

FORWARD

There are but few things in ones lifetime in which he can take justifiable pride. Uppermost on the list, and really encompassing them all, is the humble pride of being the citizen of so great a nation, pride in one's accomplishments within the freedoms of that nation, and pride in one's family, that which is past, that which is present, and that which it may be. Beyond these pride is usually vain.

To be a member of a family whose roots are bedded so deeply in the history and development of America is a privilege. To have an opportunity of taking part in the continuation of that heritage is pleasant duty. To be able to see some of your days become an integral part of that heritage leads one to humbleness and among men he is most richly blessed.

To this end I attempt to re-write the history of the McAfee family, insomuch as I have knowledge; that others coming after may take humble pride in belonging to a family which has contributed and continues to contribute to its nation, to mankind and throughout it all contritely give all credit to Almighty God.

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Minister, ordained, of the Methodist Church

1962

MACFIE

House of Dreghorn

Crest badge a demi-lion

rampant, proper

Motto: Pro rege (For the King)

Ancient Gaelic name:

MacBubh-shithe



The Family Crest

THE MCAFEE FAMILY: Pioneers
Researched, written and edited
By Paul K. McAfee

The Name

Any name beginning with Mc, M'c or M' is derived from the Scot name-prefix "Mac," which freely translated from ancient gaelic tongues means "son of."

The name McAfee has gone through many changes, due to tongues, tonation, spelling and abbreviation. It began as MacDubh-shithe far back before clan times in Scotland. By the time the tartan clans were organized the name had become MacDuffie. Later it became Macfie, and in Scotland today there are family lines bearing this spelling of the name. It became MacPhee, also in Scotland. During the years of sojourn in Ireland the twisting of the Irish tongue caused it to become MacGuffie, in one line, and MacHaffee in another. It is from the latter spelling that the McAfees of today have their name, with a dropping of the "a," the "H," one "f" and the capitalizing of the remaining "A." The abbreviation or drift of the spelling took many hundred years altogether. But the name appears in America as early as 1759 in the form of McAfee.

The Early Line

Northern Scotland was once called Pictland. For three hundred years previous to 836 A.D., there was war, struggle for supremacy between the Picts, and the people of the south, the Scots.

About the year 836 A.D., Alpine, the last king of the Scots was killed in battle and his son, Kenneth MacAlpine (Son of Alpine) became the leader and a new era became marked in the annals of the history of Scotland. It was during the reign of Kenneth MacAlpine that the clan system began in Scotland.

MacAlpine (Gaelic MacAilpein) is not the name of any single clan, but rather a name covering a number of different clans. These clans were widely separated and had no connection with each other by direct blood-line, although many of them intermarried. The outstanding and great clans under the MacAlpine federation included the MacGregors, Grants, MacNabs, MacFies and others.

Thus the McAfee family can trace its origin as far back as 836 A.D. as members of the MacAlpine federation of clans, formed under Kenneth MacAlpine. It is quite possible that the blood of Alpine, King of Scots, who was killed in 836 A.D., might run in the veins of the McAfee people.

The MacFies or MacPhee clan became what is known as an "Island clan." The ancient home of the clan was the island of Colonsay, which lies off the coast of western Scotland. While the island is no longer under the clan, having been lost in a rebellion against England in 1623, it is still known by

its original name and can easily be found on a detailed map of Scotland.

The MacFies were a strong clan, large men and women, dark featured and dark eyed. It is thought that the early forebearers of the clan may have originated in Normandy, with some Spanish blood running in their veins. They were a brave people, hot-headed, and known as a "warrior clan." They were one of the early tartan clans, that is, one of the first clans to originate a family tartan, a cloth of distinctive weave and color worn as part of the clothing. There are two sets of the MacFie (McAfee) tartan known yet today. One is a black and white set of "hunting" tartan, and the other a red-checked set of "dress" tartan.

The early history of the MacFie clan is unknown. The earliest date any name appears on a State paper, is 1463, when a Donald MacDuffie signed or witnessed a charter at Dingwall. This was a charter of peace or truce, made with England, under Henry VI, over land rights in Southern Scotland.

The MacFie (McAfee) Clan: An Early Sketch

The MacFie clan was prominent in the history of western Highland Scotland, and Donald MacFie of Colonsay was one of the 12 important clan chiefs who met the Bishop of the Isles, representative of the King, at Iona, in 1609, when the statutes of Icolmkill were enacted. These statutes were for the purpose of abrogating, so far as the Lowlanders could, the ancient Celtic customary laws of the Lordship of the Isles. In other words, the chiefs signed and agreed to become Protestant in belief, by faith, and become responsible for the good order of their estates, and cease warring among themselves as clans.

In the year 1615, Malcolm MacFie joined Sir James MacDonald of Islay (another island clan chief), following his escape from the Castle of Edinburgh, where he had been held prisoner, as leader of a rebellion against the English king. This action brought the clan to the attention of the English king, as a rebellious clan, and from that time they were regarded as an outlaw clan. Malcolm was murdered in 1623 by the wiles of the Earl of Argyll.

From this time Colonsay seems to have been taken from the clan and went into the possession of the MacDonalds, and finally into the possession of the Earl of Argyll himself.

The MacFies were now a broken clan, without possession. When they were dispossessed for their rebellion against the English king, some of them followed the MacDonalds, and others settled in the Cameron country of Lochaber. Now a sept (family) rather than a full clan, they mingled with and served under these larger clans. They fought under the banner and tartan of the Cameron in the great battle of Colloden, 1745-46. Colloden was a battle in a rebellion largely concerned over English Catholic pressure against Presbyterian Scotland. During this battle, once again, this clan, now broken, but still war-like, was cited for its bravery and its loyalty to the cause, under duress and fire.

The McAfees

The father of our line of the family was John McAfee, Sr., (this spelling came after he lived in Ireland). John McAfee was born and reared in Scotland during the time of Cromwell. He was a member of the line of the MacFie clan which followed the MacDonald of Islay (MacDonald of the Islands). In 1650 all Scotland lay under the heel of Cromwell.

Presbyterian Scotland expected their covenanted king, Charles II, to respect and favor their legally established church, now that the fighting was again over and uneasy peace reigned. But it was not to be. By 1661 the Episcopacy (Church of England) was again declared the ruling faith for all under Charles II. This included Scotland.

The Covenanters (those who followed the Presbyterian beliefs of John Knox) arose once again in protest. Among these were the MacFies, one of them being our forefather, John McAfee, Sr. The rebellion against the king seethed again and the clans were committed. Finally in 1690 the Presbyterians won out and for the first time since 1653, the revolution was complete in church and state.

