

**The
Clan McNary
In America**

Courtesy Of Fort Vance Historical Society

The

Clan McNary

of the U. S. A.

The McNary-Reed Sept

*Probable Ethnic Origin, Clan
Traditions and Time
of Immigration*

By

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Jos. R. McNary



Sincerely Yours:
J. P. McVary

Dedicated
To the Posterity of the Patriots
John, James, Thomas and David
The "Sons of Liberty" Quartette
of the
Pennsylvania Clan McNary
in the
War of Independence
1776

PREFACE

In the preparation of this little volume, set forth in plain and homely phrases, devoid of literary pretension, or rhetorical embellishment, the chief incentive of the author has been to attempt to catch and preserve for the benefit of future generations, a passing glimpse of the dim and fading shadows—the substance has already departed—of the ethnic history, the “legends,” and the “traditions” of the remote ancestors of Clan McNary, in America, before it be forever too late.

A sage of a departed generation has observed:—
“Other things being equal, we prefer to trust the man who has had a grandfather.”

The innate curiosity of the normal man to know something of his family history, and ethnic construction, is a commendable desire. It is more than that; it is a marked incident of advanced civilization. Only he who has had no grandfather, or who has cause to wish he had none, or he whose grandfather would not wish to know him, can be totally devoid of interest in the subject of his racial origin, and family antecedents.

Proceeding on this assumption, and impelled by a sense of Clan loyalty, the author has been prompted, largely as a “labor of love,” to devote

somewhat of his time and consideration, in an effort to trace the ethnic origin, and probable location, of the remote ancestors of Clan McNary prior to their emigration to America. This undertaking, while not an unqualified success, has not, he believes, been entirely unproductive of results of interest to posterity; and such facts, or near facts, pertaining to our Clan ancestry, as it has been possible to recover, ^{is} feebly presented in the following pages.

Our school text books, and our authors and lecturers are, many of them, prone to refer to the American people, collectively, as Anglo-Saxons—i. e.:—the posterity of the Teutonic Hengists and Horsas, and their piratical followers from Germany, in the fifth and sixth centuries, who invaded Southern Brittain in large numbers to there become the dominant factor in the ethnic construction of the plethoric Englishman as we know him at the present day—a most ridiculous and gratuitous imputation that should be indignantly repudiated and repelled by every true and loyal Celti-Donian,* whether in Scotland, in Ireland, or in America, whose Celtic forefathers, themselves, supplied the basic blood, and are the real ancestors of the great body of the American people, who descend from Revolutionary stock.

There is not now, nor has there ever been, such an ethnic animal as a genuine Anglo-Saxon. True

*The amalgamated, or commingled blood of the primitive Celtic and Caledonian tribes of Brittain—the typical Scotch-Irishman of the eighteenth century.

enough, we have an admirable system of civilization, tracing to this Teutonic source, which is altogether eligible to the honorable distinction. But, of the lineal descendants of these Teutonic invaders of Brittain in the early centuries of our era, be it said, "it is greatly to their credit," that large numbers of our people who imagine they are of unadulterated English stock, are, themselves, deeply contaminated by strains of Celtic blood that, unsuspectingly, flows free in their veins, to lend dignity and intellectual acumen to their Teutonic constituents. Should this little work be instrumental in confirming some weak and halting brother in his faith in the strength, the efficacy, and dignity of his Celti-Donian lineage, its mission will not have been in vain!

But the prime object in the presentation of the succeeding pages is to preserve, and record for future generations, the early history, and probable racial antecedents, of JAMES McNARY, of Chanceford, Pa., our original ancestor and clan patronymic; and of his immediate descendants in the early, or Colonial days; and does not, therefore, assume to be a full and complete history of CLAN McNARY down to the present time, but is intended as a prelude and auxiliary to, rather than a substitute for, our comprehensive and standard Clan authority,—“The McNary Family”—a work which should be possessed by every member of the Clan, wherein, by reference, each member of the various septs, may,

for himself, readily determine his Clan classification and family relationship.

We have not succeeded, definitely, in tracing our Clan origin back to either Irish King or Scottish Lord, though it would be presumptuous for any "true-blue" Scotch-Irishman to attempt to prove that his remote ancestors were not tainted by frequent immersions in the Royal Celtic blood of one or more of:—

"The great old Irish houses,
The proud old Irish names,
That shed a glory o'er the land,
A thousand years ago."

Instead, we have found thrift, intelligence, manly courage, sterling integrity, ardent patriotism, and a devout reliance upon the efficacy of the Christian faith, to be the characteristic traits of our remote progenitors, whether bred upon Irish, or upon Scottish soil. Nothing whatever to be ashamed of, and much to admire and emulate—is the story of the "legends" of our Clan, that comes wafting down to us, in the echoes of a distant past. And:—

Wheresoe'er a scion of these great old houses be,
In the country of his fathers, or the land beyond the
sea,

In city or in hamlet; by the valley, on the hill,
"The spirit of his brave old sires," is watching o'er
him still.

J. R. M.

Burgettstown, Pa.

Feb. 25, 1914.

THE CLAN McNARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The remote ancestors of the CLAN McNARY, of Pennsylvania, like that of most other pioneer families of the United States, which trace back to the Colonial days, were the posterity of forbears resultant from the comingled blood of the Goidelic Celt, (Gaelic "Scot") of the Highlands, and the Brythonic Celt, or Romanized Briton; the latter, the native race of ancient Cumbria, a region which included within its boundaries the Western Lowlands of Scotland, and the neighboring districts of the adjoining counties of Northern England, roughly corresponding to the ancient Roman Province of Valentia.

This merging of the "Goidelic" and "Brythonic" branches of the Celtic race, in ancient Britain, began far back in the misty ages of the past, at least as early as the beginning of the Christian era, when the primitive tribes of our forefathers first became known to the civilized world through the writings of Julius Caesar upon the occasion of the Roman occupancy of the island, early in the first century. But the most potential agency in promoting an extensive fusion of the Goidelic

and Brythonic branches of the Celtic race, within historic times, was the colonization of Ulster, the northern province of Ireland, with Protestant settlers, mainly from Scotland and Northern England, (the ancient Valentia) in A. D. 1606, known in history as the "King James Plantation."

The native population of Ulster, prior to this "plantation" in the seventeenth century, consisted chiefly of Milesian Scots, a people ethnically identical with the Highland Gael of Scotland; yet among whom, for many generations past, Brythonic Celts, from Southern Scotland, (or Galloway) had settled, and, racially, had commingled with the native Irish. But many of these Irish natives of the purer Gaelic, or Milesian stock, at the beginning of the seventeenth century yet remained in their native land, to be eventually absorbed by the dominant blood of their Brythonic kinsmen of the recent "Plantation." Hence, from the commingling on the confiscated estates of Ulster, for a period extending back almost two centuries before the promulgation of our Declaration of Independence, of the blood of these two distinct branches of the ancient Celtic race, viz:—the "Goidelic" and the "Brythonic," together with a minor infusion of the Norman-Saxon element, was evolved and perfected that modern, energetic, enterprising, and indomitable race, so prominently identified with the

moulding of our free institutions—the world-renowned champions of constitutional government—known as the Scotch-Irish! An ethnic fountain, be it said, to which the greater portion of the American people, descending from Colonial ancestry, trace their origin, although not a few families of like ethnic extraction fondly cherish the pleasing delusion that they are of Anglo-Saxon lineage—a term which, as applied to any distinctive racial element, is a mis-nomer, a creation of the imagination only. And the native American citizen descending from Lowland Scotch ancestry may rest assured that his forbears were anything but Englishmen who happened to dwell to the northward of the Cheviot Hills; although forsooth, for many generations they may have been accustomed to the use of a dialect kindred to that of the South Briton.

THE SCOTCH-IRISH IMMIGRATION TO AMERICA

The Scotch-Irish immigration to the American colonies began about the opening of the eighteenth century, and constantly increased in volume thereafter, until by the year 1715, as the early records show, then aggregated from five to six thousand souls, annually. These Protestant refugees from the North of Ireland, having no doubt heard in their distracted and unhappy land of the rich and prosperous colony of William Penn in that new and strange country beyond the Atlantic, reluctantly bid their friends and kin of Erin a sad farewell, and sorrowingly embarked for America. the majority, it seems, taking passage for the colonial ports of Philadelphia and New Castle: and the influx of this racial element into Pennsylvania about this time (1729) became so great, that Logan, the Provincial Secretary, wrote to the Proprietors, that "It looks as if Ireland is to send all her inhabitants hither; for last week not less than six ships arrived, and every day two or three arrive. The common fear is that they crowd where they are not wanted." (Gibson's History of York County, Pennsylvania.)

Of this Scotch-Irish migration in the early decades of the eighteenth century, some settled in Maryland, and a great many in Virginia. But the larger part appears to have come to Pennsylvania. The first arrivals in the latter state, settled principally in Bucks and Lancaster counties, adjacent to Philadelphia. But, by the middle of the eighteenth century, vast numbers of this race had treked far into the wilderness, and had penetrated into the region to the westward of the Susquehanna; and many had already gone up on the Lehigh, and to the other outlying districts. But the greater part of this Ulster immigration into Pennsylvania, prior to the close of the French and Indian War, (among whom came JAMES MCNARY, the ancestor, or founder, of our Clan), congregated in what is now known as the Cumberland Valley. This Valley was, in colonial days, known as the Kittochtinney, later the Kittatinney. It includes that triangular shaped country in the southern central portion of Pennsylvania, with the Susquehanna on one side, the Tuscarora Mountains on the other, and the Maryland boundary line on the South. It is the same region, now one of the finest agricultural districts of the state, over which the Union and Confederate armies marched and counter-marched, in maneuvering for the battle of Gettysburg, and contains the flourishing towns of Chambersburg, Gettysburg, Carlisle and York.

As to the characteristics of the Ulster immigrants, (our Scotch-Irish forefathers of the pre-Revolutionary epoch) the author previously quoted informs us that they were considered by the early Quaker and German settlers, as "Hot-headed, excitable, invincible in prejudice, warmly attached to friends, and bitter antagonists to enemies." Yet, notwithstanding, they were, avers this same eminent jurist and historian, "The progenitors of statesmen and lawyers of distinction, who have been the peers of any in the world, and whose intellect and energy have moulded the free institutions of America." (Gibson).

Mr. Fisher, however, in his interesting work, "The Making of Pennsylvania"—an authority whose impartiality is not, perhaps, above suspicion—thus describes the alleged traits of character and temperament of this racial element which, a generation later, contributed so heroic a part in achieving our National Independence:

"Fighting had become a part of the religion of the Scotch-Irish, as peace was a part of the religion of the Quakers, and they used the rifle to settle difficulties with the Indians, which the Quakers settled by a treaty. Rough, independent, and vigorous, they sometimes carried these qualities to excess, and became connected with a great deal of disorder, which marked the history of the colony. They were the instigators of the Whiskey Rebellion, which Washington put down soon after

the Revolution, and in the records of the Colonial period, we usually find them described as uncivilized, and cruel. * * * * They were not much addicted to politeness, or to asking leave for what they took, and they entered Pennsylvania in a manner that was irritating to the Proprietors. Large numbers of them marched to the 'York Barrens', in what was then Lancaster County, near the Maryland border line, without first offering to buy the land from William Penn."

But Mr. Sargent, a more generous authority, in his "Introductory Memoir to the Journal of Braddock's Expedition," gives the following fairer, though not particularly flattering, picture of our Scotch-Irish forefathers of the Colonial days.

"They were a hardy, brave, hot-headed race, excitable in temper, unrestrainable in passion, invincible in prejudices. Their hand opened as impetuously to a friend, as it clinched against an enemy. They loathed the Pope as sincerely as they venerated Calvin or Knox, and they did not particularly respect the Quaker. * * * * They hated the Indian while they despised him, and it does not seem, in their dealings with this race, as though there were any sentiments of honor or magnanimity in their bosoms that could hold way against the furious tide of passionate, blind resentment."

Of course, it is well understood that the ear-

lier Quaker and German settlers, of staid and sedentary habits, were not pre-disposed to welcome the advent of these austere, Prelacy-hounded Calvinists of Ulster; and were, therefore, loud in their complaints of the vigorous and independent traits of character displayed by our pioneer forefathers, while, at the same time, they gladly availed themselves of the ample protection afforded by these rugged but despised Scotch-Irish settlers on the frontier borders, who stood as a living wall of defense between them and the murderous assaults of the untamed savages of the wilderness.

But this latter historian of the Braddock era, in partial extenuation, is fair enough to accord the following merited tribute to the race that has adorned the pages of our National annals with such illustrious names as that of Patrick Henry, Thomas Jefferson, Andrew Jackson, Alexander Campbell, Abraham Lincoln, Stephen A. Douglass, Jeremiah S. Black, James G. Blaine, William McKinley, W. J. Bryan, and Woodrow Wilson—orators, statesmen and jurists all; not to mention such noted Military Commanders as Montgomery, Clark, Wayne and Sullivan of the Revolution; “Stonewall” Jackson, U. S. Grant, P. H. Sheridan, Geo. B. McClellan, Hancock the “Superb,” and scores of other equally distinguished soldiers of like ethnic extraction, serving in

both the contending armies of the Civil War.
Says he:

“But if often rude and lawless, it was partly the fault of their position. Impatient of restraint, rebellious against everything that in their eyes bore a semblance of injustice, we find these men the readiest of the ready on the battle fields of the Revolution. If they had faults, a lack of patriotism, or of courage, was not among the number.”
(Sargent).

ADVENT OF THE EPONYM, OR FOUNDER, OF THE PENNSYLVANIA CLAN McNARY

Among the Scotch-Irish refugees of the early colonial days, who landed upon our shores and slowly wended their way westward into Pennsylvania, and thence to the Susquehanna Valley, was one, JAMES McNARY, the worthy founder of our Clan. This ancestor first settled (probably) in what is now Lancaster County, Pennsylvania; but later, removing to York County, on the western shore of the Susquehanna river, he located in what was then known as the "York Barrens," within the present boundaries of Lower Chanceford Township.

The original settlers of Chanceford Township, York County, in the Guinston section, were both from Ireland and Scotland, who arrived in large numbers between the years 1730-1736; and, as the tide of Irish immigration continued to pour into the American colonies during the succeeding decades, hundreds of these Protestant families, mainly from Ulster, yet others coming directly from Scotland, pressed forward through the inter-

vening Quaker and German settlements nearer the Atlantic coast, into the Central Valleys of Pennsylvania west of the Susquehanna; and thence onward to the extreme borders of civilization. At the same time a more southerly stream of the same nationality, flowed into the Valley of Virginia, and from thence spread to the Carolinas, and over the Cumberland Mountains, into Tennessee and the southwest; until, at the close of the French and Indian war, in 1762, the entire frontier border on the eastern slopes of the Alleghenies, from Canada to the Gulf, was occupied by settlers of this virile and invincible race—a people whose posterity was destined, largely, to populate the land, supplying the moral and intellectual stamina, essential to the moulding of our free institutions, and in the directing and controlling the destinies of the Western Hemisphere.

From the earliest records of York County, Pa., that have been preserved, we learn that one, JOHN MCNEARY* along with Andrew Proudfoot and others, applied for a charter for the Guinston Associate (or Seceder) Church, in 1753, the earliest Presbyterian Congregation to be established in York County. A few German settlers had located in various sections, in York County, at a date somewhat earlier than the coming of these

*This was the prevailing orthography but in the Colonial days the name was variously written "McNeary," "McNerry," "McNarey," "McNairy," "Menary," and occasionally in the modern form "McNary."

