

**Great-Great-Grandfather Duncan  
Married...a Sister of Alexander Wilson  
the Ornithologist of Philadelphia**



Alexander Wilson

Compiled and Edited By  
Charles William Paige



Niece Anna Duncan  
Sturdevant



Grandnephew  
William Duncan



Grandnephew  
James W. Duncan



Great-Grandnieces  
(Hood sisters)



Great-Grandniece  
Mary W. Hood Barnes



Grandnephew-in-law  
John Coryell



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This book is dedicated to Alexander Wilson the Ornithologist of Philadelphia, Wilson and Duncan descendants around the Planet, and especially those souls—folks like William Hood Barnes, Harris Ely Hood, Wallace Irving Duncan, and others in former and current generations—who have cherished and preserved fibers from the fabric of our family history.



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## *Hospitality*

*Blest Hospitality to heaven ally'd  
The strangers guardian comforter and guide  
Whose cheering voice and sympathetic eye  
Evn Angels honour as they hover nigh  
Confin'd in mercy to our wand'ring race  
To no one Country People age or place  
But for the homeless and the exil'd lives  
And smiles still sweeter as the more she gives.*

*William Duncan      Scrip. March 20, 1808*

The above poem is by William Duncan, Jr., purportedly the twin of my ancestor Isabel Duncan. He came to America from Paisley, Scotland, in 1794 with their uncle, Alexander Wilson, who later received the cognomen "the Ornithologist." William was a weaver, a farmer, and later, a school teacher in Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania, and Ovid, Seneca County, New York. He also accompanied his uncle on a number of nature excursions. This poem is courtesy of Gerald Duncan, a descendant of William and Isabel's youngest brother James, who provided a copy of the aged original. (See next page.)

# Hospitality

Blest Hospitality to heaven ally'd,  
The stranger's guardian, comforter and guide,  
Whose cheering voice and sympathetic eye,  
Ere now Angels honour as they hover nigh,  
Confin'd in mercy to our wandering race,  
To no one Country, People, age or place,  
But for the homeless and the exile lives,  
And smiles still sweeter as the more she gives.

William Duncan scrip. March 20<sup>th</sup> 1807.

“Hospitality” by William Duncan, Jr.



## FOREWORD

The lines that came together to create my heritage consisted of people who lived quiet lives, generation after generation. As a rule, fame was not something they needed or strove for, contended with or regretted not having. They sometimes lived in areas that were or became important to famous events, but most got no closer.

Alexander Wilson (1766-1813) was a lonely though shining example of a relative that excelled and actually became famous, although international recognition mostly arrived after his life had passed. In Scotland he was a spark in search of something to ignite. When the authorities there sought to quench him, it took a voyage to the new United States of America for him to share what remained of the fast-dissipating era called the Age of Enlightenment. So eager was he to be enflamed by and part of the great minds and movements loosed in Philadelphia that, when he had the opportunity to shove his eager spark to it, he had not the inclination to use moderation. Consequently, Wilson's health broke against an obsession to pursue, promote, and complete his ornithological contributions to knowledge and, thus, Enlightenment. It was almost as though he knew his time on Earth was to be short.

I corresponded with the American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia, of which Alexander Wilson was a member, asking what types of information they had on him. I received back not only a very encouraging letter from the Society's librarian but also a packet of reference card file photocopies, and Wilson's poem *The Last Wish*—succinctly yet poignantly demonstrating his love of nature and gentle spirit.

Wilson traveled extensively on foot, to which he was well accustomed from his years of peddling woven goods across Scotland, and later, on horseback. His excursions took him to every town along the coastal states from Maine to Georgia, and they took him inland at least to Ohio. Because of his friendship with Meriwether Lewis, Wilson benefited from information about birds obtained during the Lewis and Clark Expedition. He also sent a letter to President Jefferson in February of 1806—endorsed by his mentor the venerable botanist William Bartram—petitioning to be appointed naturalist to Zebulon Pike's expedition into the West to locate the source of the Red River (1806-07). No reply was ever received, however, and Jefferson later claimed to have not received the letter.<sup>1</sup>

He made the most of his communes with nature by collecting specimens, studying, drawing and keeping notes on birds, and meeting people of similar or other intellectual and scientific interests, thus establishing a network of correspondents. There was also the perennial soliciting of subscribers to his American Ornithology. A natural side product of his travels and tremendous efforts was a list of friends and acquaintances that was a virtual Who's Who of early nineteenth century American—as well as a smattering of European—intelligentsia.

Besides everything else he took upon himself Wilson also helped establish and encouraged my newly arriving Duncan family in America. His wild ride from anonymity and failure to fame and achievement permanently, albeit passively, etched the ancient Duncan name along with his own into the scientific history of this country he so enthusiastically and totally embraced.

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<sup>1</sup> *Naturalist and Pioneer* (Cantwell), p. 135.

Wilson did not live to see the final volumes of the planned ten-volume *Ornithology*. It was left to his friend George Ord and Napoleon's nephew Charles Lucien Jules Laurent Bonaparte to complete the task. Wilson's fame was slow to initiate, but its growth was steady and insistent. Eventually the significance of his accomplishments reached his birthplace of Paisley, Scotland, and in the mid-1800s a statue was erected in his honor.

Personally, I offer that a study of Wilson's life and letters would be a commendable task for anyone interested in becoming part of the larger world and with a wish to morph it to a more thoughtful and thought-provoking place. Pulling this all together, his life was, as his contemporary Malvina Lawson wrote, "...a sermon on the virtues of faith and perseverance!"<sup>2</sup>

The information provided in this publication is of historical interest as to Alexander Wilson's Scottish immigrant family and his interactions with them, both in Scotland and America, as noted in his own writings and those of his contemporaries and biographers. Many books and articles have been written about Wilson, which this writer heartily recommends reading to form a far greater picture of his life, travels, travails and accomplishments than will be found in these pages.

Much of this book's vital information for Wilson's relatives comes from secondary and tertiary sources and is provided to assist researchers in establishing and tracking relationships and timelines, and locating primary sources. Maps are provided in the back to show approximate locations of family occurrences and are especially helpful to show proximities and location name changes, and locales when they are too diminutive to otherwise be included on any except local maps. A side benefit of the maps is that by connecting the "dots," so to speak, one can trace migration patterns emanating from the little Scottish family that came to America between 205 and 213 years ago and made this country its own.

Charles William Paige  
4<sup>th</sup> Great-Grandnephew of Alexander Wilson the Ornithologist of Philadelphia

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<sup>2</sup> Ibid, p. 257.

## INTRODUCTION

Few things assist the preservation of family history as surely as ancestral wealth, fame or honor. When any of these occur in a lineage they act as a nucleus around which other information collects. As time passes, the expanding history moves down through the generations so long as interest in it continues. Such was the case in the family of Great-Grandmother Mary W. (Hood) Barnes. Several generations of parents took care to indoctrinate their young with its oral history. An important fruition of their efforts came when Mary's son, Grandfather William Hood Barnes, set it down on paper at the prompting of his daughters Jennie and Helen.



Will Hood and Nellie Mae (Bliss) Barnes

The nucleus of Grandfather Barnes' history was Alexander Wilson of Philadelphia, hailed by many as the Father of American Ornithology, who was an unmarried brother of William's great-great-grandmother, Mary (Wilson) Duncan. Wilson, though virtually unknown today in America's general stream of consciousness, is still important in ornithological circles. In his day he was the foremost authority and wrote the first volumes on North American birds. His untimely death and the subsequent exquisite artistry of John James Audubon have conspired to eclipse Wilson's renown, yet fame's hoary imprint on literature and family memory has, like Wilson himself, persevered.

Scottish interest in Alexander Wilson was strong in the nineteenth century, especially in the Paisley and Glasgow areas of Scotland. Wilson's early history was recorded in minute detail by Dr. Andrew Crawford in his unpublished Cairn of Lochwinnoch. These 46 manuscript volumes were written between 1827 and 1837, after Dr. Crawford was stricken with fever and left an invalid. In the *Cairn* he wrote of all the minuscule aspects of daily life in Lochwinnoch and the

surrounding cities and countryside. These included occurrences, gossip, news, accounts of births and deaths, and local history. Because Alexander Wilson originated from that part of the world and was famous, Dr. Crawford did much research and recording concerning the Wilson and Duncan families. More than a hundred years later the *Cairn* was discovered by author Robert Cantwell while researching Alexander's life. Mr. Cantwell's resulting book Alexander Wilson Naturalist and Pioneer (Phila: 1961), with its extensive use of the *Cairn* information, was in turn consulted for the early part of this history. Another valuable resource was Clark Hunter's 1983 biography The Life and Letters of Alexander Wilson. This latter book contained some biographical information about Wilson but mostly was significant for its transcribed collection of letters Alexander had written. These letters have done much to illuminate aspects of his life, including interactions with, and interesting facts about, his relatives in Scotland and America.

Another Wilson/Duncan family member, this one some years later and without national or international recognition, was South Lyon, Michigan's local hero James Duncan Hood, whose sad birth and tragic end near the close of the Civil War inspired public discussions and publications as late as the 1960s. Poignantly, descendants of the Duncan family who raised him still enfold this lonely, ill-fated star in the firmament of their own family's past.

Family historical collections encountered during my nearly three decades of research were, by their nature, intended to preserve family history and identity into succeeding generations. This project is beholden to all who have shared these collections and will, hopefully, help fulfill such intent. The following account is also the benefactor of information from several other sources as listed in the bibliography. This publication is initially centered on the life of Alexander Wilson starting with his parents Alexander, Sr. and Mary (McNab) Wilson.<sup>3</sup> Then it sheds light on a few succeeding generations, mostly descendants of their daughter Mary, sister of the Ornithologist, and her Scottish weaver husband William Duncan, Sr.

Each of the first four chapters is introduced by excerpts from the memoirs of Will Barnes.<sup>4</sup> Subsequent text follows the Duncan family through their latter days in Scotland and adventures and misadventures as they settle in the newly founded country called the United States of America. It also follows some descendants after they have become established and begun to take part in America's great expansion. Sometimes in the foreground and sometimes in the background, historical events affect their lives and involve them as the destiny of their adoptive country unfolds.

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<sup>3</sup> See Chapter Five, Eight Generations of Alexander Wilson, Sr., for additional information about descendants of Alexander, Sr. and his wives Mary McNab and Catherine Brown.

<sup>4</sup> A complete transcription of Will Barnes' memoirs is provided in the appendix.

## CHAPTER ONE

### ***The Wilson and Duncan Families***

“Great-Great-Grandfather Duncan married a woman by the name of Wilson. She was a sister of Alexander Wilson the ornithologist of Philadelphia.” -William Hood Barnes-

Non-conformity and conflict with government seemed to be passed from one generation of Wilsons to the next. Earlier Wilson generations had lived in Lochwinnoch, Renfrewshire, until forced to flee to the shire of Argyle when the government persecuted Covenanters, a group and mindset to which the Wilsons belonged. Many Covenanters were forced to leave Scotland altogether and settle in Ireland or the American colonies.<sup>5</sup>

Alexander Wilson, Sr. was born in 1728 at Campbeltown, shire of Argyle, Scotland, and died 6-5-1816 in Scotland. He married (1) Mary McNab 6-15-1754 in Abbey Parish, Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland. She was born about 1741 in Scotland and died there in 1776. He married (2) Mrs. Catherine (Brown) Urie 7-6-1776 in Scotland. She was born about 1755.<sup>6</sup>

“He married Mary McNab, who came from the ‘Row’ in Durbartonshire to Paisley during her girlhood. Ord states that she was a native of Jura, one of the Hebrides or Western Islands of Scotland.”<sup>7</sup>

The old axiom that opposites attract was ever the case when Alexander Wilson, Sr., called “Saunders,” married Mary McNab. Saunders was a rough-and-tumble ex-soldier who had spent his life out-of-doors and was a member of a secretive, clannish group of men who were professional smugglers.

Today, the idea of smuggling conjures images of dealing in contraband drugs, illegal weapons, stolen goods, etc. However, in the days when Saunders was involved in the profession, smuggling was a viable way of circumventing the royal monopolies that controlled distribution and pricing of many items. The combination of monopolies and assorted taxes, tariffs and duties kept prices high, often well out of the reach of common folk. Such folk could better afford the price of smuggled goods. This underground market gave the monopolies competition when, by definition, they weren’t supposed to have any. Perhaps it even forced them to lower prices somewhat. The burden of monopolies and taxes would cause thirteen of England’s American colonies to do much more to remedy the problem than simply smuggle.

These smugglers, who were purportedly based in Rhu (pronounced Row), a coastal town on Gare Loch in Durbartonshire, Scotland, were involved in a network that stretched from the coast of Delaware across the Atlantic to Scotland, thence to Ireland, England, and continental Europe.

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<sup>5</sup> *Wilson Bulletin* (Burns), p. 79. [Two mechanisms that were used to promote Presbyterianism versus Catholicism in Scotland were the National Covenant (1638) and the Solemn League and Covenant (1643). The former was an agreement particular to the Scots among themselves. The latter was a political agreement of similar intent between the parliaments of Scotland and England, which included Ireland. A Covenanter was someone who made a solemn pledge to uphold Presbyterianism in support of these mechanisms. As a result, Covenanters would find themselves persecuted whenever either government found itself biased in favor of Catholicism.]

<sup>6</sup> See Chapter Five, Eight Generations of Alexander Wilson, Sr., for some of Mary’s and Catherine’s descendants.

<sup>7</sup> *The Wilson Bulletin* (Burns), p. 79.

Mary McNab, in contrast, was from a more socially responsible family in Rhu. She was a goodly, pious woman who loved music and whose Presbyterian upbringing gave her a firm moral and spiritual foundation when taming her husband. So great was Saunders' love for her that he quit smuggling, and they established their home in Paisley, Renfrewshire.

The city of Paisley was situated on the White Cart River and was the third-largest city in Scotland. It was also the center for the weaving industry, and its cloths and patterns were worn by people throughout Europe and the American colonies. Because the Industrial Revolution had not yet arrived, most Paisley weavers still worked out of their own homes. A great sense of pride filled the atmosphere as generations of weavers produced fine fabrics, which in turn brought prosperity and facilitated social cohesion and general contentment. Another attribute of Paisley was that nearly everyone dressed well, and it was usually difficult to tell the wealthy from the poor by their appearance alone. It was into these surroundings of felicity that Alexander and Mary brought their children. They lived in a gray-stone house, third from the White Cart River, and Saunders became a weaver. As his loom produced its wares, Mary fit her husband into the social fabric of the Paisley community.

Children of Alexander Wilson, Sr. and Mary McNab were:

- i. Mary Wilson, b. 4-5-1757, Abbey Parish, Renfrewshire, Scotland; d. Bet. 1813 - 1833, Prob. Ovid, Seneca Co., NY; m. William Duncan, Sr., 8-24-1776, Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland; b. Abt. 1751, Scotland.
- ii. Margaret Wilson, b. 2-16-1763, Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland, d. an infant.

Notes for Margaret Wilson:

Margaret was christened 20 February 1763 at Low Church, Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland.

- iii. Alexander Wilson, b. 7-6-1766, Renfrewshire, Scotland; d. 8-23-1813, Philadelphia, Philadelphia Co., PA.
- iv. Jean Wilson, b. Abt. 1769, Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland; m. John Bell, 4-12-1788, Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland; b. Abt. 1765.

Each Sunday, the family walked to the Low Church where the resident Presbyterian minister was the Reverend Dr. John Witherspoon from 1758-1768. It was he that baptized Alexander, Jr., called "Sandy" in Scotland, and most likely Sandy's older sister Margaret as well. Mrs. Wilson had hopes that her son would follow in the great preacher's footsteps as a minister.

Shortly after Alexander, Jr. was born the president of the failing Princeton College in New Jersey died. Because the trustees of the college knew of Dr. Witherspoon's outspoken democratic views on governance, and felt that his influence and strength were needed by the school, a delegation was sent to solicit him for the job. En route to America, the great clergy lost an eye in a shipboard accident which contributed to his eventual total blindness. Yet the mishap failed to stop his contributions either to Princeton or to the American Revolution. Among many other noteworthy accomplishments, Rev. Witherspoon was a member of the Second Continental Congress and the only clergyman and college professor to sign the Declaration of Independence.

Sandy attended the Grammar School in Paisley during his first ten years. This fine, old institution had been established as a royal foundation by the son of Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots. James VI of Scotland, who later became King James I of England, had a special fondness for Paisley, and the school he endowed it with demanded high standards of its pupils. Also, Sandy's

mother insisted on high moral as well as scholastic astuteness. Besides teaching the girls the many finer points of being cultured Scottish women, she transmitted to all her children the importance of maintaining pious ideals in thought and conduct. Both she and Saunders tried in vain to coax Sandy toward the ministry. To this end they had him tutored by Mr. Barlas, a seminary student.<sup>8</sup> But the boy had inherited his father's love for the out-of-doors, and was an unwilling pupil who preferred hunting and fishing to religious studies. Ironically, though Sandy did not follow Dr. Witherspoon as a minister, he did espouse the clergy's active idealism and desire for reform, and eventually followed the clergy to America.

### ***The Tower of Auchinbathie***

Mrs. Mary Wilson died of tuberculosis shortly before Sandy's tenth birthday. On that birthday, July 6, 1776, Saunders married Mrs. Catherine (Brown) Urie, the widow of a Paisley weaver with two sons: Robert and William. Catherine somehow allowed Saunders to slip back into old patterns he had shunned since his days in Rhu. As a result, the family's social attitude changed.

Sandy was taken out of school and sent to the country, where he spent the next three years as a shepherd. It is said that his sisters had many disagreements with the new mother, possibly causing Mary to marry William Duncan August 24, 1776. William had a reputation as a smart, aggressive, and ambitious young weaver. When Sandy returned from the farm in 1779, he found himself the uncle of a newborn baby boy, William, Jr.<sup>9</sup> Little William must have had a twin. His sister Isabel was also born in 1779, on July 10.<sup>10</sup>

Burns interjected: "It has been said that [George] Ord has given an erroneous impression of his stepmother. I am not so sure that he has; yet Wilson always wrote of her with respect and gratitude."<sup>11</sup>

Children of Alexander Wilson, Sr. and Catherine Brown were:

- v. Janet Wilson, b. 2-25-1777, Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland; m. Duncan Wright.
- vi. David Wilson, b. 7-24-1778, Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland.

Notes for David Wilson:

David eventually joined his half-brother Alexander Wilson, Jr. in Philadelphia, where the two shared lodging for a while.

- vii. Margaret Wilson, b. 8-24-1780, Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland; d. Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland.

Notes for Margaret Wilson:

Margaret, who Alexander Wilson, Jr. called Peggy, developed a "crippling disease" in the early 1790s.

The relationship between Mary and her stepmother may have started out rocky but may have smoothed out over the years. Mary's daughter Isabel and Isabel's son James each named a daughter Catharine, and Isabel's daughter Catharine named a daughter Catharine. Additionally, it

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<sup>8</sup> Ibid, p. 80.

<sup>9</sup> *Naturalist and Pioneer* (Cantwell), p. 28.

<sup>10</sup> Birth date for William and Isabel is derived from date and age at death of Isabel (Duncan) McNelly Ellis, who died 15 May 1857 at age 77y10m5d per Old Presbyterian Cemetery, Daggett Farm, Pulteney, Steuben Co., NY.

<sup>11</sup> *Wilson Bulletin* (Burns), p. 80.

appears that most if not all of Mary and William Duncan's children were born in Paisley even though the family had removed to nearby Williamsburgh and then Queensferry.<sup>12</sup> This return to Paisley for each child's birth could indicate the stepmother acted as midwife or in other supportive capacities.

Cantwell's account of Mary Wilson's marriage to William Duncan, Sr. claimed that she was just a child when the marriage occurred. However, Mary was probably nineteen years old at the time; hardly a child. However, Mary McNab's purported year of birth (1741) points to the probability that *this* Mary was only thirteen years old when she married Saunders Wilson.

Sandy Wilson became a weaving apprentice to his brother-in-law Duncan in 1779 after signing an indenture on July 31, and lived with the Duncan family for the next three years. When the apprenticeship was completed, Sandy remained with William Duncan, Sr. as a journeyman for four more years. During this time he sometimes lived with the Duncans and other times stayed with his father and stepmother, who added three more children to the Wilson family.

Weaving, which Sandy never enjoyed, was like a shackle that held his physical being captive. Flights of imagination became Sandy's escape, and his reputation was that of a dreamer. Throughout his early years, the fundamental idealism instilled by his mother, unleashed in the freedom of his imagination, found its means of expression through poetry.

Though Sandy never became famous for his poetry, its pursuit placed him in personal contact with such Scottish greats as Robert Tannahill (who lived in Paisley) and Robert Burns (who lived 30 miles south of Lochwinnoch). Also, during his peddling trips to sell the products from his and Duncan's looms Sandy often made pilgrimages to towns where poets lived or had once lived. During one of these journeys, after he had spent the night shivering in the refuge of a barn near the road, he wrote a poem that summarized the theme he had chosen for his life.

The following excerpt is from Robert Cantwell's book.

“And see, sweet Morning comes, far in the East.  
How still is all around. far on yon height  
The new-wak'd hind has struck a glimmering light;  
Hushed is the breeze, while high the clouds among  
The early lark pours out her thrilling song;  
Springs from the grassy lea, or rustling corn  
Towers thro' dull night and wakes the coming morn.  
  
O thou dread Pow'r. Thou Architect divine'  
Who bids these seasons roll, these myriads shine;  
Whose smile decks Nature in her loveliest robe,  
Whose frown shakes terror o'er the astonished globe  
  
To Thee I kneel; still deign to be a friend,  
Accept my praise, and pardon when I've sinned;  
Inspire my thoughts, make them unsullied flow,  
To see Thy goodness in Thy works below . . . .”<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> Williamsburgh is a residential area of Paisley. Queensferry is in Midlothianshire near Edinburgh.

<sup>13</sup> *Naturalist and Pioneer* (Cantwell), p. 47.



When Sandy was not on the road, and while he stayed with the Duncan family, the young man captured the affections of Mary and her children. They were gradually being disaffected by William, Sr. As the relationship cooled between Mary and William, Sandy found himself slipping into the role of being the alternate head of the family.

Saunders Wilson returned to smuggling soon after his first wife died. But the people of Paisley took exception to the trade, especially during the American Revolution, and the Wilsons were *persuaded* to leave that city. They consequently moved to a farm near Beith, where they prospered for a short time until Saunders was arrested for smuggling. The heavy fine incurred forced the family to sell the farm and its animals and move again, this time to neighboring Lochwinnoch. That move is best told by Robert Cantwell:<sup>14</sup>

Saunders Wilson “. . . soon made another move, the most extraordinary in his career. On a hill three miles east of Lochwinnoch there stood the Tower of Auchinbathie, one of the oldest castles in Scotland. It was partially in ruins, but still habitable, and Saunders Wilson rented this gloomy landmark, moved his family and his good furniture into its grim interior, cleared the stones that had fallen from the walls to make room for a garden, and set up his still in a deep, dark ravine nearby. . .

“. . . There were only about 30 acres of woodland left in the 20,000 acres of Lochwinnoch parish. From the height of the Tower of Auchinbathie, a solitary figure on the moor, or a wagon moving over the Great Road, or a signal from another ruined tower, was visible so long as light remained. Except for a cluster of stone buildings a hundred yards away, known as the Tower Cottages, the countryside around Auchinbathie was bare, a desolate expanse of high, windy fields on which cattle grazed, and across which no traveler could approach without being seen.

“The tower was not imposing, except as the wild and haunting relic of a violent age. It was a rectangular gray stone structure, flat-roofed, four stories high, with only one room on each floor, and with slits for arrows still visible in its immensely thick walls. Barr Castle, another partially ruined tower of the same type, and built about the same time, dominated the southern end of Castle Semple Loch a few miles away. Auchinbathie was so old that it was in existence before records began to be kept. It was first mentioned in the songs of the minstrel Blind Harry as belonging to the father of Sir William Wallace, Scotland’s greatest hero. Wallace unquestionably lived there. He first defeated the English on a ridge behind the Tower of Auchinbathie, and went on to win the great victory at Castle Stirling in 1297 that lit the fires of Scottish independence.

“The kitchen of the smuggler’s household was now the ground floor of the Tower. There were apple trees growing by a back fence, and the ragged and dirty children played in the tower courtyard outside the kitchen door. Down a slight slope, in the Tower Cottages, lived six weavers who were busily weaving smuggled silk. They were morose men, unable to get honest work, or in some trouble, and lived almost like prisoners. A covered walkway led from the shed

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<sup>14</sup> Ibid, p. 29-30.

where they toiled at their looms to a larger house that served as the farmhouse. They could thus go to their meals without stepping outside, in case any inquisitive snooper happened to be watching the cottages.”

The smuggling network itself was so deeply entrenched and untouchable that a member of the old English aristocracy, the Earl of Pembroke, once asked, “Will Washington take America? or will the smugglers take England first? The bett would be a fair, even one.”<sup>15</sup> Through this network a wide variety of supplies passed, including gunpowder and cannon desperately needed by the colonial army.

In the 1780s Mary and William Duncan moved from Paisley to Williamsburg, and Jean Wilson married John Bell, a boiler to John King of Greenlaw. Political activism had begun to creep into Sandy’s writing, and in 1792 he was arrested and imprisoned for writing and distributing a satirical poem entitled “The Shark.” The Industrial Revolution had reached Paisley and the weavers who used to work at home were now combined under one roof and were the employees of industrialists. “The Shark” was written to point out some of the corrupt practices of one of these industrialists, William Sharp. By the time Sandy completed his two-year sentence he had determined to immigrate to the United States. His sisters also wanted to leave Scotland with their families, but their husbands had no such dream. Both William Duncan and John Bell had prospered in Scotland, and they were too practical to leave a good thing in search of an unknown quantity. Apparently Mary and Jean exerted some influence on their husbands, however, because William agreed to go and John gave a non-committal, tentative agreement. But when May of 1794 arrived and preparations were underway to leave, John bowed out and William broke his agreement. Now Sandy would have to go alone, if at all.

Children of Mary Wilson and William Duncan were:

- i. Isabella Duncan, b. 7-10-1779, Renfrewshire, Scotland; d. 5-15-1857, Steuben Co., NY; m. (1) John McNelly, 6-15-1799, Philadelphia, PA; b. Ireland; d. 11-21-1813, prob. Grenadier Island, Jefferson Co., NY; m. (2) John Ellis, 3-4-1829, NY; b. 1759, Ireland; d. 3-20-1845, Steuben Co., NY.
- ii. William Duncan, Jr., b. 7-10-1779, Renfrewshire, Scotland; d. Aft. 1813.
- iii. Alexander Duncan, b. Abt. 1781, Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland; d. 1871, So. Lyon, Oakland Co., MI; m. (1) Eliza Mehaffey, Bef. 1820; b. Abt. 1800, PA; d. Bef. 1870, So. Lyon, Oakland Co., MI; m. (2) Dorothy, Bef. 1870; b. Abt. 1795, PA.
- iv. Mary Duncan, b. Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland.
- v. George Duncan, b. 1787, Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland; d. 10-7-1801, Norfolk, Norfolk Co., VA.
- vi. James Duncan, b. 9-19-1792, Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland; d. 11-24-1861, Lyon Twp., Oakland Co., MI; m. Jane Waddell, 7-8-1817, Ovid, Seneca Co., NY; b. 7-31-1794, Turbot Twp., Northumberland Co., PA; d. 9-4-1862, Lyon Twp., Oakland Co., MI.
- vii. Jean Duncan, b. 7-8-1795, Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland.
- viii. Anna Duncan, b. 8-9-1797, Queensferry, Midlothianshire, or Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland<sup>16</sup>; d. 8-4-1870, Prob. Prattsburg, Steuben Co., NY; m. James Sturdevant,

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<sup>15</sup> Ibid, p. 34.

<sup>16</sup> Information on the Mormon genealogical website and other sources claim Anna was born at Paisley. Opposing this birthplace, a Sturdevant cousin possesses a photograph of Anna, passed down through the generations,

1828, Pulteney, Steuben Co., NY; b. 2-28-1789, Norfolk, Litchfield Co., CT; d. 9-14-1862, West Almond, Allegany Co., NY.

Children of Jean Wilson and John Bell were:

- i. Jean Bell, b. 1-8-1791.

Notes for Jean Bell:

Jean was christened 9 January 1791 at Barony, Glasgow, Lanark, Scotland.

- ii. James Bell, b. 10-12-1792.

Notes for James Bell:

James was christened 14 October 1792 at Barony, Glasgow, Lanark, Scotland.

It was Sandy's oldest nephew William Duncan, Jr. who came to the rescue. The nearly fifteen-year-old boy, who apparently shared his uncle's and mother's aspiration to emigrate, begged his uncle to take him along.<sup>17</sup> The Duncans agreed to let their son go if Sandy wished. When the uncle consented happily, a close bond was cemented between Sandy and his nephew that lasted the rest of Sandy's life.

Alexander Wilson, Jr. and William Duncan, Jr. finally left Scotland from Portpatrick on their odyssey to America. Left behind were Mary and Jean, who still held hopes of making the journey themselves someday. At Portpatrick the only vessel available was the *Swift*, but there was only space for them on deck. So on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, exposed to all the elements the voyage would encounter, Sandy, William, and the *Swift* set sail for Philadelphia.

### ***Alexander Wilson and the Bonapartes***

Charles (Carlo) Lucien Jules Laurent Bonaparte, known to history as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Prince of Canino and Musignano, never exhibited a preference for political life, preferring instead the pursuits of literature and science. He had so far survived the tides which had swept others of his family in and out of power over the recent decades and was himself in search of something toward which to devote his life. In such pursuit the 19-year-old future prince arrived at Philadelphia in 1822. His first order of business was to visit his 54-year-old uncle, the Count de Survilliers, who would have been delighted to entertain a fellow Corsican and family member.

Charles traveled first to Point Breeze, the Count's estate overlooking the Delaware River at Bordentown, New Jersey, not far from Philadelphia. During the visit he briefed the exiled uncle on news of the family now scattered across Europe. Among the topics were the Count's mother, Maria, and wife, Julie Marie, who were both well and living in Italy. Survilliers' brother Napoleon I had died the year before, and Charles brought word that the Emperor's only son, Napoleon II, once child King of Rome, had been created Duke of Reichstadt and was living at the Austrian court with his grandfather, Francis I (where he would die 10 years later). Then the Count, also known as Joseph Bonaparte, King of Naples, and then King of Spain, displayed his agricultural projects. Charles no doubt was inspired by what he saw and eager to begin a meaningful scientific endeavor of his own.

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having a handwritten inscription on the back stating her birthplace was Queensferry, Scotland. In support of this latter possibility, various sources agree that the Duncans did move to Queensferry.

<sup>17</sup> If William, Jr. was a newborn baby in the summer of 1779 as claimed by Cantwell, then he was not sixteen years old in May of 1794, which is the age at sailing generally attributed to him by Cantwell and others. In fact, he would have had his fifteenth birthday on ship during the voyage shortly before arriving in America.

Charles lived in Philadelphia for the next four years. While there he aligned himself with the local scientific society, becoming aware of and familiar with the partially completed ornithological publications of the late Alexander Wilson. He was already interested in the subject and had written a paper on the southern European Mustached Warbler. Among the society's members was George Ord, a man who had assisted Wilson with preliminary research. He and Bonaparte became close friends, and Ord was instrumental in assisting, guiding, and promoting the ornithological ambitions of the young Bonaparte. In 1824 Charles rounded out the eight published volumes of Wilson's American Ornithology with his own American Ornithology, or History of Birds Inhabiting the United States not given by Wilson (Philadelphia: 1824-33). The completed endeavor became known as *Wilson and Bonaparte's Ornithology* and formed the basis for numerous subsequent editions.

