

# Nehemiah **SQUIRES** of **Preston County** **His Ancestors & Siblings** By Joy L. GILCHRIST-STALNAKER

NEHEMIAH SQUIRES was b. ca 1769, probably in Shelbourne Parish, Loudoun County, VA; d. 1827; m. Sarah POLAND (POLEN/POLING).

Nehemiah, his brother Reuben, and their sister Elizabeth appear to be the only children of Thomas SQUIRES who migrated to Monongalia County. Reuben settled in present-day Marion County, and Nehemiah in present-day Preston County. The whereabouts of Elizabeth is unknown.

The first SQUIRE(s)/SQUIERs in Preston County were MEEKER and William, sons of Benjamin SQUIER, Westfield, New Jersey. Their signatures are on the petition dated October 1795 which was presented to the Virginia Assembly requesting separation of Preston County from Monongalia County.<sup>1</sup>

William and MEEKER lived on Sandy Creek in present Grant District of Preston Co., near the MORTONS and GRIBBLES. (DB OS 4/211) Around 1800 both families departed the county. MEEKER apparently went to the Blue Ball county of Ohio (now Warren and Butler counties), and William went to Fayette Co., PA before joining his brothers in Ohio. The MORTONS appear to be the only ones who remained in Monongalia County.<sup>2</sup>

Intensive research indicates there was no family connection between MEEKER and William and Nehemiah SQUIRES of Preston County.

**MEEKER SQUIRE(s)/SQUIER** (24 Nov 1750/NJ-21 Jun 1818/Butler Co., OH) m. Rachel MEEKER (1754-1840), daughter of Stephen MEEKER, 9 Nov 1774/Essex Co., N.J. Eight children: Rebecca m. (1) Thomas MORTON, son of Samuel MORTON of Monongalia (now Preston) Co., VA, and (2) Samuel Sergeant. Anna m. David JOHNSON; William m. Pugh OSBORN, daughter of Jonathan H.

<sup>1</sup>Original petition on file at Virginia State Library, Richmond, VA.

<sup>2</sup>LITTELL, John. *Family Records or Genealogies of First Settlers of Passaic Valley (And Vicinity) (N.J.)*. (Genealogical Publishing Co., - Baltimore 1981) pp. 397-399.

# **McDonald's Impact on Genealogy Library**

**by Joy L. Gilchrist-STALNAKER**

A visit by Ronald McDonald and a store full of white shirt and black tie clad employees kicked off McDonald's Restaurant's 21st anniversary celebration at Market Place Sunday, September 22, 2008. Employees and customers alike appeared to be having a good time as Ronald performed various antics with children and adults alike.

A couple from Queen Creek, Ariz., who had stopped in Weston for the night, commented about the great time they were having. The man said, "We've been in McDonald's all over the country, and we've had the best time tonight that we've ever had. Everyone is so friendly!

"I've lived on Big Macs off and on for years. We would play a gig and then eat at McDonald's."

Expanding on their reason for being at the local restaurant, he continued, "We're both professional musicians. We're on our way to my wife's induction into the Massachusetts Country Music Hall of Fame. She, with her two sisters, used to sing with Gabby Hayes, Tex Ritter, Lash LaRue and the Three Stooges.

"Her sisters are too ill to travel, but we're going."

The woman interjected, "He's the best lead guitar player I know."

Deciding that these two had a story to tell and that it might be interesting to the *Democrat* readers, this reporter asked their names.

"Bill and Evelyn TENNEY KING," the wife responded.

"Oh, are you related to the TENNEYS around here," the reporter asked. "Are you descended from James and Thankful SHIPPEE TENNEY who has so many descendants living in West Virginia? They were from Massachusetts."

On her affirmative reply, the reporter told them to visit the Hacker's Creek Pioneer Descendants Library at Horner the next day.

"Oh, we have plenty of time and we will definitely go there!," B. KING said. "We had no idea that there was family in West Virginia."

The reporter gave them directions and left the rest up to the couple.

A telephone call to the library on Tuesday revealed that the KINGS did visit the library.

So, does this mean that Ronald McDonald's picture should be posted on the wall at the library alongside Big Bird and the Cookie Monster left behind when the old Horner School was an educational facility for children? After all, McDonald had something to do with getting the KINGS to the library.

- Reprinted from the *Weston Democrat*

**OSBORN**; John m. Mary **POTTER**, daughter of Russel **POTTER**; Ezekiel, never married; Phebe m. John **SQUIER**; Stephen m. Sarah Bond.<sup>3</sup> John **SQUIER** and wife, Mary **POTTER**, are named in the Monongalia estate settlement of Russell **POTTER**, who owned land in the county (OS 8/272).

William **SQUIRE(s)/SQUIER** (15 Apr 1753/NJ - 27 Jun 1832/Butler Co., OH) m. Sarah **CONKLIN** 1 Aug 1775 in Westfield Presbyterian Church, Union Co., NJ. Their children: Caleb m. Elizabeth **WELLS**; Abraham m. Polly **BALL** (daughter of Ezekiel **BALL** of Middletown, NJ); David; Ellis; William; Mary m. John **SHUCKMAN**; Abigail m. Jeremiah **MASTERSON**; Sarah m. Henry **ROW**; Daniel m. Miss **CASE**; and Rebecca.<sup>4</sup>

They had a brother, Ellis **SQUIRE (s)/SQUIER** (17 Sep 1746/NJ - 10 Aug 1824/OH) who married Rebecca **POTTER**, a cousin to Mary, the wife of John **SQUIRE(s)** mentioned above.<sup>5</sup>

There was another William **SQUIRES** in Preston County about the same time that Nehemiah was. Family connections have not been established; however, any connection would not be closer than uncle or cousin, and would not affect the Nehemiah **SQUIRES** family genealogy.

William **SQUIRES** was the son of William **SQUIRES** of Ann Arundel Co., MD; m. Sarah **PARKER** 12 Oct 1782 in Baltimore, and Sarah lived in Fredrick and Allegheny counties, MD, before settling in Fayette Co., PA.<sup>6</sup> He owned 200 acres on Sandy Creek in Preston County in the 1820's but did not live there. (Tax lists of Preston Co.)

Nehemiah **SQUIRES** was born ca 1769, established by his first appearance on Loudoun County tithables in 1785, in the household of his step-father John **PILES**. Young men were listed on tithables once they reached age 16. He was the son of Thomas **SQUIRES** by his second wife, Nancy Anne (**TOLLE**) **SQUIRES**.

Oren **MORTON** claims that Nehemiah **SQUIRES** came to Preston County from Loudoun County about 1790.<sup>7</sup> Repeated attempts to find evidence

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<sup>3</sup>Ibid

<sup>4</sup>Ibid

<sup>5</sup>Ibid

<sup>6</sup>**SQUIRES**, William Henry Tappey, ***SQUIRES** Genealogy* in Maryland Hall of Records.

<sup>7</sup>**MORTON**, Oren F., *A History of Preston County, West Virginia*, (The Journal Publishing Co., Kingwood - 1914) p. 396

of this date have been futile; records about Nehemiah in his early manhood years apparently are nonexistent.

Nehemiah married Sarah **POLAND** before April 1793, probably in Loudoun County. No marriage record has been found for them, but the **POLING/POLAND/POLEN** family were neighbors to the **SQUIRES** and **PILES** in Loudoun County.

Information about Sarah **SQUIRES** was found on her death record, which was reported by her son Samuel D. **SQUIRES**. She died 30 Sept 1857, age 93. Her parents were John and Nancy **POLAND**, she was born in New Jersey, and her consort was Nehemiah **SQUIRES**, dec'd. Her birthdate is calculated as Sept 1764.

Sarah's names have created problems for researchers. Wiley's *History of Preston County* (p. 489) has her name as Elizabeth **POLEN**. In **MORTON's History of Preston County** (p. 470) she is called Sarah **POLING**. Her given name may have been Sarah Elizabeth, and her surname **POLAND**, **POLEN**, or **POLING**. Her maiden name was the middle name for her grandson, Samuel P. **SQUIRES**.

Preston County was part of Monongalia County when Nehemiah and Sarah moved there. Monongalia County, formed in 1776 from West Augusta County, intended to be named after the Monongahela River, but was misspelled by a cartographer and became Monongalia instead. It encompassed all of present-day Preston County, most of Tucker County, and parts of Randolph, Barbour, Taylor, Marion and Harrison Counties. It also included a great portion of Greene County, and the southwestern half of Fayette County in Pennsylvania. The county seat had been located in the Pennsylvania portion, but was moved to Morgantown after the boundary dispute between Pennsylvania and Virginia was settled.

In 1782 there were 48 households in the area that is now Preston County, with a population of 250 persons.<sup>8</sup> When the American Revolution ended in 1783 the state government opened a land office in Morgantown. Settlers began to patent their lands, and to claim additional adjoining lands. Some of the settlers had resided on their land for several years prior to that time. Other people were drawn to the area because of the vast amount of lands available. Elijah **PILES** and Charles **DAWSON** (relatives by marriage to Nehemiah) claimed land at that time Indian invasions continued for the next eleven years in the Monongahela River country; however, new settlers continued to come in from the South branch of the Potomac, the valley of Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania. Nehemiah and Sarah **SQUIRES** were among those who migrated from the valley of Virginia during that time, probably in the springtime, the normal time of such migrations.

