782 in the defense of the Cumberland Settlement in Middle Tennessee. John and Anne (Campbell) McMurtrey had one child, Rosannah McMurtrey, born circa 1780 probably in Tennessee.

After the death of John McMurtrey, his family moved to Kentucky. Anne (Campbell) McMurtrey was married a second time to John Summers in Lincoln County (now Green) on November 21, 1785. Records indicate that Anne McMurtrey Summers divorced John Summers in Barren County, Kentucky after which he married again. While living in Green County, John Summers gave the following consent in 1795:

"This is to certify that I have no objections to Solomon Bartlett and Rosey McMurtrey getting license to marry according to law."

Rosannah McMurtrey and Solomon Bartlett were married in Green County in 1795. In 1801, Solomon Bartlett sold a 640-acre grant of land which had been made to the "heirs of John McMurtrey" in Davidson County, Tennessee. This grant was made by the State of North Carolina which granted lands in Tennessee to men who rendered service to that state while Virginia issued grants for land in Kentucky to her soldiers.

In the interest of the protection of the inhabitants of Davidson County and those who came from both Virginia and North Carolina, grants were issued by the State of North Carolina to them since the service rendered was to the State of North Carolina even though it was rendered by a Virginian. The Cumberland Settlement did not become the state of Tennessee until 1796.

In the above transaction, Rosannah (McMurtrey) Bartlett was shown as the only heir of John McMurtrey and relinquished all right of dower in that indenture as of June 20, 1801.

John McMurtray of Ireland and South Carolina

John McMurtray was born in 1751 in Ireland. In 1776, he married Sarah McMurtray, a relative and daughter of John and Jane (Hay) McMurtray of County Antrim, Ireland. He immigrated to South Carolina in 1784. He died in Abbeville County, South Carolina, in 1823, leaving ten children as follows:

Samuel McMurtray
Robert W. McMurtray
Mary McMurtray
Jane McMurtray
Margaret McMurtray
James A. McMurtray
Elizabeth McMurtray
John W. McMurtray
Charles McMurtray
William McMurtray

It is not known how many, if any, of the children were born in Ireland. This John McMurtray has been confused with John McMurtry, son of Samuel McMurtry (they) of Virginia and South Carolina and a nephew of Captain John McMurtry of Kentucky. They were not one and the same person as some family historians have made them out to be. (See Chapter III, "John McMurtry's Brother, Samuel.")

Reference Sources: MacMurtrie Clan-Family Historical Records Worldwide (The Alexander David MacMurtrie Collection), Berkeley, California. Will of John McMurtry, Box 58, Pack 1378, Office of Probate Judge, Abbeville County, South Carolina. His will made disposition of ten slaves, 500 acres of land, stock, plantation tools; he named his wife, Sarah, and ten children as follows: Samuel, Robert, Mary, Jane, Margaret, James, Elizabeth, John, Charles, and William--the last four to have $200 for schooling. Executor, son Robert; written August 23, 1823; probated November 5, 1823. Witnessed by John Cameron, Charles M. Johnson, and Mary McMurtray. Second, Third, and Fourth Censuses of the United States for Abbeville County, South Carolina--1800, 1810, 1820.
The writer of this book believes that he has succeeded in identifying the six contemporary John McMurties by variant spelling of the surname: McMurtie, 'thay, 'they, 'try.


This report was accompanied by 25 exhibits (some in multiple parts) comprising some 200 pages of detailed documentation—photocopies of primary and secondary documentation. The report ended with a conclusion, recommendation, and an addendum.

The conclusion was that "John McMurtie of Philadelphia, ancestor of Frederick James McMurtie of Detroit, Michigan, was not one and the same person as Captain John McMurtie of Kentucky. Captain John McMurtie was not the son of William McMurtie of Philadelphia. Captain John McMurtie of Kentucky did not have a son and heir named Hugh McMurtie."

The recommendation was "that the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution consider correcting their records in the interest of accuracy and for future generations who may wish to become affiliated with either organization using the Revolutionary War period military service record of Captain John McMurtie of Kentucky."

The addendum was that "the writer of this report is not a descendant of John McMurtie of Philadelphia, nor John McMurtie of New Jersey and Tennessee, nor Captain John McMurtie of Kentucky, nor any of the other contemporary John McMurties by variant spellings mentioned in the Appendix of this report. He is, however, a lineal descendant of the yeoman Joseph McMurtie of Oxford Township, Sussex County, New Jersey" (one of the immigrant brothers to New Jersey circa the 1720s).
APPENDIX D

THE McMURTRY FAMILY.

Captain John McMurtry came to Kentucky from Virginia in the early period of its settlement. He and his friend, Col. Alexander Robertson, father of Chief Justice George Robertson, built the first brick house at Harrod's Station. The first stones used to grind corn into meal were made by Capt. McMurtry out of Kentucky limestone, and they still are in existence on his grandson's farm in Garrard county, Ky. The first grist mill run by water power was built by Capt. McMurtry, near Shakertown, in 1782, on his farm near Harrodsburg, Ky.

The early settlers built a fort at Harrod's Station, where the women and children were placed when the Indians swarmed around the little settlement. "One time," said Mrs. Alice Todd Craig, a friend and relative of the family, "the supply of salt gave out and Captain McMurtry sallied out at the peril of his life to get the coveted luxury for his family." Another story is told which throws into relief the stalwart character of Captain John. His cousin Wm. McMurtry, during an Indian attack, was in the act of loading his gun when an Indian bullet took off the end of his powder horn and with it the end of his finger. "Never mind, Cousin William," said Captain McMurtry, "I have killed six Indians and here goes for the seventh."

