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## McClellan - The Longest Name?

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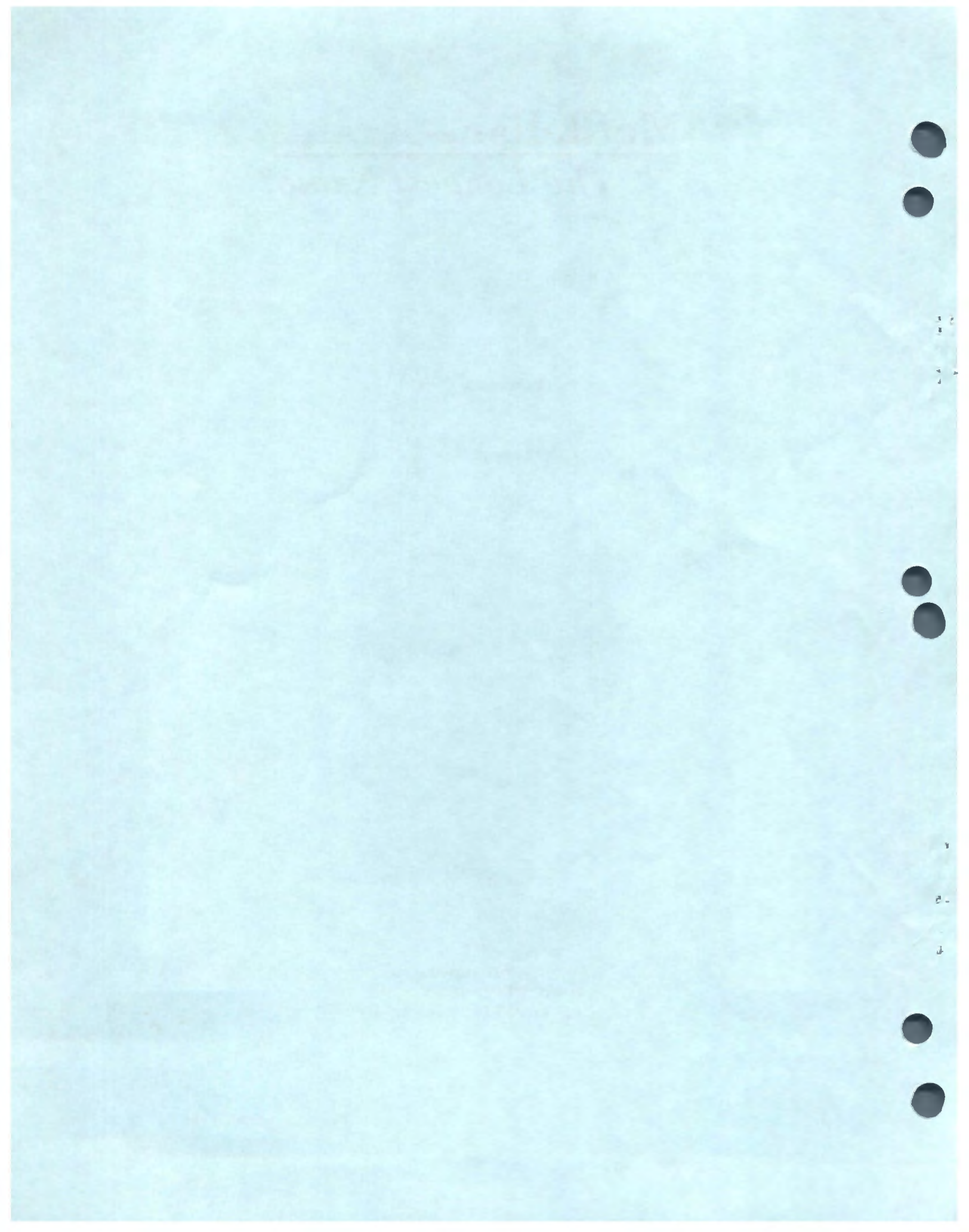
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**McClellan--**

***The Longest Name?***

(Revised 1991)

Bobby Anderson  
7965 Ridgewood Road  
Goodlettsville, Tenn. 37072



McCLELLAN -- THE LONGEST NAME?