John McAfee, Sr., was a volatile leader of the Covenanters and aided in the protests, fighting with the MacDonalds of Islay against Charles II.

Being known as a leader in the rebellion, he was forced to flee Scotland in 1672, taking with him his family, to Northern Ireland. With the McAfees went many other clans, and septs, all under the same ban, declared outlaw by the English.

The McAfees Come to America

The following sketch was written by Mrs. Champ Clarke, a member of the McAfee clan.

"The Personality of Jane McAfee, nee McMichael"

At the Battle of the Boyne, fought in Ireland in the year 1690, there were two McAfees, father and son; namely John McAfee, Sr., and John McAfee, Jr., who fought under the banner of William, Prince of Orange. The son at that time was a lad of seventeen years and the father, John McAfee, Sr., was one of the seven brothers who took part in the same battle. John McAfee, Sr., and his son, were both born in Scotland, as was Elizabeth Montgomery, the wife of one and the mother of the other.

John McAfee, Sr., married Elizabeth Montgomery near Glasgow, Scotland, in 1682, and when their son, John was a young child they left Scotland and went to County Armagh in the Province of Ulster, Ireland, and arrived in time to be in the thick of the battle of the Boyne. Heaven knows how many other fights they had been in previous to this, but the Boyne is the first one recorded. It was King James II of England and his son-in-law, and nephew, William, Prince of Orange, that brought the battle to its conclusion. Thanks be unto God that giveth the victory; both of the John McAfees were spared; two hundred years later after the battle was fought, the descendants of the two John

McAfees have a family reunion at Old Providence Church, to celebrate the narrow escape they made, when their two ancestors at the Boyne, in 1690, met death and defied him to his face. If John McAfee, Jr., had been killed there would have been no McAfee Knob, no McAfee Gap, in the state of Virginia, no Mercer County, Kentucky, no Providence Church in the state of Kentucky. When we, the descendants of the two Johns think of that, it gives us (to quote from Uncle Remus) a mighty funny "feelin' in de naborhood of de gizzard."

John McAfee, Jr., survived the Battle of the Boyne and married Mary Rodgers. They had many sons and daughters, lovely and of good repute; but Mary Rodgers McAfee, who seemed to be of a discriminatory mind, selected her son James to be her favorite. After she had lived to eighty years of age, she left Ireland-- leaving all her family, to follow the fortunes of her son, James. James had married a red-headed girl with hazel eyes, named Jane McMichael, and with her, was off for America.

Jane, or Janet, McMichael, was a winsome personality. Her father, Malcolm McMichael, had been among the emigrants who came from Scotland to Ireland. He too had fought in the Battle of the Boyne. Janet, his eldest child, had married at 17, James McAfee, son of John, Jr., and grandson of John, Sr. Shortly after that event Malcolm McMichael had removed with his family to the new world and settled in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.

James McAfee, the husband of Jane, was the youngest child of John McAfee, Jr., and his wife, Mary Rodgers. John McAfee, Jr., had been gathered to his fathers, and his aged widow, Mary, lived with her son, and when Jamie, the apple of her eye, under the influence of his wife, went to America, his mother, over eighty years of age, went with him, leaving all her family behind. At that time James was 24 years old. He had with him his mother, his wife, and two children, James and Malcolm. Every effort was made to induce the aged mother to remain in Ireland, but in vain. She would not be separated from her son. So she crossed the ocean. The baby died on the voyage and was buried at sea; James, the older boy survived. With his brother George, later born in Pennsylvania, and another brother, Robert, born in Virginia, settled in Mercer County, Kentucky, and built the first Presbyterian Church in Kentucky.

The descendants of Jane McAfee have taken part in all the battles fought since the memorable one of 1690. Her sons, "The McAfee Company," figure prominently in all the histories of western adventure. Three of her sons, James, George and Robert, penetrated into the wilderness of Kentucky in May 1773. On October 10th of 1774 her sons took part in the battle of Mount Pleasant, under general Lewis, and her son John McAfee was killed.

In the Revolutionary War, another son, William, captain under General George Rogers Clarke, fell mortally wounded at Piqua, Ohio. His brothers put him in an Indian canoe and brought him down to a place now called Louisville, where he died. His wife, Rebecca Curry, a first cousin to him, and a sister to the wife of his brother George, met him there, with her two daughters, Mary and Margaret, and stayed with him until he died.

Jane McMichael, wife of James McAfee, of whom our text speaks, lost a son, Malcolm, crossing the ocean, lost a son John, at the battle of Mount Pleasant, Virginia, 1774, lost a son William, in

the Revolutionary War, 1776. Her grandsons, James, Robert and George fought in the war of 1812, and were all there at the battle of the Thames. In the Mexican War they stood up and were counted; and were in the thickest of the fight. In the Civil War, her descendants fought on both sides and made themselves felt. Thus we bring the descendants of Jane McAfee down to the year of our Lord, September, 1919."

John McAfee, the Patriarch

John McAfee, son of the Patriarch

James McAfee, 2nd son of John, Jr.

James McAfee, 2nd son of the above James.

John, son of the above James.

Samuel McAfee, 2nd son of the above John

James Douglas McAfee, oldest child of Samuel.

Samuel Oscar McAfee, 4th child of James Douglas.

The D.A.R. (Daughters of the American Revolution) Chapter of Lexington, Kentucky, is named for Jane McMichael McAfee.

The preceding sketch is valuable and no doubt authentic on most counts. However, there are a few discrepancies. If John McAfee, Sr., was married in 1682, then their son John was only eight years old when they went to Ireland, where the battle of the Boyne was being fought, 1690. It was due to pressure from Charles II, King of England, that they left Scotland, even though James II was the King who brought the fight to Ireland. These discrepancies could be due to faulty typing on the part of the original researcher or carelessness. However, the remainder of the sketch is clear and seems to be authentic. The following, another sketch, brings the dates into better focus, even though the same error regarding Charles II and James II, Kings of England persists.

The following sketch is taken from a small book, entitled "The McAfee Family", written and published by Hon. J.J. McAfee, who was born in Mercer County, Kentucky, Nov. 27, 1836, at Menkes Springs, near McAfee Station. He is the son of Robert and Ellen J. McAfee. He married Nellie Marshall on Feb. 13, 1871.

Historical: The geneology of the McAfee Family has been traced back to John McAfee, the Patriarch, who was born and reared in Scotland in the days of Chromwell. When the persecutions of James II were directed toward him on account of his religious convictions, he came under the ban. But the pride of his noble line rose in him triumphant, and with his wife, Elizabeth Montgomery McAfee, and his son, John, he fled to Ireland in 1672. The persecutions of James II drove nearly all the covenanters from Scotland into the north of Ireland. With the McAfees went

the Campbells, Montgomeries, McMichaels, McCouns and the Adams families, all related through marriage. They settled in Armagh County, in Ulster, near Oallan and the Ulster canal, 70 miles northwest of Dublin.

