

I have attempted to catch all transcribing errors. But know in advance that there typographical errors in this manuscript. Therefore I have included at the end of the transcription, images of the original manuscript.

For those of you who are Cochran or Jeffress researchers, I doubt that there is little new in this family history. However the recollections of William Wallace Cochran are worth the effort of making this available to you.

James F. Thoma  
April 18, 2013

**H I S T O R I E S**

of

*The John and Rosanna Cochran Family*

and the

*Richard and Susan Jeffress Family*

by

WILLIAM WALLACE COCHRAN

and

**RECOLLECTIONS**

*By the Author*

Copyright 1960 William Wallace Cochran  
Library of Congress Catalog Card Number: 60-11145

[www.mogenweb.org/cooper](http://www.mogenweb.org/cooper)

## Foreword

Some of my relatives in the John Cochran family and the Richard Jeffress family, from which I am descended, have asked me to write down what I have been able to learn concerning the early history of these families so that it may be preserved for following generations.

This I do now in the winter of 1959-1960 at the age of 70, realizing that my time may be getting short, and that since much of the information I have collected is known only to me, it will be lost unless I make a record of it.

For the benefit of my own descendants I am also appending some of my personal recollections of the events in the life of my immediate family, which will show our way of life during the 1890's and the first half of the 20th century.

I do not claim any literary merit whatever for this writing. It will have little if any interest for anyone except those in the family and our descendants.

To those Cochrans and Jeffresses who are not mentioned in this account, I express my regret. The omission to mention them is due either to my lack of information or to the fact that limitations of space and time do not permit me to mention them.

W. W. C.

## The John Cochran Family

The name Cochran is said to have come from two Gaelic words meaning "The Roar of Battle" or "The Battle Cry."

The earliest record I have found concerns Waldemar DeCoveran or De Cochrane in 1292. He had sons William, John and Gosilin.

The son William received from Robert II of Scotland the charter of the barony of Cochrane. In this account occur these words:

"Hitherto thy name has been Waldemar De Coveran, but henceforth it shall be William Cochrane."

According to statements made to me by my father, William H. Cochran (born 1857) and my uncles and aunts, the Cochran family originated in Scotland and emigrated to the northern part of Ireland at some undetermined time before the birth of my great-grandfather, John Cochran, in 1790. So it is just possible that we are descended from Waldemar De Coveran.

The following information concerning the Cochran family has been derived principally from the following sources:

A letter from Mrs. Cammie M. Cochran Tucker, granddaughter of John and Rosanna Cochran, the earliest ancestors mentioned herein.

Records kept by Jessie Cochran of Boonville, Missouri, a great granddaughter of John and Rosanna Cochran.

U. S. Census records.

Tombstones in Walnut Grove Cemetery, Boonville, Missouri, and in a country burying ground at Stony Point, Missouri, about four miles south of Boonville.

John Cochran, great grandfather of the writer, was born in Ireland, November 28, 1790, and was married to Rosanna Acton, also a native of Ireland. He died at Boonville, Missouri, on March 7, 1858. Rosanna Acton was born October 9, 1792, and died at Boonville, Missouri, on September 9, 1877.

The children of John and Rosanna were the following, the first two of which were born at or near Castlebar, Mayo County, Ireland:

Dennis Cochran, who died in New Jersey.

Samuel Cochran, born March 1, 1822; died July 10, 1903, at Boonville, Missouri. (Wife, Ellen Gault).

Esther Cochran, born October 1826 in Belfast; died November 24, 1896 at Salt Lake City, Utah. (Husband, Andrew Pettit).

Matthew Cochran, born September 16, 1828; died at Boonville, Missouri, April 19, 1913. (Wife, Adeline Pettit).

John Cochran, born June 16, 1833; died December 13, 1898. (Wife, Mary E. Brown).

Rosanna Cochran, born November 17, 1836, died July 28, 1904. (Husband, Samuel Acton).

William Cochran, born 1837; died May 19, 1906, at St. Louis, Missouri. (Wife, Parthena Jones).

Ann Cochran, born September 2, 1842; died March 11, 1927, at Boonville, Missouri. (Husband, Thomas Jones.)

Mary Jane Cochran, born; died March 26, 1864. (Husband, Thomas Gardner.)

### **The Family of Samuel Cochran**

Samuel Cochran, son of John and Rosanna, was born March 1, 1822, at Castlebar, Ireland, and died July 10, 1903, at Boonville, Missouri. He was married on May 9, 1849, to Ellen Gault, who was born on September 26, 1826, at Bellaby, Ireland, and died February 4, 1901, at Boonville, Missouri. The following were the children of Samuel and Ellen Cochran, all born in or near Boonville, Missouri:

(1) Eliza J, born September 16, 1851, died May 21, 1898. She married Benjamin John Gilson, who was born September 17, 1851, and died September 19, 1899.

(2) John R., born February 6, 1853, died August 14, 1905. He married Mary (Mollie) Steger, born October 12, 1858. She died November 16, 1903.

(3) Mary Ann, born July 14, 1854, died September 11, 1936. She married William McMillan.

(4) Samuel, born February 19, 1856, died October 4, 1871.

(5) William Henry, born November 12, 1857, died November 21, 1911, at Boonville, Missouri. He married Sarah (Sallie) Ellen Jeffress on October 10, 1888. She was born on September 7, 1861, at Pilot Grove, Missouri, and died on June 19, 1942, at Washington, D. C.

(6) Thomas, born December 28, 1859; died December 3, 1862.

(7) Dolvert, born February 2, 1862; died May 9, 1862.

(8) James, born April 16, 1863; died June 22, 1922. He married Vinie Barnhart, and later married Elizabeth Scott. They had a son, Scott. Still later James married Ada Roberts.

(9) Margaret, born October 2, 1865; died April 9, 1875.

(10) Sophie, born March 16, 1868; died December 15, 1938. She married John Barnhart. After his death she married P. H. Roberts.

(11) Cammie Malena, born May 13, 1870, died March 2, 1949. She married the Reverend Daniel Tucker, who was born February 10, 1853, and died March 7, 1941.

## **The Benjamin Gilson Family (1)**

The children of Eliza J. Cochran and Benjamin J. Gilson were:

(a) Benjamin Franklin, born October 24, 1877, died January 16, 1913.

(b) Mary, who was born January 30, 1881, and died May 2, 1936. She married Henry Rapp. Their children were Elizabeth, Isabelle, Francis, Louise, Bess, Helen, and John.

(c) Mittie A. was born March 28, 1883, and died November 4, 1938. She married Emil Boehm. Their children were: Flobert, William, and Harold.

(d) Samuel H. was born in 1886 and died January 3, 1936. He married Theda Shimel.

(e) Ira E. was born September 24, 1889. He married Anna Fowler, born June 9, 1895. Their children were Margaret Anna (Gilson) Bell, born June 5, 1920; Ira Elmer, Jr., born June 3, 1925; Louis Edward, born September 29, 1931; and a stillborn baby boy, December 6, 1932. Ira Elmer Gilson, Jr. married Mary McShane and they have two children, Colleen and Mary Beth.

(f) Neoma S. was born July 23, 1891, and died December 12, 1943. She married Fred Rapp. Their children were: Emily, Albaltine, Elvie, Marie, Fred, and Marjorie.

## **The John R. Cochran Family (2)**

The children of John R. Cochran and Mary (Mollie) Steger were, Samuel W., born November 16, 1879, died July 9, 1901; Charles C., and Harry Leonard.

## **The William McMillan Family (3)**

The children of William McMillan and Mary A. Cochran were: Mary, Fannie, Effie, Jessie, William, Sophie, and Elmer.

## **The William Henry Cochran Family (5)**

The children of William Henry Cochran and Sarah (Sallie) Ellen Jeffress were: William Wallace, born December 3, 1889, and Mary Maurine, born March 4, 1895, died March 1, 1959.

## **The James Cochran Family (8)**

The only child of James Cochran was Scott, by his second wife Elizabeth (Betty) Scott.

## **The John Barnhart Family (10)**

The children of John Barnhart and Sophie Cochran were: Gladys, Frances (Nace) and Harry.

There were no children of Samuel (4), Thomas (6), Dolvert (7), Margaret (9), or Cammie Malena (11).

## **The William Wallace Cochran Family**

William Wallace Cochran (born December 3, 1889) married Burilla (Rilla) Williams on April 10, 1911. She was born on April 6, 1890 near Overton, Missouri.

Their children were:

Samuel William, born July 20, 1912, at Boonville, Missouri, and John Pettus, born March 29, 1914, at Helena, Montana.

Samuel William Cochran married Catherine Dreyer on January 6, 1932. Their children were Louise Lillian, born October 6, 1932. Ellen Elizabeth, born November 12, 1933, and Alice Ann, born February 7, 1940. Later he married Margaret Baker on March 26, 1943. She was born on February 13, 1923, at Buena Vista, Virginia. Their son, William Wallace H, was born on April 23, 1947. Margaret's parents were Albert Sidney Baker, born 1890 and Margaret Rosetta McManus, born 1898.

John Pettus Cochran was married on March 14, 1942, to Margaret H. Dowell, who was born on March 24, 1919. Margaret's parents were Alvis Yates Dowell, born Aug. 19, 1896 and Emma Haralson Knight, born April 10, 1897. To this marriage were born: John Jeffress, January 18, 1948, Stephen Laurie, October 27, 1951, David Dowell, October 15, 1954, and Douglass Brooks, September 22, 1959.

Louise Lillian Cochran married William E. Coherd on May 6, 1950. They had two children, Richard William, born February 18, 1951, and Mark Alan, born February 21, 1955. Later Louise married Don Datlow and a son, Andrew Stuart, was born on September 28, 1959.

Ellen Elizabeth Cochran was married on November 27, 1954, to Peter Richardson Moran. He was born on November 20, 1932. Two children have been born to this union: Michael Richardson, born December 20, 1955, and Peter Richardson, born July 27, 1957.

## **The Bernard P. McCann Family**

Mary Maurine Cochran (born March 4, 1895) was married at Boonville, Missouri, on August 31, 1914, to Bernard P. McCann of Washington, D. C.



Their children were, Richard Arnold, born March 31, 1916, Virginia, born December 10, 1918, and Mary Maureen, born March 21, 1926.

Richard Arnold McCann married Ada Doris Beauchamp on Feb. 28, 1944. She was born Feb. 1, 1923. Their children were: (1) Dwight Edward, born Sept. 12, 1946; (2) John Joseph, born Aug. 5, 1950; Robert Bruce, born Oct. 4, 1956.

Virginia McCann married Burwell Proctor. Their children were: (1) Carolyn Virginia, born Nov. 22, 1947 and (2) James Burwell, born Oct. 14, 1949.

Mary Maureen McCann married Raymond John Young. Their children were: (1) Raymond John, Jr., born Oct. 14, 1944; (2) David Phillip, born Nov. 18, 1948; (3) Melvin Richard, born Feb. 18, 1950; (4) Patrick Allen, born May 18, 1959

### **Emigration From Ireland to America**

The following incidents in the life of Samuel (1790) and Ellen (1792) Cochran were furnished by Mrs. Tucker:

"I can remember my father (Samuel) telling the story how his father had a large family and a very hard time in Ireland. So while my father was quite young, about 18 years, he went to England to work and help his folks all he could. He would go home occasionally to see them, and one evening when going down to take the ship back to England, his brother, Matthew, was with him to see him off and Samuel said to him, "If there is a vessel sailing for America when I get down there I will go to America." Matthew said, "Man, if you do I will soon be there with you," and sure enough there was a ship ready to start in a few minutes, so Samuel had to hurry. He only had a knapsack with him, so he boarded the vessel and worked part of his way across. While helping the sailors during a storm a wave rolled over the deck and took his knapsack into the ocean. He may have been about 20 years old at the time. That would have been about 1842.

"I have also heard him tell about seeing the first train that was run in England. He was 8 years old at that time.

"He soon found work when he reached New York. He was a hard-working man and always was looking a long way ahead. He saved money and sent to England for Matthew and when he came they both saved and sent money and brought the rest of the family across. I know that none of them came when father did. My mother (Ellen Gault) came to America about the same year that Father did. She came on a sailing vessel and was on the ocean seven weeks. Her father and mother are buried in Paterson, New Jersey. There was just eleven months between their deaths. She and Aunt Jane worked in the paper mills. She met my father and they

married in Paterson, New Jersey, May 9, 1849. Soon after that they came to Missouri by way of boat from St. Louis to Boonville. There were some men on the boat that had been "batching" and they gave mother their coffee pot and two tin cups. Father had 25¢ when they landed at Boonville. They soon found work, however, mother at one place and father on a farm owned by Mr. Myers. There was a little cabin on this farm and father soon had it. While they did not have any furniture they still had their coffee pot and two tin cups. They bought corn meal and cooked on the fireplace. After Eliza and John were born father wanted to go back to New York as his folks had arrived there in the meantime. So they went and little John cried night and day and the visit was not very pleasant. He was then (1854) only 11 months old and was very thin, so one day father came in and said, "Let's go back to Missouri." My mother said, "All right," and soon they were on their way. It so happened that they got the same little house they had left, and though they just had a bed of straw in the corner on the floor and only cornbread and black coffee for supper, they said it was the best meal they had enjoyed since they had been away. Soon all of father's folks followed him to Missouri. Father and Uncle Matt bought adjoining farms and always thought much of each other. I remember my grandmother (Hosanna) very well and have her picture. She lived with her children after grandfather's death and spent most of the time with Aunt Ann Jones. Although I was only 17 months old when my brother Samuel died, I can remember my mother crying and the whole family in great commotion. It was so impressed on my mind I can never forget it. He must have had a tumor. I remember that one day there were seven doctors and a surgeon from St. Louis in our house. They said his heart and all was pushed over to the other side of his body. When he died they offered father and mother \$500 if they would let them open his body, but they wouldn't.

"Sister Margaret was a beautiful child. She and James were the only ones in the family that had dark eyes. She had dark curly hair. One evening while the boys and some neighbor boys were throwing horseshoes, one hit her on the shin and she had a white swelling from that. A part of the bone came out and she would have been a cripple had she lived. She and William and James and Sophie had spinal meningitis, and after that they took measles from which Margaret died."

"With reference to the family of Ellen Gault, her father was James and her brothers and sisters were Robert, Marguerite, Nancy, Mary Jane, William and Samuel. Samuel died in Ireland. Nancy Gault, who married a Butler, was burned in the Chicago fire in 1871, together with her husband and four children.

Robert Gault is buried in the country cemetery at Stony Point, near Boonville, Missouri."

### Census Records

The earliest mention of the Cochran family in the U. S. Census Records of Missouri is found in the reports for 1860, which show:

Matthew Cochran, age 28	Samuel Cochran, age 37
Mary A., age 24	Ellinor (Ellen), age 32
Ethan, age 4	Eliza J., age 8
William, age 3	John, age 7
Matthew, age 10 months	Mary Ann, age 5
	Samuel, age 4
	William, age 2
	Thomas, age 6 months.

The 1870 Census reports contain the following:

Matthew Cochran, age 40	Samuel, age 50
Mary A., age 30	Ellen, age 44
Ethan, age 14	Eliza, age 18
William, age 12	John, age 16
Matthew, age 10	Mary Ann, age 15
Mary A., age 8	Samuel, age 14
Rosanna, age 6	William, age 12
Sanford, age 3	James, age 7
John, age 3 months	Maggie, age 5
Rosanna, age 76	Sophie, age 2

The records for this census further report the same Rosanna Cochran, age 74, a retired housekeeper living at the home of Thomas Jones, husband of Ann Cochran Jones, daughter of Rosanna.

The 1880 Census reports:

Matthew Cochran, age 50	Samuel, age 59
Adeline Cochran, age 41	Ellen, age 55
Ethan, age 26	Eliza, age 28
William, age 23	William, age 22
Matthew, age 20	James, age 17
Addie, age 18	Sophie, age 11
Rosanna, age 16	Cammie, age 9
Sanford, age 12	* * * * *
John, age 9	John Cochran, age 25
Sarah, age 7	Mollie Cochran, age 20
Minnie, age 5	Their son, William S, age 7 months

## **The Family of Esther (Cochran) Pettit (1826-1896)**

Esther, daughter of John Cochran (1790-1858), married Andrew Pettit. There were three girls and one boy born to them: (1) Marionette, who married Sylvester Walker; (2) Rosie, who married Sanford Abrams; (3) Andrew, Jr., who married Mrs. Phillips; (4) Adeline Sarah, who married William Patterson.

## **The Family of Matthew Cochran (1828-1913)**

Matthew, son of John Cochran (1790-1858) married Adeline Pettit in New York on June 3, 1854. She was born in about 1838.

Their children were:

(1) Ethan Allen, born November 14, 1855 in New York, died January 16, 1916, in Cameron, Texas. He married Mariah Hayden.

(2) William, born in New York on September 14, 1857, died January 30, 1916, in Salt Lake City, Utah. He married Anna Wigglen.

(3) Matthew, born in Cooper County, Missouri, on August 27, 1859, died November, 1933, in Salt Lake City, Utah.

(4) Addie (Mary A.), born February 19, 1862, died at Holden, Missouri, January 24, 1905. She married Ezra Pettit.

(5) Rose, born September 10, 1864, died May 29, 1957, buried at Independence, Missouri.

(6) Sanford De Forest, born August 12, 1867, died September 16, 1922, at Springfield, Missouri. He married Cora Hollenbeck. They had four children: Lon V.; Levens; Alice, and Alma.

(7) John, born February 15, 1870, died 1959, at Santa Fe Springs, California. He married Hattie Runkle. They had one son, Carl Matthew, born December 14, 1906. He married Opal Walker on January 1, 1930, and they have a son, Larry D., born February 8, 1936.

(8) Minnie, born September 16, 1875. She first married John Babage and later William Mudd. She lives at Hamilton, Montana.

(9) Sarah Amelia, born December 14, 1872, died in June, 1906, buried at Holden, Missouri. She married Frank Hill. They had four children; Corinne, Alice, who married Leo Joseph; Rosalie, who married R. L. Holder, and Marie, who married Harry Adams, of Erie, Pennsylvania.

## **Family of John Cochran (1833-1898)**

Another family of descendants of John (1790-1858) and Rosanna (1792-1877) Cochran was that of their son, John, who was born June 16, 1833 at Castle Bar, County Mayo, Ireland, and died December 13, 1898, at Boonville, Missouri. On September 1, 1859, he married Mary Elizabeth Brown, who was born April 2, 1835, at Poplar Plains, Kentucky, and died January 7, 1911, at Lee's Summit, Missouri. She was buried in Walnut Grove Cemetery at Boonville, Missouri.

Their children were:

(A) Mary Jane, born June 16, 1860; died March 16, 1862

(B) Sarah Ann, born May 6, 1862; died September 10, 1863

(C) Camma Elizabeth, born February 6, 1864; died December 17, 1935

(D) William John, born October 1, 1866; died October 4, 1946

(E) Charles Grant, born April 23, 1868; died October 6, 1870

(F) Mamie (Mary), born September 18, 1870; buried April 6, 1949

(C) Lillian F., born July 2, 1873;

(C) Camma Elizabeth Cochran, on June 3, 1886, married J. Fred Farris, who was born June 3, 1860, and died May 30, 1928. They had nine children:

(1) Willis Grant Farris, born March 17, 1888. In June, 1915, he married Myrtle Taylor. They had four children: Jean, Willis, Jr., Frederick, and David.

(2) Harry C. Farris, born February 11, 1890. Married Alice. They had three children: Dorothy, Virginia and Harry, Jr.

(3) Fred Farris, born July 11, 1892. Married Mary ———

(4) Mary Helen Farris, born July 14, 1894, died February 2, 1953.

(5) John B. Farris; married Margaret Miller. They have one son, Jack, who is married and has a son.

(6) Walter D. Farris, born April 10, 1899, died September 27, 1958. He married Mildred ———.

(7) Eunice Farris, born 1900, died 1954. Single.

(8) Bernice Belle, died in infancy.

(9) Bernadine, who married Raymond Petersen. They have one son.

(D) William John Cochran married Martha (Mattie) Callaway Harrison on November 11, 1890. She was born on October 2, 1870, and died March 21, 1939. Their children were:

(1) Laura Mary, born January 2, 1892. She married William B. Whitlow on September 12, 1917. He died December 10, 1942. They had two children: (a) William Cochran Whitlow, born July 31, 1918, married on September 14, 1946,

to Mary Longan, who was born November 7, 1925. They have one son, William Donnely Whitlow, born July 9, 1947. (b) Martha Caroline Whitlow, born June 14, 1924, married on June 6, 1947, to H. S. Clapp, who was born November 7, 1923. They have four children: David, March 10, 1949; H. S., Jr., July 30, 1951; Carolyn, February 13, 1954, and Thomas Harrison, April 28, 1958.

(2) Jessie Pauline, born December 9, 1893.

(3) Augusta Hazeltine (Hazel) Cochran, born August 17, 1895. On November 22, 1921, married M. Draper Jenkins, born October 22, 1887. They have three children: (3a) Martha Elizabeth, born November 16, 1922. She married David Busone on June 29, 1940, and had one daughter, Darlen Busone. Later she married Bill Mills and had one son, Harry D. Mills. Still later she married Bob Hoyt. (3b) Nancy Leila, born March 4, 1924. On September 6, 1941, she married Rogers Tillman. They have two sons: Robert and James. (3c) Melville Draper Jenkins, Jr., born September 13, 1928, married Joyce ——. They have three sons: Steve, March 16, 1951; Dennis, December 2, 1952; and Larry Dean, Dec. 28, ———.

(4) William John Cochran, Jr., born July 30, 1897. On September 7, 1921, married Hazel Hall, born March 9, 1902. They have two children: (4a) W. J. Cochran, III, born March 19, 1924. On November 29, 1947, he married Betty Shepherd, who was born June 7, 1926, and they have three daughters: Cynthia, February 4, 1949; Kathlyen, October 24, 1952; and Jennifer, November 28, 1954; (4b) Phoebe Gene Cochran, born June 20, 1927. On October 5, 1946, she married William R. Burkett, who was born November 2, 1925. They have four children: Bana Gene, March 29, 1948; Jerry, December 3, 1950; Jimmie, July 25, 1953; and Julie, November 5, 1958.

(5) Doris Aline Cochran, born November 29, 1899, died October 10, 1955. On February 9, 1935, she married Ralph W. Bonar. There were no children.

(6) James Robert Cochran, born May 14, 1902. On November 29, 1922, he married Mildred Swamer, who was born November 2, 1903. They have four children: (6a) Dorothy Ann, born October 11, 1924. On June 15, 1946, she married Lane L. Harlan (born November 3, 1920) and they have four children: Timothy, March 15, 1949; Linnet, October 10, 1950; Laurel, November 11, 1952; and Heather, June 20, 1954; (6b) Jim Bob, born November 29, 1930, died February 10, 1938; (6c) Brent Harrison, born November 19, 1940; (6d) Karen Sue, born June 8, 1943.

(7) Charles Harrison Cochran, born June 7, 1906. On November 25, 1931, he married Mary Lee McVeau, who was born August 3, 1903. They have no children.

(F) Mamie (Mary) Cochran, married George E. Sapp on November 14, 1894. He died April 3, 1935. They had two

children: Lillian Lucile, born December 19, 1895, died in infancy; and Harold S., who married Marjorie Duff.

