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MS 76
BX 10
NBK 12

Midkiff

Peter Jordan

MS 76
BX 10
NBK 12

Lincoln Co
Shenandoah Township
Census of 1870.

146 Spencer Midkiff 60 b. Va.
147 Lewis " 63 b. Va. b. Aug. 9, 1806
d. Oct. 15, 1876
148 John " 23 b. Va.
149 Spencer " 32 b. Va.
150 Adam " 35 b. Va.
151 Alexander " 25 b. Va.

146 Spencer Midkiff 60 d. 3-11-81
Victoria (McComas) 58 dau. Thos. J. McComas
Walden 22
Albert 20
Spencer Jr. 17
Mary A. 12
Nancy Booth 28
Lives in Family

Census of Cabell Co. 1850? 1860?

142 - Solomon Midkiff 45 Farmer \$3000
m¹ America Bias 1, Aug 1, 1850
Wm. B. 21

Solomon m. ^{Sarah?} Cynthia
McComas? &
settled on Bear Cr.
Nancy m. Riley Childers
(Royal?) & settled
in Kalbar Co., O.?
America 1
Gordon C. 19 m. Elizabeth Ann Turner
Ipha J. 17 m. Joseph Hill 3-4-52
Adaline (K) 11 m. ^{Alvin Davis} Richard Adams 21
(12-15) 1-20-66
Cynthia A. 8 m. at 16 Elijah Perry 21
Emily 5
Orange O.

83. Ipha ^{Lewis} Midkiff 83 b. Va.
Staying with Royal Childers 45.

The Midkiffs

Walden Midkiff, the progenitor of the Midkiff family of Lincoln County, West Virginia, was born, in Holland, about ¹⁷⁵⁴ 1754, and came, to Virginia, about 1773, with a company of Dutch settlers, or Black Dutch, as they are called, and settled in Giles County, Virginia. This was a short time before the Revolutionary War. Soon, a company of Scotch settlers came to Giles County, and young Midkiff ^{at the age of 20,} found a life companion, among them and married her. Her name was Miss Joy Lewis. From this union three sons and three daughters were born, namely Spencer, Solomon, Lewis, Nancy, Sallie, and Phebe. Mr. Midkiff died ^{in the spring of} about 1823, leaving the widow with the family to support. At this time Spencer was 17 years old, and he being the oldest son, fell heir to the support of the family. He soon made up his mind to run away, and accordingly he one day loaded his knapsack with food for the long journey to the west, beyond the mountains.

According to law, the oldest son was bound to support the family. It has been said that he came, by way of the New River and Great Kanawha, but that seems doubtful, because of the great distance up the valley of Virginia, to the waters of New River, which he would have to reach to come that way. A more direct route would have been to come directly over the mountains to a point not far from the head of Guyan river, probably in Wyoming or Logan county, and down the Guyan: lotte, to what is now Lincoln county. This route was well known to many citizens of Lincoln, Logan, and Wyoming counties. On his journey over, he was followed by timber wolves.

However, if he came by way of the present Charleston, he staid three or four days with William Cledenin, one of the early citizens of Kanawha county. From here he was said to have come across to Lincoln county, where he was em-

3

played by T. J. McComas, an old settler there.

In the meantime, the young man's mother went on an extended trip to North Carolina, leaving her remaining children in the care of a neighbor. Upon his arrival the other brothers and sisters, according to custom, prepared a feast for him.

Later, his mother returned, from North Carolina. Her children had all gone to Lincoln county, so she determined to sell her few belongings, and follow them.

Spencer Midkiff had married the daughter of Mr. McComas, about 1826, and his mother came over about a year later. On the way, her horse was frightened by the scream of a panther which Mrs. Midkiff mistook, for the screams of a woman. The panther followed her for nearly an hour, but she dropped food along the route, and thus so

delayed the panther, that she escaped unharmed.

Spencer Midkiff built a large log house, on his land just east of West Hamlin, on the east side of the river. He died March 11, 1881. His wife was Vitoria Mc Comas, daughter of J. J. Mc Comas. They were married October 17, 1839.

They were the parents of nine children, four sons, and five daughters:

1. Alexander Midkiff

2. Albert Midkiff

5.

6

3. Walden Munkhiff

4. Minky Munkhiff

5. Julia Munkhiff

6. Jane Mulkiff

7. Ameer Mulkiff

8. Mary Alice Mulkiff

9. Iry Midkiff (Ipha?)
 m. Joseph Hill,
 March 4, 1852

They settled in Boone
 County.

Solomon Midkiff married ~~Amerissa~~
~~Bias~~, August 1, 1850.
~~McComas~~, and settled on Bear Creek.

Lewis Midkiff married Elizabeth
 Condon, June 14, 1832

Orlando Midkiff,
b. Oct. 18/1879

m. Nov. 22, 1926, in Lincoln
Co., Cora Ray, ^{Feb. 7, 1883.} dau. Wm.
Wirt Ray, gr. son of Geo.
Hatfield who was Sheriff of
Cabell Co., before Lincoln was
cut off. My gr. father Ray
was Benj. Ray. My gr.
uncle John Ray of Bear Cr.,

My uncles were Green,
Blackburn, Ulysses, etc. &
an aunt Junie Ray, only
sister of my father.

My gr. mother Ray was
Catherine ~~Ray~~ Ray. She later
married David Nelson of
Monroe Co. as second wife.
He first married a stickler.

Lando was son of
Albert Midkiff and Jennie
(Virginia) Vaughn of Lincoln Co.
He was a gr. son of
Spencer and Midkiff

Lando had one brother &
three sisters

Dora Midkiff

m. Cal Hamron — Ch. Rose

May & Dave. Wm Hamron
deaf & dumb, killed by a train
was Hulch Hamron

Mamie Midkiff —

Oscar Kent Hutchinson

A son, Glenn.

Minnie Midkiff — Engle
d about 1920-23

David Midkiff — died about
1900 or before

Jimmie B. 4-6-1911

m. Maxine Johnson, dau. of

b. Sept 11 1915

Three sons:

Roland Johnson

Ray Leonard Midkiff

b. May 9, 1936, grad
uated with honor May 17, 1955

Went to Romney Paul J. Justice (deaf)
b. May 8, 1937

John Allen Midkiff

b. July 25, 1940

R

Ray Miskiff - Moundsville Rv. 1
b. July 3, 1909

m. 1 Ethel Lockwood, dau.
of Tom Lockwood

~~Two~~
A son Edgar Jennings

m. 2. Gladys Crow of
Moundsville, Hubert
~~Crow~~ No ch.

m. 3. Iris Wellman of
Moundsville

A son Ray Lester
Miskiff b. April 7, 1952

The Midkiffs

83 - Itha Midkiff 83 b. Va. Ipha
With Royal Childers 45

142 - Solomon Midkiff 45 Farmer \$3000

William B. 21 All b. Va.

Gordon C. 19

Ipha J. 17

Adaline 11

Cynthia A. 8

Emily 5

America 1

462 - Lewis Midkiff 43 \$600 Farmer
Elizabeth (Condon) 41 All b. Va.

Lucy 16

Abraham H. 14

Spencer 12

Harriet 9

Adaline 7

Sarah 5

Mary M. 2

Joseph B. 3

464 - Spencer Midkiff 40 Farmer \$4000
Victoria (McComas) 31 All b. Va.

Julia 10

Sarah J. 8

Alex. 6

Waldon 4

Emma 3

Thaniel B. 2 2/3

The Midkiffs

By Elias Midkiff

Spencer Midkiff. Solomon Midkiff.
Lewis Midkiff, brothers came from
Virginia about

I, Elias Midkiff was b. Jan. 23, 1867
My wife

1. was Leona Adkins, dau of
Sig and Louise Adkins,
dau. of Rev. Elijah Adkins.
They lived above Winslow
and just below Bowen's
Cr., on right going down
Sig Adkins was a son
of Dave and Amy Adkins.

Children by first marriage

a. Goldie M. Arnold Moore.

They live at The
Emmons Apt. Two
children:

b. Zell^(m) M. Tracy McClan

They live at O'Con-
nell, Logan Co.

Four children.

c. Carl Midkiff

m. Mildred Fulkes of Lawrence

Co. O., They live at
Ironton, Ohio. Two
Children

d. Sylvia m. Herbert Lurch

They live at Cincinnati

He is a salesman.

One son

e. Reva m.

Live in Cincinnati

No children

~~f.~~

m. Stella

14
Adaline m. Richard Adkins
son of

Mary m. Geo. Adkins of
Fall Creek

the sons Waller &
Percy live at West
Hamlin.

Midkiff Deeds Cabell Co.

