

HISTORY of The King family

Who settled in the woods, near where the vil-
lage of Delta, (Ohio) now stands, in the
year 1834.

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The King Family.

In the beginning of the 17th century the greater part of what now is called the Province of Ulster, Ireland, was unsettled. The powerful Barons of the north had forfeited their estates by rebellion, and the lands were held by James the 1st, King of England. The native Irish had been driven from their lands by the rebellion of the Chieftains, and James the King of England considered it would be better to have those rich lands settled with English and Scotch settlers, than with the native Irish, hence the origin of the *Ulster Plantations*, which were formed in Ulster, and settled with Protestants from England and Scotland. the English and Scotch names found in the Province of Ulster bear testimony where their ancestors came from.

The King bestowed large tracts of land to his followers who sold them to English and Scotch settlers. A company in London obtained a large plantation in the county of Londonderry and settled it with Protestants. The land was sold to them at a nominal value and many of the descendants of those original settlers still live on the old homesteads. The King family lived on their original purchase until they came to America in 1833, when it was sold and passed into other hands.

William King the head of the family, his ancestors came from England about the year 1620 to Ireland and purchased a farm near Newton-Limavady in the county of Londonderry, Ireland. The original farm was divided among three sons, Matthew the youngest, got one of those farms, which passed from him through three generations, to the subject of the present memoir, who married Elizabeth Torrence, whose ancestors came from Scotland to Ireland about the same time the King family came from England. On that farm near Newton-Limavady, the present King family were born, consisting of three sons and four daughters, namely, James, John, Elizabeth, Jane, Mary, Catherine, and William.

James and William received a liberal education, and John got the farm. He considered the homestead too small for the family and he rent-

ed a large farm in Carrymuddlo, where he could keep two men and two span of horses employed the year round. The family removed to the new farm in 1824. The farm was situated on the banks of Lough Foyle where the river Roe emptied into the Lough. On this farm the family remained until 1833, when they concluded to emigrate to America. The homestead was sold and the rented farm disposed of in the spring of 1833.

William had just finished his literary course at Glasgow University, and was sent out in May with a cargo of potatoes to Philadelphia where he arrived in June, and disposed of the whole cargo at remunerative prices, and went to New York to wait the arrival of the family who could not sail until September. On their arrival in New York they took lodgings and remained there until spring. In the meantime William went west, and spent the winter in Northfield, near Cleveland, and in the spring traveled through the State of Ohio to Cincinnati, and from thence down the St. Mary's river to Fort Wayne, and from that down the Maumee to where the city of Toledo now stands. There was no city there at that time. A warehouse stood at Manhattan where a steamer called twice a week on her way from Cleveland to Detroit. There were no railways nor telegraphs in those days: all travelling was done by water and by the old lumbering stage coach.

From Manhattan William went to Cleveland and met the family who had come there from New York. They proceeded by boat to Manhattan at the mouth of the Maumee, where two lumber wagons were obtained to take the family and baggage to Providence, at the head of the rapids, where they expected to find a boat to take them up the river to Fort Defiance: where William had looked out a place on the Maumee river opposite Fort Defiance, which he thought would suit the family for settlement.

While waiting at Providence for a boat to go up the river, Mr. Manor went out with John to look at a tract of land in the "six mile woods." John was so well pleased with the land and location that he concluded to go no further, but purchased a section of government land densely covered with timber. That formed the original homestead on which the family settled in June 1834.

The country was all new with only a few families who had settled there that spring. The following week after the family came into the woods a tornado swept through where they had settled, and laid the timber flat. It took a whole week to cut their way out to the oak openings. The family were mercifully preserved, a few trees had been cut where the shanty was erected and that saved them.

Three of the daughters were married before the family left Ireland, namely: Elizabeth, Mary and Catherine. Catherine had emigrated with her husband to New Brunswick, Canada, two years before the family sailed

for America. The other two families remained behind but they all came out afterwards and settled near the homestead. The parents lived after settling in the woods to a ripe old age, and were buried in the family burying ground on the farm.