1. When John McAfee attained manhood he returned to Edinburgh and there won and wed Mary Rodgers. They had four sons--John, James, Malcolm and William--and six daughters. James McAfee is the one whose life history is under our consideration, for he was the father of the McAfee pioneers of Kentucky.

2. James McAfee was born Oct. 17, 1707, in Armagh County, Ireland, at the family homestead. In 1735 he married Jane McMichael, "the flower of Erin," even though the parent stock was transplanted from Scottish soil. We have meager information that in 1739 he proposed to his family to emigrate to America. Everything they possessed was converted into gold for investment in the new country. Then embarked from Belfast. The family group consisted of Mrs. John McAfee (mother of James, then 84 years old), James and his wife, Jane, and their three children, John, James and Malcolm. Malcolm died and was buried at sea almost within sight of the American shore. A few days later they landed at New Castle on the Delaware River. This occurred June 10, 1739.

James McAfee purchased a tract of land situated on what was then known as Octorora Creek, which, rising in the southeast part of Pennsylvania, drains Chester and Lancaster Counties, and enters the Susquehanna River near Fort Deposit. Here he made a home for his family, and it was here that his other children were born, George, Margaret, Robert, Mary, William and Samuel.

The dates of marriages and giving in marriage of these children and their descendants down to my father's generation, follows: This list is lineal, having been obtained from General Robert B. McAfee's private journal, much of which was taken from the journal of his father, Robert McAfee, the pioneer, and the first Commodore of three principal rivers of the West, and therefore is authentic. General Robert Breckenridge McAfee says that the McAfees undoubtedly descended from Normandy, and they were largely mixed with Spanish blood. Tradition bases this claim probably on the ground that they are large men and women, of commanding port and dignity, with black hair and eyes; and wherever they may appear, if not marked with these family characteristics, it is due to the predominant characteristics of some race into which they have married, dominating their own.

(Note: my recent research bears this out. The account of the MacFies, in the book Clans and Tartans of Scotland, by Robert Bain, page 176 shows the ancient line of the family.--P.K.M.)

(Note: In the same book, in an article entitled "Early History" it is noted that some of the early inhabitants of Scotland came there by way of Gaul. Gaul is what was, in early times, the area now known as France and Germany.--P.K.M.)

As far as the Chronicles guide us, no other McAfee than James, the father of the pioneers, crossed the ocean to find a home in the new world. All of that name, therefore, can trace their ancestry back to him.

(The line from which the present descendants of Samuel Oscar McAfee came, is typed double space.)

1. **John McAfee**, the Patriarch, born and reared in Scotland; married Elizabeth Montgomery, had one son, John.

2. **John McAfee**, son of above John, born in Scotland. After he was grown he returned to Scotland and won Mary Rodgers; they had four sons--John, James, Malcolm and William, and six daughters.

3. **James McAfee**, 2nd son of John above, born October 17, 1707; married Jane McMichael in 1735. Children born before sailing were John, James, and Malcolm. Malcolm died at sea. Born afterwards, in America, were George, Margaret, Robert, Mary, William, and Samuel. John, the oldest of James, was in Ireland, emigrating to America in childhood, killed at the ford of Raedy creek, near New River, Virginia, in 1768. He was unmarried.

4. **James**, second son of above James, was one of the pioneers of Kentucky. He was left in the wilderness of Kentucky, to guard the lands, in company with James McCoun, while Robert and his companions returned to Virginia. And James was the one who built a stone house for a fort which still stands in Mercer County, Kentucky, a monument to his memory. James married Nancy Clark, a kinswoman of General George Rogers Clark, and an excellent lady.

Their issue was as follows:

1. Mary McAfee, married David Wood.

2. **John McAfee**, married Margaret Ewing, daughter of Samuel Ewing, and granddaughter of the Samuel Ewing who married Margaret McMichael.

3. James died as a young man. Unmarried.

4. Elizabeth married William Davenport. No children.

5. Nancy married Alexander Buchannan. No children.

6. Margaret married John McKiney. No issue.

7. Thomas married Nancy Greathouse. No issue.

8. George died unmarried in 1804.

5. **John McAfee**, 2nd son of above James, married Margaret Ewing, 5 March 1798. There was the following issue:

1. James, born 5 March 1799.
2. **Samuel**, born 23 Dec. 1799.
3. Clarke, born 13 May 1801.
4. Kity, born 28 Aug. 1802.
5. John, born 27 Nov. 1803.
6. Hannah, born 28 Aug 1805.
7. Ann, born 16 Feb. 1809.
8. Catherine, born 29 March 1807.
9. Elizabeth, born 8 March 1812.
10. Mary, born 27 Feb. 1814.
11. Rebecca, born 12 Dec. 1815.

Margaret, mother of the above family, died 7 Sept. 1816. John, the father of the above died 19 Aug. 1821.

6. **Samuel**, 2nd child of the above John, was born 23 Dec. 1799. He married Jemima Augg at Lexington, Ky., in 1827, with the following issue:

1. **James Douglass McAfee**, born 3 Sept. 1828, married Almeda Austin, daughter of Captain Albert Ellsworth Austin.
 2. Thomas McAfee, married Millie Cleveland of Louisville, Ky.
 3. Mary McAfee, married a Mr. Froy.
7. **James Douglas McAfee**, married Almeda Austin and there were five children as follows:
1. Mary Jane, married Thomas Wilson.
 2. Philicy Anne, married Horace T. Bennett.
 3. Susan Jemima married James Polk Root. On the death

of Mr. Root, she married a Mr. William Martin.

4. **Samuel Oscar McAfee**, married Sarah Lucinda Brown.

5. Albert Ellsworth McAfee, married Flora Hughes.
(This is where your family line branches off from that of the author of this history.)

8. Samuel Oscar McAfee, 4th child of above James, married Sarah Lucinda Brown, 1878. He died 12 Jan. 1944. His wife died Sept. 11, 1947. Their issue was as follows:

1. Minnie, married Silas Allen.
2. Leslie, married James McDonald.
3. Claude, married Frankie McKlintock.
4. Ernest, married Nancy Elkins, Lula Jackson, Lina Akins.
5. Lawrence, married Mable Sherril.
6. Ona, married Jack Box.
7. Lottie, married Elmer Henderson.
8. Otis, married Lily Brown.
9. Evadna, married Bryan Weaver.
10. Ermal, married Ruby Speers.

