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Kellogg Notebooks On
West Virginia Families:

THE MCCANN FAMILY

Joseph M. Kellogg
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By

Joseph M. Kellogg.
This McCann-Johnson family manuscript should be placed for preservation in the West Virginia Collection of the Library of the West Virginia University at Morgantown, West Va. (The Curator of this collection in 1957 was Charles Shetler)
Legendary Origin of the Family

According to O'Hart's Irish Pedigrees (the standard authority), the McCanns are among those Irish families descended from the ancient royal line of Irish kings, and hence, by tradition, from Adam himself. This line is carried down through Seth, the son of Adam, to Methuselah and to Noah of course, then through Japhet to a series of kings of Scythia, including one called Gathelues, who, it is related, was stung by a serpent in the neck and was brought to Moses who cured him. On account of this he obtained the favor that where his descendants lived, no venomous serpents should exist!

Eventually the line of descent is brought down to the great Milesius, ruler of Spain, whose wife was a daughter of the Pharaoh Nectanebo of Egypt. There was an old prophesy that the race of Milesius should seek out an island in the western sea which would be their future home, and it is said that Milesius determined to conquer Ireland and so fulfill the prophesy, but he died before he could accomplish this purpose, and it was left for the twelve sons of Milesius to do it. They all went to Ireland and conquered the country.

Of descent from the three sons of Milesius who left issue, that by the line of Heremon is considered to be the most illustrious.

Through a long list of Irish kings, covering a period of nearly two thousand years, we come to Cormac Ulfhada (or "long beard"), who is said to have been the "wisest, best, most learned of any of the Milesian race before him." Wealthy too he must have been, for famous are the tales of the sumptuous court he held at Tara. Three or four generations later came Colla da Crioch, who was the founder of the kingdom of Ulster.
Among the numerous Irish families descended from Colla da Crioch is the Mac Cann or McCann family of County Armagh in Ulster. (O'Hart, page 669 and 817). The Irish form of the name is Mac Cana, which is anglicized as McCann. The McCann were Lords of Clan Brazil in County Armagh.

The arms of this Clan Brazil family of McCann were as follows:

Arms: Azure fretty or, on a fess argent a boar passant gules.
Crest: A salmon naiant ppr.
Motto: Crescit sub pondere virtus. meaning "Virtue grows under difficulties".
"A Geneological History of Irish Families" by John Rooney (page 365) gives the origin of the McCann family of Clan Brazil as follows:

The McCann family descend from Milesius of Spain through his son Heremon. The ancient name was Cannach, meaning "handsome." The chiefs of the sept were styled Princes of Clan Bressail in the Co. Armagh. This was the territory of the Ui-Breasal, or Ui-Breasal Mocha, descended from Bresal, son of Phelim, son of Flacha Casan, son of Colla-da-Crioch. Later called Clan Breasal, anglicized as Clan Brazil. The tribe of O'Garveys were the ancient chiefs of this country but in more modern times it belonged to the McCanns, descended from Rochadh, son of Colla-da-Crioch, grandson of Cairbre Lifeochor, King of Ireland A. D. 264. The McCanns, Lords of Clan Bresail took their name from Cana, younger son of Mahan, Lord of O'Neill.

The exact connection of the Clan Brazil family with the McCann immigrants into America has not been worked out as yet, but all of the name McCann come from this one family originally.
Note:

In the time of Queen Elizabeth, after Tyrone’s rebellion, the entire 6 counties of Ulster (including Armagh) were confiscated and transferred in the main to English or Scottish settlers. A certain number of estates were set off, however, to native Irish (presumably those who had been loyal).

Among these were:

Carbery McCan, gent. - 360 acres
Danel " " - 80 "
Rorie McPatrick McCan, gent. - 120 acres
Hugh McBrian McCan, - 80 acres
Carberie Oge McCan and)
Toole McFelim McCan ) 160 acres

These patents were mostly dated 1610, a few dated 1612. They were in the precinct of Orier, Co. Armagh.
Origin of the Family in America

Of course there is no doubt that the McCann family is Irish. It is probable that they came from the north of Ireland, as is suggested in the preceding pages. There seem to have been numerous McCanns in this country, in Maryland, Virginia and Pennsylvania, before or about the time of the Revolutionary war. Whether they were all members of the same nearly related family is not known. There is a tradition in our branch of the family that seven brothers came to this country about that time and all fought in the war, two or three being killed. But like all families, especially Irish ones, various legends more or less romantic cluster about it, and it is hard to tell truth from embroidery. Patrick McCann was at one time thought to have been the first of this branch of the family in this country, but it is now seen that he was the son of one Laurence McCann living in southwestern Pennsylvania and western Virginia at the time of the Revolution. Scattered data in regard to other McCanns will be collected and placed at the end of these notes. For the present just this one family in Harrison Co. Virginia, will be followed.
Laurence McCann, the first from whom we can trace our descent in this country, was living in Washington Co. Pa., (which included all southwestern Pa. and even territory which was still in dispute with Virginia) near the close of the Revolutionary War.

In a list of Washington Co., Pa. militia, in Capt. Timothy Downing's company, the name of Laurence McCann appears, in the 8th class of the 3rd battalion, ordered to rendezvous May 18, 1782; roll dated May 21, 1782. John McCann was in the 2nd class, James McCann was in the 4th class and Daniel McCann was in the 5th class of the same company, ordered to rendezvous April 14th or 18th, 1782. (See Pa. Archives, 6th series, vol. 2, pp. 100, 103, 104, 117, 118). The place of Laurence McCann in the 8th class of the militia; the last to be called into service, shows that he was among the older men in the community.

Laurence McCann evidently removed with his family farther south into what was Harrison Co., Va. (or he may have been living there in a section in dispute between the two states). At any rate his name appears in the Personal Tax lists for Harrison Co. for 1786. He is credited as having 2 male tithables over 16 years of age (including himself), 8 horses and 11 cattle. (A "Francis" McKann in the list for the preceding year, 1785 - the first year for Harrison Co. - having 2 tithables, 8 horses, 3 cattle, may well be a mistake for "Laurence"). In the list for 1787, the
extra male tithable of the preceding lists is now stated to be over 21
years old and named specifically as Daniel McCann, and in addition 2 other
male tithables (over 16 and under 21 years) are given. He has 8 horses and
10 cattle. In the list for 1788, he is given as having the 4 males over 13
(evidently himself, son Daniel and 2 other sons as yet unnamed). The list
for 1789 supplies this want. Laurence is given as with 2 males over 16
(himself and son Daniel apparently—since Daniel does not appear separately),
while a John McCann and a Patrick McCann appear for the first time with 1
and 2 horses respectively, evidently just starting as heads of their own
families. From 1790 to 1798 Laurence McCann appears on the lists as having
either 1 or 3 males over 16 in his family. His name is missing in the lists
for Harrison Co. in 1799, 1800 and 1801. (Whether not having personal
property or away temporarily is not known.) His son Patrick is missing from
the list these same years. In 1802 his name appears again; it is missing in
1803; appears again in 1804, and from then on is missing, though from 1818
on another Laurence McCann appears, a younger man and with a different wife,
as shown on county deed records.

On the Federal Census for 1810, however, "Laury McCan" appears
as being of 45 years or over, with 1 female, evidently his wife, also of 45
yrs. or over. This is in Harrison Co. In 1820 no Laurence McCann appears
in Lewis Co. (Lewis Co. was formed in 1817), but in 1830 the younger Lawrence
appears as of age 20 to 30 yrs.

The first appearance of Laurence McCann's name on the Harrison
County records was on August 18, 1786, when the County Court ordered that
"Lorance McCann be exempted from labouring on the highway". (Harrison Co.
court minute book No. 1, p. 165.) Probably this exemption was on account of
his age or infirmity. A few years later, in 1792, he was similarly
excused. The record has it, on January 16, 1792: "Amaziah Davison, Moses
Elsworth, Laurance McCann and Samuel Beard be exempted from working on the
highway and from all publick taxes and county Levy, in their own persons."
(same Book 1, p. 575).

At a court on August 24, 1787, a suit brought by Laurance McCann
against Joseph Scott was decided by the jury in favor of the plaintiff and
judgment given in the sum of 2 pounds, 13 shillings, and an "order for sail".
(same Book 1, p. 262.) The only other mention of a suit involving Laurence
McCann was on April 16, 1799, when the suit he had brought against Hedgman
Triplett was dismissed at his own request. (same Book 5, p. 555.)

The name of Laurence McCann appears among the signers of a petition
from Harrison Co. to the Virginia Assembly dated Dec. 22, 1803, asking for
the formation of a new county. The signers were mostly people who were living
on the West Fork and Hacker's Creek. It was the first of a number of similar
petitions which were not acted upon favorably until 1817, when Lewis Co. was
established. (see photostat)

Tracing of signature to this petition
Dec. 22, 1803
The only other known signature of Laurence McCann is in connection with the marriage bond of his son Patrick McCann, dated July 21, 1787, when Laurence McCann wrote a note of permission to accompany the bond. This note appears to be entirely in his own handwriting, but the signature has been clipped by trimming the original. The ink on the note is very faded. (See photostat under notes on Patrick McCann), but by holding the original up to the light it could be seen to be as follows:

"July 12 (?), 1787

Clark of harrison to John Haymond Jr. this is to request you to _____ _____ my son Patrick and hanner Jonston _____ _____ good and this shall be your warrant to _____ to which we have sett our hands and seals.

Test

Laurence M /edge of sheet.

Daniel McCan

John McCan.

Laurence McCann's home seems to have been on the West Fork river in (now) Lewis Co., at the mouth of the small stream which ever since has been called McCann's Run. He acquired a tract of land here by purchase from Elias Hughes. Deeds of lease and release from Elias Hughes to Laurence McCann are dated April 19th and 20th, 1790. For 60 pounds McCann obtained a tract of land on the west side of the West Fork, containing 194 acres and 28 poles, "adjoining the land Thomas Hughes now lives on and part on the tract Elias Hughes now occupies," together with two lots in "Hughestown, one lot containing 5 acres and the other 1 acre. Acknowledged and recorded at the April Court, 1790. (Harrison Co. Deed book No. 1, pp. 300-301.)
The United States Geological Survey is making a series of standard topographic maps to cover the United States. This work has been in progress since 1892, and the published maps cover more than 47 percent of the country, exclusive of outlying possessions.

The maps are published on sheets that measure about 16 by 20 inches. Under the general plan adopted the country is divided into quadrangles bounded by parallels of latitude and meridians of longitude. These quadrangles are mapped on different scales, the scale selected for each map being that which is best adapted to general use in the development of the country, and consequently, though the standard maps are of nearly uniform size, the areas that they represent are of different sizes. On the lower margin of each map are printed graphic scales showing distances in feet, meters, miles, and kilometers. In addition, the map is divided by a frame expressing a fixed ratio between linear measurements on the map and the corresponding distances on the earth. For example, the scale 1 inch = 1 mile represents 62,500 of the same units on the earth's surface. However, the scale of each map is shown by a fraction expressing the responding distances on the map. For example, the scale 1 inch = nearly 1 mile represents 50,000 of the same units on the earth's surface.

Although some areas are surveyed and some maps are compiled and published on special scales for special purposes, the standard topographic surveys and the resulting maps have for many years been of three types, differentiated as follows:

1. Surveys of areas in which there are problems of great public importance relating, for example, to mineral development, irrigation, or reclamation, are made with sufficient detail to be used in the publication of maps on a scale of 1 inch = nearly 1 mile, with a contour interval of 1 to 100 feet.

2. Surveys of areas in which the problems are of minor public importance, such as much of the mountain or desert portion of Arizona or New Mexico, and the high mountain area of the northwest, are made with sufficient detail to be used in the publication of maps on a scale of 1 inch = nearly 2 miles, with a contour interval of 2 to 250 feet.

3. Surveys of areas in which the problems are of minor public importance, such as much of the mountain or desert portion of Arizona or New Mexico, and the high mountain area of the northwest, are made with sufficient detail to be used in the publication of maps on a scale of 1 inch = nearly 8 miles. For some areas of special interest in plotting topographic, the graphic scales are utilized also in the making of the regular topographic maps, which show relief as well as drainage and culture.

A topographic survey of Alaska has been in progress since 1898, and nearly 44 percent of its area has now been mapped. About 15 percent of the Territory has been covered by maps on a scale of 1 inch = nearly 8 miles. For some areas of special interest, the maps are published on a scale of 1 inch = nearly 4 miles. For some areas of particular economic importance, covering about 4,000 square miles, the maps published are on a scale of 1 inch = nearly 1 mile or larger.

In addition to the maps covered by topographic maps, about 11,500 square miles of southeastern Alaska have been covered by planimetric maps on scale of 1 inch = nearly 1 mile, and the Hawaiian Islands have been surveyed, and the resulting maps are published on a scale of 1 inch = nearly 8 miles. A survey of Puerto Rico is now in progress. The scale of the published maps is 1 inch = nearly 1 mile.

The features shown on topographic maps may be arranged in three groups: (1) water, including seas, lakes, rivers, canals, swamps, and other bodies of water; (2) relief, including mountains, hills, valleys, and other features of the land surface; (3) culture (works of man), such as towns, cities, roads, railroads, and boundaries. The symbols used to represent these features are shown and explained below. Variations appear on some earlier maps, and additional features are represented on some special maps.

All the water features are represented in blue, the smallest streams and lakes by a single blue line and the larger streams by double lines. The larger streams, lakes, and the sea are accentuated by blue water lining or blue trails. Interwoven trails—those whose beds are dry for a large part of the year—are shown by lines of blue dots and dashes.

Relief is shown by contour lines in brown, which on a few maps are supplemented by shading showing the effect of light thrown from the northwest across the area represented, for the purpose of giving the appearance of relief and thus aiding in the interpretation of the contour lines. A contour line represents an imaginary line on the ground (a contour) every part of which is at the same altitude above sea level. Such a line could be drawn at any altitude, but in practice only the contours at certain regular intervals of altitude are shown. The contour interval (the vertical interval of altitude) is the difference between any two consecutive contour lines, and its value is stated at the bottom of each map. The 30-foot contour would be the lowest line if the map should rise 20 feet above mean sea level. Contour lines show the slope of the hill, mountains, and valleys, as well as their altitude. Successive contour lines that are far apart on the map indicate a gentle slope, lines that are close together indicate a steep slope, and lines that run together indicate a cliff.

The manner in which contour lines express altitude, form, and grade is shown in the figure below.

