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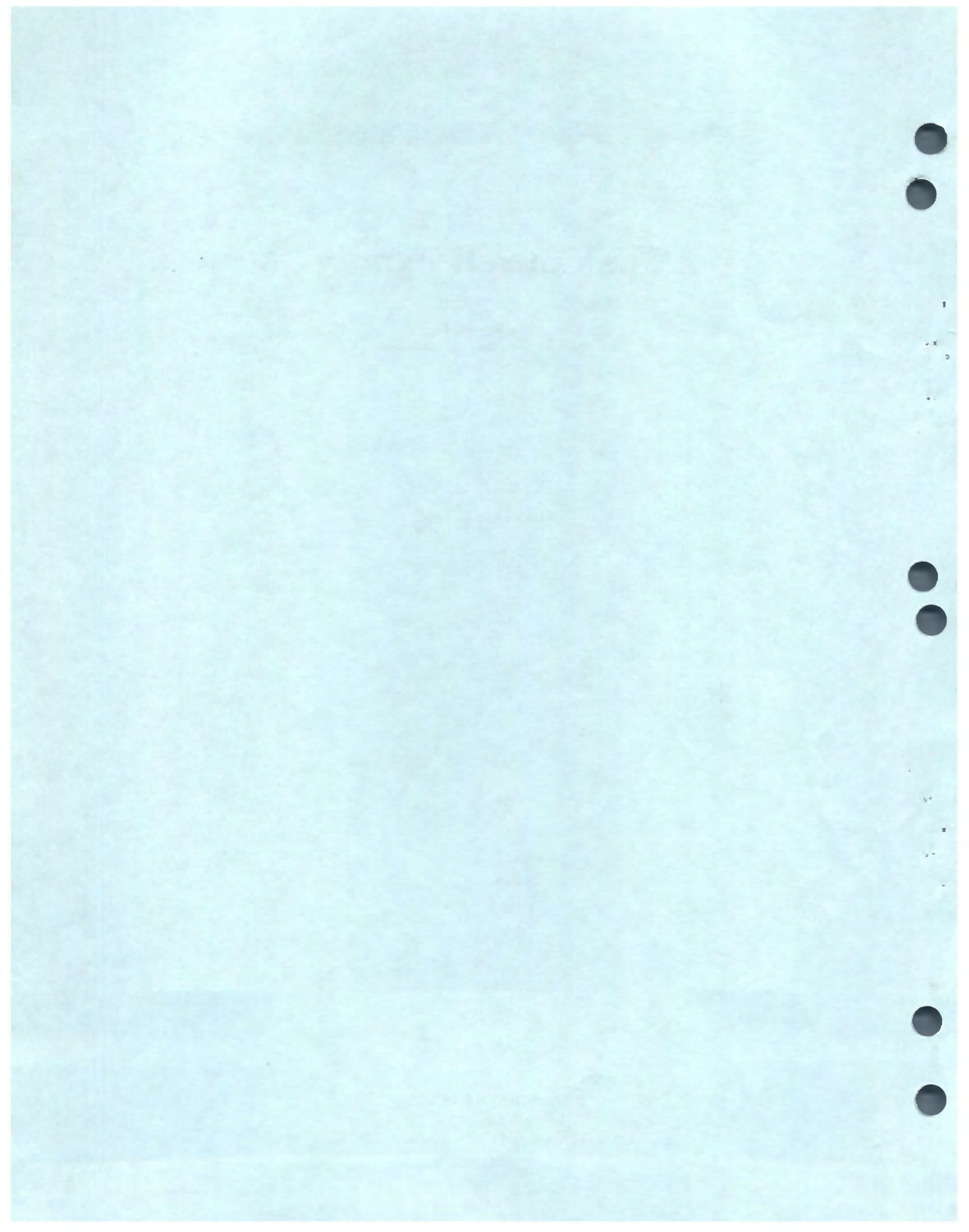
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The Cottrell Family

**and
The Search For
Elizabeth Catherine Anderson**

(Revised 1991)

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THE COTTRELL FAMILY
and
The Search for Elizabeth Catherine Anderson

By BOBBY ANDERSON

(Records for the present-day Cottrell family of Muhlenberg County were provided by Virginia Cottrell Cook of Newburgh, Ind. and Mary Cottrell Elder of Morgantown, Ky.)

* * *

Elizabeth Catherine Anderson (Cottrell) was born in north Logan County, near Union Grove in April, 1836. Her parents were James Leonard and Elizabeth (McFarlin) McFarland Anderson of Union Grove. Grandparents were Leonard Anderson, revolutionary war veteran and early Logan County settler, and his wife, Roseanna Hadden Anderson. Maternal grandparents were William and Nancy Winders (McFarlin) McFarland.

Catherine's father, James Leonard, the senior, was killed in 1841 when thrown by a horse. He reputedly was a jockey as well as a farmer. His death left Elizabeth Anderson with two small children, Catherine, seven, and James Leonard, the junior, five. (born Logan County, Aug. 9, 1838).

Subsequently Elizabeth re-married. Though no marriage record has been uncovered, her second marriage was to a Scarbrough, and two more children, Mary F. (1843) and Mecca (1846) were born to this union. Death, divorce or abandonment must have ended this marriage, though no vital statistics are available to tell us just which. Then on May 17, 1847, Elizabeth took a third husband, Butler County pioneer Henry B. Gardner, son of settler John A. Gardner. Henry B. had been previously married and had several children (Turner, Josh, Anne, Henry, Vardrie, James E., later to be a minister, and John) of his own. With Elizabeth, he became the father of Jesse, Polly (Jenkins) and Volney.

