

THE
SCOTTISH RITE HERALD



"Spes Mea in Deo Est"

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DALLAS, TEXAS, JUNE, 1931

Number 3



SUE HIGGINS COCHRAN

(From Kaulnaker)
A Portrait By Nicholas R. Brewer, now Hanging in the Sue Higgins Cochran
Memorial Library at the Scottish Rite Dormitory for Masonic Girls,
The University of Texas, Austin

The Sue Higgins Cochran Memorial Library at the Scottish Rite Dormitory for Masonic Girls... Austin, Texas

(Dedicated May 14, 1931)

THE Sue Higgins Cochran Memorial Library at the Scottish Rite Dormitory at The University of Texas in Austin, represents in a measure the appreciation of almost 2,000 girls for the work of Sam P. Cochran of Dallas, who was the author of the Scottish Rite Dormitory movement.

In this Memorial Library hangs the portrait of Sue Higgins Cochran, painted by Nicholas R. Brewer of Minneapolis, Minn. Wishing to express their loyalty and regard for Mr. Cochran, the girls who lived in the Scottish Rite Dormitory in 1928-29 decided to present to the Dormitory a portrait of his wife, who died December 14, 1928. As the plan matured all girls who had lived in the Dormitory from 1922, the year of its opening, to 1930, assisted. The Board of Directors of The Scottish Rite Educational Association of Texas approved of the plan, and in the fall of 1930 selected a committee to secure the artist as had been directed.

Nicholas R. Brewer, nationally known artist, was chosen to paint the portrait of Mrs. Cochran, for it was decided that a fitting memorial could come from the brush of no lesser artist. Mr. Brewer painted the portrait from a tinted miniature of Mrs. Cochran made during her early married life. The painting is a seated portrait and is framed in carved wood.

When Mr. Cochran was told that the girls wanted to pay this tribute to him by presenting the picture of Mrs. Cochran to the Board of Directors for the Dormitory, he expressed the desire to equip a room as a library, and from this origin evolved the Sue Higgins Cochran Memorial Library.

The clubroom of the Dormitory was remodeled in keeping with a design prepared by Dr. Walter T. Rolfe, Professor of Architecture at the University of Texas, so as to fittingly house a library of 3000 volumes which Mr. Cochran presented from his extensive private library. Furniture, lamps, bronze pieces, and pictures from the Cochran home in Dallas make of the memorial a gracious setting for the portrait of Sue Higgins Cochran, who helped to plan the Scottish Rite Dormitory and who was entertained there several times as the guest of the girls.

Lining the wall of the long library room are

the volumes of Mr. Cochran's gift to the dormitory. They include encyclopedias, books of travel, history, poetry, some valued classic works, and a number of modern pieces of fiction. Handsomely bound and invitingly grouped, they offer to the Dormitory girls an almost unlimited source of learning and pleasure.

The room itself is richly furnished with several fine old pieces from the Cochran home. A Colonial secretary of mahogany, which has been in Mr. Cochran's family for more than 100 years, is a treasure of the room. A number of rare books are shelved in it. A display cabinet with glass front holds valuable prints and engravings. Pictures, lamps, and pieces of bronze, particularly "The Fisher Boy" by Fritz Zadow; "Autumn Morning" by Julius Coutelle; "Blossoms" by A. O. Noah; and "The Forest Lake" by O. Earhardt, add grace and beauty to this memorial room.

"The spirit of this lovely portrait will ever be a beautiful and abiding memory for all the girls who have lived in the Dormitory," said Mrs. J. Ed Kauffman, director. "Future residents of the Dormitory will come to understand Mr. Cochran's overflowing love and helpfulness for the Scottish Rite Dormitory girls, when they enjoy the restful air of this library and the beauty of the memorial portrait."

At 5 o'clock on Thursday afternoon, May 14, 1931, the Board of Directors, the Dormitory Staff, invited guests and the girls of the Dormitory, assembled in the auditorium. Those present were:

Directors

Sam P. Cochran
W. C. Temple
T. J. Holbrook
Jas. W. McClendon
D. K. Woodward
W. S. Fly
A. C. McDaniel
R. W. Michaux
George E. Kepple

Dormitory Staff

Mrs. J. Ed. Kauffman, Director
Miss Selma Streit, Business Manager
Mrs. J. S. Myrick
Mrs. John G. Slater
Mrs. S. H. Lawhon

Assistant Directors

University Officials

Dr. and Mrs. H. Y. Benedict
 Dr. W. J. Battle
 Miss Ruby R. Terrill, Dean of Women

Sisters and Brothers of Mrs. Cochran

Mrs. Wm. Rodes, Lexington, Ky.
 Mrs. Jos. G. Smith, Dallas
 Mrs. C. H. R. McElroy, Kansas City
 Mr. Robt. H. Higgins, Dallas

From Dallas

F. D. Cochran
 J. L. Stephens
 Mr. and Mrs. Jas. C. Jones
 Miss Lita May Mitchell
 R. E. L. Saner
 Mr. and Mrs. George Lang
 Perry Wimberly
 Wilbur Keith
 Mrs. Murrell Buckner

From Austin

Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Reed
 Mr. and Mrs. Wm. G. Bell
 Mr. and Mrs. Ben Powell

Mrs. J. Ed. Kauffman, Director, presided and spoke as follows:

"Mr. Cochran, Board of Directors, Dormitory Staff, Honored Guests, and Girls: It is a day of heavenly memory for us who live in this home. The girls of the Scottish Rite Dormitory, wishing to express appreciation to the Board of Directors for this house beautiful, determined to present a portrait of Mrs. Cochran. The portrait will be presented by Janet Sheppard and accepted by Judge Fly on behalf of the Board of Directors.

"Judge McClendon, our First Vice-President, has so often said in expressing his love for and pride in this Dormitory, 'Oh, some day I hope we may have a library.' Our great benefactor, Mr. Cochran, has fulfilled Judge McClendon's wish, so today we will dedicate this library. When Judge McClendon was told of what Mr. Cochran had presented—this beautiful and expensive library—he said, 'I hope it will be called The Sue Higgins Cochran Memorial Library.'

"And now, Mr. Cochran, if you will lead the way, with 'One Sweetly Solemn Thought,' we will repair to the library."

Lines were then formed and the march to the library was begun. As the line of march approached the library door, Misses Mary Pittard and Martha Quinn parted ribbons which had been tied across the entrance, and Miss Rosalie Leslie proclaimed:

"SUE HIGGINS COCHRAN MEMORIAL LIBRARY, I dedicate thee."

Mr. Cochran and Mrs. Kauffman then entered the library, accompanied by Mesdames Smith, Rodes, and McElroy, Mr. Higgins, Mr. F. D. Cochran, Miss Janet Sheppard, the Directors, and invited guests.

Miss Janet Sheppard then spoke as follows: "As you all know, this library is the gift of Mr. Cochran to the girls of this Dormitory. Important as this library is to us, and great as is the benefit the girls will hereafter derive from it, it has an even more significant meaning, for this library is a memorial to Sue Higgins Cochran, the very lovely lady of this portrait.

"When Mr. Cochran heard of our intention to have a portrait made of his wife, he very generously offered to give us this library as a memorial to her.

"It is most appropriate that a picture of a woman be presented by University women; it is most appropriate that a picture of a woman be hung in this library for women; it is most fitting that the portrait be the wife of the man who gave us this library. But more than that, just look at that lovely face and you will realize what that picture is going to mean to the many girls who will use this room. There is much more in her face than features. As I stood here and looked at her picture this morning, I could see a message of courage in the calm of her eyes; and a lesson of tolerance in the smile of her lips; a call to understanding in the light of her forehead; and a challenge to us all to be everything that the word 'womanhood' means, in the sweet expression of her whole face. That lady is to me and will be to every girl who looks at her, whether that girl quite realizes it or not, the picture of sweetness and light, sweetness of heart and soul, and the light of the mind. In the years to come, Sue Higgins Cochran will smile down on this library, a spiritual inspiration to all who see her.

"In the name of the girls who made this picture possible, and with a feeling of gratitude to Mr. Cochran and profoundest respect and reverence to this lady, I present this portrait of Sue Higgins Cochran to the Scottish Rite Dormitory."

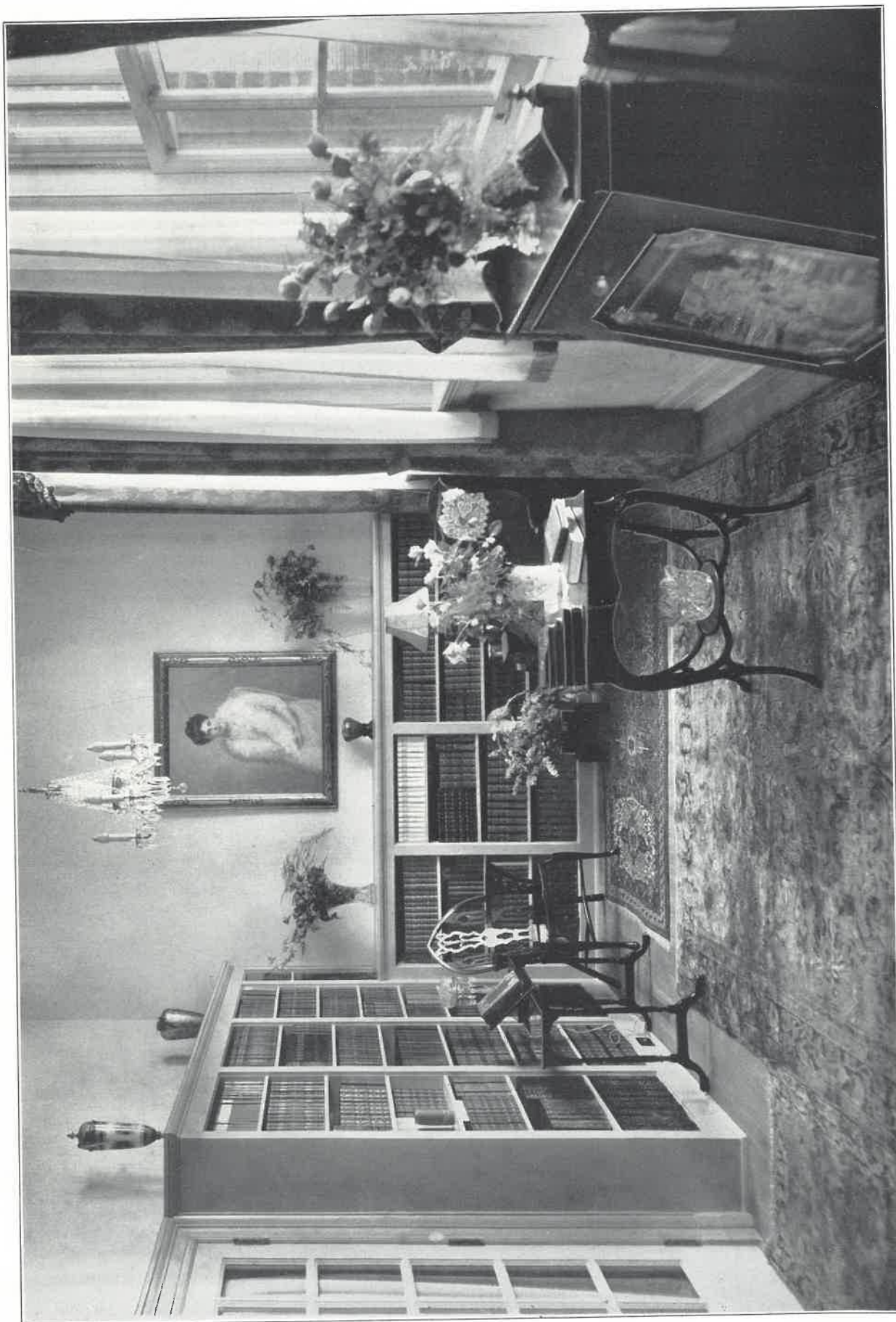
Hon. W. S. Fly responded as follows:

"I feel it an honor to come here and receive, on behalf of the Board of Directors and at the hands of the sweet daughter of one of the most prominent men in our Southland, this splendid painting, which I understand has been presented by the young ladies of this Dormitory.

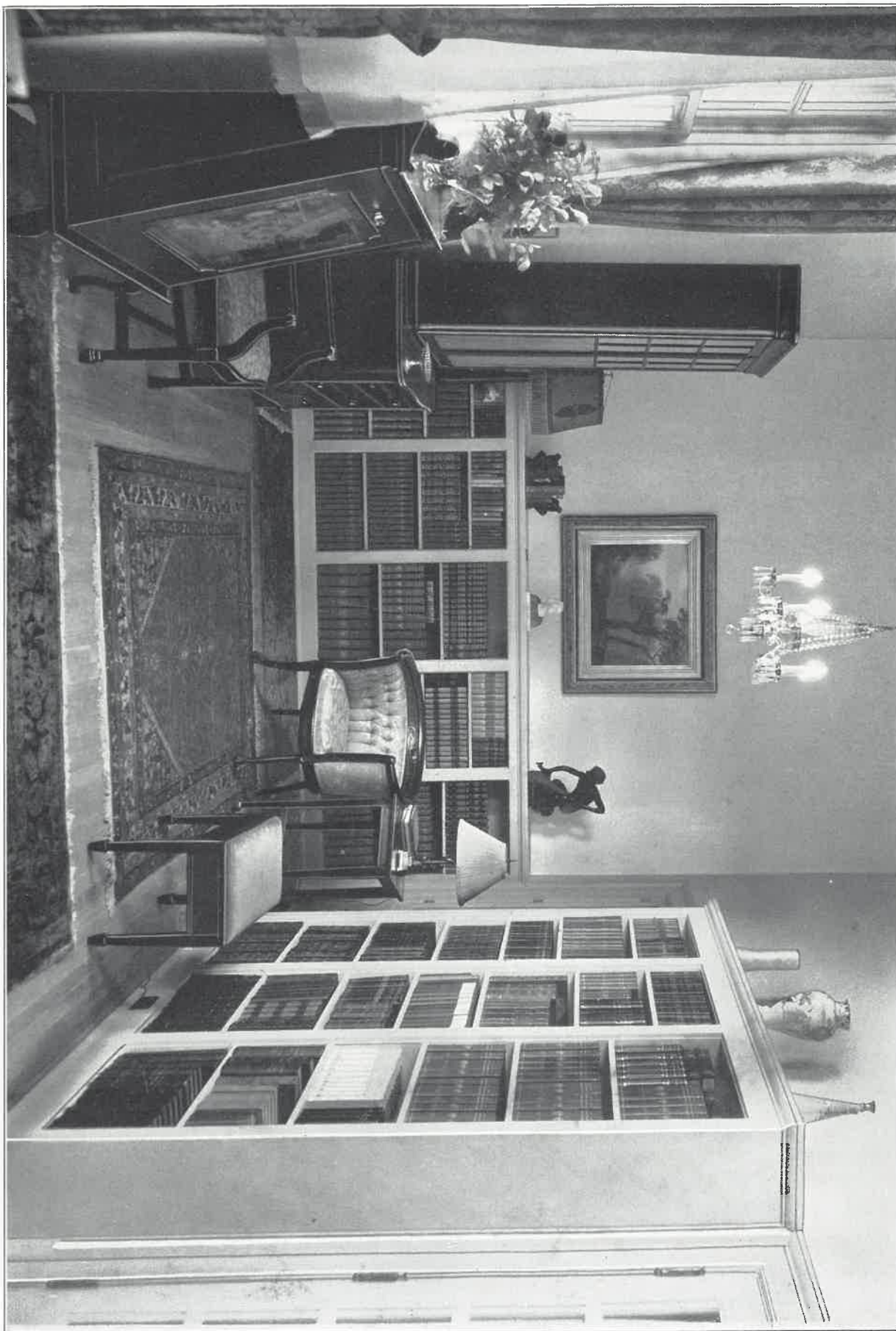
"It should be, as you say, an inspiration to every one of them. It reminds me, though, of the fact that I have lived for years in a home in San Antonio, and that no music came into that house. We had no musical instruments. We did not hear the tones of oratory—the words of inspiration—that came from all parts of the American Union. We were not attuned in such a way as to receive them. A radio was placed there, and on the air came almost celestial music, from here and there, from Constantinople, from Copenhagen, from London, and other places. We heard the voices of men and women coming into that room. We heard music of the finest kind wafted across the ocean waves, and it came to us in that room and made us happy to listen to the sweet, harmonious tunes that were given to us. We listened to words of oratory and to women who were singing divine music. That music had been there all the time; oratory had been coming into that room all the time; but we did not get it. We were not attuned to it.