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The sketch represents a river valley that lies between two hills. In the foreground is the sea, with a bay that is partly enclosed by a hooked sand bar. On each side of the valley is a terrace into which small streams have cut narrow gullies. The hill on the right has a rounded summit and gently sloping spurs terminated by ravines. The spurs are truncated at their lower ends by a sea cliff. The hill on the left terminates abruptly at the valley in a steep escarpment, from which it slopes gradually away and forms an inclined tableland that is traversed by a few shallow gullies.
This land was part of a tract of 357 acres on the West Fork which Elias Hughes had had surveyed on March 1, 1785, by virtue of a certificate of settlement in 1776. (Harrison Co. Survey book 1, p. 225). The survey is as follows:

On a part of this tract Elias Hughes laid out a town plot and sold lots to his friends and neighbors. The "town" never came to anything however. (Elias and Thomas Hughes were brothers of Jesse Hughes the famous Indian fighter.)

On the land tax records of Harrison Co., which begin only in 1796, Laurence McCann was taxed on this property, or 200 acres, which was given an assessment value of 44 pounds, 1 shilling, 5 pence, or (in 1799) of 54 dollars.

At various times Laurence McCann disposed of parts of this land, as follows:

1797, Feb. 20. "Laurence McCann" and wife Mary sell, for 50 pounds, to Adam Hickman, 2 lots in Hughestown on the south side of Main St, together containing 6 acres. Laurence McCann signed this by making
his mark. Acknowledged and recorded at the February court, 1797.
Wife Mary relinquished her dower. (Deed book #1, p. 564.)

1799, March 8. "Lawrence McCann" and Mary his wife, and Patrick McCann
and Hannah his wife, sell to John "Coonrad" for 100 dollars, a
parcel of land on the West Fork, containing 72 acres, next to land
of said Conrad. All signed this deed. Proved and recorded at

1799, Sept. 15. "Lawrence McCann" and wife Mary sell to John Conrad, for
60 pounds, a parcel of land containing 48 acres on the west side of
the West Fork adjoining other land of said McCann, of said Conrad
and of John Nealy, - lying on both sides of McCann's Run, said to be
a part of the tract deeded to McCann by Elias Hughes on April 20,
1791. Acknowledged, proven and recorded at the Oct. court, 1799.
(Deed book No. 4, p. 225.)

After this last transaction Lawrence McCann's property was reduced
to about 145 acres, and on that amount he was taxed in 1802-1806, on the Land
Tax lists. In 1807-1809, the amount of land is given as 140 acres (no doubt
the same tract however). After 1809, the name of Lawrence McCann does not
appear on the Land Tax records. In 1810 this 140 acre property is credited
to Daniel McCann; in 1811, Daniel and Patrick McCann are given together 145
acres; in 1812 Daniel McCann is credited with 147 acres on the West Fork river.

This property was finally disposed of by two deeds as follows:
1814, March 25. "Lawrence McCann" and wife Mary, and Patrick McCann and wife
Hannah, sell to Adam Alkire, for 150 dollars, land, 59 acres, on the
West fork river, "being part of a tract formerly patented to Elias
Hews," next land of Manuel Alkire and Isaac Eagle. Signed by "Lawrence
McCann," and Mary makes her mark. Patrick signs it and Hannah makes her mark. The witnesses were Daniel McCann and Peter Bush. Proven and recorded Aug. 30, 1814 (Deed book No. 12, p. 59).

1814, April 20. "Laurance McCann" and wife Mary sell to Manuel Alkire, for 500 dollars, 100 acres of land "more or less" on the West Fork river. Laurence makes his mark and Mary signs it apparently. Proven and recorded Aug. 30, 1814. (Deed book No. 12, p. 114). The land was described as adjoining lands of John Bailey, Adam Alkire and land claimed by Elijah Elsworth.

It seems evident, from these deeds and the Land and Personal Tax records, as well as the federal census of 1810, that Laurence McCann was still living until some time in 1814 anyway, but had turned over possession of his home property to his sons Daniel and Patrick. Probably he died some time in 1814 or 1815. Certainly he was dead before 1819, when his widow Mary made her will and also died.

One other item bearing on Laurence McCann is taken from an original paper found in the stored files in the basement of the courthouse at Clarksburg. It gives a list of "Crows and Squirrel Scalps" brought in and reported to the county authorities for the purpose of claiming the bounty in such trophies of the hunt. In the year 1792, Laurence McCann is credited with 36 squirrels and 9 crows. This is a very large amount, almost double the bag of any one else. Probably, however, it represents the combined efforts of himself and sons Daniel and Patrick (as their names are not included in the list for that year, although son John McCann is credited with 9 crows).

Laurence McCann's wife's name was Mary. What her maiden family
name was is not known. She outlived her husband and died in 1819. Her will, dated April 15, 1819, was proved at the November court 1819. The will reads as follows:

Last Will and Testament of Mary McCan deceased.

April fifteenth in the year of our Lord one thousand eighteen hundred and nineteen. In the name of God being in my perfect senses and memory and after Discharging my funeral expenses ye Dow will and bequeath all my personal Eastat that is to say one horse two cows together with my Beads and all the house furniture also the Land that is Deeded in Daniels name to my sun Patrick and his heirs for ever as Witness my hand this day and date above.

test

George Clein
her
Nanse x McNamar.
mark

Proved by the oaths of George Clein and Nancy McNamar, and recorded, November 1819. (Lewis Co. Will Book 1, p. 18.)
Tracing of Signatures to the Will

Mary Mo...[signature]

Test
George E. Line

Laurence McCall
Martha McNa...[signature]

The known children of Laurence and Mary McCall were:

+ (2)  i. Daniel. Born perhaps about 1765.


2nd Generation

(2) Daniel McCann

Daniel McCann, (son of Laurence) was born about 1765, or perhaps even earlier than that. Evidently he came with his father to Harrison Co., where he first appears by name on the Personal Tax lists in 1787, still however in the family of Laurence McCann. The McCanns apparently lived together there on the farm at the mouth of McCann's Run, even after the sons, Daniel, Patrick and John were married. Daniel McCann first appears for himself, as head of a family, in these lists in 1803, and his name is on the lists more or less continuously from that date until 1820. In the years 1806 to 1812 inclusive he is called "constable," and is marked as exempt from tax.

In the federal census for 1810, in Harrison Co. Daniel McCann has a family of 2 males of 45 years or over and 1 female of similar age. (The extra male probably represents his brother Patrick McCann, since the latter does not appear for himself in the census of that year).

Daniel McCann was surety for his brother Patrick McCan on the latter's marriage bond, dated July 21, 1787. (See photostat under notes on Patrick McCan.)

Tracing of signature to this bond

Daniel McCann
He also signed as witness both the note of permission from his father, Patrick McCann, and also the similar note from William Johnston.

On the Minutes of the Court for Harrison Co. of date March 17, 1789, appears the following: Daniel McCann came into court and proved by William Radcliff Senr. "that he, said McCann had lost a part of the end of his nose in a fray by the bite of a man." (Court Minute Book No. 1, p. 376.) Possibly Daniel McCann's pugnacious, or courageous, nature made him a fit candidate for the office of constable. On Oct. 21, 1805, Daniel McCann was appointed as Constable; he came into court, entered into bond, and was sworn into office. (Minute book 7, p. 19.) He was regularly re-appointed as such until 1813. On April 17, 1804, he had also been appointed a road surveyor, in place of Philip Cox (same, book 6, p. 92).

Among the old original court papers (in the files in the basement of the courthouse at Clarksburg) is a petition to the Court from Daniel McCann, dated May 22, 1789, stating that he, as the assignee of Patrick McCann, assignee in turn of Charles Harry, had owing to him the sum of 3 pounds from William Shaw, Thomas Shaw, and Patrick Magonagle, as shown by a "note of hand." The original note was from these men to Joel Lowther and was dated March 3, 1788. They promised to deliver to him before April 15th next one good cow and calf. On the back of the note are the various assignments: that from Lowther to Charles Harry, that from Harry to Patrick McCan, and then that dated May 20, 1789, from Patrick McCan to Daniel McCann.
Daniel McCann had a rather long drawn out suit against Elias (or "Ellis") Hughes, as shown by the Court Minute books. On Nov. 25, 1791; - Daniel McCann vs Ellis Hughes. - On complaint of Plaintiff the Defendant is bound in the sum of 40 pounds and sureties David Sleeth and Sotha Hickman in the sum of 20 pounds each, for said Ellis Hughes keeping the peace towards said McCann unto next March court (Minute book No. 1, p. 566). On March 20, 1792, the case was continued, and similarly on August 21, 1792. On March 20, 1793: Daniel McCann vs. Ellis Hughes - Parties came into Court and agreed their suit in words to wit: Defendant agrees to pay all the Plaintiff's Clerk's costs but 12 shillings, 6 pence which plaintiff has paid for the year 1791. Plaintiff is to pay attorney's fees, sheriff's fees and all cost of his own witnesses. Judgment given.
Daniel McCann's name appears in connection with the estate of David Bennett who died apparently about 1807. In the list of notes in the hands of Jacob Bungardner, the executor of the estate, was one to Daniel McCann for $7.50, and one to Patrick McCan for $12.15. At the sale of this estate in 1814, Daniel McCann bought "a red steer" for $7.50, and Patrick McCann bought a "white backed steer" for $6.00 and another one for $6.15. Evidently, they took the livestock in payment of their notes. In the inventory of the estate of Hezekiah Davissen, dated October, 1794, there is included a long list of debts "from the day book." Daniel McCann owed one pound, 2 shillings & 5 pence (rather more than most). From Harrison Co. Will Book 1, p. 59.

Daniel McCann was among the signers of the petition dated Nov. 20, 1816 to the Virginia Assembly, asking for the formation of a new county (which resulted in the establishment of Lewis Co.).

When Laurence McCann grew old he seems to have turned over possession of the farm property there on the West Fork to his sons Daniel and Patrick McCann. After 1809 the name of Laurence McCann does not appear on the Land Tax records and in 1810 the 140 acre McCann property is credited to Daniel McCann. In 1811 it is given to Daniel and Patrick McCann together; in 1812 Daniel McCann alone again has it.

In the spring of 1814 the whole of this property was deeded away by the McCanns to Adam and Manuel Alkire (see notes on Laurence McCann). Perhaps in exchange for the property on McCann's Run, we have a deed, dated August 25, 1814, from Emanuel Alkire and wife Sarah to Daniel McCann, for 280 dollars, for 100 acres of land on Freeman's Creek. Acknowledged and recorded August 30, 1814.
1814 (Harrison Co. Deed book No. 12, p. 113).

On the Harrison Co. Land tax records for 1815, Daniel McCann is credited with this 100 acres "on the waters of Freeman's creek". On the Lewis Co. list for 1817, he is given the same 100 acres now called "on Leading creek." In 1819 and 1820, this 100 acres, "on Freemans creek" is credited to "Daniel McCan's heirs". (Leading creek is a branch of Freeman's creek, and is farther west in Lewis Co. than the West Fork central valley.)

This no doubt is the land spoken of in the will of Mary McCann dated April 15, 1819, as "deeded in Daniel's name", but apparently really belonging to her and which she leaves to her other son Patrick McCann. On the Lewis Co. tax records in the years 1826-1840, Patrick McCan is credited with this Freeman's creek property.

On January 5, 1817, Daniel McCann signed as surety the marriage bond of Joseph Cline to marry Sarah McCann. She was possibly Daniel McCann's daughter. The actual marriage was reported as of date Jan. 28, 1817, by William Hacker.

Tracing of signatures to this bond

[Signature tracings]
Daniel McCann died in 1819, (probably about the same time as his mother Mary McCann), as shown by the Land Records above mentioned and also by the record of the appraisement of the estate of "Daniel McCan deceased," dated May 15, 1819, and presented to the August, 1820 court by Patrick McCann, the administrator. The appraisement was made by William White, Robert Brown, and George White and totaled only $37.12. The items given are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One note on Alexander Reade</td>
<td>$4.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>one coffee mill</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a pewter dish</td>
<td>$1.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Trunk</td>
<td>$.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Books</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 pot &amp; Bales</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Dutch oven</td>
<td>$1.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 wooden bole, 1 bucket, 1 celer</td>
<td>$0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 matick, 1 ox, 1 weden how</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Butcher knife, 1 Rasser and strop, 1 pen knife</td>
<td>$0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Sadel, 1 lather Coler, 1 small cloves</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 mat and some clothes, 1 pare of shoes</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 chairs</td>
<td>$.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 pair of Sickle &amp; case</td>
<td>$.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To cash</td>
<td>$3.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Nursery of apple trees</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$37.12

It is not known whether Daniel McCann was married or not.

There seems to be no mention of a wife. Possibly the Sarah McCann who married Joseph Cline in 1817 was a daughter.
John McCann, (son of Laurence), was born probably about 1766. (He was younger than Daniel but slightly older than Patrick.) He appears by name for the first time on the Personal Tax lists of Harrison Co. in 1789. After that date he appears regularly in the lists through 1798, and then disappears completely. His name does not appear at all on the land tax records. Probably, even after he was married, he lived with his father and brothers on the home farm at the mouth of McCann’s Run. On January 7, 1789, John McCann cast his vote in the national election in Harrison Co. (showing that he was over 21 years old at that time, anyway).

John McCann married on Nov. 4, 1789, in Harrison Co., Catherine Brown. The ceremony was performed by Rev. John W. Loughborough. (Harrison Co. marriage record, No. 1, p. 11). The marriage bond was dated Oct. 31, 1789, and signed by John McCann, with his brother Patrick McCann as surety (see photostat). The bond is accompanied by a note from John Brown giving permission for the marriage of his daughter.

Tracing of signatures to the marriage bond

[Signature Tracing]
Sir, where I am gratified to go and your
loving lady in Plz to go, John McCann
have listen to be married to my Da ther
Catherine Brown as I believe well accord to it
To more from your friend, John Brown.

Patrick McCann

John McCann

Helen Sanders
Catherine Brown was the daughter of John Brown Senior. The Browns were among the early settlers in Harrison Co., coming there about 1785 from near Moorefield in what is now Hardy Co. (Before living in Hardy or Hampshire Co. they had been in Cumberland Co. Pa.). John Brown Sr. himself had been one of that earliest exploring party to Harrison Co. in 1769, but unlike William Radcliffe, Jesse Hughes and others of the party, he delayed actual settlement in the West Fork valley until after the Revolutionary war. John Brown Sr. died in 1808 (as shown by the Personal tax lists). His will was dated Oct. 1, 1807. In it he mentions his wife Eleanor (to whom he left the bulk of his estate), son John Brown Jr. and daughter Mary Flesher. He appointed his friend William Sims and son John as executors. The will was witnessed by Judas Brown and John Schoolcraft.