When Elizabeth died in about 1853, Elizabeth Catherine continued to live with her step-father and his family. James Leonard, the junior, soon moved on, to live in Muhlenberg County, to fight in the civil war and be seriously wounded, and to own and operate the first store at what is now Gus.

Elizabeth was known to be with Henry B. Gardner when he died in 1859. His will, written in the spring of that year leaves "the second choice horse on my farm" to Elizabeth Catherine Anderson. But it also leaves a deeper mystery, one which as yet has not been solved.

Henry B. Gardner, who wrote a beautiful, often poetic will, mentioned E. C.'s (Elizabeth Catherine's) son, Andrew J. Steele. Until the time when this will was discovered, there was no hint of such offspring. Search as searchers will, no marriage record for Elizabeth Catherine to a Steele has been found, although a Steele family lived next door to the Gardner family. Search was made in the logical Muhlenberg, Butler and Logan counties, as well as surrounding counties and in some Indiana counties, where Elizabeth Catherine was later found to have lived. No death records for any Steele which could have been a husband or a son have been found.

This leaves only a choice of several logical conclusions;
1--She was married to a Steele, but no records are visible.
2--The child was illegitimate, though in most cases, illegitimate children were given their mother's surname.
3--The child had been adopted, or taken in as a ward by Elizabeth Catherine, sometime after she reached her legal majority in 1857. In any case, Andrew J. Steele never again appeared in census record with Elizabeth Catherine, or in any other home found to date.

Whichever of these, the reverent Henry B. Gardner accepted the child as a part of his family, and thought enough of the child to mention him in his final will.

Henry B. Gardner died in 1859 and is buried in the Gardner Cemetery east of New Hebron Church and overlooking Mud River.

For many years after that, the whereabouts and fate of Elizabeth Catherine Anderson was a deep family mystery. Also remaining a mystery, is the Steele connection.

The daughter of James Leonard Anderson, the junior, Suvarah Jane Anderson Arnold, who died in 1944, often talked of her Aunt Catherine, but knew nothing of her except that she was believed to have married a Cottrell, and lived in Indiana. According to "Aunt Suvarah", Catherine had gone to Indiana either to visit friends living there, or to stay with friends, who had need of her domestic services. There she married "the Cottrell".

Several years ago, this writer, who is a great-great-nephew of Elizabeth Catherine Anderson Cottrell began a not-to-exhaustive search for Catherine. A year ago, after writing the Anderson family history, the mystery of Catherine haunted the writer into making a more exhaustive search. The results were that the marriage license of Elizabeth Catherine Anderson to Thomas Cottrell was found in Indiana. Their residency was also found to be there in 1860. They were discovered to be living in Logan County, Ky. in 1880, and in Muhlenberg County prior to 1885. Though this is not the chronological order in which the discoveries were made, all of the results and the order of their discovery will be found in this rather complete history of the Cottrell family.

* * *

Thomas Cottrell, we shall learn, is the forebear of all Cottrells in and around Muhlenberg County. He was born in Liverpool, England in April, 1834.

Family tradition states that two or three older brothers had come to America prior to Thomas' migration. One had settled in either Virginia or West Virginia, another in southern Indiana, a third went to parts unknown. However, we hope to show that at least two or three of the brothers were living in Warrick County, Ind. in the 1860s.

When Thomas left for America, he was but very young man. His parents reportedly pleaded in vain for him to remain at home with them. Even to the point, one source says, of wading into the ocean beside the ship he had boarded, to offer one final plea for him to stay.

The next record we have of Thomas Cottrell is in January, 1860, when on the 31st day of that month, and in that year, he married Elizabeth Catherine Anderson in Boonville, Warrick County, Ind.

We have no record to show how long he had been in Warrick

County when he met and married Catherine Anderson. We do know that in 1860, when the census taken, he and she were residing in Campbell township, which is just north of Chandler, in Warrick County. Their address was in the community of Millersburg, a point which will be more firmly established in later paragraphs.

The 1870 censuses of Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, Illinois and Missouri do not reveal their presence to us, but in 1880, Thomas and Catherine and three children, Mary, Annie and Jim, were living in the Fillmore district of Logan County, Ky., near to the town of Homer. On Sept. 10, 1885, their daughter, Mary Cottrell married Franklin P. Fleming, and listed her parents as Tom and Catherine, and the site of her marriage as at her father's home near Skilesville. This of course established the Cottrells as residents of Muhlenberg County at this time.

The 1900 census then shows them in the Skilesville precinct. Also church records at Union (Simmons) Chapel reveal their presence, as do other marriages and deaths.

Knowing that they were alive in Muhlenberg County in 1900, and that they are listed in no vital statistics records after 1911 when such records became mandatory by state law, we can only surmise that Tom and Elizabeth died sometime between 1900 and 1911. A Union Chapel minute book lists "Tom Cottrell died", but gives no date. However, the entry was listed between a 1908 entry and one made in 1913, further narrowing the date of Tom's death to a period between 1908 and 1911. No hint is given of Catherine's death date.