Deed Bk 4 p. 464

Oct. 29. 1827, Leven C. Swann,
for \$1⁰⁰ + \$121, deed to John
Ray, Abraham Midkiff, Benit
Jenkins, Adam, Hatfield, Geo.
Hatfield & Isaac Hanley, makes
a deed (of trust?) for all
his personal property, to wit
"one set of blacksmith tools," etc.
Witnesses (See further for list)
Isaac Mansfield
James Sharp

10
Midkiff Marriages

Lewis Midkiff m. Elizabeth Condan,
June 14, 1832 E. Humphreys

Spencer Midkiff m. Victoria McComas.
Oct. 17, 1839,
Hezekiah Adkins

Richard Midkiff m. Susan Butcher
Jan. 17, 1844
Richard L. Brooks

Solomon Midkiff
m. America Bias
Aug. 1, 1850 Benj. L. Perry

Gordon Midkiff m. Elizabeth
Ann Turner, (son of Solomon)
Nov. 10, 1850
Benj. L. Perry

Elizabeth Midkiff m. Parker Adkins
Jan. 11, 1849 H. J. Adams

Ipha Japha Midkiff m. Joseph Hill
March 4, 1852
Benj. L. Perry

Abner M. Midkiff m. Isabella M. Swan
(2-3)

Adaline Midkiff
m. Allen Davis
1856 (2-5)

Cynthia A. Midkiff m. Elijah H. Perry
1857 (2-5)

John A. Midkiff m. Mary Jane Riffe
1857 (2-6)

Adaline C. Midkiff
m Richard Adkins
1866 (2-15)

F. B. & Nannie ^{Ray} Lambert.

To Henry Elisha Lambert

Deed Bk 498 p. 359, 1 1/2 a

Abraham ^H
~~Abner~~ M. Midkiff 21

m. Isabella M. Swann 18 12-3

Feb. 7, 1856. Son of Lewis
and Elizabeth Midkiff. Dan. of
John K. and Nancy B. Swann. Sopher Sparlock
Adaline Midkiff 17

m. Allen ^{Alvin} Davis 21, Son of Daniel &
Oct. 16, 1856 (2-5) Elizabeth Davis

Dan. of Solomon & Sally Midkiff.

John Cynthia A. Midkiff 21 Son of Lewis & E.

m. Mary Jane Roffe 20.

Feb. 25, 1858 (2-6)

Dan. of Harvey & Polly Roff

By Wm. Adkins

Adaline C. Midkiff 23.

m. Richard Adkins 21 (2-15)

Jan. 20, 1866. He & Wayne Co.

Son of Lewis & Christena Adkins

Dan. of Lewis & Elizabeth Midkiff
Melcher Morrill

Cynthia Ann Midkiff 16

m. Elijah[#] Perry 21 b. Orange Co Va
Nov. 2, 1857 (2-5)

Son of Benj. & B. A. Perry.

Daughter of Solomon & Sarah Midkiff

Sarah Ann Midkiff 21

m. James M. Dial 24

Nov. 24 1865 (2-14)

At Falls of Guyan, Son of John & Caroline
Dial. Daughter of Davis & Elizabeth Midkiff

Adeline C. Midkiff 23

m. Richard Adkins 21

Jan. 30, 1866 (2-15)

He b. Wayne Co., Son of L. & Christina A.
Daughter of Lewis & Elizabeth Midkiffs

John A. Midkiff 21

m. Sarah E. Gill (15)

Jan. 7, 1866 (2-16)

Son of Spencer & Veturia Midkiff

Daughter of Joseph & Mary A. Gill.

Sarah J. Midkiff 23 James A. Holey.

m. John J. Bills 23 b. in Wood Co. W. Va.

Feb. 13, 1867 (2-17)

Son of Alfred & Margaret Bills

Daughter of Spencer & Veturia Midkiff (

Henry C. Midkiff 18

m. Lona Carter 20

March 7, 1874 (2-30)

Emily V. Midkiff
m Greenville Ray
May 21 1874 (2-31)

Eliza A. Midkiff 17 19
m. Wm. D. Eden 22 16
April 28, 1875 (2-33)
Heb. Kan. Co.

Solomon Midkiff Jr 22 1/2
m. Susan H. Bledsoe 20
June 30, 1877 (2-38)

Sarah R. Midkiff 26-~~38~~-0-20
m. Wm. R. Taylor, 24-~~44~~-0
Jan. 1, 1880 (2-46) 24-0-11
Thos. Hawkins.

Julia M. Midkiff 16
m. Charles L. McComas 26
March 8, 1883 (2-56)
B. L. Perry

Harvey Mulkiff

m. Sarah E. Jordan

March 29, 1883 (2-36

Roland Bias.

Laura Mulkiff

m. Henry Butcher

Dec. 14, 1884

J. M. Hollandsworth.

Wm. Mulkiff

m. Lillie M. Rowsey

March 23, 1886 (2-68

Victoria Mulkiff

m. Wm. H. C. Smith

Sept. 16, 1886

J. A. Black.

L. E. Mulkiff

m. Sarah L. Morris

Jan. 25, 1888

E. H. Perry.

Carrie A. Mulkiff

m. John H. Barbour

Oct. 17 1888 S. & P. T.

all in Bk >

-- THE MIDKIFF FAMILY --

This story, so simple, yet peculiar, may prove interesting to a number of readers of the Democrat to know the true story of the adventures of their forefathers, their ambition and success in early life, and why or how they came to settle in what is now Lincoln County West Virginia.

The following story was gathered after some difficulty by the writer from consultation with the eldest members of the Midkiffs now living.

About the year of 1773, Walden Midkiff, a Dutch lad of 19 years, came to Virginia from Holland with a company of Dutch settlers, commonly known as the Black Dutch and settled in what is now known as Giles County, Virginia. The boy helped to build homes for the settlers, and during the summer of 1774, engaged in raising Indian corn, potatoes and pumpkins. All went well for a time, and the new settlers soon had a company of Scotch neighbors, who settled nearby: and it was on one of those cozy Scotchman homes where young Midkiff found his help mate, Miss Ivy Lewis, to whom he was married at the age of twenty. To this union were born three sons and three daughters: Spencer, Calloron, Lewis. Nancy, Ellie and Bebe. Midkiff proved to be a prosperous farmer, and a devoted husband and father. All lived happily together until the spring of 1823, when the husband fell sick and died, leaving the widow with six children to face the hardships of life.

Spencer then, the eldest son, 17 years of age, according to the laws of Virginia, became the head of the family, and was bound, under the law, to support and maintain the mother and the

younger children. But this proved to be somewhat of a task for young Midkiff at that age,; and he, like other boys, was filled with great spirits of adventure, and he decided to run away to engage in a livelihood for himself. After managing to fill a leather knapsack with a few morsels of food, the lad started on his journey, traveling westward through the unsettled regions of Virginia crossing the mountains, traveling afoot and alone several days, sleeping under cliff or some rocks, or under the boughs of trees at night, being aware of the dangers to which he was exposed by ferocious beasts and scattering Indians which were then among the mountains of Virginia, and what is now West Virginia.

On reaching the waters of the Great Kanawha River the supply of food gave out, , and it was then that the lad began to hunger, and was worn out from the long, tiresome journey. Never-the-less his determination to find a better place and his ambition to succeed in life encouraged him to continue his journey, and to not give up. On going down the Kanawha to a point six miles east of the present site of Charleston. Night again overtook the lad, who was very much alarmed when he perceived that he was by a large number of timber wolves. Young Midkiff took to his heels as fast as as fast as he could, but was soon overtaken by the angry beast, and being forced to climb a tree, narrowly escaping death. The wolves kept the boy at bay all night until the sun peeped over the hill-tops and then scampered away into the woods.

The lad climbed down, and then proceeded on his journey, reaching a point now near now near the present site of Charleston on the east of the river. To his surprise he came upon the home

of a white settler who came from the Green Brier Valley, and had settled there, and his name being Willie Clendenin, a possible relative of George Clendenin, one of the founders of the Capital City. Here the lad enjoyed the hospitality of his new acquaintance for a few days feast on corn cakes, pumpkins and venison. The meeting proved to be an interesting one and one that both parties enjoyed very much. Young Midkiff and Clendenin told each other of their adventures and discussed their plans, each boasting of their future plans. Clendenin laughingly said that he had been quite fortunate at his new settlement, and that he had purchased his cabin home and a large boundary of land from a friendly Indian for which he gave an old flint lock gun and a bushel of corn meal that he had made by pounding the Indian corn, and it was no trouble to go out and find plenty of game, which served two purposes: food and bedding. Young Midkiff lodged with Clendenin some three or four days, sleeping on a huge bear skin at night, which was spread upon the floor and eating of the wholesome food, which seemed to be plentiful, to which he was awarded a hearty welcome, until he became restless, and ready to proceed on his journey. He then started across the mountain in the direction of the Guyan Valley, and after two days journey reached a farm house near the present site of West Harlin, the house of an old settler, T.J. McComas, or Jeff, as he was commonly known. Here the lad stopped and applied for a job, which he secured upon condition that he would be an obedient and diligent worker.

In the meantime the widowed mother had caused wide search to be made for her wayward boy but without trace of him. The family harbored the idea, or rather, concluded that the boy had been captured by the Indians or devoured by wild beasts. During the spring and summer months following the departure of the lad, the

industrious mother and children, aided by neighbors who lived nearby, cultivated the farm, , producing large yield of corn and vegetables, which was gathered, and stored for the winter. The mother, Mrs. Midkiff, leaving her children in the care of her relative, joined a party of relatives going on an extended visit to a Scotch settlement in North Carolina. The trip was made on horseback, and covered wagon, and required about six weeks to complete the trip.

