

## Chapter III

### McKEE SEPTS & THEIR BRIEF GENEALOGY

THE READER will readily apprehend that any one of the septs briefly sketched in this section could very easily fill a large chapter or even a volume with its history and family anecdotes. The space available for the present work, however, is being devoted to laying a foundation for the tribe's early history and peregrinations, with full confidence that some member of each cadet branch will fill in the details for it in years to come. If what is contained here serves as a point of departure for such a researcher, its inclusion will be amply justified.

#### SEPT OF STEWART McKEE OF RATHFRILAND.

This is one of the ablest and most virile of the McKee families. The earliest identifiable ancestor of the line is William McKee who lived in the area of Rathfriland, County Down, Ireland, in the 18th century. Descendants believe, based on tradition which has come down to them, that their ancestors were residents of Scotland at the time Oliver Cromwell was dictator, which was from 1653 when he dissolved Parliament until his death in 1658, and that they removed to North Ireland during that period.

WILLIAM McKEE was married to Ann Neil, who was probably herself descended from the great O'Neill Clan, very possibly through the McNeils of Gigha. From the circumstance that he became warm friends in Ireland with Robert Stewart, the first Marquis of Londonderry, or it may have been his son, also named Robert Stewart, the second Marquis, it is a reasonable supposition that William McKee was from an important sept of the Mackay clan, or one of its cadet branches. This Robert Stewart is said also to have borne the title of Viscount Castlereagh, and the close bond of friendship between him and William McKee is mutely testified to by the latter's act of naming his second son Stewart McKee. It is also interesting to note that William McKee named his first son Henry, which very possibly indicates that his own father's name was Henry, and this suspicion is in some degree supported by the fact that Stewart's elder brother Henry named his first son William, and his second Henry, maintaining perhaps the Presbyterian system.

Stewart McKee was born at Rathfriland April 1, 1791. He and his older brother Henry emigrated to America, and seem to have been at Louisville, Kentucky, in 1818, and later at St. Louis, Missouri about 1830. Very little is available to the present author about Henry, and that little he has depicted on the Family Tree that traces this sept, and which is reproduced here.

HENRY McKEE (B. c. 1779, D. 1849) seems to have lived in or near New York for a period, as his first son William was born there September 24, 1815. In 1820 he emigrated to Saint Clair County in Illinois, and settled fourteen miles from Kaskaskia. At that time, Saint Clair County was still a wilderness, occupied mostly by Kaskaskia and Shawnee Indians, with a sprinkling of white settlers. Henry McKee's nearest neighbor lived about a mile distant. It will be seen in another chapter that traces the McKees of Rushville, Illinois, that they did not arrive from Indiana until a few years later. There was also a surveyor named John McKee in the area about this time, who was afterward killed by Indians, and it is he after whom McKee's Creek is named. Henry McKee spent about four years in Saint Clair County, then *circa* 1824 returned to New York and civilization. In 1832, having experienced some serious financial reverses, he again joined the westward trek. His tracks are few and dim. He died at St. Louis, December 17, 1849. He had three daughters, Mary

Ann McClelland, who lived at Lockport, New York ; Margaret Shaub, who lived at Warrenton, Missouri ; and Martha Ray who lived at St. Louis. His estate was administered by his eldest son William McKee, his brother Stewart McKee acting as one of his bondsmen, and a Robert McKee as another.

This Robert McKee was in all probability a kinsman, and we are thus led to believe that he may have been a third brother, he forming a trio with Henry and Stewart.

Among the assets of Henry McKee's estate was 281.60 dollars due to him from his brother Stewart McKee.

Henry McKee's eldest son, William McKee, founded the *St. Louis Globe-Democrat*, the ownership of which eventually passed to his daughter Ellen Jane and thence to children or grandchildren of his sister Martha McKee Ray. One of the principal owners, a married woman of that line, is believed now to reside in England. This William McKee was born September 24, 1815, and died in 1878. He and his younger brother Henry, who was born October 18, 1824, married sisters, William having married Eliza and Henry, Matilda Jane ; their patronym we may learn later. The father and mother, Henry and Jane McKee, moved westward about 1832, but William McKee, then seventeen, remained in New York, where he was employed on the staff of the *Evening Star*, a newspaper owned by Major Noah. Publication of this paper was suspended sometime between 1833 and 1840, whereupon William McKee paid a visit to his maternal grandfather in Sullivan County, New York. We find no record of his activities in that period, but spy him again in St. Louis in 1841. In August of 1852 he and some associates commenced publication of a newspaper called the *Missouri Democrat*. Sometime later, probably following his involvement in the so-called whiskey-ring scandals, he either sold or permitted control of the newspaper to be wrested from him. However, he acquired another paper called the *Globe*, which merged with the *Democrat* on May 8, 1875, to become what is now the *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* ; William McKee remained its principal owner after the merger.

Henry McKee's younger son Henry was born October 18, 1824, and died in 1885. He married a sister of his brother William's wife, her Christian name being Matilda Jane, and by her had three sons and three daughters : Robert, Charles Henry, William, Elizabeth, Eleanor, and Jane. It is said that this Henry McKee (1824-1885) attended St. Louis University in the early 1840's. Then he appears as a commercial traveller for the firms of Barthold, Rozier & Co. ; Rozier & McKenson ; Senter, Collier & Rankin ; and Moody, Michel & Co. In 1871 he was Coal Inspector under Governor B. Gratz Brown, governor of the State of Missouri, but in 1872 he became Commercial Editor of what was soon to be his brother William's newspaper the *Globe*, as well as vice-president of the Globe Printing Company, in which he owned fifteen shares of stock. His son, Charles Henry McKee, became connected with the newspaper somewhat later, and was until his own death the administrator of the estate of his cousin, Miss Ellen Jane McKee.

Miss Ellen Jane McKee, daughter of William and Eliza McKee, died in May, 1905. It was during her lifetime as well as during the extended period of the administration of her estate by her cousin Charles Henry McKee that the wealth of the descendants of Henry McKee (B. 1779, D. Dec. 17, 1849) reached its maximum. In the main, Ellen Jane's heirs were comparatively distant relatives, including S. Lansing Ray who was the publisher of the *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* until his death in about 1955.

<sup>1</sup> By an odd coincidence the present author was a member of the faculty of St. Louis University in 1924 (*Bulletin*, Vol. XX, No. 3, p. 7), some eighty years later.

STEWART MCKEE was married on February 18, 1825, to Ann Fine, this marriage having taken place in America. She is believed to have been the daughter of David Fine of West Virginia and Ann Corder of South Carolina, from the Pennsylvania Corders. Apparently, she died early, and later he married a girl whose first name was Bridget, but whose patronym has not yet come to light. His progeny have been numerous, as the Family Tree clearly shows, and their achievements have in several cases been of the highest order. According to a notice in the November 21, 1874, *Saint Louis Republican*, he died November 18, 1874, at the age of 84, but according to another notice of November 20, 1874, in the *Saint Louis Democrat*, he was 82 when he died. There is a record of a Stewart McKee formally declaring his intention of becoming a United States citizen on April 27, 1818, in the Jefferson Circuit Court of Louisville, Kentucky, and while there is no means of identifying this man with the Stewart McKee here being delineated, it seems practically certain that they are the same individual.

There was a Samuel McKee at Saint Louis who died in or before 1845. His widow was Margaret McKee, and children surviving Samuel were Mary, William, James, Robert, Ann, Samuel and Margaret. Margaret McKee was Administratrix of Samuel's estate and Henry McKee was one of her sureties. Included in Samuel's estate was Saint Louis real estate adjoining Stewart McKee's real estate and purchased at the same time from the same previous owner. It is possible that there were four brothers : Henry, Stewart, Robert and Samuel.

By a deed recorded in Book R, page 316, in the Recorder of Saint Louis County's office, and dated August 1, 1831, Stewart McKee acquired from Thomas J. Joyce several lots on Mulanphy Street, including wharf frontage at Mulanphy Street and the Mississippi River, as well as some frontage on Main Street.

Upon his death, November 18, 1874, he left his wife Bridget and the following children, who then or later had the grandchildren shown :

<i>Children</i>		<i>Grandchildren</i>	<i>Born</i>	<i>Died</i>
James David McKee	B. 6. 4.1856 1898	Robert Eugene McKee	6.15.1889	—
		Alice Elizabeth McKee	8.21.1880	—
		David Bernard McKee	10.16.1884	—
		James Stewart McKee	9.12.1882	—
John McKee	B. 8.31.1827 D. 6.28.1915	Mary McKee	12.20.1859	7.26.1860
		Stewart McKee, M.D.	12.30.1860	5. 5.1936
	Simon Lewis McKee	4.17.1863	7. 6.1863	
	William George McKee	1. 5.1865	10.18.1865	
	Syrena McKee	8. 4.1866	5.20.1937	
	Josephine Eugenia McKee	11.22.1869	2. 3.1949	
	Margaret Ann McKee	5. 9.1872	12. 2.1916	
	Rose Thompson McKee	9.14.1876	—	
	John Harding McKee	7. 3.1878	8.29.1956	
	Lydia Hart McKee	10. 1.1881	10.18.1934	
William McKee	B. 11. 2.1825 D. 4. 1.1866	David McKee	—	—
		Rachel McKee	—	—
M. Mary Anderson (Served in Union Army)				
Col. David McKee	B. 12.15.1828	(K. Battle of Stone River 12.31.1862)		

<i>Children</i>		<i>Grandchildren</i>	<i>Born</i>	<i>Died</i>
Stewart McKee	B. 4.12.1833			
Henry E. McKee	B. 1.16.1831	Henry Stewart McKee	10. 9.1868	—
	D. 3.27.1901	Jennie L. McKee		—
		Lillie B. McKee		—

By inspecting the Family Tree that pertains to Stewart McKee of Rathfriland, it will be seen that he followed the Scot Presbyterian system of naming their children, and gave his first son the lad's paternal grandfather's name of William McKee.

John McKee, the second son was born August 31, 1827, in St. Louis, Missouri. In 1834 his parents moved to Grant County, Wisconsin, and it was from that area that young John McKee, then only 22 years of age, joined the 1849 Gold Rush to California. In the west he contracted typhoid fever, so he returned to Wisconsin. He gained his education at St. Louis University, and in 1852 engaged with his brother Henry in engineering and surveying. In 1855 he emigrated to Leavenworth, Kansas, and became one of that city's early settlers. On October 7, 1858, he married Josephine E. S. Lewis in Potosi, Wisconsin. The issue of this marriage was ten children, three of whom died in infancy, as will be seen from the list of them.

In 1860, John McKee was appointed City Marshall of Leavenworth, and later became Deputy City Treasurer. In 1863 he was elected Sheriff for the four year period from 1864 to 1868. However, in the Fall of 1867 he was elected a State Senator for the State of Kansas.

Later he was appointed Postmaster during President Arthur's term, and served until 1883. He died June 28, 1915, at the age of 88, having lived a long and useful life.

Rose Thompson McKee, daughter of John McKee and grand-daughter of Stewart McKee the emigrant, was born September 14, 1876, and resides at Leavenworth, Kansas. She lived for many years in the Philippines, and during our war with Japan was imprisoned three years at Santo Tomas. We correspond from time to time, and it was she who generously supplied the author with many of the obscure details concerning names and dates of her line and their antecedents.

A third son of Stewart was David McKee, who was born December 15, 1828, and was killed in action at the age of 34, at the battle of Stone River, on December 31, 1862. He was a colonel in the 15th Wisconsin Infantry at the time of his death, and was married to Pamela Whitney. Whether there was issue from this marriage we do not at present know.

The next child of Stewart McKee was Henry E. McKee, who was born in St. Louis January 16, 1831, and died in Los Angeles, March 27, 1901. He married Jane Frances Richardson, from which marriage two daughters, Lillie B. and Jennie L. McKee, were born, as well as a son Henry Stewart McKee.

Henry Stewart<sup>1</sup> McKee was born October 9, 1868, and died in Los Angeles in 1956. On October 19, 1898, he married Ethel Rust Hay, from which union there was issue of two

<sup>1</sup> The present author was privileged to be a fellow director with Henry Stewart McKee of Merchants and Manufacturers Association of Los Angeles for several years, and learned to esteem him as a man of great wisdom and high principles.

From an unidentified source Henry Stewart McKee's sept had received and cherished as genuine for many years a rather complex "coat of arms". Donald Hay McKee, Henry's son, supplied the author with a photograph of it, which the author immediately submitted by air mail to Sir Thomas Innes of Learney, Lord Lyon King of Arms of Scotland, for his opinion concerning its probity. Lyon pronounced it completely spurious. The incident illustrates how uninformed, hence gullible, we Americans are about the ancient and very precise science of heraldry.

sons, Stewart McKee and Donald Hay McKee. He was a civic leader of Los Angeles, California, for more than half a century, having served as president of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce in 1904-05, and as a director of it and other civic organizations continuously for the period from about 1900 until 1955.

Donald Hay McKee, son of Henry Stewart McKee, was born November 19, 1902, and is married to Natalya Therese Sharp McKee, by whom he has had a son Henry Stewart McKee III, and two daughters Shirley and Iris. He succeeded to his father's extensive interests, and undoubtedly will follow in his footsteps as a community leader.

The reader's attention is again invited to the Family Tree of Stewart McKee of Rathfriland. The last child of this amazing pioneer was James David McKee, who was born June 4, 1856, in the 65th year of his father's age. James David McKee was an engineer and builder, but suffered an unfortunate accident at St. Louis when he was in only his 43rd year, and died instantly. He had married Alice Elizabeth Cleve on April 16, 1879, when he was 23 and she was 22, and from this union there was issue of one daughter and three sons: Alice Elizabeth, a spinster; James Stewart McKee, a bachelor; David Bernard McKee, and Robert Eugene McKee.

Robert Eugene McKee, the youngest of James David McKee's four children, was born June 15, 1889, and was but ten years of age when his father was killed. He was educated as an engineer, and on September 20, 1911, married Gladys Evelyn Woods, when he was 22 and she was 18. The issue of this marriage has been six sons and two daughters, with twenty-three grandchildren, as follows:

<i>Children</i>		<i>Grandchildren</i>	
Robert Eugene McKee, Jr.	B. 12.26.1913 (adopted)	Robert Eugene McKee III	B. 2.10.1942
		Franklin James McKee	B. 10.9.1942
		David Stuart McKee	B. 3.30.1948
		Malcolm Bruce McKee	B. 8.16.1949
		Nelson Douglas McKee	B. 9.3.1951
Charles David McKee	B. 7.18.1915	David Michael McKee	B. 2.8.1945
		Susan Joan McKee	B. 5.2.1947
		Charles Steven McKee	B. 6.29.1955
John Stuart McKee	B. 3.29.1917	Charlotte Anne McKee	B. 6.2.1940
		Frances Elizabeth McKee	B. 6.6.1942
		John Stuart McKee, Jr.	B. 10.25.1946
		Barbara Jean McKee	B. 11.4.1950
Margaret Elizabeth (Lund)	B. 5.12.1919	Helen Eugenia Lund	B. 1.9.1946
Frances Evelyn (Hays)	B. 7.30.1921	Sharon Camille Hays	B. 3.23.1946
		Linda Eillen Hays	B. 8.10.1948
		Patricia Lynn Hays	B. 7.23.1952

<i>Children</i>		<i>Grandchildren</i>	
James William McKee	B. 6.28.1924	Carolyn Jane McKee	B. 8.16.1951
		William Richard McKee	B. 7.18.1953
		Mary Melinda McKee	B. 3. 6.1956
Philip Sidney McKee	B. 10.20.1931	Debrah Elaine McKee	B. 9.12.1952
		Philip Russell McKee	B. 5.26.1954
		Richard Brian McKee	B. 9.15.1955
Louis Bernard McKee	B. 7.11.1933	Louis Bernard McKee, Jr.	B. 3. 7.1957

Robert Eugene McKee was first employed by the American Telephone and Telegraph Company in St. Louis. He left St. Louis when he was about nineteen and went to New Mexico, where for a short period he lived on his uncle's ranch in the Sacramento Mountains. Then he went to El Paso and became employed in the City Engineer's Office for several years. Later he was employed by the El Paso Milling Company, a branch of the Pierson Engineering Company of England. A short while later he commenced a contracting business of his own in El Paso, gradually adding branch offices in Los Angeles, Dallas, Santa Fe, Albuquerque, and prior to World War No. 2 in the Panama Canal Zone and the Hawaiian Islands.

He is prominent in community affairs in El Paso, has been active in Episcopal church work for many years, is a philanthropist of very considerable proportions, and is moreover a patron of the arts. His collection of Western oil paintings is an interesting one.

The general contracting firm of Robert E. McKee, 1900 Texas Street, El Paso, Texas, is well and favorably known throughout most of the western hemisphere ; there are several branch offices in western United States, as noted above, including the one at Los Angeles. Robert E. McKee, first as an individual and lately as Robert E. McKee, General Contractor, Inc., has built a great many buildings throughout the Southwest and in the Territory of Hawaii, and the Panama Canal Zone. A few examples are, in Los Angeles the Statler Hotel, the Los Angeles Union Passenger Terminal, University of California Medical Center, the Osteopathic Unit of the Los Angeles County General Hospital, and many other buildings for the Government, the State, and Counties and Cities of California. Prior to World War No. 2 he built a great many buildings in Honolulu, and in El Paso, which is the home office ; a few of the buildings are El Paso Natural Gas Company Building, hospitals, and other buildings in the downtown area, considerable work of many kinds at Fort Bliss and Biggs Air Force Base ; likewise a cantonment built at Brownwood, Texas, the Statler Hotel in Dallas, Veterans Hospital in Oklahoma, Grady Memorial Hospital at Atlanta, Georgia, many facilities in the Panama Canal Zone, in Albuquerque, Santa Fe, and Los Alamos, New Mexico, Pueblo, Colorado, Omaha, Nebraska, and buildings all through the Southwestern area.

## THE STEWARTS OF BALLINTOY

The material that follows is excerpted from an excellent article by the Rev. George Hill, which was written in 1865 and published in Coleraine. It was the Rev. George Hill's first work, which imparts added interest.

"The Stewarts of Ballintoy, in common with most other Scottish settlers on the Antrim Coast, were originally descended from an Irish stock. According to our most competent authorities, this whole race may be traced backward to a very remote period in history, and may fairly claim as its founder a prince named Loarn, who, in conjunction with his two brothers, Angus and Fergus, led an expedition from Dalriada, on the Antrim coast, into Scotland, about the year 506, and permanently laid the foundation of the Dalriadic Monarchy in that kingdom.

It is remarkable that many traditions still exist in Argyleshire and the Isles pointing to the Dalriadic invasions from the Irish coast. The last and most successful of these invasions was that already mentioned. Loarn, the eldest brother, established himself in the Northern part of Argyleshire; Angus, the second brother, held Isla and some adjoining islands, whilst Fergus took possession of the whole peninsula now known as Cantire. It is more than likely that the latter landed in Machrihanish Bay, nearly opposite to Ballycastle, as the beautiful glen stretching eastward from that bay, in Cantire, has borne the name of Tirfergus, or 'the territory of Fergus', from the remotest times. It would appear that the inhabitants of this Glen, probably more than those of any other locality on the Scottish coast, continued to keep alive an intercourse, from age to age, with their kinsfolk dwelling along the Antrim shore. The *Chronicon Scotorum* records that in the years 684 and 695 this channel was frozen quite over, and that the dwellers on the opposite coasts were in the habit of paying reciprocal visits to each other whilst the ice remained.

The descendants of Loarn and Fergus occupied the highest positions in the Scottish kingdom during the entire period of its existence from the commencement of the sixth to the close of the sixteenth century. From the family of Loarn sprang several of the earlier Dalriadic kings, together with a vast multitude of great thanes and chieftains, among whom prominently appear the hereditary Stewards of Scotland. The family of Fergus, the younger brother, supplied by far the greater number of occupants to the throne, including Robert Bruce, the hero of Bannockburn. Margery Bruce, daughter of the latter, became the wife of Walter, the Steward of Scotland, and thus husband and wife belonged to the same illustrious race, although time had obliterated all traces of immediate relationship between their families. They represented two leading branches sprung from the same stem, and their son, who became Robert II of Scotland, was the first of the Stewart line of kings.

During the minority of the latter, his grandfather, king Robert Bruce, conferred upon him a grant of the island of Bute, whose fertile soil and salubrious air had long rendered it attractive as a royal residence. During the existence of the island kingdom, the Lords of the Isles invariably spent a portion of the season in Bute, and hence its Gaelic name, *Eilean Bhoid*, 'the Island of the Court'. The Hebrides, generally, were known as Hibudae or Ibudae, the Isles of Buda; they derived their individual or specific names from incidents in their history, or peculiarities of soil or appearance, but Bute, from time immemorial, has retained its original generic name of *Buda*, or the 'royal residence'. At an early period it was held alternately, and sometimes as a joint possession by the great families of Stewart and Mac Donnell. About the year 1050, Walter, the first Stewart, obtained a grant of Bute from Malcolm II. Afterwards, the island changed masters several times, and its possession became a subject of fierce contention between the Scots and Norwegians. Towards the close of the eleventh century, Bute was ceded to Magnus Barefoot, King of Norway, and his daughter having wedded the king of Man, this island was given to the latter, as a portion of his wife's marriage dowry. Her daughter married Sonhairle, or Somerled, the great thane of Argyle, and the latter soon afterwards seized Bute and other portions of the island-kingdom, not in right of his marriage,

but simply as a conquest. On the death of Somhairle, his youngest son Angus, inherited Bute, who, with his three sons, was slain in the year 1210. James, one of his sons, left a daughter and heiress married to Alexander, the then high Steward of Scotland, who, in his right, claimed the island. The last Mac Donnell who owned this remarkable place was Angus of Isla, their descendant, married to Agnes O'Cahan, a daughter of the chieftain of Dunseveric Castle.

Whilst the young prince, Robert, resided in Bute, he formed an unauthorized union with a lady whose name was Christian Leitch, by whom he left one son, John Stewart, created the first sheriff of Bute. From 1445 to 1450, we find the crown lands of Scoulogmore, in the Southern Division of Bute, were held by a lady named Christian Leche, and the rents, together with one mart, due yearly out of those lands, were regularly remitted to her by gift from James II. Was the lady of Scoulogmore the mother of John Stewart, the first sheriff? If so, she must have survived her princely lover many years. In 1510, James IV confirmed to Master Henry Lech, the lands of Kerrylamond, Meikle Lowpas, and Little Lowpas, in the lordship and sheriffdom of Bute, of the old extent of £6 16s. 8d., which had been held by his father Thomas Lech, and his predecessors beyond the memory of man, the grantee paying yearly a silver penny as *blanche ferme*, and giving his services as *chirurgion* when required".

### THE VIRGINIA AND KENTUCKY McKEES.

These families are touched upon here and there in the present volume, and to a considerable extent were delineated by Major George Wilson McKee in his able work *The McKees of Virginia and Kentucky* (Pittsburgh, Pa., 1891). A Family Tree showing their spread has also been included, with a supplemental tree for the descendants of William McKee, the third Virginia pioneer concerning whom the above-named author was unable to find much more than a vague shadow. He personally remains a pretty ghostly figure, but some of his descendants have emerged from our search.

### <sup>1</sup>THE McKEES

"Ten or eleven brothers named McKee came from Ireland to America in 1738, and settled near Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Three of these—Robert, William and John—came to Augusta County, but at what date is uncertain. Their descendants state that it was about 1760, but the records of the county show that John McKee purchased a tract of land in the forks of the James River on August 16, 1752".

Actually, the entry to which Mr. Waddell apparently refers is as follows :—Deed Book 4, p. 483, Aug. 17, 1752 : "John MacKee 170 A. on Mill Creek in Forks of James River from Mary Doughart". Then we find in Deed Book 6, p. 376, Aug. 19, 1754 : "John Kerr to John McKee, Yeoman, 280 A. on Tee's Creek". This was later changed to Kerr's Creek.

I. "ROBERT McKEE, the pioneer, died June 11, 1774, aged eighty-two years, and his wife, Agnes, January 29, 1780, aged eighty-four. They had two sons, William and John.

1. "William McKee, son of Robert and Agnes, was born in 1732, and, probably while living in Pennsylvania, was, with his father, at Braddock's defeat. (Braddock's Defeat took place July 9, 1755.—R.W.M.). He married his first cousin, Miriam, daughter of John McKee, Sr. His residence was a few miles west of Lexington, and the farm is now (1892) owned by descendants of the Rev. Dr. Baxter. It is said that he was at the Battle of Point Pleasant, and if so probably belonged to Colonel Fleming's Botetourt regiment. (This needs no guesswork, as Wither's in *Border Warfare*, p. 176 *et sequa* mentions Captain McKee's astute command of the fort, and his able dispatch of warning to Colonel Donnelly.—R.W.M.). He represented Rockbridge repeatedly in the Legislature, and in 1788 was the colleague of General Andrew

<sup>1</sup> *Annals of Augusta County, Virginia, from 1726 to 1871*, by Jos. A. Waddell, Staunton, Va., 1902, p. 210.

GLENN MCKEE  
B. BY EARLIER MARRIAGE  
12.13.1892 D. 4.14.1950  
M. ROSE C. LEISLER  
B. 9.29.1876 D. 1955

CHARLES EDWARD MCKEE  
12.4.1872 2.18.1924 M. SARAH  
ELLEN EPPERSON 12.25.1898

HENRY MCKEE, BORN 12.13.1821  
DIED 12.3.1880. M. HARRIET MATHENY 1.22.1843  
WHO DIED 8.31.1844. HER SON WILLIAM THOMAS  
DIED APR. 21.1845. ON 3.10.1849 HE MARRIED  
MARY MOORE B. 4.15.1830 D. 12.3.1895. BOTH  
ARE BURIED AT MONMOUTH, KANSAS

HELEN MARY MCKEE  
1.11.1903

MICHAEL RAYMOND MCKEE  
B. 8.17.1948

RAYMOND WALTER MCKEE  
B. 12.24.1899  
M. FRANCES IDA HOWE 11.1.1947  
SHE WAS BORN 8.16.1923

JUDITH FRANCES MCKEE  
2.11.1953 3.8.1953

ANN MCKEE  
M. GEORGE DICKEY

DUNCAN HEREMON  
MACAODH MCKEE  
B. MAR. 17.1957

DAVID JOEL MCKEE  
B. 2.24.1951

RODERICK HUGH O'NEIL MCKEE  
B. 12.31.1954

MARY MCKEE

ROGER GIBBONS  
11.17.1938

AGNES MCKEE BORN C. 1787  
MARRIED JOSHUA MATHENY  
10.23.1808

ANN MCKEE  
M. DANIEL MATHENY

BILLIE JUNE  
MCKEE B. 9.3.1916  
M. JOHN GIBBONS  
JUNE WAS ISSUE OF  
EARLIER MARRIAGE

CASSANDER MCKEE  
M. LEWISTON SEWARD

ELIZABETH MCKEE  
M. WM MEARS

JAMES MCKEE  
DIED C. 1820-30. (NAME POSTULATED), DAUGHTER  
DICKSON C. 1778. SERVED F  
JAMES POE & LIEUT. DANIEL  
PENN. ARCHIVES, 5TH SERIES, 1  
SERVED AS PRIVATE 1780-8  
PENN. ARCHIVES, VOL. 6, P. 71  
OF REVOLUTION TO HARDIN  
CRAS. POLKE'S COMPANY, UNDER  
GEORGE ROGERS CLARK,  
STATE LIBRARY,

HANNAH AGNES MCKEE  
M. GARRETT WYCOFF

JULIA MCKEE  
DEAF MUTE  
M. HILL

CAPT. WILLIAM MCKEE  
B. 1816 KILLED AT BATTLE OF  
PRAIRIE GROVE, ARK. 12.7.1862  
M. SARAH BARTLOW

ISABEL MCKEE  
M. LUSK

THOMAS MCKEE  
B. 8.22.1810  
M. MARIA RICE

THOMAS MCKEE  
(ELDEST SON) BORN  
C. 1751 DIED  
SERVED UNDER CAPT.  
JAMES POE IN 1782

MARTHA MCKEE

(PENNSYLVANIA)  
M. MARY NESBIT CA. 1750 (D.  
CUMB. CO. PA. MILITIA. WILL  
52  
GEORGE DIC  
ANDREW MCKEE

THOMAS MCKEE B. 12.6.1780 D. 1.5.1833 (KILLED  
IN COAL MINE ACCIDENT NEAR RUSHVILLE, ILL.) MARRIED  
HANNAH FRAKES 4.16.1809. SHE WAS BORN 1782,  
DIED 8.22.1864; DAUGHTER OF HENRY & HANNAH FRAKES  
OF PENN.; SISTER OF CASSIE FRAKES WHO MARRIED  
THOMAS' BROTHER WILLIAM. SHE IS BURIED IN BETHANY  
GRAVEYARD NORTH OF RUSHVILLE.

WILLIAM MCKEE  
2.18.1750 7.28.1752

JAMES MCKEE  
12.11.1803 11.16.1902  
M. ELIZABETH PLASTER  
1.11.1837 3.20.1926

MAJOR DAVID MCKEE  
12.14.1823 3.7.1896  
M. MARTHA JANE KRESSECKER 8.12.1841  
M. FIVIA RAYMOND DEFFENH L. 1856

JAMES MCKEE  
B. ca 1776 D.  
M. LYDIA TO

M SARAH BARTLOW

THOMAS MCKEE  
B. 8-22-1810  
M. MARIA RILE

THOMAS MCKEE  
(ELDEST SON) BORN  
C. 1751 DIED  
SERVED UNDER CAPT.  
JAMES POE IN 1782

(PENNSYLVANIA)  
M. MARY NESBIT CALLED OF THOMAS MCKEE  
CUMB. CO. PA. MILITIA WILL DATE 1810  
GEO. BERRY, B. P. C. 1791, FRANKLIN CO.  
ANDREW MCKEE

THOMAS MCKEE B. 12-6-1780 D. 1-5-1833 (KILLED  
IN COAL MINE ACCIDENT NEAR RUSHVILLE, ILL.) MARRIED  
HANNAH FRAKES 4-16-1801. SHE WAS BORN 1782;  
DIED 8-22-1864; DAUGHTER OF HENRY & HANNAH FRAKES  
OF PENN.; SISTER OF CASSIE FRAKES WHO MARRIED  
THOMAS' BROTHER WILLIAM. SHE IS BURIED IN BETHANY  
GRAVEYARD NORTH OF RUSHVILLE.

JAMES MCKEE  
B. 11-11-1803 D. 11-16-1902  
M. ELIZABETH PLASTER  
1-11-1837 3-20-1916

SAMUEL MCKEE  
M. BETSY LOWRY

WILLIAM MCKEE  
2-18-1750 7-8-1752

MAJOR DAVID MCKEE  
12-14-1823 3-7-1896  
M. MARTHA JANE KEESECKER 8-12-1841  
M. ELVIRA RANDOLPH BREEDING 6-1-1856

JAMES MCKEE  
B. ca. 1726 D. 1778  
M. LYDIA TODD

MARY MCKEE  
B. 6-11-1746 D. 8-3-1822  
M. HUGH WEIR (WARE)  
B. D. 1-14-1822  
NO CHILDREN

JOHN MCKEE, JR.  
B. 10-27-1771 D. 12-1-1815  
M. SUSANNAH SIMONDS 1-14-1798  
SHE DIED 3-20-1815  
(NO CHILDREN)

WILLIAM MCKEE OF VA  
(SEE SEPARATE FAMILY)

DAVID MCKEE  
B. 12-25-1760  
D. NEAR NICHOLASVILLE, KY.  
(TO KENTUCKY 1788)

JOHN MCKEE  
B. 1787

JOSEPH H. D. MCKEE  
B. 1820 D. 1889

SAMUEL MCKEE  
B. 1789

JOHN MCKEE  
M. ANN PLATT  
EMIGRATED TO  
RUSH CO., IND.

JAMES MCKEE

LEWIS W. MCKEE  
B. 1854

ROBERT MC  
(TO KENTUCKY IN  
1786) M. MARGARET

DAVID MCKEE

ROBERT MCKEE  
(TO ILLINOIS)

MARY MCKEE

JAMES MCKEE

JAMES LOGAN MCKEE BORN  
PA. 3-14-1752 8-14-1832 VA.  
(REMAINED IN ROCKBRIDGE CO. VA.)  
6-6-1781 M. JANE TELFORD (B. 10-19-1754 D. 4-30-1800)  
M. MRS. NANCY SCOTT 1807

YOUNGEST...  
JOHN MCKEE OF VIRGINIA  
13-9-1744 M. JANE LOGAN. SHE  
12-12-1765 HE M. ROSANNAH CUNNINGHAM  
(SHE WAS SLAIN AND SCALP  
TAKEN BY INDIANS)

DAVID MCKEE B. 1810 D. OCT 11, 1854  
IN RUSH CO., IND. ATTORNEY IN IND.  
M. MARTHA WOOD B. 1809 KENTUCKY  
D. 6-13-1882

MARY JANE MCKEE  
M. ANDREW BRATTON

JOHN TELFORD MCKEE  
B. 4-14-1783 D. 4-30-1857  
11-18-1806 M. NANCY HANNAH  
B. F. 9-1779 D. 4-23-1847

MIRIAM MCKEE  
B. 9-27-1747 D. 10-3-1796  
ON 5-20-1766 M. HER COUSIN  
(COL.) WILLIAM MCKEE

5 SONS  
2 DAUGHTERS

SAMUEL W. MCKEE  
B. 1883  
D. 1883  
M. POLLY ANN DAVIDSON  
ON 8-20-1834. SHE DIED  
1-23-1860

WILLIAM MCKEE  
B. 28-1759  
M. JEAN KENNEDY  
BOTH ARE BURIED  
NEW PROVIDENCE CH

DAVID W. MCKEE  
12-14-1845 (M. 6-19-1873)  
ELEANOR MCKEE OF WOODFORD CO., KY

SAMUEL MADISON MCKEE  
B. 5-4-1853

JOHN T. MCKEE  
B. 10-21-1841

JAMES MCKEE  
M. RACHEL WILSON (WIDOW  
OF MOFFATT)

JOSIE MCKEE  
ETHEL MCKEE  
GRACE LAPSLEY MCKEE  
LOUISA C MCKEE

HENRY MCKEE, BORN 12-13-1821  
80. M. HARRIET MAIHENY 1-22-1843  
31 1844. HER SON WILLIAM THOMAS  
1845. ON 3-10-1849 HE MARRIED  
B. 4-15-1830 D. 12-3-1895. BOTH  
AT MONMOUTH, KANSAS

WILLIAM MCKEE, B 11-1782, HARDIN Co. KY.,  
D. 6 11-1851 RUSHVILLE, ILL., M. CASSANDER FRAKES 1-27-1804. SHE  
WAS BORN 5-30-1784 (PENN) D. 3-17-1867, RUSHVILLE, ILL. SHE  
WAS SISTER OF HANNAH FRAKES, WHO MARRIED WILLIAM'S BROTHER  
THOMAS, AND DAUGHTER OF HENRY & HANNAH FRAKES OF PENN.

HANNAH  
8-1-1805 9-11-1819  
NANCY AGNES  
12-6-1810 1-25-1892  
ELIZABETH  
9-1-1818  
CASSANDER  
2-11-1807 3-30-1870

JAMES  
MCKEE  
10-19-1809  
12-6-1810

JUDITH FRANCES MCKEE  
2-11-1953-3-8-1953

WILLIAM MCKEE, JR  
1-23-1813 12-17-1897  
M. 10-16-1853 TO SARAH  
CORNELIA WILMOT,  
3-5-1835 3-17-1912  
HE WAS VETERAN OF  
BLACK HAWK WAR

COL. ALEXANDER MCKEE  
B ca. 1720 D. 1799 IN  
WINDSOR, ONTARIO. DEPUTY INDIAN AGENT  
FORT PITT WHEN REVOLUTIONARY WAR  
STARTED. REMAINED LOYAL TO BRITISH;  
ESCAPED TO DETROIT 3-29-1778 TO JOIN INDIAN  
WIFE WHO PRECEDED HIM, AND  
BECAME BRITISH INDIAN AGENT  
THERE. FOUNDED MCKEE'S ROCKS,  
PENNA. IN 1764

DORCAS 1-27-1814  
3-9-1899  
CLARA ANN 8-8-1815  
3-13-1902  
AMANDA 8-8-1825 5-27-1851  
MARY 10-8-1816 10-28-1897

HOWE 11-1-1947  
1923

RODERICK HUGH O'NEIL MCKEE  
B. 12-31-1954

JAMES MCKEE BORN C. 1750-60  
DIED C. 1820-30. MARRIED AGNES DICKSON  
(SORNAME POSTULATED), DAUGHTER OF ANDREW & AGNES  
DICKSON C. 1778. SERVED AS PRIVATE UNDER CAPT.  
JAMES POE & LIEUT. DANIEL SMITH IN 1777-78,  
PENN. ARCHIVES, 5TH SERIES, VOL. 6, P. 522, 526, 583.  
SERVED AS PRIVATE 1780-81 UNDER CAPT. JOHN WOODS;  
PENN. ARCHIVES, VOL. 6, P. 76, 92, 104. EMIGRATED DURING WAR  
OF REVOLUTION TO HARDIN Co. KENTUCKY. SERVED IN CAPT.  
GEORGE POLKE'S COMPANY, UNDER COMMAND OF GENERAL  
GEORGE ROGERS CLARK, IN 1782. PAYROLL IN VIRGINIA  
STATE LIBRARY, I.P. D. 93.

THOMAS  
MCKEE  
B. 1770

CATHERINE  
M. GREYDON

CAPT. JOEL MCKEE  
8-18-1823 1903  
M. FANNIE METCALF  
1876  
CONFEDERATE VETERAN

THOMAS MCKEE - B. CA. 1693 IN IRELAND. DIED IN 1760. CAME WITH  
HIS FATHER ALEXANDER MCKEE TO AMERICA CIRCA 1720. THEY BUILT A TRADING  
POST AT MCKEE'S HALF FALLS, PENN., WHERE FATHER DIED CIRCA 1740. THOMAS  
HAD BLUNSTON LICENSE TO SETTLE IN PENN.'S LANDS DATED SEPT. 18, 1734.  
HE MARRIED A SHAWNEE GIRL C. 1715. HE WAS CAPTAIN IN COLONIAL WARS 1747-8

JOHN WILLIAM MCKEE  
11-20-1877 5-11-1945  
M. EASTER EMMA  
MAXWELL 9-4-1915

EMMA ORA MCKEE  
B. 12-6-1918  
M. W. B. SMITH

MARTHA  
MCKEE

JAMES MCKEE

WILLIAM MCKEE  
SERVED UNDER CAPTAIN  
JAMES POE IN 1792

CATHERINE

NANCY

WILLIAM MCKEE  
M. ELIZABETH

JAMES MCKEE BORN C. 1730-30 LIVE  
(PENNSYLVANIA) OWNED LAND IN  
M. ELIZABETH WILLIAM REE

MCKEE  
BORN  
ED  
PER CAPT.  
IN 1782

(PENNSYLVANIA)  
M. MARY NESBIT CA. 1750 (D. OF THOMAS & JEAN NESBIT) 2ND LT. 1ST COMPANY, 6TH BATTALION,  
CUMB. Co. PA. MILITIA. WILL DATED 11-19-1794. MEMBERS WELSH RUN CHURCH. WILL PROBATED  
5-22-1795, FRANKLIN Co. PENN. SON THOMAS AND SON-IN-LAW  
GEORGE DICKEY, EXECUTORS.

ANDREW MCKEE

1833 (KILLED  
L.) MARRIED  
RN 1782,  
ANNAH FRAKES  
WHO MARRIED  
IN BETHANY

JAMES MCKEE  
12-11-1803 11-16-1902  
M. ELIZABETH PLASTERS  
1-11-1837 3-20-1926

SAMUEL MCKEE  
7-3-1764 6-3-1842  
M. BETSY LOWRY  
VETERAN OF  
YORK TOWN

11-4-1833 1876  
SAMUEL MCKEE  
(TWICE A MEMBER  
OF CONGRESS)

COL. JAMES MCKEE  
B. 4-4-1796 D. 12-23-1860  
M. SARAH WILKERSON  
10-18-1822 B. 7-23-1804  
D. 7-31-1884

JAMES MCKEE  
B. ca. 1726 D. 1778  
M. LYDIA TODD

ROBERT MCKEE

THOMAS MCKEE  
WITH WASHINGTON

...MILITIA ... OF THOMAS & JEAN NESBIT) ... WILL DATED 11.18.1794 MEMBERS WELSH RUN (CRUICK) WILL PROCEDED GEORGE DICKEY, EXECUTORS.

THOMAS M  
HIS FATHER,  
POST AT MCKEE  
HAD BLUNSI  
HE MARR

JAMIE  
(HENNSTEVANT  
M. ELIZABETH

DREW MCKEE

SAMUEL MCKEE  
B. 1784 D. 1841  
M. BETSY LOWRY  
SISTER OF ...

COL JAMES MCKEE  
B. 4.1796 D. 12.23.1860  
M. SARAH WILKERSON  
10.18.1827 B. 7.23.1804  
D. 7.21.1884

HENRY CLAY MCKEE  
B. 8.8.1851 D. 5.22.1923  
M. IENA RIVERS TRIMBLE  
11.20.1840

JAMES MCKEE JR  
BORN IN SAYLER CO. PENN. AT ...  
M. SUSANNA NESBIT (A 1757) ...  
SISTER OF MARY NESBIT WHO MARR ...  
SON A HEDREW'S FARM NEAR ZANESVILLE ...  
JAMES AND HIS SONS THOMAS & HUGH MCKEE ...  
VALLEY FORGE. BURIED IN COMB ...

WILLIAM MCKEE of VIRGINIA  
(SEE SEPARATE FAMILY TREE)

JOHN MCKEE  
B. 1787

H.D. MCKEE  
D. 1889

SAMUEL MCKEE  
B. 1789

ROBERT MCKEE 3.4.1754  
(TO KENTUCKY IN 1788)  
IN 1786 M. MARGARET HAMILTON

ROBERT MCKEE  
(TO MISSOURI)

MARGARET MCKEE

MARY MCKEE

JAMES MCKEE

JOHN MCKEE of VIRGINIA B. 1708 D. 3.2.1792  
M. JANE LOGAN SHE WAS BORN D. 7.17.1763  
(SHE WAS SLAIN AND SCALPED BY SHAWNEE INDIANS)  
12.12.1765 HE M. ROSANNAH CUNNINGHAM B. 1728 D. 1.19.1806

FOUR  
MCKEE  
BROTHERS  
LANDED WITH THE  
TROOPS OF KING WILLIAM,  
PRINCE OF ORANGE AND  
KING OF ENGLAND, AT  
CARRICKFERGUS, AND  
FOUGHT IN THE BATTLE  
OF THE BOYNE NEAR  
DROGHEDA, NORTH  
IRELAND, JULY 1. 1690

THEY WERE FROM  
SCOTLAND, AND ONE  
OF THEM WHO WAS  
INTERRED IN 1706 AT  
CARN CASTLE CHURCHYARD,  
IN ANTRIM CAUSED TO BE  
CARVED ON HIS MONUMENT  
THE PRINCIPAL CHARGES  
THREE BERRS' HEADS, OF  
THE MACKAYS OF  
STRATHNAVER,

THUS SOLEMNLY CLAIMING  
THE ARMS OF THAT CLAN,  
WHICH WERE ASSUMED IN  
1628 BY THE FIRST LORD  
REAY, WHOSE NATURAL  
AND HEREDITARY TITLE  
WAS LORD STRATHNAVER.  
THE MORE ANCIENT  
ARMORIAL BEARINGS OF  
THE CLAN ARE  
DISPLAYED HEREON.  
JAMES MCKEE, THE  
REVOLUTIONARY WAR  
VETERAN, WAS A GREAT  
GRANDSON OF THE BOYNE  
VETERAN:

ALEXANDER MCKEE  
OTHER BROTHERS  
HUGH MCKEE

ROBERT MCKEE

WILLIAM MCKEE

JOHN MCKEE  
D. 1788  
M. ESTHER HOUSTON

NANCY MCKEE  
M. JOHN GAY AND ...  
TO INDIANA

JOHN MCKEE  
HE DID NOT MARRY BUT  
HE LEFT SEVERAL INDIAN  
CHILDREN HE WAS THE  
US SENATOR FROM  
ALABAMA; ALSO  
US INDIAN AGENT FOR  
CHICASAW AND  
CHOCTAWS

ROBERT MCKEE  
B. 1696 D. 1.29.1780

AGNES MCKEE B. 9.10.1766  
ALSO CALLED ...  
LATER M. JOHN ...

JOHN MCKEE B. 5.10.1766  
(WENT TO ILLINOIS ABOUT ...)

(COL.) WILLIAM MCKEE (B. 1732 D. 1816)  
M. COUSIN MIRIAM MCKEE 5.20.1766 (B. ...)  
M. WIDOW DAVIS WAS VIRGINIA DELEGATE ...  
ROBERT MCKEE 2.11.1766 (B. 1766)

SAMUEL MCKEE (B. 10.13.1774 D. 10.16.1861)  
6.25.1807 M. MARTHA ROBERTSON (B. 7.7.1771 D. 1846)  
(MEMBER CONGRESS 1809-1817; STATE AND U.S. JUDGE)

(COL.) WILLIAM ROBERTSON MCKEE (B. SEP 19 1780 D. 2 23 1847)  
KILLED AT BATTLE OF BUENA VISTA  
4.27.1836 M. JANE WILSON (B. ... D. 9.9.1868)

(JUDGE)  
GEORGE ROBERTSON MCKEE  
B. 5.27.1810 D. 5.12.1889  
M. MARIA COOK  
M. SARAH HART WINGATE 10.5.1843

JEANIE  
DUNNAN  
MCKEE

(MAJ.) GEORGE WILSON MCKEE  
B. 3.29.1842  
AUTHOR "THE MCKEES OF VIRGINIA & KENTUCKY"

SAMUEL MCKEE  
B. 7.3.1835. KILLED  
IN ACTION, UNION ARMY

LUCIEN WINGATE  
MCKEE  
8.28.1847 9.24.1867

DR. ALEXANDER ROBERTSON MCKEE  
B. 5.10.1816 D. 2.13.1886  
M. MARY ASHBY

ALEXANDER ROBERTSON MCKEE JR  
11.31.1816 3.27.1890  
M. SARAH RIBB

ASHBY ROBERTSON MCKEE  
B. 5.6.1886



HANNAH  
8-1-1805 9-11-1819  
NANCY AGNES  
12-6-1810 1-25-1892  
ELIZABETH  
9-1-1818  
CASSANDER  
2-11-1807 3-30-1870  
1-27-1814  
1-1899  
ANN B. B. 1825  
3-13-1902  
A. B. 8-8-1825 5-27-1851  
O. B. 8-1816 10-28-1897

JAMES MCKEE

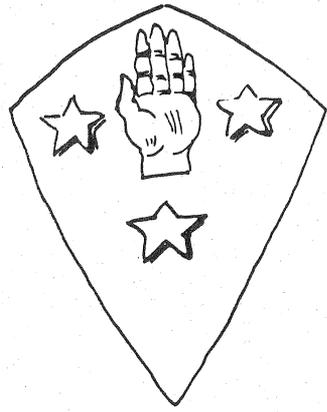
THOMAS MCKEE

THOMPSON MCKEE

WILLIAM MCKEE

NANCY MCKEE

SUSAN MCKEE



1734  
1747-8  
1734  
1747-8

SARAH MCKEE

WILLIAM MCKEE

ABBIE MCKEE

ANDREW MCKEE

JAMES MCKEE

ELIZABETH

RUHAMINAH MCKEE

LIAM MCKEE  
ELIZABETH

PROVED MAY 1782. WILL DATED JULY 20, 1777; EXECUTORS: WILLIAM AND JAMES MCKEE, SONS.

B. 1741  
RACHEL MCKEE (M. GEORGE DICKSON 1770)  
SON OF ANDREW & AGNES DICKSON. SERVED  
UNDER CAPT. JOHN WOODS & CAPT. JAMES POE  
1780-82. WILL RECORDED ALLEGHENY CO. PA.  
DATED 2-12-1815. BURIED 12 MI. FROM NOBLESTOWN

JAMES DICKSON B. 1772 M. FRAZER  
ANDREW B. 1775 M. FRAZER  
AGNES B. 1777 SPINSTER  
MARY B. 1780 M. JOS. BURNSIDE  
RACHEL B. 1782 M. SOLOMON IRONS  
HANNAH B. 1785 M. ANDREW HENDERSON  
ELIZABETH B. 1789 M. JAMES STEWART  
WILLIAM B. 1791 M. MARGARET  
GLENN; 2<sup>ND</sup> MARGARET ASTIN

MCKEE BORN C. 1730-30. LIVED IN CUMBERLAND CO. PA. OWNED LAND IN WEST MOKELAND AND ANTRIM TWP. ALSO. WILLIAM RENOUNCED, BUT JAMES SERVED.

HUGH MCKEE (C. 1760. D. 3-21-1812)  
B. CA. 1760 NEAR GREENCASTLE, FRANKLIN  
CO. PA. WITH WASHINGTON AT VALLEY FORGE.  
WIFE ELIZABETH THOMPSON. B. 1764 IN  
CUMBERLAND CO. HE WAS FIRST BURIAL  
IN OLD PUNXSUTAWNY GRAVEYARD.

