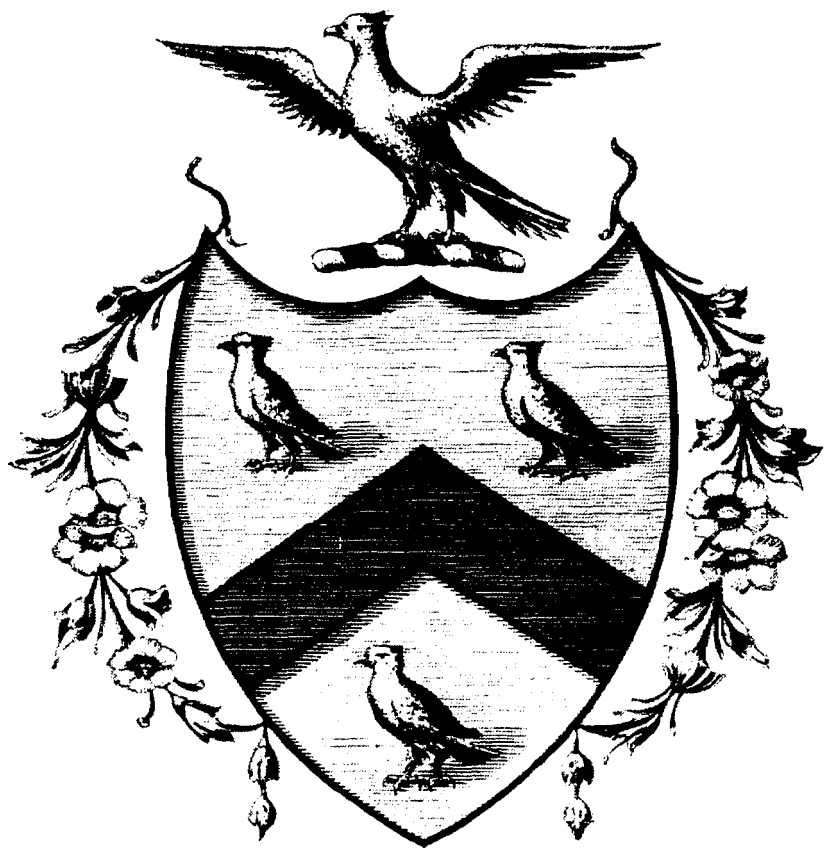


# THE KITE FAMILY

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A FRAGMENTARY SKETCH OF THE  
FAMILY FROM ITS ORIGIN IN  
THE 9TH CENTURY TO  
THE PRESENT DAY





KITE COAT OF ARMS.

Brought to America by James Kite in 1680. This cut was made from the original by Thomas McCollin of Philadelphia.



Affectionately dedicated to all our  
children.

VIRGINIA A. KITE  
MARKSVILLE, VA.



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# The Kite Family

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In presenting these memoirs for the perusal of the descendants of the Kite family, it is earnestly hoped that it will afford pleasure to the reader, and serve as a stimulus to the present generation to emulate the examples of their ancestors, who were men of distinction and who occupied stations of high honor and great responsibility.

To have attained to such stations of eminence in that time, when the conditions were so different and opportunities were so limited, as compared with the present day, shows them to have been men of force and endowment. In those days fortune and favor were not bestowed simply upon political recommendation, it came as a reward to those who by their skill at arms, or their superior statecraft, had made them conspicuous and influential.

In tracing the history of a family whose origin dates back to the time of Alfred the

Great, it is superfluous to say that it will be only fragmentary, and long links of centuries sometimes will be missing. But along that long path of over nine centuries, an occasional footprint made by some one of the name will be seen.

Some of the data from which these memoirs is compiled is legendary, but nearly all the prominent facts and many of the individuals mentioned in these pages will be found amply sustained by reference to early English history.

Much information relative to our earliest American ancestors is obtained from the records of the Society of Friends, which are carefully preserved in the old Marion Meeting House and the old Radnor Meeting House. These ancient buildings, venerable with age and grand and inspiring in their simplicity, stand to-day the enduring monuments of a faith whose creed is, "Peace on earth, good will to men."

In all the various pursuits and the learned professions, as well as the army and navy, the name has stood out prominent as men



THE MERION MEETING HOUSE AT NARBETH, PA.

The Merion Meeting House was started in 1684, but was not completed until 1695. Previous to this time, they also worshiped in a log house. While the Merion Meeting House was completed some twenty years before the present Radnor Meeting House, the Radnor Organization is the older of the two, as all authorities claim that the Radnor formation was in 1682. Our ancestors worshiped at both meeting houses and were doubtless among the very first members as, the birth of James Kite as before stated is the second record in the Radnor Records. The Merion Meeting House is now known as the William Penn Meeting House.



of strong character and great force, and no word of shame or infamy has ever appeared against one of the name. This is a record and an heritage that should swell the hearts of all who bear the name of Kite to-day, and infuse into them a spirit of emulation for those who in all the walks of life had few equals and no superiors.

### **Origin of the Name**

The tracing of a family name to its origin is a difficult matter, and very few families in existence to-day can do so.

To give the origin or beginning of the Kites as a family name, we have a very interesting legend that takes us back to the time of Alfred the Great, the Saxon King of England in the ninth century.

At that remote period the Danes were a set of heathens, who roved the country like wolves, and the fertile fields and the well provisioned smokehouses of King Alfred's subjects were so tempting to these robbers that a constant warfare was kept up for years. These incessant predatory incursions

kept the king's subjects in a state of fear and uncertainty, and greatly hindered their domestic pursuits. Their pirate ships infested the seas and for years the inhabitants along the coast were at their mercy.

Emboldened by their successes in this robbers' warfare, they frequently organized large armies, and great battles were fought between the Danes and the Saxons.

The army of King Alfred was composed of clans, commanded by chieftains, who were generally men belonging to the nobility, or were otherwise distinguished among the laity.

As our legend has it, just before one of these battles began, and as the clans were marching to the battle-field, a beautiful bird was seen to alight on the banner of one of these clans. The bird was a kite, and a great victory was gained that day, and in three succeeding battles this clan was victorious.

The incident of the kite lighting on the banner became known throughout King Alfred's army, and was regarded as an omen of success, and gave confidence to the sol-

diers as well as their commanders, and nerved them to deeds of greater valor that must have contributed no little to their final triumph. This clan became famous and was ever afterwards called "The Bird or Kite Clan."

When the war was over and the army disbanded the chieftain of this clan took the name of Kite, and, proud of his pedigree, he went to his home and began to build up the fortunes of the Kite family.

The daughter of this chieftain became the wife of the king; and in his most cherished plans for the education and upbuilding of his subjects, she exerted an influence of great potency, and perhaps her gentle character and religious consecration helped to make him the greatest, the most famous and the most beloved of all English rulers.

The Kite coat of arms evidently had in its conception the incident of the Kite lighting on the banner. It was, however, many centuries after this occurrence that this honor was conferred upon the family. But the story had been repeated and handed down

from one generation to another, and when the opportunity came that it could be perpetuated, it was emblazoned the most prominent figure on the Kite coat-of-arms. This story of the conception of the Kite coat-of-arms is verified by "Doom's Day Book," in England, which was published centuries ago.

Mr. William Kite, of Los Angeles, Cal., has in his possession the seal bearing the coat-of-arms that came with the family to this country. It differs slightly in design from the original, which was bestowed upon William Kite, of Chesilborne, by Robert Cooke in 1586. But the most prominent features, the three kites, is the same, and the bar ordinary which was added to it at a later period by order of Cromwell, for meritorious conduct, rendered during his wars, is also retained.

In "Wotten's English Baronetage" we find that: "A crest and coat-of-arms was granted by Robert Cooke, Clarencieux, to William Kite, of Chesilborne, in 1586."

In "Hutchins' Dorestshire" we find that: "Ebrington Church, two miles N.E. from



Campden and 23 miles N.E. from Gloucester for many centuries, the greater part of this Tything belonged to the Keytes."

"Sir William Keyte built Norton—burned in 1741. The estate was sold to Sir Dudley Ryder, whose son the Right Hon. Nathaniel, Lord Harrowby, has since succeeded.

"At Clifford Chambers, 10 miles N.E. from Campden, the Keyte arms are in the church." In addition to the arms as usually described is one, quarterly 1-4 Dighton 2-3 azure, crowned or. On an Eschutcheon of Pretense, Kite as before.

"In Bigley Church, 10 miles south from Gloucester, arms of Jayne impaling Kite. This contains the trefoils on Chrevron."

In "Bigland's Gloucester" and "Gloucestershire Notes and Queries" we find: "Life and death of Sir William Kite, baronet." In the church of St. Eadburgh in the east window is a representation of the story of Joseph and his brethren with the arms of Sir William Kite very well executed. A number of their tombs are also in this

church. "Bigland's History of Gloucester."

"Seats, 1741,

Ebrington and Norton near Campden, in Gloucetershire, and Old Stratford upon Avon in Warwickshire. The arms show an open hand at top of shield."

Mr. William Kite is the proud possessor of the original seal, bearing the coat-of-arms that was brought to this country by James, son of Sir George Kite, in 1680. It is of Flemish workmanship, and was made in the fifteenth century. This heirloom has been transmitted from one generation to another and is one of the most ancient insignia extant. This is no doubt the coat-of-arms of the American branch of the family.

From the time of Alfred the Great we have nothing authentic to relate for several centuries. But from the fact that they reappear in English history hundreds of years after the adoption of the family name, and exhibit the same characteristics that distinguished them, in their first introduction, shows us that they were active and promi-

nent in national affairs throughout this long period. As might be expected the spelling of the name was corrupted and changed many times. But historians assert that it was the same as originally spelled.

The next appearance of the Kites as prominent figures in the world's progress was John Kite. Successively Archbishop of Armaugh, and Bishop of Carlisle. He was a native of London, and according to Wood was educated at Oxford University. But in what house or what degree he took it does not appear. It is much more probable, however, that he was the John Kite who was educated at Eton, and thence elected to King's College, Cambridge, in the year 1480. After taking holy orders he became rector of Harlington, Middlesex, and on resigning this benefice in 1510 was admitted to the Prebend of Stratton in the church of Salisbury, which he held until 1517.

On the first of March, 1510, he was presented to the church of Weye at Weyehill, in the diocese of Winchester. He was also

a Prebendary of Exeter and subdean of the King's Chapel at Westminster.

By provision of Pope Leo X in the consistory of 24th October, 1513, he was appointed Archbishop of Armaugh. On the 15th of November, 1515, he took part in the ceremonies of receiving the Cardinal's hat sent to Wolsey.

In 1516 he came to England by the King's special command to attend the Princess Mary's christening 21st February, 1516, and was granted on the 20th of September following, a writ of protection for himself and his See during his absence.

In February, 1518, he was sent with John Bouchier, Lord Berners, on a special embassy to Charles V, to secure peace with Spain and England. Their interesting adventures in Spain are recorded in their letters to Wolsey, which are calendared in the letters of Henry VIII.

He left Saragossa in January, 1519, and after visiting San Sebastian arrived in London March the 10th of that year.

In 1520 he was one of the deputy commis-

sioners of the Jewel office, and he was one of the prelates who in the same year accompanied Henry VIII and Queen Catharine to the "Field of the Cloth of Gold," attended by six horsemen. He was also present at the meeting between Henry and Charles V at Graveline in July.

On the 12th of July, 1521, he was translated by papal provision from Armaugh to the bishopric of Carlisle.

He was permitted to retain in the diocese of Armaugh, two canons and one parochial church of the value of 60 L. and was allowed to assume the title of an Archiepiscopal See.

He accordingly took the title of Archbishop of Thebes in Paribus. Kite paid the Pope for his translation 1,790 ducats, which the impoverished state of the papal exchequer rendered very welcome.

The royal mandate for the restitution to Kite of the temporalities of the See of Carlisle is dated the 11th of November, 1521. He also held the living of St. Stephen, Walbrook, London, which he resigned in 1534.

For the preferment he was largely indebted to Wolsey, who conversed freely with him in his prosperity, and applied to him for necessities as a faithful friend in his adversity.

In 1522 he was actively repressing disorders on the Scottish border and proved very useful to the warden, Tho. Fiennes, Eighth Lord Dacre.

