

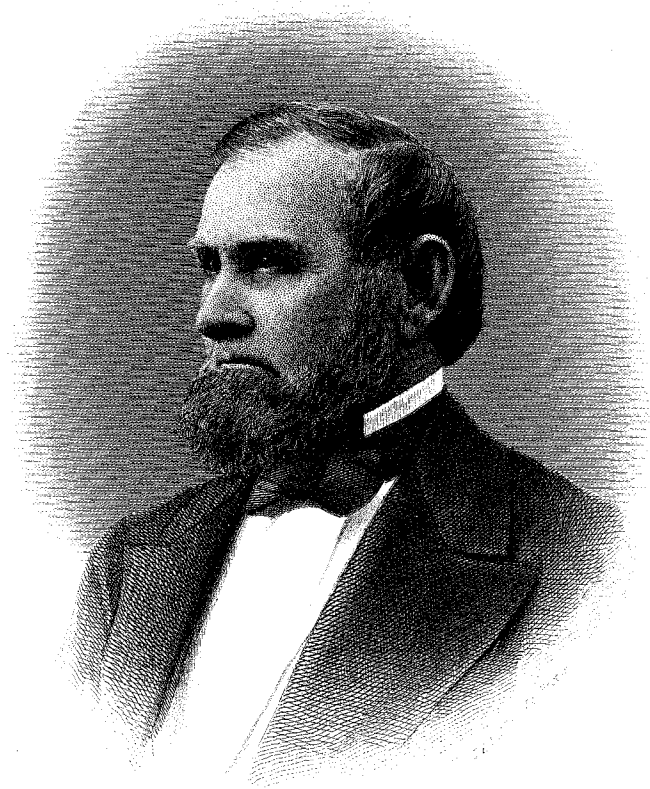
CONTRIBUTIONS
TO THE
EARLY HISTORY
OF
BRYAN McDONALD AND FAMILY,
SETTLERS IN 1689,
ON
RED CLAY CREEK, MILL CREEK HUNDRED (OR TOWNSHIP)
NEWCASTLE COUNTY, DELAWARE.

TOGETHER WITH
A FEW BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES AND OTHER STATISTICS OF GENERAL
INTEREST TO THEIR LINEAL DESCENDANTS.

BY
FRANK V. McDONALD, A. B.

Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass

SAN FRANCISCO:
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1879.



R. H. McDonald

DEDICATION.

This book I affectionately dedicate to my father, Dr. R. H. McDONALD, Vice-President of the Pacific Bank, San Francisco, California. He it was who first began these researches into our family history, and who, alone, has kept steadily on, through all these years, collecting and working for a full and satisfactory record of the migrations and fate of our much-scattered ancestors. It has been due solely to his deep interest in our labors and his large liberality, costing him thousands of dollars, that we have been able to progress as far as we have, and can now see before us the material for carrying our investigations to a more successful issue. The only reward he has hoped for is a generous appreciation of his aims on our part, a closer cementing of the disjointed and somewhat estranged members of the family, and the expectation that what he has done in this field will serve as an incentive for other relatives to start where he leaves off, and lead the yet unfinished questions, one by one, to final and satisfactory endings. It will certainly not be asking too much for each of us to do his utmost to bring about this desirable and merited result.

“As man is the only animal which manifests the least curiosity to know what will be hereafter, so is he equally distinguished by the desire to understand what passed before he came into the world. This propensity, in the former case, is the mainspring to religious inquiry; in the latter, it is the motive to historical research.”

MacDonald Genealogy.

HARVARD COLLEGE, }
CAMBRIDGE, MASS., September, 1879. }

The following pages contain leading extracts from the numerous public and private records which I have examined with more or less care during the past five years. It would take many hundred pages to give at length the labors of that period, but, as a considerable portion of the work was without favorable results, publication of that part is unnecessary. What is printed here is for the purpose of enabling those interested in our genealogical investigations to lend their assistance and help shed light on the many dark places still to be opened up. For one man alone the task is entirely too great. It would be advisable if members of the family would select the field or fields in which they are most interested and feel willing to enter as workers; with the labor thus properly distributed, we should accomplish more and to our greater mutual satisfaction. I should be happy to notify all of any such determination by any one, and I should contribute, personally, that which I meet with in my own studies bearing on his chosen line. Some plan of this kind is the proper course for us to follow; and, after I have briefly recalled the general points involved, I shall suggest such parties as seem to me best adapted for treating them. I shall be, however, only too happy to have anyone volunteer in anything for which he feels himself fitted. Nor do I make these remarks as idle suggestions; I expect them to assume definite shape. I hope that I may not feel called on to censure where I prefer to praise; but the flagging interest of some, if persisted in, will prompt to

retaliation on our part. And here let me say that whether I write, or remain silent, you should labor on. I have many branches to care for, and must expect my contributors to keep engaged in accumulating regardless of news from me. If anything is wrong, or incomprehensible, you will hear from it in due time; if all right, the printed embodiment of it should be answer enough. Keep interested, keep sending copies of your results, keep patient, and some day you will reap your fitting reward. A genealogy and family history is the work of a life-time, not of an hour; and long perseverance is the price of success.

As you are aware, the early history of our family was almost lost to us; and, while we have reclaimed considerable from the friendless past, much more yet remains to be garnered in before it is too late.

Bryan MacDonald was, as far as we can learn, the name of our first ancestor in America. His antecedents are, however, entirely unknown. Of his family—at least seven in number—we have the imperfect traces of only one, Bryan, junior. Of the latter's two sons, James and Richard, we have not the slightest clue. Thus, eight lines, with all their descendants, are missing from the fold. Among those about which we know something, there are also many gaps, which will take considerable time and faithful searching to fill. It will thus be seen that here is more work than I can possibly undertake. I am willing to try and establish the connection between this and the other side of the water, and follow the intricate history over there; but I must ask some volunteers from your ranks for the numerous issues of this country.

How long did Bryan MacDonald (junior) live in Delaware? Why did he leave there? Why did he choose Virginia for a home? Who accompanied him? What became of the rest? Where are their offspring? These are but a few of the puzzling inquiries to be answered, and good parties for determining these uncertainties would, it seems to me, be found in Mr. Joseph B. McDonald, lawyer, of Athens, Limestone County, Alabama; in his son, Mr. John B. McDonald, of the U. S. Cadet Corps, at West Point, N. Y.; and in John I. McDonald, A.B. (Yale), of St.

Joseph, Mo. As fast they get each line placed I will assist in completing the details. I shall, therefore, leave this to them or whatever worthy substitutes they may provide.

The next Bryan (son of Bryan, junior), and his history in Botetourt County, Va., with those of his descendants not yet definitely placed, and the many issues involved in tracing down the various lines, I shall turn over to Mr. George McDonald and Mr. William McDonald, near Haymaker's Station, Botetourt County, Va.; Mr. Floyd F. McDonald (our great main-stay from the beginning), near Blacksburgh, Montgomery County, Va.; Hon. Isaac E. McDonald, Senator, Wyoming C. H., W. Va.; and Rev. Edward H. McDonald, of Wytheville, Va.

I shall look for the completion of the other branches to such good workers as the following, leaving to each that portion which they by mutual agreement, interest and connection may assign, each to each :

Mr. Charles McDonald, of Logan C. H., W. Va.; Mrs. Mary J. Wright (born McDonald), of Ashland, Benton County, Miss.; Mr. Rowland F. McDonald, of Smith's † Roads, Rhea County, E. Tenn.; Mr. Benjamin J. McDonald, of Sale Creek, Hamilton Co., E. Tenn.; Mr. Edward McDonald and family, near Elkmont, Limestone County, Alabama; Mr. Andrew J. McDonald, of Chillicothe, Andrew County, Mo.; Mr. W. E. Peery, Jeffersonville, Tazewell County, W. Va.; Mr. John H. Anderson, of the same place; Mrs. Mary L. Bowen and Mr. George Wm. Spotts, of Tazewell C. H., W. Va.; Mrs. Mary Shannon, Guyandotte River, Guyandotte County, W. Va.; Mr. George McDonald and family, of McDonald's Mill, Montgomery County, Va.; Mr. Paris Peter, Macksville, Washington County, Ky.; and many others.

By a little trouble and correspondence with each other, you can soon agree on your plan of work, and report to me in full, annually, say early in December. In the meanwhile, continue sending as much as you can, that I may keep up with you. Whenever you decide on your separate fields of labor, I will have the list printed and sent to all living members of the family whose addresses I have. As the results mature and assume a final and satisfactory

shape, we shall have them printed, if possible, and ready to fill their place in the Great Book of the family, which we hope to see perfected some day.

Some have supposed that the form and style of the genealogy, as represented by edition "B," are definitive, and that the completed work would be just a series of tables with notes. Such, however, is far from my aim. If our researches turn out successfully, although they may take years, I hope that the book will be in a connected form, embracing maps, views, portraits, biographical sketches, descriptions of places and events of importance, intermingled with legends, adventures, anecdotes, and everything else, in fact, which goes to make a full, readable and accurate history of a family. All this, however, demands time, patience, labor and heavy outlay, joined to your hearty co-operation; or otherwise only an unsatisfactory torso will be our reward.

I shall provide for the biographies of my father's and grandfather's families, and I hope that those members best fitted for it will begin to accumulate material for a similar object in each branch with which they are familiar.

I would advise writing the results in a plain, easy, narrative style, without striving for effect. Be careful not to allow undue importance to minor details, and thereby permit them to drown out the more weighty acts. This fault produces a confused and inharmonious impression. At the same time, do not fall into Charybdis by avoiding Scylla, and thus leave out the very charm of a life in its every day scenes. It is a man of the world, and not a child or a hero, that you will generally have to describe. Do not have him flying in the air, or crawling on all-fours; his natural gait is upright and on two legs. There are also two other points which it would be well to keep in mind while writing a sketch of this kind; first, the life is for your own immediate family and descendants, and it should, therefore, be sufficiently minute to remain of lasting value; secondly, the review is also for the general family and the outside public, and should, on this account, contain enough of the proper matter to make it of universal interest. The other things to consider in such labors I leave to your individual judg-

ment; and in no field of literature, perhaps, is there more room for the exercise of this faculty, combined with good taste, than in writing a history of a man's life, especially if it be an *autobiography*.

Before going any farther, I must return my sincere thanks to the gentlemen in charge of the numerous public offices of this country, Great Britain and Ireland, by whom I have been so kindly received. I have met uniformly with such courteous attention and obliging favors, that I have to bear away only the pleasantest associations from these usually considered uninviting places. Many of them I have left with the deepest regret, and in particular was this so with the British Museum Reading-room at London. The attractions of that model resort of the student I shall ever look back to with unalloyed pleasure.

The gentleman in this country, however, to whom I am most indebted for his assistance, and active interest in my researches, is Dr. B. B. Groves, of the Recorder's office in New Castle, Delaware (the probable landing place of our family in America). A hundred times and more have I had occasion to solicit his assistance, and as many times have I found it forthcoming, joined to an interest in and knowledge of his department which I have never seen surpassed in any public office. The records of New Castle are, in many instances, very scattered, having been improperly cared for of old, so that they would not be accessible, if it were not for the study that Dr. Groves has devoted to them. In *my* researches he has been invaluable, and I doubt not but that many others can testify to as much. I have also a great deal to be thankful for in every one of the offices at New Castle, particularly the Departments of the Registrar of Wills and the Recorder of Deeds. The records have not only been open to me at all times, but the aid and sympathy of the incumbents has been kindly and steadily proffered; and it is with no small sorrow that I learn of the projected removal of the Court-house to Wilmington. In my mind it will be a gain which will result in a loss.

And next to Dr. Groves comes that well-known gentleman and worker, Mr. Francis Vincent, City Treasurer of Wilmington, Dela-

ware. His active and fertile mind, schooled in a large number of pursuits, has been a constant help for me in obscure places. He is admirably informed on the history of Delaware, and has, in addition, what so many writers lack, the happy faculty of remembering just where to place his hand on an authority the contents of which may have momentarily slipped from his mind. "He knows about everybody and everything," as one of his critics says; and I have many times thought the remark was nearer correct than inaccurate. Socially, too, he is so pleasant. I never return to Wilmington without looking forward to meeting his jovial, friendly face, and I always depart with the strengthened conviction that there is but one such genius as Mr. Vincent, and that Wilmington is happy in the possession of him.

I am likewise deeply indebted to Dr. H. Egel, of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, a person too well-known by his able efforts in the early history of Pennsylvania to need further mention here. To the public offices of that city, as well as those in Philadelphia, and especially to the large office of surveys at the Capitol in Richmond, Virginia, I owe much information and help, that could have been secured in no other places. Staunton, Virginia, gave me the will of Bryan, junior, and statistics about several of the family concerning whom I had almost despaired of ever hearing. This office holds much yet that would be of value in our search, but which called for more time than I then had to give in examining the books. You can, however, be always sure of a friendly reception, and every reasonable aid that could be expected; and I invite your further attention to these records. At Lancaster, Pennsylvania; Baltimore, Maryland; Elizabeth City, Dismal Swamp Villages, Raleigh and Fayetteville, North Carolina; Athens, Alabama; Springfield, Kentucky; Quincy, Illinois, and all over the Union, the public records have been cordially and repeatedly placed at my disposal; and, what is more—and I say it with pride, in rebuke to those who recognize nothing but a "grabbing spirit" in office-holders—in no case has any party ever asked or been willing to receive a single cent of fees for the work which I myself did; and often their own services as well were tendered gratis, and no com-

pensation insisted on. Their generosity, in fact, has proved at times quite embarrassing.

Great and constant friends of inestimable value have I found in our leading storehouses of learning. The Library of Harvard College, Cambridge, Massachusetts; the Boston Public Library; the Astor Library, of New York City; the Historical Society's Library, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; the Library of Yale College, New Haven, Connecticut; and then those treasure collections of Trinity College Library, Dublin, Ireland; the Historical Society's Library at Edinburgh, Scotland; and last, but most important, perhaps, the Library of the British Museum, London, England. All of these, which I have repeatedly visited in person, have been frequently laid under contributions, and I expect that they always will be, as long as I live. Every student's obligation to such institutions is a life one.

Abroad, I have, also, been kindly assisted by Dr. Richard Caulfield, LL. D., and his assistant, Mr. Steed, of the Royal Cork Institution, of Cork, Ireland; by Mr. Lyons, of H. M. Customs, of the same city; by Mr. R. Winter, of the General Register Office, Charlemont House; by Mr. A. Samuel, Esq., Consistorial Office, Henrietta street; by the officers at the Inn of the Four Courts; by Sir Bernard Burke, Bart., Ulster King at Arms, all of Dublin, Ireland; and by the friendly correspondence of Mr. Chas. Rogers, Secretary of the Royal Historical Society, No. 11 Chandos street, Cavendish Square, West London; by the aid of the gentlemen in the Great Record Office of Fetter Lane, London; as well as by many others, whom I shall mention in full on final completion of our work.

Besides the pleasurè which I take in thus publicly acknowledging the services of these honorable gentlemen and most excellent institutions, I have been thus specific that my readers may also know a few of the many available places whither to turn, in case their studies lead them into similar fields of investigation.

For those who purpose taking an active interest in the work, it may be desirable to have given the names of some valuable books of reference. Owing to my limited space, the list will be brief and em-

brace only a few of the numerous sources that might be consulted to advantage. But, before taking up this subject, I shall give the addresses of two parties who make a business of searching for genealogical questions, in all countries, and at regular fees—(they might be of use to some inquirers): Mr. Albert Wells, American Genealogical Society, University Place, New York City; and the Genealogical and Historical Society, 208 Picadilly, West London, England. They both have correspondents in each country, and are ready to undertake work of the simplest or most elaborate nature. The results of their labors are, however, oftentimes open to question, a tendency caused by the class of people they customarily deal with, who want “fine” and *noble* genealogies, whether or no their true connections afford them. For further particulars and estimates you will please address the parties themselves.

And here, in the beginning of your reading and labors, let me exhort you to pay little heed to frequent and bitter disappointments. Furthermore, do not be worried by seeing the MacDonald name spelt in every conceivable manner. McDanl is a common way; Macdonald is the present Scotch manner of writing it, and MacDonnell is the usual Irish interpretation of the same name. Again, bear in mind that, so far as is known in history, there are at least *four* remote origins of the MacDonnells, or Macdonalds, each entirely distinct from the other; and these have scattered from Ireland to Scotland and back again, and *vice versa*, in countless intermarriages, migrations and invasions. In a history of Scotland, that of Ulster, or Northern Ireland, could no more be left out than could the casualties of the Highlands or Lowlands. But this is a subject too involved for treatment in so restricted a place. You will be liable to meet, on occasions, your ancestors and their descendants classed as McDowells, McDonoughs, McDougals, and in many other variations. Do not imagine either, as I have found many doing, that every person of the name in this country is related, that is, belongs to your *direct* family. There are hundreds—I might say thousands—of McDonalds over here with whom we have no probable connection whatever. Canada, Nova Scotia, the New England States and Eastern North Carolina are full of such parties.

The books then that I would commend to your consideration are:

For Scotland.—"John Hill Burton's History," in eight volumes, the best general authority. It is republished by Scribner & Armstrong of New York City. This is a work which should be in every private library. Then there are many partial histories of the clans and of particular events in Scotland. A valuable reference book is "The Peerage of Scotland" (2 volumes), by Sir Robert Douglass; revised and augmented by John P. Wood, Esq.; Edinburgh, 1813. In this work is a fine outline of the history of "The Lords of the Isles," and the other Macdonalds. "Skene's History of the Highlanders;" "Nichols' Herald and Genealogist," 1865; and, interesting in particular for the Macdonalds, a book which is now almost unattainable, but which should be reprinted, if possible—not so much for its accurate history as for its careful details and genuine enthusiasm—is "A Keppoch Song. Poem in 5 cantos. Origin and history of the family Donald, Lord of the Isles and King of Fronga, down to its extinction, with a continuation of the family of Keppoch, the whole combined with the history of Scotland, &c. By John Paul Macdonald, private teacher in Stonehaven, Montrose, 1815. Printed at *Review* office by James Watt." Every MacDonald should own a copy of this very interesting and valuable little book, and I hope some day that it may be placed within easy reach of all.

As general books of reference for titled families of England, Scotland and Ireland, Sir Bernard Burke's great works are authorities, but they seem hardly to fit directly into our labors. The names of his publications are too familiar to need reproducing here. Most libraries contain one or more of the smaller ones.

For Ireland—and this may concern us more directly—we have an ocean of material, but only a small part of it available. A cheap and valuable little work, just out, is "O'Hart's Irish Pedigrees," or "The Origin and Stem of the Irish Nation," published by M'Glashan & Gill, 50 Upper Sackville street, Dublin, Ireland; for sale, also, by Whittaker & Co., and Simpkin, Marshall & Co., of London, England. I cannot too strongly urge the purchase of this book

by every member of the family who has any interest whatever for our early history. It is worth its price many times over. Another very interesting and readable book is published by MacMillan & Co., 63 Bleecker street, New York City, and is entitled "The Land War in Ireland," a history for the times, by James Godkin. This latter book, although not exactly a history, gives many valuable suggestions bearing on the troubles which probably induced our family to leave Europe for America. The great repertory of early Irish history is, as all know, that famous work, "The Annals of the Four Masters;" but since, by reason of its being out of print, the existence of so few copies and its great expense, it is not accessible, I do not mention it fully here. The more complete edition was published in seven volumes some twenty-five, or more, years ago, and cannot be had now, where old copies are for sale, for less than about one hundred dollars.

