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**MS 76 Box 5 Notebook 18 - Cabell Co. articles for scenic markers, etc. Families: Summers, McComas, Dirton, Taylor, Seamonds, Blake**

Fred Bussey Lambert

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MS 76  
BX 5  
NBK 18

Cabell Co. Articles for  
Scenic Markers, etc.

Families: Summers,  
McComas, Dirton,  
Taylor, Seamonds,  
Blake.

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MS 76  
BX 5  
NBK 18



632 Ninth Avenue  
Huntington, W. Va  
July 25, 1935

Ross B. Johnson  
Commission on Historic Markers  
Charleston, West Virginia

Dear Madam:

In answer to your letter of inquiry about the Bryan family under date July 23, 1935, I will say that the removal of the bodies of members of the Bryan family from Gallipolis Ferry, Mason County to Yatesmont Cemetery at Ona, Cabell County, was done on June 29, 1929, at the direction of Mrs. William Jennings Bryan, Mrs. Thomas S. Allen, sister of W. J. Bryan, Mrs. Frances Baird, sister of W. J. Bryan, and Charles W. Bryan, a brother. The lot on which the bodies were buried, 25 feet square, belonged to and still is in the name of William Jennings Bryan, having been decided to him by Gideon D. Arrington sometime in the year 1923. It is located on the farm formerly owned by John Bryan, the grandfather, who lived immediately opposite Gallipolis, Ohio, and formerly included Gallipolis Island in the tract of about 500 acres.

The removal was under my personal direction, and my brother W. A. Burdette, did the lifting of the remnant of the bodies with his own hands, and was most careful to see that every vestige of the remains was placed in the new cases provided for the occasion. The bodies removed were those of John Bryan (1785-1834), Nancy Lillard Bryan, (1788-1832), and their son, John L. Bryan (April 23, 1811-June 1835). Another son, Dr. Robert G. Bryan, who was killed in the explosion of the steamboat Daisy Belle in 1841, was buried in Pine Street Cemetery in Gallipolis, and his body was not removed to Ona. Silas Bryan, father of W. J. Bryan, died at Salem, Illinois and was buried at Salem; so his body does not lie in Yatesmont Cemetery. John and Nancy Lillard Bryan had a son Howard who died in Culpepper County, Virginia before the family moved to Cabell County in the fall of 1826. One daughter, Elizabeth, was born at Ona, as it now is, November 4, 1827, being their tenth and youngest child. She was named for my grandmother, Elizabeth Lillard Yates, sister of Nancy Lillard Bryan. The Bryan and Yates families together with Francis Brandum and family, cousins of John Bryan, came together, and the Bryans and Yateses live in the same house near Ona during the winter of 1826-27, John Bryan purchased the Mason County farm late in the year 1828, and moved there that year.

The Bryans had previously had sandstone markers at their graves in Mason County, but from age and damage from stock in the unprotected plot they had fallen and become almost illegible. Only a few remnants of the old sandstone markers lie on the ground in Yatesmont Cemetery. At the time he acquired title to the plot at Gallipolis Ferry, W. J. Bryan purchased new markers of Georgia marble for the grandparents, but the marker for John L. Bryan was provided by relatives after the removal to Ona.

The members of the Bryan family who lived at Ona were John Bryan and his wife Nancy Lillard Bryan; William W. Bryan, 1808; John Lillard Bryan, April 23, 1811; Jane Bryan Cheney, March 24, 1814; Nancy Bryan Baltzell, Nov. 4, 1816; Martha Ann Bryan Smith, June 14, 1818; Robert Bryan, April 20, 1820; Silas L. Bryan, Nov. 4, 1822; Andrew Russell Bryan, March 24, 1824; Elizabeth Bryan Baltzell, Nov. 4, 1827.

Yatesmont Cemetery is located as you state in your letter. It is on the old Yates farm, now owned by me.

F. L. Burdette

CABELL COUNTY

LIST OF THE SHERIFFS OF CABELL COUNTY, VIRGINIA  
APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNORS OF VIRGINIA, COMMENCING FROM THE  
CREATION OF THE COUNTY, IN 1809 to 1839:

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1. THOMAS WARD, Appointed sheriff of Cabell county, by John Tyler, Governor of Virginia, February 14, 1809, and gave the several bonds required, with Jeremiah Ward, Nathaniel Seales and Manoah Bostic, sureties.  
(Deed book No. 1. pp 7, 8 and 9.)
2. HENRY BROWN, Appointed Sheriff by Hon. John Tyler, Governor, on July 2, 1810; gave the several bonds required, with Edmund Morris, Mark Russell, Henry Haynie and John Rodgers, as sureties.  
(Deed book No. 1. pp 63, 64, and 65.)
3. JESSE SPURLOCK, appointed sheriff, by George W. Smith, Lieutenant Governor of Virginia, on March 26, 1811; gave the bonds required, with surities.  
(Deed book No. 1. p. 436, 440, 441, and 459.)
4. Samuel Short, appointed Sheriff by James Barbour, Governor, on July 3, 1812; giving bonds required, with Thomas Ward, Elisha McComas and John Wellman, sureties.  
(Deed book No. 1. p. 222, etc.)
5. Mark Russell, appointed sheriff, by James Barbour, Governor, on June 25, 1814; giving bonds required, with Elisha McComas, Manoah Bostic and Samuel Short, as sureties.  
(Deed book 1. p. 436, 440, 441 and 459)
6. Mark Russell, appointed Sheriff, by Wilson G. Nicholas, Governor, on June 7, 1815; giving bonds required,  
(Deed book No. 1. p. 43, etc.)
7. James Holderby, appointed Sheriff, by Thomas Man. Randolph, Governor, on July 5, 1820, giving bonds required, with John Everett, Jesse Toney, John Hannon, John Laidley, and John Samuels, sureties.  
(Deed book 3. p. 219 etc.)
8. William Toney, appointed Sheriff, by Thomas Man. Randolph, Governor July 20, 1821; giving bonds required, with Jesse Toney, John Everett Jr John Hannon, Elisha McComas, sureties.  
(Deed book 3. p. 406 etc.)
9. William Toney, appointed Sheriff, by Thomas Man Randolph, Governor, on July 27, 1822; giving bonds required, with Jesse Toney, John Plymale, John Hannon, John Laidley, and Elisha McComas, sureties.  
(Deed book 3. p. 570, 577 etc.)
10. John Wellman, appointed Sheriff, by James Pleasants, Jr, Governor, on July 21, 1823, giving bonds, with Elisha McComas, Samuel Webb, Hezekiah Adkins, F. Morre, Henry Philips, Joseph M. Fulkerson, Huga Bowen, Moses McComas, and William B. Davis, sureties.  
(Deed book 3, p. 554 etc.)

LIST OF THE SHERIFFS OF CABELL COUNTY,  
VIRGINIA. APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNERS OF VIRGINIA, COMMENCING  
FROM THE CREATION OF THE COUNTY, IN 1809 TO 1839:

11. JOHN WELLMAN, Appointed Sheriff, by James Pleasants, Jr., on July 30, 1824, giving bonds, with Hugo Bowen, Edmund Morris, Elisha McComas, Philip Baumgardner, John Laidley, and Jesse Toney, sureties.  
(Deed book 3 -)
12. EDMUND MCGINNIS, Appointed Sheriff, by John Tyler, Governor, on December 23, 1825, giving bonds with Jesse Toney, Benjamin Brown, Joseph Fulkerson, John Wellman, Philip Baumgardner, Richard Brown, William Hite, John Hannon, Absolem Holderby, John Samuels, Hoga Bowen, Levi Shortridge, and Patterson W. Thompson, as sureties.  
(Deed book 4 p. 132 etc.)
13. EDMUND MCGINNIS, Appointed Sheriff, by William B. Giles, Governor, on December 14, 1826, giving bonds with John Samuels, John Hannon, Anthony Shelton, Huga Bowen, Philip Baumgardner, John Plymale, Absolem Holderby, and Levi Shortridge, sureties.  
(Deed book 4, p. 208 etc.)
14. William Fullerton, Appointed Sheriff by William B. Giles, Governor, on December 29, 1827, giving bonds with John Samuels, John Laidley, Anthony Shelton, Solomon Thornburg, Daniel Love, Valentine Herndon, Thomas Kilgore, F. Moore, Elisha McComas, and William Love, sureties.  
(Deed book 4, p. 441 etc.)
15. William Buffington, Appointed Sheriff by John Floyd, Governor of Virginia, on January 19, 1830, giving bonds required, with John Laidley, Thomas Buffington, James Buffington, John Russell, John Samuels, and John Everett Jr., as sureties.  
(Deed book No. 4, p. 572 etc.)
16. William Buffington, Appointed Sheriff, by John Floyd, Governor, on December 27, 1830, giving bonds required, with Benjamin Brown, Thos. Buffington, John Evertt, Martin Hull and John Samuels, sureties.  
(Deed book No. 4, p. 631 etc.)
17. Thomas Kilgore, Appointed Sheriff, by John Floyd, Governor, on March 7, 1832, giving bonds, with Solomon Thornburg, John Samuels, F. Moore, Elisha McComas, John Everett, and John Holderby, sureties.  
(Deed book No. 5, p. 570 etc. )
18. Thomas Kilgore, Appointed Sheriff, by John Floyd, Governor, on February 9, 1833, giving bonds, with Benjamin Brown, F. Moore, John Wellman, H. Clarke, Milton Ferguson, H. Bowen, Solomon Thornburg, and John Laidley, sureties.  
(Deed book No. 5, p. 190 etc. )
19. ~~Levi McCormick, appointed Sheriff by John Floyd, Governor,~~  
~~Governor~~

19. Levi McCormick, appointed Sheriff, by John Floyd, Governor, on December 27, 1833, giving bonds, with John Laidley, Richard Brown, Wade Hampton, Benjamin Brown, Huga Bowen, Henry Clarke, and S. Thornburg, sureties.  
(Deed book 5, p. 368 etc.)
20. Levi McCormick, appointed Sheriff, by Littleton W. Tazwell, Governor, on December 10, 1834, giving bonds, with John Laidley, Huga Bowen, Wm. Buffington, Solomon Thornburg, and J. W. Hite, sureties.  
(Deed book 5, p. 491 etc.)
21. John Everett Jr., appointed Sheriff, by Littleton W. Tazwell, Governor, on December 10, 1835, giving bonds, with John Laidley, Robert Holderby, Wm. Buffington, Daniel Love, Nathen Everett, and John Samuels, sureties.  
(Deed book No. 6, p. 169 etc.)
22. John Everett, Jr., appointed Sheriff, by Wyndham Robertson, Acting Governor of Virginia, on December 10, 1836, giving bonds, with John Laidley, Robert Holderby, Wm. Buffington, John Samuels, and John Morris, sureties.  
(Deed book No. 6, p. 579.)
23. Abia Rece, appointed Sheriff, by David Campbell, Governor, on January 2, 1839, giving bonds, with L. Sanders, John Morris, Absolem Holderby, John Samuels, and John Laidley, sureties.  
(Deed book No. 7, p. 36, etc.)

Copied from list -- compiled by R. S. Douthat, June 5, 1929.

West Virginia

Commission on Historic and Scenic Markers

CABELL COUNTY

REPORT OF R. B. WALKER  
COUNTY RESEARCH WORKER

Huntington, W. Va

West Virginia Commission on  
Historic and Scenic Markers,  
Room 92, Capitol Building  
Charleston, W. Va

ATTENTION:  
Mr. Alex C. Nelson  
District Supervisor

Gentlemen:

I am pleased to submit to you my report on Cabell County:

I have endeavored to give this Research Work my most serious effort. In offering for your consideration sites for Historic and Scenic Markers, I fully realize that a limited number of Markers will be placed at this time, and should any of my suggestions be acted upon, I shall be repaid for my efforts.

It has been a pleasure, as well as educational to me, and I feel as time goes on, the public in general will view the work of this Commission with as much pleasure as I have.

Very respectfully,

R. B. Walker, Research Worker,  
Commission on Historic and Scenic Markers



## HISTORIC NOTES

-1-

Truly there can be no more Historical event in the life of the people than the establishment of a County whereby they may govern themselves. On January second, 1809, by act of the Virginia Legislature, Cabell County was created, and named for William H. Cabell, who was Governor of Virginia from 1805-08.

In keeping with the spirit of the purpose of the Commission on Historic and Scenic Markers, I respectfully submit the suggestion that a fitting Marker be placed at an advantageous point on the Cabell County Court House Lawn, to memorialize William H. Cabell, and the founding of Cabell County.