Capt. McMurtry and his friend, Col. Alexander Robertson were granted, December 18, 1788, by the State of Virginia, a patent of fourteen hundred acres of land near Harrod's Fort, now Harrodsburg. In 1794, the heirs of Capt. McMurtry purchased Col. Robertson's share of seven hundred acres and so became the owners of the whole tract.

During the battle of the Blue Licks, August 19, 1782, the last battle of the Revolution, and fought on Kentucky soil, Captain John McMurtry, Captain Lewis Rose and others were taken captive by the Indians. The two Captains were made to run the gauntlet; Captain McMurtry was knocked senseless, and when he recovered was made to run a second time. He ran close to one side of the double file of red men and though he thus ward ed off many blows, he was condemned to death at the stake. He was tied and the fagots ready to light; but as a Presbyterian Elder he was an experienced and a mighty man of prayer. Now he prayed as never before, that the Lord would deliver him from the torture of such a death, and the answer came swiftly. A violent thunder storm came up and the fire was extinguished by the deluge of rain. The Indians, believing the Great Spirit had taken their prisoner under His protection, spared his life and took him to Canada, where an Indian and his squaw adopted him and he was saved from persecution to some extent, until in a year or two he was exchanged by the British at Fort Ticonderoga and returned to his home in Kentucky. In connection with this episode, Chief Justice George Robertson, in a speech made at Camp Madison in 1840, said that during Captain McMurtry's absence his wife and little family were in great danger at times of Indian raids, and her friends believing her husband dead, urged her

to marry Captain Lewis Rose, who was a widower and wooed her assiduously. For a long time she refused, for she believed her husband was alive and would return. At last she consented. The wedding day was set, when one day she heard a gun fire at a certain tree. "That is John's gun," she exclaimed, and was off with the fleetness of a deer, threw herself into the arms of her husband, who was welcomed by all as one from the dead. Not long afterwards Captain McMurtry and his company of militia from Harrodsburg were mustered in the service by General Harmer in his expedition against the Indians encroaching upon Fort Washington, now Cincinnati, O. Harmer was defeated and Capt. McMurtry was wounded, and in the attempted escape of the company he was held for a time on his horse by a friend named Woods, who hoped they might reach a place of safety. The Indians gained rapidly in pursuit and when the hope of being saved had fled, Capt. McMurtry compelled his friend to hide him at the side of the road, to prevent his being seen and scalped by the Indians and ride home for help. Mr. Woods escaped and took the Captain's horse to the Captain's wife. No help could be given to the wounded man, whose bones were left to bleach among the Miami hills. His widow married Captain Rose, who also succeeded Captain McMurtry as Captain of the company of militia, and as an elder in the church. Captain McMurtry's name heads the list of names of officers of Kentucky on the monument to those who fell fighting the enemy, erected to their memory in the cemetery of Frankfort, Ky.

A manuscript left by the late Dr. S. S. Todd, of Kansas City, a relative of Captain John's widow, is the only record of this branch of the McMurtry family which can now be found. From it the following facts are taken.

Joseph McMurtry, of Scotch extraction, came from Wales to Pennsylvania, probably about the beginning of the eighteenth century, and located in Philadelphia. He was a manufacturer of Morocco leather. He had four sons and one daughter—John, James, Samuel, Joseph and Sarah, who married James Young.

Joseph, Jr., was the father of Samuel, who was the father of Captain John McMurtry of Kentucky.

Samuel moved to North Carolina, and afterwards to Rockbridge county, Virginia, where he died. He married a Miss Hutton, given name unknown.

Captain John McMurtry, son of Samuel and his wife, married his first cousin, Mary Hutton, daughter of James Hutton and his wife, Mary Todd. Mary Hutton McMurtry was born at the foot of the natural bridge in Rockbridge county, Va.

Three daughters of William Todd, of Rockbridge county, married between 1750 and 1760—one a McKee, one a McQuiddy and one a McMurtry. It is thought that the third daughter's name was Nancy Todd, and that of her husband James McMurtry.

Samuel McMurtry is said to have secured for his son, Captain John, a patent of land near Harrodsburg, now Shakerstown, from the State of Virginia, and to have changed the spelling of the name from the old Scotch form "trie" to the Irish "try."

A cousin, William McMurtrie, accompanied Captain John McMurtry when he came to Kentucky. Later other McMurtries came from Philadelphia, one, a John McMurtrie, settled near Lex-

Joseph McMurtry came to New Jersey circa the 1720s where he died in 1762. He was a large landowner and farmer. There is no record of him having been a "manufacturer of Morocco leather" known to this writer and other family historians. He had four sons and two daughters: James, Joseph, Abraham, John, Agnes and Mary. Captain John's mother was
ington. In 1814, Dr. Henry McMurtrie, of Philadelphia, visited Louisville, at the home of Mr. Samuel Cassiday, and wrote a history of the town. In this History of Louisville, published in 1819, Dr. McMurtrie says there were "six hundred and seventy dwelling houses in the place and accommodations for strangers were difficult to procure." He studied the fauna and flora of the region and gave much attention to Indian relics, of which there were a great many. He was a contemporary of George Rogers Clark. It is said that he was largely entertained while in Louisville. Later he was accompanied to Scotland by Benjamin Cassiday, the son of his host, who supplemented the History of Louisville by continuing it to a later period. Mr. Benjamin Cassiday says that the MccMurtrys belonged to the Scottish clan Stuart.

According to the best authorities there were two distinct families of Todds in Kentucky. One Thomas Todd came from England to Norfolk county, Va., in 1657. He had three sons, Thomas, Robert and William. William married and his grandsons, Richard and Thomas, went to Kentucky in 1786 and settled at South Frankfort.

