GENEALOGICAL RECORD
OF THE FAMILY OF
JOHN STEPHENS.

[Signature]

W. W. Stephens
Genealogical record of the family

John Stephens, prof. 1910
REVIEW PRINTING HOUSE,
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1910.
BIRTHPLACE OF JOHN STEPHENS—1807.

This house was built near Frankfort Springs, Pa., about 1804 by David Stephens, Sr. It is the present residence of Mr. D. H. Stephens, a grandson of the builder.
PREFACE.

At the earnest solicitation of members of the family I have compiled this little volume, giving a short history and genealogical record of a branch of the Stephens family. In preparing the work I have had to depend to some extent upon tradition and the memory of some of the older members of the family. I have been greatly assisted in the matter of dates and names by Mrs. Margaret J. Statler, a sister, now deceased, late of Nevada, Iowa, who had been keeping a record of the family for a number of years. I am also indebted to Mr. D. H. Stephens, a cousin, of Frankfort Springs, Pa., for valuable information, and to Miss Harriet E. Smith, a niece, a teacher in the Minneapolis schools, for some assistance. We have not been able to trace the ancestry of the great-grandfather, Isaac Stephens. We find him settled in Beaver county, Pennsylvania, soon after the Revolutionary War, but there is no record to show whence he came. He is believed to have come from either Eastern Pennsylvania or Virginia. If so, he may have been of the family of Stephenses that settled in Berks county, Pa., early in the 18th century; or, possibly, a descendant of a Peter Stephens who emigrated from Pennsylvania to Frederick county, Va., in 1732. Dr. Edward Stephens Clark, in his book, “The Stephens Family with Collateral Branches,” (San Francisco, 1892), gives the genealogy of the Peter Stephens family, but says several branches of the family could not be traced. Many of the descendants of Peter Stephens emigrated to Kentucky and the Southwest. Mrs. Statler remembered that during the summer of 1838, when she was about six years old, a Lawrence Stephens came from Virginia to Frankfort Springs on a visit to her grandfather, and that they were cousins. After that her grandfather frequently spoke of having a host of relatives in Virginia and Kentucky that he was not acquainted with. The name “Lawrence” and “Joseph Lawrence” occurs several times in the genealogy of the family of Peter Stephens, and from the incident of the visit and the name it is believed that the great-grandfather Isaac Stephens was a descendant of Peter Stephens; however, nothing definite has been found to establish a relationship.

In the back part of this book a number of blank pages have been inserted for a continuation of the genealogy. It is suggested that each branch of the family use these pages and continue its own record. In the “Family Tree” there are shown six generations. There may be some errors and omissions, but it is as accurate as it was found possible to get it.

Denison, Iowa, January, 1910.

GEO. W. STEPHENS.
GENEALOGICAL RECORD OF THE FAMILY
OF JOHN STEPHENS.

Many American families can trace their ancestry back to Revolutionary times, but comparatively few are able to trace beyond that period, and fewer still to the original ancestor who crossed the ocean to make his home in the New World. The struggle with the Indians and hardships and privations incident to the early settlement of America were such that the pioneers gave but little thought to the keeping of family records and paid but slight attention to their ancestry. Consequently family records were neglected, and after a few generations the names of ancestors were forgotten. Means of communication between different sections of the country in pioneer days were very difficult, and if members of a family moved to different settlements they seldom heard from one another, and, in time, became permanently separated. The Stephens family was no exception to the general rule. The first ancestor that we have any certain knowledge of was Isaac Stephens, a pioneer of Beaver county, Pennsylvania. His two brothers, John and Thomas, also settled in the same county. Thomas married and raised a family, but John was a bachelor.

Isaac Stephens came to what was afterward organized as Beaver county, Pennsylvania, when he was a young man. The earliest date we have is that of a land patent granted to him in 1788 for 400 acres of land, which he located in Beaver county. This land patent is not found recorded in the Beaver county records, as the county was not then organized. A subsequent purchase of 100 acres of land is recorded, a copy of the deed for which is given below. A portion of this 100-acre tract was afterward sold, on which is located a part of the town of Frankfort Springs. There was also on the land a mineral spring of cool, clear and sparkling water. This was made a summer resort, and is still used as such.

Isaac Stephens was of Scotch-Irish descent. He married Rachel Johnson, also of Beaver county. They both lived to a good old age, having raised a family of seven children. Their names were, Deborah, Charlotte, Rachel, Josiah, David, Thomas and Matilda. As the sons and daughters grew up and
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married they settled on farms in the neighboring country. The three sons were each given a farm of 120 acres by their father. In an old Bible now in the possession of Mr. D. H. Stephens, of Frankfort Springs, there is found the following entry: "Isaac Stephens, Sr., died Oct. 3rd, 1837, aged 83 years."

