

assumed that he either farmed or worked for or with the owners of these operations.

On June 20, 1849, John and Mary Burkett purchased 100 acres of land in Kiski Township, Armstrong County, adjoining lands of John Kerr, James Jack, William Smith and Isaac Miller, located north of Apollo in the general vicinity of Spring Church. In the 1850 census of Kiski Township, Armstrong County, John and Mary are listed with six of their youngest children; William, 22; James E., 20; John, 16; Henry Harrison, 14; Mary Jane, 12; George Washington, 8. Then in 1860, Mary Burkett and the two youngest sons, Henry Harrison and George Washington, are recorded on the communion rolls of the Forks Church, located about two miles north of Leechburg on the Kittanning Road. As far as is known, John and Mary Burkett lived in this area until Mary's death in 1865.

Mary (Polly Stout) Burkett died March 16, 1865. She was buried at the old Lutheran burial ground at Leechburg but was later moved.

John and Mary (Stout) Burkett were the parents of nine children:

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| * (1) David     | b. June 16, 1826 - d. August 15, 1854  |
| (2) William     | b. Oct. 31, 1827 - William moved west possibly about 1848 during the gold rush, no further data available. |
| * (3) Elizabeth | b. April 5, 1829 - d. August 19, 1895  |
| (4) James E.    | b. August 20, 1830 - never married - date of death unknown.  |
| (5) Polly       | b. June 8, 1833 - d. July 8, 1834  |

- \* (6) John                                 b. August 27, 1834   - d. Feb. 12, 1906
- \* (7) Henry Harrison                 b. Sept. 15, 1836   - d.
- (8) Mary Jane                       b. Sept. 14, 1838   - d. Aug. 23, 1854
- \* (9) George Washington            b. Feb. 6, 1842     - d. Oct. 28, 1922

John Burkett, the father, later married Margaret Hildebrand (born May 16, 1842). They were the parents of one son, Alexander, born April 19, 1866.

John died February 16, 1872. At the time of his death, he was living in the little village of Jacksonville, commonly known as Bagdad, in Allegheny Township, Armstrong County. His home was situated on an acre of ground bounded as follows:

- North   -    by land of G. F. Ehrenfeld
- East     -    by land of Kuhn's heirs
- South   -    by old Pennsylvania Canal
- West     -    by land of G. F. Ehrenfeld and Charles Martz

This piece of ground was part of the same tract of land which the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, by its patent February 16, 1814, conveyed to John Hill.

John Burkett left a will dated February 15, 1872, which is recorded in the Register of Wills Office of Armstrong County, in Will Book Vol. 2, page 632.

\* Refer to Chapters VI, VII, VIII, IX, and X, respectively for additional history and list of descendants.

The Will is as follows:

"I, John Burkett, being of frail body and uncertain of life, but clear in judgment, do make the following disposition of my worldly affairs as follows:

"I give and bequeath to my younger son Alexander, after my just debts are paid, all my property - real, personal and mixed, giving my beloved the right to 1/3 of the proceeds thereof the same during her natural life or widowhood and further appoint Salem Hill to be executor of my last will and testament.

Witnesses: Thomas McGill

Joseph McGraw"

Salem Hill was a Justice of the Peace in Allegheny Township, Armstrong County. He was born January 17, 1829, a son of John Hill and his second wife Susan (Ammon) Hill.



## CHAPTER VII

### ELIZABETH (ELIZA) BURKETT - HISTORY AND DESCENDANTS

I. Elizabeth (Eliza) Burkett	<u>6-26-1849</u> m.	John Hill Townsend
4-5-1829 - 8-19-1895		5-30-1819 - 10-5-1885

Eliza and her husband John H. Townsend spent many happy years with their family on their farm on the Kiskiminetas River, which was generally known as the "Old Homestead".

John was a business man, owner of flouring mills and salt mines, but deeply interested also in the affairs of the township and county. He served as County Commissioner for three years, but his main commitment was to the cause of education. As a township school director for twelve years, he contributed greatly to the efficiency of the schools, up-grading the system and in the building of large, substantial school houses. With John's varied interests and activities, their home became a center for political gatherings, business meetings and social events. Eliza was remembered by all who shared her hospitality as a gracious hostess and by her family as a wonderful wife and mother.