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<sup>8</sup>Ibid., p. 64

Their reasons for making the move probably involved John **PILES** who wanted to be near his family, and to settle on his vast acreage (800 acres) in Monongalia (now Preston) County; as well as the attraction of a new land and the hope for a better life. One West Virginia historian has said "Happy people never migrated. It was only the dissatisfied ones who did."

They had a choice of two routes of travel to Monongalia/Preston County.

The first would have taken them directly north on the Old Carolina Road, to Nolands Ferry where it crossed the Potomac to Braddock's Road (now U.S. Route 40). They would have followed this road to Cumberland. From Cumberland they may have continued on west on the road, or they may have cut southwest and come into what is now Preston County through Terra Alta Gap. If they traveled this road, they probably went first to present-day Marion County where Elijah **PILES** and Charles **DAWSON** lived.

The second route would have been the old Indian trail that is now Virginia State Route 7 from Leesburg, VA to Winchester. They would have gone over the Blue Ridge Mountains and across the northernmost section of the Shenandoah Valley. At Winchester they would have taken what was to become the most important of the early thoroughfares into present-day West Virginia, the Winchester and Clarksburg Road (a part of U.S. Route 50) which was established as a packhorse trail about 1785. It was a direct course from point to point, regardless of the contour of the ground. Around the turn of the century the road was improved to wagon road status. It entered the county at Corinth, crossed the mountains through the Terra Alta Gap, crossed the Cheat at Caddell, traversed the site of Kingwood, skirted the southern brow of Mount Phebe, passed in front of what is now Bethlehem church, and on towards Gladesville. It passed near the **PILES-SQUIRES** property and today is called Dogtown Road. Thus, the second route seems the more likely route of migration for the **SQUIRES**.

Roads were maintained by persons residing in the community. In 1802 Nehemiah **SQUIRES** and his neighbor and friend Daniel **FORTNEY** were recommended as overseers of the roads in their district.

The route that Nehemiah and Sarah traveled from Loudoun County to Monongalia County would have been difficult and hazardous, regardless of which route they chose. They would have carried only the most essential items with them of clothing, some bedding, a small stock of provisions (including salt), an axe, hand and crosscut saws, draw knife, an auger, a gimlet, and probably blacksmith tools. Nehemiah would have had his rifle and hunting knife, while Sarah would have had her cow and perhaps some seeds. Their trip may have been complicated by the presence of small children.

Their household goods were probably packed in a packsaddle made of the crotches of two forked limbs fastened together by two pieces of board padded underneath with sheepskin and lashed to their horse. They would

have been the exception rather than the rule if they had a wagon, because (1) the roads were not good enough for wagon travel, and (2) it's doubtful they owned a wagon. John PILES estate settlement and inventory does not include a wagon, and he was wealthier than his step-son Nehemiah.

On 29 Mar 1805, "Nemiah" SQUIRES was deeded 100 acres of land in line with the Cain survey and the Big Survey by Elisha PILES agreeable "to the sealed obligation of John PILES", his deceased step-father, for \$100. A map, drawn to scale from the deed, and the deed are on the following pages. The land was behind present day Bethlehem Church, and adjacent to Daniel FORTNEY, who had purchased a tract of land from James S. and Susanna (DECKER) WILSON 12 December 1788 (DB OS-1/416).

Tax lists of 1803 through 1828 reveal that other neighbors were Hunter PILES and Amos HAWLEY. Hunter was Nehemiah's step-brother, and had inherited his land from his father John PILES. Amos HAWLEY signed a receipt for a "legacy due Elizabeth SQUIRES" in the John PILES estate settlement, which might indicate that Amos was Elizabeth's husband, and, thus was Nehemiah's brother-in-law. Other neighbors were John FAIRFAX and Jacob ZINN.

It is probable that Nehemiah and Sarah lived on the land before they purchased it, and that they had already claimed the land from virgin forest. They felled the trees on the property to build a cabin, similar to the one that Barton and Emily (SQUIRES) FORTNEY had, pictured in Chapter 11. It would have had a roof of clapboards and weight-poles, a puncheon floor fastened with pegs, and a slab door with wooden hinges.

At one end there probably was a stone chimney with a broad fireplace. On one side of the room a log was left out of the wall for a window, which was filled with either small panes of glass set endwise, or, more likely greased paper. Their cabin may have been the same log house that was on the property in October 1908 when the map in Figure 2-5 (page 28) was drawn.

A stream crossed Nehemiah's land. Its headwater was a spring located on the land later owned by Barton and Emily FORTNEY, which was their water source. The creek was called "SQUIRES Creek" on the first map drawn of Preston County in 1830. A portion of the map is reproduced in Figure 2-4 (page 26).

The creek emptied into Decker's Creek until the 1930's when Arthurdale was settled, at which time it was dammed in Preston Glades and Fairfax Pond was formed.

The land was rolling and tillable. They probably raised corn, flax, and vegetables, along with pigs, sheep and cattle. Eventually they also sowed wheat. The farm was large enough to provide for their family of eight in 1810.

## PILES TO SQUIRES DEED

Monongalia County, W. Va., Deeds Vol. 3 and 4 1803-1807, p. 498

This Indenture made this twenty ninth day of March in the year of our lord one thousand eight hundred and five between Elisha **PILES** one of the heirs and executors of John **PILES** dead of the county of Monongalia of one part and Nemiah **SQUIRES** of the same County of Monongalia of the other part witnesseth that the said Elisha **PILES** agreeable to the sealed obligation of John **PILES** and for and in consideration of the sum of one hundred Dollars paid as this Executor knows agreeable to said obligation lawful money of Virginia the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged hath granted bargained sold Aliened Enre and confirmed and by these presents do grant bargain sell CeEn confirmed to the said Nemiah **SQUIRES** his heirs and assigns forever all and certain tract or parcel of land situate lying and being in the county of Monongalia aforesaid containing one hundred acres and bounded as followeth to wit Beginning at a white oak in a line of the Big Survey and with the same north two hundred sixty four poles to a Chestnut in Cain line and with this line south twenty eight degrees west one hundred and forty five poles to a then south thirty five degrees west fifty two poles to a white oak Corner to Cain. Said course continued Sixteen poles more then South eighty two degrees west three poles to a Hickory South (Ninety (?) five degrees west two poles to a dogwood South nine degrees west ten poles and thirteen links (links) Then South Seventy four degrees west. East fourteen and threefourths poles to a blackoak due East fourteen poles to a stump in a field South twenty five degrees east Seventy eight poles to a gum in a line of Daniel **FORTNEY**'s north Sixty five degrees East thirty nine poles to a white oak his Corner South twenty five degrees east thirteen poles to the beginning. To have and to hold the above described tract or parcel of land with the appurtenances to the Said Nemiah **SQUIRES** his heirs and assigns to the only proper use and belee of the said Nehemiah **SQUIRES** his heirs and assigns forever and the Said Elijah **PILES** for the heirs of John **PILES** deceased and for himself his heirs and assigns do hereby covenant to and with the Said Nehemiah **SQUIRES** his heirs and assigns that he the said Elijah **PILES** the above described tract or parcel of land with its appurtenances to the Said Nehemiah **SQUIRES** his heirs and assigns \_\_\_\_\_ Shall and will warrant and forever defend against all persons and claims whatsoever. In testimony whereof aforesaid Elijah **PILES** hath hereunto set his hand and seal the day and year

*first above written. Signed Sealed and delivered in the presence of  
Wm. G. PAYNE, Thomas PAYNE and Samuel PRUNTY*

*His  
Elijah X PILES  
Mark*

*At a Court held for Monongalia County*

*Appril Tenth 1805 this deed was produced in Court and acknowledged  
by Elijah PILES as a deed to be recorded.*

*Teste  
J. Evans  
CM*

Nehemiah and Sarah (POLEN) SQUIRES had at least 9 or 10 children.

- |      |                                       |              |
|------|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| 181. | John SQUIRES                          | b. ca 1793,  |
|      | m. Mary FORTNEY                       |              |
| 182. | Thomas SQUIRES                        | b. ca 1794,  |
|      | m. Mary FAWCETT                       |              |
| 183. | Samuel Dudley SQUIRES                 | b. 1797,     |
|      | m. Elisabeth FORTNEY                  |              |
| 184. | William SQUIRES                       | b. 1788,     |
|      | m. Catherine DUDLEY                   |              |
| 185. | Harriet/Nancy SQUIRES                 | b. 1800-1810 |
| 186. | Elizabeth SQUIRES                     | b. ca 1804,  |
|      | m. James Britton                      |              |
| 187. | A male child, possibly named Nehemiah |              |
| 188. | A male child, name unknown            |              |
| 189. | Sarah SQUIRES                         | b. ca 1815   |

The possibility of a tenth child, actually the first-born, was a daughter named Margaret, m. John FORNASH/FORINASH.

