

# The Kerr Clan Of New Jersey

Beginning with  
Walter Ker of Freehold  
and including  
Other Related Lines

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OTHER GENEALOGICAL WORKS BY  
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AARON KERR, 1776-1854  
AND HIS WIFE  
SARAH PEPPARD, 1776-1860



# Walter Ker of Freehold

## Monmouth County, New Jersey

The Kerrs constituted a clan in Scotland. They were Highlanders; their domain was in the west and bordered on the Atlantic. When the clan system of local government was broken up by the king, some of the clansmen, assuming Kerr as a surname became scattered throughout the British Isles. Some say that the word Kerr is an older form of the word Crag; if so, it means a high jutting rock; another family name probably derived from the same root is Craig; thus Kerr and Craig are variants.

When James II came to the throne of Scotland, intolerance broke out afresh; severe laws were enacted and sternly enforced against non-conformists, such as confinement in loathsome dungeons and clipping off the left ear.

George Scot, the Laird of Pitlochrie, a leader among the Presbyterians, suffered great hardships for conscience's sake. His persecutors, finding that they could not break his spirit, offered to release him from prison if he would go into exile. He accepted the offer, saying: "I will go to the American plantations provided I may take a colony of my countrymen with me." To this they agreed.

Ninety of his coreligionists volunteered to go with him. Scot at once chartered the Henry and Francis, a ship of 350 tons and 20 great guns, Richard Hutton, master. The vessel prepared for sea at Leith near Edinburgh, on the eastern coast of Scotland. Here he obtained

permission to take with him some non-conformists who were lying there in prison. These numbered 105; this gave him a company of nearly 200 emigrants.

On September 5, 1685, they set sail, passing southward through the North Sea and then westward through the English Channel.

Scarcely were they out of sight of land when fever of a very malignant type broke out among the passengers. Scot himself died; and his son-in-law, John Johnstone, became the leader of the exiles. For twelve weeks the ship's company battled against deadly disease within and raging storms without.

In December the vessel dropped anchor in the harbor of Perth Amboy. Seventy of those who had started for the new world with high hopes, had died and been buried at sea.

Among the passengers who disembarked from the death-plagued ship was a young man named Walter Ker.

Walter Ker was born in Scotland in 1656; he was from the Parish of Dalsert, Lanarkshire. He died at Freehold, Monmouth County, N. J., June 10, 1748, in his 92nd year. His wife's given name was Margaret; she was born in 1661, and died October 1, 1734, in her 73rd year. She may have been the daughter of James Johnstone.

Walter and Margaret are buried on a hilly point one-half mile east of the present Tennent church building; thus early did the colonists begin to deposit their dead in private yards in ground not suitable for cultivation. These death dates and ages are taken from their tombstones.



Walter Ker had at least five sons; no mention of any daughters has been discovered; the relative ages of his children are somewhat uncertain. They are here arranged thus:

- A. William Ker
- B. Samuel Ker
- C. Joseph Ker
- D. John Ker

The other son was James Ker; of this James there is no record except this allusion: "In 1691 James Johnstone deeded land to Walter Ker in right of his second son, James Ker."

The stock has been very prolific; some estimate the number of Walter's descendants at 25,000; others say 35,000.

The genealogical lines have been worked out by various persons; among these investigators special credit is due to the late Samuel Murray Kerr of Adamsville, Pa., with whom the writer of this sketch had the pleasure of collaborating for several years.

The natural desire among his descendants to get a close-up view of Walter at the time of his arrival has given rise to various traditions, some of which seem to be inconsistent with each other.

Some speak of him as a redemptioner, or near redemptioner; this refers to a system of financing a passage across the ocean that was in common use during the colonial period. A person who was anxious to go to America, but who was too poor to pay his passage, promised the ship-owners that, if they would take him across, he would on his arrival let them sell his services for several years for cash to some farmer. Now George Scot and his associates had been to heavy

expense in hiring and provisioning a vessel; and it was eminently fair and proper that every passenger who could do so should contribute. Did Walter serve his time?

To this, others say "No," claiming that he was a person of consequence in Scotland and that he had been fined and imprisoned, but that his enemies would not allow him to leave the country, and they assert further, that in order to escape, Walter concealed his identity and assumed the role of a redemptioner; in support of this view they point to his early ownership of real estate, to his payment of taxes, and to his close association with the prominent and influential Johnstone family, facts which are entirely out of keeping with the redemptioner theory. Those who champion Walter's connection with the nobility now write his name Sir Walter Ker.

Walter Ker had 14 grandsons and 20 granddaughters; these will now be listed and numbered from 1 to 33.

## (A) WILLIAM KER

William Ker was born about 1700 and died July 14, 1777. He was an elder in the Presbyterian Church at Lamington, N. J.; he is there buried and has a headstone. By his first wife, whose name has not been ascertained, he had two children; Catherine Loofbourow, his second wife, was born 1711, and died October 6, 1776; by her he had eight children. The dates are those of baptism.

(1) Margaret, April 18, 1731; she was the first person baptised in the new meeting house on White Oak Hill.

(2) Mary, Nov. 4, 1733.

(3) Rev. Nathan, born Sept. 7, 1736, baptised October 3, 1736; died Dec. 14, 1804; married Ann Livermore; dwelt at Goshen, N. Y.

(4) Elizabeth, March 19, 1738; died May 6, 1765; married John Gaston; both buried at Lamington.

(5) Hannah, Aug. 31, 1740.

(6) Lydia, Feb. 7, 1742.

(7) Sarah, baptised Sept. 18, 1743, married Mr. Lucas.

(8) Nathaniel, Sept. 15, 1745.

(9) Walter, Dec. 18, 1748.

(9a) David, June 16, 1752, had two wives.

## (B) SAMUEL KER

Samuel Ker married Catherine Mattison, born 1705, daughter of Aaron; they had eleven children.

(10) Walter, born March 12, 1732, married Ann Watson.

(11) William Ker, March 25, 1733, was an

Ensign during the Revolutionary War; he served in Heard's Brigade on June 14, 1776. He served two terms as Sheriff of Sussex County, N. J., each a three-year term, 1779-82, and 1785-88.

(12) Joseph, born July 15, 1734, baptised Sept. 22, 1734, died Jan. 5, 1882; he married Elcy Hampton.

(13) Elizabeth, Nov. 15, 1735, died Dec. 31, 1753.

(14) Isabela, March 20, 1737.

(15) Rev. Jacob, Dec. 17, 1738; married and dwelt at Somerset, Md.; his second daughter, Peggy Kerr, married John Collins, and had a son, Stephen Collins, of Baltimore, Md.

(16) Samuel, Jr., Dec. 6, 1740, died Nov. 18, 1763.

(17) Rachel, June 20, 1742.

(18) John, Feb. 12, 1744.

(19) Catherine, March 16, 1746.

(20) Stephen, April 28, 1751.

The name of a John Kerr is found on a petition to the British authorities concerning land in Nova Scotia, supposed date 1782.

### (C) JOSEPH KER

Joseph was twice married. His first wife was Margaret Craig, daughter of Archibald; she died Dec. 20, 1746. His second wife was Euphemia Watson. He had five children by his first wife and six by his second.

(21) Mary, Oct. 20, 1734, married on Jan. 4, 1757, Peter Watson, sine prole.

(22) Margaret, June 4, 1737, married Jan. 29, 1759, Samuel Harriot of Somerset County, N. J., and had Margaret who was baptised June 15, 1760.

- (23) Ursula, 1742, died young.
- (24) Sarah, July 8, 1744.
- (25) Walter, Aug. 11, 1745.
- (26) Euphemia, March 13, 1748, first child  
of second wife.
- (27) Ursula (again), Aug. 6, 1749.
- (28) Anna, Jan. 1, 1751.
- (29) Ebenezer, Nov. 25, 1754.
- (30) Lydia, Sept. 19, 1756.
- (31) Rachel, March 23, 1760.

#### (D) JOHN KER

John Ker married and had at least two children.

- (32) Rebecca, July 19, 1732.
- (33) Joseph, May 5, 1734.

Here ends the enumeration of the 34 known grandchildren of Walter Ker, the immigrant.

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#### Attestation of the True Work of Grace Among the Indians

To understand the following testimonial the circumstances under which it was written must be clearly kept in mind.

The white congregation at Freehold had for neighbors a small tribe of Indians. The brothers, John and David Brainerd, became apostles to the Indians and labored for their conversion. They succeeded in winning twenty or thirty Indians to the Christian faith. These converts partook of communion in the Freehold Church. Were these redmen true and sincere Christians?

## **There Were Those in the Community Who Doubted It**

These Christian Indians assembled by themselves on their reservation for worship and self-instruction, when a clergyman could not be present. On one occasion three or four Indians accompanied some white soldiers on an expedition for a few weeks. On their return the Indians were broken-hearted and told with tears how their white companions had been profane and had mocked and disturbed them whenever each evening they had tried to pray in secret.

### **Here is the Testimonial of the Officers of the Church**

We, whose names are undersigned, being Elders and Deacons of the Presbyterian Church at Freehold, do hereby testify that in our humble opinion, God, even our Savior, has brought a considerable number of the Indians of these parts to a saving union with himself.

Of this we are persuaded from a personal acquaintance with them whom we not only hear speak of the great doctrine of the Gospel with humiliation, affection and understanding, but we see as far as man can judge them, soberly, righteously and Godly. We have joined with them at the Lord's Supper and do from our hearts esteem them as our brethren in Jesus.

For those who were not God's people may now be called Children of the Living God. It is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes. Until He hath subdued all things to Himself, this is and shall be the unfeigned desire and prayer of

**ELDERS**

Walter Kerr

Robert Cummins

David Rhe

John Herderson

John Anderson

**DEACONS**

William Ker

Samuel Kerr

Samuel Craig

Presbyterian Church, Freehold, August 16, 1746.

## Grand-children of Walter Ker

I will now give further information concerning eleven of the grand-children of Walter Ker, the immigrant:

(3) Rev. Nathan Kerr, born 1736—died 1804, who married Ann Livermore.

(4) Elizabeth Kerr, born 1738, who married John Gaston.

(6) Lydia Kerr, born Feb., 1742.

(8) Nathaniel Kerr, born 1745.

(9a) David, June 16, 1752, had two wives.

(10) Walter Kerr, born 1732.

(12) Joseph Kerr, born 1734, died 1822, married Elcy Hampton.

(24) Sarah Kerr, born July 8, 1744.

(29) Ebenezer Kerr, born Nov. 25, 1754.

(33) Joseph Kerr, born 1734.

(The numbers in parentheses in front of the names above are used to indentify those individuals with the persons mentioned in the former article.)



**(3) REV. NATHAN KERR,  
Son of (A) William Ker**

(3) Rev. Nathan Kerr was a graduate of Princeton, class of 1761; and he was ordained by the Presbytery of New Brunswick on Aug. 17, 1763. He was pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Goshen, N. Y., for 38 years. He married Ann Livermore, born 1743, died 1812, of Waltham, Mass.

It is said that Nathan served as a volunteer Chaplain in the Revolutionary War.

Five children:

I. Oliver, born March 5, 1765, died Oct. 21, 1796; a graduate of Princeton, and a lawyer.

II. Catherine, born Aug. 9, 1767, died May 20, 1795, in Johnstown, N. Y.; she married Oct. 20, 1790, Rev. Simon Hasack, a Presbyterian minister.

III. Hannah, born Jan. 20, 1769, died Jan. 24, 1858; twice married. Her first husband was Theodore Van Wick, died 1802; her second husband was John F. Caldwell, died March 9, 1819.

IV. Margaret, born March 7, 1771.

V. Elizabeth, born 1774, died 1824; married John McCarthy, born 1763, died 1832, and had Harriet.

**(4) ELIZABETH KER,  
Daughter of (A) William Ker**

(4) Elizabeth Kerr, born March 19, 1738, died May 6, 1765; married June 27, 1758, John Gaston, born Nov. 10, 1730, died Oct. 3, 1776; dwelt near Lamington, N. J. Three children:

I. Catherine, born 1759, died 1761.

II. William, born May 13, 1761, died Feb. 13, 1809; married Naomi Teeple and had John W. and James.

William and Naomi (Teeple) Gaston had John W., born 1783, died 1859, who married Sarah Castner, born 1782, died 1859, and dwelt at Pluckemin and Somerville.

Daniel C. Gaston, born 1807, died 1888, son of John W., married Ida Ann Vliet, born 1811, died 1880, and had William Gaston, of Elizabeth, N. J., born 1839, died 1907.

William Gaston married Margaret A. Keiley and had Frederick Keiley Gaston, born 1868, who married Charlotte M. King and has Charlotte, Frederick and Elizabeth.

III. Joseph, born March 29, 1763, died Oct. 16, 1796; married Ida Van Arsdalen, and had Elizabeth (Mrs. Annin), Isaac, John I. (the Sheriff), and William B.

Milton Brainerd Kerr married Minnie Urich. Catherine Mattison, wife of Samuel Ker, was born 1705. Margaret Craig, first wife of Joseph Ker, was born in 1712. In 1804 James Kerr married Mary Henry. Rev. B. M. Kerr's second wife was Margaret McKaig.

#### (6) LYDIA KER,

Daughter of (A) William Ker

(6) Lydia Kerr, born Feb., 1742; married Col. John Taylor, and had three children:

I. Catherine Kerr, born 1766, died Jan. 21, 1803; married Rev. William Boyd.

II. Lydia, no trace.

III. Nathaniel, born 1769, died 1823; married Mary Cool.

**(8) NATHANIEL KERR,  
Son of (A) William Ker**

(8) Nathaniel Kerr, born Sept. 15, 1745.

I have been told that this Nathaniel had a son, Nathaniel Preston Kerr, who was the father of Thomas Gallagher Kerr, who in turn was the father of William W. Kerr and of Rev. Nathaniel Preston Kerr. Rev. N. P. Kerr had Walter and Thomas, and through Walter two granddaughters, Mary Kerr and Emma Kerr.

**(9a) DAVID KERR,  
Son of (A) William Ker**

(9a) David Kerr was born June 16, 1752; he dwelt at Lamington, N. J., for a time, but removed to Tonawanda, Erie Co., N. Y., before 1812. He married twice, and each wife bore him seven children. His first wife was Martha Faulkner, who was born July 12, 1760, and died April 16, 1786; his second wife was Patty Pruyn.

Fourteen children:

I. William died June 8, 1776; buried at Lamington, N. J., has a tombstone.

II. John, born May, 1777.

III. Nancy Ann, married Brig.-Gen. Timothy S. Hopkins, of Sydney, N. Y.

IV. Catherine, married Zador Norton.

V. Walter, born 1782.

VI. Rachel, married William Maltby.

VII. Martha, married Isaac Norton.

VIII. Benjamin.

- IX. Charles.
- X. Betsy, married John Grove.
- XI. Daniel.
- XII. Olive.
- XIII. Sophia, married William Carr.
- XIV. Ranson.

**(10) WALTER KERR,  
Son of (B) Samuel Ker**

(10) Walter Kerr, born March 12, 1732, married Ann Watson, a sister of Peter Watson and of Eupham Watson (second wife of Joseph Ker); they had three children baptised:

- I. Elizabeth, born April 30, 1758.
- II. Watson, born March 1, 1761.
- III. Sarah, born May 13, 1764.

**(12) JOSEPH KERR,  
Son of (B) Samuel Ker**

(12) Joseph Kerr, born July 15, 1733, died Jan. 5, 1824; married Elcy Hampton, born Nov. 1734, died Nov. 18, 1796, of Freehold, N. J., daughter of William and Elizabeth (Lloyd) Hampton. Dwell in Warren Co., N. J.; Joseph and Elcy are buried at the Yellow Frame. Ten children:

- 1. Samuel, born Jan. 8, 1757, died 1824; married Rhoda Bescherer; for children, see A below:
- II. Elizabeth, born Dec. 14, 1759; married Ephraim Green, Sr.; see B.
- III. William Hampton, born Feb. 28, 1761; died June 20, 1798; see C.
- IV. Catherine, born May 28, 1763, died Apr.

2, 1859; married as second wife, Capt. Robert Beavers; see D below.

V. Gertrude, born Aug. 28, 1765, died July 31, 1841; married Nathan Hazen; see E below.

VI. Lewis, born March 17, 1768; his first wife was Elizabeth Peppard, and his second was Sarah Dawson; see below.

VII. Jacob, born July 16, 1771, died at Seneca Falls, N. Y., July 7, 1855; twice married. See F below.

VIII. Lydia, born Jan. 15, 1774, died Feb. 10, 1796; second wife of Joseph Demund. No further record.

IX. Aaron, born June 4, 1776, died 1852; married Sarah Peppard; see G below.

X. Joseph, born May 9, 1778, died July 21, 1802; no further record.

#### **(24) SARA KERR,**

**Daughter of (C) Joseph Ker**

(24) Sarah Kerr, born July 8, 1744; married Thomas Sweetman, and a descendant of theirs married into a related Kerr line.

#### **(29) EBENEZER KERR,**

**Son of (C) Joseph Ker**

(29) Ebenezer Kerr, born Nov. 25, 1754.

This perhaps is the Ebenezer Kerr who had a son Joseph Kerr, and through him a grandson, Isaac Herbert Kerr, who had three children: Isaac of Asbury Park, N. J.; William H. of Freehold, N. J.; and a daughter who married William P. Applegate of New Brunswick, N. J. No further information.

**(33) JOSEPH KERR,  
Son of (D) John Ker**

(33) Joseph Kerr, born May 5, 1734.

I am told that a Stella Kerr married Frank Applegate of Princeton, N. J., that she is a daughter of Joseph, a granddaughter of Isaac, and a great granddaughter of Joseph E. Kerr and his wife Margaret, born 1781, died 1857, and that the aforesaid Joseph E. was a son of the Joseph Kerr, born May 5, 1734. No further information.

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**JOSEPH AND ELSIE HAMPTON KERR**

I now turn back to (12) and give data concerning subsequent households descending from Joseph and Elcy (Hampton) Kerr.

(A) Samuel Kerr married Rhoda Bescherer and had ten children: Joseph, born 1781; John, born 1782; Robert; Samuel, born 1786, married Jane Nevin, being the grandparents of Samuel Murray Kerr of Adamsville, Pa., the genealogist; Abraham; Gertrude (Mrs. Scott); Jacob; Lewis; Walter; and Aaron.

(B) Elizabeth Kerr married Ephraim Green, Sr., whose ancestors came to America in the ship Caledonia. They dwelt in Green township (which was named in Ephraim's honor), Sussex Co., N. J. The 180-mile tree in the Lawrence line stood on his farm. Ephraim made shoes for the Continental Army; afterwards he joined the Hardwick Society of Friends. Ephraim died in February, 1824, aged 74 years.

His will names seven children:

I. William, postmaster at Greendell in 1824; removed to the west.

II. Ephraim, Jr., born 1783, died Dec. 15, 1824, clerk and sheriff of Sussex County and president of Sussex bank; he married Sarah, daughter of William Armstrong.

III. Mary, born July 15, 1785, married Enos Coursen, and had Ephraim Green Coursen who married Sarah Shafer.

IV. John died before 1824; he left heirs.

V. Elsie, died 1807, married John Armstrong, Jr. No grandchild.

VI. David, M. D., of New York City; married Ann Thomson and had George (unm.) and Martha who married Charles Attwood, and Emma, Anna, Archibald, and Aline.

VII. George, M. D., born Feb. 1, 1799, died April 30, 1859; first mayor of Belvidere, N. J.; married Margaretta Thomson and had several children, among whom were Anna and Joseph.

(C) William Hampton Kerr married Mary Goble, daughter of Gershom and Ann (Roy) Goble; they dwelt in Sussex County, N. J. Six children:

I. Elsie, who married Gershom Coursen.

II. Gershom, no issue.

III. David G., who was twice married and some of whose descendants are said to be living in Youngstown, Ohio.

IV. Ira, who married Phebe Read.

V. Joseph.

VI. Lydia, who married Henry Freeman.

(After William's death, his widow Mary married a Coursen, and had Abilgail and Henry.)

(C) William Hampton Kerr married Mary Goble; they had a son, David Green Kerr. David's wife, Margaret, was born in Sussex Co., N. J., migrated to Ohio in 1834, had many children, and died at Hubbard, O., in 1863, in the 81st year of her life.

(D) Catherine Kerr married as second wife Capt. Robert Beavers who was born 1747. Dwelt two miles from Washington, N. J. Two sons, George and Moses, died unmarried; their other children were:

I. Elsie, married Mr. Thompson of Change-water, N. J.

II. Lydia Hull, born Feb. 10, 1795, died Sept. 3, 1873; married Abraham Bonnell of Hunterdon Co., N. J., son of Clement D. Bonnell of Clinton, N. J.; John D. Bonnell is her grandson.

III. Sarah, born March 5, 1800, died March 24, 1879; married (1) Ruel Hampton, M. D., of U. S. Navy; (2) Rev. Alexander McCandless; and (3) Nahum Stiger.

IV. Susan, born Jan. 10, 1802, died May 24, 1870; married Thomas P. Stewart, M. D., born 1798, died Oct. 26, 1846; two of their children reached maturity, Ruel and James L.

(E) Gertrude Kerr married Nathan Hazen, died May 21, 1818, aged 59, son of Aaron and Elizabeth (Vought) Hazen. Buried at Dark Moon, as also were Alice, William H. and William H.'s wife and son.

Six children:

I. Alice, called Elcy, born 1794, died Dec. 15, 1828, aged 34 years, 10 months, and 20 days; first wife of Stephen O. Chedister.



II. Joseph married Phebe Primrose (sister of George W.) and had Elizabeth (Mrs. Joel Till), Aaron, Sarah (Mrs. Jacob Ellis), and Lewis.

III. William Hampton, born May 27, 1798, died Dec. 13, 1834; married Ann Mattison, born Feb. 18, 1805, died Oct. 29, 1835, and had James Hampton, born Jan. 19, 1835, died March 4, 1835, and William.

IV. Moses, born 1799, died March 7, 1858, aged 56 years, 10 months, 6 days; married Fannie Coriell, born 1807, died 1860; they had Ruth (Mrs. Josephus Rhodes.)

V. Thomas, born 1802; married Amelia Coriell, Fannie's sister, and had Gertrude, died Sept. 15, 1837, aged 9 years; Alice and Ellen.

VI. Nathan, born Oct. 28, 1803, died Dec. 4, 1887; married Euphemia Bray Shafer.

(F) Jacob Kerr, born 1771, died 1855, was twice married. The maiden surname of his first wife has not been ascertained; her baptismal name is said to have been Mercy. His second wife was Mary Bullman, who was born Oct. 3, 1771, at Port Morris, N. J., and died June 17, 1856. Jacob and Mary were married Dec. 8, 1803, at Greenwich, Warren Co., N. J. Jacob had two children by his first wife and four by his second:

I. Elcy Hannah, born Dec. 5, 1791, died July 3, 1855; married Nathan Armstrong.

II. Joseph William, born April 9, 1794, died Feb. 19, 1859; married Miss Traphagen; their only child died suddenly soon after beginning the practice of the law.

III. Thomas Hampton, born in Knowlton,

township, Nov. 8, 1804, died May 31, 1893; married Catherine Starkweather.

IV. Mary Ann, born Jan. 16, 1806, died at Seneca Falls, N. Y., April 11, 1892; married James Squier, sine prole.

V. George Washington, born Feb. 15, 1810, in Warren Co., N. J., died June 3, 1890, at Newbergh, N. Y.

VI. Gertrude Elizabeth, born Aug. 20, 1811, died at Seneca Falls, N. Y., March 3, 1896; married Aug. 26, 1849, Dr. Joseph Kerr Browne.

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Joseph Kerr, eldest child of Samuel and Rhoda (A), was born May 31, 1781, died Aug. 28, 1860, and was buried in Alleghany cemetery, Pittsburg, Pa. He was a cabinet maker by trade. He removed from New Jersey to Washington Co., Pa. On Feb. 2, 1804, he married Mary Hervey who was born Nov. 12, 1784, and died at St. Clairsville, O., May 5, 1840; after Mary's death Joseph married Miss Dix, sine prole. Eight children:

- I. Elsey Maria, married J. Cameron.
- II. Samuel, died an infant.
- III. Rhoda Bescherer, died unmarried.
- IV. Eliza, married William Cooke.
- V. Mary Cunningham, born July 30, 1814, married George Close, and lived at Belmont, O.
- VI. Gertrude Scott, married John Scott.
- VII. Phebe Peppard, married Jacob Stone.
- VIII. Rev. Boyd Mercer, born July 26, 1822, died at Brownsville, Pa., Jan. 16, 1892; twice married.

Rev. Boyd Mercer Kerr had three children by his first wife, Anna E. Morris; he had six children by his second wife, Margaret McKay, whom he married in 1852.

Nine children of Rev. B. M. Kerr:

- I. Edwin, married Augusta Wiggins.
- II. William, died young.
- III. Ellis, married Jennie Hutchison, and had Clara, Boyd, and Sydney.
- IV. Joseph H. married Alice E. Fox and had Estelle, Alice and Joseph.
- V. Boyd Mercer, unmarried.
- VI. Anna May, married William Eakin.
- VII. Robert McK., married Edna A. Coadun.
- VIII. Margaret A., married A. B. Ledwith.
- IX. Thomas John, of Uniontown, Pa.

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Samuel Kerr, Jr., fourth child of Samuel and Rhoda, was born 1786, and died 1844, at Hadley, Pa. He was twice married. The name of his first wife is not known; his second wife was Jane Nevin. By his first wife he had a daughter, Margaret, and two sons, Samuel and Lewis; these sons died early; Margaret, who was born 1815, married (1) ——— Pew, and (2) ——— Satterlee; she left no children; she removed to Missouri; once in later life she paid a visit to her childhood's home.

Ten children of Samuel and Jane (Nevin) Kerr:

- I. John, born July 22, 1822, died Feb. 12, 1890; thrice married, sine prole.
- II. Joseph, born March 18, 1824, died April

23, 1875, at Elk Grove, near Sacramento, Calif.; married sine prole.

III. Mary Jane, born Nov. 1, 1825, died Dec. 12, 1884; married John McClure.

IV. Andrew Wiley, born July 12, 1827, died about 1905, at Pittston, Pa. Taught school 30 years in California, and there married and had two daughters: Ida (Mrs. Spagnoli) and Mary Elizabeth (Mrs. Sands).

V. George Harvey, born Oct. 5, 1829, died Dec. 21, 1898, at Elk Grove; twice married, sine prole.

VI. Martha M., born Feb. 5, 1832, died April 20, 1900; married Joseph Allen Fleming.

VII. Sarah Elizabeth, born Feb. 27, 1834, died about 1908; twice married.

VIII. Charlotte I, born 1836, died at Wilkinsburg, Pa.; married Andrew McKee, dwelt near Atlantic, Pa., and left two daughters.

IX. Samuel Murray, born Feb. 8, 1839, died in Erie, Pa., Feb. 28, 1916; merchant at Adamsville, Pa.; he married Mary D'Arment; Samuel was an enthusiastic student of the Ker genealogy.

X. Robert Alexander, born Oct. 14, 1844, died about 1915, at Youngstown, Pa.; married — Hayes and had two sons who died young, and a daughter, Eda Kerr.

Mary Jane Kerr married John McClure. Seven children:

I. Lida, born May 26, 1848; married twice, sine prole.

II. Samuel Andrew, born Dec. 22, 1849; married Penina Jane Sutton, and had Mabel and Florence; dwells at Sandy Lake, Pa.; of these,

Mabel married William John Gilmore and had Isabelle (Mrs. Geo. D. Dye; issue, John G., Phyllis, and George D. Jr.), Madalen, Alice, and William J., Jr.; and Florence married James Parker and had Marion, James P., Jane L., John S., and Samuel B.

III. Joseph Hampton, born March 7, 1851; married Kate McKay, and had Ray.

IV. Malinda, born Aug. 31, 1852; married William Magee and had Maude, George, Earl, and Jennie.

V. Sarah Adeline, born July 16, 1856; married J. A. Snodgrass; sine prole.

VI. Richard Plummer, born June 28, 1859.

VII. Frank Orvine, born 1864; married Margaret Ormsby, and had Virgil and Norman.

Martha M. Kerr married Joseph Allen Fleming who was born Oct., 1824. Seven children:

I. Ida, married Phillip Cooper, and had Edith who married Clinton Parsons.

II. Josephine, married B. F. Stone, and had three children: Mae married Samuel Walker; Boyd married Ena Stoblase; and Martha married Theodore Law.

III. William Wilson, married Fedelia D. Thomas and has Edna Fleming who married Floyd Adsit of Conneaut Lake, Pa.

IV. Sarah, married George E. Laird, and has Rose, Maud, Herbert, Boyd, Mildred and Lillian.

V. Charlotte, born Feb. 16, 1866, died Feb. 1, 1927; married William Wallace Bullard, born April 10, 1868, and had Allen Fleming, born Oct. 3, 1907; dwell at Andover, O.

VI. Alma M., born Aug. 3, 1873; married

Lee P. Rumsey, born Oct. 15, 1868; sine prole; dwell at Dorset, Ohio.

VII. Boyd Kerr, married Minnie Ellen Hamilton, and has Ione and Mary; dwell at Diamond, Wash.

Sarah Elizabeth Kerr, born 1834, married (1) John Marshall and (2) Warren Putnam, and had one son by each husband: John Kerr Marshall and Clarence Harvey Putnam, the latter born Feb. 16, 1868, of Meadville, Pa. John Kerr Marshall married and had three children:

I. Bernice, who married Mr. Freeman and dwells at Greenville, Pa.

II. Mildred, who married Mr. Phelps and dwells at Adamsville, Pa.

III. Fred, living near Pittsburg, Pa.

Samuel Murray Kerr, merchant and genealogist, of Adamsville, Crawford Co., Pa., married Mary D'Arment, born 1841, died May 31, 1927. Two children:

I. Frank Mellville Kerr, who is pastor of Christ First Presbyterian Church at Hempsted, L. I., N. Y.; he married Evelyn Nichols, and has Stuart, born 1893.

II. Jennie Nevin Kerr, who married Walter Grant McKee; they dwell at Erie, Pa., and have Walter Nevin, born 1910.

It is proper here to pay tribute to the memory of Samuel Murray Kerr as the first person to undertake a wide study of the Kerr genealogy. On his fifty-sixth birthday, he wrote me saying, "Glorious news, another Walter on another branch," and enclosing a chart five feet square diagramed to indicate his latest findings, and

adding, "Let us continue the search; I'm sure I can help you with the Linns, Axtells and the Mc-Arthurs."

It is easy to see how he became interested in the subject, and how his interest flamed into enthusiasm. This was in 1895, five years before the rising tide of interest in matters genealogical swept over the country, a tide which has been growing higher and deeper and wider ever since with no sign yet of abating.

Preparations were being made to celebrate the anniversary of Old Tennent Church, a landmark of the Presbyterian faith in America. Word had gone out that a portion of the commemorative volume which was to be issued would be devoted to sketches of the leading families connected with the Church's founding. Responding to this suggestion, Mr. Kerr forwarded to the committee in charge the result of his investigations; but the limited space available would permit only the briefest outline to be inserted. The record, though brief, stands to his honor.

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### IRA KERR AND PHEBE READ

Ira Kerr, fourth child of William H. and Mary (Goble) Kerr, married Phebe Read and dwelt near Marksboro, N. J. Seven children:

- I. Mary Ann, married Aaron Luse.
- II. Joseph, married Anna Elizabeth Cooke.
- III. Isaac Read, born 1827, died 1903; married Sarah E. Hazen.
- IV. Margaret, died unmarried.
- V. Ira, married Lydia Jane Armstrong,

born 1839, died 1929, and had William A., who married Victoria Simmons.

VI. Aaron, married Laura Drake.

VII. William Hampton, married Sarah Cooke.

Mary Ann Kerr, married Aaron Luse, and had Emily (Mrs. John Kunkle), Phebe (Mrs. John Westbrook), Achsah (Mrs. Andrew Kunkle), and Philetus, who married Ella, daughter of Barnett Huff.

Joseph Kerr, married Ann, daughter of Samuel Cook. Four children: George, unmarried; Samuel Lee, married Lillie Catherine Youmans, and had Wilbur and Elizabeth; Augusta, unmarried; and Melissa.

Melissa Kerr married Edward H. Cool and had: Abram Clifford, who married Nettie Thiesler and has Clifford, Willard, Leilah, Doris, and Nora; Mabel, who married Rev. John M. Jaqueth and has John and Clifford; Anna, who married Seeley Hart Ramsey and has Edward C. and Seeley H.; and Edward H., Jr., who married Gladys Howe Ruppel and has Gladys Evelyn, born 1929.