The Fates responsible for Alexander Wilson and Charles Lucien Bonaparte and their families wove a brief, if not dramatic, patchwork of parallel and sometimes coincidental events spanning a time of phenomenal world change. Like seismically generated tsunamis, the disruptive effects emanating from the American Revolution crossed the Atlantic and inundated European affairs. Our subjects were caught in those fatalistic currents which had begun in, and would later return to, Philadelphia. This is an account of how the destinies of Alexander Wilson and Charles Bonaparte—two men of impossibly diverse backgrounds and heritage—came to meet in a common fascination of North American birds.

Not long after Wilson was born, a marriage took place on the French owned Mediterranean island of Corsica, off the coast of Italy, between Charles' grandparents Maria Letizia Ramolino and Carlo Bonaparte. Ten years later, Wilson's father left weaving and took up his old trade, smuggling, now made extra lucrative because of the war between England and the American colonies. From his father and other smugglers, Wilson learned about the American side of the conflict not explained in the authorized news publications. Thoughts of their plight and aspirations helped fill the great void left by the death of the boy's mother. At that time, the Bonapartes were members of newly created Corsican nobility.

The War of Independence ended and the United States of America was formed around the exciting principles of freedom and democracy. A few years passed while the peoples of Great Britain and France reflected upon and compared the new government with their own, less favorable political systems.

Concurrent with the beginning of the French Revolution in 1789, revolutionary murmurs were heard in Great Britain as well. Certain rebellious elements of the country preached that the same forces disrupting France would inevitably be unleashed in the British Isles. The government in London responded to these prophecies by way of repression against certain freedoms of its people. Alexander Wilson felt this repression keenly because it squelched or censored all avenues of expression, and his social conscience demanded that he speak out against what he thought were injustices. He defiantly involved himself with writing and distributing essays and poems that lampooned current governmental and industrial trends. As a result, Wilson was sent to jail in 1792. In 1793, revolutionary France declared war on the Monarchy in England, and England, in return, invaded the island of Corsica. The widow of Carlo Bonaparte escaped to Marseilles, France, with most of her eight children. There they were forced by poverty to live off a pension given to Corsican refugees. Her second-oldest son, Napoleon, was then a lieutenant in the French Army.

The French Revolution grew in intensity and the British monarchy stepped-up its efforts to preserve a way of life now threatened by internal as well as external forces. *Habeas corpus* was thus suspended as repression increased. Because of what Wilson had written as criticisms of the “establishment,” he could have been put to death. Instead, he was in and out of jail for nearly two years, serving his sentence with occasional paroles. By the time of his final release, Wilson’s decision to leave Scotland for America was both final and urgent. At that time, Maria Bonaparte’s sons were becoming active in French politics. Shortly after Wilson’s penniless



Alexander Wilson

Portrait by Rembrandt Peale  
for the American Philosophical Society

arrival in the United States, the feared Robespierre was subdued and beheaded, ending his Reign of Terror. The Bonaparte sons were elected to the French Council of Five Hundred, and Lucien, Prince Charles’ father, became its President.

The years passed and Alexander Wilson established himself as a teacher and ornithologist in America. At the same time the Bonapartes established themselves as a political power in France. Through the support of his brothers, Lieutenant Napoleon, already having proven himself a military genius, became the First Consul of all France. While Wilson channeled his own previously impetuous drives into significant scientific endeavors, Napoleon took firm control of the anarchist French hordes and gave them purpose. And while Wilson labored on the American Ornithology and traveled across the United States to accumulate data and subscribers, Napoleon led his army across Europe in a fervent war against established aristocracy.

Great Britain itself was threatened at times with invasion, and her people were in constant fear of attack. Even the aged and retired William Pitt, once Prime Minister of England, was witnessed

organizing the militia near his home. This anxiety, coupled with the government’s own paranoid activities, probably helped spur Wilson’s sister, Mary Duncan, to bring the rest of her family to America. When a break in hostilities came in 1802 with the signing of the Treaty of Amiens (March 27, 1802), Mary and the remainder of her children left Scotland. Also that year, Lucien Bonaparte married Madam Jouberton, the widow of French stockbroker Hippolyte Jouberton. The next year, when war once again ignited, the Duncans were living on a farm near Ovid, New York, and Lucien and his wife had a son, Charles Lucien Jules Laurent Bonaparte, born in Paris.

In 1813, Alexander Wilson died after completing only eight of the planned ten volumes of his American Ornithology, which contained descriptions and drawings of American birds. In 1815, Napoleon was prevented from fulfilling his dreams for Europe by the decisive Battle of Waterloo.

Charles Bonaparte never met Wilson yet completed the Scottish-American ornithologist’s life’s work. After his return to Europe in 1826 Charles continued researching and writing about birds of the world, and late in life was able to publish the first volume of his *Conspectus Generum Avium*. Like Wilson, he died before completing his project, and the second volume was edited by

German ornithologist Hermann Schlegel. Politically, like others of his kin, Charles was swept in and out of power until his death July 29, 1857.<sup>18</sup>

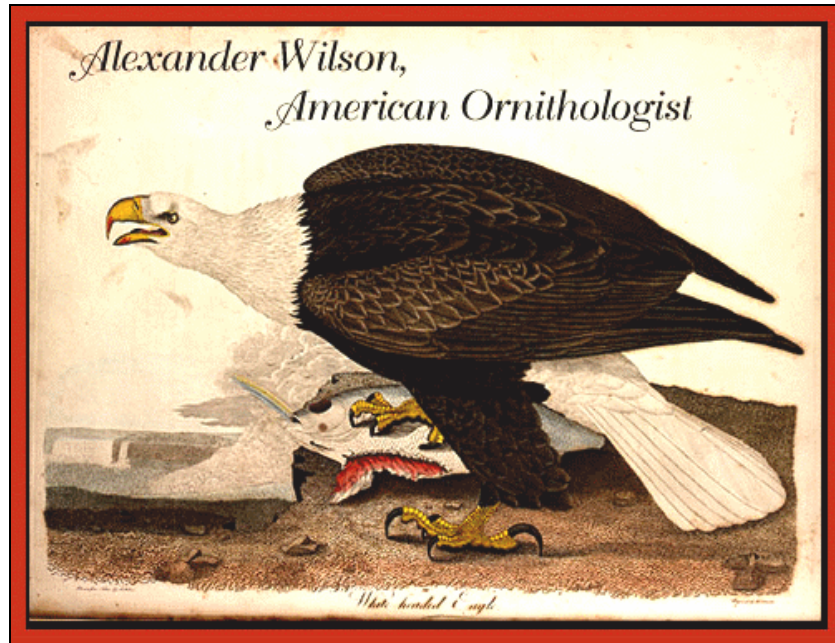


Illustration from American Ornithology

This graphic from Wilson's American Ornithology and the rest of his eight volumes of pictures and descriptions can be found on the Internet at the following URL:

**<http://xroads.virginia.edu/~PUBLIC/wilson/front.html>**

Bonaparte's supplemental descriptions of America's birds can be found online at the following URL:

**<http://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/DLDecArts.AMORNBON>**

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<sup>18</sup> *Wikipedia*,® the free encyclopedia.

## CHAPTER TWO

### ***Land of Dreams and Hardships***

“Great-Grandmother Isabel Duncan came from Scotland when eighteen years of age.... Isabel Duncan came to America in about 1797. She was about three months coming across the ocean, coming on a sailboat.... She lived and married in Philadelphia, married a man by the name of McNelley<sup>19</sup>.... Great-Grandfather McNelley was from Ireland.” -William Hood Barnes-

William Duncan, Jr. and Alexander Wilson, Jr. arrived in America on July 14, 1794, shortly after a yellow fever epidemic had decimated Philadelphia. Because of quarantine, the *Swift* had to dock at New Castle, Delaware. From there the two men set out on foot to Philadelphia: home of the Liberty Bell and seat of Democracy. What they found was, at best, disappointing. Stores were boarded up and most of the population that hadn't died had fled from the ravages of the disease. Yet Wilson and Duncan found work almost at once. Alexander took a job with John Aitkin in his engraving shop. But it wasn't many months before extreme homesickness set in. Later, Alexander and William traveled to a settlement ten miles northeast of Philadelphia called Scotland from the number of Scottish settlers. Here the two men found work in their old profession as weavers with a fellow Scot, Joshua Sullivan, who owned a number of looms.

While William stayed behind to weave, Alexander often traveled through the countryside getting acquainted with the area, searching for other prospects, and peddling cloth woven at the Sullivan mills. During this time, John James Audubon, the young son of a French naval officer, was living with Miers Fisher, a neighbor of Sullivan's. So for a while Wilson and Audubon, the two great pioneers in American ornithology, were living within miles of each other. The two didn't meet, however, until 1810 in Kentucky, when Wilson was soliciting subscribers for his American Ornithology. At that time Audubon owned a store with his partner Ferdinand Rozier and had already developed his artistry to a point of excellence. Audubon was introduced to the scientific society in Philadelphia in 1824, but instead of furthering Alexander Wilson's work as had Charles Bonaparte, Audubon published his own works, the first being printed in 1827.

A Paisley friend of Wilson's, James Robertson, had also immigrated to America and owned a farm and weaving mill on the outskirts of Philadelphia. William was employed by Robertson for a time but was beginning to find weaving too confining. By the time his sister arrived, the young man had hired himself out as a farmhand, and Alexander was working as a school teacher. Isabel's arrival in 1797 was itself somewhat peculiar in that it appears she came alone. For an 18-year-old girl to travel such a great distance by herself, especially in those days, would have been a most hardy undertaking. However, she may have come in along the smuggling route so well known by her grandfather. This could account for the family tradition that “She was about three months coming across the ocean, coming on a sailboat.”

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<sup>19</sup> John McNelley's last name was spelled a number of different ways by the family and legal documents, including McNelly, McAnnelly, McAnnally, McAnally, McNally, McNally; and for a time his son James spelled the last name “McNella” while some of his children spelled it “MacNelly.” Regardless of the spelling, it is a sept of Clan Niall (from which comes MacNeill, O'Neill, etc.), one of the more ancient of the Irish and Scottish clans.

In 1798 Alexander Wilson heard of a section of land that had opened up in central New York. The area, midway between Seneca and Cayuga lakes, had first been explored and then settled by some Wilson and Dunlap families from Bucks County, Pennsylvania, and Ireland, respectively. They called the place Ovid—probably in honor of the Roman poet by the same name, born Publius Ovidius Naso in 43 BC, whose works had become favorites of English translators and had been published in their entirety as compilations only since 1728. Considering the name’s relevance to poetry, it wouldn’t be a surprise if Alexander Wilson had a say in naming the town.

Alexander and William bought 150 acres of unimproved land near the new settlement of Ovid in about 1798-9 with the financial help of their friend Joshua Sullivan. While Alexander continued teaching, William cleared the land and planted crops with the help of his sister Isabel. Thus the Duncans provided the brawn while the teaching job brought in money to buy farming equipment and maintain the household until the farm could sustain itself.

Also in 1798, by June 18, John McNelly had arrived in the United States from Ireland according to his citizenship decree. After the Great Irish Rebellion of 1798 was crushed by the British, many of its adherents found expediency in immigrating to the United States, where most, if not all, landed at Philadelphia. They, along with French activists who were excited and empowered by the “successful” French Revolution, inspired much turmoil against the British amongst citizens of the young United States. Ancestor McNelly could not have been part of the Irish Rebellion, since he had already left Ireland when the rebellion started in May. However, his anti-British sentiments would manifest themselves later when he partook in the War of 1812.

On June 15, 1799, John McNelly and Isabella Duncan were married at the 100-year-old First Presbyterian Church of Philadelphia by the Reverend Dr. John Ewing. The new McNelly family initially settled in Philadelphia, where Mary was born about 1800, but for a time they lived in Ovid. Proof is that for a few years they left Pennsylvania, and John, Mary and Isabella’s names were included in the closing of Alexander Wilson’s 30 October 1802 letter to the Duncan family at Ovid.

Children of Isabella Duncan and John McNelly were:

- i. Mary W. McNelly, b. Abt. 1800, PA; d. 1894, NY; m. (1) Samuel Waddell, Abt. 1820, NY state; b. Abt. 1793, Northern Ireland; d. 5-30-1837, Howell, Livingston Co., MI; m. (2) John Coryell, Abt. 1840, NY; b. 4-27-1796, Brunswick, Sussex Co., NJ; d. 11-9-1885, NY.
- ii. William McNelly, b. PA; d. Aft. 1817.
- iii. Catharine McNelly, b. 6-13-1808, Philadelphia, Philadelphia Co., PA; d. 11-20-1842, Livingston Co., MI; m. James Hood, 8-28-1825, Seneca Co., NY; b. 5-31-1796, NY or PA; d. 4-6-1867, Hillsdale Co., MI.
- iv. Isabella McNelly, b. 6-13-1808, Philadelphia, Philadelphia Co., PA; d. 1-4-1878, Steuben Co., NY.

Notes for Isabella McNelly:

Isabella lived with her mother and then with her brother James. She was buried beside her mother at the Old Presbyterian Cemetery, a private cemetery located on the Daggett Farm in Pulteney, Steuben County, New York.

- v. James McNelly, b. Abt. 1810, PA; d. Aft. 1880; m. Nancy, Bef. 1840; b. Abt. 1812, NY; d. Aft. 1880.



The year before Mary (Wilson) Duncan arrived in America her fourteen-year-old son George set out as an apprentice on the *Haro*, a ship out of Greenock, Scotland, bound for Norfolk, Virginia. The ship pulled into port at Norfolk on September 17, 1801, but the Duncans heard nothing further from George and nothing about his fate for eight years. It wasn't until George's Uncle Alexander Wilson traveled to Norfolk in 1809 that George's sad end came to light, as expressed in the following excerpt from a long letter Wilson wrote to a friend.

To: Daniel H. Miller<sup>20</sup>

Charleston, 22 February 1809

Dear Sir,

I have passed through a considerable extent of country since I wrote you last; and met with a variety of adventures, some of which may perhaps amuse you. Norfolk turned out better than I expected. I left that place on one of the coldest mornings I have experienced since leaving Philada.

I left it with a heavy heart, on account of some circumstances which I shall relate for the satisfaction of my nephew Mr. Duncan and his father's family. In the year 1801, George Duncan, a lad of 14 entered on board the ship *Haro*, at Greenock in Scotland as an apprentice, merely I believe that he might by this means reach his brother and me. The ship was bound for Norfolk where she arrived on the 17<sup>th</sup> of September, but the boy was never heard of. On my arrival in Norfolk I stated the circumstances in an advertisement which I inserted in all the papers but without effect. Early on the morning of my departure, however, the following note was handed to me by the physician of the Hospital, "George Duncan was received into the Marine Hospital of Norfolk on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of October 1801, and died of yellow fever on the seventh of the same month." I instantly went to the Hospital and sought out the Nurse who was then and is now the Matron of the Hospital. Her relation left no doubt in my mind that my poor friend had died unknown and unpitied here. He was buried with the rest of the unfortunates who died that year in the court or yard before the Hospital. I walked among the crowds of graves a while with sensations that I need not describe. A tear or two was all I could pay to his memory and I soon after left town as I have before stated....

Alexander received word in the early months of 1802 that his brother-in-law William Duncan, Sr. would be arriving soon to prepare for the later arrival of Mary and the children. So when school let out for the summer, Wilson immediately set out on the 270-mile hike to the Duncan farm in Seneca County, New York. While there he helped Duncan with the farm labors, and they awaited William's arrival. Meanwhile, Isabel waited in Philadelphia to receive her father when his ship docked. The months passed, summer ended, and Alexander had to return to his school at Gray's Ferry, Pennsylvania, for the starting of classes. When he arrived he found his sister had arrived with five children, the youngest being Annie. The other children were Alexander (her oldest child present), Mary, James, and Jeanie. Wasting no time, Wilson and Isabel rushed the little family to the farm at Ovid, where they arrived just before winter set in. The story later

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<sup>20</sup> *Life and Letters* (Hunter), p. 296-7.

unfolded that William, Sr. had indeed left Scotland, but only to cross the North Channel to Belfast, Ireland. He then spent his passage money on a good time and never sailed to America. Now Wilson was the official head of the household.<sup>21</sup>

The brothers William and Alexander Duncan cleared and worked the farm for the next few years, occasionally weaving and instructing the younger children, who also helped out as they could. It is probable that the McNellys remained to lend a hand during that time period and perhaps longer. Wilson kept up an active correspondence with the little settlement, because he knew that homesickness would soon set in, especially in the primitive surroundings, with its lack of all but the barest essentials. In the letter Wilson wrote to William from Gray's Ferry, dated 30 October 1802, he urged the little colony to look on the bright side:<sup>22</sup>

“It is more healthy, more independent, and agreeable, than to be cooped up in a dungeon, surrounded by gloomy damp, and breathing an unwholesome air from morning to night, shut out from nature's fairest scenes and the pure light from heaven.”

Wilson seems here to be alluding to what might have been their fate in Scotland had they remained. In the same letter he writes that, although he will send money once he is paid:

“. . . Alexander can get nothing but wheat and butter, for all his haggling and slashing. Never mind, my dear namesake, put up awhile with the rough fare and rough clothing of the country. Let us only get the place into good order, and you shall be no loser by it.”

To his favorite nephew William, Wilson assigns the task of teaching the other children, counseling the colony, and encouraging his mother, brothers and sisters through their times of hardship and adjustment. Further on in the letter, Wilson writes,

“Now, do everything in your power to make the house comfortable; fortify the garrison at every point—stop every crevice that may let the roaring northwest in—heap up fires big enough for an Indian war-feast—keep the flour-barrel full—bake loaves like Hamles Head<sup>23</sup>—make the loom thunder, and the pot boil; and your snug little cabin re-echo nothing but sounds of domestic felicity. I will write you the moment I hear of George....”

Wilson alludes to a letter intended for his nephew-in-law John M. [McNelly] from Isabella's father when he writes,

“There is a letter for John M., which he is requested to answer by his father-in-law. I hope John will set a firm resolute heart to the undertaking, and plant a

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<sup>21</sup> Evidence exists in the 1830 Federal census of Pulteney, Steuben Co., NY, that William Duncan, Sr. may have joined his family in later years. That year, a “William Dunkin” is listed in the 70-79 age range. Countering this is Purdy's 1895 letter stating that “Mrs. Duncan...had lost her husband in Scotland...” Letter to the editor of *The Auk*, p. 396.

<sup>22</sup> *Life and Letters* (Hunter), p. 194-8.

<sup>23</sup> “The name of a rock which stood in the river Cart near Wilson's birthplace in Seedhills, Paisley. (Grosart)” from *Life and Letters* (Hunter), p. 197. “The house in which [Wilson] was born has long since disappeared and another of the same height built in its place. It commanded a fine view of the river below the falls and overlooked the Hamels - the highest part of a range of craigs over which the stream rushes, forming a beautiful and romantic waterfall.” *The Wilson Bulletin* (Burns), p. 79.

posterity in that rich, western country, to perpetuate his name for ever. Thousands here would rejoice to be in his situation.”

At the end, he concludes with,

“My best love to my sister, to Isabella, Alexander, John, the two Maries, James, Jenny, little Annie. God Almighty bless you all.”

A couple of years passed after Mary’s arrival. Wilson was still working as a school teacher in addition to editing Abraham Rees’s *Cyclopedia*, and his new hobby was studying birds. It was so frustrating for him to be within 300 miles of the family, yet seldom able to see them, that the budding ornithologist wrote to his sister requesting she sell the farm and move the family to Philadelphia. Mary was reluctant to do so because she had grown attached to her new home and had established friendships and a sense of belonging. The unhappy situation soon righted itself when William Duncan, Jr. took up teaching at Wilson’s old school in Milestown, Pennsylvania, and Alexander Duncan moved to Philadelphia to weave and attend his brother’s school. Also, by 1807 the McNelly family had returned to Philadelphia.

Wilson became a US citizen at the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas in 1804. In October he trekked from Philadelphia toward Niagara Falls, New York, with his nephew William and another young friend, Isaac Leech of Milestown, on a nature and bird fact-collecting expedition. William left the group when it reached the “Finger Lakes” area (between Cayuga and Seneca lakes) to remain on the Duncan/Wilson/McNelly farm. The following lines from Wilson’s epic, 2200-line poem “The Foresters,” published in the winter of 1809-1810 as an account of this expedition, is most likely the group’s nighttime encounter with the family at Ovid:

“Lone chirping crickets hail the coming night,  
And bats around us wheel their giddy flight:  
The drumming pheasant vibrates on the ear;  
The distant forests dimly disappear.  
Behold! In front, a spreading radiance gleams!  
Wide glowing, ruddy and immense it seems,  
Such as the rising moon’s broad orb bestows,  
When up night’s starry vault she solemn goes,  
Each moment brightening, lo! To our amaze,  
The woods on fire in ardent fury blaze;  
Dark trees before us of gigantic size,  
In deeper shades in gloomy pomp arise;  
The flames beyond, ascending with them bear  
Thick clouds of sparkling smoke that fill the air.  
As they approach the fire, they notice someone:  
So looked the woodsman, who behind us stood,  
Begrimed with soot, in tattered garments rude,  
On pitchfork leaning, hailed with ‘How d’ye do?’  
And looked like Lucifer just risen to view;  
At Duncan’s voice, advancing, stood amazed,  
And each on other for a moment gazed,  
‘What Johnny!’ ‘Duncan’ ‘Bless my heart so near’  
‘How glad our folks will be to see you here!’”

“Kind invitations now were not forgot,  
And through corn-fields we followed to his cot,  
Their ‘O’s!’ and ‘Dears!’ and salutations o’er,  
The pondrous knapsacks sunk upon the floor;  
Seats, quickly ranged, our weary limbs invite,  
And kind inquiries all our toils requite....”<sup>24</sup>

From an early membership list for Ovid Presbyterian Church prior to 1869:<sup>25</sup>

Duncan, James and Jane 4/12/1833 to Michigan  
Duncan, Mary died<sup>26</sup>  
Duncan, William  
Dunlap, Alexander and Nancy 10/15/1833 to Michigan  
Dunlap, Josiah  
Dunlap, Mary

In a 15 June 1809 letter to his father Saunders Wilson in Scotland, Alexander Wilson wrote that William Duncan, Jr. and his brother Alexander had commenced a successful manufacturing business in Milestown, Pennsylvania, and that their house was being kept by their sister Mary. Years later William Duncan, Jr. would return to Ovid as a school teacher. At this juncture historical information about William fades away and he disappears from further coverage in this account. Also, no further information has been found regarding Mary (Wilson) Duncan or her daughters Mary and Jean. Alexander Duncan would marry Eliza Mehaffey and initially settle in Pennsylvania, where they had at least one of their children. By 1825 they had moved to Pulteney, near his sister Isabel, before continuing west to finally settle at Lyon, Oakland County, Michigan in 1829-30. James would marry Jane Waddell at Ovid, and their first two children would be born at Pulteney. Six of their remaining nine children would be born back at Ovid—from 1822 through 1833—before James and Jane’s family would join brother Alexander in Lyon, Michigan. The “baby” of the family, Anna, would marry widower James Sturdevant at Pulteney in 1828. About half of their six children would be born at nearby Prattsburg and the rest at West Almond, Allegany County, New York.

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<sup>24</sup> I received an email from Marty Schlabach, Librarian at the Frank A. Lee Library, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, in August 2004. In commemoration of the Niagara Falls expedition’s 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary he and David Corson of Kroch Library, Cornell University, were researching Alexander Wilson’s and family’s relationship with the Finger Lakes area. Their plan was to construct a seminar centered on Wilson’s expeditionary poem “The Foresters” and his art. Marty had found information on Wilson and the Duncans I had placed online and was wondering if I could provide additional background material. Consequently, I sent him the mid-2004 version of this book, the working title then being The True Story of a Family in History. Recently I learned the title of the resulting seminar was “Of Plumage and Poetry,” which the duo presented four or five times at venues such as Cornell’s Lab of Ornithology and the Interlaken Historical Society. The presentation included slides featuring scenes of central New York wilderness grandeur, flora, fauna, maps of that period, and other related vistas. Interspersed were lines from “The Foresters” and background facts about Wilson’s life and the Duncans. Marty recommended visiting the following online exhibit provided by Mann Library, Cornell University:

**Majesty Sublime - Alexander Wilson’s Epic 1804 Walk from Philadelphia to Niagara Falls**  
<http://exhibits.mannlib.cornell.edu/majestysublime>

<sup>25</sup> Provided by Betty Auten, Seneca County historian.

<sup>26</sup> This list provides insufficient information to distinguish which Mary Duncan had died—Mary (Wilson) Duncan, her daughter Mary or someone else.

## CHAPTER THREE

### 1808-1812

“Grandmother Katherine McNelley was born in 1803<sup>27</sup> in Philadelphia. They [her family] moved to Ovid, Seneca Co., NY in 1809. They moved to Putney, Stueben County, New York.” [Of her father] “He was a soldier in the War of 1812 and died while a soldier.” -William Hood Barnes-

The year 1808 proved to be a good year for Alexander Wilson and John McNelly. That year the first volume of Wilson’s American Ornithology was published, sparking his increased, almost frantic efforts to complete the remaining nine volumes promised. Also that year, John and Isabel brought their third and fourth offspring into the world, contributing toward fulfilling the wish that John “plant a posterity in that rich, western country, to perpetuate his name for ever.” Another of John’s accomplishments was that he became a United States citizen on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, thus confirming forever his intention to stay, and also protecting his family and himself against a growing anti-Great Britain mood in the land. The hostility was being spurred on by Britain’s new policy of forced impressments of American sailors into the British navy, thus violating US sovereignty. Congress had already passed the Embargo Act forbidding all foreign ships entrance to US waters and keeping American ships at home. The President in 1808 was still Thomas Jefferson, but James Madison, a former Princeton student of the late Dr. Witherspoon’s, was elected to the job near the end of the year. During the next years Madison would do his best to maneuver around war with the United Kingdom, although his hopes of avoiding war would be nullified in 1811 by the election of several determined nationalists to Congress. These men became known as “War Hawks.”

In 1809 the McNellys left Philadelphia and moved back to Ovid, where David and Charity Coryell also had settled in 1802 with their ten children. Soon the McNellys moved again, this time to the town of Pulteney in Steuben County, New York. Shortly thereafter, in 1812, the Coryells also moved to Pulteney, and the two families were neighbors for many years. In Pulteney the McNellys became acquainted with Josiah Dunlap, a man who was elected as town supervisor every year from 1821 until 1829 and again in 1854. During Josiah’s last term he would assist John’s widow Isabel obtain a pension through his testimony regarding her marriages.

### 1813-1815

#### Alexander Wilson’s Life Ends

The year 1813 was the antithesis of 1808 to Wilson and McNelly. Constitutionally weakened by his exertions in preparing the *Ornithology* for publication, Alexander contracted dysentery and

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<sup>27</sup> The year “1803” may have been a misreading of the original, very light pencil notation on yellowing paper. Strong evidence suggests Catharine actually was born in 1808, which would have made her a twin of her sister Isabella. Besides Catharine’s tombstone stating that she was 34 years old at time of death, had she been born in 1803 it would have been at Ovid, New York, whereas her descendants claimed she was born in Pennsylvania, to where the family returned in 1807. (A string of twins includes: Isabel and William Duncan, Catharine and Isabella McNelly, James and William Hood; skipping one generation, David and Doris Barnes and others.)

died on August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Although he had not lived long enough to reap the material rewards of his efforts, the wealth of friends and acquaintances he had amassed during his 47 years was impressive. The following are some of the renowned people he had known or at least met during his years in America.

William Bartram was an early American botanist and Wilson's close friend and mentor.

Robert Fulton met Wilson and signed up for a subscription to the *Ornithology* immediately upon returning from Albany and his first successful voyage on the *Clermont*, August 17, 1807.

Thomas Jefferson corresponded frequently with Wilson, and received him at the White House on December 17, 1808, to see a copy of the *Ornithology*. Jefferson had ordered a subscription by mail on October 9, 1807, which was fortunate because the set of volumes Wilson sold to the Library of Congress was destroyed when that institution was burned by the British. On January 30<sup>th</sup>, 1815, Jefferson sold his personal, 7,000-book library to the government to become the nucleus of the new Library of Congress.

James Madison received Wilson in March of 1809 while awaiting his inauguration as the 4<sup>th</sup> President. He also subscribed.

James Monroe also met Wilson and subscribed. He had just returned from Europe to his plantation at Oak Hill in December of 1807, after serving as minister in Paris and London.

General James O'Hara of Ireland, founder of Pittsburgh, met Wilson and subscribed.

Thomas Paine received Wilson in his New York City apartment shortly before that writer, of Revolutionary War fame, died.

Benjamin West of England became friends with Wilson through correspondence. West was a famous 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> century artist who was a court painter for King George III, and who presided over the Royal Academy. He once sent Wilson a proof impression of his grand historical picture, *The Death of Admiral Nelson*. He, also, subscribed.

General James Wilkinson was the ranking general in command of the Army of the United States when Wilson met him in Charleston, South Carolina. The General was returning to the West after spending time in Washington, DC as the government's chief witness against Aaron Burr in the famous conspiracy trial. Wilkinson subscribed.

Meriwether Lewis, famous for his explorations with William Clark, became a close friend of Wilson's and provided him with birds and descriptions of their habits discovered during the Lewis and Clark Expedition. They also corresponded. Wilson tried to convince the publisher of American Ornithology that he should also print Lewis' account of the expeditionary venture. But Samuel Bradford felt he had already taken on more than he could handle with Wilson's series. The issue became academic in 1809 when Lewis committed suicide on the Natchez Trace in Tennessee. Wilson personally traveled to the spot and

investigated what took place. He subsequently published a public account of what happened that night at Grinder's Stand and wrote the following elegy for his friend.

The anguish that his soul assailed,  
The dark despair that round him blew,  
No eye, save that of Heaven beheld,  
None but unfeeling strangers knew.  
Poor reason perished in the storm.  
And Desperation triumphed here!  
For hence be each accusing thought'  
With him my kindred tears shall flow;  
Pale Pity consecrate the spot,  
Where poor, lost Lewis now lies low.  
Lone as these solitudes appear,  
Wide as this wilderness is spread,  
Affection's steps shall linger here,  
To breath her sorrows o'er the dead.<sup>28</sup>

The continuing academic interest in Alexander Wilson probably has as much to do with the quality of the man as with his ornithological pursuits, and one cannot be divorced from the other. He had a winning combination of keen mind and deep sense of love and commitment. Many of his letters survive, attesting to his caliber and struggles. Besides his great works and extensive travels that were packed into an unacceptably short life, he still made time to care for the needs of his family in central New York. Neither was he selfish in his assistance to others and was a true member of the Human Race.

Charles Robert Leslie became apprenticed to Wilson's publisher Samuel Bradford at age 17. Charles' father, who had died shortly before, leaving the family in dire financial circumstances, had been Benjamin Franklin's good friend. Bradford's great-grandfather had given Franklin his first employment as a printer, so perhaps Bradford initially took Charles on as a favor. Yet it wasn't long before the young man proved his own merits as a natural and gifted artist. After Charles had helped Wilson with the *Ornithology* for three years, Wilson and some other Philadelphians bought out his apprenticeship and helped him travel to England. There, Charles' natural talents were honed under Wilson's friend Benjamin West, and he later became court painter to Queen Victoria. When telling of his time working with Wilson, Charles wrote in his memoir that "He looked like a bird."<sup>29</sup>

"His eyes were piercing, dark and luminous, and his nose shaped like a beak. He was of spare, bony frame, very erect in his carriage, inclining to be tall; and with a light, elastic step, he seemed perfectly qualified by nature for his extraordinary pedestrian achievements.... I assisted him to color some of his first plates. We worked from birds which he had shot and stuffed, and I remember the extreme accuracy of his drawings, and how carefully he had counted the number of scales on the tiny legs and feet of his subject."