The appraisement was dated Feb. 1, 1808, and totaled 55 pounds, 17 shillings. At the sale of the estate, Daniel McCann bought 1 augur and cutting box at 10 sh. and 1 sled at 5 sh. Patrick McCann bought 3 clevises at 8 sh.

In Smith's History of Lewis Co., it is said that the Browns settled on White Oak Flat run, where they built a fort, a short distance from the later site of the Broad Run Baptist church.

Among the children of John Brown Sr. besides the daughters Catherine McCann and Mary Flesher, there were sons John Jr., James and Edward. Perhaps Michael Brown was another son. James Brown in his pension declaration, dated Aug. 7, 1832, stated that he was aged 76 years, born in Cumberland Co., Pa. in 1756. Lived in Hampshire Co. where he enlisted in March, 1778. Removed to Lewis Co. in 1782. At Yorktown, he saw Washington, Lafayette, etc.; also General Knox, "who commanded the Cannons." "We use to say Gen'l Knox gave hard knocks." His statement was certified to by Mark
Smith and John Brown ("declarants brother") who said he came to Lewis Co. before his brother James did. John Brown Jr. in his own Pension declaration, of same date Aug. 7, 1852, said that he was 67 years of age (hence born in 1785), and that he enlisted in Hampshire Co. in 1781. This John Brown died Sept. 14, 1855. James Brown is also said to have died Sept. 15, 1855, and his wife Sarah (Shepherd) Brown died March 1, 1855. Edward Brown the third son died July 31, 1825 and he is buried at the cemetery of the old Broad Run Baptist church.

John McCann signed, as surety, the marriage bond of Michael Brown to marry Mary Childers, dated June 22, 1789.

Signatures to this bond.

The actual marriage occurred on June 29, 1789.

John McCann's signature also occurs as a witness to the note of Laurence McCann giving permission for his son Patrick to marry Hannah Johnston. This note was dated July 12, 1787. (see photostat under notes on Patrick McCann). John McCann also signed as surety the marriage bond of Edward Tanner to marry Sarah Brown, daughter of John Brown Sr., dated July 23, 1792.
Tracing of signature to this bond

John McCann

This marriage actually occurred on Aug. 2, 1792. Rev. Joseph Cheuvront was the minister.

Another marriage in the Brown family was that of John Brown Jr. to Margaret Carpenter, on May 4, 1791. She was the daughter of Nicholas Carpenter, who was surety for John Brown on his bond, dated April 19, 1791.

Tracing of signature to this bond

John Brown

There are a few references to John McCann on the Minutes of the Harrison Co. court. On Nov. 22, 1786, the suit of the State vs. John McCann was tried and the Defendant was fined 10 shillings with costs (Minute book No. 1, p. 187). On March 18, 1789, the suit of John McCann vs. John West was tried. Judgment was given for the Plaintiff in the sum of 1 pound, 18
shillings, 9 pence. (same, p. 578) On August 21, 1792, the suit of John McCann vs. Elias Hughes was continued (same, p. 617); and on March 20, 1793, this suit was settled in a similar manner to that of Daniel McCann vs. Elias Hughes the same defendant (Book 2, p. 26). On Sept. 19, 1796, John McCann is given as surety for Patrick McCann on his bond for license to keep an inn or "ordinary". (Book 2, p. 408)

On an original paper giving a list of names of persons who had brought in the scalps of squirrels and crows (to claim the legal reward), for the year 1791, John McCann is credited with 13 squirrel scalps. Again in 1792, he is given credit on the list for 9 crows.

After 1798 all mention of John McCann is missing on the Harrison or Lewis Co. records. It is clear that about that time he moved away somewhere. This was the time that Ohio and Illinois were being opened up to settlement, and it seems likely that he removed to one or the other of those places.
(4) **Patrick McCann**

Patrick McCann, (son of Laurence) was born probably about 1767. (Just where the McCanns were living at that time is not known. Perhaps it was in Cumberland Co., Pa. or Hampshire Co. Va., since the family was closely connected with the Browns who came from those places. There were, however, McCanns in Maryland at about that time and it is possible that Patrick McCann was born there.)

No doubt Patrick McCann came as a young man with his father to Harrison Co. about 1785. He first appears by name, as a head of a family, on the Personal Tax lists in 1789. and then appears more or less regularly on the Harrison Co. lists through the year 1815. (In the years 1799-1801 all the McCanns of this particular family are absent for some reason from these lists.) From 1795 to 1797 inclusive Patrick McCann is called "constable" on the lists and apparently excused from any tax, and similarly from 1807 to 1811 inclusive.

On the federal census of 1810, in Harrison Co., Patrick McCann's name does not appear, but probably he is the extra male over 45 years of age in the family of Daniel McCann (since their father Laurence McCann appears separately for himself. As mentioned, in the notes on Laurence and Daniel McCann, it seems probable that all the McCanns of this family lived together on the home farm at the mouth of McCann's Run, until after the death of the father, Laurence McCann.)

Almost the first appearance of Patrick McCann in the records of Harrison Co. was his marriage in 1787. On July 28, 1787, Patrick McCann married Hannah Johnston, the daughter of William Johnston. The ceremony was performed by Rev. John Wade Loughborough. (Harrison Co. Marriage records,
Book 1, p. 8.) The marriage bond was dated July 21, 1787, and was signed by Patrick McCan, with his elder brother Daniel McCann as surety. (see photostat) Accompanying the marriage bond were two separate notes of permission, one from Laurence McCann, the father of Patrick, and the other from William Johnson the father of Hannah. The note from Laurence McCann, in ink so faded that it cannot be read in the photostat but which can be almost entirely made out in the original, reads as follows:

"July 12, 1787.

Clark of harrison to John Haymond Jr. this is to request you to _________ my son Patrick and hanner Jonston ________ good and this shall be your warrant to ________ to which we have sett our hands and seels.

Test.

Daniel McCan

Laurence McCan, edge of sheet.

John McCan
Nowell Munford presents that we, Patrick McCan and Hannah Johnson of the County of Harrison, residents of the District of the Governor and State his Delegate, have paid all taxes due in the sum of forty dollars lawful money of the said State for said year to the true performance whereof we have hereunto set our hands in this Twenty-fifth day of December, one thousand seven hundred and thirty-seven.

The condition of the above obligation is such that if there be no lawful use to obstruct the marriage now intended between the said Patrick McCan and Hannah Johnson of the County House, then the above obligation shall be void and none of the former parties to remain in full force and virtue in law.

Signed and sealed in the presence of

Patrick McCan

Daniel McCan

Benjamin

[Additional text in the margin]
Tracings of signatures to the bond and notes

Hannah 
Johnston

Patrick 
McCann

Daniel 
McCann

(The fact that there were these notes of permission from both the father of the bride and that of the groom would seem to indicate that both Hannah Johnston and Patrick McCann were under age (21 years) at the time, since such a note of permission was not necessary unless the person to be married was under age.)

Patrick McCann in turn was surety for his other brother John
McCann on the latter's bond to marry Catherine Brown, dated Oct. 31, 1789. (see notes on John McCann.)

The first mention of Patrick McCann on the Court Minute books for Harrison Co. is on Nov. 22, 1786, when the suit of the State vs Patrick McCann was tried and the Defendant was fined 10 shillings and costs. At the same time a similar suit against his brother John McCann resulted in the same fine (Minute book 1, p. 187). Just what misdemeanor these two McCann brothers had committed is not known. On May 20, 1789, a suit brought by Patrick McCann against Job Hughes was settled by agreement. (same, p. 395)

On April 20, 1790, a suit of Patrick McCann vs. Peter Kenshels resulted in judgment for the Plaintiff in the sum of £2 - 6 - 0. (same, p. 454)

On January 16, 1792 it was ordered that Patrick McCann be permitted to keep an ordinary at his own house for one year from date, if he gives bond, with Daniel McCann as surety (same, p. 575). This license was regularly renewed each year including 1798, as shown by the Minute books, and possibly later. At any rate Book 13, p. 117 shows that on January 18, 1815, Patrick McCann was again licensed to keep an ordinary. Preserved in photostat from among the Marriage bonds (vol. 1, p. 278) is the bond of Patrick McCann to keep such an ordinary, dated Feb. 9, 1798. His father Laurence McCann was his surety in this case. The conditions of the bond were stated as that "sd Patrick doth constantly find and provide in his sd ordinary good wholesome and cleanly Lodging and diet for travelers and stablage, fodder & provender or pasturage and provender as the person shall require for their horses for and during the time of one year" etc. etc. - also that he "shall not suffer any unlawful gaming in his sd. ordinary nor on the Sabath day tipple and drink more than is necessary."
Tracing of signatures to this bond

Patrick McCann
Lawrence McCann

[Signature]

It is evident that the McCann home there on the West Fork was a regularly licensed inn or stopping place on the road up and down the valley. It must have been a fairly large house, to provide for such travelers as well as the family. During much of the time that Patrick McCann kept this "ordinary" either he or his brother Daniel (and sometimes both) was Constable, so no doubt the best of order was preserved there! The Personal tax lists show that Patrick McCann was Constable in Harrison Co. from 1795 to 1797 inclusive, and again, on July 20, 1807, the Court minute has it: "Patrick McCah appointed constable in room of Zacheus Copin who refuses to serve. He gave bond and took the oath (Minute book 8, p. 250). He continued in this office through 1811 at any rate.
On 3rd Monday, January 1793, Patrick McCann came into court and made oath that he has lost or "mislade" a note which he had against Jesse Carpenter for $1 - 2 - 10, dated June 11th, 1792 - due on remainder. The notation "Paid" is there on the record. (same, book 2, p. 12)

On Feb. 17, 1795, it was ordered that the Sheriff summon James Brown to appear at next court and shew cause why 2 "orphan" children shall not be taken from him for ill treatment to sd "orphants", complaint being made to court. Also sheriff summon the wife of John Brown Senior and Patrick McCann and his wife as witnesses in behalf of said children. (Same, Book 2, p. 199) The Browns and McCanns were evidently near neighbors. This complaint was heard on March 17th, when these 3 witnesses were sworn and gave their testimony, and then it was ordered that the 2 orphan boys, Solomon and Isaac Brown should be formally bound as apprentices to James Brown, "to learn the occupation of a farmer" until they were 21 years old, he to give them "Learning and freedom due according to law". James Brown to appear at the next Court & exchange indentures and bring proof of the boys ages etc. - (which he did do on April 21, 1795). (Book 2, pp. 205 and 215)

On Feb. 16, 1795, Patrick McCann had come into Court and taken the oath as administrator of the estate of William Johnson deceased, and had entered into bond according to law. (same, p. 195) William Johnson of course was Patrick McCann's father-in-law. His family had been almost entirely wiped out by the Indians in the summer of 1789, when his wife and three children were killed and four other children taken captive. (see notes on the Johnson family) Hannah (Johnson) McCann, the eldest child was apparently the only heir, but William Johnson soon after married again, to the widow Elizabeth Berry who had several children by her former marriage. After Johnson's death
Patrick McCann, as administrator of the estate, seems to have had some difficulties with the Berry family. Then too his duties as constable seem to have brought him into trouble. The following notes are about various suits brought against him in the succeeding years.

On Oct. 19, 1795, John Love brought suit against Patrick McCann. Trial was set for the next February court. Love made oath that Elizabeth Johnson was a material witness in his behalf in this suit, and it was ordered that a "didimus go forth" to take her deposition (Minute book 2, p. 273-274). The suit was tried on Feb. 15, 1796 and judgment was awarded Love, the plaintiff, for £ 2 - 12 - 9. (As shown by the original "execution" paper, the total amount McCann had to pay was £ 4 - 13 - 1, for in addition to the judgment for the debt there were 7 sh - 6 d. for attorneys fees and £ 1 - 12 - 10 for costs.)

In the meantime Sarah Berry had also brought suit against Patrick McCann as administrator of the estate of William Johnson, and on January 18, 1796, Judgment was also awarded against him for £ 3 - 8 - 0 in this suit (same, p. 301). The original papers show that the costs here were £ 1 - 1 - 2, and the attorneys' fees 7 sh. 6 d., so the total came to £ 4 - 16 - 8. The execution paper is endorsed: "Money paid to plaintiff March 22, 1816 by me Peter Kenshely, deputy sheriff".

On Feb. 16, 1796 also, William Robinson was awarded a judgment against Patrick McCann for £ 3 - 2 - 1 and interest from Feb. 18, 1795. (This was date McCann assumed his duties as administrator of Johnson's estate). (Same, Book 2, p. 314)

On August 25, 1797, the suit of James Schoolcraft and his wife (formerly Mary Carpenter) against Patrick McCann was tried before a jury. The
original summons on Schoolcraft's plea of trespass and damage, to the extent of 50 dollars, had been dated May 20, 1796. They complained that the Defendant, Patrick McCann, on the blank day of December, 1794, under color of his office as Constable, but without any right, etc. - did seize and execute one large Pot, that would contain 8 gallons, of the value of 5 pounds, the property of said Mary Schoolcraft, and sold said pot by public sale to one Elijah Runyan - to the plaintiff's damage in the sum of 50 dollars and against the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth, etc. Quite a number of witnesses were summoned including Elijah and John Runyan, Amos, Jeremiah and Debe Carpenter. Among those witnesses for Patrick McCann were Daniel and John McCann. After trial, the jury found for the plaintiff 5 pounds fine as damages. Judgment so ordered (Book 5, p. 75).

On Oct. 17, 1797, the suit of John Radcliff vs Patrick McCann was heard. This was over a note dated March 21, 1797, for L 5 - 11 - 8, given by McCann to Peter Kenshelo or John Radcliff to be paid on or before next ensuing September court.

Tracing of signature to this Note:

[Signature]

Date: June 21 - 1797.
The note evidently had not been paid on time, hence the suit. Judgment was awarded the plaintiff in the sum of the note, £ 5 – 11 – 8 plus interest from Sept. court day and costs (Book 3, p. 103).