(G) Lillian F. Cochran, was married twice: first to Frank H. Herron, on November 11, 1901. He died July 23, 1923; secondly to James H. Sheppard, on October 31, 1931. He died October 18, 1952. There were no children by either marriage.

### **The Family of Rosanna (Cochran) Acton (1836-1904)**

Rosanna, daughter of John Cochran (1792-1858) married Sam Acton, who was born March 31, 1834, and died March 15, 1893. They had four children: (1) Addie, who married Fred Buehne and had one son, Fred, Jr. (2) Maggie, who married Dan Murray and had one daughter, Rose Anne, who married John Arnold; (3) Amanda, who married John Beckett; (4) George, who married Maude Parrish and had two boys and one girl, Parrish, Sam and Bessie Maude.

### **Family of William Cochran (1837-1906)**

William, the son of John Cochran (1790-1858) married Parthena Jones and they had the following children: (1) Elizabeth, who married Will Simmons, (2) Lillian, who married Harry Schram. They had two girls, Mabel and Helen; (3) Jessie, who married first Orville Baird and they had one daughter, Martha; secondly she married Joe Covert and they had a daughter, Dorothy, and a son, William; (4) John, who married Annie Gore. They had two girls, Jacqueline and Gladys. (5) William, who married Lilly -----. (6) Matthew ----; (7) Charles, who married Dolly -----. They had one girl and three boys; (8) Alice, who married Willis Jennings, no children; (9) Robert, married (Mrs.) Mary Byers and had one son.

### **The Family of Ann (Cochran) Jones (1842-1927)**

Ann, daughter of John Cochran (1792-1858), married Thomas P. Jones, who was born August 1, 1835, and died June 5, 1900. Their children were (1) James W., born June 10, 1863, died October 23 1935; (2) John L., born July 14, 1864, died December 28, 1912. He married Bessie Bohanon and they had two girls: Addie Lee, born December, 1891, and Valley Grace, born January, 1894. (3) Charles and Samuel F., twins, born October 14, 1866. Charles died July 10, 1873. Samuel married Mayme (or Mary) Miller and had two girls, Corine Keifer and Helen Louise. Samuel died October 29, 1945; (4) Edward, born January 14, 1868, died July 10, 1873; (5) Rose, born April 11, 1875, died November 11,

1952; (6) Alice G., born May 22, 1878, died September 19,  
1948; (7) Margaret Acton, born October 3, 1880.

[www.mogenweb.org/cooper](http://www.mogenweb.org/cooper)



## The Richard Jeffress Family

The name of this family is spelled in various ways: Jeffress, Jeffers, Jeffreys, Jeffries, Jefferies, etc. The accepted spelling in the family now is Jeffress; the oldest spelling as given in the 1850 Census Reports was Jeffries.

My oldest ancestor that I know of on the Jeffress side was Catherine Laurie, who was born in Virginia, probably in Fauquier County, on January 8, 1771, and died on February 17, 1866, in Cooper County, Missouri. These dates are from her well-preserved tombstone at Pleasant Hill Cemetery in Cooper County, about 9 miles south of Boonville. Nearly all my Jeffress ancestors are buried there. The church is still standing, but is used by a farmer as a granary. The Cemetery is fairly well kept by the family.

Catherine Laurie was the great, great grandmother of my mother, Sarah Ellen Jeffress (1861). Catherine's husband was Joseph Laurie. I have found no further record of her or of him. Isabel Laurie married John R. Jeffress. My mother was their daughter. I can only surmise the line of descent from Catherine to Isabel as follows: Catherine had a son, name unknown, this son had a son, name unknown. The latter was the father of Isabel and her brother, Newton Laurie. Thus Catherine was the great grandmother of Isabel. My mother distinctly remembered her Uncle "Newt". He is mentioned in the 1850 Census as being a carpenter, 85 years old, born in Virginia. He was therefore born in 1815.

There is also mentioned in the 1850 Census a Catherine Laurie, age 68, born in Virginia. She was therefore born in 1787. She could well have been a daughter of Joseph and Catherine, for girls married young in those days.

In the same Census Daniel Laurie, age 44, born in Virginia, is listed. He was therefore born in 1806. He had a son, Joseph, age 15, born in Ohio (1885) and a daughter, Catherine, age 7, born in Missouri (1848) and other children. Daniel could well have been a son of, but more likely was a grandson of, Joseph and Catherine. At least, the similarity of family surnames clearly indicates a close kinship. Daniel was probably a brother of Isabel's father. They were of the same generation, for Isabel was born in 1885 and Daniel had a son, Joseph, born the same year.

Coming now to what is established by the records:

Earliest Census record of Jeffress' family in Missouri is 1850. The report for that year shows:

Richard Jeffries, 48 years old, a shoemaker, who was born in Virginia, and his wife, Susan Bruce, 46 years old, born in Virginia.

In the report for the same year there appears John R. Jeffries, 20 years old, a clerk, born in Alabama. He was the son of Richard.

Living with him at that time were the following:

Mary Putnam, 28 years old, born in Virginia,  
Martha Ruby, 18 years old, born in Missouri,  
Jesse Jeffries, 10 years old, born in Missouri,  
Elizabeth Jeffries, 8 years old, born in Missouri,  
Susan Jeffries, 5 years old, born in Missouri,  
Dr. Putnam, 22 years old, born in Massachusetts  
(shoemaker),

Robert Putnam, 4 months old, born in Missouri.

From this it appears that Richard Jeffress moved at some time before 1830 when he was 28 years old to Alabama, where John R. was born in 1830, and that between 1830 and 1840 he moved to Missouri, where Jesse, brother of John R., was born in 1840, Elizabeth was born in 1842, and Susan (Aunt Sookie) was born in 1845. At the time of this census all of the above were living in one household in Boonville, Missouri.

The Census of 1860 shows:

J. R. Jeffress, 30 years old, farmer, Assets, \$500, born in Alabama, and his wife, Belle, 25 years old, born in Virginia, and their children: T. A. (Aunt Ann), 8 years old; Mary, 7 years old, and William, 8 years old.

From these records it appears that J. R. Jeffress married Belle (in later censuses, Isabel) about 1851. Her maiden name was Laurie.

This Census further shows Susan Jeffress, 15 years old, living at the home of Henry Franklin, 35, and Martha, 28, and their son, Charlie W., 1 year old.

This Census shows no record of Richard Jeffress and it is presumed he died between 1850 and 1860. It shows Susan Jeffress, age 56, assets, \$700, and living with her, the son, Jesse, age 20, and Elizabeth, 17, and Zachius Bise, 10.

The Census of 1880 shows:

John R. Jeffress, age 50; Isabel Jeffress, age 45;  
James T. Jeffress, age 21; Sally E., Jeffress, age 13;  
Robert H. Jeffress, age 15; Susan C. Jeffress, age 13;  
Charles E. Jeffress, age 11; Jesse R. Jeffress, age 9;  
Etson B. Jeffress, age 4.

It appears that by 1880, T. A. (Aunt Ann), Mary, and William were no longer living at home.

The John R. Jeffress Family Bible and other sources contain the following information:

Richard Jeffress, who was born in 1802 in Richmond, Virginia, died in Cooper County, Missouri, on September 7, 1857. He is buried in an unmarked grave in the City Cemetery at Boonville, Missouri.

His wife, Susan (Bruce), was born in Virginia in 1804 and died in Cooper County on July 5, 1871. She was buried at Pleasant Hill Cemetery. A well-preserved tombstone marks her grave. She is reputed to be a direct descendant of Robert Bruce of Scotland.

John Richard Jeffress, son of Richard, was born in Alabama on February 24, 1830, and died in Cooper County at his farm home on November 12, 1906. He was buried at Pleasant Hill Cemetery. A tombstone marks his grave.

His wife, Isabel Laurie, whom he married on February 18, 1851, and who was born in Virginia on February 15 (or February 6), 1885, died (probably at the farm home) on July 1, 1880.

Some time thereafter John Richard married Lizzie Hazell. No children were born to this marriage. She died on September 23, 1914, and is buried at Pleasant Hill Cemetery. A tombstone marks her grave.

The children of John Richard Jeffress and Isabel Laurie were:

(1) Tabitha Ann (Jeffress) Caton, born March 28, 1852. Married Thomas Caton, February 15, 1870.

(2) Mary Frances (Jeffress) Barnhart, born November 29, 1853. Married Joseph Barnhart.

(3) Richard H. Jeffress, born December 12, 1855, died September 7, 1857.

(4) John William Jeffress, born April 11, 1857. Married Rhoda Hazzel, December 19, 1878.

(5) James Thomas Jeffress, born June 17, 1859; died Feb. 19, 1942. Married Amanda Brownfield, November 17, 1881. She was born Oct. 20, 1858 at Pilot Grove, Missouri and died August 25, 1929.

(6) Sarah (Sallie) Ellen (Jeffress) Cochran, born September 7, 1861, died June 19, 1942. Married William Henry Cochran on October 10, 1888. He died November 21, 1911.

(7) Robert Huston Jeffress, born October 17, 1863, died February 2, 1946. He married Mary Ellen (Mollie) Lind on November 16, 1887. After her death in 1891 he married Sophie Baker on June 25, 1893. She was born on August 28, 1872, and died on July 31, 1942.

(8) Susan Catherine (Jeffress) Davis, born December 31, 1865, and died December 18, 1941. She married Homer C. Davis, April 26, 1884. He died December 14, 1950.

(9) Albert W. Jeffress was born August 13, 1868 and died 17 March 1869. He was a twin to Charles E. Jeffress.

(10) Charles E. Jeffress was born August 13, 1868 and died October 11, 1959. He married Lucy Ritchey on December 24, 1898.

(11) Walter Lee Jeffress, born December 4, 1870, died November 17, 1872.

(12) Jesse Ross Jeffress, born August 15, 1874, died April 23, 1933. Married Ada Chamberlain, born March 20, 1877, died February 15, 1958.

(18) Etson Bell Jeffress, born September 21, 1876, died May 20, 1952. He married Alice Hoerle on November 29, 1899. She was born in 1880 and died November 5, 1918.

The children of (1) were:

(A) Lela May Caton, born January 4, 1871, died October 17, 1872.

(B) Cordelia Tabitha Caton, born September 27, 1878, died April 4, 1955. She married Thomas Franklin Taylor on November 8, 1893. They had two sons: Virgil Lee, born November 1, 1898, and John Thomas, born November 22, 1901.

(C) John Wesley Caton, born May 6, 1876, died September 17, 1878.

(D) Warner Caton, born September 17, 1878, died February 5, 1943. He married Hallie Johnson on March 22, 1903. She was born on March 30, 1880, and died August 2, 1954. They had two daughters: Frances (Caton) Detert, born February 17, 1907; and Virginia (Caton) Sappington, born December 24, 1918.

(E) Maggie Leona Caton, born February 15, 1881, died January 7, 1959. She married Johnnie Campbell Martin on March 16, 1902. They had three sons: (a) James Caton Martin, born August 23, 1903, died January 22, 1939; (b) Robert Campbell Martin, born March 17, 1906; and (c) George Franklin Martin, born February 22, 1909.

(F) Huston Caton, born March 10, 1884. On October 25, 1906, he married Nora B. Dixon, who was born November 15, 1890. They had three children: (a) Mabel Corine (Caton) Buck, born April 19, 1908; (b) Huston Earl Caton, born February 9, 1910; (c) Mary Cordelia (Caton) Raginer, born January 8, 1916.

(G) James Ireland Caton, born November 9, 1886. He married Pearl Finley on March 17, 1907. She died May 30, 1934. They had a son, Thomas Philander Caton, born March 1, 1908. James Ireland married his second wife, Ocie Lay, on February 11, 1936.

(H) David Elijah Caton, born January 12, 1891. He married Mary Edna Townsend on October 17, 1913. They had two children: David Edward Caton, born December 24, 1916, and Elna Mildred Caton.

(I) Anna Elizabeth Caton, born March 16, 1893. On January 6, 1914, she married Clarence W. Biggs, who was born December 25, 1891. Their children were:

(a) Mary Maurine Biggs, born August 25, 1914. On March 17, 1945, she married Laurence O. Gore, born August 16, 1911.

(b) Anna Rebecca Biggs, born March 20, 1917. On December 28, 1935, she married W. W. Shoemaker, who was born February 6, 1914, and died March 22, 1952. She married her second husband, Norman L. Owens, on January 11, 1958.

(c) Clarence Warner Biggs, born April 28, 1919. He married Viola Harmon, who was born August 15, 1924.

(d) Thomas Martin Biggs, born August 29, 1928. He married Gladys L. West, born November 22, 1929. They married on October 20, 1946.

(e) Margaret Cordelia Biggs, born October 1, 1932. On July 17, 1954, she married James W. Forrest, who was born March 8, 1933.

(f) Catherine Sue Biggs, born and died July 11, 1931.

(g) Ernest Frederick Biggs, born January 28, 1934. On June 11, 1954, he married Ada Louise Durrill, who was born February 4, 1936.

(h) James Robert Biggs, born and died in September, 1935.

(J) Marion Eugene Caton, born April 27, 1895, died August 18, 1937. He married Bessie Alfrey on January 30, 1917. They had three children:

(a) Dorothy Lee Caton, born November 20, 1917;

(b) Lloyd Eugene Caton, born March 3, 1919; and

(c) Thomas Eugene Caton, born June 19, 1935.

The children of (2) were:

Stella May (Barnhart) Helmrich, born May 7, 1879; Alma Ellen Barnhart, born October 26, 1885, died July 28, 1924; Leona (Barnhart) Brownfield, born March 30, 1884; Clifford Barnhart, born December 19, 1888; Elmer Barnhart, died young on March 2, 1882.

The children of (4) were:

John Jeffress; Pearl Jeffress, born November 22, 1880; and Bernie Jeffress.

The children of (5) were:

(A) Ivan Leslie Jeffress, born August 24, 1882, died December 22, 1921. He married Maude May Nunn, born August

4, 1883, in Cooper County, Missouri, and died September 22, 1950. Their children were:

(a) Bernice Nunn Jeffress, born December 27, 1905, in Saline County, Missouri. She married Edwin Bischoff Sachse, born November 24, 1904, in St. Louis, Missouri. They had a son, James Edwin Sachse, born September 7, 1933, in St. Louis, Missouri.

(b) Ivan Harold Jeffress, born August 6, 1913, in Cooper County, Missouri. He married Mary Sue Dial, born February 14, 1917, in Saline County, Missouri. Their children were James David Jeffress, born September 29, 1938 (Cooper County); and Mary Suzanne Jeffress, born November 21, 1939 (St. Louis, Missouri);

(c) Dixie Lee Jeffress (twin), born June 24, 1916 (Cooper County). She married Raymond Boppenmeyer, born February 6, 1912 (St. Charles County);

(d) Dorothy May Jeffress (twin) born June 24, 1916 (Cooper County). She married Russell Akerson, born March 17, 1911 (St. Louis County). Their children were Alan Wayne, born January 18, 1945 (St. Louis, Missouri); and Brian Russell, born May 3, 1947 (St. Louis, Missouri).

(B) Lulu Gertrude Jeffress, born April 30, 1885 (Cooper County), died May 7, 1949. She married on March 30, 1904, James William Davis, who was born September 14, 1878, and died January 26, 1947. Their children were:

(a) Forest Willard Davis, born January 30, 1905 (Blackwater, Missouri). On May 26, 1925, he married Anna Pauline Lauer, who was born July 22, 1904 (Boonville, Missouri);

(b) Henry Curtis Davis, born October 27, 1906 (Blackwater, Missouri). On January 30, 1938, he married Earlene Rosa Griffith, born August 17, 1912 (Nelson, Missouri);

(c) James Roy Davis, born January 19, 1912 (Blackwater, Missouri);

(d) Edna Lorene Davis, born March 17, 1914 (Blackwater, Missouri). On June 18, 1936, she married William Calvert Sodeman, born June 29, 1911 (Weston, Missouri). Their children were: Linda Kaye, born July 4, 1940; and Lorna Denise, born September 20, 1949, both at Los Angeles, California.

(e) Anthony Eugene Davis, born March 31, 1918, died January 26, 1946 at Blackwater, Missouri.

(f) Baby born and died March 1, 1922 at Blackwater, Missouri.

(g) Robert Wayne Davis, born December 30, 1927 at Blackwater, Missouri. On October 5, 1952 he married Sharon Jean Hayes who was born August 9, 1932 at Springfield,

Missouri. Their child is Julia Anne Davis, born September 8, 1955.

(C) Grace Irene Jeffress, born March 25, 1887, (Cooper County). On November 15, 1905, she married Grover Charles Nunn, who was born January 19, 1885 (Cooper County), and died December 18, 1935. Their children were:

(a) Amanda Elizabeth, born October 12, 1907 (Saline County) and on November 29, 1946, married Ben Stephen Craig, born June 14, 1905 (Saline County);

(b) Georgia Irene, born January 7, 1912 (Cooper County). On May 4, 1935, she married James Oliver Latimer, Jr., born October 10, 1910 (Memphis, Tennessee);

(c) Grover Woodrow Nunn, born March 4, 1917 (Cooper County), married November 14, 1936, to Jessie Madelyn Groom, born July 2, 1917 (Cooper County). They have one child, Gary Woodrow, born February 5, 1942 (Cooper County).

(D) James Roy Jeffress, born June 10, 1892, (Blackwater, Missouri). On September 28, 1914, he married Lealia Belle Schuster, born February 26, 1894 (Blackwater, Missouri). They had three children:

(a) Helen Louise, born September 27, 1915 (Blackwater, Missouri). On September 14, 1985, she married Nolan Thoma Townsend, born December 24, 1912 (Arrow Rock, Missouri). Their daughter, Barbara Ann, born March 19, 1937 (Blackwater, Missouri), married on May 12, 1956, Gervase Anthony Trautner, born June 12, 1934 (Eden, South Dakota). They have two boys, Kirk Anthony, born February 1, 1957 (Kansas City, Missouri); and Mark Allen, born December 15, 1958 (Lincoln, Nebraska). Helen Louise and Nolan Townsend also have a son, James Nolan, born September 8, 1941 (Blackwater, Missouri).

(b) Eva Pauline Jeffress, born November 3, 1917 (Blackwater, Missouri), was married on January 13, 1941, to John Douglas Williams, born March 18, 1918 (Fayette, Missouri);

(c) Roy Dale Jeffress, born September 12, 1929 (Blackwater, Missouri), was married on May 27, 1951, to Catherine Maie Brown, born February 15, 1933 (Corydon, Iowa). They have two children: Carol Lynn, born January 2, 1952 (Fort Collins, Colorado), and Linda Kay, born October 25, 1957 (Marshall, Missouri).

The children of (6) were:

William Wallace Cochran, born December 3, 1889; and Mary Maurine (Cochran) McCann, born March 4, 1895, died March 1, 1959.

The children of (7)

By his first wife, Mollie E. Lind, were: (A) Grover Cleveland Jeffress and (B) Frances Folsom (Jeffress) Bryan, twins, born November 16, 1888. By his second wife, Sophia Baker: (C) Mary Ruth, born March 20, 1894, died November 6, 1958; (D) Robert Milford, born January 25, 1896, died July, 1896; (E) Henry Milton, born September 23, 1897; (F) Mabel Jewell, born October 18, 1899; (G) Mildred Elizabeth, born March 28, 1904, died August 6, 1927; (H) Robert Bruce, born April 2, 1915, died January 17, 1953.

Referring further to the children of Robert Huston Jeffress (7):

(A) Grover Cleveland Jeffress married Amy Kathryn Bryan, who was born near Billingsville, Missouri, on April 30, 1892. Their children were Genevieve Cecilia, born December 7, 1913; Esther Marie, born May 29, 1915; and Grover Leland, born August 29, 1920.

(B) Frances Folsom Jeffress married John B. Bryan. He was born on December 3, 1889. Their children were: (a) Doris Mildred, born October 6, 1914. She married John D. Long on November 29, 1948.

(b) Frances Marie, born April 6, 1918. She was married on November 8, 1942, to Grant Richards, who was born January 29, 1919. They have two children: John Theodore, born November 5, 1947, and Susan Kay, born September 30, 1950.

(c) Helen Marjorie, born October 20, 1920. She was married on August 22, 1942, to Willard S. Summers, who was born September 10, 1919. They have two daughters: Cynthia Anne, born November 14, 1948, and Elizabeth Gale, born November 27, 1952.

(d) John B., Jr., born January 5, 1924.

(E) Henry Milton Jeffress married Stella Edverta Marr, May 9, 1936. She was born June 18, 1905. Their children were: Richard Dean, born April 18, 1939, and David Lee, born March 30, 1945.

(F) Mabel Jewell Jeffress married Emil Julius Stein on November 28, 1929. He was born on September 2, 1900. To this union were born Anna Ruth on May 30, 1933, Robert Emil on August 6, 1935, and Carolyn Louise on April 16, 1937.

Anna Ruth Stein married Richard W. Radke on December 30, 1955. To them were born the following children: Janice Ruth, August 20, 1957; Debra Lee, October 20, 1958; Martha Anna, October 28, 1959.

Carolyn Louise Stein married Robert Harold Hodge on February 14, 1959.



(G) Robert Bruce Jeffress married Pearl Clay Morris on January 31, 1938. She was born April 15, 1919. Their child is Judy Anna, born January 26, 1939. Judy Anna married Donald Bruce Miller on February 1, 1958, and their son, Robert Bruce Miller was born February 27, 1959.

The children of Homer C. Davis and Susan Catherine Jeffress (8) were:

(A) Roxie O. Davis, born March 28, 1885, married Mary Bryan, born May 22, 1885, died February 1, 1960. Their only child is Mary Edna, born January 22, 1915. She married Lieut. Thomas E. McCarthy, born February 2, 1913. Their only children are twin boys, Jackie and Mackie, born August 3, 1947.

(B) Guy Ellwood Davis, born February 28, 1888, married Mabel Geneva (Gene) Viertel, born August 31, 1898. Their only child, Jacqueline Jean, was born August 9, 1932.

(C) Hazel Nadine Davis, born November 5, 1901, married Swisher (Dick) Cochran, who was born January 3, 1900. They were married on December 19, 1923. They have one child, Richard Davis, who was born February 14, 1925.

The children of Charles E. Jeffress and Lucy Ritchey (10) were: .

Charles Lloyd, born September 30, 1894, and died June 20, 1901; Homer, Nelson, Leonard, and J. D.

The children of Jesse Ross Jeffress and Ada Chamberlain (12) were:

(A) Russell Jeffress, born January 4, 1906, married Bertha Lay, born June 9, 1907. Their children were Elizabeth Ann, born December 11, 1943, James Alan, born December 4, 1948, and Donald, who was born April 18, 1942, and died right away.

(B) William Wallace Jeffress, born July 15, 1910, married Lena Ross, born November 12, 1923. Their children were: J. Ross, born December 20, 1943; William Wallace, born March 27, 1945, and Edwin, born December 2, 1950.

The children of Etson Bell Jeffress and Alice Hoerle (13) were:

(A) Estella (Jeffress) Carver, who was born in 1901 and died July 9, 1959. She married William Carver.

(B) Jewell (Jeffress) Rogers, born 1903. She married Ralph Rogers.

(C) Etson Bell, born September 5, 1915. He married Cleora Wigton on November 7, 1941. Their children were

Susan Kay, born August 21, 1946, Lynn Marie, born November 1, 1951, and Cynthia Jean, born February 17, 1954.