Through the kindness of Marjorie Burkett Shirley, we had access to a pamphlet written in 1908 by Newton, oldest son of John and Eliza, in which he shares his memories of family life at "The Old Home".

The pamphlet is titled "Recollections of Yesterday at The Old Home", printed by the Vandergrift Citizen - 1908:

The Dedication: "In loving remembrance of father and mother and the many friends of my boyhood - and those who have pleasant recollections of the old home and the Stone Spring, this little souvenir is dedicated - and is printed with the object of preserving some views of the old farm and homestead; for the ruthless tread of commercialism has entirely obliterated every semblance of the scenes of long ago.

November 10, 1908.

N. E. Townsend "

Prologue: "A few days ago I fell into a reverie and was a boy again, roaming over the fields of the old farm where Vandergrift now stands. I passed through the old orchard and pulled some Mountain apples and hid them in the new mown hay in the barn to ripen. I strolled along the river bank, through the "choke cherry thicket", gazed long and tenderly at the old stump with twisted roots at the water's edge where I used to catch the sunfish. Passed on to the swimming hole just near where the Vandergrift station now stands, then to the rocks at the water's edge just this side of the county bridge, where we caught the black bass and cat fish - these rocks now covered by a fill, formed a natural pier from which most of the grain raised in the bend was loaded on Canal boats and shipped to market; crossed the "stony bottom", passed under the chestnut tree that was always mercilessly clubbed about the time "when the frost is on the punkin". Crossed the field to the "watermelon patch", which was a sandy knoll a few rods from the house and just where the huge boilers of the Vandergrift mills now stand. This "watermelon patch" was a very interesting and favorite spot for us boys; and some other boys would frequently visit it on the sly.

"I passed down the lane, and stopped at the wood pile, and smiled as I looked at the hollow log from which came the yellow jackets that caused brother Frank when he was but a kid to sing and dance a two-step equal to any of Happy Hooligan's efforts of today.

"At last I found myself at the old house, which stood just at the northeast corner of the present brick shed of the Vandergrift mills, on the back porch of which was "the old stone spring" that bubbled and chattered like the brook at the "dump". This stone spring was supplied with water from a never failing spring, which gushed from a rock half way between the brick shed and the Methodist Church, and is now covered by a fifteen foot fill.

"And, as in memory I stood beside "the old stone spring", with the family circle still unbroken, it brought to mind so many pleasant and hallowed scenes of the past, that I could scarce restrain the unbidden tear. And it was under the influence of these thoughts that I penned the few simple verses that follow. They are published not because of merit, but because they express a fact as well as a sentiment that will at some period of life creep into the experience of everyone, and perhaps they will be remembered and appreciated by many yet living who enjoyed some of the good times which were perennial around "the old stone spring", for the Townsend home was not the place where but few would visit; friends came from far and near, would remain for a meal, a day or a week, and were always welcome.

The Oldest House: "This picture was taken about four years ago and is of the house built by my great grandfather, Isaac Townsend, about the year seventeen hundred and seventy eight. It is just across the road from the big spring, and one mile from Salina on the road to Maysville.

"It was built of hewed logs and many years later, weather boarded. In this house was born and reared the pioneers of all the Townsends in this part of the state; six sons and two daughters (four others having died young).

"My grandfather, Isaac Townsend, and my father, John H. Townsend, were both born here.

"When grandfather married Mary Hill, eldest daughter of John Hill, eighteen hundred and eighteen, they began housekeeping in two rooms which joined the back of the present building and lived there until his father died. They then moved into the main building and lived there until he came to the farm where Vandergrift now stands in eighteen hundred and thirty-three. At that time the bottom land and where Vandergrift now stands was covered with a dense forest of very large oak.

As previously mentioned, John H. Townsend inherited the "Old Homestead" at the death of his father Isaac, Jr. in 1866, and moved his young family to the farm that Newton describes in his pamphlet.

John died in 1885 and Eliza died in 1895. They are both buried in the Apollo Cemetery.

Some years later their sons had the photographs of John and Eliza (included in this history) incorporated into stained glass windows and placed in the First Lutheran Church at Vandergrift in loving memory of their parents.

John and Eliza were the parents of seven children; namely, Newton E., Frank R., Eden A., Alice, Barton, Grant B. and Florence.