Scotch-Irish immigrants, who had churches peculiar to the different sects among themselves, such as "Mennonites," "Hunkers," etc. But the above indicated charter for the Guinston Congregation, is the pioneer organization of the Presbyterian denomination, of which we have record, west of the Susquehanna; and this "JOHN MCNEARY," and his father, James, were both ordained Elders of this Guinston Congregation, in May, 1769. In one other instance the name, "MCNEARY," appears in the early records of York County, viz: In 1750 A. D.; which is the earliest date, so far discovered, of the Clan appellation appearing in American history.

The above named "JAMES MCNEARY" of the Guinston Congregation—whose descendants now write their name McNary—was the pioneer of his Clan to emigrate to America from Ireland; which latter place, no doubt, had been his temporary home, only; as the surname is evidently of Scottish (or Gaelic) origin, tracing back to the fourteenth century at least; at which date the McNary patronymic, or its etymological equivalent, begins to appear in the ancient Scottish annals.

ETYMOLOGY OF THE McNARY SURNAME (Gaelic or Scottish)

McNAIR, a well known Scottish surname of the Highlands, from which our Clan cognomen is popularly believed to have been derived, occurs (1) in Gairloch, Rosshire; (2) in Perthshire, Scotland.

The Perthshire Sept, (a branch of the McFarlands) appears in ancient Scottish annals as MACNAYR, in 1390; as MAC-I-NAYR in 1468; explained in the Gaelic dialect, as "MAC AN OIGHRE" —son of the heir. The 1468 man was a cleric at Inchadin, Lochtay. The other (1390) appears in connection with the Raid of Angus. As a plausible explanation of the origin, or cause of the variation, in form and pronounciation of our Clan patronymic, "It is quite possible," states Professor W. J. Watson, of the Royal High School, Edinburg, Scotland, "That a MACNAIR, whose Gaelic name was "*Mac an Oighre*," if he emigrates to Ireland, might be known as MAC NARY; for in Ireland the final "e" of "Oighre" would be sounded distinctly, whereas in Perthshire, it would be almost, if not quite, inaudible."

Although, as we have seen, this ancestor JAMES MCNARY, emigrated to America from the province of Ulster, in the north of Ireland, the "traditions" of our Clan all point to the probability that he was a native of Scotland; and that his forbears, for generations, had been born and reared in the "Land of brown heath and shaggy wood," being the off-spring of sturdy Celtic, or Gaelic ancestors, Scottish yoemen, who, under the noble William Wallace, had so valiently battled for liberty and National Independence against the wily English foe at Stirling Bridge, September, 1297; and again, but seventeen years later, at glorious Bannockburn when led by the Peerless Robert Bruce, where:

"The foemen fell on every side,
In crimson hues the Forth was dyed,
Bedewed with blood the heather;
While cries triumphant shook the air,
Thus shall we do, thus shall we dare,
Wherever Scotsmen gather."

While it seems probable, therefore, that the McNair, and McNary, septs, or clans of Scotland, are descended from a common Gaelic ancestry, at a comparatively recent date, it is by no means certain that the root of the family tree does not lead back to old Erin, within historic times; for there were *McNary* Septs in Ireland as well as Scotland, in the days of, and descended from, the royal Dalcassian line of Munster kings, back in the tenth century!

About the year 506 A. D., as we learn from ancient Irish annals, (corroborated by the venerable Bede, the father of English history) Fergus MacErc, a prince of the Ulster royal family, led a large colony of his countrymen from the shores of Antrim, to Argylshire, in Alban—the name by which Scotland was then known. This Settlement of Gaels, or Scots, from Ireland, with Fergus as their king, was known as Dalriada. Under Fergus' successor, his kingdom expanded, eventually gaining political ascendancy over the primitive Pictish and Caledonian tribes, the ancient inhabitants of North Brittain. And it was from these "Scots" from Ireland, that Alban became known as Scotland—the land of the Scots! Prior to this, Ireland had been known to the Romans as "Scotia," and the native Irish, therefore, were the true "Scots" of the ancient Chroniclers.

The vernacular of the primitive Irish tribes—the Erse or Kelts as they were commonly known—was approximately identical with the Gaelic dialect of the Highland Scots; the latter being the posterity of the "Irish" Scots, of King Fergus' Colony, and of their successors of the sixth century. Modern ethnologists and antiquarians agree that the Highland Scot owes his origin to the Milesian Irish, or Gaels, who in pre-historic times colonized the Western Highlands, the earliest migration thereto, of this racial factor, known to history, being that of Riada, (Reeda)

son of Conary II, King of Munster, in the third century, who settled in Argyllshire, in the Western Highlands. Two centuries later, as already noted, Fergus Mac Erc led his numerous followers from Antrim, to settle amidst their kinsmen, the descendents of Riada's royal band from Munster; and there King Fergus founded the kingdom that eventually overspread all Scotland, and gave the land its permanent name.

THE CELTIC ETYMOLOGY AND DERIVATIVE OF CLAN PATRONYMIC

The ancient Celtic (or Irish) Sept, "*Mac I Neirghe*," we are told, originated from Sedna, 4th son of Cairbre Aedhbha, the 10th in descent from Oliol Oluim, King of Munster, who died in 234 A. D. King Oliol was the ancestor of Mahon, King of Munster, of the royal Dalcassian line, who was slain in 976 A. D., and was succeeded by his brother, Brian Boru, the great Irish monarch who expelled the Danes from Ireland. (1014).

From this ancient Celtic surname (*Mac I Neirghe*) according to O'Hart's Irish Pedigrees, the modern clan names *McNair* and *McNary*, are derived. Ancient modifications, or forms, of this name are given below :

(1) Mac Angheigree; (2) Mac Eneiry; (3) Mac Eneery; (4) Mac Eniry; (5) Mac Enery; (6) Mac Ennery; (7) Mac Inerny; (8) McKynery; and in France, Macenary (Mac-e-ná-ry) and Mannery (Man-né-ry).

From the spelling and pronounciation of the Celtic "*MacIneirghe*," says O'Hart, the eminent Irish authority, "we are satisfied it is the surname

from which the well known modern names McNair, McNeir, McNary, McNeary, Nary and Neary; and also Irwin, Irvine and Irving, are derived.”*

It will be observed that there is much similarity in these original or ancient names, as given in Gaelic by Mr. Watson, viz: *Mac an Oighre*; and by Mr. O’Hart, in the ancient Erse, or Irish, dialect, *Mac Ineirghe*, to which each of these eminent authorities, respectively, point as the undoubted source, or origin of our Clan name. And, as between the problematical, or conjectural theories of these learned etymologists, when all is told there remains but little choice, since the ancestor, or eponym, of our Clan was, beyond a doubt, a member of some Celtic tribe, or Sept, at the time surnames were generally adopted, back in the eleventh or twelfth century of our era. And, whether we now be dominantly of Celt, or of “Saxon” lineage, our Clan is permanently decorated with a thoroughbred Celtic, (or Gaelic) surname, to be borne and passed down to succeeding generations.

As it may be of interest to the twentieth century members of *Clan McNary* to learn somewhat of the doings of those who represented them, or bore the Clan name, back in the “long ago,” we append below some extracts from the various ancient Irish annals as given by Mr. O’Hart in

*O’Harts Irish Pedigrees.

his interesting and instructive work, "Irish Pedigrees," which treats of the origin of ancient Celtic names, relating to persons of more or less distinction, who bore our Clan surname in the remote ages, back on the "auld sod" of Erin.

"KENNETH MAC ENEIRY, (Mac-E-nei-ry) King of Conallo (County Limerick) slain in battle, A. D. 1029."

"MAC ANGHEIREE, Lord of Connello, slain in the battle of Fornoy, 1081, A. D."

"MAC EINEIRY, King of Connello, built Castletown MacEniry (County Limerick) in A. D. 1349."

"WILLIAM OGE MCKYNERY, (McKy-ne-ry) slain at Sherb, 1585 A. D."

"JOHN MCENIRY, chief of his nation, (Castletown MacEniry) Gerald McEniry, his cousin, and Shane McThomas McEniry, his brother-in-law, surrendered the lands possessed by them and their ancestors for 200 years, in Cork and Limerick, receiving a new grant from the Crown, A. D., 1607."

"SYMON MAC ENEIRY, forfeited (1641) the lands of Castletown MacEniry; the same year John MacEneery, Donagh MacEneery, Mortagh MacEniry, and Andrew MacEniry, Garret and Brian McEneery, and Thomas McWilliam McEniry, likewise forfeited their estates in County Limerick."

In the light of a higher and nobler standard of morality, and under the beneficent regime of Constitutional government, with unrestricted liberty of conscience, where every individual may exercise the inalienable right to the captaincy of his own soul, what matters it to the sovereign citizen of our great Republic whether he be descended from a scion of the "royal purple," the posterity of a son, or heir, of some ancient Scottish Earl, or Irish King, back in the uncertainty of the dim and misty past, when, living as he now does, in a land where the door of opportunity stands wide open to the most humble of every race and creed to pass in, and, "without money and without price", freely avail himself of the glorious privilege to prove himself *a man* "for a that"?

Yet, when we, as individual members of Clan McNary, reflect upon the troublous vexations, and cruel persecutions which our ancestors of but a few generations back, both in Ireland and Scotland, were compelled to pass through; to be tried as if by fire, in the furnace of fierce religious persecution, and of intolerable agrarian oppression; and are reminded of their persistent and heroic efforts in the cause of human liberty, and intellectual advancement, as demonstrated by their invincible prowess on the bloody, yet ever-glorious, battlefields of Stirling Bridge, of Bannockburn, of Londonderry, and the Boyne, may

not our ancestral pride and "Clan reverence" be fully condoned, if, in exuberance of spirit, and loyal emulation:—

The mighty conflicts they have won,
The noble deeds our sires have done,
In memory's hall we store them all?

THE MIGRATION AND SETTLEMENT OF OUR CLAN ANCESTOR IN AMERICA

It is not known definitely at what date our ancestor JAMES McNARY, arrived in America; but it is probable that he, along with his family of four sons and one daughter, came in shortly before, or during the great rush of Protestant refugees from the North of Ireland, that flocked to our shores, between the years 1734 and 1749. There is authentic record of a John McNary among the Scotch-Irish settlers of Chanceford, as early as the year 1750; and we have already seen that John McNary, along with Andrew Proudfoot and others, had organized in 1753, at Guinston, the first Presbyterian congregation in Chanceford Township, and possibly the first of this denomination, west of the Susquehanna. However, we know of a certainty that JAMES McNARY, our clan eponym, was located in York County as early as 1760; he having purchased at this date, as the records show, a tract of land from Samuel Essen for three pounds, ten shillings; and again in 1764, from Robert McCall, another tract for forty-two pounds, ten shillings. But, somewhat more than a decade later,

in the midst of the struggle of the American Colonies for National Independence, we find no evidence of property assessed in this ancestor's name; for, as seems most probably, the title there-to had then been transferred to John, one of his four sons, with whom he made his home, while remaining in the East.

Having been driven from their native land through the intolerance of the relentless Ecclesiastics of the Established Church, and also by the heartless extortions of the conscienceless landed aristocracy, both in Ireland and Scotland, these pioneer Scotch-Irish immigrants of the pre-Revolutionary period, *to a man* came hither harboring in his heart a bitter resentment and deadly animosity against the British Government, and especially against the English Sovereigns of the Stuart line who, as the head of the hated hierarchy, had been the prime instigators of that religious intolerance that had robbed them of liberty of conscience, and inaugurated in their native Erin, an era of soul-wrecking persecutions, which effectually devastated, depleted, and impoverished the extensive stretches and fertile valleys of Raphoe, the woods and fishings of Derry and Colerain, the fruitful orchards of Armagh, the rich grazings of Tyrone, the sloping gardens of Fermanagh and Caven, and laid waste and created a howling wilderness of the once productive barley and corn

fields and lint slopes of Clannaboy? Is it any wonder, then, that in the midst of the sufferings and privations of the Colonial Patriots of the Revolutionary era, during the darkest hour of their heroic struggle for National Independence, that our Scotch-Irish forefathers—the so-called “Wild Geese” of Ulster—kicked and buffeted, outraged and insulted, as they had been by the English Government on their native soil, and now driven at last over the tempestuous sea to that famed Hybrasil of the West, in their long drawn out agony, should cheerfully, even hilariously, spring to arms, and grasp their rifles in a final dash for vengeance, by aiding the Colonial Patriots in striking a stunning blow to their ancient foe? Ulster “Hearts of Steel,” joined in holy alliance, marching shoulder to shoulder with their American-born kindred, the Colonial “Sons of Liberty,” what red-coated English veterans, of boasted Anglo Saxon lineage, dare attempt to withstand their impetuous and irresistible prowess?

The New England college-bred historian of the Revolutionary epoch may have studiously, and with great circumspection, penned his predilections; and the modern lecturer assiduously quote his partisan effusions, eulogistic of the valient deeds, and heroic sacrifices of the persistently lauded sons of the Pilgrim Fathers! Desiring to detract not one jot or title from the record of any

worthy New England patriot—and there were legions of them—yet the salient fact remains that the Scotch-Irish element, namely, the frontier settlers of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Virginia, and the Carolinas, was the veritable backbone, and main support of the Patriot cause, throughout the entire Revolutionary struggle; and on every battlefield, from Bunker Hill to Yorktown, it was the deadly aim of the frontier rifleman, recruited from the ranks of the Scotch-Irish settlers on the western borders of Colonial civilization, that wrought the effective execution which resulted in that glorious victory over the British arms, which won our National Independence, and gave birth to the Great American Republic!

THE SCOTCH-IRISH IN THE WAR OF INDEPENDENCE

That the foregoing statement, description of the political leaning and intense patriotism of our Scotch-Irish forebears, and of the general attitude, racially, of the other American colonists, towards the great insurrectionary uprising against British oppression by the Patriots of "1776," resulting in the War of Independence, is a true reflex and an honest presentation of the political sentiments of the time, and not a trumped-up partisan representation—or accusation—of modern invention, there is abundant and incontrovertible proof on record. One English officer, in writing home from Philadelphia in 1779, characterized the struggle for National Independence, in Pennsylvania, "An Irish-Scotch-Presbyterian Rebellion"!

"The first voice publicly raised in America," says Historian Bancroft, "to dissolve all connection with Great Britain, came not from the Puritans of New England, nor from the planters of Virginia, nor from the Dutch of New York, but from the Scotch-Irish Presbyterians." The great

Declaration made by Settlers of this race, at Mecklenberg, as is well-known, ante-dated by more than a year, the one promulgated in Philadelphia in 1776.

“It was not the Quaker, not the Puritan, not the Cavalier, not the Huguenot, or the German; it was the Scotch-Irish of the land whose voice was first heard in Virginia. In the Valley of Virginia, in North Carolina, in Cumberland and Westmoreland counties in Pennsylvania, the Scotch-Irish declared that these colonies are, and of right ought to be free and independent. They had taught this not only in their public speeches, but at their altars, in their pulpits, at their fire-sides; and it was from these that came that outburst of rugged and determined people that made the Declaration of 1776 possible.” (Col. A. K. McClure.)

Patrick Henry, the great Virginian and peerless orator, himself a Scotch-Irishman, proclaimed not only his own convictions, but spoke from the heart of the race, when he cried “Give me liberty or give me death.” And his burning sentiments in the cause of liberty and National Independence were caught up and wildly echoed from hill and valley, all along the Colonial frontier, from Canada to Georgia, by these doughty settlers, of the *Race Invincible*, from the North of Ireland.

