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## CHAPTER SEVEN

(Virginia - Kentucky - Southern Indiana - Shelby County, Indiana - South Carolina)

### GEORGE McNEELY OF VIRGINIA

(Possible father of David, Robert and Martha)

George is listed as born 1679 in Antrim, Ireland. He is posted on several listings on the internet. He is listed by LDS, World Connect Roots Web and some researchers as migrating to the United States in the early 1700's. There is confusion on George's wife, many have Sarah Rutledge as his wife, but Sarah is also listed as wife of a later George. It is possible that there were two Sarah Rutledge's. Sources of information are: "Charles Wesley Smith's Rootsweb GEDCOM" and *Compendium of American Genealogy* by F.A. Virkus, 1937, Vol. vi, pg 349 and Vol V, page 711. He arrived America around 1732. We can not be certain of George's descendants except Martha but there are several different lists with basically same information. Compiling the lists we find Robert, David W/Sr.. and Martha as possible children.

Information on George is limited. Confirmed documentation is absent on the information that has been found. However since he is listed it seems evident that he did exist. "The Compendium of American Genealogy", by Frederick Virkus, Volume VI 1937 list George McNeely born in Ireland with daughter Martha who married John Dickey. Virkus does not give source for listing. Dorothy Elliot has David W. listed as son. David Sr. is listed on census etc., we believe this to be the same individual, the Mc looks like a W in the early land documents of David so it is possible the W derived from them. Dorothy states her information has been gleaned from many books and other people's records. Her family listing is accurate where documentation is available, therefore her listing is probable but not supported by absolute documentation. The marriage of Martha gives support to this speculation of family connection, she was married to John Dickey in Alberdale, Augusta County, VA in 1736 according to Augusta County records. There is land records documenting that John Dickey was in Abermarle County, VA during same time period as Robert McNeely. Robert's family and location confirmed. Apparently Martha arrived in VA as a single lady. Since ladies rarely migrated outside of a family unit it would seem that the listing of Virkus having Martha as daughter of George has support. It is highly probable that Dickey's, McNeely's, probably Woods, Rutledge and Wallace as well, were in the same migratory group. We speculate they arrived Pennsylvania around 1732 and moved on to Virginia. Heavy migration of Scotch-Irish, Welsh, and Germans from Pennsylvania into Virginia began about 1730. Augusta County became the haven for Scotch-Irish Presbyterians. Woods family received land patents prior to the others, they became a predominant family in Albemarle County. John Dickey (husband of Martha McNeely) received land patent 1747 in Albemarle County, VA, Robert McNeely 1756 in Albemarle County, VA, David McNeely 1761 in Augusta County. David purchased items from a sale in Augusta County, VA in 1759 and was in the Augusta County Militia in 1756. David's land was in Northern Augusta County on the Western side of the mountains, Robert's land in Albemarle County on the Eastern side of the mountains, the maps indicate there was a gap through the mountains in this area which appears to make these land holdings in the same general area. Hence Martha, David, Robert, Andrew, John and Hugh McNeely in the same area of VA during the same period. Andrew McNeely purchased land in Augusta County in 1754 and 1755 and served in Militia in 1756. (It is possible that Andrew is son of Robert McNeely of Buck's County, PA. Robert's first wife died around this time and the oldest sons, Archibald, John, Andrew and Robert moved. Archibald and John are documented in North Carolina, but we have no documents for Andrew or Robert, supposedly Robert migrated to North Carolina but no record has been found.) John was in the militia and received land patent. Hugh McNeely served Jury duty and was a witness on land transaction, relation unknown, but it is possible he is the Hugh later found in Winchester, VA and Monongalia County, VA. James Small speculates that some of the Woods family arrived at an earlier date, that is possible, but it seems evident that they all arrived between 1725-1740. The only support for Robert as son of George is initial location in America and migration trail of his descendants with Martha and David Sr. plus the elimination of any other ancestor in Bucks, Lancaster, Greene County, PA or VA. These descendants were in close proximity of each other for at least two generations. Moving from Albemarle County to Augusta/Botetourt/Montgomery County VA with many moving on to Kentucky around the same time and maintaining contact when they moved on West. The age of David Sr., Martha and Robert shows them the same generation; the naming of their descendants

supports this speculation as well, however all McNeely's seem to use these given names so this is weak circumstantial support when standing alone but George is a given name for at least 5 generations of this line. Hence our circumstantial evidence is: Location, time of arrival, movement, elimination of other possibilities, names, same generation, the family of George surely consisted of more than Martha and finally other researcher speculations. When we include the religious evidence along with other material it makes the relation highly possible.

Martha married in Augusta County, VA in 1737, this would give credence to George being in Augusta County, VA at this time. It would be doubtful that his daughter would of migrated as a single lady.

The Compendium of American Genealogy list a **David McNeely** as coming from Ireland to Pennsylvania in 1732. They list David as same generation as George and Robert. It is more likely that he is son of George and moved South to VA, we find no documentation of a David in PA that early but we do have documentation for an older David in VA. He is the David McNeely Sr. I refer to in next phrase. A David McNeely, I believe David Sr., purchased item/items from James Robertson's estate sale in 1759. This sale was in Augusta County, VA. There is an Andrew McNeilly in Augusta County, part of which became Botetourt Co., as early as 1754. From land transaction it appears he also moved from this location around 1783.

April 1758 there is a Robert McNeely killed at South branch, of Augusta County, VA. (Vol. II p. 512 Chalkley's). There is a possibility that this is the Robert Jr. from Bucks County, PA who supposedly migrated with brothers John and Archibald to Iredell County, NC. No record has been found of Robert in the NC location.

Samuel McNeely and two William McNeely's are included on the list of taxable property in the district of John Robinson formerly the upper district of Botetourt and now the lower Montgomery, on North Fork of Roanoke, for the year 1790, this location is South of original land holdings.

David Sr. sold his land in North Augusta in 1779 and appears on tax list in the North Fork area. Same names appear on List O of Montgomery County, in 1792 and 93. This information seems to at least give the possibility that all of these families are descendants of George who was born in Antrim County or Robert who was born in Tyrone County, Ireland.

In the Journal of Dr. Thomas Walker 1749-50 as recorded in Annals of Southwest Virginia, Dr. Walker states "...lodged at James Robinson's, ....16<sup>th</sup> March (1749) We kept up the Staunton (North Fork of Roanoke)..." It is the North Fork of Roanoke we find mention of William McNeely (possible ancestor of Shelby County, Indiana families) in the 1770's.

It is the opinion of the writer that the Southwest West Virginia McNeely's are descendants of George McNeely born 1679 in Antrim County, Ireland. Ultimately I believe we will be able to establish the descent of Southwest VA/WV McNeely's from David McNeely Sr. listed as arriving to PA from Ireland in 1732 whom I believe is the son of George and the same David who purchased land from Robertson estate and received land patent in Augusta County in 1761.

It is also very probable that Robert McNeely first found in Albemarle County, Virginia, has a close relation to George and David if not son of George and brother of David. Martha who married John Dickey in Augusta County, VA in 1737 is a probable sister of David, John Dickey had land same time and area as Robert in Albemarle County. David Sr., and Robert had land or land grants in VA about the same time. The naming pattern of Martha's children supports this speculation. David Sr. in Augusta County 1759, Robert Albemarle County 1751-1756 also supports this reasoning. I further believe that there is a close connection with the Robert McNeely of Deep Run, PA. However there are other older McNeely's in the "back country" and a good possibility that we have not accounted for all of the earliest migrants. We must also take into account that the given name of David is not a common name of the Shelby County, IN McNeely descendants, whereas William, George, Robert, Samuel and John are quite common.

The lifestyle and migration of the different branches indicate the McNeely's fundamental social order was the clan system. The clan was a group of related families who lived near to one another, were conscious of a common identity, carried the same surname, claimed descent from common ancestors and banded together when danger threatened, in movement and support. Historian Ned Landsman writes of the clan system "...among the distinctive features of clan organization was the collateral rather than lineal descent. In the theory of clan relationships, all

*branches of the family -- younger as well as older, female as well as male -- were deemed to be of equal importance. This fit in well with the mobility of the countryside, which prevented the formation of 'lineal families' in which sons succeeded to their father's lands."* (Landsman, *Scotland and Its First American Colony*, 46). These groups called each other cousin, and the old people uncle and aunt. They lived in the most intimate social way, meeting together very often. In many cases the husband and wife both came from the same group. One example both the bride and groom bore the same last names in 25 percent of all marriages. Marriages in the backcountry occurred very frequently between kin. Within these family networks they drew strength from the support of other kin groups around them. These clans fostered an exceptionally strong sense of loyalty and support within the group.

Martha, David Sr. and Robert seem to fit this clan social distinction. The descendants are found in close proximity in Virginia, Kentucky, and Indiana for certain, and portions of the family are together in other areas. Thus the speculation that George McNeely was the progenitor of the Southwest Virginia McNeely's seems to have merit since we have been able to document Martha, Robert and David Sr. migration pattern to be along similar if not identical routes and locations. They also seem to be close to other McNeely families that would be of more distant relation, the outer circle of the clan system.

The migratory pattern of these clans indicates that the females of the family either stayed or moved with her husbands family. We have a few exceptions where the male seems to have stayed or moved with the female family (clan). If our speculation of David Sr. family is correct and William, the probable ancestor of the Shelby County, IN McNeely's is his son, then William probably stayed in Southwest VA with his wife's family. We notice that some of Martha, David Sr., and Robert's family migrated from VA together but then the pattern seems to follow specific family units. Martha's for the most part to South Carolina, David Sr. to Alabama and Southern Indiana and Robert's remained in the Kentucky area.