The following is a copy of the deed to the 100-acre tract, now on record in the archives of Beaver county: (We do not know whether the grantors were relatives of the grantee or not.)

LEVISTEPHENS

TO

ISAACSTEPHENS

1806, by and between Levi Stephens and Elizabeth, his wife, of Washington township, Fayette county, and State of Pennsylvania, of the one part, and Isaac Stephens, of Hanover township, Beaver county, and state aforesaid, of the other part. Whereas, the Supreme Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, by their patent under the state seal of the said commonwealth bearing date the twenty-ninth day of October, in the year of our Lord 1806, for and in consideration and under the reservations therein mentioned, did grant and confirm unto the said Levi Stephens, and to his heirs and assigns, all the following described tract of land, called "Stephens Green," situate in Hanover township, (now) Beaver county aforesaid, containing 180 acres sixteen perches and allowance for roads with said tract, was surveyed in pursuance of a warrant dated the 29th August, 1786, granted to Nathaniel Stephens, who by deed dated the 20th October, 1804, conveyed the same to the said Levi Stephens as in and by said patent entered in rookie office for the state, in patent book No. 56, page 93; reference thereunto will more fully and at large appear. Now this indenture witnesseth, that the aforesaid Levi Stephens and Elizabeth, his wife, for and in consideration of the sum of $350.00, lawful money of the United States of America, to them in hand truly paid by the said Isaac Stephens at and before the enrolling and delivery of these presents, the receipt whereof the said Levi Stephens and Elizabeth, his wife, doth hereby own and acknowledge, have granted, bargained, sold, aliened, enfeoffed, released and confirmed, and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell, alien, enfeoff, release and confirm unto the said Isaac Stephens, his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, a part or parcel of the above deailed land

Beginning at a white oak, thence by land of Levi Dungan south sixty-five degrees, east twenty-seven perches, and eight tenths to a post; thence by land of James Caruthers south eighty-four degrees and a half, east one hundred and eighty-one perches and sixteen to a post; thence through the aforesaid tract by land conveyed to Joseph Minesinger south twelve degrees and a half, west one hundred and four perches and two-tenths to a post; thence by land of John Moore north sixty-seven degrees, west one hundred and thirty-one and a half perches to a white oak, south sixty-eight degrees east fourteen perches to a white oak, south sixty-one degrees east fourteen perches to a white oak, south sixty-one degrees east fourteen perches to a white oak, and north six and a half degrees, west ninety-nine perches to the beginning. And the said Levi Stephens and Elizabeth, his wife, and their heirs, the said hereby granted premises and every part and parcel thereof unto the said Isaac Stephens, his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, to the only proper use and behoof of the said Isaac Stephens, his heirs and assigns, forever. And the said Levi Stephens and Elizabeth, his wife, and their heirs, the said hereby granted premises and every part and parcel thereof unto the said Isaac Stephens, and to his heirs and assigns, shall warrant and forever defend against all persons claiming or to claim by,
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through or under them and their heirs, and against all and every other person claiming any right, title or interest to the same, or any part or parcel thereof, except the reservations in the original patent on behalf of the State.

In witness whereof, the parties to these presents have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first above or herein written.

LEVI STEPHENS. [Seal.]
E. STEPHENS. [Seal.]

Sealed and delivered in the presence of
John Lawreney,
Mary Couls,
William Porter.

Received the day of the foregoing indenture of Isaac Stephens the sum of three hundred and thirty-three dollars and thirty-three cents, being in full for the consideration money therein mentioned.

Fayette County, ss. Before me, one of the Associate Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for said county, came Levi Stephens and Elizabeth Stephens, his wife (she being examined apart from her husband), and acknowledged the above conveyance to be their act and deed and desired the same might be recorded as such.

{Seal.}

Witness my hand and seal the seventh day of April, 1800.

Edw. Couls.

Recorded 7 January, 1807.

DAVID STEPHENS, Sr., son of Isaac and Rachel Stephens, was born near Frankfort Springs, Beaver county, Pennsylvania, April 22, 1785. He married Nancy Kennedy, of the same county, December 6, 1804. They began life together on his farm in the house shown in the frontispiece of this book and lived there to old age. Their nine children were all born in this house. They were named, in order of birth, Polly, John, Rachel, Thomas, Robert, David, Jr., Sallie, Isaac and Elisha, the two last dying in childhood. David Stephens, Sr., served a short time in the army as a private during the War of 1812. He joined the Pennsylvania Volunteers in the fall of 1814 and served at Erie, Pa. His company was mustered out after three or four weeks' service. He died March, 18, 1855, aged 69 years, 10 months and 26 days.