Did these Celti-Donian forefathers and strenuous advocates of human rights, these representatives of the newest of all races but recently evolved from the commingled blood of Goidelic and Brythonic Celt; a people worked over, fused, and blended, for upwards of a century and a half on the desolate and wasted estates of Ulster, now that they were put to the crucial test, fail to carry into practice, that which they so loudly preached? Or, in modern parlance, did our Scotch-Irish ancestors, in the stirring days of "1776," promptly march up and "deliver the goods?"

In answer to this pertinent inquiry, we stop to cite the one instance only, of the battle of King's Mountain, a conflict which drove Cornwallis and the British forces from the entire South, thereby freeing the southern colonies of an alien foe, was fought almost exclusively by the Scotch-Irish, nearly every regiment, it is claimed, being led by a Presbyterian elder! And this battle is further memorable, in that every man of the enemy was either killed or captured, not a single British soldier escaping.

Of the German colonists of Pennsylvania, though a people of less intense feeling than their Scotch-Irish neighbors, there were among them many true patriots, who noble seconded the efforts of the Ulster breed, in contending against

the oppression of the British foe, and who gave freely of their blood and treasure in the cause of human liberty. But a like commendation may not be so readily accorded to the Quaker population, in the region of Philadelphia, among whom it must be confessed, were many in full accord with the object and designs of the English government, and whose disloyal conduct gave Washington and his compatriots of the Revolution, grave anxiety for the ultimate success of the Colonial cause.

In the New England colonies, among the descendants of the Puritan fathers, much the same conditions prevailed. In many sections of Eastern New York, and in Connecticut and Vermont, there were at this time entire communities of Scotch and Scotch-Irish settlers, who had located there in the preceding decades, during the time when the Susquehanna Valley, in Central Pennsylvania, was being colonized by their kinsmen from Ulster. These Scotch-Irish New Englanders, it is needless to say, were patriots to a man; and to this factor alone, is due largely the credit for the staunch and loyal adherence of the Northern Provinces, in the darkest hours of the conflict, to the cause of National Independence.

But, among the posterity of the English, or so-called Anglo-Saxon element of New England, the prevailing political sentiment seems to have

been somewhat different; and it is altogether pertinent and justifiable to here record the undeniable fact that of the population of the New England Provinces at the opening of the Revolutionary conflict, and especially of that portion who were the posterity of the earlier colonists of the preceding century—the blue-blooded descendants of the Pilgrim Fathers, of Plymouth Rock pedigree—who prided themselves in the self-assumed superiority of their purer Anglo-Saxon lineage; the favored class, so to speak, those possessed of more than a rudimentary education, consisting of the academic and college-bred citizens—the professional and commercial interests, who constituted the aristocracy of the age—a very large proportion of whom were undoubtedly English in sympathy, and Tory in sentiment. And furthermore, of this class, many not only sympathized, but were intensely and openly loyal to the Crown, and contributed materially to discourage and embarrass the “Sons of Liberty” in their gallant effort to cast off the British yoke of oppression.

And this element of “Toryism,” strongest in New England, was a constant menace to the success of the Patriot cause, in all sections not dominated by, or largely under the salutary influence of the colonists of the Calvinistic, or Protestant faith. And, even after the winning of our National Independence, this pernicious *tory* element

permeating the educated classes, was so grounded in its monarchical tendencies, and in trend of sentiment, as to oppose, and bitterly antagonize, the embodiment of the fundamental principles of representative Democracy in our National Constitution, as the organic law of the Republic. And it was at this critical time in the transitionary, or formative period, in our National existence, that our Scotch-Irish forefathers particularly distinguished themselves as the unflinching champions of human rights, and earned the lasting gratitude of posterity by their predominating influence determinedly and constantly exerted, in promoting *and compelling* the adoption of the principles of genuine Democracy, as the basic law of our National government, thereby guaranteeing to all, and for all time, regardless of race or creed, their political and religious liberties.

But, in passing, it is pleasing to note that the commonality of the various racial factors in the Revolutionary era, the great middle class, the hope and mainstay, always, of constitutional government, whether of English, Scotch-Irish, or German lineage,—in New England, as elsewhere—stood firm and true to the Patriot cause! With these sturdy yeomen of the American Colonies, North or South, sectarian dogmatism had no place was promptly cast aside, and the Episcopalian and Presbyter, the Puritan and Cavalier, the Protestant and Catholic, alike, loyally made common

cause, and marched shoulder to shoulder with the Sons of Liberty, in their titanic struggle for Liberty and National Independence. And to each and all, of the great body of colonists in the Revolutionary era, irrespective of race or creed, is due equal honor and glory for their gallant and efficient efforts in securely founding and perfecting our free institutions.

Our Celti-Donian ancestors of the Revolutionary period—these sturdy Ulster refugees of the intermingle blood of Gaelic Celt, of mystic Pict, and ancient Caledonian—a race which we now know as the “Scotch-Irish”—were *fighters* not *writers*! Hence, there appeared in the Colonial times, no Celtic champion to herald the fame of his countrymen, in song and story! But the lustre of their valient deeds, their bitter trials, and galling privations—throughout the entire struggle of the American Colonists in behalf of liberty and human progress—gleams all the brighter as the centuries pass; and the glorious fruition of their courage, their devotion, and unflinching patriotism in the hour of their country’s need, is indelibly emblazoned upon and reflected in every bone and fibre of our free institutions.

THE CAUSE OF THE ULSTER EXODUS TO THE AMERICAN COLONIES IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

At the beginning of the Seventeenth Century there was a flourishing trade in wool and woollen goods in Ireland. But the tyrannical Wentworth the English deputy, or Lord Lieutenant, devised means to destroy this leading industry in the North of Ireland. More than a half-century later, following the suppression of the great Jacobite (or Catholic) rebellion, by the brilliant defense of Londonderry and the complete overthrow of the last of the despicable Stuart Sovereigns (James II) at the battle of the Boyne, in 1691 A. D., a new impetus was given to social and economic conditions in Ulster and throughout Ireland, and the wool trade began to flourish again. During the last quarter of the Seventeenth Century there was a considerable exodus of Protestants from Ulster to America, caused by the religious intolerance of James II, and like conditions also prevailing in Scotland, causing many refugees from that unhappy country to flee to America for safety. At this time Irish wool was considered the best in Europe, and the industry

in Ireland was engaged in almost exclusively by the Protestant populace, the descendants of the settlers of the King James Plantation, in Ulster, in 1606-1610 A. D.

Through commercial jealousy, the English cloth dealers at this time (1698) petitioned to have the Irish industry suppressed; with the result that the servile Irish Parliament, acting on instructions from England, the next year placed an export duty of four shillings per pound on fine woolen cloths, and two shillings per pound on flannels; knowing full well that this would ruin Irish competition with the English tradesmen. And the English Parliament accentuated this measure of injustice, by passing an act prohibiting their Irish subjects from exporting either wool, or woolen goods, to any part of the world.

These arbitrary acts speedily accomplished the desired end. The Irish wool trade was annihilated, the mills closed, the buildings went to ruin, and forty thousand Protestants of Ulster were reduced to idleness and poverty; and of this number of unfortunates, twenty thousand Presbyterians and non-conformists, it is said, at this time left Ireland, seeking a home on the western shores of the Atlantic.

And now began that extraordinary exodus from Ireland, for want of employment, that continued unabated until long after the Independ-

ence of the American Colonies had been won. The extent and severity of the industrial distress in Ulster may be understood when we learn that for a long period, about the middle of the Eighteenth Century, it has been estimated that twelve thousand Ulster Protestants annually emigrated to America. And, from the date of the destruction of the Irish woolen industry, down to the beginning of our War of Independence, a total of upwards of a half million of these refugee Ulstermen, lineal descendants of the most valient warriors of all ages, ancient or modern, had cast in their lot with our colonial forefathers, who, like themselves, were almost exclusively refugees from the yoke of British oppression.

In our opening chapter mention is made of the consternation that prevailed among the early Quaker and German settlers of Eastern Pennsylvania regarding the advent amongst them, in considerable numbers, of our Scotch-Irish progenitors, whom they deemed "undesirables"; and by these paragons of society, our forefathers were looked upon, as we of the present day regard the incoming hordes of Southeastern Europe now flocking to our shores. And they not only clamored for a restriction, but demanded an absolute *prohibition* of the immigration of the Scotch-Irish factor, into the American Colonies.

But how was this exodus from Ulster, so distasteful to our Quaker friends, viewed by the political economists back on the other side of the Atlantic, from whence our forefathers emigrated? Was there a rejoicing of the sober and considerate element of the governing class of Ulster, over this unprecedented depletion of the province?

Religious bigotry, commercial jealousy, and despotic landlordism had combined to do their worst against the Protestant settlers of Ulster. From a statement published in the *Belfast News Letter*, in 1773, we learn that "No less than thirty-two ships, of a total of 8,900 tonnage sailed from Ulster in the year 1771, loaded with emigrants for America." In the following year, we are told, thirty ships, of 8,450 tonnage, crossed the Atlantic, with ~~its~~ precious cargo of human freight, fleeing from British despotism.

The same authority further informs us that—"One of these ships, alone, carried no less than 4,000 pounds, specie, on board. The removal is sensibly felt in this country. The prevalent 'humor' of industrious Protestants withdrawing from this once flourishing corner of the Kingdom seems to be increasing, and it is thought the number will be considerably larger this year, than ever. * * * It is computed from many current circumstances, that the North of Ireland has, in the last five or six years, been drained of one-

fourth of its trading cash. Where the evil will end, remains only in the womb of time to determine." (*Belfast News Letter*, 1773.)

As was anticipated, the number of ships to sail for America from Ulster in 1773, greatly exceeded that of the two previous years, being given as thirty-nine vessels of 11,300 tonnage, landed with their human cargoes for the American Colonies.

This exodus of population, was not the full extent of Ulster's loss. For we are told those who left, "Carried their arts and their tools with them." The well-to-do yeoman, with their leases expired, refused to renew them in a land where the door of opportunity was closed in the face of the masses. The South and West of Ireland, too were caught in the vortex, the alarming "humor" spread, and ships could not be obtained to accommodate the anxious crowds.

Lord Donegal, a great Antrim land-owner, about the year 1768, demanded 100,000 Pounds as a fine (or bonus) over and above the customary rental, for the renewing of his tenants' leases. Speculative merchants of Belfast paid the fine, and took the land over the heads of the tenants, to sub-let, causing a wholesale eviction of Protestant tenants throughout the County of Antrim. "In the two years which followed these Antrim evictions," says Mr. F. J. Bigger, Editor of the

Ulster Journal of Archaeology, "thirty thousand Protestants left Ulster for the land where there was no legal robbery, and where those who sowed the seed, could reap the harvest."

Thus the religious intolerance and iniquitous mismanagement of the British Government, in forcing the Protestant populace of Ulster to seek new homes on the Western shores of the Atlantic, unwittingly made possible the secure laying of the foundation for the erection of our noble Commonwealth—the great and indestructible bulwark, and citidel of civil and religious liberty in the Western Hemisphere. During the closing decades of the Seventeenth Century, and throughout the whole of the Eighteenth, thousands upon thousands of Protestant Ulstermen took passage for the American Colonies, there to become permanent settlers, where they, and their posterity became the basic element, and dominant factor in moulding our free institutions, and in directing the destinies of our country. With genuine regret, doubtless, though hopefully, our sturdy ancestors embarked for their final departure from the shores of their beloved Erin!

And, whilst they sorrowfully drift westward on the bosom of the restless Atlantic, with tearful gaze fixed upon the receding shores of their native land:—

The fading light, how like the flight
Of Hope from Inisfail,
As Holy Hill, so green and bright,
'Neath threat'ning wave is lost to sight!
Yet did they seek another home
Beyond the Western main,
"Where hope, in better days to come,"
Might light their steps again.

These heroes braved the rushing waves—
They sailed the ocean blue;
To stand for right, in manhood bright,
They pledged each other true.
They crossed the noble Delaware,
To Penn's wood, o'er the way,
And on to Susquehanna treked
Toward the close of day—
Where, free from British tyranny,
New homes they built with care;
To lead a pure and simple life;
And rear their families there.

They settled on the Hudson's banks
And prospered day by day;
They proudly joined the patriot ranks
For stalwart sons were they.
And when the cry 'gainst England rose,
"They grasped their swords in glee,"
And fiercely smote their ancient foes,
And set Columbia free.

CLAN PATRIOTISM

JAMES McNARY, of Chanceford Township, York County, Pennsylvania, the founder of the Pennsylvania CLAN McNARY, having been born in Scotland, (it is believed) about the year 1711, A. D., was an aged citizen at the commencement of the Revolutionary uprising of the American Colonies for National Independence, and could not therefore, in reason be expected to have participated in active service in the Patriot Cause. But this ancestor, the senior JAMES McNARY, the father of us all, had four sons! Did these four sons, the representative scions of a long line of heroic sires, and the respective founders of the four distinct branches of our *Clan*, prove recreant to the cause of liberty, and of human rights, in the dark hour of their country's peril? Let no McNary of this, or the succeeding generations, blush for the patriotism and courage of his ancestors of the Revolutionary period. For, of the four sons of this Ulster immigrant, viz: JOHN, THOMAS, JAMES and DAVID McNARY, not only *one* indeed, but *all four* saw honorable service in the ranks of the Colonial army, during the War of Independence.

In the year 1776, at the very beginning of the conflict, the records show that "Thomas McNerry," one of these four sons, was Captain of a Company of Associators, or Volunteer Militia of York County, William Ross, Colonel, in which Company his brother, "David McNeary," was a private. This command was a portion of the "Flying Camp" that marched to New Jersey, and participated in the battle of Trenton.

At a somewhat later date (1778), we find that John McNary, another son (as well as David), was a member of his brother, Captain Thomas McNary's Company, Sixth Battallion, York County Militia, William Ross, Colonel (See page 549, Vol. 2, Penna. Archives, Sixth Series).

And it may be of interest to posterity to record here, that at the above date, one, David McKinley, the Great Grandfather of President William McKinley, also was a private in Captain McNary's command.

Of the one remaining son of our pioneer ancestor, JAMES, by name, we find no evidence of his having been a resident of York County at this date; for his name appears neither upon the military roll, nor among the taxables of said County in the closing years of the great struggle; and the inference is strong, that James McNary, Jr., had already, at a date prior to the closing of the Revolutionary War, crossed the mountains along

with the early wave of Scotch-Irish immigration from York and Lancaster Counties, who were the principal pioneer settlers to invade, occupy, and reclaim the "wilderness region" west of the Allegheny Mountains. And this supposition is fully confirmed, when we find this remaining son JAMES MCNEARY, to have been a private in Captain Charles Bilderback's Company, Third Battalion, Washington County Militia, in the year 1782:—(See Page 111, Vol. 2, Penna. Archives, Sixth Series.)

Thus, while the three sons, John, Thomas, and David McNary, were, throughout the War of Independence, in the East, serving under:—

"George Washington, he was the one
That led the Sons of Freedom on,"—

the remaining son of our ancestor JAMES MCNARY, the Ulster emigrant, was in his Country's service, in the ranks of the frontier militia, acting against the British and their Indian allies, West of the Alleghenies.