"And now I want to say to these young ladies, if they wish to get an inspiration from the life and acts of that pure and noble woman, they must 'tune in' to the noble sentiments that she lived all the days of her life.

"I know that Kentucky has done many great things for Texas. She has sent many noble sons here—John Ireland, once Governor; John M. Stayton, one of the great Chief Justices of the Supreme Court; and others have come here, many of them from Kentucky, but she



On the West Wall of the Library, Facing the East, hangs the Brewer Portrait of Sue Higgins Cochran, presented to the Dormitory by the girls who lived there while attending The University of Texas from 1922, when the dormitory was opened, through 1930



The East End of the Sue Higgins Cochran Memorial Library, at the Scottish Rite Dormitory for Masonic Girls, The University of Texas, Austin



Sam P. Cochran standing in the West End of the Library, near the portrait of Mrs. Cochran, in Whose Memory he presented the Library to the Scottish Rite Dormitory for Masonic Girls, The University of Texas, Austin



A May Day Fete on the Lawn of the Scottish Rite Dormitory for Masonic Girls, The University of Texas, Austin

never made a richer gift than when she gave Sam P. Cochran and his wife to the Lone Star State. And we are here today to pay tribute to that woman who has passed over the way. I believe her spirit this afternoon is brooding over this assembly. It has come here and the sweet life she lived is still being lived in that better country beyond the grave. Mrs. Cochran was the mother of Freemasonry wherever she went. She was known from one end of the United States to the other, and wherever she went she carried life and sweetness and all the virtues which come of a womanly character to bless those who came in contact with her—and we bless God for giving her to us.

"Sam P. Cochran has been an example to us. He is the leader of Freemasonry in this State. It was his mind which was inspired with the idea of building this Dormitory for the benefit of the daughters of Freemasonry in Texas, and with the co-operation of the Scottish Rite Masons in this state this building was erected, and I am prouder of it than of any monument ever erected in Texas. It stands as a monument to Scottish Rite Masonry, and we know we are sending out women from this Dormitory who will purify and ennoble many a home in the State of Texas, and will reward us a hundred fold for every dollar we have put into it.

"We want to call on these young ladies to appreciate the benefits of this Dormitory. It is a glorious thing that you are the daughters of Masons; it is a glorious thing that you were reared in Masonic families; and a glorious thing that you have been permitted to come here into this splendid building and receive your education at the great University of our Empire State. We want you to feel today the proud position that you occupy. We want you to realize that there is something better than the frivolities of life. Every woman ought to be a home builder. The home is the unit of government; the home is the unit of morals—of all that is worth living in this life; and women alone can build that home. They are the builders of the homes of America, and when they cease to build them, when they cease to live so that they build up the home, liberty will cease, our Constitution will be destroyed, and the greatest flag that ever waved over this land will go down in the dust of humiliation. I call upon you today to receive fresh inspiration from this grand library. Are you going to get anything out of it? You can not from merely looking at it, but you must go into the pages, and when you do this understandingly, it will give you something of the brighter life which has come down from the minds of great men and women throughout the ages of the past.

"How can I, in the name of the Directors, in the name of this staff, of these noble women who have been conducting this building so long, so ably and so well—how can I represent the feeling they have this afternoon of gratitude to Brother Cochran? That oration by Miss Sheppard to the memory of Mrs. Cochran—how can I ever find language to express appreciation of that?

"I say, we thank you, Brother Cochran, with all our hearts, Masonic hearts that pulsate with love and affection for you and for all you have held dear in this world."

At the conclusion of Judge Fly's remarks, a solo was rendered by Miss Betty Berry, en-

titled "Believe Me, if All Those Endearing Young Charms," and Miss Frances Stiles sang "My Old Kentucky Home," in the chorus of which all present joined.

Mr. Cochran then delivered the following address:

"Mrs. Kauffman and Ladies of the Scottish Rite Dormitory; Judge Fly and Gentlemen of the Board of Directors; Young Ladies of the Dormitory; and Friends, Who are With Us Today:

"Books! Books! Books! So, in effect, spoke the reputed wisest of men and said, 'My son, be admonished; of making many books there is no end.'

"Evidently this declaration stated a real fact, for it is astonishing that notwithstanding the destruction of books and records incident to the ravages of time, the despoliation of wars, and the subversive fangs of fanaticism, very many books or copies of books have continued to exist; giving at least a fair knowledge of the history of preceding ages, and especially remarkable has been the preservation of the books constituting the Bible of Christian nations and the valuable religious works of other creeds.

"From the laborious toil of making hand copies to the enormous production made possible by the printing processes of today is a tremendous revolution and advancement, and Solomon's comment to his son seems almost a prediction of the present day multiplication of books. Nor is this condition to be decried, for in the process of present day evolution it is important that those who wish to be well informed should know the history of the past, be cognizant of the movements of the present, and be in position to fairly and intelligently forecast the conditions of the future. The student body of today in any line of special research or literary culture has need for a broad and general knowledge of nations, places, individuals and events.

"It is with these thoughts in mind that I endeavored to select the books which I have been privileged to present as a library to the Scottish Rite Dormitory—a privilege which I greatly appreciate, and especially so coming as it does under the delightful circumstances of the present occasion. I have endeavored to include in this library such works as will enable almost any student at the University who resides in the Dormitory to pursue any line of study or investigation which may be incumbent upon her or which her taste may prescribe. There are works going back to the earliest known written records, the histories of the early ages, peoples and places of the world, down through the Greek and Latin classics, the development of civilization in Europe, and the peopling of a new continent; in fact, from before the Flood down to the fourteenth edition of the Encyclopedia Britannica. There is a slight touch on religion, with the Five-foot Shelf of Harvard Classics and the Shelf of Fiction selected by Dr. Chas. W. Eliot, likewise the humor of Mark Twain and the philosophy of Elbert Hubbard. That the students of comparative literature and culture may have a fair opportunity for discrimination, there is a Blue Back Speller alongside the Novels and Tales of Maria Edgeworth and the works of Amelia Opie, which their grandmothers read with delight a hundred years



The Scottish Rite Dormitory for Masonic Girls, The University of Texas, Austin, opened in 1922

ago, together with The Literature of Italy, the Masterpieces of English Literature, and the 'Twenty Immortals' crowned by the French Academy, representative of the advance fiction of the present day. There are several oil paintings for adornment, and some portfolios of steel engravings, portraits and various styles of minor pictures, to interest when reading palls. There are volumes on art, drama, poetry and science; on biography, travel and The History of the World, and especially of America, with ample opportunity to study the history of the recent World War. These I offer to the students resident in the Dormitory as a mine in which to explore intellectual wealth, an instrument for the gain of present mental strength and power, an inspiration for effort towards greater moral and spiritual attainment hereafter. It is my earnest hope that this library, together with such additions as I may be permitted to make to it, may serve as a great source of intellectual supply and cultural development, and also of pleasure and entertainment, to the successive classes of students at our University who are privileged to enjoy the comforts and facilities of the Scottish Rite Dormitory, and inspire them to nobler deeds, great achievements and exemplary lives.

"Mrs. Sue Higgins Cochran, daughter of John Allen Higgins and his wife, Bettie Chinn Webb, was born at the maternal ancestral home called 'Elmwood,' about three miles from the City of Georgetown, in Scott County, Kentucky, a beautiful estate which still belongs to a member of the family. She inherited the instincts of the Revolutionary and Colonial traditions and customs of Virginia, as implanted in the Blue Grass Region of Kentucky by those who settled that delightful section following the admission of that State into the Union in 1792. She was reared in the atmosphere of Kentucky hospitality and gentility of the time preceding and immediately following the Civil War, and the refinement and culture of the gentle society of that period. She resided in Lexington, Ky., where her parents and paternal grandparents lived, and attended the old Sayre Institute, a noted institution of learning in that city, where the first university in the West was established. From her ancestors she derived the privileges of membership in the Society of Colonial Dames, the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Daughters of the Confederacy. She was one of the organizers of the 'Standard Club,' an early literary society in Dallas, and was its president for several years. She was dainty and refined by nature, fond of poetry, loved the beautiful in nature and art, and touched lightly in early years on music and painting, leaving several samples of her work with her brush.

"Mrs. Cochran was of a vivacious disposition and enjoyed social events, but was always of a thoughtful temperament, with a deep religious sentiment, which became especially marked in her later years and afforded her a large measure of peace and consolation. If she could have chosen for herself, I am sure there is no situation or condition in which she would rather have had a memorial of herself placed than in the refined atmosphere of this library, surrounded by the things which give impulse to gentleness, kindness and spiritual inspiration. I do not know how, where or why the idea originated which gave birth to the design of placing this portrait of Mrs. Coch-

ran in this home by the young women students who have been and those who are now dwellers therein. Whatever its genesis, I am sure it was conceived in the most loving spirit, and nothing could give more happiness to a person than to be made to realize that the memory of one long loved and lost for a little while is cherished in affectionate remembrance by those with whom it is his privilege to be associated. My keen appreciation of this testimonial of regard for Mrs. Cochran can only be measured by my unlimited desire to be of real service to those among whom I walk in this day, and if possible to do something which may by some method carry on for good hereafter.

"In one of Mrs. Cochran's little books I found a couplet in her own handwriting which she had copied from some source to me unknown. These lines I give to you as expressing the real sentiments of her heart:

"My task, to love someone more dearly every day;

To help some wandering child to find its way;
To ponder o'er some noble thought and pray;
And smile when evening comes.

"To follow Truth as blind men seek the light;
To do my best from early dawn till night;
To keep my soul fit for His holy sight,
And answer when He calls."

"By this philosophy she endeavored to live, and by it she smiled and answered when He called."

Following Mr. Cochran's address, the Benediction was pronounced by Dr. William J. Battle, Professor of Greek at the University of Texas.

S. R. D.

"Where are you staying?"

"S. R. D."

"Where have you been?"

"S. R. D."

"Where are you going?"

"S. R. D."

"Let's all go out to S. R. D.!"

Not long can one amble about on the campus of the University of Texas at Austin without hearing such questions and answers as these. Of the 1903 young women enrolled in the University for the year 1930-31, 326 live at the Dormitory built by the Scottish Rite Bodies of Texas for daughters of Master Masons and others with Masonic affiliation.

The Scottish Rite Dormitory stands alone as the only dormitory of its kind in the United States. It was planned and erected in 1921-22 by The Scottish Rite Educational Association of Texas, a corporation organized as the crystallization of a plan conceived by Sam P. Cochran, 33°, of Dallas, Sovereign Grand Inspector General in Texas, and President of the Association. The Dormitory resembles a well-equipped, well-managed, modern hotel, but at the same time preserves the protecting and hospitable atmosphere of a carefully cared for Southern home. It is an important unit of equipment of the University of Texas, and proves its value in carrying out the three principal purposes of the movement set forth by Judge James W. McClendon, of Austin: (1) To provide suitable and wholesome living quarters at a moderate price for daughters of Mas-

Son of Joel Higgins, grandson of Richard
See Petrus Hist of Fayette Co, p 866.

F. L. Seet - 4/23/96

2 Feb 1996

The Filson Club
1310 So. 3rd. St.
Louisville, Ky 40208

Rec'd.
Feb 6, 96

Higgins

Sir:

Do you have forms for asking for a family search?

I know there was an "Old Higgins Block House" near Cynthiana Ky. but have no details as to the persons names. The Higgins family is what I am search at present.

I expect to be in your area next summer so will drop in for some research at that time.

Sincerely

Doris Higgins Pritch
16251 Landon Road
Gulfport, MS 39503

13,96

Rec'd -

Feb 13, 96

Mrs. Warren Jackson
Bx 332
Minneola, 71
34755-0332

Fulton Club Library
118 W. Breckenridge St
Louisville, Ky 40203

2/5/96

Dear Sirs:

It is my understanding you
will answer one question.

do you have any record of
Andrew + Mary Gardiner whose
land joined John Gardiner's Lorena's
1 1/2 A 4 miles below Covington
on Ohio River. In the deed of John
Gardiner his west line joins Andrew
Gardiner, I believe they may be
brothers. Could get no deed.

In Kenton Co. Am. Gardiner Am.
Andrew b. 3/1/1812 d. 12/18/1892
Mary b. 2/4/1813 d. 7/25/1870.
I have not been able to find
Andrew & Mary on 1850 Census of
Kenton Co. area. Please advise & cost.

Sincerely
Ann E. Jackson nee Gardiner

Mrs. Warren Jackson

Bx 332

Ind. 71

1396

227

4/23/96

2 Feb 1996

int. F.L.
Apr. 23, 96

Rec'd - 3/29/96
Apr 2, 96

Filson Club:

Am a novice as to how to research
an ancestor's birth place etc but could
you help me?

We have reason to believe that
my Grandmother Teresa Mary Klopff
born April, 1853 in Louisville, a
daughter of Michael Klopff resided
there until she went to Indianapolis.
If civil records are not available
do you know of any old Catholic
Churches? If you will please tell
me who I might contact for any

Support, ...

