Genealogy & Biographical Information – Volume 7

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A00395-1

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GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH
AVENEL, N. J.

MEMBER
N. J. HISTORICAL SOCIETY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF N. J.

August 2, 1938.

James R. Mc Vicker,
Iowa City, Iowa.

Dear Mr. Mc Vicker:

Your long letter received, and contents noted. I had already noted the extracts you give from the N.J. archives re wills. The locality of those families is on the edge of Somerset and Morris Co. and bounderies may have changed since then. I looked through indexes of deeds on the Mc Vicker name in Hunterdon Co. one day last week when I had some other work there, and found none conveyed in that name in Hunterdon Co. I think Somerset and Morris Co. land records the only likely place to clear up the records. If Duncan Mc Vicker, who went to Bedford Co. Pa. was a son of the James Mc. Vicker who died in 1800 - there would most likely be a conveyance after his death, in which all of his children took part, and if one lived in Bedford Co. at the time it would appear most likely in such conveyance, by power of attorney or otherwise. I often find such conveyances - and they give the new locations of children of parents deceased here. If Duncan Mc. Vicker, who went to Bedford, owned land here before he went to Pa. there would probably be a conveyance giving the name of his wife. But I am sure, if so, he lived in either Morris or Somerset County. If I should have to make a trip to those places on other business I could check on it then. To take a trip to either place - 35 miles - one way - takes about a day to do some work on it too., is worth about $5. per day.

It may be that the Jean McCollum who married a Duncan Mc Vicker was the "Nancy" you have the tradition of. She might have been named Nancy Jean or Jean Nancy - and named Jean in her father's will and "Nancy" in other times. I have had such cases. Offhand, I get the impression that the Duncan Mc Vicker who married Jean Mc Cullum was the son of the James Mc Vicker who died in 1800. He was about the right age apparently to have been the son of that James, and about the right age to have been the Duncan Mc. Vicker who served in the Rev. War and had children as early as 1768. I also feel sure that James Mc Vicker and Thomas Mc Collum were borthers-in-law, having married Mc Cain sisters. Thus Duncan Mc. Vicker married his cousin Jean - which often happened in those days. I think also that the name Duncan came into the McVicker family there through the Mc Collum family, that is through the marriage of an earlier Mc. Vicker with a McCollum possibly.

Ofcourse, the above paragraph is just conjecture from such facts as I have so far seen. I know of no marriage records of that locality, outside of those on file at the office of the Sec. of State for that early period and those have been printed up and I find none of a Duncan Mc Vicker. The only way would appear to be the deeds to find out the first name of Duncan's wife.

Have you written to the Veteran's Bureau, War Department, Washington D.C.? If Duncan Mc, Vicker applied for a pension,

D. DeYoung -> JRM [A00395-2]

A00395-2

their records would give a great deal about him, names of his children, wife, brothers and sisters often, and other details. I suggest you write there for what they may have. It takes about three weeks to get a reply.

There may also be more particulars in Trenton on the disposition of the estate of James Mc Vicker, d. 1800 - which might mention his heirs. When I am in Trenton again I shall check on that. If we could eliminate that Duncan in some way from the Duncan who married Jean Mc Collum, we might gain a point. If Duncan, son of James, remained in N.J. he may have made conveyances of land which would give the name of his wife . I think the land records will show whether or not there were two Duncan Mc. Vickers at that time or whether the Duncan who m. Jean Mc. was the son of James, d. 1800.

This is a very hot day - and it is about the 30th day of such sultry heat we can hardly stand it, so my letter may have many errors. I hope, however, it answers the vital parts of your letter.

In the meantime, believe me,

Very truly yours,

Dirk P. DeYoung

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00396-1]

A00396-1

1117 East College Street
Iowa City, Iowa
September 6, 1938

Mr. Dirk P. DeYoung,
Genealogical Research,
Avenel, New Jersey.

Dear Mr. DeYoung:

Your welcome letter of September 3 with enclosures was received today. I am very glad to have these notes. You state that you did this work last week on your own account to survey the field and to determine whether or not it would be profitable to me to spend any more on the McVicker search. I see however that you spent one day in Somerset County and judging from the fulness of the notes you have collected that must have been a full day devoted to my research desires, and besides this you have devoted an hour or two in Trenton and about two hours in the New Jersey Historical Society Library at Newark. I judge that you perhaps had other calls to take you to Trenton and to Newark. Of course I want to pay you and should pay you, especially for the full day in Somerset County as it would seem devoted to my project and also I want to make it right with you for the Trenton and Newark work. Please formulate your charges accordingly and send to me the bill, and I will pay you. You might state your giving me a little time, in which to remit and how much time.

I have been intending to write you and had made some notes calling your attention to certain facts and points. However, I had not gotten around to writing yet but will now start a letter. I assume that you received draft No. 33789, and that it was satisfactory.

I note you say the court house of Somerset County, N.J. was burned down during the Revolution and that there are but few records there of an earlier period. The County Clerk of Somerset County wrote (April 8, 1938):

"Our grantor and grantee indices to deeds start with 1785. The historical "explanation is that during the Simcoe raid by the British, the Court House, "then located at Millstone, N.J., was burned down and all records therein "destroyed. The mortgage books, due to the custom in those days of having "the farmer's wife write in the records, were apparently being written up "outside of the Court House and these date from 1765."

Of course as it seems, since Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) went to Bedford County, Pa., soon after the Revolution, we could hardly expect to find any deeds in Somerset County made by him although it would be possible for some mortgage records to exist in his name since there is a record of these (or some of them) from 1765. But I assume that you carefully looked over the records for this possibility.

I am glad to have the notes on the Will of Thomas McConnell (great diversity in spelling--McConel, McConil, etc.) I see that you have settled my question as I thought, that he was of Somerset County.

I assume that you have kept copies of these reports that you have sent to me, or that if you do not have copies thereof that you do have notes. I hope you have at least your original notes to refer to because I want to formulate and ask you questions thereon.

I would like to have a copy of the Will of James McVicker but I suppose that you do not have that in your books at home, perhaps it is only to be gotten at Trenton, N.J., and that I can get it some time in the future. While not constructing the genealogy of the James McVicker (1720-1800) family I have accreted so much of it as a by-product that I am interested, besides it may be supposed he was a brother of my ancestor, Duncan McVicker (1739-1818).

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00396-2]

A00396-2

To: Dirk P. De Young, 9-6-38 -2-

I would appreciate having a note of your data of the Daniel McVicker in Burlington County, N.J. I think that the early Archibald McVicker is shown in the Federal Census of 1790 for Albany County, N.Y. That same census, by the way. shows a William McVicker as head of a family in Northampton County, Pa., in 1790. There is also an early Peter McVicker who served in some Pennsylvania troops in 1789. All of these spelled the name as McVicker, and all four names (Daniel, Archibald, William, Peter McVicker)may have been of proper ages to have been brothers of my great grandfather, Duncan McVicker. Then with James McVicker (1720-1800), we have no lack of names from which possibly the 3 brothers of Duncan might be found.

While we have long assumed that Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) was one of the McVickers in and around Basking Ridge, we never yet have definitely traced him there nor connected him definitely with any County in New Jersey except Sussex County in whose Militia he served in the Revolution. We have just assumed him, and the assumption is mostly from the fact that each name mentioned as a wife is represented by a family name in Somerset County.

You have yourself shown in your last report the prevalence of McCollum and McConnell families in Somerset County (Nancy McCollum and Jean--Joan--McConnell each named as wife of a Duncan McVicker). The name "Annie Laurie" is inscribed on the more recent monument of Capt. Duncan McVicker erected by his great-great grand-daughter, Miss Ida Rosanna Hamaker, in the '90's, and evidently the name Annie Laurie was found by her in her research at Trenton, N.J. Now, "Messler's Centennial History of Somerset County (N.J.)," published at Somerville in 1878, says:

At page 26--"There are references in the Records of the Province to the "following persons who emigrated and settled permanently about "this time, viz.; Dec. 16, 1684, GAWEN LAWRIE and 8 persons;" ... that is in Somerset County. There was evidently a Laurie Family in Somerset County, and probably an Annie Laurie did marry a Duncan McVicker. Please note that Miss Ida Rosanna Hamaker reported Annie Laurie as the wife of Duncan McVicker as the result of her own research, and not as the result of any tradition. She had no tradition to go on, she searched for and found the name as the result of her own search in Trenton, N.J. And she placed it on a mounument where it stands in enduring granite for the ages to come. And there it stands to challenge the record unless some one can come forward and show good proof as to WHO WAS THE ACTUAL WIFE OF DUNCAN McVICKER (1739-1818).

I do not believe that there were only two Duncan McVickers because I do not believe that our Duncan McVicker married Annie Laurie and I do believe that Miss Ida Rosanna Hamaker found a record of some Duncan McVicker who did marry an Annie Laurie and that this Duncan McVicker whom she found was neither one of the two whom you have found, so there must have been at least 3 Duncan McVickers in New Jersey about this time under consideration. The Hamaker Family was of great reliability, and it seems most probable that Miss Ida Rosanna Hamaker found a record to go on.

There is a strong tendency in all of us to draw conclusions from only what information we have or that we can find, hence I do not blame you for your conclusion that Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) did marry JOAN McCONNELL. And it would seem that there is no other record information discovered in New Jersey or probably to be discovered. But you have written that much record perished with the burning of the Somerset County Court House.

The Samuel T. Wiley's "History of Monongalia County West Birginia," published in 1883 says of Capt. George Washington McVicker: "His great grandfather "Duncan McVicker, came from Scotland to New Jersey,and was a paymaster in the "revolutionary army under Washington. He married Nancy McCollum and removed to "Bedford, Pa. From this place, James McVicker, one of his sons (1768-1852) "went to the South Branch of the Potomac river and there married Permelia McNamar. "They removed to Brownsville, Pa., and after a short time started to Randolph County, "but stopped at Monongalia County about 90 years ago. ..... (continued on page 3)

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00396-3]

To: Dirk P. DeYoung, 9-6-38 A00396-3 -3-

"James McVicker kept a tavern stand where T. J. Meeks resides, in 1800. His "children were: Elizabeth, wife of Owen John; Mary, wife of William John; "Sarah, wife of Purnell Houston; Matilda Buck; JAMES MADISON McVICKER (1808-1899); Maria "Costolo; and GEORGE WASHINGTON McVICKER"(1812-1847--Uncle of the other, Capt. "George Washinton McVicker - 1831-1912). . . . . .

Now at the time that said above sketch was written in 1883, James Madison McVicker (1808-1899) was living, 75 years of age, hale, hearty, and very able-bodied and in full possession of his mental faculties and memory. He was the grandson of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) and it does not seem possible or at any rate probable that he would not have well known the name of his own grandmother published in that sketch as NANCY McCOLLUM. Then the name of the wife of Duncan McVicker as a McCollum was handed down also in the family of the brother of James Madison McVicker, viz., the family of GEORGE WASHINGTON McVICKER (1812-1847) and told by his wife, among others to Aunt Cosby McCollum, a great granddaughter of James McCollum (1725-1800). Aunt Cosby McCollum was born in 1844. In the fifties (1850's) she was a playmate of the children of George Washington McVicker, and I have seen her near Uniontown, Pa. about 1935 and I also have her statement in writing (the writing by her niece in answer to my questions propounded) that Mary Ann St. Clair McVicker (wife of George Washington McVicker) told her that the McVicker and the McCollum families were related by said marriage. Then Judge John Marshall Hagans, first Reporter of the Judicial Decisions of the newly erected State of West Virginia, who was himself a great grandson of James McCollum (1725-1800) made similar statements to Mrs. Alberta Clair McVicker Whidden, now living at Wilmette, Illinois, and she has written of the matter to me. She was a daughter of the Capt. George Washington McVicker (1831-1912), a veteran of the Civil War who was present at Lee's Surrender at Appomatox.

Now in your very last report to me you have made an entry as follows: "James McColum of Somerset, married Elizabeth Parker, February 2, 1750. N. J. Colonial Marriage records."

It is thought that this is the same James McCollum (1725-1800) as the one above referred to, as the ancestor of Aunt Cosby McCollum (whom I have seen and talked with in her lifetime) and of Judge John Marshall Hagans (1838-1900). Aunt Cosby McCollum (1844-1937) and Judge John Marshall Hagans were born and lived in the vicinity of Monongalia County, West Virginia. Their great grandfather, James McCollum (1725-1800) had lived in the vicinity of Basking Ridge New Jersey but had moved to York County Pennsylvania from which he and his son Daniel McCollum (1754-1842) had served in the Revolution. About 1782 they moved to Monongalia County now in West Virginia. James McVicker (1768-1852) had settled in Monongalia County about 1793. So you will note that the New Jersey McVicker family (James McVicker had been born in New Jersey) and the New Jersey James McCollum family came as among the old settlers of Monongalia County. West Virginia.

Judge John Marshall Hagans was a graduate of the Harvard Law School and he wrote a monograph entitled "McCOLLUM," and had spent some time on his family genealogy. Aunt Cosby McCollum was very proud (and justly so) of her descent and her mind was clear and her recollection good. James Madison McVicker was a very intelligent man, very sociable, liked to hunt, strong and virile, and a literate man. I have selected out these three persons as especially strong witnesses, and coming from both the McVicker and the New Jersey McCollum family of James McCollum (1725-1800).

It just does not seem probable that both the McVicker and the McCollum families in Monongalia County could have thought themselves related by an intermarriage if the name of Duncan McVicker's wife was after all Joan McConnell and not Nancy McCollum. These people were all of Scotch descent, but the Scotch characteristically spell phonetically and have a good sense of the sound of names. It does not look like they would in a dumb fashion confuse McCollum for McConnell.

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00396-4]

To: Dirk P. DeYoung, 3-6-38 A00396-4 -4-

A letter received from Mrs. Alberta Claire (McVicker) Whidden (born 1880), daughter of Captain George Washington McVicker (1831-1912), of Morgantown, W.Va., Union veteran of the Civil War thrice elected Sheriff of Monongalia County, W. Va., says:

"There is no reasonable doubt about my great-great grandmother's name being "NANCY McCOLLUM. My grandfather who was her grandson (James Madison McVicker, "1808-1899) always said so and he received the information from his father "who was her son (James McVicker (b.N.J. 1768-d.Morgantown, W.Va. 1852). "Then, too, Judge John Marshall Hagans (1838-1900) (great grandson of "James McCollum (1725-1800) always said that we were related to him through "the McCollums."

James Madison McVicker, first cousin of my father Norvel Wilson McVicker (1827-1923), was living and a very alert man when the historical sketch before referred to naming NANCY McCOLLUM as the wife of DUNCAN McVICKER was published in 1883. And in the paragraph above this one you will note that descendants of both sides, of the New Jersey McVicker and McCollum families, said that the McVicker and the McCollum families in that section were thus related.

How are we going to ever get away from this testimony unless we find some positive evidence? How can we assume to controvert this testimony by simply the lack of finding a record in New Jersey? How can we assume that there were only the two McVicker families in the vicinity of Sussex County--namely, those of James McVicker of Mendham, Morris County, and of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818)? So far we have no record of Duncan McVicker at all in New Jersey except his militia record in Sussex County during the Revolution. How can we assume that he was the one who married JOAN McCONNELL of Somerset County?

Perhaps my Duncan McVicker lived in Mercer County or some other than those mentioned during some time before he left for Pennsylvania. He left Trenton: perhaps he and family had been domiciled there.

You have found no evidence at all of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) in Somerset County except that a Duncan McVicker was the husband of Joan McConnell in 1777. There is no identification at all here--perhaps my ancestor never did live in Somerset County.

I wonder how complete are the indices of names in the Office of the Secretary of State at Trenton, New Jersey? Perhaps after all that a search through Mercer, Burlington, Monmouth, and especially any counties in Northern New Jersey in the indices in the Office of the Secretary of State of New Jersey might reveal the place of residence of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818).

Then it can be readily shown that there were other McVickers in Somerset County itself than those of the descendants of James McVicker (1725-1800). You yourself mention a JOSEPH McVICKER as a witness to a deed of Daniel McVicker in 1841. Daniel was the grandson of James McVicker (1725-1800). Joseph McVicker was not a son of Daniel McVicker (1797-1864), but possibly he was a brother--no evidence. ANN McVICKER married (1821) Joseph Ballentine (Somerset County New Jersey Quarterly Vol. 1 page 295):---Now Ann McVicker does not seem to be a descendant of James McVicker (1725-1800) and she was not a descendant of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818). CATHARINE McVICKER married Aaron Themser (1824) --same comment as for Ann McVicker.

We get a Duncan McVicker in the Will of Thos McConnell (1777), but what we need is an identification of him in order to assume that he was the certain Duncan McVicker (1739-1818). If we cannot get an identification, then it seems rash to assume to controvert as strong a line of evidence as is built up for Nancy McCollum.

However, mind this please, that I am not saying you are wrong nor criticizing you. I assume that you are a skilled New Jersey record searcher and I will concede that there is a certain feel of the trend of the record there that you can have that I can't. Also there is a certain feel of the family connection that I have for the name Nancy McCollum.

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00396-5]

To: Dirk P. DeYoung, 9-6-38 A00396-5 -5-

JAMES McCOLLUM. In the year 1782 when James McCollum (1725-1800) and his son, Ensign DANIEL McCOLLUM (1754-1842) made settlement in Monongalia County, Virginia (now W.Va.), the son went on alone and settled on the land and stayed alone that summer and raised a large crop of potatoes while the father, James McCollum (1725-1800), waited until the Fall to join his son. It is supposed that James McCollum (1725-1800) went on a visit to New Jersey, and to the vicinity of Basking Ridge, Somerset County, and that perhaps while on this trip he disposed of some land in Somerset County. If so, there may be a record of that land deal as it occurred soon after the Revolution and after the Court House of Somerset County had been burned. If James McCollum did dispose of land in Somerset County the record of the deed would probably reveal the name of his wife who may have been the Elizabeth Parker married to James McCollum on February 2, 1750, as per your note citing the New Jersey Colonial Marriage Records to that effect. Besides this supposed mission, James McCollum may have had another child living in New Jersey or Pennsylvania whom he visited--possibly Nancy McCollum McVicker. We now know of but two children of James McCollum who with his wife went with him to Monongalia County--the son Ensign Daniel McCollum (1754-1842) and a daughter Mary. This would not exclude the possibility of there have been a third child--Nancy McCollum--as it was probably a hundred years after 1782 before any attempt was made to write out the record of James McCollum's family--and then the name of his wife was unknown. There may have been a third child and she might have been the sought-for Nancy, easily lost to the record because not made in writing for so long and then that writing being a running narrative taking account only of the West Virginia persons in the family. This theory would account for the very persistent claim among some of the early McCollum descendants as well as the McVicker descendants in West Virginia that the McVicker and McCollum families were related through the intermarriage. The year 1782 was a little earlier than it is believed that Duncan McVicker and family moved to Bedford County, Pa., as the only statement we have is that the time was "shortly after the Revolution."

It is stated that the Somerset County Court House was burned in 1779 and that the records up to that time were lost, but if James McCollum (1725-1800) did own any real estate as it is believed that he did, he probably did not sell it until his visit to Somerset County supposedly and the transfer should be on record. It is noted that they have a grantor-grantee index in Somerset County which expedites a search for deeds. I am wondering if you ran this index exhauatively enough to state whether or not there may possibly be a reference to a James McCollum land deed? I have some hope in this James McCollum (1725-1800) who was at one time a Somerset County N.J. resident and to whom the said Nancy McCollum was at all events related.

There are some references to William McVicker besides the ones you have given--for sales of land in Somerset County--Deeds Book C page 377 and Book E page 267--these notes gleaned from the Somerset County New Jersey Historical Quarterly, Vol. 2 page 284.

It is possible that Capt. Duncan McVicker owned land in N.J. as he went to Bedford County and bought land, as it would appear. If Somerset County records disclose nothing about him, it is probable that some other County may and especially that there may be some reference in some of the records of the Office of Secretary of State.

Can you give me the date of the jurat to the deed of land made in 1825 by Duncan McVicker and wife Abigail of Butler County, Ohio? Do your notes show the given name of the VanTuyl who married Isabel McVicker (dau. of James-1720-1800)? Margaret McVicker, another daughter, married _____Leddel and a Dr. Wm. Leddel was one of the 3 later Admrs. of the James McVicker estate--do you suppose Dr. Wm.Leddel was the husband of Margaret (McVicker) Leddel?

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00396-6]

To: Dirk P. DeYoung, 9-6-38 A00396-6 -6-

In the middle of the sheet "McVicker Data Collected Aug. 18, 1938, in Morris County Hall of Records, Morristown, N.J.," you refer to Deed Book RR. page 598 but on the copy of said deed you give the reference as "Deed Book RR. page 592." Which page number is right--592 or 598?

If you can spare me another copy of your booklet entitled--"WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT YOUR ANCESTRY AND HOW TO TRACE IT YOURSELF," I would like to have it to send to a friend who is interested in Genealogy.

You may hold those letters and the REPORTS FROM ELIZABETH B. SATTERTHWAITE for the present, and I will write requesting their return ~~[illegible]~~ when we call arrangement all done--you may think of something in the way of a lead.

I am interested in that you say the name was JOAN (Jean) McCONNELL. I would be greatly interested if I could get a convincing identification of my great grandfather DUNCAN McVICKER as the husband of said JOAN McCONNELL, and in that event I would be very much interested in tracing the McConnell familiy.

But it seems that the likelihood is based mostly on the supposed fewness of Duncan McVicker names in New Jersey of that period. There is an unaccountable frequency of this name--a very common name among the Scotch. Then my ancestor's children had names suggestive of the McCollum family--and never any implication at all of any McConnell family being related.

If Duncan McVicker (1759-1818) had married Joan McConnell it would seem that there ought to be found some other evidence--otherwise we would be basing it on a supposition requiring the overthrow of positive information of the highest rank to the contrary.

I am interested in that Daniel McVicker of Burlington County, New Jersey, and hope that you can give me the note and reference. My ancestor Duncan McVicker may have lived in that County for a period before he moved to Pennsylvania--tradition shows that he went from Trenton--and he may have lived nearby.

I am interested in your paragraph about the former prevalence of the McCollum family in Monmouth County.

My great grandfather Duncan had a son DANIEL who was my father's uncle and my father had a brother Daniel McVicker who died at Morgantown, W. Va. There may be possibilities in other Counties than the Northern ones--such as Burlington, Monmouth, Mercer, etc.

I appreciate the good work that you have done for me. I want to pay you for the trip to Somerset and the work done for me.

I note what you say about the unlikelihood of uncovering anything further by research--but there is something missing yet--we have not even found my ancestor Duncan McVicker himself in New Jersey--we may find more in Burlington County, or elsewhere--and it would seem that there ought to some more information to be found at Trenton. So please give thought to this possibility or probability. And please answer as best you can the points raised in this letter. I am,

With personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

James R. McVicker

D. DeYoung -> JRM [A00397]

X-10-2-38 A00397

All Genealogical Work
Payable In Advance

DIRK P. DEYOUNG
GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH
AVENEL, N. J.

MEMBER
N. J. HISTORICAL SOCIETY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF N. J.

Sept. 29, 1938.

Mr. James R. Mc Vicker,
Iowa City, Iowa.

Dear Mr. Mc Vicker:

In response to your letter of the 16th, I got the name JOAN from a view of the original will of Thos. Mc Connell. I think it possible county histories of Butler Co. Ohio might throw some light on the Mc Vicker family. Frequently they give data on early settlers families.

I am doing some work in Gloucester Co. N.J. Court house next week and while there will notice if there are any Mc Vickers. The settlers of Gloucester and Burlington were much mingled. There was a Loree or Lawrie family there - a Samuel d. 1765 - left a dau. Joanna. There was a Loree family at Mendham, Morris Co. also. Gawan Lawrie was the Governor of East Jersey at one time. But I think the name Lawrie and Loree were the same.

Edmund Drake Halsey., in his old history of Morris Co. mentions James Mc Vicker among the prominent men of Mendham in 1740, p. 341. It also mentions Dr. John Leddel as the first dr. in that locality, and that he was an old man in 1800. He must have been of about the same age as James Mc Vicker. It was John Leddel's son, also a dr., who married a dau, of James Mc Vicker. If James Mc. Vicker was there as early as 1740 - it increases the probability that his marriage to a Mc Cain was his second marriage, and if he was a prominent man there in 1740, and had been married before he married the Mc Cain girl, his son Duncan may have been of the first wife and old enough to have been the Duncan who m. Joan Mc Connell. These are of course only surmises and possibilities to stimulate further thought.

The fact that that history mentions James Mc Vicker asan early settler of Morris Co. raised the point that there may be more data in the Morris Co. Historical Society files.

It is possible that land abstractors have more data than is found in the Court House in Somerset. At the county seats of some counties certain attroneys specialize in old deeds and have data but their charge for searches is out of reason.

Trusting this further information will be useful,
I am sincerely,

D. P. DeYoung

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00398-1]

A 00398-1

1117 East College Street
Iowa City, Iowa
October 29, 1938.

Mr. Dirk P. DeYoung,
Genealogical Research,
Avenel, New Jersey.

Dear Mr. DeYoung:

Thank you for your good letter of Oct 21 and I appreciate the good work you have done. I would request that you hold those letters which I formerly requested to be returned (because of their full summaries) as well as the Reports of the Research of Mrs. Elizabeth B. Satterthwaite for me, for the present at least. I have in mind that something may turn up whereby you may wish to refer to them, although I suppose that you do have the problems of this Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) research quite well in mind anyhow. I think that you did excellent work, and that the lack of finding this ancestor of mine more in detail is due to the absence of the old records.

You furnished a very plausible theory that the locality of settlement of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) was in Somerset County. This well ties in with the fact that The Simcoe Raid under the British in 1779 resulted in the burning of the Somerset County Courthouse. I presume that included the destruction of the Somerset County records (largely) up to that date, did it not?

The tradition coming down to me that Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) settled in North New Jersey in the Scotch-Irish settlement just South of the Holland settlement comes in this way: From Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) himself as told to his grandson ~~(1799-1879~~ Duncan McVicker (1799-1879) and by that grandson passed to his own grandson in turn (Dr. Winters Duncan Hamaker (1859- to the present, I having a letter from him a few days ago), and this tradition related to me in letters from my kinsman, the said Dr. Hamaker). You will note that the tradition is not definite as to location: just North New Jersey in the Scotch-Irish settlement just South of the Holland settlement--and so I am very glad to have your opinion tending to fix the locality. You have found one that seems to fit, and the fact of the absence of county records there is corroborated by the burning of the Somerset County Courthouse in the Simcoe Raid in 1779. You will note that the two grandsons intermediate to relaying the information to me each lived with his respective grandfather until about 20 years of age in times when the traditions of men told to their grandsons was interesting to said grandsons--also that the grandson of the grandson of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) is still living and has taken a great interest in my research, even having presented to me the Family Bible (and record) of his great grandfather Alexander McVicker (an Uncle of my father) at Christmas time 1936, saying that as both he and his son (a physician too and living with him) have no descendants to leave said Family Bible to that they wanted me to take it and when through with it to pass it on to some interested McVicker or to a Library for keeping.

The fixing of that locality has furnished some speculation. One person thought it might be just South of the Town of Holland in New Jersey, but that person found that Holland is in Morris County and as I remember I found it on the map in Warren County just over by the Delaware River, but I did not think that it very well fit the tradition due to the conformation of the River bends there. However, over across the Delaware River in Northampton County, Pa. there is a William McVicker (not identified to me) as head of family in census 1790

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00398-2]

A00398-2 - 2 -

Everything about this reearch is most absolutely perplexing. It is the own sister of my kinsman Dr. Hamaker who found that name of Annie Laurie and placed it in perpetual enduring form on a fine monument to her gr-gr grandfather Duncan McVicker on the plot where he and her family are buried. She too is living but is mentally infirm in an institution and cannot now be asked about it. Her brother, Dr. Hamaker, said that she did her research in Trenton, N.J. (or if also elsewhere he does not know) and that she passed the name on to him and he remembered it as "Miss Laurie." It would seem that the name of the wife was lost to the descendants in Bedford County, Pa., and that Miss Hamaker is sole authority now for the name as Annie Laurie as wife of Capt. Duncan McVicker (1739-1818). This research was about the 1890's. (Monument Dedicated 1925) There is some likelihood to this name in that in 1784 Gawen Lawrie, "a Proprietor, "who though being a London merchant I judge to have been a Scotchman, came over as "Governor, with about 40 other persons, mostly Scotch."--Somerset Co.Hist.Quar., Vol. 6, page 9. The name of Lory (or Lorry) also appears in that publication.

I have come across a postal card from Mrs. Elizabeth B. Sattherthwaite dated June 23, 1936, as follows:

"Just found some Laurie--they are members of the Chesterfield "Monthly Meeting of Friends--It takes in Trenton and surrounding country. I "will copy soon what it says--but I am afraid it will not help much--It includes "a number of people."

She did not send this to me and I did not write for it, as that was after her Reports made to me and it having become evident that the search would need to be in the field of several of the North counties as I thought whereas she seemed to be confined to Trenton in her work, I thought that I would wait until I might find some one like you to travel into said counties, or go myself later when I might be in the East (I have a son living in Philadelphia).

But I am not thinking that the name was Annie Laurie--in fact regard the name as hypothetical, theoretical, a poetic name for real name undiscoverable by Miss Hamaker, or a mistake in some way. She may have found another Duncan McVicker who married an Annie Laurie--all sorts of possibilities.

As to JOAN McCONNELL-- no identification of the Duncan McVicker who was her husband in 1777. You found that Duncan McVicker son of James McVicker (1720-1800) joined with his wife Abigail in 1825 in a deed to land in Somerset County N.J., and that said Duncan then lived in Hanover Twp., Butler Co., Ohio. I wrote the Probate Judge of Butler Co., Ohio, and received a letter (Oct.18) saying that Administration Docket #1, #01551, shows Duncan McVicker died intestate, Adm'r appointed Nov 29, 1847, estate finally settled in 1856, but that they do not know whether any descendants are living in Butler Co., Ohio. I have written some further inquiries as to age of this Duncan, date of his birth, names of wife, heirs, etc.

There is no expectation of my getting any information from descendants of James McVicker (1720-1800) living in New Jersey. They answer letters and round out their own families down to date, but cannot trace back of Daniel McVicker (1797-1864) to ~~their~~ his own grandfather, and I have gotten that tracing from you and not from them, so it is plain they will be unable to help on this.