His correspondence with Wolsey vividly illustrates the disorder of the border country. Writing on the 24th of July, 1524, he pointed out that he had to make a circuit of sixty miles out of the direct route in order to avoid thieves and reach Carlisle in safety.

In 1524, and again in 1526, he was one of the royal commissioners to treat for peace with the King of Scotland.

In 1529 he signed an instrument approving the reasonableness of the King's scruples concerning his marriage with Catharine of Arragon, and advising recourse to the Pope for a speedy decision of the cause.

On the 13th of July, 1530, he was one of the four bishops who, with Cardinal Wolsey,

Archbishop Warham and the whole peerage of England, signed the bold letter to Pope Clement VII demanding the King's divorce.

He signed the renunciation of the Pope's supremacy on February 15, 1534, but was one of the prelates who, adhering to Lee, Archbishop of York, in 1536, opposed the advanced proposals made by Cranmer and his party in convocation.

During his occupancy of the See of Carlisle he made large additions to "Rose Castle," the Episcopal residence, one of the towers of which is still called by his name. After ruling pastorally and "Relying nobly Household wyth grete Hospitality," but suffering in later years much ill health, he died in London on the 19th of June, 1537, and was buried in Stephey Church, where a marble slab still extant covers his remains and bears a quaint epitaph.

By his will, dated the day before his death, he gave directions, which were disregarded, that his body should be buried near that of his father in St. Margaret's Church, Westminster.

Another very prominent man by the name of Charles Kite figured extensively in the medical profession in London. He resided at Gravesend, where he died in 1811.

He was evidently a very profound scholar and a pleasing writer.

He contributed to the memoirs of the London Medical Society, and to the medical journals of his time. He wrote an essay on the recovery of the apparently dead, which work received the silver medal of the Humane Society of London in 1788.

The bestowal of honors for distinguished services and the decorations conferred upon so many different members of the Kite family, and at such different dates, shows them to have been prominent and active in national affairs for centuries. But while these men were so greatly honored, and seem to have been in the fullest enjoyment of their honors and good fortune, there was another side to the picture.

A few extracts from a very old publication called "Suffering of the Quakers" will show the reader something of the varying



fortunes that fell to the lot of some of our ancestors, who it seems were in the forefront of every question of public concern.

“Gloucester 1660.”

“Thomas and William Kite sent to prison for refusing to pay Tithe and to swear allegiance to the King.”

“Dorsetshire.”

“Thomas Kite discharged from prison after serving nine years for refusing to swear.”

“Oxfordshire, 1658.”

“Richard Kite and others imprisoned. 1662, Richard and William Kite fined. 1670, William Kite fined for not attending church.”

It was about this time that the persecution of this peaceful sect was at its worst. But, with all the tortures and humiliations that were heaped upon them, we do not find where one renounced his religion, or disobeyed the orders of his society, as it was called.

In Burk's *Extinct Baronetcies* we find the following pedigree: Keyt, of Ebrington,

created 22d of December, 1660. Extinct 6th of July, 1784.

William Keyt, Esq., of Ebrington, in the county of Gloucester, with whom the pedigree begins, married first Eglantine, daughter of Edmund Riley, Esq., of Camden, in the same county, and by her had two sons and two daughters, viz:

John, his successor.

William, died unmarried the 28th of March, 1642, aged 57, and was buried at Ebrington.

Anne married Mr. John Andrews, of As-thall, in the county of Oxford.

Elizabeth married Mr. Glover.

William Keyt wedded secondly Elenora, daughter and co-heir of John Salmon, Gent. of Nottingham, and relict of Thomas Porter, of Mickleton, but had no other issue.

Mr. Keyt was High Sheriff of the county of Worcester, and "rich in good works, as well as in worldly estate, being not only charitable to the poor in his lifetime, but also at his death he ordered the milk of ten cows to be given every year, from the 10th

of May to the 1st of November, unto the poor of Ebrington forever." He died on the 15th of October, 1632, according to his epitaph, in the 78th year of his age.

He was succeeded by his oldest son,

John Keyt, Esq., who married first Jane, daughter of Thomas Porter, of Mickleton, and secondly Margaret, daughter of William Harrison, of Caddicroft, in the county of Worcester, and widow of Mr. Bovey, of King's Coughton, in Warwickshire. By the latter he had no issue; by the former he had.

John, his heir.

Francis married Alice, daughter of William Spencer, baronet of Yarnton, in the county of Oxford, and had two daughters, viz:

Elizabeth, who married Theophilus Nichols.

Alice married Richard Dighton, Esq., of Clifford Chambers, in the county of Gloucester.

Francis and his wife were buried at Mickleton.

Hasting, baptized the 27th of April, 1621. This gentleman served as a captain in the

royal army under Sir John Astley, and fell at Stow the 21st of March, 1645. Farmer died young.

Thomas, baptized the 27th of October, 1622, married Mary, daughter of Walter Dayrell, Esq., of Abingdon, and relict of John Morris, Hebrew professor and canon of Christ Church, Oxford, but had no issue. Thomas and his wife were both buried at Ebrington. He died the 5th of January, 1701, aged 80 years. She died the 9th of May, 1681.

Samuel died young. Jane, baptized the 14th of May, 1609, married Capt. Thomas Wells, and died in Ireland.

Elizabeth was married the 20th of May, 1630, to George Hyde Esq., of Blagrove, Berks.

Anne was married the 20th of May to John Hobday, Esq., of Thorton, in the county of Warwick, and had issue: Eglantine, baptized the 8th of November, 1614, was married to Thomas Clopton, in the county of Warwick, by whom she had two sons. Sir John Clopton, knight. Thomas Clopton died unmarried.

John Keyt (says his biographers) was, in the worst of times, a true son of the Church of England and a loyal subject to his prince. He was a justice of the peace and High Sheriff, first of Worcestershire and afterwards of Gloucestershire, a lover of hospitality but a hater of intemperance; very just in paying all debts and very charitable to the poor. It pleased God to translate him to a better world on the 25th of April, 1660; aged 76 years. He was buried in the chancel at Ebrington.

I. John Keyt, Esq., of Ebrington, who, having raised a regiment at his own expense for the service of King Charles I, was created a baronet by Charles II, the 22d of December, 1660. Sir John married Margaret, daughter and heir of William Tayler, Esq., of Brickworth, in Northamptonshire, and had issue:

William, his heir, born at Bagley, in the county of Warwick. Thomas, baptized the 2d of May, 1641, died the 21st of July, 1660. Francis died the 16th of July, 1898. Elizabeth married to Sir John Talbot, Margaret

married the 17th of December, 1668, to Sir John Packington, baronet. Sir John died the 26th of August, 1662, and Lady Keyt died the 28th of June, 1669. He was succeeded by his son.

II. Sir William Keyt married Elizabeth, daughter and eventually sole heir of the Hon. Francis Coventry, and had issue:

William, his heir, who married the 19th of September, 1687, his cousin Agnes, daughter of Sir Thomas Clopton, by Barbara, only heir of Sir Edward Walker, Knight Garter, King at Arms, and had a numerous family of whom were:

William, successor to his grandfather, John, born September the 24th, 1695. Hastings, born the 9th of May, 1700. Elizabeth, married the 27th of December, 1712, to Thomas-Charles Viscount Tracey. Margaret, married to James Huggeford, Esq., of Discon, in the county of Gloucester. Agnes was born thirty-five weeks after the death of her father.

Mr. Keyt died October 31, 1703. Mr. Keyt's death having occurred before his

father's, Queen Anne conferred the dignity of a baronet's wife upon his widow and children by the following warrant:

“Anne, R.”

“Anne, by the grace of God Queen of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, etc. To our right trusty and right well beloved cousin and counselor, Charles, Earl of Carlisle, Earl Marshal, of England, during the minority of our right trusty and entirely beloved cousin, Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, greeting:

“Whereas, we are humbly informed that William Keyt, Esq., eldest son of Sir William Kept, late of Ebrington, in the county of Gloucester, baronet, dying a few weeks before his father, the widow and younger children of the said William Keyt can not, by the ordinary rules of honor, enjoy the title, place and precedence which would otherwise be justly due to her and them, if the said William Keyt had survived his father:

“We, therefore, for divers good causes, and considerations, us especially moving, are

graciously pleased to ordain that Agnes Keyt, John Keyt, Hasting Keyt, Elizabeth Keyt, Margaret Keyt and Agnes Keyt, the relict and younger children of the said William Keyt, shall from henceforward have, hold and enjoy the same title, preeminence, place and precedence, respectively, as if the said William had survived his father and been actually possessed of the dignity of a baronet. And our will and pleasure is that you, our Earl Marshal, to whom the cognizance of matters of this nature properly belongs, do see this, our order, observed and kept by our several officers of arms, and cause these presents to be registered in the college of arms; and for so doing this shall be your warrant. Given at Windsor, the 5th day of June, 1704, in the third year of our reign. By her Majesty's command."

Margaret, married October 13, 1702, Thomas Noble, Esq., of Leicester, and died March the 7th, 1710, leaving a son, William Noble.

Dorothy, married Gilbert, fourth Earl of Coventry. Lady Anne Coventry, who mar-



ried Sir William Carew, Baronet of Anthony. Sir William died November 30, 1702, and was survived by his grandson.

III. Sir William Keyt, who married November 23, 1710, the Hon. Anne Tracy, daughter of William, fourth Viscount Tracy (by his second wife, Jane, sister of Thomas, Lord Leigh), and had issue: Thomas-Charles, his successor. John died unmarried. Robert, successor to his elder brother, Agnes and Elizabeth.

Sir William, who served in the last parliament of King George I and the first of George II, for the town of Warwick, died at Norton, in the county of Gloucester, in September, 1741. (This Sir William Keyt, who was burned to death, is supposed to have been a lunatic and to have set his house on fire himself, for Thomas Whitmore, a servant, held him in his arms and would have saved him, but he would not permit.)

He was survived by his eldest son.

IV. Sir Thomas Charles Keyt, died issueless July 24, 1755, and was survived by his only living brother.

V. Sir Robert Keyt, of Middleham, in the county of York, died in July, 1784, when the baronetcy became extinct.

The estate at Ebrington, in Gloucester, had been sold soon after the third baronet's decease, to Sir Dudley Ryder.

The College of Stratford was purchased about the year 1700 by the Keyts of Ebrington.

Sir Robert Kite was Sheriff of London in 1760, and Lord Mayor of London in 1766.

His portrait is in Guildhall. He made himself famous by his official enunciation of the doctrine that "Slaves can not breathe in England," as Cowper puts it.

In the Congressional Library at Washington can be found "The Monumental Brasses of Wiltshire, London, 1860. Examples of Memorials, by Edward Kite." As a work of art it is superb, and as a pictorial history of the sculptor's and engraver's skill, at that age, it is a marvel of excellence. It affords delightful, sober entertainment, and for those who will take the time to turn those old leaves they will find on each page sub-

jects for serious reflection, as well as veneration for those people, whose epitaphs were periods of history.

It is said that Sir Gilbert Kite was one of Queen Elizabeth's ambassadors. But at what period of her reign, or to what court or country he was assigned we are unable to trace. The only authority we have for mentioning him, is a letter from an old kinsman who has made extensive researches into the family history, and who simply says: "It is said that Sir Gilbert Kite was an ambassador of Queen Elizabeth."

It will be seen from the foregoing extracts and references that the year 1784 marked the end of the Kites' heraldic history. But in politics, as well as the professions, our people continued to wield an influence in public affairs.

The next character of great prominence was Sir George Kite. He was admiral in the British navy under Cromwell and Charles II. He was second in command under Admiral Penn at the taking of Jamaica in 1655.

To him we look with pride and veneration, for he was the father of James Kite, who came to America in 1680.

James Kite, son of Sir George Kite came to America in 1860. He was intimately connected with William Penn. It is reasonable to suppose that this friendship grew out of the association of their fathers while serving together in the English navy.

James Kite married Mary, only daughter of William Warner, and settled in West Philadelphia. They were married the same year that he came to America. But whether the marriage took place in England or in this country we are not informed.

### **Kites in America**

In tracing the history of the Kites in America, we find that Sir George Kite was the father of our first American ancestor, James Kite. On the maternal side we find that William Warner was the father of James Kite's wife, Mary. To these two men we trace our lineage and our beginning as an American family. On the paternal side of the house we have already written what

little we have been able to find relating to Sir George Kite.