2
1
3

records of her birth I would certainly
appreciate your kindness.

Sincerely

Ether Wernsing
5084 Valley Ridge
Cin. O 45247

If there are any charges please
let me know. Many thanks

The Filson Club Library
118 W. Bucknidge St.
Louisville, KY 40203

F.H. Sweet
Apr. 18, 95-

Apr. 11, 95
(Higgins)

Dear Sir,

my great grandfather was
born in Bourbon County, Heian S.

Higgins, 24 aug 1820, any advice
you wish to give on finding his
family I would greatly appreciate.

I heard that you have a
membership club and I am wanting
to join. Please send the fee for
a senior citizen.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Doris Painter
16251 Landon Rd
Gulfport, MS 39503.

Higgins

MEMBERS OF THE OLD MEN'S CLUB OF LAFAYETTE COUNTY, MO.
WHO WERE BORN IN KENTUCKY BUT DIED IN MO.

Bledsoe, Thomas C. April 15, 1802-September 18, 1879

Flournoy, Gideon-April 25, 1805-April 13, 1884

Gray, Rev. Fincelius R. July 30, 1806

Yantis, Rev. John Lapsley-Born in Garrard Co. Ky. September 14, 1804-May 28, 1882

Whitsett, Wm. M. - September 11, 1805-Jan 18, 1883

Wheatley, Elias-July 2, 1803

Price, John Born in Garrard Co. Ky- Feb 21, 1807

Lawson, Grant-July 1, 1810

Smith, Lawson, May 11, 1807-January 8 1885

Henry, Mason R. May 28, 1810

Higgins, Harvey J. September 19, 1812

Gladish, Elijah-October 30, 1810

Page, Joseph H.-Warren County Kentucky April 16, 1813

... ..

April 17, 1933.

Miss Ludie J. Kinkead,
Curator, The Filson Club,
Louisville, Kentucky.

Dear Miss Kinkead:

On my return from an out of town trip I found your letter of the 7th, and the copy of the Higgins matter. I wish to thank you again for your very kind interest in my problem, and your most efficient assistance.


I have studied the copy of the Higgins letter with a great deal of interest, and I have a feeling that you have put me on the right trail, altho as yet I have much more to uncover before the connections are traced out. The letter is worth reading for itself because of the intimate sidelights it contains. Its reference to the Lane family opens up another avenue for investigation.

Following your suggestion, I have written directly to Mrs. Stanley Reed, of Maysville but of course have yet nothing in reply.

I will greatly appreciate any further references that you may come across in the future dealing with Robert Higgins, or Elisha, his son.

Trusting I may sometime be able to repay for the many courtesies shown me, I am,

Sincerely Yours,


Donald S. Flagg,
427 So. Prairie,
Sioux Falls, So. Dak.

March 27, 1933
427 S. Prairie St.
Sioux Falls S.D.

Miss Lodie J. Kenhead, Curator,
The Filson Club,
Louisville, Kentucky.

Montgomery 1796
from Clark

Dear Miss Kenhead;

awp
4/7/1933

Your letter of March 21,
with further information on the Higgins
family, has been studied with great
interest. Your kindness in remembering
my interest in Robert Higgins again places
me greatly in debt to you.

I wish to gather all the data I can
concerning the Kentucky Higgins so I am
gladly availing myself the opportunity
to obtain a copy of that letter from
H. H. Higgins.

After receiving your letter of March 2,
I wrote Miss Hattie Scott, of Frankfort,
but have not as yet received a
report. I have also received a copy
of a sketch printed in the "History of

Jefferson County, Kansas" which states that ^{a mistake I think} Robt Higgins was born in Tennessee, later removed to Virginia, then to Kentucky.

His son Elisha was born in Virginia, about 1799, as he was "past 85" when he died 1884 at Winston, Missouri, therefore my Robert H. must have been born at least previous 1778. Family tradition says he was a soldier + officer in the Revolution.

This tends to eliminate the Robert H. mentioned in your letter of Mar 21, and who was sheriff of Montgomery County.

I am inclined to think that the Robert H. mentioned in letter of March 2, as the sheriff of Clarke County in 1798, is more likely to be my Robert.

I am attaching a partial chart in case you should come across further references. Also please find postal Money Order for \$2.80. If this amount should prove incorrect, please advise me and I will gladly send the amount needed.

Be assured of my lasting appreciation of your valuable assistance in my problem.
Yours Truly, Donald S. Flagg

Higgins

The Filson Club

Historical Society

ORGANIZED MAY 15, 1884, FOR COLLECTING, PRESERVING, AND PUBLISHING
HISTORICAL MATERIAL, ESPECIALLY THAT PERTAINING TO KENTUCKY

June 7, 1995

Mrs. John A. Painter
16251 Landon Road
Gulfport, MS 39503

Dear Mrs. Painter:

After a search through census indexes, Bourbon and Harrison County Kentucky materials, I am not able to find anything concerning a James S. Higgins.

Unfortunately, we do not have any published^{ish} or gathered materials on this line of the Higgins.

Thank you for offering your family sheets to us, which we would be glad to receive.

I'm sorry that I am not able to find any information for you, but if you can supply any new clues, I'll take another look.

Thank you for your membership, and there is no charge for this.

Sincerely,

Nettie Oliver

Nettie Oliver

^{210 for one m.}
The Filson Club ^{send bill -}
1310 So. 3rd St.
Louisville, KY 40208

attn: Kette Olson

Enclosed is my membership
fee of \$35.00.

I joined the Kentucky Pioneers
several years ago as my great great
grandmother was born in Washington
Ky. Ellina Ellis b Mar 10, 1795,
daughter of Nathan and Mary Ann (Walker)
Ellis.

If you wish copies of the Ky
Pioneer family sheets I will gladly
send you copies.

I expect to pay for any
information you can send me.

I need the parents of
James S Higgins my great great
grandfather. A list of all the
Revolution soldiers buried in
Bourbon, Fayette and Montgomery
Counties would help. James S. was
born in VA or PA 8 July 1789 and
moved to Kentucky as a small child.
His first child was born in
Bourbon County - Hiram S Higgins

son
cerning

aterials

: would

you,

this.

St. v
b 24 aug 1820 d 27 oct 1883 Cass Co. Mo.

The Higgins family had a black house near Cynthiana and this perhaps is the same family.

James S. was in the war of 1812

James S. (perhaps Shannon) Higgins
b 8 July 1789. Married Ellina Ellis
10 Feb 1814. d 10 Mar 1873 Johnson Co.
Mo.

Any information on James
S. Higgins will be greatly
appreciated.

Sincerely

85. The father
could be Joshua
or Joseph

Mrs. John A Painter
(Doris Higgins Painter)
16251 Landon Rd
Gulfport, MS 39503

Ever

28 April 1995

March 2, 1933

Mr. Donald S. Flagg -3

good genealogist. Higgins territory, if you care to have a
genealogist to do the work.

Trusting this information will be of assistance to you, I am

March 2, 1933

Yours very truly,

Louis J. Hinkley,

Secretary.

Mr. Donald S. Flagg,
427 So. Prairie Ave.,
Sioux Falls, So. Dakota.

My dear Mr. Flagg:

Your letter of the 25th to Mr. Pope McAdams has been referred by him to us for reply.

To locate the land on Land Bounty Warrant No. 1693 mentioned in the Year Book (1913) of the Kentucky Society, Sons of the American Revolution, I think you can write to the Land Office, Frankfort, Kentucky, and they will have the copy made for you, but I do not know what the charge is. Or they will refer the letter to someone else who will do that work for you. If they do not, I suggest you get in touch with Miss Hattie Scott, 402 Shelby St., Frankfort, Ky., who is very familiar with this work, and I think you will find her charges reasonable.

Now, a little bit more about your Robert. I imagine you have referred to the Historical Register of the Officers of the Continental Army during The War of the Revolution by Francis B. Heitman, gives the following services for Robert Higgins:

"Higgins, Robert (Va). 1st Lieutenant 8th Virginia, 12th March, 1776; Captain, 1st March, 1777; taken prisoner at Germantown, 4th October, 1777; retained in 2d Virginia, 12th February, 1781, and served to close of war; Brevet-Major, 30th September, 1783."

Littell's Laws of Kentucky, Volume 1, page 340 under date of December 21, 1795, I find where there was enacted that Roberts Higgins and others be appointed trustees to the town of Winchester, in addition to those formerly appointed by law. Winchester is the County Seat of Clark County, Kentucky. And in Volume 2, page 195, I find An Act for the relief of John Holder, approved December 13, 1798. Apparently Holder was security for Robert Higgins, sheriff of Clarke - the commonwealth had a suit against Higgins and his securities.

Dr. George F. Doyle is secretary of the Clark County Historical Society and might be able to be of assistance to you.

Mrs. Annie Walker Burns, Wallins Creek, Ky., has also copied the Marriage Records of Clark County. She has done this for commercial purposes and makes a charge for each record. I do not know what her prices are. I suggest that you ask. Miss Scott, named above, is a

March 2, 1933

Mr. Donald S. Flagg --2

good genealogist and lives in that territory, if you care to have a genealogist to do the work.

Trusting this information will be of assistance to you, I am

Yours very truly,

MARYLAND CASUALTY INSURANCE COMPANY
Ludie J. Kinhead,
Curator.

HOME OFFICE - BALTIMORE

SIOUX FALLS CLAIM DIVISION

P.S. - We have a book - Kentucky Pioneer and Court Records, Abstracts of Wills, Deeds, and Marriages from Court Houses, etc., compiled by Mrs. Harry Kennett Meadams, published in 1929. In that are many references to Higgins, but I have not searched all of that for the probabilities are that you may find it in some library nearer your home.
Louisville, Kentucky.

Also I meant to tell you Clark County was formed in 1792 from Fayette and Bourbon, and Bourbon was formed in 1785 from Fayette.

In glancing thru the yearbook (1913) of the Kentucky Sons of the American Revolution, I stumbled onto the name of one of my long-lost ancestors, Captain Robert Higgins. What search we had made had been among the Virginia records, but it now appears that he went to Kentucky. Your yearbook gives a list of the Land Bounty Warrants, and under warrant #1693, Robert Higgins was granted 4000 acres.

Will you kindly tell me how I can obtain information as to where this land granted by this warrant is located, so that a search can be started in that county. Any information that you can give me will be deeply appreciated.

I trust that you will pardon the liberty I have taken in addressing this letter to you, but I felt sure that from your official position in the Sons of the American Revolution that you could direct me to the proper sources for this information. Thanking you in advance for your trouble, I am,

Yours Truly,

CASUALTY INSURANCE AND SURETY BONDS

Donald S. Flagg



INCORPORATED 1898

MARYLAND CASUALTY COMPANY

F. HIGHLANDS BURNS, PRESIDENT.

CABLE ADDRESS "MARCASCO"

PLEASE ADDRESS REPLY TO WRITER
AND QUOTE CAPTION

HOME OFFICE. - BALTIMORE

SIOUX FALLS CLAIM DIVISION
DONALD S. FLAGG, Manager
Citizens National Bank Building
SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA

February 25, 1933.

Mr. Pope McAdams,
5th & Court Place,
Louisville, Kentucky.

*ans
3/1/1933*

Dear Sir:

In glancing thru the yearbook (1913) of the Kentucky Sons of the American Revolution, I stumbled onto the name of one of my long-lost ancestors, Captain Robert Higgins. What search we had made had been among the Virginia records, but it now appears that he went to Kentucky. Your yearbook gives a list of the Land Bounty Warrants, and under warrant #1693, Robert Higgins was granted 4000 acres.

Will you kindly tell me how I can obtain information as to where this land granted by this warrant is located, so that a search can be started in that county. Any information that you can give me will be deeply appreciated.

I trust that you will pardon the liberty I have taken in addressing this letter to you, but I felt sure that from your official position in the Sons of the American Revolution that you could direct me to the proper sources for this information. Thanking you in advance for your trouble, I am,

Yours Truly,

CASUALTY INSURANCE AND SURETY BONDS

Donald S. Flagg

The Kentucky Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

1932-33

JOHN E. TARRANT, *President*,
KENTUCKY HOME LIFE BLDG., LOUISVILLE, KY.
HENRY ST. G. T. CARMICHAEL, *1st Vice Pres.*,
KYROCK, KENTUCKY
DR. HENRY L. GRANT, *2nd Vice President*,
STARKS BUILDING, LOUISVILLE, KY.
ROY F. CLENDENIN, *3rd Vice President*,
STARKS BUILDING, LOUISVILLE, KY.
J. B. WATHEN Jr., *4th Vice President*,
BERNHEIM LANE, LOUISVILLE, KY.
POPE McADAMS, *Secretary and Treasurer*,
FIRST NATIONAL BANK, LOUISVILLE, KY.
COL. BEN LABREE, *Registrar*,
1936 MAPLEWOOD PLACE, LOUISVILLE, KY.
DR. GEORGE F. DOYLE, *Historian*,
WINCHESTER, KENTUCKY
DEAN R. L. McCREADY, *Chaplain*,
525 W. ORMSBY AVE., LOUISVILLE, KY.
DR. FRANK P. STRICKLER, *Surgeon*,
FRANCIS BUILDING, LOUISVILLE, KY.
PARIS CHAPTER
JAMES CLAY WARD, *President*, PARIS, KENTUCKY



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L. O. STEPHENSON, MAYFIELD, KENTUCKY
R. C. BALLARD THRUSTON, FILSON CLUB,
LOUISVILLE, KY.
THOS. J. WOOD, KENTUCKY HOME LIFE BUILDING,
LOUISVILLE, KY.

February 28, 1933

RECEIVED

MAR 1 1933

Miss Ludie J. Kinhead,
Filson Club,
118 W. Breckinridge St.,
Louisville, Kentucky

*ans
3/1/1933*

Dear Miss Kinhead:

I enclose herewith a letter from Donald S. Flagg
in which he asks for information relative to Robert
Higgins. I do not know how to answer this, and will
appreciate it if you will.

Sincerely yours,

Mary H. Melue

*Clark 1792 Fayette + Bourbon
Bourbon 1785 Fayette*

Higgins

October 11, 2002

Mr. Pen Bogert
Filson Historical Society
1310 South Third St.
Louisville, KY 40208

RE: The ongoing O'Day saga

Dear Pen:

I finally received the death certificate of John Thomas Higgins, of which a copy is enclosed. So now we know that his parents were Patrick Higgins and Brigget Kennedy. I have been trying to determine if Michael O'Day had a brother and my curiosity was peaked when Mr. Higgins ended up being buried in Bartly O'Day's plot at St. Louis Cemetery. Bartly was the oldest son of Michael O'Day. My theory was that John O'Day who married Jennie (Jane) Higgins in 1863 was Michael's brother.