Respectfully submitted,

R. B. Walker, Research Worker  
West Virginia Commission on Historic  
and Scenic Markers.

## FIRST COURT HELD IN CABELL COUNTY

The first court held in Cabell County was located in the old Merritt Home, on the banks of Mud River, near an old mill.

In this house the first session of Cabell County Court was held on the Second Monday after the Fourth Monday in April, 1809.

The first act of the Cabell County Court was the transferring of a piece of property from Edwin McGinnis and his wife, to Monoah Bostic.

Following the first few sessions, the Court was moved to Guyandotte, and was later removed to Barboursville, in the Red Brick Building which now forms a part of Morris Harvey College.

The third moving of the Cabell County Court brought it to Huntington, where now stands a magnificent building, a monument to the wisdom and labor of past generations.

It would seem to be a fitting thing to place a monument or Marker to those sturdy men of the past.



## WILLIAM H. CABELL, 7th. Governor of Virginia

Son of Nicholas and Hannah (Carrington) Cabell. Private School. Entered Hampton Sydney College, Feb. 1785 to Sept. 1785--Wm. & Mary College, Feb. 1790 to July---Law Member Assembly 1795, again 1798. Voted for Virginia Resoulution, construing the meaning of Constitution. Presidential elector 1800 and 1804. Elected Governor December 7, 1785----3yrs. In 1808 elected Judge Gen. Court---Judge Court Appeals 1811. Elected member Court of Appeals 1830---Jan. 18, 1842, Elec. Pres. Court served to 1851. Retired, died in Richmond, Va. on January 12, 1853. Buried in Shockhoe Cemetery.

R. B. Walker, Research Worker

WEST VIRGINIA  
COMMISSION ON HISTORIC AND SCENIC MARKERS

Room 203 City Building,  
Charleston, W. Va.

July 23, 1935.

Mr. F. L. Burdette,  
632-9th Avenue,  
Huntington, W. Va.

My dear Mr. Burdette:-

Following is copy of statement furnished this office in regard to the graves of the Bryan family at Ona, Cabell County. Several questions have arisen in regard to it. First, that although the gravestones are there, whether or not the bodies were actually removed from the place of interment Mason County, West Virginia. Second, whether Silas Bryan is actually buried in West Virginia or not. There are some people that understand that he died in the West and that he may have been buried there.

The Commission on Historic and Scenic Markers would like to erect a suitable marker to the Bryans, and of course wants to be very sure that it is accurately worded. If the Bryans lived at Ona but had not been buried there we would like to so state it. We would like to name the members of the family who lived there. We would also like to be sure of the names of those who are buried in Mason County, if it is true that the remains are still there.

We know that there is no one in the State that is eminently in touch with the actual facts concerning the Bryans as yourself and will appreciate your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Ross B. Johnston  
Acting State Director

R. B. Walker, Research Worker,  
W. Va. Comm. on Historic & Scenic Markers.  
424 - 9th St., Huntington, W. Va.  
Cabell County

-4-

BURIAL GROUND OF JOHN AND NANCY LILLIARD BRYAN

GRANDPARENTS OF WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN

. -0-

In the years of 1826-7 John Bryan, the grandfather of William Jennings Bryan, former Secretary of State of the United States, rented a house in Cabell County, at the place now known as Ona, from James Cox.

This farm contains an old slave house (well kept) and a burial ground, in which lie the remains of John Bryan and his wife Nancy Lilliard Bryan, and John Lilliard, his uncle.

This plot also contains the remains of the old slaves who died there - - each having a grave mark.

This burial plot is located 3/4 mile on hill north of Ona, off Route 60, has a gravel road connection-- is owned by F. L. Burdette.

I would suggest that a marker be placed at this junction of this gravel road, and also a fitting monument to this grand pioneer.

Respectfully submitted,

R. B. Walker, Research Worker,  
W. Va. Commission on Historic  
and Scenic Markers.

Howells Mills  
and Burial Place  
of  
Revolutionary Soldiers

Howells Mills is located in Grant District, on the Prichard Mill Road, and connects with Route 60 at One, Cabell County.

This place was known as the largest manufacturing plant prior to the Civil War--being owned by Valentine Herndon in 1819, sold to the "Doolittles" in 1829 and bought by A. B. Howell in 1859.

A. B. Howell was a soldier in the War of 1812, and is buried at this Mill site.

As this sturdy soldier and pioneer in manufacturing took time to defend his country, I suggest a fitting Marker be placed at his burial place.

Respectfully submitted,  
R. B. Walker, Research Worker  
W. Va Comm. on Historical & Scenic Markers,  
424-9th. St., Huntington, W. Va  
Cabell County

March 5, 1935

HOME SITE OF  
GENERAL ALBERT GALLATIN JENKINS  
GREENBOTTOM

-0-

General Albert Gallatin Jenkins was born in Cabell County, Virginia Nov. '10, 1830. He attended Virginia Military Institute and Jefferson College, Pa. He graduated in 1848. He studied Law at Harvard, and was admitted to the Bar in 1850. He never practiced, but devoted his time to Farming.

He was a delegate to the National Democratic Convention at Cincinnati, Ohio in 1856.

Representative from Virginia in 35th and 36th Congress in 1861.

He entered the army, appointed Brig. General on August 5, 1862. He assigned to Gen. Hill's division.

He was transferred to Stuart's Cav. Showed special genius in handling forces at Gettysburg.

Subsequently served the Shenandoah Valley in West Virginia.

Gen. Jenkins was wounded in battle at Cloyd Mountain, May 9, 1864, near Princeton. He was taken to Nubern Station, where he died the next day.

He was attended by Dr. Morris, of Ironton, Ohio, Surgeon in the 9th. Va. commanded by Col. I. H. Duvall.

Historic Marker requested.

R. B. Walker, Research Worker

Guyandotte Battle Field

This place of Battle is situated on the east of the mouth of the Guyan River, beginning at the bridge, and covers an area of more than one block.

At the time of battle this was known as Court Square, and is now Bridge Street.

Col. Whaley was recruiting federal forces at this point, and with 250 men occupied the town.

On November the tenth, Eighteen Hundred Sixty-one (1861), the Confederate Force, consisting of 1500 cavalymen of the Second Virginia, under the command of Col. A. G. Jenkins and Co., John Clarkson, attacked the Federal forces, routing them completely, and capturing many prisoners, who were taken to Charleston.

On the following day Col. Ziegler in command of 1000 Federal troops arrived from Ceredo, burning the entire town with a few exceptions. Those homes saved were: The Buffington, Percival Smith, John Russell, Victor LaToule and the Thomas Carroll home, the Carroll home being saved by the pleading of Mrs. Carroll.

As this is one of the sacred spots, especially to those who inherited the ashes of their former homes, and is one of the Historical spots in Cabell County, I would recommend a fitting monument or Marker for this place.

Respectfully submitted,

W. Va. Commission on Historic and Scenic  
Markers,  
By R. B. Walker, Research Worker.

JAMES RIVER TURNPIKE  
TERMINAL FOR STAGE COACHES? PRIOR TO CIVIL WAR

This place no doubt is of some historic value, and is a very much talked of spot, especially by the old residents of Guyandotte.

In making recommendations for Markers, I am considering the most valuable places, cost of construction, etc., and while I may be going beyond the line of duty by giving such consideration, however, if it is a mistake, it is one of the head, and not of the heart.

It seems to be the consensus of opinion among the older residents, that a Marker should be placed at this point, and I shall not recommend a Marker if other Markers are placed at the battlefield there. Otherwise, I suggest that a Marker be placed.

Respectfully submitted,  
R. B. Walker, Research Worker

Place located at Guyandotte, corner of Bridge and Main street.  
Property now owned by J. M. Beale, Permission to erect Marker.

The Oldest Home in Guyandotte  
The Thomas Carroll Home

After searching such records as are available, and consulting the oldest residents, it is my honest opinion that this house is the oldest home now standing in this vicinity.

Following is a brief outline of my findings:

Thomas Carroll migrated from Ireland. He was born in 1812, settled in Jennings County, Ind., made application for Citizenship in 1839, was granted his papers in 1846, in Baltimore, Md., came to Guyandotte in 1853, bought the home from L. M. Woolcott, March 15, 1855.

Woolcott purchased this home from Peter Clark and wife, December 1, 1853. Clark purchased it from John and Dorothy Judd, April 15, 1847.

This Carroll home was reported to be more than 100 years old at the time of the Guyandotte Centennial.

As this house was saved by the eloquent plea of Mrs. Carroll, at the time of Col. Ziegler's burning of Guyandotte, and as it was located on the old James River Turnpike, and is now occupied by the surviving daughter, it seems fitting that some Marker should be placed at this home, where one of the pioneers lived.

Mary "Fee" Carroll, wife of Thomas Carroll, died in this house in 1928, at the age of 93, having lived there since she became a bride in 1855.

Respectfully submitted,

R. B. Walker, Research Worker,  
W. Va Commission on Historic and Scenic  
Markers

March 4, 1935.



46  
OLDEST HOME IN GUYANDOTTE

LOCATED ON GUYAN STREET, GUYANDOTTE.

THOMAS CARROLL CAME TO GUYANDOTTE IN 1853 AND BOUGHT PLACE FROM L. M. WOOLCOTT, MARCH 15, 1855. HOME ONE OF THE FEW SAVED WHEN GUYANDOTTE WAS BURNED BY COL. ZIEGLER, FOLLOWING BATTLE OF GUYANDOTTE. MRS. CARROLL DIED IN THIS HOUSE IN 1928 AT THE AGE OF 93. THE HOME IS STILL OCCUPIED BY A DESCENDENT OF THE CARROLL FAMILY.

R. B. Walker, Research Worker

Revolutionary Soldiers  
Buried on Burdette Farm-Ona, W. Va.

- (1) (Located on Prichard School Road).  
James Cox, early of Buckingham County, Va.  
Born in the year 1755, died 1840.  
Elizabeth, his wife, Born 1760, died 1843.  
One of the first settlers on Mud River was  
a member of the Joseph Crockett Regiment.

-0-

- (2) William P. Yates, son of Richard and Mary Pitt  
Yates, of Culpepper County, Va., born Jan. 8, 1786,  
died Aug. 4, 1869.

Revolutionary Soldier

*Impossible, the Rev.  
War ended, in 1783.*

-0-

- (3) This information was taken from grave stone Markers,  
by R. B. Walker, March 7th, 1935.

-11-

Burial Ground of John Everett  
Revolutionary Soldier

This above place is located on Route 60, 300 yds. from Midland Trail, fifteen miles from Cabell Court House, and is known as "The Home for Aged and Infirm."

John Everett served during the Revolutionary War under Patrick Henry, and is buried at this afore mentioned place.

There is also another veteran buried there, a James Turley, who served under George Rogers Clark.

It is but fitting that a Marker be erected to men who followed such leaders. So I respectfully suggest that such markers as you see fit, be placed at this burial spot.

Sincerely,

R. B. Walker, Research Worker  
West Virginia Commission on Historic  
and Scenic Markers.

March 5, 1935.

MUD RIVER BAPTIST CHURCH  
and  
OLD CENETERY

Established at Blue Sulphur in the year 1807, with an approximate membership of (32) thirty-two, among whom were sturdy pioneers and soldiers as:

John Morris and wife, Marguirite  
Edwin Mossis and wife  
Allan Reece and wife, Mary  
James Turley and wife, Esther  
Benjamin Swan and wife  
James Cyrus and wife  
John Everett and wife, Sarah

In 1826 John Bryan and wife joined this church.

Being the only church of this denomination, many of its members lived as far away as Salt Rock, and traveled on horseback to worship. Thousands pass and repass this spot yearly, never dreaming of the sacredness of it. The public should know of it, for was not that kind of people the very root and foundation of our Government?

Since the state of West Virginia proposes to erect monuments and markers, I know of no more hallowed spot in Cabell County than this place, so I respectfully suggest that this place be fittingly marked so that the passerby may again be imbued with the spirit of those that made Cabell County prosper.

Sincerely,

R. B. Walker, Research Worker

Records of other Burials on  
Burdette Farm, Ona, W. Va.

