

Reminiscences of

A. H. McCracken

JOHN McCracken Family—1801-1925.

JAMES McCracken, 1804-1815.

James, son of Joseph McCracken, was born Nov. 23, 1804, died July 10, 1815. He was the only one of this family of thirteen who never attained his majority.

George McCracken's Family, 1813-1925.

George, son of Joseph McCracken, was born July 31, 1813, died May 26, 1838. He married his cousin, a Miss McCracken, a daughter of James McCracken, and a brother of his father. There was born to them one son, James, who was killed in the war between the State and a daughter, Adeline, who married Henry Messer. George was living at his death in Georgia and my grandfather Hiram and David McCracken went to Georgia on horseback just after his death and brought his children, James and Adeline, to Haywood county where they were reared.

It is said that George was a fine specimen of physical strength and that he encountered a man of great strength and they fought. The giant defeated George who afterwards died from the injuries received in this fight. And there is another story told of him that he sometimes drank excessively and gambled and that one night after one of his "sprees" (which

took place in a house on Silas Kirkpatrick's place) as he was crossing the creek on a footlog, he said he met the devil and this meeting the man of sin so worked on his conscience that he neither drank nor gambled afterwards. Also it is related of him that he was an expert in throwing snakes and that in his day the wild deer grazed freely on the waters of Crabtree and that one day when hunting he saw a large buck approaching him, he threw down his flint and steel gun, picking up a stone threw it and killed the deer on the spot.

He was a soldier in the Florida Wars during the rise of the Seminole Indians in 1836. He seems to have been a great character, strong physically, conscientious and brave. His only descendants are the children of Adeline Messer, his only daughter, whose genealogical history I propose to give at the close of this paper.

In the above passage which relates our distinguished ancestor's meeting the devil, we the chronicler of this fact (if so it be) are exceedingly sorry that he never described this man. We have had many descriptions of this gentleman of darkness and have seen paintings of him from the brush of the artist. One painting especially we very well remember. This picture used to hang in our mother's company room and showed him to be a black man, having a tail from the injuries received in this fight. And there is another story told of him that he sometimes drank excessively and gambled and that one night after one of his "sprees" (which

rich; for the poor dying man had his hands on base of gold. This picture I must say very much annoy me in my boyhood days and I was very much delighted when one day my mother put the painting of Ruth Gleaning in the Field over the scoundrel who we learn was one time a beautiful angel whose proud and uplifted hand had caused his fall from heaven.

Milton says he was cast into hell, but we do not differ from this distinguished poet for we are aware that this demon posing as an angel of light, is still at large. We know this not from our ancestor who met him on the footlog, but from a few experimental battles we have had with him ourselves. And, too, we read of him in the Bible as being the Prince of the Air, whom we are further told that while he is a defeated foe, he has not as yet lost his personality and is still found "going up and down in the earth seeking whom he may devour," that he appears and poses as an angel of light and that finally at the coming the second time of Christ this old serpent, who has been deceiving mankind ever since day of Adam will be bound in chains and cast into the pit where he remains for a thousand years and at the end of this time he will be released for a short and again we learn he gets busy and deceives the nations of the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog to gather them together to battle against the saints of Lord.

Fire, we learn, comes down and devours the great host of Satan and he is cast into the lake of fire and brimstone to be tormented for ever and ever. Thus ends the public life and career of the gentleman (?) who on that dark night of long ago, was met by my distinguished kin-man on the footlog.

Adeline, daughter of George McCracken, was born January 4, 1806, and there were born to them eight children, viz:

George Pinkney, born Oct. 30, 1857, married Jane McCracken and there have been born to them ten children, three dead and seven living.

Joseph Miller, born Dec. 3, 1859, married Sarah Messer and have one daughter dead.

James, born Dec. 3, 1861, married Lizzie Bradshaw and there have been born to this union two children. James, lived at his death in Cherokee county.

Margaret, born May 8, 1864, married Sam Carr. She has several children, but as I have failed to locate her, do not know the number.

Robert Lee, born March 3, 1867, married Dora Welch and there have been born to them thirteen children. He lives at the old home place on Crabtree.

Samuel Love, born Nov. 26, 1872, married and lives in I learp, in Florida.

Mary Dell, born Jan. 8, 1875, married Thad Dillard and lives at Sanford, Florida.

Sarah G., born July 27, 1877. Sarah during infancy had a fall which impaired her mind.

Adeline, the mother and grandmother of the above children, was a unique character. There was no hypocrisy in her make-up. She was plain spoken and told her ideas both pro and con, right off the reel, yet she was kind hearted, loyal friend and a cheerful giver.

She loved her home, the church, and her country. To illustrate her outspoken ways I tell the following incident. It was during a series of meetings, Uncle William Haynes approached aunt Adeline saying:

"Adeline, pray for my son, John."

"Pray for him yourself," said Aunt Adeline. "I have 'unguns' of my own to pray for."

All of Ade line's children and grandchildren as far as we know, are good citizens, and are making life a success. Forest, son of Pinkney, her grandson, is a good business man and is a leader in his community.