Very little is known about Nehemiah SQUIRES. He appears to have been a hardworking, honest man. He paid his land taxes every year. In 1818 he owned two horses and no slaves and paid a titheable of 35¢. From 1821 through 1827 he paid 18¢ yearly tax on his land which was valued at \$200. Nehemiah drowned in Deckers Creek enroute home from Morgantown<sup>9</sup> in late 1827 or early 1828. Tax lists show his property belonging to his heirs in 1828, with prior years listed in his name. (Preston County Tax lists)

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<sup>9</sup>MORTON, Oren F., *A History of Preston County, West Virginia*, (The Journal Publishing Co., Kingwood - 1914) p. 396



Their son Samuel D. **SQUIRES** moved his wife and children into the family home after Nehemiah drowned. He is shown as head of the household on the 1830 census.

Extant tax lists indicate that Nehemiah's estate was not settled until 1840/41. Samuel and his family continued to live with his mother and sister Sarah through that time; in 1841 Samuel paid the taxes on the land, which was by then in his name. Recorded land deeds were destroyed when the Courthouse burned in 1869.

Tax lists of 1841 and 1842 show the acreage as 79 acres, which is believed to be a transposition of figures. By 1843 the mistake was caught, and the acreage listed as 97 acres. The discrepancy between the 100 acres originally purchased by Nehemiah and the 97 acres is probably a result of the change in some survey lines as survey methods improved and land laws changed.

By 1845 Samuel had moved his family to 131 acres on Mt. Phoebe (map, p. 29), about two miles distant from his mother. Tax lists indicate that Samuel traded land with his brother Thomas because Thomas paid taxes on it between 1838 and 1845. Thomas and his family did not move in with his mother, but continued to live in Kingwood where he had been a blacksmith for many years. His mother Sarah is shown as the head of the household on the 1850 census, blind and living with her daughter Sarah. Daughter Sarah disappears from recorded history after the mother's death in 1857.

In addition to the family home, Thomas owned large amounts of land throughout Valley and Kingwood Districts in Preston County, which are discussed in Chapter 10. However, one other tract of land is important to the homeplace. It may have been part of a larger tract of about 300 acres he acquired about 1840 and gave a portion to his son-in-law and daughter, Barton and Emily (**SQUIRES**) **FORTNEY**. In 1868 or 1869, shortly before his death, Thomas sold or transferred the family homeplace to Thomas Brown; sometime between that time and the re-establishment of court records (after the courthouse burned in 1869) the second tract was sold at either a trust or judicial sale to John S. and Marcellus H. Murdock.

Deed Book 62, page 186 (Preston County) records adjoining land owners as Barton **FORTNEY**, F.B.F. **FAIRFAX**, Thomas **FORTNEY**, Laura M. **JONES**, David L. **KEEFOVER**, and **LOAR** in 1887. (Tax lists 1869-1870 and DB 62/186)

The **MURDOCKS** sold the land to Claude K. and Ellen (**FORTNEY**) **KEEFOVER**, grandson and granddaughter-in-law of Barton and Emily (**SQUIRES**) **FORTNEY**. **KEEFOVERs** raised their family of five children on the old **SQUIRES** homeplace. Their daughter Beatrice (**KEEFOVER**) **TURNER** recalled in 1982 that their home was log underneath. It is possible that it was the Nehemiah **SQUIRES** cabin.

In the early 1900's **KEEFOVER** contracted the coal in the northern half of the property. The map on page 28 was drawn after the contract, and shows boundaries of the homeplace, with few exceptions from the map drawn from the 1805 deed.

The coal was not mined until recent years. Stripping on the farm was finished in 1984, resulting in scarred and barren land. West Virginia laws require that the land be reclaimed.

*AUTHOR'S NOTE: By 29 June 1985 the **SQUIRES** Family Researchers had gathered most of the facts about Nehemiah **SQUIRES**. They knew approximate birth and death dates for Nehemiah and Sarah **SQUIRES**, and for John **PILES**, but didn't know where they were buried. It was considered probable that they were buried in the old **FORTNEY** Cemetery (#9 on map, P. 29), but found no evidence to support it. On Friday 29 June 1985 they learned about another old "FORTNEY Cemetery" from a chance meeting with Joe Dixon, step-grandson of Luther Cramer and Merle Chloe (Burke) **FORTNEY** (grandson of Barton and Emily **FORTNEY**). The Cemetery was located on a wooded hillside adjacent to the stripped area that had been Nehemiah's farm. Joe took the researchers to the site. It is calculated that there may be as many as 300 graves in the cemetery, most with sandstone markers, but no engraving.*

*There were four legible markers for **FORTNEY-PILES** family members. It is believed that Daniel & Barbara (Pickenpaugh) **FORTNEY**, Nehemiah & Sarah **SQUIRES**, John **PILES**, and Hunter and Nancy (**FORTNEY**) **PILES** are buried there. Thomas and Mary **SQUIRES** may also be there. The site of this 'abandoned' cemetery is not shown on the state highway map.*

The southern portion of Valley District, parts of Kingwood District, and all of Lyon District in Preston County could be called "**SQUIRES** Territory." That is the area where Nehemiah and Sarah lived; where Thomas, Samuel D., and William **SQUIRES** and their sister Elizabeth (**SQUIRES**) **BRITTON** lived, raised their families and died.

**To be continued in Issue 4.**

## **ATTENTION VETERANS AND FAMILIES OF VETERANS**

If you or your veteran has roots in Central West Virginia, we are seeking a short bio and picture of him/her for the second volume of Veterans of Central West Virginia. For further details either call the office at 304-269-7091 or visit our website  
<http://www.hackerscreek.com/Vetbook.htm>

Abraham, born September 10, 1780, was married to Martha **HALL**, and went to Ohio. More will be said about this branch of the family farther on.

Jane, born December 21, 1781, married Thomas **HALL**. She died June 29, 1812.

Isaac born November 29, 1783, died February 20, 1806. No record has been found showing whether he was ever married.

Jacob, born December 21, 1785, died November 11, 1786.

Catherine born March 13, 1788, married Elisha **HALL** and died June 7, 1828.

Jacob second, born March 12, 1791, died March 10, 1869. No record of any marriage as to him has been found.

Rachel, Born September 13, 1792, married John **RIPLEY** January 2, 1814, and moved to Iowa.

Susannah, born November 7, 1794, died November 14, 1794.

William R., born January 14, 1796, was married November 20, 1817, to Mary Ann **SWIGER**, and died October 27, 1861.

Mary **WILSON**, born June 20, 1798, married George **SWIGER** and later Joshua **ALLEN**. She died when about 85 years old.

Thus we have only two sons of Abraham **BENNETT** (1745) who were married, and perpetuated the name,—Abraham (1780) and William R. (1796).

### **Joins Washington**

Abraham **BENNETT** (1745) was no unusual person. He was just a plain, blunt man who did his duty to his family, his community and his country. When duty called he obeyed. Many Men of his time were Tories. They favored submitting to Great Britain, and secretly conspired with **the enemies of this country**. Abraham Bennett joined with George Washington and the American patriots, and contributed his bit toward making this the great country which we now enjoy. This year 1932, which is being celebrated throughout the country as the bi-centenary date of the birth of George **WASHINGTON**, it is fittingly proper that some recognition be shown the men who joined him in the fight for freedom. For that reason there is being dedicated today at Dola, W. Va., a memorial to the memory and worth of Abraham **BENNETT**, who suddenly died January 19, 1824.

# **Nehemiah Squires of Preston county His Ancestors & Siblings**

**By Joy L. GILCHRIST-STALNAKER**

This issue ends this publication of this family's history for now. Anyone wishing more information may contact Joy at HCPD or by e-mail [joy@hacerscreek.com](mailto:joy@hacerscreek.com)

181. **JOHN SQUIRES** (1793-1865) m. Mary **FORTNEY**, daughter of Daniel and Barbara (**PICKENPAUGH**) **FORTNEY**; moved to Barbour Co.,

182. **THOMAS SQUIRES** (1794-1871) m. Mary **FAWCETT**, daughter of William **FAWCETT**. Thomas was a blacksmith in Kingwood for many years. Tax lists of the era show that he appears to have been the largest landowner of the children.

183. **SAMUEL DUDLEY SQUIRES** (1797-1864) m. Elisabeth **FORTNEY**, daughter of Daniel and Barbara (**PICKENPAUGH**) **FORTNEY**. Samuel and "Betsy" raised their family at Mt. Phoebe. Both are buried in the old Bethlehem Cemetery. Their children remained in Preston County, and many of the **SQUIRES** in the county today are their descendants.

184. William **SQUIRES** (1798-1862) m. Catherine **DUDLEY** of Marion County, whose father Samuel **DUDLEY** was a Revolutionary War sailor. William and Catherine lived around Austin in Lyon District of Preston County. Both are buried in Concord Cemetery.