- |    |                           |                         |                      |                       |
|----|---------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. | <u>Newton E. Townsend</u> | m                       | Ada                  | 1859 - 1926           |
|    | A.                        | Ralph L. Townsend       | 1883 - 1884          |                       |
|    | B.                        | Maude Townsend - single | 5-12-1884 - 3-6-1959 |                       |
| 2. | <u>Frank R. Townsend</u>  |                         | 9-20-1883            |                       |
|    | 1-15-1855 -               | m.                      | Phoebe George        | 4-27-1858 -           |
|    | A.                        | John G. Townsend        | -                    | 8-5-1884              |
|    | B.                        | Harry A. Townsend       | -                    | 12-20-1885            |
|    | C.                        | Walter N. Townsend      | -                    | 6-13-1887             |
|    | D.                        | Ralph B. Townsend       | -                    | 5-21-1888             |
|    | E.                        | Alice G. Townsend       | -                    | 4-16-1891 - 2-26-1895 |
|    | F.                        | Laura E. Townsend       | -                    | 4-12-1894             |
|    | G.                        | Florence M. Townsend    | 6-1-1895             | - 1-9-1896            |
|    | H.                        | Elizabeth P. Townsend   | 2-1-1898             |                       |
|    | I.                        | Frances R. Townsend     | 12-27-1904           |                       |



3. Eden Augustus Townsend, Sr. m. Gertrude Jackson  
 5-7-1858 - 5-14-1924 12-17-1860 - 1-24-1945
- A. Dwight J. Townsend m. Adelaide Fryer  
 1884 - 1959 1888 - 1918
- B. Louise Townsend - single  
 1893 - 1955
- C. Florence Townsend - died in infancy
- D. Mamie Townsend - died in infancy
- E. Frank N. Townsend 1st m. Jane Whitworth  
 10-19-1943
- (1) Carolyn Townsend m. Harry R. Clawson II  
 12-19-1917
- (a) H. Reynolds Clawson III  
 8-16-1944
- (b) Jane Whitworth Clawson m. Douglass Condra  
 7-31-1947
- (i) Julie Whitworth Condra  
 2-13-1973
- (ii) Karen Eileen Condra  
 3-31-1975
- Frank N. Townsend 2nd m. Lyle Stackpole
- (2) Dwight Hall Townsend
- F. Eden A. Townsend, Jr. m. Marie Coulter  
 1898 - 1972 12-27-1900
- (1) Dwight Jackson Townsend m. Barbara Ingram
- (a) Christopher Mark Townsend - 12-24-1951
- (b) Ann Margaret Townsend - 7-30-1956
- (c) David Townsend - 8-6-1961
4. Alice Townsend m. William Adair

5. Barton Hill Townsend <sup>3-8-1886</sup> m. Ada Jane Burkett  
6-23-1863 - 1951 2-25-1866 - 1948

Children listed with George W. Burkett family.

6. Grant Burkett Townsend - no data available
7. Florence Townsend (b) May, 1869 (d) September 5, 1890

CHAPTER VIII

JOHN BURKETT - HISTORY AND DESCENDANTS

I. John Burkett	<u>4-18-1867</u> m.	Mary Owens
8-22-1834 - 2-12-1900		1-23-1835 - 11-2-1914

John served in Company E - 139th Regiment - P. V. Infantry during the Civil War. At the close of the war John married Mary Owens, daughter of Henry and Christine (Kepple) Owens. Henry Owens was born in Wales, the oldest son of Hugh (b. 1770) and Martha C. (Hughes) Owens and with his parents came to America in 1797.

Hugh and Martha Owens were the parents of ten children; namely: Henry (m) Christine Kepple, a baby who died at sea, John (m) Catherine Smith, Ellen (m) David Evans, Mary, Thomas, Joshua (m-1st) E. Guthrie, (m-2nd) ? Guthrie; Samuel (m) Elizabeth Townsend, Joseph (m) Lizzie -, Lazarus (m) E. Mansfield.

Henry and Christine (Kepple) Owens were the parents of eleven children; namely: Martha, Samuel, Hannah (m) Roland Williams, Esther, Mary (m) John Burkett, Elizabeth (m) H. A. Rudolph, Henry (m) Lizzie Jackson, Hugh (m) Emma Townsend, Catherine, Jane and Margaret.

John and Mary (Owens) Burkett purchased twelve acres plus in 1871 from John H. and Eliza (Burkett) Townsend. This land was part of the original tract of land located in Allegheny Township, Westmoreland County, to which Isaac, Jr. and his wife Mary (Hill) Townsend moved his family in 1834.

