

*Kirby Coat-of-Arms*

# THE KIRBY FAMILY

Lineage



Historical Data



Collections

*By*

**MAURICE HELM KIRBY, SENIOR**

*Editor*





*"The roads you travel so briskly  
lead out of dim antiquity,  
and you study the past chiefly because  
of its bearing on the living present  
and its promise for the future."*

—LIEUTENANT GENERAL JAMES G. HARBORD,  
K.C.M.G., D.S.M., LL.D., U.S. ARMY (RET.)  
(1866-1947)

*Late American Member of Council at London  
The Newcomen Society of England*





## FOREWORD

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to my cousin, J. Quince Kirby, Sr., for his part in making this publication possible. I believe the succeeding pages will forever testify to my gratitude to him for his ceaseless efforts in research, and his interest.

To all those kinfolk who helped me to complete this genealogy, particularly to those who were good enough to trust to me photographs of themselves and their loved ones, many of which were intrinsically valuable, I express my special thanks and appreciation. More than one hundred reproductions of these photographs belonging to the family lineage, with negatives, are carefully filed among my memoirs as priceless treasures.

For the reader's information, now and always, fifty volumes make up the initial printing of these books on the Kirby genealogy. I say "these," because the books are not entirely alike. Of the fifty printed and bound, some are photographically designed for specific descendants, the name of each appearing in gold on the outside cover, each copy containing the complete record of seven or eight generations, yet each book, so named, bearing special photographs of that descendant's family lineage, so far as possible. This will, I believe, enhance the value of the specific story, and will, I trust, endear this "pathway leading out of dim antiquity" to the heart of each.

Seventeen of these volumes are for the descendants of James Robert Kirby, Sr., and Miriam Elmina Royalty Kirby, my father and mother.

Twenty volumes are completed for specific individuals in other branches of the family.

Ten volumes are for my cousin, J. Quince Kirby, Sr





**MAURICE HELM KIRBY, SENIOR**





## **PREFACE**

Perhaps many future generations of Kirbys will peruse this book dealing with the history of the Kirby family. Some will read it with a sensation of pleasure; some, perhaps, will derive inspiration and improvement from it. There will be those, naturally, who will wish to become acquainted with the one who compiled the material and published this volume, the one to whom they are thus indebted. For that purpose, the following brief outline is given.



## FACTS ABOUT THE EDITOR

When Maurice Helm Kirby returned to his native state of Kentucky after some years away, a friend in Bowling Green said to him:

“Maurice, you are kin to almost everyone in Warren County.”

Kirby, then thirty-two, reflected on the statement. For the sixteen previous years he had diligently pursued the profession of banking. Now, he was at that point in life when a statement that pushed back the veils of the past aroused him to examine the facts that prompted it, and he began to ask questions. What he learned led him to interesting conclusions.

Throughout the early years of his life, his home at Smiths Grove, a prosperous farming community between Bowling Green and Glasgow, had been a rendezvous, a veritable rallying point, for his immediate family, for relatives, neighbors, friends, and many strangers. Always, whether occasioned by his parents' hospitality or by their pleasure in ancestral reminiscence alone around the hearthstone at “Smoky Row,” the names, lives, and experiences of his forebears had enlivened the subjects themselves in memory, and many a casual conversation. But his mind in those years had been too occupied with school work and subjects in text books.

When he had finished school at Smiths Grove, he started to work in his father's bank, at the very bottom. He had worked his way upward to the position of cashier and director in the Farmers Bank, before going to Florida during boom times. At St. Petersburg he had assisted in the organization of one bank, then organized another which later became a branch of the First National Bank of St. Petersburg. He had served this institution, the First Security, as cashier, vice president and director.

With his return to his home state, he became secretary and treasurer of the Bowling Green Trust Company, and assistant cashier of its parent institu-

tion, the Citizens National Bank. It was then that Robert Rodes, the bank's president, made the remark that was to set the young man on the road to a new and challenging goal.

"You are kin to almost everyone in Warren County," set Maurice Kirby to the task of assembling data on members of his family, present and past. The Kirby genealogy, now in print, is the culmination of twenty-five intervening years of devoted labor.

The task of assembling the story of eight generations of Kirbys has been monumental. It was complicated by the roving existence necessitated by Mr. Kirby's appointment as examiner for the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. He and his wife, the former Martha Louise Richardson, of Smiths Grove, lived in 27 homes during the years of his service as a federal bank examiner. It was a trail which led southward into Florida, then to Atlanta, and finally to New York City.

Each transfer meant moving the historical treasures to a new and different bank vault. As they accumulated through the years Kirby became more and more convinced that the inspiring and challenging facts about the Kirby ancestors must be made available to posterity.

It is not unusual to find that the rigorous duties of banking, either as an examiner or as an executive, bring the four walls of the institution close about a person, shutting off the freshness of outside interests and activities. Such was not the case with Maurice Kirby. The accumulating data of family records became a compelling force in his life. With the aid of a cousin, J. Quince Kirby, Sr., the materials began to take shape as deeds, wills, letters and other recorded data added to the sum total of family knowledge.

Meanwhile Mr. Kirby's advancement in his vocation continued. He was at one time in charge of all bank examinations in Florida under the jurisdiction of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Later he was assistant supervising examiner of the 5th Federal Deposit Insurance district involving

722 insured banks of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida and Georgia. The success of these assignments finally led to headquarters in New York City, with the position of principal examiner.

The Kirbys were unhappy in their life on the eastern seaboard. One day there came a query from Louisville: "Will you take a position as executive vice-president of a bank in one of Kentucky's finest cities?"

Mr. Kirby answered an unequivocal and enthusiastic "Yes!"

That was nine years ago. Those nine years of his service, first as executive vice-president of the fast-growing First National Bank of Henderson, and then as president, have found the resourceful and nonconforming Banker Kirby moving into various types of pioneering activities. As if inspired by the godfather for whom he was named, he has made the name of Maurice Kirby synonymous with progress and enlightenment.

The original Maurice Kirby, who came to this Ohio river town following the War Between the States, is credited with having founded the public school system of Henderson. His namesake will be credited by future generations not only with the editorship of the Kirby family history, but also with having introduced a new form of public relationship into local banking.

Mr. Kirby has extended his interests into the community through many local organizations. He is a member of the Henderson Rotary Club, the Loyal Order of Moose, the First Presbyterian Church, the Henderson, Kentucky, Lodge No. 206 B.P.O. Elks, member of Henderson Chapter of Jerusalem Lodge No. 9 Free and Accepted Masons, Henderson Chapter No. 88 Royal Arch Masons, Henderson Commandery No. 14 Knights Templar, is also a Shriner, being a member of Rizpah Temple of Madisonville, Kentucky. He is a member of the Henderson Audubon Society and is a Kentucky Colonel.

Another organization in which he has been an ardent member for a number of years is a British Society known as The Newcomen Society of England in North America. Broadly, this British Society has as its purposes: to in-

crease an appreciation of American-British traditions and ideals in the Arts and Sciences, especially in that bond of sympathy for the cultural and spiritual forces which are common to both countries; and, secondly, to serve as another link in the intimately friendly relations existing between Great Britain and the United States of America.

His hobbies have brought him personal as well as business acquaintanceships. He is an avid camera fan, working with several types of equipment including a Bolex movie camera, a Rolleiflex, a Bell and Howell Turret camera, a Retina 2A, a Leica 3F, a Polaroid, an Ikonta B, an Eastman 16mm Royal and a Revere Stereo. He has his own darkroom at his home, an interest which has coincided with his collection of photographs to illustrate the Kirby family genealogy.

Kirby has other absorbing hobbies. He is a beekeeper who handles his own bees, eats his own "homemade" honey. He shares a hobby with his son in the model railway which they have built at the Twelfth and Elm street residence. He assists his wife in collecting priceless antiques for the 100-year-old brick home, another hobby which ties into his genealogical interests.

Kirby takes an active role in bankers' organizations, both state and national. He is now serving his fourth term as member of the Country Bank Operations Commission appointed by the American Bankers Association to improve operations in its 15,000 member "country" banks. Answering this challenge he prepared a booklet: "Do's and Don't's for Bank Tellers" which has already sold 50,000 copies. He is a director of the Kentucky Bankers Association, and was recently commended for a highly original ad in that group's trade magazine which emphasized Henderson's rich heritage in history.

The bank employees have found a new atmosphere in the First National building, now remodelled, expanded and air conditioned. There is a pleasant lounge in which they may relax, and music is piped to the three floors on which banking activities are carried on.

Although Mr. Kirby's brothers and sisters had splendid educational opportunities, he himself did not go to college. In later years, this has enhanced his appreciation of things educational. He takes great pride in the degrees held by his son, Maurice Helm Kirby, Jr., who graduated with honors in naval tactics, mechanical engineering and business administration, and is now holding a responsible position with Evansville's Branch of International Harvester Company. The Junior Kirbys live in the nearby Indiana city, have two children, Karen Kathleen and Maurice Helm, III.

"I want these children, my nieces and nephews, and generations succeeding them, some of whom I have never seen, some whom I shall never see, to feel my interest in them through this genealogy which I am making available to them," he said as he discussed the history of the family.

"I feel that our ancestors have given us something upon which to build that is fundamentally American. I feel that reading of what our forebears endured, what they endeavored to do, to make this country free and prosperous, will make the present and coming generations better appreciate what they have inherited. It should inspire them to work, diligently and faithfully, as others have done, to preserve our democracy.

"I hope," continued this dedicated man, "that this work will be the marble shaft that will mark my resting place, and that through it future generations of Kirbys will read my epitaph as that of a man who loved his country and his family, and endeavored in his own way to preserve the priceless traditions of both."

by FRANCELE HARRIS ARMSTRONG  
Henderson, Kentucky





## **EDITOR'S NOTE**

A cousin, J. Quince Kirby, Sr., now 78 years of age, is probably the best informed of all living Kirbys on the family and its ancestry.

To my certain knowledge he has been doing consistent research and accumulating authentic information on the Kirby family for the past twenty-five years. It has been an undertaking greater in scope, bespeaking a greater magnitude of personal good will, than may appear at first glance.

This good man has not only supplied me with much data for this record but has been with me in heart and mind, an ever-present inspiration urging me onward to continue and complete the task I assumed.

It gives me great pleasure, therefore, to acknowledge his assistance, and to include a photograph in this genealogy of this truly great Kirby and indeed this great American.





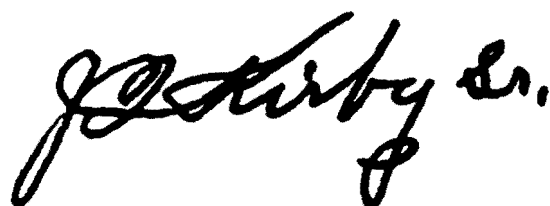
**J. QUINCE KIRBY, SENIOR**



The following records of the Kirby family have been compiled from information made available by living members of the family, through extensive correspondence with older Kirbys, and through tracts from various research and genealogical societies; also through old wills and documents, court house records, the pages of old Bibles, and many cemetery stones and records.

They cannot be far wrong, if wrong at all, and the writer will gladly make any necessary change if presented with authoritative proof of an error.

*Signed:*

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "J. D. Kirby Sr." with a small flourish at the end.



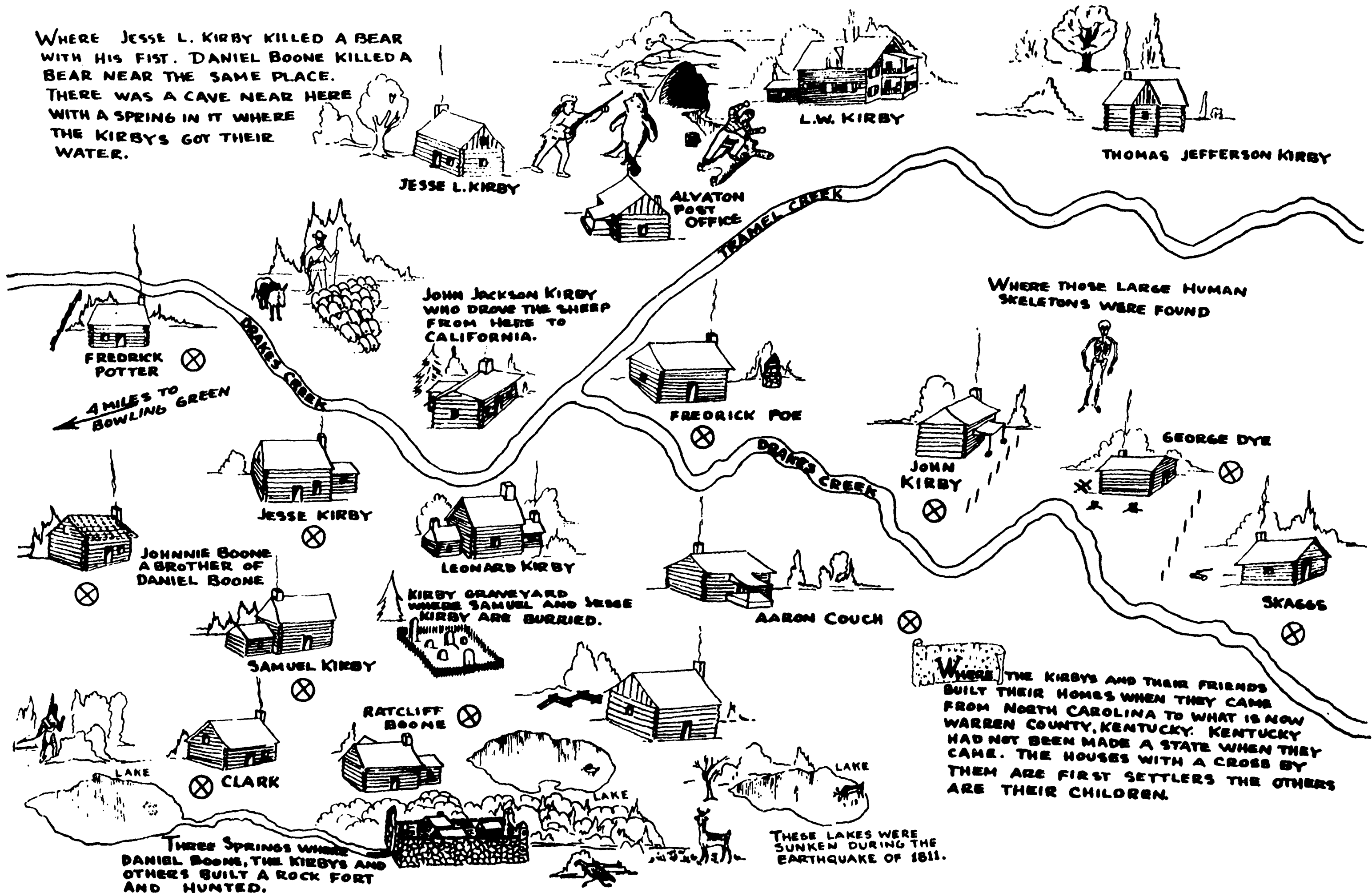
The following map is an artist's interpretation of the territory where the Kirbys first settled in Kentucky, as indicated by J. Quince Kirby, Sr.

It shows where the Kirbys and their friends built their homes when they came from North Carolina in 1790, before Kentucky had been made a state. This territory lies within only a few miles from what is now Bowling Green in Warren County.





WHERE JESSE L. KIRBY KILLED A BEAR WITH HIS FIST. DANIEL BOONE KILLED A BEAR NEAR THE SAME PLACE. THERE WAS A CAVE NEAR HERE WITH A SPRING IN IT WHERE THE KIRBYS GOT THEIR WATER.



THESE LAKES WERE SUNKEN DURING THE EARTHQUAKE OF 1811.



## THE KIRBYS



THE NAME KIRBY, or Kerby, was derived from the Scotch word Kirk, meaning church. The first bearers of the name evidently lived near a church, or lived strictly by the rules of the church. History does not state which is correct, but for one or the other reason, they were called Kirkbys, spelled in that day Kyrkbys, meaning "by the church."

The name is found on ancient records in the various forms: Kyrkeby, Kyrkby, Kirkeby, Kirkby, Kerbie, Kirbie, Kerbey, Kirbey, Kerby, Kirby, and others, of which the last form mentioned is that most generally accepted in America today. The next to the last form is also frequently used.

Among the earliest records of the family that migrated from Scotland to England, were those of Adam De Kyrkeby of Yorkshire, in 1273; Alexander De Kyrkeby of Lincolnshire about the same time; Thomas De Kirkeby of County Norfolk, at a slightly later date; John De Kyrkeby of Westmoreland County, about 1293; Roger De Kyrkeby of Huntingdonshire, about the same time; and Alan De Kirkeby, in 1372.

About the middle of the Fifteenth Century record was to be found in County Essex of one John Kirkbey, or Kirbey, who was the father of a son named William, who had a son named John. This John was the father of Thomas, who married Miss Lettice West, whose children were named John, Gilbert, Margaret, Mary, Audry, and Ann.

Of these last mentioned children of Thomas and Lettice, John married Elizabeth Oldham, and had three children, Henry, Jayne, and Mary. Henry married Elizabeth Ketterige, and was the father by her of William, Elizabeth, Susan, Mary, and Frances.

One Sir Roger Kirkby, or Kirby, of the early Sixteenth Century, was the father of Richard Kirby, who married Ann Bullington, and had issue by her of Henry, Richard, and Roger, the last named being the father of at least one son, named Henry.

One Thomas Kirkby, or Kirby, of Southampton, in the middle of the Sixteenth Century, was the father by his wife Grace Wallop, of four children, Thomas, William, Nicholas, and Richard, of whom the first married Susan, the daughter of the Marquis of Winchester, and was the father by her of children named Gerard, Richard, Jane, Elizabeth, and Dorothy.

It is not definitely known from which of the many illustrious lines of the family in Great Britain the first emigrants to America were descended, but it is generally believed that all by the name of Kirby and Kerby were of the ancient Kirby origin at a remote period.

### EARLY KIRBYS TO AMERICA

One of the early Kirbys to America was Thomas Kirby, who established his home in York County, Virginia, about 1639. He was a descendant of a John Kirby of England, who subscribed to the Virginia Company in 1609. On October 30, 1621, he received one share of the lands of Frances Carter and Lady De LaWare, which had been assigned to the Company. He was present at a meeting of the Company in London in July, 1622, and was re-elected a member in 1624.

His son, Edward Kirby, was a sea captain, in command of the ship Bona Nova, which brought emigrants from London to America as early as 1619. Thomas Kirby, the son of Edward Kirby, was one of the Company

who came to Virginia with Lieutenant Richard Topely in 1639, settling in Charles City County, Virginia. He died, June 20th, 1668. His son, Thomas Kirby, married Mary, the daughter of Thomas Curson, and by her had two children, Robert and Martha. He died in 1686. His son, Robert Kirby, born May 11th, 1662, died April 25th, 1727. This Robert Kirby married as his first wife Mary —, who died leaving one son named Thomas. Robert's second wife was Catherine Tompkins, by whom he had twelve children, as follows:

Elizabeth Kirby	.....	born October	1st, 1690	
Mary	“	.....	“	1692—died in infancy
Mary	“	2nd.....	“	1694— “ “ 1708
Robert	“	.....	“ August 23rd, 1696—	“ “ 1727
John	“	.....	“ July 9th, 1698—	“ “ 1793
Henry	“	.....	“	1700—DSP
Author	“	.....	“	1702—died in infancy
James	“	.....	“	1703— “ “ 1737 (unmarried)
Bennett	“	.....	“ October 17th, 1705	
Charles	“	.....	“	1707—died in infancy
Hannah	“	.....	“ January 24th, 1708	
Sarah	“	.....	“ April 4th, 1711	

Bennett Kirby, who was born October 17th, 1705, and died in 1782, was married to Frances Parsons, daughter of James Parsons, and by her had issue as follows:

James Kirby	Twins	.....	born August	....., 1729—died in infancy
Bennett Kirby				
Bennett Kirby	2nd	.....	“ October	17th, 1731
Frances	“	.....	“ May	13th, 1733
William	“	.....	“	1736
Mary	“	.....	“	1740

Thomas	“				
Martha	“	Twins .....	“		1742—died in infancy
Thomas	“	2nd .....	“	October	25th, 1748
John	“	.....	“	April	15th, 1751
Martha	“	.....	“	November	21st, 1753

John Kirby, born April 15th, 1751, married Elizabeth Davis, the daughter of Samuel Davis. He was appointed drummer boy in the Fourth Virginia Regiment of the Continental Army and served until March 17th, 1783.