A second family of Todds settled in Kentucky with Capt. John McMurtry at Harrodsburg, and were prominent in Kentucky's history. Captain John McMurtry and his wife, Mary Hutton, had eight children:

1—James, born 1771, married Polly Mc­Kee at Harrod's Station in 1794.
2—Alexander, born 1774, married Polly Smith, daughter of Billy Smith, re­nowned as an Indian fighter.
4—William, born 1778, died single.
5—John, born 1782, married Miss Wrenn, of Garrard county, Ky. Had son Wrenn.
6—Joseph, born 1786, married (1) Miss Margaret Haggin; no children. (2) Miss Lucy Lewis Madison, of Jessa­mine county, in 1822.
7—Mary, born 1788, married Samuel Hogue.
8—Sarah, born 1791, married William Sharpe, a man of great courage and a noted Indian fighter. He also fought a duel with a British officer.

DESCENDANTS OF ALEXANDER MC'MURTRY AND POLLY SMITH MC'MURTRY.

CHILDREN.

1—John Smith, married Margaret Mc­Kee.
2—James, married Martha Letcher.
3—William, married Prescilla Sharp.
4—Alexander, married a lady in Shelby­ville, Mo.
5—Joseph, died young.
6—Mary, married Mr. Rice, moved to Paris, Mo., in 1830.
7—Eliza, married Peter Bart, moved to Missouri; their only child died young.
8—Margaret, married James McKee, of Jessamine county, Ky.; no issue.
9—Sarah, married Jacob Sharp, broth­er of Wm. Sharp, who married her Aunt Sally McMurtry; two children, died young.
10—Martha, married George Sill, of Rockville, Ind., in 1838; no issue.

John Alexander Smith was a Captain in the Battle of Tippecanoe and a per­sonal friend of President William Henry Harrison. He married Margaret Mc­Kee; had

Sarah (Todd) McMurtry, widow of Alexander McMurtry, who married James Young between 1751 and 1755. Captain John's brother, Samuel McMurtry, married Jane Martin and migrated to South Carolina in the 1760s. There is no record known to this writer and other contemporary family his­torians to substantiate that Captain John McMurtry's father secured a
CHILDREN.
1—Mary Ann, married R. C. McWilliams; no issue.
2—Alexander, married Melissa Russell.
3—David William, married Martha Cooper; issue, three sons and three daughters.
4—John, married Elizabeth Buchanan, of Judson, Indiana.
5—James, married Amanda Wells, of Lafayette, Ind.; moved to Lincoln, Neb.; had one daughter; died 1904.
6—Margaret, married E. C. Russell; died in 1857; no issue.

John Alexander James, married Martha Letcher, daughter of Benjamin Letcher, whose brother, Robert P. Letcher, was Governor of Kentucky. Martha Letcher's mother was Margaret Robertson, a sister of Chief Justice Robertson, of the Kentucky Court of Appeals. James McMurtry was a merchant in Lancaster, Ky.

CHILDREN of James and Martha Letcher McMurtry:
1—James Letcher, married Kate Hunt.
2—Robert, married Miss McFeat.
3—Alexander, married Bettie McFeat, sister of Robert's wife, both of Harrodsburg, Ky.; now live in Missouri.
4—Mary, married Andrew Cunningham, of Louisville.

John Alexander William McMurtry married Priscilla Sharp; had

CHILDREN.
1—Abraham.
2—John.
3—William, married a daughter of Dr. Hayden, of Rockville, Ind.; later moved to San Juan, Cal.

4—George, married Mary Stout, of Rockville, Ind.
5—James.
6—Mary, married Samuel Logan, of Shelbyville, Ky.; she died in 1846; her husband and family moved to Kansas and California.
7—Elizabeth, died of consumption, aged twenty.

John Alexander Alexander, married a lady in Shelbyville, Mo., had five daughters, one of whom married Alexander Graham, of Shelbyville, Mo.

FOURTH GENERATION.

Alexander (John Smith, Alexander, John), married Melissa Russell, their

CHILDREN.
Edward C., married Miss Wilson, of Frankfort; moved to Jennings, La.; one child—Margaret.
Alice, married George Matthews, of Greencastle, Ind.; moved to Jennings, La.
Wallace, married Miss McPheeters, of Concord, Mo.; one child, Mabel, who married Mr. Thompson, Morton, Ind.
Maribell, married Mr. Butler, of Wabash; moved to Rockville, Ind.; children—Alice, Janet and Lyman.

One child died in infancy.

David (John Smith, Alexander, John) married Martha Cooper; their

CHILDREN.
1—Mary, lives with her father in Waveland, Ind.
2—Margaret, married Mr. Nold a farmer near Rockville, Ind.; no children.
3—Daughter lives in Minnesota, a teacher in the public schools.
4—William, married Miss Henderson,

patent of land near Harrodsburg for him. Captain John's father died circa 1750 in Augusta County, Virginia. The "other McMurtries" did not come to Kentucky from Philadelphia, but from Bedford County, Virginia. The "one, a John McMurtrie, settled near Lexington" was the well-known architect of Lexington, born in Fayette County the son of David and
Register of the Kentucky State Historical Society.

of Concord, Mo.; moved to Mexico, Mo.; children — Edna, Anna and Fred I.
5—James, married Miss Brag, of Crawfordsville; James is a Professor of Greek and Latin at Fairview College, Iowa.
6—Clarence, married Miss Emma Burford; they live in Marshall, Ind.

John (John Smith, Alexander, John) McMurtry, married Elizabeth Judson Buchanan, near Marshall, Ind.; their

CHILDREN.
1—Walter.
2—Mary Eppie, married Mr. Cousine, of Waveland, Ind.; children — John Paul and Elizabeth Helen.