A second marriage of Etson Bell was to Elizabeth (Betty) Donze on March 27, 1956. She was born on January 8, 1921.

[www.mogenweb.org/cooper](http://www.mogenweb.org/cooper)

# Recollections

by William Wallace Cochran (1889)

My father was William Henry Cochran, who was born on November 12, 1857. My mother was Sarah (Sallie) Ellen (Jeffress) Cochran, who was born on September 7, 1861.

While I do not myself recall it, I have it on the authority of my parents that I was born on December 3, 1889, on a farm at Prairie Lick, Missouri, about five miles south of Boonville. Sometime in the next two or three years we moved to a log cabin about a mile nearer Boonville.

My earliest memory is of breaking my arm while on a visit to the home of my grandfather (Samuel Cochran). My mother told me later that I was then about two and a half years old and that I fell while trying to climb up on to a sewing machine to get at a pitcher of lemonade. I distinctly recall the binding up of my arm in wooden splints by my grandfather and being laid on some straw in the bottom of a farm wagon and hauled home.

My next distinct memory is of the day I was four years old. I was standing in the doorway of the log cabin and my mother said, "You are four years old today."

A year or two later we moved back to the farm where I was born. It seemed like a big house to me and I remember that there were two or three little-used rooms upstairs that I was afraid to go into.

Before I was six years old, my mother, who had been a school teacher, taught me the multiplication table through the number twelve. So it was something I never had to learn in school.

My sister, Mary Maurine, was born on March 4, 1895, at Prairie Lick, and we were very proud of her.

The school I went to was called Hickory Grove, about a mile away. Except in bad weather I walked to school along the track of the MK&T railroad, which passed near our house and near the school. In bad weather I rode a mule. This school, like all country schools in those days, was a one-room building heated by a large wood-burning stove. As did the other pupils, I brought my dinner in a tin bucket. In those days the noon meal was dinner and the evening meal supper.

There was only one teacher and he taught all the grades. The subjects were Arithmetic, Spelling, Beading, Writing, Geography and U. S. History. The rule against talking or even whispering was very strict. Disobedient pupils were punished when necessary by whipping in the presence of all the others. This was seldom necessary.

My Uncle John Cochran, his wife, Aunt Mollie, and their three boys, Samuel, Charles, and Harry, lived on the adjacent farm only about a quarter of a mile from ours and we were visiting them or they were visiting us almost every evening. There were a lot of discussions and telling of jokes by the adults. Children were seen but not heard very much. Each family had an organ and it was the custom for the family and visitors together around it in the evenings and sing hymns and some popular songs, such as "On the Banks of the Wabash." My mother could play very well and my father had a good voice.

Farmers worked hard and for long hours then. In summer it was from daylight to dark. In winter everyone was up by six o'clock, long before daylight.

In the dead of winter it was very cold and snow covered the ground most of the time. On Sunday evenings our meal was very simple: a pot of cornmeal mush cooked on the heating stove in the living room and served with milk.

My parents were very religious. My father was a Presbyterian and my mother a Baptist. My father and three or four others established a Presbyterian Church near Prairie Lick on August 29, 1886. My father was the first ruling elder and was superintendent of the Sunday School. He was many times selected to attend the Presbytery and Synod at various places in Missouri. He was very popular and had a good singing voice. The Presbyterian services were held on Sunday afternoons; the Baptist services at Pleasant Hill Church, four miles to the south, to which my mother belonged, were in the morning. We, of course, went to both. At one time my father's popularity even with the Baptists was such that he was persuaded to be superintendent also in their Sunday School at Pleasant Hill.

My family had very little money in my youth. For that reason we did very little traveling. The first trip that I remember was to Marshall, Missouri, when I was about six years old. The occasion was a meeting there of the Missouri Synod of the Presbyterian Church, to which my father was selected as a delegate. Why he took me along I don't know, but it was an experience for me. We stayed at the home of one of the church members in Marshall and there I caused my father some embarrassment. At supper they had tea and I liked it so much when our hostess asked me if I would like to have a second cup I answered, "yes." Then my father said, "Wallace, you don't take two cups at home, do you?" My honest reply was, "No, we don't have any." Everybody laughed. As we were going to the train to leave Marshall, I embarrassed him again by crying a long time to have the flag flying on top of a building.

In the 1890's there were no telephones, no electric lights, and of course, no automobiles on the farms. There

was no plumbing or water in the houses. There was no delivery of mail. However, we had a Post Office in the single store at Prairie Lick. There were four passenger trains each way every day. Those that did not stop threw out the bag of mail and also the bag of outgoing mail suspended adjacent the train. The farmers had to call at the Post Office to get their mail.

With the coming of the automobile after 1910, the country churches gradually died out, and the establishment of rural free delivery of mail eliminated nearly all the country post offices.

In those days a farmer's income was very small. My mother used to take eggs and butter to Boonville and trade them in at the stores in exchange for what she needed. My father drew very little money out of the bank. I have seen many checks drawn by him for only one dollar in cash. Besides selling wheat and hogs (a good price for them was four cents a pound), my father had a fair-sized orchard. The apples sold for forty cents a bushel.

One event when I was about seven years old stands out in my memory. My Uncle Robert Jeffress and his son, Grover, a year older than I, came to our house one evening from a farm some distance away. After supper Grover became unconscious and we learned that he had been kicked in the head by a mule that afternoon. After some confusion, some one drove to Boonville and brought back a Doctor Smiley. He decided that the mule kick had fractured Grover's skull and had put pressure on his brain. So Grover was laid out on the dining room table and there, by the dim light of a coal oil lamp held aloft by my father, the doctor removed a large piece of the skull. Grover recovered and is still living at the time this is written.

A year or so later, about 1898, a distressing thing happened. My mother became seriously ill with some stomach trouble. My Uncle John had by then moved to Boonville, and she was taken to his home there. There was no hospital in Boonville at that time. A Doctor Van Ravenswaay from the University of Leiden, Holland, had just then opened an office in Boonville and he was called in to treat my mother. In spite of his treatments, she became worse and had to be given morphine, her suffering was so severe. Finally the doctor told my father that she had cancer and there was little hope for her recovery. They kept this news from her. I was only eight years old at the time, and once when I came to her bed and she put her arms around me I told her that they said she had cancer. That was very bad, but of course, I was too young to realize that I should not tell her. Since her death was expected in a few days, some preliminary arrangements, such as buying a cemetery lot, were made.

Surprisingly, though, my mother held on to life and as the days passed, showed some improvement. Gradually she became stronger, but still had to be given morphine. By that time she had become an addict, and it was a terrible time for her when she had finally to give it up. Her final recovery was considered by all the relatives to have been a miracle. She lived for about forty-four years after that, dying at the age of eighty, on June 19, 1942.

During my mother's sickness, my father had to be with her in Boonville and could not take care of his farm work, but his neighbors did it all for him voluntarily. My sister and I stayed at the home of Grandfather Cochran.

In 1899, after my mother's complete recovery, my father sold the farm of sixty-four acres for \$44.00 per acre and moved to Boonville, first to a rented house on Sixth Street, and later to one at 518 Sixth Street, which he had W. J. Cochran, a first cousin, built for us. The house had only four rooms but later a side porch and another room were added. Our water supply was a cistern, which was supplied by water draining from the roof the house.

My father worked in a grocery store at a very low wage, about 75cents day. The hours were long: 7:00 in the morning to 10:00 at night. My mother, who was a very determined and ambitious woman, took in a roomer or two from whom she received more than the average price, since they were usually out-of-town patients of Dr. Van Ravenswaay.

We got along very well on the small income, since prices were very low on most things. Frequently, we had beefsteak for breakfast. My sister or I would go very early to the butcher shop and get 10¢ worth of steak and it was enough for the four of us. My mother baked her own bread and canned a great amount of vegetables and fruit to carry us through the winter. We kept a cow and thus were supplied with all the butter and milk we could use. We also sold milk for 5¢ a quart. I made the deliveries and did the milking as well as driving the cow to and from a nearby pasture every night and morning.

It was my job to saw the wood and to build the fires in the heating and cooking stoves in the morning. The winters were very severe and the fires would always go out during the night. I was awakened every morning at 6 o'clock by the Catholic Church bell ringing the angelus, and immediately got up to start the fires. Because of the extreme cold, everyone wore heavy long underwear night and day.

The years went by. Many of the older relatives died. My grandfather, Samuel Cochran, died on July 10, 1903, at the age of 81 at Boonville. That afternoon before his death I was sent on horseback to round up some of the Cochran relatives. He had no particular ailment except old

age. He had been up and about usual that morning and died that evening in the presence of several kinfolk including me, "with his boots on." He was a dour man and spoke with a thick brogue, using some words that we grandchildren could not understand. We were always at his home in the country at Christmas. After the dinner, he would line up the grandchildren and give them each a 25cent piece. That looked real big to us. Only this year (1959) a cousin by marriage told me that a neighbor of my grandfather had once said that he "was the finest man he had ever known." That made me feel very proud.

My grandmother, Ellen Gault Cochran, died on February 4, 1901 at Boonville. She was always kind to us grandchildren and must have been a very fine woman for my mother said so.

My other grandfather, John R. Jeffress, died on November 12, 1906, at the age of 76, at his farm home about ten miles southwest of Boonville. His wife, Isabel Laurie was born on February 6 (or 15), 1835. After she had borne him thirteen children she died on July 1, 1880 at the age of 45.

My grandfather Jeffress was a well-to-do farmer. He had about 300 acres of land, a good-sized house and barns. He also had an ice house where ice harvested from the Petite Saline Creek was stored in winter. It lasted well into the following summer and was quite a luxury. There were also two tenant houses on the farm. As a young man he was a teamster, hauling goods on the Sante Fe Trail, which had Franklin across the Missouri River from Boonville, as its starting point. After he married Isabel, she taught him to read and write. He was a very religious man and was later ordained as a Baptist minister. He preached a good deal at Pleasant Hill.

His house was on top of a hill and the water they used had to be carried from a spring about half a mile or more away. Their clothing was made by hand by the women of the family. The cloth was made from the wool shorn from their sheep, spun into threads and then hand-woven on their loom. Their clothing was made by them by hand from this cloth.

As I remember his home, there was always a good deal of company there. By that time all his surviving sons and daughters were grown and most of them married with children of their own. There was a very long dinner table seating about sixteen, and a great abundance of food. When there was much company there were two sittings, the children of course, had to wait till the second sitting, or sometimes the third.

My mother and her younger brother, Jesse Boss, were very ambitious and eager for learning. After she finished the public school course, she attended the Pilot Grove Collegiate Institute. After that she taught school at

Prairie View, riding on horseback four miles each way even in the dead of winter.

With so many Cochran and Jeffress relatives, there were many funerals and the children were always taken to them. The mourning and weeping were unrestrained and the services included a long sermon as well as singing. They made a morbid impression on us children.

My Uncle John, my father's brother, had bought a livery stable in Boonville. He had a hearse and several solid rubber tired carriages. The hearse was pulled by two perfectly matched fine black horses covered with black netting. In all it was a very fine outfit. He had also, for cheaper funerals, a one-horse vehicle called an undertaker's wagon. Once his son, Harry, my cousin, was sent alone in this wagon one night in the coldest part of winter over the frozen dirt road to a place fifteen miles away, called Prairie Home, to get a corpse and bring it to Boonville for the funeral. A lonely, eery task.

My Uncle John was always venturing into some kind of business or other. He sold the livery stable and set up a restaurant on Main Street. This did not last long, for the reason I surmise, that so many of the friendly Cochran and Jeffress relatives would not risk offending him by not eating at the restaurant, and he would naturally not let them pay.

Later he bought a bowling alley and it was moderately successful under the management of his sons, Charles and Harry. I was a pin setter.

Sometime after their son, Samuel, died on July 9, 1901, at the age of 21, my Uncle John and Aunt Mollie went to Colorado, since their health was failing. She died there on November 16, 1903, and he died there on August 14, 1905. All these died of tuberculosis. A younger son, Harry, died of the same disease many years later.

My first trip from Boonville to any larger place was to the State Fair at Sedalia when I was about twelve years old. There for the first time I saw a building Eve stories high.

Next came a trip to St. Louis in 1904 to see the "Louisiana Purchase Exposition." This was really a world's fair. I went with my Aunt Mary (Jeffress) Barnhart and her son, my cousin Clifford. My mother sent along a large burnt caramel cake and I remember that it was a great feast. St. Louis really dazzled me with its great buildings, street cars and general magnificence. It was just a gorgeous dream beyond anything I had imagined.

## **Amusements and Other Activities**



While we youngsters of Boonville did not have motion pictures, or radio or television, or automobiles or phonographs with which to amuse ourselves, we managed to do a lot of things on our own for recreation and diversion. The present day diversions which I have just mentioned are things which are fed to us. We are consumers instead of producers.

In summer most of the boys had jobs, but played baseball when they had the opportunity, especially on Sunday afternoons. Boonville always had a team which played against neighboring towns on Sundays at Harley Park.

In the evenings after dark we sometimes played "Run-sheep-run," a sort of glorified hide and seek. We also did some fishing in the river and creeks.

In the fall we played football and in the winter we had sleigh riding on College Hill and Main Street Hill, and skating on the river, which many times froze solid from bank to bank—one time to a thickness of two feet. A Mr. Long had an ice house on the hill above the river, from which he supplied all of Boonville through the summer. The ice was harvested from the river and pulled in huge blocks up the hill by a belt conveyer. Most homes had ice boxes which would hold as much as 50 pounds of ice.

Boonville had a theatre then. It was called Thespian Hall and was built in 1856. It is still standing and is used as a motion picture theatre. When I first knew it in 1899 it was a long, wide hall with a stage at one end. The floor was level but at the rear was a structure like circus seats. It was in this section that negroes were allowed to sit. It was variously called the "chicken roost" or "nigger heaven." To this hall came many theatrical troupes in winter, including some well known actors, for one night stands. Also there were repertory troupes which stayed for a week sometimes. The admission prices to their shows were 10, 20 and 30 cents.

Since I could not afford to pay to get in, I had to resort to other means. The shows were advertised to the public by hand bills passed around town. The man in charge of all bill posting and the passing out of bills in Boonville was Mr. "Hank" Berry, a fine fellow. All of us boys liked him. Some of us, including me, helped deliver the bills and got passes to see the shows.

I doubt that the repertory shows were of high quality, but we boys all enjoyed them. I recall that one such company rehearsed every afternoon for the evening performance and once I lurked in the background at such a rehearsal. The director, principal actor and no doubt the owner of the troupe, was a foul-mouthed character who swore at the players and made many changes in the play as the rehearsal progressed. I felt sorry for the other players.

Thespian Hall was also used for meetings of various kinds. Sometimes old fiddlers' contests were held there. The contestants were mostly from the hills, farms and small villages within about twenty miles from Boonville, such as Bunceton, Pilot Grove, Palestine, Ridge Prairie, Gooch's Mill, Prairie Home, Billingsville, Bel Air, Lone Elm, Nelson, Blackwater, etc. These fiddlers must have had a lot of native talent. I think all of them "sawed" by ear and scorned printed scores. I doubt that they would have qualified to play in a symphony orchestra, but for lively, fast, and furious playing I am sure they have never been surpassed.

Once at Christmas time the Sunday Schools combined to give a taffy pull there. All the seats were removed from the hall and the youngsters from 6 to 18 were shouting, romping and running all over the place, being careful to keep away from the hot stoves. It was a riot. There was a long delay in getting the candy delivered and I don't actually know whether it ever arrived, but everyone had a lot of fun.

Thespian Hall had its name changed later to Stephen's Opera House and still later to its present name, Lyric Theatre. To me this seems a let-down from its classic first name.

It is still in use and is the oldest theatre building in use as such, west of the Mississippi River.

Another interesting building in Boonville is Christ Church (Episcopal). It was completed in 1846. It is the oldest Episcopal Church building west of the Mississippi River.

## **Railroads**

Boonville had two railroads, the Missouri Pacific and the Missouri, Kansas and Texas. The people took a great interest in riding the trains even for short distances. I remember that my Uncle John, who was always devoted to the grand manner, would not just sit in a seat on the train, but would smoke a big cigar and walk up and down the aisle, his ticket being stuck in the band of his derby hat.

The railway stations, or depots, as we called them, were great gathering places for everyone, whether they had business there or not. This was especially true in winter when the depots were heated by tremendous red hot pot-bellied stoves. Most of the men chewed tobacco then and large boxes of sawdust were placed here and there in the depot as challenges to their marksmanship. Some performers were noted for their pinpoint accuracy at short range, others for their long distance shots. In one place I saw

an admonitory sign reading, "Those who expect to rate as gentlemen, will not expectorate on the floor."

Among the amusements afforded by Boonville were street fairs. These fairs had a Ferris Wheel on Main Street and some free acts. Tents were put up on the side streets adjacent Main Street. Shows of various kinds were given in these tents. One of the free acts was the diving of a one-legged man from the top of a 122 foot ladder into a small tank of water.

It was during one of these fairs that my Uncle John Cochran died in Colorado. His body was brought to Boonville for the funeral. I remember that the procession had to find its way with difficulty through tent ropes to get into the Presbyterian Church at Main and Vine Streets.

My Cousin Guy Davis and I set up a refreshment stand on Main Street at one of these fairs. We sold pop, an orange drink, and ice cream cones and made what to us was a good deal of money. When the fair was over I took the lumber with which we had built the stand and built a cowshed on the back of our family lot.

One of the large circuses, Ringling Brothers and Forepaugh & Sells, came to Boonville every year. When I was a small boy and we still lived on the farm we would come to Boonville on circus days and watch the parade on Main Street. My parents did not go to the circus performance, and it was not until we had moved to town, that I found out that the parade was not the whole show.

### **Medicine Men**

Other entertainment for the people of Boonville was provided by itinerant medicine men, who came at intervals and sold their wares from their wagons in the evenings. Usually they had some sort of entertainment to attract the crowd. Usually they sold only one product, which was good for man or beast and could be taken internally or applied externally with equal efficacy as a cure for everything from dandruff to rheumatism, and from dyspepsia to consumption.

One such itinerant was Professor Beeves, the painless dentist, who usually stayed about a week. He had a colored entertainer called Major Wolfscale, who played the banjo and sang humorous songs such as "Cornbread and Buttermilk and Good Old Turnip Greens" to the delight of everyone. The Professor and the Major stood in a farm wagon lighted by a torch. Between songs the Professor would call for volunteers from the audience to have their teeth pulled free, painlessly he said. Strangely enough, he got lots of the negroes in the audience to get up on the wagon and have a tooth out. As I recall all of them said afterward that

it didn't hurt a bit, although the Professor used no anesthetic at all.

### **Politics and a Tragedy**

Political activity and enthusiasm were at a high pitch in Boonville when W. J. Bryan battled William McKinley for the office of President in 1896 and again in 1900. Torch light parades were frequent. The torches burned coal oil and had large wicks. By manipulating some kind of contrivance, the torch bearer could cause the flame of the torch to flare up strongly at any time he wished. During the parade the bearers would, on signal of their leader, cause the torches to flare up simultaneously with a spectacular result. The parades included drum corps and it seemed to me, as a young boy, that most of the young fellows in town had a snare drum and some had bass drums. Of course the Republicans and the Democrats had rival drum corps and parades and they kept things pretty lively in the fall of every election year. McKinley defeated Bryan decisively in both elections.

Then one day in 1901 business came to a standstill in Boonville. All the buildings were draped in black and everyone was very solemn. The president had been assassinated. A memorial service was held in the old Presbyterian Church. My father took me. The church was so full that we had to stand in the rear. The service was long and I remember that my feet and legs got so tired I could hardly stand. At one point in the service, Col. C. C. Bell, a prominent man of Boonville, led forth his little daughter Clara, and related how the president had held her on his lap and showed us a photograph of them. This was very impressive to me for Clara was a schoolmate.

### **Harry**

An unforgettable character was my cousin Harry, a son of my Uncle John Cochran. He was about five years older than I. One day when I was about five years old I was playing in the yard at our country home. Looking over in the orchard I saw a Negro boy as black as tar coming toward me and yelling. Of course I was frightened and ran into the house to my mother's skirts. She came out and saw that it was Harry who had blacked his face and hands. He thought it was good joke but my mother gave him such a tongue lashing, that he scampered for home.

About four or five years later he inveigled me to go with him to get some watermelons from a neighbor's farm. We found lots of watermelons but on breaking them open found them to be green. So we went home disappointed. We

had just about arrived home when the neighbor appeared and complained bitterly to my father. Harry said in defence that we didn't know they were watermelons, but thought they were pumpkins.

When we were living in Boonville and I was about twelve years old, the town organized a new band; all the towns had bands in those days. This one was called the Missouri State Band. They were beautifully dressed in maroon uniforms and made a splendid sight marching down Main Street. That night they gave a minstrel show at Thespian Hall. Among the acts was one by Harry and another boy on opposite ends of a ladder pivoted at its middle. They did all sorts of things in whirling around.

In another act there was a stage set simulating a pipe organ. Behind each pipe a man was stationed. At the height of his mouth there was an opening in the front of the pipe, closed by a hinged flap. The music was made by the men's voices and the flaps opened as the men sang their notes.

Harry was in numerous fights in Boonville and was considered a horrible example by my mother. He went west in later years and became a prize fighter in San Francisco. When he came back to visit us on one occasion, he brought his boxing gloves along and persuaded me to go with him into our basement just to spar a little, he said, to teach me a little about boxing. Actually he gave me pretty much of a beating. While there he gave us a lurid account of his experiences as a bartender on Barbary Coast.

Harry was not all bad, however. He was sentimental and always when he came to Boonville went out to his parents' graves in Walnut Grove Cemetery and came back weeping.

For a time he traveled with a carnival and once was stranded and borrowed some money from my mother. He repaid her long later double the amount.

The next we heard from Harry was in a letter from Nashville, Tennessee, where he was in a hospital, destitute and dying of tuberculosis. My mother sent him money again, but it was too late. He died after giving the money to his nurses. My mother had his body brought back to Boonville and buried beside his mother and father.

### **"Whistle Trigger"**

We had as next door neighbors, when we first moved to Boonville, a family named Hurt. The old man was blind and had been for twenty years. He had a one-eyed son, Frank, who was then a young man and not very bright. He was the butt of many pranks of the town boys and they called him "Whistle trigger." This made him furious and he would have killed them if he could have caught them. At one time, I

am told, he joined a circus and was kept in a cage as a wild man.

One day he was splitting wood in his back yard and accidentally chopped right into his instep. Hearing him yelling my father went to him and carried or dragged him into his house. He was bleeding terribly. A doctor was called and while my father held his foot securely in spite of his struggling and yelling, and while I held a wash bowl under his foot to catch the blood, the doctor sewed up the long cut. The doctor was Van Bavenswaay.

On a later visit this doctor looked at the eyes of the old man, who had been blind so many years, and told him he could make him see again. No one believed it, but the doctor removed cataracts from the old man's eyes and he got so he could see. He used to sit out on his front porch all day long and look with great interest at such ordinary things as wagons going along the street.