Isaac Read Kerr married Sarah Elizabeth Hazen. Ten children: Nathan married Nancy Van Campen and had Harris; Lydia Jane married George Hoagland; Ira Clinton married Leonora Van Horn and has Floyd (married Mae Cooke and has Dorothy and Donald) and Lucy (Mrs. Leslie J. Weber); John W., married Olive Hankinson; Calvin, married Lydia Johnson; Gertrude, married Ralph D. Huff and has Nellie and Clarence; Caroline, died young; Flavel, mar-



ried Elizabeth Ayers; Frank, married Israella Swayze and has John S.; and William Stitt, who married Elizabeth Gulick and has Grace.

Aaron Kerr married Laura Drake and had Carrie L. and Annie M.

Carrie L. Kerr married Dec. 24, 1885, Jabez T. La Rue who died Jan. 11, 1929, and had three children:

I. Aurelius, born Nov. 9, 1886, married Nellie Harton, and has Edith, born May 21, 1911.

II. Laura, born March 3, 1888, married in 1908, William Cook, and died, sine prole, in 1910.

III. Jessie, born March 20, 1889; married in 1909, Augustus Simpson, and has George and Mahlon.

Annie M. Kerr, married Jan. 10, 1889, Frederick T. Bird, and had Justin, born July 8, 1891, who on June 2, 1917, married Louise Wolfe, and has Mary Ann and Janette Louise.

William Hampton Kerr, born May 4, 1840, married on Nov. 23, 1863, Sarah A. Cooke. Six children:

I. Olivia M.

II. Nathan, died unmarried.

III. Ira, twin of Nathan, married Dela Simonson, and has Hellen.

IV. Mamie, died unmarried.

V. Emma, married John W. Banghart.

VI. Robert, married Edna Hartford.

Emma Kerr married John W. Banghart and dwells at Newton, N. J.; they have James W. (who married Ann Henecks), Melvin, Ruth, George, Wilson, Clarence, and Ira.

Robert Kerr married Edna Hartford and has Millie, Herbert (who married Edna Fritts) and Lewis. Millie Kerr married John Lawson and has John, Jr., Robert and Edna.

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### LYDIA KERR AND HENRY FREEMAN

Lydia Kerr, sixth child of William H. and Mary (Goble) Kerr, married Henry Freeman; dwelt in Warren Co., N. J. Eight children:

I. Emeline, born Feb. 18, 1817, at Marksboro, died at Hope, N. J., April 24, 1896; married in 1837, Isaac Read Luse, died March, 1873; five children: Aaron, Mrs. Joseph Westbrook, Mrs. J. Clark Crisman, Winfred and Joseph.

II. Elsie, married, sine prole.

III. Sarah, married Gideon L. Howell, innkeeper, at Hope, and had a daughter who married (1) John Young, and (2) William Bowers.

IV. Joseph Hampton, 1822-1892, married in 1847, Julia Ann Wildrick, and removed in 1855 to Espyville, Pa.; eleven children whose descendants are all of record but not listed here.

V. Lewis, born 1824, died 1906, removed to Linesville, Pa.; had two daughters by his first wife.

VI. Phebe Ann, married ——— Cruser.

VII. Rev. David Kerr married Henrietta Wildrick; for many years pastor of the Presbyterian church at Huntington, Pa.

VIII. Henry, of Columbus Junction, Iowa.

## **ELCY HANNAH KERR AND NATHAN ARMSTRONG**

Elcy Hannah Kerr, eldest child of Jacob and Mercy, married 1811, Nathan Armstrong, born 1785, died 1831, grandson of Nathan, the pioneer, and had two sons:

I. John Locke, who married Lucretia Sutphen and had Hampton, and Sergt. Austin (killed at the battle of Roanoke); and

II. Henry Palmer, who married Abigail M. Harris, and had Roselle, and Oliver (killed at the battle of Fredericksburg.)

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## **THOMAS H. KERR AND CATHERINE STARKWEATHER**

Thomas Hampton Kerr, son of Jacob and Mary, married at Bridgeport, N. Y., June 15, 1831, Catherine Starkweather who died Aug. 1, 1871. Dwelt at Seneca Falls, N. Y. Three of their children died young; the others were: Helen Mary, born 1837, died June 21, 1920; married Nathan Spencer; Catherine C., born 1838, died in New York City, Oct. 9, 1904, married Dana Wilbur of Auburn, N. Y.; and Isabelle A. born 1842, married in 1863, Bronsell A. Wessell.

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## **GEORGE W. KERR AND EMELINE ROSS**

George Washington Kerr, born 1810, son of Jacob and Mary, married May 19, 1836, Emeline, daughter of Alexander Ross of Newbergh, N. Y.; she died Jan. 4, 1845. On June 9, 1847, George married Margaret T. L. Brown, born Dec. 9,

1822, died April 1, 1877, daughter of Rev. John Brown, of Newbergh.

Ten children, two being by first wife: Georginia (Mrs. John Miller); Thomas A., married Martha, daughter of Peter B. Amory; Frances Ludlow (Mrs. A. Smith Ring); John Brown, married Elizabeth R., daughter of Robert L. Case; Mary, unmarried; Walter, married Anna C., daughter of Richard A. Southwick; Augusta V.; Charles L. C., married Mary, daughter of Luther C. Ward; Margaret; Helen (Mrs. William Cook Belknap); George W., Jr., Robert E., died unmarried; and Elizabeth.

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#### **GERTRUDE E. KERR AND DR. J. K. BROWN**

Gertrude Elizabeth Kerr, daughter of Jacob and Mary, married July 25, 1849, at Seneca Falls, N. Y., Dr. Joseph Kerr Brown, who died Oct. 10, 1861; they dwelt at Seneca Falls, N. Y. One child reached maturity, Walter Dana Brown, born July 10, 1855, at Lockport, N. Y., married March 28, 1889, at Vernon Center, N. Y., Ella Zcarina Wessell, and had three children: Mae Wessell, born 1891; Arthur Kerr, died young; and Lena Gertrude, born 1895.

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Elsie Kerr, daughter of William H. and Mary (Goble) Kerr (C), married Gershom Coursen and had at least one child, Mary Gertrude Coursen, who in 1832, married Sydney B. Harriot, and had Sarah M. Harriot who married Joseph Alexander Linn of Espyville, Pa.

Nathan Kerr Hazen, born 1803, died 1887, son of Nathan and Gertrude (Kerr) Hazen (E), married Euphemia Bray Shaffer, and had two daughters: I. Sarah Elizabeth who married Isaac Read Kerr (see elsewhere); and II. Harriet J. who married Azariah D. Hart and had Nathan H. Hart who in Feb., 1889, married Margaret Cox and had Ethel.

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### **LEWIS KERR, ELIZABETH PEPPARD AND SARAH DAWSON**

Lewis Kerr was the sixth child of Joseph and Elcy (Hampton) Kerr (12); he was born March 17, 1768, and died in 1857, at Bethany, West Virginia. He was twice married; Elizabeth Peppard, his first wife, bore him four children; and Sarah Dawson, his second wife, whom he married in 1825, bore him three children.

Elizabeth Peppard was born Dec. 27, 1769, at Bethlehem, Orange Co., N. Y., (near Newburgh), where her father was pastor until early in 1773, when her father became pastor of the Yellow Frame Church. Sarah Dawson, who belonged to a prominent family in western Pennsylvania, was born 1790, and died in 1876. Lewis Kerr and his second wife are buried in the lower Buffalo churchyard. Lewis Kerr removed about 1809, from Sussex Co., N. J., to Washington Co., Pa.

Lewis Kerr's seven children, the relative ages of his first wife's children being uncertain:

I. Phebe Kerr is said to have married Todd Seibert and to have had children.

West Virginia, 1904, married Mary Lauck.

VI. Sarah Beavers Kerr, born July 6, 1829, died 1914, the second wife of Jacob E. Curtis, sine prole.

VII. Melissa Grimes Kerr, born 1832, died 1862, married Jacob E. Curtis.

Isaac Peppard Kerr married Maria Thompson; Isaac was Captain in Co. E, First W. Va. Cavalry.

Five children:

I. William, who married and had three children.

II. James, married.

III: Amanda (Mrs. Dickenson.)

IV. Margaret, who married Mr. Gardner and had Frank, Jessie, Isaac, Moddie, Harriet, and Robert.

V. Harriet, who married Mr. Moore, sine prole.

James Lewis Kerr, born 1826, died 1904, married Mary Lauck, who was born 1841, and died 1888. Seven children:

I. William Kerr, died unmarried.

II. Josephine Kerr married S. Q. Hamilton, sine prole.

II. Elcy Kerr married James Casner and

III. Sarah Kerr, unmarried.

IV. Charles Kerr married Mabel White and had John, Hampton, Cynthia and Amanda.

III. Lydia Kerr married William Gordon and had seven children, only one of whom is here named, Jane Gordon (Mrs. James Scott.)

IV. Isaac Peppard Kerr, born July 24, 1814, married Maria Thompson.

V. James Lewis Kerr, born 1826, died in

had Louise Kerr who married Mr. Bowden of El-Paso, Texas.

V. Virginia Kerr married Augustus Taliaferro.

VI. Bell Kerr died an infant.

VII. Ralph Kerr.

Virginia Kerr married in 1886, August Taliaferro. Three children:

I. Charles E. Taliaferro, born 1898, at Independence, Mo., and married in 1921, Genevieve Douglas at Muskogee, Okla.

II. Robert Lauck Taliaferro, died an infant.

III. James Rowan Taliaferro, born 1902, at Oklahoma City, Okla., and married in 1926, Mar-rien Black, at Ft. Smith, Ark.

Melissa Grimes Kerr on July 16, 1849, married as first wife Jacob E. Curtis who was born 1824, and died Sept. 19, 1923. Five children:

I. George Clarence, who married Mary Rogers and had Jesse, William, Ethel and Ray.

II. Wyckliffe Kerr, M. D., who married Anna Reed, and had Wyckliffe Reed.

III. Sarah Bell, who married D. Hahn and had Curtis, Winifred and Drake.

IV. Joseph Lewis, who removed to California and married, sine prole.

V. Ida May, who married George A. De-Long.

Ida May Curtis married George Albert De-Long, who was born Jan. 15, 1844, and died April 12, 1910. Dwelt at Lexington, Ky., and had Joseph Curtis, Maybelle Lee, Frances Kerr, and Mary Virginia.

Joseph Curtis De Long married in 1918,

Angeline McCormick, and has Mary Ann and Joseph Curtis, Jr.

Maybelle Lee DeLong married in 1916, John Wesley Marr, and has Maybelle.

Frances Kerr De Long in 1923, married William Holton and has Frances.

(The courtesy of Mrs. George A. De Long in furnishing information relating to Lewis Kerr and his descendants is thankfully acknowledged by the compiler.)

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It may be to some a matter of interest to know the exact location of the old Kerr homesteads in the Kittatinny Valley; such investigations are difficult and require time and patience and often fail through loss of records. I will mention two items which I incidentally discovered among the legal papers on file at Newton.

In 1805, Jacob Kerr and Mary, his wife, of Knowlton township placed a mortgage on three tracts of real estate for £2137; one of these tracts contained a little less than four acres, a mill site known as Knowlton Mills, below Blirstown, on the Paulinskill.

Lewis Kerr and his wife Elizabeth (Peppard) on March 25, 1808, gave to Dr. Oliver Barnett a mortgage for \$1100 on their plantation of 195 acres, situated in "Hardwick on the Great Road that leads from Log Jail (Johnsonburg) to Sussex Court House (Newton)" which mortgage was cancelled in 1825, by William Mattison; this would appear to be the Charles Roy property west of Fredon, which Roy bought of Mattison about 1855.



Herewith is printed in full a copy of the certificate given to Lewis Kerr when he left Newton, Sussex Co., N. J., to settle at Pigeon Creek, Washington Co., Pa.; the original is in the possession of Mrs. George A. De Long.

“This is to certify that the bearer hereof, Lewis Kerr, has lived for many years in the bounds of this congregation, is a Ruling Elder in it and a member in full and regular standing; and during his residence with us has behaved himself soberly and inoffensively as becomes the Christian character and now leaves us, free from church censure or public scandal known to us; and he is hereby recommended to the grace of God and the good acceptance of all those among whom Divine Providence may cast his lot. Given at Newton, N. J., by the advice of the session of Newton Congregation, 26th of April, 1809.

(Signed) John Boyd, V. D. M.”

The Rev. John Boyd was joint pastor of the churches at Newton and at Yellow Frame.

Lewis Kerr left a large Bible in which he had entered the vital statistics of his household, a volume which was carefully preserved by his grandchildren as an heirloom and to which was assigned a place among the choicest books in the library; but it came to ruin at Wellsburg, W. Va., in 1884, when a sudden rise of the Ohio River flooded the house to the second floor.

### **Whisky Insurrection**

In 1794, Lewis Kerr enjoyed an experience which may well be related here. While living in the Hardwick Patent and unmarried, he enlisted for the expedition to Fort Pitt, now Pitts-

burg, to suppress the Whisky Insurrection.

The cause of this trouble was the fact that the Federal Government, on the recommendation of Alexander Hamilton, had imposed a heavy tax on whisky; a tax which was especially oppressive on the citizens of western Pennsylvania, because they were so far from the markets at Philadelphia, their grain was so bulky and the mountain roads were so bad that the transportation of rye was impossible. Liquor, distilled from the rye, was less in bulk and greater in value, and could be transported easily in kegs on the backs of horses. Hamilton's heavy tax destroyed their only source of income. Hence local defiance of the law, and hence the call for enlistment of soldiers to enforce the law.

There is an old document relating to this expedition which is well worth giving here in full; it is a sheet of writing paper measuring 16 inches by 19.

“Trenton, the 16th Sept., 1794.

MUSTER ROLL of the troop of LIGHT DRAGOONS under the command of Captain Abraham Shaver, in the State of New Jersey, in the service of the United States.

Captain, Abraham Shaver.

Lieutenant, John Beardslee.

Cornet, Sidney Harriot.

Sergeants, Jonathan Johnson, Nathaniel Harriot, Robert Buckley.

Corporals, Daniel Harker, Joseph Cox, Abraham Shaver, junr., Samuel McCrea.

Farrier, William Longstreet.

Trumpeter, Jacob Dodderer.

Privates, Abraham Dodderer, Lewis Kerr, Samuel Griggs, John Buckley, Sevas Masiker, John Layton, Benjamin Predmore, Moses W. Kennedy, Israel Ayers, Amos Dustin, Peter Space, James Reeder, Archibald Stinson, Black Topkins.

Date of appointment and inlistment, 11th Sept., 1794. Mustered present: one captain, one lieutenant, one cornet, three sergeants, four corporals, one farrier, one trumpeter, and fourteen privates.

F. Mentges, U. S. Paymaster.

I certify the above is a true state of the Volunteer Light Dragoons under my command.

Abm. Shaver, Ctpt. L. D.

Endorsement on back: State bounty paid.

A few comments on Lewis's comrades-in-arms may not be too far afield.

The Captain's signature, Shaver, indicates the period when slight attention was paid to the spelling of surnames; he was a son of Hon. Casper Schaeffer; their descendants now spell it Shafer. There were two dragoons belonging to the troop whose names do not appear on the roll; Joseph Predmore and David Linn, privates, had gone to Trenton with the company of Capt. Samuel Potts, and were transferred after the muster to their proper troop, Capt. Shaver's.

Abraham Shaver, Jr., was a nephew of the Captain. Black Topkins was one of the Captain's negro slaves. The Harriots were cousins; both of them settled later in western Pennsylvania. Samuel McCrea is said to have been a

relative of the Miss Jane McCrea who was murdered by the Indians at Saratoga.

Three of these troopers subsequently married nieces of their Captain: Archibald Stinton married Catherine Shafer, Abraham Shafer, Jr., married Lydia Armstrong, and James Reeder married Effie Beavers. This expedition was a romantic outing for these elite young soldiers who had been born too late to take part in the Revolutionary war.

Enough is known of Capt. Shaver to warrant the belief that he made a halt at every village to allow his troopers to adjust their saddles and the cornet and the trumpeter a chance to practice on their instruments; he was too wise an officer to make his first appearance at the rendezvous in Trenton with galled and jaded mounts.

Everybody turned out to see the cavalcade go by; the roadsides were lined with people.

The first stop would be at Log Jail where lived William Armstrong, a brother-in-law of the Captain; the next would be at Hackettstown where lived a former pastor and the pastor's two daughters, Betty and Sally Peppard; and then through the Great Meadows where Archibald Stinton, another brother-in-law, would greet them; and then on to little Washington, where another brother-in-law, Capt. Robert Beavers, would wish them God-speed.

At Harrisburg, on October 9th, there was a grand review; all the field officers were summoned and presented to General Washington; this event was one of Lewis Kerr's most treasured memories.

By the time they reached Bedford the in-

fantry-men were wearied and foot-sore; they needed cheering up; and to effect this, Richard Howell, Governor of New Jersey, composed a rallying song for the campaign, each of the five stanzas ending with the chorus,

“Dash to the mountains, Jersey Blue!”

On arriving at Fort Pitt the Jersey cavalry was sent to arrest the ring-leaders.

How did it all end? When a United States army appeared on the scene, the Whisky Boys sullenly submitted; but (and here's the moral) Congress soon modified the hated tax.

Shaver's Light Dragoons reached home and were mustered out shortly before Christmas.

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### **AARON KERR AND SARAH PEPPARD**

(G) Aaron Kerr was the ninth child of Joseph and Elcy (Hampton) Kerr (12); he was born on June 4, 1776, within the verge of the Yellow Frame congregation, and died in 1852, at Cross Creek, Pa. He married in Warren Co., N. J., in June, 1797, Sarah Peppard, born July 20, 1776, near the Yellow Frame, died Feb. 17, 1860, at Cross Creek, Pa., daughter of Rev. Francis Peppard and his second wife, Phebe Whitaker.

Aaron attained his majority in 1797, a year which was marked by two events of importance; first, as already stated, he married Sally Peppard, who was nearly of his own age and whose father died a few months before at Hackettstown; and secondly, he was elected as Elder in the Yellow Frame church, and office to which he was re-elected three times.

Aaron Kerr, son of Joseph and Elcy Hampton Kerr, was born in Warren County, N. J., June 4, 1776. He was a prominent man, both in civil and in religious affairs. When only twenty-one years of age he was elected and ordained a Ruling Elder in the Yellow Frame Presbyterian Church, then called Upper Hardwick. He was three times elected to the Assembly of the New Jersey Legislature.

In 1809, he removed to Washington County, Pa., and located on Pigeon Creek in what is now Somerset Township. He was elected to the Legislature of Pennsylvania in 1824, and was re-elected in 1825-6-7-8. He was chosen a member of the Constitutional Convention in 1836; and was again chosen to the Assembly in 1840.

During his residence on Pigeon Creek he was elected an Elder in that church. Later he dwelt at Sparta and was an Elder in the Upper Ten-Mile Church. In 1831 he removed to Monongahela City, and was soon after chosen an Elder in the church of that place. He thus served four different churches as Ruling Elder.

In April, 1845, he removed to Cross Creek Village where he died May 1, 1854, in the 78th year of his age, and was buried in the local cemetery of that place.

On June 20, 1797, he married Sarah, daughter of Rev. Francis Peppard, pastor of the Yellow Frame, Rev. Holloway W. Hunt officiating. Sarah was born July 20, 1776, and died Feb. 17, 1860, in Cross Creek village.

When Aaron removed from the Hardwick Patent to Pigeon Creek, his mother-in-law, Phebe (Whitaker) Peppard, accompanied him and spent her remaining years in Washington County, dy-

ing April 18, 1824, having survived her husband 27 years. Phebe's youngest child living at the time of the migration, Nathaniel Peppard, born 1778, had attained his majority.

Some silver spoons are still treasured as heirlooms among her descendants in this branch; the spoons are marked "P. P."

Aaron Kerr settled first on Pigeon Creek; afterward he engaged in the mercantile business at Washington, the county seat; in 1831, he removed to Monongehala City where he continued in the same business; in 1846 he removed to Cross Creek.

Aaron and Sarah (Peppard) Kerr had eight children:

I. Susannah Kerr, born 1798, died 1883, married Dr. S. P. Todd.

II. Francis Peppard Kerr, M. D., born 1800, married and had two sons, Daniel F., a wanderer, and Francis, Jr., deceased.

III. Elizabeth Green Kerr, born Nov. 3, 1802, died January, 1863, married Joseph Fleming.

IV. Rev. Joseph Kerr, born 1805, died about 1890, married Mary A. K. Caldwell.

V. Phebe Kerr, born 1807, married James Hair.

VI. Sarah Amanda Kerr married (1) Mr. Reed, and (2) Mr. Hannan.

VII. Rev. Aaron Hervey Kerr married and had four children.

VIII. Isaac Hampton Kerr, born June 24, 1814, married Jane Lee.

Susannah Kerr, born 1798, married Samuel P. Todd, born 1792, died 1836, son of John and

Jane (Caldwell) Todd of Washington County, N. Y., and grandson of Andrew Todd from Scotland, in 1740.

Eight children: Barton, Stephen, Hamilton, Elizabeth (Mrs. Birch), Jane (Mrs. Montgomery), Milton who married Miss Wilson, Rev. Oliphant Monroe, a Presbyterian clergyman, born 1831, died 1897; and Samuel Erskine, who married and had Laura.

Elizabeth Todd, daughter of S. P. Todd, married in 1882, John Birch; her sister, Sarah Jane Todd, married in 1880, John Montgomery.

John Milton Todd, M. D., married Mary Elizabeth Wilson, and had Eva May and Ida Virginia. Ida Virginia Todd married Frank Pierce Zimmer and had Virginia Zimmer who is instructor in the State University, Lincoln, Nebr., and John Todd Zimmer who is assistant curator of Ornithology in the Field Museum, Chicago. John Todd Zimmer married Margaret Louise Thompson and had Ida Elizabeth and Lawrence Thompson.

Rev. Oliphant M. Todd was born at West Newton, Pa.; he married Margaret Picken, born 1843, and had John P. Todd, born August 8, 1882, at Tuscola, Ill.

Elizabeth Green Kerr, born 1802, married in 1822, Joseph Fleming; they were farmers and dwelt in Mercer County, Pa., five miles from the county seat.

Ten children:

I. Aaron Kerr Fleming, died unmarried.

II. Alexander McCandless Fleming, died a young man, unmarried.



III. Susan Beavers Fleming, born 1828, died 1868, married John D. Nickum.

IV. Sarah Amanda Fleming married sine prole J. Newton Donaldson, a merchant in Mercer, Pa.

V. Daniel Hampton Fleming, born 1833, married 1855, Martha Cordelia Furman, born 1838, a great-grand-daughter of Mary Armstrong, the first wife of Capt. Robert Beavers; they dwelt at Pittston, Pa., removed in 1877, to Chester, Tyler Co., Texas; they had nine children; all their descendants are of record but are not here listed.

VI. Joseph Kerr Fleming, born 1835, died 1919, married Barbara Ann Hannah and had Rev. Charles Hanna Fleming, who was a pastor at Omaha, Nebr., for seven or eight years, but is now stationed near Portland, Ore.; Charles is married and has Anna, Carol, and Malcolm.

VII. James Harvey Fleming married Mary Emma Wilson; see below.

VIII. Elizabeth Jane Fleming married Rev. T. W. Chandler; they dwelt in New York state, and had Gaylord.

IX. Phebe Ann Fleming, born 1841, died 1924, unmarried.

X. Milton Francis Fleming, now living in Mercer County, Pa., married sine prole (1) Anexaretta Bromley and (2) Mary Zahniser.

Susan Beavers Fleming, born 1828, married in Mercer County, Pa., as second wife John D. Nickum who was born at Emmittsburg, Md.; they dwelt at Mercer, Pa. John was a manufacturer of carriages and wagons. They had five children, three of whom are deceased, Harvey,

Gaylord, Elizabeth Alice, and Margaretta; those surviving are:

I. Minnie Marion Nickum of Plattsmouth, Nebr.; she has been helpful in compiling these lists, and it is to her that thanks are also due for other valued information.

II. Charles Troxell Nickum.

Charles Troxell Nickum married Elizabeth Baker, dwelt at Olean, N. Y., and had three children:

I. Merle Troxell Nickum, died an infant.

II. Marian La Vina Nickum who married Duncan MacEachern and has Elizabeth Marion; they dwell at Titusville, Pa.

III. Charles Kenneth Nickum.

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More detailed information has been received concerning James Harvey Fleming, son of Joseph Fleming and his wife, Elizabeth Green Kerr; he married Mary Emma Wilson, and had three children:

I. Olive Amanda Fleming.

II. Lillian Emma Fleming.

III. Lutie Idell Fleming.

Olive Amanda Fleming was married twice; by her first husband, George Lindsay, she had Georgie Clare, and Walter Fleming; by her second husband, Archibald Hamill, she had Margaret and Kenneth.

Lilian Emma Fleming married John Turk and had John Harvey Turk who married Phebe Marcella Smith and had Richard and John Norman.

Joseph Fleming, as already stated, married Elizabeth Green Kerr, and had ten children. They saw two of their sons march away to the sound of the fife and drum to give their young manhood to the service of their country, in the Civil War. To them it was a call of God.

These parents with others just as anxious for the safety of their absent soldier boys repaired to the House of God every Sabbath only to be met with the refusal of their pastor to pray for their loved ones in peril.

Joseph Fleming and another elder, with their families, and fully one-half of the congregation, thus felt compelled to leave the old church of hallowed years' associations. There are not many such pastors; thank God, this was an exception. And this was the origin of the Second Church in Mercer, Pa., which has since grown and prospered.

After almost seventy years,—a happy sequel. Three years ago flames wiped out the ancient land-mark, the old First Church. From the Second Church, went out to the stricken and homeless congregation a wave of sympathy and help. Today they again are one, with a new name,—The Central Presbyterian Church.

A daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth, now in her ninetieth year, upon hearing in her far-away home of this happy re-union, exclaimed, "Oh, I could almost shout over it, after all that has happened,—for I was there then, seventy years ago,—I saw it all."

Rev. Joseph Kerr, born 1805, married October 15, 1833, Mary Ann Kerwin, Caldwell, who was born in 1815, at Pittsburg, Pa., and died at Fairfield, Iowa, May 28, 1888. They dwelt at Poland, Ohio.

They left Nov. 6, 1833, for territory that is now the state of Kansas to engage in missionary work among the Indians. Joseph's longest pastorate was at Poland, Mahoning County, O., less than ten miles west of the Pennsylvania line. As children, this family and that of Joseph Fleming, in Mercer County, Pa., visited back and forth, and many were their happy days and weeks together. From two of Joseph's nieces, now in widely different places, have lately come expressions of loving appreciation, very similar though neither knew the other was speaking: "Uncle Joseph's was one of the finest families you have on your record," and "Uncle Joseph's home was one of the finest families I ever knew."

Seven children of Rev. Joseph Kerr:

I. Edwin Byington Kerr, born March 14, 1838, in Steubenville, Ohio, and died Jan. 22, 1914, in Sigourney, Iowa. He served three years in the Union Army and was honorably discharged June 5, 1865.

II. Clara Kerr married William S. Rice.

III. Walter Lourie Kerr, born 1848, died 1920, married Margaret Ursula Brown.

IV. Joseph Brainerd Kerr married Mary Hurst.

V. Anna Kerr, who made her home with her sister, Clara.

VI. Newton Aaron Kerr married Mrs. Clara Smith.



ELIZABETH GREEN KERR-FLEMING, 1803-1865



VII. Elliot Wilson Kerr, fatally wounded at the Battle of Resaca.

Elliot Wilson Kerr enlisted at the age of eighteen in Co. G, 30th Iowa Infantry, under the command of his brother, Capt. Edwin B. Kerr. The date of his enlistment was April 5th, 1864, and he left home seven days later. The bloody conflict at Resaca was his first and last battle. He was shot through the right lung and shoulder, the ball breaking the bone. For weary weeks he lingered in the hospital at Resaca; and later under the pressure of stern necessity he was borne to Chattanooga, Tenn., only in time to die. He passed away in the hospital June 22, 1864. His father was in search of him but was met at Nashville with the intelligence of his death.

His sleeping dust rests in the beautiful National Cemetery at Chattanooga; the number of his tomb is 11446, Sec. E, a distant but not dishonored grave. He did not live, nor has he died in vain. None of his family were with him; the older brother had moved on with the advancing column toward Atlanta. Elliot Kerr was a member of the Presbyterian church and had been studying with a view to the ministry.

Edwin Byington Kerr married Catherine Ursula Brown.

Three children:

I. Clara Kerr married Milton Wood Peebles.

II. Annie Kerr married Edwin Franken of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and has Katherine and James Edwin.

III. Julia Kerr married Robert H. Updegraff, of Sigourney, Iowa, and had Edwin Earl, and Raymond Nathan (deceased.)

Clara Kerr, daughter of Rev. Joseph, married William Scott Rice, who in the Civil War was Captain of the 23rd Ohio Infantry, the Regiment with which Presidents Hayes and Garfield were associated. Their only son, Ralph Herbert Rice, married Harriet Jean Hodder, dwells in Chocago, and has Harold H. Rice.

Walter Lourie Kerr married Margaret Ursula Brown, born 1851, died 1927; they dwelt in Kansas; in the summer of 1896, they went overland to Montana; their children were raised in Salmon, Idaho. They were Presbyterians; Walter was for fifty years a Free Mason.

Five children:

I. Charles Roscoe Kerr married Ollie Wilds and dwells at Del Mar, Calif.

II. Edith Edna Kerr married Frank C. Davis.

III. Mary Belle Kerr married Walter C. Davis and dwells at Santa Cruz, Calif.; they had two children, Lester who died at the age of three years, and Kester.

IV. Owen Wilson Kerr, M. D., married Frances Matilda Lavine, dwells at Turlock, California, and has Frances.

V. Grace Gertrude Kerr married William Irvin Ferguson and has Robert Jefferson and Dorothy Ann; they dwell at Anaconda, Mont.

Edith Edna Kerr married Frank C. Davis and has seven children: Clarence Monroe, Clara Belle, Charles, Edna May, Thelma, Olive and Donald.

Joseph Brainerd Kerr married Mary Hurst; he was appointed Consul at Scio, Greece, in April, 1870; afterward they lived in Chicago.



Newton Aaron Kerr married sine prole Mrs. Clara Smith; he is the only surviving member of the household; he has lived in almost every country in the world, but has finally settled down in Los Angeles, Calif.

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### JOSEPH KERR OF YELLOW FRAME

(12) Joseph Kerr, husband of Elcy Hampton, was a teamster during the Revolutionary War in Capt. Samuel Hunt's team brigade, as shown by the records in the office of the Adjutant-General at Trenton.

The remote ancestry of Elcy Hampton runs thus: She was a granddaughter of John and Isabella (Redford) Hampton, and of Timothy and Alice (—) Loyd; and a great-granddaughter of John Hampton (1640-1702) from Scotland to Freehold, N. J., and of William and Margaret (—) Redford.

Joseph Kerr and his wife, Elcy Hampton, were devout and consistent members of the Yellow Frame Church, Joseph having served for many years as an officer therein. They sleep side by side in the adjoining cemetery, where their graves are marked by small plain monuments of weathered red-sandstone which bear the following inscriptions:

In memory of  
JOSEPH KERR  
who died Jan'y 5th, 1824,  
in his 91st year.

This stone is inscribed as a tribute of  
Filial Affection.

He lived a pious exemplary life  
and became hoary in the service of  
His God.

His death  
was a triumphant justification of  
the purity of Christian principles;  
for he died the death of the right-  
eous and his last end was like His.

E K

Here lays the Body  
of Elsa Ker who  
departed this life on  
November 18th, 1796,  
aged 62 years.  
Sleep now, dear child,  
& take thy rest;  
God called thee away  
because He thought  
It Best.

Phebe Kerr, born 1807, married James Hair  
of Clayville, Pa.; four of their six children  
reached maturity, Joseph H., Susan E., Ella A.  
and Sarah Jane; none of them married; Ella is  
the sole survivor.

Sarah Amanda Kerr was twice married; her  
first husband was Mr. Reed, by whom she had  
Sarah Reed (Mrs. McCullough); her second hus-  
band was Mr. Hannan, by whom she had Kerr  
Hannan, who lives in Pittsburg, Pa.

Rev. Aaron Hervey Kerr was born April 1, 1819, in Washington County, Pa., and died Feb. 28, 1890, at St. Peter, Minn. On October 13, 1847, he married Elizabeth Craig of Cross Creek, Pa. The early part of his ministerial life was spent in Indiana and Iowa. In 1856, he removed to St. Peter, Minn., where he founded the Presbyterian Church, which he served as pastor for twenty-one years. He was one of the pioneer preachers of the state. Upon the location of the insane asylum at St. Peter, Mr. Kerr was elected a trustee and held the position thirteen years, acting as secretary and treasurer. He was also County Superintendent of Schools for five years. In 1862, he was chosen chaplain of the 9th Minnesota Volunteers and served until the close of the war. He was loved by all for his genial, kindly disposition and honored for his strict integrity.