185. **HARRIET** or **NANCY SQUIRES**, b. between 1800-1810 according to the 1810 census of Monongalia County and the 1820 census of Preston County. **MORTON** names her as Nancy, while **WILEY**, who did his writing of Preston County History 50 years earlier,

calls her Harriet. Nancy seems the more likely name because her paternal grandmother was Nancy Anne. **MORTON** says she married Alexander **CAMPBELL**, but no evidence supporting such marriage has been found. Alexander **CAMPBELL** families are found in most of the areas to which descendants of the Nehemiah **SQUIRES** family migrated, but none fit the time frame.

186. Elizabeth **SQUIRES** (ca 1804-1883) m. James **BRITTON**, Jr., son of James Britton Sr., and his **FORTNEY** wife who may have been named Nancy. James Jr.'s mother died and he was raised by his **FORTNEY** grandparents, Daniel and Barbara.

187. **NEHEMIAH (?) SQUIRES**, a male child b. 1800-1810 is in the **SQUIRES** household on the 1810 Monongalia census; a male aged 16-26 is in the household on the 1820 Preston County census. The male aged 16-26 in 1820 could have been William, who had not yet married, but it is felt that William was already living on his own because he paid his own tithables in 1820 and declared that he had no slaves and no horse.

It seems probable that Nehemiah and Sarah would have named a son for Nehemiah; they had already named sons for both grandfathers and two daughters named Sarah and Elizabeth after their mother.

Nehemiah may have been involved with his brother Thomas in some business transactions. Two papers, dated 1840 and 1843, referring to lawsuits against Nehemiah **SQUIRES** and Thomas **SQUIRES**, were found in the George W. **FAIRFAX** papers in the West Virginia Collection at West Virginia University. **FAIRFAX** was the sheriff of the county during the time of these suits and apparently had the papers in his possession when the courthouse burned in 1869.

188. Male **SQUIRES** b. between 1800 and 1810, is listed on the 1810 census; and apparently died before the 1820 census was taken.

189. **SARAH SQUIRES** b. ca 1815, never married. She was enumerated with her mother when the 1850 Preston County census was taken.

# QUERIES ?????

1. Searching for information about Enoch Thornton **WITHERS** 1822-1865 ( son of Alexander Scott **WITHERS**) and my great grand aunt Sarah **STEINBECK WITHERS** 1826-1864. They moved to TX with 2 or 3 children in the 1850s. Children were Alexander H. b. 1847 VA(W) Howard Alfred b.1857 TX, Enoch **SCOTT** b. 1859 TX, daughter Louisa d. TX Aug.1864. Several other children names ?? may have died in TX along with mother Sarah in 1864.

Father Enoch T. died in 1865 ?? and the 3 living boys with a Nanny went back to WV to live with their grandparents Henry & Julia **STEINBECK** and Uncle George in Alum Bridge home.

Alexander m. Mary **DAVISSON**, **HOWARD** m. Lina **BENNETT** & Enoch, a minister, married Bertie **CROOK**.

Some information shows family lived Forest Co Texas...although I can not find that county. Thanks for any help ..  
Shirley Toohey [S2ee@juno.com](mailto:S2ee@juno.com)

2 I have a number of queries. You may use one or all of them. Responses may be sent to me, Rhonda **COWAN**, via e-mail [rlc.family@verizon.net](mailto:rlc.family@verizon.net) or contact me via snail mail at 8558 Kim Marie Court, Pasadena, MD 21122

(a). I am researching the **APPLEGATE** family. Thomas **APPLEGATE** was born 1604 in Norfolkshire, England and died in 1662 in Middlesex, New Jersey. He was married in Norfolkshire, in 1620 to Elizabeth Wall. He died 1662 in Middlesex, New Jersey Burial: Gravesend, Long Island, New York - Old Dutch Church Their children: Bartholomew born 1620, Helena born 1621, Margaret born 1625, John born 1630 and Thomas II born 1632.

(b) I am researching the **BICE/BUYS/BISE/BOICE/BOYCE** name - It seems my line started out with Aret Pieterse **BUYS** who married Trentje **OOSTEROM**. They had a son, Arien Pieterse **BUYS** born in 1650 in the Netherlands, and he came to New Jersey and married Trentje Hendericks **OOSTEROM**. They had the following children: Pieter (7/6/1673), Tryntie (8/28/1675), Aaron (before 1677), Gerritje

21, 1828), Frances **GIBSON** and Martha Ann **GIBSON** are also possibly children of Nicholas and Lydia. not much is known about them.

If anyone has pictures of James W. **GIBSON** or any of his children, we would love to have a copy.

Lora **SELLERS**

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#### References:

**CUMMINGS**, Captain Henry E. **GIBSON's Patriots Soldiers Pioneers.** Utica, KY: McDowell Publications, 2007.

**PANGBURN**, Richard. Indian Blood Finding Your Native American Ancestor Volume I. Louisville, KY: Butler Books, 1993.

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### **John Bee Davis** - Continued from p. 11

Anne accompanied him and her parents to America. They were members of John **WINTHROP'S** party, the first settlers on Massachusetts Bay and they sailed on the flagship, Arbella. The party arrived "in June at the half-dying, famine-ridden frontier village of Salem, after a journey of 3 months of close quarters, raw nerves, sickness, hysteria and salt meats," wrote Anne. At first dismayed by the rude life of the settlement, she soon reconciled herself to it. "I changed my condition and was married, and came into this country, where I found a new world and new manners, at which my heart rose. But after I was convinced it was the way of God, I submitted to it and joined to the church at Boston."

Nine Generations after the Flagship Arbella landed on Massachusetts Bay, John Bee **DAVIS** was born (1867-1950) in Doddridge County, West Virginia. He married Florence Virginia **DYE** on December 24, 1891. John Bee was a tall, slender, gentle man who fathered six girls and 7 sons. They spent most of their married life in Harrison County on Lambert's Run and Crooked Run. After his wife died in 1946, John Bee relocated to Detroit, Michigan where he lived with and near several of his sons who had migrated to Detroit during the depression years of 1932-1940. John Bee **DAVIS** died in Clarksburg, W.Va. at the home of his daughter Mable **FRUM** in 1950, age 83. From 1630 to 1950, John Bee's ancestors of nine generations is just one example of the many connections and contributions made by our pioneers in the development of this Country.



# **Nehemiah SQUIRES**

## **of**

## **Preston County**

## **His Ancestors & Siblings**

**By Joy L. GILCHRIST-STALNAKER**

"Nehemiah **SQUIRES** came (to Preston County, WV) at an early day from Loudoun County\* (VA), according to S. T. Wiley's *History of Preston County (West Virginia)*. More specifically, Nehemiah **SQUIRES**, the subject of this sketch came from the Dutch settlement area around Broad Run Church in Cameron Parish, Loudoun County, which is called Waxpool Road today. He was the son of Thomas **SQUIRES** and his second wife, Nancy Anne **TOLLE**, and the step-son of John **PILES**, another Preston County pioneer.

The origins of Thomas **SQUIRES** of Loudoun County appear on Ancestry.com with the claim being that the line goes to one Jonathan **SQUIRES** of St. Marie's (St. Mary's) Ctie, Maryland. **SQUIRES** have been found in the earliest day of Virginia, Maryland and New England. Some came directly from England; others were Scots-Irish.

Land in early Virginia was not sold to individuals; it was granted in large parcels by the English kings. In 1681, the 21st year of the reign of Charles II, the "Northern Neck" of Virginia was granted to Lord Halifax and others. In 1688 the patent was sold to Thomas Lord Culpepper. The country granted was:

*"All that entire tract of land, lying and being in America, and bounded by and within the heads of the rivers Tappahannock, alias Rappahannock, and Quiriogh, alias Potomac river, the course of said rivers as they are commonly called and known by the inhabitants, and description of their parts and Chesapeake Bay."*

This immense estate included Virginia counties of Lancaster, Northumberland, Richmond, Westmoreland, Stafford, King George, Prince William, Fairfax, Loudoun, Fauquier, Culpepper, Madison, Shenandoah, and Frederick; and West Virginia counties Jefferson,



Berkeley, Morgan, Hampshire, Hardy, Mineral, Grant, and a portion of Tucker.

When Culpepper died, the estate passed to his only child Catherine, wife of Thomas, fifth Lord Fairfax, from whom it descended to their eldest son, Thomas, sixth Lord Fairfax. Robert "King" CARTER was named agent for the Fairfax claims; he also was a prominent and wealthy man in his own right. At his death, his son Robert CARTER, Jr. inherited the 300,000 acre estate and 1000 slaves.

Some records have been found for Thomas SQUIRES in Fairfax County, VA, (parts of which later became Loudoun County), including being listed on the tithables list of Rev. Charles Green with 1 white tithable and 1 black in 1749;<sup>1</sup> and having a lawsuit against him by John FLINN in 1754<sup>2</sup>. However, the first business transaction found for Thomas SQUIRES has been a lease "between Robert Carter of Westmoreland County and Thomas SQUIRES" for 176 acres of land on Goose Creek in Cameron Parish in 1755.

