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Fred Bussey Lambert

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MS 76
BX 19
NBK 28

Letter from Orlo F. Farley.
" " Eva Duduit [?]

MS 76
BX 19
NBK 28

William A. Bias

m. Mary Jane Brown

Oct. 29, 1860 (2-9) 23818

He son of Anderson and Betty
Bias. She dau. of Thos. S. and
M. A. Brown

Sarah Jane Bias m. David F. Shelton
1865 (2-15)

Druggilla A. Bias

m. Geo. W. Lawhorn

1866 (2-16)

Clarissa Bias

m. J. L. Morrison

1869 (2-20)

Sarah E. Bias

m. John W. Markin

1869 (2-21)

E. E. Bias m. C. H. Rawsey
1872 (2-27)

Mary A. Bias

m. Jasper Smoot

1875 (2-33)

By MRS. KATE McLAUGHLIN.

Charles Lewis Roffe, Sr. born Sept. 15, 1808; died Sept. 19, 1883. His father, Ingraham Roffe, came from in, or near Richmond, Va. and was of English descent; a descendant of Pocahontas, as shown by Mr. McLaughlin's old papers. He was the father of Kate McLaughlin's husband. (Seemed to be clippings from Richmond newspapers given Mrs. McL). (Not so.)

Ingraham R. born June 17, 1772; died March 29, 1845.

Agnes Love, born Feb. 4, 1776; died June 13, 1819.

Mrs. Poindexter, sister to above, says: "C.L. Roffe came with his father and mother from Gettysburg, Appomatox County, Va. when a young man."

They both say: "Susan Agnes Roffe was a siaster to C.L. Roffe, Sr. She married Leven Swann, father of Vasco (White), &c. Lewis R. Sweetland clerked for C. L. Roffe.

Billy Miller says: "C.L. Roffe was a rebel soldier, I think, and was killed in battle during the Civil War." (This is a mistake. He evidently said another Roffe, for C.L. Roffe was not in the army, (too old) and lived long after the war) and Mr. Love knew it.

By Ben Swann, Barboursville, W. Va.

Born on Malcolm farm, Cabell Co. October 30, 1832. Past 77 years old. Father came from Amherst Co., Va. Grandfather came here when father was a boy and settled at the mouth of Cabin Creek in 1805. Lived there until 1810. Came in 1809 and bought land now owned by Tyree Thompson, Ad. Hinchman, Nick Mays and Preacher Steele~~x~~. Bought it of a man who had taken it as vacant land from Virginia. There was a path (Indian trail?) from Charleston. It ended in a lawsuit. Guyandotte oldest town in county.

Tomahawks have been found all around on the river bottoms. Arrowheads were also found in abundance. Adam Hatfield (my wife's grandfather) claimed to have been in the Battle of Point Pleasant. After the battle he and three others were ordered to take their guns and go down the Ohio in a canoe to mouth of first important stream (Guyandotte), pass up to forks (Barboursville) turn up left (Mud River) and go on to Kanawha River to .

When at bottom now occupied by B'ville they saw a gang of nearly one hundred buffaloes, large and small licking the clay bank of Guyan above where the mill now stands. There was a second bottom under the bank covered with a heavy growth of sycamore and elm timber. On the other side was a cane brake. One of the men who was rather large, (200 lbs) went across and hid behind a log while the other came over in town and scared the Buffalo.

They feared to shoot on account of Indians. He caught a calf which became entangled in getting over the log, and he killed it with his knife. This lasted until they joined their command on the Kanawha, at head of what is now Teay's Valley. The object was to ascertain whether there were Indians here, or not. Thus they were

saved from starvation. I have forgotten names.

Hatfield returned in about forty years and settled on the Mather's farm, later dying on the Jim Hatfield farm. This he bought of John Laidley, Sr. grandfather of the John Laidley who hung himself.

John Laidley, Sr. was the Commonwealth's Attorney for forty years and was the leading lawyer all his life. He (Hatfield) came down New River, I think from Tazewell or Giles County. All the present Hatfields are descended from him.

Small mounds were found in the bottoms across from Barboursville. My grandfather's land was inside the "Bryant & Ray" survey--which caused considerable "lawing". I was here at Court in 1858 or 1859 while Jim Brown, of Kanawha County, had bought the Beech & Norton survey, and was lawing some parties. This started on Kanawha at Buffalo Shoals; thence to Sandy, up Sandy and back to Beginning. He gained the suit and ejected all the later comers.

I always understood that the Buffingtons were the pioneers below Guyandotte.

Nearly all the settlers that I knew were from Eastern Virginia.