A monument was erected by his friends and the Ninth Regiment of the Minnesota Volunteers and bears the following inscription: "A faithful preacher of the Word of God, a sympathetic pastor, an eminently cheerful Christian, a self-sacrificing friend, his ministry in peace and war a constant benison, his presence a benediction, his life an impressive sermon, he was universally beloved and his memory will be tenderly cherished for his worth and his work's sake. Si monumentum quaeris, circumspicere."

Rev. Aaron Hervey Kerr married Elizabeth Craig and had four children:

I. Effie Kerr married Edwin Moore and had two children, Walter and Robert, both born in St. Paul, Minn.

II. Walter Craig Kerr who married Lucy Lyon.

III. George Kerr, who died in an accident at the age of eight years.

IV. Henry Hampton Kerr who married Jessie Celine Smith.

Effie Kerr, only daughter of Rev. Aaron Hervey Kerr, was born at Dubuque, Iowa, Oct. 24, 1854, died July 22, 1923, and is buried in the family lot in Rochester, Minn. She married September 30, 1879, Edwin Rutherford Moore, born June 18, 1849, in Harrisburg, Pa. They dwelt in St. Paul, Minn., and had three children:

I. Walter Morrison, born Oct. 7, 1883, married Dec. 25, 1924, Ella Fleming of Mobile, Ala.; they reside in Osborn, O.

II. Robert Reed, born Nov. 8, 1887, married Oct. 3, 1925, Ethel Stewart of St. Paul, Minn.; they dwell in St. Paul and have one child, Marilyn Roberta.

III. Margaret Kerr, born April 1, 1889, died at the age of ten years.

Walter Craig Kerr married Dec. 28, 1883, Lucy Lyon. Four children: Eleanor, Donald Craig, Marjory, and Phyllis Schuyler.

Donald Craig Kerr married Gwendolyn Coffin; they have three children: Margaret Coffin, Elizabeth Meldrum and Virginia Schuyler.

Marjory Kerr married G. Vaughn Baker; four children: John Vaughn, Helen Vaughn, Marjory Schuyler and Philip Lyon.

Phyllis Schuyler Kerr married Morgan O. V. Bogart.

Henry Hampton Kerr married Jessie Celine Smith. They dwell in Chicago, Ill., and have Henry Hampton, Jr., and Malcolm Craig; the latter married Helen Haverty and has Margaret Celine.

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### **WALTER CRAIG KERR**

Walter Craig Kerr was born in St. Peter, Minn., November 8, 1858, the son of Aaron Hervey Kerr and Elizabeth Craig. Both parents came from Washington County, Pa. Aaron Hervey Kerr graduated from Jefferson College, now Washington and Jefferson College; and then studied for the ministry at the Western Theological Seminary at Alleghany. He and his wife came to St. Peter, Minn., in 1857, where he became a home missionary of the Presbyterian Church. They had four children: Effie (Mrs. Edwin R. Moore), Walter Craig, Henry Hampton, and George, who died in childhood. Reverend Mr. Kerr served with distinction in the Civil War as Chaplain of the Ninth Minnesota Regiment and was several times mentioned in despatches. At a later time the family removed to Rochester, Minn.

At the time of Walter C. Kerr's boyhood, St. Peter was little more than a frontier town and he grew up in close contact with the stern realities of life which gave him a serious outlook but filled him with real ambition. His parents, finely educated, were able to supplement and round out his schooling. Although he had to start work at an early age, like all frontier boys, and in vacations had learned and worked at

the carpenter's trade, his parents were able to send him to Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y., where he studied mathematical engineering, graduating with the class of 1879. While at Cornell he became a member of the Psi Upsilon Fraternity.

After graduation he was made an instructor and assistant professor at Cornell, but in a few years resigned from the faculty to enter the more vigorous life of practical engineering. Within a short period he helped establish the firm of Westinghouse Church Kerr and Company; and the building up of this great concern was his life work.

Westinghouse Church Kerr and Company was the first of the big engineering and construction companies in the country; and in its development Walter C. Kerr blazed a new trail in engineering scope and practice. Its success and reputation was due almost entirely to his vision, keenness of judgment, vigor of action and dynamic personality. His brother Henry also worked for the organization and still is with the engineering company with which it was merged some years after Walter Kerr's death.

In 1883 Mr. Kerr married Lucy Lyon, daughter of Judge Marcus Lyon and Susan Schuyler, both of Ithaca, N. Y. There were four children: Eleanor Kerr of New York; Donald Craig Kerr of Ithaca, N. Y.; Marjory Kerr (Mrs. G. Vaughn Baker) of Newfield, N. J.; Phyllis Schuyler Kerr (Mrs. Morgan O. V. Bogart) of New York.

Although Mr. Kerr's duties as President of Westinghouse Church Kerr and Company were most exacting, a man of his sound judgment and ability was much in demand by organizations of

all kinds; and he gave unselfishly of his available spare time to worthwhile projects. All his life he was greatly interested in education and for a great many years was a highly valued trustee of Staten Island Academy and of Cornell University. He was on the Board of Trustees of the latter from 1890 to the time of his death in 1910. Besides his contribution to education of this nature, he was frequently asked to deliver addresses to graduating classes and at college banquets. He spoke on many important occasions at Cornell University, Rennsselaer Polytechnic Institute, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn, and before many other school and college audiences. He was approached on the subject of becoming the President of one of the leading engineering schools, but he declined the offer.

Walter C. Kerr was also a leader in civic activities. His two greatest accomplishments were his work in the Merchants' Association of New York, and his crusade against mosquitoes on Staten Island, where he made his home. He was elected a director of the Merchants' Association in 1907, and soon after was appointed a member of the executive committee; shortly before his death he was elected a vice-president; and it was the desire of many of his associates that, had he lived, he become President of the Association. In regard to the mosquito question, Mr. Kerr was one of the pioneers in efforts to exterminate these pests.

He rendered the city of New York a great service in his solution of the important and difficult problems dealing with the disposal of the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad

Company's freight tracks on the West Side.

Even in a busy life there is some time for recreation; Walter C. Kerr was interested in many things, but particularly in nature and yatching. He spent as much time as possible out of doors observing and studying. Moreover, the idea which motivated his whole life, "Thought without action is worthless," applied here also, and he wrote many articles and pamphlets on a wide variety of subjects, setting forth his observations, deductions and discoveries.

He was an enthusiastic yachtsman, and as a young man joined the Sewanbaka Corinthian Yacht Club of Oyster Bay and later the New York Yacht Club. He was for many years on the Race Committee of the former, and was a member of the Regatta Committee of the latter at the time of his death.

Walter C. Kerr died in the full prime of life, at the age of fifty-one, on May 8th, 1910, a man of strong character, great accomplishments, wide vision, warm heart and happy, lovable disposition. Many tributes have been paid to his memory, of which one must suffice:

Andrew D. White, formerly United States Minister to Russia, and Ambassador to Germany, first President of Cornell University, and one of the foremost diplomats and educational leaders of his time, wrote: "Others must speak of the qualities of his work as a leader in the field he had chosen. As for myself, I can only say that when I received publications discussing some of the greater enterprises which occupied him, I was filled with wonder at his daring, at the greatness of his resources, and at his power for effective work.



In his early death there has been a great loss not merely to his friends, but to the whole country. He is among the few who have left on me the impression of real greatness in his conception and execution of great works of public utility, and in his views of the value and purpose of life."

Isaac Hampton Kerr, born 1814, son of Aaron and Sarah (Peppard) Kerr, married Mary Jane Lee; they had three children:

I. Leanna Kerr, who married Thomas C. M. Stockton, M. D., son of Rev. Dr. Stockton, pastor for many years at Cross Creek, Pa.; the only child of theirs who attained maturity was Jennie Stockton who married Jay Banks Kurtz (several terms a representative in Congress) and had Dorothy Stockton and Jay Banks, Jr.

II. Aaron Hervey Kerr, who married Georgette Gault and had Grace Matilda and Janie Blanche.

III. Milton Brainerd Kerr, a merchant in Kansas.

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### REV. FRANCIS PEPPARD

Two Kerrs, Lewis and Aaron, sons of Joseph and Elcy, married the Peppard sisters, Elizabeth and Sally, daughters of Rev. Francis Peppard, the Yellow Frame pastor. Many Kerr descendants have this clergyman for an ancestor, so that it will not be out of place, I trust, to make mention of him here.

Francis Peppard was born about 1725; his surname is of French origin, Pipart, changed by

English speakers to Peppard. He studied to become a Catholic priest but became a Protestant, which displeased his family. He left Dublin, Ireland, in 1742, aged about eighteen. There is reason to believe that he came as a Redemptioner; and that on arriving in New Jersey his time of service was purchased by Capt. Ebenezer Byram of Chatham, who on finding that Francis was educated set him to teaching school instead of working on the farm. In February, 1752, he married Susan McCollum, who died in 1760, leaving one daughter and three sons. Francis then entered Princeton in the junior year and graduated in 1762. He was ordained to the ministry and was assigned as a supply to the churches at Mendham and at the Yellow Frame. He excelled in mechanical drawing; was a skilled cabinet-maker; and prescribed medicines for his parishioners. On May 1, 1764, he married Phebe Whitaker who bore him four sons and five daughters. He held pastorates at Mendham (where his salary is said to have been \$250 and firewood) and at Bethlehem, near Newburgh, N. Y. In 1771 he made a list (now an heirloom) of ten Presbyterian households near Hacketts-town. In the early part of 1773 he became pastor of the Yellow Frame congregation (which then worshipped in a log meeting house at Dark Moon), and remained here until October, 1782, a period of nearly nine years, covering the Revolutionary War.

He and his congregation were heartily and staunchly patriotic. Among the members of his congregation who rendered military service in the cause of Independence, may be named the

Armstrong brothers (John and William), Abraham Bescherer, John Coursen, Joseph Gaston, Simeon Goble, the Hunt brothers (Ralph, Richard and Thomas), Aaron Hankinson, Joseph Kerr, William Kerr, John Kirkpatrick, Richard Lanning, Joseph Linn, Charles Rhoades, Insley Roy, John Roy, Mark Thomson, and Peter B. Shafer. Many others served; for instance, the Dildine brothers (Uriah, Abram and Samuel) undoubtedly served; but they are not of record at Trenton, owing to the criminal carelessness on the part of the state authorities in the presevation of the military rolls.

Francis Peppard died at Hackettstown, N. J., March 29, 1797, aged 72 years, and was buried at the Yellow Frame where a monument stands to his memory. His eminent success as a minister of the gospel is made evident by the fact, that, despite the distractions of the Revolutionary War, when he resigned his charge in 1782, the log meeting-house was entirely too small for the congregation; who, tho pastorless, proceeded to erect a large frame building on the hill, which in its day was one of the most imposing church edifices in rural New Jersey.

The inscription on the monument reads:

In  
memory of the Rev.  
Francis Peppard  
who departed this life  
March the 29th, 1797,  
aged 72 years.  
As for me, I will behold  
Thy face in righteousness;

I shall be satisfied, when  
I awake, with thy  
likeness. 17th Psalm  
and 15 verse.

\* \* \* \* \*

There is one thing about genealogical research concerning present-day households that is somewhat disheartening, and this is, that when you apply by letter for information it takes so long to get a reply. Once I wrote for names and dates enclosing an envelope, stamped and addressed. After a lapse of more than twenty years, the answer came, saying that my letter had been duly received, but through fear of being mislaid it had been slipped into the family Bible and had just been found. I had changed my residence twice; the letter reached me but had been twice reforwarded. Better late than never, even in genealogy; but the book had been published and had long been out of print. An extreme case, to be sure; but every family historian has had cases not a few where the interval seemed to be twenty years.

After all is said, the study of family records is a pleasant hobby; and there should be a rider of this hobby in every line of descent.

This study brings many compensations, one of which is that you get delightful glimpses of days gone by. To illustrate, I quote from two letters lying on my desk.

“My grandparents, Joseph and Elizabeth K. Fleming, lived five miles north of Mercer, Pa.;

and every Sunday a goodly number in the family carriage drove in to church. My home was in Mercer; and always the joy of my heart was to be allowed to go home with them for the week.

"I recall the one exciting part of the drive 'out to Grandfather's.' It was going down Bald Hill, a steep rocky place, and none too short. We approached it gingerly for both the animals and the driver, usually Uncle Frank, knew what was coming. I used to think how bravely the horses stood (or walked) between us and the apparent destruction just ahead; they braced themselves firmly against the pressure behind, stepping cautiously over and around the big stones on the steep incline. It was always a fearsome moment for me as with bated breath I watched the process. And how every one, horses included, felt relieved when toward the foot, having reached a gentler grade, Fanny and Nag broke into their usual trot once more.

"I had a letter today from that Uncle, my youngest uncle, then about eighteen. He used to do the most things to make us children happy; he built us a real little log playhouse; not big heavy logs, but nice little fine ones, and set it up on stilts right over where the spring ran down, and we could hear it trickling among the leaves and ferns on its way down to the log trough, where he watered the horses.

"Which reminds me of some delightful experiences I often had after Aunt Phoebe rang the dinner bell, calling the men in from the fields. How I watched down the driveway to see my Uncle appear with Dolly and Colonel on the way to the spring. With flying feet I met

them half way. With his hand as a step, up I went on Dolly's back. Oh, the joy and height of it! It was a thrill all right—that blessed hand still holding me in place. But the crucial moment was when the horses bent their heads to drink. How I held on with all my might; and wonder it is that I did not go over their heads into the water.”

Here ends the letter; but I now quote from another person's letter, the Uncle's, who presents the counterpart picture of that Christian household:

“My dear Niece: Your request was for some of the old happenings in the old home at Hill Side, when I was—well, wasn't very big. Yes, Father always had worship morning and evening, read a chapter in the Bible; we sang a hymn and had prayer. Father usually started the tune, but sometimes Mother, or one of the family did it. I do not recall very distinctly any special hymns, but I believe they were such as 'Rock of Ages', 'Ashamed of Jesus, That Dear Friend', and 'Am Not Ashamed to Own My Lord.' I know Mother used to sing several hymns from memory when at her work; but at worship we had our hymn books—without notes then. Of course, we could all sing some, but singing was improved when Joe and others of the family chanced to be home.

“Yes, we had a pretty long drive to church and home again, which we reached about 2:30 p. m., tired, hungry and sometimes pretty dusty; we get our dinner, rest a little while and then go

down to Bowman's schoolhouse for 4 o'clock Sunday School; this only in the summer.

"Away back when we went to the First Church and had two sermons we took a lunch along. On Sunday afternoons when there was no Sunday School, Father frequently gathered us in a group for catechism, that is, the younger ones of us; say, sisters Lib and Phoebe and myself, possibly Harvey, the older ones being gone from home. Father would put the questions to us; those who knew them best could answer best; but as for me, I was a kind of class by myself, was directed to learn a question or two each Sunday.

"I thank you for sending me the account of Cousin Elliot Kerr's death in the army. I think I wrote you that he and I were boys together at least for a short time. His sister sent me word many years ago of his being in the army, of his death, and his picture; but this you have sent is very welcome.

"In your last letter you speak of some thrilling experiences of youth, especially that of coming down Bald Hill, over that rough and stony way. I, too, remember it, with the old carriage swinging and bumping and lurching, and Mother possibly saying, 'Oh my!' It would not be much wonder if I had promised myself there and then that, if I got home safe and sound, I would be a better boy. Think likely it was Fanny and Nag that led, or rather held back, our chariot over that dangerous way.

"We have much enjoyed reading the articles on the Kerr family, and we thank the ones who have worked on or compiled the same."

## JAMES KERR OF FLORENCE, WASHINGTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

Thomas Bakewell Kerr was born in 1849. He compiled a family history of his grandfather Kerr's descendants; this he published in 1909 and presented copies of it to his kinfolk as Christmas gifts. The book contains 36 pages and is bound in red cloth; only a small edition was printed, and it is already out of print. The title is "James Kerr of Washington County, Pa., and His Descendants, 1782-1909."

A paragraph in the preface reads as follows: "This work was undertaken while the data was available and exact, so that in the larger task of compiling a general history of the Kerr Family, which doubtless some ambitious historian will sometime undertake, our immediate branch will not be lost to view, but its roster will be complete and constitute an authentic chapter already written."

We appreciate the courtesy which permits us to condense and reproduce here a portion of the genealogical data contained in the book described. It should be stated here that the book does not name the parents of James Kerr; nor does it allude in any way to his ancestry.

In order to bring the account of this branch up to date, the vital happenings since 1909, so far as they have been obtained, have been inserted in their proper connection.

James Kerr was born in Northampton Co., Pa., on October 3, 1782. He died in Monongahela City, Pa., July 19, 1847. On September 27, 1803, at Cross Creek, Pa., he married Hannah Mason who was born April 9, 1784, and died Sep-



tember 24, 1842. James owned and dwelt on a farm of 320 acres near Florence, Washington County, Pa.

James and Hannah had ten children:

I. William Kerr, born May 3, 1805, died unmarried May 26, 1824.

II. Maria Kerr, born June 12, 1807, died May 19, 1887, at Monongahela City, married June 27, 1831, Ebenezer Smith; they had six children.

III. James Mason Kerr, born June 8, 1809, died October 28, 1846; married Rebecca Dinsmore; they had six children.

IV. Sarah Kerr, born July 31, 1811, died Dec. 3, 1899; married William McClure, sine prole.

V. John Kerr, born Dec. 25, 1813, died March 20, 1892; married on April 8, 1840, Anne Bakewell Campbell; they had eight children.

VI. Alexander Kerr, born Feb. 14, 1816, died April 20, 1833.

VII. Jane Kerr, born April 3, 1819, died October 14, 1821.

VIII. Elizabeth Kerr, born May 14, 1821, died May 17, 1848; married Feb. 12, 1846, John C. Carr; their only child died early.

IX. Eleanor Kerr, born July 16, 1823, died Aug. 28, 1844; married John Dinsmore on Feb. 22, 1843; their only child, a son, died at an early age.

X. William Kerr, born Jan. 7, 1827, died Nov. 11, 1830.

Of the ten children named, three have descendants living: Marie (Mrs. Ebenezer Smith), James M. and John.

Marie Kerr, born 1807, married Ebenezer Smith, and had six children:

I. Mary Elizabeth Smith, born 1833, died 1905; married in 1861, James W. Lockhart of Monongahela City, and had three children: William Ebenezer, Anna Kerr and Maggie Porter.

II. Hanah Anne Smith, born 1837, died 1900; married in 1859, James L. Martin, and had Mary Alena, Marguerite Ella, James Henry (died aged 12) and Edwin Mason.

III. John Kerr Smith, born 1840, died 1909; married in 1861, Mary Jane Dickey, who died in 1893; they lived in Monongahela City; in 1872 they removed to Pittsburg; they had seven children.

IV. Joseph Smith died an infant.

V. Alexander Mason Smith, born 1843, married in 1878, Mary Elizabeth Dunlap, dwelt in Monongahela City, and had Charles Mason (died aged 11 years) and Vashti Naomi, born 1883.

VI. Sarah Ellen Smith, died aged 9 years.

Mary Alena Martin, born 1860, married in 1892, as second wife of James B. McAllister, and had five children:

I. Hazel Blanche McAllister, died aged 4.

II. Ara Josephine McAllister, born 1897.

III. James Donald McAllister, born 1898.

IV. Adelaide Reed McAllister, born 1900.

V. John Herbertson, born 1903.

Marguerite Ella Martin, born 1862, married as first wife, in 1885, James B. McAllister, and had three children:

I. Lilly Cresson McAllister, born 1886, died 1899.

II. Allan Campbell McAllister, born 1887.

III. Margaret Ella McAllister, died an infant.

John Kerr Smith, born 1840, died 1909; mar-

ried Mary Jane Dickey, and had seven children, two of whom, Clara and Ellen, died young.

I. Charles Albert Smith, born 1862; married in 1894, Blanche Marie Clark.

II. Benjamin Dickey Smith, born 1866.

III. Nora Mason Smith, born 1868.

IV. Effie Luella Smith, born 1870.

V. Jane Bakewell Smith, born 1880.

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James Mason Kerr, born 1809, died 1846; married Rebecca Dinsmore and had six children. After the death of James, Rebecca, with her children, removed to Florence.

I. Mary Renick Kerr, born 1833, died 1915; married in 1859, Thomas Pollock, born 1826, died 1914. They settled at Madison, Ind., but removed to Plattsmouth, Nebr., in 1870. They had four children.

II. William Wilberforce Kerr, born 1835 died 1882; buried at Decatur, Ill.; married in 1876, Martha E. Kellam; they had one child Mary Josephine Kerr, born April 9, 1878.

III. Amanda Maria Kerr, born 1838; married in 1861, John Henry Lewis; dwell in Denver Colo., and had three children: William Guy Lewis, Minnie Kerr Lewis (now Mrs. K. G. Haines), and Harry P. Lewis, who died an infant.

IV. Rev. James Dinsmore Kerr, born 1839 died 1906; married in 1865, Sarah Ann Lyman, who died 1909. James filled pastorates at Kearney, Nebr., Denver, Colo., Erie, Pa., and at Omaha; in ministering to his various churches, he preached nearly 3000 sermons, received 371 persons on profession of faith and baptised 157 adults. They had six children.

V. Hester Elizabeth Kerr, born 1842, married in 1866, Samuel Lawrence McHenry, born 1831, died 1906; they dwelt in Alleghany, Pa.; they had four children.

VI. Ellen Rebecca Kerr, born 1845; married in 1874, Allan Thornburgh, who died 1833; they had one child, Frederick Kerr Thornburgh, born 1876, an artist.

Mary Renick Kerr married Thomas Pollock; they had four children:

I. Alice Rebecca Pollock, born 1860, married in 1885, Charles M. McElroy, an editor of Fairfield, Iowa.

II. Lily Kate Pollock, born 1862, married in 1889, at Plattsmouth, Nebr., Charles C. Parmelee, and has Hallie Adele, born 1891, and Pollock, born 1894.

III. James Kerr Pollock, born 1865.

IV. Thomas Herbert Pollock, born 1867; married in 1890, Lida Patterson; they dwell in Plattsmouth, Nebr., and have Ellen Campbell, born 1891, and Alice Mary, born 1902, and Edith Lillian (died an infant).

Alice Rebecca Pollock married Charles M. McElroy, and had eight children: Hugh Murray, born 1886, Thomas Pollack, Helen Louise, Mary Kerr, Florence Palm, Virginia Eleanor, Charles Parsons (died an infant), and Robert Hamilton.

William Guy Lewis, born 1863; married in 1884, Virginia Mary Randolph, and had two children: Marie Virginia, born 1888, and Gertrude Amelia, born 1889.

Rev. James Dinsmore and his wife, Sarah

Ann Lyman, had six children; of these Grace and Winthrop died in infancy, and Ralph Dinsmore died unmarried at the age of twenty-three; the other children were:

I. Henry Paul Kerr, born 1868, married in 1893, Emma Schnellbacher; dwells in Omaha and has Ethel Dorothy Kerr, born 1893, Henry Leonard Kerr, born 1895, Marion Kerr, born 1897, and Ralph Loring Kerr, born 1900.

II. James Marquis Kerr, born 1870; married in 1891, Cosie Ann Sanders, and has Marjorie Caroline Kerr, born 1900.

III. Calista Lyman Kerr, born 1879; graduated in 1901, at the Conservatory of the College of Wooster.

Hester Elizabeth Kerr and her husband, Samuel L. McHenry, had four children:

I. Adele Dinsmore McHenry, born 1866; a graduate of the Pittsburg and Alleghany College.

II. Martha Josephine McHenry, born 1869; married in 1893, James Howard Stevenson of Pittsburg, Pa.; they have three children: Martha Josephine, born 1896, Robert Lawrence, born 1902, and Virginia Adele (died in childhood.)

III. Charles Lawrence McHenry, born 1872.

IV. Wilber Kerr McHenry, born 1876; married in 1905, Marion Elizabeth Seigh; they have Wilber Kerr McHenry, Jr., born Aug. 27, 1906.

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John Kerr, born at Florence, Pa., 1813, married Anne Bakewell Campbell, born 1817, died 1898.

Rev. John Kerr was pastor at Monongahela, 1840-1862; he afterward held several other pas-

torates, but was chiefly devoted to mission work. John and Ann Kerr had eight children:

I. Benjamin Bakewell Kerr, born 1841; married in 1866, Mary L. McClure, and had one child. William McClure Kerr, born 1868, died 1905, unmarried.

II. Euphemia Gifford Kerr, born 1843, died 1881; married 1863, Cyrus Black King.

III. James M. Kerr, died an infant.

IV. Ellen Maria Kerr, born 1846; married in 1869, Rev. John Eliot Wright; they had five children.

V. Thomas Bakewell Kerr, born 1849, died at Englewood, N. J.; married in 1871, Clara Dilworth; they had four children.

VI. Allan Campbell Kerr, born 1851; married in 1873, Rebecca Miltenberger Robinson; dwelt in Pittsburg and afterward in Chicago; they had four children.

VII. James Mason Kerr, born 1854, died 1894; dwelt at Edgeworth, Pa.; he married in 1883, Martha McDonald Smith; two children: Nancy C., born 1884, died 1898, James Mason Kerr, Jr., born 1889, dwells at Washington, Pa.

VIII. Rev. John Henry Kerr, born 1858; married in 1882, Margaretta Campbell who died. They have three children.

Euphemia Gifford Kerr and her husband, Cyrus Black King, had three children:

I. Anne Campbell King, born 1864; married in 1884, Thomas Woodhouse Bakewell, born 1861, died 1909; they had three children: Euphemia Bakewell King, born 1886, Thomas Bakewell King, died an infant, Allan Campbell King, born 1891.

II. Nannie Bakewell King, born 1872; married 1899, Otis L. Williams; they reside in New York City.

III. Samuel Victor King, M. D., born 1877; married in 1903, Annie Maghee Jones; they dwell in Pittsburg; two children, both born in Alleghany: Cyrus Black King, born 1904, and Barry Griffith King, born 1905.

Ellen Maria Kerr, born 1846; married in 1869, Rev. John Eliot Wright; they had five children, two of whom died in infancy, Annie and Euphemia; the other children were:

I. Mary Swift Wright, born 1872, graduated at Wellesley in 1892.

II. Gifford King Wright, born 1874, is practicing law at Pittsburg; married in 1900, Elizabeth Ball; they reside at Sewickley, Pa.

III. Naomi Wright, born 1877, graduated at Philadelphia Musical Academy, 1901.

Thomas Bakewell Kerr, born 1849; married in 1871, Clara Dilworth, removed from Pittsburg, to Englewood, N. J., in 1870; they had four children:

I. Mary Mason Kerr, born 1872, died 1894.

II. John Campbell Kerr, born 1873, married in 1904, Elizabeth Archbald, and has Thomas Bakewell Kerr, 2nd, born 1906, and James Archbald Kerr, born 1909.

III. Lois Kerr, born 1876; graduated at Barnard College in 1909.

IV. Clarence Dilworth Kerr, born 1878; married in 1906, Janet Brinckerhoff, and has John Brinckhoff Kerr, born 1907, and Harold Brinckerhoff Kerr, born 1909.

Allan Campbell Kerr, born 1851; married in 1873, Rebecca Miltenberger Robinson, who died in 1896; they had four children:

I. George Robinson Kerr, born 1873; graduated at Washington and Jefferson College, 1899; dwells at Johnstown, Pa.

II. Alice Pascah Kerr, born 1876; married in 1899, John Follansbee, of Alleghany, Pa., and have three children: John Haynes Follansbee, born 1903; Robert Kerr Follansbee, born 1905, and Rebecca Robinson Follansbee, born 1908.

III. Euphemia Gifford Kerr, born 1879; graduated at Drexel Institute.

IV. Marie, died an infant.

Rev. John Henry Kerr, born 1858; married Margaretta Campbell, and had three children:

I. Rev. William Campbell Kerr, born 1883; graduate of Princeton University, 1904, graduate Auburn Theological Seminary, 1908; he is now a missionary in Korea, stationed at the Presbyterian Mission at Seoul; married Grace Kilbourne, and has two children.

II. Benjamin Warfield Kerr, born 1886; graduate of Princeton University, 1906; electric engineer with the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company at Pittsburg, Pa.

III. Marcia, born 1890; member of Wellesley College, Class of 1913; engaged in secretarial work in the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church.

Here end the data taken from the James Kerr Genealogy.



We now list some recent households descending from James Kerr of Florence, Washington Co., Pa., data concerning which have been supplied by Miss Calista L. Kerr of Nebraska.

Hugh Murray McElroy, born June 2, 1886, married August 1, 1913, Helen Marie Vollmer, and has Gordon Dinsmore McElroy, born March 11, 1915. Dwell in Minneapolis.

Thomas Pollock McElroy, born Nov. 8, 1887, married June 17, 1914, Ann Laurent, and had Marion, died an infant, Thomas Pollock, born June 21, 1917, and Marilyn, born April 12, 1924. Dwell at Grand Forks, North Dakota.

Mary Kerr McElroy, born June 5, 1891, married Sept. 18, 1915, Edward Fuge and has Lad, born Sept. 4, 1916, Margaret, born Nov. 23, 1918, and Mary Edward, born August 30, 1924. Dwell in Minneapolis.

Florence Palm McElroy, born Jan. 17, 1893, married Jan. 4, 1917, Sherman Alvin McConnell, and has Herbert Allan, born June 4, 1922. Dwell in Saganaw, Mich.

Virginia Eleanor McElroy, born July 19, 1894, married Sept. 2, 1919, Dudley Chapin Beard, and has Douglass Chapin, born June 29, 1921, and Roger Sherman, born Feb. 18, 1925. Dwell in Minneapolis.

Robert Hamilton McElroy, born Nov. 1, 1898, married Aug. 29, 1925, Susan Rittenhouse Campbell, and has Louise Campbell, born June 12, 1926. Dwell in Minneapolis. Robert died Nov. 21, 1927.

Hallie Adele Parmelee married June 17, 1914, George Oliver Dovey, and had Parmelee, born

May 27, 1916, Catherine Ann, born March 18, 1919, William Horatio, born May 12, 1922, and Adele, born Dec. 5, 1927. Dwell in Plattsmouth, Nebr.

Pollock Parmelee married Aug. 15, 1919, Louise Bird, and has Charles Calvin, born June 30, 1920, and Polly Ann, born Feb. 17, 1923.

Ellen Campbell Pollock, born Oct. 17, 1891, married Oct. 17, 1914, Lynn Overton Minor, and has Herbert Pollock, born March 26, 1917, Eleanor Patricia, born Dec. 21, 1919, Charles Carter, born April 20, 1923. Dwell in Plattsmouth, Neb.

Alice Mary Pollock, born Sept. 13, 1902, married Virgil Walker Perry, and has Elizabeth Patterson, born Sept. 18, 1927. Dwell in Plattsmouth, Nebr.

William Guy Lewis, born Dec. 10, 1863, married Oct. 4, 1884, Virginia May Randolph, and has Marie Virginia, born Jan. 20, 1888, who on July 7, 1924, married Charles Wade Swinborne; and Gertrude Amelia, born Jan. 26, 1889, who on Dec. 25, 1914, married Byron Snyder, and has Sarah, born Sept. 26, 1919, and Virginia, born July 16, 1921.

Minnie Kerr Lewis, born Feb. 27, 1867, married Feb. 11, 1893, Kester G. Haines. Dwell in San Francisco.

Ethel Dorothy Kerr, born Nov. 25, 1893, married Jan. 4, 1916, Claude Melvin Howell, and has Dorothy May, born Sept. 28, 1916, Elizabeth Ann, born Dec. 8, 1917, Marion Virginia, born May 25, 1921, Eleanor Ruth, born April 25, 1923, and Harry James, born Nov. 26, 1924. Dwell in Omaha, Nebr.

Henry Leonard Kerr, born March 10, 1895, married April 20, 1918, Mildred E. Bennett, and has Edwin Dinsmore, born April 14, 1923. Dwell in Sioux City, Iowa.

Marion Kerr, born Jan. 27, 1897, married June 15, 1920, Frank Mark Pilley, and has Lois Jane, born Feb. 16, 1922, Eloise May, born May 3, 1923, and Dale Gene, born Aug. 13, 1929. Dwell in Omaha, Nebr.

Ralph Loring Kerr, born Feb. 12, 1900, married June 1, 1924, Jane Easton Clark. Dwell in Omaha, Nebr.

Marjorie Caroline Kerr, born Dec. 1, 1900, married Oct. 29, 1922, John Hersey Chapman, and has John Hersey, Jr., born Sept. 27, 1923, and James Leiland, born Nov. 1, 1928. Dwell in Los Angeles, Calif.