On the maternal side we find that William Warner was born in Blockley, Worcestershire, England. His baptism is recorded in the parish registry as having taken place on July 8, 1627. Of his early history we have little information. He was a captain in Cromwell's army. But beyond this fact we have no history of his military career.

After Cromwell's death he came to America. The precise date of his coming to this country we have been unable to determine. But, as Cromwell died in 1658, and it is reputed that Warner left England soon after the death of Cromwell, it is reasonable to suppose that he came to this country in 1658. "Watson Annals of Philadelphia, edition 1845."

He settled on the west bank of the Schuylkill River, where he made extensive purchases of land from the native Indians. The titles to these lands were afterwards confirmed by the Upland Courts, and later by William Penn.

In 1681 he was appointed a member of Deputy Governor Markham's council. The oath of office was administered and subscribed by him August 3, 1681.

Upon the reorganization of the Upland Court, he was appointed by the Governor as one of the nine justices composing that court.

He was a member of the first assembly of Pennsylvania, that convened at Philadelphia on the 10th of March, 1683.

His daughter Mary married James Kite in 1680, and to him he gave several bequests in his will, dated September 8, 1703. The last item in his will was an Iron Tow Hatchel and Iron Barr, which he directed should "remain for the use and benefit of his son John's family, Isaac's family and Jame's family forever." If this old Hetchel and Barr could be found to-day it would, no doubt, be one of the most venerated and highly prized heirlooms.

His plantation on which he resided and died in 1706, was named after his birthplace, "Blockley."



RADNOR MEETING HOUSE, RADNOR, PA.

The present structure as above photographed was built in 1715. The first meeting house was a log structure built in 1684. The records contain one birth in 1680, four years before the first building was constructed. The second birth recorded in these records was that of James Kite in 1682. Previous to the building of the meeting house, meetings were held in the houses of the members of the Society.





He died in October, 1706, and was survived by his wife and five children, four sons, Isaac, John, William and Robert; one daughter, Mary, who married James Kite in 1680. She was buried on January 3, 1686.

James Kite, by his first wife, had four children: James, Abraham and John; daughter, Grizzell. He married, second, Martha, widow of Daniel Medlicott, in 1698.

James Kite, Jr., has the distinction of being the second of the records of births in the Radnor records. His birth is recorded as October, 1682. After his marriage he went to Virginia, and as tradition has it was the founder of the Virginia family.

Children of

JAMES KITE—MARY WARNER.

B.                      B. 1660.

M. 1680.

D. 1713.              D. 1686.

James, Jr.,\* born 1682, married Hannah Medlicott, who died in 1715.

Abraham, born 1665, married Mary Peters. The marriage certificate of Abraham

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\*James, Jr., born in 1682, married Hanna Medlicott, his stepsister.

Kite and Mary Peters is still in existence and is in the possession of Louis S. Kite, of Beverly, N. J.

John, died in 1701.

Grizzell, married Samuel Lewis in 1706.

Children of

ABRAHAM KITE—MARY PETERS.

B. 1685.

M. 1708.

D. 1748.

Isaac, James, John, Thomas and Elizabeth.

Isaac, married Catherine Tunis in 1749. Louis S. Kite, of Beverly, N. J., has in his possession their marriage certificate.

James, married Martha Wynn in 1741.

John, married Mary, daughter of Dr. John Roberts, in 1745.

Thomas, married in 1742 Mary, daughter of Dr. John Briental.

Elizabeth, married Thomas Bowell in 1737.

Children of

ISAAC KITE—CATHERINE TUNIS.

B. . . . . B. 1727.

M. 1749.

D. 1781.

Elizabeth, Isaac, Mary, Anthony, Deborah, Hannah and Catherine.

Elizabeth, born 1751, married Peter Summers.

Isaac, Jr., born in 1754, married, in 1784, Sarah Sellers.

Mary, born in 1757, married Richard Pearce in 1773, and died in 1788.

Anthony, born in 1760, married Deborah Roberts, in 1778.

Hannah, born in 1763, died in 1793.

Catherine, married Osman Hervis.

Children of

JAMES KITE—MARTHA WYNN.

B. .... B. 1708.

M. 1741.

D. .... D. 1774.

Mary, Abraham, Sarah, Jonathan, William and James.

Mary, born in 1742. Abraham, born in 1743. Sarah, born in 1744.

William, born in 1748, married, in 1785, Margarette Kyle.

James, born in 1753.

## Children of

THOMAS KITE—MARY BRIENTNAL.

B. 1719.

B. 1719.

M. 1742.

D. 1790.

D. 1768.

Susan, Deborah, Joseph, Mary, Benjamin,  
Elizabeth, John, Mary and Sarah.

Susan, born in 1743, married Mr. Burden,  
and died in 1793.

Deborah, born in 1745, married, in 1767,  
Stephen Phipps, and died in 1785.

Joseph, born in 1748, married, in 1784,  
Susan Letchworth, and died in 1834.

Mary, born in 1751, and died in 1751.

Benjamin, born in 1754, married Rebecca  
Walton in 1784, and died in 1838.

Elizabeth, born in 1756, married John  
Letchworth in 1783, and died in 1834.

John, born in 1758, died in 1764.

Mary, born in 1756, and died in 1763.

Sarah, born in 1763, and died in 1763.

This is the present Quaker branch of the  
family, they having all retained their mem-  
bership in the various meetings.

Children of

ISAAC KITE, JR.—SARAH SELLERS.

B. 1754.

B. 1760.

M. 1784.

D. 1823.

D. 1836.

Hannah, Mary Pearce, Isaac, Jr., Joseph Sellers, William, William, Benjamin and Paschall.

Hannah, born in 1785, married Benjamin Hobson, and died in 1865.

Mary Pearce, born in 1787, married William Wright in 1806, and died in 1844.

Isaac, Jr., born in 1789, married Rachel Jarden in 1812, and died in 1825.

Joseph Sellers, born in 1792, married Julian Jarden in 1812, and died in 1862.

William, born in 1794, and died in 1795.  
William, born in 1796, died in 1830.

Benjamin, born in 1799, died in 1824. Paschall was born in 1803.

The Kites were members of the Society of Friends, or Quakers, as they were called; and it is quite probable that their coming to America was hastened by the cruelties inflicted on them in England. An extract

from a book called "Sufferings of the Quakers," mentioned on a previous page, describes the case of Thomas Kite and William Kite, who were imprisoned and fined for their fealty to their church, which illustrates the suffering and indignities to which they were subjected in the old country. But with all the hardships and ignominy to which they had been exposed before coming to this country, they clung to their tenets and customs as tenaciously as before, and were as exacting in their rules as ever. One of their fundamental principles was, that hostility toward their fellow-man should never be tolerated. The bearing of arms and the taking of oaths were forbidden and strictly observed.

We find in the Radnor Records the following: "The cases of Isaac Warner, Algeron Roberts, Isaac Kite, Jr., and Richard Thomas coming under consideration, and it appearing they persist in bearing arms, it is the sense and judgment of this meeting that they have publicly renounced our peaceable principles and can not any more be deemed

members of our religious society, whilst continuing in the practice. We disown them until they, through circumspect walking, make this meeting such satisfaction as the nature of their case requires, which, through the assistance of Divine grace, they may be enabled to do, is what we desire. Date, 1776.”

When the Revolutionary War came on the Warners espoused the cause of the colonists. Isaac Warner commanded the 8th company of the Seventh Battalion of Pennsylvania Associators. Isaac Kite, Jr., though a Quaker, had too much of the old Kite proclivity for fighting, so he joined the command of his cousin, Colonel Warner, and was made an ensign in his regiment. For this conduct he was suspended from membership in the Quaker Society. He never came into fellowship in the Society again.

Children of

SAMUEL LEWIS—GRIZZELL KITE.

B. ....

M. 1706.

D. ....

Mordecai, born in 1709. John, born in 1710. Esther, born in 1713. James, born in 1720.

Children of

BENJAMIN KITE—REBECCA WALTON.

B. 1754.

B. 1765.

M. 1784.

D. 1838.

D. 1840.

Thomas, Abi, Sarah, Mary, Joseph, John L., Benjamin, Nathan and James.

Thomas, married, first, Elizabeth Barnard in 1808; second, Edith Sharpless in 1813.

Abi, born in 1784, married Joseph Walton in 1813, and died in 1865.

Sarah, born in 1790, and Mary in 1792.

Joseph, born in 1795, married first Debora Cresson in 1830. In 1850 he married Rebecca Walton, and died in 1854.

(Dr.) John L., born in 1798, married Mary Lord in 1818.

Benjamin, born in 1801, married Eliza Lawrence in 1823, and died in 1887.

Nathan, born in 1804, married Hannah Harvey in 1851, and died in 1857.



James, born in 1808, married Lydia Rodman in 1837, and died in 1855.

Children of

THOMAS KITE—ELIZABETH BARNARD.

B. 1785.

B. 1786.

M. 1808.

D. 1845.

D. 1810.

Susanna and William.

Susanna, born in 1809, married Aaron Sharpless in 1835, and died in 1844, leaving three children: Edith, born in 1835. Thomas was born in 1838, and married Susanna Parvin. Elizabeth, born in 1842, married Edward Smedley. Their children are William, Edith and Susanna.

He was a minister in the Society of Friends, and for years he was the greatest expounder of that faith, whose founder was the Prince of Peace. A book of nearly five hundred pages is devoted to his memoirs; but it gives only a synopsis of a life that must have been full of the noble efforts of a faithful follower of the meek and lowly Saviour.

Children of  
AARON SHARPLESS—SUSANNA KITE.

B. 1809.

M. 1835.

D. 1844.

Thomas, Elizabeth and Edith.

Thomas, married Susanna Parvin, and  
Elizabeth married Edward Smedley.

Children of  
WILLIAM KITE—MARY F. CLEMENTS.

B. 1810.

B. 1813.

M. 1838.

D. 1900.

D. 1888.

Esther, Thomas, Susanna and William.  
Thomas died young, and Susanna is unmarried.

Esther, born in 1839, married Samuel Alsop, Jr., in 1863.

William, born in 1853, married Margery Twining in 1888, and is now living in Los Angeles, Cal.

The following account of his death is taken from the *Public Ledger* of 1900:

“William Kite, whose death occurred Saturday, was for a great many years promi-

nent in the Society of Friends. He was born in 1810, being a son of Thomas Kite, a minister in the Society and sixth in descent from James Kite, who settled in Blockley in 1680. He was in the printing and publishing business with his father until the latter died in 1845. In 1845 he moved to Chester County, and for a short while was teacher in the West-town School. In 1868 he moved to Germantown, and for more than twenty-five years acted as librarian of the Friends Free Library. For many years he had been a minister in the Society of Friends and a member of that representative body called the 'Meeting for Sufferings.'

"William Kite's reminiscences of the Philadelphia of his early years were of great interest. He was for many years a member of the Franklin Institute, and was one of the committee appointed to repeat Franklin's famous kite experiment. The committee did this successfully, sending up an immense kite on Cherry Hill and drawing long sparks from the string. For a number of years he lived next door to Elizabeth

Claypool (Betsy Ross) and remembered her quite well.

“He was one of the oldest and most active members of the Germantown Horticultural Society.”

Children of

THOMAS KITE—EDITH SHARPLESS.

B. 1785.

B. 1777.

M. 1813.

D. 1845.

D. 1861.

Rebecca, Joshua and Thomas.

Rebecca, born in 1814, married Nathan Brown in 1848, and died in 1852, leaving one daughter named Mary Ann, who married C. C. Balderson, and one son, Thomas, who married Caroline Cadbury.

Joshua, born in 1816, and died in 1835.

Thomas, born in 1818, married Margaret Bragg in 1848, and died in 1884, leaving two children, Thomas and William.

Thomas, born in 1849, married Eva Bugbee in 1871, and is now living in Cincinnati, Ohio.

William, born in 1854, married Helen Moore in 1881. They have three children.

*THE KITE FAMILY.*

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Grace, born 1882. Thomas, born 1885,  
and William, born in 1887.

Children of

JOSEPH WALTON—ABI KITE.

B. 1784.                      B. 1784.

M. 1813.

D. 1865.                      D. 1853.

Rebecca, Charles, Joseph, Mary, Henry,  
Anna, Abby, Samuel and Jane.

Rebecca, died unmarried.

Charles, married Debora Lightfoot.

Joseph, married Lydia Lippincott.

Mary, married Nath. H. Brown.