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<sup>28</sup> *Naturalist and Pioneer* (Cantwell), p. 217-8.

<sup>29</sup> *Ibid*, p. 144-5.

Malvina Lawson was a daughter of Alexander Lawson, an engraver for the *Ornithology*. This Alexander developed a circle of artists and scientific personages, among them being the friends Merriweather Lewis and Alexander Wilson: two men, Malvina wrote in her memoirs, which were of similar temperament. Malvina also wrote the following of Wilson.<sup>30</sup>

“I remember perfectly his brilliant eyes, and hair as black as an Indian’s, and as straight.... I think that a great moral lesson may be drawn from his life. When a man in seven years becomes famous as a man of science and as a draughtsman whose birds live forever, without any other help than the cheering voice of friendship to aid him in his new standing, it seems almost a miracle. When we think of Wilson shouldering his gun and setting out for the wilderness, not only of nature, but of ignorance and prejudice, and after months of weary travel, returning with his drawings and specimens, worn out with fatigue and oppressed by poverty, to sit down to the composition of a work as truthful, as beautiful and as charming to read as any romance, what a sermon on the virtues of faith and perseverance!”

According to Wilson’s last will and testament, he left the royalties yet to be received from his American Ornithology to his intended, Sarah Miller, along with most of his worldly goods. He also left one set of the *Ornithology* to his nephew William Duncan, Jr. and two sets to his father Alexander, Sr., who would die three years later. Sarah Miller eventually erected a monument in Wilson’s honor at the Old Swede’s Church in Philadelphia where he was buried. In 1876, statues were dedicated in Paisley for both Alexander Wilson and his contemporary and friend Robert Tannahill. The townspeople were especially proud of Wilson, who had been elected to the two-year-old Society of Artists of the United States the year before his death (name changed to the Columbian Society of Artists in 1814) and inducted, just four months before, into the 44-year-old American Philosophical Society.

### **The Last Wish**

The wish of Mr. Wilson, the celebrated ornithologist, in regard to his burial place, is beautifully expressed in the following lines:

In some wild forest shade,  
Under some spreading oak or waving pine  
Or old elm festooned with the budding vine,  
Let me be laid.

In this dim lonely grot  
No foot intrusive will disturb my dust;  
But o’er me songs of the wild birds shall burst,  
Cheering the spot.

Not amid charnel stones  
Or coffins dark and thick with ancient mould,  
With tattered pall and fringes of cankered gold,  
May rest my bones.

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<sup>30</sup> Ibid, p. 257.



But let the dewy rose,  
The snow-drop and the violet, lend perfume  
Above the spot where in my grassy tomb,  
I take repose.

Year after year  
Within the silver birch trees o'er me hung,  
The chirping wren shall rear her callow young,  
Shall build her dwelling near.

And at the purple dawn of day  
The lark shall chant a pealing song above,  
And the shrill quail shall pipe her song of love,  
When eve grows dim and gray.

The blackbird and the thrush,  
The golden oriole shall flit around,  
And waken with a mellow gust of sound  
The forest solemn hush.

Birds from the distant sea  
Shall sometimes hither flock on snowy wings,  
And soar above my dust in airy swings,  
Singing a dirge to me.<sup>31</sup>



The original handwritten copy of the unsigned and undated poem by Alexander Wilson, with introduction, is held in trust by the American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia.

### **The Last Month in the Life of John McNelly**

Congress declared war on Great Britain on June 18, 1812, and soon battles raged between America and Britain. In addition to the other fighting, the Shawnee Indians under Chief Tecumseh and his brother the Prophet were terrorizing the Ohio Valley. In December James Madison was reelected to the Presidency in the nation's first wartime election, and on December 10<sup>th</sup> John McNelly enlisted in the 22<sup>nd</sup> Regiment US Infantry. Unfortunately, John did not survive the war. It appears, after studying the war record of his immediate commander, Captain John Pentland, and other sources that John McNelly took part in and survived, if briefly, the only full-scale US invasion of Canada.

Grenadier Island was one of the Thousand Islands lodged in the Lake Ontario mouth of the St. Lawrence River. During a brief episode in 1813 it was the troop rendezvous for an invasion force. Troops were brought there from Fort George and Sackett Harbor in preparation for a campaign up the St. Lawrence, with the objective of taking Montreal and thus Canada.

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<sup>31</sup> About the time of Clark Hunter's 1983 publication of his book The Life and Letters of Alexander Wilson, the American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia performed a memorial service for Wilson at the Old Swede's Church, complete with eulogies and Scottish bagpipe.

Be it remembered, that at a Court of General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, held at the City of Philadelphia, in and for the County of Philadelphia, in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in the United States of America, on ~~Wednesday~~ the twenty first day of September in the Year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eight John Mc Anally + a native of Ireland exhibited a petition, praying to be admitted to become a Citizen of the United States, and having on his solemn Oath declared, and also made proof thereof by competent testimony, that he had resided within the United States upwards of ten years, and within the State of Pennsylvania upwards of one year immediately preceding his application..... that he was residing within the limits and under the jurisdiction of the United States, between the eighteenth day of June, in the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety-eight, and the fourteenth day of April in the year one thousand eight hundred and two, and that he had continued to reside within the United States, and it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court, that during that time he had behaved as a man of good moral character, attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States, and well disposed to the good order and happiness of the same; and having declared on his solemn Oath before the said Court, that he would support the Constitution of the United States, and that he did absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to every foreign Prince, Potentate, State and Sovereignty whatsoever, and particularly to the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, of whom he was before a Subject And thereupon the Court admitted the said John Mc Anally + to become a Citizen of the United States, and ordered all the proceedings aforesaid to be recorded by the clerk of the said Court, which was done accordingly.

And I, the Clerk thereof, I have herunto affixed the seal of the said Court, at Philadelphia, this twenty third day of September in the year one thousand eight hundred and eight and of the Sovereignty and Independence of the United States of America, the thirty third

*Richd. Packer Junr.* Clerk.

John McNelly's Citizenship Decree

Be it Remembered, that at a Court of General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, held at the City of Philadelphia, in and for the County of Philadelphia, in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in the United States of America, on Wednesday the twenty first day of September in the Year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eight John McAnally X a native of Ireland exhibited a petition, praying to be admitted to become a Citizen of the United States, and having on his solemn Oath declared, and also made proof thereof by competent testimony, that he had resided within the United States upwards of ten years, and within the State of Pennsylvania upwards of one years immediately preceding his application....that he was residing within the limits and under the jurisdiction of the United States, between the eighteenth day of June, in the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety-eight, and the fourteenth day of April in the year one thousand eight hundred and two, and that he had continued to reside within the United States, and it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court, that during that time he had behaved as a man of good moral character, attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States, and well disposed to the good order and happiness of the same; and having declared on his solemn Oath before the said Court, that he would support the Constitution of the United States, and that he did absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to every foreign Prince, Potentate, State and Sovereignty whatsoever, and particularly to the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, of whom he was before a Subject . And thereupon the Court admitted the said John McAnally X to become a Citizen of the United States, and ordered all this proceedings aforesaid to be recorded by the clerk of the said Court, which was done accordingly.

In Testimony whereby, I have hereunto affixed the seal of the said Court, at Philadelphia, this twenty third day of September in the year one thousand eight hundred and eight and of the Sovereignty and Independence of the United States of America, the thirty third

Rich Bache Jun<sup>r</sup> Clerk

**Note:** The original citizenship decree was retained by the family after John Mc(A)nally's death while a soldier during the War of 1812 (known for many years as the Old War). One hundred and thirty-six years passed from the date citizenship was granted before Isabell Howell tendered the decree to the Veteran's Administration for safekeeping. The following excerpt is taken from a letter written by W. C. Black, Chief Clerk of the Veterans Administration, Washington 25, DC, on October 4, 1944, to the Honorable Solon J. Buck, Archivist, the National Archives, Washington 25, DC:

The great-granddaughter of John McNally has requested that this paper be filed with the pension claim of the widow of John McNally who died in service November 21, 1813, said Isabella Ellis, the former widow of John McNally, having filed "old war" widow's pension, claim No. 10,947.

Conditions on Grenadier Island were far from sanitary—not unusual when too many people were gathered too closely together for too long a time. Water used for drinking and the making of bread, the primary food staple, was badly contaminated with sewage and putrefaction. Even before the Montreal campaign mobilized in mid-October diseases like typhoid, diarrhea, dysentery, pneumonia, and atrophy of limbs (a form of dry rot) were taking their toll of casualties.

Major-General James Wilkinson was senior commander of US forces and in command of the expedition. He was absent for such an extended period due to illness, however, that the Secretary of War for President Madison, John Armstrong, left Washington, DC, traveled to Grenadier Island, and personally took charge of the build-up. Armstrong's presence forced Wilkinson's return to his post.

Wilkinson was still not well when he resumed control of the united forces. In fact, he did not fully recover until some time after the campaign had met its inglorious end. This factor may have contributed to the campaign's conduct and outcome.

The impressive mass of soldiers made its way up the St. Lawrence River towards Montreal, engaging the enemy en route. The concluding battle took place somewhat short of the main objective, however. On November 11 Mr. John Crysler of Upper Canada<sup>32</sup> had the dubious honor of hosting what became known as the Battle of Crysler's Farm.

Montreal was especially vulnerable to attack at this time. Yet Wilkinson believed its garrison size far superior in strength to what it actually was. Perhaps this belief plus the fact that the Battle of Crysler's Farm had proven inconclusive helped to dissuade Wilkinson from pursuing the campaign any further. Instead, and just 100 miles from the objective, his combined army ceased its aggression and traversed eighteen miles back down the St. Lawrence to Salmon Creek, then up that tributary to the US hamlet of French Mills.<sup>33</sup>

Winter was setting in. French Mills was rough, poorly sheltered, and rations were hard. Besides the troops having to deal with the many bodily discomforts, the disease nemesis aggressively took hold and the death toll mounted. Now that further action in the campaign was canceled, Wilkinson removed himself south to find more favorable conditions in which to recover from his own illness. Other officers were also removed to fight elsewhere, including John McNelly's immediate commander, Captain John Pentland, an account of which follows. Pentland received his removal orders at Grenadier Island on November 22. John McNelly had died the day before; whether at French Mills, at Grenadier Island, or somewhere in-between may never be known. As to whether John McNelly died of sickness or by action of the enemy, forty-two years later his widow deposed that he was "slain by the enemy," when she applied for an "Old War" widow's pension.

The controversial General Wilkinson was called before a court of inquiry in 1815 to answer a number of charges, including neglect of duty. He was acquitted.

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The part that John McNelly played in that war is unknown, but it can be illuminated somewhat by following the war career of his commanding officer. John Pentland of Philadelphia was commissioned Captain and made commanding officer of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Regiment US Infantry on

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<sup>32</sup> In 1791 the old Province of Quebec had been divided into two parts: Upper Canada and Lower Canada.

<sup>33</sup> French Mills was later renamed Fort Covington in honor of a fallen general.

July 6, 1812. He was present at the Carlisle Barracks in January and February, 1813, and reported at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Military District on May 14, 1813, bound for Albany. John was wounded on June 20<sup>th</sup> and was laid-up until July 31<sup>st</sup>, after which he was restored to command through orders received August 16<sup>th</sup>. He was present at Sackett Harbour in September, where he was ordered to duty, and was at Grenadier Island on October 27<sup>th</sup>. While at Grenadier Island John Pentland received orders on November 22<sup>nd</sup>, as mentioned earlier. He was sick from February 1<sup>st</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> in 1814, and was wounded on March 18<sup>th</sup>. While onboard ship in the Champlain fleet he was again wounded on May 21<sup>st</sup>. He then received orders at Plattsburgh on June 6<sup>th</sup> and was assigned to the regiment at that place. On June 20<sup>th</sup> he was ordered to join a detachment now on its way to Utica, New York, and was again wounded on July 18<sup>th</sup> near Niagara Falls, Ontario. Here, after the Battle of Niagara Falls a.k.a. the Battle of Lundy's Lane, John Pentland was declared "missing in action."

Captain John Pentland was severely wounded during the incident of his capture on July 25, 1814, and was awarded the honorary rank of Major by Brevet. At that time he lost a leg and the use of his right arm. He was taken into Canada as a prisoner of war, where he took part in a prisoner exchange shortly before the war ended. However, due to his total disability John received orders granting him leave to return to Philadelphia, where he was discharged in June of 1815. On June 23<sup>rd</sup> Ephram Pentland, Esquire, wrote a letter to the War Department requesting a pension for John. As a result, one was granted which commenced as of June 16, 1815, consisting of \$25 per month.



## CHAPTER FOUR

### *The McNellys*

#### Hoods, Ellises and Coryells

“Katherine McNelley was married in 1820<sup>34</sup> to James Hood. He was born in Pennsylvania.<sup>35</sup> They had 10 children: Robert born 1826, Isabel in 1828, Jane in 1830, John in 1832, Mary in 1834, Kate in 1835, Libbie in 1837, Caroline in 1840, and James and William in 1842. Grandmother died November 20, 1842. They came to Novi-Oakland County in April 1835.”

-William Hood Barnes-

Widow Isabella McNelly was surrounded by many good friends and neighbors. Among those closest were the Ellises and the Coryells. John and Margaret Ellis had moved to Pulteney in about 1806 before the town was incorporated, and John had been elected “Overseer of Roads” at the first town meeting, held at Jesse Waldo’s house in March of 1808.<sup>36</sup> The Ellises had a daughter Mary (b. 9-1797 NY d. 11-10-1837 NY) and probably a daughter Lucinda.<sup>37</sup> David and Charity Coryell, he of French and she of Dutch descent, came from Brunswick in Sussex County, New Jersey. David had joined the Revolutionary Army when 16 years old and had bought a farm at Brunswick after the conflict ended. He married Charity Seebron, also of Sussex County, in 1783, and, as mentioned earlier, the family moved to Ovid in 1802. When the Coryells moved to Pulteney from Ovid in 1812, two of their five boys were John, born in 1796, and Andrew, the youngest, born in 1800.

On October 18, 1815, John Coryell married Mary Ellis and they settled on a portion of the original Coryell estate in Pulteney. His brother Andrew went back to Ovid in 1816 to begin a four-year apprenticeship in the carpentry trade. Andrew married Esther Carpenter of Massachusetts in 1821, and they settled in Romulus just north of Ovid. It was in Romulus that his and John’s mother Charity died in 1823. Three years later Andrew Coryell, Esther, and their family moved to Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County, Michigan.

A young man by the name of James Hood also fulfilled his carpentry apprenticeship in Seneca County, and it could be supposed that Andrew and James were acquainted with each other,

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<sup>34</sup> According to research conducted by Harris Ely Hood, James and Catharine were married August 28, 1825.

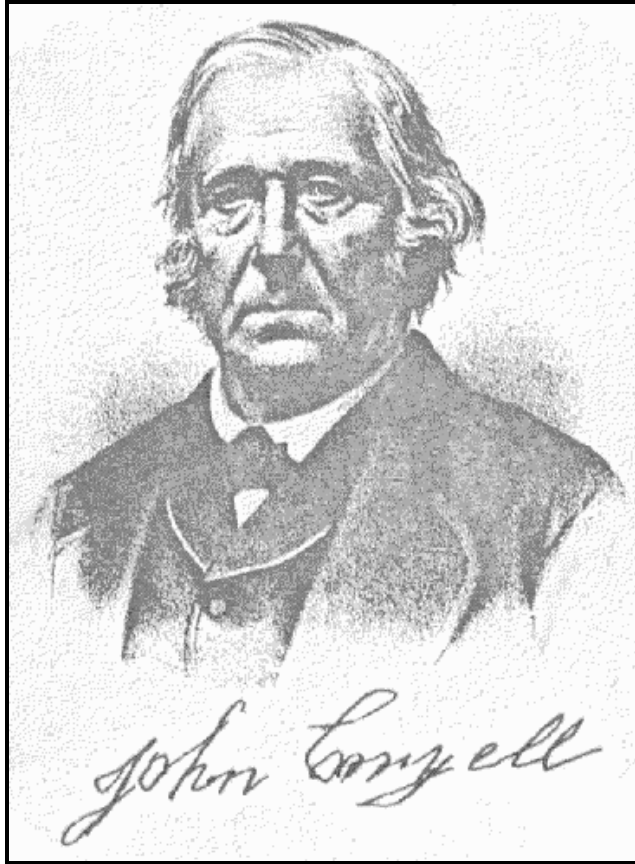
<sup>35</sup> James Hood’s birthplace was affirmed as Pennsylvania by James himself in the 1850 Federal census but changed, also by him, to New York in the 1860 census. Since his family arrived in the area which later became Seneca County when he was very young, it is possible he did not know for sure or, at times, remember in which state he was born. His son William, however, always claimed his father was born in New York—in the 1880, 1900 and 1910 Federal censuses, and on William’s death certificate it stated that his father [James] was born at New Paltz, [Ulster County] New York. William’s sisters generally attributed James’ birth state as being New York during those same three census years, with occasional lapses into claiming it was Pennsylvania.

<sup>36</sup> John Ellis was born in Ireland and arrived in Pennsylvania at age 6 years.

<sup>37</sup> Lucinda Ellis (b. 7-27-1782 NY d. 4-13-1863 WI) married John Stork (b. 3-10-1776 CT d. 10-24-1863 NY) on 8-20-1803 at Cooperstown, Otsego Co., NY. At the time of her marriage Lucinda was living with her aunt, Nancy Ellis, at Cherry Valley, NY. Her parents were listed as John and Margaret Ellis, and his parents were listed as Capt. Moses and Eunice (Mason) Stork, in C. A. Storke’s book *The English Storokes in America*. In that book an entire chapter of sixty-three pages was consigned to John and Lucinda and their descendants.

perhaps even working under the same tradesman. Isabella McNelly's daughter Catharine was married to James Hood on August 28, 1825, in Seneca County.<sup>38</sup> Of James and Catharine's children: Robert was the first, born in 1826, followed by Isabel in 1828, Jane in 1830, and John in 1832.

When the 1825 census was taken at Pulteney, "Isabel McNally" was living in the vicinity of her brother Alexander Duncan's family, her future husband John Ellis, Sr. and his son John, Jr., her daughter Mary W. and son-in-law Samuel "Waddle," future son-in-law John Coryell, and John's brother Andrew—who had not yet immigrated to Michigan. A James "Studivant" was also living in the town, possibly a relative of Anna Duncan's future husband James Sturdevant. In Isabel's



John Coryell

household were three females, two of which were unmarried and between the ages of 16 to 45 years. The two unmarried women were probably Catharine and Isabella, Jr. Isabel, Sr. would have turned age 46 that year and thus not have been counted in the "unm fl6-45" category. They lived on 1 acre of land on which they had 1 head of cattle and 1 hog.

Isabel's neighbor John Ellis, Sr. lived on a sixty-acre farm. Included in his inventory were: 11 cattle, 7 sheep, 12 horses, 73 hogs, 20 yards wool, and 20 yards cotton. In his household were: three males, one of which was registered with the militia (militia service was mandatory for men between 18-45 years) and two of which could vote, and one female who was over 45 years old.

Mrs. Margaret Ellis died July 6, 1828, at age 75 years. The next year, on March 4, the widow Isabel (Duncan) McNelly married the widower John Ellis, Sr. (b. 1759 in Ireland d. 3-20-1846 in Steuben Co., NY). Also in 1829, aged David Coryell moved from Steuben County to the town of Ridgeway in Lenawee County, Michigan, to live with

some of his children. At the time he was suffering from palsy. In 1831, David's son Andrew and daughter-in-law Esther, who had been living in Ypsilanti, settled in Monroe, Monroe County, Michigan. The young father of four was busily building frame structures in the surrounding towns, which were practically devoid of anything but rough log cabins.

A few years passed before Catharine and James Hood also decided to head for Michigan. They started the trek in 1834. Along the way, on December 7, 1834, in the Lake Erie shore town of Portland, Chautauqua County, New York, Catharine took time to give birth to Mary W. Hood. In April of the next year the growing family settled in the town of Novi, Oakland County,

<sup>38</sup> The facts of James and Catharine's marriage and of James' carpentry apprenticeship in Seneca County, New York, are documented in *Southeastern Michigan Pioneer Families* (Lewis), p. 1054.



Michigan. Also in 1835, old David Coryell died at Ridgeway. His son Andrew soon left Lenawee County, where he had previously moved his family from Monroe County. He and Esther bought a farm in nearby Jackson County. Additionally, Catharine gave birth to a daughter Catharine “Kate,” who would in later years marry Isaac Mills, a prominent Michigan land owner.

James and Catharine Hood were part of a great Hood family migration to Michigan’s Wayne, Oakland, Livingston, Washtenaw, and Lenawee counties in the early-to-mid-1800s. A vast majority of these Hoods came from Seneca County, New York, especially from the Romulus/Varick area. Most of them tended to have huge families, and they often used similar names for their children, generation after generation, not unlike the Duncans (which both helped and hindered researching them). Most of the Hoods that descended on Michigan at that time were the descendants of five brothers who had settled in the Romulus area between 1796 and 1798. Their names were George, William, Robert, John, Jr. and Andrew. They were the sons of John Hood, Sr., who died in Turbot Township, Northumberland County, Pennsylvania in 1796. James was the son of Robert, who apparently died about 1800 leaving his wife Jane (or Jean—with possible maiden name of “Haynes”) and children James, Elizabeth and Jane (or Jean).<sup>39</sup>

“I noticed from material sent to me from the Seneca Co. Historical Society the following: Guardianship: James Hood, 15 on 5/31/last, son of Robert Hood, late of Romulus, guardian John Williams, 3/16/1812. From this, it follows that James would have been 15 on 5/31/1811, and that he was born 5/31/1796.”<sup>40</sup>

James’ older sister Elizabeth “Betsy” (b. 7-31-1792 PA d. 5-18-1886 NY) married Joseph McDuffie (b. 6-6-1788 NJ d. 12-29-1859 NY) on 1-10-1810 in Romulus, gave birth to ten children—the last when in her early 50s, and remained in the Romulus/Varick area for the last 88 years of her 94-year life. She claimed to have spent her first six years living near Muddy Run, a river in Turbot Township. That would have made the Robert and Jane Hood family’s migration north about 1798, the year James turned two years old. (Also see footnote #35, page 27.)

At least some of the Hood brothers bought a certain large piece of property “between the lakes”<sup>41</sup> and worked it, making improvements which included clearing the land, installing buildings, creating roads, building bridges, etc. Then it was discovered that their land titles were bad. As a result, the government took the entire tract and divvied it out to soldiers as part of the Central New York Military Tract. Besides two decades of time and labor the affected brothers lost their original and subsequent investments. John, Jr. tested his claim with the United States court at Albany but lost. The loss of the land and cost of litigation ruined his family financially and he never owned another farm, though his son William would eventually own a farm in Rome Township, Lenawee County, Michigan. The brother George was also thus affected. In 1865 at Ridgeway, New York, his son David Hood claimed: “I was born in the town of Tarbot, Pennsylvania, August 2d, 1794. In 1797 my parents removed to Seneca, NY.... The title to the farm on which my father had resided and labored for twenty years in Seneca County proved bad and he was compelled to abandon it, leaving him almost penniless, and he came to the town of Shelby and began again anew.”<sup>42</sup>

<sup>39</sup> Robert spelled the Christian name of his wife and daughter “Jean” in his will dated August 4, 1800, but the 1800 Federal census spelled Robert’s widow’s name “Jane.” It is possible the spellings were used interchangeably.

<sup>40</sup> From William Mutch, descendant of James’ sister Elizabeth.

<sup>41</sup> *Portrait and Biographical Album* (Chapman), p. 140; sketch for the brother John, Jr.’s son William Hood.

<sup>42</sup> *Pioneer History* (Thomas), p. 364-6.

Andrew Coryell's brother John, still in Pulteney, lost his wife, the former Mary Ellis, in 1837. A few years later he, now a widower with ten children, married Mrs. Mary W. (McNelly) Waddell, a widow with seven children. The new Mrs. Coryell later gave birth to James Harvey and Charity "Chattie" to increase the combined final tally. John and Mary W. remained on the Coryell farm until 1843, when they moved onto the estate first bought by John and Margaret Ellis in 1806.<sup>43</sup> There the children grew into adulthood as Presbyterians under the watchful eyes of their parents, and of their grandparents John and Isabel Ellis. Meanwhile, in 1841 Andrew and Esther Coryell left Jackson and returned to Ridgeway, Lenawee County, Michigan.

Catharine Hood and Mary W. Coryell were sisters, so the Michigan Hoods and Coryells were now related, practically speaking. Both had large families, and when they got together the crowd must have been sizable. But besides being related, the two Coryell families and the Hoods had something tragic in common. John's last son by his first wife, Andrew and Esther's last child, and one of James and Catharine's last-born sons all died in the Civil War.

In 1851, Andrew and Esther Coryell moved to Adrian, in Lenawee County, but spent their retirement years in the village of Ridgeway.<sup>44</sup>

## **The Waddell and Coryell Families**

### *Generation No. 1*

Mary W. McNelly was born Abt. 1800 in Pennsylvania, and died 1894 in New York. She married (1) Samuel Waddell Abt. 1820 in New York. He was born Abt. 1793 in Northern Ireland, and died 5-30-1837 in Howell, Livingston County, Michigan. She married (2) John Coryell Abt. 1840 in New York, son of David and Charity (Seebron) Coryell. He was born 4-27-1796 in Brunswick, Sussex County, New Jersey, and died 11-9-1885 in New York.

#### Marriage Notes for Mary W. McNelly and Samuel Waddell

Samuel and Mary W. (McNelly) Waddell arrived at Howell, Livingston County, Michigan in the autumn of 1835. Mary's sister and brother-in-law remained for a while longer in Novi—a town several miles to the southeast.

Samuel and his parents had emigrated from Northern Ireland to Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. In 1798 they had settled in the town of Lodi, Seneca County, New York, not far from Ovid. From Lodi, 19-year-old Samuel had joined as a soldier in the War of 1812.

Sam Waddell married Mary McNelly about 1820 and they lived in Pulteney, Steuben County, New York, where four girls and their two boys were born. Then they decided to go west to the burgeoning territory of Michigan. But the Michigan venture was not meant to be a long one.

Samuel "Waddle" and household were living in Pulteney when the 1825 census was taken. The Waddle household consisted of two males, one of which was in the militia (militia service was mandatory for men between 18-45 years) and could vote, and three females, two of which were

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<sup>43</sup> *History of Steuben Co.* (Clayton), p. 377—includes picture of John Coryell on page 28. The picture of John on the cover is courtesy of Lindsley Dunn, descendant of John's firstborn son William Seward Coryell.

<sup>44</sup> *History of Lenawee County* (Whitney), p. 188-9.

below the age of 16, and one married female was below the age of 45. They owned 30 acres of land, 8 cattle, 1 horse, 15 sheep, 3 hogs, 19 yards of cloth, 9 yards wool, and 70 yards of cotton.

It is probable that the Waddells immigrated to Michigan along with the James and Catharine Hood family in April, 1835. They all initially settled in Oakland County, where some of Mary and Catharine's Duncan aunts and uncles had already become established, whereas the Waddells still had another move to make.

On July 14, 1835, Samuel Waddell purchased the "east half of southeast quarter" of Section 17 in nearby Livingston County. At the time he was accounted as living in Oakland County. He moved his family to the new location in the fall, and the next two years found the family making improvements to their land and helping build the community.

In May of 1837 Samuel was helping raise the "frame of a barn at Amos Adams' Eagle Tavern"<sup>45</sup> when he was mortally injured. Dr. Cyrus Wells of Oakland County, who also made calls in Livingston County, treated Samuel but to no avail. Samuel died May 30, 1837, and was buried on his farm. Just as his daughter Isabel's birth the year before was a first in the area, so was Samuel's death. His was the first death of a person of foreign birth in the town of Howell. His widow returned to Pulteney that autumn with their seven children.

Years later, Samuel's grave was exhumed and he was reburied in the old city cemetery on Barnard Street in Howell. However, this was not to be his final resting place. Years later still he was removed to Section H, Lot 4, of the Lakeview Cemetery, 920 Roosevelt Street in Howell, near Howell (Thompson) Lake. He shared this lot with John and Mary Hardt and Harriet Glass, Mary being one of Samuel's granddaughters by son Andrew.<sup>46</sup>

Some children of Mary McNelly and Samuel Waddell were:

- v. Andrew D. Waddell, b. 5-25-1831, NY; d. 12-10-1881, Howell, Livingston Co., MI; m. Mary Elizabeth Skilbeck, 9-14-1858, Howell, MI; b. 4-24-1836, MI; d. 5-5-1909, Howell, MI.
- vii. Isabel E. Waddell, b. 1836, MI; d. 1874, Wilson Co., KS; m. Samuel Waddell Sturdevant, 10-8-1868, Pulteney, Steuben Co., NY; b. 3-15-1837, NY; d. 1-4-1919, Leavenworth, Leavenworth Co., KS.

Marriage Notes for Mary W. McNelly and John Coryell:

Mary would remarry and live to be 94 years old. Besides having two children together, John and Mary Coryell would adopted little Laura M. Dean b. 1856, d. June 6, 1859 age 3 years 4 months and 20 days.

Children of Mary McNelly and John Coryell were:

- viii. James Harvey Coryell, b. 4-27-1841, Steuben Co., NY; d. 3-2-1899, Pulteney, Steuben Co., NY; m. Elizabeth Andrews, 9-4-1866, Steuben Co., NY; b. Abt. 1848, England; d. 9-23-1910, Pulteney, Steuben Co., NY.

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<sup>45</sup> *History of Livingston County*, p. 186, 188.

<sup>46</sup> *Howell Michigan Lakeview* (Reed) Howell Michigan Lakeview Cemetery Tombstone Inscriptions, Sections A-H.

- ix. Charity Coryell, b. 3-4-1847, Steuben Co., NY; d. 4-4-1934.

Notes for Charity Coryell:

At times of the 1870 and 1880 Federal censuses, Charity (a.k.a. Chatty and Chat) was still living at home with John and Mary Coryell.

### *Generation No. 2*

5. Samuel and Mary W. (McNelly) Waddells' fifth child Andrew D. Waddell was born 5-25-1831 in NY, and died 12-10-1881 in Howell, Livingston County, Michigan. He married Mary Elizabeth Skilbeck 9-14-1858 in Howell, daughter of Joseph and Mary (Dearborn) Skilbeck. She was born 4-24-1836 in Michigan, and died 5-5-1909 in Howell. She often if not usually went by her middle name of Elizabeth.

Andrew did not stay with his mother in Pulteney. At age six the boy went to live with his paternal grandmother and uncle, Isaac Waddell, in Lodi, New York. As he grew up Andrew attended a number of select schools. One of them was the Franklin Academy at Prattsburg, New York, which he entered in 1848. Later he taught school for five years until 1855, when he returned to Howell, Michigan.

Andrew took up the study of law and was admitted to the bar by Hon. Sanford M. Green, Circuit Court Judge, in October of 1856. In November of that year the new attorney was elected Circuit Court Commissioner. Two years later he was made Justice of the Peace for the township of Howell, a position he held for four years.

Andrew was reelected Circuit Court Commissioner in 1860. Later, during the Civil War, he raised a company of seventy men between December 1863 and January 1864. With them he joined the 5<sup>th</sup> Michigan Veterans Volunteer Infantry. After the war Howell's Waddell Post of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) was named in his honor.

