

**EARLY SETTLERS IN CAMPBELL COUNTY, KY.**

**LINDSEY—McPIKE—NOBLE.**

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“Let us hoard every worthy drop of the past.”—Owen Wister.

Thomas Lindsey Sen., one of the first trustees of Newport, Kentucky, was born in Ireland, of Scotch descent, and tradition says that he was the son of James Lindsey, owner and operator of linen mills in Ireland, near Cork.

Thomas Lindsey married, in Ireland, Rebecca Harris (widow) and lived there until August, 1789, when they with their family of eight children, came to America, landing in Philadelphia October, 1789. They traveled to Pittsburg, where they remained until Spring of 1790. They built a bateau or houseboat such as was used at that time, to convey the family and household goods down the Monongahela and Ohio Rivers to Limestone, Virginia, now Maysville, Ky., where they remained for two years.

It is possible their boat was one of a fleet of nineteen boats that came down from Pittsburg, June, 1790, of which Major Parker was admiral and pilot. (Collins' "History of Kentucky," Vol. 2, Mason County.)

Thomas Lindsey, Sen., after two years residence at Limestone, moved his family to a farm near Lexington, Kentucky, where they remained but a short time before coming down to Leitch Station. Here they purchased a tract of land (325 acres) of David Leitch. (Deed Book "B," page 256, Alexandria.) Upon this land, Thomas Lindsey in 1798 built

the first brick dwelling in Campbell County, which was destroyed by fire about 1888. It was a long two-story brick structure, with chimney at each end; five windows across the front above, an inset door in front and two French windows on each side of it on the main floor.

There were two large rooms across the front of the house, and back of these one small and one large room, and back of these the large kitchen.

On the second floor there were two large rooms and one small room across the front; and two smaller rooms at the rear. The old log house, which Thomas Lindsey and family first occupied, was on the opposite side of the Old State Road (now Alexandria Pike), on that portion of the farm of 325 acres which Thomas Lindsey and Rebecca, his wife, deeded October 1, 1811, to their son John B. Lindsey, the consideration being "love and affection and five shillings." (Deed Book "DI," 128 Alexandria.)

This original deed and also a deed to their eldest son, Thomas, Jun., for one hundred acres, part of the same farm, bearing date February 16, 1805, (Deed Book "C," 71 Alexandria), and the same consideration, are still in the respective families.

# THOMAS LINDSEY'S WILL

In the name of God, Amen.

I, Thomas Lindsey Sen. of Campbell County, Ky., being of sound mind do make my last will as follows

I leave my son Thomas \$1, my son John \$1, my daughter Mary Noble \$1. The rest of my estate I leave as follows: vis. I leave my dearly beloved wife Rebecca, all my worldly substance in land and every other property I possess at my death of whatsoever kind it may be excepting 30 acres of a tract I now possess, to be laid off at the north east corner of the survey of 325 acres which I now possess to my son Richard at the death of my wife.

I leave my property as follows:

I leave my son Markus \$100 to be paid him one year after my death. If I should outlive my wife to my granddaughter Sallie Smith one bed and bed-clothes and \$100 worth of property. To my son James \$500 to be paid him in three years after my or my wifes death whichever shall happen and interest to be paid him from one year after the death above mentioned.

My daughter Sarah McPike \$1.

My daughter Rebecca Smith her choice of cow which I shall die possessed of. The balance of my estate whether in land which I may possess being part of the tract of 325 acres purchased of David Leitch, being about 87 acres, or in cattle and horses hogs and all kinds of household furniture clothes and bedding Debts or any other property that I may die possessed of equal share and share alike to my three daughters Emelia, Elizabeth and Keturah Lindsey

or to their heirs If either of them should die before marriage her share to go to the survivors In case my wife should outlive me it shall be in her power to give her share to either of the said Emelia, Elizabeth or Keturah

I leave my sons Thomas and John Lindsey executors of this last Will and Testament Revoking all others given under my hand and seal this 13 day of August 1817.

THOMAS LINDSEY Sen.

Will produced in Court by John B. Lindsey one of the executors 21 February, 1818. (Will Book "A," pp. 266-267, Alex. Ky.)

Thomas Lindsey Sen., was like almost all the Lindseys of Scotland and England, very tall, blue eyes, gentle manner, an affectionate father and devoted husband. He died during the winter of 1817, and is buried on the farm which he then occupied.

Rebecca Harris Lindsey, wife of Thomas Lindsey Sen., was a "woman of superior intellect, with a mind richly stored with knowledge." She had "brilliant, piercing black eyes," was tall and of slender form. General Taylor said "that he would rather talk politics with Mrs. Lindsey than with any man he knew."