Thus ends this branch of grandfather Joseph's tree.

David McCracken's Family, 1810-1925.

David Vaughn, the eighth in line of Joseph McCracken, was born Dec. 12, 1810, died May 28, 1897.

He was married three time, first time to Mary Garret, no children by this union, second time to Annie Jones from which union were born five children, William Pinkney, Thomas B., Enos E., and Sarah. He was married the third time to Mary Haynes and there was born to this union one son, Caudler, and two daughters, Laura and Ella. Two these sons, William P. and Thomas B. were in the Confederate Army. William P. volunteered in the first company that was made up in Haywood county, but died before he saw service, April 20, 1861, leaving his commission of a lieutenant unfulfilled. He was killed near Petersburg, Virginia.

Thomas B. was born Oct. 17, 1842, died April 12, 1917. He was married to Sallie J. Kirkpatrick Dec. 25, 1866. He was in the Confederate Army four years and was a loyal and brave soldier. He was captured in the Valley of Virginia and made a prisoner at Camp Horton for nine months, during which time he said, "he al-

most starved." He, like all Southern patriots, came home after this war and began to build a home. He took great interest in politics, was non-partisan and of office of trust by his county, and was a leading citizen in his community. He was jovial, kind and hospitable and in his home one was treated like a king. He reared a large family of nine boys and four girls, viz:

Robert L., born April 25, 1868, married Agnes Kingsmore and there have been born to them nine children of which six are living. He, I understand, is now living in Montana and is doing well.

David W., born Sept. 3, 1867, married Ellen Clark and to them have been born seven children, six living. He lives in Montana and is making good.

Silas, born Feb. 16, 1871, married Kitty McCrary and has two children. He spent many years in the west, but Love's Dreams brought him back east for his bride where he has settled down in contentment and repose. He is found doing business at Canton.

Annie J., born Sept. 13, 1872. She is order to break the McCracken record of matrimonial mania has remained single and we dare say, has not lost in the game. She is a lady of the very highest type, and had she married the man of choice, would have gotten a wife who knew how to prepare a meal and to keep her house in order.

J. Pinkney, born May 26, 1874, married Axie Whittle, no children to keep their company, but is happy and prosperous in this life and its goods and we hope in laying up treasures for the world to come. He lives at Wickesham, Washington.

Charles B., born Jan. 24, 1876, married Della Green, six children, five living. He lives on Fines Creek and is a prosperous farmer, and is a leader in both church and state in his community.

Mary A., born May 4, 1878, married to Herman Green and have two children. She is wide awake, industrious and an ideal house-keeper, wife and mother.

Sarah Elizabeth, born April 23, 1881, married Clark McCall and there have been born to them six children. She lives in Waynesville and before her marriage was a teacher in the public schools where she rendered noble service.

Nellie M., born Nov. 22, 1883, married J. L. Massey and they have five children.

Thomas B., Jr., married Ethel McCrary and there have been born to this union four children. He was born July 5, 1885 and lives on Fines Creek.

Taylor C., born June 19, 1887, married Annie Green and to them have been born ten children, eight living. He lives on Fines Creek.

A. Stewart, born June 19, 1887, married Roxie Noland and they have four children. He lives on Sandy Mush.

Thus ends my genealogical record of this limb of our family tree. A

very prolific branch heavily laden with strong, robust men and women, well equipped morally (and we hope spiritually) for the great battle of life.

(Continued)

A. H. McCracken

COMMERCIAL JOB PRINTING. The Commercial Job-Printing of the Mountaineer-Courier has had an unusually large amount of printing for the past few weeks.

Work has been turned out for many firms both in this city and other cities. Some of those who complimented us upon our workmanship, etc., are:

Miss Jane Sullivan, Supt. of Town-Schools; Dicus Brothers, Contractors; Masonic Lodge; Edwards Steeple, N. C.; First National Bank; The Citizens Bank and Trust Co.; City of Waynesville; County of Haywood, and all the professional men; R. H. Clark, Hepp, N. C.; Rev. S. R. Crockett; Ernest L. Withers; Prof. Fred L. Safford, Supt. Haywood County Schools; Rotary Club; C. J. P. Edwards, Prop. of the Wayneswood Theatre; Rev. P. W. Tucker; Alexander's Drug Store; Service Dry Cleaning Co.; Rev. Albert New; Paul Martin; Dr. S. L. Stringfield; S. C. Laner; McCracken Clothing Co.; Sherrill's Studio; James Atkins, Jr.; Mrs. Mary Kilgore; Dr. J. L. Stringfellow. Plenty of Broad, N. C. business houses.

We appreciate this nice business and refer anyone, who is in the market for printing, to any or all of the above. All our work is guaranteed and we are proud of the fact that we know our business and are practical pointers of ability.

Waynesville—unsurpassed natural resources for the location of manufacturing industries.

WHY SUFFER SO?

Get Back Your Health as Other Waynesville Folks Have Done.