VI. The Pioneer McAfees

(This is a continuation of the preceding sketch by J.J. McAfee.)

The seventh child of James of Ireland was Robert McAfee, the bold and intrepid pioneer and first Commodore of the Ohio, Mississippi and Kentucky Rivers. In 1767 he moved to North Carolina, but the next year moved back to Virginia. In 1770 he bought an additional tract of land. In 1771 the family council was held and it was decided that James, George, and Robert in company with James McCoun, Jr., and Samuel Adams, a cousin of James McCoun, would constitute a party to explore Kentucky. On reaching the Kanawha River, the constructed two canoes and descended the river, meeting Captain Bullitt's company and that of Hancock Taylor at the mouth of the same river,

promptly joining them. On the 22nd of June 1773, they arrived at the mouth of the Limestone, (now Maysville) and from the point Robert McAfee made his excursion through the contiguous country alone. He went up Limestone Creek and discovered the north fork of the Licking River, passed through the country now forming Mason County, and then went down the Licking River for some distance, veering northward through what is now Bracken county and on to the Ohio River. He made a bark canoe and launching it on the Ohio, he soon overtook his company at the mouth of the Licking River, where Covington now stands. McAfee's daring won the admiration of his companions, and by them he was given the title of "Commodore."

July 4th they visited Big Boone Lick, where they were interested and occupied themselves in making seats and tent poles from the enormous bones of the Mastodon found there in large numbers. At the mouth of the Kentucky River, Hancock Taylor and the McAfees resolved to ascend the river. They went as far as Drennon Creek, now in Henry County, and there parted. The McAfees and companions continued their journey along the course of that stream until they came to the site of Frankfort, the state capitol. The McAfees, McCouns and Adams surveyed the bottoms, embracing 600 acres in Franklin County. They continued their journey going up the Kentucky river to Liliard's spring, now in Anderson county, and thence to Landing Run, which stream flows into the Kentucky River, where Oregon is now located, north-east of Salvina, in Mercer county. From this point they crossed the country southwest to the place recently set down on the maps as "McAfee." Here they took up lands and built a station.

Providence was the name given this section by the pioneers because they knew that providence had guided them safely through their perilous journey, into a haven of security where they could till the soil and worship God after their own manner.

On July 31, 1773, the McAfees decided to return to Virginia, all except James and James McCour, who were to remain behind on their lands until the return of their comrades.

The war with Great Britain, in which all the McAfee clan united, hindered their return to Kentucky for two years. In 1775 they went back to Kentucky taking with them their families, household goods and livestock. They fortified themselves in their new homes, and that locality became known as McAfee Station, located on Salt River, (then called Crooked Creek) in Mercer County.

Robert McAfee devised a plan for a flat-boat for carrying on a commercial business between that point and New Orleans. The venture was very successful. Thus he was known as the "Commodore" on the Kentucky, Ohio, and Mississippi Rivers. He clung to the cherished title with a fondness that was childlike. As often as he drifted down to New Orleans with his merchandise he would walk back to McAfee Station, through country totally unknown to civilized people. He had a fine physique, six feet and two inches tall, and all the pluck and vim of his Scottish ancestry. Humphrey Marshall, in his history of Kentucky says of the McAfees:---

"---they were the first explorers of Kentucky and Salt Rivers; they traversed the Cumberland mountains where the white man never trod before; where frightful sterility denied subsistence to animal life; they trod for 14 days during which time they suffered incredible hunger and fatigue. The perseverance of these men merits imitation--they effected establishment which they maintained against the assaults of Indians, acquired rich lands and were independent livers, brave

soldiers, true men and respectable citizens."

Robert McAfee was killed by a Spaniard conspirator in 1797, in his own boat at New Orleans. His son, Robert B. McAfee, a general, made several unsuccessful attempts to recover the body of his father. He wanted to bury it at the old Providence burial ground, where four generations of his descendents were buried, near the spot where he first opened the forests and planted apple and peach seeds in 1775. This was the first fruit seed sown in Kentucky.

This ends the sketch by J.J.McAfee

In the year 1943, being interested in reading first hand about the adventures of Robert McAfee, I wrote to the Kentucky Historical Society and received the following reply:

(May 19, 1943)

Dear Mr. McAfee: The following sources for the McAfees of Mercer County, Ky, are available:

The Life and Times of Robert B. McAfee, and His Family and Connections, was published in the Register of the Kentucky Historical Society, beginning in the January number 1927, Vol. 25, and running through the September number, 1928, Vol. 26. These sketches are included in 8 numbers of the register, and would, we think, give you the information you desire on the McAfee family.

The History and Life and Progress of the First Settlement on Salt River, and the Establishment of the New Providence Church, by Robert B. McAfee, was also published in the Register, beginning in the Jan. number, 1931, Vol. 29, and running through the July number, 1931, Vol. 29. These sketches are included in 3 numbers of the Register, and would we think, give you the information you desire on the early settlement of Mercer County.

These numbers of the Register are available here, price \$1.00 each. These sketches by Robert B. McAfee are covered in 11 numbers of the Register....

Throughout my life I have been interested in the history of our country, and it was early that I began to encounter references to our family as pioneers. Following are some sketches, gleaned from old histories (and some recent ones) with references to the McAfee family.

Notes taken from the book Daniel Boone, a life history of the great hunter and scout. These notes concern the McAfee family.

Extract #1--but delays were dangerous. Already surveying parties were drifting down the Ohio, poking their noses into the tributary of Lick and Kentucky Rivers, making friends with the Indians, finding out where the best lands lay. The McAfee brothers, James and Robert, met two other explorers at the mouth of the Kanawha River, early in June 1773. They joined forces and traveled together. Presently they

met another led by James Harrod, also seeking land. By Mid-August the McAfees, on their way home overland, "met Boone, preparing to move his family to Kentucky with forty hunters and other individuals."

Extract #2--no one anticipated Indian trouble. Only the month before the McAfees had returned without any difficulties, except that of getting food. They had found the Shawnees and Delawares friendly enough....

Notes from an old history *entitled Our Western Border in Early Pioneer Times*.

...early in May 1781, McAfee's Station, in the neighborhood of Harrodsburg, was alarmed. On the morning of the 9th, Samuel McAfee, accompanied by another man, left the fort in order to visit a small plantation in the neighborhood, and at a distance of three hundred yards from the gates, they were fired upon by a party of Indians in ambush. The man who accompanied him instantly fell, and McAfee attempted to regain the fort. While running rapidly for that purpose, he found himself suddenly intercepted by an Indian, who, springing out of the canebrake, planted himself directly in McAfee's path. There was no time for compliments. Each glared at the other for an instant in silence, and both raising their rifles at the same moment, pulled the triggers together. The Indian's rifle snapped, while McAfee's ball passed through the Indian's brain. Having no time to reload his gun he sprang over the body of the Indian, and continued his flight to the gates of the fort.