With peace once again on the land, Andrew became Prosecuting Attorney for Livingston County in 1872. He was reelected to that post in 1874. Eventually, Andrew Waddell became Director of Howell Union School—the position he was holding when his biography was done in 1878.<sup>47</sup>

Andrew, his wife Mary "Elizabeth," their daughter and son-in-law Mary L. and John Hardt, daughter Mrs. Anna Knapp, and granddaughter Mrs. Jane (Knapp) Wood were all laid to rest at the Lakeview Cemetery, Section H, in Lots 3 and 4 not far from Samuel Waddell.

Children of Andrew Waddell and Mary Skilbeck were:

- i. Mary L. Waddell, b. Abt. 1859, Howell, Livingston Co., MI; m. John W. Hardt, 1-10-1883, Howell, MI; b. Abt. 1857, Cincinnati, Hamilton Co., OH.

Notes for Mary L. Waddell:

The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Volume 18, page 360:

Mrs. Mary Waddell Hardt.

DAR ID Number: 17989

Born in Howell, Michigan.

Wife of John W. Hardt.

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<sup>47</sup> *State of Michigan Biographical*, p. 182.

Descendant of Asa Dearborn, of New Hampshire.  
Daughter of Andrew D. Waddell and Elizabeth Skilbeck, his wife.  
Granddaughter of Joseph Skilbeck and Mary Dearborn, his wife.  
Gr.-granddaughter of Asa Dearborn and Anna Emerson, his wife.  
Asa Dearborn, (1756-1831), served as a private in Capt. Joseph Dearborn's company of New Hampshire volunteers. He was born in Chester, NH, and died in Chelsea, VT. His widow received a pension from 1840.

Notes for John W. Hardt:

At the time of the 1880 Federal Census of Howell, John was listed as 23 years old, born in OH of Prussian parents, and was a Dry Goods Clerk.

- ii. Anna Emerson Waddell, b. 5-31-1861, Howell, MI; d. 1-24-1919, Chicago, Cook Co., IL.

7. Samuel and Mary W. (McNelly) Waddells' seventh and last child Isabel E. Waddell was born 1836 in Michigan, attributed as the first white child born west of the Shiawassee River. She, like Andrew, did not remain in New York after returning to Pulteney with her widowed mother and siblings. She died in 1874 in Wilson County, Kansas. She married Samuel Waddell Sturdevant (incidentally, named after her father) 10-8-1868 in Pulteney. A son of James and Anna (Duncan) Sturdevant he was born 3-15-1837 in New York and died 1-4-1919 at the Hospital, Western Branch, National Home for Disabled Soldiers, in Leavenworth, Leavenworth County, Kansas.

Samuel and Isabel were 1st cousins once removed. They were living at Pleasant Valley, Wilson County, Kansas at the time of the 1870 Federal census. In the household were:

S. W. Sturdevant, 33 years old and born in New York, a farmer with real estate valued at \$1,500 and personal estate valued at \$795, whose mother was of foreign birth; and I. E. Sturdevant, also 33 years old, born in Michigan.

Samuel, Isabel, and their epileptic son Oswald were buried at the New Light Cemetery at Pleasant Valley

Child of Samuel and Isabel (Waddell) Sturdevant was:

- i. Oswald W. Sturdevant, b. 4-10-1872, Wilson Co., KS; d. Aft. 1930, Prob. KS.

Notes for Oswald Sturdevant:

Oswald never married and was a patient at the State Hospital for Epileptics in Parsons, Labette County, Kansas from 1910 to at least 1930 according to Federal census reports.

Notes for Samuel Waddell Sturdevant:

Samuel remarried to Amelia E. Alexander after Isabel died, by whom he had another son. However, Samuel's final resting place was near Isabel and their son Oswald at the New Light Cemetery in Pleasant Valley, Wilson County, Kansas.

(Information on Samuel's marriage to Amelia, and their descendants, can be found on page 70 in the section titled *The James and Anna (Duncan) Sturdevant Family*.)

**8.** John and Mary W. (McNelly) Waddell Coryell's son James Harvey Coryell was born 4-27-1841 in Steuben County, New York, and died 3-2-1899 in Pulteney, Steuben County, New York. He married Elizabeth Andrews 9-4-1866 in Steuben County. She was born Abt. 1848 in England, and died 9-23-1910 in Pulteney.

James' name was listed as "J. H. H. Coryell" in Pulteney's 1880 Federal census. He and Elizabeth were buried at the Glenview Cemetery in Pulteney as were numerous relatives.

Children of James Coryell and Elizabeth Andrews were:

i. Jennie Coryell, b. Abt. 1869.

Notes for Jennie Coryell:

She was listed as "Jessica" Coryell in the 1870 Federal census and "Jennie" in the 1880 census.

ii. John Coryell, b. Abt. 1871.

iii. Mary Coryell, b. Abt. 1875.

iv. Joseph D. Coryell, b. Abt. 1878.

### *Generation No. 3*

**2.** Andrew and Mary "Elizabeth" (Skilbeck) Waddell's daughter Anna Emerson Waddell was born 5-31-1861 in Howell, Livingston County, Michigan, and died 1-24-1919 in Chicago, Cook County, Illinois. She married Harry Stocum Knapp 10-8-1884 in Plainwell, Allegan County, Michigan, son of Charles and Cynthia (Stocum) Knapp. He was born 7-9-1860 in Adrian, Lenawee County, Michigan, and died 5-11-1925 in Chicago.

Anna was laid to rest in Howell at the Lakeview Cemetery, Section H, in Lot 3 near her parents and daughter Jane.

Children of Anna Waddell and Harry Knapp were:

i. Warren Emerson Knapp, b. 6-16-1885, Wellington, Sumner Co., KS; m. Ethel Cowles, 9-16-1912.

ii. Elizabeth Lina Knapp, b. 3-15-1886, Kalamazoo, Kalamazoo Co., MI; d. Riverside, Fairfield Co., CT.

6. iii. Jane Cynthia Knapp, b. 2-19-1888, Kalamazoo, Kalamazoo Co., MI; d. 9-30-1953.

### *Generation No. 4*

**3.** Anna (Waddell) and Harry Knapp's daughter Jane Cynthia Knapp was born 2-19-1888 in Kalamazoo, Kalamazoo County, Michigan, and died 9-30-1953. She married Edwin Allen Wood, Sr. 9-21-1910 in South Haven, Van Buren County, Michigan.

Jane was laid to rest in Howell at the Lakeview Cemetery, Section H, in Lot 3 near her mother and grandparents.

Children of Jane Knapp and Edwin Wood, Sr. were:

- i. Jane Elizabeth Wood.
- ii. Edwin Allen Wood, Jr.

### **A Pension for a Widow<sup>48</sup>**

The years 1853 and 1854 were indicative of the pre-Civil War America, with its growing diplomatic presence in the world, its bent toward scientific research, its growing rift between North and South, and its fads. In 1853, Jefferson Davis became Secretary of War in the Cabinet of newly elected President Franklin Pierce. William Beaumont, who won recognition for his studies on the physiology of the stomach and chemistry of gastric digestion, died in St. Louis. His studies were based on the observations, over a long time, of the stomach of a young man that had been opened up by a close-range musket shot. The first Negro YMCA was organized in Washington, DC. Mrs. Amelia Jenks Bloomer, a publisher and reformer for women's causes, introduced a "Turkish" style in short skirt and full trousers at a 4<sup>th</sup> of July address at Hartford (the style later became known as "bloomers"). Also, a naval squadron commanded by Commodore Matthew C. Perry, on the steam frigate *Susquehanna*, reached Yedo (now Tokyo) Bay in an attempt to end the Japanese exclusion of contact with the western world.

In 1854 Senator Stephen A. Douglas of Illinois introduced a bill which would allow each territorial government to make its own decision about slavery. The furor which arose from this bill widened the already precipitous differences between North and South and resulted in the formation of the Republican Party. In Japan, the Treaty of Kanagawa was signed declaring peace and friendship between the two countries, permitting US ships to purchase supplies at the ports of Shimoda and Hakodate, and providing protection of American nationals shipwrecked in Japan.<sup>49</sup>

On July 6, citizens of Jackson, Michigan, formed the first Republican Party unit. Its platform was the repeal of the Fugitive Slave Law and the Kansas-Nebraska Act, and the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia. In November, the twice widowed Mrs. Isabella (Duncan) McNelly Ellis of Pulteney applied for an "Old War<sup>50</sup> Widow's Pension" recently made available by Congress to widows of War of 1812 casualties. Isabella was represented by John I. Edwards, who presented her case to the Commissioner of Pensions in Albany, L. P. Waldo, Esq. The following proofs were submitted to help establish her claim.

This may certify that John McAnnelly and Isabella Duncan were united in the holy bonds of Matrimony on the Fifteenth day of June One Thousand Seven hundred and Ninety-nine, by the Reverend Doctor John Ewing, as appears by the Records of the First Presbyterian Church of the City of Philadelphia.

Attest:

Alex Fullerton, M.S.  
Philadelphia,  
25<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1814

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<sup>48</sup> National Archives. "Old War Widows Pension file #10,947."

<sup>49</sup> *Bicentennial Almanac* (Linton), p. 143-5.

<sup>50</sup> The War of 1812 was early referred to as the Old War.

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**The Deposition of Isabella Ellis**

State of New York        )  
  ) ss.  
County of Steuben        )

On this 27<sup>th</sup> day of November, 1854, personally appeared before me, a justice of the peace in and for said county, Isabella Ellis, a resident of Pulteney in the County of Steuben and State aforesaid, aged 75 years, who, being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the law of the United States the 3 February 1853 & 5 August 1854, that she is the widow of John McNally who was a private in Capt. Pentland’s Company, 22<sup>nd</sup> Regiment, United States Infantry, who enlisted about 10 December 1812 for five years & was slain by the enemy about 21 November 1813, that she was married to the said John McNally on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of June in the year 1799, that her husband the aforesaid John McNally died at the time & in the manner above stated, that after his death, on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of March in the year 1829, she was married to John Ellis - that the said Ellis died on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of March in the year 1846<sup>51</sup> & that she has remained a widow, as will more fully appear by reference to the proofs hereto annexed.

her

signed: Isabella X        Ellis

mark

Sworn to & subscribed on the day & year above-written before me, B. F. Welles, Justice, I certify that Isabella Ellis is too infirm to attend a Court of Record to make the foregoing declaration and deposition, and that Josiah Dunlap and Mary Coryell, whose names are attached respectively to the accompanying depositions, are worthy and credible persons and their testimony entitled to full credence.

Pulteney 28<sup>th</sup> November, 1854 B. F. Welles,  
Justice of the Peace

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**The Deposition of Josiah Dunlap**

State of New York        )  
  ) ss.  
County of Steuben        )

On the 27<sup>th</sup> (Twenty-seventh) day of November, 1854, personally appeared before me, B. F. Wells, Esq., one of the justices of the peace of the county of Steuben - Josiah Dunlap, of the town of Pulteney of said county and after being duly sworn according to law deposite and saith he is about 64 years-of-age, that he has been well acquainted with Isabella Ellis for more than forty years, that he was well acquainted with her former husband, John McNally, and with their children Mary, William, James, Isabella and Catharine, and that he frequently heard of the enlistment and subsequent death of John McNally while in the United States service, that he verily believes the said John McNally neither wrote or spelled his own name, and this deponent further saith that he was well acquainted with John Ellis, the husband of Isabella Ellis, that he

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<sup>51</sup> According to the information on his tombstone John Ellis died on March 20, 1845. Either date, he lived to be in his mid-eighties.



was present on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1829, when she was married to John Ellis, and that he was present at the funeral of John Ellis who died on or about the 20<sup>th</sup> day of March in the year 1846, since which time the said Isabella has remained a widow.

Signed: Josiah Dunlap

Sworn and subscribed before me the day and year above written  
B.F. Welles, Justice of the Peace

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### The Collaborating Deposition of Mary Coryell

State of New York        )  
  ) ss.  
County of Steuben        )

Mary Coryell of the town of Pulteney in said County being duly sworn deposes and says that she is the daughter of Isabella Ellis, that the facts set forth in the above deposition so far as relates to the death of her father John McAnelly, his children, her mother's subsequent marriage and present widowhood, are true.

Signed: Mary W. Coryell

The above three depositions and marriage verification, along with a collaborating statement from the US Treasury Department regarding John McNelly's death, proved Isabella's eligibility. Her Certificate of Pension was issued on the 11<sup>th</sup> of January, 1855. Through it she was allowed \$3.50 per month—to commence as of December 12, 1854, and to terminate five years from that date.<sup>52</sup>

Isabell (Duncan) McNelly Ellis passed away May 15, 1857. She was buried at the Old Presbyterian Cemetery, a private location on the Daggett Farm in Pulteney, beside her second husband John Ellis and his first wife Margaret. Isabell's daughter Isabella McNelly would be laid to rest beside her in 1878. Rosabella McNella, daughter of Isabell's son James, had been buried there in 1842.

### The William McNelly Family (Perhaps)

From 1880 Federal census of Philadelphia, Philadelphia Co., PA:

Name	Relation	Marital Status	Gender	Race	Age	Birthplace	Occupation	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace
Wm. MCNALLY	Self	M	Male	W	78	PA	Saddler	IRE	SCOT
Cath MCNALLY	Wife	M	Female	W	77	PA	Housekeeper	IRE	ENG
Ann MCNALLY	Dau	S	Female	W	52	PA	Milliner	PA	PA
Isabella MCNALLY	Dau	S	Female	W	50	PA		PA	PA
Wm. MCNALLY	Son	S	Male	W	48	PA	Saddler	PA	PA
Elizabeth MCNALLY	Dau	S	Female	W	44	PA		PA	PA

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<sup>52</sup> The McNelly children had been granted a five year pension a few years after John died. According to the *United States Senate Report from the Secretary of War* about Pennsylvania pensioners, Philadelphia County had granted an annual allowance of \$48.00 to be shared by John's heirs: Mary, William, Catharine, Isabella, and James McAnnelly. They were placed on the pension roll August 18, 1817, with pension commencement as of February 17, 1815, and its termination February 17, 1820. A total of \$240.00 was paid.

## The James and Catharine (McNelly) Hood Family

### *Generation No. 1*

1. Catharine McNelly was born 6-13-1808 in Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania, and died 11-20-1842 in Livingston County, Michigan. She married James Hood 8-28-1825 in Seneca County, New York, son of Robert and Jane Hood.<sup>53</sup> He was born 5-31-1796 in either New York or Pennsylvania, and died 4-6-1867 in Hillsdale County, Michigan.

The Hood family had been in Michigan only five and a half years when 34-year-old Catharine died November 20, 1842. Two weeks earlier she had given birth to James Duncan Hood, said to have been born on November 5 at Lyon (today called South Lyon), Oakland County, and William McNelly Hood, said to have been born November 6 at Salem, Washtenaw County.<sup>54</sup> Catharine was buried at a cemetery later know as the Very Old Cemetery<sup>55,56</sup> in South Lyon Township and the ten children were distributed among family and friends.

James Hood was absent at the time of his wife's death. In fact, later generations of the Duncan family, who would raise James Duncan Hood as one of their own, believed Catharine's husband had already died before Catharine's arrival in Michigan. Yet in the 1850 Federal census James Hood, Sr. was located at Salisbury, LaSalle County, Illinois near the Illinois River. He was described as 54 years old, a carpenter with real estate valued at \$500, and having been born in Pennsylvania. Also in the household were another carpenter and his wife, 31-year-old Elijah F. and 23-year-old Frances P. Wellington, born in Massachusetts, their daughter four-year-old Frances M., born in Illinois, and Fidelia Golding, 43 years old and born in Massachusetts.

Marriage Notes for Catharine McNelly and James Hood:

The James and Catharine (McNelly) Hood family was living in Pulteney, New York, at the time of the 1830 Federal census. In their household were: 1 male and 2 females between 0 and 5 years, 1 male between 30 and 40 years, and 1 female between 20 and 30 years. The 1825 census of Pulteney did not show James Hood as living in the area, at least not as head of household.

The following is from the 1840 Federal census of Lyon, Oakland County, Michigan. All on the same census page were the Hood family, with 8 of their eventual 10 children, Catharine's Uncle Alexander Duncan, his wife, and 5 of their 7 children; and Catharine's Uncle James Duncan, his wife, and their surviving 8 of 9 children.

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<sup>53</sup> Jane may have been a daughter of Bartholomew and Jane Haynes. The large Haynes family also came from Turbot Township, Pennsylvania, settling in Seneca County about the same time as the Hood brothers. Robert's sister Mary married the Haynes son Joseph, and it is possible Robert's sister Elizabeth married one, also. Additionally, Thomas and Joseph Haynes witnessed Robert Hood's will dated August 4, 1800. Little is known about the daughter Jane Haynes, but she would have been the right age to have been Robert's wife.

<sup>54</sup> Salem is near South Lyon (a.k.a. Lyon).

<sup>55</sup> A large headstone was later erected for Catharine, and her son James D. who would die at the infamous Confederate prison at Andersonville, Georgia. (See picture of headstone on page 51.)

<sup>56</sup> The Very Old Cemetery was originally named the "Rev. Olds Cemetery" in honor of Rev. Ira Mather Olds, an early Presbyterian minister from New York who established a mission in the area. Its location is the corner of 8 Mile and Pontiac Trail roads in South Lyon Township, Oakland County, though the years and neglect have practically erased its existence.

Some Duncan and Hood families in 1840 Michigan census:

Males (1st column): Age under 5, 5-10, 10-15, 15-20;  
 20-30, 30-40, 40-50, 50-60;  
 60-70, 70-80, 80-90, 90-100, over 100

Females (2nd column): Age under 5, 5-10, 10-15, 15-20;  
 20-30, 30-40, 40-50, 50-60;  
 60-70, 70-80, 80-90, 90-100, over 100

NAME	COUNTY	PAGE	CENSUS & TOWNSHIP IF ANY
Duncan, Alexander	Oakland	3	0011,0001 - 0002,1001 Lyon
Duncan, James	Oakland	3	0120,101 - 1102,001 Lyon
Hood, James	Oakland	3	0110,001 - 3210,001 Lyon

James had probably left to explore new areas by the time the twins were born. He would have felt safe doing this, since the family was surrounded by friends and relatives. His absence when Catharine died would explain the fact that the children were all farmed out to different families.

James would eventually settle at Moscow, Hillsdale County, Michigan, where he was living at the time of the 1860 Federal census.



The Hood Sisters (Civil War era)

[Left to right] Back row: Elizabeth “Libby” Hood, Mary Barnes, Catharine “Kate” Mills;  
 Front row: Isabell Griswold Fowle, Jane Snell Gale, Caroline Gale<sup>57</sup>

<sup>57</sup> Picture courtesy of Ken and Eunice Salsbury.

Children of Catharine McNelly and James Hood were:

- i. Robert Hood, b. 4-6-1826, NY; d. Aft. 1870; m. Emma; b. Abt. 1830, NY; d. Aft. 1870.
- ii. Isabell Hood, b. 4-24-1828, NY; d. 6-7-1909, Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI; m. (1) Martin L. Griswold, 11-15-1845, Washtenaw Co., MI; b. 7-1826, NY; d. 3-3-1857, Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI; m. (2) Charles Fowle, 4-24-1867, Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI; b. 1-13-1811, Livingston Co., NY; d. 11-27-1889, Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI.
- iii. Jane Hood, b. 2-24-1830, NY; d. 4-25-1911, Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI; m. (1) George Snell, Bef. 1850; b. Abt. 1825, NY; m. (2) Orlando Converse Gale, Aft. 1855; b. 7-8-1810, Barre, Washington Co., VT; d. 5-17-1881, Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI.

Marriage Notes for Jane Hood and George Snell:

Jane and George Snell settled at Green Oak, Livingston County, Michigan, where they were living at the time of the 1850 Federal census. Jane's sister Caroline was living with them. Jane later married Vermont-born Orlando Converse "O.C." Gale, a widower twenty years her senior, who was listed as a "retired farmer" with real estate valued in excess of \$20,000 at the time of the 1870 Federal census. At the time, also living with Jane, 40, and O.C., 60, in Moscow was O.C.'s son Converse A. "C.A.," age 15, the last child of O.C. and his first wife Louisa.

Notes for Orlando Converse Gale:

George Gale had been the first of the Gale brothers to arrive in Moscow from Barre, Washington County, Vermont in 1836. Brooks Gale arrived in 1838, and O.C. in 1840. Brooks was appointed Postmaster in Moscow; a position from which he tried to resign for political reasons after Gen. William Henry Harrison was elected President in 1840. Gale's resignation was not accepted and he continued in the position for a number of years more.

Upon O.C.'s arrival he went into partnership with his brother Brooks. Their business, the town's second mercantile store, was "... begun by Osman Blackmar, and purchasd by the Gale brothers before it was finished..." O.C. and family lived in "a portion of the old Benson purchase, in the village" of Moscow.<sup>58</sup> After her marriage to O.C., Jane was placed in the interesting position of being the stepmother-in-law of her sister Caroline. (See the article about Caroline Hood below for more Gale family information.)

Marriage Notes for Jane Hood and Orlando Gale:

When the 1880 Federal census was taken at Moscow, Jane Gale, 50, and Orlando C. Gale, 69, a magistrate, were living with the Armstrong family of Solomon, 61, a physician, and Sarah M., 49. Also in the household were: a son Will W. Armstrong, 24, a school teacher; a 10-year-old daughter Nora B. Armstrong; and Jane Gale's sister Libbie A. Hood, 42, also a school teacher.

Jane Gale was a widow living alone in a house she owned free of mortgage at the time of the 1900 and 1910 Federal censuses of Moscow. Jane never had children. She was buried near her husband Orlando and his first wife Louisa at the Old Soldier Cemetery

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<sup>58</sup> *Moscow Story*.

in Moscow, on Moscow Road a half mile south of its intersection with U.S. 12/Chicago Road).

- iv. John M. Hood, b. 5-9-1832, NY; d. Bef. 1868.

Notes for John M. Hood:

A John Hood, said to be a relative, went down with a ship off the coast of Boston, MA. Perhaps the John Hood in question was this Hood brother, who disappears after the 1850 Federal census. He was not listed as an heir in his father's 1868 probate.

- v. Mary W. Hood, b. 12-7-1834, Portland, Chautauqua Co., NY; d. 7-7-1911, Horton, Jackson Co., MI; m. David Barnes, Sr., 4-25-1860, Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI; b. 5-3-1826, Mentz, Cayuga Co., NY; d. 4-6-1895, Horton, Jackson Co., MI.
- vi. Catharine Ann Hood, b. 10-27-1835, Novi Twp., Oakland Co., MI; d. 1914, MI; m. Isaac C. Mills, 2-5-1856, Plymouth, Wayne Co., MI; b. 7-31-1832, Barnegat, Ocean Co., NJ; d. 1914, MI.
- vii. Elizabeth Ann Hood, b. 11-19-1837, MI; d. 1908, MI; m. Isaiah Hendershot, Abt. 1882, MI; b. 10-1834, MI.

Notes for Elizabeth Ann Hood:

When the 1880 Federal census was taken at Moscow, Libbie A. Hood, 42, a school teacher, was living with the Armstrong family of Solomon, 61, a physician, and Sarah M., 49. Also in the household were: a son Will W. Armstrong, 24, also a school teacher; a 10-year-old daughter Nora B. Armstrong; and Libbie's sister Jane Gale, 50, and brother-in-law Orlando C. Gale, 69, a magistrate.

After Elizabeth Hood was married to widower Isaiah Hendershot in about 1882, and went to live on the Hendershot farm at Macon, Lenawee Co., MI, she lived near her sister Catharine Mills.

Elizabeth Hendershot was buried near her sister Isabell (Hood) Griswold Fowle at the Old Soldier Cemetery in Moscow.

Notes for Isaiah Hendershot:

The 1880 and 1900 Federal census indices show his name as "Isaac." However, after a close examination of the actual census pages, the spelling appears to be "Isaiah." In support of the name Isaiah is the fact that, at the time of Macon's 1870 Federal census, his name was listed in the index as "Isiah."

Marriage Notes for Elizabeth Hood and Isaiah Hendershot:

Elizabeth and Isaiah Hendershot were living on a farm which they owned free of mortgage in Macon at the time of the 1900 Federal census. They had been married 18 years. Elizabeth was notated as having "0" children. They had two boarders living with them: one by the name of Sena Camburn, 27 years old; and one by the name of Frank Pennington, 19 years old, listed as a "farm laborer."

"Eliza" Hendershot, 71 years old, was living alone in a house she owned free of mortgage at Macon at the time of the 1910 Federal census.

- viii. Caroline Duncan Hood, b. 2-5-1840, MI; d. 5-3-1909, Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI; m. Dewitt Clinton Gale, Abt. 1858; b. 10-1832, VT; d. 1902, Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI.
- ix. James Duncan Hood, b. 11-5-1842, Lyon, Oakland Co., MI; d. 5-3-1864, Andersonville, Sumter Co., GA.

Notes for James Duncan Hood:

James Duncan Hood, a.k.a “J.D.” was raised in Lyon by his granduncle, James, and grandaunt, Jane (Waddell) Duncan. It is probable that he also spent a great deal of time with the family of his granduncle, Alexander, and grandaunt, Eliza (Mehaffey) Duncan, also of Lyon. Alexander and Eliza’s son James W. would have been like a big brother to J.D. Hood. Consequently, James W. was very upset with J.D. for accepting a bounty of \$50 to serve in the army in place of a fellow who was drafted. (See related story *James Duncan Hood in the Civil War.*)

- x. William McNelly Hood, b. 11-6-1842, Salem, Washtenaw Co., MI; d. 5-22-1918, Toledo, Lucas Co., OH; m. Mary Elizabeth Harris, Abt. 1866, MI; b. 12-1846, VA; d. 1918.

### *Generation No. 2*

**1.** Robert Hood was born 4-6-1826 in NY, and died Aft. 1870. He married Emma. She was born Abt. 1830 in NY and died Aft. 1870.

Marriage Notes for Robert and Emma Hood:

Robert returned to Pulteney and was staying with his grandmother, Isabella McNelly Ellis, where he was listed as a “boatman” at the time of the 1850 Federal census. He married “Emma” and they settled in Moscow, Michigan. At the time of the 1860 Federal census the household consisted of: Robert, 34 years old and a Master Carpenter/Joiner, Emma, 30, Catherine A., 11, Emma J., 5, Elizabeth, 3, and Ann Bigelow, 18. By 1868 his family was no longer living in Moscow but had moved to Petrolemanter, Pennsylvania, according to information in his father’s 1868 probate. (The name “Petrolemanter” for a town does not seem to exist today, or perhaps the town is too small to be noticed by maps, Internet, etc. However, there is a town called “Petrolia” in Butler County, Pennsylvania, due south of Harmony, New York.) By 1870 the family was living at Harmony, Chautauqua County, New York, and five-year-old James Hood had been added. All of these Hood children were born in Michigan.

Children of Robert Hood and Emma were:

- i. Catherine A. Hood, b. Abt. 1849, MI.
- ii. Emma J. Hood, b. Abt. 1855, MI.
- iii. Elizabeth A. Hood, b. Abt. 1857, MI.
- iv. James Hood, b. Abt. 1865, MI.

**2.** Isabell Hood was born 4-24-1828 in NY, and died 6-7-1909 in Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI. She married (1) Martin L. Griswold 11-15-1845 in Washtenaw Co., MI. He was born 7-1826 in NY, and died 3-3-1857 in Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI. She married (2) Charles Fowle 4-24-1867 in Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI, son of Benjamin and Martha (Lea) Fowle. He was born 1-13-1811 in Livingston Co., NY, and died 11-27-1889 in Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI.

Marriage Notes for Isabell Hood and Martin Griswold:

Isabell and Martin Griswold settled at Moscow. Living with Martin, 25, and Isabell, 23, at the time of the 1850 Federal census were: Caroline, 7 months old, John Hood, 17 years old and a shoemaker, Elizabeth Hood, 13, and Aaron C. Griswold, 23.

Children of Isabell Hood and Martin Griswold were:

- i. Caroline Griswold, b. 12-3-1849, Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI; d. 5-23-1872, Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI; m. William N. Marks, 1-1-1867, Jonesville, Hillsdale Co., MI; b. Abt. 1842, MI.

Marriage Notes for Caroline Griswold and William Marks:

“Carrie” G. and William Marks were buried at the Old Soldier Cemetery in Moscow.

From Moscow’s 1870 Federal census: (27 August)

Dwelling 264/Family 258:

Marks, Wm 28 M W Farmer \$4,000 \$400 MI

Marks, Carrie 20 F W Keeping house MI

Marks, Flora 1 F W MI

- ii. Mary Belle Hood Griswold, b. 8-15-1855, Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI; d. 7-26-1922, Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI; m. William Worth Moore; b. 3-2-1852, Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI; d. 6-4-1932, Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI.

At the time of Moscow’s 1860 Federal census the Griswold household included the widow Isabell, 34 years old and farming, with real estate valued at \$2,000, Caroline, 10, Mary B., 4, and Isabell’s sister Elizabeth Hood, 21.

Marriage Notes for Isabell Hood and Charles Fowle:

After remaining a widow for ten years, Isabell was married to farmer Charles Fowle in Moscow on April 14, 1867. Charles had lost his first two wives and was a man 17 years Isabell’s senior. According to the 1870 Federal census they owned real estate valued at \$17,600. The last two children of Charles and his second wife Statira S. (Kies) were still at home with the family in Moscow in 1870: Otto, 18 and listed as a farm hand, and Cordela, 15. Also in the household was Isabell’s youngest daughter Belle, 14, who was using the surname “Fowle.”

Child of Isabell Hood and Charles Fowle was:

- iii. May Fowle, b. 5-17-1868, Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI; d. 10-20-1868, Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI.

Notes for Charles Fowle:

Charles Fowle and brother Benjamin left home in Livingston County, New York, for good in 1833, at which time they settled in Moscow. Their brother James had already taken up farming in Blissfield, Lenawee County, Michigan on the Raisin River in 1830. Since 1830, Charles had made the trip to Michigan a number of times to help his brother during important and labor-intensive farming events. The trek became far less after Charles settled at Moscow.<sup>59</sup>

Charles’ first wife was Caroline M., whom he married in New York in 1833 and who died 9-6-1838, at age 26 years, 10 mos. and 24 days. His second wife, Statira S., died in 1858. He had at least eight children by his three wives.

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<sup>59</sup> *Moscow Story*.

Charles was buried in the Fowle Cemetery on Cemetery Road<sup>60</sup> a half mile east of downtown Moscow off U.S. 12/Chicago Road and just a block east from Round Lake Road. Also buried there are his first and second wives plus four of his children by Statira.

In A.D. 2000 the current Charles Fowle of Moscow was attempting to have the Old Soldier Cemetery renamed the Fowle Cemetery in honor of his great-great-great uncle, Benjamin Fowle, brother of the original Charles Fowle, who donated the land to be used for the cemetery and is buried there with much of his family.

5. Mary W. Hood was born 12-7-1834 in Portland, Chautauqua Co., NY, and died 7-7-1911 in Horton, Jackson Co., MI. She married David Barnes, Sr. 4-25-1860 in Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI, son of Thomas and Sarah (Sittser) Barnes. He was born 5-3-1826 in Mentz, Cayuga Co., NY, and died 4-6-1895 in Horton, Jackson Co., MI.

Marriage Notes for Mary Hood and David Barnes:

It is not currently known what became of Mary between her mother's death and her marriage to David Barnes, Sr., a widower from Jackson, Jackson County, Michigan. David and his parents, brother and sisters had come from Seneca Falls, Seneca County, New York, arriving at Jackson on October 24, 1843. In 1856 David had lost his first wife, the former Arvilla Field, after already having lost his son Murvin to dysentery the year before. Mary and David were married at the home of Mary's sister Isabell Griswold.