Now, after receiving the death certificate one finds out that Mr. Higgins' mother was a Kennedy. Bartly O'Day's wife was Katie Kennedy O'Day.

So, I do not know if I am any better off.

Enclosed find \$ 15.00 to see how far that gets you. If possible, see what you might find out about Patrick and Brigget (spelling) Kennedy such as if records ever identify where they came from in Ireland, where they lived in Louisville, when they died and/or who the affiants might have been. You know better than I what to look for.

Since John Higgins died in 1958 one might think that his grandparents would have been the same age as Michael and Bridget Sheehan O'Day or John and Jennie (Jane) Higgins O'Day. Perhaps Jennie's brother was his grandfather.

So, I grasp at straws as usual. Too bad I will be in Alaska for a conference next weekend. All the Lewis and Clark stuff there really looks interesting. There is, of course, a connection for our area so there will be events going on here as the anniversary gets closer.

As usual, thanks for all your help.

Joan Koechig
3210 Elm St.
St. Charles, MO 63301
Gateway426@aol.com



or work 1-800-822-4012 x 7311

Higgins
family

2635 Tremont Rd.

Anderson, Calif. 96007

Jan. 30, 1967

February 27, 1967

Mrs. Cleo M. Alward
The Filmon 2635 Tremont Road
Anderson, California 96007
116 West Brackley St.

Louisville. Dear Mrs. Alward:

Thank you for the check which sum represents a little more than the cost of the Verifax copies.

Mrs. Dorothy Thomas Cullen.

I have very few Barren County, Kentucky records to consult in regard to the Higgins family in that place. The 1800 Kentucky Tax List places Richard, John, and William in Barren County, however. I suggest that you write Mrs. Vivian T. Rousseau, Glasgow, Kentucky, Route 7. She is an excellent genealogist and is so familiar with the location of all county court records. I feel sure she will be able to help you with your research.

I have now traced the definite time and place of birth of my great,

great grandfather Thomas Higgins, your kind letter with enclosed

Sincerely,

account of other Higgins' was greatly appreciated.

The birth of my ancestor occurred in 1790, Barren Co., Ky. do

you have any records that may make some mention of Higgins' in this

(Mrs.) Dorothy Thomas Cullen

county at said date. Perhaps the Curator and Librarian also 1800 and

1875 records as my ancestor did not leave the state until 1807 and his

parents and brothers and sisters stayed behind. I am particularly

trying to find mention of my father and mother. Were there any Re-

volutionary Soldiers as far as the Higgins given land in 1800 area?

Could you send me a photocopy of p. 471-2; and Ky. Ferguson

History of Bourbon, Scott, Harrison and Nicholas Counties, Ky. I en-

closed a check for \$2.00 to cover these costs and would you please send

any remainder as a donation to your Club for appreciation of it work.

FEB 2 1967
2635 Tremonto Rd.

Anderson, Calif. 96007

Jan. 30, 1967

The Filson Club

118 West Breckinridge St.

Louisville, Ky. 40203

Mrs. Dorothy Thomas Cullen.

Dear Mrs. Cullen,

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your kind and generous response to a previous letter of mine on Oct. ?, 1966. Though I have now traced the definite time and place of birth of my great, great grandfather Thomas Higgins, your kind letter with enclosed account of other Higgins' was greatly appreciated.

The birth of my ancestor occurred in 1790, Barren Co., Ky, do you have any records that may make some mention of Higgins' in this county at said date. Perhaps the 1790 census record, also 1800 and 1810 census as my ancestor did not leave the state until 1807 and his parents and brothers and sisters stayed behind. I am particularly trying to find mention of his father and mother. Were there any Revolutionary Soldiers by the name of Higgins given land in this area?

Could you send me a photocopy of p. 471-2; and 529, Perrin's History of Bourbon, Scott, Harrison and Nicholas Counties, Ky. I enclose a check for \$2.00 to cover these costs and would you please use any remainder as a donation to your Club for appreciation of it work.

I also enclose a stamped, self addressed envelope for your convience.

Thank you very much for any assistance you may be able to offer.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Cleo M. Alward

Mrs. Cleo M. Alward

HIGGINS

Sept. 20, 1979

Mrs. Connie S. Seaton
R.R. #1
West Salem, Illinois 62476

Mrs. Seaton:

We can't give you any real help, but may have a suggestion for you.

Thinking that your Patrick Higgins may have been named for his father, I note there are two Patrick Higgins marriages shortly before your Patrick was born. On 20 May 1843 Patrick married Maria O'Neal, of legal age, age proven by Henry O'Neil, John Quinn clergyman. On 28 Jan. 1846 Patrick married Ann Foy, legal age proven and surety given by Thomas Foy, John Quinn clergyman (probably of the Roman Catholic St. Louis Church, replaced in 1849 by Cathedral of the Assumption).

The index to the 1850 census has no Patrick in Jefferson Co. Your Patrick might be found in the census listings for any one of the 75 other Higgins households in the 1850 index, but we cannot check all of those.

Among those 75 listings just mentioned, there are 8 in Jefferson Co. I have looked at those 8 on our microfilm. Seven of these clearly have no interest for you. The eighth entry in Jefferson Co. is for Ann Higgins, who was a sister age 25 at the Magdalen Asylum for disturbed females. There her name was Sister Mary Benedict, born in Sligo, Ireland. There were 9 sisters, 1 boarder, and 23 "penitents". It would appear that Patrick and Ann Foy Higgins are no longer in Louisville, for whatever reason, but we cannot overlook the possibility that the census taker missed them. Patrick is not listed in the city directories for 1848 or 1852, the nearest lists we have to 1850.

Your family may of course be listed in the 1860, 70, or 80 censuses, all of which we have on microfilm, but have no indexes for these. The Louisville Free Public Library has the Soundex index for 1880, as well as the census films, and has recently acquired the 1900 census films and index.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Connie S. Seaton

R. R. #1

West Salem, Ill. 62476

September 7, 1979

The Filson Club

118 West Buckinridge Street

Louisville, Kentucky 40202

Dear Sir:

I am doing genealogical research on my family. Mr. Samuel Thomas referred me to your Club for information on census records for Louisville.

I am trying to find parents & or brothers and sisters of Patrick Higgins. He was born March 11, 1847 in Louisville, Kentucky. This should be on the Louisville 1850 Census.

Also if possible, would you please check the 1880 Census for Louisville. This might possibly list Patrick Higgins with his wife & children. I believe his wife's name was Martha. Their children are as follows: Emma (F) born 1879, Joe (M), born 1844, Ed (M) born?, Margret Ann (F) born June 15, 1876.

Patrick Higgins was my great great grandfather

and his daughter, Margrett was my great
grandmother.

Any and all help will be greatly
appreciated. Thank you very much

Yours truly,

Connie L. Seaton

P.S. Enclosed S.A.S.E.

Monticello, Ind

MAY 6 1966

Higgins
Family

The Filson Club
Louisville, Ky.

May 10, 1966

Mrs. Joseph A. Cochran
329 G I Avenue
Monticello, Indiana

Dear Mr. Cochran:

There is no complete list of those pioneers who were with Col. James Harrod at Harrodsburg. Isolated references will be found in Collins History of Kentucky and other publications about some who were in his military engagements and others who participated in the affairs of the colony. The Higgins of whom you write are mentioned some several times. In Vol. II of Collins History, p. 519 I find that John and Henry Higgins were among those who resided or spent much time at Harrodsburg during the year 1775, after March 11th which was the date of the first arrival and re-occupancy of the cabins built in 1774.

As you may know, James Harrod was from Pennsylvania and he and others came to Kentucky by transportation. Other arrivals at Harrodsburg most certainly had migrated from areas other than Pennsylvania.

I do hope you will be able to visit the Filson Club this summer. Our library is open from 9 to 5 Mondays through Fridays. During June the hours on Saturday are 9 to 12. The library is closed on Saturdays during July, August, and September. We shall look forward to meeting you.

Sincerely,

(Mrs.) Dorothy Thomas Cullen

Curator and Librarian

Monticello, Ind.

MAY 6 1966

The Filson Club
Louisville, Ky.

Higgins
Family

Dear Sir,

I am seeking information on some of my early ancestors who migrated to Kentucky before 1800. I am referring to the Higgins family. Two or three of the brothers were supposed to have come to Kentucky with James Harrod - 1774 or 75. Their names were Peter, Henry and John Higgins. They settled in what is now Mercer County. Peter and John came from the south branch of the Potomac river where the town of Moorefield, W. Virginia is now.

Another brother (my Great, Great Grandfather) came to Mercer County around 1790. A sister Elinor also came to Kentucky and married David Williams 1799 in Mercer County.

Another brother Robert came to Kentucky around 1885 to 1890 and brought several children

Sincerely,

(Mrs.) Dorothy Thomas Cullen

Curator and Librarian

ssc

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with him. He later moved to Brown County,
Ohio and founded Higginsport along the Ohio
River. He remarried ^{at about the same time} after leaving Kentucky or
Can you tell me the names of the Harrod
party and the number of children of each
family?

How did the Harrod party come to
Kentucky, by river or overland? Can I buy
a book telling about the Harrod party?

I hope to visit your library and Museum
some time this summer, I am sure it is
extremely interesting.

I will appreciate any information you
can give. Enclosed is a stamped envelope
for your convenience. Thank you.

Sincerely yours.

Joseph A. Cochran
329 GI Ave
Monticello
Ind.

47960

*Higgins
family*

May 22, 1969

Mrs. Everett Purcell
Route 3, Box 251
Mt. Vernon, Kentucky 40456

Dear Mrs. Purcell:

As our staff is small, we are unable to undertake genealogical research. For this type of work I suggest you write Mrs. Clyde W. Hamm, 3507 Pinecone Circle, Louisville, Kentucky 40222.

You give no dates for Mary Ellen Higgins and this information you must have as a basis for any genealogical investigation.

We have very few records of Pulaski County but I have heard that these at the courthouse in Somerset are in good order and within easy reach. Perhaps you could go over and try to find Mary Ellen Higgins. Since you did not give her birth and death dates I am not able to give you any advice about your search.

Sincerely,

Evelyn R. Dale
Acting Curator

ssc

mt. Vernon, Ky.
April 19, 1969.

Miss Evelyn R. Dale.

Dear Miss Dale.

I saw your name in a book on Boone family history. I thought maybe you'd be able to help me get some information I need. I've been told that the Filson Club for a fee would look up information on families. I'm interested in finding out what I can about the family of Mary Ellen Higgins, supposed to be born in Pulaski Co. Could you tell me the fees charged & who to contract? Enclosed is a self addressed envelope.

Thanks for your trouble
Mrs. Everett Purcell.

Higgins
family

undertake gene-
k I suggest you
Circle, Louis-

s and this infor-
genealogical in-

ity but I have
meriset are in
is you could go
Since you did
ot able to give

*Higgins
family*

18 November 1971

Mrs. Morton Jett
Route 2
Kevil, Kentucky 42053

Dear Mrs. Jett:

For research in Mercer Co., Kentucky do write Mrs. Louis Ison, Lexington Road, Harrodsburg, Kentucky. She is highly experienced as a researcher. If Peter Steenberg did not come to Kentucky, you must look for his will or some other record to identify his daughter in the county where he died. His name does not appear in either the 1790 or 1800 Kentucky Tax Lists but he may have arrived a little later. Gideon Higgins was in Mercer County in 1800. The DAR Patriot Index does not show any descendant who has entered on Peter's service. The Virginia State Library in Richmond, Virginia may have some information about him. I regret that my efforts to find facts for you have been so void of success.

Sincerely,

Evelyn R. Dale
Curator

SSC

OCT 26 1971
Kevil, Ky.
Oct. 23, 1971

Higgins
family

Dear Librarian -

Can you give me the name
of someone in that area
who does research in
your library?

I am trying to find an
obituary of Sidney Ann
Steenbergen Higgins who
died in Mercer County,
Ky. on May 1, 1861, widow
of Sideon Higgins. She
was a daughter of
Capt. Peter Steenbergen,
a Revolutionary soldier.

I have had the index
to the old newspaper
files at the University
Library in Lexington
checked, without success.

is Ison,
experi-
come to
cord to
is name
tax lists
is was in
t show any
Virginia State
lon about him.
been so void

I need to prove that
Ludsey Anna was Peter
Steenbergen's daughter.
I enclose stamped
envelope.

Sincerely yours
Susan (Mrs. Morton) Jett
Rt. # 2, Keokuk, Ia

PATERNAL
MATERNAL

ANDREW JACKSON MCHENRY
B 9 MAY 1818 in TENNESSEE
M SEPT 1841 BOONE Co. IND.
D 3 FEB. 1888, KANSAS
R IND. MO. KANS

JAMES HUGH MCHENRY
B IRELAND, LONDONDEERRY,
M TENN.
D BOONE Co. IND
R

ROBERT MCHENRY (WARRIOR)
B IRELAND M
D R
B D
B D
B D

MARY (POLLY) RAZOR
B TENN.
D BOONE Co. IND.

B D M R
B D

JAMES HUGH MCHENRY
B 22 DEC. 1840
M
D 1893
R

ELISHA HIGGINS
B 1799 (?) VIRGINIA
M ABOUT 1823 KY (?)
D 1884 AT WINSTON, MO.
R KY, IND, MO, KS, MO.

ROBERT HIGGINS
B C REV. SOLDIER
D VIRGINIA, KENTUCKY
B D

ELIZABETH HIGGINS
B 25 DEC. 1824 on RED RIVER
D 7 MAR. 1898, KANS. KY.

BELINDA WALTERS
B about 1808
D 1896, KANS.

ROBERT WALTERS
B TENN (?) M
D R KY, IND.

ANCESTORS OF
LOIS KURT MCHENRY
B 20 OCT. 1869
R

B D M R
B D

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MARY JANE ESLINGER
B 13 AUG 1831
D 1920

B
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D
R
B
D

B D M R
B D

B
D

B D M R
B D

B=Born
M=Married
D=Died
R=Resided

DONALD S. FLAGG, 427 So FAIRFAX ST, SIOUX FALLS, So. DAK.

Higgins Jan

May 22, 1935

Miss May Stone
654 Puritan Apartments
Louisville, Kentucky

Dear Miss Stone:

Your letter of the nineteenth, with enclosures, was received yesterday.

Mr. Thruston, as you know, is very busy this week as the National Society, S. A. R. is holding it's Annual Congress in Louisville. He has not had a chance to see the data you have sent.

I am writing you this note so that you will know that the material has been received. It is much appreciated and as soon as Mr. Thruston reads it, it will be placed in the archives of The Filson Club, where it will undoubtedly be of interest and help to others.