"The Irish Compendium," or "Pocket Peerage"—just like the "Scott's Compendium for Scotland"—is a very convenient little book for Irish research; but also out of trade. It was published in 1756. Another good reference book is "The Peerage of Ireland," by John Lodge, Esq.; (seven vols.); London, 1789; revised by Meroyne Archdale, A.M.

Again let me call to mind the more recent labors of Sir Bernard Burke, the great worker of our day in these fields. The Irish "Inquisitiones Post Mortem," or "I. P. M.," as commonly written, and the other State Papers are also extremely valuable where within reach. The histories of Keating, O'Halleran, MacGeoghan and Moore are good, but rather general and incomplete. Holinshed's and Camden's Chronicles with the various church histories give also much, but as these are, I suppose, not very accessible to the general reader, I will omit any farther mention of them. The great difficulty in the history of Ireland is that, for our purposes, there is nothing recent enough of a *detailed* nature. Also the very period in which we are most interested, namely the fall of the Stuarts and the accession of William and Mary, is perhaps the least satisfactorily treated of all epochs of Irish history. The constant changes and revolutions, so general in these times, leave almost

nothing reliable and tangible for the historian. Confusion was then the order of the day, and no other order has ever since been evolved from the movements of that chaos. Rev. C. P. Meehan's valuable and interesting defense of the Earls of Tyrone and Tyrconnel. Prendergast's "Cromwellian Settlements," and Froude's chapters on Ireland have thrown light on some few sides of the involved troubles of that period; but their results at best show all the more plainly the hopeless state of the times, and the small prospect of the historian ever seeing his way clearly through the actual events which filled to overflowing those tangled and terrible days of cruelty, ignorance and vice.

For America there is little, and even of that the accuracy is often open to question. One of the best books, as far as it goes, is the last volume of State Papers, relating to the Swedish Colony on the Delaware, published at Albany, N. Y. These papers properly belonged at New Castle; but, owing to invasions, fires and other evil agencies, a large portion of the records of the place have been either destroyed or so scattered as to be lost from their connection. Some are in Harrisburg, some in Albany, some in Philadelphia, others in Baltimore, Dover (Delaware), and all over in different cities. For our researches, this is especially disastrous. Perhaps, at some distant day, this country may be sufficiently alive to the importance of collecting these waifs and publishing them in their proper relationships. Let us hope that that day may dawn before it is too late for those generations who could understand their connection to be able to use them. Also a great amount of valuable information may be gathered from the following works: "History of the Original Settlements on the Delaware," by Benjamin Ferris; Wilmington, 1846. "Prouds' History of Pennsylvania." "Gordin's New Jersey." "Clay's Annals of the Swedes." "Bancroft's Large History of the United States." "Clarkson's Life of Penn." "Campanius' Description of the Province of New Sweden;" published by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 1834. "J. N. Barker's Sketches of Primitive Settlements on the Delaware." "Biography of William Penn," by Hepworth Dixon. Then comes "Rupp's 30,000 Emigrants to Pennsylvania," "The Annals of Penn-

sylvania," and "The Records of Pennsylvania," elaborate and valuable State publications. And, in addition, I would recommend a book which is worthy of your purchase if you can secure it: it is "Chamber's Defense of the Scotch and Irish Settlers of Pennsylvania," published at Chambersburg, in 1856. Then there is "Foote's Virginia," and many other works which it would be too long to enumerate here; enough have been given to furnish the main outline of the work before us. The names of any books bearing on side issues I shall be happy to furnish at request of those ready for such investigations.

I sincerely hope that my entering into the enumeration of these authorities will not have been in vain. A large number of them are within reach of the majority of us, and I shall anticipate a nearer acquaintance with them from most of you. Any of these works which you would like to purchase, and cannot where you live, I shall be happy to assist you in securing.

I shall take pleasure, also, in hearing any matured suggestion as the result of your reading, and shall try both to give and receive profit from such an interchange of opinion.

This is all I need to say prior to adding the extracts from the records. My comments on the different passages, which follow, will be found in connection with the extracts themselves, and in smaller print.

I trust that these pages may strengthen the enthusiasm for our work in those who have been weakening; may arouse the passive to an active interest, and that definite and brilliant results will be the reward of a systematized and combined labor.

Yours very truly,

FRANK V. McDONALD.

P. S.—Please acknowledge the receipt of this as soon as convenient; and also state whether you have had a copy of Edition B of our genealogy. If not, and you would like one of the few copies I still have left for distribution, I shall have to ask you to inclose twenty-five cents for postage.

F. V. McD.

N. B.—My address until June, 1881, will be care Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.; my general address, as well as during the vacation months of July, August and September, is care Pacific Bank, San Francisco, California, U. S. A.

EXTRACTS FROM PUBLIC RECORDS CONTAINING
 INFORMATION RELATING TO BRYAN MAC-
 DONALD, OF RED CLAY CREEK, MILL CREEK
 HUNDRED (OR TOWNSHIP), NEW CASTLE COUNTY,
 DELAWARE, AND TO HIS WIDELY-SCATTERED
 DESCENDANTS BEARING THE MACDONALD
 NAME.

The first mention that I can find of our family in this country is the following, from

PENN'S NEWCASTLE WARRANTS.

Old Book, Page 209.

William Penn, true and absolute proprietary and govenour-in-chief of the province of Pensilvania and Territories thereunto belonging, To all whom these presents shall come sendeth greeting: Whereas, by virtue of a warrant bearing date the eighteenth day of November, in the year one thousand six hundred and eighty-nine, there was laid out upon new rent to Bryan MacDonald, of Newcastle County, in the year one thousand six hundred and eighty-nine, a certain parcell of land situate in the said county of Newcastle, and then reputed to contain two hundred acres; but upon a resurvey was found to contain two hundred and thirty-nine acres, which is nineteen acres (besides the allowance of ten acres in every hundred), more then of right ought to be in the said tract, and whereas, the said Bryan MaccDonald obtained a warrant from my present commissioners of property, dated the one and twentieth day of December, in the year one thousand seven hundred and three, to take up a piece of vacant land adjoining to the aforementioned piece, which upon an exact survey was found to contain three hundred and fifty-four acres; And whereas, both the said tracts or parcells of land were resurveyed as they now lye contiguous in one tract, and are found to be situate as aforesaid; bounded and containing as follows, viz.: Beginning at a Beach Tree by Red Clay Creek, at a corner of Samuel Barker's land, thence down by the several courses of the said creek, two hundred and sixty-seven perches to the mouth of Hide Runn, then up the same on severall courses, one hundred and eighty-one perches, then crossing the said Hide Runn to a Poplar Tree, at a corner of Thomas Gillett's land, then by the said Gillett's line, south thirty-two degrees, west one hundred and fifty-two perches to a Hickory Tree, then by the line of William Jesup's land, west one hundred and forty-eight perches, to a Red Oak, by Calf Runn, being a branch of Red Clay Creek, then up the same ninety-four perches to a White Oak, then by Richard Mankin's land, north forty-one degrees,

easterly one hundred and twenty-five perches to a White Oak, thence north one hundred and fifty perches to a Beech Tree, then by the land of Hugh Simons and George Read, and vacant land north seventy-two degrees, east one hundred and ninety-two perches to a Hickory Tree; then by the said Samuel Barker's land south nine degrees, east fifty-one perches to a Hickory Tree, then by the said Barker's land, south eighty-seven degrees, east one hundred and forty-four perches to the beginning, containing five hundred and ninety-three acres. Now at the special instance and request of the said Bryan MaccDonald, to purchase of me, the said nineteen acres of overplus, together with the said three hundred and fifty-four acres, as also that I would reduce the rent of a bushel of wheat for every hundred acres, and confirm to him the whole by patent, *Know yee* that for and in consideration of the sum of forty-six pounds, twelve shillings and six pence, Pensilvania money, to my use, paid by the said Bryan MaccDonald, for the purchase of the said nineteen acres, and three hundred and fifty-four acres, and of the sume of sixteen pounds, for reducing the rent aforesaid, the receipt of which said sums, I do hereby acknowledge, and thereof, and of every parcell thereof, do acquitt, and forever discharge by these presents; the said Bryan MaccDonald, his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, as of the quit rent hereinafter reserved. I have given, granted, released and confirmed, and by these presents, for me and my heirs and successors, do give, grant, release and confirm, unto the said Bryan MaccDonald, his heirs assigns and forever, all that the said five hundred and ninety-three acres of land, as the same is now sett forth, bounded and limited as aforesaid, with all mines, minerals, quarries, meadows, marshes, swamps, cripples, woods, underwoods, timber and trees, ways, waters, water courses, liberties, profits, commodities, advantages, hereditaments appurtenances whatsoever, to the said five hundred and ninety-three acres, belonging or in anywise appertaining, and lying within the bounds and limits aforesaid, three full and clear fifth parts of all royal mines free from all deductions and reprizalls for digging and refining of the same, only excepted and hereby reserv'd, and also free leave, right and liberty, to and for the said Bryan MaccDonald, his heirs and assigns, to Hawk, hunt, fish and fowle, in and upon the hereby granted land and premises, or upon any part thereof; *to have and to hold* the said five hundred and ninety-three acres of land, and premises hereby granted (except before excepted), with their and every of their appurtenances to the said Bryan MaccDonald, his heirs and assigns, to the only proper use and behoofe of the said Bryan MaccDonald, his heirs and assigns, forever *to be holden* of me, my heirs and successors, proprietaries of the said territories, as of our Mannor or reputed Mannor of Rocklands, in the said county of Newcastle, in fee and common soccage by fealty only in lieu of all other services, *yielding* and paying therefore, yearly, forever hereafter to me, my heirs and successors, at or upon the first day of the first month, March, in every year, at Newcastle, aforesaid, one bushel of good and merchantable winter wheat, for every hundred acres, and so proportionably or vallue thereof, in coin, currant to such person or persons, as from time to time shall be appointed to receive the same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have by virtue of my commission to my proprietary deputies, bearing date, the eight and twentieth of October, in the year one

thousand seven hundred and one, caused my great seal of the said Province to be hereunto affixed ; witness Edward Shippen, Griffith Owen, Thomas Story, and James Logan, my said deputies, or any three of them at Philadelphia, the eighth day of October, in the fifth year of the reign of our sovereign Lady Queen Ann, over England. And the six and twentieth of my government Annoq Domini one thousand seven hundred and six.

GRIFFITH OWEN,
THOMAS STORY,
JAMES LOGAN.

Recorded the 20th, ⁹/_{mo.}, 1706.

From this long grant we gather much. First, it shows that Bryan came to this country with some considerable means, and was, therefore, of the better classes at home. When, in fact, we consider how the rapacious spirit of the English knew no mercy in dealing with the Scotch and the Irish, at a time when the life and treatment of the American Indian by the United States seems as mercy in comparison with the butchery carried out by England toward those defenders of their soil, then it is a marvel how they saved enough to reach this country, not to mention sufficient to buy a home of such large extent. The only reasonable explanation lies in the rank of the personage. If he had been a common man, he would have come most likely as a beggar a slave, or a convict. Again, he was a purchaser, and not a squatter as was common to find in those days. Furthermore, his land was obtained by a direct grant from Penn, giving him an undisputed title. 18th November, 1689, was the date of the *first* warrant to Bryan, but that one I cannot find. Whether it was superseded, as is probable, by the second and destroyed as unnecessary, or has been lost, is, it seems, not to be determined.

The land, as described by this warrant, was six or seven miles west by north from Wilmington, Delaware, in Mill Creek Hundred. It covered a tract which would embrace to-day the village of Brandywine Springs, on Red Clay Creek, and around there down to the mouth of Hyde Run, then for some distance back into the country. The farm of Mr. Robert Justis (a descendant of Andrew Justis, to whom Bryan, Jr., sold a part of his land) is on the tract, as I understand it; and Faulkland Station, on the railroad, is very close to, if not a part of the other extremity of it. It was a beautiful location, and, with its 590 odd acres, could not have made other than a magnificent farm. I have driven all over the place; and to-day there is not a trace or a recollection left of our large family that must have been there for at least sixty-five years. Mr. John Ferris, of 511 Jefferson street, Wilmington, a very well informed and most obliging old gentleman, was raised close by this site, and he says that he has a sort of a dreamy remembrance of having heard of the family, but that it was so long ago and so vague as to have left no reliable impression upon his mind. This gentleman has a remarkable memory for all such facts, and the common saying around there is "What Johnny does not know, no one else will be able to tell you." As an instance, he recalled that in a certain grave-yard, by Stanton, there was a slate tombstone, in memory of a McDaul, with peculiar characters on it; and, although he had not been near the place for fifty-three years, he described the whole slab with singular accuracy. The next day my brother and self visited the place and found this quaint memorial just as he had pictured it. It is in the yard of St. James' Episcopal Church, near Stanton, Delaware. This edifice was started as a place of worship in 1720, rebuilt in 1822; and the present pastor is Rev. Mr. Hansom, Faulkland P. O., Mill Creek Hundred. The tombstone referred to is peculiarly cut with a knife and crude tools, and the words are divided in a singular and arbitrary manner. The inscription reads:

HEAR LIETH THE BODY OF MARY McDANELL. SEPTEMBER XI DEPARTED
LIFE 1743. Aged XXXXXX8.

Whether she was a relative—say the wife of William No. 3 (Ed. B.)—is not known. And Rev. Mr. Hansom says that war and carelessness have left no church records prior to 1825, so

that, for the moment, this singular and well preserved memorial, with the other old graves beside it, must remain without location as far as our history is concerned. She may have belonged to the family of MacDaniels, who lived only a few miles northwest of here on Mill Creek. Their descendants are represented by Mr. John McDaniel and sister, who lease their family place and live in Wilmington. It seems as if the two lines must have been related, but all our efforts to trace the connection have been unsatisfactory. Mr. John McDaniel and sister have taken an active interest in the inquiry; and, at the same time that I return my thanks for their numerous courtesies, I would express the hope that they will not grow weary of these family researches, but labor until a definite result is assured.

This warrant gives the earliest trace of our family in America as 18th November, 1689. William Penn, on the ship "Welcome," landed at New Castle (then Pennsylvania, now Delaware) and took possession of his grant in this country 24th October, 1682, or seven years before the report of the broad, generous policy first pursued by "The Friends" reached the British Isles, and soon led those seeking escape from the tyrannical and murderous warfare of that period to sail for this truly welcome harbor. In 1688, it will be remembered, was a "Great Rebellion" in Ireland, which extended into Scotland, and from the issues of this uprising, by what means, or on which side, I cannot definitely say, our ancestors most likely found it better to go anywhither rather than remain under such a horrible state of unsafe rule.

In so brief a notice, I cannot enter at length upon this very complicated question. The points which must be settled in this part of our history are numerous and difficult, with few available authorities to consult. The results of my labors I shall forward to you from time to time, and the general progress, which we have reached thus far, with other items of interest, you will find in the two following letters—one from cousin Floyd, of Blacksburch, who is the best authority on the early history of our family; and the other written by myself, last summer, and from London, England. As you will perceive, no very positive results are furnished in this correspondence of mine, but there are scattered bearings and general determinations, which will, I think, lead to the desired goal in the end. It will take some years, perhaps; but we need not feel uneasy on that account, as there will be time enough to settle this question after the family history on this side has been looked up and completed. While the problem is growing daily more insoluble in America; in Europe, by the publication of State Records and other histories, it is becoming easier. One or two persons, therefore, will be sufficient at present for the foreign portion, and you can confine yourself chiefly to filling out the home-list.

Notice in this letter the bond which gave us the place whence our ancestors started before settling in Virginia. This is a very valuable document.

GREEN HILL, NEAR BLACKSBURGH, MONTGOMERY CO., VA., }
July 21, 1879. }

MY DEAR COUSIN:—I am sorry that it has been wholly impossible for me to answer your welcome letter before this time. When I have a little leisure I will try to write out some facts in regard to the family, but I fear it will be in such an imperfect manner that it will scarcely deserve the name of a history. At present I will try to answer your questions so far as I know. I see that you have not heard of the death of cousin George of Botetourt, and as he is gone I think we cannot depend upon getting anything from the rest, except what we may obtain from cousin William. Cousin George's wife is also dead. In regard to the religious belief of our ancestors: My grandfather (Joseph), Mr. Bane and his wife were Episcopalians, and Bryan of Botetourt was a Presbyterian. It was from the records of that church that we copied the births, deaths, etc. of the older ones in Botetourt. What Bryan of Delaware was,

or whether he was a member of any church, I cannot say, but I suppose he belonged to one of the above named churches, more probably the latter. I have never heard of any Catholics in the family. The reason they left New Castle was this: Joseph had an uncle, named Robinson, who was a surveyor, and who had been through Virginia, and owned several tracts there. He told Joseph, that if he would come to Greenfield and settle, he would give him a valuable tract of land there. He came about 1753, and others of the family followed. This my father told me. I came across a bond given by Bryan, in looking over my papers, and in this way found out about New Castle. I will send it to you.

BOND BETWEEN BRYAN McDONALD AND GEORGE ROBINSON.

This Bill Bindeth me Bryan McDonald of Mill Creek Hundred and County of New Castle on Delaware unto George Robinson of the Hundred and County afores'd in the Sum of Six pound five Shilling and Two pence To be paid unto ye Said George Robinson His Heirs Exex's Adm'rs or Assigns at or upon the Tenth Day of October Next with Lawfull Interest for ye true payment whereof I Bind me my Heirs Exex's and Adm'rs In the Penall Sum of Twelve pound Ten Shillings and fower pence Curr't Lawfull Money And farther I Doe hereby Authorise and Impower John Bocs of New Castel or aney other Attorney of his Majesties Court of Common pleas at Said Court or aney other Court of Record in Pensilvania Maryland Virginia Ireland Great Britain or Elsewhere to appear for me Bryan McDonald and after one or More Declerations filed for ye above Penaley thereupon to Acknowledge Judgement or Judgements as of aney term or time after ye Date hereof with Stay of Execution untill ye Said Tenth day of October next Witness My hand and Seal this Tenth Day of May In the year One Thousand Seven Hundred and forty five

BRYAN ^{his} B McDONALD
marke

Signed Sealed and Delivered in the presence of

HANAH HADLY
STEPHEN HARLAN

Rece'd of Mr Rich'd McWilliam Six pounds Sixteen Shillings & five pence in full for principal & Interest due on the within Bill Nov. 10th 1746.

GEO. ROBINSON

Bryan McDonalds Bill for £6 5s 2d payable october 10 1745
Judgment—Robinson v Bry: McDonald—N: d:

It will be a very difficult matter, if not an impossible one, to get the information you want. In all probability, the legion of relatives whom we cannot account for are some of those McDonalds in the United States whom we suppose are not related to us. As there are very few who know anything farther back than their grandfather it is scarcely probable that we can get those missing ones. It was always said that there were four sons and one daughter of Bryan No. 2, who came to Virginia, and the other children did not come South. They may have moved into Pennsylvania and branched off into other States. I expect you will find an old residence somewhere in Pennsylvania. At least a traveling agent told me that there is a very old one in Greencastle,

Franklin Co. How true it is I cannot say. He said there is a McDonald living some where about there. They may have gone even to Canada for all we know. There is a Jno. McDonald at Toronto, a man of prominence: if not related he might take an interest in the work or give you some ideas. The older members in Botetourt said the McDonalds came from Scotland to the northern part of Ireland and from that to America. Those here seemed to be of a different opinion, but thought, as those in Botetourt had the records, they ought to know the better. They always said that the Bryan was derived from the mother's side of the family. * * *

As ever, sincerely your affectionate cousin and co-worker,

FLOYD F. McDONALD.