The new Barnes family settled in Jackson, where they bought property on Cooper Street, and David went to work as a "keeper" at the new State Prison of Southern Michigan. Mary helped rear his surviving daughter from the previous marriage, DonZetta (called "Zettie"), besides having several children of her own.

At the time of the 1870 Federal census, the Barnes family was living on a farm in Summit Township, Jackson County, Michigan. In the household were: David, a 44-year-old farmer with real estate valued at \$7,000, Mary, 36, Martin, 9, Fred, 7, Jennie, 5, Thomas, 2, William, 3 months old, Mary's sister Elizabeth Hood, 32, and Carlton Nobles, 22, with occupation listed as "works on farm." (Also that year, David's daughter DonZetta, 21 years old, was living with her husband Charles Harris, 26, in Ward 1 of the city of Jackson. Charles was listed as a "Keeper at the St. Prison.") In 1874 the Barnes family would buy nearly 200 acres of land on the outskirts of Horton, which was also in Jackson County, most if not all of which would continue to be owned by various family members for well over a hundred years. (See Barnes family picture below.)

Children of Mary Hood and David Barnes, Sr. were:

- i. Martin A. Barnes, b. 3-1861, Jackson Co., MI; d. 1-10-1916, Duluth, St. Louis Co., MN; m. (1) Birdella Johnson, 11-5-1883, Jackson, MI; b. 1867, NY; d. 2-17-1898, MI; m. (2) Ella Susan "Susie" Bliss, 5-16-1900, Albion, Calhoun Co., MI; b. 8-28-1868, Albion, Calhoun Co., MI; d. 4-12-1945, Albion, Calhoun Co., MI.
- ii. Fredrick D. Barnes, b. 12-23-1862, Jackson Co., MI; d. 12-11-1942, Jackson Co., MI; m. Lillian M. Snyder, 12-24-1889; b. 8-5-1870; d. 7-22-1954.

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<sup>60</sup> The cemetery is hidden away about a quarter of a mile north and just off the unpaved Cemetery Road, atop a ridge on the right-hand side. It is surrounded by a cast iron fence. Several hives of honey bees are set up to one side, purposely placed there to keep vandals away who have caused much damage over the years.



- iii. Jennie Barnes, b. 1865, Jackson Co., MI; d. 11-23-1930, Jackson Co., MI; m. (1) Fredrick Fales, 1-3-1888; b. 3-21-1853, Cortland, Cortland Co., NY; d. 10-7-1909, Horton, Jackson Co., MI; m. (2) Lee McGonegal, 9-10-1921; b. 8-9-1868, Spring Arbor, Jackson Co., MI; d. Aft. 1950.
- iv. Thomas Hood Barnes, b. 7-4-1868, Jackson Co., MI; d. 7-28-1937, Jackson Co., MI; m. Pearl Florence Russell, 5-15-1909; b. 11-11-1871, MI; d. 12-11-1942.
- v. William Hood Barnes, b. 5-27-1870, Horton, Jackson Co., MI; d. 12-10-1946, Jackson Co., MI; m. Nellie Mae Bliss, 11-29-1899, Albion, Calhoun Co., MI; b. 8-17-1874, Albion, Calhoun Co., MI; d. 4-21-1962, Jackson Co., MI.
- vi. David Barnes, Jr. "June", b. 11-23-1873, Jackson Co., MI; d. 11-22-1957, Jackson Co., MI; m. Edith Ann Hobbins, 12-12-1900; b. 7-22-1879, MI; d. 9-19-1961.



Family of David and Mary W. (Hood) Barnes

[Left to right] Back row: Tom, Will, Mart, Fred  
 Front row: Mary, David, Jen, David, Jr. (called "June")<sup>61</sup>

<sup>61</sup> For information on Mary W. (Hood) Barnes and her descendants, additional to what can be found here or in Chapter Five, see the Barnes and Related Families Abridged Genealogical Record, (Paige), privately published Los Angeles: 1976.

6. Catharine Ann Hood was born 10-27-1835 in Novi Twp., Oakland Co., MI, and died 1914 in MI. She married Isaac C. Mills 2-5-1856 in Plymouth, Wayne Co., MI, son of Gabriel and Hannah (Collins) Mills. He was born 7-31-1832 in Barnegat, Ocean Co., NJ, and died 1914 in MI.

Notes for Catharine Hood:

Catharine was raised by the family of Robert and Rebecca Blackwood<sup>62</sup> at Plymouth, in whose household she appeared in the 1850 Federal census.

Marriage Notes for Catharine Hood and Isaac Mills:

Catharine and Isaac settled on the Mills family farm near Macon, Lenawee County, Michigan, remaining on the farm after Isaac's father Gabriel died. There they raised their family, farmed their 150 acres, sold wool from their American Merino sheep, and bred livestock.<sup>63</sup>

The following people were in the household at the time of the 1870 Federal census: Isaac, 38 years old, with real estate valued at \$6,000, Catharine, 35, Robert B., 13, Paris (Perris), 12, Frank, 11, James, 10, Carl, 8, and Phrisa Calkins, 13, listed as a domestic servant.

"Kate" and Isaac were still on the farm at the time of the 1910 Federal census but were living with their last-born daughter and son-in-law Gabriella and William Swick. The Swicks had been married 6 years and had one child.

Children of Catharine Hood and Isaac Mills were:

- i. Robert B. Mills, b. Abt. 1857, MI.

Notes for Robert B. Mills:

A successful farmer in Clare County, MI.

- ii. Perris E. Mills, b. Abt. 1858, MI; d. 3-13-1883, MI.

Notes for Perris E. Mills:

Perris was educated in the public schools and the Adrian Business College. He died at the age of 25 years.

- iii. Frank Eugene Mills, b. Abt. 1859, MI; d. 1-16-1891.

Notes for Frank Eugene Mills:

Frank graduated from the Tecumseh High School and later attended the Adrian Business College. Frank was at one time engaged in photography in Texas.

- iv. James H. Mills, b. Abt. 7-1860, MI; d. 10-20-1876.

Notes for James H. Mills:

James died at the age of 16 years.

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<sup>62</sup> *Southeastern Michigan Pioneer Families* (Lewis), p. 1054.

<sup>63</sup> *Ibid*, p. 1053-4.

- v. Carl S. Mills, b. Abt. 1862, MI.

Notes for Carl S. Mills:

Carl completed a course at the Cleary Business College in Ypsilanti and later engaged in the real estate business in the state of Washington.

- vi. Gabriella Mills, b. Abt. 9-1874, MI; d. 1958; m. William E. Swick, Abt. 1904; b. 9-1877, MI; d. 1966.

Marriage Notes for Gabriella Mills and William Swick:

The family was living on a farm at Macon, Lenawee Co., MI, at the time of the 1910 Federal census. In the household were: William Swick, 32 years old, a farmer, born in MI; wife Gabriella, 35 years old, born in MI; son Mills, 5 years old, born in MI; father-in-law Isaac C. Mills, 77 years old, born in NJ; mother-in-law Kate, 74 years old, born in MI.



The Hood Sisters (latter 1800s)

[Left to right] Back row (standing): Elizabeth "Libby" Hendershot;, Catharine "Kate" Mills.  
Middle row (seated): Isabell Griswold Fowle, Mary Barnes, Caroline Gale.  
Front: Jane Snell Gale

**8.** Caroline Duncan Hood was born 2-5-1840 in MI, and died 5-3-1909 in Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI. She married Dewitt Clinton "D.C." Gale Abt. 1858, son of Orlando and Louisa Gale. He was born 10-1832 in VT, and died 1902 in Moscow.

Marriage Notes for Caroline Hood and Dewitt Gale:

Caroline was residing with sister and brother-in-law Jane and George Snell at Green Oak, Livingston County, Michigan at the time of the 1850 Federal census. After her marriage, Caroline and Dewitt settled near Moscow, where they were living at the time of the 1870 Federal census. In the household were: D.C., 38 years old and a farmer with real estate valued at \$6,000, Caroline, 30, James, 11, Edwin, 4, and George Hewett, 25, listed as a farm laborer. About ten years after D.C. and Caroline were married, D.C.'s widower father O.C. married Caroline's sister Jane, effectively making Jane Caroline's stepmother-in-law. (See the article about Jane Hood above for more Gale family information.)

Caroline and Dewitt were still living in Moscow at the time of the 1900 Federal census. Their burial place was at the Old Soldier Cemetery in Moscow.

Children of Caroline Hood and Dewitt Gale were:

- i. James B. Gale, b. 12-1859, MI.
- ii. Edwin "Ned" Gale, b. 1866, MI.

**10.** William McNelly Hood was born 11-6-1842 in Salem, Washtenaw Co., MI, and died 5-22-1918 in Toledo, Lucas Co., OH. He married Mary Elizabeth Harris Abt. 1866 in MI. She was born 12-1846 in VA, and died 1918.<sup>64</sup>

Notes for William Hood:

William was born the day after his twin brother James, Jr., and in Salem rather than Lyon (South Lyon), where James had been born. Whereas James Hood, Jr. was raised by Duncan relatives, William was staying with Jedde and Maria Bunnell in Salem at the time of the 1850 Federal census.

Marriage Notes for William Hood and Mary Harris:

After his marriage, William Hood and his family were still residing in Salem at the time of the 1870 Federal census. In the household were: Wm., 27 years old and a farm laborer, Eliza, 23, and Jennibelle, 2.

The family had moved to Moscow, Hillsdale County, Michigan by the 1880 Federal census. In the household were: William, 37 years old and a carpenter; Mary E., 33; Jennie, 12; George, 10; Owen, 5; and Frank, 3. All except Mary E. had been born in Michigan.

The family was living at 1162 Oak Street in the 6th Ward of Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio, at the time of the 1900 Federal census. In the household were: William, 57 years old, a railroad section foreman; Mary E., 53; and Frank M., 23, a telegraph operator. William and Mary had been married 34 years.

The family was living at 1339 Oak Street in Toledo's 12th Ward at the time of the 1910 Federal census. In the household were: Wm M., 67 years old, foreman at a blast furnace; Elizabeth M.,

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<sup>64</sup> Besides providing important facts and research material about prior generations, this project is grateful to Robin Lynn (Hood) Paszczykowski, her father Robert William Hood, and grandfather, Harris Ely Hood, for information about William McNelly and Mary Elizabeth (Harris) Hood and their descendants.

63; and widow Elizabeth Warner, 75, born in Pennsylvania. William and Elizabeth had been married 44 years, and all 4 of their children were still living.

Children of William Hood and Mary Harris were:

- i. Jennibelle Hood, b. 2-1868, MI; d. 4-9-1945; m. Lennie Densmore.
- ii. George William Hood, b. 8-1873, MI; m. Winifred.
- iii. James Owen Hood, Sr., b. 3-17-1876, MI; d. 12-28-1926, Spokane, Spokane Co., WA; m. Edith Ulena Ryon, 7-9-1908, Penfield, Calhoun Co., MI; b. 8-12-1877, Hanover, Jackson Co., MI; d. Spokane, Spokane Co., WA.

Notes for Edith Ulena Ryon:  
Edith was a Baptist minister.

- iv. Frank McNelly Hood, b. 2-9-1877, Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI; d. 9-29-1939, Toledo, Lucas Co., OH; m. Mabel May Ely, 1-11-1905; b. 4-4-1883, Medina, Lenawee Co., MI; d. 8-11-1971 in Toledo.

## **James Duncan Hood in the Civil War**

The South Lyon *Herald* newspaper ran a series in 1961 commemorating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Civil War's beginning. Under the master title "During Civil War," the sixth article in the series, dated June 1, was titled "Area Soldiers Die In 'Rebel' Prison." The following was a subtopic nestled within the article.

### **Bible Tells Hood Story**

The 100-year-old tombstone near South Lyon that sparked the past three Civil War articles also brought an unexpected response from a Lyon township man.

With the name "James D. Hood" striking a familiar chord, Wallace Duncan of 58501 West Grand River quickly thumbed through an old Bible passed down to him by his great-great grandfather – and sure enough there was the name, "James D. Hood."

Seeing the young man's name in the Bible, Duncan then recalled several interesting things about this soldier told to him by his father and grandfather.

James D. (the "D" stands for Duncan) Hood was born shortly after his mother moved to Washtenaw County late in 1842 from Ovid, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Hood's husband died shortly before she moved here with the James Duncan family. (James Duncan is the great-great grandfather of Wallace Duncan).

Mrs. Hood died on November 20 – just 14 days after giving birth to her only son.

Although she had nine children of her own, Mrs. Duncan "adopted" the Hood baby and raised him along with her own children on a farm near Pontiac Trail and Joy road and later on Nine Mile, east of Griswold.

Hood enlisted in the army at Ann Arbor and apparently was later transferred to Pontiac.

Because news was slow in reaching the folks back home, Hood's capture and subsequent death was not known until many months later.

But once the news of his death reached the Duncan's, they had the body moved to the private cemetery south of South Lyon because "they didn't want him buried in Rebel soil."

James Duncan Hood enlisted to fight in the Civil War on August 5, 1862, and joined Company H, 22<sup>nd</sup> Michigan Infantry at Lyon, Oakland County "...aged 19 years; 5 feet 6 inches high; light complexion, Blue eyes, Light hair, and by occupation a Farmer."<sup>65</sup>

A Civil War letter from James D. Hood, Jr. in Co. H, 22<sup>nd</sup> Michigan Infantry to his twin brother-<sup>66</sup>

Nashville Tenn, June 6th/63

Dear Brother

I recd a letter from you yesterday was very glad to hear from as it was the first letter that I had recd from you since I came in the State. I recd a letter from you when we were in Kyntucky but we were on the go so that I could not write very conveniently and I kept putting it off from time to time until I was ashamed to write but I will try and do better in the future.

I am not very well to day. I went up to the Doctors this morning and he gave me two big blue pills and half a pound of salts. I reckon that I will come out all right in the end. George and John have gone to Murfreesboro to day to guard the cars their and back.<sup>67</sup> We have to furnish a guard for their and Franklin every day. We get all of the riding on the cars that we want. We have to ride on the top of freight cars. It makes it mighty bad when it rains. Our forces shelled Franklin the other day. The butternuts got in their and began to raise hell with us. The Rebs do shoot mighty careless just as you say.

We got into a little brush with them in Ky and they shot so careless that they did not hit but two of our regiment and did not kill either one of them. We could see them tumble off from their saddle. You said that you had not washed (sic) sheep yet. They sheared their sheep here the first of April. I wish I had been their last Saturday to have gone fishing with you. A fellow could fresh fish here when we first came here for 50 apiece.

Woren Harrington was over here yesterday.<sup>68</sup> The 14th Mich. is here. All their is well. Wm Copland is Second Lieu. of Co. B 10th. He has been over to see us.<sup>69</sup>

Write soon from J.D. Hood  
to Wm Hood

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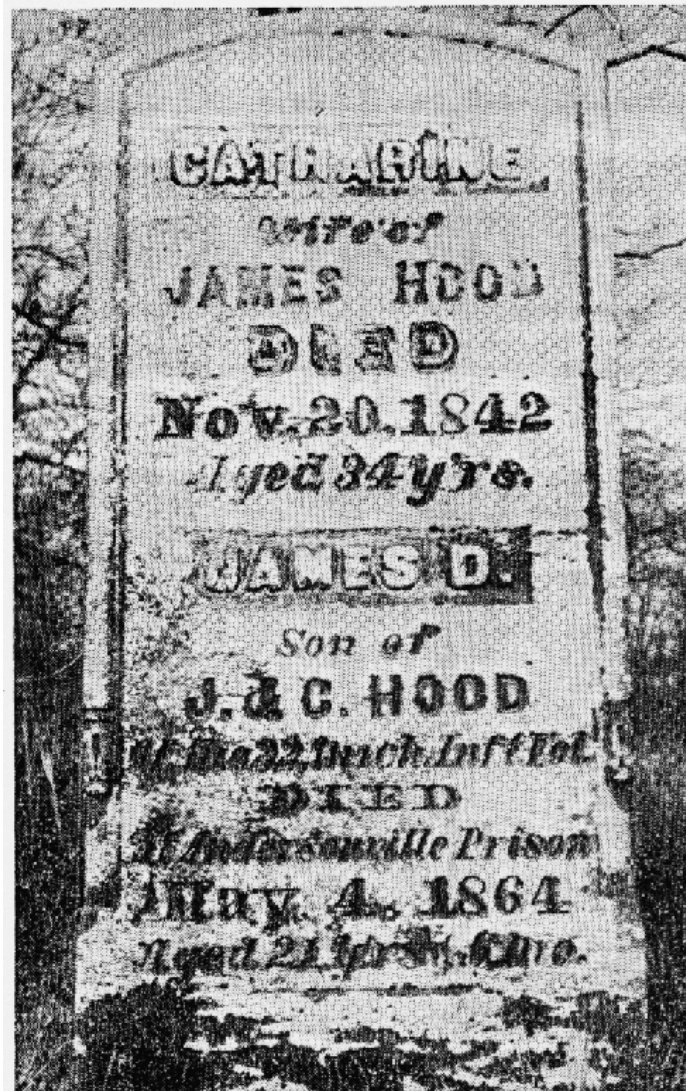
<sup>65</sup> Quoted material is from James D. Hood's National Archives military record.

<sup>66</sup> This letter was transcribed by Charles W. Paige from a photocopy of the original provided by Robin Lynn (Hood) Paszczykowski, a descendant of the brother William McNelly Hood.

<sup>67</sup> A total of nine enlisted men in Co. H, 22<sup>nd</sup> Michigan Infantry were from Lyon, Michigan. Two of these were George S. Crandal and John Hughston, most likely the George and John mentioned in the letter.

<sup>68</sup> Warren Harrington, originally from Northville, Michigan, was in Co. G, 14<sup>th</sup> Michigan Infantry.

<sup>69</sup> William A. Copeland, originally from Midland, Michigan, was in Co. B, 10<sup>th</sup> Michigan Infantry. He had been commissioned 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant March 31, 1863. He would be taken as prisoner of war October 10, 1864, less than a month after being commissioned 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant on September 24. He would survive the war.



Monument for Catharine Hood and Son <sup>70</sup>

A little over a year after enlisting James was at West Chickamauga Creek, Georgia, with Union troops under the command of General William S. Rosecrans. At that place, just southeast of Chattanooga, Tennessee, Rosecrans' troops met Confederate forces under General Braxton Bragg on September 19, 1863. During the ensuing battle the Confederates broke through the Union lines at Chickamauga and caused a Union retreat toward Chattanooga.

On September 19th, James, Jr. was taken prisoner. At first he was sent to Richmond, Virginia, then to Danville, Virginia, and finally to the prisoner-of-war camp at Andersonville, Georgia. "Captured at Chickamauga Ga Sep. 19, 1863, confined at Richmond, Va, September 29-November, 1863. Sent to Danville Va Dec. 12, 1863. Admit'd Hosp. Danville Va March 1-64 bronchitis. Ret'd March 8-64. Admitted to hospital at Andersonville Ga May 3-64 where he died

<sup>70</sup> Picture of monument is from article "Tombstone Tells Sad Tale" (*Herald*).

in camp May 3, 1864, of Diarrhea, Grave 860.”<sup>71</sup> He suffered much under intolerable prison conditions until death came from a lethal combination of starvation, exposure and disease.

The following is from James D. Hood’s discharge/final statement form:

I certify, that James D. Hood, a Private of Lieut. Louis Brown’s Company (H) of the 22d Regiment of Infantry volunteers, of the State of Michigan, born in Oakland Co., State of Michigan, aged 19 years; 5 feet 6 inches high; light complexion, Blue eyes, Light hair, and by occupation a Farmer, having joined the company on its original organization at Pontiac, Mich, and enrolled in it at the muster into the service of the United States at Pontiac Mich, on the 22d day of August, 1862, (was mustered in service as a recruit, by Henry S. Dean, at Lyon, on the 5th day of August, 1862) to serve in the Regiment, for the term of three years: and having served HONESTLY and FAITHFULLY with his Company in the 22d Regt. Mich. Vol’s to the present date, is now entitled to a DISCHARGE by reason of Death. He died of disease contracted by long confinement and improper diet in Rebel Prison Andersonville Ga May 2d 1864.<sup>72</sup>

The said Private James D. Hood was last paid by Paymaster Brewer to include the 30th day of June, 1863, and has pay due him from that time to the time of his death, and whatever other allowances are authorized to volunteer soldiers, drafted men, or militia, so discharged. He has received from the United States CLOTHING amounting to fifty-four 54 19/100 dollars, since the day of his enlistment Aug. 5th 1862. He has received from the United States twenty five 25 00/100 dollars advanced BOUNTY.

He is entitled to commutation of rations from Sep. 20th 1863 when he was taken prisoner to the time of his death May 2d 1864.

Given in Duplicate, at Chattanooga Tenn, this 31st day of March, 1865.

Louis Brown  
1st Lieutenant Co. H 22d Mich Infty Vol’s  
Commanding Company

James W. Duncan, a son of Alexander and Eliza (Mehaffey) Duncan, may have been more like a big brother to J.D. Hood than a first cousin once removed. At the end of the Civil War James W. paid all expenses to have J.D.’s body exhumed from where it had been buried in the National Cemetery at Andersonville, Georgia, Grave #860. He and his neighbor James Blackwood then dug a grave for the body at the Very Old Cemetery at South Lyon, where he was placed next to his mother.<sup>73</sup> (See footnote #56, page 38, for additional information about the Very Old Cemetery.) James W. Duncan also paid for the tombstone.

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<sup>71</sup> Quoted material is from the MEMORANDUM FROM PRISONER OF WAR RECORDS from James D. Hood’s National Archives military record.

<sup>72</sup> The U.S. military used May 2d as James’ date of death. I am using May 3, since that is the date that Confederate records show he was admitted into the Andersonville, GA, hospital, and the day they claim he died.

<sup>73</sup> This project is obliged to Wallace Irving Duncan and his sons Gerald and Richard, descendants of James and Jane (Waddell) Duncan. They provided photocopied pages from a Duncan family Bible as well as some transcribed oral history. Information included the account of J.D. Hood’s close relationship with the Duncans of South Lyon.



## James Hood, Sr. and Emily

James Hood, Sr. was married to Emily by the time of the 1860 Federal census. Living with James, 63, and Emily, 53, in Moscow, Hillsdale County, Michigan, was an Elizabeth, born about 1845. This Elizabeth, though no different surname was shown for her, was probably not a child from the union of James and Emily, as she was not listed as an heir in James' probate material. Sometime before the 1870 Federal census was taken this Elizabeth married John Liddle. By 1870 the widow Emily Hood was living with the "Liddle" family.

James Hood, Sr. passed away on April 6, 1867, and was laid to rest in the Old Soldier Cemetery in Moscow. Near his was a tombstone for James, Jr. who, as explained earlier, was actually resting in peace at a cemetery in South Lyon. (I was once told that the Old Soldier Cemetery was so named in the belief that James D. Hood was buried there.)

From an inventory of James Hood, Sr.'s estate, both real and personal:

Village Lot No. 5 in the Village of Moscow \$300.00  
Also a piece, one rod wide, off of the east side of lot No. 6 \$125.00  
Property - personal;  
one cow \$40.00  
two hogs \$6.00  
one tool chest \$3.50  
one drawshave [carpentry term] \$.50  
one framing square [carpentry term] \$1.00  
one oil stone \$.50  
one 2 inch auger \$1.00  
two fs compass [prob. a two-foot compass] \$.50  
one screw driver \$.25  
five mortise chisels [carpentry term] \$.75  
seven framing chisels [carpentry term] \$1.50  
three saws \$1.50  
one boring, machine :x 3 augers \$6.00  
one spirit level [carpentry term] \$1.00  
nine firmer chisels [carpentry term] \$1.13  
one broad ax \$1.00  
four try squares [carpentry term] \$1.00  
thirteen plains [prob. planes - carpentry term] \$10.00  
one brace and bitts \$1.00  
shingles } \$10.00  
          }                   sold by Mrs. Hood  
lumber } \$102.55  
          }                   \$615.68

In a petition by widow Emily M. Hood to the Honorable O. J. Dickerson, Judge of Probate for the county of Hillsdale in the State of Michigan, dated August 11, 1868, the heirs listed were:

Emily M. Hood of Moscow, MI  
Jane Gale of       "  
Isabel Fowle of   "  
Caroline Gale of  "

Robert Hood of Petrolemanter, PA  
Mary Barnes of Jackson, MI  
Catherine Mills of Moscow, MI  
Libbe Hood of "  
William Hood of Salem, MI

“The account settled and allowed this 7th day of January AD 1874.”  
Filmed and recorded in Liber 19, page 132.

Emily Hood died October 17, 1871, and was buried at the Blackmar Cemetery near Moscow. Her tombstone, situated in an area between several Sinclair burial sites and several Little sites, has been broken and is lying flat on the ground, partially buried. It lists her as having been the wife of Lewis T. Miller and of James Hood.<sup>74</sup>

### **The James and Nancy McNelly Family**

Mary and Catharine’s sibling James McNelly was born in Pennsylvania in about 1810. His wife Nancy was born in New York about 1812. They usually spelled their last name McNella and raised six children. They made Pulteney, Steuben County, New York their home, and no evidence has been found to indicate that James and Nancy ever attempted migrating westward.

In 1880 James and Nancy were still living at Pulteney. Also in the household were three of their children and one New York-born daughter-in-law, all of whom differentiated from James and Nancy by spelling their last name “MacNelly.”

Children of James and Nancy McNelly were:

- i. Rosabella McNelly, b. 1-19-1840, Steuben Co., NY; d. 6-28-1842, Steuben Co., NY.

Notes for Rosabella McNelly:

Rosabella died young and was buried at the Old Presbyterian Cemetery, a private cemetery located on the Daggett Farm in Pulteney.

- ii. Catherine Elizabeth McNelly, b. Abt. 1843.
- iii. Caroline McNelly, b. Abt. 1848.
- iv. John P. McNelly, b. Abt. 1849, NY; m. Elizabeth Abt. 1876; b. Abt. 1846, NY.

Marriage Notes for John and Elizabeth McNelly:

According to the 1910 Federal census of Pulteney, John and “Lizzie” were renting a farm. They had been married 34 years and had no children. They were spelling their last name “McNella.”

- v. Mary McNelly, b. Abt. 1851.
- vi. Evangeline McNelly, b. Abt. 1855.

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<sup>74</sup> Lewis T. Miller came to Moscow Township in 1834. He was a delegate to Michigan’s first Constitutional Convention in 1836 and was an uncle of the Hon. William H. Seward, who was famous for the purchase of Alaska from the Russia. (From the pamphlet *The Moscow Story*.)

## ***The Alexander and Eliza (Mehaffey) Duncan Family***

### *Generation No. 1*

1. Alexander Duncan was born Abt. 1781 in Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland, and died 1871 in Lyon, Oakland County, Michigan. He married (1) Eliza Mehaffey Bef. 1818. She was born Abt. 1800 in Pennsylvania, and died Bef. 1870 in Lyon. He married (2) Dorothy Bef. 1870. She was born Abt. 1795 in Pennsylvania.

Notes for Alexander Duncan:

Alexander came to America with his mother Mary in 1802. In a 15 June 1809 letter to his father (Saunders Wilson) in Scotland, Alexander Wilson writes that William Duncan, Jr. and his brother Alexander have commenced a successful manufacturing business in Milestown, Pennsylvania, and that their house is being kept by their sister Mary.

Marriage Notes for Alexander Duncan and Eliza Mehaffey:

Alexander and Eliza (Mehaffey) Duncan and family were living near Alexander's widowed sister "Isabel McNally" at the time of an 1825 census taken at Pulteney, Steuben County, New York. Also living in the vicinity were John Ellis, Sr. and Jr., John Coryell, and Samuel "Waddle." The Duncan household consisted of two males, one of which was in the militia (militia service was mandatory for men between 18-45 years) and could vote, five females, and one person was an alien that had not been naturalized. (No other age information was specified.) They owned 16 acres of land, 3 cattle, 3 hogs, and 22 yards of cotton.

The family moved to Michigan in 1829-30 and soon settled at Lyon, Oakland County, what is today called South Lyon. They owned 40 acres of land in Green Oak Township in Livingston County as of 1834.<sup>75</sup>

Alexander and Eliza had seven children according to the History and Biography of Washtenaw County, Michigan, though only two, James W. and Isabel, were named. Also in that *History* it stated that Alexander was "a nephew of Alexander Wilson, the famous naturalist" and was himself "a man of unusual ability as a poetical writer."<sup>76</sup> James W. Duncan's 1910 obituary stated he "was one of a family of eight children."<sup>77</sup> Purdy wrote in 1895 that besides several sisters Alexander Duncan's son James had a brother Robert.<sup>78</sup>

Some Duncan and Hood families in 1840 Michigan census:

Males (1st column): Age under 5, 5-10, 10-15, 15-20;

20-30, 30-40, 40-50, 50-60;

60-70, 70-80, 80-90, 90-100, over 100

Females (2nd column): Age under 5, 5-10, 10-15, 15-20;

20-30, 30-40, 40-50, 50-60;

60-70, 70-80, 80-90, 90-100, over 100

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<sup>75</sup> *History of Livingston Co., Michigan*, p. 329.

<sup>76</sup> *History and Biography of Washtenaw County, Michigan*, p. 982.

<sup>77</sup> "James Duncan died Monday" (*Herald*).

<sup>78</sup> Letter to the editor of *The Auk* (Purdy), p. 396.

NAME	COUNTY	PAGE	CENSUS & TOWNSHIP IF ANY
Duncan, Alexander	Oakland	3	0011,0001 - 0002,1001 Lyon
Duncan, James	Oakland	3	0120,101 - 1102,001 Lyon
Hood, James	Oakland	3	0110,001 - 3210,001 Lyon

From 1850 Oakland County, Michigan census:

Lyon

Pg.570, #1670	Alexander DUNCAN	69	SCT farmer	\$5000
	Elizabeth	50	PA	
	James	22	NY	
	Isabel	23	NY	
	M. JOHNSON (m)	30	ENG laborer	

From 1860 Oakland County, Michigan census:

Lyon

Pg.45, #337-328,	Alexander DUNCAN Sr	78	SCT f.laborer	\$7000-1000
	Elizabeth	59	PA	
	James	25	NY	
	Elizabeth FORSYTH	15	MI	
	Fred	18	MI	

According to Purdy, James W. Duncan's "father and mother are buried on the old farm, on a little patch of ground fenced off for that purpose, and there, under those little grassy mounds, lies all that is mortal of poor old Alexander Duncan and his wife."<sup>79</sup>

Marriage Notes for Alexander and Dorothy Duncan:

At the time of the 1870 Federal census for the township of Lyon, Oakland County, Alexander and "Dorothy" were living "with son" James. Alexander was listed as 89 years old, Dorothy (apparently a second wife) as 75, and James as a 38-year-old farmer with land holdings valued at \$25,000 and personal wealth at \$3,000.

Some known children of Alexander Duncan and Eliza Mehaffey were:

- i. Jane L. Duncan, b. 5-6-1818, PA; d. 2-26-1880, Lyon, Oakland Co., MI; m. Charles H. Birch or Burch 11-22-1843 in Oakland Co., MI; b. Abt. 1820, NY; d. Aft. 1880.

Marriage Notes for Jane Duncan and Charles Burch or Birch:

Jane L. (Duncan) Burch (variously spelled Birch) was living in Lyon with her husband Charles H. at the time of the 1870 Federal census. Both claimed to be 50 years old and to have been born in New York.<sup>80</sup> Charles was a farmer with land holdings valued at \$3,400 and personal wealth valued at \$700. Jane died of black erysipelas.

- ii. Elizabeth Duncan, b. NY; d. 1851, Northville, Wayne Co., MI.