The dwellings of the early families were hastily constructed and temporary in nature. The pioneers were a migratory people as they moved to improve their land holdings and prosperity. *"As early as the mid-eighteenth century, travelers also found a characteristic style of ...architecture in the Appalachian highlands. 'These people live in open log cabins with hardly a blanket to cover them.' Charles Woodmason observed in 1767."* (Woodmason, *Carolina Backcountry*, 16). The Scotch Irish who arrived after 1718 seem to have been the first to adopt the Log Cabin as a dwelling. We have many other instances, forts, log buildings, jails and garrison houses, they had unusually thick walls which differed from the Log Cabin built for a dwelling. The first American emigrants began by building earthen cabins which has been described by some as *"dirt Houses or rather like potato houses, to take their families into."* (Albion's Seed page 676). These cabins of dirt and stone soon yielded to log cabins which were better suited to the climate and resources of this new area. Later as they moved west and the trees were less plentiful we see them reverting back to the earthen type of dwelling, dug outs and sod houses. But the emigrants that came in to the Appalachians and as long as the trees were available on their move west had the log cabin as their primary structure. Henry F. McNeely who migrated to Missouri in 1872 first built a log cabin and lived in it until he built their two story house in 1884. His wife's family, Abraham Robeson, built and lived in a log cabin in Franklin County, IN during the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. The interior design of these cabins was rectangular walls enclosing a single room. in which an entire family lived together. They slept together in a common room and had a weak sense of individual privacy. Sometimes there was not even a bed but they slept together on the floor. *These cabins persisted for many generations in the American backcountry. As late as 1939 there were 270,000 occupied log cabins in the United States. Many were in the southern highlands. In the county of Halifax, Virginia, 42 percent of all houses were log cabins as recently as World War II. (H. B. Shurtleff, Log Cabin Myth, p 185 Cambridge, Mass., 1939.)* The floors were usually of hard packed dirt. The walls had a few simple openings for windows, and doors were placed on both the front and back walls for quick exits. Some of these structures had a firepit and a hole in the roof; others had a rough open fireplace on the gable end. There were a few ethnic variations that were eventually incorporated into the individual cabin. (Evans, *"Cultural Relics of the Ulster Scots"; Glassie, "The Appalachian Log Cabin,"* 5-14.) The Germans preferred to divide their cabins into three small rooms with a sleeping loft above. The cabins had a standard size. Many were between

sixteen and seventeen feet long. Larger dwellings tended to be several small cabins built close together, rather than buildings of a different type. Fletcher states *"Cabin architecture was striking for its roughness and impermanence. It was a simple style of building, suitable to a migratory people with little wealth, few possessions and small confidence in the future. It was also an inconspicuous structure, highly adapted to a violent world where a handsome building was an invitation to disaster. In that respect, cabin architecture was an expression of the insecurity of life in the northern borders. (Albions Seed, David Hackett Fischer page 660).* The settlers in VA built their cabins near creeks or springs. Keyley writes page 177: *"The first homes were at the best places along the main lines of travel with a preference for the bends of the creeks or along the river, provided a suitable spring was convenient. Although hunting and the grazing of horses and cattle furnished a means of livelihood, appropriate attention was given to farming lands and the development of family estates."* Emma Miles wrote in "The Spirit of the Mountains" pp 19-20: *"The site of a cabin is usually chosen as near as possible to a fine spring. No other advantages will ever make up for the lack of good water. There is a strong prejudice against pumps...cisterns are considered "dead water," hardly fit to wash one's face in. The mountaineer takes the same pride in his water supply as the rich man in his wine cellar, and is in this respect a connoisseur. None but the purest and coldest of freestone will satisfy him."*

It is amazing that in 2001 we see the Log House becoming popular once again. It is not replacing the conventional housing of the time but it shows how the people of the plains and mountains have a tendency to never forget their cultural ties to the past. A couple of traditions of which the writer is personally acquainted is the planting of potatoes on St. Patrick Day, a magical belief that came from Ireland; the second was the belief that kerosene had some healing property, *"take a teaspoonful of sugar wet with kerosene, and it will cure a bad cold"*. I remember that Guy and Opal McNeely in Missouri in the 1930's would use this remedy as they brought the teaspoonful of sugar with a drop of kerosene when their children had a cold or cough. Did it work? I don't remember but it may have, for it tasted terrible. Guy and Opal, along with many others of the area, would try to get their potatoes planted on St. Patrick day, even if they had to plant them in the mud. Did it work? Don't know, but they always had the best of potatoes. So we see that the ways of the backcountry were not forgotten as they migrated and many of them have continued through the later generations.

George and descendants don't appear to be actively involved in the Presbyterian church, but other McNeely's of comparable generations are very involved in establishing and leading Presbyterian congregations. Descendants of the McNeely's from the Botetourt, Kanawha, area of VA don't appear to be active in any religious group but indicate a preference toward Methodist or Methodist Episcopalian, the officiating Minister of many of the early McNeely marriages in Southwest VA now WV, was a Methodist; second marriage of Samuel McNeely in Shelby County, IN was officiated by a Methodist Episcopalian. The Methodist had many circuit preachers in early America, they may have been the only preachers serving the area where the McNeely's were located.

## *Descendants of George (VA) McNeely*

### *Generation No. 1*

1. **George (VA)<sup>1</sup> McNeely<sup>1</sup>** was born Abt. 1679 in County Antrim, North Ireland<sup>2</sup>. He married **Unknown**.

Children of George McNeely and Unknown are:

- 2      i. Martha<sup>2</sup> McNeely<sup>3</sup>, born Abt. 1705 in Antrim County, Ireland<sup>4</sup>; died Bet. 1805 - 1810 in York County, South Carolina/Wilmington, Illinois. She married John Dickey<sup>5</sup> 1736 in Alberdale, Augusta County, VA; born 1703 in Belfast, Antrim County, Ireland; died Abt. 1789 in York County, South Carolina.
- 3      ii. (?)Robert (VA) McNeely<sup>6</sup>, born Abt. 1710 in Antrim County, Ireland<sup>7</sup>; died Abt. 1757 in Abemarle County, VA. He married Doretha<sup>8</sup>.
- 4      iii. (?)David (Sr.) McNeely<sup>9</sup>, born December 31, 1720 in Antrim County, Ireland; died 1792 in Kentucky. He married Agnes<sup>10</sup>.

### *Endnotes*

1. "The compendium of American Genealogy. Frederick Adms Virkus, Volume VI 1937 and Dorothy Elliott., aelliott@muscanet.com. Posted on World Connect. Dorothy's comments on source: "Gleaned from many books and other people's records". Dorothy's list checks in later generatons but no sources.
2. Sandy Perkins from Broderbund WFT Vol. 7 Ed. 1, Tree#2847..
3. The Compendium of American genealogy., Martha GGGGGGrandma of Janice. Janice listed on Ancestry.Com query board.
4. Rootsweb GEDCOM. Charles Wesley Smith, stafa@worldnet.att.net; Maryanne Reuss Lipken, Ancestry.com msg 26 January 1, 2000..
5. Ancestors of Matthew Spence and John Franklin Dunagan listing on FamilyTreeMaker.com, Children are from this source.
6. Robert's will recorded 11 September 1756 and Lorena McNeely April 20, 2000.
7. Specualtion by Maurice McNeely..
8. Robert's will..
9. Dorothy Elliott, aelliott@muscanet.com posted on World Connect. Jim Small WFT Vol.6-2066. Augusta County, VA land records., Jim Small wrote, I am not sure if there is another generation in between David McNeely and Robert (his father). The "Heritage of Iredell County" (NC) document from which this is derived, was unable to make this connection. John (Robert's brother) may have been the ancestor tied to David. (Questionable that David is son of Robert of PA, no documentation to confirm this, David in Augusta County, VA then to Kentucky, land and tax list confirm. Maurice).
10. Land transaction Augusta County, VA 1779 book 23 page 36..

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**CHAPTER TEN**  
(Virginia, Kentucky - Indiana - South Carolina)

**DAVID McNEELY SR.**

(Possible son of George)

**David (W or Sr) McNeely** a possible son of George, was born December 31, 1720 and died 1800 in Kentucky according to Dorothy Elliott's listing on World Connect. His birthplace would have been in Ireland. He married Agness, last name not known. Since David W(Sr.) named a son David we have difficulty in knowing which David is listed. Some list has David Sr. and David Jr, but often we only have David therefore we must attempt to specify which David by other means. There was a public sale in Augusta County VA August 30, 1759 which contains David's name as purchasing an item Page 333 Abstracts of will of Augusta County, VA, Will book 3 gives evidence of David being in VA, August 30th 1759. *James Robertson's estate sold at vendue (public sale), Zachariah Smith, DAVID McNEELEY, Mathew Harper, Charles Mehafey, Saml. McCown, Timothy Cole, Thos. Baskins, Jno. Cloyd, Thos. Fulton, Robert Brown, Robt. Adair, Ben Herbert, George Worldridge, Nate Dunlap, Da. Kidd, Thos. Galbreath. ( Page 84 Chalkley).* This must be David Sr. because Jr. was born in 1758. In 1774 a David Jr. had an unexecuted writ in Augusta County VA because he was in his Majesty's service, this is listed Jr. In 1779 we find a David delinquent on levy tax because he has moved. He has three males over 16 in household. David Junior married May 1789, so this is David Sr.

David McNela (McNeely) purchased 225 acres Augusta County NW Side of South River, Shenandoah. Adjacent James Turk and George Trouts. In 1779 he sold this land to Thomas Turk. Christian Clemons will to his wife Catherine list son-in-law George Trout and also list plantation joining David McNeely. This will confirms that David McNela is indeed David McNeely. ( Page 164 Will abstract Chalkley) Here is listing as found in Land Patents VA: DAVID McNELLY "George The Third ( ) To All ( ) Know ye that for divers good causes and consideration but more especially for and consideration of the sum of twenty five shillings of good and lawful money for our use paid to our Receiver General of our revenue in this our Colony and Dominion of Virginia. We have given granted and confirmed and by these presents for us our heirs and do herefore do give grant and confirm unto DAVID McNELLA one certain tract or parcel of land containing two hundred and twenty five acres lying and being in the county of Augusta on the North West side of the South River Shenandoah and bounded as followeth to wit: Beginning at a white oak corner to a survey of JAMES TURKS and thence with his lines South eighty degrees, east one hundred and seventy eight poles to a white oak south ten degrees east forty poles to a pine south fifty-five degrees east sixty-four poles to a black oak thence north forty degrees east one hundred poles to a white oak south sixty five degrees east seventy poles to five white oaks on the river and down the same eighty poles to a white oak on the river north fifty seven degrees west one hundred and eight poles to a pine south seventy degrees west sixty eight poles to a white oak then on to and with a line of GEORGE TROUTS survey north fifty degrees west one hundred and forty eight poles to his corner black oak and hickory on a hill thence south thirty degrees west one hundred and seventy poles to the beginning with all ( ). To have hold. To be held ( ) yielding and paying ( ) provided. In witness. Witness our trust and well beloved Francis Ferguier Esquire our Lt. Governor and Commander in Chief of our said Colony and Dominion of Williamsbough under the seal of our said Colony. The seventh day of August 1761. In the first year of our reigh. s/Frank Fouguier.

10 September 1761 John Bellfaught's estate sold at vendue to Catrina Faught, Henry Lynor, Andrew Faught, Peter Funk, Caspar Faught, Henry Colar, Elizabeth Bruester, James Waite, Alex. Kile, George Trout, Robert Reyburn, John Hines, George Martin, Peter Miller, Robert Stevens, EDWARD RUTLEDGE, James Cover, DAVID MENERLEY (McNEELY). Cash paid Christian Clements for 1 year's board of the widow. Balance due the legatees to be equally divided between Andrew Faught, Casper Faught and the wife. Christian Clements. Recorded, 21st May. (Chalkley's Volume 3 page 94). This shows Edward Rutledge as neighbor of David McNeely and Christian Clements. Edward Rutledge father of Sarah Rutledge who married George McNeely, hence it gives circumstantial evidence of George being probable son of David.