Another early Kirby to America was Richard Kirby who established his home in Sanwich, Massachusetts, in 1636. He was the son of Humphrey Kirby of England and a close relative of Sir Roger Kirby of England. This Richard Kirby, and his wife, Jane, were the parents of Increase and Abigail. By his second wife, Patience, he was the father of Sarah, Ruhannah, Richard, and Recompense, the latter a very prominent man in public affairs in his day. He died at Burlington, New Jersey, in the year 1720.

One of the first of the name to come to America was John Kirby, who came to Plymouth, Massachusetts, from Warwickshire, England, about 1635. He was about sixteen years of age and is believed to have resided at Hartford, Connecticut, for a short while, later making his home at Middletown, Connecticut. By his wife, whose name is unknown, he was the father of eleven children, Mary, Elizabeth, Hannah, John, Eunice, Esther, Sarah, Joseph, Bethiah, Suzanna and Abigail.

The above named John Kirby was accompanied to America by a brother named Joseph, who was about twelve years of age and who established his home at Plymouth, Massachusetts. These two brothers were the sons of Abraham Kirby, who lived and died in England. This Joseph Kirby was the father of John Kirby and John Kirby was the father of Roger Kirby, who was born in 1698 and died June 12, 1793. In 1730, he was living in what is a part of Washington, Connecticut. His farm, known as “Washington Green,” was situated about 100 rods distant from the Congregational Church,

to which he belonged. His farm is known to this day as the “Kirby Farm.” His grandson, Ephriam Kirby, was born in this house. This Roger Kirby and his wife, Martha, were the parents of a son named Abraham Kirby, born July 14, 1730.

This Abraham Kirby married Eunice Starkweather, who was born September 19, 1735, on May 31, 1756. Their children are as follows:

Ephriam Kirby born February 23, 1757	married Ruth Marvin
James Kirby born July 15, 1758	married Susannah Elizabeth Bogges
Martha Kirby born February 10, 1760	died March 25, 1760
Martha Kirby born December 30, 1760	married Elijah Phelps
John Starkweather Kirby born September 20, 1762	married Augbid Severance
Abraham Kirby born April 3, 1764	married Margaret_____
Eunice Kirby born March 20, 1766	married Hial Hale (moved to New York)
Joseph Kirby born_____	married Ester Leonard
Mary Kirby born_____	married Samuel Severance
Sabra Kirby born_____	married David Garlick (moved to Ohio)
Anna Kirby born_____	married David Barnum
Sally Kirby born_____	married first David Yale second Isaac Landon



Ephriam Kirby married Ruth Marvin on March 17, 1784, the daughter of Judge Reynolds Marvin. Their children are as follows:

Frances Kirby born April 6, 1785	married Col. Joseph Lee Smith
Harriet Kirby born March 20, 1788	died in 1789
Reynolds Marvin Kirby born March 10, 1790	married first Harriett W. Larned second Mary Barclay
Edmund Kirby born April 8, 1794	married Elias Brown, daughter of Gen. Jacob Brown
Ephriam Kirby, Jr. born January 26, 1796	died young
Harriot Kirby (2nd) born May 23, 1798	married Francis Smith Belton, a colonel in U. S. Army
Helen Kirby born May 18, 1800	married Benjiman A. Putnam
Cathrine Kirby born October 11, 1802	married Dr. Joseph Pynchon Russell, a surgeon in U. S. Army

James Kirby, the brother of Ephriam Kirby, was born in Litchfield, Connecticut. He was a physician and moved from Litchfield, Connecticut, to North Carolina. Later he moved from North Carolina to Fairfax County, Virginia, where he died. He served in the army during the Revolution. He married Susannah Elizabeth Bogges on February 17, 1783. Their children are as follows:

Robert Kirby  
James A. Kirby, Jr.  
Betsey Kirby

James A. Kirby, Jr., moved from Fairfax County, Virginia, to Tennessee where he married Patsy Harris. She was the sister of the Civil

War Governor of Tennessee and who later became a United States Senator. Their children are as follows:

Ann Kirby

Robert G. Kirby, born August 8, 1838

Nancy Kirby

Richard Pickney Kirby

William Kirby

Betsey Kirby married a Mr. Marder. They had one daughter who married a Mr. Ward. They had a son named Phil Ward who once owned the home place of Dr. James Kirby in Fairfax County, Virginia.

Robert G. Kirby served four years as a Lieutenant during the Civil War. He was in General N. B. Forest's Cavalry Co. C 19-20 Tenn. Regiment. He married Sally Hicks of Holly Springs, Mississippi. Their children are as follows:

Morris Bishop Kirby

Lottie Kirby

James Abraham Kirby

Robert Hicks Kirby, born September 16, 1883

Robert Hicks Kirby was born in Henry County, Tennessee. He first married Alma Rea of Wesson, Mississippi, in July 1922 and who died April 6, 1932. To this union was born one child, Sarah Elizabeth Kirby, who was born August 8, 1925. His second marriage was to Margaret Louise Bobo of Clarksdale, Mississippi, on September 21, 1935. They had no children.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: As an appendage to this section on the early Kirbys to America, there is included an historical writing pertaining to the appointment of Ephriam Kirby as Judge of the Mississippi Territory by President Thomas Jefferson.

Others of the Kirby family who immigrated to America in the 17th Century, but left few records of their immediate families or descendants, were William of Boston, before 1640; William of Charles City County, Virginia, in 1650; Richard of York County, Virginia, in 1651; James of Northumberland County, Virginia, in 1651; Henry of Connecticut, before 1676, and Robert of Dartmouth, about 1684.

The descendants of these and possibly later branches to America have spread to practically every state in the Union and have aided as much to the growth of the country as their ancestors aided in founding the nation.

They have been noted for their energy, industry, integrity, piety, perseverance, fortitude, patience, resourcefulness, mental and physical strength, courage and loyalty.

One of the many members of the family who have distinguished themselves in the various parts of the world in more recent times was William Kirby, the noted Canadian author, who was born in England in 1817 and died in Canada in 1906.



# **AN APPENDAGE**

## **A writing about Ephriam Kirby**

(MR. KIRBY'S COMMISSION:)

“THOMAS JEFFERSON”

President of the United States of America

TO ALL WHO SHALL SEE THESE PRESENTS, *Greeting:*

Know ye, That reposing special trust and confidence in the wisdom, uprightness and learning of Ephriam Kirby, of Connecticut, and in pursuance of an Act of the Congress of the United States, passed on the 27th day of March, 1804, entitled “An Act for the appointment of an additional Judge for the Mississippi Territory, and for other purposes,” I do appoint him the additional Judge for the said Territory to reside at or near the Tombigbee settlement; and do authorize and empower him to execute and fulfil the duties of that office according to law, and to have and to hold the said office with all the powers, privileges and emoluments to the same of right appertaining during his good behaviour, and to the end of the next session of the Senate of the United States, and no longer.

In testimony whereof, I have caused these letters to be made Patent and the seal of the United States to be hereunto affixed.

Given under my hand at the City of Washington, the Sixth day of April, in the year of our Lord 1804, and of the Independence of the United States of America the 28th.

By the President:

James Madison,  
Secretary of State.

Th. Jefferson

Mr. Kirby was appointed with Mr. Robert Carter Nicholas, of Kentucky, to ascertain the rights of persons claiming lands in the territory east of Pearl River.

From the Claiborne Correspondence in the State Department at Washington was obtained the following interesting extract from a letter dated January 10,

1804, by Governor W. C. C. Claiborne, of New Orleans, to Hon. James Madison, Secretary of State. It gives a reference to Mr. Kirby, as well as affording a glimpse of public affairs for the period:  
(They arrived in N. O. January 9, 1804.)

“I find that Mr. Kirby is much pleased with Louisiana\*\*\*\*”

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The house in which Mr. Kirby was born has long since been destroyed, but the land on which it stood is still known as the “Kirby Farm.”

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When President Jefferson came to appoint a successor to W. C. C. Claiborne as Governor of the Mississippi Territory, on December 1, 1803, he wrote to Mr. Kirby, offering him the “presidency” of that territory. It was declined, but why is not known. Later, he was appointed Land Commissioner, as above stated, and while in that position, he was named as Judge. At best, Judge Kirby could not have held more than one term of Court, for he died October 20, 1804, at Fort Stoddert. Mt. Vernon, as is known, is now in the hands of the Alabama Insane Hospitals. One of the trustees of this institution, Col. Samuel Will John, on being told by the writer some months ago of his discoveries as to Judge Kirby, made a local inquiry at Mt. Vernon in reference to the matter. In response, a communication was received by him from Thomas Rogers, of Mt. Vernon, from which the following pertinent extract is made:

“I arrived in Mt. Vernon January 14, 1850. When I came here I visited Fort Stoddert. I found the remains of chimneys, which were built of sand rock; they have since been removed by negroes. I also found broken delf, and the neck of champagne bottles. In the cemetery a little north of Fort Stoddert, on the lake, I found a red cedar board, at the head of a grave with the name nicely cut — “Ephriam Kirby, died October 4, 1804.” This board was the only one left to show where the cemetery was. I afterwards visited the place and found that the board had been destroyed by forest fires. And so it is that there is now no monument to mark the grave, and indeed, the exact location of the grave will be hard to identify.”

The following genealogical notes will doubtless be of interest. They are taken from "An Account of Some of the Descendants of Joseph Kirby of Hartford, Conn." which is embraced in pp. 166-228 of the Kirbys of New England, by Melatiah Everett Dwight, New York, 1898 (8 Vol. p. 451), viz:

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Following is Mr. Kirby's record for this period of service: Ephriam Kirby, Private; enlisted December 24, 1776, at Litchfield; farmer. Stature, 5 ft. 6, complexion dark, eyes dark, hair brown, discharged, August 7, 1778.

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Extract from a paper read by T. M. Owen, Esq., before the Alabama State Bar Association June 29, 1901, at Montgomery:

"Ephriam Kirby — His character: In conclusion, I think it may with all propriety be claimed that Alabama has a part in the splendid heritage left by this distinguished man. Certainly, there is much in his life to emulate. Strong of mind and will, patriotic in all crises, far-seeing and constructive in his mental operations, he towers above scores of his public contemporaries, as does the mountain peak above the hill. He was essentially a pioneer — the first to edit a published volume of official decisions and reports, the founder of the first organized temperance movement in America, and the first Superior Court Judge in what is now Alabama. An old lawyer of Litchfield pays this warm tribute to his worth: Colonel Kirby was a man of the highest moral as well as physical courage, devoted in his feelings and aspirations, warm, generous and constant in his attachments, and of indomitable energy. He was withal gentle and winning in his manners, kindly in his disposition, and naturally of an ardent and cheerful temperament, though the last few years of his life were saddened by heavy pecuniary misfortunes. As a lawyer, he was remarkable for frankness and downright honesty to his clients, striving to prevent litigation and effecting compromises. He enjoyed the friendship of many of the sages of the Revolution."

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Judge Kirby was the first General Grand High Priest of the Royal Arch Masons of the U. S. and was in office at the time of his death in 1804. His

library and sword are said to be now in the Masonic Lodge of Litchfield, of which he was a member. He was an original member of the Rhode Island Society of the Cincinnati.

Judge Kirby is probably the highest ranking Mason ever buried in Alabama.

Ephriam Kirby, first Superior Court Judge of Mississippi Territory, born Feb. 23, 1757, at Judea Society, Ancient Woodbury, Conn. and died Oct. 20, 1804, at Fort Stoddert; son of Abraham and Eunice (Starkweather) Kirby, who were married May 31, 1756; grandson of Roger and Martha Kirby, the former born 1698; great-grandson of John Kirby; great-great-grandson of Joseph Kirby of Hartford, Conn. who emigrated from Warwickshire, England, early in the 17th century. Mr. Kirby was educated at Yale College but left without taking a degree. In 1787, Yale conferred upon him an honorary degree of Master of Arts. After the Revolutionary War he entered the law office of Reynold Marvin in Litchfield, Conn. and after diligent study, was admitted to the bar. He practiced law for several years in Litchfield and represented that district in the Connecticut Legislature from 1791 until 1801, when he was appointed by Pres. Jefferson, supervisor of internal revenue and direct tax for the State. In 1803, he was made Land Commissioner. Mr. Kirby was one of the original 35 proprietors of the Western Reserve in Ohio and one of the first board of directors of that company. He was appointed by President Jefferson, first Superior Court Judge for the Mississippi Territory on April 6, 1804. Mr. Kirby immediately proceeded to his post, Fort Stoddert, on the Alabama River, near the present Mount Vernon, where he died a few months later.

At the outbreak of the revolution, he joined a company of volunteers and fought at Bunker Hill; he later enlisted in a volunteer cavalry company Dec. 24, 1776, and was discharged Aug. 7, 1778. In the engagement at Elk River, he received seven sabre cuts on the head. At one time, he was a lieutenant in a Rhode Island Company. He was in 19 battles and skirmishes and received 13 wounds. After the war he was Colonel of the 17th Regiment



Connecticut Militia. He was a staunch Democrat, and Episcopalian and first General Grand High Priest of the Royal Arch Masons of the United States, 1798-1804.

He compiled and published in 1789 the first volume of law reports ever issued in America; reports of cases Adjudged in the Superior Court of the State of Connecticut from the year 1785 to May, 1788. He wrote the pledge and organized the first temperance society in America.

Married: March 17, 1784, in Litchfield, Conn., Ruth, only daughter of Judge Reynold and Ruth (Welch) Marvin.

Children: 1. Frances Kirby, m. Joseph Lee Smith, Son of Elnathan Smith and Chloe Lee, both of New Britain, Conn. He died May 24, 1846, and was buried in Litchfield, Conn. She died Aug. 3, 1875, in Litchfield, aged 90 years; one of their children was the famous Confederate General Edmund Kirby-Smith, who was born May 16, 1824, married Cassie Selden, born Sept. 26, 1837, in Lynchburg, Va., the daughter of Samuel Marshall and Caroline (Hart) Selden.

2. Harriet Kirby, died in infancy.
3. Reynold Marvin Kirby, m. (1) Harriet W. Larned; (2) Mary Barclay;
4. Edmund Kirby, m. Eliza Brown;
5. Ephriam Kirby;
6. Harriet Kirby, m. Frances S. Belton
7. Helen Kirby, m. Benjamin A. Putnam;
8. Catherine Kirby, m. Jos. P. Russell.

FORT STODDERT. An American fort located on the first bluff of the Alabama, near its Junction with the Tombigbee River, about 50 miles above Mobile. That portion of the Miss. Territory lying to the South of Fort St.

Stephen was wholly without defense, and to protect the frontier and maintain order, the Federal Government directed Capt. Bartholemew Shamberg of the 2nd U. S. Infantry to establish a post near the confluence of the Tombigbee and the Alabama Rivers. Here they built, in July, 1799, a stockaded work with one bastion, which was named Fort Stoddert, in honor of Benj. Stoddert, Secy. of the Navy and acting Secy. of War. Fort Stoddert rapidly became a thriving settlement as well as military post. It was typically American and for the next 12 years was an important headquarters for the transaction of Federal business in the Alabama section of the Mississippi Territory. It was made a port of entry, the seat of a Court of Admiralty and of the Revenue District of Mobile. Capt. Shamberg remained in command till 1804, when he was succeeded by Capt. Peter Schuyler. At this time, the garrison consisted of 80 men. Capt. Schuyler in turn was succeeded in 1807 by Capt. Edmund Pendleton Gaines.

The American settlers in the vicinity of Fort Stoddert felt the most intense hatred for the Spanish in the Mobile district, and more than one attack was planned to take the town of Mobile. The presence of the garrison at Fort Stoddert served as a check upon these designs.

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The Mobile Sentinel, the first newspaper published in the limits of the present state of Alabama, was printed at Fort Stoddert May 23, 1811. Two copies only of this old paper are known to survive, both printed in 1811.

At Fort Stoddert rest the mortal remains of Ephriam Kirby, Judge of the Superior Court for the newly established Washington District, and the first Federal Judicial officer appointed to a position in what is now Alabama. He was commissioned April 6, 1804, and at once entered upon his duties. He died Oct. 20, 1804, and was laid away with military honors. (See sketch in Dictionary of Alabama Biography).

After the establishment of the cantonment at Mt. Vernon and the taking over of Mobile by the United States, Fort Stoddert lost its importance and was abandoned.

References: Pickett, History of Alabama (Owens ed. 1900) pp. 481; Owen "Ephriam Kirby", in Alabama State Bar Assn. proceedings 1901, pp. 167-179; and copies of original documents and records in U. S. War Dept. preserved in the Alabama Dept. of Archives and History.)

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The above from History of Alabama and Dictionary of Alabama Biography by Owen. Vol. 2.



## MOTHER SHIPTON'S PROPHECY



HERE ARE MANY Kirby burying grounds in England, where some of the handsomest monuments in the country are to be found. Although I have not had time to investigate the ancestry of a noted woman called "Mother Shipton" who died in 1449, (forty-three years before Columbus left on his voyage to America), who lies buried in one of the Kirby burial spots, I assume that she was a descendant of a Kirby, as only Kirbys and their descendants are buried in these private grounds. I should like to call your attention to the four lines of her prophecy which are carved on the headstone at her grave:

*"When pictures seem alive with movements free,  
When boats like fishes swim beneath the sea,  
When men like birds shall scour the sky,  
Then half the world, deep drenched in blood, shall lie."*

I do not know whether this author was given the name of "Mother Shipton" through the old English custom of calling her noted women MOTHER or whether the title came from some other source. Be that as it may, this prophecy is worthy of your sincere consideration and deepest thoughts, regardless of your faith or creed.

## Mother Shipton's Prophecy

*And now a word in uncouth rhyme  
Of what shall be in future time  
For in those wondrous days  
The women shall adapt a craze  
To dress like men and trousers wear  
And cut off all their locks of hair,  
They'll ride astride with brazen brow  
As witches do on broomsticks now,  
Then love shall die and marriage cease  
And nations wan as babies decrease,  
Then wives shall fondle cats and dogs  
And men live much the same as hogs,  
A carriage without horse shall go  
Disaster fell the world with woe.  
In London Primrose Hill shall be  
A center hold a Bishop's see,  
Around the world, men's thoughts shall fly  
Quick as the twinkling of an eye,  
And waters shall great wonders do,  
How strange, yet it shall all come true.  
Then upside down the world shall be,  
And gold be found at foot of tree.  
Through tow'ing hills proud man shall ride  
No horse or mule move by his side  
Beneath the water men shall walk  
Shall ride, shall sleep, and even talk  
And in the air men shall be seen  
In white, in black, and even green.  
A great man then shall come and go  
For prophecy declares it so.  
In water then shall iron float  
As easy as a wooden boat.  
Gold shall be found in streams and stone,  
In land that is yet unkown.  
Water and fire shall wonders do*

*And England shall admit a Jew.  
The Jew that once was held in scorn  
Shall of a Christian then be born,  
A house of glass shall come to pass  
In England, but Alas! Alas!  
A war will follow with the work  
Where dwells the pagan and the Turk  
The states will lock in fiercest strife  
And seek to take each others life.  
When North shall thus divide the South  
The Eagle builds in Lion's mouth  
The tax and blood and cruel war  
Shall come to every humble door.  
Then when the fiercest fight is done  
England and France shall be as one  
The British Olive next shall twine  
In marriage with the German vine.  
Men shall walk beneath and over streams  
Fulfilled will be our wildest dreams.  
All England's sons that plow the land  
Shall yet be seen with book in hand  
The poor shall now great wisdom know  
Great houses stand in far flung vale  
All covered over with snow and hale.  
In nineteen hundred twenty-six  
Build houses light of wood and sticks  
For then shall mighty wars be planned.  
When pictures seem alive with movements free  
When boats like fishes swim beneath the sea  
When men like birds shall scour the sky  
Then half the World, deep drenched in blood shall lie,  
But those who live to see this through  
On fear and trembling this will do  
Flee to the mountains and the dens  
To bog and forest wild with glens  
For storms will rage and oceans roar  
When Gabriel stands on sea and shore  
And as he blows his wondrous horn  
Old worlds shall die, and new be born.*





**FOR HENRY KIRBYS ANCESTRY**

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## THE DESCENDANTS OF HENRY KIRBY



Henry Kirby of Virginia and North Carolina died in Stokes County, N. C., in the year 1790. Henry and his wife, Suzanna, had seven children, as follows:

Edmund Kirby    married General William B. Shephard's daughter

Samuel L. Kirby   married Hannah Boone, sister of Daniel Boone

Jesse Kirby        married Sophia Choice

Pleasant Kirby    (No information on his family)

Sarah Kirby        married Mr. Davis

Lella Kirby        married Mr. Williams

Dosea Kirby        married Mr. Cunningham

The will of Henry Kirby was dated July 9th, 1789, and is on file in Stokes County, North Carolina. The will was proven, March, 1790, and mentions the above named wife and children.