Henry, died young, and Anna died unmar-  
ried.

Abby, married Francis Lightfoot.

Samuel, married Sarah Edgerton.

Jane, married Benjamin Lightfoot.

Children of

JOSEPH KITE—DEBORA CRESSON.

B. 1795.                      B. 1797.

M. 1830.

D. 1834.                      D. 1848.

Sarah, Elizabeth, Edward, Rebecca.

Elizabeth, died unmarried. Edward and Rebecca died young.

Joseph Kite married second, Rebecca Walton, in 1850, and by her had one daughter, Susanna.

Children of

DR. JOHN L. KITE—MARY LORD.

B. 1798.

B. 1798.

M. 1818.

John, Benjamin, Alban, Rebecca, Sarah, Ann, Lydia and James.

John, born in 1819, married Charlotte Stanley.

Benjamin, born in 1820.

Alban, died unmarried. Rebecca, Sarah, Ann and Lydia died young.

James, married Mary Bonwill in 1854.

Children of

BENJAMIN KITE—ELIZA LAWRENCE.

B. 1801.

M. 1823.

D. 1887.

Henry, Anna Marie, Sarah and John.

Henry, died young.

Anna Marie, married William S. Kirk in 1855.

Sarah M., married William Lightfoot.

John, married Mary E. Aylesworth.

Children of

NATHAN KITE—HANNAH HARVEY.

B. 1804.

B. 1818.

M. 1851.

D. 1867.

Samuel and Edith, who died young.

Rebecca, born in 1859, and Nathan in 1861. He married Anna Price.

Children of

JAMES KITE—LYDIA RODMAN.

B. 1808.

M. 1837.

D. 1856.

Ruth, James, Eliza, Rebecca, Isaac, Hannah, Abby and Lydia.

Ruth, born in 1838, married Jacob Smedley in 1865.

James, born in 1840, married Ruth Millhouse in 1867, and died in 1908, leaving three daughters: Lydia B., born 1868; Mary M., born in 1874, and Anna S., born in 1877.

Eliza and Isaac died young.

Rebecca, born in 1843, married J. W. Masters. Their children are: Helen, who married Samuel B. Wray; Gertrude and Herbert.

Lydia, married A. Richards.

Abby, married Thomas McCollin.

Children of

JOSEPH SELLERS KITE—JULIA JARDEN.

B. 1792.

B. 1796.

M. 1812.

D. 1862.

D. 1833.

Joseph Jarden, Elizabeth Marple, Ann Eliza, William L., Charles Pitman, Isaac Fletcher.

Joseph Jarden, married Harriet Pfiel.

Elizabeth Marple, married Dr. W. W. Watson.

Ann Eliza, married Jacob Snyder.

Alexander Jarden, married Josephine Hare.

Isaac Fletcher, married Julia Glenn.

Charles Pitman, married Elizabeth Dutton.

William, married Rachel Dutton.



Children of  
JOSEPH SELLERS KITE—JANE MORGAN.  
(His second wife.)

B. 1792.

M. 1834.

D. 1862.

D. 1882.

Thomas, Samuel and Henry.

Thomas, born in 1834, married Emma Jane Widener, and died in 1870, leaving a daughter, Adele, who married John Fitzgerald in 1879. They have one son, Wesley Carew, who married Esther Fithian in 1904.

Samuel, who was born in 1836, died in 1906.

Henry, born in 1839, married Mary Evans in 1877, and died in 1900.

Children of  
ELIZABETH M. KITE—DR. W. W. WATSON.

B. 1817.

B. 1814.

M. 1837.

D. 1902.

D. 1847.

William Wilkins and John M.

William Wilkins, born in 1843, married Amanda Carr in 1870, and died in 1902, leaving two children, Bessie and William.

Bessie was born in 1871, and married James Henry Millhouse in 1891, and has two children, Marion, born 1893, and Helen, born in 1895.

Children of

WILLIAM L. KITE—RACHEL M. DUTTON.

William L., Jr., born 1854, died 1907; married Mary Shields, who died 1887.

Joseph Dutton, born 1856, died 1905; married Mary Kline.

Mary Dutton, married Geo. B. Johnson.

George M., born 1861, married twice: First, Mary P. DeFreitas; second, Sallie Z. Morejon.

Wilson J., born 1866, married Katherine Remson.

Children of

CHARLES PITMAN KITE—ELIZ. DUTTON.

B. 1826.

B. 1831.

M. 1851.

D. 1899.

D. 1896.

Joseph Sellers, Charles Pitman, Mary Dutton, Martha Klapp, Frank Watson.

Joseph Sellers, married Amanda Cresson in 1879. Charles Pitman was born in 1854

and died in 1856. Mary Dutton was born in 1856 and died in 1857. Mary Klapp was born in 1858. Frank Watson was born in 1861 and married Fannie Brunker in 1881. They have three children: Charles Pitman, Robert Brunker, Edith Brunker.

Children of

JOSEPH SELLERS KITE—AMANDA CRESSON.

B. 1852.

B. 1857.

M. 1879.

Mabel C., born 1880. Charles, born in 1883. William, born in 1885, and died in 1886. Elizabeth, born 1888. Josephine, born 1891.

Children of

ISAAC FLETCHER KITE—JULIA R. GLENN.

B. 1827

B. 1834.

M. 1852.

D. 1905.

D. 1905.

William, Annie, Claud and Blanche all died young. Their only surviving son, Louis Stanwood, who was born in 1857, married Abbie M. Hovey in 1884, and by her had four children: Elsa Glenn, born in 1886. Alan Mansfield, born in 1888. Katherine Tunis,

born in 1896, and died in 1897. Louis Hovey, born in 1898.

Children of

ALEXANDER J. KITE—JOSEPHINE HARE.

B. 1830.

B. 1833.

M. 1850.

D. 1899.

D. 1896.

Charles Hare, who was born in 1851, married Emma Morris in 1876, and died in 1877, leaving one daughter named Charlesemma.

Joseph Sellers was born in 1854, and married first, Sarah Jamieson in 1874. She died in 1885. He then married, in 1889, Mary Jahke, and by her had two children: John, born in 1890, and Joseph, born in 1892.

Mary, born in 1856, and died in 1907.

Florence J., born in 1858, married in 1886 Alban Reid, and by him had three children: Florence, born 1888. Josephine, born 1889. Alban E., born 1894.

Alexander Clarence was born in 1861. Annie E. was born in 1863. Jane Bell was born in 1865, and married in 1887 Oscar Johnson. They have three children: Wil-



HOME OF LOUIS S. KITE, BEVERLY, N. J.



liam, born 1888. Mildred, born 1890. Gertrude, born 1892. Elizabeth Watson, born 1868. Virginia, born 1871. Josephine, born 1873 and died 1874.

Children of

CHARLES WALTON—DEBORA LIGHTFOOT.

M. 1848.

Elizabeth, Charles, William and Francis.

William, born in 1849, married Dolores Palmer.

Charles, born in 1851, married Mary Norton.

Elizabeth, born in 1852, married Curtis Warrington.

Francis was born in 1857.

Children of

MARY WALTON—NATHANIEL BROWN.

M. 1854.

D. 1857.

Abby W., born 1854.

Children of

SAMUEL WALTON—SARAH EGERTON.

M. 1854.

Joseph, James, Francis, Abby and Anna.

Joseph, born in 1855, married Mary Shepherd in 1883.

James, born in 1857, married Anna Branson in 1886, and Sarah Star in 1888.

Francis, born in 1861, married Louise Sidewell in 1888.

Abby, born in 1864, married Alfred Elkontin in 1885.

Anna, born in 1859.

Children of

JAMES KITE—MARY BONWELL.

M. 1854.

J. Alban, James, Anna and Elizabeth.

J. Alban, born 1855, married Elizabeth Sholl.

James, died young.

Anna, born 1859, married Oliver Cope.

Children of

JOHN L. KITE—MARY E. AYLESWORTH.

B. 1819.

M. 1849.

Eliza, Walter, Dora, Henry, Alice, Anna and Agnes.

Eliza, Walter and Dora died young.



*THE KITE FAMILY.*

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Henry, born in 1852. Alice, born 1854.  
Anna, born in 1861. Agnes, born in 1861.

Children of  
RUTH KITE—JACOB SMEDLEY.

B. 1838.                      B. 1835.

M. 1865.

D. 1893.

Lydia, Caroline and Alice.

Lydia, born in 1868. Caroline, born in  
1869. Alice, born in 1876, and died in 1907.

Children of  
JOSEPH WRAY—HANNAH KITE.

Edith, Alfred and Josephine.

Children of  
THOMAS MCCOLLIN—LYDIA KITE.

Edith Ruth.

Children of  
SAMUEL ALSOP—ESTHER KITE.

B. 1839.

M. 1863.

Mary, Susan, Rachel, Edmund, William  
and Esther.

Mary, married Lloyd Banderston in 1886.  
Susan, married William Bell. Rachel, mar-  
ried Mr. Carter. Edmund, married Bertha

Sinquette in 1894. Esther, married Carming Harris.

Children of

LLOYD BALDERTSON—MARY ALSOP.

M. 1886.

John Lloyd, born in 1889. Esther, born in 1891. Catherine, born in 1893.

Children of

EDMUND ALSOP—BERTHA SINQUETTE.

M. 1894.

Samuel and Beatrice.

Children of

JOSEPH WALTON—MARY SHEPHERD.

B. 1855.

M. 1883.

Anna C.

Children of

C. C. BALDERSTON—MARY BROWN.

Henry, Walter, Marianna and Edith.

Children of

THOMAS BROWN—CAROLINE CADBURY.

B. 1851.

Richard, Bertha, Shipley, Clements and Marianna died young. Thomas Carroll and Lydia.

*THE KITE FAMILY.*

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Children of  
WILLIAM WALTON—DOLORES PALMER.  
B. 1849.

Raymond and Edith.

Children of  
CHARLES WALTON—MARY NORTON.  
B. 1851.

C. Dwight, William, Percy James, Herbert, Samuel and Joseph.

Children of  
JOSEPH WALTON—MARY SHEPHERD.  
B. 1855.

M. 1883.

Anna G.

Children of  
JAMES WALTON—SARAH STAR.  
(his second wife).  
B. 1855.

M. 1888.

Rebecca.

Children of  
ALFRED ELKINTON—ABBY WALTON.  
B. 1864.

M. 1885.

Edith who died young. Alfred and Anna.

## Children of

J. ALBAN KITE—ELIZABETH SHOLL.

B. 1855.

Albanae, Barbara and St. Alban.

This completes the line of descent of the Pennsylvania branch of the family, as far as we have been able to connect them.

We will now take up that branch of the family which more immediately concerns us.

**The Virginia Kites**

It is impossible to give the precise date of their coming to Virginia, but from the best calculation that we can make, it must have been early in the seventeenth century.

James Kite, son of James Kite, Sr., was born on the 21st of October, 1682. He married Hannah Medlicott. She died May 17th, 1715. There are no records of births from this union, and all that we have respecting him is that he came to Virginia.

It is assumed that he married again, and was the father of William Kite, who settled in Orange County, Va. William Kite then appears to be the first definite or properly

located Kite in Virginia. We have no record of him, except that he lived in Orange County, Va., and had four sons, named William, Martin, Reuben and Benjamin. Reuben died young and Benjamin never married.

William, the oldest son, married Elizabeth Harnsberger, a member of one of Virginia's most prominent families. They lived in Orange County for a number of years, but later moved across the mountain into Rockingham County, Va., where he died in 1838. His wife survived him a few years and died in 1843.

The section of country to which they removed was then an attractive field for investment; and men of less sagacity than William Kite saw the opportunity for future development. This is to-day one of the most prosperous sections of Virginia. From one mountain to the other, the whole landscape is a succession of beautiful farms and handsome residences. These farms are all in a high state of cultivation, and yield crops of great value.

Mineral springs, whose health restoring properties have made them famous, abound in this section. The Elkton Lithia is one of these, and is part of the estate which William Kite left to his heirs. It is now owned by his grandchildren and is one of the most delightful health resorts in Virginia.

They had three girls and five boys. Sallie, Barbara, Malinda. Wesley, oldest son of William, died young. William, Conrad, Hiram and Joseph.

The eldest daughter, Sallie, was born in 1804 and married Jacob Miller, of Rockingham County, Virginia. They had two children, Mary and Henry.