<sup>79</sup> Letter to the editor of *The Auk* (Purdy), p. 396.

<sup>80</sup> The Dibeau death information for Jane has her birth location as "PENN" and her married name incorrectly as "Busch."

- iii. Robert Duncan, b. Bet. 1820 - 1825, NY.
- v. James W. Duncan, b. 5-28-1826, NY; d. 3-14-1910, Lyon, Oakland Co., MI.



James W. Duncan

Notes for James W. Duncan:

It has been said of James W. that he owned much of the property around South Lyon; he owned at least 640 acres at time of death according to his obituary.

James W. would have been more like a big brother to James Duncan Hood than a first cousin once removed. James W. paid all expenses to have J.D. Hood's body exhumed from where it was buried at Andersonville, Georgia, at the end of the Civil War. He and his neighbor James Blackwood dug a grave for the body at the cemetery near South Lyon, where James D. Hood's mother Catharine had been buried more than two decades before. He did this because he "didn't want him buried in 'Rebel' soil."<sup>81</sup> He also paid for their headstone/monument. (A picture of the tombstone can be found on page 51.) James was buried in the village cemetery.

"Mr. Duncan was a great hunter and the many trips he took and the length of those trips no doubt seriously affected his rugged constitution and hastened his end..." He "was never married, was fond of out-door life, being considered in the early day a mighty hunter and a crack shot with the rifle."<sup>82</sup>

- iv. Isabel F. Duncan, b. Abt. 1827, NY.

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<sup>81</sup> "Bible Tells Hood Story" (*Herald*).

<sup>82</sup> "James Duncan died Monday" (*Herald*).

*Generation No. 2*

2. Elizabeth Duncan was born in NY and died 1851 in Northville, Wayne Co., MI. She married George Pitt, Sr. 1839 in Lyon, Oakland Co., MI. He was born 12-25-1815 in England.

Marriage Notes for Elizabeth Duncan and George Pitt, Sr:

Elizabeth married George Pitt, Sr. in 1839 and was the mother of William T. Pitt of Oakland, Wayne, and Gratiot counties, Michigan. George Pitt had sailed to America from Liverpool, England, as recent as 1836 and had settled at Northville, Wayne County, Michigan, as a farmer. He claimed to be related to the famous parliamentarian William Pitt, Earl of Chatham, though unlike that William, George's son William T. excelled in local politics but failed in his attempts at higher office.

Children of Elizabeth Duncan and George Pitt, Sr. were:

- i. William T. Pitt, b. 5-13-1841, Lyon, Oakland Co., MI; d. 3-26-1910, Pine River, Gratiot Co., MI.
- ii. Delphene Pitt, b. Northville, Wayne Co., MI.
- iii. George Pitt, Jr., b. Northville, Wayne Co., MI.
- iv. Anna Pitt, b. Northville, Wayne Co., MI.

3. Isabel F. Duncan was born Abt. 1827 in NY. She married John J. Thompson 11-21-1852 in Washtenaw Co., MI. He was born Abt. 1819 in NY.

Marriage Notes for Isabel Duncan and John Thompson:

The family resided, at times, in Lyon, Oakland County, and Northville and Plymouth, Wayne County, Michigan.

From 1880 Federal census of Plymouth:

Name	Relation	Marital Status	Gender	Race	Age	Birthplace	Occupation	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace
John J. THOMPSON	Self	M	Male	W	61	NY	Farmer	PA	PA
Isabel F. THOMPSON	Wife	M	Female	W	53	NY	Keeping House	SCO	PA
Ida THOMPSON	Dau	S	Female	W	25	MI	At Home	NY	NY
Wallace B. THOMPSON	Son	S	Male	W	23	MI	At Home	NY	NY
Eva J. THOMPSON	Dau	S	Female	W	21	MI	At Home	NY	NY
Liona THOMPSON	Dau	S	Female	W	18	MI	At Home	NY	NY
Byron J. THOMPSON	Son	S	Male	W	16	MI	At Home	NY	NY
Robert THOMPSON	Son	S	Male	W	14	MI	At Home	NY	NY
William BLAIR	Other	S	Male	W	19	MI	Farm Laborer	MI	MI
George ALLEN	Other	S	Male	W	23	MI	Farm Laborer	NY	NY
Nelson BRADY	Other	D	Male	W	40	PA	Farm Laborer	PA	PA

Children of Isabel Duncan and John Thompson were:

- i. Ida Thompson, b. Abt. 1855, MI.
- ii. Wallace B. Thompson, b. Abt. 1857, MI.
- iii. Eva J. Thompson, b. Abt. 1859, MI.
- iv. Liona Thompson, b. Abt. 1862, MI.
- v. Byron J. Thompson, b. Abt. 1864, MI.
- vi. Robert Thompson, b. Abt. 1866, MI.

### *Generation No. 3*

4. William T. Pitt was born 5-13-1841 in South Lyon, Oakland Co., MI, and died 3-26-1910 at Pine River, Gratiot Co., MI. He married Bettie Lawson 3-4-1869 in Northville, Wayne Co., MI, daughter of Moses and Elsie (Beard) Lawson. She was born 3-7-1845 in Wayne Co., NY.

Notes for William Pitt:

William T. had a very interesting life. Born May 13, 1841, in the log house originally built by his Grandfather Alexander Duncan in 1859, he traveled to Cuba and across the isthmus of Panama en route to San Francisco, Sacramento and Yolo counties in California. He returned to Michigan in 1866, during which travels he passed through Nicaragua in South America, riding donkeys and boating across Lake Nicaragua. The next year he traveled to the burgeoning town of Cheyenne, Wyoming, which, in his words, was “the wickedest town in the entire West,” returning again to Michigan the following year. In the summer of 1877 he tried his luck in the gold fields of South Dakota but, as always, returned to Michigan, where he eventually threw his hat in the political ring.<sup>83</sup> He “was serving his twenty-second term as supervisor of Seville Township” in Gratiot County at his death March 26, 1910.<sup>84</sup>

Marriage Notes for William Pitt and Bettie Lawson:

William and Bettie Pitt settled at Holly, Oakland County, Michigan after their marriage, where William built furniture until the spring of 1877. In the spring of 1878 they moved to Forest Hill in Gratiot County. Two years later they bought eighty acres of wild pine stump land on Section 22, Seville Township. William was said to be the first in Gratiot County to set out a peach orchard for commercial purposes. He served multiple terms as president of the Seville and Sumner Farmers’ Club as well as president of the Gratiot County Farmers’ Institute, and spent more than two decades in public office.

Child of William Pitt and Bettie Lawson was:

- i. Isabell Pitt, b. 7-14-1872, Holly, Oakland Co., MI.

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<sup>83</sup> Saint Louis Area Historical Society biographies. Online access.

<sup>84</sup> *History of Gratiot Co., Michigan* (Tucker), p. 515-6

*Generation No. 4*

5. Isabell Pitt was born 7-14-1872 in Holly, Oakland Co., MI. She married William Shong in 1894.

Children of Isabell Pitt and William Shong were:

- i. George Shong.
- ii. Ruth Shong.
- iii. Esther Shong.
- iv. Leah Shong.



William T. Pitt, Daughter, Wife, Grandchildren



## ***The James and Jane (Waddell) Duncan Family***

### *Generation No. 1*

**1.** James Duncan was born 9-19-1792 in Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland, and died 11-24-1861 in Lyon Township, Oakland County, Michigan. He married Jane Waddell 7-8-1817 in Ovid, Seneca County, New York. She was born 7-31-1794 in Turbot Township, Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, and died 9-4-1862 in Lyon Township.

Notes for James Duncan:

James was christened 9-30-1792 at Paisley, and came to America from Scotland with his mother and some other siblings in 1802.

Marriage Notes for James Duncan and Jane Waddell:

The James and Jane (Waddell) Duncan family left Ovid, Seneca County, New York for Michigan on April 21, 1833, just two months after Jane gave birth to their eighth child James Waddell Duncan and presumably after Mary (Wilson) Duncan had died.<sup>85</sup> Their next, and last-born, child Jennet would be born three years later.

James' name appeared in the 1840 Michigan head of household census as living in Lyon, Oakland County. The 1860 census showed James, Jane, and the family of their son William living in the following household at Lyon:

Pg.53-4, #407-397,	Benj. ELLIS	57	NY	farmer	\$2500-\$2900
	Mary	55	NY		
	Charles	25	MI		
	Edward	21	MI		
	James	17	MI		
	Ann COROSON?	17	MI		
	William WILLICE	14	MI		
	James DUNCAN	66	SCT	farmer	\$2500-\$800
	Jane	63	PA		
	James	18	MI	f.laborer	
	Ellen ALEN?	20	MI		
	William DUNCAN	33	NY	h.carpenter	\$2000-\$1000
	Prudence DUNCAN	30	NY	housekeeper	\$0-\$0
	Frank	6	MI		
	Lawrence ADAMS	20	MI	f.laborer	
	John CROSBY?	56	ENG	h.carpenter	

<sup>85</sup> A list of members of the Ovid Presbyterian Church prior to 1869 shows a James and Jane Duncan leaving for Michigan on that date. See page 16.

Some Duncan and Hood families in 1840 Michigan census:

Males (1st column): Age under 5, 5-10, 10-15, 15-20;  
 20-30, 30-40, 40-50, 50-60;  
 60-70, 70-80, 80-90, 90-100, over 100

Females (2nd column): Age under 5, 5-10, 10-15, 15-20;  
 20-30, 30-40, 40-50, 50-60;  
 60-70, 70-80, 80-90, 90-100, over 100

NAME	COUNTY	PAGE	CENSUS & TOWNSHIP IF ANY
Duncan, Alexander	Oakland	3	0011,0001 - 0002,1001 Lyon
Duncan, James	Oakland	3	0120,101 - 1102,001 Lyon
Hood, James	Oakland	3	0110,001 - 3210,001 Lyon

Besides rearing their own nine children, the Duncans also took in baby James Duncan Hood after his mother Catharine died.

James and Jane were interred at the Very Old Cemetery near South Lyon, which also holds their son James Waddell Duncan, niece Catharine (McNelly) Hood, and Catharine's son James Duncan Hood. (See footnote #56, page 38, for additional information about the Very Old Cemetery.)

Children of James Duncan and Jane Waddell were:

- i. Alexander Duncan, b. 5-21-1819, Pulteney, Steuben Co., NY.
- ii. Martha Duncan, b. 10-24-1820, Pulteney, Steuben Co., NY; d. 10-9-1826, Ovid, Seneca Co., NY.
- iii. Mary Ann Duncan, b. 6-25-1822, Ovid, Seneca Co., NY.
- iv. Caroline Duncan, b. 7-7-1824, Ovid, Seneca Co., NY.
- v. William Duncan, b. 7-24-1826, Ovid, Seneca Co., NY; d. 4-23-1908, Salem, Washtenaw Co., MI.
- vi. Josiah Dunlap Duncan, b. 9-23-1828, Ovid, Seneca Co., NY.
- vii. Frances Duncan, b. 9-11-1830, Ovid, Seneca Co., NY.
- viii. James Waddell Duncan, b. 2-17-1833, Ovid, Seneca Co., NY; d. 1-9-1851, Lyon Twp., Oakland Co., MI.

Notes for James Waddell Duncan:

James was buried at the Very Old Cemetery in Lyon near his parents, cousin Catharine (McNelly) Hood, and her son James Duncan Hood.

- ix. Jennet Duncan, b. 6-12-1836, Lyon Twp., Oakland Co., MI.

### *Generation No. 2*

2. Alexander Duncan was born 5-21-1819 in Pulteney, Steuben Co., NY. He married Elizabeth. She was born Abt. 1823 in NY.

Marriage Notes for Alexander and Elizabeth Duncan.

Alexander and Elizabeth's family was living in Lyon Township, Oakland County, Michigan at the time of the 1870 Federal census.

Children of Alexander and Elizabeth Duncan were:

- i. Jane Duncan, b. Abt. 1847, MI.
- ii. Elbert Duncan, b. Abt. 1849, MI.
- iii. Herman Duncan, b. Abt. 1853, MI.
- iv. Eugena Duncan, b. Abt. 1856, MI.
- v. James Duncan, b. Abt. 1861, MI.

3. William Duncan was born 7-24-1826 in Ovid, Seneca Co., NY, and died 4-23-1908 in Salem, Washtenaw Co., MI. He married Prudence Rose 10-27-1853 in Ann Arbor, Washtenaw Co., MI, daughter of Peter and Sarah Rose. She was born 8-25-1829 in Henrietta, Monroe Co., NY, and died 12-24-1911 in Salem.

Marriage Notes for William Duncan and Prudence Rose:

James and Jane Duncan's fifth child William and his wife, the former Prudence Rose, settled at Newport, St. Clair County, Michigan, where they had their first three children: Frank, William, Jr., and Caroline.<sup>86</sup> In May, they lost their third child at just over two weeks of age, and in November their second child at nearly three years. William, Sr. wrote the following letter to his father in Lyon the day after William, Jr. died.

Newport, November 3, 1859

Dear Father

I have set down this morning with a sad heart to send you the mournful intelligence that our little Willie is dead. He was taken on Wednesday October 26<sup>th</sup> at 2 o'clock in the morning with a chill which we supposed to be an ague chill but in fact it was a congestive chill. We have employed the best medical aid which could be had but all to no effect. After one week of suffering he died last evening at half past eight o'clock of congestion of the lungs and brain. He will be buried tomorrow at half past ten or ten o'clock.

We think of coming out to Lyon some time from the 20<sup>th</sup> to the first of December. Cannot tell at present. Should be glad to have you send your team to meet us in Detroit. Silas or Melvin<sup>87</sup> will come and meet us. I will let you know as soon as I can what day we will be in Detroit.<sup>88</sup>

The William and Prudence Duncan family were settled at Lyon by 1860, where they appeared in the 1860 Federal census together with a household in which James and Jane Duncan were living. (See above.) They had two more children before the 1870 Federal census was taken. In the household that year were William, 46, with real estate valued at \$12,000 and a personal estate valued at \$10,000; Prudence, 40; Frank, 16, Florence, 10, and Melvin, 6; and Prussian-born housekeeper Mary Sayan (sic). Of the three Duncan children not listed, two had died: William,

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<sup>86</sup> The area was called Newport for three decades until changed to the Village of Marine in 1865. The Michigan Legislature changed the name to Marine City in 1867.

<sup>87</sup> Silas and Melvin were brothers of Prudence (Rose) Duncan. In 1880 both brothers were listed as farmers and living in Oakland County: Silas and wife, the former Betsy Loisa Sherman, in Lyon, and Melvin, with wife Verona, in Birmingham.

<sup>88</sup> From handwritten letter courtesy of Gerald Duncan.

Jr., who would have been 14, and Caroline, who would have been almost 11. The sixth and last child, Helen, would be born in Ann Arbor two months later.



William Duncan



Prudence (Rose) Duncan



Melvin and Mary (Renwick) Duncan



Florence "Flora" Duncan (a seamstress)

Children of William Duncan and Prudence Rose were:

- i. Frank Duncan, b. 8-16-1854, Newport, St. Clair Co., MI; d. 6-16-1923, Green Oak, Livingston Co., MI.
- ii. William Duncan, Jr., b. 12-15-1856, Newport, St. Clair Co., MI; d. 11-2-1859, Newport, St. Clair Co., MI.
- iii. Caroline Duncan, b. 5-4-1859, Newport, St. Clair Co., MI; d. 5-19-1859, Newport, St. Clair Co., MI.
- iv. Florence Duncan, b. 9-19-1860, Lyon Twp., Oakland Co., MI.
- v. Melvin Duncan, b. 9-24-1863, Lyon Twp., Oakland Co., MI; d. 6-2-1942; m. Mary Renwick, 3-27-1890, Salem, Washtenaw Co., MI; b. 5-10-1861; d. 5-7-1929.

Notes for Melvin Duncan:

According to one of his grandnephews, Melvin "lost his arm while demonstrating a corn husker. It was a new corn husker that was supposed to [be] safe from such an accident. He sold for McCormick Reapers."

- vi. Helen Duncan, b. 9-14-1870, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw Co., MI; d. 6-11-1896, Superior, Washtenaw Co., MI.

### *Generation No. 3*

**4.** Frank Duncan was born 8-16-1854 in Newport, St. Clair Co., MI, and died 6-16-1923 in Green Oak, Livingston Co., MI. He married Flora Groves 10-2-1876 in Northfield, Oakland Co., MI.

Child of Frank Duncan and Flora Groves was:

- i. Raymond Edward Duncan, b. 12-24-1878; d. 11-15-1957.

### *Generation No. 4*

**5.** Raymond Edward Duncan was born 12-24-1878, and died 11-15-1957. He married (1) Mabel Helen Sowers. He married (2) Bessie Colbridge.

Children of Raymond Duncan and Mabel Sowers were:

- i. Wallace Irving Duncan.
- ii. Mae Prudence Duncan.

Children of Raymond Duncan and Bessie Colbridge were:

- iii. William Tyler Duncan.
- iv. Mildred Duncan, m. John Abbott.
- v. Helen Duncan, m. Ralph Leland.

*Generation No. 5*

**6.** Wallace Irving Duncan.

Children of Wallace Irving Duncan were:

- i. Richard Duncan.
- ii. Gerald Duncan.

## ***The James and Anna (Duncan) Sturdevant Family***

### *Generation No. 1*

1. Anna Duncan was born 8-9-1797 in Queensferry, Midlothianshire, or Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland.<sup>89</sup> She died 8-4-1870, probably at the home of her daughter Chloe Ann Sturdevant Doolittle in Prattsburg, Steuben County, New York. She married James Sturdevant 1828 in Pulteney, Steuben County, New York, son of James and Lucy (Butler) Sturdevant. He was born 2-28-1789 in Norfolk, Litchfield County, Connecticut, and died 9-14-1862 in West Almond, Allegany County, New York.

Notes for Anna Duncan:

Annie Duncan turned five years old in 1802 when she, her mother, and four siblings arrived on America's shore from Scotland. As if the long oceanic crossing and setting foot in a new world weren't strange and scary enough, the little group then had to be rushed off nearly 300 miles overland through black forests and across or down untamed rivers to their new home deep inland. On top of everything else, she didn't have her father to protect her, and there were adults she had never seen before claiming to be her brother, sister, brother-in-law, and uncle. It may have been reassuring seeing her two-year-old niece Mary McNelly. At least SOMEONE was younger than she. Annie didn't know that Mary would one day be Annie's future son Samuel's mother-in-law.

We may never know how the above circumstances of her arrival in America affected little Annie, although adult Anna, not unlike her siblings, had a strong tendency to preserve the names of her relatives in those of her children. Perhaps this inclination helped offset the sense of loss stemming from the many comings and goings of loved ones in and out of her life. She would also remain in the vicinity of Pulteney and Prattsburg, Steuben County, New York, thus being near those relatives who were not overcome by the need to go west, and those, as in Mary McNelly's case, who would attempt the journey west only to return.

Notes for James Sturdevant:

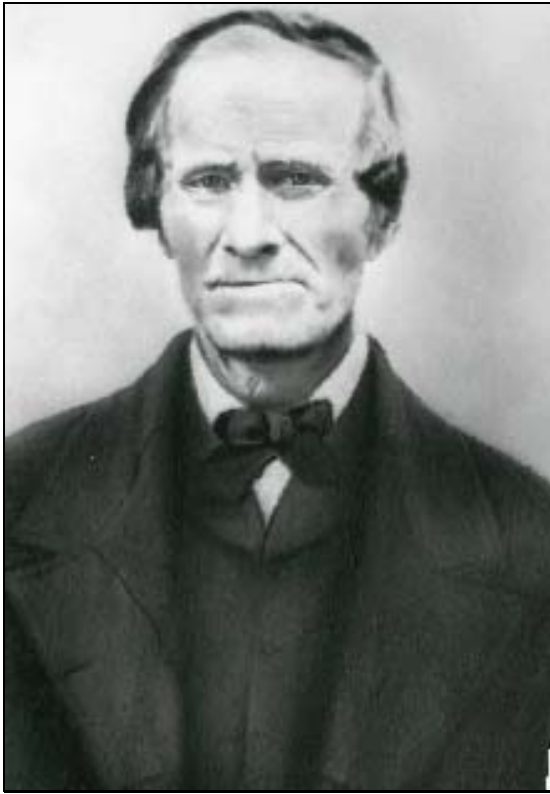
The Sturdevants were early settlers in the Colonies, arriving sometime in the 1600s. The first known ancestor in America would, in later years, be said to be William, born about 1650 either in England or Norwalk, Fairfield County, Connecticut. By his wife Mary he had at least one son, John, born in Norwalk in 1676. The Sturdevants tended to settle in the Fairfield County, Connecticut area for the next century. James Sturdevant, Anna's father-in-law, eventually settled in Prattsburg.

**Note:** A James "Studivant" and household were living in Pulteney when the 1825 census was taken. The Studivant household consisted of one male who was not in the militia (militia service was mandatory for men between 18-45 years) and could vote, and three females, two of which were unmarried and between the ages of 16-45, and no females were below the age of 16 or were married and below the

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<sup>89</sup> See footnote #16, page 6, regarding Anna's birthplace.

age of 45. They owned 15 acres of land, 5 cattle, 10 sheep, 6 hogs, 20 yards of cloth, and 30 yards of cotton.



James Sturdevant



Anna (Duncan) Sturdevant

Marriage Notes for Anna Duncan and James Sturdevant:

Anna was about thirty-one years old when she married thirty-nine-year-old James Sturdevant. He was a widower with two children: Mary Louisa and Luther. James' wife Chloe had died the year before. Anna would give birth to six children—the last being born when she was forty-five years old.<sup>90</sup>

Children of Anna Duncan and the junior James Sturdevant. were:

- i. Chloe Ann Sturdevant, b. 6-14-1831, Prattsburg, Steuben Co., NY; d. 3-11-1901, Huntington, Cabell Co., WV.
- ii. William Duncan Sturdevant, b. 2-27-1833, Prattsburg, Steuben Co., NY; d. 3-31-1914, Almond, Allegany Co., NY.
- iii. George R. Sturdevant, b. 12-27-1834, Prattsburg, Steuben Co., NY; d. 9-27-1922, Rhinelander, Oneida Co., WI.
- iv. Samuel Waddell Sturdevant, b. 3-15-1837, NY; d. 1-4-1919, Leavenworth, Leavenworth Co., KS.

<sup>90</sup> Pictures and most of the material regarding the Sturdevant family were contributed by Sturdevant cousins descended from James and Anna's sons William and George.



- v. James D. Sturdevant, b. 2-26-1839, West Almond, Allegany Co., NY; d. 4-1-1859, West Almond, Allegany Co., NY.

Notes for James D. Sturdevant:

James is buried at the West Almond Cemetery.

- vi. Isabelle J. Sturdevant, b. 6-25-1842, West Almond, Allegany Co., NY; d. Aft. 1919, Prob. in OK.

### *Generation No. 2*

**2.** Chloe Ann Sturdevant was born 6-14-1831 in Prattsburg, Steuben Co., NY, and died 3-11-1901 in Huntington, Cabell Co., WV. She married Lamberton Doolittle 9-1-1853 in West Almond, Allegany Co., NY.

Children of Chloe Sturdevant and Lamberton Doolittle were:

- i. Edward Sturdevant Doolittle.
- ii. Frank Leslie Doolittle.
- iii. James Doolittle.

Notes for James Doolittle:

James died in infancy.

- iv. Anna Lery Doolittle.
- v. William Doolittle.

Notes for William Doolittle:

William died in infancy.

- vi. Rebecca May Doolittle.

**3.** William Duncan Sturdevant was born 2-27-1833 in Prattsburg, Steuben Co., NY, and died 3-31-1914 in Almond, Allegany Co., NY. He married Lydia Ann Halbert 2-27-1860 in Almond. She was born 4-20-1837 in Howard, Steuben Co., NY, and died 1-10-1916 in Jordan, Onondaga Co., NY.

Children of William Sturdevant and Lydia Halbert were:

- i. James Halbert Sturdevant, b. 5-11-1866, West Almond, Allegany Co., NY; d. 4-7-1959, Arkport, Steuben Co., NY; m. Ella C. Baxter, 4-9-1905; b. 1-30-1871, Almond, Allegany Co., NY; d. 9-11-1945, CA.

Notes for Ella C. Baxter:

Ella had been married before to Everett Laverne Karr. Her children by Everett were: Harold A. Karr and Everett Lyle Karr.

- ii. Jennie Elmira Sturdevant, b. 9-20-1869, Almond, Allegany Co., NY; d. 2-24-1909, Addison, Steuben Co., NY; m. John S. Ash, 2-14-1893, Hornell, Steuben Co., NY.
- iii. Hiland Hall Sturdevant, b. 11-18-1879, Almond, Allegany Co., NY; d. 8-13-1959, Jordan, Onondaga Co., NY; m. Eva Lucretia Stamm, 1-20-1903, Almond, Allegany

Co., NY; b. 1-20-1882, Tyringham, Berkshire Co., MA; d. 1-31-1962, Jordan, Onondaga Co., NY.

Notes for Hiland Hall Sturdevant:

His name appears as “Highland G. Sturdevant” in the 1880 Federal census.

4. George R. Sturdevant was born 12-27-1834 in Prattsburg, Steuben Co., NY, and died 9-27-1922 in Rhineland, Oneida Co., WI. He married Emily Truax 11-14-1863 in Cassville, Grant Co., WI, daughter of Jacob and Emily (Sandridge) Truax. She was born 6-14-1841 in West Virginia.

Notes for George R. Sturdevant:

George’s middle name sometimes appears as “Robert” and others as “Rutherford.”

Marriage Notes for George Sturdevant and Emily Truax:

George and Emily adopted a son, Elijah Cyrus Sturdevant.

Children of George Sturdevant and Emily Truax were:

- i. Chloe Ann Sturdevant, b. Abt. 1867, WI.
- ii. Elijah Cyrus Sturdevant, b. Abt. 1868, WI; Adopted child.

5. Samuel Waddell Sturdevant was born 3-15-1837 in New York, and died 1-4-1919 at the Hospital, Western Branch, National Home for Disabled Soldiers, in Leavenworth, Leavenworth County, Kansas. He married (1) Isabel E. Waddell 10-8-1868 in Pulteney, Steuben County, New York, daughter of Samuel and Mary (McNelly) Waddell. She was born 1836 in Michigan, and died 1874 in Wilson County, Kansas. He married (2) Amelia E. Alexander 10-5-1875 in Pleasant Valley, Wilson County, Kansas.

Marriage Notes for Samuel Sturdevant and Isabel Waddell:

Samuel and Isabel were 1<sup>st</sup> cousins once removed. They were living at Pleasant Valley, Wilson County, Kansas at the time of the 1870 Federal census. In the household were:

S. W. Sturdevant, 33 years old and born in New York, a farmer with real estate valued at \$1,500 and personal estate valued at \$795, whose mother was of foreign birth; and I. E. Sturdevant, also 33 years old, born in Michigan.

Samuel, Isabel, and their epileptic son Oswald were buried at the New Light Cemetery at Pleasant Valley.

Notes for Amelia E. Alexander:

“I believe Amelia is buried with the Alexander family which was fairly numerous in that part of Kansas and included at least a couple of ordained ministers of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church (one of whom presided at her marriage to Samuel).”<sup>91</sup>

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<sup>91</sup> From a Sturdevant cousin.

Child of Samuel Sturdevant and Isabel Waddell was:

- i. Oswald W. Sturdevant, b. 4-10-1872, Wilson Co., KS; d. 1943, Prob. KS.

Notes for Oswald Sturdevant:

Oswald never married and was a patient at the State Hospital for Epileptics in Parsons, Labette County, Kansas from 1910 to at least 1930 according to Federal census reports.<sup>92</sup>

Child of Samuel Sturdevant and Amelia Alexander was:

- ii. Claud a.k.a. "Claude" Sturdevant, b. 9-10-1876, Chanute, Neosho Co., KS; d. 3-13-1944.

**6.** Isabelle J. Sturdevant was born 6-25-1842 in West Almond, Allegany Co., NY, and died Aft. 1919 in Prob. OK. She married Thomas McMillan 1866 in South Adams, Berkshire Co., MA.

Notes for Isabelle J. Sturdevant:

Isabelle's middle name has been variously spelled "Jean" and "Jane." She was last found in the 1920 Federal census at Clinton, Custer Co., OK.

Children of Isabelle Sturdevant and Thomas McMillan, Sr. were:

- i. Annie McMillan.
- ii. John McMillan.
- iii. James McMillan.
- iv. George McMillan.
- v. Thomas McMillan, Jr.
- vi. Charles McMillan.

### *Generation No. 3*

**7.** Jennie Elmira Sturdevant was born 9-20-1869 in Almond, Allegany Co., NY, and died 2-24-1909 in Addison, Steuben Co., NY. She married John S. Ash 2-14-1893 in Hornell, Steuben Co., NY.

Child of Jennie Sturdevant and John Ash was:

- i. Rose Ash, b. 10-7-1905, Addison, Steuben Co., NY.

**8.** Hiland Hall Sturdevant was born 11-18-1879 in Almond, Allegany Co., NY, and died 8-13-1959 in Jordan, Onondaga Co., NY. He married Eva Lucretia Stamm 1-20-1903 in Almond. She was born 1-20-1882 in Tyringham, Berkshire Co., MA, and died 1-31-1962 in Jordan, Onondaga Co., NY.

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<sup>92</sup> Ibid.

Children of Hiland Sturdevant and Eva Stamm were:

- i. Robert Francis Sturdevant, b. 2-2-1907, Niagara Falls, Niagara Co., NY; d. 8-28-1982, Zephyrhills, Pasco Co., FL; m. Marguerite Hawley, 4-15-1933, Jordan, Onondaga Co., NY; b. 12-20-1909; d. 3-9-2002, Leesburg, Lake Co., FL.
- ii. Donald Edwin Sturdevant, b. 8-23-1912, Warners, Onondaga Co., NY; d. 12-18-2004, Kingsport, Sullivan Co., TN; m. Alice May Chapman, 9-25-1937, Niagara Falls, Niagara Co., NY; b. 3-12-1911, Hagersville, Ontario, Canada; d. 4-23-1993, Kingsport, Sullivan Co., TN.

9. Claud a.k.a. "Claude" Sturdevant was born 9-10-1876 in Chanute, Neosho Co., KS, and died 3-13-1944. He married Rosa Wiggans 12-20-1896 in Wilson Co., KS, daughter of George and Sarah (Vanvickle) Wiggans. She was born 10-11-1875 in Wilson Co., KS, and died 6-11-1965.

Child of Claud Sturdevant and Rosa Wiggans was:

- i. Samuel George Sturdevant, b. 9-20-1899, Wilson Co., KS; d. 8-1-1974, Fredonia, Wilson Co., KS; m. Rita Carver, 11-4-1920, Cottonwood Falls, Chase Co., KS; b. 6-25-1899, Altoona, Wilson Co., KS; d. 12-3-1956, Wilson Co., KS.

Notes for Samuel George Sturdevant and Rita Carver:

George's burial took place 8-3-1974 at the Altoona Cemetery in Wilson Co., KS. Rita was also buried at the Altoona Cemetery.