Martha Josephine Stevenson, born Jan. 15, 1896, married Sept. 16, 1922, John Kenning Stotz, and has John Kenning, Jr., born July 14, 1923, and William Howard, born Oct. 13, 1926.

Charles Lawrence McHenry, born Jan. 3, 1872, married March 9, 1927, Kathryn Ann Kiefer.

Wilber Kerr McHenry, born May 4, 1876, married June 15, 1905, Marion Elizabeth Seigh, and has Wilber Kerr, Jr., born Aug. 27, 1906, and Robert William, born July, 1916.

## THE KERRS OF GETTYSBURG AND OF HARRISON CONTY, OHIO

A certain John Kerr bought land of the Penns in the year 1741, in the Manor of Marke, near Gettysburg, Pa. The deed for the land to John is recorded in York and Adams Counties, the latter having been originally a part of York.

John died in 1759, leaving a will which is of record; the will mentions his wife Martha, and refers to his mother as living with him but does not mention her name; from an inscription on a tombstone still standing in the Marshcreek graveyard, it appears that his mother's baptismal name was Isabella. The will names seven sons: George, born 1740; William, born 1742; John, born 1744; Samuel, born 1750; James, born 1752; Thomas, born 1754; and Andrew, born 1757. He appoints Martha and his son George as executors; he directs that the farm should belong to George; that George should give support to his mother and grandmother; and that the other sons should be bound out to learn trades. No daughters are mentioned, but there is reason to believe that there were two born between 1744 and 1750; one of these daughters whose name was Isabella was later known as Aunt Iby Scott.

There is basis for believing that this farm in later years was a part of the area of the battle of Gettysburg in the Civil War. This farm passed by inheritance from father to only son for four generations when there was a father who had no son; the land was then inherited by three daughters, none of whom married.

James Kerr, the fifth son, born 1752, was a

“taylor” by trade; later in life he owned a farm. He was an Elder in the Marshcreek Presbyterian Church near Gettysburg; this information is found in the farewell sermon of Dr. Rea as he was retiring from the pastorate of the Beech Spring Church in Harrison County, Ohio.

James Kerr, the Taylor, married Agnes Carrick; they had four sons and four daughters: John, James (known in this narrative as Jamie), Polly (colonial for Mary), William, Mattie, Jane, Betsy and Samuel. The parents and all their children migrated in 1802 to Shortcreek, Harrison County, Ohio; in 1836, the three older sons removed to Logan County, Ohio.

James Kerr, the Taylor, died in 1825, and his wife, Agnes, in 1836; both are buried in the Beechspring graveyard.

But we are getting ahead of our story, and must return to Gettysburg for a moment. That farm at Gettysburg was not big enough for a family of eight children. As these children were reaching mature years, there were frequent talks about selling the farm and moving “over the mountain” where they could have more room. The west to them was over the Alleghany Mountains. The father and mother, James and his wife Agnes, were adverse to giving up what they had gained at Gettysburg; but finally they recognized the necessity of doing so on account of their sons and daughters; and many were their heavy-hearted talks on their pillows in the night hours while the children slept in happy ignorance of the burden on the hearts of the parents. James, the second son, had become the farm caretaker, and he was also the agitator for “over the mountains.” Because Jamie talked to others,

as well as to those at home, about "over the mountain" and because the father had quietly conversed with the neighbors, the father and mother intimated to Jamie that they had about decided to sell the farm. Finally an offer was made by a neighbor to buy the farm, and the day came when an answer must be made as to its acceptance.

Jamie was chopping at the wood pile. The father came out of the house on his way to meet the purchaser in the village of Gettysburg and sign the deed. He stopped at the wood pile but said nothing; and Jamie kept on chopping. Finally, the father said, "Jamie, and do you think we'd better sell the farm?" "Yes, father, sell the farm," came from Jamie. And Jamie kept on chopping and the father kept on standing there. After a painful silence, again the father said, "And Jamie, do you think we'd better sell the farm?" "Yes, father, sell the farm," and Jamie continued to chop. After another quiet, the father walked away and the deed was signed. The voucher for this anecdote was Jamie's oldest son, John C. Kerr, of Unionville, Ohio.

Thus was the decision made to leave all that was familiar and dear to them, also to leave their neighbors knit to them by strong friendships. These neighbors appear to have borne such names as Brown, Carrick, Hamilton, Hagan, McLaughlin, Ramsey and Stringer, and possibly Goodwin, Hereford and Shields. These neighbors seem to have been as unsettled as were the Kerrs, for a very few years later, we find all these names as neighbors to the Kerrs in their newly found home in Ohio, where all found a new kind of neighbors, savage and infuriated Indians, infuriated because:

these pale-faced newcomers were crowding the Redmen out of their homeland.

Before we follow James, the Taylor-Farmer, over the mountains, let us tell what has been inferred concerning the ancestry of his father John, who bought the land in 1741. It is believed that the immigrant was a certain David Kerr, who in 1708, came with two brothers, Robert and John, from Scotland, via Londonderry, Ireland, and lived for a time in Camden, N. J., and in Philadelphia. It is thought that this David Kerr, the First, married Isabella ——, and had at least sons George, Josiah, and John; and that this last named John Kerr is the John Kerr who bought the land at Gettysburg in 1741.

Here are recorded the marriages of the children of James Kerr, the Taylor.

I. John Kerr married Rachel McKee and had children, James, Thomas, Susan, Nancy, Clarissa, John Andy and Mary.

II. William Kerr was married three times. By his first wife, Rachel McKee, he had children, Samuel, Mary, Nancy, Peggy, Jane and James; by his second wife, Betsy White, he had children, Thomas, William, John and David; by his third wife, Susan Anderson, he had child, Mary.

III. Polly Kerr married Joseph Cobean and had children, Jane, Rachel, Samuel, Mary and Joseph.

IV. James Kerr (he who insisted on selling the farm and going west) was twice married. Jamie's first wife was Katherine Duff (a sister of David); their children were John C. of Unionville, O.; James, William, who married a Henderson of Belmont Co., O., George, Margaret, Joseph,

Thomas Lorimer, and David. Jamie's second wife was Martha Morrison, by whom he had children: Kate, Morrison, Ray, Robert and Jennie.

V. Mattie Kerr married Thomas Morrow, and had children: Eliza Jane and Alexander.

VI. Jane Kerr married David Duff and had children: James, William, Thomas of Brownsville, O., Alexander of Illinois, and a daughter, Mrs. McKay.

VII. Betsy Kerr married William Yates and had children: Mary Ann, Andrew, Martha, Nancy and William, Jr.

VIII. Samuel Kerr was twice married. His first wife was Ann Smith, whose children were Sarah, James, Mary, Nancy, Ellen, Robert, and Joseph, who died unmarried. His second wife was Agnes Hamilton, whose children were Effie Jane (died an infant), Thomas Hamilton, Samuel Carrick, and Margaret who married John Calderhead, but left no children.

We now list the other marriages of Samuel Kerr's children:

I. Sarah Kerr married James McLaughlin and had eight children: William B., who married Elizabeth Thompson; Anna Eliza (Mrs. Lewis Bernhard); Mary Ellen (Mrs. William Courtright); Nancy (Mrs. Joseph McNary); Samuel Kerr, who married Belle Snyder; Sarah Mariah, (wife of Rev. Hugh Whiteford Parks); Joseph Stuart who married Anna Duncan; and Emaline (Mrs. Ross J. Dean).

II. James Kerr, nephew of Jamie, married in 1847, Julia Ann Carrick, his second cousin, a daughter of David S. Carrick and his wife Eliz-



abeth Ramsey, and grand daughter of James Carrick, and also granddaughter of Capt. William Ramsey (of Revolutionary service) of Bucks County, Pa.

III. Mary Kerr married her cousin, William Campbell, and had child Milton.

IV. Nancy Kerr married John McLaughlin, brother of James.

V. Ellen Kerr married Stuart Carrick.

VI. Rev. Robert Kerr married Elizabeth Wallace and had children: Mary Belle (died an infant), Florence, Essie Dias, and Jennie.

VII. Thomas Hamilton Kerr married Lucretia Ann Calderhead; of their three children the only one to leave issue was William Clayton Kerr who married Mary Cummings, and had children: Pauline and George.

VIII. Rev. Samuel Carrick Kerr married Elizabeth Rowley and had two children: Howard Ichis and Mary Agnes. Rev. Howard Ichis Kerr married Blanche Miller and had children: Elizabeth and Agnes.

James Kerr, born April 18, 1818, died 1886, son of Samuel, was a useful citizen and a church elder; he married Julia Ann Carrick who was a leader and efficient church worker. James and Julia had seven children:

I. Samuel Mason Kerr, died when six years old.

II. David Ramsey Kerr, born March 2, 1850, graduate of Franklin College and of Western Theological Seminary, teacher, minister, and college president for sixty years, writer in church

doctrine and policy, married June 12, 1879, Martha Sharon Hill, daughter of Joseph and Mary Ann (Sherrard) Hill, teacher of secular and Bible history, and unexcelled minister's wife and homemaker.

III. Elizabeth Agnes Kerr in 1879, married Oliver Clark who died in 1894, leaving her with six children: Frank, Bertha, Chester, Bess (married Prof. R. A. Wells), Mamie and Isabell.

IV. James Albert Kerr, who died when thirteen years of age.

V. Ada Zilla Kerr died in 1914; in 1879, she married Charles G. Clark and had three children; James H., Sarah, and David Roy.

VI. Mary Maria Kerr married M. L. Casey; she died in 1929.

VII. Julia Ella married Taylor Matson; she died in 1893.

Rev. David Ramsey Kerr has compiled a manuscript genealogy, "JOHN KERR OF GETTYSBURG, (1741) whose descendants in 1802 removed to Harrison County, Ohio; from which the data concerning this line of Kerrs have been taken.

The six children of Rev. D. R. and M. S. (Hill) Kerr:

I. Willis Holmes Kerr, born 1880, at Jamestown, Pa., professor at Westminster, and now librarian of Pomona College, Claremont, Calif.; he married in 1904, Mary Nicholl, dean of women in College of Emporia.

II. James Fred Kerr, born 1882, at Jamestown, died suddenly in 1915; a pioneer in the

guarantee title business in Omaha; married Ethel Robinson, and had children: Katherine R. and James Fred, Jr.

III. Mary Sherrard Kerr, born 1885, at Mercer, Pa., served as missionary in Japan; married in Topeka, Kan., David Gladstone Page, and has children: Thomas, David R., Robert H., and Martha.

IV. David Rhea Kerr, born 1887, machinist and electrician at the Ford Car Plant in Denver; married Olivia McCarty and has child, David Ramsey.

V. Julia Carrick Kerr, born 1890, at Bellevue, Nebr., graduate at College of Emporia, student of library science, married Will C. McCarty, a merchant, in Denver.

VI. Robert Hill Kerr, born 1893, at Bellevue, manager of organization to distribute Accounting Machines; married Mildred Newell and had children: Robert N., Nancy Ann, John R. and James H.

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In the autumn of 1801, James Kerr (Jamie's father) migrated from Gettysburg westward across the Alleghany Mountains. Their traveling outfit was a Conestoga covered wagon, drawn by four horses, and a cow tied to trail the wagon. In that wagon was packed whatever they retained of household goods for their frontier settlements; probably there was a bed for use during the nights of travel by mother and daughters.

They camped for the winter in Westmoreland County, Pa.; and the father and Jamie pros-

pected for land north as far as Mercer County. But in the spring of 1802, they proceeded westward and crossed the Ohio River at Steubenville. In later years Samuel often told of this crossing; it was late in the day, and there was no room for the cow on the ferry boat. They left ten-year old Samuel to guard the cow till the boat could return. He became afraid and cried; it is by this story that we know where they crossed the river and the date of the migration.

They pushed on from the river about 30 miles southwestward and settled on middle Short-creek Hills. A half section of land was secured for each of the four sons. These sons soon married and built log houses and barns.

This Kerr settlement was in Harrison county, close to the line separating it from Jefferson; the only part of these lands now owned (1927) by any of the descendants is that of James, now owned through purchase, by Samuel Kerr McLaughlin.

Here is a description of the betterments put up in that early Kerr settlement; some of which are still standing, but are used for storage. All the buildings were originally of log structure: House, barn and stable, hog house, chicken house, smoke house, all small. The houses were a story and a half, two rooms, one on the ground floor, and one on the second; the upper room was open to the rafters and roof shingles; no plaster anywhere, the cracks between the logs being chinked in with moistened clay; a stairway winding around a corner and under it the only closet in the house; no cellar.

In those days, boys, and girls too, were set

to work; they were to play only when there was no work to do; no idlers out of the cradle. Thus they grew to expect work.

There was one job each spring which all the boys liked; that was the sheep-washing. All the sheep were driven to the creek some time in May to a deep place in the creek, where they were penned at the edge of the water. Men and boys in heavy clothes would stand in the water to their waists and the sheep were caught one by one and forced into the water and held and soaked and washed for three to five minutes. This was great fun for the boys, even if the water was very cold.

The Kerrs did most of their buying and selling in the villages near-by; but once a year at least the Conestoga wagon was loaded with flour, cornmeal, bacon, dressed chickens and turkeys, eggs and butter, and by a four-horse team driven to Wheeling, Va., for the larger market; it required nearly an entire day to drive to Wheeling with such a load.

The method of selling was to back the wagon against the curb at the market-house, a long, open building, the roof extending over the sidewalk. Our produce would be placed in the rear end of the wagon bed and on the sidewalk, ready for buyers as they passed; and the whole city seemed to come to the market; the laboring people were the most numerous, especially the shrewd Irish. They began to come before daylight. We were mostly sold out before sunrise. The things usually bought at Wheeling were New Orleans sugar and molasses by the half barrel, or more, salt and mackerel; very little dry goods.

After the civil war the Conestoga was no more; it could not be kept in repair.

Here is an episode from the recollections of a grandson:

The first time (1863) I went to Wheeling with father I was thirteen years old. Some of our cornmeal was not sold until it was time father was making his final purchases and preparing for the homeward journey. He left it to me to sell the remaining bushel of meal. Soon an Irishman came along and agreed to pay the price, but he had nothing with him in which to carry the meal. He proposed that he would bring back the sack in a few minutes. So he paid for the meal and took the sack; but I never saw the sack or the Irishman afterward.

There is a loose joint, however, on my side; I had nothing left to care for, and I was aching to tour the town. I may not have waited long enough for the Irishman to find me there. At any rate, I did the town, the wharf and boats, and all the big things I could find, and I got back in time to find father hurrying to get on the way homeward.

When we were well on our way up the river hill on the Ohio side, he began to ask where I had been. When I got through with my enthusiastic report, he said: "I am not sure that, had I gone where you have been, I could have found the way back."

### **At the Kerr Homestead in Ohio**

Grandfather Samuel Kerr died in 1862 in Harrison County. A riding horse was kept ready for grandfather's use at any time; he

would ride over the farm, superintending the work and looking after salting the sheep and cattle and he did the errands to town and the post office. After mowing machines and reapers came into use, he drove the mower and reaper each season until he was an old man. This saved a hand and pushed the work. If the rain caught the hay and it had to be teded to get it dry, Grandfather was apt to take a leading part in that work to keep the men at heavier work; and if I, an eight-year-old boy, was in sight he would give command that I should help; and if I did not get along with my windrow as fast as he did with his, there was apt to be a very loud and scary scolding.

He was an early riser; the breakfast hour, summer and winter, was at six o'clock; his sons used to say that if they were out late at night breakfast was apt to be a little earlier than usual.

Grandfather Kerr was a public spirited citizen of a somewhat radical sort. In the years when wheat was cut with a sickle, my father carried a whisky jug along with the water jug to the harvesters; my father told me the only time in his life when he ever tasted whisky was when he was carrying it to the harvest hands; and, truth to tell, these harvesters sometimes got too hilarious to do much reaping.

It was a custom in those days for neighbors to make unannounced visits in the evening, arriving often after dark without supper. So it often happened that there was no meat in the house and no whisky. One of these lacks would be supplied by going to the roost for a chicken, the other by going to the still for whisky. There were stills on many of the farms; there was one

on the farm adjoining grandfather's. If there was a shortness of drink, grandfather would make a trip to the still before he would begin to visit with his callers.

But as the years passed, all this was radically changed. Coal-diggers were about the only men who could be had for harvest hands; these men were poor and continued to be poor, and their families suffered wants. The men were often on drunken sprees. It became indisputable that whisky was their enemy and ruin. Grandfather became an uncompromising teetotaler, a prohibitionist and an abolitionist.

He was a leading spirit in the founding and progress of the church at Adena. He was a kindly and pleasant neighbor, but he was outspoken at shortcoming and unchristian lives of the community. They called him "Deacon Kerr." The rougher boys of the neighborhood always formed a gang who found their fun in mischief; they delighted to vex the Deacon, prowling on nights and Sundays and committing depredations.

He was sent as a commissioner to the General Assembly the year it met in Lexington, Kentucky, before the Civil War. He was not shy about making himself acquainted with the leaders, and was soon known by everybody. The Moderator thus noticing his prominence, called on him to make the closing prayer at one of the sessions. He answered with a loud voice, "No; I'll not pray a bit with all these preachers here; Mr. Boyd, you pray."

Mr. Boyd was his pastor.



## KERRS OF VENANGO COUNTY, PA.

Thomas Kerr, Jr., was born in 1743, in Ireland. He came to America and married Margaret Clerk. They had ten children:

- I. Mary Kerr married William Stewart.
- II. John Kerr married Jane Porter. (See below.)
- III. Thomas Kerr married Elizabeth Douglass.
- IV. Ann Kerr married Thomas Parks.
- V. David Kerr married Rebecca Keneda.
- VI. Rebecca Kerr. (No further trace.)
- VII. Ella Kerr, died young.
- VIII. Margaret Kerr married T. Walker.
- IX. Jonathan Kerr married Mary Braiden.
- X. Joseph Kerr married Nancy Braiden.

John Kerr, the second child above, married Jane Porter, and had ten children:

- I. Sarah Kerr, born 1792, died 1821, married Andrew Sloan.
- II. Thomas Kerr, born 1793, died 1857, married Isabell Stewart.
- III. Margaret Kerr, born 1794, died 1848, married Mathew McDowell.
- IV. Rebecca Kerr, born 1796, died 1815, married Daniel Spicer.
- V. John Kerr, born 1798, died 1830, married Mary Barry.
- VI. Jonathan Kerr, born 1799, died 1876, married Nancy Keifer.
- VII. Jane Kerr, born 1801, died 1858, married Robert Crawford.
- VIII. David Kerr, born 1803, married Mary Ziglar.

IX. Andrew Kerr, born 1805, died 1839, married Sarah Porter.

X. Ann Kerr, born 1807, married Jacob Ziglar.

Andrew Kerr, born 1805, at Emlinton, Venango Co., Pa., died in 1839, married Sarah Porter on Sept. 2, 1828, and had Joseph who died in Iowa; David, who lived in Missouri; and Andrew John, who was born June 14, 1835, and died in Iowa.

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### **MATTHEW KERR OF PERRY COUNTY, PA.**

Matthew Kerr settled in Perry County, Pa. Tradition says he came from Scotland. The original homestead was at Marsh Run in Tuscorora township. Perry was at that time a part of Cumberland county. Marsh Run is seven miles west from Millerstown. Matthew married and left eight children: William, John, Matthew, Jr., Robert, Mrs. Nelson, Mrs. Carson, Mrs. Boggs, and Alexander, who died in 1852.

Matthew Kerr, Jr., had a son James who settled in Indiana Co., Pa. Alexander Kerr, Matthew's youngest child, married and left eleven children: William, born 1804, died 1888, Robert, Alexander, James, John (settled in Indiana Co., Pa.), Thompson, Elizabeth (Mrs. Robert Work), Margaret (Mrs. Daniel Long), Mary (Mrs. William Frantz), Letitia (unmarried), and Rheuanah (Mrs. Peter Resinger).

William Kerr, 1804-1888, married twice; by his first wife he had one son, by his second, he had four daughters.

William's five children:

I. Lewis Barnett Kerr, born 1830, died 1905; spent thirty years in public school work, during seven of which he was Superintendent of Perry County. In 1860, he married Elizabeth Jane Wagner. (See below.)

II. Elmira Jane Kerr, married John Rouse of Ickesburg, Pa.; she now resides with her son, Rev. William Kerr Rouse, a Baptist minister of Philadelphia.

III. Ellen Kerr, died in 1911, aged 68 years; she married James G. Kreamer of Millerstown, Pa. (See below.)

IV. Halie L. Kerr, dwells at Landisburg, Pa.

V. Sarah Ann Kerr, died in 1883, aged 28 years.

Lewis Barnett Kerr and his wife, Elizabeth J. Wagner, had seven children (Alvin, the youngest, died in infancy):

I. David W. Kerr married in 1899, Sue A. McCune, of Mercersburg, Pa., who died sine prole in 1910; David entered the ministry of the Reformed Church in 1893, and now resides at Bloomsburg, Pa.

II. Annie G. Kerr spent some time in educational work; she now dwells with her brother in Bloomsburg.

III. Samuel W. Kerr is a teacher in the High School at Reading, Pa.

He dwells at Jacksonwald, Pa. In 1903, he married Caroline A. Clark of Luzerne, Pa., who died in 1923, leaving four children: Margaret, Charlotte, Clark, and Frances. In 1924, Samuel married Margaret Haldeman of Philadelphia, and has one son William.

IV. Frank L. Kerr is a minister of the Reformed Church in Pittsburg, Pa.; in 1903, he married Mary McIlhenny of Penbrook, Pa.; they had two children, Elizabeth and Lewis. (The latter died in 1917.)

V. Bessie Jane Kerr married in 1895, D. E. Rimer of Rimersburg, Pa.; they had three children: Paul (died in 1918), Gertrude and Lewis. Gertrude in 1924, married Lawrence L. Gutelius; they dwell in Wormleysburg, Pa., and had one son, Lawrence Rimer Gutelius.

VI. Mina M. Kerr of New York City, who is engaged in educational work and has served as Dean in several Women's Colleges.

James G. Kreamer and his wife, Ellen Kerr, had five children:

I. Nannie Kreamer married A. P. Diffenderfer, who is Superintendent of public schools at Nanticoke, Pa.; they have Helene, Wilbur and Emory.

II. Mary Kreamer married William Horning; they dwelt in Harrisburg, Pa., where she died sine prole in 1925.

III. Leila Kreamer married Lloyd Arntz (now deceased) and has James and Jack; she now lives in Millerstown, Pa.

IV. Mina Kreamer, who makes her home with her sister, Mrs. Arntz.

V. Perry Kreamer, who is married and dwells near Philadelphia.

## KERRS OF ERIE COUNTY, NEW YORK.

Alexander Kerr was born Oct. 20, 1759, and died March 8, 1824. He married Elizabeth B., who was born May 6, 1767, and died April 5, 1825.

They had 12 children:

I. Robert, born March 12, 1788, died Dec. 8, 1854, married Aug. 26, 1819.

II. William Kerr, born Dec. 23, 1791, died Aug. 31, 1819, married Sept. 14, 1817.

III. John Kerr, born Jan. 12, 1793, died Jan. 22, 1861, married Oct. 1, 1829.

IV. Ruth Kerr, born Feb. 16, 1795, died Jan. 10, 1853, married May 9, 1826.

V. Alexander Kerr, Jr., born June 11, 1797, died Jan. 20, 1833.

VI. Peter Kerr, born March 20, 1799, died Aug. 19, 1821, married Aug. 29, 1821.

VII. Elijah Kerr, born Feb. 1, 1802, died Oct. 22, 1834; married (1) Feb. 17, 1828, Eleanor who died March 17, 1832; (2) Jan. 16, 1834.

VIII. James Kerr, born March 15, 1804; died Feb. 13, 1857, his wife, Mary Ann, died Jan. 29, 1833.

IX. George C. Kerr, born Nov. 15, 1806, died summer of 1861, married in 1826.

X. David Kerr, born Jan. 10, 1808, died Jan. 9, 1851.

XI. Patterson Kerr, born Jan. 14, 1810, died July 24, 1885, married May 1, 1834.

XII. Thomas J. Kerr, born Jan. 26, 1812, died May, 1887, married Jan. 5, 1832.

Patterson Kerr ran the old hotel at North Collins, N. Y., for years. He left four children:

I. Abram T. Kerr, died in 1899, married

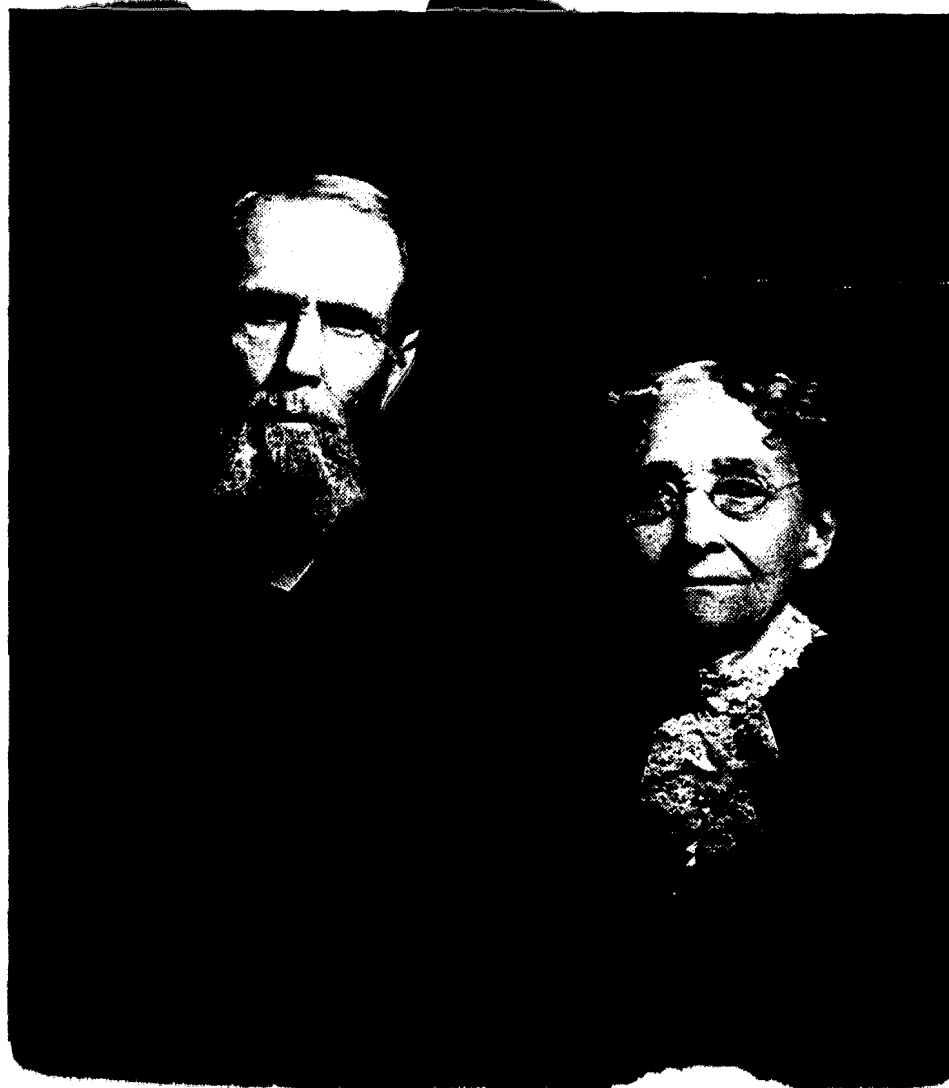
and left Frank M. (now deceased), and Abram T., Jr., a Professor at Cornell.

II. Albert D. Kerr died in 1913, married and had four children: George A., Fred H., Albert D., Jr., and Harry P.

III. Emily Kerr married B. W. Booker, sine prole.

IV. Ellen Kerr married George Arnold and had two children, one of whom dwells at Bradford, Pa.

George A. Kerr had Robert A. (now deceased); Fred F. Kerr has Albert D.; Harry P. Kerr has Harry P., Jr.; Albert D. Kerr, Jr., has Charles H. Kerr who lives in Los Angeles, Calif., and has Robert and Audrey L.



JOSEPH KERR FLEMING, 1835-1919  
AND HIS WIFE  
BARBARA ANN HANNA, 1833-1914





## KERRS FROM SELKIRK, SCOTLAND

Alexander Kerr was one of several brothers who came to America from Selkirk, Scotland, in the 17th century, and settled in Pennsylvania and North Carolina. His wife's name was Martha Rice. They had a son, John Kerr, who married Mary Graves. He was a Congressman from Virginia.

John and Mary Graves Kerr had at least two sons:

I. Rev. John Kerr, born Aug. 14, 1782, died Sept. 29, 1842. Representative in Congress, 1813-17; pastor of the First Baptist Church in Richmond, Va. He married Mary Williams, and had John Kerr, born in Halifax Co., Va., Feb. 10, 1811, died Sept. 5, 1879. He married (1st) a Williams, (2nd) a Campbell. He was a Whig candidate for Governor in 1852; served in House of Representatives 1853-55; Judge of Superior Court eight years.

II. James Kerr, another son of John and Mary Graves Kerr, married Frances McNeil; was a State Senator from Casswell County, N. C., for nearly twenty years. They had a son, John Hosea Kerr, a captain in the Confederate army, who married Catherine Yancey. He died about three years ago. Their son, John Hosea Kerr, Jr., married Ella Foote, and had John Hosea (3rd), born 1900 (State Representative, North Carolina), and James Yancey, born 1902.

J. H. Kerr, Jr., served as Solicitor for his district twelve years, and seven years as Superior Court Judge, resigning to accept seat in Congress vacated by the death of Claude Kitchen, Major-

ity Leader of the House in Wilson administration.

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### GEORGE KERR OF OLD DEER, SCOTLAND

George Kerr dwelt at Old Deer, Aberdeenshire; he married Helen Legge, born 1796, daughter of George Legge and his wife, Barbara Bremer. George and Helen came to America in 1835, or a little earlier; landing in Quebec, they soon came down into Illinois. They are buried in Rockford cemetery. Most, if not all, of their six children were born at Old Deer:

I. George Kerr, born Aug. 6, 1822 or 23; died Dec., 1887; married his cousin, Barbara B. Henderson. (See below.)

II. William Kerr married Ellen Ralston and had Amelia and George.

III. Alexander Kerr married Katherine Brown and had James, attorney for Northern Pacific, Portland, Oregon; Nellie; and Charles H., a publisher in Chicago. Alexander was professor of Greek at University of Wisconsin for over fifty years.

IV. Charles Kerr died at 22 years.

V. James Kerr was killed in the Civil War.

VI. Helen (Mrs. Hackett.)

Helen Legge had two sisters: Jane (Mrs. William Durno) and Barbara, who married Thomas Henderson at Old Deer. Thomas and Barbara Henderson came to Illinois in 1848 with their six sons (not named here) and their only daughter, Barbara Bremer Henderson, who was born in 1823; they removed to Postville, Iowa, in 1851, taking up six farms from the govern-

ment, the location being still known as Henderson Prairie.

George and Barbara B. Henderson Kerr had seven children:

I. Albert James, born 1849.

II. Helen Angeline, born 1851, married James Alexander Henderson, born 1847, in Scotland. Their children: Alberta; Bertha Asenath (Mrs. William Shardlow); Wilfred Ernest; Mae Augusta, of Cherokee, Iowa; and Kate Florence (Mrs. Robert McIntosh) whose children are: Fred Henderson, Robert, Jr., and Mary Ellen; their home is at Lake Linden, Mich.

III. Lavina, born 1853, married S. Hart McLean.

IV. Asenath, born 1855, married Joel Dodge.

V. Alice Serena, born 1856, married Joel Dodge.

VI. Charles Melancthon, born 1859, married Annie Dodge; theirs is a beautiful Christian home in Postville, Ia.; children: Kate, Helen, George, Malcolm and Kenneth.

VII. Nettie Florence, born 1862, married Adelbert Marston.

Charles M. Kerr writes: "My son Kenneth, who was through Chatteau Tierry and the Meuse in the Field Artillery, is now contented to run the old home farm which has been in the family for eighty-seven years."

David Bremer Henderson, who was a member of Congress from the 3rd Iowa District for over eighteen years, part of that time being Speaker of the House, paid this tribute to George

Kerr, who passed away, December, 1887: "He was the most perfect man I ever knew."

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### KERRS AT CHILLISQUAQUE, PA.

Joseph Kerr (some say his middle name was Harvey), married Margaret Harvey, daughter of Alexander of Bucks County, Pa. Their son Joseph Harvey, Jr., born Dec. 19, 1770, died April 19, 1856, established in 1829, at Mooresburg, Pa., a Sunday School in a wagon-maker's shop, which school in five years developed into the Mooresburg Presbyterian Church. He married Jane Hinds, who died March 27, 1854, aged 79 years and six days. Jane was the daughter of Robert and — (Finley) Hinds; at five years of age she had been in the Great Runaway of July, 1778.