Young Midkiff was very much contented in his new quarters, and he not only proved to be an obedient young man, but a tireless worker. His strong determination and his personality won the respect and the confidence of his employer; and he was permitted to ride Mr. McComas' favorite saddle horse back to Virginia to visit the family after the farm work was finished. Nothing had been heard of the missing boy, and when he reached the settlement on his return his arrival was a big surprise to the other brothers and sisters--although a very pleasant one. According to custom, the family and relatives prepared a feast which was followed by a merry-making jubilee, but young Midkiff was disappointed to find his widowed mother away, the one he most desired to see, to tell her about the beautiful valley in which he had been making his abode since his departure, and to induce her to come here to live. However, his stay was limited, , and he must shortly return to his employer. After listening to the stories of the beautiful valley and the opportunities that were in store for those who would launch out and grasp them, the other two brothers, Solomon and Lewis, decided to return with the elder brother. They were soon followed by the three sisters, Nancy, Sallie and Phoebe, and came over the mountain in company with Rufus Childers and family, who also settled in

what is now Cabell County.

Spencer continued to live with Mr McComas until about a year later, capturing the heart of his charming daughter, to whom he was married about the year 1826. He continued to work for his father-in-law on the farm, at the rate of 25¢ a day. On one occasion he was given one dollar for a calf and which he sold later for \$1.50, buying three head, which he sold for a handsome margin, and continued this way until he soon accumulated enough to purchase a young horse. This he traded to an old settler for 210 acres of land bordering on what is now known as McComas' ~~river~~ Branch. McKiff was determined to succeed upon his own merits, and efficient management; and by dealing in live stock and timber he continued to purchase more land, until he was the owner of nearly 10,000,000 acres, a boundary reaching from the present site of Sheridan station down the river below West Hazlin and as far back as the head of Fall Creek, which was valued at \$75,000,000 during the year of 1872.

The widowed mother disposed of her property in Virginia about the year of 1827 riding through the mountains on horseback, alone. She, like the elder son, was unafraid, and disregarded the danger which confronted her. Nevertheless, excitement lay just ahead. As the old lady rode along she was forced to dismount and seek shelter from a heavy rain in the hollow of a large, spreading tree. While waiting for the rain to cease she heard what seemed to be the scream of a woman, and her horse became so frightened that he almost broke away from her. In trying to quiet the horse she looked across a draw in a few feet away, and she spied a large panther coming toward her. She mounted her steed astride and made

her escape, but she could hear the screams of the beast for something like an hour, which convinced her that it was giving chase. But, luckily, the lady had brought food with her, and she dropped a portion of it in the road, and by so doing managed to get away from the animal. Mrs. Midkiff brought the first weeping willow bush that grew in the State of West Virginia. Snodgrass erected a huge log house on a portion of the land situated just east of the present site of West Harlin, on the east side of the river, where he continued to live until his death, March 11, 1881,

There was born to this union four sons and five daughters: Alexander, Albert, Walden Linker, Julia Jane Amser, Mary Alice, and Ivy. Just prior to the old man's death he divided his estate among his children, together with ten thousand dollars in gold, which he had kept in his house since before the Civil War. The old man was in sympathy with the southern army, and he at one time, gave 30 head of cattle, to be used as food for the Southern soldiers. Solomon was married to Miss Cynthia McCosges and settled on Bear Creek, this county. Lewis was married to Miss Elizabeth Condon and settled in Cabell County. Nancy married to Mr. Riley Childers, and settled in Gallia County, Ohio. Sallie was married to Joseph Hill, who settled in Boone County. Phoebe was married to George Childers, who settled in Cabell County. There are about 318 Grand-children, 2544 Great Grandchildren and 10,176 Great, great grand-children of the above named children living and residing in Cabell and Lincoln Counties. While the writer was conversing with one of the oldest members of the family the old gentleman remarked, "There is an army of us people, now. I pretty good people, too"; and he laughingly said, that the best feature about the whole generation was that practically all of them are hard shell Baptists and Moss Back Democrats, the kind that would stand the test.

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Spencer continued to live with Mr. McComas until about a year later, capturing the heart of his charming daughter, to whom he was married about the year 1826. He continued to work for his father-in-law on the farm, at the rate of 25¢ a day. On one occasion he was given one dollar for a calf and which he sold later for \$1.50, buying three head, which he sold for a handsome margin, and continued this way until he soon accumulated enough to purchase a young horse. This he traded to an old settler for 210 acres of land bordering on what is now known as McComas' ~~Dix~~ ~~xxxx~~ Branch. Midkiff was determined to succeed upon his own merits, and efficient management; and by dealing in live stock and timber he continued to purchase more land, until he was the owner of nearly 10,000,000^(?) acres, a boundary reaching from the present site of Sheridan station down the river below West Hamlin and as far back as the head of Fall Creek, which was valued at \$75,000,000 during the year of 1872. ? ? ?

The widowed mother disposed of her property in Virginia about the year of 1827 riding through the mountains on horseback, alone. She, like the elder son, was unafraid, and disregarded the danger which confronted her. Nevertheless, excitement lay just ahead. ~~As~~ the old lady rode along, she was forced to dismount and seek shelter from a heavy rain, in the hollow of a large, sycamore tree. While waiting for the rain to cease she heard what seemed to be the scream of a woman, and her horse became so frightened that he almost broke away from her. In trying to quiet the horse she looked across a draw a few feet away, and she spied a large panther coming toward her. She mounted her steed astride and made

her escape, but she could hear the screams of the beast for something like an hour, which convinced her that it was giving chase. But, luckily, the lady had brought food with her, and she dropped a portion of it in the road, and by so doing managed to get away from the animal. Mrs. Midkiff brought the first weeping willow bush that grew in the State of West Virginia. Spencer erected a huge log house on a portion of the land situated just East of the present site of West Hamlin, on the east side of the river, where he continued to live until his death, March 11, 1881,

There was born to this union four sons and five daughters: 1 Alexander, 2 Albert, 3 Walden 4 Minkey, 5 Julia Jane, 6 Ameer, 7 Mary Alice, and 8 Ivy. Just prior to the old man's death he divided his estate among his children, together with ten thousand dollars in gold, which he had kept in his house, since before the Civil War. The old man was in sympathy with the southern army, and he at one time, gave 30 head of cattle, to be used as food for the Southern soldiers. Solomon was married to Miss Cynthia McComas ~~Elizabeth McComas~~ and settled on Bear Creek, this county. Lewis was married to Miss Elizabeth Condon and settled in ^{Salt Rock} ~~Salt Creek~~ Cabell County. Nancy married to Mr. Riley Childers, and settled in Gallia County, Ohio. Sallie was married to Joseph Hill, who settled in Boone County; Phoebe was married to George Childers, who settled in Cabell County. There are about 318 Grand-children, 2544 Great Grandchildren and 10,176 Great, great grand-children of the above named children living and residing in Cabell and Lincoln Counties. While the writer was conversing with one of the oldest members of the family the old gentleman remarked, "There is an army of us people, now. Pretty good people, too"; and he laughingly said, that the best feature about the whole generation was that practically all of them are hard shell Baptists and Moss Back Democrats, the kind that would stand the test.

(Copy)

Egbert Midkiff.

My father's name is Newton Midkiff. He was born August 24, of eighteen hundred and sixty-two. My mother's name was Sarah Susan Scites; she was born December fourth, eighteen hundred and sixty-eight. My grandfather's name on my father's side was Abraham Midkiff. He was born March nineteenth, eighteen hundred and thirty-five. My grandmother's name was Isabell Midkiff; she was born December seventh, eighteen hundred and thirty-eight.

My Grandfather's name on my mother's side was Adam Scites. He was born January 3rd, eighteen hundred and nine. He was in the civil war fighting for the north. He was in the great battle at Gettysburg. My Grandmother's name was Anna Scites. She was born June tenth, eighteen hundred and thirteen.

- HISTORY OF THE MIDKIFFS -

Lewis Midkiff, who was my great grand father, was born Aug. 1, 1801. He lived in Pittsylvania County and came with his father, Abraham Midkiff, three brothers and three sisters to Lincoln County, near Lower Fgo Mile, , which was then Cabell County. He married Elizabeth Condon June 14, 1831, from Kanawha Ciunty. They lived near the Falls of Guyan. One day he had started to his brother, Lewis Midkiff's and had to go through the woods. He ran across a bear and two cubs. He, being used to bears, was not alarmed, and with the intention of driving it on t the other side of the hill and killing it. As he didn't have any gun, he went up to the old mother bear and spoke very kindly, "How do you do?" The old bear. The old bear made a lunge at him, and he was glad to go on his way, leaving the bear alone.

He killed many deer, and when going hunting in winter he would dress in white, to match the snow so the deer would not see him. He was an old-fashioned farmer. He turned his ground with a yokea yoke of cattle and an old style plow, and dropped the corn and covered it with hoes. He threshed his wheat with a ~~xx~~ chaff thresher. It was run by horse power. Wheat, straw and chaff all came out to gather. Then two men would rake off the chaff and stack it. He had a wheat fan, turned by hand, and the wheat was put in and fanned out. It was ground on a mill, turned by water, and the fflour was bolted by hhand.