The following is a copy of the letter written to my father while I was in London engaged in genealogical investigations:

23 TORRINGTON SQUARE, W. C.
LONDON, ENGLAND, September 25th, 1878. }

MY DEAR FATHER: Yesterday I sent you a brief sketch of the reading-room in the British Museum; to-day I shall recall to you some of the aims I am striving for, and at the same time cast a look at others in their work.

Owing to our labors on the genealogy, the points we have reached are about as follows: There was a man named Bryan MacDonald, or Macdonald, who went to America, probably between 1682 and 1689. It is barely possible that he may have been there much earlier and even prior to 1682, the year of Penn's landing and assuming personal control of his colony. The earliest mention, however, that we have been able to determine thus far of his whereabouts, is in 18th November, 1689. After this, we find several survey warrants for land on a branch of Mill Creek, Mill Creek Hundred (the township name in Delaware), Pennsylvania, a place not very distant from the present site of New Castle, Delaware. In 1707, the father made his will, leaving his effects to his children, John, William, James, Bryan, Mary, Richard and Anabella. This document—preserved under most singular circumstances—is yet in the office at New Castle, and a full copy is now in our possession. Whether these were all the children he had is, of course, unsettled. It is fair to suppose that there were no others living at the time of his death, in 1707. Of this family, Richard and Anabel were not of age at the period the will was made, and Mary had married a man by the name of Danger. Whether Richard lived and had offspring is unknown, but it seems likely. There are, then, in the second generation, on this side, five heads of probable families to trace. Thus far, owing to difficulties, which cannot be enumerated in so brief a treatment, we have been able to follow up the descendants of only one, from whom we all came, Bryan. Not that, by any means, we have full lists of this last man's progeny, for his first two children, Richard and James, were never heard from after their father's death, in 1757. From his will, filed in Staunton, Virginia, a copy of which we also have in our hands, the son Richard's portion was five

shillings, the least the law allowed. This indicated either a rupture in domestic harmony between father and son, or an ignorance of his location. The latter, from other testimony, seems the more likely. Richard, as oldest child, had likely already received his portion during the life of the parent, and had gone away, or staid in Delaware with his uncles, or they altogether moved elsewhere. Be this as it may, the facts remain that immediately at the beginning of our American life—as a family—six, at least, of our branches, with all their possible and probable ramification, wandered off and lost their identity. This careless spirit of indifference to origin, and largely even to destiny, is characteristic of pioneer life. It is in keeping with Nature (whose children the pioneers almost grow to be), which records only the details as they form great and telling aggregates. The single leaf is only occasionally discernible in the coal, but the millions of foliage emblems yield us our vast beds of anthracite, bituminous and other carbon forms. It is only when identification becomes doubtful, through numbers and similarity, that we begin to classify and more accurately determine. That time is certainly now for us; and it is to be hoped that families will no longer dawn and scatter without any written or substantial verbal evidence of their history. We owe more to posterity than to usher them into the world and then leave them without even the poor credentials generally accorded to illegitimate offspring. There is a serious duty involved in this question, and not a fanciful or aristocratic distinction; we leave out of consideration all evidences of example, strength of unity and other important and too much overlooked elements of civilization. With the exception, then, of these six persons, represented by numbers 2, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10, in Edition B of our genealogy, we have largely the means of acquiring more or less accurate knowledge of the direct descendants from our first American ancestor. On these lost sheep we have already spent much time and outlay trying to find some kind of clues. Thus far our efforts have been unsuccessful, although we have traces, which may, at a distant day, lead to something. To a New England pedigree searcher, the work, among perhaps the most perfect records of the world, is a delightful task; but to any one seeking around in offices, such as those of Pennsylvania, in early days, and of all the Southern States—places where foreign, domestic and civil feuds have alternately burned, pillaged and mutilated—the task is at times nearly a hopeless one, and this, too, with a name which was not uncommon through the lower portions of our country. North Carolina was largely settled in the east by Scotch, and among them were many Macdonalds, and most we believe were of quite different clan lines than ours. Another very unpleasant element was in the extent of the State claims. How far was Virginia to include; and how much Penn's and how much Lord Baltimore's grants? Thus, the surveys of Kentucky are chiefly to-day in Richmond, Virginia, the Swedish records of Delaware river in Albany, New York, and so on through the various complications.

We can, however, feel happy that by your taking an interest in the matter so early, combined with the rescued scraps treasured up so long by William, George and Floyd McDonald, we have been able to keep a very fair genealogy of our own direct line. Our record back to the original Bryan, the first of our family in this country, is

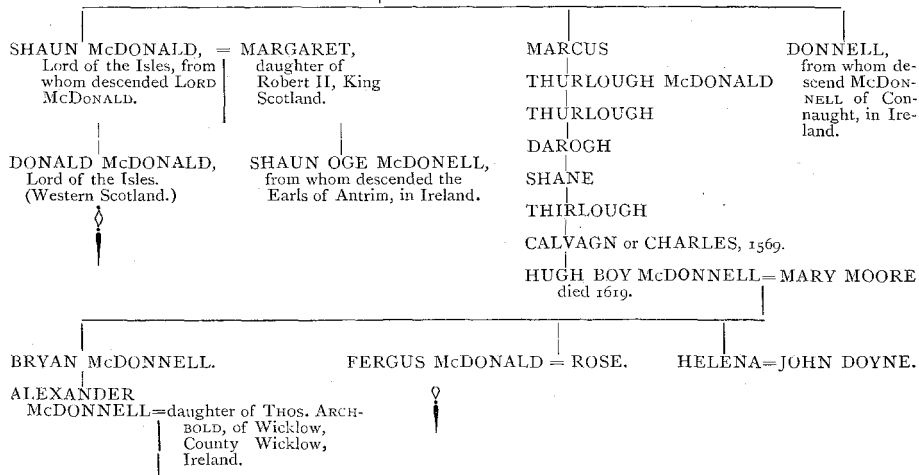
pretty clear and accurate. In the course of time it can be completed and determined to a high degree of correctness, considering what obstacles have been, and must more or less be constant hindrances. The next great step comes now to form the link between the new and the old countries. . Who was the father of Bryan No. 1; where did he live, and what was he? Here you are in a perfect sea. For a person who has not looked into a question of this nature it is hard to conceive of the difficulties in the way of a solution of the present problem. Sometimes, you have easy work; for, in the first American will, mention is made of property in Europe, in some particular spot, or some clue is given for you to follow; but in our case there is absolutely nothing reliable. Then, when you come to examine the records on this side of the water, you find an insufficiency and chaos, which is remarkably disappointing. There are, firstly, no shipping lists after 1652, I believe, since past that period there was no restriction to emigration into the Colonies. Secondly, marriage and birth records are kept, or were kept, in each church in separate parishes, there being no State registries. Thus, whither a man is to go, not knowing church, parish, and only probably the country, is no easy query to answer. Again, if you take into consideration the wars which ravaged Scotland and Ireland for years before and after 1689 (the probable date of departure for Delaware), and you have such a demoralized state of affairs as has never been equalled even in the United States. Few periods of English history were so pregnant with sudden and fearful change; and in these our first American ancestor was more or less actually engaged. It is likely that he was opposed to the accession of William III and Mary, and lost thereby all his property. Perceiving that there could be no hope under this new regime, he ventured into the distant realms of Penn, where there seemed to be a much better field for the individual than could possibly exist under a hostile sovereign, so near home, and amidst hated surroundings. This is one theory, and, according to this view, in proof of which there are many fine points, which so brief a space could impossibly encompass, our family would not have been directly Scotch at all, but descended from the ancient kings of Ireland, and from the famous house of O'Brian or O'Brien. But, speaking of Scotch, this fact should be borne in mind, that there now seems to be sufficient historic evidence to show quite conclusively that all the Macdonalds of Scotland— excepting possibly those of Glencoe, from whom we are supposed to come—as well as the other western clans, were originally Irish. Ireland sent out settlers, and, in a later day, was, in turn, settled, supported and ravaged by her own Scotch children:

The *second* supposition with regard to our line is that which I sent you last year. There are no positive evidences to the contrary; but, likewise, nothing in favor of it. Many points, too, must be cleared up before this can be accepted as satisfactory. According to this, the lineage would run back into Scotland, and thence into Ireland. What must be certainly shown is that *this* Bryan and *our* Bryan are one and the same person. Sir Bernard Burke, the greatest living investigator, is engaged at present testing it in co-operation with us, and we shall know before long, I hope, whether we can take this much for granted, or must try elsewhere.

PEDIGREE OF McDONNELL, OF COUNTY WICKLOW, IRELAND.

CARBURY, King of Ireland; from him sixteen generations, and then came:

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| These are all MACDONALDS, or MACDONELLS, or MACDONNELLS. | { | SORLEY, Thane of Argyle, 1140. RANDAL, Lord of Argyle, and founder of Cisterian Abtey, 1205. DONELL, from whom descended Lord of the Isles. (MacDonell.) ALEXANDER, Lord of the Isles. (Alexander MacDonell.) DONALD, Lord of the Isles. ENEAS, fought at Bannockburn. ENEAS OGE = AMY or HANNAGH, daughter of OLAHAN, Lord of Derry, Ireland. |
|---|---|--|



BRYAN M DONALD = daughter of JOHN DOYLE of Acklow, near Wicklow, Ireland. He served in Col. Francis's Irish volunteer regiment, under King James the II, who was monarch, so called, from 1685 to 1688. This is supposed to be our ancestor.

NOTE—The = mean "married to;" and the spear, or arrow, indicates that the line does not stop with that name.

The *third* theory is the least plausible of all, and yet the most difficult to relinquish. After our family had moved from Delaware into Virginia, one of the most promising young men, Edward, was killed by the Indians. He left three handsome and intelligent daughters; the care of these, as it seems, devolving on their uncle, Joseph McDonald. The young ladies were receiving attentions from some young men named Campbell, and so great was the feeling still existing between a Macdonald and a Campbell that Joseph hesitated about allowing a further intimacy. His brother Bryan was appealed to for advice, and a more or less extended correspondence must have ensued. This has been lost for us, with the exception of the following post-script:

"Well, Joseph, in conclusion, I will say that I don't believe the Campbells are of the family that massacred our Great-Grandfather, McDonald of Glencoe, in 1688, the year after father was born. If they are, we can't blame them more than William III, for he issued the warrant for their destruction, and he, McDonald, was a Highland chief."

This document would seem, at first sight, to settle all doubts; but a nearer exam-

ination makes it so open to exceptions, that we have almost abandoned the idea of its being anything more than a general statement. This feeling of Macdonald fraternity ran through all of the name; and a chieftain of a clan, and, in particular, this venerable Mac Ian of Glencoe, was considered, to a large extent, as a common parent; of course, you would then ask, "Why does he say our 'Great Grandfather?'" Well, he knew his grandfather had died in Delaware, and he must have considered this his grandparent's parent. There is little question but that he writes with a firm and decisive spirit, and appears to have the manner of one speaking in authority; but still we are at a loss to find the facts bearing out the assertions. Again, it must be borne in mind that he penned these lines some sixty or seventy years after the Glencoe disaster, and had been, for a long time, in such a part of the world as to receive only meagre accounts of the proceeding; and it is barely possible that he formed a wrong impression concerning the parties involved in the affair. Of course, he should have known whether Glencoe was his ancestor's home, and not mixed it up with other MacDonalld branches. There is a great deal for the letter; but now let us turn to some of the more specific points which shake our faith in it. First of all, the massacre referred to was on the 12th of February, 1692, and not 1688, as specified in the letter. Again, William III did not begin his reign until the 11th of April, 1689, and it lasted until 1702. Furthermore, if you remember, we showed that Bryan, our first ancestor, was certainly in America by 1689, so that the massacre could not very well have been the cause of his flight, if flight there was, since the Glencoe tragedy did not occur until nearly two years later. Again, in looking over the Scotch Parliamentary Proceedings relative to the butchery, among the surviving children of the chieftain Alexander MacDonald, or McJan Macdonald, there is *no* mention made, that I can find, of a son Bryan, nor any *allusion* to other children unnamed in the transaction, among whom he could have been. It is not impossible that he left home early; went to Ireland and thence to America. This is, however, improbable. Now the strongest point of all this is that Bryan is not a Scottish name, and never was used there, except, perhaps, by marriage. It is eminently Irish, being taken from the O'Brien's before referred to. When the oppression and selfishness of Penn's Quaker settlements became intolerable, our line moved to central Virginia, on the Roanoke and James Rivers. The justice, harmony and equality of "The Friends' Plantation" have been greatly overrated, and it is to be hoped that men like Dr. H. Egel, of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and others who are engaged in these questions, will follow in the steps of Geo. Chambers, of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania (1856), and rub off a little of the gloss and false coloring from the pictures of Penn and his colonies. He deserves credit, and great credit; but the amount of blame is far from insignificant, which our worthy Quaker friends should equally bear. To write their history and enshrine them in nothing but glory, just to tickle the pride of their aristocratic Philadelphia offspring, is to commit a breach of historical good faith; and that, too, oftentimes, for anything but worthy descendants of the veteran stock. Some few writers have closed their eyes to faults, largely for the sake of glorifying their native State, independent of individual consideration. But Pennsylvania is great enough not to need such equivocal

laudation; she should be able to stand the truth and feel proud that she is what she is, in face of the obstacles and errors she committed in dealing with them. What great honor to thrive in fair weather, with nothing to oppose! You lessen her glory in stripping her of her trials. No, if she has had nothing but demi-gods to rule her; if her courts have been the centres of justice, perfect and constant, why then she is a poor result, and most truly of her, if of any one, may be said, "*Montes pariuntur, ridiculus nascetur mus!*" (The mountains are in labor; a laughable little mouse will be born!)

In all these genealogical subjects, there are many side questions of interest, and not infrequently very puzzling in their bearing. They often remind one of a cave in which you are exploring a main passage. You see right and left passages, some dark and impenetrable to all appearances, others less complicated, and some only little side ramifications, leading you back to nearly the same place whence you started. They are all connected to a certain extent with your way, but life is too short for a separate investigation of all. Among such, there is one which I have often wondered over, but never expect to see fully settled. Not far from where our first ancestor Bryan McDonald settled, there was another family, whose head was Archibald MacDonald. They were more or less intimate with each other, and evidently very good friends. Archibald was manifestly a superior man. He died there; made his will, but never mentioned any kin with Bryan; no more than did Bryan with him. Now the question is, were they related; if so, how? I leave this for some future enthusiast to solve.

From this brief sketch, you may form some idea of the manner in which questions are raised, and the labor involved in answering them. If we recall the time and outlay spent, at times, in settling a single date, the difficulty in determining the whole may be more easily conceived. We hope that our labors here on this side of the ocean may be crowned with success enough to link the New to the Old World. The key once given, in time the rest may be solved. Except in our own immediate family, and there only with *few* members; and among a limited number more remote such as are specified in the first pages of Edition B, the interest in a work of this nature seems to be almost nothing. We had, therefore, in the future, better go on the plan of collecting for ourselves and interested friends, and let the rest take care for themselves. We have offered them the advantages of all our sacrifices, and they have looked upon them rather indifferently. This alienation of centered and united fellowship is natural in a family scattered as we have been, but the return to a proper state of feeling should not be encompassed with so many holding-backs. We should have tried at least to keep in sympathy with the head-places and homesteads; we have not had over many to have rendered such a plan impracticable. Our first was on Red Clay Creek, Mill Creek Hundred (or Township), Delaware, no trace of which can now be found; our second, Botetourt County, Virginia, where William and George McDonald now live with their families; our third was near Blacksburgh, Montgomery County, Virginia, where Floyd McDonald is at present; our fourth was near Athens, Limestone County, Alabama, where Mr. John E. Logwood, with his wife, Mrs. Hettie

B. Logwood (born a McDonald) and family are living; the fifth was at Macksville, Washington County, Kentucky, where Zachariah McDonald, with family and relatives, keeps the old places and recollections as green as ever; the sixth might be called the estate of James M. McDonald on N street, Sacramento, California, now abandoned. From there we have too much spread in little groups to name homesteads. Two of our best reunions are in San Francisco, California, and St. Joseph, Missouri, in the neighborhood of which is Dr. Wakefield's (who married a McDonald), at Savannah, Missouri.

But I suppose that you begin to weary of this, even to you, not uninteresting topic, so I shall close for the present, with best wishes for all well-wishers, and no hard thoughts for those otherwise disposed.

My love to brother John, Florence, uncle James, Grandma and relatives.

As ever, your loving son,

FRANK V. McDONALD.

23 TORRINGTON SQUARE, W. C.

LONDON, ENGLAND, September 28th, 1878. }

MY DEAR FATHER: In connection with the genealogical scraps of my last letter, it might have been well to have added some few remarks concerning the meanings of such affixes as "Mac," Bryan and the like. Far back, the custom of using a supplementary name to designate clanship or descendancy began to prevail, and amid the many epithets, or apothets, of "De," "Don," "Van," "Von," "Mac," "O," and others peculiar to different nations, the two last became distinctive with Ireland, and "Mac," later on, customary in western Scotland. The "Mac" and "O" first started in Ireland with the Brien family, some of whose members became O'Brien, then others MacBrien, then a third party MacO'Brien; and then, by dropping and changing others, kept on even more complex differentiations in some of the Brien branches. When England succeeded in conquering her neighboring isle, she saw how powerful a tie this naming was, and tried to break it up by an edict forbidding any clanship titles, such as before specified, and ordered each person to take separate appellations according to occupation, rank and distinction from his fellow man. This could not, however, be fully carried out, and the custom still prevailed until the time of the confederation or union with Great Britain. The early Irish bards had a Latin verse commemorating this national trait of clan christening. In English the sense has been given about as follows:

By "Mac" and "O" you'll always know
 True Irishmen, they say;
 But if they lack both "O" and "Mac,"
 No Irishmen are they.

The word "Mac" means "son" or "descendant of;" and "in the illustrious families of MacDonalds or MacDonnells," as an eminent writer says, "it became a famous and wide spread affix." In this case, of course, it was the indicating link of

the offspring of Donald or Donnell. The Scotch wrote their form when it began to appear in script and print, Macdonal or even Mackdonald; this last, however, was also used in Ireland, only with a capital D. The mode of writing is immaterial, the name is the same. There were, however, different lines of MacDonalds, who were only related far, far back in Irish History, if indeed they ever were. This is by no means settled, and may, perhaps, never be. An illustrious son of any man as Brien or Colla, named Donald, could found a line of *MacDonalds*.

The word "clan" means "children," a plurality of offspring or descendants. It became applied to all persons springing from some illustrious sire, and also, if, in any family, one more than usually successful and popular leader wished to found a house—say in the MacDonalds—those siding with him, as well as his own immediate children, called themselves after his first name, with a "Mac" before it. Thus, if an Alister MacDonald separated he would form the MacAlisters—all MacDonalds—but called MacAllisters. In this way a very large number of names have come from the MacDonald stock, among which are some of the most famous lights of the European modern history.