By Bobby Anderson

Quickly, two questions about Muhlenberg County in the year 1860:

How many votes did Abraham Lincoln get in the 1860 presidential election in Muhlenberg County?

And who had the longest name in the county that year?

You think the questions aren't related? Just read on.

Abraham Lincoln, according to Otto A. Rothert's "A History of Muhlenberg County", received only two votes in Muhlenberg County in 1860, one from Leonard Lewis, the other from Andrew McClellan.

The same Andrew McClellan was also the father of the man with the longest name, Calven (later Calvin) H. J. L. I. K. Y. C. McClellan. At least he had that many initials, though the full name has not yet been uncovered in public records.

(Note: Otto Rothert spelled McClellan with 'd' at the end. Other records indicate the "d" was not always nor often used by the family.)

Sometime prior to 1850, Andrew McClellan and his wife, Sarah, came from Tennessee to Muhlenberg County, and settled in south Muhlenberg, perhaps in the general area of Carter's Creek, south of Greenville. Andrew was born about the year 1813-15, and his wife probably in 1826. Their first child was Calvin, who also was born in Tennessee, indicating the McClellans were in the Volunteer state as late as Dec. 15, 1842, Calvin's birthdate -- or even 1846, when a second child, Mary Elizabeth was also born in Tennessee.

When censused in 1850, with Calvin and Mary Elizabeth, they were the only four McClellans in the county. That year, the census taker spelled their surname "McCleln".

In 1860, Andrew was censused as "McLenon"; in 1870 as "McClelland", and in 1880, Andrew himself was listed as "McClellan" while son Calvin was listed as a "McAllen".

The 1900 census listed families by all of the above spellings, plus "McCllan" and "McLellan". The poor census takers seldom seemed to get it right.

Andrew and Sarah had at least six children which can be documented by various papers, including census records. In addition to Calvin, born in 1842, there was Mary Elizabeth, born in 1846; Unity in 1858; George W. in 1860; Grant W. in 1864; and Malinda F. in 1866 or 1867.

Calvin, who seemed never again to have use the many middle initials old Andrew and Sarah christened him with, married Permelia Ellen Johnston in Muhlenberg County on Aug. 7, 1865. They had at least two children which are documented, Nancy, born about 1871, and Mattie, born in 1888 (or thereabouts). She married Ellis Motes in 1901.

There is no record of a marriage for Mary Elizabeth, or any other record which points her out after the 1870 census when she was 13. She may have married and moved away from the county -- or was deceased.

Unity married William H. Vick in Muhlenberg County in 1882, but further records of her have not been found as yet.

George W., who also was listed once as George B., when living with his brother Calvin in 1880, married Sophronia A. Johnston (perhaps a relative of Calvin's Ellen) on May 23, 1886. There is

at hand, record of only one child, Blanch, born in 1887.

Grant W. took to wife a lady named Sarah E. -- and because the marriage record is not found, neither was her last name. They had at least two children, Fannie born in 1882 and George in 1889.

There is, likewise, no marriage record available for Malinda F. who was living with her widowed father, Andrew, in 1880, when she was 14.

Among the other later McClellans, some of whom may have been relatives of Andrew, were:

Nathan, born about 1852 also in Tennessee, who lived with his wife and two children not far from Andrew.

Maggie (born 1887) and James (born 1882) who were the step-children of a John Qinally, an English immigrant in Muhlenberg County.

Edward McClellan (McCllan) born about 1879, who married Cloe Bivin, and Isham McClellan (McCllan), (born 1876), who married Isadora Newman.

Also John C. McClellan (McCllan), born about 1879, who married Della Mae Corley, and whose first child, Gracy, was born in 1900.

Among other were Jennie M. McClellan who married John W. Bivin in 1885; Nannie McClellan who married A. B. Cornett of Greenville in 1887 and a younger Nathan W. McClellan, who married Bettie Pace in 1891.

And then, we may assume that Andrew's wife, Sarah, was a Porter, prior to her marriage, or had a sister, who married a Porter, for Calvin and Ellen had living with them in 1880, his cousin, Sarah Porter, then age 17.

Just when Andrew McClellan died is not certian, since his grave bears no dates -- though the cemetery where he lies, bears his name. He was known to be alive in 1880 when censused near Carter's Creek with his daughter, Malinda.