James Letcher (James, Alexander, John) McMurtry, married Kate Hunt, of Lexington; their

CHILDREN.
1—Mattie.
2—Ida, married Wm. Prather, of Fayette County, Ky.; one child, Catherine Hunt Prather.
3—Florence.
4—Hunt, married Laura Buchanan, of Campbellsville, Ky. John, Mattie, James.
6—Goodloe, married Maggie Taylor, of Winchester, Ky.

George (William, Alexander, John) McMurtry, married Mary Stout, of Rockville, Ind.; their

CHILDREN.
1—George, of Judson, Ind.
2—Charles, of Frankfort, Ind.
3—Mary Belle, married Mr. Dunham, of Waveland, Ind.

William (William, Alexander John) McMurtry, married a daughter of Dr. Haydon, of Rockville, Ind. This William was a physician, later moved to San Juan, Cal.

CHILDREN.
1—William, who died in Paris, France.
2—George.

Descendants of Samuel McMurtry, third son of Capt. John McMurtry.

Samuel (John) McMurtry, married Jemima Rose, his step-sister; their

CHILDREN.
1—Lewis Rose, married Amanda Reid.
2—Mary McMurtry, married Elijah Burford; had two daughters, Rebecca and Eliza.
3—Dniza, married William Burford; they moved to Missouri; issue, two sons.

THIRD GENERATION.

Lewis Rose (Samuel, John) McMurtry, married Amanda Reid; their

CHILDREN.
1—Reid Leslie McMurtry, unmarried.
2—Lewis Samuel McMurtry, born in 1850, married Mary E. Ball.

FOURTH GENERATION.

Lewis Samuel (Lewis, Rose, Samuel, John) McMurtry, married Mary E. Ball; had one child — Mary Louise.

Lewis Samuel McMurtry was born in Harrodsburg, Mercer county, Ky., in 1850, and five years later moved to Lancaster, Garrard county, where he spent his childhood. He was educated at Center College, Danville, Ky., where he re-

grandson of Joseph McMurtry from Bedford County, Virginia. It is regreted that Dr. S. S. Todd mixed up the early history of the McMurtry families of Captain John McMurtry and his Todd cousins, Joseph and William McMurtry. Dr. Henry McMurtrie "of Philadelphia" who visited Louisville in 1814 was not related to the McMurtry families of Kentucky.
received the degree A. B. when he was nineteen years of age. Three years later the same institution conferred on him the degree A. M. in course. He was then graduated from the Medical Department of Tulane University, of Louisiana, at New Orleans, and served the year following his graduation as interne in the Charity Hospital of that city. Returning to Kentucky, he entered on the practice of medicine at Danville, where he continued several years. In 1881 he was elected to the chair of anatomy in the Kentucky School of Medicine, at Louisville, but did not remove to Louisville permanently until several years later. In 1889 he spent several months in Europe, studying his specialty, and that same year removed his residence to Louisville, and has since devoted himself exclusively to the practice of abdominal surgery.

Dr. McMurtry is President of the Faculty of the Hospital College of Medicine (the Medical Department of Central University). He is a member of the American Surgical Association, ex-President of the Kentucky State Medical Society, ex-President of the Southern Surgical and Gynecological Association, and of the American Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. He is an honorary member of the Philadelphia Obstetrical Society, and ordinary fellow of the Edinburgh Obstetrical Society, and a fellow of the British Gynecological Society, and an ex-President of the American Medical Association.

Descendants of Dr. Joseph, sixth son of Captain John and Mary Hutton McMurtry.

Dr. Joseph (John) McMurtry married for his second wife Miss Lucy Lewis Madison, daughter of Gabriel Madison and Myrah Lewis, of Virginia. Gabriel Madison was the son of John Madison, Clerk of the Court of Augusta county, member of the House of Delegates, and also of the House of Burgesses of Virginia, and grandson of Ambrose Madison, who married Frances Taylor in 1724. One of Gabriel's brothers was James, the fourth bishop of the Episcopal Church, sent to England for consecration to that high office; he was afterwards President of William and Mary College. Another brother was George Madison, elected Governor of Kentucky in 1816. Gabriel Madison was first cousin to President Madison and nearly related to President Taylor, and through President Taylor's daughter to President Davis of the Confederate States. Gabriel Madison was in both land and marine service during the Revolution. The names of Gabriel Madison, Peyton Short, John Martin and Robert Todd are among the forty electors chosen to call the first Legislature of the young State of Kentucky, in 1792.

Dr. Joseph McMurtry was born near Harrodsburg, Ky, July 3, 1786. He was graduated from the Philadelphia School of Medicine in 1811, where he was under the instruction of Dr. Physick and Dr. Benjamin Rush, Professors in that college. Dr. McMurtry located as a physician, first at Harrodsburg, afterwards in Greenup county. He also engaged in business in salt and iron works. Later he returned to Jessamine county, then located his practice in Paris, Ky. He died during the cholera scourge while practicing his profession when nearly every other physician had died or had fled. He married first a sister of Terah Haggan, of Woodford county. No children were born of this marriage. By his second wife Lucy Lewis Madison he had
CHILDREN.

1—Catherine Blanton, married T. F. Lehmann, of Oldenburg, Germany; she died of cholera in Morganfield, Ky., in 1855.
2—Mary Elizabeth, married Theodore Stuart Parsons, in Henderson, Ky., April 18, 1852; she died November 14, 1900. Mr. Parsons died in 1874.
3—Myrah Gabriella Madison, unmarried; lives in New Albany, Ind.
4—George Joseph, died single in New Albany, Ind., in 1856.
5—Jane Madison, married in Henderson, Judge Jefferson Brown, of Morganfield, April 22, 1856; (2) Cabell Allin, of Livingstone, Ky.

THIRD GENERATION.