In speaking of our name, the meaning of it may not be uninteresting. It is derived from two Gaelic words "Domnhan" and "All," written together Domnhall, or Donal or Daniel in Anglicized form. This is one reason why the MacDonalds were, and are, so often called MacDaniels and MacDanls. "This Domnhall," as one of our greatest authorities shows, "became a surname in the great and glorious branches of the MacDonalds, MacDonnells, O'Donels, and Daniels. The signification of the two compounding words are, first, "Domhan" "the world," and "All" "mighty." Thus give the idea of one of the mighty lines of the world. This is no undue exaggeration either, as far as Great Britain and Ireland are concerned; for during several hundred years the MacDonalds played a very leading part in all the country's action; and to-day, if English invasion had not destroyed the individuality of the Scottish and Irish chiefs and replaced a natural civilization by an artificial one, there is no doubt but that the MacDonalds would have been amongst the most powerful and influential names of all Ireland and Scotland; far more, even, than the titles and names of Lord MacDonald, of Scotland, or Lord McDonnell, Earl of Antrim, in Ireland—good as they may be—can ever think of proving as substitutes. These are indeed latter-day creations, the objects of court favors; but are entirely another thing from the heads of a grand old historic race, which, in all its higher and lower grades, would have been a nation in itself. But "*quantum sufficit*," or "enough is good as a feast." As of special interest, the word Brian comes from "Bri," meaning "strength," and "an," signifying "very great;" thus, Brian, a warrior of great strength. It has been Anglicized as Bryan or Bernard, and many families have taken their start in this surname.

Your affectionate son,

FRANK.

P. S.—Any amount of names; hundreds which formerly had "Mac" and "O" before them have now dropped them, and some have been totally changed as well; thus Johnson from MacShane, etc.

The next document to which I invite your attention is one of great importance. It is the *will* of Bryan McDonald, our first ancestor in America. This has been preserved by mere accident, as many others were destroyed, and the copy of it in B. 153, Old Book, is fast growing indistinct and illegible. Until this will and the deeds relating to it were discovered, everybody supposed that Bryan—his son—was the first of our family on this side. And, speaking of accidents, it was only by good fortune that William McDonald, of Botetourt, had kept an old book, with the birth record of Bryan's (Jr.) family in it; and, by a very remarkable coincidence, that Floyd saved from his father's papers that foregoing short bond headed Mill Creek, New Castle county, Delaware. But for this we might have been *years* in discovering whence our family came before settling down in Virginia; in fact, without Floyd's early interest in our origin, I hardly know how any kind of a history of our family could have been written. The late civil war destroyed nearly everything possessed by the other scattered members of the family, and Floyd was the only party who held the connecting link between Virginia and Delaware. All this shows that we should begin at once, in order to save the little which has been spared. The will reads as follows:

Wills, Vol. B, 153, Old Book.

In the name of God Amen the 23d day of Feb in the year of our Lord 1707 Bryan MacDonnell of the county of New Castle on Delaware River being sick and weak in body but of good and perfect memory (Thanks be to Almighty God) and calling to remembrance the uncertain estate of this transitory life and that all flesh must yield unto death when it shall please God to call, Doe make constitute ordain and declare this my last will and testament in manner and form following revoking, & annulling by these presents all and every testament and testaments, will and wills heretofore by me made and declared either by word or writing and this to be taken only for my last will and testament and none other, and first being penitent and sorry from the bottom of my heart for my sins past, most humbly, desiring forgiveness for the same, give and comit my soul to Almighty God, my saviour and redeemer in whom and by the meritts of Jesus Christ I trust and believe assuredly to be saved and to have forgiveness of all my sins and that my soul with my body at the generall day of resurrection shall rise again with joy and through the meritts of Christ death and passion be possessed and in-writt the Kingdom of Heaven prepared for his elect and chosen and my body to be buryed in such place where it shall please my executors hereafter named to appoint and now for the settling of my temporal and such goods as chattles and debts as it hath pleased God to bestow upon me I doe order give and dispose the same in manner and form following (that is to say)

First—I will that all my debts and duties as I owe in right or conscidure to any manner of person or persons whatsoever shall be well and truly contented, and paid or ordered to be paid within convenient time after my decease by my executors hereafter named.

Item—I give and bequeath to my well beloved wife Mary during her natural life my now dwelling plantation together with three hundred and forty acres of land thereunto adjoining with one-half of my household goods and moveables, and the other half of my household goods and moveables to be equally divided between my two sons, viz; William and Bryan MacDonnell.

Item—I give and bequeath to my eldest son John MacDonnell and to his assigns the fifty acres of land or meadow or comonly called the Great Meadow lying

and being in the forks of a run called Great Run as also tenn pounds of good and lawfull money to be paid to him by my son William as hereafter will be specified.

Item—I give to my son William MacDonnell his heirs or assigns forever two hundred and fifty-three acres of land it being part of the tract of land on which I now live, and lying and being on the south side of a small Run which (which runneth up along the fence side on the south of my Cedared Lands) and butting on the main or branch of the said Run he therefore paying to my eldest son John MacDonnell the sum of ten pounds aforesaid within three years after my decease.

Item—I give unto my son James MacDonnell the sum of £20 of lawfull money to be paid by executors within three years after my decease.

Item—I give unto my son Bryan MacDonnell his heirs or assignes after the decease of my dearly beloved wife Mary my now dwelling plantation freely to be by him or his assignes possessed and enjoyed forever, but that and if it shall soe happen, that he dye before my dearly beloved wife Mary that then my said plantation shall be turned to my son Richard McDonnell his heirs or assignes, and to be by him or his assignes freely possessed and enjoyed forever.

Item—I give unto my son Richd McD the sum of £20 of good and lawfull money to be paid to him when he shall come to the age of 21 years.

Item—I give unto my daughter Mary Danger one young mare coming two years old being a fole of my great grey mare.

Item—I give over unto my daughter Anable MacDonnell the sum of £20 of good and lawfull money. to be paid to her when she shall come to the age of 18 years together with my great white mare I bought of Henry Peterson (of Elk River) and the two mares and one colt which heretofore hath been called hers.

Item—I will give and do hereby order and intend that my son Bryan MacDonnell or his heirs or assignes shall pay the aforesaid sums of £20 to my son Richard MacDonnell and my daughter Anable MacDonnell out of my now dwelling plantation within one year after he shall come in possession of it (if not paid before my executor) or in case of his death and the returns of the plantation to my son Richard MacDonnell (as aforesaid) that then he shall pay therefore unto my daughter Anable the said £20 and I doe hereby constitute make and ordain my dear and loving wife Mary and my well beloved sons William and Bryan my sole executors of this my last will and testament. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year first above written.

Signed, sealed, published and declared by the within named testators as his last will and testament, in the presence of the subscribers.

RICHARD EMPSON,
JAMES ROBINSON,
GEORE READ.

BRYAN MacDONNELL.

B
his mark.

Bryan McDonnell late of the said county of New Castle, having while he lived and att the time of his death good sights and credets in diverse places within the same county.

MARY McDONNELL, }
WM " }
BRYAN " } Sole executors.

This very satisfactory and valuable document is so full of interest that I shall not try to mention more than a few of its prominent features.

First, you will please notice the truly religious and manly tone of it. It is wholly different from many of the contemporary wills which I examined, and is not written in the set form which many adopted. Then, throughout the whole is an affectionate mention of every child, and they all seem to have been treated as nearly alike as was possible.

We see that he had seven children living at the time of his death, in 1707; but we have the descendants of neither of the girls, and of only one of the five boys (Bryan), from whom we all spring.

This will throws light, also, on the following postscript (which I have previously quoted) to a letter from Bryan, a grandson of Bryan (No. 1), to Joseph, another grandson:

"Well, Joseph, in conclusion, I shall say that I don't believe the Campbells are of the family that massacred our Great Grandfather, McDonald of Glencoe, in 1688, the year after father was born. If they are, we can't blame them more than William III, for he issued the warrant for their destruction, and he, McDonald, was a Highland chief."

From these lines there would seem to be a doubt whether the year 1692 (the correct date of the massacre) or 1688 was meant "as the year after Bryan, jr., was born." But Bryan, jr., was made an executor of his father's will, and must, therefore, have been at least eighteen years old, which 1691 would wholly preclude. 1687 would only make him twenty, which places even that date too in question. It seems hardly possible that he would have chosen such a youth to a position of that responsibility. One great omission for us, you will perceive, is no mention in the will of the place from which he came in Europe; but when we bear in mind the galling associations he bore thence to his peaceful home in America, this failure to mention his confiscated estates, his murdered kin and ruined family, will not seem strange.

Notice the three testators--Richard Empson, James Robinson and George Read--and examine what influence they had in the family, how they were connected and the like.

The other numerous points I leave to your own interest to discover.

We come, next, to a search for the several branches of the family which have been lost. There were four of the McDonalds in Bryan senior's family, named John, William, James, Richard; and in Bryan junior's family were added, later, two more--Richard and James--making six in all. Without any reasonable doubt, there must be hundreds, and perhaps thousands, of the McDonalds living in this country who are related to us. If we could trace out some of them, we might find that they had preserved family records of great mutual value.

These extracts which I now give are a few from the many thousand names which I have searched over in public offices, and which seem the most likely to lead to results if followed up. Two methods of investigation have been pursued; one by examining deeds, wills, etc., in different parts of the country, to see if the name, date and other incidents would correspond; the second by sending out circulars to different McDonalds all over the Union; and asking for a brief outline of their genealogy. Ten thousand of the latter were issued and sent away at one time, and several thousand have followed since. The answers have been coming in slowly during the past five years. At present, all I propose doing is to submit some few of the best data of the public records, and at some later day I shall try and report on the matter of the circulars. If any of those who propose taking in charge these inquiries think of any particular help they could find in those answered circulars, all they need to do is to apply to me, and I shall be happy to furnish, as far as in my power, any information they may desire.

Our first query is, *How long did the family remain on Red Clay Creek in Delaware?* As far as Bryan, sr., is concerned, it has been seen that he died there in 1707; but where and how he was buried we are unable to determine. The last mention of land having been taken up by him is in "New Castle Warrants (thin volume), M, pp. 258 and 259 and reads as follows:

BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF PROPERTY.

Whereas Brian McDonald of the County of New Castle making application to us that we would grant him to take up a certain quantity of vacant Land adjoining on his Plantation formerly left out taking up only two hundred acres in the execution of a Warrant for four hundred, hath requested that we would still grant him the preference to said Land and hath agreed to pay to the Proprietes, use for the same twelve pounds ten shills., for every hundred acres and a bushel of wheat yearly Quitt-rent and so proportionably: These are to require thee to survey to the said Brian McDonald the said Tract of vacant Land according to the true boundaries of the Lands inclosing it, and make returns into the Genl. Surveyorss office at Philadia. where this Warrant is to remain and a Copy thereof to be delivd to thee certified by the Secretary, which survey and return in case the said Brian make paymt. of the said consideration money as aforesaid upon or before the twenty fifth day of the first month, shall be good and valid otherwise shall be void and of no effect, as if the same had never been made or granted.

given under our hand & seal of the Province at Philadia. the 21st of December 1703.

To Thomas Pierson surveyor

EDWD SHIPPEN
THO. STORY
JAMES LOGAN.

8 Bryan 21 Dec., 1703 ; . . . returned 13 May, 1706.

Pages 258 and 259 of smaller (thinner) vol. of Newcastle Warrants.

- On pages 92 and 93, of the New Castle Warrants, are diagrams and general descriptions of Bryon McDonnill's lands, and of those of the neighborhood.

With regard to the oldest son JOHN, I have the following :

In "Miscellaneous Papers" page 54, is a survey No. 101, for John McDonald, 264 acres, 10th May, 1709; it was ordered to be surveyed, 7th, 11 mo., 1708.

In Deeds, vol. 2, Q, page 11, is the following, which is probably the same as the above, although there it is for 264 and here for 250 acres :

Whereas, there is a certain tract of land situate in ye county of Newcastle, between ye Lands now of George Read, James Robinson and Hugh Symonds, and ye Mannor of thirty thousand acres formerly granted upon new Rent, as is said to William Guest, and assigned by him to Philemon Murfy, but has to this time lain without improvement, and without paying or discharging any of ye Quit rents, for which it was granted, of which Land the said Philemon assigned fifty acres, taken up by one Warrant to Brian McDonald, late of the said county ; and two hundred acres more, making up the whole quantity by him claim'd, he resign'd to some of the s'd Brian's children And whereas, about two years agoe, an agreem't was made in our behalve with John McDonald, eldest son of ye said Brian, for the whole said two hundred and fifty acres, to be granted to him at the rate of twenty pounds for every hundred acres, & so proportionably, and one English shilling for a Quit rent for the same quantity forever These are therefore to authorise and require thee to survey or cause to be survey'd to

the s'd John M'Donald, all those ye s'd two hundred and fifty acres of land, situate as afores'd, according to ye above mentioned boundaries, and make Returns thereof into the Secretarie's office. Given under our hand and seal of ye Province at Philadelphia, the seventh day of the eleventh month, 1708.

In "Miscellaneous Papers," page 106, No. 10, is also mention of land to John McDonald. In New Castle Warrants, M., are these entries :

5 John McDonald (See letter D.)

This I have not yet been able to find; but it is probably unimportant. It may be nothing more than a duplicate of some other.

6 John McDonald 7, 11 mo., 1708 ; 250 acres ; returned etc., 30 May, 1735.

7 " " " " " 250 " copy of No. 6.

From all these records it will be seen that 1708—or the year after his father died—is the last registry that I can find of John. Whether he, too, died about this time, or moved to other parts, was married, had children, and still lived on for a number of years, is unknown. After I have specified all that I can determine, with accuracy, relative to their stay on Red Clay Creek, I shall give some few of the best references to the same names which I have met with in other more or less remote offices of the Atlantic Coast. For the present, I confine myself for each child to Mill Creek Hundred. When I reach, however, the son Bryan, our ancestor, I shall follow him down to Botetourt, and complete what documents and remarks I have to present on this occasion concerning himself and immediate descendants.

About WILLIAM we have much more that is definite. In the following extract from the records at New Castle we find that he and his wife Mary sold all their land in May, 1730. They left probably at that time; and now the question is whither did they go? I have chosen from the documents only those portions which concern us more particularly.

PARTS OF DEED FROM WILLIAM McDONALD AND WIFE TO
WILLIAM McMECHEN.

Vol. 1, page 293.

This indenture made the 20th of May, 1730, between William McDonald of Miln creek hundred in the county of New Castle on Delaware, Yeoman and Mary his wife of the one part and William McMechen of the same place on the other part, Whereas William Penn Esq late proprietor and gov'r-in-chief of the province of Pennsylvania, in and by a certain patent or instrument of writing under the hands of Griffith Owen, Thomas Story and James Logan, then proprietary deputies and seal of the said province duly executed, did grant and convey unto Bryan McDonald, late of the county of New Castle, aforesaid yeoman a certain tract or piece of land, in said county of New Castle, containing 593 acres, to hold to said Bryan McDonald his heirs asns, to his and their only proper use, in behoof under the yearly Quitt-rent of one bushel of good merchantable winter wheat for every hundred acres etc, as in and by the said patent dated 8th Oct. 1706 recorded in the Roll office at Phil'a in Patent book a vol. 3 page 24, and whereas the said Bryan McDonald being by virtue of said writing seized in his Demesne as of fee of and in the p'misses made his last will and testament in writing and therein *inter ad* did give and devise and bequeath to his son William McDonald party to these presents, part of the said 590 acres of land in these

words, viz.: I give to my son Wm. McDonald his heirs and assigns, forever 250 acres of land it being part of the land on which I now live, and lying, and being, on the south side of a small run, which runneth up along the fence-side, on the south of my cleared land butting on the main body, a branch of the said run etc, and afterward the said Bryan McD died so as aforesaid seized of and in the premises, after whose death the said will was duly approved before Robt French and James Coult Esqs then deputy reg's for said county New Castle as in and by the said will dated 3d Feb 1707, and the records of said Regrs. office relation thereunto being had may more fully appear: By virtue of said will the said William McDonald became seized of and in the said 250 acres of land Now this indenture witnesseth that William McDonald and Mary his wife deed over in full their property to Wm. McMechen his heirs assigns etc

Two more references to "the late Bryan McDonald" and several to his son and William's brother "Bryan."

Sealed and delivered in presence

RICHARD McDONALD,
JAMES McMECHEN.

WM. McDONALD
MARY McDONALD
her (f) mark

Of course, it will be evident from this, as well as it would be probable from lapse of time, that Bryan senior's wife Mary had died before 1730. Richard McDonald is one of the witnesses, and was, therefore, alive in 1730.

As I have but one more reference to make to Richard, I shall place it here, thus leaving only James and Bryan--since I have no traces whatever of the girls Mary (Danger) or Anabel--to treat of in their natural order of mention in the will of their father.

In vol. E of the deeds is a grant of 280 acres for £90, in New Castle county, from Robt. Read, in county of Kent, to Richard McDaniell, in the year 1719. Witnessed by

JAMES MOLE,
WILLIAM McDANIEL,
JOHN DEMPSTERS.

The document is headed Richard McDonald, and it is doubtful which is the correct spelling. He may be our Richard, or the ancestor of the McDaniels of Mill Creek previously referred to. I have not yet been able accurately to place this man. In any case, the mention of 1719 is not so recent as that of 1730 above.

JAMES has left us almost nothing but brief notices wherewith to follow him. In 1746 he is a witness of a sale of eighty-three acres of land by Bryan junior to Andrew Justis.

In volume Q of the deeds, page 494, we find a sale, for £14, of two lots on the corner of Market and Augustine streets, in the town of Newport, from James and Hannah Morris to James McDonald. The date of the conveyance was, 19 Dec., 1748. It was witnessed by Joanna Morton and James McMullan.

In the same volume (Q), page 479, Ebenezer and Johannah Wollaston transfer to James McDonald (a tanner), on the 21st of May, 1751, for £5, a lot on Ayre street, in Newport, next to Joseph McDonald, now James McDonald's lot. This was witnessed by Thos. Carnachan and Thos Tournier.

In the same volume (Q), page 498, is a deed given Sept. 3, 1751, of property from William Armstrong to James McDonald (tanner). Witnessed by David Bush and Richd McWilliam.

Nowhere do I meet with sales of property at this time by James, so that probably he remained around in that neighborhood after his brothers had left. He seems to have been more conservative, and slow to seek for decided changes. What has become of him or his descendants, if he had any, is unknown.

BRYAN, our ancestor, we can follow more closely, although not as well as we should be able to do.

In Vol. Q of the deeds at New Castle, page 221, we find the following extracts:

This indenture was made the 14—2 1746 | 7 be't Bryan McD jr and Andrew Justis on 8—10, 1701. Wm Penn's grant through Thos Story and James Logan, conveyed to Bryan McD senior and father of Bryan McDonald jr, 593 acres on Mill Creek; recorded in Patent Book A, vol 30.

And whereas the said Bryan McDonald made his will in writing, date 23 Feb. 1707 and amongst other things therein says;

Item—I give etc unto my son Bryan McDonald his heirs and assigns, after the deceas of my dearly beloved wife mary, my now dwelling plantation. Will remaining in the register's office at New Castle. Now this indenture Witnesseth that said Bryan McDonald and Catherine his wife for and in consideration of the just and full sum of £150 curr't, paid by said Andrew Justis do sell etc a certain piece of land (80 acres) in Mill Creek Hundred in New Castle County. Part of the part of 593 bequeathed to Bryan jr.