Family members say they are buried at Union Chapel near Skilesville, with other members of the family. No rock locates their grave. However, according to a great-granddaughter, Mary Elder, plans are underway to erect a monument to their memory at or near to their burial site.

Mary Elder also shared a story handed down through the generations. This concerns her great-grandfather, Thomas of Liverpool, England. Seems that Tom had a dog named Scott. Tom loved the dog, but Scott was notorious for killing chickens. Finally, the last straw came. Tom grew exasperated with Scott. In his English brogue, he called, "'ere, Scott. 'ere, Scott, and the dog came running. Tom hanged the dog from a nearby tree. Fitting end to chicken killer, don't you think?

* * *

A year ago, armed only with her name, her birth year and her parents' name, this writer began in earnest the search for Elizabeth Catherine Anderson. Other clues included "Cottrell", "Indiana" and a remembrance of how 40 years ago another Tom Cottrell (the original Thomas' grandson), this one living at Drakesboro, had told me we were related. It meant little then since I had more kinfolk than I needed and wasn't at all interested in genealogy. But it became a clue in later years.

One of the most startling finds came while I was reading a history ("Let the Deed Shaw", by James Richard Fleming) of the Fleming family of Muhlenberg County (Elizabeth Catherine's brother, James Leonard, married Mollie Fleming). Since the name Cottrell was rarely found in old documents, my attention was sharpened when I found the name Tom Cottrell on a document which was drawn to aid the widow of Jesse D. Fleming in obtaining Fleming's Civil War pension.

Dated in Butler County, Kentucky, the document read, "in the matter of Zilpha Fleming, widow of Jesse D. Fleming, Co. G., 1 Indiana Volunteer Cavalry, Original. Claim No. 370 766 (Act. July 14, 1862).

"Personally appeared before me, J. Van S. Tatum, a notary public in and for the state and county aforesaid, Thomas Cottrell, age 65, and wife, E. C. Cottrell, aged 63 years, who being duly sworn, declares as follows, P. O., Skilesville, Muhlenberg County, Ky., that they were in the state of Indiana during the lifetime of the soldier Jesse D. Fleming, and do positively know that the claimant, Zilpha Fleming lived with him up to the date of his death, Sept. 11, 1864. This marrigable (sic) union was one of peace and harmony. We visited the house often, lived in 3/4 miles of them and part of the time lived in Millersburg, Ind. close to them and saw them many times a week, sometime every day. Furthermore, in response to No. 1 requisition of Feb. 1, 1899, we say that we were at the sale of personal effects of said Jesse D. Fleming and could show the place of his interment at cemetery at Wesley Chapel, Warrick Co., Ind."

It took a while for the full impact of the document to soak in. Then it came to light that E. C. Cottrell could well be Elizabeth Catherine. A check of her birth record showed that she would be 63 years of age in 1899 when the instrument was drawn. This must be the Elizabeth Catherine Anderson Cottrell I was looking for.

Further into the same book, another document of the same nature and for the same reason, was signed by Tom and E. C. Cottrell.

"We know the attending physician of Jesse D. Fleming, Dr. Runcey, is dead, and therefore no affidavit from (him) could be made. This statement made and written by J. Van S. Tatum, this July 27, 1889. We further certify that we have no interest in the prosecution of this case and are not concerned in its action. Witness and signatures, this July 27, 1899, Thomas Cottrell, E. C. Cottrell".

The documents revealed two or three important facts. Tom Cottrell's wife was E. C., possibly Elizabeth Catherine. They had lived in Indiana, but now (1899) lived in Skilesville, Muhlenberg County, Ky.

A short while later, the writer received a printed copy of the 1900 census of Muhlenberg County. There on page 128, in the Paradise magisterial district, close to the Skilesville voting precinct was listed a Thomas Cottrell and his wife, Catherine. Catherine's birthmonth was listed, April, 1836. Bingo! The same as Elizabeth Catherine Anderson.

It was there that a closer examination of marriage records in Muhlenberg began. One, that of Mary E. Cottrell, listing Tom and Catherine as parents, was found at Greenville. She had married Franklin P. Mefford. Franklin Mefford's list in the 1900 census showed him with two children, Fleming W. Mefford, 13, and Mary F. Mefford, 10. Back to Tom and Catherine. Their listing in the census revealed a grandson, Jessie F. Mefford, six, living with them. The child of Mary E. and Franklin P. Mefford. But where was Mary? A statistical listing beside Franklin P. Mefford's name, indicated he was divorced. Yet no divorce papers have been found, and no death record for Mary. That statistics still needs much research, though some light was to be shed a little later.

Another daughter, Annie, married William Yoman Knight, according to Cottrell marriage statistics at Greenville. The Knight family lived nearby, according to census records. The fact

that Annie married W. Y. Knight in 1887 at the home of her father, Tom Cottrell, near Skilesville, as the marriage license revealed, proved Annie to be the child of Tom and Catherine also.

Now it was time to explore the existing Cottrell's in Muhlenberg County to find their connection to Tom and Catherine. The first call was to Alva Cottrell at Beechmont. He knew, for instance, that his great-grandfather, Thomas Cottrell, had come from England, a fact that was listed also in the census, but by self-admission, knew little of the family background. However, Alva did refer us to an excellent source, Mary Cottrell Elder in Morgantown. Through several months of family search, she was able to provide a complete list of the known children and grandchildren of Tom Cottrell, including her own grandfather, James Richard (Jim) Cottrell. One fact was missing with her, she did not know who Tom's wife was. We were able to provide at least our hunch, to her, that she was Elizabeth Catherine Anderson, a fact which delighted Mary, since we were able to give her extensive background on the Anderson side of family.