## CHAPTER FIVE

### *Eight Generations of Alexander Wilson, Sr.*

- 1 [33] Alexander Wilson b: 1728 in Campbeltown, Argyle shire, Scotland d: 6-5-1816 in Scotland  
....+Mary McNab b: Abt. 1741 in Scotland d: 1776 in Scotland m: 6-15-1754 in Abbey Parish, Paisley,  
Renfrewshire, Scotland
- ....2 Mary Wilson b: 4-5-1757 in Abbey Parish, Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland d: Bet. 1813 - 1833 in Prob. Ovid,  
Seneca Co., NY
- .....+William Duncan b: Abt. 1751 in Scotland m: 8-24-1776 in Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland
- .....3 [27] Isabella Duncan b: 7-10-1779 in Renfrewshire, Scotland d: 5-15-1857 in Steuben Co., NY
- .....+John McNelly b: in Ireland d: 11-21-1813 in prob. Grenadier Island, NY m: 6-15-1799 in Philadelphia,  
PA
- .....4 [1] Mary W. McNelly b: Abt. 1800 in PA d: 1894 in NY
- .....+Samuel Waddell b: Abt. 1793 in Northern Ireland d: 5-30-1837 in Howell, Livingston Co., MI  
m: Abt. 1820 in NY
- .....5 Andrew D. Waddell b: 5-25-1831 in NY d: 12-10-1881 in Howell, MI
- .....+Mary Elizabeth Skilbeck b: 4-24-1836 in MI d: 5-5-1909 in Howell, MI m: 9-14-1858 in Howell,  
Livingston Co., MI
- .....6 Mary L. Waddell b: Abt. 1859 in Howell, Livingston Co., MI
- .....+John W. Hardt b: Abt. 1857 in Cincinnati, Hamilton Co., OH m: 1-10-1883 in Howell,  
Livingston Co., MI
- .....6 Anna Emerson Waddell b: 5-31-1861 in Howell, Livingston Co., MI d: 1-24-1919 in Chicago,  
Cook Co., IL
- .....+Harry Stocum Knapp b: 7-9-1860 in Adrian, Lenawee Co., MI d: 5-11-1925 in Chicago,  
Cook Co., IL m: 10-8-1884 in Plainwell, Allegan Co., MI
- .....7 Warren Emerson Knapp b: 6-16-1885 in Wellington, Sumner Co., KS
- .....+Ethel Cowles m: 9-16-1912
- .....7 Elizabeth Lina Knapp b: 3-15-1886 in Kalamazoo, Kalamazoo Co., MI d: in Riverside,  
Fairfield Co., CT
- .....7 Jane Cynthia Knapp b: 2-19-1888 in Kalamazoo, Kalamazoo Co., MI d: 9-30-1953
- .....+Edwin Allen Wood, Sr. m: 9-21-1910 in South Haven, Van Buren Co., MI
- .....8 Jane Elizabeth Wood
- .....8 Edwin Allen Wood, Jr.
- .....5 [31] Isabel E. Waddell b: 1836 in MI d: 1874 in Wilson Co., KS
- .....+[30] Samuel Waddell Sturdevant b: 3-15-1837 in NY d: 1-4-1919 in Leavenworth,  
Leavenworth Co., KS m: 10-8-1868 in Pulteney, Steuben Co., NY
- .....6 [32] Oswald W. Sturdevant b: 4-10-1872 in Wilson Co., KS d: Aft. 1930 in Prob. KS
- .....\*2nd Husband of [1] Mary W. McNelly:
- .....+John Coryell b: 4-27-1796 in Brunswick, Sussex Co., NJ d: 11-9-1885 in NY m: Abt. 1840 in NY
- .....5 James Harvey Coryell b: 4-27-1841 in Steuben Co., NY d: 3-2-1899 in Pulteney, Steuben Co., NY
- .....+Elizabeth Andrews b: Abt. 1848 in England d: 9-23-1910 in Pulteney, Steuben Co., NY  
m: 9-4-1866 in Steuben Co., NY
- .....6 Jennie Coryell b: Abt. 1869
- .....6 John Coryell b: Abt. 1871
- .....6 Mary Coryell b: Abt. 1875
- .....6 Joseph D. Coryell b: Abt. 1878
- .....5 Charity Coryell b: 3-4-1847 in Steuben Co., NY d: 4-4-1934
- .....4 William McNelly b: in PA d. Aft. 1817 (See page 37 for William's possible family.)

.....4 Catharine McNelly b: 6-13-1808 in Philadelphia, Philadelphia Co., PA d: 11-20-1842 in Livingston Co., MI  
.....+James Hood b: 5-31-1796 in NY or PA d: 4-6-1867 in Hillsdale Co., MI m: 8-28-1825 in Seneca Co., NY  
.....5 Robert Hood b: 4-6-1826 in NY d: Aft. 1870  
.....+Emma b: Abt. 1830 in NY d: Aft. 1870  
.....6 Catherine A. Hood b: Abt. 1849 in MI  
.....6 Emma J. Hood b: Abt. 1855 in MI  
.....6 Elizabeth A. Hood b: Abt. 1857 in MI  
.....6 James Hood b: Abt. 1865 in MI  
.....5 [2] Isabell Hood b: 4-24-1828 in NY d: 6-7-1909 in Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI  
.....+Martin L. Griswold b: 7-1826 in NY d: 3-3-1857 in Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI m: 11-15-1845 in Washtenaw Co., MI  
.....6 Caroline Griswold b: 12-3-1849 in Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI d: 5-23-1872 in Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI  
.....+William N. Marks b: Abt. 1842 in MI m: 1-1-1867 in Jonesville, Hillsdale Co., MI  
.....7 Flora Marks b: 1869 in MI  
.....6 Mary Belle Hood Griswold b: 8-15-1855 in Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI d: 7-26-1922 in Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI  
.....+William Worth Moore b: 3-2-1852 in Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI d: 6-4-1932 in Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI  
.....7 Floyd Wayne Moore b: 2-3-1889 in Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI d: 11-4-1966 in Kalamazoo, Kalamazoo Co., MI  
.....+Sophie Estelle Dunham b: 2-3-1887 in Alma, Gratiot Co., MI d: 1981 in Kalamazoo, Kalamazoo Co., MI  
.....8 Donald Floyd Moore b: 7-6-1914 in Winona, Winona Co., MN d: 9-10-1999 in Indianapolis, Marion Co., IN  
.....+Carola Ruth Gibson b: 6-10-1913 in Kalamazoo, Kalamazoo Co., MI d: 1-11-1999 in Indianapolis, Marion Co., IN  
.....\*2nd Husband of [2] Isabell Hood:  
.....+Charles Fowle b: 1-13-1811 in Livingston Co., NY d: 11-27-1889 in Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI m: 4-24-1867 in Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI  
.....6 May Fowle b: 5-17-1868 in Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI d: 10-20-1868 in Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI  
.....5 [3] Jane Hood b: 2-24-1830 in NY d: 4-25-1911 in Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI  
.....+George Snell b: Abt. 1825 in NY m: Bef. 1850  
.....\*2nd Husband of [3] Jane Hood:  
.....+Orlando Converse Gale b: 7-8-1810 in Barre, Washington Co., VT d: 5-17-1881 in Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI m: Aft. 1855  
.....5 John M. Hood b: 5-9-1832 in NY d: Bef. 1868  
.....5 Mary W. Hood b: 12-7-1834 in Portland, Chautauqua Co., NY d: 7-7-1911 in Horton, Jackson Co., MI  
.....+David Barnes, Sr. b: 5-3-1826 in Mentz, Cayuga Co., NY d: 4-6-1895 in Horton, Jackson Co., MI m: 4-25-1860 in Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI  
.....6 [5] Martin A. Barnes b: 3-1861 in Jackson Co., MI d: 1-10-1916 in Duluth, St. Louis Co., MN  
.....+Birdella Johnson b: 1867 in NY d: 2-17-1898 in MI m: 11-5-1883 in Jackson, MI  
.....7 David Lee Barnes b: 9-25-1884 in MI d: 11-1936 in East Grand Forks, Polk Co., MN  
.....+Florence Elizabeth Tanner b: 6-5-1882 in MN d: 1-17-1972 in Tacoma, WA m: 12-25-1907  
.....8 Walter Earl Barnes  
.....+Vivian G. Swedenburg  
.....8 Ann Elizabeth Barnes  
.....+Francis Willard Hennings  
.....7 Earl Allen Barnes b: 5-4-1887 in MI d: 2-6-1963 in Dayton, Ohio  
.....+Cassie Pearl Robinson b: 2-25-1882 in IA d: 2-10-1971 m: Abt. 1909 in Prob. in IA  
.....8 Harland W. Barnes b: 1910 in IA d: 1938 in Prob. in OH

.....8 Lois L. Barnes  
.....+George H. Ohmer  
.....7 [4] Kenneth A. Barnes b: 11-4-1894 in MI d: 6-1974 in NY  
.....+Emma Stern d: 9-1-1972 in NY  
.....\*2nd Wife of [4] Kenneth A. Barnes:  
.....+Viola Stern m: 10-12-1972  
.....\*2nd Wife of [5] Martin A. Barnes:  
.....+Ella Susan "Susie" Bliss b: 8-28-1868 in Albion, Calhoun Co., MI d: 4-12-1945 in Albion,  
Calhoun Co., MI m: 5-16-1900 in Albion, Calhoun Co., MI  
.....7 [7] George Sidney Barnes b: 2-27-1904 in IA d: 4-15-1981 in Jackson Co., MI  
.....+Josephine Gardner m: 1934  
.....8 [6] Lucretia Joetta "Lucky" Barnes  
.....+Charles Schmidt  
.....\*2nd Husband of [6] Lucretia Joetta Barnes:  
.....+Donald Short  
.....8 Peggy Barnes  
.....+Richard Dusmam  
.....\*2nd Wife of [7] George Sidney Barnes:  
.....+Laura Schmidt b: 12-17-1908 m: 11-11-1946  
.....6 Fredrick D. Barnes b: 12-23-1862 in Jackson Co., MI d: 12-11-1942 in Jackson Co., MI  
.....+Lillian M. Snyder b: 8-5-1870 d: 7-22-1954 m: 12-24-1889  
.....7 Bliss D. Barnes b: 4-14-1892 in MI d: 11-8-1922 in MI  
.....+Lillian Chaffee b: 1-24-1894 d: 10-21-1948 m: 1919  
.....8 Martin Allen Barnes b: 5-30-1920 d: 6-27-1996 in Jackson Co., MI  
.....+Lois E. Cavanagh  
.....7 Frances Willard Barnes b: 11-6-1894 in MI d: 10-30-1955  
.....+Pearl J. Salsbury b: 12-23-1890 in Union City, Branch and Calhoun Co., MI  
d: 2-9-1972 in Jackson Co., MI m: 6-30-1915  
.....8 Willard Keith Salsbury b: 4-22-1916 d: 3-30-1971  
.....+Lorraine St. Dennis  
.....8 Phyllis June Salsbury b: 2-9-1923 d: 11-25-2004  
.....+Gaile Ferris Wallis  
.....8 Kenneth Lee Salsbury  
.....+Eunice B. Ward  
.....7 Ray Barnes b: 1903 in MI d: 1903 in MI  
.....7 Mary Louise Barnes b: 10-20-1905 in Horton, Jackson Co., MI d: 12-26-1984 in Hillsdale  
Co., MI  
.....+John Russell Sterling b: 3-3-1905 d: 11-18-1941 m: 5-30-1925  
.....8 Jeannine Ann Sterling  
.....+Charles A. Doan  
.....8 Catherine Kay Sterling  
.....+Alger H. Palmer  
.....6 [10] Jennie Barnes b: 1865 in Jackson Co., MI d: 11-23-1930 in Jackson Co., MI  
.....+Fredrick Fales b: 3-21-1853 in Cortland, NY d: 10-7-1909 in Horton, Jackson Co., MI  
m: 1-3-1888  
.....7 Frank D. Fales b: 8-28-1888 d: 8-17-1971 in Jackson, MI  
.....+Charlotte Bahlau b: 3-11-1897 d: 6-5-1965 in Jackson, MI m: 12-27-1915  
.....8 [9] Donald Fredrick Fales  
.....+Betty Hinkle  
.....\*2nd Wife of [9] Donald Fredrick Fales:  
.....+Genevieve Myrtle Armul  
.....\*2nd Husband of [10] Jennie Barnes:  
.....+Lee McGonegal b: 8-9-1868 in Spring Arbor, Jackson Co., MI d. Aft. 1950 m: 9-10-1921  
.....6 Thomas Hood Barnes b: 7-4-1868 in Jackson Co., MI d: 7-28-1937 in Jackson Co., MI  
.....+Pearl Florence Russell b: 11-11-1871 in MI d: 12-11-1942 m: 5-15-1909

.....6 William Hood Barnes b: 5-27-1870 in Horton, Jackson Co., MI d: 12-10-1946 in Jackson Co., MI  
.....+Nellie Mae Bliss b: 8-17-1874 in Albion, Calhoun Co., MI d: 4-21-1962 in Jackson Co., MI m: 11-29-1899 in Albion, Calhoun Co., MI  
.....7 Charles Aaron Barnes b: 7-29-1901 in Chicago, Cook Co., IL d: 9-16-1985 in Jackson, Jackson Co., MI  
.....+Esther Lois Harmon b: 6-27-1899 in Angola, Steuben Co., IN d: 9-8-1990 in Jackson Co., MI m: 10-3-1921 in Jackson Co., MI  
.....8 Marie Louise Barnes  
.....+Warren Henry Beebe b: 7-22-1922 d: 8-8-2004 in Jackson, MI  
.....8 Helen Mae Barnes  
.....+Paul Andrew Lammers, Sr. b: 1-14-1921 d: 3-12-1996 in Jackson Co., MI  
.....8 John Hood Barnes b: 11-26-1925 in Jackson Co., MI d: 3-9-1926 in Jackson Co., MI  
.....8 Lois Marion Barnes b: 3-5-1927 in Jackson Co., MI d: 1-31-2006 in Jackson Co., MI  
.....+Donald Edwin Jackson  
.....8 [12] Dorothy Jean Barnes b: 5-10-1929 in Jackson Co., MI d: 2-15-2003 in Jackson Co., MI  
.....+Leon Wagner  
.....\*2nd Husband of [12] Dorothy Jean Barnes:  
.....+Stephen Beryl Davis b: 1-26-1926 d: 5-23-2002 in Jackson, MI m: 5-30-1952  
.....8 William Aaron Barnes, Sr.  
.....+Florence Louise Wolf  
.....8 David Sidney Barnes  
.....+Eleanor Heckman  
.....8 Doris Ruth Barnes b: 4-23-1937 in Jackson Co., MI d: 3-7-1938  
.....7 Helen Mary Barnes b: 12-19-1902 in Chicago, Cook Co., IL d: 4-18-2001 in Spring Arbor, Jackson Co., MI  
.....+Clyfford Arthur Leggett b: 1-17-1901 in Chicago, Cook Co., IL d: 7-29-2001 in Spring Arbor, Jackson Co., MI m: 3-12-1923 in Ann Arbor, Washtenaw Co., MI  
.....8 Donald Rae Leggett  
.....+Ruth Agnes Ayres  
.....8 Harold William Leggett  
.....+Mary "Madelyn" Smith  
.....8 Arthur Clyfford Leggett  
.....+Wanda Iris Croad  
.....7 Thomas Sidney Barnes b: 1-3-1906 in Chicago, Cook Co., IL d: 9-25-1972 in Ann Arbor, Washtenaw Co., MI  
.....+Hilma Sorola b: 11-20-1910 in Fort Bragg, Mendocino Co., CA d: 1-10-2004 in Jackson, Jackson Co., MI m: 12-4-1928 in CA  
.....8 [14] Douglas Alan Barnes  
.....+Kathryn Joan "Kappy" Hills b: 5-16-1950 d: 9-22-1997 in Jackson Co., MI  
.....\*2nd Wife of [14] Douglas Alan Barnes:  
.....+Sharon Kay Stewart  
.....8 [15] Roy Thomas Barnes  
.....+Cheryl Diane Cullison  
.....\*2nd Wife of [15] Roy Thomas Barnes:  
.....+Colette Noel Gillespie b: 12-25-1951 in Utah d: 2-13-1983 in Utah  
.....\*3rd Wife of [15] Roy Thomas Barnes:  
.....+Tracy Beck  
.....7 Jennie Louise Barnes b: 5-27-1908 in Chicago, Cook Co., IL d: 8-19-2003 in Spring Arbor, Jackson Co., MI  
.....+Howard Oswald Paige b: 12-3-1909 in Mason, Ingham Co., MI d: 5-1-1994 in Jackson, Jackson Co., MI m: 9-27-1927 in Toledo, Lucas Co., OH mrg end: 3-17-1965 in Jackson, MI  
.....8 Royce Duane "Bud" Paige  
.....+Lucille "Elaine" Shaw



.....8 Charlene Frances Paige  
.....+Rev. Robert Page Garrett, Sr.  
.....8 Margaret Ann Paige b: 4-29-1941 in Saginaw, Saginaw Co., MI d: 6-15-1984 in Jackson, Jackson Co., MI  
.....8 Mary Louise Paige  
.....+Robert Alvar West  
.....8 Charles William Paige  
.....6 David Barnes, Jr. "June" b: 11-23-1873 in Jackson Co., MI d: 11-22-1957 in Jackson Co., MI  
.....+Edith Ann Hobbins b: 7-22-1879 in MI d: 9-19-1961 m: 12-12-1900  
.....7 Wanda V. Barnes b: 3-22-1902 in MI d: 1-13-1975  
.....+Donald L. Pickell b: 4-3-1899 d: 1981 m: 6-12-1923  
.....8 A. Donovan Pickell  
.....+Reba V. Maxon  
.....8 Lyle Barney Pickell  
.....+Mary Davis  
.....8 Jennie Lee Pickell  
.....+Karl Shimkus  
.....8 Betty Jane Pickell  
.....+Harry Dennis  
.....7 Floyd H. Barnes b: 3-6-1906 in MI d: 7-26-1988 in Jackson Co., MI  
.....+Helen Arlene Redinger b: 5-28-1907 in Jackson, MI d: 4-22-2003 in Bay City, Bay Co., MI m: 9-5-1931 in Jackson, MI  
.....8 David Dale Barnes  
.....+Joellen Carol Wheeler  
.....8 George Gale Barnes b: 6-11-1939 d: 9-1944  
.....8 [23] John Jacob Barnes b: 8-17-1945 in Jackson Co., MI d: 2-5-1996 in Denver, Denver Co., CO  
.....+Nancy  
.....8 Robert R. Barnes  
.....+Raquel Gomez  
.....7 Frederick June Barnes b: 3-5-1910 in MI d: 4-10-1988  
.....+Marjorie Mae VanAntwerp b: 5-14-1919 d: 6-20-1974 m: 5-29-1939  
.....8 William Roy Barnes  
.....+Judy Kay Wise  
.....8 Janet Lynn Barnes  
.....+Terry Lee Schrader b: 2-10-1944 d: 11-25-1978  
.....7 Lillian Bereniece Barnes  
.....+Bion Rheinard Hoeg b: 9-16-1910 d: 7-1997 in Jackson Co., MI  
.....8 Bion Lynwood Hoeg  
.....+Nancy Alison Klamer  
.....7 [25] Marjorie "Edith" Barnes b: 8-24-1915 in Horton, Jackson Co., MI d: 1-28-2000 in Hudson, Pasco Co., FL  
.....+Roy C. Lyons, Sr. b: 1-29-1914 d: 11-30-1974 m: 10-12-1935  
.....8 [24] Marlene Ellen Lyons  
.....+Gerald Eugene Little  
.....\*2nd Husband of [24] Marlene Ellen Lyons:  
.....+William Laurence Dodes  
.....\*3rd Husband of [24] Marlene Ellen Lyons:  
.....+James Warren  
.....8 Martin June Lyons  
.....+Carol Lee Simons  
.....8 Roy C. Lyons, Jr. b: 1953 d: 1961  
.....\*2nd Husband of [25] Marjorie Edith Barnes:  
.....+Dennis Lineweber d: Abt. 1978 m: Abt. 1978  
.....5 Catharine Ann Hood b: 10-27-1835 in Novi Twp., Oakland Co., MI d: 1914 in MI  
.....+Isaac C. Mills b: 7-31-1832 in Barnegat, Ocean Co., NJ d: 1914 in MI m: 2-5-1856 in Plymouth, Wayne Co., MI

.....6 Robert B. Mills b: Abt. 1857 in MI  
.....6 Perris E. Mills b: Abt. 1858 in MI d: 3-13-1883 in MI  
.....6 Frank Eugene Mills b: Abt. 1859 in MI d: 1-16-1891  
.....6 James H. Mills b: Abt. 7-1860 in MI d: 10-20-1876  
.....6 Carl S. Mills b: Abt. 1862 in MI  
.....6 Gabriella Mills b: Abt. 9-1874 in MI d: 1958  
.....+William E. Swick b: 9-1877 in MI d: 1966 m: Abt. 1904  
.....7 Mills Swick b: Abt. 1905 in MI  
.....5 Elizabeth Ann Hood b: 11-19-1837 in MI d: 1908 in MI  
.....+Isaiah Hendershot b: 10-1834 in MI m: Abt. 1882 in MI  
.....5 Caroline Duncan Hood b: 2-5-1840 in MI d: 5-3-1909 in Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI  
.....+Dewitt Clinton Gale b: 10-1832 in VT d: 1902 in Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI m: Abt. 1858  
.....6 James B. Gale b: 12-1859 in MI  
.....6 Edwin "Ned" Gale b: 1866 in MI  
.....5 James Duncan Hood b: 11-5-1842 in Lyon, Oakland Co., MI d: 5-3-1864 in Andersonville,  
Sumter Co., GA  
.....5 William McNelly Hood b: 11-6-1842 in Salem, Washtenaw Co., MI d: 5-22-1918 in Toledo,  
Lucas Co., OH  
.....+Mary Elizabeth Harris b: 12-1846 in VA d: 1918 m: Abt. 1866 in MI  
.....6 Jennibelle Hood b: 2-1868 in MI d: 4-9-1945  
.....+Lennie Densmore  
.....7 Susie Densmore  
.....7 Carl Densmore  
.....7 Ray Densmore  
.....7 Pauline Densmore  
.....7 Rachael Densmore  
.....7 Owen Densmore  
.....6 George William Hood b: 8-1873 in MI  
.....+Winifred  
.....7 Mildred Hood  
.....7 Madge Hood  
.....6 James Owen Hood, Sr. b: 3-17-1876 in MI d: 12-28-1926 in Spokane, WA  
.....+Edith Ulena Ryon b: 8-12-1877 in Hanover, MI d: in Spokane, WA m: 7-9-1908 in  
Penfield, Calhoun Co., MI  
.....7 Roberta Hood b: 1909 d: 1996  
.....7 James Owen Hood, Jr. b: 1914 in MI d: 1993 in Spokane, WA  
.....+Helen  
.....7 Frank Densmore Hood  
.....+Marrian  
.....8 Paula M. Hood  
.....7 Jack Hood  
.....+Mary Kathryn True  
.....8 Deborah Kathryn Hood  
.....8 Robert Owen Hood b: 6-18-1950 in Salem, OR d: 8-19-1992 in Hyder, Alaska  
.....+Sue Nelson  
.....6 Frank McNelly Hood b: 2-9-1877 in Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI d: 9-29-1939 in Toledo,  
Lucas Co., OH  
.....+Mabel May Ely b: 4-4-1883 in Medina, MI d: 8-11-1971 in Toledo, Lucas Co., OH  
m: 1-11-1905  
.....7 Harris Ely Hood b: 9-29-1906 in Toledo, Lucas Co., OH d: 4-23-1984 in Toledo, Lucas  
Co., OH  
.....+Vera Mary Larter b: 8-1-1908 in Toledo, Lucas Co., OH d: 1-30-2004 in Toledo, Lucas  
Co., OH m: 10-30-1926 in Bowling Green, Wood Co., OH  
.....8 [26] Robert William Hood b: 2-4-1928 in Toledo, Lucas Co., OH d: 12-22-1994 in  
Toledo, Lucas Co., OH  
.....+Barbara Ann Taylor

.....\*2nd Wife of [26] Robert William Hood:  
.....+Beverly  
.....\*3rd Wife of [26] Robert William Hood:  
.....+Carol d: in Toledo, OH  
.....7 Amy Elizabeth Hood b: 6-20-1909 in Toledo, Lucas Co., OH d: 12-29-1942 in New  
Florence, Westmoreland Co., PA  
.....+George C. Beal  
.....8 George Hood Beal  
.....4 Isabella McNelly b: 6-13-1808 in PA d: 1-4-1878 in Steuben Co., NY  
.....4 James McNelly b: Abt. 1810 in PA d: Aft. 1880  
.....+Nancy b: Abt. 1812 in NY d: Aft. 1880 m: Bef. 1840  
.....5 Rosabella McNelly b: 1-19-1840 in Steuben Co., NY d: 6-28-1842 in Steuben Co., NY  
.....5 Catherine Elizabeth McNelly b: Abt. 1843  
.....5 Caroline McNelly b: Abt. 1848  
.....5 John P. McNelly b: Abt. 1849 in NY  
.....+Elizabeth b: Abt. 1846 in NY m: Abt. 1876  
.....5 Mary McNelly b: Abt. 1851  
.....5 Evangeline McNelly b: Abt. 1855  
.....\*2nd Husband of [27] Isabella Duncan:  
.....+John Ellis b: 1759 in Ireland d: 3-20-1846 in Steuben Co., NY m: 3-4-1829 in NY  
.....3 William Duncan, Jr. b: 7-10-1779 in Renfrewshire, Scotland d: Aft. 1813  
.....3 [28] Alexander Duncan b: Abt. 1781 in Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland d: 1871 in Lyon, Oakland Co., MI  
.....+Eliza Mehaffey b: Abt. 1800 in PA d: Bef. 1870 in Lyon, Oakland Co., MI m: Bef. 1818 in Prob. PA  
.....4 Jane L. Duncan, b. 5-6-1818 in PA d. 2-26-1880 in Lyon, Oakland Co., MI  
.....+Charles H. Burch b: Abt. 1820 in NY d. Aft. 1880 m: 11-22-1843 in Oakland Co., MI  
.....4 Elizabeth Duncan b: in NY d: 1851 in Northville, Wayne Co., MI  
.....+George Pitt b: 12-25-1815 in England m: 1839 in Lyon, Oakland Co., MI  
.....5 William T. Pitt b: 5-13-1841 in Lyon, Oakland Co., MI d: 3-26-1910 in Pine River, Gratiot Co.,  
MI  
.....+Bettie Lawson b: 3-7-1845 in Wayne Co., NY m: 3-4-1869 in Northville, Wayne Co., MI  
.....6 Isabell Pitt b: 7-14-1872 in Holly, Oakland Co., MI  
.....+William Shong m: 1894  
.....7 George Shong  
.....7 Ruth Shong  
.....7 Esther Shong  
.....7 Leah Shong  
.....5 Delphene Pitt b: in Northville, Wayne Co., MI  
.....5 George Pitt b: in Northville, Wayne Co., MI  
.....5 Anna Pitt b: in Northville, Wayne Co., MI  
.....4 Robert Duncan b: Bet. 1820 - 1825 in NY  
.....4 Isabel F. Duncan b: Abt. 1827 in NY  
.....+John J. Thompson b: Abt. 1819 in NY m: 11-21-1852 in Washtenaw Co., MI  
.....5 Ida Thompson b: Abt. 1855 in MI  
.....5 Wallace B. Thompson b: Abt. 1857 in MI  
.....5 Eva J. Thompson b: Abt. 1859 in MI  
.....5 Liona Thompson b: Abt. 1862 in MI  
.....5 Byron J. Thompson b: Abt. 1864 in MI  
.....5 Robert Thompson b: Abt. 1866 in MI  
.....4 James W. Duncan b: 5-28-1826 in NY d: 3-14-1910 in Lyon, Oakland Co., MI  
.....\*2nd Wife of [28] Alexander Duncan:  
.....+Dorothy b: Abt. 1795 in PA m: Bef. 1870  
.....3 Mary Duncan b: in Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland  
.....3 George Duncan b: 1787 in Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland d: 10-7-1801 in Norfolk, Norfolk Co., VA  
.....3 James Duncan b: 9-19-1792 in Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland d: 11-24-1861 in Lyon Twp., Oakland Co.,  
MI  
.....+Jane Waddell b: 7-31-1794 in Turbot Twp., Northumberland Co., PA d: 9-4-1862 in Lyon Twp.,  
Oakland Co., MI m: 7-8-1817 in Ovid, Seneca Co., NY

.....4 Alexander Duncan b: 5-21-1819 in Pulteney, Steuben Co., NY  
 .....+Elizabeth b: Abt. 1823 in NY  
 .....5 Jane Duncan b: Abt. 1847 in MI  
 .....5 Elbert Duncan b: Abt. 1849 in MI  
 .....5 Herman Duncan b: Abt. 1853 in MI  
 .....5 Eugena Duncan b: Abt. 1856 in MI  
 .....5 James Duncan b: Abt. 1861 in MI  
 .....4 Martha Duncan b: 10-24-1820 in Pulteney, Steuben Co., NY d: 10-9-1826 in Ovid, Seneca Co., NY  
 .....4 Mary Ann Duncan b: 6-25-1822 in Ovid, Seneca Co., NY  
 .....4 Caroline Duncan b: 7-7-1824 in Ovid, Seneca Co., NY  
 .....4 William Duncan b: 7-24-1826 in Ovid, Seneca Co., NY d: 4-23-1908 in Salem, Washtenaw Co., MI  
 .....+Prudence Rose b: 8-25-1829 in Henrietta, Monroe Co., NY d: 12-24-1911 in Salem, Washtenaw  
 Co., MI m: 10-27-1853 in Ann Arbor, Washtenaw Co., MI  
 .....5 Frank Duncan b: 8-16-1854 in Newport, St. Clair Co., MI d: 6-16-1923 in Green Oak, Livingston  
 Co., MI  
 .....+Flora Groves m: 10-2-1876 in Northfield, Oakland Co., MI  
 .....6 [29] Raymond Edward Duncan b: 12-24-1878 d: 11-15-1957  
 .....+Mabel Helen Sowers  
 .....7 Wallace Irving Duncan  
 .....8 Richard Duncan  
 .....8 Gerald Duncan  
 .....7 Mae Prudence Duncan  
 .....\*2nd Wife of [29] Raymond Edward Duncan:  
 .....+Bessie Colbridge  
 .....7 William Tyler Duncan  
 .....7 Mildred Duncan  
 .....+John Abbott  
 .....7 Helen Duncan  
 .....+Ralph Leland  
 .....5 William Duncan, Jr. b: 12-15-1856 in Newport, St. Clair Co., MI d: 11-2-1859 in Newport,  
 St. Clair Co., MI  
 .....5 Caroline Duncan b: 5-4-1859 in Newport, St. Clair Co., MI d: 5-19-1859 in Newport, St. Clair  
 Co., MI  
 .....5 Florence Duncan b: 9-19-1860 in Lyon Twp., Oakland Co., MI  
 .....5 Melvin Duncan b: 9-24-1863 in Lyon Twp., Oakland Co., MI d: 6-2-1942  
 .....+Mary Renwick b: 5-10-1861 d: 5-7-1929 m: 3-27-1890 in Salem, Washtenaw Co., MI  
 .....5 Helen Duncan b: 9-14-1870 in Ann Arbor, Washtenaw Co., MI d: 6-11-1896 in Superior,  
 Washtenaw Co., MI  
 .....4 Josiah Dunlap Duncan b: 9-23-1828 in Ovid, Seneca Co., NY  
 .....4 Frances Duncan b: 9-11-1830 in Ovid, Seneca Co., NY  
 .....4 James Waddell Duncan b: 2-17-1833 in Ovid, Seneca Co., NY d: 1-9-1851 in Lyon Twp., Oakland  
 Co., MI  
 .....4 Jennet Duncan b: 6-12-1836 in Lyon Twp., Oakland Co., MI  
 .....3 Jean Duncan b: 7-8-1795 in Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland  
 .....3 Anna Duncan b: 8-9-1797 in Queensferry, Midlothianshire, or Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland  
 d: 8-4-1870 in Prob. Prattsburg, Steuben Co., NY  
 .....+James Sturdevant b: 2-28-1789 in Norfolk, Litchfield Co., CT d: 9-14-1862 in West Almond, Allegany  
 Co., NY m: 1828 in Pulteney, Steuben Co., NY  
 .....4 Chloe Ann Sturdevant b: 6-14-1831 in Prattsburg, Steuben Co., NY d: 3-11-1901 in Huntington,  
 Cabell Co., WV  
 .....+Lamberton Doolittle m: 9-1-1853 in West Almond, Allegany Co., NY  
 .....5 Edward Sturdevant Doolittle  
 .....5 Frank Leslie Doolittle  
 .....5 James Doolittle  
 .....5 Anna Lery Doolittle  
 .....5 William Doolittle  
 .....5 Rebecca May Doolittle