JAS McDONALD

“ MOORE

“ McMULLAN

CORAM JNO RICHARDSON

14th Feb 1746 | 7

his mark
BRYAN B McDONALD (JUNIOR)

CATHERINE her mark McDONALD

C

This is the latest mention that I can find of Bryan in Delaware—the 14th February, 1746-7. But we have record of him in the Surveyor's office at Richmond, Va., and elsewhere.

Before passing to these I wish to call your further attention to the Archibald McDonald mentioned in my letter from London.

Most of his land he bought from a William Thomas and from Lotitia Penn. It also was situated in Mill Creek Hundred. Archibald was a Yoeman. In his will—9th of April, 1749, I think,—he mentions the following persons: Abigail (his wife), and his children John (his executor), William, Thomas, Archibald, Elinor (wife of James Moore), Abigail, Mary. Of these, John was alive in 1762; William died before 1760 and intestate—Margaret was his wife's name. Thomas made a deed 9th Oct., 1762, signed also by his wife Mary; witnessed by Jas. McMechen among others. Archibald junior's wife's name was Elizabeth; he purchased from Lotitia Penn, 17th Nov., 1762, 99 acres; witnessed by Robert Bryan and John Cann.

In this connection, too, we find the estate of a Jeremiah McDonald, of New Castle County, to be settled by his wife Lydia on or before 26th April, 1797. I have no idea who these parties were.

Also the following, from the Book of Wills, I give for what value there may be in it:

James McDonald lately arrived “in a ship” from Scotland and died appointing Robt. Hamilton and a Wm Jones as executors, and leaving his property to his brother John in the island Gigha, Argyleshire, to be sent to him to the care of John, McKneill Esq., Scotland.

This finishes, then, the present list of the New Castle documents which I have to submit, and I now pass on to Bryan McDonald junior, our common ancestor, and to his history in Virginia.

You will remember that 1746-7 was the last mention I found of him in Delaware, and you will also recall that Floyd places his departure in 1753. The earliest grant of land that I can find

is, however, as late as 10th March, 1756, for 48 acres, Patent Book M, page 34, Richmond, Va. Cousin George, of Botetourt, says that the deed for the property which he holds was made in 1756. So that probably there was a period of several years spent in prospecting before they located definitely. Who went with him to Virginia is not certainly known, although I shall give later --when I take up the probable records bearing on the lost heads of the families--some statistics which may help us to more knowledge of this misty question.

The situation of the property claimed by Bryan was that now occupied by William and George McDonald's farms, in Botetourt County, Virginia. Haymakerstown, between Fin-castle, the county seat, and Amsterdam on the railroad, is their Post Office address. Bryan's enjoyment of his new home was brief, for he died in 1757, as may be seen from the following copies of his will, and his executor's bond, which were filed in Staunton, then the county seat of all that district :

PUBLIC RECORDS OF STAUNTON, AUGUSTA COUNTY, VIRGINIA.

Wills; Book 2; Page 197.

In the Name of God Amen, the twenty-first day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand Seven Hundred and fifty-seven, I Bryan McDonald of ye County of Augusta and Coliny of Vergenia, being sick and weak in body but of Good and perfect memory (thanks be to Almighty God) and Calling to Remembrance the uncertain Estate of this transitory life and that all flesh must yeald unto Death when it shall please God to call, Do make, constitute, ordain and Declare this my last will and Testament in manner and form following revoking and Disanulling by these presents all and every testament and Testaments, Will & Wills heretofore by me made and Declared either by word or writing, and this to be taken only for my Last Will and Testament, and none other, and first being penitent and sorry from ye bottom of my Heart for my sins past, most Humbly Desireing forgiveness for ye same, I give and commit my soul to Allmighty God my Saviour and Redeemer in whom and by ye merits of Jesus Christ I trust and believe assuredly to be saved and to have forgiveness of all my sins and that my soul with my body at the General Day of Resurrection shall rise again with Joy through the meritts of of Christs Death and Passion possess and Inherit the Kingdom of Heaven prepared for his Elect and Chosen, and my Body to be buried in such place where it shall please my Executors hereafter named to apoint, and now for setling of my temporall and such Goods & Chattells and Debts as it hath pleased God to bestow upon me: I Doe order give and bestow the same in manner and form following (that is to say) First, I will that all my Debts and Duties as I owe to any maner of Person or Persons whatsoever shall be well and truly contented and paid or ordered to be contented & paid within convenient time after my Decease by my Executr hereafter named.

Item.—I give and bequeath to my Son Bryan Mc Donald his Heirs or Assigns forever the one-half of my Land it being of the uper part of My Land where he ye sd Bryan McDonald used to formerly Dwell.

Item.—I give and bequeath to my son in law John Armstrong to his Heirs or assigns forever the other half of my Plantation it being the part that I now Dwell upon He paying fifty pounds curant money.

Item.—I give unto my Doughter Prisla the feather Bed she lieth on.

Item.—I give and bequeath to my well beloved wife Catherine McDonald During her naturall life or Widowhood the use of all my real & personal Estate and if so be that she should marry again that she shall only heave her thirds.

Item.—I give unto my son Richard McDonald five shillings currant money.

Item.—the remaining part of my Estate I allow it to be sold at public vandue and to be equally Devided as followeth viz: between my sons, James McDonald Edward McDonald Joseph McDonald & Bryan McDonald and my Doughters Rebeca Bean Catherine Armstrong and Mary Smith.

I do hereby constitute make and ordain my Dearly beloved Catharine & my well beloved son in law John Armstrong my sole Executors of this my last will and Testament in witness whereof I heave hereunto sett my hand and seal the Day and year above written.

Sealed and Delivered }
In the presence of }

BRYAN B. McDONALD.
his
mark

JOSEPH McDONALD,
GEO. ROBINSON,
EDWARD McDONALD.

VIRGINIA, TO WIT:

At a Court cond & held for Augusta County August the 13, 1757.

This last will & Testament of Bryan McDonald decd being proved by the oaths of Edward & Joseph McDonald two of the witnesses thereto was admitted to Record. And on the motion of Catherine McDonald & John Armstrong the Extors therein named who made oath according to law Certificate is granted them for obtaining a Probate thereof in due form, they having with Edward & Joseph McDonald their securities entered, into & acknowledged their Bond according to law.

Test.

A Copy Teste

WILLIAM A. BURNETT Clk.

The will was made, as you perceive, in May, 1757, and the bond hereafter following in August, 1757, between which time Bryan must have died. Where he was buried is undetermined, although probably in Glebe grave-yard (now called Mountain Union Cemetery), which was presumably started about this time in Botetourt County, not far from the farm of Bryan.

The bond reads :

Know all Men by these Presents, That we Catherine McDonald, John Armstrong, Edwd McDonald & Jos. McDonald are held and firmly bound unto Jno Buchanan, Robt. Breckenridge, Rd. Woods & John Archer Justice in the Commission of the Peace for Augusta County; for, and in Behalf, and to the sole Use and Behoof of the Justices of the said County, and their Successors, in the Sum of six hundred pounds. To be paid to the said Justices their Executors, Administrators, or Assigns: To the which Payment well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, and every of us, our, and every of our Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, jointly and severally, firmly, by these Presents. Sealed with our Seals Dated, this 18 Day of August Anno Dom, 1757.

The Condition of this Obligation is such, That if the above-bound Catherine McDonald & John Armstong Execrs. of the Last Will and Testament of Bryan McDonald, Deceased, do make, or cause to be made, a true and perfect Inventory of all and singular the Goods, Chattels and Credits of the said Deceased, which have, or shall come to the Hands, Possession, or Knowledge of the said, Catherine & John or into the Hands, or Possession of any other Person or Persons, for them and the same so made, do exhibit into the County Court of Augusta at such Time as they shall be thereunto required by the said Court; and the same Goods, Chattels, and Credits, and all other the Goods, Chattels, and Credits of the said Deceased, which at any Time after shall come to the Hands, Possession, or Knowledge of the said Catherine & John or into the Hands and Possession of any other Person, or Persons for them do well and truly Administer according to Law; And further, do make a just and true Account of their Actings and Doings therein, when thereto required by the said Court: And also, shall well and truly pay and deliver all the Legacies contained and specified in the said Testament, as far as the said Goods, Chattels and Credits will thereunto extend, and the Law shall charge: Then this Obligation to be void and of none Effect, or else to remain in full Force and Virtue.

Sealed and Delivered, }
in the presence of }

^{her}
CATHERINE C McDONALD,
_{mark}
JOHN ARMSTRONG,
EDWARD McDONALD,
JOSEPH McDONALD.

At a Court cond & held for Augusta County the 18 of August 1757.

Catherine McDonald & John Armstrong with Edward & Joseph McDonald their securities acknowledged this their Bond for the sd Catherine and John's true & faithful Admton, of the Estate of Bryan McDonald decd, which is ordered to be recorded.

Test.....

A Copy Teste

WILLIAM A. BURNETT, Clerk.

From these important documents we have been able to settle many puzzling questions, which it will be needless to repeat here, as they have been embodied in our work.

You will notice that the form of the will is copied largely from that of Bryan senior's. Richard, James, Edward, Joseph, Rebecca Bane (or Bean, as they were usually called), Catherine Armstrong, Mary Smith, Bryan and Priscilla, were all the children he had ever had—as far as we know—and they are all mentioned as if living. Bryan—his namesake—the youngest son, and next to youngest child, seems to have been his favorite. We are struck with the slight traces of domestic distrust in this will, shown by the way in which Richard is remembered; his own “well-beloved wife's” possibility of remarriage is alluded to; and the bond which is exacted from his executors for fulfillment of responsibilities entrusted to them.

Richard and James have never been heard from after this date, although cousin George of Botetourt tells me there is a saying in the family that James went to the Carolinas. How much truth there is in it, is very hard to tell. I have examined thousands and thousands of pages in public offices of North Carolina in search of him, but have not found anything satisfactory enough to follow up. I might as well state here that the Scotch McDonald mentioned in the “History of General Marion's Campaign in North Carolina during the Revolutionary War” was not a relative of ours. By the kindness of his descendants in and near Elizabeth City, I looked up his genealogy in detail.

Richard had left to him five shillings, the least the law allowed, as I understand it. Not another reference is made to him. Whether he remained in Delaware, or was there in Virginia; what his relationships were with the family, and many other questions, remain to be solved. What I have cited is all that we know of him.

I shall give later on when I turn to the records which may throw light on the unknown history of Bryan's (senior) lost sons; also some extracts that may have a bearing on the fate of these two men. It is possible, and not improbable, that James had few, if any, children.

We have now reached a point in our labors from which we can journey with fruitful rewards. We know considerable of the descendants of the remaining sons; and, in time, with patient and careful work, we may collect a full and reliable history of all the offspring.

Before closing these contributions, I shall give a general outline of the names which remain to be worked up; but just now I shall invite your attention to some further extracts that I have made from the public records in Staunton, Virginia:

In Vol. 2, page 231, is an inventory of Bryan's personal effects, amounting to £64, 16s. Among the items were one large bible, common prayer-book and sermon-book, and two small prayer-books, all valued at £1, 3s. This list was entered March 16th, 1758. In these books were, probably, records of the family; and, if they are in existence, we might gain considerable from them. As will be seen from the "Sale of Personal Effects," which I have given in part below, the "bible" was purchased by Wm. Armstrong, so that, possibly, in the descendants of that line—could we find them—might be much of value for our inquiries.

Again—and this is very important—we have here fair evidence of the religious belief of Bryan. As there never was, to my knowledge—or to that of our ancestors, so far as I can learn—any *Catholics* in the family, these prayer-books show either "The Church of England" profession (that is, Episcopalian), or the Presbyterian, but more likely the former. While the book of sermons and the bible on the other hand would point more to the Presbyterian, or, better said, the Reformed Church of Scotland—as started by John Knox, and adapted to suit the reunion with the Puritans of England under the Commonwealth and Cromwell. I have heard said that Bryan of Delaware and Bryan of Botetourt were both inclined to preach a little in the Presbyterian belief, but this is very poorly substantiated. If we could only be sure of the belief of Bryan of Delaware, we might have a good guide-board in our search for the exact and specific cause that led to the family's migration to this country.

ITEMS FROM BRYAN McDONALD'S SALE ACCOUNT.

Wills; Vol. 2, page 332.

Effects were sold 29th of March, 1759,

| | | | | |
|----|---|-----------|-----|-------|
| To | Joseph McDonald, a fire-shovel and tongs, | - - - - - | 3s | 6d |
| | Josua McCormick, 2 bells, | - - - - - | 5s | 6d |
| | Edward McDonald, a mattock, | | | |
| | Wm. Armstrong, a large bible, | - - - - - | £1 | 6s od |
| | Bryan McDonald, a large pott, | - - - - - | £1 | 0s od |
| | Wm. Graham, a large sermon-book, | - - - - - | £1 | 7s od |
| | James Bean, Drillincourt on Death, | - - - - - | 15s | 6d |
| | George Robinson, a large prayer-book, | - - - - - | 6s | od |
| | John Armstrong, a horse-saddle, | - - - - - | 10s | 10d |
| | James Litherdale, a cone shell, | - - - - - | - | 2d |
| | James Robinson, a mare, | - - - - - | 18s | 10d |
| | James Bean, a stile— | | | |

And so on for quite a list.

The sad fate of Bryan's third son (Edward) is, doubtless, more or less familiar to you. It was one of the customs of the Indians in those days to lurk in the bushes and trees around a house until the "men folks" had gone into the fields to work, when they would steal up, rush in upon the family, if they could find it unprotected, and steal, murder and burn, according to their disposition. By the time the men would reach the scene, the depredators would have escaped and be beyond ordinary vengeance. The morning of Edward's death, he had gone just a little way from the door of his home to gather some fire-wood, and, in so doing, came uncomfortably near a party of these concealed marauders. They, either imagining that he saw them, or fearing discovery, or thinking the opportunity a favorable one, seeing Edward was unarmed, fired at and shot him. As soon as wounded, Edward turned and ran toward the house, with the Indians in pursuit. He, weakened from loss of blood, and stumbling, fell, so that they caught up with him, brained him with an axe, scalped him at his very door, and then fled to the woods. Edward was a young lawyer of great force of character, large ability, and fine appearance. He was, as is said, the most promising of the McDonalds. His death was a great loss to his family and to his country. He left a wife, named Mary, and three daughters. The widow and children moved away from the tragic spot—which was near the present site of Amsterdam, Botetourt County—to Abingdon, I believe; and there the young ladies, who were great beauties, married two men named Campbell and a Mr. Greenway. The Campbells were men of superior intellect, and had offspring who were called repeatedly to the highest offices in the State. Mr. Greenway was of the family, I believe, that founded a large commercial establishment in Lynchburg, Virginia, and another in New York City.

It is only recently, through the zeal of Mrs. Mary J. Wright and Dr. Green of Mississippi, and Miss Ellen J. Pierce, of Abingdon, Virginia, that I have found the addresses of good parties for information on this branch of our family. Although the Campbells have always been more or less prominently before the public, I have not met with just the ones who were posted on their early family life in anything more than a general way. I now hope that they will choose among themselves that person best fitted for this work, and that with their aid he will contribute a full and valuable memorandum of this interesting part of our history.

It was in regard to these Campbells, as you will recall, that the postscript concerning William III and Glencoe was written, all of which I have discussed at length in the previous pages and in my London letter.

For the Greenway connection I have no one to address; can any body suggest some party able and willing to undertake this?

In Staunton wills, Vol. 2, page 402, Mary McDonald is made "administrator of all the goods of Edward McDonald.

August 20th, 1760.

Signed by—MARY McDONALD,
 GEORGE ROBINSON,
 FRANCIS X LIVERS,
 MALCOM CAMPBELL.

In volume 3, page 43, are the following items from Edward McDonald's Inventory :

| | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|-------|
| 8 volumes of the Spectator, | - | - | - | - | - | 16s |
| The Body of the Va. Laws, | - | - | - | - | - | 8£ 6s |
| 2 prayer-books, one bible and 2 primers, | - | - | - | - | - | 8s |
| Dictionary, complete Tradesmen, etc., | - | - | - | - | - | 2s |

With a rather long account of books and other objects of interest, showing that for a man almost cut off, as he was, from the world, he had a large share of the comforts and luxuries of life.

It is reported, although not certain, that Edward had a son who was killed in trying to save his father; and it is also claimed by some that he had another daughter who married a man named

Russell; but there seems to be nothing reliable concerning the existence of these other two children.

I have given the documents up to this point, with most of their old word-forms, their inaccuracies of spelling, punctuation, grammar, and general orthography, all unaltered. Henceforth, the extracts will be brief, and corrected if necessary. My object in leaving the records just as nearly as possible as they are was three-fold: First, to show the state of the language, with its etymology and syntax yet undetermined, the total disregard for punctuation and capitals, and the easy manner in which our name and the names of others could be and were changed to suit any uneducated scribe; secondly, to point out the indifference among forefathers to literary excellence in public offices, a fault, not only common here, but all over Europe; and thirdly, to bring out more prominently the utter contempt that men of fine intellect and high rank—especially, if warriors—had for writing and literary occupation. While, in most instances, they could read with ease, they deemed it below them to sign even their name. They had serfs, slaves, scribes and ecclesiastical proteges for such drudgery, and a cross or a letter was enough for their endorsement. They were, however, not long in this country, after the revolutionary war, before they lost much of that nonsense, and education became a necessary and desirable factor of their existence. But for some reason or other that exalted spirit of learning and appreciation for knowledge, in all forms, never so infused the South as it did the North and West.

The following quotations from the Staunton, Va., records relate in some cases to the family, while in others their bearing is uncertain. They are given for what they are worth. They are placed here, and not among the data for tracing the lost branches, because they contain other matter, which would be too much severed from its possible connection if removed from the present place. It is a little better to keep the records of this office all together.

In Vol. 2, page 203, of the wills, only a few pages from the entry of the bond on Bryan's will we find "Jeannette McDonald made administrator of Randall McDonald's property. "Know that we, Jeannette McDonald, John Wright, David Smith, before the Justices, 16th of November, 1757, &c."

Other wills before this, making Chas. Hays and James Moore executors, 26th of August, 1751. James Lee, Samuel Linsey and Jas. Trimble are names mentioned at the same time.

- 2, 232. Wm. Paul's appraisal, made 6th of December, 1757, by Andrew Hays, Joseph Culton and Alexander Walker.
- 2, 238. Gives Randall McDonnell's inventory. Parties mentioned were Robt. Cravens, Hugh Campbell and Arthur Johnson. Total estimate, £13 9s; November, 1757; entered at Court, 17 of March, 1758.
- 2, 311. Alexander McDonald, administrator for Joseph McCelchild, May 17, 1759. Signed by Alexander McDonald, John Ramsay and John Poage.
- 3, 143. Frances McDonald's inventory; November 15th, 1751. Signed by Samuel Downy, Thos. Teate and Thomas Brown. Included some books, shoemaker's tools, tanned leather, a white horse, etc.
- 3, 391. Sale account of Randall McDonald's private effects. Among other things was also an old bible. The purchasers included the following names: John Pleasant (a merchant), Richard Shanklin, Wm. Bean, James Bean, James Stevenson, John Matison and Gabriel Jones.
- 4, 475. Henry McDonald, administrator for Samuel McDonald; 17th of March, 1772. Signed by Henry McDonald, Thos. Kindead and Sam'l Kelly.