JAMES MCKEE, JR. B. CA. 1740 D. CA. 1810 (ACCIDENT)  
SNYDER CO. PENN. AT MCKEE'S HALF FALLS  
MARRIED MARY NESBIT (DAUGHTER OF THOMAS & JEAN NESBIT,  
MARY NESBIT WHO MARRIED HUGH MCKEE). SHE WENT TO  
NEW'S FARM NEAR ZANESVILLE, OHIO, AND IS BURIED THERE.  
HIS SONS THOMAS & HUGH WERE WITH WASHINGTON AT  
VALLEY FORGE. BURIED IN CONGRUITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHYARD

ROBERT MCKEE  
(BECAME AN ATTORNEY  
IN NEW ORLEANS)  
1859

JAMES F. MCKEE

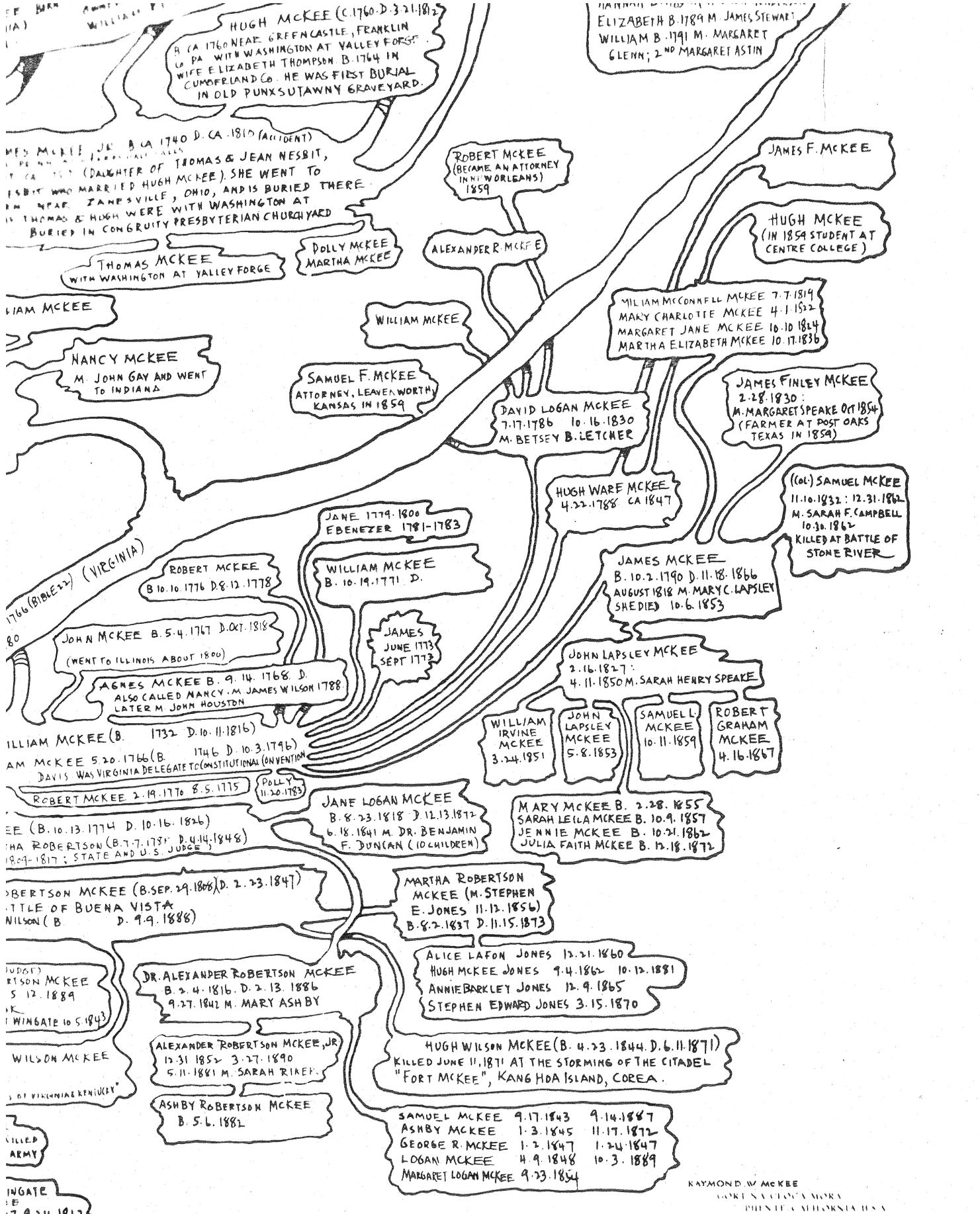
HUGH MCKEE  
(IN 1854 STUDENT AT  
CENTRE COLLEGE)

THOMAS MCKEE  
WITH WASHINGTON AT VALLEY FORGE

DOLLY MCKEE  
MARTHA MCKEE

ALEXANDER MCKEE

1734



Moore in the State Convention which ratified the Federal Constitution. He was also one of the first trustees of Liberty Hall Academy. In 1796 he removed to Kentucky, and died there in 1816. He was known in Virginia as Colonel McKee". A portrait of him is reproduced herein.

We have already mentioned Major George Wilson McKee's *The McKees of Virginia and Kentucky*, from page 66 *et sequa* of which the following is quoted anent Colonel William McKee :

"When I wrote you that Colonel William McKee had voted in the Virginia Convention of 1788, for the ratification of the Constitution, I merely stated what I had always heard from well informed people. I find, on referring to my copy of the 'Debates and Other Proceedings' of that Convention, that Colonel McKee, along with Henry Lee ('Light Horse Harry' and father of General R. E. Lee), Edmund Pendleton, Governor Randolph, John Marshall, James Madison and George Wythe, *voted for ratification*; while Alexander Robertson, with Patrick Henry, William Grayson, James Monroe and George Mason *voted against ratification*. The vote was ayes 89; noes 79 . . . . .

"Col. McKee and General Moore were elected delegates from this county because they were in favor of ratification. As the sessions of the convention wore on, the fiery eloquence of Patrick Henry seems to have brought about a change in the sentiments of the Rockbridge people. A large public meeting was held at the Court House in Lexington, at which a resolution was adopted instructing the delegates from this county to vote *against* ratification. As will be seen, they refused to obey these instructions, and they did right in my opinion. This is a piece of unwritten county history".

"Samuel McKee, the fifth son of Colonel William McKee, was born in 1774. (October 13, 1774. His cousin-german Samuel McKee was born July 3, 1764, the grandson of William McKee of Virginia, one of the three pioneers.—R.W.M.). He (the Samuel McKee here being delineated) was a member of Congress from Kentucky from 1809 to 1817, a State Judge, and also Judge of the United States District Court. His sons were Colonel William<sup>1</sup> Robertson McKee, who was killed at the Battle of Buena Vista in February, 1847 (see the series of articles in *Life* magazine commencing with the July 23, 1956 issue, wherein a diary and the untutored but competent drawings of Samuel E. Chamberlain are reprinted, which advert to Colonel William Robertson McKee's heroic death in action.—R.W.M.); Judge George Robertson McKee, and Dr. Alexander Robertson McKee. Lieut. Hugh W. McKee, of the United States Navy, a son of Colonel William Robertson McKee, was killed May 11, 1871, in a fight between the men of several war steamers and the Coreans, of Southeastern Asia".

"James McKee, the thirteenth son of Colonel William McKee, was the father of the Rev. Dr. J. L. (John Lapsley—R.W.M.) McKee, Vice-president of Centre College, Kentucky".

<sup>1</sup> Samuel McKee married Martha Robertson on June 25, 1807. From the fact that her surname *Robertson* is perpetuated as a middle name for three more generations, in one instance, and is commemorated in the names of five descendants altogether, we are probably justified in surmising that hers was an important Colonial line. In a letter quoted by Major George Wilson McKee in his *The McKees of Virginia and Kentucky* (Pittsburgh, Pa., 1891) the following remark appears :

"I find, on referring to my copy of the 'Debates and other Proceedings' of that Convention, that Colonel McKee, along with Henry Lee ('Light Horse Harry', and father of General R. E. Lee), Edmund Pendleton, Governor Randolph, John Marshall, James Madison and George Wythe, *voted for ratification*; while *Alexander Robertson* (emphasis supplied, R.W.M.), with Patrick Henry, William Grayson, James Monroe and George Mason *voted against ratification*. The vote was ayes, 89; noes, 79. *So you will see that while your great-grandfathers were honest in their views, and differed on this question, both were in 'mighty good company'.*" (Emphasis supplied, R.W.M.).

From this there can be no doubt that Martha Robertson was a great-granddaughter of the Alexander Robertson who voted at the Constitutional Convention. The line can probably be traced back several centuries without too much difficulty.

2. "John McKee, the other son of Robert and Agnes, married Esther Houston, aunt of General Sam Houston. A son of his, also named John, was a member of Congress from Tennessee, and one of the first United States Senators from Alabama".

II. "WILLIAM McKEE, the pioneer, died in Virginia. His family moved from Virginia to Kentucky about 1788-'90, and most of his descendants lived in that state until near the close of the 19th century".

Naturally, they have spread out across the nation in the seventy years that have elapsed since Major George Wilson McKee wrote his *McKees of Virginia and Kentucky*. Tradition says that the name of William-the-pioneer's wife was Mary, and at least one account interposes another *William and Mary* between that couple and James McKee and Lydia Todd McKee. The present author can neither confirm nor deny this on the basis of present evidence, but if we arrange our dates in a logical pattern, it seems probable only if William was the name of the father of the three Virginia pioneers, Robert, William, and John, and the dates set out below certainly tend to confirm Major George Wilson McKee's information that their father was one of the four McKee brothers who fought in the Prince of Orange's army at the battle of the Boyne, July 1, 1690. We can arrange a few scattered facts thus :

- (a) James McKee (Lydia Todd) died in 1778.
- (b) James McKee and Lydia deeded 300 acres on Kerr's Creek to Thomas Kilpatrick October 8, 1765.
- (c) James McKee and Lydia received by deed 520 acres on Kerr's Creek March 15, 1758.
- (d) Waddell states that *John* McKee was the youngest of the three Virginia pioneers Robert, William, and John, who came to the Valley and lived on Kerr's Creek, in Rockbridge County. He further states that John died March 2, 1792, aged eighty-four, which places his birth in 1708. Robert died at eighty-two in 1774, which means he was born in 1692. This would justify us in assuming William was the middle brother, and that he was born *circa* 1700, married near 1725 ; and that his son James married Lydia Todd about 1748-50, which would make their 520 acre land purchase in 1758 fit our date pattern neatly.

<sup>1</sup>The following letter from Henry Clay McKee, written some 67 years ago when he was 39 years of age, shows clearly that he did not *at that time* possess any information that would lead us farther back than William McKee the Virginia pioneer :

Mount Sterling, Ky., January 17th, 1890.

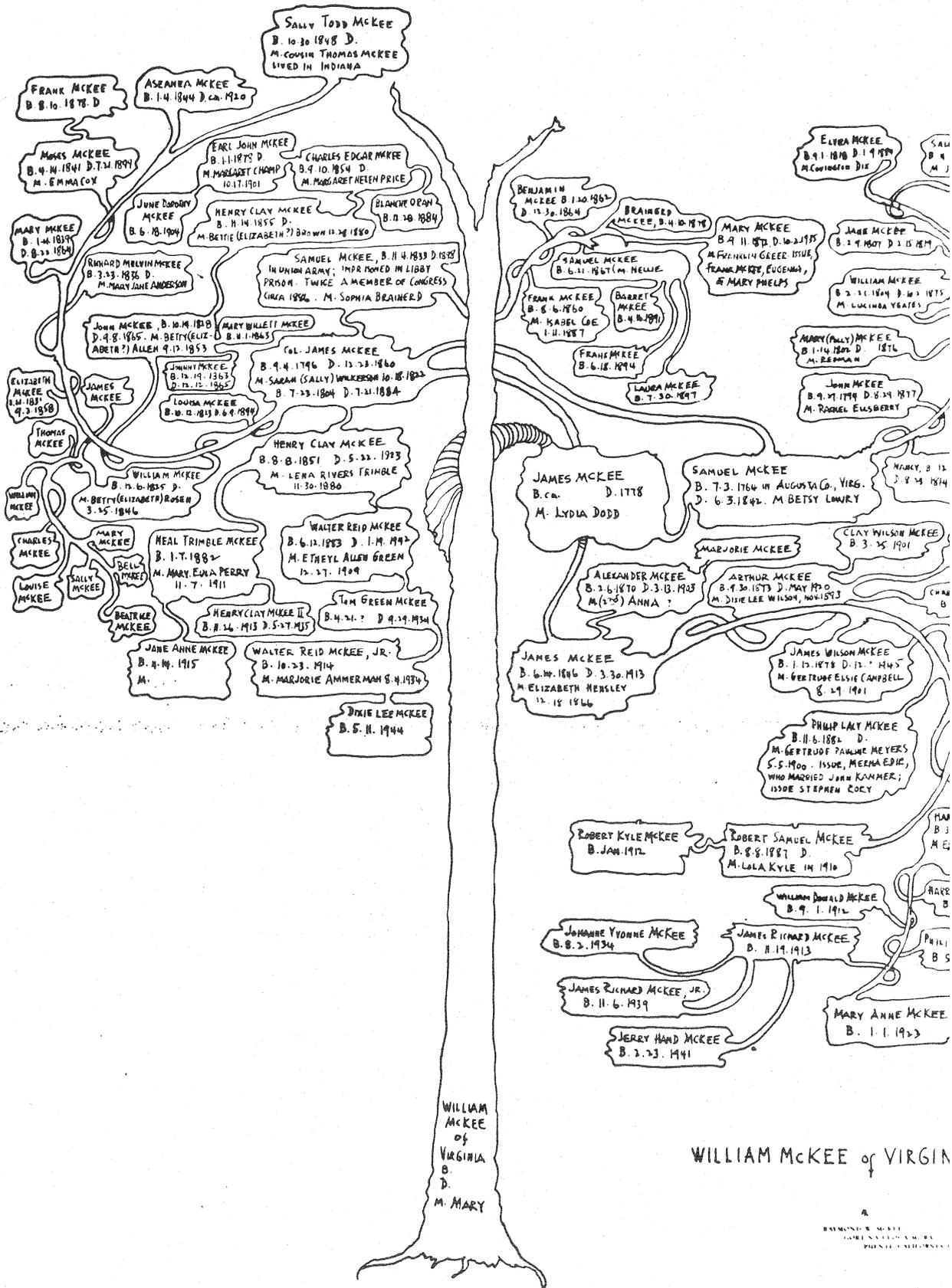
Major George W. McKee,  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

My Dear Sir :

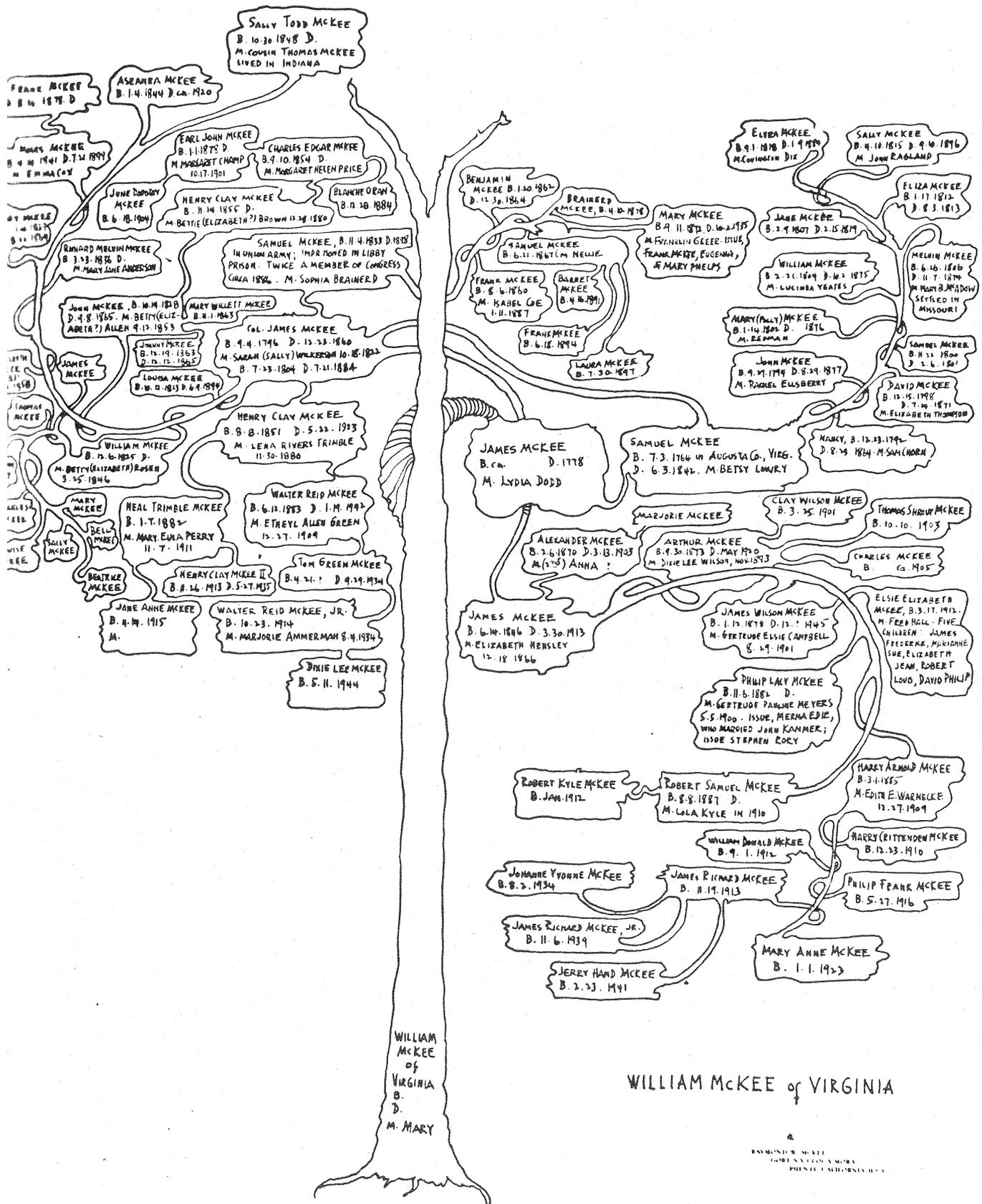
Yours of the 11th inst. received. I am the son of Col. James McKee who died in 1860 while a member of the State Senate ; a brother of Hon. Samuel McKee now of Louisville, Ky., twice a member of Congress. Your father, Col. W. R. McKee (William Robertson McKee, R.W.M.) was doubtless a descendant of and the same relation to our forefathers as my father, James McKee : his father was named Samuel McKee, his father James McKee, and his father William McKee, and he, William McKee, with others, came to Pennsylvania from the north of Ireland about 1736, and moved from Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, to Botetourt County, now Rockbridge County, Va., in about 1749. Who William McKee married I have never heard, but James McKee, his son, married Lydia Todd, and Samuel, son of James McKee, married Betsy Lowry who was my grandmother. I am 39 years old, or will be next birthday, August 8th, 1890.

I will write you further . . . . . I am with great respect,

Your Relative,  
H. Clay McKee.



WILLIAM MCKEE of VIRGINIA



Sally Todd McKee  
B. 10.30.1848 D.  
M. Cousin Thomas McKee  
lived in Indiana

Frank McKee  
B. 1878 D.

Ashraha McKee  
B. 1.4.1844 D. ca. 1920

James McKee  
B. 4.10.1841 D. 7.11.1894  
M. Emma Cox

Earl John McKee  
B. 1.1.1875 D.  
M. Margaret Champ  
10.17.1901

Charles Edgar McKee  
B. 9.10.1854 D.  
M. Margaret Helen Price

June Dorothy McKee  
B. 6.10.1904

Henry Clay McKee  
B. 11.14.1855 D.  
M. Bettie (Elizabeth?) Brown  
12.24.1880

Blanch O'Ryan  
B. 11.20.1884

My McKee  
B. 11.1874

Ronald Melvin McKee  
B. 3.23.1896 D.  
M. Mary Jane Anderson

Samuel McKee, B. 11.4.1833 D. 1888  
in Union Army; Imprisoned in Libby  
Prison. Twice a member of Congress  
circa 1866. M. Sophia Brainerd

John McKee, B. 10.14.1828  
D. 4.8.1865. M. Betty (Elizabeth?)  
Allen 9.17.1853

Mary Willett McKee  
B. 8.1.1845

Col. James McKee  
B. 9.4.1796 D. 12.23.1860  
M. Sarah (Sally) Walker  
10.18.1822  
B. 7.23.1804 D. 7.21.1884

John McKee  
B. 1858

James McKee

Johnny McKee  
B. 12.19.1863  
D. 12.12.1863

Louisa McKee  
B. 10.12.1813 D. 6.9.1894

Henry Clay McKee  
B. 8.8.1851 D. 5.22.1893  
M. Lena Rivers Trimble  
11.30.1880

William McKee  
B. 12.6.1855 D.  
M. Betty (Elizabeth?) Rosen  
3.25.1846

Neal Trimble McKee  
B. 1.1.1884  
M. Mary Eula Perry  
11.7.1911

Walter Reid McKee  
B. 6.12.1893 D. 1.14.1947  
M. Ethel Allen Green  
12.27.1909

Mary McKee

Bell McKee

Sally McKee

Beatrice McKee

Tom Green McKee  
B. 4.21. D. 9.29.1934

Henry Clay McKee II  
B. 8.26.1913 D. 5.27.1957

Jane Anne McKee  
B. 4.4.1915

Walter Reid McKee, Jr.  
B. 10.23.1914  
M. Marjorie Ammerman  
8.4.1934

Dixie Lee McKee  
B. 5.11.1944

WILLIAM  
McKEE  
of  
VIRGINIA  
B. D.  
M. MARY

Eloha McKee  
B. 9.1.1878 D. 1.9.1924  
M. Colville Dix

Sally McKee  
B. 4.10.1815 D. 9.10.1876  
M. John Ragland

Benjamin McKee  
B. 12.30.1864

Brainerd McKee  
B. 4.10.1878

Mary McKee  
B. 9.11.1872 D. 10.2.1875  
M. Franklin Greer Issue  
Frank McKee, Eugenia,  
& Mary Phelps

Jane McKee  
B. 2.9.1807 D. 2.15.1879

Eliza McKee  
B. 1.17.1812  
D. 8.3.1813

Samuel McKee  
B. 6.21.1861 M. Nellie

Frank McKee  
B. 6.1850  
M. Isabel Coe  
1.11.1887

Barrett McKee  
B. 4.4.1891

Frank McKee  
B. 6.18.1894

Laura McKee  
B. 7.30.1897

William McKee  
B. 2.21.1824 D. 10.2.1875  
M. Lucina Yeates

Melvin McKee  
B. 6.16.1848  
D. 11.7.1874  
M. Mary B. Madison  
settled in Missouri

Mary (Polly) McKee  
B. 1.14.1824 D. 1876  
M. Beaman

Samuel McKee  
B. 11.21.1800  
D. 2.6.1881

John McKee  
B. 9.11.1794 D. 8.29.1917  
M. Rachel Eusberry

David McKee  
B. 12.15.1798  
D. 7.10.1871  
M. Elizabeth Thompson

James McKee  
B. ca. D. 1778  
M. Lydia Dodd

Samuel McKee  
B. 7.3.1764 in Augusta Co., Virg.  
D. 6.3.1842. M. Betsy Lowry

Nancy, B. 12.23.1794  
D. 8.29.1814. M. Sam. Chorn

Marjorie McKee

Clay Wilson McKee  
B. 3.25.1901

Thomas Shoun McKee  
B. 10.10.1903

Alexander McKee  
B. 2.6.1870 D. 3.13.1903  
M. (Mrs) Anna?

Arthur McKee  
B. 9.30.1873 D. May 1920  
M. Doree Lee Wilson, Nov. 1893

Charles McKee  
B. ca. 1905

James McKee  
B. 6.14.1846 D. 3.30.1913  
M. Elizabeth Hershey  
12.18.1866

James Wilson McKee  
B. 1.12.1878 D. 12.13.1945  
M. Gertrude Elsie Campbell  
& 29.1901

Elsie Elizabeth McKee  
B. 3.17.1912.  
M. Fred Hall. Five  
children: James  
Frederick, Melvin  
Sue, Elizabeth  
Jean, Robert  
Loud, David Philip

Philip Lark McKee  
B. 11.6.1882 D.  
M. Gertrude Pauline Meyers  
5.5.1900. Issue, Merina Edie,  
who married John Kammer;  
Issue Stephen Roy

Robert Kyle McKee  
B. Jan. 1912

Robert Samuel McKee  
B. 8.8.1887 D.  
M. Lela Kyle in 1910

Harry Arnold McKee  
B. 3.1.1885  
M. Edith E. Warnicke  
12.27.1909

William Donald McKee  
B. 9.1.1912

Harry (Rittenden) McKee  
B. 12.23.1910

Jonahne Yvonne McKee  
B. 8.2.1934

James Richard McKee  
B. 11.19.1913

Philip Frank McKee  
B. 5.27.1916

James Richard McKee, Jr.  
B. 11.6.1939

Jerry Hand McKee  
B. 2.23.1941

Mary Anne McKee  
B. 1.1.1923

WILLIAM McKEE of VIRGINIA

We learn that William McKee the pioneer and his wife Mary had one son James McKee, who married Lydia Todd, and who is said to have died in 1778. As stated previously, records in Virginia show that he received 520 acres on Kerr's Creek by deed on March 15, 1758, and that he and his wife Lydia deeded 300 acres on Kerr's Creek to Thomas Kilpatrick on October 8, 1765.

After James we have Samuel McKee, the only son, as far as our records go, of James and Lydia McKee. He was born July 3, 1764, Rockbridge County, Virginia, married Betsy Lowry after going to Harrodsburg in 1791, and from thence later removed with her to Clark, then afterward Montgomery County. He was one of the youngest soldiers in the War of the Revolution, serving as a private at the age of 16. He enlisted in 1780, and in 1781 served under Captain John <sup>1</sup>Tilford and Captain Charles Campbell. He was at the surrender at Yorktown. In 1782 he went to Kentucky and served against the Indians. He seems not to have applied for a pension until November 6, 1837, only five years before his death. He is mentioned in Collins' *History of Kentucky*, Kerr's *History of Kentucky*, volume 4, p. 585, and contemporaneous volumes. In 1784-1785 he went to Bear Grass. He died at the age of 78 on June 3, 1842, in Mount Sterling, Montgomery County, Kentucky. As shown by the accompanying *Family Tree of William McKee of Virginia*, Samuel McKee and Betsy Lowry had twelve children, evenly divided as to boys and girls.

James McKee, afterward known as Colonel James McKee, who was born September 4, 1796, became the most noted of these. He served in the House of Representatives of the Kentucky Legislature for a number of years, and afterwards in its Senate. He had married Sarah Wilkerson October 18, 1822; she was born July 23, 1804, and died July 21, 1884, at Mount Sterling. Sarah Wilkerson's mother came to Kentucky in September of 1775, and lived with the company of people under Daniel Boone's protection at Boonesborough for a period. Colonel James McKee and Sarah Wilkerson McKee also had twelve children, eight boys and four girls. Two of these also left a mark in the history of their country. Samuel, who served in the Union Army, was captured and imprisoned at Libby Prison. In later years he served two terms in the Congress of the United States. His younger brother Henry Clay McKee became a Judge and resided at Mount Sterling, Kentucky. This venerable gentleman interested himself in his family's antecedents, and compiled a considerable genealogical record of his line back to the immigrant from Ireland. The present author has fortunately been supplied with a copy of these data by his descendant Walter Reid McKee, Jr. Judge Henry Clay McKee married four times, but the only surviving issue are descended from his first marriage to Lena Rivers Trimble, November 30, 1880.

III. "JOHN McKEE, the youngest of the three brothers who came to the Valley, lived on Kerr's Creek, now Rockbridge. His wife was Jane Logan, and (who) was killed by Indians, as heretofore related. He married a second time, as appears from a deed executed March 14, 1774, by 'John McKee and Rosanna, his wife, of Kerr's Creek, Augusta County', conveying two hundred and eighty-one acres of land, part in Augusta and part in Botetourt, Rockbridge not having been formed at that time. He died March 2, 1792, aged eighty-four. Several of his eight children went to Kentucky, others remaining in Virginia. His descendants are numerous . . . . ."

The various accounts of the slaying of Jane Logan McKee by Indians are contained in *The McKees of Virginia and Kentucky*, which deserves to be reprinted because of its great

<sup>1</sup>The reader will probably have already noticed that the McKees and Telfords intermarried, as shown on the accompanying Family Tree that appertains to the McKees of Rushville and traces that line and the McKees of Virginia from the four veterans of the Boyne.

scarcity. The Family Trees of that sept will prove useful to a researcher, also, and can be extended to the present generation by exploring a few lines.

#### A Legend of the McKees. (Compiled by Philip I. McKee).

"There were supposed to have been a family of McKees living in Belfast, Ireland, in the shipbuilding business. There were ten sons and a daughter, along with the mother and father. The boys all wanted to go to America and the father and mother, up in years, and having some competence for their support, agreed to let them go providing they built their own ship, which they did. They landed in Chesapeake Bay near Philadelphia and remained there for a while. Then three broke away from the others and went down into Virginia. The others settled in Pennsylvania. The McKee at McKeesport was David and he no doubt knew enough about ship building to build a ferry, which he did. Two brothers in Virginia, William and Samuel were both in the Revolutionary war and both married the same woman, as the brother took over his brother's widow".

This legend is included because it is interesting, but the present author doubts the veracity of several of its elements. It is the first time the shipbuilding aspect has come to my attention, be it true or false. Certainly, David of McKeesport did not come over with the McKees of Virginia, or the earlier Pennsylvania McKees.

#### McKee Family Tales of Pioneer Days in Kentucky. (Related by Mary McKee Gifford).

"My father, James McKee, was the son of James McKee and Sarah Wilkerson of Montgomery County, Kentucky. He was born June 14, 1846. His father died when he was sixteen years old. When he was twenty he married my mother, Elizabeth Hensley, daughter of Dr. James Hensley of Kiddville, Clark County, Kentucky".

"Grandmother McKee was the youngest child. Her mother came to Kentucky with Daniel Boone and settled in September, 1775, at Boonesborough. Grandmother was born July 23rd, 1804".

"When Grandfather McKee was twenty-six years old he married my grandmother, who was then eighteen years old. Grandfather was born Sept. 4, 1796. They had twelve children. They were married November 10, 1822".

"Grandfather for years was a member of the House of Representatives of the State of Kentucky, and later became a Senator. While attending to state affairs and other business that took him away from the farm, Grandmother managed with the help of slaves".

"The first log cabin in the state was built by Grandfather and a brother. When it was built or where I do not know, but I have a picture taken of it at the time it was being torn down. Judge Henry Clay McKee, my uncle, and his son Reid are in the picture."

"My father used to tell us tales his mother related about her own mother and the early days. In those times just a bear skin was hung over the doorway to keep out the cold. It was nothing unusual for a bear to come hunting food, which meant someone had to throw out a large piece of meat. At other times a bear would get into the molasses barrel and have a sweet meal. Those were in the days when the Indians were still about and causing trouble for the settlers. When Indians were known to be coming, the men would ride to their appointed points to warn the women and children and the other men there. Then those men in turn would set out to warn other designated folk, while the women would gather up the children, put some provisions in a poke, get on a horse, and start for the fort. On one such an occasion Grandmother had several children, some in front and some behind on the horse. They started off over the narrow path through the woods. On the way she saw a bear tearing and eating a lamb on the path. The horse became frightened, so she dismounted and told the children to shut their eyes and not to look back, but to keep on to the fort, as she might have to wait there for a while. She talked to

her horse to calm him then led him towards the bear. When she got there the bear stepped aside and they were able to pass without any trouble ”.

“ Grandfather McKee’s participation in public affairs caused him to spend a great deal of time in Frankfort, Kentucky, the state capital. Several times he had tried to persuade Grandmother to go with him to attend the inauguration and the Governor’s Ball. Finally, she consented to go. When she came down the stairs of the hotel that night for dinner she was horrified to see the women in their decollette gowns and announced right then and there that she would not sleep under the same roof with such indecent women ! So she ordered her horse and started back to the farm that very night ”.

“ In those days the men used to sit up at night and play cards, sipping on their bottles of whiskey or brandy. One night Grandmother was awakened by loud talking so she got up, lighted her candle and came down to see what was the trouble. She gathered up the cards and threw them into the fireplace, then ordered them off to bed saying ‘ For shame. Not another card in this house, since brothers quarrel over a game ’. She was small and never weighed a hundred pounds, but she was mighty ”.

“ It was customary in those days for someone who could to attend a neighbor during childbirth. Grandmother was quite expert at this, so they said. Often when folk were ill and needed some one to sit up with them at night the neighbors would go and take turns helping out. It was on such an errand of mercy one night that Grandmother went to stay with an old gentleman who was very ill, bloated with gas. To set his mind at ease she announced to him in her forthright manner, ‘ Brother William, just pass your air freely as there’s more room out than in ’.”

“ One cold spring day while it was maple-sugar-camp time and everybody in the neighborhood was needed to lend a hand, Grandmother went with the others to the camp to do her part. However, it was not long before labor pains started. She knew she must get back to the cabin, so she picked up two buckets of syrup and started the long walk back. It was a mile or more. She got just into the yard when the baby came, so she took off her flannel petticoat and wrapped it around the baby. Then she drew a bucket of water from the well, went in and built a fire to heat some water, and took care of herself. It was noon when the men came in and found both her and the baby resting comfortably ”.

“ My mother was a girl of sixteen when she first went to live with the McKees as a bride. She had been raised in a little country community but not on a farm, so she had many hard lessons to learn about farm life. She admitted that at first she shed many tears, but soon learned to love Grandmother McKee because of her sterling qualities, including courage and good sense. Mother said she was never idle a minute. She wore large pockets in her long black dresses, and in them she always carried some work to be done for sitting-down periods. Even when preparing a dinner over the open fire she would take out her knitting and go to work. She taught her children how to knit and my father taught my mother how to knit socks for him ”.

“ Going way back now to Grandmother McKee’s and Grandfather’s courting days it was a known fact that he carried her shoes for her until after they crossed a little creek on their way to church, then she would allow him to put them on her. Shoes were priceless in those days and few had them ”.

“ Our ancestors had character, integrity, and were *good* people. I am proud to be a McKee because what I have known about them has been an inspiration to me. I hope my children and their children too will take some pride in having such fine ancestors ”.

MARY B. McKEE GIFFORD.

Research by James A. McKee.

“ The narrative that follows is made up from data taken from the records, histories, tradition, and folk lore of various families around which the name McKee is found ”.

" In collecting these data, the writer has considered such authorities as Mackay's History of the Clan Mackay, History of the Scottish Clans, History of the Scotch-Irish in North America, History of the Scottish Martyrs, Egle's History of Pennsylvania, the Colonial Records of Pennsylvania, Archives of Pennsylvania, Frontier Forts of Pennsylvania, Day's History of Pennsylvania, Bates' History of Volunteers in the Civil War, histories of various counties, Brackenbridge's History of the West, the records of the Scottish Parliament, the minutes of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church and the Reformed Church of North America".

" The writer has met with the obstacles which confront all compilers of family history and genealogical trees, that is the difficulty of getting births, deaths and marriages, and the migration of the clans".

" Members of the clan may get useful information and a starting point in the rosters of the Revolution, the Pensioners of the Revolution, the heads of families of McKee in Pennsylvania from 1775 to 1780, and in the letters of John McKee of Wooster, Ohio, Samuel McKee of Kalamazoo, Michigan and S. R. McKee of Lewistown, Pennsylvania".

" The dates of early migration of McKees to America are 1669, 1720, 1730, 1748, 1753, 1774, 1803, 1824, 1840 to 1850. Many came later in family groups, but the migration was not general".

" The writer has endeavoured to give in this narrative some interesting bits of history in which the men and women of the McKee name had a prominent part, in the pioneer days. The first use of natural gas, the invention of the steam whistle, the first ferry steam boat west of the mountains, the story of Alliquippa, the story of Horse Tail Ripples and the frontier adventures of some of the McKee women are a matter of history. If they help in any way to inspire the youth of the clan to preserve the traditions of their ancestors, and emulate their heroic deeds and sacrifices it will have served its purpose".

Signed : JAMES A. McKEE,

Butler, Penna.,

August 18, 1922.

" In the history of the Scot Irish in America is found the statement that about the beginning of the seventeenth century there lived in the north half of County Down, Ireland, a cadet of the great O'Neil family who bore the name of <sup>1</sup>Con McNeale McBryan Feartaugh O'Neil. He ruled a large extent of territory not only in the north of County Down but in County Antrim and Armagh. He lived in royal style in an old mansionhouse of Castle Reagh, two or three miles from Belfast and near Carrick Fergus Castle".

" The story goes that on one occasion Con was entertaining a large number of friends at his mansion, when the supplies of wine and liquors gave out. A consignment of wines had just been received at Belfast, which had been shipped from Spain. Con sent his men servants to the Custom House to get a supply for his party. The officials of the Custom House refused to deliver the goods until a certain import tax had been paid. This tax was a levy of which Con was ignorant. He was furious about the delay and what he considered an outrageous tax on his goods, so ordered his servants and retainers to go to the Custom House and take the goods away by force. An encounter with the King's soldiers resulted and Con

<sup>1</sup> The probable presence of this member of the great O'Neill clan in County Down in the opening 1600's is testified to by the following excerpt from a contemporaneous state paper entitled *Description and Present State of Ulster* dated December 20, 1525, and published on page 145, *Ulster Journal of Archaeology*, 1854 :

" *Southe Clandeboy* is for the moste parte a woodland, and reacheth from the Diffirin to the River of Knockfergus ; the Capten of it Sir Con McNeil Oig Onele (oig or og means ' the younger ', equating with our ' junior ', R.W.M.), who in the tyme that th' Erle of Essex attempted this country was prisoner in the castle at Dublin . . . . ."

was arrested for levying war against the Government. The situation became serious, so much so that Con was placed in prison at Carrickfergus Castle. Con's wife had friends in Scotland with whom she interceded to come to the rescue of her husband. She communicated with Hugh Montgomery, Laird of Braifstone and Ayershire, who agreed to assist Con to escape in consideration that if the venture were successful Con was to sell him a tract of land in the north of County Down, Ireland, for the establishment of a plantation of Scottish farmers".

"Montgomery entrusted the duty of rescuing Con to a relative, Thomas Montgomery, who was the owner of a sloop. This Thomas Montgomery was a young man filled with the spirit of adventure and romance, and he proceeded at once to Belfast and Carrickfergus Castle. There he ingratiated himself with the keeper of the Castle and the members of the Castle Guard. It appears that the keeper of the Castle had a very beautiful daughter with whom Montgomery fell deeply in love. While courting the daughter he was laying his plans to procure the release of Con. He supplied the soldiers and the keepers of the prison with liquor. One night he succeeded in getting them all drunk, and persuaded the keeper to permit him to carry a cheese to Con's prison cell. Inside the cheese was carefully concealed a rope by which Con made his escape through the window and down the castle walls. In pursuance of his agreement Con conveyed half of his estates in Counties Down, Antrim, and Armagh to Hugh Montgomery and James Hamilton for services rendered".

"These two men planted the land with Scottish farmers from the shires of Galloway, Ayer, and Sterling. This was practically the beginning of the Scotch invasion of North Ireland. There is no record extant of the names of the planters but the rent rolls of James Hamilton in 1681 and 1688 contain the names of Alexander McKee, John McKee and Thomas McKee, as well as William Hogg".

"One of the original planters was James Orr. He raised a large family of children who intermarried with the McKee family. Many of the Orr men married McKee women and one of the Orr girls married a McKee of Lisleen. These families all came from Galloway Shire, Ayer, Wigton, Dumfries, and Kirkudbright".

"One of the traditions among different branches of the McKees in America is that all of the McKee men who came from Scotland were of great stature and giant strength. These characteristics seem to have prevailed more than two centuries in Ireland, and all of the pioneers who came to America were men marked for their size and physical endurance".

"In the middle of the eighteenth century one of the leaders of the McKee family in Ireland was Big David of County Down, who was said to have been the largest man in all Ireland. About the same time another branch of the family came to Pennsylvania and were said to be more than six feet tall. This tradition about the physical strength and size of the family is borne out in history and mention of the fact is made that the men of Galloway are the tallest in the world, the average height being five feet ten inches. The men of counties north of Galloway in the Highland districts are next. This no doubt accounts for the tradition among people of the McKee name about the size of their ancestors who came from Scotland and Ireland".

"The success of Montgomery in establishing Scottish plantations induced the King of England to establish the great plantations of Ulster and Donegal, from 1610 to 1630. Among the planters who came at that time and obtained land grants was Sir Patrick McKee of Kirkudbright, who had been a member of the Scottish Parliament. He obtained a grant



or McKie or Mackie living in  
as early as the Fourteenth  
to the Maghies of Balmaghee  
ly a branch of the Clan Mackay.  
Robert Bruce in the days of  
one and on foot when he came  
h Dee in Galloway. Here he met  
e sons, McKie, McClurg & Murdock.  
ned by his brother and by Sir James  
but in the morning before they  
ee sons entertained the king with  
ess with the bow. It seems that  
n with his arrow but his brother  
ith a single arrow. The three sons  
rewarded them with a grant of the  
aff parish, Kirkcudbright, lying  
lnure and Penkill, both of which  
ands extended full three miles by ten.

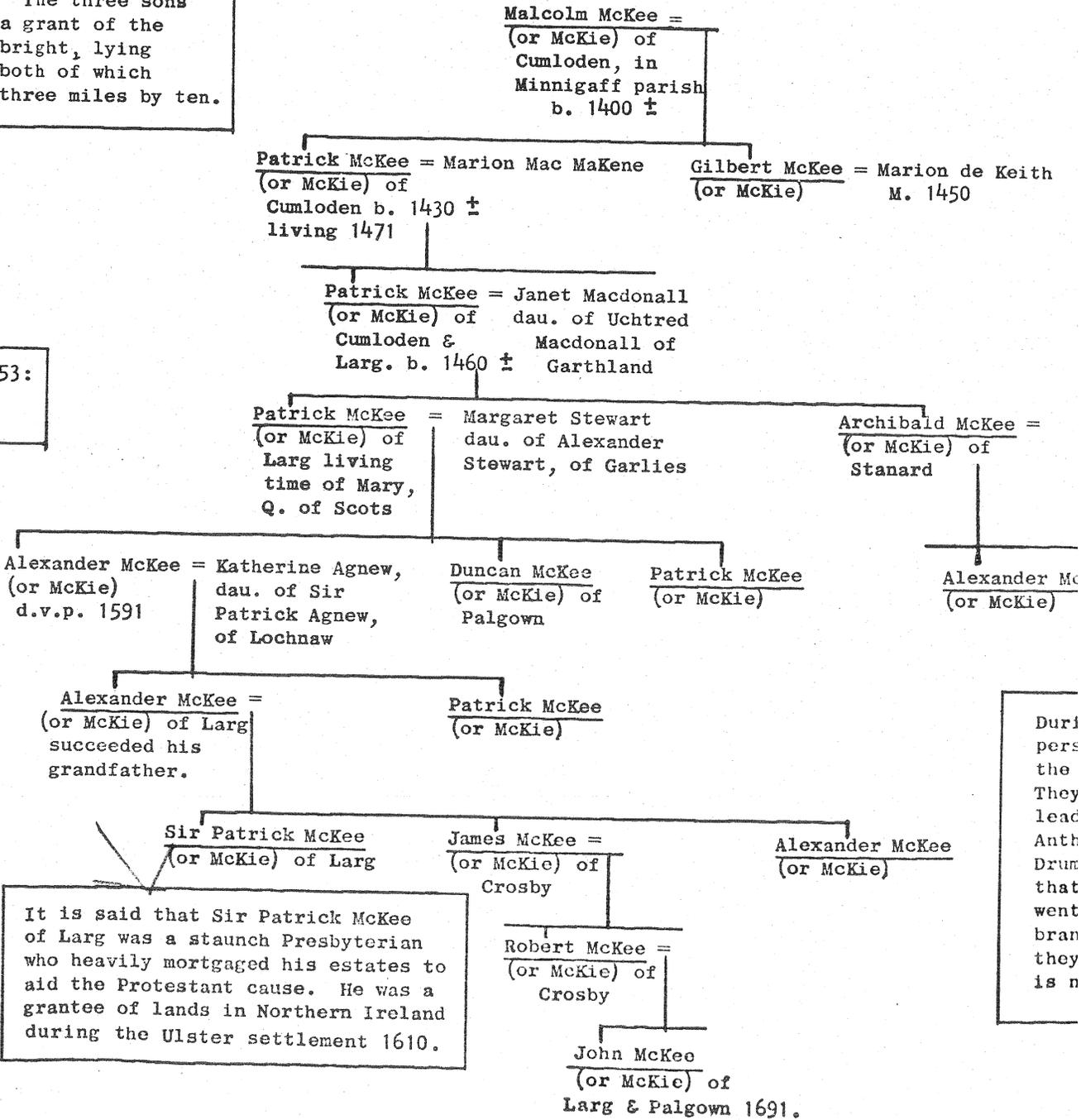
The arms used by the McKees were:  
"Argent, two ravens, pendent from  
an arrow fesswise piercing their  
necks proper; on a shield azure,  
a lion's passant, of the field,  
armed & fanged gules."  
Crest: A raven proper  
Motto: Labora

aff is a  
his inscription:  
us McKie de  
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et O. Macdougall 1953:  
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It is said that Sir Patrick McKie of Larg was a staunch Presbyterian who heavily mortgaged his estates to aid the Protestant cause. He was a grantee of lands in Northern Ireland during the Ulster settlement 1610.

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There was a family of McKee or McKie or Mackie living in Galloway Scotland at least as early as the Fourteenth Century. They were related to the Maghies of Balmaghee in Galloway and were probably a branch of the Clan Mackay. There is a tradition that Robert Bruce in the days of adversity was travelling alone and on foot when he came to a meeting place near Loch Dee in Galloway. Here he met a widow Anabel and her three sons, McKie, McClurg & Murdock. During the night he was joined by his brother and by Sir James Douglas with an armed force but in the morning before they started out the widow's three sons entertained the king with an exhibition of their prowess with the bow. It seems that Murdoch brought down a raven with his arrow but his brother McKie brought down a pair with a single arrow. The three sons fought for the King and he rewarded them with a grant of the lands of Cumloden in Minnigaff parish, Kirkcudbright, lying between the burns of the Palnure and Penkill, both of which flow into the Dee. These lands extended full three miles by ten.

The arms us  
 "Argent,  
 an arro  
 necks p  
 a lion  
 armed &  
 Crest: A r  
 Motto: Lat

In churchyard at Minnigaff is a rough hewn stone with this inscription:

"Hic jacet Patricus McKe de Caloda, mc fieri fecit."

The Clan Mackay by Margaret O. Macdougall 1953:  
 p. 13: "The Larg Mackies, a section of the Galloway McGhies, received a charter on the thirty pound lands of Cumloden in the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright from King Robert the Bruce."

"Mackay genealogies credit the foundation of the Galloway McGhies to Martin of Strathnaver but this theory is doubtful. It has also been claimed that the founder of the Strathnaver Mackays was a native of Galloway who came north to assist King William during his campaign against the men of Moray. This Galloway Mackay went to Strathnaver where he settled and founded the house of Mackay of Strathnaver. There is little evidence to support this claim. The now accepted origin of descent from the Royal House of Moray, through the McEths, is fairly well established."

"In 1296 a Gilmyhel McEthe of Dumfries signed the "Ragman's Roll" and the following year this man is recorded under the name McGethe. The McGhies of Galloway long regarded as an off shoot of the Strathnaver Mackays may have descended from this Gilmyhel McEthe."

Patrick McKee = Marie  
 (or McKie) of  
 Cumloden b. 1430 ±  
 living 1471

Patrick McKee =  
 (or McKie) of  
 Cumloden &  
 Larg. b. 1460

Patrick McKee = Ma  
 (or McKie) of da  
 Larg living St  
 time of Mary,  
 Q. of Scots

Alexander McKee = Katherine Agnew, Dun  
 (or McKie) of dau. of Sir (or  
 d.v.p. 1591 Patrick Agnew, Pa  
 of Lochnaw

Alexander McKee = Pat  
 (or McKie) of Larg (or  
 succeeded his  
 grandfather.

Sir Patrick McKee Jam  
 (or McKie) of Larg (or

It is said that Sir Patrick McKee of Larg was a staunch Presbyterian who heavily mortgaged his estates to aid the Protestant cause. He was a grantee of lands in Northern Ireland during the Ulster settlement 1610.

of one thousand acres and became one of the leaders in Ulster and Donegal during the middle of the century".

"The Scottish plantations in the north of Ireland prospered until the latter part of the seventeenth century, when Queen Anne undertook to convert all Ireland to the established Church of England. The special glory of Queen Anne's time was called the Test Act of 1698, which was a sweeping edict against the Presbyterians and Catholics alike".

"The Catholics were deprived of all of their civil and religious rights; but an exception was made in the case of the Presbyterians who were granted the privilege of being restored to their former rights by complying with the Test Act of 1698, which required them to take communion in the established Church of England once a year. This act of unwonted bigotry drove the Ulsterite Presbyterians, as well as the Catholics to America".

"Rev. Josias Mackie, son of Patrick MacKie of St. Johnstone, Donegal County, Ireland, ministered to the Presbyterian Church at Elizabeth River, Virginia, from 1697 to 1716".

"The Records of the Presbyterian Church at Philadelphia show that Rev. William McKee was received by the Presbytery of Philadelphia in 1798."

"All of the McKees the writer has met trace their ancestry back to North Ireland, and from there to Scotland. While the McKees of Scotland had no distinctive clan name they are said to be a branch of the present Clan Mackay, one of the oldest and largest of the clans. The name McKee, MacKee, McKay, Macghie, McKie, McGhie, McGee mean the same thing and by the native Scots are pronounced Mac Eye".

"At an early period in history of the clans the Mackees of Gallowayshire, Scotland, shortened their name to McKee, McKie, McKey and these names are found among the plantationists who migrated to North Ireland, from 1610 to 1650".

"A similar variation in the spelling of the names is noted in the Hogg family, intermarried with the McKees. The name appears in history as Hogg, Hogue, Hog, Hoge; all are apparently descended from the same parent stock in Scotland and can be followed to North Ireland and to America".

"Robert Mackay's history of the clan mentions the McKie or Mackie family in Gallowayshire, Scotland, as far back as Robert Bruce who being defeated in Carrick, fled to the head of the Lock Dee in 1314. He lodged at the house of the widow McKie in Craigenallie. The widow had three sons, Mackie, Murdoch, and Mellver. They were expert archers. To show his skill Mackie shot a raven through the head. Murdoch shot a raven on the wing. One story is that he shot two ravens with the same arrow. Bruce was so pleased that he took the sons with him".

"They were in the wars against England up to the battle of Bannockburn, which destroyed the last hope of the English against the independence of Scotland".

"Tradition says that an Irish Chief Con Conchar was the founder of the Clan Mackay in the sixth century".

<sup>1</sup> Records indicate that Sir Patrick McKee sold this grant to Sir Robert Gordon, and did not himself go to Ireland.  
—R.W.M.

<sup>2</sup> Recte 1665 and 1673.

<sup>3</sup> James A. McKee, Butler, Pennsylvania; August 18, 1922.

<sup>4</sup> Recte, Clan Forbes.

“The Clan Iunille is said to have been identified with the Clan Mackay. Gilchrist McLan, chief of the clan, was born under a holly bush and ‘suckled by a white doe’”.

“Donald MacKay, head of the clan in the fourteenth century was said to be a man of great strength and courage, who feared naught but the face of God”.

“The McKees of Scotland were Presbyterians. The history of the Reformation gives names of the McKees who were ministers, some of whom were persecuted because of their religion. A Rev. James McKee was banished to the Barbadoes. A history of the Scottish martyrs gives the name of a Reverend Hogg, considered second only to John Knox as a preacher and theologian, who was bitterly persecuted during the wars between England and Scotland. Other members of this family were persecuted and one of them killed. James Kirk, related to the McKees, was shot dead. Thomas Hogg was banished in 1670”.

“In Ireland some McKees intermarried with families of Protestant faith and others with Catholics. At present there are many of the McKee name found in the Catholic Church. The number of men of that faith who entered the priesthood seems to be small. The writer has personally never known one and the Catholic Blue Book of 1910 showed the name of only one, who was then in Australia”.

“The McKee clans have been notoriously negligent about keeping family records. As a consequence it is very difficult to get back of the traditions of the group in Ireland”.

“The migration of the clans to America began at an early date. Mention is made of a Reverend Patrick McKee, a pastor of a parish in Virginia in 1697. The name Reverend William McKee appears in the records of the organization meeting of the Presbytery of Philadelphia in 1798”.

“Large numbers of immigrants came from Ireland to America and settled in Eastern Pennsylvania from 1720 to 1735. The McKees settled in the Susquehanna and Juniata Valleys in what is now Lancaster, Dauphin, Bedford, and Mifflin counties. One settlement was known as Donegal in Lancaster County, where a number of pioneer McKees are buried in Donegal cemetery”.

“An estimate of the Scot-Irish Presbyterians is to be found in Colonial records where one Nathaniel Grubb, a member of the Provincial Assembly of Pennsylvania wrote a letter to the Proprietary Governor about 1750. The settlers of the country west of the Susquehanna river had appealed to the Proprietary Government for protection from the Indians, who were murdering the settlers and burning property. Grubb in his letter said, ‘They are a pack of Scotch-Irish Presbyterians, who if they were killed could well be spared’.”