Yours very truly,

ms

Margaret Schafer

Sent book

5/25/1938

Oct 5/22/1935 113 REC'D MAY 21 1935

654 Puritan Apts.
Louisville Ky.
May 19 1935

Dear Mrs. Thruston;

I wish to thank you for the time you gave me yesterday to talk about the Clark family. I am sorry we could not place the Elizabeth Calrk sister of John, as the one who married George Tribble, but the dates conflict. Your Elizabeth was born about 1732 and Dinah Tribble daughter of George and Betty was born Jan. 22 1743 and Andrew Tribble Dinah's brother was born 1741.

I enclose a copy of the records which I copied from the old Higgins Bible belonging to Miss Fanny Higgins of Fayetteville Tenn. (Her address is at top of the record).

William Higgins married Dinah Tribble. Their daughter Mary or Polly, born between 1775 and 1780 (where the Bible page was torn) married James Hardage Lane and they were parents of Sally Lane, mother of my father, Henry Lane Stone, whose father was Samuel Stone.

I think you will be interested in the very complete Higgins letter. I copied this from an original printed circular letter found among old family papers of my great uncle Henry S. Lane of Crawfordsville Indiana. The old H. H. Higgins probably had these letters printed for circulation among interested members of his family.

If you wish, you may keep all these papers. They may help some one else.

I am sending the reprint of the Clark family to a cousin in Lexington of the Tribble family who is working to find the Clark connection also. I should like to have another copy of this Clark reprint sent to me at the above address, if you can spare another. It is better to keep with my files than the whole Filson Quarterly.

Very sincerely,

May Stone

I find I made a mistake in the reference by Bodley to William Higgins as coming to Ky. with George Rogers Clark. I have looked it up. My copy of Mr. Bodley's volume of the late History of Kentucky and do not find it. Therefore, it is in his Life Of George Rogers Clark and can be found in the index as a foot note quoting a letter from John Clark to another son in which he says something like this: "George is going ----- to the back country with William Higgins."

Miss May Stone Higgins family

REC'D MAY 21 1935

MAY STONE

APPLICATION FOR SUPPLEMENTAL LINE FOR WILLIAM HIGGINS II IN U.S.D. 1812

National number 8060

William Higgins II - Service at Higgins Block House in Harrison Co., Ky
Gr. Gr. Gr. father --

Fighting Indians

b. in Caroline Co., Va. May 12, 1742 -
was citizen of Fayette and Montgomery
Cos., Ky. and Lincoln Co., Tenn.
died in Tenn. after 1805

CHILDREN OF ANCESTOR.

Robert Higgins b. Nov. 10, 1770

Elizabeth Higgins b. Aug. 20, 1772

Nancy Higgins b. Dec. 1, 1775 m. Cousin James Higgins

Frankie Higgins (record illegible)

Polly (Mary) Higgins " " m. James Hardage Lane

William Y. Higgins b. July 30, 1780

George W. Higgins

SERVICES OF ANCESTOR.

One of several brothers who were in Kentucky before 1786
and built Higgins Block House in Harrison Co., Ky. near Cynthiana
to protect their own and other families.
Block House was on bluff on Licking River

REFERENCES.

Collins History of Kentucky, page 19 and page 350
tells of Battle with Indians on June 12, 1785

DESCENT.

May Stone born in Owingsville, Ky., dau. of

Henry Lane Stone b. Bath Co., Ky. Jan. 17, 1842, d. Louisville, Ky.
May 31, 1922

Married Feb. 21, 1866

Pamela Bourne of Montgomery Co., Ky., b. Mch. 8, 1843, d. " May 9, 1927.

Henry Lane Stone was son of

Samuel Stone b. Fayette Co., Ky., Dec. 26, 1797 d. Indiana Jan. 11, 1873

Married Aug. 6, 1835 in Bath County, Ky.

Sally Lane b. Mch. 15, 1816 d. Jan. 29, 1909

Sally Lane was dau. of

James Hardage Lane b. in Loudoun Co., Va. Feb. 2, 1764

d. in Bath Co., Ky. 1849

Married (2) Dec. 1805

Mary Higgins b. ab. 1778 (record illegible) d. Bath Co., Ky. 1824

Mary Higgins was dau. of

William Higgins, II, b. in Caroline Co., Va. May 12, 1742, d. in Tenn.
after 1805

Married ab. 1769

Dinah Tribble b. Caroline Co., Va. Jan. 22, 1743, d. March 10, 1809, in
Tenn. illegible - (or Mch. 9, or 19)

REC'D MAY 21 1935

LETTER FROM MR. H. H. HIGGINS TO WM. J. HIGGINS.

Athens, Ala.
October 16th, 1872.

Cousin Wm. J. Higgins,

My Dear Sir:

According to promise, I now give you a traditional history of the Higgins family so far as I know. From the best information I have been able to obtain, the original stock in the colonies were from Manchester, England. In which one of the colonies he, or they, settled is not known, but about the year 1770 they are found in Caroline county, Va., from which county the forefathers of the present generation of our name, who are dispersed in the several states of Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana, Illinois, Alabama, Mississippi and Arkansas emigrated. The precise date is not known. William (your grandfather) first settled in the state of Georgia, after leaving Virginia, married there, bought a home, improved it, and returned to Virginia, on business. In due time he returned to Georgia to find that his wife had disposed of every thing movable and gone off with another man. He then left Georgia and immigrated into the territory of Kentucky, where some of his brothers had already settled, at the place now known as Lexington. At what time or place he married his second wife (Dinah Tribble) I do not know, by whom he had sons and daughters. The names of those known to me were as follows: Robert, William Yarbrough and George W. (your father). I do not know what the W. stands for, but always thought it was for Washington. I do not know the christian names of his daughters, only in part, Nancy, Elizabeth and Francis are the names that I know. Mrs. James Lane's - "Mary" - christian name I do not remember. If there were other sons or daughters I never knew them. If your uncle Robert ever married it has escaped my recollection. Your uncle Wm. Y. married Miss Nancy Lane (a niece of Col. James Lane) in Montgomery county, Ky., by whom he had two sons and three daughters, to-wit: Willis, John, Lucinda, Margaret and Mary. Your aunt Nancy married James Higgins, (my uncle) by whom she had six children, to-wit: Two daughters and four sons, who lived to be grown, some others died in infancy. The females were Sarah and Emily. Sarah married Mr. Jacob Castleman

- 2 -

(a son of the old pioneers and Indian fighters of Tennessee, favorably mentioned in the history of Tennessee). Emily married Mr. Hiram Buchanan (my stepmother's brother). Owen Higgins, her oldest son, married Miss Francis Stone. Her son George T. died before marriage at Montgomery, Ala. Her son John married my half sister, Amanda, and died some eight or nine months thereafter. Her son William died suddenly at the Commercial Hotel in Memphis, the date I do not recollect. Your father's sister Elizabeth (Betsy) married Mr. Joel Parrish, in the State of Kentucky, and immigrated to Lincoln county, Tenn., about the year of 1805 or 1806. I have lost sight of them. His sister Francis married William Higgins (son of old Capt. James Higgins of revolutionary notoriety). The ("Mary") other sister of your father married Col. James Lane, of Montgomery county, Ky., who were the parents of (Kansas Jim) Higgins Lane and Henry Lane, of Indiana, M. C. for many years from that State. Wm. H., who married your aunt Francis, was known in Montgomery by the name of Buck H. If your father had other sisters I have forgotten them, or never knew them. Your uncle Robert, when a young man, studied law, and obtained a permit to practice; was at one time Sheriff of Montgomery, but whether before or subsequent to his permit I know not. At that day permit to practice law was the custom, now a license is obtained. Owing to his great popularity, fine social qualities, kindness of heart, and unbounded liberality, he became involved in his financial affairs, consequently, involving your grandfather considerably. You can easily guess the result. He, like many others possessing such traits, became a victim to that god whose chief aim and delight is to destroy. After these misfortunes, he, with his father, emigrated from Kentucky and settled in Lincoln county, Tenn., about the year 1805 or 1806. After the bears, wolves, panthers, catamounts, and other wild beasts were either killed or driven out of the country, to some extent, their places were filled by a class of animals somewhat more civilized, when he, in order to retrieve his lost fortunes, offered his services as a school teacher, (if not the first, among the first of such institutions in the country) and was liberally patronized, I being at that time a very small one of them. After the declaration of war, in 1812, he served twelve months in that war on the Canada frontier. On his return he stopped for a time with our uncle, James Higgins, from thence he lived with your father, at Winchester, Tenn., and subsequently in Bellefont, where I lost sight of him. I do not know who old Capt. James Higgins married, nor do I know positively all his

REC'D MAY 21 1935

- 3 -

children - will give you the names of those with whom I was acquainted, as follows: William, Thomas, Sarah and Polly. As before stated, William married your aunt Francis. They had many sons and daughters. Thomas Higgins married a Miss Benagar, to the best of my knowledge. Sarah married a yankee by the name of King, in Montgomery county, and shortly thereafter emigrated, and settled near the mouth of Bean's Creek, Franklin county, Tenn., raised a large family of respectable and handsome sons and daughters. Polly married a gentleman by the name of Watson, who died nine or ten years thereafter, leaving his wife and four or five children. William and Thomas emigrated about 1817 or 1818, and settled either in Indiana or Illinois, I know not which. Jesse Higgins bought land from his brother, James, improved it well, building quite a roomy brick house, and other farm houses, roomy and good in proportion. He had but two children that I recollect, a son and daughter. I never knew the maiden name of old uncle Jesse's wife. His son James distinguished himself among the bravest of the brave men at the battle of the river Raisin, so much so that when he returned to Lexington, his former place of business, he was greatly caressed by both sexes, balled and partied so long that poor fellow at length gave way under the pressure of social and convivial pleasures, learned to imbibe too freely, married a reigning belle, and died comparatively a young man. I have forgotten the name of the daughter, but she married a gentleman by the name of Fuqua, I think. I will here give you the christian names of the old patriarchs of our name who left Virginia and settled in Kentucky, for fear you get your mind somewhat confused, not, however, systematically, either in point of age or date of immigration. William, (your grandfather), James, John, Jesse, Joel, Moses and Aaron. Aaron was the youngest of the seven brothers, a modern giant, not only as to size, but strength and wonderful activity. He was lost at Harmer's defeat about the year 1789 or 1790, in the northwestern territory, near to the present town of Chillicothe, O. His widow subsequently married a wealthy gentleman of Fayette county, Ky., by the name of Rogers. The widow being the only heir who claimed, retained the lands and all perishable property. Mr. Rogers, although owning a large landed property, consented to live on the farm left by old uncle Aaron, seven miles N. W. of Lexington, and adjoining the old Bryant Station farm. Joel Higgins bought land in Fayette county not far from Lexington, where he lived until he died at an

- 4 -

advanced age. I know not who he married, but think her name was Allen, at least that branch of the Higgins' was connected in some way with the Allens, a wealthy and aristocratic family, owning large possessions near Lexington. The names of some of his sons were as follows, to-wit: William who lived to be an old gentleman and raised a large family on the old homestead; Richard, who became one of the wealthiest merchants and planters of Fayette county, died at an old age, leaving an immense estate to be divided among his children, who are now quite wealthy, loosing nothing of their patrimony, but adding greatly thereto; Durret, who married, I know not who, and at an early day emigrated, locating in the then new county of Cumberland, KY., on the Cumberland river, where he lived to old age, accumulating a large fortune. I never saw Durret or any of his family, but have seen many persons who knew them well. One of the Higgins family of that generation owned and lived upon a large and well improved farm adjoining to Harrodsburg, on the north, Mercer County, Ky. I am not positive as to whose son he was, but think Joel's. John Higgins (my grandfather on my father's side) married Miss Nancy Woodruff in the state of Virginia. Uncle James Higgins was born in that state about the year 1772. In 1776 he (grandfather) emigrated from Virginia, shaping his course for the promised land of Kentucky. He had progressed as far as Carter county, East Tennessee, Roan's Creek, where he was necessarily compelled to call a halt, my grandmother having been taken suddenly ill, when, on the 15th of May of the above date, my father was born. The old gentleman raised one crop at that place, by which time my grandmother was sufficiently restored to travel, when he sold out and renewed his journey. To give you a more explicit account of John Higgin's family, I will give you their christian names, beginning with James, (your uncle, also mine), William B., (my father), John and Aaron, of the males, Susan, Nancy Betsy and Polly. John and Aaron died after arrived at mature age, neither one leaving a family. My father married Catherine Higgins, the second daughter of Moses and Jane Higgins, the year 1799. My mother, Catharine, died early in the year 1806, to the best of my recollection. (The record by some means or other was lost). Susan married Mr. Wm. Yates, Nancy married Mr. Joshua Yates, a younger brother of William's, who is the father of Ex-Gov. Richard Yates, of Illinois, as I have been credibly informed. About the year 1839 uncle Joshua sold about thirty-five negroes, and his farm, four miles west of Mount Sterling, and moved to Illinois and

- 5 -

bought a home near Springfield. Dick was then thirteen or fourteen years old. William and Joshua were both ranked among the best and most prosperous farmers. Betsy married a gentleman (an Irish blacksmith, too fond of liquor), by the name of John Gilmore, whose son was high sheriff of Shelby county, Tenn., when I went to Memphis in 1854. He died in office 1855. I know nothing of any of the Gilmore family now. Polly married Mr. James Hunt, of Fayette county, Ky., who was an uncle of Gen. John H. Morgan. Gen. Morgan's mother was the daughter of Jno. W. Hunt, of Lexington, a brother of uncle James, and a brother-in-law of Richard Higgins, previously mentioned. James Hunt was a prosperous, peaceable gentleman, who died about the year 1825, leaving a very pretty estate. Aunt Polly, some five or six years after the death of uncle Hunt, married a wealthy and most excellent old gentleman by the name of Wm. Butler, with whom she lived in peace and pleasure until his death, some twelve or fifteen years after marriage. Aunt Polly Butler died a year or two before the late war or rebellion. Moses Higgins (my grandfather on my mother's side, and I think next to the youngest of the seven brothers), married Miss Jane Jeter, at a place called Hobb's Hole, on the James river, between Richmond and Norfolk somewhere. Their older son was born in Virginia, I think, though not sure of the fact. The christian names of the children of Moses and Jane were James Jeter, Catherine, Betsy, Nancy, Matilda, William Young and America. James Jeter married in Montgomery county, Ky., Miss Mary Williams, the aunt of Gen. S. Williams, who figured quite conspicuously with the Kentucky troops in the late war. Catherine married my father, (Wm. B. Higgins), as previously stated. Betsy, the oldest child, married an English gentleman by the name of James Hart. Both died before I was born, leaving no issue. Nancy married Mr. John Dozier, a sprightly and remarkably handsome gentleman. They raised the handsomest family, take them all together, men and women, that I ever saw anywhere. Uncle John Dozier died about the year 1820 or 1821. Aunt Matilda lived to be somewhat of an old maid, when she married Mr. Aaron Masterson, a most worthy and prosperous widower of Montgomery, a close neighbor. They lived happily together until they had grown children, when she died about 1839. America married a poor but industrious, persevering young man of the neighborhood by the name of John Fortune, who lived to make a very large fortune, in addition to his name. He moved from Kentucky to Green county, Ala., where he accumulated the most of his wealth. He moved from Greensboro (now Hale county) to Texas about 1841 or 1842, taking with him over one hundred