Edmund Kirby, the son of Henry Kirby, married General William B. Shephard's daughter. He was under the command of General Shephard during the Indian War, before the Revolutionary War, and it was while they were

on a campaign in North Carolina that Edmund met the General's daughter and married her. They later moved from Virginia to North Carolina, where they remained and reared the following children:

Jesse Kirby	family unknown
Frank Kirby	married Miss Anderson and moved to Mississippi
Edmund Kirby, Junior	family unknown
Henry Kirby	married, a son named Joel, who was a Colonel in the Confederate Army
James Kirby	married Elizabeth Longino — grandparents of John H. Kirby, wealthy lumberman of Texas
John Kirby	married, had two sons, Washington and Edmund, moved to Georgia
Patsy Kirby	married Henry J. Williams
Sarah Kirby	married Mr. Flannigan and had one son, Joel, who was very prominent in public affairs of his day

Samuel L. Kirby, son of Henry Kirby, married Hannah Boone, sister to Daniel Boone. He was a great comrade of Daniel, who gave him the nickname "Skinny," because he could skin a deer so quickly. He was thereafter known everywhere as "Skinny Sam" Kirby.

Children born to Samuel and Hannah were as follows:

Samuel M. Kirby born March 4, 1788	married Elizabeth Martin
Nancy Kirby born 1790	married Leonard Kirby, son of John Kirby
Jesse L. Kirby	married, name of wife not known
Leonard Kirby	known as "Len Coon" Kirby, married Matilda Jackson
David Kirby	known as "Turkey Dave" Kirby, married Lucy Harmon, daughter of John Harmon
Thomas Jefferson Kirby	married Mary Frances Davis

Samuel M. Kirby, known as “Musty Sam” Kirby, was born March 4, 1788, in North Carolina. With his father, he came to Warren County, Kentucky, in 1790, before Kentucky was made a state. He married Elizabeth Martin, and had the following children:

Leander Washington Kirby	born February 6, 1820, died August 24, 1894
John Quincy Kirby	married Ellen Smith, moved with their children to Missouri
Samuel Bird Kirby	married Miss Williams, moved with their family to Missouri
Perry Kirby	married Ellen ———, moved with their family to Missouri
Paralee Kirby	married, died without issue
Madaline Kirby	married Hice Williams, moved with family to Missouri
Adaline Kirby	married Lem Witherspoon, moved with family to Missouri
Helen Kirby	married Sam Taylor, moved with family to Missouri
Nora Kirby	never married, moved to Missouri
Thomas Jefferson Kirby	married Julia Kirby, lived in Ohio County, Kentucky
Ellen Kirby	married Will Jones, lived in Ohio County, Kentucky
Manda Kirby	married Will Martin, lived in Ohio County, Kentucky
Maggie Kirby	married Mr. Combs, lived in Ohio County, Kentucky

Leander Washington Kirby was born February 6, 1820, the son of Samuel M. Kirby, grandson of Samuel L. “Skinny Sam” Kirby, great-grandson of Henry Kirby. He married in 1854, Lucy C. P. Richie, who was born on February 16, 1834, the daughter of Soloman Richie. Her mother

was a Foster, close relative of Stephen Collins Foster. She had a brother named Stephen Collins Foster.

The children of Leander Washington Kirby and his wife Lucy Richie, are as follows:

Virginia Bell Kirby born August 15, 1855	died July 4, 1903
Patrick H. Kirby born July 19, 1857	died at age of 21 years
Georgia A. Kirby born Sept. 17, 1859	
Sarah Helen Kirby born Nov. 13, 1861	died January 15, 1934
Emma E. Kirby born May 6, 1864	died Nov. 19, 1864
Joseph S. Kirby born Nov. 30, 1865	died August 6, 1952
Leander W. Kirby born May 14, 1868	died February 11, 1900
Lucy Porter Kirby born Oct. 29, 1870	
Edna Florence Kirby born Jan. 24, 1873	
John Quincy Kirby born May 22, 1875	
Alec Murray Kirby born Jan. 19, 1879	

Virginia Bell Kirby was born August 15, 1855, and married Bud Davidson. Their children are as follows:

Bertha Davidson  
Webb Davidson  
Vallie Davidson  
Clint Davidson  
John Davidson  
Tommie Davidson



Patrick H. Kirby was born July 19, 1857, and died in 1878. He was never married.

Georgia A. Kirby was born September 17, 1859, and married John H. Kington. Their children are as follows:

Kirby Kington

Ernest Kington

Joe Kington

Sarah Helen Kirby was born November 13, 1861, and died January 15, 1934. She married W. H. Myers. Their children are as follows:

Hubert P. Myers

Willie Myers

Essie Myers

Rodes Kirby Myers

Emma E. Kirby was born May 6, 1864, and died November 19, 1864.

Joseph S. Kirby was born November 30, 1865, and died August 6, 1952. He married Kate Madison. They had no children.

Leander W. Kirby was born May 14, 1868, and died February 11, 1900. He married Jennie Johnson and their children are as follows:

Carlisle W. Kirby

Johnson Kirby—deceased—no children

Curtis Kirby

Irene Kirby

Lucy Porter Kirby was born October 29, 1870, and married E. B. Myers. Their children are as follows:

Wickliffe Myers

Henry Myers

Edna Florence Kirby was born January 24, 1873, and married Rev. T. J. Ham. Their children are as follows:

Katherine Mae Ham

John Quincy Kirby was born May 22, 1875, and married Mary Loretta Gooch of Big Spring, Texas, on September 14, 1905. Their children are as follows:

Olivia Loretta Kirby	born December 2, 1906, at Big Springs, Texas
J. Q. Kirby, Jr.	born January 3, 1914, at Big Springs, Texas
William Gooch Kirby	born April 13, 1918, at Douglas, Arizona, (1111 9th Street)

Alec Murray Kirby was born January 19, 1879, and married Bess Davidson. Their children are as follows:

Allie Porter Kirby	now deceased
Margurite Kirby	
Louise Kirby	
Reginald Kirby	

Olivia Loretta Kirby was born December 2, 1906, and married George Rainer of Troy, Alabama on June 22, 1930. There were no children.

J. Q. Kirby, Jr. was born January 3, 1914, and married Mary Curtis of Bowling Green, Kentucky. Their children are as follows:

J. Q. Kirby, III	born August 21, 1940 at Bowling Green, Ky.
Mary Elaine Kirby	born July 6, 1941, at Bowling Green, Ky.

William Gooch Kirby was born April 13, 1918, and married Margaret Nilsson of New York City April 10, 1944. Their children are as follows:

Margaret Patricia Kirby born January 5, 1945, at New York City. William Gooch Kirby and his wife separated early in 1951 and on November 3, 1951, he married Cora Womac of Big Spring, Tennessee.

John Quincy Kirby, son of Samuel M. Kirby, grandson of Samuel L. Kirby and great-grandson of Henry Kirby, married Miss E. Ellen Smith. Their children are as follows:

Lee W. Kirby	born August 22, 1868, married Adeline Bailie, died in 1946
John Quincy (Smith) Kirby	married Carrie Clevenger
Bettie Kirby	married Billie Mitchel of Olaton, Ky.
Edna Kirby	died young

Lee W. Kirby was born August 22, 1868, and married Elizabeth Adeline Bailie. Their children are as follows:

Ova Mae Kirby	born June 21, 1893, at Flat Creek, Mo.
Sidney Willis Kirby	born_____, drowned December 6, 1912
Susan Kirby	born September 29, 1897, at Wayne Indian Territory
Vester Lee Kirby	born October 1, 1899, at Bristol Indian Territory
C. Lee Kirby	born June 20, 1903, at Union City, Mo.
Alva Kirby	born February 15, 1905, at Crane, Mo.
Vera Marie Kirby	born February 7, 1912, at Kahlotus, Wash.

Ova Mae Kirby was born June 21, 1893 at Flat Creek, Missouri, and married W. H. Grob. Their children are as follows:

Russell Grob  
Jean Marie Grob

Sidney Willis Kirby was never married.

Susan Kirby was born September 29, 1897 at Wayne Indian Territory and married June Grover Offutt. Their children are as follows:

Kirby Lee Offutt  
Vester Lee Offutt

Vester Lee Kirby was born October 1, 1899 at Bristol Indian Territory and married Josephine Lloyd. Their children are as follows:

Terrence R. Kirby                      born June 6, 1939

C. Lee Kirby was born June 20, 1903 at Union City, Missouri, and married Julia Carlson. Their children are as follows:

Craig Lee Kirby

John Redding Kirby

Alva Kirby was born February 15, 1905, and died without issue.

Vera Marie Kirby was born February 7, 1912 at Kahlotus, Washington, and married Chuck Vanderhook. They had no children.

John Quincy (Smith) Kirby married Carrie Clevenger. Their children are as follows:

Orville Leroy Kirby

Eugene Kirby

Orville Leroy Kirby married first Nettie Dobbins and their children are as follows:

William Joseph Kirby

Jerville Kirby

Wanna Kirby

Orville Leroy Kirby and his wife separated. His wife and children live at Hobbs, New Mexico. He married again and now lives at Enid, Oklahoma.

Eugene Kirby married Ruth Douglas. They live at 4332 Fourth Street, Everett, Washington. Their children are as follows:

Laura Ruth Kirby

Eugene Kirby, Jr.

Dixie Ann Kirby

Laura Ruth Kirby married F. L. Pine, a U. S. Navy Air Pilot. Their children are as follows:

Dixie Lynn Pine

Shelley Ann Pine

Eugene Kirby, Jr. was killed in Germany in World War II. He never married.

Dixie Ann Kirby married Bob Ramaley.

Samuel Bird Kirby, the son of Samuel M. Kirby, grandson of Samuel L. Kirby, and great-grandson of Henry Kirby, married a Miss Williams, a sister of Hice Williams. Their children are as follows:

Jim Kirby	left Missouri and moved to Oklahoma. I have been unable to learn any more about Samuel Bird Kirby's family.
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Perry Kirby, the son of Samuel M. Kirby, grandson of Samuel Kirby and great-grandson of Henry Kirby, married Ellen\_\_\_\_\_. Their children are as follows:

Thomas Woodford Kirby (nicknamed Musty)

Annie Kirby

Gertrude Kirby

Paralee Kirby

Thomas Woodford Kirby married Meredith Ann Hailey. Their children are as follows:

Horace Kirby	born_____, died October 27, 1950, at the age of 83. A very wealthy man. He was found dead in the Sac River in Missouri.
Jesse Kirby	married, children not known. He died at Blanchard, Oklahoma, 1950
Tom O. Kirby	married, lives at Pampa, Texas
Eva Kirby	married Mr. Hunt, lives at Grooms, Texas
Ernest Kirby	died at age twenty years, about 1897
Laura Kirby	died at age sixteen years, about 1899
A. Claud Kirby	is a lawyer, lives at Denver, Colorado
Ben Kirby	lives at Portersville, California

Annie Kirby, the daughter of Perry Kirby, married Charlie Hale. They had eleven children but the records of only three have been found, the others presumably deceased. Annie died at Owensboro, Kentucky, at the age of eighty-five. Her known children are as follows:

Irwin Hale

Verda Mae Hale      married Emlis Harding

Charlie Hale

Paralee Kirby, the daughter of Samuel M. Kirby, died without issue and is buried in our family burying ground near Alvaton, Kentucky.

Madaline Kirby, the daughter of Samuel M. Kirby, married Hice Williams of Allen County, Kentucky, and moved with him to South West, Missouri. Their children are as follows:

John Quincy Williams

Hice Williams, Jr.

Adaline Kirby, the daughter of Samuel M. Kirby, married Lem Weatherspoon and they moved to Southwest, Missouri. Their children are as follows:

Shann Weatherspoon      married, had issue, children unknown

Wash Weatherspoon

Henry Weatherspoon      married, no children, died at Elgin, Oregon

Younger Weatherspoon      married, had issue, children unknown

Wash Weatherspoon married and moved to Pleasant Valley, Oregon. They had five children whose names I have not learned.

Helen Kirby, the daughter of Samuel M. Kirby, married Sam Taylor. They moved to South West, Missouri. I have been unable to learn anything about their family.

Nora Kirby, the daughter of Samuel M. Kirby, never married. Moved to South West, Missouri.

Thomas Jefferson Kirby, the son of Samuel M. Kirby, married Julia, the daughter of Leonard (Len Coon) Kirby. Their children are as follows:

Sidney Kirby	married Pauline Baker
Columbia Kirby	married Alfred Allen
Nannie L. Kirby	married David Hocker
Mary Geraldine Kirby	married Oscar Thomas Hines
Eugene Grant Kirby	married Lee Acton

Sidney Kirby and his wife, Pauline Baker, had the following children:

Foster Bean Kirby  
Jesse Kirby  
Paul Baker Kirby      died in infancy

Foster Bean Kirby, the son of Sidney Kirby, married first Cammie Cochran and their children are as follows:

Aileen Kirby

Foster Bean Kirby married second Bertha Pullman. Their children are as follows:

Geraldine Kirby  
Gordon Kirby  
Virginia B. Kirby  
Gail Kirby      is single at this writing

Geraldine Kirby, the daughter of Foster Bean Kirby, married Mauzy T. Mauldin. Their children are as follows:

Patrick Mauldin  
Michael Thomas Mauldin. This family lives in California.

Gordon Kirby, the son of Foster Bean Kirby, married Donna Ellis. Their children are as follows:

Foster Ellis  
Douglas Gordon Ellis. This family lives in Denver, Colorado.

Virginia Bell Kirby, the daughter of Foster Bean Kirby, married Colonel Reuben Salada. Their children are as follows:

Lesslie Ann Salada

Kirby Churchill Salada

Jesse Kirby, the daughter of Sidney Kirby, married Sterling Price Davidson. Their children are as follows:

Nora Pauline Davidson

Sterling Price Davidson, Jr.

Thomas Kirby Davidson

Nora Pauline Davidson, the daughter of Sterling Price Davidson, married Paul T. Berglund. Their children are as follows:

Carrol Berglund

Jessie Kirby Berglund

Sterling Price Davidson, Jr., the son of Sterling Price Davidson, Sr., married Ruth Constance Spindler. Their children are as follows:

Ruth Alice Davidson

Sterling Price Davidson, III

Thomas Kirby Davidson, the son of Sterling Price Davidson, Sr., married Charlotte Caswell. Their children are as follows:

Gordon Kirby Davidson

Lloyd Gregory Davidson

Columbia Kirby, the daughter of Thomas Jefferson Kirby, granddaughter of Samuel M. Kirby, great-granddaughter of Samuel L. Kirby,



great-great-granddaughter of Henry Kirby, married Alf Allen. Their children are as follows:

Alonzo Allen

Lelia Allen

Minnie Queen Allen

Fred Allen

Mary Bell Allen

Alonzo Allen married Ella Foreman. They had five children, whose names I have not learned.

Lelia Allen married Willie Foreman, and they had five children whose names I have not learned.

Minnie Queen Allen, who married Dock Midkiff, had four children, as follows:

Hallie Midkiff

Delmer Midkiff

Bethel Midkiff

One son whose name I have not learned

Fred Allen married a Mrs. Lloyd, widow. They had five children whose names I have been unable to learn.

Mary Bell Allen married Herby Enson. Their three children were:

Roy D. Enson

Willie Mae Enson

Verna Mary Enson

Roy D. Enson married Correnne Stewart. No children that I know of.

Willie Mae Enson married Bert A. Porter, and had ten children as follows:

Bradley Porter  
Adela Porter  
J. W. Porter  
Wanga Allen Porter  
Mary Margaret Porter  
Eva Earline Porter  
Luva Mearl Porter  
Barbane Faye Porter  
Glenna Ray Porter  
Carrol Porter

Nannie L. Kirby, who was born December 8, 1853, and died January, 1942, was the daughter of Thomas Jefferson Kirby, granddaughter of Samuel M. Kirby, great-granddaughter of Samuel L. Kirby, and great-great-granddaughter of Henry Kirby. She married David McHenry Hocker on October 31, 1877. Their children are as follows:

Iva T. Hocker	born Feb. 11, 1879, died Sept. 8, 1880
Mabel Kirby Hocker	born Oct. 14, 1881
Willie David (Louise) Hocker	born Feb. 23, 1888, died Mar. 15, 1927

Mabel Kirby Hocker married Oscar Bishop, who was born January 5, 1877. Their children are:

John Hocker Bishop	born June 17, 1900, died Sept. 15, 1915
David Kirby Bishop	born April 13, 1905

Willie David (Louise) Hocker married William Grove Mershon. Their children are as follows:

William Grove Mershon, Jr.	born Sept. 4, or 5th, 1911
Nancy Kennedy Mershon	born Aug. 25, 1916

William Grove Mershon, Jr., married Katie Maddox. I have been unable to learn if they had children.

Nancy Kennedy Mershon married Carroll Weisiger, Jr. They had one son, Carroll Weisiger, III.

Mary Geraldine Kirby, the daughter of Thomas Jefferson Kirby, granddaughter of Samuel M. Kirby, great-granddaughter of Samuel L. Kirby, great-great-granddaughter of Henry Kirby, married Oscar Thomas Hines. Their children are as follows:

Eddie Thomas Hines

Eva Jane D. Hines

Myrtle Perry Hines

Mae Hines

Eddie Thomas Hines married Bessie Mae Patterson of Bloomfield, Indiana. Their children are as follows:

Mary Hines	born in Bloomfield, Indiana, 1908
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Thomas Oscar Hines	born in St. Louis, Missouri, 1911
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Edward Thomas Hines, Jr.	born in St. Louis, Missouri, March 2, 1914
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Conrad Hines	born in Indianapolis, Indiana, 1920
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Mary Hines was married twice. Her first husband was Gilbert Pierce, from whom she was divorced. Their children are as follows:

Janet Pierce	born in Indianapolis, Indiana, April 25, 1924
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Robert Pierce	born in Indianapolis, Indiana, July 26, 1932
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Mary Hines' second husband was Sanford Turner, now deceased.

Thomas Oscar Hines married Ethel Ash, June 6, 1937. They had one daughter, Eloise Louise Hines, born November 9, 1942.

Edward Thomas Hines, Jr., married Jeanne D'Aubigny McNeill, October 14, 1943. No children.

Conrad Hines married Ruth Shambaugh on July 17, 1945. Their son is named Forrest Eugene Hines, born May 8, 1946.

Eva Jane D. Hines married David Gordon Young. The family lives at Beaver Dam, Kentucky. Their children are as follows:

Eldred Gordon Young

Thomas Conrad Young

James Walton Young

Eldred Gordon Young married Emily Fair Riley. No children

Thomas Conrad Young married Mattie Elizabeth Oglesby. Their children are as follows:

Susan Geraldine Young

Connie Beth Young

Robert Henry Young

James Walton Young, not married at this writing

Myrtle Perry Hines married Fred G. Woodburn. No children

Mae Hines was married twice. By her first husband, Earl Stilwell, she had three children, as follows:

Virginia Stilwell

Earl Hines Stilwell

Richard Edmund Stilwell

Mae Hines' second husband was Earl Almon. No children

Virginia Stilwell married Elmo C. Mitchel, and to this marriage one daughter was born, Virginia Lee Mitchel.