- (1) Victoria, daughter of Mordecai and Martha F. Yates Wilson,  
Born 1853, died 1855  
-0-
- (2) William A. son of the same, born 1842, died 1851.  
-0-
- (3) Sarah Martin, wife of James Wilson,  
Born in Ireland, 1808, died Jan. 5 1891.  
-0-
- (4) James Wilson, born in Ireland, 1807,  
died March 5, 1885.  
-0-
- (5) Dr. Alexander M, son of Samuel and Catherine McClure McCorkle,  
born Dec. 15, 1806, died July 26, 1867.  
-0-
- (6) Elenor, daughter of Samuel and Hannah Monroe Summers, wife of  
John Handley. Third wife of Dr. A. M. McCorkle, born Aug. 24, 1820,  
died March 30, 1889.  
-0-
- (7) Olga, daughter of John and Eleanor Summers Handley, wife of Joseph A.  
Buckner, born Feb.
- (8) Deah A., daughter of J. W. and E. M. Herndon, died Jan. 20, 1824.
- (9) William P. Yates, son of Richard and Mary Pitt Yates, born Jan. 8, 1786,  
died Aug. 4, 1869.
- (10) John Bryan, died 1836  
Nancy L. Bryan, died 1834
- (11) John L. Bryan, son of John and Nancy Lillard Bryan, born in Culpepper  
County, Virginia, on April 23rd. 1811, died in Mason County, Va., in 1835.

Note: John and Nancy Lillard Bryan are the grandparents of  
William Jennings Bryan.

(14)

List of slaves.

Buried on Burdette Farm, Ona, W. Va  
(Located on Prichard School Road)

Name	Born	Died
(1) Andrew, owned by W. P. Yates,	1842	1843
(2) George, owned by W. P. Yates	1844	1846
(3) Infant, owned by W. P. Yates	1847	
(4) Harriett, owned by W. P. Yates	1796	1848
(5) Emily, owned by W. P. Yates	1797	1850
(6) Henry, owned by W. P. Yates	1837	1851
(7) Nelson, owned by W. P. Yates	1789	1854

These records were taken from grave stone markers by  
R. B. Walker,  
March 7, 1935.

## MARSHALL COLLEGE

From a Historic point of view, Marshall College should be considered as one of the institutions that is really historic.

Being established in the year 1837, it has been maintained as an educational institution since that time.

The original site was given by the Holderbys, with the understanding that it would revert to their heirs, should it at any time fail as an institution of learning.

Again, it is historical because it was founded immediately after the death of Chief Justice John Marshall, of Virginia. Later presidents of the college were John Morrow and Champ Clark. Dwight Morrow was born in the institution.

Marshall College was changed from an Academy to a College in the year 1858, became a State Normal (Marshall State Normal), in the year 1868, and in the year 1915 became Marshall College.

During the Civil War, Marshall College was taken by the U. S. A. Forces, and during the war period it is reported that only two scholars were in attendance.

Being the largest educational institution here (Cabell County), it should be one of the places marked, as it lies on the main arterial Route traveled by many thousands.

Respectfully submitted,

R. B. Walker, Research Worker

SCENIC

Our Scenic points of interest in Cabell County are so remote that they would be of small value to the general public, hence I refrain from reporting any points of Scenic value.

Other counties have far greater scenic points, and are located nearer the main highways, which would render them more attractive to travelers.

Sincerely,

R. B. Walker, Research Worker



24

WEST VIRGINIA

COMMISSION ON HISTORIC AND SCENIC MARKERS

CABELL COUNTY

REPORT OF  
CARNEY M. LAYNE  
MEMBER OF COMMISSION

Huntington, W. Va. March 1st, 1935

Hon. Earnest L. Bailey, Chairman,  
Charleston, W. Va.

Dear Sirs: -

I am pleased to submit herewith my report on Cabell County.

Only some historical events admit of the element of place so as to bring them within the purview of "markers", and I have endeavored to select what I consider the most important events in that classification. My historical notes are brief.

You will also note that I am reporting "markers" and "memorials" already established so that the sub-committee may have the entire layout before them.

In making recommendations I am not unmindful that the sub-committee will have to make comparisons and correlations covering the entire state. That for immediate consideration perhaps only a limited number from each county could be acted upon, but as we hope interest in the subject will increase from year to year, I am making recommendations which may be considered in the future.

I am sending a copy of this report to each member of the commission, as well as Mr Arnold, and I would be pleased to have suggestions or copies of their reports.

Very respectfully,

Carney M. Layne,  
Member Commission District Number 2.

SCENIC VIEWS, ETC.

(a) The view of the Ohio Valley, the Ohio River and its bridge, as seen from the hills on the south side of the City of Huntington. This is one of the most imposing scenic views in the State of West Virginia.

(b) Indian mounds located near Barboursville.

(c) Fire pite (three in number) , located in the hills South of Huntington, used presumably by the Indians for signal stations.

(

RECOMMENDATIONS

FIRST: That a <sup>2</sup> suitable marker be placed on the north side of State Route No. 5 in Union District, Cabell County, West Virginia, marking the home of General Albert Gallatin Jenkins.

SECOND: That a suitable marker be placed on State Route No. 5, about one mile above Nine Mile Creek at the point where the line of the Savage Grant crosses the road, marking said line.

THIRD: That a suitable marker be placed on State Route No. 5, at Guyandotte, marking the antiquity of the town, the raid and burning thereof in the Civil War.

FOURTH: That a suitable marker be placed in the town of Barboursville, marking the site of the Court House, and the skirmish which took place there during the Civil War.

FIFTH: That a suitable marker be erected on the Court House lawn at Huntington, Cabell County, West Virginia, setting forth the organization of the county.

SIXTH: That a suitable marker be erected on State Route No. 5, at Twenty-Fourth Street, Huntington, West Virginia (Cabell County) memorializing the Kelly Indian Massacre.

RECOMMENDATIONS

SEVENTH: That a suitable marker be erected on U. S. Route No. 5, at about Thirtieth Street, Huntington, memorializing the Buffington Indian Massacre. *( no such massacre occurred here, but did in another County - Jonathan Buffington, I believe - F.B.L. )*

EIGHTH: That a suitable marker be erected on U. S. Route No 60, memorializing the Skirmish at Poore's Hill in the Civil War.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

Carney M. Layne,  
Member of Commission.

Huntington, West Virginia  
March 1st, 1935.

COPY

MARKERS AND MEMORIALS ALREADY ESTABLISHED

(a) A granite marker set in the curb of Third Avenue or Bridge Street just east of Guyan Street, city of Huntington, Cabell County, West Virginia, marking the supposed site of original Court House of Cabell County as located in Guyandotte in 1809. This marker was erected by the D. A. R.

(b) A granite marker with bronze plate set in the edge of Washington Boulevard on the south side of the City of Huntington, marking a corner of the Savage Grant. This marker was erected by the D. A. R.

(c) A granite marker with bronze plate, erected on the south side of U. S. Route No. 60 just east of Barboursville, marking a corner of the Savage Grant.

(d) A bronze tablet erected in the lobby of the Federal Building, City of Huntington, Cabell County, West Virginia, being a memorial to the men from Cabell County, who made the supreme sacrifice in the World War. Erected by the American Legion.

(e) A granite marker erected on the south side of Third Avenue, between Twenty-Third and Twenty-Fourth Streets, City of Huntington, Cabell County, West Virginia, giving the names of the men who were employed by the American Car & Foundry Company, who served in the World War, and likewise giving the names of those who made the supreme sacrifice. This marker was erected by the American Car & Foundry Company, standing upon its own land, but in close proximity of the street.

(f) A granite marker erected on the Court House lawn of Cabell County, West Virginia, to the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic, and erected by Bailey Post thereof.

(g) Memorial Arch erected at the entrance of Memorial Park, located on the south side of the City of Huntington, Cabell County West Virginia, in memory of the men from Cabell County, who made the supreme sacrifice in the World War. This is one of the most imposing memorials in the State of West Virginia. It was erected at a cost of approximately Forty Thousand Dollars raised by popular subscription under the leadership of Colonel George S. Wallace.

## HISTORIC NOTES

-1-

### GREENBOTTOM?, THE HOUSE OF GENERAL ALBERT GALLATIN JENKINS

When the first settlers came to Cabell County on the upper part of Greenbottom, they saw well defined evidence of streets intersecting at right angles, and they found indications of the foundation of buildings, and they also found some bronze implements, as well as a good many stone implements. Farmers of that section state that while they didn't see any indications of streets, that they always thought that there had been an Indian settlement there because in plowing they were always digging up pipes and tomahawks and implements that were used by primitive people.

"Greenbottom"--that name appears to have been in use at an early date because it is referred to in the old deeds. Early history has Greenbottom extending above Little Guyan River, even up into Mason County, but Greenbottom in Cabell County as we know it, extends from a short distance above the end of the Savage Grant up to the Mason County line--a river front of seven miles. It was patented originally to Joshua Fry, and originally contained 4, 441 acres.

Fry conveyed an individual one-half interest in that property to Peyton Short, who in turn conveyed it to William Cary Nicholas, and Fry conveyed the other half interest direct to Nicholas. In 1819 Wilson Cary Nicholas conveyed this land to William Wirt and Robert Gamble, as Trustees, to secure William H. Cabell as an endorser on various notes aggregating 22,500.00 dollars. Default was made in the payment of these notes and the trustees sold this property at the front door of the Eagle Tavern in Richmond, Virginia to William H. Cabell for whom this county was named, and who was at one time Governor of Virginia, for 13,000.00 dollars. Cabell, through trustees, sold this land to William Jenkins, September 20th, 1825, for 15,000.00 dollars cash. Jenkins died, and his will was probated on January 2nd, 1860.

The upper end of Greenbottom was given to his son, Albert Gallatin Jenkins; the middle portion to his son, Thomas Jefferson Jenkins; and the lower part to his son, Dr. William Jenkins.

Albert Gallatin Jenkins was elected to Congress before he was of constitutional age, and served in Congress from March 4th, 1857, to March 3rd, 1861, when he came home and organized the Border Rangers, became its first Captain, and became Lieutenant Colonel, and Colonel of the Eighth Virginia Cavalry C. S. A., and became finally a Brigadier General C. S. A., and was killed at Cloyd Mountain in the spring of 1864; he was in his thirty-third year.

His original house still stands; it is a three story brick structure, and the garret has splendid hardwood timbers put together with pegs, and the house is in a good state of preservation; just back of the house, and roughly speaking, about opposite the southeast corner of the house, formerly stood a brick building which was the law office of Albert Gallatin Jenkins, that has been destroyed in the last fifteen or twenty years.

### THE SAVAGE GRANT

During the French and Indian War (1754-1763) the Governor of Virginia called for volunteers and promised the soldiers they should be given two hundred thousand acres of land in the western part of the state, for their service; after the war was over (1773), a surveyor was sent to locate these lands given to the soldiers, and William Crawford came to this part of the country and located the land for which the grant was given to John Savage and sixty-one others, and it was thereafter known as the "Savage Grant." These lands were located on the Big Sandy River beginning at the forks thereof (the present town of Louisa), and included the flat lands on both sides of said Big Sandy River, to its mouth; then up the Ohio River on the Virginia side to about one mile above Nine Mile Creek in Cabell County; it also included the land on Guyandotte River up to and including the present town of Barboursville.

It appears that in 1775 some of the grantees determined to divide up said land, or part thereof so granted to them in a large body, and Thomas Buffington came as the surveyor, with others to make the partition. It further appears that in 1809 a suit was brought in the Superior Court of Chancery of Staunton, by W. Coleman and others, part owners of the grant, against D. Morgan and others, part owners of the same, insisting that the partial division of 1775 was unjust and praying that it should be set aside. Commissioners were appointed to go upon the land and equalize the division.

Nearly the entire City of Huntington is located on this land. None of the soldiers to whom these parcels of land were allotted ever removed to or lived on any part thereof.

## ORGANIZATION OF CABELL COUNTY

Cabell County was created by an Act of the Legislature of Virginia passed on January 2nd, 1809. It was named for William H. Cabell who was Governor of Virginia from 1805 until 1808.

It comprised all that portion of the State of Virginia west of a line extending from a point in the Ohio River at the mouth of little Guyan Creek (which was, and is now the corner of Mason County), in a southerly direction to the line of the then Tazewell County, now McDowell County (McDowell County having been created out of the northern portion of Tazewell County in 1858).

Its original area was approximately two thousand square miles. As then constituted it included all of the present counties of Cabell, Logan, Mingo, Wayne and parts of Lincoln, Putnam, Boone and Wyoming; it was formed out of the then Kanawha County.

The county government was organized by Judge Coalter in April, 1809, in the house of William Merritt, which was located at or near the present town of Barboursville. Edward Morris was appointed Clerk; Thomas Ward was appointed Sheriff, and Ira Wilson was appointed Prosecuting Attorney. The first Justices of the Peace were Manoah Bostic, Mark Russell and Henry Brown.