The following land transactions shows the location of David during these years. *March 15 1771 page 106.* He purchased land from: *Andrew ( ) Fitzpatrick and Mary ( ) to David McNeelley, 5 pounds 150 acres of Borden's 92100. Teste: James Buchanan, Samuel Lyle,*

*Andrew Campbell. (Chalkley) (Augusta County, VA page 105 Deed Book 17, 1770-1771. "This Indenture made the fourteenth Day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy one between Andrew Fitzpatrick and his wife Mary Fitzpatrick of the County of Augusta of the one part and DAVID McNEELY of the County aforesaid and Colony of Virginia of the other part. Witnesseth that the said Andrew Fitzpatrick and his wife Mary Fitzpatrick for and in consideration of the sum of five Shillings Current Money of Virginia to them in Hand paid by the said David McNeely at or before the Sealing or deliver of these presents the receipt whereof hath granted bargained and sold and by these presents doth grant bargain and sell unto the said David McNeely one certain Tract or parcel of Land lying situate and being in the County of Augusta and Colony of Virginia part of BORDEN'S GREAT TRACT and contains one hundred and fifty acres of land but in more particularly bounded as followeth Viz Beginning at a black Oak corner to DOMINICK MORLING runneth thence South forty four Degrees West fourteen poles to a w/o thence North seventy four degrees west two hundred and five poles to a Chesnut then north fifty six degrees west eight poles to a hickory and w/o sapling then North thirty one degrees east one hundred and thirty poles to a wh/o thence south forty three degrees east two hundred and ninety poles to the beginning be the same more or less and all houses buildings orchards ways waters water courses profits hereditaments commodities and appurtenances whatsoever to the said premise hereby granted or bargained or any part or parcel thereof belonging or in any wise appurtenant the reversion and reversions remainder and remainder(?) rents \_\_\_\_ and profits thereto belonging to have and to hold the said one hundred and fifty acres of land and all and singular the premises hereby granted bargained with their appurtenances unto the said DAVID McNEELY his heirs executors administrators and assigns from the day before the date hereof for and during the term of one whole year from thence \_\_\_\_\_ ensuing fully to be complete and ended yielding therefore the rent of one ear of Indian Corn on Lady Day next of the same shall be lawfully demanded to the intent and purpose by virtue of these presents and of the statute of transferring uses into possession the said David McNeely shall and may be in actual possession of the premises and be thereby enabled to accept and take a grant and release of the reversions and inheritance thereof to him and his heirs in witness whereof the said Andrew Fitzpatrick and his wife Mary Fitzpatrick hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year above written.*

*Signed and sealed and delivered in the presence of JAMES BUCHANAN, SAMUEL LYLE, ANDREW CAMPBELL.*

*Andrew (mark) Fitzpatrick SS*

*Mary (mark) Fitzpatrick SS*

*At a Court held for Augusta County March 19th, 1771. This lease for land from Andrew Fitzpatrick to David McNeelley was proved by the oaths of the witnesses thereto and ordered to be recorded.)*

Continuation of above document list land sold to David for 5 pounds same day as above and signed and recorded same dates as above. Have not been able to find where David sold this land. Have checked Augusta County to 1785.

David and William, probably William who later moved west across the mountains to Kanawha/Cabell County, were listed as Teste on land transaction of Margert Borger (Bergen) *January 21, 1775.* This land was patented to Margaret Borger February 14, 1761. *January 21, 1775 Margret ( ) Borger (Bergen to JFacob Borger, her son, patented to Margaret 14th February, 1761. Test: David McNeelly, John Davidson, William McNeelly. (Chalkley Deed book 20 page 542). (This associates William McNeely with David in same Northern Augusta County, VA).*

David and Agness sold land to Thomas Turk, 17 August 1779. Augusta County book 23, page 36. *"This Indenture made the thirteenth day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy nine between DAVID McNEELY and AGNESS his wife of County of Augusta in the Commonwealth of Virginia of the one part and THOMAS TURK of the county and commonwealth aforesaid of the other part witnesseth that the said DAVID McNEELY and AGNESS his wife for and in consideration of the sum of six hundred pounds current money of the commonwealth aforesaid to them in hand paid by the said THOMAS TURK (the receipt whereof hereby acknowledged hath granted bargained sold (or sale) aliened and confirmed and by these presents doth grant bargain sell alien and confirm unto the said THOMAS TURK and to his heirs*

or(?) assigns forever one certain tract or parcel of land containing two hundred and twenty five acres lying and being in the County aforesaid on the Northwest side of the South River of Shanandoah and bounded as follows Viz beginning at a white oak corner to a survey of JAMES TURKS and then as with his lines south eighty degrees east one hundred and seventy eight poles to a white oak South ten degrees East forty poles to a pine South fifty five degrees east Sixty four poles to a Black Oak then as North forty degrees east one hundred poles to a white oak south sixty five degrees as seventy poles to two white oaks on the River and down this same Eight poles to a white oak on the River North fifty seven Degrees west one hundred and Eight poles to a white oak and Hicory on a hill thence south thirty degrees west one hundred and Seventy poles to the beginning together with all the water water courses profits commoditys Hired atements(?) and appurtenances to the said belonging or in in any wise pertaining and the reversion and remainders unto Issues and profits thereof and also all the estate rightly title interest use trust property claim and demand whatever of them this said DAVID McNEELY AND AGNESS his wife of in and to this premises or any part or parcel thereof belonging to have and to hold this said tract of land with all its appertenances unto the said THOMAS TURK his heirs and assigns forever to the sole use of \_\_\_ of him the said THOMAS TURK and of his heirs assigns forever and the said DAVID McNEELY AND AGNESS his wife for themselves and their heirs doth Convey all their Morty of land before mentioned and discreted unto the said THOMAS TURK and to his heirs forever and further the said DAVID McNEELY and AGNESS his wife doth by these presents warrent and defend the same forever to the said THOMAS TURK or to his heirs and assigns against the heirs of them the said DAVID McNEELY AND AGNESS his wife or the heirs of any other person or persons whatsoever. In witness where of the said David McNeely and AGness his wife hath hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first within written. s/ David McNeely, Agness (her mark) McNeely.

SEALED AND DELIVERED in the presence of John Davidson, Michael Gleave(?sp) Gasper Clemons (Son of Christian Clemons)."

David McNeely with three males over 16 (tithables) gone from Augusta County 1779. Probably moved South to Botetourt County, North Fork. In 1783 David Sr. with 4 horses, 12 cattle, David Jr. 1 horse, George 3 horses and 7 cattle are on Captain Watterson's list of taxable on North Fork of Roanoke. Joseph Reaburn Sr. and Jr. are on the same list, George McNeely and Joseph Reaburn interchange the constable office. *Kegley In Virginia Frontiers* states page 609 that Reaburn appears on the North River of Shenandoah before he came to the Roanoke. We find him in early Botetourt County as land owner on the North Fork of Roanoke and Bradshaw's creek and near the head waters of North Fork.

The derivation of the area of concern is necessary to know if movement of people or boundary change. The early VA counties have the following derivation: *Charles River 1636-1643, York added 1643, New Kent 1554 - From New Kent three counties, Essex- 1692 -King and Queen 1601 - King William 1708, then Spotsylvania added 1721, Orange added 1734, Augusta 1766, Botetourt 1770, Fincastle and Greenbrier added 1772-1777 then Kentucky 1776, Montgomery 1776, Washington 1776.* By 1780 according to Court records of Augusta County, VA David and George (David W.s/Sr. son) have moved from Augusta County to Botetourt County (*Chalkey, Lyman, Chronicles of the Scotch-Irish Settlement of Virginia, Volume two page 422 and 423*). This would have been a move not boundary change. The 1785 Enumeration of Botetourt County, Virginia listed on page 5, William McNeely with 7 white persons (William of South Fork, Robert's son); page 7 listed David McNeely Sr. (probably David SR.) 7 white persons; David McNeely Jr. 1 white person; John McNeely 1 white person; George McNeely 3 white persons, it is highly probable that page 7 list David Sr. and his son's. The descent of names in early Virginia was normally Grandparents, parents, other relatives, however the McNeely's did not always adhere to this standard. William was a popular name of the old country and is found often in the American McNeely's, but not prior to this period. Perhaps it descended from maternal side of the American progenitor. Dorothy Elliott list David W/Sr. sons as **David, George and John**, however **William** is listed on the enumeration of Botetourt County prior to David W/Sr. and his sons. It is possible that William (Shelby County, IN progenitor) is an older son. His birth date coincides with David W/Sr. family. These early McNeely's of Botetourt County, except William, migrated on to North Carolina, Alabama, Kentucky and ultimately some of them and their families to Spencer and Warrick County, Indiana by the early 1800's. David and George sold Logan

County, KY land around 1811. Although there are no documents to substantiate I believe that the McNeely's who migrated to Shelby County, IN around 1828 were descendants of William. Also I believe that the McNeely's who remained in Southwest West Virginia were William's family. Tax list, land transactions and family affiliation gives validity to this speculation. I am not so certain of David Sr. and William's relation. I feel confident they are closely related but father and son is marginal. The naming pattern of William's sons give credence to David being his father more than other early McNeely's of that area.

## *Descendants of David (Sr.) McNeely*

### *Generation No. 1*

1. **David (Sr.)<sup>2</sup> McNeely** (George (VA)<sup>1</sup>)<sup>1</sup> was born December 31, 1720 in Antrim County, Ireland, and died 1792 in Kentucky. He married Agnes<sup>2</sup>.

Children of David McNeely and Agnes are:

- 2 i. (?)William<sup>3</sup> McNeely<sup>3</sup>, born Bet. 1755 - 1765 in Seems to be 3d gen. VA McNeely's.. He married Unknown.
- 3 ii. George McNeely<sup>4</sup>, born 1757 in Albemarle or Augusta County, Virginia<sup>5</sup>; died June 24, 1818 in Ohio Township, Spencer County, IN<sup>6</sup>. He married Sarah Rutledge<sup>7</sup> Bef. 1783 in Albemarle County, VA<sup>8</sup>; born 1758 in Flagg Springs, Augusta Co. Virginia<sup>9</sup>; died July 19, 1818 in Ohio Township, Spencer County, IN<sup>10</sup>.
- 4 iii. David McNeely<sup>11</sup>, born October 15, 1758 in Augusta County, VA<sup>12</sup>; died July 19, 1836 in Madison County, Alabama<sup>13</sup>. He married Rebecca Dickey<sup>14</sup> May 07, 1789 in Madison County, Kentucky; born 1758 in VA; died September 19, 1852 in Madison County, Tennessee.
- 5 iv. John McNeely<sup>15</sup>, born 1766 in Augusta County, Virginia. He married Susannah Duncan August 03, 1781 in Lincoln County, Kentucky<sup>16</sup>.