James and William remained on the farm one year after they settled. William went south in November, 1835, and obtained a situation as Rector of Matthew's Academy in connection with Louisiana College: and James followed William south in the following year and got a situation under him in Matthew's Academy and remained at Jackson, Louisiana, filling different situations as teacher, mayor of the town, and Governor of the Lunatic Asylum: which last office he held during the rebellion and only resigned it a few years before his death which took place at Jackson, Louisiana in August, 1879.

The following is a brief account of the King family, consisting of three sons and four daughters. The list extends to the fourth generation. One hundred and sixty-eight were alive on the 22nd of June, 1892, and seventy-four were present at the reunion on the old homestead, on that day.

James King.

James King, the eldest of the family, was born near Newton-Limavady, Ireland, in the year 1792, and received a liberal education. When the family emigrated to America in 1833 he went with them, and remained with the family two years, when he went south and obtained a situation with William in Matthew's Academy, where he married Mrs. Martha Sims-Douglas, a daughter of Captain Sims, a planter of Louisiana. They both died without issue in 1879.

John King.

John King, the second eldest of the King family, was born June 20th, 1796 near Newton-Limavady, county of Londonderry, Ireland. From his earliest years he was inclined to farming for which he had a peculiar talent. At the age of twenty-one he took the management of the homestead on which the family all lived. After managing it for a few years he considered it too small to employ his talents, so he rented a farm as we have already mentioned in Carrymuddle, large enough to employ two men, besides himself, and two span of horses the year round.

The family removed to the rented farm still retaining the homestead, and cultivating both farms. While managing the farm he took contracts

to make and repair county roads, which he did to the satisfaction of the public and the County Commissioners, who gave him high testimonials for fidelity in the discharge of public duty, when they heard he was about to leave the country.

Hearing in 1830 of the richness and cheapness of land, both in the United States and Canada, he concluded to emigrate with the family to America, three of the daughters having been married and left the family. In the spring of 1833 he sold the homestead and disposed of the rented farm, and on the 5th of June, 1833, the family sailed for Philadelphia, where they arrived on the 12th of August, after a voyage of sixty-eight days. From Philadelphia the family proceeded to New York where they met William who had gone before them, having sailed from Londonderry the first week in April, 1833.

The family concluded to remain in New York until spring. In the meantime William went west and spent the winter in the neighborhood of Cleveland and in the spring he travelled through the western part of Ohio and eastern part of Indiana to Fort Wayne then down the Maumee to where Toledo now stands, and from that to Cleveland, where he joined the family who had come that far west from New York. The family then proceeded by steamboat to Manhattan, at the mouth of the Maumee river, and from that place by wagons to Providence at the head of the Maumee rapids, now Grand Rapids.

William, who had been along the Maumee, had selected a farm opposite Fort Defiance of 300 acres with 20 acres cleared which he thought would suit the family. But while waiting at Providence for a boat to go up the river to Fort Defiance, John was persuaded by Mr. Manor to go and see land in the "six miles woods," about 12 miles north from the Maumee river. He was so pleased with the land and the situation that he concluded to go no further, but to purchase in the six mile woods. He went to the land office and secured 640 acres of heavy timbered land, the timber consisting of oak, ash, hickory, maple, basswood, elm and black-walnut. The family settled on the new home on the 11th of June, 1834.

There being no house on the land a lumber shanty was hastily erected, with lumber brought from the river, and a few trees cut down around it to let the sun in. This precaution saved the family when the cyclone passed over the place the second week after the family settled in the woods.

None of the family understood handling the axe, two men were hired to clear a patch large enough for a garden, and to put up a hewed log house. The first year only a few garden vegetables with a little corn and potatoes could be raised, but the second year ten acres were ready in the spring for a crop which was planted with corn and potatoes. The nearest market was Maumee, 20 miles distant.