Similar help came from Virginia Cottrell Cook, a sister of the aforementioned Alva, and a daughter of James Alva Cottrell, son of James Richard and grandson of Tom and Catherine. Virginia, incidentally, is a former classmate of the writer, at Hughes-Kirk.

But important facts were still missing.

If, when and where were Tom and Catherine married?

The clue came that they were living in Millersburg, Warrick County, Ind. in the 1860s. Also, the 1900 census statistic record noted they had been married 41 years. That would have been 1859, or early 1860. Another fact, Mary and Annie, their daughters, listed Indiana as their birthplaces, when they each applied for a marriage license.

Check Warrick County, Ind. the facts at hand told us.

Once in Warrick County, it took less than five minutes to find the license. The first book produced an index to "Cottrell-Anderson", page number and all. The facts are:

Thomas Cottrell married Catherine Anderson on Jan. 31, 1860 in Warrick County, Ind. The clerk at the courthouse was Joseph Master, and the justice of the peace who performed the ceremony was J. H. Massie. The license was returned and properly filed on Feb. 10, the same year.

Other Cottrells who married in Warrick County during the time frame were:

John to Malinda Ellis, March 24, 1879;

Richard D. to Mary Ann Conner, May 24, 1883

John E. to Ida M. Taylor, March 26, 1887;

George N. to Dolley E. Cook, Sept. 12, 1890;

Edward C. to Mary M. Woods, Feb. 23, 1893 and

John Alfred Cotterill to Edith Gertrude Cottrell, Feb. 5, 1901.

Among Cottrell women applying for marriage licenses were:

Malinda to James Trimble, Martha J. to William O. Campbell, Mary N. to Isaac N. Ferguson and Nellie M. to Frederick A. Deweese.

In the 1860 census, as stated, we found Thomas, 25, who was born in England, and Catherine, 24, born in Kentucky, living in Campbell township.

Also, and this is important in that the others found, are possibly the brothers of Thomas who came to America before Tom arrived. In Campbell township also were:

John, 30, a farm laborer, was born in England, and wife,

Eleanor, 24, also born in England. They had a child, Elizabeth, three months old, born in Indiana.

Richard, 39, a farmer (same farm as John), born in England, and wife, Charlotte, 41, born in England also.

In 1870, only Richard and Charlotte were still there. They each were listed as 50, and had a farm hand, James Field, 16, living with them.

In 1880, John had returned. Eleanor apparently had died, and his new wife was Malinda (note earlier marriage license to Malinda Ellis in 1879). He had his own children, George W. 12, and Martha, 10, as well as step-children, Samuel N. Ellis, 13, Zilpha A., 17, and Columbus, 25.

Richard, 69, and Charlotte, 70, still lived there, and with them, a nephew, John E. Cottrell, 16, and a niece, Mary, 13.

The census of 1840 in Indiana lists a Tom Cottrell living in Park County, as well as a Joshua and Linsey Cottrell there. In Cass County, there was a Joseph, and in St. Joseph, a Phebe and a Samuel. Britton and Joseph Cottrell lived in Montgomery County and John in Madison County.

In Warrick, Richard died on April 12, 1886 and his wife, Charlotte, six days later, on April 18. They are buried in Asbury Cemetery, in Campbell township. No Cottrells, if buried at Millersburg, where Tom and Catherine lived, have markers.

(It might be worthy to note here that Mary Elder, a great-granddaughter of Thomas and Catherine Cottrell, has learned from a friend who was in service in England, that there is a Cottrell family cemetery near Liverpool, England.)

Meantime, Tom and Catherine had dropped from view. We had them in 1860 in Indiana, and in 1885, 1887 and 1900 in Muhlenberg. But where were they in 1870 and 1880?

Checks were made in census records in Indiana, Ohio, Illinois and Missouri, logical places for migrant farm hands, if indeed they were. In Kentucky, the counties of Muhlenberg, Butler, Ohio, McLean, Daviess, Hancock and Henderson were checked.

"Why don't you try Logan?", my wife, Logie, suggested, meaning that Catherine had come from Logan County, and that being familiar with the area and possibly having friends or relatives there, she might have returned to familiar surroundings. If she and Tom were looking for a home or employment, familiar territory might have beckoned.

The census of 1870 yielded nothing, but in 1880, Tom and Catherine Cottrell were found in the Fillmore district of north Logan County, near Homer, where Tom as listed as a wagonmaker. He was now 46, she 44, and with them, three children: Mary E., 15, James R., 19, and Annie, 13. All were listed as having been born in Kentucky. If that last statement is to be interpreted as correct, then Tom and Catherine had returned to some area of Kentucky before Nov. 5, 1860, for that is when James Richard was born. On the other hand, they swore in an affidavit, that they lived in Millersburg, Ind. in 1864, when they knew Jesse D. Fleming. And, as stated earlier, the girls in the family stated on their marriage license applications that they were born in Indiana. Likely, the error is in their statement about where their children were born. There are no known records to prove or disprove either theory.