We are both cognizant of the fact that numerous McCollums and McConnells lived in Somerset County.

However, your information helps, and in due course of time I will likely be able through you and other efforts to get more data with which to piece out the puzzle.

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00398-3]

A00398-3 - 3 -

You may get a clue of gret value yet and then we can follow that lead.

I am glad that your daughter obtained the excellent appointment at Mountain Lakes. I used to be a superintendent of schools and so I know that is a good fair salary now, especially in these times.

My son in Philadelphia after being unemployed several months has recently obtained a place to work in the Navy Yards. He is married and has three little children, 4, 2, and 6 mos. He drove thru from Philadelphia to Iowa City with his family in an old Ford early in September—and in a little over three weeks received notice of his appointment as the result of an examination he had taken. So he drove back, starting the next morning early, and arrived in two days.

I note that you will look into McCollum data again in Sussex County, when you go up there, and also will check up Daniel McVicker when you go to Burlington County, also see what the Historical Society at Morristown has. If you find any fruitful source for research I will remunerate you for such work.

The net result up to date is this after very assiduous research:

1—Nothing to add to the record furnished by Adj.Gen'l of N.J.

2—No positive identification of locality of settlement of Duncan McV.

3—Three problematical names of wives of Duncan McVicker.

4—Only record of any wife of any Duncan McVicker, that of JOAN McConnell, and the Duncan McVicker who was her husband in 1777 not identified.

5—The only positive record in New Jersey that my ancestor Duncan was in New Jersey is that of his military service in 2d Regiment of Sussex County Militia in the Revolution.

6—Since he married there and had a family of 7 sons and 2 or 3 daughters born in New Jersey, this absence or dearth of record is remarkable. Record exists elsewhere that he was in New Jersey, that his children were born there, but we know not where within the whole state of New Jersey that he lived (unless it was in Somerset County) although a County History mentions that he was one of the Sussex County soldiers in the Revolution (Lieutenant, perhaps Captain, at any rate an Acting Captain that that 2d Regiment of Militia.)

With best regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

James R. McVicker

Sussex County record is hard to get, altho I do not think their Court House was destroyed. There may be more about Duncan McVicker, but that County History said that he was a resident of Sussex County along with other soldiers of that 2d Regiment of Militia.

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00398-4]

A00398-4

P. S.— Dear Mr. DeYoung:

Your mention (letter Oct 21) that you expect to go up to Newton, Sussex Co., N.J., in a week or so on another job and that you will look again on the McCollum data there...has interested me very much.

Prima facie, Sussex County was the County of settlement of Duncan McVicker.

He served in the 2nd Regiment of Sussex County New Jersey Militia in the Revolutionary War.

The Colonel of that Regiment, Aaron Hankinson (1735-1806) was a meber of the COMMITTEE OF SAFETY; also CAPTAIN, COLONEL, and BRIGADIER GENERAL, Sussex County New Jersey Militia. He died in Sussex County, New Jersey.

The History of Sussex and Warren Counties New Jersey (author's name not now recalled) specifically lists Duncan McVicker as a Lieutenant and captain in that County's Militia, and it goes further and states that he was one of the residents of that County who served in the said troops, as I recall the statement but do not have it just at hand.

In further corroboration of the probability of the McVicker-McCollum marriage, there were families named McCollum in Sussex County at the time of the Revolution and undoubtedly before that time.

Hence, it is well worth looking into as to whether any trace of Duncan McVicker as a resident of that County may in some way be found., after all.

Sincerely yours,

James K. McVicker

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00399-1]

A00399-1

1117 East College Street
Iowa City, Iowa
October 2, 1938

Mr. Dirk P. DeYoung,
Avenel, New Jersey.

Dear Mr. DeYoung: I thank you for your pleasureable letter of Sept. 29.

I am glad to have your confirmation of your statement that the name JOAN was obtained by you from your own view of the original Will of Thomas McConnell (d.1777).

Your kindness will be appreciated in your noting whether there is trace of our names searched for in other counties when you go down to Gloucester County sometime this week. I do not know that you would pass through Burlington County and probably the Court House may be off to one side of your line of travel but when you do find it convenient to see whether Burlington County (and Monmouth County) may offer anything to our line of search I will be glad to have you add the expense to the bill of $5 which I have intended to remit to you (on or before Nov. 1st).

I am interested in the Loree (Lawrie) family represented as in Morris County and in Burlington (or Gloucester) County. It would seem that Miss Ida Rosanna Hamaker (born in Schellsburg, Bedford Co., Pa., great granddaughter of Duncan McVicker who erected the monument to him with the name "His Wife ANNIE LAURIE" thereon at Schellsburg, Pa.) found some source on which to base her report when she visited New Jersey to research for the name of the wife in the 1890's. She was of a stable religious family and I can hardly suppose that she played an historical hoax intentionally in reporting the name ANNIE LAURIE, although I have supposed that she could not find the true name and might have taken the name ANNIE LAURIE in poetic representation of the lost name. At any rate she appears to have been the sole person responsible in reporting that name so far as any other trace of it in N.J. has been found. She may have found an Annie Laurie married to a different Duncan McVicker whom she assumed to have been the one who was her and my ancestor.

You surprise me in showing that Edmund Drake Halsey's old history of Morris County (p. 241) mentions James McVicker of Mendham as a prominent man as early as in 1740 when he would have been but 20 years old if that were the same man. Perhaps that mention may have been of the father of James McVicker (1720-1800). But if you think that the name is that of the same James McVicker (1720-1800), it would seem to cast doubt of his being a brother of my ancestor Duncan McVicker (1739-1818), but he was probably a relative. Tradition has it that Duncan McVicker with three brothers came over from Glasgow Scotland by way of the North of Ireland to the North of New Jersey when said Duncan was 18--that would have been in 1757, as Duncan was born in 1739, which was 19 years later than the date of James McVicker's birth, and so there is doubt if James McVicker was one of the three brothers or any brother of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) anyway. Among other early possible brothers of said Duncan McVicker are: Peter McVicker who enlisted as a recruit in some troop at Philadelphia about 1759 (Pa.Archives); William McVicker head of a family of one male over 16, one male under 16, and 3 females in Northampton County, Pa. (adjacent to New Jersey) as shown by the Federal census of 1790; Archibald McVicker as head of a family in Albany County, N.Y. as shown by said census of 1790; some indications of another Archibald McVicker in New Jersey in early days besides the Archibald who was a son of James McVicker; and also the Daniel McVicker whom you have recently found trace of in Burlington County, N.J. It is probably impossible to identify any brothers of said Duncan McVicker. It would seem a little out of the ordinary that James McVicker (1720-1800) could have been rated as a prominent man in Mendham, Morris County, N.J., in 1740, when he was only a boy of 20 years.

I am interested in your suggestion that there may be other data in the Morris County Historical Society files, and I hope that we may be able to get a line on that possibility so as to find out. It is true as you say that data culled from land abstractors of Somerset County would probably cost unreasonably high.

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00399-2]

Mr. Dirk P. DeYoung-10-2-38) A00399-2 -2-

It seems queer that my ancestor (Duncan McV.) who served in 2d Reg't Sussex Co., N.J., Militia in the Revolution and had so large a family on his removal to Bedford Co., Pa., left so little trace in New Jersey. He had a son Duncan McVicker Jr.(born in N.J.) who with his father and his brothers, James and John, were all enrolled in the Bedford Co., Pa., Militia in 1789. The two sons Duncan Jr. and John McVicker thereafter do not appear at all of record or trace in Bedford Co., Pa. However the Federal Census of 1790 shows the father Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) as head of a family in Bedford Co., Pa., with 2 males over 16, 5 under 16, and 3 females. As he had 7 sons, and as he obviously is himself included in one of the 2 males over 16, one of his sons is missing in that census. It was after the Revolution and could not have been many years before the census of 1790 when he went with his 7 sons from New Jersey to Bedford Co., Pa.

In that same census of 1790 there is shown a Duncan McVicar as head of a family in the nearby County of Mifflin, Pa., with one male over 16 (himself), no males under 16, and 3 females. Miss Jessie Ferguson, State Genealogist of Pa., conjectures that this man was probably the son of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818). This conjecture seems likely to hit the fact for no trace after the ~~census~~ militia roll of 1789 has been found of the son Duncan McVicker Jr. in Bedford Co., Pa. If the said Duncan McVicar of Mifflin County, Pa., census of 1790, were indeed the son of Capt. Duncan McVicker (one son missing from that census of 1790 in Bedford County, Pa.,) then he may have come with his father and his 6 brothers to Bedford County but indeed may have married in New Jersey before that time. But it does seem a little doubtful if he could have been the one who married Annie Laurie (Loree, Lawrie) or Jean McConnell, but he might have been. At any rate, these facts place us on notice that there were three Duncan McVickers (the son of Capt. Duncan being of at least militia age in 1789) who were in New Jersey probably about the time of the Revolution and in 1777. And as these three Duncan McVickers (my ancestor and his son Duncan and the third Duncan who was the son of James) all in New Jersey at the time of the Revolution, all left there leaving little trace, then probably there may have been other Duncan McVickers there as well.

Since information culled after these long years is necessarily very fragmentary and since there are several known possibilities unsolved, it is but a small presumption that there were possibly others. It surely serves to complicate the record.

And there are doubtless other serious complications in the tracing of the Loree (Lawrie), McConnell, and the McCollum families.

But sometimes when one link is supplied to connect a broken chain, the cable is wonderfully extended to bridge many of the gaps.

Thanking you for your interest, and with personal regards,

I am,

Sincerely yours,

James R. McVicker

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00400-1]

A00400

1117 East College Street
Iowa City, Iowa
September 18, 1938

Mr. Dirk P. DeYoung,
Genealogical Research,
Avenel, New Jersey.

Dear Mr. DeYoung:

I have appreciated your good letter of September 13, 1938.

I will be very glad to pay you for the work and I will try to remit this before very long--say not later than November 1--and I think the amount is very reasonable. Of course, I am interested in this work and I find that you do excellent work, all of which I appreciate. You have gone far to clear up the public records phase of my search in New Jersey.

I suppose I hold the record for writing long letters to you. I have made so many efforts to get this matter cleared up, and frankly, I have found it a very puzzling matter on which to make a determination. You have good warrant for your view as based on the public records we have found. It may be that you are right--but I wish we could succeed in finding some conclusive evidence, something that will eliminate the doubtful possibilities. If we could identify the Duncan who married Joan, that would go far. If we had my Duncan removed from the question of Joan, then the record or tradition as to Nancy could well stand. As it is, if I should write this out in an impartial manner I should have to present the evidence on both the claims for Joan and for Nancy. Your lack of finding anything at all about Lawrie or Laurie families leaves the name Annie Laurie as in a state of continued improbability as to being the wife--we have found no family or families at all from which she might have come. We do have many of the McCollum family, indicating a strong probability and corroboration of the claim for Nancy McCollum.

The Daniel McVicker you found in Burlington County arouses my interest. Also the possibilities in Burlington and Monmouth County intrigue me. From some small fringes of the traditions, I have wondered whether my Duncan may have lived in Trenton or nearby for some brief time before he and his family moved West. And the known tendency of relatives to flock together at times may have caused Duncan to have lived in Burlington County if he had a brother there, or to have sojourned there for some considerable time before going West.

I have wondered if I might find some trace of the Duncan who went to Butler County, Ohio, and some possible family record among his relatives. Your data (1825) was for 48 years after Thos. McConnell's Will in 1777--enough time to reasonably suppose that this Duncan may have had his 2nd wife--Abigail.

I take it that you got the name JOAN instead of Jean from a view of the original Will of Thos. McConnell in Trenton, N.J. Is that right? (yes) Please let me know if you say this is positive.

I note you ascribe Joseph as a son of William son of James(1720-1800). My grandfather was Joseph McVicker and he had brothers James (1768-1852), Duncan Jr., John, Alexander, Daniel and David.

I wonder if the land abstracters have any records ownership of lands in Somerset County for the times prior to the burning of the court house? I will write you at more length in a few days with inquiries. Thank you for this last letter--highly valued. Sincerely yours, James R. McVicker

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00400-2]

Morros Co. Hist - p. 241 - Edmund Decker Halsey -
states that James Mc. Vicker was one of prominent men of
Mendham, as early as 1740.

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00401-1]

A00401-1

1117 East College Street,
Iowa City, Iowa, Aug 15 1938

Mr. Dirk P. DeYoung,
Genealogical Research,
Avenel, New Jersey.

Dear Mr. De Young:

Your letter of Aug 13 1938 received today. It is evident that you attach more importance than I have thought of the fact that my great grandfather Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) served in the Second Regiment of SUSSEX County Militia in the Revolution. So you propose to first search SUSSEX COUNTY. You may be right in this, your estimate of the situation.

Please preserve the two letters which I have sent you but marking them up or annotating them as you please, so that when we are through with our arrangements these letters, etc., may be returned to me.

Please read these two letters carefully again, especially the letter last preceding this, since a good deal of data, thought, surmise, tradition, etc., have been therein summarized.

I inclose herewith:

(1) "Pedigree of Hugh McCollum Beugler," tracing his descent from John McCollum, Private in Capt. Helm's Company, 2nd Regiment New Jersey troops in the Revolution, below the red line of which paper I have typed an excerpt from J. P. Snell's HISTORY OF SUSSEX AND WARREN COUNTIES, NEW JERSEY, showing on page 72 thereof that said John McCollum was of SUSSEX COUNTY, New Jersey. Page 68 shows DUNCAN McVICKER listed (my great grandfather). Page 248 shows a sketch of one Jacob McCollum. The purpose of this paper is to illustrate that there were members of the McCollum families in SUSSEX COUNTY, with some one of whom (viz., Nancy McCollum) Duncan McVicker may have intermarried.

(2) Copy of Statement of Adjutant General of New Jersey as to the recorded service of Duncan McVicker in New Jersey.

(It seems evident to me that Capt. Duncan McVicker saw additional service in the Revolutionary War to that shown by the record in New Jersey, as a paymaster under Gen. Geogre Washington and at Valley Forge, but there is no discovered record of that service,additional as believed,and it is immaterial for this purpose at the present time.)

As to Capt. Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) after he moved to Bedford County, Pennsylvania:

(1) He left no Will and there was no administration of his estate; it is believed that he had no appreciable amount of property at the time of his death while making his home with his son Alexander McVicker (1773-1832) on the latter's farm near Schellsburg, Bedford County, Pa., January 19, 1818.

(2) Indications are that Capt. Duncan McVicker had possessed considerable property at some time prior to his death: thus it appears that Duncan McVicker acquired 250 acres of land by a deed dated and filed of record in Bedford County, Pa., in 1801, and that some 12 years later, in 1813, Duncan McVicker sold this land for a consideration of 430 pounds, 16s and 10 pence, a "tidy sum" in those days. This might indicate that he had brought means from New Jersey and that he had owned and sold land there. It is difficult to absolutely say that this was Duncan McVicker, Sr., as he had also a son Duncam McVicker Jr. among his 7 sons, but it is believed to have been the father, Capt. Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) who owned and sold the land. If so, he may have given or paid his money to children or the son with whom he lived.

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00401-2]

A00401-2

- 2-

Now as previously explained I have been a teacher and am not employed. I am 62 years of age and have family obligations. This is stated only as showing you that I am not able to spend unnecessarily on this personal genealogical quest of mine.

I am replying at once as requested. Please go ahead with your search in SUSSEX County on a trip for one full day as planned in your last letter, and then please render a full report of your findings, for which I will pay you $6.50 as charged.

We will then see about other searches and when, etc. In general, I try to keep out of debt and I do not like to incur debt.

But we will see about the other and further search after this trip to Newton and Sussex County. You may find Duncan McVicker's settlement was in Sussex County and you may find much unknown data about him, or some.

I am,

Sincerely yours,

James R. McVicker

D. DeYoung -> JRM [A00403]

x-8-23-39
10-3-37

A00403

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DIRK P. DE YOUNG
GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH
AVENEL, N. J.

MEMBER
N. J. HISTORICAL SOCIETY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF N. J.

1/22/39

Mr. James Mc Vicker,
Iowa City, Ia.

Dear Mr. Mc Vicker:

Your last letter received. I had been awaiting further developments before writing but none developed.

The Daniel Mc Vicker of Burlington Co. turned out to be a Daniel McWicker. An error in print, as the "W" in the records looked like a "V". I examined the original deed in Burl Co. and it was MC Wicker - no Daniel Mc Vicker there.

I have not been to Sussex Co. since I wrotelast - nor to Morris Co. Business to take me that way did not materialize. I do not think it would pay to make special trips there for what I might find on your line.

Regarding other comment you make - I am still very much of the opinion that your Duncan married Joan Mc Connell - tradition to the contrary not-withstanding. It is one of the things we prove wrong more often than anything else - the so-called family tradition. Genealogists generally agree on that - that tradition in such matters is rarely right. Tradition of the mother country-the nationality, etc. may be correct, but rarely on marriages, given names, etc. Someone guessed at it further back and told another and the second party told a third - and what someone guessed at is finally passed on as a tradition accepted as truth.

From what records there are it will be a slow, hard task to get at the truth on your Mc Vicker lineage, unfortunately. I am therefore unable to give you more new facts.

Sincerely yours,

Dirk P. De Young

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00404-1]

A00404-1

1117 East College Street
Iowa City, Iowa
August 22, 1939

Mr. Dirk P. DeYoung
Genealogical Research
Avenel, New Jersey

Dear Mr. DeYoung:

Just 7 months ago today you wrote me (1/22/39) from Avenel, and for several months now I have expected to answer. I wish to thank you for your letter.

I must report that after much search by writing to Butler County, Ohio, I finally made contact with a great grandson of the Duncan McVicker (1765-1847) who was a son of James McVicker (1720-1800), viz., Clarence Duncan McVicker, R.F.D., Oxford, Ohio. After three letters which he reported all came to his hands he wrote me and said he would have written sooner but that he was waiting until he could go to the cemetery in which Duncan McVicker, his great grandfather, was buried to get the dates for him. It was rather inclement that time of year but on February 12 last he secured the date of the birth of his grandfather from the monument, as of 1765. You will readily note the significance of this if you remember the question as to whether it was he who married JOAN McCONNELL. As the Will of Thomas McConnell in 1777 refers to "my daughter Joan the wife of Duncan McVicker," it is readily apparent that we cannot longer speculate on this Ohio Duncan the son of James as being the one for he would have been only 12 years old at the time of the mention in the Will.

While this negative evidence is cumulative for your theory that it was my great grandfather, Duncan McVicker (1739-1818), who must have been married to Joan McConnell, it is not at all satisfactory as proof to that effect.

There is a great dearth of records about the McVicker families in New Jersey. However, many are shown by name only. The great bulk of the record that the historians and genealogists obtain is that about the family of James McVicker (1720-1800) of Mendham Morris County and who was prominently mentioned in Halstead's old history of Morris County as of a time as early as 1740, and at frequent intervals thereafterward. He seems to have been a settled substantial citizen in Mendham and to have taken part in matters until his death in 1800.

In all my researches I have secured no data that can be identified with my ancestor, Capt. Duncan McVicker (1739-1818), in all New Jersey except the Adjutant General'srecord of his military service in the 2nd Regiment of the Sussex County militia in the Revolution. Of course there would be no record after the Revolution for he with his family (7 sons and 2 or 3 daughters) went to Bedford County Pennsylvania shortly after the Revolution. But the census records and state records of Pennsylvania show that his children were born in New Jersey. So there is no doubt that he served in the Revolution in the Sussex County regiment and there is no doubt that his children were born in New Jersey.

I think the presumption would be that he lived in Sussex County from the fact of his service in its regiment, that his family lived in Sussex County. Now McCollum families lived in Sussex County at that time. So the way is equally clear to suppose that he lived in Sussex County and that his wife (Nancy McCollum) was a member of a McCollum family of Sussex County. This would all nicely square and nothing else does anyhow.

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00404-2]

A00404-2

There has never been any reason for supposing that my ancestor lived in Somerset County except that at Basking Ridge there was a very numerous settlement of McCollum families, and some Laurie family, and the McConnell family. This was no good reason to make such supposition. There was needed some more positive consideration than this to suppose he lived in Somerset County. Then along came knowledge of the fact that the Somerset County courthouse at Millstone was burned by the British in 1779. But this cannot be a convincing co-incidence. Just because we have a man whose family record we cannot find and we do find a county in which we suppose he might have lived and whose courthouse and records were burned in 1779 so that such fact would explain the absence for record for him if he did live there, we cannot suppose that he did live there. It is a very weak presumption, not at all scientific, utterly begging the point, and very far inferior in rank to a presumption that Duncan McVicker with his family may have lived in Sussex County in whose regiment of militia he was an officer in the Revolution. While many men have served in other regiments than those made up in their own counties, these men would very naturally for the most part be enlisted men and not officers, for the very good and sufficient reason that the military requirements would be that the officers be residents of the seat or home of the regiment--almost necessarily so. Men would resent officers being brought over them from other counties and localities. Men would not like it. Officers would be needed who would be present at all formations. Duncan McVicker was a company officer--a first lieutenant, at least, and acting captain. He must have acquired his military training in New Jersey for he came over at 18. As a stranger to Sussex County he would not have had enough prowess to be commissioned as an officer--he must have worked up to his commissioned rank in that regiment and among his neighbors and comrades. For all these reasons, it is a natural presumption that he lived in Sussex County. If so, he must have lived there until after the War and shortly after that he went to Bedford County, Pennsylvania.

There is no use speculating about the Laurie family. Only one proponent for the name Annie Laurie as my ancestor's wife claimed that she found the fact in New Jersey, and if she did, it was from records and was since 1890, and if such record exists then you and others surely would have found it too. It is supposed by me that she found another Duncan McVicker married to an Annie Laurie or else that being anxious and unable to find a name that she took a typical Scotch poetic and romantic name to substitute for the one of her quest.

Joan McConnell married a Duncan McVicker, but not my ancestor, in my best judgment. The McConnell family is strange and foreign to our traditions. We know them not, not any of them as kinsmen. I do not believe they ever were. Duncan was a very common first or given name. In that region there were possibly and probably several Duncan McVickers. Because you cannot find them you should not suppose there were no more. Very many individuals lived and moved and had their being there of whom no record exists. Only the few names survive the dust of time. It would be convenient to end the quest by supposing that my ancestor was the one married to Joan McConnell, but I do not believe that he did. My disbelief after all my delving is surely entitled to as much weight as a mere presumption of convenience. I base it on many thoughts which you do not even want me to write out in view of the vast number of points and words I wrote you previously--and which I hope you still have to refer to.

As to the name written McWicker in Burlington County, it seems to me that the scribe wrote the wrong name and that the right name is McVicker. There are no other appearances of "McWicker" anywhere that I ever heard of.

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00404-3]

A00404-3

So it now seems to me that Sussex County was the residence of Duncan McVicker, my ancestor, that he married a wife (Nancy McCollum) very probably of the McCollum families in that county, that he raised his family of seven sons and 2 or 3 daughters in Sussex County, served in the Revolution as a company officer from Sussex County, and moved to Bedford County, Pennsylvania shortly after the Revolution. Clearly then there would be not much or any record of the family at all in Sussex County after the Revolution. It would have to be found as of dates before he moved away. He was a Scotchman, born in the old country, said to have been a "Presbyterian of the old school," and so that church in Sussex County may possess records. What was Sussex County in territory before the Revolution--of boundaries co-terminous with the present boundaries, or different?

A very prominent McCollum family lived at Newton, New Jersey. It may well be that Nancy McCollum was a member of that family.

Jacob McCollum, of Newton, Sussex County, was a Revolutionary legislator, member of the Council of Safety, and served also as a Judge. He was a very staunch and substantial citizen of Sussex County. John McCollum served as a private in the New Jersey troops from Sussex County. I think I sent you a copy of outline of his descendants. Thus there were prominent members of the McCollum family in Sussex County at the time when Capt. Duncan McVicker probably lived as a resident of Sussex County before and during the time of the Revolution, with his family.

Letters from Elmer McCollum, R.F.D. #1, Andover, New Jersey (3/20/39) and from his mother, Mrs. Ella Goble, Andover, New Jersey (May 9, 1939), show that the father of said Elmer McCollum was Charles Talmage McCollum, that the grandfather of said Elmer McCollum was Charles (Bell) McCollum and his grandmother's name was Abbie McCollum, that the great grandfather and great grandmother of said Elmer McCollum were Jacob McCollum and Susan McCollum. Now whether this Jacob McCollum was the same Jacob McCollum above referred to as a Revolutionary legislator, member of Council of Safety, and Judge, I do not know and I have not further heard from these correspondents since my last letter of May 20, 1939. But these names of living persons with their addresses might furnish a lead from which to check up the old McCollum family in Sussex County.

I presume that you still have the letters of data which I sent you and from which you may refresh your memory.

In your deductions you thought to have tentatively located the traditionary place where Capt. Duncan McVicker lived as in the vicinity of Basking Ridge from my description as a Scotch-Irish settlement in North New Jersey just South of the Holland settlement. Doubtless, Basking Ridge did fulfill that description. However, the description itself is far too vague to tie to. Doubtless, there would be several such places within that description. Capt. Duncan McVicker probably lived on a farm in New Jersey in just such a settlement. Can you locate such a settlement in Sussex County of Revolutionary times? If you can, you are in a fair way to check minutely as to the probability of his settlement in that County. I think that Andover is in or near Sussex County, and from the McCollums above named in or near Andover you might get some valued data. If we can localize the settlememt we may make a much more minute search in the local records--public records, church records, possibly family records.

Please kindly check up carefully from all available data and write me as to the prospect of renewed research in the field of Sussex County or its environs of Revolutionary days.

With best personal regards, I am, Sincerely yours, James R. McVicker

D. DeYoung -> JRM [A00405-1]

A00405

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DIRK P. DEYOUNG
GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH
AVENEL, N. J.

MEMBER
N. J. HISTORICAL SOCIETY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF N. J.

August 20, 1938.

Dear Mr. Mc Vicker:

I left Thursday morning at 6:30 for Newton, N.J. Sussex Co. 60 miles - arrived at 8:30 - in an hour's work I found there were no records of deeds or wills or other matter on the name Mc. Vicker. Not to waste any more time for nothing, I left at 9:30 for Morristown, Morris Co. N.J. and arrived there about 10:30 - where I spent the rest of the day - the drive for the day being 130 miles - making a full day and what I found in Morris Co. records, I report on another sheet. I do not think there is more to find in Morris Co. records of value - but feel that the remainder of the original search work should be done in Somerset Co. and Trenton, N.J. It must be that Duncan Mc. Vicker - your forefather --lived in Somerset Co. and for some reason enlisted from Sussex Co. If he had lived in Sussex or owned land there - there would have been a record of land conveyances there. I think the original papers on file in Trenton on the will of Thos. Mc Connell d. 1777 the next most important data, as they may show more of the Duncan Mc Vicker who married his dau. Jean. (she might have been his second wife) The deeds in Somerset Co. may also have one on your gr. gr. father Duncan, that will clear up matters further. The Historical Publications of Somerset Co. which I shall consult later - may also have some facts.

I assume that James Mc. Vicker and Thos. Mc Connell were brothers-in-law - the former married to Catharine Mc Cain after 1754, said Catharine having been under age yet in 1754; and Thos Mc Connel to Susan Mc Cain, an older dau. of James Mc. Cain, and that is why your gr.gr father Duncan could have been married to Jean Mc Connell niece of James Mc. Vicker, Duncan's older brother, by 1777.

In 1754 James Mc Vicker was still unmarried to Catharine Mc Cain - by 1777 - Duncan Mc. Vicker was married to Jean Mc Connell-23 yrs. later. It is possible that James Mc Vicker may have married Catharine by 1755, say, and had a son Duncan by 1756, who would have been old enough to have been the son-in-law of Thos. Mc Connell in 1777, but that would have been very unlikely, hence it seems very improbable that the Duncan Mc. Vicker, married to Jean Mc. Connell by 1777 was the son of James Mc Vicker who d. 1800, although it is possible, if everything were going fast, for him to have been and that Jean Mc.Connell was his first wife. However, as you will see from the deed I enclose his wife in 1821 was an Abagail. So that also tends to discount the probability that it was Duncan, son of James, who m. Jean Mc Connell. In view of that it looks as though the Duncan Mc. V. son-in-law of Thos Mc Connell was your Duncan - with his first or second wife. As I say the papers in Trenton on Thos. Mc Connell will may clear it all up - and deeds in Somerset Co. may also. As soon as I can get to it I will tackle it there. In the meantime, I feel that we have some facts, have eliminated Morris and Sussex Co. records - and practically eliminated the possibility that the Duncan Mc. Vicker who m. Jean Mc. could have been the son of James. Thus the search is narrowing down. It should be cleared up in another day's work, or at most two.

Sincerely yours,

Dirk P. DeYoung

(SEE OTHER SIDE OF THIS PAGE FOR POSTAL CARD OF DATE AUGUST 18, 1938)

D. DeYoung -> JRM [A00405-2]

POSTAL CARD Postmarked: (" Avenel , N.J. Aug 18 1938 8 p.m.")

"Dear Mr. McVicker: I went to Sussex County (Newton) today and there is not one deed, not one record there on the McVicker family. However, I returned via Morristown (Morris Co.) and found proof there that the Duncan McVicker, son of James who d. 1800 had wife Abigail and moved to Butler Co. Ohio, where he was living in 1825. He could not have been the Duncan McVicker named as the husband of Jean (JOAN) McConnell. So it looks as though the Duncan McVicker named in the Will of Thomas McConnell 1777 - was your ancestor, and a brother of James who died 1800. I will report in full in a few days. I found a deed that makes it clear.

Very truly yours,

D. P. DeYOUNG

8/18/38

D. DeYoung -> JRM [A00406-1]

A00406

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DIRK P. DEYOUNG
GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH
AVENEL, N. J.

MEMBER
N. J. HISTORICAL SOCIETY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF N. J.

Sept. 3, 1938.

Dear Mr. Mc Vicker:

I have noted the contents of your last letter and have gone over your previous letters, and have since my last report spent an hour or two in Trenton going over wills and spent one day in Somerset Co. recordsa and two hours in the N.J. Historical Society library, and the results of those researches are typed on separate sheets herewith. I have donex this work the last week, on my own account, to survey the field and to determine whether or not it would be profitable for you to spend any more on the Mc. Vicker search.