The transcribed deed, as recorded in Fairfax County Deed Bk D, Part I, pages 215-217, follows in its entirety.

*This indenture made the sixteenth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and fifty five Between Robert Carter of Westmoreland County of the one Part and Thomas SQUIRES of the other Part witnesseth that the said Carter for and in consideration of the \_\_\_ and covenant herein after reserved and on the Part of the said SQUIRES mentioned to be paid and performed hath demised granted set and to form letter and by the Presents doth demise grant set and to form let unto the said SQUIRES one seventy six acres of land with the appurtenances except all Mines Minerals and Quarries whatsoever lying and being in the Parish of Cameron in the County of Fairfax on Goose Creek being part of a land 11000 acres and called the Goose Creek tract and bounded as followeth viz beginning at a n<sub>ut</sub> on Goos Creek at the ford Corner to Stepehn Lee thence N 53E 53 Poles to a white oak thence N 8 (degrees) 39 Poles to a white oak marked RC thence N 77 (degrees) E 150 Poles to a red oak thence South 16 Poles to a red oak S 33 (degrees) W 86 Poles to a white oak on the Creek thence up*

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<sup>1</sup>Beth Mitchell, 1224 Stoneham Court, McLean, VA 22101

<sup>2</sup>Fairfax County Court Order Book, Fairfax, VA

the said Creek to the beginning being In all 176 acres of land and no more. To have and to hold the said land and premises except as before excepted to the said and his Assigns for and during the natural lives of Thos **SQUIRES** Mary **SQUIRES** Wife and John **SQUIRES** Oldest (?) son and for and during the natural life and lives of the longest liver of them: Yielding and Paying therefore yearly and every year from date \_\_\_\_ to the said Carter his Heirs and Assigns at his house in Westmoreland County. And it it shall happen the said yearly rent of two Pounds fifteen shillings or any Part thereof should be behind and unpaid by the space of sixty days after the days and Place aforesaid appointed for the Payment thereof that then and In that case it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Carter his heirs and assigns into and upon the said land and Premises to reenter and the same to \_\_\_\_ maintain retain and enjoy as of his or their former estate this and the said **SQUIRES** for himself his Executors Administrators and Assigns doth covenant promise and agree to and with the said Carter his heirs and assigns b \_\_\_\_ Presents in manner following that is to say the said **SQUIRES** or his Assigns shall and will within \_\_\_\_ years after the date of these Present build upon the Premises a good dwelling house twenty feet by \_\_\_\_ and a house thirty feet by twenty good as common Tobacco house and Plant fifty Apple trees and fifty Peach trees and the same inclose with a lawful fence and from time to time and at all times during the said term well and sufficiently maintain and keep all and singular the Me \_\_\_\_ buildings and Fences which are to be built or at anytime during the said term shall be upon the demised Premises in good and sufficient repair and at the end or sooner Determination of the Term aforesaid will so yield up and leave the same to the said Carter his Heirs and Assigns and the said **SQUIRES** for himself his heirs and Assigns doth covenant and agree to and with the said Carter his heirs and Assigns that one of the best springs an the demised Premises be tree for any family or families convenient to it not to the prejudice of the said **SQUIRES** or his Assigns. And the said **SQUIRES** and his Assigns shall not at any time during the said term the leave

or licence of the said Carter his heirs or Assigns or his or their lawful Attorney or Attorneys first obtained in writing work or cause or suffer to be worked the demised Premises with more than two laboring Hands that is to say such hands as are generally allowed An Virginia to be full Sharers in a Crop and reckoning so many weaker hands for a Share or laboring hand as a reasonable \_\_\_\_\_ would and ought at such time to adjudge and esteem them to be. And that the said **SQUIRES** and his Assigns shall not commit nor suffer to be committed any waste upon the demised Premises nor without leave obtained as aforesaid sell and dispose of the said demised Premises or suffer any of the wood and Timber thereon to be disposed of otherwise than for the Buildings and Fences -- and necessary uses of the Plantation or Plantations on the demised premises. And further, that it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Carter his Heirs and Assigns his and their lawful Attorney or Attornies and his and their Servants and Workmen and every \_\_\_\_ at all times during the Term aforesaid into all or any Part of the demised premises, the dwelling house and other houses and Orchards thereupon being only excepted to enter and there to dig search \_\_\_\_ for any Mines of Stone, Iron, Lead, Copper or other Mine and to have free and their best Benefit of the \_\_\_\_ and for carrying the same away in Carts, Waggon, Carriages, Horses and Oxen from time \_\_\_\_ and to the use and at the Pleasure of the said Carter his heirs and Assigns and that the said Carter his Heirs and Assigns shall And may from time to time have free use of any Part of the lands hereby demised \_\_\_\_\_ Orchards aforementioned for the laying any of the Mines aforementioned to be gotten in the \_\_\_\_ me and they from time to time making full recompence to the said **SQUIRES** or his Assigns \_\_\_\_\_ans he or they shall sustain by reason of the digging carrying away or laying any of the Mines aforesaid on any of the demised Premises during the term hereby demised And moreover that whenever four of the Tenants by declaration in writing under their hands adjudge a Path or Road needful to be made through any Part of the demised Premises it shall and may be lawful for the said

Carter his Heirs or Assigns or his or their lawful Attorney or Attorneys to cause such Road or Path to be cleared by the Persons desiring the same notwithstanding Interruption or Molestation from the said **SQUIRES** or his Assigns. And for Preventing any claim or \_\_\_\_\_ of Right in him the said **SQUIRES** his heirs or Assigns by reason of the possession at him the said **SQUIRES**, the said **SQUIRES** doth agree to and with the said Carter that it shall and may be lawful for the said Carter to reenter the said land and Premises and the same to hold again retain and enjoy as if this Deed had never been made and the said **SQUIRES** doth further covenant and agree to and with the said Carter that if he shall at any time \_\_\_\_\_ a Breach or failure of any Part of the above Covenant that then it shall and may be lawful for the said Carter his heirs or Assigns to reenter the said land and Premises and the same to hold again retain and enjoy as if - \_\_\_\_\_ deed had never been made In Witness whereof the said Carter and the said **SQUIRES** have hereunto interchangeably set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.

Robert Carter

Sealed and delivered

In the Presence of

Ja. Lane

Step Lee

Thos Field

The lease, proved in court 20 Apr 1756 by oaths of Stepehn LEE and Thomas FIELD, was made out to Thomas, his wife Mary and son John "for and during the natural life and lives of the longest liver of them". It is further confirmed by records of the Glassford and Henderson trading store at the mouth of the Occoquan River at Colchester, VA, where there is an entry in volume 190, page 193 of the store accounts that "John Hough's account was credited by note from Thomas **SQUIRES** for rent due Carter."<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>3</sup>Beth Mitchell, research in Library of Congress

The Glassford and Henderson trading post was one of the chain of stores owned by John GLASSFORD, a Scottish merchant. In addition to providing the normal mercantile services, the store also served as banker, realtor, loan company, travel agent, tax collector, paymaster and church treasurer. Although the area was fairly well settled, the plantations were wide-spread and the general store provided a common meeting place.<sup>4</sup>

There are other references to **SQUIRES** in the store accounts. Perhaps of most interest are the tobacco marks found for Thomas and his son John.

TJS THOMAS SQUIRES

JJS JOHN SQUIRES  
OF LONDON

Figure 1-1. Tobacco marks used by Thomas **SQUIRES** and his son John.

As early as 1686 Virginia law required that planters mark the head and bulge of every tobacco hogshead with the first letters of their given name and their surname. An iron brand was used for that purpose. As the population expanded and tobacco production and trade increased, the brands were modified and in most cases included the first and last initial of the planter, and perhaps some other "whirligig." Tobacco was the usual form of currency and most store accounts were paid with it; consequently, the credit side of store accounts listed payment in tobacco notes and gave the planter's identifying mark.<sup>5</sup>

George **SQUIRES** and Uriah **SQUIRES**, along with Thomas and John, are on the tithables in Loudoun County in 1765. George is in the household of Benjamin **HARRIS** as recorded by J. **MCILHANEY**, and Uriah is on the Nicholas Minor's list.

No further information is found about Thomas' wife Mary; it is believed that she died prior to 1767.

The "probable" family of Thomas and Mary is constructed from the court records already mentioned, from Thomas' will dated 1777, and from circumstantial evidence. We believe their children were:

11. John **SQUIRES**, b. ca 1744, m. Elizabeth **TAYLOR**
12. Uriah **SQUIRES**, m. Elizabeth **TRIGG**
13. Levi **SQUIRES**, m. Mary **CUNDIFF**
14. Sally **SQUIRES**
15. Mary **SQUIRES**, m. William **HANCOCK**
16. George **SQUIRES**                      b. ca 1750                      m. Naomi

<sup>4</sup>National Genealogical Society Quarterly, Vol. 62, p. 258.

<sup>5</sup>ibid.