- 5, 59. Samuel McDonald's "appraisal." Among other things, "1 gilt trunk" is mentioned. (Edward McDonald had also had a gilt trunk.) March 16th, 1773. Signed by Rob't Bratten, Sam'l Hodge and Andrew Lockridge.

And in Vol. 21, 329, is a long, singular and interesting will of the wealthy Alexander McDonald, of Baltimore; filed 23d of July, 1836. He left no children of his own, and only a sister Margaret as representative of the McDonald name.

So much for the wills; let us now turn to the volumes of deeds and conveyances of property. I give these without any comment, as their general bearing will be clear to those who have followed me carefully thus far. It is useless to publish details until we determine approximately what their full value is.

D E E D S.

GRANTEE.

- 6,482. Bright to McDonald.
 740. Robinson " "
 8,199. Black " "
 8,260. Davis " "
 9,351. Cloyd " "
 11,221. Robinson " "
 13,370. John Morre from Armstrong, of South Carolina, Granville Co., 14th of August, 1767.
 23,170. McDonald to McDonald, 18th of September, 1779.
 23,481. Thompson to " 19th of August, 1782.
 24,452. Scott to McDonnall.
 5,479. McDonald, Edward, to David Cloyd.
 8,291. McDaniel John to Gunrod.
 1,072. McDonald Pat. to Stephens, a town lot, sold for £70, &c.
 11,214. " Joseph to Preston.
 14,511. " Alex " Ramsay, 1767. ^{Alex wife} Margaret Jane McClelland, his mother Beverly Manner, 641 acres; 10th of May.
 18,316. " John to Whitzell.
 25,301. " Ang. to Scott.
 6,402. 8th of October, 1754; Erick and Joseph McDonald, 207 acres for 5s; released from coln Jos. Ballou, on north side of the north fork of Goose Creek, by George Paris' land.

WM. PRESTON,
 JNO. SMITH,
 JAS. DONALDSON,
 ISRAL CHRISHAN.

1st of March, 1755.

740. Between Geo. Robinson, for 5s, and Jas. McDonald; 245 acres on a branch of Buffalo Creek, a branch of the Roanoke.

- 8,199. 20th of November, 1759; between Jno. Burk, of Augusta County, Virginia, and Jno. McDonald, of Orange County, N. C.; £35 current money, 108 acres in Augusta County, on Boon's run, a branch of the main river of Shenandoah.
- 8,260. 1760; Nathaniel Davis, of Augusta County, and Frances McDonnale, his heirs, etc.; £34; 150 acres; Beverly Manner to Hamilton land.
 Wm. Edminston,
 Henry Gay,
 Andrew Coward.
- 9,351. Edward McDonald's—deceased, of Augusta County—payment of debt of 21st of November, 1753, to David Cloyd, £60. Entered May 20th, 1761.
- 11,221. Geo. Robinson and *Martha his wife* to Joseph McDonald; 22d of March, 1755. Certified 12th of February, 1763.
- 24,452. Scott to Anguish McDonald—6th of November, 1784—of Augusta County; £40; Beverly Mannor, Christian's Creek.
- 8,291. Jno. McDaniel, of Orange County, N. C., and Stephen Gunrod, of Augusta County; 20th of May, 1760; £30; 108 acres on Boon's run, Augusta County, a branch of the main river Shenandoah.
- 11, 214. 7th of February, 1763; 142 acres, to Preston; in a line of Geo. Robinson's land, and a line with heirs of Edward McDonald, on a branch of Tinker's Creek.
- 23,170. 28th September, 1797; County of Augusta; between Henry McDonald and Martha, Frances McDonald and Margaret, Hugh Martin McDonald and Mary, John McDonald, James McDonald, parties of the first part, and unto William Allen of the other part, land for £1025, in Beverly Mannor, on the waters of Cristian Creek. Witnessed by John Graham, James Brattain, Adam Brolton, John Bratton, James Fulton.
- 23,481. 19th of August, 1782; between Wm. Thompson and Samuel McDonald, for a tract of land of 195 acres for 5s, which was granted to Thomas Thompson, by patent dated 1st of June, 1750; lying in Augusta County, and on Cow-pasture River. Witnessed by John Lewis, Alexander Crawford, John Cowardin.
- 5,479. 1st November, 1753; Edward McDonald, farmer, and David Cloyd, a mortgage on Edward McDonald's, Joseph McDonald's, &c., lands for £60. (See 9,351.)

This completes the list of records from Staunton, Augusta County, Virginia, which I have to submit to your inspection. As previously remarked there is much more there which would doubtless prove of great help in our labors; but my time would not permit of a more elaborate and minute investigation. For those relatives who propose undertaking this field of inquiry I recommend that office and its documents to their careful consideration.

I pause at this point in my writing to note one of the greatest misfortunes that could have happened to us in our inquiries—the death of Cousin George McDonald, of Botetourt, news of which has just reached me in Cousin Floyd's letter of July 21st, 1879. This correspondence I

have moved to an earlier part of these contributions as better throwing light on the passages among which it is placed; but most of the matter following it had been written previous to the receipt of the letter, and the frequent mention of George as an expected worker, and the natural inference of his being in life, is thus to be accounted for. I have made no changes in these references to him, for it does not seem to me possible that I can no longer look to his sunny, genial spirit; his accurate and widely-informed mind, and his deep and never-failing interest in all family matters, for encouragement, criticism and sympathy. I almost doubt whether I should have gone to the trouble of compiling and working over all the foregoing references to Botetourt and our early history there if it had not been in the hope of their reaching Cousin George, and finding under his excellent discriminating consideration their proper place and true bearing on the known and unknown passages of our history. For me the reconciliation to his loss is very difficult; but when I think of how incomparably more dear he must have been to all who were near to and close by him, then the lesser grief of my individual privation is swallowed up in sympathy for their greater and overwhelming affliction. I subjoin a few of his last remarks to me touching different members of the family, and I feel sad to think that I did not inquire of him in detail respecting all the McDonalds in our work; but I expected to see him again, after we had carried our labors to a point which would permit of digressions and minute items, and then receive his experience and judgment in full. Of course these conjectures and reminiscences may be more or less open to correction, as they were given at an early period of our researches, and without the light that we now have through related matters; for the remote queries, however, he is, generally speaking, the party whose opinion, in case he gives one, we can accept as the most probably correct.

In speaking of a person by number, I always use that given in Edition B, of our Genealogical Tables, which was published in 1876.

I do not reproduce here the many statements made by George which time have proved to be correct; and which have been incorporated in all our editions, and in the foregoing pages. It would be only a needless repetition.

The following is in George's own words, as near as I can recollect:

"Bryan's brothers did not come with him from Delaware, but Robinson did. The property in Botetourt was deeded to Bryan, No. 16, in 1756, and the document is now in my hands. Where Bryan of Botetourt died or was buried, I do not know. I think that some of Bryan's brothers went into Pennsylvania, and that, later, one or two came down into Virginia. I have heard that one of Bryan of Botetourt's family, or one of Bryan's brothers, had some trouble with his wife, and that they both went to the Carolinas. It seems to me that it was James (10).

Bane (13), or Bean, a son-in-law of Bryan, settled about Salem, Va.; and of him they tell a laughable anecdote how he was so frightened by a flood—having to roost all night in a tree—that he sold his property—the best farm of the neighborhood—at a great sacrifice and went to Tom's Creek. His wife lived to a good old age and died in 1816, in Montgomery county.

John Armstrong (14), another son-in-law, moved to Kentucky.

James Allison was, it seems to me, the name of another one of his sons-in-law, and he moved to Kentucky also.

Frank Grimes, still another, as I recollect, had a son living in 1824 on French Broad River, in Tennessee.

Edward (11) had, if I remember correctly, a son who was killed by the Indians at the same time as his father fell. Two of Edward's daughters married Campbells, named John and David, as the report goes; and one of the young ladies married a

Greenway, from whom came the wealthy merchants of the same name in Lynchburg Governor Campbell, of Virginia, was the son of one of these marriages, and their descendants have generally been men of prominence. One of the offspring of one of the girls married a person by the name of Slaughter, and is now in Marion, Smyth county, Virginia. All of Edward's children settled around Abingdon, Va., where Gov. Campbell was living in 1848. Do not know whether he has died since. His widow was alive after the war, as I remember having heard an anecdote of a negro applying to her for board. Do not remember much about the Russell connection; doubt if they had any children.

Joseph (12) came in 1753 to Greenfield, Botetourt county. In 1768 he went to Montgomery county, settled and died there. Floyd occupies the old homestead.

John (23) and Joseph (24) left this country together in 1803, and went, probably, to Kentucky and West Tennessee, near the Muscle Shoals District. All of the children of Joseph (12), previous to 1803, were born in Botetourt county. John (23) professed religion, in 1788; joined the Methodist church in Botetourt county, and was followed in this step by his brothers Joseph (24) and Alexander (40), the latter of whom became a minister, and preached, to my knowledge, at the funeral of old man Barber, a former neighbor of ours.

Descendants of Elizabeth (29) are in Maury county, Tenn., I think. For date, and incidents relating to the children of Edward (25), address Mrs. Susan McDonald (born Black), the wife of Stephen (76). She is stopping with some of her children in Missouri.

Bryan (16) was a tanner. His son James (32) was out, at one time, among the Indians, before the revolutionary war, with some high office, probably a general. He was much praised, and keenly regretted when he was carried off by a malignant fever, just after grandfather finished building the house in which we now are.

Mary (35) lived in Montgomery county, and raised a family there. Her youngest son, Robert, went to Ohio; her oldest son's family was residing in Craig county, on what is called Sinking Creek. At present, I am aware of none of the children as being in this world. I have heard of the death of nearly all—James, William, Edward, George, Thomas, Robert, Susan, Mary, Jane, Grizelda.

Edward (36) was a tanner for a while. He was a man of great energy and fine abilities. He was elected to the Legislature about the time of the war of 1812.

Milton Walker, husband of, (38) is living in Illinois or in Tennessee. For information relating to Hercules (45), and his nearer kin, a good party to see would be William (112).

Alexander (53) married several times, the ceremony on one occasion being performed by his son, Leonard Blackman (202), who was also a minister. There were many children in the family of this branch. They are living in Mississippi, I believe. Alexander was originally a surveyor. For particulars relating to Edward (25) and his offspring it would be well to call in the efficient aid of Captain Edward Peery, Jeffersonville, Tazewell county, Va.

Stephen (76) was killed by a negro while hunting bear. The negro's gun, he claimed, went off accidentally and shot his master. It has always been believed, however, that the negro, who was of a very vicious disposition, shot his owner, feeling sure that it could never be proved with certainty against him.

The members of the family of Bryan (127) were all born in Botetourt county, with the exception of one child, who was born in Tennessee, to where they moved. Bryan lived and died there, and has but one child in that State now, so far as I know. Rhea county, Eastern Tennessee, was his home. The family is widely scattered. Bryan (355) is in California; Joseph (354) is in Kansas; James (351) is in Wisconsin; Lewis (356) and Martha (352), are not far from Parisburgh, Giles County, Virginia, and from them further news concerning their brothers and sisters might be secured. Martha (352) married a William King, and Walker's Creek, Giles County, Virginia, is their address. Lewis (356) married a Miss Snidon, and lives three miles from the end of Parisburgh in Snidonville.

Jane (128) married a man named McMullin; had two daughters and two sons, and both of the boys died unmarried. The elder daughter was the only one married. Her husband's name was William Robinson, who is also dead. She is living in Montgomery County."

With these few reminders, then, of our departed cousin George, I take a sadly affectionate farewell of this, my most enthusiastic guide and faithful fellow-worker. My warm, heart-felt sympathy I tender to his surviving daughter, relatives and friends; and to us all, who knew him, I would only say: Let us rejoice in having had such a beautiful example so many years before us, and let us hope that when our time comes we may be able to take that calm retrospect and peaceful forecast which cheered the twilight hours of this long and noble life.

I have reached now the records, which I propose to submit to your inspection as offering suggestions which may prove of some value in searching for the descendants of the lost branches of our family. In these extracts, which I shall make as brief as the subject will permit of doing, you will recognize many which refer unmistakably to known members of our kin, and others which are of doubtful bearing. I have not separated the two classes, as it would tend to destroy their relations, the one to the other. Whenever I have needed the evidence furnished in these for substantiating some former statement, I have used it, and it will be duplicated here. But, I have tried to so arrange it that cases of that kind occur with comparative infrequency. There are, of course, many other record offices, which contain much that may be the very clues we are in quest of; but my time has not been ample enough for visiting those places. Thus Kent County, New Jersey, and all around Wilmington, Delaware, within a radius of one hundred miles, and even farther out to the western confines of Pennsylvania, is a field in which our ancestors probably settled. I have hastily examined wherever I have had the opportunity, and I give you here a few from the many thousand names and references that I have looked over. I place the records of each office together chronologically, and leave it to you to discern their relationships.

Remember that there are six separate lines, represented by John (2), William (3), James (4), Richard (7), in Bryan No. 1's family; and Richard (9) and James (10) in Bryan No. 5's family. And bear in mind that 9 was born in 1716, and 10 in 1718; 7 not far from 1691, and the others, very likely, in the fifteen to twenty years preceding.

These periods form general guide-boards along the path of our inquiries. We have two Richards and two Jameses to keep distinct. I do not group the names in each office, except the dates are favorable to such a classification.

The New Castle, Delaware, evidences I have given in full, so I pass those by and proceed to Philadelphia.

These compilations of scattered entries may be rather prosy to some; but to such we must say that we are not *now* trying to write a particularly pleasing work, but one which will furnish solid material for filling out the deficiencies in our genealogy. When these dry facts have served their purpose, and the proper ends have been secured, then we can use results and embellish them by artistic grouping, rhetorical finish and interesting details. For our present purposes, however, what we want is reliable and comprehensive data bearing on every possible point.

The records which I have first to place before you are those of

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

As I gave at length the documents from New Castle, Delaware, farther mention of them will be unnecessary.

In Philadelphia, there must be a large number of records, which I have not yet been able to find. The older documents are not very well arranged there.

In the Deeds as Grantee we find the following McDonalds:

T. H.—12-378; John; year 1852.

T. H.—428; Elizabeth.

In the Wills:

M.—239; John; year 1762; page 424.

284-T; Henry; year 1760; 506.

John—X; 160; year 1786; 273.

John—Y; 138; year 1800; 425.

John—Book No. 13; 99; year 1838; 214.

George—Book No. 14; year 1841; 450.

Rebecca—Book No. 20; year 1848; 29.

Ann—37; Book No. 22; year 1849; 27.

William—253; Book No. 28; year 1852; 341.

This list from Philadelphia, will, I expect, be greatly increased some day when the sources we are most interested in have been properly classified and indexed.

IN BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

T. B., No. D, folio 276; year 1744; Ewin Machdonald; conveyance, on Water-Oak Level, of 50 acres.

M, folio 476; year 1779; John McDonal; lease for some lots.

M, folios 396, 399; year 1780; John McDonald, assignment.

W. G., No. G., folio 321; John McDonald, assignment.

M., folio 385; year 1783; Michael McDonald.

M., folio 423; year 1798; Alexander McDonald, a lot.

In Richmond, Virginia, we have copious material from which to choose. I give only a very small part of it, having selected such as seemed most appropriate for our purposes. As before remarked, considerable of it refers unmistakably to our ancestors; while of the relation of much more we are uncertain. I leave it to your interest, study and judgment to determine which belong to us, and which elsewhere. For those who can I would advise a visit to these elaborate and numerous records in the basement of the Capitol Building at Richmond. There is field there for years of labor. I begin with the

SURVEY PATENTS OR GRANTS.

[A is abbreviated for acres; McDl stands for McDowell; and when no second name is given *McDonald* is always to be understood. The other variations will be written out.]

Years 1739-41; No. 19:

John McDl; 400 A; p. 956.

“ “ p. 973.

“ “ p. 1013.

James Mackdaniel; 253 A; p. 1033.

Years 1742-43; No. 21:

John McDl; 400 A; p. 168.

“ “ p. 205.

“ 300 A; p. 206.

Andrew McConnald; 400 A; p. 535.

Years 1743-45; No. 22:

James Moore and others; 187 A; p. 195.

Year 1746; No. 23:

James McDl; Orange county, south side of James River; 400 A; p. 657.

Alexander McDl (Clerk); Mary, branch of James River; Augusta county; 350 A; p. 945.

Years 1747-48; No. 26:

John McDl; fork of James River, on Cedar Creek, Augusta county; 400 A; p. 37.

Years 1748-49; No. 24:

Thomas McDaniel; in Goochland county, both sides of Ballinger's Creek; 350 A; p. 30.

Arthur McDaniel; 400 A; p. 417.

Years 1746-49; No. 28:

John McDaniel; north side of south fork of Mountain Creek, Brunswick county; 400 A; p. 30.

Arthur McDaniel; Albemarle county, on ridge between Ripley's Creek and a branch of State River; 400 A; p. 183.

Years 1749-51; No. 29:

Samuel McDowell; north fork of James River, Augusta county; 340 A; p. 501.

Years 1750-52; No. 30:

James McDonald; west side Blue Ridge, on fork of James River; 400 A; p. 13.

If this James belonged to our family, it will be seen that the date would be about right as September 3, 1751, was the last registry we had of him in Delaware.

Years 1751-55; No. 31:

Edward McDonald; 200 A; p. 365.

If this was Ed. (11), then he was in Virginia several years before his father settled there, if 1753 is the correct date of Bryan's departure from Delaware; but, as may be easily inferred, it is not impossible or improbable that 1746 was the year Bryan left Red Clay Creek on his search for a new home in Virginia.

Years 1756-61; No. 33:

John McDaniel; 264 A; p. 50.

Michael McDaniel and others; in Lunenburgh county, on branches of Timber Tree Creek, and in Halifax county, on both sides of Bye Creek; 820 A; p. 44.

George McDaniel; in Albemarle county, on Harris's Creek, in the coves of the Tobacco Row Mountain; 774 A; p. 739.

William McDaniel, in Halifax county, on Bye Creek; 1000 A; p. 824.

Years 1756-62; No. 34:

Bryan McDonald; 10th of March, 1756; 48 A; p. 12.

This is Bryan, No. 5, as you will easily recognize. The full description of the Patent is given with diagram and so forth, just as is the case with all the rest, only the headings and locations, of which I copy here. It would take a large book to make lengthy comments on each. Those who are interested—and I hope there will be many—I refer to the documents themselves.

Michael McDaniel; 400 A; p. 104.

William “ 370 A; p. 156.

Arthur “ 400 A; p. 296.

Jas. & Edw'd “ 510 A; p. 401.

Henry “ Halifax county, both sides of Pigg River; 285 A; p. 939.

Years 1767-68; No. 37:

James McDl; south side of James River, opposite Cedar Creek; 120 A; p. 182.

Samuel McDl; Augusta county, on waters of James River; 170 A; p. 184.

George and C. McDaniel; in Amherst county, north branch of Harris Creek; 127 A; p. 275.

Years 1770-71; No. 39:

Thomas McDl; Augusta county, south side of Briery Branch, a branch of the north river of Shenandoah.

Years 1772-73; No. 41:

Angus McDonald and others; a large tract of 28,627; A p. 94.

Years 1773-74; No. 42:

Daniel McDl; 100 A; p. 509.

Let us now turn to the books of

GENERAL SURVEYS.

Bryan McDonald; book No. 1; p. 293; 600 A. 20th of July, 1780.