He also raised cane. The juice of the cane was pressed by wood mills, and the juice was boiled in an iron kettle. He raised sheep, cotton, and flax, and made his own clothing. To him were born the following children: Lucy, who married Elias

Childress; Abraham, Jr. who married Isabelle Swan; John A., who married Jane Rolfe; Spencer Midkiff, who married ~~the~~ Juhlia Midkiff; Harriett, who married Mack Adkins; Adeline, who married Richard Adkins; Sarah, who married James Dial; Saul, who married Judy Dial; Joseph B., who died in infancy; and James L., who married Martha Adkins. He died on October 18th, 1877. His three sons, John L. being my grandfather, and his two brothers, Abraham Junior, and Spencer, were Confederates in the civil war. They were in many skirmishes,, the noted ones, Gettysburg, Bull Run, and several others.

One day, while John L., with others, was on a march and was passing by General Jackson's grave, who was killed by his own men, by accident, their leader had them to dismount and march around General Jackson's grave, and they fired their guns in honor of their great leader.

Abraham Midkiff was ~~prisoner~~ at Camp Chase, where he stayed about eighteen months. He almost starved for awhile, but got out.

All three of these brothers, John A. Midkiff, Abraham and Spencer Midkiff went through the war and returned home safe without any injuries, except Spencer, who was scalped in the temple.

John L. Midkiff, who was my ~~father~~ grand father, went to Cabell County at first, after returning from the war. Later he moved to Lincoln County, on Fall creek. He rafted in winter and ~~xx~~ summer, and farmed in summer. He then quit farming and began selling goods. He died April 7th, 1916.

INTERVIEW OF NEWTON MIDKIFF.

I

I was born on Fall Creek, now Lincoln County, but then a part of Cabell County, on the 24th of August, in the year 1862. I have rafted timber and push boated on the Guyan River up to the year of 1902, when the railroad was built up Guyan River, and that was a death blow to the push boater's trade, for goods could be shipped cheaper and speedier than by pushboats. My father's name was Abrrham Midkiff. He was born and lived on Two Mile creek, then in Cabell County. He was born March 19th, 1835.

My grandfather's name was Lewis Midkiff. He and his two brothers, Spencer and Solomon Midkiff all came from Pittsylvania County, Virginia, in which they were born, and they came here about 1810, or therabouts. After coming here he was united in marriage with Elizabeth Condon~~y~~, and to them were born nine children, one of these being Abraham, , who was married to Isabella Swann and had twelve children, and I was the second son to be born to them. I married Sarah Swann Scites and have eleven children. My mother's name was Isabelle Swann. She was a daughter of Johnny K. Swann, of Merritt's Creek, Cabell County.

This
is
correct

EMIGRATION OF THE MIDKIFF FAMILY TO VIRGINIA AND WEST VIRGINIA

This story, though simple, yet peculiar, may prove interesting to a number of readers of the advertiser to know the true story of the adventures of their forefathers, their ambitions and success in early life, and why or how they came to settle in what is now Lincoln County, West Virginia.

About the year 1773, Walden Midkiff, a Dutch lad of 19 years, came over to Virginia from Holland, with a company of Dutch settlers, commonly known as the Black Dutch, and Settled in what is now Giles County, Va. The boy helped to build homes for the settlers and during the summer of 1774, engaged in raising Indian corn, potatoes and pumpkins. All went well for a time, and the new settlers soon had a company of Scotch neighbors, who settled near by, and it was in one of those cozy Scotchmen homes where young Midkiff found his mate, Miss Ivy Lewis, to whom he was married at the age of twenty. To this union were born three sons and three daughters; Spencer, Solomon, Lewis, Nancy, Sallie, and Phebe.

Midkiff proved to be the prosperous farmer, and a devoted husband and father. All lived happily together until the spring of 1823, when the husband fell sick and died, leaving the widow and six children to face the hardships of life.

Spencer, the eldest son, then 17 years of age, according to laws of Virginia became the head of the family, and was bound under the law to support and maintain the mother and the

younger children. But this proved to be somewhat of a task for young Midkeff at that age, and he, like a majority of other boys, was filled with the spirit of adventure, and he decided to run away to engage in a livelihood for himself. After managing to fill a leather knapsack with a few morcels of food, the lad started out on his journey, traveling westward through unsettled regions of Virginia crossing the mountains, traveling afoot and alone several days, sleeping under the cleft of some rocks, or under the boughs of trees at night, being aware of the dangers to which he was exposed by ferocious beasts and scattering Indians, which were then among the mountains of Virginia and what is now West Virginia.

On reaching the waters of great Kanawha river, the supply of food gave out, and it was then the lad began to be hungered and worn from the long tiresome journey. Nevertheless, his determination to find a better place, and his ambition to succeed in life, encouraged him to continue his journey, and to not give up. On going down the Kanawha, to a point about six miles east of the present site of Charleston, night again over took the lad, who was very much alarmed and frightened when he perceived that he was being pursued by a large number of wolves. Young Midkiff took to his heels as fast as he could, but was soon overtaken by the angry beasts, and being forced to climb a tree, narrowly escaping death, the wolves kept the boy at bay all night until the sun peeped over the hill tops, when they scampered away into the woods. The lad climbed down and proceeded on his journey, reaching a point near

(the present site of Charleston, on the east side of the river. To his surprise he came upon the cabin home of a white settler, who had recently come from Green Briar Valley, and has settled there his name being Willis Clendennin, a possible relative of Geo. Clendennin, one of the founders of the Capital City.

Here the lad enjoyed the hospitality of his new acquaintance for a few days, feasting on corn cake, dried pumpkin and version. And the meeting proved to be an interesting one, and one which both parties enjoyed very much.

Young Midkiff and Clendennin told each other of their adventures, and discussed their plans, each boasting of his future, intentions.

Clendennin laughingly said, he had been quite fortunate at his new settlement, and that he had purchased his cabin home and a large boundary of land from a friendly Indian, for which he gave an old flint lock gun and a bushel of corn meal that he had made by pounding the Indian corn, and that it was no trouble to go out and find plenty of game, which served two purposes, food and bedding.

Young Midkiff lodged the Clendennin for some three or four days, sleeping on a huge bear skin at night, which was spread upon the floor, and eating of the wholesome food, which seemed to be plentiful, to which he was awarded a hearty welcome, until he became rested and ready to proceed on his journey. He then started across the mountains in the direction of Guyan Valley, and after a two day journey reached a farm house near the present site of West Hamlin, the house of an old settler, T. J. McComas, or Jeff,

as he was commonly known. Here the lad stopped and applied for a job, which he secured upon conditions that he would be obedient and a dilligent worker.

Meantime, the widowed mother had caused a wide search to be made for her wayward boy, but without trace of him. The family harbored the idea, or rather concluded that the boy had been captured by the Indians or devoured by wild beast.

During the spring and summer months following the departure of the lad, the industrious mother and children, aided by the neighbors, who lived nearby cultivated the farm, producing a large yield of corn and vegetables, which was gathered and stored for the winter. The mother, Mrs. Midkiff, leaving her children in the care of relatives joined a party of relatives going on an extended visit to a Scotch settlement in North Carolina. The trip was made by horseback, and covered wagon, and required almost six weeks to complete the trip.

Young Midkiff was very much contented in his new quarters, and he not only proved to be an obedient young man, but a tireless worker. His strong determination, and his personality won the respect and confidence of his employer, and he was permitted to ride Mr. McConas' favorite saddle horse back to Virginia, to visit the family, after the farm work was finished.

Nothing had been heard of the missing boy, and when he reached the settlement on his return, his arrival was a big surprise to the older brothers and sisters, although a very pleasant one. According to a custom, the family and relatives prepared a

feast, which was followed by a mery making jubilee, but young Midkiff was disappointed to find his widowed mother away, one whom he most desired to see, to tell her about the beautiful valley in which he had been making his abode since his departure, and to induce her to come here to live. However, his stay was limited and he must shortly return to his employer. After listening to the story of the beautiful valley, and the opportunities that were in store for those that would launch out and grasp them, the other two brothers, Solomon and Lewis decided to return with the elder brother. They were soon followed by the three sisters, Lancy, Sallie, and Phoebe, who came over the mountains in company with Rufus Childers and family, who also settled in what is now Cabell County.

Spencer continued to live with Mr. McComas until about a year later, capturing the heart of his charming daughter, to whom he was married about the year 1826. He continued to work for his father-in-law on the farm, at the rates of 25 cents per day. On one occasion he gave \$1.00 for a calf, which he sold for \$1.50, later buying three head, which he sold for a handsome margin, and continuing this way he soon accumulated enough money to purchase a young horse. This he traded to an old settler for 210 acres of land bordering on what is now known as McComas Branch. Midkiff was fully determined to succeed upon his own merits and efficient management, and by dealing in live stock and timber he continued to purchase more land until he was the owner of over 10,000,000 acres, a boundary reaching from above the present site of Sheridan Station, down the river below West Hamlin, and as far back as the

head of Fall Creek, which was valued at \$75,000,000 during the year 1873.