The reasoning that Mary died before 1767 is based on the ages of Thomas' children by his second wife, Nancy Ann TOLLE (ca 1740-1796/1800), daughter of Roger and Sarry/Sarah TOLLE, who moved to the Loudoun/Fauquier area between 1764 and 1767.

A marriage record has not been located for Thomas and Ann, but the validity of their marriage is determined by Roger TOLLE'S will in 1778 naming daughter Ann SQUIRES (Fauquier County WB 1/390); by Thomas SQUIRES' will naming his "loving wife Ann" in 1777 and by Ann's brother Stephen being one of the witnesses to that will; by a 1788 Loudoun County Court Record for John PILES and wife Ann, "the late Ann SQUIRES" (K/452); and by a deed of distribution in 1787 naming Ann and John PILES with her TOLLE brothers in Roger TOLLE'S estate (Fauquier Co. Land Deed 9/457).

Thomas SQUIRES is on the tithables of Captain Enos Campbell 13 Aug 1765, with no property except three slaves Sarah, Cate and James. In his will, twelve years later, he leaves his plantation to his widow. No purchases of property have been found for Thomas in Loudoun, Fauquier or Fairfax county records; if he purchased property, the deed was never recorded. It is possible that Ann took the place of Mary in the lease with Carter and he left her the plantation as "the longest liver of them."<sup>6</sup>

In 1770 Thomas is listed on the tithables of Leven Powell, and he turned in twenty squirrel scalps for which he was paid a bounty. The next record found for him was dated 14 Feb 1780, the date his will was admitted for probate. The Loudoun County Court Order Book G/222 has this entry:

*The last will and testament of Thomas SQUIRES deceased was prov'd by the oath of James Green Martin, Henry Potten and Stephen Tolle, the witnesses thereto and ordered to be recorded. An on the motion of Ann SQUIRES the Executrix therein named who made oath according to law, certificate is granted for her obtaining a Probate thereof in due form she security. Whereupon the said Ann with Joseph Moxley and Henry Loyd her securities entered into and acknowledged their Bond in the penalty of Thirty Thousand Pounds conditioned as the Law directs. Ordered that William Whitely, Francis Elgin, Jacob Wildman and John Alexander or any*

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<sup>6</sup>Ibid

*three of them being first duly qualified for that purpose do Value and Appraise in current money the Personal Estate (and slaves if any) of Thomas **SQUIRES** deceased and that the Executrix make and return an inventory thereof to the court.*

Thomas had written his will 23 Nov 1777, more than two years before he died. He continued to transact business through the latter part of his life which seem to have resulted in the necessity for his widow to bring lawsuits to settle his estate. The lawsuits took place after her second marriage, to John **PILES**.

An examination of Thomas and his life reveals that he probably had a rudimentary education because he could write his name; he was a planter or farmer farms were commonly called plantations then (he lived in the vicinity of today's Dulles International Airport); he was of sufficient wealth that he felt it necessary to write a will - the poorer people did not make wills; and his table was well supplied.

His will reveals that the family had meat other than wild game - beef, pork, mutton and fowl. They would also have had butter from their cows, lard from their hogs, and tallow for candles from their sheep (many of the people in the region had to rely on bear's grease in lieu of butter, lard, and tallow). They had at least two feather-ticks and bedsteads (signs of the well-to-do), and other household furnishings of some value such as an iron pot and a kitchen table.

A staple food of their day was succotash, with the beans grown among the corn in Indian fashion. Mills for grinding corn were few and far between - the grain was usually broken in a mortar and ground in a grater or hand-mill. There was no ice in the summertime so fruits and vegetables were either eaten fresh or dried for storage.

Items the family could not produce for themselves were purchased at Glassford and Henderson trading post at Colchester.

There were many tasks connected with maintaining a household on a frontier plantation, and Ann was considered fortunate to have slaves to help her. As mistress of the plantation she was responsible for the family and slaves being fed and clothed; she had geese to pluck, candles to make, cloth and blankets to weave. Water was carried from the spring and heated in an iron kettle that swung from the fireplace.

Major jobs such as pulling flax, reaping and shocking wheat were occasions for neighborhood social gatherings. The neighbors and

their children came in; while the men went about the assigned task, the women prepared the harvest-noon feast. At such times the bottom boards and side boards of a wagon, placed in the shade of a spreading tree, were set with implements provided by the housewife and neighbors, and used as a table. There was corn bread or "Jonnycake", which had been baked upon a journey or "Jonny" board about two feet long and eight inches wide - dough was spread over the boards and placed before the red-hot coals in the hearth; when one side was baked, the board was turned and the other side put before the heat. There were also vegetables in season; peaches and apples.

The family attended Broad Run Church which adhered to the tenants of the Church of England and paid tithables to support it. The Church is now gone; a stonehouse (constructed in the 1860's) with a barn and barnyard now stand there. Land for the Church was donated by John PILES, Ann's second husband. When Thomas died in 1779/1780, he was probably buried in the cemetery that was next to Broad Run Church, and is now the barnyard. Most of the tombstones were removed or destroyed in the 1930's; a few remain, including some of the Oatyer/Etcher family to whom John PILES sold property before migrating to Preston County. There are many depressions in the barnyard, indicative that it once was hallowed ground.

### WILL OF THOMAS SQUIRES

Loudoun County, Va., Will Book B, page 319-320.

#### **SQUIRES Thos**

#### **Will**

*In the name of God Amen I Thomas **SQUIRES** of Loudoun County planter being in good health and Body and of sound and perfect mind and memory (thanks be to God for it) but considering the uncertainty of this transitory life do make and declare this to be my last Will and Testament in manner and form following (that is to say) First and principally I commend my Soul into the Hands of Almighty God who gave it in hopes of a Joyful Resurrection at the last day, my Body I commend to the Earth to be decently buried at the discretion of my Executor hereinafter named and as for such worldly Estate which God of his exceeding bounty has been*



pleased to bless me with my Debts funeral charges and other expenses being first there at duly paid and satisfied I order and dispose of the same as follows viz Imprimus I give and Bequeath unto my loving wife Ann the Plantation whereon I now dwell and the same to be entirely at her disposal in as full and effectual manner as I myself can do at the present and further I bequeath unto her on Negro boy name John Roszell for and during the term of her natural life and after her Decease to be sold and produce to go among my Children likewise two of my Feather Beds and furniture at her choice, likewise her choice of any two of my horses her choice of two Cows and Calves, Six Ewes, two breeding Sows, all my Geese, Item I give and bequeath unto my loving Daughter Sally Thirty pounds Virginia currency Item I give and bequeath unto my loving Daughter Mary Wife to William Hancocke Five shinnings having provided for her before: Item my Will my Will and desire is that all the rest and residue of my estate as well Real as Personal may be sold as soon as conveniently maybe after my decease allowing twelve Months Credit for the same, and the produce thereof to be equally divided amongst all my children (the above said Mary excepted) and I do hereby nominate and appoint my said loving Wife Ann whole and Sole Executrix of this my last Will and Testament, hereby revoking and disannulling all former Wills by me at anytime heretofore made declaring this and this only to be my last Will and Testament. In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this twenty third day of November in the Year of Our Lord God One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy seven.

Signed sealed published and declared by the  
Testator as and for his only last Will and  
Testament in presence of

James Gr n MARTIN  
H.J. POTTEN  
Stephen TOLEE

Thos s SQUIRES (S.S.)

At a Court held for Loudoun County February the 14th 1780  
This Will was Proved by the oaths of James Green Martin,  
Henry **POTTEN** and Stephen **TOLEE** the Witnesses thereto  
and ordered to be Recorded And on the motion of Ann  
**SQUIRES** the Executrix therein named who made oath  
according to Law, Certificate is granted her for obtaining a  
Probate thereof in dur form she giving Security Whereupon  
the said Ann with Joseph **MOXLEY** and Henry **LOYD** her  
Securities entered into and acknowledged their Bonds the  
Penalty of Thirty Thousand pounds, Conditioned as the Law  
directs.

Teste

Chas Binns

It is believed that Thomas and Ann had three children:

17. Nehemiah **SQUIRES**, b. ca 1767/1769, m. Sarah  
**POLEN/POLAND/POLING**

18..Reuben **SQUIRES**, b. Jan 1771, m. Ellenor **DAWSON**

19. Elizabeth **SQUIRES** (may have married Amos **HAWLEY**)

By 11 Nov 1783 Ann (**TOLLE**) **SQUIRES** was married to John  
**PILES**. On that date John **PILES** and Ann his wife, "Executrix of the last  
will and Testament of her late husband Thomas **SQUIRES**" sued John  
**SPENCER** and Manlove **TENNANT**, in the Loudoun County courts to  
collect Sixty pounds and Eight Shillings plus forty Shillings in Damage."

John **PILES** (b. 11 Mar 1728/Prince George's County, MD)  
was one of seven children of John and Mary (**HUNTER**) **PILES**; his  
grandparents were Francis and Mary (Bramal) **PILES** and his great  
grandfather was also named Francis. He married Jemima (**WINDSOR**?)  
prior to 13 Mar 1746 when their eldest son Elijah was born.