These three children are the only ones found in later records. The 1900 statement on the census records that Elizabeth Catherine had borne seven children, but only three survived, indicated four

more pregnancies for her in this marriage, with four of the children being either still born or had died at a young age. No records support this theory, either. But, if there were other children, no member of the present family knows about them.

Thus, the three member of Tom and Elizabeth Catherine Anderson Cottrell's family we will be following are Mary E. (Mefford), Annie (Knight) and James Richard Cottrell, who had children by two marriages.

* * *

JAMES RICHARD COTTRELL

James Richard Cottrell, known in later years in his community as "Uncle Jim" was born in Indiana, probably Warrick County, on Nov. 5, 1860, in the first year of the marriage of his parents, Tom and Catherine Cottrell.

He was a school teacher, a farmer, a strong figure in his church, twice married and the father of 13 children. He was also, according to family members and community legend, one who sometime salted his conversation as little too heavily with profanity. Once, at Simmons (Union) Chapel, according to these sources, he was removed from the fellowship of the church briefly because of the "salt" in his conversation. For instance, once in the Simmons Chapel church minute book it was noted that on May 21, 1901, "Bro. J. R. Cottrell, who was excluded at last meeting, has returned for a new hearing, which was granted". No further record was found to indicate the outcome of the hearing, but it was known that he continued in the fellowship of the church for many years, until his death on July 25, 1925.

Mary Elder, in reviewing the Cottrell history, noted that even though Jim Cottrell was quick tempered and "salted" his conversation with some profanity, especially in his younger days, "he never held a grudge".

According to Robert and Carmen Knight Mercer, who live on adjoining property near Skilesville, the Cottrell family farm was located near the lake bridge on Highway 70, west of Skilesville. The property is now owned, they say, by Pauline (Mrs. Chuck) Robinson. The Cottrells sold the farm about 1912, according to the Mercers.

James R. Cottrell's first marriage was to Nancy Lucretia Lee of the Sandy Creek community of Butler County. To them were born six children, James Alva, Thomas, Stella Mae, Ruth, (the Rev.) Charles Richard and Terry Willis. The second marriage was to Teresa (Hays) Simmons of near Rochester. They were the parents of eight children, to be listed later.

He met his first wife, Nancy, after he left the Muhlenberg County home of his parents to teach school at Alum Springs, in Butler County. There he courted and married Nancy on March 6, 1884. She was not quite 17 years of age when they married, her birthdate being Aug. 31, 1867.

Nancy was the daughter of Charles Devoe Lee, Sr. and Mary Ruth Galloway Lee. Her father was the son of James Lee of Virginia, said to be a cousin of Confederate General Robert E. Lee, and of Sarah Mary Turner of South Carolina.

Jim returned to Muhlenberg County, bringing with him, his young bride. Their first born was James Alva, on Dec. 1, 1884. Stella was born on Aug. 14, 1888; Thomas on March 2, 1891; Ruth in

April, 1894; Charles Richard on March 7, 1896 and the youngest, Terry Willis in 1898.

Nancy was described by those who knew her as "a small, pretty woman, with light brown hair".

Nancy took ill with pneumonia while helping chink a cabin with mud on a cold January day. She died on Feb. 22, 1899 and was returned to her Butler County home at Sandy Creek for burial.

According to the unofficial Cottrell historian, Mary Elder of Morgantown, James Richard met young Teresa (Trecie Jane) Hays Simmons at his first wife's funeral. Just a month after Nancy's death, Jim and Trecy Jane were married on March 25, 1899 in Butler County. Trecy Jane was born on July 27, 1877 and died on Oct. 28, 1926. She is buried beside Jim at Union Chapel Church cemetery.

Their children included: John William, thought to have been born in 1901; Jessie, in 1902; Benjamin (Ed) in 1903; Vechil Harvey in 1906; Clara Bell on July 30, 1911, Alfred in 1917(?) and two daughters, Nora and Elsie, who have no listed birth or death dates.

* * *

The Families Extended

Here is a thumbnail sketch of each of the 14 children, according to family, marriage, and death records.

Jim and Nancy's children:

(1) JAMES ALVA COTTRELL was born on Dec. 1, 1884 and died Feb. 14, 1972. He married Ethel Elva Arndell (1-9-1895 to 1-5-1985) on March 23, 1916. Their children include:

(a) Mildred Dorisleen, (11-18-1917 to 11-21-1967) married the Rev. John Monroe Dye (9-11-1883 to 10-5-1967) on Sept. 21, 1943.

(b) Louis Newman (1918-1988) married Augusta Whitaker in 1951.

(c) Audrea Viven (1921-1930).

(d) Ollie Josephine, born Aug. 16, 1923 and married Hershel Knight in 1944. She died Aug. 31, 1989, leaving two son, Jerry of Dawson Springs and Herschel of Beechmont.

(e) Virginia Imogene, born 1925, married a Cook and now lives in Newburgh, Ind.

(f) Edna Earleen, born 1928, married Paul Downing in 1947.

(g) Ethel Elva, born 1931, married a Schroader.

(h) Robert Henry was born and died in 1933.

(i) Alva, Jr., born 1936, lives in Beechmont, where he is a barber. He married Donna Lavina Beliles in 1961. They have three children, Regina Martin, Tony and Dana.