Earl Hines Stilwell married Delphia Berg Stilwell. Their children are as follows:

Richard Bruce Stilwell

Sandra Marie Stilwell

Richard Edmund Stilwell married Elizabeth Wardell. Their children are as follows:

Constance Elizabeth Stilwell

Richard Dennis Stilwell

Eugene Grant Kirby, the son of Thomas Jefferson Kirby, grandson of Samuel M. Kirby, great-grandson of Samuel L. Kirby, and great-great-grandson of Henry Kirby, married Ida Lee Acton. Their children are as follows:

Forest Kirby, deceased

Everett Acton Kirby

Griffin Carlisle Kirby

LaGratta Kirby

Beckham Cantril Kirby, deceased

Myrtle Kirby

Ellen Julia Kirby

Eunice Lee Kirby

Everett Acton Kirby married Odema Phieffer. They had one daughter, Helen Lee, who married Floyd Caron.

Griffin Carlisle Kirby married Myrtle Belle Nation. No children.

LaGratta Kirby married Edward L. Huff. Their children are as follows:

Mary Madine Huff, who married a Mr. Duncan

Wilma Huff, who married Rowland Chase

Myrtle Kirby married Clyde Wilkins. Their children are as follows:

Nancy Jean Wilkins

Clyde Jerome Wilkins (not married at this writing)

Thomas Louis Wilkins (not married at this writing)

Ellen Julia Kirby married Milliard A. Schuyler. Their children are as follows:

Kirby Lee Schuyler (not married at this writing)

Julia Faye Schuyler (not married at this writing)

Patricia Ann Schuyler (not married at this writing)

Margaret Elizabeth Schuyler (not married at this writing)

William Everett Schuyler (not married at this writing)

Eunice Lee Kirby married Paul A. Walker, by whom she had one child, Paul Bryan Walker. Her second husband, Charles McGee. No children.

Ellen Kirby, daughter of Samuel M. Kirby, granddaughter of Samuel L. Kirby, great-granddaughter of Henry Kirby, married Will Jones of Ohio County, Kentucky. Their children are as follows:

Dr. Alva Jones, who lives in Missouri

Dr. Ellis Jones, who lives in Oklahoma

Manda Kirby, the daughter of Samuel M. Kirby, granddaughter of Samuel L. Kirby, and great-granddaughter of Henry Kirby, married Will Martin of Ohio County, Kentucky. I have been unable to learn of this family.

Maggie Kirby, daughter of Samuel M. Kirby, granddaughter of Samuel L. Kirby, and great-granddaughter of Henry Kirby, married a Mr. Combs. Their children are as follows:

Kate Combs

Eugene Combs

Leslie Combs

Nancy Kirby, born 1790, the daughter of Samuel L. Kirby, granddaughter of Henry Kirby, was said to have been a very beautiful and wonderful woman, with blonde hair and deep blue eyes. She married Leonard Kirby, who was a son of John Kirby, who was a cousin of Samuel L. Kirby.

Nancy lived to be ninety-three years of age. She was able to do very fine needle work at the age of ninety-two without the use of glasses.

This Leonard Kirby who married Nancy Kirby was a soldier in the War of 1812. During the war, after being home on furlough, he walked from Warren County, Kentucky, to New Orleans, to be with Jackson at the Battle of New Orleans.

William Kirby and George Kirby were two of the children of Leonard and Nancy; the names of the others, I do not know.

Jesse L. Kirby, the son of Samuel L. Kirby, grandson of Henry Kirby, married and had the following children:

Samuel B. Kirby, who married Tobiathia \_\_\_\_\_

Susan Kirby, who married John Homer

Sarah J. Kirby, who married James Carney

Hinklet Kirby, who married Rachael \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Part, if not all of the children of Jesse L. Kirby moved to Southwest Missouri, and I have been unable to learn anything more about them. Jesse L. Kirby built a two-story log house near Alvaton, Warren County, Kentucky, where all of his children were born. My father, Leander Washington Kirby, told me that Jesse Kirby was an unusually strong man, that he killed a bear one night with his bare fists. He was returning to his home one dark night from the home of a neighbor friend, when something attacked him. He hit the object with his fists, until he knocked it off of him. It was so dark, however, that he could not be sure what it was. When he reached his home, he lighted his torch and went back to where he had been attacked. There lay a dead bear.

Leonard Kirby, the son of Samuel L. Kirby and grandson of Henry Kirby, married Matilda Jackson from Missouri, July 30, 1818. He was known as Leonard "Coon" Kirby, given the nickname because the coons ate

up his corn crop. The children of Leonard and Matilda Kirby were as follows:

John Jackson Kirby	first wife, Columbia Taylor; second wife, a Miss Chapman
Thomas Jefferson Kirby	married a Miss Gibbs, daughter of Johnnie Gibbs
Eliza Kirby	married John Harpool
Julia Kirby	married Thomas Jefferson Kirby, the son of Samuel M. Kirby

John Jackson Kirby was known as John "Coon" Kirby. In the early days of California, before there were any railroads, he rode a gray mule and drove a herd of sheep from Warren County, Kentucky to California, arriving there with more sheep than he started with, due to the fact that it took him so long to make the trip his herd multiplied on the way.

When California held her centennial at San Francisco, there was on display a large oil painting showing J. J. Kirby standing beside his gray mule.

John Jackson Kirby was married twice. His first wife was Columbia Taylor, by whom he had five children. He had two children by his second wife. The five were:

Andrew Kirby	married
Thad Kirby	never married
Hettie Kirby	married Tarrence Lotheridge
Elizaann Kirby	married James William (Bill) Howell
Mollie Kirby	married Marshall Claypool

Children by his second wife were:

Robert Kirby	married Ida Bell Younger
Nannie Kirby	never married

Andrew Kirby married first Mary Sue Campbell; second, a Miss Reynolds. He had one daughter, named Mary Sue Kirby. He died in Texas.



## JOHN JACKSON KIRBY

The following is a photostatic copy of the original newspaper article that appeared in the Park City Daily News of Bowling Green, Kentucky, many years ago.

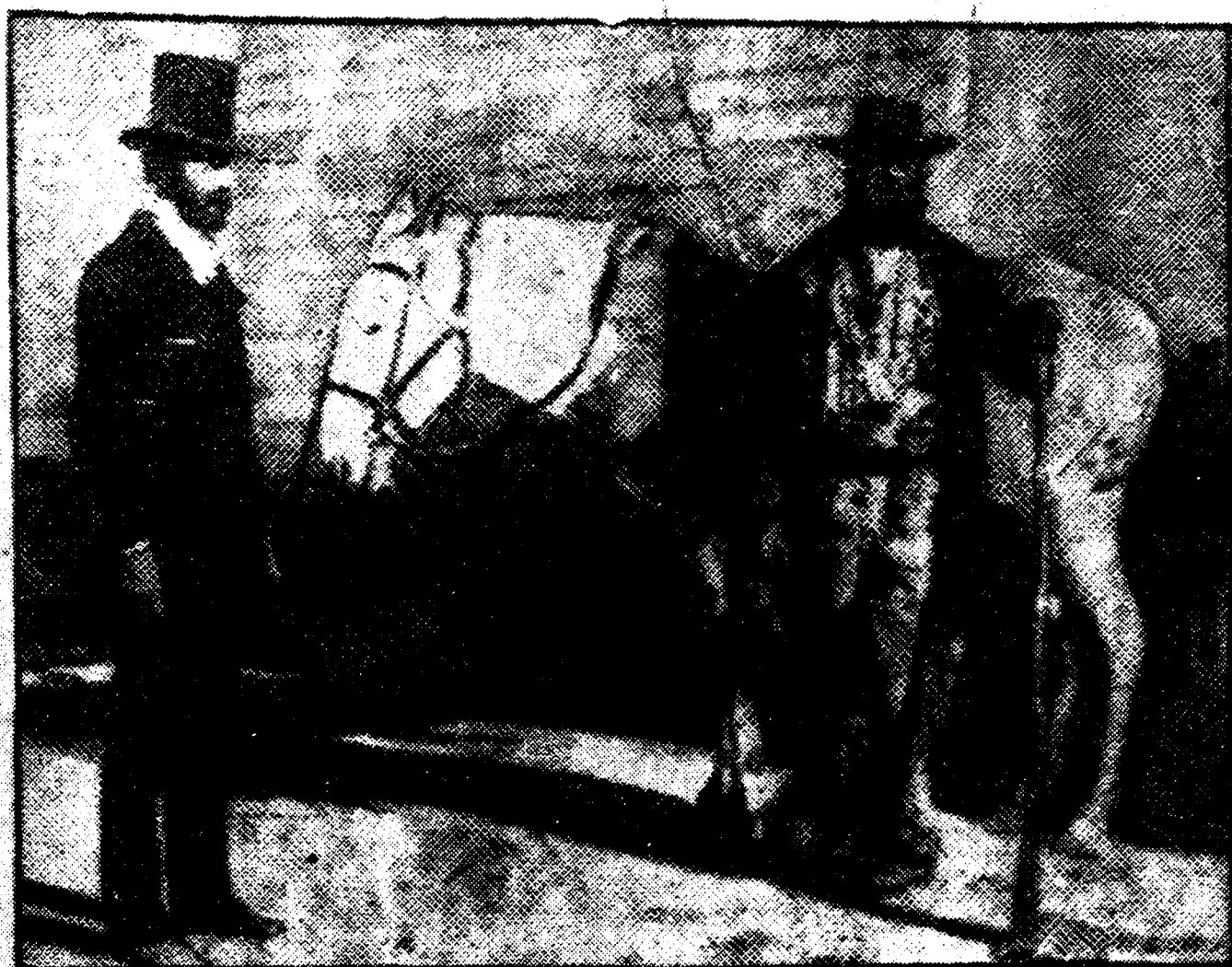
The editor of this volume in traveling between Henderson, Kentucky, and the Sacramento Valley in California has recalled to mind many times the feat performed by John Jackson Kirby of riding a gray mule and driving 1500 sheep from Plano, Kentucky, to California.

While I have never had an opportunity to try to locate the oil painting in the museum, it is my hope to have the pleasure of seeing it at some future time.

The article states that Mr. Kirby made the journey in 1852 which was 73 years ago when this account was written. Presumably then, while there is no date as to when this was published, it would have been in the year 1925.



# Former Warren Countian Drove Herd of Sheep to California Back in 1852



## \$10,000 Picture of John Kirby Now In State Museum

There is hanging in the State Museum at San Francisco, California, a picture which is a famous representation of pioneer life in that state, and it was regarded with such favor that the original picture was enlarged at a cost of \$10,000 and is now one of the treasured possessions of the museum. Above is a photograph of the picture.

Mrs. Florence Cooper, of Marble Falls, Texas, a niece of Mrs. Hettie Lothorage, of 1363 Kanton street, has recently written her that she had seen and greatly admired the picture as it hangs in the museum. And thereby hangs a tale.

One of the men shown in the picture is a former Warren countian, John J. Kirby, who 73 years ago resided on a farm between Plano and Alva-ton. In fact he owned two

farms and was a well-to-do man for those times. It was just three years after the historic gold rush of 1849 when the yellow metal was discovered in California, that Mr. Kirby conceived the idea of crossing the plains to the new El Dorado, and in 1852 set out on the long journey.

### 1500 Sheep In Herd

He attempted what then seemed to be an impossible feat, and would have been impossible to most men, but the Kirbys were a sturdy race and had the knack of accomplishing whatever they undertook. This feature was to drive across the trackless prairies which stretched between Plano, Ky., and the Sacramento Valley in California, 1500 sheep. He started with the sheep and a number of helpers and got through with the most of the big flock. This is said to have been the first time in the history of the country that sheep were driven entirely across the continent and Mr. Kirby is entitled to the distinction of being the first man who ever accomplished the feat.

He sold out his sheep to good advantage in the Sacramento Valley and remained two years in the

golden state. It was a prodigious task and beset with many difficulties. Day after day they plodded along and slept at night with only the canopy of heaven for a covering and with only the stars to give light. They had to constantly be on the alert for hostile Indians and had more than one clash with them. But fortune favored him and after many weary months he arrived at his destination. With him he had a faithful, old gray mule, taken from one of his farms at Plano, which traveled the entire distance.

### Gave Mule To Friend.

A friend of his wanted the mule because of the long journey it had taken and the dangers it had passed through and Mr. Kirby let him have it, though he treasured the mule greatly because it had served him so faithfully in the long trek across the plains. He could not think, however, of undertaking to bring the mule back to Kentucky and so reluctantly decided to part with it. Before giving up the beast, however, he had a picture made of it which is herewith reproduced, in the Daily News. It was taken behind the court house in San Francisco and Mr. Kirby is seen standing leaning against the mule, bearded and dressed in true Western garb with buckskin breeches and in his shirt sleeves. The dressed-up individual in the picture is the friend to whom he gave the mule.

From his dress he looks like a preacher but was probably not as preachers were not very popular in those days in California. He was more likely a sport. It was this picture which was enlarged and is now hanging in the San Francisco Museum to give future generations, as they gaze on it, some idea of California in the making.

Mrs. Lothorage is 74 years of age, and the only living child of John J. Kirby. Mr. Kirby was also a cousin of Quince Kirby, city clerk; Murray Kirby, of Alva-ton; Mrs. W. H. Myers, of this city; Mrs. T. J. Ham, wife of the well known Baptist minister, and of the late Mansfield Kirby.



Hettie Kirby, daughter of John Jackson, married Tarrence Lotheridge, and had the following children:

Thad Lotheridge

Susie Lotheridge

Elizaann Kirby married James William (Bill) Howell and they had one daughter, who married Mr. J. R. Dodd.

Mollie Kirby married Marshall Claypool. Their children are as follows:

Florence Claypool

Doc Claypool

Hugh Claypool

Clint Claypool

Clement Claypool

Euba Claypool

Samuel Claypool

Thomas Jefferson Kirby, the son of Leonard (Coon) Kirby, married a Miss Gibbs, daughter of Johnnie Gibbs. Their children are as follows:

Charlie Kirby

Calvin Kirby

Eliza Kirby, the daughter of Leonard (Coon) Kirby, who married John Harpool, had two children, as follows:

John Harpool

Joe Harpool

Julia Kirby, the daughter of Leonard (Coon) Kirby, married Thomas Jefferson Kirby, the son of Samuel M. Kirby. Their children are as follows:

Sidney Kirby

Columbia Kirby

Nannie L. Kirby

Geraldine M. Kirby

Eugene G. Kirby

David Kirby, the son of Samuel L. Kirby, grandson of Henry Kirby, was known as "Turkey" Dave Kirby, so nicknamed because he could go into the woods and imitate a turkey call so accurately that, if there was a turkey in hearing distance, it came to him, and he had opportunity to kill it.

He married for his first wife, Lucy Harmon, on March 26th, 1818. She was the daughter of Johnnie Harmon. Their children are as follows:

Samuel D. Kirby	married a Miss Edmons
Mary Jane Kirby	married Jim Hale
Susan Kirby	married "Big" Jim Johnson
Margaret Kirby	married Jasper Dodd
Eliza Kirby	married John Rose
Sarah Kirby	married Dick Holland
Fannie Kirby	married Bill Holland

Children by the second wife were:

Clara Kirby	married Jack Leaton
Ella Kirby	married Henry Phelps

Samuel D. Kirby married a Miss Edmons. They had one son, Jim Kirby.

Mary Jane Kirby married Jim Hale. Their children are as follows:

Sam Hale  
Jonah Hale  
Charlie Hale

Susan Kirby married "Big" Jim Johnson. I have been unable to learn more about their family.

Margaret Kirby, born August 18, 1839, married W. Jasper Dodd, who was born October 21, 1833. They had eleven children, as follows:

J. R. Dodd	born Dec. 3, 1859, died Jan. 27, 1912. He married a Miss Howell.
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A. J. Dodd	born Dec. 25, 1861, died April 18, 1947
Mary E. Dodd	born Feb. 4, 1864, died August 20, 1893
Charles B. Dodd	born May 18, 1866, died Nov. 10, 1946
Milburn G. Dodd	born Feb. 19, 1868, died Aug. 16, 1892
Euclid P. Dodd	born Feb. 25, 1870, now employed by Fire Department, Bowling Green, Kentucky
Minnie Dodd	born June 17, 1872, died Oct., 1949
Jannie Dodd	born March 11, 1874, died Feb. 15, 1932
Webb Dodd	born June 25, 1877, died 1879
W. H. Dodd	born June 25, 1880, died Dec. 27, 1943
Leslie Dodd	born Jan. 6, 1883, now employed by Fire Department, Bowling Green, Kentucky

Eliza Kirby married John Rose. Their children:  
Dillon Rose (and others)

Sarah Kirby married Dick Holland. I have been unable to locate the children of this family.

Fannie Kirby married Bill Holland. I have been unable to learn the names of their children.

Clara Kirby married Jack Leaton. Their children are as follows:

Porter Leaton

Maggie Leaton

Herschel Leaton

J. R. Dodd, born December 3, 1859, married a Miss Howell, the daughter of W. J. (Bill) Howell. They had one son, Ira G. Dodd, who is now employed by the Southern Bell Telephone Company at Fort Worth, Texas.

Thomas Jefferson Kirby, the son of Samuel L. Kirby, grandson of Henry Kirby, married Mary Frances Davis. Their children are as follows:

Nancy Kirby

Jasper Kirby

Jane Kirby

Cornelia Kirby

William H. Kirby

Daniel Kirby

Thomas Jefferson Kirby

Samuel Kirby

Ike N. Kirby



John Kirby, cousin of Samuel L. and Jesse Kirby, came to Kentucky in the early days and built his home on Drake's Creek, at a place now known as the Devasier Bluff. He is buried near the place where his house stood. By his wife, whose name is not known, he was the father of five children, as follows:

Leonard Kirby	married Nancy Kirby, daughter of Samuel Kirby
Tarrance Kirby	married, had children, and lived at Fountain Run, Tenn.
Lucy Kirby	married a Mr. Lotheridge
Sally Kirby	married Aaron Couch; second husband, a Kirby
John Kirby	unable to locate any of his family



When the Kirbys came to Kentucky in 1790, they found in the territory between Drake and Tramel Creeks numerous skeletons of very large human beings. The John Kirby who settled on the Devasier Bluff took the two thigh bones from the largest skeleton he could find and kept them until he died. There is an affidavit from Joe S. Kirby, a great-grandson of this John Kirby, stating that he was in his great-grandfather's home and saw those thigh bones measured, and that each of them measured 4 ft. 4 in. long.

Leander Washington Kirby (known as Esq. Wash Kirby), and the father of J. Quince Kirby, Sr., who was born February 6, 1820, told his son, J. Quince Kirby, Sr., he saw those large skeletons, and that he asked the friendly Indians who were living in that country at that time who killed all those large people, and the only reply he got was—the Indian would point to his head and say, "They died with a headache." From this everyone concluded the Indians Tommyhawked them.



## TARRANCE KIRBY

Tarrance Kirby was a soldier in the War of 1812. He claimed that he killed Chief Tecumseh at the Battle of Lake Erie. Before he died he wrote a book which is said to be filed in the Archives Building at Nashville, Tennessee. I have not found time to look into this but I do know that he received a land grant for his services in the War of 1812, the grant located at Fountain Run, Tennessee.

Captain Tarrance Kirby wrote a letter to President Abraham Lincoln which in many respects is one of the most remarkable letters ever addressed to President Lincoln or to any other president. It was bought fifteen or twenty years ago in a book store in Washington by William H. Townsend, the noted connoisseur of Lincolniana. The original letter was borrowed from him by the Courier-Journal, Louisville, Kentucky, and published.

The internal evidence is that Captain Kirby delivered this letter to Lincoln personally. There is no record of Lincoln's granting him the favor sought, but we quickly want to believe that he did.

In this letter the Old Hero did not rest his remarkable case upon his own say-so but obtained two sets of supporting signatures. While the first group noted they "often" had heard Captain Kirby's story, the second group inferentially assured President Lincoln it would be well worth his time to grant the Old Hero an audience.

Supporting signatures were M. Rodes, Wm. V. Loving, H. V. Loving, S. A. Barclay, Sheriff S. S. Potter, Col. J. H. Grider, P. J. Potter and Arthur W. Graham.

Captain Tarrance Kirby received only such education as was obtainable on a Kentucky Frontier at that time. In spite of this handicap, however, he was an able and fearless leader of men.

In his letter the words in parenthesis are words added by the publisher for better understanding.

CAPTAIN TARRANCE KIRBY'S LETTER TO  
PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCOLN

dated September 5, 1864

“To the Honorable Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, at Washington, D. C.