The widowed mother disposed of her property in Virginia, and came to Lincoln County about the year 1827, riding through the mountains horseback, alone. She, like the older son, was unafraid and disregarded the dangers which confronted her. Nevertheless, excitement lay just ahead. As the old lady rode along she was forced to dismount and seek shelter from a heavy rain in the hollow of a large sycamore tree. While waiting for the rain to cease she heard what seemed to be the screams of a woman, and her horse became frightened that he almost broke away from her. In trying to quiet the horse he looked just across a drain a few feet away, and she spied a large panther coming toward her. She mounted her steed astride, and made her escape, but she could hear the screams of the beast something like an hour, which convinced her it was giving chase. But luckily the lady had brought food with her, and she dropped a portion of it in the road, and by so doing managed to get away from the animal. Mrs. Hiddkiff brought the first weeping willow bush that grew in West Virginia.

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Just prior to the old man's death he divided his estate

among his children, together with ten thousand dollars in gold, which he kept in his house since before the Civil War. The old man was in sympathy with the Southern army and he at one time have thirty-five head of fine cattle to be used for food for the southern soldiers.

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The widow Mrs. Midkiff was married to Thomas McComas, this County. There are about 318 grand children, 2544 great grand children, and 10,179 great great grand children of the above named families now living and residing in what is now Cabell and Lincoln counties.

While the writer was conversing with one of the oldest members of the family, now living, the old gentleman remarked, "There is an army of us, now, purty goodpeople too." And he laughingly said the best feature about the whole generation was that "Practically all of'em were hard shell Baptists, and moss hacked Democrats, the kind that would stand the test.

WRITTEN BY W. F. DAMRON, GREAT GRAND
SON OF SPENCER MIDKIFF

*W. F. Damron, gr. gr. son
of Spencer Midkiff*

EMIGRATION OF THE MIDKIFF FAMILY TO VIRGINIA AND WEST VIRGINIA.

This story, though simple, yet peculiar, may prove interesting to a number of readers of the Democrat to know the true story of the adventures of their forefathers, their ambitions and success in early life, and why or how they came to settle in what is now Lincoln County, West Virginia.

The following story was gathered after some difficulty, by the writer, from consultation with the oldest members of the Midkiff family now living.

About the year 1773, Walden Midkiff, a Dutch lad of nineteen years came over to Virginia from Holland, with a company of Dutch settlers, commonly known as the Black Dutch, and settled in what is now Giles County, Virginia. The boy helped to build homes for the settlers, and during the summer of 1774, engaged in raising Indian corn, potatoes and pumpkins. All went well for a time, and the new settlers soon had a company of Scotch neighbors, who settled near by; and it was in one of these cozy Scotch homes where young Midkiff found his helpmate, Miss Ivy Lewis, to whom he was married at the age of twenty. To this union there were born three sons and three daughters: Spencer, Solomon, Lewis, Nancy, Sallie and Phoebe.

Midkiff proved to be a prosperous farmer, and a devoted husband and father. All lived happily together until the spring of 1823, when the husband fell sick and died, leaving the widow and six children to face the hardships of life.

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that age; and he, like a majority of other boys, was filled with the spirit of adventure, and he decided to run away and engage in a livelihood for himself. After managing to fill a leather knapsack with a few morsels of food, the lad started out on his journey, traveling westward through the unsettled regions of Virginia, crossing the mountains, traveling a-foot and alone several days, sleeping under the clefts of some rock, or under the boughs of trees at night, being aware of the dangers to which he was exposed to ferocious beasts and scattering Indians, which were then among the mountains of Virginia, and what is now West Virginia.

On reaching the waters of the Great Kanawha River, the supply of food gave out, and it was then and there the lad began to be hungered and worn from the long, tiresome journey. Never-the-less, his determination to find a better place, and his ambition to succeed in life, encouraged him to continue his journey and to not give up. On going down the Kanawha, to a point about six miles east of the present site of Charleston, night again overtook the lad, who was very much alarmed and frightened when he perceived that he was being pursued by a large number of timber wolves. Young Midkiff took to his heels as hard as he could, but was soon overtaken by the angry beasts, and being forced to climb a tree, narrowly escaping death. The wolves kept the boy at bay all night until the sun peeped over the hill tops, when they scampered away into the woods. The lad climbed down and proceeded on his journey, reaching a point near the present site of Charlext~~on~~, on the east side of the river. To his surprise he came upon the home of a white settler who had recently come from Greenbrier Valley, and had settled there, his name being Willis (Wm.?) Clendennin, a possible relative of George Clendennin, one of the founders of the Capital City.

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Maggie Johnson Midkiff, wife of Roland Midkiff Died July 29, 1931
Solomon Midkiff, Born March 25, 1805 Died Feb. 11, 1881.

America Midkiff Born May 17, 1832

Blackburn Midkiff

" May 11, 1829

Gorden Midkiff

" March 23, 1831

Ipha Midkiff

" May 19, 1833

Adaline Midkiff,

" Nov. 23, 1838

Cynthia Midkiff,

" Sept. 19, 1841,

Emly Midkiff,

" Jan. 18, 1844

Henry C. Midkiff,

" Oct. 3, 1855,

Lewis E. Midkiff,

" July 15, 1858

Roland Midkiff,

" Feb. 24, 1862

Julia Midkiff,

" Aug. 10, 1866

Thomas T. Midkiff,

" June 3, 1870

Anabelle Arena Midkiff, " March 26, 1872

Horace E. Midkiff,

" Sept. 6, 1890,

Ora E. Midkiff,

" Nov. 30, 1895

Adaline Midkiff,

" Nov. 15, 1895,

Walter J. Midkiff,

" Sept. 1, 1897

Christine E. Draeger

" Feb. 22, 1892

Midkiff,

April 12, 1924,

Annabelle Arena Ray

Midkiff, wife of Thos. E. Midkiff, mother of Horace E., Ora E., and

Walter J. Midkiff.

Addie J. Midkiff, son of Horace and Christine Draeger Midkiff, born March 20, 1924. Died March 20, 1924. Both baby March, and his mother Christine are buried in the family cemetery of Carl Draeger, father of my beloved wife, near Fond Du Lac, Wisconsin.

Ethel May Neighbor Midkiff, my present wife, was born April 8, 1883.

Sallie Morris Midkiff, wife of Lewis Midkiff, was born Jan. 25, 1864 and died March 21, 1944.

C. L. McComas born

Died Oct. 14, 1938.

Broad Perry, " Oct. 12, 1861,

Benjamin L. Butcher, born

" Nov. 9, 1946.

Lucy Morris Butcher, " January 25th, 1867.

1st generation

2nd "

3rd "

Walden Mulkiff b. 1754? d. Spring 182
m. Ipha Lewis b. 1767 (d. after 1850)

Children Nancy b. 1803 m. Royal Childers
Gallia Co., O.

b. 1806 Spencer m. Titwana McComas 1808

b. 1807 Lewis m. Elizabeth Coudox

March 23, b. 1805 Solomon m. Sarah McComas
m. 2 (America Bias)
Ipha ~~Saltie~~ m. Jos. Hill Boone Co
4/4/52
Phoebe m. Geo. ? Childers

Thomas Childers b. 1766
Elizabeth b. 1775

Children:
Nancy b. 1801
Royal b. 1805
Thos. b. 1819
Sam b. 1815

Abraham b. 1826 (6)
Ann b. 1829
William b. 1827

Lewis Midkiff b. 1807, Aug 9, 1806
 married Elizabeth Condon, d. Oct 15, 1878
 b. 1809, 8
 daughter of b. in Franklin Co., Nov 2, 1808
 m. June 14, 1832 by E. Humphrey.
 They made their home near
 Fall Creek, and reared a very
 large family.

1. Lucy ^{June} Midkiff b. 1834 Dec. 12, 1833
 m. Elias Adkins Childers, b.
 m. Feb. 3, 1859
 son of Benj. and Elizabeth
 Adkins Childers, Nov. 7, 1833
 They had nine children.
 (See Childers Family)

2. Abraham H. Midkiff b. 1836 or 5
 m. Isabel M. Swann, Feb. 2,
 1856. She b. 1832, dau. of
 John K. and Nancy Swann.
 They lived in a house
 recently occupied (1928) by
 Les White, the old house
 being used for a barn.

- 25
3. John A. Midkiff b. 1837
m. Jane Roffe, dau. of Harvey?
They lived on Fall Creek
He moved into a small log
house in 1867, but later
built another one. He served
in the Mexican War, and
drew a small pension
of \$5⁰⁰ a month. He was
born in ^{Clover Valley,} Cabell County.
His wife died in 1868.
He died in 1872. Some
of his children were living
in his old home in 1928-
William, Mammie, Susan
and Elizabeth (Lizzie) Other
Children ~~and were~~ were:
Henry, Harvey, Lewis,
Eoliga, Alice, and Lucy.
and

4. Spencer Midkiff b. 1838

m. Julia Midkiff, dau.
of Spencer Midkiff Sr.
his uncle, she being
his first cousin

They settled where
Bennett Midkiff later
lived. Their children:

Albert (called "Billy")
Bennett, Herbert,
Jesse, Emma, Anna,
Virginia, and Inez.
Spencer d. in 1908.