As previously mentioned, John Hill Townsend inherited this entire tract of land upon the death of his father, Isaac, Jr. and it remained in the Townsend family until sold to the Iron and Steel Company in 1892.

In 1887, at the time of the building of the Western Pennsylvania Railroad, John and Mary (Owens) Burkett gave a right-of-way, for railroad purposes, through their twelve acres. This deed is recorded in the Westmoreland County Court House, Greensburg, Pennsylvania in Deed Book Vol. 147, page 619, dated 1887.

John and Mary (Owens) Burkett with their family lived here until 1892 when they sold their farm to the Apollo Iron and Steel Company in conjunction with the sale of the Townsend property. This deed is also recorded in the Westmoreland County Court House, Greensburg, Pennsylvania in Deed Book Vol. 219, page 123, dated December 28, 1892, James Witworth, Attorney.

John Burkett died February 12, 1900 and his wife Mary died November 2, 1914. Both are buried in the Apollo Cemetery.

They were the parents of seven children; namely: Ada Christina, Catherine Louise, Jennie June, Henry Owens, Lydia Esther, Charles Madison, Clara Smurr.

- |    |                              |    |               |
|----|------------------------------|----|---------------|
| 1. | <u>Ada Christina Burkett</u> | m. | John R. Kness |
|    | 1-9-1868 - 12-20-1948        |    | 1858 - 1950   |
|    | A. Lafay Owens Kness         | m. | Leone Walker  |
|    | 1894 - 1935                  |    |               |
|    | B. Kenneth M. Kness          | m. | Twila Aker    |
|    | 1897 - 1962                  |    | 1900 - 1971   |

- (1) Reed Aker Kness m. Betty Gamble  
1923 -  
no children
- (2) Wayne Keith Kness  
1925 - 1926
- (3) Russel Dale Kness m. Ellen Coleman  
1935
- (a) Christopher Lee Kness  
9-16-1975
- C. Mary Rosalind Kness m. James Albert Nelson, Jr.  
1901 - 1898 -
- (1) John Albert Nelson m. Norene E. Mickel  
1926 - 1934 -
- (a) Mark Albert Nelson  
1956 -
- (b) Nancy Elizabeth Nelson  
1960 -
- D. Florence Margaret Kness  
10-15-1905 - 1973
2. Catherine Louisa Burkett m. William E. Henderson  
5-11-1869 - 10-19-1931 6-16- - 2-1-1938  
11-12-1919
- A. Jennie June Henderson m. Leslie Hall Cornell  
4-20-1900 2-24-1896  
4-19-1947
- (1) Leslie Hall Cornell m. Marian L. Young  
1920
- (2) Catherine Jane Cornell m. Charles Lloyd Voll  
1-24-1922
- (a) Rebecca Ann Voll m. John Keeney  
10-15-1945
- (i) Heather Ann Keeney - 5-29-1967
- (ii) Suzanna Keeney - 6-6-1969

(b) Gretchen Gay Voll  
1-3-1948

(c) Lloyd Nevin Voll  
5-8-1951

(d) Charles Cornell Voll  
4-8-1954

(3) William Ainsworth Cornell m. Laura Weigle  
11-28-1923

(a) Beth Linden Cornell  
10-24-1946

(b) William Ainsworth Cornell, Jr.  
6-30-1952

(4) Charles Frederick Cornell m. (1st) Clara Mae Bauer  
2-16-1926 (2nd) Maureen Mendzie

(a) Glenn Charles Cornell (adopted)  
7-16-1962

(b) Cora Ann Cornell (adopted)  
2-16-1967

(5) James Norman Cornell m. Nancy Bell  
1-29-1928

(a) James Norman Cornell  
4-4-1954

(b) Russell Allen Cornell  
12-26-1956

(6) Clara Lucille Cornell  
4-27-1930 - 10-26-1930

(7) Harry Henderson Cornell m. Marilyn Kesler  
4-16-1933

(a) Wendy Dawn Cornell - 3-24-1962

(b) Kieth Scott Cornell - 4-29-1967

Twins ( B. Mary Grace Henderson - 7-2-1905 - 1905  
( C. Marian Gladys Henderson - 7-2-1905 - 4-1-1929