“The undersigned respectfully Petition your Honor that some 12 months ago my Gran sons, William Bradley & Van Fulgium, was captured by the Federal soldiers and are at this time in Prisen at Camp Morton, Ind.

“At the time they were captured they were on their way home, having served out their time in the Reble Armey — and was likely to be conscripted which they were very much opposed to. They are both desieras to take the Amnesta Oath, give bond, and return home and live quiet sitizans.

“They are the gran children of the Old Hero that served his cuntry in the war of 1812. Four companies to rescue the Bleeding Fruntiers of Michigan and

Ohio. While Indians was a yeling around my ears like Ten Thousands wild panthers in the woods, swearing in Indian language that they would have my scalp or haid before day or make their hatchets drunk in my blood, but I bore it with courage and fortitude.

“I foute the First Battle of Tipacano and the Second Battle of River Riasin, then drove the Indians from there to Detrouite — then a cross the River to Canida, then drove Proctor & Elliott from Mauldin to Morovintown — there I shouted Triumph victory over Proctor & Elliott, Tecumseh and whole forse. I helped kill Tecumseh and helped Skin him and brought two pieces of his yellow hide home with me to my mother and Sweet Hart.

“After a few days rest, there was a call for volenteers to defend N. Orleans. I volenteered at the first tap of the drum with the Immortal Andrew Johnson (sic). I foute the Battle of the 8th (of) January & was wounded. There we throud them Head and Heels, cross and file. They covered 10 Acres with dead, Blood and Wounds. And (we) sent them home with a dab’s end of their forse to Old England, which made a mash of Lord Wellington’s Armeey, (but) when they got there they could not tell the news.

“I had one poore boy fell in defense of his cuntry in Mexico In this unholy war (the Civil War) I took a bold stand to put down the rebellion on every stump I mounted. I have one son in the Union Armeey, had served 3 years & volenteered for 3 more (in the) 58 Redg. Ind., Woods Division; also 3 gran children in the same redgment.

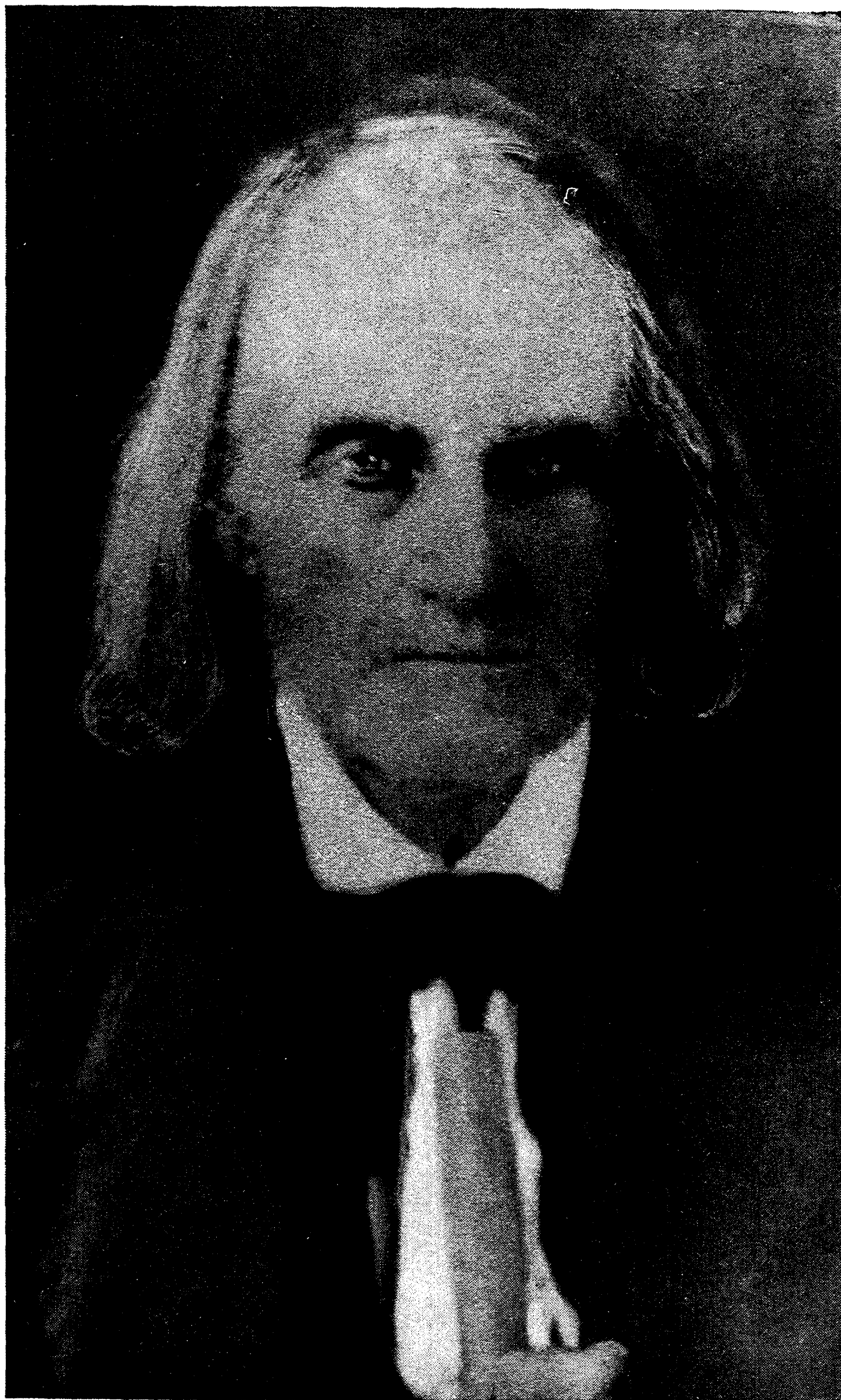
“All of which is respectfully submitted to your Favourable consideration.

*Signed:*

Tarrance Kirby.”







**JESSE KIRBY**



Jesse Kirby, the son of Henry Kirby, was born October 23, 1757, and died December 17, 1852. He married Sophia Choice on March 18, 1778, who was born September 23, 1760, and died July 11, 1853. Their children are as follows:

David Kirby		
born January 27, 1779	married first Miss Anderson, second Mary Dues Taylor	
Nancy Kirby		
born October 23, 1781	married William Potter	
Lucy Kirby		
born November 27, 1783	married a Hanley	
William Kirby		
born February 15, 1786	married first Miss Anderson, second Miss Doak	
Cyrus Kirby		
born December 25, 1787		
Elizabeth Kirby		
born January 27, 1790	married Frederick Potter	
Jesse R. Kirby		
born March 6, 1792	married Prudence Dishman	
Isaiah Kirby		
born August 5, 1794	married Sophia Kirby	
John C. Kirby		
born February 27, 1797	married E. A. Jackson	
Polly Kirby		
born February 26, 1799	married Samuel Kirby	
Tully C. Kirby		
born November 11, 1802	married Nancy Harrington	

This record is copied from the files of the U. S. Pension Office. Jesse Kirby was allowed a pension as a soldier of the Revolution under an application dated July 23, 1832. His wife was granted a pension as a widow under an application dated February 10, 1853.



The following pictures were made in 1953 of the tombstones of Jesse Kirby and Sophia Choice. The graveyard is located on top of the Lee Harris Bluff about seven miles south of Bowling Green, Kentucky, and one mile northeast of Plano, Kentucky. Other markers are in evidence with no inscriptions thereon.



IN MEMORY OF  
JESSIE KIRBY  
Born Oct. 23rd 1851  
Died Dec. 11th 1852  
in the 96th year of his age  
A Soldier of the Revolutionary  
War a christian and patriot  
UNION





IN MEMORY OF  
OPHIA KIRBY  
WIFE OF  
JESSE KIRBY  
BORN 23rd Sept 1860  
DIED 11th Nov 1933  
in the 93rd year of her age



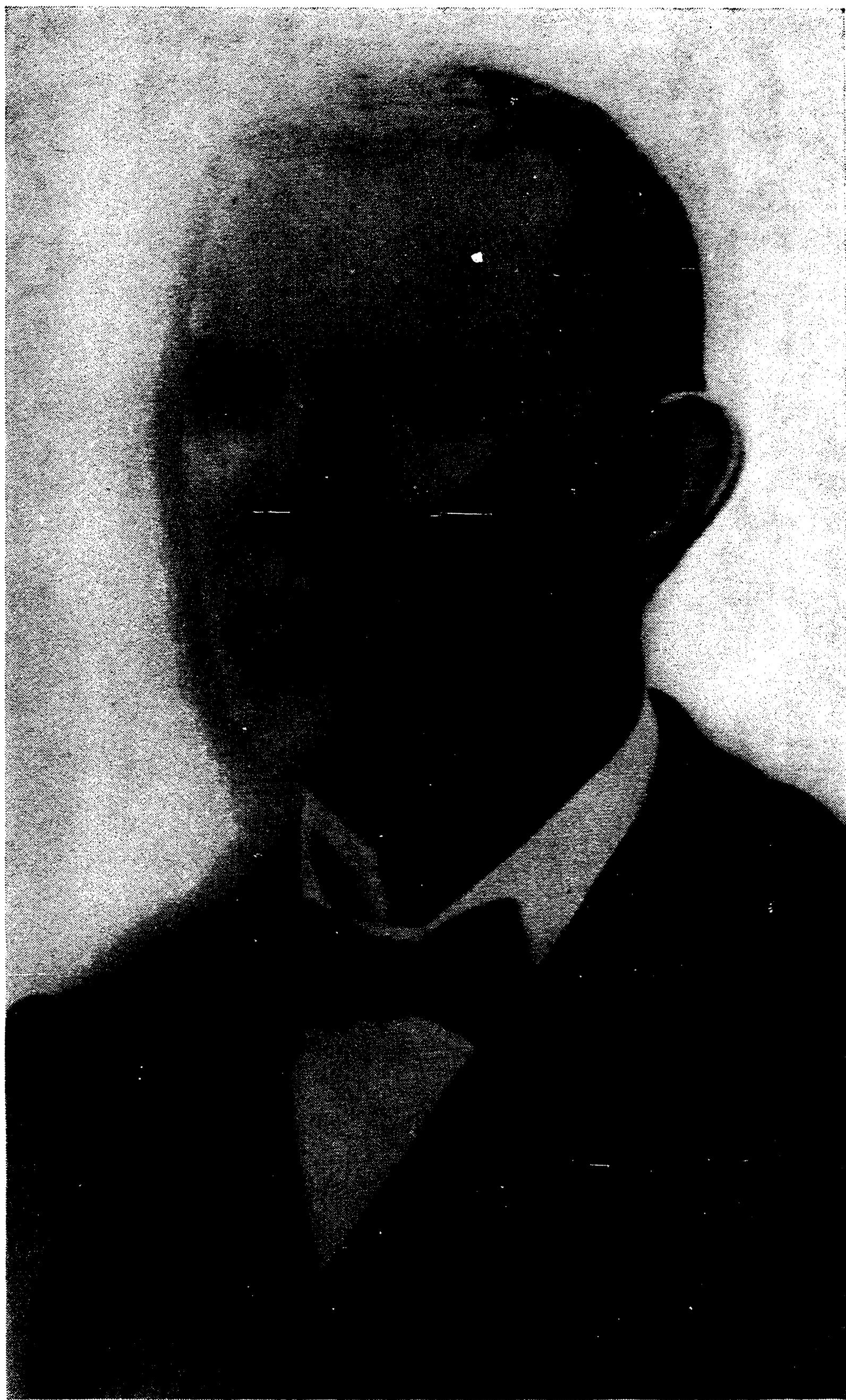
David Kirby, Sr., the son of Jesse Kirby, grandson of Henry Kirby, was born January 27, 1779, and died May 10, 1831. He first married a Miss Anderson. Their children are as follows:

William Kirby	born September 20, 1804
Absolum Kirby	born August 24, 1806, married Aleanor Moore
Bailey Kirby	born November 11, 1808, married Nancy Moore
Unnamed child	born December 26, 1810, died in infancy
Pleasant Kirby	born May 8, 1812
Sophia Kirby	born November 30, 1814
Avarella Kirby	born May 25, 1817
Stephen Kirby	born November 26, 1819
Jennie Kirby	born February 13, 1822
Mary Kirby	born November 12, 1824, married Robert Hardcastle

His second marriage was to Mary Dues Taylor on June 13, 1825. Their children are as follows:

Frances Kirby	born June 6, 1826, married a Hagerman
Nancy Kirby	born October 31, 1827, married Leander Harris
David Kirby	born May 31, 1829, married Lydia Bohannon
Elizabeth Kirby	born January 23, 1831, married Dr. Robb





**DAVID KIRBY, JUNIOR**



## **EDITOR'S NOTE**

In accumulating data for this book the following biography of my grandfather, David Kirby, Jr., and my great-grandfather, David Kirby, Sr., came into my possession. Although I do not recall the exact source, it is authentic, and was evidently written many years ago, as the latter part of my grandfather's life is not included in the record.

I remember my grandfather David Kirby, Jr., very well, as I was eight years old when he died in 1905. Among my first recollections is his wonderful home, with the wide avenue leading up to the house which stood far back from the road. I particularly recall being in this home on the day he was buried.

My grandfather and my father, James R. Kirby, Sr., his eldest son, were very devoted to each other, and very closely associated, in both the family circle and in business. In 1889, they started a private bank, known as The Farmers Bank, at Smiths Grove, Kentucky. This bank was incorporated under Kentucky state banking laws, following the establishment of the State Banking Department, with my grandfather serving the institution as its president, my father as cashier. Upon the death of my grandfather in 1905, my father became president, a position he held until his death in 1922. Both were large land owners, and were engaged together in extensive business interests.

## BIOGRAPHY

### David Kirby Senior and David Kirby, Junior



**D**AVID KIRBY, JR., who ranks among the wealthy and prominent farmers of Warren County, was born May 31, 1829, near Three Springs, Kentucky. He is the third child and only son of four children born to David and Mary (Dues) Kirby. His father, David Kirby, Sr., migrated with his parents to Warren County about 1790, settled in the south part of the county, and became one of its substantial and leading farmers and slave owners. He put a substitute in the war of 1812. He had married for his first wife a Miss Anderson, by whom four sons and four daughters were born. He died May 10, 1831. His father, Jesse Kirby, of Irish origin, married Sophia Choice. He was one of the soldiers of the war for independence, was one of the first pioneers of Warren County, endured all the hardships of a pioneer life, and was a farmer and slave holder.

Mary (Dues) Kirby was born in Virginia, where she married James B. Taylor, by whom four sons were born. After the birth of her first child she and her husband rode on horseback from Virginia to Warren County, Kentucky. A tiresome journey through the wilderness. She was a daughter of Samueal Dues who married for his first wife a Miss Sedgwick, who was the grandmother of our subject. Samueal Dues married for his second wife a Mrs. Rickett. He also was a soldier in the war for independence, and was one of the early settlers of Warren County, where he became a substantial farmer



and slave holder. David Kirby, Jr., lost his father May 10, 1831. He remained with his mother until her death in 1844 when he went to Missouri, where he remained one year when he returned to Kentucky and made his home with his sister till marriage, December 20, 1849, to Lydia Bohannon, of Warren County.

She came with her parents, Ludwell and Elizabeth (Pratt) Bohannon, from Virginia to Warren County in 1844. Mr. and Mrs. Kirby have had born to bless their union nine children: James R., William M., Joan Mackey, Pres. E., Milton B., Elizabeth, Jennie Downer, David and Mary. Mr. and Mrs. Kirby are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. After his marriage, he lived for the first year on the homestead where he was born, then moved in the fork up on Drake's Creek, where he lived for seven years. In January, 1864, he moved to where he now resides near Smiths Grove, and located on 216 acres, all of which is in a high state of cultivation, well improved, and with fine residence and good substantial barn and outbuildings.

Mr. Kirby, by good management, has succeeded in accumulating a handsome fortune, owning nine farms, containing in all, 1,531 acres, mostly in the vicinity of Smiths Grove, perhaps the richest and best lands in Warren County. He also lost several negroes by the war. He is a member of the Grange. He cast his first presidential vote for General Taylor in 1848. Since the war he has been a Democrat, and has never missed a presidential vote.

David Kirby, Jr., the son of David Kirby, Sr., grandson of Jesse Kirby, great-grandson of Henry Kirby, was born May 31, 1829, died April 16, 1905. He married first on December 20, 1849, Lydia Bohannon, who was born August 26, 1825, and died December 10, 1889. Their children are as follows:

James Robert Kirby	born September 3, 1850, died June 15, 1922
William Mansfield Kirby	born May 16, 1852, died June 3, 1923
Joan Kirby	born June 23, 1854, died February 22, 1921
Presley Ewing Kirby	born December 17, 1856, died February 20, 1905
Milton Bell Kirby	born March 1, 1859, died December 7, 1937
Elizabeth Kirby	born June 24, 1861, died May 23, 1945
Jennie Kirby	born April 18, 1864, died April 18, 1886
David (Dick) Kirby, III	born July 29, 1867, died June 2, 1901
Mary Martha (Mattie) Kirby	born April 29, 1870

David Kirby, Jr., married second Zilla Ross on June 6, 1892, who was born 1865, and died November 7, 1948. Their children are as follows:

Horace Kirby	born March 28, 1893, died August 13, 1916
Winnie Kirby	born September 9, 1898



**JAMES R. KIRBY, SENIOR**



James R. Kirby, Sr., the son of David Kirby, Jr., grandson of David Kirby, Sr., great-grandson of Jesse Kirby, great-great-grandson of Henry Kirby, was born September 3, 1850, and died June 15, 1922. He married Miriam Elmina Royalty on February 14, 1875, who was born January 19, 1853, and died May 2, 1950. Their children are as follows:

Gertrude Kirby	born January 21, 1876, died October 28, 1881
Grace Kirby	born April 7, 1877, died April 28, 1952
Mabel Kirby	born February 14, 1880, died October 22, 1948
David Warren Kirby	born December 10, 1882, died August 19, 1883
Lenore Kirby	born December 1, 1884
James Robert Kirby, Jr.	born August 7, 1888, died December 26, 1929
Jesse Jacob Kirby	born June 1, 1891, died February 15, 1951
Lucile Bradburn Kirby	born June 2, 1894
Maurice Helm Kirby, Sr.	born October 16, 1897



# **JAMES ROBERT KIRBY, SR.**

**Smiths Grove, Kentucky**



IN HIS EARLY years, he was more sensitive and responsive to his environment, and to every contact in that environment, than most. Each and every impression made upon his early life became a memory so indelibly lodged among the roots of his personality that he grew into manhood with a keen, mental awareness of people and things, their deepest meanings. He acquired a perception singularly accurate and penetrating, which did much to shape the routine of his life, the quality of his character.

His was never a fumbling or a wavering mind. Experience implanted in him a vastly sympathetic understanding, a consideration of those who came across his path; yet he was not vacillating in his decisions. In the storms of life, he stood as firmly as the oak or rock; in the sunshine, he was as tender as the vine and flower. He had respect for all just authority; he admired the strength of personal discipline. Against the alternating vicissitudes of fortune, he was first to recognize and condemn his own faults, slow to magnify his virtues, quick to apply whatever experience to his store of knowledge, his pursuit of truth, his ever expanding breadth of vision. Until the last, he continued to seek education.

He had a way of recognizing things above him. He had regard for all things greater than himself, particularly things of a spiritual value, and he

bore this knowledge continuously within himself, as he labored consistently to attain the levels set by divine might and wisdom. Not content to give to his church, to support the schools of his community, to provide for his family, help his friends and neighbors, with substance limited to barely enough, he emblazoned the glory of each with a generosity, a liberalness of praise and hospitality, a helpfulness, that made the tangible expression of his message become a powerful influence in their lives and practical operation. He inspired not only his contemporaries, but the generations that were to follow after him.

He was a gentleman always well dressed, yet immune to modes. He had a distinctive appearance, a mark of sincerity and seriousness of purpose, yet always without gloss. Although he did not waste his own time, or that of others, itemizing his defeats or his victories, or in idle conversation, he had a sense of amusement which, if the occasion warranted, enabled him to toss an enlivening bit of humor with such spontaneous effect, with a laugh so heart-warming, as to loose the bands or bind the temperaments of his listeners. A stranger once said that he felt he had come to know him well and pleasantly, just in the length of time it took to shake his hand and look into his eyes. He shared his success in life and in business, with all. His was a spirit akin to greatness.