“The arrival of a ship of Irish immigrants in Philadelphia about 1750 called for a letter by the Provincial secretary to the Proprietary Governor then living in London, protesting against the arrival of such large numbers, 450 a year, of Irish immigrants. He declared they were quarrelsome and a nuisance, and would ruin the country”.

“It is a historical fact that the Provincial government did send the Scot-Irish immigrants to the frontier settlements to take up land, where they formed a barrier between the Indians and civilization as it then existed east of the Appalachians, until after the war of the Revolution. The names of the McKees, the Hoggs and other families intermarried with the McKees are found among these immigrants”.

“It is also a matter of some pride that when the government at Philadelphia offered a bounty for scalps of Indians killed by frontiersmen in the wars to banish the redskins from

<sup>1</sup>The present author considers this of extremely doubtful authenticity.

the country, no Scot-Irishman, and certainly no McKee, ever collected a bounty fee. That is not to say, however, that they did not kill Indians when the occasion required, but a Scot-Irishman disdains 'Blood Money'."

"The men of the McKee clans played a prominent part in the settlement of Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, New York, and Massachusetts".

"Practically all of the McKee men of military age engaged in the War of the Revolution on the side of the Colonies, either in service in the Colonial Army under Washington and General Wayne, or in the organized Militia and the Frontier Rangers. A list of these patriots is published elsewhere for reference of those who care to look them up. Not all of the McKees were on the side of the Colonists, however. Alexander McKee of Path Valley, Capt. Alexander McKee of Fort Pitt and the McKee connected with the Weston's raid were not. Previous to the Revolution <sup>1</sup>Alexander McKee was appointed a Justice of Peace under George Third in Bedford County. He is probably the McKee of Path Valley, Franklin County, Pennsylvania".

"In 1775 a Reverend McFarquar preached a sermon in the Donegal church, Lancaster County, which the McKees attended. He advocated a conciliatory course between the colonies and Great Britain. After the sermon the men met in the churchyard under a large oak tree, joined hands in a circle, and vowed allegiance to the cause of the colonies, pledging their faith, their lives, and their fortunes to establish the cause of Liberty. History doesn't mention the fact but the Scot-Irish Presbyterians made this first Declaration of Independence".

"The first census of the United States was taken in 1790. At that time there were sixty-three heads of families of the McKee name in Pennsylvania alone. There were six in Massachusetts, seven in New York, eighteen in Virginia, twenty-five in North Carolina and thirty-five in South Carolina. The majority of the southern families and a few of the Pennsylvania families were owners of slaves".

"Since the rebellion in 1800 which sent a number of immigrants to the United States there has been a steady drift of McKee families from the North Ireland to America, coming at different periods".

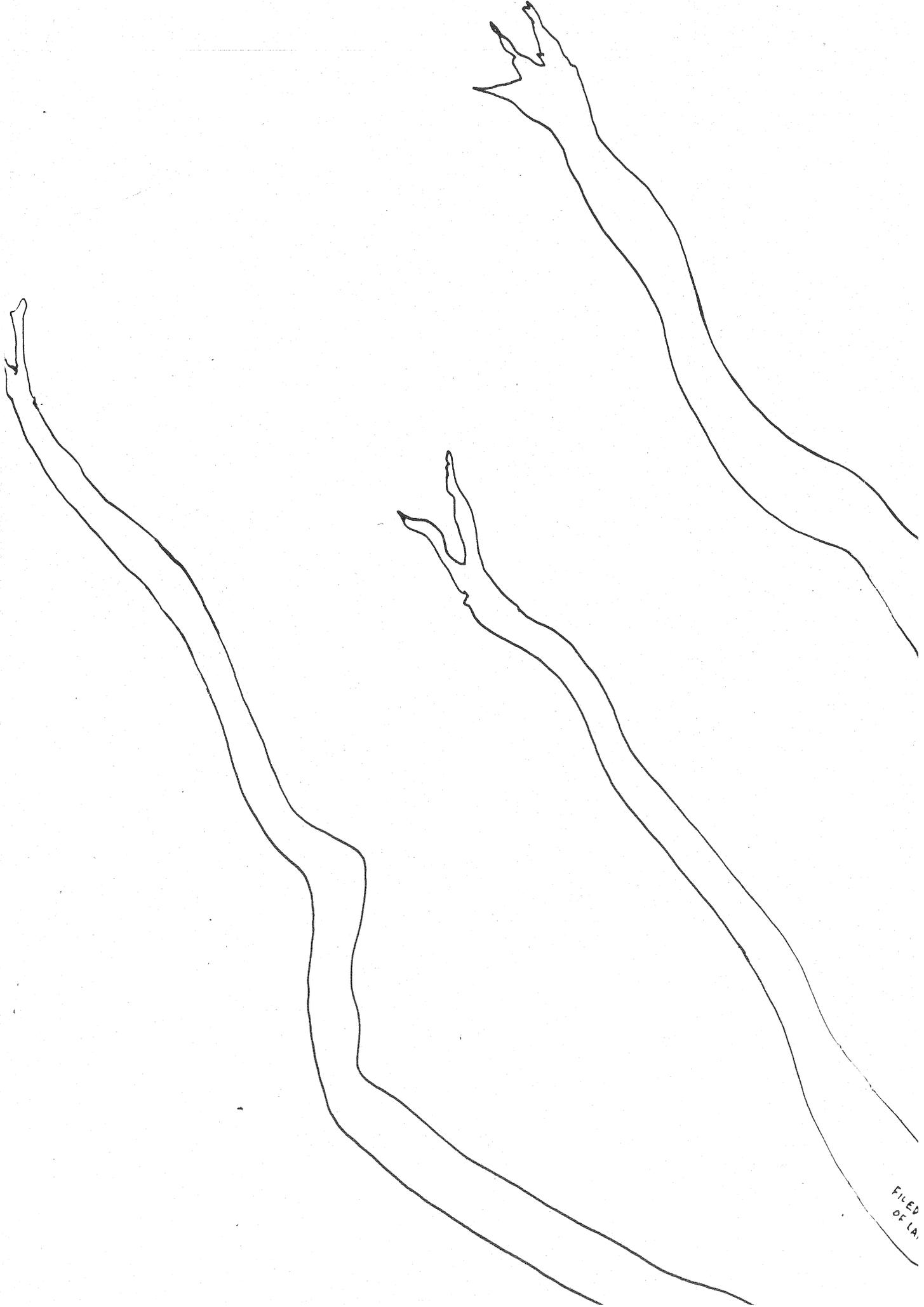
#### McKee's Rocks.

"James McKee, a <sup>2</sup>brother of Alexander was the first settler of McKees at McKees Rocks, Allegheny County, in 1763. He came from Dauphin County and is believed to have been a half-breed. He took up the land granted to his brother and made a settlement. Later the property descended to John McKee who became the head of the family after whom the town was named".

"About 1900 a John McKee, a descendant of the pioneer, resided in the town. He was a bachelor, eccentric but wealthy. A story is told of him that on one occasion an inveterate Methodist preacher went to McKee's Rocks to start a Sunday School. The meeting was held in a school house. John McKee was there and sat in a front row. The minister was a stranger to all and noticing the elderly gentleman in the front row of seats said, 'Will Mr. McKee lead us in prayer?' McKee was a little hard-of-hearing, so rising to his feet he placed his hand to his ear and said, 'What did you say?'

<sup>1</sup> These references are all to Col. Alexander McKee, who merely remained loyal to the Crown, and at no time ever committed a traitorous or dishonorable act of any kind.

<sup>2</sup> It is possible that this man was Col. Alexander McKee's son, not his brother.—R.W.M.

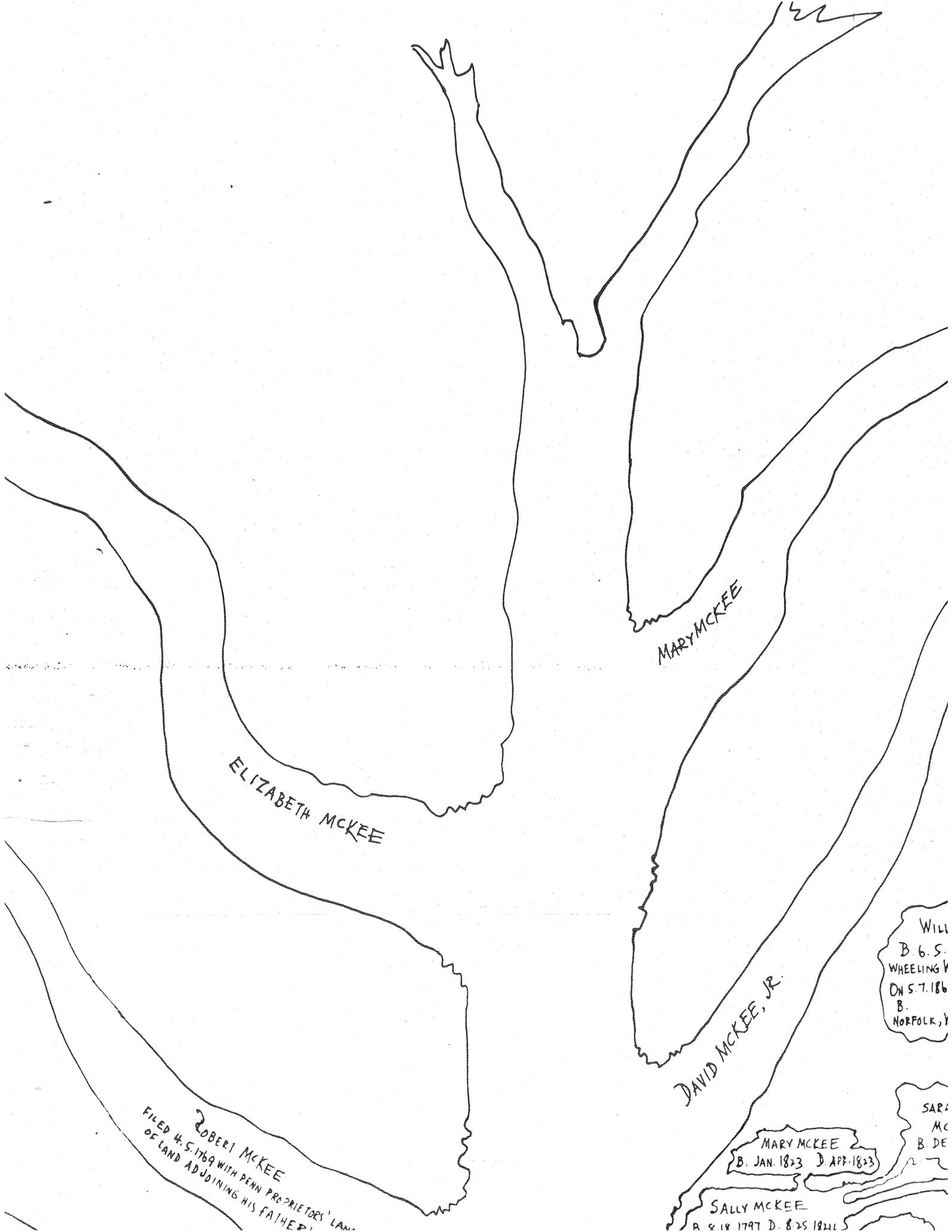


FILED  
OF LA.

ZABETH

ROBERT MCKEE  
FILED 4. 5. 1769 WITH PENN PROPRIETOR  
OF LAND ADJOINING HIS FATHER'S

THOMAS MCKEE  
FILED 4. 5. 1769 WITH PENN PROPRIETORS' LAND OF  
OF LAND ADJOINING HIS FATHER'S ON THE SOUTH



ELIZABETH MCKEE

MARY MCKEE

DAVID MCKEE, JR.

ROBERT MCKEE  
FILED 4.5.1769 WITH PENN PROPRIETORS' LAND  
OF LAND ADJOINING HIS FATHER'S

MARY MCKEE  
B. JAN. 1823 D. APR. 1823

SALLY MCKEE  
A. 8.18.1797 D. 8.25.1821

WILL  
B. 6.5.  
WHEELING  
DN 5.7.186  
B.  
NORFOLK, V

SARA  
MC  
B. DE

ABETH MCKEE

ROBERT MCKEE  
FILED 4.5.1769 WITH PENN PROPRIETORS' LAND OFFICE ON 285 ACRES  
OF LAND ADJOINING HIS FATHER'S ON THE EAST

THOMAS MCKEE  
FILED 4.5.1769 WITH PENN PROPRIETORS' LAND OFFICE ON 253 ACRES  
OF LAND ADJOINING HIS FATHER'S ON THE SOUTH

DAVID MCKEE, B. 1710 IN SCOTLAND. FLED TO IRELAND AFTER JACOBITE REBELLION (1715), THEN EMIGRATED TO AMERICA, CIRCA 1750, AND SETTLED NEAR PHILADELPHIA. DIED 1795. BOUGHT LAND FROM INDIAN QUEEN ALLIQUIPPA (QUEEN OF DELEWARES) AT CONFLUENCE OF MONONGAHELA & YOUGHIOGHENY RIVERS WHERE MCKEE'S PORT STANDS, THROUGH PROPRIETORS' LAND OFFICE 4.13.1769

DAVID MCKEE, JR.

MARY MCKEE  
B. JAN. 1823 D. APR 1823

SALLY MCKEE  
B. 8.18.1797 D. 8.25.1824  
M. McDOWELL 9.15.1818  
HED. 8.20.1824 AT MOBILE, ALA.

DAVID MCKEE  
B. 6.15.1792  
D. 5.10.1793

JOHN MCKEE (FOUNDED MCKEE'S PORT) B. 1746. D. 1.11.1807. ON 7.26.1791 M. SALLY MCKEE'S PORT. WVA. DIED IN SONOM. MARRIED BOTH BURIED M.

JOHN MCKEE AT MCKEE'S PORT DIED IN SONOM. MARRIED BOTH BURIED M.

MARGARET MCKEE  
B. D. 8.28.1819

B. WALL  
C. S.  
B.  
NOBB

DAVID RITCHIE MCKEE  
B. 9. 17. 1842 D. 6. 13. 1924  
WHEELING, W. VA. WASHINGTON, D.C.  
ON 5. 11. 1871 M. FRANCES DUNN  
WHO D. 11. 2. 1920 WASHINGTON, D.C.

JOAN MCKEE  
B. 9. 29. 1920  
SAN FRANCISCO

CANDACE MCKEE  
B. 2. 29. 1924

STEPHEN JEWETT  
MCKEE  
B. 9. 16. 1925  
SAN FRANCISCO

JOHN DEMPSTER MCKEE  
B. 9. 29. 1865 D.  
SAN FRANCISCO  
ON 11. 6. 1890 M. ANITA ISABEL BOOLE

PAUL BOOLE MCKEE  
B. 10. 11. 1891  
ON 10. 15. 1919 M. DOROTHY  
ROSEVEAR JEWETT

JOHN ROLPH MCKEE  
B. 8. 7. 1927

WILLIAM RITCHIE MCKEE  
6. 5. 1828 D. 4. 13. 1876  
LING W. VA. SAN FRANCISCO  
7. 1863 MARRIED (LARA LEWIS FRENCH  
D. 1869  
BLK, VA. SAN FRANCISCO

REDICK MCKEE (AT 1:00 A.M.)  
B. 12. 7. 1800 D. 9. 13. 1886  
M. ELIZA RITCHIE MCKEE 1. 12. 1826  
B. 6. 25. 1802 D. 4. 22. 1871

JOHN MCKEE  
B. 12. 1. 1826 D. 12. 17. 1893  
WHEELING, W. VA. SAN FRANCISCO  
ON 5. 14. 1863 M. SARA ANN  
DEMPSTER IN SAN FRANCISCO  
SHE WAS B. 6. 27. 1836 D. 7. 27. 1919  
NEW YORK BERKELEY

DONALD MCKEE  
B. 3. 10. 1896 D. 3. 14. 1931  
ON 12. 30. 1919 M. DOROTHY  
ASHTON ROLPH

SARAH JANE  
MCDOWELL  
B. DEC. 1821  
D. 3. 12. 1825

CLARE B. & D. 1921  
ABIGAIL B. 9. 22. 1929  
ELIZABETH 10. 27. 1931

ANDREW WYLIE MCKEE  
B. 1. 11. 1830 D. 1. 11. 1879  
WHEELING, W. VA. WASHINGTON, D.C.

CLANCEY RITCHIE MCKEE  
B. 7. 13. 1868 D.

(c. 1814)

WILLIAM RITCHIE MCKEE  
B. 5. 1828 D. 4. 13. 1876  
LING W. VA. SAN FRANCISCO  
7. 1863 MARRIED (LARA LEWIS FRENCH  
D. 1869  
OLK, VA. SAN FRANCISCO

SARAH JANE  
MCDOWELL  
B. DEC. 1821  
D. 3. 12. 1825

Y. REDICK, (B. DEC. 1765. D. 7. 15. 1814)

SEE B. 7. 31. 1794  
PORT PENNA.  
10. 20. 1860 AT OAKLAND, (AL.)  
SON DIED 12. 20. 1860  
1A, CALIF  
DIED 11. 7. 1816  
MT. VIEW (EM.), OAKLAND, CALIF.

JOHN DEMPSTER MCKEE  
B. 9. 29. 1865 D.  
SAN FRANCISCO  
ON 11. 6. 1890 M. ANITA ISABEL BOOLE

PAUL BOOLE MCKEE  
B. 10. 11. 1891  
ON 10. 15. 1919 M. DOROTHY  
ROSEVEAR JEWETT

JOHN ROLPH MCKEE  
B. 8. 7. 1927

REDICK MCKEE (AT 1:00 A.M.)  
B. 12. 7. 1800 D. 9. 13. 1886  
M. ELIZA RITCHIE MCKEE 1. 12. 1826  
B. 6. 25. 1802 D. 4. 22. 1871

JOHN MCKEE  
B. 12. 1. 1826 D. 12. 17. 1893  
WHEELING, W. VA. SAN FRANCISCO  
ON 5. 14. 1863 M. SARA ANN  
DEMPSTER IN SAN FRANCISCO  
SHE WAS B. 6. 27. 1830 D. 7. 27. 1919  
NEW YORK BERKELEY

DONALD MCKEE  
B. 3. 10. 1896. D. 3. 14. 1931  
ON 12. 30. 1919 M. DOROTHY  
ASHTON ROLPH

CLARE B. & D. 1921  
ABIGAIL B. 9. 22. 1929  
ELIZABETH 10. 27. 1931

ANDREW WYLLIE MCKEE  
B. 1. 11. 1830 D. 1. 11. 1879  
WHEELING, W. VA. WASHINGTON, DC.  
ON 12. 11. 1862 M. HARRIET BAILEY

CLANCEY RITCHIE MCKEE  
B. 7. 13. 1868 D.  
SAN FRANCISCO  
ON 3. 30. 1894 M. CHARLOTTE  
ELIZABETH KING IN S.F.

FORGOING COPIED FROM THE FAMILY BIBLE  
IN POSSESSION OF ISRAEL HAINES, LIVING NEAR  
CANNONS BURGH, WASH. Co. PA. BIBLE PRINTED  
BY GEO. GRIERSON, PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST  
EXCELLENT MAJESTY, AT THE SIGN OF THE  
KING'S ARMS AND TWO BIBLES, DUBLIN, A.D. 1752.  
SHE WAS DAUGHTER OF CRAIG RITCHIE  
B. 12. 29. 1758 IN GLASGOW, SCOTLAND; DIED  
6. 13. 1833, CANONSBURG, PA.

JOHN RITCHIE MCKEE  
B. 9. 29. 1895  
SAN FRANCISCO  
ON 10. 14. 1919 M. DOROTHY  
JEAN WATERHOUSE

MARJORIE JEAN MCKEE  
B. 7. 17. 1920  
BERKELEY, CALIF.

BORIS MARILYN MCKEE  
B. 3. 6. 1925 D. 1. 27. 1928

'Will you kindly lead us in prayer?' asked the minister.

'You'll have to excuse me' replied John McKee, 'I can't pray a damn bit, but I do have ten dollars here for the school'".

McKeesport.

"McKeesport was named after John McKee who came from Ireland in 1778. He was a son of David McKee who came from Scotland to Philadelphia in 1775, crossed the mountains under the protection of the Delaware Indian Queen Alliquippa, and settled at the mouth of the Youhiegeny river in 1758. His brother John built a blockhouse on the site of McKeesport, which was standing in 1840. David McKee died in 1795. He had three sons, John, David, and Robert, who settled about McKeesport and Braddock and became the founders of the families in Allegheny County".

McKees in the Mexican War :—

McKee, Joseph H. D., 1st Lt., Kentucky Cavalry.

McKee, William R., Colonel, 2nd Kentucky Infantry.

Field Officers in the Volunteer Service, 1861-1865, in the Civil War :—

McKee, David, Lieutenant Colonel, 15th Infantry, Wisconsin.

McKee, David, Major, 7th Missouri Cavalry.

McKee, Francis M., Major, 1st Tennessee Infantry.

McKee, George C., Major, 11th Illinois Infantry.

<sup>1</sup>McKee, Samuel, Colonel, 3rd Kentucky Infantry.

McKee, William A., Lieutenant Colonel, 13th New York Infantry.

McKee, William J., Major, 33rd Infantry.

THE McKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA, McKEES.

This sept of the clan, according to the traditions of the family, emigrated from Scotland in the days when John Graham of Claverhouse, who was Viscount Dundee, commanded the forces of King James, and in his frenetic fury persecuted the Scot Covenanters so relentlessly that some of the families were almost decimated. This would be sometime close to 1689, and it should be recalled that King William's forces prevailed over those of King James in 1690, at the Battle of the Boyne in Ireland.

David McKee, the McKeesport branch's emigrant, was born in Scotland in 1710 and died in 1795. One account says he fled to Ireland after the Jacobite Rebellion, sometime after 1715, and probably with his parents; that he came to America *circa* 1750 and settled near Philadelphia. A McKeesport attorney, Walter Riggs, who authored a volume concerning the early history of McKeesport, wrote to me that it was his understanding that David McKee possessed a title of nobility but never employed or displayed it. From the very sketchy Family Tree I have been able to prepare for this sept, it will be seen that David McKee's immediate family seems to have been constituted thus :—

David McKee (wife Margaret)

Children : John McKee.

Thomas McKee.

Robert McKee.

David McKee, Jr.

Elizabeth McKee.

Mary McKee.

<sup>1</sup> Col. Samuel McKee, Kentucky, born in Mt. Sterling, Kentucky, son of James McKee and Sally Wilkerson.

In Walkinshaw's *Annals of Pennsylvania*, vol. 2, pages 261 and 262, a record of an immigrating family is included as shown below. The article states that this family arrived in 1768, however, rather than the earlier date assigned for the McKeesport family of 1750. However, the almost identical names of the children seems a curious coincidence, if they indeed are different families :—

David McKee, wife Margaret.  
 Children : John McKee and two daughters.  
           Thomas McKee (born in Ireland in 1749).  
           Robert McKee.  
           David McKee, Jr.  
           (no Elizabeth shown).  
           Mary McKee.  
           Margaret McKee (not on other list).  
           James McKee (not on other list).

It will be seen that the names of 5 children are the same. While one list contains an Elizabeth that is not on the other, the other contains Margaret and James not on the first. Certainly, there is nothing conclusive or even persuasive about this, but it is interesting. Very probably, earlier researchers have already traced these families, else later ones will.

It is said that David McKee presented himself at the Proprietors Land Office on its opening day, April 3, 1769, and made an application to acquire 306 acres at the juncture of the Monongahela and Youghiogeny Rivers. This was the colonial land office that was opened to sell lands acquired by treaty at the close of Pontiac's war. He received warrant No. 1103. Two days later his sons Thomas and Robert also filed applications, Thomas for 253 acres adjoining his father David McKee's parcel on the south, and Robert for 285 acres adjoining his father's property on the east.

In the foregoing paragraph it is stated that this land was bought from the Proprietors, but other accounts say the purchase was made from the Delaware Queen Alliquippa.

Will of David McKee of McKeesport, 2/13/1793 :—

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN I, David McKee of the County of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania Being of sound mind and Memory Do make and ordain this my last will and Testament in manner and form following, Viz : First, I resign my soul to God and hope for Salvation through the Merits of his Son Jesus Christ, and I desire to be Buried at the discretion of my Executor in hope of a Glorious Resurrection. And as for my temporal Estate I dispose of the same as followeth, Viz : Imprimis, to my loving wife Margaret I bequeath all my right and title and all privileges that I reserved for myself in the Plantation and Ferry I sold to my son John McKee as is mentioned in an article of agreement made between us the time I sold to him said John my son And also I leave her all my household furniture and Cows and horses I may have at my decease and also the last Fifty five pound bond from John McKee bearing Date to be paid to be paid (*so it reads*—R.W.M.) January 1794 and this to be at her disposing after my decease as she shall think proper and further I bequeath to my oldest son John the sum of ten shillings lawful money of Pennsylvania to be paid him after my decease and to my son Robert McKee's children : to David I allow a colt and five pounds besides, And to his brother Robert Five pounds, And to my son David's Children I allow five pound to each and they are but four viz. to James, Sarah, John, and David,—and to my son James I allow ten shillings to be paid him and to Mary my Daughter now Pebbles I allow ten pounds —And to my Daughter Margaret now Margaret McKee I allow ten shillings as her part and all their and their children as coming from my estate as it is all I can allow my children or theirs

And this after my funeral expences and all Just debts are fully discharged. And further for the true execution of this my last Will and Testament I appoint my wife Margaret and my son James McKee the sole and full executors of this my last Will and Testament, And I do hereby revoke and disannul all former Wills and Testaments made by me. In witness whereof I set my hand and seal this thirteenth day of February A.D. 1793.

DAVID McKEE (seal)

Signed, Sealed and Delivered }  
in presence of us the sub- }  
scribers the day and year }  
aforesaid.

Andw. McCulloch  
Thomas Ochether  
Isabelah Menaugh

Isabella Menaugh one of the Witnesses }  
to the within Will, Sworn before me the } Isabelah Menaugh  
16th day of October 1795 } Andrw. McCullagh.

Andrew McCullagh sworn the  
10th December 1795

Sam Jones, Regr.

The following is excerpted from *History of Allegheny County*, pages 723 to 731, A. Warner & Co., 1889 :—

#### McKEESPORT

The McKee Family—Early History of McKeesport—Original Lot-owners—The Place in 1830—Early Trade, Commerce and Manufactures—Growth of the Town.

“It is a singular fact, and worthy of notice in connection with the early history of this county, that while the Scotch predominated among its first settlers, very few localities have received names of Scotch origin. Their religions and social customs were faithfully reproduced and tenaciously adhered to, with such modifications as their surroundings necessitated; but they seem to have been forgetful or indifferent concerning the names of their native country<sup>1</sup>, scarcely any of which have been transplanted to this soil. McKeesport can hardly be regarded as an exception to this general rule. The name is distinctively Scotch, but John McKee was probably influenced in its selection by the pardonable egotism of founders of towns at the period rather than any other motive.

The name is worthy of being perpetuated. Among the advance-guard of the army of adventurers that pushed across the frontier before the final issue of the seven years' war, there were few in whom courage, constancy and prudence were so happily blended as in David McKee. If the traditions of the family may be credited, he removed from Scotland to County Donegal, in the north of Ireland, in the early part of the eighteenth century. Persecution followed him thither, and about the middle of the century, with several brothers, he migrated to America, where they settled near Philadelphia. One of the brothers removed to Rockbridge

<sup>1</sup> The man who wrote this particular article concerning McKeesport appears not to have known that most of the Scots who settled Pennsylvania had been natives of Antrim, Londonderry, and Down, in North Ireland for a generation or two, and employed place names from there, rather than from Scotland, which they regarded as the home of their ancestors rather than as their own.—R.W.M.

county, Va., and from him the southern contingent of the family is descended ; another settled in the valley of the Susquehanna ; and David McKee removed to the distant frontier, where, by the courtesy of <sup>1</sup>Queen Alliquippa, he established himself at the mouth of the Youghioghenny. The date of this second emigration is disputed. It is said to have been in 1755, the year of Braddock's defeat ; but the exposed condition of the frontier at that time renders this exceedingly improbable. Western Pennsylvania was not considered a desirable place of residence until after Gen. Forbes' occupation of Fort Pitt in 1758, nor was it tolerably secure from Indian ravages until after Col. Bouquet's victory at Bushy Run in 1763. It is a well-established fact that McKee appeared on the Monongahela before the cessation of hostilities ; that he was well received by Queen Alliquippa, and settled at the mouth of the Youghioghenny by her permission, and that in 1769 the colonial government confirmed to him the exclusive right of ferriage over the two rivers at their confluence. April 3, 1769, the colonial landoffice was opened for the sale of lands acquired by the Indian treaties at the close of Pontiac's war, and warrant No. 1103 was granted to David McKee for the survey of a tract of land inclosed by the Monongahela and Youghioghenny rivers, Huey street of the borough of McKeesport, and its original southern boundary, the area of which, as returned in the survey of November 30, 1782, was three hundred and six acres three roods and twenty perches. April 5, 1769, warrants were issued to Robert and Thomas McKee, respectively, the former thus securing two hundred and eighty-five acres adjoining the Monongahela river, between Huey and Riverton streets, and the latter, two hundred and fifty-three acres on the Youghioghenny, adjoining the tract of Robert McKee on the south. The elder McKee lived to an advanced age, and died October 11, 1795.

John McKee, his son, succeeded to the ability, the influence and a portion of the fortune of his father. Born in the north of Ireland in 1746, he had crossed the Atlantic at a very early age, and began his career on the frontier before reaching manhood. Brought up amid the hardships of pioneer life, a remarkable degree of self-reliance, energy and determination was developed in his character. He became familiar with the method of procedure in taking up land, and became one of the largest individual holders within the present territorial limits of the county. He was the original patentee of 'Allegheny Tract', 'Hopewell', 'Newport' (on Saw-Mill run), and a number of others, and his purchases from warrantees and resident owners were numerous. He owned lots in Pittsburgh, Bever Falls and other towns in the west, the value of which, with his coal-lands, would aggregate millions of dollars at the present day. It is hardly possible that he realized the extent to which his property would appreciate in value, but, judging by the standard of that day, he was a man of wealth, and his operations evince shrewdness and sagacity. He was the victim of his generosity. In 1793 he became surety for his brother-in-law, Judge John Redick, of Beaver Falls, who had contracted to furnish supplies for the Indian expedition of Gen. Wayne. The contractor failed to meet his obligations to the government, and his bondsman was called upon to assume liabilities aggregating thousands of dollars. He had a small trunk of continental money, but the government repudiated currency of that character. At the instance of Steel Sample, John Woods, James Ross and other eminent counsel of that day, he resisted the enforcement of payment in gold, claiming that the tender of continental currency was a sufficient discharge of his obligations. The case was tried in the United States court at Philadelphia, and after several years of litigation a decision adverse to Mr. McKee's interests was rendered. His property was exposed to sale by the United States

<sup>1</sup> *Written Rock Village* was at the mouth of Chartiers Creek, and was so called because of the names that were written on the surface of the rocks. Later it became known as McKee's Rocks, after Captain Alexander McKee, whose country residence was there, and who owned 1,400 acres on which the village stood. Here for several years the Seneca squaw Alliquippa lived, reigning as a sovereign. She was devoted to the English. It is known that she dwelt at the mouth of Chartiers Creek in 1748 and 1749, but before 1752 had moved to the opposite side of the Ohio, where maps drawn in 1752 place her village. In 1753 she was living at the present site of McKeesport, and it was here that George Washington visited her in 1753. The English bestowed the title of "Queen Alliquippa" upon her, probably because she actually reigned like a sovereign of the old world. It was she who befriended David McKee, who eventually founded McKeesport.

marshal ; but the state had but recently opened to purchase and settlement that large portion of its area northwest of the Allegheny river, and land commanded a merely nominal price. The entire amount realized from his large estates was less than thirty thousand dollars. Returning to the county after the unfortunate termination of his suit, the idea of retrieving his losses by laying off a town at the mouth of the Youghiogheny seems to have occurred to him for the first time. The location was not inviting ; swamp and forest occupied much of the present site of the town, but there were advantages that fully compensated its unfavorable aspect in this respect. The proprietor, in announcing his plans regarding ' the new town ', thus enumerated its advantages :

' The ground intended for the town is delightfully situated on a fine level point at the junction of the Monongahela and Youghiogheny rivers, about sixteen miles only above Pittsburgh by water and twelve only by land . . . The situation of this place is so well known in the western country that it needs no encomium that can be given it, but for those persons below the mountain who may wish to become purchasers it may be necessary to premise that its situation is one of the best in the western country for trade and commerce, having the advantage of two rivers flowing under its banks, being near several gristmills and sawmills, close to what is called the Forks of Yough settlement (which is indisputably the richest we have) ; it is at least twelve miles nearer to Philadelphia than Pittsburgh is ; it has public roads laid out from it in different directions ' .''

This was published in the *Pittsburgh Gazette* of February 5, 1795, and formed part of an advertisement in which the following information concerning the plan of the town and the method adopted for the disposition of lots was also given :

' The plan on which the town is to be improved consists of upward of two hundred lots of forty feet front by one hundred and forty feet deep, each lot having the advantage of a street, and an alley twenty feet wide for the convenience of stables, etc. The principle streets are eighty feet wide, the others sixty ' .

' Near the center of the town is a large area or square intended for a market-house. Forty-eight of the lots front the two rivers, Monongahela and Youghiogheny. Four lots will be given . . . for the use of a place of public worship and a seminary of learning. The price of each lot is to be twenty dollars and one dollar groundrent annually. To avoid dispute, the lot every purchaser is to possess is to be decided by a lottery, which will be held on the spot on the 1st April next. Each purchaser at the time of receiving his ticket is to pay ten dollars, and the residue when he draws his number and gets his deed. The majority of the purchasers present at the meeting are to choose the persons who shall draw the tickets, which persons shall point out the four lots to be appropriated to public uses prior to the drawing ' .

' In front of those lots that are laid out next the two rivers is a considerable portion of ground extending to the water-edge, which, as it will be of great use to the settlers for a variety of purposes, the proprietor intends as public property for the general accommodation of all the inhabitants, reserving only to himself the sole right of keeping ferries, and as much ground at each ferry as a storehouse or a ferry-house may stand upon ' .

Tickets were offered for sale at Pittsburgh, Washington, Greensburg, Mercersburg and Carlisle. March 26, 1795, it was announced that one hundred and eighty-seven tickets had been sold, and that the groundrent might be extinguished by the payment of ten dollars additional. The drawing took place agreeably to announcement, and April 3, 1795, McKee informed the purchasers that the deeds would be prepared with all possible dispatch. November 4, 1795, he secured a patent for the tract previously held in his father's name by warranty title, upon which the town was laid out, presumably the same year, by Andrew McCulloch, a surveyor and school-teacher. In the *Gazette* of November 26, 1795, McKee announced that he would execute conveyances for the lots December 21-30 following. Many

of the deeds are dated December 24, and for some time they monopolized the business of the recorder's office. As thirty dollars is the consideration usually mentioned, it would appear that the major portion of the purchasers preferred to extinguish the groundrent.

The following is a list of the original lot-owners of McKeesport, and of the respective numbers and locations of the lots held by each :

- Market street, between First and Second—103, David Jones ; 104, Andrew Watson ; 105, Joseph L. Findley ; 106, George Leslie ; 107, Hugh Scott, Jr. ; 170, John Hannah ; 171, Andrew Byers.
- Between Second and Third—109, Thomas Foreman ; 110, Andrew Irwin ; 111, Faithful Cretan ; 112, Thomas B. Patterson ; 165, David McKee ; 167, William Huey ; 169, Barbara Lauderbach.
- Between Third and Fourth—113, Jacob Bausman ; 114, John Hoge Redick ; 164, George Cooper.
- Between Fourth and Fifth—116, James McKinney ; 118, James Matthews ; 159, James McKinney ; 160, Andrew Byers ; 161, James B. Clow.
- Between Fifth and Sixth—120, Ann Herron ; 121, Clarinda Redick ; 156, Reuben T. Sacket ; 157, Daniel Venture.
- Between Sixth and Seventh—124, Robert McKee ; 126, James McCulloch, Robert Knox ; (One moiety each) ; 127, Margaret McCulloch ; 128, Edward Nicholas ; 149, John Reed ; 150, W. H. Beaumont ; 151, Nathan Bedford ; 152, Abigail Hunt ; 153, John Cunningham and Robert Calhoon (One moiety each).
- Between Seventh and Eighth—131, Robert McKee ; 132, Alexander Shaw.
- Between Eighth and Ninth—134, John McNeal ; 137, James McKee ; 141, John Findley ; 142, W. H. Beaumont.
- Water street, between Second and Third—5, John Snodgrass ; 6, Sterling Johnston ; 7 and 8, David Redick.
- Between Third and Fourth—9, James Smith ; 12, Alexander Sworn ; 13, Zenas Hill.
- Between Fourth and Fifth—14, John Speer ; 15, Ephraim Edwards ; 16, John Kinkaid ; 17, John Speer ; 18, John Fisher.
- Between Fifth and Sixth—20, W. H. Beaumont ; 21, John Roseborough ; 22, W. H. Beaumont ; 23, Obed Davis.
- Between Sixth and Seventh—24, Joseph McCormick ; 25, W. H. Beaumont ; 26, W. McLaughlin ; 28, John Dunlap.
- Between Seventh and Eighth—30, W. H. Beaumont ; 31, John Speer ; 33, Augustus Leipart.
- Between Eighth and Ninth—34, Sally Jones ; 35, Robert McKee ; 36, Obed Davis ; 38, Robert Smith.
- First street—100, Thomas R. Swearingen ; 101, William Thompson ; 102, Charles Hannah ; 175 and 176, Samuel Sinclair ; 177, Adam Burchfield ; 178, John Speer.
- Second street—91, David Pollock ; 94, John Shaw ; 95, John McMasters ; 96, Samuel Stoops ; 97, Joseph Patterson ; 98, John Reed ; 179, William Loughhead ; 180, George Roush, Hugh Wilson (One moiety each) ; 181 and 182, Samuel Bailey and William Clutter (One moiety each) ; 183, Robert Wilson ; 184, Thomas Snodgrass ; 185, Elizabeth McKee ; 186, Augustus Leipart.
- Third street—83, William McClure ; 84, James McKinney ; 86, Daniel McNickel ; 89, Elizabeth McKee ; 90, James Lauridge ; 187, William Loughhead ; 188, Thomas Morton ; 189, James Wills ; 190, Robert Smith ; 192, Jesse Nash.

Fourth street—75, Hugh Wilson ; 77, Matthew Long ; 78, James Reed, James McKarn ; 79, William Watson ; 80, John G. Young ; 81, John Arthurs ; 82, Anthony Dravo ; 195, Robert Thompson ; 197, Andrew Patterson ; 199, Thomas White ; 200, John Cavet ; 201, John Shearer ; 202, James Alcorn.

Fifth street—67, Nathaniel Lyon ; 68, William Loughhead, William McClure (One moiety each) ; 69, George Roush ; 70, Alexander Shaw ; 72, Margery Howell ; 203, James Alexander ; 204, W. Pettigrew ; 205, Mary Cunningham ; 208, Jacob Rausman ; 210, Mary Calhoun.

Sixth street—59, Alexander Brown ; 60, Betsey Adams ; 61, John Patterson ; 211, Peter Mowry ; 213, John Fisher ; 214 and 215, Cornelius Thompson.

Seventh street—51, W. H. Beaumont ; 54, Alexander Speer ; 56 and 222, John Speer ; 223, James Boner.

Eighth street—43, John Speer ; 227, James Herron ; 229, Joseph Clow ; 231, John Speer ; 233, John Easton.

Ninth street—41, David Tate ; 42, Robert McKee ; 236, Matthew Turner ; 238, James Foster.

Of these persons, the majority resided in Allegheny county ; Washington, Westmoreland, Fayette, Franklin and Cumberland, and the states of Virginia and Kentucky were also represented. John McKee seems to have inspired the public with confidence in his project, and some of those who participated in the drawing disposed of their numbers at a premium. George Leslie, for whom No. 159 was drawn by Annie McKee, transferred it to Rev. James McKinney for " fifty-three silver dollars " before the deed had been executed, and Alexander Shaw, who secured No. 70, disposed of it immediately for twenty pounds. The project was undoubtedly a financial success to McKee, and although the immediate future of the town was not such as those who had invested in it may have been led to expect, the proprietor is certainly worthy of honor for his efforts in furthering its interests. The location was well chosen ; the width and regularity of the streets, the public square, and the reservations for religious and educational purposes, establish his character as a public-spirited citizen. His eventful life was closed by death, January 11, 1807.

The town did not improve to any extent for some years. Among the accessions to its population was William Cavin, who came from New York by way of Pittsburgh, where he was offered an acre of ground in the vicinity of Wood street in exchange for his cow ; but he continued his journey, preferring the superior advantages of the place that was twelve miles nearer to Philadelphia. After a short residence in McKeesport, he married a daughter of Col. William Loughhead, the first merchant of the town, whose store was situated on the north side of Third street. In 1815 James Penney came from the Jersey settlement near Monongahela City, and settled on Third street. James McKinney (" an itinerary preacher " ), and James Irwin (" doctor of physics " ), Samuel Stoops, David Jones, Augustus Leipart, George Cooper, John Speer (merchant), Ephraim Edwards, Andrew Irwin, James Matthews (merchant), Zenas Hill, James Foster (brewer), John Hodge Redick, Sterling Johnston, James Reed, Robert Smith (who moved from Franklin county in 1796), James Alcorn, James Foster, John Culbertson (tanner), William Pettigrew (tailor), Samuel Bailey, Philip Unsettler and Obed Davis (cooper), are mentioned as residents prior to 1800. The number of houses in 1821 is placed at seventeen, none of which made any pretensions to architectural beauty. Several of these primitive structures are yet intact. The first brick houses were built in 1819,

by Dr. George Huey and James Evans, on the southeast corner of Walnut and Second and on the opposite side of Walnut, respectively. The following is a list of residents in 1830 :

Samuel M. Rose, tavern-keeper ; his house was two stories high, and is still standing at the corner of Second street and Mulberry alley. Andrew Hendrickson, schoolmaster, lived in a two-story log house on Second street, adjoining Rose's on the east. John Baker, tavern-keeper, was the occupant of a two-story log house at the corner of Second and Walnut. Dr. George Huey lived in a brick house opposite to Baker's tavern, on the southeastern corner of Second and Walnut. Samuel Dickey's residence was on Third street between Market and Walnut. John Behan lived on Third street near Walnut, in a two-story log house, still standing. James Penney's house is likewise still in existence, and occupies a lot on Third street adjoining that of Behan. Penney was a cooper. William Loughhead, merchant ; his place of business was a log house on the north side of Third, nearly opposite Behan and Penney. A Mr. McVeagh lived on the east side of Market below Second. Samuel Hunter's house, on the east side of Market between Second and Third, was one of the few that was weather-boarded at that time. Andrew Soles, merchant, was engaged in business at the corner of Third and Market, in a two-story log building that is still standing. Immanuel Hurst's house occupied an adjoining lot. Daniel Stone occupied a one-story log building on the west side of Market, between Second and Third. Hugh Rowland lived on the west side of Market between First and Second. James Loucridge, chairmaker ; his house and shop were at the corner of Third and Water streets. James Alexander, saddler and hotel-keeper, lived on Water street between Second and Third. James Evans, merchant and justice of the peace ; his place of business was on the south side of Third, near Walnut. Peter Soles, shoemaker, lived on Second street. Conrad Roth, farmer ; his house and barn were above Ninth street. Samuel Culbertson, tanner, pursued his calling at the corner of Shaw avenue and Huey street. William Irwin was a justice of the peace, and farmed that part of the borough east of Walnut street. John McKee, farmer, lived east of Walnut near Second. John Austic was also a farmer, and lived on Second street. John Redick, merchant ; his place of business was at the corner of Third and Market.

It is probable that the oldest house now in existence is that occupied in 1830 by James Alexander, and known as the "Black Horse Hotel". It was built in 1796 by Sterling Johnston. It was afterward occupied by a Mr. Whigham, and in 1812 passed into possession of James Alexander, from Carlisle, Cumberland county, from which his father was elected a member of assembly. It became a favorite stopping-place for boatmen on the Youghioghenny, and enjoyed an extensive patronage in its day. Few of the landmarks of that period are invested with associations of equal interest.

McKeesport in 1830 is best described as country village, with little apparent prospect of appreciating in importance. In a region not remarkable for the advanced morality of its people, the reputation of the town was proverbial. It possessed exceptional facilities for horse-racing years before a place for religious services was provided, and, in common with every locality in Western Pennsylvania, had its local stills and breweries. The race-course extended along the bank of the river Youghioghenny, and by way of Seventh and Walnut streets quite around the town. No records of the speed attained on this course have been preserved, but it was a favorite place among the jockeys far and wide, and during the racing-season the town not infrequently assumed a color deeper than a peachblow tint. Then there was always a floating population, made up of boatmen engaged in transporting the pig-iron of Connellsville to Pittsburgh and other points along the Ohio and Mississippi. The "trade and commerce" to which John McKee had alluded in glowing terms was not developing as had been confidently expected, and three or four local stores were equal to the requirements of the trade, while many articles of common use were obtainable only in Pittsburgh. The inhabitants, becoming accustomed to the unbroken monotony of village

life, had apparently come to regard this condition of things as inevitable ; but the time at last arrived for the beginning of an era of activity and development.

The emigrant David McKee's son John McKee was born in 1746 and died January 11, 1807. It was he who founded McKeesport, Pennsylvania. On July 26, 1791, he married Sally Redick who was born in December, 1765, and died July 15, 1814. Her lineage may have been important, as her surname was repeated as the Christian name of a son Redick McKee born December 7, 1800, whose son Redick McKee, Jr., died in infancy, and another of whose sons, Charles Redick McKee, died before he reached the age of 8. But the name persisted and was repeated in Redick Henry McKee who in 1930 was a Consulting Civil Engineer in Seattle, Washington. The earliest association of the McKee name with that of Redick is probably when William M'Gye of Balmaghie, Kirkcudbrightshire, Scotland, who flourished *circa* 1471 A.D., consented to the marriage of his granddaughter Marion to John Redick of Balharro. There is of course no connection whatsoever, but it does seem a pleasant coincidence.

The following notes are from the Family Bible of Redick McKee of Wheeling, West Virginia :

"Redick McKee was born at McKeesport, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, December 7, 1800. Died September 13, 1886.

Eliza Ritchie was born at Cannonsburgh, Washington County, Pennsylvania, June 25, 1802. Died at Washington, D.C., April 22, 1871.

Redick McKee and Eliza Ritchie were married at Cannonsburgh by the Reverend Andrew Wylie, January 12, 1826.

John McKee (elder brother of Redick McKee) and Sarah Brison were married at the residence of Jas. Brison, Esq., near Pittsburgh, Pa., on November 7, 1816.

Children of Redick and Eliza R. McKee. All born at Wheeling, West Virginia :—

	<i>Born</i>	<i>Died</i>
John McKee	December 1, 1826	December 17, 1893
William Ritchie McKee	June 5, 1828	—
Andrew Wylie McKee	January 11, 1830	January 11, 1879
Charles Redick McKee	September 17, 1831	June 13, 1838
Eliza R. McKee	April 30, 1833	June 30, 1834
Henry Martyn McKee	November 13, 1834	March 24, 1840
Sarah Louisa McKee	September 18, 1836	—
Redick McKee, Jr.	October 5, 1838	February 18, 1840
David Ritchie McKee	September 17, 1842	—

Family Burial Ground, Lot No. . . . . in the New Graveyard near Wheeling Creek".

The material that follows is from the Family Records of John McKee of McKeesport, Pa., father of Redick McKee :

"July 26, 1791, John McKee and Sally Redick were married.  
 June 15, 1792, David, their first child, was born. He died May 10, 1793.  
 July 31, 1794, John, second child, born at McKeesport.  
 August 18, 1797, Sally, third child, born at McKeesport.  
 December 7, 1800, Redick, fourth child, born at McKeesport.

September 15, 1818, Joseph Irwin McDowell and Sally McKee were married at Pittsburgh, Pa. Mr. McDowell died at Mobile, Ala., August 20, 1824, and on the 25th, same month, Sally, his wife.

## THE BOOK OF McKEE

In April, 1823, their first child, Mary, died at Mobile, aged 3 years and 4 months. Sarah Jane McDowell died at Pittsburgh, March 12, 1825, aged 3 years.

Craig Ritchie born in Glasgow, December 29, 1758. Died at Cannonsburgh, Pa., June 13, 1833, aged 74, 6, 16 (father of Eliza Ritchie).

Mary Price, wife of Craig Ritchie, was born in Cecil Co., Maryland, Jan. 25, 1769 (mother of Eliza Ritchie). Died Aug. 21, 1836, aged 67, 7 mos. at Cannonsburgh, Pa. Both interred in the ground attached to Chartier's Church, which church the Rev. Dr. J. McMillan served as pastor for more than 50 years.

John McKee (father of R. McKee) died at McKeesport, Pa., on Jan. 11, 1807, aged 61 yrs. His wife died at Pittsburgh, Pa., on July 15, 1814, aged 48 years, and 7 mos.

Monday May 15, 1857, at 1 p.m. was married Sarah Louisa McKee, aged 20 yrs. and 8 mos., to Mr. Numa Duperu, formerly of New Orleans, now a merchant of San Francisco, aged 41, 2 mos. 10. Ceremony performed by Rev. W. A. Scott. Mr. Duperu was born at Norfolk, Va., Mar. 8, 1816. He came to California at the close of the Mexican War. (Died Oct. 1899).

John McKee died at Oakland, Cal., October 20, 1860, aged 66, 2, 20. Elder brother of Redick McKee. Sarah McKee, his wife, nee Brison, died at the residence of Col. A. J. Butler, Sonoma County, on the night of December 20, 1860. Both interred (at) Oakland. '*Lovely and pleasant in their lives and in death they were not long divided*'.

Eliza Ritchie McKee, wife of Redick, died suddenly in Washington City on Saturday morning just at daylight, April 22, 1871, and was buried on Sabbath evening, 23rd, in the lot of her nephew Judge Andrew Wylie, Oakhill Cemetery, Georgetown Heights, aged 68, 9, 26. An affectionate and truthful obituary was published in the Presbyterian, May 13, 1871. **Remains** afterwards removed to the McKee lot in same cemetery, Georgetown Heights, D.C.

William Ritchie McKee died at San Francisco April 13, 1876, aged 47, 9, 8.

Sarah Louisa (McKee) Duperu died in San Francisco May 4, 1877, in her 41st year.

Redick McKee died at Berkeley Springs, West Virginia, September 13, 1886, aged 85, 9, 6. Monument, Oakhill Cemetery, Georgetown, D.C., in memoriam of:

Redick McKee, born Dec. 7, 1800, died Sept. 13, 1886.

Eliza Ritchie, his wife, born June 25, 1802, died April 22, 1871.

Andrew W. McKee, born Jan. 11, 1830, died Jan. 11, 1879".

MEMO : Copied from the Family Bible now in possession of Israel Haines, living near Cannonsburgh, Washington County, Pa. The Bible was printed by Geo. Grierson, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, at the sign of the King's Arms and Two Bibles, Dublin, A.D. 1752 :

"David Price, son of Joslin Price, was married to Ann Husband, (who was) born in 1745, daughter of William Husband, on the 14 day of Nov. 1765, in Cecil Co., Province of Maryland. Mary Price (their third daughter) was born January 25, 1769".

Records from a Bible printed in Belfast by and for James Blow, and for George Grierson, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, at the King's Arms and Two Bibles, in Essex Street, Dublin, M,DCC,LI. (1751) :

"John McKee departed this life January the 11th, 1807, aged 61 years.