Nancy (Kennedy) Stephens was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, January 11, 1784. Died April 29, 1857, aged 73 years three months and 18 days.

JOHN STEPHENS, eldest son of David and Nancy Stephens, was born near Frankfort Springs, Pa., on January 20, 1807. His early life was spent on his father's farm, and he later learned the trade of a wagonmaker. On September 30, 1830, he married Elizabeth Lytle, daughter of Hugh and Eleanor (Boyd) Lytle, of Beaver county, Pa., and they settled on a farm and continued to live in the neighborhood of Frankfort Springs until 1845, when they moved to Holiday's Cove, West Virginia. In 1848 they moved across the river to Jefferson county, Ohio, five miles from Steubenville, and a few years later they moved to Bacon Ridge in the same county.
Twelve children were born to this couple, three of whom—Sarah, Nancy and Mary—died in childhood.

Margaret Jane, born at Frankfort Springs, Pa., September 16, 1831. Died at Nevada, Iowa, December 23, 1908, aged 77 years.

Caroline, born at Frankfort Springs, Pa., July 10, 1833.

David Lytle, born at Frankfort Springs, Pa., February 27, 1835. Died at Nevada, Iowa, in 1882, aged 47 years.

Isaac Cole, born at Frankfort Springs, Pa., June 31, 1837.

George W., born at Holiday’s Cove, W. Va., March 18, 1846.

Thomas Hugh, born in Jefferson county, Ohio, August 30, 1848.

John Boyd, born in Jefferson county, Ohio, June 25, 1850.

Anna Elizabeth, born in Jefferson county, Ohio, May 21, 1852.

Alice, born at Bacon Ridge, Jefferson county, Ohio, April 20, 1854.

While the younger children were still small the oldest son, David, had gone to the Far West and located in the little town of Nevada, Iowa. From there he wrote letters to the home folks describing the new country and telling of the many possibilities there. At this time many eastern people were seeking new homes on the broad prairies of the West, and John Stephens, acting on the advice of his son, decided to join the tide of emigration and become a pioneer in the new country.

They made the trip by steamboat down the Ohio river to St. Louis and thence up the Mississippi to Muscatine. From there they traveled by rail to Iowa City, but, as that was as far as the railroad extended, the rest of the journey was made in an open wagon across the unbroken prairies. They arrived in Nevada April 18, 1857, and began housekeeping in a little log cabin which was rented until better quarters could be provided. On his return to Iowa City for another load of household goods he found that the warehouse in which they had been stored had been destroyed by fire, and some of his goods were also destroyed and damaged.

He soon began work at his trade, and his sons found employment for themselves. The life of a pioneer is always one of deprivation and hardship, but while the family found life endurable, and much of real enjoyment among the friendly western people, John Stephens found it very difficult to adapt himself to the conditions in the new country. He continually regretted having made the change and was always planning a return to the old home and friends.

His health began to fail, and on November 12, 1864, at the age of about 58 years, he died and was laid to rest in the Nevada cemetery. His wife survived him only two years, and on September 7, 1866, she too passed away, aged 57 years.

Nevada continued to be the home of the family for several years. Thomas H. Stephens still lives there with his family. Mrs. Caroline Smith lived there until the death of her husband, October 12, 1905, when she went to Oakland.
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California, to make her home with her daughter, Mrs. Madge Smy. David 
L. Stephens died at Nevada in 1882; Mrs. Margaret J. Statler in 1908. Isaac 
C. has long lived at Montrose, Iowa; George W. at Denison, Iowa; John B. at 
Lenepah, Indian Territory; Mrs. Anna E. Babbitt at Denver, Colorado, and Alice 
Stephens in Chicago.

In 1859, during the excitement over the discovery of gold in Colorado, 
David L. Stephens again went west to try his fortune. When the war came 
on he joined a Colorado regiment of infantry and served in the West. During 
this time he was detailed as an escort for a number of Indians on their way to 
Washington. He left them at St. Joseph, Mo., and came home on a visit. He 
then returned to Denver, riding horseback all the way, both coming and 
going.

THE LYTLE FAMILY.