5. Harriet Midkiff b. 1841

Condou
6. Adaline, Midkiff b. 1842
Aug 49.
m. Richard Adkins,
Jan. 30, 1866

He was born, Sept. 5,
1844, son of Lamech
and Christina (Adkins)
Adkins. They had a
large family (See the
Adkins family-)

7. Sarah Midkiff b. 1845-

8. Solomon Midkiff b. 1846

9. Mary M. Midkiff b. 1848

10. Joseph B. Midkiff c. 1850.

11. ~~"Silman" Midkiff~~

12. James Mudkiff, known
as "Jimmy"; He d. in 1920
m. 1. Martha Adkins,
daugh. of
and settled on the
Left Hand Fork of
Fall Creek where
Rev. Ellens lived
Their children were:

Albert,

Waller,

Will

June

Hattie

Zola

Nancy

After the death of
his first wife, ~~he~~
some three or four
years, he married
m. 2. Parlie Lucas, daugh.
of Widow of Jeff ^{and} Boothe

Spencer Midkiff was born about 1810. He married Victoria McComas, daughter of Thomas and Catherine McComas, Oct. 17, 1839. (Rev. Hezekiah Adkins) Being quite industrious, he soon amassed a very competent fortune, mostly in land and stock. He is said, at one time to have owned all the land on Long Branch of Guyan River. For that day, his home was quite a mansion, yet it was an old-fashioned double log house. He devoted himself to farming and raised corn, flax, cattle and wheat. The flax was woven into a coarse cloth, and used for clothing, linen, towels, bed ticks for straw, table cloths, etc. The land was fertile and large crops of grain were produced, yet flour was scarce and costly, because of inadequate milling facilities and biscuits were only found on the tables of these pioneers, on special occasions, such as Christmas, birthdays, or other holidays.

The old smokehouse hung full of hams and other meats the year around. He lived to a ripe old age, died at his home, and was buried in the Midkiff cemetery, at what is known as the Caney farm. After his death his fortune was divided among his heirs, some taking money and some land. The children having been raised up with little understanding of the principles of economy, by which their father had made his fortune, soon lost their inheritance, and had to start out on their own. Spencer d. March 11, 1887.

Their children were:

- 1³ Julia Midkiff b. 1840
m. Spencer Midkiff, son of
Lewis and Elizabeth Midkiff
- 1⁴ Billie Midkiff
- 2⁴ Emmer Midkiff

33
34 Ellen Midkiff

44 Bennett Midkiff

54 Anna Midkiff

64 Jennie Midkiff

74 Herbert Midkiff

84 Inez Midkiff

94 Jesse Midkiff.

34

Alex. Midkiff
m. Bettie Gill, daughter
of and Gill
of

They lived on Two
Mile Creek. Alex. has
been dead several years.
They had six children:
Lando Midkiff
m.

Carrie Midkiff
m.

Sarah Midkiff

Florence Midkiff

Leander Midkiff

"Minkie" Midkiff

m. Julia Vaughan, dau.

of

They lived on Upper Two
Mile Creek. Their children
were

Lucian Midkiff

Claude Midkiff

Virginia Midkiff

Clyde Midkiff

Emma Midkiff

Lawrence Midkiff

Rice Midkiff

Julia Midkiff died many years ago. "Munkie" was living in 1932, and was the only one of Spencer Midkiff's children still living.

Albert Midkiff

m. Virginia Vaughn,

daughter of

They lived at Sheridan. Buried
in the Franklin cemetery.
To this union were born

four children:

Dora

Orlando

Minnie

Maymie

Walden Mulkiff

ms. Jane Mc Comas, daughter

of and Mc Comas

of They had
two children:

Alafare

Angie

Walden Mulkiff and his
wife have been dead for
several years

Ermer Medkiff
m. ^{John?} Sam Bowden son

of
They moved to the
west. Their children
were

Minkie Bowden

Lucian Bowden

Spencer Bowden

Ray Bowden

Will Bowden

Sarah Jane Midkiff
m. John Bills, son of

They lived on Fall Creek
where Wilburn Triplett
lived a few years ago.

Their children's names:

Victoria Bills

Sam Bills

Ada Bills

Lottie Bills

Woodrow Bills

John and Jane Bills have
been dead for many years,
and are buried in the
old Bills Cemetery on Fall
Creek.

^{Bills}
Walden ~~Midkiff~~

m. Viola Hubbard, daughter

of
They also lived on Fall
Creek. They had six children

^{Bills}
Essie ~~Midkiff~~

^{Bills}
Carlo ~~Midkiff~~

^{Bills}
Lennis ~~+~~

Roy "

Duke "

Essley +

They live in a small log
house

Bills

Sam McKiff m. Daisy Ross,
daughter of

They lived on Fall Creek
for several years, and
later moved to Four-
teen Mile Creek

Midkiffs in Census of 1850 - Cabell Co.
83. 142, 462, 464

83 - Itha Midkiff 83 b. Va
with Royal Childers 45

142 - Salomon Midkiff 45: b. Va. \$1000.
Farmer.

William B 21

Gordon C. 19

Julia m. Chas McC. Isha J. 17 - m. 1 — Hill
m. 2 Bruce Perry
Adeline 11 - m. Alvin Davis
Cynthia A. 8 m. Elyah Perry
Emily 5 m. 1 Crosby Bias
m. 2 Slave Perry
America 1 m. ~~Charley McC~~

462 - Lewis Midkiff 43, b. Va.
Elizabeth (London) 41 Farmer \$600

Lucy 16

Abraham H. 14

John A. 13

Spencer 12

Harriet 9

Adaline 7

Sarah 5

Solomon 4

Mary M. 2

Joseph B 3 months.

45

464- Spencer Midkiff 40 All G. Va
* Virginia (McComas) 31 Farmer. \$4000.

Julia 10v

Sarah J. 8v

Alexander 6v

Waldon 4v

Emma 3v

Albert 1v

Nathaniel Booth 22,
G. Va. Labourer.

Mary Alice m. Henry Thompson
son.

"Minkie" m. Julia Vaughan
Ina. m.

* Probably dau. of Thos.
McComas Sr., and sister
of T. J. McComas. Correct.

Gordon C. Midkiff

Jan 11, 1934
By Tom Jobe
203- 3rd Ave

m. Elizabeth Turner, dau. of
Billy Turner and
Rebecca Hall of Wayne
County

See Mrs. Charles Walker
18 W. 6th Ave.

In front of the maples
below Kessler Hatfield
Hospital

See also Miss Mary
Turner 6th Ave., below
8th St.?

Mrs. Walker was a sister
to Tom Job's wife who was
Rachel Midkiff, dau. of
Gordon & Elizabeth Midkiff.
She died March 7, 1934 ~~was~~? 63.

The Jobs. were of Welsh
descent.

The Job genealogy has been
published.

Tom Job ran away from
home at 17, and went with
a small circus. He has trav-
eled all over the world. After
his marriage, he trained his
wife as a circus performer

41

and they traveled with Barnum and Bailey, John Robinson, and John Sparks. He traveled with other shows (or foreign) in South America, Cuba, Mexico, and in China, before his marriage.

Gordon Midkiff d. in 1910, at 74? Buried at Spring Hill cemetery. No stone. She d. 1898. He was a son of Solomon Midkiff by first wife.

Gordon M. & wife had four sons and six daughters.

Major (Harvey), Solomon, Emily, Alice, Sally, Billy, Veloria, Rachel, Robert Morris - 10

The oldest child, a son, died in infancy.

Mrs. Walker ~~is~~ the only one of the whole family living.

Harvey (Major)

m. Ella Jordan, dau.
of Peter Jordan Sr.

She was living at
83 yrs., at time of
this interview. Is living
yet - Jan 15, 1947.

Solomon Midkiff Jr.

m. Susan Bledsoe

They settled in West
Huntington. See Vinson
Midkiff, yardmaster
at C. & O. yards. He
lives in West Hunt-
ington.

See also Valtie Midkiff,
a C. & O. detective,
Louisiana, Kentucky.

Lelia Midkiff, a dau.

m. Lewis Graham
Lives in West ind.

Edith M. m. Harley
Thompson, son of
the stove factory
man. Lives in
South Charleston.

3. Emily Mulkiff m. Greenville Ray
She d. in 1926.

Children:

Waller lives on Rv. 10, at
Bear Creek, above Bear
Cr., first house on the
right.

Frank lives near Mary Turner.

4. Alice m. Delbert Edens, son of
Jim Edens, ^{about 1910} of Lincoln Co.
Both dead. They had
about 8 sons. They
lived at Haldgreen, Ill.
A dau. Vivian lives
there yet.

5. Sally m. William R. Taylor
They lived in Huntington
He was a very fine
cabinet maker. He served
a long time in the coach
department of the C. & O.
Shops. Both dead.
Lula Barnett (dau.?) lives
in Spring Valley, upper end
just this side entrance to

6. William Midkiff

m. Lilly Rousey, dau. of
Co. Supt. John Rousey. Both
dead...

A son Dick lives at
Melissa and runs a dairy.

Rupert (son) is a mail
carrier from 20th
St. to 8th Ave. P.O.