When within one hundred yards of the gate, he was met by his two brothers, Robert and James, who at the report of the guns, had hurried out to the assistance of their brother. Samuel hastily informed them of their danger and exhorted them instantly to return. James readily complied, but Robert, deaf to all remonstrations, declared that he must have a view of the dead Indian. He ran on for that purpose, and having regaled himself with that spectacle, was hastily returning by the same path when he saw five or six Indians between him and the fort, evidently bent on taking him alive. All his activity and presence of mind were now put to the task. He ran rapidly from tree to tree, endeavoring to turn their flank and reach one of the gates, and after a variety of turns and doublings in the thick woods, he found himself pressed by only one Indian. McAfee, hastily throwing himself behind a fence, turned upon his pursuer, and compelled him to take shelter behind a tree.

Both stood still for a moment, McAfee having his gun cocked, and the sight fixed upon the tree; at the spot where he supposed the Indian would thrust out his head in order to have a view of his enemy. After waiting a little while he was gratified. The Indian slowly and cautiously raised a part of his head, and began to elevate his rifle. As soon as a part of the Indian presented itself McAfee fired, and the Indian fell. While turning, in order to continue his flight, he was fired upon by a party of six Indians, which compelled him again to seek shelter in the trees. But scarcely had he done so when from the opposite quarter he received fire from three more enemies, which made the bark fly around him and knocked up the dust about his feet. Thinking his post rather too hot for safety, he neglected all shelter and ran directly for the fort, which, in defiance of all opposition he reached in safety, to the joy of his brothers who despaired of his return...

In his book *Stories from the American Frontier*, Theodore Roosevelt, then President of the United States, mentions the McAfee family as a pioneer family, whose efforts aided immeasurably in the

opening of Kentucky and the great Northwest.

In a book published by the historian Dale Van Every, entitled *Forth To the Wilderness*, mention is made on page 326 of James McAfee and his company, who surveyed the Kentucky lands prior to the settlement of that country.

This ends the history of the family so far as the pioneer episode is concerned. Needless to say, the McAfee family has figured very largely and held a very important place in the opening up of the lands across the mountains from the eastern sea-board, and especially the state of Kentucky. They became a part of the history of our country by so doing, and their names take places on the rolls of those men and women of indomitable courage and will, who braved the wilderness and thus in a very large way gave to us and our generation a lasting heritage.

The Family of Samuel Oscar McAfee VII

Samuel Oscar McAfee was the direct descendant of that John McAfee (MacFie) Sr., who fought against the English in Scotland and who fled to Ireland with his wife and son John, in 1672.

We will bring the line down to the present time in the following manner:

James Douglas McAfee, born 3 Sept. 1828, son of Samuel and Jemima McAfee. Somewhere following the beginning of his married life, Samuel moved to Indiana. The son, James Douglas, was born near Erie, Indiana, and spent his early life there.

He married Almedia Austin, daughter of a Capt. Ellsworth Austin, and from this marriage there came five children, Mary Jane, Philicy Anne, Susan Jemima, Samuel Oscar and Albert Ellsworth.

He was a large man, six feet four inches in height with the muscular weight to go with it. He was dark haired and blue eyed and given to gentleness of expression. For much of his life he was a blacksmith in Leesville, Indiana. He was typically McAfee of the old line, in build and temperament. Sometime during the early life of Samuel Oscar, the mother died, and James Douglas married again, to one Iris Clark. Her temperament was such that those children still at home had much unhappiness under her rule.

Following is an item concerning James Douglas McAfee, taken from *The Standard*, a newspaper published at Bedford, Indiana, in the 1850's.

June 15, 1854

“The Postoffice Department has established an office six and one-half miles east of this place to be called Leatherwood Postoffice. Douglas McAfee, Esq., has been appointed Postmaster and will make an efficient officer. The necessities of the people in that vicinity have long demanded better mail facilities and we are glad to learn that they have been secured...”

Not too much is known about James Douglas, as he was not a writer and did not keep nor leave any journal or memoirs.

Samuel Oscar McAfee

Samuel Oscar McAfee was born 13 June 1856. He was the fourth child of James Douglas, and a great-great grandson of James McAfee who sailed from Ireland and settled in America in the year 1739.

He was born in the small community of Erie, Lawrence County, Indiana, where his father had a blacksmith shop and who later was the first postmaster of that district. Although held in hand by the firm hand of his father, Oscar was a real, red-blooded boy. Loving practical jokes and being an ardent swimmer, his pranks kept him in the community eyes, and his "playing hookey" to visit his favorite swimming holes, caused him to receive what he later described as "500 lickin's" by his school teacher, one Matthew Allen.

When Oscar was three years old, his mother Almedia (Austin) passed on. His father married again to one Iris Clark, but soon the husky spirit of Oscar clashed with the indomitable temper and will of his step-mother, thus causing the boy to begin seeking companionship away from home, earlier than was wont in those days.

During his early youth Oscar moved with his father to the little, but historical, town of Leesville, in what is now Guthrie township. At that time it was known as Flynn township. Here he spent the greater part of his youth. He became known throughout the district as a wrestler, even though he was only of average height and weight. He was also known as a great swimmer, having been reckoned as one of the few people able to swim the White River at the Tunnelton bridge, on his back. As time went on he became a good judge of horses, an excellent horseman, and adept at trading and selling of the animals, to his betterment in most instances.

In Leesville at this period was a family named Wilson. His sister, Mary Jane, married Thomas Wilson, an older brother in the family. Although of a good blood-line, the times and situation caused two of the sons in the family to become notorious as being untrustworthy and suspected of being bandits. These two boys and Oscar grew up together, played, swam and went hunting together. Later when suspicions became aroused against the Wilsons, Oscar ceased companionship with them, to the extent, that although they remained good friends, the Wilsons never asked him to participate in any of their escapades. Yet, as he often stated, there was one time when he might have joined them for the asking. But his blood was not the blood of banditry, and the knowledge of the ultimate outcome of such a life was clear to him.

When he was 21 years old Oscar wooed and won the heart and hand of a quiet mannered, beautiful red-haired Irish girl, Sarah Lucinda Brown. Little is known of her people other than that they came to Indiana from eastern Ohio. They were pioneer stock, and her father, Samuel Brown, settled a half-section of land near what is still known as the Dennison School, and immediately built a fine log house, and fenced his land with rail fence. Sarah was slight in build, sweet in manner, kind in every way, and a natural mother, as was proven by her presenting her husband with ten children.