Had JAMES MCNARY of Chanceford, our common ancestor and Clan patronymic, at the time of the Revolution, near relations,—brothers, cousins, or nephews—who had accompanied him and his family to America in the early Colonial days? This is an interesting inquiry, now difficult of a satisfactory solution. The surname

McNARY, unlike most others, was not a common one in the pioneer days; for we find, at a period almost a century later, the representatives of but four families of this name, of distinct origin, viz: A *Connecticut*, a *Kentucky* and a *Tennessee* Clan, (in addition to our own) had then been identified, or discovered, in America. And, of these three other distinct or independent branches of the McNary name, it seems most probable that they, as well as ourselves, are descended from a common ancestor, of a generation back in the not distant past. And especially may this be predicated of the latter, or Tennessee family, who write their name "McNairy"; for we learn that the earliest known ancestor of the Southern Clan was a settler located in Lancaster County, at about the time our *James McNary* purchased his property near Guinston, in York County; and these pioneer settlers of Eastern Pennsylvania of the same patronymic may even have dwelt in sight of each other, although perhaps, on opposite shores of the Susquehanna River! This ancestor of the Tennessee folk, at this time in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, was of contemporary age with JAMES McNARY, the founder of our clan, or with his sons previously mentioned. The presumption therefore is not unreasonable that the "McNairy's" of the South, the posterity of this Lancaster County settler, are descended from a bro-

ther, nephew or other relative of JAMES McNARY of York County, the founder of our Pennsylvania Clan.

This Lancaster County colonist, whose descendants retain the "i" in the name, had six sons, all of whom left that region in the early days for the Carolinas. John McNairy, the oldest son, we are told, was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, in 1762. After the family had removed to the South, this "John McNairy" became a lawyer, and an intimate friend of General Andrew Jackson. In 1787 he was elected a Judge, by the General Assembly of North Carolina, and held the first superior court that was held in Nashville, in the County of Davidson. He continued in office until what is now the State of Tennessee, by the Cession Act, became the Territory South of the Ohio River. He was then appointed by George Washington, then President, one of the Territorial Judges, and held that office until the Territory became the State of Tennessee; and was then appointed by the General Assembly one of the Judges of the Superior Court of that State, and held that office until he was appointed by the then President Washington, District Judge of the Courts of East and West Tennessee. Having been in office continuously for over thirty-six years, Judge McNairy died on the 10th day of November, 1837, at his residence

near Nashville, Tennessee, leaving no descendants. Four of Judge McNairy's brothers, however, have a numerous posterity in various sections of the Southern and Western States.

THE McNARY FAMILY OF PENNSYLVANIA

JAMES McNARY of York County, the progenitor or founder, of the Pennsylvania family, as already stated, had four sons who were the ancestors, respectively, of the four branches or septs of the clan bearing their names, viz :

I. JOHN McNARY, the eldest son, and founder of the "John" branch, is supposed to have been born about the year 1738. He married Esther Boyle, a lady of whose family genealogy there is no record; but where, and when married, we have no knowledge. Likewise, we have no record of his size, or of his personal appearance. But he lived, we know, on the old homestead in Chanceford township, York County, in a log house, weather-boarded and painted red, on a farm of 320 acres which he bought from his father. He was a charter member of the Associate (Seceder) Congregation of Guinston, of which organization he was ordained an elder, along with his father, on May 15th, 1769. He sold his York County farm in 1801, for twelve hundred Pounds, and came west of the Mountains the same year and purchased a farm in North Strabane town-

ship, Washington County, Pa. Having now provided a future home, John McNary returned East, and prepared to remove with his family, in the following spring, to the new home west of the Alleghenies.

Man may propose; but, in the last analysis, pertaining to the intricate affairs of life, a higher than terrestrial power governs, and this ancestor's plans were destined to be overruled! For John McNary died soon after his return to Chanceford; a circumstance which we know, from the fact his will was made and signed on the 15th, and probated on the 19th day of March, A. D. 1802.

JOHN and ESTHER (BOYLE) McNARY were the parents of thirteen children, eleven of whom lived to maturity. Nine members of this family removed to Washington County, together, in the spring of 1802, the eldest son, JAMES, having preceded them in 1797, while the eldest daughter, BETSY, married a Mr. Douglas; and she and her descendants remained in York County. These parents lived and died on the original "McNary" homestead, purchased of the patriarch JAMES, and were interred in the Guinston Cemetery, at Chanceford, York County, Pa. The posterity of John and Esther McNary, constitute the largest division of the Pennsylvania CLAN McNARY. (See *The McNary Family*, page 29.)

II. JAMES McNARY, the second son of JAMES the first, was born about the year 1741, probably in Lancaster (now York) County, Pa. There is no positive evidence that the older members of the family of our original ancestor JAMES of Chanceford were born in America; but what knowledge we have tends to confirm the belief his family were all native-born. This son, James, married Margaret Paxton, and lived on a portion of his father's farm in York County until the year 1780, when, in April of that year, he removed west of the Alleghenies, locating in Washington County, Pa., on a tract lying on Chartiers Creek, near the present location of the County Home at Arden, on the Chartiers Valley Railroad. He was a man of small stature, was ordained an elder in the Chartiers Associate Congregation, Canonsburg, April 17, 1811; and died February 11, 1815.

JAMES *and* MARGARET (PAXTON) McNARY, ancestors of the "JAMES" branch, were the parents of four children—two sons and two daughters—and the known, or located membership of this Sept, consists solely of the posterity of the youngest son, Samuel by name. (See The McNary Family, page 69).

III. THOMAS McNARY, the third son of JAMES of Chanceford, is believed to have been born in Lancaster (now York) County, Pennsyl-

vania, about the year 1744, and is the "Captain Thomas McNerry" of the "Flying Camp," York County "Associators," previously alluded to in these pages. He married Janet Robinson, of York County, in 1766. In 1782, or the succeeding year, following the line of emigration westward, he, with all his family, removed to a farm of 219 acres, in North Strabane township, Washington County, Pennsylvania, which he purchased for "375 pounds specie, lawful money of Pennsylvania." He resided on this farm until his death, which occurred in 1820. In his will he provided for the "legal" freedom of a servant, Jean Parkinson, who had been practically free for many years previous to his death.

Captain Thomas McNary it is said, was "a large, fine looking man;" and, like all his father's family, his church connections were with the Associate (or Seceder) denomination, he being a member of the Chartiers Congregation (now Canonsburg) of which he was ordained an elder, sometime prior to the year 1799, and his death occurred in 1820, aged about 75 years. We have trace of this son, Thomas, in the early records of Washington County, in the days of the Whiskey Insurrection; for, when one, Benjamin Wells, acting under orders of Gen. Neville, on November 14, 1794, seized and confiscated the "stills" of this region, we find mention of one still taken from the premises of "Thomas Menary" of North

Strabane township. (Appendix, Creigh's History, Washington County, Pa., page 112).

THOMAS and JANET (ROBINSON) McNARY, were the parents of six children—five sons and one daughter—whose numerous posterity constitutes the "Thomas" branch, the second largest division of the Clan. (See The McNary Family, page 79).

IV. DAVID McNARY, the youngest son, and founder of the fourth branch of the Pennsylvania clan, was born in York County, Pennsylvania, in 1757. In person, according to tradition, David was a "large, robust man, of a sandy complexion." He married Esther Cowden, probably in York County, and when about twenty-six years of age, accompanied by his aged father, he, in the year 1783, migrated to Washington County, Pa., locating near the Virginia line, in the region adjacent to the pioneer settlement at Holliday's Cove, (now West Virginia) nearly opposite the City of Steubenville, Ohio. David McNary,—like his three brothers, John, James and Thomas—was a member of the Associate Church; and, like them, and also his father before him, was an elder in the same denomination. He died in 1817, aged about sixty years, and was interred, it is believed, in the ancient burrying grounds of the Cross Creek Associate Congregation in West Virginia, then known as "The Tent."

DAVID and ESTHER (COWDEN) McNARY were the parents of seven children—one son and six daughters—whose descendants comprise the fourth, or “David” branch of the Pennsylvania family. (See McNary Family, page 141).

With this youngest son, David, and his family, now located near the western boundary line of Pennsylvania, on the extreme outskirts of civilization and while the entire district, for years later, was fully exposed to the murderous depredations of the various tribes of hostile Indians, who unmolested, occupied and roamed the vast region West, and North, of the Ohio, the venerable JAMES McNARY, the Scotch-Irish refugee, and erstwhile York County colonist, the most remote ancestor of our Clan of whom we have knowledge, made his home! And here, in this humble pioneer dwelling, amid the seclusion of the primeval forest in the heart of the then “Far West,” while large areas of the surrounding country yet remained unsettled by denizens of the Caucasian race, our aged Patriarch’s eventful career peacefully terminated in the year 1796, when aged about eighty-five years; and his remains were, it is believed, interred in the cemetery of the Cross Creek Associate, or “Seceder,” Congregation near Holliday’s Cove, West Virginia, known in the pioneer days as “the Tent,” the supposed resting place of his son David.

The name of the wife of JAMES McNARY, of Chanceford, Pa., the original ancestress of the Pennsylvania Clan, has not come down to the later generations, nor, indeed, can it be definitely stated whether she survived to accompany her aged spouse and their youngest son, David, over the mountain barriers into the boundless wilderness of the west, to face the dangers and privations there awaiting the sturdy pioneers in the early days of 1783, when but few white settlers had yet ventured into this remote region. It is believed, however, she had been deceased for some years at the date of her husband's death, which event occurred as stated, in 1796.

Besides these four sons of JAMES McNARY, just mentioned, there was only one daughter, Jane by name, who married a Mr. Robinson (or Robertson) of York County, where she resided long after her brothers, and all their descendants, had removed West of the Alleghenies. It is believed this daughter left numerous descendants who remained "down east," in the old neighborhood in York County, where her father, the ancestor of our Clan, had first located; but of whose identity and present location, unfortunately, we have no knowledge, and the trace of whose posterity—a possible twenty per cent of our Clan-membership—must, of necessity, be omitted from our family record. But we may rely, with al-

most absolute certainty, upon the presumption that the Mr. Robinson, Jane McNary's husband, was a brother, or near relative of that "Janet Robinson," who, as before stated, became the wife of Capt. Thomas McNary, and thereby ordained the original ancestress, or Mother-in-Chief, of the "Thomas" sept of our clan. The dovetailing, so to speak, or intermarrying of brothers and sisters of the same families, thereby intensifying the relationship of offspring, was, in these early days the "*rule*," rather than the "*exception*;" a condition necessarily dependent upon the sparseness of the population of the outlying districts on the frontier borders.

In a preceding paragraph, the question was raised "Had our Ancestor, JAMES MCNARY, a brother, nephew, or other relative, of the Clan name in America at the time of his locating in York County, Pennsylvania, about the middle of the eighteenth century?" In searching the Colonial records for information and evidence of location of our forefathers who dwelt East of the Alleghenies, it should be borne in mind that in the early pioneer days, and down to the year 1749, at which date York County was organized (from a portion of Lancaster) all of the southern section of Pennsylvania west of the Susquehanna River, back to the crest of the Alleghenies, was included within the boundaries of, and then known as, Lancaster County.

It was in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, as we have seen, that the remote ancestor of the "McNairy" family of the Southern States, sojourned for a time before his removal; whose home, for aught we now know, may well have been located in some region West of the Susquehanna; for this district of the State was, up to about this time a portion of Lancaster county. The Colonial records of York County, Pa., preserved in the archives of the State, at Harrisburg, establishes the fact that there was a *John McNeary* enrolled among the so-called "English"* settlers as early as the year 1750. And as previously stated, it is a matter of record that a certain John McNeary was one of the active movers in securing a charter for the Associate (Presbyterian) Congregation of Guinston, in Chanceford township, York County, Pa., in 1753.

Now, according to our family "tradition" (See The McNary Family, page 29) John McNary, the oldest son of JAMES, our clan eponym, was born in the year 1738; hence it follows, that if John McNary, then written "McNeary" the eldest son of JAMES, of Chanceford, and the founder of the "John" branch of our Clan, was the identical person who applied for a Charter for the Guinston Congregation, in 1753, he was then but a youth of fifteen years!

*The English-speaking Scotch, and Scotch-Irish immigrants so termed in contra-distinction to the German settlements in that region.

Do not the established facts, meagre though they be, of these early days, indicate a probability bordering upon a certainty, that our ancestor, JAMES McNARY, did have a brother, a nephew, or other relative, of contemporary age, who may have been the person active in securing the Guinston Charter, known as "John McNear;" and who, at the same time was the ancestor of our Southern kinfolk, who retain the "i" in the name, and who claim Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, as the Colonial home of their eponym? For, is it not within the bounds of probability that, as York County, to about this date, was yet included within, and known as Lancaster County, the ancestor of our "McNairy" friends, South, may actually have resided on an adjoining farm, in Chanceford, York County, Pennsylvania, to our ancestor JAMES, the father of the "McNarys" of the North?

The mere fact of a difference in the orthography, or form, of name counts for naught, and signified no distinction of family origin. As an illustration, we cite here an instance coming under recent observation. In the Government Survey of the extensive oil and gas fields of Washington County, in Western Pennsylvania, the identical region west of the Alleghenies, in which the descendants of our York County ancestor chiefly located at the close of the Revolutionary War, the Geologist, in reporting oil well records, in the case of one well owned by a member of our Clan,

the name is correctly given McNARY, while in an adjoining township another well, belonging to a near kinsman, and member of our tribe, the Southern form, "McNairy" is used by the same government official!

Of the family of James McNary, of Chanceford, all his sons, along with their families, had removed West of the Alleghenies, at, or soon after, the close of the Revolutionary War, except John, the eldest son, who remained upon the old homestead until his death in 1802. But John McNary's family all came West of the Mountains in the closing years of the eighteenth century, thus leaving none of the surname in the old locality, after the year 1783 except this eldest son John, and his one remaining son with whom he resided. But in 1802, after his father's death, this son, John by name, grandson of JAMES the first, the last remaining descendant of the Clan name in the East, also removed with his family to Washington County, Pennsylvania, to join his relatives who had proceeded him by some years to the borders of the Western frontier.

From the meagre records of the Colonial days, stowed away among the archives of the State, at Harrisburg, Pa., we glean the following items, pertaining to the family of our Eponym, from the list of taxables of Chanceford township, York County, in the Revolutionary times, which may be of interest to our Clan posterity of this, and the succeeding generations.

TAXABLES, CHANCEFORD TOWNSHIP,
YORK COUNTY, PA.

1779. JOHN MCNEARY—150 acres; 3 horses;
4 cattle 18:05;0 *
1780. DAVID MCNEARY—100 acres; 2 horses;
2 cows 15:00:00
JOHN MCNEARY—150 acres; 3 horses;
4 cows 20:00:00
THOMAS McNARY---100 acres; 2 horses;
2 cows 18:15:00
1781. THOMAS McNARY—287 acres.
DAVID McNAREY—200 acres.
JOHN MCNEARY—150 acres.
1782. JOHN McNAREY—150 acres.
DAVID McNEARY—200 acres.
THOMAS MCNEARY—287 acres.
1783. "John Menary"—150 acres; 3 horses;
4 cows; 11 persons.†

*This is the oldest son of JAMES McNARY of Chanceford; and no other assessment in the "McNary" name appears among the taxables of York County for the year 1779.

†This is a new orthographical variation of name, now first applied to the oldest son of our eponym, James, of Chanceford; no assessment in the name of the original ancestor, at any of these dates, appears upon record; his property apparently having prior to the year 1779 passed to the ownership of John, his oldest son, who succeeded to the ancestral homestead.