James “ “ 3; p. 405; 100 “

Danl “ “ 4; p. 73; 70 “

James “ “ 4; p. 425; 1000 “

James “ “ 5; p. 418; 370 “

Alexander “ “ 5; p. 473; 75 “

James “ “ 6; p. 552; 460 “

Bryan “ “ 9; p. 111; 400 “

Eneas “ “ 10; p. 1; 250 “

John “ “ 13; p. 360; 400 “

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------|----------|-----|-----|---------|------|----|
| Eneas McDonald; | Book No. | 15; | p. | 12; | 1000 | A. |
| Alexander | " | " | 18; | p. 402; | 135 | " |
| Enias | " | " | 19; | p. 155; | 1000 | " |
| Nathanl | " | " | 21; | p. 118; | 300 | " |
| James | " | " | 21; | p. 206; | 400 | " |
| James | " | " | 21; | p. 235; | 20 | " |
| James | " | " | 21; | p. 236; | 27 | " |
| John McDonal | " | " | 21; | p. 405; | 400 | " |
| Hugh | " | " | 21; | p. 406; | 133 | " |
| Henry | " | " | 21; | p. 408; | 89 | " |
| Randel McDonnal | " | " | 21; | p. 550; | 200 | " |
| Alex'r McDonald | " | " | 22; | p. 125; | 98 | " |
| Samuel | " | " | 23; | p. 685; | 246 | " |
| Walter | " | " | 23; | p. 694; | 940 | " |
| Angus | " | " | 24; | p. 387; | 2000 | " |
| William | " | " | 26; | p. 84; | 700 | " |
| Richard | " | " | 28; | p. 458; | 322 | " |
| Charles | " | " | 29; | p. 570; | 170 | " |
| Henry | " | " | 34; | p. 491; | 91 | " |
| John | " | " | 36; | p. 513; | 40 | " |
| William McDonnal | " | " | 38; | p. 240; | 370 | " |
| Henry McDonnol | " | " | 38; | p. 547; | 250 | " |
| John McDonald | " | " | 40; | p. 319; | 50 | " |
| Edward | " | " | 40; | p. 380; | 153 | " |
| George | " | " | 40; | p. 381; | 415 | " |
| Bryan | " | " | 40; | p. 387; | 47 | " |
| Magness | " | " | 40; | p. 448; | 78 | " |
| Samuel McDanold | " | " | 40; | p. 457; | 100 | " |
| Henry McDonnell | " | " | 42; | p. 310; | 360 | " |
| Allen McDonald | " | " | 42; | p. 533; | 128 | " |
| Columbia McDonnald | " | " | 43; | p. 42; | 148 | " |
| Eonare McDonald | " | " | 44; | p. 45; | 140 | " |
| William | " | " | 45; | p. 169; | 155 | " |
| Allen | " | " | 47; | p. 98; | 23 | " |
| Samuel | " | " | 47; | p. 133; | 100 | " |
| Randell | " | " | 48; | p. 220; | 539½ | " |
| Edward | " | " | 49; | p. 31; | 146 | " |

Then for later days, Book D, in the year 1814.

| | | | | |
|------------------|----|---------|-----|----|
| Lewis McDonnold; | p. | 111; | 50 | A. |
| Allen McDonald; | p. | 116; | 77 | " |
| Joseph | " | p. 246; | 150 | " |
| Joseph | " | p. 247; | 250 | " |

Joseph McDonald; p. 248; 50 A.

Lewis " p. 295; 101 "

And in Book E, for 1815-16:

Columbia McDonald; p. 179; 67 A.

Samuel " p. 200; 50 "

Joseph " p. 369; 100 "

Joseph " p. 370; 282 "

And in Book F:

Joseph and Lewis McDonald; p. 387; 250 A.

In Book G of the older surveys, page 17, 1st of June, 1782, Daniel McDonald 1000 A and 70 A, in Augusta county, on Panther Creek, a branch of Green River, and adjoining his own land.

James McDonald, in same book, page 63, 1st of June, 1782, took up 1400 A on Gilbert's Creek.

In Book I, page 287-89, 17th of December, 1783, James McDaniel is entered for 1000 A adjoining his settlement of 400 A on the north and east.

James McDanold in L, 73, 20th of April, 1784, took up 1000 A on McDanold Run, a branch of Cox's Creek, adjoining Davis Cox's Creek, adjoining Davis Cox, Wm. B. Sears, and so forth...

In Book O, page 241, 1st of April, 1785, Bryan McDonald took up 400 A on the west fork of Howard's Creek.

Eneas McDonald, in Book No. 23, page 217, 20th of May, 1790, took up 250 A on the west side of the Big Sandy, adjoining William Robinson and Co's 15,246 A.

You must not be misled by finding Augusta county cover so much ground; at one time it embraced the larger portion of the western half of Virginia.

I give next the surveys of different counties, and begin with

AUGUSTA COUNTY SURVEYS.

Edward McDonald; book 35, page 440; 25 A; 30th of August, 1763; on the waters of the Roanoke.

George McDonald; book D, page 436; 110 A; 1st of February, 1781; "on both sides of the Roanoke River, being part of the land where Danl. McCormick now lives."

John McDl; book 19, page 956; 9th of March, 1748; 400 A; Poak Hill branch of north fork of James River.

John McDl; book 19, page 713; 9th of March, 1740; Big Spring branch of north fork of James River.

John McDl; book 19, page 1013, 6th of July, 1741; 400 A, on the west side of the Blue Ridge of Mountains, on a branch of James River, called the Mary.

Alexander McDl; book 23, page 945; 10th of July, 1745; 300 A, in the same place.

Cornelius and Charles Robinson; book 23, pages 803 and 815; 15th of March, 1744; on a branch of Shenandoah, called Fort Run.

George Robinson; book 23, page 283; 25th of July, 1746; 400 A, on west side of Blue Ridge.

John Robinson; book 25, page 154; 25th of July, 1746; 400 A, south fork of Goose Creek.

John McDI; book 26, page 37; 25th of June, 1747; 400 A, on the fork of James River, on the branches of Cedar Creek.

James Robinson; book 29, page 455; 5th of July, 1751; 290 A, on north side of north river of Shenandoah.

Samuel McDI; book 29, page 501; 5th of August, 1751; 340 A, in the fork of James River.

James McDI; book 30, p. 13; 1st of June, 1750; 400 A, on west side of Blue Ridge, north fork of James River.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SURVEYS.

Richard McDonald, 85.

William " 433; 1st of May, 1836; 95 A, on Peppers Run.

Edward K. " 106, page 257; 1st August, 1851; 55 A, on drains of Deer Creek.

BOTETOURT COUNTY SURVEYS.

Bryan McDonald; book D, page 27; 20th of July, 1780; 600 A on the waters of Roanoke and James Rivers.

George McDonald; book D, page 111; 1st of September, 1780; 80 A.

Edward McDonald; book G, page 196; 1st September, 1782; 40, A on the waters of Catawba Creek.

Alexander McDonald; book R, page 274; 30th of August, 1785; 75 A, on Lick Run, a branch of Catawba Creek, being the waters of James River.

James McDonald; book 30, page 511; 19th of November, 1794; 106 A, on Pitt's Creek, a branch of Jackson's River, and adjoining the land of William Preston deceased.

Edward McDonald; book 39, page 320; 13th of June, 1797; 88 A, on the waters of Tinker's Creek, a branch of Roanoke, adjoining the land of Peter Nopzinger and his own land and the land of William McDonald.

William McDonald; book 41, page 274; 16th of May, 1790; 370 A, adjoining the land of Michael Henderlighter, Henry Morse and others.

Edward McDonald; book 48, page 601; 13th of April, 1802; 140 A, on the northwest side of Tinker Mountains, on the waters of Catawba Creek, a branch of James River.

George McDonald; book 93, page 212; 30th of August, 1842; 2½ A, on the waters of Catawba Creek.

George McDonald; book 96, page 412; 30th of June, 1845; 70 A, on the north side and on the top of Tinker's Mountain, on the waters of Tinker's Creek.

William McDonald; book 109, page 282; 1st of December, 1853; 40 A on north side of Tinker's Mountain.

The few following extracts are more at length than they have been given wherever referred to in the foregoing pages. They are quoted more freely here for the purpose of better bringing out the connection between the different parties enumerated in them.

McDonald, Bryan, No. 1; page 293; 600 acres; issued 20th of July 1780. Surveyed for Bryan McD 600 acres of land in Botetourt county, on the waters of Roanoke and James Rivers, including 161 acres, part of 218 acres granted to Bryan McD senior by letters bearing date of 10th of March, 1756. Also 58 acres, part of 150 acres granted Jno. Armstrong by letters patent, bearing date 16th of September, 1765, the title of which lands is since become vested in the said Bryan McD, to a corner of Cloyd's and Allison's lands, to a corner of Armstrong's land.

McDonald, Michael, No. 34, 400 acres, page 104, for 40s, in the county of Lunenburgh, on both sides of Jones Creek.

McDaniel, Wm., 370, 156, in Halifax county, Virginia, on both sides of south fork of Boodley's Creek, Albemarle county, on both sides of Ripley's Creek of Slate River.

James and Edward McDaniel, Lunenburgh county, on south side of Maheinn Creek.

McDonald, Edward; 22d of August, 1753; bot. 200 acres for sundry causes, but especially for 20s; 200 acres in Augusta county, on waters of Roanoke, on a branch of Buffalo Creek on the east, and adjoining James Cole's land, and his due share of veins, quarries, etc., discovered and undiscovered, to be held by his heirs, etc.; and to be held of us, our heirs and successors, as of our manor—East Greenwich, in the county of Kent, in free and common lineage capite by Knight's service.

McDl, John, 400, 956, 1st of June, 1741, in that part of Orange county called Augusta, on the Poak Hill branch, it being a branch of the north branch of James River. Page 973—And 400 on Big Spring branch. Page 1013—And 400 on west side of Blue Ridge Mountains, and on Mary's branch of James River.

Page 1033—James MackDaniel, Brunswick county, on both sides of Little Creek, 253 acres.

No. 21, page 168—McDl, John, part Orange county called Augusta, on Catawba Creek; 12th of February, 1742.

John Savage, Robt. Langdon, Rob. Tunstall, Edmund Wagner, Richard Trotter, Wire Johnson, Hugh McKay, Richard Smith, John Smith, Chas. Smith, Angus McDonald, Nathan Chapman, Jos. Gatewood, James Samuel, Michael Scully, Ed. Goodwin, Wm. Bailey, Henry Mathew Cox, Marshall Pratt, John Willson; in Fincastle county, on a branch of Ohio Big Sandy Creek. A very large tract of land was taken up by these parties.

From these numerous references that I have rushed in upon you in the preceding pages, and they are but a small portion of what I could have given, many inferences might be drawn by me; but I have printed them here for you to think over and carefully work up. For any one who has entered with spirit into the nature of the question before us, the value of these possibly somewhat unentertaining names and figures, cannot fail to be appreciated. I shall look for conscientious consideration of these numerous facts from our Virginia relatives, in particular; as they are on the spot and can more easily and accurately locate the different places mentioned, and can more author-

itatively pass judgment on the probability or improbability of any connection between these parties and the relatives who have strayed beyond our identification. With these cursory remarks, I shall pass on to the last few extracts from the records, concerning the early days of our family, which I have to submit on this occasion. The copious names from the Carolina offices, I reserve for a later day, as they do not appear to be of any value to us in the present stage of our progress.

I have received much friendly assistance from many parties throughout North and South Carolina, and from one most estimable lady in particular, a Mrs. Elizabeth Carver of Forestville, N. Carolina, to whom especially, as well as to each of the other friendly helpers in Pasquotank County, all along the Dismal Swamp Canal and to Captain John McDonald in Fayetteville, North Carolina, and to many others, the mention of whom I must pass by for the time being, I herewith return my sincerest thanks for their untiring and unusually courteous attentions and aid.

Some extracts from the Kentucky Surveys are the last records I shall present to you. I place them here as I intend following in a cursory manner, the twin brothers Richard and Alexander McDonald from Botetourt County into Washington County, Kentucky, and thence sketch the history of their families and give a short sketch of the children of one of Richard's sons, Colonel James McDonald, who was my grandfather. The life of that family has been somewhat eventful, and, in the following pages, I shall give a synopsis of their movements, which will, I trust, some day be woven and developed into elaborate and interesting biographies. For the present, my time is too limited to allow of anything more than a brief summary of the chief movements in the life of each.

But, to return for a short spell to our records. It will be remembered that Virginia of old extended over Kentucky, Ohio, and back and south in all directions. It was, therefore, necessary that the surveys should be entered in Richmond. The registering of these was frequently not unattended by danger, as the distances to be traversed were great and the foot-paths led through the districts of hostile Indians. Colonel Hough, who carried the money for the purchase of the land claimed by Richard and Alexander, was often chased by these unfriendly natives, and, on repeated occasions, barely escaped with his life. The few documents that I have to present to you, in what was then the far, far West, are as follows:

KENTUCKY SURVEYS WITHDRAWN (OR TAKEN).

James McDl; 20th of July, 1780; 100 A, in Fincastle county.

James McDonald; 1st of November, 1782; 1400 A, in Lincoln county; P. Wt., No. 916.

David McDonald; 1st of January, 1782; 2000 A, Fincastle county.

James McDonald; 20th of April, 1784; 1000 A, Jefferson county; P. Wt., No. 996.

James Moore; 18th of March, 1784; 1000 A, Fayette county.

William McDonnell; 25th of June, 1784; 1400 A, Fayette county; P. Wt., No. 285.

Saml. McDowell; 1784; 1000 A, Jefferson.

Bryan McDonald; 1st of April, 1785; 400 A, Fayette county.

James McDl; 25th of June, 1786; 1000 A, Fincastle county.

Zachariah Taylor, 21st of June, 1786; 1000 A, Fincastle county.

Samuel McDl; 10th of November, 1786; 2000 A, Merced county, Kentucky.

Angus McDonald, 10th of January, 1786; 1000 A, Fayette county; P. Wt., No. 10,615.

Eneas McDonald; 19th of September, 1787; 1000 A, Fayette and Bourbon counties; page 2625.

John and Angus McDonald; 10th of January, 1892; 2000 A, Fincastle county.

And then the following reference to location of land by my Great-Grandfather, Major Richard McDonald:

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA.

Book of Surveys, No. 28, page 458.

Richd McDonald, 322 acres, Montgomery; recd 18th of November, 1794; grant issued 7th of July, 1795.

Surveyed for Richard McDonald 322 acres of land by virtue of an entry on a land office, Pre-emption warrant of 1000 acres, No. 2224 and dated the 25th of August, 1782. Assigned in part to him by Thomas Huff (Hough) assn of Walter Calhoun, lying in Montgomery county on Burk fork of Big Red island. Beginning about half mile south from the big Buffalo knob at a white oak, a corner of David Patterson's Order and with the same No. 34, 654 poles, to a Spanish oak near a branch N 68° west 286 to a poplar 539° E 148 to a spanish Oak & dogwood at the head of Chissom's Creek S 34° E 148 to a white Oak in the order line, and with the same N 68° E 284 to the beginning.

Nov. 1st, 1789.

Rich'd McD, ass Preston S. M I

This Richard McDonald was, as you will recall, the fifth son of Joseph, who was the fourth child of Bryan of Botetourt, Virginia; and Richard's oldest child, James, was my grandfather. As before remarked, I intend giving a short sketch of the history of that family, and I end herewith the extracts from public records, and draw to a close my present contributions to the early history of our family and its descendants. I trust that enough will be found in these preceding pages to place clearly before you the problems yet awaiting solution; and I trust, also, that sufficient volunteers will be forthcoming in our ranks to carry on the work, which has, it seems to me, been quite happily begun. I have made no extended comments on these latter pages of references, for reasons previously indicated; nor have I more than touched on our probable history in Europe. Those questions will be more fittingly treated when our knowledge on the points at issue is more extended and more accurate. With the hope that these data, slowly compiled—representing the occupation of spare hours for years—but now hastily arranged and prepared for the press, may still have enough of value in them to incite others to worthier efforts in the same line, or in related fields; I bid you, once again, a most friendly and cousinly farewell.

FRANK V. McDONALD.

To resume and bring up the connections between all parties, I shall condense some of the statistics from our genealogical tables.

BRYAN of Delaware, had, as far as we know, the following children: John (2), William (3), James (4), BRYAN (5), Mary (6), Richard (7), Anabella (8). We have lost traces of all except Bryan (5), who moved to Botetourt county, Virginia.

BRYAN (5) had the following children and in this order: Richard (9), James (10), Edward (11), JOSEPH (12), Rebecca (13), Catherine (14), Mary (15), Bryan (16), Priscilla (17). Of this family, Richard and James have wandered away from the rest and no record has ever been kept of them. Edward was killed by the Indians and left no male issue. Bryan (16) kept the old homestead in Virginia where his offsprings now are, and Joseph moved to near Blacksburgh, Montgomery county, Virginia. and settled where his grandson Floyd F. McDonald now lives.

JOSEPH (12) married Elizabeth Ogle and had the following children and in this order: Bryan (22), John (23), Joseph (24), Edward (25), Richard (26), and Alexander (27), twins, William (28), Elizabeth (29), Jonas (30), James (31).

To take up only ALEXANDER (27), twin brother of Major Richard, he had the following children and in this order: John (90), Edward (91), Zachariah (92), Nancy (93), Daniel (94), Mary (95), Malvina (96), Elizabeth (97), Silas (98), Simon (99), William (100), Feliciana (101). John moved to Limestone Co., Ala., and died soon after. His family have scattered to Texas. Edward is living to-day with a large family, and in fine health, near Elkmont, Limestone Co., Ala. He is the oldest member of the McDonald family now alive. He was born in 1797. Zachariah lived on a farm next to his father's near Macksville, Washington Co., Ky. He died only a year ago. Daniel moved to Versailles, Woodford Co, Ky., where he still lives. His family have, some of them, moved to St. Joseph, Mo. Rufus L. McDonald, his son, is the largest wholesale dry-goods merchant there, and Rufus's son, John I. McDonald, was my classmate in the class that graduated in 1878 at Yale College, New Haven, Connecticut. Silas (98) moved to St. Joseph, Mo., and raised a family, and they all live in or near that place. Of Simon I know nothing, except that he married Elizabeth Arnold, and died in 1853. William was never married and died young.

With these few remarks, I proceed to the biographies of my great grandfather's family.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF MAJOR RICHARD
McDONALD AND FAMILY, OF MACKSVILLE,
WASHINGTON COUNTY, KENTUCKY.

Major Richard was the fifth child of Joseph, who was the fourth child of Bryan of Botetourt, who was a son of Bryan of Delaware, who settled near Wilmington, Delaware, in the year 1689.

About the year 1785, Richard and Alexander McDonald, twin brothers, came from Botetourt county, Virginia, located their camp-fires, and built their cabin on a little elevation, half a mile or so from where the village of Macksville, Washington county, Kentucky, now stands. Here, not long before, a Jack McKittrick had settled and taken up a large tract of land. These three Macs were the only persons within many miles of that spot; and from them, but principally from the McKittricks, the village took its name of Macks' ville, or Macksville.