The first Circuit Superior Court was held in April, 1809; the lawyers were David Cartmel, Henry Hunter, W. H. Cavendish, John Mathews, Ballard Smith, Lewis Summers (who afterwards became Judge of said court), and Sylvester Woodward. Tradition has it that the inhabitants petitioned Judge Coalter to not establish any court, stating that they were law-abiding and had no need for one; however, he empanelled a grand jury which made several indictments, one of which was for the illegal sale of whiskey.

The county seat was located in May 1809 at Guyandotte. The Court House remained at this point until 1814, when it was removed to Barboursville, where it remained until 1888.

In 1888 the Court House was moved to Huntington and was located on the east side of Ninth Street between the alley and Fifth Avenue, being immediately north of the present Carnegie Library Building. It remained there until 1901 when the new Court House was completed in the center of the square where it is now located between Seventh and Eighth Streets and between Fourth and Fifth Avenues.



GUYANDOTTE

The town of Guyandotte, now included in the city of Huntington, Cabell County, West Virginia, is the oldest town in West Virginia south of the Kanawha River, it having been created by an act of the Virginia Legislature passed January 5, 1810. It was made the county seat of Cabell County the previous year. It is located on the south bank of the Ohio River at the confluence of the Guyandotte River, and on the east side thereof. This made it an important way-station with river traffic, as well as traffic overland on what was later known as the Kanawha and James River Turnpike.

A Federal Recruiting office was established there in 1861, and was enlisting men for the United States Army. Colonel Whaley being in charge thereof.

On November 9th, 1861, a detachment of Colonel Clarkson's Regiment (C.S.A.) located in the Kanawha Valley, including the Border Rangers under Albert G. Jenkins, made a raid upon said town, arriving there about 9 o'clock that night. The Border Rangers charged the suspension bridge across the Guyandotte River, and took it; ~~the~~ little opposition was offered and the Union recruits, numbering upwards of one hundred, were soon made prisoners and on the following morning, November 10th, were marched away. Soon thereafter, on the same day, Colonel Zeigler (U.S.A.) with Federal troops from Ceredo, arrived by steamboat which landed about one mile above town where the soldiers disembarked and marched into town. Jenkins and his soldiers had already gone with their prisoners. Colonel Zeigler applied the torch and burned the business part of the town as well as the dwelling houses.

BARBOURSVILLE

Barboursville, located at the confluence of Mud River with the Guyandotte River, was established by Act of the Legislature of Virginia passed January 14th, 1813. It was the county seat of Cabell County from 1814 until 1888. The old Court House is now owned and occupied by Morris- Harvey College.

It was a scene of a skirmish in the Civil War. The Border Rangers (C.S.A.) under General Albert Gallatin Jenkins, were stationed on Kanawha River at the mouth of Coal River, and on July 11th, 1861, were ordered to Barboursville. At the same time the Second Kentucky (U.S.A.) advanced to Barboursville. On July 16th, a slight engagement took place, the Second Kentucky charging the Militia and Rangers that were posted on the hill in front of the town. After returning the fire the Militia and Rangers retired from the field; the injury to each side was slight.

POORE'S HILL

At Poore's Hill, located near Ona, Cabell County, West Virginia, a skirmish took place between the Border Rangers (C.S.A.) and some Federals, on August 30th, 1861.



## S U M M E R S

The Summers family is said to be of Flemish origin, and to have been first known in England at the time of the Reformation. Property was granted to them at a former religious seat a short distance from Worcester and this became the family seat. Here they resided and here they entertained Queen Elizabeth in her progress through Worcestershire in 1585. Many of the members of this family moved to Dorsetshire, England and it was from this branch of the Virginian family descended. The name is variously spelled Somers, Sommers, Summers and Summers, but the Virginians of this stock have in general used the form Summers. As it is well known, the tracing of ancestries in Virginian families is attended with much difficulty and many dangers of error, so that the results are often incomplete or uncertain, if not both. In the present case there is much more material for judgment than in many and the following account is based on good evidence and confidently believed to be correct from the time of settlement of the family in Virginia, which cannot have been greatly posterior of the coming of the family to America.

(1) John Summers, the first member of this family about whom we have definite information, was born in Maryland in 1687, died near Alexandria, Virginia December 4, 1791. Coming early into Virginia he settled on the Patomac where the city of Alexandria now is and his cabin was the first building erected on the site of this city. The first framed house ever put up at this place was prepared under his direction and on his land, being afterward hauled therefrom to its intended site. The country abounded at that time in deer, bears, wolves, wild turkeys and other animals and his earlier years were largely passed in hunting. He became an active leader of the white settlers and a pioneer in the campaigns against the Indians west of the Blue Ridge. Hunting, however, was a favorite employment. So little did he care about the acquisition of land that he refused a deed from the patentee for the land on which Alexandria has been built and on which he lived in exchange for a rifle. In his later years he was much engaged in pointing out the best vacant lands and in conducting surveyors and others through the forests. At last he did acquire from four hundred to six hundred acres of land for each of his sons, but he did not do this for his daughters. He lived to see Alexandria become a place of some importance. The home on the little river turnpike, about four miles west of that city, which he bequeathed to his son Francis was long known as one of the finest estates in Fairfax County. At the time of the Revolution John Summers was too old to take part. He was a man of robust constitution, broad of chest and powerful and retained his faculties to a remarkable degree, although he lived to be more than one hundred years old, but about a year before his death he was disabled by a severe fall. He was a member of the Church of England. The name of his wife is not known, but among his children the youngest son was Francis, of whom further.

(11) Francis, son of John Summers, was born in Fairfax county, Virginia, March 3, 1732, died at Summers Grove, October 14th, 1800. Summers Grove is the estate which he had inherited from his father, four miles west of Alexandria. His life was the quiet and uneventful life of a Virginia planter. For many years he held the office of magistrate. Being like his father, a member of the Church of England or Protestant Episcopal church, he was a vestryman of Christ Church, Alexandria. He married Jane (Watkins) Charlton, born 1735 died August 22, 1814. Children, so far as known to us: George, born October 5, 1758, died January 10, 1818, married in 1776, Ann Smith Radcliffe; Thomas, of whom further: Francis; Samuel. All these sons settled in the Kanawha Valley in 1810; George accompanied by his daughter Jane, made an exploration of the Kanawha valley and of the Ohio valley between Wheeling and Guyandotte, and settled three years afterwards at Walnut Grove, Kanawha County, Virginia, to which he brought his family in the winter of 1813-14. From him has come a prominent family of West Virginia.

(111) Thomas, son of Francis and Jane (Watkins-Charlton) Summers, came from Fairfax county, Virginia and settled on the Kanawha river in Mason county, Virginia, one mile above Winfield; according to the best information his settlement was made about 1816. He was a farmer. He married -----Hooper. Child, George W., of whom further.

(1V) George W., son of Thomas and ---(Hooper) Summers, was born probably in Fairfax county, Virginia, January 17, 1812. He was a farmer and about 1838 became a member of the state militia. He was a democrat and a Methodist. He married, January 29, 1835, Sarah A., born in Cabell county, Virginia, May 12, 1813, daughter of Adam and Elizabeth (Cockburn) Black. Children: Quintilian L., born March 12, 1836, died September 28, 1842. Sylvester Adams, born January 23, 1838, died May 8, 1912; a Confederate soldier. John William, born May 15, 1840. Constantine Rufus, born October 9, 1842, a confederate soldier. Edgar Lewis, born October 29, 1844. Mathew James, of whom further.

(V) Matthew James, son of George W. and Sarah A. (Black) Summers, was born in Cabell county, Virginia, June 9, 1852. His home is now in Huntington, West Virginia and he is a baggage master on the Chesapeake & Ohio railroad. Mr. Summers is a Democrat and a Methodist. He married February 24, 1875, Elizabeth Handley, born June 6th, 1855, daughter of Warren P. and -----(Handley) Rece. Children. Gertrude Medora, born January 1, 1876. Frederick L., of whom further. Olive June, born November 11, 1879. Lewis Rece, born May 31, 1882 died December 5, 1883. Florence Buffington, born June 6th, 1885. Harry Lee, born September 26, 1887. Robert Pritchard, born November 1, 1889. Herbert Sidney born November 21, 1893.

(VI) Frederick L., son of Matthew James and Elizabeth Handley (Rece) Summers, was born in Cabell county West Virginia near Milton, December 26, 1877. His education was received at Huntington West Virginia; there he attended the public schools including the high school and he persued also a business course at Marshall Business College in the same city. December 19, 1899 he became a stenographer at Parkersburg, West Virginia for the Ohio River railroad in the maintenance of way department and in this position he remained until October 1, 1903. From that date to the first of May in the following year he was assistant cashier at Parkersburg for Armour & Company. Then he was general bookkeeper for the General Distributing Company of Clarksburg, West Virginia until August 15, 1906. He was secretary of the Penn Table Company at Huntington, West Virginia from August 15, 1906 to February 1, 1911. Since that date to the present time he has been a partner in the firm of Logan & Summers, Insurance agents at Parkersburg. In this city also Mr. Summers now makes his home. He is a member of the United Commercial Travelers, Council #35 at Parkersburg. In Masonry he is a master mason, member of Mt. Olivet Lodge #3 of Parkersburg; a Royal Arch Mason, being a member of Adoniram Chapter #11 at Clarksburg; a member of Huntington Commandery #9, Knights Templar, at Huntington and of Beni-Kedem Shrine, Acient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine at Charleston; a member of Purnell Lodge of Perfection #2 and Odell S. Long Chapter of Rose Croix #a A. A. Scottish Rite at Parkersburg, West Va. He is also a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Lodge #192 of Parkersburg. Mr. Summers isa Democrat. He and his family are members of the Baptist church.

30

THE FAMILY OF JOHN EDWARD TAYLOR.  
(As of December 20, 1938)

John Edward Taylor, born April 28, 1850 the son of Moses Taylor and Eluza Vass Taylor near Forest Hill, Summers Co., W. Va.

He was married April 3, 1873 to Julia Anna Taylor, (Born Feb. 21, 1852)

He died August 28, 1879

She died January 3, 1881.

Their Children.

Two children born and died in infancy

Luther Edward Taylor, born Nov. 4, 1878.

\* \* \* \* \*

Luther Edward Taylor was married January 28, 1901 to Carrie Franklin Paonter, (born April 2, 1882, near Staunton, Va.)

The Children of Luther Edward Taylor and wife

Carl Clifton Taylor, born Aug. 28, 1901, died Oct. 5, 1915

Morris Edward Taylor, born Nov. 5, 1903

Morris Edward Taylor, born Nov. 5, 1903, died Oct. 8, 1925

Mary Catherine Taylor, born Feb. 13, 1906, died Aug. 15, 1930

Beaufort Moreland Taylor, born Feb. 21, 1909

Cleonie Lillian Taylor, born June 20, 1910

Olive Christel Taylor, )

Otha Conrad Taylor ) Twins born Oct. 29, 1911

Evelyn Doris Taylor, )

Eva Dorine Taylor ) Twins born Jan. 22, 1913, Died

Feb. 27th, 1913

Luther James Taylor, born Aug. 27, 1914

Raymond Rondel Taylor, born Jan. 20, 1916

Robert Lee Taylor, Born Mar. 22, 1920

Elva Rena Taylor, born April 7, 1922

Glen Joseph Taylor, born Dec. 20, 1923

\* \* \* \* \*

Morris Edward Taylor Married Pauline Brown - 1928

Their Children

Morris Elwood Taylor, Jr., born Sept. 29, 1929

Mary Catherine Taylor, married Frank Leo Charlton, Roanoke, Va.  
July 26th, 1926

Their Children

Lillian Jean Charlton, born and died Dec. 4, 1927

Leo Edward Charlton, born Sept. 19, 1929

Cleonie Lillian Taylor married Robert Lee Wyatt, Fireco, W. Va.,

Their Children

Melvin Leon Wyatt, born March 4, 1931 - died July 1931

Bobby Lee Wyatt, born April 16, 1932

Billie Ray Wyatt, born July 22, 1934

Betty Jo Wyatt, born April 18, 1937

Luther James Taylor Married Mary Elizabeth Yokum, of Rupert, W. Va.  
(Born Sept. 6, 1914). Date married August 21, 1937.

Their child-Barbara Jean born and died Dec. 21, 1938

Raymond Rohdel Taylor married Dorothy May O'Neal of Thurmond,  
W. Va., (Born May 17, 1919)

Beaufort, Otha, Olive, Robert, Elva and Glen unmarried at this date.