Thus we find that Captain McNary had, as early as the year 1783, removed with his family from Chanceford, York County, to Washington County, in Western Pennsylvania; that David, the youngest son (accompanied by the venerable patriarch, JAMES the Scotch-Irish immigrant) had, in the spring of 1783, also removed to Washington County; while James, the second son, as we have seen, had already left York County, probably as early as the year 1780; and his name appears enrolled in the Washington County Militia, in 1782 as a member of Captain Charles Bilderbacks' Company of frontier riflemen; while the oldest son, JOHN, whose name on the assessment rolls, or tax list, for the year 1783, is given as "Menary," is the only one of the four sons of our original ancestor, JAMES MCNARY, the Ulster emigrant, who yet remained in Eastern Pennsylvania, after the close of the War of Revolution. And that upon his death at Chanceford, in 1802, the last of this oldest son's descendants, namely: the family of his son John, yet remaining in York county, Pennsylvania, also removed to Washington county and located in the region of their clansmen who had long preceded them to the "Wilderness" beyond the Alleghenies.

The populace of new settlements on the outskirts of civilization is apt to be constituted of various classes of humanity of all conceivable shades of moral sensibility, and degrees of per-

sonal probity; not a few, very likely, being the possessors of a conveniently pliable conscience that will stretch an amazing distance, before breaking. And this deplorable trait is just as apt to be met with in a camp of Scotch-Irish settlers, as of any other nationality. And a sinner of this breed takes rank, and holds his own with the best (or worst) of them! And it so happened that some of our Clan ancestors, soon after they settled West of the Alleghenies, encountered a certain Scotch-Irish specimen of this identical brand, as may be gathered by the following incident.

When James McNary, the oldest son of John McNary, the founder of the John Branch of our Clan, came west in the year 1796, he visited with his uncle David, who sub-let his nephew a contract, in which he (the uncle) had engaged to clear, or "settle" 400 acres for one, Joseph Swearingen, in Mercer county, Pa. James McNary visited this land in 1796, and made some improvements, and in the following summer, in company with his brother, Malcolm, erected a cabin on the tract, and also put in a crop of corn. James returned to York county the same summer and in October (1797) married Margaret Reed, a daughter of Col. Joseph Reed, of the same county. Coming West at this time, the young couple spent the winter months with their Uncle, James McNary, on Chartiers creek, in

Washington county, Pa. Before starting to Mercer county, however, in the spring of 1798, James McNary came in contact with a "sharper," one Hugh McKain, (McKean) to whom he re-let his contract with his Uncle David, to "settle" the 400 acres in Mercer county; and from this transaction, litigation followed, and suit was brought against McKain by the executors of James McNary's estate, in 1814.

We do not know the result of the litigation, but from some old papers in possession of the writer, we get a clear insight into the perversity of Scotch-Irish nature, when "warped in the woof." The following memorandum, by Joseph Pentecost, the attorney for the executors, to Parker Campbell, another attorney, to whom he committed the case in his absence, fully explains itself, and will enlighten the present and the succeeding generations, of the methods of the wily frontiersmen of "Claim-jumping" proclivities, a hundred years ago:

JOHN McNARY,
 JAMES MARTIN,
 Executors of James
 McNary, deceased,
 vs.
 HUGH MCKAIN.

Covenant—Action of
 Trespass.
 Memorandum for Mr.
 Parker Campbell,
 who is to attend to
 this case in my ab-
 sence.

“David McNary made a contract with Joseph Swearingen in the year 1796 to settle a 400 acre tract of land on the waters of Shannango for which he was to have 150 acres for settlement; afterwards David McNary made a contract with James McNary, deceased, to make the settlement, for 100 acres. Then, about the last of March, or first of April, 1798, McNary made an article with Hugh McKain (that article is supposed to be destroyed at the fire of Muthork’s house, it being deposited with him for safekeeping), by which article Hugh McKain was to give a conveyance for 40 acres of land about four miles from Washington, perhaps on Ten Mile creek, for the 100 acres on Shenango, and to receive forty pounds in cash, to boot, which sum was paid; no title has been made by either party. McKain refused to make the title for the forty acres and contends he has a right to both tracts, and McNary and Swearingen not having it in their power to make him a title to the one hundred acres before mentioned, alleging that the whole four hundred acre tract belongs to him.”

“It was proposed to McKain to leave to the counsel on both sides (to adjudicate) which he refused to do. It was then proposed to leave it to his own counsel (Mr. O. Jennings) which he, (McKain) finally refused. The plaintiffs offered to give security to make him a sufficient title to the one hundred acres, if he would give the neces-

sary Certificate which would enable them to secure a patent, which he also refused. These facts can be proved by Mr. Jennings and David McNary, who were present at the time. McKain has made no title to the forty acres; and he holds the 40 pounds and the title to both tracts. He ought to be obliged to make a title to the forty acres, and also be forced to make, or give, the necessary certificate, so as to enable the executors to procure a patent for the four hundred acre tract, so that he may get his one hundred acres, David McNary his fifty acres and Swearingen the residue, or damages to cover the whole.

Mr. Campbell will oblige by attending to this business for me."

JOSEPH PENTECOST, *1815*.

This James McNary (the grandfather of the writer) died in 1809. His brother John, and his brother-in-law, James Martin, were executors of his estate, and the suit against McKain (McKean) was instituted in 1814. From same old subpoena notices preserved, we find the affair was finally brought before arbitrators—Joseph Pentecost, Obadiah Jennings and Parker Campbell—on the 25th day of November, 1815. We have the original affidavit of his uncle, James, son of JAMES the first, and founder of the James branch of our clan, who died about a month preceding the above date; and the testimony of his uncle,

David, and also his brother, Malcolm, the latter having assisted James in putting in a crop of corn on the tract on the waters of "Shenango," the summer of 1797, all corroborating the facts set forth in the above memorandum of Attorney Pentecost. But we have no record of the finding of the board of arbitration, whether the scheme of the "claim-jumper," McKain, in lieu of the destroyed Article of Contract, was successful in defeating the ends of justice, by the triumph of a bold and glaring fraud!

It is appropriate that we close this brief sketch of the family of our ancestor, JAMES MC-NARY, the father of our Clan, by inserting below the Certificate of Service of his four sons, JOHN, JAMES, THOMAS and DAVID (the founders, respectively, of the four distinct Septs, or branches, of our family) in the ranks of the Patriot bands under Washington fighting the great battle for Freedom and Personal Liberty, in the heroic struggle of the American Colonies for National Independence; which record, as a badge of distinction, ranks as the Ne Plus Utra of ancestral patriotism, descending to us as an inherited halo of glory, an emblem of sterling virtue, a standard of civic inspiration, that strenuously appeals to the manhood, the patriotism, and moral stamina of every loyal representative of CLAN MC-NARY, to conscientiously revere; and forever emulate, honor, guard, and maintain, bright and un-

sullied, the peerless lustre of their Revolutionary sires of 1776, as the succeeding generations, like the fleeting sands of time, glide swiftly by.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
OF
JOHN, JAMES, THOMAS and DAVID McNARY
IN THE WAR OF
NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE

Harrisburg, Pa., U. S. A., March 24, 1909.

To whom it may concern:

I hereby certify that JOHN and DAVID McNARY were Privates in Captain THOMAS McNARY'S Company Sixth Battallion, York Co. Militia; William Ross, Colonel, 1778, See Page 549, Vol. Two, Penna. Archieves, Sixth Series.

That JAMES McNARY was a Private in Capt. Chas. Bilderbacks Company, Third Battallion, Washington County Militia, 1782: (Battallion Commander not mentioned) See Page 111, Vol. Two, Penna. Archieves, Sixth Series.

LUTHER R. KELKER,
Custodian of Public Records.

In Testimony whereof I hereby affix the seal of this Department.



PART SECOND

The McNary-Reed Sept.

of the

Pennsylvania

CLAN McNARY

THE JOHN BRANCH OF THE McNARY FAMILY OF PENNSYLVANIA

Having given in the opening pages of Part First, a brief outline of the probable racial origin, and family antecedents, insofar as the meagre information pertaining to the early traditions and "folklore" that has come down to the present generations, of JAMES McNARY, of Chanceford, York County, Pa.—the most remote ancestor of our Clan, of whom we have knowledge—in order to relate intelligently, the merging of the bloodlines by the marital union of a scion of this descent, with the daughter of another distinguished Colonial family of Eastern Pennsylvania, to thereby become the source and ethnic foundation of the numerous McNARY-REED Sept of the Pennsylvania Clan McNary, we must now return briefly, to a further consideration of the family of our original ancestor and clan patronymic, the said JAMES McNARY, of Chanceford, Pa., the Scotch-Irish immigrant of the pre-Revolutionary era.

As has been previously stated, this remote ancestor, the Scotch-Irish refugee and pioneer settler in the early Colonial days at Chanceford,

had four sons, viz: *John, James, Thomas and David*; each of whom became the ancestor, and consequently the head, or founder, of that particular branch bearing his name, of the four great sub-divisions, which, by common consent, the membership of our numerous clan has now been arranged; which classification is more fully and comprehensively set forth in our standard authority, or clan history, viz: "*The McNary Family*," wherein, by reference to which each member of the four subdivisions may, for himself, satisfactorily trace his Sept relationship, and family lineage, back to our common clan patronymic.

But, as it is the elder stem, or "*JOHN Branch*," of the Pennsylvania CLAN McNARY that, for our present purpose is now to come briefly under review, no further attention, in this volume, will be given to our kinsmen of the "*JAMES*," the "*THOMAS*," and "*DAVID*" branches, or subdivisions of our tribe, whose membership collectively, constitute the larger portion of the numerous posterity of our common ancestor, JAMES McNARY, of Chanceford, Pa.

JOHN McNARY, the eldest son of JAMES the first, was born about the year 1738; but whether in America, in Ireland, or in Scotland, is not known to the present generation. It is believed, however, that his parents were natives of Scotland, and that they sojourned for no extended period in Ireland; and if this oldest son

was not born on American soil, the natural inference is, therefore, that Scotland was the land of his nativity. Neither do we know the name and nationality of John McNary's mother—the wife of James of Chanceford,—the original ancestress of our clan, and the maternal parent of the McNary quartette who so patriotically gave their services to the cause of the struggling colonies, in the war of the Revolution, in behalf of Liberty and National Independence. Whether this remote ancestress of our tribe was of Irish, or of Scottish, descent, can now never be positively determined; as these important facts relating to our early family history, so desirable to posterity, are forever lost to our clan.

But, fortunately, from this early date, henceforward, reliable historic data has been preserved, from which we learn that this oldest son, John McNary, (then written McNeary), about the year 1764, took as a life companion, one, Esther Boyle by name. But here again, intervenes a break (the last, be it ours to decree) in our family records; for we know absolutely nothing of Esther Boyle's history, or of her family antecedents. But the name, "Boyle," bears unmistakable indications of being a patronymic of Scotch-Irish origin.

John and Esther (Boyle) McNary, the ancestors of the elder, or "John," branch of our family, had thirteen children, eleven of whom, viz: Betsy, Mary, Margaret, JAMES, Malcolm,

Esther, Nancy, John, Alexander, Jane and Janet, lived to maturity, married, and left a numerous posterity,—except, possibly, the second son, Malcolm, who, it is believed, had no children. Below is given the order, and date of birth, together with the names of husband and wife, of these eleven children of John McNary and Esther Boyle, whose posterity, collectively, now numbering approximately one thousand persons, constitute the membership of the “John” branch of the Pennsylvania CLAN McNARY.

**FAMILY OF JOHN AND ESTHER
(BOYLE) McNARY**

- 1st. BETSEY McNARY, born 1765; married William Douglas, and she and her posterity remained in York County, Pa. All other members of her father's family—her brothers and sisters—having prior to the year 1802, removed to Washington County, West of the Alleghenies.
- 2nd. MARY McNARY, born 1766; married James McCoy. We have no trace of the posterity of this daughter. Located near Canonsburg, Washington County, Pa.
- 3rd. MARGARET McNARY, born 1768; married James Martin. This family resided in the Canonsburg, Pa., region, where there are yet descendents living.
- 4th. JAMES McNARY, born 1769; married MARGARET REED, a daughter of Col. Joseph Reed, of the Continental army. This son is the founder of the numerous McNARY-REED Sept of our clan.

87 d. July 12, 1809
Buried in East Pleasant Cemetery
Hickory, Pa

5th. MALCOLM McNARY, born 1771; married a Miss Beatty. Resided in Eastern Ohio, and left no surviving descendants.

6th. ESTHER McNARY, born 1773; married Thomas Ewing. The Ewings resided in Allegheny County, near Pittsburgh, and the late Judge Thomas Ewing of that city, was a grandson. Numerous descendants of this daughter yet remain in Allegheny County, Penna. *d. Dec. 2, 1819*

*located in
Smt. Pleasant
Cemetery Hickory*

7th. NANCY McNARY, born 1774; married William Pollock. There is a large posterity of this family, many of whom are citizens of the locality in Washington County, Pa., where their ancestors located in pioneer days.

8th. JOHN McNARY, born 1776; married Jean Hill. These ancestors located near Canonsburg, Pa., where a large posterity remain. This grandson of JAMES the first, was the last of the McNarys remaining in York County, who joined his kindred West of the Alleghenies, upon the death of his father, in the year 1802.

9th. JANE McNARY, born 1776; married James McKibben. We have no trace of the descendants of this family.

10th. ALEXANDER McNARY, born 1780; married Margaret Pollock. This family resided in Belmont County, Ohio, and the wife, Margaret, was a sister of William Pollock, the husband of Alexander's sister, Nancy. There is a large posterity of this son settled in various sections of the United States.

11th. JANET McNARY, born 1784; married James Marshall. The Marshalls early removed from Washington County, Pa., and Marshalltown, Iowa, was founded by descendants of this daughter. Many of the posterity are now located on the Pacific coast.

THE REED FAMILY OF PENNSYLVANIA IN COLONIAL DAYS

Another distinguished pioneer family of the pre-Revolutionary period, contemporary with the original McNary ancestor in York County, was the Reeds of Eastern Pennsylvania. At the outbreak of the Revolutionary uprising, as the Colonial records show, there were various families of the Reed name—then generally spelled “Read”—located in Lancaster County, Pa., and also to the West of the Susquehanna River, in what is now York County, in the Scotch-Irish settlements in Chanceford, and adjoining townships,—a region then popularly known as the “York Barrens.”

The ancestor of the Chanceford Reeds had evidently emigrated from Ireland at an anterior date to the arrival, in York County, of the original ancestor of Clan McNary; coming, probably, early in the first half of the eighteenth century, and settling in Chester County, adjacent to Philadelphia; which place was the main port of entry for the great wave of Ulster immigration, now beginning to crowd the Atlantic shores in such numbers as to utterly dismay the more sedate Quaker, and phlegmatic German colonists, who

had preceded the Scotch-Irish to America by but a few years only.

During the stirring times of the American Revolution, we find there were two "Captain Joseph Reads" in York County, who commanded separate companies of "Associators," or bands of Colonial Volunteer Militia, organized to aid in the Patriot cause. Some of these various families of the Read surname, in Western Lancaster, and in York County, Pa., we know to have been related; and it is probable they were all descended from a common ancestor who had migrated to America a generation earlier, locating, as above intimated, East of the Susquehanna, in Chester County, Pa. There were families of this name settled near Philadelphia, long prior to the Revolutionary War, one of whom was General Joseph Reed,* of General Washington's staff, and later, President of the Supreme Executive Council, or Colonial Congress.

But the particular member of the "Read" family in whom the McNary descent is interested, is that Captain Joseph Reed, of Chanceford township, York County, Pennsylvania, who was the proprietor of a ferry over the Susquehanna, later known as Shenk's Ferry; and who commanded the second company of Associators, Sixth Battallion, York County Militia, William Ross Colonel, in

*"Reed," the modern orthography, now generally used by the posterity of these families.