(j) Melton Harrilson, 1939-1962. He was married to Velma June Hill, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Hill of Drakesboro, and was killed in a car wreck near Central City in 1962.

STELLA MAE COTTRELL (Knight) was born Aug. 14, 1888 and died Oct. 26, 1975. She married Carlus Baren Knight (8-29-1877 to 3-29-1943) in 1903. Carlus was the son of Presley Martin (Mart) Knight, a brother to W. Y. Knight, who had earlier married Stella's aunt, Annie Cottrell.

Their children include:

(a) Walter (Buck) Knight, who married a teacher, Lucille

Campfield. Buck is deceased. Lucille is re-married and still lives at Knightsburg. Their children include a son, Donald and a daughter, Bonnie (Mrs. Gordon Ray Harris) now living in northern Indiana.

b) Theodore B. Knight (5-22-1914 to 3-20-1965). He was married to Nellie Ester Sumner, who was born March 4, 1910. Theodore will be remembered for an injury he sustained in Cedar Lake, Ind., when he dived into Cedar Lake, hit bottom and broke his neck. He was paralyzed from the neck down. When Theodore professed his faith, he was baptized in Green River at Rochester, with the help of mechanical devices and many friends to help lower him into the water. More than 1,500 people witnessed the baptizing. This was probably the largest group ever to witness a baptizing in Muhlenberg County. Theodore has two sons, Albert Ray and Elbert Leslie. Albert lives at his late father's home. Albert married Patricia Lorene Morris from near Cleaton in 1957. They have four children, Vicki Rene, Teddy Albert, Torey Dawn and Delbert Leslie. Vicki married Ricky Lynn Knight, son of James (Jam-up) and Ida Dale Gorham Knight and lives at Drakesboro. Teddy Albert married Donna Pendley, and they also live at Drakesboro. Torey Dawn married Roger (Boonie) Piper. They, too live at Drakesboro. The youngest, Delbert Leslie, married Debra Baize of Bremen, and they live at Bremen.

(c) Nellie Mae (12-11-1911 to 8-30-1953). She was never married.

(d) Louise (12-26-1921 to 12-23-1947) married a Cook. She was killed in an automobile accident while returning from Owensboro. The car in which she was riding was struck by a train at a crossing, killing Louise, and her sister-in-law, Edith, while seriously injuring her brother, Hubert (Red) Knight. Hubert lost an arm in the accident. Louise had two children, who, after Louise's death, lived with an aunt, Carrie (Mrs. Ray) Parker.

(e) Hubert was born in 1909 and died in 1985. His wife, Edith was born in 1913 and died in 1947.

(f) Herman L. Knight married Margaret Whitaker and lives near Ennis. They have three children, Steve, Herman Daniel and Debra. Steve married Connie Patton, and has one daughter. Dannie has two children, Dannie and Reta, by his first wife, Birtha; two, Michelle and Joey, by his second wife, Kathy Turner, and presently is married to the former Janice Wells. Debra married Lee Ellison, and has one daughter, Sheral. They are also divorced. Debbie recently graduated from Madisonville Community College and now works in Lexington. She is remarried to Donald Sadler. Several members of this family live near Rochester, on the Muhlenberg County side of the river.

(g) Floyd Lehman Knight, deceased.

THOMAS COTTRELL was born March 2, 1891 and died March 31, 1953. He was married to Clara B. Lee, his cousin. Clara was born Feb. 24, 1895 and died Feb. 18, 1976. (Note: Clara's mother, Inez Annette, was also married to her cousin, Henry Jordan Lee.) Tom and Clara's children include:

(a) Esteleen, who married a Maxfield and is now widowed. She lives in Rochester, and has five sons.

(b) Richard Lee married Lillian Schroader. He is deceased.

(c) Mae, married Roy Fred Carruthers and lives in Bowling Green.

(d) Dorothy Helen, born May 24, 1923, was killed in a car wreck on Sept. 18, 1962. She is buried near her parents at Forest

Grove.

RUTH (or Rutha) M. COTTRELL was born in April, 1894, according to the 1900 Butler County census. She died in 1910.

REV. CHARLES RICHARD COTTRELL was born March 7, 1896 and died Feb. 17, 1952. He married Eunice Mae Arndell, daughter of Nathan A. and Bertha Ann Hughes Arndell on Aug. 10, 1916. Eunice was born Sept. 22, 1902 and is now residing in a nursing home in Hartford. Their wedding was at the Riverside Baptist Church, where Charles was also ordained to preach. Conducting their wedding was the Rev. Emanuel Grimes. Charles is buried at Riverside. Their children:

(a) Nancy Margery, born May 11, 1919, and died Dec. 10, 1976. She married Jackson Raymond Goodman in March, 1937. He died in 1972. They had one daughter, Jo Anna (Clark). Jo Anna now has four sons, plus a daughter in her first marriage. The daughter, Tammie Lynn Hurley Goodman Williams, is married to Robert Gayle Williams, son of Robert and Ruth Williams. Tammie, a registered nurse, lives near Ennis and has two sons and a daughter.

(b) Paul Edward, born Jan. 9, 1922, died in January, 1972 in Arizona. He is buried there. He married Bernice Jean Fentress, who died in 1987. Their daughter, Thelma Jean Chalifoux of Wheatfield, Ind. has three sons. A son, Paul Edward, Jr., is not married, and lives in Arizona.