THE FAMILY OF JAMES WALLACE TAYLOR  
As of January 10th, 1939

James Wallace Taylor, born May 6th, 1855, the son of Moses Taylor and Eliza Vass Taylor, of Monroe County Va., now W.Va. He married January 30th, 1878, America Drucilla Burton, born January 22, 1859.

James Wallace Taylor      died June 6th, 1922  
America Drucilla Taylor died December 7, 1928.

Their Children.

Mary Etta Taylor,	born March 4, 1879
Effie Ann Taylor,	born March 3, 1881
Emma Frances Taylor,	born March 18, 1884
Samuel Clinton Taylor,	born March 14, 1886
Ella Clyde Taylor,	born Jan. 16, 1889
Edith Victoria Taylor,	born Jan. 4, 1891
Ethel Mae Taylor,	born March 14, 1893
Eva Maude Taylor,	born Sept. 16, 1897
Elma Pauline Taylor,	born Jan. 7, 1901

. . . . .

Mary Etta was married to Julian Lawson- Oct. 31, 1917  
(no children)

. . . . .

Effie Ann was married to Augustus Gabbert- May 7, 1906  
Their Children

Rayborne H. Gabbert,	born Feb. 1, 1906
James Robert Gabbert,	born Sept. 24, 1914
Ralph Augustus Gabbert,	born June 18, 1916

Rayborne married Virginia Bland Jun. 30, 1934  
Their child - Emogene Gabbert, born June 21, 1938

. . . . .

Emma Frances married Fred Erwin, Sept. 4, 1904  
Emma Frances died Dec. 17th, 1905. (No children)

. . . . .

Samuel Clinton	died in infancy -	Dec. 29, 1886
Ella Clyde	died in childhood,	May 16, 1891
Edith Victoria	died in girlhood	Oct. 11, 1907
Elma Pauline	died in infancy	Dec. 26, 1901

. . . . .

Ethel Mae married Otho French Jones - Nov. 7, 1917  
Their Children

Helen Marie Jones,	born Oct. 8, 1919
Raymond Otho Jones,	born June 18, 1921

Helen Marie died August 6, 1935

. . . . .

Eva Maude married Richard Cramer Taylor - Sept. 25, 1917  
Their Children

Anne Hope Taylor,	born April 15, 1920
James Cramer Taylor,	born Dec. 6, 1926
William Zachery Taylor,	born Dec. 17, 1928

THE FAMILY OF ALFRED B. TAYLOR.

As of October 25th, 1938

Alfred Burman Taylor, born Nov. 26, 1857, the son of Moses Taylor and Eliza Vass Taylor, in Monroe Co., Va., now W. Va.

He was married Nov. 24, 1878 to Ora Arminta Chapman, (Born-Jan. 24, 1861), near Hurricane, Putnam Co. W.Va.

Their children

Ira Bernice Taylor,	born July 23, 1879 - died 12-21-80
Ella Forrest Taylor,	born August 28, 1881
Clarence Lee Taylor,	born Feb. 1, 1884
Claude Elmer Taylor,	born Jan. 23, 1886
Corydon Ray Taylor,	born Apr. 2, 1889 - died 1-5-1932
Bertha Arminta Taylor,	born August 15, 1891
Veatrice Ora Taylor,	born Feb. 13, 1894
Georgia Vivian Taylor,	born January 13, 1897
Ruth Allene Taylor,	born September 25, 1900

\*\*\*\*\*

Ella married Boyd Jarrell, (b. 5-16-1875) in Huntington, W.Va. on Oct. 5, 1915 - Her husband died Aug. 6th, 1932.

Their Children

Boyd Jarrell, jr.	born October 31, 1916
Nancy Taylor Jarrell,	born July 17th, 1921
Jane Wells Jarrell,	born August 3, 1923
John David Jarrell,	born November 2, 1925

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Clarence married Lulu Belle Petit, (born Jan. 9, 1889), in Huntington, W.Va., on June 19th, 1907.

Their Children

Wilfred Alton Taylor,	born May 11, 1909 - died Dec. 23, 1912
* Norman Lee Taylor,	born July 10, 1913
William Alfred Taylor,	born March 18, 1915
Donald Eugene Taylor,	born October 2, 1916
Dorothy Ann Taylor,	born November 19, 1918
James Ray Taylor	twins born October 15, 1924
John Roy Taylor	
Clarence Lee Taylor, Jr.	born April 12, 1929
* Norman Married Grace Tabor at Logan, W.Va., April 24, 1935,	
Grace born - Jan 27, 1913 -	
Their child - Clarence Moses Taylor, born Apr. 17-1936.	

\*\*\*\*\*

Claude married Dorah Humphrey of Huntington, W.Va., Oct. 15, 1907  
Dorah - born Dec. 9, 1886

Their Child -

Mary Jane Taylor,	born March 4th, 1918
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Bertha married Roy H. Keadle of Williamson, W.Va. Sep. 5, 1923

Their children

Roy Howard Keadle	born November 5, 1926
Harvey Emmett Keadle,	born April 1, 1928
Lucie Taylor Keadle,	born November 28, 1929
Harriett Eliza Keadle,	born March 10, 1933

\*\*\*\*\*

Veatrice married Rueben Wyatt Kinder of Huntington, W.Va. June 19th, 1919 -

Their Children

Katherine Marie Kinder,	born February 2, 1923
Alice Florine Kinder,	born May 12, 1926
Billy Taylor Kinder,	born June 24, 1928
Milton Cassell Kinder,	born September 29, 1935

\*\*\*\*\*

Vivian and Ruth unmarried



THE FAMILY OF REBECCA MALINDA TAYLOR-LAWSON  
As of November 14th, 1938

Rebecca Malinda Taylor, born March 19th, 1860, the daughter of Moses Taylor and Eliza Vass Taylor, of Monroe Co. Va., now W. Va.

She was married August 16th, 1883 to David Lawson, (born 1850?)

Their Children

Minnie Bell Lawson,	born May 30th, 1884
Oma Austin Lawson,	born Nov. 27th, 1885
Martha Columbia Lawson,	born June 23rd, 1887
Ama A. Lawson,	born Nov. 21, 1888 died July 1889
Zada Adelle Lawson,	born Jan. 7th, 1890
Norma Elma Lawson,	born Jan. 22nd, 1892
Asa Otto Lawson,	born April 12th, 1894
Wade Hampton, Lawson	born Dec. 25th, 1895
Roma May Lawson,	born Oct. 21st, 1899
Ruby Estelle Lawson	born March 17th, 1901

\*\*\*\*\*

Minnie Bell was married to William Edgar Beckett - Sept. 10, 1905

Their Children

Thurman Edison Beckett	born March 23rd, 1907
Hazel Alberta Beckett	born Sept. 14th, 1914
Thurman married Elizabeth Goodall, Nov. 18, 1927	
Their child-Max Richard Beckett - born Aug. 19, 1928	
Hazel married Dale Joe Binford, Oct. 31st, 1937	

\*\*\*\*\*

Oma Austin married Anna Chaney, Sept. 17th, 1909

Their child- Inez Mae Lawson-born Sep. 16th, 1913

\*\*\*\*\*

Martha Columbia married Winifred Cyrus, Jan. 17th, 1909.

Their Children

Garland Lee Cyrus,	born Nov. 22, 1909
Frances Cyrus,	born March 30th, 1914
Vinson Cyrus,	born Aug. 31, 1922
Garland Lee married Ola Mae Rowsey, Nov. 24, 1930	

Their Children

Ronald Lee Cyrus	born Nov. 30th, 1931
Constance Marie Cyrus,	born Aug. 28, 1933
David Lee Cyrus,	born Oct. 13, 1935
Frances married Henry Chapman, June 5th, 1937	

\*\*\*\*\*

Zada Adelle married Elmer Hollandsworth, Jan. 12th, 1912  
(No Children)

Norma Elma married Clayton C. Holley, June 20th, 1917

Their children.

Zelma Ethelene Holley,	born Oct. 1st, 1921
Bonnie Celestine Holley,	born Nov. 22nd, 1924

\*\*\*\*\*

Asa Otto married Elizabeth Cobb, Dec. 19th, 1925 -  
(No Children)

\*\*\*\*\*

Wade, Roma nad Ruby unmarried.

GENERAL ELISHA MCCOMAS AND SOME OF HIS DESCENDANTS.

MARY MCKENDREE JOHNSON.

Before Cabell County, Virginia was organized, the McComas family was represented in that region. Its members have not only been closely identified with the civil and political life of western Virginia but have given a fine accounting in all wars which have been fought in defense of our country.

Of Scotch-Irish origin, the immigrant ancestor, Daniel McComas settled in Anne Arundel, Maryland, long before the close of the seventeenth century. Daniel McComas, a planter, chose his home on a plantation, "Brown's Chance", near the head of the Severn River, where he and his wife Elizabeth resided until his death in 1699. He had accumulated property in Baltimore County, and his sons removed to that county, their lands being later included in Harford County, when it was organized.

It was from Harford County that John the Elder, migrated to become the head of the Virginia McComas family. According to tradition, John McComas married a Napier. He settled first in North Carolina, where his son, John, the Revolutionary soldier, was born in 1757. From here, the family removed to Augusta County, Virginia, living in both Rockingham and Shenandoah Counties. John McComas, a surveyor, located for a brief time in Greenbrier, and finally came to rest in Montgomery County, Virginia, first at Rippledene, and then near Pearisburg. This location was later included in Giles County, when that county was created. Here, John McComas built Fort Branch and assisted in its defense against the Indians.

The family of John McComas was a large one, and his descendants are scattered from coast to coast. Among his children were: (1) John, b 1757 m Catherine Hatfield, of the family which figured in the early settlement of Cabell County. The date of the marriage of John and Catherine was Feb. 21, 1786. John died in Cabell County and was a pensioner of the Revolutionary War. (2) Mary m John Hatfield 1788. (3) Stephen m Sarah Certain 1787. (4) David m Chloe Bailey, Jan. 11, 1787. His descendants established the Mercer County branch of this family. (5) William m (2) Dicey Chapman 1797. (6) Jesse m Judith Napier Feb. 17, 1789. (7) Thomas m Mary Aldrich Feb. 12, 1799. (8) Moses m Lucy Napier Feb. 5, 1793. (9) Elijah m Mary French Jan. 3, 1792. (10) Catherine. (11) ELISHA b 1770 m Jul. 3, 1792 Annie French daughter of Matthew French, Revolutionary soldier. All the above marriages occurred in Montgomery County, Virginia and are there recorded.

The following sons of John McComas the Elder-Jesse, John, David, William, Moses, and Thomas, with their families, migrated to Kanawha County, Virginia, about 1798. This region was included in Cabell when it was organized in 1809. The majority of these brothers settled in Sheridan, District of Cabell, to become the first white settlers of Lincoln County, as now set up. Stephen and Sarah Certain McComas went on to Ohio, settling within the present boundaries of Lawrence County. ELISHA, one of the younger sons of John McComas, the Elder, came later with his wife, Annie, and older children, locating on the Guyandotte River, near Salt Rock about 1808. He and his wife are buried in a

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family cemetery in that vicinity. It is a regrettable fact that the exact site of their graves is unknown to the writer of this sketch.

Cabell County pioneer, Elisha McComas gave a laudable account of himself in his long and active life in his wilderness home on the western frontier. He was intimately identified with the civil, the political, and the military life of Cabell County for many years. A member of the Virginia Assembly, he served thirteen terms in the House of Delegates, covering a period from 1809-1833. He was a Gentleman Justice of Cabell County, a member of its first court, and a trustee of both Barboursville and Guyandotte, when they were created.

Elisha McComas rose in the military life of Virginia from Captain of Militia to Brigadier-General of the 22nd Brigade. His commission as Brigadier-General was certified on the minute books of Cabell County in 1822.

During the War of 1812, Elisha McComas served as Colonel of the 120th Regiment, Thirteenth Brigade, Third Division. While his regiment was not called into service under his command, recruits were drawn from it, both for infantry and cavalry service. Detachments from the 120th Regiment saw active service in the defense of Fort Meigs in Ohio, and along the Atlantic sea-board.

Elisha and Annie French McComas reared their family in Cabell County. Their children include: (1) David b 1795 in Giles County, where he married Cynthia French; (2) James b 1801 d in Cabell County, 1865, married Emily McComas, daughter of Jesse and Judith. James and Emily had, - Thomas E., Elisha K., and David; (3) William b in Giles County in 1793 died in Cabell County 1865. He married (1) Mildred Ward, Feb. 24, 1812, daughter of Thomas and Mildred Walden Ward. Thomas Ward was a Colonel of the Virginia Militia, and his father, John Ward was a major in the Revolution. (4) Sarah m John Shelton, the first wedding of a white woman in Lincoln County. (5) Rebecca m Patrick Keenan. (6) America m John McKeand. (7) Elvira m 1828 John Henderson of Colonial and Revolutionary stock.