Sally McKee, wife to the above named John, departed this life July 15, 1814, aged 48 yrs., 7 mos.

Died Aug. 28, 1819, Margaret McKee, daughter of the above, at the house of J. Brison Esq. in St. Clair Township, All. City.

1821 May 8th, James Brison departed this life in the 66th year of his age (he went to bed in good health and was found dead in the morning).

Died at Mobile, Alabama, 20th of Aug. 1824, Jos. I. McDowell ; and 5 days after, Sarah Ann, his wife.

Married on Nov. 7, 1816, by the Rev. Francis Herron, John McKee to Sarah Brison.

1817 May 15 ; 1818 Mar. 7 ; 1818 Dec. 9 ; 1820 Aug. 3. At each of these dates was born an infant dead, 2 sons and 2 dau.

1821 Apr. 11, a daughter.

Jan. 25, 1822, at 5 a.m. was born Anna Maria McKee, 6th child, who departed this life Feb. 1, 1823, after a few hours sickness.

Oct. 2, 1823, a son born, 7th child.

Oct. 2, 1824, a son born, 8th child.

A. Died at Oakland Oct. 20, 1860, aged 66, 2, 20 days.

B. Died at Oakland Dec. 25, 1860.

A. John McKee, son of John and Sally McKee, born at McKeesport, Pa., July 31, 1794, husband of Sarah McKee nee Brison, died at Oakland, Calif. on Oct. 20, 1860, aged 66 years, 2 mos. 20 days.

B. Sarah McKee, wife of John McKee, died at Sonoma County, Calif., Nov. 20, 1860.

A and B both buried in Mountain View Cemetery, Oakland, Cal.

July 26, 1791, John McKee and Sally Redick were married.

June 15, 1792, was born David McKee, first child to the above, and departed this life May 10, 1793.

July 31, 1794, was born John McKee, second child to the above.

Aug. 18, 1797, was born Sally McKee, 3rd child to the above.

Dec. 7, 1800, at 1 in the morning, was born Redick McKee, 4th child to the above.

Sally McKee was married to Joseph Irvin McDowell, Sept. 15, 1818.

Mary Brison married Oct. 12, 1820, to Thos. Woods.

Rebecca Brison married Mar. 7, 1822, to Andrew Woods.

Redick McKee and Eliza Ritchie married Jan. 12, 1826, at Cannonsburgh, Pa., by Rev. Andrew Wylie.

John McKee died at Oakland, California, October 20, 1860.

Sarah McKee, his wife, departed this life just two months after, Dec. 20, 1860, while on a visit to Mrs. A. J. Butler in Sonoma Co.

Mrs. Redick McKee died at Washington, D.C., April 22, 1871, in her 69th year. Her remains were deposited in the lot of her nephew, Judge Andrew Wylie in Oakhill, back of Georgetown, on Sabbath evening, April 23, 1871.

Redick McKee died at Berkeley Springs, W. Va. at 7.40 p.m. Sept. 13, 1886, aged 85 yrs. 9 mos. 6 days.

“ My Father’s family Bible, then my Mother’s till her death in 1814, then my brother John’s till his death in 1860. After the death of his wife, Sarah McKee, it came into my possession and is now confided to my eldest and well beloved son John, in San Francisco, this 15th day of Oct., 1877 ”.

(Signed) REDICK MCKEE.

NOTE :

The above typewritten copy is made by Redick Henry McKee at Seattle, Wash., Jan. 23, 1930, and is itself a copy of a typewritten copy made by him in 1912 from pencil notes of Jean Evelyn McKee (later Mrs. Hugh F. Phelps), made by her prior to 1906, from the Family Bible of John McKee, Esq., in San Francisco, California.

The above-mentioned Family Bible was destroyed in the San Francisco fire of 1906.

REDICK HENRY MCKEE.

In many cases the present author has received only meagre, or at best sketchily outlined, particulars of a McKee line, but for whatever value these may have for future researchers they are included here.

#### David McKee of Granshaw.

Under date of August 30, 1954, Clayton S. McKee, 4444 Rosemont, Montrose, California, wrote as follows :

" Samuel McKee, §8 on the genealogical list, b. Jan. 5, 1782, d. May 1, 1861. Married Jane Jennings (1783-1869) in Sept. 1803. He lived at Granshaw, County Down. He is buried at Mineville, Essex Co., N.Y.

His father was James McKee, §16 on the genealogical list, whose dates of birth and death are unknown. He married a girl named Davidson, lived at Granshaw, County Down, and is buried at Ballarona Episcopal Church Yard".

#### William McKee of Grey Abbey.

Edward McKee, 224 Twenty-fourth Street, Santa Monica, California, informed me by his August 20, 1954, letter that he is descended from :

" William McKee, a thrifty farmer descended from Scotch ancestors, living during the last half of the 18th century at Grey Abbey, Barony of Ards, County Down, Ireland. He had two sons : William McKee, who died in 1874 and is buried in Grey Abbey, and

James McKee lived in Portaferry, County Down, from 1817 to 1840, when he emigrated to Wheeling, West Virginia. He married Agnes McMillen, who is buried in Portaferry. He joined three sons who had preceded him to West Virginia : James M., Robert S., and William. There were also two daughters Sophie and Margaret.

James McKee, Sr., died in 1863 and is buried at Wheeling. Sophie died in 1877 in Columbus, Ohio. Margaret married Dr. Cy Falconer in 1872, died in 1878. William McKee, a doctor, came to California and in 1849 married Conception Merceras of Monterey. He was Surgeon in the 5th California Volunteers Oct. 15, 1861 to Dec. 14, 1864.

James M. McKee settled at Columbus, Ohio in 1841.

Robert S. McKee settled at Madison, Ind. in 1840, then later moved to Indianapolis. He had a son Edward McKee, and his grandson Edward McKee, Jr., supplied the foregoing data".

#### Dr. Samuel McKee.

Samuel Booth McKee, 6842 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California, wrote on August 23, 1954, to supply the following information :

" Dr. Samuel McKee was a U.S. Army Surgeon stationed at Fort Knox in 1798. He was a resident of Virginia. His son Archibald Buntin McKee was a Presbyterian minister near Vincennes, Indiana. His son Samuel Vigo McKee was the first born of ten children ; he too became a Presbyterian minister, and was a graduate of Washington and Lee University. His son John A. McKee was graduated from Princeton University with a Master's degree in 1897, and he also became a Presbyterian minister.

The son of John A. McKee is Samuel Booth McKee, who in 1919 established a School of Modern Piano in the Los Angeles area, and who is today deemed one of America's outstanding leaders in his profession.

In Vincennes, Indiana, the former home of President Harrison is now owned by Daughters of the American Revolution and several rooms are said to be devoted to McKee papers and

antiques. Samuel Vigo McKee was named for an uncle Colonel Francis Vigo who financed the George Rogers Clark expedition”.

If the reader will examine the Family Tree that appertains to the McKees of Virginia, he will see that at least two Samuel McKees of that line might have been this Dr. Samuel McKee who was at Fort Knox in 1798. However, since Samuel Booth McKee is a member of *Sons of the American Revolution*, it is evident that he knows the entire and precise service record of Dr. Samuel McKee, and probably has traced his sept back even further.

Nathaniel and Prudence Hollister McKee.

On August 14, 1954, Marion E. Kirk, D.A.R. Registrar for the Nabby Lee Ames chapter at Athens, Ohio, sent the following record for Elma Paul Harvey's McKEE forebears :

“Nathaniel McKee (b. 1728, d. 2.16.1815) and Prudence Hollister (b. 8.16.1734, d. 8.16.1825) ; parents of

Jabez McKee (b. 6.29.1782, d. 3.17.1857) who married Asenath Hollister (b. 5.20.1784, d. 1866) ; parents of

Eldridge McKee (b. 2.9.1810, d. 3.16.1862) who married Rebecca Morris (b. 12.26.1812, d. 1.19.1876) ; parents of

Sophie McKee (b. 6.20.1847, d. 11.19.1893) who married George B. Paul (b. 1.15.1845, d. 10.19.1930) ; parents of

Elma Paul, who married James R. Harvey”.

Earlier records of this sept are included in the present BOOK OF MCKEE.

The following brief notes were made over an extended period from various records of early Kentucky :

John McKee, 1813 will in Fayette County. No wife named. Sons :—John, James, Archibald, William (deceased). Daughters :—Polly. Granddaughters (daughters of son William) :—Clara McKee and Martha Story.

John McKee, 1814 will in Fayette County. Names sister Elizabeth Hunter and brother-in-law George Hunter.

Agnes McKee, 1796, married Gary, in Lincoln County.

William McKee, 2.20.1801, married Jane Davis.

James McKee, 10.18.1822, married Sally Wilkerson.

David McKee, 5.8.1826, married Elizabeth Thompson.

William McKee, 1801, married Jane Davis, Mercer County.

William McKee, 1790, witness in Mercer County.

William McKee, 1825-6, witness in Montgomery County.

Melvin McKee, 1825-6, witness in Montgomery County.

A letter from Paul McKee, Director of Elementary Education, Colorado State College of Education at Greeley supplies his descent as follows :

“James McKee, born in 1769, married in 1795 Elizabeth Brady, born in 1772. The only child I know of was John M. McKee. James died in 1837. Elizabeth died in 1844. I do not know where these people lived, but I suspect in Pennsylvania about 40 miles north of Harrisburg.

John M. McKee married in 1840 Sarah Linn. I have no record of her date of birth. To this union were born James A. McKee in 1842, died in 1845 ; John L. McKee, born in

## THE BOOK OF McKEE

1844, no record of death ; Lizzie B. McKee, born in 1846, no record of death ; Mary J. McKee, born in 1849, no record of death. Sarah Linn died in 1857. The only marriage I have record of for the children is that of Lizzie B. McKee to Thomas Carter of Virginia in 1867.

After Sarah Linn's death, the same John M. McKee married in 1858 Susan Crist, born in 1833. These people lived in Eshcol, Pennsylvania, a hamlet about 40 miles north of Harrisburg. To this union was born George Brady McKee in 1862.

In 1883 George Brady McKee married Louella Edith Wickes, born in 1863. To this union were born Ada Alda McKee, born in 1884, died in 1900 ; Elsie Lois McKee, born in 1887, died in 1928 ; Louella Edith McKee, born in 1888, now living (Mrs. H. L. Stout) in Pontiac, Michigan ; Paul Gordon McKee, born in 1897, now living in Greeley, Colorado. George Brady McKee died in 1920 ; Louella Edith McKee, Sr., in 1942".

John Charles McKee.

John F. McKee, President of McKee Door Company, Aurora, Illinois, wrote under date of July 24, 1954 :

" My father James Harry McKee is still living and is 81 years old. His father John Charles McKee immigrated to the United States from Dublin, Ireland when my grandfather was nine months old. They settled near Chebanse, Illinois about 1848 or 1849. My grandfather's father was killed in a farm accident with a team of horses".

McKees of McKee Glass Works (a brother's line).

A letter dated July 22, 1954, from George M. McKee, Vice-President and trust officer of the Riggs National Bank of Washington, D.C., states :

" My father's father was George W. McKee of this city who died a number of years ago and he kept a record of the family for a considerable distance back. This book . . . . . came into the possession of my cousin Harry H. McKee, 1500 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., this city . . . My father was Henry H. McKee, who at the time of his death was president of the National Capitol Bank here and of the East Washington Savings Bank. He had two brothers, John (who is the father of Harry whom I referred to) and Edward, which brothers predeceased my father. He had a half brother, Wilson McKee, who also predeceased my father.

My grandfather's brother was William McKee, who died some years ago and owned the McKee Glass Works in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. There was a branch of the factory in Little Washington, Pennsylvania".

Edmund McKee (an English officer).

In a letter dated July 22, 1954, Harry E. McKee, 79 East Adams, Chicago, Ill., on the stationery of Teleweld, Inc., stated :

" I am enclosing two notes furnished me by my cousin relating to our branch of the family. I secured this information at a time when I was trying to establish citizenship having been born in Canada. This I was unable to do and eventually had to go through naturalization".

He enclosed a copy of the following letter :

MARY M. COLLINS, Agent  
1103 Lafayette Bldg.  
Detroit, Mich.

Sept. 23, 1941

Dear Harry :

" This is recorded in the Family Bible : Charles S. McKee, our grandfather, born in Ireland on Feb. 28, 1820. No record of when he arrived in U.S.A.

He married Mary Stocks, who was born in Warsop, England, on Sept. 10, 1825, and came to America in 1845. They were married Aug. 20, 1845 (from which one would surmise he must have met her in England).

Edmund F. McKee, your father, was born at Plimpton, Ontario, June 12, 1846, issue of Charles S. McKee and Mary Stocks McKee.

Mary Ann McKee, my mother, was born at Port Huron, July 11, 1851, also issue of Charles S. McKee and Mary Stocks McKee, so your father was not more than five years old when he was brought to the U.S.A.

Now, here is something that may solve your problem. Aunt Vic related this to me when I visited her in New York some years ago. I wrote it down with pencil, at random, and it is not very legible, to wit :—

Charles S. McKee's father (I believe his name was Edmund) lived at one time in Covington, Ky. He was an English officer. He was the first man to take Indians from the U.S.A. to present them to the Queen. He later lived on a farm on the Black River near Port Huron, St. Clair County. Now, through his naturalization, mayhap Charles S. McKee became a citizen.

Charles S. McKee had brothers by the names of George, Fred, and Alfred. He also had a sister Harriet, who married a man by the name of Wilcox. She lived and died in Port Huron. His granddaughter Gertrude Boice or Boise is, I believe, a librarian in Port Huron. Would suggest your contacting her. Harriet McKee (Wilcox) had a family tree *tracing us back to Mary, Queen of Scots*, believe it or not. Gertrude might have this chronicle. I haven't seen her in 30 years, but believe she is still living. A letter addressed to Port Huron, Michigan should reach her".

MARY M. COLLINS

MARY M. COLLINS, AGENCY

1103 Lafayette Bldg.,  
Detroit, Michigan,  
Nov. 15, 1941.

My dear Harry :

"Aunt Vic said that she lived with Aunt (Great-Aunt) Harriet for better schooling facilities and that it was during that time that she visited her grandfather Edmund McKee on his farm near Port Huron, on the Black River. She was born in 1849 and married at the age of 16. So let's figure it was sometime between 1849 and 1855.

Dios, I even read the life of Benedict Arnold last night, trying to find some definite clue, because he made his getaway on Edmund McKee's ship. Then the question arose : was it the 'Vulture', the sloop in which he hid in 1780, or the one on which he sailed to England in 1781 ? Even with two ships I didn't get very far".

MARY COLLINS.

William McKee, one of the Virginia Pioneers (a descendant).

H. Harper McKee, of the firm of Brokaw, Dixon & McKee, Engineers and Geologists, 120 Broadway, New York City, wrote as follows on July 28, 1954 :

"Dear Cousin Raymond :

You must be a cousin all right but it probably goes quite a long way back. My McKee Record dates back to 1910. It was compiled by some kind of a great aunt of mine named Adelaide Jenness of Cherry Point, Illinois. My ascendancy is as follows :

Samuel McKee, born July 3, 1764, in Augusta County, Virginia. He served in the Revolution and was present at the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown. His grandparents

were William and Elizabeth McKee ; his great-grandparents William and Mary McKee. One of his sons was John, born Sept. 29, 1794. John had a son Melvin, born Aug. 29, 1832, died June 12, 1868. Melvin's son was my father William Parker McKee, born Aug. 8, 1862, died Aug. 9, 1933. I was born on July 27, 1890. I also have a son William, born Aug. 11, 1926 ; he is a lawyer in San Francisco.

I am sure that with the preservation of all these given names, we *must* be cousins, but you figure it out. Some of the ancestors may have been hanged for murder or treason.

Sincerely,

H. HARPER McKEE".

If the reader will examine the two Family Trees herein that contain the progeny of the Virginia pioneer William McKee, he will see how the line of H. Harper McKee ascends to that William, thence to the *Four McKee Veterans of the Battle of the Boyne*.

#### Boyne Veteran Descendant in Ireland.

On June 26, 1955, John Norman McKee, Clar Avon, Kilgreel, Templepatrick, County Antrim, Northern Ireland, sent me the following data concerning his ancestors :

" My ancestors were the three brothers McKee who landed at Carrickfergus, County Antrim with William (of Orange) in 1689 and from whom the Presbyterian McKees have sprung. The earliest home of the family which I know of was at Ballyrone, County Down, in the 1780's and owned by Robert McKee. Two descendants, the Misses Bingham, still live there. Other direct descendants live close at hand. I know that a grandson of Robert, John McKee, born Mar. 17, 1822, emigrated to America, and that he died at Grover, Bradford County, Pennsylvania July 31, 1904. John McKee had two sons, Joseph and James Charles, and a grandson John W. McKee who had an extensive farm which included the original one commenced by his grandfather. John W. McKee died some four or five years ago without issue but has near relatives, McKees and Tubmans (this could be Lubmans).

I wrote to the Misses Bingham and received a reply dated Aug. 14, 1956, from Minnie Bingham. She could add nothing to the foregoing.

John Norman McKee is, of course, related to all of the McKees of Virginia and Kentucky, as well as many McKees still in Ireland, and the descendants of Captain Thomas McKee of McKee's Half Falls, the present author's line, which includes those of Colonel Alexander McKee of Canada.

#### John McKee of Brooklyn's Opinion.

In a letter from John McKee, April 25, 1931, Brooklyn, N.Y., who was born in 1851, Lisban, County Down, Ireland, the following appears :

" McKee is an Irish Gaelic name spelled Mac Aodh and pronounced Mac Weeh meaning son of Hugh (O'Neill) Earl of Tyrone, Anglicized into McGee, McHugh and McKee.

During the reign of Queen Elizabeth 1558 to 1603 the O'Neills were driven out of Ireland and fled to Scotland, whose inhabitants were of the same race and spoke the same language. They were there during the Reformation and became Scotch Presbyterians but still wanted to get back to Ireland, having heard their fathers tell what a beautiful country it was compared to Scotland ; after Cromwell's massacre of the Irish in 1649 and 50, your ancestors went back to Ireland and settled around Derry ; my ancestors joined the army of King William III in Scotland, fought at the Battle of the Boyne in 1690, and settled in Lisban, near Saintfield, County Down, Ireland".

While this certainly could be true of some McKee lines, the author has convinced himself that by far the majority of McKee septs came over from Scotland to North Ireland following the signing of the Solemn League and Covenant and the consequent persecutions. The Clan Mackay of Strathnaver was one of the most numerous and powerful of the Highland clans, and, as far as the author has been able to learn, it is the parent clan for the Kintyre, possibly Galloway, and several other of the southern septs. The subject is covered in a separate chapter. The Gaelic name Mac Aodh is pronounced somewhat differently in different sections: Mac Ee, Mackay, MacUgh, MacGhie, and so on. In the author's opinion, sufficient reliable historical data no longer exist to serve as a basis for tracing the tribe *absolutely* and step by step back to its beginnings; instead, we must rely on fragmentary references in very early topographical poems and ecclesiastical historical works. A chapter on the *O'Neills of Ulster* is included in the present volume.

Andrew McKee of Hartford, Conn. (related by Julius C. McKee).

"My pedigree, as near as I know it, according to the traditions of our family, four generations back, as I have been informed by my father and Uncle Jason McKee, there were three brothers as my father says, two, as Uncle Jason thinks. I think father is correct, as he was 16 or 17 years older and his memory very good. They came to America and landed at Boston".

"The youngest, 16 years old, named Andrew McKee, or MacKee as it used to be written, settled in East Hartford, east of old Hartford City, in the state of Connecticut, about five miles from the city, and became a farmer, in 1707. It is supposed that the other brothers settled one in Virginia, the other in Kentucky. Andrew was born in the north of Ireland in 1691. His father was Scotch, a chief among them, my father says: his mother Irish. He lived in America 58 years. He died September 24, 1765, aged 74 years, and was interred at Manchester Center, Conn. Andrew had a first wife and a second wife, and had children by both. I can only speak of three, Nathaniel, Robert, and Joseph, by 1st wife. John, 2nd wife. Robert McKee (my great grandfather) became a wealthy farmer, with 400 acres in the vicinity of his father. Was deacon of the Presbyterian church in his neighborhood 40 years, until he died and was interred near his father. Was born 1726, Hartford, Conn., died March 29, 1797, in his 71st year. He married Miss Mabel Hollister, by whom he had ten children, married 1753:

1. Robert, born 1754.
2. Andrew.
3. Appleton, born Dec. 19, 1760, Hartford, Ct., d. May 2, 1832.
4. Polly.
5. Eliezur.
6. Alexander.
7. Francis.
8. Jesse.
9. James.
10. Mabel.

All lived to be men and women except Jesse, who died in infancy. All the others had large families except Alexander who had one child, a son.

"Appleton McKee (my grandfather) married Mercy Hills, 1784. He was born Friday Dec. 19, 1760. His wife was born Wed. July 20, 1766, Hartford, Connecticut. She died Oct. 5, 1822 of palsy, age 56, Jefferson Co., N.Y. Their children were:

1. Appleton Hollister, b. July 20, 1785, d. Nov. 2, 1869.
2. Chester, b. Aug. 3, 1789, d. 1875.
3. Phila, b. May 15, 1791, d. Mar. 2, 1869.
4. John Hills, b. July 2, 1793, d. Nov. 26, 1865.

5. Harriet, b. July 15, 1795, d. Feb. 5, 1860.
6. Alexander, b. Sept. 10, 1798, d. Jan. 7, 1844.
7. Jason, b. Nov. 17, 1800, d. 1877.
8. Alvin, b. July 6, 1803.
9. Hiram, b. Sept. 10, 1807.
10. Martin Mason, b. Nov. 18, 1811, d. about 1874.

"Appleton McKee, married second wife, Mrs. Sabra Wood, Oct. 9, 1823, Jefferson Co., N.Y. Children :

1. Delena, b. Aug. 4, 1824, d. Sept. 2, 1826.
2. Joseph Randall, b. July 24, 1826.
3. Jesse, b. Feb. 27, 1828.
4. James, b. Apr. 11, 1830, d. Apr. 13, 1830.
5. Lucinda, b. Sept. 7, 1831.

"Appleton McKee, died May 7, 1832, Sabra Wood McKee died Oct. 23, 1856, N.Y.

"Appleton Hollister McKee, born July 20, 1785, Hartford, Connecticut, went with his parents to Northern New York, about 1797. They took up land and farmed it. He married Sarah Smith, Sept. 10, 1809, b. Sept. 20, 1792, d. Mar. 11, 1824. Children were :

1. Julius Clark, b. Feb. 4, 1811.
2. Loren, b. Dec. 16, 1814, drowned off St. Joseph's river in Lake Michigan, Oct. 1835.
3. John, b. Feb. 16, 1817.
4. Alonzo, b. Dec. 12, 1819, d. Mar. 9, 1880.
5. Sarah Maria, b. Sept. 12, 1821, d. about Oct., 1890.

"Appleton Hollister McKee, married second Polly Cooper, Aug. 17, 1825. She was born Mar. 22, 1798. Children were :

1. George Hollister, b. Jan. 15, 1827.
2. Appleton Cooper, b. Aug. 17, 1829, d. about 1889.
3. Martha Lodema, b. April 13, 1831, d. Sept. 22, 1833.
4. Monroe H., b. April 22, 1833.

"Polly Cooper died in 13 hours of Cholera, Aug. 20, 1834".

"Appleton Hollister McKee, then married Permila Shepard, June 24, 1839. She was born Jan. 26, 1815. He had a large general store, wholesale and retail at that time, at Sacketts Harbor, N.Y. About 1843 they went to Maquokata, Iowa, and about 1846 they went to a farm 5 miles from Dyersville, Iowa. He took up 1,000 acres of land. Their children were : (the last five born on the homestead) :

1. Perlina, b. April 16, 1843, d. Sept. 30, 1844.
2. Lucy Almeda, b. Dec. 27, 1845, d. 1903.
3. Rosella, b. Oct. 11, 1847, d. Sept. 21, 1851.
4. Malvina, b. July 4, 1850, d. Dec. 17, 1936.
5. Lorenzo Shepard, b. Feb. 14, 1853, d. Feb. 25, 1940.
6. Watson, b. Dec. 16, 1855, d. April, 1913.
7. Malona Adah, b. Nov. 2, 1858, d. Aug. 6, 1911.

"Appleton Hollister McKee became ill with a fever and died in a week on Nov. 2, 1869, was interred in Epworth Cemetery, Iowa. Permila (Shepard) McKee, died 1886, and was interred beside him.

“ Maternal ancestry, Uncle Jason’s statement : ‘ Grandfather Silas Hills, I think, always lived in East Hartford, Connecticut. He bought a farm, built a house, and then married Anna House. They moved into the house, and when I saw them in the spring of 1824, they had lived together in the same house 61 years, and were nearly 90 years old. They had never been farther from home than Boston. He was a short, thickset man, and was remarkable for steady habits, punctuality, honesty and integrity. They were Presbyterians by profession. Grandmother was rather tall ; not fleshy, was cheerful and happy. Their children were :

1. Hannah, married Andrew McKee.
2. Ann,           ,,    Ziba Willson, I think.
3. Hester,       ,,    (I do not know).
4. Ruth,         ,,    Mr. Lamb.
5. One           ,,    Chester Buckley.
6. Sarah,        ,,    Mr. Martin.
7. I think one boy died when young.
8. Silas was the only son raised to manhood ; a very large, stout man, had a large family, whose names I cannot recollect. There were several more girls, whose names I do not know.
9. Mercy, married Appleton McKee, our father’.”

“ The <sup>1</sup>McKee Coat of Arms is a shield on which is drawn the dexter and sinister cross bars ; on the top space is the *Lamh Dearg Eirin*, Red Hand of Ireland, in the right and left spaces a three leafed shamrock, and on the lower a curricke with eight oars ”.

“ CREST—A key attached to three links of a chain, with the motto *Ne eam in me verte—Turn it not against me* ”.

“ Silver shield, crossed with green bars, two green Shamrocks in side spaces, Red Hand in top space, black boat in lower space, silver leaves tipped with green around shield, silver and green tassels ”.

BOSTON MARRIAGES 1700–1751, No. 28, p. 316.

“ Andrew McKee, married Jerusha Vose, Milton, Mass., married by Mr. Peter Thacher, March 26, 1723. *American Ancestry*, Vol. 1, p. 90 ”.

“ Robert McKee was a Minute Man in battle of Lexington Alarm, Revolutionary War ”. (*Connecticut Men in War of Revolution and 1812*. Adjutant General of 1880.)

<sup>1</sup> The armorial bearings described above are technically depicted as follows, and apply to both the McHugh and McKee name in Irish genealogies :

Argent, a saltire vert between a dexter hand couped at the wrist in chief gules two trefoils clipped of the second in fess and a boat with oars proper in base.

The probabilities are that these arms were used by some sept of the Irish tribe of Mac Aodh, and when that name by anglicization became transmogrified to MacHugh, MacKee, Magee, and so forth, the arms were attributed in a vague way to those families. So far as I have been able to learn, no one from any of these families has matriculated on these arms in the last fifty years or more, which is not surprising when we consider that a consistent and rather successful effort was made over a period of several centuries to obliterate even Ireland’s memories.—R.W.M.

## McKEE Chart :

1. . . . .	McKee, Scotch Chief, married	Irish woman.
2.	Andrew McKee 1691-1765	m, 1723 Jerusha Vose.
3.	Robert McKee 1726-1797	m, 1753 Mabel Hollister, 1738-
4.	Appleton McKee 1760-1832	m, 1784 Mercy Hills, 1766-1822
5.	Appleton Hollister McKee 1785-1869	m, 1839 Permela Shepard. 1815-1886
6.	Watson McKee 1855-1913	m, Mary Meis.
7.	Charles McKee	m,

*Wallace, Bruce and related families.*

" On February 6, 1834, when Margaret Jane Wallace was 22 years of age, a good looking, attractive young woman, she married John McKee, born in 1809 in Juniata County, Pennsylvania. His father, Robert McKee, born January 4, 1780 (died February 26, 1861, age 81) in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, married Jane McIntyre, 1806 (died January 11, 1872, age 90) ; was one of a large family of eight children. His grandfather, John McKee, was born January 1, 1754, in County Down of Ulster, Ireland, and came to America in 1762 (8 years of age) ; married Mary Hoge, of Juniata County, Pennsylvania, born January 2, 1762, and died November 11, 1847, age 85 ".

" This McKee family, therefore, came to America 48 years before the James Wallaces arrived. The above John McKee, husband of Margaret, youngest daughter of James Wallace of East Waterford, Pennsylvania, had a sister (1) Mary McKee, who married John Alexander, head of one of the three Alexander families of Plain Township, Wayne County, Ohio. Their children were : Sarah, Jane, Thomas, Harvey and Samuel ".

" He also had a sister (2) Martha McKee, born September 27, 1819, near Mifflin, Pennsylvania, died at the home of her oldest daughter, Mary Jane Bebout, at Oberlin, Ohio, March 10, 1900, age 80 past. She married September 15, 1837, David Mackey, born August 8, 1803 in Ireland ; died January, 1903, at age 100 ".

" They had nine children—one (the 6th) being named Robert McKee Mackay (Mackey), born August, 1854 ; reaching young manhood he went to Kansas (Oscalooosa) and devoted himself to agriculture ; married Margaret Johnson (died June 21, 1913) ; became a wealthy land owner ; now retired to Wichita, Kansas ".

" John McKee also had a sister (3) Margaret, who married George Van Arsdell, of Wooster, Ohio and a brother (4) Samuel, who married Mary Ann Douglass ".

" The McKee family came to Wayne County, Ohio, in or about 1839. After a time John and Margaret settled on a farm of 160 acres of land  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles S.W. of Jefferson, Wayne County, Ohio ".

" Uncle John died in April, 1891, and Aunt Margaret in March, 1894, each 82 years of age ; both buried in their family lot in Wooster Cemetery. To them were born ten children :

(1) James Wallace McKee, born November, 1834 ; tall, good looking man ; studied medicine and practiced at Savannah, Ashland County, Ohio ; later in Blue Island, a suburb of Chicago. Enlisted as a surgeon in the Civil War and was sent to the hospital in Covington, Kentucky. Married Louisa Strain. Date and place of death unknown.

An Irish family name called  
 the family and produced the name  
 (Buck 408-111) Carl of Thron, and  
 also the name, Hugh, and John. During  
 the time of the...  
 the O'Neill's were driven out of Ireland and  
 led to Scotland, where they were  
 the same name and again the same  
 they were there during the...  
 however, to the Presbyterians...  
 to go back to Ireland and...  
 others tell what a beautiful country it was  
 compared to Scotland. After Cromwell's  
 massacre of the Irish in 1649 and  
 of the McKees went back to Ireland and  
 settled around Derry while others  
 stayed around King William III in Scotland  
 at the Battle of the Boyne...  
 settled in Lisburn near...  
 from Ireland.





\* WROTE GOLDEN  
 APOW (YOLKA)  
 \*\* SETTLED  
 SCOTT CITY, KANS  
 \* DISTINGUISHED



\*\* (ORD OREGON WAS NAMED FOR HER)

\* CASSIE SUBSEQUENTLY MARRIED URS THEN JOEL FULLIS, WHOSE WIFE C MCKEE (FULLIS) (SEE WILLIAM MCKE)





T. MCKEE  
 141 - JULY 13 1924  
 MARRIED FEBRUARY 1900  
 M. MARY O'NEILL

ALBERT J. MCKEE  
 JAN 27 1874  
 MARRIED  
 M. DORA PENNY

WILLIAM PRICE, JR.  
 2 11 1854 - 7 1 1880

NATHAN PRICE  
 6 8 1856 - 9 4 1896

JOHN PRICE  
 237 941 - 8 14 1905  
 MARRIED  
 M. MARGARET OWEN

AGNES JANETTE  
 9-7-1867 - 2-11-1934  
 MARRIED  
 M. OSCAR B. HITE

OSCAR B. HITE  
 5-12-1866 - HE DIED 1-14-1929

JAMES PRICE  
 5-16-1866 - 9-3-1920  
 MARRIED  
 M. NAN BODENHAMMER

GEORGE PRICE  
 1-11-1849 - 11-30-1892  
 MARRIED  
 M. EMMA C. MEADOR

BASHEBA  
 9-8-1837 - 8-15-1838

DAVID PERRY MCKEE  
 12-10-1852 - 8-23-1935  
 MARRIED  
 M. EMMA BISHOP

NAOMI RUTH  
 6-16-1850 - 8-1-1857

HENRIETTA MCKEE  
 3-28-1846 - 1930  
 MARRIED  
 M. JAMES WILSON

THOMAS MCKEE  
 OCT 18 1844 - JAN 27 1937  
 MARRIED  
 M. MARY REILL WOODS 10 11 1831

JAMES MATHIAS MCKEE  
 3.12.1848 - 12.12.1867  
 BACHELOR

JOHN HENRY HARDING  
 3.19.1859

W.M. MCKEE HARDING  
 3.19.1859

SAMANTHA ANN  
 DEC. 4 1842 - SEP. 8 1934  
 MARRIED WM CAMERON  
 NO CHILDREN

(MAJOR) DAVID MCKEE  
 17.14.1823 - 3.7.1896  
 MARRIED MARTHA JANE KEESECKER ON AUG. 12, 1841  
 SHE WAS BORN AUG. 13 1823 - DIED OCT. 25, 1855  
 MARRIED ELYRA RANDOLPH BREEDING 6.1.1856  
 SHE WAS BORN OCT. 18 1826 - DIED MAY 3 1910

JAMES MCKEE  
 DEC. 11 1805 - NOV. 16 1901  
 MARRIED  
 M. ELIZABETH PLASTERS  
 JAN. 11 1837 - MAR 20 1926

HENRY LAFAYETTE MCKEE  
 10 2 1830 - 10 7 1908  
 MARRIED  
 M. REBECCA FERGUSON  
 12 1840 - 1-4 1880

JAMES  
 OCT. 19 1809 - DEC. 6 1810

HENRY MCKEE  
 JAN. 11 1878 - JUNE 11 1857  
 MARRIED  
 M. SARAH FRANCES MCKEE  
 MAY 30 1878 - MAR 7 1887

THOMAS MCKEE  
 DEC. 6 1810 - JAN 5 1892  
 MARRIED  
 M. SARAH FRANCES MCKEE

WILLIAM MCKEE JR.  
 JAN 23 1813 - DEC 17 1897  
 MARRIED DONOT 18 1855 TO SARAH CORNELIA WILMOT  
 MAR 5 1826 - MAR 11 1912

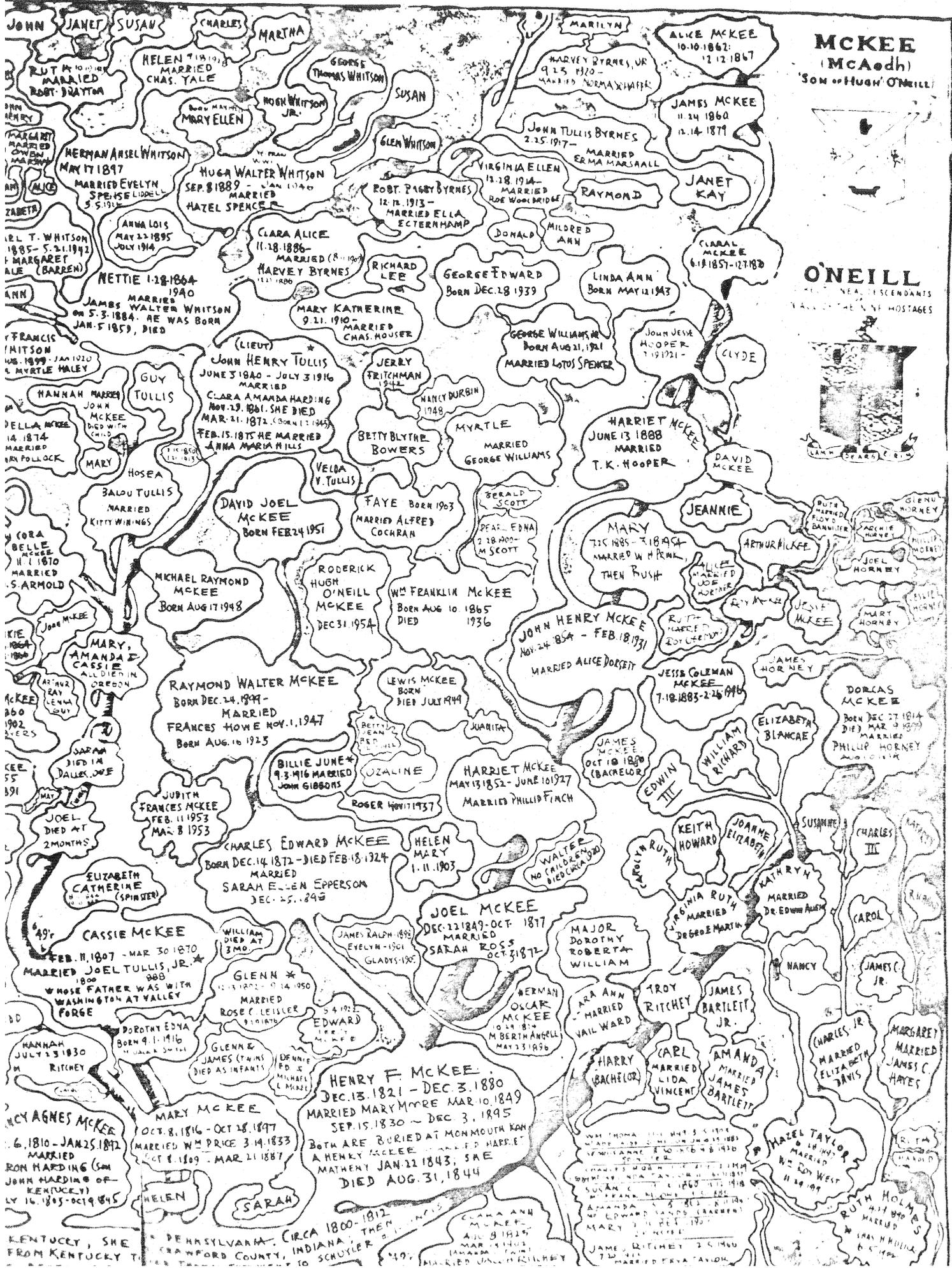
HANNAH  
 AUG 1 1805 - SEP. 11 1819

ARCHIBALD MCKEE HITE  
 8 30 1862 - 7 31 1897

AMANDA E BORN 2 8 1855 DIED MARRIED HENRY MIT SARAH IDA MCKEE 8 12 1860 - 4 4 1880 M. MARY CASSEY 9 13 1857 - DI WILAMETTA BORN 8 14 1865

BERTHA J MCKEE 7.2.1863 - 2.1.1888 TO CYRUS LARABEE





**MCKEE**  
(McAodh)  
'SON OF HUGH O'NEILL'

**O'NEILL**  
NEAL DESCENDANTS  
ALL OF THEM WERE HOSTAGES



JOHN JANET SUSAN CHARLES MARTHA  
 ALICE MCKEE 10.10.1862 - 12.12.1867  
 MARVY BYRNES, JR 9.25.1870 - MARRIED NORMA WATKIN  
 HUGA WALTER WHITSON SEP. 8. 1889 - MARRIED JAN. 1940 HAZEL SPENCER  
 ROBT. PABBY BYRNES 12.11.1913 - MARRIED ELLA ECTERNHAMPTON  
 VIRGINIA ELLEN 12.28.1914 - MARRIED ROE WOODBRIDGE  
 CLARA ALICE 11.28.1886 - MARRIED (1899) HARVEY BYRNES  
 GEORGE EDWARD BORN DEC. 18. 1939  
 LINDA ANN BORN MAY 12. 1943  
 CLARA MCKEE 6.18.1857 - 12.18.1880  
 GEORGE WILLIAMS, JR BORN AUG. 21. 1921 - MARRIED LOTUS SPENCER  
 JOHN JESSE HOOPER 7.19.1921 -  
 CLYDE  
 HARRIET MCKEE JUNE 13. 1888 - MARRIED T. K. HOOPER  
 DAVID MCKEE  
 JEANNIE  
 MARY 7.15.1885 - 7.18.1948 - MARRIED W. H. PEAK - THEN RUSH  
 ALICE MARRIED UOPE ROE  
 MARY 7.15.1885 - 7.18.1948 - MARRIED W. H. PEAK - THEN RUSH  
 JOHN HENRY MCKEE NOV. 24. 1854 - FEB. 18. 1931 - MARRIED ALICE DORSETT  
 JESSIE COLEMAN MCKEE 7.18.1883 - 2.26.1916  
 DORCAS MCKEE BORN DEC. 27. 1814 - DIED MAR. 9. 1879 - MARRIED PHILLIP HORNEY  
 ELIZABETH BLANCAE  
 HARRIET MCKEE MAY 13. 1852 - JUNE 10. 1927 - MARRIED PHILIP FINCH  
 HARRIET MCKEE MAY 13. 1852 - JUNE 10. 1927 - MARRIED PHILIP FINCH  
 JOEL MCKEE DEC. 22. 1847 - OCT. 1877 - MARRIED SARAH ROSS  
 SARAH ROSS OCT. 31. 1877  
 HENRY F. MCKEE DEC. 13. 1821 - DEC. 3. 1880 - MARRIED MARY MOORE MAR. 10. 1849 - SEP. 15. 1830 - DEC. 3. 1845 - BOTH ARE BURIED AT MONMOUTH KAN A HENRY MCKEE MATHENT JAN. 22. 1843; SAE DIED AUG. 31. 1844  
 CASSIE MCKEE FEB. 11. 1807 - MAR. 30. 1870 - MARRIED JOEL TULLIS, JR. 1800 - WHOSE FATHER WAS WITH WASHINGTON AT VALLEY FORGE  
 JOEL TULLIS, JR. 1800 - MARRIED CASSIE MCKEE  
 JOEL MCKEE DEC. 22. 1847 - OCT. 1877 - MARRIED SARAH ROSS  
 SARAH ROSS OCT. 31. 1877  
 HENRY F. MCKEE DEC. 13. 1821 - DEC. 3. 1880 - MARRIED MARY MOORE MAR. 10. 1849 - SEP. 15. 1830 - DEC. 3. 1845 - BOTH ARE BURIED AT MONMOUTH KAN A HENRY MCKEE MATHENT JAN. 22. 1843; SAE DIED AUG. 31. 1844  
 MARY MCKEE OCT. 8. 1816 - OCT. 28. 1897 - MARRIED WM PRICE 3. 14. 1833 - OCT. 8. 1809 - MAR. 21. 1887  
 SARAH  
 HAZEL TAYLOR MARRIED W. EDW WEST 11. 28. 1907  
 RUTH HOLM MARRIED W. EDW WEST 11. 28. 1907  
 MARY MCKEE OCT. 8. 1816 - OCT. 28. 1897 - MARRIED WM PRICE 3. 14. 1833 - OCT. 8. 1809 - MAR. 21. 1887  
 SARAH  
 HAZEL TAYLOR MARRIED W. EDW WEST 11. 28. 1907  
 RUTH HOLM MARRIED W. EDW WEST 11. 28. 1907

(2) Margaret Jane McKee, born March, 1836, in Pennsylvania, died October 11, 1901, age 65. She married T. M. Neely from Pennsylvania. His people originally came from Ireland. They had two children : John McKee Neely, born February 26, 1869, a physician in Oklahoma City ; and William Whitefield Neely.

(3) Robert Logan McKee, born March 11, 1838, died October 13, 1872.

(4) Benjamin Wallace McKee, born February 8, 1840.

(5) and (6) Twins born April 8, 1842. Both died within two weeks after birth.

(7) Thomas Boston McKee, born April 4, 1845.

(8) William Ambrose McKee, born April 15, 1847.

(9) Mary McKee, second daughter of John and Margaret Wallace McKee, was born August 16, 1850.

(10) John Flavel McKee, born October 25, 1852, near Wooster, Ohio ”.

The following was taken from the Introduction to the above book :

“ John McKee, grandfather of John McKee, husband of Margaret Jane Wallace, came from County Down, Ireland, in 1762.

For information pertaining to Margaret Wallace McKee and family, we owe most to John F. McKee, of Carlisle, Iowa, and his sister, Mary McKee Dougal, of Indianola, Iowa ”.

JAMES WALLACE,  
St. Paul, Minnesota.

Herman Oscar McKee.

Excerpt from a letter received from Herman Oscar McKee of Sand Springs, Oklahoma, dated January 18, 1954 :

“ On a separate sheet you will find answers to your questions about the McKee family, which I have answered to the best of my ability. I have written back to some of the old timers in Illinois who have family trees ”.

“ The McKee Clan always held a family reunion every year and at this meeting the family tree was always read. Of this they were very proud. Our ancestors helped settle Illinois. Of course there are some things I cannot explain to you as you have not been over the ground as I have. Some of our great ancestors once owned a steamboat on the Illinois river and operated from Peoria, Illinois to St. Louis, hauling the farmer’s grain and whatever they had to market. This happened before the railroads took over. They had many stops along the river taking on things and unloading. So you see a Family Tree is the only way to get just what information you want. If everything turns out just right I will have done myself. You see most all of the private records are very old and most of them have been destroyed. I have two old “Bibles. That is where I am getting the names I am sending you. In this I take great pleasure :

Grandmother’s maiden name was Mary Moore. Below you will find the names of our grandparents and their family :—

Henry McKee—Grandfather .. .. Born December 13, 1821

Mary Moore McKee—Grandmother .. .. Born September 15, 1830.

<sup>1</sup> As it turned out Oscar did get a Family Tree, our own sept’s, which is reproduced herein. He and I had the same grandfather, Henry McKee.

<sup>2</sup> These he graciously gave to me.

## Children :

Joel McKee (my father) ..	..	Born December 22, 1849.
Harriet (Auntie Finch) ..	..	.. " May 13, 1852.
John McKee ..	..	.. " November 24, 1854.
James McKee (John's son) ..	..	.. " October 18, 1880.
Claral ..	..	.. " June 19, 1857.
Alice ..	..	.. " October 20, 1862.
Edward McKee (your father) ..	..	.. " December 14, 1872.

" You see, Ray, by the chart above you and I are first cousins. You asked about my father and mother. My father's name was Joel McKee and he was married to Sarah Ross October 3, 1872, at Rushville, Illinois".

From other letters received from Herman McKee of Sand Springs, Oklahoma :

" . . . . . You asked about my marriage and children. I was married to Miss Bertha Angell at Rushville, Illinois, May 23, 1896. We had three children : (1) James Ralph McKee was born Nov. 11, 1898, (2) Evelyn McKee was born June 14, 1901 and (3) Gladys McKee was born September 25, 1905. They are all living".

" . . . . . You speak of my age. Well, I am an old-timer Ray. I was born on a farm near Cherokee, Kansas, in Crawford County, in the year of 1874 on the 29th day of October, so you can take it from there".

" You speak of Cromwell running our ancestors out of Ireland. What for ? You speak of my father's picture—well the minute I saw it I knew it was not right. The hair in the picture I sent you was not right ; it was made, for my father's hair was curly and laid in rings".

" . . . . . You speak of David McKee who founded the A.H.T.A. I once belonged to same and was secretary for a long time of a branch from the main lodge. I thought it was wonderful, in fact I think it was the first F.B.I. that we had. When I was Secretary of same I received mail from all over the U.S.A. and some strange and very important things came up".

" I am sending you what I could dig up on Auntie Lashmet :

Auntie Lashmet's maiden name was Moore before she married a Lashmet, but which one I do not know because two of the Lashmet boys married two of the Moore girls. I do not know Auntie Lashmet's first name so am sending you as I see it taken from an old Bible. Auntie Lashmet was not a McKee as you will see by the following :

' Martha Moore was married to William Lashmet on Dec. 27, 1861 '  
(This one was Auntie Lashmet—R.W.M.)

' Catherine Moore was married to Thomas Lashmet on Aug. 3, 1865 '.

Henry McKee, our grandfather, was married to Mary Moore on March 10, 1849, a sister to the two girls above ; this should explain the relationship of Auntie Lashmet to us".

<sup>1</sup> In some instances this may be quite true, but the author now (1957) is convinced that : Some MacAodhs probably went from Ireland to Scotland possibly as early as *circa* 503 A.D. with Fergus Mac Earca, then filtered back into Ireland 1600-1690 A.D. Some of them were at the Battle of the Boyne ; and apparently some others at the siege of Derry in 1689, a year earlier. *Circa* 1707 they started emigrating to America. The Mackay clan, in its various septs in Scotland, constituted the Mac Aodh clan for more than a thousand years, where it was one of the most important and tumultuous clans of the Highlands. It must be clearly apprehended that Mac Eth, MacAodh, MacAoidh, M'Kie, M'Cay, M'Kay, Mackay, McGhie, and so *ad infinitum*, are merely variant spellings of MacAodh, that is son-of-Aodh, or son-of-the-fiery-one. There is no other meaning, and "son-of-Hugh" does not translate Mac Aodh. Mac Aodh cannot be translated into English any more facily than Hernandez or O'Flannigan.

The letter that follows pinpoints, by actual legal description, a parcel of land acquired by the present author's great-grandfather William McKee, in Crawford County, Indiana :

English, Indiana, July 23, 1955.

Dear Mr. McKee :

I do not know if you understand the land description in Indiana, but I found that William McKee bought 163 acres in the fractional Section 20, township 4 south, Range 2 east in Crawford County on April 29, 1814, and that he sold the same February 21, 1832, to Samuel Oram of Schuyler County, Illinois.

This land is on the Ohio River in Ohio Township, Crawford County, Indiana. I cannot locate it exactly but there are five different Cemeteries in this bottom. I just went over my catalogue of these five Cemeteries and do not find a monument for your ancestor.

One of the Cemeteries was the Rice Cemetery, another was the Peckinpaugh, another was one without markers, one was a Shekell private cemetery, and the fourth was unnamed but contained only two markers. Some of these contained a number of unmarked graves while the Peckinpaugh was almost completely marked.

I am writing for a report of the 1820 census of William McKee. I shall be in a better position to help you. I am sending you the names of all McKees in Indiana in 1820 and 1830. This may help you.

Yours sincerely,

Sgd. MACK TUCKER

R. §2

The list below is the one mentioned in Mr. Tucker's letter, which he procured and forwarded :

<i>Name</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Year</i>
McKee, Alexander	Franklin	1820 & 1830
Alexander	Greene	1830
Alexander	Sullivan	1830
Amelia	Dearborn	1820
Angus	Jefferson	1830
Archibal	Decatur	1830
David	Franklin	1830
Eliza	Vanderburg	1830
Hugh	Jefferson	1830
James	Dubois	1820
James	Jefferson	1830
James	Knox	1830
James	Owen	1830
James	Washington	1830
John	Allen	1830
John	Franklin	1820
John	Harrison	1820
John	Jefferson	1830
John	Knox	1820
John	Rush	1830
John	Shelby	1830

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Tucker was searching for the grave of James McKee, father of Thomas and William, and a Revolutionary War veteran. The author now suspects (1957) that the veteran returned to Kentucky or Pennsylvania in his declining years, or was returned there for interment after his death.