### **Summer Work**

From 1903 to 1907 I attended Boonville High School. During the summer vacations I held various jobs. I worked on a farm plowing corn with a one-horse plow called a double shovel. This farm was one previously owned and occupied by my great uncle Matthew Cochran and his large family. Also one summer I worked on a dairy farm for fine people named Drennen. The farm work was from sun-up to sundown. My pay was 50 cents per day. Later I worked for house painters in Boonville. Wages for all trades were low. Excellent painters and carpenters received \$2.00 per ten-hour day. One very fine cabinet maker received \$3.00 per day. In towns the standard work day was ten hours and the work week was six days. There were no vacations with pay.

### **The Old Surveyor**

In 1907 while taking a course in Trigonometry I became interested in surveying, and became friendly with a fine old surveyor, Mr. Allison, of Boonville. He allowed me to use his transit under his supervision and we ran the lines of the streets of Boonville, measured the heights of the Catholic Church steeple and the water tower, and did other exercises. Occasionally he took me as a helper on surveying trips to the country to settle disputes as to farm boundaries.

A year or two later Mr. Allison fell and broke his hip. I happened to be visiting him one day when the doctor, Dr. Hurt, came. He sewed up sand in bags to place along the old man's leg to hold it in place. While sewing up the

bags the doctor said to me, "My sewing is not much for looks, but its hell for strength."

Mr. Allison died a short while after and I lost a true friend.

## I Go to the University

Somehow or other my parents by great economy were able to send me to the University of Missouri in the fall of 1907, after I was graduated from high school. My own summer earnings and pay for janitor work I did at the University helped pay my expenses. My mother was the one mainly responsible for my going to college. She insisted on it. My father was not particularly in favor of it. But both cooperated by strict economy and great sacrifices to send me. At that time my father's salary as a night watchman at the State Reform School in Boonville was only \$40.00 per month.

Their sacrifices for me and my own fairly successful work at school drew us all, including my sister Maurine, close together as a family.

## A Trip to the East

In 1909 I saw in the Boonville paper an advertisement of an excursion from St. Louis to Niagara Falls for a round trip fare of \$12.00 by the B & O Railroad. My mother and father talked it over and he suggested that my mother and I go. The upshot was that we together with my Aunt Susie (Jeffress) Davis went to St. Louis. There we were offered by the B & O a more ambitious trip as follows: Rail to Detroit, steamer from there to Buffalo, rail to Niagara Falls, rail to Albany, steamer to New York City, steamer to Norfolk, steamer up the Potomac to Washington, rail to St. Louis via Chicago. The round trip fare was \$31.00, including meals and berths on all steamers. This was too tempting to resist. So we went with my father's full approval.

My father did not go on any of these trips for by that time he had pretty much withdrawn from all activities except his work and his family. Although he was in 1909 only 52 years old, he seemed to have lost much of his earlier drive. He was, however, quite willing to spend the money to give my mother and me the advantages of travel. My mother on the other hand was then and up to the time of her death in 1942, full of ambition and enthusiasm.

So far as I know my father never left the state of Missouri, except for a time before he was married, when he worked in the building of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad and got as far west as Colorado. With his

earnings he bought himself a gold Elgin watch. An inner lid covering the works was engraved with his name and the date "82." He was very proud of it. Some time after he married, my mother made him a watch chain which was braided from her long black hair.

On my occasional visits home from the University, I would walk with my father in the evening to his work at the Reform School. He would talk about all kinds of things. He was a great one to tell jokes and we were very companionable.

During these years my mother kept up with her church work, being the teacher of a Sunday School class of girls at the Boonville Baptist Church. My father, while he attended the Boonville Presbyterian Church occasionally, had otherwise dropped out of religious work.

### **The Move to Washington**

By 1910 my father's health had declined, although he was still able to work some of the time. He had one severe attack of erysipelas.

In the fall of that year I took and passed a Civil Service examination for the position of Computer in the U. S. Coast & Geodetic Survey. To my surprise, I was offered an appointment. Since the pay was very good for that time, \$100.00 a month, I accepted, although I was just entering on my Senior Year at the University.

So in October, 1910, I came to Washington. I liked the work and the people very well. In April, 1911, I made a visit home and on the 10th of that month, married Rilla Williams. In this connection something happened which I am ashamed to confess, but I do so because it shows the great love my parents had for me. At the time I had not saved much money out of my salary, not enough to set up housekeeping. So my father borrowed two or three hundred dollars on his own note and gave it to me. I should not have let him do it but should have postponed my marriage until I had enough money of my own. But such was my youthful impetuosity and lack of perspective.

When my bride and I left Boonville for Washington on the day of our marriage my father went with us to the train; my mother did not feel up to it. This was the last time I was to see my father.

In Washington my wife and I rented an apartment in the Ventosa, an apartment house located at 100 B Street, N.W., about a half a mile from the Coast and Geodetic Survey, then located on New Jersey Avenue, S.E., near the Capitol.

During the summer of 1911 I was able to repay the loan my father had made. As my father's health declined, I was



also able to send other money and this gave me and my wife great satisfaction.

### The Death of My Father

About November 20, 1911, I received a telegram from my mother telling of my father's critical condition. I immediately started by train for Boonville, arriving there in the middle of the second night, not knowing that my father was dead, until I saw the black crepe on the door. He had died on November 21.

This was a terribly distressing time for my mother, my sister and me. It was the first death in our closely knit family. My father's body lay in a room in our house and great numbers of relatives and friends came to the house. The funeral was at the Presbyterian Church on November 26, and burial was at Walnut Grove cemetery at Boonville. It was a very dismal, cold and windy day. My own grief for my father was so severe and unremitting that it affected my health for several years.

As a memorial to my father, my sister and I, many years later, presented a bronze plaque to the Presbyterian Church at Boonville. It was placed on an interior wall of the Church, where it now remains. The plaque was made by the sculptor, Heinz Warneke, of the Corcoran Art Gallery, of Washington, D. C. The plaque was presented and dedicated on April 13, 1947. The Boonville Daily News of April 12, 1947, contains the following item describing the plaque:

#### **To Honor Memory of William H. Cochran**

A service of dedication will be held at the Presbyterian Church here tomorrow morning in memory of William H. Cochran, 1857-1911.

William H. Cochran was one of a group of members of the Boonville Presbyterian Church who organized a Presbyterian Church at Prairie Lick. The church was chartered and established Aug. 29, 1886, at which time Cochran was elected as the first ruling elder to serve the new organization. He was ordained an elder by the Rev. W. D. Morton.

On Oct. 15, 1886 he was elected to serve the congregation as trustee. He continued to serve the church as superintendent of the Sunday school, clerk of session, and delegate to Presbytery and Synod.

The bronze plaque shows the sower casting his seed and calls to memory William Cochran's life as a farmer and emphasizes that our deeds are seeds which bear fruit after us. The artist, who prepared the plaque is Heinz Warneke, of Washington, D. C.

The plaque is presented in loving memory by the children of William H. Cochran.

### **A Trip to Alaska**

In the early spring of 1912 I was asked by the Coast and Geodetic Survey to join a surveying party on a trip to Alaska. I left by train on May 1 for Seattle and there went on board the U.S.S. Gedney, a 150 foot ship of Civil War vintage. My wife went back to Missouri to stay with her people until the surveying season should be over.

I was a deck officer on the Cedney and thoroughly inexperienced, but was able, under the instructions of the captain, to keep the location of the ship plotted on the chart as we progressed. We went by way of the "inside passage" to Ketchikan, traversing, on the way, Queen Charlotte Sound, where the sea was very rough and I became terribly seasick. Our work was the mapping of portions of Prince of Wales Island by triangulation and taking soundings of the adjacent waters. We lived on the Cedney but used some launches and row boats along the shore. On the island we saw scarcely anyone at all. We visited the mission of Father Duncan at Metlakatla on Annette Island. He had many years before come from Scotland and founded this mission to build up some industry to give the natives some employment. They were Indians of the Siwash tribe. All had Mongolian features and Russian names. One industry Father Duncan established was a saw mill run by water power. By the time we arrived however, nearly all the Indians had left the mission for employment elsewhere in salmon fishing. At one place on a shore excursion we came upon a deserted town of considerable size. Weeds had grown up high in the streets and around all the houses. It gave us a queer feeling to walk through this place of solitude.

For some days we had noticed some sort of greyish deposit on our clothing. We could not understand it but later on our return to Ketchikan we learned that some volcano to the north had been erupting; I believe it was Mt. McKinley.

Sometime in July, 1912, I left the Surveying party and started the long journey home to Boonville. My main reason for leaving was the poor state of my health. Some days after I arrived home my wife gave birth to our eldest son on July 20, 1912. We named him Samuel William for my grandfather.

Because of my poor health this was a very discouraging time for us and I resigned from the Coast and Geodetic Survey. After a time I regained my health enough to obtain a position as printing instructor at the Missouri Reform School at Boonville. My only qualification for this

position was that I had previously worked during one college vacation in a printing office. It published a daily paper in Boonville. My duties were to rustle up news items around town in the morning, help set them up in type in the afternoon, run the press and deliver the papers around town. So my experience was at least varied.

### **The Move to Helena, Montana**

The Civil Service Commission announced an examination for the position of Clerk-Draftsman in the summer of 1913. I went to Jefferson City and took it. As a result I received an appointment to the office of the Surveyor General for Montana at Helena, and went there in September, 1913. My wife and little son followed in October. I had to borrow the money from an aunt to make the trip. This was very embarrassing to me and I resolved never to be in that position again. I repaid my aunt and since then have never had to borrow except to make down payment on a house. This financial stability was attained not only by my own determination, but by the cooperation of my wife in economizing on all expenditures.

My salary in Helena was \$4.00 per day, or \$104.00 per month. There was no vacation and no sick leave. We lived very simply in a four room cottage which we rented for \$15.00 per month. It was on Third Street near the base of Mount Ascension.

On March 29, 1914, our second son, John Pettus, was born at St. Peter's Hospital in Helena.

### **The Return to Washington, D. C.**

While we lived rather happily there, I was discontented since my salary was so low and there was no future in my position. Also, I longed to get back to Washington. So when in 1916 a civil service examination for the position of Examiner in the Patent Office was given, I took it, but failed. Very soon thereafter a second examination was given, I passed it, and was appointed. I returned to Washington and went to work on August 16, 1916.

By this time my sister had married Bernard P. McCann and was living in Washington on M street, S.E., near the Navy Yard and I stayed temporarily with her. Soon my wife and two little boys came to Washington and we rented a house at 629 Columbia Road for \$22.50 per month. This was about two miles from the Patent Office, and I frequently walked to and from work, although the street car fare was very low, 25¢ for six tickets. My salary was \$1500.00 per year and that seemed a good deal to us. Promotions in the Office were made as a result of examinations. Fortunately,

I passed the first one and was promoted to \$1,800.00 per year, about November 15, 1917. We bought a little house at 1850 Newton Street, N.E., in 1918. It was pretty shabby but we could live in it and it cost only \$1850.00. We soon sold this house at considerable profit and after renting houses for a few years we built our own new house in 1927 at 2814 Franklin Street, N.E. After we moved in my wife and I bought our first electric refrigerator and it was her proudest possession.

Our boys were now in high school and doing very well. I had been promoted in my work to the grade of First Assistant Examiner. We were financially on solid ground and were rapidly paying off our debt on the new house. I had been going to the National University Law School at night and was graduated with the LLB degree in 1927. I was admitted to the bar early in the following year.

In 1928 I was made Principal Examiner in charge of newly formed Division 62 of the Patent Office, at a salary of \$5,600.00. In 1935 I was made Law Examiner at the same salary and then began to assist the Solicitor in handling cases in the Courts. This led to my appointment in 1940 to the position of Solicitor in which I was in charge of all the litigation in which the Patent Office was involved. In this work I had the able assistance of several law examiners who were attorneys at law and handled many of the cases in the Courts.

I retired from the Patent Office in September, 1949, when I was nearly sixty years old. My salary was then over \$10,000.00 per year. I then went to work for the law firm of Bacon & Thomas, I having meanwhile become a friend of Francis D. Thomas, one of the leading patent lawyers of Washington.

At the present time I am still in the employ of that firm, but do very little work.

### **Trips to Europe**

Going back to the year 1929, my wife and I decided to make a trip to Europe. Some friends occupied our house while we were away and took care of our boys. We sailed on the Cunard ship, Berengaria, landing in Southampton on September 4, 1929. We visited London for several days, went by night boat on September 11 from Harwich to the Hook of Holland, saw the sights in Rotterdam and Dordrecht and then went on to Berlin, arriving there on September 13.

We left Berlin on the morning of September 15 and arrived in Nurnberg the same evening. After sightseeing there we went to Paris, where we arrived on September 17. We saw the usual sights in Paris, went to the Folies Bergere, Louvre, Versailles, etc. Rilla bought a couple of

evening dresses. We departed on September 21 for Cherbourg and there boarded the Aquitania for New York. We got there at 12:30 BM. on September 27, and arrived in Washington that evening, so happy to see the boys.

We made another trip to Europe in 1932, going on the North German Lloyd ship Columbus and returning on the Europa, the last was a four and a half day ship. I could not help thinking of the contrast between its speed and the six weeks it took my grandfather to come from England to New York in about 1842.

During the first trip to Europe I attended some Anglican Church services and was so impressed that I decided to join the Episcopal Church. On March 5, 1930, I was baptized at Saint Mark's Church. On March 16, 1930, I was confirmed by Bishop Freeman.

### **My Mother**

My mother had sold our Boonville home sometime before World War I and came to Washington to live. At the age of 57, i.e. in 1918, she took a civil service examination for the position as Clerk, passed it, and was appointed to the Register's Office of the Treasury Department. She was determined to support herself and not to depend on my sister or me. She worked in an old brick building at the corner of 14th Street and Independence Avenue. She hated the place and did not like the work but her determination carried her through. She was always a frail woman but had a lot of stamina. While she was working she lived in the 300 block of Maryland Avenue, N.E. and later at 108 6th Street, N.E. In both places she had upstairs rooms and did her own housekeeping. At the latter place she kept my sister's son, Richard, while he attended Eastern High School. When she reached the age of 72 she had worked 15 years and then retired on a small annuity from the Government. I think it was \$50.00 a month.

But she was not yet through with life. She had a new house built at 3514 Seventh Street South, Arlington, Virginia, across the street from my sister's home. She became very active in the establishment of a Baptist Church about a block away. Besides contributing a good deal of money toward building it, she did all kinds of things to earn money for the Church, such as making and selling candy, selling Christmas cards, etc.

She had a severe fall down the stairs early in 1942 and though she recovered from that to a great extent, her injuries led to a final illness and she died on June 19, 1942, at Sibley Hospital in Washington. The first funeral service was at the Arlington Baptist Church, which she helped to found, and the second was at the Baptist Church

in Boonville, where she had been very active years before. She was buried next to my father at Walnut Grove Cemetery in Boonville.

### **The Family of My Wife**

Burilla Williams, who has always been called "Rilla," was born on April 6, 1890, on a farm near Overton, a small settlement on the south bank of Missouri River several miles east of Boonville.

The earliest ancestors of which she has a record were her great-grandparents, Lewis Hawkins and Candice Thomas. Their children were: Moses, Samuel, Ann, Lucy Ellen, Mary, Crockett, William, James, Polk, Francis, Sarah and Elizabeth.

Lucy Ellen Hawkins married James Powell. Their children were: Alice Elizabeth, Talitha, John Lewis, and Mariam.

Alice Elizabeth Powell married John William Williams. Their children were: Belle, Claude Daniel, Oral Wilson, Minnie Lee and Burilla.

Thomas Williams (Burilla's other grandfather) married Elizabeth Pettus. Their children were: Nannie, Elizabeth, Daniel Dabney, John William, Sallie and Mary.

As stated above, John William Williams married Alice Elizabeth Powell.

Burilla's sisters and brothers were: Belle, who married Harrison Fluke, and their children were William Dixie (girl), who married Lesley Lucas, Stella May, who married James Wilbur Orton; and Harrison Llewellyn;

Claude Daniel married Elizabeth Smith and their children were: Mary Frances, who married George Ballowe; Alice Margaret, who married Richard Rosenthal; and Elizabeth Ann, who married George Bott;

Oral Wilson married Mary Geiser, and their child was Rilla Elizabeth, who married William Lightfoot;

Minnie Lee married James Aubrey Tackett, and their child was James Aubrey, Jr.

Burilla married William Wallace Cochran. Their descendents have already been listed.

### **My Sister Mary Maurine**

Maurine was five years younger than I. All through her life she had a lovable disposition and never had an enemy. At the time of our father's death she was in high school at Boonville. She and my mother came to Washington some months after his death and for a short time stayed with me and my wife. Later they had rooms elsewhere. Maurine, while in Washington, attended Central High School. In the

summer of 1912 she and my mother moved back to Boonville. Maurine had met Bernard P. McCann in Washington and their romance culminated in their marriage in Boonville on August 31, 1914. They went to Washington to live and there her three children, already mentioned, were born.

In the 1940's and the years following Maurine had several illnesses and some operations and while able to do her housework, was in rather poor health most of the time.

After we bought our first Ford Model T automobile in 1923, it was our custom to go back to Boonville for a visit every two or three years. Some of these trips would coincide with visits by my mother and Maurine. They would go by train. Our many relatives in Missouri welcomed us and all of us had very enjoyable visits. In later years when our sons were grown and did not accompany us we would frequently take my mother and Maurine in the automobile with us.

In 1954 Maurine made a trip to Greece to visit her son, Richard, and his family. He was then in the U. S. Army and was stationed in Athens. Maurine sailed on the U. S. Constitution, landed at Naples and transferred to a smaller ship which took her to Piraeus, the seaport of Athens. There she was met by Richard. This was her first and only ocean voyage and was a great thrill for her.

Maurine became very ill in the late summer of 1958. An operation revealed that she had a malignant tumor in her abdomen, and the surgeon warned me that he was pessimistic as to her recovery. On his recommendation she was given massive treatments by X-ray. After she had taken twenty such treatments over a period of four weeks, the sarcoma was reduced in size and she felt better. Then with the permission of her physician she went on the train to St. Louis, where my wife and I met her and took her up to Boonville. She had a wonderful visit with our kinfolks and seemed to feel pretty well. This was in the month of November, 1958.

We returned to Washington hopeful of her recovery. But early in the next year she began to suffer more pain. Further X-ray treatments only made her worse. She declined from then on and the end came on March 1, 1959 at Sibley Hospital.

Some weeks before Maurine entered the hospital for the last time, her neighbors wrote many letters to a local television station praising her as a good neighbor. As a result she received from the National Broadcasting Company a beautiful orchid. She did not know whom the orchid came from, or that her neighbors had written the letters. But a couple of days later a letter came to her from NBC explaining the tribute. This testimonial of her popularity with all who knew her was followed by a great outpouring of people at the funeral parlor where her body lay and by a

large attendance at her funeral. All who knew Maurine regarded her as a person of fine personality and good nature. All loved her.

### **More Trips to Europe**

One day in the late summer of 1954, when I was visiting my son, Samuel William, and his family, I suggested in fun to my granddaughter, Ellen Elizabeth, who was then 20, that we take a trip to Europe. She took me up very seriously and her effervescent sister, Alice Ann, then 14, announced that she just must go, too. As a result of my casual remark we left New York about the middle of September on the Holland-American Line ship "Ryndam." We landed at Southampton, saw the sights of London, then went to Paris, from there to Heidelberg, then to Mainz, down the Rhine to Koln, by rail to Rotterdam and then by private car to The Hague, Delft, Leiden, Alsmeer, Amsterdam and back to Rotterdam. We returned to New York on the same Ryndam. This return voyage was in part through heavy seas and took about eleven days. We were very tired of the ship. We had been gone seven weeks.

The next trip was in 1957. This time I had with me my son, Samuel William, his wife, Margaret, and their son, William Wallace, II. In addition to all the places the girls and I visited on the previous trip, we toured southern England this time in a rented car, visiting Salisbury, Bath, Wells, and Oxford. This was a very enjoyable journey.

Leaving London, we went directly to Munich, where we enjoyed the Oktoberfest, then in progress. This is a yearly festival held in a large area in the city. There were seven large beer halls, each accommodating 7000 people. Each hall is maintained by one of Munich's breweries, Lowenbrau, Hofbrau, etc. A band on an elevated stand in the center of each hall plays continuously. The main activity is beer drinking. The beer is served in liter steins by Madchen in picturesque costumes. We found the German people very sociable and full of gemutlichkeit, especially as the evenings progressed and beer got in its effect. With my fair knowledge of German we were able to converse with them a good deal.

On leaving Munich we rented a Volkswagen bus and drove through the Bavarian Alps to Berchtesgaden. The scenery was wonderful. Through the influence of a friend we were permitted to stay at a U. S. Army hotel, the General Walker, located half way up a mountain. Margaret and I also took a bus trip up to the Eagle's Nest, Hitler's hideout.



On the trip we had come over on a very fast ship, the Queen Mary, and had booked the return passage on the Nieuw Amsterdam, but the night before we were to sail, it caught fire and we had to return on the little "Ryndam." When we arrived back in New York about November 2, 1957, I had had enough of that ship.

My wife did not care to go with us on either of the two trips in 1954 and 1957, since she had gone to England in 1953 to the coronation of Elizabeth II and stayed for several weeks as the guest of Sir John and Lady Blake. Sir John was the head of the British Patent Office and they had previously visited us in Washington.

I cannot end this account without further mention of my two sons, Samuel W. (Bill) and John P. (Jack), for I am very proud of both.

They attended the public schools of Washington, D. C. and graduated from McKinley High School, Bill in 1930 and John in 1931.

Bill, soon after his graduation, got a job as messenger in the Patent Office. The money he earned there was used to pay his way through night school at The George Washington University, from which he was graduated with the degrees of Bachelor of Science in Engineering and Bachelor of Laws. This, of course, took several years of hard work and strong perseverance working in the daytime and going to school at night. Shortly after taking these degrees he was admitted to the bar. Meanwhile he had been made an examiner in the Patent Office and gradually rose through the ranks until he was made a Law Examiner in 1949. In this position, which he now holds, he represents the Patent Office as attorney in numerous cases before the Federal Courts and also acts in the capacity of advisor to the Commissioner of Patents in many and varied legal matters arising in the Patent Office. In 1957 he was commissioned to visit the new German patent office at Munich and the Netherlands patent office at The Hague, to make a study of them and to report thereon. He was well received by the officials of these offices and his report to the Commissioner of Patents was published in the Journal of the Patent Office. His activities have made him known throughout the patent profession.

After finishing high school, John spent one year in the Engineering School of the University of Maryland. From 1932 to 1940 he worked for the Department of Agriculture. The last four years of this period were spent at Hereford, Texas, in the Soil Conservation Service. From 1940 to the middle of 1942, he was in the Chemical Warfare service and the Ordnance Department of the Department of War.

John was made a warrant officer in the Navy in 1942 and was sent to Portsmouth, Virginia. From there he was sent to the South Pacific in October, 1943. He returned, a

Lieutenant (J.G.), in August, 1945, seriously ill with stomach ulcers, and was in the Bethesda Naval Hospital for some time.

Recovering from this illness, he went to work for Ford Motor Company at Detroit in July, 1946, as Buyer of Refractories and other maintenance materials, and all raw materials for steel plant and foundry.

Attending night school at Wayne University for five years, he graduated in 1952 with the degree of B.S. in Business Administration with honors.

In July, 1955, John left Ford and went to Cleveland to work for the Columbia Iron and Metal Company.