In 1840 John King married Miss Barbara Shoemaker, of Muncy, Pa. By her he had two sons, James and William. James died young. William married Miss Mary J. Harris, June 27th, 1865. They are both still living but have no children. Mrs. King died October 14, 1846; and John King married his second wife in 1847, Miss Elizabeth Shoemaker, sister of his deceased wife, and by her he had five children, as follows, namely: John, born April 2nd, 1848; Mary Jane, born February 16th, 1850; Elizabeth, born December 4th, 1851; Martha A., born July 9th, 1853, and Thomas W., born March 4th, 1855. In May, 1841, William, the youngest brother, who was preaching in Canada, visited his brother John on his way to Louisiana. He remained with his brother three months and preached in the barn for all who came to hear him.

During the first 13 years in the woods they had no Presbyterian preacher visit them. The Sabbaths were spent in reading the Bible and other religious books, among them being Dr. Clark's commentary of the Bible. John got up a subscription to build a Presbyterian church in Delta; and a petition to the Presbytery of Findlay to send them a missionary. William carried both papers to the Findlay Presbytery which met there in September, 1847. He laid the case before the Presbytery and explained to them the spiritual destitution of that part of the county. The Presbytery at once appointed a missionary, Mr. Crabb, who was to labor for one year in Delta and other stations, and to report at the next meeting of Presbytery.

A congregation was formed at Delta. John got the first Presbyterian church erected there and was ordained one of the Elders in the church, which office he held until his death, which took place September 27th, 1865.

John King Jr., oldest son of John King sr., by his second marriage, when he arrived of age, went west and settled in Kansas, where he married Augusta Balderson, of Marysville, Marshall county, Kansas, September 23rd, 1870; by whom he had four children. Both parents and three of the children are alive and reside with their parents in Kansas.

Mary Jane King, oldest daughter by the second marriage was married January 1st, 1867, to Alexander Cameron, who was born in Cuyahoga county, Ohio, and who lost his parents when young, and at an early age came to Fulton Co., Ohio, making his home with his uncle, the late John Cameron. In 1862 he enlisted in the 100th Ohio Infantry, and served three years in the war. Since their marriage they have lived in Fulton county. There have been born to them eight children, namely:

- James K. Cameron, born October 9th, 1867;
- Orpha A. Cameron, born November 21st, 1869;
- Arthur D. Cameron, born August 31st, 1872;
- Nelly M. Cameron, born November 13th, 1874;

Charles L. Cameron, born September 23rd, 1877 :

Frank S. Cameron, born May 25th, 1880 :

John T. Cameron, born July 24th, 1882 :

William F. Cameron, born November 3rd, 1884.

Orpha Cameron, the eldest daughter, was married to E. J. Bowerman April 22nd, 1888

Nelly M. Cameron was married to Charles Leiter of Delta, Ohio, October 27th, 1891.

James K. Cameron was married to Miss Lurancy Saeger of Delta, Ohio, October 27, 1891.

Elizabeth King was born at the old homestead, Delta, Ohio, December 4th, 1851. She was educated in the public school of Delta, commenced teaching in 1870, and taught in Fulton county till 1887, when she was married to Rev. J. McClusky, of the First Presbyterian church of Antwerp, Ohio, where they still reside.

Martha A. King was born in Delta, Ohio, July 7th, 1853, where she resided until September, 1874, when she went to Marrysville, Marshall Co., Kansas, and while there was married to Charles M. Laycock, formerly of Clermontville, Ohio. To them was born one son, Marion F., June 7th, 1877.

Thomas W. King was born at the old homestead Fulton, Co., Ohio, March 4th, 1855, where he still resides. He was married to Elizabeth Goodwin October 29th, 1885, who was born in Maumee, Lucas Co., Ohio, May 8th, 1862, and came to Delta with her parents March 28th, 1882. Two children are born to them, namely: Edna Elizabeth, born November 1st, 1886, and Minnie Jane, born March 27th, 1891.

Elizabeth King-Bruce.