Mary married Maj. J. C. Walker. They had eight children—three sons and five daughters, A. C. Walker, John and William Walker, Malinda, Lou, Edna, Sallie and Mattie.

A. C. Walker married Miss Elsie Roberson.

Malinda and Edna died young.

Lou, Sallie and Mattie live in Luray, Virginia.

We have no information as to John and Willie.

Dr. Henry Miller, son of Sallie and Jacob Miller, married Victoria Almond. They had two children—Edith and Wilbur. Dr. Miller was a close student and a busy practitioner. His practice extended over a large territory, and was not limited by his county; but wherever the name of Dr. Miller was known he was needed, and wherever he was most needed he was found, regardless of personal comfort. He was greatly beloved and sadly missed.

His daughter, Edith, married Mr. Lowton, of Washington, D. C. His son Wilbur, is unmarried, and lives at the old homestead Ida, Page County, Va.

Barbara Ann, second daughter of William Kite, was born in 1807 and died in 1865. She married Dr. S. B. Jennings, of Rockingham, Page County, Va. A most excellent physician, who died in 1886. They had eight children.

Thomas, born in 1835 and died in 1837.

Annie, born in 1837. William, born in 1837 and died in 1900. Elizabeth, born in 1840. Virginia, born in 1842 and died in 1843. Marietta, born in 1843, died in 1845. Mary, born in 1846. Malinda, born in 1849 and died in 1861.

Malinda, third daughter of William Kite, was born in 1808. She was never married, and died in 1892.

William Kite was born in 1812. He never married, and died in 1889.

Conrad, sixth child of William Kite, was born in 1858. He married Carrie Alabough. They had three children, Emma, Carrie and Siddie V. Emma married David Strawsburg, of Staunton, Va. They had four children—Siddie, Clark, Carrie and Reese. Siddie V. married David Balstin. Their children were, Emma, Katie Lee and Carrie.

Hiram, the seventh child of William Kite, was born in 1818 and died in 1907. He married Margaret Miller and had seven children—Charles, Edwin, H.A. Kite, Mary, Florence, Fannie and Susan. Hiram exhibited many of the characteristics of the



original Kites. He was a member of the State militia before the war, and in 1861 he enlisted in the Confederate army. He was elected Captain of Company H, Second Regiment Volunteers, and served gallantly throughout the war. After the close of the war he devoted himself to the peaceful pursuits of a country gentleman, which, after his arduous life in the army, must have afforded him great pleasure. Among his numerous enterprises, he developed the famous Elkton Lithia Springs, which to-day stands a monument to his progressive spirit.

His oldest son, Charles, enlisted in the army and was killed at the battle of Chancellorsville, at the age of 18 years.

Edwin and Mary still live at the old homestead and own the Lithia Springs, formerly alluded to.

Susan died in 1869 and Florence in 1899. Neither of them were ever married.

Fannie married J. C. Funkhouser, of Elkton, Va.

H. A. Kite married Amanda Funkhouser. They have two children—Edgar and William.

Joseph, eighth and youngest child of William Kite, was born in 1823, and died in 1889. He married Sarah Miller, of Rockingham, Va. They had four children. Thomas and Annie who never married. Ernest died young. Charles married Annie Downey.

Joseph Kite was elected First Lieutenant of Company A at Conrad's Store, now Elkton, Va., a volunteer company, which was called the "Riverton Invincibles." They were called into active service in July at Harper's Ferry, and mustered into the Confederate Army as Company I, Tenth Virginia Regiment. He was postmaster of Elkton for a number of years, and was a man of great influence in his community.

Martin, second son of William, Sr., was born in 1776 and died in 1838. He married Elizabeth Koiner, and lived near Grove Hill, Va. His distinguishing characteristic, or habit rather, was his persistency. His death was due to the habit of carrying his thumbs in the arm-holes of his vest. He had practiced this habit so long that he was drowned

with his thumbs so entangled in the arm-holes of his vest that he could not remove them, even to save his life.

His wife, who was Elizabeth Koiner, was a woman of very rare intelligence, and in personal appearance was tall, thin and rather frail; she had a bright, kindly eye, a frank, honest face, and was gifted with that fluency of speech and refreshing vivacity that made friends everywhere.

They had seven children—George, Jacob C., John, James, David, Mary and Elizabeth.

George Kite, oldest son of Martin, was born in 1790, and died in 1867. He lived at Columbia Mills, Page County, Va. He was twice married. His first wife was Elizabeth Long. They had six children—Martin, Hiram, Noah, Harden, Catherine and Jane. His second wife was Susan Housden, and they had five children—George, Siram, Charles, James and Amanda.

Martin, oldest son of George Kite, married Miss Sheler, of Newport News, Va. They removed to Warthanville, Mo.

Hiram, second son of George Kite, married Arianna, daughter of Rev. Ambrose Henkle, of New Market, Va. They lived at the old homestead, which he sold to Dr. H. M. Keyser a few days before the great flood of 1870. He then removed to Odessa, Mo. They had four children, two boys and two girls. Heromannus, the oldest, married Julia Strickler. Ambrose, the youngest son, married Margaret Taylor. They have three children and are living in Oklahoma.

Mary Kite married Ambrose Henkle.

Noah, the third son of George Kite, married Isabella, daughter of Jacob C. Kite. She was born in 1822 and drowned in the flood of 1870. They had eight children—Belzoria, Victoria, Elenora, Erasmus, Eudora, George, and two younger sons, Edgar and Ashby.

Belzoria was born in 1845 and married Capt. A. A. Keyser. He was captain in the Confederate Army, and after the war he settled near Honeyville, Va. They had ten children, four sons and six daughters—Wil-

liam, Carter, George, Harry, Nannie, Bettie, Essie, Minnie, Lena and Myrtle. William lives near Washington, D. C. Carter married Miss Sutfin, of Rappahannock, Va. George, after the flood of 1870, went to Missouri, where he died in 1906. Harry and Lena live at the old homestead. Nannie married Frank Brumback, of Luray, Va. They have two children—Edna and Vernon. Bettie married J. L. Bailey, of Marksville, Va. Essie married Granville Koontz, of Shenandoah, Va. Minnie married Mr. Aylor, of Madison, Va. He owns and operates a large chair factory. Myrtle married Lucian Aylor.

Victoria, second daughter of Noah Kite, was born in 1849. She married James O. Clore, of Madison, Va. He was a man of rare character and greatly beloved. He was endowed with that happy faculty of attracting children, and was generally known as "Uncle Jimmy." He was an energetic business man, as well as a devout Christian. He owned a large farm and a factory for making fine furniture, which he shipped in quantities to England.

They had six children—James, Edward, Belle, Nannie, Eva and Essie. Belle and Nannie married brothers, the Messrs. Crigler, of Madison Court House, Va. Eva married her cousin, Walter, son of Siram Kite, who is now with the U. S. navy. James married Miss Crigler. Essie and Edward are unmarried and live at home, Madison, Va.

Eleanora, third daughter of Noah Kite, married Edward Norman in 1869. She was at home on a visit, and was drowned with the family in 1870. The rest of the family of Noah Kite were drowned except the little boy, George, who was carried to the barn by Mr. Martin, and Erasmus, who drifted to a straw stack, where he lived thirty-six hours before being rescued by the neighbors.

Noah Kite and his family lived at Columbia Mills, Va., where he owned and operated a large flour mill, a store, and other enterprises that made Columbia a busy little mart. He was a man of great energy, public spirited and surrounded by a happy family and contented employees. This little

community, blessed with so much to make them satisfied and happy, presented a condition of domestic tranquility seldom found in the country. His farm was an ideal one, well stocked and highly cultivated, which was a source of pride to the whole family. Proud of his heritage, and with an intelligent, loving wife and children, no man could have desired more.

This was the picture of Noah Kite and his family when the terrible flood of September 19th, 1870, burst upon them. A ceaseless downpour of rain had continued for several days, and the little streams soon widened into creeks, and the river that had always been so placid and beautiful, winding its way among the farms, and by its perpetual activity encouraging the natives to greater exertion, had grown into a raging torrent, that swept the low grounds of every living thing in its path. The rain continued and the waters in the river rose higher and spread wider and wider over the beautiful farms. The poor, bewildered farmers looked in dismay upon their vanishing crops, but

no one had the remotest idea that any worse danger threatened them.

Alfred Kite and Bob Aleshire had been busy all day loading a boat, and had put on 125 barrels of flour to be ready to ship to market on the rising tide. The waters were rising so fast that they soon fastened the boat to the second story window of the mill. As the mill was higher than a great many of the cottages, there had gathered friends and neighbors who by night felt that their only means of safety lay in the boat. The flour was thrown overboard, and the little company chambered into the boat. They climbed through the narrow window into the boat, which was soon torn from its fastenings by the force of the raging torrent, and with its helpless load started on its journey down the rushing river. In the boat were Charles Rogers, his wife and child, Jarvis Martin, Jack Stoneberger, B. W. B.'s wife and child. Alfred Kite and Bob Aleshire manned the little craft. How they watched the lights here and there, that represented home and safety, while they



were tearing madly along, they knew not whither. Onward and onward they went until Alfred Kite's oar struck a drift with such force as to throw him overboard, and capsized the boat. By desperate effort they all succeeded in getting onto the drift. With the first faint light of dawn people, who had gathered on the banks of the river saw their awful plight, and all day long tried to rescue them, but could not succeed, and night again closed in on the little family on the restless, pulsating bundle of straw. The drift upon which they had taken refuge grew stronger and more secure as the debris accumulated. Here they lived thirty-six hours in actual friendly relation with all the creeping things of earth. But the terror of the elements had dulled the hostile instincts of both. The reptiles seemed to creep closer as if for companionship, and the women and children did not seem afraid of those unnatural companions. Mr. Aleshire lost his life while trying to reach the drift; Dan Kite, brother of Alfred, put forth heroic efforts to help those in distress, all of whom

were rescued except Aleshire and Stoneberger.

On the evening of the 19th of September, 1870, Noah Kite saw the dark muddy waters gradually rising in the house. When the first floor was untenable, he took his family to the next floor, and soon the second floor was flooded, and with all possibility of escape gone they could do nothing but climb out on the roof and pray for deliverance. His wife and children were all out on the roof in the pelting, ceaseless rain that still continued. Night came on, and in the pitchy darkness the old home began to rock, and in a moment it swung from its moorings, and with its cargo of humanity, and the accumulation of years in the old house, it dashed down the stream, impatient at the time these helpless doomed people had to live. No pen can describe the anguish of their hearts as they looked upon their little ones in their helplessness. One by one the children lost their hold and were swallowed up by the murderous waters. With their hearts breaking, and their prayers for rescue

unanswered, they still tried with all their might to hold the children together. But with all their efforts, as the old housetop careened and trembled, they would find another one gone, and then another, until none were left but the father and mother. They had seen their little ones drop into the very jaws of death unable to do more than say farewell. These two, who had been devoted companions for so many years, and who had bestowed upon their children such a wealth of loving care, and who had feasted their souls in the pride of their loved ones, had seen their offering, as it appeared to them, refused and cast aside, and they stood now bereft of every gift of God but their immortal souls, and these, the devouring waters demanded. Louder than the roar of the flood was heard the breaking of the timbers, and the old house went to picees. The souls of these good old people went up out of the water and joined their children.

Nothing in the annals of history equals the horrors of this flood of the Shenandoah, except the Johnstown flood.

Many persons were drowned, houses were washed away and the destruction of the corn and wheat crops and cattle along the course of the river was incalculable.

Noah Kite's body was found six months after the flood in a drift in Long's bottom, recent rains having washed the debris away, disclosing a human body, which was identified by a ring he wore as Noah Kite's. His wife's body was found a few weeks after the flood in Long's bottom also. Eudora, the beautiful daughter, was found in the top of a sycamore tree near Luray. As she was known to be an expert swimmer, it is supposed she swam to this tree, where she died from exhaustion. Elenora Kite Norman's body was found at Front Royal, a distance of thirty miles from home. The two younger sons' bodies were found on Mr. Henkle's farm, and tenderly laid to rest in the old Kite burying ground.

Before the blinding, driving rain began, how beautifully glowed the green fields, the well-staked vineyards, the luscious apples blushing in the rays of the rising sun, the

mighty hills tranquil as eternity, covered with hay-stacks and grain and all the products of nature that make the farmer contented. This verdant valley became in a night a mere waste of sand and debris.