They had one son, Joseph Harvey, 3rd, who married Jane Voris. Their children:

I. William Voris Kerr, 1850-1924, who married Barbara Alice Smith; they had two sons, John Kerr of Sunbury, Pa., who married Anna Bieber, and Joseph Harvey Kerr, 4th, of Wilmington, Calif.

William V. Kerr served as elder for forty years, and a long time as clerk of the session. His pastor, Rev. W. G. Finney, stated that he "felt sure that the late Mr. Kerr said that his people (the Kerrs) originally came from Freehold, New Jersey, to the Forks of the Susquehanna."

II. Annie Kerr, who was also especially active in church work, married Henry Simington, and had William and Oakley of Pottsgrove, Pa., and Robert of Rochester, Pa. Henry was a son

of Robert Simington (immigrant to America from Scotland, in 1776, but of Revolutionary service), and his wife, Elizabeth Jacoby.

Joseph H. Kerr of Wilmington, Calif., writes: "My father took a rather keen interest in the matter of genealogy and could relate a great many interesting things regarding the early history of the family, passed to him by word of mouth, but no record was ever kept. I do know that my great-great-grandfather, Joseph Harvey Kerr, was an officer during the American Revolution, and that some of his family later settled in the Wyoming Valley, Pa.; were driven from there at the time of the Wyoming Massacre (by the Delaware Indians), making their escape down the Susquehanna River and landing on an island, which for a long time was known as Kerr's Island."

Jane S. Kerr, died 1864, married William Murray, 1800-83, and had Joseph Kerr and James B.; Joseph Kerr Murray married Sarah S. McMahan and had William. "Aunt Effie" Kerr, died 1909, aged 96, married Dr. William McMahan; their children all died young. Robert H. Kerr, born 1799, married Hannah Murray. Daniel T. Kerr, born 1804, married Mary Giffen.

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## DAVID KERR OF TENNESSEE AND INDIANA

David Kerr was born in Scotland in 1783, went to the north of Ireland when a young man and married there, his wife living but two years; they had one child which died an infant. He came to America about 1808, and settled in Tennessee.

In 1811 he married Eleanor E. Dobson, who was born in Tennessee in 1796. They removed to Indiana in 1826; it is said that David had two brothers who removed from Tennessee soon after he did. David was a soldier in the Civil War and took part in the "Horse-Shoe Bend" battle on the Mississippi River.

Children of David and Eleanor Kerr:

I. Elizabeth (Betty), born in 1812, married Cornelius T. Guyn; dwelt near Cuba, Ind.; children: Marion, Kate, Moses, Henry and George.

II. Francis Marion Kerr, born 1826; unmarried; editor and printer.

III. Sarah (Mrs. Henry Smith) dwelt in Kentucky; children: Lou (Mrs. Parton); Mary, who married George Coble; Levi, of Missouri, and George.

IV. Robert Baker Kerr, born in Tennessee in 1828, died 1898; (see below.)

V. John McCord Kerr, born 1836, died 1922; married Miss Powell; they had several children; the oldest and only one named here is Paul, of Paragon, Ind.

Robert Baker Kerr married Elizabeth Dix, March 14, 1850; she was born in Kentucky, in 1832. Robert was a farmer, and a justice of the peace for many years. They had eight children, all born in Owen Co., Ind:

I. Mary Jane Kerr, born Dec. 19, 1850, in 1869 married Adam Collenbaugh, and had Amos, James of Worthington, Ind., and Cora.

II. George Scott Kerr, formerly a merchant and dealer in real estate, was born Oct, 14, 1852; married in 1893, Effie A. Vawter, 1872-1921. Their children: Stanley L. Kerr (a jeweler in

Havre, Mont.) who married Hildur Erickson, and has Evelyn Ruby, and Betty Lucille; Arleigh Robert Kerr (a jeweler in Compton, Calif.) who married Ethel M. Demmon; Effie A. Kerr who died in 1921; and Reese Vawter Kerr (a salesman in Long Beach, Calif.,) who married Hazel Fulton. Stanley and Arleigh served in the World War.

III. William Franklin Kerr, born in 1854, married (1st) Ida Ripley, and had Alva; (2nd) Alice Bradley, and had Iona and Regina.

IV. Sarah Jane Kerr, born in 1856, married Enos Lucas, and had Elmer (a teacher), Charles and Warren. They dwell in Pike Co., Ind.

V. John Wesley Kerr, died at the age of 15.

VI. Paulina Etta Kerr, 1862-1904, married Benjamin Balay; one child, Estella.

VII. Emma Catherine Kerr, born in 1864, married (1st) John Keeling, (2nd) Preston Shelton of Seattle, Wash.

VIII. Charles L. Kerr, born 1868, married in 1888 Mettie Mundy, born 1870; their children: Winifred, born 1891; Mary, born 1892; Laura Lee, born 1898; Cedric, born 1905; Velma, born 1908, and Dorothy, born 1910. Cedric Kerr was killed in a gun explosion on a U. S. battleship, June 12, 1924, at San Pedro, Calif.

The father of Elizabeth Dix, John Dix, was born in 1801, near Crab Orchard, Ky., and was a cousin of Maj. Gen. John A. Dix, who uttered the words that made him famous, "If any man attempts to pull down the American flag, shoot him on the spot."

## KERRS FROM LONDONDERRY, IRELAND

In the spring of 1708, three Kerr brothers, named John, David and Robert, relative ages not known, came from Londonderry County, and landed in Philadelphia; they were pure Scotch, having been in Ireland less than a year. Of each of these immediately in turn:

A. John Kerr located in northern Georgia about 1715, but soon removed to Mecklenburg County, N. C.; he had three daughters and two sons, William and Robert; the last named son dwelt at Charlotte on the farm where his father first settled; he lived to be ninety years old and left three sons, Hugh, John and William, and three daughters of whom two died single, and the third married Elihu McCracken; no other information concerning this branch.

B. David Kerr, the second immigrant brother, settled in Camden, N. J., and married; about 1740, he removed to Pennsylvania, probably to York or Adams county; he is said to have died about 1759; no further information.

C. Robert Kerr, the third brother, settled in Camden, N. J., and died between 1730 and 1740; it is of record that he owned real estate in 1730, and in 1740, his "estate was taken from the Court as fully settled." He left a son James, and perhaps other children.

This James Kerr, son of Robert, died in 1785, and was buried in Camden; his grave was marked with a tombstone which was removed and lost when, many years later, the city took possession of the cemetery. He left two sons. The



name of one son has not been ascertained.

David Kerr (the first), was the other son; he was born in Camden County, N. J., July 14, 1750; he married Cornelia Chamberlain; their descendants have been carefully traced. This David will hereafter be designated as David Kerr the First. He served in the Revolutionary War. This is proved by a reference to the Pennsylvania Archives, vol. 14, page 775, where it reads, "David Kerr, born July 14, 1750, was a private in Capt. James McClure's Company, Col. William Montgomery's Battalion of the Flying Camp, captured at Fort Washington, November, 1776, and exchanged January 3, 1777.

His grandson, David Kerr III, wrote: "My grandfather used to tell me than once while chasing the British, they went through a cornfield and found a green pumpkin, and it tasted better than any melon he had ever eaten, as they were nearly starved."

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### THE KERRS OF BEAVER COUNTY, PA.

David Kerr, the First, was born in Camden, N. J., July 14, 1750. On April 15, 1785, he married Cornelia Chamberlain, who was born in New Jersey, February 28, 1768, of parents direct from Holland. They were distantly related. Their Uncle Joseph Chamberlain had settled in the extreme western part of Pennsylvania three years before, and he kept writing back and telling his friends in Jersey about the Indians, and of the fine openings near him for newcomers. Two other Chamberlain families of

Camden were planning to join their kinsman in the west; so David and Cornelia decided to accompany the party. This colony which appears to have consisted of nine or ten adults and several children, started on their journey in the fall of 1785, probably about the middle of September. They seem to have been over four weeks on the road, arriving after the middle of October.

It is not likely that they traveled on Sundays. Each man would have a gun and an ax; and it is very likely that the party had two horses and a wagon.

But David had no wagon; but he did have a horse, a cow, a sack of corn meal and a little cooking kettle. He strapped the greater part of his belongings on the horse; and on the top of these rode Cornelia. Every person carried what he could; even the cow was pressed into service and was compelled to carry the kettle around her neck.

Progress was slow at the best; but the cow was the drag; for a milk cow, not being built for travel, soon became footsore and lame and lost flesh; if urged beyond her leisurely pace, she soon became exhausted, lies down by the roadsides and refuses to get up; and the whole caravan has to stop.

Their food was cow's milk and a stinted allowance of corn meal. They gathered beechnuts which were unusually abundant that fall, evidently to feed their stock; and they gathered acorns also, which they ate themselves, for tradition says that they thought those acorns were the sweetest they ever tasted. Wild game was a part of their food supply; the country side swarmed with native pheasants, wild pigeons and squirrels; it

is likely that one of the men kept in advance as a forerunner to bring down any game that might cross their path.

It was an eventful day when they reached the summit of the Alleghany Mountains, the crest of the great barrier separating east and west; they halted and cooked their midday meal, and then held a prayer meeting in gratitude to God for their safety thus far on their journey.

Some nights were so cold that they made brush shelters and kept a fire of logs burning all night.

At last they reached their destination, and with grateful hearts found themselves among acquaintances and friends, who during that first winter, gave them shelter until cabins could be built.

The place that David chose for his future home was one mile east of where Hookstown now is, three miles from the Ohio River, and thirty-six miles below Pittsburg. It is now in Beaver County. Whenever the weather permitted, every one who could handle an ax labored from dawn to dark to build cabins and to fell the trees and burn the trunks so as to make open spaces in which to plant crops the coming spring.

Mr. Kaler's History is profusely illustrated, giving more than seventy full page pictures of the Kerrs and their spouses and children. The frontispiece is a picture of the old cabin which was built in 1786 and abandoned in 1867, from a photograph taken thirty years after that; this picture is especially fascinating. The hand of time has dismantled it just enough to let us see the character of the workmanship.

A person who was inspecting the picture

said to me, "Do you call that a log cabin? I would not; it is a timber cabin. My idea of a log cabin is one where the logs are not smoothed at all, or at most, only on one side; in this building, every log has been scored on four sides; every stick is square; that is certainly a timber cabin."

The beams, when notched at both ends and laid up frontier style, fit together so snugly their whole length as to leave only small intervals here and there to be filled in with mud and plaster.

Assuming the width of the front door to be the standard two feet six, we can estimate closely the size of the building; 15 by 20 feet on the outside. It faces south and has a door in the center, with a small window to the right of it; it is two full stories high, with a steep roof above that, steep because, if not, the home-made riven shingles would not turn rain and snow. An unusual feature is that there is a full-sized exterior door in the second story, to which an outside stairs must have lead. In the kitchen there was probably a ladder of pegs, by which the boys could climb to the other room above.

The chimney is at the east end; it is exterior, of dressed stones, with a cross section, 4 by 6 feet, and extending above the ridge pole, and has two flues the whole length. There are two fireplaces; of these, one is in the kitchen, and the other is on the outside. One feature of the exterior fireplace is the mantel or cap-stone; it is also long and thick and well dressed; this fireplace is so large that two big kettles could swing on s-hooks from the iron crossbar. A splendid place it must have been for heating water on

washdays and butchering days, for making soap, for trying out fat, for boiling grain and potatoes for the stock, and for making maple sugar. There is no sign of a cellar; but as was the usage of the time, there was probably a shallow pit under the house, reached by lifting two loose boards from the kitchen floor, which pit was for the storage of potatoes, cabbage and other vegetables against the winter's freezing.

In such a home a modern family with two children would think itself

“Cabined, cribbed, confined.”

But this is the pioneer cabin to which David and Cornelia brought their first born child when a few months old; in this cabin they dwelt for forty years (until David's death); and in these four small rooms they raised to useful manhood and womanhood seven sons and four daughters.

Near the front door of the cabin stood an oak tree from which David shot a panther one morning as it was about to spring on Mrs. Kerr while she was milking.

That very summer a church was organized, and David was ordained an elder, an office the duties he faithfully discharged until his death forty years later, he being a Presbyterian of the “straightest sect.”

The first church building was of logs, 18 by 20 feet; it had no window, but was lighted through the roof; it had no door; the entrance was an underground passage to protect the worshipers from the Indians; and according to the usage of those times there was doubtless a peep-hole on each side of the church, through which those within could scan the situation before venturing out.

## DAVID AND CORNELIA KERR'S CHILDREN

I. John Kerr, born Jan. 17, 1786, less than four months after the arrival of his parents in Beaver County, Pa., died 1848; married Margaret Lee, born 1784, died 1848; among their children were: (a) Sarah Ann (Mrs. John Douglass); (b) William, who married Lavina Funk, and had Araminta E. (Mrs. George H. Bombaugh), Joseph Lee who married Candace E. Roberts, and Jennie Matilda (wife of Rev. D. W. Fahs), (c) John, born 1820, died 1896, married Mary Jane Curran and had Charles Luther Kerr, who married Gertrude Wilson and has Della (Mrs. F. M. Brown), Retta (Mrs. A. A. Longsdorf), and Stella (Mrs. Edward H. Smith).

II. Mary Kerr, born 1787, died 1848, unmarried, "an angel of mercy in her brothers' families."

III. Rebecca Kerr, 1789-1872, married in 1812, John Reynolds, who was killed in 1834, by a tree falling on him at a chopping; among their children: Mary Ann (Mrs. William Feighner); Cornelia (Mrs. David Cassel); James, married Chloe Snow; and Thomas, married Helen Harper.

IV. David Kerr II, born 1791, died 1864, served in War of 1812; by his first wife Rachel Sweek he had six children; by his second wife, Elizabeth Snyder, four children. David had more than sixty grandchildren. (See below.)

V. James Kerr, 1792-1816, buried beside his father in Mill Creek cemetery. Unmarried.

VI. Sarah Kerr, 1795-1861, married 1817, Thomas Glendy; among their children were Mary (Mrs. James Pattison); Agnes Nancy (Mrs.

John Craig); William married Lucinda Warner; Cornelia (Mrs. William Wilson); Thomas married Elizabeth J. Wilson; and John married Eliza Ann Spear.

VII. William Kerr, 1797-1874, married in 1819, Elizabeth Mercer; among their children were: Dr. John, married Matilda Cunningham of Lexington, O., dwelt at Cedar Falls, Iowa, and had Aurelia S., and W. Rolla; David married Jane Minnerly; Cornelia (Mrs. Frisby P. Dukes), William, Jr., married Elizabeth Snyder; and Amos, who married Elizabeth H. Bradley, and had Amy who is the wife of Rev. R. C. Glass.

VIII. Robert Kerr, 1799-1882, married in 1832, Abigail King, 1811-1888; among their children were Cornelia (Mrs. Philip Stentz); Maria (Mrs. John Gamble); Abigail (wife of Rev. A. N. Alcott); and Robert C., who married Etta Berone.

IX. Jesse Kerr, 1802-1879, married Mary Chamberlain; dwelt at Sharon, O.; their daughter, Sarah Ann, born 1830, married David E. Evans of Shelby, Ohio.

X. Rachel Kerr, 1804-1885, married in 1826, Caleb Whims, 1802-1872; they dwelt later at Hookstown, Pa. Among their children were: Nancy (Mrs. Samuel Chapman) of Blue Rapids, Kan.; Mary Jane (Mrs. Henry Conkle) of Scotville, Nebr.; Amanda (Mrs. William Lockhart) of Kendall, Pa.; Cornelia (Mrs. James Barnes) of Escondido, Calif.; Joshua married Mattie McGuire, of Norwich, Kan.; Jasper married Sarah A. Flower, of Westmoreland, Kan.; Semantha (Mrs. Andrew J. Furguson), of Scotville, Nebr.; Caleb Newton married Glaphyra K. Vance; Sarah Elizabeth (Mrs. Alexander Moneypenny) of New Cumberland, W. Va.

XI. Ebenezer Kerr married Jane Madden; line extinct.

David Kerr II, son of David and Cornelia, had two wives and ten children:

I. John, born 1812, married Nancy Keasey, and had Ebenezer and Calvin.

II. David the third, born 1814, married Rozanna Premer, and had ten children.

III. Jesse, born 1817, married Eliza Evans, and had eleven children.

IV. Robert, born 1820; he went south and served in the Confederate army; he was last heard of in 1857 in Arkansas, when he reported that he had three sons (one named Robert) and three daughters; his kinsmen are very anxious to get in touch with his descendants.

V. Cornelia, born 1823, married Danford K. Robbins, and had seven children.

VI. Nancy, born 1830, married Upton Burgoon of Fremont, O., and had ten children.

VII. Margaret Lee, born 1839, married (1) Clark Howland (3 children); (2) Cyrus Bassett (2 children).

VIII. Eliza Jane, born 1841, married Abel Howard and had five children.

IX. Ebenezer, born 1843, married (1) Sarah Deeter, and had two children, (2) Mary Lewis and had one child.

X. Francis Marion, born 1849, married Sarah Campbel, sine prole.

David Kerr III and his wife, Rozenna Premer, as stated above, had ten children, but space permits us to name only their seventh child, Elizabeth Alice Kerr, born 1853, who on May 1, 1873, at Crestline, Ohio, married Samuel P.



Kaler who was born Feb. 17, 1853 in Crawford County, Ohio; they dwelt in Columbia City, Ind., and had Laura and Walpole. Samuel P. Kaler compiled a History of the Kerr family, particularly the Descendants of David and Cornelia Kerr; it is a book of 126 pages and was published in 1898; we are deeply indebted to Mr. Kaler's compilation on which we have been permitted to draw freely.

I now quote from the opening chapter of Mr. Kaler's book:

"One great defect in our progressive people is that they have preserved no authentic trace of their ancestry and but little of its traditions. Brothers and sisters leave the parental threshold without the least estrangement; they separate from each other a day's journey, and are at once completely lost to each other, their children scarcely able to say their parents had brothers and sisters.

"It is gratifying to know there has been a general awakening of our people, more especially during the decade, 1885-1895, to the fact that family history is an integral part of national history, and an ever increasing source of satisfaction as the dim past recedes farther and more rapidly from us.

"Doubt, uncertainty and the shades of oblivion are rapidly, yet silently, closing over the lives and actions of those whose memory we seek here to perpetuate; and it is no mean task to gather up the fragments from personal recollection, public and private records, family Bibles, traditions and various other sources, harmonize their differences, select the best evidence and arrange all in its proper chronological order.

"If, after months of labor, this narrative is not absolutely correct in every particular, it is as nearly so as can be made at this time, and is much nearer perfection than it could be made in another generation or even another year; and it places the descendants of this branch of the Kerr family in position to pursue it faithfully and accurately to the end of time.

"In gathering the facts here presented, the same thing is frequently told by a dozen different witnesses hundreds of miles separated from each other; and in most cases when these fragments of story are fitted together, they form a harmonious whole, and are therefore, indisputable evidences of its truth."

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### THE CRIPPLED SPIE

Here is an anecdote that drifts in from Texas; its original source is not indicated. The time was during the autumn of 1780; the place was the western part of the Carolinas, where Cornwallis was maneuvering against the Americans, which maneuvering ended disastrously to himself in the entrapment of Col. Ferguson and 1200 British soldiers on a mountain peak, and their capture by the backwoodsmen under John Sevier, a loss which greatly weakened Cornwallis. The spy's service is so direct and effective that the story sticks in the memory, although the style of the narrative is rather formal. Here is the story:

"Joseph Kerr, a crippled spie, serving under the Command of the Revolutionary Army, did enter the English army lines, disguised as a rag-

ged begger, and did overhear the British Commander and Staff in council assembled, arranging their plans for the battle of King's Mountain. The said spie, Joseph Kerr, did convey the said information to the Commander of the American forces in time to save the American army from surprise and defeat.

The American Commander utilizing this information was enabled, through strategy and perfect arrangements of the attack, to frustrate the plans of the British Commander and demoralize his army, leading to total defeat, thereby casting the die leading directly to America's liberty and independence."

## KERRS AT THE FORKS OF THE DELAWARE

### Kerrs of the Irish Settlement

The Irish Settlement means those Scotch-Irish Presbyterian families who were the first settlers in the Forks of the Delaware in Northampton County, Pa. It must be remembered that in colonial times Irish almost always means Scotch-Irish. The earliest deed for land is dated March 3, 1737; but some think that the earliest pioneers were on the ground in 1728, perhaps earlier.

And this is how the settlement came about according to the traditions afterward current among the widely scattered lines of descent.

A vessel sailed from the north of Ireland to bring a ship load of immigrants to America; they attempted to land at Boston but the Puritans would not allow them to come ashore. The captain sailed northward and disembarked his passengers in Main on the banks of the Kennebec River. They were not accustomed to cold winters; and this winter proved to be especially cold even for New England. As soon as spring came, they hurried southward, some made the journey overland, others by boat to Philadelphia. The wanderers were anxious to take up land and build cabins. The spot selected by the leaders for their habitation was in the Forks of the Delaware River where the Lehigh River empties into the Delaware; it was fifteen miles west of Easton, where Weaverville now stands, in a limestone valley of exceedingly fertile soil.

The list of surnames indicates that there were thirty-five or forty households all told, not clustered together, but somewhat scattered

as each settler sought to secure a choice bit of land. Prominent families were: Kerr, McNair, Hays, Walker, Ralston, Horner, Hemphill, and Clyde.

One of the exploring party happened to remark that he was thirsty; and an old Indian squaw who was lingering near, said, "Give me a gourd, and I'll bring you a drink," and she at once brought water from a large spring near at hand which the white men had failed to observe.

It is not to be assumed that the first exploring party included all who afterward became settlers; rather that, after the choice had been made, others gradually assembled; and it may also fairly be assumed that they wrote to their kin in Ireland and that small parties of their friends made the voyage later and were welcomed, for there is a letter extant dated 1798, from "Crosses," Ireland, written by a Mr. Kerr to a friend at the Forks, stating that they were second cousins, and inquiring concerning his chance to improve his circumstances if he should come to the Forks.

Three books have been published that give information concerning the Irish Settlement at the Forks of the Delaware.

Rev. John C. Clyde, whose ancestors had been identified with the Settlement from its infancy, published "History of the Allen Township Presbyterian Church"; and later in 1879 he published "Genealogies, Necrology and Reminiscences of the Irish Settlement." It appears that the Rev. J. C. Clyde's last named volume was put through the press in small sections; this enabled him to correct in the last pages errors he

had made in the earlier part; even after the index to surnames had been placed in type, he received additional information from Mrs. Samuel Cowen, formerly Mary Dinsmore; and this is the lady whom Rev. J. H. Kerr consulted when drawing up the Kerr tree.

The Northampton Historical and Genealogical Society, of Easton, Pa., published in 1896, a volume entitled "The Scotch-Irish of Northampton County, Pa."

Another source of information is a manuscript genealogy compiled by Rev. James Horner Kerr, giving sketches of the Kerr and Horner Families, who were early settlers at the Forks of the Delaware.

I am informed that James McPherson Kerr compiled a manuscript Genealogy which names several Kerrs who were settlers and merchants at Gettysburg, Pa.; and that this manuscript has been deposited in the library of Colorado College, Colorado Springs, Colo.

Rev. James Horner Kerr was graduated from Lafayette College in 1768, and from the Western Theological Seminary in 1872; he became a Presbyterian clergyman. Before completing his course in the seminary he became interested in the genealogy of his branch of the Kerr family. He gathered information and wrote it down; in this research he was encouraged and aided by Mrs. Samuel Cowen (formerly Mary Dinsmore, daughter of John and Jane Kerr Dinsmore). James bought a book in which to record his findings; it was a large ledger-like volume, gilt-edged and weighed four pounds. He was wise; many and many a family record has disappeared forever because they were written on loose

sheets of paper, so easily mislaid and so hard to find, the tattered edges of which gave to the chance observer the impression of "No value to anybody." This young theological student's book is still here; it has outlasted his other writings; it is now owned by Miss Mary J. Kerr, of Jersey Shore, Pa.

As James grew older, the pressure and interest of ministerial duties necessarily and properly occupied his time, and the latter part of the book has a great deal of personal memoranda, such as the subjects and dates of sermons preached.

Of course he and Mrs. Cowen could speak with authority concerning all the households falling within their memory and concerning a generation even further back. His researches led him at once to the Forks of the Delaware, and to ancestors who were in the prime of life one hundred years before his birth, his birth year having been 1847.

Concerning the earliest Kerrs, the immigrants and their children and their history, he obtained information from two sources and he makes proper acknowledgement thereof.

On October 6, 1871, he makes this entry: "The following statements are partially the substance of extracts drawn from certain articles presented in 'The Presbyterian' (1840-1850), by the Rev. Richard Webster, of Mauch Chunk, Pa."

On July 14, 1879, at Rural Valley, Armstrong Co., Pa., he makes the following entry: "After reading Clyde's Irish Settlement and a full consultation with Mrs. Mary (Dinsmore) Cowen, I venture to make the following record."

Since very few persons today have access to those early files of "The Presbyterian" above referred to, we trust that it will not be deemed out of place to reproduce here some extracts from Rev. James Horner Kerr's manuscript volume, which extracts give a very vivid picture of frontier life and perils in the Scotch-Irish Settlement at the Forks of the Delaware during colonial and revolutionary times.

When I first heard that the Rev. James Horner Kerr had left a kind of dairy or memorandum book, I had high hopes that it would furnish wished-for genealogical material and I was not disappointed; but when I found it and examined it, my interest in things genealogical, I confess, was submerged for a time in his account of what experiences this Scotch-Irish community as a whole had endured during the French and Indian War and during the Revolution. They lived in the woods but they had some genuine thrills; life was real, life was earnest, life was tragic.

### INDIAN TROUBLES

Indian outrages began soon after Braddock's defeat in 1755 near Pittsburg. The Six Nations destroyed the Moravians at Mahoning. In 1758 a great Indian Congress, consisting of 500 Indians, was held at Easton, Pa. On his way thither, Tadeuscund, the Delaware Chief, who had left Gnadenhutten at the bidding of the Six Nations, met the Iroquois chief who had massacred the Moravians.

They quarreled, and Tadeuscund struck the murderer with his hatchet and killed him on the spot. No notice was taken of this at that



time; the Indians were overawed by the presence of white soldiers; and the leaders of the whites were too wise to take sides in an Indian quarrel. Tadeuscund was the chief speaker in the Council; and his assumption of authority greatly offended the Six Nations.

In each succeeding Council, 1759 and 1761, they complained that the Governor recognized him as their king, though he was their subject. On the 19th of April, 1763, the Six Nations sent some of their people to Tadeuscund in Wyoming. They were received as friends. But that night he was burned alive in his hut and twenty dwellings of his people were consumed by fire.

On the 8th of October, 1763, fifteen or twenty Indians attacked the house of Nicholas Martz over in Whitehall township. Immediately twenty men started in pursuit. In one place they found a boy and a girl dead; in another place, a man and his wife and three children dead; and in another a girl wounded, and another girl scalpt; and a son of William Hazlett, while working in the field, had been killed and scalpt.

Mrs. Jane Kerr Horner, who was on her way to John Stinton's Tavern, was overtaken and tomahawked by the roadside. This was near Kreiderville. The Indians went on to Stinson's and demanded liquor, were refused and went away.

At this time there were twenty men in the house under Capt. Wetherholt, ready to go to Fort Allen the next day. Early in the morning, the servant, going for the Captain's horse, was shot dead. Wetherholdt was mortally wounded in the door; and his sergeant in attempting to draw him in, was dangerously hurt.

The lieutenant then advanced, but an Indian springing forward put a pistol to his breast; he thrust it over his shoulder, drew the wounded man in and shut the door. The Indian went to the window and shot Stinson as he was rising from bed. His wife and children escaped unhurt to the cellar. Capt. Wetherholt through the window killed an Indian who was trying to fire the house; then the Indians fled, bearing off the dead bodies of their companions.

### SERVING THEIR COUNTRY

In September, 1776, a company was raised in the Settlement and vicinity. It was commanded by Captain Peter Rundio. This company was in the battle of Long Island, and after the evacuation of New York City, was left in Fort Washington on the Hudson, under Col. Magaw of Chester County, Pa. General Howe invested the fort and demanded an immediate surrender. After a day of hard fighting, Col. Magaw surrendered all his troops. Rundio's men were imprisoned in a church and left without food; many died. Rundio remained a prisoner for three years; during this time he worked as a blacksmith, thus nobly supporting himself and preserving many of his men from perishing for want of sufficient food.

The fall of Fort Washington and Fort Lee was a great blow to the hopes of many patriots. Washington retreated through the Jerseys before the Hessians. The Pennsylvania militia were called out. The call was answered by forty-five men from the Irish Settlement, led by Capt. John Hays, Jr. Their pastor, Rev. John Rosbrugh, though an elderly man, went with them

as Chaplain. Washington lay west of the Delaware, but on Christmas morning he crossed the river and defeated the Hessians and returned to Pennsylvania. A week later he was in Jersey again and was hard pressed at Trenton by Cornwallis.

### CAPTAIN ROSBRUGH MURDERED

Rev. John Rosbrugh accepted a call to the Forks on April 3, 1769; he gave two thirds of his time to the Irish Settlement. He had married for his second wife Jane Ralston, a daughter of James Ralston, who was a ruling elder in the Church in Allen Township.

During the night after the second battle of Trenton, Washington, by a master stroke of strategy, dodged around Cornwallis and advanced to Princeton. Chaplain Rosbrugh stopped to rest himself and his horse; Capt. John Hays, Jr., remained to bear him company.

Infuriated by the escape of the Americans, the Hessians coming suddenly upon Rosbrugh murdered him, stabbing him again and again and mangling his face. Capt. Hays buried the body by the road and returned home with the sad news to the widow. Her brother, John Ralston, a member of the Provincial Congress then sitting in Carpenter's Hall, wrote to comfort his sister; and Mr. Duffield, a merchant of Philadelphia, went at once to Trenton, and caused the body to be taken up and decently interred in the graveyard. Mrs. Rosbrugh hastened thither, accompanied by her husband's friend, Rev. Alexander Mitchell, of Tinicum, and saw the body lifted from the ground; but the face was so mangled by bayonet thrusts and other ill-usage that

she could not recognize the least resemblance, although she fully identified it by a scar on the back.

### FRANCIS PEPPARD CALLED

In April, 1781, Capt. John Ralston, a worthy man and a good ruling elder, was sent as a commissioner requesting the Presbytery of New Brunswick that they (the Church at the Settlement) might present a call to become their pastor to the Rev. Francis Peppard, who at that time was the pastor of the Yellow Frame Presbyterian Church in Warren County, N. J., and where Mr. Peppard had been pastor during the period of the Revolutionary War. The call was permitted, was made and was accepted, and Mr. Peppard became the pastor at the Irish Settlement and remained until May, 1795, when he retired at the age of seventy years. In 1805, Rev. Robert Russell became pastor; he was the husband of Margaret Armstrong, daughter of Thomas and Margaret (Kerr) Armstrong.

Dropping the romance of history and returning to genealogy, we face the question: How many of the original settlers at the Forks were Kerrs? How, if at all, were they related to each other? And who and where are their descendants?

Genealogically, it is impossible to cross the ocean; but if it were possible, and if we could trace the lines clearly from their forebears, the chances are that every single one of the settlers at the Forks (not matter what their surnames were) was related to all the others, distantly, of course, but really. It has been demonstrated by those who love higher mathematics and have

studied the Doctrine of Chances that of the tens and tens of thousands who left the British Isles for America during colonial times, each one was related to every other one not more remotely than the degree of thirty-second cousin. The fact of remote kinship may also be approached in this fashion: Place 10,000 persons on an island and keep them by themselves for a few centuries; at the end of that time all their descendants will be related by blood.

The early records at the Forks of the Delaware show at least four persons who bore the Kerr surname. Here they are, lettered:

A. James Kerr, who was very prominent in the affairs of the community; his wife's name is not known.

B. David Kerr, possibly older than James; he married Mary —; they had five children; I would identify their only son William as Barren Billy.

C. Margaret Kerr, who married Thomas Armstrong.

D. Jean (or Jane) Kerr, who married James Horner; she was killed by the Indians.

To this list some would add two others: William Kerr and William Kerr known as Barren Billy. I incline to the view that the two Williams (plain and nicknamed) was the same man, and that this individual was William Kerr, born 1726, probably in Ireland, son of David and Mary; see below.

One authority says: "Jean was a sister of James;" and another passage says: "Margaret was a sister of James, William and David." Note the omission of Jean; in my opinion the insertion of William's name was a mistake; I would iden-

tify William as David's son and a nephew to the others.