Unfortunately, the court house of Somerset Co. N.J. was burned during the Revolution and there are but few records there of an earlier period. So, it does not seem likely that we shall find much more than I did in a day there, and it does not clear up the Mc Vicker puzzle.

There are no Mc Vicker records there after the Rev. except those of William and Daniel, son and grand son respectively of James. Duncan, his other son, went to Ohio, and Archibald another of the three boys died without issue, hence what we find there only represents descendants of James Mc. Vicker 1718-1800. The inference is therefore fair that Duncan, brother of said James, with all of his male issue, left that locality, as there are no records of him in Somerset or Morris or Sussex, or Hunterdon. Moreover, there are no records there of any other Mc Vickers; hence the deduction that but two of the Mc. Vicker brothers settled in that part of N.J. and the others, if there were three or four, settled elsewhere. I have noted somewhere records of an early Mc Vicker in Burlington Co., N.J. and the other one Archibald in N.Y. The one in Burlington Co. was Daniel - hence Daniel, James, Archibald, and Duncan - were four early Mc Vickers in N.J, and N.Y. and you find those names in all branches of the Mc Vicker family. But I am sure Duncan and James were the only ones together in and around Basking Ridge in that Scotch settlement, and James and his family we have accounted for, and Duncan and his family left there and went to Bedford Co. Pa.

I hold the view that there were but two Duncan Mc Vickers - the brother of James 1718-1800 and Duncan son of James. James married between 1754 and 1760 to Catharine Mc Cain - as his dau. Agnes, who m. Mc Murtry was born 1760. See the Compendium of American Genealogy Vol. 1 p. 873. There is nothing in the will of James Mc. Vicker 1718-1800 to indicate that he had ~~but~~ the one wife, hence his son Duncan would have been too young to have been the Duncan married to Jean Mc Connell. The Duncan married to Jaan Mc. Connell was, in my opinion, none other than the Duncan who later went to Bedford Co. Pa. The only uncertain part of it is that she may have been his second wife. Yet, if Joan or Jean Mc Connell were the first child of Thos. Mc Connell, she would have been of marriageable age in 1663-65 and from the will of Thos. Mc Connell she appears to have been the oldest dau. if not the oldest child, and of about the right age to have been the first wife of your Duncan. The latter was b. 1739 - Jean Mc. Connell about 1748-50. I wonder, hence, if both the Annie Laurie and Nancy Mc. Collum traditions are wrong, as such family traditions so often are, regarding the given or maiden names of maternal ancestors.

(SEE OTHER SIDE OF THIS PAGE)**********

D. DeYoung -> JRM [A00406-2]

The early records of the Scotch church in Basking Ridge were destroyed by fire; hence it is not likely a record of the marriage or marriages of Duncan Mc Vicker are to be found. Presumably he married about 1765 - or a little later, as his son James was b. in 1768. That fits in precisely in time to have been from the Duncan Mc Vicker who married Jean Mc Connell - as they were man and wife in 1777. It is possible, but not probable, that the wife who bore his first children had died and that he was again married to Jean Mc Connell by 1777 - besides Jean wasof an age to have married about 1765 - and girls in those days married young - not at 25 or 30. Thus in the absence of more positive proof than a tradition - I would prefer to say that your Duncan had as wife Jean Mc Connell, and no other, up to 1777.

I tried through Mc Collums to find a Nancy that would fit into your tradition. But the records reveal none. There was a Joseph Mc Collum who died intestate 1754. It is possible he had a dau. Nancy, but there are no records on him that give any particulars. Hugh Mc Collum, d. intestate, 1794, and left 11 children, as you will see from extracts of deeds I am enclosing. It is possible he may have had a nancy. These Mc Collums were in Monmouth Co. earlier, the same as the Mc Connells. They did not migrate direct from Scotland to Somerset Co. but were in Monmouth Co a generation earlier, where there was a Scotch settlement before 1700 led by Lord Niel Campbell. Later on many of those Scotch from Monmouth Co. migrated to the Scotch settlement in Somerset.

The name of Jean Mc Connell, as it is written in the will, was Joan, not Jean. I have found cases where Joan and Ann were used interchangeably. Nancy might have been what they called Joan or Jean, hence the name Nancy from Joan Mc Connell - and as the names Mc Collum and Mc Connell are so much alike - tradition might have got Mc Collum and Mc Connel mixed up - and it might be that it was Joan Mc Connell they had in mind all the time. That is what I think. Jean Mc Connell was the wife of Your Duncan, and no other.

I think that it would be a waste of time and money to do more research on this. I have gone through the indexes of the Somerset Monthly. Nothing of value there; also other Somerset material. My survey has rounded up most of the sources. There was no other Duncan Mc Vicker in that part of N.J. of the right age and circumstances to have been the husband of Joan Mc Connell, except your Duncan; it does not seem probable he was married previous to his marriage to her, as the birth dates of children - James - beginning 1768 - John, Alexander, Joseph, must have been born between 1768 and 1776 - to have been on Militia Rolls in Bedford 1789-93. It does not seem possible for Duncan not to have had a wife between 1768 and 1777 or to have had morethan one wife. The ages of his sons indicate that there was no break in his marital state from 1768 to 1777. Jean Mc. Connel was of exactly the right age to have been the wife to have borne those sons. She is named as the wife of Duncan Mc. Vicker in 1777; there was no other Duncan there at that time of the right age to have been Jean,s husband except your Duncan; hence it would be a miricle if that Duncan named in the will of Thos Mc Connell were not yours and Jean your foremother.

I spent one day in Somerville on this. Two hours in Trenton where I examined the will of andpapers on Thos. Mc Connell, which gives no more facts. about two hours in the N.J. Historical Soc. library at Newark. I wanted to satisify my own curosity. and I don't think you will ever learn more about who Duncan's wife was than we now know. The destruction of the records in Somerset Co. closes the door.

If you want the letters you wrote back I will send them. Meantime, believe me,

Sincerely yours,

Dick P. DeYoung

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00408-1]

A00408-1

1117 East College Street,
Iowa City, Iowa,
August 22, 1938

Mr. Dirk P. DeYoung,
Genealogical Research,
Avenel, New Jersey.

Dear Mr. DeYoung:

I received your card of August 18 and today your letter of August 20 with report of your searches at Newton and at Morristown. I inclose draft for $6.50 which in your letter of August 13 you said you would have to figure on a day on work done in Newton.

Did you also check for the name of McCollum in Newton? Nancy McCollum might have been mentioned in a Will of some McCollum as was Jean McConnell in the Will of her father, Thomas McConnell, of Somerset County. I do not believe that the land records are conclusive because Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) may have not owned any land. So he may have lived in Sussex County as his military connection might indicate. I inclose a sheet showing that Private John McCollum, Capt. Helm's Company, Continental Army, and also the legislator and judge, Jacob McCollum, both lived in Sussex County during the Revolution and presumably before. The fact that there are McCollum families in Sussex is very suggestive.

I think your report shows that my ancestor, Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) was not the Duncan McVicker son of James McVicker (1720-1800) because you show this son Duncan McVicker moved to Butler County, Ohio, and was living there in 1825. So he was not my ancestor who moved to Bedford County, Pa., and died there in 1818. This son Duncan McVicker who moved to Butler County, Ohio, could however have been the husband of Jean McConnell as his first wife(and Abigail as his second wife in 1825). I do not believe that my great grandfather, Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) was the Duncan McVicker named as the husband of Jean McConnell in the Thomas McConnell Will. Your report shows now, I think, that there were at least two persons named Duncan McVicker, and it is reasonable also to think that there may have been three persons or more of that name in New Jersey in those days. Duncan was a very common name among the Scotch and there seem to be numerous persons in the various McVicker families, and more McVicker families are being discovered all along. The name of Nancy McCollum is very strongly intrenched as the wife of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818), and it would require a very positive identification of that Duncan McVicker to have been the one who married Jean McConnell or any other named persons than Nancy McCollum as his wife. I am now of the opinion that there were three or more persons named Duncan McVicker in those days. We have not localized the County of our Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) as yet any more than that he served in Sussex Co.Regiment.

Of one thing I do feel sure and that is that since you show that Duncan McVicker son of James McVicker (1720-1800) moved to Butler County Ohio and was living there in 1825, that he was not my ancestor (1739-1818) who after the Revolution settled in Bedford County, Pa. and died there and is buried there.

Please note that my ancestor Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) had a son born as early as 1768--James McVicker (1768-1852) who lived in Monongalia County, Virginia (now W.Va.) This said James McVicker (1768-1852), uncle of my father, was born in New Jersey.

You say that if Duncan McVicker had lived in Sussex County or owned land there that there would be a record of land conveyances there--now the latter part of this is apt but not the first part. I do not think that Duncan McVicker necessarily ever ownd any land at all in New Jersey, so the land conveyances will be nil if that is the case. Of course what is needed are marriage records and birth records--he had 7 children borhin New Jersey at least and probably 10. Then if he didn't own any land there and didn't die there so there could be a will--what have you in New Jersey?

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00408-2]

A00408-2

I note that you think that Somerset County and then Trenton should be taken in that order next. I wish to make a few observations--there is positively nothing to indicate to me that Duncan McVicker, my ancestor, lived in Somerset ~~xxxxx~~ County, only that there did live there the families of McCollum, Laurie, and McConnell. Undertaking search in Somerset County may eliminate Jean McConnell, as wife of another Duncan McV. I feel sure that Nancy McCollum was the wife. When I have said that her name comes down by tradition from the Monongalia County West Virginia families that seems to be taken as implying an uncertainty while I do not mean that at all. May be that I should not use the word tradition, or if so not to to taken in any loose sense like myth. A previous search by a New Jersey genealogist whom I had, was reported to the effect that there was no evidence of more than one Duncan McVicker in New Jersey and that one had married the daughter of Thomas McConnell, Jean, as per his Will of 1777—Q.E.D. Now we see that there were at least three possible DUNCANS:

(1) My ancestor, Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) who served in the Revolution from Sussex County, went to Bedford County, Pa., died there and is buried there;
(2) Duncan McVicker, son of James McVicker (1720-1800) who went to Butler County, Ohio and settled there and made a deed to land in Morris County, N.J. in 1825 (he was not my ancestor); you have shown that (2) is a different person from (1)
(3) Duncan McVicker who was the husband of Jean McConnell in 1777 as disclosed by the Will of her father, Thomas McConnell, and which Duncan McVicker we may as yet consider as a kind of floating or unidentified Duncan McVicker with relation to the two preceding, or as a third personage altogether which is equally probable;
(4) An unidentified Duncan McVicker who is said to have married ANNIE LAURIE;
(5) A possible unknown additional Duncan McVicker altogether to make sure that the research does not pick up the first such name that comes along and make conclusions about him without identifying him; Duncan was a very common name among the Scotch then, like John or James, and it is yet. There seem also to have been numerous families named McVicker in New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania, and they seem to have kept on trekking over to this country ever since from Scotland by way of the North of Ireland and Canada, spelling the name McVicker, McVickar, MacVicar, McVicar. So we had best keep this unknown Duncan McVicker in mind too to keep from jumping to conclusions.

Now with all this raft of McVicker names, and with no real reason to challenge the name of Nancy McCollum except that we wish to identify the Duncan McVicker who married Annie Laurie and the Duncan McVicker who married Jean McConnell if possible, and to differentiate them and distinguish them if possible, and so make the evidence conclusive if possible, we can see that it is equally important to keep an eye on the name of McCollum as it is on the name McVicker for we might find the conclusive fact that way. So that is why I had sent you the copy of the Pedigree of Hugh McCollum Beugler, descendant of John McCollum, a Sussex County private soldier of Capt. Helm's Company, Continental Army and with it the extract from the History of Sussex and Warren Counties, New Jersey, showing also a prominent old Revolutionary settler, Jacob McCollum of Newton, New Jersey. With a daughter or relative of one of these, Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) may have intermarried. He soldiered from Sussex County, may be he married there, had settled there, had lived there, but never owned any land there. Some of my ancestors were kind of shiftless and migratory: some of them attached themselves to the soil by owning land, while others seem never to have ~~take~~ taken much thought for the morrow. They were good people enough all right, and religious and the early ones probably tied to the Presbyterian Church. The tribe motto as revealed on the coat of arms of the MacVicar (McVicker) sept. or class is "DOMINUS PROVIDEBIT" -- The Lord will provide, and so they seem to me to have been taking all things in their stride all along, some owning land and some not owning any land.

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00408-3]

A00408-3

I have decided to inclose some papers to you which I would request to be returned to me when we have finished our arrangements:

(1) Copy of Elizabeth B. Satterthwaite's Reports of her work for me done in Trenton, N.J., as will appear therefrom. These are for your reference at present and I wish that you would look them all over carefully. The copy of the Will of Tomas McConnell (d. 1877) seems to me to have an error in the second line in reading "Bernards Town and County and Province of Essex, New Jersey" and you will note I have inserted ("Somerset") interogatively in parenthesis, as I thought the right County was Somerset.

(2) "James McVicker (1720-1800): References to ... in early N.J. History."
(3) "Other Early Names of McVicker, not Identified as to any Relationship."
(4) "Duncan McVicker (1739-1818)" showing the name in Pennsylvania
(5) Copy of letter from Edw. H. Lum, Corresponding Secretary of the Genealogical Society of New Jersey, disclosing customers of the Pluckemin Store—Daniel McCollum and Tuncken (Duncan) McCollum, 1768-1775.

Now I could send you a 7 page outline of data gathered from the descendants of James McVicker (1720-1800) and with several of whom I have been and I am in correspondence. However, I am not sending that outline because it has resulted so far in only tracing descendants of Daniel McVicker (1797-1864) and some of their lines down to this date. So far they have not been able to go back of Daniel McVicker (1797-1864) whom I have presumed to have been a grandson of James McVicker (1720-1800). You have mentioned this Daniel McVicker in a memorandum you have of a deed from him and wife Mary to Nicholas Arrowsmith (Liber E-3-335- 9/17/31) saying in your memorandum: "land on road from Peapack to Mendham—same land as James McVicker deceased formerly owned and it refers to a reservation out of it for Margaret Leddel as long as she remains a widow, as it was provided for her in the Last Will and Testament of her father James McVicker deceased. The land was formerly conveyed by William McVicker to said Daniel McVicker."

The very next sentence in your memorandum is very significant saying: "I assume that this Daniel was a son of William McVicker." I think that probably you are right, and if so you have said more than I have been able to find from all my work with these correspondents-descendants in several months. They are unable to go back of Daniel and seem not to know how he is related to James McVicker, although he was born when said James McVicker was 77 years old. I have assumed that James McVicker was probably related to my great grandfather Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) probably a brother, although this whole thing is only an assumption on my part from the statement by tradition that Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) had three brothers and that this James McVicker (1720-1800) would probably fit in as one of them.

However, I will not inclose this 7-page outline which is the embodiment of these tracings which I have elicited as it absolutely does not help at present in this search for my great grandfather but only begins with their ancestor Daniel McVicker (1797-1864) and comes down to this date in several lines. But I am interested in your assumption that Daniel McVicker was a son of William McVicker who was a son of James McVicker, and if so the statement cuts across many acres of correspondence, figuratively if not literally. But still we do not know where this James McVicker (1720-1800) himself comes into the picture as any relation. But I have been interested in him as a very possible and probable way of tracing my Duncan. I will probably hear further from these correspondents and eventually some may find their older family history and report to me. These correspondents live at Mendham, Gladstone, Newark and other points in New Jersey.

Also I could give you a list of eleven burials in the Basking Ridge cemetery (Presbyerian) of the McCollum name, beginning with John McCollum (1657-1760), but so far the only definite information we have secured as to lines of the McCollums is that of a John McCollum (1816-1880) who married Harriet McVicker (1825-1893) who was a daughter of Daniel McVicker (1797-1864).

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00408-4]

A00408-4

However, I am not inclosing a list of the 11 McCollum burials at Basking Ridge. There have been many of that name in Somerset County from very early times, and while we have conducted extensive correspondence with representatives in New Jersey we have by that method so far been as unable to go back to the far-past period of which we seek information as we have for the McVicker name. We have not discovered a member of the McCollum family or desendant thereof so far who has the records of the family gathered or assembled from those old times. That is, we have found no one having a family record of the McCollum family from earliest times.

You will have noted that I have strong faith that Nancy McCollum was my great grandmother—the wife of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818). As to the New Jersey implications of the name of Nancy McCollum: James McVicker (1768-1852), son of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) settled in Monongalia County Virginia (now W. Va.) My grandfather, Joseph McVicker (cir.1776-1854), a brother of James and son of Duncan therefore, also settled there,near Morgantown. James McCollum and his son Ensign Daniel McCollum (1754-1842) also settled in what is now Preston County adjoining Monongalia County about 1782. James McCollum (1725-1800) had lived in North Carolina but went from there to New Jersey, supposedly in the vicinity of Basking Ridge in Somerset County, where one of more of his four brothers is said to have also lived. Now James McVicker (1768-1852), James McCollum (1725-1800) and Daniel McCollum (1754-1842) were of the older and influential settlers of this region of ~~Mongalia~~ Monongalia County, West Virginia (my grandfather Joseph went there later on from Bedford County, Pa.) There have been and are numerous descendants of James McVicker, James McCollum and Daniel McCollum in Monongalia County, West Virginia. Now the direct statement comes down through the James McVicker family that the wife of Duncan McVicker was Nancy McCollum—and more than this several of the older members or descendants of the McCollum family of the same County (Monongalia) supported that statement. But in tracing up it has not been found just how Nancy McCollum was related to James McCollum and Daniel McCollum, but she is believed to have been related and thought probably to have been a niece of Duncan. She evidently died in New Jersey before Duncan McVicker went to Bedford County, Pa., at least no evidence of her or any wife of Duncan McVicker has been found in Bedford County, Pa. But he took his seven sons with him from New Jersey to Bedford County, Pa.,and probably two or three daughters, possibly a wife but no trace of her now, so believed to have died in New Jersey. At any and all events, Duncan McVicker married in New Jersey and if to Nancy McCollum, as believed, then to a Nancy McCollum who was related in some way to James McCollum (1725-1800). Supposedly, there were 5 McCollum brothers, James McCollum (1725-1800), John McCollum, Daniel McCollum, Reuben McCollum, and Alexander McCollum. It is not believed that Nancy McCollum was a daughter of Alexander McCollum who settled in New York. It is not believed that all of the 5 McCollum brothers were in New Jersey, but it has been said that James McCollum went to New Jersey where one or more of his brothers were settled. The best guess is that Nancy McCollum was of the family of Daniel McCollum, or John McCollum, or possibly Reuben McCollum, at any rate that she was related collaterally to James McCollum (1725-1800). On the balance of all probabilities it is thought that Nancy McCollum might even have been a daughter of James McCollum (1725-1800) who married Duncan McVicker in New Jersey before James McCollum (1725-1800) left New Jersey for York County Pennsylvania (where he was settled during the Revolution) and that family record of her name may have been forgotten, or forgotten rather when in the long course of time thereafter that it was sought to bring together the facts of the history of the James McCollum family.

So it seems a very difficult thing to find Nancy McCollum in New Jersey. There may be land records of James McCollum who left before the Revolution. There may be Will records for Daniel McCollum, John McCollum, Reuben McCollum, or some other McCollum mentioning Nancy McCollum (or Annie Laurie McCollum). The whole matter is very complicated, hence I have tried to set out details if sufficient measure to give you the whole picture and its difficulties.

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00408-5]

A00408-5

- 5 -

Now I think that you have the whole story and I wish that you would look over all these papers very carefully. And re-read letters.

I doubt if you will find the specific person Nancy McCollum, but you might. If there were adequate records of marriages I am sure you would. But there are not adequate records of marriages and vital statistics in New Jersey.

But you can find records that may surprise me in my skepticism. You can probably clear up the Duncan McVicker who married Jean McConnell, and might get something on the Duncan McVicker who married Annie Laurie (if a fact).

I wish an identification of the Duncan McVicker who married Jean McConnell. It is possible he could have been my Duncan, but I do not believe it.

If after looking this all over you firmly think that the advisable thing to do would be to search Somerset County, please write and let me know. Also after looking over the Reports of Mrs. Elizabeth B. Satterthwaite of Trenton, N.J., please advise me whether further search there might be productive.

I may give you a commission to go to Somerset County to search after hearing from you and would like to know what you think about going to Trenton for further search.

I have quite a number of obligations to meet however, and so might avail myself of your kind offer to extend time on the payments to be made for further search.

I appreciate your reports on Sussex and Morris counties. If you go to Trenton on this search later you may be able to recheck also on these two counties. In general I like all details of facts with references, as I fit in all obtainable information in my outlines.

Thanking you, I am,

Sincerely yours,

James R. McVicker

Please write me after having read all this letter and other reports over carefully. I will be interested in hearing from you on some of the points.

I have begun to think that most of the record on the older generations of people in New Jersey are lost, except in a few instances where partial records may exist to be gleaned from land transfers and the like. But that is a very insufficient source.

D. DeYoung -> JRM (Transcribed) [A00413-1]

-9-16-38 A00413

All Genealogical Work
Payable In Advance

DIRK P. DEYOUNG
GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH
AVENEL, N. J.

Sept. 13, 1938.

MEMBER
N. J. HISTORICAL SOCIETY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF N. J.

Dear Mr. Mc Vicker:

Re your last letter there is so much to it that it is very difficult to go into every detail in limited time. It is possible your ancestor Duncan Mc. Vicker had a wife Nancy Mc Collum. It is possible she might have been a second wife too. It is also possible that it might have been a different Duncan Mc. Vicker than yours who was the husband of Joan Mc Connell. But to a cold-blooded record searcher, with the known fact or tradition that your Duncan went from Northern N.J. to Pa. it leans to the view that he was that Duncan who married Joan Mc Connell at one time or another. The records do not appear to clear it up conclusively.

Re James Mc Collum, I made note of all deeds or mortgages on James Mc Collum and sent you what the indexes show in Somerset Co. records that are preserved and I made it a point to get all there was on the Mc Collums, Mc Connells, and Mc Vickers. Joseph Mc Vicker was I think a son of William, bro. of Daniel.

I noted, in the digest of wills, somewhere the Daniel Mc Vicker of Burlington Co. I shall go over my notes again and give what I have at the end of this letter.

I looked through the mortage records back to 1765 and there is no more than I gave of interest.

I did not take a copy of the will of James Mc. Vicker, when in Trenton, because I thought you had it. But I did look at it in Trenton and found it gave no facts not contained in the digest, of genealogical interest.

I looked for Lawrie deeds and mortgages in Somerset Co. records and found none.

The indices of the Secretary of State, Trenton, are complete on such marriages, deeds and wills as they have there, and I went through them on Mc Vickers, and found only what I have reported. I do not think more can be found there. But not all early deeds, wills and mortages are found there; many were never recorded. It is possible that Burlington, Monmouth, etc. might yield something, but not Mercer, as it was organized to late from other counties.

I did not copy the date of the jurat of the deed signed by Duncan Mc Vicker and wife Abigail, but I recall as I glanced at it that it was within a few days of the date of the instrument. In making such copies it takes so long that I did not feel justified in spending the additional time in writing that down inasmuch as it seemed to add none to the value of the record. RR p. 592 is the correct number of the deed of Duncan Mc. Vicker of Morris Co. dated 1825.

592

D. DeYoung -> JRM (Transcribed) [A00413-2]

The item re Daniel Mc Vicker in Burlington Co. does not appear in the digest of wills as late as 1780 - which I have here - but in a general compilation to be found in the library. I will have to wait until I get to the library again to get that when I will send it to you.

While I did spend the whole day in Somerset Co. Court house - it was at my own suggestion and risk; hence I do not wish to bill you definitely on it. The trips to Trenton and the N.J. Hist. library were in connection with other errands. The most I would expect for wh& I did would be $5. which you need not pay at all if you do not feel you can afford it or in any particular time if you can. I did it to get a better view of the possibilities and to eliminate useless expens on further search in those localities.

Trusting this will answer most of your points I am,

Very truly yours,

D. P. DeYoung

Duncan McVicker (17__ - 1847) [A00418-1]

A00418-1

DUNCAN McVICKER (17__-1847)
Son of James McVicker (1720-1800) of Mendham
Morris County, N. J.

The following data may relate to the same person.

Norvel Wilson McVicker (1827-1923) told his son, the writer, in 1916, that among his uncles he thought that he had an uncle who had settled in Ohio. Norvel Wilson McVicker had an uncle, Duncan McVicker, Jr., son of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818), and the last data this writer has that can be identified with this Duncan McVicker Jr. is that he was in 1789 listed in the Bedford County Pennsylvania Militia. However, the Duncan McVicker at the head of this sheet was a son of James McVicker (1720-1800) and he could have been no more than a first cousin of Joseph McVicker (1776-1854) who was Norvel Wilson McVicker's father. The information of Norvel Wilson McVicker on this point was not certain, and so it may have related to a cousin rather than to an uncle.

Now as to records:

Commissioners' Book of Campbell County, Kentucky, of July 20, 1795, states that James McCollum, John McCollum, and DUNCAN McVICKER came into the state March 10, 1795.

Kenton County, Kentucky, was formed from Campbell County, Kentucky, in 1840. The two counties adjoin on the Ohio River to the North, just south of Cincinnati, Covington being in Kenton County and Newport in Campbell County.

Duncan McVicker in 1795, 1799, 1802, 1803, 1800, 1805, 1806, had 80 acres of land on Willow Run, Campbell County (which land may have been in what is now Kenton County. (James McCollum, John McCollum, and later, Samuel McCollum and Thomas McCollum, also had several parcels of land in the same region--then Campbell County.) This data was furnished from the State House records at Frankfort, Ky., September 2, 1936.

Collins' HISTORY OF KENTUCKY, Vol. II, page 424, says: "Residents in 1810 within the corporate limits of Covington,(Ky.) .....Duncan McVicker and son James. ....."

Covington, Kentucky, was in the same County in which Duncan McVicker is mentioned as owing 80 acres of land as early as 1795 and last noted as in 1806.

Memorial Record of Butler County, Ohio, published in 1894, at pages 380-381, a County History of Butler County, Ohio, in the biographical sketch of Richard R. McVicker, says that he was "one of the thrifty and enterprising agriculturists of Hanover Township,...the owner of a valuable farm which belonged to his grandfather, Duncan McVicker, one of the early settlers of Butler County, " "who was of Scotch-Irish descent, a native of New Jersey, and spent his active life in the improvement and development of this farm ....."

The Land Deed Records of Morris County New Jersey show that in 1825 Duncan McVicker and wife Abigail, of Hanover Township, Butler County, Ohio, joined in a deed of land situated in Mendham Township, Morris County, New Jersey.

Deed Book RR page 592 - Morris County, New Jersey.

Duncan McVicker (17__ - 1847) [A00418-2]

A00418-2 - 2 -

Probate Records of Butler County Ohio show that in the administration of the Estate of Duncan McVicker, of Hanover Township, Butler County, Ohio, that an Executor was appointed November 29, 1847, that no wife is mentioned but the names of the following children are mentioned in his Will:

Eldest son, James McVicker
Daughters, Catherine McVicker and Elizabeth McVicker
Sons, Augustine McVicker and Beningson McVicker

"James McVicker (1799-1883), the eldest son of Duncan McVicker (17___-1847) was born February 20, 1799. He was a farmer by occupation and came to Butler County at a very early day with his parents. For several years he helped his father in clearing and cultivating the homestead, and then went to Indiana, where he was married. For a number of years he followed agricultural pursuits in the Hoosier State, and finally, in 1877, returned to the home of his youth, continuing there to reside until his death, which occurred October 26, 1883, when he was in the 84th year of his age. His widow, who was born October 30, 1821, survives him. They were the parents of seven children, six of whom are living, viz.: Abigail, Joseph, Richard R., Margaret, Oleatha, Martha (deceased) and Augustine."--From MEMORIAL RECORD OF BUTLER COUNTY OHIO (pub. 1894), pages 380-81.

Note that Duncan McVicker and his son James are mentioned but no wife of said Duncan or others of his family as living in Covington Kentucky in 1810--in Collins' History of Kentucky referred to on preceding page.

Note that Abigail joined Duncan McVicker in deed to Morris County land in 1825. Presumably she was deceased by 1847 when said Duncan McVicker died. While the son James named one of his children "Abigail" yet could it not well be that she was the second wife of his father and his step-mother.

Duncan McVicker (17___-1847) was the son of James McVicker (1720-1800) ~~and his wife, Catherine McCain~~ whose wife when he died was Catherine (McCain) McVicker ~~a sister of Samuel McCain who married Thomas McConnell in 1747~~ In this connection Dirk P. DeYoung, genealogist, writes:

"Edmund Drake Halsey, in his old History of Morris County (N.J. mentions James McVicker among the prominent men of Mendham in 1740, page 241. .....If James McVicker was there as early as 1740, it increases the probability that his marriage to a McCain was his second marriage, and that if he was a prominent man there in 1740 and had been married before he married the McCain girl, his son Duncan McVicker may have been of the first wife and old enough to have been the Duncan McVicker who married Joan McConnell" (daughter of Thomas McConnell who died in Somerset County, 1777) --Dirk P.DeYoung's letter of Sept. 29, 1938.

Butler County, Ohio, is about the second county North from Campbell County, Kentucky, the intervening County of Hamilton of which Cincinnati is the county seat, separating the two regions.

The research reports of Dirk P. DeYoung to the writer show that James McCain of Butler County, Ohio, conveyed land in the vicinity of Bernardstown, Somerset County, N.J., in 1804, said land probably being over the line in Morris County New Jersey since the deed is recorded there. This lends a certain color to a supposition that Duncan McVicker went to Butler County following up the McCain family.

Gideon Palmer -> JRM [A00422]

A00422

GIDEON PALMER
PROBATE JUDGE
BUTLER COUNTY
HAMILTON, OHIO

Oct. 31st, 1938.

Mr. James R.McVicker,
1117 East College Street,
Iowa City, Iowa.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your letter of Oct.26th, we found the will of Duncan McVicker although the administration docket did not show that he died testate. However, the will does not mention his wife at all. His will was made in April, the 14th day, 1847. He left his farms,etc. to his four children: Eldest son- James McVicker, two daughters, Catherine & Elizabeth McVicker, & 2nd & 3rd sons - Augustine McVicker and Beningson McVicker, & no ages of the children on the record.

