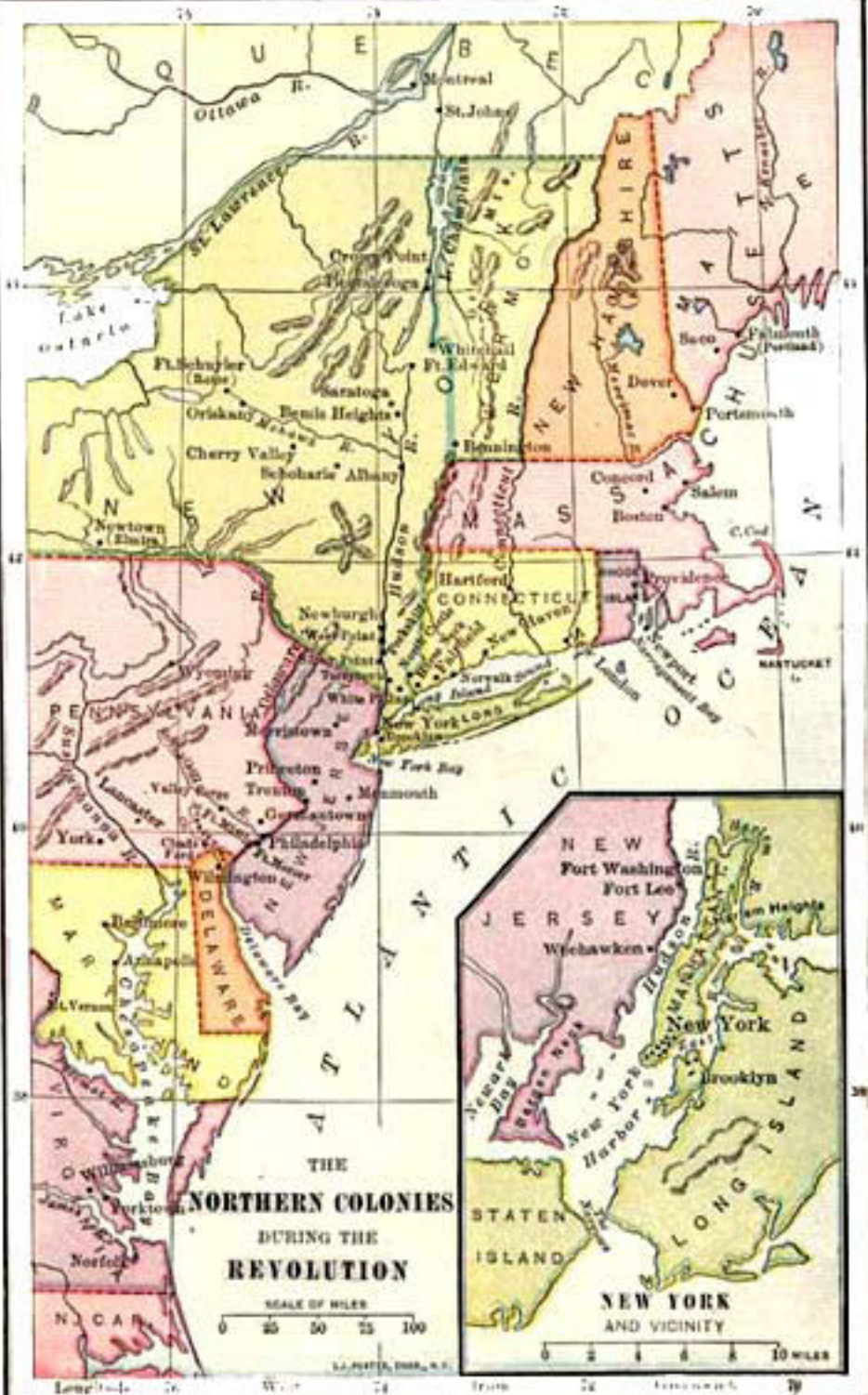


Abraham Hornback "A PATRIOT'S STORY"

Abraham served under General Washington. He enlisted at the age of fifteen years and was a Private in Captain Able Westfall's Co. 8th Virginia Regiment which was commanded by Colonel Abraham Bowman. His enlistment date was February 6, year not shown for a period of two years. His name first appears on Company payroll May 25, 1777 to April 20, 1777. He was detached July 1777 to Captain Knows Company, Colonel Daniel Morgan's Rifle Regiment, Continental Troops, and his name last appears on an undated payroll of a part of that Company covering that period for December 1777, January and part of February, 1778. This made his time of service a total of two and one half years at time of his discharge. He was paid off at Romney, County seat of Hampshire County, Virginia at which time he was a private.

"DAR Patriot Index, "Illinois State Archives Honor Roll", "NSDAR Report", "Illinois DAR Report", "History of Menard and Mason Counties, Illinois, published in 1874, page 729", State Historical Register Vol. 22, page 56. Rev. Soldiers of VA., Va. State Library Report Vol. 8, page 226. Pension record W10120 on file DAR Library. War Department Adj. Generals Office, Washington, D.C.", National Numbers - No. 296852 & 266889", "Revolutionary Soldiers buried in Menard County, Illinois", and "Selected Menard Co, Illinois Cemetery Inscriptions".