Fortune, that smiled so benignantly on Noah Kite's family one day, had turned a devastating hand upon them the next, and the two boys who escaped death found themselves bereft of everything on earth but themselves. Their fortunes had gone with the drowned family down the river, and they had to seek shelter and a place to lay their heads among their more fortunate friends.

Erasmus, second son of Noah Kite, married Miss Biedler. They went to Missouri to live, where he made rapid progress in his business career.

George, the youngest son of Noah Kite, married Emma Buraker. They moved to Missouri, where he died in 1886, leaving a wife and several children.

Harden, fourth son of George Kite, married Mrs. Jenkins, of Grove Hill.

Catherine, daughter of George Kite, accidentally fell into a caldron of boiling water and was so badly scalded that she died in a few hours. The sadness of her untimely death was intensified by the fact that she was to have been married in a few days to Gideon Brubaker, of Massanutton.

Jane, the youngest daughter of George Kite by his first marriage, was crushed to death by the enormous water wheel at her father's mill, when she was only four years old.

George, Jr., died from lock-jaw, caused by a nail in his foot.

Amanda died at the age of 24.

Siram, son of George Kite, was born in 1845 and died in 1906. He married his cousin, Emma Kite, of Liberty Mills. He was a splendid business man and accumulated quite a fortune. He was noted for his jovial disposition, and was one of those happy characters who always enjoyed life. He served in Company K in the Confederate Army, and after the war he engaged in busi-

ness in Syria, Va., where he lived until his death in 1906. They had nine children.

John, who married Eva Clore, and is now living in Washington, D. C.

James, Belvin, Bessie, Gertrude and Rosa are unmarried and live at the old home, Syria, Va.

Mary married W. E. Varner, of Luray, Va.

Nellie married K. O. Lucas, of Ohio.

Delia married Frank Smith, of West Virginia.

Charles Kite, son of George Kite, married Bettie Renalds, of Madison, Va. Their son, Lester, who was educated at Princeton, has accepted the Professorship of Biology at the State Normal School at Farmville, Va. Dr. Kite filled the same chair in the Chicago University for a number of years.

James, son of George Kite, married Rosa Graves, of Madison, where they still reside.

Jacob C. Kite, son of Martin, was born in 1792 and died in 1870. He married Catherine Slagle in 1817. She was born in 1798

and died in 1886. She was a daughter of George and Catherine Koiner Slagle. Her father was an officer in the War of 1812. During the ceremonies at the unveiling of the Michael Koiner Monument, the President exhibited silver buttons that were worn on the coat of George Slagle in the War of 1812. Mrs. Slagle's mother was a Koiner, niece of the illustrious Henry Clay. Mrs. Kite was a woman of rare culture and possessed many of the characteristics of the Clay family. Patriotic and loyal, over fifty of her relatives enlisting in the Confederacy. She devoted much of her life to the practice of medicine. She was very competent and her practice extended for many miles. Her presence gave courage and hope to the afflicted, and her skilled hand was always open to the suffering. Possessed of abundant means, she never charged for her services, which were always at the command of the suffering. She was a devoted member of the Lutheran Church.

Jacob Kite was exceedingly fortunate in the selection of such a noble woman for his



wife. She assisted him in his multifarious duties, and being a progressive man and owning a large estate of both land and slaves, it required great skill to manage his affairs. When Jacob Kite was married he bought and located in the heart of the Page Valley.

The writer will be pardoned for saying more about this lovely valley than would appear necessary in writing a family history. It was the home of our grandparents and around it cluster memories dear and cherished by their descendants.

This Page Valley is one of the most beautiful localities in the world. It is surrounded by lofty mountains, upon which great forests of stately oaks, huge chestnuts, and the majestic pines, have stood for ages unmolested, and have contributed their protecting influence on the seasons that have added so much to its attractiveness. These towering mountains are now known to contain mineral deposits of copper and the more precious metals, the wealth of which is incalculable. Mines have been opened, great,

heavy machinery has been dragged up these craggy mountain sides, and where centuries ago the Indian trail was indistinct, to-day you will find modern roads, built for hauling out the wealth that has lain hidden since it was placed there by the Creator. If one had the power to look into the great beneficent plans of the Creator, he would understand why these storehouses of mineral wealth have so long been undiscovered and left for the present generation to unearth. But these opportunities were not meant for our forefathers, who with all their daring and progressiveness were restricted to their original latitude of husbandmen.

They went down in the valley, and built their homes for their wives and little ones, and they built more wisely than they knew, for now, after all these years, the farms they opened up are as fertile as ever. It has developed that the discovery of these mineral deposits was left for the present generation. Could we interpret the map and plan of the great Geologist who made them, we would find that they would be needed and brought

forth from their hiding at this period of evolution.

The Massanutton Mountain, that shelters this little valley on the west, and was named after the first Indian chieftain that tradition or history furnishes us. He is described as having been a man of Herculean stature, uncompromising in his opinions, cruel in his nature, bitter and vindictive towards the white people. To show his inflexible nature and the inexorable law of savagedom at that time I will take the liberty of repeating a few verses of the beautiful legend of the Luray Cave, written by Pauline Rust:

“All was still that summer morning;  
Silence seemed to pause and glow,  
'Till the forest hushed to listen  
To the river singing low.

Through the dark depth of the forest,  
Following close the tortuous path,  
Came a band of stern-faced warriors,  
To appease their Chieftain's wrath.

Ranged themselves in mute dark circles,  
Round their Captive's lithe young form,  
That stood proudly up, undaunted,  
Ready now to breast the storm.

'Ye have come this day, my brothers,  
Twenty warriors, brave and strong;  
Ye shall hear the shameful story,  
And avenge Wahnona's wrong.

'Thou wert false, oh, Messinetto,  
False to squaw, and sire, and race,  
And thy blood, oh, Messinetto,  
Can not wash out thy disgrace.

'Thou hast left thy red-faced brothers,  
Mated with the pale-faced dove;  
Bear our curse, oh, Messinetto,  
Endless death, for faithless love.

'Thou shalt perish, Messinetto,  
Far away from name and race,  
Where the smile of the Great Spirit  
Will not touch thy burial place.'

Ere the moon rose o'er the mountain,  
Hidden deep from human eye,  
They had left their mute young victim  
There to slowly starve and die.

In the vast and solemn grandeur  
Of the wondrous Luray Cave,  
Messinetto's bones are lying,  
In a strange and stately grave."

This young Indian, untutored except in  
the school where savages taught this inex-  
orable law of the Medes and Persians, and

untaught except in the principles of affinity, which was then his only guide, he committed the offense of following out the impulses of his love for the white "Dove" who had won his affection. Honest and sincere in his purpose, and conscious of his right to follow the dictates of his strongest force, he married a white girl with whom he had fallen in love. His father held a council of his warriors and related to them the story of his son's disloyalty. Having no sense of pity and, on the contrary, hating the white race with all the bitterness of their natures, this poor, helpless son was arraigned before the council and sentenced to death. But, as stern and unrelenting as these men of the woods were, and although they were accustomed to the most atrocious deeds of blood, not one could steel his arm to kill the favorite son of the old chief. But, as he was doomed to die, some other mode of death must be substituted. So it was decided that he should be entombed alive in a near-by cavern. This was done, and so carefully was the cavern closed that it remained undiscovered for centuries afterwards. The bones of Messinetto

can be seen embedded in the rock floor of one of the largest rooms in the cave. After days and weeks of agony and exhaustion he dragged himself to this chamber and expiated his offense, with no witness to this sacrifice but the Great Author of all things, who has declared that the strongest principle, Human or Divine, is that attribute called *love*.

It is in the heart of this valley, famous for its beauty and healthfulness, and consecrated by the fate of Messinetto, that Jacob Kite made his home. He settled at what used to be called Kite P. O., near Marks-ville. He owned from the top of one ridge to the top of the other. He built a substantial brick house, which is still occupied by his daughter-in-law, Mrs. V. A. Kite. He built a large flour mill, also a wool carding mill. He farmed extensively and did a general mercantile business. He was postmaster for years. He owned a great many slaves. He was a man of wonderful influence, a member of the Lutheran Church.

Their children were five sons and five daughters—Julia Ann, William H., Isabella,



THE OLD KITE HOMESTEAD, MARKSVILLE, VA.





George L., Elizabeth, O. H. Perry, Mary Catherine, Jacob R., Angelina and Martin V. B. Julia Ann was born in 1818, and married Col. Andrew Grayson, of Marksville. They had two children, Clarinda and Ada. Clarinda married Phillip Hutchinson and had six children. William, his eldest son, married Miss Rosenberger, and is a very successful dentist in Norfolk, Va.

John, the second son of Philip Hutchinson, married Lillie Kibler. They have one son, Harry, and live at Stanley, Va.

Edward married Ella Henderson, and live at the old homestead, Marksville, Va. They have two children, Mabel and Alice.

Allen Hutchinson married Annie Bailey.

Kirby Hutchinson went to New England.

Dora, only daughter of Philip Hutchinson, married John L. Koontz. They have four children, Eva, Leo, Evelina and Virginia.

Ada, second daughter of Colonel Grayson, married Uriah Silvus, of the Shenandoah Valley.

William H., eldest son of Jacob Kite, was born in 1820, and married Rebecca Blosser, of Blosserville, the town being named for

her father. They moved to Liberty Mills, Orange County, Va., in 1848, where he bought a large estate. He was postmaster of Liberty Mills thirty-three years. Their children are: Emma, Jane, Lizzie, Millard, Walter, John and James. Emma married her cousin, Siram Kite, of Syria, Va.

Jane born in 1845, married David Coffman, of Texas.

Lizzie married Melton Varner, of Missouri. They have two children. Millard, born in 1851, married Mary Gist, of Loudon County, Va. They have four children—Mary, Elizabeth, Samuel and Rebecca.

Walter, born 1867, married Miss Croner, a descendant of one of the old Spanish families of Florida, in 1906. They have one daughter, Anita. Walter is a surgeon of the United States navy, with rank of Lieutenant.

John married Mary, daughter of Dr. C. W. Beale, in 1886. They have three children, and live in Somerset, Va.

James, born in 1843, married Mary Lester Newman. They live at Liberty Mills, Va.

Isabella, daughter of Jacob Kite, was born in 1822, and married Noah Kite.

George L., fourth child of Jacob Kite, was born in 1825, and was twice married—first, to Martha, daughter of Daniel Koontz; second, to Nannie Koontz. His first children were: Bettie, Jake, Dan, Billie, Annie, Ella, Newton, Cora Lee, Samuel, George L. L., Sarah and Susan. His second children are Ethel and Ashby.

Bettie married Howard Lillard, of Madison, Va. They have nine children—William, born in 1870; Lizzie, 1874; Frank, 1875; Edward, 1872; Martha, 1878; Annie, 1880; Bessie May, 1883; Thomas, 1885; and Ruth, 1889. Lizzie married Thomas Early, of Madison Court House, Va.

Edward is a very successful physician of Norfolk, Va.

Martha married Emmett Daniel, of Madison, Va. They have two children, Mary and Thomas.

Annie and Bessie died unmarried.

Thomas, Ruth and Frank live with their parents in Madison, Va.

Jake, son of George Kite, was born in

1852. He married Emma Long in 1876. They have one son, Homer, who married Eva Clore.

Dan Kite married Leah Renalds. They live in Madison, Va.

Billy married his cousin, Lillie Kite, and lives in Augusta, Va.

Annie Kite married Henry Biedler. They have nine children, and live in Culpeper, Va.

Ella Kite married Sumpter Kibler, of Stanley, Va. They have two children, Rufus and Grayce. Grayce married Charles Foote in 1908. Newton married Mary Reid. They have two children, Edna and Bernard.

Cora Lee was twice married—first to James Graves, by whom she had three children, George, Lillian and Beulah; second, to James Kibler.

Samuel married Bessie Cave. They have four children.

George L. L. married Eva, daughter of Judge St. John, of Bristol, Tenn.

Susan, daughter of George Kite, married Dr. John F. Long, a man of great ability and strength of character, very successful in his

profession. They have four children—George, Esther, Sadie and Mamie.

Esther married Edgar Brubaker, and they have three children.

George, who is a very bright and engaging young man, is in Medical College at Richmond, Va.

Sadie married Willie Brubaker, by whom she has two children.