**Letter from**

**JAMES R. KIRBY, SENIOR**

**to**

**his youngest daughter**

**MRS. WILLIAM JAMES CROSLAND**  
***(formerly Lucile Bradburn Kirby)***



# FARMERS BANK



Smiths Grove, Ky.

March 20 / 1916

Mrs. W. J. Garland.

Bennettsville S. C.

My Dear Lucille -

Yours to hand with enclosures. I am glad to receive all. Wish I could tell you much of our ancestry and its history. I know this that on a visit to my Uncle Harve Taylor my fathers half Bro living then in Texas I chanced upon an old, old volume in my room and on opening the old volume to my utter surprise it read of the "Revolutionary War" and specially of my Great Grand Fathers "Dew" and "Kirby" Both were "Revolutionary Soldiers" that both stood close by at the surrender - "Cornwallis" the British Commander surrendering.

General Washington was not present and I forget the name then and there Commanding. However Cornwallis

# FARMERS BANK



Smiths Grove, Ky. -191-  
 handed over his sword to the American  
 in command the American acting in  
 Genl Washington. Stead to the sword, with  
 one hand twined the sword thru (3) Con-  
 secution times above his head and  
 formally uttered a victors speech crying  
 thus "General Cornwallack I hand you  
 back your sword".

These great-great-Grand Fathers  
 to you are sleeping where all  
 soldiers take their rest. And yonder on  
 the Hills of Drakes Creek Warren Co. Ky  
 let them sleep on and on.

Could with more time add perhaps  
 a few details.

Your Great Great Grand  
 Father fought at New Orleans against  
 Pakenham - was victor - started home  
 took Black measles twelve (12) miles  
 west from N. O. - died - was buried  
 on the banks of the "Father of Waters" the  
 Mississippi. v-c, v-c, &c. You talk about your

# FARMERS BANK



Stock! <sup>Smiths Grove, Ky.</sup> <sup>191</sup>  
 In or out of Modern Organizations,  
 This one thing steadfastly do maintain  
 your standing and the records of your  
 ancestry - throw fear to the winds  
 and wherever the "Stars and Stripes" do  
 float in the name of your fathers  
 exult in their glory for surely your  
 fathers helped to give the flag its  
 glory -

Excuse haste. I am so  
 hurried this a.m.

Love to every one

No news -

Affectionately

J. R. Kirby

Can't re-read.

Excuse Omissions and Commas!  
 (Enclosures)



Grace Kirby, the daughter of James R. Kirby, Sr., granddaughter of David Kirby, Jr., great-granddaughter of David Kirby, Sr., great-great-granddaughter of Jesse Kirby, and great-great-great-granddaughter of Henry Kirby, was born April 7, 1877, died April 28, 1952. She married W. A. Wiley on October 18, 1898, who was born July 1, 1875, died August 14, 1954. Their children are as follows:

David Warren Wiley      born May 8, 1900

James Kirby Wiley      born November 18, 1903

David Warren Wiley married Mrs. Katherine Davis Lellyett on July 27, 1929. Their children are as follows:

David Warren Wiley, Jr., born September 3, 1930

One stepdaughter, Catherine, born June 23, 1923, married Sam Cook, Jr.

David Warren Wiley, Jr., married Ann Boone Hendricks September 23, 1954.

James Kirby Wiley married Mrs. Clarice Buford Houston, who was born September 8, 1908. Their children are as follows:

James Kirby Wiley, Jr., born May 31, 1934

William B. Wiley, born August 28, 1945

One stepdaughter, Margaret Houston, born November 8, 1929.

Mabel Kirby, the daughter of James R. Kirby, Sr., granddaughter of David Kirby, Jr., great-granddaughter of David Kirby, Sr., great-great-granddaughter of Jesse Kirby, and great-great-great-granddaughter of Henry Kirby, was born February 14, 1880, died October 22, 1948. She married Richard E. Beard December 10, 1906, who was born July 21, 1875. Their children are as follows:

William T. Beard                      born January 12, 1908

Lenore Kirby, the daughter of James R. Kirby, Sr., granddaughter of David Kirby, Jr., great-granddaughter of David Kirby, Sr., great-great-granddaughter of Jesse Kirby, and great-great-great-granddaughter of Henry Kirby, was born December 4, 1884. She married Alfred L. Hamer December 21, 1909, who was born February 4, 1884. Their children are as follows:

Myriam Elmina Hamer              born March 16, 1913

Lenore Hamer, II                      born September 21, 1918

Myriam Elmina Hamer, married Orville Lane Rogers, who was born August 10, 1914. Divorced 1948. Their children are as follows:

Paulo Jan Rogers                      born October 4, 1943

Myriam Elmina Hamer later married Robert Nelson Buvinger.

Lenore Hamer, II, married Robert Eugene Oliver August 30, 1940, who was born August 3, 1920. Their children are as follows:

Robert Eugene Oliver, III              born November 18, 1942

Alfred Hamer Oliver                      born May 13, 1946



James Robert Kirby, Jr., the son of James R. Kirby, Sr., grandson of David Kirby, Jr., great-grandson of David Kirby, Sr., great-great-grandson of Jesse Kirby, and great-great-great-grandson of Henry Kirby, was born August 7, 1888, died December 26, 1929. He married Adelaide Amos December 8, 1914, who was born January 9, 1893. Their children are as follows:

James Robert Kirby, III	born July 20, 1919
Frank Marquis Kirby	born October 21, 1927, died December 23, 1940

James Robert Kirby, III, married Carol Faulkner Close July 22, 1942 who was born September 26, 1922 or 1923. Their children are as follows:

Lee Faulkner Kirby	born June 11, 1943
James Robert Kirby, IV	born October 17, 1945
George Close Kirby	born August 20, 1951

Jesse Jacob Kirby, the son of James R. Kirby, Sr., grandson of David Kirby, Jr., great-grandson of David Kirby, Sr., great-great-grandson of Jesse Kirby, and great-great-great-grandson of Henry Kirby, was born June 1, 1891, died February 15, 1951. He married Margaret Jones November 15, 1915, who was born April 4, 1896. Their children are as follows:

Richard Beard Kirby	
born April 11, 1925	married Wanda Vincent on_____

Lucile Bradburn Kirby, the daughter of James R. Kirby, Sr., granddaughter of David Kirby, Jr., great-granddaughter of David Kirby, Sr., great-great-granddaughter of Jesse Kirby, and great-great-great-granddaughter of Henry Kirby, was born June 2, 1894. She married first Dr. William James Crosland on July 1, 1914, who was born February 19, 1873, and died September 25, 1921. Their children are as follows:

Lucile Kirby Crosland, II      born May 23, 1917

Lucile Kirby Crosland II married Claude Ashby Bibb April 17, 1937, who was born May 21, 1917. Their children are as follows:

June Kirby Bibb                      born March 4, 1938

Claudia Crosland Bibb              born December 27, 1941

Travis Ashby Bibb                    born August 24, 1952

Lucile Bradburn Kirby married second Donald Jefferson Boyden on December 25, 1926. Their children are as follows:

Alice Margaret Boyden              born January 30, 1928

Alice Margaret Boyden married first Robert Prentiss Beaman on November 27, 1945, and was divorced. She married second Drew William Colvard on October 4, 1952.

Maurice Helm Kirby, Sr., the son of James R. Kirby, Sr., grandson of David Kirby, Jr., great-grandson of David Kirby, Sr., great-great-grandson of Jesse Kirby, and great-great-great-grandson of Henry Kirby, was born October 16, 1897. He married on May 15, 1923, Martha Louise Richardson, who was born June 6, 1904. Their children are as follows:

Maurice Helm Kirby, Jr.      born October 20, 1926

Maurice Helm Kirby, Jr., married June 25, 1949, Janice Leona Champion Zimmerman, who was born July 11, 1925. Their children are as follows:

Karen Kathleen Kirby      born April 7, 1950

Maurice Helm Kirby, III      born October 22, 1951

William Mansfield Kirby, the son of David Kirby, Jr., grandson of David Kirby, Sr., great-grandson of Jesse Kirby, great-great-grandson of Henry Kirby, was born May 16, 1852, died June 3, 1923. He married Mary Hall December 23, 1880, who was born February 10, 1861, died January 22, 1930. Their children are as follows:

Hugh Kirby	born June 25, 1882
Clara Hines Kirby	born July 9, 1886, died December 3, 1950

Clara Hines Kirby, the daughter of William Mansfield Kirby, granddaughter of David Kirby, Jr., great-granddaughter of David Kirby, Sr., great-great-granddaughter of Jesse Kirby and great-great-great-granddaughter of Henry Kirby, married Thomas Russell Chescheir, October 16, 1909, who was born January 12, 1885. Their children are as follows:

Alice Beverly Chescheir	born March 5, 1917
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Alice Beverly Chescheir married Humphrey Marshall, Jr., April 24, 1945, who was born November 9, 1916. Their children are as follows:

Beverly Ann Marshall	born May 9, 1946
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Hugh Kirby, the son of William Mansfield Kirby, grandson of David Kirby, Jr., great-grandson of David Kirby, Sr., great-great-grandson of Jesse Kirby, great-great-great-grandson of Henry Kirby married Jane Laura Lutz 1st on February 1, 1914, 2nd on . No children.

Joan Kirby, the daughter of David Kirby, Jr., granddaughter of David Kirby, Sr., great-granddaughter of Jesse Kirby, great-great-granddaughter of Henry Kirby, was born June 23, 1854, and died February 22, 1921. She married John J. Mackay on December 12, 1875, who was born November 11, 1851, and died January 12, 1894. They had no children. She married second L. N. Skiles. They had no children.

Milton Bell Kirby, the son of David Kirby, Jr., grandson of David Kirby, Sr., great-grandson of Jesse Kirby, great-great-grandson of Henry Kirby, was born March 1, 1859, and died December 7, 1937. He married Lizzie Holman on December 20, 1887, who was born August 28, 1865, and died November 21, 1930. Their children are as follows:

Thurman Kirby	born September 24, 1888, died June 24, 1889
David Edwin Kirby	born August 29, 1889
Joe Mackey Kirby	born June 24, 1892
Arch Howard Kirby	born May 29, 1897
Milton Mansfield Kirby	born June 12, 1905, died June 11, 1953

David Edwin Kirby, the son of Milton Bell Kirby, grandson of David Kirby, Jr., great-grandson of David Kirby, Sr., great-great-grandson of Jesse Kirby and great-great-great-grandson of Henry Kirby married first Loraine Shipp and divorced. They had no children. Married second Louise Helm on . They had no children.

Joe Mackey Kirby, the son of Milton Bell Kirby, grandson of David Kirby, Jr., great-grandson of David Kirby, Sr., great-great-grandson of Jesse Kirby and great-great-great-grandson of Henry Kirby, married Annette Wright. Their children are as follows:

Elizabeth Ann Kirby	born October 14, 1918
George Wright Kirby	born March 28, 1921, died June 20, 1921

Elizabeth Ann Kirby married Buddy Lucas . Their children are as follows:

Ann Kirby Lucas	born January 7, 1947
Elizabeth Irwin Lucas	born August 11, 1949

Arch Howard Kirby, the son of Milton Bell Kirby, grandson of David Kirby, Jr., great-grandson of David Kirby, Sr., great-great-grandson of Jesse Kirby and great-great-great-grandson of Henry Kirby, married Rube Elizabeth Ewing . Their children are as follows:

Arch Howard Kirby, Jr.      born September 8, 1923

Sarah Aileen Kirby      born May 17, 1926

Arch Howard Kirby, Jr., married Ruth Louisa Gudme October 23, 1948.  
Their children are as follows:

Arch Kerry Kirby      born January 11, 1950

Kevin Andrew Kirby      born September 27, 1952

Sarah Aileen Kirby married Harry Frederick Griffith April 29, 1950.

Elizabeth Kirby, the daughter of David Kirby, Jr., granddaughter of David Kirby, Sr., great-granddaughter of Jesse Kirby and great-great-granddaughter of Henry Kirby, was born June 24, 1861, and died May 23, 1945. She married John Otis Beck on September 9, 1891, who was born November 1, 1854, and died September 5, 1952. Their children are as follows:

Lydia Bohanon Beck	born June 4, 1893
John Erskine Beck	born September 13, 1895
Anna Downer Beck	born February 20, 1898
Virginia Stockton Beck	born March 13, 1900
David Kirby Beck	born February 16, 1903

John Otis Beck's first marriage was to Mary Esther Kirtley, born August 3, 1863, died April 29, 1889. Their children were as follows:

Dr. Charles K. Beck	born February 24, 1884
Sara Esther Beck	born April 5, 1886
Mary Jane Beck	born April 22, 1889

Lydia Bohanon Beck, the daughter of Elizabeth Kirby Beck, granddaughter of David Kirby, Jr., great-granddaughter of David Kirby, Sr., great-great-granddaughter of Jesse Kirby and great-great-great-granddaughter of Henry Kirby, married Tom Joe Smith on September 13, 1917, who died September 29, 1951. Their children are as follows:

Joanna Smith	born March 29, 1920
Barbara Smith	born July 14, 1922
James Thomas Smith	born July 12, 1925
Virginia Beck Smith	born May 2, 1929

Joanna Smith married Joseph David Gili on September 22, 1937. Their children are as follows:

Joseph Anton Gili	born May 7, 1942
Victoria Potter Gili	born December 21, 1944
James Bradford Gili	born August 6, 1948
Susanna Kirby Gili	born January 13, 1954

James Thomas Smith married Helen Beckner December 23, 1952. Their children are as follows:

Thomas Joseph Smith	born October 17, 1953
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Virginia Beck Smith married William Samuel Stephens September 4, 1948. Their children are as follows:

Lydia Beck Stephens	born April 26, 1949
Susan Katherine Stephens	born May 25, 1950
Juliet Diane Stephens	born December 31, 1952



John Erskine Beck, the son of Elizabeth Kirby Beck, grandson of David Kirby, Jr., great-grandson of David Kirby, Sr., great-great-grandson of Jesse Kirby and great-great-great-grandson of Henry Kirby, married first Thelma Yent June 2, 1921. Their children are as follows:

Thelma Yent Beck	born November 18, 1922
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Thelma Yent Beck married Edwin F. Karges, Jr., on Their  
children are as follows:

Elizabeth Beck Karges	born September 24, 1942
Edwin F. Karges, III	born June 15, 1948
Joan Evelyn Karges	born September 26, 1950
Jeffrey Elles Karges	born August 4, 1953

John Erskine Beck married second on June 30, 1947, Almeda Cade, born December 20, 1909. There were no children.

Anna Downer Beck, the daughter of Elizabeth Kirby Beck, granddaughter of David Kirby, Jr., great-granddaughter of David Kirby, Sr., great-great-granddaughter of Jesse Kirby and great-great-great-granddaughter of Henry Kirby, married Charles Edward Hobart Druitt on June 8, 1926. Their children are as follows:

Charles Edward Druitt	born March 28, 1929
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Charles Edward Druitt married Catherine Mercer Fitch May 19, 1954.

Virginia Stockton Beck, the daughter of Elizabeth Kirby Beck, granddaughter of David Kirby, Jr., great-granddaughter of David Kirby, Sr., great-great-granddaughter of Jesse Kirby and great-great-great-granddaughter of Henry Kirby, married Dr. Joe Bryant Helm on October 7, 1922. Their children are as follows.

Joe Bryant Helm, Jr.	born September 26, 1925, died December 24, 1925
David Maury Helm	born October 30, 1927

David Kirby Beck, the son of Elizabeth Kirby Beck, grandson of David Kirby, Jr., great-grandson of David Kirby, Sr., great-great-grandson of Jesse Kirby and great-great-great-grandson of Henry Kirby, married Helen Wilkins on October 9, 1938. No children.

Jennie Kirby, the daughter of David Kirby, Jr., granddaughter of David Kirby, Sr., great-granddaughter of Jesse Kirby and great-great-granddaughter of Henry Kirby, was born April 18, 1864, and died April 18, 1886. She married J. P. Downer on December 23, 1884. Their children are as follows:

Jennie Kirby Downer	born April 8, 1886, and died June 3, 1906
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David (Dick) Kirby, III, the son of David Kirby, Jr., grandson of David Kirby, Sr., great-grandson of Jesse Kirby and great-great-grandson of Henry Kirby, was born July 29, 1867, and died June 2, 1901. He married Fannie Simmons on March 5, 1897, who was born August 1, 1872, and died May 26, 1951. Their children are as follows:

Jennie Lydia Kirby                      born December 30, 1898

Jennie Lydia Kirby, the daughter of David (Dick) Kirby, III, granddaughter of David Kirby, Jr., great-granddaughter of David Kirby, Sr., great-great-granddaughter of Jesse Kirby and great-great-great-granddaughter of Henry Kirby, married John Boyd Fiser on November 11, 1921, who was born April 24, 1898. Their children are as follows:

John Richard Fiser                      born August 17, 1925

Frances Gayle Fiser                      born April 18, 1929

John Richard Fiser married Winifred Kirkland August 31, 1944, divorced, one son, John Fiser, Jr.

Frances Gayle Fiser married Wesley Cole Dorothy February 13, 1954.

Fannie Simmons Kirby married second E. M. Frazier on July 25, 1905, who was born December 1868, died September 20, 1944. They had no children.

Mary Martha (Mattie) Kirby, the daughter of David Kirby, Jr., granddaughter of David Kirby, Sr., great-granddaughter of Jesse Kirby, great-great-granddaughter of Henry Kirby, was born April 29, 1870. She married James C. Witherspoon on November 17, 1898, who was born December 7, 1868, and died July 7, 1953. Their children are as follows:

Margaret Witherspoon	born October 4, 1900 (not married)
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Mabel Witherspoon	born February 9, 1903
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Mabel Witherspoon, the daughter of Mary Martha (Mattie) Kirby Witherspoon, granddaughter of David Kirby, Jr., great-granddaughter of David Kirby, Sr., great-great-granddaughter of Jesse Kirby and great-great-great-granddaughter of Henry Kirby, married Dr. Thomas Overton Meredith on September 9, 1933, who was born June 3, 1901. Their children are as follows:

Margaret M. Meredith	born April 17, 1937
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Winnie Davis Kirby, the daughter of David Kirby, Jr., granddaughter of David Kirby, Sr., great-granddaughter of Jesse Kirby, great-great-granddaughter of Henry Kirby, was born September 9, 1898. She married J. J. Duffy on September 9, 1921, who was born November 29, 1890. Their children are as follows:

Jack Duffy

born June 23, 1922

Jack Duffy married on July 8, 1950, Elizabeth Ann Hiltz, who was born May 17, 1927.

Cyrus Kirby, son of Jesse Kirby, grandson of Henry Kirby, was born December 25, 1787. The children of Cyrus and Keziah (Green) Kirby are as follows:

Lucinda Kirby	
born April 7, 1809	married Lewis Watkins, died about 1907
Elizabeth Kirby	
born December 20, 1812	married Dorcas Atterberry, died about 1904
Sophia Kirby	married Samuel Watkins
Mary (Polly)	married John Close
Nancy Kirby	married Christopher Atterberry
Rhoda Kirby	married John Brown
Jesse Kirby	never married, died at the age of 36 years
Matilda Kirby	married Samuel Watkins who had married her older sister Sophia

Elizabeth Kirby, the daughter of Jesse Kirby and granddaughter of Henry Kirby, was born January 27, 1790, and died January 16, 1867. She married Frederick Potter April 29, 1807, who was born August 12, 1785, and died November 8, 1868. Their children are as follows:

Moses Potter	born February 27, 1808. Died September 4, 1902. Married February, 1828, Elenor Eliza Butt, born February 18, 1811, died May 10, 1879.
Lewis Potter	born January 23, 1810. Died July 7, 1895. Married February 10, 1831, Elizabeth Hagerman, born March 21, 1816. Died June 21, 1893.
David Potter	born December 9, 1811. Died April 27, 1906. Married January 15, 1835, Deborah Hagerman, born February 29, 1816. Died September 5, 1873.
Aaron Potter	born March 8, 1814. Died July 20, 1821.
Sophia Potter	born October 13, 1816. Died June 17, 1897. Married October 23, 1834, Urias H. Owings, born December 13, 1813. Died October 10, 1886.
Henry Potter	born May 18, 1818. Died December 10, 1903. Married January 23, 1840, May Ann Hagerman, born July 8, 1818. Died May 13, 1857.
Pleasant J. Potter	born March 29, 1820. Married January 25, 1844, Julia Frances Hill, born March 30, 1820. Died February 16, 1906.
Preston Potter	born January 8, 1822. Died August 3, 1908. Married March 6, 1860, Fannie F. Wakefield, born July 19, 1840. Died February 11, 1907.
Mahala Potter	born 1824.
Julia Potter	born January 9, 1826. Died November 24, 1902. Married March 6, 1845, Alfred Simmons, born July 10, 1820. Died September 8, 1892.
Myra Potter	born April 12, 1828. Died August 30, 1904. Married December 2, 1847, Cyrus Simmons, born April 5, 1822. Died March 19, 1876.