Now shortly after my seventieth anniversary, as I conclude this account, I must say that although I have had some hard times in my life, they are greatly outweighed by the many blessings I have received. My wife and I are in very good health. All our descendants, now numbering fifteen, are fine people. We wish for them and their descendants the good fortune that has attended us.

# HISTORIES

of

*The John and Rosanna Cochran Family*

and the

*Richard and Susan Jeffress Family*

by

WILLIAM WALLACE COCHRAN



and

# RECOLLECTIONS

*By the Author*

*Copyright 1960 William Wallace Cochran*  
*Library of Congress Catalog Card Number: 60-11145*

## Foreword

Some of my relatives in the John Cochran family and the Richard Jeffress family, from which I am descended, have asked me to write down what I have been able to learn concerning the early history of these families so that it may be preserved for following generations.

This I do now in the winter of 1959-1960 at the age of 70, realizing that my time may be getting short, and that since much of the information I have collected is known only to me, it will be lost unless I make a record of it.

For the benefit of my own descendents I am also appending some of my personal recollections of the events in the life of my immediate family, which will show our way of life during the 1890's and the first half of the 20th century.

I do not claim any literary merit whatever for this writing. It will have little if any interest for anyone except those in the family and our descendents.

To those Cochrans and Jeffresses who are not mentioned in this account, I express my regret. The omission to mention them is due either to my lack of information or to the fact that limitations of space and time do not permit me to mention them.

W. W. C.

# The John Cochran Family

The name Cochran is said to have come from two Gaelic words meaning "The Roar of Battle" or "The Battle Cry."

The earliest record I have found concerns Waldemar De Coveran or De Cochrane in 1292. He had sons William, John and Gosilin.

The son William received from Robert II of Scotland the charter of the barony of Cochrane. In this account occur these words:

"Hitherto thy name has been Waldemar De Coveran, but henceforth it shall be William Cochrane."

According to statements made to me by my father, William H. Cochran (born 1857) and my uncles and aunts, the Cochran family originated in Scotland and emigrated to the northern part of Ireland at some undetermined time before the birth of my greatgrandfather, John Cochran, in 1790. So it is just possible that we are descended from Waldemar De Coveran.

The following information concerning the Cochran family has been derived principally from the following sources:

A letter from Mrs. Cammie M. Cochran Tucker, granddaughter of John and Rosanna Cochran, the earliest ancestors mentioned herein.

Records kept by Jessie Cochran of Boonville, Missouri, a great granddaughter of John and Rosanna Cochran.

U. S. Census records.

Tombstones in Walnut Grove Cemetery, Boonville, Missouri, and in a country burying ground at Stony Point, Missouri, about four miles south of Boonville.

John Cochran, great grandfather of the writer, was born in Ireland, November 28, 1790, and was married to Rosanna Acton, also a native of Ireland. He died at Boonville, Missouri, on March 7, 1858. Rosanna Acton was born October 9, 1792, and died at Boonville, Missouri, on September 9, 1877.

The children of John and Rosanna were the following, the first two of which were born at or near Castlebar, Mayo County, Ireland:

Dennis Cochran, who died in New Jersey.

Samuel Cochran, born March 1, 1822; died July 10, 1903, at Boonville, Missouri. (Wife, Ellen Gault).

Esther Cochran, born October 1826 in Belfast; died November 24, 1896 at Salt Lake City, Utah. (Husband, Andrew Pettit).

Matthew Cochran, born September 16, 1828; died at Boonville, Missouri, April 19, 1913. (Wife, Adeline Pettit).

John Cochran, born June 16, 1833; died December 13, 1898. (Wife, Mary E. Brown).

Rosanna Cochran, born November 17, 1836, died July 28, 1904. (Husband, Samuel Acton).

William Cochran, born 1837; died May 19, 1906, at St. Louis, Missouri. (Wife, Parthena Jones).

Ann Cochran, born September 2, 1842; died March 11, 1927, at Boonville, Missouri. (Husband, Thomas Jones.)

Mary Jane Cochran, born \_\_\_\_\_; died March 26, 1864. (Husband, Thomas Gardner.)

## The Family of Samuel Cochran

Samuel Cochran, son of John and Rosanna, was born March 1, 1822, at Castlebar, Ireland, and died July 10, 1903, at Boonville, Missouri. He was married on May 9, 1849, to Ellen Gault, who was born on September 26, 1826, at Bellaby, Ireland, and died February 4, 1901, at Boonville, Missouri. The following were the children of Samuel and Ellen Cochran, all born in or near Boonville, Missouri:

(1) Eliza J., born September 16, 1851, died May 21, 1898. She married Benjamin John Gilson, who was born September 17, 1851, and died September 19, 1899.

(2) John R., born February 6, 1853, died August 14, 1905. He married Mary (Mollie) Steger, born October 12, 1858. She died November 16, 1903.

(3) Mary Ann, born July 14, 1854, died September 11, 1936. She married William McMillan.

(4) Samuel, born February 19, 1856, died October 4, 1871.

(5) William Henry, born November 12, 1857, died November 21, 1911, at Boonville, Missouri. He married Sarah (Sallie) Ellen

Dennis Cochran, who died in New Jersey.

Samuel Cochran, born March 1, 1822; died July 10, 1903, at Boonville, Missouri. (Wife, Ellen Gault).

Esther Cochran, born October 1826 in Belfast; died November 24, 1896 at Salt Lake City, Utah. (Husband, Andrew Pettit).

Matthew Cochran, born September 16, 1828; died at Boonville, Missouri, April 19, 1913. (Wife, Adeline Pettit).

John Cochran, born June 16, 1833; died December 13, 1898. (Wife, Mary E. Brown).

Rosanna Cochran, born November 17, 1836, died July 28, 1904. (Husband, Samuel Acton).

William Cochran, born 1837; died May 19, 1906, at St. Louis, Missouri. (Wife, Parthena Jones).

Ann Cochran, born September 2, 1842; died March 11, 1927, at Boonville, Missouri. (Husband, Thomas Jones.)

Mary Jane Cochran, born \_\_\_\_\_; died March 26, 1864. (Husband, Thomas Gardner.)

## The Family of Samuel Cochran

Samuel Cochran, son of John and Rosanna, was born March 1, 1822, at Castlebar, Ireland, and died July 10, 1903, at Boonville, Missouri. He was married on May 9, 1849, to Ellen Gault, who was born on September 26, 1826, at Bellaby, Ireland, and died February 4, 1901, at Boonville, Missouri. The following were the children of Samuel and Ellen Cochran, all born in or near Boonville, Missouri:

(1) Eliza J., born September 16, 1851, died May 21, 1898. She married Benjamin John Gilson, who was born September 17, 1851, and died September 19, 1899.

(2) John R., born February 6, 1853, died August 14, 1905. He married Mary (Mollie) Steger, born October 12, 1858. She died November 16, 1903.

(3) Mary Ann, born July 14, 1854, died September 11, 1936. She married William McMillan.

(4) Samuel, born February 19, 1856, died October 4, 1871.

(5) William Henry, born November 12, 1857, died November 21, 1911, at Boonville, Missouri. He married Sarah (Sallie) Ellen



Jeffress on October 10, 1888. She was born on September 7, 1861, at Pilot Grove, Missouri, and died on June 19, 1942, at Washington, D. C.

(6) Thomas, born December 28, 1859; died December 3, 1862.

(7) Dolvert, born February 2, 1862; died May 9, 1862.

(8) James, born April 16, 1863; died June 22, 1922. He married Vinie Barnhart, and later married Elizabeth Scott. They had a son, Scott. Still later James married Ada Roberts.

(9) Margaret, born October 2, 1865; died April 9, 1875.

(10) Sophie, born March 16, 1868; died December 15, 1938. She married John Barnhart. After his death she married P. H. Roberts.

(11) Cammie Malena, born May 13, 1870, died *Mar. 2 1949*. She married the Reverend Daniel Tucker, who was born February 10, 1853, and died March 7, 1941.

### The Benjamin J. Gilson Family (1)

The children of Eliza J. Cochran and Benjamin J. Gilson were:

(a) Benjamin Franklin, born October 24, 1877, died January 16, 1913.

(b) Mary, who was born January 30, 1881, and died May 2, 1936. She married Henry Rapp. Their children were Elizabeth, Isabelle, Francis, Louise, Bess, Helen, and John.

(c) Mittie A. was born March 28, 1883, and died November 4, 1938. She married Emil Boehm. Their children were: Flobert, William, and Harold.

(d) Samuel H. was born in 1886 and died January 3, 1936. He married Theda Shimel.

(e) Ira E. was born September 24, 1889. He married Anna Fowler, born June 9, 1895. Their children were Margaret Anna (Gilson) Bell, born June 5, 1920; Ira Elmer, Jr., born June 3, 1925; Louis Edward, born September 29, 1931; and a stillborn baby boy, December 6, 1932. Ira Elmer Gilson, Jr. married Mary McShane and they have two children, Colleen and Mary Beth.

(f) Neoma S. was born July 23, 1891, and died December 12, 1943. She married Fred Rapp. Their children were: Emily, Albaltine, Elvie, Marie, Fred, and Marjorie.

## The John R. Cochran Family (2)

The children of John R. Cochran and Mary (Mollie) Steger were, Samuel W., born November 16, 1879, died July 9, 1901; Charles C., and Harry Leonard.

## The William McMillan Family (3)

The children of William McMillan and Mary A. Cochran were: Mary, Fannie, Effie, Jessie, William, Sophie, and Elmer.

## The William Henry Cochran Family (5)

The children of William Henry Cochran and Sarah (Sallie) Ellen Jeffress were: William Wallace, born December 3, 1889, and Mary Maurine, born March 4, 1895, died March 1, 1959.

## The James Cochran Family (8)

The only child of James Cochran was Scott, by his second wife Elizabeth (Betty) Scott.

## The John Barnhart Family (10)

The children of John Barnhart and Sophie Cochran were: Gladys, Frances (Nace) and Harry.

There were no children of Samuel (4), Thomas (6), Dolvert (7), Margaret (9), or Cammie Malena (11).

## The William Wallace Cochran Family

William Wallace Cochran (born December 3, 1889) married Burilla (Rilla) Williams on April 10, 1911. She was born on April 6, 1900, near Overton, Missouri.

Their children were:

Samuel William, born July 20, 1912, at Boonville, Missouri, and John Pettus, born March 29, 1914, at Helena, Montana.

Samuel William Cochran married Catherine Dreyer on January 6, 1932. Their children were Louise Lillian, born October 6, 1932.

Ellen Elizabeth, born November 12, 1933, and Alice Ann, born February 7, 1940. Later he married Margaret Baker on March 26, 1943. She was born on February 13, 1923, at Buena Vista, Virginia. Their son, William Wallace II, was born on April 23, 1947. Margaret's parents were Albert Sidney Baker, born 1890 and Margaret Rosetta McManus, born 1898.

John Pettus Cochran was married on March 14, 1942, to Margaret H. Dowell, who was born on March 24, 1919. Margaret's parents were Alvis Yates Dowell, born Aug. 19, 1896 and Emma Haralson Knight, born April 10, 1897. To this marriage were born: John Jeffress, January 18, 1948, Stephen Laurie, October 27, 1951, David Dowell, October 15, 1954, and Douglass Brooks, September 22, 1959.

Louise Lillian Cochran married William E. Coherd on May 6, 1950. They had two children, Richard William, born February 18, 1951, and Mark Alan, born February 21, 1955. Later Louise married Don Datlow and a son, Andrew Stuart, was born on September 28, 1959.

Ellen Elizabeth Cochran was married on November 27, 1954, to Peter Richardson Moran. He was born on November 20, 1932. Two children have been born to this union: Michael Richardson, born December 20, 1955, and Peter Richardson, born July 27, 1957.

### The Bernard P. McCann Family

Mary Maurine Cochran (born March 4, 1895) was married at Boonville, Missouri, on August 31, 1914, to Bernard P. McCann of Washington, D. C.

Their children were, Richard Arnold, born March 31, 1916, Virginia, born December 10, 1918, and Mary Maureen, born March 21, 1926.

Richard Arnold McCann married Ada Doris Beauchamp on Feb. 28, 1944. She was born Feb. 1, 1923. Their children were: (1) Dwight Edward, born Sept. 12, 1946; (2) John Joseph, born Aug. 5, 1950; (3) Robert Bruce, born Oct. 4, 1956.

Virginia McCann married Burwell Proctor. Their children were: (1) Carolyn Virginia, born Nov. 22, 1947 and (2) James Burwell, born Oct. 14, 1949.

Mary Maureen McCann married Raymond John Young. Their children were: (1) Raymond John, Jr., born Oct. 14, 1944; (2) David Phillip, born Nov. 18, 1948; (3) Melvin Richard, born Feb. 18, 1950; (4) Patrick Allen, born May 18, 1959.

## Emigration From Ireland to America

The following incidents in the life of Samuel (1790) and Ellen (1792) Cochran were furnished by Mrs. Tucker:

"I can remember my father (Samuel) telling the story how his father had a large family and a very hard time in Ireland. So while my father was quite young, about 18 years, he went to England to work and help his folks all he could. He would go home occasionally to see them, and one evening when going down to take the ship back to England, his brother, Matthew, was with him to see him off and Samuel said to him, 'If there is a vessel sailing for America when I get down there I will go to America.' Matthew said, 'Man, if you do I will soon be there with you,' and sure enough there was a ship ready to start in a few minutes, so Samuel had to hurry. He only had a knapsack with him, so he boarded the vessel and worked part of his way across. While helping the sailors during a storm a wave rolled over the deck and took his knapsack into the ocean. He may have been about 20 years old at the time. That would have been about 1842.

"I have also heard him tell about seeing the first train that was run in England. He was 8 years old at that time.

"He soon found work when he reached New York. He was a hard-working man and always was looking a long way ahead. He saved money and sent to England for Matthew and when he came they both saved and sent money and brought the rest of the family across. I know that none of them came when father did. My mother (Ellen Gault) came to America about the same year that Father did. She came on a sailing vessel and was on the ocean seven weeks. Her father and mother are buried in Paterson, New Jersey. There was just eleven months between their deaths. She and Aunt Jane worked in the paper mills. She met my father and they married in Paterson, New Jersey, May 9, 1849. Soon after that they came to Missouri by way of boat from

St. Louis to Boonville. There were some men on the boat that had been 'batching' and they gave mother their coffee pot and two tin cups. Father had 25¢ when they landed at Boonville. They soon found work, however, mother at one place and father on a farm owned by Mr. Myers. There was a little cabin on this farm and father soon had it. While they did not have any furniture they still had their coffee pot and two tin cups. They bought corn meal and cooked on the fireplace. After Eliza and John were born father wanted to go back to New York as his folks had arrived there in the meantime. So they went and little John cried night and day and the visit was not very pleasant. He was then (1854) only 11 months old and was very thin, so one day father came in and said, "Let's go back to Missouri." My mother said, "All right," and soon they were on their way. It so happened that they got the same little house they had left, and though they just had a bed of straw in the corner on the floor and only corn-bread and black coffee for supper, they said it was the best meal they had enjoyed since they had been away. Soon all of father's folks followed him to Missouri. Father and Uncle Matt bought adjoining farms and always thought much of each other. I remember my grandmother (Rosanna) very well and have her picture. She lived with her children after grandfather's death and spent most of the time with Aunt Ann Jones. Although I was only 17 months old when my brother Samuel died, I can remember my mother crying and the whole family in great commotion. It was so impressed on my mind I can never forget it. He must have had a tumor. I remember that one day there were seven doctors and a surgeon from St. Louis in our house. They said his heart and all was pushed over to the other side of his body. When he died they offered father and mother \$500 if they would let them open his body, but they wouldn't.

"Sister Margaret was a beautiful child. She and James were the only ones in the family that had dark eyes. She had dark curly hair. One evening while the boys and some neighbor boys were throwing horseshoes, one hit her on the shin and she had a white swelling from that. A part of the bone came out and she would have been a cripple had she lived. She and William and

James and Sophie had spinal meningitis, and after that they took measles from which Margaret died.”

“With reference to the family of Ellen Gault, her father was James and her brothers and sisters were Robert, Marguerite, Nancy, Mary Jane, William and Samuel. Samuel died in Ireland. Nancy Gault, who married a Butler, was burned in the Chicago fire in 1871, together with her husband and four children.

Robert Gault is buried in the country cemetery at Stony Point, near Boonville, Missouri.”

## Census Records

The earliest mention of the Cochran family in the U. S. Census Records of Missouri is found in the reports for 1860, which show:

Matthew Cochran, age 28	Samuel Cochran, age 37
Mary A., age 24	Ellinor (Ellen), age 32
Ethan, age 4	Eliza J., age 8
William, age 3	John, age 7
Matthew, age 10 months	Mary Ann, age 5
	Samuel, age 4
	William, age 2
	Thomas, age 6 months.

The 1870 Census reports contain the following:

Matthew Cochran, age 40	Samuel, age 50
Mary A., age 30	Ellen, age 44
Ethan, age 14	Eliza, age 18
William, age 12	John, age 16
Matthew, age 10	Mary Ann, age 15
Mary A., age 8	Samuel, age 14
Rosanna, age 6	William, age 12
Sanford, age 3	James, age 7
John, age 3 months	Maggie, age 5
Rosanna, age 76	Sophie, age 2

The records for this census further report the same Rosanna Cochran, age 74, a retired housekeeper living at the home of

Thomas Jones, husband of Ann Cochran Jones, daughter of Rosanna.

The 1880 Census reports:

Matthew Cochran, age 50  
Adeline Cochran, age 41  
Ethan, age 26  
William, age 23  
Matthew, age 20  
Addie, age 18  
Rosanna, age 16  
Sanford, age 12  
John, age 9  
Sarah, age 7  
Minnie, age 5

Samuel, age 59  
Ellen, age 55  
Eliza, age 28  
William, age 22  
James, age 17  
Sophie, age 11  
Cammie, age 9  
\* \* \* \* \*  
John Cochran, age 25  
Mollie Cochran, age 20  
Their son, William S, age 7  
months

The Family of Esther (Cochran) Pettit (1826-1896)

Esther, daughter of John Cochran (1790-1858), married Andrew Pettit. There were three girls and one boy born to them: (1) Marionette, who married Sylvester Walker; (2) Rosie, who married Sanford Abrams; (3) Andrew, Jr., who married Mrs. Phillips; (4) Adeline Sarah, who married William Patterson.

The Family of Matthew Cochran (1828-1913)

Matthew, son of John Cochran (1790-1858) married Adeline Pettit in New York on June 3, 1854. She was born in about 1838. Their children were:

(1) Ethan Allen, born November 14, 1855 in New York, died January 16, 1916, in Cameron, Texas. He married Mariah Hayden.

(2) William, born in New York on September 14, 1857, died January 30, 1916, in Salt Lake City, Utah. He married Anna Wiggen.

(3) Matthew, born in Cooper County, Missouri, on August 27, 1859, died November, 1933, in Salt Lake City, Utah.

(4) Addie (Mary A.), born February 19, 1862, died at Holden, Missouri, January 24, 1905. She married Ezra Pettit.

(5) Rose, born September 10, 1864, died May 29, 1957, buried at Independence, Missouri.

(6) Sanford De Forest, born August 12, 1867, died September 16, 1922, at Springfield, Missouri. He married Cora Hollenbeck. They had four children: Lon V.; Levens; Alice; and Alma.

(7) John, born February 15, 1870, died 1959, at Santa Fe Springs, California. He married Hattie Runkle. They had one son, Carl Matthew, born December 14, 1906. He married Opal Walker on January 1, 1930, and they have a son, Larry D., born February 8, 1936.

(8) Minnie, born September 16, 1875. She first married John Babage and later William Mudd. She lives at Hamilton, Montana.

(9) Sarah Amelia, born December 14, 1872, died in June, 1906, buried at Holden, Missouri. She married Frank Hill. They had four children: Corinne; Alice, who married Leo Joseph; Rosalie, who married R. L. Holder; and Marie, who married Harry Adams, of Erie, Pennsylvania.

### Family of John Cochran (1833-1898)

Another family of descendants of John (1790-1858) and Rosanna (1792-1877) Cochran was that of their son, John, who was born June 16, 1833 at Castle Bar, County Mayo, Ireland, and died December 13, 1898, at Boonville, Missouri. On September 1, 1859, he married Mary Elizabeth Brown, who was born April 2, 1835, at Poplar Plains, Kentucky, and died January 7, 1911, at Lee's Summit, Missouri. She was buried in Walnut Grove Cemetery at Boonville, Missouri.

Their children were:

(A) Mary Jane, born June 16, 1860; died March 16, 1862

(B) Sarah Ann, born May 6, 1862; died September 10, 1863

(C) Camma Elizabeth, born February 6, 1864; died December 17, 1935

(D) William John, born October 1, 1866; died October 4, 1946

(E) Charles Grant, born April 23, 1868; died October 6, 1870



(F) Mamie (Mary), born September 18, 1870; buried April 6, 1949

(G) Lillian F., born July 2, 1873;

(C) Camma Elizabeth Cochran, on June 3, 1886, married J. Fred Farris, who was born June 3, 1860, and died May 30, 1928. They had nine children:

(1) Willis Grant Farris, born March 17, 1888. In June, 1915, he married Myrtle Taylor. They had four children: Jean, Willis, Jr., Frederick, and David.

(2) Harry C. Farris, born February 11, 1890. Married Alice ———. They had three children: Dorothy, Virginia and Harry, Jr.

(3) Fred Farris, born July 11, 1892. Married Mary ———.

(4) Mary Helen Farris, born July 14, 1894, died February 2, 1953.

(5) John B. Farris; married Margaret Miller. They have one son, Jack, who is married and has a son.

(6) Walter D. Farris, born April 10, 1899, died September 27, 1958. He married Mildred ———.

(7) Eunice Farris, born 1900, died 1954. Single.

(8) Bernice Belle, died in infancy.

(9) Bernadine, who married Raymond Petersen. They have one son.

(D) William John Cochran married Martha (Mattie) Callaway Harrison on November 11, 1890. She was born on October 2, 1870, and died March 21, 1939. Their children were:

(1) Laura Mary, born January 2, 1892. She married William B. Whitlow on September 12, 1917. He died December 10, 1942. They had two children: (a) William Cochran Whitlow, born July 31, 1918, married on September 14, 1946, to Mary Longan, who was born November 7, 1925. They have one son, William Donnely Whitlow, born July 9, 1947. (b) Martha Caroline Whitlow, born June 14, 1924, married on June 6, 1947, to H. S. Clapp, who was born November 7, 1923. They have four children: David, March 10, 1949; H. S., Jr., July 30, 1951; Carolyn, February 13, 1954, and Thomas Harrison, April 28, 1958.

(2) Jessie Pauline, born December 9, 1893.

(3) Augusta Hazeltine (Hazel) Cochran, born August 17,

1895. On November 22, 1921, married M. Draper Jenkins, born October 22, 1887. They have three children: (3a) Martha Elizabeth, born November 16, 1922. She married David Busone on June 29, 1940, and had one daughter, Darlen Busone. Later she married Bill Mills and had one son, Harry D. Mills. Still later she married Bob Hoyt. (3b) Nancy Leila, born March 4, 1924. On September 6, 1941, she married Rogers Tillman. They have two sons: Robert and James. (3c) Melville Draper Jenkins, Jr., born September 13, 1928, married Joyce ———. They have three sons: Steve, March 16, 1951; Dennis, December 2, 1952; and Larry Dean, Dec. 28, ———.