David, the second son of Elisha and Annie McComas, was a brilliant jurist. A member of the Whig Party, he was selected to the Virginia State Senate in 1830, serving for five sessions. On March 28, 1831, he made a speech in the Senate upholding the right of South Carolina to secede from the Union. This was said to be the first outright secessionist speech delivered in Virginia. It was republished and given wide publicity in 1860 during the period immediately preceding the Civil War.

David McComas was appointed Judge of the General Court of the State of Virginia Jan. 8, 1844, and was Judge of the 18th Circuit, which included Cabell County. He served until 1851, and was reappointed to serve the unexpired term of Judge George W. Summers, who resigned. This term expired in 1861. David McComas spent his declining days in Giles County, Virginia, where he died in 1864, leaving no issue.

William, eldest son of General Elisha McComas, was well represented by his descendants in Cabell County. He was born in Giles County, Virginia, near Pearisburg in 1793, and died in Cabell County in 1865. He was educated in private schools and Emory and Henry College. A lawyer by profession, he was also an ordained Methodist minister. He was a member of the Virginia State Senate 1830 - 33; was elected as a Whig as a representative to the 23rd and 24th Congresses. He served as a delegate to the Virginia State Secession Convention and opposing his brother David, a fiery secessionist, he voted against the ordinance. He was a Judge of the U. S. District Court during the Civil War. After the death of his wife Mildred in 1853, William McComas married (2) Sarah

Wentz Dirton in 1859. Of this second marriage there was no issue.

The children of William and Mildred Ward McComas were: James Madison b Dec. 2, 1812; Valeria b O. 14, 1814; Rizpah b Dec 7, 1816; Henrietta C b O. 21, 1821; Elisha W b Jan. 21, 1823; William Wirt b O. 16, 1826; Eliza A b Mar. 25, 1828; Hamilton C b Nov. 9, 1831; Rufus French, b Feb. 14, 1833; Benjamin Jefferson b May 28, 1835; Irene O b Oct. 17, 1843 (The last named the late Mrs. McKendree of Cabell County). Mother of Mary Johnson and George Johnson, Congressman.

Elisha Wesley, son of William and Mildred McComas was an ominent lawyer and journalist. He served as Lieutenatn-Governor of Virginia under Governor Henry A. Wise; was president of the Virginia State Senate, served several terms in the Virginia Assembly; was editor of the Chicago Times, owned by Cyrus McCormick. He practiced law in Virginia, Ohio, Illinois, and Kansas. He died in Fort Scott, Kansas in 1890. He married in 1843 Arianna Holderby of Cabell County. The only surviving descendants in the male line are his grandsons, sons of Gordon McComas, the youngest son of Elisha and Arianna McComas, now living in Oklahoma City.

During the Mexican War, Elisha W. McComas raised a company of volunteers, - Co. C. Eleventh U. S. Infantry, and with his men saw active service, in 1847. In his company were two of his brothers, James Madison, and Hamilton C.

Hamilton C. McComas, son of William and Mildred, was a brilliant member of the bar and jurist. He was the only one of the immediate family to enlist on the side of the Union in the Civil War. He was Lieut- Colonel of the 107 Illinois Infantry, and served with distinction during this conflict.

At one time in Illinois, as a young lawyer, he was the partner of Abraham Lincoln. He practiced law in Illinois, Kansas, and served on the bench after moving to Missouri, where he lived at St. Louis, at the time of his death. In 1881, with his wife Juniata, and little son Charles, he was massacred by Geronimo and his band of Apaches, while visiting his silver mine investments in New Mexico. No descendants survive.

William Wirt McComas, son of William and Mildred, was a physician and practiced his profession in Cabell County, when he enlisted with the Confederates, raising a company from Giles County. He was killed in action at South Mills in 1862, and left a posthumous son not living, and only one grandson, survives, Frederick McComas of St. Albans, W. Va.

Rufus French McComas, son of William and Mildred McComas d 1892. As a young man, he left Cabell Count going across the plains with Stephen B. Elkins. He located in Nebraska, where he became a successful banker. He has two surviving sons living in Chicago, Duke and Rufus French Jr. There are no male descendants in the second generation, except the son of his daughter Mrs. William Lyford. This grandson, Calhoun Lyford served with distinction during the World War over-seas.

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Benjamin Jefferson McComas, youngest son of William and Mildred McComas was born in Cabell County, 1835, d there in 1894. He was an honored member of the Cabell County Bar. He saw active service with the confederate forces under General Early and was captured at Cedar Creek and held prisoner until the close of the war. He was twice married and his last surviving son was the late George J. McComas, eminent lawyer of Huntington, who died in 1921. Two daughters of Jefferson McComas first marriage Margaret and Martha survive. They are residents of Texas. Two grandsons, Captain B. Curtis McComas, and Paul Love served in the World War from Cabell County.

This brief and concise summary does not attempt to set forth in attractive form, and all inclusively the record of General Elisha McComas and his West Virginia descendants. It aims merely to point out the highlights of achievements both civil and military of Elisha McComas, a Colonel in the War of 1812, together with the activities of some of his male descendants who have helped preserve their country in times of stress and war. From the original Maryland stock, which figures in Colonial military history, through the Virginia line, fighting the savages, in the Revolution, the War of 1812, the Mexican War, the Civil War, and the recent World War, Elisha McComas' family has given a good accounting.

This brief record, while not the annals of an ancestry of noble or royal lineage, is one of sturdy, staunch patriotism and of a high conception of public duty. Its recital warms the cockles of the heart of at least one humble descendant, the writer, who feels a surge of pride in reviewing the achievements of this sturdy Scotch-Irish forbear, Elisha McComas, who having so little, gave so much of himself and his posterity to the development and protection of our own Cabell County and the Commonwealth of Virginia.



## The Handleys

John Handley served in the Revolutionary War, in Captain John Vantessé's Company, of Jefferson County, Virginia under command of George Rogers Clark. He became a Lieutenant in 1782, and was made Major, by the first county court of Monroe County, held one mile east of the present Town of Union, May 22, 1799. He was born about 1745, and died March 13, 1811.

He married Mary Harrison, in 1768. She died Dec. 4, 1829, and was buried at Guyandotte, W. Va. <sup>she died</sup> at the home of one of her sons, Isaac Handley, with whom she spent her declining years. He lived near the International Nickel Plant, above Guyandotte. One of her grandsons was hauling wood with a team of oxen, near the C. & O. Railroad. The team ran away, and she fell and broke her arm. She was 84 years old when she died Dec. 4, 1829.

It is not known just how many children John and Mary Handley had, but here are two of them.

I Isaac <sup>Handley</sup> of whom the present writer knows no more than is stated above.

## II Samuel Handley

b. — — 1771

d. Aug. 5, 1851, in Teays Valley.

August 4, 1797, he married Sarah Walker Harmon sister of Mrs. Abia Rice and daughter of <sup>Mr. Dr.</sup> ~~Dr.~~ Thomas Harmon of Greenbrier Co., Virginia, now West Virginia. She died in Putnam County, W. Va. October 14, 1854, in "the seventy-fifth year of her age", as recorded on her Tombstone. She was born in 1779.

Samuel and Mary Handley were the parents of sixteen children:

1. Nelson Handley

b. April 2, 1798

m. McCoy(?)

Lived on Kanawha River about Buffalo.

2. Isaac Handley II

b. 1799 - Oct. 13.

Lived on Kanawha River all his life

m. Brown?

m. Eliza McCormick Feb. 2, 1839

(Is he the same?) By Stephen Spurlock.

## 3. Sampson Handley

~~b. Oct. 13, 1799~~

b. July 28, 1801.

d.

m. Susan Webster Billups, probably  
of Wayne County, in 1824.

Their children were:

a. Emily Handley

b.

m. John W. Thornburg Nov. 9, 1852.

He was son of Solomon Thornburg.

b. William H. Handley

Born

m. Matilda A. Cremeans, Nov. 8, 1857.

He 23. She 18. Both b. and  
resident in Cabell County.He was a blacksmith, and  
daughter of Moses and M. Cremeans.She was a daughter of Mary  
Ann Garrett, and step daughter  
of David Harshbarger.He lived and died near Jackson  
Ohio (Jackson Co.?)



c. Caroline M. Handley

m. Moses S. Thornburg, son of  
Hezekiah and Rachel Thornburg  
of Wheeling, W. Va., who were  
married, in 1785.

Their children were:

d. Frances S. Handley ("Fanny")

m. James H. Wright, at home of  
Sampson Handley, on Tind River,  
Feb. 1, 1859. He 23, She 24.

He born in Rockbridge Co., Va.

A house painter. Guyandotte.  
Lived in Guyandotte. No  
children.

Ellen M. Handley  
e. ~~Mary~~ Virginia Handley

m. C. K. Brammer, 37 years old,  
and son of J. S. Brammer. He  
was a shoemaker, and was  
born in Lawrence Co., O.  
They lived near Russell Cr.  
Bridge. She was 23.  
She died in childbirth with  
her first child. It also died.

f. Mary Virginia Handley

m. Andrew J. Hick, Oct. 28, 1864.  
He 37. She 25. He a widower &  
born in Wayne County, son of  
Joseph and <sup>Eleanor</sup> Ellen Hick. A farmer.  
They had only one daughter who lived.

Ada Hick m. Orville(?) Petit  
who lived in Guyandotte  
Andrew J. Hick, at one time,  
lived in B'ville, and ran  
a butcher shop.

n. Elizabeth Hanly  
m. Warren Rice

(See a dau. Mrs. M. J. Summers,  
1817 - 6th Ave., Huntington)

Warren Rice m. 2

and had a son Frank (Singer)  
(See Will Vinson) Warren Rice d  
in Huntington. He had a  
dau. Lora (oldest) She never  
married. A dau. ~~Elizabeth~~ Elizabeth  
m. Mat Summers.)

4. Alexander W. Handley

b. April 1, 1803

m. Eliza Sibble Griffin, dau. of  
Griffin, and sister to John W.  
Griffin.

They lived on the old Handley place,  
at <sup>near</sup> Code Switch A dau.

Virginia m. Isaac Seashole, bro  
to Mr. Seashole.

Sally m. Bowyer.

—— m. James Thornburg.

5. Lewis Handley

b. Dec. 14, 1804.

His inscription, in the old Guyandoll  
cemetery reads:

"In memory of Lewis, son of S. and S.  
Handley, who met with a fatal accident  
on board the Kanawha steamboat, with  
many of his fellow mortals, June 24th,  
and whilst his tender parents waited  
around him, full of grief, he expired  
June 25th, 1829, aged twenty-four  
years!"



VI. James Handley

b. Sept. 20, 1806.

d.

~~See Tombstone in old Guyardotte  
Cemetery.~~

VII. Margaret Handley

b. Nov. 15, 1808 d. Dec. 29, 1840 (Handley  
graveyard)

m. William A. Love (His 2nd wife)

VIII. Nancy Handley

b. April 17, 1810.

m.

Hamplon?

Lived in Pittsburg.

Mr. Hamplon brought his two  
small children to their grandmother.  
They contracted scarlet fever from a  
letter and died.

IX John Handley

b. Aug. 15, 1811. d. March 26, 1852 (40-7-11)

m. Eleanor Summers

Children

1. Olga Handley m. J. Alfred Buckner 1/17/1867.  
She b. 1856. He b. Mingo Co., O., 31. She 20.

" d. Jan 17, 1873.

She Putnam. He resided in Wood Co. He son of David &amp; Martha Buckner a labourer. She dau John &amp; Eleanor Handley.

2. Lycurgus

b. May 17, 1843, in Leays Valley.

d. Oct 17, 1918, at Huntington.

3. Samuel Handley Jr.

b. May 27, 1849

d. June 6, 1926, at Gates Crossing.

Lived on Fudges Creek.

No children

Marriage records show that

John Handley m. Sally White

March 5, 1833

(Is above same?) No. By Thos. Harmon

John Davidson says: John Handley, I think lived about Howell's Mill. Mr. McCorkle waited on him in his last sickness & later married the widow.