To those interested in heredity, the "black hair and brilliant piercing black eyes," the dauntless spirit and high ideals which were manifest in the numerous letters of Rebecca Lindsey, carefully preserved by her children, are revealing themselves even in the present generation in one or another branch of the family.

Just what influenced the Lindseys to leave Ireland and come to America we do not know, except as revealed in a letter written by Rebecca Lindsey to her daughter, Mrs. Sarah (Sallie) McPike, dated Clermont County, Ohio, Sept., 20, 1827, in which she says: "I most sincerely regret the loss of the society of one dear friend, but although the society is interrupted, the affections are not, for I hope they are placed on a better foundation than election prejudices could undermine or destroy. You must know I mean Mrs. ——— and if perhaps she may be influenced by family prejudices, yet she possesses the same place in my affections that she ever did, and if she and I can't meet in time on the same footing of friendship, that we always have done, yet in a boundless eternity we shall hail each other as dear friends and sisters and followers of a precious and adorable Saviour."

"I feel no way degraded nor lessened by the unmerited and unjust abuse poured down on me and my family by ———. I never knew a Lindsey yet could be drove into measures, they will ever oppose what is arbitrary. They are Irish and are not ashamed of it and came here to breathe the free air of America and they will claim the privilege. I feel the same good wishes for the ———'s family as ever and I sincerely wish them happiness and prosperity. As for myself, I bless the Lord, I can in a reasonable degree say:

Let me be little and unknown  
Loved and prized by God alone."

The same spirit that prompted Rebecca, as well as Thomas Lindsey, her

husband, to brave the dangers of the ocean, at that time, that her family might have greater opportunities, was not to be broken by unjust criticism. The freedom gained was to be maintained. Rebecca Lindsey died at the home of her son, James Gardiner Lindsey, at Flagg Springs, Campbell County, Ky., in the Fall of 1830. She is buried on the farm beside her husband. That part of the farm, at Cold Springs, has been sold many times, and the monuments erected by their daughter Emily Lindsey Thomas, to her father and mother cannot now be found. The stones were standing in 1872.

The numerous descendants of Thomas Lindsey and Rebecca Harris (widow) have found their places in the Church, the legislative halls of State and Nation, the Bench and Bar, the Army and Navy, the College and School, the lecture platform, and all the professions and trades have been their fields of endeavor.

Rebecca Lindsey was a member of the Baptist Church and on December 16, 1805, Thomas Lindsey Sen., her husband, deeded to the "Baptist Society of Licking" a piece of ground in the northeast corner of their farm "being the ground on which the meeting house now stands," on Winters Lane.

The children of Thomas Lindsey and Rebecca, his wife, were Thomas, Jun., Rebecca D., Richard, Sarah, John Brown, Emelia, Mary, Markus, James Gardiner, Elizabeth, Keturah Taylor.

(1) Thomas Jun., was born in Ireland and died in Northfield, Boone County, Indiana, December 14, 1843. He was licensed to marry Lucinda

Corbin, of Virginia and Kentucky, August 13, 1798. Lucinda died in Clermont County, Ohio, 1832. In 1837 Thomas Jun., and family moved from Clermont County, Ohio to Boone County, Indiana. Their children were Rebecca Harris, Thomas J., George G., Benjamin B., Janet H., Mary G. 1st., Lavinia, Marion Braidfoote, Mary G. 2nd, Sarah, Charlotte Louise, Margaret.

Thomas Jun., is said to have been an abolitionist and freed the slaves he acquired when he married, and went to Point Pleasant, Ohio. "He was an affectionate and devoted husband and father, a member and ardent worker in the Methodist Church at Northfield, Indiana.""

(II) Rebecca D. Lindsey, eldest daughter of Thomas Sen., and wife, was born in Ireland, married 1808-1809 Archibald M. Smith, a farmer of Campbell County, and later a druggist in Cincinnati, Ohio.

About 1826 they moved to Shelbyville, Indiana, where Archibald Smith and his son-in-law, Edwin Beall, practiced medicine for a number of years before moving to Missouri. The children were Rebecca, Lydia, Ebenezer, Nancy, James, Margaret, Mary Helen.

(III) Richard Lindsey was born in Ireland and married March 28, 1809, Nancy McPike, a daughter of Captain James McPike and Martha Mountain, his wife. They lived for a time in Newport, Kentucky, before moving to a farm near Rushville, Rush County, Indiana.

Children: Thomas, Harriet, Frances, Richard, Marcus, William, James, John, Aurelia, Eliza.