### *Endnotes*

1. Dorothy Elliott, aelliott@muscanet.com posted on World Connect. Jim Small WFT Vol.6-2066. Augusta County, VA land records., Jim Small wrote, I am not sure if there is another generation in between David McNeely and Robert (his father). The "Heritage of Iredell County" (NC) document from which this is derived, was unable to make this connection. John (Robert's brother) may have been the ancestor tied to David. (Questionable that David is son of Robert of PA, no documentation to confirm this, David in Augusta County, VA then to Kentucky, land and tax list confirm. Maurice).
2. Land transaction Augusta County, VA 1779 book 23 page 36..
3. Agnes B. Pearlman, Santa Ana, California.
4. Dorothy Elliott, aelliott@muscanet.com. Jim Small..
5. LDS Pedigree #L620-K5 provided by Jim Small..
6. Book U page 364 Russellville KY Courthouse, provided by Jim Samll..
7. Chronicles of the Scotch-Irish Settlement of Virginia., Chalkley, Lyman, extracted from the Original Court Records of Augusta County 1745-1800. 1912/1966.
8. Jim Small. Liz Ault World Connect. Notes and Queries. Egle..
9. LDS Pedigree #L620-LB lists Sarah's birth as 1761., LDS IGI VA file p 27,943 lists two births, first altered by family 1760, 2d unaltered 1780 (wrong). Sarah had child b 1783.
10. Jim Small. Liz Ault World Connect. Notes and Queries. Egle..
11. LDS Family Search, Russ Bufkins, LMcn378974@aol.com..
12. Application for Revolutionary War pension by his wife Rebecca in 1836. Inscribed on roll of Madison County, Alabama., His service was as a Private in VA in the Company commanded by Commanded by Captain May of the Regiment commanded by CPT Henry Watterson. This associates David Jr. with David Sr. in VA.
13. Agnes Pearlman.
14. LMcn378974@aol.com. Madison County, Kentucky Marriage records pg 69..
15. Dorothy Elliott, aelliott@muscanet.com & Mary Angelo ltr on History of David McNeely . Kentucky Marriage Records. Russ Bufkins..
16. Lincoln County, KY Marriage Records, Genealogical Publishing Co. 1983..

PRE-DRAFT

## CHAPTER FOURTEEN WILLIAM McNEELY OF NORTH FORK AND SOUTHWEST WV

(Possible son of David Sr.)

William McNeely and David McNeely are listed as Testators on a Will of Margaret Borger in Augusta County, Virginia dated January 21, 1775. We believe this to be William who is progenitor of the Shelby County, Indiana McNeely's whom we refer to as William of North Fork. There is another William McNeely in the same general area, documents indicate he is son of Robert of Albemarle, VA, we refer to him as William of South Fork because he settled on the South Fork of Roanoke. It is unlikely William of South Fork would be a testator to a will in Northern Augusta County. Northern Augusta County is the location where Andrew McNeely purchased land on Looney's Mill Creek in 1754. James Woods also purchased land on Looney's Mill Creek in 1745, later a James Woods is on North Fork of Roanoke in area of William of North Fork. Woods and McNeely's seem to be close to each other quite often. Hugh McNeely (sic) also in area of Looney's Mill Creek in 1763, he was witness on land transaction. Hugh also on Jury duty in 1774. A Robert McNeely was killed at South Branch in 1758 (*this may have been Robert from Buck's County, PA*).

In 1774 William of North Fork is on list of Captain George Matthew's Company in Dunmore's War of 1774. David Jr. served under CPT Matthew's during the revolutionary war according to his pension papers. David was in this company May 1775. This is an apparent connection. The William on South Fork (son of Robert of Albemarle) was in Captain Barnett's company in 1784. George McNeely was appointed constable in 1784 replacing Joseph Reaburn, Joseph had land on North Fork of Roanoke same area that we place William of North Fork, so George was in this area. This indicates that George was close relation to William, we speculate sibling, also supports relation to David, we speculate son. *June 12, 1787 William McNeely on North Fork of Roanoke appointed Constable, replacing Robinson (Annal of Southwest Virginia, Volume I, Summers.)*. David migrated to Kentucky around 1785. This seems to indicate that William has married and is maintaining separate household. *"The first appearance of a McNeely in what later became southern West Virginia was for one William McNeely of Botetourt County (later Montgomery County), Virginia. Indeed, there were two contemporaries named William McNeely there; one son of Robert McNeely of Albemarle, VA, who settled on South Fork of Roanoke, this William remained in Montgomery County, where he died in 1810. His wife Rebecca 1 male 16-26 and 1 male 26-46, 1 female 26-45 and female (Rebecca) over 45 listed in household is listed on Montgomery County 1810 census. William evidently died prior to census. The other William, whom we assume is the progenitor of Shelby County, Indiana McNeely's moved to Kanawha County. He first settled on the North Fork of Roanoke. (It is possible this is son of David Sr mfm). He is located in the area where George Rutledge and James Woods have land. By 1787 only the two William McNeely's remained on the Botetourt County census, David, George, John, and Hugh having moved to Kentucky. Exactly where Robert and Andrew moved is not yet known, as is the case for a Samuel McNeely who appears with taxable property in Montgomery County, Virginia, along with the two William's in 1790, 1792, and 1793. (Agnes Branch Pearlman, The McNeely Families of Southern West Virginia, July 2000).* It is possible that Andrew, Hugh, Samuel, and John are part of the Bucks, Lancaster and Greene County, PA McNeely's. A Hugh is found located in Monongalia County, WV.

The 1798 tax list shows William, we assume William of North Fork, as delinquent on taxes in Botetourt County, VA. Persons charged with taxes in Kanawha County, Virginia in 1800 has a Richard McNeely, the 1805 list William with two males over sixteen, John, David, William Jr. and Richard, only McNeely's in Kanawha, this indicates that they are closely associated, probably same family with William as father. The 1810 census of Kanawha County seems to support this speculation. Cabell County, Virginia was formed in 1809. The 1810 census of Cabell is missing but the tax list includes David, John, Richard and William with three males over sixteen. Land documents of this county through 1823 shows William owning 40 acres, David, Richard, Robert and Samuel each having land. Census and other documents during this period list a George, James and Joseph also in same area Thus we have strong circumstantial evidence that David, Richard, Robert, George, Samuel, James and Joseph are William of North Fork sons.

Following is an abstract of material compiled by Maurice which assist in documenting the migratory route and association of David, William and some of Robert's family. **Bold/Red indicates William probable family.**

## VIRGINIA.

### Augusta County. (Organized 1738 from Orange).

**August 30, 1759.** McNeely, David: James Robertson's estate sold at public sale, he was one of the buyer's.

**August 1761** McNeely, David land grant on South River of Shanandoah.

**Sept. 10, 1761** David McNeely Bought something at estate sale of John Bellfught's, estate sold at vendue.

**March 15, 1771.** McNeely David 15 acres of Bordan's 92100.

**January 21, 1775. William and David McNeely teste: to will of Margaret Borger.**

**August 13, 1779** David McNeely sold land on South River.

1779 McNeely David, 3 tithables, gone, Levy delinquents. South River.

**February 13, 1780.** Clemons will listed plantation joining David McNeely.

1782 McNeely, George, list of delinquents, gone to Botetourt

1783 CPT Watterson's company, **1783 (on North Fork of Roanoke).**

### Botetourt County (Kegley pg 589).

David McNeely, Sr 4 horses 12 cattle.

David McNeely Jr 1 horse.

George McNeely 3 horses 7 cattle.

#### 1785 TAX LIST Botetourt Co. Wattersons district.

David McNeely (To KY)

John McNeely (To KY)

George McNeely (To KY)

#### 1785 Botetourt County, Virginia Enumeration. (Formed 1769 with portions of Augusta and Rockbridge.)

P5 McNeely, Wm. 7 white persons, 1 dwelling, 4 other buildings. (Robert's on South Fork)

P7 McNeely, David 7 white persons, 0 dwellings, 0 other buildings.

P7 McNeely, David 1 white person

P7 McNeely, John 1 white person.

P7 McNeely, John 3 white persons.

**June 12, 1787 William McNeely on N Fork of Roanoke apptd constable. In place of Wm Robinson.**

#### 1787 SCHREINER YANTIS, NETTI Virginia Tax lists, Botetourt County, VA.

**P213 McNeely, William White males ? Mules 1, Cattle 3.**

McNeely, William white males ? Mules 7, Cattle 15. (Roberts)

McNeely, William June 9, 1789 exempted from paying County and Parish levies "on account of his age and infirmities". (Roberts)

#### 1798 Botetourt, VA.

P28 Lists of persons who were fined for not attending muster, and others who had removed from Montgomery. A list of delinquents of the Revenue for the year 1798 in the district of James Hoge in the 2d Battalion and 86<sup>th</sup> Regiment. September 3, 1799.

**McNeely, William.**

#### 1790 Montgomery County, Virginia (circa 1790) (Schreiner-Yantis, 1972).

(Organized 1776 WV 1863)

(Maurice has not speculated on which family, assistance welcomed)

P105.6. A list of taxable property in the district of John Robinson, Commissioner, formerly the upper district of Boteourt and now the lower of Montgomery for the year 1790.

McNeely, Samuel

McNeely, William

McNeely, William.

The above three names are also on List O of Montgomery County, VA in 1792 and 93.

**Kanawha County, VA.** (Kanawha formed 1789 from portions of Greenbrier and Montgomery Counties).

**1800 McNeely, Richard male above 16 charged with tax. No property.**

21 yrs of age if Poll  
TAX,

**1804 or 1805 McNeely, William, David. pg 320**

Christian, Allen and Thomas and Allen Jr. . pg 320

Workman, James and Jacob pg 318.

Dingess pg 319

Elkins, Richard pg 319.

**1805 McNeely, William 2 over 16, John , David, Wm Jr. Richard, all listed on tax list over 16. pg 339.**

Workman, Joseph pg 339

Dingess, William. pg 339

**1810 Census Kanawa County, VA, Roll 69. (land records began 1790) (organized 1788)**

**McNeely, William, males 1 16-26, 1 26-45. (1784-1794)(1765-1784).**

Ballard, Elijah Jr. (listed next to William, 2 16-26 females, 1 16-26 male)

**McNeely, George, males 1 16-26, 1 45 & up. (1784-1794, bef 1765)**

**McNeely, Joseph, males 1 0-10, 1 26-45, females 1 26-45, 1 above 45, 2 slaves.**

**Not Dicy).**

**Montgomery County.** McNeely, Rebecca males 1 16-26, 1 26-45, females 1 26-45, 1 45 & up. (Robert's William's wife).

Wall, Conrad males 3 0-10, 1 10-16, 2 16-26, 1 45+. Females 2 0-10, 1 10-16, 2 16-26, 1 26-45.

**1810 Tax List Cabell County, VA census missing. (land records began 1808) (organized 1809 from portion of Kanawha)**

*(Tithable is male member 21 years and older).*

**L4 McNeely, David 1 tithable, 2 horses.**

Christian, Thomas 1 tithable, 13 horses, son of Allen Sr.

Christian, Allen 1 tithable, 1 horse, son of Allen Sr.