After prospecting for a while, the *McDonalds* surveyed and located definitely their two homesteads on the divide between Long-Lick and the head of May's Creek, about two miles west of Macksville. The tract of from 500 to 600 acres was equally divided between them, Richard receiving the eastern and Alexander the western portion, with a separating fence running along the middle line. Here they lived, raised their families, died and were buried, each on his respective farm. Some of the descendants of Alexander still own and cultivate the old place; but those of Richard have scattered in different directions throughout the United States, all of them going westward, with the exception of two of his sons, Doctors Griffin and Joseph McDonald, dentists, who took up their abode in Georgia.

RICHARD, or, better said, Major Richard, for that was his rank in the command of the Indian Wars, and the title always clung to him, married, in 1795, the widow Mrs. Mary Martin, whose maiden name was Mary Long. Mrs. Martin had one child, Elizabeth, by her first husband, and this daughter became, later, the wife of James Head. The couple moved, in about 1832, to McComb, McDonough county, Illinois, where they resided, surrounded by their large family of fifteen children, until late in life, when, James Head dying, his wife Elizabeth went to reside with one of her married daughters near Winterset, Madison county, Iowa, and there ended her life in about 1877.

By Richard's marriage, six children, three of them boys, were born and in the following order: James, Joseph, Griffin, Elizabeth and Mary (twins), and Ursula. Richard died the 10th of February, 1809, and was buried in the garden only a few steps from his house.

This one of our ancestors was a man of unusual ability, just as was his brother Alex; and the two together were always conceded as being the leading men of that

part of their State. They were moral, religious and industrious. Had those parts been more closely settled, these twin brothers would have made names which would have lived in their country's annals; as it is, they are known mainly to their family and to the descendants of those other farmers who settled near by them.

JAMES, the oldest son of Major Richard McDonald, born 16th of December, 1797, married Martha Shepard Peter 28th of September, 1819, the ceremony being performed by Reverend Nathan Hall, of the Presbyterian belief. The bride was the oldest daughter and fourth child of Jesse Peter. Her father was the son of one of three brothers, who were among the zealous and influential converts of John Wesley in Wales, and who came to this country, settling in Petersburg, Virginia, a short time after John Wesley's great work had begun in England. Her father immigrated in his youth from Virginia to Kentucky, and became one of the largest, ablest and most successful farmers in all that part of the country; but was no less famous as a class-leader and a kind of local preacher in the Methodist belief. For a layman he took a wonderfully active part in every religious work, and a considerable portion of his best energies, for more than fifty years and up to the time of his death, were willingly and effectively spent in the service of his church. His house was known as the home and resort for Methodist preachers throughout all that district; and from his doors went forth one of the strongest and purest domestic influences that has ever emanated from any household at any time. In those days of stern principles, strong virtues and strong characters, he was naturally and willingly a leader.

With all these excellent qualities, which gave him for those days a position equal to that held by the foremost of our time, he was yet far from having the least spirit of arrogance or showing a forgetful and slighting bearing towards those beneath him. The bible was his guide in every action, and he delighted in justifying his excessive liberality to the needy and his large sympathy for them by numerous quotations from the gospel, with the text of which he was very familiar. During the time for camp-meetings, he would hitch up his teams, take his family and servants, and drive to the proposed grounds, remaining for ten days at least. On such occasions he was not only prominent in supplying spiritual food by his telling speeches; but he would bring with him from home enough to nourish and take care of two or three hundred persons during the whole session of the gathering. And hardly would one of these assemblies have passed when he would return to his farm, lay in a fresh supply and start for another camp-meeting in some other district. Every year he passed thus three or four weeks of his time and best efforts in the cause for which they had assembled. His manner of speaking was by beginning in a conversational tone and carrying on a mode of questioning and answering with his hearers, and then gradually as their attention was fixed, he would warm to his subject and deliver one of his stirring exhortations. He had great personal magnetism, a pleasing voice, and his manner of address was more than commonly engaging, so that his words were always listened to with great respect. He was, furthermore, a magnificent singer, and his sweet penetrating notes could be heard above and through the whole assembly.

He had never received any training in singing, but he sang as naturally as the birds in the forest around him; and yet his musical abilities were of a high order. His children have, many of them, been endowed with fine musical talents, and Mountford, in particular, was very gifted in this direction. It will then not seem strange that this rare excellence should have made his labors all the more desirable in these out-door praise-meetings. Then his personal qualities, his religious fervor, his pure life and generous acts, lent to his well argued, concisely stated thoughts, an influence which many more polished, higher educated men's efforts failed to secure. Jesse Peter was certainly a very remarkable man, and the gap left by his death in his peculiar field has never been wholly filled. The remembrance of him and his works although not as extensive as it would have been with telegraph, railroad and printing press to circulate it, pervades nevertheless many homes all over the Union, and for his descendants, at least, it is one of the sweetest and richest heritages he could have left them. It is to be hoped that with this glorious example before them, many of his children and grandchildren may imitate and, if possible, equal it.

JOSEPH, Richard's next son was born 9th of September, 1799; was trained to the trade of carpenter and architect, and was known as one of the best builders of the day in the community where he lived. Later, he joined his brother, Dr. Griffin McDonald, in Macon, Georgia; studied under him the dental profession and continued in that pursuit for the remainder of his life. He settled eventually in Americus, Ga., where he followed his profession and married the widow of Dr. Foster, who had been a prominent physician of that place. Joseph lived and died, and was buried there the 16th of March, 1865. He had one child who died very young. His widow is residing at present in Americus with one of her sons by her first marriage.

Joseph's manner was rather blunt and plain-spoken, with a peculiar sober, dry humor, so that some who knew him but slightly were apt to be offended with him at first; but when acquainted with him, they found that his "heart was in the right place," and that of all men he was the quickest to do anything he could for any one, and the last to willingly injure one's feelings, or harm one in any way. Although aristocratic in his bearing he was not too proud to meet whatever duty circumstances might call him to fill. He was a quaint, rather punctilious, original and interesting character, and he commanded the respect, affection and assistance, if needed, of all who knew him well enough to know him at all.

GRIFFIN, the third son of Major Richard, born 24th of August, 1801, studied medicine in Kentucky and practiced for a while; he then devoted himself to the specialty of dentistry, fitting himself in New York city and elsewhere, and followed that profession as a life occupation. He became very proficient in it and was one of the first few educated dentists of the United States. He was recognized as a man of superior ability and skill in the line of dentistry—among other things, editing and publishing for a time one of the leading dental periodicals of our country—and he had, until the breaking out of the war, one of the largest and most successful practices in the Southern States. Besides his various professional tastes, he had a strong feeling for humanity in general, and for those of his own name in particular, so

that he was led early to take an active interest in his relatives, both of near and remote connection; and, as I have remarked in Edition B of our genealogy, was one of the foremost contributors to the family history, and has ever since done all in his power to further its progress. Born in Kentucky, he has been in almost every State in the Union, and that at a day when journeying was largely slow and difficult. Wherever he has traveled he has been a close observer, and always made it his aim to look up any and every McDonald he could hear of, to talk with him about the origin, history, etc., of the name we bear, and has in this way accumulated a world of information about scattered parties whose existence even we might have doubted. He has been of invaluable aid in giving me the addresses of the different branches of our family, that he alone had looked up in Virginia and in other States. Cousin Floyd McDonald, of Blacksburgh, Virginia, for instance, and myself might have gone on for months, each at work on the family history, without being conscious of the labors of the other. It was Uncle Griffin that brought us together, and has enabled us to accomplish with united efforts what for us singly might have been impossible. My only regret is that Time, in his exacting demands, has so enfeebled this useful mind and body to make contributions to our work now an effort, where otherwise they would have been a recreation and a pleasure. To return from this digression, he kept on in the practice of his dentistry until the nervousness incident to advanced age, the severe shocks he had sustained in the loss of his sons, and the unfortunate issue of the civil strife, made him ill suited for the further pursuit of his profession, and after 1870 he practically abandoned it. What added furthermore to his troubles was an estrangement that had arisen between himself and wife, and which resulted finally in a divorce.

He married twice; first, a Miss Harriet Ann North, of Hartford, Connecticut, at Macon, Georgia, 5th of March, 1840, and had by this wife three children, James L., Joseph W., and Catherine A. The two sons entered the Confederate Army, as volunteers from Georgia, at the beginning of the war; and one of them, Joseph, never lived to return, but died from a wound received on the battle-field. His brother came back, but with such impaired health that it was not many years before he too succumbed to his injuries. He married, however, soon after his return, a Miss Florence Kimberly and had by her one child, when he died, the 3d of January, 1871, and was buried in Americus, Georgia, in the same graveyard where his uncle Joseph, after whom he was named, and his uncle Joseph's only child had been previously placed. His widow married again and she and her daughter by Joseph are still living in Georgia.

Catherine Ann, Griffin's only daughter, born in Macon, Georgia, 31st of August, 1853, lived to reach her ninth year, one of the most beautiful and promising of children, and then died 4th of November, 1862.

In 1860, Griffin married his second wife, the widow Mrs. John J. La Roche, whose maiden name was Sophia M. Frazer. This union has been without issue; and the couple are now living, in advanced age, at Augusta, Georgia.

A few of Dr. Griffin's manly and chivalrous traits of character, we cannot pass by without special mention. He is one of the few whose life and acts could be

studied by all young men, who aim to fill a useful and noble career. From early youth, he has been noted for his high sense of honor, his manly principles and his desire to live a just and upright life. His large and generous heart naturally led him to sympathize with the distressed and unfortunate wherever he met them, and this often by substantial aid which resulted at times, although a man of means, in his own pecuniary embarrassment. Up to the beginning of the war he was well provided with worldly goods, and was one who used them and derived solid comfort from them; but, like thousands of others, his whole fortune was wrecked and lost in the support of the cause he so dearly loved and so earnestly contended for. The end of the war left him with a bare pittance as the only remnant of his fortune; yet the loss of these temporal goods, as much as they were to him, and the greater sacrifice of his dearly beloved children, were all endured without a murmur as being his dutiful offering on what he considered the altar of his country's welfare.

ELIZABETH, one of the twins of Major Richard, was married in 1826 to Isaiah Farris, at the old homestead in Kentucky, and settled with her husband on a farm adjoining her father's land. Their children, twelve in number, seven boys and five girls, and two pairs of them twins, were born in the following order:

William G., James W., Mariah I., Buford, Thomas H., America U. and William (one set of twins), Parthenia, Lettie and Hettie (the other pair of twins), Joseph, and James I.

Their father died in 1850, and was buried in the family graveyard on the farm. His wife did not survive him long, but followed two years afterwards, and was laid beside him in the family burying-ground.

The children have been scattered far from the old home near Macksville, and most of them are now living, I believe, in Missouri; but of their movements and locations I am not definitely informed. Ursula, for one, I know was married to Olonzo Coston, and they are now residing in Maryville, Nodaway County, Mo.

MARY, the other of the twin children of Major Richard McDonald, was married to Thomas R. Hays, at the old homestead in Kentucky, December 24th, 1822; the ceremony being performed by the Rev. Bishop Barnabas McHenry, one of Kentucky's greatest old-time Methodist preachers. From this union were born eleven children, six girls and five boys, in the following order:

Elizabeth Susan, Clarissa Pierce, Ann Maria, Isabel Ursula and Mary Francis (twins), William Richard, James Thomas, Martha Jane, John Griffin and Joseph Washington (also twins), and Marcus Lafayette.

I must here mention a singular fact in connection with the offspring of Elizabeth Farris and Mary Hays, twin sisters. They each of them had two sets of twins, making eight children in all at four births, five of them girls and three boys. The mothers themselves having been twins, make ten children at five births; a rather heavy record for the McDonald side of the house.

To resume where I left off: In or about the year 1830, Thomas Hays and family moved to the neighborhood of McComb, McDonough County, Ill., where

they remained for many years. Not long before the civil war, however, he sold his land, which had then become valuable, and purchased with the proceeds enough property for a fine farm for himself and each of his children in Nodaway County, Mo., where he now lives, near Bur Oak, with nearly all his children grown up, settled and doing well, on farms around him.

His life, spent for the most part in the country, and away from the crowded marts of men, and on this account not generally known even to his own kin, has been one of marked influence and power wherever he has lived. What has had much to do in making his position a leading one, have been his moral virtues, his manly disposition, and, last but not least, his pure and religious habits. He was blessed beyond the lot of ordinary men in his choice of a companion; for certainly one of the truest, noblest, and most lovable of women is and always has been sweet "Aunt Polly Hays," as she is always called. When we consider the characters of this couple, it is no wonder that their union has been one continued series of happy scenes. Perhaps, through all time, few men have traveled down so long a life with their companion in a more perfect harmony, and have lived to see grow up around them a larger family of affectionate, temperate, intelligent, and promising children. Even when infants, he began to instill into their minds broad moral views and deep religious sentiments, and held every day, in his household, devout family worship. At the same time he and his noble wife impressed upon the young and plastic characters of their little ones the importance of solid temperance principles, and the avoidance of the use of intoxicating drinks in all forms, which precepts they as teachers not only preached but also carried out, as far as they knew how, in their own acts. And a beautiful sight it is to see this happy, well-preserved pair, living testimonials to the superiority of a temperate and moral code of life over the so-called "moderate indulgence and free-thinking system," which is daily wrecking thousands. Such successful lives must certainly command the respect and admiration of any person, however his views may differ as to the proper way to live himself and to raise a family. In fact, however, to have been possessed of, to have taught, and to have abided by such sterling principles, at that time, in what was then the far West, shows of itself, even if we had not these other proofs, persons of rare virtues and great force of character. There, near Bur Oak, at a ripe old age—the gems in a living cluster of children and grandchildren, settled around them—they are enjoying the golden harvest of the seed they planted and fostered in the earlier years of their long, successful, and well-spent lives.

URSULA, the last child of Major Richard McDonald, born October 3d, 1808, was married in 1828, at the old homestead, to Henry Isham, by whom she had at least four children, and in the following order: James, Richard Hays (named after the mother's brother James's oldest son), John, and Melinda. They lived near Macksville, Ky., where she died in 1838, and was buried next to her father, on the old Richard McDonald homestead.

Of the children, James is with his father, who is postmaster in Macksville.

Richard Hays studied medicine, and is now practicing his profession in Louis-

ville, Ky. He married a very handsome, intelligent lady, and is surrounded by a sprightly, promising family of children.

Concerning the whereabouts of his younger brother and sister, I have not been informed.

Henry Isham, the father, married a second wife, Miss Margaret McKittrick, daughter of Jack McKittrick, one of the three Macs before mentioned as being the parties after whom the village was named. By this alliance there were two children born, I am told; but whether there were any more, I am not able to say.

With these hasty preliminary remarks on the general history of the family, we now pass to Colonel James McDonald—oldest son of Major Richard—and to the lives of his children, concerning all of whom we shall give somewhat more elaborate details. It must not be supposed, however, that we intend exhausting each subject; all we give now is the general outline of a person's acts, and, with this material as a starting point, we can go on building up and elaborating in later years as much as our time, inclination and circumstances will permit.

I hope that you will be led, each of you, to accumulate the subject matter for and write, or have written up, your own lives; and that these rough and necessarily more or less imperfect sketches, which I now submit, will, if they do no more, serve the purpose of leading you to think of these questions and turn your efforts towards the proper treatment of them.



BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF COLONEL JAMES McDONALD AND FAMILY, OF MACKSVILLE, WASHINGTON COUNTY, KENTUCKY.

Colonel James McDonald, the oldest child of Major Richard McDonald, was born the 16th day of December, 1797, on the old Homestead near Macksville, Kentucky. His father died and left him at the tender age of twelve, with his mother and two brothers and three sisters, the responsibility for whom was mainly thrown upon his shoulders, thus developing at an early period of his life that self-reliance and executive ability which so characterized his future career.

His education was the best the time and facilities of the country in which he lived afforded, which were at best, as compared with those of to-day, limited. Up to his seventeenth year, he took charge of his father's farm, assisted his mother, and aided all he could in raising the family. So steady, industrious and capable was he, that he was cited by all who knew him as the exemplary young man of that district.

At about the age of seventeen, he turned over the farm to his brothers, and went as an apprentice to the tanner's business, under a man named Hillery Hays—a gentleman of fine principles, who had much to do with moulding the character of many of the

first young men of the day who were studying under him. It was in consideration of the esteem in which Colonel James held this almost foster-parent to him, that he named his first-born Richard Hays in memory of him. After three years' apprenticeship, James was made foreman and principal of the extensive business in which he had learned his trade; and he continued in this occupation until, at the urgent request of his mother and the family, he consented to return and take charge of the old paternal farm.

Not long after, he married his former school-companion and favorite, Martha Shepard Peter, fourth child and oldest daughter of Jesse Peter, as before stated. He then took up in earnest his farming, and became a great success in it. He had a special fondness for improving the stock by breeding, and to the study of this specialty he devoted a large portion of his spare time and means. He was one of the first men in Kentucky who started that system of crossing the different grades of stock and raising the quality of the successive types, which theory, as pursued and perfected under men like Alexander and others, has since given to Kentucky the prominent rank of America for fine stock, and for fast horses in particular.

From the leading position that Colonel James gradually grew to occupy and the potent influence he swayed in his community, he was led, much against his inclinations, to accept the call of that constituency to serve in the Legislature of his State. In the winter of 1828-29, he represented Washington county at Frankfort, the capitol of Kentucky; and so popular was his course as a Representative, that he was elected and returned three successive years to the same position in the lower house of the Legislature.

Being wearied of public and desiring to retire to private life, he refused further nomination for office, and went back to his favorite life on his beautiful farm. He was, however, not suffered to remain long there, but he was again sought out and prevailed on to permit his name to be placed on the ticket as candidate for State Senator. As he was always earnest and zealous in what he undertook, he entered the campaign with an unmistakable determination to do his part. He canvassed and stumped the county in opposition to Richard Spaulding, one of the ablest and most influential men of the State. It was one of the most exciting and most fiercely contested State Senatorial elections ever known in Kentucky, and, whichever speaker won it, he had to accomplish his success by superior ability and force in his statement of the issue. McDonald, who was a good, logical speaker, beat his adversary, and was elected by a handsome majority over him, and served a term of four years in the State Senate, whereupon he positively declined any further political office, and terminated therewith his public career. His policy was at all times satisfactory to his constituency, although, in instances, not exactly in accordance with their first views of the situation; but the end of each term found him even more popular than the beginning.

He was in the Senate with, among other prominent personages, two of Kentucky's most talented and distinguished citizens, the gifted Thomas Marshall, of Lexington, and John Guthrie, of Louisville, the latter of whom was, afterwards Secretary of the Treasury under Buchanan.

NOTICE.

We have stopped somewhat abruptly in the middle of the life of Colonel James McDonald in order to wait until we shall have been able to compile a more detailed and accurate account of all the members of his family. But we have deemed it better to place at once these records relating to the early history of the name in your possession, so that you may begin and aid us in solving the remote unsettled questions of our genealogy. The remainder of the later day chronicles will follow at some time we hope in separate contributions, but for those who are desirous of following, even if briefly, the family and descendants of Colonel James McDonald, we refer them to the McDonald Genealogy, edition B, and to the Genealogy of the Peter Family, pages 17, 24, and 37 to 54, and to numerous other places in the same book. In those pages will be found steel engravings of both Colonel James and his wife, of their oldest son Dr. R. H. McDonald and his wife, and other references of general interest to us all. The names are not written on some of the engravings because the prints have been issued before the papers of the parties, who have died long since, could be examined and full signatures be found. Their letters bore generally nothing but their initials or their first names as signatures.

F. V. McD.