- 6 -

negroes, and money to buy 13,000 acres of the best of Texas lands. He died in 1853, leaving his children quite rich. Aunt America was alive two years ago. She is about my own age, and the only one of the old stock of my generation now living of whom I have knowledge. A pen and ink portraiture of the old patriarchs may probably interest you, to-wit: William, James, John, Moses and Jesse and their wives. Joel and Aaron I never saw. To begin with William: he was about six feet in height, and naturally a large man. When he became old grew somewhat corpulent. Dark hair (not black) until he became gray, fair complexioned, and blue eyes, or rather inclined to gray, features regular. Would suppose a fine looking gentleman when young. Aunt Pinah, his wife, was, to the best of my recollection, a little taller than usual for a woman, rather on the light or fragile order of make. She was quite old when I saw her, and all old ladies at that day and time wore caps. I do not know the original color of her hair. James was about six feet two or three inches high, well made in proportion to height, never grew corpulent, perfectly erect when standing, regular features, fair complexion, light or rather inclined to sandy hair, I do not remember the color of his eyes. Take him altogether, I think one of the finest looking old men I ever saw anywhere, his look so dignified and movements majestic. His whole make up was perfect in every part. His wife I do not recollect sufficiently to describe with any certainty. Jesse was the smallest one of the brothers, probably about five feet eight or eight and a half inches high, heavy build to that height. My grandmother used to tell me that on account of Jesse's being the little runt of the family, his father bound him out to learn the tailor's trade, his weight at the time one hundred and eighty pounds. His hair was red, fair complexion and blue eyes, a heavy built man to his height, though not corpulent, yet full enough of flesh. His wife I do not recollect. John (my grandfather) was about six feet high, heavy made to that height, a little inclined to corpulency, black hair and dark skin, eyes dark gray. When standing, or walking, very erect, regular features and what might be called a fine specimen of a man. His wife (my grandmother) was a small, red haired woman, fair skin and blue eyes. My grandmother, (Jane Higgins), with whom I staid when going to school in Kentucky, and from whom I learned the greater part of what I know of our family, has often told me that she was considered very

- 7 -

handsome when young, if she was red headed. She died about 1809 or 1810. Grandfather remained a widower until his death, many years thereafter. Moses (my grandfather on my mother's side) was about five feet eleven inches, or probably six feet high, well made, large, but no surplus flesh, rather thin visaged, fair skin and fair hair, blue eyes, and a very dignified, commanding looking old gentleman, just such a looking man as would command attention and respect in any company. Jane, his wife, was a large woman, moderately corpulent, weight, when in health, about 260 or 270 pounds, tall and stately, coal black hair, fair complexion, regular features, very small feet and hands for one of her size. I presume she must have been quite good looking when young, as she was a very fine looking old lady. She outlived my grandfather twelve or fourteen years, and finally died at her daughter's house, (America Fortune), in Greensboro, Ala., having left her Kentucky home in October, 1835, to visit her relations in Alabama, and to make her future home with her daughter. The seven brothers had one sister of whom I have knowledge. There may have been others, but I never heard of them if it were so. The sister of whom I have knowledge owned the poetic name of Molly, (then there was no Frenchified phrases as now, such as Mollie, Annie, Nannie, &c.), who married Mr. Leonard Young, who was the father of Dr. John Young, of Mount Sterling, with whom your father read medicine. To the best of my recollection our aunt Molly was married to uncle Leonard in Virginia. I have seen him often, when a child, but have no recollection of her, but have often heard grandfather Moses Higgins and grandmother speak of her and describe her appearance. She was quite large, dark skin, black hair and eyes, and when old inclined to obesity. A very fair model of grandfather John. Mr. Young was a man a little above the ordinary size. The last time I saw him I was traveling in Fayette county, going up to Montgomery. Night fell upon me, I called to stay all night at a fine looking old mansion, with a large, well improved farm attached thereto, not knowing who lived there. A middle aged gentleman appeared to be the proprietor. At supper a venerable looking old gentleman made his appearance at table, dressed in superlatively fine style, not a blemish or fault anywhere. With much gravity and precision he asked a blessing. Supper over the old gentleman walked with us into the parlor. I then began to have some idea that I had fallen in with old uncle

- 8 -

Leonard Yegung, but was in doubt whether or not to name anything about it, as I had not seen him since childhood. He began by asking me where I was from, what kind of country, our staple productions, where I was going, &c. The latter question offered me a fine opportunity to bring him out, so as to find out whether I was mistaken in my thoughts or not. I answered that I was going up to Montgomery county to visit my relations in general, and particularly my grandfather and grandmother, and my old Kentucky home. He then said that he had many acquaintances and some relations up in Montgomery. Then asked the name of my grandfather. I replied Moses Higgins. The old gentleman was on his feet by the time the word was out, seized my hand, and held it two or three minutes, shedding tears quite freely all the time. The old gentleman was so overcome with his feelings he could not articulate for some minutes. I found him to be quite an intelligent gentleman, well posed on the political issues of the day, also on religious topics, far better than I. We conversed until long after midnight. I found out that the middle aged man was his son and the lady at the head of the table was his son's wife. All three appeared equally interested in my company when they found out who I was. I saw no white children about, but many black ones. His possessions were about 8 1/2 miles N.W. of Lexington. All of the old stock of Higgins' lived to be quite old except Aaron, and from their noted frugality, sober industrious habits, and patient perseverance, became (what was called in Kentucky) rich. All owned good farms and negroes enough to work them, with stock enough of all sorts, and I never heard of one of them being in debt, even for a merchant's account at the end of the year. I think that was their settled policy not to go in debt for anything. While in prison at Johnson's Island I became acquainted with a Confederate Captain by the name of Blake, from western Kentucky. He was born and raised in Caroline county, Va., a gentleman of great wealth, lived in Caroline county until he was near 50 years old. He knew many of the Higgins family there, said all that he knew, (and he thought he knew all), his wife being a descendant of the old stock. He said all that he knew were quite wealthy, influential men, all sober and well behaved. He spoke of John A. Higgins, of Norfolk, as being the most wealthy wholesale merchant of that place. He said John was raised in Caroline, and one of the same old family.

REC'D MAY 21 1935

- 9 -

He, in speaking of them, called all by their christian names, the women in the same way without hesitation, proving to me that he was quite intimate with the family. He also knew many of the Jeter family about Hobb's Hole. Said one of them was the most eloquent divines in Virginia, and had been, and was then, for all he knew, pastor of the 1st Baptist church in Richmond. My grandmother used to tell me about one of her brothers who was a Baptist preacher. I presume he was the same. He (Blake) said that Mr. Upsher, Polk's first Secretary of the Navy, was a descendant of the Higgins family, his mother's maiden name being Higgins. Mr. Upsher was killed on board a war vessel not long after his appointment, making an experimental trial of the largest gun that had been made in the United States up to that time. About the 2d or 3d discharge it bursted, killing the Secretary (Mr. U.) and crippling several others. I think by this time I have tired you out, or at least for fear of becoming prolix I had better stop.

Respectfully yours,

H.H.HIGGINS.

P.S. - I will further state that James Higgins was a captain in the old continental army of the revolution. The word continental has been changed. The same branch of the service is now called regular army. He remained in service until the close of the war. He drew a land warrant for 1,350 acres of land, which could be located in Kentucky, for his services in the army. Virginia having made previous arrangements to pay all her officers and soldiers in her waste lands of Kentucky, which was then, or had been, a portion of Virginia, which accounts for so many of the old settlers being Virginians. He, therefore, must have been about the last of the seven leaving the old dominion. He never lived in Fayette county, but settled at once on his own survey in Montgomery. At that time all the other brothers were living in Fayette. Both my grandfathers (John and Moses), Jesse, and I think your grandfather, all bought land from him, as he had a great deal more than any Kentuckian could ever find use for, as was thought at that time. My stepmother's maiden name was Nancy Buchanan, one among the

- 10 -

best woman (I think) that ever lived, at least I would not have exchanged her for any woman on this green earth. She was a model for all others in every department necessary to constitute a good mother. I lived at home at my father's house until I was 25 years old, and I do not think that the thought ever entered my head from my earliest recollection that she was treating her own children kinder or in any wise different from that given to my older brother and myself. You will please excuse the numerous mistakes, as I have written without reflection as to method or elegance, only aiming at a simple concise statement of facts.

On taking a retrospect of what I have said, I find that I have not informed you as to the fate of my two uncles, to-wit: James Jeter Higgins and William Young Higgins. James J. learned the bricklaying and plastering business at the same time my father did with his brother-in-law (James Hart). Both boys then 15 or 16 up to near 20 years old. He married Miss Williams, when young, settled in Mount Sterling, and was the principal undertaker there up to about 1816 or 1817. They had one child that I know of (whose name is Charles Volney, if living). Lived very unhappily together (grandma said it was entirely Polly's fault. That she should think so, you know, was quite natural). He was a sober, industrious and money-making man. I know nothing of his other qualities, however. About 1817 he left her in possession of all they had, went to the Walnut Hills (now Vicksburg) soon thereafter, became postmaster, married a nice widow lady, by whom he had sons and daughters, accumulated considerable wealth, held his office until his death at a ripe old age. He lived quite happily with his second wife. His children were in Vicksburg the last I heard of them, and doing well. He was a large, portly, fine looking man. William Young Higgins was about six feet three inches, well made, not too thin nor too thick, was called very handsome, studied medicine at the age of about 27 or 28 years of age, emigrated to Vicksburg, succeeded in getting a fine practice and did fair to do well. He was called on to attend a patient on the opposite side of the river, was being taken over in a skiff, when, about the middle of the river, fell out, was drowned. His body was never recovered. His brother and friends never could arrive at anything as to the cause of his falling out. He was a good swimmer, but the oarsman said he made no effort, from which it was supposed he must have had a spasm, but his intimate associates never knew of his having one before. With these scattering remarks I close, thinking you are now tired of it.

H.

REC'D MAY 21 1935

RECORDS FROM OLD HIGGINS BIBLE IN POSSESSION OF FANNY

**HIGGINS, 204 GREEN ST. FAYETTEVILLE, TENN. OWNED FIRST BY
JAMES HIGGINS AND WIFE NANCY-MAY, 1827**

Births

William Higgins Senior was bourn May 12th 1742
Dina Higgins was bourn Jan. 22nd 1743

(Children)

Robert Higgins was Bourn November 10th 1770
Elizabeth Higgins was Bourn August 20th 1772
Nancy Higgins was bourn December 1st, 1775
Frankie Higgins was bourn October (page torn so date is not shown)
Polly " " " " " "
William Y. Higgins was bourn the 30th of July 1780
(George W. Is not on this list)

John Higgins Senior was born the 16 day of January in the year of our
Lord 1747 and was married to Nancy Woodroof in the year 1760
Nancy Higgins his wife was born October 1749

(Children)

Sarah Higgins was born the 17th of June 1770
James Higgins was born the 11th October 1772
Susana Higgins was born the 7th Aprile 1774
William B. Higgins was born the 12 May 1776
Elizabeth Higgins, page torn so dates not shown
John Higgins " " " " "
Nancy Higgins-October " " " " "
(Polly Higgins not on this list) (Mrs. Reed says she was born 1787)

William Y. Higgins was bourn the 30th of July 1780
Nancy T. Higgins was bourn 4th of November 1783 (dau. of John Lane)
(compare her date of birth with Lane Bible record Nov. 2 1783
married Oct. 29, 1801

(Children)

Willis B. Higgins was bourn the 12th of February 1803
Lucinda Higgins was bourn 7th of January 1805
Peggy L. Higgins was bourn the 18th of december 1806
Jacky Higgins was bourn the 9th of August 1811
Nancy (?)
Polly Higgins was Bourn November the 8th 1813

James Higgins b. Oct. 7th 1772 (above Oct.11 and grave stone Oct.11)

- 2 -

Nancy Higgins was bourn Dec. 1st 1775 and married March 3rd 1795)
(da. of William and Dina)

- - -

(Children)

Sally Hart Higgins was bourn April 19, 1798
Owen W. Higgins was bourn 1801

- - -

DEATHS.

Dina Higgins wife of William (Higgins Senior) died the 10th of March
(1809 or 1810 or 1819-illegible looks as if it was
(written first 1809 and then over that 1810)
Nancy T. Higgins wife of William Y. Higgins -----
Nancy Higgins (which Nancy?) died Sept. 29, 1816. Was this Nancy
(Woodruff, wife of John Senior?) Nancy wife of James
(died 1825, see record from grave stone)
Sally Hart Higgins daughter to James and Nancy Higgins was born
April 19, 1798

MARRIAGES.

William Y. Higgins was married to Nancy Lane the 29th of October
eighteen hundred and one.

Sally H. Higgins a daughter to James and Nancy Higgins was married
December 29th 1818
to
Jacob Castleman was born January 4th 1775 and married December 29th,
1818.