(c) Estell, was born June 12, 1924 and died June 30, 1984 at Henderson, where she is buried. She married William Rhonda Whobrey of Dundee. Their four children are James Cornell, Marilyn Joan Gregorash, Ronald David and Rita Elaine Rhodes. Cornell has one son. Joan has five sons and a daughter. Ronald has one son, lives in Henderson and works for the Salvation Army. Rita has two sons and a daughter.

(d) Alda Louise was born Dec. 2, 1926 and married James Lewis Brooks of Fordsville, now deceased. They have three sons and three daughters, Brenda Darlene, Linda Charlene, Jamie Leo, James Robert, Janice and John Timothy, all living in Gary, Ind.

(e) Henry Lee was born July 24, 1929 and died Nov. 24, 1967. He married Ruby Marlowe of Fordsville. They have three sons, Larry Wayne, William Richard and Robert Samuel, and a daughter, Sharon Lee.

(f) Lawrence B., a Baptist minister, was born April 23, 1932. He married Thelma Gay Ziglar of Dundee. They have a son, Mark, who married Lisa Phillips of Hartford. Lawrence lives in Beaver Dam. Mark, Lisa and their daughter, Brandy Nicole live in Owensboro.

(g) John J. Cottrell, born Aug. 31, 1934 (?). He married Nelda Fentress of Narrows, Ky. on Feb. 13, 1955. They have three sons, Charles Leslie, Stephen and Christopher.

(h) Mary Elizabeth was born July 20, 1937. She married Jesse D. Elder, on June 5, 1955. Jesse was born March 10, 1930. They live at Eden in Butler County near Morgantown, and Mary is a columnist (Eden's View) for the Butler County Banner and the Green River Republican, in addition to her employment with the Butler County Board of Education. Jesse and Mary have two sons, Jesse Dale, born May 9, 1956 and Richard Avery, born May 16, 1959. A son, Martin Thomas, was still born on Jan. 22, 1971.

Mary was born in Dundee in Ohio County, John J. in Butler County and the others in Muhlenberg County. "Our father was a

Baptist minister", Mary explains, "and preachers move around quite a bit".

TERRY WILLIS COTTRELL, born in 1898, died in 1964. He was married to Zellie Harper in 1923. She was the daughter of Mose and Maggie Pogue Harper of Browder. Their only child was James Earl Cottrell. Zellie died when James was about two years old. Terry did not re-marry. James and his wife, (Janetta Lou English) live near Belton, and are the parents of five children. Steve is married and has one son; Mary Beasley, who has two children; Linda Travis, two children and Donna Farley, one son. A fifth child, Pat is deceased.

* * *

James Richard Cottrell, described as "of short stature, very nice looking with black curly hair and dark eyes" was also said to be a mixture of "a very reverent man, but sometime with a quick temper, but a forgiving spirit". By his second marriage, he was the father of eight children, who were:

Jim and Teresa's children:

(1) John William was born in 1901 and died Oct. 1, 1953. He married Clara Belcher. Their children include Mabel, John Jr. and Frank. His second wife was Cynthia Nevaline Parker of Hopkins County. Their children included Christine (Thomas), Jane, Wilma, Peggy and Jackie Donald. Peggy lived only one day, and another child, John William, Jr. was stillborn. John is buried at Union Chapel.

(2) Jessie, born 1902, must have died at a young age, as no one in the family has information concerning him.

(3,4) There were also two daughters who died at young ages. They were Nora and Elsie, though there are no dates as to their births or deaths.

(5) Benjamin (Ed) was born Dec. 1, 1903 and died Dec. 1, 1955. He married Mossie Mae Fleming Jan. 25, 1925. They were divorced.

His second marriage was on Nov. 11, 1933 to Flosie Harper, sister to Zellie Harper, who married Terry Cottrell. She is deceased. He had no children by either of his first two marriages. A third marriage was to Dorothy Elizabeth Reed in 1937. She still lives in Greenville. He is buried at Union Chapel. Ed has a son, Frank, who lives in Hawesville. Other children are Billie, Jimmy, Betty and George.

(6) Vechil Harvey, who died in 1967, was born in 1906. He married Jessie E. Travis (born 1902) on Nov. 27, 1925. She was the daughter of John and Minnie Bivins Travis. A son, Floyd, married Velma Hawkins. Other children include Bill, Harvey, Jr., and Barbara, who married Marion Daczynske in 1951.

(7) Clara Bell, born July 30, 1911, married Alvin Goodman on Aug. 31, 1931. They had no children. She died in 1988 in Louisville.

(8) Alfred, born about 1917, married Viola Tucker of Beech Creek on Jan. 29, 1939. She was the daughter of John and Gertrude Arnold Tucker. Children of Alfred and Viola are Alfreda who married Dallas Jones in 1959 and Mary, who married Dennis Baker in 1955. Alfred, a barber, is deceased. His widow re-married Lucky Vincent, who is also deceased.

Another Cottrell family story, shared by Mary Elder, who learned it from a cousin, Esthelene Cottrell Maxfield of Rochester involves their Uncle Harvey and their granddad, James Richard Cottrell. It was said that as a young man, Harvey was making, or attempting to make, moonshine in the attic of James Richard's home.