There are two McClellan cemeteries in Muhlenberg County, the one where Andrew is buried lies just west of Carter's Creek Church. There are other graves, but unmarked. His reads only "Andrew McClellan, Co. B., 11th Kentucky Infantry". Likewise, there are no dates for the death of his wife, Sarah.

Another McClellan cemetery is east of Highway 181 near Pleasant Hill Church. In this one, Nathan McClellan, also a union soldier, two wives and several children are buried.

Calvin, himself, and his wife, Permelia Ellen McClellan are buried at Carter's Creek cemetery. Calvin's marker reads "Dec. 15, 1842: Nov. 21, 1911. Ellen's dates are Dec. 24, 1845: Dec. 3, 1926.

If there are descendants of Andrew or Calvin McClellan in Muhlenberg County today, they will easily recognize their ancestors listed here. If not, there are still two landmarks in Muhlenberg County, which perpetuates the McClellan(d) name.

McClellan(d) school, located on upper Pond River, was named for some of the early McClellans. Perhaps, this may have been where Andrew first located when he came to the county, prior to the years at Carter's Creek.

Also, there is McClellan(d) Hill, six miles south of Greenville. Here, the troops of the 3rd Kentucky Calvary, enroute from Rumsey to Tennessee, spent the night on Feb. 17, 1862. Later, the farm was owned by Alvin L. Taylor, and was locally known as "Alvin's Alley" because of a unique planting style on the farm. A picture of the Taylor home on McClelland Hill is shown in the Rothert history.

The Longest Name: (Part 2)

Calvin McClellan Named

For Pair of Presidents

By BOBBY ANDERSON

Calvin McClellan.

Calvin H. L. J. K. P. M. V. B. McClellan.

To be more specific, Calvin Henry Logan James Knox Polk Martin Van Buren McClellan.

A few weeks ago, this writer, through the pages of the Leader-News noted that perhaps Calvin McClellan, the young son of a fierce patriot, Andrew McClellan, had the longest name in Muhlenberg County in 1860. The census of that year carried only his first name and seven initials, which were listed, not only in improper order, but fell short of the eight initials, plus first and last names, which actually were given to Calvin McClellan at birth.

From Jean D. Bandy of Greenville, Route 2, a descendant of Calvin's father, Andrew, comes a correct and confirmed listing of the initials and names given to Calvin.

It was also noted then that Andrew McClellan of near Carters Creek was one of only two men in Muhlenberg County who voted for Republican Abraham Lincoln in the 1860 presidential election. This would seem strange, voting Republican after naming a son for two such strong Jacksonian Democrats. But perhaps the issue of slavery or the preservation of the union influenced McClellan's vote more than party politics in that election year.

The fact that Calvin was also named for James Knox Polk in 1842 indicates the McClellans' residency in Tennessee at, or just before the time, since Polk was not elected president until 1844. He was governor of Tennessee at the time Calvin McClellan was born. Soon thereafter, the McClellans moved to Kentucky. The time more specifically was between 1846 and 1850. A second child, Mary Elizabeth, was born in Tennessee in 1846, and they were censused in Kentucky in 1850.

Mrs. Bandy pointed out that Andrew McClellan married Sarah Ursley, rather than a Porter as speculated by the writer.

Andrew and Sarah's oldest son, Calvin, with the long name, then married Permelia Ellen Johnston on Aug. 7, 1865. A brother of Calvin, who lived with Calvin in 1880, was George Brennice McClellan. George married Sophronia A. Johnston on May 23, 1886. They were the parents of but one child, Blanch, who was born in 1887. Blanch married Floyd Thomas Ford (1882-1967), (probably the son of John L. and Mary E. Ford). They were the parents of ten children, one of which was Laura Bell, the mother of Mrs. Bandy, and the only one of the ten children presently living. She is Mrs. Laura Bell Dukes of Greenville, Route 2.

To Mrs. Bandy's family, Calvin McClellan was always known as "Uncle Cal".

Mrs. Bandy's lineage from Andrew and Sarah McClellan comes down through her great-grandfather, George Brennice McClellan (and Sophronia A. Johnston) to her grandmother Blanch (Mrs. Floyd Thomas Ford), then through her mother, Mrs. Laura Bell Ford Dukes.



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