(4) William John Cochran, Jr., born July 30, 1897. On September 7, 1921, married Hazel Hall, born March 9, 1902. They have two children: (4a) W. J. Cochran, III, born March 19, 1924. On November 29, 1947, he married Betty Shepherd, who was born June 7, 1926, and they have three daughters: Cynthia, February 4, 1949; Kathlyen, October 24, 1952; and Jennifer, November 28, 1954; (4b) Phoebe Gene Cochran, born June 20, 1927. On October 5, 1946, she married William R. Burkett, who was born November 2, 1925. They have four children: Bana Gene, March 29, 1948; Jerry, December 3, 1950; Jimmie, July 25, 1953; and Julie, November 5, 1958.

(5) Doris Aline Cochran, born November 29, 1899, died October 10, 1955. On February 9, 1935, she married Ralph W. Bonar. There were no children.

(6) James Robert Cochran, born May 14, 1902. On November 29, 1922, he married Mildred Swarner, who was born November 2, 1903. They have four children: (6a) Dorothy Ann, born October 11, 1924. On June 15, 1946, she married Lane L. Harlan (born November 3, 1920) and they have four children: Timothy, March 15, 1949; Linnet, October 10, 1950; Laurel, November 11, 1952; and Heather, June 20, 1954; (6b) Jim Bob, born November 29, 1930, died February 10, 1938; (6c) Brent Harrison, born November 19, 1940; (6d) Karen Sue, born June 8, 1943.

(7) Charles Harrison Cochran, born June 7, 1906. On November 25, 1931, he married Mary Lee McVeau, who was born August 3, 1903. They have no children.

(F) Mamie (Mary) Cochran, married George E. Sapp on No-

vember 14, 1894. He died April 3, 1935. They had two children: Lillian Lucile, born December 19, 1895, died in infancy; and Harold S., who married Marjorie Duff.

(G) Lillian F. Cochran, was married twice: first to Frank H. Herron, on November 11, 1901. He died July 23, 1923; secondly to James H. Sheppard, on October 31, 1931. He died October 18, 1952. There were no children by either marriage.

### The Family of Rosanna (Cochran) Acton (1836-1904)

Rosanna, daughter of John Cochran (1792-1858) married Sam Acton, who was born March 31, 1834, and died March 15, 1893. They had four children: (1) Addie, who married Fred Buehne and had one son, Fred, Jr. (2) Maggie, who married Dan Murray and had one daughter, Rose Anne, who married John Arnold; (3) Amanda, who married John Beckett; (4) George, who married Maude Parrish and had two boys and one girl, Parrish, Sam and Bessie Maude.

### Family of William Cochran (1837-1906)

William, the son of John Cochran (1790-1858) married Parthena Jones and they had the following children: (1) Elizabeth, who married Will Simmons, (2) Lillian, who married Harry Schram. They had two girls, Mabel and Helen; (3) Jessie, who married first Orville Baird and they had one daughter, Martha; secondly she married Joe Covert and they had a daughter, Dorothy, and a son, William; (4) John, who married Annie Gore. They had two girls, Jacqueline and Gladys. (5) William, who married Lilly ———. (6) Matthew ———; (7) Charles, who married Dolly ———. They had one girl and three boys; (8) Alice, who married Willis Jennings, no children; (9) Robert, married (Mrs.) Mary Byers and had one son.

### The Family of Ann (Cochran) Jones (1842-1927)

Ann, daughter of John Cochran (1792-1858), married Thomas P. Jones, who was born August 1, 1835, and died June 5, 1900. Their children were (1) James W., born June 10, 1863, died Octo-

ber 23 1935; (2) John L., born July 14, 1864, died December 28, 1912. He married Bessie Bohanon and they had two girls: Addie Lee, born December, 1891, and Valley Grace, born January, 1894. (3) Charles and Samuel F., twins, born October 14, 1866. Charles died July 10, 1873. Samuel married Mayme (or Mary) Miller and had two girls, Corine Keifer and Helen Louise. Samuel died October 29, 1945; (4) Edward, born January 14, 1868, died July 10, 1873; (5) Rose, born April 11, 1875, died November 11, 1952; (6) Alice G., born May 22, 1878, died September 19, 1948; (7) Margaret Acton, born October 3, 1880.

## The Richard Jeffress Family

The name of this family is spelled in various ways: Jeffress, Jeffers, Jeffreys, Jeffries, Jefferies, etc. The accepted spelling in the family now is Jeffress; the oldest spelling as given in the 1850 Census Reports was Jeffries.

My oldest ancestor that I know of on the Jeffress side was Catherine Laurie, who was born in Virginia, probably in Fauquier County, on January 8, 1771, and died on February 17, 1866, in Cooper County, Missouri. These dates are from her well-preserved tombstone at Pleasant Hill Cemetery in Cooper County, about 9 miles south of Boonville. Nearly all my Jeffress ancestors are buried there. The church is still standing, but is used by a farmer as a granary. The Cemetery is fairly well kept by the family.

Catherine Laurie was the great, great grandmother of my mother, Sarah Ellen Jeffress (1861). Catherine's husband was Joseph Laurie. I have found no further record of her or of him.

Isabel Laurie married John R. Jeffress. My mother was their daughter. I can only surmise the line of descent from Catherine to Isabel as follows: Catherine had a son, name unknown, this son had a son, name unknown. The latter was the father of Isabel and her brother, Newton Laurie. Thus Catherine was the great grandmother of Isabel. My mother distinctly remembered her Uncle "Newt". He is mentioned in the 1850 Census as being a carpenter, 35 years old, born in Virginia. He was therefore born in 1815.

There is also mentioned in the 1850 Census a Catherine Laurie, age 63, born in Virginia. She was therefore born in 1787. She could well have been a daughter of Joseph and Catherine, for girls married young in those days.

In the same Census Daniel Laurie, age 44, born in Virginia, is listed. He was therefore born in 1806. He had a son, Joseph, age 15, born in Ohio (1835) and a daughter, Catherine, age 7, born in Missouri (1843) and other children. Daniel could well have been a son of, but more likely was a grandson of, Joseph

and Catherine. At least, the similarity of family surnames clearly indicates a close kinship. Daniel was probably a brother of Isabel's father. They were of the same generation, for Isabel was born in 1835 and Daniel had a son, Joseph, born the same year.

Coming now to what is established by the records:

Earliest Census record of Jeffress' family in Missouri is 1850. The report for that year shows:

Richard Jeffries, 48 years old, a shoemaker, who was born in Virginia, and his wife, Susan Bruce, 46 years old, born in Virginia.

In the report for the same year there appears John R. Jeffries, 20 years old, a clerk, born in Alabama. He was the son of Richard. Living with him at that time were the following:

Mary Putnam, 23 years old, born in Virginia,

Martha Ruby, 18 years old, born in Missouri,

Jesse Jeffries, 10 years old, born in Missouri,

Elizabeth Jeffries, 8 years old, born in Missouri,

Susan Jeffries, 5 years old, born in Missouri,

Dr. Putnam, 22 years old, born in Massachusetts (shoemaker),

Robert Putnam, 4 months old, born in Missouri.

From this it appears that Richard Jeffress moved at some time before 1830 when he was 28 years old to Alabama, where John R. was born in 1830, and that between 1830 and 1840 he moved to Missouri, where Jesse, brother of John R., was born in 1840, Elizabeth was born in 1842, and Susan (Aunt Sookie) was born in 1845.

At the time of this census all of the above were living in one household in Boonville, Missouri.

The Census of 1860 shows:

J. R. Jeffress, 30 years old, farmer, Assets, \$500, born in Alabama, and his wife, Belle, 25 years old, born in Virginia, and their children: T. A. (Aunt Ann), 8 years old; Mary, 7 years old, and William, 3 years old.

From these records it appears that J. R. Jeffress married Belle (in later censuses, Isabel) about 1851. Her maiden name was Laurie.

This Census further shows Susan Jeffress, 15 years old, living

at the home of Henry Franklin, 35, and Martha, 28, and their son, Charlie W., 1 year old.

This Census shows no record of Richard Jeffress and it is presumed he died between 1850 and 1860. It shows Susan Jeffress, age 56, assets, \$700, and living with her, the son, Jesse, age 20, and Elizabeth, 17, and Zachius Bise, 10.

The Census of 1880 shows:

John R. Jeffress, age 50; Isabel Jeffress, age 45; James T. Jeffress, age 21; Sally E. Jeffress, age 18; Robert H. Jeffress, age 15; Susan C. Jeffress, age 13; Charles E. Jeffress, age 11; Jesse R. Jeffress, age 9; Etson B. Jeffress, age 4.

It appears that by 1880, T. A. (Aunt Ann), Mary, and William were no longer living at home.

The John R. Jeffress Family Bible and other sources contain the following information:

Richard Jeffress, who was born in 1802 in Richmond, Virginia, died in Cooper County, Missouri, on September 7, 1857. He is buried in an unmarked grave in the City Cemetery at Boonville, Missouri.

His wife, Susan (Bruce), was born in Virginia in 1804 and died in Cooper County on July 5, 1871. She was buried at Pleasant Hill Cemetery. A well-preserved tombstone marks her grave. She is reputed to be a direct descendant of Robert Bruce of Scotland.

John Richard Jeffress, son of Richard, was born in Alabama on February 24, 1830, and died in Cooper County at his farm home on November 12, 1906. He was buried at Pleasant Hill Cemetery. A tombstone marks his grave.

His wife, Isabel Laurie, whom he married on February 18, 1851, and who was born in Virginia on February 15 (or February 6), 1835, died (probably at the farm home) on July 1, 1880.

Some time thereafter John Richard married Lizzie Hazell. No children were born to this marriage. She died on September 23, 1914, and is buried at Pleasant Hill Cemetery. A tombstone marks her grave.

The children of John Richard Jeffress and Isabel Laurie were:

(1) Tabitha Ann (Jeffress) Caton, born March 28, 1852. Married Thomas Caton, February 15, 1870.

(2) Mary Frances (Jeffress) Barnhart, born November 29, 1853. Married Joseph Barnhart.

(3) Richard H. Jeffress, born December 12, 1855, died September 7, 1857.

(4) John William Jeffress, born April 11, 1857. Married Rhoda Hazzel, December 19, 1878.

(5) James Thomas Jeffress, born June 17, 1859; died Feb. 19, 1942. Married Amanda Brownfield, November 17, 1881. She was born Oct. 20, 1858 at Pilot Grove, Missouri and died August 25, 1929.

(6) Sarah (Sallie) Ellen (Jeffress) Cochran, born September 7, 1861, died June 19, 1942. Married William Henry Cochran on October 10, 1888. He died November 21, 1911.

(7) Robert Huston Jeffress, born October 17, 1863, died February 2, 1946. He married Mary Ellen (Mollie) Lind on November 16, 1887. After her death in 1891 he married Sophie Baker on June 25, 1893. She was born on August 28, 1872, and died on July 31, 1942.

(8) Susan Catherine (Jeffress) Davis, born December 31, 1865, and died December 13, 1941. She married Homer C. Davis, April 26, 1884. He died December 14, 1950.

(9) Albert W. Jeffress

(10) Charles E. Jeffress

Albert died March 17, 1869.

Twins, born August 13, 1868.

Charles died October 11, 1959. He married Lucy Ritchey on December 24, 1893.

(11) Walter Lee Jeffress, born December 4, 1870, died November 17, 1872.

(12) Jesse Ross Jeffress, born August 15, 1874, died April 23, 1933. Married Ada Chamberlain, born March 20, 1877, died February 15, 1958.

(13) Etson Bell Jeffress, born September 21, 1876, died May 20, 1952. He married Alice Hoerle on November 29, 1899. She was born in 1880 and died November 5, 1918.



The children of (1) were:

(A) Lela May Caton, born January 4, 1871, died October 17, 1872.

(B) Cordelia Tabitha Caton, born September 27, 1873, died April 4, 1955. She married Thomas Franklin Taylor on November 8, 1893. They had two sons: Virgil Lee, born November 1, 1898, and John Thomas, born November 22, 1901.

(C) John Wesley Caton, born May 6, 1876, died September 17, 1878.

(D) Warner Caton, born September 17, 1878, died February 5, 1943. He married Hallie Johnson on March 22, 1903. She was born on March 30, 1880, and died August 2, 1954. They had two daughters: Frances (Caton) Detert, born February 17, 1907; and Virginia (Caton) Sappington, born December 24, 1913.

(E) Maggie Leona Caton, born February 15, 1881, died January 7, 1959. She married Johnnie Campbell Martin on March 16, 1902. They had three sons: (a) James Caton Martin, born August 23, 1903, died January 22, 1939; (b) Robert Campbell Martin, born March 17, 1906; and (c) George Franklin Martin, born February 22, 1909.

(F) Huston Caton, born March 10, 1884. On October 25, 1906, he married Nora B. Dixon, who was born November 15, 1890. They had three children: (a) Mabel Corine (Caton) Buck, born April 19, 1908; (b) Huston Earl Caton, born February 9, 1910; (c) Mary Cordelia (Caton) Raginer, born January 8, 1916.

(G) James Ireland Caton, born November 9, 1886. He married Pearl Finley on March 17, 1907. She died May 30, 1934. They had a son, Thomas Philander Caton, born March 1, 1908. James Ireland married his second wife, Ocie Lay, on February 11, 1936.

(H) David Elijah Caton, born January 12, 1891. He married Mary Edna Townsend on October 17, 1913. They had two children: David Edward Caton, born December 24, 1916, and Elna Mildred Caton.

(I) Anna Elizabeth Caton, born March 16, 1893. On January

6, 1914, she married Clarence W. Biggs, who was born December 25, 1891. Their children were:

(a) Mary Maurine Biggs, born August 25, 1914. On March 17, 1945, she married Laurence O. Gore, born August 16, 1911.

(b) Anna Rebecca Biggs, born March 20, 1917. On December 28, 1935, she married W. W. Shoemaker, who was born February 6, 1914, and died March 22, 1952. She married her second husband, Norman L. Owens, on January 11, 1958.

(c) Clarence Warner Biggs, born April 28, 1919. He married Viola Harmon, who was born August 15, 1924.

(d) Thomas Martin Biggs, born August 29, 1928. He married Gladys L. West, born November 22, 1929. They married on October 20, 1946.

(e) Margaret Cordelia Biggs, born October 1, 1932. On July 17, 1954, she married James W. Forrest, who was born March 8, 1933.

(f) Catherine Sue Biggs, born and died July 11, 1931.

(g) Ernest Frederick Biggs, born January 23, 1934. On June 11, 1954, he married Ada Louise Durrill, who was born February 4, 1936.

(h) James Robert Biggs, born and died in September, 1935.

(J) Marion Eugene Caton, born April 27, 1895, died August 18, 1937. He married Bessie Alfrey on January 30, 1917. They had three children:

(a) Dorothy Lee Caton, born November 20, 1917;

(b) Lloyd Eugene Caton, born March 3, 1919; and

(c) Thomas Eugene Caton, born June 19, 1935.

The children of (2) were:

Stella May (Barnhart) Helmrigh, born May 7, 1879; Alma Ellen Barnhart, born October 26, 1885, died July 28, 1924; Leona (Barnhart) Brownfield, born March 30, 1884; Clifford Barnhart, born December 19, 1888; Elmer Barnhart, died young on March 2, 1882.

The children of (4) were: John Jeffress; Pearl Jeffress, born November 23, 1880; and Bernie Jeffress.

The children of (5) were:

(A) Ivan Leslie Jeffress, born August 24, 1882, died December 22, 1921. He married Maude May Nunn, born August 4, 1883, in Cooper County, Missouri, and died September 22, 1950. Their children were:

(a) Bernice Nunn Jeffress, born December 27, 1905, in Saline County, Missouri. She married Edwin Bischoff Sachse, born November 24, 1904, in St. Louis, Missouri. They had a son, James Edwin Sachse, born September 7, 1933, in St. Louis, Missouri.

(b) Ivan Harold Jeffress, born August 6, 1913, in Cooper County, Missouri. He married Mary Sue Dial, born February 14, 1917, in Saline County, Missouri. Their children were James David Jeffress, born September 29, 1938 (Cooper County); and Mary Suzanne Jeffress, born November 21, 1939 (St. Louis, Missouri);

(c) Dixie Lee Jeffress (twin), born June 24, 1916 (Cooper County). She married Raymond Boppenmeyer, born February 6, 1912 (St. Charles County);

(d) Dorothy May Jeffress (twin) born June 24, 1916 (Cooper County). She married Russell Akerson, born March 17, 1911 (St. Louis County). Their children were Alan Wayne, born January 18, 1945 (St. Louis, Missouri); and Brian Russell, born May 3, 1947 (St. Louis, Missouri).

(B) Lulu Gertrude Jeffress, born April 30, 1885 (Cooper County), died May 7, 1949. She married on March 30, 1904, James William Davis, who was born September 14, 1878, and died January 26, 1947. Their children were:

(a) Forest Willard Davis, born January 30, 1905 (Blackwater, Missouri). On May 26, 1925, he married Anna Pauline Lauer, who was born July 22, 1904 (Boonville, Missouri);

(b) Henry Curtis Davis, born October 27, 1906 (Blackwater, Missouri). On January 30, 1938, he married Earlene Rosa Griffith, born August 17, 1912 (Nelson, Missouri);

(c) James Roy Davis, born January 19, 1912 (Blackwater, Missouri);

(d) Edna Lorene Davis, born March 17, 1914 (Blackwater, Missouri). On June 18, 1936, she married William Calvert Sodeman, born June 29, 1911 (Weston, Missouri). Their children were: Linda Kaye, born July 4, 1940; and Lorna Denise, born September 20, 1949, both at Los Angeles, California.

(e) Anthony Eugene Davis, born March 31, 1918, died January 26, 1946 at Blackwater, Missouri.

(f) Baby born and died March 1, 1922 at Blackwater, Missouri.

(g) Robert Wayne Davis, born December 30, 1927 at Blackwater, Missouri. On October 5, 1952 he married Sharon Jean Hayes who was born August 9, 1932 at Springfield, Missouri. Their child is Julia Anne Davis, born September 8, 1955.

(C) Grace Irene Jeffress, born March 25, 1887, (Cooper County). On November 15, 1905, she married Grover Charles Nunn, who was born January 19, 1885 (Cooper County), and died December 18, 1935. Their children were:

(a) Amanda Elizabeth, born October 12, 1907 (Saline County) and on November 29, 1946, married Ben Stephen Craig, born June 14, 1905 (Saline County);

(b) Georgia Irene, born January 7, 1912 (Cooper County). On May 4, 1935, she married James Oliver Latimer, Jr., born October 10, 1910 (Memphis, Tennessee);

(c) Grover Woodrow Nunn, born March 4, 1917 (Cooper County), married November 14, 1936, to Jessie Madelyn Groom, born July 2, 1917 (Cooper County). They have one child, Gary Woodrow, born February 5, 1942 (Cooper County).

(D) James Roy Jeffress, born June 10, 1892, (Blackwater, Missouri). On September 23, 1914, he married Lealia Belle Schuster, born February 26, 1894 (Blackwater, Missouri). They had three children:

(a) Helen Louise, born September 27, 1915 (Blackwater, Missouri). On September 14, 1935, she married Nolan Thomas Townsend, born December 24, 1912 (Arrow Rock, Missouri). Their daughter, Barbara Ann, born March 19, 1937 (Blackwater, Missouri), married on May 12, 1956, Gervase Anthony Trautner,

born June 12, 1934 (Eden, South Dakota). They have two boys, Kirk Anthony, born February 1, 1957 (Kansas City, Missouri); and Mark Allen, born December 15, 1958 (Lincoln, Nebraska). Helen Louise and Nolan Townsend also have a son, James Nolan, born September 8, 1941 (Blackwater, Missouri).

(b) Eva Pauline Jeffress, born November 3, 1917 (Blackwater, Missouri), was married on January 13, 1941, to John Douglas Williams, born March 18, 1918 (Fayette, Missouri);

(c) Roy Dale Jeffress, born September 12, 1929 (Blackwater, Missouri), was married on May 27, 1951, to Catherine Maie Brown, born February 15, 1933 (Corydon, Iowa). They have two children: Carol Lynn, born January 2, 1952 (Fort Collins, Colorado), and Linda Kay, born October 25, 1957 (Marshall, Missouri).

The children of (6) were:

William Wallace Cochran, born December 3, 1889; and Mary Maurine (Cochran) McCann, born March 4, 1895, died March 1, 1959.

The children of (7) by his first wife, Mollie E. Lind, were: (A) Grover Cleveland Jeffress and (B) Frances Folsom (Jeffress) Bryan, twins, born November 16, 1888. By his second wife, Sophia Baker: (C) Mary Ruth, born March 20, 1894, died November 6, 1958; (D) Robert Milford, born January 25, 1896, died July, 1896; (E) Henry Milton, born September 23, 1897; (F) Mabel Jewell, born October 18, 1899; (G) Mildred Elizabeth, born March 28, 1904, died August 6, 1927; (H) Robert Bruce, born April 2, 1915, died January 17, 1953.

Referring further to the children of Robert Huston Jeffress (7):

(A) Grover Cleveland Jeffress married Amy Kathryn Bryan, who was born near Billingsville, Missouri, on April 30, 1892. Their children were Genevieve Cecilia, born December 7, 1913; Esther Marie, born May 29, 1915; and Grover Leland, born August 29, 1920.

(B) Frances Folsom Jeffress married John B. Bryan. He was born on December 3, 1889. Their children were:

(a) Doris Mildred, born October 6, 1914. She married John D. Long on November 29, 1943.

(b) Frances Marie, born April 6, 1918. She was married on November 8, 1942, to Grant Richards, who was born January 29, 1919. They have two children: John Theodore, born November 5, 1947, and Susan Kay, born September 30, 1950.

(c) Helen Marjorie, born October 20, 1920. She was married on August 22, 1942, to Willard S. Summers, who was born September 10, 1919. They have two daughters: Cynthia Anne, born November 14, 1948, and Elizabeth Gale, born November 27, 1952.

(d) John B., Jr., born January 5, 1924.

(E) Henry Milton Jeffress married Stella Edverta Marr, May 9, 1936. She was born June 18, 1905. Their children were: Richard Dean, born April 18, 1939, and David Lee, born March 30, 1945.

(F) Mabel Jewell Jeffress married Emil Julius Stein on November 23, 1929. He was born on September 2, 1900. To this union were born Anna Ruth on May 30, 1933, Robert Emil on August 6, 1935, and Carolyn Louise on April 16, 1937.

Anna Ruth Stein married Richard W. Radke on December 30, 1955. To them were born the following children: Janice Ruth, August 20, 1957; Debra Lee, October 20, 1958; Martha Anna, October 23, 1959.

Carolyn Louise Stein married Robert Harold Hodge on February 14, 1959.

(G) Robert Bruce Jeffress married Pearl Clay Morris on January 31, 1938. She was born April 15, 1919. Their child is Judy Anna, born January 26, 1939. Judy Anna married Donald Bruce Miller on February 1, 1958, and their son, Robert Bruce Miller was born February 27, 1959.

The children of Homer C. Davis and Susan Catherine Jeffress (8) were:

(A) Roxie O. Davis, born March 23, 1885, married Mary Bryan, born May 22, 1885, died February 1, 1960. Their only child is Mary Edna, born January 22, 1915. She married Lieut.