## THE BOOK OF McKEE

<i>Name</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Year</i>
John	Sullivan	1820 & 1830
John	Vigo	1830
John	Wayne	1820 & 1830
Joseph	Jennings	1830
Melinda	Wayne	1830
Richard	Ripley	1830
Robert	Tippecanoe	1830
Robert	Vigo	1830
Samuel	Franklin	1820
Tabor W.	Henry	1830
<sup>1</sup> Thomas	Harrison	1820
Thomas	Jefferson	1830
Thomas	Putnam	1830
<sup>2</sup> William	Crawford	1820
William	Floyd	1820
William	Putnam	1830

From a letter received from Mrs. Chas. S. Woodworth of Macomb, Illinois, dated February 15, 1954 :

"The circumstances under which I am writing this letter are indeed peculiar. For several years I have been intensely interested in the genealogy of my father's family history and have found many interesting facts in so doing. My grandfather, Wm. Kendrick Shupe, was a pioneer settler of Schuyler County, Illinois, emigrating from the state of Virginia by covered wagon in the year 1843. My aunt, who lived to be 97 years old, was the possessor of a book which she loaned me to copy the sketch of my grandfather's life in Schuyler County. While copying his sketch, I noticed one of William McKee and as my younger sister was married to John Andrew McKee, I copied it also, thinking perhaps it might be connected with his family.

On Sunday afternoon, February 14th, Mrs. McKee visited in my home and we were reading this sketch and commenting on it. Johnie A. McKee died suddenly of a heart attack on November 30, 1945. Mrs. McKee had just gone home when I picked up a copy of the *Rushville Times* of February 11th issue. I am not a regular subscriber of the paper but my sister near Rushville had given me this copy. In looking through the want ads I came onto yours and really thought it a coincidence.

So many people have been so kind and helpful to me in my work, that I decided to copy this sketch and send it to you. Am hopeful that it may be of interest to you. These old biographies have a style that is a little hard to understand. They not only write about their subject but go back maybe a generation or so and write about their lives also. Now as I understand this sketch, the subject would be a brother of Henry F. McKee, whom you believe to be your grandfather.

There are several families of McKees in and near Macomb. My sister's father-in-law was John Corbley McKee, now deceased. His father was Aaron Powers McKee, also deceased. My sister has a powder horn inscribed 'William R. McKee'; whether he was father of Aaron Powers McKee or not, she doesn't know.

I could suggest you might find your information in the early census records (the first U.S. census was taken in 1790), or contact the county clerk or recorder at the Schuyler County, Illinois, courthouse at Rushville, Illinois.

<sup>1</sup> This is Thomas McKee of the author's sept.

<sup>2</sup> This is William McKee, brother of Thomas McKee above, and great grandfather of the present author. He emigrated to Schuyler County, Illinois, January 22, 1826.

I will copy here an item that I clipped on March 16, 1948, from the *Macomb Daily Journal* :

'Rushville, Ill. : The 40 acre tract, known as the Jacob Ritchey farm in Buena Vista township was sold at an auction near here yesterday. The land was sold to settle the estate of Mrs. Amanda Ritchey Sands who died recently.

The property was bought by Everett Nell, Schuyler Co. farmer, for \$300.00 an acre or a total of \$12,000.

The original owner of the land, Mrs. Sarah M. Haynes, was granted the land by the government, after her husband was killed in the War of 1812. The property next belonged to William McKee, who sold it to Jacob Ritchey 99 years ago."

Letter received from Mrs. E. E. Enterline, a descendant of Aaron Powers McKee (formerly Mildred McKee) who resides in Taft, California. Dated February 23, 1954 :

"Your letter received Saturday is very interesting, and I am glad to relate what I know of our branch of the McKees. The following is a copy of a biography of one Arthur R. McKee which was copied from the records of McDonough County, Illinois :

'Arthur R. McKee, son of William R. McKee, was born in Westmoreland County, Pa., April 14, 1783.

He removed to Cincinnati when a boy, that city being then a small town. There he grew to manhood and was married to Elizabeth Mills. He then removed to the Dry Fork of Whitewater and attached himself to the Quakers. He next went to Miami County, Ohio, where he resided from 1827 until 1845. In the latter year he emigrated to Indiana and 15 years later came to McDonough County, Illinois, to reside with his son, Aaron Powers McKee. He died October 12, 1880 and is buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Macomb, Illinois. He was a pleasant, social man and highly esteemed by all'.

A. P. McKee, Sr. (or Aaron P.) mentioned here was my grandfather. He was born July 16, 1821, in Miami County, Ohio ; engaged in steamboating on the Lower Mississippi, then returned to the farm and, in addition, made brick. In 1850 he emigrated to Indiana and married Hannah Hayhurst. These children were born to them : Daniel W., Wm. H., Chas. A., Frank P., and Hannah Isabelle. His wife died in 1862, and he then married Eliza Cromer, my grandmother. They had a flock of children, all now deceased, and my father, John C., was the eldest. (He would have been 91 yesterday.) A child of his middle age, he died two weeks before my birth.

It is possible that William McKee, Sr., mentioned by you could have settled in Rushville in 1826, and may have had sons named Henry, Joel, and Wm. Jr., besides Arthur R. of our line. Perhaps this is why Arthur R. came to McDonough Co., to be near the father. I do not have a record of any of the brothers or sisters farther back than my grandfather's family.

There is a rumor among our McKees that McKeesport, Pennsylvania, was founded by our line. This seems not unlikely inasmuch as that city is in Westmoreland County".

From a letter received from Cyrus L. Dewitt of Rushville, Illinois, dated February 15, 1954 :

"Your ad in the Rushville Times was called to my attention. As I married a daughter of William McKee, Jr., I can give you some of the information you ask for.

William McKee, Sr., came to Schuyler County in the spring of 1826 and settled on Section 18 of Rushville Township. He had 10 children, 3 boys : Wm., Jr., Joel and Henry, and 7

girls : both Wm., Sr. and Jr. are buried in a cemetery on the farm. Henry, I suppose, left this county a long time ago but I don't know where he went. Joel went to Texas and never came back".

From a letter received from Mrs. Harvey Byrnes (Clara A.) of Rushville, Ill., dated February 25, 1954 :

" I do thank you for the copy of tribute to Uncle Billy McKee, published in the *Rushville Times*, December 30, 1897. Perhaps Cyrus Dewitt told you he wrote it. After I referred you to Cyrus Dewitt I thought I had better go to him and apologize. I learned that he had written to you but did not find out how much information he gave you. He went into a back room and brought out Uncle Billy's (Wm., Jr.) and Aunt Sarah's family Bible. I am not sure how much information is in it ; however, when he opened it there lay that issue of the *Rushville Times* of 1897.

I believe a sketch of Cyrus Dewitt might make it easier for you to understand him. He is of a proud and intellectual blood and with his capable management and application, along with Bertha McKee Dewitt's inheritance, they were comfortably situated indeed. They had one daughter, Helen, and in her late teens she developed tuberculosis. They travelled with her and kept her alive for a number of years in a sanatorium in Colorado. After Helen's death they came back to Rushville and built a rather nice home. Helen was attending a women's college at Jacksonville, Illinois, when stricken. It was called ' Jacksonville Woman's College ' for many generations, now ' MacMurray ' due to a large endowment.

Bertha McKee Dewitt willed a rather large sum of money to this school. She died during the ' depression ' and it took the home and most of the land to satisfy the college, leaving Cyrus financially flat and a bit bitter. He held some seemingly non-paying investments which have worked out well and a few months ago a notice was in the paper that he had given a college up by Galesburg \$12,000 for use on a boy's dormitory. However, he lives in a miserable, miserly way in a few rooms in the rear of not too good a house—one of those things I cannot understand".

From a letter received from Mrs. Hazel West, great-granddaughter of William McKee, Sr., dated April 22, 1954 :

" Following is all of the available data on the descendants of Jacob Ritchey and Clara Ann McKee, my grandparents :

My father's sister Susan went immediately to Kansas after her marriage and so the families were never close because of the *great distance* in those days. In recent years I have visited in the homes of Harry and also Nell.

James Ritchey also went to Kansas in 1905. The oldest daughter, Mrs. Anna Ramsey, is now living in Roseville, Kansas. Leslie Ritchey lives in Sparta, Missouri. The oldest son John is in Rushville, Ill., but doesn't seem to know about the rest of the family. My cousin, Harry Moore, and his wife live in Pomona, California. Harry is very interested in the family history. Harry's mother was my Aunt Susan and his father's mother was a Doyle. Some of the Doyles went to California in the '49s and '50s, along with my Grandfather Ritchey and Joel Tullis, Uncle Billy, etc. So many times when we have made the trip to California I have remarked that our ancestors certainly had more stamina than I, to make that trip in a covered wagon".

<sup>1</sup> Mr. DeWitt very kindly gave the author this Bible.

Letter received from Dr. H. W. Benson, Dentist, Rushville, Illinois. Dated April 27, 1954 :

" . . . . . I will try to give you the information that I got in three trips to the Sugar Grove Cemetery :

On the east side, about two rows west, are two old slate monuments—not in the same tier :

Cassie, Wife of William McKee  
Died March 17, 1867

and one tier farther west :

William McKee  
Born Jan. 11, 1784—Died June 11, 1851

(Old Monument) Mary Cassey McKee—Jan. 4, 1859

Farther west is a recent monument—very nice and quite large :

Cassie, Wife of William McKee  
Born May 30, 1784—Died March 17, 1867

William McKee  
Died June 11, 1851

Large new monument farther west :

William McKee  
Born Crawford Co. Ind.—Jan. 27, 1813  
Died Rushville, Ill.—Dec. 17, 1897

Sarah C. McKee  
Born Stueben Co., N.Y.—March 5, 1825  
Died Rushville, Ill.—March 17, 1912

This is evidently your grandmother. (Great-aunt.—R.W.M.) I knew her and she was a patient of mine and I visited her at her home.

This cemetery is the best kept up of any country cemetery I was ever in.

We have just purchased the rest of the land owned by Wm. McKee, Jr., except the school-house and cemetery and intend to improve same.

From a letter received from Herman Ansel Whitson, brother of Clara Byrnes and great-grandson of Cassie and Joel Tullis, dated April 25, 1954 :

" It is very nice that Cyrus DeWitt is giving you the Bible. I just ran across a picture of him taken about 70 years ago.

I have not located copies of the picture taken at Fort Leavenworth of 1st Lieutenant John H. Tullis and bride. I have at hand the original, in an old brass frame . . . . .

Perhaps no one thing is absolute proof that the picture was not of your grandparents, taken in 1849. However, everything indicates it is not<sup>1</sup>.

1. The first commercial pictures were taken about 1840 and off a small area at close range, at that time. In Civil War times pictures of large areas were taken from a distance. The Civil War was a shot in the arm for photography. Artificial backgrounds came in soon after the war and lasted several decades. A picture of that large an area, so clear and with that artificial background, would scarcely have been taken before the Civil War.

<sup>1</sup> This paragraph relates to a photograph the author sent Mr. Whitson in an effort to determine the period in which it was made. It proved to be the wedding picture of Harriet McKee and Phillip Finch ; she was a granddaughter of William and Cassie Frakes McKee.

2. Pre-war waistcoats button to the neck although the upper button was often left open to show the stock. I do not believe they knew how to tailor a dress collar on a shirt. James Little, in 1851, had a white stock with black ribbon around it. We had grandfather Whitson's broadcloth wedding coat. It was for his second marriage in 1864. (I have the marriage certificate). The coat resembled the one in the picture.
3. The man does not look like a McKee—certainly not a son of William and Cassie McKee. The woman could easily be their granddaughter. 1872 or later seems a more likely period for the picture.

I find that it is a task to sift the facts out of the romance in old history. So many people like to tell a good story regardless of facts”.

From a letter received from Herman Ansel Whitson, dated May 2, 1954 :

“ It was 21 years ago I started working on this project and I had rather forgotten it during the last ten. Six years ago Uncle Velda gave me the picture of Joel Tullis and John H. Tullis' Commission. I had photostats made of the Commission and passed it on to John Tullis Byrnes, who was very anxious for it.

The name 'Tullis' is pronounced simply 'Tell us'.

The project started by my reading a large ad in a Glasgow, Scotland paper concerning a John Tullis Tool Company. I sent the ad to mother and she began gathering information on the Tullis family. It was the time to do it as much of the source of information which existed then has now disappeared.

Uncle Velda remarked some 45 years ago that the first Tullis in America was Italian. I am certain he was mistaken but I do believe the name Tullis came from the Roman occupation of the British Isles. The pronunciation is Scotch and not Latin”.

From a letter received from Harriet Hooper of Castle Rock, Washington, dated April 1, 1954 :

“ . . . . . After reading your first letter, I just suppose you are Uncle Ed's son for I remember when I was a youngster, I don't remember how old, we received a picture of Ray and Helen, Uncle Ed's children by his second wife, and I believe he had a son also by his first wife . . . . .”

“ Perhaps you can enlighten me : I remember Grandma Moore McKee Meeks visited us at one time—when I was past six years old. She surely was a dear old lady and certainly loved her children. I don't think we ever had a picture of her and grandpa . . . . .”

“ Yes, my father was John Henry McKee, and his brothers were Joel, James, Frank and Edward, Uncle Ed being the youngest. I think he visited us once when I was a youngster. He used to work in the mines at Joplin, Missouri. I think Uncle James died when Grandpa McKee died of typhoid fever, and I think Uncle Joel died also before I was born or when I was a child. I know when Grandma came to visit us they were all dead and she had married a man by the name of Meek, if I remember correctly. Aunt Harriet Finch is the only sister I ever remember hearing my father speak of. If there were others, they must have passed away before Grandma came to see us, for at that time I know Aunt Harriet was the only one living and she had only one son, Walter. I just never remember hearing of Aunt Claral and Aunt Alice . . . . .”

From a letter received from Mrs. Harvey Byrnes (Clara, great-granddaughter of Cassie McKee and Joel Tullis) dated May 1, 1954 :

"In an early history we have of Schuyler County, the first pioneer settlers in Bainbridge Township were Thomas McKee, and Willis O'Neal in the fall of 1823. It tells that Mr. McKee was an excellent mechanic, gunsmith, blacksmith, made spinning wheels and planted a small nursery. About 1830 or '31 he sold out and removed to Littleton Township, where he resided until he was killed while digging coal.

Then I find in the history of Littleton Township : ' In the Spring of 1826, Thomas McKee and his son-in-law, Garrett Wycoff, with families settled upon S.E. 1/4 of Section 35 '.

We thought our next move would be to go a few miles up to Bethany Church, long abandoned, and the burial ground. The cemetery is mellowed with age but still used by old prominent families of that community. A caretaker was there mowing the grass. I stopped to speak to him a moment, when Harvey called, ' Here is one you are hunting '. Practically in the center of this little cemetery was a white marble slab, broken off and leaning against the base. On it is :

HANNAH—Wife of Thomas McKee  
Died Aug. 22, 1864—Born in 1782  
82 years old

but there the trail ended. We looked at all the old stones, but found no McKees or names connected with that family.

I truly wished for the ability to do pencil sketching, that I might do one of that quaint and friendly little cemetery. Some pine and native cedars had been set among the graves many years ago. They certainly have grown in beauty and size. Few of the stones were of the same size or design. Under the pine trees were many old stones. Harvey said they looked like they had gathered under there for protection, some taller ones leaning this way or that like they were very tired and wanted to rest. On one grave is a large clump of peonies, and there are wild strawberry plants here and there. The stiff, bleak, wooden church back of it among the trees is not old enough to be mellowed, but is long since unused. The fence separating the churchyard from the lot where the hitching posts are is completely covered with three-leaf poison ivy, as if daring anyone to come back and lay a hand on it. We both agreed that was the most interesting spot of all.

We drove near the little cemetery where Joel and Cassie Tullis are buried, but the people were not at home and we would have had to drive through their barn lot. Anyway a heavy rain and wind was coming, so we came on to our little house on the knoll and will go another day. I predict we will find much more there. It is all intensely interesting to me and I like to go to these cemeteries, especially when so many of my people have been buried there.

Harvey and I drove out to ' Sugar Grove Cemetery ' yesterday p.m. We found Amanda McKee Ritchey—Born August 9, 1825—Died May 27, 1851. Also, *this* puzzles me : Number one is a white marble headstone and on it is :

Cassie F. McKee—Died Mar. 17, 1867  
82 Years—9 Mo.—17 days

Number 2 is about 20 feet away in another row. On it is :

William McKee—Died June 11, 1851  
Age 67 years—5 months

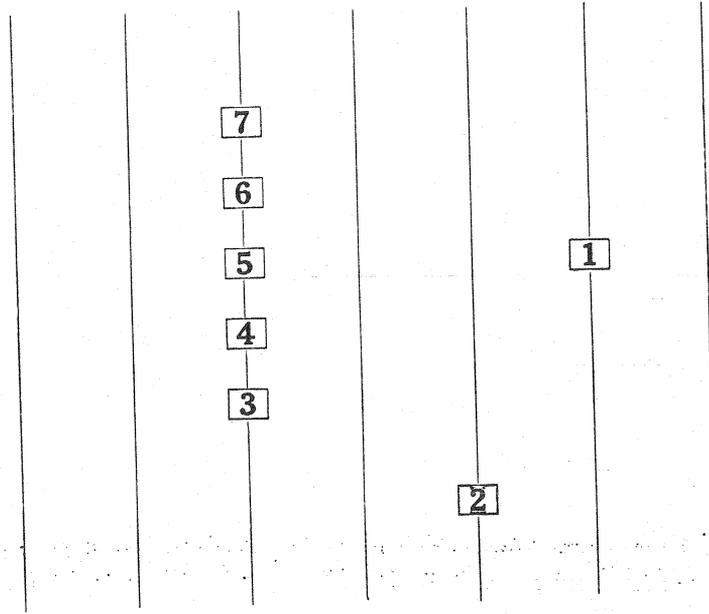
5, 6, and 7, are three of Uncle Billy's and Aunt Sarah's daughters.

## THE BOOK OF McKEE

Number 4 is Uncle Billy's and Aunt Sarah's stone, and 3 is a similar stone with William McKee (dates) Father, on one side and Cassey McKee (dates) Mother, on the other side.

I suppose there was a reason, but I know not why.

## SUGAR GROVE CEMETERY



Excerpt from a letter received from Clara Byrnes, dated May 19, 1954.

“ . . . . . Each day I would think that I would get to the burial ground where Joel and Cassey Tullis are buried. I finally made it this morning. This is what we found :

Cassey, Wife of Joel Tullis  
Died March 30, 1870—63 Years, 1 Month, 19 Days

Joel Tullis  
Born 1800—Died 1888

It gave me something to think about : Great-grandmother Tullis at the age of 63 years, 1 month and 19 days had surely done a lot of living. She must have known a lot.

<sup>1</sup>We found a stone with Andrew Matheney who died May 14, 1852, age 57 years, 5 months, 9 days ; then on another stone, Sarah, wife of Andrew Matheney, died June 5, 1863, age 67 years, 11 months, 23 days.

These may not connect in any way. An interesting child's stone with William McKee, son of R. R. Pennington, age 3 years. Also another, Roda, small child of R. R. Pennington. They died in 1851.

<sup>2</sup>Another stone upon which time had almost destroyed the carving, we made out : Harriet, Wife of H. McKee, Died August 30, 1844, 19 years, 8 months, 1 day.

<sup>1</sup> This is probably a relative of Daniel Matheney who married Ann McKee, a daughter of Thomas McKee.

<sup>2</sup> This was the first wife of Henry McKee, a son of William McKee, Sr. Her maiden name was Harriet Matheney or Matheney.

This burial ground is not in such good shape. Anytime I find material I think will interest you, I shall send it to you, even though you have finished the Genealogy and closed the book. I have not given up finding Thomas McKee's burial place ; however, it may not be marked. Any information you may want me to try to find, please just write and ask. I shall enjoy hunting for same.

I heard on the radio this evening, ' Genealogy is like potatoes, the best part is under the ground '."

Family history as recalled by Henrietta Cameron Parsons, granddaughter of Major David McKee, who resides at the Soldier's Widows Home at Wilmington, Illinois, dated April 30, 1954 :

" Celestine McKee was born June 18, 1850 and died Sept. 18, 1939, at the age of 89 years, 3 months. She was married March 10, 1867, to Joseph Cameron. She was the mother of 8 children. Four are living and two sons died in infancy. The oldest son, William, died in 1940. The second daughter died in 1944. Joseph Cameron was born May 12, 1844, and died August 2, 1922. He served in the Civil War for 4 years and 9 months. Henrietta Cameron was the oldest child of Celestine. She was born June 9, 1868, and was married to James L. Parsons October 18, 1885. She was left a widow January 3, 1903, having had three children. A daughter died at 3 years of age ; the oldest son, Bert Parsons, died at the age of 54. One son, Bery, is still living at the age of 61.

Celestine has two daughters and two sons living, Henrietta Parsons, Hallie Dye, Carl and Guy Cameron. Celestine's oldest son William was the father of 8 children, 6 living. Carl Cameron had one son Lawrence who was killed in World War 2. Nevada Miller (Nevada Roxy Cameron married Alonzo Miller), who died in 1944 left one son, Ivan Miller. Hallie Dye had two children, Verona Padgett, and Jesse Dye, Jr., who was killed in World War 2. Verona Padgett had one son, Paul.

Major David McKee eloped and married Martha Keesecker when he was 19 years old. They bore 7 children. When Martha died he married a widow with 4 children. They had 12 children. All 19 lived to be grown up and he took care of them. Most of the men were in the Civil War.

A brother of David McKee, William McKee, was killed in the Civil War. William McKee's son, Edwin McKee, was the greatest criminal lawyer in the state of Missouri. He has been dead several years.

There are only four children of David McKee's 19 children, still living : Edward McKee, Cora Arnold, Della Pollock and Maggie Argenbright "

Excerpt from letter received from Henrietta Parsons, dated May 14, 1954 :

" About Uncle Preston McKee : I don't know a great deal about him. His wife has been dead as long as I can remember. He had no sons that I ever knew of but had one daughter, Amelia Simpson.

I have just found Uncle Preston's photo in the bottom of my trunk. Poor old fellow ! He had many cares and sorrows to bear. He was so smart and good. We kids all loved him. He was a Phrenologist. One time he was examining my head and he said, ' Oh, you'll always be a black-headed Methodist '. My hair was black then. It is white as snow now. At that time he lived at Memphis, Missouri.

I remember hearing my mother, Celestine, telling of the man going after Uncle Will's body and what a time he had travelling nights and hiding days. There were no autos then "

From a letter received from Ivan Miller, Attorney in Los Angeles, California (nephew of Henrietta Cameron Parsons), dated April 30, 1954 :

" . . . . . Aunt Retta has furnished me with the enclosed account of the history of the McKee family, so far as it is known to her. Aunt Retta is now 86 years old, and as a characteristic of older people, she has a penchant for remembering names and dates of births and deaths of which the rest of us take no particular note.

So far as my own branch of the family is concerned, I have one son, Jack Cameron Miller, born May 3, 1921, now on duty with the U.S. Naval Air Station at Los Alamitos Air Station, Los Alamitos, California, and residing at 1701 Park Drive, Santa Ana, California. He has three children, *viz.* : Michael Cameron Miller born May 20, 1943 ; Sharon Miller born March 14, 1948, and Deborah Miller born December 14, 1952.

As you may gather from the letter of Mrs. Parsons, my great-uncle Edwin McKee, the famous Missouri lawyer, was the inspiration for my venture into that profession".

Excerpt from a letter received from Mrs. David S. (Cora) Arnold, daughter of Major David McKee, dated May 6, 1954 :

" We three sisters, Della, Maggie and I, had our annual visit together in Cherokee, Oklahoma, and we talked of writing you while there but you know when we get together it is chatter about old times and friends and new ones".

" . . . . . Father was always a great man to go to the circuses. He would put all six of us and he and mother in a lumber wagon and start at sun-up to go 18 miles to Keokuk, Iowa, to go to the circus and see the elephants".

" I remember Father telling of some of his trips to Iowa to get a horse thief. He came home one time handcuffed to the thief and they had to sleep that way. He admitted the next morning that it was very little sleeping he had done. Ha ! Ha !"

From a letter received from Della Pollock, daughter of Major David McKee, of Nickerson, Kansas, dated May 19, 1954 :

" I am sorry I couldn't tell you more about Father's brothers and sisters. None of them except Father's brother James, lived near us. That was about 20 miles and in horse and buggy days the trip wasn't made very often. Uncle Jimmie was the oldest of the family. He was 20 years older than Father. Uncle was 97 years old when he died and he has been dead over 50 years. I don't remember the year he died but I do remember it was in November and had he lived till December 11th he would have been 98 years old. I remember his birthday as Father's was December 14th. Mother and I went to Uncle's funeral".

" I went to sister Maggie's at Cherokee, Oklahoma, May 1st and stayed until May 9th. Sister Cora came there May 2nd for a few days and we just visited instead of doing any writing. We sisters try to get together once a year, as we are all getting along in years as you can see by the record".

" I have just finished writing what I can of the history of Major David McKee. As for Father's brothers and sisters, I know very little about their families".

*Sons and daughters of Major David McKee and Martha Jane Keesecker :—*

*Samantha Ann McKee*, born in Schuyler County, Illinois, Dec. 4, 1842, married William Cameron. (I don't know the date). They are both dead and had no children.

*William Thomas McKee*, born October 18, 1844, in Appanoose County, Iowa. He married Mary Bell Woods, October 11, 1881. They had two children : Mamie Gertrude, born

## McKEE SEPTS AND THEIR BRIEF GENEALOGY

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September 4, 1882, married Ben Stroup. (They had three children : Violet Stroup, Archie Stroup and Joyce Stroup.) Mamie Stroup died September 13, 1904, and her father, William Thomas McKee, adopted the boys. Their names are Archie Stroup McKee and Joyce Stroup McKee. Archie McKee lives near Salina, Kansas, and is married. Joyce McKee lives here in Nickerson, Kansas, and has been Marshall here for over three years. W. E. Hoffman and wife adopted the girl, Violet. She is married and lives in Wichita, Kansas. (I don't know her name.) Joyce has two sons : Richard Lee is not married and Bobby Gene who was married April 13, 1954, moving to Nickerson soon. Virgie Bell McKee never married. She died in 1948.

*Henrietta McKee* was born in Lee County, Iowa, March 28, 1846. She married James Wilson (Date unknown). There were four sons : Ed., Lloyd, Sidney and Arthur. Ed. never married. The other boys married. They are all dead. Lloyd Wilson married Daisy Cook. They had three children : Ford Wilson who lives in Kansas City is not married ; Mary Wilson who married Charles Grover (no children) lives near Platte City, Missouri ; Ila Wilson married but I don't know her name. Sidney Wilson married Emma Door. They had three children, a boy and two girls : Earl, Ethel and Esther. Earl is married and they have two children. Esther Wilson married Harry Brace and Ethel never married.

*James Mathias McKee* born in Clark County, Missouri, March 12, 1848, died December 12, 1867—Never married.

*Celestine McKee* was born in Clark County, Missouri, June 18, 1850, and married Joseph Cameron March 10, 1867. They are both dead. (I wrote their oldest daughter, Retta Parson and asked her to write their family history for you.)

*David Perry McKee* was born in Clark County, Missouri, December 10, 1852. He married Emma Bishop. They had four children. Two died when quite small and there are two boys living. Bodie McKee married Ida Kohs in 1904 and they had three children : Hallie McKee—not married ; Gene McKee married Mary Brown and they have three little children. Vail McKee married Alta Dade, no children. Lloyd McKee married—no children. Lloyd is dead.

Perry McKee and his wife are both dead.

*Lloyd Rollins McKee* was born in Clark County, Missouri, Feb. 6, 1855. He married Alice Thompson and they had four children. Two died when quite small and a girl and boy are still living. May McKee Pinnell lives near Harvard, Idaho. They have one daughter. Lloyd McKee married Mabel Ball—no children. They live near Wetmore, Colorado.

Lloyd and wife are both dead.

*Sons and daughters of Major David McKee and Elvira Randolph McKee :—*

*Alice McKee* was born in Clark County, Missouri, March 25, 1856. She married John Huffman and they had five children : Arthur, Ray, Lenna, Bessie and Guy Huffman. Arthur married Norlie Bartlett and they had one child, Kenneth Huffman, who lives in Wichita, Kansas. Ray Huffman married Katie Steierl and they had one child, Georgie Mae. She married William Sale and they have a little girl, Connie Diane, and a little boy, William Ray. Georgie Mae and family live at St. Joseph, Missouri. Lenna Huffman married Roy Daily and they had two children. They both died young and Roy and Lenna are both dead. Bessie (Huffman) Lucas has three daughters, all married. Bessie married Ralph Lucas. They live in El Segundo, California at 351 Whiting Street. They are to be here May 16th for a short visit. Ray Huffman lives 4 miles north of Nickerson, Kansas. Guy Huffman is married and lives near Lockwood, Missouri, no children. Arthur Huffman is dead.

*Mary McKee* was born in Clark County, Missouri, October 24, 1858, and died March 29, 1946. She never married.

## THE BOOK OF McKEE

*Robert McKee* was born in Clark County, Missouri, November 1, 1860. He married Lou Byers and they had one son, John McKee. He is married and lives in Nashville, Tennessee. Robert and wife are both dead.

*Frankie McKee* was born in Clark County, Missouri, October 18, 1864 and died August 18, 1866.

*Edwin Musselman and Etta Laurah McKee* were born in Clark County, Missouri, January 4, 1867—Twins. Etta Laurah died Oct. 4, 1871. Edwin Musselman married Maggie Bender, no children. Both are living in Spokane, Washington. (He has since died.—R.W.M.).

*Charles McKee* was born in Clark County, Missouri, December 25, 1868. He married Lena Zeller and they had one son, Warren H. McKee. Charles McKee is dead.

*Cora Bell McKee* wrote her family record, I think, and sent it to you.

*Della McKee* was born April 14, 1874. She married Henry Pollock January 20, 1904. They had no children. (Della joined her ancestors in April, 1955.—R.W.M.).

*Maggie May McKee* was born October 6, 1875, in Clark County, Mo. She married William Pollock and they had four sons: Elmer W. Pollock, Tulsa, Oklahoma, Howard D. Pollock, Garden City, Kansas, Harry L. Pollock, Cherokee, Oklahoma and Edward H. Pollock, Richmond, Missouri.

After William Pollock's death, Maggie married Billie Arganbright. He died two years ago. My husband, Henry Pollock, and Maggie's husband, William Pollock, were brothers.

*Samantha Cameron's and Celestine Cameron's husbands were also brothers.*

*Anna Elizabeth McKee* was born July 16, 1877, in Clark County, Mo. She married Martin N. Randolph. They had one child, Esther. Esther married John Quigley and they have one son, Jackie Quigley, not married. They live near Bloomfield, Iowa.

*Andrew McKee* was born January 24, 1881, and died February 3, 1881.

Excerpt from a letter received from Della Pollock of Nickerson, Kansas, dated May 24, 1954:

"I received your letter a few days ago asking about Lloyd Rollins McKee being murdered. Yes, he was murdered on his 36th birthday. Lloyd lived on a farm. He had been thrown off a horse and had one shoulder hurt and had a young man working for him. The corn was ready to be husked so he hired two other men to help with that. He paid the one more wages for doing the milking and the chores. He told the other men he was getting more wages than they were but he didn't tell them why he was getting more wages, so they went to Lloyd about it. Lloyd paid the man and let him go for trying to cause trouble with the other men".

"Then that winter there was a boy (I think he was 10 or 11 years old) who was staying at Lloyd's house. He was going to school and there was to be a spelling bee at the schoolhouse. Lloyd went and took the boy. Bill Shafer, the man that Lloyd had fired for trying to cause trouble with the other men, was there and called Lloyd to come outside. Just as Lloyd got in the doorway the fellow stabbed him in the groin and he bled to death in a short time. Bill's folks wouldn't have the trial in Clark County. They took it to Lewis County where they gave him a heavy fine and turned him loose. This happened over 63 years ago. Lloyd lived about 18 miles from where father lived".

"This has been a hard letter for me to write. I was a girl when it happened. I thought you wanted to know so I have told it the way I have always heard it".

Letter received from Letha Davis Glaze of Kansas City, Missouri, dated June 1, 1954 :

" As I have been requested to give you some information about my mother's and father's relatives, I will try :

Cassie McKee married Leucester Seward. They had 2 girls and 5 boys. Some died in infancy. One of the girls, Hannah Agnes Seward, was my mother. She married Matthew Davis on September 15, 1864. They had 6 children : Jethro (an M.D.) married Zilpha Booz. They had 4 children : Belva, Alma, Ray and Marie. Belva Wilson lives at Smithshire, Illinois, Alma at Monmouth, Illinois, Ray at Galesburg, Illinois and Marie Davidson at Kewanee, Illinois.

Letha married Charlie G. Glaze. They had 2 boys : Floyd died and Lester is a dentist in Kansas City. He married Julia Wasinger and they live at 3924 Mersington Ave., Kansas City. They have no children.

Freeman, a dentist, married Nora Perkins. They lived at Centerville, Iowa. Both are dead. They had 1 son, Bruce, who is a dentist in Centerville, Iowa.

Stephen, a minister, was not married. He died in 1907.

Martha married Brad Bray. They are both dead. They had 2 boys. One died in infancy and the other is D. W. Bray of Boulder, Colorado. He is head accountant in the school there.

Loyd married Maydesta Morris. They lived at Centerville, Iowa. Loyd is dead. Maydesta still lives in Centerville. They have 2 children : Vaughn Hedges lives at 1221 Forest Avenue, Willimet, Illinois ; Jimmie Davis lives in Ohio.

Jane Seward married Bill Payne. They had 2 girls : Lula married Zull Standard and Nettie married . Boys : Calvis married a Standard and Maro Payne married a Yopp. Luster Payne was married (Name unknown). Tom Seward married Cordelia . They lived in Cord, Oregon, a town named after my Aunt Cordelia. They had 2 girls : Cassie and Annie. Do not know boy's name.

John Seward married Jane Herrington. They lived near Industry, Illinois. They had 3 girls and 1 boy : Minnie married Ed Willson ; Effie married Ike Dixon ; Edgar married a Standard ; Ruth was married (unknown).

Dave Seward married Julia Sullivan. They had 4 boys : Ora, Garret, Tommie and Steve.

Luster Seward died in the army. He was not married.

Cassie McKee married three times. She was Cassie Seward, Cassie Urvin and Cassie Tullis.

You asked about a picture of Leucester Seward. Mother told me he never had a picture taken. He passed away when she was about 7 years old".

From a letter received from Cyrus L. DeWitt of Rushville, Illinois, dated June 29, 1954 :

" As to Cassie Seward, I remember as a boy that she lived several miles N.E. of Littleton where I was born. John Seward, a son of Cassie, attended the Baptist Church in Littleton.

It is my recollection that after Joel Tullis' wife died that he married Cassie Seward".

## Tullis Family History by Herman Ansel Whitson.

"It is hard to understand what would cause a man of Joel Tullis' attainments to decide that a farm in Oregon would be worth enough more than his and Cassie's fertile farm in Buena Vista Township to pay for the long trip to Oregon. We do not know what the information concerning Oregon may have been, but we do conclude that there were very few dependable data available. At this time the American fur traders were making a concerted effort to hold Oregon from the British fur companies. To this end favorable information concerning Oregon was systematically spread to bring in more settlers and hold that country for the United States".

"Marcus Whitman, a missionary, had succeeded in taking a two-wheeled cart through the mountains about ten years earlier. This feat was, for its time, equal to Lindbergh's flight and paved the way for more wheeled vehicles. Even after the trail in the rugged mountains was broken, it would be worth a good Oregon farm, at to-day's cost of transportation, to move the Tullis equipment to Oregon. At the present rate paid for pulling a car out of a mudhole, it would cost a large portion of the farm to get the goods across one of the rivers".

"Perhaps the picture of Oregon was painted overbright; perhaps there was a wish to help hold the country for the United States; perhaps the fact that land and property in Illinois had reached a stage where it had a sale value, a thing strange to the pioneer who himself made all those things he could not take free from nature; perhaps there was a feeling that he was better adapted to the life of a pioneer than the more secure life of a farmer; perhaps the love of adventure led Joel Tullis on. At any rate he sold his farm to one Charles Moore, loaded a caravan drawn by horses, oxen and cows, and started for Oregon in 1847. There is no record at hand as to the identity of those in the caravan besides Joel Tullis' family, but it is known that a nephew, Joel Thompson, was along with his wife and a son-in-law, John McKee, with a baby grandchild, Mary McKee. Joel's oldest daughter, Hannah McKee, had just died in childbirth and the baby was taken by the grandmother. Such tragedy as this probably did not affect the stoic pioneers as it would a modern family. There was a courage necessitated by the life of continued danger and hardship, and they accepted both defeat and sorrow as part of their lot".

"Very little is known of the incidents on the trip. Many new objects and strange happenings dimmed individual impressions. Things which would be of the greatest interest to us now did not impress the pioneers and the thoughts that remained with them the longest were impressions received when they returned to the old familiar Illinois or such little incidents as horse-bite, perhaps then stranger than a bite by a bear".

"The Tullis caravan was perhaps joined on the way by other caravans very much like themselves, and they successfully passed through the mountains with nothing more thrilling than a few Indian attacks and a few of the stock drowned in the rivers".

"Upon reaching Oregon though, tragedy came in such magnitude that even these stoic pioneers were deeply affected. Several of the party contracted mountain fever, which may have included any ailment that they could not diagnose. The daughter Mary Tullis died. This was followed by a measles epidemic which caused the death of three more daughters, Cassie, Sarah and Amanda, and the little granddaughter, Mary McKee. All were perhaps weakened by the effects of alkali water in mountain deserts. All of these casualties were buried in the beautiful region of the Columbia River at Dalles, Oregon".

"After the Tullis family had been in Oregon a short time, gold was found in California and they again took to the trail. No record is available concerning the trip to California or the life there. This mad scramble for gold and the lawlessness that accompanies it was not the atmosphere for a pioneer. The family was not content there; no doubt the mother's grief awakened a wish to return to her relatives in Illinois. They probably found some gold; and

their equipment was worth a great deal more in California than in Illinois. Joel Tullis sold his equipment for enough, with the gold he had found, to return to Illinois on boats and buy a farm. The widowed son-in-law bought the outfit and stayed in California ”.

“ Joel Tullis landed in Fredrick, Illinois, early in 1851 and was met by his father-in-law with teams. This was perhaps the most impressive part of the voyage for the children ; meeting their grandfather (William McKee) again and hearing word of the old home. It is small wonder that the boys retained forever in their memories, how slow the wagon moved in which they were riding while their mother and sisters rode on in the faster moving carriage ”.

“ Everything was strange to them until they saw their grandfather and perhaps not until then did they realize that they would really reach home again. With this realization awakened, the short trip across the county seemed longer than all the other parts of the trip. Joel Tullis returned from his Odyssey of the American frontier, with no new country to be explored in the United States, at the age of 51. He bought the Swan place where he lived out his remaining days. The rest of his life was uneventful. He was Justice of the Peace and became known as Squire Tullis ”.

“ His sons served in the army during the Civil War but he was too old to take part. True to their pioneer blood all of his children went on westward and settled in Kansas, Hosea being the last to leave Illinois. With a life so rich in experience, Joel Tullis spent the last years of his rugged life in the peaceful Illinois surroundings. Many of his neighbors never had seen an Indian and did not know a pirogue from a pincushion. He knew Illinois when a man needed but a gun to get his living, but lived to see poorhouses built ”.

“ He married a second time late in life and was very unsuccessful in this adventure. The trouble and the subsequent divorce made him appear very foolish, and affected the remaining years of his life ”. (This second marriage was also to a woman named Cassie McKee, the daughter of Thomas McKee who was William's brother. She had previously been married to Leucester Seward, then to Urvin.—R.W.M.).

“ Joel Tullis was a very powerful man, only 5 ft. 8 in. tall but weighing 185 pounds. He was one of the only two men that could lift a cannon which was used as a test of strength among the Black Hawk soldiers while encamped near Chicago. His stockiness perhaps came from his Dutch mother. He excelled in woodcraft and endurance, but was a little out of place amidst the conveniences of peaceful society. Longfellow's description of Miles Standish might well have been written about Joel Tullis ”.

“ Little is known of the Harding ancestry. John Harding was a native of Kentucky and first came to Lincoln County, Illinois, thence to Warren County, in that state. He was in Lincoln County during the Black Hawk War. He eventually died at the home of his youngest daughter in California ”.

“ The oldest son Aaron was named about the time that Aaron Burr attempted to form a new nation in the then western part of the United States. John Harding probably was an admirer of Aaron Burr. Hardings must have contacted the McKees in Kentucky and again in Illinois as Aaron married Nancy Agnes McKee in 1829. About twelve years later Aaron Harding moved to Schuyler County near the mother's relatives. Aaron Harding died October 9, 1845, shortly after coming to Schuyler County ”.

Excerpts from a letter received from Mrs. Virgil Filbert (Beulah) of Macomb, Illinois, dated June 16, 1954 :

“ . . . . . I have been waiting for my oldest brother to come home, but he doesn't seem to remember any of the old names. My mother was Hannah Isabelle McKee, born January 10, 1862. Her father was Aaron Powers born in Ohio. My mother's half sister had the old

## THE BOOK OF McKEE

McKee family Bible. I understand after she passed away (in Indiana) her daughter-in-law burned it, which we feel very bad about.

Yesterday, as I couldn't read the names on the stones, I went to the records at the cemetery and copied all the information I could get, just as it was written in the books.

There doesn't seem to be any Thomas unless he could be a brother to this William R. McKee's father.

Grandpa's brother Anthony's (I believe it was) children lived in Edina, Missouri, and several in Compton, California. They are all gone now but have children there in Compton unless they have moved. One was Mrs. Clarence Dickason. I believe there was a John McKee and sister, Blanche Brown. It seems his name was John but I just forget".

"These dates are when they died :

William R. McKee died October 13, 1879, age 97, Westmoreland Co., Pennsylvania. He died of old age. Parents : James McKee and Mrs. Gest. Brothers and sisters as far as I know : ( ), James, Anthony, Riley, Russell, Marian (Agnew), Phoebe (Agnew), Polly ( ). He was married to Miss Elizabeth Mills. Issue : Joanna (Corbly), James, Solomon, Jeremiah, William, Sarah (Nicholas), Daniel, Mariam (Sutton), Aaron P., Moses, Anthony, and Mary E. (Baer) McKee.

Moses, a son of William R. above, died December 8, 1883, of paralysis, age 60. He was married to Jennie Madden. Three children all died.

Aaron P. McKee, son of William R., died September 10, 1890, age 69. He was married to Hannah Hayhurst. Children : William H., Daniel, Charlie, Frank Pearce, Hannah Isabelle (my mother). Grandpa married again, this time to Eliza Cromer who was his first wife's sister's daughter, which doubles up the relationship somewhat (but not for you). This John C. McKee is Mildred Enterline's father".

"These are names I wrote down but I do not know :

Mrs. Sarah McKee—December 24, 1919  
(on the same lot)  
George McKee  
Betty McKee—August 6, 1926  
William Andrew McKee—November 10, 1930.  
Ralph Dell—December 27, 1941".

Letter received from Essie M. Schwartz, formerly married to Bert Parsons, son of Henrietta Cameron Parsons, of Oak Park, Illinois, dated July 11, 1954 :

"At the request of Mother Parsons I am giving you the military history of my son, Captain David B. Parsons. It will be in chronological order and of course, you may use any part or all of it".

"He enlisted in the United States Army on November 17th, 1942, and inducted at Camp Grant, Illinois. He was then sent to Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Aberdeen, Maryland, for Officers Training in Ordnance. He was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant on March 20th, 1943. He then went to Hill Field, Ogden, Utah, on June 9th, 1943, to serve with Air Force Ordnance. He went overseas on September 23rd, 1943".

"He went through the Blitz of London—Normandy Invasion—and the Liberation of Paris. He received the Belgian Croix de Guerre with Palm Leaf for defense of the Queen Wilhelmina Canal. He was commissioned a 1st Lieutenant in June, 1944, in France".

"The Unit over which he had command received a Citation, May, 1945, for meritorious service under fire. He has the European Campaign Ribbon with 4 battle stars".

"He returned home October 14th, 1945, and was discharged a Captain on January 1st 1946. He joined the Reserves and the National Guard and headed a Unit of the Guard in Iowa (while attending college in Fairfield, Iowa in 1947) in Ottumwa, where there was violence in connection with a packing house strike—and for which he received a Citation from the Governor of Iowa. He graduated from Parsons College, Fairfield, Iowa, with a B.S. degree, Class of 1949. He married Helen Lauder of Fairfield, whom he met at College, in June, 1947, and they have a little daughter, Nancy, 3 years old".

"He was called back into Service August, 1950, and was sent to Korea December 3rd, 1952 and served as Chief of Ordnance for the 8th Army. He received the Korean Presidential Citation. He returned home May 8th, 1954".

"His new assignment is for two years as Professor of Military Science and Tactics at the University of Minnesota R.O.T.C., where he reports July 19, 1954".

"You may also be interested to know that he has received many medals for his marksmanship. He was Junior National Champion in 1939; Illinois State Champion, 1939; Midwest Champion, 1940; Champion of 2nd Army, Fort Benning, Georgia, August, 1952".

"If I sound like a proud mother, I am—proud of the part he has played in the defense of his country—and proud of his achievements.

"I also have a daughter, Evelyn, who is married to Lee Williams (a former orchestra leader but now in the business world), and they have two children, David, age 11 (a Boy Scout and a member of the Little League Baseball Club), and Barbara, age 6. They live in Sycamore, Illinois, about 65 miles west of Chicago.

"Let me wish you luck in your project and when it is finished I would look forward to receiving a copy".

The following obituary of Anthony Crocket McKee was submitted by his grandson, Vernon L. McKee, who is the Pastor of the Central Baptist Church of Carthage, Texas, March 29, 1954. It was written by Miss Lizzie McKee, assisted by her brother, Robert L. McKee, both children of Anthony Crocket McKee:

#### ANTHONY CROCKET MCKEE

"On Wednesday, the 8th day of March, 1911, occurred the death of this pioneer citizen at his home in Platte Township. In his passing away, Clinton County and the state of Missouri loses one of their oldest citizens, and while not distinguished for the things which make men noted, he was certainly gifted with those qualities which won the highest esteem of all who came in contact with him".

"Mr. McKee was born in Franklin County, Kentucky, February 5, 1818, being at the time of his death 93 years, one month and three days of age. His father, John McKee, was an early settler in old Kentucky, having emigrated there from Virginia in 1790, and there took an active part in the affairs of that new state beginning while it was yet a territory. He distinguished himself as a Captain in one of the Kentucky regiments during the second war of the Revolution. Mr. McKee's mother was the daughter of Colonel Anthony Crockett, who distinguished himself during the same war as a Colonel and who was a close relative of the famous David Crocket. She was a cousin of the late Chief Justice George Robertson of Kentucky. Mr. McKee's boyhood days were spent on the farm where he worked in the production of hemp, tobacco and corn. During this time he was two years County Surveyor of his native county, and two years Deputy Sheriff under his brother R. B. McKee, then high Sheriff. He attended Hanover College at Hanover, Indiana and the Louisville Medical Institute. Graduating from the latter in 1848 he then entered upon the practice of his profession at Frankfort, Kentucky, but it seems it was not intended for him to be a practicing physician. His sensitive nature and

his desire to live a quiet and unassuming life were so strong that he did not wish to bear the responsibilities and obligations which he thought belonged to the life of a practicing physician, so he abandoned his profession and took up farming. This profession he followed after that".

" On December 20, 1852, he was married to Miss Frances E. Hurst, daughter of George and Nannie Hurst also of Franklin County, Kentucky, and her estimable and cheerful qualities have fully demonstrated that he made a wise choice in selecting a companion, for indeed the credit belongs in a great measure to her for whatever success he had, and for a long and apparently untroubled life. Her worthy parents had given her the kind of education and training which made her the equal of her worthy husband".

" Mr. and Mrs. McKee were the parents of ten children, six sons and four daughters all of whom, together with the widow, now live to mourn the loss of husband and father, and the descendants number ten grandchildren and two great-grandsons".

" In 1857 Mr. McKee removed to Clinton County, Missouri, settling in Platte Township where he has since resided. It has been said that his journey across the country to the Western border of civilization and his beginning of a new home in the wilderness of the West was like the landing of the pilgrim fore-fathers in the rough and unbroken forests of New England; and like the pilgrims, he and hundreds of others like him, began their pioneer life on that broad and comprehensive principle which went forth to develop a proud citizenship in our great country. He always spoke of this removal with satisfaction and delighted to talk about the changes he had witnessed. The building of farms, villages and cities, and the development of natural resources in this new country, is a fitting tribute to the memory of all those rugged pioneers who watched them materialize. To have lived during this period, with the fullest appreciation of the obligations due his children and his country, with an honest desire for material progress, was more valuable than to have occupied the highest official position. This man who lived from 1818 to 1911 must have observed some very interesting and critical incidents in the history of the United States. He lived during the lifetime of every man who has been President except Washington. The general development of the institutions and the growth of wealth and power, together with modern conveniences, have been like a transformation; so in this connection it may be said again that as civilization moved forward, the sturdy pioneers whose wealth was character, were its pillars".

" Mr. McKee's parents being ardent Presbyterians, he was christened in his infancy according to the customs of that denomination. In 1873 he became a member of the Baptist Church, but he was a man who clung strongly to first principles and he seemed never to forget or abandon his early training and his devotion to his ancestors, and the principles they had taught him. Being a Jeffersonian democrat he always voted his party principles, except when disfranchised under the Drake Constitution of Missouri by reason of the sentiments he entertained during the Civil War".

" Funeral services which were attended by a large number of neighbors and friends were held at the Methodist Church in Perrin and were conducted by Dr. John Sturgis, after which he was laid to rest in the Perrin Cemetery".

The reader will have no difficulty in postulating the ancestors of Anthony Crocket McKee from the Family Tree of the McKees of Virginia and Kentucky herein. (Plate 10).

Excerpts from a letter received from Mary McKee Stitt of Cleveland, Ohio, dated July 22, 1954 :

" Yesterday I received your letter which was forwarded to me by my brother Arthur's secretary, asking me if I cared to answer it as she did not have the necessary information. Arthur had a stroke over two years ago and is not able to take care of any correspondence.

If he were well it would have given him great pleasure to talk with you about the family tree. He also would have been able to give you much more accurate information than I can, as I was only thirteen years old when father died”.

“ My father had studied his lineage for many years and at the time of his death (in 1891) he had a history : ‘ David McKee and Descendants ’, almost ready for publication. In his sketch of the early McKees, he speaks of four brothers in Ireland about 1690 : ‘ Several of them almost certainly emigrated to America in the early 1700’s and were the progenitors of the McKees in Kentucky and Virginia. Their history has been written by George W. McKee, Major of Ordnance, U.S.A.’ So it looks as though there may be a connection between the two branches of the family, if we go back far enough ! ”

“ I do have a very few copies of ‘ David McKee and Descendants ’ and if you are really interested in it I can send you a copy . . . . . ”

This gracious clanswoman did send me a copy of the book by her father, Professor James Y. McKee (Philadelphia, 1892), which because of its scarcity and its importance, greatly deserves to be reprinted.

The following pertains to the present generation of this sept :

“ Charles H. McKee was a very successful corporation lawyer in Pittsburg, until his death, about 25 years ago. He married very late in life and had no children ”.

“ Louisa Clara McKee had only one child, who died years ago, leaving no children ”.

“ George C. McKee after getting his degree at Johns Hopkins University taught at University of Pennsylvania and Dartmouth for some years and then went into engineering work, in Youngstown and later in Chicago. Rather late in life he married and moved to Greenville, Michigan where he died in 1948, leaving no children ”.

“ Arthur G. McKee spent his whole life in engineering work, at General Electric, Frick Coal Co., Carnegie Steel Corporation, Julian Kennedy, Ohio Steel Co., American Steel & Wire Co ”.

“ In 1905 he established his firm of Consulting Engineers. He was president until 1946, when he became chairman of the board.