Catherine Blanton (Joseph, John) McMurtry married Theo. F. Lehmann, in Woodford county, Ky. Mr. Lehmann came from a distinguished family in Germany and held the rank of Lieutenant in the German Army previous to his coming to America.

Children of Catherine and Theodore Lehmann:

1—Charles Alexander, married Carrie Alicia Tuite of Cincinnati, O.
2—Frederick Augustus Lehmann, married Burnettia Brockett, of Alexandria.
3—Catherine Augusta, married John Robert Zimmerman, of Washington City, January 30, 1889.
4—Lucy Ida, unmarried; lives in Washington City.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, Theodore F. Lehmann, then residing in Pittsburgh, was appointed Lieut. Col. of the 62nd. Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry; later promoted to the Colonelcy of the 103rd Regiment, and served throughout the war with his regiment in Virginia and North Carolina. He died in 1894.

Mary Elizabeth McMurtry married Theodore Stuart Parsons of New York. Their

CHILDREN.

1—Lucy Emma, married Young Watson.
2—Jane Madison McMurtry, married (1) Judge Jefferson Brown. Their

CHILDREN.

Kate Blanton Brown, died young.


FOURTH GENERATION.

Charles Alexander Lehmann, grandson of Dr. Joseph McMurtry, married Carrie Alicia Tuite, of Cincinnati, O.

CHILDREN.

1—Edward Tuite Lehmann, died young.
2—Frederick Augustus, died March 16, 1893.
3—Lucy Madison, married Ellis Howard Lafayette, in 1904, of Louisville, Ky.; one child—Ellis Lafayette, Jr., born April 23, 1906.
4—Carrie Alicia, died November, 1884.
5—Anne Elgin.
6—Charles Alexander, Jr.
7—La'mee.
8—Lois Wales.

Charles A. Lehmann moved to Louisville in 1873, where he is in business. He has resided in New Albany, Ind., since 1893.

Lucy Emma Parsons, granddaughter of Dr. Joseph McMurtry, married Young Watson, of Henderson, Ky.
CHILDREN.

1—Stuart Madison, born June 24, 1882, married Carolyn McClain Dennis, March 10, 1902; children Dorothy Stanley, Lucy Emma.
2—Thomas Grayson.
3—Chester Parsons.

Frederick Augustus Lehmann, born in Franklin county, Ky., February 16, 1847, enlisted in the U. S. Army, Co. C, 3rd Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, wounded at Gettysburg, July 4, 1863; honorably discharged November 9, 1865; married June 2, 1891, Burnetta Brockett, daughter of Major Edgar Brockett, of Alexandria, Va.

Children of Frederick A. and Burnetta Brockett Lehmann.
1—Edgar, died in infancy.
2—Theodore Frederick, born August 31, 1894.

Catherine Augusta Lehmann, granddaughter of Dr. Joseph McMurtry, married John Robert Zimmerman, of Washington City, D. C. Their children:
1—Mary Catherine.
2—Theodore Frederick, died.

Descendants of Mary, daughter of Capt. John McMurtry and Samuel Hogue.

CHILDREN.
1—Aaron, born in Mercer county, Ky., married in 1842 Miss Elizabeth Gilkerson, of Boyle county, Ky.
2—Ellen, married Christopher Beeler.
3—Ann Alice, married Judge Lorenzo Noble, of Lebanon, Ky.
4—Pattie, married Dr. W. H. Hopper, of Lebanon, Ky.
5—Sarah, married Henry May, of Taylor county, Ky.; she died in 1874.
6—Lizzie, died young.

THIRD GENERATION.

Aaron Alexander Hogue, grandson of Captain John McMurtry, graduated from Centre College, Ky., in 1839, and from Princeton Theological Seminary in 1840, soon after which he was called to the First Presbyterian church at Lebanon, Ky. He married in 1842 Miss Elizabeth Gilkerson, of Boyle county.

Children of Aaron A. and Elizabeth Hogue.
1—Twyman, died young.
2—Charles Lehmann, married (1) Miss Kate Crawford, of Boyle county, no issue; (2) Miss Mattie Hoover.
3—William.

Twyman Hogue, whose memoir was written by Rev. W. W. Hill, D. D., developed into a youth of remarkable promise, but died before he was twenty years of age. Aaron A. Hogue, a faithful minister of the Gospel, died in 1886, aged 76.

Ellen Hogue, granddaughter of Capt. John McMurtry, married Christopher Beeler. Their

CHILDREN.
1—Lorenzo, married Emma Little, of Cincinnati; had one daughter, Carolyn, married 1905 Paul Jarvis, of Buffalo.
2—Emma.
3—William.
4—Bessie.
5—John.
6—Jennie, married Dr. Scott Helm, in Phoenix, Arizona. He was thrown from his horse and killed some years ago.

Ann Alice Hogue, granddaughter of Captain John McMurtry, married Lo-
Renzo Noble. He was Judge of the Circuit Court, and an elder in the Third Presbyterian church, in Louisville. He died in 1899, and ten days later his wife followed him to the grave at the age of 75 years.

Children of Judge Lorenzo and Ann Alice Noble.

1—Chrisella, married Col. Thos. Burns; they had one child—Walter Noble Burns, a writer of magazine stories and a great traveller.
2—Charles, married Fannie Beeler, removed to a ranch in Colorado; their only son, Daniel, was killed in 1906 in an automobile explosion.
3—William, married Ella Noble, of Cincinnati, O.; no issue.
4—Daniel, moved to Colorado.

Pattie Hogue, granddaughter of Captain John McMurtry, married Dr. W. H. Hopper. Their

CHILDREN.

1—Mary McMurtry Mirta, married Mr. Brewer.
2—Lillian, married Mr. Laton, of Lancaster, Ky.
3—Charles, died young.