Thomas E. McCarthy, born February 2, 1913. Their only children are twin boys, Jackie and Mackie, born August 3, 1947.

(B) Guy Ellwood Davis, born February 28, 1888, married Mabel Geneva (Gene) Viertel, born August 31, 1898. Their only child, Jacqueline Jean, was born August 9, 1932.

(C) Hazel Nadine Davis, born November 5, 1901, married Swisher (Dick) Cochran, who was born January 3, 1900. They were married on December 19, 1923. They have one child, Richard Davis, who was born February 14, 1925.

The children of Charles E. Jeffress and Lucy Ritchey (10) were:

Charles Lloyd, born September 30, 1894, and died June 20, 1901; Homer, Nelson, Leonard, and J. D.

The children of Jesse Ross Jeffress and Ada Chamberlain (12) were:

(A) Russell Jeffress, born January 4, 1906, married Bertha Lay, born June 9, 1907. Their children were Elizabeth Ann, born December 11, 1943, James Alan, born December 4, 1948, and Donald, who was born April 18, 1942, and died right away.

(B) William Wallace Jeffress, born July 15, 1910, married Lena Ross, born November 12, 1923. Their children were: J. Ross, born December 20, 1943; William Wallace, born March 27, 1945, and Edwin, born December 2, 1950.

The children of Etson Bell Jeffress and Alice Hoerle (13) were:

(A) Estella (Jeffress) Carver, who was born in 1901 and died July 9, 1959. She married William Carver.

(B) Jewell (Jeffress) Rogers, born 1903. She married Ralph Rogers.

(C) Etson Bell, born September 5, 1915. He married Cleora Wigton on November 7, 1941. Their children were Susan Kay, born August 21, 1946, Lynn Marie, born November 1, 1951, and Cynthia Jean, born February 17, 1954.

A second marriage of Etson Bell was to Elizabeth (Betty) Donze on March 27, 1956. She was born on January 8, 1921.

# Recollections

by William Wallace Cochran (1889)

My father was William Henry Cochran, who was born on November 12, 1857. My mother was Sarah (Sallie) Ellen (Jeffress) Cochran, who was born on September 7, 1861.

While I do not myself recall it, I have it on the authority of my parents that I was born on December 3, 1889, on a farm at Prairie Lick, Missouri, about five miles south of Boonville. Sometime in the next two or three years we moved to a log cabin about a mile nearer Boonville.

My earliest memory is of breaking my arm while on a visit to the home of my grandfather (Samuel Cochran). My mother told me later that I was then about two and a half years old and that I fell while trying to climb up on to a sewing machine to get at a pitcher of lemonade. I distinctly recall the binding up of my arm in wooden splints by my grandfather and being laid on some straw in the bottom of a farm wagon and hauled home.

My next distinct memory is of the day I was four years old. I was standing in the doorway of the log cabin and my mother said, "You are four years old today."

A year or two later we moved back to the farm where I was born. It seemed like a big house to me and I remember that there were two or three little-used rooms upstairs that I was afraid to go into.

Before I was six years old, my mother, who had been a school teacher, taught me the multiplication table through the number twelve. So it was something I never had to learn in school.

My sister, Mary Maurine, was born on March 4, 1895, at Prairie Lick, and we were very proud of her.

The school I went to was called *Hickory Grove*, about a mile away. Except in bad weather I walked to school along the track of the MK&T railroad, which passed near our house and near the school. In bad weather I rode a mule. This school, like all country schools in those days, was a one-room building



heated by a large wood-burning stove. As did the other pupils, I brought my dinner in a tin bucket. In those days the noon meal was dinner and the evening meal supper.

There was only one teacher and he taught all the grades. The subjects were, Arithmetic, Spelling, Reading, Writing, Geography and U. S. History. The rule against talking or even whispering was very strict. Disobedient pupils were punished when necessary by whipping in the presence of all the others. This was seldom necessary.

My Uncle John Cochran, his wife, Aunt Mollie, and their three boys, Samuel, Charles, and Harry, lived on the adjacent farm only about a quarter of a mile from ours and we were visiting them or they were visiting us almost every evening. There were a lot of discussions and telling of jokes by the adults. Children were seen but not heard very much. Each family had an organ and it was the custom for the family and visitors to gather around it in the evenings and sing hymns and some popular songs, such as "On the Banks of the Wabash." My mother could play very well and my father had a good voice.

Farmers worked hard and for long hours then. In summer it was from daylight to dark. In winter everyone was up by six o'clock, long before daylight.

In the dead of winter it was very cold and snow covered the ground most of the time. On Sunday evenings our meal was very simple: a pot of cornmeal mush cooked on the heating stove in the living room and served with milk.

My parents were very religious. My father was a Presbyterian and my mother a Baptist. My father and three or four others established a Presbyterian Church near Prairie Lick on August 29, 1886. My father was the first ruling elder and was superintendent of the Sunday School. He was many times selected to attend the Presbytery and Synod at various places in Missouri. He was very popular and had a good singing voice. The Presbyterian services were held on Sunday afternoons; the Baptist services at Pleasant Hill Church, four miles to the south, to which my mother belonged, were in the morning. We, of course, went to both. At one time my father's popularity even with the

Baptists was such that he was persuaded to be superintendent also of their Sunday School at Pleasant Hill.

My family had very little money in my youth. For that reason we did very little traveling. The first trip that I remember was to Marshall, Missouri, when I was about six years old. The occasion was a meeting there of the Missouri Synod of the Presbyterian Church, to which my father was selected as a delegate. Why he took me along I don't know, but it was an experience for me. We stayed at the home of one of the church members in Marshall and there I caused my father some embarrassment. At supper they had tea and I liked it so much that when our hostess asked me if I would like to have a second cup, I answered, "yes." Then my father said, "Wallace, you don't take two cups at home, do you?" My honest reply was, "No, we don't have any." Everybody laughed. As we were going to the train to leave Marshall, I embarrassed him again by crying a long time to have the flag flying on top of a building.

In the 1890's there were no telephones, no electric lights, and of course, no automobiles on the farms. There was no plumbing or running water in the houses. There was no delivery of mail. However, we had a Post Office in the single store at Prairie Lick. There were four passenger trains each way every day. Those that did not stop threw out the bag of mail and also caught the bag of outgoing mail suspended adjacent the train. The farmers had to call at the Post Office to get their mail.

With the coming of the automobile after 1910, the country churches gradually died out, and the establishment of rural free delivery of mail eliminated nearly all the country post offices.

In those days a farmer's income was very small. My mother used to take eggs and butter to Boonville and trade them in at the stores in exchange for what she needed. My father drew very little money out of the bank. I have seen many checks drawn by him for only one dollar in cash. Besides selling wheat and hogs (a good price for them was four cents a pound), my father had a fair-sized orchard. The apples sold for forty cents a bushel.

One event when I was about seven years old stands out in my memory. My Uncle Robert Jeffress and his son, Grover,

a year older than I, came to our house one evening from a farm some distance away. After supper Grover became unconscious and we learned that he had been kicked in the head by a mule that afternoon. After some confusion, some one drove to Boonville and brought back a Doctor Smiley. He decided that the mule kick had fractured Grover's skull and had put pressure on his brain. So Grover was laid out on the dining room table and there, by the dim light of a coal oil lamp held aloft by my father, the doctor removed a large piece of the skull. Grover recovered and is still living at the time this is written.

A year or so later, about 1898, a distressing thing happened. My mother became seriously ill with some stomach trouble. My Uncle John had by then moved to Boonville, and she was taken to his home there. There was no hospital in Boonville at that time. A Doctor Van Ravenswaay from the University of Leiden, Holland, had just then opened an office in Boonville and he was called in to treat my mother. In spite of his treatments, she became worse and had to be given morphine, her suffering was so severe. Finally the doctor told my father that she had cancer and there was little hope for her recovery. They kept this news from her. I was only eight years old at the time, and once when I came to her bed and she put her arms around me I told her that they said she had cancer. That was very bad, but of course, I was too young to realize that I should not tell her. Since her death was expected in a few days, some preliminary arrangements, such as buying a cemetery lot, were made.

Surprisingly, though, my mother held on to life and as the days passed, showed some improvement. Gradually she became stronger, but still had to be given morphine. By that time she had become an addict, and it was a terrible time for her when she had finally to give it up. Her final recovery was considered by all the relatives to have been a miracle. She lived for about forty-four years after that, dying at the age of eighty, on June 19, 1942.

During my mother's sickness, my father had to be with her in Boonville and could not take care of his farm work, but his neighbors did it all for him voluntarily. My sister and I stayed at the home of Grandfather Cochran.

In 1899, after my mother's complete recovery, my father sold the farm of sixty-four acres for \$44.00 per acre and moved to Boonville, first to a rented house on Sixth Street, and later to one at 518 Sixth Street, which he had W. J. Cochran, a first cousin, build for us. The house had only four rooms but later a side porch and another room were added. Our water supply was a cistern, which was supplied by water draining from the roof of the house.

My father worked in a grocery store at a very low wage, about 75¢ per day. The hours were long: 7:00 in the morning to 10:00 at night. My mother, who was a very determined and ambitious woman, took in a roomer or two from whom she received more than the average price, since they were usually out-of-town patients of Dr. Van Ravenswaay.

We got along very well on the small income, since prices were very low on most things. Frequently, we had beefsteak for breakfast. My sister or I would go very early to the butcher shop and get 10¢ worth of steak and it was enough for the four of us. My mother baked her own bread and canned a great amount of vegetables and fruit to carry us through the winter. We kept a cow and thus were supplied with all the butter and milk we could use. We also sold milk for 5¢ a quart. I made the deliveries and did the milking as well as driving the cow to and from a nearby pasture every night and morning.

It was my job to saw the wood and to build the fires in the heating and cooking stoves in the morning. The winters were very severe and the fires would always go out during the night. I was awakened every morning at 6 o'clock by the Catholic Church bell ringing the angelus, and immediately got up to start the fires. Because of the extreme cold, everyone wore heavy long underwear night and day.

The years went by. Many of the older relatives died. My grandfather, Samuel Cochran, died on July 10, 1903, at the age of 81 at Boonville. That afternoon before his death I was sent on horseback to round up some of the Cochran relatives. He had no particular ailment except old age. He had been up and about as usual that morning and died that evening in the presence of several kinfolk including me, "with his boots on." He was a

company there were two sittings, the children of course, had to wait till the second sitting, or sometimes the third.

My mother and her younger brother, Jesse Ross, were very ambitious and eager for learning. After she finished the public school course, she attended the Pilot Grove Collegiate Institute. After that she taught school at Prairie View, riding on horseback four miles each way even in the dead of winter.

With so many Cochran and Jeffress relatives, there were many funerals and the children were always taken to them. The mourning and weeping were unrestrained and the services included a long sermon as well as singing. They made a morbid impression on us children.

My Uncle John, my father's brother, had bought a livery stable in Boonville. He had a hearse and several solid rubber tired carriages. The hearse was pulled by two perfectly matched fine black horses covered with black netting. In all it was a very fine outfit. He had also, for cheaper funerals, a one-horse vehicle called an undertaker's wagon. Once his son, Harry, my cousin, was sent alone in this wagon one night in the coldest part of winter over the frozen dirt road to a place fifteen miles away, called Prairie Home, to get a corpse and bring it to Boonville for the funeral. A lonely, eery task.

My Uncle John was always venturing into some kind of business or other. He sold the livery stable and set up a restaurant on Main Street. This did not last long, for the reason I surmise, that so many of the friendly Cochran and Jeffress relatives would not risk offending him by not eating at the restaurant, and he would naturally not let them pay.

Later he bought a bowling alley and it was moderately successful under the management of his sons, Charles and Harry. I was a pin setter.

Sometime after their son, Samuel, died on July 9, 1901, at the age of 21, my Uncle John and Aunt Mollie went to Colorado, since their health was failing. She died there on November 16, 1903, and he died there on August 14, 1905. All these died of tuberculosis. A younger son, Harry, died of the same disease many years later.

My first trip from Boonville to any larger place was to the

State Fair at Sedalia when I was about twelve years old. There for the first time I saw a building five stories high.

Next came a trip to St. Louis in 1904 to see the "Louisiana Purchase Exposition." This was really a world's fair. I went with my Aunt Mary (Jeffress) Barnhart and her son, my cousin Clifford. My mother sent along a large burnt caramel cake and I remember that it was a great feast. St. Louis really dazzled me with its great buildings, street cars and general magnificence. It was just a gorgeous dream beyond anything I had imagined.

### Amusements and Other Activities

While we youngsters of Boonville did not have motion pictures, or radio or television, or automobiles or phonographs with which to amuse ourselves, we managed to do a lot of things on our own for recreation and diversion. The present day diversions which I have just mentioned are things which are fed to us. We are consumers instead of producers.

In summer most of the boys had jobs, but played baseball when they had the opportunity, especially on Sunday afternoons. Boonville always had a team which played against neighboring towns on Sundays at Harley Park.

In the evenings after dark we sometimes played "Run-sheep-run," a sort of glorified hide and seek. We also did some fishing in the river and creeks.

In the fall we played football and in the winter we had sleigh riding on College Hill and Main Street Hill, and skating on the river, which many times froze solid from bank to bank—one time to a thickness of two feet. A Mr. Long had an ice house on the hill above the river, from which he supplied all of Boonville through the summer. The ice was harvested from the river and pulled in huge blocks up the hill by a belt conveyor. Most homes had ice boxes which would hold as much as 50 pounds of ice.

Boonville had a theatre then. It was called Thespian Hall and was built in 1856. It is still standing and is used as a motion picture theatre. When I first knew it in 1899 it was a long, wide hall with a stage at one end. The floor was level but at the

rear was a structure like circus seats. It was in this section that negroes were allowed to sit. It was variously called the "chicken roost" or "nigger heaven." To this hall came many theatrical troupes in winter, including some well known actors, for one night stands. Also there were repertory troupes which stayed for a week sometimes. The admission prices to their shows were 10, 20 and 30 cents.

Since I could not afford to pay to get in, I had to resort to other means. The shows were advertised to the public by hand bills passed around town. The man in charge of all bill posting and the passing out of bills in Boonville was Mr. "Hank" Berry, a fine fellow. All of us boys liked him. Some of us, including me, helped deliver the bills and got passes to see the shows.

I doubt that the repertory shows were of high quality, but we boys all enjoyed them. I recall that one such company rehearsed every afternoon for the evening performance and once I lurked in the background at such a rehearsal. The director, principal actor and no doubt the owner of the troupe, was a foul-mouthed character who swore at the players and made many changes in the play as the rehearsal progressed. I felt sorry for the other players.

Thespian Hall was also used for meetings of various kinds. Sometimes old fiddlers' contests were held there. The contestants were mostly from the hills, farms and small villages within about twenty miles from Boonville, such as Bunceton, Pilot Grove, Palestine, Ridge Prairie, Gooch's Mill, Prairie Home, Billingsville, Bel Air, Lone Elm, Nelson, Blackwater, etc. These fiddlers must have had a lot of native talent. I think all of them "sawed" by ear and scorned printed scores. I doubt that they would have qualified to play in a symphony orchestra, but for lively, fast, and furious playing I am sure they have never been surpassed.

Once at Christmas time the Sunday Schools combined to give a taffy pull there. All the seats were removed from the hall and the youngsters from 6 to 18 were shouting, romping and running all over the place, being careful to keep away from the hot stoves. It was a riot. There was a long delay in getting the candy delivered and I don't actually know whether it ever arrived, but everyone had a lot of fun.

Thespian Hall had its name changed later to Stephen's Opera House and still later to its present name, Lyric Theatre. To me this seems a let-down from its classic first name.

It is still in use and is the oldest theatre building in use as such, west of the Mississippi River.

Another interesting building in Boonville is Christ Church (Episcopal). It was completed in 1846. It is the oldest Episcopal Church building west of the Mississippi River.

## Railroads

Boonville had two railroads, the Missouri Pacific and the Missouri, Kansas and Texas. The people took a great interest in riding the trains even for short distances. I remember that my Uncle John, who was always devoted to the grand manner, would not just sit in a seat on the train, but would smoke a big cigar and walk up and down the aisle, his ticket being stuck in the band of his derby hat.

The railway stations, or depots, as we called them, were great gathering places for everyone, whether they had business there or not. This was especially true in winter when the depots were heated by tremendous red hot pot-bellied stoves. Most of the men chewed tobacco then and large boxes of sawdust were placed here and there in the depot as challenges to their marksmanship. Some performers were noted for their pinpoint accuracy at short range, others for their long distance shots. In one place I saw an admonitory sign reading, "Those who expect to rate as gentlemen, will not expectorate on the floor."

Among the amusements afforded by Boonville were street fairs. These fairs had a Ferris Wheel on Main Street and some free acts. Tents were put up on the side streets adjacent Main Street. Shows of various kinds were given in these tents. One of the free acts was the diving of a one-legged man from the top of a 122 foot ladder into a small tank of water.

It was during one of these fairs that my Uncle John Cochran died in Colorado. His body was brought to Boonville for the funeral. I remember that the procession had to find its way with



difficulty through tent ropes to get into the Presbyterian Church at Main and Vine Streets.

My Cousin Guy Davis and I set up a refreshment stand on Main Street at one of these fairs. We sold pop, an orange drink, and ice cream cones and made what to us was a good deal of money. When the fair was over I took the lumber with which we had built the stand and built a cowshed on the back of our family lot.

One of the large circuses, Ringling Brothers and Forepaugh & Sells, came to Boonville every year. When I was a small boy and we still lived on the farm we would come to Boonville on circus days and watch the parade on Main Street. My parents did not go to the circus performance, and it was not until we had moved to town, that I found out that the parade was not the whole show.

### Medicine Men

Other entertainment for the people of Boonville was provided by itinerant medicine men, who came at intervals and sold their wares from their wagons in the evenings. Usually they had some sort of entertainment to attract the crowd. Usually they sold only one product, which was good for man or beast and could be taken internally or applied externally with equal efficacy as a cure for everything from dandruff to rheumatism, and from dyspepsia to consumption.

One such itinerant was Professor Reeves, the painless dentist, who usually stayed about a week. He had a colored entertainer called Major Wolfscale, who played the banjo and sang humorous songs such as "Cornbread and Buttermilk and Good Old Turnip Greens" to the delight of everyone. The Professor and the Major stood in a farm wagon lighted by a torch. Between songs the Professor would call for volunteers from the audience to have their teeth pulled free, painlessly he said. Strangely enough, he got lots of the negroes in the audience to get up on the wagon and have a tooth out. As I recall all of them said afterward that it didn't hurt a bit, although the Professor used no anesthetic at all.

## Politics and a Tragedy

Political activity and enthusiasm were at a high pitch in Boonville when W. J. Bryan battled William McKinley for the office of President in 1896 and again in 1900. Torch light parades were frequent. The torches burned coal oil and had large wicks. By manipulating some kind of contrivance, the torch bearer could cause the flame of the torch to flare up strongly at any time he wished. During the parade the bearers would, on signal of their leader, cause the torches to flare up simultaneously with a spectacular result. The parades included drum corps and it seemed to me, as a young boy, that most of the young fellows in town had a snare drum and some had bass drums. Of course the Republicans and the Democrats had rival drum corps and parades and they kept things pretty lively in the fall of every election year. McKinley defeated Bryan decisively in both elections.

Then one day in 1901 business came to a standstill in Boonville. All the buildings were draped in black and everyone was very solemn. The president had been assassinated. A memorial service was held in the old Presbyterian Church. My father took me. The church was so full that we had to stand in the rear. The service was long and I remember that my feet and legs got so tired I could hardly stand. At one point in the service, Col. C. C. Bell, a prominent man of Boonville, led forth his little daughter Clara, and related how the president had held her on his lap and showed us a photograph of them. This was very impressive to me for Clara was a schoolmate.

### Harry

An unforgettable character was my cousin Harry, a son of my Uncle John Cochran. He was about five years older than I. One day when I was about five years old I was playing in the yard at our country home. Looking over in the orchard I saw a negro boy as black as tar coming toward me and yelling. Of course I was frightened and ran into the house to my mother's skirts. She came out and saw that it was Harry who had blacked his face and hands. He thought it was good joke but my mother gave him such a tongue lashing, that he scampered for home.

About four or five years later he inveigled me to go with him to get some watermelons from a neighbor's farm. We found lots of watermelons but on breaking them open found them to be green. So we went home disappointed. We had just about arrived home when the neighbor appeared and complained bitterly to my father. Harry said in defence that we didn't know they were watermelons, but thought they were pumpkins.

When we were living in Boonville and I was about twelve years old, the town organized a new band; all the towns had bands in those days. This one was called the Missouri State Band. They were beautifully dressed in maroon uniforms and made a splendid sight marching down Main Street. That night they gave a minstrel show at Thespian Hall. Among the acts was one by Harry and another boy on opposite ends of a ladder pivoted at its middle. They did all sorts of things in whirling around.

In another act there was a stage set simulating a pipe organ. Behind each pipe a man was stationed. At the height of his mouth there was an opening in the front of the pipe, closed by a hinged flap. The music was made by the men's voices and the flaps opened as the men sang their notes.

Harry was in numerous fights in Boonville and was considered a horrible example by my mother. He went west in later years and became a prize fighter in San Francisco. When he came back to visit us on one occasion, he brought his boxing gloves along and persuaded me to go with him into our basement just to spar a little, he said, to teach me a little about boxing. Actually he gave me pretty much of a beating. While there he gave us a lurid account of his experiences as a bartender on Barbary Coast.

Harry was not all bad, however. He was sentimental and always when he came to Boonville went out to his parents' graves in Walnut Grove Cemetery and came back weeping.

For a time he traveled with a carnival and once was stranded and borrowed some money from my mother. He repaid her long later double the amount.

The next we heard from Harry was in a letter from Nashville, Tennessee, where he was in a hospital, destitute and dying of tuberculosis. My mother sent him money again, but it was too late. He died after giving the money to his nurses. My mother

had his body brought back to Boonville and buried beside his mother and father.

### “Whistle Trigger”

We had as next door neighbors, when we first moved to Boonville, a family named Hurt. The old man was blind and had been for twenty years. He had a one-eyed son, Frank, who was then a young man and not very bright. He was the butt of many pranks of the town boys and they called him “Whistle trigger.” This made him furious and he would have killed them if he could have caught them. At one time, I am told, he joined a circus and was kept in a cage as a wild man.

One day he was splitting wood in his back yard and accidentally chopped right into his instep. Hearing him yelling my father went to him and carried or dragged him into his house. He was bleeding terribly. A doctor was called and while my father held his foot securely in spite of his struggling and yelling, and while I held a wash bowl under his foot to catch the blood, the doctor sewed up the long cut. The doctor was Van Ravenswaay.

On a later visit this doctor looked at the eyes of the old man, who had been blind so many years, and told him he could make him see again. No one believed it, but the doctor removed cataracts from the old man's eyes and he got so he could see. He used to sit out on his front porch all day long and look with great interest at such ordinary things as wagons going along the street.

### Summer Work

From 1903 to 1907 I attended Boonville High School. During the summer vacations I held various jobs. I worked on a farm plowing corn with a one-horse plow called a double shovel. This farm was one previously owned and occupied by my great uncle Matthew Cochran and his large family. Also one summer I worked on a dairy farm for fine people named Drennen. The farm work was from sun-up to sundown. My pay was 50¢ per day. Later I worked for house painters in Boonville. Wages for

all trades were low. Excellent painters and carpenters received \$2.00 per ten-hour day. One very fine cabinet maker received \$3.00 per day. In towns the standard work day was ten hours and the work week was six days. There were no vacations with pay.