It is all right to designate certain Kerrs as original settlers if we do not take it too literally; the reader should not get the idea that they were the only ones born in Ireland; it simply means that these were adults when they crossed the ocean and that they began housekeeping soon after their arrival, having brought with them children born in Ireland, some as babes in arms and others in their teens.

### JAMES KERR

James Kerr, the original settler at the Forks of the Delaware, was very prominent in the affairs of the community. Nothing is known concerning his parentage; nor has the name of his wife been ascertained. He was among the subscribers to Brainerd's Life, published in 1794; and in 1761, he subscribed £11 for the purchase of 82 acres of land, evidently for a church farm. He owned land in East Allen township. This James Kerr, the original settler, had at least three children:

I. James Kerr, Jr., born 1743 or 44, died March 23, 1827, at Weaverville, Pa., and was buried in East Allen Township; he married Jane McKinstry. A fairly satisfactory list of their descendants has been secured and will be presented herewith:

This is the James Kerr, Jr., who rendered patriotic service during the Revolutionary War, 1782-83, as a private in the militia of Northampton Co., Pa., Capt. Clendenning's Company; (see Pennsylvania Archives, vol. 8, series 5.)

II. William Kerr; definite information con-

cerning this person is much needed; it has been suggested that this is the William who married Ellen or Eleanor Lyle.

III. Elizabeth Kerr, born about 1747, died June 15, 1829, in her 81st year; she married James Clyde, who died Nov. 3, 1827, in his 78th year. Only two of their children (Rebecca and Jane) left descendants; the few facts which it has been possible to gather concerning these descendants are here given immediately:

James and Elizabeth (Kerr) Clyde had four children:

I. John Clyde, died unmarried.

II. Rebecca Clyde, died April 12, 1869, in her 83rd year; married Arthur E. Mulhaddon.

III. Jane Clyde, died Dec. 13, 1854, in her 71st year; married James Kennedy.

IV. Nancy Clyde, who became the second wife of Dr. John Boyd, sine prole.

Rebecca Clyde married Arthur E. Mulhaddon and had five children: Dr. John, of Bath, Pa., who married Elizabeth Kern, Dr. William, Elizabeth Ann, Elmira B. and Sarah.

Jane Clyde married James Kennedy and had a son, Clyde Kennedy, who married Henrietta Sherrerd of N. J., and had three children: Jane, who married Dr. Clark of Belevidere, N. J.; Sarah, who married Charles Corss; and Samuel of Stewartville, N. J.

James Kerr, Jr., son of James Kerr of the Forks of the Delaware, married Jane, daughter of Jessy McKinstry; she was born about 1753 and died March 17, 1836, in her 83rd year. They dwelt in East Allen Township and had five children:

I. Joseph Kerr, died July 23, 1833, in his 59th year; he married sine prole Margaret Hagenbuch; a recent letter says he married Magdolen Deshler.

II. James Kerr, the Third, born Jan. 1777, died Nov. 17, 1854, at Weaverville, aged 77 yrs., 10 mos., 25 ds.; married Elizabeth Hemphill. (See below.)

III. John Kerr married Sally Kennedy, sister of Judge James Kennedy, and had at least Mary, who married a Sheldon and lived in Detroit, Mich., and James, who lived in Peoria, Ill.

IV. Nathan Kerr, died June 18, 1844, aged 62 years, 1 month, buried in East Allen cemetery; married Sarah Horner. (See below.)

V. Mary Kerr, called Molly, died in Greenwich Township, Warren Co., N. J., and was buried there; she married Samuel Stewart, son of Thomas and Rachel (Deweese) Stewart; her descendants are now living in New Jersey.

James Kerr, the Third, born Jan., 1777, son of James Kerr, Jr., and his wife, Jane McKinstry, married in 1808 Elizabeth Hemphill, born 1789, died 1870, daughter of Moses and Agnes (Sharp) Hemphill. They dwelt at Weaverville, Pa. Of their six children, William, John and James died young; three daughters grew to maturity:

I. Caroline married Thomas Hemphill.

II. Nancy Jane married Frances Dawes and had Elizabeth, Mary, James Kerr (of Easton, Pa.) and Sarah.

III. Matilda married Joseph Brown and had Samuel; this Samuel married a Miss Martin,



dwelt at Weaverville, Pa., and had Anna, Elizabeth (Mrs. William Moore), and Joseph.

Thomas Hemphill and his wife, Caroline Kerr, had Mary and Emma. Mary Hemphill married Joseph A. Weaver. Emma Hemphill married John Harvey Blair, son of James R. and Martha (Wilson) Blair, and had Caroline Jane, who married Joseph Allison Horner of Bath, Pa., and has two children: Ruth B. Horner (Mrs. Sterling Paul Eagleton), and Hugh Horner, who married Virginia Strothoff, and has Hugh Blair Horner, born July, 1929.

Nathan Kerr, farmer, son of James, Jr., married Sept. 17, 1805, Sarah Horner, born June 19, 1785, died March 3, 1860, buried in Warrior Run Cemetery, daughter of Thomas and Jane (Patterson) Horner.

They had nine children:

I. Priscilla Kerr, born Dec. 18, 1806.

II. James Kerr, born 1807, died 1855, at Dixon, Lee County, Ill.; married April, 1836, Jane Hartupee; James was a cabinet maker.

III. Jane Kerr, born 1810, died May 7, 1865, at Frankford, Pa., buried at Warrior Run, married Robert Giffen.

IV. Sarah Ann Kerr, born Nov. 1, 1812.

V. Elizabeth Horner Kerr, born Jan. 24, 1815, married Feb. 5, 1835, Joseph Buckaloo.

VI. Thomas Horner Kerr, born March 6, 1819, died April 20, 1851, at Turbotville, Northumberland Co., Pa., married Jane Walker Hays; Thomas was a cabinet maker. (See below.)

VII. William Kerr, born Aug. 6, 1822.

VIII. Joseph Kerr, born 1825, died March 8, 1846, at Turbotville.

IX. Sarah Levenia Kerr, milliner, married

March, 1851, Thomas Wallace Russel of Turbotville.

Thomas Horner Kerr, married Oct. 18, 1842, Jane Walker Hays, born Nov. 9, 1809, at Williamsport, Pa., died Jan. 2, 1887, at Jersey Shore, Pa., granddaughter of Capt. John Hays. Two of their children, Sarah and Christiana, died in infancy; their other children were:

I. Richard Hays Kerr, born Sept. 19, 1843, died Aug. 15, 1882, at Jersey Shore, Pa.; married May 18, 1876, Sue M. Van Cleve, born Dec. 9, 1839, at Great Cove, Pa., died March 18, 1921.

II. Rev. James Horner Kerr, born April 3, 1847, died Jan. 18, 1922, at Orangeville, Columbia Co., Pa., buried there beside his wife; married May 16, 1872, Margaret Florence Hutchinson, who died 1925. In their old age they made their home at Orangeville; for some years before his death James was unable to preach regularly, but he gave such service as he could to the church there.

## DAVID KERR

David Kerr, the original settler at the Forks, married Mary ———; they had one son and four daughters:

I. William Kerr, born 1726, died Dec. 14, 1800, married Mary Clifford. There was a William Kerr, or Carr, of the Forks of the Delaware, who lived above Chapman's Quarries in Moore Township, on the edge of the Irish Settlement; the soil in that vicinity was of poor quality, so he was sometimes referred to as "Barren Billy."

II. Jennie Kerr (Mrs. Orr).

III. Margaret Kerr (Mrs. Timothy McCarty).

IV. Mary Kerr (Mrs. Santee).

V. Elizabeth Kerr (Mrs. William Young).

Nothing further concerning the four daughters just named.

William Kerr married Mary Clifford, born 1735, died April 17, 1817; they had six children:

I. David Kerr, born April 1, 1758, died Nov. 23, 1845, married Letetia Clyde.

II. John Kerr died 1849, married (1) Elizabeth Caldwell, and (2) Nancy Glenn; by Nancy he had Elizabeth J.

III. Mary, married James Dinsmore.

IV. Jane Kerr, married John Dinsmore, a brother of James.

V. James Kerr, 1768-May 1, 1844, married Hannah Dinsmore, and had four children: Eliza (Mrs. John Robertson), Rebecca (Mrs. Thomas Hunt), Letitia (Mrs. John Cleland), and John, who married several times.

VI. William Kerr, Jr., born 1774, died June 29, 1854; a certain William Kerr is said to have removed to Washington Co., Pa., about 1796.

David Kerr, 1758-1843, married Letitia Clyde, born 1755, died 1822, daughter of Michel and Biddy Clyde; and had at least three children:

I. Maria Kerr (Mrs. Joseph Robertson).

II. Jane Kerr married Francis Crawford, no issue.

III. William Kerr, who married Jane Moorehead Hunt and had seven children: Catherine, unmarried; Rhoda Hunt; Jane Crawford; Letitia Clyde; Thomas H.; Rev. William Brainerd of Livermore, Pa.); and David Smith.

## MARGARET KERR ARMSTRONG

Margaret Kerr, of the Forks of the Delaware, immigrant, married Thomas Armstrong. Thomas was an elder in 1752, and a coroner in 1756; he owned land near Catasauqua but he afterwards removed to Fogg's Manor. His daughter Margaret became the wife of Rev. Robert Russell, while pastor of the Allentownship church. Other children of Thomas and Margaret were Thomas Boyd who died at the age of 24 years; Susan who died in 1812; and Robert and Samuel; these last two lived to be old, and became substantial citizens; Robert is said to have married and to have left descendants.

## JEAN KERR HORNER

Jean Kerr, of the Forks of the Delaware, was born in Ireland in 1713; then came to America in 1734. She married James Horner who was born 1711, in County Derry, Ireland, May 2, 1793. After living a short time in Tinicum, Pa., they settled in Allen Township, Northampton Co., Pa. They had seven children:

I. Hugh Horner, born Oct. 20, 1743, died April 15, 1806, married Elizabeth Wilson.

II. Jane Horner, born 1747, died 1825, married John Hays.

III. Thomas Horner, born 1749, died Nov. 27, 1825, married Jane Patterson; he served in 1776 in the Northampton Co., militia under Capt. Robert Hays. (See Penna. Archives, Vol. 8, series 5.)

IV. Sarah Horner, born Dec. 12, 1751, buried in Livingston Co., N. Y.; married William McNair.

V. Mary Horner, born Jan. 6, 1754, married Samuel McKinstry.

VI. James Horner, born May 14, 1757, buried in Pittsburg, Pa.

VII. John Horner, born Oct. 1, 1759, buried at Hartsville, Bucks Co., Pa.

After Braddock's defeat in 1755, the Indians for more than a decade burned and ravaged the frontier. They planned a surprise attack on the Irish Settlement. One October morning at day break, the Indians approached steadily. Jean (Kerr) Horner was on her way to a neighbor's for coal to light her morning fire. The Indians caught her in the road; fearing she would betray them or spread the alarm, they tomahawked her. James, her husband, becoming alarmed at her prolonged absence, followed in search of her. He found her by the roadside dead. He carried her to the Presbyterian meeting house where he sat with her body all night; the next day her body was buried in the adjoining graveyard.

Some white folks believed that all Indians were Savage Indians; others thought there were two kinds: Savage Indians and Christian Indians.

Jean's tombstone is still standing and bears this inscription: "In memory of Jean, wife of James Horner, who suffered death at the hands of Savage Indians, Oct. 8, 1763, aged 50 years."

During this raid twenty-four white persons were killed.

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Mary Reineck Kerr was born at Florence, Washington County, Pa., in 1833. She married Thomas Pollock. She became blind in her last

years but she had a wonderfully retentive memory and always kept in close touch with relatives. She died in 1915 in her 82nd year.

Miss Calista L. Kerr often visited her Aunt Mary Pollock; during one of these visits Aunt Mary referring to her ancestors, said: "William Kerr was born in 1734 in New Jersey; he married Eleanor Lyle and they had three children: James, William and Mary. William, husband of Eleanor, was a son of Walter who came to America in 1682."

Query: Was James Kerr, son of William and Eleanor, identical with the James Kerr who was born October 3, 1782, in Northampton County, Pa., and who afterward dwelt at Florence, Washington County, Pa.?

The following tradition may furnish possible clues to future investigators: William Kerr, brother of James Kerr, Jr., married (1) Ellen Lyle and (2) a Stewart. He had three children by his first wife and one by his second. His children were: I James, who married Hannah Mason; II Mary, who married a Horner; III William, who married Ellen (?) Lyle; and IV Sarah, who married Moses Lyle. Among more remote descendants are Lyle Kerr, Ann Kerr, and Levi Hays Kerr.

## A PROMINENT KERR FAMILY OF THE SOUTH

**This Sketch of the Descendants of Hugh Kerr, Jr., 1773-1866, Was Compiled by Mrs. Margaret Kerr Ingraham, and Has Been Edited by Miss Minnie Nickum.**

Hugh Kerr, Sr., the earliest known ancestor of this family, lived and died in Cork, Ireland, his people came from Scotland to Ireland, and his more remote ancestors from Normandy, France, in the time of William the Conquerer.

The name of Hugh's wife is not known; their children were William, George, Ruth and Hugh, Jr.

William Kerr (2) fought in the Battle of Waterloo under Wellington; he was last heard of in Newfoundland.

George Kerr (2) came to the United States and lived for some time in Philadelphia. His son, Dr. George Kerr, stationed in hospital in Hempstead, Texas, (supposedly), said his father went from Philadelphia to South America, but afterward returning to Virginia, where possibly his descendants are; nothing further known of this father and son.

Ruth Kerr (2) remained in Ireland, nothing is known of her.

Hugh Kerr (2), Jr., born Dec. 29, 1773, in Sligo, Ireland, died 1866, in Washington County, Texas; came to America at the age of eighteen and engaged in mercantile business. He married Feb. 27, 1806, in Warren Co., Ga., Lucy Fontaine Thomson, born March 24, 1783, near Charleston, So. Car., died Oct. 1, 1871, daughter of Alexander Thomson, a Revolutionary patriot,

and Lucy Fontaine Thomson. After marriage Hugh and Lucy lived in Augusta, Ga., until about 1813, when they removed to Philadelphia; in 1815 they went to Montreal where they remained a year or longer; then to Giles Co., Tenn., near Cornersville. During the next few years Hugh spent most of his time in New Orleans merchandising, and later, by appointment of Andrew Jackson, he served as Inspector of Customs at New Orleans. Letters of correspondence from the President to Hugh are in possession of one of his descendants. Hugh and Lucy, for some reason, regardless of the difficult modes of travel in those days, surely did cover the country from Canada to the Gulf. In 1831, the family removed to Texas and settled in Washington County, near Burton, where Hugh died in 1866. Lucy, his wife, died near Fayetteville, Texas, on the plantation of her son-in-law and her daughter, Jane Kerr Hill. The nine children of Hugh and Lucy Kerr were:

I. Mary Ann Fontaine Lewis Kerr (3), born Nov. 18, 1806, in Augusta, Ga., married twice. (See A below.)

II. John Kerr (3), born Sept. 20, 1808, in Warren Co., Ga.

III. Lewis Kerr (3), a twin of John; neither of these twins married.

IV. George Alexander Kerr (3), born July 5, 1810, in Augusta, Ga.; married twice. (See B)

V. Augustus Thomson Kerr (3), born June 16, 1812, in Augusta, Ga., married Antoinette Moore. (See C).

VI. William Penn Kerr (3), born July 10, 1814, in Philadelphia, Pa., married Elizabeth L. A. Hill. (See D).



VII. Alfred Benjamin Fontaine Kerr (3), born Jan. 1, 1821; he was born near Cornersville, Giles Co., Tenn., as were his two younger sisters; he married Susan Clayton Steele. (See E).

VIII. Jane Hallowell Kerr (3) born Oct. 28, 1824; married James Monroe Hill, son of Asa and Elizabeth Hill. James and Jane are buried in Austin; they left many descendants throughout Central Texas.

IX. Amanda Julia Kerr (3), married Rev. Homer S. Thrall, D. D., a pioneer Methodist Minister, and Historian. His "History of Texas" was one of the first used in the Public Schools. The M. E. Church South wished to make him a Bishop, but he declined, owing to rapidly failing eyesight, which later terminated in blindness. He is buried in San Antonio, Texas.

Lucy Thomson Kerr, mother of the above, descended from that famous old Huguenot family of Fontaines in colonial Virginia, bequeathed as did her husband, to those who came after them, the spirit of noblesse oblige that fearlessly dominated those before them who sacrificed life, social prestige and wealth so that they might serve God according to their protestant beliefs.

Seigneur Jean de la Fontaine, maitre d'ordannance of Francis I., a nobleman, scholar and soldier, was leader and protector of those Huguenots who eventually sought refuge in the colonies of America, and from whom those today proudly trace their ancestry. He was born in 1500 and was massacred the night of St. Bartholomew, in 1563. His son James, born 1549, had amongst others, a son James, born 1603, who was pastor of the United Churches of Vaux and Ro-

yan. His second wife was Marie Chaillon, whom he married in 1641, near Pons, France. Their son James, a minister, was born in 1658, at Jenouille, France, and married Elizabeth Boursiquot in 1686.

Not only could Lucy Thomson Kerr claim descent from this illustrious family, but from another equally so, John Lewis, best known as the founder of Augusta Co., Va., and close friend of George Washington.

#### A. MARY A. F. L. KERR

Mary A. F. L. Kerr (3) married (1) \_\_\_\_\_ Lewis, probably a cousin. They had Lucy Fountaine Kerr Lewis, who married Senator Moses Norton of Burnett, Texas, and left many descendants who are prominent in Texas. After the death of her husband, Mary Ann married \_\_\_\_\_ Jones of Burton, Texas, and had two children: William Byrd Jones and Sophronia Lewis Jones, the latter dying early.

William Byrd Jones (4), married (1st) Mary Breeding of Fayetteville, Tex.; after her death he married (2nd) his cousin, Lucy Hill, of Austin, Texas, sine prole. By the first marriage there were four children:

I. Guy Jones (5) married \_\_\_\_\_ of No. Car.; he died in Houston, his widow and two children reside there.

II. Mary Jones (5) married John Noble Steele of Houston, Texas, 1898, and had Byrd Jones (who married and has a child) and Mary Jones. All dwell in Houston.

III. Althea Jones (5), unmarried, was a prominent church worker in the Missionary So-

ciety of the M. E. Church So., Nashville, Tenn. She died from an auto accident in 1929.

IV. Sadie Jones (5), married ——— Campbell, of Houston; names of children not known.

#### B. GEORGE A. KERR

George Alexander Kerr (3) married (1st) ——— ———; married (2nd) Serena Hill, daughter of Asa P. and Elizabeth Hill. By his first wife he had one daughter, Mary Anne, who married ——— Johnson, Fayetteville, Texas. There were children, but nothing now known of them. By his second wife, Serena, he had five children:

I. Lucy Elizabeth Kerr (4), born Dec. 11, 1841; married Preston Thomson.

II. Virginia Leonora Kerr (4), born 1843, married sine prole John Hubert of Waelder, Tex.

III. John Lewis Kerr (4), born Aug. 15, 1849, in Fayetteville, Texas, died Nov. 6, 1929, at Waelder, married Sarah C. Monroe.

IV. Dr. George Alexander Kerr (4) married Mary J. Gourley.

V. A son called J. B. Kerr (4), who died unmarried.

Lucy Elizabeth Kerr (4) married Nov. 11, 1857, Preston Thompson of Thompsonville, Tex. They had six children:

1st. Sarah Elizabeth (5), born 1858, died 1926, married Charles Botts, May 13, 1880, Austin, Texas, and had one son, Preston Hearst Botts, 1881-1901. She, with husband and son, are buried in Austin.

2nd. Archibald George Thompson (5) born Aug. 16, 1861, in Thompsonville, died in Los Angeles, Calif., 1914. He married Alice May Eads

of Cisco, Texas, Sept. 14, 1887. They removed to Los Angeles, where he was prominently engaged for many years, both at Pomona and L. A., in constructive organizations that helped the growth of both cities. He was a man of high ideals, a courteous Southern gentleman, an excellent father and husband, and a friend to so many that it may well be said, "To know him was to love him." His widow and most of his large family still reside there. Archibald and Alice had eight children:

Archibald Jr., (6) born March 8, 1889, married (1st) Frances Lorraine Walcott, married (2nd) Mrs. Blanche Paxton of Los Angeles. By the first marriage, one daughter, Frances Lorraine (Mrs. Franklyn Roshek of New York City); by his second wife, one daughter, Jeanne, born June 22, 1924.

Ola (6), born Aug. 31, 1891, married Earl Freudenhall, Pomona, Calif., where they dwell and have one daughter, Marcit Ann, born Sept. 21, 1924.

Paul (6), born July 27, 1893, married Louise Johnson, of L. A., and have Robert Paul, born Jan. 29, 1925, and James Leland, born Dec. 26, 1928.

Alice (6), born March 14, 1895, married Leland von Schmilton of Los Angeles; they now reside in Chicago and have one son, Richard Leland, born July 3, 1924.

Dorothy (6), born April 24, 1897, married Ansel M. Smith of L. A. and have Thomas Ansel, born Feb. 21, 1925, and Philip David, born April 8, 1927; reside in L. A.

Vernon (6), born Nov. 2, 1899; unmarried; lives in Manilla, P. I.

Elwood (6), born Oct. 2, 1901, married Margaret Thielen; reside in Los Angeles.

Joyce (6), born Dec. 29, 1903, and his sister Elizabeth (6), born Sept. 5, 1907, are not yet married.

3rd. Clarence Preston Thompson (5), born 1867, in Thompsonville, Texas, married Margaret Virginia Joyce of Washington, D. C., Dec. 15, 1902. Dwell Long Beach, Calif., sine prole.

4th. William Claude Thompson (5), born Jan. 1, 1869, in Thompsonville, married Lillian Harlan of Austin, Texas, 1906, died Oct. 1, 1920, in L. A. Children: Earl Clifton, born 1907, died in infancy; Claude Wilbur, born Jan. 23, 1912, in L. A.; the latter and his father reside in Los Angeles.

5th. Louie Edgar Thompson (5), born Aug. 2, 1876, in Austin, Texas, where he died Jan. 21, 1918; married Minnie Lee Lane, September, 1902; they had Jasper Edgar, born Oct. 31, 1904, and Maurine, 1906-1917.

6th. Viva Thompson (5), born July 27, 1882, unmarried, dwells in Los Angeles.

John Lewis Kerr (4), born Aug. 15, 1849, in Fayetteville, Texas, died Nov. 6, 1922, Waelder, Texas, married in 1873, Sarah Catherine Monroe, born March 3, 1848, near Selma, Ala.; dwell in Waelder. Their children:

1st. Annie Lula Kerr (5), born Nov. 4, 1875, married Nov. 17, 1897, Thomas H. Phelps, born May 4, 1874, in England; dwell in Roaring Springs, Texas. Their children: Susan Ro-

berta, born July 20, 1900; Bonnie Catherine, born April 6, 1904; Gerald W., born Aug. 4, 1906, married Essie ———, in 1927, and had Arley Van, born Oct. 4, 1928, and Herman, born Jan. 21, 1929; Annie Laurie, born Feb. 6, 1909, married Daniel Carley in 1927, and had Dexter Leon, born July 21, 1929; Mary Josephine, born Dec. 27, 1911; Thomas Herbert, born July 19, 1916.

2nd. Marvin Hubert Kerr (5), born Oct. 21, 1877, in Waelder, Texas, married Mary E. Ham, Feb. 10, 1909, and have Russell Clifton, born 1909; Willis, born Jan. 21, 1911; J. B. Kerr, born March 27, 1912; Grace, born Oct. 5, 1913; Lydia, born 1915; Zola, born 1917; Mary Dee, born Jan. 10, 1919; Donald, born March 3, 1923; George Alfred, born March 27, 1926.

3rd. James Archibald Kerr (5), born Nov. 30, 1879, near Waelder, married Minerva Loretta Ham, July 12, 1906; they have Artie Wray, born 1907, and George Houston, born July 23, 1908. Artie Wray married Alfred Thomas, 1929.

4th. Mary Serent Kerr (5), born Sept. 25, 1881, died Oct. 25, 1918, married John C. Cook of Rockdale, Texas, July 10, 1898. Their children:

Ira Monroe (6), born Feb. 13, 1900, married Mary Finch, and had Mary Laura, born 1927.

Floyd T. (6), born Jan. 29, 1902, married Elizabeth Tracy of San Antonio, Texas.

Claudia Virginia (6), born Feb. 10, 1904, married G. W. Daniel, Houston, Texas; they had Gladene Marie, born July 15, 1924.

Lewis E. (6), born Jan. 18, 1906, married Carrie Beekmeyer; children: Aileen, Ruby Lee, and Floyd; dwell in Houston, Texas.

Doris (6), born Nov. 10, 1908, married J. E. Popp in 1924. Dwell near Waelder, Texas, and have Mary Nell, born Oct. 29, 1925, and Helen Elizabeth, born Jan. 25, 1927.

Wilson (6), born Feb. 21, 1910, married Hazel Weaver of Broken Bow, Okla; dwell in San Antonio.

Vivian Marie (6), born May 8, 1912, in Waelder.

Avis Gladene (6), born May 22, 1914; dwells in San Antonio.

Maurice Clifton (6), born Jan. 27, 1918.

5th. Lucy Edna Kerr (5), born Feb. 8, 1890, near Waelder, married Roy Seitz of Indiana on April 7, 1909; they live at Humble, Texas, and have Vernon L., born Dec. 27, 1913, Winnie Estelle, born May 27, 1915, Margaret Kathryn, born March 25, 1919.

6th. Jennie Louise Kerr (5), a twin of Lucy, married Feb. 11, 1919, William H. Jones of Waelder; they have William Horace, born Oct. 30, 1924, and a daughter, Bobbie Nell, born March 17, 1929.

7th. George Monroe Kerr (5), born June 29, 1884, dwells in Waelder, Texas, unmarried.

Dr. George Alexander Kerr (4), son of Geo. Alex. and Serena Kerr, married Mary Jane Gourley; they had eight children:

1st. Virginia (Jennie) Kerr (5), married — Miller of Waelder, and had Merle (a daughter), names of other children unknown; Virginia dwells in Austin, a widow.

2nd. Hugh Kerr (5) married Lena Everett of Columbus, Texas, sine prole.

3rd. Lonnie Kerr (5), died Feb. 20, 1915, in Los Angeles; married Charlotte Ann Taylor of Sequin, Texas, April 21, 1897. Their children: Verna Taylor, born Feb. 6, 1898, married Feb. 18, 1923, Earle Wilbur Putnam of Los Angeles; Russell Leslie, born Jan. 19, 1900, married Ethel Josephine Symons of Los Angeles. Nov. 9, 1918. They have one son, Russell Leslie, born Oct. 17, 1924; dwell in San Pedro, Calif.

4th. Bemis Kerr (5) died in 1897, unmarried.

5th. Dixie Kerr (5), (a daughter) married (1st) ——— Rhodes of Waelder, and (2nd), ——— ———; has children and lives in State of Washington.

6th. Virgil Kerr (5) died early, unmarried.

7th. Florence Kerr (5), married ——— Hopkins of Waelder; dwell in Orange, Tex.; children: William Kerr, married Lila Pihlblad of L. A., June 1929, and dwell in Whittier, Calif.; Robbie, (a daughter); Maurice; Florence.

8th. Milton Kerr (5), married Ethel Baker of Los Angeles, who is auditor for Union Oil Co., L. A.; their children are: Mary Laura, Betty and Dorathy.

Dr. G. A. Kerr was a soldier in the southern army.

### C. AUGUSTUS T. KERR

Augustus Thomas Kerr (3) married a lady whose maiden name, as remembered, was Antoinette Moore; she was probably of Alabama, as some of their children were born in that state. Little is known of this household; there may have been other children than the six named here:





WILLIAM CLINTON ARMSTRONG  
SCHOOLMASTER AND GENEALOGIST



Thomas, Augustus Thomson, Jr., John, Luke, Anne and Monroe Penn.

Of these Anne Kerr (4) married — Elliott; they dwelt at Brenham, Texas, and had at least two children: Fannie Gus and Monroe, who are believed to be living in Texas.

Monroe Penn Kerr (4), born June 10, 1836, at Autagua, Ala., married in 1866 or 67, Mary Crozier, widow, of Brenham, Texas. After the birth of their children, Monroe with his family removed to Cotulla, Texas, where for several years he was one of the leading merchants. In later years they removed to Carlsbad, New Mexico, where he and his wife died. They had five children:

1st. William Augustus Kerr (5), born Nov. 11, 1867, married in 1890, Ida of Laredo, Texas, dwell at Cotulla, and have seven children:

Mary Foster (6), born Dec. 14, 1891, married George S. Knaggs, Cotulla, Texas, and had Mary Elizabeth, born about 1915; George Augustus, born 1918; Fred Jordan, born 1921.

Elizabeth (6), born June 15, 1894, married Lieut. Richard Lee Dobie, Aviator U. S. Govt.; dwell at Dallas, Texas, and have Richard Lee, Jr.

Theodore Arthur (6), born Sept. 21, 1896, married — —; has Theodore Arthur, Jr., dwell in San Antonio.

Willie Mae (6), born Jan. 19, 1900; unmarried; dwells in Cotulla.

Alice Monroe (6), born April 21, 1902, married — Mitchell, and have Christine Hill; dwell at Tulsa, Okla.

Jack Baylor (6), born 1906, married — —; dwell in Cotulla.

William Augustus (6), Jr., born June 29, 1908, Cotulla; unmarried.

2nd. Moses Baine (5), born 1869; died in youth.

3rd. Mary Antoinette (5), born about 1871, married John Henry Freeman Christian of Laredo, Texas, Feb. 2, 1892. Children: Monroe married ———, of S. Car., and had Leila; Leila, sister of Monroe, married Harry McKim, died 1929, leaving his widow and a son; they dwell in Carlsbad, New Mexico.

4th. Monroe Penn, Jr., (5), born about 1873, married Mattie King. Children: Nelle, married ——— Puckett, and had Jane Edith, dwell at Roswell, N. Mex.; William married Frances Hubbard, dwell in Pecos, Texas, sine prole.

5th. Theodore (5), born about 1875, married Nora Corn, and have Elizabeth, Theodore, Jr., and Florence; they dwell at Crockett, Texas.

#### D. WILLIAM PENN KERR

William Penn Kerr (3), married Sept. 7, 1843, Elizabeth Louisa Anna Hill, born Feb. 5, 1814, in Jasper Co., Ga., died Nov. 9, 1882, at Mineral Well, Texas, daughter of Asa and Elizabeth Hill. Of their ten children, the youngest four died in childhood at Burton, Texas, (Alexander Thomson, Sarah Pinkney, Nettie and William Leonidas), the six children who reached maturity were:

I. William Newton McDonald Kerr (4) 1845-1861.

II: Georgia Anna Louisa Jane Kerr (4), 1847-1925, married Ira Adelbert Dewees, Brenham, Texas; they had two children:

1st. William Kerr Dewees died in childhood.

2nd. Robert Adelbert Dewees (5) married Margaret Long, daughter of a prominent and pioneer family of Charlotte, Va. She died leaving him two sons: Robert Adelbert, Jr., and Carroll Long. Robt. A. married near West Palm Beach, Fla., where all this line of Deweeses live; they have children but their names are not known. Mrs. R. A. Dewees is buried at West Palm Beach. Her husband, now retired, was in early years, owner of ranch lands and livestock in Western Texas.

III. Adelia Julia Kerr (4), born Jan. 31, 1849, married Jean Paul Thomas Carl Nebelung of Paris, France, where he later died, sine prole; the widow dwells in Austin, Texas.

IV. Lucy Elizabeth Kerr (4), born 1851, died in Burton, Texas, married William T. Harris, grandson of one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence; they had one son, Lucien; all died early and are buried near Burton.

V. John Alfred Kerr (4), born Dec. 27, 1852, at Union Hill, Washington County, Texas, died Oct. 16, 1929, in Independence, Mo. He lived a long life of important action; was one of the founders of Cotulla, Texas, and one of the town's pioneer merchants. Selling his many holdings, he removed to Kansas City in middle life. He did much toward the building of Independence, Mo., where he and his wife are buried. In his youth he married, Nov. 23, 1874, Maria Emma Woodfin, born Jan. 17, 1851, in Tupelo, Miss., died Feb. 13, 1914; she was a daughter of Col. Robert and

Frances Norwood Woodfin. To them were born twelve children:

1st. John Woodfin Kerr (5), born Oct. 6, 1875, in Tilden, Texas, married March 31, 1899, Iva Mae Baldwin, born May 24, 1874, in Wellsville, Mo. Their son, Howard Baldwin, born April 30, 1903, in Independence, married on Labor Day, 1926, Helen Louise Brown, of Raytown, Mo.