The rest of the testimony in Will Record #3, page 209 just states that when he made the will he was of sound mind,etc., and over 21 years of age when the Appointment was made in Nov.29,1847. The birth records in this County were not kept until 1867 so we would have no record of his birth here.

This is all the information we can give you from this office.

Very truly yours,

Gideon Palmer

Gideon Palmer, Probate Judge.

By Norma Nuhd
Deputy Clerk.

GR/n

Gideon Palmer -> JRM [A00423]

A00423

GIDEON PALMER
PROBATE JUDGE
BUTLER COUNTY
HAMILTON, OHIO

October 18,1938.

James R.McVicker,
Attorney and Counsellor at Law,
1117 East College Street,
Iowa City,Iowa.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your letter of October 16th, 1938, our Administration Docket #1, #01551 shows Duncan McVicker died intestate. The appointment of the Administrator was made Nov. 29, 1847, and the final settlement of the estate was made June 29th, 1856.

We do not know if any of the descentants of Duncan McVicker are living in Butler County,Ohio.

Very truly yours,

Gideon Palmer, Probate Judge.,

By Norma Nudd, Deputy Clerk.

LW/n

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00424-1]

A00424-1

1117 East College Street
Iowa City, Iowa
July 28, 1938

Mr. Dirk P. DeYoung,
Genealogical Research,
Avenel, New Jersey

Dear Mr. DeYoung:

Your letter of July 18, 1938, is reminiscent of two Iowa books--"The Hollanders in Iowa" by Jacob Van Der Zee, born in Holland and educated at the University of Iowa, an Oxford (Rhodes) scholar for three years, now a Professor, --"I Remember I Remember" by Cyrenus Cole, born and raised near Pella, Iowa, author of History of Iowa, and formerly a Congressman from this State.

Genealogy is a side-line with me, undertaken in my spare time and pursued because of interest and pleasure. I have been unemployed (as a teacher) during the last year and had only part-time employment for some time before that, and with family obligations I am not financially able to expend much on genealogy. I have not found that kinsfolk much regard such projects. I am doing it only "on my own,"for the pleasure of having the record.

As suggested in your pamphlet, a person may do much by correspondence and especially by occasional trips if he has enough of a line or clues to work upon. I have a son living in Philadelphia and when I may go to see him I might arrange to do some research in New Jersey.

However, I am interested in finding out the most reasonable terms upon which you may make your services available. Your letter shows that you are familiar with the records and searching in New Jersey. You may be able to go to the heart of a matter readily. I am going to state the problem I have in New Jersey.

You as a genealogist will know that the following account is largely as tradition has it. However, tradition rules the record in many cases for it is sometimes the record itself. Records often involve confused and uncertain identifications. Tradition may sometimes intermix details and confuse facts. So tradition and record should check each other.

My great grandfather, Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) with 3 brothers came from Scotland to New Jersey, and he settled in "the Scotch-Irish settlement just South of the Holland settlement in New Jersey." Quaere: Where is that locality? The dates of birth and death of Duncan McVicker are derived from the Family Bible record entry of his death and age at death of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) in the Family Bible of his son, Alexander McVicker (1773-1832), an uncle of my father, and which Bible is in my possession. Duncan McVicker lived with his son, Alexander McVicker (1773-1832) in his declining years and died at the said son's farm home not far from Schellsburg, Bedford County, Pa., January 19, 1818; and is buried at Schellsburg, Pa. I have this Family Bible of Alexander McVicker and authenticated transcriptions of inscriptions on the tombstones at Schellsburg and much data from Bedford County, Pa., and elsewhere.

Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) came over from Scotland with 3 bothers in 1757 when he was 18 (tradition). It must have been in New Jersey that he married for he was rather young to have brought his wife (although he might have). His children were born in New Jersey. The locality of his New Jersey residence was in North New Jersey where he settled in "the Scotch-Irish settlement just South of the Holland settlement." Quaere: Whether the expression, "Holland settlement," means the town of Holland in North New Jersey or the designation of a Holland Dutch settlement in North New Jersey.

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00424-2]

A00424-2

-2-

Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) served as an officer in the 2d Regiment Sussex County New Jersey Militia in the Revolutionary War and I have the certificate of his service from the Office of Adjutant General of New Jersey.

Tradition has it that shortly after the Revolution Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) with 7 sons moved from New Jersey to Bedford County, Pa. His name and names of 3 sons are shown on the roll of LondonDerry Twp., Bedford Co., Pa. militia in 1789. In the Federal census of 1790 for Bedford Co., Pa., Duncan McVicker is shown as having a family of 2 males over 16 (incuding himself as head of family), 5 males under 16 and 3 females. One son was then perhaps away from home, probably "on his own." But he evidently had 2 or 3 daughters, depending whether one of the females enumerated in the census of 1790 was his wife. Any indications of his wife ever being in Pennsylvania or her burial there do not appear from my searches. It would seem that she died in New Jersey before the migration of the family to Bedford County, Pa., "shortly after the Revolution." I surmise this as to his wife.

Tradition has it that when Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) was leaving from Trenton, N.J., en route to Bedford Co.,Pa., that a man (perhaps merchant) at Trenton was so enthusiastic over the 7 boys that he placed a new hat on the head of each of the 7 sons. Duncan McVicker's children were all born in N.J., as appears. I have the names of the 7 sons (lines of 4 traced out) and a descendant of one daughter has come forth during the past 2 years and produced record proving descent from a daughter of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818).

Two of the 7 sons (perhaps 3) went from Bedford Co., Pa.,and settled in what is now West Virginia, the two in Monongalia County. One of these was my grandfather, Joseph McVicker (cir.1776-1854), who had a family of 12 children of whom my father, Norvel Wilson McVicker (1827-1923) was the youngest. Another of the 2 sons of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) who settled in Monongalia County, Va., was James McVicker (1768-1852), who settled therein about 1793 and became a large land-owner near Morgantown, W. Va. As a boy my father lived with this his Uncle "Jim" for some time. This James McVicker (1768-1852) left an established family, and he was probably one of the older if not the oldest son of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818).

The unbroken tradition, continuous so far as I have traced it for about a century back from now in its implications and corroborations, is that the wife of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) was NANCY McCOLLUM. This tradition is very well corroborated and strongly intrenched and has been accepted without doubt or equivocation. It comes through the descendants of the Monongalia Co., W.Va., lines descended from Duncan McVicker (1739-1818). I have traced it in published history, Wiley's "History of Monongalia County West Virginia,"1883 (55 years ago), and through corroboration by tradition for 40 years about, prior to that date.

One of the sons of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818), viz., Alexander McVicker (1773-1832) remained in Bedford Co., Pa. and left an established family whose lines I have traced out. I have my great uncle Alexander McVicker's (1773-1832) Family Bible and record, presented to me at Christmas time 1936 by my kinsman, Dr. Winters Duncan Hamaker (b.1859) with whom I have corresponded much and who gave this to me because of my interest. Dr. Hamaker is a great grandson of Alexander McVicker (1773-1832), my great uncle. About some 40 years or more ago a great granddaughter of said Alexander McVicker, Ida R. Hamaker, sister of Dr. Hamaker (she was born 1861), wished to erect a substantial family monument and to inscribe upon it the name of her great-great grandfather, Capt. Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) and the name of his wife. But it appears that she did not have the name of the wife. Her branch (Bedford County from which she came) did not have the name. It seems that she did not seek the name from the Monongalia County, W.Va. branches or other branches or relatives. I doubt if she knew about them. It seems that she did not get the name from Bedford County (her home) where Capt. Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) is buried. The name of the wife of Capt. Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) was evidently lost to his descendants in Bedford County, Pa. The name does not appear with the name of the Captain in the Bible record of Alexander McVicker (1773-1832).

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00424-3]

A00424-3

-3-

No indication appears to me that a wife of Capt. Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) came with him from New Jersey to Bedford County, Pa. or ever lived there or that his wife is buried in that County. He lived his declining years or days with his son Alexander McVicker (1773-1832) in the latter's farm home and Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) was buried in the plot in the Schellsburg, Pa. cemetery where his son Alexander McVicker and the latter's wife, Jane (Taylor) McVicker (1774-1834), were afterwards buried. The son, Alexander, made the entry of his father's date of death and age at death in the son's Family Bible, which I have, but there is no record entry there at all about the mother of Alexander or any wife of Capt. Duncan McVicker.

So it seems that at any rate the name of the wife of Capt. Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) was lost to this branch and to the descendants in Bedford County and to this lady who wished to erect the monument and inscribe the name of the Captain's wife thereon. Miss Ida Rosanna Hameker was a Civil Service employe at Washington and she planned to erect this monument to her family at her own expense and as her own project, which with a commendable satisfaction she did. In order to obtain the name of the wife of her great-great grandfather (Capt. Duncan McVicker) she went to Trenton, N.J., but it is not known whether she searched elsewhere in New Jersey nor is anything known at all about her sources found in New Jersey, or whether she obtained the name from records herself or had assistance from some one.

But she injected the name, "ANNIE LAURIE" for the wife. Miss Hamaker has now been infirm and a patient in a sanitarium near Washington, D.C. for over 5 years and she cannot be consulted as to her sources of her research or finding. So the name stands solely on her own authority, unsustained as to its source. The name has not been found or any sources therefor retraced in New Jersey after considerable inquiry. Injected into the situation as described, the name ANNIE LAURIE is not well founded. It may well be that the full name of the wife was ANNIE LAURIE McCOLLUM, called NANY McCOLLUM like Betsy for Elizabeth as has been suggested. Or to me it seems that the name ANNIE LAURIE may have been taken as a poetic or cherished name instead of the true name which was lost and could not be found by the searcher.

It is not believed by me that there was a person named only ANNIE LAURIE who married Capt. Duncan McVicker (1739-1818). Miss Hamaker may have found or some one for her may have reported to her the name as ANNIE LAURIE McCOLLUM and she may have taken the name simply as ANNIE LAURIE, even as I had inscribed upon my own Mother's monument in 1901 her name as "MARGARET EMMA wife of N. W. McVICKER," instead of placing her full name MARGARET EMMA HILL thereon. Or she may have lovingly substituted the name ANNIE LAURIE instead of an unknown name of a beloved relative whose true name could not be found by her. She gave no other data nor any dates for ANNIE LAURIE to her relatives, and her own brother Dr. Winters Duncan Hamaker only derived from her the information that the name was "Miss Laurie" which information he gave in his sketch in a Crawford County, Pa. History published 1899. The inscription in question appears upon the family monument in the McVicker-Hamaker plot in the Schellsburg, Pa. Cemetery, as follows:

" 1739		Cap't. Duncan McVicker	1818
	2nd.	N.J.Line, Revolutionary War	
		His Wife Annie Laurie	"

(Thereafter follow inscriptions as to others of the family)

Please note that there are no dates given for ANNIE LAURIE as there are for the Captain--and for all the other names thereafter on the monument.

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00424-4]

A00424-4 -4-

As hereinbefore stated, I do not believe that there was a person named Miss Annie Laurie who married Capt. Duncan McVicker (1739-1818). I believe that Annie Laurie and Nancy McCollum were one and the same person. I believe that probably that the sources that Miss Hamaker had were only those found in the New Jersey State Offices at Trenton, N.J., unless that she after all delegated this research to another who reported to her. Since she was a clerk in the U.S. service at Washington, she may have had a good deal of familiarity with documents and so she may have relied upon her own ability to make the search and so not have secured any assistance. This, however, is speculation which can not be cleared up by asking Miss Hamaker about the matter. Her brother, Dr. Winters Duncan Hamaker, would help me in every way that he could and he has written me in reply to inquiries that the reports of his sister's condition are such that she cannot be asked about the matter or as to her sources. I, myself, received two letters from her early in 1935 before she became a patient in a sanitarium, and these letters showed that she was in a weak condition and not at all her normal or former self, in my opinion.

Dr. Hamaker received his only information as to the name from his sister, and he wrote that he had received the name only as Miss Laurie. A very busy physician in his active days, he assumed this information to be correct and he knows nothing of any facts to the contrary. Dr. Hamaker for the first 20 years of his life (b.1859) lived with his grandfather, Duncan McVicker (1799-1879), who was a son of Alexander McVicker (1773-1832). This grandson, Duncan McVicker (1799-1879), of the original Capt. Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) had lived for the first 19 years of his life with his grandfather. The first grandfather Duncan (1739-1818) told his grandson Duncan (1799-1879) of his experiences in the Revolution, and this grandson Duncan (1799-1879) related these in turn to his own grandson, Dr. Winters Duncan Hamaker (b.1859), and the latter has written them in letters to me. Many points about the family were thus related to me, but no information at all about the wife of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) except that he received the name Miss Laurie from his sister who had searched in New Jersey. And the Family Bible of his great grandfather, Alexander McVicker (1773-1832), which Dr. Hamaker presented to me in December, 1936, has an entry about the death of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) made evidently by said Alexander but no record at all about the wife of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818).

Miss Ida Rosanna Hamaker was a bright, active young lady with auburn hair who had gone from Schellsburg, Pa. with her Mother, Sarah Jane (McVicker) Hamaker (1837-1922) to Washington to live and where she had a Civil Service position. She was successful and desired to erect a substantial family monument at her own expense and as her own project. This she did on the family plot in the Cemetery at Schellsburg, Pa., as hereinbefore stated. I believe that she could not find the name of her great-great grandfather's wife in her home County of Bedford, Pa. or from any of the descendants that she knew. Her brother wrote me that she went to Trenton, N.J. and searched but says that he does not know whether she went elsewhere in New Jersey to search, that all he learned from her was that the name was "Miss Laurie," Miss Hamaker wrote to me April 19, 1935: (excerpt:) ....." 'From a small scrap typed' Duncan McVicker was a captain in the Revolutionary War and did great service in the border.
'He was married to Annie Laurie'
Must have been 1st marriage " .....

The name "Annie Laurie" which she had inscribed upon the monument is a name beloved in Scottish song. It is indeed appropriate for a typical poetic name for a beloved consort whose true name had passed into the shadows of anonymity from the lapse of time and toll of generations.

In this connection, a Laurie family lived in New Jersey but my informant said that there was no trace of an intermarriage of a member of that family named Annie Laurie with a Duncan McVicker.

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00424-5]

A00424-5

The "Centennial History of Somerset County New Jersey" by Messler quotes from "Records of the Province" names of persons who settled permanently about December 16, 1684: "Gawen Lawrie, 8 persons," .....

Doubtless, there were families in New Jersey by the name of Laurie or Lawrie, perhaps both spellings to be considered as the same family name.

But unless there were comprehensive marriage records kept in New Jersey it may be difficult or impossible to find any record of any marriage of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818).

The human mind is prone to foreclose itself on the evidence that it has secured after a considerable time, or else to speculate in the various possible theories that may account for a situation. So far I have at considerable length related to you the whole matter leading up to the situation presenting first in due course the name of the wife of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) as NANCY McCOLLUM derived from the Monongalia descendants of the son James McVicker (1768-1852) and remarkably enough corroborated by descendants of James McCollum (1725-1800) of said County (and which James McCollum had lived for a while in New Jersey before the Revolution among brothers in New Jersey but of which James McCollum Nancy McCollum is not a descendant but to whom she seems to have been collaterally related)—in a tradition that has been traced back by me for perhaps a century in its direct statement and to where the memory of these descendants"runs not to the contrary." The tradition seems to have come down continuously from the two sons of James McVicker (1768-1852) who is claimed to have been a son of Nancy McCollum—and thus presenting an unbroken tradition in a direct line and out of the proper custody.

John McCollum 1777 - one less than James

The tradition is so strongly based in its integrity and corroborations that I have accepted it as the fact. However, the foregoing letter has developed for you the facts of the situation presenting also the name of ANNIE LAURIE and the origin of that name as so far resting solely upon the authority of one living person but who cannot now present to us her sources for the foundation of the presentation of the name. The name is the result of her personal research or report or what to her was an accredited report from some source in New Jersey, very evidently. The name has gained the solemn status of its inscription by Miss Ida R. Hamaker upon the monument that she erected at the burial place of her great-great grandfather, Duncan McVicker (1739-1818);....and further as the proponent of the name ANNIE LAURIE she conveyed it to her brother, Dr. W. D. Hamaker who reported it in a sketch of his family which was published in the History of Crawford County, Pa., in 1899, but only therein as "Miss Laurie," for he did not know the name "Annie" in this connection. While personally I have these facts as the explanation, it is desirable to have the historical basis of the origin of the name of ANNIE LAURIE if such historical facts exist. It may be that there was another Duncan McVicker in New Jersey than my ancestor, who married an ANNIE LAURIE, and thus presenting a case of identification.

Remarkably enough, a third name has been also injected into the situation as the name of the wife of Duncan McVicker—JEAN McCONNELL—the name found in a Will of record among the public archives of New Jersey. This I believe to be a case for the identification of the Duncan McVicker who incontestibly was married to said JEAN McCONNELL. The Will of Thomas McConnell (page 514 Record of Wills, Department of State of New Jersey) reads thus:

"In the name of God Amen, the 15 day of January 1777, I Thomas McConnell, of Bernards Town and County and Province of Essex ("Essex" per my copy but I believe "Essex" is erroneous and that the true County must have been Somerset — probably an error by the copyist when clerically typing my copy for me) , New Jersey,"etc..... .....And in the next to the last paragraph the Will mentions inter alia as follows: ".....I give and bequeath unto my sons, James, Andrew, Hugh and Robert and MY DAUGHTER JEAN, THE WIFE OF DUNCAN McVICKER and my daughter Catherine" etc....

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00424-6]

A00424-6 -6-

We further note as to the said Will that it provides:
"And I do hereby ordain constitute and appoint my trusty friend JAMES McVICKER and Robert Helm the Executors of this my last Will and Testament in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year above written.(the 15 of January, 1777) THOMAS McCONEL by mark (seal)
Witnessed by us David Kirkpatrick, Hugh Kirkpatrick, John Roy.
Robert Helm renounces as Executor 9 June 1777.
Letters as sole Executor granted to JAMES McVICKER 9 June 1777.
Brotherin Law of Thos McConnell

Marriage license at Department of State of New Jersey:
Tomas McConnell of Somerset County and Susanna Cane of Somerset County, December 23, 1747.

Liber 1 (or F) page 167 of Records of Wills, Department of State of New Jersey, abstracting the Will of one JAMES McCAIN, of Baskinridge, Somerset County, New Jersey yeoman, February 25, 1754 (Will proved April 10, 1754) shows:
Wife Mary
Children Catherine, Nelly (both under age), James, Charles, John, Bryan, Richard, Hugh, Daniel, William, Susanna (wife of Thomas McConnell)
Witnesses - Aaron Boylan, Cathrin Boylan, JAMES McVICKER

The Will of James McVicker(1720-1800) filed of record in Department of State, New Jersey, mentions:
Wife Catherine (Cane) McVicker
Sons Archibald McVicker, William McVicker, Duncan McVicker
Daughters Agnes McVicker McMurtrie, Margaret McVicker (Leddle?), Isabel McVicker
Grandsons James McMurtrie (son of Agnes), James McVicker (son of William McVicker).
This is all the information I have from this Will of James McVicker (1800), as I do not have a copy of the Will and I do not know whether its text and context reveals anything else pertinent or not.

The wife of Thomas McConnell was Susanna Cane (or McCain). The wife of James McVicker was Catherine Cane. Susanna and Catherine may have been sisters, daughters of James McCain, abstract of Will above.

It is believed that Thomas McConnell was of the vicinity of Baskinridge, Somerset County, New Jersey. James McVicker was evidently of Mendham, Morris County, New Jersey, where he is buried in Mendham Hill Top Cemetery. Thomas McConnell and James McVicker (1720-1800) may have been brothers-in-law by their marriage of sisters. Evidently, they were close friends and lived not far apart.

James McVicker: witness to Will of James McCain (1754)—Liber 1 or F page 167

witness to Will of Robert Steward of Mendham, Morris County, N.J.(1762) -Liber H page 137

Executor of Estate of William Martin, of Mendham Twp., Morris Co., N.J. (1767)—Liber 1 page 170

Sole Executor of Estate of Thomas McConnell (1777) of Bernards Town (Somerset ? County— Record of Wills page 514

Will of James McVicker (1720-1800) executed March 25, 1799—he died August 11, 1800 and is buried at Mendham, Morris County—his Will filed of record in Department of State, New Jersey

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00424-7]

A00424-7 -7-

James McVicker (1720-1800) evidently lived in Morris County--he is buried in the Mendham Hill Top Cemetery, Mendham, New Jersey. He may have been a brother of my great grandfather, Capt. Duncan McVicker (1739-1818), and the said Duncan McVicker may also have lived in Morris County or in that part of New Jersey. Of course from the fact that there appears a difference of 19 years in their ages, it could be possible that Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) was a son of James McVicker (1720-1800), but this is contrary to all direct tradition.

From the facts of proximity, friendship and all, it is suggested that the Duncan McVicker who is shown as a son in the Will of James McVicker (1720-1800) was the one who married JEAN McCONNELL. It is supposed by me that this Duncan McVicker who married JEAN McCONNELL was probably a nephew of my great grandfather, Duncan McVicker (1739-1818).

James McVicker's (1720-1800) wife, Catherine Cane McVicker died intestate in Morris County, New Jersey, and administration was taken out on her Estate by Margaret Leddle, presumably her daughter, on _____(date unknown to me).

Archibald McVicker, son of James McVicker (1720-1800), died intestate in Morris County, New Jersey, on or about_____(date unknown to me), and William McVicker (probably his brother) was appointed Administrator.

I have no other data on either of above matters, but some data might be in connection therewith although the Deputy Surrogate of Morris County says that there is no record among the papers of the heirs-at-law or next of kin.

The main problem as to JEAN McCONNELL is to identify the DUNCAN McVICKER who was married to her as in the disclosure by the Will of Thomas McConnell in 1777. I have no completer data but some may be of record as to the marriage, the date of marriage, etc. I believe that the Duncan McVicker who married Jean McConnell was the Duncan McVicker who was a son of James McVicker (1720-1800), and that he was probably a nephew of my great grandfather, Duncan McVicker (1739-1818). Wrong

Strangely enough, there are implications, signs, indications, records and evidence that in Somerset County and vicinity there were families representing all three names: McCOLLUM, LAURIE (or LAWRIE), McCONNELL.

But in the whole situation I have not localized the residence of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) while he lived in New Jersey any more definitely than that he settled in North New Jersey in the Scotch-Irish settlement just South of the "Holland settlement." That might mean the town of Holland, but I doubt it. If his settlement were localized it would be possible to do intensive local research. Morris County seems to have been the settlement of McVickers, at any rate James McVicker (1720-1800) lived there and is buried there (at Mendham). In the same Cemetery are also buried Daniel McVicker (1797-1864) and his wife Mary Reed McVicker (1798-1840). Strangely, however, the descendants of Daniel and Mary Reed McVicker seem unable to identify the relationship of James McVicker (1720-1800) to Daniel McVicker (1797-1864), but the Will of the former showing his three sons as Archibald, William and Duncan would seem to indicate that he may have been the grandfather of said Daniel. I have the lines of descendants of Daniel.

Somerset County was the settlement of numerous McCollum families, especially, Basking Ridge and several other points in the North of the County. There are 11 burials of McCollums in the Old Presbyterian Cemetery at Basking Ridge, the oldest that of John McCollum (1657-1760), the advent of the family into Somerset County said to have been in 1720. A local researcher and descendant of the McCollum family at Basking Ridge has no complete record of the McCollum families.

Edward H. Lum, Corresponding Secretary of the Genealogical Society of New Jersey, wrote (March 23, 1938), "Customers at the Pluckemin (Somerset County)

(see page 8)

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00424-8]

A00424-8 -8-

"Store between 1768-1775 included Daniel McCollum and Tuncken (Duncan) McCollum. A Malachi McCollum lived at Cross Roads in Revolutionary times." Reference to said statement, information as to said Malachi McCollum's lines does not indicate that he was the father of Nancy McCollum. There is some reason for thinking that the name of the father of Nancy McCollum may have been a Daniel McCollum. However, I doubt if we can ever find the elusive Nancy McCollum's family in the dearth of records or confusion thereof, and I think that the search is primarily one keeping in mind the name of Duncan McVicker, although you know far more than I do about New Jersey records.

Nancy McCollum is thought to have been a niece of James McCollum (1725-1800) who went from New Jersey to York County, Pa., and from which place he and his son, Ensign Daniel McCollum (1754-1842) served in the Revolution, and about 1782 they moved to Monongalia County, Virginia (now W.Va.) where there since were numerous descendants fraternizing with the descendants of James McVicker (1768-1852) and considering their families related by an intermarriage, presumably that of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818), the father of said James McVicker (1768-1852), to Nancy McCollum. Nancy is not a descendant of Daniel McCollum (1754-1842) and seems not to have been a daughter of James McCollum (1725-1800), hence the relationship strongly claimed is believed to have been collateral, as of a niece of said James McCollum (1725-1800).

Nancy McCollum as the wife of Capt. Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) stands as a firm unbroken tradition, but the names of Annie Laurie and of Jean McConnell cause or may cause confusion. I can explain Annie Laurie as founded on the report of only one person (unless by chance some record of the name Annie Laurie be found in New Jersey as wife of Duncan McVicker). The name of Jean McConnell stands on the incontestible record of a Will, that of Thomas McConnell (1777), of Somerset County, N.J.(Department of State of New Jersey), and in this case I believe that it is a case of identification of the Duncan McVicker who married Jean McConnell. If that son-in-law of Thomas McConnell can be identified apart from Capt. Duncan McVicker (1739-1818), then the tradition as to the name Nancy McCollum as the wife will stand securely, for the name of Annie Laurie is not much of question under the circumstances. I believe that this Jean McConnell's husband Duncan was the son of James McVicker (1720-1800) and that said James was one of the brothers of Capt.Duncan McVicker (1739-1818).

It could be possible that Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) who is said to have come over from Scotland with 3 brothers to New Jersey at age 18 in 1757 really came with his father (if James McVicker 1720-1800 were his father) and two brothers, and that there was only the one Duncan McVicker and that he was the same one as the son of James McVicker (1720-1800), but this theory negatives all firm tradition which comes down unbrokenly through many sources to me (and most remarkably through the letters of a grandson of a grandson who thus relayed it through only one intermediary from himself to me as the recollections of the Captain himself, and these recollections passing thus personally through the statements of the living parties to the others who transmitted them, first from the Captain to his grandson and from that grandson to his grandson and he to me by many letters.

I have much more record but this suffices to present the situation, and this is a very long letter at that and I hope it will not tire you. The reason for presenting the situation even thus fully is to present the situation clearly enough for understanding. However, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to write me and I will reply to them more briefly than this long letter.

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00424-9]

A00424-9 -9-

The solution may possibly be found in the Office of the Department of State of New Jersey, in its very voluminous collections of records, or some of it may be found in the records of Morris, Somerset, Warren or Hunterdon counties. I have found McVickers in Morris County and McCollums in Somerset County.

Do you have any records of the names McVicker or McCollum in Hunterdon County in the 18th century?

I think that the town of Holland is in the West of Hunterdon County, if that be of any significance (as possibly the settlement, or North of it, of Duncan McVicker (1759-1818). But it may be instead that the meaning of the words "the Holland settlement" refer rather to a Holland Dutch settlement in some part of North New Jersey and South of which was the Scotch-Irish settlement in which Duncan McVicker located in New Jersey.

I would be glad to have your estimate for a search. In case we make a bargain I can submit abstracts of other research, although I have given you the gist of it in this letter.

I am,

Sincerely yours,

James R. McVicker
1117 East College Street
Iowa City, Iowa

Please kindly preserve this letter for return after we are through with our correspondence or arrangements. It gives a full summary which I may wish to have.

However, mark it up with your own notations and memoranda all you please, as I only may want it for my own reference.

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00425-1]

A00425-1

1117 East College Street
Iowa City, Iowa
August 10, 1938

Mr. Dirk P. DeYoung,
Avenel, New Jersey.

Dear Mr. DeYoung:

I thank you for your letter of August 2, 1938.

My previous letter was somewhat long, designed to give you the facts or points at one time so as to avoid repetition in succeeding letters which might be even more confusing, since it is harder to keep in mind contents of several letters or to refer to them collectively as easily as to one. However, I presume that it is hardly possible to do that as several points not covered have come up. Hence, I will write without reference to what I may have already covered, but suggesting that you please go over my former letter carefully in addition to this letter.

My great grandfather, Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) served as an officer in the 2nd Regiment Sussex County New Jersey Militia in the Revolution. I have the certificates of the Adjutant General of New Jersey as to his service and besides that I have accounts from the family traditions as handed down by two of his sons as to his service. By traditions as I use the term, I mean those facts which have come down through the family as distinguished from records in writing.

But unless the records in the Office of the Adjutant General of New Jersey should disclose some details as to his family, no further data or aid along this line can be secured from the military records. In your letter of August 2, 1938, you asked: "Have you written to the Veterans' Bureau, War Department, "Washington, D.C.? If Duncan McVicker applied for a pension their records would give "a great deal about him, names of his children, wife, brothers and sisters often, and "other details." In answer to your question, I would say that I have so inquired:
(1) From the Adjutant General of the U.S.Army who wrote me that--"The name Dunken "(Duncan)Mc Vicker has not been found on the rolls, on file, in this office, of any "organization in New Jersey, or Continental troops in service during the War of the "Revolution. The collection of Revolutionary War records in this Office is far from "complete and it is suggested as a possibility that the desired information can be "obtained from the Commissioner of Pensions, Washington, D.C."
(2) Thereupon I wrote to the Commissioner of Pensions who wrote me as follows: ".....You are advised that the Revolutionary War records of this Bureau fail to "afford any information in regard to Dunken (Duncan) McVicker."
--Note--My ancestor signed his name "Dunken" as stated by the Adjutant General of New Jersey. Hence both the War Department and Pension Department have replied that they have no records about him.

And the Adjutant General of New Jersey has intimated that his records disclose no genealogical information or data about Duncan McVicker, but only his military record.