THE
NORTHERN COLONIES
DURING THE
REVOLUTION

SCALE OF MILES
0 25 50 75 100

S.A. POOTER, 1908, N.Y.

NEW YORK
AND VICINITY

SCALE OF MILES
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Abraham Hornback (1761-1833)

Elizabeth Trumbo (1773-1810)

Abraham Hornback — son of Simon Hornback and Margaret Alkire (see above) — was born on 21 October 1761 in Hampshire County, West Virginia. (See map above.) Abraham was Martha Hornback's grandfather, and he would play an important role in her life.

Abraham enlisted in the Army when he was about fifteen years of age, participating in the American Revolutionary War. He was a private in Captain Abel Westfall's company, 8th Virginia Regiment, commanded by Colonel Abraham Bowman. He enlisted on 6 Feb 1776 for two years. His name first appears on the company payroll covering the period from 25 May 1776 to 30 April 1777; he was detached in July, 1777, to Captain Knox's company, Colonel Daniel Morgan's Rifle Regiment, Continental Troops. His name last appears on an undated payroll of a part of that company covering the period for December 1777, January and part of February, 1778, showing time of service as two and one-half months as discharged. He was among the soldiers paid off at Romney, the county seat of Hampshire County, West Virginia.

Sometime after the close of the war, probably around 1784, Abraham accompanied his father and mother, Simon and

Margaret, to the new frontier — what would one day become Kentucky.

Abraham Hornback and Elizabeth Trumbo were married in Bourbon County, Kentucky, on 16 August 1791. Abraham was 30 years old, Elizabeth was 18. She had been born on 14 February 1773 in Moorefield, Hardy County, West Virginia, and was the daughter of Andrew Trumbo Sr. and Margaret Kate Harness. (See the Trumbos and the Harnesses.)

Abraham and Elizabeth were typical pioneers, moving from one county to another, raising tobacco and struggling for a living along the frontier. Their home was in the wilderness; the trip from Virginia to Kentucky was full of many dangers, and had to be made with oxen-drawn wagons and on horseback. The Hornbacks evidently drifted about for some time after arriving in Kentucky.

Nine children were born to Abraham and Elizabeth in Kentucky. They were:

- 1. •Margaret "Peggy" b. 6 Feb 1791. Married Asa Canterbury in 1808 or 1809 in Aberdeen, Brown, Ohio. d. 8 Jul 1857 in Cantrall, Sangamon, Illinois*
- 2. •Dorothy "Dollie" b. 14 Feb 1794 in Bourbon County, Kentucky. Married Walter D. Bracken on 28 Oct 1812 in Bath, KY. d. ABT 1818 at Bath, KY*
- 3. •John b. 3 Feb 1798 in Bourbon County, KY. Married Abigail Bracken in 1818 in Bath, KY. d. 2 Dec 1857 at Petersburg, Menard, Illinois*

4. •Jesse (aka Jefro) b. 5 Dec 1799 at Montgomery, KY. Married Elizabeth Bracken on 9 Dec 1823 in Bath, KY. d. ABT 1835.
5. •Martha "Patsy" b. 29 Nov 1801 in Montgomery, KY. Married Elisah Bradley on 2 Aug 1824 in Bath, KY. d. 10 Dec 1894 in Menard, IL.
6. •Mary Elizabeth "Polly" b. 28 Mar 1803
7. •Andrew Trumbo b. 28 Apr 1807 in Montgomery, KY. Married Mahala Powell on 17 Feb 1829 in Sangamon, IL. Second wife was Jemima Cuckmore. d. 30 Jun 1895 in Petersburg, Menard, IL.
8. •Tabitha b. 26 Sep 1808 in Montgomery, KY. Married John S. Rentfor on 29 Oct 1829 in Sangamon, IL. d. 27 Jan 1872 at Sigourney, Keokuk, IA.
9. •Elizabeth b. ABT 1810 d. at birth

10. *The hardships of frontier life and many pregnancies took its toll on Elizabeth, and she died at the age of 37 in September of 1810; it is possible that she died giving birth to a girl also named Elizabeth who also died. Abraham was left with eight children, ranging in age from two to nineteen. The oldest daughter, Peggy, had already married, but 15-year-old Dollie may have taken over some of her mother's duties – at least until her father remarried.*

11.

About a year after Elizabeth's death, Abraham Hornback married Elizabeth "Betsy" Mappen Bracken on 20 Sep 1811 in Bath Co, Kentucky. Betsy Mappen was the widow of Robert Bracken, who had been a good friend of Abraham's and had died on 29 Aug 1806. The Brackens had accompanied the

Hornbacks from Virginia to Kentucky. These two families remained close and three of Abraham's children from his first marriage would also marry into the Bracken family: His daughter, Dorothy, would marry Walter D. Bracken; his son John would marry Abigail "Abby" Bracken; and his son Jesse would marry Elizabeth Bracken.