The gentle families of Pyke in south of Ireland are derived from Berkshire, England, about 1598. (Burke's "Landed Gentry," Ireland, Vol. III, edition 1912, page 565.)

Our Captain James McPike was born about 1751, and according to family traditions, migrated from England in 1772, then quite young, not more than twenty-one, if that.

The third son of James McPike and Martha Mountain, John Mountain McPike, born Feb. 5, 1795, dictated about 1868 to his son Henry Guest McPike, certain traditions which have been preserved in writing.

Among those statements are the following: "J. Mountain from New Jersey, English, about 1664. Children were Joseph, John, Richard, Martha, also half-brother, George Grinup."

"Joseph Mountain to Miss E. Drake—children: Joanna."

[Original MS on "McPike Family" in genealogical department of the Newberry Library, Chicago; Catalogue No. MS E 7 M 241 (open folio shelf)]. "—McPike from Scotland, to Miss Haley or (Haly) from England. She was a granddaughter of Sir Edmund Haley (astronomer) of England. Children were James M'Pike, and Miss — M'Pike. Miss M'Pike married M'Donald of Ireland."

Captain James McPike, father of Nancy McPike (Lindsey), came from England, 1772, to the United States, Baltimore,—served seven years with Washington under Colonel Howard and General Little (?) of Baltimore, Md.; was also under the command of General

Lafayette. As sergeant, he participated in the storming of Stony Point, under Anthony Wayne. This latter is confirmed by another descendant widely separated.

Some of the descendants of James McPike are members of the Sons of the American Revolution and their ancestral records are duly recorded under that Society's National No. 32809.

A search of records at the county seats in western Maryland would probably reveal the record of marriage of our James McPike and Martha Mountain about 1782 or 1783. Their first son, Joseph, is traditionally believed to have been born in Maryland, about 1783 or 1784 (July 24). Further researches may result in the recovery of these facts. We do not know the place of birth of the second son, Richard, Dec. 6, 1791, the date shown in a record in the latter's own handwriting. Three daughters, Elizabeth, Nancy, and Sarah, seem to have preceded the birth of the third son, John Mountain McPike, February 5, 1795, at Wheeling, then in Virginia. In that same year James McPike and Martha Mountain, his wife, traveled on a flat-boat down the Ohio River to Maysville, Kentucky, where they remained for a time, moving later to Washington, Ky., and finally to Newport. There in the home of his eldest son, Joseph, the declining years of James McPike's life were spent. He died in May, 1825, the day before or the day after Lafayette's arrival in Cincinnati. In his last illness James McPike expressed a desire to see Lafayette, who, he said, would recognize him at once and call him by name.

James and Martha McPike had issue: Joseph, Elizabeth, Richard, Nancy, Sarah, John, Haley, George, Martha, and James.

(IV) Sarah Lindsey, born in Ireland, married Joseph McPike, of Newport, Ky., about 1808 or 1809, the eldest child of James McPike and Martha Mountain. For other children see ("Tales of our Forefathers," by E. F. McPike, Albany, N. Y., 1898) and "Old Northwest Genealogical Quarterly," Vol. 7, October, 1904, Columbus, Ohio.

Joseph and Sarah McPike resided on Front Street, Newport, until 1827 when they removed to Rushville, Indiana, where they both died and are buried on the farm which they had owned. They had numerous issue but only one daughter, Charlotte, survived.

The Mountain family seems to have come from Hampshire, England, according to some interesting documents, that appeared in the "Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography," Vol. XXX.

The old letters of Elizabeth Mountaine, 1821-1828, make many references to many members of the Mountaine and McPike families, also to "brother and sister Grinup," who like the McPikes settled at Newport, Kentucky. A letter dated 10th March, 1828, from Elizabeth Mountaine, at Petersburg, Somerset County, Penn., to her "Dear Nephew" Joseph McPike, Rushville, Ind., says: "Joanna Mountaine is living with me and two of John Mountain's children, Catherine and David. Jonathan is out in the State of Ohio a learning the

waggon-making trade with his cousin Oliver Drake."

The other letters from Elizabeth Mountaine, 1821-1823, are from places in Somerset County, Penn., which is in the southwestern part of that State, and is just north of the Maryland line.

The tombstone of Sarah McPike, who died in 1784, is probably the oldest one standing in the Church yard of All Saints Parish in Frederick County, Maryland. ("Historic Graves of Maryland and District of Columbia," by Helen W. Ridgely, New York, The Grafton Press, 1908.)