There were a number of various other suits in Harrison Co. at different times, involving Patrick McCann, which were usually settled by agreement or with small damages assessed. The original papers in one suit show signatures of Patrick and John McCann as follows:

In that original paper, already mentioned, giving a list of squirrel and crow scalps turned in to the sheriff for the reward, for the year 1791, Patrick McCann is credited with 12 squirrels and 3 crows. (John McCann with 13 squirrels)

Patrick McCann does not seem to have owned any land for himself until after the death of his father-in-law William Johnson in 1795. It is true that just at the time of his marriage in 1787 he had entered a large tract over in Randolph Co. The Land entry book No. 1, for Randolph Co., p. 2 shows that on July 20, 1787, Patrick McCann, as assignee of Edward Jackson, assignee in turn of Henry Banks, made an entry for 500 acres of land on Williams river, about 2½ miles below where the county line crosses said river.
the first time to include the Watering Ponds, by virtue of the original Treasury warrant to Banks dated Dec. 24, 1783. But this entry is marked "Withdrawn". Possibly it was found to be in the possession of some one else.

When William Johnson died, Patrick McCann became the administrator of the estate, and he was also the husband of William Johnson's only surviving child, so he came into possession of Johnson's land, with the exception of the dower right in this property held by Johnson's second wife and widow. Soon, however, she relinquished this right to him. On March 25, 1796, Elizabeth Johnson sells to Patrick McCann, for 20 dollars, her dower right in the land that had been her husband's, situated on Davissen's Run, above Joseph Davis, to hold during her natural life. (She only had a life interest of course). Acknowledged and recorded at the March court, 1796. (Harrison Co. Deed book No. 2, p. 225). The amount of this land, or of her dower right in it is not mentioned in this deed, but on the Land Tax records for Lewis Co. in the next year 1797, Patrick McCann is taxed on 21 acres, of a total assessed value of £1 - 9 - 3, so evidently this was the amount of the dower right in the Johnson land. This 21 acre tract on Davissen's run continues to be credited to him in 1798 and 1799, but not thereafter. Evidently he disposed of it in some way about that time, or possibly this represents the time of the death of widow Elizabeth Johnson.

On June 18, 1798, John and Margaret Brown sold to Patrick McCann 2 lots in Hughestown, one containing 5 acres and the other one acre. Acknowledged and recorded at the June court, 1798 (Harrison Co. Deed book 3, p. 308). These 6 acres appear, credited to Patrick McCann on the Land tax list for 1799, and continues so through 1807, but not later.
Patrick McCann seems to have been associated with his father in possession of the McCann original homestead on the West Fork, for on the Land Tax list of 1811, he and Daniel McCann his brother are credited with the 145 acre tract there; and Patrick McCann and wife Hannah were associated with his father and mother, Laurence and Mary McCann, in giving deeds for the farm property to the Alkires and John Conrad, on March 8, 1799, and March 25, 1814. (see Notes on Laurence McCann)

On May 1, 1813, Patrick McCann entered 100 acres in Harrison Co., as the assignee of Daniel Stringer, as part of a Treasury warrant for 3000 acres dated Jan. 2, 1813. This 100 acre tract was "at the mouth of Catey's Run, adjoining land surveyed for William Johnston, including part of the fallen timber." (Harrison Co. Land entry book No. 2, p. 251). Harrison Co. Survey Book No. 4, p. 455, shows that this land was surveyed on July 29, 1813, by Edward Jackson, assistant surveyor. It is described as being on Ten Mile Creek and Catie's Run, a drain thereof, beginning at a sugar tree near the mouth of said Run, corner to a survey made for William Johnson, thence etc. Tracing of this survey is as follows: (This land was patented Dec. 30, 1816 -- Va. Land patent book No. 66, p. 192.)
Patrick McCann only kept title to this property for about ten years, for on April 21, 1825, Patrick McCann and Hannah his wife, "of Lewis Co." sell to Thomas Gain of Harrison Co., for 500 dollars, 100 acres of land on Ten Mile Creek and Catie's Run, next to corner of survey made for William Johnson. Signed by both Patrick & Hannah McCann. Acknowledged and recorded on April 21, 1825. (Harrison Deed book No. 16, p. 144)

After the McCanns sold their home property on the West Fork in 1814, they acquired another tract of land, this time out on Freemans creek in the western part of the county. This land, of 100 acres, was deeded in
the name of Daniel McCann, from Emanuel Alkire on August 25, 1814, but it was evidently considered to belong to Mary McCann, the mother of Daniel and Patrick McCann, and the widow of Laurence McCann, for when she died in 1819, in her will she leaves "the land deeded in Daniel's name" to her son Patrick McCann. Daniel McCann also died just about the same time, in 1819, and Patrick McCann was the administrator of his estate, and came into possession of this property on Freeman's creek. It is possible that even some time before that date he had been living out in that region, for in a deed, dated Dec. 21, 1807, from George Arnold to John Cline, land is mentioned "on Leading Creek, which emptying opposite where Patrick McCan now lives". 
(Harrison Co. Deed book No. 7, p. 158)

Patrick McCan was taxed for this 100 acres on Freeman's Creek on the Land Tax records of Lewis Co. through 1830. On August 3, 1830, he sold to Vincent Alexander, for 40 dollars land lying on Freeman's Creek next to land of Alexander purchased from Emanuel Alkire and William White, 9 3/4 acres. Signed by Patrick McCann. Recorded August term, 1830 in Lewis Co. 
(Deed book D, p. 335, of Lewis Co.)

Tracing of signature to this deed (from original)

Then on the Tax lists he is credited with 90 1/2 acres until 1834, when this is reduced to 81 1/2 acres (on Freeman's creek). Evidently he had disposed of another
small part of this property. The 81½ acres is then continued, credited to Patrick McCann, through 1859.

On Dec. 22, 1805, Patrick McCann had been among the signers of the petition asking for the formation of a new county. His signature is the familiar one (see photostat in notes on Laurence McCann). His father Laurence McCann, the Browns and other familiar people of Hackers Creek and the West Fork also signed this petition. Similar later petitions finally resulted in the formation of Lewis Co. in 1817.

On the Personal tax lists, Patrick McCann's name is missing from 1814 through 1819 (in Harrison & Lewis Co.), but in 1820 it appears on the list for Lewis Co. (This was after his brother and mother died in 1819 and he came into possession of the Freeman's creek property.) It so continues through 1834. Thereafter he and most all the McCanns are missing from Lewis Co. (Possibly about this time Gilmer County was formed.

In the federal census for 1820, in Lewis Co. he appears with 1 male of 45 or over (himself apparently), 1 male of 18 to 28, 1 of 10 to 16 and 1 under 10; 1 female of 45 or over, 2 of 16 to 26 and 1 of 10 to 16. In 1830, in Lewis Co., "Patrick McCann" appears with 1 male of 60 to 70 years (himself apparently, and this would place his birth date between 1770 and 1760, which would agree with the age of the man as known by his descendants), 1 male of 15 to 20, 2 of 5 to 10, and 1 female of 60 to 70.

After his children grew up and married, Patrick McCann often visited them or lived with them part of the time, either in Lewis Co., or in Randolph (later Barbour Co.), where his daughter Mary (McCann) Mitchell and his son Patrick McCann Jr. had gone. (His son Daniel lived later in what is now Gilmer Co., and another son had even gone west to Ohio). He is said in
early years to have been a great friend of Lewis Whetzel the famous Indian fighter who often visited at McCann's home. This was probably when he was living on the West Fork. It was there too where occurred the Indian attack on his home (see notes on his daughter Mary McCann).

Patrick McCann may have surprised his numerous children and grandchildren when he married again. His first wife, Hannah (Johnson) McCann must have died some time after 1823, when she joined him in a deed, and before 1830 when he made a deed alone. On December 15, 1832, Patrick McCann married the widow Mary Lynch. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Jeremiah Phillips. The marriage bond or license was dated Dec. 10, 1832. With the license in the Lewis Co. files is an original note from Patrick McCann asking for the license. It reads as follows:

"Mr. John Tolbert Clark of Loui county Virginia after my Best Respects to you Sir I want you if you please to grant me Marriage Lisins for myself and the widdow Linch as we Both are of age and send them by the hand of Patrick Cline as we are Both Sattisfyed to it and have sett our hands and seels in the Presence of said Cline December the 8 - 1832.

test

Patrick Cline
Mary Cline

Patrick McCan
her
Mary x Linch
mark

This whole note is in Patrick McCann's handwriting, and is signed with his familiar signature.
On receipt of this note the Clerk evidently made out the license, all in his own handwriting, signing both the names of Patrick McCann, and Patrick Cline as his surety, by mark.

This Patrick Cline was Patrick McCann's grandson and namesake, the son of George and Ruth (McCann) Cline. He had married himself the year before, Mary Lynch, who was probably a granddaughter of "the widow Linch" whom his grandfather later married.

When this second wife Mary McCann died is not known, but she did not live very long after the marriage apparently; for in his old age Patrick McCann seems to have traveled about, living for a time with his various children or grandchildren. He is said to have walked back and forth on these visits, from as far west as Ohio, to Barbour Co. He was a noted hunter and
hunted wild game in Leading Creek valley in what is now Gilmer county, and used to tell of his experiences. (Letter from the Clerk of Gilmer county). He used to bring bottles of what he called "rock oil" that he got from springs out in the Kanawha country, and insisted that his family use it, as being good for sore throat, earache, to make the hair grow, etc. (This they never did, but his daughter Mary would take the bottles and tie them up in the garret. This so-called "rock oil" was no doubt the crude petroleum, for which West Virginia is noted today). His granddaughter, Mary Bennett Hagler, told this, and describes the old man, whom she remembers perfectly: A little, frail man, short and thin, and very feeble in seeming, but nevertheless he must have had considerable vitality for he always walked there when he came to visit them and he used to climb around among the rocks on the hillsides. He was very old, seeming to the children positively ancient. He always wore an old knitted sweater like thing, which was red; also an old white felt hat (an unusual thing around there). He had long black hair that came down onto his shoulders. It was not white, despite his age. He never said very much, just sort of wandered around. He was rather of a joke to the children and they used to make fun of him, but were promptly rebuked by their grandmother, his daughter Mary, who made them to understand that he was their "grandpap McCann" and that they should treat him with respect. He always had to have the Bible under his pillow at night, or he said he could not sleep. Mary Hagler remembers one time when he was at their house and made a great to do after he had gone to bed because he found that the Bible was not under the pillow, and her oldest sister Drusilla said "Oh, here, grandpap, I'll get it for you" and reached up and took down the almanac hanging there and stuck it under his pillow and the old man went off to sleep.
In the morning she asked him if he had slept as well as usual and he said "Sure, he had a fine sleep; he always did when he had the Bible under his pillow". It was a great joke with the children, but their grandmother found it out and gave Drusilla a good beating. But they never told the old man.

An anecdote of Patrick McCann is given in "Border Settlers of N. W. Virginia", by L. V. McWhorter.

"Patrick was noted for his eccentricity and self emulation. Be it said however that his stories were of a harmless nature, usually bordering on the miraculous. He was once hunting and reaching the brow of a hill, he beheld a great commotion among the tall weeds growing on a lower flat. Supposing that the disturbance was caused by a deer, he silently approached in order to get a shot. On coming to the place he was amazed to behold a log rolling back and forth, so crooked that it could not lie still! This adventure gave rise to the proverb still current in that region: "Crooked as McCann's log."

Sylvanus Bennett, another great grandchild, also remembers the old man. He says that old Patrick came to visit them, walking eighty miles from Ohio, he thought, or at any rate, from the Little Kanawha country. This was in 1852 or 1853, in chestnut bearing time (fall of the year apparently). That later his son came after him, on horseback, and that Patrick died soon afterwards, at his son's house, and was buried on Little Kanawha. He remembers the rock oil that Patrick used to bring with him. Another circumstance he could never forget: There was a protracted meeting being held near Aaron Bennett's home, and Uncle Joe Teter came one night and took grandfather Paddy with him to the meeting. Paddy was somewhat hard of hearing, and was very much taken with the melody of the old revival hymn, "Keep your lamps trimmed
and burning" (which was then new), but he did not get the words straight. He got the meter all right, and later sang to it the following words: "Keep your lambs penned in the barn, etc., etc." He was so contented and pleased at having learned the new hymn.

Mary Mitchell Mudgett, another great grandchild, had other tales about the old man. (She never saw him however, and her recollections are second hand, through grandfather Joseph Teter, she said). She said he lived to be 120 years old, and that on the day when he was 120 he walked twenty miles over to his daughter's place, where the men were killing hogs. They asked the old man to guess the weight of a hog, and he guessed it exactly right. On their exclaiming, he remarked "Oh, that's nothing; I could ha' done better'n that when I was a young one!" (It seems possible that Patrick's story telling proclivities are inheritable. —J.M.K.)

Martha Rorabaugh, who married Joseph Rorabaugh, another great grandchild, also remembered Patrick McCann as having stopped at her house for a drink when going from the Woodruff's to his daughters, Mary McCann Teter. She said he was a short, small man, also.

Patrick McCann died apparently in 1855.
There has been considerable dispute as to whether Patrick McCann saw service in the Revolutionary War.

Patrick McCann, living in Lewis Co. Va. in 1832 was granted a Pension of $95 per annum for two years service in the Revolution as Private and Sergeant in Col. Broadhead's regiment on a certificate which was made on Oct. 12, 1833, but later his name was dropped from the pension roll March 16, 1835 "for the reason that upon an investigation of the claim by the United States District Attorney of Virginia, it appeared that said Patrick McCann was too young to have served in the Revolution, being not more than 12 or 13 years old in 1785. This report of the U. S. District Attorney constitutes the only evidence upon which the pensioner was dropped from the pension roll in 1835. It is based on the statements of three residents of Lewis Co. Va. and was accepted as final by the Pension Bureau."

Taken from the Pension list of Revolutionary Soldiers.

Lewis Co. Va. Oct. 1832

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>annual allowance</th>
<th>S. Reed</th>
<th>commencement of pension</th>
<th>age</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Patrick McCann Fri. &amp; ser.</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>Oct. 12, 1833</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Mitchell Private</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>Aug. 5, 1833</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Patrick McCann's original pension declaration cannot be found in the Pension files at Washington, but the statements mentioned above are preserved and are as follows:

A paper saying:

"Christopher Nutter, aged 74 years has known Patrick McCann for 49 years, at that time to wit in 1785, he, McCann settled in this country then a
lad 12 or 13 years old, that McCann can't be older than sixty two years.