3. Jennie June Burkett  
3-13-1871 - 3-19-1873
4. Henry Owens Burkett m. Belle Alcorn  
11-16-1873 - 12-5-1952 1878 - 1934
- A. Lucille Burkett m. Charles F. Cervone  
1906 1901
- (1) Carol Faye Cervone m. Thomas Grosick  
(a) Krista Marie Grosick  
(b) Danielle Renee Grosick
- B. Clyde Owens Burkett m. Mary Virginia Gibson  
1909 1914
- (1) George Henry Burkett m. Wreatha D. Coy  
1935 1935
- (a) Kathleen Dawn Burkett - 1969  
(b) William Henry Burkett - 1970
- (2) Virginia May Burkett m.(1st) Merle H. Faust, Jr.  
1941 1936
- (a) David Bryan Faust - 1958  
(b) Carolyn Dawn Faust - 1960
- Virginia Burkett Faust m.(2nd) Kenneth M. Kireta  
1938
- (c) Deanne Louise Kireta - 1962
- C. Lester Alcorn Burkett m.(1st) Ida Miller  
1911
- (1) Ernest D. Burkett m. Emogene Wallace  
1934
- (a) Ramona Burkett - 1964  
(b) William Wallace Burkett - 1972
- Lester Alcorn Burkett m.(2nd) Ruth Crusan Barclay
- (2) Susan D. Burkett m. Robert D. Sewell  
1951
- (a) Robin Danielle Sewell - 1972

Lester Alcorn Burkett      m. (3rd) Frances E. Callen Jones  
1926

5. Lydia Esther Burkett - single  
5-11-1876 - 1-1-1943
6. Charles Madison Burkett - single  
9-29-1878 - 2-16-1947
7. Clara Smurr Burkett - single  
4-27-1881 - 12-29-1970



CHAPTER IX

HENRY HARRISON BURKETT - HISTORY AND DESCENDANTS

	3-15-1858	
I. Henry Harrison Burkett	m.	Catherine F. Young
9-11-1836		1-23-1838 - 9-6-1905

Henry spent his boyhood in Armstrong County where his father was engaged in the mining of salt and also in the operation of flour and grist mills. As a young man he worked with his father and brothers in these various industries that were flourishing along the Kiskiminetas river at that time.

At twenty-two years of age Henry married Catherine Young and settled on a farm along the Kiskiminetas river in the area presently known as East Vandergrift. The farm, located across the river from the present North Apollo, was situated on a hillside and sloped gradually toward the river.

Shortly after the outbreak of the Civil War Henry enlisted and served in Company M - 6th Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery. His brothers John and George also served and there is some indication that Henry and George belonged to the same division. It is understood that an injury to his leg, sustained during the war, necessitated the use of a cane for the rest of his life.

Henry returned to the farm and he and Catherine lived there until their death.

They were the parents of ten children; namely, Willa,

David, Lydia, Martha, Jennie, H. A., Frank, Hicks, Carolyn and Grace.

1. Willa Burkett - single

2. David Burkett m. Sarah Jane Bair

A. Harry Burkett

B. Vivian Burkett

C. Nelle Burkett

D. Nelson Burkett

E. Clifford Burkett

F. Wilber Burkett

G. David Burkett

3. Lydia Burkett m. Francis Geary

4. Martha Burkett m. Thomas Forbes

A. Austin Forbes

B. Harold Forbes

C. Martha Forbes

5. Jennie Burkett m. James Reynolds

A. Paul Reynolds

B. Elizabeth Reynolds

C. Louise Reynolds

D. Hilda Reynolds

E. Virginia Reynolds

6. H. A. Burkett

- 1-23-1939

7-20-1910

A. Marjorie Burkett m. Howard J. Shirley  
1-16-1890 1890 - 1929

(1) Frank Shirley m. Margaret Fisher  
1911 - 1970

(a) Frank Lewis Shirley  
12-28-1938

(b) Tristan Burkett Shirley  
3-14-1945

(2) Clifton Shirley m. Virginia Collani  
12-24-1919

(a) Howard Hicks Shirley  
10-31-1950

(b) Marshall Kay Shirley  
9-1-1952

B. Ruth Burkett m.-1st Charles Lamphere

(1) Harriet Lamphere m. Glenn Kearney

(a) Ruth Ann Lamphere m. Barry McGilvera

(i) Patrick McGilvera - 1971

(ii) Todd McGilvera - 1973

Ruth Burkett Lamphere m.-2nd Frank Borland

7. Frank Burkett - single

8. Hicks Burkett m. Nelle

A. Hicks Burkett, Jr.

B. Julius Burkett

C. Frank Burkett

D. Betty Burkett

9. Carolyn Burkett m. Andrew Stoughton

- A. Grace Stoughton
- B. Leona Stoughton
- C. Ralph Stoughton
- D. Floyd Stoughton
- E. Leslie Stoughton
- F. Catherine Stoughton
- G. Willamina Stoughton