Elizabeth King-Bruce, third child of William and Elizabeth-Torrence King was born near Newton-Limavady in the county of Londonderry, Ireland, A. D., 1801, and married in 1826, William Bruce, of Scotch descent, a man of noble name and sterling character, to whom were born nine children, four sons and five daughters, whose names were, John, Elizabeth, William, James, Mary, King, Catherine, Martha and Jane.

John was born in 1827, and died at the age of 18 years.

Elizabeth was born in 1829, married Thomas Martin, who died in 1868. Elizabeth died aged 53 years, leaving no children.

William Bruce was born in 1831, never married, and died aged 50 years.

James Bruce was born in 1833, and was married to Margaret J. Roland in 1866, who died in 1884. He married in 1887, Ella M. French, by whom was born one son, William F.

Mary Bruce was born in 1836, married to Rev. John Straith, in 1857, to whom were born ten children. She died in 1887, aged 53 years, her husband having preceded her to the spirit land two years, aged 59 years. The names of the children are William K., Annie C., James B., John A., Mary M., Elizabeth H. W., Margaret J., (infant deceased) George S. R., Jamima C. P., and Victoria Rosa.

William K. Straith was born in 1858, and died in 1888, eight months before his mother's death.

Annie C. Straith was born in 1860 and married Rev. John Jamieson in 1883, going to Formosa, China, same the year. To them was born one son, John Straith Samleson, in 1887, who died when six weeks old. Rev. John Jamieson died in 1891, after which Annie returned to Canada.

James B. Straith was born in 1861, and married Agnes P. Bruce in 1888, to whom are born two children: Myrtle Ellen, born 1890, and Percy William, born 1891. They live in North Keppel, Ontario.

John A. Straith was born in 1863, and married Miss Mygirl of Victoria, British Columbia, in 1889. They have one child, Iva Gertrude, born in 1891.

Mary M. Straith was born in 1865, and lives in Chatham, Ontario.

Elizabeth H. W. Straith was born in 1867, and lives in Douglas, Manitoba.

George S. R. Straith was born in 1872, and is living in Belmore, Ont.

Jamima C. P. Straith was born in 1871, and is living in Chatham, Ont.

Victoria R. I. D. Straith was born in 1876, and lives with her aunt, Martha Bruce in Toronto, Ont.

King Bruce was born in 1835, and married Rose Black, by whom was

born three sons, James, William and John, and are all living in Toronto, Ontario.

Catherine Bruce was born in 1840, and died at the age of four years.

Martha Bruce was born in 1843, and resides in Toronto, Canada.

Jane Bruce was born in 1847, married to John B. Beavers in 1877, and died in 1880, leaving two children, Freddy and Blanche.

William Bruce sr., died in 1855, aged 72 years, and his wife Elizabeth King-Bruce died in 1876, aged 75 years.

o o Jane King. o o

Jane King was born near Newton-Limavady, county of Londonderry, Ireland. She came to America with her parents in 1833; married Frances Bartley in 1840, and died August 16th, 1842. She had one son Robert, born August 6th, 1842.

Robert Bartley was married to Martha Hill, daughter of Thomas Hill, March 7th, 1867. To them were born four children, namely: Mary Emily, born 1868; Francis Cullen, born 1871; Grace Jane, born 1873; and Archie King, born 1880. Francis Bartley, father of Robert Bartley, died December 8th, 1873, aged 63 years.

o o Mary King. o o

Mary King was born in 1807, near Newton-Llmavady, county of Londonderry, Ireland. On the 24th of August, 1827, she married Henry Kane of the same place, to whom were born eight children, namely: Jane, Ann, William, Elizabeth, Mary (deceased), Henry, John and Mary. Henry Kane and his wife came to America in 1851, four of the children having preceded them, Jane and Ann in 1848, and William and Elizabeth in 1850. Henry died in 1852, his widow married again in 1854, to Wm. Abbott. They both died in 1885.