Olga Handley ~~dau~~ m. Marion Swann~~after~~

X. Mary b. Feb. 7, 1813<sup>3</sup>  
m. ~~Nicholas~~ <sup>meriwether</sup> Poudexter, of Kanawha Co.  
Mrs. M. C. Johnson's son. married  
Dr. Poudexter, dentist, Huntington.

See Mary Hennen

XI. George (W) Handley  
b. Sept. 3, 1814.  
m. Delilah Poor, Aug 20, 1837 m.  
by Daniel C. Topping record  
John Davidson says: - He left  
on a steamboat & was never  
heard from. Probably a deck hand.  
A young man Mother said he  
was a great hunter. Could shoot  
a turkey's head off in the dark.



12. Harrison J. Handley

b. Nov. 23, 1816

m. Sarah Ann West

Lived about 3 miles from Winfield.  
Later moved back of Culloden, where  
some of their children live yet  
Jeff & Lee? John, Jack

A son Sarah Walker m. Billy  
Chapman, son of Harry  
Chapman who lived near  
Abia Rice farm.

Jose m. Frazier. She d. in Huntington.

Martha m. ———— Lives as a  
widow, in Huntington.

13. Martha J. Handley

b. March 29, 1819

m. William Davidson

5 children: Charley, Sadie, Sam, Will  
John.



14. Elizabeth Handley  
b. July 5, 1820.

m. Cornwelzie Simmons?  
no children.

15. William Allison Handley  
b. May 25, 1822

m. Adaline West, sister to Sarah Ann West,  
first wife of Harrison J. Handley.

Lived a short distance west of Scott  
Depot, near William A. Love in Days Valley.  
Children:

Records taken from cemetery records  
show that William A. Allison and his wife  
had six children, the oldest of which died  
at 16, and the others died early.

Four of these children died between  
August 18th and August 27th 1868.

Two died August 26, 1868, one August 27th  
and the other August 18th. It indicates  
an epidemic of some kind - flux.

A son Charley lives on the Wm. A. Love  
place.

- a. Sarah L. Handley  
 b. June 26, 1852  
 d. Aug. 26, 1868  
 Aged 16 yrs. 2 mos.
- b. Leah Handley  
 b. June 12, 1861  
 d. Sept. 2, 1862  
 Aged 1 yr. 2 mos. 20 days
- c. Virginia A. Handley  
 b. June 16, 1862  
 d. Aug. 18, 1868
- d. William A. L. Handley  
 b. March 21, 1864  
 d. Aug. 27, 1868  
 Aged 4 yrs. 5 mos. 6 days
- e. George H. Handley  
 b. June 23, 1868  
 d. Aug. 26, 1868  
 Aged 2 mos. 3 days
- f. Anne E. Handley  
 b. March 6, 1870  
 d. May 28, 1872  
 Aged 2 yrs. 2 mos. 22 days.

It will be noted further that four of these children were born in June.

16. Albert G. Handley  
b. July 17 1823.  
d. Feb. 22, 1895.

He was an old bachelor, and  
made his home with his brother  
William A. Handley who lived on  
Poplar Fork of Hurricane Creek,  
about a mile below the Davidson  
mill.



## The Swinns

(Note - This is written Jan. 5, 1942, and is based on such facts as I now have. Other records may be found. Records of John Swinn, his marriage, etc. may be found in Kanawha and Greenbrier Co.)

The Swinns are said to have come direct from Ireland to Greenbrier Co., Va. John <sup>Swinn</sup> ~~Bogart~~ came farther west and settled just above the mouth of Mill Creek which empties into Mud River, a short distance below Miller. Who his wife was is not known to this writer, but she was living on this farm in 1820.

April 25, 1812, William <sup>Swinn</sup> and Benjamin <sup>no doubt later</sup> Jordan, sold 89½ acres of land lying on the northeast side of Mud River, and above the mouth of Mill Creek, to the heirs of John Swinn, showing that he had died previous to this time. This seems to have been the same farm on which he lived, and which afterward passed into the hands of his son Andrew Swinn. It was later owned by Thomas Jefferson Swinn, son of Andrew Swinn, thus remaining in the family for years.

(Over)

John Swinn is said to have been killed before 1812, on the Swinn farm, at the mouth of Mill Creek, by a falling tree, while clearing land.

A story handed down by tradition relates that when the Swinn family were coming across the ocean, a baby boy child died. To prevent it from being buried at sea, the mother concealed it, but the captain became suspicious and made <sup>repeated</sup> inquiry, but she denied it. He had noticed a whale following the vessel. She succeeded in bringing the ~~at~~ body to land where it was properly buried.

Deeds made by the various heirs of John Swinn, and other sources of information show that he had the following children:

Elizabeth  
1. "Betsy" Swinn

who married John Martin Aug. 19, 1815. I find no other record of them except that on Nov. 16, 1816, they deeded their part of the John Swinn estate to Andrew Swinn, brother to Mrs. Swinn. They may have moved away, or they may have died early. A John Martin married Cyrus, but I doubt whether he was the same man as the John Martin above. Jacob Stallings performed the ceremony for John Martin & wife

Mary

2. "Polly" Swinn married John Griffith, April 4, 1819. John Morris officiated. They deeded their part of the John Swinn estate to Andrew Swinn, for \$120, Nov. 27, 1820, after which no record is found of them in Cabell County.

A John Griffith's estate was appraised Oct. 23, 1816 (Recorded). He may have this John's father. His wife was Hannah.

3. Ann Swinn married Sampson Sanders, April 29, 1821, John Morris officiating. She died quite early, and is said to have left a daughter who also died early. Sampson Sanders never married again, but he was one of the most prominent men in the county, until his death in 1849. A fuller account of him will be given in another section of this history.

4. Andrew Swinn was born and died <sup>Feb. 19, 1827</sup>. He married Rachel Harshbarger, daughter of David Harshbarger who was the first of the Harshbargers to come to Cabell County, and the ancestor of all the Harshbargers in this section.

Andrew and Rachel Harshbarger Swinn were the parents of six sons, and seven daughters, as follows:

1. Louisa Swinn m. 1 Allen Rice  
m. 2 Peter White.  
Aug. 19, 1878.

Children of  
( Andrew & Rachel Swinn )

2. America Swinn married James E.  
Shellon, of Barboursville, Aug. 29,  
1878. He was son of  
and Shellon



(Children of Andrew and Rachel Swann)

3. Ann m. Henry Johnson of Mud River  
at or a little above the mouth  
of Shoals Branch.

4. Mary m. Lafayette Ball of Yates Crossing

children of Andrew?  
Rachel Swinn. 6.

6. Elizabeth m. Albert S. Eschelman of  
Pennsylvania.

7. Henry m. Ann Eliza Newman  
They lived at Glenwood, Mason Co.,  
W. Va.

Children of  
Andrew & Rachel  
Harshbarger

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8. Andrew married Harriet Comer of  
near Hurricane, W. Va., and  
moved to Texas.

9. George Washington (Wash) m.  
Henrietta Ball who lived  
near Millou.

8  
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(Children of  
Rachel & Andrew  
Gunn)

10. John Gunn m. Hettie Kilgore,  
daur. of and Killgore

11. James m. Nannie (?) Parrish  
daur. of and Parrish  
of near Millou. They moved  
to Illinois, where they  
made their home.

9  
(Children of Andrew  
and Rachel Swinn)

12. William was killed in the Civil War.

13. Thomas Jefferson m. Matilda

Maupin Bryan, dau of M.  
and M.

Bryan, Dec. 12, 1872

She dau. of M. & M. Bryan

Children: Two sons and six daughters.

1. Ruby Rachel m. William H.  
Thompson, Bluefield, W. Va.

2. Nannie m. Milton Mezey,  
Ora, or Milton, W. Va.

Children of J. J. and  
Matilda M. Swinn

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3. Nellie Thomas Swinn m. Charles C.  
Harshbarger, Waynesburg, Ky.

4. Anna m. George Ellis, Millon, W. Va.

5. Rhetta m. Douglas B. Reynolds, Vinton, O.

6. Eveleth m. Charles C. Chuders, Millon

7. Walter

Millon

8. Andrew m. Rachel Lykens, Millon.

## The Blakes

The Blakes are believed to be of English descent. Isaac Blake Sr. came here, about from Greenbrier Co. Va., now West Virginia. In 1819, he bought a farm of <sup>30</sup> acres of land of Lawrence ~~Bryant & Tal.~~ ~~John Morris Sr.~~, located in the bend of Mud River, not far from the present town of Ona. He had married Margaret Jordan, in Greenbrier Co., 1791. (?)

This will, dated June 8, 1831, (witnessed by Wm Love & Patrick & James Talbot) on record in Cabell County shows that he died about 1831, and that he had ~~fourteen~~ <sup>twelve</sup> children:

I. Jane m. Irvin Lusher. They lived in Barboursville for several ( ) years, and then removed to Lincoln County, where some of their descendants may yet be found. Others returned to Cabell County, and their descendants are still here. (See Lushers.) (A note by "Tobe" Blake of Nine Mile Cr. suggests Jane may have been m. twice)

2.  
Isaac Blake Sr.  
II Isaac Blake<sup>II</sup> m. Christian S. Miller

III Mary F. Blake m. Christian S. Miller.  
Feb. 1, 1835. Rev. Levi P. Miller.  
(I presume this was "Sig" Miller, - yes.  
partner with his brother John Miller  
in Barboursville - See Claude's sister)



( IV Morris Blake (John M. Blake)

b.

d.

m. Tabitha Spurlock, July 23, 1840  
Daughter of Daniel Spurlock of  
Union District, Cabell County where  
Morris Blake settled.

V. Sarah Blake m. Thomas Arthur

VI. Peter Blake m. Sarah Davis(?) ("Bally")

He is buried near the top of the hill, in a field nearest the upper end of Barboursville, not far from the present Estler home. His inscription reads:

Peter Blake died

March 6, 1850, Aged 55 yrs.

7 mos. & 9 days. Hence,

born on, or about July 27, 1794.

The Estler farm formerly owned by H. A. Allen was the Peter Blake home. He lived here long before the War, and raised his family here. His land extended to Grays Branch, a branch of <sup>Lower</sup> Tom's Creek. Wm. C. Miller said: "Mrs Peter Blake was one of the best women I ever knew. She was a great Southerner; yet her heart was big enough to protect even a Yankee in distress. A one-legged political prisoner was brought in ~~from~~ to Barboursville, from Wayne County, during the Civil War. He stole a horse of an officer, and hid out in the hills, near the Blake residence. He went to her house, and she took him and ferried him across the Guyandotte river at Martha."

(Over) "She fed 25 to 30 <sup>refugee</sup> women from the first fight at Barboursville. Her house, a rather large frame, was on the same foundation as the Allen house."

"Grammy" Blake, as she was called,  
lived with Jean Salmon's folks just  
above the ~~Joel K. Salmon~~<sup>W.C. Miller</sup> residence. This  
was in her later years. (W.C. Miller)

Peter Blake.

4 b.

"We never knew where she  
came from." Mrs. Kelley.

Peter and Sarah Blake were the  
parents of <sup>eight</sup> ~~seven~~ children: (not necessarily in  
order of birth)

1. Peter Blake Jr. m. ———, in  
Texas. A son William is living  
yet. See Mrs. John Hallanan. He  
visited here years ago.

Dr. Elizabeth m. Jacob Harshbarger.  
("Aunt Betty") They lived at Milton.

She died about 1881. She was  
killed by a buggy running over  
a bank, about where Jos. Morritt  
Sr. lived.

Peter Blake

(of Peter Blake?)

yes

#. A dau. Eliza, of ~~Elizabeth Harshbarger~~  
after Harshbargers

m. 1 ——— Fuller,

m. 2. Albert Herrenkohl, and  
was mother of Charles &  
Dr. Herrenkohl.

Eliza, by m. to Fuller, had a  
dau. Sadie Fuller, who m.

Wm. Baumgardner, an uncle to  
Charles B. of B'ville (1942)

13 #. 2. John W. Blake b

1825.

m. 1 Nancy Kinnard (~~Ellen Barnett?~~)

Jan. 1, 1846. Rev. James Mitchell

m. 2. Fanny Milshead of Lawrence  
Co., Ohio.

They lived a long time at  
Indianapolis, Ind. but returned  
and lived where Steve Angles  
lived. No children by 2nd wife

By first wife, he had 3 children, all dead

a. ~~Joe~~ Edna Blake m. Jos.

Merritt Dr. (See Merritts)

b. Fred — Lived at Indianapolis

c. Albert — " " "

Fred died young.

Albert never married.