But while Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) served with the 2nd Regiment of Sussex County New Jersey Militia during the Revolution, I do not know the County of his settlement, whether it was Sussex or some other County. I suppose that the fact that his Regiment was a Sussex County Regiment is not at all conclusive. However, if the other counties each had Regiments, the fact that he went with a Sussex County Regiment might indicate that he was a resident of or settled in Sussex County. And I do not now know whether or not the boundaries of counties in New Jersey may have been changed since the Revolution.

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00425-2]

A00425-2 -2-

While I have written you at some length about the three names which have been ascribed or mentioned for the name of the wife of Duncan McVicker, I will briefly recapitulate their origins as follows:

(1) Nancy McCollum, as wife of Duncan McVicker (1739-1852) as handed down through the James McVicker (1768-1852) branch of Monongalia County, W. Va., and there is no good reason to doubt the correctness of this information which has been so long and so authoritatively accepted. However, as a careful searcher I desire to have cleared up the other two names, as following stated. James McVicker (1768-1852) was probably the eldest son, although Duncan McVicker Jr. may have been older than James, or even John McVicker another son, although I have no dates for either of Duncan Jr. or John McVicker except that all three together with their father Duncan McVicker are listed in the Militia Roll of Bedford Co., Pa., in 1789.

(2) Annie Laurie, as wife of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818), not handed down in any branch nor corroborated by any source that has been found but solely resting and originating in the report of only one person--my kinswoman, Miss Ida Rosanna Hamaker (b.1861--), who is said by her brother Dr. Winters Duncan Hamaker to have researched in Trenton, New Jersey for her data--presumably in order to report the name which she perhaps could not otherwise find and for placing an inscription of it on a monument which she erected to her great-great grandfather Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) and his descendants of her branch and her family. And whether she actually found the name of record or was so informed by another searcher, I do not know, and whether if an Annie Laurie be found to have married a man named Duncan McVicker that this man was Duncan McVicker (1739-1818), my ancestor I do not know as even if found there is also a question of identification presented.

(3) Jean McConnell , daughter of Thomas McConnell who died in,and whose Will was probated in,1777, shown in said Will of record to be married to one Duncan McVicker, but I do not believe that this Duncan McVicker was the same Duncan McVicker as my ancestor Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) but I think he may have been a nephew. However, there may be other data in the Will of James McVicker (1720-1800) whom I think to have been a brother of my great-grandfather Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) showing further facts about his son Duncan McVicker from which aid some further conclusion may be made.

Please note that in your letter you have confused the name of Jean McConnell as Jean McCollum , where as the McCollum name was Nancy McCollum . Please note the three distinct names as in last three paragraphs preceding this.

As tradition handed down in direct course and of long unbroken standing through the descendants of the two sons, Alexander McVicker (1773-1832) and James McVicker (1768-1852), has it, Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) came over from Glasgow Scotland with three brothers by way of the North of Ireland to the North of New Jersey, but the tradition has not given the names of any of his three said brothers as it has come to me. As tradition has it, Duncan McVicker settled in North New Jersey in a Scotch-Irish settlement just South of the Holland settlement in New Jersey, but this tradition is not any fuller than that as it has come to me, and so I am unable to localize the settlement more clearly. I do not know in what County in New Jersey that Duncan McVicker settled or in what County or Counties in New Jersey he may have lived. But both all traditions and records show that his children were born in New Jersey. Presumably he married there.

It may be found useful to you to have a list of the names of the children of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) and on another sheet I will set forth these names with explanatory notes that may be found useful to you.

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00425-3]

A00425-3 -3-

The names of the children of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) follow:

1 James McVicker (1768-1852), born in New Jersey, mentioned in Militia Roll of Bedford County, Pa., 1789, about 1793 went to Monogalia County, Va., settled near Morgantown(now in W.Va.), had a family the descendants of whom live there and elsewhere and with many of whom I have come in contact. At least 13 members of these descendants belong to the Daughters of the American Revolution, and I have their records, all based on the service of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) and all ascribing Nancy McCollum as the wife of Duncan McVicker.

2 Duncan McVicker Jr. (dates unknown), born in New Jersey and went with his father to Bedford County, Pa., in which County his name is mentioned on the Militia Roll in 1789. Nothing further has been settled about him, although it is thought he married and settled in a nearby County in Pa.

3 John McVicker (dates unknown), born in New Jersey and went with his father to Bedford County, Pa., in which County his name is mentioned on the Militia Roll in 1789. I think he may have gone to Virginia about two counties South of Monongalia County where I have trace of a John McVicker but have not completed it.

4 Joseph McVicker (cir.1776-1854), my grandfather, born in New Jersey and went with his father to Bedford County, Pa., where he was a constable in St. Clair Twp. in 1799 and in which he appears in the U.S.Census with his familiy in 1800, 1810, thereafter he moved to Monongalia County, Va., where my father his youngest (12th) child was born in 1827.

5 Alexander McVicker (1773-1832), born in New Jersey and went with his father to Bedford County, Pa., where he remained and whose descendants have been traced quite completely by me. Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) lived with this son in his old age and died at his home and is buried by the side of this son and the son's wife at Schellsburg, Pa.(Bedford County).

6 David McVicker (-1833), born in New Jersey and went with his father to Bedford County, Pa., where he remained and whose descendants or some of them live at present and of whom I have a record.

7 Daniel McVicker (dates unknown), born in New Jersey and went with his father to Bedford County, Pa., where he appears in the records with his wife Margaret in land transactions down to about 1810-1811, but no further record has been as yet secured.

8 Mary ("Polly") McVicker (1773-1833), born in New Jersey and went with her father to Bedford County, Pa., married Thomas McBride in 1797 and they settled first in Hampshire County, Virginia (now W.Va.) , in 1817 they settled in Richland County, Ohio, where there are descendants and whose record and family history I have.

9 .....The indications are that there were two other daughters from the fact that the census (Federal) of 1790 for Bedford County, Pa., lists the family of Duncan McVicker as consisting of two males over 16 (including himself as head of family), 5 males under 16, and 3 females —it is believed these 3 females were daughters though this is not known—obviously one of the 7 sons was not at home in 1790 when this census was taken—perhaps he had married and was on his own—in a nearby County (Mifflin) is given a Duncan McVicker (spelled MacVicar) whom the State Genealogist of Pa. conjectures may have been a son of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818).

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00425-4]

A00425-4

-4-

As you will note, it is only an assumption or hypothesis or theory that James McVicker (1720-1800) may have been a brother of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818), but it does not seem an unreasonable theory. I lack data enough from New Jersey. Probably you can find me some additional data. It is hard to say where to begin. However, I would like your search to be systematic so that you can state to me with regard to each field that you believe that there is no data to be found therein in case you do not find anything there. In case that we do not find conclusive data, the record I have will stand that Nancy McCollum was the name of the wife, but we will submit it to the test of records you may be able to find. Whatever you can show, well and good. I want the truth and want it to be proved by the record, whatever it may be.

I do not believe that my great grandfather Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) was a son of James McVicker (1720-1800) although his Will does show that he had a son Duncan McVicker, but if you can show that he was, well and good. Tradition when it comes direct through proper channels, unbroken and unequivocal, is a better guide than records lacking identification of the persons involved or their names identified.

The tradition that Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) came from Scotland with three brothers was told by him himself to his grandson Duncan McVicker (1799-1879) with whom he lived the first 19 years of that grandson's life on a farm in Bedford County, Pa., later that grandson Duncan McVicker (1799-1879) handed this tradition to his own grandson in numerous accounts of his recollections during the first twenty years of that grandson's life with whom he also lived in Schellsburg, Bedford County, Pa., and that latter grandson now living, Dr. Winters Duncan Hamaker, has written me numerous letters and related the facts as recollected that they were told to him by his grandfather. (Dr. Hamaker was born in 1859) Thus the tradition passed through only two intermediate persons to me. And one of them is living and he placed it on record in his letters to me.

It may be that James McVicker (1720-1800) was a brother of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) so that said Duncan was an uncle of the Duncan McVicker son of James McVicker (1720-1800), and I think it likely that said nephew was the one who was married to Jean McConnell and that uncle (my great grandfather) married Nancy McCollum. There were many McCollums in New Jersey:

History of Sussex & Warren Counties N.J. by James P. Snell shows:
page 68--Duncan McVicker, Lieutenant and Captain in 2d Regiment;
page 72--John McCollum, private in Capt. Helm's Company, Continental Army;
page 248--Jacob McCollum, early settler in NEWTON, Sussex County, on County Committee of Safety in 1775, member Legislature 1778, a Judge in 1777.

Daniel McCollum and "Tuncken" (Duncan) McCollum shown to have been customers in the store at Pluckemin, Somerset County, 1768-1776, according to a published record of the storekeeper's accounts in an historical magazine.

There were many others in Somerset County and perhaps elsewhere in New Jersey, in fact so many that it would perhaps be rather futile to try to run the data down through McCollum families unless some one had made a comprehensive genealogy of the McCollum familes in New Jersey and I do not believe that has been done.

The New Jersey Quarterly shows that there was a Gawin Lawrie settled in Somerset County at an early date. So there is a possibility of an Annie Laurie being found.

And of course Jean McConnell stands of record in the Will of Thomas McConnell of 1777 of which I have a copy as does the fact she was married to a Duncan McVicker--but the question is what Duncan McVicker?--I do not think it was my Duncan.

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00425-5]

A00425-5 -5-

I feel assured that your offers for service and your charges will be reasonable, and I appreciate it that you have already looked over indexes of deeds in the McVicker name in Hunterdon County. I desire to remunerate you and I intend to engage you to make some search. I am not financially flush of cash at the present time but what I can arrange I will. So the main question with me now is to determine what place or field to survey first. I wish to have each field that you undertake gone over carefully so that you will be able to report that a careful search has been made. In that way, I will not have to try a field once gone over at some future time in case I have to stop short of the goal and wait until I am more prosperous.

We do not know how much searching is required for we have not very definitely localized the field. May be the desired facts can not be found--there may be no records of what we seek. I do not wish to get you to make my search as a by product only along with other work, but to do what you do try thoroughly enough to state whatever is found of record--little or nothing or much as the case may be.

As before indicated, Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) served with the Sussex County troops during the Revolution but I do not know how much importance to attach to that fact as to his place of settlement--this was evidently while he had his considerably sized family. You mention the feasibility of searches in Morris and Sussex Counties, and I have noted that these have abounded in the name McVicker. The names of all three persons mentioned as wives are represented in families in Somerset County. Just over the line to the North, viz., in Mendham, N.J., lived and died James McVicker (1720-1800), but as yet I have established no positive connection. In very vague tradition, Basking Ridge comes down in connection with the McCollum family history of Monongalia County West Virginia, in which latter place the McVicker and McCollum descendants were very intimate and considered themselves related by an intermarriage which tradition evidently harked back to the marriage of Duncan McVicker and Nancy McCollum. It would seem that a logical place to begin would be at Trenton, New Jersey.

Logically, the facts of the old history which we seek should be in the State Archives at Trenton. Some of those archives have been published and are distributed as published in genealogical libraries over the country. One kinsman has mulled over the New Jersey publications for me in the Newberry Library at Chicago. One Trenton New Jersey searcher over three years ago mulled over the records in the State Archives at Trenton for me. However, in each of these cases while much data in separate straggling facts has come to me through these searchers yet I do not know how complete the search has been. Facts may yet exist in each of these sources. I have always thought that the Trenton New Jersey searcher of the State Archives stopped short when the Will of Thomas McConnell of 1777 was reported to me with the information that said Will mentioned Thomas McConnell's "daughter Jean the wife of Duncan McVicker." No identification or additional facts were given. When I say "mulled over" (above) I mean skimmed over so as not to be in my mind dependably exhaustive of the source itself. Something else may be there. It would seem that the State Archives at Trenton would be a good place to begin in the hope of finding something to follow up, and the Wills of Thomas McConnell (d.1777) and James McVicker (1720-1800) are found there, and probably much more besides that I do not know about.

When you do see the original Will of James McVicker (1720-1800) I wish you would make a copy of it and also abstract all other extraneous facts about his heirs. It may well be that when he mentions his son Duncan in that Will (1800) that some descriptive additional matter may serve to identify said Duncan McVicker, the son, by revealing his whereabouts, or other facts, family, etc. Thus the Will mentions two grandsons: James McVicker son of William McVicker and James McMurtrie son of the daughter Agnes McVicker McMurtrie but does not mention any son of the son Duncan by name so far as I know, for I do not have a complete copy of the Will--only an abstract of the names mentioned therein as relatives--wife, 3 sons, 3 daughters, 2 grandsons of said James McVicker (1720-1800).

JRM -> D. DeYoung [A00425-6]

A00425-6

-6-

However, I am unable in this consideration of balancing the relative probabilities of productive search to determine which field to ask you to take up first. Your plan to attack Morris and Somerset Counties' records might prove a good move. It might be well to take off the records an index and abstract of the McVicker names, dates, nature of transaction at least. It seems doubtful if marriage records can be found. But we want to find Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) and where he lived in New Jersey as a basis of intensive local research. So the Duncan McVicker who is a son of James McVicker (1720-1800) mentioned in his Will and the Duncan McVicker who married Jean McConnell daughter of Thomas McConnell is important too, for there is a possibility that any two or all three of these mentioned names may be of the same person, although I rather think that there were two Duncans: (1) My great grandfather Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) and that (2) the Duncan McVicker son of James McVicker (1720-1800) is the same one as the Duncan McVicker who married Jean McConnell (Somerset County).

Or it might be well for you to directly head in for Trenton, N.J., and there to look over the field and index all transactions and records and abstract for leads to be followed elsewhere in New Jersey, if indeed you do not actually run down the whole business at Trenton.

Please read over carefully the previous letter and also this letter, for some of this is surely fixed and you will see what is and why. But I want you to get the truth although I do not want you to take my word tradition is a sense other than by that word I mean family narration, as distinguished from other record.

I note that you have a notation at top of your letterhead: "All genealogical work payable in advance." I note you have also said that "To take a trip to either place 25 miles-one way -takes about a day to do some work on it too, is worth about $5 per day."

Perhaps I had better appropriate enough for a day's work at the present - about $5 or $6 or $6.50 - on such fair basis as you may think required -- and you to go to Trenton or to Morris or Somerset County and render a day of search-- and then upon receiving a report thereof and arranging such facts as your report shows along with other facts I have then to leave the matter of further search as may be required to be arranged with you when I can afford to pay and as I feel able to do. You can write me and say that you require the remittance for this initial first assignment to be remitted in advance in the sum of $5.00 or the slight addition for expense and I will then remit to you in advance--or you can go ahead and report an initial day with abstracts of data collected and I will remit for the same--either way at your option. I may not be able to go ahead now with more than the one day's work remittance--but we will see what results and what promise the field you tackle opens up. May be that you have looked up some additional data in libraries and will have some other ideas. It is hard for me to raise money to spare for this or I would say go ahead and take up all fields mentioned at once. But I do not know how long that would take or how much it would run up to in money. Besides, there may be some search needed elsewhere eventually to exhaust the possibilities of record. Trenton ought to have enough to show where Capt. Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) lived and the record in the Adjutant General's office might show more than I think it does. If that record does not show it, there ought to be some other New Jersey records in the State Archives. But may be that there are no sufficient records and that the task should be attacked by showing the indentification of the Duncan McVicker who was the son of James McVicker and seeing whether he is the one who married Jean McConnell and determining whether he is the same or a different person than my ancestor (Duncan McVicker 1739-1818) if that be possible, and I think it is, either in Morris and Somerset Counties or in State Archives at Trenton.

Please write if you require remittance in advance, or anyway if you prefer. I am,

Sincerely yours James R. McVicker

'Please kindly check the following dates….' [A00428]

A00428

Please kindly check the following dates:

(1) Marriage of Adam P. Hamaker and Sarah Jane McVicker:
Date given in ALEXANDER McVICKER BIBLE RECORD as on March 22, 1857
Date given in your record copy sheet as on March 23, 1857

(2) Birth of Ida Rosana Hamaker
Date given in ALEXANDER McVICKER BIBLE RECORD as on August 30, 1861
Date given in your record copy sheet as on August 31, 1861

Question: How is Rosana properly spelled--with two n's or one, that is
Rosanna
or Rosana ??

(3) The day of month is not given for the date of death of
Sarah Jane (McVicker) Hamaker, but I find only November_____, 1922.

(4) My former record of the date of death of Dr. Edward McVicker
shows the date as being on May 21, 1915
Date given in your last record sheet places the date May 15, 1915

The above are all the differences I noted on checking. Perhaps the records may not be any different or any more complete, but please kindly look these points over at your leisure and let me know and I will make my record accordingly.

Please give the date of birth of Dr. Charles T. Hamaker 1888

Formerly you gave me notes as to his education, training and service.

However, I find I have no notes as to whether he has a family or is married. If so, please write such notes as you wish for the record.

Was Dr. Edward McVicker Hamaker married and did he leave any family?
I note that he was only 25 years of age.

Family of Alexander McVicker [A00429-1]

A00429-1 -1-

THE FAMILY OF ALEXANDER McVICKER AND JANE (TAYLOR) McVICKER

DUNCAN McVICKER was born in Scotland in 1739 and at the age of 18 in 1757, accompanied by 3 brothers, went from Glasgow Scotland to the North of Ireland and from there immediately came to America, settling in Northern New Jersey. During the Revolutionary War he was a captain of a company in the 2nd New Jersey Line. He fought through the Revolutionary War and was with Washington at Valley Forge. He married Miss Annie Laurie and had several children. With his family he moved from New Jersey to Bedford County, Pa., probably shortly after the War. He died on January 19, 1818, aged 79 years, at the home of his son, Alexander McVicker, on a farm near Schellsburg, Bedford County, Pa. He is buried in the cemetery west of Schellsburg, in the family burial plot of the McVicker and Hamaker families wherein lie six generations.

children(of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) and Annie (Laurie) McVicker):

Duncan McVicker Jr., b._____ d._____
married:
_____ b._____ d._____
John McVicker, b._____ d._____
married:
_____ b._____ d._____
James McVicker, b. Jan.16,1768 d. Oct.31,1852, Morgantown, W. Va.
married:
Permelia McNamar, b._____1772 d. Aug.23,1847, Morgantown, W. Va.
Joseph McVicker, b._____17__ d. _____184_, Morgantown, W. Va.
married:
Mary Prudence McMullin, b._____ d._____183__, Salem, W. Va.
(P) Alexander McVicker, b.Jul.14,1773 d. Aug.5,1832,
married(Aug.29,1797):
Jane Taylor, b.Jul.15,1774, d.Sep.10,1834,
children:
1 John McVicker, b. June 23,1798 d. (Jan. 21, 1866 at his residence in Harrison Twp. in 68th year of his age) Sheriff, Bedford Co. Appointed 10-2-1842.
married(Feb.26,1828):
Nancy Dennison b._____ d._____
see * note 2 children(7): Alexander; Martha Jane; Catharine; Isabella; Margaret; Stuckey; Mitchell;
William McVicker, b._____ d._____ Murdered in Mo.
Duncan McVicker, b._____ d._____ Cripple
2 Mary McVicker, b. Dec 28,1801 d. Aug 5, 1858 (Dau.Alex.McVicker)
married(Oct 7, 1823):
Charles Dannaker, b._____ d._____
see * note 1 children (4 daughters one son
_____ b._____
married:
James Frazer, b._____ of Schellsburg, Pa.
_____ b._____
married:
Thompson Piper, b._____ of Schellsburg, Pa.
McWicker, Esq") 3 Duncan McVicker, b. Dec 25, 1799, d. Jul. 22, 1879
married: Sept. 13, 1836, Napier Twp. Bedford Co., Pa. (Schellsburg Church Book, 1836-40)
Minnigh (Minnich) (Sarah) Salome Minnick, b. Nov. 5, 1814, d. May 23, 1876
children:
Sarah Jane McVicker, b. July 3, 1837, d. Nov 12, 1922
married(Mar 22, 1857):
see * note 3 Adam P. Hamaker, b. (in Schellsburg on same day his father died near Hagerstown, Md.) Mar. 22, 1831, d. (Jan 14, 1875 in Schellsburg) {Adam Hamaker father of Adam P. Hamaker died in 1831 aged 31 yrs}
children:
1 Duncan McVicker Hamaker, b. Mar. 16, 1858, d. Mar. 13, 1860, in infancy
3 Ida Rosanna Hamaker, b. Aug 31, 1861
(Hotel Annapolis, 11th to 12th at H Street, Washington, D.C.)

Family of Alexander McVicker [A00429-2]

★ note 1 Mary Jane Dannaker, b. July 30, 1824

Ann Catherine Dannaker, b. Mar. 30, 1827

Julia Elizabeth, Dannaker, b. June 15, 1829

Alexander Christian? Christian Dannaker, b. Sept. 12, 1831

Emma? Emma Hilda Dannaker, b. June 24, 1834

★ note 2 Alexander McVicker (son of John), b. Dec. 21, 1828

Martha Jane McVicker (dau. John) b. Sept. 18, 1830

★ note 3. Adam Hannaker father of Adam P. Hannaker died in 1831 aged 31 years. Mary M. Hannaker his wife died in 1876 aged 76 years. Her maiden name was Le Leron. She died in Schellsburg. She had another son Simon Le Leron Hannaker who is buried at Schellsburg.

Family of Alexander McVicker [A00429-3]

A00429-3 -2-

THE FAMILY OF ALEXANDER McVICKER AND JANE (TAYLOR) McVICKER

3 Duncan McVicker (1799-1879) -- continued
married:
Salome(Sarah)Minnick (1814-1876)
children:
Sarah Jane McVicker (1837-1922)
married:
Adam P. Hamaker (1831-1875)
children:
1 Duncan McVicker Hamaker (1858-1860)
3 Ida Rosanna Hamaker (1861- b. Aug 30, 1861 31)
2 Dr. Winters Duncan Hamaker, (1859- b. Sept. 21)
(2718 N. 6th Street, Los Angeles, Calif.) now, 800 Prospect Boulevard, Pasadena, Calif.
married (June 2, 1887)
Elizabeth Gray Townsend, b. May 12, 1861, d. Nov. 7, 1926
children:
Dr. Charles Townsend Hamaker, b. Aug. 19, 1888 at Meadville, Pa.
Served overseas World War unmarried
Dr. Edward McVicker Hamaker, b. June 9, 1890
d. May 15, 1915 unmarried

City Directory { bookkeeper Willitt & Co., bds w. Mrs. J. E. Blodgett 1866-67
Asst accountant 1886-7

George Alexander McVicker, b. Apr. 18, 1841, d. Apr. 1886
in Des Moines, Iowa
(Public accountant; he was City Treasurer of Des Moines, Iowa in 1870)
married (date) Oct 30, 1866
Cella Blodgett, b. Jan. 16 1848, d. Oct 1899
children:
2 George Harold McVicker, b. July 25, 1869,
(in 1891 went to Chicago to live) (7341 Phillips Ave., Chicago, Ill.)
married (date) Apr 6 1892
Myrtle Taylor, b. Feb 14 1875,
children:
(1) Duncan Raymond McVicker, b. May 29, 1895,
Served overseas World War (active) Burma Corp. Battery "B" 122d Field 18th Engrs 33rd Division Artillery) 7956 Union Ave., Chicago
{ St. Mihiel Argonne-Meuse Meuse-Ardennes }
married (date) May 28, 1920
Yvonne Suthenow, b. Apr. 29, 1893,
children:
Duncan William McVicker, b. Mar. 27, 1921,
Lillian Yvonne McVicker, b. Oct. 30, 1922,

(2)
(3) George Rufus McVicker, b. Oct. 26 1904 2733 E. 76th St., Chicago
married (date)
Julia Von Bergen, b. 1907,
children:
Donald Emil McVicker, b. Aug 8, 1934 (Commercial artist, staff artist for Salt Lk. Univ. — pencovers, made layouts, illuminated letters, etc., magazines, their paper, art about)

daughter, b. Apr. 27, 1898, d. Dec. 11, 1902, killed by accident (see * note 3)

1 Frank McVicker died while a baby before George Harold McVicker was born.
3 Sarah Jane McVicker, 3 years younger than George
4 Harold McVicker, died of diptheria at about 3-4 years old.

Family of Alexander McVicker [A00429-4]

* note 3 { Frank A. McVicker (son of Geo. Alex. McV) b. Feb. 19, 1868, d. Aug 26, 1868
{ 3 Sarah Jane McVicker (dau of Geo. Alex. McV) b. July 25, 1872, d Feb. —1876

Descendants of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) [A00430]

A00430

DESCENDANTS OF Capt. DUNCAN McVICKER (1739-1818) IN DIRECT LINE TO WILLIAM McVICKER (1832-1897)

Duncan McVicker, born, Scotland, 1739, died, January 19, 1818, at farm home of son, Alexander McVicker, buried in cemetery one-fourth mile west of Schellsburg, Pennsylvania, in Bedford County.

Duncan McVicker married Nancy McCollum in New Jersey: 7 sons and 2 or 3 daughters were the issue of this marriage: Evidently, Nancy McCollum died in New Jersey and was buried there, before Duncan McVicker and their children migrated to Bedford County Pennsylvania shortly after the Revolutionary War in which he served as an officer in Colonel Aaron Hankinson's Regiment, being the Second Regiment of Sussex County New Jersey Militia.

One of his seven sons and the one with whom he spent his last remaining years at the farm home near Schellsburg, Bedford County, Pennsylvania, was

Alexander McVicker, born in New Jersey, July 14, 1773, died near Schellsburg, Bedford County, Pennsylvania, August 5, 1852, buried in the family plot in the Schellsburg cemetery

Alexander McVicker married (Aug 29, 1797) Jane Taylor, born July 15, 1774, died Sep 10, 1834, buried in the family plot in Schellsburg cemetery: Three children were the issue of this marriage:
(1) John McVicker (1798-1866): married Nancy Dennison: Issue 7 children (below)
(2) Mary McVicker (1801-1878): married Charles Dannaker: Issue 5 children
(3) Duncan McVicker(1799-1879):married Salome (changed to Sarah) Minnick (Sep 13, 1836),b.1814, d. 1876): 2 children whose family records are in the writer's possession.

John McVicker (being(1) above), born June 13, 1798, died Jan 21, 1866, at his residence in Harrison Twp., Bedford County, Pennsylvania, buried at Manns Choice, 5 miles from Schellsburg, Pa.

John McVicker married (Feb 26, 1828) Nancy Dennison, b._____d._____
Seven (7) children were the issue of this marriage:

Alexander McVicker, born Dec 21, 1828

Martha Jane (McVicker) Stuckey

WILLIAM McVICKER

Catharine (McVicker) Mitchell

Isabella McVicker

Margaret McVicker

Duncan McVicker (cripple)

The records in possession are no more complete than as above as to the family of John McVicker (1798-1866). John McVicker was appointed Sheriff of Bedford County in 1842. He later served as Postmaster of the place named Manns Choice. Both John McVicker and his wife Nancy Dennison McVicker are buried in the cemetery at Manns Choice.
Mann's Choice was named after Hon. Job Mann, at whose instance a postoffice was established there about the year 1848--John McVicker was the Postmaster.

George Alexander McVicker [A00431-1]

A00431

GEORGE ALEXANDER McVICKER

George Alexander McVicker, born April 18, 1841, at or near Schellsburg, Bedford County, Pennsylvania, died April _____, 1886, at Des Moines, Iowa. He was the only son of Duncan McVicker and Salome (Sarah)(Minnich)McVicker. This Duncan McVicker was a son of Alexander McVicker (1773-1832) and Jane(Taylor) McVicker (1774-1834), and Alexander McVicker was a son of Capt. Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) of the 2d New Jersey Line in the Revolutionary War. Salome (Sarah) Minnich was a daughter of Salome (Frank) Minnich who was a daughter of Capt. Frank of the French vessel which brought Lafayette from France to this country to serve in the Revolution. George Alexander McVicker's father, Duncan McVicker (1799-1879) had a tin shop and sheet metal store in Schellsburg, Pa., about 1876, and was a Bedford County Pennsylvania "squire," a Justice of the Peace appointed by Gov. Johnson in 1857, as was the grandfather, Alexander McVicker, a Justice of the Peace by appointment of Governor Hiester in 1820.

At the age of 4 years, George Alexander McVicker knew the multiplication table up to 25 x 25, ~~etc.~~ He soon handled figures like simple reading, early being a mathematical prodigy and reading bunches of figures like reading words ordinarily. He was early sent to college and took courses in mathematics, engineering and business accounting. He graduated from the University of Western Pennsylvania (now University of Pittsburgh of which John Gabbert Bowman, formerly President of the University of Iowa, is now President) about 1858-59 as a civil engineer, when he was about 18 years old. He also took commercial courses. He served as assistant professor of mathematics in college when a student, at the age of 14, teaching trigonometry and higher mathematics.

and could instantly give the result of any two numbers multiplied

After his graduation from the University of Western Pennsylvania and before the Civil War, George Alexander McVicker went from Pennsylvania out to Des Moines, Iowa, and obtained work with surveyors laying out railroads, the C.R.I. & P. R.R., being a well-qualified and natural mathematician, civil engineer, and accountant. Next, he made maps of counties, county-seats, etc., for F. M. Mills & Co., at Des Moines, Iowa. He was also their general bookkeeper. He is listed in the City Directory of Des Moines, Iowa, as bookkeeper for Mills & Co. and boarding with Mrs. J. E. Blodgett, 1866-67, and as an expert accountant in 1886. He married Oella Blodgett (1848-1899), daughter of Mrs. J. E. Blodgett. Oella Blodgett's father, J. E. Blodgett, had in early days a stage line from Keokuk, Iowa, to Muscatine, Iowa. Of this marriage there were three children: George Harold McVicker (b.Jul.25,1869), residing at 7341 Phillips Ave., Chicago, Ill.; Frank_____McVicker who died while a baby before George Harold McVicker was born; and Sarah Jane McVicker, three years younger than George Harold McVicker, who died of diphtheria at about 3-4 years old. Oella (Blodgett) McVicker died at about the age of 52 in Chicago, in 1899, and her remains were taken back to Des Moines for interment by her son, George Harold McVicker.

George Alexander McVicker was County Auditor of Polk County, Iowa, just after he was married. Later he was City Treasurer of Des Moines, Iowa, in which office was was serving in 1870, being "as near the jail as he could get for his office was just upstairs." He took up public accounting, map engineering, etc. He was greatly in demand for municipal accounting and was called for all over the state. He used to get a fee of $1.00 per hour--very good in those days. He engaged in public accounting, engineering and architectural work. He audited the county offices at Winterset and other places, after he was experienced in having served as County Auditor of Polk County and City Treasurer of Des Moines.