Wm. Powers aged 71 years, has known Patrick McCann since 1785, in that year, he McCann lived on a place belonging to Powers Father, that he was then young, entirely too young to have been in the Rev. War. Powers says McCann is fond of talking and especially about himself, never heard him say that he served in the Rev. war. that McCann is an Irishman and had a brother killed in the Rev. war.

Adam Fletcher, aged 72, fully concurs in the statement above made by William Powers in reference to McCann.

Respectfully reported,

W. G. Singleton.

Special Agent,

July 1854.

One blank inscribed:

"There not being sufficient time to take copies of the papers in this case the original sent to W. G. Singleton, U. S. District Atty., Va. Aug. 9, 1854."

Nevertheless all his descendants agree on a family tradition that he fought in the Revolution. He was reputed to be a very old man when he died in 1853. It is now known also that the investigation by the District Attorney of the many cases of supposed fraud in Harrison and other western Virginia counties in the matter of pensions made in 1835 was a more or less prejudiced one. Affidavits were made which have since been shown to have been untrue, many private grudges being paid off in the process. The very Christopher Nutter, on whose affidavit Patrick McCann was deprived of his pension is known to have made a great many such statements which have been
proven to be false by other records. Many trustworthy but more or less simple and ignorant old soldiers were officially branded as liars and defrauders of the government. The whole matter caused a great scandal at the time and has been the cause of much hard feeling ever since. (See L. V. McWhorter's book "Border Settlers of Northwestern Virginia").

The service of a Patrick McCann from the Archives of Maryland is as follows:

From Archives of Maryland, vol. 16, Muster Rolls:
Page 302:


Patrick McCann, private served 1 month @ 6 2/3 dollars per month.
Amount of Pay: L 2. - 10 - 0.

Col. Broadhead's Regt.

July 15, 1776. That the battalions for the defense of the western frontier be raised in the counties of Westmoreland and Bedford in following proportions: 7 Co's in West and 1 Co. in Bedford.

Col. Moses Rawling's Rifle regiment was originally raised in Va. and Md. (4 Co's in Va., and 12 Co's in Md) according to Resolve of Cont. Congress June 27, 1776, as Stephenson's Md. and Va. Rifle Regt. Rawlings became Colonel about Jan. 1, 1777. The regt. was reorganized in 1777, as one of the 16 additional regiments. It was consolidated with Gists Continental infantry. (Va. Regt.) in 1779.

Col. Broadhead's Regt. was raised for the defense of the frontier. (commissioned Sept. 29, 1776. Some Maryland troops were sent to Fort Pitt and Col. Broadhead tried to increase his Regt. at Maryland's expense, by discharging Maryland officers and enrolling the men in his own regiment. Many of these men deserted him and returned to the Maryland line. (Note: It hardly seems possible that our ancestor Patrick McCann, who was married in 1787, in Harrison Co., as a young man under age, could have been the same person as served in the Maryland troops as given above.)

Smith's History of Lewis Co., page 73, gives, among those who came to this region in the years after the war: "Patrick McCann, builder of a
fort, Indian Scout and hero of the border, who settled at the mouth of Edward Hughes' Run, afterwards called McCann's Run." And on page 145: "Settlement at mouth of McCann's Run about 1785 by Patrick McCann, and a little later by Daniel McCann."

The children of Patrick and Hannah (Johnson) McCann were:

1. **Mary.** Born June 22, 1768. Died Jan. 19, 1859.
   Married (1) George Mitchell, and (2) Joseph Teter.

2. **Ruth.** Born 1790. Married George Cline.


4. **Lawrence.** Born about 1796-97. Married Rachel __________.

5. **Patrick.** Born about 1798. Married Delilah Teter.


8. **Daniel.** Born about 1804. Married Mary Nicholas.

9. **Martha.** Born about 1806. Married Jacob Nicholas.

10. **Margaret.** Born about 1809. Married Richard Jones.
Mary McCann, (daughter of Patrick, Laurence), was born in Harrison Co., June 22, 1788 (from family records). She was evidently named, as the eldest daughter, for her father's mother Mary McCann, wife of Laurence. She grew up of course on the home place there on the West Fork. The only incident of her childhood that we know of is the following:

It seems that one day all the neighbors had gathered together and the men were out mowing a certain field for Patrick McCann (as they did in those days) and her mother sent little Mary out to bring in the cow, telling her she could play around a little first but of course only there where the men were. Well, she did play around there but of course wandered off farther than she should. Pretty soon she heard a lot of noise, yelling, etc., and then she saw a lot of Indians come running, nearing the place, and at the same time she saw Lewis Wetzell come out of the woods and tell the men to make for the house, which they did, and barred all the doors and windows. Little Mary did not know just what to do, but being a resourceful/ little person, she ran to a nearby haystack, and climbed into it, pulling the hay down over herself. The Indians attacked the house and kept it up all the rest of the afternoon; but after a long while it got darker and darker, and finally they went away. Then Mary climbed out of her hay stack and hearing the cow near by, got said cow and went on to the house with it. When she got there she found all the men getting ready to go out after the Indians, as they thought the latter had captured her. In the excitement of the flight to the house they had forgotten all about her and it was only when they
were counting the children that they had missed her. (As told by Mary Bennett Hagler)

Mary McCann married George Mitchell in Harrison Co., Dec. 20, 1807. Rev. Joseph Chevront performed the ceremony. (Harrison Co. Marriage book #1, p. 100). George Mitchell was the eldest son of the Rev. John Mitchell (see notes on the Mitchell family). The marriage bond was dated Dec. 19, 1807, and signed by George Mitchell, with Daniel McCann as surety. Accompanying the original bond is a note from Patrick McCan giving permission for the marriage (since daughter Mary was under age). This note reads as follows (it is all in Patrick McCan's handwriting):

"December the 9 - 1807:
Sir your heer By required to Eshue Lisons for
Georg Mitchel and My Daughter Mary as I am Parfitley agreed
to it

Witness pres. \hspace{2em} Patrick McCan
Daniel McCan
her
Catron McCan
mark
Mr. Bengemon Wilson
Clark of harrson County."

(see photostat in notes on George Mitchell. The writing is handsome, if the spelling is peculiar.)

Mary McCann and her husband George Mitchell removed from Harrison Co. shortly after 1811 and settled in Barkers Settlement in Randolph Co., where George Mitchell had a house on the Northeast side of the river near the present site of Belington. Her husband died in December, 1821, leaving a non-cupative will in which he bequeathed everything to his wife and she was
made solo executrix. On Dec. 26, 1824, Mary McCann married as her second husband, Joseph Teter, in Randolph Co. He built a new house on the southwest side of the river where they then lived. This house was burned in January, 1858. Mary McCann Teter was ill at the time and had to be carried out. She lived about a year afterward but was never up and about. She died in Barbour Co., January 19, 1859, and was buried in the old cemetery where Belington now is. Her remains, however, with those of George Mitchell and Joseph Teter, were later removed to the cemetery at Concord Church, (according to statement of Jacob McLean). The marriage record in Barbour Co. states that she died of consumption.

Her granddaughter Mary Bennett Hagler gave the following description of her grandmother, Mary McCann: She was small, quite short, with dark black hair, black eyes, very fair complexion. She talked with a brogue (other grandchildren say this was not the case), and stuttered quite badly. She always was having rheumatism, more in her hands than in her legs; was very superstitious and knew all manner of signs and portents; thought that every little thing we did meant something, etc. She was always very active, moved around quickly, was always very busy about the house, and especially about taking care of the stock. She used to read the Bible a great deal, but not much else. She was a good cook. Was very severe with the children and beat them terribly. She used to have a little switch that she used to get after the girls with if they made any noise or weren't busy enough in the weaving room. Her hair was long and quite black, although she was 60 years old when Mary Hagler knew her. Mary Hagler also tells the following: One time when the men were away and she was there alone with her grandmother (she was a great favorite of her grandmother and remembers her perfectly. She used to
be over there at her grandmother's as much as at her own home. Her grandmother called her "Mally") it rained terribly hard, and they were afraid of a flood in the stream. So grandmother had to go out and bring home the cows from way across the river. Of course little Mally was afraid to stay alone, but her grandmother took her up in the garret and spread quilts down in front of the window and told her to stay right there until she got back; and that she could watch her all the way. She remembers how scared she was, but she could see her grandmother for a while, but then it got darker and darker and she did not know which was worse, to stay up there in the dark by herself, or disobey her grandmother. Finally, however, she saw her grandmother's old yellow riding skirt come up through the semi-darkness, and so she flew downstairs to meet her. And the next morning the whole valley was flooded.

Mary Hagler also told, apropos of Mary McCann's superstition, the following: The first two children of Mary McCann and Joseph Teter were twins, Joseph Jr. and Jacob who died when a little child. (Not correct apparently. Elizabeth, "Betty" was the first child. J.M.K.). One day, as the little boy was playing around in the yard, the mother saw a big white something, like a sheet, come down to the ground, between her and the child, and she knew something awful was going to happen; and sure enough, in a few days the child was taken sick and died. She often told this story to Mary Hagler and it made quite an impression on the latter.

Mary Mitchell Mudgett (another granddaughter), supplemented these recollections with the following: Mary McCann's hair was very long. It was cut off when she was sick at the last, and grandpap Teter (her husband Joseph Teter Sr.) kept it in an old hide trunk up in the garret, together
with a dress that he once promised to Mary Mudgett, but because she rather made fun of it, did not give it to her. It was of dark red stuff with blue or black trimming, rather ruffly, and had a low neck and short, puffy sleeves. It and the trunk and the hair were all burned when the home was burned during the war. Mary Mudgett had a piece of a quilt that her grandmother made. It was of bright yellow-orange and white diamond shaped pieces.

Martha Rorabaugh says that Mary McCann was "very jolly". That her eyes were black; that when she was 75 years old she had no gray hairs, and that her hair was lovely. (A slight discrepancy here. She died when she was 70 years old.—J.M.K.) She used to say she "hadn't a gray hair nor a bad tooth". She evidently had a sense of humor, as her teeth were all out! She was a small woman, stooped; and did more work than Martha ever saw anyone of her age do. She was "full of cheer, very bright".

For the children of Mary McCann, see notes on George Mitchell, and Joseph Teter Sr.

Ruth McCann

Ruth McCann, (daughter of Patrick, Laurence) was born in Harrison Co. in 1790. She was probably named (as the second daughter) for her mother's mother, the wife of William Johnson. She married, in Harrison Co., March 17, 1808, George Cline. The minister was the Rev. Joseph Cheuvront. George Cline was the son of John Cline, and the marriage bond, dated March 9th, 1808, was signed by John Cline and Patrick McCann. (see photostat) The Cline family must have been German in origin, since John Cline's signature to this bond is
KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, That we John Clark and
Patrick Brown, are held and firmly bound unto
John Colville, Esquire, Governor or Chief magistrate of the commonwealth of Virginia,
for the time being, and his successors to the use of the said commonwealth in the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars; to which payment well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, our and
each of our heirs, executors and administrators, jointly and severally firmly by these presents.
Sealed with our seals, and dated this 10th day of November 1802.

WHEREAS a marriage is suddenly intended to be had and solemnized between the

John Clark and Freida Waller
of the Commonwealth of Virginia, both of this county. Now the condition of the abovementioned marriage is such, that if there be no lawful cause or just impediment to obstruct the said marriage, the above obligation to be void, else to remain in full force and virtue.

Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of

John Clark
Frederick Waller
in German script, as "Johann Klein". They came to Lewis Co. in the early years of the century. John Cline lived on a 100 acre tract of land on Leading Creek, and his son George Cline had also 100 acres on the Sand fork of the Little Kenawha river. In addition to son George there was a John Cline Jr. who married Betsy Moneypenny on April 25, 1818, a daughter Elizabeth Cline who married John Burke, Feb. 1, 1814. Probably the Lydia Cline who married Jacob Richards Aug. 18, 1820, and Matthew Cline who married Elizabeth Keys Dec. 1, 1825 were other children of John Cline Senior. The wife of the latter was named Nancy as shown by deeds.

Another signature of John Clein Sr., his son John’s marriage bond on April 20, 1818.

The Clines all seem to have moved away from Lewis Co. about 1830, (or possibly Gilmer Co. was formed about that time and included the district where they were living.

There are two or three known children of George and Ruth (McCann) Cline:

1. Mary. Born about 1809-10. She married in Lewis Co. 1827, Reuben Hall. The marriage bond is dated July 28, 1827, and signed by Reuben Hall with George Cline as surety.
Patrick. Born about 1810-11. He married, in Lewis Co. in 1831, Mary Lynch, daughter of Levi and Sarah Lynch. The marriage bond was dated May 11, 1831, and was signed by him, with Reuben Hall as surety.

Accompanying the bond were permission notes from George and Ruth Cline, the parents of Patrick, and also from Levi and Sarah Lynch, the parents of Mary. The Cline note was witnessed by William McCann and John Cline Jr.
iii. Urias. He married in Lewis Co. on Feb. 3, 1831, Sarah McHenry, daughter of Laurence and Magdalene McHenry. The marriage bond was dated Jan. 26, 1831. Signed by Urias Cline with George Cline as surety.

Tracing of signatures to bond:

Urias Cline
George Cline
William McCann, (son of Patrick, Laurence), was born in 1792, in Harrison Co. Being the eldest son he was no doubt named for his mother's father, William Johnson.

He married, in Harrison Co., on Feb. 7, 1819, Elizabeth Jack. The minister was Rev. Joseph Morris. The marriage bond was dated Feb. 2, 1819, and signed by William McCann (by his mark) with Nathaniel Stout as surety. (On the bond she is called "Betsy Jack". Her father's name is not given).

William McCann was surety for Richard Jones on his marriage bond to marry Margaret McCann, William's sister, dated May 14, 1829.

Tracing of signatures to this bond:

He was also a witness to the note of permission from his father Patrick McCann, dated May 13, 1829.
(It seems odd that a person who signs his name in so elaborate a manner should, only a few years before, have signed his name by mark.) William McCann also signed as a witness the note from George and Ruth Cline, dated May 10, 1831, giving permission for the marriage of Patrick Cline to Mary Lynch.