In 1899 he married Marian Deane.

He has many inventions to his credit and for several years was an international figure in the engineering world. An absorbing hobby was his development of The McKee Jungle Gardens at his Winter Home in Florida at Vero Beach. He also was much interested in raising and propagating orchids and was well known among orchid fanciers. He was a life-long Presbyterian, trustee of Old Stone Church, and was active in many clubs.

Children : Mary Kathryn, Marian Deane.

Mary Kathryn married Paul Semon. They have two children : Kay and Arthur McKee.

Marian Deane married John Latta. They had three children : Nancy, Arthur McKee, and Hope. Marian died in 1949 ”.

“ Willis McKee after graduation went into engineering work, which he followed all his life. He was well known in the Steel Industry for his wide knowledge and many inventions. For many years he was general manager of Elyria Iron and Steel Co. and later was superintendent of construction for Arthur G. McKee Co. In 1900 he married Sara Pascoe.

Children : Margaret Renee and Helen P.

Willis died in 1937. He was an elder in the Presbyterian church.

Margaret Renee McKee married Frank McFarlane of Cleveland and they have two adopted children.

Helen P. McKee married Walter Hunzicker of Patterson, New Jersey. They have three children.

Mary Glenn McKee born July, 1878. Graduated from Pennsylvania State College in 1899. In 1904 she married Harry E. Stitt, Chief Engineer of The Austin Company for many years before his death in 1935.

Children : Edwin McKee, James Raymond, and Margaret Louise.

Edwin McKee Stitt graduated from Carnegie Institute of Technology in 1930 in Architecture. He is an associate of the C. B. Rawley Co., Architects. He married Carabelle Monfort in 1935 and has two children : Myron M. and Martha Carol.

J. Raymond graduated at Pennsylvania State College in 1930 in Engineering. He is an electric welding expert and consultant with The R. C. Mahon Company of Detroit. In 1935 he married Edith Schenk.

Children : Ethel Louise, Robert, and Richard.

Margaret Louise graduated from University of Michigan in 1943 and Library School of Columbia in 1944. She is a Children's Librarian in Cleveland".

Excerpts from a letter received from John Ritchie McKee of San Francisco, Calif., dated July 23, 1954.

"I was very much intrigued by your letter of July 20th regarding the McKee Family Tree . . . . ."

"I have some data on my Family Tree at home, and I am going to look it up and see if I can furnish you with any information. I do know from memory that the family of which I am a descendant originally settled at what is now McKee's Port, Pennsylvania and that the original McKee, who owned the farm where McKee's Port is now located, gave a portion of his farm to one of his sons, the oldest one I believe, when he married, and that has subsequently become McKee's Rocks, Pennsylvania".

"I am also recalling from memory that many years ago the McKees married into the Ritchie family of Maryland, and my middle name 'Ritchie' comes from the surname of one of the women in the Ritchie family who married into the McKee family".

"I shall be delighted to cooperate in any way that I can and to give you all the information I have, should any of it prove of interest to you".

A Family Tree of this important McKee sept has been included in the present volume, as well as some other historical details that appear earlier in this chapter.

From a letter received from C. S. McKee of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, dated July 22, 1954.

"About twelve or fifteen years ago my sister, who resides in Baltimore, Maryland, asked me to help gather various data concerning our branch of the McKee family. After many months of contacting relatives and searching records we compiled the information contained in the sheets enclosed.

With the rather comprehensive data that you have it may be that you can fit the dates and names together so that it will be of some help to you.

This information has been verified by the Government in Washington and was accepted as authentic by 'The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution', of which my sister is now a member.

It was nice to hear from you and you have my best wishes for your complete success in constructing your complete Family Tree".

### John McKee, the Weaver.

"John McKee was born in County Down, Ireland in 1761. He there learned the trade of a weaver. He came to America about the breaking out of the Revolutionary War. He enlisted in the Revolutionary War in January, 1778, and was honorably discharged in June, 1782. He served under Captain Smith and Colonel Boyd, also under Captains Van Horn and Sample. He was in the battle of Monmouth and other battles and was wounded in the arm. He applied for a pension in 1818. His pension was allowed until he died at Searights, Pennsylvania in Fayette County October 20, 1831. His wife Mary was then pensioned as his widow until her death. John McKee was a Private Soldier.

John McKee was also a soldier of the War of 1812. He enlisted October 2, 1812, and was honorably discharged April 2, 1813. He served in Captain Moore's Company of Infantry, Second Regiment, Second Brigade, Pennsylvania Militia, commanded by Brigadier General Richard Crook. John McKee was a Private Soldier.

While in Ireland John McKee was a weaver; in America he was a farmer. He married Mary Seabring in Bucks County in 1789 and removed to Northumberland County shortly thereafter, remaining there until about 1808, when he came to a farm in Westmoreland County near Belle Vernon, Pennsylvania.

The children of John and Mary Seabring McKee were: Ann, born April 16, 1790; John, born October 19, 1792; Thomas, born January 22, 1796; Henry, born May 11, 1798; Hugh, born April 13, 1800; Catherine, born January 29, 1802; Francis, born September 19, 1804; Mary, born January 17, 1807; Margaret, born January 10, 1810; Jesse, born January 6, 1812 and Ephraim, born January 4, 1815. He was also the father of Col. Joseph A. McKee who lived many years in Fayette City, Pennsylvania.

Carl S. McKee, son of Okey F. McKee and grandson of William and Mary Shanks McKee, great-grandson of Henry McKee, born May 11, 1798, died February 3, 1891; married Susanna Hornbake, November 20, 1820. Susanna Hornbake was born \_\_\_\_\_ and died February 27, 1857. He was a great, great grandson of John McKee, who was born 1761, died 1831; and married Mary Seabring in 1789. Mary Seabring was born in 1771 and died in 1859.

If necessary to make reference to authoritative records you may refer to those of Rev. Daniel Harper McKee, Rev. Clement L. McKee and Rev. William Finley McKee, Sons of the American Revolution and Mrs. Margery Huston McKee Hazen, a Daughter of the American Revolution. The brothers above belong to the Pennsylvania Society. Rev. Daniel Harper McKee is now deceased".

From a letter received from Miles F. McKee of Detroit, Michigan, dated July 23, 1954.

"I am writing in answer to your letters addressed to Mark T. and Max B. McKee since I have the only records about our McKees.

It appears that you are doing just what I have always wanted to do—canvass all the McKees and try to sort out all of the lineages. I hope the information I have may fit in with your other findings and, if so, I would be most obliged if you could enlarge on my data.

The hearsay in our family is that three McKee brothers emigrated from Scotland via Ireland to Pennsylvania in the 18th Century. The first progenitor I have record of is :

(0) (Sam McKee ?)

(1) Sam McKee—Wife, Susan White, daughter of Ezekiel White (supposed to be related to Daniel Boone).

Children : George—son Lawrence.  
Imelda.  
Adam.

(2) Samuel White McKee (Married Minnie Thompson) (1857-1922).

Children : (3) Mark T. McKee.  
Susan (McKee) Sirath.  
Max B. McKee.  
Paul W. McKee.

The next generation has many of which I am one.

Sam (1) died and Sam (2) was born in Smicksburg, Pennsylvania (Indiana County). I wish I knew Sam (0) for certain and the brothers and sisters of Sam (1).

The Census of 1790 shows about 100 different McKee families living in Pennsylvania.

There are many McKees in Ontario who, I believe, came from Ireland or Scotland in the 19th Century. There were also many McKees in Virginia in the 18th Century, who emigrated to Kentucky and Missouri.

I hope that you will continue to compile the record of the McKees, and your interest is an incentive toward more action on my part".

The information that follows has been taken from various early volumes, most of which are reasonably accurate :

VIRGINIA TAX PAYERS OTHER THAN THOSE IN FIRST UNITED STATES CENSUS, COMPILED BY FOTHERGILL AND NAUGLE. 1783-1787.

Esther McKee	Rockbridge County
James McKee	Rockbridge County
John McKee	Rockbridge County
Joseph McKee	Loudoun County
Lydia McKee	Rochingham County
Richard McKee	Montgomery County
Robert McKee	Rockbridge County
William McKee	Rockbridge County

VIRGINIA WILLS BEFORE 1800, COMPILED BY WILLIAM MONTGOMERY CLEMENS.

James McKee, Rockbridge County, filed April 26, 1778.

Wife : Lydia.

Children : William.  
Samuel.  
John  
Robert  
Alice  
Martha  
Mary

John McKee, Rockbridge County, filed March 8, 1780.

Wife : Esther

Children : Robert  
           John  
           William  
           Agnes

John McKee, Rockbridge County, filed April 3, 1792.

Wife : Rosanna

Children : John  
           James  
           Robert  
           William  
           David  
           Miriam  
           Mary Wise

VIRGINIA MILITIA IN THE REVOLUTION, by J. T. McAllister. Section 125, page 120.

<sup>1</sup>James McKee, Rockbridge County, January 5, 1835. Born in Pennsylvania March 14, 1752, died Rockbridge County August 14, 1832. Drafted in Rockbridge for a tour of three months 1776, against the Cherokees serving with Col. William Christian. Served a tour of three months in Greenbrier County when the Shawnees attacked Donnelly's Fort. Served a third tour in the fall of 1777 at Point Pleasant under Col. John Dickenson, Capt. Charles Campbell and Lt. Samuel Davidson. Served fourth tour as Ensign January 10, 1781, to April 25, 1781, to Portsmouth. Out two weeks when Charlettesville was plundered by Tarleton. Drafted for three months and marched to Westham near Richmond. Last draft for two months to march to Yorktown. Declaration by Nancy McKee, widow. Left a son John.

CHALKLEY'S AUGUSTA COUNTY ABSTRACTS, Volume II, page 483.

John T. McKee makes declaration January 5, 1835, for and in behalf of his mother Nancy McKee, widow of James McKee deceased. James McKee died August 14, 1832, aged eighty years and six months. He was born in Pennsylvania March 14, 1752, and came with his brother to Virginia and settled on Kerr's Creek. Served under Col. William Christian. Was substitute for William McKee.

DUNMORE'S WAR, by Reuben Gold Thwaite, page 348.

(Col.) William McKee was a Scotch Irishman, born probably in Ireland 1732. When quite young he came to the Valley of Virginia and was quite active in the Indian Wars, claiming to have been with Braddock. He was a Lieutenant in Capt. Murray's company, although having previously ranked as Captain in the Militia. After the war he served in the Legislature and was delegate from Rockbridge County at the Constitutional Convention, voting in opposition to his instructions in favor of the Constitution. He moved to Kentucky where he died in Lincoln County in 1816.

DUNMORE'S WAR, page 33.

William McKee, Indian Agent, negotiated with the Delawares and the Iroquois successfully but not with the Shawnees.

NOTE.—There was quite an influx of Scotch-Irish to Virginia from Pennsylvania about 1737-1740. They had larded at Philadelphia and proved their importation in Virginia.

<sup>1</sup>This is James Logan McKee whose father was John, B. 1708, D. 1792. Mother was Jane Logan.—R.W.M.

HISTORY OF ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY, by Orpen F. Morton, page 508.

Children of Robert McKee and Agnes : William and John.

William McKee, son of Robert and Agnes, married Miriam McKee, his first cousin, and they had :

John, born 1767, who married Polly Patton.  
 Nancy, married James Wilson.  
 William, married Mrs. Davis.  
 Samuel (1774-1826), married Martha Robertson.  
 Mary, married John Lapsley.  
 Hugh.  
 David, married Betsy Fletcher.  
 John (1790-1866), married Mary Lapsley.

John McKee, son of Robert McKee and Agnes, married Esther Houston, and they had :

John  
 Robert  
 William  
 Nancy

John McKee, brother to Robert McKee I, married (1) Jane Logan and (2) Rosanna Cunningham.

Children : Mary  
 Hugh  
 Miriam, who married William McKee in 1766.  
 James  
 Robert

KEGLEY'S VIRGINIA FRONTIER, page 624.

Captain John Murray's Company of Volunteers from Botetourt County, September 10, 1774 : Lieutenant William McKee.

NOTE.—Botetourt County was formed 1770 from Augusta County and part of Rockbridge.  
 Page 382.

William McKee was a member of the Botetourt Court in 1771.

AUGUSTA COUNTY ORDER BOOK IV, Page 321.

November 20, 1754, John and James McKee relieved of tax levy this year, not being residents of the county on the tenth of June last.

Page 83.

September 22, 1758, Court called for examination of John Thompson on suspicion of killing James McKee.

AUGUSTA COUNTY ORDER BOOK VIII, Page 217.

William McKee qualified as Lieutenant of Militia, Sept. 20, 1763.

AUGUSTA COUNTY CAUSES ENDED, No. 2.

Todd vs. McKee Bill filed June 8, 1791.

In 1790 William McKee lived in Kentucky.

AUGUSTA ABSTRACTS, by Lyman G. Chalkley, Vol. III, Page 537.

John McKee and Rosanna his wife of Kerr's Creek transfer to James McKee, their son, a plantation, part in Augusta and part in Botetourt, where John McKee now lives.

HISTORY OF ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY, by Oren F. Morton, Page 348. CONVEYANCE OF LAND IN BORDEN'S TRACT.

1747. John McKee 390 acres on north side of Mill Run corner to Baptist McNabb.  
Note :—At this date the land was in Augusta County.

1757. James McKee and wife Lydia sell three hundred and ten acres to Thomas Kirkpatrick.

Jonathan Cunningham in his will Augusta County May 24, 1769, names his father, Hugh Cunningham, and his brother-in-law, William McKee, executors. William McKee refuses to execute.

“ These McKees were of course Scot-Irish and Robert, William and John came to Augusta County, Virginia, from Pennsylvania where they first settled.” Their history is contained in *The McKees of Virginia and Kentucky*, by Major George Wilson McKee, already mentioned.

“ Of these men William seems to have been the most outstanding, although they all owned substantial property. William was in the Indian Wars and treated with the Delawares, Iroquois and Shawnees. He was at the Battle of Point Pleasant, October, 1774, with rank of Captain. For these services he received grants of land in Kentucky, to which state he moved in 1790 as did other members of the family. He had been prominent in the civil affairs of Botetourt and Rockbridge Counties, having been a member of the Court of Botetourt and a member of the Legislature from Rockbridge ”.

From a letter received from Joel S. McKee, Vice-President of the First National Bank of Lawrence County, NewCastle, Pennsylvania, dated July 28, 1954.

“ Received your very interesting letter revealing some of your ancestry. I am sorry that I have not in my possession the complete data of my branch of the McKee family, but my great grandfather's name was John McKee, whose family, due to religious persecution, moved from Scotland to the north of Ireland, and my great-grandfather came to this country in 1765, settling at a place in Virginia known as Peach Blow. He fought in the Revolutionary War and for a while was under Lafayette's command.

After the Revolutionary War, he came to Western Pennsylvania and settled on a farm near the junction of the Monongahela and Youghioghaney Rivers. He also fought in the War of 1812, not having enough fighting in the previous war. In 1824, when Lafayette visited this country, he made a call upon my great-grandfather, presenting him with a sword and a French silk handkerchief.

Great-grandfather had several sons and daughters, among whom were Francis, John, Hugh, and Henry, my grandfather, who was born in 1798 and died in 1891 at the age of 93 years.

My grandfather, Henry McKee, had a number of sons and daughters including William, Hugh, Henry, and my father, Finley. I have no knowledge of any of my ancestry ever settling in Kentucky. I am the youngest of nine children, seven of which are deceased.

Rev. Joel Stoneroad, who was for 27 years pastor of the Laurel Hill Presbyterian Church in Fayette County, Pa., the oldest Presbyterian church west of the Allegheny Mountains, married my father and mother, baptized all the children, and I was given his name. So you see that would have no connection with any Joel McKee among your forebears. Your letter was very interesting and informative . . . .”

From a letter received from Neal T. McKee, Professional Consulting Engineer, of Pawling, N.Y.

"All of my McKee records are in my home in Bronxville. As soon as I can manage to get in there I shall be glad to let you have what information I have.

Sometime around 1890 a Colonel McKee residing near or in Pittsburgh compiled a history of the McKee family . . . . . Then about 20 years ago someone named Jenner, a McKee descendant, compiled a genealogical table of McKees. I have a copy of that at home . . . . .

If the William McKee 1782-1852 to whom you refer came from Rockbridge County, Virginia, I think he is the same from which my branch came. My grandfather was James McKee who married Sally Wilkerson. They had twelve children of whom my father Judge Henry Clay McKee was the youngest".

A Family Tree tracing Neal T. McKee and his family is included in the present work. He descends from William McKee of Virginia.

From a letter received from Jean McKee (Kentucky), dated July 29, 1954.

"My brother, C. F. McKee, handed your letter of inquiry to me to answer. I am enclosing a copy of the family history contained in Perrin's *History of Christian County*, published 1884.

My brother and I are the only ones living, so this branch dies out with us. He works in the bank and I am a public school teacher. Am glad to send you what information I have though it isn't much. The older members of the family who could have helped out are all gone. Great grandfather Andrew came from Pennsylvania and there was a brother left up there, but the families early lost touch with each other, so I don't know anything about them . . . . ."

'Charles McKee, a native of Albemarle County, Virginia, was born Oct. 3, 1812. His parents, Andrew and Martha (Cannon) McKee were natives of Pennsylvania and West Virginia respectively.

The father, Andrew, was a hatter by trade and for many years was engaged in that trade in Charlottesville, Virginia.

He served in the war of 1812.

Andrew and Martha McKee had two children: Andrew Robert (who taught in the University of Virginia for many years), and Charles, the subject of this sketch.

Charles learned his father's trade and worked at it during his residence in Virginia.

In 1841 Charles moved to Christian County, Kentucky. Previous to his departure, he had married Thyrsa Hilton, daughter of William and Harriet (Burt) Hilton. There were six children of this union: Thomas, Harriet, Andrew Robert, William N., Mary and Lemuel H.

Charles' second wife was Ellen White. Two children were born of this marriage: Annie E. and Elizabeth.

Mr. McKee while living in Kentucky gave his interest to farming and raising live stock. He was a Democrat and belonged to the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

My brother and I are descendants of Lemuel H. As my brother has no children and I have never married, this branch ends with us'.

Excerpt from a letter received from D. C. McKee, President and General Manager of the Empire District Electric Company of Joplin, Missouri, dated July 29, 1954.

"I was very pleased to receive your inquiry of July 20, in connection with the McKee family history. Unfortunately, I have a very sketchy knowledge of my family tree. My father, Harry Butler McKee, was born in Charlottesville, Illinois, and apparently went to Webster City, Iowa, as a small child . . . . . At one time, many years ago, in the New York Public Library, I found a book on the early history of the McKees but I read it rather hurriedly at the time and I do not recall anything specific . . . . ."

The following appears in *Compton's Encyclopedia* in connection with a biography of President Benjamin Harrison :

"J. R. McKee  
Married Mary Harrison  
(Daughter of President and Mrs. Benjamin Harrison)

Children :  
Benjamin  
Mary

Mary and her husband J. R. McKee lived at the White House. Baby Mary was christened in the White House by the Reverend Dr. Scott (Mrs. Benj. Harrison's father) with water from the Jordan River in the Holy Land.

It was little Benjamin McKee, however, who was the favorite of President Harrison and of newspaper reporters. Known as Baby McKee, the President's grandson was nationally famous. Once the President rescued Baby McKee when he was the victim of a runaway in his little goat-drawn wagon on Pennsylvania Avenue.

President Harrison had the first White House Christmas tree put up for his grandson".

*Compton's Encyclopedia*, WXY2—Vol. 15, p. 154.

McKee Data found in Franklin County, Pennsylvania.

No. 901                      June 19, 1807. Letters of Administration estate of Alexander McKee,  
Vol. B                      late of Chambersburg, granted to John Kirkpatrick and Moses Kirkpatrick.  
p. 324

No. 901                      June 19, 1807. Rachel (née Kirkpatrick) McKee, widow of Alexander  
McKee, renounces her right to administer on his estate and requests that  
letters be granted to her father and Moses Kirkpatrick Esq. (husband of  
Elizabeth McKee, daughter of Hugh and Mary McKee).  
Wit : Joseph McKee

Vol. A                      Will of Hugh McKee of Peters Twp. dated Nov. 18, 1794. Probated  
p. 333                      May 22, 1795.

Wife : Mary.  
Dau. : Martha  
Dau. : Ann.  
Son : James.  
Son : Andrew.  
Dau. : Mary.  
Dau. : Isabel.

## THE BOOK OF McKEE

Vol. A  
p. 333

Dau. : Elizabeth  
Mary Wilson.  
Son : Thomas  
Son : William.  
Exrs. : Son Thomas and Son-in-law : George Dickey.  
Wit. : Alexander Glendening.  
Walter McKinnie.  
Adam Rusk.

Vol. A  
p. 344

Will of James McKee of Lurgan Twp. dated Dec. 9, 1794. Probated  
Oct. 16, 1795.  
Wife : Elizabeth.  
Youngest children : Isabella, Robert and William.  
Son : John.  
Son : Benjamin.  
Sons : James, Joseph and Alexander, under 21.  
Son : James my still and vessels.  
Son : Benjamin 85 acres bequeathed to him by his grandfather John  
McKee, deceased.  
2 eldest daus. : Jane Miller and Elizabeth Kirkpatrick.  
4 sons : Joseph, Alexander, William and Robert.  
In case any my children should die in minority  
Exrs. : Wife Elizabeth.  
Son James and Bro. John McKee.  
Wit. : John <sup>2</sup>Maclay and David Maclay.

Vol. A  
p. 124

March 12, 1788. Letters Admr. estate of Robert McKee, granted to  
Alexander Alexander of Bedford Co., Pennsylvania. Wm. Johnston and  
Richard McCene sureties.

No. 1357  
Vol. C  
p. 227

May 16, 1815. Letters Admr. estate of Hugh McKee, late of Antrim  
Twp. granted to Hugh McKee.

No. 1357

Sarah McKee renounces her right to administer on her husband, Hugh  
McKee's estate, and requests they be granted to her son Hugh McKee. May  
16, 1815.

Wit. : Sally McKee and Samuel McLanahan.

Vol. C  
p. 5

April 29, 1811. Letters Admr. estate of William McKee, granted to  
Thomas McKee and Samuel Lowden.

Vol. D  
p. 380

Will of James McKee of Lurgan Twp. dated Oct. 11, 1836. Probated  
May 27, 1837. 2 oldest sons : James C. McKee and Joseph B. McKee.

Grandson : James A. McKee, under 21.

Wife : Elizabeth.

3 youngest children : Mary B. McKee.

Margaret I. McKee (single).

John M. McKee.

James Carrol (colored).

Exrs. : Mary B. McKee and John M. McKee.

Wit. : Henry Cleppinger and J. J. Hemphill.

<sup>1</sup> Could not be Hugh McKee's son James as Hugh's will was probated May 22, 1795 and this man's father was John.

<sup>2</sup> Jean Dickson, daughter of Andrew and Agnes Dickson, married John MacLay.

Deed Book  
Vol. 5  
p. 401

Deed dated Mar. 26, 1802. From Benj. McKee of Lurgan Twp. yeoman, and Jane his wife, to Michael Miller of Shippensburg. Warrant to John McKee for a tract of land in Lurgan Twp. surveyed Jan. 17, 1763, 285 $\frac{3}{4}$  acres and by virtue of said warrant dated June 3, 1762, the said John McKee died seized of said land and by his will dated Aug. 3, 1777, gave to his grandson Benjamin McKee (under age) . . . Said will of record in the Register's Office at Carlisle and whereas said land left conditionally—either the value of it or the land be given to said Benjamin by his father James, James McKee by his will dated Dec. 9, 1794, gives 85 acres, bequeathed by the grandfather John McKee deceased Land in Lurgan Twp. bounds George Wright and James McKee.

Wit. : Jesse Miller and James McKee.

Deed Book  
Vol. 4  
p. 305

Deed dated April 27, 1798. From Thomas McKee and George Dickey (son-in-law of Hugh McKee) Executors of Hugh McKee, late of Peters Twp. deceased. Said Hugh McKee died seized of 2 several tracts of land called "Confidance" and the other "Hope" in Peters Twp. To Henry Ridenour of same place. Warrant dated Mar. 3, 1798, to the above named Executors.

Wit. : Michael Ege and Samuel Laird.

Deed Book  
Vol. 7  
p. 328

Deed dated May 17, 1806. From James McKee of Lurgan Twp. Yeoman, and Elizabeth his wife, to Michael Miller. Whereas James McKee deceased by a warrant became seized of a tract of land—215 acres (exclusive of 85 acres)—Elizabeth McKee and John McKee acting Executors of the will of James McKee. Land situate in Lurgan twp.

Taken from a book entitled *The McCutcheon (Cutcheon) Family Records* compiled by Florence McCutcheon McKee (Mrs. S. W.), Grand Rapids, Michigan—1931 (Commonwealth Printing Company).

#### McKEE FAMILY

Note.—The tradition is that the first McKee was suckled by a doe under a hawthorne bush in the Highlands of Scotland.

The McKees went to Ireland to escape religious persecution.

Andrew McKee, born in Ireland, 1747, came to America in 1757, served in Col. Irvin's and Col. Stewart's regiments. Enlisted June, 1780, in Captain Ziegler's Company (Stewart's Regiment) and served to close of war. He died in 1835 on the J. B. McKee farm, four miles north of Worthington on Little Buffalo Creek, and was buried in the Cowansville Cemetery, his body being hauled through the woods on the front wheels of a wagon. His wife was Mary Blandford. (His pension papers at Washington reveal these facts).

Children of above marriage :

1. William McKee, born Sherman Valley, Union County, Pennsylvania.
2. John McKee.
3. James McKee.
4. Joseph McKee.
5. Andrew McKee. Bought land in Armstrong County, Pa., where the family settled.
6. Thomas McKee.
7. Polly McKee (Stewart).
8. Jane McKee (Henry).
9. Nancy McKee (Hanna).

Thomas McKee, born March 1, 1790 and died Aug. 8, 1865 ; married Margaret Blain, born Aug. 5, 1793, died Sept. 17, 1857.

Children of Thomas McKee :

1. Deborah McKee, married Hays.
2. Andrew Harvey McKee.
3. James Blaine McKee.
4. Nancy McKee (Templeton).
5. William Wirt McKee.
6. Mary Ann McKee (Reed).
7. Eleanor McKee (Herron).
8. John B. McKee.
9. Thomas Vincent McKee.
10. Margaret McKee (Patton).
11. Eliza McKee (Cowan).
12. Rachel McKee (Gibson).
13. Joseph Redick McKee.
14. Cyrus Kilgore McKee.

James Blaine McKee, born Feb. 28, 1819 ; died May 8, 1914. Married Catherine Patton, born March 15, 1828, who died Jan. 23, 1864.

Children of James B. McKee :

1. John Patton McKee, born Dec. 1, 1849 ; died Jan. 25, 1850.
2. Thomas Cairns McKee, born Aug. 22, 1851 ; died Feb. 18, 1852.
3. Samuel Wallace McKee, born Dec. 16, 1852.
4. James Harvey McKee, born Jan. 17, 1855.
5. John Curtis McKee, born May 2, 1857 ; died July 7, 1865.
6. Mary Emma McKee, born May 27, 1860 ; died July 25, 1865.
7. Cyrus Hall McKee, born July 18, 1863 ; died July 17, 1865.

James Blaine McKee and Catherine Patton were married Sept. 14, 1848.  
James Blaine McKee and Nancy Barr were married May 29, 1866.  
Nancy Barr McKee died Sept. 5, 1912.

Samuel Wallace McKee married Florence McCutcheon Sept. 21, 1883.

Their children were :

1. Florence Margaret McKee, born May 21, 1891 ; married Joe Warren Gerrity, Jan. 5, 1914. Sons :
  - (a) Robert McCutcheon Gerrity, born Jan. 25, 1915 ; died Aug. 20, 1915.
  - (b) Joe Warren Gerrity, Jr., born Aug. 14, 1916.
  - (c) James Francis Gerrity, born Dec. 3, 1918.
2. Waldo McCutcheon McKee, born Dec. 11, 1894 ; married Elizabeth Brooks Thayer, Oct. 3, 1925. Daughters :
  - (a) Elizabeth Brooks McKee, born July 19, 1926.
  - (b) Margaret Jean McKee, born June 20, 1929.

James Harvey McKee was born Jan. 17, 1855, and married on Sept. 23, 1885, Alveretta Clark, born Sept. 11, 1862, the daughter of William Clark and Mary Noble Clark. Residence in 1930, Butler, Pennsylvania. Their daughters :

1. Ethel McKee, born Dec. 3, 1886 ; married Wesley Fogal June 9, 1909. Children :
  - (a) Arthur McKee Fogal, born Aug. 28, 1910.
  - (b) Lawrence Edwin Fogal, born May 24, 1914.
  - (c) Mary Elizabeth Fogal, born Oct. 12, 1917.
  - (d) Ralph George Fogal, born April 22, 1925.
2. Beryl Catherine McKee, born March 5, 1889. School teacher at Butler, Pa.
3. Ruth Helen McKee, born July 8, 1900. Secretary to bank president at Butler, Pa.

The excerpts that follow are from the records of Augusta County, Virginia.

- |                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| D. Bk. 3-86<br>1750-51         | William McKee farmer from Thomas Milsap land where William McKee now lives at Lime Stone Ridge.                            |
| D. Bk. 3-101<br>Jan. 31, 1750  | James McKeey witness to deed of Richard Harrell, Sr., to Richard Harrell, Jr.  |
| D. Bk. 4-483<br>Aug. 17, 1752  | John Mackee 170 acres on Mill Creek in Forks of James River from Mary Doughart.  |
| D. Bk. 6-376<br>Aug. 19, 1754  | John Kerr to John McKee yeoman 280 acres on Tee's Creek (This was later called Kerr's Creek).                              |
| D. Bk. 6-278<br>1756           | James McKee, John Macky witness to deed of John Robinson to William Carruthers.  |
| D. Bk. 7-512<br>1757           | John Poage to John Maxwell land on James River. Delivered to William McKee May 1764.                                       |
| D. Bk. 7-534<br>Mar. 15, 1758  | John Lyle to James McKee 210 acres part of Borden's Grant.   |
| D. Bk. 7-535<br>Mar. 15, 1758  | Borden executors to James McKee 310 acres on Kerr's Creek. Delivered to William McKee, Apr. 1764.                          |
| D. Bk. 12-271<br>Oct. 8, 1765  | <sup>1</sup> James and Lydia McKee to Thomas Kilpatrick 300 acres on Kerr's Creek, corner to Norwood in John Wiley's line. |
|                                | James McKee<br>her<br>Lydia X McKee<br>mark  |
| D. Bk. 13-35<br>Aug. 2, 1766   | Borden executors to James McKee, gentleman, 301 acres on North West Branch of Mill Creek.                                  |
| D. Bk. 12-118<br>Aug. 19, 1765 | Samuel Todd to William and John McKee, 400 acres on North Branch of Buffalo Creek.   |

<sup>1</sup> Son of Wm. McKee, the pioneer.

- D. Bk. 14-414  
May 12, 1768  
Borden executors to John McKee 150 acres on North Branch James River ;  
corner to Jonathan Cunningham.
- D. Bk. 16-223  
Mar. 20, 1770  
Hugh Cunningham and Sarah McKee, his wife to John McKee of Kerr's  
Creek : 281 acres on Kerr's Creek formerly called Teeze's Creek, part  
in Augusta and part in Botetourt County.
- W. Bk. 4-277  
May 24, 1769  
Jonathan Cunningham will : Executors Hugh Cunningham and William  
McKee, brother-in-law. William McKee refuses to qualify. William  
and John McKee security for Hugh Cunningham.
- Order Bk. 4-421  
Nov. 20, 1754  
John and James McKee relieved of levy this year, not being inhabitants of  
county.
- O. Bk. 6-234  
Nov. 22, 1758  
John Thompson examined by court on suspicion of killing James McKee.  
Not guilty.
- O. Bk. 11-489  
March 15, 1768  
Hemp certificates. John McKee, David McKee, James McKee, Samuel  
McKee, to work road. William McKee, Juror.
- O. Bk. 8-217  
William McKee qualified lieutenant.
- Aug. Militia Bk.  
Pg. 63  
Capt. William Anderson's Co. 1776 : Samuel McKee.
- Pg. 121  
Capt. Trimble's Co. 1779 : James McKee.
- Pg. 198  
Capt. Trimble's Co. 1780 : John McKee.
- Augusta Parish Bk.  
Pg. 385  
Land processioned 1765 : James McKee, John McKee, Robert McKee.
- Survey Bk. 2  
Pg. 132  
Survey for William McKee, 50 acre spur of House Mountain, 1765.
- Pg. 139  
Survey for William McKee, 50 acres in Forks of James, 1765.
- Vol. 1-423  
Chalkley's Abstracts Augusta County Office Judgments April 1806 : Robert  
Reed, et al vs Margaret Reed : Deposition of Samuel McKee and  
Martha to be taken in Fayette County, Kentucky.
- Vol. 2-71  
Circuit Court Causes—Judgments  
Todd vs McKee, bill filed June 8, 1791.  
In 1790 William McKee lived in Kentucky.
- Vol. 2-429  
Tithables 1781—William McPheeter's list :  
Alexander McKee  
John McKee
- Pg. 418  
Delinquent list 1755 :  
James McKee  
John McKee



Plate 14 CO. DOWN, IRELAND (Page 113)



Plate 15 CO. ANTRIM, IRELAND (Page 116)



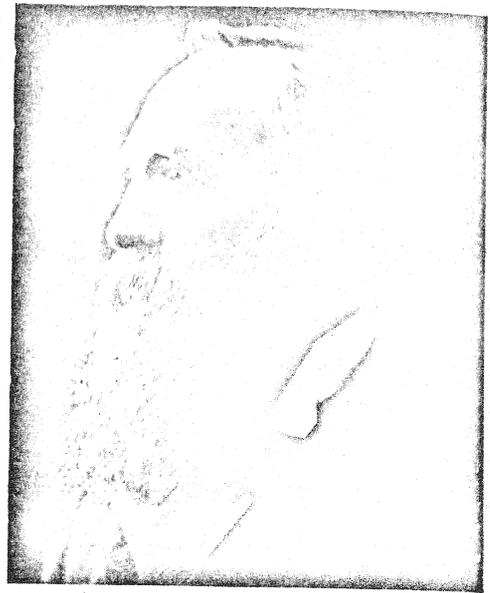
Plate 16 (Page 121)



Plate 16A (Page 121)



Plate 17 THE VERY REV. DR. PHINEAS McKEE (Page 119)



SAMUEL McKEE, M.D. OF TILLYART  
Plate 18 (Page 119)



McKEE DEVICE  
For MOTTO  
and KEY

Plate 19



Plate 20 (Page 119)

H. MALCOLM McKEE, M.C.  
(Late of the R.I.C.) Solicitor



Plate 21

- Pg. 430           Tithables 1783 :  
                  Samuel McKee and sons William, James, Robert McMahan and  
                  apprentice Robert Reburn.
- Pg. 276           Marriage Licenses Augusta County  
                  Nov. 6, 1762, Samuel McKee
- Aug. Militia Bk.  
Pg. 2            Capt. Samuel Norwood's Co. 1756 :  
                  John McKee.
- Pg. 21            Capt. Samuel McDowell's Co. 1760 :  
                  John McKee.
- Pg. 508           History of Rockbridge Co.  
                  Morton McKee :
1. Robert b. 1692, d. 1774, m. Agnes  
          Issue (1) William, b. 1732, d. 1816, m. Miriam McKee 1766.  
              (2) John, married Esther Houston, d. 1788.
  2. John, b. 1707, d. 1792, m. (1) Jane Logan, (2) Rosanna Cunningham.
  3. William  
          Issue : James ; married Lydia, d. 1778.
- Pg. 466           Location and arrivals  
                  John and James McKee came in summer of 1754.

#### McKEE SEPT OF TULLYQUILLY.

Occasionally we get an oblique glimpse of this ancient branch of the tribe, in correspondence from Ireland and sometimes in America. Also, intermarriages with such names as Jennings, mentioned here, will be recognized from mention in other sections of the present work. The index serves to disclose these mentions, so that an interested researcher may collate ascending and descending lines.

Reverend John L. Harvey, 305 West King, Carson City, Nevada, who also visited at my Puente, California, home later, wrote me on August 31, 1954, as follows :

" My mother's name was Jane Elizabeth McKee, daughter of Hugh McKee of Banbridge, County Down, Ireland. His grandfather's name was James McKee. I will quote from some information I have : ' Our forefathers came from Scotland and settled first in either County Derry or Antrim. They then came and located in the southwest of the County of Down, about one mile west of the village of Rathfriland in a place called Tullyquilly. After some time they considered it too low and marshy and removed about a mile further west into Granshaw where they remained '.

My grandfather Hugh McKee remained in Ireland, though his father, mother, and most of the family emigrated to America. Mr. Norman McKee of Westwood, Los Angeles, can fill in about them".

On August 17, 1955, Samuel McKee Clancy, 34 Central Avenue, Bangor, County Down, Ireland, wrote :

“ Dear Mr. McKee :

I regret that I have not replied to your letter of February 3rd as soon as I had hoped, but I have been endeavouring to gather some information for you, and in the midst of it holidays came along ; and I was away in the Mediterranean for about a month.

First of all, I enclose a copy of a letter which is attached to some papers I have on my family history on both sides of the house and possibly this may be of help to you.

I have been in touch with Mr. Malcolm McKee who lives in Bangor and is somewhat of a historian, and who claims to be a descendant of one of the three brothers who fought at the Boyne. He mentions these three brothers as settling in Anahilt, Pogue's Burn, or Killinchy, as his own people evidently came from Killinchy. However, he suggests that you should endeavour to get a booklet from Professor <sup>1</sup>Joseph D. McKee, Professor of Mathematics at Yale University, as evidently the Professor has made a very intensive study of the family.

I trust the information I have gathered will be of some help to you and I will be pleased to hear from you and give you any further assistance I can. With apologies for the delay in answering your interesting letter”.

Yours sincerely,  
Samuel McKee Clancy.

The letter of which he enclosed a copy follows :

Granshaw,  
Ardaragh,  
Newry,  
Ireland.

April 10th, 1877.

Dear Nephew :

If you had not attached the small postscript to your letter I would not have known from whom I had received such a large catechism. I will not attempt to answer your questions seriatim but will cheerfully write you what I know by tradition or otherwise. As I am now in the same year of my age that King David was when he could get no heat and died of old age.

The traditions I had from my grandfather reach into the past without passing through many interpolations.

The origin of the name McKee or its signification I know not as I never took any trouble to investigate what it sprung from. As I believe that all surnames were taken from circumstances connected with the locality or the individuals themselves, or some grand event of the time, and though I know of no other here outside of our own family circle, it is a very common name through the entire of this country.

Our forefathers came from Scotland and settled first for a time in either county Derry or Antrim. They then came and located in the south-west of the county of Down, about one mile west of the village of Rathfriland in a place called Tullyquilly. After a time they considered it too low and marshy, and removed about a mile farther west into Granshaw where they remained.

<sup>1</sup> This should be James Y. McKee.

I heard that they were offered the townland at 5/- per acre forever, but took a lease of the half at 2/6 for three lives of forty years. About that time my wife's people, the Ellisons, took the other half.

About four generations back one branch of our family had four daughters. They all married and he gave each twenty-one acres of land. Their husbands' names :

Nichol

Black.

Holiday, or Halliday.

Jennings.

There is not a single one of their offspring on it now. Another branch has become extinct about two years back by the death of Hugh McKee of Crow Lodge, he having no issue. Our branch was on the north side of the hill, the rest I have spoken of on the south side.

My grandfather James McKee was one of three brothers ; one was killed by the fall of a horse ; the other left a daughter who married Mulholland. They went to South Carolina about the same time that the McKees settled here. Two families called Swan and Davidson settled at the Knock, a little mountain 785 feet high about two miles east from here. My grandmother McKee was one of the latter family. She had three uncles in the memorable siege of Derry. Two of them went out disguised as spies, but were discovered and lost their lives. It is now again July either 96 or 97 years since my grandfather went through a review and sham fight at Belfast among some 16,000 volunteers. I heard him tell that when retreating over the long bridge, one of his company set fire to a large stack of furze, or fir, which completely stopped the pursuers till the flames subsided. It was greatly applauded as a bit of strategy and the gentleman paid the party for the stack. Belfast at that time was little better than a fishing village, with almost no shipping to any foreign port.

I never knew a minister of the gospel or a lawyer among our forefathers though some of them attained a very respectable rank in society, but being a tall athletic race of people, they wished to imitate the Irish squire, for amongst them they who could play the best ball or bullet, run the fastest, leap the farthest, keep the best dog, the best gun, or the best horse, were always the best men. Whilst parties that came into the country long after them and perhaps settled down under them that they looked at as mushrooms were creeping up to surpass them in the journey of life.

My mother, whose maiden name was Jennings, was daughter of the Jennings mentioned as marrying into the McKee family.

There were three brothers Jennings came from near London about the same time as the McKees came from Scotland. One of them settled near Downpatrick, one near Ballieborough, County Cavan, and one at Ballynagappog. From the last (at Ballynagappog) my mother's family were a branch. They belonged to the Church of England when they came to Ireland. One branch of the family at Downpatrick married a Roman Catholic and dying left a family of children. Their mother educated them in her faith and from them are a good many branches now. The rest so far as I know still adhere to the established church. We had one of that family here as assistant Surveyor for ten years, who was often in our house, and his brother kept the Victoria Hotel in Downpatrick. I know little about the Ballieborough branch, but a few years back one of them was a magistrate and land agent which is a lucrative business here.

The only one of the Jennings family in Ballynagappog was a cousin of mine, Rowan Jennings. He and Mrs. Jennings are both dead. He left five children, four daughters and one son. They are with an uncle by the mother who is managing for them.

Printed from copy of original  
at my office, 22 Queen's Arcade.  
Residence 36 Botanic Avenue, Belfast.  
John McKee, formerly of Banbridge,  
nephew of Robert McKee. February 1899.

ROBERT MCKEE.

Hugh McKee (Mackay), Veteran of the Battle of the Boyne.

The reader will find considerable information about this identifiable Boyne veteran in the volume entitled *David McKee and Descendants* (Philadelphia, 1892). From one or another of the four McKee brothers who fought at the Boyne descend thousands of American McKees, including those who trace to the Pennsylvania pioneer McKees, and the McKees of Virginia and Kentucky who also came first to Pennsylvania.

The three letters that follow derive from direct descendants of *Big Davey of the Temple*, described in the volume *David McKee and Descendants*, by Professor James Y. McKee. He and Major George Wilson McKee in his *McKees of Virginia and Kentucky* laid the groundwork for all future research into the history of our clan, and to them all of us owe a debt of gratitude.

Several of my correspondents in England and North Ireland have seemed inclined to look with a jaundiced eye on Professor James Y. McKee's volume, for the reason that he naively omitted his documentation. However, the present author feels assured that his statements were neither invention nor conjecture, but rationalized oral tradition. It is upon oral tradition that the entire New Testament was founded, so this kind of source should not be lightly disparaged.

Toddstown House,  
Carricknaveagh,  
Saintfield.

Sept. 7th, 1954.

Dear Mr. McKee

I'm replying to your letter on behalf of my husband Robert McKee as he leaves all his letter-writing to me. We were very pleased to get your letter and will give you any information we can. I don't know whether we can help you with the James McKee of Kentucky but I will ask our minister and it may be possible to trace them in the Church Records.

The granite memorial you mention is not at Saintfield but 1st Boardmills Presbyterian Church and I intend to go some evening and copy the names and dates of all buried there as you may be interested; also I may get you a picture of it.

The John McKee who sent this gravestone over was my husband's uncle. Also he erected the Church Hall which goes under the name of The McKee Hall. This Hall was accidentally burned down two or three years ago and had to be rebuilt. I will write again in a week or two and give you more information, and also try if I can get you a map of the district. By the way, we are the "Poagsburn McKees" and there are some descendants of "Big Davie of the Temple" in Belfast.

With kind regards  
Yours sincerely  
Elizabeth McKee.

Toddstown House,  
Carricknaveagh,  
Saintfield,

Co. Down, N.I.  
Nov. 1st, 1954.

Dear Mr. McKee :

I'm sorry I didn't get your last letter answered sooner but I wanted to be able to give you more information and I wanted to spend some time going to the nearby graveyards and getting copies of the headstones. I have managed to get that done now and am enclosing copies which

<sup>1</sup> Miss Margaret McKee, 10 Ravenhill Ave., Belfast, North Ireland, is one such descendant.—R.W.M.

I hope may be interesting to you. So far I have not got any pictures for you. I intend to get you one of the McKee Hall and one of the headstones which John McKee sent home to Boardmills, not Saintfield.

You mention McKees in Belfast and Dublin. I didn't know there were McKees in Dublin, but if you write to Miss Maggie McKee, 10 Ravenhill Avenue, Belfast, N.I., you should find her a good source of information. She is a direct descendant of "Big Davey of the Temple". Also, The Rev. Walter Kerr, B.A., B.D., The Manse, Boardmills, <sup>1</sup>Lisburn, Co. Down, N.I. He should be able to go into Church records for you.

My husband . . . Robert's mother was one of the Temple McKees. (Big Davey again.) You mention in one letter Hugh McKee of the Burnt House. We have got his door key. It measures four and a half inches and bears the inscription :

"Burnt June 9th 1798. Eleven perished". And on the other side : "Door key of Hugh McKee's House".

We have also a silver snuff box belonging to a Robert Warnock with the initials R.W. 1755. I found this name Warnock on the headstone in 1st Boardmills today !

Why not take a trip over here in the summer and meet all your friends in Ulster. We would be very pleased to have you make your headquarters here with us. Robert put my thoughts into words for me last night when I started this letter.

I think I'd better stop now as I have got to copy out what information I've collected for you ; and Mr. Kerr should be able to get you some more I hope.

With kind regards.  
Yours sincerely,  
Elizabeth McKee.

The information she so graciously obtained from the monumental headstone at 1st Boardmills Presbyterian Graveyard follows :

IN MEMORIAM

Hugh McKee of Poagsburn son of John and grandson of Hugh McKee who with Robert Edgar joined the army of King William 3rd in Scotland Fought at the Battle of the Boyne and settled in Lisban

Born 1734 died 1819. His wife Ann Warnock of Rureagh, The Ards, born 1745 died 1812.

Their children :

Ellen	1765-1850
Robert	1767-1829
Jane	1775-1795
John	1776-1812

Their son Hugh of Carricknaveagh 1782-1857

His wife Jane McKee of Anahilt 1794-1859

Their children :

Eliza	1823-1868
Ann	1826-1852
Rebecca	1828-1854
Wm. John	1832-1872
Ellen Jane	1835-1905
Mary	1838-1879

<sup>1</sup> Lisburn is actually in County Antrim.—R.W.M.

Robert McKee of Poagsburn  
 Son of James of Oughley  
 and grandson of Hugh  
 1811-1896

His wife Elizabeth Lyttle  
 1821-1906

Their daughter Isabella (McKee) McKibben  
 1853-1871

Their son John McKee  
 1851-1931

#### LOUGHHENNY GRAVEYARD

Erected by Agnes McKee of Carrickmaddyroe in memory of her husband James McKee who died 27th May, 1870 aged 29. Also their infant children Miriam and David. Also the above Agnes McKee who died 24th August, 1888. Also their daughter Maggie (McKee) Prentice who died 8th April aged 36.

This stone marks the spot where lies David McKee of Carricknaveagh who departed this life 24th June, 1830 aged 83 years. Also his wife Isabella 10th June 1815 aged 64 years.

James his son died 20th March 1825 aged 19 years.

Also Jane his wife 6th Feby 1825 aged 45 years.

Likewise his son Hugh McKee who departed this life 28th Nov. 1810 aged 59 years.

Margaret McKee died 13th Feby. 1866 aged 27 years.

Anna her sister died 4th Sept. 1867 aged 24 years.

Margaret Prentice McKee mother to the above died 25th April 1868 aged 59 years. Also Mary her daughter died 3rd Aug. 1869 aged 22 years.

Martha McKee died 3rd June 1871 age 21 years.

Hugh McKee her brother died 15th Dec. 1872 age 20 years.

These last named six of one family lie mixed in kindred dust.

10 Ravenhill Avenue,  
 Belfast, Ireland.

Dec. 28, 1954.

Dear Mr. McKee,

In reply to your letter dated 9.11.1954 in regard to the origin of the McKee name I am afraid I have never been interested. I know for a certainty that I am a descendant of the McKees who came over from England with King William in 1690. They originally came from Scotland. I am a great-great-granddaughter of Big Davey of the Temple. My grandfather was David; also my father and a brother also called David. I was reared in Big Davey's original farm house. I had four brothers all of whom are dead. My eldest brother David was twenty-two years in California. He wrought on the Stanford Ranch . . . my second brother James worked there also; he is buried in Cypress Lawn Cemetery in San Francisco. My third brother was there also but I have not heard from him for over 30 years so I presume he is dead. He had changed his address and I didn't know where to write. He was called Hugh . . . we have got a replica of the McKee seal with the key in the centre . . .

Yours sincerely,  
 Margaret McKee.

# AN ARDS FAMILY

The pleasant diversion of an idle hour

6th November, 1940.

FRANK McKEE.

TELEPHONE No. 22403/4

16 DONEGALL SQUARE SOUTH,  
BELFAST.

1st August, 1957.

JOHN McKEE & SON,  
SOLICITORS  
FRANK McKEE, LL.B.  
HAROLD McKEE.

BRANCH OFFICES:  
BANGOR (100 MAIN ST.)  
WEDNESDAYS 10-5  
SATURDAYS 10-1  
NEWCASTLE (100 HIGH ST.)  
SATURDAYS 10-12.30

FMcK/EK.

Dear Capt. McKee,

As promised yesterday I enclose  
copy of family tree. It's not quite  
up to date.

Yours sincerely,

*Frank McKee*

Capt. H.M. McKee, M.C.,  
88, Ashley Drive,  
BANGOR,  
CO. Down.