(o v e r)

George Alexander McVicker [A00431-2]

2 - GEORGE ALEXANDER McVICKER

George Alexander McVicker died of cerebral hemorrhage, April____, 1886, after an illness of about a year.

He was a Republican in politics, and a Presbyterian in religious belief.

When young he was quite an acrobat. His uncle, _____Minnich, on his mother's (Salome Minnich's) side was a circus performer and taught George Alexander McVicker acrobatic stunts such as walking on his hands.

George Harold McVicker [A00432-1]

A00432-1

GEORGE HAROLD McVICKER

George Harold ("Hally") McVicker was born July 25, 1869, at Des Iowa, his father being George Alexander McVicker and his mother, Oella (Blodgett) McVicker. In 1891, he went to Chicago to live and where he now resides at 7341 Phillips Avenue. On April 6, 1892, he married Myrtle Taylor (born February 14, 1875, whose mother was formerly Jane Gary, a cousin of Judge Elbert Gary, the very successful steel magnate. Jane Gary married Rufus Butler Taylor who was a relative of Gen. Ben Butler, famous leader of the Union Army in the Civil War. George Harold McVicker and Myrtle (Taylor) McVicker have two children: Duncan Raymond McVicker (b. May 29, 1895) and George Rufus McVicker (b. Oct. 26, 1904).

George Harold McVicker was attending Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa, when he stopped school and went to work at the age of 16 in February, 1886, prior to the death of his father, George Alexander McVicker, in April, 1886. He began work as office boy for the general freight and passenger agent of the then called Diagonal Route, now a part the Chicago and Great Western Railway. As before stated he began work in February, 1886, before the death of his father in the following April, 1886, his father having then been sick about a year. In 1888, Willard T. Block, the general freight and passenger agent for whom George Harold McVicker worked, left Des Moines and went to Chicago. Following this time George Harold McVicker then worked for two or three months in the Auditor's office of the Chicago and Great Western Railway in Marshalltown, Iowa. He then returned to Des Moines and got a job as superintendent's clerk in the office of the Des Moines and Northwestern Railway, and held that position until January 1, 1891. Then he went to Chicago to work again for Willard T. Block, secretary and treasurer of Grant Locomotive Works, which organization had moved its plant from Patterson, New Jersey, to Chicago. George Harold McVicker was cashier and general bookkeeper for the Grant Locomotive Works when it first started in Chicago. When the Grant Locomotive Works afterward failed, George Harold McVicker went to work as chief voucher clerk for William K. Akerman, previously Auditor of the Illinois Central R.R., Treasurer of Grant Locomotive Works, and then Auditor of the World's Columbian Exposition, in 1893. William K. Akerman was Auditor and George Harold McVicker was his Chief Voucher Clerk during the World's Columbian Exposition. After the World's Fair of 1893 was over, George Harold McVicker went to work as clerk in the Treasurer's Office of the C. R. I. & P. R.R. in Chicago. He lost his position in 1894 in the fall, following the depression and railroad strike. He then got a job with the Werner Publishing Company as a bookkeeper in their Dallas, Texas, branch office. These publishers were selling the Encyclopedia Brittanica. His oldest son, Duncan Raymond McVicker, was born in Dallas, Texas, in 1895.

George Harold McVicker returned to Chicago from Texas in 1895 and became bookkeeper for the Standard Oil Company of Indiana. He remained with them for 5 or 6 years as general bookkeeper, working with the cost clerk in the office who is now President of the Company. He says that perhaps he had better have stayed with the Company when he left it to go into public accounting. However, he transferred to a Public Accounting firm, being one of their staff of accountants, travelling around from one end of the country to the other, and being with different firms and Public Accounting concerns until about 1929, since which time he has had no steady employment in his line.

George Harold McVicker [A00432-2]

A00432-2

GEORGE HAROLD McVICKER--continued

For five years George Harold McVicker was with the Safeguard Account Company prior to his working for the Audit Company of New York. For seven years he was with the Audit Company of New York, the last two years of which he was their Western Manager. After his service with the Audit Company of New York, he was Chief of Staff for Marwick, Mitchell & Co. He worked for Wolf & Co., Tylman, Pond & Co. on special work such as income tax work for banks. He discovered that banks were being over-assessed in income taxes on their discounts and loans.

served various large concerns

For many years he followed public accounting on his own account in Chicago. Among the companies and concerns whose accounts he ~~has~~ audited were: Michigan State Telephone Company, Detroit; Diamond Match Co., New York; Anheuser Busch Brewing Co., St. Louis; Schlitz Brewing Co., Milwaukee; several large railway companies; and many others.

When he was a senior accountant on the staff of the Audit Company of New York in their Western Office in Chicago

George Harold McVicker is an Episcopalian in his religious faith.

Sarah Jane (McVicker) Hamaker visited visited George Harold McVicker and family in Chicago in 1895-6 when she was about 59 years old. Ida R. Hamaker visited George Harold McVicker and his wife and his mother in 1893 during the World's Fair. She was a very fine appearing girl, having red or auburn hair and being of very lively disposition. She was then a stenographer and typist, afterward serving in the Census Department, Department of Labor, etc., at Washington, D. C.

DUNCAN RAYMOND McVICKER

Duncan Raymond McVicker, of 7956 Union Ave., Chicago, was born May 29, 1895, at Dallas, Tex., while his father was employed there. He served overseas in the World War, being a gunner in Battery "D," 122d F. A., 58th Brigade, 33d Division, and participating in active service at St. Mihiel, Argonne-Meuse, and Meuse-Ardenne. On May 28, 1920, he married Yvonne Wuthenow (b. April 29, 1893). They have two children: Duncan William McVicker, b. March 27, 1921; and Lillian Yvonne McVicker, b. Oct. 30, 1922. Duncan Raymond McVicker was formerly engaged in the real estate business as a renting agent for prominent firms. He is now employed as part time inspector for the Illinois Steel Co.

GEORGE RUFUS McVICKER

George Rufus McVicker, b. Oct. 26, 1904, married Julia Von Bergen, b. _____ 1907. They have one son, Donald Emil McVicker, b. August 8, 1934. They reside at 273 E. 76th St., Chicago, Ill. George Rufus McVicker is a commercial artist, having his own studio at 646 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill. He is a graduate of a Chicago High School. He attended the Academy of Fine Arts, in which he is an instructor. He has served as a staff artist for LaSalle Extension University, designing covers, making layouts, illuminated letters, etc., for their magazine, and serving as art editor of their paper. He has drawn pictures for such concerns as Willard's Message of Relief, and for other numerous advertisers in magazines.

Public Library notes [A00433-1]

A00433-1

PUBLIC LIBRARY
MEADVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA

HELEN DERMITT
LIBRARIAN

Copy from - Our County and its People; A historical and Memorial Record of Crawford County, Pennsylvania by Samuel P.Bates, L.L.D. Illustrated. W.A.Fergusson & Co. Publishers, 1899.

Biographical sketches; pages 693-696 - Dr.Winters Duncan Hamaker, of Meadville, Pa., was born September 21, 1859, at Schellsburg, Bedford Co., Pe. where he spent his youth. His ancestors were if Revolutionary stock, three of his great-great grandfathers having been in the Continental army. He is the son of the late A.P.Hamaker, a merchant, who died in 1875, and Sarah J. McVicker, daughter of Duncan McVicker.

At the time of his father's death, Dr, Hamaker was but fifteen years of age, and for two years subsequently he assisted in the management of the business left by his father and prepared for college at a private school in his native town. At the age of seventeen he entered the last term of the freshman class of Washington and Jefferson College, at Washington, Pennsylvania, graduating in the class of 1880. In 1883 this college gave him the degree of Master of Arts. Having read medicine for a year, he entered the medical department of the Unviersity of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, in 1881 and graduated in 1884, fifth in a class of one hundred and five. On competitive examination he was elected resident physician to two hospitals in Philadelphia,-the Presbyterian and the University,-where he served for nearly two years. On the completion of his terms in these hospitals he was offered the position of resident physician in the Orthopedic Hospital, Philadelphia, and was also offered a lucrative position as surgeon in the relief department of the Pennsylvania Railroad. Both of these positions he declined.

In 1886 Dr. Hamaker settled in Meadville, Pennsylvania, where he at once secured a large practice both medical and surgical. Since coming to this city he has been one of the surgeons of the Meadville Hospital, where he has performed most of his operations, which have included many cases of amputation,-hernia, ovarian tumors, hysterotomy, cystotomy, stone, nephrotomy, appendicitis, trephining, colotomy and operations for gall-stones. He is a member of the Crawford County Medical Society, of which he has been president: of the Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania: of the American Medical Association and of the Pathological Society of Philadelphia. For several years he has been a member of the State Society's Committee on Increase of Membership and Clinical Teaching. In 1895 he was appointed a member of the Board of Medical Examiners of Pennsylvania by Governor Daniel H. Hastings, was reappointed in 1896 for a three-year term, and in 1899 he was reappointed by Governor William A. Stone for a three-year term.

His mother, Mrs. Sarah J. Hamaker, and his sister, Miss Ida R. Hamaker, a graduate of the Washington Female Seminary, Pennsylvania, are living in Washington, D.C. In 1887 he married Miss Lizzie G. Townsend, who was born May 12, 1861, a daughter of Rev.D.W.Townsend, D.D., pastor for thirty years of the Unity Presbyterian Church, Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania.

Public Library notes [A00433-2]

A00433-2

PUBLIC LIBRARY
MEADVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA

HELEN DERMITT
LIBRARIAN

To Dr. and Mrs Hamaker have been born three sons and one daughter, of whom two sons are living,-Charles Townsend and Edward McVicker, born August 19,1888, and June 9,1890 respedtively.

To preserve it for those who come after, the following family record is added:

(1) John Hubrecht Hamaker and Adam Hamaker, two brothers, came to American in 1740, sailing from Rotterdam, Holland, on the ship Elizabeth. They settled in Lebanon county, Pennsylvania, and their descendants are living widely scattered over eastern and central Pennsylvania and the western states. Nearly all of these descendants spell the name Hammaker. Adam Hamaker, born in 1717 and died in 1784, was the father of Adam, a member of the "Flying Camp" of Pennsylvania, during the Revolutionary war. The latter's son, Samuel, educated at Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, married Annie Overdear, a relative of the Leiters of Leitersburg, Maryland and was the father of Adam Hamaker,-born1799,died 1831,-who built what is now known as Diffendalls Mills, near Cavetown,Maryland, and who, becoming involved in this enterprise and dying at the early age of thirty-one ,left his widow and three children-SimonLeCron, Elizabeth and A.P.-without menas. The youngest son,A.P.Hamaker-born 1831,died1875-was two days old at the time of his father's death, and at the age of eight years went to live with a farmer named George Winters, who became a second father to him. He was commissioned justice of the peace during the term of Governor Hartranft.

(2) Mons.LeCron emigrated from Alsace-Lorraine,France, probably at the beginning of the French revolution, going first to Poland. Thence he emigrated to Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. His son,Simon LeCron, born 1765 and died 1814, was married to Elizabeth Flory and was the father of Mary M. LeCron, born 1799 and died 1876-who married Adam Hamaker and was the mother of A.P.Hamaker.

(3) Captain Duncan McVicker--born 1739 and died 1818-was born in Scotland. He went to the north of Ireland and thence at the age of eighteen emigrated to the province of New Jersey. He served through the Rdvolutionary war, being at first a lieutenant and afterward a captain in the Second New Jersey Line. He married Miss Laurie. He is buried at Schellsburg, Pennsylvania. His son,Alexander,-born 1773 and died 1832-who was justice of the peace by appointment of Governor Hiester, was the father of Duncan McVicker,-born 1799 and died 1879,-who was appointed justice of the peace by Governor Johnson. Sarah J.,-born in 1837,-the daughter of Duncan McVicker, became the wife of A.P.Hamaker in 1857.

Public Library notes [A00433-3]

A00433-3

PUBLIC LIBRARY
MEADVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA

HELEN DERMITT
LIBRARIAN

(4) John Taylor,-born 1717 and died 1811, born in Ireland of Scotch-Irish parentage, and his wife, Mary, were the parents of Jane Taylor,-born 1774 and died 1834,-the wife of Alexander McVicker. John Taylor died in Bedford county, Pennsylvania, in 1811, aged ninety-four.

(5) Peter Minnich-born 1702-came from Germany in 1737 and settled in Lancaster county,Pennsylvania. His son Michael was born in 1737 in Tulpehocken township,Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. He lived in Berks county and served in the Revolutionary war as lieutenant in Captain Null's company of Colonel Laurence Greenwald's battalion. His son, George Minnich, served in the war of 1812, and died in 1816. George Minnich's youngest daughter,Salome,-born 1814 and died 1876,-married Duncan McVicker in 1836. She changed he name to Sarah because of the dislike of her husband to the name of Salome.

(6) Mons. Frank, according to family tradition, was a French naval officer and came to America on the ship Victoire at the time she brought the Marquis de LaFayette to this country the first time. His daughter Salome married George Minnich

(7) Isaac Townsend,-born 1763 and died 1837,- according to one account is said to have come from Chester county, Pennsylvania, and according to another from England. He settled on the Kiskeminitas river in Armstrong county about 1800,where he engaged in farming and the manufacture of salt. His son John,-born 1786 and died 1869,-married Elizabeth Shoemaker and was the father of Rev. Daniel W. Townsend, D.D. Dr. Townsend is a Presbyterian clergyman and has been pastor at Parnassus,Pennsylvania,Alliance,Ohio,. and for the past thirty years of the Unity Church,Westmoreland county,Pennsylvania. The degree of D.D. was conferred upon him by his alma mater,Washington and Jefferson College. The Townsends were originally Quakers and said to have descended from Robert Townsend, of England whose wife was Elizabeth Richards.

(8) Matthias King married Christine, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hartzell(nee Ritter), and his daughter Rachel became the wife of Ksaac Townsend.

(9) Andrew Kier, a native of Ireland, emigrated to western Pennsylvania, Armstrong county, about 1785. His son David was born September 25,1766, at Balimony,County Antrim, Ireland. David Kier's wife was Elizabeth Bush,-born 1765. One of their sons,James Kier, of Elder's Ridge,Pennsylvania, was the father of Elizabeth M.Kier, the wife of Rev. Daniel W. Townsend,D.D.

(10) John Gray, of Armstrong county,Pennsylvania, married Mrs. Margaret Finley(nee Thorn). Their daughter Hannah,-born 1800 and died 1864-married James Kier.

JRM -> Dr. Winters Hamaker [A00434-1]

A00434-1

July 16, 1936

Dr. Winters Duncan Hamaker,
4006½ Homer Street,
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Cousin:

I was very glad to receive your good letter yesterday.

Yesterday I also received by express the large volume on the History of Bedford, Somerset and Fulton Counties Pennsylvania. I have already leafed through this and found about a dozen references to various members of the McVicker family:

John McVicker, sheriff, 1842, and in his case I wish to inquire if he is the same person as the John McVicker mentioned as "ex-deputy sheriff, and postmaster at Mann's Choice"? Pages 219, 363. More specifically, the latter reference says:

"Mann's Choice. This village is the largest in Harrison "Township, and is growing quite rapidly (1884). The place is named "after Hon. Job Mann, at whose instance a postoffice was established "at this point about the year 1848. John McVicker, ex-deputy sheriff, "who lived in a log house at the foot of Dry Ridge was the postmaster."

I think that the John McVicker who was Sheriff is the same John McVicker who was Postmaster at Mann's Choice and that he was a son of Alexander McVicker and brother of Duncan McVicker (1799-1879). Is this correct?

I note Alexander McVicker was appointed J.P. in 1823 and that Duncan McVicker (your grandfather) was appointed J.P. in 1849 and in 1854 (5 year terms).

James McVicker and Duncan McVicker (innkeeper) are listed on the tax roll of Bedford Township in 1796. Do you think this James McVicker is the son (1768-1852) who opened a tavern near Morgantown by 1800?

Do you think this Duncan McVicker is the Captain Duncan or the son Duncan Jr.?

Jane McVicker is listed as one of the charter members of the Presbyterian church organized at Schellsburg May 18, 1833. Page 281. I presume that this is Jane (Taylor) McVicker, wife of Alexander.

On page 362 it is said: "Duncan McVicker, from New Jersey, "was an early resident on what is now the Baker farm," in Harrison Township. This indicates pretty well that the home settlement of the Captain was in Harrison Township.

On page 368 I see that "John McVicker was an early resident on "the farm now occupied by A. Miller (1884). His father, David "McVicker, was one of the early settlers on the pike."

JRM -> Dr. Winters Hamaker [A00434-2]

A00434-2

-2-

It would seem that this John McVicker was a cousin of the John McVicker mentioned before since that one was a son of Alexander and this one is a son of David. Furthermore, that opens the question as to a third John McVicker who was a son of Capt. Duncan McVicker, and of whom the fact that he was or seems to be a son is all I have about him. I take it that there was a son John because the name John McVicker with that of James McVicker and Duncan McVicker and Duncan McVicker Jr. appears on the list of the militia roll of Londonderry Twp. in 1789.

So to me the indications are three John McVickers:

1--John McVicker, son of Capt. Duncan McVicker

2--John McVicker, son of Alexander McVicker

3--John McVicker, son of David McVicker

On page 501 I find: (Somerset County): "W. A. McVicker, tinner, came "to Stoystown and engaged in his present business in 1880. He had "previously followed the same business 4 years in Claysburg, Blair "County. Mr. McVicker's father, James McVicker, was born on Dry Ridge, "Bedford County, and followed tanning at Statler's Mill, near "Schellsburg, from 1831 to 1843, when he removed to Somerset county. "He was twice elected justice of the peace. In 1859 he returned to "Bedford County. He married twice and is the father of nine "children."

Do you think that this mentioned James McVicker is the one you have told me of ass James McVicker, the tanner, of near Pleasantville?

On page 430 (Somerset County) I find a picture and biography of Dr. Joseph Covode, who was the father-in-law of my Uncle JAMES RUFUS HILL, for whom I was named, and for whom I worked as a clerk in his store at Crescent City, Florida, in 1893-1894. His wife was Anna Cora Covode, and a most estimable lady whose kindness I remember well. You probably knew Dr. Joseph Covode, a country doctor at Jenners Cross Road

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We had a fine rain last night and a good shower this morning and thermometer went to 72 degrees F at 7 a.m. today. It now stands at 80 degrees at 10:30 a.m.

I apprecia ted your fine letter and do hope that some family history and Bible records may be found. The records may exist also in some one's hands in West Virginia but they do not know who has it. So I hope that Alexander McVicker's Bible is found, and it is too much to hope for perhaps, but I hope for some more records and lines of the family of Capt. Duncan McVicker (1739-1818).

Assuring you that I shall be very glad to hear from you as I treasure your letters and have them filed, and that I would be very glad to have some good conversations with you, I will close this letter. I am,

Sincerely your cousin,

JRM -> Dr. Winters Hamaker [A00435-1]

A00435-1

July 5, 1936

Dr. Winters DuncannHamaker,
4006½ Honor St., LosAngeles, Calif.

Dear DR. Hamaker:

I am very glad to have your letter of June 25, 1936. I note your street and number are different, and I hope I get it right and that this reaches you.

Well, your letter finds me still with plenty to find out. I note that you compliment me for persistence, for which I thank you sincerely. Do you remember of ever reading one of Mark Twain's stories about a woodpecker's persistence? As I remember this story, stripped of the unique mastery in which Mark Twain tells it at some length: A woodpecker lighted upon the roof of a shed in some out of the way place where sheds were unique and perhaps an unknown thing to this woodpecker. He observed that there was a knothole in this roof which interested him very much. He regarded it, turning his head to one side and then the other, and concluded that he would fill up the hole with acorns. So off he flew and presently returned with an acorn which he deposited in the hole. This he repeated again and again, after a while thinking that this was a pretty deep hole. However, he rested a while and then tackled the job again, and while his rests became more frequent as time wore on, he flew out again and again, each time returning with an acorn which he deposited in this hole. He kept at it all afternoon and until the sun went down, when he sat well nigh exhausted, and said to himself: "I thought this was a pretty big whole, but I'll be durned if I don't think it is the deepest hole that I ever saw or heard tell of."

I note you are reading Robert's "A Rabble in Arms," and I would be interested in it. Two of Gen. Arthur St. Clair's great grandchildren married two of Capt. Duncan McVicker's great grandchildren, in Bedford County as I believe. I think the two McVicker dessendants were Jesse and KKatharine McVicker, brother and sister. Their father was John McVicker (married Mary Newman) and John McVicker's father was David McVicker. Jesse McVicker married Ellen Robb, as I think it was. Da vid McVicker was one of the seven sons of Capt. Duncan McVicker. I have a copy of his petition for a license to run a tavern in Bedford for the year August 1803-1804. There are also other appearances of David McVicker's name in the lands records, of Bedford County. History of Bedford County page 368 says that David McVicker was one of the early settlers on the Pike. An administration bond for his estate is dated Feb. 18, 1833.

I am particularly interested to note that some friends of yours are overhauling the effects of your Mother stored in Meadville, Pa., in which you hope may be found your great grandfather Alexander McVicker' Bible, perhaps Duncan McVicker's (1799-1879). There may be other old papers, perhaps copies of obituaries, old letters, deeds, old newspapers, and other records which may disclose some of the most important facts for which we seek. That would be invaluable. It might settle the well-nigh unfathoma ble quest for some of the most important facts. Duncan McVicker (1799-1879) may have written a summary of his descent, ancesto and that be found among his papers. He was situated in time where he could have done that and in place and circumstances too.

JRM -> Dr. Winters Hamaker [A00435-2]

A00435-2

2

By the way, I may state that I have found no trace of old records in the Monongalia West Virginia branch of the McVickers. My brother noted that he spent a good half day in looking at old deeds and records shown to him by Samuel Bolivar McVicker on the visit to Morgantown 35 years ago. This Samuel Bolivar McVicker (1833-1914) son of James Madison McVicker (1808-1899) son of James McVicker (1768-1852) son of Duncan McVicker (1739-1818), had been deputy sheriff of Monongalia County and he spoke familiarly of John McVicker, Sheriff of Bedford County, and other McVickers in Bedford County. My brother made notes of some of the points. However, it seems these old papers are unknown in their whereabouts now, or are lost. Even the tombstones in the cemetery in the field where my grandfather Joseph McVicker and James McVicker(1768-1852) are buried have been stolen and carried away. This I found last summer when I visited Morgantown.

I am still interested in this work. I have tried many sources for further information about Capt. Duncan McVicker, and they do not pan out. Perhaps he was married three times, for I have three names of his wife or wives. I cannot find out who Nancy McCollum or Annie Laurie were in New Jersey, nor any record of them. As to Jean McConnell, the record is clear, but I am not satisfied that it was the same Duncan McVicker as our Capt. Duncan McVicker who married her.

While a break may come and some source surprise me, yet I do not know that one is imminent. Perhaps not. As the matter now stands, even if he were married three times, I do not know which one was my great grandmother.

I would like to see you. One thing is very certain --that if I were ever to get to the state of California or the far West at all, I would be very glad to go and see you. I was encamped at SanFrancisco, in 1898, with the 51st Iowa volunteers, and went to the Philippines with that regiment and returned in 1899.

Tomorrow, July 6, I will be 60 years on this mundane scene.

A lady in Bedford is trying to sell me a book of the History of Bedford County--the old History. I would like to have it, but at first it was offered at $5 and now the ante has been raised to $10. I took it up at the first offer and then occurred a hitch in the proceedings, a hemming and hawing and delaying, and now it is said that it will take $10 to swing the deal, and that some antique book dealers are offering $25 a copy for them.
By browsing through it I might find some points here and there, but I do not know. It is like buying a pig in a polk.

I will enclose a copy of petition for tavern license of Duncan McVicker, 1795, but I am not sure whether it was the senior or junior Duncan McVicker--what is your opinion. I will also enclose copy of a constable's return of Joseph McVicker in Bedford County, 1799. I have also a copy of a tavern petition for David McVicker, 1803-4, but do not enclose a copy of that at this time. I enclose also a copy of other material, self-explanatory. With best personal regards, I am, Sincerely yours,

JRM -> Dr. Winters Hamaker [A00436]

A00436

1050 Fontaine Road,
Lexington Kentucky,
June 19, 1936

Dr. Winters Duncan Hamaker,
2817 East 6th Street,
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Dr. Hamaker:

The last letter I have received from you bears date of December 26, 1935, to which I thought I had replied. But I may not have done so, I am not sure. In your letter of December 26 you suggested that I write to Mr. A. V. McClain, Alumni Secretary of Washington and Jefferson College to inquire for kinsmen of the McVicker family. I received a letter from him dated February 4 giving me several names. I thought I had written you after receipt of his letter. However, I was hard upon the second semester of intensive study to accomplish my law teaching and so I may have thought I had written you when I had not.

I have now finished my work for the year and the man whose place I was temporarily filling will return to take up his work in September. Thus, I may return to Iowa unless I obtain a teaching place elsewhere. At present I have some prospects but do not count them until they materialize.

I have obtained several spring binders and I am now classifying all my material by branches and families. In one of these books I have a branch in a folder headed: "THE FAMILY OF ALEXANDER McVICKER and JANE TAYLOR McVICKER", and in that folder I have placed all your letters.

I have much more research to make in Bedford County. I have about concluded that there must have been the families of the sons David McVicker, Daniel McVicker there as well as the family of Alexander. Joseph and James we have accounted for as having gone to Monongalia County, Va. That leaves the families of Duncan McVicker Jr. and John McVicker to be accounted for, and these two names are the most elusive, especially that of Duncan Jr. It is strange but I find that a John McVicker bought some land in Kentucky in 1807 and that a Duncan McVicker and his son James lived in Covington, Ky., in 1810. I have no other information about them.

I have received a number of letters since I heard from you, the most significant being from Mrs. Florence (McBride) Gifford, of Mansfield, Ohio, claiming that she was a great granddaughter of a Mary McVicker who married Thomas McBride in Hampshire County, Virginia, in 1797, and that Mary McVicker was a daughter of Capt. Duncan McVicker. This Mary McVicker McBride and Thomas McBride are buried near Mansfield, Ohio.

I would be very glad to hear from you. I wish you would tell me in what year approximately that Miss Ida R. Hamaker made her research in New Jersey for the name of Capt. Duncan McVicker's wife which she found to be Annie Laurie and also in what year approximately she had the monument placed in the Schellsburg Pa. Cemetery. Sincerely yours,

JRM -> Dr. Winters Hamaker [A00438-1]

A00438-1

August 11, 1935

Dear Dr. Hamaker:

Your very welcome and interesting letter of July 26 gratified me very much.

I was happy to drive around part of Bedford County on Saturday afternoon, June 22, 1935. I wish that you had been with me to explain more of the wonderful unfolding panorama. It was interesting to speculate just where old Clarksburg had actually been laid out. The trip now seems almost a dream, though well-remembered.

Do you know that your letters are really the most valuable link in the whole chain of my research? You experienced for the first 20 years of your life the association with your grandfather, Duncan McVicker(1799-1879)--a first cousin of my father (Norvel W.McVicker(1827-1923) son of Joseph McVicker (17__-184__) who was a brother of Alexander McVicker (1773-1832). Your grandfather, Duncan McVicker, enjoyed association with his grandfather, Capt. Duncan McVicker (1739-1818),for about 19 years. Thus through you, my approach to Capt. Duncan McVicker is only relayed through two persons--of whom you are living and of whom your grandfather, Duncan McVicker, was living during the first 3 years of my own life.

I will be glad to have you write me more of your recollections of what was told you, even with any repetition. These recollections are very valuable to me. I know of no other person than you who has had that close contact. All other persons whom I have found can offer but very far-relayed traditions. They have not been able to find their family records or papers. It seems that the record has largely perished with the deaths of several persons who lived during the period of the past 40-50 years. I have little hope of finding much more of it except through official records that may be unearthed from the County Record vaults.

Whenever you feel like it, please write me any notes of your recollections of facts and traditions of any and all kinds about Capt. Duncan McVicker and your grandfather Duncan McVicker. Really your letters are now considered by me as about my last hope of obtaining the further or any other pieces of the picture.

I will continue the search from time to time, writing to many persons who may seem to me to offer hope of clues to further knowledge. I have many notes and scraps of information culled for me from Bedford County. But the picture is very vague there, except that I think I have found the descendants of David McVicker, one of the sons. I find that the minute book of the Courts in 1809 show that that at July adjournment of court the names of the following appear on Jury No. 12: Duncan McVicker, Alexander McVicker, David McVicker. Perhaps the first named was the Captain, or perhaps his son. The Census of 1790 (copy enclosed for you) shows that Duncan McVicker (Capt.) had a family of ten (including himself as head of family, son (one) over 16, 5 sons under 16, and 3 females. I doubt if his wife were in Pennsylvania or included.

The same Census of 1790 shows a certain DUNCAN McVICAR in Mifflin County having a family composed of himself as head and 3 females perhaps including his wife. This may have been the Captain's son. On the other hand, the son Duncan may have settled down and remained in Bedford County. Please note the spelling--McVicar in Mifflin County.

JRM -> Dr. Winters Hamaker [A00438-2]

A00438-2

-2-

In this connection, I also enclose copy of Certificate issued to Mrs. Alberta (McVicker) Whidden, who is a great granddaughter of James McVicker of Monongalia County, Virginia, by the Custodian of the Public Records of Pennsylvania in 1910, and copy sent to me by her to prove that there was another Duncan McVicar of Pennsylvania who served in the Revolution and hence that Annie Laurie might have been his wife. The Certificate does not throw much light on that matter but it does raise the interesting question to me as to just who this DUNCAN McVICAR was and whether he was the same DUNCAN McVICAR as the one in the Mifflin County Census in 1790, both having the names spelled McVICAR and both named DUNCAN McVICAR.