Referring to the Haley or Halley tradition the first published reference to this traditional descent of James M'Pike or McPike from Halley, appeared in the "American Historical Register," "new series," Vol. 1, pp. 167-170 (April, 1897). The original manuscript is dated January 1, 1888, and was deposited in the Newberry Library, Chicago, July 1, 1899.

The Sir Edmund Haley (astronomer), England, was unquestionably intended to refer to the famous Astronomer Royal of England, Dr. Edmond Halley (1656-1742) who, however, was never Knighted. He was a close friend of Sir Isaac Newton, whose 'Principia,' the most monumental work of the human intellect, would never have seen the light of day, but for Halley's editorship.

Long after the MS. dated January 1, 1888, was deposited in the Newberry Library, July 1, 1899, it was discovered by documentary evidence that the astronomer Halley's first cousin, Francis Halley Sen., and Elliner Pike, both of All-

hallows, Staeing, London, were married at St. Christopher, le Stocks, 17 August, 1696, and that there continued to be associations between the two families, as the names are mentioned in subsequent wills. The most arduous and long continued researches, however, have failed to establish the existence of any grandchild of the Astronomer. His son, Edmond Halley, Jun., a surgeon in the Royal Navy, was born about 1698 as he was 40 years of age, when, as a bachelor, he married in 1738, Mrs. Sybilla Freeman (widow) also aged forty. She had at least one daughter (possibly two) by her first marriage. It seems just possible, therefore, that a step-daughter and not a daughter of Surgeon Halley, may have been identical with the Miss Haley (or Haly), from England, who according to our original manuscript, married a M'Pike (Pike or Pyke), and had two children, one James M'Pike, and Miss — M'Pike who married M'Donald of Ireland.

Another and different, but not necessarily conflicting, tradition in one branch of the McPike family, its authority derived from James McPike's daughter Martha (Patsy), who married James Dickens of Virginia and Newport, Ky., is in brief, that James McPike's father, an educated Scotchman, was, or later became a linen merchant, but while holding a minor commission of some sort with the Stuarts, married a Miss Stuart, in Edinburg; that of this marriage was born James McPike, the name being changed from Pike (or Pyke) at about that time, 1750. The son James was educated in Edinburg, but in early



youth was sent off to Dublin, under the charge of one McDonald, to acquire a thorough military education, and was later sent to America, shortly before the Revolutionary War. In this tradition he came to Charlestown, South Carolina, and served as a soldier, later going into Virginia where he continued his military service. The only living grandchild of Mrs. Martha Dicken (born McPike), is Mrs. Martha McPike Stuart Clark (born Dickens), and her recollections of this tradition are very positive. It is possible that James McPike's paternal grandfather, rather than father, may have married a Stuart. Both traditions may be founded upon facts.

Mrs. Clarke in a letter dated June 10, 1927, said: "The Stuart branch was through (great) grandfather McPike's mother's side; she was a direct descendant of the old James of Scotland, the 'spider king'." This tradition seems to imply Robert the Bruce, about whom we will all recall the story of his watching the spider make thirty attempts to climb the wall before attaining success. From these premises, therefore, we find some significance in the mention of one "cousin Archibald Bruce," in the will of William Pyke, of Greenwich, dated 1727. This William Pyke was a brother of Elliner Pyke who married Francis Halley Sen., first cousin of the astronomer Halley. Archibald Bruce was a surgeon in the Royal Navy, as we learn from his will dated 1729.

The tradition as to Haley (Haly) or Halley is traceable with relatively less difficulty for James M'Pike, born about 1751, gave the name of Haley to one of

his sons, and another son John, (born 1795) named his eldest son, Edmund Hailey M'Pike (born 1821) according to an original entry, in the handwriting of the latter's mother, in a family Bible.

A letter dated August 9, 1840, written by John McPike mentions his son "Halley." Other branches, (descendants of our James McPike) have a clear recollection that Haley was a family name that came down from a distant ancestor of great distinction.

That James McPike, as a father had been rather stern, comes down to us in one of the traditions, but it is evident that he held the genuine respect of his children. Among old letters, still in existence, is one dated at Carmi, Hambleton County, Illinois, April 3, 1825, written by Richard McPike and addressed to Mr. James McPike, Newport, Ky., (politeness of Mr. Woods), that begins: "Most grave and Reverend Father."

"One James McPeake, of Henry County, Virginia, appears in list of persons renouncing allegiance to Great Britain and swearing allegiance to the Commonwealth of Virginia" (cf "Virginia Magazine," IX, 12.)