John McKee  
m  
Essie Coulter

—Elizabeth McKee  
m  
Hugh McFadden

—Essie McKee  
m  
William McKee  
(see 2 wives)

—David McKee  
m  
Jane Donnan

—Kessie McKee  
m  
Hugh Johnston (a)

—William McKee  
m  
Mary McMillan

David McKee  
m  
Jane Shaw

—Mary McKee  
m  
Thomas McMillan

—Ann McKee  
m  
Hugh Calwell

—Elizabeth McKee  
m  
Hugh McFadden

—Essie McKee  
m  
William McKee  
(see 2 wives)

—David McKee  
m  
Jane Donnan

—Kessie McKee  
m  
Hugh Johnston (a)

—William McKee  
m  
Mary McMillan

—David McMullan

—Elizabeth McMullan  
m

—Francis Thompson  
m

—Kessie McMullan

—Archibald McMullan

—John McMullan

—William McMullan  
m

—Elizabeth Park  
m

—A. J. Madean

—Thomas McMullan  
(Australia)

—Mary A. McMullan  
m

—S. E. Smyth

—John Calwell  
m

—Elizabeth Calwell  
m

—Robert Mahood  
James Calwell  
(Australia)

—Thomas Calwell  
m

—Mary Thompson  
Hugh Calwell  
m

—Lucy Martin

—Ellen McFadden  
m

—William J. McKelvey  
m

—Robert McFadden  
m

—Annie Gowan

—Essie McFadden  
m

—William J. Woods

—John McFadden  
m

—Annie McKee  
(see 2 wives)

—Archibald McFadden  
m

—James McFadden

—Mary E. McFadden  
m

—Samuel Gowan

—Margt. Jane McKee  
m

—R. Wilson

—Essie McKee  
m

—T. Trueman

—Jane McKee  
m

—E. McKee

—John McKee  
m

—M. McAuley

—Thomas McKee  
m

—Elizabeth Gowan  
m

—S. Heasley

—Roy Gowan  
m

—Samuel Gowan

—M. Quinn

—William Wilson  
m

—Johnie Wilson

—Essie McKee  
m

—T. Trueman

—Jane McKee  
m

—E. McKee

—John McKee  
m

—M. McAuley

—Thomas McKee  
m

—Elizabeth Gowan  
m

—S. Heasley

—Roy Gowan  
m

—Samuel Gowan

—M. Quinn

—William Wilson  
m

—Johnie Wilson

—Essie McKee  
m

—T. Trueman

—Jane McKee  
m

—E. McKee

—John McKee  
m

—M. McAuley

—Thomas McKee  
m

—Elizabeth Gowan  
m

—S. Heasley

—Roy Gowan  
m

—Samuel Gowan

—M. Quinn

—William Wilson  
m

—Johnie Wilson

—Hugh Thompson  
D 24/12/04

—Eather Thompson  
m

—S. Kirkpatrick

—Mary Thompson  
m

—Thomas Calwell

—Margaret Thompson  
m

—James Maxwell

—David Thompson  
m

—Elizabeth McQuitty  
m

—Julia Thompson  
m

—Marion Thompson  
m

—Sarah Thompson

—Mabel Thompson  
m

—J. McDaniel

—Helen Thompson

—William McMillan  
m

—M. Woods

—Mary McMullan  
m

—F. Lytle

—Elizabeth McMullan  
m

—R. J. Lytle

—Francis S. McMullan  
m

—A. Burns

—Archibald McMullan

—Mary M.M. Smyth

—John Calwell

—Elizabeth Calwell  
m

—Robert Mahood  
James Calwell  
(Australia)

—Thomas Calwell  
m

—Mary Thompson  
Hugh Calwell  
m

—Lucy Martin

—Ellen McFadden  
m

—William J. McKelvey  
m

—Robert McFadden  
m

—Annie Gowan

—Essie McFadden  
m

—William J. Woods

—John McFadden  
m

—Annie McKee  
(see 2 wives)

—Archibald McFadden  
m

—James McFadden

—Mary E. McFadden  
m

—Samuel Gowan

—Margt. Jane McKee  
m

—R. Wilson

—Essie McKee  
m

—T. Trueman

—Jane McKee  
m

—E. McKee

—John McKee  
m

—M. McAuley

—Thomas McKee  
m

—Elizabeth Gowan  
m

—S. Heasley

—Roy Gowan  
m

—Samuel Gowan

—M. Quinn

—William Wilson  
m

—Johnie Wilson

—Essie McKee  
m

—T. Trueman

—Jane McKee  
m

—E. McKee

—John McKee  
m

—M. McAuley

—Thomas McKee  
m

—Elizabeth Gowan  
m

—S. Heasley

—Roy Gowan  
m

—Samuel Gowan

—M. Quinn

—William Wilson  
m

—Johnie Wilson

—Essie McKee  
m

—T. Trueman

—Jane McKee  
m

—E. McKee

—John McKee  
m

—M. McAuley

—John Calwell  
m  
—Hugh Calwell  
—Annie Calwell

—Aileen Thompson

—John McDaniel

—William Lytle  
—Francis Lytle  
—Ian Lytle

—William Lytle  
—Francis Lytle

—Archibald Burns

—Frank Calwell  
—Lucy Calwell  
—Hugh Calwell  
—Robert Calwell

—Hugh Calwell  
—Margaret Gaughey

—Hugh McKelvey

—Sarah McFadden  
m  
—William Cavan  
—Ronald Cavan

—Ellen McFadden  
m

—J. Baxter

—Hugh McFadden  
m

—Sarah Lowry

—Mary J. Woods  
m  
—William McMullan  
—Ida McMullan  
—Daphne McMullan

—Hugh Woods  
—William Woods  
—James Woods  
—Ellen Woods

—Hugh McFadden  
m

—Mary McCracken  
m

—Harold

—James McFadden  
m

—Jane Aicken

—Archibald McFadden  
m

—G. Williams

—Mary McFadden

—Elizabeth Gowan  
m

—S. Heasley  
—Joan Heasley

—Daphne

—Muir McFadden

—William McMullan  
—Ida McMullan  
—Daphne McMullan

—Annie Maureen McFadden

—John McFadden

—Sheila McFadden

—Mary Heasley  
—Joan Heasley

—Daphne

—John McKee

—Maureen McKee

—Goralden Hudendyka

—David McKee

—Patricia McKee

—William McKee

—Patricia Morris

—Hessie Gundy  
—Cecil Gundy

—Ella Johnston  
m  
—George Shaw

—Moya Shaw  
—Elizabeth Shaw  
—Brian Shaw  
—Francis Shaw

—Ivy M. McKee  
m

—J. E. Anderson

—J. Morris McKee  
m

—L. Murray

—Frank McKee  
m  
—M. Miller

—Harold McKee

—Jessie Copeland  
m  
—Sydney Copeland  
m  
—Emma Bell

—Herbert Copeland  
m

—John P. Copeland  
—John S. Copeland

—Grough Anderson

—Shelagh McKee  
—Maxine McKee

—John McKee  
—Margaret McKee  
—Jill McKee

—J. Sydney Copeland  
—Charles P. Copeland

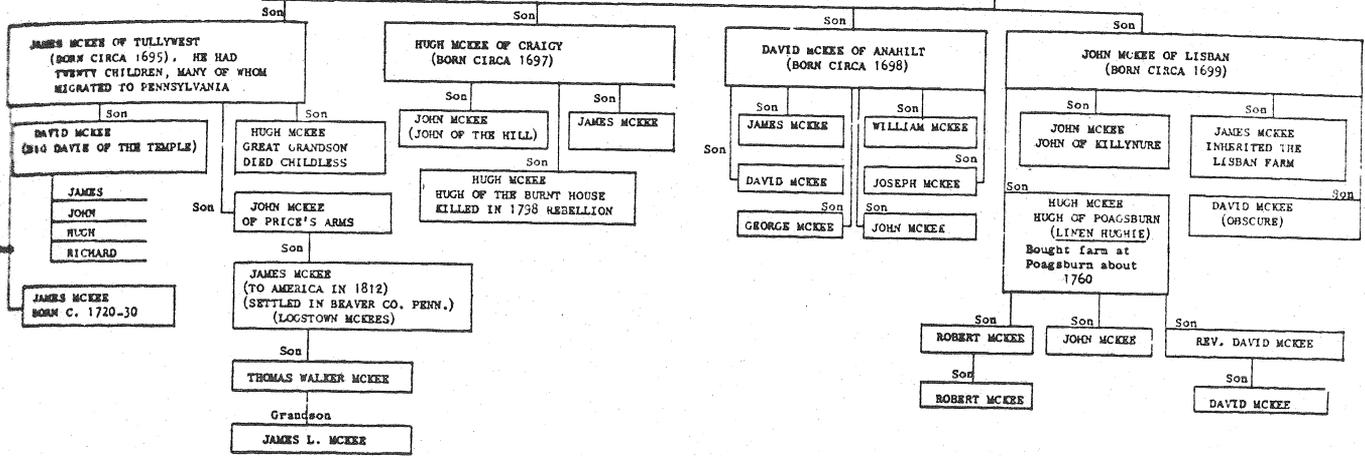
—John P. Copeland  
—John S. Copeland



HUGH MCKEE (MACKAY) WAS RELEASED FROM WILLIAM III'S ARMY AFTER THE BATTLE OF THE BOYNE IN 1690, AND SETTLED IN LISBAN, NEAR SAINTFIELD, COUNTY DOWN, IRELAND.

HE HAD THREE BROTHERS WHO WERE ALSO AT THE BATTLE OF THE BOYNE. ONE RETURNED TO ENGLAND WITH THE ARMY BUT THERE IS NO FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE ABOUT HIM. A SECOND MCKEE BROTHER SETTLED IN COUNTY ANTRIM, BUT IS BELIEVED TO HAVE EMIGRATED TO AMERICA WITH HIS FAMILY DURING THE EXODUS FROM ULSTER CIRCA 1735, AND TO HAVE BEEN THE PROGENITOR OF THE MCKEES OF KENTUCKY AND VIRGINIA. THE OTHER MCKEE BROTHER SETTLED IN THE ARDS IN THE NORTHEASTERN SECTION OF COUNTY DOWN.

HUGH MCKEE HAD FOUR SONS: (EXCERPTED & CONSTRUCTED FROM "DAVID MCKEE and DESCENDANTS")



Thomas Hudson McKee, antecedents and descendants.

The following information was supplied by Florence McKee (Rockwell), 1018 Marion St., Denver, Colorado, August 23, 1954 :

The McKee family (her antecedents) came from Ireland in 1794 :

- Robert McKee (settled in Indiana, near Logansport).
- Thomas McKee.
- John McKee (unmarried).
- Ellen McKee (unmarried).
- Nancy McKee (married Brison) (moved to Ohio 1820).
- Catherine McKee (married Shiller) (settled near Cambridge, Guernsey Co., Ohio).
- William McKee (married Mary Carson).
- David McKee.
- Katie McKee (unmarried).

<sup>11</sup> William McKee (b. 1786, d. 1860) married Mary Carson (b. 1779, d. 1860).

Both are buried in Franklin Cemetery, Brooks Co., West Virginia, which is on the turnpike between Wellsburg and Washington.

William enlisted in Chester Co., Penn. and served in War of 1812 from Sept. 12, 1814 to Dec. 5, 1814 as a private in Capt. Wm. Stuart's company of Pennsylvania militia. (Bureau of Pensions).

- 1<sup>2</sup> Robert Futhey McKee 10.14.1817 10.22.1898 m. Adeline Irwin (1816 1.18.1801) in July 1835 at W. Alexander, Washington Co. Pa. Justice of Peace 1865-1870, Bethlehem Twp., Cass Co., Ind.
- 2<sup>2</sup> Elizabeth Jane McKee 9.8.1819 April 1834.
- 3<sup>2</sup> John McKee 3.1.1821 8.10.1860. Attorney and member of legislature. Two children.
- 4<sup>2</sup> Samuel McKee 11.30.1823 1.10.1855. Boatman at McKeesport, Pa. Wife's name Julia. Four children, Silas, Clark, John, Julia.
- 5<sup>2</sup> William Ridgley McKee 12.19.1826 9.1.1828.
- 1<sup>2</sup> Robert Futhey McKee and Adeline Irwin (Orwin).
- 1<sup>3</sup> John McKee 10.28.1836 7.26.1838.
- 2<sup>3</sup> William Henry McKee 11.9.1839 1.16.1924 m. Mary Jester 11.11.1859. Second marriage, Nancy Jester.
- 3<sup>3</sup> Basil McKee 12.28.1840 1.24.1897 m. Margaret Torrence (1844(?)8.7.1925) on 10.11.1864 at Norristown, Pa.
- 4<sup>3</sup> James McKee 12.28.1840 9.30.1927 m. Mary Grable (5.11.1842 1.23.1925) in Cass Co., Indiana 10.12.1865. (Became M.D. in Washington D.C., and was Medical Director of U.S. Bureau of Pensions.) Son Robert McKee, 409 Park Lane Hotel, Kansas City, Mo., a produce merchant in 1954.
- 5<sup>3</sup> Thomas Hudson McKee 10.3.1842 7.6.1923 m. Nancy Matilda Funk (1.14.1851-1927) 10.14.1868 (Mifflintown, Pa.).
- 6<sup>3</sup> Joseph Parkinson McKee 5.15.1844 12.12.1915, m. Matilda McFall 1867 in Pennsylvania.
- 7<sup>3</sup> George Plummer McKee 2.2.1846 1.18.1918 married Caroline Jameson in 1872.
- 8<sup>3</sup> Mary Adeline McKee 5.26.1848 5.2.1936 married Jonathan McDowell 4.11.1869.
- 9<sup>4</sup> Irvin died at birth 1850.
- 10<sup>3</sup> Robert Irwin McKee 2.26.1851 5.25.1852.
- 11<sup>3</sup> Lytton Presberry McKee 2.9.1852 1.14.1942, married Margaret Elizabeth Black 10.8.1884, Thornton, Ind.
- 12<sup>3</sup> Miller Carter McKee 2.9.1852 3.25.1870.
- 13<sup>3</sup> David Campbell McKee 5.6.1855 3.25.1870.
- 14<sup>3</sup> Avery Holmes McKee 11.15.1857 2.15.1948 married Anna Liggett 1858. Died c. 1950 in Two Harbors, Minn., where he served for years as a Methodist minister.
- 15<sup>3</sup> Bruce Carr McKee 8.30.1862 10.14.1887, married Ida Ewirt.

Thomas Hudson McKee (5<sup>3</sup>) as a boy became employed on the farm of one Alexander Campbell in Bethany, Virginia. Campbell, a theologian and religious zealot, later founded the Campbellite Church, known also as the Disciples of Christ. This influence no doubt contributed to Thomas Hudson's bent that led to him being ordained a Methodist minister.

Reverend Campbell undertook to introduce a new breed of sheep into West Texas, and to that end induced a party of others to accompany him. Among them was 16-year-old Thomas Hudson McKee. On his way back from Laredo, he contracted typhoid fever and nearly died at Washington-on-the-Brazos. An itinerant physician told a negress nearby that his patient could not live, and that she was to bury him some 500 yards away, under a lone cottonwood. However, Thomas Hudson is said to have struggled on for days because of, or in spite of, Dover Powders, and finally recuperated enough to walk about. He learned that Fort Sumpter had been fired upon, and that the war between the states had started.



THE RIGHT HON. THE LORD MAYOR OF BELFAST  
Plate 23 (Page 119)

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE LORD MAYOR OF BELFAST,  
ALDERMAN MAJOR W. CECIL MCKEE, E.R.D.

AN OUTLINE OF HIS BACKGROUND BY H. MALCOLM MCKEE, M.C.,  
FOR THE BOYS OF BANGOR GRAMMAR SCHOOL  
OCTOBER 1957

I would like to tell you something about The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor of Belfast, Alderman Major W. Cecil McKee, E.R.D., who is to present the prizes. I was seven years at Inst. and never had the faintest idea who presented the prizes. Nobody seemed to think it worth their while to tell us. All I know is that each assured us earnestly that prizes at school did not necessarily mean success in life—each said he had never won a prize. I wondered what all the fuss was about if prizes meant nothing. But, as no friend of mine ever even faintly wanted a prize—none got any—I never pursued any enquiries.

Of course I would have got unlimited prizes in my school career—only for one thing. Every boy who passed the Preparatory Grade got a prize. We were not asked what we wanted. I got “Rip Van Winkle”, but I wanted “Alice in Wonderland”, having, even at that early age, good taste. So I was sickened at prizes right from the start. Now you know why I never got another. Like Dopey in “The Seven Dwarfs” who did not know whether he could talk or not—he had never tried—I don’t know if I could have got prizes or not—I never tried.

Listen to me—I am serious now. Prizes don’t mean much. But passing your exams. means everything. Take it from me, for I was never reckoned a spoil-sport. Never.

To get back to prizes. I was at Inst., but Mayor Cecil McKee was at Methody. There they took the cash in hand, a £1, equal £5 now. Fancy giving me a beastly book instead of untold wealth. The book I got would cost £5 now—indeed, between the wars I bought two for my namesake nephews and paid £3 for each. Now they are £5. But—no book seemed worth £5 to me. We had dark suspicions somebody had chiselled off something.

I hardly think the Lord Mayor is old enough to have collared this money at the Grammar School, and I don’t know if he got any other prizes.

But I know he was a soldier and a sportsman.

In 1938, when things began to look sticky, he joined the newly-formed Anti-Aircraft Brigade as a Lieutenant. In 1939 he went with his unit to France and was one of the last to be taken off the beaches at Dunkirk. After taking part in the Battle of Britain he was given command of an L.A.A. Battery and served two years on the Russian Convoy Route, later being brought back to London to shoot at "V" bombs and rockets. In 1946 he was demobilised with the rank of major.

In sport—he played for Bangor Rugby Football Club and North Ireland. He played cricket for North II. He won Swimming and Diving trophies—they are worth winning! He gave regular diving displays at the Blue Pool, Portrush, and was Founder of the Ulster Diving Club.

Golf—He is President of Kirkistown Castle and a member of Malone and Royal Co. Down (Newcastle). He is a member of the Hole-in-one Club. In tennis he played regularly in the Ulster Championships.

In his lighter moments he is a keen poker player—the game Somerset Maugham (brother of a former Lord Chief Justice of England) says is the best of card games. (I consider Somerset Maugham the best living novelist by far—his plays have made him a near-millionaire. Like Conan Doyle, Austin Freeman and Cronin, he is a doctor). So don't get involved in a small game, parents, with the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor when he is here.

Boys of B.G.S., I have said enough to show you your former schoolfellow is a soldier and an all-round sportsman. I told you something about Lieut.-General Sir William MacArthur last year. Another old boy of B.G.S., he was at school with me. Major Cecil McKee was at Methody, and I doubt if I would tell you anything about him only he is a McKee. Wasps do not like bluebottles.

I don't suppose you are interested in the fact that His Lordship is First Citizen of the capital of Northern Ireland. Still he knows a lot about electricity, and when chairman of the Belfast Electricity Undertaking spent two and a half million pounds on two extensions, one being called after him.

He is the youngest Lord Mayor Belfast ever had. This, combined with the fact that he is a soldier and a poker player, will enable him to see right through you.

Do not be alarmed—he is an old B.G.S. boy and will be blind to your faults. Anyhow, I hope so.

I gave General MacArthur a print of the B.G.S. Arms. As I have given all the others to B.G.S. boys, I am delighted to find I have one left for the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor of Belfast. Alderman Major W. Cecil McKee, E.R.D.—a sportsman, a soldier and a McKee. I can't say more.



Since young McKee's family were Abolitionists, and even though he was alone, penniless, and abandoned by the sheepmen to die, he resolved to make his way home and join the Union Army; this he did on a stolen mule. He was seventeen when he joined the First West Virginia Volunteer Infantry. After about two years fighting with the Army of the Potomac he was captured and sent to Libby Prison at Richmond. After 18 months he and some companions tunneled out, but he was recaptured and sent to a prison in Columbia, S.C. He was released by General Sherman's returning army that desolated Atlanta. He was actually a Captain when mustered out, but his commission having failed to arrive before, he retired a First Lieutenant.

Thomas Hudson McKee was a Mason and Knight Templar. A stained glass window bearing his name *Thomas Hudson McKee* is in the Metropolitan Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church in Washington, D.C., N.E. During the mature years of his life in Washington he was a colorful champion of the Republican Party, and served as chairman of the G.O.P. national committee during the McKinley campaign. He authored a book titled "National Conventions and Platforms from 1789 to 1905" (1906, The Friedenwald Co. of Baltimore.) He served as Journal Clerk for the House of Representatives for many years.

President William Howard Taft named him an assistant to the U.S. Attorney General, in charge of all U.S. Prisons and Penitentiaries, charging him to initiate a genuine penological reform movement. This he did. He kept his post for many years and won wide recognition as an authority on penology.

Mary Ada McKee, daughter of Thomas Hudson McKee, married Abner G. Greenstreet. From this marriage was born Hudson McKee Greenstreet. The state of wedlock irked Abner Greenstreet, and he and Mary Ada McKee were divorced on her petition. Her son was reared from infancy by his grandparents Thomas Hudson McKee and Nancy Matilda Funk McKee. When he finished his law work at George Washington University Law School he filed a petition in the U.S. District Court to change his name to Thomas Hudson McKee. The petition was granted, and the boy, now a man of family and position in Dallas, Texas, has borne the illustrious name proudly ever since.

Robert Futhey McKee (1<sup>2</sup>) who married Adeline Irwin (or Orwin) removed to Logansport, Indiana. They were parents of fourteen boys and one girl, including two sets of twins. Five of the boys, Basil, James, Thomas, Joseph, George, served in the Civil War. His grandson M. B. McKee resides at Sidney, Ohio.

William McKee (1<sup>1</sup>) (1789-1860) m. Mary Carson (1779-1860).

John McKee Descendants (his origin unknown).

The matter that follows pertains principally to a single sept of McKees, but the information concerning its earliest known family ancestor is so brief that there is no possibility of identifying him and his line in the present state of the record. However, the line has numerous members today, for which reason it seems fit to include it here for the use of future descendants. The credit for the compilation belongs to Mrs. James Langdon McKee, who had it privately printed in 1949.

## I

JOHN (1) MCKEE, earliest known ancestor of the family, married Margaret, whose surname has not been found.

Child :

1. John (2), of whom further.

## II

JOHN (2) MCKEE, son of John (1) and Margaret McKee, was born about 1734, and died at West Arlington, Vermont, March 30, 1828.

He married Elinor, who was born about 1748-49, and died at West Arlington, Vermont, March 29, 1807.

They had a son :

1. Aaron, of whom further.

### III

DR. AARON McKEE, son of John (2) and Elinor McKee, was born at Sharon, Connecticut, May 1, 1782, and died at Victor, Michigan May 9, 1863.

He married at Bennington, Vermont, November 26, 1805, Martha Henry, who was born at Bennington, July 21, 1780, and died at Victor, Michigan, May 9, 1863. She was a daughter of William and Isabel (Gilmore) Henry, of Bennington and grand-daughter of John and Mary (McCrellis) Henry, originally of Coleraine.

They had a son :

1. James Henry, of whom further.

### IV

JAMES HENRY McKEE, son of Dr. Aaron and Martha (Henry) McKee, was born at Arlington, Vermont, June 19, 1823, and died at Grand Rapids, Michigan, August 31, 1908. He was graduated from Yale College in 1845, studied law and became a prominent attorney in Grand Rapids, Kent County, Michigan, where he was listed in the 1860 census records as follows :

<i>Name</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Occupation</i>	<i>Place of Birth</i>
James H. McKee	37	Attorney	Vt.
Hannah L.	37		Vt.
William	11		Vt.
Laura	3		Mich.
James L.	8 Mo.		Mich.

Mr. McKee was active in civic and educational circles, and served as a recruiting officer in the War between the States. The William McKee listed in the above mentioned census was a son by an earlier marriage.

James Henry McKee married (second), at New Haven, Vermont, May 14, 1856, Hannah Powell Squier Langdon.

Children :

1. Laura Emma, born August 29, 1857.
2. James Langdon, of whom further.
3. Stewart Montagu, born October 7, 1862.

### V

JAMES LANGDON McKEE, son of James Henry and Hannah Powell Squier Langdon McKee was born in Grand Rapids, Michigan, October 31, 1859, and died there April 20, 1945. He received his early education in the Grand Rapids Elementary Schools and the Central High School.

(Two additional paragraphs describe his business associations, which included a real estate business and a local building and loan association.)

Among his ancestors were several who served in the Revolutionary War, and he was a member of the Sons of the American Revolution. He was politically a Republican and a member of St. Mark's Episcopal Church.

James Langdon McKee married on March 18, 1912, Angie Sophia Buchanan.

Children :

1. Daughter born April 11, 1913, died same day.

2. Gilbert Langdon McKee, born at Grand Rapids, December 17, 1914 ; served his country during World War II in a war material supply plant ; married June 27, 1941, Rose Swenson, who was born at Kingfisher, Oklahoma, October 10, 1912. They have a daughter : Sharon Ruth McKee, born at Grand Rapids, Michigan, September 18, 1944.
3. Captain Duncan Buchanan McKee born at Grand Rapids, November 7, 1915 ; graduated from East Grand Rapids High School, Junior College and the University of Michigan ; enlisted July 4, 1941, and was discharged after 14 months service overseas in World War II, in September, 1946. He was awarded the Purple Heart, the Air Medal with nine clusters, and the Distinguished Flying Cross. Two accounts of his military services published respectively in January and October, 1945, are as follows :

“ Brilliant performance ” on a mission over enemy-held territory has brought award of the Distinguished Flying Cross to Lt. Duncan B. McKee, tactical reconnaissance pilot with the Ninth Air Force in Europe.

Citation accompanying his decoration states that “ on Sept. 29, Lt. McKee distinguished himself on an artillery search over enemy territory. His successful accomplishment of this difficult mission while exposed to the concentrated fire power of defending gun emplacements resulted in the destruction of an enemy command post and four heavy artillery battalions, thus reflecting great credit upon himself and the army air forces ”.

Lt. McKee, a graduate of East Grand Rapids high school, Junior College and the University of Michigan, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Langdon McKee, 505 Gladstone Ave., SE. His wife resides in Midland, Michigan. Before entering service in January, 1942, he was employed as a standards engineer at Columbia Mills, Saginaw. He has been overseas since July, 1943.

Now home on leave, Capt. Duncan B. McKee, 29, has revealed that he was awarded the purple heart medal for wounds received when he was forced to bail out over his base near Charleroi, Belgium, March 15, after the wing tip of his plane had been shot off on a mission over Germany.

Capt. McKee was not hospitalized. He was a fighter pilot with the 9th Air Force. Overseas 14 months, he flew 70 missions, earning the air medal with nine clusters. He won the distinguished flying cross for an artillery adjustment mission early in December.

With his wife, the former May Luke, and his daughter, Pamela, McKee is visiting his mother, Mrs. J. Langdon McKee, and his aunt, Miss Laura McKee.

Mrs. McKee's book reproduces the arms and crests of twelve families, including that of the Mac Hughs, under which is (McKee).

Since arms belong to the man, no descendant other than the eldest son of the man who was originally granted the arms would be entitled to use them. Moreover, it appears that they were granted to a Mac Hugh, not to a McKee. The name Mac Hugh is quite a different anglicization of Mac Aodh from the word McKee. To put the matter succinctly, the English generally translate Aodh as Hugh, and Mac Hugh would appear to mean just about what it says, that is Son-of-Hugh. The word McKee, however, is a phonetic translation of the untranslatable *MacAodh*. The word McKee is the nearest it can be rendered into English according to its sound in Gaelic.

## Egle's Unfinished McKee Research.

An unpublished manuscript of William Henry Egle in the Library of Congress supplied the following uncollated data concerning various McKees. Mr. Egle said :

" In the History of the Susquehanna and Juniata Valleys there are many references to the Hoggs, Lytles, McKees and others. I give, herewith, my index to the 1st Volume there being no mentions that I can find in the 2nd Volume.

Thomas and John McKee bought tannery,	501
John McKee	623-25
William and Hugh McKee	647-8
John McKee	732
John McKee Sr. Distillery	752
John McKee	796
McKee's Graveyard	796
McKee Lawsuit	800
Thomas McKee	809-810

All names except those of McKee have been omitted in the foregoing list.

- (II) Sarah Hoge, b. May 1753, in the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, d. June 26, 1826, near Waterford, Juniata County, Penna. She was a remarkable woman in many ways, a most estimable wife and mother. She was twice married ; m. first in Tuscarora Valley, in 1776, to George McCullough, who was b. 1751 in County Down, Ireland ; d. in the year 1783, his death resulting from the bite of a rabid dog. Mr. McCullough came to America prior to 1774, with his cousins Thomas and John McKee, and settled in the Tuscarora Valley. When the war of the Revolution broke out, he sided with the patriots of his locality, and served during the greater part of the struggle for Independence.<sup>1</sup>"

The following items are also taken from Mr. Egle's unpublished manuscript, for the purpose of supplying to various McKees information they may find useful in tracing their antecedents.

- (III) Martha Hoge, b. Dec. 1759 in Tuscarora Valley, Juniata County, Pennsylvania, d. July 1836 near Butler, Pennsylvania. She m. in 1778, Thomas McKee, b. 1749 in County Down, Ireland, d. 1814 in Butler County, Pa. He came to America in 1774 and located in the Juniata Settlement. At the commencement of the struggle for Independence he entered the service, and was under Morgan in the southern campaign, in the Pennsylvania

<sup>1</sup> Notes by Leonard Lytle :

The following is a copy of an original document belonging to Mrs. Lettitia A. Harnish of Alexandria, Pennsylvania. She is the granddaughter of Robert and Lettitia Lytle. It was written by James McKee Lytle, their son. For five years prior to Lettitia Lytle's death, in 1864, she was blind.

" Statement of Lettitia Lytle, widow of Robert Lytle deceased, now living at Alexandria, Huntington County, Pennsylvania.

I am the daughter of George McCullough, who came from Ireland to America prior to the Revolution. He was a stone mason by trade, landed at Philadelphia and from there went to Northumberland, to erect a barn for a Quaker. When so employed he was drafted, by the draft on the Militia ; I think from the information I received this was about the year 1774. When there engaged he met with Jno. McKee and some other acquaintances who were living in Tuscarora Valley, and whom he accompanied home after the service of the draft. When there he became acquainted with my mother, Sarah Hoagg, in the year 1775, whom he married and there resided when he was again called into service, about the year 1776. After serving his time he again returned home, and continued at farming until again called out in 1778. Hugh Gray was with him in 1778 and according to the family record I was born in February, 1779, after his return from the war. He died in Sept., 1784, leaving but two children living, Lettitia and Ann, the latter 2 years younger than the older."

company attached to the corps of that brave partisan leader. His canteen and powder horn, carried through the war, are in the possession of his grandson, Lt.-Col. J. Cooper McKee, Surgeon, U.S.A. In 1795 the family removed to Alleghany County, Pennsylvania and the year following, 1796, permanently settled on a farm near Butler, Butler County, Pennsylvania. They had issue :

- I. James McKee, b. Jan. 1779, m. Mary (Polly) McKee.
- II. Robert McKee, b. 1781, d. 1796 in Butler County.
- III. Jennie McKee, b. Nov. 9, 1782, m. James McKee.
- IV. Hugh McKee, b. Jan. 5, 1785, m. Margaret Dunbar.
- V. Daniel McKee, b. 1787, d. in infancy.
- VI. Letitia McKee, b. 1789, d. Aug. 12, 1866, m. 1810 John Dunbar, b. in Castle Fin, County Donegal, Ireland, d. 1830. Was a brother of Margaret, wife of Hugh McKee.
- VII. John McKee, b. 1791, d. 1816.
- VIII. Thomas McKee, b. 1793, m. in 1823, Bryan and removed to Kentucky, near Maysville ; and had among other children, John, killed in the Battle of Corro Gordo, Mexico ; another son took the name and inherited the estate of Jenny Hoge Robinson in Kentucky.
- IX. Daniel McKee, b. 1795, m. McMullin of Butler and had a large family ; removed to Utah where he died.
- X. Robert Hoge McKee, b. 1797, m. Mary (Polly) Montgomery of Butler Co. and had issue : one son James McKee, resides near Claysville, Washington Co., Pennsylvania, an elder in the Presbyterian Church there.

(IV) John McKee, b. June 1, 1754 in County Down, Ireland ; d. Nov. 10, 1830 in Spruce Hill Township, Juniata County, Pennsylvania. He married Mary Hoge Sept. 15, 1778. He was first cousin to Thomas McKee and George McCullough, and came to America in 1774. He entered the Continental service during the War of the Revolution. Mrs. McKee became widely known in the famous Grey land suit, in which she was the principal witness. Her last years were spent with her daughter Mary, wife of James McKee. John McKee and his wife Mary Hoge had :

- i. Robert McKee, b. Jan. 4, 1780, m. Jane McIntyre,; removed to Wooster, Ohio, where they both died ; a daughter, Mrs. Martha Mackey, resides there, while a son John is living at Mansfield, Ohio.
- ii. Thomas McKee, b. Jan. 2, 1782, d. July 7, 1839 in Pittsburg, Penna., m. April 11, 1810, Sarah Smith, b. June 29, 1792, in Stewartstown, Ireland ; d. August 7, 1834, in Pittsburgh, Penna ; daughter of Rev. Thomas Smith, pastor of the Cedar Springs Church ; they shortly after removed to Pittsburgh, where he became prominent in the organization of the first A. B. Church in that city, one of its first trustees, and one of the original incorporators ; as contractor and builder, he erected the first church edifice for the congregation.

They had issue :

1. John Hoge McKee, b. 1811.
2. Thomas Smith McKee, b. 1813, d. 1839 in Houston, Texas.
3. Jane McKee, b. 1818, d. 1844.
4. James Hoge McKee, b. 1818.
5. Mary McKee, b. 1820.
6. Hugh McKee, b. 1822, d. 1834.

## THE BOOK OF McKEE

7. Elizabeth McKee, b. 1823, d. 1842.
  8. William Weir McKee, b. 1827, d. 1878.
  9. Samuel F. McKee, b. 1829 ; Capt. 147th Penna. Regulars ; killed in Georgia on Sherman's March to the Sea, July 2, 1864.
- iii. William McKee, b. Jan. 5, 1785, d. April 14, 1847, m. Elizabeth Stuart Laird ; They had issue :
1. Mary A. McKee, d. Jan. 1852.
  2. Sarah McKee.
  3. Martha McKee.
  4. John Jackson McKee, m. Elizabeth Houser of Wooster, O., resides in Miami Co., Ind.
- iv. Mary McKee, b. July 7, 1787, m. her cousin James McKee of Butler Co., Pennsylvania.
- v. James McKee, b. May 4, 1791, d. in Pittsburgh. unm.
- vi. John McKee, b. Aug. 10, 1793, d. 1829.
- vii. Martha McKee, b. Aug. 16, 1795.
- viii. Daniel Logan McKee, b. Nov. 1, 1790 ; d. Aug. 21, 1838, m. Elizabeth Boggs and had issue, one son, a physician in Hutchinson, Kansas.
- ix. Sarah McKee, b. Feb. 17, 1801.

(VII) James McKee, b. Jan. 1779 in Tuscarora Valley, Pennsylvania, d. Oct. 1, 1832 in Butler Co. He was a soldier in the War of 1812-14. In 1816 assisted in organizing the U.P. Church of White Oak Springs, now Butler. Was elected sheriff of the county in 1816 and in 1829 represented Butler in the State Legislature. Mr. McKee married in 1812, Mary (Polly) McKee, b. July 7, 1789, d. April 8, 1874. They had issue :

1. John McKee, b. Sept. 12, 1813, d. Oct. 8, 1864.
2. Thomas McKee, b. July 31, 1815, d. April 15, 1845.
3. Robert McKee, b. June 5, 1817, m. Aug. 17, 1847, Mary Jane Kirk, and had issue : Mary A. and James Alexander.
4. Martha McKee, b. June 20, 1820, d. Aug. 21, 1833.
5. Mary Ann McKee, b. July 26, 1822.
6. Hugh McKee, b. Aug. 8, 1824, d. April 30, 1886 in Fort Wayne, Ind., was a citizen of energy and influence ; was County Surveyor, elected sheriff in 1850 ; in Sept., 1858, President Buchanan appointed him Surveyor General of Kansas ; served in the War of the Rebellion until after the Battle of Pittsburgh Landing when he commenced railroad contracting in Ohio, Indiana, and the west with headquarters at Leavenworth, Kansas ; built the Lake Erie and Wheeling, Kokomo and Delphas Railroads, and at the time of his death, being accidentally injured by a log rolling on his feet, was filling a contract for street railway structure at Fort Wayne ; was an enterprising business man, unm.
7. James McKee, b. Dec. 18, 1826 ; drowned at Evansville, Ind., while on his way to California.

(VIII) Jennie McKee, b. Nov. 9, 1782 in Tuscarora. She m. Feb. 18, 1800 in Butler Co., Pennsylvania, James McKee, b. July 4, 1770 in Ireland ; he was the second son of James McKee who located in Mercer Co., Penna. in 1797, having removed from East Pennsylvania where he had settled in 1777. They had issue :

1. Thomas McKee, b. May 31, 1801, d. April 22, 1825.
2. Nancy McKee, b. Feb. 16, 1803, m. James Stewart in 1820.

3. Martha McKee, b. Jan. 23, 1807.
4. Jane McKee, b. Sept. 4, 1812.
5. Letitia McKee, b. Dec. 25, 1814 ; m. 1841 Samuel McKee.
6. Hugh McKee, b. April 10, 1817, d. August 23, 1825.
7. Daniel McKee, b. Aug. 4, 1819, resides on the homestead farm near North Liberty, Mercer Co., Pa. ; served in the 137th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers in the War of the <sup>1</sup>Rebellion ; represented his country in the State Legislature, 1872-73 ; was an elder in the Karmin U.P. Church since 1854 ; m. in 1843, Mary Jane Magee, born Sept. 13, 1821 ; they had issue :
  1. Nancy J. McKee.
  2. M. Josephine McKee.
  3. Mary Anne McKee.
  4. James C. McKee, m. May 25, 1880, Elizabeth McMillan.
  5. Elmira J. McKee.
  6. Emma Gertrude McKee.
  7. Ellen M. McKee.
  8. Thomas Kerr McKee, b. Oct. 8, 1856, m. May 25, 1882, Anna Laura Cooper.
  9. John Lincoln McKee, b. Dec. 18, 1860.
8. Robert McKee, b. Jan. 6, 1822, m. Feb. 18, 1848, Caroline V. Robinson ; reside in Mercer Co., Pennsylvania.

(IX) Hugh McKee, b. Jan. 5, 1785, in Tuscarora Valley, Pennsylvania, d. May 7, 1835, in Butler, Pa. He was of great stature, being six feet four inches. He established a tannery in Butler which he successfully conducted many years. In the War of 1812 he served in Capt. Brubaker's Company, Col. Purmanca's regiment in which were his relatives, James McKee, John Dunbar, and Robert Hoge. He filled with credit and fidelity the offices of County Commissioner and Justice of Peace and was an elder of the Butler A. E. Church from 1812 to his death. Mr. McKee married Nov. 9, 1809, Margaret Dunbar, b. June 5, 1789 in Castle Fin, County Donegal, Ireland ; d. Oct., 1873, in Butler, Pa., and with her husband there buried. She was the daughter of Robert and Jane Dunbar who came with their family to America in 1793, settled at first in Carlisle, Penn., and thence to Butler in 1806. She distinctly remembered General Washington who passed through Carlisle during the "Whiskey Insurrection" of 1794, who excited her childish admiration, which was never forgotten. Hugh and Margaret McKee had issue all born in Butler, Pa. :

- I. Jane McKee, b. Jan. 1, 1811.
- II. Thomas McKee, b. Feb. 17, 1813, d. Jan. 15, 1839.
- III. Robert McKee, b. Jan. 21, 1816, d. 1853 in California.
- IV. Martha McKee, b. May 8, 1818, d. June 28, 1836.
- V. Maria McKee, b. April 5, 1821, d. May 1881.
- VI. Margaret McKee, b. Sept. 8, 1823, d. Dec. 10, 1828.
- VII. James Cooper McKee, b. May 18, 1830, in Butler, Pa. Was educated at the Butler Academy and Duquesne College, Alleghany City ; studied medicine and graduated in 1852 from the University of Pennsylvania. Was appointed resident physician at St. Joseph's Hospital, Philadelphia but owing to impaired health resigned and went to the Alleghanies. In 1853, when the Pennsylvania Railroad was being constructed he located at Altoona, and in 1856 went to Hollidaysburg. He shortly after made application and passed the Medical Army Board, and was commissioned as Assistant Surgeon, U.S.A. in August, 1857. Was ordered to Fort Union, New Mexico, where he served in three Indian campaigns, two against the Navajos, and one against the Apaches, as well as

<sup>1</sup> Civil War.

scouting on the vast territory between Fort Massachusetts, Colorado, and Fort Buchanan on the border of Sonora, until April 1861. In July he was with the U.S. troops under command of Major Lynde, 7th U.S. Infantry, at Fort Fillmore, who surrendered his forces to the Rebels ; so indignant was Major McKee at this disgraceful affair that he subsequently published a "Narrative of the surrender of a command of U.S. Forces at Fort Fillmore, New Mexico". Paroled with the Command he returned to Fort Leavenworth and was subsequently ordered to Camp Butler, Springfield, Ill., as a prisoner of war on parole, which he reached in April, 1862. In June following he was exchanged, ordered to Washington City, thence to Chester, Pennsylvania, to assist in establishing a U.S. General Hospital in that city. In July he was ordered to the headquarters of the Army of Virginia, as Assistant Medical Director, General Pope commanding, and was on duty at second battle of Bull Run and at Antietam, and director of the hospitals at Frederick City, Maryland. During 1862 and 1863 he continued with the Army of the Potomac as Medical Director. In May, 1863 he took charge of the Cavalry Street Hospital, Baltimore ; in June he was ordered to Pittsburgh to establish a General Hospital and in the autumn of that year, was sent to Washington City in command of the Lincoln General Hospital, where he continued until 1865, during which period over 25,000 sick and wounded soldiers were cared for. In 1868 he was ordered to Santa Fe, New Mexico, as Chief Medical Officer of the District ; in 1870 to Staten Island, N.Y., and 1873 to the Presidio, at San Francisco, California. In 1876 he was at Fort Mipple, A.T. (Arizona Territory) as Medical Director of the Department of Arizona, where he remained until 1880 ; in 1883 he was again at the Presidio, Brevetted Lieutenant Colonel, U.S.A., for faithful and meritorious services ; he was at Vancouver Barracks, Washington Territory in 1884, and in 1885 at Boston. Owing to an accident a few years since, the Doctor was rendered a cripple for life ; is unmarried, resides at Butler, Penna.

#### John McKee from County Monaghan.

The following anecdote came to the author's attention, and although he has been unsuccessful in attempts to trace the line out further, it is included for the benefit of researchers who may find that it fills a space in their own puzzle :

"The authentic connected history of the family begins with the arrival in America of its founder, John McKee, from County Monaghan, Ireland, about 1775. He landed at Charleston and remained in the Carolinas. Being of Scotch ancestry he early discerned the relationship of the colonies to England, espoused their cause and gave them his services. He served as a private at least two terms, and later, though unrecorded, gave his life to secure and establish a free and independent government for the land of his adoption. In an interval of service he married Polly McCoy of Virginia and settled in North Carolina early in 1780. The King's Mountain campaign began in August, 1780, and early in its inception John McKee left his home and bride and joined the ranks of the mixed American forces. On Sept. 12th in a skirmish at Case's Run, he was shot at his post of duty and expired soon after. He was buried where he fell. His death was due to the treachery of a Tory whom he had befriended. Before he expired he delivered to his comrade and friend, Thomas Shaw, tender messages to his wife and charged him to provide for her welfare. Shaw accepted the trust, took the widow to her people in Virginia and returned, serving through the war. When peace was secured Shaw married Polly McKee, and removed to Bourbon County, Kentucky, where they lived to old age. The early sacrifice of his life in the cause of liberty and of his adopted country rendered brief the history of John McKee (1). Little else is known, save that his compatriot Thomas Shaw after spoke of him with deep feeling and in terms of profound regard. His

character was doubtless reproduced in his son, who, more than the father, actually founded the family in America. John McKee (II) spent his life in Bourbon Co., Kentucky. He was the builder and owner of 'The Mills', at Reddell's Mills, once an important point, now deserted. He was unassuming, intelligent, capable and industrious; of marked uprightness of character and life and was greatly loved and respected. He owned slaves, but never sold them, permitting them to work out, or gave them their freedom. He is buried in the old churchyard at Reddell's Mills, now long in ruin. The early generations of McKees in physique were very tall, with large frames, but spare in flesh, florid complexion, blue eyes and sandy hair".

The matter that follows does pertain to the pioneer and the Revolutionary War veteran delineated so briefly above :

The following letter was received from William M. McKee of Cynthiana, Kentucky, under date of November 29, 1957.

I am writing in reply to your letter of November 25 to my son, Thomas Miles McKee. We are glad to have this communication from a member of our clan and appreciate your writing to Tom. We hope this may lead to a better acquaintance.

I am enclosing a brief outline of the McKee family of Harrison and Bourbon Counties, Kentucky, and which gives my lineal ancestors. I have not undertaken to set out all the collaterals or to give the intermarriages. My grandfather was a large landowner in Harrison County and had a family of 12 children, 11 of whom lived until comparative old age. My uncle, William, was accidentally killed at the age of 67, which was the youngest that any of them died.

The most of the material set out was gotten from a chart of the McKee, McClintock, Mills, Stipp and Stewart families, 1750-1900, compiled by James Robert McKee of California. We thought it possible that you were closely related to him. This chart or family tree contains detailed information.

#### McKEE FAMILY HARRISON AND BOURBON COUNTIES KENTUCKY

John McKee (I), born N. Ireland about 1755; North Carolina, 1775. Private, Capt. Van Swearingen's Co., Col. D. Morgan's Reg., Continental Troops, July, 1777-March, 1778; 6th S.C. Reg., August 1, 1779-February 1, 1780. Married December, 1779, Polly McCoy. Killed Cane's Run, skirmish, King's Mountain campaign, September 12, 1780, and was buried where he fell.

He and Polly McCoy had one son, John McKee (II). After the Revolutionary War Polly McCoy McKee married Thomas Shaw. They came to Bourbon County, Kentucky, about 1783, bringing with them John McKee (II), a small boy.

John McKee (II) spent his life in Bourbon County. He was the builder and owner of the "Mills" at Ruddles Mill. He married Elizabeth McClintock of Bourbon County on April 4, 1803. They had ten children, including John McKee (III) born in Bourbon County, February 6, 1804.

John McKee (III) married Eliza Wilson (daughter of James and Ritchey Wilson) of Lexington, Kentucky, on April 10, 1828. John McKee (III) and Eliza Wilson McKee had two sons, both born in Bourbon County, John Alexander McKee, born May 15, 1829, and James Wilson McKee, born November 26, 1836. Eliza Wilson McKee died in 1839. John McKee (III) married Nancy Ann Thorn in 1841 and she died in 1847. In 1848 he married Caroline Sweeney. One son, Miles McKee, born to this union.

James Wilson McKee married Jane McClelan Turney (daughter of William and Margaret Fearman Turney) on December 3, 1857. They had eleven children as follows: William Turney, Eliza Wilson, John Alexander (died in infancy), Charles, Julia, Alice, Elizabeth, George, Frank, Jesse Miles (father of the writer and grandfather of Thomas Miles McKee, whose picture you saw), and Turney. Jane Turney McKee died and James Wilson McKee later married Anna B. Talbott, daughter of James T. and Elizabeth A. Conway Talbott of Bourbon County. From this union there was one child, Louise.

Jesse Miles McKee born in Harrison County, January 27, 1876, married Lottie Hickman of Harrison County. From this union there were born four children, Hickman McKee, Jane Turney McKee, Elizabeth McKee (now Mrs. Jack Thomson), and William Miles McKee (the writer).

William Miles McKee married Anna Meyers Ross of Harrison County. From this union there are three children, William Ross McKee, Thomas Miles McKee (president of Ruddles Fort Society), and Elizabeth McKee.

(William Miles McKee—November 29, 1957).

Alexander McKee of Kingsmill, Kentucky, after many years of research has traced the name McKee for 11 centuries to one of the earlier clans of Scotland, and from his compilation the following is here embodied:

“The name McKee comes from and is a branch of the clan Mackay, a name that appears on the pages of history at a very early date. They were a powerful clan as early as the 8th century and were numerous for centuries thereafter. Mackay was one of the Highland clans that fought under Robert Bruce at Bannockburn late in the 12th century. In 1427 Angus Donald Mackay commanded 4,000 men. In 1626 Donald Mackay led 2,000 men in the armies of Gustavus Adolphus, fighting for liberty and freedom of thought. Hugh Mackay was the favorite general of William of Orange, fought at the <sup>1</sup>Battle of the Boyne and gave up his life at Steenkerke, 1692, when England's king led the combined forces of Protestantism against those of Rome in Holland”.

The letters, entries, lists, and observations that follow may seem to be tossed into this chapter more or less at random. The charge contains a grain of truth, because they proved practically unmanageable otherwise. Yet any one of them may prove important to some future search, and the index serves to collate them about as well as they can be collated.

“Among the records of The Adjutant General, Department of the Army, is a file for a James McKee, 4th Regiment Artillery, Continental Troops, Revolutionary War who served as a Private. The file contains four cards confirming the above service and relate to record of settlement for said service, all indicate that date of Issue was Apr. 30, 1785. One card indicates that his name appears in a book under the heading: ‘Return of the Pennsylvania Line, entitled to Donation Lands, reported by the late Comptroller General’. There is no pension file that can be identified as relating to the above veteran. The pension file for the above veteran, if one were extant, might have revealed the data you are seeking concerning the wife and children of the veteran”.

<sup>1</sup> General Hugh Mackay did not participate in the Battle of the Boyne, according to the various accounts of the action and lists of the officers the present author has perused. King William's army consisted of sixty-two squadrons of cavalry, and fifty-two battalions of infantry, in four divisions. Lieutenant-General Douglas commanded the vanguard, Major-General Kirk commanded the right wing, the Earls of Oxford and De Solms commanded the left wing, while King William in person together with the Duke of Schomberg and Monsieur de Scravenmoer commanded the main body. From all appearances, claims that General Hugh Mackay was present at the Boyne are completely at variance with the facts.—R.W.M.

"Since the records in the National Archives do not contain a pension file for the veteran, I suggest that you apply to the Pennsylvania Archives, citing the above data, since the reference to the Donation Lands may reveal a record of application of the veteran or his heirs for that issue, which application may be among Pennsylvania State archives. The fact that the family, in later years resided in Kentucky and Indiana, both of which areas were in the public domain indicates that one of these residences may have been donation lands".

"For your possible interest, though not offered as pertinent to your present search is an abstract from a pension file (this is, by the way, the only pension file for a James McKee who served from either Pennsylvania or Virginia during the Revolutionary War) :

'<sup>1</sup>James McKee was born March 14, 1752 in Pennsylvania. He moved in 1754 with his brother William to Kerr's Creek in Rockbridge County, Virginia. While residing there he enlisted in the summer of 1776 and served 3 months in Col. William Christian's Virginia regiment against the Cherokee Indians. He served again in 1776 for 3 months as a substitute for his brother, William, when the Shawnee Indians attacked Donnelly's Fort. He enlisted again in September, 1777, served 3 months in Capt. Chas. Campbell's Co. He again enlisted Jan. 10, 1781, and served until April 25, 1781 as ensign in Capt. Thomas Harrison's Co. He served 2 weeks in 1781, and for 3 months from July, 1781 in Col. Willis' Virginia Regiment".

"The soldier, James McKee, died August 14, 1832 in Rockbridge County, Virginia. His widow, Nancy, died Feb. 5, 1835. The maiden name of his wife is not shown. The pension due their father was allowed the following children : John T. McKee a resident of Rockbridge County, Virginia in 1835 ; and Mary Jane, the wife of Andrew Bratton, also residing in Rockbridge County, Virginia in 1835".

"William McKee, brother of the soldier, in 1835 was a resident of Rockbridge County, Virginia".

"Also found and here noted for your possible interest was a single carded record for James McKee, Captain. Capt. James McKee's Company of Militia of the 5th Battalion of Cumberland County, commanded by Col. Joseph Armstrong, Revolutionary War. The card contains the entry : Entered into ye service Dec. 5, 1776".

Sincerely yours,

Sgd. ROSE Wechsler

(Miss) Rose Wechsler.

"Your letter of March 30, addressed to the Division of Public Records, has been referred to the Genealogical Section of the State Library, for reply".

"The service for James McKee referred to in your letter was in Cumberland County. We have found considerable information on the McKees in the History of Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. It seems there were two men named James McKee, also a Captain John McKee. We are unable, however, from any data we have found to determine which was father and son. We quote the following excerpts taken from the history, as follows :

*On Page 89* is a reference to the regiment—'Most of this regiment was raised in Hamilton, Letterkenny and Lurgan Townships, and its companies at different times were under Capts. John Andrew . . . James McKee . . . (1777)'.  
*Page 137* : 'In 1777 John Andrew was Commissioner of the county, while James Lyon . . . James McKee and others were assessors'.