.....4 William Duncan Sturdevant b: 2-27-1833 in Prattsburg, Steuben Co., NY d: 3-31-1914 in Almond, Allegany Co., NY  
.....+Lydia Ann Halbert b: 4-20-1837 in Howard, Steuben Co., NY d: 1-10-1916 in Jordan, Onondaga Co., NY m: 2-27-1860 in Almond, Allegany Co., NY  
.....5 James Halbert Sturdevant b: 5-11-1866 in West Almond, Allegany Co., NY d: 4-7-1959 in Arkport, Steuben Co., NY  
.....+Ella C. Baxter b: 1-30-1871 in Almond, Allegany Co., NY d: 9-11-1945 in CA m: 4-9-1905  
.....5 Jennie Elmira Sturdevant b: 9-20-1869 in Almond, Allegany Co., NY d: 2-24-1909 in Addison, Steuben Co., NY  
.....+John S. Ash  
.....6 Rose Ash  
.....5 Hiland Hall Sturdevant b: 11-18-1879 in Almond, Allegany Co., NY d: 8-13-1959 in Jordan, Onondaga Co., NY  
.....+Eva Lucretia Stamm b: 1-20-1882 in Tyringham, Berkshire Co., MA d: 1-31-1962 in Jordan, Onondaga Co., NY m: 1-20-1903 in Almond, Allegany Co., NY  
.....6 Robert Francis Sturdevant b: 2-2-1907 in Niagara Falls, Niagara Co., NY d: 8-28-1982 in Zephyrhills, Pasco Co., FL  
.....+Marguerite Hawley b. 12-20-1909 d: 3-9-2002 in Leesburg, Lake Co., FL m: 4-15-1933 in Jordan, Onondaga Co., NY  
.....6 Donald Edwin Sturdevant b: 8-23-1912 in Warners, Onondaga Co., NY d: 12-18-2004 in Kingsport, Sullivan Co., TN  
.....+Alice May Chapman b: 3-12-1911 in Hagersville, Ontario, Canada d: 4-23-1993 in Kingsport, Sullivan Co., TN m: 9-25-1937 in Niagara Falls, Niagara Co., NY  
.....4 George R. Sturdevant b: 12-27-1834 in Prattsburg, Steuben Co., NY d: 9-27-1922 in Rhineland, Oneida Co., WI  
.....+Emily Truax b: 6-14-1841 in WV m: 11-14-1863 in Cassville, Grant Co., WI  
.....5 Chloe Ann Sturdevant b: Abt. 1867 in WI  
.....5 Elijah Cyrus Sturdevant b: Abt. 1868 in WI. Adopted.  
.....4 [30] Samuel Waddell Sturdevant b: 3-15-1837 in NY d: 1-4-1919 in Leavenworth, Leavenworth Co., KS  
.....+ [31] Isabel E. Waddell b: 1836 in MI d: 1874 in Wilson Co., KS m: 10-8-1868 in Pulteney, Steuben Co., NY  
.....5 [32] Oswald Sturdevant b: 4-10-1872 in Wilson Co., KS d: Aft. 1930 in Prob. KS  
.....\*2nd Wife of [30] Samuel Waddell Sturdevant:  
.....+Amelia E. Alexander m: 10-5-1875 in Pleasant Valley, Wilson Co., KS  
.....5 Claud Sturdevant b: 9-10-1876 in Chanute, Neosho Co., KS d: 3-13-1944  
.....+Rosa Wiggans b: 10-11-1875 in Wilson Co., KS d: 6-11-1965 m: 12-20-1896 in Wilson Co., KS  
.....6 Samuel George Sturdevant b: 9-20-1899 in Wilson Co., KS d: 8-1-1974 in Fredonia, Wilson Co., KS  
.....+Rita Carver b: 6-25-1899 in Altoona, Wilson Co., KS d: 12-3-1956 in Wilson Co., KS m: 11-4-1920 in Cottonwood Falls, Chase Co., KS  
.....4 James D. Sturdevant b: 2-26-1839 in West Almond, Allegany Co., NY d: 4-1-1859 in West Almond, Allegany Co., NY  
.....4 Isabelle J. Sturdevant b: 6-25-1842 in West Almond, Allegany Co., NY d: Aft. 1919 in Prob. in OK  
.....+Thomas McMillan, Sr. m: 1866 in South Adams, Berkshire Co., MA  
.....5 Annie McMillan  
.....5 John McMillan  
.....5 James McMillan  
.....5 George McMillan  
.....5 Thomas McMillan, Jr.  
.....5 Charles McMillan  
....2 Margaret Wilson b: 2-16-1763 in Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland d: in infancy  
....2 Alexander Wilson b: 7-6-1766 in Renfrewshire, Scotland d: 8-23-1813 in Philadelphia, Philadelphia Co., PA

....2 Jean Wilson b: Abt. 1769 in Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland  
.....+John Bell b: Abt. 1765 m: 4-12-1788 in Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland  
.....3 Jean Bell b: 1-8-1791  
.....3 James Bell b: 10-12-1792  
\*2nd Wife of [33] Alexander Wilson:  
....+Catherine Brown b: Abt. 1755 m: 7-6-1776 in Scotland  
....2 Janet Wilson b: 2-25-1777 in Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland  
.....+Duncan Wright  
....2 David Wilson  
....2 Margaret Wilson b: 8-24-1780 in Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland d: in Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland

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Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI.  
Salem, Washtenaw Co., MI.  
Spring Arbor, Jackson Co., MI.

**1860:**

4th Ward of Jackson, Jackson Co., MI.  
Macon Twp., Lenawee Co., MI.  
Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI.  
Salem, Washtenaw Co., MI.

**1900:**

Hanover Twp., Jackson Co., MI.  
Macon Twp., Lenawee Co., MI.  
Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI.

**1870:**

Albion, Calhoun Co., MI.  
Macon Twp., Lenawee Co., MI.  
Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI.  
Pleasant Valley Twp., Wilson Co., KS.  
Salem, Washtenaw Co., MI.  
Summit Twp., Jackson Co., MI.

**1880:**

Albion, Calhoun Co., MI.  
Almond, Alleghany Co., NY.  
Hanover, Jackson Co., MI.  
Jenny, Lincoln Co., WI: (later Merrill, WI).  
Macon Twp., Lenawee Co., MI.  
Moscow, Hillsdale Co., MI.  
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## APPENDIX – COMPLETE MEMOIRS OF WILLIAM HOOD BARNES

Great-Grandfather Aaron Barnes came to Troopsville, Caugua County, New York from Sharon Conn. in about 1790.

Great-Grandmother on father's side named Eggleston. Great-Grandfather Barnes married her in Conn. Her name was Martha.

Grandfather Thomas Barnes moved to Wayne County Butlertown. Moved back to Caugua County, moved to town of Rose. Moved to Seneca Falls. Came to Michigan in 1843, October 24th to Jackson.

Great-Great-Grandfather on mother's side named Sittser lived in Caugua County town of Senate. Went to Germany in about 1770 to get money from an estate. Never heard from after he started back with money. He was born in Germany. Grandfather on mother's side lived in town of Senate, Caugua County, New York.

Great-Grandfather (Grandmother's father's name was Mills), lived in Caugua County town of Victor.

Great-Grandmother Isabel Duncan came from Scotland when eighteen years of age. She lived and married in Philadelphia, married a man by the name of McNelley. He was a soldier in the War of 1812 and died while a soldier. Great-Grandfather McNelley came from Ireland.

Great-Great-Grandfather Duncan married a woman by the name of Wilson. She was a sister of Alexander Wilson the ornithologist of Philadelphia.

Isabel Duncan came to America in about 1797. She was about three months coming across the ocean, coming on a sailboat.

Grandmother Katherine McNelley was born in 1803 in Philadelphia. They moved to Ovid, Seneca County, New York, in 1809. They moved to Putney, Stueben County, New York. Katherine McNelley was married in 1820 to James Hood. He was born in Pennsylvania. They had ten children, Robert born 1826, Isabel in 1828, Jane in 1830, John in 1832, Mary in 1834, Kate in 1835, Libbie in 1837, Caroline in 1840, James and William in 1842.

Grandmother died November 20, 1842. They came to Novi-Oakland County in April 1835.

By William Hood Barnes, circa 1940s<sup>93</sup>

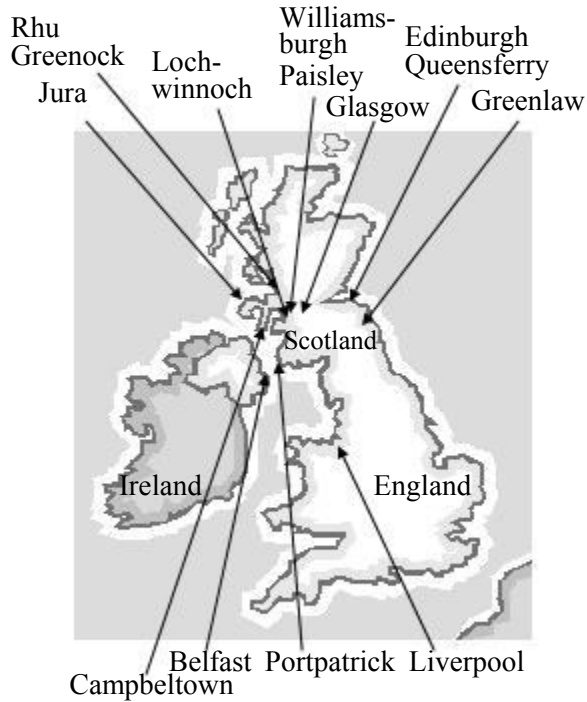
**Senate** = Sennett, a town just northeast of Auburn, New York; **Caugua** = Cayuga (a county in north-central New York; **Victor** = either Victory or Will meant Victor, Wayne County, New York; **Troopsville** = Throopsville (though it is pronounced “Troopsville”), a town just north of Auburn; **Putney** = Pulteney; **Stueben** = Steuben (a county in southwestern New York)

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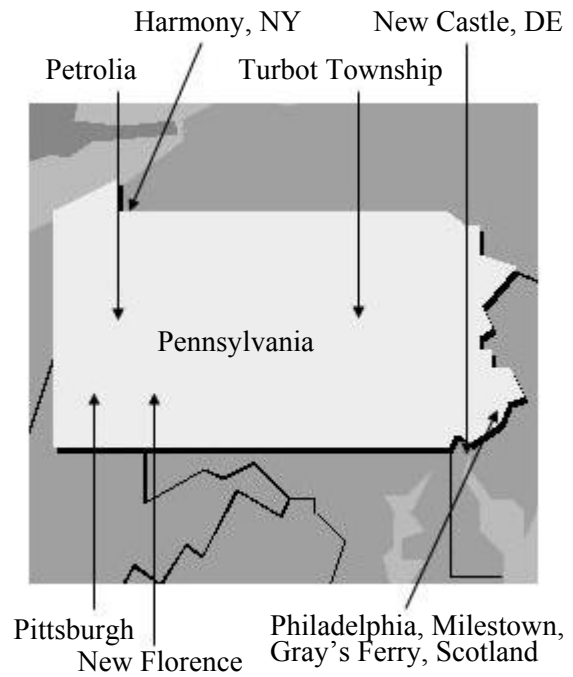
<sup>93</sup> The memoirs were written in light pencil on notebook paper. When I included my original transcription in the Barnes and Related Families Abridged Genealogical Record I had read the name “Mills” as “Willis.” Aunt Helen (Barnes) Leggett later provided a transcription with the correct name—proven by further investigation. Sadly, the original memoirs are now presumably lost.



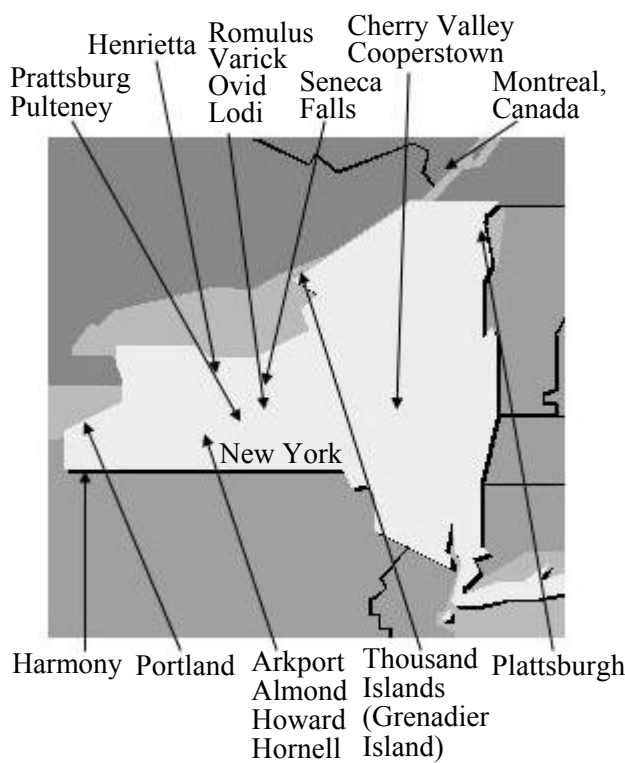
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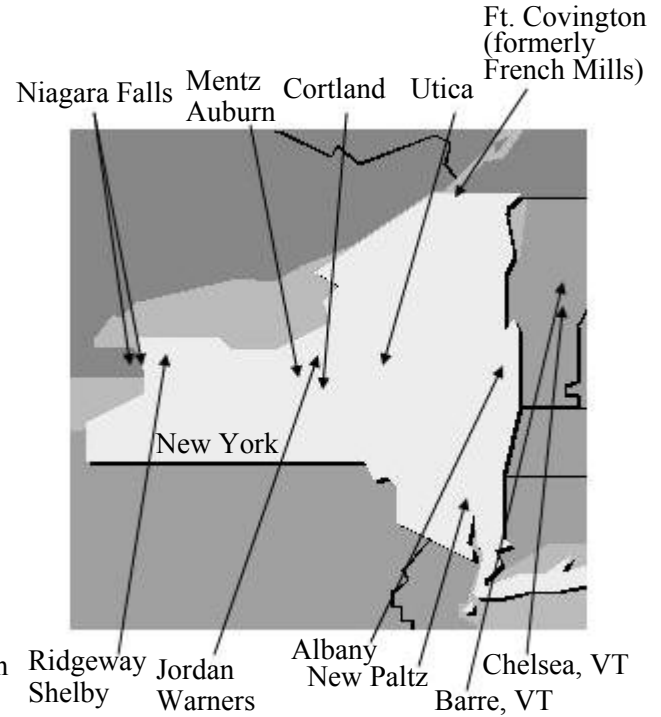
United Kingdom

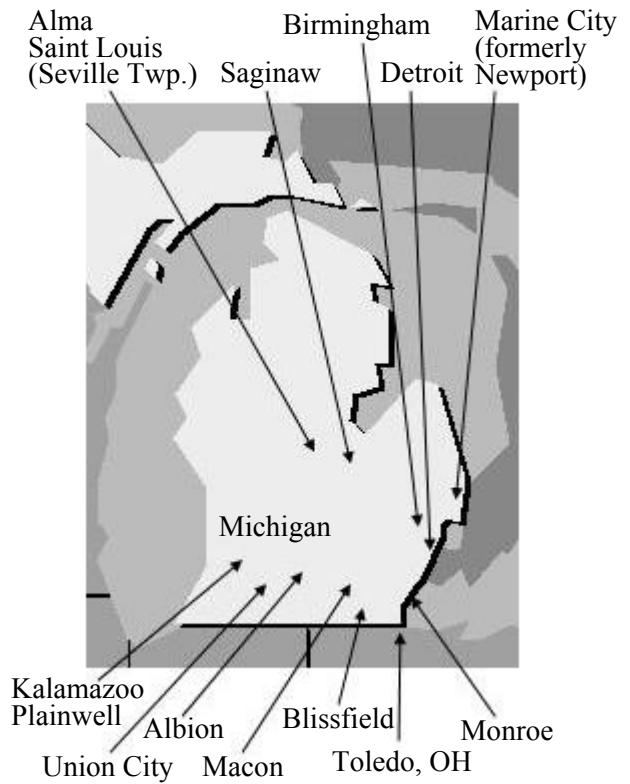
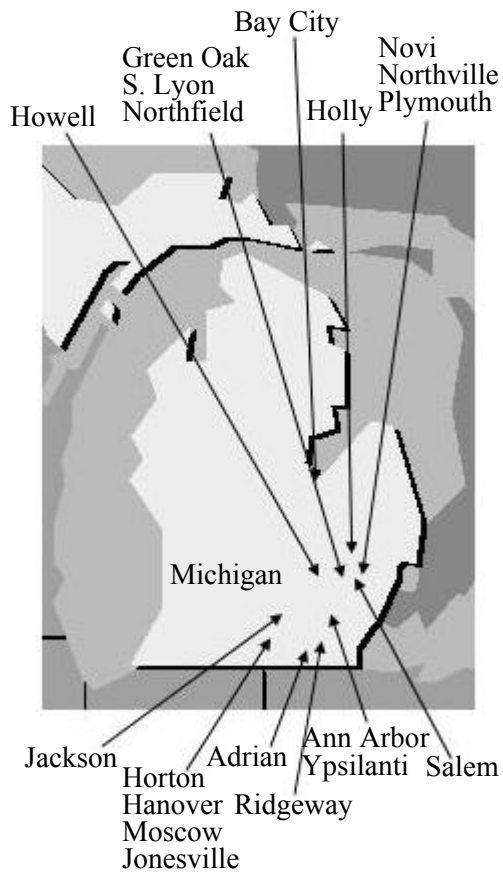


Pennsylvania and Delaware



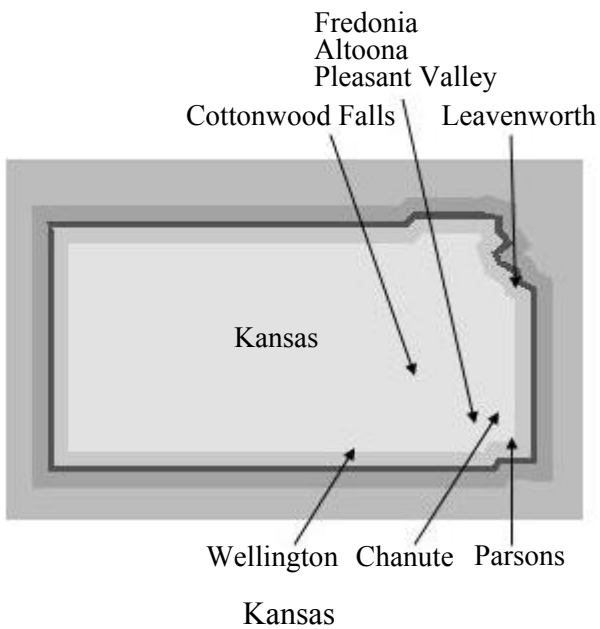
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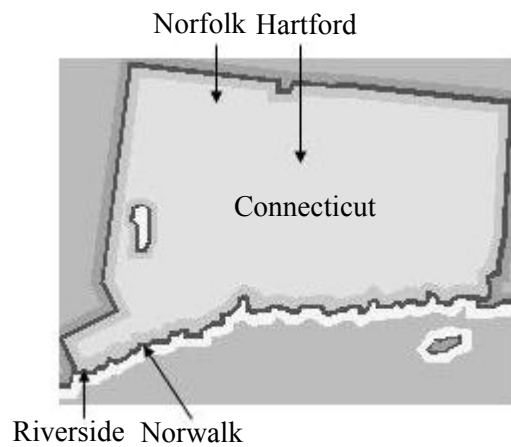


Michigan

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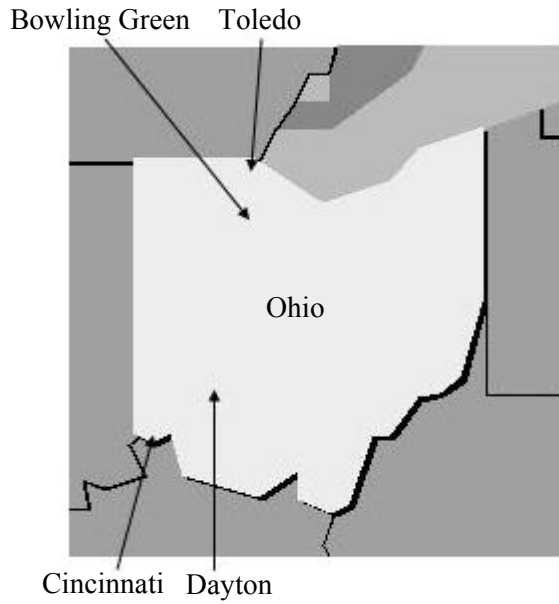


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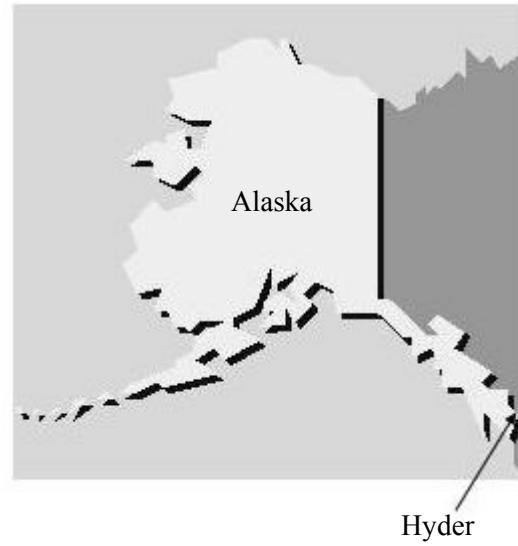


Connecticut

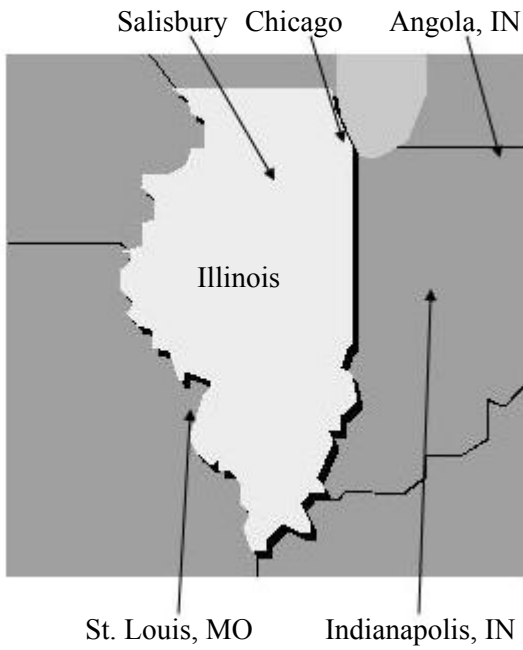
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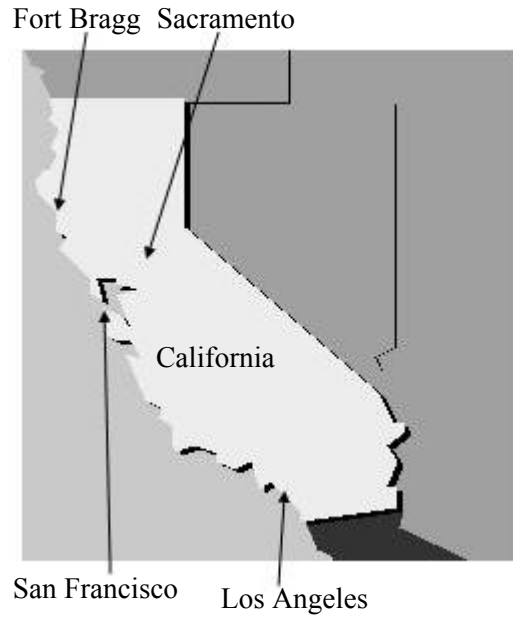
Ohio



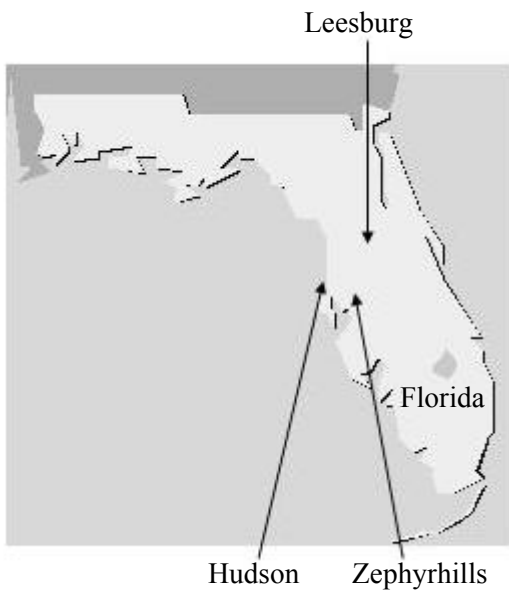
Alaska



Illinois, Indiana and Missouri



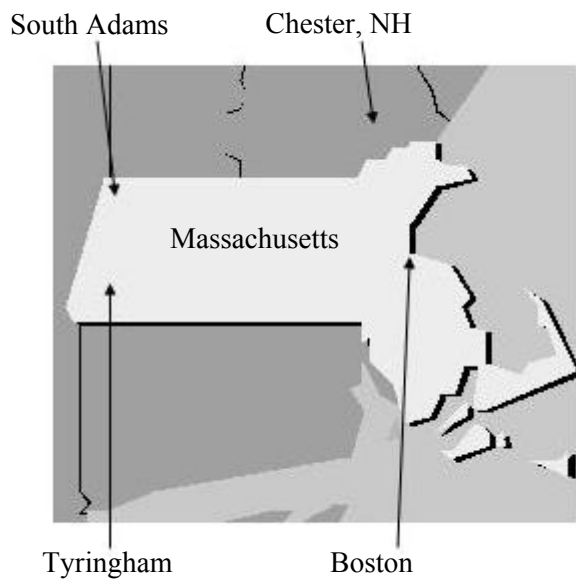
California



Florida



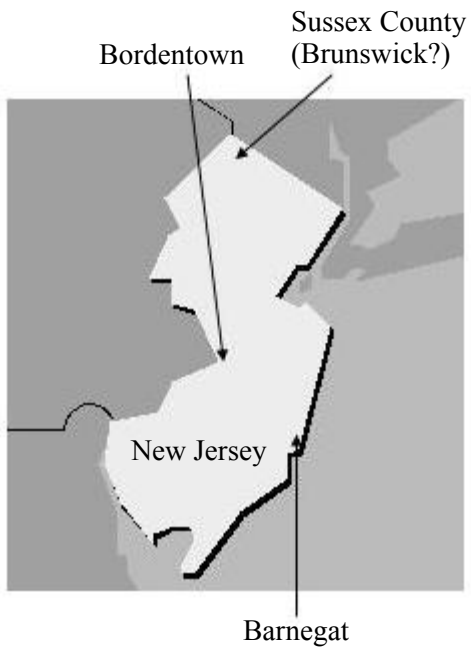
Georgia



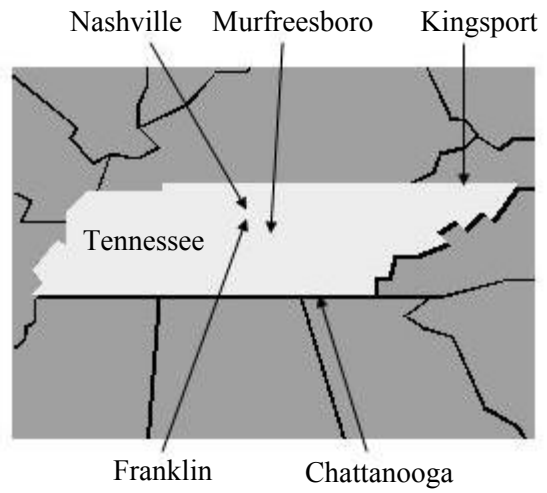
Massachusetts and New Hampshire



Minnesota



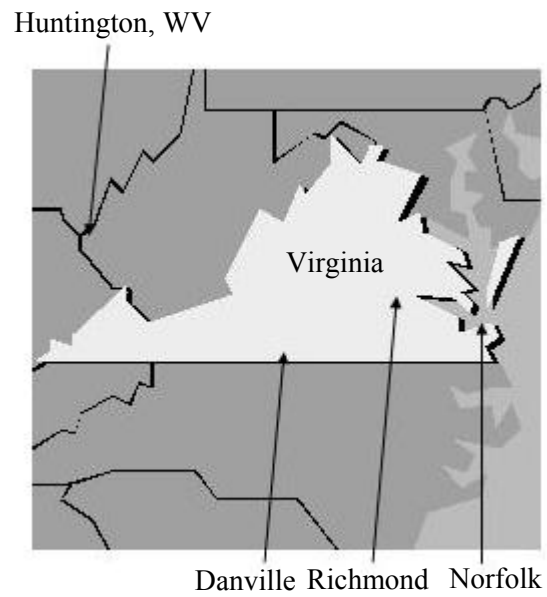
New Jersey



Tennessee



Wisconsin

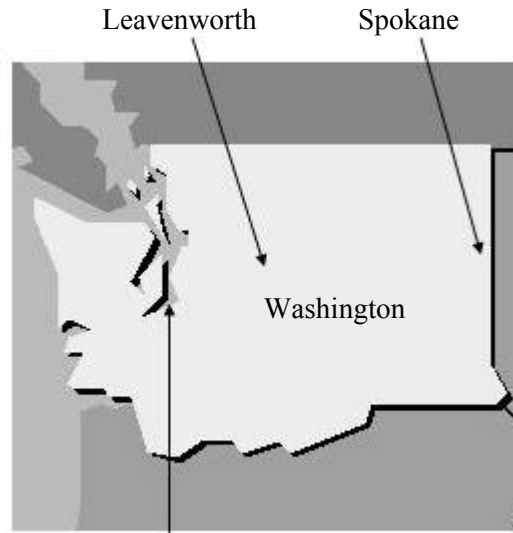


Virginia and West Virginia



Clinton

Oklahoma



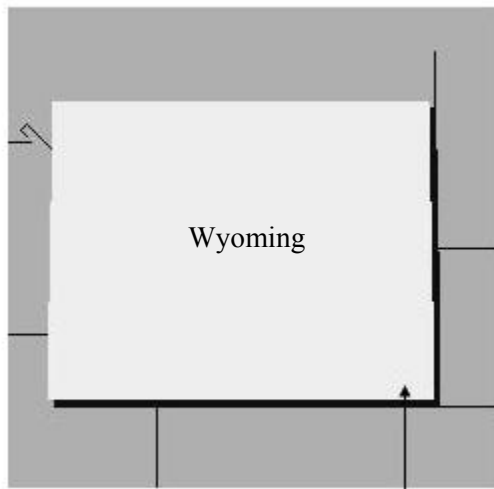
Leavenworth

Spokane

Washington

Tacoma

Washington



Wyoming

Cheyenne

Wyoming