10. Grace Burkett - died in infancy

## CHAPTER X

### GEORGE WASHINGTON BURKETT - HISTORY AND DESCENDANTS

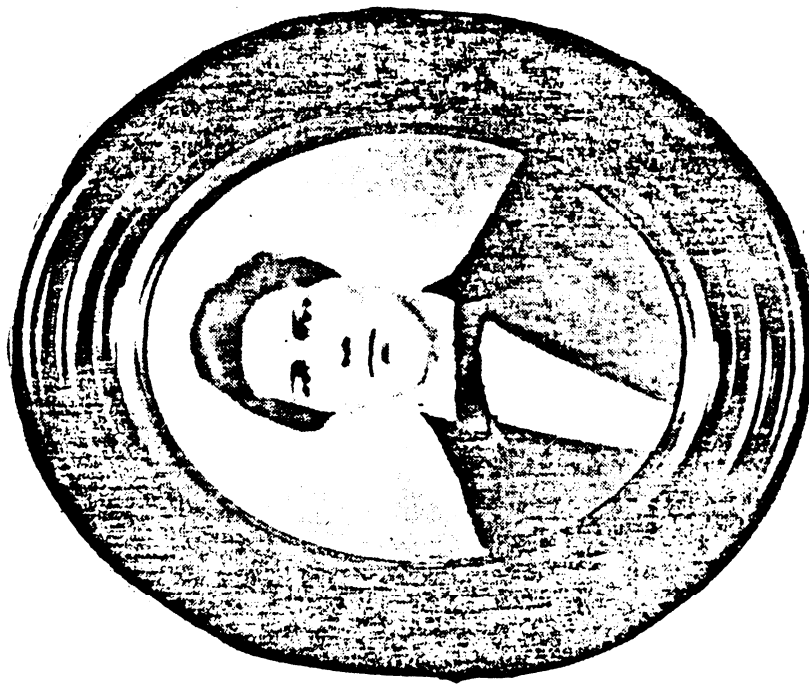
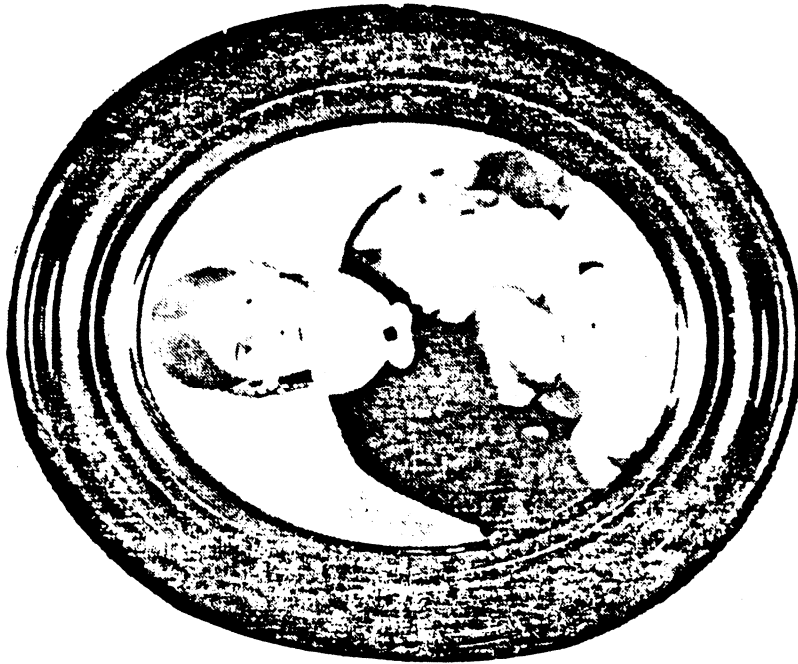
I. <u>George Washington Burkett</u>	9-7-1862	Mary Elizabeth Schall
	m.	
2-6-1842 - 10-28-1922		3-11-1843 - 12-4-1920

George Washington Burkett, youngest son of John and Mary (Stout) Burkett, was born in the Leechburg area of Armstrong County, Pennsylvania. He lived with his family in that vicinity until his marriage to Mary Elizabeth Schall, daughter of George and Rachel (Byerly) Schall of Cowanshanock, Armstrong County. They were married at Forks Church, just north of Leechburg and made their home in that area for twenty-seven years.