THE parents of Hugh Lytle, father of Elizabeth (Lytle) Stephens, were among 
the pioneers of Washington county, Pennsylvania, where Hugh was born 
in 1768. Up to this time very little is known of the family history. When 
Hugh’s father was a boy of about nine years his parents were living near 
Litchfield, Connecticut, engaged in farming. Here they were exposed to the 
frequent incursions of the hostile Indians, and in one of their raids the family 
of seven was massacred, the boy alone escaping death. It seems he was not 
at home when the Indians raided the homestead, having been that morning 
sent away on an errand. On his return in the afternoon he saw, from the top 
of a hill near the home, the house and barn burning and Indians all around. 
He was discovered and captured by them, but was not killed. They took him 
with them across the mountains to Western Pennsylvania where they sometime 
afterward gave up all captives.

When quite a young man Hugh Lytle’s parents died, leaving him the farm 
and the care of four younger sisters, all of whom eventually married. They 
became respectively Mrs. Cole, Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Patterson and Mrs. Waugh. 
Hugh Lytle married Eleanor Boyd, of Washington county. He sold the home-
stead and moved to Mercer county in the same state, where he bought new 
land, and where his daughter Elizabeth, who became the wife of John Stephens, 
was born on June 1, 1809. The children were, in order of age, David, 
Margaret, Elizabeth, Sarah, James, John, Hugh, Jr., Patterson and Boyd. The 
oldest son, David, while a young man, went to Indiana. One day while plow-
ing in the field a storm came up and he received a fatal stroke of lightning. 
James emigrated with his family to Madison county, Iowa, in 1856. When the 
war came on he enlisted in an Iowa regiment and marched to the front. He 
was killed at Ft. Donelson at the storming of that fort in 1862. Margaret
married William Kelley and Sarah married William Inglebright, both of Steubenville, Ohio. John moved with his family to Saline county, Kansas. The whereabouts of the three younger sons is not known to the writer.

Hugh Lytle returned from Mercer county and lived in Beaver county, Pa., several years, then moved to Steubenville, and later to Licking county, Ohio, for ten years. He afterward followed some of his children to Lima, Ohio. While living in Pennsylvania he served in the War of 1812 as a member of the Pennsylvania Militia. The records show that he served as a corporal in Captain Matthew Dawsson's company, in service at Erie, 135th (Christy's) regiment, Pennsylvania Militia, War of 1812, from January 2, 1814, to February 12, 1814.

Hugh Lytle was of Scotch parentage. He died at Lima, Ohio, in 1856, aged 88 years. His wife died at Lima in the same year, aged 85.

THE KENNEDY AND BOYD FAMILIES.

The Kennedy and Boyd families were also pioneers of Washington county, Pennsylvania. The county was organized March 27, 1781, but long before that time emigrants came pouring in; and in 1771 the rush of emigration to Western Pennsylvania was so great that every kind of breadstuff became so scarce in that region that for several months, it is recorded, the settlers were obliged to subsist on meats, roots and vegetables, with milk as the only luxury. They were also harassed by the Indians, and many a log cabin was burned and the occupants murdered or taken captive. Some of the Boyds lost their lives in these Indian raids, and Nancy Kennedy, mother of John Stephens, when about ten years old, was, with her parents and a baby sister, Sallie, captured by the Indians and taken through the snow in the dead of winter to their camp near Detroit, Michigan. Shortly afterward, at the conclusion of a treaty of peace, the captives were taken to Ft. Dearborn and restored to their homes and friends.

Nancy (Kennedy) Stephens was of Welch parentage. She died at the old homestead near Frankfort Springs April 29, 1857, aged 73 years, three months and eighteen days.
FAMILY TREE.

JOHN STEPHENS
- Elizabeth Lytle

Rachel Stephens
- James Caruthers

Isaac Stephens
- Rachel Johnson

Josiah Stephens
- Nellie Huckle

David Caruthers
- John Caruthers
- Thomas Caruthers
- Jane Caruthers
- James Caruthers
- Mary Caruthers

Harvey Stephens
- Newton Stephens
- Joanna Stephens
- David Stephens
- George Stephens
- Mary Stephens
- Nancy Stephens

Isaac Stephens
- Sarah Jane Stephens
- Rachel Stephens
- Oliver Stephens
- Joseph Stephens

Robert Stephens
- Jane Beal

Thomas Stephens
- Joanna Dungan

David Stephens, Jr.
- Martha Beal

Matilda Stephens
- Jacob Swearingen

Sallie Stephens
- Wilson Dungan

David Harvey Stephens
- Hettie Shannon
- David Carl Stephens
- Howard Shannon S.

Albert Greer Stephens
- William Stephens
- Alexander Stephens
- Mary Ella Stephens

Isaac*
Elisha*

*—Died in childhood.