For years after his marriage, Oscar worked as a timberman, hauling logs, selling and dealing in timber in nearly all branches of the business. He followed the harvest during the summer months, being away from home weeks on end. His marriage to the red-haired "Brown" girl brought him much solace in the way of posterity, for the ten children born to them were evenly divided, five boys and five girls. The babies came regularly every 2 years and sometimes the periods between them were shorter.

Always interested in politics and being a "red hot" Republican all his life, Oscar figured largely in the county and township elections. He served as township assessor for two periods. The commissioners records in Lawrence County Courthouse show that he was elected assessor of Guthrie township Nov. 7, 1914, and Nov. 5, 1918. He often stated that he had walked and rode horseback the entire length and breadth of the township two-hundred times.

During his later years, Oscar lived on a small farm situated well off the beaten highways, half-way between Leesville and Dennison Schoolhouse, on what was known as the Mitchell McClintock farm. Here he grew produce in truck patches and sold timber off his scant 16 acres, to bring in the "cash money" needed.

He was a small man, active, prematurely gray, with a little white mustache. His eyes were blue and sharp; later life left him nearly blind, but he scored the use of "specks."

He was known throughout the country as a good neighbor, an honest citizen, a kind-hearted person (although with a quick temper) and a good provider. With the hardy aid of his wife, he kept the table well stocked and the cellar shelves amply provided.

In 1939 they left the small farm and made their home at Bedford, Indiana, where many of their children and grand-children resided.

Of the ten children blessing their union all reached maturity. It was not until 1922 that the hand of death touched the brothers and sisters. In that year their fourth youngest child, Lettie Alice, died, leaving two children. In 1942 their daughter, Leslie, their second child, passed away. Since then death has claimed two sons, Claude and Ernest. Six children live at the time of this writing, one of whom is Minnie, the eldest daughter of the union of Oscar and Sarah.

Besides their own children, they cared for many of their grandchildren. In 1919 they took the baby of their son Ernest to raise. This child (the writer of this history) remained with them until 1938, when he left to seek employment in Indianapolis.

Their home was a place of constant visitation for the children and their neighbors. These two people knew hardship. They knew love and laughter--and they knew sorrow. Their lives were full of the well-being of individuals who lived long and served a community to the best of their ability. Now that their lives are in the hands of the Almighty, they are remembered as having been cheerful, loving their children, appreciative of their friends.

They were neither of them particularly religious through their early life. Nevertheless, they held to the standard of loving their neighbor. Their names did not appear on any church roll, or roster of

any mission, but their lives were examples of goodness and mercy. Later, before they died, each of them received the blessings of God moving into their lives, saving them for eternity.

Samuel Oscar died at the age of 86, 12 Feb. 1944. He was buried at Leesville Cemetary, not far from the grave of his daughter, Lottie. Sarah Lucinda survived him four years and passed away 11 Sept., 1948, in the home of her daughter-in-law, Nancy (McAfee) Norwood, first wife of her son Ernest. She was laid to rest beside her husband in Leesville Cemetary, near the Leesville Methodist Church.

There were ten children, five boys and five girls, born to the union of Samuel Oscar and Sarah Lucinda McAfee. All were reared to manhood and womanhood before they died. Following is a list of the children and whom they married, and their children.

The Issue of Samuel Oscar McAfee and Sarah Lucinda McAfee

Minnie--married Silas Allen

Gladys--married Ethel Speer

Harold

Wanda

Louie--married Oval Whitted

Gladys

Gerald Dean

Mildren--married Harley Umphress

James Edward

Roberta

Wilma Belle

Opal Lee

Evadna--married Bryan Weaver

Fern

Wilma

Edward Lee

Ermal--married Ruby Speers

Ina Louise

Margaret

(Having been away from the sources of information on the cousins, I admit to having many vacancies in the immediate family record. Those receiving their copy of this history will need to fill in where I have failed to enter names, marriages, deaths, etc. Any correspondence from those making additions and corrections, will be deeply appreciated.)

This brings to a close the history of the McAfee Clan, in so far as I am able to trace it. Copies of this writing will be given to those of the children of Samuel Oscar and Sarah L. McAfee still living, and to the descendants of the others, so they may in turn extend this history to include all their family and descendants. None of this material is copyrighted, therefore anyone with patience can sit down and reproduce their own copy, and bring it up to date for their own particular family branch or line.

There is a great heritage contained herein. From the time of the Scottish uprisings to this present writing, members of this family have made their mark on nation, state and community. From the French and Indian War through Korea, and perhaps at this moment in Vietnam, McAfee men have stood up and were counted and are still so doing. A son of Samuel Oscar, Otis, served in WWI, a large number of grandsons served in WWII; one grandson is making a career in the Army as a chaplain; at this writing E. Lee Weaver, son of Evadna, is serving on the lines in Korea, two great-grandsons, Charles and Earl, sons of Paul, are serving in the navy and in the airborne. Those having the name and lineage of the McAfee family can be justifiably proud of their heritage. It is left to them to carry this heritage, this trust into the future, extending its greatness and wonder into the limitless future of unknown years. Let all who carry this blood and this name do so with honor and humility.

Paul K. McAfee

Chaplain (Major) USA

Albert Ellsworth McAfee

Albert McAfee was born in Leesville, Indiana in 1858. He married Flora Addie Hughes and came to California in 1885 (?). Flora died in 1938 and Albert died June 11, 1947.

Albert was nearly deaf as he got older and had an "ear trumpet," the precursor of a hearing aid. He would miss a lot of what people had to say, but if they mentioned a drink it seems he never missed what they said. He apparently had a little bit of a mean streak. James Volney Sr. ran away from home when his father killed his banty chickens.

James Volney McAfee Sr.

James Volney was born Jan. 21, 1882 in Leesville, Indiana. He ran away from home at 17 years of age because his father killed his banty chickens. He got a job on a steamship line and learned to cook with a flare. He next worked at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York. He designed their bar and learned to make exotic drinks there. When his family saw him again he had a bull dog, a fancy walking stick, and a big diamond ring.

He started a restaurant with his mother. While engaged in running this venture he met his wife to be who also worked in the restaurant. Katharine was on her own at 13--her father was an alcoholic and her mother died early. She got a job at the restaurant. At 16 she married the 38 year old James and they had five children: James V. Jr., Edward, Robert Owen, Maurice, and Margaret.

James was a great storyteller and showman. People drew to him like a magnet. A room would light up when he entered. He entertained many celebrities at this restaurant.