Jane Kane the oldest daughter, married Thomas Wardley in 1852, to whom were born seven children, namely: Mary Olivia, who died in 1874, L. Nettle, Lottie J., Lulu E., Sophia H., Henry A., and Thomas Clinton.

Nettle Wardley married Frank D. Morse in 1877. To them were born five children, namely: Claude W., Eva C., Iradell L., O. Wardley, Carlyle, died in 1890.

Lottie Wardley married Joseph M. Rupp, to whom was born Josephine Mary, in 1890.

Sophia H. Wardley married George L. Poeuck in 1889, to whom was born one son, Thomas Wardley, in 1890.

Thomas Wardley died in 1887, and his wife Jane Kane Wardley, died in 1891.

Ann Kane the second daughter, came to America in 1848, and went to live with her uncle, William King, in Canada, in 1868, and died in Chatham, Ont., April 18th, 1891.

William Kane never married. He served in the American navy during the war and he now resides in Brooklyn, New York.

Elizabeth Kane married James K. Crockett at Delta, Fulton Co., Ohio, 1859, and now resides with her husband in Toledo, Ohio.

Henry Kane enlisted in the navy of the United States and served through the war as ensign in the Mississippi squadron. At the close of the war he married Elizabeth Mack in 1871, to whom were born three children, Charles Joseph, Thomas Henry and William Clarke, (deceased).

Elizabeth Mack Kane died in 1875, and Henry married for his second wife Jenny Barks, to whom were born four children, namely: Helen, Clarence, (deceased) Grace, and Ralph Kane.

John Kane enlisted in the 38th Ohio, and served during the whole war. At the close of the war he married Sarah Simmons at Delta in 1865. Shortly after his marriage he moved to Marshall Co., Kansas, and to them were born seven children, namely: Albert, Mary, John, (deceased), William

Abbott, Elizabeth, (deceased), Leon and Helen.

Mary Kane, the oldest daughter of John Kane, married William Mead Feb. 18th, 1891, to whom was born one child.

Mary Kane married George Grey in 1867. Their children are Cora E. and Clara L.

Cora Grey married M. Hiner in 1880. They have two children, Bessie, and Freda.

Clara L. Grey married W. H. Seward in 1892.

o o Catherine King. o o

Catherine King was born near Newton-Limavady, Londonderry, Ireland. November 25th, 1809. She married James Donahue in 1828. They came to America in 1830, settling first in St. Johns, New Brunswick. In 1831 they came to Ohio, settling on part of the homestead near Delta, Fulton county. To them were born ten children. Eliza Jane, James, Catherine, William, Mary, John, David, Thomas, Theophilus, Barbara Ann. The oldest child was born in Ireland; James and Catherine in St. Johns, New Brunswick, and the rest of the family at the homestead. James Donahue died in 1850, leaving his young widow with all the care of the estate and the rearing of her family. Nobly did she do her work. She died on August 2nd, 1891, at the advanced age of 82 years. More than sixty-five years of her life were spent in the service of her Master, who sustained her in all her trials and whose perfect peace was with her to the end.

Eliza Jane Donahue, born in Ireland, came with her parents to America. She married George Harris, November, 1848. One daughter was born to them in 1849, Hulda, who died April 1850, preceding her father to the spirit land only two weeks, he dying in April, 1850.

Eliza married for her second husband John R. Hight, July 4, 1851. To them have been born six sons, James Theophilus, William George, infant (deceased) John Charles, Ulysses S., Thomas Jefferson.

James T. Hight married Emily R. Warner, August 1874. To them have been born John Elmer, Daisy D., Mabel A., Rosco C., Mary E., Walter S., and Charles A.

William George Hight married Sarah Eskridge in 1876. Their children are Etta Pearl, and William Jesse. Sarah Eskridge Hight died in 1882. George married again in 1883, Amelia Smith. Their children are, Myrtle Alma and Mabel Jane.

John Claude Hight married Emma Briton in 1885. They have one son Marion Claude; born in 1888.