2nd. Lelia Faye Kerr (5), born Oct. 31, 1876, in Oakville, Texas. Dwells in Independence; unmarried.

3rd. Ira Erma Kerr (5), born Feb. 26, 1878, in La Salle, Texas, married Oct. 2, 1906, John Hopkins Hardin, born April 20, 1876, in Independence. Their children: Ermita, born Jan. 7, 1908, and Mary Alice, born April 25, 1909.

4th. Nettie Emma Kerr (5), born May 31, 1879, in Nopal, Texas, married April 29, 1907, Dr. Lewis Allen Bradbury, born May 7, 1882, in McPherson, Kan., Surgeon U. S. A. army now stationed at Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis, Mo., sine prole.

5th. Alberto Penn Kerr (5), born Jan. 6, 1881, in Nopal, Texas; he is a well known business man in San German, Cuba; married (1st) on Sept. 12, 1901, Edna Rule Letcher, born 1880, in Marshall, Mo., died 1902, in Casanovia, Cuba. Their son, Lucio Battencourt, born June 10, 1902, died Oct. 2, 1920, at Key West, Fla. Alberto married (2) Catalina Sere, born in Havannah, Cuba; three children: Emma Maude, born Nov. 30, 1911, in Casanovia; Mary Kathleen, born about 1919, in San German; Dolores, born Nov. 25, 1923, in San German, Cuba, where they all reside.

6th. George Hedrick Kerr (5), born Jan.

20, 1882, in La Salle Co., Texas, died July 20, 1888, in Independence, Mo.

7th. Rector Monroe Kerr (5) born Oct. 30, 1883, in Cotulla, Texas, married Oct. 17, 1906, Lucy Whitney, born Jan. 7, 1883; children: Frances Willard, born Aug. 4, 1907; Whitney Monroe, born April 10, 1909; John Rector, born May 27, 1915; Woodfin Chiles, born Jan. 19, 1917; Lucy Anne, born May 29, 1919; Virginia Deborah, born Nov. 24, 1923, in Kansas City, Mo., where they all reside; all except the youngest child were born in Independence, Mo.

8th. Mary Josephine Kerr (5), born March 1, 1885, in Cotulla, died June 11, 1923, in Toledo, Ohio; married June 10, 1908, Warren D. Tracy, born in Toledo, Ohio; children: John Rex, born May 20, 1909, and Robert Warren, born June 22, 1910.

9th. Maude Frank Kerr, born Oct. 20, 1886, in Cotulla, died Aug. 23, 1928, in Kansas City, Mo. Unmarried.

10th. Proctor Henry Kerr (5), born Feb. 2, 1889, in Independence, married Oct. 25, 1914, Edna Ditch, born May 23, 1894, in Galva, Kan., died March, 1928, in Independence, where their three children were born; Donald Edwin, born Aug. 7, 1916; Alice Genevieve, born Feb. 17, 1920; Shirley Kathleen, born Feb. 23, 1928.

11th. Marguerite Kerr (5), born Oct. 8, 1890, in Independence, married Oct. 26, 1914, Whitten Alexander Hudnall, born April 24, 1889, in Blue Springs; Mo.; one son, Kenneth, born Sept. 7, 1919.

12th. Kathleen Kerr (5), born April 26, 1892, at Independence, married June 8, 1915, John Spillman Jones, born in Warrensburg, Mo.;

children: Bettye, born Sept. 21, 1923, and John Spillman, Jr., born Dec., 1927; dwell in St. Louis, Mo.

VI. Mary Josephine Kerr (4), born 1855, died 1926, in Cuba, buried near Havannah; married Frank R. Hall, son of a prominent Greensboro, N. Car., family. After the birth of their children they removed to Cuba where Mr. Hall acquired large holdings. After the death of his wife he married again, but has since died. Children of first wife were:

Frank R. Hall, Jr., (5), who married his cousin, Dorothy Hall, of Washington, D. C.; he later died in Cuba, leaving his widow and son Jimmie, who dwell still in Washington.

Louise Hall (5), married in Cuba, Percy Kenyon of England. He was at that time a mining engineer of Mexico; they later returned to England where Louise Hall Kenyon died. They had Lorna, Helene, Alicia and Arnold, all of whom are yet unmarried, and are at the family home in England.

#### E. ALFRED B. F. KERR

Rev. Alfred Benjamin Fountaine Kerr (3), was born in 1821. At the time of his birth, Tennessee was wilderness and land was allotted to settlers who would come.

Of the large family of Kerrs, Alfred was one of the most brilliant of his generation, although modestly unassuming as to his attainments. He read Greek, Hebrew and Latin, taught before he was twenty, and was considered as much a scholar as his father Hugh. He was one of the pioneer ministers and teachers of Texas, and until his death active in political reforms,



economic problems and in any other measure that meant progress to his city or state. In his early career he became what is known as a "circuit rider" minister, covering long distances in Indian wilds, from one village to another, preaching the Gospel to many pioneer families. The exposure to adverse weather conditions and natural hardships undermined his frail constitution in course of time and he had to confine himself to teaching, having been an instructor in the first college of Texas, at Rutersville. Here he was associated, in teaching, with his future mother-in-law. He married, June 14, 1854, in Goliad, Texas, Susan Clayton Steele. They dwelt on a farm near Fayetteville, Texas, where their children were born and reared until old enough for higher education, when he removed to the college town of San Marcos, Texas. His broken health was never fully restored; he died here in his sixtieth year, Nov. 22, 1881. For two or more years he served as the town's first mayor.

Susan Clayton Steele, his wife, was born near Brownsville, Tenn., on the plantation of her grandfather, Major Herndon Haralson, whose Revolutionary war record is historically known. Her mother was Mary Murphy Haralson Steele, daughter of Major Herndon Haralson, granddaughter of Col. Archibald Murphy of North Carolina, and niece of Judge Archibald Murphy, than whom North Carolina never produced a more distinguished citizen. She was the daughter of James Slaughter Steele of Kentucky, and granddaughter also of Dr. Moses Steele and Susan Clayton Slaughter Steele, whose names bear testimony to ancestry rich in patriotism of Colonial and Revolutionary times.

To Rev. Alfred B. F. and Susan Steele Kerr were born ten children:

I. William Herndon Haralson Kerr (4), born 1855, died in infancy.

II. Benjamin Fontaine Kerr (4), 1856-1857.

III. James Slaughter Steele (4), born June 22, 1858, died 1915. For years before his death he was Secretary of the Maritime Association, Galveston, Texas. He and his wife and two youngest children are buried there. He married Sue Menard Lancton of Galveston, granddaughter of Col. Michael Menard, one of the main founders of that city, and his wife, Susan La Clare Menard. Col. Menard was one of the first settlers of Galveston Island; he came over from France, it is believed, with Lafayette. His daughter, mother of Sue Menard, was born at sea on the voyage. There is a statue of Col. Menard in Galveston. The five children of James and Sue M. Kerr:

1st. Menard Felder (5), born Sept. 21, 1885; married Doris Beall of Houston, in 1905; he is auditor of a large Steamboat Co., New York City; they dwell in Elizabeth, N. J., and have two daughters: Beverly, married in 1929, and Shirley.

2nd. Edward Randall (5), born Dec. 20, 1886, married Hazel Elmer Farris of Lake Charles, La.; he is now connected with General Motors Co., and dwells in San Marino, Calif.

3rd. Mary Augustine, born Aug. 31, 1888, married Rev. Clarence Lokey of Houston; they now dwell in Jacksonville, Texas, and have three children.

4th and 5th. James Slaughter (5) and

Claude (5), as children, lost their lives in the Galveston storm in 1900.

IV. Mary Amanda Kerr (4), born June 29, 1859, died Nov. 20, 1898, married James Benjamin Winfield of Cotulla, Texas, Nov. 8, 1882, in San Marcos, Texas; he died in 1927; their four children were:

James Felder (5), 1883-1883, born and buried in Cotulla.

Benjamin Clayton (5), born Nov. 28, 1886, in Batesville, Texas, married Mary Simpson, of San Antonio, in 1906; dwell in San Antonio. They have: Thomas Benjamin, born 1907, married Melba Small in 1929; Mary Louise, born 1908, married Dan M. O'Connell, Aviator U. S. A. army, now stationed at Honolulu; Edward Fontaine, born Jan. 9, 1915.

Henry Logan (5), born Dec. 6, 1888, at Batesville, married in 1908, Theo Young, daughter of Frederic William and Sophia Loeper Young of Ft. Stockton, Texas. They now reside there, where H. L. Winfield is prominently associated in business and political activities of that county. He is a large ranch owner, banker, and County Clerk. He and Theo have one daughter, Mary Fountaine, born Dec. 16, 1917. William Frederick Young, father of Mrs. Theo Winfield, operated a Government Trading Post, dealing extensively with the Indians at this army frontier post in early days; the picturesque old buildings of adobe still stand in this now progressive town as a monument to those intrepid pioneers of Texas.

Alfred Fontaine (5), born Sept. 11, 1890, in San Antonio, where his parents died.

V. Gabriel Felder Kerr (4), born Dec. 15, 1861, married Katherine Booker. He died three

months later, Sept. 9, 1885. Katherine has since died.

VI. Henry Lea Kerr (4), born March 5, 1864, died Jan. 3, 1883, in Cotulla; unmarried.

VII. Lucy Fontaine Kerr (4), 1867-1874.

VIII. Margaret Steele Kerr (4), born May 14, 1869, married (1) Finney Carroll Bates of Batesville, Texas, Dec. 24, 1888; they had two children: Reginald Carroll Bates, born Nov. 15, 1889, but died unmarried, in Los Angeles, Feb. 23, 1915; and a child born in San Antonio, Jan. 31, 1892, who died in infancy.

Margaret Steel Kerr Bates (4) (widow) married (2nd) Arthur Lovell Ingraham of New York, Oct. 27, 1895, in San Antonio. To them were born: Mary Margaret, Feb. 1, 1897; and Alfred Fontaine Kerr, Sept., 1900, San Antonio. They afterwards removed to California, where Arthur L. Ingraham died in Alturas, Calif. Mrs. Margaret Kerr Ingraham resides in Los Angeles.

Mary Margaret Ingraham (5) married Francis Fentress Neely, son of Dr. James Neely of Memphis, Tenn., on Feb. 19, 1921, in Santa Barbara. Mr. Neely is purchasing agent of The Emsco Co., L. A., and dwells in Alhambra, Calif.; sine prole.

Alfred Fontaine Kerr Ingraham (5), Assistant to Chief Clerk Beldridge Oil Co., Kern Co., Calif., married Elma Lee of L. A., Oct. 4, 1919; their son, Paul Lee, was born Oct. 19, 1923, in Bakersfield, Calif.

IX. Susan Clayton Kerr (4), born Aug. 19, 1870, married James Ras Saufley of Paris, Texas, Oct. 27, 1886, at Cotulla; he died June, 1926; their only child, Bertha Edwina, born Aug. 20, 1887, married in 1908, at Bowies, Texas, Rufus

Polk Neely, son of Dr. James Neely. They dwelt in Ft. Worth, Texas, where their two children were born: James Saufley Neely, Oct. 19, 1914, and Bertha Edwina Saufley Neely, Dec. 10, 1918. On Dec. 14, 1918, Mrs. R. P. Neely died; her husband died in 1927; they with her father are buried in Ft. Worth. Their son, James Saufley Neely, resides with his grandmother, Mrs. Sue Kerr Saufley, Ft. Worth; Bertha Neely resides with her adopted parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Saufley, Paris, Texas.

X. Alfred Fontaine Kerr (4) (2nd), born Dec. 22, 1875, married Stella Elizabeth, daughter of James and Frances McGarry Gillespie Wright of San Antonio, Jan. 7, 1903. Since then Alfred F. Kerr has been actively engaged in the banking business. Extensive work with Mexico often necessitates trips there. They now dwell in Nogales, Arizona. Their children are:

Stella Elizabeth (Betty) (5), born May 30, 1907, in Silver City, New Mexico.

Alfred Fontaine (5) (3d), born May 26, 1912, in El Paso, Texas.

A letter received from Mrs. M. K. Ingraham says:

“There was a family tree on my paternal grandmother’s side that led to Mary Queen of Scots; one of the Fontaines also traced to royalty. I have heard my father say that he was named ‘Alfred’ for King Alfred, as he, too, was in his line. My sweet mother, as well born and of equally fine family, even if she could not, so far as she knew, boast of royal blood, believed in being exclusively one’s self and not in relying upon ancestry. Thus after my father’s death she

gave away such valuable books and data that it now breaks my heart to compemplate, books written by grandfather Kerr, and goodness knows what else, besides a very valuable collection of books, paintings and manuscripts, even Revolutionary diaries of her own ancestors. But to be fair, I must say that much was destroyed during the Civil War.

“I have read and re-read my copies of the Register, hoping to find something relating to my grandfather Hugh’s lost brothers, William and George. I have imagined the former may have settled in Canada, else why should Hugh have gone there from Georgia.”

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### **WILLIAM KERR OF CARLISLE, PA.**

William Kerr was born Dec. 25, 1805, and died Dec. 16, 1883. He dwelt at Carlisle, Pa.; some time before 1828, he removed to a suburb of Pittsburgh, now Brentwood; about 1870, he removed to Marietta, Ohio. In his old age he lived at his daughter Martha’s, and at his death, which was by accident, was buried in Dillivon Cemetery, Green Co., Iowa, seven miles north-west of Scranton.

By his first wife, Mary Jane Stewart, he had three children; she died January, 1837, is buried in Carrick, a suburb of Pittsburgh, Pa. By his second wife, Margaret Wilson, he had five children; she died in 1879, is buried in Branham’s Cemetery, five miles from Marietta, O. Children are:

I. Elizabeth, born Jan. 14, 1830, married Joseph Reager on June 26, 1855, and had George

Miles who married Hannah Highberger; Adda, who married James Wiandt of Newcomerstown, Ohio; Alfred, who married Ada Godden, and dwelt at Aurora, Ill.; Willie Stewart, born 1866, died 1889, unmarried; Noland Maffitt, who married J. Pearl Hough; and Eva, who married J. H. Osborne and dwelt at Sutersville, Pa.

Elizabeth and Joseph Reager dwelt in Pittsburgh, Pa., and vicinity for twelve years, then in Marietta, O., and finally in Sutersville, Pa.

II. Alfred, died unmarried. Quoting from a letter: "Alfred went west and took up land, later became ill with fever. His father went to him, nursed him until he was able to come back home; they were almost to Pittsburgh, when Alfred, unknown to his father, drank some ice water, which seemed to bring on a relapse of which he died."

III. Jennie married George Thompson of Pittsburgh, and had George Edgar who died unmarried, aged 28 years, and Jessie who married William C. Alexander of Los Angeles, Calif.

IV. Theodore left Pennsylvania for Illinois in 1865 and removed to Kansas in 1876; he married Anna Nighswonger and had ten children: Alfred married Viola Greenwalt and dwelt at Wichita, Kans.; Jennie E. married Enoch C. Cooksey and dwell at Bartlesville, Okla.; Charles married Eva Ogden and dwell at Colorado Springs, Colo.; Rhoda A., unmarried, deceased; William W. married Minta Barr and dwell at Clearwater, Kan.; Grace, unmarried, deceased; Abram N., married Edna Slack and dwell at Bartlesville, Okla.; Marion S. married Clara May, dwell at Bartlesville, Okla.; John I. married

Ida Asikamen, dwell at Aberdeen, Wash.; Laura B. married Jesse H. Johnson of Stockton, Mo.

V. Edward married Marie Moore and had Cora and Margaret; dwelt in Omaha, Nebr.; he was a carpenter and contractor.

VI. Newton married Mary Williams, dwelt at Rock Island, Ill.; he died Sept. 9, 1914. The children were: Jessie who died in childhood; Mildred (Mrs. James G. Jones) of Rock Island, Ill.; and Margaret (Mrs. Clarence J. Rohwer), of Rock Island.

Mildred writes of her father: "He was a good man, a wonderful father,—being left with my sister and me when we were only small children, he was both mother and father."

VII. Albert, born in Alleghany Co., Pa., in 1848, died 1924, a Civil War Veteran, married Luania Highswonger (born 1852) who dwells in Alva, Okla. They had Leslie H., who married Bertha Newingham, dwell at Enid, Okla., and Edna (Mrs. O. O. Long) of Glendive, Mont.

VIII. Martha married Hiram Roemer and had Charles H. Roemer (born 1874), of Wheeling, W. Va.

Tradition says that William Kerr's ancestors were from Scotland, first settling in New Jersey.

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### **JAMES KERR OF PIGEON CREEK, PA.**

In 1800 there were living in Washington County, Pa., two brothers, James Kerr and John Kerr. These brothers had a sister Rebecca and a sister whose baptismal name has not been ascer-



tained. Rev. John Brice, who died in 1811, aged 51 years, married (1) Rebecca Kerr, and (2) her sister.

The Kerr brothers married sisters, daughters of Rev. James Power, D. D. James Kerr was a cutler by trade. He lived on the Mingo side of the congregation. James had a son William, who became an elder in the Pigeon Creek Church. The name of James Kerr stands first on the roll of the Presbytery of Redstone for the year 1808. He represented Washington County, in the state legislature ten times, between 1801 and 1817. He was one of the original members of the Board of Trustees of Jefferson College and is named in its charter dated 1802, and he served until his death on Sept. 7, 1834, at the age of 75 years.

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Isaac Hampton Kerr was a member, trustee and treasurer of Cross Creek Church; he died Feb. 1, 1866. He married on Sept. 8, 1847, Jane Lee of Cross Creek, Pa., born March 7, 1827, died April 26, 1913.

I quote from a letter received from Mr. Walter K. Belknap: "You will note that the uncle for whom I was named was the man who unveiled the Freehold Monument twenty-five years ago. He was always proud of that service. He and his brother, John B. Kerr, are interesting examples of country boys who made good in the city by sticking to the same organizations and working up through many different grades to presidencies."

Rev. Boyd Mercer Kerr married Nov. 1, 1852, for his second wife, Margaret Anne Mc-

Kaig, born Feb. 7, 1825, died Dec. 30, 1912, buried at Pittsburg, Pa., daughter of John McKaig, 1792-1845, and his wife, Margaret Armstrong, 1795-1834, granddaughter of Patrick and Margaret (King) McKaig, and of John and Eliza (McElroy) Armstrong.

Thomas John Kerr, the ninth child of Rev. B. M. Kerr, was born at Mechanicsburg, Pa., March 18, 1867; he is now bank cashier at New Alexandria, Pa.; on May 7, 1909, he married at Ligonier, Pa., Nancy Lillian Riggs, born April 4, 1884, daughter of Robert McCabe Riggs and his wife, Minnie Evelyn Frye. Five children: Nancy Lillian, Thomas John, Minnie Margaret, Walter Samuel (deceased), and Robert Riggs.

Walter Craig Kerr married Lucy Lyon; they had four children:

- I. Eleanor, born Feb. 8, 1885.
- II. Donald Craig, born Dec. 28, 1889.
- III. Marjorie, born April 13, 1892.
- IV. Phyllis Schuyler, born Sept. 6, 1894.

Donald Craig Kerr married May 27, 1916, Florence Gwendolyn Coffin; they dwell in Ithaca, N. Y., and have Margaret Coffin, born July 9, 1918, Elizabeth Meldrum, born March 12, 1922, and Virginia Schuyler, born Dec. 8, 1924.

Marjorie Kerr married June 18, 1914, G. Vaughan Baker; they dwell at Newfield, N. J., and have John Vaughan, born March 14, 1915, Helen Vaughan, born June 24, 1917, Marjory Schuyler, born Aug. 3, 1918, and Philip Lyon, born Dec. 26, 1922.

Phyllis Schuyler Kerr married Sept. 18, 1926, Morgan O. V. Bogart.

## **KERRS IN THE CATSKILLS**

**(Compiled by Miss Minnie M. Nickum)**

Prof. Vernon Bugar, of Ossining, N. Y., gives this paragraph:

The name "KERR" means strength. This was the name of one of the Norman nobles who came over with William the Conqueror, and he was the founder of the Scottish house. The Kerrs were a noble and influential family in France before this time (1066). The present head of the house is the Duke of Roxbrughe. This estate William the Conqueror gave to the Kerrs in return for services to him. In ancient times the Kerrs were great fighters, and it was a common saying that "no Kerr ever died with his boots on." The motto of the family is: "Forward, in the name of God."

ROBERT KERR, born 1777 or 1783, died 1836, was a direct descendant of this house according to tradition; was born in England, though he lived and learned his trade of linen weaving in Glasgow, Scotland, before going to Belfast, Ireland. There he met and married the Scotch lassie, Mary Buchanan, who was born in 1786, died Aug. 7, 1856, at Windham, N. Y. She was a daughter of Dr. James Buchanan, who married a Miss Nelson of Belfast. It is claimed that Dr. Buchanan was a distant relative of President James Buchanan.

Six children were born to Robert and Mary on the river Lagan at Carackfargaus, a suburb of Belfast: John, George, Jane, James, Robert and Mary Eliza. Mary was an infant of six months when her parents in January, 1823, entered the United States, coming by sailing vessel through

the St. Lawrence to Lake Champlain, and taking six weeks for the trip. They tarried a few months in Quebec, then came over to Windham (Hunter), Green County, N. Y., among the Catskills. Here three younger children were born: Samuel, Emily, and Sarah Ann.

I. John Kerr, farmer, was born in 1810; he married Sarah Rich, dwelt in Hunter, N. Y. Their seven surviving children, (one dying in infancy);

1. Theresa, married Jefferson Taylor, and had Sheridan L. Taylor.

2. Emily, married Edwin Bunt of Hunter, and had Delia who married Mr. Howard of Tannersville; they have children, and dwell in Alexandria, Va. The second child, Ray, is unmarried.

3. John B. Kerr married Alice Potts; their twelve children:

Egbert Kerr, born 1881, married Fannie Johnson, Nov. 24, 1904. Their two children: Jessie, born Nov. 20, 1905, died July, 1907; Claude, born Nov. 5, 1906, married Edna Becker, Jan. 18, 1926, and have one child, Claude, Jr., born Oct. 24, 1928; dwell in Tannersville, N. Y.

Emily Kerr, born Jan. 5, 1883, married Frederick Albrecht, Aug. 1900. Four children: Margaret H., born July, 1901, died 1906; Walter, born Jan. 12, 1903; Frederick, Jr., born July 8, 1905; Marion, born Sept. 25, 1915. They dwell at Kingston, N. Y.

Susan Kerr, born June, 1884, married Lester Hall, June, 1911. Six children: Frank, Lester, and John, deceased. Henry, born Jan., 1912; Gertrude, born June, 1917; Mary Etta, born 1922; dwell in Tannersville.

Thurber Kerr, of Tannersville, born May, 1886; War Service, 1918; unmarried.

Mary Kerr, born Feb. 1887; unmarried. Lives in Tannersville.

Myrtle Kerr, born July, 1889, married Joseph Johnson, May 9, 1906, and had one child, Lillian, born June 9, 1907. She married Wesley Rose, Oct. 1927, and had two children: Sarah Elizabeth, born Nov. 1928, and Wesley, Jr., born Dec. 1929; dwells in Tannersville.

Florence Kerr, born Jan. 29, 1891; unmarried. Lives in Tannersville.

Grenville E. Kerr, born June 6, 1893, (War Service, 1918), married Anna Hange, 1921. Two children: John, born 1923, and Victor, born 1925; dwell at Lakewood, N. Y.

Helen Kerr, born Jan. 19, 1895, married Henry C. Mathews, Nov. 9, 1913. Six children: Ruth, born Aug. 16, 1914; Kathryn Emily, born Feb. 24, 1920; John H., born Aug. 1, 1926, died in infancy; Henry Jr., born Oct. 21, 1927; twin boys, born Sept. 1929, died in infancy: Dwell in Kingston, N. Y.

Frederick Kerr, born 1897, died in infancy.

Sarah Kerr, born July, 1902, married Frederick Amm in 1918; three children: Kathryne, born Sept. 1919; Ethel, born June 1921; Frederick, Jr., born Aug. 1923. Dwell at New Brighton, L. I.

Victor, born Dec. 1910, of Tannersville.

4. Mary Elizabeth Kerr, married Benjamin F. Bunt (brother of Edwin.) Five children: Emily May, married Herbert Young and had ten children: Arthur married Miss Rose; Robert mar-

ried Miss Brice; James, unmarried; Katherine, married —.

5. Rev. Grenville Eugene Kerr, born 1859, a Reformed Presbyterian minister, married Kathryn Searles of Prattsville, N. Y. (See below). Their four children:

Celeste Kerr, a teacher in Whiteplains, married Howard D. Bryant of Potsdam, a real estate broker; sine prole.

Jennie Hazeltine Kerr, married Charles P. Taber of Jefferson; one daughter, Thelma Celeste, who married Albert Demarest of Stamford, and had Robert Charles, now three years old.

Gladys R. Kerr, a teacher in the State School in Delhi, N. Y., married John T. Thomson, proprietor of a Delhi restaurant; sine prole.

A son who died in infancy.

Rev. Grenville E. Kerr, as a boy, had an eager desire for books and learning, and though his higher educational advantages in early life were not what he hoped for, he made use of every available source at hand. For a time he took up the carpenter trade and in a few years became an expert. He worked at this trade until a few years after his marriage, which occurred when he was twenty-one years old. At that time in Prattsville, N. Y., his father-in-law died, leaving an excellent business of cabinet-making and undertaking, which Grenville Kerr purchased. His experience during these few years in undertaking, when many families prepared the body of their loved one for burial, was interesting and unique, to say the least.

During all these years he was a most religious and upright man, a leader in the church acti-

vities of the community. He was a member of the Methodist faith. At last he had a call to preach to which he could not turn a deaf ear. So he entered the N. Y. Methodist Conference in 1891, taking the four years' educational course with high rating. For twenty-seven years he was a very successful and beloved country preacher. He dwells at Kingston, N. Y.

He was a man of fine physique, large stature, with no bad habits to mar his general splendid health. After a severe fever in 1917, he gave up regular preaching, though he has preached often since. On Nov. 16, 1930, Rev. Grenville Kerr and his wife celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary; it was an enjoyable occasion. Mrs. Kerr has always been a very beautiful woman to look upon, and a minister's wife of rare tact, and the qualities which endeared her to all the community. Rev. Kerr always loved a good horse and drove a spirited pair until about 1910, when he purchased an auto; and he still drives a car with apparent enjoyment.

6. James Henry Kerr married Minnie Traphagan, dwell in Dalton, Mass. Four children: Lelia married Berd Smith, and had two children; Frances (Mrs. Smith) of Hunter, sine prole; Max, of Dalton, N. Y., married Florence Tompkins and had one daughter; Helen; unmarried.

7. Cora Kerr married Ethan Yeager of West Saugerties, N. Y.; four children: Esther married and has one son; dwell in Poughkeepsie, N. Y. John married and has two children; is a carpenter in Detroit, Mich. Katherine married ——— Bishop; dwell in Saugerties; three children. An unmarried daughter, a stenographer.

II. Rev. George Kerr, LL. D., was born Dec. 18, 1812, graduated from Williams College, Mass., 1839, and from Union Theological Seminary, N. Y. City in 1843. He was a Presbyterian minister and educator; to him the success of Delaware Literary Institute was due more than to any other one man; he served as its Principal for sixteen years. Then the famous school was in the height of its usefulness, and his name will ever be associated with Franklin, N. Y., in this connection. He died March 27, 1867, at Cooperstown, N. Y.; he married, Sept. 3, 1845, Lucia Hamilton of Schoharie, N. Y., who died Aug. 8, 1880. Both are buried at Franklin, where their nine children, except the oldest and youngest, were born:

1. Henry Hamilton Kerr, born Aug. 8, 1846, in Schoharie; was a civil engineer, graduated from Yale, 1869; married Mary Payne of Franklin, N. Y., Feb. 13, 1889; he died May 28, 1901, buried in Denver, Colo., dwelt in Fort Worth, Texas. Three children:

Henry Hamilton, Jr., born Jan. 11, 1892, in Fort Worth, a civil engineer, (both he and his brother graduated from the University of Colorado), married Helen Clancy of Racine, Wisc., and have Mary Lucia and Barbara Ann.; now dwell in Toledo, Ohio. An infant son born and died in 1894. Francis Payne, born Jan. 1, 1896, in Quanah, Texas, a civil engineer, married Lucille Minton of West Unity, Ohio; dwell in Cleveland, Ohio.

2. Lucia Marie Kerr, born June 19, 1848; died in Elmira, N. Y., married Melvin Sornburger, Feb. 17, 1874; sine prole.

3. George Buchanan Kerr, born April 17,



1850, died in Waterbury, Conn., Dec. 25, 1920; married (1) Sept. 1878, Emma Hovey Adams, Brooklyn, N. Y., born Oct., 1858, died Jan. 14, 1906, (a descendant of President John Quincy Adams). Their four children were born in Boston. A second wife survives, sine prole. George B. Kerr was in business with the Scoville Manufacturing Co. of Waterbury, Conn. (residence Chicago), for over fifty-three years, and until his death; his two sons are still with the same firm. Children:

George Buchanan, Jr., of Waterbury, Conn., born April 6, 1879, married Alma Wilson, Feb. 4, 1906; sine prole. Henry Adams, born Oct., 1880, died in 1881. Frank Hamilton, of Chicago, born Aug. 6, 1882, married Aug. 6, 1913, Ida Alora Barker, and had three children: Mildred Alora, born June 22, 1915; George Hamilton, born June 25, 1917, died Sept. 14, 1921; Irma Elaine, born May 25, 1921. Leslie Lydia, born August 4, 1887, died April 1, 1920; married Aug. 1910, Kenneth Kimbark Spear of Chicago, and had one child, Kenneth K., Jr., born Nov. 1912.

4. Mary Edwards Kerr, born May 13, 1852, died in Fort Worth, Tex., buried in Franklin, N. Y.; unmarried.

5. Cornelia Hamilton Kerr, born July 31, 1854, died in 1872; buried in Franklin; unmarried.

6. Emily Hamilton, born July 16, 1856; unmarried. Residence New York City. (She has been helpful in furnishing many data on this family line.)

7. Theodore White Kerr, born Oct. 1858; died young.

8. James Kerr, born Sept. 1, 1860, died Dec. 24, 1923; was a civil engineer, and an official for thirty years, or until his death, of the Texas Pacific Coal & Oil Co. He married Beulah Spear of Ft. Worth, Texas; dwelt in Thurber, Texas. Two children:

James Fielder, born June, 1900, electrical engineer; with Texas & Pacific R. R.

George Spear, born Feb. 4, 1902, died Aug. 11, 1925; an electrical engineer, (accidental death by electricity). Both boys graduated from the A. & M. College. Mrs. Beulah Kerr and surviving son dwell in Palestine, Texas.

9. John Lawyer Kerr, born Oct. 3, 1863, in Watertown, N. Y., died July 31, 1907, in Franklin, and buried there. He graduated from Cornell University, N. Y., in 1889, was a civil engineer; married Minnie Rose of Franklin, N. Y., and had two children:

Herman, born Nov. 30, 1895, who died in infancy, and Francis Hamilton, born Aug. 12, 1904, in Brooklyn, N. Y.; dwells in Syracuse.

III. Jane Kerr, born in 1815, died 1860, at the home of her brother James, a few years after the death, at Hunter, of her mother. James removed from Hunter after his mother's death, to near Saxon Four Corners, below the mountains, and his sister Jane died there, and was buried near West Camp, N. Y.; unmarried.

IV. James Kerr, born 1817, died 1907, married Susan Pugh, sine prole. His farm was north of Kingston, N. Y.; he left it to the Fresh Air Fund of New York. He lived the last years of his life with his sisters at the farm in Mongaup Valley, and died and was buried there.

V. Rev. Robert Kerr, born in 1819, died June 29, 1902; married Mary Pierce of Blenheim, N. Y. He was a Methodist minister, preaching mainly in New York State appointments from 1849 until 1887. There were four children, all now deceased:

Harriet, born about 1864; a son who also died early; a child who died in infancy; and William Kerr, born in Delhi, N. Y., died Sept. 26, 1929; married Mary Rigney.

VI. Mary Eliza Kerr, born Nov. 12, 1822, in Ireland, sailed for America with her family, at the tender age of three weeks; died May 30, 1894, buried in Tannersville, N. Y., She married Oct. 1, 1842, William Thomas Wooden of Staatsburg, N. Y., a farmer and business man, born Aug. 13, 1818, died Nov. 17, 1905. Their ten children were born in Tannersville:

1. Selina Ann Wooden, born Aug. 20, 1843, married April 10, 1864, John Johnson of New York City, born April 12, 1832, in Rensselaer, N. Y., died March 15, 1902; buried in White Plains, N. Y. Mrs. Johnson resides in New York City. There were seven children:

Charles Edward, married Kittie Nelliger; William John married Eliza Barnes, dwell in Rensselaer; Adelaide Mary, unmarried, lives in New York City; Lucia married Matthew Goldthwaite; James and Victor, unmarried; Ernest B. married Cora Rider.