Too many people suffer from, and die of, kidney troubles, kidney diseases and rheumatic aches and pains. Often this is due to faulty kidney action and there's danger of hardened arteries, dropsy, gravel or Bright's disease. Don't let weak kidneys wear you out. Use Doan's Pills before it is too late. Doan's are a stimulant diuretic to the kidneys. Doan's have helped thousands. They should help you. Here is one of many Waynesville cases:

St. C. Milner, mechanic, 112 Depot St., says: "The grip I ordered my kidneys and sharp catching pains darted across the small of my back when I stooped or leaned over. Even when I straightened up after sitting the pains shot through my back. I had to get up some at night on account of the weak, too free action of my kidneys. After using one box of Doan's Pills, every symptom left." 60c. at all dealers. Foster-Milburn Co., Mfrs., Buffalo, N. Y., Adv.

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BALSAM NEWS.

Mr. Cooper, our genial and much appreciated principal of our Balsam school, is the proud father of a baby girl. She came to bless their home on March 4th second.

Mr. J. R. McKay and son Wade have moved to Hazelwood. They will be missed in Balsam.

Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Bryson made a flying trip to Balsam Friday night, returned Saturday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Welsley Queen of Gastonia are visiting relatives in Balsam. Mrs. Jane Parris is very sick. We all wish her a speedy recovery.

Miss Kate Rickards and Mrs. Edward Kent made a business trip to Waynesville Wednesday.

The Balsam people enjoyed their first deep snow Wednesday; measured about five inches deep.

Mrs. Dillard Robinson visited in Balsam Sunday.

Sorry to hear of the death of Mr. Gilmer Styles' baby. It died Friday. Another child seriously sick. We all extend our sympathy.

Mrs. Glantz who has been visiting her daughter, Mrs. Robert J. Bryson for some time has been greatly improved since coming to Balsam.

Mrs. Bessie Bainer made a business trip to Sylva Monday.

Mr. D. W. Easley made a business trip to Sylva Monday.

Mr. G. C. Crawford is making improvements on the road that leads to Dark Ridge.

Exchange Column. Will exchange books and magazines with anyone that will send a list of what they have and want. I have books by Gray, Burroughs, Haggard, and various others. A. Brandet, Haywood, N. C.

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP. All persons will take notice that the partnership heretofore existing between J. E. White and Lucy A. Hyatt under the firm name of J. E. White & Co., has been dissolved, the said J. E. White, taking over the stock and debts of a chapter in the organization. All debts owing the firm must be paid to them.

This March 2, 1925. LUCY A. WHITE. J. E. WHITE. GERTRUDE WHITE.

20 MILES TO THE GALLON. It is said a gentleman from town went to the country and saw tacked under a way-side house this legend: "Slender for Sail" and entering, asked of the rural dispenser,

"Is this hard cider?" "Sure," said he. "How hard is it?"

"Well, my hired man, who never was right met, filled up on the stuff the other day and lit down the big neon yellin' 'Glory hallelujah; I'm still in the home of th' brave an' th' land of th' free!"

"Gimme a gallon," said the Belzonian.

PUT ON IN 1887 - STILL GOOD
CORTRIGHT METAL SHINGLES
 Some of the first and Cortright Metal Roofs are still protecting the roofs of the old homes in Waynesville.
Galvanized and Painted Shingles, Full Car Load Just Arrived.
For Sale By JOHN A. SMITH & CO. Church St. Waynesville, N. C.

WAYNEWOOD THEATRE
March, 16th to 21st.

Monday
TOM MIX in **OH! YOU TONY**
 Did you see the Tom Mix Hat at Clyde Ray's store? Tom wore this hat while making this picture.

Tuesday
WANDA HAWLEY in **BREAD**
 A Fat Bank Account versus A Fat Baby. Each lady will be given a loaf (fresh) of Quality Bread, Waynesville's Best, that attend the show this night.
 FOX NEWS.

Wednesday
HOOT GIBSON in **THE RIDIN' KID FROM POWDER RIVER**
 A double-barreled thriller, from the Famous Novel by Henry Herbert Knibbs.

Thursday
COLLEEN MOORE and **CONWAY TEARLE** in **FLIRTING WITH LOVE**
 BEWARE! Young Men if you FLIRT, Take Care or Some VAMP will get you.

Friday
LILA LEE and **JAMES KIRKWOOD** in **LOVE'S WHIRLPOOL**
 RED HAIR is a sign of Pep.
 FOX NEWS.

Saturday
SHIRLEY MASON in **MY HUSBAND'S WIVES**
 The Comedy and the drama of the love of two women.

NASH
 Nash Leads the World in Motor Car Value
 YOU ARE BEHIND THE TIMES WITHOUT 4-WHEEL BRAKES

The Country Has "Gone" Nash

February Biggest Month of Business in Nash History

The cyclonic sweep of Nash sales is like a political landslide.

For five successive months Nash business has swept far beyond the highest previous records for these same months.

Nash sales at all motor shows to date average 114% higher than 1924.

February, though a winter month and shortest of the year, saw mounting public demand drive sales and production to the highest point in Nash history.

And March has opened up with an added momentum sure to speed sales far past the great February record.

BELL MOTOR CANTON., N. C. CO.,