William McCann himself married again (if the marriage of a William McCann in 1819 really was this William), in Lewis Co., on March 10, 1833, Rebecca Goff, daughter of Byron Goff (Lewis Co. marriage book 2, p. 1). The marriage bond was dated March 2, 1833 and signed by both William McCann and Byron Goff. The minister was the Rev. John Mitchell.
William McCann must have lived in Randolph Co. although he seems to have been back and forth between the family homes there and in Lewis Co. He does not figure anywhere on the Land Tax records, but on the Personal Tax lists he appears first in Randolph Co. in 1830. There he continues through 1843 at any rate. (In 1842 and 43 he has an extra male tithable in his family - no doubt an oldest son growing up). His name also appears for the one year, 1833 in Lewis Co.

In the federal census for 1830, in Randolph Co., William McCann with 1 male of 30 to 40 (Himself), 1 of 10 to 15, 3 under 5; 1 female of 20 to 30, 2 of 5 to 10.

In Census of 1850, Randolph Co., he appears aged 58, with wife Sarah aged 49, and children given below.

i. Mary A. aged 25 (born 1825)
ii. Elmira, " 15 (born 1835)
iii. Rebecca, " 13 ( " 1837)
iv. Charles, " 11 ( " 1839)
v. Harriett " 7 ( " 1843)
vi. William " 5 ( " 1847)

Probably older sons were heads of their own families. A James, a Henry, a William and a John all appear in Randolph Co.
(8) **Laurence McCann**

Laurence McCann, (son of Patrick, Laurence) was born in Harrison Co. about 1796-97. He was named, of course, for his grandfather. He first appears on the Personal Tax lists in 1818, in Lewis Co., and continues regular on the lists either there or in Harrison Co. (sometimes in one, sometimes in the other county – probably he lived about on the line) through 1837 inclusive. His name does not appear after that date and probably he moved away about that time.

He appears in the Census of 1820, in Lewis Co., having 1 male of 20 to 30 (himself), 1 of 5 to 10, 1 under 5; 1 female of 20 to 30, 2 of 5 to 10, 1 under 5.

March 15, 1827, "Larrance McCan" of Lewis Co. bought from James and Polly Arnold, for 158 dollars, land in Lewis Co. on Crooked Run, a northerly branch of the left hand fork of Freemans Creek. Recorded March 19, 1827. (Harrison Co. deed book #18, p. 514)

August 8, 1833, "Lorentz McCan" of the county of Harrison bought from John Brown and Margaret his wife of Lewis Co., for 80 dollars, 80 acres on the west side of Hackers Creek. Recorded Aug. 21, 1833. (Lewis Co. deed book E, p. 257).

August 10, 1833, Lawrence McCan and Rachel his wife of Harrison Co. sell to Joseph Gosman of Harrison Co. for a tract of land, 21 acres with a grist mill and a saw mill, another tract of land in Lewis Co. and Harrison Co. on the west fork, on the west side of Hackers creek (being part of land conveyed to John Brown by Edward Brown and Mary his wife in Oct. 1814. Lawrence and Rachel both make their marks as signature. Recorded
April 13, 1835. (Lewis Co. Deed book F. p. 107)

June 2, 1847, Lawrence McCann and Rachel his wife, of Athens Co., Ohio, sell to David Summers (Simmons) of Lewis Co., for 5 dollars, land in Lewis Co., 200 acres, on Crooked Run, a branch of Leading Creek. This was acknowledged by Lawrence and Rachel McCann in Meigs Co., Ohio, June 20, 1847, at Pomeroy, Ohio. Recorded in Lewis Co., Aug. 2, 1847. (Lewis Co. deed book M. p. 275.)

This last item shows to what part of Ohio Lawrence McCann removed. However, no McCanns appear in Athens Co. Ohio in the census of 1850. (Meigs Co. not investigated).

(9) Patrick McCann Jr.

Patrick McCann Jr. (son of Patrick, Laurence), was born probably about 1798. On reaching manhood he seems to have gone to Randolph Co., where he married, on Nov. 22, 1819, Delilah Teter (a sister of Joseph Teter whom Patrick's sister, Mary McCann, married). (page 24 Randolph Co. marriage book). She was a daughter of Jacob Teter.

On Nov. 1, 1822, Patrick McCann was granted a patent for land in Randolph Co., on the second big run beyond Jacob Teters along the Buckhannon river including an improvement made by Jacob Boarer. (Va. land patent book #71, p. 359). This was 60 acres. It was surveyed for him on Nov. 23, 1821. (Randolph Co. Survey book #1, page 342).

He seems to have lived there in Randolph Co. until 1828. (His name appears on the personal tax lists for Randolph from 1820 to 1827 inclusive and then is missing). On Nov. 29, 1827, Patrick McCann and wife Delilah sold
to Joseph Teter (his brother in law), for $150. this 60 acres of land on Second big run mentioned above. Recorded April term 1828. (Randolph Deed book #9, p. 532. Patrick and Delilah both made their marks).

After this sale Patrick McCann seems to have removed to Lewis Co. to the district on Freeman's Creek where his father was then living. His name appears at once on the Lewis Co. Personal Tax lists for 1828, as Patrick Jr. to distinguish him from his father Patrick Sr., and continues there until 1834, after which it is missing.

On the Census of 1820 he appears in Randolph Co. as of age 18 to 26, with wife of age 10 to 15. (Delilah Teter must have been only about 14 when married). On the Census of 1830 he appears in Lewis Co., as of age 20 to 30, with wife of 20 to 30, 1 son under 5 yrs., 2 daughters of 5 to 10 and 1 under 5.

On the census of 1850, a Patrick McCann appears in Harrison Co., as of age 59, with wife Mary, aged 34, and children as follows: Margaret, aged 15; John aged 13; Rebecca aged 12; George, aged 11; Jane aged 9; Patrick aged 7, Daniel aged 6, Anna aged 3, and Andrew aged 8 months. It hardly seems likely that this is the same Patrick McCann.
Richard McCann

Richard McCann, (son of Patrick, Laurence), was born July 4, 1799, "in Ohio". If the place is correct this would mean that his father, Patrick McCann was living out there at the time, and would explain the absence of his name from the Tax lists of Harrison Co. for the 3 or 4 years about the turn of the century.

Richard McCann married in Lewis Co., May 10, 1821, Monecah Eleanor Goff, daughter of James Goff. The minister was Rev. Richard Armstrong. The marriage bond was dated May 9, 1821 and signed by Richard McCann and Robert A. Goff as surety. Accompanying the bond was a note of permission from the father James C. Goff.

Tracing of signatures to bond and note.

Richard McCann first appears in the Personal Tax lists in Randolph Co. in 1822, then his name is shifted to Lewis Co. in 1823, where it appears
continuously through 1833. In the federal census of 1830 in Lewis Co. he appears as of age 20 to 30, wife aged 20 to 30, 1 son of 5 to 10 and 1 daughter under 5 years.

It is said that Richard McCann removed to Meigs Co., Ohio and lived there to an advanced age. Among his children was:

1. Patrick. Born in Lewis Co., Dec. 25, 1822. He married May 22, 1851, Isabella Geary, (daughter of Matthew and Elizabeth Ashley Geary). They lived in Roane Co. Va., on the Big Sandy in the so-called Geary district. Patrick McCann graduated from Sterling Medical college, and served in the Civil War from Sept. 1862 to July 1865 as Surgeon with the 7th Ohio Cavalry. After the war he carried on a general practice of medicine, and became "the revered reliance of many miles of country for medical service (see Bishop's History of Roane Co., W. Va., p. 601.) He had a large family - 10 sons and 5 daughters - as follows:

8. Sherman G. b. 1866.
15. Benjamin. b. 1880.

(11) Hester McCann

Hester McCann, (daughter of Patrick, Laurence), was born about 1802. She married in Lewis Co., January 17, 1822, William Sims Jr. The marriage was performed by William Hacker. (Lewis Co. Marriage records. The original bonds for the year 1822 could not be found in the files.) William Sims Jr. was of course the son of William Sims Sr., who lived near Rev. John Mitchell on Hackers Creek. The latter had 2 sons, John W. and William Jr. (A descendant of John W. Sims is Mr. Edgar B. Sims, State Auditor (1940) at Charleston, W. Va. William Sims Jr. is said to have had two wives and the following children:

By 1st wife: Mary & Elijah.

By 2nd wife: Susan, Gilmore, and Julia.
Daniel McCann, (son of Patrick, Laurence), was born, presumably in Harrison Co., about 1804. He married in Lewis Co., Sept. 8, 1825, Mary Nicholas, daughter of John Nicholas. The minister who performed the ceremony was the Rev. John Mitchell. The marriage bond was dated Sept. 7, 1825, and signed by Daniel McCann and both Jacob and Isaac Nicholas as sureties. Accompanying the bond was a note of permission from Patrick McCann for the marriage of "my son Daniel," This note was dated Sept. 6th, and witnessed by Jacob Nicholas and Vincent Alexander.

Tracing of signatures to bond and note.

Daniel McCann
Jacob Nicholas
Isaac Nicholas

Patrick Mean

John Nicholas

Sept. 7, 1825

Sept. 6, 1825
Daniel McCann appears on the Personal Tax lists for Lewis Co. in 1826, and continues through 1832, but not after that date. In the federal census of 1830 for Lewis Co. he appears of age 20 to 30 years, with wife also of 20 to 30, 2 sons under 5 and 1 daughter also under 5 yrs.

Daniel McCann had a land grant for 100 acres on Leading Creek in Lewis Co. in 1829. (West Va. land grants, Lewis Co., Book 1, p. 130).

On December 4, 1832, Daniel McCann and wife Mary sold to Nicholas Alkire, for 150 dollars, 100 acres of land on Fink's fork of Leading Creek, patent for which had been granted to Daniel McCann on April 6, 1829, as shown by Va. Land patent book No. 78, p. 108). Deed signed by both Daniel and Mary McCann. Acknowledged and recorded Dec. 24, 1832 (Lewis Co. deed book E, p. 143).

Oct. 25, 1850, Polly McCann, widow of Daniel McCann sells certain land to Dodson, etc. The deed shows that she was the daughter of the late John Nicholas. (Lewis Co. deed book S., p. 304).

This second Daniel McCann was dead therefore before this date in 1850. When his wife died is not known. Among their children were probably:

i. Patrick - who married Mary White in Lewis Co. on Jan. 25, 1857. (Book 4, p. 104)

ii. William - who married Martha Ann Staten in Lewis Co., Jan. 15, 1851 (Book 4, p. 16)
(13) Martha McCann

Martha McCann, (daughter of Patrick, Laurence), was born in Harrison Co. about 1806. She married in Lewis Co., April 28, 1825, Jacob Nicholas. The Rev. John Mitchell performed the ceremony. The marriage bond was dated April 25, 1825, and was signed by Jacob Nicholas and John Hays as surety.

Tracing of signature to bond.

Jacob Nicholas was probably a son of John Nicholas, who lived on Polk creek.

(14) Margaret McCann

Margaret McCann, (daughter of Patrick, Laurence), was born in Harrison Co. about 1809. She married, in Lewis Co. on May 17, 1829, Richard Jones. The minister was the Rev. John Davis of the Broad Run Baptist church. The marriage bond was dated May 14, 1829, and was signed by Richard Jones, with William McCann as surety.

Accompanying the bond was a note from Patrick McCann giving permission
R Jones

May 14, 1829

William Mccowan

[Handwritten note:]

Died May 13, 1829.

permane to my Dater. Hargre

[Handwritten note:]

Patrick Joun

[Handwritten note:]

Test. W Helen Mccow

[Handwritten note:]

Dear [Name],

[Handwritten note:]

The author has left a note to the recipient, but the contents are not fully legible.
for "my Dotor Margret" to marry Richard Jones. This note was witnessed by William McCann and Hannah McCann. The note is dated May 13, 1829 and reads:

"Mr.

Daniel Stringer Sir after my Best respects to you I want you to grant marriage lisins to Ritcard Jones and my Dotor Margaret as I am setlesfid to it - and I can sartify that she is off age this giving undr my hand and seel.

test

William McCann

Hannah McCann.

(See accompanying tracings of signatures to bond and note). The signature of Hannah McCann is in a different ink and does not look as though it had been signed by either Patrick or William. If a genuine autograph this is the only one known of Hannah (Johnson) McCann, the wife of Patrick, and shows that she was still living at that date in 1829.
Other McCanns in Harrison County

Thomas McCann

Thomas McCann appears to have been in the country that was later to be Harrison County as early as 1775, for in a list of land warrants preserved in the records of old Monongalia Co. (these records are all that were saved of the County records when the court house was burned about 1796), which is published in Haymond's History of Harrison Co., page 24, occurs the following:

Thomas McCann, 300 acres on Davissons Run, adjoining land of Thomas Berkeley, to include his settlement made in 1775.

Thomas McCann, 1000 acres adjoining his settlement made in 1775.

(To every settler who built a log cabin and raised a crop of corn before 1778, a title to 400 acres and presumption to 1000 acres adjoining, was granted by the State.)

In a Census of Harrison Co. in 1785, as published also in Haymond's History, Thomas McCann occurs in a list "from the mouth of Limestone up both sides of West Fork River to Lost Creek". Page 275.

In the Personal Tax lists for Harrison Co., Thomas McCann first appears in 1785 and appears continuously from this date until 1816, after which date he does not appear.

From the Court minute books of Harrison Co. it is seen that on Nov. 17, 1784 the suit of the State vs. Thomas McCann was heard. It was ordered that the defendant be bound in the sum of 100 pounds to keep the peace toward Elizabeth Stout and to be of good behavior. He gave a bond to
do this, with John Goodwin as surety. (Court Minute book No. 1, p. 22)

On January 18, 1790, it was ordered that Thomas McCann be
surveyor of highways in place of John McCully (same, p. 427).

August 20, 1801, Thomas McCann and Jane his wife sell to Henry
Lindsay, for 400 dollars, land on Davisson's Run, a branch of the West
fork, 97½ acres. The deed was signed by both Thomas and Jane. Proved at
the October court, 1801. (Deed book of Harrison Co., #5, p. 54).

On Oct. 25, 1615, Thomas McCann and wife Jane sold to J. G. Jackson,
for 1000 dollars, land in Harrison Co., "where they now live," near said
Jackson's salt works on the West Fork, reserving a life interest in the land.
Acknowledged and recorded Oct. 27, 1815. (Harrison Co. deed book 12, p. 294).

Thomas McCann probably died about 1821-22. His will, dated August
14, 1822, was proved at the May court 1822. In it he, being "sick and weak
in body but of sound mind" etc., leaves to his "cousin Thomas McCann of
Harrison Co." the sum of one dollar; also one dollar to beloved daughter
Dorothy Lindsey. All the rest of the estate is left to his "beloved grandson
George Lindsey," and the latter is appointed as Executor. Thomas McCann
signed the will by mark. The witnesses were Philip Waldo and John Bennett.