Audrey m. Jake Runyon.
They live on Main
St., in Guyandotte.

7. Victoria m. Charles Edgar Walker

She b. Aug. 30, 1869

He b. Sept. 24, 1875, in
Wayne Co. He was a
son of Alderson and
Flora Davis Walker.

Alderson Walker was a
son of Mr. Walker,
and Rogers, dau.
of Wm. S. Rogers of Hus-
berry Dam.

8. Rachel m. Tom Jobe b.
Feb. 24, 1860, d.

9. Robert Morris Midkiff

m. Anna Tivener of
Gallia Co., O. They
lived in Huntington
A son

Samuel Alvin Midkiff
(oldest son) lives at
18th St. W. 6th Ave
He is going to Beckley
Sanitorium There were
four sons and one
daughter in this family.

10. Ella Midkiff (dau.?)

m. Peter Jordan Sr. She
was 82, at time of this
interview, and lives about
1 1/2 miles above Salt Rock.

Rachel Job was b.

Ry Tom Job 57
203 3rd Ave.
Jan. 18, 1943

She d.

(See Mrs. Kate Walker)

Tom Job was a son of Samuel and Luranna (Roger) Jobe of Marion, Lawrence County, Ohio. They came to Huntington when there were but a few houses in Huntington. Tom Jobe had the following brothers and sisters:

William ("Bill") Jobe worked in the blacksmith shop in Huntington, with his father Sam Jobe, at the Engine Shops, and for twenty-five years, in the Transfer business with Tom Jobe with whom he lived. He is dead.

Mary Jobe m. Jos. Hoffman of Pennsylvania. He was a tailor, at Northcott's, and she was a dressmaker there. They now live at Little Rock, Arkansas, where they moved about 1898. They have no family.

Hattie Jobe m. Billy Riden,
 who followed circus business.
 He was a trapeze performer.
 She died at about 22,
 about 1903. He died
 about 1922.

Carlos Jobe. Single. He
 traveled much doing
 steel construction on
 bridges, etc.

A son died at about 20
 several others died young.

Tom Jobe's children:

Olis b. 1881 d. 1933. Buried at Spring Hill. The old Jobe family have a separate lot there. David Jobe, a brother to Sam Jobe worked with him in Huntington, but left here. His wife was an English woman but was not popular here. They had two daughters whose names I have forgotten.

By Mrs. Major Midkiff

Peter Jordan d. more than 50 yrs.
ago, about. (See Bub Shelton's
widow, a dau. of Lindsey
Carter, son of Rev. George
Carter.) She married 1.
John Henry Jordan, my
youngest brother.

My grandfather was
Elijah Jordan, a soldier of
the war of 1812. He got sick
died on his way home. He
lived in Charlotte County, Va.
He married Martha Elizabeth
Garland probably raised
and married there. After
his death, she came to
Rockbridge Co., & probably
raised the family there.

Peter Jordan m. in
Rockbridge ~~Co.~~ "Nan"
Marcum supposed to have
been related to Wayne Co.
Marcums. I think my father
said they were.

My grandmother came here before I was born Jan 2, 1860. He did not serve in the Civil War. Gordon Midkiff was in the Civil War.

"Nubby" Jim McComas formerly owned this farm. The Solomon Midkiff tract came down to the mouth of Jordan Br., the Cabell Lincoln Co. line which crosses just above the mouth of line. Lincoln Co. on other side of Guyan to mouth of Madison Cr. The Christopher Scites land didn't extend much if any below the m. of Coleman Creek.

Peter Jordan had only one brother. His name was William. He never married but lived with the Hollis's. There were only two brothers & two sisters. All the family came here

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came in wagons via Charleston
He first settled on Bear Cr.
& I was b. there. Millard
Moore lives there now. John
Ray owned it then. It was
owned by Wm. Ray: Andy Ray,
Morris Ray, John Ray, Mary
Ray m. Broadus Perry, uncle to
Broad of Trace Cr.

Two of father's sisters
came here. They were
Evaline - Never married.

d. at about
when I was about 7-8
yrs. old.

Elvira m. Charley Berkeley
They lived on Bear
Cr. several years before
he died. Their children:

Three children living

Billy Berkeley { m. Henrietta
Payton
Charley
Roddy
She left him

~~Roddy~~ 4

~~Charley~~ 4

Martha m. Wilse Johnson
Lived on Pike Cr. Bear Cr. & Coleman

Sally m. John Gillum
Lived on Kilsore Cr.

Moved around
lived on Jim
Porter tract
near Salt Rock
Josh Heath land
whose wife m.
Billy Walker.
She was Jan.
Ross. d. Jan.
1880. R.

Midkiffs .

Rev Mrs. Major
Midkiff Nov. 25, 46

Henry Midkiff m. Iowa Carter,
daug. of Rev. Geo. Carter
Children: ~ About 10.
See Geo. on Madison Cr.

America Midkiff. Probably
died young. (See Geo
(See Geo. Midkiff of
Madison Cr - Salt Rock.)

Lewis E. Midkiff m. Sarah Morris
Living children: About 6 dead
~~Geo~~ Ozy m. Gracie Johnson
Live on Bear Cr.

Alla m. Mullard Moore
Bear Cr.

Edith m. Wm. Lockwood
Hamlin He d.

Pansy - Not m.

Rowland Wm Maggie Johnson
daug. of Andy Johnson,
son of Perry J.
Ezra is a son

Julia M. m. Charley McComas

A son Claude - dead.

Hal lives about Milton

Ellis & Carl live at

Salt Rock.

Dallas m.

Midcliff

Lives above West Ham-
lin.

Thomas S. (J.?) m. Annabelle Ray

Daughter of John Ray.

& Susan Perry Ray

Daughter of Rev. Benj. Perry

Lewis Midkiff, I think

m. Elizabeth (Condon) sister
June 14, 1832 — E. Humphrey.
To Aunt Katie McComas
wife of T. J. McComas.

Abraham M. Swann

He had sons

John Lewis

Newlon

French

Joe

Elias

Gordon Midkiff's dau. Victoria

m. 1. Smith

m. 2 Charley Walker and

She lives in Huntington
below Memorial Hospital

Phone 5-5583 - Chas E. Walker

18th St. 6th Ave.

Thomas Thornburg Midkiff

b. June 3, 1870

d. Dec. 23, 1924

m. Anabelle Arena Ray,
b. March 26, 1872
daugh. of John and
Martha Jane Ray,
daugh. Benj. L. Perry
(Known as Aunt
Queen)

Anabelle A. d. Nov. 13,
1898 (Same date
of Ezra's b.)

Children:

1 Horace Esmond Midkiff

b. Sept. 6, 1890

m. 1 Christine Elizabeth
Braeger,
b. Feb. 22, 1892
daugh. of Carl &
Christine D. of
Fond Du Lac,
Wisconsin.

One son, "March"

b. March 20, 1922

d. " " "

Buried at Indian-
apolis.

She was a Teacher of
Art in Indianapolis
Schools.

She d. April 12, 1924

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Horace E. m. 2. Ethel May Neighbor,
dau. of Rev. Robt. E. Neighbor
of Indianapolis, Ind.
and ——— Belle.

Rev. Neighbor was b. in
England.

No children.

Ethel M. Neighbor

b. April 8, 1883.

Gra Estie b. Nov. 30, 1895³
m. Howard Bowles, son
of David Bowles.
Live at St. Albans.
One son, & 3 daus.
A dau. Christine
is dead.

Adaline Jane b. Nov. 5, 1895
m. Paul D. Young of
Bowling Green, Ky
A son & dau. living
A son dead

Waller Jennings b. Sept. 1, 1897
m. Mary Darling of
Lawrence Co. Ohio.
They live at 1305, 8th
Ave., Huntington
Three daus. & 1 son
1 dau. dead.

All

Roland W. Medkiff

b. Feb. 24, 1862

d. July 11, 1923.

m. Agnes Johnson (Aunt Mag)
daugh. of Andrew & Betsy
sister to Ennis Johnson
She b. (See Ezra)

Children

Ezra b. Nov. 13, 1883

m. "Dinma" Kerr?
daugh. of Mr. Kerr,
of Tyler Co.

Two daugh. & 1 son
Live in Huntington

Ollie m. Henry Milard
Live in Huntington
Phone. No children

Lena m. Liddle
of Guyandotte.
See Ezra.

67
Julia m. Charley Mc Comas
b.

d. Oct. 14, 1938

She b. ~~July~~ ^{Aug} 10, 1866

d. June 18, 1938

Charley Mc Comas was
~~son~~ ^{son} of Milton and

Sarah Mc Comas bur
ied behind the ~~west~~
West Hamlin M.E.Ch. (So.)

Charley is buried in
Sol. Midkiff Cemetery
at Salt Rock.
Milton also buried there
when I was about
10 yrs. old.

(Sarah Mc Comas is in
the church yard cemetery)

Milton Mc Comas was m.
three times. His last wife
was Martha

Julia & Charley had
about 10 children. See Carl
& Ellis at Salt Rock.