Old General Elisha McComas came here at an early day and took up a large boundary of land from Smith Creek to Six Mile, in Lincoln County. He made quit claim deeds. Later he went to Richmond as a Delegate. While there he discovered an older claim and bought it of New York parties, returned and ejected many of the settlers to whom he had sold. Among these were the Baumgardners who came here at once. The Baumhardners and McComas's came from Virginia.

When I was a boy the woods were full of old, marked land. Many lawsuits resulted.

I never saw a wild wolf nor a bear. I have seen many deer. I have seen them run through back of town near Wash Chapman's. My grandfather and father, both, said there were plenty of panthers and wolves. They raised sheep, flax and hemp for the woolen part of their clothing. Clothing for "niggers" was made of hemp for summer wear. Ropes were made of hemp. I have helped to do it. My father used to make spinning wheels to make hemp; make a "scutching" board and drive it into the ground. It had to be previously watered to bleach. It could be watered on ground in about four weeks. The brake was used, also, before it was "scutched". It was hard work. Flax lint was better for clothing. It was next "hackled" and spun. It was fine for summer wear.

I believe there was a bounty for wolves. Wolves were gone before my day. My grandfather built the old house still standing ~~just~~ just below the mouth of Smith Creek, just below the bend and Lock No 4 in 1811.

One night my father failed to put up sheep, and his sister put them up. Next morning a wolf was found in there but not a sheep was killed. The confinement scared him.

I have seen many a wild turnkey here and have tried to catch them in the spring. I have seen, perhaps, one hundred in a gang in the fall feeding on the mast. I never heard of any after the war. My grandfather was a great hunter, but my father took no interest in it. Fox skins and coon skins were often sold. Also deer skins for leather. There was a tannery here years before the war. John and Sig. Miller (orphans) were tanners before I can recollect: They were of German descent. They were bound to a man by the name of "Griffin". They ran a tannery below where W.S.

McCutcheon lives. Baker got it, and later, Mr. Leist, the present owner. All were of German descent. The Sanders Mill (Dusenberry) after 1842, when they bought it of Sanders two or three years before he died. Sanders had built the Wilson Rogers house for a store, and Lewis Rolfe ran it. He had a big trade; and later became a partner, and got rich. The mill, before Sanders' time, was a corncracker, and he enlarged it. Colonel Simmons, one of Sanders' administrators says Sanders gave his negroes \$15,000.00 when he set them free.

(Note - Champ Clark, H.D.,
Jan 10, 1907. County seat moved
in 1887. Summs School named
for Henry C. Summs. Emmons School
for Col. C. H. Emmons

M. A. Perry, 75, Mill Branch of Seven Mile,
1844 to 1861 on balance of my life.

1. Ben Sandredge on Little Cabell, Ona, W. Va.

Nathaniel Collins, (85) up Mud. Harvey Clark, John Knight,
Le Sage, W. Va., Joe Cox, Cox's Landing, W. Va.

(a) The Seven Mile (Southern Meth was used as a school about
1848. It went to "rack" during the war. It was built
about, or before 1844. We moved on Mill Branch in 1844. This was
only regular house and it stood in the present Kyle graveyard.

The house was a farem about the size of a small size
school house. Unpainted, weather-boarded, not ceiled, perhaps
had loft, about six windows of glass. Door faced present County
road.

Bought white pine lumber from Alleghany rafts some-
times, and sometimes from saw mills at Millersport, and at Dave
Simm's place opposite mouth of Nine Mile. White pine shingles from
rafts. They sold lumber and shingles and raft consisted of white
pine lumber. Neighbors built it.

After the war the Cox school was first. The house still
stands, and is occupied by a Mr. Harper. It was condemned on ac-
count of a slip in the hill, and the present Cox house was built
at once. Center School was next.

(c) Obe^{diah} White was my first teacher: He was a very good teach-
er and was liked. Taught at church.

School was taught in fall or winter. Wm. Maupin was next;
* Allen McComas next. The Cox and other houses were often used for
churches. The spellers and readers were main texts. Sometimes the
Testament was used.

(e) Used steel points and quills. Bought ink. Slates bought.

No blackboard in any school I ever saw before free schools

Allen McComas 2

Used plank under windows to write on. It slanted in. ~~Miss~~
Grash Fuller taught in the old church before the war. Also Minerva
Farley, and possibly, Sarah Jewell. She lived near Howell's Mill.
Others in Ohio.

1 -- I commenced about 1845. Born 1834.

5. No.

6. Wood fibre in stoves,

8. Obe White was most prominent teacher Lived on Cox's place, and la-
ter on Seven Mile. McGinnis was a good teacher. John White did live
in Guyandotte and might furnish pictures of his father. *

90. I was ten years old when father died. No.

10

11. No Coxs

12. Daily sessions began, and ended about as now

14. Prisoner's Base, ball, &c. The rod, with a promise of more,

* John White evidently
was son of Obediah White.