Before passing from Mrs. Johnson's household, read a part of one of her letters:

"My mother, Mary Eliza, has told us that her father, Robert Kerr, was born in England, but we do not know where. He and Mary Buchanan

were married in Belfast, where they lived until they came to the United States in a sailing vessel, taking six weeks. All they brought over was their wardrobe and a chest of linen. They had a stormy passage, landing in Quebec. As my grandfather came over here for the sole purpose of educating his children, he left Canada in a few months and came over to the U. S."

2. Lucia Marie Wooden, born Oct. 14, 1845, died Dec. 20, 1921, in Fairmont, Okla., where she is buried; married June 16, 1864, James Johnson of Rensselaer, a Civil War Veteran (brother of John), died Nov. 10, 1928, buried in Greenbush, N. Y.; sine prole.

3. Katherine Rosalie Wooden, born May 19, 1848; married July 17, 1867, George Mariner Lowrie of Rensselaer, a R. R. Supt., born Aug. 6, 1844, died Oct. 4, 1894; buried at Woodlawn, N. Y. City. They had six daughters, all born in Rensselaer, except the youngest, born in New York City.

Georgia May, teacher, married George A. Stevenson of New York City; sine prole.

Virginia Buchanan, stenographer, married J. Ross Collins; sine prole.

Mary Anne, stenographer, married Ernest C. Dana; they have three sons.

Faith, milliner, married Charles E. Berien; they have three sons and three daughters.

Suzanne Marriner, actuary, married Walter J. Randolph; sine prole.

Dorothy Blossom, teacher, married William L. Humphries; sine prole.

Mrs. Katherine Lowrie dwells in Scarsdale,

N. Y. Read some words of reminiscence from her:

“How well I remember Grandmother Kerr! She always sat in a rocker near a corner window, with her Bible and glasses on a shelf under the window. She lived then with Uncle James and Aunt Jane, and always wore a cap. My mother always told us that her father was English and her mother Scotch. My mother was three weeks old when they sailed for America. Grandmother Kerr, as a girl, lived with her brother, James Buchanan, who owned and managed a hotel in Belfast. He followed his sister to the U. S. and lived with us and Uncle James Kerr although he had three sons. He finally went to live with his son George, a miller near Springfield, Mass., where he died later.

“There were two families who lived in Durham, N. Y., one named Nelson which, I think, was related to Grandmother, and the other named Robb, which I think were relatives of Grandfather. I do not know if any are alive now, but when I was a girl my mother frequently visited them, especially the Robb family. I was eight years old when Grandmother died in 1856, and Aunt Jane died a few years after. I think Grandfather was born in 1777.”

4. George Whitfield Wooden, nurseryman, born May 20, 1850; died —, buried at Middleburgh, N. J.; married (1) Elizabeth Spencer of Illinois. Their children were: Edwin who married Mary Woodside, Bertha married Arthur Woodside, and Bert (the twin of Bertha), married Rose Grimm.

George W. married (2) Mary Burg of Middleburgh; sine prole.

5. Emma Eliza Wooden, born Feb. 28, 1852, married in 1870, William Matson, of Rensselaer, born Feb. 18, 1848, died Dec. 28, 1913; buried in Tannersville, N. Y. They had two children:

Adah married Fred Scoaten, and had Kenneth; Hattie married Curtis Easton, and had Warren.

Mrs. Matson resides in Los Angeles, Calif.

6. Mary Adelaide Wooden, born April 22, 1854, married Dec. 30, 1873, Frank Eggleston of Tannersville, born March 13, 1851, died April 20, 1929, buried in Plainfield, N. J. Their five daughters:

Martha married George Rosselli; dwell at Datona, Fla. Blanche married Frank Guyer. Dawn married James A. Hughes and had James A. Jr., dwell in New York City. Pearl. Helen married Earl Shultz, dwell at Detroit, Mich.

7. James Arthur Wooden, cabinet maker, born July 4, 1856, married Ella Miller of Hunter, N. Y.; dwell at Hasbrook Heights, N. J. Three children:

Mabel married Edward Halstead, and had Edna and Hazel. Katherine married Lewis Goodwin, and had a son. Earl married Anna Allen; they have a son, Dale, and a daughter.

8. Harriet Jane Wooden, born March 23, 1858, married (1) Nelson Campbell of Tannersville, born June 2, 1855, died Nov. 26, 1898; their two children:

Flora married Fred Koonen; Pauline married William A. Missbach.

Harriet married (2) R. Lee Rose; sine prole.

9. William Wilson Wooden, born Feb. 27, 1860, died Dec. 21, 1920, buried at Amenia, N. J.,

married June 15, 1892, Alice MacHugh of Amenia ;  
sine prole.

10. Sophia Estella Wooden, born Jan. 9, 1863, married Menzo Sharpe of Eastkill, N. J.; residence Tannersville, N. Y. They had one son, Percy.

VII. Samuel Kerr (using Allen as a middle name in later life) was born in 1824, at Windham, (Hunter), Greene Co., N. Y.; he died in 1908, in Mougaupe Valley, Sullivan Co., N. Y. He lived, after 1848, in this county, owning a 110-acre farm there. In 1852 he married Charlotte Royce, born 1830, in Bethel, Sullivan Co., and died 1912, in Mougaupe Valley, where their seven children were born:

1. Mary Esther Kerr, teacher, born 1854, died 1925; married in 1895, Moses Sherwood Myers of Rolfe, Pa., now of Middletown, N. Y.; sine prole. She was his second wife; two children by his first marriage.

2. Rev. Milton Royce Kerr, born May 4, 1859, died June 16, 1926, in Los Angeles, Calif. He married (1), in 1884, Frances Maria Perry of Ithica, N. Y., born Sept. 23, 1860, died Jan. 3, 1908, in Boston, Mass. She was the mother of all his children. He married (2) in 1909, Mary H. Hall, of Brooklyn, N. Y., and Guilford, Conn., died in 1924, in Los Angeles; he married (3), in 1926, Frances Murray Miller, of Ithica, N. Y., a teacher, surviving. Seven children:

Frances Hope Kerr, born 1886, at Van Etten, N. Y., married in 1916, William Rea Holway of Sandwich, Mass., a civil engineer of large contracts. Mrs. Holway has published books on sanitation and health, and is also a contributor to

leading magazines. Their children: Donal Kerr, born July 13, 1917, at Providence, R. I.; Charlotte, born June 16, 1919, at Tulsa, Okla.; William Nye, born Nov. 24, 1920, at Tulsa. (Mrs. Holway has been most active in their research of the line of Robert and Mary Buchanan Kerr.)

Charlotte Clare Kerr, born 1888, at Orwell, Pa., a teacher in Los Angeles, Calif.; unmarried.

Jessie Grace Kerr, born 1889, at Orwell, married in 1919, Ray S. Hamar, and have: Clare, born Nov. 3, 1920; Milton Charles, born Feb. 1929; they dwell in Brawley, Calif.

Elsie Margarita Kerr, born 1891, at Apalachan, N. Y., married in 1913, Henry Albert Voss, farmer of Westcliffe, Colo, who died in 1928, at Alamosa, Colo. Five children: Richard Royce, born 1913; Frances Iola, born 1916; Elida Henrietta, born 1918; Robert, born 1922; Ruth, born 1924. Dwell at Alamosa.

Robert Perry Kerr, movie director, Los Angeles, Calif., born 1893, at Burlington, Conn., married (1) in 1913, Elsie Olchvary (divorced); their only child, Milton Albert, born 1914; married (2) in 1918, Catherine Perry, adopting her daughter, Ardell.

Emily Calpurnia Kerr, born about 1894, died in infancy.

Donal Royce Kerr, born 1901, an electrical engineer in Los Angeles; unmarried.

Rev. M. R. Kerr was a teacher and preacher, a Cornell and Yale graduate, lived his youth in Mongaup Valley, N. Y.; entered the ministry in 1888; holding pastorates at Orwell, Pa., and Apalachan, N. Y.; Congregational at Burlington.



North Guilford and Westville, Conn.; Unitarian at Sandwich, Mass., and Greeley, Colo.; later teaching in Calif., up to the time of his death, when living at Belleflower, Calif. He was buried in Inglewood, Calif. His cousin and boyhood friend, Rev. Wm. Robert Goss, preacher and lecturer in Florida, writes, July, 1930: "Milton Royce Kerr is to me a cherished memory. Our lives were so cast that we did not meet after boyhood days, but my recollection of happy hours passed together is ever fresh and will never fade or lose its interest."

3. Emily Amelia Kerr, teacher, born 1862; married in 1891, Charles DuBois Montfort, born 1848, died 1912, at Wappingers Falls, N. Y. They have one son, Elliott Royce of Wappingers Falls, a farmer, born 1895, married Dorothy Logan in 1919. They have: Charlotte Alexandra, born 1920, and Elliott Royce, Jr., born 1924. Mrs. Emily Montfort dwells in Nutley, N. J.

4. Harriet Elizabeth Kerr, born, 1864; married (1), in 1905, Artemas Dezn Wilson of New York, born 1835, died 1907, buried in Bethel, N. Y.; they dwelt in Mongaup Valley. She married (2) John James Van Keuren, born 1853; dwell at Swan Lake, Sullivan Co., N. Y. Two children were of the first marriage, none of the second.

5. Sarah Ella Kerr, born in 1868, a teacher in Orange, N. J.; dwells in Nutley, N. J.

6. Charlotte Abigail Royce Kerr, born 1870, teacher in Passaic, N. J.; dwells in Nutley.

7. Marvin Orrin Kerr, born 1872, died 1915; occupation various, dwelt in New York City; married in 1896, Minnie Adell Ballard of Mongaup Valley, where he later was buried. Their three

children: Ralph Waldo Emerson, chemist and biologist in New York City, born 1899, married Dorothy Thomas in 1922; Gladys Minnette, born 1902; Marvin Hitchcock, born 1910. The two younger children dwell at Nutley, N. J., with their mother who later married Emil Eppreight.

VIII. Emily Kerr, born Feb. 26, 1828, at Windham, N. Y.; died at Ossining, N. Y., of a malarial fever, Sept. 26, 1876, buried at Poughkeepsie, N. Y. She married Aug. 27, 1851, Rev. William Goss, a Methodist minister in New York City. Their four children:

1. Webster Goss, born June 12, 1853, died April 29, 1899, of pneumonia, at Spooner, Wisc., where he is buried; unmarried.

2. Rev. William Robert Goss, born Jan. 28, 1856, at Coeymans Hollow, N. Y.; married (1) April 14, 1879, Blanche Robinson of Charlotteville, N. Y.; he married (2) Aug. 27, 1923, Katherine E. Fevoe of Madalin, N. Y.; dwell in Orlando, Florida; sine prole. (See below.)

3. Mary Goss, born May 2, 1858, married C. Townsend Young; dwell in Windham, N. Y. Their two children: Townsend, who was killed in the World War, in the battle of the Marne; Stanley, living in Ossining, N. Y.

4. Carrie Goss, born Dec. 16, 1863, at Coeymans, N. Y., died and buried at Ossining, N. Y., in 1926; unmarried.

Rev. Wm. R. Goss has known a busy life in his fifty years of ministry and lecture field. He was educated at Wilbraham Academy, Mass., and Middletown, Conn., at Wesleyan University up to the time of the death of his father, when he was

obliged to leave college, and when he entered at once into the ministry of the N. Y. Conference of the M. E. Church, from which church he later withdrew, and upon the credentials from the N. Y. Conference, united with the Florida Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church. In his own words,—“I live in the fond hope that I may plant one more church in Florida before I hear voices calling me away from labor to the rest which remains for those who keep the faith.”

IX. Sarah Ann Kerr, born Nov. 11, 1830, N. Y., married Rev. James M. Burger, a Methodist minister, who died Jan. 26, 1902. Both of these daughters, Sarah and Emily Kerr, (the youngest two of the family), married Methodist ministers, who with their brother, Rev. Robert Kerr, received much of their education in Franklin Inst., N. Y., of which their older brother, Dr. George Kerr, was principal for sixteen years.

The entire ministry of Rev. J. M. Bargar was in the state and city of New York. His first appointment, in 1853, was Hunter; then followed Franklin, Kortright, Windham, Davenport, Roxbury, Stamford, Kiscatone, Greenville, Coeymans, Margaretville, Walton, Croton-on-Hudson, Bedford, Perry St., N. Y., Wappingers Falls, Eastview, Woodlawn, Perry St.—a long and faithful service, until he retired in 1894.

There were five children: Prof. Vernon Bargar, born Oct. 20, 1861, in Stamford, N. Y., is the only survivor of his family. He is a teacher of piano-forte, at Emwilton Place, Ossining, N. Y.; unmarried. There were two little sisters, Mary and Martha, who died when about four years of age; and two baby brothers, Eddie and Willie, who

died when young. They are all laid by the side of their Grandfather and Grandmother Kerr in Windham Cemetery.

Prof. Burgar writes: "When my mother, Sarah Ann Kerr, youngest of the family, was six years of age, her father, Robert Kerr, was thrown from a load of hay near Windham, and died a few days later. He was a very religious man, and the neighbors held prayer-meetings around his bedside until he passed away. He was buried at Windham. I have been to his grave and his tombstone has on it 'Robert Kerr, a native of Ireland, Died ——' the date, I think, the latter part of 1836. Not a word as to his birth. His widow lived more than twenty years after this. My mother, six when her father died, was too young to have asked him questions regarding Scotland or Ireland, and the mother grieved so, that the children said little about him. Then James, mother's brother, took charge of things. Mother always said James seemed more like a father to her. So you can understand how Robert Kerr, the father, faded out of the picture, and few questions asked about him."

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### THE KARRS OF WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

I think it proper to insert here some data which I have concerning an early Karr family of Warren County, N. J. Karrsville is a small settlement on Pohatcong Creek in Mansfield township; it was named after the Karrs who once owned most of the land in the immediate vicin-

ity. Later records show that a Joseph Karr was assessor in 1829, and a Walter collector in 1865. The Karrs claim descent from Walter Ker of Freehold; and this they do with a fair degree of possibility considering the early date, the proximity to verified lines, and the fact that they are earmarked with the same baptismal names. The variation in spelling is certainly no bar. However, no proof positive is at hand.

John Karr married Mercy Lee in 1780. She was a daughter of Philip and Margaret Lee. They were Jersey people and lived in Jersey during the early part of their married life. Several children were born to them in Jersey, but afterwards they removed to Berks County, Pa., but they returned to Warren County, N. J., before 1796.

After 1810 there was a general removal to the west; John and Mercy and all their children settled in Hamilton Co., O., near where Cincinnati now stands. During the war of 1812 John joined the company made up by William Henry Harrison. John came out of the war a captain. In 1832 some of John's children went to McLean Co., Ill., and settled near Heyworth. In 1834 John followed them and lived until his death with his daughter, Mercy Karr Buck.

John died near Leroy, Ill., Dec. 26, 1840, and was buried in the cemetery at Heyworth; Mercy had died at North Bend, Hamilton Co., O.

Nine children of John and Mercy (Lee) Karr:

I. Walter Karr, born August 29, 1781, near Hackettstown, N. J., died May 13, 1823, in Ham-

ilton County, O.; married Margaret Weller.

II. Eleanor Karr; she died at Sarona, N. Y.; married a Creveling; their daughter Eleanor married a Peters and had Luella Peters, who is now Mrs. Hoyt.

III. Joseph Karr, born Feb. 14, 1786, and died in Warren Co., N. J., March 27, 1878; he married Mary Petty.

IV. John Karr, Jr., who died before 1840; he married Sophia Jennings.

V. Thomas Karr, M. D., born April 23, 1793, in Berks Co., Pa., and died Sept. 28, 1876, at Heyworth, Ill.; married Elizabeth Kitchel.

VI. Rebecca Karr, born March 12, 1796, in Sussex Co., N. J., died Nov. 24, 1838, at Heyworth, Ill.; she married David Noble.

VII. Jacob Karr, born July 27, 1798, in Sussex Co., N. J., died April 1, 1840, near LeRoy, Ill.; married (1) Maria Noble, (2) Clarissa Garrison.

VIII. Nancy Karr, born May 13, 1800, died May 24, 1873, near Heyworth, Ill. About 1822 she married Joseph Noble, born 1798, died 1861, son of John and Sarah (Price) Noble.

IX. Mercy Karr, born Dec. 16, 1806, died Aug. 6, 1886, at Leroy, Ill. On April 4, 1827, she married Hiram Buck, son of William and Berentha (York) Buck.

Walter Karr, born 1781, married April 14, 1803, Margaret Weller, born April 23, 1784, and

died at Heyworth, Ill., Aug. 28, 1849; they had eight children: Eliza (Mrs. Andrews), John W., Eleanor C., Rebecca, Margaret, Walter, Joseph and George.

Joseph Karr, born 1786, married in 1810, Mary Petty, who was born July 27, 1790, and died Sept. 8, 1870; they had eight children: James, John, Jacob, Margaret, Mark, Joseph, Thomas and William.

John Karr, Jr., married Sophia Jennings and had five children: James, Joanna, born 1819, died 1844, first wife of John C. Buddeley, Ellen, second wife of John C. Buddeley, John Wesley, and Jesse.

Dr. Thomas Kerr in 1814, married Elizabeth (Edwards) Kitchel and had Eleanor (Mrs. Hipping), Martha Ann (Mrs. Hartsin), Thomas J., William, and Elizabeth (Mrs. Sevgin).

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## SIX BROTHERS AT PHILADELPHIA

Peter Kerr of Scotland, wife unnamed, had a son Samuel. This Samuel, wife unnamed, had a son, Samuel 2nd, whose business as a flax buyer, took him to Ireland. He married a Miss Mc-Mutrie.

About 1850 or 1855, their family of seven sons and two daughters came, in their youth, from Country Antrim, Ireland, to America, with the exception of one son, Hugh. These located in Philadelphia, Pa., and are:

I. Alexander, who married a Martin, and died in 1895. Children: Samuel T., who married

and had one son and three daughters; Martin: El-  
lie (Mrs. McCullagh) had five sons and two  
daughters.

II. Samuel, who married and had one son  
and one daughter.

III. Margaret married a Jamison. Her  
descendants are living in Philadelphia.

IV. Thomas M. married (1st) a Burns,  
(2nd) a Trainer. Their nine children are: Will-  
iam; Thomas; Samuel C., one child; Alexander,  
eight children; David; Trainer; Edward; Frank,  
two children; Renwide, three children. Most of  
these now dwell in Oregon and California; only  
two now in Philadelphia.

V. Hugh died in 1902, P. O., Armoy, Ireland;  
the only child who did not come to America, and  
surviving all his brothers and sisters.

VI. Jane married a Brown; their descend-  
ants are in Philadelphia.

VII. John married and moved west; became  
a farmer; descendants in Illinois.

VIII. Frank died in 1901; married Mary  
Heberton of Philadelphia, who died in 1882. Their  
children: Frank H., died 1868; Dr. Eugene, two  
sons and two daughters; May H., and Belle, who  
died in 1885.

IX. Robert, who died about 1863.

Three of these six brothers remained in  
Philadelphia, establishing a prosperous business,  
being importers of salt and coffee. Alexander  
and Frank were closely associated, Frank running  
the Baltimore office of the concern, removing to  
this city in 1866.



Thomas Kerr, a brother of either Samuel 1st or 2nd, settled in Nova Scotia. There were family records of some generations back, which were lost in the sinking of a boat plying between Scotland and Ireland.

This record of his family is given by Eugene Kerr, M. D., of Baltimore, Md.; he is physician to a large industrial concern near the city. To quote him: "Most of our ancestors had little thought of making records of their forebears, or of their movements, and most of us neglected to question our parents of their early history, and, Scotch-like, little information was volunteered."

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### **JAMES KERR OF IVY CREEK, VIRGINIA**

James Kerr dwelt at Ivy Creek, Albemarle Co., Va. He came from Scotland and arrived in Virginia about 1760; he was a magistrate in 1793, and was sheriff a few years later. He removed to Kentucky in 1808. He had at least one child, David Kerr, who was educated at Princeton. This David served in the Revolutionary War and was pensioned; it is said that he was at the battle of Monmouth and at the capture of Stony Point.

For further information concerning this James Kerr and his son David, consult Wood's History of Albemarle County, Va.

## WILLIAM KERR AND SARAH DIAL

Of a certain Walter Ker of Scotland it is uncertain whether he came to America or died in his native land; but his son William Ker, came when a boy. He found his way through New York and other eastern states, later settling near Frankfort, Ky., then into Texas, being a successful farmer. There is a little town, Kerrville, named for him. He had soon added the second r to his name.

From there he went to the black belt region of Alabama, and settled in Ramsey, Sumter Co. To quote R. T. Kerr, of Omaha, Nebr.:

“My Grandfather William met a girl by the name of Sarah Dial, in Frankfort, Ky., who was from Ireland, and they were happily married until death. He bought a farm at Ramsey and there raised his family of two boys and three girls.

The oldest boy, Walter, my father, named for his grandfather, lived at the old homestead, and there raised his family, three boys and three girls. Grandfather William had bought 400 acres of land, and after his death when the farm was sold so as to divide the estate, my father bought his father's farm, and an additional 600 acres, making the 1000.

Father's sister, Mrs. Sue Allen of Birmingham, Ala., now in her eighties, has some genealogical records of our family, but as she has been rather seriously ill, she cannot give me at present any further information.”

## JAMES KERR OF BRANDYWINE AND VALLEY FORGE

By Miss M. M. Nickum

Many years ago at a family reunion at Monongahela, Pa., a paper was read by Rev. Dr. Greer M. Kerr; the opening paragraphs of the sketch herewith presented are taken from the Rev. Mr. Kerr's account but greatly condensed:

“Our ancestors have been people of whom we have no reason to be ashamed. While we would not worship them as the Chinese, we are justified in honoring them, and preserving and perpetuating the memory of their names and history.

The first of the name mentioned in history of Scotland was a herald of Sir William Wallace about 1200 A. D. He was killed by the English while acting as an ambassador. I think this incident gives the key to the meaning of our name. It is the same as our word “courier.”

The original home of the clan was in the southern part of Scotland near the English border. It is said that the reason our men are so strong and large is that living so near the border the conflicts with those on the other side are so frequent and fierce that the small and weak were all killed and only the large and strong survived. The Cumberland and Northumberland English who live on the other side of the border are also large. The Queen's Guards, all over six feet, two inches, are all Cumberland and Northumberland men. In our raids upon them, and their raids upon us, fighting with the primitive weapons then in use, all the small and weak men on both sides were exterminated and only the strong and stalwart survived.

One of the legends of our clan is that on a certain occasion the chief gathered in his relatives for a feast. They were all seated in their places around the banquet table; but when the cover was lifted from what was thought a smoking roast, lo and behold! a pair of spurs in the dish. It was a gentle hint from the gude wife that the larder was empty and that they must go riding again over the border before there could be another feast. The clansmen smiled grimly at each other and that very night they started out to lay in supplies.

It is claimed by some that all the Scottish Clans came from Ireland. There is a County Kerry in Ireland. It was ruled by an ancient chief called Ciar or Kiar, and his descendants.

One of this clan named James Kerr was brought to America in 1736, when he was three years old. We have thus far not been able to learn anything about his father and mother, not even the names they bore; but it is probable these parents brought him from Ireland to America.

James had a brother Joseph who never married, and a sister Hannah. This James Kerr was born January, 1733, and died February 25, 1825. He lived in Brandywine in Chester County, Pa., near a Presbyterian church, the pastor of which was named Carmichael, who baptised all his children. He married Elizabeth Porter, Dec. 10, 1766, who was born in 1746, and died Feb. 14, 1828; to them were born three sons and four daughters. With his wife and six children (little Rebekah had died) he came west and settled near Monongahela, Pa., arriving in the latter part of December, 1793. He was a mechanic and made plows, which at that time had wooden

mould boards. He helped hew the logs for the first Mingo meeting house.

We have reason to believe that he was a pretty fair scholar. We know that he was a good penman as we still have his autograph well preserved, written by him in a text-book in mathematics that belonged to him, dated 1753, when he would be 20 years old. He served in the Revolutionary War; he has told of the Battle of Brandywine, how the soldiers swore and how his pastor, Rev. Mr. Carmichael, who was present, was shocked and distressed at their profanity at such a time of death and carnage. While he was absent in the army, his wife managed to put in the crops. They had a German neighbor, Hanish; she neighbored with them. Their women did the plowing, and our Grandmother Kerr sowed the grain for them in return."

Corroborating the above records, written years ago, the following interesting letter of October 1, 1929, has been received from Rev. H. H. Kurtz of Glen Moore, Pa.:

"The Forks of Brandywine Church, of which I am the present pastor, was organized in 1735, by men of the Scotch-Irish immigration, and has maintained continuous services from that time until now. It has been served by eleven pastors, the third of whom was the Rev. John Carmichael. Mr. Carmichael entered upon his pastoral work in 1761, and died in 1785. He was an ardent patriot, a personal friend of Washington, and was so earnest in his efforts in behalf of the colonies that the British authorities offered a reward for his capture. There is a tradition that he and his family had to escape to the wooded hills beyond

the Brandywine, to avoid capture at the hand of a troop of cavalry.

He was present on the field of Brandywine during the battle, or was with the army on its retreat. He was greatly helpful during the terrible winter at Valley Forge. He died at an early age and is buried in the shadow of the church. His memory is greatly revered in the community.

As to the ancestor, James Kerr, all of whose children Mr. Carmichael baptised, I can find no trace. The old records have been destroyed, some in the fire which consumed the church shortly after the death of Mr. Carmichael, and some through carelessness in later days."

Fortunately the family can supply the following data:

James and Elizabeth Porter Kerr had three sons and four daughters:

I. Margaret Kerr, born Feb. 16, 1768, married James Taylor; dwelt at Monongahela, Pa., Their children: Rebekah, Mary, Nancy, Elizabeth, Margaret, Joseph and John.

II. Rebekah Kerr, born Jan. 31, 1770; died Feb. 5, 1778.

III. Joseph Kerr, born Jan. 22, 1773. He married, but his wife's name does not appear. He had two sons, Hamilton and Augustus. They at one time had positions in the land office at Harrisburg. Their descendants unknown.

IV. James Kerr, Jr., born Sept. 12, 1774, married a widow, Harriet Wilson-Irwin, and had five sons and one daughter: Wilson who died Jan. 23, 1882; Isaac, born 1813, died Mch. 7, 1894; Matthew died July 12, 1879; Daniel, born about

1818, died Feb. 24, 1894; Joseph; and Rebecca, who married a Mr. Watson; died Oct. 9, 1886.

V. Martha Washington Kerr, born Oct. 6, 1776, married Alexander Bell; dwelt at Nobles-town, Pa. Their children: Jane, who married James McNall and had one son, A. T. McNall; Martin; Elizabeth K.; James K.; Eleanor P., Abraham who married Nancy Potter, and had John and Mattie (Mrs. Walker); Martha, who married James Walker, and left three sons and a daughter.

VI. Hannah Wayne Kerr, born May 1, 1779, married Thomas McVey; dwelt at Mingo, Pa. Their children: James K., Joseph, Benjamin, Thomas, Elizabeth Ann, Hannah and Martha.

VII. David Kerr, born June 25, 1783, near Finleyville, Washington Co., Pa., died Oct. 9, 1865. He married Sarah Varner, born in 1787, died in 1850. Their nine children are:

I. John, born near Finleyville, Oct. 24, 1810; died March 14, 1885; married Eliza McIlvaine, 1818-1911. (See below).

II. James, born Aug. 15, 1812, died Jan. 31, 1889; married Margaret Stockdale; dwelt in Monongahela; they had two daughters.

III. Joel, born Oct. 31, 1815; died Jan. 17, 1895; married Margaret Mercer; dwelt in Pittsburgh, Pa.; served in Civil War.

IV. Cyrus, born Nov. 10, 1819, died Aug. 23, 1883; married Margaret Colvin; dwelt in Illinois; served in Civil War; their children deceased.

V. Howard, born Sept. 2, 1820, died July 30, —; married Salena Huffman; dwelt in Foxburg, Pa.; two sons and one daughter.

VI. Mary, born Dec. 1, 1822, died May 19, 1911; married William Davis; dwelt in Washington, Pa. One son, William H. Davis.

VII. Willison, born June 25, 1825, died Jan. 16, 1881; married Margaret Hart; dwelt at Monongahela, Pa.

Sara Jane, born Nov. 17, 1827, died in 1915; unmarried.

IX. David, born Dec. 10, 1830, died July 5, 1899; married Ann Prior; dwelt at Duquesne, Pa.; had Charles and Grace.

John and Eliza McIlvaine had three sons and six daughters:

I. Jane Mary, 1839-1923, married Thomas Coulter; dwelt at Slippery Rock, Pa.

II. David James, 1841-1917, married Anne Larimer; dwelt in New Wilmington, Pa. They had three children. (His son, Mr. Greer Franklin Kerr, kindly gave us the first pointers on his family line).

III. Rev. Greer McIlvaine, born 1843; married Elizabeth Stevenson; dwell in Washington Co. They have five daughters and three sons. (His daughter, Miss Mary V. Kerr, has investigated the family history and carried it well forward and backward, through access to her father's records):

IV. Robert Campbell, 1846-1924; was unmarried; a very able man in many lines, and served in the State of Washington as Supt. of Education.

V. Sarah Ann, 1848-1916; married John Bingham; dwelt at Slippery Rock, Pa.; two sons and three daughters.



VI. Phebe Margaretta, 1850-1925; married Henry McConnell; dwelt at Slippery Rock, Pa.; one daughter.

VII. Martha, born 1853, married W. B. Larimer; dwell at Spokane, Wash.; one son and three daughters.

VIII. Lizzie, 1859-1922. Unmarried.

IX. Amy, 1863-1864.

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Rev. Greer M. Kerr, D. D., as a Presbyterian minister, has rendered long and able service, and has been signally honored in recognition of the same. His daughter writes: "The old Kerr monuments are all in the old Mingo Church cemetery, near Monongahela, in old Redstone Presbytery. You will find old Mingo where our ancestors lie, most interesting. It is a scene of the Whiskey Rebellion. The church is still called the Meeting House.

My father's name "Greer," is a great family name with us. It is a contraction of McGregor, which may interest you. In "Rob Roy" the clan was broken up, and many took the name of "Greer" or "Grier." My father was named for his great-grandfather, Greer McIlvaine. My Uncle Campbell was named for his great-grandfather Robert Campbell, of Revolutionary history. He gave me many traditions as to our ancestors at Valley Forge, and under Perry at Lake Erie. He told me how his great-great-grandfather, James Kerr, served for three years in the Revolution; that he was at Valley Forge, and was lame after that, having had his feet frozen there. The battle of Brandywine was fought on his farm. He

also told me how my Great-grandfather McIlvaine helped build Perry's fleet at Lake Erie in 1812.

Sister Margaret spent a summer in Scotland not long ago—found Kerrs in Bobbie Burns' Ayer-shire. She brought home a Kerr tartan for my father—our plaid—a steamer rug. One of the most interesting things we possess is Great-grandfather David's daguerreotype, well preserved. He is jolly looking. As he died in 1865, it is at least 70 years old. Father says he ran off and had it taken without "dressing up" and the family was indignant, at least Aunt Mary was, for she would not have it. We think it is fine, and are proud to display it."

As this goes to press the following is received from a Pittsburgh letter:

Rev. Greer McIlvaine Kerr, D. D., pastor of the Raccoon church, Bulger, Pa., died on Saturday, Nov. 29th, in the eighty-eighth year of his age. Dr. Kerr graduated at Westminister College in 1867, and from Western Theological Seminary in 1871, and began his ministerial career in the old Raccoon Church, where he has labored very faithfully and efficiently ever since. When he had rounded out fifty years of service in that church, he asked his congregation to release him as pastor, which they refused to do, and he has served them nine years more. Dr. Kerr was in his usual health and preached in his pulpit the Sabbath previous to his death. It is a very rare occasion that any minister serves the same congregation for fifty-nine years. Dr. Kerr was a strong preacher, a faithful and beloved minister, and a Presbyterian of good judgment. He will be missed greatly in his own community and in

the Presbytery of Pittsburgh. He preached his last sermon on his eighty-seventh birthday, Nov. 23rd. He leaves his widow, Mrs. Elizabeth Stevenson Kerr; two sons, five daughters, and a sister, Mrs. Martha Larimer, of Spokane, Wash. Dr. Kerr was a man of whom it would be well said:

“None knew him but to love him;  
None named him but to praise.”

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