"Uncle Tom's wife, Aunt Clara", Mary relates, "went over to cook a meal. She fired up the wood cook stove. Over the stove, on boards laid across the attic joists, there was a barrel of Uncle Harvey's mash. As the heat rose up, so did the mash. It soon began to work and bubble over. Some dropped (through the ceiling) down onto granddad's head. He looked out the window and said, 'Hell, it can't be rainin', th' damn sun's shinin'.'

He quickly learned what was going on and upstairs he went, kicked the barrel over and mash ran everywhere."

James Richard, a well educated man for his time, was said to have, on many occasions, talk in rhymes. Once, he sat down on a bed, which immediately fell to the floor with him. He said:

"Chicken pie, pepper tea;
This damn bed fell down with me!"

* * *

MARY E. COTTRELL

The second child of Tom and Catherine Cottrell was Mary E. (probably Elizabeth) born in 1865 in Indiana.

Mary married Franklin P. Mefford on Sept. 10, 1885 at her father's home near Skilesville (Book 15, Page 434) She listed her parents as Tom Cottrell, born in England and Catherine Anderson, born in Logan County. The marriage was performed by the Rev. David J. Fleming, later to be county judge.

There are no further records to be found on Mary E. Cottrell Mefford. The 1900 census of Muhlenberg County reveals Franklin P. Mefford with two children, living in the Knightsburg community. They are Fleming W. Mefford, born November, 1886 and Mary F. Mefford, born June 16, 1889. A third child, believed to be the son of Mary and Frank, Jessie F. Mefford, born February, 1894, was living with Tom and Catherine Cottrell in 1900, and was listed as their grandchild.

A statistical note in the census for Franklin P. Mefford showed him to be divorced. However, no divorce papers have been found for the couple, and no death record for Mary is available. It is almost as if she just disappeared from any statistical listings. Yet it is believed she died prior to 1900, with no record of her death being made.

Franklin P. Mefford was born in June, 1853 in Kentucky. In 1880 he was living in a Kimmel home, was 26, and a farm laborer. His parents were Andrew and Nancy Mefford. No death records are shown for him either, though family tradition has it that he was married again after 1900. He had a stepdaughter, Janie Jenkins Davis. Her son, Nolan Davis was the father of Jean Davis, who was first married to Wendell Arndell of near Ennis, and is presently married to C. T. Turner also of near Ennis.

There are no records or information available as to what happened to Mary's and Frank's two boys, Fleming W. and Jessie F. However, we do know the ultimate fate of the daughter, Mary F. Mary's middle name was Frances, and she was to be called Fannie.

She married Alonzo (Lon) Brister on Dec. 13, 1904 in Muhlenberg County. Lon was born in Ohio. At least one child, Ora, was born to them, on Oct. 8, 1905. She died on Oct. 3, 1906, and is buried at Union Chapel. Fannie had died prior to the death of her daughter, this event occurring on Feb. 3, 1906. She is also buried at Union Chapel.

Lon's second marriage was to a Howerton. It is not recorded as to when this marriage occurred, or how many children were born to this marriage. Lon Brister died, and is buried at Union Chapel. The exact date is not certain, because the marker is broken. It reads June 1, 1973, with the date being partially obscured. However, we know that Lon was 27 when he married in 1904, and by this, that he was probably born in 1877. His marker reads that he was 90 years old when he died, so the best guess as to his death year is about 1967--so possibly the date which is broken is either 1963 or 1973.

It is hoped that some members of the Franklin and Mary Cottrell Mefford family, or the Brister family will fill in some of the missing information, that the researcher has not yet been able to document.

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ANNIE COTTRELL

The third living child of Tom and Catherine Cottrell was Annie, who was born in April, 1867. She married William Yomen Knight on Aug. 19, 1887 (Muhlenberg Marriage Book 16, Page 495) at her father's home. W. Y. Knight was the son of J. F. and Mary Knight. W. Y. Knight was born in August, 1864, and was a blacksmith by trade.

Children of Annie and W. Y. Knight included Annie Pearl, William Y., Richard Edward, Elmer Alvin, Josephine, Zelmer (Reen), and a set of twins, who died young.

Annie Pearl was born in September, 1888, and died with the measles. She was still alive when the 1900 census was taken.

William Y., a junior, was born June 20, 1890.

Richard Edward was born July 17, 1892 and died Feb. 27, 1942. His wife, Maggie Lee, was born Dec. 24, 1900 and died Nov. 7, 1945.

Elmer Alvin was born in August, 1894 and died in 1965. He and his wife, Willie B. (1900-1965) are buried at Union Ridge.

Josephine was born in October, 1886.

Zelmer Reen, a daughter, was born in October, 1898

William Y. Knight had brothers Jim Henry, Sam, George and Martin. Their father came to the Skilesville area from Rock Springs in Butler County, where the original Knights of this area settled early in the 19th century.

* * *

Because of the wide expanse of the Cottrell-Knight families, it is impossible to list all, and find birth, death and marriage records for all members of the families. Also, much information has been lost through deaths of family members who took with them valuable data to their graves. However, it is hoped that this effort will aid some of the families in connecting family ties, and tying family fragments together. The writer would indeed

like to hear from any or all who have additional information, can make corrections where errors and omissions exist, or who wish other information that the writer may be able to provide. Contact the writer at 7965 Ridgewood Road, Goodlettsville, Tenn., or phoning 615-876-4404.