J. W. Blake, Born April 17, 1825, on
D.A. Allen farm, near Barboursville, West Va.

I -- Old man Blume, Barboursville, W. Va.

Eliza Herrenkohl, Cox's Landing, W.Va.

3 -- (A) Went to school at Barboursville. I first went to school in a little old brick below Dusenberry's Dam on left, above Grove (John Love's). I think it was built for a school. I was about eight years old. It was one story, one window, and large fire places. Andy Marton went there. Mrs. Mat Lusher (Peggy Hodge), Betsey Harshbarger (killed by train), Louis Rolfe, Sampson Sanders went to school there. A Mr. Peyton, raised at Forks of road (Tom's Creek Bridge) was an old man when I was a boy. Becky Martin (Mrs. Johnson) also went here.

My father and grandfather came from Greenbrier County. Grandfather lived near Howell's Mill.

I next went in the old Court House, an old building, torn down to give way to the later Court House, now College. This was used for church, also. I was about twelve years old. We did not go every year; could not afford it. The next house I went in in Barboursville was in front of Billy Miller's house (Southern Church) on Water Street. It was a frame, two-story. I do not know what the upper story was used for. I also went to school this side of present Edwards farm in a log house. It was burnt. Another was built on site. The one that was burned, was built, I believe by the company that built the James River Pike for a shanty. I was only about five years old when this was built. I remember a man by the name of Sharp who taught in Barboursville. I remember another, ~~xxx~~ a kind of "Yankee" from the East. We used to make good ink by boiling walnut and maple bark together. Quill pens. I attended

school, also, to a woman in Barboursville, W.Va. Only one I knew.

School terms were in winter after work time was over. We were glad to get three months. The spelling book was the principal text. I do not remember seeing greased paper used for windows. I do not remember whether they had glass at first, but I think window was open. Used Webster's Spelling book and the Elementary. Used Testament at Barboursville.

I do not recollect any school during the war.

I can remember when holes were cut and boards set in for sash in windows. I believe we used the "Pike" Arithmetic.

-PIONEER METHODISM IN THE BIG SANDY -

In Floyd County, at a point now called Tram, in 1808, the first Methodist class in the Big Sandy Valley was organized in the home of Colonel Harry Stratton. Shortly after in the home of William Buchanan, now Lawrence County, near Zelda, and in the home of Michael Borders (now Lawrence County) classes were organized. These three grand and noble men, through their long lives, es, living, as they did, to remarkable old age, stood as pillars of a Methodist Christianity of the "old-time religion" type.

Other classes were rapidly formed until the entire valley was well dotted with them up to and above the upper forks of Sandy River. Louisa was quite tardy in this good work, not having a class until 1823.

In the meantime, the old fashioned Methodist itinerants--circuit riders--with Bible and hymn book in hand, a flaming evangel filled with the Holy Ghost and with faith, traversed not only the valley, but swam the creeks and scaled the mountains, planting Methodism in the log cabins, homes of the old, early pioneers. Oh, those blessed days of primitive scriptural holiness.

This good work was kept up by Kavanaugh Harrison, Hill, Sam P. Cummings, Shriveley, and others; and these were followed by Sam Kelly, Walter Shearer, Joseph H. Wright, Fletch Medley, Elkanah Johnson, and a host of those long since gone to their divine reward, their names enrolled in Heaven, and engraved on the hearts of those who knew them.

I cannot omit the name of Rev. Burwell Spurlock. Although he resided in Wayne County, then Virginia, he was contemporary and a co-worker in Kentucky with all the above named. He thor-

oughly understood and believed all the Methodist doctrine from "Pre^{er}venient Grace to Perfect Love." He was the defender of Methodism and after 1844, of Southern Methodism. Ever at hand and ready to defend either, and no man could stand before him. I was intimately acquainted with this wonderful man for over a quarter of a century. He rode my home circuit, preached in my father's house and in other homes in the neighborhood. I never failed to go to his appointments when, and wherever I could, I have heard him preach very, very often. I think he knew more than any person I ever knew, and could tell it with an eloquence unequaled by any I ever heard. I regarded him the greatest man I ever knew. Above all this he was a good man and full of the Holy Ghost and faith.

His whole life was a life of Christian meekness and child-like simplicity. I have a life size picture of his head and bust in my office. It can be seen by members of, or visitors to our annual conference. This sweet spirited, great and good man lived until, I think, 1878, when he went up to his reward. Oh, what a crown awaited him.

(Signed) R.T.Burns.

Louisa, Ky., Sept. 4, 1917--Louisa News.