Christian, Allen Sr. 1 tithable, 2 horses.

**L1 McNeely, John 1 tithable. (Possible w/Rachel 1850 in IN).**

**McNeely, Richard 1 tithable, 1 horse**

Dingess, William

**L2 McNeely, William 3 tithable, 2 horses. B bef 1769, father of Shelby County McNeely.**

Workman and Elkins as well.

**B13 McNeely, James, 1 tithable, 1 slave, 3 horses, HALIFAX COUNTY, VA.**

**D5 McNeely, William, 2 tithable, 3 horses, PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY, VA.**

**1813 Land List Cabell County. None on 1816.**

Ballard, Elijah 100 acres on Cole River 4 miles below the way of Spruce Fork.

**McNeely, William Sr. 40 acres no description. 1814, 1815.**

**McNeely, David 374 (Possible 37.4, seems large) acres 2 miles above the mouth of**

**Huffs Crk, Guyandotte. (William's son) 1814 5 miles SW Courthouse.**

**1815 Cabell County.**

**McNeely, David, Guyandotte RV 2 miles from Huffs CK above; 80S.**

**McNeely, William, no land description, usually meant not residence of County.**

**(1815 Virginia Landowners directory Cabell County)**

**1819 Land List Cabell County.**

**McNeely, Richard Beech Fork of Spruce Fork of Cole River.**

**McNeely, Robert 25 acres on Rum Creek of Guy. from William Dingess.**

**1820 Cabell County, VA census, Roll 130, pg 82 and 87.**

**McNeely, Samuel males 1 16-26, 1 26-45.**

**McNeely, Robert males 1 0-10, females 1 26-45. (Nancy b 1780-1790, Christian Family**

Gen. Glenn's six ranch).

**McNeely, David** males 3 0-10, 1 10-16, 1 26-45, females 2 0-10, 2 10-16, 1 26-45.

**McNeely, Richard** males 2 0-10, 1 10-16, 1 26-45, females 1 0-10, 1 10-16, 1 26-45.

McNeely, William pg 51A **Pittsylvania**.

**Christian, Allen** males 1 0-10, 1 10-16, 1 45 & up, females 1 0-10, 1 10-16, 1 16-26, 1 26-45.

Christian, Allen Jr. males 2 0-10, 2 10-16, 1 16-18, 1 26-45, females 4 0-10, 1 26-45.

**1820 Cabell County, VA Index to Deeds Grantees.**

**McNeely, Robert** Grantee, William Dingess Grantor bk 3 pg 142 25 acres Rum crk.

**1821 Cabell County, VA Index to Deeds Grantees.**

**McNeely, David** Grantee, Peter Dingess Grantor, bk 3 pg 418, 50 acres Guy riv.

**McNeely, Samuel** Grantee, Peter Dingess etal, bk 3 495, 250 acres Guy riv.

**1822 Land List Cabell County.**

**McNeely, Richard** same as 1819.

**McNeely, Robert** same as 1819.

**McNeely, David** Adjoining Wm Hinckmann on Guy. River by deed from Peter Dingess.

**1823 Land List Cabell County.**

**McNeely, Richard** 51 acres Spruce.

**McNeely, David** 50 acres Guy. same as 1822.

**McNeely, Samuel** 250 acres Guyandotte River. Later we see West side of Guy.

**1820 Kanawha County, VA census Roll 142 pg 7A.**

**McNeely, George** males 4 0-10, 1 16-26, females 1 0-10, 1 16-26. (son of William)

**McNeely, William** males 2 26-45, 1 45 & above, females 3 0-10, 1 10-16, 1 16-26, 1 45 & above. (Wm of North Fork)

**McNeely, William Jr.** males 5 0-10, 1 26-45, females 1 0-10, 1 16-26. (Married Ballard)

**McNeely, James** males 2 0-10, 1 16-26, females 1 0-10, 1 16-26. (Possibly son of David)

**1826 Kanawha County, VA Grantee Index to Deeds.**

McNeely, William Grantee, David French Grantor Bk G pg 70 250 A Coal River.

**1826 Logan County, WV.** (Logan formed 1824 from portions of Kan. Cabell and Giles).

1825 Ballard, Elijah 100 acres Cole River 4 miles below Spruce.

Christian, Allen 5 acres Guy. Thomas 50 acres Clear Fork.

**McNeely, Richard** 50 acres Spruce Fork.

**McNeely, Robert** 25 Rum Creek.

**McNeely, David** 50 acres Guyandotte.

**McNeely, Samuel** 215 Acres Guyandotte.

1826 Same except **Samuel listed with 250 acres.** Later we transaction was between he and Peter Dingess. West side of

Guyandotte. 215 acres went to James Pine Christian around 1829.

**1828 Elijah Ballard in Indiana.**

**McNeely, James** on Spruce Fork of Coal.

**McNeely, David and Richard** same.

1829 Christian, Allen in Logan.

Christian, James Pine has 50 acres on Rum Creek and 215 west side of Guyandotte.

Probably David's and Samuel's

**1828-1842 Logan County VA grants, Survey books A, B, & C.**

**George McNeely** 100, Pond Fork, 1828.

**George McNeely** 100, Pond Fork, 1829.

**James McNeely** 30, Spruce Fork, 1837.

**James McNeely** 9½ Spruce Fork, 1844.

**Joseph McNeely** 99, 33, 52, 20, 40 Spruce Fork, 1844-1852.

**William McNeely** 75, Hewetts Creek, 1848.

According to J. R. Hall of Logan County, WV the Workman's were the first family/clan locating in present day site of Logan Co. WV, within the year the McNeely's arrived followed shortly by the Dingess family. (*J. R. Hall Logan County, WV Avanti@newwave.net*). Christian, Dingess, Workman, McNeely, Ballard and Elkins family are listed closely on the 1805 tax list of Kanawha County. These families have close association as evidenced by land transaction, marriages and location. They migrated to Southwest VA/WV during the same time period if not together. This association is evident in Kanawha County, perhaps earlier. Hence William of North Fork wife may have been part of the Workman or Elkin's family. Richard Elkins's wife name was Nancy. William's first or second son was named Richard, his first daughter was named Nancy. We have no supporting documentation for this speculation. William's descendants either stayed in Southwest VA or migrated to Shelby County, IN. The McNeely's of Southwest VA in 2001 are mostly descendants of William of North Fork. Some members of the different families are later found in the vicinity of their relation in other states. There are some exceptions to this pattern but very few. The characteristic of the clan is to be closely united even to the fourth generation including the extended/allied families.

The McNeely's migrated west in increments. The Southwest VA McNeely's are mostly later migrants following other McNeely's who had preceded them west. In many of these instances we have yet to establish relationships other than the name, but there is little doubt but what they are clan McNeely. The clans included the extended family as they relocated. We find this to be true in several instances of all backcountry families, as they moved, the McNeely's being no exception. Workman, Elkins, Woods, Wallace, Dickey, Tolar, Christian, Poe's are a few of the allied families associated with Southwest VA McNeely's. Documentation indicates that the Dickey, Woods, Wallace and McNeely families migrated from Ireland to PA then to VA during the same period. Later generations of McNeely's even named some of their male children "William Wallace McNeely" indicating maybe a marriage connection. Association of Workman, Elkins, Tolar and Christian appears to be an association formed in Virginia probably through marriage.

William may have been son of David Sr. David was probable son of George who migrated from Ireland in 1732. Virkus list David McNeely as migrating same period, although Virkus list him as same generation it is probable that he is next generation due to birth date. The naming patterns of William's descendants indicate ancestors by name of George and David. Many of the naming patterns place George in the right generation to be William's grandfather.

Naming patterns: First son, named for his paternal grandfather; second son, named for his maternal grandfather; third son, named after father or father's paternal grandfather; fourth son, named after father's oldest brother or mother's paternal grandfather; fifth son, named after mother's eldest brother or father's maternal grandfather; sixth son, named after father's second oldest brother or for mother's maternal grandfather. Daughters had similar pattern. Some families faithfully followed this pattern, others were mixed. Samuel didn't seem to follow the pattern closely, however his son Henry F. seemed to follow the pattern. Henry F's son George Berry also seemed to follow the pattern.

Strong circumstantial evidence indicates William of Kanawha County is the father of Samuel who, along with other family members, migrated to **Shelby, Franklin and Rush Counties, Indiana** and later to Daviess County, Missouri. Samuel was the original landholder of the McNeely land in Missouri. However he returned to Franklin County, Indiana after the purchase, prior to the Civil War. Good possibility this was the reason that he did not remain in Missouri. He sold the land to his son Henry F. after the war. It is probable that his health failed in 1867 and he gave up all hope of returning to Missouri for he died in 1868.

Agnes Branch Pearlman provided much of the following information: *"After 1793 one William McNeely, formerly of Botetourt, then of Montgomery County, moved farther southwest from his home on the North Fork of the Roanoke on the East side of the mountain range to the West side of the Mountains to what in 1824 became Logan County. Several others, believed to have been his children, accompanied him and settled along the Guyandotte River or on branches of Cole. Land ownership, property and personal tax lists, and census enumerations document William's presence on Spruce Fork of the Cole, which residence was variously located in the following Virginia counties; Kanawha, Cabell, Logan, and after his death ultimately in Boone County, West Virginia. Those accompanying William and his wife to establish homes along*

tributaries of the Guyandotte or Cole, or who were born shortly after arrival, were at least Richard McNeely, David McNeely, James McNeely, Nancy (McNeely) Dingess, Joseph McNeely, William McNeely Jr., George McNeely, Robert McNeely, Samuel McNeely, and Elizabeth McNeely. Supporting the probability of the senior William McNeely's having been the progenitor is the fact that he was the only one born before 1765 (possibly about 1755), and most names a son William. Because of the propensity of the children to repeat naming patterns, there were numerous McNeely first cousins with the same given names during the first half of the nineteenth century. Thus, in the listings of William's presumed grandchildren, it is sometimes difficult without other corroborating evidence to distinguish between the various ones named William, John, Samuel, George, James, Joseph, etc. (Agnes Branch Pearlman, The McNeely Families of Southern West Virginia, July 2000). It is significant that the McNeely property, like that of the Elkins, straddled ...what was then the border between Cabell County and Kanawha County, Virginia. The 1810 census has William as Head of Household, aged 26-45,. In 1820 he was listed as over 45, again in Kanawha County; but he was missing on census enumerations there and in neighboring counties in 1830. Whether he had moved or was deceased has not yet been determined. (Agnes Pearlman June 2000). "...I began finally to give some thought to identity of the wife of the Logan/Boone County, WV progenitor, William McNeely. Richard, seemingly his first son, was not a typical McNeely given name at that time and there was no prominent minister or political figure of the name; therefore, I believe that his name came from his mother's family—probably her father. When I thought of that approach, Richard Elkins of Montgomery County, Virginia, in the appropriate time frame immediately came to mind. Not only did some of the Elkins groups settle on Spruce Fork of Cole but others settled on the Guyandotte River about eight miles southeast of Logan Courthouse—both vicinities the same as for the McNeely groups." (Agnes Pearlman July 2000). Agnes estimates William being born about 1765, this writer believes, based on witness transactions in Augusta County, he was born about 1755, Census enumeration's leave room for such speculation. Loss of the 1800 United States Federal Census of Virginia complicates assignment of ages and parentage for those who did not live until 1850 or even 1840; however careful analysis of the 1810 through 1830 census enumerations and tax records makes it clear that the elder William McNeely was the only one old enough to have been father to the others. These records, which are quite straight forward save for a significant 1810 Kanawha County entry... That year William was apparently the older man in the household of his son George." (Agnes Branch Pearlman, The McNeely Families of Southern West Virginia, July 2000). Hence the probable children of William of North Fork are: Richard McNeely, David McNeely, James McNeely (James married Polly Workman 1802 in Kanawha County, VA, No information known on this couple, they may have died or migrated to another area.), Nancy (McNeely) Dingess, Joseph McNeely, William McNeely Jr., George McNeely, Robert McNeely, Samuel and Elizabeth McNeely.