*Page 210* : A reference to the 'first house of worship was rebuilt in 1765 ; this was succeeded in 1781—the following officers and soldiers of the Revolutionary War were members of this congregation, or attendants of this church : . . . Captains William Rippey . . . John McKee—Soldiers (among others) James McKee . . .'

<sup>1</sup>This is James Logan McKee son of John McKee of Virginia. Dates are exact.

*Page 346 :* Refers to the Middle Spring Presbyterian Church, stating the ' Old Stone Church was erected about the year 1781 ; among the members listed were John McKee and James McKee '.

We also have in the library a ' History of the Middle Spring Presbyterian Church of Middle Spring, Pennsylvania, 1738-1900 ', by Belle McKinney Hays Swope in which it is stated that James McKee and Captain John McKee were subscribers to the church built in 1781. It also states that Captain John McKee lived near Newburg, and was an Elder of the church. There is also a statement that James C. McKee was admitted to the church May 6, 1821. It is also stated that James McKee, Jr., died January 13, 1839.

We were unable to find a baptismal certificate in the church, stating who were the parents, the ages, etc., of Captain John or James, Sr. and James, Jr.

It will probably be necessary to have the Court records searched for wills, intestate estates or deeds of release, to determine the parentage of James McKee ”.

Sincerely yours

Sgd. Ethel S. Davenport,  
Head Reference Assistant,  
Genealogical Section.

March 27, 1956.

Dear Mr. McKee,

“ I am very sorry for the delay in answering your letter of March 13, 1956. I have been unable to find any McKee tombstones in the Congruity Cemetery. Many of the stones through the years have become quite weather-beaten and cannot be read, and many of the stones have apparently been removed leaving quite a number of unmarked graves.

I also attempted to locate the cemetery records and found that these have been lost, possibly when the church burned about three years ago.

According to the history of the church, Congruity was started on the farm of a James McKee who was one of the first elders. He left the church (apparently moved) in 1809. The records from 1827 to 1870 are in good order and list membership, marriages and deaths for that period, but the McKee name is not listed. As far as can be ascertained there are no records previous to this time.

I wish I could have been more help to you and should I stumble on some information I would be happy to send it to you ”.

Sincerely yours,

Sgd. Frank S. Vigh, Pastor,  
Congruity Presbyterian Church,  
Greensburg, Pennsylvania.

*December 8th, 1955. Search of Westmoreland County Records.*

*James McKee, Jr., Westmoreland Co., Pennsylvania.*

No Will on record for this man.

Administration Docket I, page 260.

No. 74, James McKee Salem Township, Westmoreland County, Pa.

Nov. 23, 1858, Letters of Administration granted to Robert Blakeley, Esq.

Amt. of Bond filed .50.

Thos. McKee and Elrod Blakeley Sureties.

Will Book III, page 335.

No. 51 John McKee's Will, 1829.

To his wife, Jane, possession of all real estate and personal property for her support.

After death of wife, Jane,

To Daughter, Mary Jane, a part.

To Sons, William and Isaiah D., each share and share alike.

Also, my share of my brother, Thos. McKee's estate, when gotten, be divided among my three children.

Dated Aug. 21, 1851, Ed. J. Keenan, D. Reg.

Administration Docket. Book A, page 42.

Deceased, John McKee. Memorandum : that on the fifth day of February in the year of our Lord, One thousand seven hundred and eighty-four, Letters of Administration of all and singular the goods and chattels, Rights, and Credits which were of John McKee, late of Westmoreland County, Yeoman deceased were granted to Elizabeth McKee, Robert Marshall, Arthur Harra. The said Administrators are to make a true and perfect inventory of the personal estate of the said deceased and the same in the Register's Office at or before the fifth day of March next and is to make a true and just account calculation and reckoning on or before the fifth day of February next ensuing the state hereof.

After searching many of the microfilmed deeds, did not find mention of a deed in which children were named, and in fact the old deeds were so written as not to give any information which would be of value to descendants. Warrants, grants nor patents were named to give evidence of how or why property had been taxed.

Children of James McKee, Jr., and Susan Nesbit McKee (daughter of Thomas Nesbit), as follows :

First seven children in Cumberland Valley.

Last three children born in Westmoreland Co., Pennsylvania.

1. Thomas McKee.
2. Polly McKee.
3. Hugh McKee, married Elizabeth Thompson.
4. Martha McKee.
5. Rachel McKee.
6. William McKee.
7. James McKee.
8. Abbie McKee.
9. Andrew McKee.
10. Ruhaminah McKee.

James McKee, the father of these children is buried in Congruity Presbyterian Church Yard, Congruity, Salem Township, Westmoreland County. His widow, Susan Nesbit McKee, went to Ohio in 1811, and a few years later died at her son's farm (Andrew McKee), near Zanesville, where she was buried.

In Walkinshaw's *Annals of Pennsylvania*, Volume II, pages 261-262 :

David McKee, wife, Margaret, and 5 sons :

1. Robert.
2. James.
3. Thomas.
4. David.
5. John,  
and 2 Daughters.
6. Mary.
7. Margaret.

All arrived in America in 1768.

Thomas was born in Ireland in 1749, son of David.

Middle Spring Presbyterian Church, near Shippensburg, Pa. :

Were married : Moses Kirkpatrick and Elizabeth McKee.

East Conococheague Presbyterian Church, near Greencastle, Pa. :

Baptisms :

- December 20, 1808—James B. McKey.  
 May 4, 1809—Jane McKey of John.  
 May 3, 1809—William Jourd. McKey (of William).  
 Jan. 1812—Robert McKey.  
 Oct. 24, 1814—Son of John McKee.

Communicants :

- Nov. 4, 1803—Hugh McKey.  
 May 1808—John McKey.  
 May 1807—Mr. William McKey.

Marriages :

- 1807—John McKee and Isabelle Dunwiddie.  
 Sept. 12, 1812—Samuel Long and Isabel McKey.

McKee Family as shown in records of Cumberland County, Pennsylvania ; cut from Lancaster County in the year 1750 ; Franklin cut from Cumberland in 1784 :

Will of James McKee. No residence given Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, dated the 20th day of July A.D., 1777, and proven 20th day of May A.D., 1782, during Revolutionary War. (This is James McKee, Sr.—R.W.M.) :

Book D page 95. To Son William McKee, 200 acres of land including house and all improvements " where he formerly lived ".

To Son James McKee, Jr. plantation I now live on with all the improvements and all personal estate. I likewise bequeath to him all my right and title to that plantation in Westmoreland County and Hempfield township, to wit, the place formerly belonging to John Davis.

To daughter Rachel Dickson land formerly of Thomas Batterton's.

Witnesses :

William Rankin  
 William Beatty.

Signed : JAMES McKEE.

William McKee renounced as one of Executors who had been appointed with son James to serve as such. James McKee served.

There appears an Administration in Cumberland County of one James McKee ; no residence or section of county is given as residence. Sarah McKee is granted letters of Administration on March 1st, 1785. No final account was ever filed in this case. However, in an appearance before the Orphans' Court of the County on the 23rd day of August, 1785 "Came Sarah McKee, widow and Administratrix of James McKee, saying he left to survive him five small minor children ; none named ; also that he had debts and asked that his real estate be sold to pay these debts". Nothing further of this man or his heirs.

Will of John McKee in Lurgan township (after 1784 a part of Franklin County). Proven Sept. 1st, 1777. Executors James McKee and Joseph Brady. Book C, page 51. Testator a Weaver by occupation. Heirs named :

Beloved wife Isabellow.

Beloved son James McKee.

Beloved son John McKee.

Beloved daughter Isabellow.

Beloved grandson Benjamin McKee, son of James McKee and under the age of 21 years.

Will dated August 3rd, 1777.

Signed JOHN McKEE.

Witnesses :

John Strain

William Strain

Land grant to Hugh McKee of the Franklin section of Cumberland, granted May 18th, 1767, including the improvement, and joining the lands of Joseph Dunlap and widow Wasson.

His will, Franklin County, Pennsylvania, Will Book A, page 33, showed him as *Hugh McKee of Peters township*. He mentions as legatees :

Wife Mary (Nesbit).

Sons : James McKee.

Andrew McKee.

William McKee.

Thomas McKee.

Daughters : Mary.

Isabell.

Elizabeth.

Son-in-law George Dickey and son Thomas McKee named Executors.

Speaks of Mary Wilson and her heirs with no identification.

Witnesses to signing of will :

Alexander Glendenning (Clendenning), Walter McKinnie and Adam Rusk.

Will proven May 22nd, 1795.

Deed Book  
Vol. 8  
p. 207.

Deed dated April 9, 1801. From James McKee, farmer of Salem Twp. Westmoreland Co., Pennsylvania, one of the sons of James McKee, late of Franklin Co., Pa. To William McKee of Armstrong Twp. Westmoreland Co. Pennsylvania, farmer, eldest son of said James McKee, deceased. Whereas, James McKee the father in his lifetime was seized of land situate in Antrim Twp. and died so thereof seized. Will dated July 20, 1777, he bequeathed son William 200 acres, including the house and all improvements whereon he formerly lived and to son James McKee the plantation he lived on—bounds John McMath, Thomas Nesbit, widow McClellan.

Witnesses : William Jack and John Cust.

- Deed Book  
Vol. 8  
p. 209
- Deed dated Nov. 28, 1801. From William McKee yeoman of Armstrong Co. Pennsylvania and Elizabeth his wife, to John Smith of Antrim Twp. Land situate in Antrim Twp.  
(Recital same as Vol. 8, p. 207).  
Wit. : James Orbison and Thomas Kirby.
- Deed Book  
Vol. 9  
p. 52
- Agreement dated Sept. 6, 1809. From Joseph McKee of Lurgan Twp. to Henry Gallentine of W. Pennsborough Twp. Cumberland Co., Pennsylvania. The subjects agree to sell certain lands in the town of Roxbury.
- Deed Book  
Vol. 15  
p. 598
- Deed dated June 1, 1831. From William McKee of Philadelphia and Ann his wife to Matthew McKee of Franklin Co., Farmer. Land situate in Greene Twp. Has a stone merchant mill, dwelling house and contains 15 acres. Sold to William McKee April 16, 1822.
- Deed Book  
Vol. 16  
p. 249
- Deed dated Mar. 14, 1832. From Gabriel I. Kean and Rebecca, his wife, Samuel Long and Isabella, his wife, of Antrim Twp. and Elizabeth McKee and Sarah McKee of Washington Co., Maryland, to Henry Snively of Guilford Twp. Situate on or near the Maryland line in Antrim Twp. called "Nicholas Contrivance" and "Walnut Point".  
Wit. : John McLanahan, Jr., and James Walker.
- Vol. A  
p. 237
- Orphans' Court dated May 17, 1808. The petition of John Kirkpatrick and Moses Kirkpatrick, Administrators of Alexander McKee, states that said Alexander McKee died intestate seized of a lot of ground on Queen Street in Chambersburg, joining Patrick Campbell and Henry Greenawald. He left to survive him a widow (Rachel Kirkpatrick) and issue Catherine and Elizabeth, Minors.
- Vol. L  
p. 272
- Orphans' Court dated August Term, 1869. The petition of Samuel McKee, a son of John McKee, late of Washington Twp. deceased. Said John McKee died about April 2, 1864, intestate leaving a widow Catherine and two children : Samuel and John McKee.
- Vol. P  
p. 174
- Orphans' Court dated September 1877. James A. McKee, late of Letterkenny Twp. died about Feb. 4, 1877, leaving a widow Elizabeth and one son Charles about 4 years.
- Vol. 18  
Deed Book  
p. 298
- Deed dated March 19, 1841. Hugh McKee of Antrim Twp. died intestate leaving issue John Hugh and Sarah McKee. Land situate partly in Antrim Twp. and partly in Washington Co. Maryland. John McKee and Sarah his wife, by deed dated Mar. 11, 1841, conveyed their interest to Hugh and Sarah McKee.  
Wit. : James McCrae and A. B. Rankin.
- Deed Book  
Vol. 25  
p. 177
- Deed dated Nov. 29, 1852. From John McKee of Washington Co., Md. to James B. McKee, Ferdinand McKee and Leander McKee of Franklin Co. Pennsylvania and Robert McKee, William McKee and John McKee of Clark Co., Missouri.  
Consideration : \$5,000.00. Tract of land called "Resurvey Walnut Point", part of "Resurvey on Nicholas Contrivance" and a small tract called "Plainfield", all tracts situate in Antrim Twp. Same land conveyed to John McKee by Sally McKee Nov. 5, 1852.  
Wit. : Thomas Perry and I. W. Heard.

Deed Book  
Vol. 26  
p. 135

Marriage contract dated May 9, 1853. Between John McKee of Washington Co., Maryland and Louisa Spangler of Franklin Co., Pennsylvania. Said Louisa not to claim any real estate of said John McKee, nor John McKee not to claim any real estate of said Louisa at death of each, but at death of said John McKee, Louisa Spangler to receive \$5,000.00 in cash, bank stock or bonds, also said Louisa to select a servant from those in service of said John and at Louisa's death the said servant to be the property of Eveline McKee, grand-daughter of said John, and daughter of Dr. James B. McKee.

Orphans' Court  
dated May 15,  
1810.  
Vol. A.P. 289

James Kirkpatrick of Washington Co., Maryland appointed guardian of Elizabeth and Catherine McKee, minor children under 14 years of Alexander McKee, deceased.

Vol. A  
p. 412

Orphans' Court dated Mar. 9, 1813. James Wood of Greencastle, appointed guardian of James McKee, 14 years and upward, minor child of William McKee.

Vol. A  
p. 37

Orphans' Court dated Oct. 1, 1792. John Riddle Esq., appointed guardian of Joseph McKee, minor child of John McKee, late of Mount Pleasant Twp., Westmoreland Co., Pennsylvania.

Taxables : Franklin County, Pennsylvania.

1786  
Lurgan Twp.  
James McKee

2 horses  
4 cows  
1 servant

4 cows  
Freeman : Wm. McKee

1786—Peters Twp.  
Hugh McKee  
Freeman : Wm. McKee

1788—Lurgan Twp.  
James McKee  
285 ac

1789—Antrim Twp.  
Wm. McKee  
200 ac  
2 horses  
3 cows

1786—Antrim Twp.  
William McKee  
200 ac  
3 horses  
2 cows

3 horses  
4 cows  
Freeman : John McKee

1799—Antrim Twp.  
Hugh McKee  
140 ac  
2 horses  
5 cows  
1 servant  
Freeman : John McKee

1786—Antrim Twp.  
Hugh McKee  
141 ac  
1 horse  
3 cows

1788—Peters Twp.  
Hugh McKee  
340 ac  
4 horses  
4 cows  
Freeman : John and Wm.  
McKee

1790—Lurgan Twp.  
285 ac  
3 horses  
3 cows

1788—Antrim Twp.  
William McKee  
Patented Land 100 ac  
Warrented Land 100 ac  
2 horses  
3 cows

1786—Lurgan Twp.  
James McKee  
285 ac  
3 horses  
4 cows

1790—Peters Twp.  
Hugh McKee  
240 ac  
4 horses  
5 cows  
Freemen : Thomas and Wm.  
McKee

Hugh McKee  
Patented Land 100 ac  
Warrented Land 40 ac

1786—Peters Twp.  
Hugh McKee  
Warranted lands 210 ac  
Located lands 130 ac  
4 horses

1791—Antrim Twp.  
William McKee  
200 ac  
2 horses  
3 cows

Hugh McKee  
150 ac  
2 horses  
3 cows

1791—Lurgan Twp.  
James McKee  
200 ac  
3 horses  
4 cows

Benj. McKee  
85 ac

John McKee  
2 horses  
3 cows  
Freeman : Benj. McKee

1791—Peters Twp.  
340 ac  
4 horses  
10 cows  
Freemen : Thos. McKee and  
Wm. McKee

1793—Lurgan Twp.  
James McKee  
Benj. McKee  
John McKee  
Freemen : James McKee and  
Benj. McKee

1793—Antrim Twp.  
William McKee  
Hugh McKee

1793—Peters Twp.  
Hugh McKee  
Freeman : Wm. McKee

1793—Montgomery Twp.  
Robert Mcky, Freeman.

1794—Lurgan Twp.  
James McKee Sr.  
3 horses  
2 cows

Benj. McKee  
Freeman : James McKee

1794—Peters Twp.  
Hugh McKee

1794—Guilford Twp.  
John McKee  
1 horse  
2 cows

1796—Antrim Twp.  
Wm. McKee  
200 ac  
2 horses  
3 cows

James McKee  
1 cow

1796—Antrim Twp.  
Hugh McKee  
141 ac  
2 horses  
4 cows  
1 negro

Robert McKee (Maryland)  
94 ac  
John McKee (Md. line)

1796—Metal Twp.  
John McKee  
100 ac  
3 cows

1796—Guilford Twp.  
John McKee  
2 horses  
2 cows

1796—Lurgan Twp.  
Benj. McKee  
85 ac  
1 cow

1796—Lurgan Twp.  
Elizabeth McKee, widow  
200 ac  
2 horses  
1 cow

1796—Peters Twp.  
Thomas McKee  
300 ac  
4 horses  
5 cows  
Freeman : Thos. McKee

1799—Peters Twp.  
. . . . McKee  
3 horses  
1 cow

1799—Lurgan Twp.  
Benj. McKee  
85 ac  
an old barn  
1 log house  
1 horse  
2 cows

1799—Lurgan  
Elizabeth McKee, Widow  
200 ac  
a log barn  
1 log dwelling house  
4 horses  
2 cows  
Freeman : Joseph McKee,  
Shoemaker

1799—Antrim Twp.  
Hugh McKee  
160 ac  
4 horses  
3 cows  
1 slave

Robert McKee (Maryland)  
94 acres

1799—Fannett Twp.  
Samuel McKee  
Freeman : David McKee,  
Joiner

1800—Antrim Twp.  
Hugh McKee  
Robert McKee  
Jno. McKee

1800—Montgomery Twp.  
Wm. McKee

1804—Antrim Twp. Hugh McKee 547 ac and slaves 10 horses 10 cows	Benj. McKee 1 cow	3 horses 2 cows
Hugh McKee 150 ac 4 horses 5 cows 1 still 1 slave	Joseph McKee (Shoemaker) 1 house 1 lot	1807—Antrim Twp. Robert McKee (Maryland)
1804—Antrim Twp. 3 horses 3 cows	James McKee 200 ac 1 horse 5 cows	1807—Greene Twp. Michael McKee 2 cows
Robert McKee (Maryland) 94 acres	Freeman : Joseph McKee	1807—Lurgan Twp. Joseph McKee, Shoemaker 1 house 1 lot Occupation
1804—Lurgan Twp.	1807—Antrim Twp. Hugh McKee 150 ac 1 slave 4 horses 4 cows	James McKee 146 ac 2 horses 5 cows Freeman : Joseph McKee
	William McKee	

From : *American Revolutionary Soldiers of Franklin County, Pennsylvania*, by Mrs. Virginia S. Fendrick :

ALEXANDER MCKEE.

Served as pvt. under Capt. Wm. Huston, 1780-81. He was baptized as an adult Dec. 9, 1779, by Dr. King ; he had baptized Robert July 28, 1782 and David, Aug. 4, 1783. He married Rachel Kirkpatrick of John, Dec. 7, 1802. Letters of Admr. on estate of Alexander McKee were granted June 19, 1807. His widow Rachel requested that her father John Kirkpatrick and Moses Kirkpatrick, Esq. (husband of Elizabeth McKee, who was a daughter of Hugh and Mary Nesbit McKee) administer the estate. Surety being Benj. Kirkpatrick. Penna. Arch. 5th Ser. Vol. 6, p. 269, 275, 282, 304.

HUGH MCKEE (Son of James McKee, Jr.).

Born near Greencastle, Franklin County ; he engaged in Indian fur trade ; letter from Valley Forge : " In Camp on the Schuylkill, Dec. 12, 1777. Dear Mother : My company came here yesterday and we are preparing for a long stay. We feel that we have a long gloomy winter ahead. The General does not think we will move before spring. My foot is still very sore and walking about in the cold and snow with it bound up in cloth does not help it any. God knows I do not complain when my comrades are also without shoes and without covering, and our country's liberties are in the balance. We laugh at our hardships and joke about the beef-fed Britons. Be brave, the God of Battles is with us. It is so cold, I can hardly write another word and what I have written with this poor quill and worse fluid may not be made out. Father (James) and brother (Thomas) are out scouting toward Philadelphia.

Your loving son, Hugh".

Hugh McKee became a Captain of Riflemen before the close of the War. He was also Captain of the Congruity Rifles during the War of 1812. His wife, Elizabeth Thompson, born 1764 in Cumberland Co. He was buried in old Punxsutawny graveyard, 1st burial.

Geo. P. Donohoe—Hist. of Penna., p. 84.

**HUGH McKEE**

Was a 2nd Lieut. in 1st Company, 6th Batt. Cumb. Co. Militia, July and October 1777 and May and November 1778. He was a pewholder in Welsh Run Church, as were also, Mary and Wm. McKee. His will, probated May 22, 1795, states he was of Peters Twp. Wife Mary (Nesbit); Dau. Martha; Sons: James and Andrew; Daus.: Isabel and Elizabeth; Mary Wilson and heirs; Sons: Thomas and William; Son-in-law George Dickey. It is probable that he was related to James McKee of Antrim Twp., who left a dau. Rachel married to George Dickson.

Penna. Arch. 5th Ser. Vol. 6, p. 367, 372, 376, 383.

**HUGH McKEE**

Served as a private under Capt. Daniel Clapsaddler, 1780-81. He is shown in Antrim Twp. tax lists in 1788-96-99, with land, horses and cows and a negro.

Penna. Archives, 5th Ser. Vol. 6, p. 93, 116.

**JAMES McKEE**

Served as a private under Capt. James Poe, and Lieut. Daniel Smith, in 1777-78.

Penna. Archives, 5th Ser. Vol. 6, p. 522, 526, 583.

**JAMES McKEE**

Served as private 1780-81, under Capt. John Woods.

Penna. Archives, 5th Ser. Vol. 6, p. 76, 92, 104.

**JAMES McKEE, Jr.**

Born about 1740, moved from Snyder County to the Cumberland Valley. James and two sons, Thomas and Hugh, enlisted in a company of Frontier Riflemen, Regiment commanded by Col. Chambers. Took part in N.J. Campaign, wintered at Valley Forge. In 1783, James and his 8 children removed to Westmoreland County. He had married Susan, daughter of Thomas Nesbit.

Hist. of Penna.—Geo. P. Donohoe, Biographical, p. 84.

**ROBERT McKEE**

Served under Capt. Wm. Huston 1780-81. Tax list of 1796, Antrim Twp., shows Robert McKee, 94 ac land, Maryland and John McKee, Maryland line, also a young freeman.

Penna. Archives, 5th Ser. Vol. 6, p. 269, 275, 283.

**THOMAS McKEE**

Private under Capt. James Poe in 1782.

Penna. Archives, 5th Ser. Vol. 6, p. 576.

**WILLIAM McKEE**

Private under Capt. James Poe in 1782. William McKee is shown in Tax Lists for Antrim Twp. in 1788, with Patented and Warranted land, horses and cows.

Penna. Archives, 5th Ser. Vol. 6, p. 576, 582.

**McKee, Franklin County, Pa.**

Falling Spring Presbyterian Church Graveyard, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania.

John McKee, b. Sept. 29, 1834, d. May 25, 1879.

James McKee, Our Father, d. Sept. 10, 1874, aged 87 yrs.

Sarah, Our Mother, d. Jan. 4, 1874, aged 68 yrs.

Jane McKee, d. Apr. 15, 1873, aged 80 yrs.

Matthew McKee, d. Jan. 19, 1864, aged 70 yrs.  
 Rebecca, wife of Matthew McKee, d. June 19, 1889, aged 85 yrs.  
 John McKee, d. July 2, 1863, aged 78 yrs.  
 John Crawford, son of Matthew and Rebecca McKee, b. June 16, 1836, d. Feb. 5, 1864.  
 Jane McKee, d. Apr. 15, 1873, aged 80 yrs.  
 James McKee, d. June 29, 1834, aged 55 yrs.  
 Elizabeth, wife of James McKee, d. June 29, 1859, aged 77 yrs.

Covenanter Graveyard, Scotland, Pennsylvania.

The grave of Thompson, son of Robert and Hannah McKee.

Spring Run Graveyard, Fannett Twp.

Mary H. dau. of Martin and Mary Hannond and wife of Rev. W. B. McKee, d. Oct. 31, 1862, aged 34 yrs. 8 mos. 16 days.

Pleasant Hall Cemetery.

William A. McKee, b. Nov. 9, 1848, d. 1927.

Emily Etta Alleman, his wife, Mar. 8, 1844—Oct. 22, 1912.

Aaron McKee, Jan. 25, 1878—Oct. 6, 1907.

*From : Franklin Repository*, a weekly newspaper established in Chambersburg about 1790 :

Sept. 16, 1823.

Died on Thursday the 4th inst. John McKee Esq. of Shippensburg, Cumberland Co., Pennsylvania in his 83rd year.

Sept. 20, 1823.

Died Thursday 18th of Sept. Mrs. Agnes McKee of Shippensburg, Cumberland Co., Pa. in her 73rd year, relict of John McKee, whose death was lately announced in the *Repository*.

Feb. 26, 1828.

Married the 14th by the Rev. Mercer, J. B. McKee of Cumberland Co., Pennsylvania, to Elizabeth McKee of Bealsville, Washington Co., Pa.

Jan. 6, 1829.

Died on Sabbath evening the 28th ult. Mrs. Elizabeth McKee near Shippensburg, Cumberland Co., Pa.

July 4, 1834.

Died on March last at his residence in this Boro, James McKee—advanced age.

Feb. 10, 1837.

Died in Lurgan Twp. on the evening of the 19th of January, James McKee Esq. in 68th year.

Dec. 6, 1803.

Alexander McKee of Chambersburg wants an apprentice to the cabinet business.

*From : Middle Spring Presbyterian Church near Shippensburg, Cumberland Co., Pennsylvania :*

January 8, 1789 were married John McKee to Anne Wier.

Oct. 17, 1793, were married Moses Kirkpatrick and Elizabeth McKee.

*From* : Upper West Conococheague Presbyterian Church near Mercersburg, Pennsylvania :  
 Feb. 8, 1791 were married Mr. Lusk and Isabel McKee.  
 Nov. . . , 1782 died Alexander McKee's child.

*From* : North Mountain Shadows and Loudon Road History, by Harry E. Foreman, 1952 :  
 McKEE : William (Billy) McKee was the earliest of this name on the Mountain Road. The old McKee place was above the Frank Sellers farm on the Mountain Road in Letterkenny.  
 James and David McKee were in the Civil War.

Taken from a letter received from the Recorder of Deeds, Greensburg, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania.

I find that we have a few deeds that concern James McKee and others of the same family who may or may not be of the family you are interested in. We have first a deed recorded in Deed Book A, page 502, from James McKee of Antrim Township, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania to John McKee for 300 acres patented to him, April 3, 1769, numbered 1872, located on the west side of the Allegheny Hills in Jacob swamp . . . This is witnessed by James McBride and Hugh McKee and acknowledged in Cumberland County and recorded in 1781. I presume that the location they mean is the low land at the west side of Chestnut Ridge which would be in Westmoreland County.

Second, we have a deed from James McKee of the Pittsburgh Settlement to John McKee recorded in Deed Book B, page 8, in 1786. This seems to be a quit-claim for some interest that he had in land already owned partly by John and is witnessed by David McKee and James Thompson. The land is described as being on the Penna Road, 6 miles from Fort Pitt.

Third, we have a deed recorded in Deed Book B, page 16, from John McKee, Robert McKee, David McKee, James McKee and Robert McKee (probably a son) to a James Peoples for land lying along the Yough River about a mile from its mouth for which they paid 400 pounds.

The matter that follows is excerpted from *Faces Westward* (1956), by Jennie Starks McKee :

Henry McKee, married Eve Cook (Rudy). He died about 1828, as his son Samuel McKee was apprenticed at the age of eleven years because of his father's death. Their children were :

1. Samuel McKee, born March 29, 1817, in or near Harrisburg, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania.
2. Thomas McKee, operated a hotel in Lafayette, Indiana. He was redheaded. He has seven sons, no daughters. In 1874 he lived at or in Matton, Illinois ; his wife was Margaret.
3. Joseph McKee, killed in the Mexican War.
4. Mary Ann McKee, married ? Tittle, Hummelstown, Pennsylvania. Had children : Ann Elizabeth, Darius, Pefina, Clara, Allace Marie. The last three all died age ten, seven, five, within a week with diphtheria. Edward Levi was born about 1861 and a daughter Emma L. Tittle. Mary Ann McKee Tittle is believed to have died in Hummelstown.
5. Henry McKee, lived at Dauphin three miles north of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Samuel McKee, born March 29, 1817 in or near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, was the son of Henry McKee and wife Eve Cook (Rudy) McKee. At the age of eleven years, because of

the death of his father, he was made an apprentice to learn the shoemakers trade. His brother Henry McKee apparently remained in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, and lived at the village of Benevenue, Clarks Ferry in the early eighties. By 1838, Samuel McKee was the "Shoemaker Partner" of Emmanuel Shultz in Miamisburg, Montgomery County, Ohio. In business together these men later became brothers-in-law. Emmanuel Shultz served in the United States Senate from Ohio and Samuel McKee became a United Brethren minister. Samuel McKee was married at Dayton, Ohio, the 26th day of February in 1839 by Henry Heincke, minister of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, to Catherine Beck, born October 14, 1821, in Berks County, Pennsylvania, the daughter of Conrad Beck and wife Mary Anspach. The Beck family has migrated to Ohio in 1823 from Stouchsburg, Womelsdorf Township, in Berks County, Pennsylvania.

Samuel McKee with wife and family migrated to Decatur County, Indiana, about 1846 and settled in Adams Township where he owned a farm. He was pastor at Union Chapel Church adjoining his farm east of St. Paul, in Indiana. He was one of the early "circuit riders" going among his constituents riding horseback and carrying his sermons in his saddle bags. Samuel McKee died September 20, 1895, buried at Union Chapel. Catherine McKee died June 2, 1904, buried at Union Chapel Cemetery.

Their children were :

1. Henry McKee, born November 17, 1839, died December 27, 1885. Married October 25, 1860 to Hannah Hall who died March 31, 1880, age 37 years, 2 mo., 1 day.
2. Mary Ann McKee, born July 15, 1841, died August 27, 1842.
3. William McKee, born October 14, 1842, died November 2, 1862, of Civil War injury. He was never married.
4. Sabina McKee, born October 27, 1844, died November 29, 1917. Married October 1, 1863 to Ebenezer Ridlin.
5. John Beck McKee, born December 10, 1847, died April 27, 1927. Married December 10, 1872 to Mary Pendleton Lowe.
6. George Elias McKee, born May 16, 1852. Married January 18, 1877 to Sally Leffler.
7. Clara McKee, born April 4, 1854, died August 12, 1908. Married November 14, 1872 to George Favors.
8. Charles Otto McKee, born August 30, 1858, died September 25, 1921. Married October 2, 1884 Anna Templeton.
9. Laura McKee, born June 4, 1861. Married August 4, 1881 to Marion Ayers. Laura Ayers is buried at Union Chapel Cemetery, near St. Paul, Indiana.

John Beck McKee, born December 10, 1847, Decatur County, Indiana, the son of Samuel McKee and Catherine Beck McKee, was married December 10, 1872 to Mary Pendleton Lowe, born March 11, 1848, the daughter of Horatio Marksbury Lowe and wife Margaret (Moore) Lowe. John Beck McKee was reared on his father's farm, became a stone mason and later owned and operated a store in St. Paul, Indiana.

John Beck McKee, died April 27, 1927, buried at Union Chapel Cemetery. Wife Mary Pendleton Lowe McKee died January 24, 1922, buried at Union Chapel Cemetery near St. Paul.

Their children were :

1. Nellie McKee, married Clarence F. Kercheval, M.D.
  1. John Marine Kercheval, physician and surgeon, married Christine Reiber, had children :
    1. Kathryn Kercheval.
    2. Kenneth Kercheval.

2. Lydia Katherine McKee, married Rev. Silas G. Huntington. No issue.
3. Ella Gertrude McKee, married Frank Barlow. No issue.
4. Harley Shultz McKee, born November 21, 1878 at St. Paul, Indiana. Married January 7, 1914 to Jennie Starks, born January 13, 1891 the daughter of Edbert Finlaw Starks.

Doctor McKee, was a student in premedicine at Indiana University, graduate in Medicine in Chicago, and is an alumnus of Loyola University.

Children :

1. Edward Sherman McKee, born at New Point, Indiana, Oct. 9, 1919. Purdue University class of 1941 degrees B.S.E.E. Served in Navy Ordnance World War II. Project Engineer Eastman Kodak Company. Married May 31, 1945 to Lois Barnett of Wheeling, West Virginia.

Have children :

1. Marsha Barnett McKee, born April 13, 1947.
2. Mark Harley McKee, born December 3, 1949.
2. John Lowell McKee, born in Greensburg, Indiana, May 13, 1922. Purdue University class of 1943 degrees B.S.E.E. Served overseas during World War II in radar. Commissioned at Annapolis Naval Academy. Extended study at Harvard University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
5. George Edward McKee, died in infancy.
6. John Franklin McKee. Married, left no issue.

The letter which follows is explanatory of the ancestry of Dr. Jesse Hays Baird, who from 1937 to 1957 was president of San Francisco Theological Seminary at San Anselmo, California, one of the nine theological seminaries of the Presbyterian Church in the United States. Dr. Baird, who is 68, is engaging himself in post-graduate work, so to speak, as he expects in the fall of 1957 to serve two terms in Cuba in the Evangelical Seminary at Matanzas, returning to San Anselmo for the Spring Quarter to take up again his work as Wylie Professor of English Bible. It appears to the present author that Dr. Baird may well descend from either Hugh McKee, Sr., or James McKee, Jr., both of whom had a daughter named Martha with a brother named Thomas. The former was very probably an uncle of the latter. The reader's attention is invited to the interwoven histories of these two Revolutionary War veterans in the chapter entitled *McKees of Rushville, Illinois, Descendants of Thomas McKee of McKee's Half Falls, son of Alexander McKee, Veteran of the Battle of the Boyne*. James McKee, Jr., it will be seen, spent the historic winter at Valley Forge under General Washington's command, as did his sons Thomas and James.

Clintonville, Pa. (thru July, 1957)

July 22, 1957

"In 1796 Thomas McKee and his sister Martha came to this locality from Franklin County, Pa., according to records from several angles".

"Thomas McKee, Thomas Beard (my ancestor), Mr. Riddle, and Mr. Ghast were on a surveying team which divided the vast wilderness into 400 acre blocks for settlement. Thomas Beard married Martha McKee and settled on a 400 acre block which has been ours since. I was born on it in 1889. The same (settlement on 400 acres) was done by Thomas McKee. The little town of Clintonville later grew up on the McKee land, named for Clint McKee. These (Thomas Baird (Beard) and Martha) were my great grandparents. They are buried



heard James McKee the Testator within named Sign Seal Publish pronounce and declare the within writing as and for his last Will and Testament and that at the doing thereof he was of sound mind memory and understanding to the best of her knowledge Observation and Belief, and that she also saw James McKee the other Subscribing Witnefs sign his name to the same in the presence of the Testator.

Edward Shippen D. RR

BE IT REMEMBERED that on the twenty ninth Day of November Anno Domini 1762 the last Will and Testament of James McKee late of Derry Township in the County of Lancaster yeoman deceased was proved in due form of law and Letters Testamentary thereon were granted to Margaret McKee the Executrix in the said Testament named (James Shaw the other Executor having this day before me renounced all, his right of Executorship on the Estate of the same Testator who also on his Corporal Oath did depose and say that he was present and saw and hear the said James McKee the Testator within named Sign Seal Publish pronounce and declare the within writing as and for his last Will and Testament and that at the doing thereof he was of sound and well disposing mind memory and understanding to the best of his knowledge Observation and belief, (she the said Margaret McKee being first duly qualified well and truly to administer the Estate of the said decedent and to exhibit a true and perfect inventory thereof into the Registers Office at Lancaster on or before the thirtieth Day of December next and to render a true and just account of her administration on the said Estate thereto Lawfully required. Given under the Seal of the said Office.

By me Edward Shippen D.R'r

### CAPTAIN ROBERT McKEE

This Pennsylvania patriot and officer in the War of the Revolution has many descendants, but very little concerning either his forebears, his personal life, or the identity of present lines stemming from him, is available to me. Indeed, I am indebted to Nancy McKee Fitzgerald and her father Charles T. McKee, of Greensburg, Pennsylvania, descendants, for all that I have learned about him. As mentioned in the preface, he probably immigrated from the vicinity of Omagh in Tyrone, which is near Dungannon the very ancient seat of the royal O'Neills of Ulster, since he named his farm "Omaghi". This is nothing more than surmise, however. It will be seen from the chapter titled *The O'Neills of Ulster* that some rather insubstantial ground does exist to support the claim of one McKee sept that it descends from Hugh O'Neill, Third Earl of Tyrone. While nothing approaching the dignity of proof has emerged to substantiate this claim, it is my opinion that careful investigation might sustain it.

It is believed that Robert McKee was one of five brothers who came to Pennsylvania somewhere near the middle of the eighteenth century, possibly as early as 1740. This would connote his arrival as a child, however; but his captaincy in the Revolution does carry the probability of a mature man, perhaps in his late thirties, at that time. His death in 1813 supports this estimate. In the Dedication of the McKee Cemetery which follows, mention is made that he was 75 at his death in 1813, which would place his birth in 1738. Elsewhere, it will be seen that *the Virginia pioneer Robert McKee*, who was at Braddock's Defeat as a Rifleman, came to Pennsylvania about 1734-37, but that he was mature at the time, having been born in 1692.

Captain Robert McKee's will, dated November 9, 1813, and proved November 23, 1813, which was recorded November 27, 1813, in Will Book No. 1, page 333, Westmoreland County Court House, disclosed his immediate family to have been as follows :

The Supreme Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
To all to whom these presents shall come greeting

Know Ye that in consideration of the Sum of Twenty one pounds fourteen Shillings and six pence lawful Money paid by Robert McKee into the Recovery Generals Office of this Commonwealth there is granted by the said Commonwealth unto the said Robert McKee A Certain Tract of Lands called "Omaghi" Situate on a Branch of Scenicly in Hempfield Township Westmoreland County Beginning at a white Oak Thornence of the Trees of Adam Turner North eighty one degrees East one hundred and fifty one perches to a post thence by John Campwells and South thirty degrees West twenty four perches and an angle a white Oak South twenty two degrees East sixty perches and an half to a white Thorn thence by lands of John Brown South forty three degrees West sixty three perches to a Sugar Tree and South seventeen degrees East nineteen perches to a white Oak thence by lands of Nathaniel Nelson North eighty seven degrees East one hundred and thirty four perches to a white Oak thence by vacant land North two degrees West fifty four perches to a Swamp and South eighty five degrees West twenty eight perches and an half to a white Oak and North eight degrees East one hundred and thirty one perches to the place of Beginning containing one hundred and sixty eight Acres and allowance of half cent for Roads & with the Appurtenances (Which said Tract was surveyed in pursuance of an Application No 366 entered this 7 July 1769 by Robert McKee for whom a Warrant of Acceptance issued the 21 September last) To have and to hold the said Tract or parcel of Land with the Appurtenances unto the said Robert McKee and his Heirs to the Use of him the said Robert McKee his Heirs and assigns forever free and clear of all Restrictions and Reservations as to Mines Royalties Quit Rents or otherwise excepting and reserving only the fifth part of all Gold and Silver Ore for the Use of this Commonwealth to be delivered at the Pits Mouth clear of all Charges In Witness whereof the Honble Charles Biddle Esq. Vice President of the Supreme Executive Council hath hereto set his hand and caused the State Seal to be hereto affixed in Council the first day of October in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and eighty seven and of this Commonwealth the Twelfth

Witness my hand and the Seal of the Commonwealth this 12th day of October 1787

Copied March 1778th 1787 from the original by J. S. Moore.

LAND GRANT TO ROBERT McKEE OF 'OMAGHI'

Wife : Elizabeth McKee  
 Children : David McKee  
           Mary McKee (m. Wm. Lyons)  
           Samuel McKee (m. Nancy McConnel)  
           John McKee  
           Peggy (Margaret) McKee (m. James Patterson)  
           Betsy (Elizabeth) McKee (m. Edw. Pierce)  
           Sally (Sarah) McKee  
           Robert McKee  
           Ann McKee

The dedication that follows has somewhat the flavor of a newspaper article, but it came to me in typed form from Nancy McKee FitzGerald :

### DEDICATION OF THE McKEE CEMETERY

MAY 27TH 1927

"The dedication of the McKee graveyard, north of Greensburg, by Dr. Edward McKee Golden, representative of the State Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, and National Secretary of the McKee Society of America, will take place on Memorial Day. Wreaths will be placed on the graves of Captain Robert McKee and Samuel McKee whose remains are at rest in the old McKee burying ground, and General Arthur St. Clair, whose remains lie in the St. Clair Grave Yard.

General Arthur St. Clair and Captain Robert McKee were neighbours and intimate friends and comrades in arms in the cause of American Liberty and Independence.

Captain Robert McKee's Independence Company of Riflemen of Westmoreland County Volunteers was raised in 1775 from the neighbors and relatives in the vicinity of his home in Hempfield Township, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. Samuel McKee, brother of Captain Robert McKee, served as Sargent in the same company.

In 1775, at the time of the siege at Boston, Captain McKee's Company of Riflemen was raised for the protection of the Western Frontier of Pennsylvania. On the threatened invasion of Pennsylvania in the latter part of December 1776 by the British, Captain McKee's company was ordered East to join General Washington's army on the Delaware, where the company went into camp at Trenton, New Jersey, and became attached to General Wayne's division of George Washington's army, and participated in the battle of Princeton on January 3rd, 1777.

When the British invaded Pennsylvania in 1777, Captain McKee's Company took part in the battles of Brandywine, Paoli, and Germantown, and was encamped at Valley Forge.

The term-of-enlistment of many of Captain McKee's company having expired, he returned with his men to Westmoreland County, and after several months of recruiting he went to Valley Forge, where he was encamped until General Washington's army broke camp to pursue Clinton across New Jersey.

Captain McKee's Company encamped along the Hudson for some time, until they were called upon to protect the Western frontier of Pennsylvania from the Indians and their British allies. The latter part of Captain McKee's life was spent on his farm near Cabin Hill in Rose Fountain Hollow, where he died on November 18th, 1813 at the age of seventy-five years".

## THE BOOK OF McKEE

## HEAD STONE INSCRIPTIONS

Versailles Cemetery, McKeesport, Pa.

David McKee  
 Died October 11, 1795  
 Aged 85 years  
 1710-1795

John McKee  
 Founder of McKeesport  
 Died January 11, 1807  
 Aged 61 years

and  
 Sally Redick McKee  
 His Wife  
 Died July 15, 1814  
 Aged 48 years

John McKee  
 Born 1782 Died 1846  
 Aged 64 years

David McKee  
 Died 1853 Aged 66 years  
 and

Margaret  
 His Wife  
 Died 1847 Aged 61 years

McKEE ROSE FOUNTAIN SHRINE  
 of the AMERICAN REVOLUTION

To the Glory of our beloved Country and to the Sacred Memory of the Heroic Patriots  
 of the American Revolution who sleep in this Holy Shrine

of

CLAN McKEE

Col. James McKee  
 Capt. Robert McKee  
 Ensign Samuel McKee  
 Private Alexander McKee  
 Private Hugh McKee  
 Private James McKee  
 Private John McKee  
 Private Thomas McKee  
 Private William McKee

Erected by

Clan McKee of Pennsylvania  
 Founded 1732

Dedicated by

St. Clair Chapter  
 Sons of the American Revolution  
 Dormont, Pa.

The following letter appeared in an Indianapolis newspaper on June 7, 1958 :

### OUT OF THE PAST

To the Editor of *The News* :

The recent article in *The News* regarding the naming of Warren Township after Maj. Gen. Warren of Revolutionary War fame struck a responsive chord with me. Maj. Gen. Warren died in the arms of my great-grandfather.

Marguerite Elliott, a first cousin of mine, was a teacher in the public schools of Frankfort, Ind., for 50 years. A few years before she passed away she compiled a history of our mothers' forefathers. The following is a part of that history :

Our great-great-grandfather, John McKee, was born in Ireland in 1685 of Scotch-Irish parents. He came to America in 1730 and settled on a farm near Philadelphia where he resided until his death in 1733. He left two sons, Alexander and Samuel.

When the first call was made for volunteers in the Revolutionary War both brothers wanted to go, but both could not leave home. They drew lots to see which one would go and the honor fell to Samuel, who later became our great-grandfather. He went to Massachusetts and enlisted in Gen. Warren's Brigade of 1,500. They were called "Minute Men". The battles of Lexington and Concord were fought on April 19, 1775. The next engagement was the Battle of Bunker Hill on June 17, 1775. Breed's Hill near Boston was the best hill to fortify and from there the Americans had the advantage.

As the British came up the hill they were slain in great numbers. The Americans won this decisive battle. But as Gen. Warren stood looking over the breastworks he was shot by a British soldier. Private Samuel McKee caught him as he fell, and Gen. Warren died in the arms of our illustrious great-grandfather.

Indianapolis

MARK CANN

The present author wrote to Mr. Cann, who was born June 5, 1878, and has therefore at this writing just turned eighty. He graciously supplied the material that follows :

### HISTORICAL RECORD OF A McKEE FAMILY,

compiled by

MISS MARGUERITE ELLIOTT

Our great-great-grandfather John McKee, Sr. was born in Ireland in the year 1685 of Scotch Irish parents. He came to America in 1730, and settled on a farm near the City of Philadelphia, where he resided until his death in 1747. He left two sons, Alexander and Samuel ; one son John J. preceded him in death, in 1733.

When the first call was made for volunteers in the Revolutionary War, both brothers wanted to go. As only one of them could leave home, they drew lots to decide the matter, and the honor fell to the younger Samuel. He went to Massachusetts and enlisted in General Joseph Warren's brigade of 1,500. They were called "Minute Men". The first battle was fought at Lexington and Concord, April 14, 1775. The next engagement was the battle of Bunker Hill, June 16, 1775. Breeds Hill near Boston, was the best hill to fortify, and from here the Americans had the advantage. As the British came up the hill they were slain in great numbers. The Americans won this decisive battle, but as General Warren remained looking over the breastworks, he was shot by a retreating British soldier. Private Samuel McKee caught him as he fell. General Warren died in the arms of our illustrious great-grandfather.

## THE BOOK OF McKEE

Later, Samuel McKee was in the battle of Brandywine, and others of equal importance. He was one of the privation-ridden patriots of Valley Forge.

While the Minute Men enlisted for only one year, our great-grandfather remained in the Army until the close of the war. He was stationed at Fort McKee, in Virginia. This Fort was named for him. He remained there until 1793. In 1781 he married Miss Rachel Davidson, daughter of Jeremiah Davidson, of Davidson Ferry, Pennsylvania, situated about four miles from McKee's Fort, on the Monongahela river. Jeremiah Davidson owned this Ferry and was succeeded by his son, Jeremiah Davidson, Jr. As late as 1847, a grandson, James Davidson, had charge of the Ferry and the original log house where our great-grandfather Samuel McKee and Rachel Davidson were married was preserved as a relic. A large farm residence was the home of Jeremiah, Jr. and his son James.

After his marriage Samuel McKee was stationed at McKee's Fort in command of a small group of soldiers, to be ready for the Indians and Tories who continued to disturb the Loyalists for many years. As it was considered unsafe there for families, great-grandmother Rachel McKee lived with her parents at Davidson Ferry, where their four oldest children were born. Soon after the war, our great-grandfather Samuel McKee sold his farm near Philadelphia and received his payments in Continental money; in less than two years Congress repudiated this money and he was left a poor man. The phrase "not worth a Continental" was born.

After peace was declared with the Indians he, in company with another soldier, moved to Ohio in the spring of 1793. They traveled overland by the Cincinnati route to where that city now stands. There were only a few log cabins in the settlement then. As the men residing there had unaccountably lost their guns, they offered to trade Great-grandfather McKee forty acres of land fronting the river for two guns. The two friends could not foresee the value of that land and declined to trade. They finally settled in the Pleasant Ridge Settlement, where they had a tract of 160 acres of land. Their farms adjoined, and thus in their declining years the two old soldiers lived in peaceful comradeship near each other. Their children intermarried and settled nearby.

Samuel and Rachel McKee had nine children: Lewis, Jeremiah, Elizabeth, Alexander, Samuel, Jr., Rachel, Mary, Cynthia, and Eli. The first four were born near Davidson Ferry, Pennsylvania, and the remaining five at Pleasant Ridge, Ohio. Samuel McKee, Jr., died in 1824 aged 80 years. Rachel his wife died in 1841 aged 85 years.

Eli McKee, the ninth child, our own beloved grandfather, was born November 4, 1802, near Pleasant Ridge, Ohio. In 1828 he married Miss Nancy Howard Griffing, in Rush County, Indiana. She was the daughter of Dr. Ebenezer and Nancy Cherry Griffing, and was born in Bourbon County, Kentucky in 1808. The Griffings were closely related to the noted Thomas Corwin, of Kentucky, who was U.S. Congressman in 1830; U.S. Senator in 1845; Secretary of the Treasury in 1850, and Minister to Mexico in 1861.

Nancy Cherry Griffing was of Welsh descent. On her wedding day her father gave her as a dowry her weight, which was ninety pounds, in gold. This amounted to <sup>1</sup>\$450.00.

Eli McKee and Nancy Griffing McKee were the parents of ten children as follows: Thomas G., Ennis, Sarah, Ella (my beloved mother), Samuel, Mark, Nancy Permilia, and Harriet. Two others died in infancy. Mark eventually gave his life for his country in the Civil War. He died and is buried at Brownsville, Texas. The others lived to see their children, grandchildren, and some great-grandchildren, grow to manhood and womanhood and fill responsible places in life.

Grandmother Nancy McKee died in 1876 at the old McKee homestead in Tippecanoe, Indiana, where many of the children were born and raised. Grandfather Eli McKee died in 1877.

<sup>1</sup> There is evidently some error here, as ninety pounds of gold would be worth a great deal more than 450.00 dollars.

The first McKee reunion was held at the old home which was owned by Ella McKee Cann and her husband C. C. Cann, August 27, 1898. Some one hundred and fifty relatives and friends gathered there to renew old acquaintance and friendship, and to commemorate the founding of the McKee Homestead, which had ever been noted for its friendly warmth and hospitality. The festivities of that day centered in the "Old Big Room" where the McKee children were born, in a large measure reared, and married. The old willow tree, planted by Grandmother Nancy McKee in her young days, spread its drooping branches over the reunited relatives and friends. That willow tree was originally used as a riding switch. One of Grandmother's girl friends, Mary Ann Smoot rode up one day on horseback, carrying a small willow branch for a whip. Grandmother McKee asked for and received it. She planted the slender cutting, which lived and grew to the immense size of 37 feet in circumference.

The descendants of Eli and Nancy McKee are now scattered throughout the United States and in foreign lands. Let us hope that each one is a torch bearer, holding high the heritage bequeathed them.

May family ties more closely knitted be,  
May family pride a loftier aim acquire,  
May we who claim the fine old name McKee,  
Strive upwards towards our parents high desire.

MARGUERITE ELLIOTT, Historian.