Probably the wife Jane McCann had died before her husband. No
doubt the daughter Dorothy Lindsey was the wife of Henry Lindsey to whom
Thomas McCann sold land in 1801.
Another Thomas McCann was living in Harrison Co. early in the 19th century. No doubt he was related to the earlier Thomas McCann, indeed the latter, in his will, calls the other "cousin." More facts are known about this second Thomas McCann and his family, obtained by Guy W. Tetrick from a descendant living today in Harrison Co.

Thomas McCann is said to have been born in Ireland in 1743, in County Armagh. (His tombstone, however, in the cemetery of Brick church, at Bridgeport, Harrison Co., gives his age as 74 years at death on Feb. 4, 1828, - a change in reading the age to 84 years would agree with the family data). He was the son of George McCann who was born, in Ireland, in 1693, and died there in 1774, aged 81 years. George McCann in turn was the son of McCann (christian name not known) who was born about 1668 and died in 1751, aged 83 years. This last mentioned McCann was present with his father as soldiers in Londonderry when it was besieged in 1689.

Thomas McCann is said to have married (1st) Jane Stewart who died in 1784, leaving 5 children: John, George, Edward, Mary and Jane. These children apparently remained in Ireland. Thomas McCann then married (2nd) Martha Yaman, daughter of James Yaman and wife Martha Foote. This was in 1784, and they had 10 children as given below.

In April, 1800, Thomas McCann left Ireland, sailing from Armagh, and landing at Newcastle, Delaware in May. From there he went to Chester Co. Pa., where he stayed about 4 or 5 years. Then he came to Harrison Co. Va. about 1804-05. No doubt drawn there by the presence of his relative the older Thomas McCann.
On the Personal Tax lists this second Thomas McCann first appears in 1810, continuing there until 1827.

March 1, 1809, Matthias and Patty Winters sell to Thomas McCann, for 200 dollars, land on Booth creek, 45\(\frac{3}{4}\) acres. Recorded at the July court, 1809 (same, deed book #8, p. 404). Two other deeds to Thomas McCann are recorded in deed book #9, p. 350 (date 1810) and deed book #10, p. 291 (date 1812).

This Thomas McCann died early in 1828. (The tombstone gives the date as Feb. 4, 1828). His will, dated January 15, 1828 was proved March 17, 1828. In it he leaves to his wife Martha the land on the west side of the road leading from Morgantown to Clarksburg, and the perishable property during her lifetime or widowhood, then to dispose of as she thinks proper. If she marry again she is to have one-third of the estate during life, and after her death it to be divided equally among the children: Thomas, Sarah, James and Wilson. He leaves to son Thomas, to son-in-law Willis Golden, to son James, and to daughter Sarah one dollar each. To son Wilson he leaves all the land on the east side of the road except that already sold to James, but it is to remain in possession of the widow during her lifetime. After her death Wilson is to have full possession. He appoints wife Martha and son James as Executors. Witnesses were Mathias Winters, Henry Linsey and Patty Winters. (Harrison Co. Will book 4, p. 83). The appraisement of the estate, dated March 29, 1829, was made by Mathew Winters, Henry Linsey & William Knight. It totaled $296.67, the only large item being "1 obligation on James McCann - $106.00." (same, p. 178).

As stated Thomas McCann was buried at the Brick church cemetery at Bridgeport, Harrison Co. There too are buried his wife, Martha (Yaman).
McCann, who died August 21, 1845, aged 78 years and 4 days; also his son James McCann and his wife.

The children of Thomas and Martha McCann were:

1. Andrew, b. 1795; d. 1796.
2. Margaret, b. 1796. She married, Feb. 28, 1822, Willis Golden. The marriage bond was dated Feb. 27, 1822. Thomas McCann was surety for Golden but they both signed by mark. Margaret (McCann) Golden died Oct. 30, 1826, aged 50. (Brick church cemetery).
3. Martha, b. 1800; d. 1801.
4. Ann, b. and d. in 1801.
5. Thomas, b. Dec. 4, 1802. He married in 1828, Elizabeth West. The bond is dated Oct. 11, 1828. Thomas West was surety.
6. Thomas Laso, b. Dec. 4, 1802, twin with preceding; d. 1802.
7. Sarah, b. Jan. 27, 1803. She married, May 18, 1826, John Slocum. Bond was dated May 15, 1826. Thomas McCann was surety for Slocum.
8. James, b. Nov. 13, 1806. (see below)
9. Child, b. and d. in 1807.

James McCann

James McCann, son of Thomas above, was born in Harrison Co., Nov. 13, 1806. He married, in 1830, Acksah Price. (Harrison Co. marriage book 5, p. 50). She was born Feb. 4, 1810, and was the daughter of Thomas Price and wife Letitia Taylor.
On June 27, 1828, James McCann entered 10 acres of land in Harrison Co., 10 acres, on the waters of Owen's fork of Booth Creek, "next land of heirs of Thomas McCann, Matthias Winters and John Goff. (Harrison Land Entry book 3, p. 329). At the same time McCann Linsey entered 3 acres at the same place, "next land of Henry Linsey" etc.

James McCann died March 28, 1887. (Harrison Co. death records, Book 1, p. 142. He is said to have been 80 years, 6 months old, a farmer, born in Harrison Co., lived in Simpson district, wife of Acksah McCann. He died of fever. Reported by James W. McCann, a son). He was buried at Brick church cemetery. The stone reads: Died March 27, 1887, aged 80 years, 4 months, 15 days. Born Oct. 13, 1806. His widow, Acksah Price McCann is also buried there. Her stone gives:

Died August 30, 1897. Born Feb. 4, 1810.

The will of James McCann, dated March 25, 1887, leaves to his grandchildren, Xillo Y, Icie H, and Malcolm,—children of his son James W. McCann,—his farm on the Brushy fork of Elk river. Son James W. was still living, also three daughters. Proved May 2, 1887. (Harrison Co., will book #7, p. 152)

The Federal census of 1850, Harrison Co., shows James McCan, aged 43, with wife Acksah, aged 39, and the following children: Thomas aged 19, Martha aged 17, William aged 14, Sarah aged 11, James aged 9, and Margaret aged 4. The son, William W. McCann, is also buried at Brick church cemetery — died October 3, 1858, aged 22 yrs., 8 mo. and 14 days.
Wilson B. McCann

Wilson B. McCann, son of Thomas above, was born in Harrison Co., Oct. 4, 1811. In 1835 he went to Greene Co., Ohio, where he settled in the town of Xenia. He married, Aug. 13, 1855, in Xenia, Catherine Williams (born Dec. 29, 1812 in Xenia). He died sometime before 1850. Their children were:

1. Cassander.
2. Cinderella, died Dec. 19, 1879.
3. James M. Born in Xenia, Aug. 29, 1841. He served in the Civil War; was Sheriff of Greene Co., etc. He married Dec. 7, 1870, Luella Hatch, (daughter of Ebenezer and Lydia Hatch). Their children:
   2. Kate M., b. 1875.

(From History of Greene Co., Ohio by R. S. Dills, 1881, page 511)
Other unplaced McCanns in West Virginia

Henry McCann:

In Census of 1850, in Randolph Co., Va. he appears aged 25 (born then in 1825) with wife Elizabeth J. aged 25, and daughters:

1. Mary A. aged 2 (born 1848)
2. Sarah E. " 1/2 (born 1850)

Henry McCann married Elizabeth Jane Wright, in Randolph Co., Sept. 16, 1847. She was daughter of James Wright.

Hugh McCann:

He appears on the Personal Tax lists in Lewis Co. in 1828 and 1829; missing in 1830-32, appears again in 1833 and 1834, missing again except in 1841, when he appears once more, just for that year. Also 1845. In the Census of 1850, Lewis Co., Hugh McCann appears with 1 male of 60 to 70 (unless a mistake he was born then 1760-1770), 1 under 5, 1 female of 30 to 40, 1 of 5 to 10, and 2 under 5.

James McCann:

He appears in the Census of 1850, in Randolph Co., living with Levi Jenks, and of age 19 years (born in 1831)
Samuel McCann:

He appears on the Personal Tax lists in Lewis Co. in 1841 and 1845, also 1842, but had previously appeared in Randolph Co. 1837-1839. In the Census of 1850 in Harrison Co., he appears as aged 35 years (born then in 1815) with wife Jane aged 34, and children:

1. Squire aged 12
2. Sarah " 9
3. Ames " 8
4. Henry " 6
5. Catherine aged 4
6. Margaret " 1

Samuel McCann married, May 14, 1858, in Randolph Co., Jane Wyatt, daughter of Edward Wyatt.

William McCann, unmarried, aged 25, was living in the family of Charles Lee, (with a John McCann aged 21), as shown in Census of 1850, Randolph Co.
THE JOHNSON FAMILY

By

Joseph M. Kellogg
Origin of the Family

Of course there are many families of the name of Johnson in this country today, of Scandinavian, English, even perhaps German, origin. No attempt is made here to trace the antecedents of all these branches of the family, and attention is centered upon the one unit with which the families of Mitchell and McCann are connected, living in western Virginia after the close of the Revolutionary War. Among the first of this name in what is now Harrison County seems to have been a William Johnson who is the head of the Johnson family in which we are interested. He most probably came there from Hampshire Co. Va., as so many of the early settlers of that region did.

(1) **William Johnson**

William Johnson seems to have been living in Harrison Co. Va. as early as 1784 at any rate. Harrison County was formed in that year, partly from Monongalia Co. and partly from the district of West Augusta. The Personal Tax lists for that year, 1784, the first for Harrison Co., show William Johnson, having a total of 10 persons in his family, including the one tithable (himself). He is credited with 1 dwelling house. This was in the district of Nicholas Carpenter, covering the country "on Elk Creek and the West Fork upward to Lost Creek and Little Buffalo." Of course he may have been living here for some time before, but it seems significant that a William Johnson who appears in the lists for Hampshire Co. in 1782, with a family of 8 persons should then drop out of these Hampshire Co. lists, and this
William Johnson so soon appear in the Harrison Co. lists with a normally increased family.

Our William Johnson continues to appear in the Personal Tax lists for Harrison Co. through 1794, and then his name disappears. (That was the year he died.) His earliest home was west of Clarksburg, on Ten-Mile creek, opposite the present village of Sardis. He is said to have built the first cabin in that district (Hardesty's Encyclopedia, special State & County department - for Harrison Co., pp. 275 and 300).

On Nov. 5, 1785, there was surveyed for William Johnson, as assignee of Nicholas Carpenter, 400 acres of land in Harrison Co. on Ten-Mile Creek, "including his" (Carpenter's presumably) "improvement made thereon in the year 1772, in accordance with a certificate in Right of Residence granted by the Commissioners for adjusting claims to unpatented lands" etc. The land was described as bounded, "beginning at a sugar tree near mouth of Catie's Run, thence down said creek to a Sycamore" etc. It was surveyed by Stephen Sherwood, assistant to Wm. Raymond the County Surveyor. (Harrison Co. Survey book No. 2, p. 1785). See tracing of survey and contour map showing location of tract.

Patent for this 400 acre tract was granted to William Johnson on August 1, 1788 (West Va. Land book No. 1, p. 425). Soon after this he entered an additional tract. On April 20, 1787, William Johnston, as assignee of Edward Jackson, assignee in turn of Henry Banks, enters 100 acres, (part of a Treasury warrant for 500 acres No. 23060 dated Dec. 24, 1785) at mouth of Caty's Run adjoining other land of said Johnston, including part of the fallen timber (Harrison Co. Land entry book No. 1, p. 127). There is no record of a survey or patent of this by Johnson himself, but it very
evidently is the same 100 acre tract which Patrick McCann (Johnson's son-in-law) entered on May 1, 1813, had surveyed July 29, 1813 and for which patent was granted Dec. 30, 1816. This last tract adjoined Johnson's former 400 acre tract on the South, as shown on the accompanying map.

On the Minutes of the Court of Harrison Co. it is recorded, as of date April 4, 1786, that it was ordered that William Johnson be exempted from the payment of all personal tax and from Labouring on the highway. (Court Minute book No. 1, p. 131).

On July 26, 1787, Hannah Johnson, the eldest daughter of William Johnson, married Patrick McCann, the ceremony being performed by the Rev. John W. Loughborough. The marriage bond was signed on July 21st, 1787, by Patrick McCann, with his brother Daniel McCann as surety (They were both sons of Laurence and Mary McCann. See notes on the McCann family). Accompanying the marriage bond were notes of permission from both Laurence McCann and William Johnson. That from the latter reads as follows:

"I Do hereby Certify that I am fully Satisfyed with
patrick McCan Marying my Daughter Hanna and has No Objection
to Granting Licience for sd match.

July 21, 1787
William Jonston

Daniel McCan Lewes Jonston."

(This Lewes Jonston was perhaps the eldest son, probably just over 16 years old, later killed by the Indians).

In 1789, the family of William Johnson was almost completely wiped out by a tragedy, an account of which is given in Haymond's History of Harrison Co., pp. 109 and 357; also in "Wither's Chronicles of Border Warfare,"
and other histories of that time and region.

In September, 1789, Indians came to the house of William Johnson on Ten-Mile creek. They seem to have taken Mrs. Johnson and the children prisoner, plundered the house, killed part of the stock, and then taking the rest of the horses, started on their return to the Ohio. Before going but a little ways they killed Mrs. Johnson and three of the children. Johnson himself had gone to a lick not far off, and on returning in the morning, found the trail of the savages. He went at once to Clarksburg for help and a company of men returned with him. They followed the trail and came upon the four bodies lying dead in the woods, tomahawked and scalped and placed heads together and feet extended straight out to form a cross. The men buried the dead and after a while gave up the pursuit.

Extract from Wither's "Chronicles of Border Warfare".