Sarah Hogue, granddaughter of Captain John McMurtry, married Henry May; their

CHILDREN.

1—Selena, married Mr. Buchanan, of Indiana; two daughters.
2—Alice, died young.
3—Lizzie, now living in Chattanooga, Tenn.

FOURTH GENERATION.

Charles Lehmann Hogue, great grandson of Captain John McMurtry, was educated at Centre College, Danville, Ky., and at Union Theological Seminary, in Virginia. He was pastor of the Lebanon church, near Goshen, Va., 1875-1884. He was later pastor of the Presbyterian church at Memphis, Mo. He was honorary member of the Pan-Presbyterian Council at Glasgow, Scotland, in 1896, and the same year was given the degree of Doctor of Divinity by the Presbyterian College of Fulton, Mo. His second wife was Miss Mattie Hoover of Virginia who was the mother of his children. Dr. Hogue had charge of the Presbyterian church at Denton, Texas, until a few months before his death, which occurred there December 31, 1906.

CHILDREN.

1—Elizabeth.
2—Katie Crawford.
3—Mabel.
4—Beatrice.
5—Twyman.
6—Mary Thompson.
7—William Alexander.

Descendants of Sally McMurtry, daughter of Captain John McMurtry.

Sally McMurtry was born in Mercer county, Ky., in 1791. She married William Sharp, a noted Indian fighter of Kentucky. Children of William and Sally McMurtry Sharp:
1—George.
2—Abram.
3—David.
4—Hannah Todd, married James McKee; issue, three daughters, one of whom married a Mississippi planter,
who was a captain in the Southern Confederacy; another married a cotton factor in Arkansas.

5—Rebecca, married Mr. Leavitt; her eldest son Lewis Leavitt, is a banker in Lancaster, Ky.

6—Priscilla, married Mr. Holman; a daughter married a Mr. Adams.

Other branches of the McMurtry or McMurtrie family came west. One, a William McMurtry, was a cousin of Captain John McMurtry.

William McMurtry was born about 1740, it is thought in Pennsylvania. He married Denizah Rose, the daughter of Captain Rose, who after the death of Denizah’s mother, married as his second wife the widow of Captain John McMurtry. William McMurtry came to Kentucky about the same time that John McMurtry settled there. William was also in the Indian wars for ten or twelve campaigns. He lived for some time on the Tennessee river and owned several acres of land in Tennessee, later in life he went to Alabama, where he died in very old age, from drowning in a shallow pool in which he had fallen.

William McMurtry was not married to Denizah Rose, "the daughter of Captain Rose." Captain Lewis Rose did not have a daughter named Denizah. William McMurtry’s wife was named Alice (surname unknown). See Chapter VI for the names of Captain Lewis Rose’s children.

Esther McMurtry LeBaron’s book ([1977 Revised Edition] titled William McMurtry of Kentucky and Alabama and His Descendants, shows that William McMurtry and Alice McMurtry his wife were living in Bedford County, Tennessee in 1810 when they gave Power of Attorney to Henry Bushong of Barren County, Kentucky, in a deed transaction.
APPENDIX E

SAMUEL McMurtry TO ELISHA THOMAS

It has long been a tradition in the Captain John McMurtry family that he built and operated a water-powered grist mill near Shakertown. Lewis Collins, the historian, wrote in his History of Kentucky that the first grist mill "driven by water power in Kentucky was about 1782, that of Capt. John McMurtry, near Shakertown, in Mercer County." The mill stones for this mill are extant in Polly's Bend in Garrard County, in the yard of the old James McMurtry (1803-1870) farmhouse which is still in the family. James McMurtry was the son of Alexander McMurtry who was the second son of Captain John.

Collins also recorded that Captain John McMurtry "owned and was the first person to settle upon the land which was afterwards built upon by early settlers and became known as the village of the Shakers ..." It is a matter of record in the Mercer County deeds (Deed Book 12, pp. 409, 410) that Samuel McMurtry (1776-1815/6), third son of Captain John McMurtry, made certification that he had "bargained and sold unto Elisha Thomas one hundred acres of land lying and being in the County of Mercer and State of Kentucky and bounded by the lands of Charles Brown Samuel Denny Manday Man and the old Station* ..."

* Where and what was the "old Station"?

191
In this document Samuel McMurtry binds himself and his heirs to make a good and "Sufficience (sic) General Warrant Deed unto the sd Thomas and his assigns with all the Improvements and appertenances thereto belonging which deed I promise to make on demand."

This certification was dated January 28, 1808, signed by Samuel McMurtry and witnessed by Lewis Rose. Samuel McMurtry further noted that he had received $700 full payment for the land. On January 1, 1810, Elisha Thomas assigned all his "Right title and claim" (to the land) to Henry Hutton and Joseph McCaver. They in turn for value received assigned "all our right and title of the within Bond to Abraham Wilhite & Francis Voris," signed by them on June 2, 1814.

Samuel McMurtry died on April 17, 1815/6 and on February 3, 1823, four commissioners were appointed by the Mercer County Court to make deed on behalf of his heirs (Sally McMurtry, Rebecca McMurtry, Lewis McMurtry, Charles McMurtry, Deniza McMurtry--infant heirs; Mary McMurtry--in her own right (she was the oldest and of legal age); and Jemima McMurtry--"widow and relict of Samuel McMurtry" to the Society of Shakers.

It is believed that this 100-acre tract of land is the same land Samuel McMurtry inherited from his father by his will of September 6, 1790 (Mercer County Will Book 1, pp. 52, 53). There are some questions about Samuel McMurtry's reference to the "old Station," the answers to which are not definitive at this time. Was the "old Station" a fort or a mill?