### The Old Surveyor

In 1907 while taking a course in Trigonometry I became interested in surveying, and became friendly with a fine old surveyor, Mr. Allison, of Boonville. He allowed me to use his transit under his supervision and we ran the lines of the streets of Boonville, measured the heights of the Catholic Church steeple and the water tower, and did other exercises. Occasionally he took me as a helper on surveying trips to the country to settle disputes as to farm boundaries.

A year or two later Mr. Allison fell and broke his hip. I happened to be visiting him one day when the doctor, Dr. Hurt, came. He sewed up sand in bags to place along the old man's leg to hold it in place. While sewing up the bags the doctor said to me, "My sewing is not much for looks, but it's hell for strength."

Mr. Allison died a short while after and I lost a true friend.

### I Go to the University

Somehow or other my parents by great economy were able to send me to the University of Missouri in the fall of 1907, after I was graduated from high school. My own summer earnings and pay for janitor work I did at the University helped pay my expenses. My mother was the one mainly responsible for my going to college. She insisted on it. My father was not particularly in favor of it. But both cooperated by strict economy and great sacrifices to send me. At that time my father's salary as a night watchman at the State Reform School in Boonville was only \$40.00 per month.

Their sacrifices for me and my own fairly successful work at school drew us all, including my sister Maurine, close together as a family.

## A Trip to the East

In 1909 I saw in the Boonville paper an advertisement of an excursion from St. Louis to Niagara Falls for a round trip fare of \$12.00 by the B & O Railroad. My mother and father talked it over and he suggested that my mother and I go. The upshot was that we together with my Aunt Susie (Jeffress) Davis went to St. Louis. There we were offered by the B & O a more ambitious trip as follows: Rail to Detroit, steamer from there to Buffalo, rail to Niagara Falls, rail to Albany, steamer to New York City, steamer to Norfolk, steamer up the Potomac to Washington, rail to St. Louis via Chicago. The round trip fare was \$31.00, including meals and berths on all steamers. This was too tempting to resist. So we went with my father's full approval.

My father did not go on any of these trips for by that time he had pretty much withdrawn from all activities except his work and his family. Although he was in 1909 only 52 years old, he seemed to have lost much of his earlier drive. He was, however, quite willing to spend the money to give my mother and me the advantages of travel. My mother on the other hand was then and up to the time of her death in 1942, full of ambition and enthusiasm.

So far as I know my father never left the state of Missouri, except for a time before he was married, when he worked in the building of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad and got as far west as Colorado. With his earnings he bought himself a gold Elgin watch. An inner lid covering the works was engraved with his name and the date "82." He was very proud of it. Some time after he married, my mother made him a watch chain which was braided from her long black hair.

On my occasional visits home from the University, I would walk with my father in the evening to his work at the Reform School. He would talk about all kinds of things. He was a great one to tell jokes and we were very companionable.

During these years my mother kept up with her church work, being the teacher of a Sunday School class of girls at the Boon-

ville Baptist Church. My father, while he attended the Boonville Presbyterian Church occasionally, had otherwise dropped out of religious work.

## The Move to Washington

By 1910 my father's health had declined, although he was still able to work some of the time. He had one severe attack of erysipelas.

In the fall of that year I took and passed a Civil Service examination for the position of Computer in the U. S. Coast & Geodetic Survey. To my surprise, I was offered an appointment. Since the pay was very good for that time, \$100.00 a month, I accepted, although I was just entering on my Senior Year at the University.

So in October, 1910, I came to Washington. I liked the work and the people very well. In April, 1911, I made a visit home and on the 10th of that month, married Rilla Williams. In this connection something happened which I am ashamed to confess, but I do so because it shows the great love my parents had for me. At the time I had not saved much money out of my salary, not enough to set up housekeeping. So my father borrowed two or three hundred dollars on his own note and gave it to me. I should not have let him do it but should have postponed my marriage until I had enough money of my own. But such was my youthful impetuosity and lack of perspective.

When my bride and I left Boonville for Washington on the day of our marriage my father went with us to the train; my mother did not feel up to it. This was the last time I was to see my father.

In Washington my wife and I rented an apartment in the Ventosa, an apartment house located at 100 B Street, N.W., about a half a mile from the Coast and Geodetic Survey, then located on New Jersey Avenue, S.E., near the Capitol.

During the summer of 1911 I was able to repay the loan my father had made. As my father's health declined, I was also able to send other money and this gave me and my wife great satisfaction.

## The Death of My Father

About November 20, 1911, I received a telegram from my mother telling of my father's critical condition. I immediately started by train for Boonville, arriving there in the middle of the second night, not knowing that my father was dead, until I saw the black crepe on the door. He had died on November 21.

This was a terribly distressing time for my mother, my sister and me. It was the first death in our closely knit family. My father's body lay in a room in our house and great numbers of relatives and friends came to the house. The funeral was at the Presbyterian Church on November 26, and burial was at Walnut Grove cemetery at Boonville. It was a very dismal, cold and windy day. My own grief for my father was so severe and unremitting that it affected my health for several years.

As a memorial to my father, my sister and I, many years later, presented a bronze plaque to the Presbyterian Church at Boonville. It was placed on an interior wall of the Church, where it now remains. The plaque was made by the sculptor, Heinz Warneke, of the Corcoran Art Gallery, of Washington, D. C. The plaque was presented and dedicated on April 13, 1947. The Boonville Daily News of April 12, 1947, contains the following item describing the plaque:

### To Honor Memory of William H. Cochran

A service of dedication will be held at the Presbyterian Church here tomorrow morning in memory of William H. Cochran, 1857-1911.

William H. Cochran was one of a group of members of the Boonville Presbyterian Church who organized a Presbyterian Church at Prairie Lick. The church was chartered and established Aug. 29, 1886, at which time Cochran was elected as the first ruling elder to serve the new organization. He was ordained an elder by the Rev. W. D. Morton.

On Oct. 15, 1886 he was elected to serve the congregation as trustee. He continued to serve the church as superintendent of the Sunday school, clerk of session, and delegate to Presbytery and Synod.



The bronze plaque shows the sower casting his seed and calls to memory William Cochran's life as a farmer and emphasizes that our deeds are seeds which bear fruit after us. The artist, who prepared the plaque is Heinz Warneke, of Washington, D. C.

The plaque is presented in loving memory by the children of William H. Cochran.

## A Trip to Alaska

In the early spring of 1912 I was asked by the Coast and Geodetic Survey to join a surveying party on a trip to Alaska. I left by train on May 1 for Seattle and there went on board the U.S.S. Gedney, a 150 foot ship of Civil War vintage. My wife went back to Missouri to stay with her people until the surveying season should be over.

I was a deck officer on the Gedney and thoroughly inexperienced, but was able, under the instructions of the captain, to keep the location of the ship plotted on the chart as we progressed. We went by way of the "inside passage" to Ketchikan, traversing, on the way, Queen Charlotte Sound, where the sea was very rough and I became terribly seasick. Our work was the mapping of portions of Prince of Wales Island by triangulation and taking soundings of the adjacent waters. We lived on the Gedney but used some launches and row boats along the shore. On the island we saw scarcely anyone at all. We visited the mission of Father Duncan at Metlakatla on Annette Island. He had many years before come from Scotland and founded this mission to build up some industry to give the natives some employment. They were Indians of the Siwash tribe. All had mongolian features and Russian names. One industry Father Duncan established was a saw mill run by water power. By the time we arrived however, nearly all the Indians had left the mission for employment elsewhere in salmon fishing. At one place on a shore excursion we came upon a deserted town of considerable size. Weeds had grown up high in the streets and around all the houses. It gave us a queer feeling to walk through this place of solitude.

For some days we had noticed some sort of greyish deposit on our clothing. We could not understand it but later on our return to Ketchikan we learned that some volcano to the north had been erupting; I believe it was Mt. McKinley.

Sometime in July, 1912, I left the Surveying party and started the long journey home to Boonville. My main reason for leaving was the poor state of my health. Some days after I arrived home my wife gave birth to our eldest son on July 20, 1912. We named him Samuel William for my grandfather.

Because of my poor health this was a very discouraging time for us and I resigned from the Coast and Geodetic Survey. After a time I regained my health enough to obtain a position as printing instructor at the Missouri Reform School at Boonville. My only qualification for this position was that I had previously worked during one college vacation in a printing office. It published a daily paper in Boonville. My duties were to rustle up news items around town in the morning, help set them up in type in the afternoon, run the press and deliver the papers around town. So my experience was at least varied.

### The Move to Helena, Montana

The Civil Service Commission announced an examination for the position of Clerk-Draftsman in the summer of 1913. I went to Jefferson City and took it. As a result I received an appointment to the office of the Surveyor General for Montana at Helena, and went there in September, 1913. My wife and little son followed in October. I had to borrow the money from an aunt to make the trip. This was very embarrassing to me and I resolved never to be in that position again. I repaid my aunt and since then have never had to borrow except to make down payment on a house. This financial stability was attained not only by my own determination, but by the cooperation of my wife in economizing on all expenditures.

My salary in Helena was \$4.00 per day, or \$104.00 per month. There was no vacation and no sick leave. We lived very simply in a four room cottage which we rented for \$15.00 per month. It was on Third Street near the base of Mount Ascension.

On March 29, 1914, our second son, John Pettus, was born at St. Peter's Hospital in Helena.

### The Return to Washington, D. C.

While we lived rather happily there, I was discontented since my salary was so low and there was no future in my position. Also, I longed to get back to Washington. So when in 1916 a civil service examination for the position of Examiner in the Patent Office was given, I took it, but failed. Very soon thereafter a second examination was given, I passed it, and was appointed. I returned to Washington and went to work on August 16, 1916.

By this time my sister had married Bernard P. McCann and was living in Washington on M street, S.E., near the Navy Yard and I stayed temporarily with her. Soon my wife and two little boys came to Washington and we rented a house at 629 Columbia Road for \$22.50 per month. This was about two miles from the Patent Office, and I frequently walked to and from work, although the street car fare was very low, 25¢ for six tickets. My salary was \$1500.00 per year and that seemed a good deal to us. Promotions in the Office were made as a result of examinations. Fortunately, I passed the first one and was promoted to \$1,800.00 per year, about November 15, 1917. We bought a little house at 1350 Newton Street, N.E., in 1918. It was pretty shabby but we could live in it and it cost only \$1850.00. We soon sold this house at considerable profit and after renting houses for a few years we built our own new house in 1927 at 2814 Franklin Street, N.E. After we moved in my wife and I bought our first electric refrigerator and it was her proudest possession.

Our boys were now in high school and doing very well. I had been promoted in my work to the grade of First Assistant Examiner. We were financially on solid ground and were rapidly paying off our debt on the new house. I had been going to the National University Law School at night and was graduated with the LLB degree in 1927. I was admitted to the bar early in the following year.

In 1928 I was made Principal Examiner in charge of newly

formed Division 62 of the Patent Office, at a salary of \$5,600.00. In 1935 I was made Law Examiner at the same salary and then began to assist the Solicitor in handling cases in the Courts. This led to my appointment in 1940 to the position of Solicitor in which I was in charge of all the litigation in which the Patent Office was involved. In this work I had the able assistance of several law examiners who were attorneys at law and handled many of the cases in the Courts.

I retired from the Patent Office in September, 1949, when I was nearly sixty years old. My salary was then over \$10,000.00 per year. I then went to work for the law firm of Bacon & Thomas, I having meanwhile become a friend of Francis D. Thomas, one of the leading patent lawyers of Washington.

At the present time I am still in the employ of that firm, but do very little work.

## Trips to Europe

Going back to the year 1929, my wife and I decided to make a trip to Europe. Some friends occupied our house while we were away and took care of our boys. We sailed on the Cunard ship, Berengaria, landing in Southampton on September 4, 1929. We visited London for several days, went by night boat on September 11 from Harwich to the Hook of Holland, saw the sights in Rotterdam and Dordrecht and then went on to Berlin, arriving there on September 13.

We left Berlin on the morning of September 15 and arrived in Nurnberg the same evening. After sightseeing there we went to Paris, where we arrived on September 17. We saw the usual sights in Paris, went to the Folies Bergere, Louvre, Versailles, etc. Rilla bought a couple of evening dresses. We departed on September 21 for Cherbourg and there boarded the Aquitania for New York. We got there at 12:30 P.M. on September 27, and arrived in Washington that evening, so happy to see the boys.

We made another trip to Europe in 1932, going on the North German Lloyd ship Columbus and returning on the Europa, the last was a four and a half day ship. I could not help thinking

of the contrast between its speed and the six weeks it took my grandfather to come from England to New York in about 1842.

During the first trip to Europe I attended some Anglican Church services and was so impressed that I decided to join the Episcopal Church. On March 5, 1930, I was baptized at Saint Mark's Church. On March 16, 1930, I was confirmed by Bishop Freeman.

## My Mother

My mother had sold our Boonville home sometime before World War I and came to Washington to live. At the age of 57, i.e. in 1918, she took a civil service examination for the position as Clerk, passed it and was appointed to the Register's Office of the Treasury Department. She was determined to support herself and not to depend on my sister or me. She worked in an old brick building at the corner of 14th Street and Independence Avenue. She hated the place and did not like the work but her determination carried her through. She was always a frail woman but had a lot of stamina. While she was working she lived in the 300 block of Maryland Avenue, N.E. and later at 108 6th Street, N.E. In both places she had upstairs rooms and did her own housekeeping. At the latter place she kept my sister's son, Richard, while he attended Eastern High School. When she reached the age of 72 she had worked 15 years and then retired on a small annuity from the Government. I think it was \$50.00 a month.

But she was not yet through with life. She had a new house built at 3514 Seventh Street South, Arlington, Virginia, across the street from my sister's home. She became very active in the establishment of a Baptist Church about a block away. Besides contributing a good deal of money toward building it, she did all kinds of things to earn money for the Church, such as making and selling candy, selling Christmas cards, etc.

She had a severe fall down the stairs early in 1942 and though she recovered from that to a great extent, her injuries led to a final illness and she died on June 19, 1942, at Sibley Hospital in Washington. The first funeral service was at the Arlington Bap-

tist Church, which she helped to found, and the second was at the Baptist Church in Boonville, where she had been very active years before. She was buried next to my father at Walnut Grove Cemetery in Boonville.

## The Family of My Wife

Burilla Williams, who has always been called "Rilla", was born on April 6, 1890, on a farm near Overton, a small settlement on the south bank of Missouri River several miles east of Boonville.

The earliest ancestors of which she has a record were her great-grandparents, Lewis Hawkins and Candice Thomas. Their children were: Moses, Samuel, Ann, Lucy Ellen, Mary, Crockett, William, James, Polk, Francis, Sarah and Elizabeth.

Lucy Ellen Hawkins married James Powell. Their children were: Alice Elizabeth, Talitha, John Lewis, and Mariam.

Alice Elizabeth Powell married John William Williams. Their children were: Belle, Claude Daniel, Oral Wilson, Minnie Lee and *Burilla*.

Thomas Williams (Burilla's other grandfather) married Elizabeth Pettus. Their children were: Nannie, Elizabeth, Daniel Dabney, John William, Sallie and Mary.

As stated above, John William Williams married Alice Elizabeth Powell.

Burilla's sisters and brothers were: Belle, who married Harrison Fluke, and their children were William Dixie (girl), who married Lesley Lucas; Stella May, who married James Wilbur Orton; and Harrison Llewellyn;

Claude Daniel married Elizabeth Smith and their children were: Mary Frances, who married George Ballowe; Alice Margaret, who married Richard Rosenthal; and Elizabeth Ann, who married George Bott;

Oral Wilson married Mary Geiser, and their child was Rilla Elizabeth, who married William Lightfoot;

Minnie Lee married James Aubrey Tackett, and their child was James Aubrey, Jr.

Burilla married William Wallace Cochran. Their descendents have already been listed.

## My Sister Mary Maurine

Maurine was five years younger than I. All through her life she had a lovable disposition and never had an enemy. At the time of our father's death she was in high school at Boonville. She and my mother came to Washington some months after his death and for a short time stayed with me and my wife. Later they had rooms elsewhere. Maurine, while in Washington, attended Central High School. In the summer of 1912 she and my mother moved back to Boonville. Maurine had met Bernard P. McCann in Washington and their romance culminated in their marriage in Boonville on August 31, 1914. They went to Washington to live and there her three children, already mentioned, were born.

In the 1940's and the years following Maurine had several illnesses and some operations and while able to do her housework, was in rather poor health most of the time.

After we bought our first Ford Model T automobile in 1923, it was our custom to go back to Boonville for a visit every two or three years. Some of these trips would coincide with visits by my mother and Maurine. They would go by train. Our many relatives in Missouri welcomed us and all of us had very enjoyable visits. In later years when our sons were grown and did not accompany us we would frequently take my mother and Maurine in the automobile with us.

In 1954 Maurine made a trip to Greece to visit her son, Richard, and his family. He was then in the U. S. Army and was stationed in Athens. Maurine sailed on the U. S. Constitution, landed at Naples and transferred to a smaller ship which took her to Piraeus, the seaport of Athens. There she was met by Richard. This was her first and only ocean voyage and was a great thrill for her.

Maurine became very ill in the late summer of 1958. An operation revealed that she had a malignant tumor in her abdomen, and the surgeon warned me that he was pessimistic as to her recovery. On his recommendation she was given massive treatments by X-ray. After she had taken twenty such treatments over a period of four weeks, the sarcoma was reduced

in size and she felt better. Then with the permission of her physician she went on the train to St. Louis, where my wife and I met her and took her up to Boonville. She had a wonderful visit with our kinfolks and seemed to feel pretty well. This was in the month of November, 1958.

We returned to Washington hopeful of her recovery. But early in the next year she began to suffer more pain. Further X-ray treatments only made her worse. She declined from then on and the end came on March 1, 1959 at Sibley Hospital.

Some weeks before Maurine entered the hospital for the last time, her neighbors wrote many letters to a local television station praising her as a good neighbor. As a result she received from the National Broadcasting Company a beautiful orchid. She did not know whom the orchid came from, or that her neighbors had written the letters. But a couple of days later a letter came to her from NBC explaining the tribute. This testimonial of her popularity with all who knew her was followed by a great outpouring of people at the funeral parlor where her body lay and by a large attendance at her funeral. All who knew Maurine regarded her as a person of fine personality and good nature. All loved her.

### More Trips to Europe

One day in the late summer of 1954, when I was visiting my son, Samuel William, and his family, I suggested in fun to my granddaughter, Ellen Elizabeth, who was then 20, that we take a trip to Europe. She took me up very seriously and her effervescent sister, Alice Ann, then 14, announced that she just must go, too. As a result of my casual remark we left New York about the middle of September on the Holland-American Line ship "Ryndam". We landed at Southampton, saw the sights of London, then went to Paris, from there to Heidelberg, then to Mainz, down the Rhine to Köln, by rail to Rotterdam and then by private car to The Hague, Delft, Leiden, Almeer, Amsterdam and back to Rotterdam. We returned to New York on the same Ryndam. This return voyage was in part through heavy seas and took about eleven days. We were very tired of the ship. We had been gone seven weeks.



The next trip was in 1957. This time I had with me my son, Samuel William, his wife, Margaret, and their son, William Wallace, II. In addition to all the places the girls and I visited on the previous trip, we toured southern England this time in a rented car, visiting Salisbury, Bath, Wells, and Oxford. This was a very enjoyable journey.

Leaving London, we went directly to Munich, where we enjoyed the Oktoberfest, then in progress. This is a yearly festival held in a large area in the city. There were seven large beer halls, each accommodating 7000 people. Each hall is maintained by one of Munich's breweries, Lowenbräu, Hofbräu, etc. A band on an elevated stand in the center of each hall plays continuously. The main activity is beer drinking. The beer is served in liter steins by Mädchen in picturesque costumes. We found the German people very sociable and full of gemütlichkeit, especially as the evenings progressed and beer got in its effect. With my fair knowledge of German we were able to converse with them a good deal.

On leaving Munich we rented a Volkswagen bus and drove through the Bavarian Alps to Berchtesgaden. The scenery was wonderful. Through the influence of a friend we were permitted to stay at a U. S. Army hotel, the General Walker, located half way up a mountain. Margaret and I also took a bus trip up to the Eagle's Nest, Hitler's hideout.

On the trip we had come over on a very fast ship, the Queen Mary, and had booked the return passage on the Nieuw Amsterdam, but the night before we were to sail, it caught fire and we had to return on the little "Ryndam." When we arrived back in New York about November 2, 1957, I had had enough of that ship.

My wife did not care to go with us on either of the two trips in 1954 and 1957, since she had gone to England in 1953 to the coronation of Elizabeth II and stayed for several weeks as the guest of Sir John and Lady Blake. Sir John was the head of the British Patent Office and they had previously visited us in Washington.

I cannot end this account without further mention of my two

sons, Samuel W. (Bill) and John P. (Jack), for I am very proud of both.

They attended the public schools of Washington, D. C. and graduated from McKinley High School, Bill in 1930 and John in 1931.

Bill, soon after his graduation, got a job as messenger in the Patent Office. The money he earned there was used to pay his way through night school at The George Washington University, from which he was graduated with the degrees of Bachelor of Science in Engineering and Bachelor of Laws. This, of course, took several years of hard work and strong perservance—working in the daytime and going to school at night. Shortly after taking these degrees he was admitted to the bar. Meanwhile he had been made an examiner in the Patent Office and gradually rose through the ranks until he was made a Law Examiner in 1949. In this position, which he now holds, he represents the Patent Office as attorney in numerous cases before the Federal Courts and also acts in the capacity of advisor to the Commissioner of Patents in many and varied legal matters arising in the Patent Office. In 1957 he was commissioned to visit the new German patent office at Munich and the Netherlands patent office at The Hague, to make a study of them and to report thereon. He was well received by the officials of these offices and his report to the Commissioner of Patents was published in the Journal of the Patent Office. His activities have made him known throughout the patent profession.

After finishing high school, John spent one year in the Engineering School of the University of Maryland. From 1932 to 1940 he worked for the Department of Agriculture. The last four years of this period were spent at Hereford, Texas, in the Soil Conservation Service. From 1940 to the middle of 1942, he was in the Chemical Warfare service and the Ordnance Department of the Department of War.

John was made a warrant officer in the Navy in 1942 and was sent to Portsmouth, Virginia. From there he was sent to the South Pacific in October, 1943. He returned, a Lieutenant (J.G.), in August, 1945, seriously ill with stomach ulcers, and was in the Bethesda Naval Hospital for some time.

Recovering from this illness, he went to work for Ford Motor Company at Detroit in July, 1946, as Buyer of Refractories and other maintenance materials, and all raw materials for steel plant and foundry.

Attending night school at Wayne University for five years, he graduated in 1952 with the degree of B.S. in Business Administration with honors.

In July, 1955, John left Ford and went to Cleveland to work for the Columbia Iron and Metal Company.

Now shortly after my seventieth anniversary, as I conclude this account, I must say that although I have had some hard times in my life, they are greatly outweighed by the many blessings I have received. My wife and I are in very good health. All our descendants, now numbering fifteen, are fine people. We wish for them and their descendants the good fortune that has attended us.