There were families of Halley and Peake, in Virginia, that intermarried and, in fact, in each we find the name "Sybilla," an unusual name that happens, also, to have been that of the wife of Surgeon Halley, the astronomer's son.

It may be well to state here that there was another James McPike, in Kentucky and Virginia, whose wife was Mary Chilton. They moved to Bowling Green, Missouri, about 1830, and had descendants.

Keys to other sources not mentioned in the text:

(a) "The Genealogist," new series, Vol. 24 pages 5-14. (London, July, 1908.)

(b) "Notes and Queries," (London, 1902-1927), see index to each volume, also "General Indices" under headings "Halley," "Pyke," and "McPike."

(c) "Extracts from British Archives" (three series) in "Magazine of History" (New York 1906 *et seq.*)

(d) "Romance of Genealogy" in "Magazine of History" (New York, 1912, 1913).

(IV) John Brown Lindsey, the third son of Thomas and Rebecca Lindsey was born in Ireland, April 21, 1775, and died at his home, on Front Street, Newport, Ky., October 21, 1849. He was a lad of fourteen when he came with his parents to America, and spent his boyhood days at the home of his parents, at Leitch Station, now Cold Springs, Ky. His earliest business venture was in 1804 when he bought out the interest of 'Squire Grant in a store in Grant's Lick, Campbell County, Ky., and continued it in partnership with William Dickerson, until the Fall of 1806. Another partnership was with Jacob Fowler, in "a venture down the Ohio River," in 1806.

January 4, 1806, John Brown Lindsey was married to Mariah Noble, daughter of Thomas Noble and Elizabeth Clare Sedwick, born in Clarke County, Virginia, October 26, 1786. For practically all his life in Newport he was a Justice of the Peace, and conducted a saddlery and harness business, and with his sons,

James and Henry, at different times had a lumber yard, on the northeast corner of Second and Columbia Streets.

John Brown Lindsey was the first Mayor of Newport, in 1835, and again Mayor for four years 1845-1848. He was also Sheriff of Campbell County, 1827, and Deputy Sheriff for his brother, James Gardiner Lindsey, 1826, and 1828; the term of Sheriff, at that time being one year, with election held in August. Mr. Lindsey accumulated quite a fortune, for that time, much of it in real estate, which he left to his descendants. He was over six feet tall, had blue eyes, of decided Scotch appearance, manner and speech and spent all his spare time reading the best the times afforded. He and his wife reared not only twelve of their fifteen children, but also three orphaned boys, one, a grandson, John Lindsey Scogin, for whom he was guardian, and Simeon and Scipio Sedwick, relatives of Mrs. Lindsey.

With such a large household help was necessary and slaves were the order of the day. Old Jack, who called himself Colonel Wilson, and Nancy were both freed at Mr. Lindsey's death. Grace, Reuben, George, and Phyllis were others whose names appear in old slave deeds.

A part of the John B. Lindsey home, on Front Street, which was the first brick dwelling in Newport, Ky., is still standing. The Central Bridge Co., when constructing their bridge across the Ohio river, between Newport and Cincinnati, O., removed a portion of the dwelling, and also the former home of James Noble Lindsey, a son of John B.

Lindsey, which had been erected in 1853, on the east half of the same lot.

Henry Kilgour Lindsey, the youngest son of John B. and Mariah Noble Lindsey, secured an old hand-hewn oak sleeper from the old home, and from it had made a number of canes, which he gave to the surviving male members of the family, in 1890.

John B. Lindsey, and his wife, Mariah Noble who died August 9, 1850, together with several of their children who predeceased them, are buried in Evergreen Cemetery, near Newport, having been removed from the old City Cemetery on Eighth Street, where the High School building was erected in the 1860's and on which lot is now (1927) being erected a larger and more modern High School building.

(VI) Emelia (Emily) Lindsey was born in Ireland, November 25, 1782, and died in Marion County, Ky., July 28, 1864. She married about 1820-1822, Owen Davies Thomas, born May 3, 1787, died July 27, 1851. He was a son of Owen Thomas, a Captain in the Revolutionary Army; he was present at the surrender of General Cornwallis, at Yorktown. A cane which he carried at that time has been handed down to his grandson, Owen D. Thomas, a resident of Lebanon, Ky. (1927).

It is related of Mrs. Emily Thomas, that she was wonderfully gifted in prayer, and upon one occasion while Thomas Marshall was a guest, and recovering from a recent illness, he was invited to come down to family prayers. He accepted and returning to his room, with Mrs. Thomas' nephew, Ralph

Ward, he said: "I went down to hear an old lady mumble her prayers; they say I am eloquent, but I cannot equal her. Why, she prayed for me! no one ever prayed for me before!" "Tom Marshall, your mother has sent thousands of prayers to the Throne of Grace for you, her wayward son!" Way into the night he continued to talk of "that marvelous prayer, that wonderful woman; what sincerity, what goodness; women like her are the salvation of the world."