John A. Higgins was married to Aranda Higgins -----1835
Philip Woodruff 1792---(illegible)
Jemima was bourn Oct. 15, 1789
Frank was bourn Nov. 11, 1769

O.W. Higgins son of Nancy and James Higgins was married on the
15th April 1823
to
Frances Stone was born 20th Sept. 1805 and married 15th April 1823

Mr. Doland S. Flagg #2
March 21, 1933

names of the children of this union that Mr. H.H. Higgins gave was Robert, William Warbrough and George W. He did not know what the W. stood for, possibly Washington. The daughters he gave us Nancy, Elizabeth and Francis. Mrs. James Lane's christian name he did not know. If Robert ever married he said it had escaped his recollection. I am wondering if that is your Robert. Later on

March 21, 1933

Mr. Doland S. Flagg, Robert when a young man studied law, and
427 So. Prairie,
Sioux Falls, S.D. was at one time Sheriff of Mont-

Dear Mr. Flagg:-ing to his great popularity, fine social

qualities. Your letter of March 6th is much appreciated and I am thoroughly glad if our letter regarding the Higgins was of assistance. I hope by now you are on the trail of information you seek. Mrs. Stanley Reed of Mayeville, Ky., gave us a typewritten copy of letter dated Athens, Ala., Oct. 16th, 1872, to "Cousin Wm. J. Higgins" from Mr. H.H. Higgins. In this he gives the traditional history of the Higgins family/ He says they were from Manchester, England. In what county or year the first came over he did not know but about 1770 they are found in Caroline County, Va., from which county the forefathers of the "present generation of our name" dispersed in the several States of Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana, Illinois, Alabama, Mississippi and Arkansas. William first settled in the State of Georgia, after leaving Virginia, married there, bought a home, improved it and returned to Virginia on business. In due time he returned to Georgia to find that his wife had disposed of everything movable and gone off with another man. He then left Georgia and immigrated into the territory of Kentucky, where some of his brothers had already settled, at the place now known as Lexington. He married his second wife, Dinah Tribble, date not given, nor place. The

Mr. Deland S. Flagg #2
March 21, 1933

*Sioux Falls, S.D.
March 6, 1933.*

names of the children of this union that Mr. H.H. Higgins gave are Robert, William Yarbrough and George W. He did not know what the W. stood for, possibly Washington. The daughters he gave as Nancy, Elizabeth and Francis. Mrs. James Lane's christian name he did not know. If Robert ever married he said it had escaped his recollection. I am wondering if that is your Robert. Later on in the article he says Robert when a young man studied law, and obtained a permit to practice; was at one time Sheriff of Montgomery County. "Owing to his great popularity, fine social qualities, kindness of heart, and unbounded liberality, he became involved in his financial affairs. You can easily guess the result. He, like many others possessing such traits, became a victim to that god whose chief aim and delight is to destroy. After these misfortunes he, with his father, emigrated from Kentucky and settled in Lincoln County, Tenn, about the year 1805 or 1806. Here he became a school teacher, and was liberally patronized. After the declaration of war, in 1812, he served twelve months in that war on the Canada frontier. On his return he stopped for a time with James Higgins, from thence he lived ~~with~~ at Winchester, Tenn., and subsequently in Bellefont, where the writer of the letter lost sight of him.

I have quoted above liberally from the letter referred to, as it shows his migrations which would be confusing to follow through court records, as you may have to go to Tennessee for his marriage. There are eight pages of this letter single space 8 1/2 x 13 paper. Should you want a full copy of this we would be glad to have it copied for you at cost, 35¢ per page. Other than what I have given refers to other branches of the family.

Very truly,

LUDJ. J. KINKEAD.

Sioux Falls, S.D.
March 6, 1933.

Miss Ludie J. Kinhead,
Curator, The Filson Club,
Louisville, Kentucky.

RECEIVED
MAR 9 1933

My dear Miss Kinhead:

I wish to thank you
for your letter of March 2, containing
the information concerning Robt. Higgins.
Of all the letters I have written with
such inquiries, I have never received
a more satisfactory answer. You anticipated
a number of my questions, and have sent
me just the information I wanted.
The Filson Club is to be congratulated
and you have my best wishes as
well as thanks.

Yours sincerely
Donald S. Flagg
42 W. Prairie.

... at the place now known as Lexington. He married
his second wife, Dinah Tribble, date not given, nor place

RECORDED 21 1835

Higgins Wills
Caroline County Order Books 1746-
In Virginia State Library, Richmond, Va.

Page 35

Court held June 12, 1747. The last will and testament of William Higgins dec'd was presented in Court by Elizabeth Higgins and William Higgins Exrs therein named who made oath thereto according to law and being further proved by the oath of Susannah Maulding witness thereto and ordered to be recorded and they performing what is named in such cases, certificate is granted them for obtaining a probate thereof in due form of law.

Book 1781-1785-May Court 1784-p. 327

The last will and Testament of William Higgin deceased was proved by two witnesses and ordered to be Recorded on motion of Aaron Higgin on having taken the oath prescribed by law-a certificate is granted him for obtaining a probate thereof. Bond is acknowledged and ordered to be Recorded. Ordered that George Terrell, Francis Tompkins, George Tyler appraise Estate of William Higgin deceased and certify their appraisal to the Court.

Bk. 1785-1787--- May Court 1786--p. 50

Inventory and appraisal of Estate of William Higgin deceased was returned and ordered to be recorded.

Jan. 10, 1782

Ann Higgins by Edward Pendleton for brandy I-15

Abingdon Parish Gloucester Co., Va. Parish Register 1678-1761
Ann daughter of Tho. and Susanna Higgins baptised Apr. 13, 1701

Caroline County Order Bk. 1782-1740
p. 294 May 9 1735

Benj. Walker to pay George Tribble 60 lbs. Tobacco for 2 days' attendance as evidence for him vs. Coleman

Bk 1781-1785

P. 24 Ann Tribble admr. of Peter Tribble

p. 467

On motion of Francis Durrett a certificate is granted him for obtaining letters of administration of the estate of Ann Tribble dec'd.
p. 50 of Bk. 1785-1787
May Court 1785-Inventory and appraisal of estate of Ann Tribble deceased was returned and ordered to be recorded.

Caroline Co. Claim according to Act of Assembly of Va. Oct. 1780 entitled "An Act for adjudging claims for property impressed or taken for public service".

Oct. 4, 1781

I do hereby certify that I received of George Tribble one Beef adjudged to weigh 225 lbs. collected by order of his excellence Thos. Nelson for the use of the army.
William Redd.

Mr. Donald S. Flagg

Higgins Family

Elizabeth Stone of Fayette Co., Ky. The first record in
William Higgins and Lydia Smith were married Jan. 7, 1808.
There is about a half a page of printed matter, but I do not
see that it bears on your direct line.

April 7, 1933

Trusting you will get something out of all this.

Mr. Donald S. Flagg,
427 E. Prairie Ave.,
Sioux Falls, S. D. very truly,

Dear Mr. Flagg:-

Your letter of March 27th was duly received, and
I am enclosing herewith the typewritten copy of the material
given to The Filson Club by Mrs. Stanley Reed, Maysville, Ky.,
a not the original
Mrs. Reed gave us the typewritten copy. It may be that she
can be of assistance to you as she is of that family. I am
cashing the P.O. order you sent and turning the money over
to the young lady who did the copying. Thanks.

In my previous letters I did not state that Montgom-
ery County was formed from Clark County in 1796.

IN Kentucky Pioneer and Court Records, by Mrs. McAdams
Page 159, John A. Fortune m. America Higgins, May 3, 1822
160 Aaron Masterson m. Matilda Higgins, Oct. 7, 1824
in Montgomery County
163 Samuel Young m. Marget Higgins, Dec. 14, 1820
in Bath County

(From copy of newspaper article "Sentinel-Democrat"
Mt. Sterling, Ky., Mar. 14, 1929", being Rev. John (Raccoon)
Smith and the marriages he solemnized in Montgomery and ad-
joining counties during the years from 1816 to 1852. The Court
House burned in Mt. Sterling and these records help to fill
that gap.)

In same book page 223, "Record of graves still to be
seen in "Old Graveyard" at Cynthiana, Harrison Co., Ky.

"William Higgins b. Oct. 22, 1787; d. May 2, 1854.

On page 263 is copied "Higgins-Moore Bible", bible of Mary

Mr. Donald S. Flagg #2 April 7, 1933

Elizabeth Coons of Fayette Co., Ky. The first record is William Higgins and Lydia Smith were married Jan. 7, 1808. There is about a half a page of printed matter, but I do not see that it bears on your direct line.

Trusting you will get something out of all this,

I am,

Mr. Donald S. Flagg,
427 S. Prairie Ave.,
Sioux Falls, S. D.

Very truly,

Dear Mr. Flagg:-

Ludie J. Kinhead, Curator

Your letter of March 27th was duly received, and Enclosure herewith the typewritten copy of the material given to The Filson Club by Mrs. Stanley Reed, Maysville, Ky., and the original Mrs. Reed gave us the typewritten copy. It may be that she can be of assistance to you as she is of that family. I am enclosing the P.O. order you sent and turning the money over to the young lady who did the copying. Thanks.

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In Kentucky Pioneer and Court Records, by Mrs. Haddock

Page 159, John A. Fortune m. America Higgins, May 3, 1822
160 Aaron Hesterson m. Matilda Higgins, Oct. 7, 1824
in Montgomery County
161 Samuel Young m. Margaret Higgins, Dec. 14, 1828
in Bath County

(From copy of newspaper article "Centinel-Democrat" Mt. Sterling, Ky., Mar. 14, 1927, being Rev. John (Haddock) Smith and the marriage he solemnized in Montgomery and adjoining counties during the years from 1816 to 1852. The Court House burned in Mt. Sterling and these records help to fill that gap.)

In same book page 223, "Record of Graves still to be seen in "Old Graveyard" at Cynthiana, Harrison Co., Ky.

"William Higgins b. Dec. 22, 1786. ..."

LETTER FROM MR. H. H. HIGGINS TO WM. J. HIGGINS.

Athens, Ala.
October 16th, 1872.

Cousin Wm. J. Higgins,

My dear Sir:-

According to promise, I now give you a traditional history of the Higgins family so far as I know. From the best information I have been able to obtain, the original stock in the colonies were from Manchester, England. In which one of the colonies he, or they, settled is not known, but about the year 1770 they are found in Caroline county, Va., from which county the forefathers of the present generation of our name, who are dispersed in the several States of Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana, Illinois, Alabama, Mississippi and Arkansas emigrated. The precise date is not known.

William (your grandfather) first settled in the State of Georgia, after leaving Virginia, married there, bought a home, improved it, and returned to Virginia on business. In due time he returned to Georgia to find that his wife had disposed of everything movable and gone off with another man. He then left Georgia and immigrated into the territory of Kentucky, where some of his brothers had already settled, at the place now known as Lexington.

At what time or place he married his second wife (Dinah Tribble) I do not know, by whom he had sons and daughters. The names of those known to me were as follows: Robert, William Yarbrough and George W. (your father). I do not know what the W. stands for, but always thought it was for Washington. I do not know the christian names of his daughters, only in part, Nancy, Elizabeth and Francis are the names that I know. Mrs. James Lane's christian name I do not remember. If your uncle Robert ever married it has escaped my recollection.

Your uncle Wm. Y. married Miss Nancy Lane (a niece of Col. James Lane) in Montgomery County, Ky., by whom he had two sons and three daughters, to-wit: Willis, John, Lucinda, Margaret and Mary.

Your aunt Nancy married James Higgins, (my uncle) by whom she had six children, to-wit: Two daughters and four sons, who lived to be grown; some others died in infancy. The females were Sarah and Emily. Sarah married Mr. Jacob Castleman (a son of the old pioneers and Indian fighters of Tennessee, favorably mentioned in the history of Tennessee). Emily married Mr. Hiram Buchanan (my stepmother's brother).

Owen Higgins, her oldest son, married Miss Francis Stone. Her son George T. died before married at Montgomery, Ala. Her son John married my half sister, Amanda, and died some eight or nine months thereafter. Her son William died suddenly at the Commercial Hotel in Memphis, the date I do not recollect.

Your father's sister Elizabeth (Betsy) married Mr. Joel Parrish, in the State of Kentucky, and immigrated to Lincoln County, in the State of Tenn., about the year of 1805 or 1806. I have lost sight of them.

#2

His sister Francis married William Higgins (son of old Capt. James Higgins of revolutionary notoriety). The other sister of your father married Col. James Lane, of Montgomery county, Ky., who were the parents of Kansas Jim. Higgins Lane and Henry Lane, of Indiana, U. C., for many years from that State.

Wm. H., who married your aunt Francis, was known in Montgomery by the name of Buck H.. If your father had other sisters I have forgotten them, or never knew them.

Your uncle Robert, when a young man, studied law, and obtained a permit to practice; was at one time Sheriff of Montgomery, but whether before or subsequent to his permit I know not. At that day permit to practice law was the custom, now a license is obtained. Owing to his great popularity, fine social qualities, kindness of heart, and unbounded liberality, he became involved in his financial affairs. You can easily guess the result. He, like many others possessing such traits, became a victim to that god whose chief aim and delight is to destroy.

After these misfortunes he, with his father, emigrated from Kentucky and settled in Lincoln County, Tenn., about the year 1805 or 1806. After the bears, wolves, panthers, catamounts, and other wild beasts were either killed or driven out of the country, to some extent, their places were filled by a class of animals somewhat more civilized, when he, in order to retrieve his lost fortunes, offered his services as a school teacher, (if not the first, among the first of such institutions in the country) and was liberally patronized, I being at that time a very small one of them.

After the declaration of war, in 1812, he served twelve months in that war on the Canada frontier. On his return he stopped for a time with our uncle, James Higgins, from thence he lived with your father, at Winchester, Tenn., and subsequently in Bellefont, where I lost sight of him.

I do not know who old Capt. James Higgins married, nor do I know positively all his children - will give you the names of those with whom I was acquainted as follows: William, Thomas, Sarah and Polly.

As stated before, William married your aunt Francis. They had many sons and daughters. Thomas Higgins married a Miss Renegar, to the best of my knowledge.

Sarah married a Yankee by the name of King, in Montgomery county, and shortly thereafter emigrated, and settled near the mouth of Beau's Creek, Franklin county, Tenn., raised a large family of respectable and handsome sons and daughters.

Polly married a gentleman by the name of Watson, who died nine or ten years thereafter, leaving his wife and four or five children.

William and Thomas emigrated about 1817 or 1818, and settled either in Indiana or Illinois, I know notmwhich.

Jesse Higgins bought land from his brother James, improved it well, building quite a roomy brick house, and other farm houses, roomy and good in proportion. He had but two children that I recollect, a son and daughter. I never knew the maiden name of old uncle Jesse's wife. His son James distinguished himself among the

bravest of the brave men at the battle of the river Rasin, so much so that when he returned to Lexington, his former place of business, he was greatly caressed by both sexes, balled and partied so long that poor fellow at length gave way under the pressure of social and convivial pleasures, learned to imbibe too freely, married a reigning belle, and died comparatively a young man.

I have forgotten the name of his daughter, but she married a gentleman by the name of Fuqua, I think.

I will here give you the christian names of the old patriarchs of our name who left Virginia and settled in Kentucky, for fear you get your mind somewhat confused, not, however, systematically, either in point of age or date of immigration.

William, (your grandfather), James, John, Jesse, Joel, Moses and Aaron.

Aaron was the youngest of the seven brothers, a modern giant, not only as to size, but strength and wonderful activity. He was lost at Harmer's defeat about the year 1789 or 1790, in the northwestern territory, near to the present town of Chillicothe, O. His widow subsequently married a wealthy gentleman of Fayette county, Ky., by the name of Rogers. The widow being the only heir who claimed, retained the lands and all perishable property. Mr. Rogers, although owning a large landed property, consented to live on the farm left by old uncle Aaron, seven miles N. E. of Lexington, and adjoining the old Bryant Station farm.

Joel Higgins bought land in Fayette county not far from Lexington, where he lived until he died at an advanced age. I know not who he married, but think her name was Allen, at least that branch of the Higgins' was connected in some way with the Allens, a wealthy and aristocratic family, owning large possessions near Lexington.