Mamie married John, son of Rev. Samuel Spitler, of Marksville, Va.

Elizabeth, daughter of Jacob Kite, was born in 1837. She married John Brubaker, of Luray, Va., who died in 1908, 77 years of age. They had seven children—Lee, Hunter O., Fannie, Laura, Sallie, Minnie and Linda.

Lee married Miss Johns, daughter of Rev. Johns, of Washington, D. C. They are living in Luray, Va.

Hunter O. is a very earnest minister of the Methodist Church. He married Miss Grove, and lives in Washington, D. C.

Sallie married Charles Miller, of Elkton, Va.

Fannie married Jacob Bear, of the Bear Lithia Springs, in 1881. They have five children—John and Eugene, who are druggists; Warfield, who is a very successful electrician, and lives in Elkton, Va.; Laura and Elizabeth are still in their teens.

Laura, daughter of John Brubaker, married Henry Weiner, of Maryland, in 1884.

Minnie Brubaker married William Brumback, of Marksville, Va.

Linda Brubaker married Mr. McCune, of Augusta, Va.

O. H. Perry, son of Jacob Kite, was born January 20th, 1830. He enlisted in the Confederate Army in 1861 and was elected Lieutenant in Company H, Thirty-third Virginia Regiment, Stonewall's Brigade, May 12, 1861. He was wounded at Bull Run on the 21st of July, just two months after his enlistment. A singular fatality seemed to follow this company. Every commissioned officer that belonged to the company during the war was either killed or wounded. It soon came to be understood when one was elected to office in this company that he was

doomed to be shot. He recovered from the wound received at Bull Run and was with this command in nearly all the engagements of the army of Northern Virginia. This company is said to have lost more men than any other company in the regiment. The number killed was sixty-one and seventy-three wounded out of a total of two hundred. He was in the battle of Antietam, Spottsylvania, Chancellorsville and Gettysburg. He was again wounded in 1863. This time he was shot in the side, and the ball was never removed. He was never strong again after this wound, which no doubt hastened his death, which occurred May 5th, 1866, just four months after his marriage to Aletha Susan, daughter of Dr. McCloud, of Frederic City, Md.

Mary Catherine, daughter of Jacob Kite, was born in 1828 and died in 1908. She married Munroe Buracker in 1848. They had six children—Samuel, Martin, Bettie, Jacob, Emma and Virginia.

Samuel married Lillie Reid, and has one daughter, Lucy.

Martin married Hattie Green and has one daughter.

Bettie married David Judy. They have three children. James, who is living in Ohio. Frank married McGinnis, of Charlottesville, Va. Pearl married Mr. Cline, of Covington, Va.

Virginia married Calvin Mauck, of Wolf-town, Md.

Jacob Buracker married Cordelia Bailey, of Marksville, Va.

Emma Buracker married George Kite and moved to Missouri.

Jacob R., son of Jacob Kite, was born in 1834. He married Sarah Lionberger in 1855. He was a brave soldier in the Confederate army and served under the immortal Stonewall Jackson. He was at Chancellorsville when that great warrior fell, and afterwards he was in nearly all the battles of the Army of Northern Virginia. They had seven children—Charles, S. E. Kite, Lillie, Lou, Blanche, William, Lester and Nina.

Charles was born in 1857 and died in 1904. He was twice married—first, to Maggie Wagner; second, to Eva Watkins.



S. E. Kite was born in 1858. He married Miss Dovel, and they have five children—Harry, Samuel, Myrtle, Clarette and Lloyd. Harry and Samuel live in Washington, D. C.

Lillie, eldest daughter of Jacob Kite, was born in 1862. She married her cousin, William Kite, of Augusta, Va.

William Kite was born in 1858, and married Maud Jones in 1900.

Blanche was born in 1869. She married Frank Philips, of Marksville, Va. They have two children, Iva and Ruth.

Lester was born in 1874 and married his cousin, Lizzie Kite. They reside at Stanley, Va.

Nina was born in 1878 and married Richard Summerson, of Bedford City, Md. They have one son.

Angelina, fifth daughter of Jacob C. Kite, was born in 1835 and married Francis Kiblinger in 1854. They had five children—William, Jacob, Fannie, Flora and Lee.

Fannie married Stage Modisett, of Stanley, Va.

Flora married Mr. Osborne, of Ohio. They have three children.

Lee lives with her cousin, Susan Long.

William and Jacob married sisters, the Misses Hoak, of Augusta, Va.

Martin V. B., youngest son of Jacob C. Kite, was born in 1839 and died in 1890. Martin, being the youngest son, inherited the old homestead at Marksville, Va. He married Virginia Ann, daughter of David Kite, of Honeyville, Va., in 1859. He was a man of the strongest type, resourceful and of indomitable energy. But with all his energy and progressiveness, perhaps his most distinguishing characteristic was his benevolence. His charity was unbounded and his liberality to those who needed help had no limit. In times of want the mountaineers came with empty sacks and no money; but none ever went away without a helpful supply of the necessities of life. His mill and store were always open to those in need. His creed was "Do unto others as you would have others do unto you." His wife, who in loving memory is writing of a noble, gen-

erous, faithful husband, will be pardoned for saying no more of herself than that she was the wife of this good man. Our children were four boys and seven girls—Annie, James G., Ida May, Virgie, Sallie, Etta, Lizzie, David, Thomas, John and Maude.

Annie was born in 1862. She married John Hamrick, of Norfolk, Va. They have one daughter, Elsie.

James G. was born in 1864. He married Katherine McAndrews, of Denver, Col., where they now reside. They have one son, Philip.

Ida May was born in 1866. She was twice married. Her first husband was Thomas Wood, who died in 1891. Her second husband was Thomas Brown, of Stanley, Va., who died in 1906.

Virgie was born in 1868. She married James Brady, of Secane, Pa. They have a daughter, Mary.

Sallie, born in 1871, was married to Wesley Hawkins, of Roanoke, Va., in 1890, and died in 1892.

Etta was born in 1874 and married T. B.

Renalds in 1892. They have one daughter, Katherine, born in 1898. They are now living in North Carolina, where Mr. Renalds is engaged in the lumber business.

Lizzie was born in 1876. She married her cousin, Lester Kite, of Stanley, Va. They have one son, Melvin.

David was born in 1878. He married Zola McDonald, of West Virginia. They have two children.

Thomas was born in 1881, and married Hilda Gibson, of South Carolina, in 1908. He is engaged in the lumber business in Fuquay Springs, N. C.

John was born in 1884, and married Maud Henderson in 1905. They have one daughter and live at the old homestead, Marksville, Va.

Maud was born in 1886, and lives with her mother at Marksville, Va.

John, third son of Martin Kite, was born near Grove Hill, Va. He married Delia Armentrout, of Rockingham, Va. They have nine children—William, Jackson, Mary, Harriet, Elizabeth, Amanda, Sarah, Frances and Angelina.

William married Jane Koontz. Their daughter, Arbela, married John Shuler in 1877, and has two children, Clarence and Ada.

Jackson married Rebecca Summers.

Mary Kite, born 1820 and died in 1897. She married John Shuler in 1838. They had eleven children.

Hiram, born 1839; died 1840.

Harriet, born 1841; died 1857.

Michael, born 1843; enlisted in Company H, Thirty-third Virginia Regiment, at the age of 18 years. He was elected a Lieutenant in this company, and upon the death of Captain Shank and Lieutenant Hite, he succeeded to the command of the company. Captain Shuler commanded his company in nearly all the battles of Lee's army in Northern Virginia, and through Maryland and Pennsylvania to Gettysburg, and finally fell on his native soil at a battle near Rappahannock, May 5, 1864. He was a dashing officer and greatly beloved by his men.

Emily Jane was born 1846.

Isaac was born 1848.

Mandia was born 1850.

John W. was born 1853.

George was born 1856.

James was born 1858.

Mary was born 1861.

Sallie was born 1864.

Harriet married Daniel Brown, of Culpeper, Va.

Elizabeth married Emanuel Strickler, of Massanutton, Va.

Amanda married Jefferson Dovel, of Alma, Va.

Sarah married Mr. Brown, of Culpeper, Va.

Francis married John Singlinger, of Shenandoah, Va.

James, fourth son of Martin Kite, was born in 1801, and died in 1878. He married Margaret Conrad, of Rockingham, Va. They had six children. Clarinda was born in 1841. Jackson was born in 1848, and married Miss Bowers, of Augusta, Va. Thomas was born in 1848. Solon was born in 1850. He married Rebecca Printz, of Charlottesville, Va. David was born in 1856, and married Pattie Henderson. They live at the old

homestead, Grove Hill, Va. Adelia was born in 1845. Married Tom Koontz.

David, fifth and youngest son of Martin Kite, was born in 1806 at Grove Hill, Va. He was thrice married. His first wife was Marie Kauffman. She was born in 1808, and died in 1859. She was a woman of the deepest religious character. In personal appearance very beautiful; also very frail. David's second wife was Mary Judy, who died in 1867. His third wife was Ellen Weatherall, who died in 1871. His first children were Alfred, Francis David, Martin, John William, Alexander, Thomas Osker, Harvey, Eliza, Virginia Ann, Nannie and Sallie. His second children were Charles and Mary.

This brings us down to that period in our country's history, the mere mention of which will always cause a sense of sadness and a thrill of poignant regret that it could not have been averted. At this time the hills and valleys of Virginia, that we have been writing about, were peopled largely with the young men of the Kite family, and like their

early sires, they answered their country's call for defenders.

The clouds that had been gathering over this fair country, grew heavier and darker and mutterings of the coming storm were growing louder each day. Slight engagements had occurred at several places. But early in the year 1861, preparations for war on the most gigantic scale were going on in every arsenal and armory in the country. The government at Washington made quick disposition of the army and navy, and felt perfectly secure in the strength of its military and naval forces. In the South, without any immediately available war resources, the most energetic efforts were being made for the coming conflict. A small army, composed of the youth and young manhood of the South, without military training and with such equipment as could be gotten together in a purely agricultural country, were organized into an army to confront the well-trained and thoroughly-equipped Federal army. Confident of their superior strength, the Federal army marched



out of the capital at Washington, under command of that valorous and beloved old chieftain, General Scott, with banners that had never been lowered before an enemy, and the proud consciousness of their great strength, accompanied by the President and his Cabinet and many other officials of the government. The Federal army marched to the field of Manassas. All Washington was in gala attire and presented the appearance of a day of jubilee. The commanders had assured the populace that they would destroy the little army of the Confederacy and return in three days. They knew nothing of the mettle that was hastily mustered to meet them at Manassas. But in the heart of the old commander-in-chief there was none of that exuberance and over-confidence that pervaded the officers and men as they marched out to this expected dress parade. He knew more of the young commanders of the Southern army than any one else, for he had trained them in the arts of war, and he knew what was in them. Down among the hills of Virginia a little army in grey

were practicing the drill and maneuvers of an army, and getting their accoutrements in the best shape possible. With none of that hilarity or jubilation that cheered the old army, these men, who had grown so quickly from youth into stern manhood, seemed to realize the awfulness of the situation. In the spring of 1861 the storm of battle burst upon them in all its fury. The mighty cohorts of the heretofore invincible army struck with terrific force the untrained army of the South at Manassas. For hours and hours the battle raged and the lines swayed from blue to gray and from gray to blue, cannon boomed and belched forth their charges of death, and under the smoky lines the deadly rattle of small arms pitched to and fro, as the combating forces changed positions. For hours and hours this feast of blood and this dreadful carnage went on. Brother against brother, and father against son, frenzied, as by demon hate, they strove in this deadly conflict. The roar of battle could be heard for miles away, and at the capitol at Washington, when the booming

of additional cannon was heard, the populace went wild in their exultation that the little Confederate army would soon be annihilated. But late in the evening, when the atmosphere was thick with the smell of powder and blood and the sunlight dimmed by the reddened cloud of battle, a clarion note, like a resurrection from Culloden's field was heard on the Confederate lines. From regiment to regiment it was taken up, until the whole gray line went wild under the magic of the rebel yell. The dull huzzas from the Federal lines was hushed as they listened, to catch the meaning of this terrible yell. Reinforcements to the Confederate army had arrived. The Virginia troops, composed of the flower and youth of the grand old commonwealth, had marched in and taken their position under the battle clouds. This was the meaning of that wild, irrepressible and irresistible rebel yell, and under the inspiration of these trumpeters of Jericho, like unleashed lions the army of the South dashed upon the old ancestral army. The Federal lines wavered and reeled and, panic-

sticken, this grand old army that had never before met defeat, turned their faces homeward, and the excellent discipline of an hour before was one struggling, fleeing multitude. The consternation of this defeat of the Federal army, at Washington, was indescribable. The whole city was in the greatest confusion for fear the Southern army would rush in, on the heels of the retreating Federal army, and capture the city. If the Southern army had had the strength and endurance to have done so, no one can tell what the result might have been. But we of the South have long since accepted the terms of the settlement as the righteous judgment of Him who ordains all things for the best, both for nations as well as individuals.