Ralph Ward, a nephew of Mrs. Thomas, who told the foregoing incident, was fond of teasing his aunt by saying he was half Irish and half Yankee. Her Irish would rise to the surface, and she would say: "My son, your Irish blood is of the type that kings might boast of."

Mrs. Thomas was a devout Methodist, of the "shouting type," and at meeting, when she would get happy and begin to shout, her son, John Thomas, would stand by her and she would put her hand on his shoulder and shout to her heart's content. Owen Thomas and Emily Lindsey, his wife, had four sons: Lewis, Marcus, John Richard, and Owen. John Richard was the only one who lived to marry, and some of his children and grandchildren are living in Lebanon, Kentucky.

(VII) Mary Lindsey, daughter of Thomas Lindsey, Sen., and Rebecca Harris, his wife, was born in Ireland August 24, 1783, and died in Columbus, Indiana, September 29, 1836. April 7, 1803, Mary Lindsey and James Noble, a young law student, eloped to Cincinnati,

Ohio, and were married there. James Noble was born in Battletown, Clarke County, Virginia, December 16, 1785, and died February 26, 1831, in Washington, D. C., and is buried in the Congressional Cemetery. He was admitted to the bar in Lawrenceburg, Indiana. In 1811 he removed to Brooksville, Ind., being one of the first settlers of that place. For some years he was a member of the Indiana Legislature, and at the early age of 30 was elected U. S. Senator and served, as such, for sixteen years, until his death.

Their children were: Elizabeth, Benjamin Sedwick, James, Katherine Leitch, Rebecca Maria, and Richard Southgate.

James Noble was a son of Doctor Thomas Noble and Elizabeth ("Betty") Clare Sedwick who tradition says was a descendant of Richard Clare, "Strongbow."

Thomas Noble, of Scotch descent, was born in Frederick County, Virginia, June 13, 1762, and died in Bellevue, Campbell County, Feb. 14, 1817.

Elizabeth Clare Sedwick was born 1764, and died in Boone County, Ky., March 12, 1830, aged 65 years, 4 months and 29 days.

Children: Benjamin Sedwick, James, Mariah, Elizabeth, Eloisa, Noah, Lazarus, Mary Ann, Amelia, Martha, Thomas George, George Thomas, Lucinda, Lavinia, and Benjamin Sedwick 2nd.

Doctor Thomas Noble was a son of Thomas Noble Sen., and Molly Gilbert, his wife. After practicing medicine for several years he accepted a plantation of four hundred acres, adjoining Long

Marsh in Virginia which was given to him by his brother George. He lived happily as a planter and slave holder until 1799, when he removed to Campbell County.

Thomas Noble Sen., was born in New Mill, Banffshire, Scotland, 1704. At eighteen years of age he left the school at Keith, and went to Aberdeen Seminary where he studied for three years. In 1738 he decided to make America his home. He visited his parents at his old homestead in Glasgow, Scotland, told them of his decision, and bade them farewell. He always cherished a warm affection for his parents.

Landing on the west shore of Maryland, he entered at once into speculations in tobacco, which led to a large and successful trade. He made contracts with Scotch firms to furnish them with as many hogsheads of tobacco as they required.

Thomas Noble Sen., visited his parents in Glasgow, and brought to America, his bride, Molly Gilbert. It is said their home in Virginia faced that of Lawrence Washington.

Their children were: George, Nancy, Elizabeth, and Thomas Jr.

(1) Colonel George Noble, eldest son of Thomas Noble Sr., and Molly Gilbert, his wife, according to the English law of primogeniture, was left the large estate. He married Mary Ann Thomas Alexander, an heiress, for whose father Alexandria, Va., was named. George disposed of the homestead and moved to Frederick County, Va., where he entered into land speculation. He is buried at Long Marsh, his homestead on the

Shenandoah. Children of this marriage:

(a) Mary Ann who married Edward Swearengen, and lived on a plantation of 500 acres, near her father, and by him presented to them. Slaves were a matter of course, and a description of their home is very attractive.

(b) George Jr., married Miss — Saunders of Virginia and had issue. Their grandchildren live in Missouri.

(c) Alexander married Miss — Gwynn, in Virginia, and had a son and daughter, whose children are living in Washington, D. C.

