

Stalnaker Family
FILE FAM
OCT 14 1906

Pioneer Settlers of Webster

File 3, Dr-122
THE STALNAKER or
STALNECKER FAMILY

(Continued)

Jacob Sr., (4) came to the Tygart's Valley with his family in 1772, shortly after the murder of the Files family. (5) He secured titles to land in the pioneer way of "tomahawk right." We find among the grants in the State Auditor's office, Randolph County, Book 1, page 237, that Jacob, Sr., conveyed to his son, Jacob, Jr., 150 acres on October 25, 1780. Later this grant was conveyed to his brother Valentine by John Truby.

Records of the birth of Jacob, Sr., and his wife, Elizabeth, are unknown. Their sons were Jacob, Jr., Valentine, Adam, Samuel, John, Boston, Levi and Andrew.

Jacob, Sr., built his house on the hill in Beverly, Randolph County, later owned by his great grandson Daniel Baker, and it was made of logs taken from the old Westfall fort nearby.

Jacob Jr., (3) married Nancy, daughter of Joseph Channell, January 18, 1803. One son, Andrew (4) born in 1815, married Margaret, daughter of Adam Smith of Lewis County. They had Marcellus (5), Adam (5), Eunice (5), Newton (5), Kain (5), Mary E.

(4) Bosworth's "History of Randolph," p. 44 and p. 201.

(5) Withers' "Border Warfare" page 126. (5), Hanna (5), Caroline (5), Thaddeus (5), Henry (5), William (5) and Maragret (5).

Mary (3), sister of Jacob Jr., married John Meyers, March 28, 1803.

Valentine (3), son of Jacob Sr., married Catherine _____, and had George W. (4), Rebecca (4), Jacob (4), Isaac (4), and Abraham (4). His second wife was Lucertia Jenkins.

John (3), born November 6, 1805, married Susan Chenowith. They moved to Roane County in 1830 and reared and educated their six children.

It might be interesting to note

at Jacob Sr., and son Valentine, were both drawn on the first grand jury in Randolph County. -6- Prior to this, Beverly was in Harrison County. Jacob Sr. was chosen as surveyor of roads by the County Court in 1784, and from Jacob Westfall's Mill to Alexander Maxwell's "Old Place" collected all tithables for same. It is significant that at this early day that a farm be designated as "Old Place." -7-

The Stalnakers of Randolph and adjoining counties have served the country in both military and civil capacities. Those officers who fought in the War of 1812 were Captain William and Lieutenant George Stalnaker. George was appointed Justice of Randolph in 1814 and was sheriff of that county for several terms.

One of the most distinguished and outstanding descendants of Captain Samuel Stalnaker was Major Randolph Stalnaker. He was -6- Maxwell's History, page 191. -7- He was appointed Justice of the Peace, July 29, 1838, by the Governor of Virginia. Secretary of State from 1881 to 1885 and was a delegate to the Gold-Democratic Convention at Indianapolis in 1896. That convention elected him a national committeeman from his native state.

William (5), the oldest grandson of Jacob Jr., and son of Andrew (4) and Margaret (Smith) Stalnaker, was born in Randolph County, December 23, 1818. He married Elizabeth, a granddaughter of Salathiel Goff, near Beverly, West Virginia. They moved with their parents to Lewis County, now Gilmer County, in 1817.

William (5) and Nancy had twelve sons and daughters, as has been indicated. One son, Salathiel Goff Stalnaker (6) -8- married Frances Bush. They are the grandparents of Elva (7), who married Francis N. Sycamore, an able attorney of the Webster County bar. Elva is the mother of Mary Frances (8) and Richard (8). Richard saw plenty of action in World War II.

Margaret and B. Clark Stalnaker are removed to the sixth

generation from Samuel the pioneer. Margaret married Andrew C. Mace and lived in the Hatter Valley vicinity.

B. Clark married Elizabeth, daughter of Judge Charles McDodril and lived on Point Mountain. They had Ella, who married Glen Collett - two children, Glen Jr., and Shirley.

Randall married Lula Elbon; two sons, Robert and Randall, Jr.

Roland married Ida Jamrick - children: Leslie, Cheser, Ivan, Doris, Owen, Janice and Sylvia. - 8 - Randolph County History by Bosworth, page 8.

Mable married Brian Hamrick, and their children were: Avard, Winona, Teva and Kermit.

As was previously mentioned, Adam Stalnaker was murdered by Indians near Beverly, West Virginia in 1832. This savage warfare as an ally of Great Britain was condemned by two men of England, Burke and the Earl of Chatham. The pathetic cry of Chatham did much to remove the odium which civilized men everywhere felt for the conduct of Great Britain which he authenticated in this old age. "Who", he asked. "Who has dared to authorize our association in arms in America with the tomahawk and scalping knife of the Indians of the woods in civilized alliance?" Who is it that would set the murderous savage with scalping knife and faggot against our brother America? I call upon our Bishop to interpose against it the sanctity of their laws; I call upon the Prelates of your Holy Religion to stamp upon this infamous procedure - the indelible stigma of public abhorrence.

The advance of every pioneer on the frontier was a funeral march to them. With fatuous hope and courage, they went out to their tasks destined to woe and tribulation, that before the rise of another sun they might all be killed. The birthmark of tragedy had fallen upon them as suddenly as did the leprosy of Naman fall upon Gahazi. -9- But the days of tribulation for "border days" has long since

passed and gone; and we are rearing monuments and memorials to perpetuate the memory of their virtue and trials of which succeeding generations have become the beneficiaries under the will of a kind Providence, visible to all men. -9- II Kings, 5th Chapter. Verse 27.