From 1751 through 1764 John and/or Jemima are found in  
Fairfax and Loudoun County court records. Jemima is named with John  
on an August 1751 deed where they sell 141 acres in Prince George's  
Co., MD, part of "Hunter's Field" inherited through his parents from his

maternal grandparents, William and Rebecca Hunter. In the deed John is listed as a carpenter of Fairfax Co., VA.<sup>7</sup>

There must have been a church building in 1764, for John **PILES** served as a sexton of the Broad Run Church in 1764 and received a salary of 400 pounds on 16 November.<sup>8</sup> However, it was nine years later, on 14 Jun 1773, that John **PILES** and his wife Jemima donated "150 perches of land" to the Broad Run Church. John **SINKLER** and John **DAVIS** were trustees when the deed was transacted. (DB 1773 pp 265-267). John and Jemima received a patent on 338 acres of land, which they sold in 1765 and bought a larger tract of 600 acres from which he gave the church land.

John remained on this land, giving portions to his children and selling the last of it in late 1790 before going to Monongalia Co., (W.)Va. John and Jemima/Jamima **PILES** had children:

- |     |                               |                                      |
|-----|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| P1. | Elijah <b>PILES</b>           | 1/m Hannah, 2/m Henrietta            |
| P2. | Patience <b>PILES</b>         | m. Robert <b>MCCLAIN</b>             |
| P3. | Ruth <b>PILES</b>             | m. Charles <b>DAWSON</b>             |
| P4. | Sarah <b>PILES</b>            | m. Thomas <b>HAWKINS</b>             |
| P5. | David <b>PILES</b>            |                                      |
| P6. | Hunter <b>PILES</b>           | 1/m Christina, 2,/m Nancy<br>Fortney |
| P7. | Henry <b>PILES</b> – unproven |                                      |

A genealogy of these children will follow in a later edition of the HCJ.

After John and Ann married they had many dealings with the courts of Loudoun. On 8 Dec 1783 they were plaintiffs against John **LINTON** and Wm **DEBELL** (OB H/194); 12 Jan 1784, plaintiffs against William **MARTIN** & Joseph **MOXLEY** (OB H/199); 10 May 1784, plaintiffs against William **ALLEN** and John **SPENCER** (OB H/298); on 8 Nov 1784 John **PILES** and wife Nancy sold 5 acres for 10 pounds to Henry **PILES** (DB O/160-163); 9 May 1786, John **PILES** and Ann his wife were plaintiffs against John Alexander and James Leith (OB I/210); and on 16 May 1788, John **PILES** and Ann his wife (late Ann **SQUIRES**), plaintiffs, against John **ALEXANDER** and James **LEIGH** (OB K452-453).

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<sup>7</sup>Pyle, Howard T. and Pyle, Jane Weaver, *The Pyle/Pile Family in America*, (Kokomo, IN - 1981), p. 196

<sup>8</sup>Johnson, page 2

In most of the suits John and Ann sued with Ann described as the executor for Thomas **SQUIRES'** estate; however, research has not turned up the specific reason for the suits.

Meanwhile, John **PILES** was increasing his fortunes. On an undated tax list (1773-1778) he is listed by Francis Lightfoot **LEE** and James **HAMILTON** with 1 tithable. In 1779 he is listed with son David in his household and a Negro Galloway; another list for the same year adds the name of the Negro Prince. By 1782 he is listed by William **STANHOPE** as having David **PILES**, Hunter **PILES**, William **ROBERTSON**, and Negroes Galloway and Cate in his household. It is possible that Cate was the same Cate who belonged to Thomas **SQUIRES**. Finally, on 12 Sept 1785, he is listed with six tithables: Hunter **PILES**, Nehemiah **SQUIRES**, the Negroes Galloway, Rufus and J. Cathrin (Cate) and himself.

John **PILES** apparently began to make plans to move to Monongalia County, now West Virginia, where some of his children and their spouses had gone during the American Revolution when that portion that is now West Virginia was the western outpost of the new nation. In 1796 John and Ann signed a deed (John with a mark, Ann with her signature) that conveyed 12 acres of land for 18 pounds to Peter **OATYER/ETCHER**. The deed was recorded 17 Sept 1796. Ann and John were both present at the signing. (DB X/188). Some problem developed over the boundary lines and the parties were back in court in Feb 1797 when the boundaries were agreed upon. (DB X/320).

John and Ann sold their remaining 300 acres in Loudoun County to John **SPENCER** for 1450 pounds Virginia currency on 20 Mar 1797, which was the land on which they lived most of their married life, and where Nehemiah **SQUIRES** grew to manhood.

Ann did not go to the courthouse to acknowledge the deed; instead, Israel Lacy, James Jennings and Albert **RUSSELL** were commissioned by Charles **BINNS**, Clerk of Courts, to go to her home and obtain the acknowledgement which is the last record of her.

It is unknown whether she died in Loudoun County, or enroute to a new home in Monongalia County, or after they reached their destination. It is certain that she died before 8 Sept 1800 when John **PILES** made his will, because he did not mention her, nor did he mention his daughters or his step-children.

However, his three step-children, as well as two of his sons-in-law, were listed in the estate settlement. It appears that Elijah **PILES**, as

executor of his father's estate, tried to divide the property with some equality among them.

John and Ann (Tolle)(SQUIRES) PILES had no children.

#### John PILES Will

*In the name of God Amen, I John PILES of the County of Monongalia and State of Virginia being weak in body but of sound and perfect mind and memmory blessed be Almighty God for the same do publish this my last will and testament in manner and form following that is to say; first I give and bequeath unto my oldest son Elijah PILES one negro woman named Milly and child Daniel to him and his heirs forever also I give and bequeath unto my son David PILES one negro man called Spencer to him and his heirs forever and further I give and divided to my son David PILES his heirs and assigns the improved part of my land. Whereon I now live and to include of the same survey one hundred and thirty acres also I give and devise to my son David PILES one hundred acres of land on the waters of three fork Creek also I give and devise to my son Hunter PILES his heirs and assigns forever one hundred and Eighty acres of land to include all his improvement where he now lives and also I devise to my son Hunter one hundred acres of land on the waters of three fork creek also I give and devise to my son Elijah PILES his heirs and assigns forever three hundred acres of land on the waters of three fork Creek and lastly as to all the rest residue and remainder of my personal estate goods and chattels of what kind or nature so ever I desire may be sold and all my just debts paid and then the ballance if any to be equelly divided between my three sons namely Elijah David Hunter I hereby appoint Executors of this my last will and testament hereby revoking all former will by me made. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 8th day of September 1800.*

His  
John PILES  
(Seal)  
mark

*Signed sealed published & declared by the above named John PILES to be his last will and testament in the presence of us who have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses in the presence of the testator.*

*John Fairfax, Elias Rice.*

*At a Court held for Monongalia County January Term 1801 This last will and testament of John PILES was produced in Court and proved by the oaths of John Fairfax and Elias Rice subscribing witnesses thereto and ordered to be recorded.*

Teste: J. Evans  
C.M.C.

Children of Thomas **SQUIRES** (ca 1725-1779/1780) are suggested as:

9

11. JOHN **SQUIRES** b. ca 1744, probably Fairfax Co., VA; m. Elizabeth **TAYLOR**,<sup>10</sup> daughter of George **TAYLOR**, 3 Sept 1762 in Loudoun Co., VA. Elizabeth (30 Mar 1748/Loudoun Co.-8 Mar 1840/Salt Lick, Braxton Co., now WV) is buried in the **SQUIRES** Cemetery at Flatwoods, Braxton Co. At the age of 77, she rode horseback from her home in Fauquier County to her sons' Asa and Elijah Hedding **SQUIRES** in Lewis County (now Braxton); she was on the road for 19 days. Two books have been written about this branch of the family (**THE SQUIRES FAMILY 1740-1982** by Charles M. **JOHNSON** and **THE TURLEY FAMILY** by Ruth **COLLINS**). Their children were:

Susannah            b. ca 1764; m. John **TURLEY** 18 Mar 1783,  
Fauquier Co.

Caleb                b. ca 1767; m. Sarah, moved to Kentucky by  
1803

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<sup>9</sup>The circumstantial evidence that Thomas Squires' children is based on is explained. This information is included here with the hope that readers who have evidence to prove or disprove it will contact the Squires Family Researchers.

<sup>10</sup> The author of this article admits there is a problem with Asa and Elijah Hedding Squires being the children of John Squires since he apparently died at least two years prior to the birth of Asa. She would appreciate any information anyone might have on this branch of the family.