John Filson (1784) on his "Map of Kentucky" shows a McMurtries Station near the confluence of Dicks River and the Kentucky River. The symbol used to mark the location indicates a fort or station. Architect John McMurtry (1812-1890) of Lexington, Kentucky, writing in 1879 to J. A. McMurtry of Harmonsburg, Pennsylvania, about his own
grandfather (Joseph McMurtry) said: "They built a Fort on the Banks of the Ky. River, the relics of which are yet visible ..."

There is the question: Who were "they"? Does "they" refer to Joseph McMurtry and his brother, William, and perhaps Captain John? Dr. Tillman E. McMurtry (1858-1923) of Chicago, Illinois, writing between 1913 and 1923 in his unpublished manuscript-"When Wilderness Was King"—notes "the occupants of the Little McMurtry fort working like beavers on their stockade, cabins and clearing ... The clearing was already far out onto the hill and down the little Creek to Shawnee Run." Dr. McMurtry was a great grandson of Captain John's "Cousin William" (brother of Joseph McMurtry).

Samuel McMurtry's 100 acres which he sold to Elisha Thomas in 1808 and which was eventually deeded to the Society of Shakers in 1823 was on the "waters of Shawnee and Cedar Runs." Perhaps the two remaining unanswered questions are: Was Captain John McMurtry's water-powered grist mill on the 100-acre tract bequeathed to his son Samuel in 1790? and Was the Shaker mill built at Kissing Bridge in 1816 constructed on the site of Captain John McMurtry's Mill? This writer consulted with the late Col. George M. Chinn (1902-1987), Mercer County historian, in the 1970s. It was his opinion that Captain John McMurtry's mill was a precursor to a later mill built by the Shakers.

The McMurtry family tradition that the old mill site at Kissing Bridge near Shakertown was the location of the first water-powered grist mill in Kentucky, built and operated by Captain John McMurtry remains a tradition. It has neither been confirmed nor refuted. Perhaps further research will answer the two remaining questions posed above.

Mill stones from the grist mill of Captain John McMurtry on the old Alexander (later James McMurtry) farm located in Polly's Bend, Garrard County, Kentucky. The farm is now owned by Ruth McMurtry Wilson.
INDEX

This index does not include the names mentioned in the documents and illustrations or names mentioned in the Appendices.

A

ADAMS, Elizabeth (Sharp) 154
George 154
Joseph 154
Mary P. 154
William Thomas 154

ADCOCK
Cynthia 108
Edmund 108
Joseph W. 108
Lucy 108
Mary 108
Many 
Mary (McMuntny) 108
Ruth 108
William 108

ALLEN
Cabell 148

ALLIN
Anna K. 153
Thomas 85

B

BAER
Charles 114

BAILEY
Callum 41
Emily Virginia 41
John Gilliam 41
John W. 41
Joseph Franklin 41

BAKER
Susan 42

BALL
Mary 123

BARNETT
John 102

BARTLETT
Solomon 54

BASS
William Tillette 151

BEELER
Beatie 150
Caroline 149
Christopher 149
Emma 150
Fannie 150
Jennie 150
John 150
Lotzen 149
William 150

BERSOT
Kathleen 135

BINGHAM
Jane 113
Joseph 114

BLANKENHOVE
Bernice 117

BLINcoe
Lucia 120

BLUE LICKS
Battle (61) 65,73,81,94,96

BONHAM
Cora 123

BONNETT
E. S. 102

BOONE
Danley 68

BORDEN
Benjamin 23

BOOTS
Nellie May 113

BOST
Peter 118

BOURNE
W. S. 112

BRAY
Mary Alice 115

BREWER
Elizabeth Noble 151
William 151

BROCKETT
Barnetta 147

BRICE
Wallace A. 78

BROWN
Allen 103
Allen Douglas 103
Amanda 103
Archibald 105
Barbara Annette 105
Bell 103
Benjamin 103
Catherine Blanton 148
Charles West 105
Eliza Allen 103
Eliza 103
Fred A. 103
Hancourt 38
James N. 103
Jane 38,185
Jane Madison (McMunty) 148
Jefferson (Judge) 148
John (Rev) 103
John Thomas 103
Letter 103
Levi Franklin 103
Louisa (McMunty) 103
Martha Ellen 103
Mary C. 103
Matilda 103
Saxin Jane 103
Stuart 148
W. Nelson 153
William Henry 103

BRUNER
Anna 103
Austen 103
Edgar 103
Edward 103
Fannie 103
Frank 103
J. A. 110
John 103
Joshua 103
L. A. 112
Lucian 103
Mary 105
Scott 103

BRYAN'S
Station 64,69,90

BUCHANAN
Elizabeth Judson 115
Joséphine 151
Laura J. 117
Mary 151
Selena (May) 151

Burdick
Laura 114

BURKE
Thomas (Colonel) 150

BURFORD
Andrew Wright 129
Benjamin Simpson 128
Benjamin 129
Edward Cleve 129
Elizabeth Harriett 121
Emma Blanche 115
Fannie Denice 119
Gertrude Helen 128
Harry Allen 129
Irene 128
James Wesley 129

BURNS
John Samuel 128
Kathleen W. 129
Lewis McMurray 128
Lucy 129
Mary Buchanan 129
Mary E. 121
Mary Elinna 121
Nancy Denice 129
Ruth 121
Roy 121
Susan W. 126
Talbot and 129
Wesley Campbell 129
William Carmichael 128
William Howard 128

BVERS
Ella V. 123
John E. 123
Mary Elinna (Burgord) 121
Mary R. 123
Nannie 123
Rebecca J. (Burgord) 121
William 121
William A. 123
William Howard 123

C

CAMPBELL
Anne 54
John 68
Nancy Ann 8,9
Rosannah 8,9

CANINE
Truie L.