It was at this battle of Manassas that Company K, Tenth Virginia Regiment, received its baptism of blood. This company was from Page County and was composed of the best young men of the country. David Kite, of Honeyville, had five sons in the battle of Manassas. John William was the first of his company to fall. He was shot through

the chest at the first fire of the enemy, at the beginning of the engagement. His brother, of Company H, Thirty-third Virginia Regiment, found him just before he expired. His last words to his brother were, "Be faithful to your country, Martin." No one can picture the sadness of this scene. These brothers, who had been playmates all their lives, had lived their youth in each other's company, and when just on the threshold of manhood had joined the army, offering their lives in a cause that they thought was righteous and just. As the tumult of battle raged, each one knowing that his brothers were exposed to the same danger, their hearts must have been aching for each other's safety.

When the battle was over and the surviving brothers were permitted to make a search for the missing ones, what a sad thing it must have been for these brothers to meet under such circumstances. They had parted with each other in the morning in robust health, with buoyant spirits for and opportunity to show themselves men, and to prove their faith to duty as they saw

it. When they met in the evening, when the tempest was over, it was only to say a last farewell to the boy John, as he yielded up his young life for his country.

David Kite, the father of these boys, continued to reside at Honeyville, Va. He was a prosperous business man, and wielded great influence in the community. His strong Southern sentiment, which he under no circumstances failed to express, was no doubt the cause of the cruel treatment that he received at the hands of the Federal soldiers. They literally destroyed everything he had that they could get hold of. The Yankees taunted him with his rebel proclivities, as they called it, but he never failed to answer them, and would tell them that he had sent five sons to the army and wished he had five more to send.

His beautiful fourteen-year-old daughter, Sallie, had the same blood that flowed in the veins of her old father and patriotic brothers. When she saw the soldiers taking her father's horses from the lot, she ran out and bridled one of the best horses and,

mounting it, she bade defiance to the soldiers, who ordered her to dismount as she rode through their ranks. She flatly refused to give up the horse, and as she rode it through the camp, bidding defiance to their orders, the officer in command, seeing the situation and the brave little girl perched upon the horse's back, ordered the men to do her no harm. The soldiers, seeing the affair in its true light, changed their tactics at once, and in place of their rudeness of a moment before, they showed their admiration of the little heroine, and actually gave her another horse.

Alfred Melton, son of David Kite, was born in 1830. He served through the Confederacy in Jackson's army. In 1872 he married Drucilla Kite. They have two children, Nannie and Carrie.

Francis David, second son of David Kite, also served through the Confederacy. He married Julia Ann Strole in 1859. After the war he moved to Nebraska, where they now reside. They have four children—Lurette, Ann Marie, John and David.

Martin V. B., third son of David Kite, was born in 1837. At the opening of the war in 1861, Martin enlisted under Captain Rippetto, of Company H, Thirty-third Virginia Regiment. After the surrender he went to Warrenton, Mo., where he married Virginia Kite, in 1869. They have two boys and nine girls.

Ada was born in 1870. David was born in 1871, and married Juanita Rivercomb.

Dono was born in 1873, and married Mr. Rush, by whom she has four children.

Sylvester was born in 1875.

Maggie was born in 1877.

Minnie was born in 1883.

Effie was born in 1886.

Carrie was born in 1890.

Olla was born in 1895.

Roberta was born in 1896, and married Charles Freeman, by whom she has two children.

John William, fourth son of David Kite, was born in 1838, and was killed at the first battle of Manassas in 1861.

Alexander (Dan) was born in 1845, and died in 1875. He served through the Con-



federacy in Stonewall's Brigade and was taken prisoner, and did not get home for several months after the war closed.

Thomas Oscar, son of David Kite, was born in 1847. He joined Inboden's cavalry in the Valley of Virginia when only sixteen years of age. He was wounded in a battle near Winchester. After his recovery he joined the command of John S. Mosby. After the war he married Annie E. Gailey, of Honeyville, Va., and then moved to Oklahoma. They have three children, Jewett, Irene and Beulah.

Jewett was born in 1884, and is operator for the Milwaukee Railroad.

Irene was born in 1886. She is now teacher in the High School of Kansas City, Mo.

Beulah was born in 1889.

Harvey, son of David Kite, was born in ..... He served through the Confederate army, and after the war he went to Missouri, where he married in 1874, and has two children.

Eliza Jane, oldest daughter of David Kite, married Noah Rowe. They have three children, William, Charles and Casper. They moved to Missouri, where Mr. Rowe died.

Virginia Ann, second daughter of David Kite, was born in 1842. She married her cousin Martin V. B. Kite, July the 4th, 1859. They were married by the Rev. Watson.

Nannie, third daughter of David Kite, was born in 1844. She married Dr. H. M. Keyser in 1861. Dr. Keyser was an accomplished physician and a man of great influence in his community. He was three times elected to the State Legislature, and was for eight years Superintendent of Public Instruction in Page County. He died October 6th, 1898, leaving six children.

William, his eldest son, married Pauline Alabough, of Baltimore. He lives in Luray, Va., and is Commonwealth Attorney. He has one son, named Robert.

Ernest, second son of Dr. Keyser, married Louise Dickerson, of Texas. They live in Roanoke, Va., where he is engaged in the

drug business. They have one son, Lynwood.

Thomas, third son of Dr. Keyser, married Carrie McGuire, of Harrisonburg. They have four children, Mamie, Ernest, Virgie and Nannie. They live in Stanley, Va.

Dr. Keyser's oldest daughter, Carrie, married Charles Clinedinst, of New Market, Va. They have a son, Ernest.

Virgie Keyser married Robert Lias, of Hagerstown, Md. They have one daughter, Charlotte.

Maggie, youngest daughter of Dr. Keyser, married James W. Holt, of Bristol, Tenn., in 1908.

Sallie, daughter of David Kite, was born in 1848. She married Tiffin Conrad in 1873. They have two children, Mattie and Fred. Mattie married Charles Duell, of Camden, Mo. Fred is with the Wabash Railroad.

Mary, daughter of David Kite by his second marriage, was born in 1862, and married James Foltz. They have five children.

Minnie Foltz married John Booten, of Luray, Va.

Margaret Foltz married Ernest Grove, of Stanley, Va.

Brownie Foltz lives in Ohio.

Ida and Lynwood Foltz live with their parents at Stanley, Va.

Charles, youngest son of David by his second marriage, lives in West Virginia, where he has a large family.

David Kaufman, father of Marie, wife of David Kite, was born the latter part of the seventeenth century. He was thrice married. His first wife was Elizabeth Buswell. His second wife was Miss Burner. His third wife was Susan Covington. His children by his first wife were Nancy, Sallie, Emily, Eliza, Marie, Emanuel and George. His second child, Martin.

Nancy Kaufman married John Strickler, of Massanutton, Va. They have nine children—John, Mann, Harvey, James, David, Mary Ann, Nannie, Elizabeth and Susan.

John Strickler went to California, where he died in 1905.

Mann Strickler married Mary Graves. They have five children—V. O., Shelton, Mrs. Fife, Ella and Hinda.

V. O. Strickler lives in New York.

Shelton Strickler lives in Delaware.

Mrs. Fife lives in Charlottesville.

Ella married Mr. Spillman, of Luray, Va.

Hinda lives in Luray, Va.

Harvey Strickler, son of John, married his cousin, Ann Marie Wood. They have three children, Estelle, Virgie and Sarah.

Estelle married her cousin, Shelton Strickler.

Virgie Strickler married Rev. Ralph Milbourne, who died in 1906. Rev. Milbourne was an evangelist of the New School Baptist Church. He was greatly distinguished for his earnestness and ability as a preacher of the gospel. As an orator he had few equals, and his zeal and devotion in persuading men from evil ways were crowned with the happiest results. He died lamented by all who knew him, beloved for his grace and goodness, and triumphant in a life well spent.

Sarah Strickler is unmarried.

James Strickler lives in Criglersville, Va.

David Strickler married Miss Gatewood, of Luray, Va. They have four children, Gatewood, Bettie, Sallie and Mattie.

Bettie Strickler married Daniel Burner.

Sallie Strickler married Barney Miller.  
They live in Pittsburg, Pa.

Mattie Strickler married Mr. Brumback,  
of Stephen City, Md.

Mary Ann, daughter of John Strickler,  
married Frank Brady.

Nannie, daughter of John Strickler, married  
Mr. Spitler, of Indiana.

Elizabeth, daughter of John Strickler,  
married Philip Long.

Sallie, second daughter of David Kaufman,  
died at the age of 52.

Emily, third daughter of David Kaufman,  
married Harrison Wood, of Warrenton, Mo.

Marie, fourth child of David Kaufman,  
married David Kite, of Honeyville, Va.

Eliza, fifth child of David Kaufman, married  
Harrison Rufner, of Missouri. They  
have three children, Elizabeth, Virginia and  
Frank.

Emanuel Kaufman lives in Missouri.

George Kaufman married Ann Abbott, of  
Massanutton, Va.

Martin, youngest son of David Kaufman,

was twice married. His first wife was Miss Burner. His second wife was Rachel Pittman. He was a man of great political influence, and was twice elected to the Legislature.

Mary, oldest daughter of Martin Kite, who was born in 1766, married Rev. Ambrose Henkle, of New Market, Va. He was a man distinguished for his piety and a preacher of great repute.

The Henkle family for many generations have been one of clergymen and physicians, coming down through several centuries with great success. Their children were Noah, Paul, Catherine, Ariama and Elenora.

Noah married Polly Zirkle, and has two children.

Paul Henkle married Miss Roderick.

Catherine Henkle married David Rowe, and has three children.

Arian Henkle married Hiram Kite, and they have four children.

Elenora married Rev. Socrates Henkle, a man greatly beloved for his church work, a godly man, who wielded a wonderful influ-

ence. They have three children, Elon, Ambrose and Ottie.

Elizabeth, youngest daughter of Martin Kite, married Reuben Foltz, of Newport, Va. They have eleven children—Mary, Noah, Joel, Emanuel, Julia, Sallie, James, Samuel, John, Reuben and Rebecca.

Mary Foltz married Capt. Isaac Kite. They have eight children, and are now living in the West.

Noah Foltz married Mary Kite, and has ten children.

Joel Foltz married Catherine Strole, and has eleven children.

Emanuel Foltz married Annie Kite. They have eleven children.

Julia Foltz married B. W. Walters and has nine children.

Sallie Foltz married Gideon Brubaker, and they have two children.

James Foltz married Elizabeth Kibler. They have eleven children.

John Foltz married Eliza Koontz, and has six children.

Reuben Foltz lives in the west.

Rebecca Foltz married Booten Propes.



## Conclusion

In concluding this work, the writer wishes to express her appreciation of the valuable help of Messrs. Louis S. Kite, of Beverly, N. J., and William Kite, of Los Angeles, Cal. Each of them have furnished much interesting matter, that added materially in tracing the lineal descent. If they have been misquoted at any time, it was not intentional, and if any information that they so kindly offered has been left out, it was an oversight.

To Dr. Walter Kite, of the U. S. Navy, I am especially indebted for having placed me in communication with these gentlemen.

That this work will be criticised, I have no doubt, and many disappointments at the omission of names and branches of the family will occur. But, in answer to those who would disparage the work, I can only say that it has been a work of love, purely and solely for the benefit of those who share with us a common ancestry.

That many names and branches of the family fail to appear in these pages the

writer is not responsible, for hundreds of letters asking for information of this character were never answered.

If this little work should excite in any one entitled to do so a desire to write a more comprehensive biography of the family, the writer will cheerfully contribute this, her work for many years, with the hope that the same spirit of family loyalty and pride may guide their pen in its work.