Martin	b. ca 1772, Fauquier Co.; d. before 26 Sept 1814 when his estate was appraised; m. Elizabeth <b>BOWEN/BROWN</b> 9 Jan 1802, Fauquier Co.;
Elizabeth	b. ca 1775, Fauquier Co.; m. Hinson <b>SIMPSON</b> 15 Dec 1802, Fauquier
Peggy	1/m Thomas <b>RECTOR</b> 26 Jan 1799; 2/m Wheatman <b>LEATH</b> 19 Oct 1810, Fauquier
Asa	b. 12 May 1785; m. Sarah C. <b>ESTEP</b> 27 Jun 1803, Fredericktown, MD; buried in the <b>SQUIRES</b> Cemetery in Braxton Co., WV.
Elijah Hedding	b. 1 Jun 1787; 1/m Elizabeth <b>URTON</b> 20 Jan 1807, Loudoun Co.; 2/m Elizabeth <b>GIBSON</b> 18 Jul 1821, Lewis Co., (W)Va.

12. **URIAH SQUIRES** b. before 1748; d. by 23 Oct 1826, Adair Co., KY; m. in 1770 in Bedford Co., VA to Elizabeth **TRIGG**. He is in Loudoun Co., VA in 1765 when he is listed on Nicholas **MINOR'S** tithables; he is back again in 1774 as a witness for John **JONES** against Gilbert **SIMPSON** in court "having attended seven days, received seventy five pounds of tobacco for the same according to law" (OB F/323). In the spring of 1774 he served in Capt. Thomas **BUFORD'S** Bedford County Rifle Company of Volunteers and was with the troops through 10 Oct 1774 and fought in the Battle of Point Pleasant, commonly called the first battle of the American Revolution. In 1782 he again was in Capt. Buford's company. There are land transactions for Uriah and Elizabeth in Bedford County between 1776 and 1816; by 1819 they are in Adair County, KY. One land deed (5/406) is witnessed by William **HANCOCK** (named as a son-in-law in Thomas **SQUIRES'** will, page 7), believed to be a brother-in-law of Uriah. Levi **SQUIRES**, George **SQUIRES**, and Thomas **SQUIRES**, believed to be Uriah's brothers, are also in Bedford County part of the time that Uriah is. In 1820 all four are found on the Adair County, KY census.

13. **LEVI SQUIRES** b. by 1758; m. 13 Mar 1778, Bedford Co., VA. to Mary **CUNDIFF**, with William **HANCOCK** (presumed brother-in-law) as surety. He is still in Loudoun County 30 Apr 1773 when he was a witness for John **GOULDING** against James **GRANT** in the county court (OB F/3), but he is in Bedford County on the 1782 tax list with one poll

and in 1800 with four polls. In 1806 Levi **SQUIRES** and Thomas **SQUIRES** bought 182 acres adjacent to Capt. Board in Bedford County (12/122); the same property was sold 20 Sep 1817 by Levi & Mary **SQUIRES**, and Thomas & Jemima **SQUIRES** (15/296). He is in Adair County, Kentucky on the 1820 census.

14. **SALLY SQUIRES**, named in her father's will written 23 Nov 1777 in Loudoun County (page 7).

15. **MARY SQUIRES**, named as "my loving daughter Mary wife to William **HANCOCKE**" in Thomas **SQUIRES** will. They are in Fairfax County in 1757 when William worked with his father-in-law taking inventory of John **HALLS'** estate (WB B/143); and in Bedford County by 1776 when he witnesses on a land deed for Uriah **SQUIRES**. In 1778 he is the bondsman for Levi and Mary (**CUNDIFF**) **SQUIRES** marriage. In 1793 William Hancock and Levi **SQUIRES** are witnesses on a land transaction when George **SQUIRES** "of Loudoun County" buys 100 acres on Elk Creek in Bedford County. There are also land transactions in Bedford County for William and Mary. They had at least three daughters, named in Bedford County Deed 8/345 when Elizabeth **HANCOCK** presented slaves (given to her by her husband in Loudoun County in 1774) to her granddaughters Nancey, Polley, and Elizabeth, daughters of William **HANCOCK**, all of Bedford County, 18 Nov 1790.

16. **GEORGE SQUIRES** b. ca 1749, calculated because he would have been about sixteen years old when he was counted on the Loudoun County tithables in 1765; wife was named Naome. In July 1773 he was the plaintiff in court in Fauquier Co; in 1773 he was in Loudoun County on the tithables list of Josias Clapham of Cameron Parish. By 1778 he had returned to this father's household and was listed on his tithables; he probably lived there when Thomas died in late 1779. By 1782 he established his own household in Cameron Parish; he had a slave named Jerry, according to William Bronough's tithable list.

George must have had a strong family feeling; he not only returned to his father's household when his father was ill, but on 14 Feb 1785 he undertook the care of his fourteen year old half-brother Reuben **SQUIRES**. The order read, "**SQUIRES** bound to **SQUIRES**. Ordered that the Church wardens of the Shelbourne Parish bind Reuben



**SQUIRES** aged fourteen years in January last to George **SQUIRES** according to law." (Loudoun Co. OB B/H/445).

In 1793 George followed his brothers and sister to Bedford County, where he bought 100 acres of land on Elk Creek, witnessed by brother-in-law William **HANCOCK** and brother Levi **SQUIRES** (9/282); the same land that George and Naome sold in 1809 (14/173). Naome is unable to travel to the court, so court representatives go to her and she willingly relinquishes her dower rights in the land (14/174).

17. **NEHEMIAH SQUIRES** b. ca 1767/1769; d. 1827 Preston Co., WV; m. Sarah **POLEN/ POLAND/POLING**. His children will be discussed in the next issue of the HCJ.

18. **REUBEN SQUIRES** birthdate Jan 1771 is calculated from the "**SQUIRES** bound to **SQUIRES**" indenture in Loudoun County dated 14 Feb 1785, shown in Figure 1-9. Reuben was eight years old when his father died, and John **PILES** became his step-father in 1782 or 1783. It is believed that George and Reuben were half-brothers. Reuben's term of indenture is unknown, but prior to 1796 he moved to Monongalia Co., now Marion Co., WV, where he purchased 200 acres of land from John **PRICKETT**, son of Capt. Jacob **PRICKETT**. On 17 Nov 1796 the same land was sold to William **ANDERSON** by Reuben and his wife Ellenor (DB 1/143). Reuben's wife was Ellenor **DAWSON**, believed to be a daughter of Charles and Ruth (**PILES**) **DAWSON**, son-in-law and daughter of John **PILES** and his first wife. Ellenor's siblings were Jesse, John, Susannah (m. John **YOUST**), Stephen, George, Ann (m. Elijah **HOULT**), Elizabeth, and Elijah.

In 1800 Reuben was so ill "by reason of Such a weakness of his limbs that Disables him to walk without crutches" that his neighbors John **SMITH**, John **SNIDER**, Andrew **ARNETT**, Paul **MICHAEL**, Robert **FULLERTON**, Jared **EVANS**, and Michael **FOX** petitioned the Monongalia County court to exempt him "from the payment of publick dues because he had no Estate or Incomes to maintain himself, his wife and three Small Children."<sup>11</sup> He recovered, fathered several more children, migrated to Brown Co., OH, and later to Johnson County, IN, where he and Ellenor died after 1850.

It is believed that Reuben and Ellenor had at least eight children: Nancy m. John S. **JOLLIFFE**; Elizabeth m. Joseph

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<sup>11</sup>Monongalia Court Records in the W. Va. University, Morgantown, W.Va.

## Squires Family

**GALLEON**; John; Thomas; Nehemiah; Samuel?; a female child; Harvey

19. **ELIZABETH SQUIRES**, named in John **PILES'** estate settlement (page 14), believed to be a sister of Nehemiah and Reuben. May have married Amos **HAWLEY**.

To be continued in Issue 3.

## QUERIES ??????????????

1. Looking for parents & other info for Elizabeth **MAY** b 1851, married Anderson "Atch" **CARR** b 1849. They married 11-16-1872. Both were born in Braxton Co. For years I've been looking for info on Elizabeth May **BOGGS** as listed in Don Norman's info BUT marriage certificate lists Elizabeth **MAY** and other sources are listing **MAY** not **BOGGS**. Thanks ! Nancy Powers-**BAUMAN** e-mail: [momofstorm@yahoo.com](mailto:momofstorm@yahoo.com)  
505 Booth Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27516

2. Information wanted on Samuel Ellis **STOUT**, son of Daniel & Jemima **STOUT**. Samuel was born in 1813, married Mary Townsend Oct. 5, 1842. He was a Blacksmith, (as was father Daniel) gunsmith in Lewis, Gilmer, Braxton Co's. (Harrison Co.) He stamped "S. Stout" on the barrels of his Kentucky style rifles. C. E. **DOUGLAS**, 4430 Rochambeau Drive, Williamsburg, VA 23188 e-mail: [vmadoug@widomaker.com](mailto:vmadoug@widomaker.com)

3. a) Need descendants of children of Sarah **BARTLETT** m 28 Oct 1819 George **BROWN** 1789-1862: Charles **BROWN** b 1824; John **BROWN** b 1826; Elizabeth **BROWN** b 1827 m Reece **SHAY**; and Mary J **BROWN** b 1831 m James T **FUNK**.

b) What happened to William **BARTLETT** who m 17 mar 1815 Monongalia Co, VA Rebecca **JOHNSON** (daughter of John **JOHNSON**)?