Susan Potter	born August 13, 1831. Died March 21, 1892. Married September 6, 1849, Elijah W. Hill, born July 26, 1827. Died March 29, 1891.
Stephen S. Potter	born May 11, 1834. Died August 6, 1900. Married February 22, 1859, Georgia A. Skiles, born March 6, 1839.



Jesse R. Kirby, the son of Jesse Kirby, grandson of Henry Kirby, was born March 6, 1792, and died November 20, 1860. He married Prudence Dishman November 25, 1818, who was born December 16, 1801, and died January 9, 1889. Their children are as follows:

Harriet Kirby	born February 7, 1820
An infant	born May 12, 1821, died in infancy
Tuly Kirby	born October 22, 1822
Felliciana Kirby	born July 20, 1824
Emily Prudence Kirby	born April 10, 1826
Elizabeth Kirby	born March 5, 1828
Beverly C. Kirby	born March 19, 1830
Gallatin A. Kirby	born January 22, 1832
Solomon Kirby	born November 13, 1833
Serepla Nancy Kirby	born September 12, 1835
Joseph D. Marquis Kirby	born September 22, 1838
Hattie Jane Kirby	born January 11, 1840
Jesse Harrison Kirby	born January 5, 1842
Milburn H. Kirby	born November 27, 1844
Mary Jane Ewing Kirby	born March 3, 1848



# Kirby

## Family Lineage

Henry Kirby  
and wife  
Suzanna

Edmund  
Samuel  
JESSE Born  
Oct 23  
1757

Pleasant  
Sarah  
Lella  
Dosea

Jesse Kirby  
married Mar 18, 1778  
Sophia Choice  
Born  
Sept 23, 1760

Born  
David Jan 27, 1770  
Nancy Oct 23, 1781  
Lucy Nov 27, 1783  
William Feb 15, 1786  
Cyrus Dec 25, 1787  
Elizabeth Jan 27, 1790  
Jesse R. Mar 6, 1792  
Isiah Aug 5, 1794  
John C. Feb 27, 1797  
Polly Feb 26, 1799  
Cully C. Nov 11, 1802

1<sup>st</sup> Wife  
Miss Anderson

David Kirby Sr  
married June 13  
1825

2<sup>nd</sup> Wife  
Mary Dues Taylor

William Sept 20, 1804  
Absolum Aug 24, 1806  
Bailey Nov 11, 1808  
\*Unmarried Dec 26, 1810  
Pleasant May 8, 1812  
Sophia Nov 30, 1814  
Avarella May 25, 1817  
Stephen Nov 26, 1819  
Jennie Feb 13, 1822  
Mary Nov 12, 1824  
Frances June 6, 1826  
Nancy Oct 31, 1827  
David May 31, 1829  
Elizabeth Jan 23, 1831

married Dec 20, 1849  
1<sup>st</sup> Wife  
Lydia Bohannon

David Kirby Jr.  
Born May 31, 1829

married June 6, 1892  
2<sup>nd</sup> Wife  
Zilla Ross

James R. Sept 3, 1850  
William M. May 16, 1852  
Joan June 22, 1854  
Presley E. Dec 17, 1856  
Milton B. Mar 1, 1859  
Elizabeth June 24, 1861  
Jennie Apr 18, 1864  
David (Dix) July 29, 1867  
Mary M. Apr 29, 1870  
(Mattie)

Horace Mar 28, 1893  
Winnie Sept 9, 1898

James Robert Kirby Sr.  
Born Sept 3, 1850  
married Feb 14, 1875

Myriam Elmina Royalty  
Born Jan. 19, 1853

Gertrude Jan 21, 1876  
Grace Apr 7, 1877  
Mabel Feb 14, 1880  
David Warren Dec 10, 1882  
Lenore Dec 1, 1884  
James Robert Jr. Aug 7, 1888  
Jesse Jacob June 1, 1891  
Lucille Bradburn June 2, 1894  
Maurice H. Oct 16, 1897



**KIRBY FAMILY TREE**

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**KIRBY FAMILY TREE**



**KIRBY FAMILY TREE**

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**KIRBY FAMILY TREE**

**KIRBY FAMILY TREE**

**KIRBY FAMILY TREE**

THE FOLLOWING SECTION OF THIS BOOK ON  
KIRBY GENEALOGY IS DEVOTED TO MY MOTHER

**MIRIAM ELMINA ROYALTY KIRBY**

**1853-1950**







It is by no means essential that reference be made to my mother in this record, except as being the wife of James Robert Kirby, Sr., and the mother of the nine children born to them. But if the reader will bear with me, I should like to include a little more than that, in memory of the one who was dearest in all the world to me.

If my mother had a hobby of any kind, it was writing. There are many pages left to posterity, stories, orations, and poems, in her clear, flowing penmanship, a number of which have been published. I feel that the one or two included here as copy of the originals, lend considerably to this history, not only as evidence of the thought conditions of her day, but of circumstances and influences that contributed to produce a result. Some of these writings call attention to historical landmarks, as the one reproduced here tells of the old burying ground on the "Crump Place" near Smith's Grove, Kentucky.

In the following copy, the reader will observe that she speaks of her father's owning the hotel at Glasgow, during the War Between the States. In connection with this, I should like to interject a personal reference. An inheritance from my mother which I treasure is a large, square, marble-topped table that sat in the lobby of this hotel during the Civil War, and then graced her living room at Smith's Grove throughout the seventy-five years of her married life. She told me that Henry Clay sat at this table to play cards on his visits to the hotel, a fact which has enhanced its value to me.

It is hoped that this beautifully designed, mahogany piece will be preserved by future generations as a treasured possession, and that it will remain a cherished symbol of historical lore, connected with the life of Miriam Elmina Royalty (Mrs. James Robert Kirby, Sr.).

Signed:

Mamie W. Kirby





**MRS. JAMES ROBERT KIRBY, SENIOR**



## AMONG THE WRITINGS OF MRS. JAMES ROBERT KIRBY, SR.



was born at sunrise on the 19th day of January, 1853. My mother's mother was present. She said: "Elmina, I want this child to have your name and mine, — Miriam Elmina." And so, I bear the names of two splendid women.

Grandmother was the wife of Jacob Wright, who was born in Charlottesville, North Carolina, December 14, 1777. His grandfather came to America from England. His father, who was also born in Charlottesville, and died there, left a wife and five sons, eldest of whom was Jacob, my grandfather. This family later moved to Barren County, Kentucky, but before they left North Carolina, Jacob, at the age of twenty, married Miss Miriam Helm of Virginia, February 9, 1797. His bride was also twenty years of age.

I don't know how they met, only that they were married in Virginia, and shortly thereafter came to Kentucky to live. At that time, there was much talk about the new lands opening to the west, great excitement that Kentucky, "dark and bloody ground," was being made into a state.

I have heard my grandmother tell many stories of their early life, how their young hearts and minds fairly overflowed with enthusiasm; how they finally decided to set out for the new country in a covered wagon, to settle and make their future home in the State of Kentucky. It was not easy to make their way through a wilderness, over high mountains and across deep valleys,

with not even a road, only pathways made by buffalo herds, and by Indians before they were driven out. Sometimes they lost their direction; sometimes they were forced to retrace their steps many, many long, hard miles. But what did their happy, hopeful hearts care for that!

Although they stopped at numerous places along the way, grandmother told me that they spent several days at Cumberland Gap, on the Kentucky-Tennessee line. She said the scenery there was so magnificent, so wonderful to see, they decided to tarry long enough to rest and enjoy the beauty of the country. When they found a little "wild wood" spring, they stopped and camped beside it. She said that she would always remember the beautiful birds that sang in those woods and delighted them, and that wild game was so plentiful all around them, grandfather had no trouble providing them with delicious, wild meat. But the forest was too rough there in those days to appeal to young pioneer settlers, so they traveled on, watching as they went for good, fertile land, for the spot where they would like most to live.

Eventually, they came to a clear, winding creek (later known as South Fork, only a mile or two from the place where Glasgow, Kentucky, now stands), and across it, a short distance away, they saw a small log house standing, old and deserted. They paused to examine it, to consult and plan. Here at hand was a log room which could be easily restored to suit their needs. Grandfather had brought plenty of tools along. Here was a spot where they could plant a garden, grain, vegetables, and flowers. Grandmother had guarded those precious packages of seeds every step of the way. Here was the clear, flowing water beside the door. Here was Kentucky, a good land and a promising one. And here they would settle.

Although they had been assured that there were no Indians around, yet grandmother was never willing for her husband to go very far away from her.

If he ventured out of sight, she followed him. But after several months, when they had heard of a small mill somewhere up the creek, grandfather said to her one day: "I think I will go to that mill, and get some nice, fine

meal for us. I will have to find my way, of course, but I'm sure I will not be gone very long. You stay inside the house, close the door and bar it, until I get back. There is no danger, but that is what I want you to do."

At first, grandmother protested, saying that an Indian might come while he was away. But grandfather told her she would be safe inside, and that she had a gun at hand, if she should have need of it. He said he had always heard that if an Indian came, and you gave him food, he would take it and leave without harming you. So, he started out to find the mill. She closed the door and barred it carefully, and set about to occupy herself with her various duties inside the house. She prepared their dinner and supper, and made, among other things, a lot of ginger cakes which grandfather liked very much. She cooked, and then she knitted, and every now and then she paused to listen for his footsteps. The day seemed very slow in passing and at length she began to feel weary with waiting for her husband to return. As the afternoon wore on, she began to feel uneasy. Could he have been detained so long at the mill? Could he have lost his way, coming home? Could some terrible misfortune have befallen him? Her mind envisioned many things. She began to think of what she should do if she were left alone in that cabin. To be sure the gun was there, and she was not afraid to use it. She could protect herself. Why should she lock herself behind barred doors now? As her courage mounted, she went to the door, hesitated a moment, and then lifted the latch. Outside, the sun was shining warm and beautiful, the air was clean and sweet. She stood a moment, looking and listening for her husband's footsteps sounding along the creek-bed.

Instead, she heard a sudden, strange noise in the edge of the woods. Instantly, as she looked, an Indian came leaping out of the forest. Before she could draw back and shut the door, he was standing there in front of her, a tommyhawk and knife in his belt, feathers on his head, his hands waving and pointing as he jabbered in a language she could in no wise understand.

When grandmother related this story to me, she said that she was so frightened, so completely paralyzed with fear, that she forgot all about the

gun. If she had thought of it, she couldn't have moved one foot in front of the other. She couldn't even cry for help. She stood there, holding to the door, staring at the Indian, sure that he had come to murder her, sure that he had already murdered her husband in the wilderness. She said she remembered vaguely of trying to point a hand in the direction of the cupboard, toward the table where the big plate of ginger cakes sat. The Indian caught sight of the food. He sprang past her into the room, and started grabbing up everything as fast as he could, pointing to his mouth and mumbling with delight as he emptied all of it into a large sack hanging at his side.

As he took the last one of the ginger cakes, he leaped out of the door again and went running into the woods, yelling as he disappeared into the dark forest. Grandmother said she didn't remember ever closing the door behind him, or that she fell across the bed and lay there. But when grandfather returned, he found everything closed tight, no sign of life anywhere, and no matter how hard he knocked or how loudly he called, he could get no response from the inside. When he finally roused his wife, she was reluctant to open the door for him. When at last he stood on the threshold, she fell on his shoulder, shaking and crying hysterically, so that she couldn't tell or explain to him what had happened. Grandfather set about to quiet and console her, to calm her fears, but he never went away and left her alone again.

As the weeks went by, other settlers came into the new country, and soon the town of Glasgow was started. Grandfather helped to build the first log house ever constructed there. As I recall, grandmother said they lived in the little log house by the creek for two years, and their first child was born there. Soon they decided that the land farther south offered a more productive soil, and they moved down to B. Creek, again near a big spring. After that, they moved to the place now known as the "Crump Place," near Smith's Grove, where he took up three hundred acres of government land. Others came from North Carolina and Virginia and brought with them several negroes, men and women, to help cultivate the farm. Grandfather then built a brick house, near a cave where there was plenty of water. There were many



evidences that Indians had occupied the cave before the white men came to this country.

Grandfather's negroes loved him. The younger ones came to his house every night for prayers, while the older ones went to "Uncle Baylor's" cabin. Every night they sang the same song, "The Day Is Past and Gone."

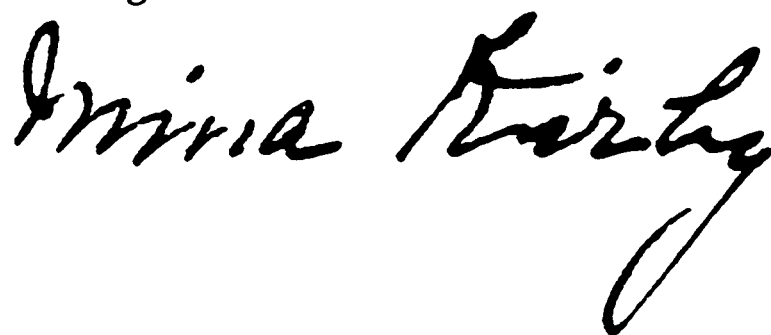
Grandfather and grandmother reared a family of thirteen children, all of whom lived to be grown and married, except one, Aunt Louisa.

At that time, there were no public cemeteries where they lived, none nearer than the town of Bowling Green. As soon as grandfather moved to this farm near where Smith's Grove now stands, he planted a large orchard. Upon the occasion of Aunt Louisa's death, a spot in this orchard was set aside for her burial place. It became the family graveyard. When grandfather died at the age of eighty, he was buried there. Although grandmother later sold the land, she reserved the graveyard. When she died, at the age of ninety-two, she was buried beside her husband.

In this plot, next to grandmother's grave, is that of Aunt Polly, the oldest girl. Then, my mother's little boy, Charles Chesterfield. Next is Elmina Royalty, my mother; Henry W. Royalty, my father; and his only sister, Aunt Betsy Simpson. Cousin Martha Wolfe's husband and child are buried a short distance from the head of mother's grave, and close by is the grave of Aunt Sophie Walton's daughter, Lizzie. In the corner, at the foot of our graves, are the graves of Jeff Wade's mother and father.

After grandmother's death, cousin Martha kept the graveyard fenced, and after her death, I took care of it. I hope that some of my grandchildren will build a substantial rock wall around it. In it rests their great grandmother and great grandfather, their great-great grandmother and great-great grandfather. I hope they will preserve this burial spot for my sake.

*Signed:*

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Miria Kirby". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the "Signed:" text.





**MIRIAM ELMINA ROYALTY**  
**(Mrs. James Robert Kirby, Senior)**

This picture was taken of her at about twelve years of age which was around the close of the Civil War and shortly before her mother's death in 1866.



## ANOTHER OF HER WRITINGS



I HAVE very sweet memories of my childhood days on the farm near Glasgow. I enjoyed and loved everything, the little colts that scampered about, the cows and calves, chickens and turkeys, all had a great charm for me. But above all, I loved my mother's flower garden.

Mother never seemed to tire of working among her flowers, and in the Springtime, her garden was a bower of beauty. I have wondered many times since, where she got all the seeds and plants. There were no catalogues in those days. But I remember that father used to bring things home to her from his trips, rose slips and other plants, and sometimes as few as a half-dozen tiny seeds which someone had given him for her. All of it seemed to grow and flourish under her hand.

In grandfather Jacob Wright's family there were thirteen children, four sons and nine daughters. My mother, Elmina, was the eighth child. Grandmother took great pains to teach her girls the art of spinning, weaving, and knitting. She did beautiful work herself. I have a counterpane for which she spun the thread, wove the cloth, and then embroidered, when a young lady. I still have part of a woolen counterpane that she wove. In those days, they colored their own yarns with dyes which they made themselves from various types of bark, and indigo. Grandmother wanted each of her girls to be a fine hand with a needle, so she taught them carefully. My mother became adept at all these things, and did so much to beautify our home and make it comfortable.

There were seven children in our immediate family. I was the youngest, and as the older ones married and moved away, I was more and more mother's constant companion. My oldest sister Adeline ("Addie") married Mr. Frank Wright; Sophia (called "Sophie") married John Walton; John Warren married Lucy Allen (no children, one adopted son, Bennie, who died when a young man); Charles Chesterfield (who died when quite young); and Sara Belle, who married Mr. Tubal McDaniel. It was the custom in those days for the younger girls in the family to call each of the older ones "sister," and so, I always addressed and spoke of my sisters this way. Even after we became old women together, I said "Sister Belle," and she in turn called me "Mina." So with each of them, I always said "Brother John."

But our family embraced a much wider circle than this. In those days big families were not unusual at all, usually the case. No matter how large the family, homes were shared with other people, some of whom came and stayed long periods of time. I have known children born into these homes who grew up scarcely knowing the difference between the adopted visitor and the family. These were not isolated instances, but a general custom, at least in the South, the passage of which is greatly to be deplored.

My mother's first husband was Mr. James Ferguson. They had four children, Licurgus, Margarette Elizabeth (who married Judge Roberts and had one daughter, Jessie), James Jerome, and Thomas (who died when a year old). Three years after the death of Mr. Ferguson, she married Henry Warren Royalty, my father, who was a widower. His first wife was a Miss Durham, who died from typhoid fever six weeks after their marriage.

After my mother's death (May, 1866), my father was married for the third time, to Mrs. Mary West of Hopkinsville, who was a widow with four children. They were Kate, who became a "real sister" to me (she married Mr. Gus Wiley), Laura, Sidney, and Fountain. In addition to these step-sisters and step-brother, I then had two half-sisters and one half-brother, Eva Royalty, Helen Royalty, and Robert, who was killed by a train when a little boy.





**MIRIAM ELMINA ROYALTY**

**Born December 14, 1810**

**Died May 25, 1866**

**wife of**

**Henry W. Royalty**

**and mother of Mrs. James Robert Kirby, Senior**





I remember many things told to me by my mother and father. On my father's side, our ancestors were Scotch-Irish. His grandfather was John Royalty, who was born in Virginia in 1750, and married a Miss Bowman of Virginia. They moved to Kentucky in 1790. They had five children, eldest of whom was Henry Warren (my father's father) who married Sophia Hite, the daughter of John Hite, one of the fourteen men who laid out and named Harrodsburg, 1774, the first settlement in Kentucky.

John Royalty fought in the Revolutionary War. Henry Warren enlisted in the War of 1812, when the call came for volunteers, and went with Andrew Jackson to fight the Indians and the British. He went with a number of other volunteers on a flatboat to where Nashville, Tennessee, now stands, to enter service. He fought in the battle of New Orleans. It was after this battle, during an epidemic of black measles, that he took sick and died. He is buried at New Orleans. His wife, Sophia, then took her two children Elizabeth and Henry Warren, and went to live with her father, John Hite. Elizabeth (named for her father's "Aunt Betsy") later married a Mr. Younger, and then a Mr. Simpson; Henry Warren (my father) was two years old at the time they moved.

Through my father, I learned many things about my great grandfather Hite. He was said to have been a very strict parent and grandparent as well, especially in matters pertaining to honesty and truthfulness. One incident supporting this, occurred while my father was a small boy. Grandfather and "Aunt Betsy" went one afternoon to visit a neighbor and decided to take my father along. When the visit was over, and they had started home, my father discovered a little sheep bell lying in the road, which he picked up and carried home with him. When my grandfather noticed that he had the bell, he asked him where he got it. My father told him, and he said:

"Didn't you know that bell belonged to the place where you found it? Now, you and your Aunt Betsy will go right back to Mr. Howard's, and you will give him the bell and say to him 'Here is a sheep bell which I stole as I was leaving your house this afternoon. I have come to return it to you.'"