Mary Elizabeth was the great granddaughter of Michael Schall, a Lieutenant in Captain Santee's Company, 6th Battalion of the Northampton Militia in the Revolutionary War. Michael had come to America from Germany in 1752, with his father Nicholas, Sr., his mother, two brothers and a sister. They settled in Northampton County, Pennsylvania, where his father died in 1792.

In 1769, Michael married Anna Maria and they lived on the family farm until the outbreak of the Revolutionary War. At that time, Michael was then 37 years of age but nevertheless he enlisted and remained in the service of his country for nine years.

After his return from service he resumed his life as a



George W.    and    Mary Elizabeth (Schall) Burkett  
with their first child John Franklin

farmer but subsequently moved his family to the William Sykes tract of 330 acres, along Crooked Creek, Armstrong County. The Schall family lived in this area for many generations and a complete history of the family and their descendants may be found in the book, "The Schall Family in America" written and published by Margaret Schall Hotham in 1938.

George Schall, father of Mary Elizabeth, was engaged in the production of bituminous coal and the mining of salt in the Crooked Creek and Kiskiminetas River areas. In 1845 he was employed by the Huff Coal Company at Salina and then in 1854 he became associated with Hill's Salt Works below Leechburg.

At the time of Mary Elizabeth Schall's engagement to George W. Burkett, he presented her with a gold locket containing his photograph. After their marriage and the birth of their first child, Mary Elizabeth had her picture taken holding their son, John Franklin, and placed this picture in the other side of the locket. This locket has been handed down as a treasured keepsake and presently is in the possession of Esther Burkett Hopson, a granddaughter.

On September 10, 1864, George enlisted in Company H 212th Regiment, 6th Heavy Artillery, of the Union Army. This regiment was organized at Camp Reynolds, near Pittsburgh and moved to Washington, D. C. where it was assigned to the defense of the capital. Later it was assigned to guard a portion of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad lying between Alexandria and Monasses, with headquarters at Fairfax Court House, Virginia. After the enemy troops had been



1st row: George and Mary Elizabeth (Schall) Burkett  
2nd row: 1. to r. - Daughters: Lillie Burkett Fryer,  
Maisie Burkett Olinger, Ada Jane Burkett  
Townsend, Sallie Burkett Kirkman (missing  
from picture.  
3rd row: 1. to r. - Sons: Barton Hill Burkett,  
George W. Burkett, Jr., John Franklin  
Burkett, Thomas Burkett.



cleared from the Shenandoah Valley by General Sheridan, this regiment was reassigned to the defense of Washington. George served as a Corporal until the close of the Civil War - his regiment being mustered out June 13, 1965.

In 1889 George W. and Mary Elizabeth Burkett moved their family to Apollo, Pennsylvania, this area being presently known as North Apollo. He had purchased a plot of ground in Kiski Township, Armstrong County, containing 2 acres and 88 perches from T. H. Allison and Mary M. Allison, his wife. This deed was recorded on January 12, 1889 in Deed Book Vol. 71, page 55, in Armstrong County Court House.

On July 30, 1889 he purchased an additional plot of ground, containing 130 perches, adjoining the first plot, which conveyance was by T. H. Allison and Mary M. Allison, his wife, and which deed was recorded on January 20, 1891 in the recorder's office of Armstrong County, in Deed Book Vol. 75, page 219.

George W. and Mary Elizabeth (Schall) Burkett were my grandparents and my recollections are very vivid concerning this beautiful home and the grounds surrounding it. My grandfather was interested in the unusual species in horticulture and concentrated on growing very special fruit trees and grape arbors bearing the largest grapes to be found in the area at that time. These trees and arbors were off limits to the grandchildren, but with peacocks strutting about it all made quite a lasting impression on everyone. A reunion held here every year was the highlight of the summer,