65
Midkiff marriages

Lewis Midkiff m. Elizabeth Coudan
June 14, 1832, by
E. Humphrey

Spencer Midkiff
m. Vitoria Mc Comas
Oct. 17, 1839
Hezekiah Adkins

Richard Midkiff
m. Susan Butler (?)
Jan. 17, 1844
Richard L. Brooks.

Solomon Midkiff
m. America Bias
Aug. 1, 1850.
Benj. L. Perry.

Gordon Midkiff m. Elizabeth
Ann Turner, Nov. 10,
1850 Benj. L. Perry.

Elizabeth Midkiff
m. Parker Adkins
Jan. 11, 1849
H. Z. Adams

Alpha Midkiff
~~Joseph~~ m Joseph Hill

March 4, 1852

Benf. L. Perry

(Abraham) ~~Abner~~ M. Midkiff

This was all
scratched out.

Why?

m Isabell M. Swann
(2-3) Feb. 7, 1856. 21418.

Both single & b. Cabell Co. He
son of Lewis & Elizabeth Midkiff
She dau. John R. & Nancy B. Swann

Adaline Midkiff m

Stephen Spurlock

Alvin Davis Oct. 16,
Oct. 16 1856 (2-5) 21417.

He son of Daniel & Elizabeth
Davis. She dau. Solomon
and Sally Midkiff

Cynthia A. Midkiff m

Stephen S.

m. Elijah H. Perry

Nov. 26 1857 (2-5) 21416.

He b. Orange Co. Son of B. L. Perry
She dau. Solomon & Sarah M.

John A. Midkiff m. Mary Jane
1858 Roffe

Feb. 26, 1858 (2-6) 21420.

He son of Lewis & E. Midkiff

She dau. Harvey & Polly

Roffe.

Sarah Ann Midkiff

m. James W. Dial 24 & 21

Oct. 24, 1865 (2-14) He son of
John + Caroline Dial. She dau
Davis(?) and Elizabeth Midkiff

Adaline C. Midkiff m. Richard Adkins

Jan. 30, 1866 (2-15) 21 & 23.

Son of Lamech? & Christena A.
She dau. Lewis & Elizabeth
Midkiff

John A. Midkiff

m. Sarah E. Gill

1866 (2-16)

Sarah J. Midkiff

m. John T. Bills

1867 (2-17)

4. Keith John Single.
At home 32

Alis married

Bess Honaker, of above Charleston
(Concord) She is dead. One
child. Both dead.

Gypsy m. Howard Brackman, Runs
the restaurant of his
mother. (divorced)

Two children:

47 yrs James Thomas Brackman
Jeanne Louise. Both
married

Imogene m. Donald Macdonald of
41 yrs Huntington. Senior Lieut
at Higgins Boat Works
at New Orleans. An U.S.
Engineer ~~(charge of)~~

Job Thomas

Children:

Olis b.
d.

1881

1933.

Burned at Spring
Hill.

The old Job family have
a separate lot there.

David Jobe, a blacksmith
worked with Samuel Job
in Huntington. They were
brothers. He left here.

His wife was an English
woman. They had 2 daus.
I don't know their name.
They (she) was not popular
here.

The Midkiff Family

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Births

Solomon Midkiff b. March 23, 1805
 Sarah (McComas) b. Sept. 11, 1802.
 William B. ^{Blackburn} " b. May 11, 1829
 Gordon C. " b. March 23, 1831
 Ipha J. " b. May 19, 1833
 Adaline " b. Nov. 23, 1838
 Cynthia Ann " b. Sept. 19, 1841
 Emily " b. Jan. 19, 1844
 m. 2 Amer. Bias
 day. Roland Henry C. ^{Quinton} " b. Oct. 3, 1855
 Bias
 2nd wife America " b. May 17, 1832
 Lewis E. ^{Ellis} " b. July 16, 1858
 Roland W. ^{Waller} " b. ~~July~~ Feb. 24, 1862
 Julia M. " b. Aug. 10, 1866
 Thomas ^{Levinburg} S. J. " b. June 3, 1870.

Solomon Midkiff m. 1 Sarah McComas

m. 2 America Bias.

Lewis Elba Midkiff's Family

Births

Lewis E. Midkiff b. July 15, 1858

Sarah L. " b. Jan 25, 1864

Ozia H. b. March 25, 1889

Olga (b. & d.) b. June 25, 1890

Alta May " b. Jan 7, 1892

Lottie Hester " b. June 11, 1893

Elliot " d. & b. Aug 30, 1897

Elbert " b. Aug 10, 1898

Alma " b. May 26, 1900

Baby " b. Nov. 7, 1902

Pansy Lenore " b. Aug 18, 1906.

Above is all of Lewis E's family

Henry & Delbert M. " b. 1874
Iowa Midkiff's George H. " b. Feb. 27, 1877
Children.

Elba. b. Aug. 12, 1879

Gracie M. b. - May 17, 1882

Lenore b. July 27, 1884

Franklin b. - - - 1886

Otis b. - - - 19, 1888

~~Horace b. - - - 1896~~

Luther
of Etta (new Martinsville)

Henry's

Lafe (Phone 6962), 2136
works for Canal

Deaths

Sarah Midkiff d. Nov. 19, 1849

Roland Bias d. May 17, 1875

Solomon Midkiff d. Feb. 11, 1881

Otha " June 19, 1891

Eliot " Sept. 15, 1897

Elbert " Oct. 10, 1898

Baby " Nov. 7, 1902

Lalie H. " Oct. 16, 1920

Lewis E. ^{Elba?} (the father) Feb. 19, 1923

Rowland W. " July 1, 1923

Florence ^{us} (daugh. Lewis) Jan. 27, 1924

Major (Harvey) Dec. 25, 1923

Thomas J. ^{J?} (Thornburg) Dec. 23, 1924

Emily (Daugh. of Gordon) - 1926

^{Son of Walter Ray & Willie Cooper 1222-18th St.} James M. Ray " Oct. 17, 1932

^{Son of Henry E.} Herbert M. Midkiff Jan. 7, 1932

^{Son-in-law of Lewis E.} Willie R. Lockwood Mar. 20, 1933

^{Son-in-law of Lewis E.} Sarah (Sallie) March 21, 1945
b. Jan. 25, 1864

Jordon

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Peter Jordon's children:

~~But~~

1. A girl & 2 boys died
in infancy.

Betty, & ?

2. Billy Jordon

m. 1. Mula Harris

One son - William - He
died young of fever.
Not grown?

m. 2 America Johnson, dau
of Wes Johnson and
Sina (Johnson) Johnson
Wes Johnson was a
son of Burl Johnson
Wes Johnson lived
on 7 mile over
50 years ago.

Their children

June m.

Bias

Lives on Pea Ridge

— a son. d. in
infancy.

72
3. Charley R. Jordan b. July 11, 77th
m. Ann Worley birthday 1930

They lived at Huntington
Two daus. ~~Ruth~~ Louise
and Ruth.

Ruth m. Jean Swann
a sheet metal worker
of Huntington. A
son of a bro. to
Whit Swann.

(See C. & O. Magazine for Dec. 1930)
- island

4. Peter D. Jordan Jr.

m. Leggie Wagner, dau
of Peter Wagner
Both dead. One
son - Roy -
Retired engine carpenter

5. Frances m. Bud Smoot,
half bro. to Geo. Smoot
They had five children
Two living.

Lavalette, Betsy, Stella,
Clara, Redorst boy. Latter
Two living in Huntington

6. Sarah Edwina

m. Harvey (Major) Midkiff.

Children 4 boys & 1 girl.

Hal m.

Lives in Kansas City, Mo.

Elmer m. Lizzie Bills

Live in West Hamlin

Harvey - Not m.

Roy L. Lives at Salt
Rock

m. Elsie Morrison,

daugh. of Ennis

Morrison & (Yates)

Quida - Not m. At

State College in
extension work.

Graduated at Berea

Ky. Also went to

New York? University
Home Ec.

By Sarah McComas, first wife, Solomon
Midkiff had six or seven children:

1. Wm. Blackburn Midkiff
b. May 11, 1829. d.
m.

2. Gordon E. Midkiff
b. March 23, 1831
d.
m. Elizabeth Turner b.

3. Iphigene J. Midkiff
b. About 1833, May 19
d.
m. Bruce Perry

4. Adaline
b. About 1829
d.
m. Alvin Davis

5. Cynthia A. Midkiff
b. About 1842 9/19/41
m. Elijah Perry

6. Emily Midkiff
b. About 1845 Jan. 18, 44.
d.
m. 1 Crosby Bias
m. 2 Dave Perry.

~~Excluded~~ Sarah died (1849) ~~at the time~~

Solomon Midkiff

b. March 23, 1805

d. Feb. 11, 1881.

His father was Walden
Midkiff I, b. about 1754,
died about Spring 1823. He married
Ipha Lewis, from Giles County, Va.
Mr. Midkiff the father, is
said to have died in
the Spring of 1823, and the
family came to this section.
Solomon was married twice

2 To America Bias

b. May 17, 1832, d.
daughter of old Roland
Bias, father of Morris Bias.

1 , Sarah McCombs

b. Sept. 11, 1809, d. 11/19/49
They were married

Ipha Lewis b. 1767 (Census Report)
She was living in 1850, but
date of birth ~~was~~ is uncertain.