### **RICHARD McNEELY**

(Probable son of William of North Fork)

Richard was born about 1775. He married Mary Blankenship May 11, 1803 in Mon VA. She was born about 1779. They were married by Reverend Jacob Cook, a Mc name illegible, and Beverly Blankenship were Bondsmen. "Like William Richard Spruce Fork of Cole, where in 1824 he owned 50 acres 13 miles northeast of Logan In 1839 he added to his holdings 10 acres on Beech Fork of Spruce 15 miles north Courthouse. Still later Richard with George Smith purchased several parcels totaling 130 acres on Spruce Fork of Cole 10 miles northeast of Logan Courthouse. He and following children, all the children have not been documented" (Agnes Branch Pear

### **WILLIAM McNEELY**

(Son of Richard)

William was born about 1804 and died December 06, 1872 in Spruce Fork, WV. His first wife was Margaret Blankenship, his second wife was Rachel was born about 1794. He married (1) Margaret Blankenship. Rachel Elkins; born Abt. 1794. On the 1850 census his household consisted of families. He and Margaret had the following children: William E. born Arthur B. born about 1832, Mary A. born about 1832, Hannah C. born about 1834, Sarah

Does not include William who married BALLARD or SAMUEL. They have individual CHAPTERS.

J. born about 1835. We have no record of children being born to his second marriage. William was the second husband of Rachel but we do not know her first husband.

**ELIZABETH McNEELY**

(Daughter of Richard)

Elizabeth born about 1805. No further information available.

**JOSEPH E. McNEELY**

(Son of Richard)

Joseph E. was born about 1809. He first married Dicy/Levicy Elkins about 1835. Dicy was born about 1820 in VA the daughter of James and Ann Elkins. His second marriage was to Julia Burgess Jarrell September 4, 1875 in Logan County, VA. Julia was born about 1845. Joseph is buried in White Oak Cemetery, Logan County, WV. Children of Joseph McNeely and Dicy/Levicy Elkins are: William C. born about 1836. He married Druzilla Echols, Catharine born about 1841, Floyd/Ryland born about 1843, Mariah McNeely, born about 1848, **Mariah** married **James Mays**, they had the following children, Lula J who married Theodore Clyde Halstead, Genetta who married James Massey, William F, Mary A, James M, Joseph M. Joseph and Dicy also had **DRURY/DARWIN** who married Venilla and **MINERVA**. Children of Joseph McNeely and Julia Jarrell are: **Joseph** (Twin) born about 1877, **Samuel** (Twin), born about 1877. Samuel married (1) Frances (Mullens) Smith, (2) Anna Gore. **Matilda** last name listed on census as Jarrell/Burgess, born about 1868. **Lorenzo Dowell** born between 1875 - 1880.

**JOHN McNEELY**

(Son of Richard)

John was born between 1810 - 1820 and died between 1840 - 1850. His wife has not been identified but probably also died before 1850. His first son was named Richard, we find his children, Richard, Polly and Cynthia in scattered households in 1850.

**SARAH (SALLY) McNEELY**

(Daughter of Richard)

Sarah was born about 1817. Sarah was married but we do not know her husband's name.

**ALEX McNEELY**

(Son of Richard)

Alex was born about 1820. His first wife was Peggy Curry. Second marriage to Rachel Elkins about 1834. Rachel was born about 1806. Alexander and family on the 1860 Boone County, VA census with Post Office Ballardsville, VA. Children of Alex and Rachel Elkins are: Margaret born about 1835; Lorenzo born about 1840; John born about 1843; Nancy born about 1846; Arisba E. born about 1848; Lucy Ann born about 1850, she married Anthony White; St. Clair B. born about 1853; Fearebon born about 1855.

**JUNIPER McNEELY**

(Possible son of Richard, first name in question)

**JUNIPER** was born about 1824. He married Cynthia who was born about 1826. They had Mary and William M.

**JOSEPH McNEELY**

(Probable son of William of North Fork)

Joseph was born between 1775 and 1776. He is listed on the 1810 Kanawha County, Virginia census. There is an elderly female in the household, perhaps his mother or another relative. Also a woman who could have been his wife and a presumed son under the age of ten. (*Agnes Pearlman July 2000*). No other information on this Joseph has been found.

**NANCY McNEELY**

(Probable daughter of William of North Fork)

Nancy was born about 1782 in Virginia and died April 5, 1869 in Shelby County, Indiana. She first married William Dingess who was born 1770 in Montgomery County, Virginia. She settled a suit against members of the Dingess family for \$1,200 in which she sold, conveyed, released and quit claimed all right, title and claim she may have had to Dower; She retained interest in her claims for rents but relinquished claims of and benefits in judgment against her late husband for alimony. (*Cabell Co., WV, deed book 3, page 631*). William purchased John

Breckenridge survey of 300 acres which covers the present site of Logan Courthouse, and a portion of the farm across the river, moved on it in 1799. He was said to be almost a giant in strength, but so peaceable that no one could induce him to fight. He had no children by his wife Nancy, but was the reputed father of a child born to KATIE MCOMAS, who was always known as PETER DINGESS, and was for a long time regarded as the best physician in Logan County." *(The Dingess Family 1850 Logan County, VA, selected Biographies, Henry Clay Ragland (Swain p. 51-53)* Nancy was divorced from William before his death. William had an affair with Catherine "Katie" McComas which began before the divorce. Katie and William never did marry, but their offspring, Dr. Peter Dingess, born about 1798, became the most prominent physician of the area. Peter married Mary Ann Stone; and he died 21 August 1859 at Big Creek, Logan County, WVA. After Peter's death Katie McComas had another affair, this one with Ben Garrett, Jr., by whom she had a son John Garrett, another prominent and respected member fo the communtiy. *(Agnes Pearlman, June 30, 2000).*

Before 1830 she moved with her McNeely kin from Logan County, Virginia, to Shelby County, Indiana. There she married Clayborn Rucker January 17, 1832. *(Shelby Co., IN, Marriage Book 1, page 189)* Claiborne had been married to Francis Ballard, sister of Margaret (Ballard) McNeely William Jr's wife. He divorced Frances around 1810 in VA. Then came to Indiana with the same group as the McNeely's. Following Clayborn Rucker's death which was before the September 1835 Term of Court, a number of lawsuits ensued involving the Rucker and McNeely families. *(Shelby Co., IN, Civil File Box 12)*

Clairborne and Nancy gave Burrell McNeely, son of William, 80 acres of land out of love and kindness, so the deed partially reads. This was done on the condition that Burrell take care of Nancy the rest of her natural life. *(page 306, Book C, Shelby County, IN.) November 1868 estate paid \$3.81 to Alfred W. Haymond. To bill of clothing furnished Nancy Rucker aunt of decedent, under contract entered into with decedent in his lifetime to board clothe and provide for said Nancy during her lifetime in consideration of her conveyance to said decedent of eighty acres of land. Burwell preceded Nancy in death but his estate was forced to honor this condition. It is in the estate papers of Burwell that we have documentation that Nancy was an Aunt of Burwell. (estate record of Burwell McNeely box 88 Shelby County, Indiana).*

#### **ELIZABETH McNEELY**

(Probable daughter of William of North Fork)

Elizabeth was born about 1792 in Spruce Creek, Logan, (West) Virginia and died 1861 in Bald Knob, Boone, West Virginia. Agnes Pearlman supplied the following information in 2000: *"The search for parents of my ancestor, ELIZABETH McNEELY, born about 1792 in a part of southern West Virginia that was then in Tazewell County, Virginia, revealed how numerous members of the extended family were. Complicating the effort was the proliferation of the same given names among McNeely family groups as well as the frequently changing county boundaries during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Destruction of Virginia's 1800 United States census enumeration during the War of 1812 further complicated the search. As yet no record has been found that positively identifies Elizabeth's parents, but the available evidence strongly suggests that her father was a William McNeely one of numerous contemporaries of the name. Elizabeth McNeely's first marriage was about 1809 to Joseph Elkins, by whom she had a son and a daughter, Zacheus and celia. her second marriage to Joseph Workman on 7 November 1813 is recorded in the Cabell County, [West] Virginia, Marriage Register. They were married at the home of William Elkins presemably her father-in-law or brother-in-law. According to Thelma C. Anderson, who interviewed Elizabeth's descendants, Joseph Elkins and Joseph Workman were neighbors when the War of 1812 broke out. They went down the canyon together to join the army. 'Mr. Elkins was mortally wounded during the conflict and as he was dying he turned to Joseph Workamy and said, 'Joe don't let my family suffer.' When Joseph Workman returned home he said he did not know any better way to take care of them than to marry the lady. he raised the Elkins children and ten of his own. Elizabeth died between 1861 and 1864 in Boone County, West Virginia (formed in 1847 from Logan, Cabell, and Kanawha)." Child of Elizabeth and Joseph Elkins is Zacheus Elkins born before 1812, he married Lucretia Walls. Children of Elizabeth and Joseph Workman are: Andrew, Matilda, Dorcas, William, James, Amos, Jasper, Eliza, Mary Ann and Venila.*

### **GEORGE McNEELY**

(Probable son of William of North Fork)

George was born 1787 in Virginia we assume in Augusta or Botetourt County. He married Elizabeth Workman January 3, 1812 in Kanawha County, Virginia. She was born 1800. They settled first on Spruce Fork of Cole later moving to Pond Fork situated in Boone County, Virginia when it was formed in 1847. This writer did not research this family in Boone County, VA where there should be much information available. The known children of George and Elizabeth are: James, Bailey, Polly, Peter, Frances, Unknown daughter, Samuel B., Joseph and William. Descendant are listed on list at the end of chapter.