(d) Kate Noble married Major Henry Stubblefield, in Virginia, and later came to Kentucky. The Stubblefield homestead seems to have been a typical one, hospitable, and elegant to extravagance, situated on the Shenandoah, in Frederick County, Va., and extending from the Lord Fairfax estate to Castleman Ferry, with a view of the Blue Ridge Mountains. The charm of the place, however, was not sufficient to protect the Stubblefields from the Western fever, and they came to Kentucky, where they had an estate of 1,000 acres.

(e) John Noble, the youngest son of George Noble, married Miss — Berryhill and had two daughters, Anna and Emily, who lived in Iowa.

(II) Nancy, the eldest daughter of Thomas Noble Sr., and Molly Gilbert, his wife,

(III) Elizabeth, their second daughter, no records found.

(IV) Doctor Thomas Noble of whom a sketch has been given.

To revert to the Lindseys: (VIII) Marcus Lindsey was born Dec. 16, 1787, in Ireland, and died July 27, 1833, at his home in Washington County, Ky. He married Jane Thomas Hardin (widow) in 1818.

\*“Among the names of prominent men in the Methodist Ministry, in the early days of Kentucky, that of Marcus Lindsey ranks high. He came to America with his parents when about two years old. Favored with educational facilities, enjoyed by few young men of his day, with a great mind, he, in accord with the wishes of his family, and the desires of his own heart, studied for the Bar. About the time he was prepared for the legal profession, he was converted and joined the Ministry. Reared in the lap of plenty, he knew the hardships that would be his lot, but he did not hesitate. At the Conference of 1810 he was appointed to the Hartford Circuit, 1812 Little Sandy Circuit, 1813-1814 found him serving the Lord in Union Circuit, Ohio, and later in Marietta, O.

“In 1817 he was made Presiding Elder and served, as such, until his death. He was five years on the Salt River district, three on the Green River district, four on the Kentucky, one on the Ohio, and three on the Cumberland district. His career was brilliant, his person commanding, his manners prepossessing, his voice strong and full, and familiar with all the doctrines of the Church, he wielded a mighty influence wherever he went. He was a fine singer,

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\* “Life and Times of Bishop Kavanaugh,” by Redford.

a splendid pulpit orator, an executive officer of high rank. He was a mighty force; a strong doctrinal preacher."

In 1832 Marcus Lindsey was appointed to the Shelbyville, Ky., charge; cholera had made its appearance in Kentucky, that year, and he was impressed with the idea that he would be a victim. In the month of February, 1832, he wrote with a firm strong hand, "I shall die of cholera in the summer or fall of 1833," and signed his name. This was plainly visible on the door casing of his bed-room a few years ago, and his daughter, Catherine L. Wilson is the authority.

Fifty years after his death, his last sermon was well remembered by many Shelbyville people. Cholera had reached his home in Washington County, his friends and neighbors were dying, "duty and affection call me home; my neighbors are dying with no one to offer them the consolations of religion, or to speak words of comfort to the bereaved and sorrowing." "I may see you no more and I think I will not; but I commend you to God, and bid you farewell." An angel of mercy, he halted not, by day or by night, visiting the sick, praying with the dying until the dread disease laid hold of the Lord's anointed, and Marcus Lindsey passed to his reward.

He sleeps in a beautiful grove near Thomas' Meeting House about six miles from Lebanon, Marion County, Ky. This is the inscription on his tombstone:

Sacred to the Memory of  
The Rev. Marcus Lindsey  
Minister of the Methodist Episcopal  
Church.

He filled that office twenty-three years with dignity.

He died a most triumphant death  
July 27, 1833.

Aged 45 years, 7 months, 1 day.

Marcus Lindsey was six feet tall, weighed two hundred pounds, had brilliant black eyes, dark complexion, and black hair. His hands were deformed from birth, having but two fingers on the right hand and on the left one finger and a thumb. (Mrs. Wilson's letter.) He always carried an hour-glass, would put it on the pulpit, preach the hour, "turn it over" was the command, and preach another hour without tiring his audience.

Marcus Lindsey had two sons and four daughters; both sons died in infancy; two daughters died young, and Catherine, the eldest child, and Sarah, both married Mr. Fletcher Wilson. Mr. Wilson married first, Sarah Lindsey, by whom he had one son who died young. His second wife was Catherine Lindsey, who died October 15, 1902. She was the last of her father's line, and left a large estate to the Church, relatives, and various institutions, among them The Marcus Lindsey Memorial Church, in Louisville, Ky., the Lindsey-Wilson Training School, for boys, near Columbia, Ky., a memorial to her nephew Lindsey Wilson.