This West Virginia branch is firmly of the belief that the wife was Nancy McCollum. The claim appears in Wiley's County History of Monongalia County published in 1883. Says Mrs. Alberta (McVicker) Whidden (granddaughter of James Madison McVicker (1808-1899) who was a first cousin of your grandfather, Duncan McVicker (1799-1879), and also of my father, Norvel W. McVicker (1827-1923) in her letter to me July 28, 1935:

"There is no reasonable doubt about my great-great grandmother's "name being Nancy McCollum. My grandfather who was her grandson always "said so, and he received his information from his father who was her "son. Then, too, Judge Marshall Hagans always said that we were "related to him through the McCollums. About third cousins, I believe. "His mother was Jane McCollum, sixth daughter of Ensign Daniel McCollum. "She was married to Harrison Hagans in 1818.

"Daniel McCollum's father was James McCollum. He had four known "brothers and one sister, namely, John, Alexander, Reuben, Daniel, "and Mary. James McCollum after living in North Carolina returned to "New Jersey where one or more of his brothers lived. At the beginning "of the Revolution he was living in York, Pennsylvania.

"My grandfather always said that Duncan McVicker was a paymaster in "Washington's army. That his father James (McVicker) had often told him "about seeing Duncan paying off the soldiers. I have never been able "to verify this as all records pertaining to the Revolution were des-"troyed when the British burned the Capitol in 1812.

"The name McCollum is a corruption of the name MacCallum, "or Maelcoluim or Malcolm.

Mrs. Whidden's great grandfather, James McVicker, lived (1768-1852).

However, I have since her letter received a report from New Jersey based on the will of one, McConnell, that the wife of Duncan McVicker was Jean McConnell in 1777. In noting this report I find in other places that it refers frequently to a James McVicker, especially in one place as having been a witness to another's will in 1754--and that is 3 years before Duncan McVicker and his 3 brothers are said to have come to America and New Jersey, and so I am thinking the report has gotten hold of some other McVickers in this country before Capt. Duncan McVicker and his 3 brothers came. I'll investigate this further later on.

I have not received the Crawford County History article about you but I will later write the Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.

I would like your confirmation as to whether you understand Duncan McVicker had 7 sons. The West Virginia Branch has it as seven and it has so appeared in articles in County Histories of Monongalia County.

JRM -> Dr. Winters Hamaker [A00438-3]

A00438-3

-3-

In the 1809 plan for Clarksburg there are enough names of McVickers to make more than seven sons if the names of McVickers are his sons.

I am sending you a copy of my notes about George Alexander McVicker and George Harold McVicker, taken on the occasion of my visiting George Harold McVicker on July 13-14, 1935.

I thank you for your kind invitation to visit you. I wish I could. About September 3 I go to Lexington, Kentucky, to teach law in the University of Kentucky the coming year. My address there will be at 1050 Fontaine Road, Lexington, Kentucky.

You might tell me about James Adams' "Epic of America" when you write.

Trusting that my long letter and enclosures may be interesting to you, I am,

With my best regards,

Sincerely yours,

James R. McVicker

List of 7 Sons of Capt. Duncan McVicker:	List of 5 brothers and sister of the McCollum Family:
Duncan McVicker	
James McVicker	James McCollum
John McVicker	John McCollum
Joseph McVicker	Mary McCollum
Alexander McVicker	Alexander McCollum
Daniel McVicker	Daniel McCollum
David McVicker	Reuben McCollum

From Judge John Marshall Hagans' monograph written on the McCollum Family 40 years ago:

"James McCollum was a Scotchman and after the bloody field of Culloden settled in North Carolina; some bearing this surname about this time appear in Canada, New York, New Jersey. There were 5 brothers, Alexander, John, Reuben, Daniel and James; all from the south of Scotland."

James McCollum had two children: Daniel and Mary. Mary narried Jonathan Brandon, the founder of Brandonville, Preston County, W. Va.

James McVicker had a daughter Mary McVicker and a son James Madison McVicker, among other children. Joseph McVicker had sons James McVicker and Daniel McVicker and daughter Mary McVicker, and nine other children. I submit this postscript not as proof, but suggestive as to same given names in McVicker and McCollum families.

JRM -> Dr. Winters Hamaker [A00439-1]

A00439-1

November 18, 1936

Dear Cousin:

I am greatly pleased and gratified with your and Dr. Charles Townsend Hamaker's kind offer to place the Alexander McVicker Family Bible in my hands and custody. I note that it is to be preserved by me either in the McVicker family or in some suitable Public Library finally. I will be very glad to receive the custody of this Bible, and I will take care of it to the best of my ability for some time to come when it may be found that a Public Library would be the best place to deposit it. I will be especially glad to have it during the next few years while I am corresponding with various sources and persons aboutthe genealogy, and can cite the original record for so much established proof.

I think I will cite the National Heddquarters of the D.A.R. which has for several years published wrong dates of birth and death of Capt. Duncan McVicker in their Lineage Books and also stated that he was "buried at Bedford Pennsylvania--oldest grave in Bedford." The dates they have are 1748-1820. One of the entrants gives those for the date of his wife(Nancy McCollum 1748-1820). I will write them and offer them a certified copy of the Bible Record and also a certified transcription of the inscription on the monument at Schellsburg.

You spoke of my eventually depositing this Bible in some Public Library, and I will eventually ascertain which libraries in Pennsylvania would be available. I will correspond with the Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh, The State Library, Harrisburg, and the Western Historical Library, Pittsburgh, and perhaps some other. I shall be very glad to retain this Bible for the present and for some time to come, and then when it may seem advisable to make arrangement for it after me, I will see what can be done toward placing it in Pennsylvania, and preferably in a large Public Library where persons are likely to apply for genealogical data. I will ask to have index cards sent to various libraries.

Your co-operation has been most valuable. You have stood in a unique place to furnish authentic information because your evidence is more direct. Your grandfather's grandfather related his experiences which were then relayed to you and by you written out in sketches for me. I will welcome any more of thos sketches that you can furnish.

Today I have come across a statement madfe by Samuel Bolivar McVicker (1833-1914, Morgantown, W.Va.), a great grandson of Capt. Duncan McVicker. He stated to my brother on his visit to Morgantown in 1901 and who made note of the statement:

That (Capt) Duncan McVicker was a doctor and had vaccinated over 500 for small px.

Do you have any recollection of whether he was said to be a doctor?

Do you think it was Capt. Duncan McVicker who received the tavern license in 1795, or more likely his son Duncan McVicker Jr?

Do you think I am warranted in my opinion that Capt. Duncan McVicker's wife did not come from New Jersey with him?

May I again say how much I appreciate your kindness and how highly I value the Family Bible of Alexander McVicker as the best evidence obtained so far.

Sincerely your cousin, James R. McVicker

Over

JRM -> Dr. Winters Hamaker [A00439-2]

A00439-1

I would like very much to have copies of the record in the Hamaker Family Bible – the dates of all the births deaths marriages for each entry in it. I have looks at my notes and find I need this very record for the Hamaker family. So I would very much appreciate it.

Sincerely yours,

James M. McVicker

Dr. Winters Hamaker -> JRM [A00443-1]

Dr. W.D.Hamaker to A00443-1 -1-
James R. McVicker

2817 East 6th Street,
Los Angeles, Calif., May 7, 1935

Dear Mr. McVicker:

Yours just received. Glad to have another letter from you and I will begin to write down ideas and suggestions in a drawn-out letter: for this purpose I will find a long-hand more suitable.

1. I got my information about Miss Laurie from my sister Ida years ago.

2. I never mentioned on any occasion a first name as it was given to me simply as Miss Laurie.

3. My impression has always had the impression from my grandfather that his grandfather (Captain Duncan) came to his son's house as an old man. My grandfather told me that the Captain told him about Valley Forge and the blood tracks on the snow.

4. My sister went to Trenton years ago and made researches but I don't know how thorough as we were not living near each other in those days.

5. I am quite sure that the wife of the Captain is not buried at Schellsburg and that there is no monument to her there.
Ask my sister about that as she had the bodies transferred from the old plot to the newer McVicker - Hamaker lot in front.

6. Mifflin County was probably part of Bedford County about 1789-90, and might account for the census confusion as a splitting off of the Mifflin County might have occurred at that time when a military census would be so important and when counties were beginning to be clipped off of Bedford on the eastern edge. Mifflin and Perry counties lay close together and were among those being named after American heroes rather than after old English counties as were Huntingdon and Bedford, Somerset and Westmoreland farther to the west on the southern tier which were first erected along the earliest line of settlement and travel.

7. John McVicker and wife, I knew them when a small boy and do not recall her first name. They are buried at Manns Choice, Pa., five miles from Schellsburg where they lived. But the wife of the grandson, John, would hardly be confused with the wife of the grandfather (the Captain).

8. Note that in transcription there is no mention of wife of Captain Duncan McVicker.

9. Note after Adam P. Hamaker and Sarah Jane, the second son, Dr. Winters D. Hamaker, is not mentioned.

10. There was great intercommunication between Virginia and Western Pennsylvania in early times when Virginia (now West Virginia) and Pennsylvania both claimed Western Pennsylvania. Mason and Dixon's Line settled the controversy. Hence easy passage from Pennsylvania to Morgantown district.

11. Note James McVicker witness to will of Alexander McVicker.

Dr. Winters Hamaker -> JRM [A00443-2]

Dr.W.D.Hamaker to
James R. McVicker

A00443-2 -2- May 7, 1937

12. Under will of George McVicker--James McVicker appears again. Juniata Township was not far from Harrison Township in which was Manns Choice, home of John.

13. I am strongly of the opinion that James McVicker of Pleasantville was the son of John McVicker (son of Captain Duncan McVicker) as indicated in Miss Valentine's letter and that probably George was his son and that S. I. McVicker is his grandson.

I left that part of Pennsylvania over 58 years ago and knew none of them except James, cousin of my grandfather.

Thanking you for the copies of your "trees" and for your information and kind friendly letters, I am, Cordially yours,

W.D.HAMAKER

Excuse the poor writing of a pretty blind man.

14. My grandfather thought it was not necessary to join a church in order to be a Christian, but he paid a subscription to the Presbyterian church for my grandmother and never objected to her attending the church. He regularly read his Bible and was always a high-standing upright citizen. He had a big lot of people from the surrounding country who came to him for free legal advice, preferring him to the Bedford lawyers! I think he in many cases brought about compromises and settlements without suits. H.

Dr. Winters Hamaker -> JRM [A00444]

Dr.W.D.Hamaker to A00444 -1-
James R. McVicker

2817 East 6th Street,
Los Angeles, Calif., April 15, 1935

Dear Mr. McVicker:

Just a few words to call your attention first to the old fashioned monuments of the older McVickers in the Schellsburg cemetery. These were moved from the old part of the cemetery to the new part some years ago. My grandfather ordered them from Philadelphia and they were transported over the old pike by wagon.

You will see a little church built in 1807 there in the center of the old day cemetery and fronting E from the present Lincoln highway. because the pike originally ran along the opposite side of the cemetery. My grandfather was 7 years old when the chapel was built and he drove the team that hauled the lumber for its construction.

I never heard of any other wife of my great-great grandfather than Miss Laurie. The Scotch or Scotch-Irish were in the North of New Jersey just South of the Holland settlements in the North.

I believe Nancy McCollum was perhaps the wife of Duncan McVicker Junior --and was a West Virginia name. West Virginia (at that time Virginia) was peopled by an overflow of the Scotch from Pennsylvania.

In Bedford you must see the house that was headquarters for Washington at the time of the Whiskey Rebellion, and the celebrated Bedford Springs one mile South of the town.

It is not far from Southwestern Pennsylvania to Morgantown.

Pleasantville, Pa., is only 10 miles from Schellsburg where you might be able to dig up something at James McVicker, my grandfather's cousin--the tanner.

Kind regards, as ever,

Sincerely yours,

W. D. HAMAKER

Dr. Winters Hamaker -> JRM [A00445-1]

Dr.W.D.Hamaker to
James R. McVicker

A00445-1 -1-

2817 East 6th St.,
Los Angeles, Calif., March 28, 1935

Dear Mr. McVicker:--

I am sorry you had so much trouble tracing me with your recent letters.

From your letters I am unable to add any more branches to the family tree but I will make a number of statements that may enable you to draw conclusions.

Bedford County in 1782 and later was an immense county, embracing more than half the state, extending from and including Franklin County to the western border and North to Lake Erie. So that any place like Derry Township you mention would be hard to find. It is not in the county now and is in some other county sliced off in later years.

I never heard of McVickers in York County but had the impression they were in West Virginia. McVickers were very plentiful in Scotland and the North of Ireland and doubtless many other groups of them may have come to America. There was a great movement before the Revolution from Pennsylvania into Virginia and on South, especially of Scoth-Irish into the mountainous parts.

Alexander McVicker was a Justice of the Peace by appointment of Gov. Hiester in 1820. His son Duncan was a Justice of the Peace by appointment of Gov. Johnson in 1857. In office many years.

My grandfather (Duncan) told me his father Alexander went about the country inoculating people with small pox. Perhaps this was vaccination as this had superseded inoculation in the last of the 17th century.

A cousin of my grandfather lived in Pleasantville, 10 miles from Schellsburg, whose name was James, but I never could place him. He borrowed money from my grandfather often. He had a tannery. In build and facial features he resembled my grandfather much.

Alexander had three children so far as I ever knew, John, Duncan and a daughter. John had two sons--I never knew of others--William murdered in Missouri (in my boyhood), Duncan a hunchback. John was Sheriff of Bedford County. Duncan had two children, my mother Sarah Jane (and George Alexander McVicker). His wife was Salome Minnich. He changed her name to Sarah. They had two children. Sarah Jane (1837-1922) had two children, Winters Duncan Hamaker and Ida Rosanna Hamaker (1859 & 1861), both living. Their father was A. P. Hamaker (1831-1875). He was a Justice of the Peace. Ida's address is Annapolis Hotel, Washington, D. C. You have her brother's history.

George Alexander McVicker (1841-1886) died in Des Moines, Iowa. Public accountant and at one time Treasurer of that City. Married P.Ella Blodgett.

Alexander had a daughter who married Charles Dannaker near Schellsburg, Pa. Two daughters married James Frazer and Thompson Piper of that village.

In the cemetery West of Schellsburg--is the family plot of the McVickers and Hamakers. In this plot lie 6 generations.

Duncan (1739-1818)
Alexander McVicker and wife (Miss Taylor, daughter of James Taylor
Duncan and wife (Sarah Minnich)
Sarah Jane Hamaker and my father (A.P.Hamaker)
Duncan McVicker Hamaker, died in infancy
Edward McVicker Hamaker (1890-1915), my son a young physician
Here also lies my wife Elizabeth Townsend Hamaker (1861-1926)

My other son, Dr. Charles Townsend Hamaker (1888) and I live together here. He practices medicine here.

Dr. Winters Hamaker -> JRM [A00445-2]

Dr. W. D. Hamaker to
James R. McVicker A00445-2 -2-

March 28, 1935

My life record is as follows:
Graduate of Washington and Jefferson College.
Graduate of University of Pennsylvania in Medicine.
Interne Presbyterian Hospital, Philadelphia.
Interne University of Pennsylvania Hospital in Philadelphia.
Practiced medicine 31 years in Meadville, Pa.
Surgeon, Erie R.R.
Member of Pennsylvania State Board of Medical Examiners, 1895 to 1912.
Secretary of said Board 1907-1912.
Organizer of McCrosky Tool Corporation 1907 of Meadville, Pa.
One of organizers of The Tehuantepec Company of Los Angeles, 1933.
In retirement since 1917 on account of blindness.

Charles' record is as follows:
Graduate Peekskill Military Academy (N.Y.).
Graduate of University of Pennsylvania.
Interne Philadelphia General Hospital.
Assistant Chief Resident Physician Philadelphia General Hospital,1917.
1917 Enlisted for the War and sent by U.S. to serve in British Army
--Medical Officer British First Army at Front in France 1917-19
Honorably discharged in U.S. 1919 with grade of Captain
Since then has practiced medicine

On account of sight I was unable to fill out your papers--so wrote out in full all I could recall. Kindly excuse writing.

Wishing you success in your undertaking I shall be glad to hear from you at any time.

Yours sincerely

W. D. HAMAKER

Dr. Winters Hamaker -> JRM [A00446-1]

A00446-1

DR. W. D. HAMAKER
883 WATER STREET
HOURS: 8 TO 10, 3 TO 5, 7 TO 8

Meadville, Pa., 3/9/1916.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of recent date has been forwarded to me by my sister, and I am writing to give you all the information that I have on the subject.

Duncan Mc Vicker was born in Scotland in 1739 and at the age of eighteen in 1757 he went to the north of Ireland and from there immediately came to America, settling in Northern New Jersey. During the revolutionary war he was a captain of a Company in the second New Jersey Line. He fought through the revolutionary war and was with Washington at Valley Forge. In his old age he came to Bedford County, Pennsylvania near the town of Schellsburg and spent the remaining years with his son Alexander Mc Vicker. I do not know the names of all his children. He had one son Duncan, and he had a grandson the cousin of my grandfather whose name was James who resided in Bedford County and whom I knew. I never heard the name of Joseph, but from your description I have no doubt that he was the son of Duncan Mc Vicker, as there were no other Mc Vickers in Bedford County. Duncan was married to a Miss Laurie.

Alexander was married to a Miss Taylor and had several children among them John Mc Vicker, a daughter who was married to Charles Dannaker and my grandfather Duncan Mc Vicker all of whom resided in Bedford County. John Mc Vicker at one time was Sheriff of Bedford County. Duncan Mc Vicker was married to a

Dr. Winters Hamaker -> JRM [A00446-2]

A00446-2

DR. W. D. HAMAKER
883 WATER STREET
HOURS: 8 TO 10, 2 TO 5, 7 TO 8

Meadville, Pa.,

Miss Minnich formerly of York County Pennsylvania and had two children, my mother Sarah J. and one son George Alexander. My mother was married to A. P. Hamaker and had three children:- Duncan Mc Vicker, who is dead and my sister Ida R. Hamaker who resides with my mother at 1814 K. St. N. W., Washington, D. C. and myself. My mother is in her 80th year. I was married to Elizabeth Gray Townsend and had two sons:- Dr. Charles Townsend Hamaker, intern at the present time at the Philadelphia General Hospital and Dr. Edward Mc Vicker Hamaker who died May 31,1915. George Alexander Mc Vicker was a resident of Des Moines, Iowa and at one time City Treasurer of and had one son George H. Mc Vicker who now resides at 1518 65th Place, Chicago, Ill. He has two sons the younger of whom is named Duncan Mc Vicker.

" Duncan" has run through six generations.

Yours Truly
Winters Duncan Hamaker.

Genealogy - McCollum Family (pg 1) [A00447]

A00447

GENEALOGY

McCOLLUM FAMILY

July 4th, 1882.

Genealogy of the McCollum Family as given by Frederick McCollum to Dewitt C. McCollum May 30th 1882.

Five brothers from the South of Scotland emigrated to this country several years before the Revolutionary War, and one of these brothers whose name was Alexander McCollum and from whom our family descends, settled previous to the Revolution at Middlefield Center, Otsego County, New York. His other brothers as far as recollection extends were named as follows; John McCollum, Reuben McCollum, Daniel McCollum, and James McCollum born 1730 (Have the letters of Judge J. M. Hagans of Morgantown, W. Va. to prove it).
One or two of these brothers settled somewhere in the western part of New York. Their grandchildren were distinctly remembered by Frederick McCollum.

One of the brothers settled in Canada, a grandson of whom by the name of Stephen, at one time visited Otsego County, N. Y., about the year 1834. His occupation was that of a blacksmith. He married while there and lived in that vicinity for six years, and had some family and finally moved to Geneva, Illinois.

ALEXANDER McCOLLUM
From whom descends our family, was married before the Revolutionary War, to a widow lady by the name of Mary Cook with one child Cathrine Cook and after their marriage they had seven children, six boys and one girl. The following are the names of the children:

1 Reuben McCollum
2 Andrew McCollum
3 Daniel McCollum
4 James McCollum
5 Alexander McCollum
6 David McCollum
7 Mary McCollum
8 Cathrine Cook

It is known that four of the brothers were born before the Revolutionary War, and the father and mother lived to a good old age and resided at Middlefield Center all their life. Alex. McCollum was the owner of a saw mill and always made that his principal business, and although he was living at the time of the Revolutionary War he was not a soldier.

(Page one)

JRM -> Mrs. Gifford [A00449-1]

A00449-1

-2-

The following has nothing to do with the case in hand, but has suggested something important for our further research for Nancy McCollum--which however, we will not mention to the D.A.R.:

Dear Mrs. Gifford:

I have been looking over some of the letters and papers that you sent me and I have been getting much interested in that town of Cullybackey, County Antrim, Ireland.

At first you were under some impression that Mary ("Polly") McVicker had been born there in 1773. I see you state that an uncle, Wilson Polk McBride, gives Mary McVicker McBride as the wife of Thomas McBride and states she was born in Kalabackey, Ireland in 1773, and died May 8, 1833. He gave no reason for stating that Mary McVicker was born in Kalabackey. You add a note that the correct spelling is Cullybackey.

Now what your Uncle Wilson Polk McBride said above--that Mary ("Polly") McVicker was born at Cullybackey, Ireland, in 1773--contradicts that part of the History of Caldwell and Livingston Counties Missouri where it says:
"Thomas McBride, a farmer by occupation, was married in Hampshire County in 1797 to Polly McVicker, a native of New Jersey. Her father, Duncan McVicker, also a native of Ireland, but of Scottish descent, took part in the War of the Revolution. He was a Scotch Presbyterian of the old school type."

Please note that the History record says that Mary ("Polly") McVicker was born in New Jersey, which of course is what we want . It marks the identity of Mary McVicker as a member of the family of Capt. Duncan McVicker. So far,it seems that I have found only one McVicker (and that Duncan McVicker) who did take part in the Revolution from New Jersey. Stryker's History of Officers and Men from New Jersey in the Revolution (page 401) lists the one and only McVicker as our Capt. Duncan McVicker.

But what I am interested in is Cullybackey. That statement by your uncle Wilson Polk McBride must have some basis--and I think that it may be that the mother of Mary McVicker McBride (1773-1833) was born in Cullybackey, Ireland. The statement of the fact probably got twisted that much--I think it means that the mother was born there. This gives me a great suggestion.

For a long time we have been tearing (turning) the State of New Jersey upside down to find Nancy McCollum and her origin. Another kinsmen and I have many letters out even at the present time.

So I am going to pass along the suggestion to him that a certain source has indicated to me that Capt. Duncan McVicker's wife--Nancy McCollum--was born in Cullybackey, Ireland. Now this man is a McCollum descendant and he has done research in Ireland and found another descendant. It may give him such a clue that he will eventually get some results.

But it does not pay to count on expectations of finding things in genealogy. So that is why it is best to not make mention of this research being made a nd planned to be made to the D.A.R--or they might say "Go ahead and we will wait on you until you get it done."" And it might never result in anything.

But I am glad that this suggestion has occurred. The elusive Nancy McCollum may have come from Cullybackey, County Antrim, Ireland. It looks as though that may be the basis or the fact behind the impression that was stated in your Uncle's statement.

JRM -> Mrs. Gifford [A00449-2]

A00449-2

-2-

(Mrs. W. H. Gifford)

My files show eleven (11) names of members admitted to the D.A.R. on the record of Capt. Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) and ascribing Nancy McCollum as his wife. To the best of my knowledge and belief they have had no applications nor admissions to membership of persons ascribing either Annie Laurie or Jean McConnell. I do not know whether any have so tried with these names, but in the course of time I suppose that some one from Bedford County where they take their information from that secondary monument inscribing name of Annie Laurie may try with her name. But the name Annie Laurie is not found in the Family Bible of Alexander McVicker (1773-1832). No tradition of the name of the wife seems to have come down from that branch although the great great granddaughter reported the name Annie Laurie from her own researches in New Jersey.

When and if I am called upon to furnish a special report as to either or both Annie Laurie or Jean McConnell, my facts will consist of circumstantial evidence to advance the claim of Nancy McCollum and to explain the other two or either as the case may be.

The name of Mrs. Carrie Stewart Mathiot Metcalf was furnished to me by the National Office of the D.A.R. to aid me in thus supplementing my research. Her National Number is 180772. On June 26, 1935, while visiting my Mother's relatives in Fayette County, Pa., I called to see this lady at her home in Smithfield, Pa., where I was informed that she was mentally infirm and that no one was allowed to talk with her. I regarded her as a significant witness since she was reputed to have conducted researches in New Jersey. But we cannot secure her report except as submitted to the D.A.R for membership. She it was who ascribed dates for Nancy McCollum as of 1748 - 1820. We have not been able to duplicate her research. We cannot learn where she found these dates. We cannot dispute them nor refute them. Things are very hard to find in New Jersey--she may have found these dates there or taken them from some other source which she accredited. We have found no trace of Nancy McCollum having been buried in the Cemetery with the Captain nor elsewhere in Bedford County. To me this is significant, but I can not go any further than to have my own personal opinion. It is possible that she came to Pennsylvania with the Captain and his children, but if she did it seems to me that she must have died some time before him and not afterward and that she must in that event have been buried in some other place and not in the Cemetery with him and certainly no trace exists that she is buried on the plot where he now rests.

I have the letters of a brother as to the report of Miss Ida R. Hamaker of Annie Laurie, but although she is living she is mentally infirm and is confined in a sanitarium as I believe in Maryland near Washington, D.C., where she had last previously resided for several years at the Hotel Annapolis. On June 18, 1935, I called to see Miss Ida Rodannah Hamaker at the Annapolis Hotel, Washington, D.C., but was told by the Clerk that she had been taken to a sanitarium about three days previously. I had planned to secure from her a report of her research affording clues. Since then I have been informed by her brother that I cannot take up the matter with her even by letter on account of her mental condition. Genealogy is a very queer search. But in her case I have quite complete statements from her brother to whom she reported her research and its results and so this evidence is available--not to prove that Annie Laurie is the name but to explain its slender origin on the effort of only one person who had to go to New Jersey to find it. So no help may be expected from either Mrs. Carrie Stewart Mathiot Metcalf or Miss Ida Rosanna Hamaker. In the former case because she accepted Nancy McCollum her report is cumulative of the other evidence--in the latter case it needs a report such as I can prepare. In the case of Jean McConnell the significant point is that of identification. I do not believe that Jean married our Capt. Duncan McVicker but another Duncan McVicker--it is evident that there were others as I think I can show (not in the Revolution) . I think that the vidence is preponderantly against that being our Duncan McVicker.

JRM -> Mrs. Gifford [A00449-3]

A00449-3 - 3-

Our problem in New Jersey has been to find Nancy McCollum or traces of the McCollum family to which she belonged.

The N.S.D.A.R. has references to 3 names of the supposed wife of Capt. Duncan McVicker (1739-1818), viz.:

1 Nancy McCollum under whose name as the wife of the Captain all members (total 12) have been accepted; this name comes direct and long claimed from family tradition of the descendants of James McVicker (1768-1852).

2 Annie Lauris whose name as the wife was ascribed upon research by Miss Ida Rosanna Hamaker (b.1861) and placed upon a monument which she erected to the Captain and she told Dr. Hamaker the name and he gave it in his sketch as Miss Laurie in Crawford County, Pa. History in 1899. It is this sketch which the N.S.D.A.R. has found and which they interpose as one of the obstacles to new applicants. I will have to do something about it, as I suppose that her research can never be retraced or proved or disproved. She is a patient in a mental sanitarium near Washington and there seems to be no prospect that she can be asked for the source of her research findings. The Doctor (her brother) says that she went to Trenton, N. J. to search. I have the Doctor's statement showing that the sole and only authority for the name Annie Laurie rests upon this report made by his sister, Ida Rosanna Hamaker. She gave no dates and nothing but the name, Annie Laurie as wife of the Captain. Her brother who got it from her only gave it in his sketch as Miss Laurie. Note that this name does not come from any family tradition of these Bedford County Pa. descendants of Captain Duncan McVicker, but it depends upon the single report of only one person, and she had to go to New Jersey to find it as there were no traces in Bedford County Pa. of the wife of the Captain.

3 Jean McConnell as the name of the wife of Duncan McVicker rests upon the incontestible authority of the Will of one, Thomas McConnell, made in Somerset County, Pa., in 1777, wherein said Thomas McConnell in said Will mentions among the other names "my daughter Jean wife of Duncan McVicker." Now the old Wills in New Jersey have been abstracted and published, and it is the record of this Will now found in the Office of the Secretary of State of New Jersey and abstract thereof also published in a Book of Abstracts of Wills and distributed to Libraries, that the N.S.D.A.R. has found and which they also interpose as an obstacle to the new applicants. I admit that the record is incontestible but I have challenged the identification of Duncan McVicker all along and have wanted to find another one.

My theory of Annie Laurie has been that this is the given name of Annie Laurie McCollum called "Nancy" for short, or that it is fanciful, or a poetic pet name for the Captain's wife perhaps applied because the real name could not be found even upon research in New Jersey and the researcher was anxious to have some name to place upon that large monument which she erected and so she chose the name Annie Laurie for the (to her and her relatives) unknown name of the wife. However, our researches have disclosed people of that period in New Jersey by the name of Lawrie or Laurie, so it is up to us to keep on picking away.

My theory of Jean McConnell has been that she married a different Duncan McVicker than the Captain who is out ancestor. We have now found this believed to be different Duncan McVicker who married Jean McConnell and will follow this up.

So now Nancy McCollum is again being rescued from a mythical character to that of the real personage who married the Captain. We have found a Daniel McCollum as a customer in a book of accounts of a store in Pluckemin, Somerset County, 1768-1775. Now it seems that you must have had some reason for your ascribing Nancy McCollum as daughter of a Daniel McCollum, and we have found one now in that region in New Jersey where it is believed that the Captain lived.

When we find these facts sufficiently we are going to file a record of them in Libraries so that they can never get away. Sincerely yours,

James R. McVicker

JRM -> Mrs. Gifford [A00450-1]

A00450-1

1117 East College Street,
Iowa City, Iowa,
February 23, 1956

Mrs. Florence McBride Gifford,
777 Park Avenue, West,
Mansfield, Ohio.

Dear Mrs. Gifford:

Your letter of February 18 is received.