He owned the National Hotel in Point Richmond, California. During the great depression he bought the Hotel Mac which became a landmark of the Point Richmond area for years to come.

After WWII James ran the Country Club Restaurant in Mira Vista. He later became involved in a venture in San Francisco in which he lost a good deal of money. We need to carefully evaluate the character of those we become involved in business ventures with.

James Volney McAfee Jr.

James Volney Jr. worked with his mother taking care of the hotel (making beds and cleaning spittoons) as well as taking care of the younger children in the family. He met a young lady named Lucille McIntosh when she was 14. Lucille's best friend had married his brother Bob and she wanted Lucille in the family. James took Lucille to a union meeting the first time they met. She felt he was a crusty character. She had been talking to a handsome young bookkeeper when James came up, pulled a chair between the two, and turned his back to the bookkeeper. He knew what he wanted.

On their second date they went to a cheap theater. James had no money and no car. They had to walk to the theater and he bought a bag of popcorn to share with his date.

At this time WWII began and James wrote to Lucille for three years. She happily dated other men while he was away. When he returned he pursued her with a vengeance and they were married within a short period of time. They had three children: James W., Larry Douglas, and Kharlyn.

James worked for Phillips Petroleum for many years. Lucille began a business with Neo-Life which eventually evolved into GNLD. Lucille and James were International Leaders in the company for many years. They began their business in Lafayette, California, but moved to Auburn in 1985.

The McAfee Family Tree

(The * designates the direct line of descent.)

John McAfee (MacFie) married Elizabeth Montgomery, to Ireland in 1672.

John McAfee (son) married Mary Rodgers (1688)

John

*James

Malcolm

William

six daughters

***James married Jane McMichael-- to America in 1739**

John

*James

Malcolm

George

Margaret

Robert

William

Mary

Samuel

***James married Nancy Clarke (kin to George Rogers Clark)**

Mary

*John

James

Elizabeth

Nancy

Margaret

Thomas

George

***John Married Peggy Ewing**

James

*Samuel

Clark

Katy

John

Hannah

Ann

Catharine

Elizabeth

Mary

Rebecca

***Samuel married Jemima Augg**

*James Douglas

Thomas

Mary

James Douglas married Almeda Austin

Mary Jane

Philicy Anne

Susan Jemima

Samuel Oscar

*Albert Ellsworth

Albert Ellsworth married Flora Addie Hughes

*James Volney

Arthur Paul

Myrtle Alice

Florence Lorena

Lucy Mae

Edna Alberta

Maud Lillian

Kathryn

James Volney McAfee Sr. married Kathryn Chabhouillard

*James V. McAfee Jr.

Edward married Caroline Church

Michael Allen

John Gregory

Second wife Hazel.

Robert Owen married Ann Thomas. Second wife Kay.

Lynn Susan born in Berkley Sept. 24, 1947.

Maurice married Ruby Winters

Timothy Eugene

Lu Ann

Margaret married Ralph Gustin

Ralph

Nancy Gale

Lisa Joan

Roger

James V. McAfee Jr. married Lucille McIntosh

James Wallace

*Larry

Kharlyn married Stephen Brocker

Stephen Brocker

David Brocker

John Brocker

James Brocker (Died in infancy)

Anna Marie Brocker

Micah Brocker

Larry McAfee married Johanna

Danielle

Philip Raphael Pascal McAfee

Danielle married Lem James

Joshua

Pierce

Caleb

Philip Married Alison

Judah Mark McAfee (June 7, 2006)

Jane McMichael McAfee

Written by: Jenny Tenlen

All of the women in my family are pioneers in one way or another. My paternal grandmother fled Norway during World War II, to escape Hitler's troops. My maternal great-grandmother left Ireland with her mother and siblings to seek a better life in the United States. However, my sixth-great-grandmother, Jane McMichael McAfee, epitomizes the spirit of the pioneer woman. One of the thousands of women who traveled from Ireland to the United States during the colonial period, she joined her husband in seeking a better life for her family.

One of Jane's grandsons, Robert Breckenridge McAfee (son of Robert McAfee and Anne McCoun) wrote "The Life and Times of Robert B. McAfee and His Family and Connections" in April, 1845 (and was later reprinted in the Register of the Kentucky State Historical Society in January, 1927). Much of what is known about the emigration of the McAfees to the U.S. comes from Robert B. McAfee's account.

Jane McMichael was born in 1710 in Co. Armagh, in the province of Ulster in northern Ireland. Her father was Malcolm McMichael, year of birth unknown. Her mother's name is not known. In 1735, in Co. Armagh, she was married to James McAfee (born Oct. 17, 1707 in Co. Armagh), son of John McAfee Jr. and Mary Rodgers. The McAfees and McMichaels were Presbyterians, and probably came from the same area of Scotland as other allied families, including the Campbells, Currys, and McCouns. These families moved to Ireland in the 1670s under threat of persecutions by King James II against sects of Presbyterians. At the time, Northern Ireland was offering generous land grants. These families were loyal to the Protestant William of Orange (later King William III) during the Battle of Boyne in 1690.

The first child of James and Jane, James McAfee Jr., was born in Co. Armagh in 1736. Two more sons followed - John (b. 1737) and Malcolm (b. in late 1738 or early 1739). Around this time, many land-poor Presbyterian families were emigrating to the United States for the promise of ample land and religious freedom. In the spring of 1739, James, Jane and their three young sons sailed from Belfast, Ireland, to the American colonies. In early June, 1739, their son Malcolm died, and was buried at sea, "which was a severe blow to his mother so soon after entering into a strange and new land" (from Robert B. McAfee). It is possible that their first daughter, unnamed, was born and died during the voyage. They landed at New Castle on the Delaware River on June 10, 1739, and soon after James McAfee settled on land along Octorara Creek in Lancaster Co., Pennsylvania. Information sent to me by Bonnie Valko describes this tract: "From the History of Lancaster County is an old deed, copied down by Egle in his 'Notes and Queries': James McAfee, Jan. 26, 1742, 150 acres, improved in 1739; in Little Britain, immediately at Oak Hill, and south and west of it, 221 acres and allowances, now owned by Thomas Furniss, Wilson Hill, and others."

Robert B. McAfee says of their years in Lancaster Co.: "His [James McAfee's] resources being limited his wife and himself were compelled to follow weaving for their support reserving his small stock of money to purchase land which he accomplished that fall in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania on Octorara creek where he purchased one hundred acres of land, and went to work to clear and cultivate it, here by industry and close economy he maintained his family in equal standing with his neighbors, who were very kind to them."