Ulysses S. married Cora Miller in 1887. To them is born one son, Clyde.

James Donahue, born in St. Johns, N. B., April 15th, 1831, came with his parents to Ohio in 1834. Went to Oregon in 1854, returning to Ohio in 1873. Married Ann Hancock in 1877.

Catherine Donahue was born in New Brunswick, married Albert Hancock in 1860 at Delta, Ohio. To them were born three daughters; Lizzie Luenda in 1861, Lillie Florence in 1863, Ollie Bell G., in 1872. Catherine died Feb. 10th, 1892.

William Donahue was born June 1835, married Hattie Moyer in 1863. To them were born Julia Maud in 1866, Etta Adela in 1868, Arthur Ram-

sey in 1870, Archie Leroy in 1872, Alice Carrie in 1873, (deceased), Alta Marian in 1875.

Hattie Moyer Donahue died in 1875. William married for his second wife Emma E. Gregg. To them were born, Katie Elva in 1879. Emma E. Donahue died in 1881, when William married Mary Jane Kope in September, 1886.

Catherine Donahue's oldest daughter, Lizzie Hancock, married John Manley in 1882. To them were born two daughters, Fanny Bell and Grace Blanche. Grace died in 1889.

Lillie F. Hancock married Baker Miller February 23rd, 1882. They have one daughter, May B., born May 27th, 1883.

Mary Donahue married Morris Hancock in 1856. He dying in 1864, she married for her second husband Thomas B. Pinkerton of Wheeling, West Virginia, on July 14th, 1872.

John Donahue married Catherine Eversole. To them were born Edward, Mabel, Myra and Mark. John died in July, 1883.

Mabel Donahue married Mr. Garret of Marysville, Mo. They have one son, Ernest.

David Donahue married Sarah Murray, July 5th, 1866, at Delta, Ohio. To them were born two children, John J., and Orpha M., both dying in infancy.

Thomas Donahue never married. He died at Fortress Monroe, Va., having been wounded on the battle field during the late rebellion.

Theophilus Donahue married Sarah Louisa Yaney, July 4th, 1872. Two daughters were born to them, Ora Bell and Grace Blanche.

Barbara Ann Donahue was born July 16th, 1848. She married James Murray in 1866. To them were born Minnie B. in 1867, and Lewis J. in 1869, who died in infancy.

Minnie B. Murray married William Miller April 4th, 1889. To them are born Neta L., in 1890, and Murray J. in 1891.

• • Rev. William King. • •

Rev. Wm. King, was born November 11, 1812, near Newton-Limavady, county of Londonderry, Ireland, was educated at Glasgow University. At the age of 21 he emigrated with his parents to America and settled with them in the six mile woods in June, 1834. He remained with them one year, then went south and settled in Jackson, Louisiana, where he obtained a situation as Rector of Matthew's Academy. Married in 1840 Mary Phares, daughter of John E. Phares, a planter, by whom he had two children, Theophilus and Mary Elizabeth Chalmers. Theophilus died in May, 1844, at Waterville, Ohio.

Mrs. King died at Edinburgh, Scotland, in February, 1846, and Mary Chalmers died in May, 1846.

In 1846 William was licensed in Edinburgh to preach and was sent by the Free church of Scotland, as a Missionary to Canada. In 1847 he went south to Louisiana and sold a plantation which he owned there, and manumitted his slaves, fifteen in number, brought them to Canada and formed the Buxton settlement, for the social and moral improvement of the colored people in Canada, where he labored until the close of the American war, when the affairs of the Association were wound up the young men and women who had been educated at the Buxton mission, went south and found useful employment there. In 1853 William married a second wife, Jemima N. Baxter, daughter of the Rev. David Baxter, minister of Lillies Leaf, Scotland. Mrs. King died on the 7th of November, 1887, at Buxton, and Mr. King retired from public life in 1838, and moved into Chatham, where he intends to spend the evening of his days.