By 1825, Kentucky was becoming more settled and the new Illinois territory was being opened for settlement. No doubt stories of the possibilities of the new district reached Abraham and his wife, and certainly Kentucky was becoming busier as more and more came to the area following the end of the Revolutionary War. In the fall of 1825, the Hornback/Bracken clans were packed and on their way. Their destination was Hannah Johnson's cabin at Indian Point, Illinois. [NOTE: No Indian Point, Illinois, can be found today. Sangamon County is the area where they settled and Menard County was eventually created from a portion of Sangamon County. The Hornback Cemetery was located in Menard County but did not become Menard County until 15 February 1839, after Abraham's death.]

They went in four horse-wagons and were thirty days on the road, reaching Indian Point on 22 Oct 1825. They used the wagons to carry their supplies and household goods, but the men, women and children either walked behind the wagons or rode horseback. Three of the oxen yokes used in the move remained in the possession of the family for many years.

The caravan was large because Indians — “who would come to get food and stay until they got it” — were still numerous. “The traveling party killed deer and other wildlife for food, once sighting 57 deer at once. Turkeys and wild geese were plentiful, too. They fought mosquitoes, gad flies, horse flies, and rattlesnakes. Horse flies were sometimes so thick that the stock could not stay on the prairies in the day time. After a drizzly, cloudy day, when the sun came out warm, a person could not ride three miles without killing a horse. The horses had to feed at night and the pioneers hunted them in the morning. The men always carried a stick while hunting the horses, and sometimes killed four or five rattlesnakes during the morning.”

“They had not a dollar with them, but would sometimes work for pay or for food. They husked corn and got two bushels for a day’s work. At that time, a cow would sell for \$7.00, a calf for a dollar. Pork was a cent a pound; corn was five cents a bushel. Butter was five cents a pound and eggs were four cents a dozen. Horses sold for \$30 or \$40, colts were \$6.”

The hardest year they experienced was 1830, the year of the deep snow. (See Past and present of Menard County, Illinois, page 24, for a description of this blizzard.) It started snowing between Christmas and New Years and they “never saw the sun nor the moon shine for 40 days and nights.” They brought their “cow, three eye sheep with lambs, a sow and eight pigs, into the house with them. The family subsisted on corn pounded in a mortar, or cooked in lye and mashed and made into bread. Their 18 x 20 cabin would have six inches of snow in it each

morning and all the hickory wood they could burn would not melt it off." Abraham was 69 years old, his youngest child, Tabitha, twenty-two years old and married the previous year. At this time, however, at least one of his daughters — his unmarried child Mary Elizabeth "Polly" — lived with him as well as her child, Martha (Abraham's granddaughter).



Abraham Hornback died in Menard County, Illinois, on 29 Jan 1833, just three years after that terrible winter; he was 72 years old. He was the first Hornback to be buried in the Hornback Cemetery. It is reported that Abraham had one time killed a deer in the timber where the Hornback Cemetery was eventually established and he stated that he wished to be buried

there. He apparently laid out the area before he died. "Graham and Center made the coffin for Abraham for \$18.00 and Dr. John Allen of New Salem was the attending physician; his fee amounted to \$22.00."

"Betsy" Mappen, Abraham's second wife, died on 13 Aug 1856, twenty-three years later. She is buried beside him. They are in the far southeast corner where two monuments bear their names. Hornback Cemetery, if it can still be found, is about five miles east of Petersburg, Illinois, one-half mile off State Route 123.



Collection des chefs de guerre des Mamelouks
Photogryphie des capitaines
Drouot, etc.



Intestate * Abraham Hornback

Abraham Hornback died intestate (without a will)

Affidavit of Decease- ElizabethHornback, Athens, Illinois swore that Abraham Hornback died intestate 25 January 1833.

Elizabeth Bracken, widow of Robert Bracken, Married as her second husband Abraham Hornback. Thomas Hornback son of Elizabeth and Robert Bracken died unmarried about 1824.

Administrators bond was signed by Elizabeth Hornback, John S. Alexander and John Hornback. Appraisers were Elijah Scott, Micheal Killion and Francis Rayburn.

Heirs in the estate: Elizabeth Hornback; Widow, Margaret Canterbury Hornback, John and Jesse Hornback, Martha Bradley (late Hornback), Mary Hornback, Andrew Hornback, Telitha Renfro (late Hornback), the heirs of Doritha Bracken, deceased: Elvira Montgomery (late Bracken), Sarah Powell (late Sarah Bracken; Oliver P. Bracken; and James Bracken.

Attending the sale on March 05, 1833 were: Micheal Killion, Levi W. Benson, Asa Canterbury, Henry Clark, James Hagan, Mrs. Elizabeth Hornback, Walter Turner, Jacob Hornback, John Bracken, Jesse Hornback, Andrew Hornback, Elijah Scott, Joseph Moore, John Renfro, James Fulton, Jacob Williams, Franceway Day, Jacob Killion, Nicholas Tice, Joseph Powel, Hiram Powel, Benjamin Pollard, John Armstrong, James Bracken, Miss Mary Hornback, William F. Berry, Alexander Trent, and Edmond D. Powel.