While in Lancaster Co., six more children were born: George (b. April 5, 1740); Mary (b. 1742); Robert (b. July 10, 1745); Margaret (b. 1747), Samuel (b. Oct., 1748) and William (b. 1750). In 1746, Jane's father, Malcolm McMichael, arrived with five other daughters and a son: Anne, Elizabeth, Margaret, Mary, Sarah and Daniel. Malcolm settled near James and Jane, on land which was described as follows: "Malcolm McMichael, on a warrant dated March 29, 1759, for 50 acres, had 180 acres surveyed to the east of Oak Hill and immediately adjoining it, 'situated in the barrens, about a mile northwest of Octorara Creek.' 'This tract is thin land, and scarce of wood and water.' Such are the remarks indorsed on the survey. The land now seems as good as any in the neighborhood, and heavy timber has been out from it. It changed hands early, became the property of William Gibson, who held it many years with little improvement, and at his death it was disposed of in order to settle his estate. It now belongs to David Christie, heirs of Nathan Haines, deceased, heirs of William Hilton, deceased, and others." (Egle's History of Lancaster Co., Little Britain Township, sent via Bonnie Valko).

James McAfee appeared to have wanderlust, as in the early 1750s, he moved his family from Lancaster Co. to Augusta Co., Virginia, settling along Catawba Creek. Robert B. McAfee gives the following reasons for the move: "His children were all born at his residence on Octorara Creek, where having six sons besides Malcolm who died on his way to North America, and three daughters, his little farm was not sufficient to keep them all employed, he began to look around him where he could get more land and more room, about 1752 he sold his land and removed to a place on the Conococheague in the west of Pennsylvania, where he remained one year, and in 1753 he moved across Virginia into North Carolina, where he did not remain more than two years, when he moved back to Virginia, where he bought land and settled on the Cataba River." I keep thinking about how Jane handled these moves, so soon after being reunited with her father and siblings, and with a large family to look after.

The McAfee sons seem to have inherited their father's fondness for wide-open land. Between 1773 and 1776, four of the sons - James, Robert, George and Samuel, as well as kinsmen from the Adams and McCoun families, formed the McAfee company. Their mission is described here:

Source: Rice, Otis K. Frontier Kentucky. Lexington: the University Press of Kentucky. 1975.

"On July 7 [1773], the McAfee brothers, James McCoun, and Samuel Adams, accompanied by Hancock Taylor and two of his assistants, left the base at Big Bone Lick and for nearly four weeks selected and surveyed tracts in central Kentucky, apparently in the hope of acquiring them under legal provisions for settlement rights. During their explorations they followed the Kentucky River to the salt lick at Drennon's Creek, made surveys near Frankfort in the vicinity of the first Kentucky state capitol, and examined much of the region between present Lawrenceburg and Harrodsburg. By July 31 they had laid off twenty-three separate tracts, mostly in the canelands on Slat River, and in some cases had made small improvements in the form of crude cabins, lean-tos, or simple brush clearings.

"On July 31 McAfee's men left Taylor near Harrodsburg and started homeward. Traveling by

way of the Kentucky River, they crossed the Pine and Cumberland Mountains (p.51) and on August 15 reached the settlements on the Clinch River. There they visited William Russell at 'Castlewood', where they found Russell laying plans to lead an immigrant party to Kentucky, with Daniel Boone as guide." (p. 48-49).

"Although most of the men in Kentucky in the spring and summer of 1775 were evidently members of surveying groups, permanent settlers also made their appearance. The first of the latter to reach central Kentucky in that year were led by James and Robert McAfee. Leaving the Holston county with their brothers, Samuel and William, David Adams, Samuel McGee, and their servants, Sever Poulson and John Higgins, they reached Boiling Spring on Salt River on March 11 and began to make improvements on lands surveyed by James and Robert in 1773. The claims of the McAfees were less than a mile from Harrodsburg, where log houses built in 1774 by James Harrod and his companions were still standing.

"Harrod, too, was among those who returned to Kentucky. Traveling down the Ohio with forty-two men, many of whom had been with him the proceeding summer, he again ascended the Kentucky River and reached Harrodsburg about the middle of March. He and his associates had hardly set foot on the soil of their town before they were met by the McAfee brothers, who angrily charged Harrod with failure to respect the surveys made by the McAfees in 1773. Fortunately, the two parties resolved their differences without undue difficulty." (p. 72-73).

In 1778-1779, the McAfee brothers returned to Virginia to pack up their families and head back to central Kentucky. James McAfee Sr. chose not to make the trip to Kentucky. This decision was understandable, as he was about 72 years old at the time. He moved into the home of his granddaughter Mary (McAfee) Woods, eldest daughter of James McAfee Jr., who had stayed behind with her husband, David Woods. Here, in Botetourt Co., Virginia, James McAfee Sr. died in 1785.

What is remarkable is that Jane McMichael McAfee chose to follow her children to Kentucky, instead of remaining in Virginia with her husband. It is not known why she made this decision, but it was a courageous one, given her age and the harsh conditions of the first winter spent in McAfee Station. She lived in the home of her eldest son, James McAfee Jr. (which home still stands outside Harrodsburg, Kentucky) until her death in 1783.

Robert B. McAfee described his grandmother as follows: "My grandmother, Jane McMichael, was a woman about middle size, tall, mild and dignified, with a remarkably fine face and open prominent forehead, indicative of great goodness of heart sensitive feelings, with dark gray eyes and black hair. Her mild, decided and conciliatory looks could always silence the old man when in a passion." [It should be noted that Robert B. McAfee never met his grandmother - he was born in Feb., 1784, nearly a year after her death.]

In her 73 years, Jane McMichael McAfee traveled thousands of miles, both by land and sea. She gave birth to nine children, losing one in infancy, and another to the Indian Wars. She made a home for her family wherever her husband settled them, and then left her husband to make a home with her children and grandchildren. It seems fitting that the Harrodsburg Chapter of the D.A.R. is named for her.

At New Providence Presbyterian Church Cemetery (which was established by James and Jane's son, Samuel), a monument was erected for Jane McMichael McAfee:

"In memory of Jane McAfee, the mother of pioneer men of Kentucky, who by the side of her five sons was among the first to cross the Cumberslands in 1779. This stone erected by her descendants and the Jane McAfee Chapter of the D.A.R." (See a [photo of the monument](#) taken by Pete McAfee.)

McAfee Station Historic Marker



This photo was taken by Pete McAfee and is posted here with his permission. This plaque is located on the wall of the house by the front door of the James Jr's house at McAFEE Station. You should be able to spot it in the house photo. The Knights were the owners of the McAfee home at the time the plaque was posted (1936, I believe).

Family Tartan