The names of some of his sons were as follows, to-wit: William, who lived to be an old gentleman and raised a large family on the old homestead; Richard, who became one of the wealthiest merchants and planters of Fayette county, died at an old age, leaving an immense estate to be divided among his children, who are now quite wealthy, loosing nothing of their patrimony, but adding greatly thereto; Durret, who married, I know not who, and at an early day emigrated, locating in the then new county of Cumberland, Ky., on the Cumberland river, where he lived to old age, accumulating a large fortune. I never saw Durret or any of his family, but have seen many persons who knew them well.

One of the Higgins family of that generation owned and lived upon a large and well improved farm adjoining to Harrodsburg, on the north, Mercer county, Ky. I am not positive as to whose son he was, but think Joel's.

John Higgins (my grandfather on my father's side) married Miss Nancy Woodruff in the State of Virginia.

Uncle James Higgins was born in that State about the year 1772. In 1776 he (grandfather) emigrated from Virginia, shaping his course for the promised land of Kentucky. He had progressed as far as Carter county, East Tennessee, Roan's Creek, where he was necessarily compelled to call a halt, my grandmother having been taken suddenly ill, when, on the 15th of May of the above date, my father was born. The old gentleman raised one crop at that place, by which time my

grandmother was sufficiently restored to travel, when he sold out and renewed his journey.

To give you a more explicit account of John Higgins' family, I will give you their christian names, beginning with James, (your uncle, also mine), William B., (my father), John and Aaron, of the males, Susan, Nancy, Betsy and Polly.

John and Aaron died after arriving at mature age, neither one leaving a family.

My father married Catherine Higgins, the second daughter of Moses and Jane Higgins, in the year 1799. My mother, Catherine died early in the year 1806, to the best of my recollection, (the record by some means or other was lost).

Susan married Mr. Wm. Yates.

Nancy married Mr. Joshua Yates, a younger brother of William's, who is the father of Ex-Gov. Richard Yates, of Illinois, as I have been credibly informed.

About the year 1839 uncle Joshua sold about thirty-five negroes, and his farm, four miles west of Mount Sterling, and moved to Illinois and bought a home near Springfield. Dick was then thirteen or fourteen years old.

William and Joshua were both ranked among the best and most prosperous farmers. Betsy married a gentleman (an Irish blacksmith, too fond of liquor), by the name of John Gilmore, whose son was high Sheriff of Shelby county, Tenn., when I went to Memphis in 1854. He died in office 1855. I know nothing of any of the Gilmore family now.

Polly married Mr. James Hunt, of Fayette county, Ky., who was an uncle of Gen. John H. Morgan. Gen. Morgan's mother was the daughter of John W. Hunt, of Lexington, a brother of uncle James, and a brother-in-law of Richard Higgins, previously mentioned.

James Hunt was a prosperous, peaceable gentleman, who died about the year 1825, leaving a very pretty estate. Aunt Polly, some five or six years after the death of uncle Hunt, married a wealthy and most excellent old gentleman by the name of Wm. Butler, with whom she lived in peace and pleasure until his death, some twelve or fifteen years after marriage. Aunt Polly Butler died a year or two before the late war or rebellion.

Moses Higgins (my grandfather on my mother's side, and I think next to the youngest of the seven brothers), married Miss Jane Jeter, at a place called Hobb's Hole, on the James River, between Richmond and Norfolk somewhere. Their oldest son was born in Virginia, I think, though not sure of the fact.

The christian names of the children of Moses and Jane were James Jeter, Catherine, Betsy, Nancy, Matilda, William Young and America.

James Jeter married in Montgomery county, Ky., Miss Mary Williams, the aunt of Gen. S. Williams, who figured quite conspicuously with the Kentucky troops in the late war.

Catherine married my father, (Wm. B. Higgins), as previously stated.

Betsy, the oldest child, married an English gentleman by t'

name of James Hart. Both died before I was born, leaving no issue.

Nancy married Mr. John Dozier, a sprightly and remarkably handsome gentleman. They raised the handsomest family, take them all together, men and women, that I ever saw anywhere.

Uncle John Dozier died about the year 1820 or 1821. Aunt Matilda lived to be somewhat of an old maid, when she married Mr. Aaron Masterson, a most worthy and prosperous widower of Montgomery, a close neighbor. They lived happily together until they had grown children, when she died about 1839.

America married a poor but industrious, persevering young man of the neighborhood by the name of John Fortune, who lived to make a very large fortune, in addition to his name. He moved from Kentucky to Greene county, Ala., where he accumulated the most of his wealth. He moved from Greensboro (now Hale county) to Texas about 1841 or 1842, taking with him over one hundred negroes, and money to buy 13,000 acres of the best of Texas lands. He died in 1863, leaving his children quite rich. Aunt America was alive two years ago. She is about my own age, and the only one of the old stock of my generation now living of whom I have knowledge.

A pen and ink portraiture of the old patriarchs may probably interest you, to-wit: William, James, John, Moses and Jesse and their wives.

Joel and Aaron I never saw.

To begin with William: he was about six feet in height, and naturally a large man. When he became old grew somewhat corpulent. Dark hair (not black) until he became gray, fair complexioned, and blue eyes, or rather inclined to gray, features regular. Would suppose a fine looking gentleman when young.

Aunt Dinah, his wife, was, to the best of my recollection, a little taller than usual for a woman, rather on the light or fragile order to make. She was quite old when I saw her, and all old ladies at that day and time wore caps. I do not know the original color of her hair.

James was about six feet two or three inches high, well made in proportion to height, never grew corpulent, perfectly erect when standing, regular features, fair complexion, light or rather inclined to sandy hair, I do not remember the color of his eyes. Take him altogether, I think one of the finest looking old men I ever saw anywhere, his look so dignified and movements majestic. His whole make up was perfect in every part. His wife I do not recollect sufficiently to describe with any certainty.

Jesse was the smallest one of the brothers, probably about five feet eight or eight and a half inches high, heavy build to that height. My grandmother used to tell me that on account of Jesse's being the little runt of the family, his father bound him out to learn the tailor's trade, his weight at the time one hundred and eighty pounds. His hair was red, fair complexion and blue eyes, a heavy built man to his height, though not corpulent, yet full enough of flesh. His wife I do not recollect.

John (my grandfather) was about six feet high, heavy made to that height, a little inclined to corpulency, black hair and dark skin, eyes dark gray. When standing, or walking, very erect, regular features and what might be called a fine specimen of a man. His wife

wife (my grandmother) was a small, red haired woman, fair skin and blue eyes. My grandmother, (Jane Higgins), with whom I staid when going to school in Kentucky, and from whom I learned the greater part of what I know of our family, has often told me that she was considered very handsome when young, if she was red headed. She died about 1809 or 1810.

Grandfather remained a widower until his death, many years thereafter.

Moses (my grandfather on my mother's side) was about five feet eleven inches, or probably six feet high, well made, large, but no surplus flesh, rather thing visaged, fair skin and fair hair, blue eyes, and a very dignified, commanding looking old gentleman, just such a looking man as would command attention and respect in any company. Jane, his wife, was a large woman, moderately corpulent, weight, when in health, about 260 or 270 pounds, tall and stately, coal black hair, fair complexion, regular features, very small feet and hands for one of her size. I presume she must have been quite good looking when young, as she was a very fine looking old lady. She out lived my grandfather twelve or fourteen years, and finally died at her daughter's house, (America Fortune), in Greensboro, Ala., having left her Kentucky home in October, 1835, to visit her relations in Alabama, and to make her future home with her daughter. The seven brothers had one sister of whom I have knowledge. There may have been others, but I never heard of them if it were so.

The sister of whom I have knowledge owned the poetic name of Molly, (then there was no Frenchified phrases as now, such a Mollie, Annie, Nannie, &c), who married Mr. Leonard Young, who was the father of Dr. John Young, of Mount Sterling, with whom your father read medicine.

To the best of my recollection our aunt Molly was married to uncle Leonard in Virginia. I have seen him often, when a child, but have no recollection of her, but have often heard grandfather Moses Higgins and grandmother speak of her and describe her appearance. She was quite large, dark skin, black hair and eyes, and when old inclined to obesity. A very fair model of grandfather John. ✕

Mr. Young was a man a little above the ordinary size. The last time I saw him I was traveling in Fayette county, going up to Montgomery. Night fell upon me, I called to stay all night at a fine looking old mansion, with a large, well improved farm attached thereto, not knowing who lived there. A middle aged gentleman appeared to be the proprietor. At supper a venerable looking old gentleman made his appearance at table, dressed in superlatively fine style, not a blemish or fault any where. With much gravity and precision he asked a blessing. Supper over the old gentleman walked with us into the parker. I then began to have some idea that I had fallen in with old uncle Leonard Young, but was in doubt whether or not to name anything about it, as I had not seem him since childhood. He began by asking me where I was from, what kind of country, our staple productions, where I was going, &c. The latter question offered me a fine opportunity to bring out, so as to find out whether I was mistaken in my thoughts or not. I answered that I was going up to Montgomery county to visit my relations in general, and particularly my grandfather and grandmother, and my old Kentucky home. He then said that he had many acquaintances and some relations up in Montgomery. Then asked the name of my grandfather. I replied Moses Higgins. The old gentleman was on his feet by the time the word was out, seized my hand, and held it two or three minutes, shedding tears quite freely all the time. The old gentleman was so overcome with his feelings he could not articulate for some minutes. I found him to be quite an intelligent gentleman.

well posted on the political issues of the day, also on religious topics, far better than I. We conversed until long after midnight. I found out that the middle aged man was his son and the lady at the head of the table was his son's wife. All three appeared equally interested in my company when they found out who I was. I saw no white children about, but many black ones. His possessions were about 8 1/2 miles N. E. of Lexington. All of the old stock of Higgins' lived to be quite old except Aaron, and from their noted frugality, sober industrious habits, and patient perseverance, became (what was called in Kentucky) rich. All owned good farms and negroes enough to work them, with stock enough of all sorts, and I never heard of one of them being in debt, even for a merchant's account at the end of the year. I think that was their settled policy not to go in debt for anything.

While in prison at Johnson's Island I became acquainted with a Confederate Captain by the name of Black, from western Kentucky. He was born and raised in Caroline county, Va., a gentleman of great wealth, lived in Caroline until he was near 50 years old. He knew many of the Higgins family there, said all that he knew, (and he thought he knew all), his wife being a descendant of the old stock. He said all that he knew were quite wealthy, influential men, all sober and well behaved. He spoke of John A. Higgins, of Morflok, as being the most wealthy wholesale merchant of that place. He said John was raised in Caroline, and one of the same old family. He, in speaking of them, called all by their christian names, the women in the same way without hesitation, proving to me that he was quite intimate with the family.

He also knew many of the Jeter family about Hobb's Hole. Said one of them was the most eloquent divines in Virginia, and had been, and was then, for all he knew, pastor of the 1st Baptist Church in Richmond. My grandmother used to tell me about one of her brothers who was a Baptist preacher. I presume he was the same. He (Blake) said that Mr. Upsher, Polk's first Secretary of the Navy, was a descendant of the Higgins family, his mother's maiden name being Higgins. Mr. Upsher was killed on board a war vessel not long after his appointment, making an experimental trial of the largest gun that had been made in the United States up to that time. About the 2nd or 3rd discharge it bursted, killing the Secretary (Mr. U.) and crippling several others. I think by this time I have tired you out, or at least for fear of becoming prelix I had better stop.

Respectfully yours,

H. H. HIGGINS.

P. S. - I will further state that James Higgins was a captain in the old continental army of the revolution. The word continental has been changed. The same branch of the service is now called regular army. He remained in service until the close of the war. He drew a land warrant for 1,350 acres of land, which could be located in Kentucky, for his services in the army. Virginia having made previous arrangements to pay all her officers and soldiers in her waste lands of Kentucky, which was then, or had been, a portion of Virginia, which accounts for so many of the old settlers being Virginians. He, therefore, must have been about the last of the seven leaving the old dominion. He never lived in Fayette county, but settled at once on his own survey in Montgomery. At that time all the other brothers were living in Fayette.

Both my grandfathers (John and Moses), Jesse, and I think

your grandfather, all bought land from him, as he had a great deal more than any Kentuckian could ever find use for, as was thought at that time.

My stepmother's maiden name was Nancy Buchanan, one among the best women (I think) that ever lived, at least I would not have exchanged her for any woman on this green earth. She was a model for all others in every department necessary to constitute a good mother. I lived at home at my father's house until I was 25 years old, and I do not think that the thought ever entered my head from my earliest recollection that she was treating her own children kinder or in any wise different from that given to my old brother and myself.

You will please excuse the numerous mistakes, as I have written without reflection as to method or elegance, only aiming at a simple concise statement of facts.

On taking a retrospect of what I have said, I find that I have not informed you as to the fate of my two uncles, to-wit: James Jeter Higgins and William Young Higgins.

James J. learned the bricklaying and plastering business at the same time my father did with his brother-in-law (James Hart). Both boys then 15 or 16 up to near 20 years old. He married Miss Williams, when young, settled in Mount Sterling, and was the principal undertaker there up to about 1816, or 1817. They had on child that I know of (whose name is Charles Volney, if living. Lived very unhappily together (grandma said it was entirely Polly's fault. That she should think so, you know, was quite natural).

He was a sober, industrious and money-making man. I know nothing of his other qualities, however. About 1817 he left her in possession of all they had, went to the Walnut Hills (now Vicksburg) soon thereafter, became postmaster, married a nice widow lady, by whom he had sons and daughters, accumulated considerable wealth, held his office until his death at a ripe old age. He lived quite happily with his second wife. His children were at Vicksburg the last I heard of them, and doing well.

He was a large, portly, fine looking man.

William Higgins was about six feet three inches, well made, not too thin not too thick, was called very handsome, studied medicine at the age of about 27 or 28 years of age, emigrated to Vicksburg, succeeded in getting a fine practice and bid fair to do well. He was called on to attend a patient on the opposite side of the river, was being taken over in a skiff, when, about the middle of the river, fell out, was drowned. His body was never recovered. His brothers and friends never could arrive at anything as to the cause of his falling out. He was a good swimmer, but the oarsman said he made no effort, from which it was supposed he must have had a spasm, but his intimate associates never knew of his having one before.

With these scattering remarks I close, think you are now tired of it.

H.

Higgins descendants

The daughter of the above mentioned Polly Higgins and James Hunt^t was Lucinda Hunt born 1808 died 1875 married Willion Tatman 1825, their daughter Mary Tatman born 1828 died 1904 married Samuel Gustavus Elgin 1850, their son James Withers Elgin married Ella Sharp of Sharpsburg, Ky. Their daughter Winifred Elgin married Stanley Forman Reed of Maysville, ky Their sons are John Reed and Stanley Forman Reed, Jr.

The Filson Club

from

Mrs. Stanley Reed

July 23-1929