- 7 H. Marthah m. Joel K. Salmon.  
Lived at Barboursville,  
He was deputy county clerk,  
under Moses S. Thornburg.  
(See details under Salmon.)  
She b. April 25, 1837  
d. Feb. 9, 1892, in B'ville

- 8~~th~~. Nancy m. Thomas Barnett, May 4, 1852,  
Rev Ransom Lancaster.

- 9~~th~~. Louisa m.

Fuller.



Dan Peter.

## \* 5. Margaret Blake

m. 1 Mathew Lusher, a merchant here.  
They had a large family  
See "Lushers."

m. 2. Charles Hodge Feb. 23, 1862,  
He had one son Allen Hodge  
who lived all his life  
on a farm across Mud  
River from Mallorys.  
He was son of Preston and  
Susan Hodge. He m.  
Mary — of Ohio. He  
was a blacksmith.

Son Peter

## 6. Isaac Blake III

m. Mary A. Kilgore, dau. of  
George and Kilgore

They had a large family.

a. Anna m. Frank J. Lesage 10/11/76

She died of a poison pill.

She had two children

1. Ethel m.

Richardson

Separated. She lives with  
Mrs. John Hallanan.

Her mother Annie was  
buried at Lesage, but  
removed to B'ville Cem.

2. Sidney Lesage. Served in  
The Spanish Am. War.

Lesage 40, 4 B.  
New York City

She 19. Rev. Jno. J. Johnson.

Peter Blake

4 e

Children of Isaac, his son.

Rev. L. B. Madison

b. Emma m. Levi Jones. <sup>3/8/83</sup> She died long before he did. They had Anna, Sallie (Single), Mary, ~~and~~ Mary & Anna keep house together.

c. Ceres m. William Shipe, son of Charley Shipe. They lived across the R. R. in a large apartment beyond the Capt. Spencer home. He was a cement worker. made walks, cisterns, etc.

d. Jennie m. Cash Merrill, son of Mary & ——— Merrill. The father died early. They had two children Angie & Lee both of whom died young. She may be living in Huntington. They lived at the eastern end of Barboursville

Peter Blake 4 f.

Children of Isaac, his son.

e. Norman m 1

m. 2

See Hallanan's for his  
wife who lives in Huntington.

f. Margaret m. William Hedrick  
They live across the C. & O  
depot in Huntington,  
1039-8th Ave.

g. Martha (or Mattie) m. Mr. Hallanan

VII James Blake m Sarah

VIII Clara (Clarissa) Blake m. William H. Jordan

IX Nancy Blake m. Benj. Smith of  
Fayette County. Blake says:

An older sister (Nancy) married  
a man named Smith, in Greenbrier Co.,  
He and Uncle Jim got a 600 lb.  
bear, in a cave. They shot him and  
Smith got in to get it out. Before  
the bear died, he got into the entrance  
of the cave, and prevented Smith from  
getting out in time to prevent smother-  
ing to death.

X. Margaret Blake<sup>"Peggy"</sup> m. Jeremiah Blake.  
They lived on Cabell Creek.  
So far as known, they had  
no children. He was not closely  
related to her family.  
"Tobe" Blake said Jerry was an  
uncle to Morris Blake. (Doubtful J.B.)

Isaac Blake Sr.

XI Pennell Blake m. Nancy Knight  
da. of James and Knight.  
May 12, 1842 Rev. Stephen Spurlock

He was born in Greenbrier County  
Ansel Blake, son of Pennell Blake  
says: My father, my youngest  
brother Robert, Morris Blake, and  
"Major" Isaac Blake (brothers of Pennel)  
were buried in the Col. Swinn  
graveyard on Spurlock Creek.

My father and brother Robert, at  
Greenbottom. (He evidently got mixed)  
Jeremiah Blake who m. my Aunt  
Margaret, lived on the head of  
Cabell Creek of Mud River.

Pennel Blake bought land of Sally,  
wife of Peter Blake. In 1845, he leased  
land of Holderby, and built a  
home in the hollow back of the  
present John Kyle residence. He also owned  
a farm at Howell's Mill. He was not  
married till he was about forty years  
old.



Isaac Blake Sr.

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XII Elizabeth Blake

b.

d.

m. James Newman

b.

d.

~~III~~

-- PREFACE --

It is the writer's object and desire to contribute to the world the biography of two of God's subjects whom He loaned to the world for a short period of time that His universe might be enriched by their useful lives of faithful service in a modest, quiet, unassuming way in an ideal Christian home. The home and community in which they lived and moved was their sphere, as my story shows forth; and, in addition, virtues seen and extolled by those who knew them.

They contributed to the world eight sons and two ~~daughters~~ excellent daughters, all of whom the writer will leave for the world to judge and determine their worth when their biography has been studied.



A Brief History  
of  
Certain McComas and Shelton  
Families

Judge David McComas was the son of General Elisha and Anna French McComas. He was born in Giles County, Virginia, about 1795, and died there in 1864. He married Cynthia T. French, daughter of Captain David French, and his wife, Mary Dingess. They had no children. He was a distinguished lawyer, a Judge of the Circuit Court of Kanawha County, a member of the General Court of Virginia, state senator from the Kanawha District, and is said to have been a Judge in one of the central West Virginia counties. He was a candidate for Congress, in 1839, but was defeated.

While Circuit Judge of the Kanawha District, he lived in Charleston. His home was said to be in what is now Lincoln County, about where Guyan Valley High School now stands. He was opposed to Secession, and is said to have made the first speech ever made against it at Richmond.

The Cabell County census of 1850 gives his age as 56 years and that of his wife, Cynthia, as 47 years. This would indicate that he was born about 1794, and his wife about 1803. A good authority, however, states that he was born about 1795, and that he died in Giles County, Virginia, in 1864. The census of 1850 lists him and his wife and does not list any children. This corresponds to information which I have received for years, from old citizens who knew him personally, and from printed authority.

He served as Circuit Judge of Cabell County from 1843 to



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1852, when he was defeated for re-election by George W. Summers of Kanawha County. Judge Summers afterward resigned and Judge McComas succeeded him and served from 1858 to 1862, when he joined the Confederate Army. After the war, he lived in Giles County until his death in 1864.

One of the original McComas settlers was David McComas, Senior. Since that time there have been a number of David McComases, but, in most cases, they are easy to distinguish. David McComas, Senior, died about 1821. Others are definitely too young to be confused with the Judge.

Little David McComas is the only one of the Davids that was born at a date approximating that of the Judge. Fortunately, Little David is also listed in the Cabell County census for 1850. This gave his wife's name as Endocia, and stated that she was born in Tennessee. At that time, he was 49 and she was 38, hence, he was born about 1801 and she about 1812. They had four children:

Henderson G.	15,	born about 1835.
Lewis	10,	born about 1840.
Dyke	8,	born about 1842.
Armina	4,	born about 1846.

This is all the children Little Dave and his wife ever had. They lived in the vicinity of McComas Ridge. Dyke was often called Little Dyke after his father, Little Dave, who was given that title because of his small size. He only weighed about a hundred pounds. Endocia was generally known as "Docia." Before her marriage she was 'Docia Drake, and was probably a sister to Henderson Drake. All accounts agree that the Drakes came here from Tennessee, and this is borne out by the records.



It has been very difficult to ascertain, with certainty, the parentage of Little David McComas. However, after careful consideration, it seems probable that he was the son <sup>of</sup> Thomas McComas, Senior, who was one of the original brothers who first came to this section, and, hence, a brother to General Elisha McComas. If so, Judge David McComas and Little David were first cousins. It is a moral certainty that Little David McComas was a son of one of these original settlers, as not a single one of the second generation McComases was old enough to have been the father of Little David. James McComas, brother to the Judge, was born about 1801, thus being about the same age as Little David, both being listed in the 1850 census, as being 49 years old. James McComas had a son, David, 16 years old in 1850, hence, he is eliminated, as he must have been <sup>in</sup> born 1834.

A David McComas was reported to have died April 20, 1874. His age at that time was given as 41 years, 9 months, and 4 days. This indicates his birth date as being 1832. It is very probable that this was the same man.

In the death record for 1889, Joseph Burger (Berger) reported the death of D. McComas at 90 years of age. Mr. Berger was a son-in-law of Little David McComas. This would make the birthday of D. McComas, who was probably David McComas, 1799. Little David, according to the census report given above was born about 1801. The age of old people, when reported by their relatives after their death, quite frequently varies a few years. I have been told that Little David McComas died much earlier than this. However that may be, it is very possible, in fact probable, that Little David McComas was living until 1889.



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Lewis McComas, son of Little David, married Minerva Adkins, daughter of Anderson Adkins, who lived at the mouth of Big Laurel Creek until the Civil War, when they and several others moved to Simms Creek, Ohio. Lewis had six children, one of whom, Albert, died in infancy in 1865. The others were Leota, George Ellis, Luver~~da~~ Alamander ("Bunny"), and Mary.

Little Dyke married Elizabeth Lawrence, January 19, 1865. He was 24 years old, she 21. Both single. He was the son of David and 'Docia McComas. She daughter of Charles and Elizabeth Lawrence.

Armina married Joseph K. Berger, February 2, 1867. He, 26, she 21. He was the son of David Berger and was born <sup>in</sup> Botetort County, Virginia.

Henderson G. married Cynthia Cummings. They lived in various places--McComas Ridge, Ohio, Elk River, Charleston, and McComas Ridge.

Regardless of when Little David McComas died, he was an entirely different individual from Judge David McComas, who married Cynthia T. French, and is definitely and positively known to have had no children.

As stated above, it seems probable that Thomas McComas and his wife, Mary, were the parents of Little David McComas. They were living in 1850 and gave their ages in the census as 71 years each. This means that they were born in <sup>1779</sup>1789. Being old people they reported no children, as their family had, no doubt, separated long before. This <sup>was</sup> probably Thomas McComas, Senior. He and his wife would have been about 22 years old when Little David was born. Thomas McComas, Senior, made his will August 19, 1854, in which he made certain requests, and said:

"If anything is left, \$50.00 to go to the heirs of my son David McComas." This does not necessarily mean that David Mc-



Comas was dead. He was known to have lived many years after that date. Another old McComas, N. McComas, 76 years old, listed neither wife nor children. No doubt she was dead, and his children married and gone. (This "N" may have been a mistake for "M", meaning Moses McComas. N. McComas was born about 1774, hence, was about 25 years old when little David was born and could have been his father. Note, however, that Thomas McComas, Senior, did have a son, David, and so far as known, Moses McComas had no David in his family.

James McComas (Deed Bk. D. P. 25), during his life deeded one hundred acres of land to a son, David F. McComas, October 26, 1871. This land was afterwards deeded to Peter D. Jordan. James McComas' wife was named Sarah. This David who was probably David, the younger, died about 1875. The land was sold and Godfrey Sites purchased two hundred acres of it for \$2300. Another David McComas was a son of Thomas J. McComas and his wife, Catherine. The census of 1850 gave his age as 2 years, hence, he was born about 1848. The father, Thomas McComas, was 32 years old, hence was born about 1816. ~~Gerome~~

~~Gerome~~ Shelton was shown by the census of 1850 to be 29 years of age at that time. He was born about 1821. He married Malinda Messenger, daughter of Nicholas Messenger, April 29, 1843. He was a blacksmith. At that time they had three children: Suzanna, 6 years old, Eliza, 4 years old, and Susan, 2 years old. Several other children were born after that date. There is no question as to who was the father of ~~Gerome~~ Shelton.

Hardesty says: "The first marriage (in Lincoln County, Sheridan District) was that of John Shelton and Sally (Sarah) McComas, the parents of Gerome Shelton, for many years, a resident here but recently deceased."



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This shows that Jerome Shelton died some time about the early 1880's.

The first Shelton known to be in this section was Stephen Shelton who settled on "Bare" Creek about the close of the year 1811. John Shelton came the next fall, 1812. John Shelton married Sarah (Sallie) McComas, a sister of Judge David McComas. He made a will July 4, 1846, showing his wife, Sarah, and five children:

Henrietta, Elisha, Jerome, David, and Emily.

His property was appraised for \$150.74, by John McKeand, Alexander McComas, and Christopher A. Seiz (Soites, as now spelled), September 29, 1846. It sold for \$134.50 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

Stephen Shelton stayed on "Bare" Creek a few years, and disappeared from the records.

It is not known who the parents of John Shelton were, but business dealings indicate a close relationship to those of Barboursville. It is probable he and Stephen were brothers.

Stephen lived several years on "Bare" Creek, and then, either died or left the country, as no further record is found of him. Records for them will have to be sought in another state.

It has been very difficult to ascertain with certainty