First point: It is desired to establish the dates of birth and death of Capt. Duncan McVicker (1739-1818). The primary source of record is the Family BIBLE of Alexander McVicker (1773-1852). This Bible contains the earliest record I have found and it is now in my possession and custody, first loaned to me by Dr. Winters Duncan Hamaker (1883-) (great great grandson of Duncan McVicker) now living at 800 Prospect Boulevard, Pasadena, California, and a transcription made by me from this Bible on November 6, 1956. I then returned the Bible to Dr. Hamaker by Express. Then he and his son, Dr. Charles Townsend Hamaker (b.1888-) decided to present this Bible to me and they sent it by Express to me for Christmas, 1956, with full power of retention and ultimate disposition, by reason of fact that they agreed that I was the family historian of the Duncan McVicker descendants and also that they are both unmarried and have no children and said that they thought I was about the most interested person for custodian of this Book. This Bible was printed in 1814, New York, printed and sold by Collins & Co., or as the exact wording appears on title page:
"Printed and Sold by Collins & Co. New York: 1814"

There are 4 pages of written record in this Book. The entry relating to Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) was referred to by letter of Dr. Hamaker as follows:
"At the top of the fourth page of the record, under the heading "Deaths"," "Alexander, evidently, records in his own hand the death of
" 'My Father Duncan McVicker Departed this life on
" 'Munday Morning the 19th of January 1818
" 'Aged Seventy Nine years '
" The record is nearly all in the hand of my grandfather"(Duncan McVicker, son of Alexander McVicker and grandson of Capt. Duncan McVicker)
"Cordially yours W. D. HAMAKER "(Oct.15, 1956
(b.1859)

Dr. Winters Duncan Hamaker received this Bible from the custody and effects of his mother, Sarah Jane (McVicker) Hamaker (1837-1922); Sarah Jane (McVicker) Hamaker received this Bible from her father, Duncan McVicker (1799-1879); Duncan McVicker (1799-1879) received this Bible from his father, Alexander McVicker (1773-1852), and said Alexander McVicker was the original individual owner, and he was the son of Capt. Duncan McVicker (1739-1818) with whom the latter spent his declining years at the farm home of said Alexander McVicker near Schellsburg, Bedford County, Pennsylvania. Capt. Duncan McVicker and both his son Alexander McVicker and the latter's wife, Jane (Taylor) McVicker (1774-1854) were first buried on a plot in the same Schellsburg Cemetery but their bodies were afterward removed to the plot in the same cemetery together with the original tombstones to each one of the three where the remains now are interred and being the McVicker and Hamaker plot in the Schellsburg Cemetery ½ miles west of Schellsburg, Bedford County, Pennsylvania. ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~

This removal was under the direction of Miss Ida Rosanna Hamaker (b.1861), a sister of Dr. Winters Duncan Hamaker. She then erected an additional large monument on which are the inscription for several members of the McVicker and Hamaker families. She also preserved the original old stones causing them to be placed also on the McVicker and Hamaker plot. She is aged and infirm, a patient now in a private sanitarium and so I am unable to communicate with her.

JRM -> Mrs. Gifford [A00450-2]

A00450-2

-2-

I sent you a copy of the Transcription from this Bible, but I will send you another and certified copy as soon as you need it or as soon as we get all the things together which you need for the D.A.R. When you send them the certified copy which I will send to you, you can then request back the first copy which I sent you (uncertified) if you have sent it in to the D.A.R., but keep it as your own if you wish.

Now you say that you have referred to that monument at Schellsburg, there being two of them on which his death appears--the first old one which was brought from the original plot--and the large monument--of all of which I think I sent you a copy. But evidently you need a certified copy which I can furnish because I have verified the inscriptions when I saw the monument myself in 1935. I suppose the D.A.R. will want the whole record and not merely of the original old monument.

But if they get the whole record (all on both monuments) they will see that on the large monument after Capt. Duncan McVicker's name, there appears the line "His Wife Annie Laurie." I suppose they will not pass this by but will then want "Annie Laurie" explained. I have written about the explanation heretofore. Undue emphasis is sometimes place on inscriptions on monuments because of their solemnity. But this inscription is at least of secondary source authority as I think that I can show--because the monument was evidently not erected until about 40 years ago and the record of the wife placed thereon rests upon only the authority of one person who supposedly researched in New Jersey for the name. I have been absolute y unable to get to inquire of Miss Ida Rosanna Hamaker as to the source of her information in New Jersey for the reason that she is infirm and a patient with whom I am counselled not to correspond. Also I have been unable to retrace her authority of record by research in New Jersey. But I think that I can satisfy the conflict, if it is a conflict, and if they do raise the query to you as you once mentioned that they did by reference to the sketch of Dr. Hamaker in the Crawford County Pennsylvania History (1899). The affirmative evidence is that Nancy McCollum was the wife of Capt. Duncan McVicker and the mother of his children as I firmly believe.

They have also on their own motion heretofore referred to Jean McConnell shown to be the wife of Duncan McVicker by a recitation in a published will of Thomas McConnell in New Jersey (1777). I do not believe that this was Capt. Duncan McVicker. I have done a great deal of searching and have found evidence of other persons by the name of Duncan McVicker, also have found other persons named McVicker in New Jersey before Capt. Duncan McVicker came over from Scotland. The McConnell family has nothing in common that I can find with the McVicker family, while the McCollum family has.

Now if they want the reconciliation of both the names of Annie Laurie and of Jean McConnell, I will have to go into the matter pretty deeply to adduce the evidence. And I suppose that they will. What does Mr. Gifford think--that they will want this certificate of my record and conclusions in the matter also?

Your claim as to the daughter Mary McVicker is strongly supported by the sketch in the Caldwell and Livingston Counties Missouri History, but if they have this History or access to it they may not require a certfied copy, but perhaps if you sent them a plain copy that would satisfy. Then the Census of 1790 shows that Duncan McVicker, Bedford County, Pa., had 3 females in his family in 1790, very corroborative fact. Then the resemblance or duplication of family names is very cumulative. If you had a certficate from the Adjutant General of New Jersey that there was only one Duncan McVicker who took part in the Revolution from or in New Jersey according to his records that would seem to be almost conclusive. The published sketch of John McBride says that Polly (Mary) McVicker was a native of New Jersey and that her father, Duncan McVicker, took part in the War of the Revolution.

JRM -> Mrs. Gifford [A00450-3]

A00450-3

-3-

I shall be very glad to get up all this record for you in the most advisable form. It seems a clear fact that they are now raising or have mentioned the most salient points of my research. But I have come to my conclusions and so can conscientiously state them, although some source of additional record may some time be found. When I state them I suppose that I will have to do so with the evidence that has convinced me in arriving at my conclusions.

I have come to regard the family traditions--what has been handed down by older members of a family--coming down from 50 or more years ago--as in itself entitled to great consideration. You have the family tradition as handed down by John McBride, and you are well entitled to your belief but you should support it not only by your own strong statement of belief but by as much evidence as possible. Tradition of this kind is in itself strong evidence. You can easily show your relationship to John McBride, but it occurs to me that if you can obtain a certificate from the Adjutant General of New Jersey that his records show but the one Duncan McVicker or only one Duncan McVicker in the service of the Revolution from New Jersey, then that ought to satisfy their strongest tests. If I had such a certficate I would send it to you. I do not believe that there was another Duncan McVicker in the Revolution from New Jersey because I had a research made for the records at Trenton, N.J., including those of the Adjutant General's office, and I think the lady who searched would have found another if there was one and would have placed the name on the record she sent me, but she sent only the name of Duncan McVicker who was my ancestor. But she did not say whether or not there may have been another, but I corresponded with her and I think she would have had another down in her notes and have mentioned it if there were one in the Revolution. So I have thought that to make the case the strongest it might be well to have a certificate that there was only one Duncan McVicker from New Jersey engaged in the Revolution according to the records of the Adjutant General. I do not know what he would charge for this, but it would seem that he would not charge much. Please see what Mr. Gifford thinks of this point and let me know also.

I have a copy of the Bible record ready to be certified and a copy of the monument record also ready to be certified, but it will take considerable time to get up a summary of the evidence and certficate in explanation of my conclusions as to Annie Laurie and Jean McConnell (and they seem to have these points ready to raise).

But I suppose that whatever we do, it would be well to send in all of what we have to submit at one time instead of piecemeal, unless you have reason to think that they will be satisfied with just certain things that are specific.

After submitting the matters to Mr. Gifford as to what he thinks they may now require, you can write and let me know and I will meantime be preparing and thinking about the form in which to get this record up.

I can certify:

1 The Bible record because I am custodian of the Book
2 The tombstone records because I not only have certfied copies but have seen and verfied them
3 Such record as I have that has convinced me--the evidence I have--but I am not quite sure how much of this is required--may be all I have and can give them since they too know or have mentioned the crucial points.

So I write you this interim letter and would enjoy having your advice and that of Mr. Gifford. Then we will d our best. With best regards for Mr. Gifford and yourself, I am, Sincerely yours,

JRM -> Mrs. Gifford [A00450-4]

A00450-4

-3-

(Mrs. W. H. Gifford)

I note that you ask my advice as to sending in my letters of Feb. 23 or of April 16, 1938, to the Registrar-General, N.S. D.A.R. with your papers, but for several reasons I would advise against your doing that. I would not send in those letters because—

1 They are not in as good form or as complete in texture nor as brief and convincing as I can make the report desired;

2 Being not specifically addressed to them they will not have the special weight which would likely be accorded a special report such as I have in mind;

3 Being not addressed to them especially they will not be as pleasing as I can write for the specific purpose;

4 There may be some suggestion or other in writing to you such as I remember of saying that they ought to accept your application which might come too gratuitously to suit their own ideas, and so they might take exception to something or other;

5 There may be some slight turn of expression showing inadequacy of evidence to my own mind but expressed to you and they might seize upon that to suggest a more thorough search in New Jersey or elsewhere;

6 We do not want them to think that we are continuing the search (although we are and each of I and another have had dragnets out so to speak and I wrote 7 more letters to New Jersey only last Sunday) but they might think we could find out something more whereas in fact we want to impress them with the throughness of the search already made—and I do not believe that eaither of the letters mentioned quite do that to the best advantage;

7 There are other things to say and in better form than that in which I have expressed my ideas in the letters more or less hatily written to you in a sort of conversational free for all manner not as well suited to the purpose in hand (and I can do it better).

There would by no means be any objection from this policy standpoint in your writing in your own letters to them anything that I may have said. You can say those things in your own way in your own letters and they would tend to help and not injure your cause because they expect you to have familiarity with the facts. But if you wish to use what reports I may make (and it may be necessary as they may require more and more) then it will be better I think for me to make specific formal reports for the purpose. But it will be all right for you to write them what I have written in any substance and in any words you may choose (or even in the same words I have used in the points made here and there) as long as they appear to be your own letters to them. They can only think from your letters that you have made a good deal of search and know your facts which they will like. But I advise against sending them the letters that I have sent to you.

I have a copy of the letter to you of Feb. 23 but I did not make a copy of the letter of April 16, so if you are called upon for further evidence as to any one the three names ascribed as wives you may return the letter of April 16 which may suggest to me something that I thought and can incorporate in the logic of the report which I will then make and I will later return that letter of April 16 to you. I have long thought that I would eventually need to make a good brief of the facts but am always thinking of possibly getting some more information in so have pursued a "watchful waiting" policy. But I can make one now from what I have, so please let me know promptly after you send in your next consignment of papers to them if they come back asking for such points to be further cleared up. They may not do so as your case will be better documented than what they have received heretofore I think. I have roughly b ocked out my certficates to Bible and tombstone record and [illegible] to Notary and send them on soon. Sincerely yours

Extract 'History of Caldwell & Livingston Co., MO' [A00451]

A 00451

The following is an extract taken verbatim from a publication the title page of which reads as follows:

"History of Caldwell and Livingston Countues,Missouri, written and compiled from the most authentic official sources, including a history of their Townships, Towns and Villages, together with a condensed history of Missouri; a reliable and detailed history of Caldwell and Livingston Counties- their pioneer record; resoruces, biographical sketches of prominent citizens; general and local statistics of great value,incidents and reminiscences."

"St.Louis: National Historical Company, 1886."

"Entered according to act of congress in the year,1885, by O.P.Williams & Company, in the office of the Librarian of Congress, at Washington.
St.Louis.Mo.; Press of Nixon-Jones Printing Co.,Becktold & Co., Book-Bindres."

(Page 292) John McBride. (Retired,Kingston)

".....Among the pioneers we can not fail to mention "Uncle John"McBride,as he is reverently called. Though a resident of this County less than thirty-five years,he has still been so prominently associated with its material progress and develpment, both in private and public life, that we feel it but just to number him among that honored few now living, who were brave enough to open the way for civilization. Uncle John was born in Hampshire County, Va.,June 21st.1802,his father being Thomas McBride,a native of Ireland, born in 1770,and who came to America in 1785. John's uncle,also John McBride, upon coming to this Country served for seven years as a brave and true soldier in the Revolutionary war. He settled in Hampshire County,Va., after his marriage to a German woman. Thomas McBride, a farmer by occupation, was married in Hampshire County in 1797 to Polly McVicker, a native of New Jersey. Her father, Duncan McVicker, also a native of Ireland, but of Scottish descent, took part in the war of the revolution. He was a Scotch Presbyterean of the old school type. Thomas McBride,after participating in the war of 1812, and returning home in 1815, disposed of his farm in Virginia in 1816 and the following year removed to Richland County, Ohio., where he died in 1824, his widow died in 1833, leaving five sons,viz: Alexander, John, Archibald, Duncan and Wilson- all born in Hampshire County, Va.- and two daughters, Nancy and Mary. The occupation of a farmer has been the calling to which John has devoted himself during life.

Upon his settlement in Richland County, Ohio, then a boy of 15,he grubbed five acres of land for his uncle, and also a like amount for his father. June 29,1826, he was married, Miss Sally McBride becoming his wife. She was born in York County, Pa., in 1806, her father having moved to Mansfield,O.,in 1823. They had the following named children:

John McBride - continued [A00452]

A00452 -2-

(John McBride--continued)

Thomas, now living near Kidder; Mary Jane, married in 1852 to William Brandt; Ann Maria, Widow of William Brown; Esther, now Mrs. Hopkins, married in 1866; Artemesia, at home; James and John, both of whom died while in the Union Army; their bodies are interred in the home cemetery. in 1851 Mr. John McBride came to this County and at once made it his permanent home. His carreer from an humble beginning in life to the present position which he occupies is one of honorable ascent and refelcts great credit upon him."
reflects

"Copied by T.G.McBride, 116 So Hamlin Ave, Chicago, Nov. 2, 1924."

This copy made from the T.G.McBride Copy by W.H.Gifford, Mansfield, Ohio.

W H Gifford
Mansfield
Ohio
777 Park Ave. West

Alexander McBride [A00453-1]

A00453-1

McBRIDE, ALEXANDER, farmer was born in Hampshire County, Va., April 11, 1798. His father's name was THOMAS McBRIDE; his mother's maiden name was MARY McVICKER. His father was a native of Ireland; he emigrated to the United States about the year 1785. His mother was of Scotch-Irish descent. Thomas McBride, after his marriage, resided in Hampshire Co. Va., till the spring of 1817. In the spring of 1816, he came to Ohio, and entered the south half of Sec. 15, in Monroe Township. The spring following, he removed his family to this farm, which at that time was a dense forest. He continued to reside on this farm as long as he lived. He raised a family of seven children, five sons and two daughters; their names in the order of their briths are Alexander, Agnes, John, Archibold, Duncan, Wilson and Mary. Alexander and John are the sole survivors of this family. Thomas McBride and wife were active members of the United Presbyterian Church for many years, and were much respected for their many virtues. He departed this life April 27, 1824, and was the first one buried in the Odd Fellows' Cemetery, near Lucas; he died in his 54th year. His wife died May 8, 1833, and was buried beside her husband; she was 60 years old when she died. Thomas McBride's brother, Alexander, who died May 15, 1825, in his 77th year, is interred in the same cemetery. The subject of this sketch being the eldest of his father's family, the burden of hard labor fell upon his shoulders. Being brought up in the woods, he withstood the dangers and endured all the hardships, toils and privations incident to pioneer life. He had but few facilities for acquiring knowledge, but he made good use of those few. He remained with his father, assisting him in improving and cultivating his farm, till the 17th of March, 1825, when he was united in marriage to Miss Ruth J., eldest daughter if Benhamin and Susannah Barnes, of Washington Township. Her mother's maiden name was Jones. Her parents were both born in Maryland, and were of English descent; they camt to the county at a very early day, and settled in Washington Township, on the farm now owned by the heirs of John Ford. Shortly after his marriage, Mr. McBride purchased 50 acres of land in Sec. 7, Monroe Township, which farm he improved and cultivated, and by dint of hard labor and rigid economy on the part of himself and wife, he was enabled to add piece by piece, until he had a farm consisting of 100 acres. He subsequently purchased 103 acres, situated in Secs. 7 and 19 of this township. Mr. and Mrs. McBride are the parents of eleven children. The names of those who survived the period of infancy, are as follows: Jackson, Thomas, Benjamin Franklin, Union, Susan M., John A., James J. and Wilson S. Jackson was married to Susan Douglas, by whom he had four children, two sons and two daughters, He was a teacher and farmer by occupation. He died April 28, 1859, and was buried with the honors of Odd Fellowship, in their cemetery near Lucas. John A. died Aug. 13, 1841, and is buried in the same cemetery. Thomas is one of the most prominent lawyers in this county. Mr. McBride, in his younger days, was a man of great energy, as also a man of more than ordinary intelligence. He took a very active part in the improvements that were then being made in his township and county. He was one of the leading men of that early day. He held the office of Justice of the Peace for nine years in his township. He also held several other township offices for several terms. At that early day, Uncle Sam was not as wealthy as he subsequently became. The coffers of the Township Treasurer of Monroe were empty. Orders had accumulated in the hands of her officers and there was no prospect of their being paid. A number of these officers (among whom was Mr. McBride) assembled at Lucas one day, to consult over this financial question.

Alexander McBride [A00453-2]

A00453-2 -2-

(McBride, Alexander—continued)

It was proposed by one of their numbers that John Iler should load their orders in his gun and shoot them away. This was accordinly done, and in this summary manner the township was freed from debt. Mr. McBride served as Township Clerk for eight years, and found his own stationery, without any compensation whatever. The ninth year he received a very inadequate remuneration for his services. He was a candidate the tenth year, but the office was then beginning to pay; he had competition, and was defeated. Mr. McBride united with the United Presbyterian Church at Mansfield, in the year 1841. He still retains his membership there, though of late years, he has not been able to attend, owing to his advanced age, and the distance to be traveled. About twenty-five years ago, Mrs. McBride united with the Lutheran Church at Lucas. About the year 1870, Mr. McBride sold his real estate, and made a distribution of his property among his children, reserving a portion for the support of himself and wife during their declining years. From that time till the present, they have resided with their children. For the last seven years they have lived with their son-in-law, Samuel Barr. Mr. McBride hauled the poles to make a shed to cover the bricks that were used in building the first brick church in Mansfield. This was about 1821. His father subscribed $50 and his mother $10 to the building of this church. He signed the prospectus for the first paper printed in the county. It was called the OLIVE, and was published by Robert Crosthwart. It was first published about the close of the year 1818, or the first of the year 1819. It subsequently changed names and propriectors several times, and finally passed into the hands of John Y. Glesner, who christened it the SHIELD and BANNER. Mr. McBride continued to take this paper till the year 1871. There is, perhaps, no man living in the county today, who came as early as Mr. McBride, who had attained man's estate when he came here. He and his good wife have shared the joys and sorrows of married life for a period of fifty-five years. He is 82 years old, quite hard of hearing, but intelligent for a man of his years. She is 73 years old, hale and hearty, and in full possession of her mental faculties.

The above sketch of Alexander McBride is found in the "History of Richland County, Ohio," compiled by A. A. Graham and published by A. A. Graham & Co. in 1880. The sketch is found on page 843. (From note by Florence McB. Gifford (Mrs. W. H. Gifford), 777 Park Avenue, West, Mansfield, Ohio, Jan. 27, 1937.)

Comparison of given names (McVicker/McCollum) [A00456]

A00456

COMPARISON OF GIVEN NAMES: McVICKER-McCOLLUM FAMILIES

I-McCOLLUM brothers and sister	II-Capt. Duncan McVicker's children
Alexa nder McCollum	Alexander McVicker (1773-1832)
John McCollum	John McVicker
James McCollum son, Daniel McCollum dau., Ma ry McCollum Brandon	James McVicker (1768-1852, Morgantown, Va.
Daniel McCollum	Daniel McVicker
Reuben McCollum	Duncan McVicker Jr. Joseph McVicker (1776-1841 or 51) David McVicker
Mary McCollum	Mary (Polly) McVicker McBride married 1797

of the above 6 McCollums there are thus parallel names in 5 given names of the supposed list of children of Duncan McVicker.

III-Joseph McVicker's (1776-1841) children, Joseph son of Capt.Duncan McVicker

James McVicker, died in Champaign Co., Ill., no dates known for him.

Daniel McVicker (drowned while tending Collins Ferry near Morgantown, Va., he was married, but no dates known for him)

David McVicker (died at home in Monongalia Co. Va., while young.

Aa ron McVicker (died in Ohio, place and dates for him unknown)

William McVicker (note also another Wm.McVicker in Federal Census of 1790 for Northampton Co., Pa.)
This William McVicker died in Henry Co., Ind., no dates yet secured for him as family Bible of family has been lost or misplaced,as reported.

Norvel Wilson McVicker, my father, 1827-1923, left Va. when about 14.

Mary (Polly) McVicker, married John Morgan, Monongalia C., 1828
Elizabeth Ann (Betsy) McVicker, ma rried Colmore Pope,Va.,1840 (1825-1902
Ja ne McVicker, married Tillman Wolverton, Ohio, dates unknown
Lucinda McVicker, married Corbly Garard in Ohio, moved to Iowa (1822-1891
Mariah McVicker, married Peter Fitz Randolph,Salem,(W.)Va.
Amelia (Millie) McVicker, married Josephus Protzman, Easton (W) Va.

IV-Mary McVicker McBride's children (she probably a daughter of Capt.Duncan McVicker and Nancy McCollum

John McBride
Alexander McBride
Archibald McBride
Wilson McBride (Norvel W.McVicker's middle name is Wilson)
Nancy McBride (named for her grandmother (?) Nancy McCollum (?)
Mary McBride (named for her mother, Mary (Polly) McVicker McBride

Duncan McBride (named for his grandfather, Duncan McVicker?)

Duncan McVicker [A00457-1]

A00457-1

Duncan McVicker (1739-1818)
1757 .....Came from Scotland with 3 brothers to N. J.
1777 .....Prior to Oct.1777 and subsequently served in Sussex County N.J. Militia and in the Revolutionary War. Official certificate shows that he was a Lieutenant; tradition from descendants of his sons James McVicker (1768-1852) and Alexander McVicker (1773-1832) says that he was a Captain under General George Washington, served at Valley Forge, and was a Paymaster in the Army. New Jersey records do not disclose this latter claimed service and it cannot be checked with Federal Government records due to loss of material records when the British burned the Capitol at Washington during the War of 1812.

Married (Whom?)

(1) Annie Laurie? Origin of claim is his great-great granddaughter Miss Ida R. Hamaker (great granddaughter of Alexander McVicker, by her research in New Jersey prior to her erection of the McVICKER-HAMAKER monument in the Cemetery at Schellsburg, Pa.

(2) Jean McConnell? Origin of claim is the Will of Thomas McConnell made on the 15th of January, 1777, (page 514 Record of Wills, Department of State, New Jersey), wherein he provides: "I give and "bequeath unto Susannah, my beloved wife, the use "and profits of the house and plantation on which "I now live upon, during her natural life, or long "as she remains my widow, upon the condition of "her maintaining my daughter Susannah who has not "the exercise of her reason, and also to bring up "my daughter Catherine." .....
"It is my will and I do hereby order after my wife's "decease that my plantation and moveable estate that "shall remain after her decease I give and bequeath "unto my sons, James, Andrew, Hugh and Robert and "my daughter Jean, the wife of Duncan McVicker and "my daughter Catherine and to their heirs and "assigns forever upon condition of their maintain-"ing my daughter Susannah equally between them as "long as she lives.

(3) Nancy McCollum? Origin of the claim is that of the descendants of James McVicker (1768-1852) who having arrived in Monongalia County, Virginia, about 1793 after having married Permelia McNamar from the South Branch of the Potomac and come via Brownsville, Pa., later on opened a tavern stand at Morgantown by 1800. He became quite a land-owner. His sons James Madison McVicker and George Washington McVicker evidently passed on the traditio that Duncan McVicker's wife was Nancy McCollum. This claim has gained historical footing in West Virginia, and is held by all descendants there, several of whom have stated it on joining the D.A.R. and S.A.R. W.Va. McCollums also corroborate.

Duncan McVicker [A00457-2]

A 00457-2

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Dunca n McVicker's Children:

James McVicker (1768-1852), settled at Morgantown, 1793
He is shown on the Militia Rolls of Bedford Co., Pa., 1789

Duncan McVicker, Jr., shown on the Militia Rolls of Bedford Co., Pa., 1789, and no other record or trace of him has been secured

John McVicker, shown on the Militia Rolls of Bedford Co., Pa., 1789; and Samuel Bolivar McVicker (1833-1914) and Capt. George Washington McVicker(1831-1912) both mentioned him to my Father and Brother (I have my brother Harry S.McVicker's notes) on the occasion of their visit to Morgantown in 1901, as being their ~~xxxxx~~ Father's Uncle in Bedford County, Pa.(that is James Madison McVicker's (1808-1899) uncle; from this I assume that he (John McVicker) remained in Bedford County.

The a bove three (James, Duncan Jr. and John McVicker together with a fourth name, Duncan McVicker, whom I assume to be the original and their father,are the only names listed in that Militia Roll of 1789, aand hence it is assumed that they are the only ones then of militia age.

Joseph McVicker (estimated, 1776-1841 or 1851 (I have a conflict as to the year of his death, my father, Norwel Wilson McVicker (1827-1923) saying it was when he was 14 years of age, and a grandson of Joseph McVicker] James Jackson Pope (1846-1919) saying in a letter which has recently been passed to me that the death of his grandfather, Joseph McVicker, occurred when he (James Jackson Pope) was about 5 years old (1851) and that he remembers seeing his grandfather, and that his grandfather was ~~xxxxx~~ about 75 years old when he died.
Joseph McVicker appears to have been a Constable in Bedford County (Sincla ir Township), Pa., in 1799, according to copy of a return made by him and which I ha ve in my records.
My Father went west into Ohio after Joseph McVicker's second marriage,in his early 'teens, hence the reason I consider the two dates 1841 and 1851 a conflict. I might have been able to clear this up with a specific question asked my Father had I done so in the past. In the notes made of his experiences and life by my sister and my recollections and impressions this date may have been inferred rather than stated.

Alexander McVicker (1773-1832), lived in Bedford County and there died. He founded a family of whom I have a good outline.

Daniel McVicker (dates unknown), but there is ample evidence he lived in Bedford County.

David McVicker (dates at present unknown), but there is evidence that he founded a family in Bedford County.
The tradition is that Duncan McVicker went from New Jersey to Bedford County, Pa., with his seven (7) sons, after the Revolution. The above named constitute the list of seven sons, as I believe. No record ever has appeared that Duncan McVicker's wife went with him from New Jersey to Bedford County, Pa., as far as I have found. No record sa ys whether he had then a wife or daughters, except THE FIRST CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES in 1790 shows the family of Dunca n McVicker in Bedford County, Pa., as having two (2) males over 16 (inclusive of the head), five (5) males under 16, and three (3) females.

Duncan McVicker [A00457-3]

A 00457-3 -3-

The Federal Census of 1790 shows also a DUNCAN McVICAR in Mifflin County, Pa., with one male over 16 (probably himself), none under 16, and three females. The name is spelled differently, but it is conjectured that this may have been the same person as Duncan McVicker Jr.

There being four (4) listed as of militia age in 1789 (probably including Capt. Duncan McVicker himself)(see list enclosed herewith), and there being five males listed as under 16 in the Federal Census of 1790 for Bedford County, there is some reason to conjecture that Duncan McVicker Jr. may have left his Father's home by 1790. This same Census of 1790 shows two males over 16 (probably including Capt. Duncan McVicker himself).

It is possible that one of the three females stated in this Federal Census of 1790 could have been the wife of Capt. Duncan McVicker, but Duncan McVicker's wife is not buried with him although the name Annie Laurie is given on the monument to him but no dates given thereon for her, and this monument seems to have been recently erected. No (1925) vestige of any tradition has been obtained about her from two branches of descendants from his sons, either that of Alexander McVicker or that of James McVicker. Dr. W. D. Hamaker (great great grandson) tells me that he does not think Annie Laurie is buried there and he agrees with my conjecture that she never came from New Jersey with Duncan McVicker. He never knew her by any other name than "Miss Laurie" and this name was ascribed as the name of the wife of Capt. Duncan McVicker and told to the Doctor by his sister. He says the source of her information as to the name was that of her own personal research in New Jersey. She herself erected that monument on which the name appears and had the name "Annie Laurie" inscribed thereon as the name of the wife of Capt. Duncan McVicker. It is significant that she had to go to New Jersey and research to find out the name, and that evidently there was no tradition in her family or among the other descendants from whom she could get the name of the wife. As Miss Ida R. Hamaker (the sister) is aged and infirm and now confined in a sanitarium, I cannot go back of this information to ask her the source of the information in her research in New Jersey. The song "Annie Laurie" was written in 1600 and has ever been a favorite of the Scotch.

Several weeks ago, Mrs. Florence McBride Gifford, of Mansfield, Ohio, and her husband, an attorney, stopped to see me en route for Florida, and inquired as to information about the daughters of Capt. Duncan McVicker. It seems that Mrs. McBride's great grandmother, Mary McVicker, who married Thomas McBride in Hampshire County, Virginia, in 1797, is buried near Mansfield, Ohio. Mrs. Florence McBride wishes to establish her descent from Capt. Duncan McVicker, and according to data her belief is entirely consistent. However, she has no information as to the name of the wife of Capt. Duncan McVicker. She had corresponded with me, having been referred by Mrs. Alberta Whidden (formerly McVicker), of 1009 Elmwood Ave., Wilmette, Illinois.

Four of the sons of Capt. Duncan McVicker bore the same given names as four of the McCollum Brothers: JAMES, JOHN, ALEXANDER, and DANIEL.

Compiled by James B. McVicker

http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mcvicker/