CARLIE
Emily McPherson 120
Emmett Ellis 120
Everett Peabody 110
George McMurray 119
Henry Clay 119
Laura Cecilia 119
Mary Ann 119
Mary Ann (McMunty) 119
Murtle Cleopah 120

CARLISLE
Henry Clay 119

CARR
John 69

CHAMBERLAIN
Kate 103

CHAMPTON
Ruth 128,122

CHRISTIAN
Allan T. 117

CHURCHWELL
Edward H. 120

CIZHAR
Sarah 110

CLARK
George Rogers 65

CLEE
Lucinda 120

CLEVE
Alice 117

COLLINS
Louis 63

CONDRA
Ada 111
Danscor 110
Edward 111
Frank 111
James 111
John 110
Mary Ann 110
Nancy (McMurray) 110
Ruth 110
William 110,111

COYLE
Clara 113

D

DUNBAR
Ada 111
Danscor 110
Edward 111
Frank 111
James 111
John 110
Mary Ann 110
Nancy (McMurray) 110
Ruth 110
William 110,111

DUNCAN
Ellen 113

DYER
Agnes 108
Fred Elinna 113
George J. (Dy) 113
CONLEY
James 113
James Gilbert 113
John 113
John William 113
Katie 114
Margaret Elizabeth (McMurry) 113
Michael 112, 113
Nancy 112
Ruth (McMurry) 113
William 114
CONVERSE
Harry B. 109
COGGLE
W. A. 119
COOKSLEY
Albent 110
COOPER
Martha Eleanor 115
CORN
Ebenezer 76
Timothy 90
COULTER
Manganet 112
COX
Flora Agnes 128
Mary 110
W Lizette 119
CRABB
Alfred 43
CRAIG
Alice Todd 70
CRANE
J. C. 110
CRAWFORD
Kathenine 149
CROCKETT
Agnes 7
George 112
CUMMINGS
Andrew 117
Henry 41
James L. 117
DAVIDSON
Connelia C. 37
ROSE
Annie 153
James Franklin 41
John Newton 41
Josephus Allen 41
Hartha Vienna 41
Mary Katherine 41
Mantia Caroline 41
Nancy Elender 41
Sangford Devin 41
Sarah 41
Susan 41
Wilius 41
DAVULT
Catherine [Jones] 102
Dorothy 102
Wilius A. 102
DENNIS
Caroline 147
DICK
James A. 132
James A. [Jr] 132
James A. [Mrs] 131
Katherine 132
DICKERSON
Eleanor 36, 40
DORKE
Samuel [Bro] 44
DONELSON
John 48, 44, 46
DOTY
Emma A. 112
DOOLLIE
Mildred 112
DRAPER
Lyman C. 67, 73, 91
DURHAM
Frank A. 135
William Harold 135
William V. 134
DUNN
Alexander McMurry 120
Preston 120
Preston B. Jr 120
E
EAVEN
Susan Margaret 128
EDWARDS
Ann Mary 44, 117
ELMORE
Carrie Elizabeth 153
EMERSON
Mary 114
ENNIS
Joseph 118
Mary Ann 118
F
FISHER
Mary 36, 40
FLOWER
John 132
John [Jr] 131
Sarah (McMurry) 132
FLOYD
Fannie 146
FOOTE
Stella 113
FOLGER
Lillian 111
FOSTER
Della 119
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY
Cemetery 97
FROWAN
Jacob 64
G
GARRISON
Esther Jane 102
Mary Ann 101
GENTRY
L. F. 103
GILKERSON
Elizabeth Jane 148
GINGRICH
John 109
GIRTY
Mary (Newton) 65
Simon 65
GORDON
William 81
GOVER
Nancy 46
GRAFF
Mary 8
GRAHAM
Alexander 119
Cecelia F. (McMurry) 119
Fannie 119
John 119
Mary (Roax) 90
Nellie 119
Ralph 119
Rosemary 119
Stafford 119
William 119
GRANT
Harold 153
GRUBB
Mary 115
H
HADSELL
Wilton U. 107
HAGAR
Frank 120
HAGIN
Margaret 100, 143
HALL
James 21, 27
John 21, 27
HALLER
Julius H. 117
HAMILTON
Isabella (Botley) 7
HANNEM
Margaret Malinda 40
HANKE
Florence 112
HANNAH
Isabella 8
HARLISON
Mary Lynted Peice 140
HARDIN
John (Colonel) 77
HARDGRAVE
Hezekiah 8
HARLOW
Earl 153
HARPER
Defeat 77, 91
HARKER
Joseph (General) 77
HARWOOD
Estelle (Bate) 132
HAYDEN
Nellie 129
HAYDON
Ellen 131
HEADLEY
Catherine 112
Rebecca J. 113
HEFLIN
Alexander 103
Mazie 103
HELM
Scott [Dr] 150
HENDERSON
Joseph (Dr) 110
Nancy 109
HIGGINS
Henry 64
HILL
Jennie 103
W. W. (Rev) 149
HOGER
Bertha 113
HOGLAND
Isaac 64
HOGUE
Ann Alice 150
Aaron Alexander (Rev) 148
Beatrice 149
Catherine Crawford 149
Charles Lehman (Rev) 149
Elizabeth 149
Elizabeth Jane (Gilkerston) 149
Elizabeth R. 151
Ellen 149
Mabel 149
Mary (McMurry) 148
Mary Thompson 149
Mattice (Hoover) 149
Pattie 150
Samuel 100, 148
Sarah 151
Tayman 149
Tayman Jr 149
William Alexander 149
William Alexander Jr 149
HOUGH
Piccice (Sharp) 154
William A. 154
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Artemisia 117</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

197
The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage.

Psalms 16:6