(IX) James Gardiner Lindsey, the youngest son of Thomas Lindsey Sen., and his wife, Rebecca Harris, was born 1790; died August 1833. He married, May 6, 1815, Nancy Beall, daughter of Benjamin Beall, and granddaughter of William Kennedy, one of the largest



land owners in the northern part of Kentucky. James Lindsey was the Sheriff of Campbell County 1826-1827, and again 1828-1829; he is said to have been in the State Legislature perhaps 1832-1833, and at his death in that year, had accumulated 1000 acres of land in his own right.

James G. Lindsey and Nancy Beall, his wife, had six children: one son, Thomas, who predeceased him, Jeanette H. who married Edward P. Ball, January 7, 1841; Mary, married William Craddock Young; Ann Eliza, married —Laycock; Rebecca; Ellen, who married Mr. Daugherty; and James Gardiner, who married Mary —, and lived for many years at California, Ky.

(X) Ann Eliza “(Elizabeth)” Lindsey was born in Campbell County, Kentucky, ? 1798. A daguerrotype picture of her, in the possession of a relative, shows her to be a young woman of great charm. Like her brothers she was six feet in height, “a sweet singer,” and after her mother’s death (1830) made her home for a number of years with her sister, Mrs. Joseph McPike, in Rushville, Indiana. She died in 1863, either in Rushville, or at the home of her younger sister, Mrs. Charles Ward, Columbus, Georgia.

(XI) Keturah Taylor (“Catherine”) Lindsey, youngest child of Thomas and Rebecca, was born at Cold Springs, Campbell County, Ky., 1800; died October, 1872; buried at Talbotton, Ga. She was married, June 4, 1819, to Captain Charles Ward, of the U. S. Army. Captain Ward’s letters, many of them well preserved, are beautifully written and describe, vividly, his

experiences at the various points at which he was stationed, while in the Army. The burning of Fort Delaware is well recorded, and an account of their shipwreck, written by Mrs. Ward, was recently found in a letter to her sister, Mrs. McPike, and loaned to the writer by Mrs. McPike’s descendants, the Misses Sleeth, of Rushville, Indiana.

Captain Ward retired from the Army and in 1837 was appointed Postmaster at Kichafona, Marion County, Georgia, where he resided for several years.

Charles Ward, born 1795, died 1850 in Washington, D. C., and buried in the Congressional Cemetery. He was the eldest of fifteen children born to Daniel Ward and his wife, Bridget French.

Daniel Ward was the tenth child of Rev. Nathan Ward and his wife, Tamasin Ireland, who was born at Charlestown, Mass., January 1, 1722. Daniel Ward was born January 30, 1764, at Plymouth, New Hampshire. Bridget French, daughter of Captain Benjamin French, was born January 14, 1772, and died near Madison, Indiana, May 26, 1828.

Daniel Ward died August 19, 1841, in Marion County, Indiana. Tamasin Ireland Ward, mother of Daniel Ward, died August 16, 1777. Five of her children died within the short space of thirty-six days, two of them on the same day. Some were grown and some very young.

The Wards came to America in 1639, and settled in Massachusetts and later moved to Plymouth, New Hampshire.

In a letter dated Washington, D. C., September 17, 1848, written by Captain Charles Ward to his sister, Mrs. Keeler,

of Indiana, he says: "Having received the appointment of an Executive Clerkship here, in the War Department, it is probable that I may continue to reside here for a considerable time, though I hope to be able in the course of a year or two to go to the Western Country with Mrs. Ward for the purpose of visiting her relatives and mine."

Children of Charles Ward and Keturah Taylor (Catherine) Lindsey, his wife: Rebecca, Catherine Lindsey, James Noble, Charles Artemus, Marcus, Laura Amelia, Frederick Arthur, and Ralph Shorter Ward. The latter died in 1924 at the home of his daughter, Kate Ward Sumpter, Bowling Green,

Ky., to whom the writer is indebted for information about the Wards.

The late General Daniel Weisiger Lindsey and brother John Brown Lindsey, Attorneys of Frankfort, Ky., were the sons of Thomas Noble Lindsey, Attorney of Newport, Ky., and Frankfort, who was the eldest son of John Brown Lindsey, of Newport, Ky., and grandson of Thomas Lindsey Sen., of Ireland.

Helen Bradley Lindsey, of Clifton, Campbell County Ky., is the daughter of the late James Noble Lindsey, Civil Engineer and Surveyor, of Newport, Ky., the son of John Brown Lindsey, of Newport, and grandson of Thomas Lindsey Sen., of Ireland.