### **JOHN McNEELY**

(Probable son of William of North Fork)

John was born about 1787 in Virginia. He married Mary "Polly" Dempsey, daughter of John Dempsey. She was born about 1795 and died before 1882. *"John McNeely, born about 1800, may have died or migrated "west" between 1840 and 1850. A son of David "Jagger" McNeely, he married Mary "Polly" Dempsey, born about 1800, died before 1882, a daughter of John Dempsey, "the elder". John was mentioned (as were David and William McNeely) in the 12 November 1833 Revolutionary War Pension Application of Allen Christian, who, like his sons-in-law, had moved from the same Guyandotte River vicinity of Logan County to Shelby County, Indiana. Indeed, John McNeely signed an affidavit attesting to the veracity of Allen Christian and to their residence in the same Liberty Township neighborhood of Shelby County. Later he was named as a defendant in one of the numerous Rucker-McNeely lawsuits. (Shelby Co., IN, Civil File Box 24) This could have been John, son of David "Jagger" McNeely, whose wife and children returned to Logan County, Virginia. It is possible, however, that he has a different father." (Agnes Pearlman 2000).* Agnes list John as migrating to Indiana between 1840 to 1850, Maurice speculates they came to Shelby County, Indiana with the early migration group of McNeely's around 1827-1829, this is based on marriage data of probable older children. Possibility wife and younger members of family returned to Virginia after a time. The family may have lived in Kentucky or other parts of Indiana for a few years. This speculation is based on census and children information. Mary "Polly" and family members are listed on the Logan County, Virginia census in 1850, John is not in household. 1850 census Shelby County, Liberty Township, we have John 63 in residence with the Thomas Courter family. We assume this is same John as the one to which Agnes refers. If so, he is too old to be son of David "Jagger", hence I believe he is son of William and brother to David. Agnes refers to an estate Settlement in Mingo County, West Virginia March 7, 1889 which list the children of John and Mary. The list has Hannah, Rachel and Mary still single in 1889. The marriage records of Shelby County, Indiana has a Rachel marriage to Thomas Courter June 1830, the 1850 census has a John in this household; the records also have Hannah McNeely to Andrew Hill June 1836 and a Mary to Enoch Lee September 1839. It is possible that they are older children of John who remained in Indiana and Mary and younger children returned to Virginia. Those who were involved in estate case may have lost contact with older children, we do not know the reason for John and wife's separation. Mary in Logan County, Virginia in 1850 and 1860. The children have married into Varney, Davis, Chaffin/Chafin and Hensley families. They are all residing in the same locality during this time frame. No records of older daughters. Children of John and Mary are: Rachel, Hannah, Mary, Marinda, Jane, Peter, Nancy and Thomas. See descendants of John McNeely for descendants and other information.

### **ROBERT McNEELY**

(Probable son of William of North Fork)

Robert was born between 1776 and 1796 in Virginia and died before December 17, 1828 in Shelby County, Indiana. He married Nancy Christian in 1812 in Cabell County, Virginia. Nancy was sister of Margaret Christian who married Robert's brother Samuel, also sister of Dudley Christian who migrated to Shelby County in the same group as Samuel, David, Robert and others. Dudley appears to be migrate to Jasper County, Illinois and others of the McNeely's follow shortly thereafter. The parents of Nancy, Margaret, Dudley and others was Allen Sr. and Juda S. Allen Sr. migrated to and died in Shelby County, Indiana. Information is available in published form on the Christian family and their travels. Nancy was born between 1780 and died before December

17, 1828. Robert and Nancy had one son listed on the 1820 census, the name of this son is not known. In 1824 through 1826 Robert owned 25 acres of land on Rum Creek of the Guyandotte. This land was seven miles southeast of Logan Courthouse, close to Samuel. Rober and family came to Shelby County, Indiana with Samuel and others around 1829, possibly as early as 1827. We know from County documents that Robert died shortly after arrival. There was a cholera epidemic in the area around 1830, we believe that Robert, his wife and son died in this epidemic. As of 2001 we have been unable to find any information on this family other than the final settlement of Robert's estate taken from probate record Book 1, 1822-1833 page 65 Shelby County, Indiana. Evidently Robert did not have any property in Indiana. *"May Term 1830, Tuesday morning May 4, 1830. William McNeely Administrator Robert McNeely deceased. 'Come at this time the said administrator and files vouchers to the amount of sixty one dollars and sisty two and half cents. Leaving a balance of one hundred and eight dollars thirty one and fourth cents. And it appearing to the satisfaction of the court that the debts of the said deceased are satisfied. It is therefore ordered that distribution be made. And it appearing to the Court, that the number of heirs of the said descendent are eleven making to each heir the sum of nine dollars eighty four and fourth cents. And this case is continued without day..."* The lack of listing of Robert's wife or son on the estate settlement indicates they have deceased as well. William is probable brother is administrator. The distribution would be to Robert's siblings or sibling's children if sibling dead. If Robert had any descendants the distribution would not had been to eleven hiers unless his immediate descendants. We assume then that Robert and his famil are all dead by time of estate settlement.

## *Descendants of (?)William McNeely*

### *Generation No. 1*

1. (?)William<sup>3</sup> McNeely ((?)David (Sr.)<sup>2</sup>, George (VA)<sup>1</sup>)<sup>1</sup> was born Bet. 1755 - 1765 in Seems to be 3d gen. VA McNeely's.. He married Unknown.

Children of (?)William McNeely and Unknown are:

- 2 i. David "Jagger"<sup>4</sup> McNeely<sup>2</sup>, born Bet. 1770 - 1774<sup>3</sup>; died Bef. October 03, 1835 in Shelby County, IN<sup>4</sup>. He married (1) Unknown<sup>5</sup> Bef. 1797; born Bet. 1770 - 1774. He married (2) Olive J. Abt. 1825; born Bet. 1790 - 1796<sup>6</sup>.
- 3 ii. James McNeely, born Bet. 1774 - 1782. He married Polly Workman 1802 in Kanawha County, VA.
- 4 iii. Richard McNeely, born Abt. 1775. He married Mary Blankenship May 11, 1803 in Monroe County, VA<sup>7</sup>; born Abt. 1779.
- 5 iv. Joseph McNeely, born Bet. 1775 - 1776.
- 6 v. Robert McNeely, born Bet. 1776 - 1796 in Virginia; died Bef. December 17, 1828 in Shelby County, Indiana<sup>8</sup>. He married Nancy Christian 1812 in Cabell County Virginia; born Bet. 1780 - 1790; died Bef. December 17, 1828.
- 7 vi. Nancy McNeely, born Abt. 1782; died April 05, 1869 in Shelby County, Indiana<sup>9</sup>. She married (1) William Dingess; born 1770 in Montgomery County, VA. She married (2) Claibourn Rucker January 17, 1832 in Shelby County, Indiana.
- 8 vii. William McNeely<sup>10</sup>, born Abt. 1785 in Kanawha County, VA; died July 22, 1834 in Homer, Shelby County, IN.. He married Margaret "Peggy" Ballard December 26, 1810 in Kanawha County, VA; born May 28, 1789 in Logan County, VA; died January 05, 1863 in Noble TP, Shelby County, IN.<sup>11</sup>.
- 9 viii. (?)John McNeely<sup>12</sup>, born Abt. 1787 in VA<sup>13</sup>. He married Mary "Polly" Dempsey; born Abt. 1795; died Bef. 1882.
- 10 ix. George McNeely<sup>14</sup>, born 1787 in VA. He married Elizabeth Workman January 03, 1812 in Kanawha County, VA<sup>15</sup>; born 1800.
- 11 x. Elizabeth McNeely, born Abt. 1792 in Spruce Creek, Logan, WV; died 1861 in Bald Knob, Boone, West VA. She married (1) Joseph Elkins. She married (2) Joseph Workman<sup>16</sup> November 13, 1813 in Cabell County Virginia; born June 26, 1790 in Tazewell County, VA; died in Bald Knob, Boone, West VA.
- 12 xi. Samuel McNeely<sup>17</sup>, born 1794 in Cabell/Kanawha County Virginia (?); died February 14, 1868 in Franklin County, Indiana<sup>18</sup>. He married (1) Margaret Christian September 15, 1820 in Cabell County, Virginia; born 1798 in Cabell County Virginia (?); died Abt. 1851 in Franklin County, Indiana. He married (2) Mary "Polly" Martin October 22, 1851 in Franklin County, Indiana.

### *Endnotes*

1. Agnes B. Pearlman, Santa Ana, California.
2. Agnes B. Pearlman, Santa Ana, California & WV State Archives, History of Logan Cty..
3. 1820 and 1830 census Cabell and Logan County VA.
4. Shelby County, IN probate book A p 357, 1822-1836..
5. Based on age of children, Olive could not have been mother of oldest children..
6. Agnes Pearlman.
7. Monroe County, VA marriage list..
8. Circumstantial evidence determined from final estate settlement in 1830. Shelby County, IN County Probate Records..
9. Estate papers Burwell McNeely..
10. Loose page found in William McNeely Bible, by Robert Moore. Phyl Hapner, Shelbyville, Illinois..
11. Loose leaf in William McNeely's Bible..
12. McNeely's Southern WVA, Agnes Pearlman..
13. 1850 Shelby County Census, John in residence with Rachel (McNeely) Courter..
14. Kith & Kin Boone County, WV Volume II, 1850 census & comments..
15. Kanawha County, W.Va Marriage list..
16. Ancestry.Com file 26985.
17. Deanna Bennett Slidell, LA, Daviess Cty, MO land transaction recorders office, Shelby and Franklin Cty, Ind. Census and marriage lists, Cabel Va. marriage lists.
18. Request for Administrator estate, Franklin County, Indiana..

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December 13, 2001

Dear Agnes,

Hope all is well with you. As fall is here and winter is fast approaching I return to researching the McNeely's. I have compiled considerable material which seems to indicate a possibility of some McNeely association's. I have taken a portion from the total list, this portion is enclosed for your evaluation. It seems to make possible a strong association between William and David Sr.. The documents which include tax list, some wills, land transactions and other bits and pieces shows an association with Robert of Albemarle, Martha and David Sr's descendants. Also there seems to be an association with the PA McNeely's as I followed their migratory trail. I apologize for bothering you with this material but I have not found sincere McNeely researchers. They seem to be taking much of their information from unconfirmed sources. I value your opinion because of your dedication to accuracy and years of experience. If you don't feel like evaluating it I understand. I appreciate all you have done to open the doors for others. Take care and have a blessed holiday season.

Sincerely,

Maurice

Heavy migration of Scotch-Irish, Welsh, and Germans from Pennsylvania into Virginia began about 1730. Augusta County became the haven for Scotch-Irish Presbyterians. John Dickey (husband of Martha McNeely) received land patent 1747 in Albemarle County, VA, Robert McNeely 1756 in Albemarle County, VA, David McNeely 1761 in Augusta County. David purchased items from a sale in Augusta County, VA in 1759 and was in the Augusta County Militia in 1756. David's land was in Northern Augusta County on the Western side of the mountains, Robert's land in Albemarle County on the Eastern side of the mountains, the maps indicate there was a gap through the mountains in this area which appears to make these land holdings in the same general area. Hence Martha, David, Robert, Andrew, John and Hugh McNeely in the same area of VA during the same period. I believe that George McNeely listed as born in Antrim settled this area and at least Robert, Martha and David Sr. are his children, no doubt there were others. Following is abstract of list compiled by Maurice which allows us to document the migration and association of David, William and some of Robert's family. I also think there is a possibility that William is son of David Sr. Red indicates William probable family.