Knowing that he must obey, or take a whipping, my father went back and did exactly as he was told. He said that Mr. Howard insisted on his keeping the bell, but that never in his life had he held anything he wanted less. He said the bell didn't look very good to him anymore, that he wanted only to return it and be on his way home again. Father said that never in his life again did he pick up anything that wasn't his own, that the lesson was sufficient for a life-time, and that he never forgot the lessons in truthfulness and honesty taught him by his grandfather. He was never allowed to use profane language nor did he ever do so, throughout his entire life.

One of the things father liked to do, when he grew up and worked on grandfather Hite's farm, was to drive the horses. He was always very kind and good to them, and became such a fine driver that grandfather depended on him to handle all this type of work. There he acquired a fondness for horses that followed him all his life.

When he was twenty-one, and had attended school regularly (such schools as they had in those days), he was able to read quite well, to write a very legible hand, and was well versed in arithmetic. One day grandfather said to him: "Henry, you are twenty-one years old now. I think you should get into business for yourself. I hope you will make a success of whatever you undertake, and I hope that you will never forget what I have tried to teach you."

Father said that, although he loved the country where they lived, the mountains and valleys of Casey County, yet he felt an urge to venture a little farther away. The idea came to him that he might start by taking a job as driver of the stage coach operating between Louisville, Kentucky, and Nashville, Tennessee. So, he set out to get a permit to handle one section of this route. A relative in Lincoln County went on his bond, and in a short time, he was in charge of the stage between Louisville and Bowling Green, where connections were made for Nashville.

A stage coach, with seats for many passengers, sometimes whole families, drawn by three pairs of horses, six big, fine animals in the very best of harness,

was altogether an imposing sight. The driver, who also carried the mail, sat high up in front, with a negro man in uniform beside him. Connected as it was with the post office system, the schedule required almost military punctuality, and the driving required great skill and considerable good judgment. The minute the reins were in the driver's hands, the horses were off in a run. It took a strong, practiced hand to control them. A man was to the stage coach business in those days what an engineer is to the railroad now.

As I recall, father said that they drove one set of horses about fifteen miles before changing for new ones. Sometimes, the roads were in bad shape, the weather was bad, and many difficulties were encountered. Before reaching the point of exchange, the driver instructed his negro companion to blow the horn, and at the sound of it, three pairs of fresh horses were rushed on to the pike by several negro men who held them in readiness while others unharnessed the tired, lathered animals and took them into the barn. The fresh horses, in their shining harness were often very unruly, eager to be in their places and off on the next lap of the journey, all of it done within a very few minutes. Schedule time had to be made, and I heard my father say that during the years he drove the stage, he always managed to make his destination on time.

Once, when he had a three days' vacation, for the purpose of resting a weak ankle, he stopped at Mrs. M——'s on the pike. My father always liked to attend church services when he could (we sometimes called it "preaching"), and on this Sunday, he went to Old Grove Church. My mother, widow of Mr. Ferguson, was there. He said he thought she was as pretty a woman as he ever saw, and that afternoon he called at grandfather Hite's home, where she lived. It was the beginning of their courtship. In about six months, they were married.

My father then went to farming again, near Bowling Green. Later, he bought a farm near Glasgow, on the Louisville-Nashville pike. Here, he started a transportation service out over Kentucky and Tennessee, a train of wagons, the only method of transporting goods and supplies as there were no





**HENRY W. ROYALTY**

**Born April 5, 1815**

**Died May 22, 1882**

**Father of Mrs. James Robert Kirby, Senior**



railroads. He kept this business going for some time, and would have continued, except that the Civil War came on, everything became unrest and excitement, with so much uncertainty that he had to give it up. He then bought the hotel in Glasgow and took over its operation. But during the first part of the Civil War, we remained in our home on the farm.

By the Summer of 1861, everything was in a terrible state. My father was a Union man, not so much concerned over the abolition of slavery as over the preservation of the Union. He was bitterly opposed to the division of the states. During the war, his life was constantly in danger as the country was over-run by people called "bush whackers," men who did not join the army but rode at night, taking revenge on any and all who espoused the Union cause.

My mother was equally strong for the Southern cause, an ardent Southern sympathizer. My brother, John, then about fifteen, was also for the South, even more pronounced in his feelings and opinions. He wanted to join the army, but mother persuaded him to remain at home, as it was necessary for father to look after the hotel, even to leave all of it sometimes to protect his life.

A camp was established at Glasgow for recruiting men. When the Yankees heard of it, they started there. By the time they had reached Campbellsville, about seventy miles south of Louisville, the Southern men knew that they would have to break up and leave, or be taken prisoners. There were five of these officers who were the last to leave the camp. One day, just at noon, they came by our house in a wagon, on their way to Cave City to catch a train to Nashville. They pulled up at the front gate and asked mother if she would give them something to eat. She invited them in, saying that she would gladly share her last crumb with them. She admonished them however, that they were in great danger, that they should eat as quickly as possible and be on their way. My brother, who had been scouting around, said to the officers, "If I were you, I would run those horses every step of the way

to Cave City without stopping a minute. The Yankees were on the Columbia Road about four o'clock yesterday afternoon. They may even have reached Glasgow by this time."

But mother said she would prepare some food very quickly. Woman-like, she couldn't bear to have them go away hungry. She motioned my brother toward the attic, and almost instantly, he went and came, bringing the one and only ham we had left in the world. Anne, the cook, cut the large, lean slices as hastily as she could, and to this day, I can smell the delicious odor of that meat frying. I felt as if I could eat the last bite of it myself.

Dinner was soon on the table, and I remember how I stood there, only a child, watching as those five, handsome officers in gray uniforms sat down to my mother's table. But my brother was so disturbed, he could not sit down. He kept going to the front door to listen. Once, when mother passed by, he whispered to her: "Tell those men to go! I know where the Yankees are, and they're fools to stop here like this." Sure enough, just as the men were finishing their meal, brother ran in from the front yard, calling: "They're coming! I can hear the horses' feet on the pike! Run! Hide! They're almost here!"

As he spoke, the Yankees could be heard beyond the turn on top of the hill. Evidently they had received information in Glasgow, and they were on their way to catch the officers moving south. Suddenly, everything was confusion and excitement. Mother told the officers to run across the pike into the corn field, and beyond it to a cave in the woods.

"No one knows the cave is there. It's covered with brush and vines, but there's water in it, and I will send food to you! Go! As fast as you can!"

Three of the officers did as she told them, but two, who probably thought the Yankees wouldn't suspect their being in that house, held back. Almost in the moment, twenty-five Blue Coats came around the curve, riding at break-neck speed. Mother fairly shoved the two officers into grandmother's room, telling them to hide as best they could. The instant the Yankees saw the wagon at the gate, they pulled up short, dismounted, and came rushing into



the house. They went tearing all over the place, turning everything up-side-down, and of course, they found the two men and took them captives.

“This woman is feeding and hiding these southern men in her home,” one of the Yankees said, observing the dining room table. (To this day, I don’t know where Anne hid that ham!) “She is protecting these d— Rebels!”

I was crying hysterically by that time. I thought they would surely take my mother away. The officer turned and looked at her squarely, as if waiting for a reply. It came, and it seemed to me without a trace of fear.

“I regret with all my heart that I am a woman,” she said calmly,” and that I am forced to remain at home.”

When the Yankees took their prisoners to the front gate, I watched as they made them stand there while they ransacked the wagon, opened their baggage and took out all their personal things. They scattered everything, throwing photographs on the ground at their feet. My heart was sorely troubled as I watched the Southern men. One of the Yankees turned to my brother and said: “You’re a d—— Rebel, too! Come! We’ll take you along and show you a thing or two!”

“I am a Rebel!” my brother said. “But I’m a country ‘Jake’, too! I don’t know what you’d want with a fellow like me!”

Mother began to protest. She spoke so harshly, I was more fearful than ever. I’d say, she told those men “a-plenty.” She was distressed at the thought of what they might do to John. But he whispered to her that he was not afraid, and that he would find some way to get back home, before very long. They pulled out again, with the wagon. John was in it with the two captured officers.

About dusk that evening, just as John had promised, he came walking down the road, his hands in his pockets. As he neared the house, he started whistling, and mother was so excited and relieved, she could scarcely speak.

She had already gathered up all the photographs left on the ground, and now, she set about to prepare supper for the three of us, and for the three men in the cave. That night, under the cover of darkness, she sent the negro man, Bob, with a large basket filled with food, and with it, all the photographs she had been able to recover.

The officers stayed in the cave for several days and nights. When it was safe for them to move on, brother gave them some pistols and ammunition he had saved, and that night, when Bob returned to the house with the empty basket he brought a letter to mother, a note from the men thanking her for feeding and protecting them. Mother knew their names and often spoke of them, but I was a child and did not remember.

One night before the Yankees came into that region (the bush-whackers quieted down when the Yankees were around), mother and John and I were at home alone, except for the negroes who tried so hard to help us. Suddenly, with no warning at all, a hard knock sounded on the front door. Mother was on her feet instantly, the gun in her hand. She went to the door, inquiring as to who was there.

“You open this door, or I’ll break it down!” a gruff voice said.

“Try it, and it will be at the risk of your life!” mother answered him. “Now get out! Leave this house, or I’ll kill you. I am well armed, and ready to shoot!”

Mother sat beside that door all night long, with brother guarding the back door. They listened every minute for a sound, both of them with their guns loaded and ready to fire. But the intruder left. The next day, she went out to the front gate to see where the horses’ hoofs had pawed the ground, but she had no way of knowing who her visitor was. She had heavy, iron bars put on all the doors.

When the Battle of Perryville was fought, we could hear the cannons booming all day. Bragg’s Army passed our house, taking reinforcements to

the battle. The men were walking very fast, some without shoes, all of them looking very tired and weary. We had our negroes carry water to the roadside all day, to give drink to these men, but they had little time to pause. By that time, water was about all we had to share. Our coffee and flour had given out, and we were living mainly on potatoes. Mother often parched rye to use in place of coffee.

There were always stragglers behind an army. Late that evening a man rode up to the gate that opened into our barn lot. Mother had sent the horses to a place in the woods back of the farm, but somehow her carriage horse "Old Mike" had found his way home. There he stood! The man was riding a poor, limping animal, and when he saw "Mike" he started to make a quick swap right then and there. Mother knew what he was up to, and she went rushing out toward the barn lot, one hand concealed under the skirt of her apron.

"Don't you touch that horse," she said. "If you do, I'll kill you!"

The man stood and stared at her.

"I mean what I say! You lay a hand on that horse, and you're a dead thief!"

I was so scared, my body was shaking all over. The man started cursing violently. But after a while, he climbed back on his own horse and went limping away, swearing with every breath he drew. Mother told someone to take "Mike" back to the woods and tie him there, and then she sat down on the stile near by and dropped her face into her hands. I thought she was crying and I hastened to her side, to console her. But I found that she was laughing, instead.

"He thought I had a gun," she laughed. "Why, I didn't even have a rock in my hand to throw at him! I just held my hand under my apron . . . he thought I was holding a gun!"

Later, when Yankee regiments were stationed at Glasgow, and we were forced to move from the farm into town, we saw nothing but soldiers coming

and going day and night. I was not happy there at the hotel. I loved the farm, and I wanted to see my mother's flower garden again. I remember how, as a child, I kept thinking about that garden. When Springtime came, I longed to see the little buds bursting out of the ground. I wanted to go back, to watch them grow and bloom. I remembered the time when I had found the first crocus, and screamed with such loud delight that my mother and Anne came running, sure that I had broken a leg or an arm. Mother spanked me for screaming. War could not obliterate the vision I clung to as I stayed there in the hotel, soldiers everywhere, the days and nights filled with horrible, gruesome stories of tragedy and death. I was thinking instead of the purple and white lilacs, the climbing white rose by the doorway, the great snow-ball bushes, and the wisteria that formed a background for the peonies and snap dragons, all in my mother's flower garden at home.

When the war finally came to an end, it seemed almost impossible to return to normal living. We never did. My mother's death came in 1866, and oh, how different everything seemed to be after that. She died from a nail wound in her foot, only nine days after the accident, from what was called lock-jaw in those days. My sister, Addie was living in Warren County, and my sister, Belle, was living in her home, at that time a school teacher. In 1868 (February 17), Sister Belle married Tubal McDaniel. I attended school in Glasgow. At the age of ten, I had joined the Baptist Church at Glasgow and had been immersed in the creek called South Fork, not far from where my grandfather and grandmother Wright had first settled in the one-room log house. But now, my father was ready to sell the hotel and the farm, and move to Hopkinsville. He went into the grocery business in Hopkinsville, and I attended Southern Kentucky College.

Shortly after that, I went to live with Sister Belle. I was living in her home when I met "Jim" Kirby and fell in love with him. When he finished the course in Business Education at the University of Kentucky, and came back to Warren County, we were married. Later, we bought the "George

Wright” place, and established this home where seven of our nine children were born, where I now live.

Now, “Jim” has gone, and I am old. The years have taken their toll. Not long ago, I asked to go back to the spot where my old home stood near Glasgow, to look once more on that remembered place. Alas, I could scarcely recognize the location as we came upon it. The house had burned, the woodlands had been cleared away. There was no big pond anywhere, nor beech trees to mark the place where it had been. The flower garden . . . . a lot for pigs! I turned away.

“It is all gone,” I said. “Only the vision remains in my mind. It is gone! Alas, in the words of the great sage, ‘Everything changes, nothing stays!’ ”





**MRS. JAMES ROBERT KIRBY, SENIOR**

This picture was made when she was ninety years of age. Standing in front of her home on the Jefferson Davis Memorial Highway between Bowling Green and Glasgow, Kentucky.





## MY MOTHER'S FLOWER GARDEN



I HAVE visited Magnolia Gardens, Middleton Place, and Cypress Gardens, in South Carolina, and have feasted many times upon their glory and magnificence. Yet, in all their perfection, they cannot compare with my childhood impression of my mother's flower garden, so beautiful as to remain vividly in my mind throughout almost a century of living.

*“ ‘Tis a picture in memory distinctly defined  
With the strong and unperishing colors of mind,  
A part of my being beyond my control  
Beheld in that garden, transcribed on my soul.”*

Flowers are the brightest things that Nature on her broad bosom loves to cherish. My mother was a great lover of Nature and all her beautiful works. The blossoms, the birds, the evening sunsets and fleecy clouds, all were grand to her, symbols of a great promise, and from her I inherited the same devotion to all things which the Great Hand has placed here for our inspiration and pleasure. I was the youngest child in our family, and after my older sisters were married and gone, I became mother's constant companion. To her, I owe my highest views of life, my hopes of Heaven.

Now, as I reach the evening of life, and the “past comes floating out before me, the lost comes stealing back,” I wander in memory to my childhood home, where each day seemed to bring new joys and greater happiness,

“days that knew no shade of sorrow.” This was near Glasgow, Kentucky, before the Civil War, in what seems to have been, as I look back, a “golden age,” so quiet and peaceful.

In memory now, I go back to that childhood. I enter once more the little gate to my mother’s flower garden. I catch a glimpse of some tiny blossoms peeping up through the cold ground, stirred by the light and warmth of the first days of Springtime, and I am thrilled and excited at the sight of them. Here is the little crocus that does not dread the cold but comes early as one of the first harbingers of the season.

Inside the gate I see great beds of lillies coming to life again. Beyond, on each side of the walkways here and there, hyacinths and tulips are coming through, row upon row, and over there are the narcissus beds, the yellow jonquils, the forget-me-nots, and blue-bells. Oh, so many and so lovely! As I look, they grow and bloom before my eyes, full and perfect in their varied colors. The big, round bed of red and white “pinks,” (we call them carnations now), is a vision no one could ever forget. I see them all, in their successive stages, just as I saw them in my childhood.

The peonies are planted in a spot apart, because they grow so large. Where the fence separates the garden from the yard beyond, there are tall snowball bushes, laden with their round, white blooms. Close by are the lilacs, purple and white, so sweet and graceful, and the flowering quince, strong and sturdy. There are many, many kinds of shrubs. One kind is the “sweet shrub,” with its berry-like, wine-red buds, most fragrant of them all. Once again, I gather these to fill my room with fresh perfume.

I see the wild rose and the clematis (called virgin bower) that cover the well house roof and drape its sides. Could any combination be more exquisite than that—Yes, perhaps so. Over near the garden gate is the tall cedar tree, festooned from bottom to top with a climbing white rose and a coral honeysuckle, so beautiful that I stand and gaze upon it, never to forget. And the great wisteria vine on the trellis, forming a background for the peony beds,

its frail branches waving for the slightest breeze. What a combination of colors!

As I look from the house toward the road (it was called a pike in those days), I see beds and beds of roses, called monthly roses, because they bloom so continuously. I gather them to my heart's content, and they, somehow, never seem to grow less. Everywhere, there are "fields" of chrysanthemums, waiting their turn to fill our world with their bold, varied colors in Fall. Some are planted in boxes, to be placed in the house for Winter blooming. There is beauty everywhere!

My mother's voice comes back to me. She works among her flowers, now and then stooping down to pull the weeds from around a young, growing plant. Her heart is grateful for the joy she knows in this garden, and I hear her saying:

*"God might have made the earth bring forth  
Enough for great and small,  
The oak tree and the cedar tree,  
Yet not a flower at all."*

Sunday morning comes, and I go with her to gather the dew-wet blossoms into our big, long-handled basket. We move from place to place, clipping long and short stems, arranging the flowers carefully. I see the stage coach going by on the pike, and soon, our own carriage comes to wait for us at the gate. It is time now to go into town, to Sunday School, to attend church services. As I ride along in the carriage with my mother, I feel very happy, and very proud, holding to the great basket of flowers. It is a thrilling experience, sharing these beautiful things with the superintendent of the Sunday School, with all the people of our church.

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A picture in memory which now no artist can paint, no one else view as I can. The "golden age" passed away. The Civil War came on, father moved us into town, and many changes took place. Soon, all homes were desolate,

soldiers were encamped around us, our gardens and our property destroyed.

When I went back, years later, to visit the place where that home had been . . . . not a vestige remained. I tried to find some little reminder, for my heart's sake, some symbol of the past . . . . only a grim scene lay before me. It said to me: "Soon you, too, shall be remembered, even as you now remember." I cling to the picture, indelibly traced upon my mind.

*"And to it I turn  
When my heart is o'er-burdened with sorrow and care;  
It comes in its brightness  
To bring back the features that joy used to wear."*

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This family record was obtained from a page out of an old family Bible and from the tombstones of Jacob Wright, Miriam Helm Wright, Polly Wright and Elmina Wright. The last four named are buried in the family burying ground on the “Crump Place” near Smiths Grove, Kentucky.

Jacob Wright and Miriam Helm were married February 9, 1797. Jacob Wright was born December 14, 1777, died November 5, 1857. Miriam Helm Wright was born December 16, 1777, died June 19, 1868. Their children were as follows:

Polly Wright	born November 16, 1797, died February 20, 1874
Betsy Wright	born April 16, 1799
Tempy Wright	born February 12, 1801
John Wright	born February 1, 1803
Fanny Wright	born January 12, 1805
Adeline Wright	born April 12, 1807
Dorinda Wright	born January 15, 1809
Elmina Wright	born December 14, 1810, died May 25, 1866
Uberta Wright	born January 2, 1813
Montgomery Wright	born March 2, 1815
Louisa R. Wright	born July 18, 1817
Brummet W. Wright	born September 14, 1820
Ursula Ann Wright	born August 7, 1822



The photograph on the following page is the monument erected in 1910 by James R. Kirby, Sr., on his lot in the Smiths Grove, Kentucky, Cemetery.

The stone was hewn out of solid limestone, weighs 12 tons and is perfectly round. Its shape, being without end, is symbolic of Eternity.

On this spot and nearby are buried many of the Kirbys and their friends. Graves around this monument counter clockwise are as follows:

David Warren Kirby

Gertrude Kirby

James R. Kirby, Sr.

Elmina Royalty Kirby

James Robert Kirby, Jr.

Frank Marquis Kirby

Grace Kirby Wiley

William A. Wiley