1776. It was this "Captain Joseph Reed" and his men, that "formed the guard of the British prison, at York," when the Hessian prisoners were removed West of the Susquehanna at the time Howe, the British commander, in 1781, threatened Philadelphia. At this same time, "Thomas McNerry", a brother of our ancestor, "John McNeary", and third son of JAMES, the first, of Chanceford, was the captain of another company of York County Associators, of the Sixth Battalion, under Colonel Ross. (See Part First).

This Captain Joseph Reed, one of the ancestors of our McNARY-REED Sept, was commissioned a Justice of the Peace in 1777, and was the York County representative to the Provincial Conference that met in Carpenters Hall, in Philadelphia, June 18, 1776, that hastened Congress in passing the immortal Declaration of Independence, on the 4th of July, following. A member of our Captain Reed's company in 1776, was one, David McKinley, the ancestor of President William McKinley,—a gentleman who also was a private in Capt. Thomas McNary's Company, later in the Revolutionary struggle. Before the close of the War of Independence, Captain Joseph Reed (hereafter known as "Colonel" Reed) bought the Orson Mill property, and returned to Chanceford, to his ferry and farm of seven hundred acres; and during the remainder of

his life followed the occupation of farmer and miller, until his death, which occurred in 1804. Colonel Reed represented his county in the State Legislature for the four years 1787-1790.

The following paragraph from Prowell's History of York County, Pa., given under the caption of "Prominent Men of the Revolutionary Epoch," may be of interest to the numerous posterity of Colonel ("Captain") Reed, who are now scattered far and wide throughout the land, many of whom, doubtless, have had no opportunity to consult the ancient records, for the doings of their forefathers, in the Colonial times.

"In 1775, and for some time before, Captain Joseph Reed purchased the river rights over the Susquehanna, later known as Shenk's Ferry. During the Revolution Captain Reed commanded a company of Associators, the muster roll of which appears on page 270 of this volume. One of its members was David McKinley, the great grandfather of President William McKinley. For several months in the year 1781, Capt. Reed and his men formed the guard of the British prison situated four miles southeast of York. After the Revolution Captain Reed returned to his ferry and farm of seven hundred acres in Chanceford township. He purchased the Orson Mill property, and during the remainder of his life followed the occupation of farmer and miller, until the time of his

death, October 19, 1804. His property descended to his sons, Joseph and William." (Prowell's History, page 947).

Referring to the assessment, or roll of taxables of York County, Pennsylvania, for the year 1779, the list gives the following record, viz:

"JOSEPH REED, ESQ.—320 Acres; 5 horses;
3 cows = 81:10:0."

Four years later, at the close of the Revolution War in 1783, the assessment returns show:

"JOSEPH REED, ESQ.—165 acres; 9 persons."*

*Of Col. Reed's family several were born subsequent to the date of this assessment.

THE FAMILY OF COL. JOSEPH REED OF CHANCEFORD, PA.

Col. Joseph Reed, of Chanceford, York County, was born Nov. 27, 1733, in Ireland (in what county we have no record), from whence he emigrated to America at an unknown date but prior to the year 1760.* This ancestor first located in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania; but removed to York County, West of the Susquehanna, in 1763, where he subsequently purchased the river rights and, as already stated, established the ferry over the Susquehanna, since known as Shenk's Ferry.

On January 23, 1765, Joseph Reed was united in marriage with Janet Brotherton, who was born in Ireland December 3, 1745, and was brought by her parents to America when but two years of age. To Joseph and Janet (Brotherton) Reed were born children as follows:

(1) JAMES, born June 7th, 1766; (2) NICHOLAS, April 17, 1768; (3) AGNES, May 8, 1770; MARGARET, October 8, 1772; (5) JANET, May

*According to the family record of Adam Reed, a nephew of Col. Joseph (See reference thereto later on) Robert Reed, the father, must have settled in Lancaster County, Pa., about the year 1736, when our ancestor, the Colonel, was about three years old.

1st, 1776; (6) ESTHER, December 24, 1780; (7) JOSEPH, May 6, 1784; (8) ANN, December 16, 1787, and WILLIAM, April 18, 1790.

Of these children, Agnes, who married her cousin, Joseph Reed (who also had served in the Continental army during the Revolution); James, who married his second-cousin, Elizabeth Reed; Nicholas, who married Elizabeth Fulton of York County, Pennsylvania; and MARGARET, who married James McNary, the oldest son of that "John McNeary," who was the founder of the elder branch of the McNary family, of Pennsylvania, all came over the Alleghenies, to Washington County, Pennsylvania, during the last decades of the eighteenth century. The other children of Colonel Joseph Reed remained in their native county, and his property descended to his two younger sons, Joseph and William, who occupied the ancestral estate, some of whose descendants yet remain in the locality of their earliest known progenitor, back in the Revolutionary era.

It is said that Colonel Reed, while a member of the Legislature, in 1780, introduced the resolution which led to the emancipation of the slaves of Pennsylvania; and he it was, who, in 1780, procured the removal from York County, to Cross-Creek, Washington County, Pennsylvania, of the household effects of Rev. Joseph Smith, a Presbyterian minister, who was not only the first pastor of the Presbyterian Congregation of that place,

but also one of the earliest divines to permanently locate in the great wilderness region west of the Appalachian range of mountains; and for which service Colonel Reed received of Colonel James Marshall, the grant of a tract of two hundred acres of land in Cross-Creek Township, Washington County, Pa., which was soon thereafter augmented by the purchase, from Colonel Marshall, of an additional tract of three hundred fifty-nine acres.

Colonel Joseph Reed abode in York County during the remaining years of his life. But his two older sons, James and Nicholas, and also his daughter, Margaret, along with her husband, James McNary, Jr., (son of John, and grandson of JAMES the first,) removed from Chanceford, York County, in 1797, crossing the Alleghenies, and locating upon the "Colonel Marshall" tract, in Cross-Creek township, Washington County, where they reared large families, many of whose descendants have long since gone out to every section of our country, to occupy positions of honor and distinction, wherever located; while others of their posterity, after four generations, yet remain in Washington County, Pennsylvania, the land of their forefathers, in possession of their ancestral heritage.

Colonel Reed died October 19, 1804, at the age of seventy-one years, and is interred in Chanceford graveyard, York County, Pennsyl-

vania. During his absence in the army, his faithful wife Janet (Brotherton) Reed, and her young sons, James and Nicholas, continued to operate the mill. His widow came to Washington County, Pennsylvania, after her husband's death, making her residence principally with her grandson, Joseph McNary, near Burgettstown, Pa., in whose home she expired January 27, 1838, aged ninety-two years, and was buried in the cemetery of the Presbyterian Congregation at Cross-Creek, Washington County, Pennsylvania. In the same cemetery repose, also, the remains of her sons, James and Nicholas Reed, and of her daughter, Agnes, and her cousin-husband, Joseph Reed, previously mentioned.

Thirty-eight years later, on the 25th day of May, 1866, in the home of her son, Joseph McNary, and on the same premises that witnessed the demise of her aged mother—the said Janet (Brotherton) Reed, (the most remote ancestor of our Clan of whom any living member of our Sept has personal knowledge)—was terminated the earthly career of that remarkable woman and “Mother in Israel,” Margaret (Reed) McNary, the second daughter and fourth child of Col. Joseph, and Janet (Brotherton) Reed, of Chanceford, York County, Pa., in the ninety-fourth year of her age; whose remains now peacefully repose in the United Presbyterian Cemetery at Hickory, Washington County, Pa.,—the denomination of

which she early became an active and zealous member, and the home of her religious associations, during her husband's lifetime, a more extended account of whose personality and family history will be found in a later chapter.

Janet Brotherton Reed
born in Ireland Dec. 3, 1745
married Col. Joseph Reed Jan. 23, 1765
and died on Jan. 27, 1838 aged
92 years 1 month 28 days
She is buried in Elm Hill
Graveyard,

THE McNARY-REED SEPT OF THE PENNSYLVANIA CLAN McNARY

In the foregoing pages is given a brief history, together with a geneological forecast of the probable racial origin of the two distinguished colonial settlers of Chanceford, York County, Pa., viz., James McNary and Col. Joseph Reed, (who were the remote ancestors, and founders, respectively, of the McNary and Reed families of Eastern Pennsylvania) in so far as the scanty records of this primitive era in our country's history, have been preserved, to be passed down to posterity; much of it, unfortunately, coming, as we see, rather as the shadowy legend, or tradition, of a departed age, than in the form of accurate knowledge, or verified ethnic data, of a character such as to fully satisfy the natural cravings of the earnest inquiring mind. But with such facts as have already been preserved, relating to the days of our Colonial forefathers, together with the "legends and traditions," herein set forth, meagre as they appear, posterity must rest content; for the source and scope of information relative to our remote ancestry is exceedingly circumscribed,

and unlikely to ever be enlarged, or extended, or that the veil of mystery that darkly obscures the past, will be withdrawn.

As one of the prominent families of our country, however, whose origin pre-dates our National Independence, the members of CLAN McNARY may congratulate themselves that since the middle of the eighteenth century, their family record has been preserved, complete and unbroken, presenting an authentic line of pedigree, or "family tree" which descends as an inestimable heirloom, and clan asset, such as comparatively few American families may lay claim to.

In this present chapter we come to consider, briefly, the events leading to the merging and consolidation of the blood-lines, by matrimonial alliance of scions of the two above mentioned Colonial families of Eastern Pennsylvania, thereby laying the ethnic foundation of the McNARY-REED Sept of our clan,—the making and preserving of an authentic record of which auspicious event, is the subject proper of, and the main incentive for, the publication of this little volume.

The families of these remote ancestors, or family eponyms, viz.,—of James McNary, one of the charter members and ruling elder of the Associate, or "Seceder," congregation of Guinston, York County, Pa., and founder of the Pennsylvania Clan McNary, and Colonel Joseph Reed,

the proprietor of the river rights over the Susquehanna, later known as Shenk's Ferry, and owner of Orson's Mill, in Chanceford township, York County, Pa., the remote ancestor of the Reed family—were close neighbors, intimate friends, and residents of the same township, at the date of our earliest information respecting the antecedents of either ancestor.

But the members of these respective families, though of like religious faith and racial extraction, were not communicants of the same denomination; the Reeds being of the Presbyterian sect, proper, while the descendants of Father McNary, the founder of our Clan, were members and adherents of the Associate, or Seceder, branch of the same Calvinistic creed—an ecclesiastical distinction, or line of demarkation, involving no vital difference in church polity; nor of the cardinal doctrines of the Presbyterian faith, upon which either sect was grounded; save only in that the Associate, or Scottish church, used exclusively the Rouse versification of the Psalms of David, in their devotional exercises, while the Presbyterians proper, whose membership consisted mainly of the immigrant settlers from Ulster, and their immediate descendants, were now beginning to use modern hymns in public worship—an “unscriptural innovation” in Christian worship, to be utterly repudiated and abhorred, by every true disciple of Knox; as, in the estimation of our Scot-

ish forefathers of the Associate faith (who were more tenacious than their Presbyterian brethren in their love and reverence for the "spiritual songs" of their ancestors of the Reformation, under the influence of whose inspiring strains the scores of Scottish martyrs who had so lately fallen victims to the insatiable rage of the bloody "Clavercee," had been enabled to march, unflinchingly, to the stake in defense of the true faith), they were "mere human productions," and therefore "uninspired, unwarranted, and totally unfit" to be used in divine worship.

From the estimate of character, and disposition of temperament, ascribed to our Scotch-Irish progenitors of this period, by the contemporary, through probably not unprejudiced writers—quoted elsewhere in these pages—we, their lineal descendants of the present generation, are constrained to believe that these sturdy frontiersmen of Celtic antecedents, could be fully depended upon to defend to the death, the religious principles under which they had been brought up, and in which they implicitly believed.

It is reasonable to suppose, therefore, that in these early days, sectarian feeling occasionally ran high, and that the cardinal doctrines of creed, and of ecclesiastical polity, were zealously, if not vehemently, debated, and as resolutely justified, and defended, by the ardent partisan of the various sects of the Calvinistic creed, when the ortho-

doxy of one of these minor points of divergence in religious faith, held dear to the heart, should be called in question, to become a bone of bitter contention, by the "Philistine" of a rival sect!

Of a technical education our remote forefathers had none. But in a broad and catholic sense, they were not illiterate! Even in the Colonial days such orthodox authorities on fundamental doctrine, as Baxter's *Saints Rest*, and Boston's *Fourfold State*, were well thumbed textbooks in the small but select libraries of our Calvinistic forefathers now located all along the western borders of civilization! Indeed, in candor it must be admitted, that in their theological training in the cardinal doctrines of the Calvinistic faith, and in their concrete knowledge of religious essentials, in general, the spiritual education of these Scotch-Irish frontiersmen of the Revolutionary period was far in advance of, and founded upon a much higher plane of conduct, and a keener sense of personal responsibility, than that of a later age or, even of our own time—a religious atmosphere and a standard of moral ethics, which, compared with modern conditions, contrasts greatly to the disadvantage of the average churchman of the present day.

But, while our Scotch-Irish progenitors of the Colonial days may have been "stubborn, hot-headed, excitable, and invincible in prejudice"—serious racial shortcomings gratuitously laid at

their door by their friend the enemy,—the unappreciative, less enterprising, and constitutionally stand-pat neighbor, of Quaker proclivities—yet the sectarian differences of opinion as to the relative degree of “inspiration” pertaining to Hymns of human composition, such as Watt’s Paraphrases, when confronted with the sacred grandeur of Rouse’s rendition of the Psalms of David, while a sure-enough stumbling block, of perhaps prodigious dimensions in the estimation of many otherwise well-meaning, pious folk, was not, however, in a social aspect, generally considered an impediment of sufficient importance to interfere with the free and neighborly intercourse between families of different denominational faith.

Hence, while the heads of families of these rival sects of a common creed, may have been intense partisans, and were, doubtless, in those early and exciting days in the development of our country, fain to meet, to argue, and earnestly contend for the “faith once delivered to the saints,” according to “their lights,” as it appeared from their respective viewpoint, making mountains of the mole hills of their religious differences, yet their sons and daughters of the first generation, the genuine product of American soil, met and fraternized on terms of equality—as good Americans ever should—and freely mingled in social intercourse, “for ’a that”!

And, furthermore, the evidence is incontestable that questions of sectarian belief, cut no greater figure in controlling the capricious antics of the irrepressible Dan Cupids of the era of our remote progenitors, than at the present day, such trifles are permitted to interfere in the exclusive sport of these fabled nymphs—the proverbial promoters, in all ages, the world over, of the state-matrimonial!

Under conditions such as above outlined it need, therefore, occasion no surprise where we learn that James McNary, Jr., the oldest son of John McNary of Chanceford, the charter member, and elder of the Guinston Associate, or Psalm-singing branch of the Presbyterian denomination, and Margaret Reed, the second daughter and fourth child of Colonel Joseph Reed, of the Continental army, and a member of the regular, or Hymn-singing branch of the Presbyterian faith, became the high contracting parties to a matrimonial alliance which resulted in the establishing, at the close of the eighteenth century, of the McNARY-REED Sept, of the Pennsylvania Clan McNary.

THE FOUNDING OF THE SEPT

James McNary, Jr., son of John, and grandson of JAMES the first, of Chanceford, Pa., (born Nov. 11, 1769) and Margaret Reed, daughter of Col. Joseph Reed, of the same country (born October 8, 1772), were married in the bride's home at Reed's Mill, in Chanceford township, York County, Pa., on October 22nd, 1797, when the groom was in his twenty-eighth year.