VIRGINIA.

Augusta County. (Organized 1738 from Orange).

August 30, 1759. McNeely, David: James Robertson's estate sold at public sale, he was one of the buyer's.

August 1761 McNeely, David land grant on South River of Shenandoah.

Sept. 10, 1761 David McNeely Bought something at estate sale of John Bellfught's, estate sold at vendue.

March 15, 1771. McNeely David 15 acres of Bordan's 92100.

January 21, 1775. William and David McNeely teste: to will of Margaret Borger.

August 13, 1779 David McNeely sold land on South River.

1779 McNeely David, 3 tithables, gone, Levy delinquents. South River.

February 13, 1780. Clemons will listed plantation joining David McNeely.

1782 McNeely, George, list of delinquents, gone to Botetourt

1783 CPT Watterson's company, 1783 (on North Fork of Roanoke).

Botetourt County (Kegley pg 589).

David McNeely, Sr 4 horses 12 cattle.

David McNeely Jr 1 horse.

George McNeely 3 horses 7 cattle.

1785 TAX LIST Botetourt Co. Wattersons district.

David McNeely (To KY)

John McNeely (To KY)

George McNeely (To KY)

1785 Botetourt County, Virginia Enumeration. (Formed 1769 with portions of Augusta and Rockbridge.)

P5 McNeely, Wm. 7 white persons, 1 dwelling, 4 other buildings. (Robert's on South Fork)

P7 McNeely, David 7 white persons, 0 dwellings, 0 other buildings.

P7 McNeely, David 1 white person

P7 McNeely, John 1 white person.

P7 McNeely, John 3 white persons.

June 12, 1787 William McNeely on N Fork of Roanoke apptd constable. In place of Wm Robinson.

1787 SCHREINER YANTIS, NETTI Virginia Tax lists, Botetourt County, VA.

P213 McNeely, William White males ? Mules 1, Cattle 3.

McNeely, William white males ? Mules 7, Cattle 15.

(Roberts)

McNeely, William June 9, 1789 exempted from paying County and Parish levies "on account of his age and infirmities". (Roberts)

1798 Botetourt, VA.

P28 Lists of persons who were fined for not attending muster, and others who had removed from Montgomery. A list of delinquents of the Revenue for the year 1798 in the district of James Hoge in the 2d Battalion and 86th Regiment.

september 3, 1799.

McNeely, William.

1790 Montgomery County, Virginia (circa 1790) (Schreiner-Yantis, 1972). (Organized 1776 WV 1863)

(Maurice has not speculated on which family, assistance welcomed)

P105.6. A list of taxable property in the district of John Robinson, Commissioner, formerly the upper district of Botetourt and now the lower of Montgomery for the year 1790.

McNeely, Samuel

McNeely, William

McNeely, William.

The above three names are also on List O of Montgomery County, VA in 1792 and 93.

Kanawha County, VA. (Kanawha formed 1789 from portions of Greenbrier and Montgomery Counties).

1800 McNeely, Richard male above 16 charged with tax. No property.

1804 or 1805 McNeely, William, David. pg 320

Christian, Allen and Thomas and Allen Jr. . pg 320

Workman, James and Jacob pg 318.

Dingess pg 319

Elkins, Richard pg 319.

1805 McNeely, William 2 over 16, John , David, Wm Jr. Richard, all listed on tax list over 16. pg 339.

Workman, Joseph pg 339

Dingess, William. pg 339

1810 Census Kanawha County, VA, Roll 69. (land records began 1790) (organized 1788)

McNeely, William, males 1 16-26, 1 26-45. (1784-1794)(1765-1784).

Ballard, Elijah Jr. (listed next to William, 2 16-26 females, 1 16-26 male)

McNeely, George, males 1 16-26, 1 45 & up. (1784-1794, bef 1765)

McNeely, Joseph, males 1 0-10, 1 26-45, females 1 26-45, 1 above 45, 2 slaves. Not Dicy).

Montgomery County. McNeely, Rebecca males 1 16-26, 1 26-45, females 1 26-45, 1 45 & up. (Robert's William's wife).

Wall, Conrad males 3 0-10, 1 10-16, 2 16-26, 1 45+. Females 2 0-10, 1 10-16, 2 16-26, 1 26-45

1810 Tax List Cabell County, VA census missing. (land records began 1808) ( organized 1809 from portion of Kanawha)

(Tithable is male member 21 years and older).

L4 McNeely, David 1 tithable, 2 horses.

Christian, Thomas 1 tithable, 13 horses, son of Allen Sr.

Christian, Allen 1 tithable, 1 horse, son of Allen Sr.

Christian, Allen Sr. 1 tithable, 2 horses.

L1 McNeely, John 1 tithable. (Possible w/Rachel 1850 in IN).

McNeely, Richard 1 tithable, 1 horse

Dingess, William

L2 McNeely, William 3 tithable, 2 horses. B bef 1769, father of Shelby County, McNeely.

Workman and Elkins as well.

B13 McNeely, James, 1 tithable, 1 slave, 3 horses, HALIFAX COUNTY, VA.

D5 McNeely, William, 2 tithable, 3 horses, PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY, VA.

1813 Land List Cabell County.

Ballard, Elijah 100 acres on Cole River 4 miles below the way of Spruce Fork.

McNeely, William Sr. 40 acres no description. 1814, 1815.

McNeely, David 374 (Possible 37.4, seems large) acres 2 miles above the mouth of Huffs Crk, Guyandotte. (William's son) 1814 5 miles SW Courthouse.

1815 Cabell County.

McNeeley, David, Guyandotte RV 2 miles from Huffs CK above; 80S.

McNeely, William, no land description, usually meant not

residence of County.

(1815 Virginia Landowners directory Cabell County

1819 Land List Cabell County.

McNeely, Richard Beech Fork of Spruce Fork of Cole River.

McNeely, Robert 25 acres on Rum Creek of Guy. from William Dingess.

1820 Cabell County, VA census, Roll 130, pg 82 and 87.

McNeely, Samuel males 1 16-26, 1 26-45.

McNeely, Robert males 1 0-10, females 1 26-45. (Nancy b 1780-1790, Christian Family Gen. Glenn's six ranch).

McNeely, David males 3 0-10, 1 10-16, 1 26-45, females 2 0-10, 2 10-16, 1 26-45.

McNeely, Richard males 2 0-10, 1 10-16, 1 26-45, females 1 0-10, 1 10-16, 1 26-45.

McNeely, William pg 51A Pittsylvania.

Christian, Allen males 1 0-10, 1 10-16, 1 45 & up, females 1 0-10, 1 10-16, 1 16-26, 1 26-45.

Christian, Allen Jr. males 2 0-10, 2 10-16, 1 16-18, 1 26-45, females 4 0-10, 1 26-45.

1820 Cabell County, VA Index to Deeds Grantees.

McNeeley, Robert Grantee, William Dingess Grantor bk 3 pg 142 25 acres Rum crk.

1821 Cabell County, VA Index to Deeds Grantees.

McNeely, David Grantee, Peter Dingess Grantor, bk 3 pg 418, 50 acres Guy riv.

McNeely, Samuel Grantee, Peter Dingess etal, bk 3 495, 250 acres Guy riv.

1822 Land List Cabell County.

McNeely, Richard same as 1819.

McNeely, Robert same as 1819.

McNeely, David Adjoining Wm Hinckmann on Guy. River by deed from Peter Dingess.

1823 Land List Cabell County.

McNeely, Richard 51 acres Spruce.

McNeely, David 50 acres Guy. same as 1822.

McNeely, Samuel 250 acres Guyandotte River. Later we see West side of Guy.

1820 Kanawha County, VA census Roll 142 pg 7A.

McNeely, George males 4 0-10, 1 16-26, females 1 0-10, 1 16-26. (son of William)  
McNeely, William males 2 26-45, 1 45 & above, females 3 0-10, 1 10-16, 1 16-26, 1 45 & above. (Wm of North Fork)  
McNeely, William Jr. males 5 0-10, 1 26-45, females 1 0-10, 1 16-26. (Married Ballard)  
McNeely, James males 2 0-10, 1 16-26, females 1 0-10, 1 16-26. (Possibly son of David)  
1826 Kanawha County, VA Grantee Index to Deeds.

McKnely, William Grantee, David French Grantor Bk G pg 70 250  
A Coal River.

1826 Logan County, WV. (Logan formed 1824 from portions of Kan. Cabell and Giles).

1825 Ballard, Elijah 100 acres Cole River 4 miles below Spruce.  
Christian, Allen 5 acres Guy. Thomas 50 acres Clear Fork.  
McNeely, Richard 50 acres Spruce Fork.  
McNeely, Robert 25 Rum Creek.  
McNeely, David 50 acres Guyandotte.  
McNeely, Samuel 215 Acres Guyandotte.

1826 Same except Samuel listed with 250 acres. Later we transaction was between he and Peter Dingess. West side of

Guyandotte. 215 acres went to James Pine Christian around 1829.

1828 Elijah Ballard in Indiana.  
McNeely, James on Spruce Fork of Coal.  
McNeely, David and Richard same.

1829 Christian, Allen in Logan.  
Christian, James Pine has 50 acres on Rum Creek and 215 west side of Guyandotte. Probably Robert's and Samuel's

1828-1842 Logan County VA grants, Survey books A, B, & C.

George McNeely 100, Pond Fork, 1828.  
George McNeely 100, Pond Fork, 1829.  
James McNeely 30, Spruce Fork, 1837.  
James McNeely 9 Spruce Fork, 1844.  
Joseph McNeely 99, 33, 52, 20, 40 Spruce Fork, 1844-1852.  
William McNeely 75, Hewetts Creek, 1848.

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Researching the available information on early McNeely's has revealed an absence of data on the connection of the early families. Although much work has been accomplished on individual lines, a work has not been found which includes the migratory routes, location and possible relation of these different lines. This compilation is a preliminary effort to fill this void. It is, at best, only a beginning but it is our hope that it will encourage others to pursue vigorously the linkage of the families until a substantial volume will be available. Eventually with diligent efforts, cooperation and coordination a source will be available for all McNeely's that will assist them in tracing their ancestors. In tracking the family we have accumulated the information from many sources; and in coordinating and recording such information it has been necessary to follow a course of reasoning and deduction in facts. All of the information has come from authentic sources; and while there may be some discrepancies as to exact dates and exact lines of descent, the overall record is believed to be correct. Where this reasoning was not confirmed by specific documentation we have given cause to the conclusion and so noted that it was a deduction on our part.