(Page 381 of the 1895 edition—page 285 of original edition)

"In August (1789 from context) five Indians on their way to the settlements on the waters of the Monongahela met with two men on Middle Island Creek and killed them. Taking the horses they continued on their route until they came to the home of William Johnson on Ten Mile, and made prisoner of Mrs. Johnson and some children; plundered the house, killed part of the stock, and taking with them one of Johnson's horses, returned toward the Ohio. When the Indians came to the house, Johnson had gone to the Lick not far off, and on his return in the morning, seeing what had been done, and searching until he found the trail of the savages and their prisoners, ran to Clarksburg for assistance. A company of men repaired with him immediately to where he had discovered the trail and keeping it about a mile, found four of the children lying dead in the woods. The savages had tomahawked and scalped them, and placing their heads together, turned their bodies and feet straight out so as to represent a cross. The dead were buried and further pursuit given over."
Quoting a letter written by William Haymond, dated March 25, 1842.

"About or in the year 1790 the Indians killed Johnson's family on Ten Mile Creek, you know the place. Johnson had gone on Saturday to watch a lick. On his return home he found his house in a dreadful situation. The bed tick had been ripped open, the feathers scattered, a cow killed, and I believe a hog in the yard. He judged the cause and immediately started for Clarksburg, but took the contrary course. He went the same or nearly the same course the Indians did for a short distance, however he got to Clarksburg about 2 o'clock. About twenty of us started some on horseback and some on foot, ran nearly the whole distance, and got to the house of Johnston about one hour before sundown, took the Indian trail, in about two or three hundred yards we passed a deer that Johnson had killed and then brought off his horse. We went about one mile on the trail to the top of the ridge, some of the men stopped to parley, some of us proceeded a little further and found Johnson's wife and three children lying dead. They had been tomahawked and scalped and were laid with the feet pointing east, north and south. This was an awful sight to me and the rest of the men, but nothing in comparison to that of Mr. Johnson. The bereaved husband and father seemed to be unable to bear the shock. If it was hard to bear in those days of hardship how do you think it would be borne in these days? We laid the dead together and covered them with a bed cover and returned back to the house, went into the woods and staid till the next morning when we dug a grave and buried the four together. As we were about finishing, Col. Lowther with about fifteen men came to us. We then took up the trail. They kept along the ridge, up Ten Mile creek, crossed the creek, raised the hill on the west side and fell on the head of a small stream of Rush Run near the mouth of the latter, crossed Rush Run, and took the hill, just leaving Owen Davis', now Marsh' place, to the left. Here we held a consultation and it was decided that the Indians had too long a start, and if overtaken would kill the prisoners, and the chase was given up and we returned home. This Indian tale may perhaps be out of place, but thinking of those days I could not forbear giving you an account of this sorrowful event."


"Referring to the Johnson family who were massacred by the Indians in 1788—will say their home was on the north west side of Ten Mile Creek, eight miles from Clarksburg, and opposite where now is the village of Sardis. The land where the house stood is now owned by Oliver Robinson."
"Mrs. Johnson and three children were taken to the top of the hill on land now owned by Mrs. Susan Robey, and were all killed. I have visited the place many times, where the house stood and also where they were killed and their bodies buried."

On page 111 of the same book is a list of Indian outrages given by Col. Wilson on Sept. 27, 1789, including: Sept. 19, 1789, William Johnson family, 4 killed and 4 captivated, horses taken, cattle, hogs and sheep killed, and house plundered.

The statement by William Haymond, an actual eye-witness of the discovery of the bodies, is of course authoritative as to the fact that the wife of William Johnson was among those killed. The actual place of the tragedy can be seen by the accompanying map, taken from an old atlas of Harrison Co., in connection with the Ogden letter quoted above. (Nothing apparently was ever heard of the other children who were taken captive and carried away by the Indians).
At about this very time a suit was pending in the Harrison Co. court which William Johnson had brought against John Bibbee. The original complaint had stated that Johnson showed that Bibbee was indebted to him in the sum of $1 - 17 - 6. This was dated Aug. 25, 1789. The summons to Bibbee was dated Aug. 27, 1789. Witnesses were also summoned: Peter Kinshelo and Levi Johnson for William Johnson, and Terry Thompson and another John Bibbee for Bibbee. On Sept. 21, 1789 (only 2 days after the Johnson tragedy) this suit came up for trial in court, and naturally it was continued (Minute book No. 1, p. 419). On the 3rd Monday in October, 1789, the next meeting of the court, the suit was settled by agreement at the cost of the defendant. In the original papers in the Court files (in the basement of the Courthouse at Clarksburg) was found the original note, dated Oct. 15, 1789, all in William Johnson's handwriting and signed by him authorizing the settlement of the suit.
October 25, 1770

I am to inform you of Dr. Franklin's attack on them from inside and tell the story to William Johnson.

I am, therefore, to inform you of Dr. Franklin's attack on them from inside.

[Signature]

Benjamin Franklin

October 25, 1770

I am to inform you of Dr. Franklin's attack on them from inside.
There is record of two other suits involving William Johnson about this time or a little later:

On September 3rd Monday, 1793, the suit of Thomas Cooley vs. William Johnson was settled, by agreement that each party pay half the costs (Minute book 2, p. 74). The original papers show that Cooley claimed that Johnson was indebted to him in the sum of £1 - 19 - 0, and refused payment. The sheriffs writ to summon Johnson was dated Sept. 5, 1793. (Thomas Cooley had a number of similar suits at this term of court.)

On March 20, 1794, the suit of George Arnold vs. William Johnson was heard and judgment awarded Arnold for £1 - 10 - 4, with interest from Nov. 1, 1793 until paid (Minute book 2, p. 122). Original papers show that Arnold claimed Johnson owed him this amount on a note dated Sept. 16, 1785. The note originally to Thomas Cooley had been assigned by the latter to Arnold on Oct. 22, 1793.

Despite the appalling tragedy which had wiped out almost his entire family, William Johnson some time later married again. The date of the marriage was probably in 1793. His second wife was Elizabeth Berry, the widow of John Berry, who had died probably in 1790-91 (as shown by the Personal Tax lists). She seems to have had two or more children named Berry, by her first husband. One of these children, Mary, married in Harrison Co., July 18, 1793, John Love. (Harrison Co. marriage book 1, p. 23). The marriage bond was dated July 16, 1793, and signed by John Love, with Samuel Williamson as his surety. With the bond is a note from William Johnson giving permission for the marriage. It reads as follows:

"I William Johnson and my wife is willing that
my Daughter mary may be married to John Love.

William Johnson"
I, William Johnson, and my wife, is willing that my daughter, Mary, may be married to John Law.

William Johnson
The marriage itself was performed by Rev. John W. Loughborough. Probably the John Berry who married Ann Moreland on May 14, 1795 was another child of Elizabeth Berry Johnson (Ann Moreland was the daughter of John and Catherine Moreland. The marriage bond was dated May 9th. Thomas Berry was surety for John Berry). There was probably another daughter, Sarah Berry, who later sued Patrick McCann in connection with the administration of William Johnson's estate.

It seems possible that Elizabeth Berry Johnson's maiden name was Davis. At any rate, at about the time of the marriage, William Johnson acquired a new tract of land in a different section of the County and apparently went there to live (as shown by Personal Tax lists). (Naturally perhaps he would want to establish a new home away from the scene of the Indian attack.)

On June 17, 1793, William Johnson bought, for 30 pounds, from Joseph Davis and wife Sophia, 65 acres of land on Davisson's Run, which was part of a tract of 160 acres which had been surveyed for Davis on Sept. 26, 1787, and later patented by him. The deed was acknowledged and recorded at the June court 1793 (Harrison Co. Deed book 1, p. 328). The location of this property was over east of Clarksburg, near the site of Bridgeport. Davisson's Run is a branch of Simpson's Creek.

Shortly after this change of residence, the old place on Ten-Mile creek was disposed of. On March 17, 1794, William Johnson, "yeoman" and Elizabeth his wife sold, for 120 pounds, to John Stealey of Monongalia Co., the 400 acre tract patented by Johnson on August 1, 1786. Acknowledged and recorded at June court 1794 (Deed book 1, p. 558).

Not long after this, early in 1795 indeed, William Johnson died. At a court on Feb. 18, 1795, "Patrick McCann came into court and took oath
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**Total:** 30.0

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ATTEST: [Signature] Clerk.
as administrator of the estate of William Johnson deceased, and entered into bond according to law."

"Ordered "that Ephraim Smith, Joseph Davis, Joseph Wilkerson, and Thomas Scott or any three of them do appraise the estate of William Johnson deceased and return a true inventory thereof" etc. (Harrison Co. Court Minute book No. 2, p. 195). On March 17, 1795, it was ordered "that the Inventory of the estate of William Johnson dec'd be recorded, together with the Vendue bill." The inventory totalled £123 - 19 - 1; the Sales bill showed £33 - 10 - 8. (Same Minute book 2, p. 205). See photostats. As can be seen, Patrick McCann was the main purchaser at the sale.

At a court on Sept., 3rd Monday, 1795, it was ordered that "the Surveyor of the County, with Joseph Davis and Josiah Davisson of Simpson's Creek meet on the plantation of William Johnson dec'd (the plantation whereon the widow now lives) and there lay off the widow's Dower" "thirds" is first written in and then crossed off and return "a Plot of the meat and bounds of the sd Intended Widows Dower" "thirds" crossed off "to the Court". (Minute book 2, p. 264).

On Oct. 28, 1795, in conformity with this order, the commissioners met on the land of William Johnson deceased and laid off for Elizabeth his widow her right of dower in said land (Harrison Co. Deed book 2, p. 21).

On Nov. 17, 1795, it was ordered that the right of dower of Elizabeth Johnson as laid off by the Surveyor of this county be recorded. (Minute book 2, p. 290). Then, on March 25, 1796, Elizabeth Johnson sold to Patrick McCann, for 20 dollars her dower right, to hold during her natural life. She signed by mark. Acknowledged and recorded at the March court 1796. (Deed book 2, p. 255).
In the meantime there had been some dispute about the land, for a suit of John Love vs Patrick McCann came up for hearing on Oct. 19, 1795. Love was Elizabeth Johnson's son-in-law, and on that same date "John Love came into court and made oath that Elizabeth Johnson is a material witness in behalf of Love vs McCann" and that "a didimus go forth to take her deposition". (Minute book 2, pp. 273-274). The suit was tried on Feb. 15, 1796, and resulted in a judgment against Patrick McCann for 2 pounds, 12 sh. and 9d. (Same, p. 309). Another suit, of Sarah Berry, against McCann as "administrator of William Johnson dec'd" was also decided against him on Jan. 10, 1796. (Same, p. 301).

Just when the widow Elizabeth Johnson died, or what became of this land property on Davisson's Run is not known.

The first wife of William Johnson and the mother of his eight children was probably named Ruth, since the second daughter of Patrick and Hannah (Johnson) McCann was so named. The first daughter had been named for Patrick's own mother, Mary McCann, so it would be natural and according to custom to name the next daughter for the mother's mother, especially since this child was born in 1790, just after the tragedy in which the wife of William Johnson was killed. (The eldest son of Patrick and Hannah Johnson was named William).

Of the eight children of William and Ruth (?) Johnson, only the oldest daughter, Hannah, already married to Patrick McCann, escaped the Indian massacre. As mentioned above, probably the eldest son was named Lewis Johnson. Nothing is known of the others.
William Johnson

It has been assumed that our William Johnson came to the West Fork region in Harrison county from the South Branch, like so many of the other settlers there. But he may have come from farther afield than that.

Since one Levi Johnson was an important witness for William Johnson in a suit at law in 1739, it is possible that some relationship existed between them. In looking for Levi Johnson on the Virginia census lists (really the personal tax lists of the various counties) it is seen that the only Levi Johnson given occurs in Surry county, Virginia, in both 1782 and 1784. And with him there (right next in the 1782 list, which is alphabetical; and only one name away in the 1784 list) occurs William Johnson! In 1782 William has 7 whites in his family, and in 1784 he has 9 such whites. In the 1782 list there also occurs there in Surry Co. a Peter Johnson Sen. and a Peter Johnson Jun.
From the Archives of Maryland, vol. 18, Muster rolls:

page 32: Wm. Johnson appears in a list of the Flying Camp, July 25, 1776 (in same list with Joseph McCant, and as from the same county (Charles Co.) as Thomas Maccan.


page 126. William Johnson enlisted (no date) discharged Nov. 1, 1780. In the 2nd regiment. remarks: "Present"

page 220. William Johnson, sergeant in German regt. enlisted May 16, 1778, discharged Aug. 1, 1780.

page 322. William Johnson passed in a list from Frederick Co., May 16, (no year) for 3 years, in the German regt.

page 341. William Johnson a deserter from the 2nd Maryland regiment.

page 422. In a list of the Maryland line, enlisted in 1782, June 12, for the war.


page 499. William Johnson, "S". in a pay roll of Md. line for 1783, from Jan. 1 to Nov. 15. discharged 22 Oct. 1783.

page 515. In a list of depreciation certificates stopped at the treasuries: Wm. Johnson, 5th regt. there is no such person on Musters of the Regt. There is a Wm. Johnson on the rolls of the 2nd regt. but neither of them entitled.

If our William Johnson lived in Maryland before he came to Harrison Co., Va. the accompanying extracts from the Archives of Maryland may refer to him and his possible service in the Revolutionary War.
From Draper Manuscripts 51 J 66 -

Affidavit of Wm. Johnson (unsigned)

H. Q. July 10, 1781.

"The Information of William Johnson it appears that on the 9th Inst. he was at the House of Laurence Crow, where was a number of persons assembled at a Reaping - amongst whom were Wm. Howe, Laurence Crow, John Crow and Phillip Magain whose Conversation and Conduct during his Continuance sufficiently Convinced him of their Inemical principals in Every Instance - That he at length have declard himself a friend to America was orderd to Quit the house - which he did. Farther saith that John Jackman, Wm. (blank) son in law of afor mentd Howe and Alexandr Andrews were present whom seemed to be well pleased at their behavior. Then Circumstances happend accidentally under the Infor (mss. torn) as passing by was Envited to Stay"

Endorsed on back:

"The Information of William Johnston against Sundry Tories"

Published in "Frontier Retreat on the Ohio" - by Louise P. Kellogg

page 416. (Wisconsin Hist. Soc. pub. vol. 24, Draper Series 5)
Notes from "Frontier Retreat on the Ohio"
edited by Louise Phelps Kellogg.

 held Oct. 8, 1779.
 among officers present were:

   Samuel Tetter
   Jacob Leffler
   etc.

p. 363-370. Petition from inhabitants of Pittsburgh and
 Westmoreland Co., against the arbitrary rule of
 Col. Broadhead.
 Signers include:

   Jno. McCann
   Wm. Johnston
   James "
   John "
   James Watterson
   Richard "
   etc.