Of the early days of this ancestor we have little definite information, except we know that by occupation, he was a tiller of the soil. But the young men of his day and generation, of like ethnic construction, we well know, were hustlers. The pioneer race that overcame the wilds of nature, that felled the forests, that conquered the Indians, the French, and the British, were no laggards. Apropos of this pronounced racial characteristic, so eminently qualifying the Ulsterman to lead the van in empire building, we quote Ex-Gov. Proctor Knott, who has described the average Scotch-Irishman as one "Who keeps the Commandments of God, and every other good thing he can get his hands on!" The controlling ambition of our forefathers of his day, was to

secure a home; and the young men of the period were ever on the lookout for rich and fertile lands beyond the Alleghenies, which new and unsettled region, but recently thrown open to development, was then the "Far West" to the young America of the older settlements East of the Mountains.

We have seen that prior to the marriage of James McNary and Margaret Reed in 1797, most of his kindred,—the descendants of our Clan eponym, JAMES the first,—had already left their York County homes, having removed beyond the Mountains, into the newer settlements in Western Pennsylvania—his sons, James and Thomas, with their families, leaving in the early eighties, at the close of the War of Independence, locating on the waters of "Shirtee" (Chartiers) in Strabane Township, Washington County; while David, the youngest son, accompanied by the patriarch JAMES himself, about the same time, removed with his family to the same county, locating, however, in Hanover Township, near the Virginia border line, some twenty-five miles distant from the homes of his brothers, James and Thomas.

It is not surprising, therefore, that the young men of the East, in those days, should make frequent visits beyond the mountain barrier, in quest of new homes in the great wilderness of the West, where now nearly every family had representatives among the pioneer settlers on the frontier

borders. How often, as a young man, this ancestor, James McNary, Jr., may have crossed the Alleghenies visiting among his relatives, and incidentally prospecting for a settlement, we, unfortunately, have no record. But from evidence recovered from detached portions of the record in the litigation instituted by his Executors vs. Hugh McKain (McKean), in 1814 A. D., (given in the closing chapter of Part First, we find that he had, at least once before his marriage, visited at his Uncle David's, in Hanover Township, in the year 1796, where his grandfather, JAMES, made his home, and who may have been yet living, at the time, although this date is given in our records, as the year of our remote ancestor's demise.

After the union of these scions of the McNary and Reed families of York County, in casting about for a choice of opportunities for securing a home of their own, this young couple now found that every inducement laden with a promise of substantial success, beckoned them West of the Alleghenies, appealing for their location in the rich alluvial valleys and heavily timbered hill-slopes of Washington County, where land was cheap and plentiful, awaiting only the coming of the sturdy pioneer who dared to brave the dangers and hardships of a settler's life on the extreme borders of civilization. And, moreover, in this particular instance, it is obvious, their decision to "go west" was materially influenced by the earn-

est importuning of their kinsfolk—literally, “their sisters, their cousins, and their aunts”—who had long since preceded them to new homes on the western frontier, and who now anxiously awaited their coming.

In the late fall, or early winter of 1797-8, therefore, James McNary and Margaret Reed, the founders of our Sept, with their few belongings, on horseback set out on their long and tedious journey into the fondly anticipated “land of promise.” In due time, and without serious mishap these ancestral heroes arrived at the home of their uncle, James McNary, on the “waters of Shirtee,” in North Strabane Township, with whom they made their home until the following spring.

And this land of promise, the famed Hybrasil of the West, the long-sought Inisfail foretold by Druidic priest and Celtic Seer, now at last within their reach, what of it? Have the fond hopes of expectant sires of untold ages, fulfilled their brightest anticipations?

When our forefathers took up their “tomma-hawk” rights, at the close of the Revolutionary War, in the region lying West of the Monongahela (now Washington County, Pa.), how little they realized what a “land of promise” it actually was, they had come up out of the East, to conquer and possess!

First, as to quality of soil and as an agricultural region, it proved the husbandman's paradise. Later, as the country opened up to a race of exclusive Scotch-Irish settlers with their proverbial characteristics of thrift and matchless energy, this region became the greatest wool-growing county in America, and famous as the original home and place of development of the fine-wooled Delain Merino breed of sheep, creating an industry which, in and of itself, became a harbinger of civilization, a potential factor in stimulating and promoting to a remarkable degree, our national, commercial and industrial advancement. And, finally, in its practically inexhaustible mineral wealth of oil and gas, and in its boundless areas of steam and coking coal—wealth undreamed of by our forefathers that lay hidden beneath their feet—this district stands unequalled, with its store of nature's grandest bounty, that, in recent years, has transformed this favored region into a veritable hive of industry, teeming with its countless mines and its great oil and gas fields, with their correlative and intricate systems of pipe lines essential to, and that feed and sustain, the world's greatest industrial and manufacturing emporium.

In the spring of 1798, after spending the winter months with the family of his uncle, previously mentioned, James and Margaret (Reed) McNary located upon a tract of 100 acres of his

father-in-law, Col. Joseph Reed's land, in Cross-Creek Township, Washington County, about midway between the villages of Hickory and West Middletown; it being a part of the "Marshall" tract, mentioned on a previous page, as having been given to Col. Reed, of York County, by Col. James Marshall, as compensation for the removal over the mountains to Cross-Creek, Washington County, Pa., in 1779, of the household effects of Rev. Joseph Smith, who was the pioneer minister of this region, and the first pastor of the Presbyterian congregation of Cross-Creek. Rev. Smith was called to the pastorate of this church in the month of May, 1779, two years before the organization of Washington County, and "Smith" township was named in his honor. In 1797, the year preceding the settlement of James and Margaret McNary on the Marshall tract in Cross-Creek Township, James and Nicholas Reed, grandmother McNary's older brothers, removed to Washington County, and had located on farms adjoining that of their sister, Margaret; on other portions of Col. Reed's western lands; from which it would appear that a definite arrangement for a settlement in the West, for James and Margaret McNary, upon a part of the Marshall tract, had been made at the time of their marriage; and that a home awaited their arrival, adjacent to the lands of the wife's brothers, the said James and Nicholas Reed.

And beside these two brothers just mentioned, eight years prior to the above date, grandmother McNary's sister, Agnes, the oldest daughter of Colonel Reed, with her cousin-husband, Joseph Reed, Jr., had also removed to Washington County, locating in Cross-Creek Township, now leaving but the two younger sons, Joseph and William, of Col. Reed's family, back in the old Chanceford neighborhood, where, as we have already seen, they inherited the ancestral possessions, and where numerous descendants yet remain. .

Of these two sons of Colonel Reed,—James and Nicholas,—who removed to Washington County, Pa., each reared a large family, and their numerous posterity is now scattered far and wide throughout the various states, among whom have been many honored and respected citizens, influential and prominent in their chosen professions. And, as respects the posterity of the son, Nicholas, the original homestead in Cross-Creek Township, is yet in the possession of his descendants, in the family name.

In regard to the family of Agnes Reed, the other member of Col. Joseph Reed's family who came west, and located at Cross-Creek, in Washington County, there was no son surviving to perpetuate the name; and the daughters of the family at an early day removed to Armstrong County,

Nicholas Reed & his wife,
Elizabeth are buried at West
Middletown Graveyard.

Pa., and it is not known if there now be surviving posterity of this daughter. But the remains of Agnes Reed and her husband, Joseph, and also of her brothers, James and Nicholas, are interred in the ancient burying grounds at Cross-Creek Village, Pa.

Having digressed to make mention of the families of these children of our remote "Reed" ancestor, who removed to Washington County, Pa., in the pioneer days, it may be here stated that there is authentic evidence that Col. Joseph Reed, of Chanceford, was not the only one of his family connection, in America, in the pre-Revolutionary days, and that there was a large connection of the Reed name, at that time, descendants of a common ancestor, of whose settlement, in Lancaster County, our branch of the Reed family have no record.

But, fortunately, we are not without reliable information on this point. Among the settlers of Eastern Ohio in the first quarter of the eighteenth century, was a certain Adam Reed, who came from Lancaster County, Pa., and located in Jefferson County about twelve miles West of Steubenville, O., at a place now known as Reed's Mill. Margaret (Reed) McNary, the mother of our Sept, always (and often) referred to this gentleman as "Cousin Adam" Reed; and the writer has personal knowledge of her having visited at Reed's Mill, near the close of her life. And

this Ohio pioneer, we know, kept up social intercourse with the families of James and Nicholas Reed (grandmother McNary's brothers) at Cross-Creek, Pa., while he lived: In corroboration of the relationship between this Mr. Adam Reed, and the family of Col. Joseph Reed, our ancestor, the writer has the unqualified acknowledgment of a son of Adam Reed that his father and Margaret (Reed) McNary were first cousins; and he kindly placed at our command, the line of descent of his father's family.

The record of the Adam Reed branch of the family sets forth that he, the said Adam, was the son of John Reed, whose father, Robert by name, emigrated from Ireland and located in York County Pa., in 1735, but soon returned East of the Susquehanna, into Lancaster County, where he made a permanent home. This branch of the "Reed" line has trace of the posterity of but two of Robert's family, viz., the two younger, Thomas and John. Both these sons were in the Continental army—Thomas a commissioned officer; and John, a private, was a participant in the Battle of Long Island, where he received a bayonet wound near the eye, from which he was never thereafter able to "close that eye, asleep or awake!"

This latter son, John, was a school teacher, and the youngest of the family; and their "traditions" say their ancestor, Robert, had a large fam-

ily, although they have trace of the posterity of the two sons, Thomas and John, only. And, furthermore, they have no record of whether this ancestor, Robert, was married in Ireland, before emigrating to America! But, happily, from our own record we are able to supply this missing link in their line of genealogy; for our ancestor, Col. Joseph Reed, who was undoubtedly an older brother of the Thomas and John, aforesaid, and consequently a son of this Robert Reed, was born, our records claim, in Ireland in the year 1733, although they do not give his age when he came with his parents to America.

But from the combined information from the family records of both Col. Joseph Reed and of this youngest brother, John, we learn of a certainty that the name of their common progenitor—the most remote Reed ancestor of whom we have trace—was Robert; that he had been married before emigrating to America; that he arrived on our shores some time between the years 1733-1735, A. D., and that he first located in York County, Pa., but soon thereafter returned to Lancaster County where, as we know, our Col. Joseph Reed was reared, and from whence he came into York County, as previously stated, about the year 1760, when he was twenty-seven years of age.

That this remote ancestor, **ROBERT REED**, of Lancaster County, Pa., had a large family, is

known from the fact that Col. Reed's oldest son, James, married his cousin, Elizabeth Reed; and that his daughter, Agnes, married her cousin, Joseph Reed. And we have no evidence that these cousins were brother and sister; and we know definitely they were not children of the said JOHN REED, the founder of the "Adam Reed" Sept. Hence, it is apparent that there were other sons of this Robert Reed, of Lancaster County,, than our ancestor, Col. Joseph, and these younger sons, Thomas and John, aforesaid.

But to resume our subject proper, viz., the biographical record of James and Margaret (Reed) McNary. These ancestors continued to reside on the aforesaid Marshall tract, where they first located, during the husband's brief span of life. They were both consistent members of the Associate—or Seceder, Congregation of Hickory, Pennsylvania, the Presbyterian denomination of which the husband's father, and grandfather, had both been ruling elders, back in his native Guinston Congregation of Chanceford Township, York County, Pa.; and this place of worship at Hickory continued to be the scene of their religious activities throughout James McNary's lifetime. To these ancestors were born six children, viz., John, Janet, Joseph, Esther, Nancy, and James. This young husband and father's earthly career terminated when in the prime of life, his death occur-

ing July 12, 1809, in his fortieth year, after a brief illness and a wedded life of eleven years, only.

It is to be keenly regretted that we possess no authoritative information regarding the size, physical characteristics, or personal appearance of Grandfather McNary, the paternal ancestor, and founder of our numerous Sept; the cause of which misfortune will be readily manifest, when we consider that his children were of young and tender years when orphaned, the oldest of whom being of an age scarcely susceptible of retaining a clear and distinct impression, or recollection, of his deceased parent until arriving at years of nominal discernment, or discretion of judgment.

But fate has been much more considerate to our Sept, in regard to its maternal head; and, thanks to the inventive spirit of a succeeding generation, the art of photography has preserved for the coming generations, a passing shadow of the physical outlines of their maternal parent, caught as it were, in the "sear and yellow leaf," when the subject was in her eighty-eighth year, it being the sole and only portrait of any ancestor of our Clan, of her generation ever secured—see illustration on the opposite page—the possession of which, although dim, and indistinct of feature, is a matter of sincere gratification to every living member of our Sept, who ^{was} were fortunate to have known her in the flesh—alas! now how few—and a priceless



MARGARET (REED) McNARY

1772—1866

Daughter of Col. Joseph Reed, of the Continental Army,
the Mother-in-Chief of our McNary-Reed Sept.

*She is buried by her husband, James McNary in
Cent Pleasant Cemetery at Hebron, Ill. grave marked,
an erect stone, at head of James McNary marker.
Dedication nearly illegible*

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boon, to ever be appreciated and preserved, by the generations yet unborn.

After the untimely loss of her husband, the devoted wife and young mother continued to reside on the farm, where, with remarkable energy and discreet management, along with the generous assistance of kind friends when sorely in need, she was able to rear and support her dependent family until her older sons, John and Joseph, became able to assist their parent, and lighten her arduous responsibilities.

We must bear in mind that at the opening of the nineteenth century, there were many relatives, representatives of both the McNary, and the Reed families, located in Washington County. The Executors of James McNary's estate,—James Martin and John McNary—were relatives; the former a brother-in-law of the decedent, the husband of his sister Margaret. (McNary Family, No. 371 John Branch) and the latter his younger brother (No. 401, John Branch) who, as previously related, had been the last of the McNarys to leave the old habitat in York County for the West, arriving with his family, in 1802; while the brother-in-law, Martin, came with his family, two years later, both having settled on "Shirtee," near Canonsburg, Pa., about ten miles distant from their relatives, the ancestors of our McNARY-REED Sept, now located in Cross-Creek Township, Southwest of Hickory, Pa.

From various records that have come down to us from these pioneer times, we glean the following facts pertaining to the settlement of the James McNary, Estate, which may be of interest, for the contrast of economic conditions, and the lack of extravagance, which prevailed in the days of this ancestor, as compared with modern customs and conditions.

James McNary's vendue was held on the 26th day of September, 1809. William Marshall, a neighbor, and a brother of the James Marshall, who had married the decedent's sister, Janet (No. 268, John Branch) "cried" the sale, for the compensation of one dollar; while Mathew McNary, (No. 380, Thomas Branch), a cousin of Grandfather McNary, received a fee of two dollars for "clerking."

From this return we learn further, that Alexander Hunter, the undertaker, for making the coffin and for his services, made the modest charge of five dollars! May not the time be propitious for the twentieth century posterity of these pioneer fathers to seriously consider the propriety of returning to first principles, by advocating a decided reformation in the matter of modern mortuary extravagant, that, like a wave of malignant contagion, is sweeping o'er the land to the great detriment of millions of the middle classes, who constitute the chief hope and reliance of our country?

James, the youngest son and heir of this parent, was but an infant, being less than five months old, when orphaned; hence the rendering of the final account by the executors of this estate, was delayed until May 10th, 1830, (after the youngest heir had become of legal age) which return was approved at the June Term of the Orphans Court of Washington County, Pa., the same year, from which we learn that the total value, as reported by the executors, was \$2,381.62½.

THE FAMILY OF JAMES AND MARGARET (REED) McNARY

I. JOHN McNARY, (No. 4, John Branch*) the oldest member of our Sept, was born on the Cross-Creek homestead, Sept. 3, 1798, which place continued to be his home until his marriage, when in his twenty-eighth year. With the assistance of his younger brother, Joseph, this son became the mainstay in support of his bereaved mother, and her dependent family, during the early years of her widowhood; which filial duty these sons were enabled to accomplish by frugal industry from their earnings from odd jobs of chopping, grubbing, and kindred work in conquering and preparing the mighty forest, a fit habitation for the succeeding generations; and, in the harvest season, from their skill with the sickle, as reapers, and in swinging the sythe in the meadows and hay-fields of their neighbors, whereby they were fortunate to earn the pittance of 50 cents per day, with which to augment their scanty family income. And these days of agonizing sweat and toil were by no means modern eight-hour days, that

*Numbers in parenthesis, in this Chapter, refer to the individual number, in Sept, or Branch, as given in our record, "The McNary Family," to which refer, for line of descent of subsequent generations.

greeted these sturdy ancestors of our Sept, in their bitter up-hill struggle to conquer in the battle of life.

John McNary on January 12th, 1826, was united in marriage with Ann Moore, a native of Washington County, Pa., by whom he had seven children; and his residence, after his marriage, was upon a farm near Bloomfield, Jefferson County, Ohio. After the death of his first wife, on November 15th, 1837 he married Mrs. Sarah (Maxwell) Crouch, by whom he had, also, seven children. Of this family of fourteen, two sons and two daughters of the first marriage, and four sons and two daughters—ten in all—survived to a mature age, and reared families. Their six sons all followed in the footsteps of the father as agriculturist and stockman. The posterity of this oldest member of our Sept is numerous, and now distributed to many distant states, where they are engaged in the various avocations of life.

“Uncle John” McNary was a quiet, unassuming, upright man, a highly respected citizen, and a life-long and consistent member of the Piney Fork United Presbyterian congregation, near his home. He lived to be over seventy years of age; and his remains, with those of his life companions, are interred in the Piney Fork Cemetery,* and his old homestead is yet in the posses-

*The remains of Sarah, the second wife, are interred in the Bloomingdale, Ohio, Cemetery.

sion of descendants bearing his honored name.
(See McNary Family, page 31).

II. JANET McNARY (No. 211, John Branch) the oldest daughter of James and Margaret (Reed) McNary, was born July 17th, 1800. She was married May 20th, 1819, to Joseph Lyle, a son of John Lyle, one of the three pioneer brothers of that name who came from Northampton County, Pennsylvania, and settled in Mt. Pleasant Township, Washington County, Pa., in the year 1784. This young couple were "famed" as being the handsomest bride and groom known in their day—a distinction, the knowledge of which is still extant with our octogenarians. The posterity of this daughter probably constitutes the tallest branch of our Sept-membership, or "family tree." The Lysles resided on the pioneer homestead, on the Burgettstown road, two miles North of the village of Hickory, and they were members of the Mt. Prospect Presbyterian Church. Janet (or Jane) McNary Lyle died June 28th, 1831, leaving to survive one son, and three daughters, all of whom lived to a mature age, and reared families, whose posterity is numerous, many of her descendants yet remaining in Washington County, Pa., and in Jefferson County, Ohio. (McNary Family, page 42.)

James McNary Lyle lies buried in the Mt. Pleasant (Ch. P.) Cemetery at Hickory near his McNary relatives

III. JOSEPH McNARY (No. 156, "John" Branch) the second son of James, and Margaret (Reed) McNary, was born June 16th, 1802, on

the "McNary" homestead in Cross-Creek Township, Washington County, Pa. As already stated, upon this son, jointly with his older brother, John, chiefly devolved the duty of maintaining and providing for the dependent family of their widowed mother. It was little schooling the youth of this generation were privileged to obtain; three months of winter, devoted to reading, (the Bible) writing and arithmetic, being the maximum term. And, when the "Single Rule of Three" had been completely mastered, the student was an accepted candidate for matrixulation. But the "old log school-house," notwithstanding, at this time rendered a noble service by producing a generation of intelligent God-fearing citizenship, grounded, firm as adamant, in the principles of human liberty, who effectually laid, and securely cemented the foundation of our free institutions.

Joseph McNary, on March 2nd, 1826, was united in marriage with Jane Rea, the youngest daughter of William Rea, Esq., an influential citizen of Cross-Creek Township, Washington County, Pa., and a granddaughter of Col. Samuel Rea, of Northampton County, Pa., a commissioned officer in the Continental army. In the following year, this young couple removed to Smith Township, Washington County, locating on a farm one mile West of Burgettstown, Pa., through which, a quarter-century later, the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis R. R. was located.

On these premises Joseph and Jane (Rea) McNary spent their remaining days, rearing a family of ten children who survived to maturity. Like his forefathers, this son was a member of the United Presbyterian Church, having been ordained an elder in the Burgettstown Congregation, when a very young man, soon after his removal within its bounds.

Joseph McNary was an influential, public-spirited citizen, filling many positions of trust, and active in all matters pertaining to the social and intellectual advancement of the community. His demise occurred May 14th, 1874, when in his 72nd year; his life-companion, and mother of his family, having departed March 11th, 1866, in the 59th year of her age; and the remains of these worthy parents rest in the Fairview Cemetery at Burgettstown, Pa.

The old "McNary Homestead" in Smith Township, so long in possession of this son, and his descendants, has now become the property of the Pittsburgh-Buffalo Coal Company, and is the location of their extensive Francis Mines, on the Pan Handle Railroad. As a remarkable coincidence, it may be noted in passing, it was on these premises, as related elsewhere in these pages, that the aged Janet (Brotherton) Reed, the widow of Col. Joseph Reed, of Chanceford, York County, Pa., ended her eventful career, in the home of her grandson, Joseph McNary, in January, 1838, aged

92 years; followed, thirty-eight years later, by the demise, in the same home, of her daughter, Margaret (Reed) McNary, the ancestress of our Sept, in her 94th year. The descendants of this branch of the McNary-Reed Sept, next to their kinsmen, the posterity of the older son, John, are the most numerous of the line, and are now widely distributed in various sections of our country, from the shores of the Atlantic to the distant Pacific coast. (See McNARY FAMILY, page 38)

IV. ESTHER McNARY (No. 293, "John" Branch) daughter of James and Margaret (Reed) McNary, married Thomas McCarrell, Associate Judge of Washington County. The McCarrells resided near Hickory, Pa., and were members of the United Presbyterian Congregation of that place. They had four children, two sons and two daughters. The sons both became noted physicians—John, the older, at Wellsville, Ohio, and James in Allegheny, Pa. The only descendants of this daughter, Esther, extending beyond the 3rd generation, are the posterity of her daughter, Margaret (McCarrell) Cowden, many of whose descendants yet remain in the old Hickory and Canonsburg region. (McNary Family, page 44).

V. NANCY McNARY (No. 321 "John" Branch) the third daughter of James and Margaret (Reed) McNary, married John McKee, whose residence was on a farm on the Burgetts-town road, seven miles northwest of Washington,

*Esther McNary m. T. Pleasant
is buried in Hickory
Cemetery at Hickory*

Pa. These parents were members of the Hickory United Presbyterian Church, of which congregation most of Nancy's relatives were also members, and the Church associations of her youthful days. The McKees had five children, all of whom, except one son, James, died in early childhood, the mother with them, within less than a week, of some unknown malady which, for want of a better name, was termed "putrid sore throat."

This, in reality, was the first visitation of diphtheria known in the land, which disease was beyond control of the physicians of the day, and was permitted, unchecked, to exterminate the entire family, the father and one son, only excepted. James McKee, the surviving son, lived to an advanced age, on the McKee homestead, never married, and died January 12th, 1912, thereby extinguishing this line of the McNary-Reed Sept. (McNary Family, page 46.)

VI. JAMES McNARY (No. 323, "John" Branch) the infant son of James and Margaret (Reed) McNary at the time of his father's death, was born February 18, 1809. As is frequently the case with the younger members of a family, this son was fortunate in obtaining somewhat better educational advantages than fell to the lot of the older sons, which qualified him, in later years, to become an active leader in the intellectual and educational movements of the community. He resided on the old homestead a number of years,

*Nancy's mother and
her family will also see
with the McNarys at
Hickory Pa*

and became prominent in military affairs, rising to the position of Major in the State Militia, and also became noted as an ardent anti-slavery advocate, which principles he ably and fearlessly upheld.

James McNary first married Miss Jane Welsh, who died in 1834, by whom he had two sons. One of these sons, James H., by name, served throughout the Civil War, was with Sherman in his march to the sea, was honorably discharged at the close of the war, and, on his way home, at Louisville, Kentucky, was killed by a stray ball entering the tent where the young soldier was writing his parents of his home-coming. The surviving son of this marriage was a ruling elder of the United Presbyterian Church at Richmond, Ohio, and lived to an advanced age, leaving descendants.

In 1835 James McNary was again married, his second wife being Harriet Thompson, daughter of Joseph Thompson, of Hickory, and sister of Revs. Joseph and James Thompson, of the United Presbyterian Church. Of his second marriage, five children survived to maturity, to rear families. Like his father, his grandfather, and his great grandfather, Major James McNary was an active and consistent member of the United Presbyterian denomination, his church connection being at Bloomfield, Ohio, where he lived

*Jane Welsh McNary died March 30, 1834.
and is buried in Mt Pleasant
Cemetery at Hickory.*

most of his days. He died at Waverly, Indiana, in 1869, leaving a numerous posterity. (See McNary Family, page 47.)

The father of this family and founder of our Sept, as we have seen, was called away in the prime of life, leaving his young widow with a dependent family to maintain. After the death of her husband, for about twenty years this devoted parent remained upon the Cross-Creek premises, faithfully caring for both the temporal and spiritual welfare of her family until all her children had arrived at maturity, married, and left the native hearth. But soon after the marriage of her son James, probably as early as 1830, grandmother McNary ceased housekeeping, and thereafter abode, for stated periods, alternately, in the homes of her sons and daughters. But the lives of her daughters, Janet Lyle, Esther McCarrell, and Nancy McKee, terminated after brief wedded careers; and, after the loss of her daughters, the mother of our Sept made her home mainly with her son Joseph, occasionally making extended visits, however, in the home of her oldest son, John McNary, at Bloomfield, Ohio.

Just when Margaret (Reed) McNary took up her permanent residence with her son Joseph, McNary, at Burgettstown, Pa., cannot now be definitely determined; but the last twenty years of her life were certainly spent almost exclusively in this home, where the writer was, fortu-

nately, in his youthful days, privileged to know, and enjoy the companionship of this, in many respects, remarkable woman, who knew by heart many portions of the Bible, and could repeat from memory, at the age of over ninety years, the entire (metrical) Book of Psalms.

James McNary, the paternal ancestor of our Sept, died in his Cross Creek home, July 12, 1809, aged 40 years; and his remains were interred in the United Presbyterian Cemetery at Hickory, Pa. Fifty-seven years later, on the 25th of May, 1866, in this Burgettstown home, where her mother, Janet (Brotherton) Reed, thirty-eight years earlier, had succumbed to nature's inexorable mandate, was ended the eventful days of Margaret (Reed) McNary, the maternal ancestor of our Sept, in her 94th year; and her remains were laid to rest beside her husband at Hickory, Pa., the home of their religious associations in her husband's lifetime. But a suitable monument to the memory of these worthy ancestors has been erected by appreciative descendants, in the Fairview Cemetery, Burgettstown, Pa.

Grandmother McNary was truly one of nature's noblewomen! Oft times, in childhood's tender years, has the writer listened, spellbound at her feet, to the thrilling stories of her youthful days, when her father, Col. Joseph Reed of Chanceford, was absent in the East with Washington in the Colonial army, where for a time

Janet Brotherton Reed is buried at Cross Creek

he acted as Quartermaster; or again when, with his command, he stood guard over the encampment of Hessian prisoners, near York, in the darkest and most trying hours of our country's history! Or when, back in the wilderness of the so-called York county "Barrens," while the Revolutionary struggle was raging, and the able bodied settlers were mainly absent in the Patriot ranks, her mother, with the aid of her two young sons, James and Nicholas, continued to operate the old mill during the absence of her husband in the army! And how they were constantly beset with the perils incident to a pioneer life, exposed always to the depredations of the wolf and panther issuing forth from their mountain lairs, and to a constant dread of invasion by the treacherous Indian tribes of the northern and western parts of the state, who had been incited to a frenzy of hatred of these Scotch-Irish settlers on the frontier borders, by their British allies, in their unholy war upon the liberties of the American Colonies!

Oh! that some able and "clerkly" member of our³ clan, of keen historic instinct, and native discernment, had now appeared upon the scene to jot down fresh from the lips of this most remarkable ninety-year-old ancestress of our sept, of yet brilliant and unimpaired mental faculties—the one remaining fount of pioneer history—the vivid stories of the Colonial days, drawn from

the great store of family history, and wealth of Scotch and Irish lore, which she was so pre-eminently qualified, both by nature and from personal knowledge, to impart?

At the close of the Civil War, as late even as the year 1866, we had yet with us this aged ancestress of our McNary-Reed Sept of the Pennsylvania CLAN McNARY, viz: Margaret (Reed) McNary, the aforesaid daughter of Col. Joseph, and Janet (Brotherton) Reed, whose wonderful span of life reached back beyond the birth of our Republic; and whose personal knowledge of the history, both of the McNary, and Reed families, extended back to, and overlapped the second generation beyond her own! What an asset to posterity was thus unappreciated, what a debt left unpaid, by our thoughtless ancestors of the departing generation? And are we, the twentieth century representatives of our Clan, to follow in the footsteps of our forefathers, and allow, with criminal indifference, the few remaining shadows of our ancestral "traditions" and scraps of "family lore," to fade away and be forever lost to posterity?

Left alone in early life, in a new and sparsely settled region by the untimely death of her husband, thereby thrown exclusively upon her own resources, burdened with the responsibility of six young children to rear amid all the trials and privations incident to the pioneer days of our

country's history, this devoted and resourceful woman and truly Christian parent, survived her deceased husband, as a widow, for nearly fifty-seven years! Famed for her remarkable memory, her tact, and intellectual vigor, Grandmother McNary lived to see her numerous descendants become honored, respected, God-fearing citizens, prominent in both civil and religious stations in life; a result largely attributable to her wonderful individuality, and unselfish parental devotion, thereby meriting, (and presenting for emulation) an indestructible tribute to her personal worth and Christian virtues, than which no grander memento of human achievement may be hoped for, or attained, by mortal man!

CONCLUSION.

In the foregoing pages the attempt has been made to present, briefly, the salient facts of the ancestral history, both of the McNary, and the Reed family, that otherwise would be lost to posterity, while yet they are accessible, and possible of preservation, in the hope that it may prove of substantial interest to the clan—membership of the present generation.

But the writer's chief hope of commendation, it must be admitted, centers largely in the anticipation that the few facts, dates, and reminiscences, herein set forth, meagre though they be, of our remote Clan ancestry, will be yet more fully appreciated as the centuries pass; and, hesitatingly, he ventures to "cast his bread upon the waters" of "clan-appreciation" in the days to come, trusting to the impartial verdict of future generations, as a justification for the appearance of this little volume, which purports to be, not a complete Clan History, but a safe repository, rather, of present available data, to here await the advent of a more able and erudite historian, in a later age, to take up the work of arranging and

compiling a complete and concise history of the posterity of James, and Margaret (Reed) McNary, the ancestors, and founders, of the most numerous Sept of the elder, or "John" branch, of our Pennsylvania CLAN McNARY.



